

mythPRINT



**Quarterly Bulletin of the Mythopoeic Society with Book Reviews,
Short Articles, Event Information, and More!**

vol. 63 no. 2 Summer 2026 whole no. 417

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Cover Art: *Root and twig, very odd!...Not so hasty stained*
glass by Phillip Fitzsimmons, Pattern by Steve Voss
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Mythprint is the quarterly bulletin of the Mythopoeic Society, a nonprofit educational organization devoted to the study, discussion, and enjoyment of mythic, mythopoeic, and fantasy literature, especially the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and other Inklings. To promote these interests, the Society maintains a website, social media, and digital archives, sponsors annual conferences (Mythcon and OMS), grants annual awards for fiction and scholarship, sponsors discussion groups, and issues three publications: *Mythlore*, our scholarly journal, *The Mythic Circle*, our literary magazine, and *Mythprint*, our newsletter.

Membership and Subscriptions

Mythopoeic Society membership:

- \$15/year includes Society membership and an electronic subscription to *Mythprint*
- \$30/year includes Society membership and a paper subscription to *Mythprint*

Either entitles you to members' rates on publications and other benefits. For institutions and our non-U.S. subscribers, complete & updated price lists can always be found on our website. We also have a lifetime membership option.

The easiest way to join the Mythopoeic Society and subscribe to our publications or join our annual conferences

is to visit our website. We take PayPal and personal checks. Back issues of *Mythprint* are available on our digital archives. Reviews of mythopoeic media, discussion group reports, news items, letters, artwork, notes or short articles, and other submissions for *Mythprint* are always welcome. In return for printed pieces, contributors who are not already subscribers will receive an electronic copy of the issue in which the item appears. Please contact the editor for details on format, or send materials to:

Brice Odom
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mythprint@mythsoc.org

The Mythopoeic Society also publishes two other magazines: *Mythlore* (subscription \$30/year for U.S. Society members) and *The Mythic Circle*, an annual magazine publishing fiction, poems, etc. (\$8/issue for U.S. addresses). Subscriptions and back issues of Society publications may be purchased directly through our web site, or you may contact:

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Visit The Mythopoeic Society online at www.mythsoc.org.
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NEWS AND UPDATES

mythcon updates

Dates: July 24-27, 2026

Join us in Weatherford, Oklahoma for the 54th Mythcon: Get Your Fantasy Kicks on Route 66.

- Chair: Phillip Fitzsimmons (chair@mythcon.org)
- Papers Coordinator: Cami Agan (papers@mythcon.org)
- Additional committee members: Khrystyna Melnychuk, Victoria Gaydosik, Conner Kirk, Robert Williams
- Mythopoeic Society Steward for Conferences: Tim Lenz (mythcon@mythsoc.org)

Keep an eye on our social media and website for the most up-to-date information on the conference: www.mythcon.org.

Conference Theme

Join us in Weatherford OK, where Mythcon 54 will celebrate the 100th anniversary of "The Mother Road," Route 66.

Alexi Kondratiev Student Paper Award

Presenters who are full-time undergraduate or graduate students are encouraged to submit their completed conference papers in advance for consideration for the Alexei Kondratiev Student Paper Award. Please see www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/alexi.htm for more information.

Glen Goodnight Starving Scholars Fund

The Mythopoeic Society's Starving Scholars Fund was renamed in honor of our founder, Glen GoodKnight, upon his passing in November 2010. Glen always emphasized the importance of encouraging scholarship in Inklings studies and was happy to see this fund come into existence in 1993. The Fund supports attendance at Mythcon for scholars and other participants. Preference is given to persons presenting a paper or participating on a panel, though others are not automatically excluded



from consideration. Awards consist of a contribution toward room & board costs or, very rarely, other conference expenses such as travel costs. The Mythcon Papers Coordinator, in consultation with the Mythopoeic Society Council of Stewards and the Conference Committee, makes the final decision as to award recipients, amounts, and application of funds. No more than half of the Fund's balance may be used in any given year. Contact papers@mythcon.org for more information.

