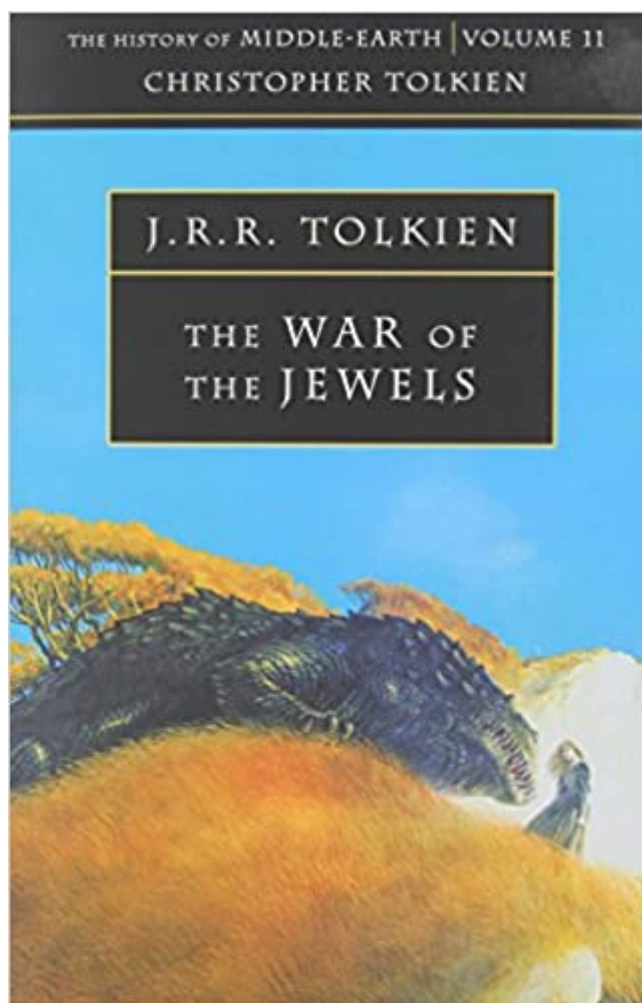


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# The War Of The Jewels (The History Of Middle-earth) (V.2 1)



## Synopsis

The second of two companion volumes which documents the later writing of *The Silmarillion*, Tolkien's epic tale of war. In *The War of the Jewels* Christopher Tolkien takes up his account of the later history of *The Silmarillion* from the point where it was left in *Morgoth's Ring*. The story now returns to Middle-earth, and the ruinous conflict of the High Elves and the Men who were their allies with the power of the Dark Lord. With the publication in this book of all J.R.R. Tolkien's later narrative writing concerned with the last centuries of the First Age, the long history of *The Silmarillion*, from its beginning in *The Book of Lost Tales*, is completed; and the enigmatic state of the work at his death can be understood. This book contains the full text of the *Grey Annals*, the primary record of *The War of the Jewels*, and a major story of Middle-earth now published for the first time: the tale of the disaster that overtook the forest people of Brethil when Hurin the Steadfast came among them after his release from long years of captivity in Angband, the fortress of Morgoth.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy novel *The Silmarillion* (1977), published four years after his death, continued the saga of the mythological kingdom of Middle-Earth, begun in his epic trilogy *Lord of the Rings*. Christopher Tolkien, son of the English novelist and medievalist, here reconstructs the evolution of *The Silmarillion* using his father's manuscripts and notes and adding his own extensive commentaries and annotations. Picking up where this massive study left off, he reprints the entire

text of the unfinished Grey Annals (begun around 1930, reworked in the 1950s, and largely incorporated in The Silmarillion). Amid momentous battles and heroic deeds, we learn how Hurin the Steadfast, released after 28 years of captivity in Morgoth's fortress, journeys among the forest people of Brethril, spreading disaster, and follow the exploits of his son Turin Turambar and daughter Nienor. Included also are J.R.R. Tolkien's discussion of his characters' motives, his detailed maps of imaginary realism, and his essays on the origins and meanings of elvish words and the Dwarves' elaborate gestural language. For hard-core Tolkien devotees and scholars. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

'Christopher Tolkien shows himself to be his father's son... Tolkien devotees will rejoice' The New York Times Book Review`Illustrates the development, depth and richness of J R R Tolkien's personal mythology' Vector

Those who have read (& were perhaps disappointed by) "The Silmarillion" (TS) will find much to enjoy in this book. Volume 11 in Christopher Tolkien's exhaustive (& sometimes exhausting) "History of Middle Earth," this includes the complete "Grey Annals" (an imagined history of the War of the Jewels in Beleriand, as documented by the Sindarin Elves). CRRT acknowledges that he has much to regret about his editing of TS (which was published posthumously under JRRT's name). For one thing, JRRT left his voluminous writings in considerable disorder, & CRRT apparently didn't find a lot of his father's material until some years after TS was published, which is too bad. As Tolkien devotees know, JRRT began the creation of his "legendarium" when he was in his 20s, & continued working on it for the rest of his life - a narrative story here, a commentary there, sometimes a few notes on a small slip of paper, sometimes pages & pages of text that occasionally got away from him (he would rewrite even while typing & his handwriting would sometimes degenerate into illegibility), constantly revisiting & revising. In his Foreword to LOTR, JRRT said that before he wrote it, he had "wished first to complete ... the mythology & legends of the Elder Days," but his publishers assured him that there was "no hope" that anyone else would wish to read those stories. They were mistaken. This is a welcome addition to the History.

