

TWO CALLS FOR PAPERS FOR THE MYTHOPOEIC PRESS

1. Women in the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien

edited by Janet Brennan Croft (Mythlore@mythsoc.org) and Leslie Donovan (press@mythsoc.org)

The place of women in Tolkien's world is a perennially troublesome topic. On the surface, Tolkien's major works seem to ignore women or place them on unattainable pedestals, and popular criticism of Tolkien often focuses on this issue. But a closer look can be quite revealing; the deeper one delves into the legendarium and other works, the more prevalent, complex, and powerful the female characters turn out to be. Additionally, male characters often exhibit and are valued for what might be seen as feminine characteristics, and characters who balance feminine and masculine traits are held up as ideals. This collection will bring together several classic essays on Tolkien's portrayal of women and the feminine with new takes on the topic.

Projected publication date: Spring 2014

Deadline for abstracts: May 30, 2013

Deadline for finished papers: September 1, 2013

2. Baptism of Fire: The Birth of Modern British Fantasy in World War I

edited by Janet Brennan Croft (Mythlore@mythsoc.org)

In Great Britain, the post-World War I years saw a flowering of fantasy written by authors who had lived through its horrors. Tom Shippey observed in *Tolkien: Author of the Century* that the originators of what we would consider the "late twentieth-century fantastic mode" were in many cases "traumatized authors" who had survived combat and other experiences of the war. Janet Croft, in *War and the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien*, notes psychiatrist W.H.R. Rivers's observations that his Great War patients processed their experiences through both dreams and writing. This essay collection will examine the fantasy fiction, poetry, and potentially art of authors affected in one way or another by the Great War and its lasting legacy.

Some authors we may consider are: J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, E.R. Eddison, Kenneth Grahame, A.A. Milne, Sylvia Townsend Warner, Mervyn Peake, James Stephens, David Jones, G.K. Chesterton, Rudyard Kipling; see <http://www.firstworldwar.com/poetsandprose/index.htm> for more possibilities.

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Deadline for abstracts: September 1, 2013

Deadline for finished papers: April 1, 2014