

the Castle

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 23 Jun 1997

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Peter Cash — 23 Jun 1997, 10:15

Jim Jordan <jbjordan at gnt.net> wrote:
...I initially took Anne Schilder (Castleview) in a negative light, but she's looking for the Castle (church; kingdom of God) also. Thus, I think it is mainly a matter of Wolfe's writing primarily about male protagonists.

The castle is the Church? That hadn't come into my mind at all. What indications are there in CASTLEVIEW that this is so? I would have thought that the Castle represented the power of imagination and of myth, and served as a reminder that reality is not necessarily as we think it is. What Christian symbolism did you see in the Castle? How can it be the Kingdom of God if it is inhabited by such signally un-Christian personages as Morgana and Thor (leading the Wild Hunt)?

Hmmm. There were gargoyles...I'll grant you that. And how many candles were there in the empty room?

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Jim Jordan — 24 Jun 1997, 07:07 · follows Peter Cash

At 10:15 AM 6/23/97 -0500, you wrote:

[Posted from URTN, a mailing list about Gene Wolfe's New Sun and other works]

Jim Jordan <jbjordan at gnt.net> wrote:
...I initially took Anne Schilder (Castleview) in a negative light, but she's looking for the Castle (church; kingdom of God) also. Thus, I think it is mainly a matter of Wolfe's writing primarily about male protagonists.

The castle is the Church? That hadn't come into my mind at all. What indications are there in CASTLEVIEW that this is so? I would have thought that the Castle represented the power of imagination and of myth, and served as a reminder that reality is not necessarily as we think it is. What Christian symbolism did you see in the Castle? How can it be the Kingdom of God if it is inhabited by such signally un-Christian personages as Morgana and Thor (leading the Wild Hunt)?

Sorry. E-mailish briefitudinousness overcame me. The castle clearly varies according to perspective: for some it is a spaceship; just as the wild ride/hunt is perceived differently. I take it as the kind of ideal home, connected to the transcendent, of which the Church is the purest and proper form. But perhaps I should re-read.

Does that help?

Nutria