



Mythopoeic Society

mythLORE

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

Volume 18
Number 1

Article 14

Fall 10-15-1991

Letters

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Recommended Citation

Galindez, Emilio; Verba, Joan Marie; Lindskoog, Kathryn; and Carnell, Corbin (1991) "Letters," *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*: Vol. 18 : No. 1 , Article 14.

Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol18/iss1/14>

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LETTERS



Readers' Letters are an important form of feedback and exchange, an opportunity to comment on past issues and to raise questions for others' comments. Each letter that is printed extends the writer's subscription by an additional issue. Please send your letters directly to the Editor:

Glen GoodKnight, 742 South Garfield Avenue,
Monterey Park, CA 91754. USA

Emilio Galindez Norfolk, VA

While participating in a joint allied effort to rid the northern Persian Gulf from Iraqi mines, a friend of mine tossed me a battered copy of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*.

At that time, I did not have anything else to read or to keep me occupied while I waited for my watch. That night, I read my first "Fantasy" book. Three hundred and four pages later, I was interested in *Hobbits* so my friend lent me a dog-eared copy of *The Fellowship of the Ring*.

The more intense our involvement grew, the more frenetic my interest and concern (?) for the fellowship become.

I'm caught. I'm in. And there's no way back. And I love it! For nearly ten months I've been reading Prof. Tolkien works and quite frankly, I can't stop. I've had some trouble acquiring copies of several of his works here in Norfolk.

... I'm wondering if you could help me and/or further my knowledge of Professor Tolkien's works.

[I strongly recommend you read The Silmarillion, the essay "On Fairy-stories," and Tolkien's Letters. These are indispensable to understanding him. Besides the wealth of Tolkien material in Mythlore over the years — indexed in issues 51 and 61 — I think T.A. Shippey's The Road to Middle Earth and Paul Kocher's The Master of Middle Earth the two best commentaries on his work. —GG]

Joan Marie Verba Box 1363, Minnetonka, MN 55345

I have begun work on a juvenile biography of C.S. Lewis (for grades 5 and up). If anyone reading this wrote to C.S. Lewis as a child and received an answer, and would not mind sharing the letter, I would be grateful.

I would also appreciate hearing from anyone who has met C.S. Lewis, and would not mind sharing memories of him. In addition, any advice or suggestions would be welcome. (I have already been in touch with the Wade Collection at Wheaton College.)

Kathryn Lindskoog Orange, CA

In issue 66 Joe Christopher closes his description of Nicholas Barker's review titled "C.S. Lewis, Darkly" with this statement: "Barker's review is especially important for its new material on inks used on the manu-

script of "The Dark Tower" and "The Man Born Blind," and the revisions of the latter in a different ink." I imagine that readers wonder why the ink is important. It's simple: Barker's ink identification switches the composition of "The Man Born Blind" (allegedly written before 1930) and "The Dark Tower" (allegedly written in 1938-39) to 1950 or anytime later!

Corbin Carnell Gainesville, FL

I have just received the Summer 1991 issue of *Mythlore* and it is a beauty! It is one of the finest issues ever, in appearance and in content. I was think you should indicate somewhere prominently that you have been in existence since ___? I found I didn't know how old *Mythlore* is, but it has certainly become one of the finest journals of its kind. To have held on all these years without anything except volunteer help is a notable achievement. Congratulations!

[Done! See page 3. Issue 1 was completed and first distributed on January 3, 1969, at a Tolkien birthday party. —GG]

PLEASE NOTE

Important Policy Change regarding the Society Membership Directory

Since the Society has published directories of members, it has been the policy to only publish those who have specifically requested to be included. **This is now going to change.** In the next directory all Society members will be published, except those who specifically ask not to be listed. This includes all individual subscribers to *Mythlore*, unless they have asked for a non-member subscription. If for any reason you do not wish to be listed in the next Membership Directory, please write The Mythopoeic Society, P.O. Box 6707, Altadena, CA 91003 USA.

Concerning First Class and Air Mail Rates

Every mailing for the last year and a half has seen an increase in those subscribers who request and pay for either First Class delivery, for the United States and Canada, or Air Mail delivery, for other continents. The wait for surface mail to arrive for those living in Europe, Asia and Australia can take a considerable amount of time. For this reason *Mythlore* began offering the Air Mail service. We also offered First Class delivery for those in North America who wished it. The Air Mail rates have recently increased, and it is now necessary to charge \$20 additional for Airmail delivery to Europe and Latin America, and \$25 additional for those in Asia and Australia. Those who live in the United States should know that normal Second Class delivery within this country is almost as rapid as First Class. For example it took three days for Patrick Wynne to receive his copy in Fosston, Minnesota, mailed from Altadena California. That is reasonably fast. You can pay more for First Class if you wish, but I don't encourage it. I cannot say what the difference in delivery times would be for those in Canada, but would expect it to be much longer.