Wise Warriors in Tolkien, Lewis, and Rowling

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Abstract
Discusses the concept of the wise woman warrior, focusing primarily on Éowyn, Orual, and Hermione Granger but bringing in other characters from the works of Tolkien, Lewis, and Rowling as well.

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Okay. I am finally getting back to blogging. Over the past month, we received a call to serve in West County St. Louis to help get a church site off the ground, put our house on the market (which sold in a day!), moved to St. Louis, start at the church and begin looking for a house. We've been busy. BUT… I can now get back to some writing. Some weeks ago, a friend of mine asked me what I thought about Harry Potter. I know this is not new territory for the blogosphere but I still thought some folks might find this helpful or at least thought provoking. The way the typical conversation goes is The works of George Orwell, C.S. Lewis and Tolkien have arguably more influence today than when they were first published. 1984, The Chronicles of Narnia and The Lord of the Rings have also been turned into movies as has that other icon of British fiction: Harry Potter. This is Leadenhall Market, an old-fashioned Victorian market that's still popular today, and I've been told that if I walk over here, something rather magical will happen because this is also the location of Diagon Alley from the Harry Potter films where wizards come shopping. Evanesco! Amanda Craig is a novelist and The Times critic for children's literature. Richard: Amanda, what impact has J.K. Rowling had on literature? Amanda: I think above all, I think she's reminded the world that the British are great storytellers. As far as imaginative storytelling goes: it's close race between Rowling and Tolkien but Tolkien, I believe, wins out. The complexity of his story really reflects the years that he spent morphing it into what it became. He is definitely not the best writer I've ever read. But the story telling comes from the depth of the characters and the depth of the plot which puts them all into situations that they cannot afford to ignore. Not to mention the fact that his stories are the establishment of the fantasy genre. I generally don't mind saying someone lost, but I truly believe Rowli...