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## Online Summer Seminar 2023

August 5-6, 2023: Fantasy Goes to Hell: Depictions of Hell in Modern Fantasy Texts

<https://mythsoc.org/oms/oms-2023.htm>



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## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

*The Mythic Circle* is a small literary magazine published by *The Mythopoeic Society*, which celebrates the work of C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, and other writers in the mythic tradition. It has become an annual. The next issue, #30 will appear some time in 2008. Copies of previous issues are available through the Mythopoeic Society Orders Department. The prepaid price for the next annual issue is \$8.00. For preorders and the purchase of past issues, write to: Mythopoeic Society Orders Department, 920 N. Atlantic Blvd. #E, Alhambra, CA 91801, USA. This information and more can be accessed conveniently at the website for the Mythopoeic Society, <[www.mythsoc.org](http://www.mythsoc.org)>.

Submissions and letters of comment should be sent to: Gwentyth Hood, English Department, Marshall University, Huntington WV 25701, or e-mailed to <[mythiccircle@mythsoc.org](mailto:mythiccircle@mythsoc.org)>.

We have, as yet, no hard and fast length limits, but we are a small publication. We have to think very well of a story 5000 words long to publish it, and shorter stories have a better chance. By editorial policy we favor our subscribers. We also favor those who show their desire to improve their work by revising their submissions and submitting them again, even if they do not exactly take our advice. Submissions should be double-spaced and should include stamped, self-addressed envelope.

## ABOUT OUR CONTRIBUTORS

**Bonnie Callahan** has contributed art to Mythopoeic publications for over 3 decades. She was in on the premieres of Mythlore, Mythprint, Mythril, and Parma Eldalamberon. Bonnie has worked as a background stylist in the animation industry for over 20 years, and also designs logos, posters, and cards, as well as painting art on rocks.

**Tim Callahan** graduated from the Chouinard Art School with a degree in illustration. He has worked in the animation industry as a background designer and layout artist for over 20 years and has regularly contributed art for The Mythic Circle. He and Bonnie met while working on the infamous Bakshi production of Lord of the Rings.

**Joe R. Christopher** has published numerous poems, two plays (including “Retirement: A Masque,” which appeared in The Mythic Circle), and ten short stories (including two in The Mythic Circle). His poem about the Pandora myth, “Interiors and Exteriors,” appeared in The 2005 Rhysling Anthology: The Best Science, Fantasy, and Horror Poetry of 2004, published by The Science Fiction Poetry Association and Dark Regions Press. Twice he has won a Mythopoeic Scholarship Award for his academic books. Last summer in England, he presented two critical papers on Tolkien. He serves on the editorial board of The Mythopoeic Press.

**S. Dorman** is currently working on a speculative piece about the early life of the King of Gondor (Elessar) in Middle-earth; and on a novella, *In the Garden with Mark Twain and CS Lewis*. A sample of an earlier dialogue was published in The Lamp-post, Spring 2007. Her work has appeared in regional publications, in literary and little magazines; and a short story, “Woman in Winter, with Flat” is included in an upcoming Goose River Anthology. The story is an excerpt from her series of rural town novels with mythic overtones, a sample of which can be read at: <godsaid.blogspot.com>.

**Pat Esden** can be found at her country store in Vermont designing with flowers and selling anything that holds still long enough to bring in a coin. When no one’s buying, she is either cavorting with her husband and dogs or is in the attic working on her current project, a series of contemporary fantasy novels set in upstate New York. Pat’s short stories can also be found in Challenging Destiny #23 and in the upcoming 2007 issue of Cat Tales.

**Berrien C. Henderson** teaches high school literature and composition. When he’s not chasing down student essays and his own children, he enjoys writing poetry and short stories, studying the classics, and pursuing the martial arts.

**JA Howe** has been writing science fiction and fantasy, in both poetic and prose forms, for about ten years now. Her most recent work can be seen at the online magazines *PariahOnline* (dotguy.net) and at *Ultraverse.com*. She also has written frequently for the print magazine *Pablo Lennis*.

**John Kuhn** is an aspiring writer and a tiring high school assistant principal. He lives and works in Mineral Wells, Texas. He is married and has two little boys.

**Ryder Miller** is the editor of From Narnia to a Space Odyssey. He has published stories at: <<http://lostsoulsmag.tripod.com/>>, and articles and reviews at The Internet Review of Science Fiction, Raintaxi, and the Electronic Green Journal. Miller is a freelance Environmental & Science Reporter, and Eco-critic, who has lived in San Francisco for a long time.

**Jef Murray**, whose illustrations have appeared frequently in *Mythic Circle* in the past, and is back with another illustration this time, recently had his Tolkien and C. S. Lewis-inspired illustrations featured in the St. Austin Review ([www.staustinreview.com](http://www.staustinreview.com)). His paintings and sketches can be seen online at [<www.JefMurray.com>](http://www.JefMurray.com).

**Kate Reilly**'s capacity to blend everyday matters with mythic imagination is well represented in her poems in this issue. Her work has been described as brevity of verse with both depth and acute angles. She is a graduate of the University of Hartford and lives in Westchester County, New York..

**Geoffrey Reiter** currently holds an M.A. in Church History from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and is working toward a Ph.D at Baylor University. He has spoken on or published essays about Bram Stoker, H. P. Lovecraft, George MacDonald, and Clark Ashton Smith, though "Rhapsody Kinetic" will be his first published work of fiction. Though a New Englander at heart, Geoffrey currently lives in Texas with his lovely wife, Mary.

**Douglas "Dag" Rossman** has loved the Scandinavian and Cherokee myths and legends for many years and his "The White Path," published in MC #26, was his first attempt to integrate them in a fictional setting. His new book, *The Northern Path: Norse Myths and Legends Retold . . . And What They Reveal*, has now been published by Seven Paws Press of Chapel Hill, NC. It includes both the stories he has been telling "to live audiences for the past 25 years," along with a discussion of "the nature of myth generally and the meanings of Norse myth in particular." His wife, Sharon, has graciously contributed an illustration for his story in our current issue.

**David Sparenberg** is a poet-playwright, Shakespearean actor, stage director, storyteller and workshop facilitator. His literary work has appeared in over 100 periodicals, journals and anthologies in nine countries and he currently completing a final revision on his first novel, *The Dialogue Of Becoming Human*, a work containing aspects of Magic Realism, alchemy and archetypal psychology. David is currently involved with a final revision of his first novel. Anyone interested is invited to read the first two chapters at: [<http://thedialogueofbecominghuman.blogspot.com/>](http://thedialogueofbecominghuman.blogspot.com/).

**M. Tatham** lives in Ohio with her husband Tom. She is very interested in the literary fairytale. Her stories have appeared in [The Mythic Circle](#) and in [Deep Magic: E-zine of High Fantasy & Science Fiction](#). In this issue, she offers a dramatic story which shows how fairy-tale heroines must continue to confront death even after the prince has come . . .