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Editorial

Gwenyth E. Hood

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Mythcon 51: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

Albuquerque, New Mexico • Postponed to: July 30 – August 2, 2021



Editorial Overview

by Maria Ott Tatham

Welcome to *Mythic Circle 2003*. Please forgive us for being late again. Would you believe we were kidnapped by trolls?

In a year when a fantasy film of the importance of *The Return of the King* has swept the board of most Hollywood laurels, fantasy in print—a somewhat staid book or a small magazine—can seem tame. But print is still the format that lets us enter, upon invitation, into the world of another mind; that forever excites us as we open the covers and turn the first leaf on a new world; that forces us to take part in building it with the bricks, brushes, and substance of our own imagination.

In this issue, you will find much that is old but still new: dragons, a raven, the Minotaur, Selkies, mer, princesses, a magical mirror, and an immortal tree. You will also begin a journey on the White Path with Little Bear, mount a horse for heaven with White Wolf, and travel east with the Mistress of the Solstice and Ivan the Fool. You will join in the felicitous nuptials of Cadmus and Harmonia. Climb to angry clouds on “Golubov’s Ladder”. And, find a whimsical answer to the question “And Where Does Your Neighbor Live?”

Dragons provided much inspiration for the pieces in this issue: the fiery Worm of legend, a shrewd watcher at the castle’s backdoor, a drake who likes to go fishing, and primal serpents that ring the world, tumble in mountain torrents, and mate in hidden caves.

As always, our artists not only illustrate, but bring us into worlds of their own . . .

Take your place at a feast for imagination.

Announcements—
by
Gwenyth E. Hood

I have two big announcements in this issue. One concerns my new editorial assistant, Maria Ott Tatham. Without her help, this issue of The Mythic Circle would not have appeared yet. She took up much work and removed many burdens from my mind, not least of which was the task of explaining why I was late again. I turned the task over to her, and I must say, she really hit the nail on the head.

The other announcement concerns the mystery picture on the back cover. For more details, look on p. 64.