

Mr. Eric R. Eddison

R.D. D.R.
T.P.R.R.R.D.

England.

Dear Mr. Eddison:

~~If I do not know whether or not you are bothered excessively by that persistent post the autograph writer or not. If so, I recently am just one of many.~~

I have read with much enjoyment "The Warm Ouroboros", and it is to you as the author of the book ^{The book I like it much since} I address this letter, I am ~~not~~ ^{recently} a student of chemical engineering but happen to have a great & ^{Fairy tales,} tickling ear and yearning toward all sorts of beautiful fantastic things that reading and collecting this type of literature have become ^{for me} a profoundly interesting hobby. Beginning long ago with the Arabian Nights, King Arthur, and ~~the~~ Beowulf I have continued the pursuit of this hobby along various channels: Poe, F.T. Benson, Algernon Blackwood, the great Lord Dunsany (with whose writings your book seems to have certain affinities), and many contemporary American writers of the unusual, the weird, the fantastic, the mysterious, and the mystic. So, I was delighted to find extent such a grand book as "The Warm Ouroboros" and was greatly entertained and much impressed by it. (Incidentally, I ~~saw~~ ^{see} it was introduced to it by the ~~Author~~ recommendation of Clark Ashton Smith whose "Ide of the Tortoise" appears in ^{the weird anthology} ~~the weird anthology~~ ^{has been selected for inclusion} in Not at Night published by Selwyn + Blount.)

Liking the general type of literature which the "Warm O." represents and being so especially ~~enthusiastic~~ ^{impressed}

by this particular to ~~the~~ writing in this particular book, I have a desire to possess the autograph of its author. So I am asking you, if you will reply, to send me an autograph for the frontispiece of *The Worm Ouroboros*. Since I have no way of obtaining stamps which you could use to mail reply I inclose instead of a stamped envelope 10¢ in American money which should cover cost - & you mailing me a letter.

You have undoubtedly accomplished a notable literary achievement in writing such a book dealing with such a subject ~~with~~ ^{this you no doubt know better than I} consistently and beautifully beautiful style. Only one thing about the story would I have had otherwise, had ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~: ~~the~~ ^{tiny} ~~the~~ ^{the} tale itself ~~the~~ ^{is} place.

and how
been
told by
literary
critics
more
completely
than I.

Mercury is so small & planet, so near the sun. ~~It must~~
~~must~~ ^{be} pitifully constantly fried ^{by the heat} ~~one~~ of its ~~small~~ ^{one} small ^{atmosphere is} ~~atmosphere is~~ ^{distinctly} hemispheres. This doesn't jibe with the story. ^{about the} The tale ^{of earth, the} is too vast ^{too much} possessed of grandeur to be pinned down to such a prosaic hot little clod as Mercury. ^{why must}
~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Demonsland~~ and Coerce and all the other fabulous lands ~~are~~ ^{definitely} located? Wouldn't it be artistically better to leave their ~~the~~ ^{indefinite} position in both time and space? ~~and~~ ^{I don't care about} ~~elsewhere~~ ^{it that way.} ~~it~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~

I should very greatly appreciate a reply from you, if you have time and attention to spare. If you send me an autograph for *The Worm O.*, it will be highly priced, at any rate, I wish you all joy and success in the further writing of such tales, and remain very sincerely yours, Richard Dodson.