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Green Dragon

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Green Dragon

Additional Keywords
Bonnie GoodKnight

Green Dragon

by Ed Meškys



On Friday, August 4th, Nan and I finally got around to visiting the Boffle Shop in New York. TSA member Ben Indick first told us about it almost two years before but somehow we just never got around to going. Part of the reason was the unsavory neighborhood it had been in, 3rd St. between Ave. A and Ave. B in the East Village.

It had recently moved to 9 E17 St, just around the corner from Ballantine Books and we had a little time left on the day before I was to enter the Seeing Eye school so we went down.

It is a small elevated store, about ten steps above street level, and you might accidentally walk past it unless you are really looking for it. It is an art shop of sorts, selling mostly hand made stuffed animals of various types, run by Ed and Barbara Remington. She is, of course, best known for having painted the Ballantine Tolkien covers and done the travel poster, original poster map of Middle-earth, and the mural. Most of the art objects for sale in the store were by her but they handled others as well. While I was there they had just received a shipment of glass multiple candle holders in the form of a field of mushrooms.

Ed was in the store with a friend of his while Barbara was upstairs when Nan and I entered. He was very pleasant and we had a nice chat while he showed us many of the things in the store. He took many items out of display cases and let me handle them, for which I was very grateful.

As I said, her specialty seemed to be outlandish stuffed animals. She had some very cute bats hanging from the ceiling by wires. She also made Orcs but these really had nothing to do with LotR. They were ogres of all descriptions of the ugly/cute type. I especially liked one in serpent form.

Her animals seem to have aroused considerable interest and several magazines are planning spreads on them.

She usually is upstairs working while he runs the shop but if she happens to be in when you visit you can buy one of her posters and have her autograph it.

After we had been in the shop for about an hour and had seen everything he went upstairs and called her down. She brought with her a hand made chess set based on LotR characters and let me handle it. The set was truly magnificent. Sauron was the black king Shelob the black queen, the Nazgul King was one of the... I've forgotten now, Bishops or Knights... and Isengard was one of the black rooks. On the white side a hobbit hole was one of the rooks, Aragorn was the king, etc. Each piece was very intricately hand made and was truly wonderful. I especially liked the empty hood on the Nazgul King with the two holes in the back to let the light thru and represent eyes. An unbelievable amount of thought and work had gone into each piece. For reasons of safety these are normally kept upstairs and shown only in photographs and I was truly grateful for her allowing me to handle them in order to fully appreciate them. She plans to

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WALTER HOOPER A Thank You

When Walter Hooper became the Secretary of C.S. Lewis, he had already compiled a large collection of Lewis' writings. When showing his bibliography of Lewis, Lewis said "Did I write all these?" and from then on referred to him as his Pseudo-Dionysius on the grounds that Hooper had invented most of them. We owe Walter Hooper much gratitude for giving to us material written by or about C.S. Lewis, which would be very difficult, if not in some cases impossible to obtain otherwise. This material is invaluable for serious study of C.S. Lewis.

A Walter Hooper Bibliography.
Compiled by Frederick M. A. Brenion.

The following bibliography contains all the material that was written, edited or collected by Walter Hooper on C.S. Lewis.

Part I: Books of C.S. Lewis that were edited or collected by Walter Hooper.

1. Poems, ed. Walter Hooper. New York: Harcourt, Brace and World, 1965.
2. Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Literature, ed. Walter Hooper. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1966.
3. Of Other Worlds: Essays and Stories, ed. Walter Hooper. New York: Harcourt, Brace and World, 1967.
4. Christian Reflections, ed. Walter Hooper. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1967.
5. Selected Literary Essays, ed. Walter Hooper. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1969.
6. God in the Dock: Essays on Theology and Ethics, ed. Walter Hooper. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1970.
7. Narrative Poems, ed. Walter Hooper. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1972.

Part II: Articles by Walter Hooper on C.S. Lewis.

1. "A Bibliography of the Writings of C.S. Lewis" in Light on C.S. Lewis, ed. Jocelyn Gibb, pages 117-160. New York: Harcourt, Brace and World, 1966.
2. "To the Martlets" in C.S. Lewis: Speaker and Teacher, ed. Carolyn Keefe, pages 35-62. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1971.
3. "Past Watchful Dragons: The Fairy Tales of C.S. Lewis" in Imagination and the Spirit: Essays in Literature and the Christian Faith presented to Clyde S. Kilby, ed. Charles A. Huttar, pages 277-340. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co, 1971.

