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In This Issue

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MYTHLORE

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IN THIS ISSUE

It is with mixed feelings that I see Mythlore return to its
regular format. The last issue was 16 pages longer than normal,
due to it being the Special Tolkien Centenary issue, featuring
material ready into its final form. Soon after it was mailed it
was time to make preparations to depart for the Centenary
Conference itself. As a result, this issue was prepared in less
than the normal time it takes, despite the excellent contents.
Deep thanks to those who helped in its production. The next
issue should see us all back to regular stride.

We have three articles devoted in whole or in part to
Tolkien. William Stoddard shares with us a paper he gave
at the Mythopoeic Conference in 1991 on “Law and Institu­
tions in the Shire.” William Senior shares with us his
thoughts on “Donaldson and Tolkien,” which may spur
further comments on this controversial subject. Johan
Vanhecke has done a very interesting survey of the critical
reception to Tolkien in the Low Countries.

Judith Kollmann brings us one of the very best papers
I have seen on Williams' Arthurian poetry. Her insights
provide an appreciated key to many of Williams themes
in his richest works: Taliessin Through Logres and The Region
of the Summer Stars.

Jim Herrick of Hope College brings us an excellent
consideration of Lewis’ technique in Out of the Silent Planet.

Craig Payne, who gave us a fascination paper on John
Gardner’s Grendel two issues ago, brings a different look
from the perspective of the Zodiac on the same book.

Our features continue tributes to J.R.R. Tolkien, as was
promised in the last issue. These are followed by photos
from the Tolkien Centenary Conference held in August of
this year. These photos barely begin to give an idea of what
a transcendent experience the Conference was for all who
attended. The text of the song “The Baby and the Bird” is
given here. It has been sung at the closing session of
Mythopoeic Conferences for a number of years, but this
year it was led by its composer, Diana Paxson, in the Eagle
and the Child itself. It couldn’t be more fitting than that.

On of the many fascinating people I had the pleasure
of meeting at the Centenary from many countries was Denis
Gordeyev. His unusual and excellent artwork will be seen
in Mythlore starting with this issue.

The “Letters,” “Reviews,” and “Inklings Bibliography”
continue to make very interesting reading indeed. And
Alexei Kondrative continues with his excellent column of
“Tales Newly Told.”

If you appreciate what The Mythopoeic Society and
Mythlore have meant to you, please share it. See page 8.
There is still time to participate in the Appreciations.

— Glen GoodKnight