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Editorial

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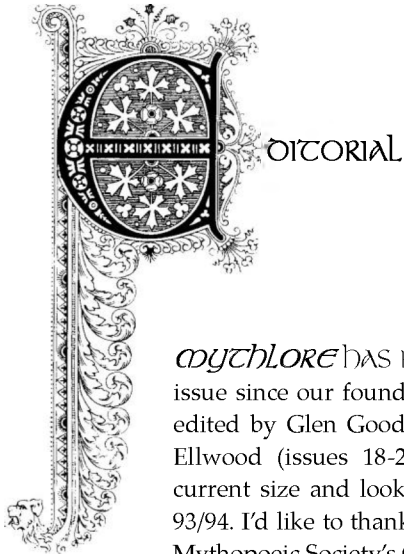
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EDITORIAL

mythLORE HAS REACHED a major milestone. This is our 100th issue since our founding in 1969. In its original format *Mythlore* was edited by Glen GoodKnight (issues 1-17 and 24-84) and Gracia Fay Ellwood (issues 18-23). Ted Sherman changed the format to the current size and look with issue 85, and I became editor with issue 93/94. I'd like to thank *Mythlore's* readers and advisory board and the Mythopoeic Society's Council of Stewards for their ongoing support.

An index to *Mythlore* Issues 1-100 is currently in preparation and will soon be available from the Mythopoeic Press in both print and electronic formats. This index is based on work begun by Edith Crowe and brought up to date by the current editor. It includes controlled-vocabulary subject headings and abstracts for each article. Reviews are also indexed, but artwork, poetry, and letters will not be included.

We start this issue appropriately with several articles that, in one way or another, deal with the Inklings as a group. Charles A. Huttar's illuminating Scholar Guest of Honor speech from Mythcon 35 is at last available for all of us to enjoy. His insightful study of the pattern of references to sea-voyages and the earthly paradise in Tolkien, Lewis, and Williams traces the influence of Arthurian, Celtic, and Greek legends in their writing. Next Diana Pavlac Glycer, author of *The Company They Keep: C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien as Writers in Community* (reviewed in this issue) considers which of the Inklings might be considered the "centre" of the group through a fascinating discussion of the dynamics of the writing workshop. Following this thread, we veer slightly away from our Inklings theme to consider Lewis as a member of a writing group, and its effect on his narrative techniques, in Ethan Campbell and Robert Jackson's essay on using Lewis in the creative writing classroom. Eric Seddon then proposes an intriguing solution to the question of Tolkien and Lewis's estrangement in 1949.

The index in progress indicates that close to half of the articles we have published in our 38-year history concern Tolkien, and this issue is no exception. Karen Nikakis Simpson begins this section with a consideration of Aragorn's

mythical role as rightful and sacrificial king in *The Lord of the Rings*. Deborah Sabo, in a paper first presented at Mythcon 36, provides an enlightening look at ruins and other archaeological sites in Middle-earth and their place in the cultural history of its various races, and by reflection, the place of archaeology in our own cultural memories. Nicholas Birns investigates the tangled textual history of Radagast, a much-neglected character, and what it says about Tolkien's writing technique and care in making revisions.

Ruth Berman considers the influence of some of Tolkien's earliest childhood reading, the Andrew Lang fairy books, and the opinions he expressed about these books in "On Fairy-Stories." (It is especially appropriate to have an article from Berman; her "Here an Orc, There an Ork" appeared in our very first issue.) An unusual perspective on desire and envy in Tolkien's work is provided by Hayden Head, who tests the theories of René Girard against selected stories from *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Silmarillion* and finds some interesting cases of applicability. Alexander M. Bruce then takes a close look at "The Battle of Maldon" and how Tolkien's opinion of Bryhtnoth's actions echoes through his *Beowulf* essay, "The Homecoming of Beorhtnoth Beorhthelm's Son," and even into the character of Gandalf. Melissa Smith next gives us a perceptive reading of Éowyn as a war-bride, providing new insights into her relationships with both Aragorn and Faramir and into the challenges facing war-brides throughout history.

Joe R. Christopher, another early Mythlore contributor (first appearing in these pages in 1970), gives us an article on pagan beliefs in *The Serpent's Tooth*, Diana Paxson's retelling of *King Lear*. Paxson is another long-time Mythopoeic Society member and Mythlore contributor; her first article appeared in 1973 and her fiction has been the subject of a number of articles as well. And finally, in keeping with our mission to explore all forms of mythopoeic literature, we feature an essay about an author who has heretofore NOT appeared in *Mythlore*; Gilbert McInnis writes about the Nazi appropriation and mythologization of Darwinian evolutionary theories in Kurt Vonnegut's *Mother Night*.

This issue we feature reviews of *Milton, Spenser, and the Chronicles of Narnia: Literary Sources for C.S. Lewis's Novels* by Elizabeth Baird Hardy; *C.S. Lewis: Life, Works, and Legacy*, edited by Bruce L. Edwards; *The Company They Keep: C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien as Writers in Community* by Diana Pavlac Glycer; and *Roots and Branches: Selected Papers on Tolkien* by Tom Shippey. If you would like to be a reviewer or suggest a book to review, please contact the editor.

In addition to the referees on the Mythlore Editorial Advisory Board, I would also like to thank John D. Rateliff, Anne C. Petty, David Bratman, and Donald E. Morse for their assistance with this issue.

— Janet Brennan Croft