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Contributors

ABOUT OUR CONTRIBUTORS

J. R. Alfieri is a published writer and devoted lover of all things mythical. He currently resides in the backwoods of New Jersey, but will soon be migrating to England for a graduate study in Creative and Critical writing. There he hopes to polish his craft, sip the finest of tea the country has to offer, and if he's especially fortunate, pick up one of those dashing accents.

A.A. Azariah-Kribbs lives in Virginia with her Griffon, Fuffle. She has been published in several venues, including Carus Publishing's *Cicada*, *The Bards and Sages Quarterly*, *Fēlan*, *Chantwood*, and *Mystery Weekly Magazine*. Two of her short stories won awards from the *Bethlehem Writers' Roundtable's* 2016 annual competition. Her blog, Wallieswentletrap.com, features original art and fiction following the adventures of Wallie the Imp.

Bethany Abrahamson gained degrees in biology and history from the University of New Mexico and enjoys writing in the fantasy genre in her spare time. Her inspiration for her drawings comes from Dungeons and Dragons. When she's not writing or painting you can usually find her playing fiddle or vielle, or crocheting.

Shane Blackman received a B.A. in English and History from Wabash College and an M.A. in History from Indiana University. Shane has been a Visiting Scholar at Oxford University, Visiting Research Fellow at Princeton University, and Assistant Editor at the *Indiana Magazine of History*. At Wabash, Shane won two writing awards: the Walter Fertig Prize for Excellence in Writing and the *Callimachus Literary Journal* Award for Best Essay. He has taught Creative Writing, Composition, and Literature in Arizona's high school system and served as Lecturer in History at Indiana University. Shane currently is writing a novel which depicts various aspects of American history and which considers the role that family, close friends, and mere acquaintances can play in a person's development. The novel also takes a journey through parts of film history and the history of literature.

B.L. Blackwood is a Central Florida artist and author of *La Mer: Dawn to Midday on the Sea*, exploring the world and our place in it through an eclectic blur of myth and science fiction. You can find more of his art, poetry, and musings at blblackwood.com/<<http://blblackwood.com/>>"

Ron Boyer is a scholar, teacher, and award-winning poet, fiction author, and screenwriter. He completed his MA in Depth Psychology at Sonoma State University and is also a graduate of the Professional Program in Screenwriting at UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television. He is currently undertaking doctoral studies in the PhD in Art and Religion program at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA, where he is dual-enrolled at UC Berkeley. Ron's scholarly research emphasizes interdisciplinary, archetypal theory applied to mythopoeic imagery in narrative art, including mythology, ritual, literature, and film, with a concentration on the mythopoeic art of Dante Alighieri, William Blake, and J. R. R. Tolkien. He has presented academic papers at the first *Symposium for the Study of Myth* at Pacifica Graduate Institution and the *International Conference for the International Association of Jungian Studies* at Arizona State University. He is scheduled to present at the upcoming 33rd Annual International Conference on Indigenous and Ancestral Wisdom, Healing and Transformation sponsored by the Society for the Study of Shamanism. Ron is a two-time Jefferson Scholar to the Santa Barbara Writers Conference, and two-time award-winner for fiction from the John E. Profant Foundation for the Arts, including the McGwire Family Award for Literature. His first short story was published in the horror anthology, *America the Horrific*. His poetry has been featured in the scholarly e-zine of the Jungian and depth psychology community, *Depth Insights: Seeing the World with Soul* (Issues 3, 5, & 7), *Mythic Passages: A Magazine of the Imagination*, *Mythic Circle*, and other publications. Ron's essay on "The Rebirth Archetype in Fairy Tales: A Study of Fitcher's Bird and Little Red Cap" was recently published in the peer-reviewed journal, *Coreopsis: Journal of Myth and Theatre*, where he is a reviewer and regular contributor.

Marina Favila is an English professor at James Madison University in Virginia. She has published essays on Shakespeare, poetry, and film in various academic journals, including *Modern Philology*, *Cahiers Elisabethains*, *Spiritus*, and *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*. Her published fiction includes pieces in *Jersey Devil Press*, *Wraparound South*, *Fabula Argentinea*, and Harvardwood's *Seven Deadly Sins* anthology.

Gwenyth Hood was born in White Plains, NY, but moved with her family to Brandon, Vermont at the age of seven. She developed a love of reading and writing at an early age, discovering some favorite authors—Rudyard Kipling, Shakespeare, and J. R. R. Tolkien—at roughly the same time, in early adolescence. In 1982, her first novel, *The Coming of the Demons*, was published by William Morrow. She is currently in the process of finishing the next two books in the series and updating Book I to agree with the changes. She has been the editor of *The Mythic Circle* all the years of this millennium and a few more.

Justin D. Lyons is Associate Professor of History and Political Science at Ashland University in Ohio. A life-long fan of the works of J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis, he incorporates as many references to them as possible into his university classes as well as explorations of the mythological underpinning of ancient regimes.

Emily Metcalf is a visual artist born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii, and currently living in Indiana. She holds a BA in Drawing & Painting and Graphic Design. A voracious childhood reader, Emily grew up visualizing and drawing the scenes from her favorite books. Today, she views creativity as part of humanity's essential nature, and as a way to reflect the love of God. Emily works in watercolor, pen and ink, photography, and digital media.

Ryder W. Miller edited *From Narnia to a Space Odyssey*, cowrote *San Francisco: A Natural History*, and is the author of *Tales of Suspense and Horror* and the recently published *Ocean Beach Diary*. He is currently working on a hybrid genre novel called *The First Half Million*. He has had stories published in Mythic Circle and The Lost Souls website. He was a regular community environmental reporter for San Francisco Community newspapers (*West Portal Monthly*, *Sunset Beacon*, *Richmond Review* and *Potrero View*). He is also a critic who has been published in RAIN TAXI, *The Electronic Green Journal*, *Beyond Bree*, and *The San Francisco Book Review*.

Trent Walters was once a co-editor of *The Mythic Circle*. Poems of his have appeared in *Asimov's*; *Fantasy, Folklore & Fairytales*; *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*; and *The Pedestal*. Morpo Press published his chapbook, *Learning the Ropes*.

Lee Clark Zumpe has been writing and publishing horror, dark fantasy and speculative fiction since the late 1990s. His short stories and poetry have appeared in a variety of publications such as *Weird Tales*, *Space and Time* and *Dark Wisdom*; and in anthologies such as *Corpse Blossoms*, *Best New Zombie Tales Vol. 3*, *Steampunk Cthulhu* and *World War*

Cthulhu. His work has earned several honorable mentions in The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror collections. An entertainment columnist with Tampa Bay Newspapers, Lee has penned hundreds of film, theater and book reviews and has interviewed novelists as well as music industry icons such as Paddy Moloney of The Chieftains and Alan Parsons. His work for TBN has been recognized repeatedly by the Florida Press Association, including a first place award for criticism in the 2013 Better Weekly Newspaper Contest. Lee lives on the west coast of Florida with his wife and daughter. Visit <http://www.leeclarkzumpe.com/>.

This Rock

by

Simon Perchik

This rock no longer tries
though you give each grave
the tool it needs

--does it matter
you haven't looked here in years
--you bring the dead

and your forehead each day
closer to the ground
easy to grab, hold close

let it harden, already
scraped for the powder
that cures, can stop the breathing.