



CALL FOR PAPERS

Centre for Fantasy Literature Studies
Taras Shevchenko Institute of Literature
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

invites you to take part in the conference on

THEORETICAL ASPECTS OF FANTASY LITERATURE STUDIES. MAGIC FARE: GASTRONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF FANTASY WORLDBUILDING

hosted online on 15–16 January 2025, at 11 am (+2 GMT)

*Anyone, then, who has tasted fairy fruit walks
through life beside other people to a different
tune from theirs.*

Hope Mirrlees, *Lud-in-the-Mist*

Fantasy worlds are populated with living beings that need to be fed. Food and drink in imaginary worlds both nourish and change their inhabitants, while the inhabitants in their turn change the world by resorting to the magic of food and drink. Waybread from Middle-earth, fairy fruit that the river brings from Fairyland or a mug of camra - food and drink are a form of the physical dialogue between the world and its inhabitants, an initiation and a transformation that involve both the one who consumes and the one who provides. In the context of imaginary worlds and magic systems developed by their authors, magic fare presents a spectrum of meanings. It engages corporeality, manifests in various forms of the sacred and the profane, problematises the act of consumption and often presents cooking as an act of creation. We invite you to discuss the gastronomic dimensions of fantasy fiction written in the last hundred years. Tentative discussion points include:

- Food and drink as part of worldbuilding.
- Familiar food in unfamiliar settings.
- Notional food, dishes, cuisines, table manners, etc.
- Magic Kitchen: space, agents, utensils, processes, and menus.
- Sacred food, sinful food, the food of redemption.
- The art of cooking and magic. A Cook as a Magician.
- Drinking in an imaginary world. Alcohol and its manifestations in fantasy.
- Visualising food in fantasy literature: methods, techniques purposes, and difficulties
- Consumption and intoxication.
- Bodily aspects revealed through a gastronomic perspective.

Proposals will be accepted until 10 December 2024

To submit a proposal, please fill in the form <https://forms.gle/X47CeJcE4VEZQ4xu6>

Languages: English and Ukrainian

25-minute presentations will be followed by 5-minute discussions

Guest registration link <https://forms.gle/FgLKB8chyfs8Lr3b8>