

MYTHPRINT

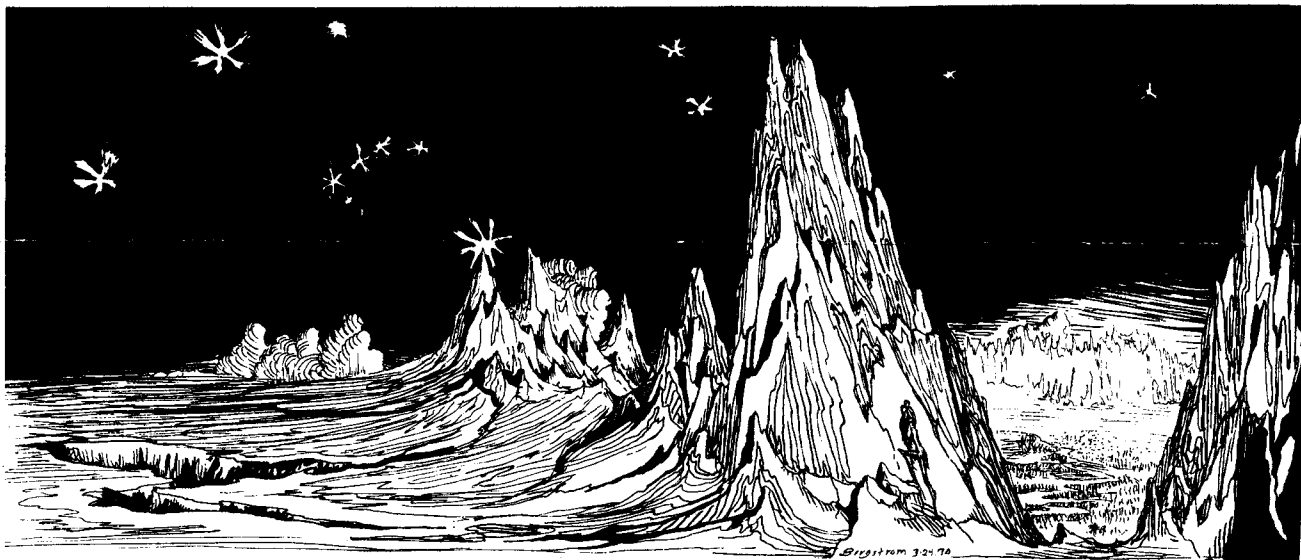
The monthly bulletin of The Mythopoeic Society

interested in the study and discussion of the fictional and mythic works of
J.R.R. TOLKIEN, C.S. LEWIS, & CHARLES WILLIAMS

vol. I,

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no. 4



Out of The Silent Planet by C. S. Lewis

With each branch choosing their own discussion topic each month, *Mythprint* will no longer announce the monthly discussion topic for the entire Society with illustration and a brief explanation of the book to be discussed. *Mythprint* will now offer a suggested book or topic, both for personal reading and for the consideration of the branches in their voting. This will not mean that the suggested book is necessarily suggested for every branch that month, but as a possibility to consider when voting on topics in the months to come.

Out of The Silent Planet by C.S. Lewis is the first book of a trilogy, often called the "Space Trilogy" or "Ransom Trilogy" since the character Elwin Ransom appears in all three books. The second is *Perelandra* and the third is *That Hedious Strength*. All three books are readily available in paperback, published by Macmillan. It is best to read the trilogy in

order, to get the full mythical and literary understanding.

Marjorie Hope Nicholson in her book *Voyages to the Moon* (pp. 251-256) says to her *Out of The Silent Planet* is "the most beautiful of all cosmic voyages and in some ways the most moving." She sees Lewis actually creating myth, "myth woven of desires and aspirations deep seated in some, at least, of the human race." Indeed Lewis, by taking classical mythology and medieval cosmology, has gone beyond and created a cosmic myth of power and poetic beauty.

Out of The Silent Planet, on the face of it would appear to fall within the science fiction field, with Elwin Ransom kidnapped to the planet Malacandra (Mars) aboard a H.G. Wells type space craft, but the book transcends in many ways the genre of science fiction. In Ransom's own words, he had the "sensation not of following an adventure but of enacting a myth."

MYTHCON NEWS

Do not wait, Join Now

The Tolkien Conference III - Mythcon I convention to be held on the Labor Day Weekend, needs your support now. The Society in the past has held picnics and other special events that required nothing more of those interested but in coming. That is the way it should be for convenience sake. With Mythcon, it will not be possible to wait till the last minute, and just show up, and participate. The deadline to join is July 11, which still seems a way off.

It is very important if you are interested in registering now, for two reasons: 1) The Mythcon Committee needs your \$3.00 now to pay for advance publicity expenses. We are endeavoring to publicize this nationally (on a moderate and directed scale), since this will be a value and interest to those out side Southern California. 2) The College needs to know how many people will be coming, just as soon as possible to plan for the meals and room accommodations. It is important to the College, our host, to have an indication of the number of people coming very soon.

