

TITLE

The Lord of the Rings, but it's a (Five?) Minute Sketch

written by
Jeremy Sherman

Author
J. R. R. Tolkien

Address
Phone
E-mail

INT. BAG END - DAY

FRODO is sitting in a chair. There is a knock at the door.
FRODO gets up and opens it and GANDALF enters.

FRODO
Gandalf, you're late.

GANDALF
I know, I know, I'm sorry.

GANDALF enters and then stops suddenly.

GANDALF (CONT'D)
Wait, I feel as though I was
supposed to say something else.
(GANDALF shrugs it off)
Now, Frodo, I- wait, am I in the
wrong house? You look tall for a
Hobbit.

FRODO
Maybe you're just short for a
wizard.

GANDALF
Yes, maybe. Now, Frodo, do you
still have that ring that your
uncle left you?

FRODO
You mean the one that you acted all
creepy about and had me put in an
envelope and hide right before you
said something about keeping it
secret and safe and then
disappeared for 9 years?

GANDALF
Yes, that's the one.

FRODO
I'm afraid I lost it.

GANDALF
But I told you to keep it safe!

FRODO
It's safe from me.

GANDALF
That's not what I meant.

Gandalf walks away a bit.

GANDALF (CONT'D)

Wait, isn't this it?

GANDALF picks up the envelope from where it was laying.

FRODO

Oh yeah. Guess I'm just really disorganized.

GANDALF

Well there's something you should know about this ring.

FRODO

What?

GANDALF

It's actually the one ring of power forged by the dark lord Sauron and infused with his power. If it is not destroyed and he manages to regain it, he will be able to return to his full strength and cover Middle Earth in his shadow as he once tried to so many years ago.

FRODO is standing with his mouth agape.

FRODO

That's quite a lot to take in all of a sudden. Are you sure it's this ring? Is there some sort of test you can perform?

GANDALF

It makes you immortal and can turn you invisible if you wear it. That's good enough for me.

FRODO

Okay, what should we do?

GANDALF

We must destroy it.

(GANDALF tosses the ring to FRODO.)

We'll assemble a fellowship and journey to Mordor. That's the only place it can be destroyed.

FRODO

Okay, so who will be in this fellowship?

GANDALF

Well, there's you for starters.
Then there's me...
(Gandalf trails off)

FRODO

And?

GANDALF

No idea, to be honest. The last
time I did this I only supplied
myself and a hobbit. Someone else
took care of the rest.

(GANDALF thinks for a bit)

I know, let's go to Rivendell and
ask Elrond if he has any ideas.

END ACT 1

ACT 2

EXT. RIVENDELL - DAY

GANDALF and FRODO are standing outside Rivendell. On the door there is a sign that says "No admittance except on party business" crossed out and the words "Gone Fishing" written over it.

FRODO
So much for that idea.

GANDALF
If you don't have anything helpful to say, Frodo, then I suggest you don't say anything.

ARAGORN walks up to them.

ARAGORN
Are you waiting to see Elrond too?

GANDALF
Yes, who are you?

ARAGORN
I'm Aragorn.

GANDALF
Aragorn? My goodness, you've grown. Last time I saw you you were no taller than a Hobbit! How long has it been, five, six years?

ARAGORN
Eighty, actually.

GANDALF
My how time flies. Are you busy? You could join our fellowship to destroy the ring of power.

ARAGORN
A fellowship of just you two?

GANDALF
Three if you join.

ARAGORN
Well, I don't really have anything to do this afternoon. Why not?

GANDALF

Very good.

ARAGORN

Oh, can Boromir come? He doesn't really have anything to do this weekend.

BOROMIR steps up next to ARAGORN. FRODO sizes him up.

FRODO

I'm going to need to have a talk with the casting department.

GANDALF

I don't see why not, we can't have too many people and I have a feeling someone's going to die anyway.

BOROMIR

Wait, what?

GANDALF

Now let's see, that gives us a Hobbit, two men and a wizard. What other race do we need in our party?

FRODO

How about an elf?

GANDALF

Perfect! We can stop at Lothlorien and add one to the party.

END ACT 2

ACT 3

EXT. LOTHLORIEN - DAY

GANDALF, FRODO and ARAGORN are standing before GALADRIEL.

FRODO
Gandalf, why is she dressed like a
serving woman in a tavern?

GANDALF
Frodo, I am know going to impart
some very important wisdom to you
that you must never, ever forget.
Never ask why a woman does
something.
(To GALADRIEL)
Greetings, Lady Galadriel.

GALADRIEL
And to you, Mithrandir.

FRODO
Mithrandir?

GANDALF
I'm known by many names throughout
Middle Earth.

FRODO
Are you a wanted man?

GANDALF
What?

GALADRIEL
Why have you come here?

FRODO
We were wondering if you had any
extra elves that could join our
fellowship.

GANDALF
If it's not too much trouble, of
course.

GALADRIEL
And what is the purpose of this
fellowship?

FRODO

To take the one ring of power and
cast it into the fires of Mount
Doom.

GANDALF

Essentially, yes, but I'm sure
things will happen along the way.

GALADRIEL

Oh, that sounds exciting! I'll
come.

GANDALF

You'll what?

GALADRIEL

I'll join your party.

ARAGORN

Is that allowed?

GANDALF

Well, I think we've already thrown
out any semblance of accuracy, so I
don't see why not. I mean we didn't
even meet Tom Bombadil. Okay, let's
go.

END ACT 3

ACT 4

EXT. MOUNT DOOM - NIGHTISH

GANDALF, FRODO, ARAGORN and GALADRIEL are standing in Mount Doom.

GANDALF
Wait, how did we get here already?

ARAGORN
We simply walked into Mordor.

GANDALF
I thought for sure we'd encounter
resistance. No matter. Go ahead and
throw the ring into the fire,
Frodo.

FRODO takes out the ring and holds it over the fire.

GANDALF (CONT'D)
Well, what are you waiting for?

FRODO
Gandalf...

GANDALF
Yes?

FRODO
Gandalf... I don't think this is
the right ring.

GANDALF
What?

FRODO puts the ring on his finger and does not turn invisible.

FRODO
This is a decoy I made to help
protect the real ring.

GANDALF looks at FRODO for a beat and then pushes him into the fire.

GANDALF
Yep, I was right about casualties.

BOROMIR sighs with relief.

BOROMIR

I thought he meant that I would-

BOROMIR slips and falls into the fire.

THE END