

**JRR Tolkien**

***The Lord of the Rings***

Three Rings for the Elven-kings under the sky,  
Seven for the Dwarf-lords in their halls of stone,  
Nine for Mortal Men doomed to die,  
One for the Dark Lord on his dark throne  
In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie.  
One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them,  
One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them  
In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie.

book-report written by Christoph Saulder

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## **author**

John Ronald Tolkien was born in Bloemfontein, South Africa, on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1892. His parents both came from Birmingham, England, and were staying in South Africa on business. In 1896 his mother and his younger brother Hilary returned to England on a short visit, and while here, their father died. His mother had originally come from Birmingham, and on their return from South Africa found lodgings in the Warwickshire village of Sarehole, which was a couple of miles outside Birmingham, on the road to Stratford. In 1904, his mother became ill with diabetes, for which there was then no treatment, and which proved fatal.



The Tolkien brothers came under the care of a Catholic priest, Father Francis Morgan. Father Francis found the boys lodgings at the home of a Mrs Faulkner. Tolkien was then 16. Also lodging in the same house was an attractive girl named Edith, aged 19, and a relationship between them began. This outraged Father Francis who forbade Tolkien to see Edith, until he was 21. Tolkien applied himself to his studies at King Edwards and in 1911 obtained a scholarship to Oxford University, to study languages. When he became 21, while at Oxford, he again contacted Edith, and they renewed their

relationship and planned to marry. Edith moved to Warwick (a beautiful old English town with a castle), which Tolkien particularly liked. In August 1914, the First World War broke out. Tolkien was able to complete his degree in June 1915, but soon had to leave with the troops. Before leaving for France, he and Edith married, at the small Catholic Church in Warwick, on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1916. He was sent to the Western Front, just before the Battle of the Somme. After four months of horror in the trenches of the Somme, he caught trench-fever (fortunately for him), and was returned to England. Most of the friends he had formed at University did not return. Tolkien recovered and stayed with Edith at Great Haywood in Staffordshire. It was at the Presbatory at Great Hayworth, shown here, that Tolkien began to write what was to become the Silmarillion, which was to serve as a framework for the some of the ideas in The Lord of The Rings. Part of his motivation was a need to do something for all the friends he had lost. He says that he had an ambition to write a "Mythology of England". At the end of hostilities, in November 1918, Tolkien was demobed and obtained a position working on the New English Dictionary. In the summer of 1920 he applied for a post of Reader in English Language at Leeds University. In 1925 Tolkien returned to Oxford, no longer as student, but as Professor of Anglo-Saxon. During the long uneventful years at Oxford, Tolkien wrote The Lord of The Rings, and produced The Hobbit, a compact story, for children, forming a part of the grander design. In 1936, Tolkien submitted The Hobbit to publisher Stanley Unwin. Soon after the publication of The Hobbit, in 1937, Unwins asked for a sequel. Tolkien already had much of the material for The Silmarillion, and wanted them to publish that. But The Silmarillion has no hobbits in it. So Tolkien embarked on writing a second hobbit story - The Lord of The Rings. This second, huge, story was not completed until 1949, and was eventually published in 1954-55. Tolkien retired in 1969, and he and his wife moved to Bournemouth. Edith Tolkien died on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1971. Tolkien died on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1973. They are both buried in Wolvercote cemetery, Oxford.

## summary

### ***Volume 1 : The Fellowship of the Ring***

#### Book 1

Bilbo Baggins was preparing his eleventy-first birthday. Sixty years ago he came back from a voyage and from that time on he didn't grow older and had a lot of money. His nephew and heir Frodo had his 33rd birthday on the same day. Not everyone in Shire liked them, but everybody who was invited came to the party. Also the wizard Gandalf, who was a good friend of Bilbo, helped by the preparation of the party. But Bilbo had his own ideas and wanted to leave Shire. After the fireworks he hold a speech and then suddenly he was vanished. The old hobbit had used his magic ring, which made him invisible when he put it on his finger. While all guest were confused Bilbo walked back to his house(hole) and met Gandalf there. The hobbit had promised to leave his ring back yet he couldn't separate from him. Nevertheless he put it away after Gandalf had persuaded him. Then Bilbo left Shire in company with some dwarves. After Frodo had seen off all the guest he met Gandalf in Bilbo's house. Gandalf told him what had happened. The next day Frodo shared some ironical gifts of Bilbo and then Gandalf left the young hobbit and advised him not to use the ring.

Many years passed on and then suddenly Gandalf returned. He started a long discussion with Frodo about the ring and its history. The wizard threw the ring into the fire and let Frodo read the suddenly appeared letters. This was the last evidence Gandalf needed to say by sure that Frodo's ring is the One Ring forged by the Dark Lord Sauron in the Cracks of Doom. Then Gandalf told Frodo about his researches. At the end of the second age the Last Alliance of Men and Elves fought against the Dark Lord. During the Battle IIsidor cut off the ring from Sauron's hand and took it as his own. But IIsidor was killed by orcs and the ring got lost in the Great River. Many centuries had passed until the One Ring got into the hand of Sméagol who was later called Gollum. Bilbo found the Ring in Gollum's cave. Frodo was also informed of the other Rings of Power. Seven got the Dwarves and three kept the Elves. Nine went to Men but the owners of the Ring became slaves of Sauron. Suddenly Sam Gamgee, who had listened to the whole conversation was caught by Gandalf. They planed to go to Rivendell in autumn but Gandalf had to leave them in haste.

The Summer passed on and the day of departure, Frodo's birthday, was coming. It was all organised and prepared but Gandalf didn't come and so Frodo decided to go without him but in company with Sam and Pippin Took. On the road he heard a rider and hid in the bushes beside. It was a black rider and it seemed that he looked for them. In the evening he heard hoofs again but the noise disappeared when some Elves appeared. Their lord Gildor invited them for a meal and a talk. He gave them some counsel. The next day the travellers had to leave the road and escaped another rider. In the woods they met the Farmer Maggot. He told them that a black rider was at his house and asked him about Baggins. In the late evening they reached the Brandywine where Merry was waiting for them.

They crossed the river with a ferry but when they reached the other shore they saw a black rider on the opposite side. They spent the night in Frodo's new house in Crickhollow. There his friends told him that they already knew about the ring and that they wanted to go with Frodo. They planned to leave Shire through the Old Forest.

Early in the next morning they went into the wood and left Gandalf a message. The forest was strange and all ways seemed to turn right. In the afternoon the company got to a river. There all hobbits became very sleepy and suddenly a willow-tree caught Merry and Pippin. An unexpected help appeared and rescued them. He called himself Tom Bombadil and the man invited the hobbits to his house.

