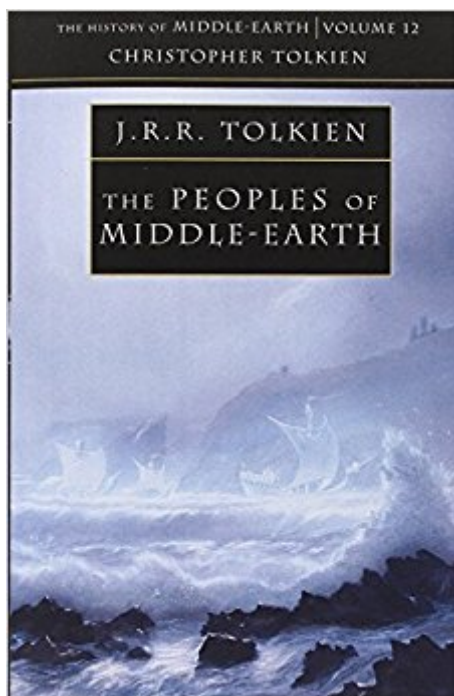


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The Peoples Of Middle-earth (The History Of Middle-earth)



Synopsis

The concluding volume of The History of Middle-earth series, which examines the Appendices to The Lord of the Rings. The Peoples of Middle-earth traces the evolution of the Appendices to The Lord of the Rings, which provide a comprehensive historical structure of the Second and Third Ages, including Calendars, Hobbit genealogies and the Westron language. The book concludes with two unique abandoned stories: The New Shadow, set in Gondor during the Fourth Age, and the tale of Tal-elmar, in which the coming of the dreaded Numenorean ships is seen through the eyes of men of Middle-earth in the Dark Years. With the publication of this book, the long history of J.R.R. Tolkien's creation is completed and the enigmatic state of his work can be understood.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When in 1937 J. R. R. Tolkien laid aside The Silmarillion, the extension of his original mythology into later Ages of the world had scarcely emerged. Tolkien himself noted that he knew nothing of the peoples and history of these Ages until he "met them on the way". It was in the appendices to The Lord of the Rings that there emerged a comprehensive historical structure and chronology of the Second and Third Ages, embracing all the diverse strands that came together in The War of the Ring. Tolkien's difficulty - bordering on despair - in providing these appendices, leading to delay in the publication of The Return of the King, is well known. In The Peoples of Middle-earth, however, Christopher Tolkien shows that the work had in fact been achieved years before, in essays and

records differing greatly from the published forms. A number of other writings by J. R. R. Tolkien are also included in this book; they derive chiefly from his last years, when new insights and constructions freely arose as he pondered the history that he had created. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

J.R.R.Tolkien (1892-1973) was a distinguished academic, though he is best known for writing *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Silmarillion*, plus other stories and essays. His books have been translated into over 30 languages and have sold many millions of copies worldwide

I agree with Darrell H. 's review of this book. However i gave it an extra star for some of the extra tales contained there in. This series is ONLY Recommended for the hardcore Tolkien fan. Most of the commentary in between is an analysis of Toliens writing and i found it tediously boring. I really dont care about a certain letter or note found in a drawer with some scribbled writing on it about some obscure tale that is 3 sentences long. I also found the paragraph and subsection references very confusing. The lost chapter of "The New Shadow" is mindnumbingly boring. Other than that it does contain a gold mine of interesting information such as: The Family Trees, Calenders, The Tale of Years of the Second and Third Ages and my personal favorite: The Heirs of Elendil. I definitely recomend it for even casual readers to skim through for the interesting bit...Treat it as a treasure hunt that costs less than 20 bucks.

The last, & IMHO the best, of the "History of Middle-Earth" series. The full 12-volume "History" is actually a collection of Tolkien's writings (first, second & even subsequent drafts, marginalia, comments & expansions, etc.) pertaining to his published tales - in this instance, the Prologue & Appendices to "The Lord of the Rings," as well as some additional materials connected to "The Silmarillion." Painstakingly & lovingly assembled by his son Christopher, this volume includes Tolkien's own extensive notes on languages & characters' names & histories that were omitted (for reasons of space) from LOTR. J.R.R. Tolkien was a brilliant philologist, & his deep understanding & love of the English language in general, & ancient English in particular, permeates his work. He was also extremely, almost fanatically, conscientious about ensuring that his mythology, once in print, remained internally consistent. (A whole chapter is dedicated to "The Problem of 'Ros'" - a suffix found in names such as Elros & Cair Andros - when Tolkien was creating his Sindarin & Adunaic languages.) Full of insights into the mind of a brilliantly imaginative writer. I took an almost physical delight in this book.

Well, ahem, how would I describe the plot of this book? Err, um... heh. I can't! But that doesn't matter. If you love the characters of Middle-earth, this book reveals so much of the rich history that Tolkien created. I absolutely love it for referring to his languages, character names, and background character stories. I also find it very interesting to read Tolkien's early drafts. I appreciate the commentary by Christopher Tolkien that clarifies it.

One of the best of the History of Middle Earth series. See especially the portion on the Appendices, which contains excellent linguistic analysis of the Hobbit's original language and the various framing devices by which it is "translated" to English. Also see "The Shibboleth of Feanor," required reading for any Tolkien fan.

Complex book

I'm writing this review not around the book but if I remember right I don't believe the book I got looked like the one in the pic. Well if it don't look like that then it's a better looking cover. I'm very happy to finally complete my collection of the history of middle earth with this book. Book dealer sent out quick and book is in great condition. Thanks for the book.

A fascinating read. But this purchase is best reserved for Tolkien fans whose taste bends to the academic investigation of the author's process.

This book was as advertised and was shipped in a timely manner.

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