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Spring 2015, LITR 354, Section 1 (4 Credits)

Ramapo College of New Jersey, Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies

LITR 354: The Medieval and Modern in Middle-earth Oral Presentations

For our oral presentations we will be examining the twelve volumes of *The History of Middle-earth* series (*HoME*) The *HoME* is edited by Tolkien's son Christopher, and was published between 1983 and 1996. These volumes include early drafts of Tolkien's published works as well as unfinished stories and poems and allow us to trace the development of Tolkien's conception of Middle-earth.

For this assignment, read your assigned sections of *HoME* with care, provide a brief oral summary to the class, create a detailed written summary to distribute as a handout, and choose particular items to present in greater depth. Specifically, you should identify and explain the single most important divergence and consistency as well as two of lesser importance. All of these parts of the assignment should be done with an eye to the connections between the *HoME* text(s) and the relevant published fiction. The illumination of such connections may start with a list of similarities and differences, but should go beyond these to consider the main continuities and the significant points of departure between the published version and its earlier draft(s). Table One displays the choices for those wishing to work on those sections of *HoME* that contain early drafts of *The Lord of the Rings*; Table Two indicates the choices for those who would like to work on early drafts of *The Silmarillion*.

Presentations will take place beginning after Spring Break according to the schedule below (a sign-up sheet will be distributed during the first two days of class). Again, you will need to do the following:

- 1) Read the assigned sections with care.
- 2) Prepare a handout in which you *list* and *summarize* the volume's contents.
- 3) Provide a *brief* oral summary to the class.
- 4) Identify the *most important divergence* and *consistency* to present in greater depth.
- 5) Briefly present *two additional divergences* and *consistencies* of lesser importance.
- 6) Discuss what light these texts shed on Tolkien's works that we are reading in class.
- 7) Answer the following question: What did reading this section of *HoME* add to your understanding of Tolkien's Middle-earth?

You must produce a handout for the class and may use PowerPoint or Prezi as well. Because methods of presentation will likely vary with different volumes, you are welcome to meet with me beforehand to discuss your approach. It is strongly recommended that you get started early—these books are long, and the editorial apparatus can become quite detailed.

Grading: Here's what I am looking for: the grade will be based on how well you have covered your section and the requirements of the assignment, the professional appearance of your materials, the level of insight achieved, and the degree to which you have conveyed the relationship between your volume and what we are covering in class. The grade will represent 10% of your final grade in the course.

Important Dates: The sign-up sheet will be distributed on 22 and 26 January; after Monday, 26 January you will be assigned a text if you have not signed up. *Your presentation outline and summary of your section are due ONE WEEK before your presentation day.*

Schedule of Presentations:	Thursday, 26 March:	Students 1-5
	Monday, 30 March:	Students 6-8
	Thursday, 2 April:	Students 9-10
	Monday, 6 April:	Student 11
	Thursday, 9 April:	Students 12-14
	Monday, 20 April:	Students 15-17
	Thursday, 23 April:	Students 18-25

Table One: HoME and The Lord of the Rings		
<i>LotR</i>	Student	<i>HoME</i>
<i>FR</i> , Book 1	1	“The First Phase” (<i>Return of the Shadow</i> 11–131 [chs. 1–7])
	2	“The First Phase” (<i>Return of the Shadow</i> 132–229 [chs. 8–13])
	3	“The Second Phase” (<i>Return of the Shadow</i> 233–305 [chs. 14–18])
	4	“The Third Phase” (<i>Return of the Shadow</i> 309–87 [chs. 19–22])
	5	<i>The Treason of Isengard</i> (5–80 [chs. 1–4])
<i>FR</i> , Book 2	6	“The Story Continued” (<i>Return of the Shadow</i> 391–467 [chs. 23–25])
	7	<i>The Treason of Isengard</i> 81–206 (chs. 5–10)
	8	<i>The Treason of Isengard</i> 207–377 (chs. 11–18)
<i>TT</i> , Book 3	9	<i>The Treason of Isengard</i> 378–451 (chs. 19–26)
	10	“The Fall of Saruman” (<i>War of the Ring</i> 3–81 [pt. 1, chs. 1–6])
<i>TT</i> Book 4	11	“The Ring Goes East” (<i>War of the Ring</i> 85–226 [pt. 2, chs. 1–8])
<i>RK</i> , Book 5	12	“Minas Tirith” (<i>War of the Ring</i> 229–322 [pt. 3, chs. 1–5])
	13	“Minas Tirith” (<i>War of the Ring</i> 323–439 [pt. 3, chs. 6–14])
<i>RK</i> , Book 6	14	“The End of the Third Age” (<i>Sauron</i> 3–141 [pt. 1, chs. 1–11])