There they met his wife Goldberry and spent two days. He heard some interesting story from him and Frodo told him about the ring. He even let Tom touch the ring, but Frodo wasn't sure if it was the same ring and put it on for a short time.

In the morning they left them and went to the barrow-downs. The hobbits got into fog on the downs and were caught by a barrow-wight. But Frodo was able to put on the ring and hit the wight with a sword. Then he called for Tom who helped them to get out of the barrow. The old man escorted them to the road and there he said good-bye.

In the evening they reached Bree and went to the Prancing Pony. The confused and stressed landlord Butterbur gave them a hobbit-room and something to eat. Frodo, Sam and Pippin went into the common-room while Merry went for a walk outside. In this room Frodo met a ranger called Strider. He warned Frodo that Pippin had drunken too much and that he would say something wrong. Mr. Baggins had to move the attention from the young hobbit. So he held a speech and sang a song but he slipped off and the ring fell on his finger and he disappeared. All were shocked and some evil-looking strangers left the house. Frodo crawled back to Strider and took the ring off.

The hobbits went to their room with Strider. Butterbur brought a letter from Gandalf to the hobbits. He had had to send it months before but he had forgotten it. There they were advised to leave Shire immediately and to go to Rivendell. And it was written that they should trust Strider and that he is a friend of the wizard. When Merry came back he told the others that there are black riders in the town.

While the four hobbits were in Bree Crickhollow was attacked by the black riders. Strider persuaded Butterbur to help them to get off early in the next morning yet their ponies were stolen and they got only a poor one from Bill Ferry. In the morning they left Bree on the road. Not far outside the town they went off-road through the Chetwood and the Midgewater. One night they saw white flashes on a hill straight away. After some days they reached that hill which was called Weathertop. There they looked for signs of Gandalf but suddenly they saw some black rider approaching. They attacked the camp and Frodo but on the ring. A terrible mistake. The riders saw Frodo and he was wounded by a knife. Then the attackers retreated.

Strider wasn't able to heal Frodo's wound because it was a too evil weapon. The five fled through the wilderness. On the bridge of the Hoarwell they found an elvenstone. The next days they passed through the Trollshaws. Near the place where Bilbo was caught by Trolls years ago an Elf appeared. It was Glorfindel who was sent out by Elrond of Rivendell. He helped them to get to the ford but short before they had reached the black riders reappeared. They hunted Frodo and he was set on Glorfindel's horse and passed the ford before the riders. When they tried to pass the Bruinen a flood came and the riders were wept away.



## Book 2

Frodo awoke in the house of Elrond Gandalf sitting next to him. He asked Gandalf what had happened and he told him that it was nearly to late or the hobbit but with Elrond's knowledge he had been saved. The wizard also told him about the flood and about the Nazgûl, the Ring-wraiths, who had hunted them in the shape of black riders. After an other sleep Frodo met his friends again and went to a party. There he sat next to a dwarf called Glóin who was a friend of Bilbo. Later in the evening they society went to an hall for listening to songs. Surprisingly Frodo met Bilbo there creating a song for the Elves. After this reunion Frodo had to went to bed because he should be strong for the next day's council.

The council of Elrond started with the presentation of the One Ring. Then the whole history of the Rings of Power was told. Gandalf informed the ambassadors and lords of the treason of Saruman, who was the head of the White Council. The grey wizard told them how he was arrested on the Orthanc and of his escape. Then all ambassadors of the folks told the reason why they were sent to this debate. The dwarves were under pressure because to Dark Lord wanted to give them Rings. The Men of Gondor had to resist against attacks on their borders and they were troubled by a strange rhyme which was sent in a dream. This rhyme would be fulfilled in this council. They Elves of the Mirkwood told they represents that Gollum had escaped. It became time to decide what to do with the ring. It could be used as weapon yet that couldn't be done because everything turned into evil by the use of the One Ring. Other ideas were to throw the ring into the water or sent it over the sea but they weren't possible nor secure. The only way to handle with the One Ring is to destroy it and then the power of all other rings would also extinguish. A volunteer had to be found to bear the ring to the Crack of Doom and to throw it into the fire in which it was forged. Frodo took the burden to do this. Suddenly Sam appeared and he was ordered to accompany him.

Two month later the last scouts return to Rivendell and there was no sign of the Ring-wraiths. The Fellowship of the Ring should consist of a member of all free kinds. The hobbits Frodo, Sam, Pippin and Merry, for the Men Aragorn(Strider) and Boromir, representing the Elves Legolas, the dwarf Gimli Glóinsson and the leader of that company Gandalf the wizard. Aragorn and Boromir wanted to go to Minas Tirith and give the re-forged sword which cut of the Ring into the service of Gondor. Then the Ring went South. After a few weeks the reached the Caradhras and tried to pass it but a snowstorm made it impossible and so they decide to go through Moria.

In the night the were under attack by wolves but in the morning there was no body left. Then the fellowship passed the land of Eregion and got to a lake in front of the gate of Moria. There was a kind of riddle on the gate but it could be solved by a little no complex thinking. In the moment when the passed the door a monster out of the lake caught Frodo's leg but its arms could be cut off. Then they walked through the mines of Moria. Frodo noticed that something fellow them. Pippin threw a stone into a hole and then there were some strange noises to hear. Finally the got into a big hall and found the tomb of Balin.

In that chamber there laid some skeletons of dwarves and a book. It was a chronology of the colonisation of Moria. But the dwarves were killed by orcs. Suddenly there heard the same drums as the book reported. Orcs and Trolls attacked them. During the battle Frodo got a pike into his breast but thanks his Mithril-coat he survived. They were able to escape but a mighty power appeared. The company fled to the bridge of Khazad-Dûm. Suddenly Balrog, a demon of an elder age, appeared. Gandalf ordered them to escape over the bridge while he would stop the Balrog. The wizard fought against his foe on the bridge and then he shattered it. The Balrog fell into the deep but he pulled Gandalf with him. The rest of the company were desperated nevertheless they were able to escape into the valley.



They passed the mirrorlake and walked down to the woods of Lothlórien where the crossed the river Nimrodel. There the fellowship was caught by an Elven patrol. The company spent a night on a flat and Frodo saw Gollum. The next day they were lead blindfolded deeper into the wood. The Elves fought the orcs on their borders. In the afternoon the reached Cerin Amroth. Aragorn fell back into the memory of his engagement while Haldir showed Frodo the shadow of Dol Guldur in the Mirkwood.

