A Bibliography of Glen GoodKnight's Articles, Reviews, and Major Editorials in Mythlore

Janet Brennan Croft
*University of Oklahoma*

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Abstract

Additional Keywords
GoodKnight, Glen—Bibliography; Mythlore—History; Mythopoeic Society—History and personal reminiscences; Tolkien Journal—History
Biblilography of Glen GoodKnight's Articles, Reviews, and Major Editorials in Mythlore

Compiled by Janet Brennan Croft

Mythopoeic Society founder Glen GoodKnight passed away on November 3, 2010. GoodKnight founded the society after a picnic he organized for Tolkien lovers in 1967 drew a gratifyingly large crowd; from this beginning grew a world-wide community of scholars and fans devoted to understanding and enjoying the works of Tolkien, Lewis, Williams, and other writers of mythopoeic literature. Biographical sketches and personal appreciations have been published in Mythprint (the November 2010 issue is entirely devoted to Glen GoodKnight), the Los Angeles Times (his obituary was published in the 14 November 2010 issue), and elsewhere, including the personal blogs of a number of his friends, 1 and I direct interested readers to these sources for more information about Glen GoodKnight, the man.

As the current editor of the journal he founded to be the scholarly voice of the society, I want to focus here instead on Glen GoodKnight, the scholar. While he contributed several fine articles to Mythlore and the Mythopoeic Society conference proceedings, producing scholarship himself was not his main focus; he did not publish outside the society as far as I have been able to determine, and his papers, few though they are, may therefore lack the wider exposure they deserve as they deal with concepts and issues still much debated today. The bulk of his writing for society publications consisted of reviews and editorial columns, some of these columns being substantive enough on their own that I have listed them below. In later years his main scholarly focus was a bibliography of editions of Lewis's Narnia books, especially translations, which can still be consulted at his website, inklingsfocus.com.

GoodKnight's major contribution to the field, at heart, was in taking Inklings scholarship seriously, and persuading the rest of the world to take it seriously as well, through founding the Mythopoeic Society, instituting annual conferences with a strong academic focus, and establishing Mythlore and other society publications and publishing efforts. Without this sturdy foundation, Inklings studies might not be the field it is today, robust enough to support a

growing number of respectable and viable scholarly journals, conferences, and academic courses and programs, and with dozens of new books published every year. We all owe Glen GoodKnight a debt of gratitude for where we are today; there is good stone-work here for us to build on, and room for gardens.

**ARTICLES AND MAJOR EDITORIALS**

**Scholarship**


Compared the physical and cosmological geography of the works of Tolkien, Lewis, and Williams, with discussion of the symbolism of compass directions.


After examining the history of the figure of Lilith in Judeo-Christian myth, Jungian psychology, and Western literature, this paper discusses the three major Lilith-characters in the Narnia series—the White Witch, the Lady of the Green Kirtle, and Jadis, Queen of Charn.


Overview of the formation and meetings of the Inklings; primarily discusses the WWII era. Discusses Williams as their “catalyst” and focuses mainly on the effects of his membership and unexpected death on the group.


Discusses the medieval theological concepts of affirmation of images (romantic, seeking truth reflected in imagery) and rejection of images (mystical, seeking direct access to truth), building on Mary Schildeler’s book on Williams, *The Theology of Romantic Love*, and liberally quoting from Jung and Lewis. Concludes that Lewis advocated a hybrid concept of transparent images; that ideally one should simultaneously contemplate both the image and the truth behind it, transcending dualism.

**Bibliographies**


Updates the bibliography of translations of Tolkien published in Mythlore 32. Includes a “Table of First Date of Publication” of translations into 32 languages. Includes illustrations from many of the translations.


Lists known translations of Tolkien’s works into twenty-five other languages, from Afrikaans to Swedish, with date of publication and other bibliographic information.
Indexes

Author and subject index to articles, reviews, and letters in Mythlore 1-84.

List of article titles for issues 1-26. Includes articles, fiction, and poetry, but not art, book reviews, or columns.

Society History

Reminiscences of the history of the Society on the occasion of its 15th anniversary.

Continues his “Letter” from issue #61, suggesting that the Society consciously follow a “Middle Way” between fandom and academia, between exclusivity and eclecticism.

An account of the founding and growth of the Mythopoeic Society and the beginning of a discussion of its potential future.

Reminiscences of the history of the Society on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

Editorials, Introductions, and Panels

Reproduces a letter from Tolkien to Dr. Herbert Schiro (later included in Letters, but at this time previously unpublished). Discusses Tolkien’s assertion that The Lord of the Rings is at heart about death and the desire for deathlessness, and speculates on the survival of LotR as a literary classic.

Transcription of a panel discussion at the 19th Mythopoeic Conference.

Opening address at Mythcon 24. A discussion of the value of “children’s” literature supported by quotations from Tolkien’s “On Fairy-stories” and Lewis’s “On Three Ways of Writing for Children.”

Opening address at Mythcon 21, expanded. Uses Lewis’s The Four Loves to open a discussion of friendship within the society, reminding members of the dangers Lewis pointed out, chiefly that of friends “looking at each other”—that is, focusing on “mutual self-approval”—to the exclusion of remembering to look “in the direction of our shared interest.”


“The White Tree.” Mythcon I, Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, Ca., 1970. Glen GoodKnight, ed. Los Angeles, The Mythopoeic Society: 1970. 56-59. Opening address at Mythcon 1, expanded. Sees many of the problems of the modern world stemming from a deep distrust of the unconscious mind, and with it a distrust of mystical experience and fantasy. Draws primarily on Jung and on Tolkien’s “On Fairy-Stories” to make his point that fantasy is necessary to the integration of the conscious and unconscious minds.

REVIEWS
Print materials


Sayer, George. *Jack: C.S. Lewis and His Times.*


Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Treason of Isengard.*

Tolkien, J.R.R. *Morgoth’s Ring.*


Tolkien, John, and Priscilla Tolkien. *The Tolkien Family Album.*

Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Shaping of Middle-earth: The Quenta, The Ambarkanta and the Annals...* 


**Movies and Media**


The Hobbit. Rankin-Bass television production.
The Lord of the Rings. Dir. Ralph Bakshi.
The Return of the King. Rankin-Bass television production.


Wizards. Dir. Ralph Bakshi.
Art and Calendars


The 1993 J.R.R. Tolkien Calendar. Illustrated by Alan Lee.

Celtic Calendar 1994. Illustrated by Patrick Wynne and Laurie Frasier Manifold, cover art by Victoria Palmer, mythological notes by Alexei Kondratiev.

LeGuin, Ursula K. Fish Soup. Illustrated by Patrick Wynne.

Tolkien, J.R.R. The Hobbit. Illustrated by David Wenzel; adapted by Charles Dixson with Sean Deming.


Baynes, Pauline, illus. Let There Be Light.


Tolkien’s World: Paintings of Middle-earth. Various artists.