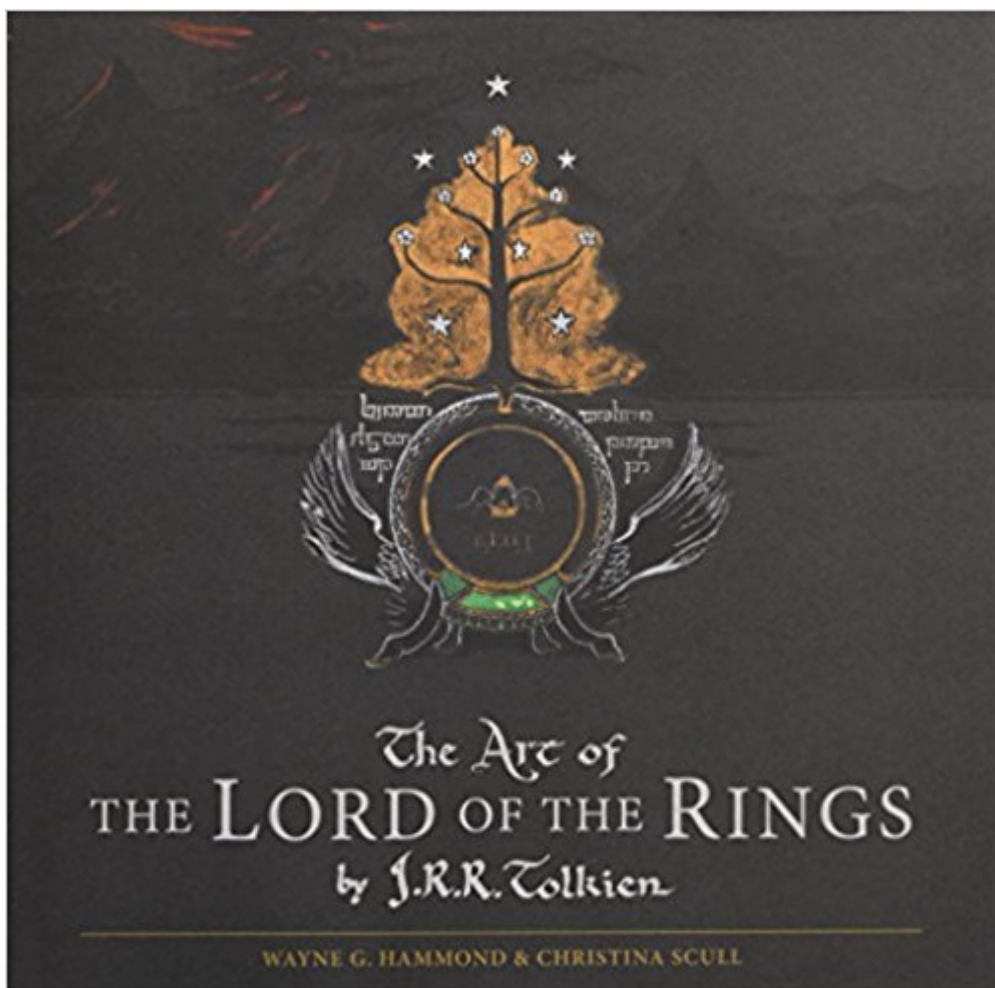


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# The Art Of The Lord Of The Rings By J.R.R. Tolkien



## Synopsis

J.R.R. Tolkien's complete artwork for his magisterial novel, published on the sixtieth anniversary of *The Lord of the Rings*. As he wrote *The Lord of the Rings*, J.R.R. Tolkien's mental pictures often found expression in drawing, from rough sketches made within the manuscript to more finished illustrations. Only a few of these were meant for publication; most were aids to help Tolkien conceive his complex story and keep it consistent. Many do not illustrate the final text, but represent moments of creation, illuminating Tolkien's process of writing and design. In addition to pictorial sketches, numerous maps follow the development of the Shire and the larger landscape of Middle-earth, while inscriptions in runes and Elvish script, and "facsimile" leaves from the burned and blood-stained Book of Mazarbul, support Tolkien's pose as an "editor" or "translator" of ancient records. *The Art of The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien collects these drawings, inscriptions, maps, and plans in one deluxe volume. More than 180 images are included, all of them printed in color from high-quality scans and photographs, more than half not previously published. Wayne G. Hammond and Christina Scull, two of the world's leading Tolkien scholars, have edited the book and provide an expert introduction and comments.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (October 13, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0544636341

