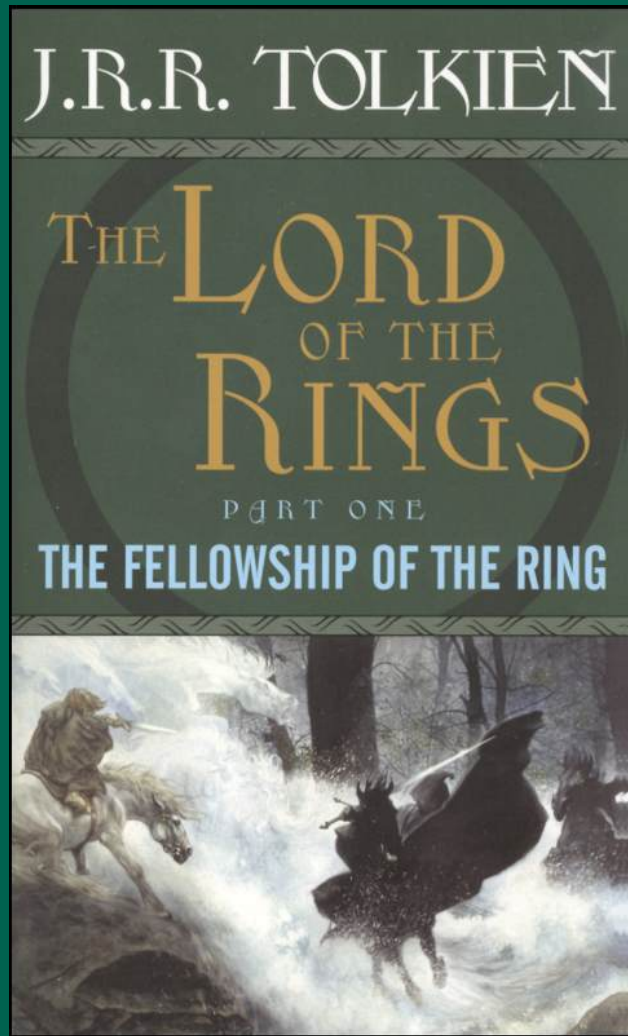


# Emulation Handbook



## The Fellowship of the Ring // J.R.R Tolkien

Three rings were given to the elves, six to the dwarfs, and nine to the mortal men. But the Dark Lord Sauron created one all powerful ring, one ring to rule them all. Sauron was slain by Isildur, who then took possession of the ring. After Isildur was shot dead by orcs, the ring was lost until it was found by Golem. The ring poisoned Golem's mind and drove him to insanity, until the ring was stolen from under his nose by a hobbit named Bilbo Baggins. Sauron has now risen again and has rallied an army of orcs, goblins, and every evil creature in Middle Earth. He is going to try to take over the world, and he needs the ring to do that. Bilbo is old now, and has passed the ring onto his young nephew Frodo. Frodo must go on a perilous quest with his friends and allies to bring the ring of power to Mount Doom, and cast it into the fires from whence it came.

# Omniscient Narration

## What's this element?

Omniscient narration is when the story is told by a third person narrator, and unlike the characters in the story, the narrator is able to see everything that is going on, can know what the characters are thinking, and what drove the characters to make certain decisions. This means that the author is giving the reader a god's view of the situation and the ability to see into the character's minds and souls.

**“As for Bilbo Baggins, even while he was making his speech, he had been fingering the golden ring in his pocket: his magic ring that he had kept secret for so many years. As he stepped down he slipped it on his finger, and was never seen by any hobbit in Hobbiton again.”**

## Why does it matter?

Perspective is a very important element of storytelling. It is the lens that you observe or experience the story from. If the reader knows that a character is planning on doing something, but a certain character doesn't know that, then that gives the reader a sense of suspense that they otherwise would not have. Omniscient narration can also strip many of the limitations that you would otherwise have in a limited first person narrated story. Often, the antics of side characters can contribute a lot to the story. For example, there was a great scene where Bilbo is about to leave and he is talking to Gandalf. In this scene, it is clear that Bilbo has already decided that he is giving the ring to Frodo, however, he is starting to have second thoughts. This is a very important scene because it shows the addictive powers of the ring. If this were told from a first person limited narration, we wouldn't have gotten to observe this scene because it didn't contain Frodo, who is the main character. In “To Kill a Mockingbird,” Atticus Finch says “You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view.” He was urging his daughter Scout to consider her teacher's perspective before judging her actions, but the idea is also important in literature.