Then the eight companions went to Caras Galdahon where they met Lord Celeborn and Lady Galadriel. Aragorn told them Gandalf's doom and Galadriel looked into the thoughts of the members of the fellowship. The company spent a month in Lothlórien even if it seemed that only a few days had passed. In the last night Galadriel called Frodo and Sam to look into her magic mirror. They saw

visions of the future and Frodo saw the Red Eye of Sauron. He talked to Galadriel and offered her the One Ring but she frightened the hobbit with a vision what would happen if she took it. The Lady decided to forget her dreams of Power and she showed Frodo her Ring.

The next morning was the morning of their departure. The company got three boats, equipment and some of the elfish way-bread lembas. At their last farewell had a meal with Galadriel and Celeborn. Every member of the fellowship got a present from the Lord and the Lady of Lothlórien: Frodo a phial with the water of Galadriel's mirror, Sam a box with earth from her garden, Merry and Pippin both a silver belt, Boromir a golden belt, Legolas a new bow and quiver, Aragorn a green Elvenstone and Gimli a strain of the Lady's golden hair, because he had asked for it.

They went down the Anduin. Sam, Frodo and Aragorn noticed that a strange tree with eyes was following them. It was Gollum on a tree but he couldn't be caught. It was night when they reached Sarn Gebir and there orcs from the East shore attacked them but thanks their cloaks of Lórien nobody was hit. Legolas shoot a mighty winged shadow with his bow. The next day they passed Argonath, pillars of the kings of old. Frodo noticed that Aragorn looked very much like them.

They landed on Parth Galen on the West shore to decide which way they should take from yet. Some wanted to go to Minas Tirith but they had to fulfil their quest too. The decision was laid to Frodo, the ring-bearer. He left the company for a while but Boromir followed him. They had a quarrel. The Man wanted to use the Ring as weapon but Frodo didn't agree and Boromir went mad. Then Frodo put on the Ring and disappeared. The remains noticed the missing of the two and looked for them. Frodo saw some vision and he knew that he had to go to Mordor alone. Sam found out what Frodo was intending and intercept him at the boats. Frodo could be persuaded to take Sam with him.

## **Volume 2 : The two towers**

### **Book 3**

The horn of Boromir was blown and voices of orcs were heard. Aragorn returned to the other man. Before Boromir died he had told Aragorn that he had tried to take the ring from Frodo and that the hobbits had been captured, but not which ones. Gimli, Legolas and Aragorn sent Boromir's body down the river and found out that someone had set over to the other side. They saw that their mission had failed and that it was their task to free Merry and Pippin.



They hunted the orcs but the lead of them was too large. Suddenly Legolas noticed that many horsemen were heading toward them and so they waited. The riders hadn't seen them because the hunter wore their cloaks from Lothlórien. The horsemen were very surprised when Aragorn stood up. Their leader was Éomer and Aragorn was able to persuade him to lend some horses to them. Strider also got information about the war between Rohan and Isengard. Éomer and his riders had slayed the orcs and nobody had escaped. The hunters rode to the place of the battle and discovered some hints that perhaps the hobbits escaped. During the night an old man was seen and their horses ran away.

Merry and Pippin were caught by the orcs and forced to run with them. There were some disputes between their tribes yet the Uruk-hai from Isengard dominated and the orcs from Moria and from Mordor followed them not gladly. On the edge of the Fangorn the orcs were encircled by riders. But one orc of Barad-Dûr knew of the ring and Pippin could use this for them. So they were able to escape and the orcs were killed.

The hobbits went into the Fangorn-forest and there they met an Ent. This tree-like creature was called Treebeard (or Fangorn). This was his land but he was friendly. Merry and Pippin talked to him a lot. They heard of the quest of the Ents to find the Entwives and Treebeard was informed about the treason of Saruman. The Ent was angry because the wizard had killed many trees and so he organised an Entmoot. In this council the Ents decided to attack Isengard and they marched towards it.

Aragorn, Legolas and Gimli followed the hobbit's track into the forest. From a hill they saw an old man approaching and decided to wait. That strange old man was Gandalf the White. He had defeated after he had went through the roots of the Misty Mountain. On top of the Zirakzigil he died but he was reborn and the eagle Gwaihir bore him to Lórien. The wizard told the others that Merry and Pippin are with the Ents and that he had to go to Edoras. The horses reappeared with Shadowfax Gandalf's horse as leader. The four rode to the capital of Rohan.



There the company was brought to king Théoden but he was under control. Wormtongue his counsellor was a servant of Saruman. Gandalf broke this influence and persuaded the king to ride against Saruman. They gathered as many men as possible and prepared for war. Éowyn was order to lead the folk into the strongholds on the mountains. Then king Théoden rode into war with Gandalf at his side.

A messenger told them that a army of Isengard had passed the fords and the defending army was scattered. Gandalf told the king to ride to Helm's Deep and the wizard turned off and rode away. The orcs and Men from Isengard hunted them into the valley of Helm's Deep. In the stronghold there the Rohirim had a hard battle. Legolas and Gimli played a game who had killed most orcs. In the mornig they made a sally and the army of Isengard was defeated furthermore Gandalf the white rider returned. Then the king and his fellowship rode under the lead of Gandalf to Isengard. A strange forest had appeared in the valley and in it there were Ents. In the battle on the fords of the Isen died fewer than supposed and they were all sent back. When they reached Isengard the riders where surprised to see it destroyed. Merry and Pippin welcomed them at the gate and told them that the Ents had arrested Saruman in the Orthanc.

Aragorn, Legolas, Gimli, Merry and Pippin exchanged their experienced and solved some mysteries in a talk. The hobbits told them that the Saruman had sent all his army away and than the Ents conquered the stronghold and cleaned it. The hobbits found some Pipe-weep out of Shire.

Gandalf had a talk with Saruman who had locked himself in the Orthanc with Wormtongue. Gandalf broke the power of Saruman save his voice and a black stone was thrown out of the window.

The king and the company rode back. In the night Pippin touch the black stone of which Gandalf kept guard. It was a Palantír and Pippin saw the Dark Lord but he mastered the test. That was the link between Isengard and Mordor. Suddenly a Nazgûl flew over their camp to Isengard. Gandalf took Pippin and they rode away to Minas Tirith.

#### Book 4

Frodo and Sam tried to pass the Emyrn Muil but it was very difficult to find a path in those hills. The two hobbits were climbing down a wall when a Nazgûl shocked them but he turned off. After they had found a way through the noticed that Gollum had followed them. He was actually climbing down the wall behind them but he was unable to see them. Gollum could be caught and fled for his life. Frodo didn't want to kill him and made a compromise. Sméagol had to swear by the ring to lead them to the Black Gate but he was still wanting his precious.

