

Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

The Urth list — 25 messages, 12 voices, 26 Jan 2020

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6829>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

Gem Caccetta — 26 Jan 2020, 19:44

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled Universe, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the ?Ship??a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant, Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan?.sound familiar?

David Duffy — 27 Jan 2020, 07:01 · in reply to Gem Caccetta

I am sure that is one allusion, but the other I am sure of (more so for BotNS) is to the end of _A Canticle for Lebowitz_.

Cheers, David Duffy.

From: Urth <urth-bounces at lists.urth.net> on behalf of Gem Caccetta <gemcaccetta at yahoo.com> Sent: Monday, 27 January 2020 5:44 AM To: urth at lists.urth.net Subject: (urth) Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled Universe, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the ?Ship??a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant, Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan?.sound familiar?

Gerry Quinn — 27 Jan 2020, 14:15 · in reply to Gem Caccetta

On 26/01/2020 19:44, Gem Caccetta wrote:

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the /Science Fiction Hall of Fame/, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled /Universe/, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the ?Ship??a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant,

Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan?.sound familiar?

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly a dime a dozen!? But that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's Long Sun is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe) know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested BotNS itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this whorl ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

- Gerry Quinn

David Stockhoff — 27 Jan 2020, 14:57 · in reply to Gerry Quinn

On January 27, 2020 9:15:27 AM EST, Gerry Quinn <gerry at bindweed.com> wrote:

On 26/01/2020 19:44, Gem Caccetta wrote:

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the /Science Fiction Hall of Fame/, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled /Universe/, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the ?Ship??a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant, Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan?.sound familiar?

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly

a dime a dozen!? But that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's Long Sun is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe) know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the

Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested BotNS itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this whorl ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

- Gerry Quinn

Norwood, Frederick Hudson — 27 Jan 2020, 15:21 · in reply to David Stockhoff

Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,
Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of David Stockhoff Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 9:57 AM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net> Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: (urth) Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

On January 27, 2020 9:15:27 AM EST, Gerry Quinn <gerry at bindweed.com<mailto:gerry at bindweed.com>> wrote:

On 26/01/2020 19:44, Gem Caccetta wrote:

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled *Universe*, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the ?Ship??a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant, Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan?.sound familiar?

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly a dime a dozen! But that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's *Long Sun* is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe) know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested *BotNS* itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this whorl ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

- Gerry Quinn

The [EXTERNAL] tag in the subject line identifies emails that do NOT originate from an ETSU person or service. Please exercise caution when handling emails from external sources. Any email that is unsolicited and requires you to take immediate action, appears to be forged or is PHISHING for information can be verified by emailing the ITS Help Desk.

Gem Caccetta — 27 Jan 2020, 15:52 · follows David Stockhoff

Hi Gerry--I certainly would expect Wolfe to expand on (and make more interesting!) the generation ship saga. I was seeing the similarities as more of a possible homage to Heinlein. Oh, and another similarity I forgot to mention: in Heinlein's story the descendants are called "Freight".-Gem

On January 27,2020 Gerry Quinn wrote:

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly a dime a dozen!? But

that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's Long Sun is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe)? know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested BotNS itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this whorl ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

David Stockhoff — 27 Jan 2020, 16:15 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

Great point. I have not read much Heinlein criticism, but those roads always symbolized for me Heinlein's belief in the inevitability of technological and (libertarian) social progress. If they work the same way in The Land Across, it could only be satirical.

On 1/27/2020 10:21 AM, Norwood, Frederick Hudson wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, The Land Across, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

*From:*Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of *David Stockhoff
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 9:57 AM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: (urth) Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

On 26/01/2020 19:44, Gem Caccetta wrote:

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the /Science Fiction Hall of Fame/, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled /Universe/, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the ?Ship??a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant, Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan?.sound familiar?

Gerry Quinn — 27 Jan 2020, 16:46 · in reply to Gem Caccetta

On 27/01/2020 15:52, Gem Caccetta wrote:

Hi Gerry--I certainly would expect Wolfe to expand on (and make more interesting!) the generation ship saga. I was seeing the similarities as more of a possible homage to Heinlein.

Oh, and another similarity I forgot to mention: in Heinlein's story the descendants are called "Freight".

