

The Books That Stir Us: The Basbanes Project

I have recently finished a very moving book. The Lord of The Rings by J.R.R Tolkien is world renowned for its creativity, depth, and imagination. I really feel privileged to experience this literary masterpiece. Although the book is fiction and the story is wildly imaginative, there are many themes and lessons that can be taken from it. It is a tale of both triumph and tragedy. Sometimes I feel small and I feel that I will never be able to make a large positive impact on the world. In the Lord of the Rings it was the smallest of all creatures that changed the course of history. Frodo Baggins of the Shire felt hopeless when he received the ring of power. How could someone so small and insignificant travel all the way across Middle Earth to the Mountain of Doom and destroy the ring of power in the midst of the enemies dark land? He realized that once he steps out of his front door and onto the path that it would not be easy. That's just life. It's so easy not to try. If you never step out your front door and step foot on your path then you will never know what could have been. With great courage and help from his friends the little Halfling destroyed the weapon of the enemy. You should always be there for your friends because there will come a day when you will need them. When school, work, and other responsibilities seem too hard and my problems seem insurmountable I think back to the tale of the courageous little halfling from the peaceful shire. I think of how he did what he knew in his heart he had to do. The story is very motivating for me. I know that no matter how down I feel or how rough the road may get that if I stay true to myself and true to others that good things will eventually come my way. There is also another noteworthy character in the tale. Gandalf the grey was an old a wise wizard. Frodo told

him that he wished the ring never come to him Gandalf replied ‘so do all that live to see such times but that is not for us to decide, all we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us’. Without Gandalf’s council Frodo may have never completed his quest. This reminds me to respect my elders and also to listen to the advice that they have to give. The Lord of the Rings made reading fun again. It’s the type of book you can read over and over again and take something new from it everytime. The main lesson I took from the tale is that if you stay on the path of righteousness no matter how hard it may be, then in the end you will find peace at last.