00:06:38.000 --> 00:06:50.000

One incident in particular remained and tokens memory.

00:06:50.000 --> 00:07:05.000

There was a willow hanging over the mill pool that song.

00:07:05.000 --> 00:07:11.000

the long just lay there. I never forgot that.

00:07:11.000 --> 00:07:17.000

Next up is Camden, can you read us this one

00:07:17.000 --> 00:07:27.000

from the mini Willard margin so the more in Memorial teams, standing and avail out carbon the end of world forgotten day.

00:07:27.000 --> 00:07:39.000

There is a dimly seen uprising through the Greenlee veiled stuns mini mansion tower ground in its dreamy robe of grey.

00:07:39.000 --> 00:07:48.000

All the city by the forwarding aged in the lives of men, proudly wrapped in mystic memory.

00:07:48.000 --> 00:07:54.000

Over passing human can. Wonderful. And Jeremy.

00:07:54.000 --> 00:08:05.000

Still the dwarves jogged on never turning round or taking any notice of The Hobbit somewhere behind the gray clouds to some must have gone down for it began to get dark.

00:08:05.000 --> 00:08:11.000

When got up and the willows along the river bank bent inside.

00:08:11.000 --> 00:08:20.000

I don't know what river, it was a rushing red one swollen with the reins of the last few days that came down from the hills and mountains in front of them.

00:08:20.000 --> 00:08:23.000

Soon it was nearly dark.

00:08:23.000 --> 00:08:24.000

Thank you.

00:08:24.000 --> 00:08:30.000

Next up is grace.

00:08:30.000 --> 00:08:34.000

Cut it down cut the cut down the party tree.

00:08:34.000 --> 00:08:38.000

Going into where the trade stood under which Bilbo had made his farewell speech.

00:08:38.000 --> 00:08:45.000

It was line locked and dead in the field, as if this was the last straw, Sam burst into tears.

00:08:45.000 --> 00:08:48.000

Thank you, Denise.

00:08:48.000 --> 00:09:02.000

It was a great tree, a huge poplar with fast limbs visible through my window even as I lay in bed. I loved it and was anxious about it. It had been savagely mutilated some years before, but had gallantly grow new lens.

00:09:02.000 --> 00:09:15.000

Though of course not with the unblemished grace of its net former natural self. And now a foolish neighbor was agitating to have it felled every tree has its enemy few have an advocate.

00:09:15.000 --> 00:09:18.000

And last up is Megan.

00:09:18.000 --> 00:09:33.000

It would be unfair to compare the Forestry Commission with sour on because as you observe it is capable of repentance, but nothing has been done, or it nothing It has done that is the stupid compares with the destruction torture and murder of trees perpetrated

00:09:33.000 --> 00:09:52.000

by private individuals and minor official bodies, the savage sound of the electric saw is never silent, wherever trees are still found growing my takeaway from this timeline is as Dinah Hazel argues, so aptly in her book, Jr Tolkien never forgot the spelling

00:09:52.000 --> 00:10:05.000

of a willow tree that had overlooked the mill Pulitzer whole nor have his former climbing companion had been left to rot in the grass has horror at that small environmental violence bleeds through his works from poems like the many, many will load margin

00:10:05.000 --> 00:10:16.000

of the memorial Thames, to the party tree and the Lord of the Rings to a letter to the Daily Telegraph in 1972, where he decried the torture and murder of trees in modern era.

00:10:16.000 --> 00:10:39.000

Now I'm going to pass the US over to Kate who's going to widen our lens to other authors leaders and activists.

00:10:39.000 --> 00:10:45.000

Okay, you're currently muted.

00:10:45.000 --> 00:11:01.000

Okay, so now we're going to move on to talking about in the real world. People who have seen environmental horror and that has become a major driving force in how they choose to live their lives and what they choose to do with their lives. So we're going to look at several. The first

00:11:01.000 --> 00:11:20.000

to look at several. The first is a chip co movement, out of India. The second and third arm are less focused on individuals or groups and more just on kind of entire see changes that occurred so the first, and they're both in, in California actually the

00:11:20.000 --> 00:11:26.000

first is the feeling of the Magic Tree, and the killing of the mother of the forest.

00:11:26.000 --> 00:11:43.000

The second is the killing of previous. Then we're going to talk about Salaam Abu Ali and El Badawi in Palestine. And then finally, we'll talk about Hindu guru Abraham and her work in the lake chat region.

00:11:43.000 --> 00:12:00.000

So the first the first movement that I wanted to talk about is the chip co movement and that was. It's a forest conservation movement that originated in Utah rock end, which is a state in northern India, or in the early 1970s and I don't know if it was

00:12:00.000 --> 00:12:09.000

a popular book I can't remember if it was or not but when I was a little kid I had a book that was called the people, I think it was the people who are the trees.

