

(no subject)

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 10 Mar 2001

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/whorl/1257>

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JISMULKSTIS — 10 Mar 2001, 13:48

I'm a long-time reader (all of Urth & Whorl archives, Long/New/Short Sun multiple times) and have posted once before. I'd like to make a few observations:

Re Catholics:

I was raised Catholic, but have been a Militant Agnostic since I was 13 in 1967. You don't have to be a believer to appreciate the power and resonance of Mr. Wolfe's use of mythology, even current mythology to which he subscribes.

I found the definition in the newsgroup
rec.arts.sf.written (I think):

An Agnostic says:

"I don't know whether or not there's a God."

A Militant Agnostic says:

"I don't know whether or not there's a God. And neither do you."

Thoughts on Short Sun:

I liked it, overall, but I think some of the criticisms posted here are valid. Specifically, did the exposition have to be so damn oblique that many of the very knowledgeable people here disagree about what happened?

Were Silk's injuries caused by an attempted suicide or a fight? Both viewpoints have been argued here and I'm still not sure which I believe. I prefer a fight, since I just don't see sufficient motivation for Silk to attempt suicide. He seems more aware than that.

I also agree with those who deplored the fractured locution of Wijzer, Olivine, etc. It began to wear thin after a while. Especially Olivine.

There was some discussion here of what was meant by "There is another possibility, which I am loathe to mention" but no one suggested anything other than the "Silk as inhumu" theory, which I don't buy. Wouldn't that mean that Silk hatched from an egg? Nah.

At the same time, that line just BEGS for some analysis and speculation. I can picture the smile on Gene's face when he wrote that.

I'm sure it means something, but I don't know what. Any ideas? You people are really good at this.

Quick question: Does anyone know who originated the saying "The more I know people, the more I like animals."? I personally couldn't agree more...

Muskrat

*This is WHORL, for discussion of Gene Wolfe's Book of the Long Sun.