



## After the King: Stories In Honor of J.R.R. Tolkien

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*After the King* presents an outstanding collection of new fantasy stories by an extraordinary assemblage of some of the very best writers to ever continue the tradition Tolkien began with *The Lord of the Rings*.

**Stephen R. Donaldson, Peter S. Beagle, Andrew Nortong, Terry Pratchett, Robert Silverberg, Judith Tarr, Gregory Benford, Jane Yolen, Poul and Karen Anderson, Mike Resnick, Emma Bull, Elizabeth Ann Scarborough, John Brunner, Harr Turtledove, Dennis L. McKiernan, Karen Haber, Barry M. Malzberg, and Charles de Lint** contribute to a dazzling anthology that captures the spirit and originality of Tolkien's great work.

The millions whose lives have been touched by J.R.R. Tolkien will find the same primal storytelling magic here, undiluted and running ever on.

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### Editorial Review

From Library Journal

A cautionary tale by Stephen R. Donaldson ("Reeve the Just"), a whimsical adventure in miniature by Dennis L. McKiernan ("The Halfling House"), and a tribute to the art of storytelling by Charles de Lint ("The Conjure Man") illustrate the variety of this collection of 19 stories written to celebrate the centennial of Tolkien's birth. Although fans of Middle Earth may be disappointed that none of these tales draw directly from Tolkien's world, discerning readers will find the unmistakable stamp of the master concealed in the heart of each story. All in all, this solid collection of fantasy belongs in most libraries. For a new edition of *The Lord of the Rings* and more on Tolkien, see *Classic Returns*, LJ 11/15/91.

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From Kirkus Reviews

Yet another Festschrift anthology by Greenberg, who has recently edited or coedited tributes to Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, and H.P. Lovecraft, this time to honor the much-imitated author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. The difficulty with these projects is that the writers must retain the essential flavor of their own work while evoking somehow the style or subject or tone of the revered predecessor, and here--as in the Asimov, Bradbury, and Lovecraft volumes--the quality of the stories varies tremendously. The book leads off with an exceptionally good story by Stephen R. Donaldson, "Reeve the Just," in which a legendary hero saves the day in a most unusual fashion. Emma Bull's "Silver or Gold," Peter S. Beagle's "The Naga," Judith Tarr's "Death and the Lady," and Patricia A. McKillip's "The Fellowship of the Dragon" likewise evoke something of the spirit of Tolkien while offering wonderful, original tales in their authors' own strong voices. Meanwhile, John Brunner, Barry N. Malzberg, and Gregory Benford provide solid stories, but their connection to Tolkien is slight. Much that's unfortunately mediocre, and a few stories (such as Dennis L. McKiernan's "The Halfling House," egregious at 29 pages) that would have made Tolkien himself wince--but, still, the strongest tales here are among the best short-length fantasy of the year. -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"Excellent fantasy stories by some of the finest writers in the field, written in honor of the man whose work created the audience for today's commercial genre of fantasy." *Orson Scott Card*

"A good volume with which to introduce some to modern fantasy...diverse and entertaining..from many of the notable names in the field." *Washington Post Book World*

"There's something here for nearly everyone--even J.R.R. Tolkien." *Locus*

"A worthy homage to the man who popularized the fantasy field." *The New York Review of Science Fiction*

### Users Review

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