

THE LORD OF THE RINGS

The Motion Picture Trilogy
- Extended Edition -

Original Screenplay by

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Based on the novels by J.R.R. Tolkien

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Scene 1
Prologue: One Ring to Rule Them All...

EXT. PROLOGUE - DAY

GALADRIEL (V.O.)
(Elvish whispering)
I amar prestar aen...
The world is changed.

Han mathon ne nen...
I feel it in the water.

Han mathon ne chae...
I feel it in the Earth.

A han noston ned gwilith...
I smell it in the air.

Much that once was is lost. For none now
live who remember it.

A fire flickers. A ring is forged.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It began with the forging of the great
rings.

The high Elves - Galadriel, Gil-Galad and Cirdan - receive their rings. They look at them.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Three were given to the Elves: immortal,
wisest and fairest of all beings.

Seven dwarfs pick up their rings from a pillow and hold them aloft in triumph.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Seven to the Dwarf Lords: great miners
and craftsmen of the mountain halls.

Nine men, each holding a ring, lower them in a synchronous motion as if holding-close a precious secret.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And nine ... nine rings were gifted to
the race of Men, who above all else,
desire power.

An ancient parchment map shows the whole of Middle-Earth.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
For within these rings was bound the
strength and will to govern each race.

The map moves towards Mordor.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But they were all of them deceived, for
another ring was made.

Sauron, standing at the Crack of Doom, masked and clothed in
metal armor, forges the One Ring in the chambers of Sammath
Naur.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
In the land of Mordor, in the fires of
Mount Doom, the Dark Lord Sauron forged
in secret a master ring, to control all
others.

The One Ring spins through the air.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And into this Ring, he poured his
cruelty, his malice, and his will to
dominate all life.

Sauron wears the One Ring on his right hand. The Ring begins
to glow and a red inscription appears.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
One Ring to rule them all.

A shadow spreads across the map from Mordor.
Screaming villagers flee from their burning homes, pursued
by Orcs.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
One by one, the free lands of Middle-
Earth fell to the power of the Ring.

An army of swordsmen marches across the plains of Dagorlad.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But there were some ... who resisted.

Men, Elves and Orcs assemble on the battlefield. The Orcs
attack the Alliance, rushing across the field that separates
the two armies.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
A last alliance of Men and Elves marched
against the armies of Mordor, and on the
slopes of Mount Doom they fought for the
freedom of Middle-Earth.

Elrond gives command to the Elven archers to engage.

ELROND
(in command tone)
Tangado haid! Leithio i philinn!

[Hold positions! Fire arrows!]

The Elves raise their bows and release arrows at the oncoming Orcs, knocking down the first line. As the wave of the Orc infantry reaches the Elven troops, the Elves swing their swords up, slicing the Orcs, one after the other down the line. The Elves and the Men are fully engaged in combat, taking down many of the Orc troops. Elendil raises his sword in triumph.

GALADRIEL (V.O.)
Victory was near. But the power of the Ring could not be undone.

Sauron strides onto the battlefield, towering over both Elves and Men, the One Ring on his finger. He hits groups of warriors, sending them flying across the field.

Elendil raises his sword to strike Sauron, but Sauron parries the blow and flings him against the rock, crushing him to death. Isildur rushes to the fallen warrior. He grasps the hilt of the sword.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It was in this moment ... when all hope had faded, that Isildur, son of the King, took up his father's sword.

Sauron stomps down the sword, shattering it. He reaches down towards Isildur, who strikes Sauron's hand with the broken blade of Narsil, slicing the finger that bears the One Ring. Sauron implodes, sending a shock wave throughout the battlefield, knocking the warring troops off their feet. His armor falls unto the ground, his body vaporized.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Sauron, the enemy of the Free Peoples of Middle-Earth, was defeated.

Isildur picks up Sauron's ashen finger still wearing the Ring. He takes it into his hand leaving only the One Ring.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The Ring passed to Isildur ... who had this one chance to destroy evil forever.