ISBN-13: 978-0544636347

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.9 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 47 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #81,965 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Themes > Science Fiction & Fantasy #31 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Science Fiction & Fantasy #34 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > History & Criticism

## Customer Reviews

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As J.R.R. Tolkien wrote *The Lord of the Rings*, his mental pictures often found expression in

drawing, from rough sketches made within the manuscript to more finished illustrations. Only a few of these were meant for publication; most were aids to help Tolkien conceive his complex story and keep it consistent. Many do not illustrate the final text, but represent moments of creation, illuminating Tolkien's process of writing and design. In addition to pictorial sketches, numerous maps follow the development of the Shire and the larger landscape of Middle-earth, while inscriptions in runes and Elvish script, and facsimile leaves from the burned and bloodstained Book of Mazarbul, support Tolkien's pose as an editor or translator of ancient records. *The Art of The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien collects these drawings, inscriptions, maps, and plans in one deluxe volume. More than 180 images are included, all of them printed in color from high-quality scans and photographs, more than half not previously published. Wayne G. Hammond and Christina Scull, two of the world's leading Tolkien scholars, have edited the book and provide an expert introduction and comments.

This book is excellent for a true Tolkien fan! If you want a deeper look into the mind of our favorite author, this book presents that. The images are indeed all high quality - unlike some books who promise quality but deliver certain pages full of pixels and disappointment. This book is not as artistic as it is descriptive; the images which are true illustrations are sparse when compared with the drawings of maps, drafts of typography, and so on. There are some gorgeous pencil and watercolor sketches, but overall this book presents many maps that allow us to get a clearer grasp of Middle Earth. Every image is discussed at some length and gives the reader an understanding of its context and timing in the writing process. There are also some stunning little doodles described - my favorite is the rune used on the box Galadriel gave to Sam - though small, it is a joy to see these types of images. I would highly recommend this book to any map enthusiast and anyone who would like a coffee table book to rival the nerdiest of coffee book tables! I might not recommend this book to someone looking for a scenic art book of Middle Earth, however! It is more analytical than artistic, in my opinion.

Gorgeously edited and full of Tolkien nuggets to satisfy any obsessed fan such as myself, this was a book that I poured over and marveled at all of the intricate detailing. There are not as many completed drawings as there were in *The Art of The Hobbit* (also a very worthwhile purchase), but it's very interesting nonetheless. You get to take a journey into the workings of Tolkien's mind and see how ideas developed and grew or changed over time. The perfect gift for any Tolkien fan in your life, or a treat for yourself!

Wonderful book of the artwork from The Lord of the Rings. I purchased for my son and he is in love with the book.

I haven't read all the text yet, but what I have read has been very informative and enjoyable. I love seeing how Tolkien himself imagined Middle Earth. A really high quality book and a great gift for any Tolkien fan! 's packaging was not great though - they just put the book in a big box and let it bounce around during shipping.

Oh my gosh. I think we all need this book on our shelf. BEAUTIFUL

Wayne Hammond and Christina Scull have done it again. This is an incredibly beautiful book, and one that gives us a much better look at many useful drawings, sketches, and maps than we've had before. The book is well put together, with enough white space to let the illustrations breathe. And an hour's look at Hammond and Scull's text assures me that their scholarship is as meticulous and their writing as clear and comprehensive as ever. The book was published today, so I haven't yet had a chance to read it comprehensively. A more thorough review will be forthcoming....

This brought plenty of original Tolkien perspective into my understanding of his writings. It is a bit tedious in the multiple (similar) versions of the same original artwork, but it did give context from an evolutionary point. If you are a big JRR fan, you will like it, otherwise you may want to check out previous compilations. I liked it, but I don't think I am a casual fan.

I love this book. I really bridges some gaps between Tolkien's and Jackson's versions. It also shows how closely Jackson followed some of Tolkien's imagery. I had had no idea Tolkien was an artist. This is a must have for any fans of Tolkien's books.

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