

Gene Wolfe's "The Knight"

The Usenet list — 9 messages, 8 voices, 20 Oct 2003

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/usenet/55>

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.

Steve Moss — 20 Oct 2003, 01:32

I saw this listed on Amazon.com, though its not yet available. Any word on what its about?

Steve Moss

jere7my tho?rpe — 20 Oct 2003, 04:27 · in reply to Steve Moss

I saw this listed on Amazon.com, though its not yet available. Any word on what its about?

This is what he told me at ConFusion 2002: it was titled "The Wizard Knight" while he was writing it, and it's his stab at a doorstep fantasy epic. He said it was to be published in two volumes (which, in Gene's case, probably means both volumes have already been written), and would be delayed until Feb. 2004 because the publisher was sending it out for internal illustrations (!).

That's all the info I have on it, and some of that might have changed in the last 18 months. He wouldn't reveal anything (to me) about the plot, characters, or setting.

---j7y

jere7my tho?rpe / 734-769-0913 "There is no spoon." "SPOON!" "There
>>> j7y at liws.org <<< is no spoon." "SPOON!" "There is no
invert liws to reply via email spoon." "SPOON!" -- The Tick vs. Neo

rik stroeb — 20 Oct 2003, 06:05 · in reply to Steve Moss

On 19 Oct 2003 18:32:13 -0700, stevenm at uneedspeed.net (Steve Moss) wrote:

Martin Lewis — 20 Oct 2003, 14:08 · in reply to jere7my tho?rpe

"jere7my tho?rpe" <j7y at liws.org> wrote in message news:<j7y-D55F56.00273420102003 at
visonmassif.rs.itd.umich.edu>...

That's all the info I have on it, and some of that might have
changed in the last 18 months. He wouldn't reveal anything (to me)
about the plot, characters, or setting.

There was an extract from it in Conjunctions: The New Wave Fabulists:

<http://www.conjunctions.com/conj39.htm>

Martin

Htn963 — 22 Oct 2003, 06:36 · in reply to rik stroeb

rik stroeb wrote:

From the back cover of "The Knight" (advance reading copy):

"A young boy, in his mid-teens, passes from our world to a magical realm of five worlds, where he is quickly transformed physically into the body of a mature man of heroic proportions. Yet inside he remains a boy, while circumstances force him to act as a man, and to set off on a quest to find his destined sword and become a knight. His quest is filled with danger and adventure, giants, elves, and dragons. And also love."

Oh, great, it's the fantasy version of Tom Hanks' Big.

Ht

|Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

--John Donne, "Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions"|

Michael Grosberg — 22 Oct 2003, 13:04 · in reply to rik stroeb

wrote:

I saw this listed on Amazon.com, though its not yet availaible. Any word on what its about?

Steve Moss

From the back cover of "The Knight" (advance reading copy):

"A young boy, in his mid-teens, passes from our world to a magical realm of five worlds, where he is quickly transformed physically into the body of a mature man of heroic proportions. Yet inside he remains a boy, while circumstances force him to act as a man, and to set off on a quest to find his destined sword and become a knight. His quest is filled with danger and adventure, giants, elves, and dragons. And also love."

It also has various Norse gods and a bunch of Arthurian prototypes and is much easier to digest than the average work by this often-difficult writer.

Oh brother. I relly hope this is some sort of tongue-in-cheek work because otherwise it sounds like the epitome of juvenile wish fulfilment EFP. Unless of course it's a mainstream work about a boy addicted to playing EverQuest.

jere7my tho?rpe — 22 Oct 2003, 18:48 · in reply to Michael Grosberg

Oh brother. I relly hope this is some sort of tongue-in-cheek work because otherwise it sounds like the epitome of juvenile wish fulfilment EFP.

There are no writers I trust to turn banal genre expectations on their ear more than Gene Wolfe. The Book of the Long Sun isn't just another generation-starship novel, after all.

----j7y

jere7my tho?rpe / 734-769-0913 "There is no spoon." "SPOON!" "There >>> j7y at liws.org <<< is no spoon." "SPOON!" "There is no invert liws to reply via email spoon." "SPOON!" -- The Tick vs. Neo

Eric Walker — 22 Oct 2003, 20:43 · in reply to jere7my tho?rpe

On Wed, 22 Oct 2003 14:48:54 -0400, jere7my tho?rpe wrote:

[...]

There are no writers I trust to turn banal genre expectations on their ear more than Gene Wolfe. _The Book of the Long Sun_ isn't just another generation-starship novel, after all.

Just so. I would not place much credence in back-cover blurbs, but I would place a lot of credence in an established author's history.

Cordially,
Eric Walker, webmaster
Great Science-Fiction & Fantasy Works
<http://greatsfandf.com>

David Kennedy — 22 Oct 2003, 22:38 · in reply to Htn963

Htn963 <[htn963 at cs.com](mailto:htn963@cs.com)> wrote:
rik stroeb wrote:

From the back cover of "The Knight" (advance reading copy):

"A young boy, in his mid-teens, passes from our world to a magical realm of five worlds, where he is quickly transformed physically into the body of a mature man of heroic proportions. Yet inside he remains a boy, while circumstances force him to act as a man, and to set off on a quest to find his destined sword and become a knight. His quest is filled with danger and adventure, giants, elves, and dragons. And also love."

Oh, great, it's the fantasy version of Tom Hanks' _Big_.

....but it's by Wolfe, so it'll be like the fantasy version of _Big_ was remade by Terry Gilliam and Jeunet/Caro.

Personally? Can't wait.

David Kennedy
www.dkennedy.org