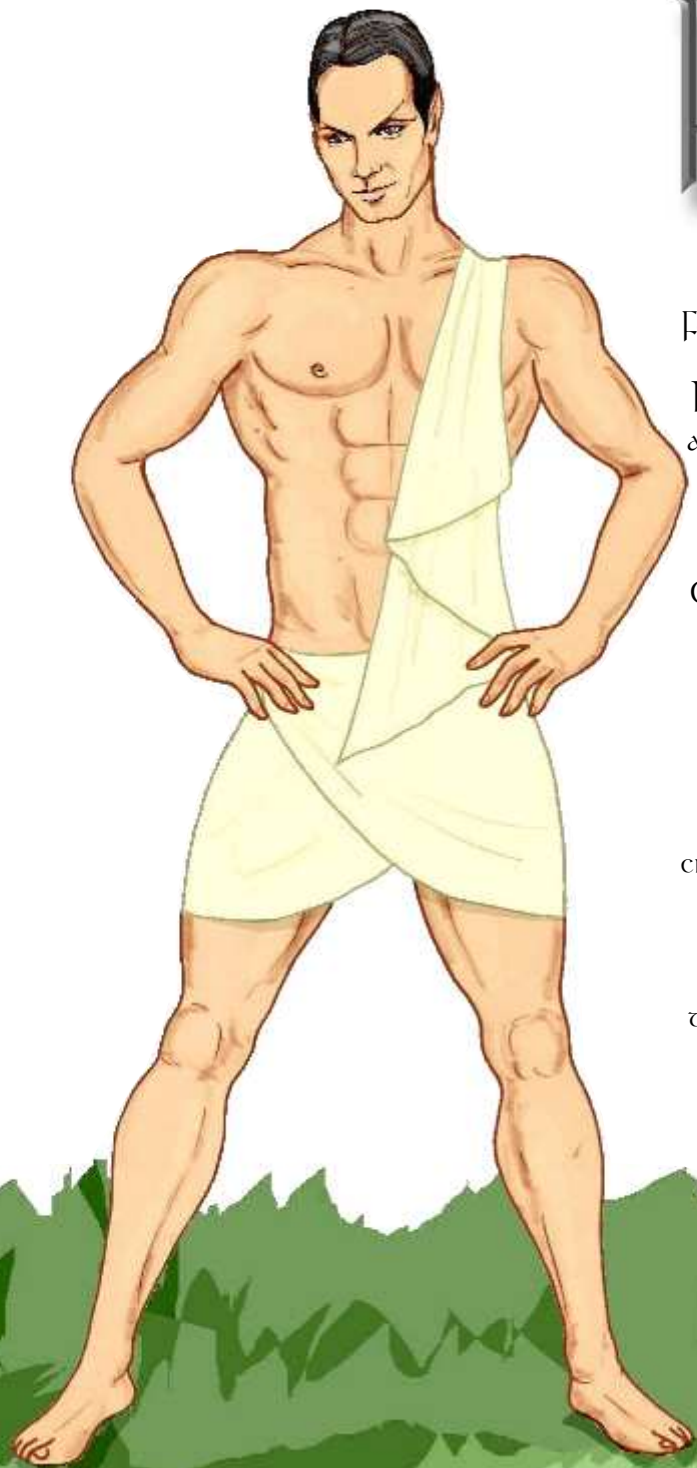


Fëanor

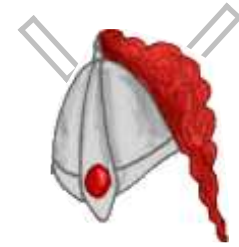


Fëanor is the mighty son of Finwë, the High King of the Noldor, and his first wife Míriel. He was "the mightiest in skill of word and hand" and "the greatest of the Eldar in arts and lore". Fëanor wedded Nerdanë daughter of Mahtan, who bore him seven sons: Maedhros, Maglor, Celegorn, Caranthir, Curufin, Amrod and Amras - though he was later estranged from his wife.

Fëanor was the student of Mahtan, who was himself a student of the Vala Aulë. He was a craftsman and gem-smith, inventor of the Tengwar script, creator of the palantíri and in the greatest of his achievements, captured the light of the Two Trees to make the three Silmarils, also called the Great Jewels, though they were not mere glittering stones, they were alive, imperishable, and sacred.



....And Feanor made a secret forge, of which not even Melkor was aware; and there he tempered fell swords for himself and for his sons, and made tall helms with plumes of red. Bitterly did Mahtan rue the day when he taught to the husband of Nerdanel all the lore of metalwork that he had learned of Aule....



....But even as Fingolfin spoke, Feanor strode into the chamber, and he was fully armed: his high helm upon his head, and at his side a mighty sword. 'So it is, even as I guessed,' he said. 'My half-brother would be before me with my father, in this as in all other matters.' Then turning upon Fingolfin he drew his sword, crying: 'Get thee gone, and take thy due place!....

...FOR THOUGH AT GREAT FEASTS
FEANOR WOULD WEAR THEM,
BLAZING ON HIS BROW, AT OTHER
TIMES THEY WERE GUARDED
CLOSE, LOCKED IN THE DEEP
CHAMBERS OF HIS HOARD IN
TIRION....



....AND FEANOR CAME NOT IN RAIMENT
OF FESTIVAL, AND HE WORE NO
ORNAMENT, NEITHER SILVER NOR GOLD
NOR ANY GEM; AND HE DENIED THE SIGHT
OF THE SILMARILS TO THE VALAR AND
THE ELDER, AND LEFT THEM LOCKED IN
FORMENOS IN THEIR CHAMBER OF IRON.
NEVERTHELESS HE MET FINGOLFIN BEFORE
THE THRONE OF MANWË, AND WAS
RECONCILED, IN WORD; AND FINGOLFIN SET
AT NAUGHT THE UNSHEATHING OF THE
SWORD....