Isildur leads a small column of Men through darkening woods, the One Ring glinting on a chain around his neck.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
But the hearts of Men are easily
corrupted. And the Ring of Power has a
will of its own.

A band of Orcs ambushes the troops. Isildur is thrown from his horse but stumbles to his feet. In panic, he puts on the Ring, disappears and flees. He jumps into the river Anduin and materializes underwater, when the Ring slips from his finger. Isildur grasps for it. Orcs spot him and fire a barrage of arrows into him. His dead body floats down the river.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It betrayed Isildur ... to his death.

The ring sinks through the murky waters of the river into the dark.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And some things that should not have
been forgotten were lost.

The waters of the Anduin river lie dark and undisturbed.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
History became legend, legend became
myth, and for two and a half thousand
years, the Ring passed out of all
knowledge.

A small hand, scrabbling on the river-bed, reaches down and grasps the Ring.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Until, when chance came, it ensnared a
new bearer.

The thin white hand opens to reveal the One Ring.

GOLLUM
My Precious.

The mountainside of the Misty Mountains is cloudy and calm.

GALADRIEL (V.O.)
The Ring came to the creature Gollum,
who took it deep into the tunnels of the
Misty Mountains. And there, it consumed
him.

At a pool in a cave, surrounded by decayed fish flesh and bones, Gollum crouches on a stone, holding the Ring.

GOLLUM
 (ecstatic whispering)
 It came to me. My own. My love. My own.
 My precious!
 (louder)
 Gollum!

A silver full moon bathes a lake in cold moonlight. A forest lies dark and still. The sun rises.

GALADRIEL (V.O.)
 The Ring brought to Gollum unnatural long life. For five hundred years it poisoned his mind. And in the gloom of Gollum's cave, it waited. Darkness crept back into the forest of the world. Rumor grew of a shadow in the east, whispers of a nameless fear, and the Ring of Power perceived its time had now come.

The Ring bounces down a chasm in the rocks and falls to the muddy floor of a mountain tunnel.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It abandoned Gollum. But something happened then the Ring did not intend.

Bilbo, scrabbling amongst the bones and scree in the cave, comes across the ring.

GALADRIEL (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It was picked up by the most unlikely creature imaginable.

BILBO
 (surprised)
 What's this?

GALADRIEL (V.O.)
 A Hobbit: Bilbo Baggins of the Shire.

Bilbo gazes in delight and wonder at his find.

BILBO
 A ring!

Frightened by a screaming voice, Bilbo gets to his feet and pockets the One Ring.

GOLLUM (O.S.)
 (shrieking)
 Lost! My precious is lost!

White clouds lie above the Misty Mountains.

GALADRIEL (V.O.)

For the time will soon come when Hobbits
will shape the fortunes of all.

Scene 2
Concerning Hobbits

INT. BAG END STUDY - DAY

The parchment map moves from the Misty Mountains over Rivendell, Weathertop, Bree and Bywater to Hobbiton before slowly revealing the whole of Middle-Earth.

BILBO (V.O.)
Ahrrmm ... The twenty-second day of September in the year fourteen-hundred, by Shire-reckoning. Bag End, Bagshot Row, Hobbiton, Westfarthing, the Shire, Middle-Earth. The Third Age of this world.

The map rests on the floor with several other maps, books, scrolls and similar items of research. Bilbo is seated at his desk, a quill pen in his hand, smoking the pipe.

BILBO
"There and Back Again: A Hobbit's Tale, by Bilbo Baggins". Now ... where to begin? Ah, yes.

He dips the quill in the ink and begins writing.

BILBO (CONT'D)
"Concerning Hobbits."

EXT. HOBBITON - DAY

Everyday scenes in the Shire: Cows pull a plow on a field. A hobbit struggles to move a pig on a rope.

BILBO (V.O.)
"Hobbits have been living and farming in the four Farthings of the Shire for many hundreds of years."

