Twitter Thread by Samuel Johnson



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I'm always annoyed by the way moneyed conservatism and its bow tie wearing nerd sensibilities choose how to dole out patronage for the arts or entertainment.

They think it's not worthwhile because most of the time the output from their occasional investments in it suck-

But at the end of the day it always expresses itself, if it does so at all, in the form of religion focused storylines that seem to bear a cringe Hallmark/Lifetime flavor to them.

I'm not trying to countersignal Christians here, but when your religiosity takes all the oxygen from the room and there is none left for the story, don't be surprised when you've invested in a flop.

Fiction is inherently very right wing, but leisure class boomers don't invest.

Science Fiction and Fantasy generally has a long skew rightward, but the way Conservative culture works at the top of the ladder in America, I.E. who has the money, is just kind of corny and weird.

Not enough of these old dudes investing in that kind of thing.

Not all stories have to be heavily religious in order to prove their point, though religious stories have their place as well. Let Them Look West is an innately religious story and it's fantastic.

https://t.co/g87Orqi4Kk

But the people with the purse strings can't avoid stodgy moralism and author tracts, which always come off wooden and lame, even to many deeply religious readers. That's because it isn't good writing, author tracts require more subtlety than dropping anvils on the audience.

There just seems to be an intense sense of reluctance for the christian right that sits at the top of the heap with all the money in the GOP to ever invest in visions of other worlds than our own, partially because of the challenges of writing their religion into them.

@conan_esq
book very much reflects the chaos of latin america before it was Christianized. He's a very devout Catholic but he doesn't feel threatened in showing a world very similar to the pre-christian one that once existed.
https://t.co/4dvo8l53y5

Young men want adventure, action, struggle. There's an element of Christian humility that conceals a degree resentment that mistakes individual formidability for some kind of conceit. It's not "meek" enough for them. They honestly need a dose of the Grail Mythos in their lives.

The grail mythos reconciles the masculine formidability of the warrior with the humility of the christian. This isn't some original take by me, many have said similar sentiments and I'm just agreeing with them.

The left will pour large sums of money into an absolute black hole, for a gaping prolapse of a shitty movie just to put a dent in a culture. They'll hurl money at simpletons and narcissistic morons with no expectation of fiscal return whatsoever to try and win the culture war.

The least the leisure class donors stuck in margaritaville could do is go sprinkle some cash on authors that are genuinely smart, but create material that might not directly appeal to the donor themselves.

The donors are old. Their tastes are old. They need perspective.

This isn't just a problem in entertainment, it's also a big problem in every facet of comparing the DNC to the GOP in how patronage is handled. When elections are ran, the DNC pays losers with nothing better to do to block walk and engage in activism with actual money.