



## The Castle of the Otter

*Gene Wolfe*

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## **The Castle of the Otter** Gene Wolfe

This is a great book--comprised mostly of essays written about halfway through the publishing schedule of the four New Sun books--about Gene Wolfe's experiences and impetus and all kinds of other stuff about why and how he wrote such a masterpiece. It includes Urth humor and a lexicon of the words he used (every one of which is/was an actual word used at one time--a well known trait of Gene.) A must have, though a hard find, for any Gene Wolfe fan. And if you're not a fan, go be one, okay? It's way worth it.

## **The Castle of the Otter Details**

Date : Published June 1st 1982 by Mark V Ziesing

ISBN : 9780917488108

Author : Gene Wolfe

Format : Hardcover 117 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Writing, Essays

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## From Reader Review The Castle of the Otter for online ebook

### Wilson Dolaghan says

A wonderful book for any admirer of Wolfe and/or The Book of the New Sun, especially writers seeking to work in his tradition.

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### Karl says

The Castle of the Otter is a collection of essays and other non-fiction by Gene Wolfe, related to his Book of the New Sun tetralogy. It takes its title from an incorrect announcement of Wolfe's final volume in Locus.

Contents:

- "The Feast of Saint Catherine" (1982)
- "Helioscope" (Empire, 1980)
- "Sun of Helioscope" (1982)
- "Hands and Feet" (1982)
- "Words Weird and Wonderful" (1982)
- "Onomastics, the Study of Names" (1982)
- "Cavalry in the Age of the Autarch" (1982)
- "These Are the Jokes" (1982)
- "The Rewards of Authorship" (1982)
- "The Castle of the Otter" (1982)
- "Beyond the Castle of the Otter" (1982)
- "Gene Rodman Wolfe: A Bio-Bibliography" (1982)

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### Richard says

"Such a child eventually discovers, on some low but obscure shelf, The Book of Gold. You have never seen this book, and you will never see it, being past the age at which it is met."

In The Shadow of the Torturer this is a conversation between the old librarian Master Ultan and Severian. This is also how Gene Wolfe begins The Castle of the Otter. The Book of Gold is different for all of us. For Mr. Wolfe it was The Dying Earth. For myself there isn't just one but several. The Book of the New Sun is one of them. Back in 1998, the Science Fiction Book Club offered it and it came with a really nice poster. While A LOT of words were over my head then, I really enjoyed the tale of Severian, and he has remained one of my all time favorite protagonists.

The Castle of the Otter is primarily essays by Mr. Wolfe about Shadow of the Torturer. It's an interesting read if you are a fan of this series. He shares the ins and outs of publishing his series The Book of the New Sun. He also shares some of the reviews from Shadow of the Torturer. It also boasts a nice cover by Stephen Fabian.

Oh and the title came from someone citing in a review that the last book The Citadel of the Autarch would be titled The Castle of the Otter.

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### **Marvin says**

A collection of essays and fiction mainly about the New Sun series. Entertaining solely for Gene Wolfe fans.

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### **Luis Gallardo says**

Información interesante acerca de El Libro del Sol Nuevo de la propia mano del autor (en lo que puedo leer en Lexicon Urthus). Fue divertido darme cuenta de dónde sacó Wolfe la idea para la imagen de Severian, resulta que quería facilitarles las cosas a los cosplayers, a menos que esa haya sido una de sus muchas bromas...

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### **Emily says**

Some Urth-related miscellanea, and some amusing bits about publishing and sf fandom c. 1980.

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