In the market square, Hobbits gather to look over the latest wares, present their stock, and share a drink.

BILBO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
"Quite content to ignore and be ignored by the world of the Big Folk. Middle-Earth being, after all, full of strange creatures beyond count, ..."

In the fields, cows are being milked, pathways swept clean, and animals grazed. A Hobbit sleeps next to a pig. Another one seems intent on removing a parasite from his ear.

BILBO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
"... Hobbits must seem of little
importance being neither renowned as
great warriors nor counted among the
very wise."

INT. BAG END STUDY - DAY

Bilbo pauses and chuckles to himself. He turns to knock at the door.

BILBO
(calling out)
Frodo! Someone at the door.

Bilbo turns immediately back to his writing.

EXT. HOBBITON - DAY

A hobbit, preparing to kiss his sweetheart, is distracted by a tray of muffins. He grabs one and stuffs it into his mouth.

BILBO (V.O.)
"In fact, it has been remarked by some
that the Hobbits' only real passion is
for food."

Hobbits prepare for a party in the field. Carrying a barrel of ale on his shoulder, a Hobbit refills his mug as he walks. Three Hobbits sit around smoking pipes.

BILBO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
"A rather unfair observation, as we have
also developed a keen interest in the
brewing of ales, and the smoking of
pipe-weed."

Hobbits work on a field, while two enjoy a leisurely game in the sunshine. Others are gardening with kids playing around them.

BILBO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
"But where our hearts truly lie is in
peace and quiet and good tilled earth."

Sam plants flowers in front of his house, admiring them.

BILBO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
"For all Hobbits share a love of things
that grow."

Hobbits are setting up for Bilbo's party on a field,

struggling to put up a tent. A large birthday banner is raised and applauded.

BILBO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

"And yes, no doubt, to others our ways seem quaint. But today, of all days, it is brought home to me: It is no bad thing to celebrate a simple life."

INT. BAG END STUDY - DAY

It knocks on the door again.

BILBO

(calling out)

Frodo, the door!

The knocks become louder and more insistent.

BILBO (CONT'D)

Sticklebacks! Where is that boy?

Scene 3
The Shire

EXT. HOBBITON WOODS - DAY

BILBO (O.S.)
(calling out)
Frodo!

Frodo leans against a tree in the woods, reading a book. Birds sing, flowers are scattered among the well seeded grasses and nature is peaceful.

In the distance, he perceives an approaching cart and a horse. Frodo hears the faint singing to the tune of "The Road Goes Ever On and On".

GANDALF
(humming)
Down from the door where it began.
Hmm... hmm... hmm... hmm...
And I must follow if I can.

The Hobbit closes his book and stands, listening. He recognizes the voice, smiles and runs off.

EXT. SHIRE LANE - DAY

Gandalf, wearing a gray cloak and a pointy hat, drives a horse-drawn cart through the sunshine on a grassy road next to the forest.

GANDALF (CONT'D)
(singing)
The road goes ever on and on,
Down from the door where it began.
Now far ahead the road has gone,
And I must follow if I can...

Frodo runs to the cart, stopping on a bank above it. He folds his arms and looks down.

FRODO
You're late!

Gandalf brings the carriage to a stop. He slowly looks up from under his floppy hat.

GANDALF
(seriously)
A wizard is never late, Frodo Baggins.
Nor is he early. He arrives precisely
when he means to.

Both, he and Frodo, look at each other for a moment, then slowly begin to grin and crack up into laughter. Frodo leaps onto the front seat and hugs the old man.

FRODO

It's wonderful to see you Gandalf!

GANDALF

(laughs)

Ooh! You didn't think I'd miss your Uncle Bilbo's birthday?

EXT. HOBBITON FIELDS - DAY

Gandalf resumes his drive towards Hobbiton, Frodo right next to him. The wizard smokes a long pipe.

GANDALF

So, how is the old rascal? I hear it's going to be a party of special magnificence.

