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in TIME



THE LORD OF THE RINGS™ THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

- How a Literary Classic Became a Cinematic Masterpiece
- Friends and Foes in Middle-earth
- Elijah Wood on Frodo Baggins: An Exclusive Interview

Plus: Essay Contest on the Power of Fellowship



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VERBATIM

“One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them.
One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them.”

From the opening of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*

“I will take the ring, though I do not know the way.”

Frodo Baggins, Hobbit hero of *The Lord of the Rings*

“The world will forever more be divided into two types of people: those who have read *The Lord of the Rings* and those who are going to.”

The *London Sunday Times*, 1954

“This is a story of survival and courage, about a touching last stand that paved the way for the ascent of humankind.”

Peter Jackson, director of *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy

“Hobbiton really wasn't a set at all. It was a real open-air village, with growing crops and flowers actually sprouting in gardens, birds singing, insects ... Nothing was plastic or fake.”

Ian McKellen, who plays the wizard Gandalf in the movie trilogy

EPIC JOURNEY:

To prevent the Dark Lord Sauron from enslaving the peoples of Middle-earth, Frodo Baggins and his eight companions must journey to Mount Doom, in the land of Mordor, to destroy the powerful One Ring forever.



NUMBERS

100,000,000

People worldwide who have read *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy since its publication in 1954.

40

Languages into which the trilogy has been translated.

7,000

Years ago when Middle-earth is said to have existed.

9

Members of the Fellowship of the Ring. Among them: four Hobbits, an Elf, a Dwarf, a Wizard and two men.

100

Different locations that appear in the film version of *The Fellowship of the Ring*.

1,600

Pairs of prosthetic Hobbit feet used during production of the films.

900

Suits of handmade armor created for use in the films.

20,602

Extra actors cast in *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*.

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Creators of the Fellowship

J.R.R. Tolkien: Inventing a World

TIME
CAPSULE

The following tribute to J.R.R. Tolkien, author of The Lord of the Rings trilogy, appeared in TIME on September 17, 1973.

KNOWING THAT AN IMAGINARY world must be realistically equipped down to the last whisker of the last monster, John Ronald Reuel Tolkien (1892-1973) put close to 20 years into the creation of the three volumes of *The Lord of the Rings* and its predecessor, *The Hobbit* (1938). An Oxford professor of Old and Middle English, Tolkien equipped readers with 1,657 pages of appendixes, indexes and impeccable notes on all the languages, including Elvish and Sindarin, spoken on Middle-earth, the land where the story takes place. Beginning in 1954, when the trilogy came out, Tolkien saw his readership spread from a handful of British fans to hundreds of thousands of U.S. students who made Frodo Baggins a national figure.

But who, exactly, is Frodo Baggins? The hero of one of the great fairy-tale quests in modern literature, Frodo is a Hobbit, three feet or so tall. The ring that has been entrusted to him is magic and dangerous. It renders the good who wear it invisible—and it provides the power to dominate the world to any evil personage who may possess it. The only hope for peace lies with poor Frodo. Accompanied by a band of eight loyal companions, he sets out to destroy the ring.

In the 1950s, critics claimed that fumbling, heroic Frodo was the West, while his foe, the evil Sauron, was Joseph Stalin. Tolkien took all this stoically. But he did point out that, in a world of poverty, injustice and death, fairy tales correspond to the age-old desire for the “consolation of the happy ending.” Tolkien even coined a word, *Eucatastrophe*, for this happy quality. *Eucatastrophe*, said Tolkien, gives the reader “a catch of breath, a beat and lifting of the heart, a piercing glimpse of joy and heart’s desire.”



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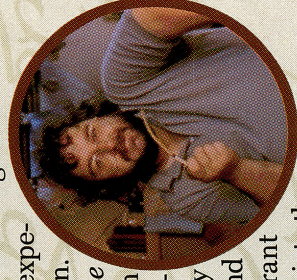
Peter Jackson: Bringing Tolkien's Vision to the Screen

LIKE FRODO BAGGINS, DIRECTOR/screenwriter Peter Jackson set off on a monumental quest: to transport moviegoers to the extraordinary world of Middle-earth in a way that is believable and powerful. “I wanted to take all the great moments from the books and use modern technology to give audiences nights at the movies unlike anything they’ve experienced before,” explains Jackson.

For the first installment, *The Fellowship of the Ring*, Jackson and his fellow writers paid particular attention to Tolkien’s many vivid descriptions of characters and places, hoping to create a vibrant world that would draw audiences into the adventure as participants.

