

John C.Wright on Wolfe' "Unreliable Moral Narrative"

The Urth list — 8 messages, 6 voices, 23 Nov 2011

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6122>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

James Wynn — 23 Nov 2011, 16:02

<http://www.scifiwright.com/2011/11/home-fires-by-gene-wolfe-those-who-dwell-in-hell-also-keep-them-burning/>

Gwern Branwen — 23 Nov 2011, 16:16 · in reply to James Wynn

On Wed, Nov 23, 2011 at 11:02 AM, James Wynn <crushtv at gmail.com> wrote:

<http://www.scifiwright.com/2011/11/home-fires-by-gene-wolfe-those-who-dwell-in-hell-also-keep-them-burning/>

Interesting. I've thought much the same thing about 5HOC. I'm not sure _Home Fires_ is special in this respect here; I've noted in the past that that theme is overt or covert in many of his stories and novels, most obviously _An Evil Guest_.

gwern

<http://www.gwern.net>

David Stockhoff — 23 Nov 2011, 16:35 · in reply to Gwern Branwen

On 11/23/2011 11:16 AM, Gwern Branwen wrote:

On Wed, Nov 23, 2011 at 11:02 AM, James Wynn<crushtv at gmail.com> wrote:

<http://www.scifiwright.com/2011/11/home-fires-by-gene-wolfe-those-who-dwell-in-hell-also-keep-them-burning/>

Interesting. I've thought much the same thing about 5HOC. I'm not sure _Home Fires_ is special in this respect here; I've noted in the past that that theme is overt or covert in many of his stories and novels, most obviously _An Evil Guest_.

Definitely. And various shorts as well, and of course all of Latro. Thank god his narrators are not judgmental bores (like Wright can be).

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes — 23 Nov 2011, 16:43 · in reply to Gwern Branwen

James Wynn wrote:

<http://www.scifiwright.com/2011/11/home-fires-by-gene-wolfe-those-who-dwell-in-hell-also-keep-them-burning/>

Oh, what a lovely essay! And also his one on "underrating GW." Wright hits the nail on the head.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Lee Berman — 23 Nov 2011, 17:03 · follows Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Interesting. I've thought much the same thing about 5HOC. I'm not sure _Home Fires_ is special in this respect here; I've noted in the past that that theme is overt or covert in many of his stories and novels, most obviously _An Evil Guest_.

David Stockhoff: Definitely. And various shorts as well, and of course all of Latro. Thank god his narrators are not judgmental bores (like Wright can be).

Heh. I did notice a socially conservative, anti-abortion stance in that article. I could do without that, but otherwise a clear and insightful analysis.

Wright even acknowledges that most other Wolfe fans have probably caught the social commentary Wolfe makes in his stories by using the off-hand acceptance by the narrator of prostitution, slavery, torture, bestiality, animal sacrifice, etc. I think most of the fans on this list have noticed that, either directly or via postings about it.

Jeff Wilson — 24 Nov 2011, 06:24 · in reply to Lee Berman

On 11/23/2011 11:03 AM, Lee Berman wrote:

Wright even acknowledges that most other Wolfe fans have probably caught the social commentary Wolfe makes in his stories by using the off-hand acceptance by the narrator of prostitution, slavery, torture, bestiality, animal sacrifice, etc. I think most of the fans on this list have noticed that, either directly or via postings about it.

Wolfe has a negative comment on animal sacrifice?

And when did Skip do Chelle's mom? I thought he repeatedly rejected her?

Jeff Wilson - jwilson at clueland.com

Computational Intelligence Laboratory - Texas A&M Texarkana

< <http://www.tamut.edu/CIL> >

David Stockhoff — 25 Nov 2011, 12:37 · in reply to Jeff Wilson

On 11/24/2011 1:24 AM, Jeff Wilson wrote:

On 11/23/2011 11:03 AM, Lee Berman wrote:

Wright even acknowledges that most other Wolfe fans have probably caught the social commentary Wolfe makes in his stories by using the off-hand acceptance by the narrator of prostitution, slavery, torture, bestiality, animal sacrifice, etc. I think most of the fans on this list have noticed that, either directly or via postings about it.

Wolfe has a negative comment on animal sacrifice?

And when did Skip do Chelle's mom? I thought he repeatedly rejected her?

It seems to be left to the imagination if it happened at all. She's after him so much it's easy to imagine it happening, and he just didn't want to tell us.

Gwern Branwen — 28 Nov 2011, 23:44 · in reply to James Wynn

On Wed, Nov 23, 2011 at 11:02 AM, James Wynn <crushtv at gmail.com> wrote:

<http://www.scifiwright.com/2011/11/home-fires-by-gene-wolfe-those-who-dwell-in-hell-also-keep-the-m-burning/>

Another Wright/Wolfe piece: <http://www.scifiwright.com/2011/11/underrating-gene-wolfe/>

gwern

<http://www.gwern.net>