

8-5-2023

## A Forefather of Fantasy

Andoni Cossio

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

### Recommended Citation

Cossio, Andoni (2023) "A Forefather of Fantasy," *The Mythic Circle*: Vol. 2023: Iss. 45, Article 24.  
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mcircle/vol2023/iss45/24>

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 The Mythic Circle 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](mailto:phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu).

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



---

## Online MidSummer Seminar 2025

### More Perilous and Fair: Women and Gender in Mythopoeic Fantasy

August 2-5, 2024

Via Zoom and Discord

<https://www.mythsoc.org/oms/oms-04.htm>



## A Forefather of Fantasy

### Additional Keywords

Mythic Circle, Mythopoeia, Dragons, Fantasy, Fiction, Poetry

### Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-No Derivative Works 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

## A Forefather of Fantasy: An Alliterative Appreciation\*

Poem by Andoni Cossio, Illustration by Yiming Zhao

*Tolkien teller of true tales:*

*Of all authors of odd obelisks*

*Light lingers most lost in his lines;*

*Kempy-haired know-alls keenly search for keen kennings,*

*Intake: every inch of insightful linguistic inferences.*

*Each aeon the evil envy eagerly,*

*None nears such nifty narratives.*

\*Traditional Old English alliterative meter does not allow the second lift of the off-verse to alliterate, and has a rigid metrical structure. This poem is instead loosely inspired by the more flexible Middle English long alliterative line. In particular, those in which four lifts alliterate with each other, including the second lift of the off-verse. A few examples of these unordinary lines are 2077-2078 of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* (c. 1400) or line 1 of the *Prologus* of *Piers Plowman* (late 14th century).