## What's the impact on the reader?

When readers know everything that is happening in a story, they have a better understanding of what is happening. This element makes readers feel like they are seeing everything play out instead of being limited to what the characters see. This can often raise the suspense of the events that are occurring in the book, and put the reader in a place where they know something bad is going to happen, but they are powerless to stop it, which can be very emotionally effective. Also, when you know how the characters are feeling when they do certain deeds, you start to identify with the characters more, and therefore become more invested in their struggles. If you can see a person's thought process, values, and motivations, you have a more well rounded view of why they did the thing that they did.

# Verses of Poetry

## What's this element?

Throughout the story, J.R.R Tolkien decides to break up the story with poems that are relevant to what is going on in the story at the time. At times they are songs a character sings or hears, while at other times a character reads them out loud or recites a poem. The poems often, but not always, follow the rhyming pattern of ABAB, with the verses of the same letter rhyming. They often pop up at quieter and less eventful moments, and are usually recited by the characters. They are descriptive and are written in old-fashioned language.

*"Roads go ever ever on,  
Over rock and under tree,  
By caves where never sun has shone,  
By streams that never find the sea;  
Over snow by winter sown,  
And through the merry flowers of June,  
Over grass and over stone,  
And under mountains of the moon.  
Roads go ever ever on  
Under cloud and under star,  
Yet feet that wandering have gone  
Turn at last to home afar.  
Eyes that fire and sword have seen  
And horror in the halls of stone  
Look at last on meadows green  
And trees and hills they  
long have known."*

## Why does it matter?

Usually, authors decide to either do their entire book as a poem or not do any part as a poem, however, Tolkien chose to use poetry at many points throughout the story. The poems often relate to the environment or situation that the characters are in. He used them to help readers understand the feelings of the characters and their personalities, the environment around them, and the history of Middle Earth. J.R.R. Tolkien also tends to use poetry at the uneventful and quiet moments of the story, which makes those moments a lot more important and meaningful.

## What's the impact on the reader?

When Tolkien uses poetry, it adds to the medieval aesthetic of Middle Earth. This is in part because the poems are written in very old-fashioned language. When the poems are used to set a mood, the mood of the story, environments, and characters often affects the emotions of the readers, which allows the reader to feel like they are also in Middle Earth on a quest with Frodo and his friends. When J.R.R. Tolkien needed to give exposition and backstory about the rings, he did it in the form of a poem. Exposition dumps can often bore or tire the reader, however, when you turn them into a poem, they become a lot more engaging and enjoyable.

# Imagery

## What's this element?

Imagery is using descriptions in text to create pictures in the readers' minds. In order for the reader to see something in his or her mind, the Author must give them precise instructions as to what they are supposed to see. Authors often do this by including lots of very thorough descriptions of the people, objects, and locations. When audiences are trying to visualize things in their minds, it is usually helpful to have something from the real world to compare the people, places, and things from the story to. This is why the authors also tend to use a lot of comparative language such as metaphors and similes.

"There were rockets like a flight of scintillating birds singing with sweet voices. There were green trees with trunks of dark smoke: their leaves opened like a whole spring unfolding in a moment, and their shining branches dropped glowing flowers down upon the astonished hobbits, disappearing with a sweet scent just before they touched their upturned faces. There were fountains of butterflies that flew glittering into the trees; there were pillars of coloured fires that rose and turned into eagles, or sailing ships, or a phalanx of flying swans; there was a red thunderstorm and a shower of yellow rain; there was a forest of silver spears that sprang suddenly into the air with a yell like an embattled army, and came down again into the Water with a hiss like a hundred hot snakes. And there was also one last surprise, in honour of Bilbo, and it startled the hobbits exceedingly, as Gandalf intended. The lights went out. A great smoke went up. It shaped itself like a mountain seen in the distance, and began to glow at the summit. It spouted green and scarlet flames. Out flew a red-golden dragon - not life-size, but terribly life-like: fire came from his jaws, his eyes glared down; there was a roar, and he whizzed three times over the heads of the crowd. They all ducked and many fell flat on their faces. The dragon passed like an express train, turned a somersault, and burst over Bywater with a deafening explosion."

## Why does it matter?

Imagery is important because it allows the reader to paint a more clear picture of what is going on in the story in their mind. If the reader doesn't know what the locations, objects, and people look like, then the pictures that they create in their minds will be hazy and unclear. If the readers can't visualize what is happening in the story, they will have a much harder time understanding and getting invested in what is happening in the story. Also, one of the great things about books is that they allow the reader to imagine things that they will never see in real life. This especially pertains to fantasy, since the genre is full of those things. Considering that, it would seem that having a clear picture of those things would enhance the experience. In *Lord of the Rings*, J.R.R Tolkien created one of the greatest fictional worlds in the history of storytelling. Using imagery, he was able to mentally transport us to that world, and allowed us to visualize and experience all of the detail of his world.