Registrations & Reservations

Vendor Space Reservation

Full 8' tables or half-tables (shared with another vendor) are available in our Dealers room for \$50 or \$30. If you are interested in bringing your wares to sell, please contact Robert Williams by email at dealers@mythcon.org, and he will provide more details. You can also reserve a table online on the Mythopoeic Society website, <https://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/mythcon-54.htm#dealers>. Tables are 8 feet long by 30 inches wide. Vendors who will only be staffing their table do not have to purchase memberships, but any vendor who also wants to attend any of the conference. Activities must purchase a full conference membership.

Attendee Registration

Mythcon 54 registration is now open. Current rates for Mythcon 54 are as follows. Rates for attending memberships increased on June 1:

- Full Conference Registration (Mythsoc member*) \$120.00
- Full Conference Registration (non member) \$135.00
- Full Conference Registration (student**) \$110.00
- Virtual Conference Registration (Mythsoc member) \$20.00
- Virtual Conference Registration (non member) \$25.00

Full-time students; must present current, active student ID at check-in to get this rate. Note: to register at the member rate, you must be a member of the Mythopoeic Society, and you need to log on to our members area first.

Here is a 6-minute YouTube video explaining how Mythsoc members can log in to the members area, and then proceed to the registration process for Mythcon 54. <https://youtu.be/lwKo4H-hNcs>

To register for Mythcon 54, go to <https://www.mythsoc.org/members/events.htm#?event/register/2026/8/7/mythcon-54>

Venue: Stafford Air & Space Museum, 3000 Logan Rd, Weatherford, OK 73096

The Stafford Air & Space Museum, named in honor of Weatherford native, astronaut Thomas P. Stafford, is considered one of the finest and most comprehensive air and space museums in the central United States and is an Affiliate of the Smithsonian. Weatherford OK is also the home of the Mythopoeic Society Archives at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU).

Hotel: Lucille's Hotel, Weatherford

The Mythcon 54 official hotel is Lucille's Hotel in Weatherford. Mythcon attendees will receive a special rate of \$99.99 (+ taxes) per night, using the group code MYTHCON54.

The contact information for the hotel is: Lucille's Hotel, Restaurant, & Bar 3825 E Main St, Weatherford, Oklahoma, 73096. Phone 580-774-0400 To reserve a room at the conference rate, guests may either: – Call the

hotel at 580-774-0400 and reference the group code MYTHCON54, or – Email the front desk at frontdesk@lucilleshotel.com and include the group code MYTHCON54 in their reservation request.

Here is a link to the [Hotel's Web Site](#) for information purposes. (Do not use this site to try to reserve a room.)

Getting to Weatherford, OK: Not as Tough as Going to Mount Doom

Weatherford, OK is accessible only to those with wheels! As we approach the event, the organizing committee will provide resources to help coordinate rides between Oklahoma City and Weatherford and also around Weatherford during Mythcon.

Plane: Don't be turned off by flying to an airport named for Oklahoma's most beloved native son, who died in a plane crash. After arriving at Will Rogers International Airport (recently upgraded from Will Rogers World Airport!), you will need ground transportation to Weatherford. Car rental and shuttle options at OKC airport can be found at <https://flyokc.com/parking-transportation/>. We recommend coordinating shared rides with other Mythcon attendees.

Automobile: Oklahoma City (the nearest semi-major metropolitan area) lies at the intersection of not one! not two! but three! major interstate highways: east-west I-40, north-south I-35, and northeast-to-southwest I-44. Once in Oklahoma City, take I-40 west to Weatherford at Exit 84. For local transportation between the conference hotel and venue, we strongly recommend that you either have a car of your own, or coordinate carpooling with another attendee.