First of all, I hate that generalized 4-question thing. Like violence, for example. If you there is a war (duh, title) no one is throwing roses at each other. So violence, yes, but in his histories is far less nondescript so how does one answer that? Aside from that, I've only read some of it--as I have the

entire Middle Earth Histories and going through them all over and over again for research, so I tend to go in and out of each book. Great work, yes. Finally understanding the "Ages" of Middle Earth better with the Grey Annals. If it is recommended by the Mythopoeic Society, it's always worth the \$\$\$.

author narrates but much commentary from his son as it is all unfinished pieces of work that he tried to make coherent story from. I enjoyed it but it was still not an easy read like the Hobbit, LOR, or even the Silmarillion

Shows clearly the development of several of the stories that JRRT included in The Silmarillion, including a much-better-developed version of the the story of Turin locating Morwen. Very good for people studying the origins of the stories that Christopher Tolkien edited and put into print. There are a great many footnotes and linguistic notes, so this may be for the hardcore Tolkien fan or scholar, but well worth the effort it takes in reading it.

More of JRR's unpublished work. Christopher Tolkien does a great job of patching together his father's works to give you a choice: you can read this book as the story or you can read it to understand how the story changed and developed over time. A good read for any JRR fan. Too bad he never worked it into a final form.

Volume XI of the History of Middle-Earth contains JRR Tolkien's writings of the First Age after the Lord of the Rings was published. Most texts date from the 1950s, but some were written as late as 1970, in the last years of his life. This volume contains the history of Beleriand. Not everyone who has read The Silmarillion will enjoy this work, but if you read The Silmarillion and Unfinished Tales and still hunger for more stories and information about the First Age, this book is a wonderful treat. If you don't care for the commentaries, there are still the stories themselves. Even folks who aren't interested in old versions of Tolkien's Middle-Earth writings, as published in the earlier History of Middle-Earth volumes, may enjoy this book, which like the Unfinished Tales mostly contains texts contemporary with or written after the texts that made it into the Lord of the Rings and The Silmarillion. Unlike most other volumes of the History of Middle-Earth, much of Volume XI is \*NEW\* material that is published nowhere else. It also includes some of the actual texts that Christopher Tolkien used to construct the standard version of The Silmarillion. "The Wanderings of Hārin" can be considered the greatest gem of Volume XI, continuing the tragic tale of the Children of Hārin in

the tradition of the *Narn i Chîn Hîn*, and further developing Hîn's character. It is a completely new narrative, describing in almost novelistic prose the story of Hîn after he was released from Angband: his travel to Hithlum, and the disastrous fallout of his visit to Brethil. This is a nearly complete story, similar to the narratives in *Unfinished Tales*. "Quendi and Eldar" is a long linguistic work, a completed text focusing on the names for the Elves and their Clans, and the other Speaking Peoples, and many other words, in different Elvish languages. Besides the linguistic material, it also discusses the various Elven clans, as well as telepathy, sign language, the Great March, some information about the Avari and the Petty-Dwarves, and other subjects. Included is Pengolodh's description of the Valar's unique language, plus a detailed account of the Elves' awakening at Cuiviénen. This section will be essential to any student of the Elvish languages, but is quite valuable for non-linguists as well. "The Grey Annals" and "The Tale of Years" are separate (incomplete) texts from the *Quenta Silmarillion*, containing different accounts of the history of Beleriand and the stories of the Noldor and Edain. More importantly, the Annals and Tale of Years together give the dates when the events of Beleriand's history happened. The Tale of Years also tells for the first time the \*real\* story of the Nauglamír and the Ruin of Doriath. *Silmarillion* readers will be surprised! "Of Maeglin" traces the development of that chapter in the *Silmarillion*, and includes several notes and additional writings that shed much new light on the story and character of Maeglin. This material was mostly written in 1970-1. "The Later *Quenta Silmarillion*" is mostly a rough draft in the vein of earlier *History of Middle-earth* volumes, but there is also new information about the Edain and Dwarves, including extensive family trees of the Three Houses of the Elf-Friends. "Álfwine and Dír-havel" is the prologue to the *Narn i Chîn Hîn*, which is not in the *Unfinished Tales*. "Ents and Eagles" contains some notes on chapter 2 of *The Silmarillion*.

good book that shows the development of middle earth

Book was what I expected. People remember it's a harder book to read but I'm sure you know that if your looking to buy it. Everything was shipped in a timely manor and looked just like the picture online. Thanks

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