The Noises That Weren't There (an unfinished 8th novel which was printed in Mythlores 6, 7, & 8) Taliessin Through Logres. The Region of the Summer Stars. Arthurian Torso. Collected Plays.

The purpose of the Society is not to promote the sale of commercial books, but rather that the works be read. It is encouraging to know however that all of the above works are in print, and if your local library does not have them they can obtain them.

Many of you are familiar with the name of C.S. Kilby. Those in the Society know him as the Guest of Honor at Mythcon I in 1970, and the only American to have read The Silmarillion. On September 30th 1972, his 70th birthday was celebrated in a very special way. There was a surprise party held at Wheaton College, where he has taught English for many years. Over 250 people were present. President Armerding of the College spoke with enthusiasm about the special Inklings Collection that C.S. Kilby originated. This collection he calls "the best in the world," contains manuscripts by C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, Owen Barfield, J.R.R. Tolkien, George MacDonald, and Dorothy Sayers. The most recent addition to the special collection was over 2,000 pages of manuscripts of Williams which arrived in September. Gifts for the collection, in honor of C.S. Kilby's 70th birthday, totalled almost \$4,000, and the party was a great success. The elaborate planning was kept a secret. Hundreds of cards and letters were received, including a special calligraphed card from the Society drawn by Bruce McMenemy. Admirers of the Inklings also have much admiration and gratitude for C.S. Kilby and his work. We wish him the very best.

MYTHCON IV

This year's Mythcon will be held on August 17-20 at the Francisco Torres in Santa Barbara, California. Membership is \$4 until July 1st; \$5 from then to the convention. \$1 supporting members receive the Program Book. Make checks payable to Mythcon, c/o the box address.

The program will include: many discussion groups, papers, panels, an art show, a masquerade, a living chess game with characters from mythopoeic works, films, a banquet, music, drama, an auction, and guests of honor.

The rates for food and lodging are very reasonable: \$43.50 single occupancy (\$36.00 per person - double occupancy) gives you three nights lodging and meals. Mythcon II was held there, so we know how good the food and facilities are. The Torres is a convention center that offers seclusion away from the hubbub of the city. It is a mile from the sea, and the weather is delightfully pleasant in August.

Mythcon is a convention of national participation. Make your plans now for a great summer event.

THE MYTHPOEIC SOCIETY

is a literary and educational organization interested in the study, discussion, and enjoyment of myth, fantasy, imaginative literature, and especially the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, and Charles Williams. The Society is based on the idea that these three authors provide both an excellent introduction to, and fundamental understanding of, this entire genre of literature.

The Mythopoeic Society engages in activities which seek to engender interest and study by individuals and groups which lead them to a greater understanding and integration of all aspects of the human experience, as well as greater individual and social insight and creativity.

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eventually make a chessboard based on the countryside of Middle earth to go with the rest of the set.

She also showed me a Frodo doll she had made and which was not for sale or normally exhibited.

We talked a little of Tolkien and other fantasy and I could see that both really loved the books. I asked about how she did the three LotR covers. She said it was a hasty production because of the unauthorized edition and she hadn't read the books yet when she was commissioned to do the covers. She had known the Ballantines for some time and they gave her the job because they knew they could depend on her to do a good job quickly. She only had time to quickly skim the books and it is really remarkable that such appropriate covers could have been done so rapidly. I know the initial reaction had been unfavorable but this was because most fantasy fans prefer representational art. But the symbolism of the covers is very appropriate.

I wanted to talk some more with them about fantasy and LotR and their art but several customers came in and it was getting late so we had to leave.

Nan and I both enjoyed the visit very much and we plan to return the next time we are in New York.

HOLY GRAIL BIBLIOGRAPHY (continued from page 11)

- Parzival, by Wolfram von Eischenbach, translated by Helen Mustard and Charles Passage, Vintage Books, 1961.
Peredur, in Medieval Myths, ed. by Norma Lorre Goodrich, or in the Mabinogian, translated by Lady Guest, Everyman.
The Tale of the Sangreal, in the Morte D'Arthur of Sir Thomas Malory, ed. Eugene Vinaver, Oxford U. P.

Mythprint has already been mentioned on page 29. I would encourage you to subscribe if you have not already done so. It is published every month, and sent by Second Class Mail. It is the vital newsletter of the Society and of news related to its interests. In it we report the latest rumors about The Silmarillion; news of the Hobbit movie to be made; and progress reports on Mythcon, in addition to the many features mentioned on page 29.

Please keep us informed of your Change of Address