-Gem

Indeed, that's a telling similarity. It seems very much like the Heinlein was on his mind!

- Gerry Quinn

On January 27, 2020 Gerry Quinn wrote:

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly a dime a dozen!? But that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's Long Sun is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe) know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested BotNS itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this whorl ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

Marc Aramini — 27 Jan 2020, 17:10 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

Michael Andr?-driussi sees it as a rolling roads reference but I think it is another of these damn symbols that show graton?s “training” and the influence on his life after the engine gets switched out in the train - the black road - the man in black and his possession, the White path, the woman in white with the hand, and the red, the woman with the red pen and Russ Rathaus. Three paths, three border guards etc.

On Monday, January 27, 2020, Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:
Another Wolfe novel, The Land Across, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of *David Stockhoff
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 9:57 AM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: (urth) Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

On January 27, 2020 9:15:27 AM EST, Gerry Quinn <gerry at bindweed.com> wrote:

On 26/01/2020 19:44, Gem Caccetta wrote:

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the *Science Fiction Hall of Fame*, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled *Universe*, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the ?Ship??a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant, Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan?.sound familiar?

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly a dime a dozen! But that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's Long Sun is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe) know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested BotNS itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this whorl ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

- Gerry Quinn

*The [EXTERNAL] tag in the subject line identifies emails that do NOT originate from an ETSU person or service. Please exercise caution when handling emails from external sources. Any email that is unsolicited and requires you to take immediate action, appears to be forged or is PHISHING for information can be verified by emailing the ITS Help Desk. *

Eric Bourland — 27 Jan 2020, 17:33 · in reply to Gerry Quinn

Really interesting allusion / homage. I do not have the Bova books in my library . . . maybe I will look for them. Eric

Eric Bourland

<https://www.hwaet.com/>

From: Urth <urth-bounces at lists.urth.net> On Behalf Of Gerry Quinn Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 11:46 AM To: urth at lists.urth.net Subject: Re: (urth) Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

On 27/01/2020 15:52, Gem Caccetta wrote:

Hi Gerry--I certainly would expect Wolfe to expand on (and make more interesting!) the generation ship saga. I was seeing the similarities as more of a possible homage to Heinlein.

Oh, and another similarity I forgot to mention: in Heinlein's story the descendants are called "Freight".

-Gem

Indeed, that's a telling similarity. It seems very much like the Heinlein was on his mind!

- Gerry Quinn

On January 27,2020 Gerry Quinn wrote:

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly a dime a dozen! But that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's Long Sun is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe) know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested BotNS itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this whorl ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

Stephen Hoy — 27 Jan 2020, 21:47 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, The Land Across, is, I think strongly influenced by

Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes — 27 Jan 2020, 22:24 · in reply to Stephen Hoy

What also needs mentioning is that the "generation starship" was not a new concept with Heinlein either. What he originated (as far as I know) is the idea that the people aboard might forget the nature of their habitation.

Leave it to Wolfe to nuance the hell out of that idea.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!

*--*T?a???ke Witk?

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 1:47 PM Stephen Hoy <stephenhoy15 at gmail.com> wrote:
Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, The Land Across, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the

novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

Matthew Keeley — 27 Jan 2020, 22:31 · in reply to Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

As a younger reader, Heinlein has always seemed like the distant past to me, but of course he's not.

Surely Wolfe and Heinlein must have met, and probably more than once? I think there was a period when both were David Hartwell authors too, though I think Hartwell only worked with Heinlein towards the end of the author's career, when he seemed allergic to editing.

-Matt

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 5:25 PM Dan'I Danehy-Oakes <danldo at gmail.com> wrote:
What also needs mentioning is that the "generation starship" was not a new concept with Heinlein either. What he originated (as far as I know) is the idea that the people aboard might forget the nature of their habitation.

Leave it to Wolfe to nuance the hell out of that idea.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!

*--*T?a???ke Witk?

