



Mythopoeic Society

mythLORE

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

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Volume 1  
Number 2

Article 3

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Spring 4-15-1969

## *Ring of Power*

Christopher Barczak

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### Recommended Citation

Barczak, Christopher (1969) "Ring of Power," *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*: Vol. 1: No. 2, Article 3.

Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol1/iss2/3>

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### *Ring of Power*

#### **Additional Keywords**

Ring; Lord of the Rings; Poetry; Mythlore

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RING OF POWER  
(a conservationist view)  
by Christopher Barczak

Ring...

It may take a tempted soul  
and char its edges,  
Particles falling  
to cover  
a green valley,  
choking a hobbit hole.

Out ran a Took  
coughing his lungs, collapsed in a rocky stream.

An Ent will die.  
No - make that two  
two-by-four,  
four-by-eights.

Strike! Smash! Strike! Smash!  
Shiny Ring on my finger?  
Rusty nail that punctures walls  
to drain chlorophyll...  
Tom Bombadil's blood  
drips from a bright sword.

"But This is the Enlightened Age."

Ring.  
Somebody placed you on his finger.  
A little humanity withered  
rotted  
and died,  
diminishing the solem green valley  
that rose to twin peaks.

So - orcs invaded  
and black thistles surrounded a standing forest.  
Like a Ring  
on a finger.