FRODO

You know Bilbo. He's got the whole place in an uproar.

GANDALF

Well, that should please him.

Gandalf chuckles.

FRODO

Half the Shire's been invited.

They pass a few Hobbits working on a field of bright crops.

FRODO (CONT'D)

And the rest of them are turning up anyway.

Gandalf and Frodo both laugh as they approach a water mill. They cross the river over a small stone bridge.

BILBO (V.O.)

"And so, life in the Shire goes on very much as it has this past Age ... full of its own comings and goings, with change coming slowly ..."

The Hobbit, who tried to remove the parasite from his ear, still struggles and waves his hand.

The cart climbs up a slope through the village surrounded by

large trees and green hills.

BILBO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
"... if it comes at all. For things are
made to endure in the Shire, passing
from one generation to the next. There's
always been a Baggins, living here under
the Hill ... in Bag End."

INT. BAG END STUDY - DAY

Bilbo stops writing again and looks up, thoughtful.

BILBO
And there always will be.

EXT. HOBBITON FIELDS - DAY

FRODO
(concerned)
To tell you the truth, Bilbo's been a
bit odd lately. I mean, more than usual.

Gandalf listens thoughtfully, smoking his pipe.

FRODO (CONT'D)
He's taken to locking himself in his
study.

INT. BAG END STUDY - DAY

Bilbo picks up a map of Middle-Earth, looks at it, then
closes it and puts it down.

FRODO (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He spends hours and hours poring over
old maps when he thinks I'm not looking.

Bilbo pats his pants pockets. Suddenly, an expression of
alarm comes over his face. He digs urgently into his pockets
and turns them out, becoming more frantic.

BILBO
(worried)
Where's it gone?

He desperately searches the missing item, turning over
cushions and clothes. Bilbo becomes angry.

Finally, he shoves his hands into his vest pockets and stops
with a sigh. He removes his hands from the pocket, his
missing item clenched in his fist. After taking a look at

the item, he holds it to his mouth in relief.

EXT. HOBBITON FIELDS - DAY

FRODO
(thoughtful)
He's up to something.

Gandalf glances at Frodo, who slowly looks back, waiting for an answer. The wizard avoids the gaze, deliberately staring at the scenery and smoking his pipe.

FRODO
(smiling)
All right, then. Keep your secrets.

GANDALF
What?

FRODO
But I know you have something to do with it.

GANDALF
Good gracious me!

FRODO
Before you came along, we Bagginses were very well thought of.

GANDALF
Indeed?

FRODO
Never had any adventures or did anything unexpected.

GANDALF
If you're referring to the incident with the dragon, I was barely involved. All I did was give your uncle a little nudge out of the door.

FRODO
Whatever you did, you've been officially labeled a disturber of the peace.

GANDALF
Oh really?

The cart drives past suspicious Everard Proudfoot, who cleans his front yard. Gandalf gazes at him and the grumpy Hobbit glares back. His wife Aurora comes out of the house.

EXT. HOBBITON - DAY

As the cart drives through the green village, Hobbit children are drawn to the sight of the old wizard and his cart. They run towards Gandalf.

HOBBIT CHILDREN
(shouting excitedly)
Gandalf! Gandalf! Fireworks? Gandalf?

The children rush past the Proudfoots, Aurora looks on in disapproval. Gandalf pretends to ignore the children. They come to a disappointed halt as the cart keeps on going away.

Fireworks go off from the cart. The hobbit children cheer and Gandalf laughs pleased. Everard chuckles, but his angry wife gives him a stern look. Everard restores his grumpy face.

FRODO
Gandalf, I'm glad you're back.

Frodo leaps from the cart. Gandalf smiles.

GANDALF
So am I, dear boy.

The wizard takes a puff from the pipe.

GANDALF (CONT'D)
(thoughtful)
So am I.

The wizard continues his way through Hobbiton until he stops his cart outside Bag End.

GANDALF
(to the horse)
Whoa, whoa.