00:12:09.000 --> 00:12:26.000

It was a beautiful book and it was about this movement, which is the reason that I knew about it so essentially what happened is the government was preventing the people in the villages and these for us from using trees to build like tools that they used

00:12:26.000 --> 00:12:42.000

in that they sold for a little bit of extra money, and then instead they were selling massive chunks of forest off to like in one really memorable case, a tennis racket maker was so basically they were selling these forests to industry and preventing

00:12:42.000 --> 00:12:48.000

people who had been living in in with these forests since forever.

00:12:48.000 --> 00:13:05.000

From actually managing them themselves. And, in addition to causing harm in terms of preventing them from using the forest for what they have traditionally used them for it also was causing kind of environmental disaster so when it would rain these huge

00:13:05.000 --> 00:13:23.000

rains would then without any trees to intercept the, the rainwater and without the roots to, you know, allow the water to get into the ground. Basically the rains would just all rush into the town, the villages and cause such catastrophic floods

00:13:23.000 --> 00:13:33.000

that they were killing people. And so this kind of all came to a head in the 1970s.

00:13:33.000 --> 00:13:38.000

First, let's see, sorry I have my notes up I need to. I need them.

00:13:38.000 --> 00:13:46.000

Oh good god they've gone. Okay. Oh. So, um, first.

00:13:46.000 --> 00:13:55.000

Why Folgers had it up and then my puppy were cutting down on trees invited the men to a party. Yeah.

00:13:55.000 --> 00:14:05.000

Yeah. So ultimately, this movement became largely women. Women lead because of in one of the protests.

00:14:05.000 --> 00:14:17.000

After a small student protest, the government invited all the men of the village to a nearby city, ostensibly to receive compensation for the trees.

00:14:17.000 --> 00:14:22.000

But actually what they were doing was they were getting all the men out of the village so that they could send in the.

00:14:22.000 --> 00:14:39.000

The woodcutters, and so they sent the loggers in and bloggers were met by the village women who went out into the forest and basically did this is a picture from that protest basically stood around the trees, and prevented the loggers from chopping them

00:14:39.000 --> 00:14:49.000

down. They were so effective that the loggers finally had to get up and leave. And this became a much more common form of protest.

00:14:49.000 --> 00:15:06.000

With like some modification sometimes elsewhere in India but but also kind of became popular around the world and there's like, there's an echo of it in the woman who climbed the redwood and stayed there for however long she stayed there in this kind

00:15:06.000 --> 00:15:15.000

of non violent protest where you just make it impossible to get to the tree without, without killing you.

00:15:15.000 --> 00:15:26.000

And so it's really interesting that it became a model and also I love that it was largely women lead and lead by the villages that use these trees.

00:15:26.000 --> 00:15:35.000

The second story that I want to tell is about what go back is about the felling of both dynamic tree and then the killing of the mother of the forest.

00:15:35.000 --> 00:15:41.000

So these were both giants sequoias.

00:15:41.000 --> 00:15:53.000

I can't remember the other one was, um, they may have both been there, but essentially what happened is a gold rusher without chasing a bear I think that huge shot and injured.

00:15:53.000 --> 00:16:03.000

And he came upon this huge this grove of absolutely enormous trees trees bigger than like you know any white person had seen.

00:16:03.000 --> 00:16:08.000

Of course all the like the indigenous tribes knew these trees were there, but this was the first time.

00:16:08.000 --> 00:16:21.000

Call and I said seen them. And so they promptly realized that the trees would make a whole lot of money, especially this large one. If they chopped it down and then sold it off in slices.

00:16:21.000 --> 00:16:36.000

So, they did they've got a bunch of other gold rescuers and narrow with saws and they chop down the tree, also called the discovery tree, and then cut off slices and sent them around.

00:16:36.000 --> 00:16:48.000

They held like dances, that's the trunk of the tree so they held like dances up there, they apparently at one point had a bowling lane up there so they just like turned it into a circus.

00:16:48.000 --> 00:16:57.000

And then the year after that, the mother of the forest, they essentially.

00:16:57.000 --> 00:17:03.000

They stripped her Park down. So they kind of.

00:17:03.000 --> 00:17:17.000

They stripped the bark off and then would reassemble it in different places as like an exam, it was like a ghost of the tree so that, so that people could see how great and huge and wonderful it had been but of course in stripping the bark off the tree

00:17:17.000 --> 00:17:36.000

they killed it. So, the mammoth tree was 1200 years old. I can't remember how old the mother of the forest was I'm sure they dated it but there wasn't initially a lot of pushback nationally, although locally, there was some, some quote hullabaloo about

00:17:36.000 --> 00:17:51.000

this going on but it didn't really hit the national stage until this editor of this at the time popular magazine said in its natural condition rearing its majestic head towards heaven and waving in its native vigor, strength and murder.

00:17:51.000 --> 00:18:07.000

It was a sight worth of pilgrimage to see, but now Alas, it is only a monument of the cupidity of those who have destroyed all there was of interest connected with it, which he was saying that about the mammoth tree having been chopped down.