Gollum couldn't eat the lembas and so he had to hunt. Sam didn't trust him yet there was no reason. He lead them as promised through the Dead Marshes. There were candles and in the water there seemed to lie the bodies of Men, Elves and orcs. After they had passed it Sam found Gollum in quarrel with himself while Frodo was asleep. Sméagol was insecure but he mentioned that probably she would help him to get his precious.

Frodo saw that the Morannon was impassable for them but he had to go that way. Suddenly Gollum offered an other way which is more secret and less guarded. After a army out of Harad ha passed through the gate the went away.



The hobbits and Gollum came into the fair country of Ithilien. While Sam prepared some rabbit to eat and Gollum was away hunting the hobbits were caught by some tall Men. Their Captain was Faramir the brother of Boromir. He decided to let them alive against his orders while he fought some Southrons. During this battle Sam saw an oliphaunt(elephant) from Harad. After the battle Faramir returned and lead them to a hiding. There he talked with the hobbits about their mission and the doom of Boromir. He had seen his body floating down the Anduin and knew that he was dead. By accident Sam said something about the ring but Faramir was unlike his brother and resisted. They went to bed.

In the night the man woke Frodo and told him about strange happening. Gollum found a way to that secret place and was fishing in a pool nearby. Sméagol wasn't aware of the danger. Frodo went down to him and trapped him so that he could remain alive. Faramir was trouble by the idea that their way lead through Cirith Ungol but he let all alive and gave them some equipment for the travel.

The next days the hobbits and Sméagol walked though Ithilien to the cross-roads. There were no orcs but Sam told his worries about Gollum Frodo.

The companions had to walk up into the Imlad Morgul. After they passed Minas Tirith the gates of the city of the ring-wraiths opened. Frodo had the desire to go to the Nazgûl and their Captain felt a presents. In the last moment Frodo touched Galadriel's phial and the army turned off. Frodo, Sam and Gollum climbed up the stairs of Cirith Ungol. While the hobbits rested Gollum disappeared for a while.

They had to walk through a dark tunnel. Gollum left them while they were tapping to the darkness. The hobbits had a bad feeling. Suddenly the ran into Cobwebs and a huge spider appeared. It was Shelob the daughter of Ungoliant thousands of years old. With the light and power of Galadriel's phial they were able to hold her off then they cut her nets with Sting. Sam and Frodo had reached the pass but they were still not escaped Shelob's trap. Frodo was hit by her sting and Gollum attacked Sam. Sméagol could be defeated and he flight.

Sam ran to his master but it was too late. Then he took Sting and Galadriel's phial. Sam hurt the spider but she tried to set herself on him. With all his power held Sting into her stomach and that pain was too strong for her and she retreated. Frodo was lying pale and cold on the ground, the same picture saw Sam in the mirror of Galadriel. He thought that his master was dead and took the ring. Suddenly an orc-patrol appeared so that Sam had to put on the ring. The orcs took Frodo's body and carried it away. The hobbit followed them and found out that his master wasn't dead only asleep. Then the orcs went into the tower of Cirith Ungol.

## **Volume 3 : The Return of the King**

### **Book 5**

Gandalf and Pippin were riding through Anórien and they saw the beacons of Gondor. Haste was needed and eventually they reached the Rammas. Pippin told the Men of Boromir's death but Gandalf blamed him because this was a message for Denethor. Before his throne in Minas Tirith Pippin told the lord of his sons last battle and the hobbit became a knight of Gondor. Pippin made friendship with Beregond. The hobbit watched with the Beregond's son the entering of the summoned armies. Gandalf, who is in Gondor called Mithrandir, was worried because Faramir isn't coming.

Théoden was frighten of the winged shadow and they left their camp after the departure of Gandalf. When they were riding to Helm's Deep they noticed that some riders followed them. They were the rangers out of the north and Galadriel who he read all their thought had sent them a message. Together they rode to Helm's Deep. There Aragorn dared to use the Palantír which Gandalf had left him. He showed himself to the Dark Lord and saw new perils. He decided to walk the Paths of the Dead. While Merry remained but the Roherim Aragorn, Legolas, Gimli, the Dúnedain and Elrond's sons rode in haste to Dunharrow. Lady Éowyn tried to persuade them not to go those paths but after that had failed she wanted to escort them. Aragorn ordered her to stay by her folk and the grey company rode to the Paths of the Dead. Strider lead them through the tunnels and called the dead. Then all rode to the stone of Erech while the Shadow-army followed them. There Aragorn ordered the King of the Dead to fulfil their oath which they had sworn Ilidur. Aragorn was his heir and so he rode to Pelagir.

The army of Rohan took the slow paths through the mountains to Dunharrow. The whole army of the country was waiting there. An errand-rider of Gondor reached the stronghold and begged the king for help in the war. Théoden was ready and the next day the army rode to Edoras for the mustering. Merry wasn't allowed to escort the king because he couldn't ride on a tall horse but a young man called Dernhelm took him as „bag“. The Roherim rode as fast as possible to Minas Tirith.

In the Capital of Gondor Pippin and Beregond sat on the walls when they saw a black rider in the air. The Nazgûl were attacking Faramir but the White Rider came to help the victims. The Captain told his father and Mithrandir about his meeting with Frodo. The wizard was very afraid of that news. Faramir was sent to Osgiliath to protect the passage over the river. The next day the enemy started its attack. The troops retreated over the Pelennor and Captain Faramir had been wounded. He was brought to the Citadel and the city was besieged. The Lord of the Nazgûl was the captain of the army. During the siege lord Denethor went mad and intended to kill himself and Faramir. Pippin was released and ran to



Gandalf. Suddenly the gate shattered and the Black Captain entered the city. Gandalf step into his way but to all surprise horns blew.

The Marshal of Dernhelm's company knew about the hobbit but he didn't say anything. Merry noticed that the king negotiated with some wild Men. They offered the Roherim to show them a secret way to Minas Tirith and to avoid a battle. In a wild attack the horsemen of Rohan stormed over the field of Pelennor.

Northern part of the battlefield was yet free of foes but in the South there where the cavalry of the Haradrim. In a hard fight the king and his escort defeated them. Then the Captain of the Nazgûl appeared and killed Théoden's horse. Suddenly Dernhelm step into his way and Merry noticed that he/she was Éowyn. But he Lord threw her down and Merry took his sword stung it into the enemy's leg. He fell down and Éowyn drove he sword into his throat. Éomer who saw his sister and his king lying dead on the ground went hot and lead the Roherim into a wild attack. Éowyn wasn't dead only heavily wounded. The man of Minas Tirith made a sally but then their hope flew away when they saw a black fleet sailing up the Anduin. But to their and the enemy's surprise it was Aragorn with a host of man from Pelagir. The battle lasted the whole day but the army of the West was victorious.

