

# MYTHPRINT

The Monthly Bulletin of The Mythopoeic Society

Volume 14

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Number 2

The Mythopoeic Society is a literary and educational organization devoted to the study, discussion, and enjoyment of all the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, and Charles Williams. It believes that these authors provide an excellent introduction to myth, fantasy, and imaginative literature. It also believes these authors can more completely be understood and appreciated by studying the realm of myth; the genre of fantasy; and the literary, philosophical, and spiritual traditions which underlie their work, and which they have drawn from and enriched.

The word "mythopoeic" (pronounced myth-o-pe-ic) means "myth-making" or "productive of myths." It is a word that well fits the fictional and mythic works of the three authors, who were prominent members of an unique informal literary circle known as the Inklings, that met in Oxford, England, during the late 1930s through the 1950s. While they were individually distinct writers, their works reflect many common values, parallel themes, and cross-influences.

The Mythopoeic Society was founded in 1967 by Glen H. GoodKnight. From its first meeting of 15 people in Southern California, it has grown to become an international organization with nearly 1400 members/subscribers in 16 nations, and with over 25 discussion groups. In 1970 it held its first annual Mythopoeic Conference. In 1971 it incorporated as an educational and literary nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. In 1972 THE TOLKIEN SOCIETY OF AMERICA merged with it to create a larger and stronger framework. In 1974 the structure of the Society was revised, giving equal voting and decision-making rights to all members. In 1976 the production system for the publications was revised to improve their quality and frequency.

Persons may receive a free sample copy of *Mythprint*, after which the receiver must become a member or subscriber to continue receiving copies. Sample copies of *Mythlore* are \$2.25. Readers are invited to submit names of persons whom they think would be interested in the Society and its publications, to receive a free sample of *Mythprint* and additional information about the Society.

Those wishing to receive their copies of *Mythlore* and *Mythprint* by First Class Mail within the U.S.A. may pay an additional \$7 for a 12-month period for this service. For those who would only wish *Mythlore* sent this way, the service is \$4. For those who would only want *Mythprint* sent this way, the service is \$3.

Advertisements may be placed in both *Mythlore* and *Mythprint*. Details are available by writing directly to the Editor.

The Mythopoeic Society is incorporated as an educational and literary nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, and contributions are tax-deductible.

Send all dues and orders to the Society, [REDACTED].

Membership, which is open to individuals, includes full participational rights, voting rights, and a subscription to both *Mythlore* and *Mythprint*. Dues are \$8 for a 12-month period, and are payable to the Society Treasurer, preferably in annual units (though they may be paid in installments of \$4 at a time): \$6 of this amount is for a subscription to *Mythlore* and *Mythprint* for 12 months.

Two members resident at the same address may apply for joint membership, which will give all membership rights to each of the joint members, except that they shall receive one copy of each issue of *Mythlore* and *Mythprint* between them. Joint member's dues are \$10 for a 12-month period. The dues of additional members resident at the same address, under the same arrangement as joint membership, are \$2 for a 12-month period.

Subscription to *Mythlore* and *Mythprint* without Society membership is available to institutions, organizations, and individuals at \$8 for a 12-month period.

Those living outside the U.S.A. may send an International Money Order or a check or money order in their own national currency equivalent to American amounts. The dues may be paid, for example, with 8 Canadian dollars, 4.5 British pounds, or 35 Swedish krona. Those not living in the countries listed may inquire of the Society as to the exchange rate for their country. Due to fluctuations of International Exchange, rates are subject to periodic adjustment.

## Hobbit on TV

The Television version of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, which will take a year to complete, will be an Arthur Rankin Jr. — Jules Bass production with the script by Romeo Muller. It will have an original score by Maury Laws with lyrics by Bass. The animation, by Rankin, is based on the style of Arthur Rackham, a famous illustrator of the turn-of-the-century who illustrated the first edition of *Peter Pan*.

Xerox, according to David Curtin, vice president of communication, advertising and publicity, paid in excess of \$1 million, a fee that covers two TV runs of the property, the rights of which were acquired by Rankin-Bass Productions. Additional revenues will flow from it, he stressed, since Xerox has an educational division from which ancillary benefits can flow.

### SURVEY TAKEN

Curtin said that NBC had conducted a national survey to ascertain how many people in the country were familiar with the Tolkien work. It revealed that approximately 7% of the population read it and 13% heard of it. In college circles,

(continued on page 4)



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Alison S Lewis 2/77(14)..



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# Activity Calendar

## Discussion Group Meetings

KHAZAD-DUM

Sec.: Edith Crowe,

\*August 7, Saturday, 1 P.M.

