



Mythopoeic Society

mythLORE

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

---

Volume 15  
Number 3

Article 16

---

Spring 3-15-1989

## *Poem and Glossary*

Benjamin Urrutia

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



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

---

### Recommended Citation

Urrutia, Benjamin (1989) "Poem and Glossary," *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*: Vol. 15 : No. 3 , Article 16.

Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol15/iss3/16>

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](mailto:phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu).

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

SWOSU<sup>TM</sup>

---

## Mythcon 51: A VIRTUAL “HALFLING” MYTHCON

July 31 - August 1, 2021 (Saturday and Sunday)

<http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/mythcon-51.htm>



## Mythcon 52: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

Albuquerque, New Mexico; July 29 - August 1, 2022

<http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/mythcon-52.htm>

basic faithfulness to the original; the booby-prize most surely be claimed by Brazil. However, even the best have blind spots. [WGH]

**Tolkien, J.R.R. *Tree and Leaf*.** Second [i.e. third] edition. London: Unwin Hyman, 1988. (Lewis, Dyson, 7-8)

Reprint of the 1975 edition, with an added preface by Christopher Tolkien and the first complete printing of J.R.R. Tolkien's poem "Mythopoeia" ("man, sub-creator, the refracted light/through whom is splintered from a single White/to many hues"). The type of "On Fairy-Stories" and "Leaf by Niggle" has not been reset except for a few textually unaltered lines on pp. 9, 10, and 67, presumably damaged in the reproduction copy. In his preface Christopher Tolkien traces the writing of "Mythopoeia" and describes his father's discussion with C.S. Lewis and Hugo Dyson that inspired the poem. J.R.R. Tolkien's original introductory note to *Tree and Leaf* is quoted in full within the new preface.

The text of "Mythopoeia" is "that of the final version exactly as it stands in the manuscript." In this form it differs in capitalization and punctuation from the extracts earlier published by Humphrey Carpenter in *J.R.R. Tolkien: A Biography* and *The Inklings* and by Stephen Medcalf in his contribution to *Ways of Reading the Bible*, and from the portion quoted by Tolkien himself in "On Fairy-Stories." The text also differs from the earlier printed versions in the penultimate line of the fifth stanza, including "The right has not decayed" for "That right".

The dust-jacket of the hardcover issue and the cover of the paperback issue reproduce J.R.R. Tolkien's drawing *The Tree of Amalion*. (WGH)

**Weimer, Dottie West. "Adversary, Inc."** In *Other word*, Feb. 1981, 6. (Vol. and issue no., if any, missing on the xerox seen.

An imitation Screwtape Letter. Either the author or the editors of the journal (a publication of the Wycliffe Bible Translators) have created a heading for Screwtape's typing paper, reading "Adversary, Inc." / 1000 Fahrenheit Plaza, Lower Regions, HL 00666." Names of the officers are to the right of the main heading. In this letter Wormwood's "Christian" (*patient* is not used) has gone to the South Pacific Field Training Course (in New Guinea, of the Wycliffe Bible Translators). Screwtape advises encouraging the person to feel self-pity through home sickness, to center his thoughts on himself by means of diarrhea, etc., to feel dissatisfaction with God when suffering sickness upon first eating the local food, and so forth. The last paragraph, when Screwtape considers a director's visit because "it" (the spiritual situation) – in context, perhaps the missionary activities) is interesting, is the weakest part; in general, a satisfactory short imitation. (The bibliographer

## NOW IS THE TIME ➤ ➤

The time for delay in making your definite plans to attend this year's Mythopoeic Conference is past. Now is the time to pay your registration, mark your calendar, and make travel arrangements.

We in the Society are fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in the first of its Conferences outside the USA, in beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia. Why not combine the Conference with additional vacation time in this very attractive region of Canada.

– JRC – thanks John D. Haynes for sending him a copy of his work.) (JRC)

**Yates, Jessica. "50 Years of Fantasy,"** *Books for Keeps*, London, No. 46 (Sept. 1987), [Lewis; Tolkien]

Yates surveys fantasy literature for children written in the fifty years since *The Hobbit*. Tolkien's children's book did not profoundly affect the genre, but his *Lord of the Rings* influenced children's fantasies and paved the way for their publication. C.S. Lewis drew upon *The Lord of the Rings* in his *Chronicles of Narnia* for their elements of "medieval culture, North European landscape and . . . high seriousness of conflict between good and evil where the fate of the world is involved." Authors such as Lloyd Alexander, Ursula Le Guin, and Alan Garner followed in the Tolkien tradition and extended the genre: for example, into the sub-genre Yates calls *Folklore Fantasy*, the use of ancient myths in a present-day setting. "Traditional folklore and more recent theories about ley lines, standing stones, the Mother Goddess and the Horned God were plundered to find themes for children's stories. Tolkien also drew on the old legends, but he absorbed them into his mythology giving the folklore roots within his own saga."

Noble fantasies have been written by British authors since Tolkien, through the fantasy market has always been less "buoyant" in Britain than in the U.S. Recent authors of special note are Americans Robin McKinley, Meredith Ann Pierce, and Tamora Pierce, and British writers Diana Wynne Jones and Pat O'Shea. David Eddings' *Belgariad* is recommended for its combination of Tolkienian elements with ironic humor. A short list of epic and folklore fantasy in print (in England), not including works by Tolkien and Lewis, is appended to the article. [WGH]



## Poem and Glossary



The red and yellow flowers, Gikku, are sacred to the name of Girru.

Gikku = chrysanthemums (Japanese)  
Girru = God of Fire (Akkadian)  
— Benjamin Urrutia