

# Happy Birthday, Frances Wright!

Post by “Don” of September 12, 2021 at 7:46 AM

## [Quote from Paquin](#)

There is a long tradition of authors posing as editors of found manuscripts.

JRR Tolkien stands firmly in that tradition. His conceit was that he had discovered The Red Book of Westmarch written in the language of Westron by hobbits named Bilbo and Maura Labingi. Tolkien "translated" this manuscript and published it as The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings originally written by Bilbo and Frodo Baggins.

The reality is even better: Tolkien had created his Elvish languages and wanted to create a world in which they would be spoken. That's the real origin of The Lord of the Rings.

Sorry. I could go on ad nauseam. Big Tolkien nerd here 😊 Tolkien was definitely no Epicurean, but he did talk and write about the pleasure language - both natural and constructed - gave him.