For other Mythopoeic Society events, all the preparation has been worked out in advance by a dedicated few. In this case, all are needed to help in the preparation, by registering now, and indicating which plan you will take - no meals, meals, or meals and room. If you put this off too long, then there is a chance that all the work and preparation, and all the many activities planned, will be to no effect. It is possible that Mythcon will not happen unless we get a strong response from many more people within a month. This would be a real disappointment and waste.

Send your \$3.00 to the Treasurer, David Ring, 1510 Euclid avenue, Upland, Calif. 91786. Additional information sheets on the Convention are available on request, which give both tentative schedule, and rates.

Trophies

The following branches have chosen to sponsor the following Trophy awards, to be given to the First Prize Winners of the Art Show at Mythcon:

- Best Tolkien Art - San Gabriel Valley Branch
- Best Lewis Art - Orange County Branch
- Best Williams Art - Santa Barbara Branch
- Best Other Fantasy Art - West Los Angeles Branch
- Best Three Dimensional Art - Long Beach Area Branch
- Popular Vote Award - San Fernando Valley Branch

The Judges Open Award has not been sponsored yet by one of the three other branches.

Other activities now planned at Mythcon, not listed in last months flyer giving the tentative schedule, will be a dramatic presentation of the confrontation between Myra and Lilith from George MacDonald's *Lilith*. There will also be a color film showing of the activities at the Spring Picnic.

Special Discussion Series

A new program of literary discussion will start in May. Its purpose will be to attempt to go in depth into some of the philosophical, existential and spiritual problems of life and literature. The suggested discussion series will include the following:

- May 3, at 2:30 pm. *Till We Have Faces* by C.S. Lewis
- June 6, at 8 pm. *The Spire* by William Golding
- July 31, at 8 pm. Attend a production of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, performed in West Los Angeles.
- August 29, at 8 pm. *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett.
- October 31, at 8 pm. *All Hallow's Eve* by Charles Williams.
- December 26, at 8 pm. *The Wind in The Willows* by Kenneth Grahame.

The discussions will be held at the apartment of Glen GoodKnight, 6117 Woodward ave., Maywood Ca. 90270. Ph (213) 773-3808. The discussions are open to anyone interested, with two stipulations: 1) to come to the discussion one must have read the book, 2) one must obtain a copy of the Seabury commentary on the work, and have read that in advance also. All the works in this series (except *Wind in The Willows*) are in the Seabury Reading Program, with a written commentary on each work.

I (Glen GoodKnight) would like to start and get into this program, because of the possibilities I can see in it. It does not matter if there is not a large response to this. I am not as interested necessarily in large numbers, but the few who would like to participate. Here is a chance, with the commentaries as substantial motivators combined with our individual and corporate minds, to go into depth with books, some "mythopoeic," some not.

This is a separate activity from the branch meetings, and could be looked at as a supplementary activity. Anyone within reasonable driving distance (reasonable by your definition) is welcome. By coming to the first meeting, you are not necessarily committed to the rest of the series. The May 3 meeting will be on a Sunday afternoon. Those wishing to come must let me know by April 19, so that I can order and get to you a copy of the commentary on Lewis' *Till We Have Faces* by Nathan Comfort Starr. All the comentaries are either 85¢ or 95¢.

Morehouse-Barlow Co. 4427 Santa Monica Blvd. a few blocks east of Vermont Blvd. in Los Angeles, is one of the few stores I know of that carries all of Charles Williams novels and all of the seven Narnia books in paperback (for 90¢ each). If you would like to obtain copies of the Narnia series in paperback or am having trouble finding Williams' books, I suggest you visit or call them. Ph. 663-8206.

Monthly Meetings

Each Branch meets on a Saturday at 8 PM

FOR NEEDED DIRECTIONS TO A MEETING, CALL THE GIVEN PHONE NUMBER IN THIS LIST, YOUR BRANCH OFFICERS, OR AT LAST RESORT GLEN GOODKNIGHT (213) 773-3808.

April 4

The Hollywood-Wilshire Branch

Topic: The Formational Meeting, with general discussion on Tolkien, and special Tolkien artwork will be displayed.
Location: The home of Christopher Barczak, 2449 Vermont ave., Los Angeles. Ph. 863-4976. A few blocks north of Los Feliz.

April 11

The Long Beach Area Branch

Topic: The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis.
Location: Board of Director's Room, The Spool Coffeehouse, The Community YMCA, North Long Beach. Ph. 422-3350. On the corner of 61st St. and California, which is three blocks South of Artesia Blvd., and two blocks West of Atlantic.

The Pomona Valley Branch

Topic: Many Dimensions by Charles Williams.
Location: The home of David Ring, 1510 Euclid ave. Upland. Ph. (714) 982-0326.

