

two Siyufs?

The Urth list — 11 messages, 5 voices, 05 Dec 2011

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6133>

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Larry Miller — 05 Dec 2011, 18:59

Im nearing the end of Exodus and wondering if there are two Siyufs. Is one a chem body akin to the Ayuntamientos chem bodies?

Lee Berman — 06 Dec 2011, 13:26 · follows Larry Miller

Larry Miller: Im nearing the end of Exodus and wondering if there are two Siyufs.
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I remember wondering something like that. But I find the end of the Long Sun saga to be a slog to get through and haven't re-read it much. It will be more interesting when you move on to Short Sun.

Gerry Quinn — 06 Dec 2011, 14:22 · in reply to Larry Miller

From: Larry Miller

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Is one a chem body akin to the Ayuntamientos chem bodies?

Yes. A bit too implausible I thought, but seemingly Potto had a copy made. Of course it could be that he has access to special purpose chem bodies. Does it say anywhere where the councillors? chem bodies came from?

- Gerry Quinn

Larry Miller — 06 Dec 2011, 16:35 · in reply to Lee Berman

Yeah Long Sun feels like work at times. Dont know if I want to jump back into Short Sun seeing as I just reread it two months ago. Started reading Soldier in the Mist but quickly realized that too was no easy read. Reading Long Sun and Soldier at the same time was too much Wolfe for my brain. What do you suggest reread Short Sun or start the Latro books?

On 12/6/11, Lee Berman <severiansola at hotmail.com> wrote:

Larry Miller: Im nearing the end of Exodus and wondering if there are two Siyufs.
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Larry Miller — 06 Dec 2011, 16:55 · in reply to Gerry Quinn

Not that I recall Gerry. Do you have any ideas? Is it possible they could have been built by those at the Talus factory or some black mechanics that they had bought off?

On 12/6/11, Gerry Quinn <gerry at bindweed.com> wrote:

From: Larry Miller

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Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 06 Dec 2011, 17:06 · in reply to Larry Miller

Larry Miller wrote:

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Either is good, but if you haven't read the Latro books go for that.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Lee Berman — 06 Dec 2011, 17:19 · follows Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

What do you suggest reread Short Sun or start the Latro books?

Either is good, but if you haven't read the Latro books go for that.

I agree. For me, 5HoC represents the roots and the Sun Series the trunk of the tree of Wolfe's writing. But the Soldier series and Wizard Knight are major branches. The good thing about feeling frustrated about reading Wolfe is that you know you will re-read one day and have time to catch what you missed. Also, there is this online forum...

Larry Miller — 06 Dec 2011, 18:29 · in reply to Lee Berman

I was thinking the Latro books too. Is Soldier of Sidon the last book in the series or will there be one more? Ive also put off reading the Wizard Knight because of the "Connecticut Yankee in King Arthurs Court" premise which seems too fantasy for my taste. I always thought it was geared toward younger readers (which isnt a bad thing). Is it on the same level as Wolfes other work as far as depth and complexity?

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Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 06 Dec 2011, 18:33 · in reply to Larry Miller

Larry Miller wrote:

I was thinking the Latro books too. "Is Soldier of Sidon the last book in the series or will there be one more"

We may only hope, but I doubt there will be any more. If the books had been more successful when the first two came out there would probably have been several.

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Wizard Knight because of the "Connecticut Yankee in King Arthurs Court" premise which seems too fantasy for my taste. "I always thought it was geared toward younger readers (which isnt a bad thing). ?Is it on the same level as Wolfes other work as far as depth and complexity"

It's pretty deep and complex, but spells things out a little more. There are all the usual Lupine tricks -- lacunae, misdirection, etc.

-- but on a level that can be handled by a YA reader.

It really isn't a "Connecticut Yankee" premise; it's taken much more seriously than that.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Jerry Friedman — 07 Dec 2011, 04:56 · in reply to Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

From: Dan'I Danehy-Oakes <danldo at gmail.com>

To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net>

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Wizard Knight because of the "Connecticut Yankee in King Arthurs Court" premise which seems too fantasy for my taste. ?I always thought it was geared toward younger readers (which isnt a bad thing). ?Is it on the same level as Wolfes other work as far as depth and complexity"

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An exceptional YA reader, I'd say. People who could have followed TWK in their mid teens are undoubtedly overrepresented here.

It really isn't a "Connecticut Yankee" premise; it's taken much more seriously than that.

In fact, I'd say it's the anti-Connecticut-Yankee. I don't remember any way in which Able's modern knowledge, skills, or values help him in the medieval-ish world (but will be happy to be corrected). I imagine Wolfe was making that point intentionally.

I've mentioned my problems with it before, and others here have said they don't like it because they don't like Able. On the plus side, Wolfe seems to have solved his problem with weird dialogue that one of the worst features of the /Short Sun/ is. H'if yer see what Jerry means, bucky.

On the whole, I liked it. I don't know whether I liked it or the /Soldier/ books better.

Jerry Friedman

Lee Berman — 07 Dec 2011, 13:09 · follows Jerry Friedman

Jerry Friedman: In fact, I'd say it's the anti-Connecticut-Yankee. I don't remember any way in which Able's modern knowledge, skills, or values help him in the medieval-ish world (but will be happy to be corrected). I imagine Wolfe was making that point intentionally.

I agree. Judging from interviews, this may be one of the major points Wolfe hopes to convey with his work- that ancient peoples were just as intelligent and capable of understanding the world as we are. If we have an advantage over them, it is not so much that we have advanced technology but that we have Christ.