After the Nazgûl had left the gate Pippin told Gandalf that Denethor had went mad. The wizard was able to save Faramir but the lord sprang into his pyre. Then Gandalf cried what had happened and why he was unable to save king Théoden.

Aragorn didn't want to enter the town and to claim the kingship yet but Gandalf begged him because the hands of a king are the hands of a healer. Strider saved the life of Faramir, Éowyn and Merry who all had been wounded. Moreover he cured others too and the people saw the king returning.

The next day there was a council because they had only won a battle but not the war. Gandalf planed to pull the eye of the Dark Lord away from his own land so that Frodo had a change to fulfil his mission. The wizard wanted to make Sauron think that someone of them has the ring and uses it. So they planed to attack the Black Gate even if there is no change to win that battle.

Some days later 7000 men sat out. They marched to the Imlad Morgul and set fire. The army passed Ithilien and reached the Black Gate. After a short but useless negotiation with the Mouth of Sauron the Morannon opened and the battle began. The army of the West was encircled. Pippin killed a Troll and then he lost conscious. The last thing he heard was someone crying: "The eagles are coming!"

## Book 6

The orcs believed that the companion of Frodo was an Elven-warrior. Sam decided to rescue his master and ran to the tower. To his surprise he saw that the orcs were fighting themselves It was easy to enter the tower and the only orcs he met ran away but Sam couldn't find Frodo and began to sing. The song was answered and he found Frodo. The young hobbit defeated the orc-chieftain but he escaped. Frodo wanted the ring back. Then Sam looked for orc-clothes and the left the tower.

They ran into Mordor. It was a long and slow walk through the stony land and they seldom discovered any water. An orc-troop caught them but the orcs thought that they were from their kindred and so the hobbits marched in their army. When a quarrel between some orcs from different tribes began the were able to escape.

The last part of their quest began. They walked to Mount Doom. There were no orc on the road and so the hobbits decided to take it. After some strong days they finally reached that Vulcan. The ring-bearer and Sam were climbing the mountain when Gollum re-appeared and tried to get the ring from Frodo but the hobbit said with the power of the ring that if Gollum touched him he would fall into the fire. Sam hold of Gollum while his master went to the Cracks of Doom. There Frodo changed his mind and put on the ring. Sauron saw him and saw his foul. Suddenly Gollum sprang at the invisible Frodo and bit of the Ring. The Sméagol fell with the ring into the crater. The Earth quaked, Barad-Dûr fell down, the Nazgûl disappeared and Sauron was gone. With their last strength the hobbits made it out of the mountain.

The Battle in front of the Black Gate raged. Suddenly beyond all hope they eagles under Gwaihir's lead flew against the Nazgûl. Moreover Sauron's will left the enemies and Gandalf called: "This is the hour of doom!" Then Sauron's realm was gone and the eagles bore the wizard to the Orodruin to rescue Sam and Frodo. Days later the hobbits awoke and were honoured by king Elessar (Aragorn). After the last remaining foes were defeated the army returned to Minas Tirith.

While the Army of the West had set out to war Éowyn didn't want to stay in the Houses of Healing. But Faramir could persuade her to listen to the healers and Éowyn and steward spent a lot time together. Finally the Lady of Rohan fell in love with Faramir. Then day of the king's return came. Faramir welcomed Aragorn and the king was crowned by Frodo and Gandalf. Days later after Elessar had solved his most urgent duties the wizard lead him to a young White Tree. This was the awaited sign and Lady Arwen of Rivendell came with her fellowship. On midsummer day Aragorn and Arwen married.

Frodo and his friends wanted to return to Shire yet the first had to visit Bilbo in Rivendell. They set out through Rohan with an huge fellowship of high lords and ladies. They passed the Orthanc where Treebeard told them that he had allowed Saruman to leave his prison. The fellowship met the wizard on the road. Finally the hobbits reached Rivendell. They told Bilbo their stories and Elrond informed Frodo that there is only one way to get ride of the pain of his wounds.

The four hobbits and Gandalf rode in direction of Shire. Near the Weathertop Frodo got sick. In Bree they told all to Butterbur yet he couldn't believe that Strider was a king. Near the borders of Shire the wizard left the hobbits to visit Tom Bombadil.

Things had changed in Shire and the travellers found a looked gate. Merry, Pippin, Sam and Frodo were informed that the self-proclaimed Chief of Shire is a relative of Frodo and he had made a lot of new rules. Men were used to control the hobbits and so the travellers decided to go to Hobbiton. First there was little resistance and they could rise the people of Shire. In Bywater it came to an battle between Men and hobbits. Frodo tried to save as many lives as possible. The hobbits were victorious and went to Bag End. There they saw that Lotho had been killed by Wormtongue and that Saruman was the chief of that Men. Frodo allowed him to leave Shire but Wormtongue killed the fallen wizard and was shoot by the hobbits.

It was time to clear up Shire. Sam used Galadriel's gift by planting new trees and he married Rose Cotton. They lived together with Frodo in Bag End. Frodo got ill a year after the incident with Shelob and the day when he was wounded by the Morgul-knife. One day in autumn Frodo rode away and took Sam with him. In the woods of Shire the met the Elves. A great company passed through the country and with them there were Galadriel, Elrond and Bilbo. They rode to the Grey Havens and there they met Gandalf who had called Merry and Pippin. Frodo, Bilbo, Elrond, Galadriel, Gandalf and the Elves sailed away over the sea. Sam and his friends returned home till his time came.

## Characters

### *Frodo Baggins*

Frodo Baggins is a hobbit and the nephew of the „Ringfinder“ Bilbo Baggins. He was adopted by his uncle after his parents had died in the river Brandywine. Many wise people think that he is the „best“ hobbit in Shire and during his quest to destroy the One Ring he had to prove their trusts. Frodo is a little taller and more fair than an average-hobbit. Before he became a ring-bearer he was a friendly and unworried hobbit, who lived in Shire among his friends. His uncle Bilbo had left him his fortune and so Frodo never worries about money. He was not happy to leave Shire but he had to do what had to be done. During his long travel his burden marked him. Three times Frodo had been wounded while he successfully tried to save Middle-earth. Despite all pains his mission and bearing the Ring made him wiser. After he had fulfilled his quest he felt pity with the worst and he didn't want to kill anymore. Moreover he tried to save as many lives as possible. Yet the exercise was too strong for him and Frodo was unable to live in peace anymore. The hobbit decided to pass over the sea with the other ring-bearers.



