

The Unravelling Narratives of James Tiptree, Jr.

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Abstract

James Tiptree Jr. was a short story writer whose stories were witty, unexpected and painful. Spread over 20 years there is a distinct development in those stories from the witty screwball style of *Birth of a Salesman* (1968) through the race side sport story *Faithful to the Terra in Our Fashion* (1969) and on to bitter stories such as “*And I Awoke and Found Me Here on the Cold Hill’s Side*”. This essay will consider the different narrative structures Tiptree Jr. used and consider them as commentaries and reworkings of earlier classic science fiction.