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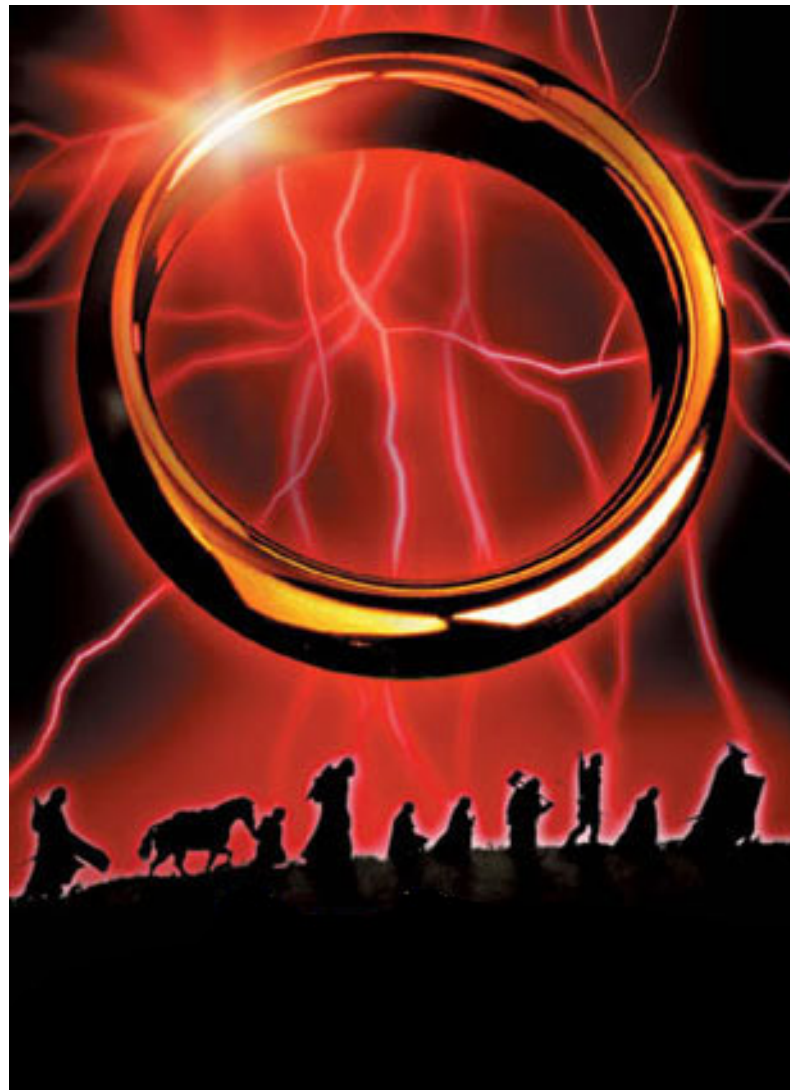
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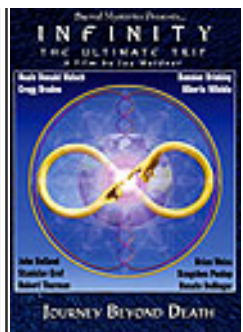
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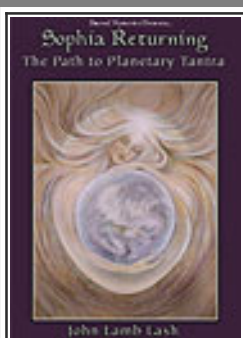
Tolkien at the End of Time;
Alchemical Secrets of *The Lord of the Rings*
By Jay Weidner and Sharron Rose

The Power of the One Ring



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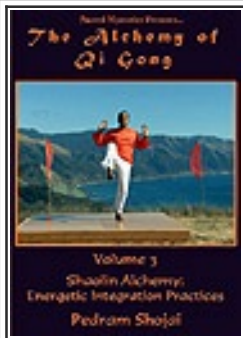
The chief power (of all the Rings alike) was the prevention or slowing 'change' viewed as a regrettable thing), the preservation of what it is its semblance. But also they enhanced the natural powers of a power approaching 'magic', a motive easily corruptible into evil, a lust for

-J.R.R. Tolkien from the Preface

The Three Rings of Power were brought forward into this world by the innate powers of creative envisioning for the distinct purpose of immortality in the world. These Rings did assist in the slowing of aging and death, unlike the One Ring, they did not confer the power of invisibility in the depths of the subterranean fire of his Evil Kingdom, Sauron had the One Ring that held within it the power of all the Rings. The ultimate control over the other Rings, for it granted him the ability to read the thoughts of anyone who used them, influence their actions, and control them to his will. Due to the fact that Sauron had the one Ring he had control over the minds and wills of the largest part of the Númenóreans to the downfall of this first great Kingdom of Men.