“Tolkien writes in a way that makes everything come alive,” continues Jackson, “and we wanted to set that realistic feeling of an ancient world-come-to-life right away with the first film, then continue to build it as the story unravels. We constantly referred to the book, not just in writing the screenplay, but also throughout the production. Every time we shot a scene, I re-read that part of the book right before, as did the cast. It was always worth it, always inspiring.”

An only child born in 1961 on the coast of New Zealand, Jackson started experimenting with film at age 8, when his parents bought him a Super-8 camera. In adapting *The Lord of the Rings*, Jackson wanted to bring front and center Tolkien’s themes of good versus evil, nature versus industry, and friendship versus the forces of corruption. “All the major themes are introduced in *The Fellowship of the Ring*,” he notes. “The most obvious one is good versus evil, but this story is also about how friendship endures and overcomes even in a world of tremendous upheaval and change. We really tried to make these themes part of the fabric of the first film.”



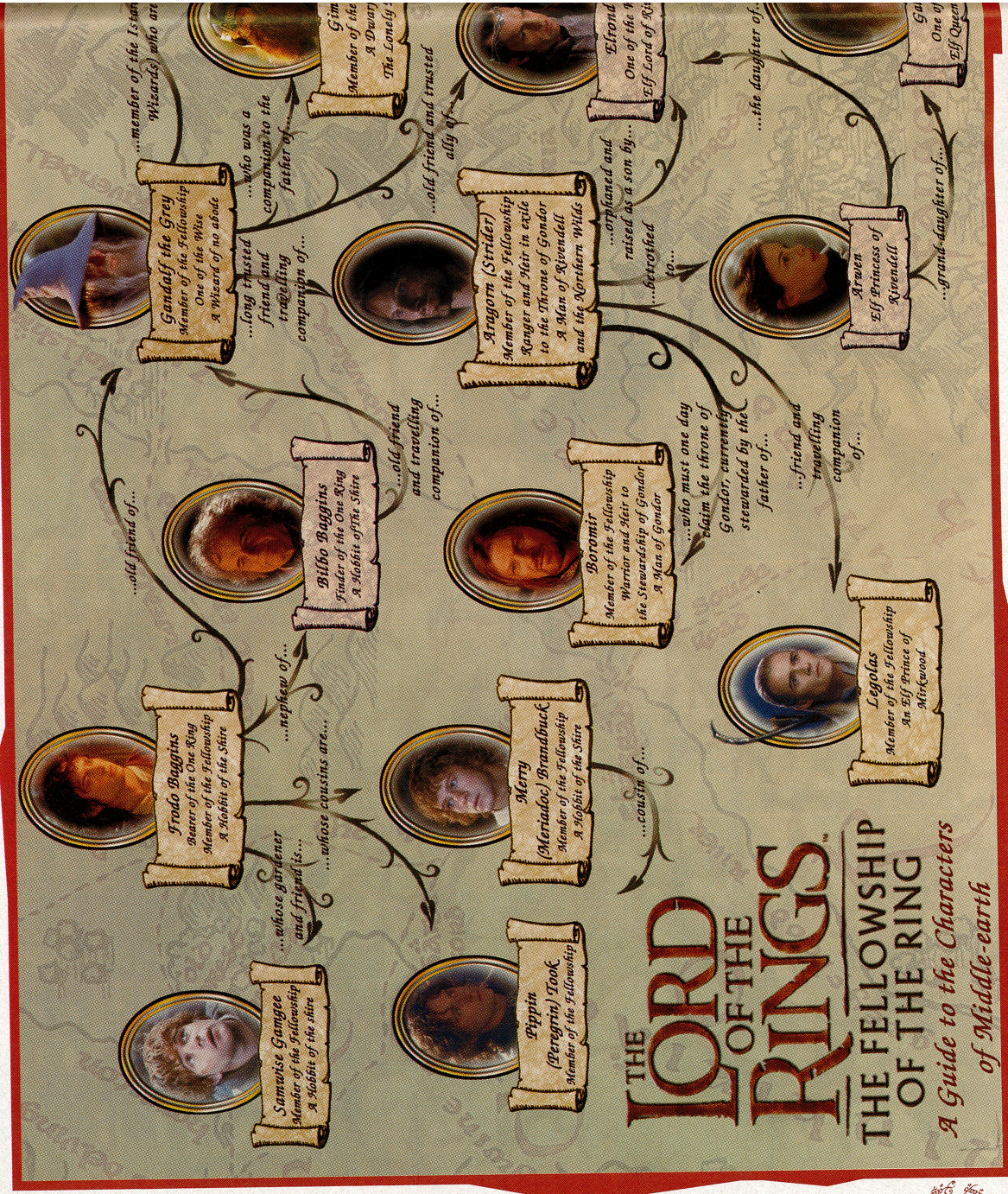
The Forces of Good and Evil:

