



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Middle Earth

Stock#: 87608
Map Maker: Remington
Date: 1969
Place: New York
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 23.75 x 36.25 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fantastic 1969 fantasy poster map of Middle Earth, one of the rarest and most iconic of the Middle Earth posters. The map poster was drawn by Barbara Remington for Ballantine Books for their first American edition of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*.

The rendering of Middle Earth is surrounded by a fantastical, colorful border, very redolent of the graphic design of the late 1960s. Remington apparently was not allowed a copy of the trilogy by Ballantine, and so she had to complete her work with only a sketchy understanding of the books' content. As a result, Tolkien was confused by the lions and pumpkins in trees that appeared in some of the cover art. Indeed, on this map, the border illustrations are certainly evocative, but not necessarily of the content of the books



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themselves. Nonetheless, Remington's work represents a very important part of the history of LOTR design.

The map appears in a "\$1.49" and a "\$3.00" variant. The consensus is that the more expensive variant came after the less expensive variant. Making the present version the earliest.

Interestingly, Barbara "Brem" Remington was also the illustrator for [this map of Central City, Colorado](#). Remington was born in Minnesota in 1929, and she passed away on January 23, 2020. She was an American commercial artist and illustrator. In addition to this poster for Ballantine Books, she also did the cover art for the first American edition of Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*.

Detailed Condition:

Tear with loss at lower right corner, over 'Ballantine Books' copyright. Small terra and tape fragments on top margin.