

7-15-2016

Poem for the lost library of La Mancha

Gania Barlow

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mcircle>



Part of the [Children's and Young Adult Literature Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Barlow, Gania (2016) "Poem for the lost library of La Mancha," *The Mythic Circle*: Vol. 2016 : Iss. 38 , Article 11.

Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mcircle/vol2016/iss38/11>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Mythopoeic Society at SWOSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Mythic Circle by an authorized editor of SWOSU Digital Commons. An ADA compliant document is available upon request. For more information, please contact phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu.

To join the Mythopoeic Society go to:
<http://www.mythsoc.org/join.htm>



Mythcon 51: A VIRTUAL “HALFLING” MYTHCON

July 31 - August 1, 2021 (Saturday and Sunday)

<http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/mythcon-51.htm>



Mythcon 52: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

Albuquerque, New Mexico; July 29 - August 1, 2022

<http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/mythcon-52.htm>

Abstract

After the books are burned there is a hush and then a flutter of ashy syllables out into the world

Poem for the lost library of La Mancha

by

Gania Barlow

After the books are burned
there is a hush
and then a flutter of ashy syllables
out into the world—

to be read
by the bottoms of our shoes
their black phonemes smeared across
pages of dirt and stone.

(There in the courtyard a knight
no longer
and his lady
doesn't).

In the still solemn manner of madness
each Manchegan among us
spells out the remains of the story
in muddy war lines
down our long gray cheeks.

&

Tell us again,
Don Quixada, Quexada, or Quexana,
what the fire read

because if you tell it
with your whole body
in a line like a string,
a chain, a graph
of hoofprints in the dust
like a line of music
we can't quite remember

if you tell it as though
it is still here

it is still true

About This Publication

The Mythic Circle is a small annual literary magazine published by *The Mythopoeic Society*, which celebrates the work of C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, and other writers in the mythic tradition. (For more information about the Mythopoeic Society, contact Alicia Fox-Lenz, Communications and Social Media Manager, E-mail: correspondence@mythsoc.org)

Copies of the next issue, *Mythic Circle*, #39, scheduled to appear in the summer of 2017, can be pre-ordered through the Mythopoeic Society's website, < <http://www.mythsoc.org/mythic->