Hobbits: A Gentle Breed

At the center of *The Fellowship of the Ring* is the story's 3'6" hero, **FRODO BAGGINS**, the Hobbit who assumes responsibility for destroying the One Ring after he inherits it from his uncle Bilbo. Three Hobbit friends—Sam, Merry and Pippin—accompany Frodo on his quest. Gentle and unobtrusive, Hobbits like to eat as often as possible: their daily meals include Breakfast, Second Breakfast, Eleventimes, Luncheon, Afternoon Tea and Supper. In a 1958 letter, J.R.R. Tolkien wrote, "I am in fact a Hobbit (in all but size). I like gardens, trees and unmechanized farmlands ... good plain food ... and have a very simple sense of humour."

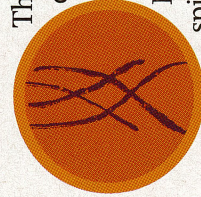
Pillars of the Fellowship

Four skilled warriors join the Hobbits on their long journey. Of the four, two are human: the mysterious **ARAGORN** (also known as Strider), and the valiant **BOROMIR**, who lacks respect for the One Ring's devastating power. **LEGOLAS**, the archer son of an Elf king, and **GIMLI**, the stout-hearted axe-man who represents the Dwarves of Middle-earth, round out the Fellowship. "Elves see Dwarves as muddy creatures who steal from the earth without giving back," notes Orlando Bloom, the actor who plays Legolas. "But Legolas and Gimli grow to respect one another's differences. They learn to rely on each other in battle—and to laugh together."