## **Sam Gamgee**

This hobbit is the loyal servant of Mr. Baggins. His profession is to be a gardener but his love to his master made him to follow Frodo. Sam hasn't a lot of trust into strangers until they have proved that they are on their side. Because of his close friendship to Frodo he went with his master even to the Cracks of Doom. He helped him a lot although his hearth was in Shire. Sam was in love with Rose Cotton a fair female hobbit. This was one of his ambition to fulfil the mission and to return home. For a while he was a ring-bearer when he thought that his master was dead. But he didn't leave the lands East of the Sea with the others. The courageous hobbit sailed away with the last ship after his wife's death.



## **Meriadoc(Merry) Brandybuck**

He is very hard-boiled for a hobbit and likes challenges. Merry is a good fighter and very intelligent too. He knows more about the world than other hobbits maybe because it's in the family. During his long travel through Middle-earth his best friend Pippin was the most time at his side. Merry made a close friendship to king Théoden of Rohan. Moreover he didn't want to leave his side and rode to war with him (against the king's orders). He showed a lot of courage by helping Éowyn to defeat the Captain of the Ringwraiths. Although Théoden fell in the battle a bond between him and Rohan remained.



## **Peregrin(Pippin) Took**

Pippin was the youngest hobbit in the fellowship and he missed the comfort of his life in Shire. He tends to making mistakes and getting (or causing) into trouble. Pippin seemed to have a little knowledge about the happenings he is involved. Sometimes he shows a kind of unexpected power. He resisted the Palantír and killed a Troll-chieftain in the battle in front of the Morannon. Pippin became a knight of Gondor and he warned Gandalf of his lord's Denethor madness. After his return to Shire he is a high honoured hobbit.



## **Aragorn son of Arathorn(alias Strider, King Elessar(Elvenstone))**

Wearing the name Estel(hope) Aragorn grew up in Rivendell. Master Elrond was his mentor and Aragorn learned a lot of the Old Lore in his house. On the day Elrond told Aragorn about his descent he met Arwen, Elrond's daughter who had returned from Lothlórien. He fell in love with her but the master couldn't allow it because Aragorn hasn't yet showed that he was the right. So he went out into the wilderness and became Strider. He often returned to his old home. One day he met Arwen in Lórien again and with Galadriel's help they got engaged. But the time hasn't come yet and Strider went out again. He is friend of Gandalf and Bilbo. Strider helped the hobbits by their flight from the Nazgûl. When Boromir came to Rivendell Aragorn saw that his time is approaching. So he went out with the fellowship because he wanted to claim the kingship of Gondor. He fought with the re-forged Narsil(now A??). He dared to walk the Paths of the Dead to save his realm. Aragorn isn't a hasty man and he didn't want to claim the kingship during the war. The mission of the ring-bearer was successful and Sauron's realm gone he became king of Gondor. Elessar was able to marry Arwen and they dwelt in Minas Tirith until he decided to die.



## Gandalf (Mithrandir)

Gandalf is one of the five Istari(wizards) who were sent to Middle-Earth on the beginning of the second millennium of the Third Age. He and the others came from the land beyond the Great Sea to combat Sauron. In Aman he was a Maiar called ??? who loved the Elves but he feared the Dark Lord. He arrived on board of the third ship in Middle-Earth and seemed to be the least of all wizards. Only Cirdan saw that Gandalf was the most powerful and he gave him the Red Ring. His first centuries on Middle-Earth he spent on discovering the country and getting knowledge about the folks which dwelt in the lands. When Galadriel summoned the White Council for the first time she wanted to made Gandalf to its head but Saruman became it. Mithrandir went incognito into Sauron's old stronghold Dol Guldur and escaped the Dark Lord. Gandalf was the only one of the White Council who studied the hobbits and he made a close friendship to that folks. The wizard persuaded the hobbit Bilbo to accompany some dwarves to fight the dragon Smaug. On this travel Bilbo found the One Ring and at first Gandalf wasn't aware of it. Yet he set out to hunt Gollum with Aragorn. In the following years the wizard was able to reconstruct the story of the Ring and advised the new ring-bearer Frodo to leave the Shire. For a while Gandalf was captured by Saruman but he could escape from the Orthanc. After the council of Elrond he wanted to lead the ring-bearer to the Cracks of Doom but an evil fate in Moria awaited him. He fought a Balrog and fell into a deep. The wizard survived and could kill the Balrog on the top of the Zirak zigil. But there his body died but his immortal spirit return and he got a new live for while. In Lothlórien he became Gandalf the White, the new head of the Council. Because the ring-bearer was to far away he aided the Men in its wars against the shadow. In Rohan he fought the traitor Saruman and he supported the besieged Gondor. Eventually he and Aragorn lead the army into the last battle. After Sauron's downfall his mission was completed and he prepared to return home over the Sea. The wizard is from a friendly character but he grew angry very easily. He doesn't tell other more than necessary but he uses his wisdom to help others. Maybe because of the help of his ring he was the only wizard who fulfilled his mission. Gandalf always appears in situations of plight that gave him the surname Stormcrow. Even not all people like Gandalf he would aid everybody.



## Legolas

Legolas is an Elf from the Northern Mirkwood. He is like most of the leading class of his folk from the Sindar. He like the forests of his father's realm. One of his most useful features are his keen eyes. Legolas made a close friendship with Gimli the dwarf, which is very unusual for his kindred. On his voyage up the Anduin he felt the desire of his folk to sail over the sea. As Galadriel warned him he couldn't remain in Middle-Earth for long. After the war he founded an Elven-kingdom in Ithilien and after Elessar's death he passed over the with his best friend Gimli. Legolas has the for his folk typical attitudes to be fearless and not much worried about short periods of time. Legolas was able to forget his prejudices about dwarves and to become friends with one. Moreover he co-operates with every foe of the One Enemy.



## Gimli Glóinsson

Gimli the dwarf is the son of Glóin who was one of Bilbo's companions. In the beginning he had the typical stubborn and Elf-disliking character of most of his folk. But the experience of the travel changed him to a more friendly and wiser person. One for the Middle Ages typical behaviour can be seen in his admiration of Galadriel: the Courtly love. The meeting between Gimli and Galadriel was the first step to found a new friendship between Elves and Dwarves. He and Legolas became close friends despite of some mocking between them. The dwarf doesn't like riding at first but later he changed his opinion. Gimli is warlike and strong like all of his folk. He seems to be stern and hard but even he has weak moments for example at Balin's tomb. Finally after the war and a long life in Middle-earth Gimli sailed over the Sea together with his friend Legolas.