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 1:47 PM Stephen Hoy <stephenhoy15 at gmail.com> wrote:

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with

the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, The Land Across, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

Marc Aramini — 28 Jan 2020, 00:35 · in reply to Stephen Hoy

Stephen, there's a ton going on with the Perseus/andromeda/cassiopeia imagery - the mountain top where gideon (the destroyer) sits and faces cassiopeia - Perseus means the destroyer and he saves andromeda from the sea monster. Perseus is born in a shower of gold and at the end when reis hits the city of r?lyeh with a shower of gold - great Cthulhu will fragment into gideon chase, Perseus will be born to meddle backwards in time, as the future is the past in evil guest.

On Monday, January 27, 2020, Stephen Hoy <stephenhoy15 at gmail.com> wrote:
Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

Charles Gillingham — 28 Jan 2020, 03:02 · in reply to Gerry Quinn

My father explained the plot of, but forgot the name of, *Universe*. Thanks for pointing this out, I'll read it now!

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 6:19 AM Gerry Quinn <gerry at bindweed.com> wrote:

On 26/01/2020 19:44, Gem Caccetta wrote:

I recently came across a three volume set of short stories and novellas called the Science Fiction Hall of Fame, edited by Ben Bova in 1975. One of the novellas titled *Universe*, by Robert Heinlein, (written in 1941) takes place on the "Ship" a generation ship sent off long ago to inhabit another planet, but now drifting because none of the descendants remember the nature or purpose of the ship. What they do remember has degenerated into religious superstition. There is a "Jordan's Plan" for the ship. There is a powerful two-headed mutant, Joe-Jim, a highly intelligent leader of a mutant gang who has learned of the Ship's true nature. There is a young, curious man Hugh, captured by Joe-Jim, who is taken to the main control room and shown the stars. Hugh enlists others to take control of the ship and complete Jordan's Plan. sound familiar?

Certainly a few commonalities there - two headed mutants aren't exactly a dime a dozen! But that said, there are a lot of generation ship sagas with some similar features. Wolfe's *Long Sun* is unusual for avoiding the trope of complete forgetfulness. The Crew (and the Gods/Mainframe) know what the deal is, though it looks like they are paralysed without orders from Pas, or they don't know how to persuade the Cargo. And the Cargo - or the educated ones - actually know they are on a generation ship too, though they have put it to the back of their minds in favour of matters related to day to day life (I think Wolfe suggested *BotNS* itself has a similar theme). Kind of like how everyone on this world ignores global warming insofar as it means any change in lifestyle!

- Gerry Quinn

Norwood, Frederick Hudson — 28 Jan 2020, 12:57 · in reply to Stephen Hoy

Other Heinlein parallels/satires in *The Land Across*: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Stephen Hoy Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net> Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's *The Roads Must Roll* is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' *When the Sleeper Awakens* (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to *Andromeda* (Messier-31 Flavors) in *An Evil Guest*, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in *Home Fires*, TLA, *A Borrowed Man*. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in *A Borrowed Man*, and I think something similar is happening in *The Land Across*.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,
Rick

David Stockhoff — 28 Jan 2020, 13:12 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

Of all the *Land Across* interpretations I have read so far, this is the most immediately useful. Handy, even.

On 1/28/2020 7:57 AM, Norwood, Frederick Hudson wrote:

Other Heinlein parallels/satires in *The Land Across*: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

*From:*Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of
*Stephen Hoy

Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM

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

Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's *The Roads Must Roll* is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' *When the Sleeper Awakens* (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to *Andromeda* (Messier-31 Flavors) in *An Evil Guest*, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in *Home Fires*, TLA, *A Borrowed Man*. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in *A Borrowed Man*, and I think something similar is happening in *The Land Across*.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu <mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 28 Jan 2020, 15:32 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

I think it is safe to say that Heinlein *never* "loved" or advocated a military dictatorship.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!

*--*T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 4:57 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Other Heinlein parallels/satires in The Land Across: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of *Stephen Hoy

Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM

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

Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

Norwood, Frederick Hudson — 28 Jan 2020, 16:04 · in reply to Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Have you read *Starship Troopers*? Only people who have served in the military can vote. (Heinlein claims that, in this world, it has been proved mathematically that this is the best government.

I love *Starship Troopers*. It's one of my favorite books. But it does glorify the military and, as Heinlein got older, his politics got ever more conservative. In *Farnham's Freehold* the nice seeming Black people turn out to be cannibals. One area where he did become more liberal was homosexuality. In *Stranger in a Strange Land* Jubal Harshaw expressed the view that Mike could never have sex with another man. By *Time Enough for Love*, gay sex is just fine. The story is that Theodore Sturgeon, who Heinlein loved and admired, took Heinlein aside and explained to him the facts of life.