April 18

The San Gabriel Valley Branch

Topic: The Last Battle by C.S. Lewis.
Location: The home of Rebel Fagin, 630 W. Huntington Dr. Apt. 103, Arcadia. Ph. 447-0610. Near the racetrack.

The San Fernando Valley Branch

Topic: Many Dimensions by Charles Williams.
Location: The home of Dawn Morris, 22514 Marlin Place, Canoga Park. Ph. 346-1367

The Santa Barbara Branch

Topic: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis.
Location: The home of Mrs. E.R. Mohun, 5675 Gato avenue, Goleta. Ph. (805) 967-0330. Go 2 blocks North from Hollister, along Tecolite to Gato ave. and turn right.

April 25

The West Los Angeles Branch

Topic: The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis.
Location: The home of Dr. Robert and Gracia-Fay Ellwood, 3433 S. Sycamore ave. Los Angeles, 90016. Ph. 931-7581. Three blocks West of Adams and La Brea.

The San Bernardino-Riverside Counties Branch

Topic: "The Rings of Power," a theme discussion from The Lord of The Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien.
Location: The Home of Brent Marlowe, 3127 Newell Drive, Riverside. Ph. (714) 684-0492. Near UC Riverside.

The Orange County Branch

Topic: Out of The Silent Planet by C.S. Lewis.
Location: The home of Marsha Bluckner, 929 Vista del Playa, City of Orange. Ph. 637-4649.

The Spring Picnic, March 21, 1970, was a very enjoyable day. The park was well liked as a good location. The costumes were better than even this year. The prize winners were:
Most Authentic Tolkien - Randy Christle as The Mouth of Sauron;
Most Beautiful Tolkien - Christine Smith as a Woman of Harad;
Most Authentic Narnia - a tie between Gracia-Fay Ellwood as The White Witch and Marsha Bluckner as Jadis;
Most Beautiful Narnia - Rochelle Martinez as Queen Susan;
Most Humorous - Cathy Case as a Marshwiggles;
Most Impressive - David King as Treebeard.

After the Ring Burning Ceremony, The Song of the Eagle Gwaihir to Minas Tirith from The Lord of The Rings was read as a joyous responsive reading, an idea of Gracia-Fay Ellwood.

new BRANCH NEWS

The Claremont Colleges Branch and The Upland-Pomona Branch have merged into a new branch to be known from now on as The Pomona Valley Branch, which encompasses the cities of Upland, Ontario, Monteclair, Claremont, Pomona, and surrounding areas. The officers are: Moderator - David Ring; Secretary - Frank Delahoyde; Treasurer - Judy Bell.

On March 7 The San Bernardino-Riverside Counties Branch was formed. The location was the home of Albertina Walski. It was a good meeting, and it certainly seems that this new branch is going to have some good discussions ahead, judging from the people who came to the first meeting.

April 4 will see the formation of the ninth branch of the Society, The Hollywood-Wilshire Branch. The area covered will be from Downtown Los Angeles, west to La Cienega Blvd., and from the Hollywood Hills, south to the residential area along Wilshire Blvd. The area from La Cienega Blvd., west to the Ocean will continue to be the area of the West Los Angeles Branch.

There is some interest from people in the Whittier-La Mirada area in forming a branch there. If you live in this area and are interested, contact Glen GoodKnight. A branch will not be formed unless we know of more people who are interested.

Already the second issue of Mything Link is out. The purpose of this publication is to record and report on what has been said and discussed in the several branches of the Society; also has a letter column. Dave Hulan is the editor. Copies are free if they are distributed at the branch meetings; subscriptions are available from Pat Lammerts, 6142 Kauffman, Temple City, Calif. 91780, for six issues for \$1.00.

special events

The Second Annual Kite Fly Picnic will be held on Sunday afternoon, April 19, at Lacy Park, San Marino. This picnic will be an informal get-together, without costumes. Bring food and kites. For directions to Lacy Park, call Glen GoodKnight (213) 773-3808. Look for the Mythopoeic Banner at the park. This is an exceptionally beautiful park, well suited to such innocent joys as kite flying.

May is the month of the Medieval & Renaissance Pleasure Fair, held in Agoura, which is west of the San Fernando Valley. This is a very colorful and exciting recreation of a medieval fair. Many members of the Society went last year. This year May 2, Saturday will be the day all Society members are urged to attend, in costume if you can. Bring all branch banners on poles. The Society as a group will participate in the parade around the grounds. The parade will start at high noon, so be there by 11 am to organize for the parade. Look for the Mythopoeic Banner.

The Society would like to hand out leaflets publicizing the Society at the Pleasure Fair. Since the Fair will run the first three weekends of May, we need volunteers for each of the six days to hand out the flyers at the entrance of the Fair. Several people for each day would be needed. Contact Glen GoodKnight.



Mythprint

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