



Mythopoeic Society

mythLORE

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

Volume 42
Number 2

Article 15

April 2024

In Memoriam: Richard Plotz

Janet Brennan Croft
University of Northern Iowa

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



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

Recommended Citation

Croft, Janet Brennan (2024) "In Memoriam: Richard Plotz," *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*: Vol. 42: No. 2, Article 15.
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol42/iss2/15>

This Notes and Letters 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.

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

SWOSUTM

Online MidSummer Seminar 2025

More Perilous and Fair: Women and Gender in Mythopoeic Fantasy

August 2-5, 2024

Via Zoom and Discord

<https://www.mythsoc.org/oms/oms-04.htm>



In Memoriam: Richard Plotz

Abstract

Dick Plotz was the founder of the American Tolkien Society, which later merged into the Mythopoeic Society.

Additional Keywords

Plotz, Richard (Dick); MythSoc; Tolkien Society; Mythopoeic Society

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-No Derivative Works 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

Nancy-Lou Patterson's reviews of books by Peter J. Schakel include:

- *The Longing for a Form: Essays on the Fiction of C.S. Lewis*. *Mythlore*, vol. 5, no. 2, #18, 1978, pp. 31–33.
- *Reading with the Heart: The Way to Narnia*. *Mythlore*, vol. 7, no. 2, #24, 1980, pp. 34–35, and *Mythlore*, vol. 8, no. 1, #27, 1981, pp. 30–32.
- *Word and Story in C.S. Lewis*. *Mythlore*, vol. 17, no. 4, #66, 1991, pp. 52–53.
- *Reason and Imagination in C.S. Lewis: A Study of Till We Have Faces*. *Mythlore*, vol. 11, no. 1, #39, 1984, pp. 33–34.
- *The Rhetoric of Vision: Essays on Charles Williams*. *Mythlore*, vol. 22, no. 1, #83, 1997, pp. 61–63.

More extensive obituaries may be found at <https://dykstrafuneralhome.com/obituaries/peter-j-schakel.146036> and <https://hope.edu/news/2024/campus-life/retired-english-professor-peter-schakel-dies.html>



IN MEMORIAM: RICHARD PLOTZ

JANET BRENNAN CROFT

RICHARD (DICK) PLOTZ FOUNDED THE TOLKIEN SOCIETY of America in 1965 and inaugurated its publication *Tolkien Journal*, which was later absorbed into *Mythlore*, as the TSA was absorbed into the Mythopoeic Society. He contributed one article and numerous notes and edited its first seven issues, stepping down in 1967. Plotz visited Tolkien in England twice, once to interview him for *Seventeen* magazine in 1967.

“The Ace Books Controversy.” *Tolkien Journal*, vol. 1, no. 2, #2, 1965, pp. 1–2. Contemporary review of the status of the controversy surrounding the Ace Books edition of *The Lord of the Rings*, and a comparison of the Ace and Ballantine paperback editions.

“Tolkien and I: A Brief Memoir.” *Mythlore*, vol. 19, no.1, #71, 1993, pp. 41-42.

More extensive obituaries and biographies may be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=usD1-qgsPEA>, https://tolkiengateway.net/wiki/Dick_Plotz, and <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/richard-plotz-obituary?id=54532878>

JOIN THE MYTHOPOEIC SOCIETY TODAY AND ENJOY:

- **THOUGHT-PROVOKING AND RESPECTED PUBLICATIONS**

Our reviews quarterly *Mythprint* (free with membership) keeps readers up to date on newly published fantasy literature, films, and academic titles. Members also receive the *Annual Report* and *Member Directory*. The peer-reviewed journal *Mythlore* features scholarly articles on mythopoeic literature. Our annual literary magazine, *Mythic Circle*, publishes new fiction, art, and poetry with mythopoeic themes. The Mythopoeic Press publishes both scholarly editions of literary works and critical essays. The Society also produces specialized works on Tolkien's invented languages and other topics. **Members receive advance notice of new publications and special discounted rates.**

- **OUTSTANDING CONFERENCES**

Our annual conference (Mythcon) encourages scholars, authors, and readers to exchange ideas and share their insights and love of mythopoeic literature. Guests of Honor have included authors such as Neil Gaiman, Ursula K. Le Guin, and Tim Powers, as well as noted scholars such as Michael Drouot, Verlyn Flieger, Douglas Anderson and Christopher Tolkien. As a small conference, we enjoy an intimacy with our guests that most conferences cannot provide. The Society has been instrumental in the development and encouragement of young scholars. There is a special award for best student paper at Mythcon, and funding to help "starving scholars" defray conference costs. **Society members receive big discounts on registration and can share in other benefits.**

- **LITERARY AND SCHOLARLY AWARDS**

Our Society's book awards nominees are selected by our members. Society members can nominate books for the Mythopoeic Fantasy Awards for both adults and children or for the Mythopoeic Scholarship Awards in Inklings Studies and Myth and Fantasy Studies. Society members may also serve on the juries to review nominees and select winners.

- **COMMUNITIES OF READERS AND SCHOLARS**

- Society members share their love of and scholarly interest in fantasy literature through organized **discussion groups** in various regions across the United States. They can also join an email discussion group, connect through our Facebook group, follow us on Twitter, or use other social media options. From our "Members" page you can link to your own web site or blog.

- **BECOME A LIFETIME MEMBER**

In addition to the benefits of regular membership, Lifetime Members receive the electronic version of *Mythlore* **for free.**

- **KEEPING THE MYTHOPOEIC FLAME ALIVE**

The Mythopoeic Society (founded in 1967) is one of the oldest organizations extant for those interested in fantasy and its study and appreciation. Though we have made impressive contributions to Mythopoeic Studies, we have always been a small nonprofit, run totally by unpaid volunteers. *Without memberships, we'd cease to exist.* We cover all the Inklings. We welcome scholars from a variety of disciplines, independent scholars, and *anyone* who reads and loves fantasy literature. **As a member you can have influence on the direction of the Society by voting on its leadership—or become part of that leadership yourself.**

mythsoc.org/join.htm



Mythopoeic
Press

Books by and about writers of mythopoeic and fantastic literature

The Mythopoeic Society Press publishes material by and about writers of mythopoeic and fantastic literature. Our publication projects primarily involve works related to the Inklings, as well as those who influenced or who were influenced by their work. Works previously published or being considered for future projects include out-of-print materials, collections of short articles and essays, and other scholarly items.

RELEASED IN MARCH!

Mapping a Sense of Humor:

Narrative and Space in Terry Pratchett's Discworld Novels

by Daniel Lüthi

Daniel Lüthi's new study explores the intrinsic mechanisms at work in Terry Pratchett's Discworld novels. Lüthi offers perspectives on the self-reflective nature of Pratchett's secondary world that underline the importance of creative imagination for the stories and spaces of fantasy along with narratives in general.

*Available in
Print, Kindle, and other ebook formats
from www.mythsoc.org/press*

