



Mythopoeic Society

mythLORE

A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis,
Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature

Volume 4
Number 4

Article 5

6-15-1977

Saving The Appearances

Michael Dahl

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore>



Part of the [Children's and Young Adult Literature Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Dahl, Michael (1977) "Saving The Appearances," *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*: Vol. 4 : No. 4 , Article 5.

Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol4/iss4/5>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Mythopoeic Society at SWOSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature by an authorized editor of SWOSU Digital Commons. An ADA compliant document is available upon request. For more information, please contact phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu.

To join the Mythopoeic Society go to:
<http://www.mythsoc.org/join.htm>

SWOSUTM

Mythcon 51: A VIRTUAL “HALFLING” MYTHCON

July 31 - August 1, 2021 (Saturday and Sunday)

<http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/mythcon-51.htm>



Mythcon 52: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

Albuquerque, New Mexico; July 29 - August 1, 2022

<http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/mythcon-52.htm>



SAVING THE APPEARANCES

When Heaven first exclaimed, Let there be Light!
The word threw forth a pure and potent ray,
Then they proclaimed to man the gift of sight
And Content sensibly flew into Day;
The eye of man cojoined the mind of God,
The grass grew green, the moon grew truly white;
The novel body touched, the novel footsteps trod
And novel cool, rough, fluid, firm and bright
Rose into earthly consciousness and fact.
Behold this life, as dark as single earth,
Change my potentiality to act,
Bestow an adjective to abstract worth;
Come with your grace, O watcher, look on me
And touch my hand that I may breathe and be.

— Michael Dahl

(Written after reading Mr. Owen Barfield's book of the same name)