He gets down and goes through the gate which bears a sign saying: "No admittance except on party business."

Scene 4
Very Old Friends

Scene 5
A Long-expected Party

Scene 6
Farewell Dear Bilbo

Scene 7
Keep It Secret, Keep It Safe

Scene 8
The Account of Isildur

Scene 9
At the Green Dragon

Scene 10
The Shadow of the Past

Scene 11
The Passing of the Elves

Scene 12
Saruman the White

Scene 13
A Short Cut to Mushrooms

Scene 14
Bucklebury Ferry

Scene 15
At the Sign of The Prancing Pony

Scene 16
The Nazgûl

Scene 17
The Midgewater Marshes

Scene 18
The Spoiling of Isengard

Scene 19
A Knife in the Dark

Scene 20
The Caverns of Isengard

Scene 21
Flight to the Ford

Scene 22
Rivendell

Scene 23
Many Meetings

Scene 24
The Fate of the Ring

Scene 25
The Sword that Was Broken

Scene 26
The Evenstar

Scene 27
The Council of Elrond

Scene 28
Gilraen's Memorial

Scene 29
Bilbo's Gifts

Scene 30
The Departure of The Fellowship

Scene 31
The Ring Goes South

Scene 32
The Pass of Caradhras

Scene 33
Moria

Scene 34
A Journey in the Dark

Scene 35
Balin's Tomb

Scene 36
The Bridge of Khazad-dûm

Scene 37
Lothlórien

Scene 38
Caras Galadhon

Scene 39
The Mirror of Galadriel

Scene 40
The Fighting Uruk-hai

Scene 41
Farewell to Lórien

Scene 42
The Great River

Scene 43
Parth Galen

Scene 44
The Breaking of the Fellowship

Scene 45
The Departure of Boromir

Scene 46
The Road Goes Ever On...

Scene 1
The Foundations of Stone

Scene 2
Elven Rope

Scene 3
The Taming of Sméagol

Scene 4
The Uruk-hai

Scene 5
The Three Hunters

Scene 6
The Burnings of the Westfold

Scene 7
Massacre at the Fords of Isen

Scene 8
The Banishment of Éomer

Scene 9
On the Trail of the Uruk-hai

Scene 10
Night Camp at Fangorn

Scene 11
The Riders of Rohan

Scene 12
The Fate of Merry and Pippin

Scene 13
Treebeard

Scene 14
The Passage of the Marshes

Scene 15
The White Rider

Scene 16
The Songs of the Entwines

Scene 17
The Heir of Númenor

Scene 18
The Black Gate is Closed

Scene 19
Ent Draft

Scene 20
The King of the Golden Hall

Scene 21
The Funeral of Théodred

Scene 22
Simbelmynë on the Burial Mounds

Scene 23
The King's Decision

Scene 24
Brego

Scene 25
The Ring of Barahir

Scene 26
A Daughter of Kings

Scene 27
Exodus from Edoras

Scene 28
The Forests of Ithilien

Scene 29
Gollum and Sméagol

Scene 30
Of Herbs and Stewed Rabbit

Scene 31
Dwarf Women

Scene 32
One of the Dúnedain

Scene 33
The Evenstar

Scene 34
The Wolves of Isengard

Scene 35
Helm's Deep

Scene 36
Isengard Unleashed

Scene 37
The Grace of the Valar

Scene 38
Arwen's Fate

Scene 39
The Story Foreseen from Lórien

Scene 40
The Window on the West

Scene 41
Sons of the Steward

Scene 42
The Forbidden Pool

Scene 43
Aragorn's Return

Scene 44
Entmoot

Scene 45
The Glittering Caves

Scene 46

"Where is the Horse and the Rider?"

Scene 47

"Don't Be Hasty Master Meriadoc!"

