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Artists' Comments

Paula DiSante

Nancy-Lou Patterson

Denis Gordeyev

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remarks show concern that what is attributed to such societies be appropriate to their actual historical circumstances. In fact, I believe that much did, and I hope that this little case study of the Shire has helped to convince you of this and to persuade you to share my appreciation of Tolkien's realism even in the creation of fantasy. This realism, I think, is part of what makes Tolkien one of our greatest writers of fantasy: he is not just making things up in sheer fantasy, he is creating imagined worlds with an inner consistency approximating that of the real world which he had studied so carefully. ♣

ARTISTS' COMMENTS

Cover: "Tell Them Up There That I Have a Sick Hobbit"

by Paula DiSante

'I'll never get him there,' thought Pippin. 'Is there no one to help me? I can't leave him here.' Just then to his surprise a boy came running up behind, and as he passed he recognized Bergil Beregond's son.

'Hullo, Bergil!' he called. 'Where are you going? Glad to see you again, and still alive!'

'I am running errands for the Healers,' said Bergil. 'I cannot stay.'

'Don't!' said Pippin. 'But tell them up there that I have a sick hobbit, a *perian* mind you, come from the battlefield. I don't think he can walk so far. If Mithrandir is there, he will be glad of the message.' Bergil ran on.

This is a relatively simple scene. I wanted to do it in watercolor, which is a medium I had not yet used in *Mythlore*. I consider watercolor to be my best painting medium—at least, it is the most enjoyable. There are precious few children mentioned in *The Lord of the Rings*, and I have always liked the character of Bergil, brave and friendly boy that he is. I don't recall ever seeing an illustration of him, so that's why I chose to include him in the painting, instead of merely having Pippin struggling up the street with the fading Merry.

I have set the scene a little forward in time (one paragraph, actually), so Pippin has already let Merry sink to the ground. This is supposed to happen after Bergil is gone, but since it made for a more interesting composition, I took some liberties. The patch of sunlight has become a swath. I was not equipped to deal with a bunch of funny shadows, so that's why the sunlight is more prominent.

I kind of blew the treatment of the sky. I wanted to make it look like there was still smoke from the battle in the air, but it looks more like it is merely a cloudy day. This makes the scene look a little bizarre, because the far background and the foreground are flooded with light.



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Back Cover: "Queen Lucy"

by Nancy-Lou Patterson

I got the idea from an article by Walter Hooper in which he says he visited the real Narnia in Italy and discovered that St. Lucy was venerated there — what a great idea! Lucy herself, as a queen of Narnia is in the middle, using the portrait of a young girl I once knew, who, like Lucy, did not believe she was beautiful and did not know she was spiritual. Aslan above, of course, and to the left, Father Christmas above and the Flask of Healing Coridal below, with Mr. Tumnus between [all from *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*], and to the right the Bearded Glass above, the Magic Book below and Coriakin between [all from *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*]. I made it a little smaller, but to the same proportions, so it would look jewel-like, since it is a kind of icon.

Page 51: "A Long-expected Party"

by Denis Gordeyev

While we do not have a description of the picture by the artist himself, I thought you would like to know something about him. He lives in Moscow, Russia, and has attended art school where he has learned formal techniques in drawing. I first became aware of him and his art at the Centenary Conference to my great excitement and delight. Once the initial shock of seeing our favorite characters from *The Lord of the Rings* looking so strongly Slavic wears off, one can see the great talent inherent in this artist. You will be seeing more of his art in an on-going basis in *Mythlore*. —GG

Appreciations of The Mythopoeic Society for its 25th Anniversary

will be printed in the following issue instead of this one, as previous planned, so that photos and a report of the Celebration on September 27th can be included. If you have not yet written an appreciation, and would like to see yours included, please send it to the Editor, Glen GoodKnight, 742 S. Garfield Ave., Monterey Park, CA 91754, as soon as possible before November 14.