

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This work is written with older adolescents and adults who have either acquired or are engaged in higher education in mind. The author envisions uses in classrooms, drama and book clubs in which conscience sensitive character analyses and discussions of moral life in and out of religious contexts are deemed worthy of pursuit.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Copies of an earlier draft much in need of refinement and correction were made available to the intrepid FIRST READERS of the **Lyric of Lafracoth** (listed below), some of whom were already actively engaged as participants in the **CONSCIENCE PROJECT**, which, for these many years, has relied entirely upon persons like them for generous contributions of time, effort, insight and moral imagination. They are persons with an astonishing array of professional skills and diversity of life experiences, freely donating expertise in art, ethics, faith traditions, healing, philosophy, science, technology, and theology. Already dedicated to voluntarism in creative enterprises and scholarship, they volunteered additional time and energy to undertake their self-assigned tasks with a difficult manuscript, making contributions ranging from global impressions and general recommendations for improvements to painstaking reviews of grammar, punctuation and even pronunciation guidelines. I am mindful that creative enterprises, mine at least, are ultimately collaborative in nature, with value (to follow Nozick's classification) always more CONTRIBUTORY than ORIGINATIVE. I am blessed to have had such enriching encounters with colleagues whose invaluable contributions strike me as worthy of the finest traditions in art and scholarship—whether in the scriptoria of the middle ages or in today's centers of learning. Above all, I am deeply grateful for their ongoing encouragement essential to the completion of this work. It remains to be made explicit: for whatever views I have expressed in the **Lyric of Lafracoth** or its supporting documents that might occasion controversy and no less for whatever errata might still remain standing in the text, I must be held solely accountable and the FIRST READERS as well as the **CONSCIENCE PROJECT** absolved of any wrongdoing.

Matthew R. Galvin,
Indianapolis, Indiana, 12-2-08.



FIRST READERS:
MARGARET AND JOHN WILSON
ETHNA VERKAMP
JOHN SULLIVAN
BARB STILWELL
SISTER MARY SATALA
FR. JOE RAUTENBERG
COLLEEN PARKER
SUE LONDON
DEBORAH AND BEULAH GALVIN
MIKE CONNEALLY,
AND, ESPECIALLY,
MEG GAFFNEY.

