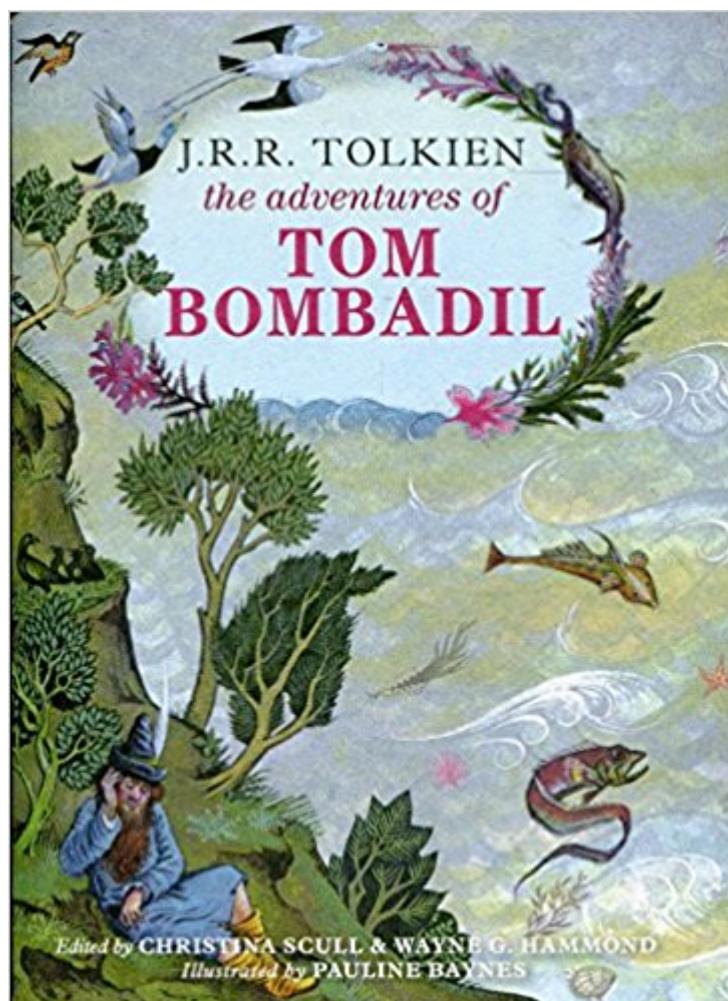


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The Adventures Of Tom Bombadil



Synopsis

This revised and expanded edition of Tolkien's own Hobbit-inspired poetry includes previously unpublished poems and notes, and is beautifully illustrated by Narnia artist Pauline Baynes. 'Here is something that no devotee of the Hobbit epic can afford to miss, while awaiting a further instalment of the history of these fascinating people - a selection [of verses] offered as an 'interim report' to those interested in Hobbit-lore, and to any others who may find amusement in this mixed bag of old confections.' One of the most intriguing characters in The Lord of the Rings, the amusing and enigmatic Tom Bombadil, also appears in verses said to have been written by Hobbits and preserved in the 'Red Book' with stories of Bilbo and Frodo Baggins and their friends. The Adventures of Tom Bombadil collects these and other poems, mainly concerned with legends and jests of the Shire at the end of the Third Age. This special edition has been expanded to include earlier versions of some of Tolkien's poems, a fragment of a prose story with Tom Bombadil, and comprehensive notes by acclaimed Tolkien scholars Christina Scull and Wayne G. Hammond.

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Customer Reviews

The .com page for this edition of The Adventures of Tom Bombadil is misleading in that it doesn't clearly differentiate this new, expanded edition with an Introduction and Commentary by Tolkien scholars Christina Scull and Wayne Hammond from earlier editions. This compounds another problem for American readers: for some inexplicable reason the US publishers have not seen fit to issue this new edition, forcing them to order it from .co.uk or .ca instead. But order it they should, for this new edition has enormous charm, much valuable new information in the Introduction and

Commentary, and best of all a fragment of a prose tale about Tom Bombadil written by J.R.R. Tolkien in the 1920s, along with a third Tom Bombadil poem Tolkien wrote in the early 1960s and "An Evening in Tavrobel," a short poem he wrote in 1924. This edition includes an Introduction giving the history of how "The Adventures of Tom Bombadil" came to be published in 1962, Tolkien's original Preface, the poems themselves accompanied by Pauline Baynes' delightful illustrations, then the Commentary in which there is an introductory essay on each poem, with further remarks and analysis afterwards. These show, among other things, the ways in which Tom Bombadil, who is often considered to be an unnecessary interruption in the narrative flow of The Lord of the Rings, was deeply connected with Tolkien's work as a philologist as well as with his mythology of Arda. A Gallery contains three early examples by Tolkien of his "Elvish" alphabet, in differing calligraphic styles. Finally an Appendix contains the Tom Bombadil prose fragment, the third Bombadil poem "Once Upon A Time," and "An Evening in Tavrobel," with accompanying remarks and analysis.

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