Best,

Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Dan'l Danehy-Oakes Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 10:32 AM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net> Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I think it is safe to say that Heinlein never "loved" or advocated a military dictatorship.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!
--T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 4:57 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Other Heinlein parallels/satires in *The Land Across*: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] On Behalf Of Stephen Hoy
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's *The Roads Must Roll* is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' *When the Sleeper Awakens* (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to *Andromeda* (Messier-31 Flavors) in *An Evil Guest*, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in *Home Fires*, TLA, *A Borrowed Man*. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in *A Borrowed Man*, and I think something similar is happening in *The Land Across*.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:
Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the *Rolling Roads* early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,
Rick

Ab de Vos — 28 Jan 2020, 16:43 · in reply to Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Like so many he 'evolved' from a liberal to a conservative point of view politically while getting older. Churchill made a famous remark about this phenomenon but in this case Heinlein's fear of communism and the bomb played probably a larger role. According to */Astounding/* (by Alec Nevala-Lee) Heinlein went into politics in 1933 because of his admiration for Upton Sinclair, a progressive socialist. (page 109) Later on he became an adherent of Barry Goldwater like Heinlein a libertarian and opponent of the New Deal. It is ironic that the hippies who were detested by Heinlein embraced */Stranger in a Strange Land/*. (pages 338-340)

Nevala-Lee's book is informative about Campbell, Ron Hubbard, Heinlein and Asimov. The whole business of mental technology, Korzybsky, Dianetics and Scientology, is pretty interesting though treated indirectly by the author.

Op 28-1-2020 om 16:32 schreef Dan'I Danehy-Oakes:

I think it is safe to say that Heinlein /never /"loved" or advocated a military dictatorship.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

/Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!/
/--/T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 4:57 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson
<NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu <mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Other Heinlein parallels/satires in The Land Across: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

*From:*Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net
<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] *On Behalf Of *Stephen Hoy
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net
<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson
<NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu <mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, The Land Across, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,

Rick

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 28 Jan 2020, 18:05 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

I have a better question.

Have **you** read **Starship Troopers**? Because you're making a false statement about it. "Only people who have served in the military can vote"

- thanks for playing; come again. What is true is that those who have performed **some sort of government service** can vote. What is also true is that **most* of this is **not** military service - for example, there's the guy who goes to work in an observatory on Pluto. The idea here is that the vote has to be earned by showing that you are willing to serve the people whom your vote will help govern.

Farnham's Freehold is a failed novel. His goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. As a side issue, he also wanted to show that race prejudice is bad by flipping it over and putting whites in the slave class. He screwed up by adding the cannibalism thing, making the whole book so flawed that it can't serve its intended purposes.

Stranger? Jubal doesn't know what he's talking about there. It is strongly implied that Mike **does** have physical love with males as well as females. And there's strong evidence that Heinlein at least experimented with another man when he was young.

You're reading through your prejudices; the received wisdom is that Heinlein was a fascist crank, and you're seeing what you expect to see.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!

**--*T?a???ke Witk?*

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 8:04 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Have you read Starship Troopers? Only people who have served in the military can vote. (Heinlein claims that, in this world, it has been proved mathematically that this is the best government.

I love Starship Troopers. It's one of my favorite books. But it does glorify the military and, as Heinlein got older, his politics got ever more conservative. In Farnham's Freehold the nice seeming Black people turn out

to be cannibals. One area where he did become more liberal was homosexuality. In *Stranger in a Strange Land* Jubal Harshaw expressed the view that Mike could never have sex with another man. By *Time Enough for Love*, gay sex is just fine. The story is that Theodore Sturgeon, who Heinlein loved and admired, took Heinlein aside and explained to him the facts of life.

Best,

Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of *Dan'l Danehy-Oakes
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 10:32 AM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I think it is safe to say that Heinlein *never* "loved" or advocated a military dictatorship.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!

