

## DETAILS



#### The Wonders of Creation

Learning Stewardship from Narnia and Middle-Earth

November 29, 2022 | \$22, 144 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-**0435**-7

In this insightful exploration of Narnia and Middle-earth, Biologist Kristen Page discovers what we these beloved fictional landscapes might teach us about our real-life landscapes and how to become better stewards of God's good creation.

## The Hansen Lectureship Series

The Hansen Lectureship Series features reflections related to the imaginative work and lasting influence of seven British authors, including C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, George MacDonald, and Dorothy L. Sayers. The books in the series are based on the Ken and Jean Hansen Lectureship, an annual lecture series hosted at the Marion E. Wade Center at Wheaton College, named in honor of former Wheaton College trustee Ken Hansen and his wife, Jean, and endowed in their memory by Walter and Darlene Hansen. Each book includes three lectures by a Wheaton College faculty member on one or more of the Wade Center authors, with responses by fellow faculty members.

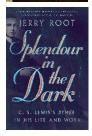
Founded in 1965, the Marion E. Wade Center houses a major research collection of writings and related materials by and about seven British authors: Owen Barfield, G. K. Chesterton, C. S. Lewis, George MacDonald, Dorothy L. Sayers, J. R. R. Tolkien, and Charles Williams. The Wade Center collects, preserves, and makes these resources available to researchers and visitors through its reading room, museum displays, educational programming, and publications. All of these endeavors are a tribute to the importance of the literary, historical, and Christian heritage of these writers.

Titles in the Hansen Lectureship Series include



The Everlasting People: G. K. Chesterton and the First Nations by Matthew J. Milliner December 14, 2021 | \$20, 184 pages, paperback | 978-1-5140-0032-8

How might the life and work of Christian writer G. K. Chesterton shed light on our understanding of North American Indigenous art and history? In these discerning reflections, art historian Matthew Milliner appeals to Chesterton's life and work in order to understand and appreciate both Indigenous art and the complex, often tragic history of First Nations peoples.

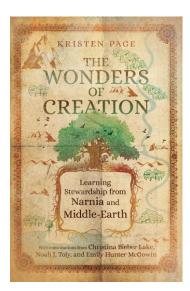


**Splendour in the Dark: C. S. Lewis's Dymer in His Life and Work** by Jerry Root November 3, 2020 | \$20, 256 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-**5375-**5

Several years before he converted to Christianity, C. S. Lewis published a narrative poem, *Dymer*, which not only sheds light on the development of his literary skills but also offers a glimpse of his intellectual and spiritual growth. Including the complete annotated text of Lewis's poem, this volume helps us understand both Lewis's change of mind and our own journeys of faith.







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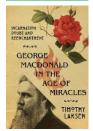
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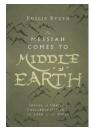
Choosing Community: Action, Faith, and Joy in the Works of Dorothy L. Sayers by Christine A. Colón October 15, 2019 | \$16, 152 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5374-8

Few writers in the twentieth century were as creative and productive as Dorothy L. Sayers, the English playwright, novelist, and poet. In this volume in the Hansen Lectureship Series, Christine Colón explores the role of community in Sayers's works. In particular, she considers how Sayers offers a vision of communities called to action, faith, and joy, and she reflects on how we also are called to live in community together.



**George MacDonald in the Age of Miracles: Incarnation, Doubt, and Reenchantment** by Timothy Larsen November 20, 2018 | \$18, 150 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-**5373**-1

Timothy Larsen considers the legacy of George MacDonald, the Victorian Scottish author and minister who is best known for his pioneering fantasy literature. Larsen explores how MacDonald sought to counteract skepticism, unbelief, naturalism, and materialism and to herald instead the reality of the miraculous, the supernatural, the wondrous, and the realm of the spirit.



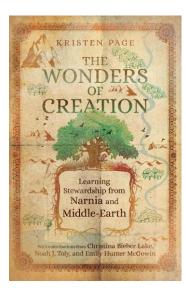
The Messiah Comes to Middle-Earth: Images of Christ's Threefold Office in The Lord of the Rings by Philip Ryken

November 14, 2017 | \$17, 150 pages, paperback | 978-0-8308-5372-4

Can *The Lord of the Rings* help us understand the Christian faith more deeply? Wheaton College president Philip Ryken mines the riches of Tolkien's theological imagination. In the characters of Gandalf, Frodo, and Aragorn, Ryken hears echoes of the one who is the true prophet, priest, and king, considering what that threefold office means for the calling of all Christians.







## ENDORSEMENTS



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**Kristen Page** (PhD, Purdue University) is Ruth Kraft Strohschein Distinguished Chair and professor of biology at Wheaton College. Her work has appeared in scholarly journals, including the *Journal of Wildlife Management, Journal of Parasitology, Journal of Wildlife Diseases*, and *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

# Creation Care Inspired by Fictional Worlds

"For anyone who grew up mentally wandering the forests of Narnia or Middle-earth, this book will be a joy and a revelation—you'll be reminded just how deep those images went into your heart. I'm pretty sure the best place to read it is with your back against a tree trunk on a sunny day—but if it's cold and snowy out, these pages will summon that summer in your soul."

—Bill McKibben, author of The Flag, the Cross, and the Station Wagon

"In this timely book, Kristen Page issues a compelling prophetic call for conservative evangelicals who have often ignored climate crisis warnings—and also love Lewis and Tolkien—to care for God's good creation. She shows how losing ourselves within the beauty of Narnia and Middle-earth's imaginary landscapes can awaken our capacity for ecological wonder and humility, leading us to extol the glory of God and respect the imago Dei in all of creation. Page and her conversation partners model how scholars in science, theology, and literature might come together to address crucial issues of our time."

—Gary S. Selby, professor of ministerial formation at Emmanuel Christian Seminary and author of Pursuing an Earthy Spirituality: C. S. Lewis and Incarnational Faith

"Kristen Page's exploration of Narnia, Middle-earth, and our own wondrous earth is sure to inspire readers to return to the tales of Lewis and Tolkien and see afresh the beauty and brokenness of the world just outside their front door. Page is an engaging and insightful guide to these landscapes, and her reflections are enlivened by thoughtful responses from colleagues at Wheaton. Highly recommended for fans of Tolkien and Lewis, for those who love literature and ecology, and really for all of us whose capacity for wonder will be expanded by this delightful little book."

—Jonathan A. Moo, professor of New Testament and environmental studies at Whitworth University

"The Wonders of Creation is a creative, insightful, and well-written book. It is, furthermore, a timely tome that shows how fictional landscapes, such as those created by C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, can inspire us to care for the damaged landscapes of our world today. Drawing on careful readings of Lewis and Tolkien, ecologist Kristen Page weaves a tapestry of reflections on ecological literacy, lament, and wonder, to which Christina Bieber Lake, Emily Hunter McGowin, and Noah Toly offer short responses. The thoughtful writing in *The Wonders of Creation* will foster our care of our home places."

—Steven Bouma-Prediger, Hope College, author of For the Beauty of the Earth

"I am looking forward to a day in which science and the arts will end their centuries-long separation. In particular, I think the science of ecology is the best-known living discourse for recovering the ethos of premodern approaches to the cosmos. I read this book with highlighter in hand, eager to find a way into this promising dialogue."

—Jason M. Baxter, associate professor of fine arts at Wyoming Catholic College and author of *The Medieval Mind of C. S. Lewis* 



