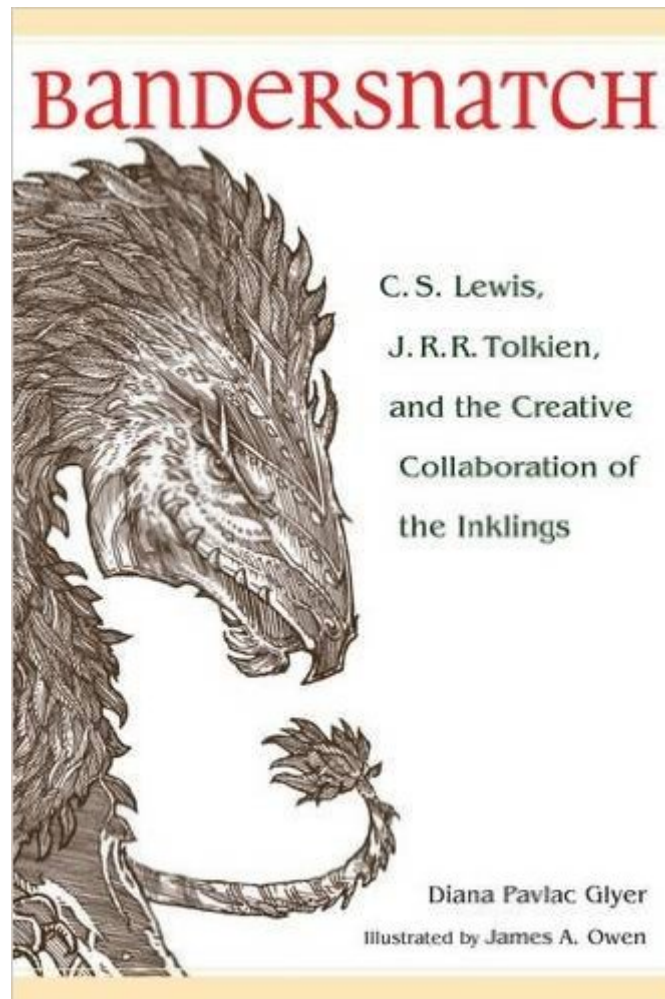


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# Bandersnatch: C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, And The Creative Collaboration Of The Inklings



## Synopsis

An inspiring look at the creative processC.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and the Inklings met each week to read and discuss each other's work-in-progress, offering both encouragement and blistering critique. How did these conversations shape the books they were writing? How does creative collaboration enhance individual talent? And what can we learn from their example?Featuring full-page illustrations by James A. Owen, Bandersnatch offers an inside look at the Inklings of Oxford, and a seat at their table at the Eagle and Child pub. It shows how encouragement and criticism made all the difference in The Lord of the Rings, The Chronicles of Narnia, and dozens of other books written by the members of their circle. You'll learn what made these writers tick, and more: inspired by their example, you'll discover how collaboration can help your own creative process and lead to genius breakthroughs in whatever work you do.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Here we have a book whose title is as much a sleight-of-hand as it is provocative. A Bandersnatch is a mythological creature coined by Lewis Carroll, a beast across the ocean that a band of adventurers goes looking for. Here Glyer has crossed an ocean of research to unveil how tiny scraps left behind by the giants of literature can show their mutual influence upon and admiration for each other. The title is a trick, though, because while the book is very much about C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien, its primary subject is not about their influence on each other; it's about the influence that friendship has on creativity. Lewis and Tolkien are the props or the object lessons. The lesson

is mutual relationships that change what we do because they change who we are. The content goes this way: Chapter 1 "Dusting for Fingerprints" Details of Glyer's early exploration of the influence of the Inklings<sup>2</sup> "An Unexpected Party" The nuts and bolts of who the Inklings were<sup>3</sup> "The Heart of the Company" Describes how people serve as "resonators" for one another<sup>4</sup> "I've a Good Mind to Punch Your Head" Creative influence also means diversity and conflict<sup>5</sup> "Drat that Omnibus!" Details on the giving and receiving of advice<sup>6</sup> "Mystical Caboodle" How and where innovators come up with their projects (together)<sup>7</sup> "Leaf-Mould and Memories" Creativity thrives in community

The book's cover will appeal immediately to devotees of the two authors, to theologians, to literary scholars, and the like. The contents appeal to creatives, innovators, and writers who are always the first in line to ask a famous author, "Where do you get your ideas?"

*Bandersnatch: C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and the Creative Collaboration of the Inklings* is a remarkable account of the relationships of Lewis, Tolkien, and the Inklings as they were interwoven in friendship, faith, and work. Dr. Glyer, the world's leading expert on the influence of the Inklings has written magnificently about this set of relationships in her extraordinary book - *The Company They Keep*. *The Company They Keep: C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien as Writers in Community*

However, while general topic range is similar between these two works, the treatment of the material and the purpose of each is quite distinct. *The Company They Keep* is a scholars book - a book brilliantly and beautifully written for those who study the Inklings and their work. It is a pivotal work challenging existing notions about the influence and effects the Inklings has on each other and in it Glyer bravely and boldly advances a concept about how creative work is produced in context of community rather than in isolation. *The Company They Keep* is THE best book written on the nature of collaboration of the Inklings and nothing compares to it. There are some tremendous works done by fellow Inklings scholars including Colin Duriez, Michael Ward, Malcolm Guite, Bruce Edwards, Jerry Root, Judith and Brendan Wolfe, Philip and Carol Zaleski, and Devin Brown. However, no work of scholarship in existence today compares to *The Company They Keep* for the specific nature of the material that is addressed in it. *Bandersnatch* is a book emerging from this illustrious foundation but it is written for a wider audience and for a different purpose.

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