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Emma Wilson-Kanamori

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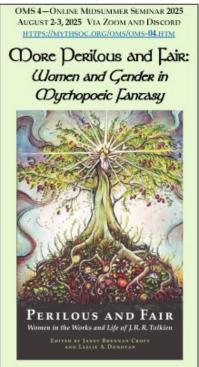
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Orpheus and Eurydice

by Emma Wilson-Kanamori

What if in the legend of Orpheus and Eurydice, they were separated with wrath? And Eurydice bargained with Hades behind Persephone's back, and our Orpheus seduced the Furies, and in their bargains inhaled that deep sombre shadow of the Underworld? What if they too emerged from drops of blood, changed and marked? What if they became the precipice between the sky and the horizon, and in their lust to be united, became the very monsters that guard Hades' gates? And what if they sailed away together, leaving a massacre, terrible in flesh, the two sinners who overthrew the master of the underworld and his wife, scot-free or so they thought. Until Hades chases them down, and demands Orpheus as pay for the powers he gave to our Eurydice, whilst behind him, the Furies know that she would sacrifice herself to save Orpheus, and so they will get their pay for arming her lover. This is simply a thought I have – that what if instead of simpering tragedy, they fought with bite and scratch to throw the gods off their throne? There is a romance to that, don't you think? There is fire.