



Mythopoeic Society

mythLORE

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

Volume 1
Number 4

Article 17

10-15-1969

Hobbit Dream?

Rand Kuhl

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



Part of the [Children's and Young Adult Literature Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kuhl, Rand (1969) "*Hobbit Dream?*" *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*: Vol. 1 : No. 4 , Article 17.

Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol1/iss4/17>

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

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

SWOSUTM

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

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



I do not know where Mr. Ready gets his facts, but he always manages to ravage the truth. ("Man dislikes the Truth; he never has believed in it enough to espouse it, nor will he ever". This appears to be true for Mr. Ready. However, for the Christian like Tolkien this is not true because he does espouse the truth in Christ, who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life".) I have said enough above about Tolkien's use of the concept of Northern courage. What I must respond to is Mr. Ready's dismissal of the happy ending or even the hope of it, when the consolation, the joy of the happy ending is an integral, indivisible portion of Tolkien's being. And then he calls it "Tolkien's great contribution to... literature"! Just a few remarks from Tolkien's "On Fairy-Stories" to remind Mr. Ready of what Tolkien has to say about "the Consolation of the Happy Ending": "...I would venture to assert that all complete fairy-stories must have it"; "it denies... universal final defeat and in so far is evangelium, giving a fleeting glimpse of Joy, Joy beyond the walls of the world"...; "The peculiar quality of the 'joy' in successful Fantasy can thus be explained as a sudden glimpse of the underlying reality or truth"; the Happy ending has as its ultimate inspiration and justification the Incarnation and Resurrection of Jesus Christ in human history, in our primary world. "The story begins and ends in joy".

I have spent my time in a thorough review so you will not have to waste yours reading Mr. Ready's book. I suggest you read either of the two Tolkien essays noted in this review, "Beowulf: The Monsters and the Critics" or "On Fairy-Stories", for they would be infinitely more interesting and rewarding.

I I search for a world
 With bounds
 Unbroken which beckons
 With its hunger
 And its beauty.
 Where my short reach
 Can yet touch
 The hearts of my companions.
 Where my living
 Makes a difference;
 When having done
 I can say
 Having loved
 Has made a difference.
 How the earth and people
 Are in my blood
 And I in them
 And we in you.

HOBBIT DREAM?

II What wishes contend
 In the sun,
 In the green spring tears
 Within
 The inlotted cities,
 The nets of tension,
 Of a multiplicity of knots.
 Why do cities assume
 Then consume
 The coordinates of glory
 Which are drawn in a polar rush
 To tenement terrors
 And sublime
 Suburban placidities.

III My hand wishes some healing
 Within its scope and circle
 Upon the sadness
 Of creation in travail.

(c.) Randall Kuhl, 1969

ML4