Guests of Honor

Author guest of honor: David R. Slayton

David R. Slayton grew up in Guthrie, Oklahoma, where finding fantasy novels was pretty challenging and finding ones with diverse characters was downright impossible. Now he lives in Denver and writes the books he always wanted to read. His debut, *White Trash Warlock*, received a

starred review from *Publishers Weekly*. In 2015, David founded Trick or Read, an initiative to give out books along with candy to children on Halloween as well as uplift lesser-known authors or those from marginalized backgrounds. His epic fantasy, *Dark Moon, Shallow Sea*, won the 2024 Colorado Book Award. Find him online at www.DavidRSlayton.com.

Scholar guest of honor: Joe Christopher

Dr. Joe R. Christopher, originally from Bartlesville, Oklahoma, is a retired professor of English from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. A prolific writer, he has published over 200 scholarly essays and notes, with a significant concentration on the Inklings as well as Dorothy L. Sayers. Dr. Christopher has been a fixture in scholastic science-fiction studies since the 1950s, attending the first Mythcon and almost every subsequent one. He was recognized as a Scholar Guest of Honor by the Mythopoeic Society in 1981, and won the Mythopoeic Scholarship Award for Inklings Studies in 1988 for his biography of C.S. Lewis. He also was awarded the Neuhouser Award for Distinguished Scholarship and Service at the 11th Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C.S. Lewis & Friends in 2018. He is a life member of the C.S. Lewis and Inklings Society and has served as a keynote speaker for their convention.



Non-Committee Opportunities include positions related to Registration, Technical Moderators, and the Mythopoeic Society Dealers Table.

If interested, please email Tim Lenz at mythcon@mythsoc.org

Special Events

Masquerade: Mythcon 54 will have a masquerade as part of one of our Saturday evening entertainments. A Mythcon masquerade is a staged costume presentation that ranges from the sublime to the silly; its focus is fun and entertainment. Everyone is invited to participate; sign-up forms will be provided at the registration desk.



The Not Very Annual Mary Stolzenbach Memorial Clerihew Contest

What's a Mythcon without whimsical verse and possibly doubtful veracity? So, polish up your skills for our Not Very Annual Clerihew Contest, named in honor of the late Mary Stolzenbach, who used to sweep the awards regularly. Each attendee may submit one entry into each of three categories: Before Tolkien (pre-1892), During Tolkien (1892-1973), and After Tolkien (post-1973). A distinguished panel of judges, They Who Must Never Be Named, will evaluate each entry based on the HOC criteria of Humor, Originality, and Clerihewness. Winners will be rewarded with the traditional prize of a jeroboam of Chateau de Porteur d'Anneau invisible champagne, and we'll all toast the memory of beloved clerihew enthusiast Mike Foster.

Volunteer Opportunities

Organizing Committee Volunteer Opportunities include positions for Promotions (preferably someone from Wetherford or the surrounding area), Programming, and Art Show Coordinator.

myTHOPoeic AWARDS

NOMINEES

The *Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature* is given to the fantasy novel, multi-volume, or single-author story collection for adults published during 2024-2025 that best exemplifies the spirit of the Inklings. Books are eligible for two years after publication if not selected as a finalist during the first year of eligibility. Books from a series are eligible if they stand on their own; otherwise, the series becomes eligible the year its final volume appears. The *Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Young Adult Literature* honors books for Young Adult readers (ages 13-18), and the *Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children's Literature* honors books for younger readers (ages 12 or younger). Rules for eligibility are otherwise the same as for the Adult literature award. The category of borderline books will be determined by their intended audience as named by the publisher and author.

The *Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies* is given to books on Tolkien, Lewis, and/or Williams that make significant contributions to Inklings scholarship. For this award, books first published during the last three years (2023-2025) are eligible, including finalists for previous years. The *Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Myth and Fantasy Studies* is given to scholarly books on other specific authors in the Inklings tradition, or to more general works on the genres of myth and fantasy. The period of eligibility is three years, as for the Inklings Studies award.

