

The Second? Best of Gene Wolfe

The Urth list — 10 messages, 5 voices, 16 Oct 2014

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6688>

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Marc Aramini — 16 Oct 2014, 17:18

50 is a lot ... when I count the Thag stories as four, my list came to 36 ... so I guess I could throw 14 more in, but gee ...

On Thu, Oct 16, 2014 at 10:16 AM, Dan'l Danehy-Oakes <danldo at gmail.com> wrote:
Good idea, but do we have to come up with 50, or can we limit it to those we feel are more deserving?

On Thu, Oct 16, 2014 at 9:56 AM, Robert Pirkola <rpirkola at hotmail.com> wrote:

In **The Best of Gene Wolfe** story collection, Mr. Wolfe writes small blurbs about each story at its close. After the final story in the volume, "A Cabin on the Coast", Wolfe reveals that he himself chose the stories contained therein. He also said that we the reader has "every right to disagree, but don't tell me if you do; it won't accomplish a thing. Tell Tor Books instead. Name your favorite, and demand that it be included in a second volume."

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a go?

António Pedro Marques — 16 Oct 2014, 17:29 · follows Marc Aramini

I'd rather have 'The This Far Uncollected Gene Wolfe'.

No dia 16/10/2014, às 17:56, Robert Pirkola <rpirkola at hotmail.com> escreveu:

In *The Best of Gene Wolfe* story collection, Mr. Wolfe writes small blurbs about each story at its close. After the final story in the volume, "A Cabin on the Coast", Wolfe reveals that he himself chose the stories contained therein. He also said that we the reader has "every right to disagree, but don't tell me if you do; it won't accomplish a thing. Tell Tor Books instead. Name your favorite, and demand that it be included in a second volume."

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Marc Aramini — 16 Oct 2014, 17:31 · follows António Pedro Marques

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Urth Mailing List

To post, write urth at urth.net

Subscription/information: <http://www.urth.net>

This is off topic, but your call for suggestions on a more equitable way to run the system evoked a snicker from me. When I was teaching college, my students never realized how innately authoritarian I was because I was always so kind and easy to approach, and naturally gave people the benefit of the doubt. Every once in a while, they would come up with the idea of voting for something and I would laugh and smile, and say, do you imagine you are in a democracy? This is a tyranny. And they were content, never realizing that they had seriously entered the soft determined universe of my will. (When you have cancer, you don't poll your friends on what to do

- however, I do admit that in this case the list is closer to the cancer specialist of my metaphor than the general public would be and a similar weighted vote system might be appropriate). But ... you can't leave out Trip, Trap and Suzane Delage, in any case. Trip, Trap is the quintessential Wolfe universe: an objective spiritual reality occluded by sundered and fragmented subjective viewpoints, but still more "real" than even the physical world. In microcosm this is the viewpoint behind his entire corpus.

Gerry Quinn — 16 Oct 2014, 17:38 · follows Marc Aramini

A lot of those are in 'Endangered Species', which is a very good collection, though...

- Gerry Quinn

On 16/10/2014 17:56, Robert Pirkola wrote:

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Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 16 Oct 2014, 17:54 · in reply to Gerry Quinn

To my amazement, when I totted up my favorites and removed those in the first volume, I came up with exactly fifty.

1. Against the Lafayette Escadrille

<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.AgainstTheLafayetteEscadrille>>

2. Ain't You 'Most Done?

<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.AintYouMostDone?>>

3. Alien Stones <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.AlienStones>>

4. And When They Appear

<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.AndWhenTheyAppear>>

5. Bluesberry Jam <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.BluesberryJam>>

6. Build-A-Bear <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.Build-A-Bear>>

7. Copperhead <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.Copperhead>>

8. Counting Cats in Zanzibar

<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.CountingCatsInZanzibar>>

9. Dumpster World <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.DumpsterWorld>>

10. Feather Tigers <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.FeatherTigers>>

11. Frostfree <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.Frostfree>>

12. Golden City Far <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.GoldenCityFar>>

13. Houston, 1943 <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.Houston1943>>

14. How the Bishop Sailed to Inniskeen

<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.HowTheBishopSailedToInniskeen>>