*--*T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 4:57 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Other Heinlein parallels/satires in *The Land Across*: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of *Stephen Hoy
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM

Norwood, Frederick Hudson — 29 Jan 2020, 12:46 · in reply to Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

I've read Starship Troopers three times, but thank you for correcting my memory — that it was “government service” rather than “military service”. Just from memory, I thought all government service, including work on Pluto, was under the direction of the military. I'll remember to look out for that next time I read the book.

I also enjoy Farnham's Freehold, which I've read twice. The childbirth scene is heartbreaking, and one of the best I've read. I do not agree that his goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. The life on the Freehold seemed, in many ways ideal. “Free Kittens!”

To what extent Heinlein's Grand Old Man is unreliable, rather than a way for Heinlein to express his own ideas, is a source of endless debate, and both sides hold their own views pretty strongly. Clearly, you hold your views strongly enough to accuse me of prejudice, even though I said, very clearly, that I love Heinlein's work.

Best,
Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Dan'I Danehy-Oakes Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 1:05 PM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net> Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I have a better question.

Have you read Starship Troopers? Because you're making a false statement about it. “Only people who have served in the military can vote” - thanks for playing; come again. What is true is that those who have performed some sort of government service can vote. What is also true is that most of this is not military service - for example, there's the guy who goes to work in an observatory on Pluto. The idea here is that the vote has to be earned by showing that you are willing to serve the people whom your vote will help govern.

Farnham's Freehold is a failed novel. His goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. As a side issue, he also wanted to show that race prejudice is bad by flipping it over and putting whites in the slave class. He screwed up by adding the cannibalism thing, making the whole book so flawed that it can't serve its intended purposes.

Stranger? Jubal doesn't know what he's talking about there. It is strongly implied that Mike does have physical love with males as well as females. And there's strong evidence that Heinlein at least experimented with another man when he was young.

You're reading through your prejudices; the received wisdom is that Heinlein was a fascist crank, and you're seeing what you expect to see.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!
--T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 8:04 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu> wrote:

Have you read Starship Troopers? Only people who have served in the military can vote. (Heinlein claims that, in this world, it has been proved mathematically that this is the best government.

I love Starship Troopers. It's one of my favorite books. But it does glorify the military and, as Heinlein got older, his politics got ever more conservative. In Farnham's Freehold the nice seeming Black people turn out to be cannibals. One area where he did become more liberal was homosexuality. In Stranger in a Strange Land Jubal Harshaw expressed the view that Mike could never have sex with another man. By Time Enough for Love, gay sex is just fine. The story is that Theodore Sturgeon, who Heinlein loved and admired, took Heinlein aside and explained to him the facts of life.

Best,
Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] On Behalf Of Dan'I Danehy-Oakes
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 10:32 AM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I think it is safe to say that Heinlein never "loved" or advocated a military dictatorship.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!
--T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 4:57 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:
Other Heinlein parallels/satires in The Land Across: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] On Behalf Of Stephen Hoy
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in *An Evil Guest*, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in *Home Fires*, TLA, *A Borrowed Man*. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in *A Borrowed Man*, and I think something similar is happening in *The Land Across*.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu><mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,
Rick

Norwood, Frederick Hudson — 29 Jan 2020, 12:50 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

P.S. Sorry to have gone on so long about Heinlein. I mentioned Heinlein only in the context of Wolfe's *The Land Across*. I'm sure there is a Heinlein thread for discussing Heinlein apart from Wolfe. Let's go back to Wolfe.

Best,
Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Norwood, Frederick Hudson Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 7:47 AM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net> Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I've read *Starship Troopers* three times, but thank you for correcting my memory — that it was "government service" rather than "military service". Just from memory, I thought all government service, including work on Pluto, was under the direction of the military. I'll remember to look out for that next time I read the book.

I also enjoy Farnham's *Freehold*, which I've read twice. The childbirth scene is heartbreaking, and one of the best I've read. I do not agree that his goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. The life on the *Freehold* seemed, in many ways ideal. "Free Kittens!"

To what extent Heinlein's *Grand Old Man* is unreliable, rather than a way for Heinlein to express his own ideas, is a source of endless debate, and both sides hold their own views pretty strongly. Clearly, you hold your views strongly enough to accuse me of prejudice, even though I said, very clearly, that I love Heinlein's work.