2025 Short List for Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature

- Holly Black, *The Charlatan Duology* (Tor Books, 2022-2025)
- Martin Cahill, *Audition for the Fox* (Tachyon, 2025)
- Lev Grossman, *The Bright Sword* (Viking, 2024)
- T. Kingfisher, *Snake-Eater* (47North, 2025)
- Jared Pechacek, *The West Passage* (Fordotcom, 2024)
- Samantha Sotto Yambao, *Water Moon* (Del Rey, 2025)

- Emily Tesh, *The Incandescent* (Tor, 2025)

2025 Short List for Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Young Adult Literature

- K. Ancrum, *The Corruption of Hollis Brown* (HarperCollins, 2025)
- Amber McBride, *The Leaving Room* (Feiwel & Friends, 2025)
- Margaret Owen, Little Thieves series (Henry Holt and Co., 2021-2025)
- Vanessa L. Torres, *On the Wings of La Noche* (Knopf, 2025)

2025 Short List for Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children's Literature

- Aubrey Hartman, *The Undead Fox of Deadwood Forest* (Little, Brown, 2025)
- Sachiko Kashiwaba, *The Village Beyond the Mist* (Yonder/Restless, 2025); translated by Avery Fischer Udagawa.
- Victor Piñeiro, *The Island of Forgotten Gods* (Sourcebooks Young Readers, 2025)
- David A. Robertson, *The Misewa Saga* (Tundra 2021-2025)

2025 Short List for Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies

- Anahit Behrooz, *Mapping Middle-earth: Environmental and Political Narratives in J. R. R. Tolkien's Cartographies* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2024)
- Michael D. C. Drout, *The Tower and the Ruin: J.R.R. Tolkien's Creation* (Norton, 2025)
- Verlyn Flieger, *A Real Taste for Fairy-Stories* (Walking Tree, 2025)
- Thomas P. Hillman, *Pity, Power, and Tolkien's Ring: To Rule the Fate of Many* (Kent State UP, 2023)
- Giuseppe Pezzini, *Tolkien and the Mystery of Literary Creation* (Cambridge UP, 2025)
- Hamish Williams, *J.R.R. Tolkien's Utopianism and the Classics* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2023)

2025 Short List for Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Myth and Fantasy Studies

- Patrick Curry, *Art and Enchantment: How Wonder Works* (Routledge, 2023)
- Sophus Helle, *Enbeduanna: The Complete Poems of the World's First Author* (Yale UP, 2023)
- Adam Roberts, *Fantasy: A Short History* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2025)
- Paul R. Rovang, *The Archetype of the Dying and Rising God in World Mythology* (Lexington, 2023)
- Dennis Wilson Wise, editor, *Speculative Poetry and the Modern Alliterative Revival: A Critical Anthology* (Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2023)

The winners of this year's awards will be announced at Mythcon 54. A complete list of Mythopoeic Award winners is available on the Society web site: www.mythsoc.org/awards.htm. The finalists for the literature awards, text of recent acceptance speeches, and selected book reviews are also listed in this on-line section. For more information about the Mythopoeic Awards, please contact the Awards Administrator: Dennis Wise, awards@mythsoc.org.

mythsoc LEADERSHIP & VOTING by Megan Abrahamson, SECRETARY

Brice Odom couldn't have taken up the *Mythprint* mantle at a better time, as Megan Abrahamson, already in the midst of her new role of Recording Secretary, has her first big task: running Society elections in 2026!

First, we have had a few changes in the past three years to Mythopoeic Society leadership, due to a combination of factors, and we wanted to share these with the Membership in detail. We want to reiterate that the role of the Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary remain in place, requiring no revisions to our Bylaws. You can view those Bylaws here: <https://www.mythsoc.org/legaldocs.htm>.