15. How the Whip Came Back

<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.HowTheWhipCameBack>>

16. In Glory Like Their Star

<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.InGloryLikeTheirStar>>

17. King Rat <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.KingRat>>

18. La Befana <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.LaBefana>>
19. Loco Parentis <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.LocoParentis>>
20. Memorare <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.Memorare>>
21. Monster <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.Monster>>
22. No Planets Strike
<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.NoPlanetsStrike>>
23. Rattler <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.Rattler>>
24. St. Brandon (Excerpt)
<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.StBrandon>>
25. Suzanne Delage
<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.SuzanneDelage>>
26. The Blue Mouse <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheBlueMouse>>
27. The Cat <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheCat>>
28. The Changeling <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheChangeling>>
29. The Death of Dr. Island
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30. The Death of Koshchei the Deathless
<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheDeathOfKoshcheiTheDeathless>>
31. The Fat Magician
<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheFatMagician>>
32. The Hero as Werwolf
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35. The Legend of Xi Cygnus
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36. The Map <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheMap>>
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<<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheOldWomanInTheYoungWoman>>

40. The Old Woman Whose Rolling Pin Is the Sun <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheOldWomanWhoseRollingPinIsTheSun>>

41. The Seraph From Its Sepulcher

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42. The Tale of the Rose and the Nightingale (And What Came of It) <<http://www.wolfewiki.com/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Stories.TheTaleOfTheRoseAndTheNightingale>>

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Robert Pirkola — 16 Oct 2014, 18:15 · follows Marc Aramini

I know that 50 is a lot of stories to nominate but my intention was that if everyone just selected 30 or fewer there is unlikely to be significant overlap given the amount of stories that could be nominated. Perhaps this underestimates the degree to which the next 30 is already somewhat obvious. Why doesn't everyone just post as many as they would like (up to 50) and we will see where that takes us?

Robert Pirkola — 16 Oct 2014, 18:19 · follows Robert Pirkola

Marc Aramini wrote: "Oh my god how could I leave off the changeling? Probably my favorite Wo[l]f story, I just assumed it was in the first one without thinking about it."

Funnily enough before I wrote the first post on this topic I had to recheck to confirm that Wolfe hadn't selected "The Changeling" for the first volume. An obvious choice for the second.

Robert Pirkola — 16 Oct 2014, 21:37 · follows Robert Pirkola

Antonio Pedro Marques wrote: "I'd rather have 'The This Far Uncollected Gene Wolfe'." I, for one, completely agree. He is long overdue for a *new* short story collection and there is certainly no shortage.

Robert Pirkola — 16 Oct 2014, 21:42 · follows Robert Pirkola

I personally haven't read too many chronologically later than "The Ziggurat" so my list is truncated to thirty:

1.
Mountains Like Mice
2.
Trip, Trap
3.
Volksweapon
4.
The Changeling

5.
The HORARS of War
6.
Three Million Square Miles
7.
?Cues
8.
Thag Stories
9.
Melting
10.
Silhouette
11.
Tracking Song
12.
Three Fingers
13.
Suzanne Delage
14.
The Adopted Father
15.
Cherry Jubilee
16.
The Nebraskan and the Nereid
17.
In the House of Gingerbread
18.
The Other Dead Man
19.
Houston, 1943
20.
Sightings at Twin Mounds
21.
The Tale of the Rose and the Nightingale (And
What Came of It)

22.

The Friendship Light

23.

Lord of the Land

24.

The Haunted Boardinghouse

25.

The Monday Man

26.

The Old Woman Whose Rolling Pin Is the Sun

27.

The Seraph from its Sepulcher

28.

The Sailor Who Sailed After the Sun

29.

Useful Phrases

30.

The Ziggurat