

Teacher: Leslie A. Donovan

Dept., Course Number, Univ.: Honors College, 402-002, University of New Mexico

Contact Info: ldonovan@unm.edu, 505-277-4313

Tolkien Studies for Advanced Readers
“Leaf by Niggle” Freewrite Exercise

Freewrite (10 minutes):

Compose a freewrite in which you discuss the topic assigned to the number at which you counted off below. Providing as many details as possible, explore Tolkien’s purpose for writing such a story that includes your assigned perspective. Also, consider whether you think Tolkien’s use of your assigned topic in this story was effective and perhaps what alternatives stories Tolkien might have written to present the same commentary.

Topics

1. How does “Leaf by Niggle” serve as personal/autobiographical commentary?
2. How does “Leaf by Niggle” comment on the role and nature of being a creative artist?
3. How does “Leaf by Niggle” serve as spiritual/religious commentary?

Discussion (for the rest of class)

Be prepared to read your freewrite or discuss the ideas in it with the whole class.

Blog About It

Post your freewrite or any ideas from it on our blog.