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## *Horse and Rider*

John Grey

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

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



### Abstract

I'd rather ride a white horse through the heavens than be cramped in this rocket ship.

### Additional Keywords

Poetry; Horse and Rider; John Grey

about run through our allotted time. However, the room was exclusively ours and we didn't need to clear out for any other panel or event.

Ultimately, this led to our decision to send the writers out to the many copy shops in Berkeley where folks made 4-6 copies of their stories. The stories were then left in the room with a separate comment sheet attached to each copy and participants were invited to take a story, make written comments, then bring it back to the room and trade it in for another story, and so forth. We arranged to meet after evening programming on the next two nights; some people would wander in for an hour of discussion and then wend their way back to the Bardic Circle or other events that caught their fancy. It worked very well and gave all interested parties a chance to read as many stories as they liked, taking as much time as they needed.

We have been invited to have another *Mythic Circle* Writers' Roundtable at Mythcon XX this sum-

mer in Vancouver. You are all invited to participate: bring 5 or 6 copies of a short story (or 5-6 copies of poems) with a blank comment sheet attached to each copy. Hopefully there will be a dedicated "writers' room" where we can leave manuscripts and follow a procedure similar to last year's successful workshop.

The conference is also sponsoring a small, closed-session writers' workshop with two or three professional authors to provide individual critiques. Story length is a maximum of 5,000 words. Because of the speed with which Mythcon XX is approaching, if you are interested in this closed session workshop, please telephone Eileen Kernaghan at (604) 435-6500 to query whether space is still available. Five copies of the manuscript, typed & double-spaced (near-letter quality dot matrix is acceptable) with large margins (for comment space) will be required, plus \$4.00 to offset the cost of postage. Mythcon XX Writing Workshop, c/o Neville Books, 5211 Neville Street, Burnaby, B.C. V5J 2H6, Canada. BE SURE YOU CALL FIRST!

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## HORSE AND RIDER

by John Grey

I'd rather ride a white horse  
through the heavens  
than be cramped  
in this rocket ship.

I'd feel part of  
the wide wonder of space  
as my animal galloped  
cross the galaxy,  
hooves barely touching  
one star  
before skipping  
onto the next.

Instead,  
I may as well have  
stayed on earth  
as some computer  
in the bowels of this tub  
aims it,  
pushes buttons,  
flashes lights.

Of course,  
some day  
that same computer  
will guide me safely  
back to earth  
whereas the horse  
will eventually collapse and die,  
drop me like a stone  
into some infinite black hole  
where I would fall forever.

But I believe  
I would find that preferable as well.

