

# Maeglin





Maeglin was the son of Eöl the Dark Elf and Aredhel daughter of Eingolfin. He lived in the First Age of Middle-earth, and was a lord of Gondolin.

Aredhel left Eöl, and took her son with her, returning to Gondolin. Eöl followed her, and in judgement before Turgon, the king of Gondolin, he attempted to kill Maeglin with a poisoned javelin, but hit Aredhel instead. She died, and Eöl was cast down to his death from the city walls.

Turgon took in Maeglin. He became an elven-prince held in high esteem. He found rich lodes of metals in the Echoriath surrounding the city, and forged weapons of steel stronger than had been seen before. In the Nirnaeth Arnoediad, Maeglin refused to remain behind as regent, and went forth to battle with Turgon. The seventh and final gate of Gondolin, the Great Gate of Steel, was Maeglin's creation.

He was in love with Turgon's daughter (and his first cousin) Idril. But there was no hope for him, for "the Eldar wedded not with kin so near". Idril herself despised him.

When Tuor came, carrying Ulmo's warning of the danger to Gondolin, Maeglin sat at Turgon's side and argued against Tuor. Tuor's marriage with Idril further incensed Maeglin, who rebelled against Turgon and Tuor. Later, seeking after metals, Maeglin defied Turgon's order to stay within the mountains, and was captured by Orcs and brought to Angband.

Morgoth promised him both Gondolin and Idril in return for the location of the hidden city, tempting Maeglin to betray everything he loved and stood for. When Morgoth's armies attacked and overran the city, Maeglin fought with Tuor on the walls, and Tuor threw him to his death.