

THE RED BOOKS OF C.G. JUNG & J.R.R. TOLKIEN

Beginning in the year 1913, both C.G. Jung and J.R.R. Tolkien independently began to undergo profound imaginal experiences. For Jung these initially spontaneous visionary experiences, which he later developed into a meditative technique called active imagination, were recorded in *Liber Novus*, or *The Red Book*. The experiences narrated in *The Red Book* became the seeds from which nearly all Jung's subsequent work flowered. For Tolkien this imaginal journey revealed to him the world of Middle-Earth, whose stories and myths eventually led to the writing of *The Lord of the Rings*, a book he named within its own internal history *The Red Book of Westmarch*. This course will explore the conjunction of these two Red Books from an archetypal perspective, looking at Jung's and Tolkien's natal charts in relation to their work, as well as their personal transits and the world transits during their respective Red Book periods. Furthermore, this course will explore the nature of imagination and its relationship to the collective unconscious. With Tolkien and Jung as preliminary guides, we will undertake a journey to the depths of an ensouled cosmos in which imagination saturates the very foundations of reality. *Priority to Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness students & Ecology, Spirituality, and Religion students.*

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