Friends and Foes in Middle-earth

A Powerful Wizard

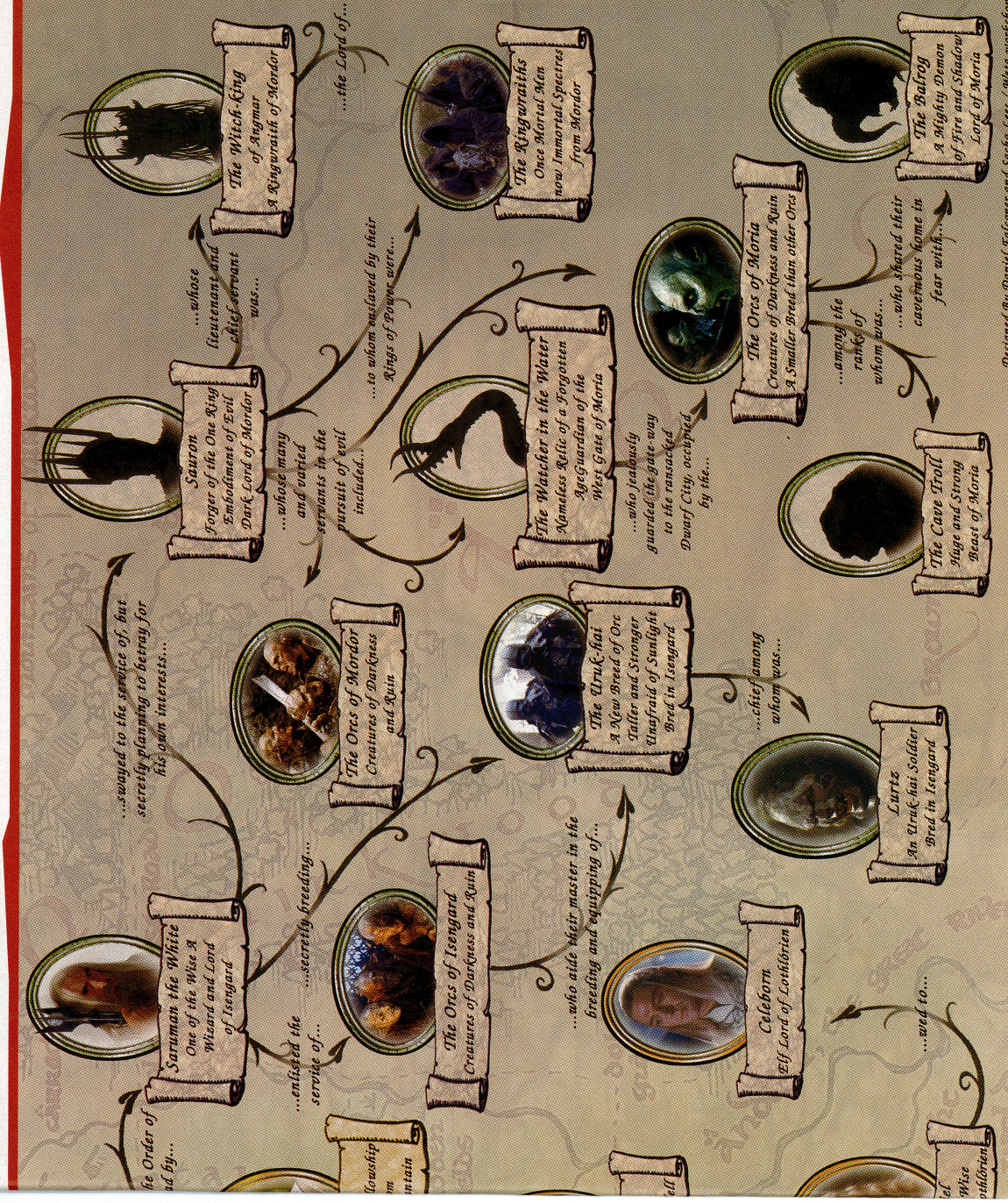


The ninth member of the Fellowship, and one of Frodo's closest allies in his quest to destroy the One Ring, is the powerful WIZARD GANDALF. A member of the Istari—the Order of Wizards—and an ancient spirit, Gandalf has been sent to help the Free Peoples of Middle-earth in their battle against the escalating evil of Sauron. “I think in the creation of Gandalf, Tolkien was playing with ideas about wizards from stories and classic tales throughout time,” says Ian McKellen, the legendary actor who portrays Gandalf in the films. “Gandalf is related to Merlin, and maybe even Shakespeare’s Prospero, but he also is very much his own man.”

The Forces of Darkness



Facing off against the Fellowship is the evil WIZARD SARUMAN, once the head of the Council of the Wise, who wants Frodo's ring and is willing to use his specially bred army of Uruk-Hai—grotesque, savage creatures—to get it. Meanwhile, the creator of the ring, the **DARK LORD SAURON**, has assembled a vast army of his own in an effort to find the ring and, with it, to reclaim power over Middle-earth. The creatures and spies in Sauron's army include Orcs (Elves who were tortured and transformed into a new breed of demonic monsters), Ringwraiths, Trolls and Wargs, all of whom are intent on capturing Frodo and the other members of the Fellowship.



Turning Words Into Images:

Early in the development of *The Lord of the Rings* films, director Peter Jackson made an ambitious decision: the production would create every single item in Middle-earth from scratch. This decision was logical, since nothing from Middle-earth actually exists. But Jackson's vision resulted in a logistical undertaking beyond what anyone had ever attempted before.

To get an idea of the sheer scope of creating Middle-earth, consider the following facts:



A special foam latexing oven was running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to churn out Hobbit ears and feet and Uruk-Hai arms and legs, among other prosthetics.



Each of the 200 Orc heads made for the film was unique—an individually shaped mask made of latex foam silicone and implanted with yak hair, woven strand by strand for different hair styles.



Some 300 handmade knotted wigs were permed in a giant pressure cooker in the workshops of WETA, the special-effects company that worked on the project.



The films were shot in more than 100 locations, with principal photography taking place in New Zealand. More than 200 digital-effects artists spent thousands of hours enhancing the New Zealand landscape to create environments that mirror images of Middle-earth. They sought to make the colors and locations of Middle-earth feel as if they have existed since the beginning of time.



To create Hobbiton—the village where Frodo and his Hobbit friends live—the filmmakers planted 5,000 cubic meters of flower and vegetable gardens a full year before filming began.



A Musical Language Unlocking the Mysteries of Elvish

The entire cast of *The Lord of the Rings* underwent intensive training in ancient arts and languages for their roles. This included studying sword fighting; learning horsemanship; and practicing Elvish—a language created by J.R.R. Tolkien—with dialect and creative language coaches Andrew Jack and Roisín Carty.

Jack and Carty developed a unique accent and cadence for Elvish, fun trying to learn Elvish, but it wasn't

based in part on Celtic. The coaches conducted exercises during which the actors stood in front of a mirror, making curious noises and faces, and learning to use their facial muscles in completely new ways. The result: the actors found their own accents spontaneously. Jack and Carty taught the actors as if they were learning a language from scratch, not simply memorizing script lines. "It was a lot of fun trying to learn Elvish, but it wasn't

easy," says Orlando Bloom, who plays Legolas in the films. "But when you get the flow of it, it sounds beautiful."



The Making of a Film Masterpiece



A Different Kind of Hobbit AN INTERVIEW WITH ELIJAH WOOD

To play Frodo Baggins—the central character in *The Lord of the Rings*—the filmmakers chose 20-year-old Elijah Wood for his energy and charisma. “Elijah has a sincerity of purpose that just makes him a natural in the role,” observes producer Barrie M. Osborne. “He is capable of taking the character through a real transformation, which begins with *The Fellowship of the Ring*.” Wood spoke with inTIME about the experience of playing Frodo in the film trilogy.

Frodo Baggins seems an unlikely hero. What do you think led him to embark on his quest? I think there is a wisdom within Frodo, which really begins to play out when he realizes that it is his destiny to take this ring and try to destroy it. He is fighting for the salvation of his people, and for Hobbiton and the shire, which he holds quite precious. There’s quite a lot of courage within Frodo to accept the journey and the path that makes him stand apart from the other Hobbits.

Could you talk about the idea of fellowship as it developed among the actors?

We became very much like a family, and I think the relationships mirrored those of the actual Fellowship at its height. That’s something I’ve never experienced before. It was incredible—a closeness that transcended friendship.

THE QUEST FOR PERFECTION: Peter Jackson (bottom left in photo above) spent more than four years writing and directing *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. Jackson is shown here on location in New Zealand with Elijah Wood and other cast members.



What is the story behind the tattoo that you and the other Fellowship actors decided to get? All of us recognized the reality of the Fellowship, and the fact that we were enjoying an adventure and an experience that was unlike anything that we had ever done or would ever do again. So we all got together and agreed on an Elvish symbol for the word “nine,” which stood for the nine members of the Fellowship. And then we all went to a tattoo parlor together and got tattooed in various places, but all with that one symbol. It represents our friendship, and the fact that we will always be the Fellowship of the Ring.

Do you think Tolkien’s vision of good and evil has relevance to our world today? In an odd sort of way, I think Tolkien’s vision is more relevant today than it’s ever been. The first time I saw the film was after the events of September 11, and it struck me that the themes in the story—and this grand evil that the characters are fighting against—are incredibly similar to what is going on in the world today.



Visit WWW.TIMECLASSROOM.COM/FELLOWSHIP for more articles, photos and tips for students planning to enter the Power of Fellowship essay contest. (See page 8 for contest details.)

The Power of Fellowship

Enter by
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An Essay Contest for Students

In *The Fellowship of the Ring*, Frodo Baggins accepts a daunting challenge: to destroy the One Ring in the fires of Mount Doom, where it was forged. But he can't do it alone. A Fellowship bands together to lend Frodo the knowledge of Gandalf the Wizard; the loyalty of his Hobbit friends Sam, Merry and Pippin; the courage of the humans Aragorn and Boromir; the skill of Legolas the Elf; and the strength of Gimli the Dwarf. The members of this diverse group are aided in their quest by Arwen, Galadriel and Elrond, whose knowledge of the One Ring illuminates the danger and importance of their journey.

What forms does fellowship take in today's world? And in what ways has fellowship made a difference in your life? The Power of Fellowship Essay Contest encourages students to reflect on these questions.

How It Works

In an essay of up to 500 words, write about a situation in which fellowship, teamwork or camaraderie helped you achieve a goal, overcome an obstacle or meet a challenge in your own life. The contest is open to high school students in grades 9 through 12. Essays must be the work of individual students; group entries are not allowed. Students under age 18 must obtain the signature of a parent or guardian in order to enter.

Essays must be typed or word-processed and will be judged by a panel of TIME editors and educators. Judging will be based on the following criteria, each of which will constitute 50 percent of the overall score: *content* (including creativity, storytelling technique and clarity); and *style* (including structure, organization, grammar and mechanics).

Prizes

5 GRAND-PRIZE WINNERS will receive *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* Collector's DVD Gift Set. This set includes the Special Extended DVD Edition 4-Disc Set, featuring more than 30 minutes of new and extended scenes in the movie, plus hours of bonus material. Also included in the Gift Set are Argonath bookends sculpted by the artists who created the effects for the movie, collectible Decipher game cards, and a special edition of National Geographic's *Beyond the Movie* DVD.

10 FIRST-PRIZE WINNERS will receive The Special Extended DVD Edition of *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* 4-Disc Set. This set features more than 30 minutes of new and extended scenes in the movie, plus hours of bonus material.

Student Contest Official Rules

No purchase or payment of any kind is necessary to enter or win this contest. Void where prohibited by law. U.S. Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico residents only, who are in grades 9-12. Essays must be the original work of individual students; group entries are not allowed. Entrants under 18 must receive permission from their parent/legal guardian prior to entry and sign the attached entry form. By participating in the essay contest, entrants and their parent/legal guardian agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of TIME CLASSROOM, and the independent judges whose decisions are final and binding in all respects. All entries become the property of Time Inc. and may be used in future issues of TIME Magazine, TIME CLASSROOM, TIME For Kids, and other Time Inc. publications. Student Contest begins at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on 9/10/02 and ends at 11:59 p.m. (EST) on 10/20/02. HOW TO ENTER: 1. In an essay of 500 words or less, write about a situation in which fellowship, teamwork or camaraderie helped you achieve a goal, overcome an obstacle or meet a challenge in your own life. What forms does fellowship take in today's world? And in what ways has fellowship made a difference in your life? Essays must be typed or word-processed. The contest is open to high school students in grades 9 through 12. Essays must be the work of individual students; group entries are not allowed. 2. Fill out the entry form on this page. Entrants under 18 must receive permission from their parent/legal guardian prior to entry and sign the attached entry form. By participating in the essay contest, entrants and their parent/legal guardian agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of TIME CLASSROOM, and the independent judges whose decisions are final and binding in all respects. All entries become the property of Time Inc. and may be used in future issues of TIME Magazine, TIME CLASSROOM, TIME For Kids, and other Time Inc. publications. Student Contest begins at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on 9/10/02 and ends at 11:59 p.m. (EST) on 10/20/02. HOW TO ENTER: 1. In an essay of 500 words or less, write about a situation in which fellowship, teamwork or camaraderie helped you achieve a goal, overcome an obstacle or meet a challenge in your own life. What forms does fellowship take in today's world? And in what ways has fellowship made a difference in your life? Essays must be typed or word-processed. The contest is open to high school students in grades 9 through 12. Essays must be the work of individual students; group entries are not allowed. 3. Fill out the entry form on this page. Entrants under 18 must receive permission from their parent/legal guardian prior to entry and sign the attached entry form. By participating in the essay contest, entrants and their parent/legal guardian agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of TIME CLASSROOM, and the independent judges whose decisions are final and binding in all respects. All entries become the property of Time Inc. and may be used in future issues of TIME Magazine, TIME CLASSROOM, TIME For Kids, and other Time Inc. publications. Student Contest begins at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on 9/10/02 and ends at 11:59 p.m. (EST) on 10/20/02. HOW TO ENTER: 1. In an essay of 500 words or less, write about a situation in which fellowship, teamwork or camaraderie helped you achieve a goal, overcome an obstacle or meet a challenge in your own life. What forms does fellowship take in today's world? And in what ways has fellowship made a difference in your life? Essays must be typed or word-processed. The contest is open to high school students in grades 9 through 12. Essays must be the work of individual students; group entries are not allowed. 4. All entries must be **postmarked by October 13, 2002** and **received by October 20, 2002**.

100 RUNNERS-UP will receive the Standard Edition of *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* 2-DVD set.

IF YOUR ENTRY IS AMONG THE FIRST 50 RECEIVED, you'll win a free *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* soundtrack on CD.

How To Enter

1. Write an essay of up to 500 words on "the power of fellowship."
2. Fill out the entry form below.
3. Mail the entry form and a typed copy of your essay to *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* Student Contest, TIME Classroom, P.O. Box 5175, New York, NY 10185-5175.
4. All entries must be **postmarked by October 13, 2002** and **received by October 20, 2002**.

Name

Age

Street address

City/State/ZIP code

Telephone

E-mail address (optional)

Name of parent or guardian (required for entrants under 18)

Parent or guardian signature (required for entrants under 18)

Name of school