## What's the impact on the reader?

Imagery exists for the purpose of letting people see things in their mind that they would never get to see with their eyes. This means that when you have a really clear mental picture, it will evoke an even stronger feeling of awe, dread, or whatever emotion the image was intended to evoke in the reader. Also, readers are probably going to be more invested in the story if they have a more clear sense of sight. In the quote above, the author uses imagery to evoke the same sense of awe in the reader that the hobbits are described as experiencing as they view Gandalf's fireworks in the book.

# The Morning of Samuel Anderson

Samuel Anderson was a young lad. He was the son of Bartholomew Anderson, one of the great stock brokers of Chicago. He awoke one morning to the eerie, shrieking, repetitive sound of his alarm. As he awoke, his eyes were foggy, grainy, and half closed. He groaned with the volume of a tortured hippopotamus. As he rose from his bed, his arms weighed as much as anvils, his legs could barely support his weight, and the only thought on his mind was sleep. He sat down to eat a breakfast of cold soggy cereal. Then he hoisted his heavy backpack onto his back and trudged out the door.

As he strolled down the sidewalk, he saw the school bus careening around the corner. The bus was lined with dark windows, which Samuel knew had insane and noisy children behind them. When he saw the bus, he bolted towards the corner. As the bus approached, the driver honked so loudly that Samuel almost tumbled to the ground. Samuel climbed aboard and staggered through the aisles of black leather seats and loud obnoxious children. He finally found an empty seat. He collapsed on the seat with exhaustion and slumped down. He thought about his teachers always telling him to do this and do that, the unbearable stress of the endless work they piled on him, and the harsh punishments for misdemeanors. He sang softly to himself:

*As I think back to the days of yore  
With the sun in the sky life wasn't a bore.  
And spirits were high.*

*With a life of hearing command after command  
The teachers don't listen and don't understand.  
And stress crushes the soul.*

*With teachers yelling when you step out of line,  
In class they won't even let you dine.  
And hope is no more.*

*The bus jolted to a halt, and as he slowly rose and plodded out of the bus and towards the school building.*

# Annotations

## **Annotation #1**

In this scene, the reader gets to see how Samuel was feeling when he woke up, when he boarded the school bus, and when he realized that he forgot this sketchbook. I did this because it was a good way to represent how the things in Samuel's life that might seem pointless and mundane to the reader are actually very important. My hope is that when the reader reads about Samuel's emotional struggle, it will also evoke an emotional response within them.

## **Annotation #2**

Towards the end of the story, there is a poetic song that Samuel sings to himself about how painful school is. This was done to give a deeper and more stylized look into Samuel's emotions. It is a lot more interesting to hear a poetic verse about how much he misses the summer days than it is for the narrator to just straight up tell you that. My hope is that when the reader becomes more interested and engaged in Samuel's emotional struggle.

## **Annotation #3**

In this story, there is a lot of descriptive detail about his experience in the morning. There are a lot of adjectives and metaphors. For example, his eyes were described as being foggy, grainy, and half closed. In the story, it also talks about how he groaned like a tortured hippopotamus when he woke up. This was done in hopes that the reader will be able to clearly picture what Samuel is experiencing when he is waking up. I hope that this will allow the readers to recall memories of waking up on schooldays, and relate to Samuel's morning struggle.

# About The Authors

J.R.R Tolkien was a British author whose most well known work was the Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings. The Hobbit was a children's fantasy adventure story about a hobbit named Bilbo , and his journey with a bunch of Dwarves, to steal back their treasure from a dragon named Smaug. He then wrote the Lord of the Rings, a sequel to the Hobbit that was split up into three different parts, Fellowship of the Ring, Two Towers, and Return of the King. Tolkien also worked as a professor at Oxford, and fought in World War 1.



Colin Taylor-McGrane was sixteen when he made a handbook talking about the structural elements used by J.R.R Tolkien in his writing and wrote a story that emulated his style. He was a student at Science Leadership Academy, and he was reading The Fellowship of the Ring, which was the first book in the Lord of the Rings Trilogy. Colin had always been a fan of the fantasy genre, because of the endless possibilities that it allows for. While reading the book, Colin determined that J.R.R Tolkien was one of, if not the greatest fantasy authors of all time.