## Boromir

Boromir is the son of Denethor the lord of Minas Tirith. He and his father are very unlike yet there is a kind of love between them. His father liked him more than his other son. Boromir is a strong warrior and he often fought the servants of Sauron. Boromir is a honest and warlike man but finally he had to pass a test too difficult for him and failed. He lived his whole life under the Shadow of the Dark Land and Boromir had little hope to be victorious. In spite of this he searched for ways to preserve his country and one night all the members of his family had a strange dream which recommended them to go to Imladris(Rivendell). Against his father's will he rode to the valley to ask for counsel. There he saw a way to rescue Gondor: the One Ring. In his opinion the quest to destroy the ring was too dangerous and so he wanted to use it as a weapon. But the council was against this and finally he found out that the king will return to his realm. At first he wasn't happy about this but he saw that it was the best. During the travel he was a reliable fellow until they passed Lothlórien. There Lady Galadriel saw into his heart and he became aware of his desire to own the One Ring. Eventually on Parth Galen he went mad and wanted to get it from Frodo but the hobbit escape. Then Boromir saw his fault but it was too late. The other hobbits were under attack by Orcs and Boromir tried to save them. There were too many of them and he was killed. With his last words he told Aragorn of his treason and was able to die in peace. His body was sent down the Anduin.



## Sméagol(Gollum)

The Stoor Sméagol was born on the banks of the river Anduin. There he dwelt until a friend of him found the Ring. Gollum struggled him to get it and after his folk cursed him he fled. Under the Misty Mountains he lived for hundreds of years. One day he lost the Ring and it came into Bilbo's hands. When Sméagol met the hobbit he didn't know that he had lost it and agreed to play riddles with him. Bilbo's was armed and Gollum not that was why the creature had given the hobbit a chance. When Gollum discovered that Bilbo had „stolen“ the Ring he tried to kill him but the hobbit was able to escape. After these events Gollum left his cave and wandered unwillingly to Mordor. Even if he is an evil creature he didn't really cooperate with Sauron and was tortured. Finally after the Dark Lord had got his information he was allowed to escape. On his flight from Mordor he made a useful friendship with Shelob. But only a little time later he was caught by Aragorn and arrested by the Wood-Elves. There his evil mind changed and Gollum partly became himself before he had found the Ring. One day he could escape with the help of Orcs and later he was trapped in Moria. It was destiny that the fellowship of the Ring passed those mines and Gollum began to follow them secretly. Under Frodo's sword Gollum swore to lead the ring-bearer to the Black Gate and to be good. At that time the honest part of his person was dominating. But on the day in front of the door his split personality found a compromise and created a plan to get the ring from Frodo. From that day on he was less cooperative. In Shelob's cave he left Frodo and Sam alone and the spider attacked them. His treason wasn't successful and the hobbits escaped. He followed them to Mount Doom where he again tried to steel the Ring. In the Cracks of Doom he bit of the Ring from Frodo's finger but because of the curse of the hobbit Sméagol fell into the crater. The character of Gollum is neither good nor completely evil. He is an example what happens to someone how doesn't resist the power of the Ring. In his young he was a nice Stoor and he had a close friend but the Ring made him to murder him. The Ring corrupted him and he began to become evil. In the cave he just lived for the Ring and his own survival. After he had lost it the power of the Ring made him to make mistakes and to go to Mordor. There was little hope to turn him into a good person again but the Elves tried it with some success. When he was a companion of Frodo and Sam his heart wavered between loyalty and treason. Sméagol has a split personality and that's a big problem for him but at least the evil side won and he did some unexpected good by this way.



## Sauron

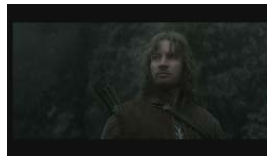
Sauron was a Maiar of Aule who deserted in early times to Melkor. Soon he became his mightiest servant and steward of the stronghold Angband. Over centuries he stayed loyal to his master and did a



lot of evil serves by Melkor's orders. For time he keep the Felagund's Tower of Guard and arrested Beren. After he had been defeated by Luthien and Huan Sauron had to leave the island. He served his master until Melkor was captured in the War of Wrath. Even Sauron was imprisoned for a while he was able to escape to Valar's forces. Sauron hid himself in the far East of Middle-Earth and after a millennium he reappeared. As the Lord of Gifts he wanted to corrupt the Elven of Lindon but he failed. Despite of this Sauron was successful to persuade the Noldor of Eregion to forge the Rings of Power. He was steadily willing to rule the world and so he betrayed the Elves by forging the One Ring in the Cracks of Doom. From that time on his mind turned completely evil and he brought war to the world. But his forces could be driven back to Mordor by the Power of the Numenoreans. In one important battle all his troops deserted in spite of the power of his ring and Sauron was arrested by Ar-Pharazôn. But he was able to temp the king and caused the destruction of Numenor. Back in Barad-Dûr his spirit took shape again and no good was left anymore. The last alliance of Men and Elves were victorious against his forces. IIsidor cut off his ring and his power was vanished for an other millennium. He took Dol Guldur as his fortes and turned the Great Greenwood into the Mirkwood. While his time in Dol Guldur the dark lord's most dangerous enemy was Gandalf. The wizard and the White Council forced him to leave the hill. Instead of escaping into the East he returned to his old strongholds in Mordor. There his power rose again and tried to get back his ring. He sent out the Ring-wraiths but the ring-bearer continued his way. The Dark Lord thought that the White Council was intending to defeat him by using the Ring. This fear made him to make some mistakes and enabled unwillingly the ring-bearer to enter his country. In the last moment he saw his foul but it was too late. His spirit had to leave the World after the Power of Ring had gone. Sauron is a mighty creature but he was not evil at the beginning. The first Dark Lord Melkor corrupted him by promising power to him. Sauron has gained a lot of power in his long life but most operations under his commando failed.

## **Faramir**

The second son of Denethor is a wise leader and very unlike his brother. Faramir is a warrior and a wise. For a time he was a pupil of Mithrandir and learned a lot of the old lore. The folk of Gondor loves Faramir because he often leads successful strikes against the enemy. He is strong fighter and all his men are loyal to him. Faramir is loved by his father's folk and highly honoured. He doesn't look for power to rule other but the protection of Gondor is his main aim. Like all Men of Minas Tirith he doesn't lie and he is so honest that he wouldn't betray even an Orc. His relation to his father cannot be described as very good because they often have different opinions. Despite of their point of views they have the same spirit and Denethor loves his son. When Faramir was wounded heavily his father saw the end of Gondor and wanted to kill himself together with Faramir in a pyre. Thanks Gandalf and Aragorn he survived and stayed in the Houses of Healing for a while. There he met Lady Éowyn of Rohan and they made friendship. By the time he fell in love with her and persuaded Éowyn to stay with him in Gondor. After his healing he became the steward of Minas Tirith until the king's arrival. After his marriage he decided to dwell in the Emyrn Armen with his wife. Furthermore he remained been the nice steward who the folk of Gondor love.