Best,
Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Dan'I Danehy-Oakes Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 1:05 PM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>> Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I have a better question.

Have you read Starship Troopers? Because you're making a false statement about it. "Only people who have served in the military can vote" - thanks for playing; come again. What is true is that those who have performed some sort of government service can vote. What is also true is that most of this is not military service - for example, there's the guy who goes to work in an observatory on Pluto. The idea here is that the vote has to be earned by showing that you are willing to serve the people whom your vote will help govern.

Farnham's Freehold is a failed novel. His goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. As a side issue, he also wanted to show that race prejudice is bad by flipping it over and putting whites in the slave class. He screwed up by adding the cannibalism thing, making the whole book so flawed that it can't serve its intended purposes.

Stranger? Jubal doesn't know what he's talking about there. It is strongly implied that Mike does have physical love with males as well as females. And there's strong evidence that Heinlein at least experimented with another man when he was young.

You're reading through your prejudices; the received wisdom is that Heinlein was a fascist crank, and you're seeing what you expect to see.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!
--T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 8:04 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Have you read Starship Troopers? Only people who have served in the military can vote. (Heinlein claims that, in this world, it has been proved mathematically that this is the best government.

I love Starship Troopers. It's one of my favorite books. But it does glorify the military and, as Heinlein got older, his politics got ever more conservative. In Farnham's Freehold the nice seeming Black people turn out to be cannibals. One area where he did become more liberal was homosexuality. In Stranger in a Strange Land Jubal Harshaw expressed the view that Mike could never have sex with another man. By Time Enough for Love, gay sex is just fine. The story is that Theodore Sturgeon, who Heinlein loved and admired, took Heinlein aside and explained to him the facts of life.

Best,
Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] On

Behalf Of Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 10:32 AM

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

Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I think it is safe to say that Heinlein never "loved" or advocated a military dictatorship.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!

--T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 4:57 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Other Heinlein parallels/satires in The Land Across: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] On Behalf Of Stephen Hoy

Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM

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

Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, *The Land Across*, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,
Rick

Ab de Vos — 29 Jan 2020, 13:06 · in reply to Norwood, Frederick Hudson

I believe the politically correct accuse Wolfe likewise of being a christian misogynist. To compare Wolfe and Heinlein? in the ways they give expression to political ideas proves I think Wolfe the more subtle. I think Wolfe values self reliance but is aware of human limitation and evil. He is no ideologist as Heinlein might be considered though his ideas changed from left to right. Wolfe neither sanctifies the market nor the state and is critical of both. His books are not a direct and obtrusive mouthpiece for his faith.

Op 29-1-2020 om 13:50 schreef Norwood, Frederick Hudson:

P.S. Sorry to have gone on so long about Heinlein. I mentioned Heinlein only in the context of Wolfe's *The Land Across*. I'm sure there is a Heinlein thread for discussing Heinlein apart from Wolfe. Let's go back to Wolfe.

Best,

Rick Norwood

*From:*Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of
*Norwood, Frederick Hudson
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 7:47 AM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I've read *Starship Troopers* three times, but thank you for correcting my memory — that it was "government service" rather than "military service". Just from memory, I thought all government service, including work on Pluto, was under the direction of the military. I'll remember to look out for that next time I read the book.

I also enjoy Farnham's *Freehold*, which I've read twice. The childbirth scene is heartbreaking, and one of the best I've read. I do not agree that his goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. The life on the *Freehold* seemed, in many ways ideal. "Free Kittens!"

To what extent Heinlein's *Grand Old Man* is unreliable, rather than a way for Heinlein to express his own ideas, is a source of endless debate, and both sides hold their own views pretty strongly. Clearly, you hold your views strongly enough to accuse me of prejudice, even though I said, very clearly, that I love Heinlein's work.

Best,

Rick Norwood

*From:*Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] *On Behalf Of *Dan'I

Danehy-Oakes

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 1:05 PM

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

<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>>

Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I have a better question.

Have /you/?read */Starship Troopers/*? Because you're making a false statement about it. "Only people who have served in the military can vote" - thanks for playing; come again. What is true is that those who have performed /some sort of government service/?can vote. What is also true is that /most /of this is /not/?military service - for example, there's the guy who goes to work in an observatory on Pluto. The idea here is that the vote has to be earned by showing that you are willing to serve the people whom your vote will help govern.

