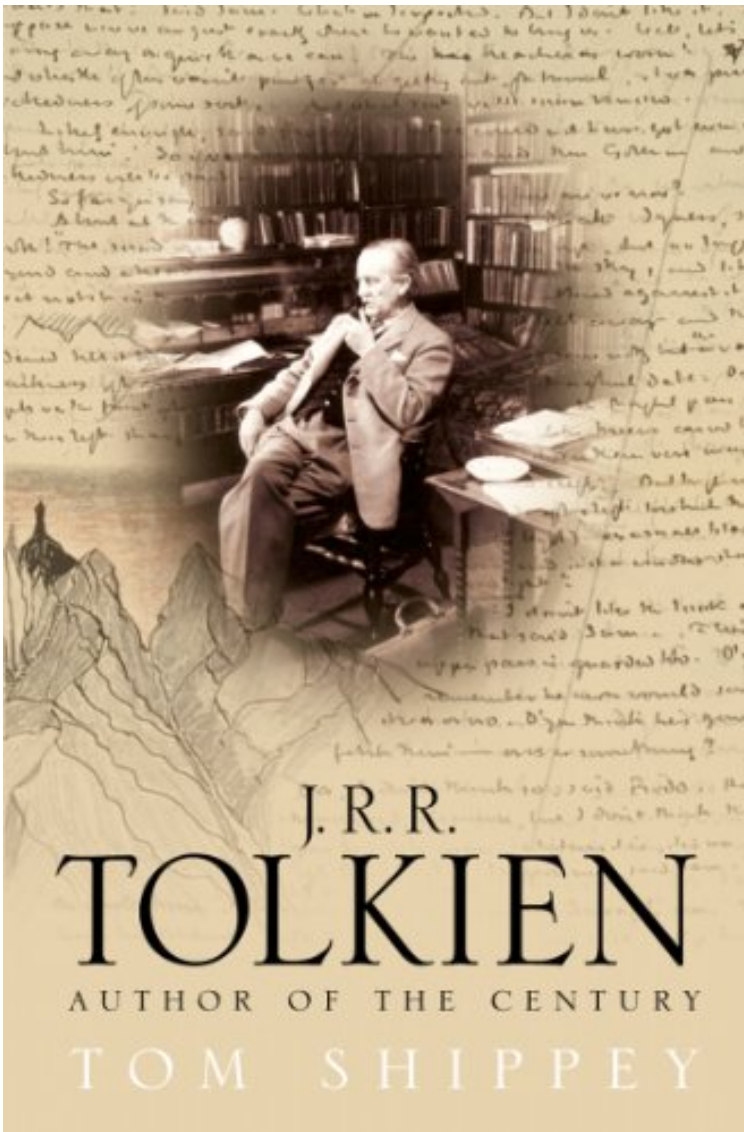


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J. R. R. Tolkien: Author of the Century



Par Tom Shippey

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The Lord of the Rings, the respected academic and world-renowned Tolkien scholar, Professor Tom Shippey, presents us with a fascinating and informed companion to the world of J.R.R. Tolkien, in particular focusing on The Hobbit, The Lord of the Rings and The Silmarillion.Written in a clear and accessible style, Tolkien: Author of the Century reveals why all of these books will be timeless, and shows how even such complex works as The Silmarillion can be read enjoyably. Taking issue with the uninformed criticism that has often been levelled at Tolkien and fantasy in general, Professor Shippey offers a new approach to Tolkien, to fantasy and to the importance of language in literature, and demonstrates how his books form

part of a live and continuing tradition of storytelling that can trace its roots back through Grimm's Fairy Tales to the Elder Edda and Beowulf. Note that it has not been possible to include the same picture content that appeared in the original print version.

Revue de presse "He is of all writers on Tolkien the one most worth reading" -- David Bratman, Mythprint "Professor Shippey's commentary is the best so far in elucidating Tolkien's lovely myth." Harper's Magazine "Authoritative and timely." Boston Globe "Wonderfully readable...Shippey makes an impressive case for why the creator of Middle-earth is deserving of acclaim." Publishers Weekly "Shippey is a rarity, a scholar well-schooled in critical analysis whose writing is beautifully clear." Minneapolis Star-Tribune "Delightful exploration of the relationship between Tolkien's fiction...scholarly work and the mythical, linguistic and philosophical history underlying both." Salon "[Tolkien] deserves his full due, and Shippey's appreciative assessment of his unique achievement provides it in full and satisfying measure." Philadelphia Inquirer "Shippey presents a remarkably insightful account of the origins of Tolkien's use of language and myth." The Chicago Tribune "Full of things-we-hadn't-known...As scholarship, it's one of the more enjoyable works I've run across." The San Diego Union-Tribune "[Shippey] deepens your understanding of the work without making you forget your initial, purely instinctive response to Middle-earth and hobbits." The Houston Chronicle "An invaluable study...It illuminates the text and enables the reader to better appreciate the works under discussion." The Washington Times