

CTS Termcard Lent 2021

Doom in Tolkien

Week 1

19:30, Weds 27 Jan, Timeout

"Doom" is a word that appears frequently in the Legendarium of JRR Tolkien. From the Ring of Doom, where the Powers of Middle Earth sit in judgement to the Cracks of Doom where the One Ring is unmade. Tolkien uses "doom" in its more archaic sense in referring both to a judgement and to fate. What role does the idea of divine judgement play in the stories of Middle Earth? Why is Tolkien so concerned with the idea of fate and mortality, and what does he have to say about them? Join the Cambridge Tolkien Society as we discuss the role of "doom" in Tolkien's works.

Tolkien and the Natural World

Week 2

19:30, Weds 3 Feb, Timeout

The natural world occupies a very significant position in the writings of JRR Tolkien. It plays a crucial role in the story, with trees both good and evil making an appearance in Lord of the Rings, but Tolkien also often writes somewhat indulgently about the natural aspects of his subcreation, such as describing species of tree and bird. Join the Cambridge Tolkien Society as we delve into Tolkien's fascination with nature, and the role it plays in his legendarium.

Tolkien's Legacy

Week 3

19:30, Weds 10 Feb, Timeout

Tolkien's writings have proved influential in the shaping of nearly all subsequent fantasy literature and visual media, with creators either seeking to claim his mantle or define themselves in opposition to his works. No less significantly, Tolkien also proved very influential in his academic field, particularly altering the perception and study of Beowulf. Join the Cambridge Tolkien Society as we discuss how Tolkien's works impacted art and academia.

Geography of Middle Earth

Week 4

19:30, Weds 17 Feb, Timeout

Readers approaching the works of Tolkien are often advised to begin their journey with some sort of map to help them follow his story. Tolkien himself produced numerous hand-drawn maps for his works and Tolkien enthusiasts have published countless atlases. Tolkien also took taking great pains to describe the geography and locations of his stories within the Legendarium. Join the Cambridge Tolkien Society as we explore the geography of Middle Earth, and the now-iconic settings of Tolkien's stories.

Games Night

Week 5

19:30, Weds 24 Feb, Timeout

To combat the Week 5 (and maybe also Lockdown) Blues, Games Night returns! Consequences, (pictorial or otherwise), Werewolf and Contact make a return, with plenty of hilarity in tow. Also we need to start practicing for the Quiz so we can beat The Other Place.

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Storytelling and Poetry

Week 6

19:30, Weds 3 March, Timeout

The traditional evening dedicated to reading and singing bits of Tolkien's work. This is a chance for us all to relive some of our favourite parts of the Tolkien canon, and the surrounding fandom. Come to participate, or just to listen.

Eagle Debate – Most Musical Character

Week 7

19:30, Weds 10 March, Timeout

Who had the greatest CHOONS in all the works of JRR Tolkien? Music in the Legendarium can be used to create a reality, reveal a disguise, hypnotise the devil or perplex an elf, but who does it best? Canonicity not required; creativity encouraged.

Mathom Party

Week 8

19:30, Weds 17 March, Timeout

Mathom: any object deemed mostly useless, e.g. one partially unravelled glove or a candle that won't light. We invite you to partake in an annual CTS tradition to honour the Hobbit-practice of mathom-giving. If you have found yourself in possession of a useless object, maybe a Christmas present from one of your grandparents, bring it along and exchange it for something else, likely to be equally as useless. N.B. Physical exchange of mathoms is not advised at present on account of pandemic regulations, but we can live in hope that one day we will be able to see each other in person again.

