

Foreword

After the first issue of the magazine Theosophy Forward appeared in 2009, its e-book group, so very well maintained and headed by Anton Rozman in Slovenia, published in 2011 John Algeo's *The Ancient Wisdom of Harry Potter* and in 2012 *Reincarnation Explored*, by the same author. Now, in 2013 it is time for another Algeo treat: *Theosophy, Fantasy, and Mary Poppins*. The series in five chapters started in the third quarter 2012 issue of Theosophy Forward and is now presented to the world as an e-book.

From the introduction:

"Some books ostensibly written for children in fact appeal also to adults; they attract both age groups, albeit for different reasons. Such books are mainly in the genre of fantasy (or fairy tales, to use an older designation for the genre). Fantasy fiction consists of stories that are not about the world we know through our physical senses, but about an archetypal world we access through our imagination. Their truth is not literal and limited, but metaphorical and expansive. Because fantasy is archetypal, it is a form particularly adaptable to Theosophical interpretations. Adults will be more likely than children to puzzle out — either consciously or subconsciously — the archetypal metaphors and to expand the meaning of fantasy stories in more sophisticated ways. However, children will appreciate the stories and may absorb the meanings they embody on a subconscious level, which is more powerful than a conscious intellectual understanding."