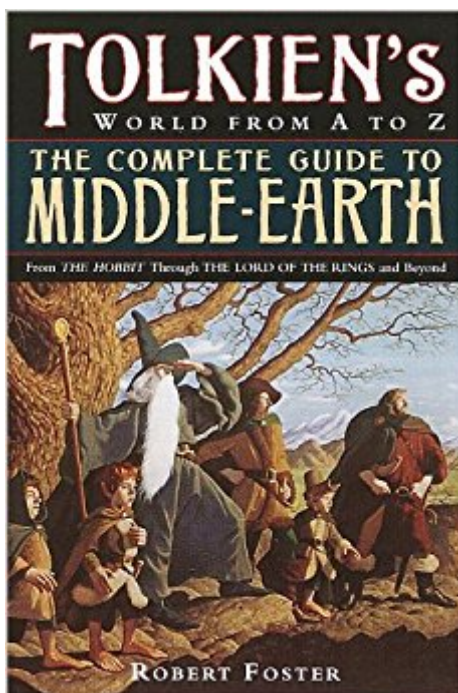


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Tolkien's World From A To Z: The Complete Guide To Middle-Earth



Synopsis

For the millions who have already ventured to Middle-earth, and for the countless others who have yet to embark on the journey—here is the one indispensable A-to-Z guide that brings Tolkien's universe to life. EVERY CHARACTER From Adaldrida Brandybuck to Zaragamba—every Hobbit, Elf, Dwarf, Man, Orc, or other resident of Middle-earth is vividly described and accurately located in proper place and time. EVERY PLACE Colorfully detailed descriptions of geographical entries allow you to pick up the action anywhere in Middle-earth and follow it through all five volumes. EVERY THING From stars and streams to food and flora, everything found in Middle-earth is alphabetically listed and, when necessary, cross-referenced. HERE IS TRULY A MASTER KEY TO TOLKIEN'S MIDDLE-EARTH

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Customer Reviews

With the release of The Fellowship of the Rings in movie theaters this December, Tolkien enthusiasts might consider Robert Foster's The Complete Guide to Middle-earth: From The Hobbit Through The Lord of the Rings and Beyond as essential to their viewing pleasure as popcorn. For anyone who's ever wondered "who's Beren?," "where's the Great Shelf?" or "what's the Council of Gondor?," this A-Z reference describes every person, locates every place and explains everything in Tolkien's saga. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

^Middle-earth is the country of J.R.R. Tolkien's tales - the territory of Sauron, Bilbo Baggins, Gandalf

and Sam Gamgee - whose legends, history, geography and inhabitants combine to make a unique fictional world. This Guide is a comprehensive reference work to every name and event in Tolkien's books, from *The Hobbit* to *The Silmarillion*. 'Daily Telegraph' Mr Robert Foster's *Complete Guide to Middle-earth* supplies, as I have found through frequent use, an admirable work of reference. CHRISTOPHER TOLKIEN --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a revision of my original review, in which I gave it only 2 stars & compared it unfavorably to E.A. Tyler's *Complete Tolkien Companion*. Foster's guide is based on the published JRRT works, while Tyler relies more heavily on Christopher Tolkien's multivolume *History of Middle Earth* & *Unfinished Tales* (UT). They're very different reference books, but both are a useful addition to the Tolkien fan's library. What do I like about Foster's book? Translations of most Quenya/Sindarin words & names (e.g., he translates "AncalimÃfÆ'Ã Â«" as "great light" while Tyler's entry is silent as to its meaning), although some of them are a little tone-deaf. (At no time, in any of JRRT's philological essays on names, did "Galadriel" mean "lady of light.") An excellent chronology of the First Age (better than Tyler's, which would have made Elros & Elrond 17 years old - still very young children in Elvish terms - at the end of the FA). What do I not like? The entries are brief, & limited to the books published under JRRT's name. For example, Foster's bio of Galadriel is derived from what is said of her in the published *Silmarillion* & *LOTR*, while Tyler includes additional, albeit sometimes conflicting, information from JRRT's later essays as set out in UT. Foster has 2 entries for Glorfindel, indicating that they were 2 different Elves, while Tyler adheres to the theory that the Glorfindel who came to the aid of Frodo in Book I of *LOTR* was the same Glorfindel who was slain in the fall of Gondolin but had been reincarnated. My paperback edition of Tyler's book is also somewhat marred by typographical errors, especially in the genealogical tables of the Houses of Men in the Appendix. However, if you are as enthralled as I am by Tolkien's magnificent "legendarium," you'll want this in your library.

THE Middle Earth encyclopedia, beautifully illustrated, and is in the same style and format as the other Illustrated Tolkien classics by Houghton Mifflin(US versions) and Harper Collins(UK versions). Very highly recommended reference book for your Middle Earth collection:)

I am not big on Tolkien. I have read *The Hobbit* and *LOTR* series, but who hasn't? I do, however, have friends that never cease to amaze me with their knowledge on Middle Earth, its history, and

inhabitants. I got this book thinking, if anything, it would provide some unique diversity to my ever-growing bookshelves. Yet, its simplistic layout and immense references make it a wonderful addition to any collector of Tolkien, or anyone who knows such a person. Whether it's for research, impressing your friends, or simply starting a conversation this is a book I would recommend to anyone who finds some enjoyment in the vast world of Tolkien.

Great book for all Hobbit or Tolkien fans.

This product is extremely comprehensive. I found myself going from M to S on hunts to understand this complex world Tolkien created. It has kept me busy many night while I worked. Out of all the options to guide you through Middle-Earth, i highly reccommend this one.

This hardback is perfect for Middle Earth fans who want to pick apart each detail, person, location and item that Tolkien went into great lengths to sometime overwhelmingly describe. This collective of terms is put together much like a reference encyclopedia, however it is well written and the hardback is beautifully illustrated. I own the paperback copy to carry around on the go, but the hardback is perfect to keep along side my Tolkien hardback collection.

A great companion book to have as a reference tool when reading any of Tolkein's books.

This is a great little Resource if you're just looking for some basic information on just about everything in the Tolkien universe. I especially like that he references where in the books you can find the information. The only reason I didn't give this 5 stars (and I know this is a little nitpicky), is that I did find a few things missing. A couple of examples: Entwives, Black Breath. Both of these things I felt were significant enough to warrant an entry. However- I've used this guide many times, and enjoy it.

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