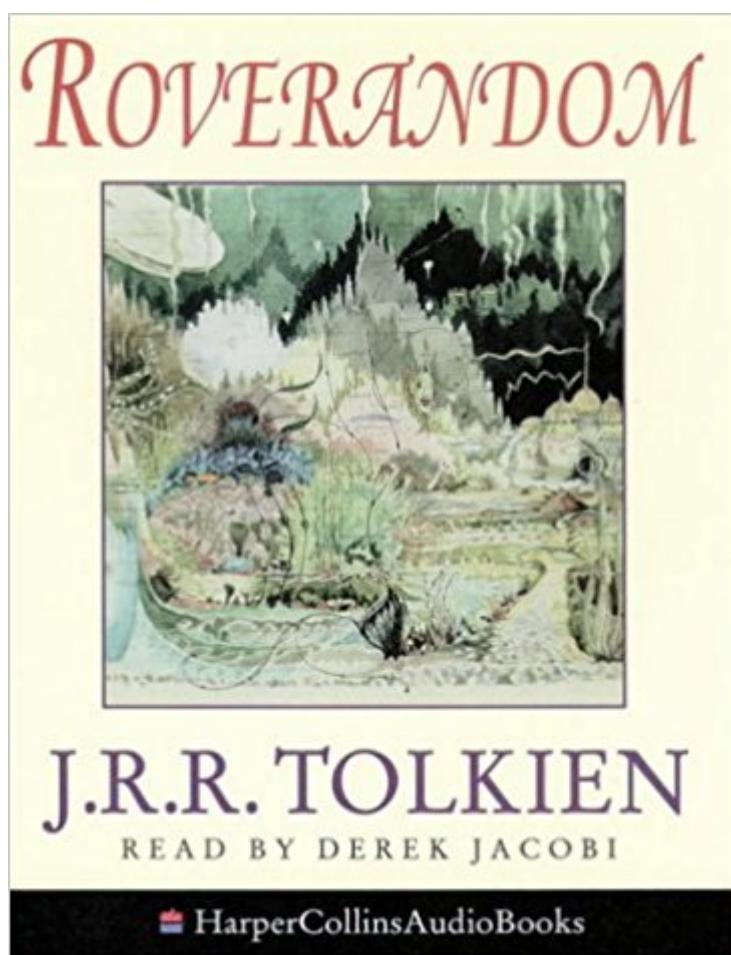


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# Roverandom: Complete & Unabridged



## **Synopsis**

For the first time on CD J R R Tolkien's novella about the adventures of a bewitched toy dog. While on holiday in 1925, four-year-old Michael Tolkien lost his beloved toy dog on the beach at Filey in Yorkshire. To console him, his father, J.R.R.Tolkien, improvised a story about Rover, a real dog who is magically transformed into a toy and is forced to seek out the wizard who wronged him in order to be returned to normal. This charming tale, peopled by a sand-sorcerer and a terrible dragon, by the king of the sea and the Man-in-the-Moon, went through several drafts over the years. Now, many years on, the adventures of Rover -- or, for reasons that become clear in the story, 'Roverandom' -- are published on CD the first time.

## **Book Information**

Audio CD

Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers Ltd; Unabridged edition (November 3, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0007175469

ISBN-13: 978-0007175468

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.4 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.5 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 80 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #7,303,641 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( T ) > Tolkien, J.R.R. #1063 in Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > Classics #2328 in Books > Books on CD > Children's Fiction > Fantasy

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 3-5-Begun in 1925, this fantasy was roughly finished later, but set aside in favor of sequels to The Hobbit. Here, at last, two Tolkien scholars present it, with five illustrations by the author sandwiched between a long, minutely detailed introduction and padded but sometimes illuminating endnotes. Changed from a live dog into a toy after incautiously biting a wizard, Rover is dropped on the beach by his young owner, where he meets a second wizard who sends him on a gull's back to the Man-in-the-Moon. Sporting wings and a new name, "Roverandom" irritates the Great White Dragon that causes lunar eclipses and visits a valley where sleeping children gather for pleasant dreams, among other places, then returns to Earth to beg the first wizard, a bumbling sort who has since married a mermaid and moved under the ocean, to make him a real dog again. Despite a wandering plot and minor inconsistencies, the old Tolkien magic is here in full force: in evocative

names, glimpses of supernal events, and wonderfully exotic locales seen through the eyes of a comfortably familiar character. Enthusiasts will pore over the notes, but the story stands well enough on its own as an incidental piece from one of our century's great literary imaginations. John Peters, New York Public Library Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr. 4 and up, younger for reading aloud. This previously unpublished story chronicles the adventures and life lessons of a very engaging young dog named Roverandom, who makes the mistake of being insolent to a passing wizard. To teach the dog a lesson, the offended wizard turns Roverandom into a toy dog, frozen in a perpetual begging position, frustratingly small and without a real bark. As he begins his determined quest to become a real dog again, Roverandom faces experiences that are humbling, eye-opening, and exciting, from a trip to the moon, where he faces the Great White Dragon, to under the sea, where he confronts both the adversarial Sea-serpent and the ill-tempered wizard who originally cast the spell (and who gets his own just desserts at the end). The tale will appeal to readers of all ages, with its detailed descriptions of fantastical landscapes, its snappy, rival wizards, and its creative characters, all described with Tolkien's trademark droll wit and humor, and enhanced by his few but charming drawings. Short, riveting chapters make this a great read-aloud book, and as with all good Tolkien tales, there's a lesson to be drawn: mind your p's and q's. The wordy but comprehensive and interesting introduction to the novel, which was originally written to comfort Tolkien's four-year-old son following the loss of a beloved toy, includes some fascinating information about the author and his family, a boon for educators, parents, and Tolkienphiles. Extensive endnotes clarify Tolkien's satirical references to the politics and society of his times and explain the many mythological characters. A delightful story for fans of Tolkien, fantasy, and myth, featuring the irresistible, sympathetic, and comic Roverandom, a classic character in his own right. Shelle Rosenfeld --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Nice story overall, but not "typical" Tolkien. Still, it was interesting to read an early work by the Master of Fantasy.

Got this for son to read to me. We couldn't wait until the next time he read so we could see what would happen next.

Great for the Tolkien enthusiast. Great for the budding Tolkien enthusiast that wants to branch out away from the Lord of The Rings series.

It's definitely not one of Tolkien's more sophisticated and enthralling pieces, but it's a fun story. I often buy this for children reaching their early teens, such as my young nieces, as something to make reading enjoyable.

It's a great look into Tolkien's early writing. A good short story.

It's Tolkien, what else is there to say? The man writes in an enthralling way. He paints a movie in words.

One of my favorite stories by Tolkien.

Great children's tale.

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