

Hypethral: Word of the Day, with Wolfe Quote

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 11 Jul 2012

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Andrew Bryant — 11 Jul 2012, 08:05

I thought the list might be interested in knowing the the dictionary.com word of the day is *hypethral*, and a sentence from *Shadow and Claw* is used as an example of usage (see below). Andrew <http://dictionary.reference.com/wordoftheday/archive/2012/07/11.html> Word of the Day for *Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

hypethral \hi-PEE-thruhl\, *adjective*:

(Of a classical building) wholly or partly open to the sky.

Follow the gallery around for about a thousand paces until you come to the * hypethral*. With it dark out you might miss it, so keep an eye open for the plants.

-- Gene Wolfe, Shadow and Claw

The choice of top light for the main galleries is said to have been dictated by the belief that Greek temples were *hypethral*, that is, open to the sky; from which it was inferred that Greek taste demanded to see works of art under light from above.

-- Benjamin Ives Gilman, Museum Ideals of Purpose and Method

Hypethral stems from the Greek roots *hyp-* which means "under" and * a?thros* meaning "clear sky."