



## J.R.R. Tolkien: A Biography

By Humphrey Carpenter

Houghton Mifflin Company. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 304 pages. Dimensions: 8.1in. x 5.4in. x 0.8in. The authorized biography of the creator of Middle-earth. In the decades since his death in September 1973, millions have read *THE HOBBIT*, *THE LORD OF THE RINGS*, and *THE SILMARILLION* and become fascinated about the very private man behind the books. Born in South Africa in January 1892, John Ronald Reuel Tolkien was orphaned in childhood and brought up in near-poverty. He served in the first World War, surviving the Battle of the Somme, where he lost many of the closest friends he ever had. After the war he returned to the academic life, achieving high repute as a scholar and university teacher, eventually becoming Merton Professor of English at Oxford where he was a close friend of C. S. Lewis and the other writers known as The Inklings. Then suddenly his life changed dramatically. One day while grading essay papers he found himself writing in a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit -- and worldwide renown awaited him. Humphrey Carpenter was given unrestricted access to all Tolkiens papers, and interviewed his friends and family. From these sources he follows the long and...



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