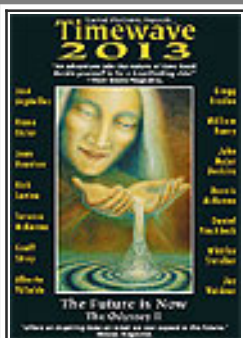
To cement his dominion over Middle-earth, Sauron had secretly placed the One Ring. But as Tolkien tells us, in order to do this he was *"obliged to let his own inherent power pass into the One Ring."* Here Tolkien brings up a concept that is much discussed in alchemical circles. That of the residue or 'Ka' of one's vivifying energy, life force or personal power (called the 'Ka' of the Egyptians) left on objects, places and even in the minds of those who come in contact with in a way that will have a certain psychic influence. By placing so much of his own Ka into the One Ring, Sauron was able to enter the minds, disturb the hearts and influence the actions of all those who came in contact with his evil intentions. His Ka, or psychic residue contaminated the One Ring, binding them to him bending their will, twisting their minds. From the ancient tales, Sauron, through the vehicle of the Ring, left the stain of his dark force and indelible fingerprint of evil. While the Rings did lengthen the days of a living being, slowly and inevitably it was their life force and will to resist him. Tolkien tells us that *"so great was the power of the One Ring that anyone who used it became mastered by it; it was beyond their power (even his own) to injure it, cast it away or neglect it."*²⁶

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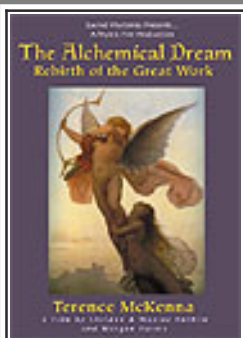
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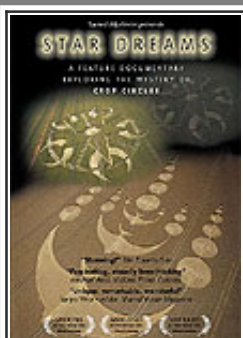
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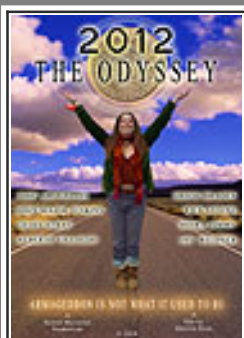


Gollum, Bilbo, Frodo and most likely all of the others that bore a happy discovery that they would not age as long as they had it. Bilbo's age catches up with him nearly immediately after he gives it. This is the 'false immortality', or as the eminent scholar and his wife calls it, 'premature immortality,' that is both an indication of our Golden Age and a trap that will condemn our souls. This false immortality is the true gift of humankind, which lies in the possibility of the union with the Divine.

It cannot be overemphasized that Tolkien equates the Ring with the Ring of Power. Today, at the end of the Fourth Age, the Ring encircles us like the Ring of Power surrounds the unicorn in the famous French tapestry. Bewildered and astounded by its power, it seduces us into its trap. Like the Ring of Power, it offers us a 'false immortality'. Like Sauron and the corrupted wizard Saruman, unashamed of their audacity, our technocrats promise us that 'false immortality' equals freedom and life. Just open your eyes and look around. The purveyors of technology constantly promise a world of free energy and miracles that will extend life and feed the world. Indeed one of the promises is that they can eventually create an immortal human being. Technologists and philosophers even preach that it will one day be possible to download our soul onto a microchip. This is the final seduction of the Ring of Power. Tolkien knew would herald the end of this Age.