/Farnham's Freehold/?is a failed novel. His goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. As a side issue, he also wanted to show that race prejudice is bad by flipping it over and putting whites in the slave class. He screwed up by adding the cannibalism thing, making the whole book so flawed that it can't serve its intended purposes.

/Stranger/? Jubal doesn't know what he's talking about there. It is strongly implied that Mike /does/?have physical love with males as well as females. And there's strong evidence that Heinlein at least experimented with another man when he was young.

You're reading through your prejudices; the received wisdom is that Heinlein was a fascist crank, and you're seeing what you expect to see.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

/Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!/

/--/T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 8:04 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson

<NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu <mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Have you read Starship Troopers? Only people who have served in the military can vote. (Heinlein claims that, in this world, it has been proved mathematically that this is the best government.

I love Starship Troopers. It's one of my favorite books. But it does glorify the military and, as Heinlein got older, his politics got ever more conservative. In Farnham's Freehold the nice seeming Black people turn out to? be cannibals. One area where he did become more liberal was homosexuality. In Stranger in a Strange Land Jubal Harshaw expressed the view that Mike could never have sex with another man. By Time Enough for Love, gay sex is just fine. The story is that Theodore Sturgeon, who Heinlein loved and admired, took Heinlein aside and explained to him the facts of life.

Best,

Rick

*From:*Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net
<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] *On Behalf Of *Dan'I
Danehy-Oakes
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 10:32 AM

Norwood, Frederick Hudson — 29 Jan 2020, 13:14 · in reply to Ab de Vos

Certainly Wolfe is more subtle than Heinlein, but then Wolfe is more subtle than just about everybody. There is a lot of fun to be had in trying to figure out what Wolfe is doing. On the other hand, he always has an entertaining surface story to tell, and can be enjoyed even by readers who are not interested in solving the puzzles he poses.

I've never read anything Wolfe said about Heinlein, though I would love to do so if anyone can recommend anything. I do think it is clear that Wolfe read a lot of Heinlein, and equally clear that Wolfe had strong opinions about everything he read, whether he expressed them or not.

Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Ab de Vos Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 8:07 AM To: urth at lists.urth.net Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I believe the politically correct accuse Wolfe likewise of being a christian misogynist. To compare Wolfe and Heinlein in the ways they give expression to political ideas proves I think Wolfe the more subtle. I think Wolfe values self reliance but is aware of human limitation and evil. He is no ideologist as Heinlein might be considered though his ideas changed from left to right. Wolfe neither sanctifies the market nor the state and is critical of both. His books are not a direct and obtrusive mouthpiece for his faith.

Op 29-1-2020 om 13:50 schreef Norwood, Frederick Hudson:

P.S. Sorry to have gone on so long about Heinlein. I mentioned Heinlein only in the context of Wolfe's The Land Across. I'm sure there is a Heinlein thread for discussing Heinlein apart from Wolfe. Let's go back to Wolfe.

Best,
Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Norwood, Frederick Hudson Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 7:47 AM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net><mailto:urth at lists.urth.net> Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I've read Starship Troopers three times, but thank you for correcting my memory — that it was "government service" rather than "military service". Just from memory, I thought all government service, including work on Pluto, was under the direction of the military. I'll remember to look out for that next time I read the book.

I also enjoy Farnham's Freehold, which I've read twice. The childbirth scene is heartbreaking, and one of the best I've read. I do not agree that his goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. The life on the Freehold seemed, in many ways ideal. "Free Kittens!"

To what extent Heinlein's Grand Old Man is unreliable, rather than a way for Heinlein to express his own ideas, is a source of endless debate, and both sides hold their own views pretty strongly. Clearly, you hold your views strongly enough to accuse me of prejudice, even though I said, very clearly, that I love Heinlein's work.

Best,
Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net] On Behalf Of Dan'l Danehy-Oakes Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 1:05 PM To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>> Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I have a better question.

Have you read Starship Troopers? Because you're making a false statement about it. "Only people who have served in the military can vote" - thanks for playing; come again. What is true is that those who have performed some sort of government service can vote. What is also true is that most of this is not military service - for example, there's the guy who goes to work in an observatory on Pluto. The idea here is that the vote has to be earned by showing that you are willing to serve the people whom your vote will help govern.