Howard Pyle's Robin Hood. Picnic Meeting. Contact Edith for location.

DESOLATION OF SMAUG

Info: Meg Garrett,

\*August 14, Saturday,

Meeting at Mythcon; topic to be announced.

SUTTON HOO

Sec.: Dolores Espinosa

\*August 15, Sunday, 2:30 P.M.

Mervin Peake's Gormenghast at Alhambra Park.

HENNETH ANNUN

Info: Antoinette Brenion

\*August 8, Sunday, 7 P.M.

Richard Purtill's Lord of the Elves and Eldils at the home of Andy Thornton.

LOTHLORIEN

Sec.: Anne Wilson

\*August 21, Saturday, 8 P.M.

James Branch Cabell's The Silver Stallion at the home of Joyce O'Dell.

CHAPTER OF THE ELFIN MARCHES

Info: Antoinette Brenion

\*August 28, Saturday, 3 P.M.

Fletcher Pratt's The Wall of the Unicorn, at Queen Park in Inglewood across from the Brenions' (see above).

SAMMATH NAUR

Info: Debby Jones

\*August 22, Sunday, 8 P.M.

Mary Stewart's The Hollow Hills, at the "Off-Center",

MIDGEWATER MARSHES

Sec.: Beatrice Ritz

\*August 8, Sunday, 7 P.M.

Ursula LeGuin's Tenets of Atuan, at the home of Paul Ritz.

GALADHEMIN ENNORATH

Info: The Krieger

\*August 14, Saturday, 7:30 P.M.

Richard Adams' Shardik at the Hildebrandts' home,

THE SHIRE

Info: Carol and Dave Stevens

\*August 8, Sunday, 7:00 P.M.

Peter Beagle's The Last Unicorn at

Anyone wishing to correspond in Tengwar contact Bob Couch,

## Welcome to Newest Groups

FORNCOT

Info: Marci Helms

\*August 1, Sunday, 7:30 P.M.

For topic and location contact Marci or Dave Dettman,

THE WHITE COUNCIL

Mod.: Mike Chapman,

\*August 22, Sunday, 7:00 P.M.

Ursula K. LeGuin's Earthsea trilogy at the home of Mike Chapman (see above).

## Mythopoeic Conference 7

Full detail were printed in the July issue. If you have any last minute questions call Stone in Sacramento as

The Guest of Honor, Dr. Thomas Howard, is associate professor of English at Gordon College, Wenham, Mass., and author of Christ the Tiger (autobiographical, 1967), An Antique Drum (essays, 1969), and Once Upon a Time, God (apologetics, 1974). Dr. Howard has his B.A. from Wheaton College, his M.A. from the University of Illinois, and his Ph.D. from New York University, where the title of his dissertation was "Charles Williams's Experiment in the Novel". He stays deeply involved with Tolkien, Lewis, and Williams with his regular course "Modern Myth", at Gordon. He lives with his family north of Boston.

## Special Events

Saturday, September 4, 1976, Glen and Bonnie GoodKnight will be hosted at the home of Don Hildebrandt, Phone The GoodKnights will show their slides of their journey to England last summer to visit the people and places known to the Inklings, and also the special slide collection of art inspired by Tolkien (primarily), Lewis, and Williams. This visit is to be part of a journey to the Wheaton and Marquette Collections. It is hoped that members and friends from Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Ontario, and eastern New York and Pennsylvania can attend. Those planning to come from outside Ann Arbor are asked to please contact Don Hildebrandt in advance.

Sunday, September 19th will be the date of the 10th Annual Southern California Celebration of Bilbo and Frodo's Birthday. Mark your Calendar; more details next issue.

Saturday night, October 2nd will be the date of both the celebration of the Society's 9th birthday and a Southern California Regional Discussion meeting with the topic: Middle-earth from the Beginning of the First Age to the Beginning of the Fourth Age." Location: the GoodKnight's.

## Please Read Your Label

If your label reads after your name (or somewhere near, due to space) the following: 11/76 (13), it means that your last Mythprint will be November 1976, and more importantly your last Mythlore will be the forthcoming #13 (September), unless you renew. Please don't wait until the last minute. If your label reads 8/76(12) it is essential that you renew immediately to keep your publications coming regularly.

# Book World

All items are listed in one of several subject categories; in many cases the choice of category is subjective, so that a book might logically be placed under more than one category. Further, the descriptions of the books in the sources are usually short and may be misleading, so the subject category chosen may at times be inappropriate.

These listings are not meant to be complete: they are concerned primarily with *mythopoeic works*, and not the whole spectrum of each category.