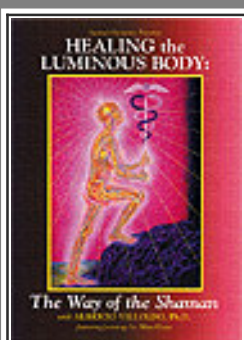
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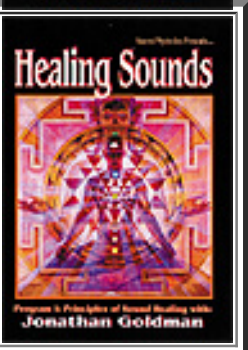
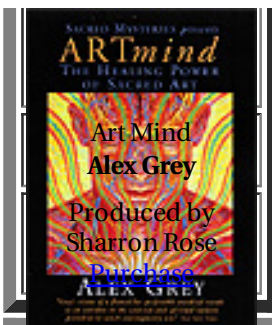
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But one must realize that the Ring, or the Machine, is an addictive addiction- and like every addiction- it is filled with denial. As soon as Frodo touched the Ring, he could not resist its call. The pitiful creature's name and nature is most likely derived from the legends of the dark alchemists cum sorcerers of Seventeenth century Europe who became consumed by it.²⁷ Bilbo, for a moment turns almost demonic in the Ring and the closer he gets to Mt. Doom, the more the bright and valiant Frodo becomes weighted down by it and obsessed with it. The Ring is clearly made evident with the weakening of Frodo's body over successive time he chooses to put it on his finger. In *The Return of the King*, Tolkien describes this experience,

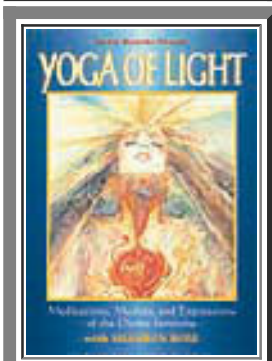
"No taste of food, no feel of water, no sound of wind, no memory of flower, no image of moon or star are left to me. I am naked in the world, no veil between me and the wheel of fire. I begin to see it even with my eyes and all else fades."

It is the insertion of Sauron's Ka into the One Ring and its subsequent supremacy over the 'free will' of both Gollum and Frodo that leads to Sauron's demise. For even though Frodo, as he stands at the Crack of Doom, is overpowered by Sauron's dark force embedded in the Ring and chooses to keep the Ring for himself, it is his pity, generosity and compassion towards the miserable creature, coupled with Gollum's all-consuming desire, that brings about the destruction of the Ring. With this destruction of the Ring, Sauron's power is destroyed.



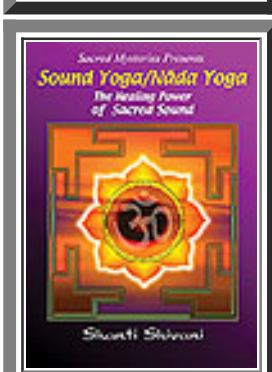
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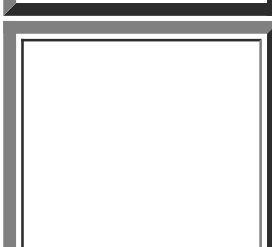
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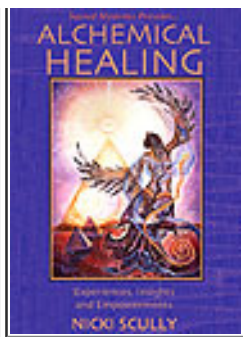


Conclusion

In the ancient teachings on the Four Ages, as the cycle of time and its inhabitants take on greater and greater density and they localize into more and more dense material. The Ring is the perfect for the densification of these magical energies. Indeed, as Frodo and the Ring grow heavier and Frodo grows more tired. Frodo shows signs of corruption the longer he bears the Ring. This corruption weighs all the way to the end when despite overwhelming odds Gollum actually makes it to the brim of Mt. Doom. At this point Gollum abandons his quest to destroy the Ring. For now the band of men is in a prison from which Frodo cannot escape. It is only through the Ring that the Ring falls into Mt. Doom.

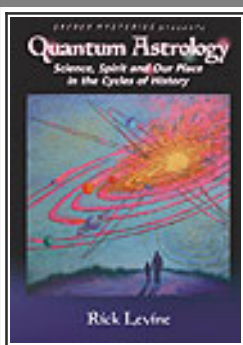
And this is in essence Tolkien's message. That even though the odds are overwhelmingly against us, even though greed and corruption corrupt our souls in this Final Age of the cycle, even though everything appears to be lost, the forces of darkness are about to lay claim to victory, somehow good triumphs. Tolkien appears to be saying that there are superior forces at heart and that these superior forces are guiding our species. These forces, that occupy what we might refer to as 'upper' realms, use their invisible hand to insure that Frodo succeeds and that we are not us that even the smallest of us is important. That creatures like Frodo and Sam can virtually alone defeat the powers of darkness and that an invisible ally that makes sure that they succeed.

