



A Companion to J. R. R. Tolkien (Blackwell Companions to Literature and Culture)

By Stuart D. Lee

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This is a complete resource for scholars and students of Tolkien, as well as avid fans, with coverage of his life, work, dominant themes, influences, and the critical reaction to his writing.

- An in-depth examination of Tolkien's entire work by a cadre of top scholars
- Provides up-to-date discussion and analysis of Tolkien's scholarly and literary works, including his latest posthumous book, *The Fall of Arthur*, as well as addressing contemporary adaptations, including the new Hobbit films
- Investigates various themes across his body of work, such as mythmaking, medieval languages, nature, war, religion, and the defeat of evil
- Discusses the impact of his work on art, film, music, gaming, and subsequent generations of fantasy writers

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Editorial Review

Review

“A Companion to J.R.R. Tolkien is an easy recommendation for any academic institution which offers a course in Tolkien studies, but would also do well on the shelves of an institution specialising in English literature.” (*Reference Reviews*, 1 October 2015)

“I highly recommend this volume and count it as one of the most important works of collected scholarship on Tolkien to date.” (*Journal of Tolkien Research*, 1 October 2015)

From the Back Cover

A Companion to J.R.R. Tolkien is a complete resource for scholars and students of one of the twentieth century's most successful and influential authors. It provides an in-depth examination of Tolkien's entire work by a cadre of top scholars. The essays introduce and analyze his life and works, from *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*, and *The Silmarillion* to his lesser-known fiction and academic publications. They also explore the role of various themes and influences across his body of work, such as mythmaking, medieval languages, nature, war, religion, and the defeat of evil. The contributors situate Tolkien's writing within the context of other literary periods and genres and analyze his influence on subsequent generations of fantasy writers. They also discuss the impact of his work on art, film, music, and gaming, from his lifetime to the present. Up-to-date and comprehensive, this survey of Tolkien studies reflects the continuing influence of his work on the literature and society of today.

About the Author

Stuart D. Lee is a member of the English Faculty at the University of Oxford. He is the University's Reader in E-learning and Digital Libraries, a member of Merton College, and Deputy CIO at the University's IT Services. He has studied medieval literature and the works of Tolkien for over 30 years. His research focuses on the impact of medieval literature on modern culture, and he lectures in Old English, Tolkien, and the Poetry of the First World War. He is co-author of *Key Concepts in Medieval Literature* (2006) and *The Keys of Middle-earth: Discovering Medieval Literature through the Fiction of J. R. R. Tolkien* (2005).

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