

The Perils of Partnership

The Urth list — 15 messages, 5 voices, 22 Mar 2012

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6195>

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Fred Kiesche — 22 Mar 2012, 15:35

Greetings:

Just got my first three replacement copies of my missing Wolfe's: Innocents Abroad, Starwater Strains, and Strange Travellers--all short story collections in case any of the titles in these are on the May Is Gene Wolfe Shorts Month project.

Annoyed as they are all ex-library books: which the Amazon "partner" did not mention in his/her description. I did not pay a lot, and these are all fine "reading copies", but given a choice between a ex-library book with stickers, mylar wrap and stamps and things inside...and a actual "new" copy without any of that, I'll choose the new one.

Am I a cranky book collector or what?

F.P. Kiesche III "Ah Mr. Gibbon, another damned, fat, square book. Always, scribble, scribble, scribble, eh?" (The Duke of Gloucester, on being presented with Volume 2 of The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.) Blogging at The Lensman's Children (<http://theeternalgoldenbraid.blogspot.com/>).

Fred Kiesche — 22 Mar 2012, 15:38 · in reply to Fred Kiesche

Following up: If anybody would like one of these (as I get my actual real live NEW copies that are NEW), let me know. Or two. Or all three. First come, first served.

On Thu, Mar 22, 2012 at 11:35 AM, Fred Kiesche <godelescherbach@gmail.com>wrote:
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António Pedro Marques — 22 Mar 2012, 16:01 · in reply to Fred Kiesche

These days I only get 'used' stuff from the amazon marketplace if 'new' isn't available or the price just doesn't allow - good luck finding a new hardcover of <http://www.amazon.com/New-Testament-Apocrypha-Vol-Apocalypses/dp/0664218792> ! As a rule I don't buy from amazon itself. I hate amazon. Amazon bought Stanza only so it could terminate it and then released an iOS5 update which doesn't work on iOS4 but is pushed to iOS4 devices anyway*. All to eliminate competition for the Kindle, and how come Kindle for iOS today is still far behind 2008's Stanza where it comes to usefulness.

(*) If you still have your binary of the previous Stanza in your hard drive then you can easily undo the 'upgrade' with iFunBox, but you'll have to take care not to allow it to be 'upgraded' again, which is a chore. The IPA has to be yours or the device jailbroken, otherwise no luck.

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Jeff Wilson — 22 Mar 2012, 16:18 · in reply to Fred Kiesche

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Matthew Weber — 22 Mar 2012, 16:22 · in reply to António Pedro Marques

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Fred, there are Amazon Marketplace vendors that pull this crap all the time--listing books in "good" or "very good" condition when they've been defaced with library stamps, written in, etc. I suggest being a complete pain in the ass and giving the seller a "poor" rating (and giving specific reasons why the seller earned that rating). Quite often the seller will contact you and ask that you revise the rating, which you should only do on condition that they pay for return postage and a refund.

On the one hand, it's good that Amazon Marketplace has allowed all kinds of booksellers to piggyback on Amazon's infrastructure and keep their businesses going. The downside is that any schmuck with a stack of withdrawn library books can go online and sell them, and in so doing muddy the waters for experienced bookmen who know their trade and are trying to do a conscientious job of describing what they're selling. I've been where you are several times, and it's extremely annoying.

Matt +

Give a sop to Cerberus.
Greek and Roman saying

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If it's sold as a collectable, sure. As used retail merchandise, the standards are lower. I admit the lines are blurred somewhat by the market's barriers to entry being lowered to the point where it's gainful to deal in single used items online.

http://www.amazon.com/gp/offer-listing/B0062IGP0S/sr=/qid=/ref=olp_tab_used?ie=UTF8&coliid=&me=&qid=&sr=&seller=&colid=&condition=used

Was it under the "collectible" or the "used" tab, Fred?

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Was it under the "collectible" or the "used" tab, Fred?

Whether collectible or used doesn't really matter, I think. Under IOBA standards, anything that's ex-library *must* be flagged as such :

<http://www.ioba.org/pages/resources/condition-definitions/>

Matt +

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Fred Kiesche — 22 Mar 2012, 16:44 · in reply to António Pedro Marques

Rating was 100%. They shipped it quickly. They are in good shape. Just not the shape that I was expecting. Sometimes a lack of description is misleading.

2012/3/22 Ant?nio Pedro Marques <entonio at gmail.com>

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Fred Kiesche — 22 Mar 2012, 16:47 · in reply to Jeff Wilson

It was under USED, but when it is ex-library, it is ****usually**** marked as such, in my prior experience.

I've bought ex-library before--when I can't get used (or various descriptions) or new.

So I just went through again, under used again, and purchased from several vendors who actually specifically said "like new" or "gently used and unmarked", etc., and had ratings of 99% or 100%.

On Thu, Mar 22, 2012 at 12:35 PM, Jeff Wilson <jwilson at clueland.com> wrote:

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_____*_____
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Fred Kiesche — 22 Mar 2012, 16:48 · in reply to Matthew Weber

In other news: If anybody is looking for "reading quality" copies of these three (one, two, or all three), please let me know. As soon as I get my other copies, I'll be happy to give them to somebody who does not already own.

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gwern
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António Pedro Marques — 22 Mar 2012, 17:17 · in reply to Gwern Branwen
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