The Stewards voted as authorized to approve the following changes to the officer titles and duties:

At the time of writing this, we have yet to fill the Orders Steward position vacated by the passing of Lee Speth. This position remains vacant as we reassess our need for an Orders Manager. In the meantime, physical items will be available for purchase at Mythcons and print items are being converted to print-on-demand.

Since the last election, Holly Felmlee and Lynne Darga have resigned from their positions in the Society after many years of service as Secretary and Membership Steward, respectively. Thank you, Holly and Lynne, for your service! Megan Abrahamson stepped sideways into the role of Secretary, vacating the *Mythprint* editor Stewardship, now filled by Brice Odom. Thanks and welcome, Brice!

With the implementation of the new membership organizing software (MembershipWorks) that allows members to log in to their own accounts and automates much of the work that the Membership Secretary did, we have decided to phase this position out and give remaining tasks to other Stewards. For example, the Secretary Role will now be responsible for compiling and distributing Annual Reports (just when Megan thought she got out of sending regular publications to members!).

The management of the MembershipWorks software will be headed up by Grace Moone, whose position will now be called Membership & Subscriptions. She will put out a call for a few Manager roles to aid her in this new position.

Sean Marlow will be one of these, joining us as Subscriptions Manager. Thanks and welcome, Sean!

Alicia Fox-Lenz will be changing her job title to Communications Steward, as she will also be helping with MembershipWorks. She has put out calls for Social Media Manager roles to aid her in this new position.

And while we temporarily tried out the Awards position held by Dennis Wise at a Manager level, the Council has



since re-elevated the position to Steward again so that Dennis has an equal say in the governing of the Society.

Mythlore, Mythpress and *Mythic Circle* editorships (Janet Brennan Croft, Leslie Donovan, and Victoria Gaydosik) are unchanged, as are the roles of Webmaster (David Emerson), Archive Steward (Phillip Fitzsimmons), and Steward of Mythopoeic Conferences (Tim Lenz). Lisa Harrigan's role as Treasurer has remained unchanged, though Dusty Brooks has been brought on as Assistant Treasurer to help out and learn the ropes. Thanks and welcome, Dusty!

At the end of 2026, watch your emails for information on voting for the following Stewards of the Mythopoeic Society:

- Communications Steward: Alicia Fox-Lenz
- Editor of *Mythic Circle*: Victoria Gaydosik
- Editor of Mythopoeic Press: Leslie A. Donovan
- Editor of *Mythlore*: Janet Brennan Croft
- Editor of *Mythprint*: Brice Odom
- Membership & Subscriptions Steward: Grace Moone
- Mythopoeic Awards Steward: Dennis Wise
- Recording Secretary: Megan Abrahamson
- Steward for Mythopoeic Conferences: Tim Lenz
- Steward for Society Archives: Phillip Fitzsimmons
- Treasurer: Lisa Deutsch Harrigan
- Webmaster: David Emerson

If you wish to contest any of the positions listed above, or to apply for any of the Manager positions to help out in a more limited capacity, please reach out to the Megan at secretary@mythsoc.org. Nominations must be closed 120 days before the date of election, as per the Bylaws. Since the date of the election will be December 1, 2026, the deadline for nominations is August 3, 2026. As always, last minute write-ins will be accepted and welcomed, though unlikely to win, so please contact us before August.

ARTICLES AND REVIEWS

King Sorrow: A Faustian Fable of Dark Academia, Summoned Dragons, and the Terrible Bargain Six Friends Make. Joe Hill. William Morrow, 2025. 896 p. ISBN 978-0062200600. \$20.00.

by Phillip Fitzsimmons

I view *King Sorrow* by Joe Hill more as a work of dark fantasy than of horror, even though it includes horror elements throughout the book. The book is about six college friends who summon the dragon named King Sorrow to defend themselves from the aggressions of a family of drug dealers. In the long tradition of deceptions and machinations of previous dragons in literature, King Sorrow allows the college students to believe their deal with him is a one-time thing. In truth, they are committed to selecting a murder victim every year for the remainder of their lives. The reader can imagine the self-loathing, stress, emotional, and mental problems, toxic relationships, and death among themselves that results from such an obligation for the six friends. That is what the novel *King Sorrow* is about.

