



The J.R.R. Tolkien Companion and Guide

Volume 1: Chronology

Volume 2: Reader's Guide

by Christina Scull and Wayne G. Hammond

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The most comprehensive, in-depth reference of Tolkien's life and works ever published.

About the Book

The definitive handbook to one of the most popular authors of the twentieth century, *The J.R.R. Tolkien Companion and Guide*, by the internationally acclaimed scholars Christina Scull and Wayne G. Hammond, presents the most thorough analysis possible of Tolkien's work within the important context of his life.

The *Reader's Guide* is an indispensable introduction to Tolkien's life, writings, and art. It includes brief but comprehensive alphabetical entries on a wide range of topics, including

- histories and discussions of his work;
- analyses of his vast Silmarillion mythology;
- biographies of persons important in his life;
- a guide to places and institutions;
- details concerning Tolkien's source material;
- information about the political and social upheavals through which the author lived;
- the importance of Tolkien's social circle;
- his service as an infantryman in World War I;

- information on the critical reaction to his work and the "Tolkien cult."

The most extensive biographical resource about Tolkien ever published, the *Chronology* follows the parallel evolutions of Tolkien's academic and personal life and his works in minute detail. It traces his life from his birth in South Africa in 1892, to the battlefields of France and the lecture halls of Leeds and Oxford to his success as the author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, until his death in 1973. Hammond and Scull draw on such contemporary sources as school records, war service files, biographies, correspondence, the letters of his close friend C. S. Lewis, and the diaries of W. H. Lewis in order to present Tolkien in all his aspects: the distinguished scholar of Old and Middle English, the capable teacher and administrator, the devoted husband and father, and the brilliant creator of Middle-earth.

The J.R.R. Tolkien Companion and Guide is the ultimate resource for fans and scholars who wish to gain a complete understanding of Tolkien's life and works.

About the Authors

Christina Scull is the former librarian of Sir John Soane's Museum in London and the editor of the magazine *The Tolkien Collector*. **Wayne G. Hammond** is the assistant librarian of the Chapin Library of Rare Books at Williams College and the author of standard bibliographies of J.R.R. Tolkien and Arthur Ransome. Together Hammond and Scull have written *J.R.R. Tolkien: Artist and Illustrator*, compiled the new, expanded index to Tolkien's published letters, and edited Tolkien's *Roverandom* and the fiftieth-anniversary editions of *Farmer Giles of Ham* and *The Lord of the Rings*. Their *Lord of the Rings: A Reader's Companion* is a comprehensive examination of the evolution, structure, and meaning of Tolkien's masterpiece.