The categories are:

- A. Books by Tolkien, Lewis and Williams.
- B. Books about Tolkien, Lewis and Williams.
- C. Other Inklings and friends, including the works of Owen Barfield, David Cecil, Warren Lewis, Dorothy L. Sayers, Roger Lancelyn Green, Walter Hooper and others.
- F. Fantasy, and books about fantasy, including juveniles.
- H. Historical works, including both fiction and non-fiction.
- L. Legend and myth, and books about legend and myth, including juveniles.
- M. Medieval and Renaissance scholarship and literature.
- O. Occult and magic.
- P. Predecessors of the Inklings, such as Chesterton, MacDonald, Morris, Dum-sany and Lindsay.
- R. Religion and philosophy.
- S. Speculative fiction.

## SOURCES

BBN = *British Book News*: May  
 BL = *ALA The Booklist*: May 15, June 1, 15  
 LC = Library of Congress (from WR listing)  
 Pub = Publisher's Announcement  
 PW = *Publishers' Weekly*: May 31, June 7, 14, 21  
 TLS = *London Times Literary Supplement*: May 28, June 4, 11, 18  
 WR = *Bowker Weekly Record*: May 24, 31, June 7, 14

## B. ABOUT TOLKIEN, LEWIS, WILLIAMS

KILBY, Clyde S. *Tolkien and The Silmarillion*. Harold Shaw; Wheaton, Ill.; 1976. 89p \$3.95 hcv. Personal

## F. FANTASY

CARTER, Lin, ed. *Flashing Swords #3: Warriors and Wizards*. Dell; NY; August 1976. np \$1.95 pbk. PW

CARTER, Lin, ed. *Kingdoms of Sorcery*. Doubleday; Garden City, NJ; 1976. 218p \$6.75 hcv. BL

FARSON, Daniel. *The Man Who Wrote Dracula: A Biography of Bram Stoker*. St. Martin's Press; August 30, 1976. np \$8.95 hcv. PW

GRAHAME, Kenneth. *The Golden Age*. Rpt 1900 ed. Garland; NY; 1976. np \$27.00 hcv. LC

KINGSLEY, Charles. *The Water-Babies: A Fairy Tale for a Land-Baby*. Rpt 1886

ed. Garland; NY; 1976. np \$27.00 hcv. LC

TODD, Larry. *Tales of Fantasy*. Troubador Press; San Francisco; 1975. np \$2.00 pbk. LC

## L. LEGEND AND MYTH

DORNSON, Richard M. *Folktales Told Around the World*. Univ. Chicago Press; Chicago; 1976. np \$20.00 hcv. Pub

FIELD, Claud Herbert, comp. *Jewish Legends of the Middle Ages by Wolff Pascheles and Others*. Illus. by Mary Mulliner. Rpt. 1912 ed. Folcroft Library; Folcroft, PA; 1976. np \$10.00 hcv. LC

KAUFFMANN, Friedrich. *Northern Mythology*. Rpt 1903 ed. Folcroft Library; Folcroft, PA; 1976. np \$12.50 hcv. LC

HOLMAN, Felice and Nanine Valen. *The Drac: French Tales of Dragons and Demons*. (Juv) Scribner; NY; 1975. 84p \$6.95 hcv. LC

## M. MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE

LANGLAND, William, ed. *Piers Plowman*. Barnes & Noble; NY; 1975. 168p \$15.00 hcv. LC

## O. OCCULT AND MAGIC

SCHMEIDLER, Gertrude R., ed. *Parapsychology: Its Relation to Physics, Biology, Psychology, and Psychiatry*. Papers from 1974 symposium. Scarecrow Press; Metuchen, NJ; 1976. np \$11.00 hcv. LC

## P. PREDECESSORS OF THE INKLINGS

CHESTERTON, Gilbert Keith. *William Blake*. Rpt 1910 ed. Folcroft Library; Folcroft, PA; 1976. 210p \$17.50 hcv. LC

BLAKE, William. *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*. Oxford Univ. Press; London, NY; 1976. np \$16.95 hcv. LC

## R. RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

RAPPOPORT, Angelo. *Medieval Legends of Christ*. Rpt 1934 ed. Folcroft Library; Folcroft, PA; 1976. np \$30.00 hcv. LC

## S. SPECULATIVE FICTION

BARRON, Neil, ed. *Anatomy of Wonder: Science Fiction*. A critical guide to the literature. Bowker; Ann Arbor; July 1976. 471p \$14.95 hcv/\$8.95 pbk. Pub