## **Éomer**

Éomer is the nephew of king Théoden of Rohan. He is a competent leader of his éored. Éomer knew about the bad influence of Grima on his lord and once he decided to refuse his orders. This disobedience was more important for the war he would have ever imagine. The marshal can be very quick with judgements but he always tries to be wise and not cruel. After king Théoden's healing he became his deputy and heir in the rising war. He was a mighty warrior on the king's side and lead his company through the battle of Helm's deep and into the attack against the siege of Gondor. There his uncle was slayed and then he rode into the battle with the wrath of despair. After the armies of the West had been victorious he became the new king of Rohan. Éomer rode even to the final battle in front of the Morannon and showed a lot of courage. During the war he made a close





friendship with Aragorn, later king of Gondor. After the war he wedded Lothíriel of Dol Amroth and died after he was king of Rohan for 65 years.

## Éowyn

Éowyn who is Éomer's sister was a shield-maiden of Rohan. She grew up in a men's world but she was a woman who liked fighting. Her gender was a great disadvantage for her because she wanted to become a warrior. Her uncle Théoden tried to protect her and she stayed with him at Medusled. So Grima Wormtongue could influence her. And she became worried. When all her folk rode into war she wanted to accompany them and to find a glorious death. In the battle she was able to kill the Lord of the Nazgûl with the help of Merry yet she was wounded heavily. Aragorn saved her life and while she stayed in the Houses of Healing she learned to love Faramir. From one moment to another she turned completely and wanted to become a healer instead of a warrior. Later she married Faramir and left her folk to dwell in the Emyrn Arnen. She is a strong woman who knows what she wanted. She is very fair and has the typical blond hair of her folk. Until she met Faramir she didn't really want to be a woman but after the meeting she turned and accepted her being.



## Galadriel

Galadriel was born in Aman during the Age of the Trees. She is a descendant of all three tribes of Elves. Her golden hair was seen as one of the greatest wonders of the world. She and her relative (and rival) Feanor were called the most powerful Elves. They always had a quarrel although both very much alike. She was looking for power like he did. Only when he organised the exodus of the Noldor she supported him because Galadriel wanted to found her own realm in Middle-Earth. After her arrival in Beleriand she decided to dwell in Doriath and there she met Celeborn. They fell in love and escape the destruction of Beleriand. In the Second Age she and her husband lived for a while in Lindon, Eregion and Dol Amroth. Galadriel often used other people for her own ideas. Celebrimbor, who was the smith that forged the Rings of Power, loved her and she knew it. She made him to give her one of the three Elven-rings. After Amroth's death Galadriel and Celeborn moved to Lothlórien and became the Lord and the Lady of that country. When Sauron returned she first summoned the White Council to fight her rival. On the side she wanted to save Middle-Earth on the other she wanted the spread her power. Galadriel was also wanting to get the One Ring but when she was able to get it she refused. At that moment she was aware of the dangers of great power and the Valar allowed her because she was able to resist the power of the Ring to return to Aman. She left Middle-Earth with the other ring-bearers at the end of the Third Age. Galadriel is called to be one of the fairest Elves of all. She is very tall and has a deep voice. Her mind is wise but she is always looking for power and sometimes she can be very cruel. On the other side she supports people who are matching into her plans.



## Saruman

Like Gandalf Saruman was a Maiar sent in the shape of a Man to fight against Sauron. First he went to the East in company with the Istari Luin but after years only Saruman returned. He settled down in Isengard and spent a lot of time with studying the old lore. The wizard became the head of the White Council but the power corrupt him and he started to look for the One Ring. Saruman used the power of his voice to manipulate others. Although he didn't find the Ring he kept on his research. When Sauron who dwelt in Dol Guldur became too powerful he allowed the White Council to strike against him because he feared that the Dark Lord could find the lost. By the time he collected power and sent spies out into the world. When Gandalf visited him he trapped the other wizard. Mithrandir was able to escape and warn other about his treason. For a while Saruman made a secret alliance with Sauron but the wizard was intending to use and betray the Dark Lord. Because of unexpected happenings all his plans failed and Saruman was arrested by the Ent in the Orthanc. He



totally turned evil and refused all attempts to help him. Once he was a mighty and a wise but he lost most of his power when Gandalf became the White. He was always envy Gandalf and hated the hobbits. So he decided to do his last strike against Shire but there he found his doom. After his plans had failed there his servant Grima Wormtongue killed him. His spirit was banned from the world.

## **Interpretation**

It is impossible to interpret the book as a whole. You can either look for the meaning of certain aspects or you have to interpret Tolkien's world as one thing. In the following passage I will try to interpret parts of the book by using several examples.

Tolkien loved nature and disliked modern technology. The Ents for example are one hint for this point of view. They try to protect the forest against the Men. Furthermore they fought Saruman the tree-murderer for whom was technology more important than environment. He also describes the damages in nature after wars.

The One Ring is a kind of Holy Grail which gives the power immortality. Moreover it is a cloaking device and enables the bearer to control others. But it was forged with evil power and turns everything into evil. Furthermore the Ring has its own will and tries to return to its master.

The history of Gondor, Rohan and Arnor can be compared to the last centuries of the Roman Empire. Arnor was West-Rome which fell in the wars of the Great Migration. Gondor can be seen as East-Rome which survived and had to fight against many enemies from the Far East and South. The Roherim are like the Goths or some other German tribes. When the Roman Empire was besieged they were allowed to settled in the borders of the realm but they had to protected them from invaders. You can find many matches with the legend of Éorl and the downfall of Arnor.

With every reading of the book you will find now aspect which can be interpreted but I think it is enough to give a brief overview.

## **Personal opinion**

I like this book very much. Furthermore „The Lord of the Rings“ is my favourite book. In it you can find a combination of everything: from adventure, fun and magic over love to riddles. In my opinion the book has the right balance of suspension and calmness. There is always a constant of level of fantasy and wonders. Moreover the scenes which connect the different interesting parts are no longer than needed. An other pro of the Lord of the Rings is that the characters are very realistic. There are nearly no completely good ones or totally evils. Many are mostly on one or the other side but there are interesting mixtures of good and evil(for example Gollum). Summing up it has been the best book I've ever read.

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The Lord of the Rings - The fellowship ... DVD

Kommentar: