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Tolkien's Animals: A Bibliography

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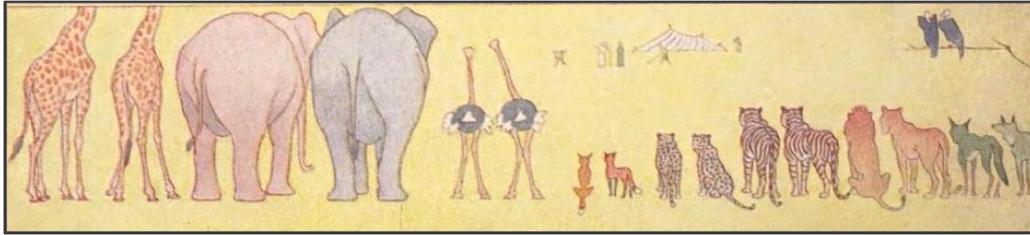
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Tolkien's Animals: A Bibliography

Cover Page Footnote

My warmest thanks go to Janet Brennan Croft for her invaluable aid in identifying and locating several sources for this project, and also to Bill Fliss, John Garth, and Karel van Houten for their assistance.

Tolkien's Animals: A Bibliography



Smith, E. Boyd. *After They Came out of the Ark* (c.1918).

This bibliography of published research on “Tolkien’s Animals” serves as a coda to the essays in this special issue of *Journal of Tolkien Research*. It includes nearly 100 English-language entries, primarily studies on Tolkien’s depictions of various animal species, and the literary and mythological influences behind them. But there are also essays on cultural, historical, philological, psychological, religious, and scientific aspects of Tolkien’s animals. Any of Tolkien’s works were open to examination, not just those set in Middle-earth. Any species of (non-humanoid) animal was considered for inclusion. (One might quibble at the inclusion, then, of Werebears, but the considerable interest in that topic necessitated its inclusion.) Research on humanoid species, such as Orcs, Trolls, Giants, Mermaids, Fairies, and the like, was not specifically sought out for inclusion, nor was research on plant-life, although some of these are mentioned in some of the works listed here.

The purpose of this bibliography is not to be comprehensive (a fool’s errand, at best), however, it does attempt to present a wide range of relevant scholarship. Doubtless, there is research I’ve inadvertently overlooked which should have been included here—in which case, the fault is entirely my own. The entries in this bibliography were culled from *Amon Hen*, *Fastitocalon*, *Hither Shore*, *Journal of Tolkien Research*, *Lembas* and *Lembas Extra*, *Mallorn*, *Mythlore*, *Tolkien Journal*, *Tolkien Studies* and a variety of other periodicals as well as scholarly and popular monographs, essay collections, thesis repositories, conference proceedings, a specialist encyclopedia, and one newspaper. Book reviews, blogs and other social media are not included, as their addition would have made this list unmanageably long. Although some of these sources also publish works in languages other than English, only those pieces written in English are included here, again, for concerns with the final length of the bibliography. While the majority of entries were published or presented between 1990-2022, this list also includes a few foundational essays from the ‘60s, ‘70s, and ‘80s. Three entries were penned by Tolkien himself: the recently published “Of the Land and Beasts of Númenor” [see

“Animals (general)”]; his 1938 lecture on “Dragons”; and an early philological essay, “The Devil’s Coach-Horses: *Eaueres*.”

Animal Sentience / Personhood

Hartley, Gregory. “Civilized Goblins and Talking Animals: How *The Hobbit* Created Problems of Sentience for Tolkien.” *The Hobbit and Tolkien’s Mythology: Essays on Revisions and Influences*, edited by Bradford L. Eden, McFarland, 2014, pp. 113–35. Book chapter on the problem of talking animals in Middle-earth as Tolkien shifted from the fairy-tale mode in *The Hobbit* to the epic mode in *The Lord of the Rings*.

Morris, Michael C. “Middle Earth, Narnia, Hogwarts, and Animals: A Review of the Treatment of Nonhuman Animals and Other Sentient Beings in Christian-Based Fantasy Fiction.” *Society & Animals*, vol. 17, no. 4, Brill, Aug. 2009, pp. 343–56.

<https://doi.org/10.1163/106311109x12474622855183>. Scholarly article on the portrayal of nonhuman animals and other nonhuman sentient beings in the Christian-based Harry Potter, Narnia and Middle-earth stories, with Middle-earth falling closest to a liberationist ideal.

Parrila, Sofia. “All Worthy Things: The Personhood of Nature in J.R.R. Tolkien’s Legendarium.” *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 40, no. 1, Fall/Winter 2021, pp. 5-20. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol40/iss1/2>. Scholarly article arguing that Tolkien’s Middle-earth writings endow non-human beings with personhood by emphasizing individuality, capacity for interpersonal relationships, and the agency to make moral choices; focuses mostly on flora, but also mentions fauna.

Rosegrant, John. “Of Foxes, Dancing Bears, and Wolves.” *Journal of Tolkien Research*, vol. 17, no. 2 (Issue on Tolkien’s Animals), November 2023. <https://scholar.valpo.edu/journaloftolkienresearch/vol17/iss2/>.

Peer-reviewed article examining manifestations of Tolkien’s “Faërian wish”—as expressed in *On Fairy-Stories*—to understand the proper speech of animals as that wish evolved from youthful exuberance to a quieter, more conservative approach in his later years.

Spirito, Guglielmo. “Speaking with Animals: A Desire that Lies near the Heart of Faërie.” *Hither Shore: Interdisciplinary Journal on Modern Fantasy Literature*, vol. 4 (Issue on Tolkien’s Minor Works), 2007, pp. 27-40. Also in *Tolkien’s Shorter Works: Proceedings of the 4th Seminar of the Deutsche*

Tolkien Gesellschaft and Walking Tree Publishers Decennial Conference, edited by Margaret Hiley and Frank Weinreich, Walking Tree, 2008, pp. 17-35. Conference paper on the human desire for communion with the animal “Other” and how Tolkien’s writings address that desire.

Animals (General)

Burns, Marjorie. “Spiders and Evil Red Eyes: The Shadow Sides of Gandalf and Galadriel.” *Perilous Realms: Celtic and Norse in Tolkien’s Middle-earth*, University of Toronto, 2005, pp. 93–127. Prepublication print available in *Lembas Extra: Magazine of Dutch Tolkien Society Unquendor*, 1998, pp. 36-49. Examination of Norse and Celtic influences on Tolkien’s birds (eagles, ravens and crows), wolves/wargs, horses, and spiders; includes a section comparing Odin’s horse, Sleipnir with Tolkien’s Shadowfax, and a section comparing Galadriel, Melian, Shelob and Ungoliant.

Echo-Hawk, Roger. *Tolkien in Pawneeland: The Secret Sources of Middle-earth*, Roger Echo-Hawk, 2013. Monograph hypothesizing that James R. Murie and George Dorsey’s *Traditions of the Skidi Pawnee* (1904) was a major influence on Tolkien’s legendarium, including Middle-earth’s eagles, spiders, Beorn, and Smaug.

Lehoucq, Roland, Loïc Mangin, and Jean-Sébastien Steyer, editors. *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021. “Section 6: A Fantastical Bestiary” includes eleven popular science essays by scientists, researchers, and educators on the natural history of Middle-earth fauna, pp. 275-369. (Essays on specific species are listed under appropriate sections of this bibliography.)

Simpson, Eleanor R. “The Evolution of J.R.R. Tolkien’s Portrayal of Nature: Foreshadowing Anti-speciesism.” *Tolkien Studies*, vol. 14, no. 1, 2017, pp. 71–89. <https://doi.org/10.1353/tks.2017.0007>. Scholarly article examining Critical Animal Theory and anti-speciesism, especially in *The Lord of the Rings*.

Sookoo, Lara. “Animals in Tolkien’s Works.” *J.R.R. Tolkien Encyclopedia: Scholarship and Critical Assessment*, edited by Michael D.C. Drout, Routledge, 2007, pp. 19-21. Encyclopedia article surveying Tolkien’s animals, their sentience and eschatological functions, especially eagles and other birds, Shelob, Huan, Shadowfax, and wargs. (This encyclopedia also

includes individual entries on “Beorn”; “The Devil’s Coach-Horses”; “Dragons”; “North Polar Bear”; “Shelob” and “Ungoliant.”)

Tolkien, J.R.R. “Of the Land and Beasts of Númenor.” *The Nature of Middle-earth: Late Writings on the Lands, Inhabitants, and Metaphysics of Middle-earth*, edited by Carl F. Hostetter, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2021, pp. 334-341. Reprinted (with slight re-ordering of some sections) as “The Natural Life of Númenor.” *The Fall of Númenor and Other Tales from the Second Age of Middle-earth*, edited by Brian Sibley, HarperCollins, 2022, pp. 18-26. Tolkien’s own descriptions of animals and their behaviors on and around the island of Númenor in the Second Age of Middle-earth; mentions a wide variety of large and small terrestrial and aquatic animals with special sections on bears, birds, and sea-life.

Vause, Katelyn Iris. *The Ethical Ecology of Middle-earth: What the Animals of J.R.R. Tolkien’s The Hobbit Have to Teach Us*. North Carolina State University, 2020.
<https://cdn.chass.ncsu.edu/sites/english.chass.ncsu.edu/Capstones/2020%20Spring/Vause%2C%20Katelyn%20-%20Thesis%20Final%20Draft.pdf>.
Master of Arts capstone project arguing that animals in *The Hobbit* teach young readers how to deal with different kinds of people they will encounter in life.

vom Lehn, Antje. “Animals in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*.” *Lembas Extra: Magazine of Dutch Tolkien Society Unquendor*, 2015, pp. 191-222. Overview of animal species and their functions in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, with special reference to horses/ponies, and to birds.

Bats

Comelli, Fiammetta. “From Classical to Medieval: A Reflection on Bats in Tolkien’s Works.” *Journal of Tolkien Research*, vol. 17, no. 2 (Issue on Tolkien’s Animals), November 2023.
<https://scholar.valpo.edu/journaloftolkienresearch/vol17/iss2/>.
Peer-reviewed journal article identifying the negative positioning of Tolkien’s bats despite the occurrence of both positive and negative aspects of bats in his classical and medieval sources, and also Tolkien’s use of bats to negatively mirror positive figures (for example, Thuringwethil/Lúthien, bat army/Eagle army).

Bears (including Werebears)

- Burns, Marjorie. "Skin-changing in More than One Sense: The Complexity of Beorn." *Perilous Realms: Celtic and Norse in Tolkien's Middle-earth*, University of Toronto, 2005, pp. 30–43. Earlier version available as "J.R.R. Tolkien: The British and the Norse in Tension." *Pacific Coast Philology*, vol. 25, no. 1/2, Nov. 1990, pp. 49-59. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1316804>. Explores the influence of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Beowulf*, and Icelandic sagas on the development of Beorn.
- Dupret, Vincent, and Romaric Hainez. "Beorn: Man-Bear or Bear-Man." *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 314-322. Popular science essay on Beorn's possible origins in Viking berserkers.
- Lewis, Paul W. "Beorn and Tom Bombadil: A Tale of Two Heroes." *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 25, no. 3, Spring/Summer 2007, pp. 145-160. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol25/iss3/13>. Scholarly article comparing Beorn and Bombadil, their functions, characters, and importance to Tolkien's themes.
- Noetzel, Justin T. "Beorn and Bombadil: Mythology, Place and Landscape in Middle-earth." *The Hobbit and Tolkien's Mythology: Essays on Revisions and Influences*, edited by Bradford Lee Eden, McFarland, 2014, pp. 161-180. Scholarly book chapter exploring Norse and Irish influences on the development of Beorn, and especially his representation of and connection to the natural world.
- Rosegrant, John. "Of Foxes, Dancing Bears, and Wolves" (see "Animal Sentience").
- Senney, Garrett. "The Voice of Beorn: How Language Moralizes the Monstrous." *Mallorn: The Journal of the Tolkien Society*, no. 58, 2017, pp. 21–22. journals.tolkiensociety.org/mallorn/article/view/28. Research article which concludes that Beorn may be counted on the side of good because he is able to voice the motivations and rationale for his otherwise violent behavior.
- Swank, Kris. "*The Hobbit* and *The Father Christmas Letters*," *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 32, no. 1, Fall/Winter 2013, pp. 129-146.

<https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol32/iss1/9>. Scholarly article includes a small section comparing the concomitant literary development of North Polar Bear (“Karhu”) and Beorn, pp. 142-143.

Tolkien, J.R.R. “Of the Land and Beasts of Númenor” (see “Animals (general)”).

Birds (including Eagles)

Beal, Jane. “Sam’s Song in the Tower: The Significance of ‘Merry Finches’ in J.R.R. Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*.” *Journal of Tolkien Research*, vol. 17, no. 2 (Issue on Tolkien’s Animals), November 2023. <https://scholar.valpo.edu/journaloftolkienresearch/vol17/iss2/>.

Peer-reviewed journal article argues Tolkien’s ornithological knowledge, especially of finches in England, and his deliberate echo of the legendary goldfinch’s attempt to alleviate Christ’s suffering in Sam’s attempt to alleviate Frodo’s suffering in the Tower of Cirith Ungol.

Burns, Marjorie. “Spiders and Evil Red Eyes: The Shadow Sides of Gandalf and Galadriel” (see “Animals (general)”).

Davies, Lin. “‘Birds of Manwë’—The Ambiguity of the Eagle.” *Amon Hen: Bulletin of the Tolkien Society*, vol. 202, 2006, pp. 21-24. Article on the development of eagles—across Tolkien’s various Middle-earth writings—from dangerous predators to noble creatures capable of sentiment.

Dawson, Deidre. “Tolkien’s Eagles: *Aves ex machina*?” *Journal of Tolkien Research*, vol. 17, no. 2 (Issue on Tolkien’s Animals), November 2023. <https://scholar.valpo.edu/journaloftolkienresearch/vol17/iss2/>.

Peer-reviewed article proposes Tolkien’s great Eagles as active participants in Middle-earth possessing agency and related to eucatastrophe, rather than being mere symbols derived from myth, folklore, and sacred writings.

Hartley, Gregory. “A Wind from the West: The Role of the Holy Spirit in Tolkien’s Middle-earth.” *Christianity and Literature*, vol. 62, no. 1, Autumn 2012, pp. 95-120. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/44315248>. Scholarly journal article includes a substantial discussion of the spiritual function of Tolkien’s eagles, pp. 112-116.

Hawkins, Emma B. “Tolkien and Chaucer: Eagles with Attitude.” *VII: Journal of the Marion E. Wade Center*, vol. 23, 2006, pp. 59–68. Scholarly article proposing Chaucer’s influence on Tolkien’s various eagle rides.

- Larsen, Kristine. "Sea Birds and Morning Stars: Ceyx, Alcyone, and the Many Metamorphoses of Eärendil and Elwing." *Tolkien and the Study of his Sources: Critical Essays*, edited by Jason Fisher, McFarland, 2011, pp. 69-83. Source study compares the Greek mythological tale of Ceyx and Alcyone (who were transformed into birds) with the planets Mercury and Venus, and with Tolkien's Eärendil and Elwing.
- Louchart, Antoine. "Flying Giants! Really?" *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 347-355. Popular science essay on the morphology of Tolkien's giant eagles; mentions cryptozoological species: the gryphon, Ngoima, and Thunderbird.
- . "Tolkien, the Ornithologist." *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 284-293. General-interest survey of the various bird species of Middle-earth.
- Müller, Eike. "The Eagles — Means of Transportation or Sign of Divine Aid?" *Amon Hen: Bulletin of the Tolkien Society*, vol. 154, November 1998, pp. 17-18. Brief article discusses the roles of eagles in carrying out errands, and their divine origins equated with heaven.
- Neubauer, Łukasz. "'The Eagles are coming!' Tolkien's Eucatastrophic Reinterpretation of the 'Beasts of Battle' Motif in *The Hobbit* and in *The Lord of The Rings*." *Hither Shore: Interdisciplinary Journal on Modern Fantasy Literature*, vol. 12 (issue on Tolkien's *On Fairy-stories*), 2015, pp. 236-246. Examines Tolkien's depiction of eagles as intelligent and morally superior, if still ambiguous, creatures who, on one hand, are the visual prototype of beasts of battle from early Germanic verse and, on the other hand, are agents of eucatastrophe.
- . "'The Eagles are coming!' A Pneumatological Reinterpretation of the Old Germanic 'Beasts of Battle' Motif in the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien." *Journal of Inklings Studies*, vol. 11, no. 2, 169, 15 October 2021, pp. 169-192. <https://doi.org/10.3366/ink.2021.0113>. Examines Tolkien's depiction of eagles as proto-Christian manifestations of the Holy Spirit.
- . "The Eagle is Not Coming: Some Remarks on the Absence of the News-Bearing Eagle in Peter Jackson's Adaptation of *The Lord of the Rings*." *Fastitocalon: Studies in Fantasticism Ancient to Modern*, vol. 6, nos. 1 and 2 (Issue on

Fantastic Animals, Animals in the Fantastic), 2016, pp. 99-108. Examining Tolkien's depiction of eagles, focused on their evangelical role as messengers of joyous tidings, and Peter Jackson's reduction of their eucatastrophic function in his films.

Payne, Kenneth. "Eagles and Air Power: *The Lord of the Rings* as Doctrine." *Air Power Review*, vol. 17, no. 1, 2014, pp. 66-75. Reprinted on Royal Air Force: Centre for Air and Space Power Studies, April 17, 2018. <https://medium.com/raf-caps/eagles-and-air-power-the-lord-of-the-rings-as-doctrine-ca847ec02c39>. General-interest article comparing the battle tactics used by Tolkien's eagles to modern aerial warfare.

Spirito, Guglielmo. "Wolves, Ravens, and Eagles: A Mythic Presence in *The Hobbit*." *Hither Shore: Interdisciplinary Journal on Modern Fantasy Literature*, vol. 5 (Issue on *The Hobbit*), 2008, pp. 86-105. Scholarly article discussing European mythic symbolism related to Tolkien's depictions of wolves, ravens and eagles in *The Hobbit*.

Tolkien, J.R.R. "Of the Land and Beasts of Númenor" (see "Animals (general)").

vom Lehn, Antje. "Animals in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*" (see "Animals (general)").

Cats

Abbott, Joe. "Tolkien's Monsters: Concept and Function in *The Lord of the Rings* (Part III): Sauron." *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 16, no. 3, Spring 1990, pp. 51-59. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol16/iss3/8>. Scholarly article on the evolution of Sauron from the character of Tevildo, Prince of Cats.

Bunting, Nancy. "Shelob's Origins in Tolkien's Cats." *Critical Insights: The Lord of the Rings*, edited by Robert C. Evans, Salem Press, 2022, pp. 196-212. Scholarly book chapter tracing Tolkien's attitudes toward cats; proposes the Irish faery Irusan, "king of the cats," as a possible source for Tolkien's Tevildo, Prince of Cats, and hypothesizes a gradual merging in Tolkien's legendarium of cats and spiders as signifiers of death and evil.

Doughan, David. "Well, I'm Back: Tibbles, Fauna of Mordor." *Mallorn: The Journal of the Tolkien Society*, iss. 46, Autumn 2008, p. 50. <https://journals.tolkienociety.org/mallorn/issue/view/47/48>. Brief note on

the connection between Shakespeare's Tybalt from *Romeo and Juliet* and Tolkien's Tevildo in *The Book of Lost Tales*.

Svadkovskaia, Polina. "Tolkien's Tevildo: Of Fables, Rings, and Cats." *Journal of Tolkien Research*, vol. 17, no. 2 (Issue on Tolkien's Animals), Nov. 2023. <https://scholar.valpo.edu/journaloftolkienresearch/vol17/iss2/>.

Article exploring parallels between Tevildo, the Prince of Cats, and the Aesopian and Reynardian narratives, positing that Tolkien strategically repurposes these fables in his preliminary experimentations with depicting evil. That Tevildo ultimately fails to be a truly frightening representation of evil is significantly due to the fragmentation of his powers.

Cryptids (excluding Dragons)

Bardin, Jérémie, and Isabelle Kruta. "The Watcher Between Two Waters." *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 356-363. Popular science essay on the morphology and behavior of Tolkien's Watcher in the Water; mentions cryptozoological species: the Kraken, hydra, and aquatic dragons.

Grisson, Benoît. "The Cryptozoological Bestiary of J.R.R. Tolkien." *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 364-369. Popular science essay on some of Tolkien's cryptids: the Great Sea Serpent, the aspidochelone (i.e., Fastitocalon), the Watcher in the Water/Kraken, and Beorn/the wild-man.

Larsen, Kristine. "'A Creature of an Older World': Tolkien and the Mythology of the Prehistoric." *Lembas Extra: Magazine of Dutch Tolkien Society Unquendor*, 2015, pp. 167-90. Discusses Tolkien's fascination with geology and paleontology; mentions dragons, dinosaurs, flying Nazgûl steeds, mûmakil, drasils, and other prehistoric or pseudo-historic animals in Tolkien's writings.

Louchart, Antoine. "Flying Giants! Really?" (See "Birds (including Eagles)")

Deer

- Swank, Kris. "The Deer-Maid Motif in *The Children of Húrin*." *Journal of Tolkien Research*, vol. 17, no. 2 (Issue on Tolkien's Animals), November 2023. <https://scholar.valpo.edu/journaloftolkienresearch/vol17/iss2/>. Scholarly article reading Niënor Níniel in *The Children of Húrin* as a Celtic deer-maiden with numerous analogues of the Irish figure of Saav (i.e., Sadhbh). Also mentions Tolkien's other uses of the deer-maid motif.

Dogs, Wolves & Foxes

- Burns, Marjorie. "Spiders and Evil Red Eyes: The Shadow Sides of Gandalf and Galadriel" (see "Animals (general)").
- Dupret, Vincent, and Romaric Hainez. "Wargs: War-Dogs of Scandinavian Origins?" *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 305-313. Popular science essay on the origins of Tolkien's wargs from European gray wolves, particularly the Norse mythological Fenrir, (extinct) North American dire wolves and, in Peter Jackson's films, from African hyenas.
- Fimi, Dimitra. "Tolkien, Folklore, and Foxes: A Thoroughly Vulpine Talk in Which There May Be Singing!" *Tolkien 2019*, Tolkien Society, Birmingham, August 2019. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/rAAYOnkVnwk>. Conference keynote traces Tolkien's engagement with foxes in poems, songs, essays, letters, scholarly and fiction writing; mentions, among other topics, the fox in *The Lord of the Rings*, the French beast-fable character, Reynard the Fox, Tolkien's reuse of the tune from "The Fox Went Out," and "Reginhardus the Fox," Tolkien's unpublished bestiary poem.
- Hawkins, Emma. "Tolkien and Dogs, Just Dogs: In Metaphor and Simile." *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 27, no. 3, Spring/Summer 2009, pp. 143-57. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol27/iss3/17/>. Scholarly study which examines literal dogs in Tolkien's writings (e.g., Huan, Rover and Garm) as well as figurative dogs (e.g., Sam, Gollum, and Wormtongue) and the literary allusions, metaphors and similes that Tolkien uses.
- Marchant, Jennifer. "Doubles at Work: The Three Rovers in J.R.R. Tolkien's *Roverandom*." *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles*

Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature, vol. 38, no. 1, Fall/Winter 2019, pp. 97–114. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol38/iss1/6/>.

Explores Roverandom's two double-selves—the moon dog and the mer-dog—as companions, alternate selves, and catalysts for Rover's spiritual development.

Pridmore, Julie. "Evil Reputations: Images of Wolves in Tolkien's Fiction." *The Mirror Crack'd: Fear and Horror in JRR Tolkien's Major Works*, edited by Lynn Forest-Hill, Cambridge Scholars, 2008, pp. 197-227. Survey of Tolkien's wolves and their sources in European literature and legend; includes a small section on adaptations of Tolkien's wolves in art and film.

Pugh, Dylan. "A Dog's Eye View." *Amon Hen: Bulletin of the Tolkien Society*, vol. 98, July 1989, pp. 17-18. Brief article describes famous hounds of Celtic legend (Irish and Welsh), and Tolkien's Huan and Garm as representatives of the "Celtic"-type of dog.

Rosegrant, John. "Of Foxes, Dancing Bears, and Wolves" (see "Animal Sentience").

Ryan, J. "Warg, Wearg, Earg, and Werewolf: A Note on a Speculative Tolkien Etymology." *Mallorn: The Journal of the Tolkien Society*, no. 23, 1986, pp. 25-29. <https://journals.tolkiensociety.org/mallorn/article/view/237>. Etymological essay explores Tolkien's manyfold restorations of the Old English word *wearg* and its cognates in modern English, for example, his wargs (wolves), werebear (Beorn), werewolf (Draugluin), and wolf-men (Túrin's outlaw-band).

Spirito, Guglielmo. "Wolves, Ravens, and Eagles" (see "Birds (including Eagles)").

Swank, Kris. "The Irish Otherworld Voyage of Roverandom." *Tolkien Studies*, vol. 12 no. 1, 2015, p. 31-57. doi:10.1353/tks.2015.0011. Scholarly article proposing the influence of *immrama* (Irish voyage tales) on *Roverandom*, Tolkien's children's story of a far-traveled dog; includes a section on medieval sources of Tolkien's Uin the Whale and the island-fish, Fastitocalon (aspidochelone).

vom Lehn, Antje. "Old Norse Wolf-Motifs in *Of Beren and Lúthien*." *Hither Shore: Interdisciplinary Journal on Modern Fantasy Literature*, vol. 8 (Issue on Tolkien and the Middle Ages), 2011, pp. 190-197. Source study comparing the wolves, wolfhounds, and werewolves of Tolkien's Beren and Lúthien story with their sources in *Völsunga saga*, *Gylfaginning*, and *Völuspá*.

Dragons

- Appleyard, Anthony. "Dragons." *Amon Hen: Bulletin of the Tolkien Society*, vol. 58, August 1982, pp. 10-14. Article discussing Tolkien's physical descriptions of dragons and their plausibility as an actual species.
- Berman, Ruth. "Dragons for Tolkien and Lewis." *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 11, no. 1, 1984, pp. 53-58. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol11/iss1/21>. Early scholarship on the role of Tolkien and Lewis in the revival of dragons in modern literature.
- Brückner, Patrick. "'...Until the Dragon Comes': Tolkien's Dragon-Motif as Poetological Concept." *Tolkien's Shorter Works: Proceedings of the 4th Seminar of the Deutsche Tolkien Gesellschaft and Walking Tree Publishers Decennial Conference*, edited by Margaret Hiley and Frank Weinreich, Walking Tree Publishers, 2008, pp. 101-133. Scholarly conference paper on the role of Tolkien's dragons in opening the door for readers to an epic-historical past beyond mere fairy-tale.
- Evans, Jonathan. "The Dragon-lore of Middle-earth: Tolkien and Old English and Old Norse Tradition." *J.R.R. Tolkien and his Literary Resonances: Views of Middle-earth*, edited by George Clark and Daniel Timmons. Greenwood Press, 2000, pp. 21-38. Scholarly book chapter examines Tolkien's sources for dragons in Norse literature and *Beowulf*.
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- Hyla, Anna. "The Image of Dragon in Literature: Pedagogical Perspective on the Basis of John Ronald Reuel Tolkien's *Hobbit*." *Konteksty Pedagogiczne*, vol. 2, no. 11, 2018, pp. 207–218. http://cejsh.icm.edu.pl/cejsh/element/bwmeta1.element.ojs-doi-10_19265_KP_2018_211207. Scholarly article on various ethical perspectives in *The Hobbit* represented by different characters, with the dragon Smaug as "a deeply-rooted symbol of the antagonist, of an ethical conflict to be confronted."
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- . "Smaug, Glaurung, and the Rest: Monsters for Biologists Too." *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 332-338. Popular science essay on the morphology of Tolkien's flightless and winged dragons.
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- . "'A Wilderness of Dragons': Tolkien's Treatment of Dragons in *Roverandom* and *Farmer Giles of Ham*." *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 34, no. 1, Fall/Winter 2015, pp. 83-103. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol34/iss1/8>. Scholarly journal article on the depictions of dragons in *Roverandom* and *Farmer Giles of Ham*; draws on a variety of Tolkien's fiction and non-fiction writings on dragons.

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https://signumuniversity.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Mythmoot2_Legard_Essential-Dragons.pdf. Conference presentation on Tolkien's dragons in the poems "The Hoard" and "The Dragon's Visit" as well as the novellas, *Farmer Giles of Ham* and *Roverandom*.
- Lewis, Alex. "Dragons and Daylight." *Amon Hen: Bulletin of the Tolkien Society*, vol. 144, March 1997, pp. 11-12. Brief article on the ability of Tolkien's dragons to tolerate daylight, unlike his other evil species such as trolls, orcs, and spiders.
- Lothman, Timo. "The Ravaging and Hoard-guarding Antagonist: A Cognitive Approach to Dragon Conceptualizations in *Beowulf* and Selected Writings of J.R.R. Tolkien." *Fastitocalon: Studies in Fantasticism Ancient to Modern*, vol. 6, nos. 1 and 2 (Issue on Fantastic Animals, Animals in the Fantastic), 2016, pp. 169-184. Theoretical examination of how Tolkien's dragons function in their narratives, specifically as epitomes of Faërie and projections of the monstrous.
- Midkiff, Emily. "Burning Bridges: How Dragons Challenge the Justifications of Humanity." *Fastitocalon: Studies in Fantasticism Ancient to Modern*, vol. 4, nos. 1 and 2, 2014, pp. 23-37. Scholarly essay surveying dragon motifs and the hero/dragon divide in legend and literature over time; mentions Tolkien's Smaug, pp. 31-32.
- Mowry, Ruthann, and Cait Coker. "The Dragon Is Not an Allegory: Reading Tolkien's Monsters in Medieval Contexts." *Journal of Tolkien Research*, vol. 17, no. 2 (Issue on Tolkien's Animals), November 2023.
<https://scholar.valpo.edu/journaloftolkienresearch/vol17/iss2/>. Conference paper arguing that the Christian allegory of the dragon as a representative of the Devil falls apart in the case of Smaug, who would otherwise be killed by a saintly hero rather than the earthly Bard.

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<http://www.jstor.org/stable/41386292>. Survey of legendary and literary dragons, primarily Fáfñir, Beowulf's dragon, St. George's dragon, Kenneth Grahame's *Reluctant Dragon*, and Tolkien's Smaug.

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Tolkien, J.R.R. "Dragons" [Bodleian Library, Ms. Tolk. A61. fols. 98-125]. Reprinted in the commemorative booklet accompanying *The Hobbit*: [1st ed.] *Facsimile Gift Set*, edited by Christina Scull and Wayne G. Hammond, HarperCollins, 2018. Lecture for children and their parents delivered by Tolkien at the University of Oxford Museum, 1 January 1938: compares conceptions of dragons with dinosaur remains; examines the etymology of the word "dragon" and related words; summarizes three stories of Northern dragons: Beowulf's dragon, Fáfñir, and the *Miðgarðsormr*.

Elephants

Gee, Henry. "Giant Spiders and 'Mammoth' Oliphaunts." *The Science of Middle-earth: Explaining the Science behind the Greatest Fantasy Epic Ever Told*, 2nd revised edition, [Kindle], 2014, pp. 219-230. Popular science book chapter on the morphology of oliphaunts, the spider Shelob, and other mega-fauna of Middle-earth.

Porck, Thijs. "Medieval Animals in Middle-earth: J.R.R. Tolkien and the Old English and Middle English *Physiologus*." *Figurations Animalières à Travers les Textes et l'Image en Europe: du Moyen-Âge à nos Jours Essais en Hommage à Paul J. Smith*, edited by Alisa van de Haar and Annelies Schulte Nordholt, Brill, 2021, pp. 266–80. https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004472013_021. Scholarly book chapter illustrates Tolkien's use of the Old English and Middle English *Physiologus* for his poems "Fastitocalon" and "Jumbo, or ye Kind of ye Oliphaunt"; includes a section on the spider Shelob.

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Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 294-304. Popular science essay on the morphology of Tolkien's and Peter Jackson's oliphaunts, as well as primary-world historical accounts of war-elephants.

Zender, Marc. "Mammoth, Mûmak, and 'The Old Fireside Rhyme of Oliphaunt': Tolkien's Contributions to the Medieval Bestiary Tradition." *9th Annual Tolkien at UVM Conference*, University of Vermont, 2012. www.academia.edu/29199073/Mammoth_M%C3%BBmak_and_the_old_fireside_rhyme_of_Oliphaunt_Tolkiens_Contributions_to_the_Medieval_Bestiary_Tradition. Conference slide deck on medieval bestiaries, and a survey of Tolkien's elephants in word and picture.

Horses

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Burns, Marjorie. "Spiders and Evil Red Eyes: The Shadow Sides of Gandalf and Galadriel" (see "Animals (general)").

Forest-Hill, Lynn. "*The Lord of the Rings*: Tolkien's Equestrian Epic." *Essays*, The Tolkien Society, November 2016. <https://www.tolkiensociety.org/app/uploads/2016/11/The-Lord-of-the-Rings-Tolkien%C3%A2%E2%82%AC%E2%84%A2s-Equestrian-Epic.pdf>. General-interest essay on horses in Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* and in Peter Jackson's films.

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Miller, Dana. "Horses of Agency, Element, and Godliness in Tolkien and the Germanic Sagas." *Graduate English Association New Voices Conference 2007*, Graduate English Association, Georgia State University, 2007.

https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/english_conf_newvoice_2007/10/.

Conference paper on the various applications of horse-symbolism in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*.

Rodning, Kirsten G. *The Horse and the Heroic Quest: Equestrian Indicators of Morality in Lancelot, Don Quixote, and Tolkien*. Georgia College and State University, 2017. <https://kb.gcsu.edu/english/1/>. Master of Arts thesis hypothesizing a correlation between a character's morality and their treatment of horse(s) in Chretien de Troyes's *Lancelot*, Cervantes's *Don Quixote*, and Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit*.

Tolkien, J. R. R. "The Devil's Coach-Horses: *Eaueres*." *The Review of English Studies*, vol. 1, no. 3, 1925, pp. 331–36. JSTOR, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/508893>. One of Tolkien's earliest philological essays, here discussing *eaueres*, a word previously translated as "boar"; Tolkien demonstrates it should rather be translated as "draught horse."

vom Lehn, Antje. "Animals in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*" (see "Animals (general)").

Sea-Life

Grison, Benoît (see "Cryptids (excluding Dragons)").

Porck, Thijs (see "Elephants").

Swank, Kris. "The Irish Otherworld Voyage of Roverandom" (see "Dogs, Wolves and Foxes").

Tolkien, J.R.R. "Of the Land and Beasts of Númenor" (see "Animals (general)").

Spiders

Abbott, Joe. "Tolkien's Monsters: Concept and Function in *The Lord of the Rings* (Part II): Shelob the Great." *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 16, no. 2, Winter 1989, pp. 40–47. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol16/iss2/7/>. Early scholarship on the concept and function of Shelob in *The Lord of the Rings*.

Bunting, Nancy. "Concerning Tolkien's Deadly Spiders, Part I." *Lembas: Journal of the Dutch Tolkien Society Unquendor*, vol. 38, no. 185, Dec. 2018, pp. 201–

11. First part of a study proposing a biographical/psychological source for Tolkien's spiders in his childhood trauma.
- . “Concerning Tolkien’s Deadly Spiders, Part II.” *Lembas: Journal of the Dutch Tolkien Society Unquendor*, vol. 38, no. 186, January 2019, pp. 213–24. Second part of a study proposing the origins of Tolkien's spiders in his childhood trauma; includes examination of Tolkien’s relevant philology and illustrations.
- . “Shelob’s Origins in Tolkien’s Cats” (see “Cats”).
- Burns, Marjorie. “Spiders and Evil Red Eyes: The Shadow Sides of Gandalf and Galadriel” (see “Animals (general)”).
- Fisher, Jason. “Dwarves, Spiders, and Murky Woods: J.R.R. Tolkien's Wonderful Web of Words.” *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 29, no. 1, Fall/Winter 2010, pp. 5-15. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol29/iss1/2>. Etymological essay on elements in *The Hobbit*’s Mirkwood episode, including a substantial examination of words and concepts relating to spiders.
- Garrouste, Romain, and Camille Garrouste. “The Bestiary of Arthropods.” *The Science of Middle-earth: A New Understanding of Tolkien and his World*, edited by Roland Lehoucq, Loïc Mangin, and Arnaud Rafaelian, translated by Tina Kover, Pegasus, 2021, pp. 323-331. Popular science essay on the morphology and behavior of Tolkien’s giant spiders and other Middle-earth arthropods such as crickets, bees and butterflies.
- Gee, Henry (see “Elephants”).
- Hansen, Christopher. “The Monstrous Feminine: Ungoliant, Shelob, and Women in Tolkien’s Middle-Earth.” *Crossroads: A Journal of English Studies*, no. 34, Nov. 2021, pp. 4-15. <https://czasopisma.filologia.uwb.edu.pl/index.php/c/article/view/1659>. Scholarly article hypothesizes Tolkien’s monstrous spiders as mirror images of other female characters who are portrayed as subservient and inferior.
- Lionarons, Joyce Tally. “Of Spiders and Elves.” *Mythlore: A Journal of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Mythopoeic Literature*, vol. 31, nos. 3-4, Spring/Summer 2013, pp. 5-13. <https://dc.swosu.edu/mythlore/vol31/iss3/2/>. Scholarly article comparing and contrasting Tolkien’s spiders with his female Elves, including

associated imagery of light and shadow, spinning and weaving, climbing and descending, sexuality and fertility.

Mesibov, Bob. "Tolkien and Spiders." *Tolkien Journal*, vol. 4, no. 3, 1970, pp. 3-5. https://dc.swosu.edu/tolkien_journal/vol4/iss3/1. Early scholarship on spiders and spider-imagery in *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*.

Nagel, Rainer. "Shelob and Her Kin: The Evolution of Tolkien's Spiders." *The Mirror Crack'd: Fear and Horror in JRR Tolkien's Major Works*, edited by Lynn Forest-Hill, Cambridge Scholars, 2008, pp. 81-92. Scholarly book chapter on the spider, especially Shelob, as a symbol of religious danger.

Porck, Thijs (see "Elephants").

Rosegrant, John. "The Man-Maiden and the Spider with Horns." *Tolkien, Enchantment, and Loss: Steps on the Developmental Journey*, Kent State University, 2022, pp. 85–97. Scholarly book chapter written by a practicing psychoanalyst which explores lost-mother symbolism connected to Galadriel and her shadow side, Shelob.

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Smith, E. Boyd. "Image 5." In *After They Came out of the Ark*. New York, Putnam's Sons, [c1918]. Marked as Public Domain, No Known Copyright. Image available at The Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/18022031/>.