BRETNOR, Reginold, ed. *The Craft of Science Fiction*. 15 essays by writers of SF and fantasy. Harper & Row; NY; August 11, 1976. np \$8.95 hcv. PW

DELANY, Samuel R. *The Fall of the Towers*. A trilogy. Ace; NY; 1976 (c. 1966) 413p \$1.95 pbk. LC

ZELAZNY, Roger. *Bridge of Ashes*. Signet; NY; July 1976. np \$1.25 pbk. PW

Edited by: David Stevens  
 Additional Research by: Helen Krieg  
 "Book World" Layout by: Priscilla Ord

## COMPLETE LISTING

This is a complete listing of the Mythopoeic Society's *Monthly Bibliographic Report* No. 26, prepared June 28, 1976. For additional copies, or for back issues, please send 13¢ in stamps for each issue desired (to pay for copying costs) and a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Book World, [redacted]

## REVIEW

*Dragonsong* by Anne McCaffrey. N. Y. Atheneum, 1976; pp. xv+202. \$7.95

Anne McCaffrey's two previous novels about Dragonriders of Pern, *Dragonflight* and *Dragonquest*, have won her a wide following among readers of both fantasy and science fiction. Announcement of publication of another novel in the series caused widespread anticipation.

As the continuation of an interesting series, *Dragonsong* succeeds well enough. We see more of our favorite characters and we gain some insights into the relationships between hold and weyr, man and dragon. We are at home on Pern now, and we can accept this offering of another story about these interesting as a bonus, a tasty bit of dessert after a good meal to help us fill up the corners. Fred Marcellino's cover illustration is a vast improvement over the paperback covers (one senses that this dragon really could fly) and Laura Lydecker's map will delight Pernophiles. Especially interesting is the additional information about the role of the Harper and the teaching ballads. McCaffrey seems to be marking time as far as problems of planetary significance are concerned, however. Some of the incidents of the plot are derivative, with the Impression scene from *Dragonquest* included almost verbatim in *Dragonsong*, albeit from a different narrative viewpoint and with a different purpose; the scope of the action is uncomfortably restricted.

It is as an independent novel aimed at a juvenile audience unfamiliar with Pern that *Dragonsong* falters. Viewed as a rite-of-passage with a feminist perspective the novel seems promising. There is a wrongly oppressed adolescent heroine who is forced to leave home and make her own way, and who is ultimately vindicated. Menolly wants to be a Harper and she has the requisite talent, and she is barred from fulfilling her ambition by her parents who see music as a masculine occupation. She leaves the safety of the Hold, driven by her need for music, and goes to live by the

sea. Menolly eventually proves her musical skills to the Masterharper and is accepted despite her sex. So far there is no confusion. But McCaffrey sets the action on Pern, summarizes the essentials of the previous action in a foreword, and jumps into her story leaving the young readers to figure out what is going on if they can. For example, early in the story Menolly observes the mating flight of a golden fire lizard. Reference is made to the entire hierarchy of male fire lizards (and dragons by implication) with the bronzes at the top, but there is no clear explanation and I suspect that the entire passage is more confusing than enlightening to readers unfamiliar with McCaffrey's world. Later, at the Impression in Denden Weyr, Jaxom's Impression of Ruth, the sickly white dragonet, is included in the narrative almost as an afterthought, with none of the preparation for the incident that was included in Dragoquest. For those of us who know the other novel there is no problem. But a young reader could very easily be confused by this extraneous incident.

I suspect that there will be at least one more novel in the series, and that Jaxom and Ruth will figure in it. Meanwhile, Dragonson whets the appetite of McCaffrey's adult fans while introducing children to a fascinating, if somewhat confusing, world.

David Stevens  
Beaver College

All meeting information and news of events of interest, etc. for inclusion in the September issue of Mythprint should be received no later than August 6th at the following address:

Meg Garrett, [REDACTED]



## TOLKIEN IN MEDIA

where Tolkien enjoys a rare popularity, 18% read it and 26% were familiar with it.

The demographics are, Curtin said, "upscaled." Of people earning \$15,000 annually and more, 11% have read The Hobbit and 19% heard of it.

Such widespread popularity deserves a TV airing, it would seem. It has also prompted Xerox to take an option on Return of the King, the next Tolkien story to be animated. It is not known yet when this will be produced.

For true loves of The Hobbit there will be immediate concern as to how it will be handled by Rankin-Bass Productions. Their animated credits include: "The Little Drummer Boy," "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," "Twas the Night Before Christmas," "Cricket on the Hearth," "Mad Monster Party," and many more. — Daily News, May 6, '76.

THE HOBBIT and THE LORD OF THE RINGS also to be made into movies.