It is no coincidence that the film version of *The Lord Of The Rings* was released in 2001, 2002 and 2003. The Cross of Hendaye marks the Autumnal Equinox, the climax of history. Utilizing the Magical Alchemy of Light and Sound, Jackson's filmic representation of *The Rings Trilogy* bookends the cycle a few months before the initial release of the first film, the end of



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inaugurated by the destruction of the Two Towers in New York warns us in *Le Mystere des Cathedrales* that the end of this Age v and that the northern hemisphere will be tried by fire.²⁸ As we article, the northern hemisphere is just completing its hottest s As an anomaly this would not be disturbing, but the fact is, tha since 1992, each summer has grown hotter than the one before. gasses, output from the sun, or perhaps just because it's the en planet is being burned up just like the Ring in the fires of MT. I



As a boy, Tolkien watched the beloved forest that surrounded h being destroyed by the consuming maw of the Industrial Revol that he left to go fight in the Great War, the smokestacks and fir Age had completely consumed the rustic village where he grew of his childhood friends murdered and destroyed by the machi gasses and barbed wire trenches of WWI. As he recovered from beneath a giant oak tree in the South of France and conceived t *Lord of the Rings*. He later told many writers, readers and critics *Rings* was not an allegory for WWI, WW2 or anything in a mode

As Tolkien nursed his wounds he contemplated his personal ex terrors of this Age of Iron, death and destruction. His deep Catl intuitive artistic spirit combined to create this story of the end the dawn of the Fourth Age. *The Lord of the Rings* also acted as Age was also going to end soon. This is why Tolkien bristled wh reader attempted to imply that *The Lord of the Rings* was an alle *Lord of the Rings* was a mythical reimagining of the history of E years ago.



From the alchemical perspective of the cyclic flow of time, out of this Age of Iron, a new Golden Age of humanity will begin. The world will be altered and in an instant our reality will be transformed. The adepts of spiritual traditions from around the world will tell you that this transformation exist within each and every human being, in the reason that they call the human body the 'sacred alchemical vessel for transformation'. For having been gifted by the Divine with 'free will' at the moment, we have the power to choose our own path. As Frodo, Aragorn and their friends did in *The Lord of the Rings*, we must walk the Path of the Light. Not because it is easy, but because it is right. We are all Frodos, each and every one of us. Like Frodo, we have the potential for great deeds of courage and self-sacrifice. Despite the odds, he does destroy the Ring of Power. Sauron's dominion is ended, the world is free, and a new Age begins. This is the beauty of Tolkien's tale. Through the hard and powerful work of Art, Tolkien proves that he is of the lineage of adepts that have graced the Age of Iron. Steeped in alchemical principles and the wisdom of a spiritual tradition that reaches back into the Third Age, both Tolkien and Jackson's *Lord of the Rings* are harbingers of where we are from and where we are headed.

Endnotes

1. For greater insight into the Alchemical/Tantric view of the universe, see Rose, Sharron, *The Path of the Priestess; A Guidebook for Awakening the Feminine* (Rochester, Vt.: Inner Traditions International, 2003) .
2. Weidner, Jay and Bridges, Vincent, *Mysteries of the Great Cross: Alchemy and the End of Time* (Rochester, Vt.: .Destiny Books, 2000) .
3. See Jenkins, John Major, *Maya Cosmogogenesis 2012*, (.Santa Fe, NM: Bear & Co., 2012) .

1998)

4. Fulcanelli, *Le Mystère Des Cathédrales* (Las Vegas, NV: Brothe
pp.170-171

5. Rose, pp.131-134

6. Carpenter, Humphrey, ed., *The Letters of J.R.R. Tolkien* (Bostc
Company, 2000) p.246

7. Ibid, p. 212

8. Ibid, p.231

9. Fulcanelli, p.44

10. Johnson, K.R., *The Fulcanelli Phenomenon* (Jersey, Great Bri
Spearman Ltd, 1980) p. 215

11. Tolkien, J.R.R., *The Silmarillion* (New York, Houghton Miflin

12. Naydler, Jeremy, *Temple of the Cosmos* (Rochester, Vt.: Inner
International, 1996) pp.139-140

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