Scene 48
The Host of the Eldar

Scene 49
The Battle of the Hornburg

Scene 50
Old Entish

Scene 51
The Breach of the Deeping Wall

Scene 52
The Entmoot Decides

Scene 53
The Retreat of the Hornburg

Scene 54
Master Peregrin's Plan

Scene 55
Osgiliath

Scene 56
The Last March of the Ents

Scene 57
The Nazgûl Attack

Scene 58
Forth Eorlingas

Scene 59
The Flooding of Isengard

Scene 60
The Tales That Really Mattered...

Scene 61
Fangorn Comes to Helm's Deep

Scene 62
The Final Tally

Scene 63
Flotsam and Jetsam

Scene 64
Farewell to Faramir

Scene 65

"The Battle for Middle-earth is About to Begin"

Scene 66
Gollum's Plan

Scene 1
The Finding of the Ring

Scene 2
Journey to the Cross-roads

Scene 3
The Road to Isengard

Scene 4
The Voice of Saruman

Scene 5
Return to Edoras

Scene 6
Gollum's Villainy

Scene 7
Éowyn's Dream

Scene 8
The Palantír

Scene 9
Arwen's Vision

Scene 10
The Reforging of Narsil

Scene 11
Minas Tirith

Scene 12
The Decline of Gondor

Scene 13
Cross-roads of the Fallen King

Scene 14
"The Deep Breath Before the Plunge"

Scene 15
Minas Morgul

Scene 16
Sam's Warning

Scene 17
Pippin's Task

Scene 18
Osgiliath Invaded

Scene 19
The Lighting of the Beacons

Scene 20
Théoden's Decision

Scene 21
The Fall of Osgiliath

Scene 22
The Wizard's Pupil

Scene 23
The Stairs of Cirith Ungol

Scene 24
"Courage Is the Best Defense"

Scene 25
Peregrin of the Tower Guard

Scene 26
Allegiance to Denethor

Scene 27
The Parting of Sam and Frodo

Scene 28
The Sacrifice of Faramir

Scene 29
Marshalling at Dunharrow

Scene 30
Andúril - Flame of the West

Scene 31
Aragorn Takes the Paths of the Dead

Scene 32
"No More Despair"

Scene 33
Dwimorberg - The Haunted Mountain

Scene 34
The Muster of Rohan

Scene 35
The Paths of the Dead

Scene 36
The Siege of Gondor

Scene 37
The Corsairs of Umbar

Scene 38
Shelob's Lair

Scene 39
Merry's Simple Courage

Scene 40

Grond - The Hammer of the Underworld

Scene 41
The Tombs of the Stewards

Scene 42
Breaking the Gate of Gondor

Scene 43
The Choices of Master Samwise

Scene 44
Denethor's Madness

Scene 45
The Witch King's Hour

Scene 46
The Ride of the Rohirrim

Scene 47
The Pyre of Denethor

Scene 48
The Battle of the Pelennor Fields

Scene 49
"A Far Green Country"

Scene 50
The Nazgûl and His Prey

Scene 51
The Black Ships

Scene 52
Shieldmaiden of Rohan

Scene 53
Victory at Minas Tirith

Scene 54
The Passing of Théoden

Scene 55
Oaths Fulfilled

Scene 56
The Houses of Healing

Scene 57
Pippin Looks After Merry

Scene 58
The Tower of Cirith Ungol

Scene 59
The Last Debate

Scene 60
Aragorn Masters the Palantír

Scene 61
The Captain and the White Lady

Scene 62
In the Company of Orcs

Scene 63
The Land of Shadow

Scene 64
The Mouth of Sauron

Scene 65
The Black Gate Opens

Scene 66

"I Can't Carry It for You... but I Can Carry You."

Scene 67
The Last Move

Scene 68
Mount Doom

Scene 69
"The Eagles are Coming!"

Scene 70
The Crack of Doom

Scene 71
Sauron Defeated

Scene 72
The End of All Things

Scene 73
The Fellowship Reunited

Scene 74
The Return of the King

Scene 75
Homeward Bound

Scene 76
The Grey Havens