



Mythopoeic Society

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## *Unicorns*

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## Mythopoeic Society's Online Midwinter Seminar 2024

17th–18th February 2024: Something Mighty Queer

Submission Deadline: November 30, 2023

<https://mythsoc.org/oms/oms-2024.htm>



### *Unicorns*

#### **Additional Keywords**

Michael Logan

# UNICORNS

UNICORNS DANCING IN THE SEA FOAM  
DANCING, PRANCING, IN THE LIGHT BREEZE,  
LEAPING WITH THE WAVES;

UNICORNS, UNICORNS, PLEASE RETURN.  
THE WOODS ARE AGING, DYING,

NO LONGER MAGICALLY YOUNG;  
THEY'VE SEEN THE SUN BLAZING  
AND THE FROST AND THE SNOW,

THEY'VE KNOWN MANY YEARS SINCE YOU HAVE GONE.  
THEIR BRANCHES ARE SNARLED AND TANGLED NOW,  
AND MANY AN OAK HAS A DECAYING HEART,  
AND MANY AN ELM IS PARTLY GONE, ITS BRANCHES DYING.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES A SINGLE ANIMAL MAKE?

WHAT DIFFERENCE THEN, WHAT DIFFERENCE NOW?

I CANNOT SAY WHAT POWER,

WHAT VIRTUE SHAPED THE FORGOTTEN THEN;

I ONLY KNOW THAT SOMETHING NOW IS LOST.

IN THE MONTHS OF AUTUMN, THE FEARSOME TIME  
BEFORE THE WINTER WINDS AND LEAF LOST LIMBS  
COVERED WITH RIME -

COME BACK, COME BACK TO WHERE THE FAUNS DANCED,  
THE DRYADS THREW THEIR LEAF-GREEN GLANCES,

THE NAIADS RANG IN THEIR FOAMY BROOKS,

THE CENTAURS GALLOPED WITH THUNDERING HOOVES,

COME BACK, WITH YOUR SILVER HOOVES AND SILVER HORNS,

YOUR WIND-CORRED MANE AND YOUR VIRGINAL HEART,

COME BACK, RESHAPE, MAKE NEW THEIR YEARS FORLORN.