Table Two: HoME and The Silmarillion		
<i>The Silmarillion</i>	Student	<i>HoME</i>
Ainulindalë	15	<i>Book of Lost Tales, Part One</i> (13–63 [chs. 1–2])
		“Ainulindalë” (<i>Lost Road</i> 155–66 [pt. 2, ch. 4])
		“Ainulindalë” (<i>Morgoth’s Ring</i> 3–44)
Valaquenta	16	<i>Book of Lost Tales, Part One</i> 64–93 (ch. 3)
		<i>Quenta Noldorinwa</i> (<i>Shaping</i> 76–79 [text], 166–67 [commentary]; ch. 3 [“The Quenta”])
		“The Earliest Annals of Valinor 0” (<i>Shaping</i> 262–63 [text], 270 [notes], 274–76 [commentary], 292–93 [text fragment])
		“The Later Annals of Valinor” (<i>Lost Road</i> 109–10 [text], 120–21 [commentary]; pt. 2, ch. 2)
		“Of the Valar” (<i>Lost Road</i> 199–208 [pt. 2, ch. 6, titled “Quenta Silmarillion”])
		“The Annals of Aman” (<i>Morgoth’s Ring</i> 47–49 [text], 56 [notes], 58–59 [commentary], 64–66 [alternate text], 69 [alternate emendations]; years 1–4)
		“Of the Valar” (<i>Morgoth’s Ring</i> 141–52 [First Phase], 199–205 [Second Phase]; pt. 3, titled “The Later Quenta Silmarillion”)
Akallabêth	17	<i>Letters of J. R. R. Tolkien</i> 213, 232, 347
		“The Fall of Númenor” (<i>Lost Road</i> 7–35 [pt. 1, chs. 1–2])
		“The Drowning of Anadûnê” (<i>Sauron</i> 331–440)
		“The History of the Akallabêth” (<i>Peoples</i> 140–65)
Beren and Lúthien	18	“The Tale of Tinúviel” (<i>Book of Lost Tales, Part Two</i> 3–68 [ch. 1])
	19–20	“The Lay of Leithian” (<i>Lays</i> 150–367)
	21	“Sketch of the Mythology” (<i>Shaping</i> 24–26 [text], 54–56 [commentary]; from ch. 2, “The Earliest Silmarillion”; Tolkien ch. number 10)
		<i>Quenta Noldorinwa</i> (<i>Shaping</i> 109–16 [text], 177–79 [commentary]; from ch. 3, “The Quenta”; Tolkien ch. number 10)
		“The Earliest Annals of Beleriand” (<i>Shaping</i> 300–01; from ch. 7; years 160–64)

		“The Later Annals of Beleriand (<i>Lost Road</i> 134–35 [text], 151 [commentary]; from pt. 2, ch. 3; years 261–65)
		“Of Beren and Tinúviel” (<i>Lost Road</i> 292–306 [chs. 12–15]; pt. 2, ch. 6, titled “Quenta Silmarillion”)
		“The Grey Annals (<i>War of the Jewels</i> 58– 69 [text], 129–32 [commentary], pt. 1; years 460– 67)
Túrin Turambar	22	“Turambar and the Foalókë” (<i>Book of Lost Tales, Part Two</i> 69–143 [ch. 2])
	23	“The Lay of the Children of Húrin” (<i>Lays</i> 3–130)
	24	“Sketch of the Mythology (<i>Shaping</i> 28–32 [text], 58– 61 [commentary]; from ch. 2, “The Earliest Silmarillion”; Tolkien ch. numbers 12–13)
		<i>Quenta Noldorinwa</i> (<i>Shaping</i> 122–31 [text], 182–87 [commentary]; from ch. 3, “The Quenta”; Tolkien ch. numbers 12–13)
		“The Earliest Annals of Beleriand (<i>Shaping</i> 303–06 [text], 322–25 [commentary]; years 173–99)
		“The Later Annals of Beleriand (<i>Lost Road</i> 138– 41 [text], 151–52 [commentary]; years 273–99)
		“Of Túrin Turamarth or Túrin the Hapless” (<i>Lost Road</i> 315–23 [ch. 17]; pt. 2, ch. 6, titled “Quenta Silmarillion”)
		“The Grey Annals (<i>War of the Jewels</i> 79–103 [text], 135– 65 [commentary]; years 472–99)
		“Ælfwine and Dirhaval” (<i>War of the Jewels</i> 311–15 [pt. 3, ch. 2])
	25	“Narn i Hîn Húrin” (<i>Unfinished Tales</i> 6–7 [introduction], 57–162 [text])
Sun and Moon	26	“The Tale of the Sun and Moon” (<i>Book of Lost Tales, Part One</i> 174-206)
		“The History of Eriol or Ælfwine and the End of the Tales” (<i>Book of Lost Tales, Part Two</i> 281-9)
		“The Earliest ‘Silmarillion,’” “The Quenta,” and “The Ambarkanta” (<i>Shaping</i> 20-1, 49-50, 97-9, 170-2, 237, 254)
		“Of the Sun and Moon and the Hiding of Valinor” (<i>Lost Road</i> 239-45)
		“Ainulindalë,” “Sixth and last section of the Annals of Aman 1495-1500 Of the Moon and the Sun. The Lighting of Endar, and the Hiding of Valinor,” “Of the Sun and Moon and the Hiding of Valinor,” and “Myths Transformed” (<i>Morgoth’s Ring</i> 3-5, 40-4, 129-38, 197-9, 367-431)

The History of Middle-earth Volumes:

- I. *The Book of Lost Tales, Part One*
- II. *The Book of Lost Tales, Part Two*
- III. *The Lays of Beleriand*
- IV. *The Shaping of Middle-earth*
- V. *The Lost Road and Other Writings*
- VI. *The Return of the Shadow* (The History of The Lord of the Rings v.1)
- VII. *The Treason of Isengard* (The History of The Lord of the Rings v.2)
- VIII. *The War of the Ring* (The History of The Lord of the Rings v.3)
- IX. *Sauron Defeated* (The History of The Lord of the Rings v.4)
- X. *Morgoth’s Ring*
- XI. *The War of the Jewels*
- XII. *The Peoples of Middle-earth*