Joe Hill's dragon King Sorrow reminded me most of Glaurung in J.R.R. Tolkien's "Of Túrin Turambar" in *The Silmarillion*. Both dragons are shown to be mesmerizing and manipulative to humans. Both dragons have long games with many parts that ruin the lives of the people who fall under their spells. Also, both dragons speak to their victims with a similar smug, humorous tone that is enchanting, interesting, and entertaining to the readers of the books in which they appear. King Sorrow is chatty with his victims in the 896-page novel in which he appears much as readers see Smaug play with the hero Bilbo Baggins in J.R.R. Tolkien's 300+-page long novel *The Hobbit*. Thus, author Joe Hill does an excellent job of making the dragon King Sorrow into a well-developed character who stands on his own. King Sorrow is much more than a cutout of a villain who is a dragon. I think

that a lot of Mythos members and Tolkien fans will enjoy the character and the novel of *King Sorrow* because, among other things, it follows the tradition of Tolkien's dragon characters.

Although Hill typically writes about worlds of magic and horror, his realistic depiction of human relationships in his novels gives depth to his work, as he transforms the imaginary worlds he portrays from merely fantastic to believable. Hill's descriptions of messy friendships, romantic relationships, and family conflicts appeal to this reviewer because such experiences are universally experienced though usually unwelcome. Hill often injects hope into his stories by showing some of the characters embrace grace and enact dedication to community rather than continuing the cycles of betrayal and aggression. In the world crafted by Hill, people and relationships can mature from being poisonous to healthy, satisfying, and nourishing, something we all want to achieve.

Besides the print edition released on Oct. 21, 2025, the audiobook is also available as a top-quality multicast production with Ari Fliakos as the primary reader and Ian Shaw, Kate Mulgrew, Virginia Kull, Dominic Hoffman, Marin Ireland and nine others as cast members in this remarkable audiobook. The cast of readers of the book is lively and adds appropriate variation to the experience of listening to this lengthy novel. Though read by professional actors, *King Sorrow* remains an unabridged audiobook, does not add many sound effects, and does not revert to becoming an audio play. This recording will be enjoyed by fans of audiobooks.

A biographical note is that Joe Hill is the pen name of Joseph Hillström King, the 53-year-old son (in 2026) of Stephen and Tabitha King. Hill has published five novels, one collection of four novellas, and two short story collections. His work is primarily horror or dark fantasy. It is usually in the horror genre but is distinct from the

works of his father. Hill's work usually includes strong elements of dark fantasy, a distinctive sense of humor, and is rigorous in his writing craft. I have also enjoyed three of his prior novels. In *Heart-Shaped Box* (2007) a washed-out rock star buys a ghost for \$1,000 that turns out to be a malevolent being. In *Horns* (2010), after a night of drinking a young man wakes up with a pair of horns on his head. These new appendages compel anyone he is near to confess their darkest desires, and whenever he touches someone, he sees the memory of their worst act. In *NOS4A2* (2013) a vampire drives the United States in his 1938 Rolls-Royce Wraith and brings child victims to Christmasland forever.

In conclusion, I recommend the novel *King Sorrow* by Joe Hill particularly to adult Mythos members because it is the closest of Hill's works to being straightforward fantasy literature. Personally, I found his story and portrayal of the dragon King Sorrow to be very

satisfying. With that said I would expect there to be a wide variety of reactions to *King Sorrow* and to Joe Hill's other works. I recommend the book but emphasize that it is an adult book. I would say that it would be good for all public libraries and adult educational institutions that support contemporary literature programs. The book would sit comfortably on the shelf with Stephen King's *The Eyes of the Dragon*, *The Talisman*, and *Fairy Tale*. It is well crafted fiction and makes entertaining pleasure reading.

