

Hobbit Mail



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Shall we begin somewhere in the lettercol of Mallorn 5? I think the Wintu Indian's remarks cited by Bob Borsely are very apposite; he's wrong to suggest that the spirit of the earth will get its own back. It's dead or dying. The only consolation it's got is that if it goes it takes us with it. If we poison the planet with out waste products it'll stop supporting life and put an end to the poisoning.... too late, as usual.

Anyway, onto other matters. About Moorcock's books; I can't say I would 'rave' over the Elric books, but I do like them. I don't think this is being 'sick in the head', as Hartley reports Moorcock's beliefs now to be. The symbiosis/conflict between Elric and Stormbringer fascinates me as does the paradox of a being of Chaos fighting on the side of the forces of Law. I reckon it fascinates Moorcock too, or else why should he keep returning to the theme? If he doesn't like the Elric idea I suppose he must only write books about Elric to make money out of us poor 'sick' people that do like Elric. And if that isn't sick, what is?

In view of all this you might be surprised to know that I half agree with Will Haven's summation of Moorcock's heroes, but I don't see this as grounds for condemning Moorcock. The kind of people that he chooses to write about are his own affair. What matters is whether he writes about them well or not. It is style we ought to assess Moorcock on, not our individual preferences for the characters concerned and, if the ending of "Stormbringer" manages to force the appropriate reactions out of Will, I reckon that Moorcock's done his job.