



Litany of the Long Sun: Nightside the Long Sun and Lake of the Long Sun (Book of the Long Sun, Books 1 and 2)

By Gene Wolfe

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Litany of the Long Sun contains the full texts of *Nightside the Long Sun* and *Lake of the Long Sun*, that together make up the first half of *The Book of the Long Sun*. This great work is set on a huge generation starship in the same future as the classic *Book of the New Sun* (also available in two volumes from Orb).

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Gene Wolfe's *Book of the Long Sun* tetralogy ranks as one of the greatest literary achievements of 20th-century science fiction. *Litany of the Long Sun*, comprising the first two books in the series, is suffused with looming transcendence and theophany. Wolfe takes familiar speculative fiction tropes and embeds them in a tale so complex and wonderful that readers may find themselves wondering whether what they're reading is science fiction, fantasy, or something different altogether. Or whether it matters.

The story of Patera Silk, a devout priest whose destiny is wrapped up with the gods he serves, takes place within the Whorl, a vast, cylindrical starship that has traveled for generations and is crumbling into disrepair. Through a strange and amazing series of events, Silk finds himself descending to base thievery, running afoul of a notorious crime lord, befriending a cyborg soldier, and encountering at least one of the gods of Mainframe.

She shook her head almost imperceptibly. "All that abstinence! And now you've seen a goddess. Me. Was it worth it?"

"Yes, Loving Kypris."

She laughed again, delighted. "Why?"

The question hung in the silence of the baking sellaria while Silk tried to kick his intellect awake. At last he said haltingly, "We are so much like beasts, Kypris. We eat and we breed; then we spawn and die. The most humble share in a higher existence is worth any sacrifice."

But when Silk encounters the Outsider, who may be a God of a very different sort, all his beliefs are shaken to the core, and his life swiftly takes a messianic turn. In a rousing climax, Silk becomes the reluctant leader of a political rebellion against the corrupt Ayuntamiento, who rule the city-state of Viron.

It is not necessary to have read Wolfe's *Book of the New Sun* series, which takes place many centuries earlier, to enjoy the *Long Sun* novels, but keen-eyed readers will find many clues as to the origin of the Whorl and its gods in those stories. Further, although Wolfe's reputation for literary precision and trickery is well deserved, the *Long Sun* series (which continues in *Epiphany of the Long Sun*) is one of the more accessible places to start appreciating the author's treasures. --*Therese Littleton*

Review

"Today quite possibly the most important writer in the SF field." ?*The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*

"Gene Wolfe is as good a writer as there is today....I feel a little bit like a musical contemporary attempting to tell people what's good about Mozart." ?*Chicago Sun-Times*

“Wolfe is quite simply a superb writer.” ?*The Washington Post Book World*

“Gene Wolfe is a national treasure.” ?*Damon Knight*

“Wolfe is our Melville.” ?*Ursula K. Le Guin*

About the Author

Gene Wolfe has been called "the finest writer the science fiction world has yet produced" by *The Washington Post*. A former engineer, he has written numerous books and won a variety of awards for his SF writing.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Linda Haag:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be revise about what going on or facts even knowledge to make them keep up with the era which can be always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe can update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice in your case but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what one you should start with. This Litany of the Long Sun: Nightside the Long Sun and Lake of the Long Sun (Book of the Long Sun, Books 1 and 2) is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Christopher Decker:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your moment to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book than can satisfy your limited time to read it because this all time you only find publication that need more time to be learn. Litany of the Long Sun: Nightside the Long Sun and Lake of the Long Sun (Book of the Long Sun, Books 1 and 2) can be your answer given it can be read by a person who have those short spare time problems.

David Myers:

You could spend your free time to study this book this guide. This Litany of the Long Sun: Nightside the Long Sun and Lake of the Long Sun (Book of the Long Sun, Books 1 and 2) is simple to bring you can read it in the playground, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not have much space to bring the printed book, you can buy the actual e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save often the book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

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