CS Lewis Considers Using Social Media by S. Dorman

My friends know that trying to speak for C.S. Lewis is anathema to me. However, sometimes I'm not averse to paraphrasing him as I do throughout this essay. Although himself having died in 1963, C.S. Lewis's word-hoard is piled so high he seems to do a pretty good job, still, of making himself understood. Maybe it's worthwhile to investigate this a bit further. I'll be using *The C.S. Lewis Index* (Crossway Books, 1995), compiled by Janine



Goffar. From this compilation, let's see what he has to say about the Internet.

Some of us have always been curious about what our forebears would think of these marvels, these wonders we are possessed by. Of course, if you're young enough, iPads, iPhones, digital forks, 3-D printers, AI, distance-destroying drones, et cetera, aren't marvels.

I cannot help wondering what C.S. Lewis would use. Would he be on Facebook/Meta? Would CSL get into flame wars there, for instance? Let me look that up:

According to Goffar's Index (p. 115), he expressed (*Letters* 223, 224) "distaste" for argument via correspondence. In a letter to Sister Mary Rose he lays out the back-and-forth format of argument, then adds that they both probably have pressing duties preventing such. And Goffar cites (P. 38) the *Screwtape Letters* (SL 38), where, if I recall correctly, Screwtape slyly suggests that people are less influenced by argument than jargon. So, if not C.S. Lewis, then perhaps Screwtape would be using/useful on social media? Others have pointed out that CSL stopped his argument via correspondence with Owen Barfield, who wanted it to continue.

So, it doesn't seem he would be arguing on social media... unless

Hmmm. I don't possess the books for Goffar's citation on this—*Letters to Malcolm*, (77) or *Letters to an American Lady* (15: 1)—so I'll paraphrase from her quotation of him: Silence during disputation may be forceful, resonant, and even logically ingenious. ...Since the web appears to be one long querulous argument, maybe he'd choose complete silence on the Internet? ... You can see social media would not do for a presentation at the Socratic Club.

Getting back to Goffar's Index:

What about substack? We know he kept a paper diary and wrote paper letters to people. So maybe we're OK thinking he'd blog?

I resort to the Index's entry on *Diary: From Surprised by Joy*, Chapter 15, which I have in recent edition: If belief in

God had done no more, I should be grateful for its curing me of that time-waste, that silly practice of journaling You write what you think significant; but cannot see every day what proves significant for the long term.

After his wife's death, in his book *A Grief Observed* (GO, 9,1:18), he wondered if the writing of it was morbid—but answered that it might help him detach just a bit from his grief. So there one might say: possibly. Yet, one might also admit that publication of his grief in book form (under a pseudonym) might feel, to him, less like "showing-off" than would casting this sorrow onto the www.

Video games? CSL as role player? In the *Mythprint* bulletin (Spring 2017) Bethany L. Abrahamson makes a case for Inklings benefiting from a collaboration in writing...but she gives more—in RPGs. She argues that *Dungeons and Dragons* derive from groundwork laid by the Inklings. Building on such plays, their speculative writing together might have gained. Would the authors' mutual SF challenge—Lewis space travel, Tolkien time travel—have benefitted from such creativity? In *Christian Reflections* (CR 130, 131) CSL wrote that a detailed visual imagination is both reader and writer's blight. As with toys elaborate and too realistic spoiling the play of children. So, maybe RPG's—not for him?

Naturally I'll not insult him by suggesting the hectic twitter. Reading *Surprised by Joy*, (p. 153), we see he was against teaching kids to read newspapers because of the transitory nature of news bursts where sensationalism and rudeness taught one to flit from item to item. But what about e-mail? Again referencing *SBJ*, (p. 143), he says it's essential to a happy life that we have hardly any mail and also never fear the postman's ring. Interpreting for today's readers, I'm sure that the ping of posts dropping into his inbox might've sent CSL over the edge.

