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## In This Issue

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# IN THIS ISSUE

Before describing this issue, let me briefly describe the next issue, which will be very special in honor of J.R.R. Tolkien and his Centenary. There will be special artwork with full color on the covers, special articles, and special features, including a Tolkien Subject Index of all of the issues of *Mythlore* to date. Many tributes (see page 53) will be shared. There is still time to send yours in. This will be a not-to-be missed issue. Look for it at the end of June.

The present issue features two articles that cover widely different aspects of the Anglo-Saxon Classic *Beowulf*. Sarah Beach deals with "Loss and Recompense: Responsibilities in *Beowulf*" in the original text; James Payne deals with "The Redemption of Cain in John Gardner's *Grendel*," which is a modern adaptation of *Beowulf*. Readers of the complete works of Tolkien will acknowledge the influence of *Beowulf* on Tolkien both structurally and aesthetically from his seminal essay "Beowulf, the Monsters and the Critics."

The lead article on J.R.R. Tolkien by David Greenman deals with the parallels between Tolkien's "The Fall of Gondolin" and *The Return of the King* with *The Aeneid* and *The Odyssey*. Alexei Kondratiev's column "Tales Newly Told" is an excellent summary of Tolkien's impact on the literary world, as he reviews the new book *After the King*. Paul Nolan Hyde's column "Quenti Lambarðillion" gives us an intriguing translation of a previously untranslated poem by Tolkien in an obscure Elvish dialect.

Matthew A. Fike gives us a study on one of modern fantasy's more well-known writers — Stephen Donaldson, showing how Donaldson has used the natural with supernatural treatment, and compares his writing to how Edmund Spencer handles a psychological/spiritual journey.

From the 1991 Mythopoeic Conference we also have a paper by Beverly Price on Sheri Tepper, whose new book *Beauty* was reviewed by Alexei in the last issue.

Paul Nolan Hyde gives us a personal response and interpretation of *The Faded Sun* by C.J. Cherryh. This approach to a Guest of Honor's fiction was done before by Paul with a work by Diana Paxson.

The Joint Artist Project, this time comprised of Sarah Beach, Paula DiSante, Lynn Maudlin, and Patrick Wynne, each bring us a scene from *The Lord of the Rings*, where Pippin looks into the Palantir. This is not strictly accurate, since Lynn's is more like an illustration out of *Bored of the Rings* — her write up tends to explain why.

The Reviews cover recent controversial books, beginning with two reviews on the illustrated version of *The Lord of the Rings* by Alan Lee. More on that book in the next issue, which will feature a variety of delights.

— Glen GoodKnight