Ralph Bakshi, who has produced the movies "Fritz the Cat," "Heavy Traffic," "War Wizards," and the animated version of "Grease," plans to make four films of The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings "exactly as Tolkien wrote them." ((1 - GG)). Bakshi, who has his office at 20th Century Fox say the four films will combine animation and live action plus a new secret technique.

— from Los Angeles Magazine, May 1976, p. 49.

## FREE SPECIAL OFFER

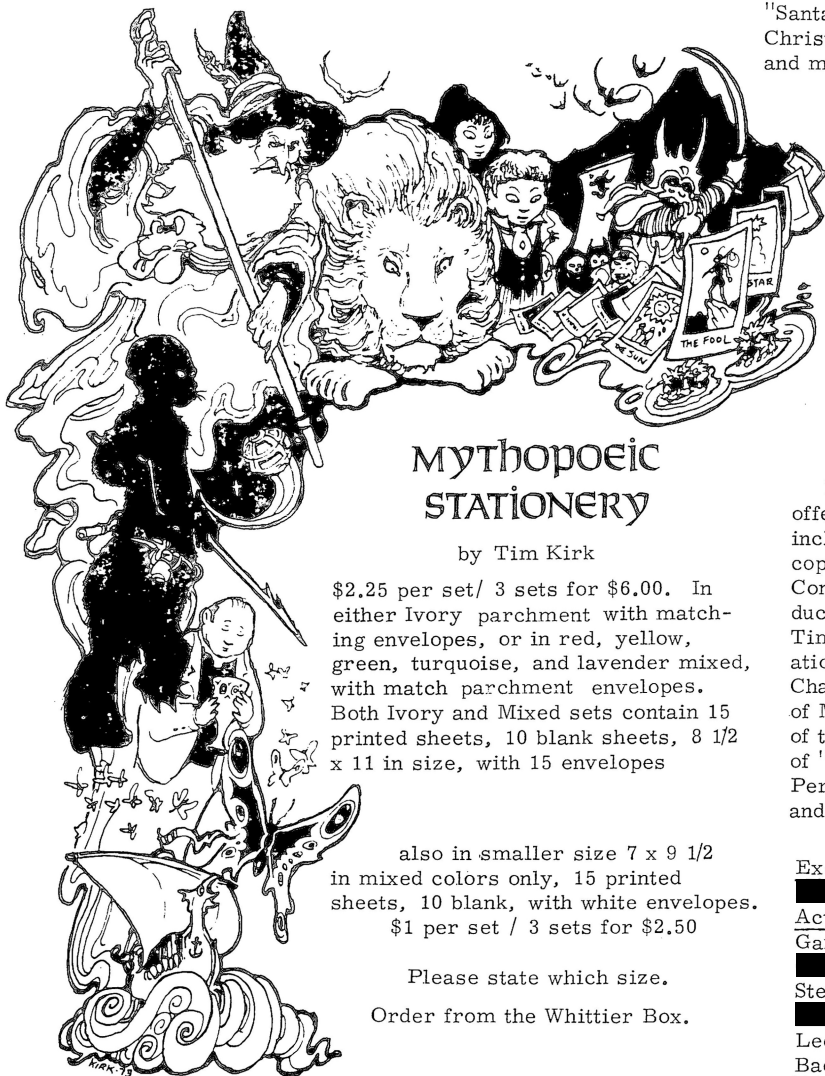
From now until October 31st 1976 we make this special offer: If you send in an order of \$12 or more (this may include dues), we will send along with your order a free copy of the joint issue of Tolkien Journal 12 — Mythlore 5. Content and art-wise, this is one of the best issues produced. It has a cover jointly drawn by George Barr and Tim Kirk of Tolkien surrounded by his many literary creations. The back cover is of Jadis looking over dying Charn by Tim Kirk. The articles include: "The Ecology of Middle-earth" by Marcella Juhren, "The Social History of the Inklings, 1939-1945" by Glen GoodKnight, a review of "Leaf by Niggle" by Rand Kuhl, "The Mythology of Perelandra" by Margaret Hannay, and other fine articles and very good interior artwork. This is a real value.

Executive Editor: Glen GoodKnight, [REDACTED]

Activity Calendar Editors: Bruce McMenemy and Meg Garrett, c/o Meg Garrett, [REDACTED]

Book-World Editors: Carol and David Stevens & Priscilla Ord, [REDACTED]

Mailing Party Manager and Host: Lee Speth. Subscriptions and Records: Laura Ruskin. Back Orders: Meg G., Bonnie G., and Christine Smith.



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