That leaves only a couple more: first, communicating with the dead via the Internet. After all, as a medium, aren't the invisible 0s & 1s more like spirit than the fleshy digits of our pen-wielding fingers? Thus, also from *A Grief Observed* and conveying sorrow:

“The body, space and time, brought us close. The phone lines through which we spoke. Must our conversation stop? We might assume some other way—different, doing like communication, immediately substituted. But why then sever the old ones?”

So, maybe not *Wordpress*, *Twitter*, *Facebook Substack*? What about *Youtube*? *Videolog*? I don't think so.

Possibly *Vimeo*? Would C.S.L. lecture online, podcast? YES! as a guest.

I'm guessing he would think a tweet is not Amen.

A LAST IN MEMORIAM FOR LEE SPETH, MYTHPOEIC SOCIETY STEWARD

We had many wonderful remembrances of Lee offered in the last issue, but one was cut due to space. With MythCon getting ever closer, I thought it appropriate to offer this last remembrance to not only remember Lee, but also to remind us all of what the Mythopoeic Society and its events have meant to people like Lee and so many others over the years.

Remembered by Tim Lenz

I didn't know Lee for as long as many other Mythies did, since I only became involved with the Society in 2018. Encountering Lee Speth for the first time later in his life, my impressions of him eventually drew me to the conclusion that Lee functioned as the “Yoda” of the Mythopoeic Society. Apart from looking a bit Muppet-ish (said affectionately), Lee was a font of mystic wisdom, retained a long memory of MythSoc's history (and wider fandom history), and he often spoke in a cryptic or poetic style. I'm also reasonably certain that Lee had approximately the same amount of ear hair as Yoda. I will miss Lee's clever comments, his relaxed lounging during Stewards' Meetings (backdropped by a wall of precariously-stacked books), his rousing chorus' of the “Drunken Hobbit” song during Mythcon closing ceremonies, and his spirited Golfimbul scorekeeping. Mythcons will never be quite the same without him, but

many tales will be told of his shenanigans for many events to come.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW CFPs

There are various CFPs through Signum University including Helcaraxë Moot (due July 1st, Conf. Aug. 1st), Cascade Moot (due July 29th, Conf. Aug. 29th), Ranger Moot (due Aug. 11th, Conf. Sept. 11-13), Euromoot (due Sept. 2nd, Conf. Oct. 2-4).

To contribute, contact
signumuniversity.org/regional-moots/

Submit to Mythprint!

We are always accepting reviews of any mythopoeic media, but we also publish letters to the editor or society, short articles and notes on Inklings topics, art, meeting discussion reports, and more! We are especially interested in reviews of mythopoeic works by creators of color and other historically underrepresented perspectives. Submit to:
mythprint@mythsoc.org

MythSoc Stewards Meetings

To ensure all Mythopoeic Society members are aware of the schedule of meetings, so that any member of the Society can propose a topic to be placed on the agenda of the next Council meeting, the following is the tentative schedule of the Council of Stewards Meetings planned:

- May 2, 2026
- July 24, 2026 (at Mythcon)
- November 7, 2026
- February 8, 2027

Mythprint AI Policy

Mythprint is a community newsletter, like a mobile bulletin board, and as such, the use of Gen-AI and LLMs is in direct opposition to the informal and jannish quality of this publication. If it wasn't written by a person, we don't want to read it. Further, all published materials, whether artwork, notes, or reviews, remain under the sole ownership of their creators, and are merely reprinted with permission by the Mythopoeic Society with full attribution. Material does not go through a formal review process (only minimal proofreading by the editor—without the use of AI), so by submitting to Mythprint you attest that the work is your own and take responsibility for it. The creator of any submitted content is ultimately responsible if there is any legal challenge to its publication.

The Mythopoeic Society

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