Farnham's Freehold is a failed novel. His goal was to show that atomic war would completely wipe out the kind of civilization we appreciate. As a side issue, he also wanted to show that race prejudice is bad by flipping it over and putting whites in the slave class. He screwed up by adding the cannibalism thing, making the whole book so flawed that it can't serve its intended purposes.

Stranger? Jubal doesn't know what he's talking about there. It is strongly implied that Mike does have physical love with males as well as females. And there's strong evidence that Heinlein at least experimented with another man when he was young.

You're reading through your prejudices; the received wisdom is that Heinlein was a fascist crank, and you're seeing what you expect to see.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!
--T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 8:04 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Have you read Starship Troopers? Only people who have served in the military can vote. (Heinlein claims that, in this world, it has been proved mathematically that this is the best government.

I love Starship Troopers. It's one of my favorite books. But it does glorify the military and, as Heinlein got older, his politics got ever more conservative. In Farnham's Freehold the nice seeming Black people turn out to be cannibals. One area where he did become more liberal was homosexuality. In Stranger in a Strange Land Jubal Harshaw expressed the view that Mike could never have sex with another man. By Time Enough for Love, gay sex is just fine. The story is that Theodore Sturgeon, who Heinlein loved and admired, took Heinlein aside and explained to him the facts of life.

Best,
Rick

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] On Behalf Of Dan'I Danehy-Oakes
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 10:32 AM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

I think it is safe to say that Heinlein never "loved" or advocated a military dictatorship.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Maka ki ecela tehani yanke lo!
--T?a???ke Witk?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 4:57 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:
Other Heinlein parallels/satires in The Land Across: Grafton is Heinlein's classic "man who learns better" turned inside out. What Grafton learns is what Heinlein "learned" in his long career. Heinlein, like Grafton, starts out as a liberal, (who like Heinlein, loves travel) and "learns" to love a military dictatorship, with a mysterious Hitler-like dictator serving as Heinlein's "grand old man".

Rick Norwood

From: Urth [mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth-bounces at lists.urth.net>] On Behalf Of Stephen Hoy
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 4:47 PM
To: The Urth Mailing List <urth at lists.urth.net<mailto:urth at lists.urth.net>>
Subject: Re: (urth) [EXTERNAL] Re: Heinlein's Universe and The Long Sun

Appreciating the Heinlein connections noted by Gem and Gerry; a reminder that RAH is still relevant in the 21st century, as Christopher Nuttall might put it.

The interesting bit about the conveyor belt roads of Heinlein's The Roads Must Roll is that it has a precedent, and a much better fit with TLA, in H.G.Wells' When the Sleeper Awakens (1899). Wells' title recalls a noticeable sentence in TLA Chapter One "Now it seems to me that I must have been asleep a long time before I got into bed" followed by several "awakenings" throughout TLA.

Note that Wells and Wolfe each relate the struggle of a potential ruler of a dystopian society who gets caught up in a struggle between opposing factions. I don't think the parallels go much beyond this. It's a lot like Wolfe's choice of Baskin-Robbins as an allusion to Andromeda (Messier-31 Flavors) in An Evil Guest, or the allusion to Boris Badenov in a conversation at a cafe in TLA, "I don't trust that conductor. Why is he so short?" to draw attention to Papa Zenon's lack of stature.

Aramini's Black-Red-White trichotomy helps us think about a lot of TLA's mysteries, although I suspect there is a lot of cloning going on along with the imprinting of personalities. Imprinting is found in Home Fires, TLA, A Borrowed Man. There's cloning/imprinting of some sort in A

Borrowed Man, and I think something similar is happening in The Land Across.

- Stephen

On Mon, Jan 27, 2020 at 10:21 AM Norwood, Frederick Hudson <NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu<mailto:NORWOODR at mail.etsu.edu>> wrote:

Another Wolfe novel, The Land Across, is, I think strongly influenced by Heinlein, and essentially a satire of Heinlein. This is just my opinion, I've never heard anyone else say this. But the Rolling Roads early in the novel, which play no other part in the plot, I take as a hint.

Best,
Rick