00:18:07.000 --> 00:18:21.000

Um, their response to this was a push for the Yosemite grant so what the assembly grant was was essentially the government granted the land that the California.

00:18:21.000 --> 00:18:29.000

California Calaveras girl was standing on to the state of California to manage and protect.

00:18:29.000 --> 00:18:43.000

That is basically the model for the National Park System and so this was like laying the groundwork for Yellowstone which came just after, and the National Park System Yosemite itself didn't become a national park until sometime later.

00:18:43.000 --> 00:19:00.000

But the trees were actually cited by Senator, California, time in defense of the Yosemite grant, who said from the Calaveras Grove some sections of the fallen tree were cut during impending, the great World's Fair that was held in London some your sense

00:19:00.000 --> 00:19:14.000

that's the mammoth tree. The purpose of this bill is to preserve one of these groves from devastation and injury, the necessity of taking early possession and care of these great wonders can easily be seen and understood that was in 1864.

00:19:14.000 --> 00:19:20.000

And that's why we have why we have national parks, which is neat.

00:19:20.000 --> 00:19:23.000

A more recent example.

00:19:23.000 --> 00:19:41.000

This, this one's of a grad student in the federal government behaving in a questionable in that manner, is why and how the Great Basin National Park was formed so the Great Basin National Park holds some of the last remaining stands of Bristol cone pines

00:19:41.000 --> 00:19:55.000

Bristol combines our to our knowledge the oldest living organisms on earth that are non colonial. So basically means that like they're individuals they don't like clone themselves and then continue living that way, that's asked things.

00:19:55.000 --> 00:20:01.000

And they can reach much older ages because it's just essentially a clone that keeps living they're immortal.

00:20:01.000 --> 00:20:14.000

Um, so, in 1965, the US Forest Service which at the time was managing these standards the priest gave a graduate students from back east. I'm.

00:20:14.000 --> 00:20:29.000

Great Basin National Park is located in California, a graduate student from Becky's to was studying trees in the area and versatile combined systems and permission to chalk one down.

00:20:29.000 --> 00:20:38.000

They the stories as to why very and the guy himself actually refused to talk about it towards the end of his life because he started people bugging him about it.

00:20:38.000 --> 00:20:57.000

Um, but essentially this one story is that this grad student came in and with hubris that I can only, only imagine having looked at this tree and said, Oh, I think that's the oldest tree here and someone told me that there are older trees.

00:20:57.000 --> 00:21:03.000

Elsewhere, so I'd have to prove it actually it's here. And so chop it down to prove his point.

00:21:03.000 --> 00:21:09.000

Um, the other story is that he got a.

00:21:09.000 --> 00:21:21.000

It's a drill that you use to date trees. It's a non destructive sampling method they do it with trees all the time it's a little core like as big as a straw.

00:21:21.000 --> 00:21:34.000

I'm easily replaceable, even if you're a poor grad student that he got it stuck in the tree and rather than going and getting a different one. He had them chop the tree down so we can get to the core.

00:21:34.000 --> 00:21:49.000

So whatever the story was this level of irresponsibility of managing it on the part of the Forest Service for like the Forest Service did it for him they brought out the chain saws, and you look and this is what's left of the trunk as well as all the

00:21:49.000 --> 00:22:00.000

light shattered remnants of the tree that are just sitting around to talk to downtown and during Sure enough, it was 5000 years old just about.

00:22:00.000 --> 00:22:16.000

It's the oldest tree that's been found in this stand of Bristlecone pines. So, once the public got a hold of the resulting outrage cause to the trees to be taken from the Forest Service, and given over to the National Park Service and formed great base

00:22:16.000 --> 00:22:32.000

National Park. Now, there is a happy ending here because for a long time they thought this had been the oldest. The oldest organism on Earth, they had not been able to find another tree and older tree and know in a population of them it's a little bit

00:22:32.000 --> 00:22:47.000

that's on Forest Service land actually ironically has since been discovered. And the Forest Service, this time having learned their lesson keeps that location of very closely guarded secret you can you can hike to the grove and you can hike through it

00:22:47.000 --> 00:22:58.000

but there's nothing to indicate which tree of all of those is the eldest and it's really hard to tell from sight.

00:22:58.000 --> 00:23:21.000

Another story that I wanted to talk about and this one was done by Jessica is the is Salam. Ali and this great big Old Olive Tree called out battery. So, for many Palestinians all the trees are vital to like their economic well being a lot of them have

00:23:21.000 --> 00:23:34.000

these all have groans, and some of the trees within them are thousands of years old, given their importance to Palestinian economy and Palestinian culture.

00:23:34.000 --> 00:23:50.000

They are often a target of people who wish to do harm. And so the Israeli government and colonists have destroyed probably in the neighborhood of 800,000 of these all trees in groves all over, Palestine.

00:23:50.000 --> 00:24:04.000

One of the oldest trees, not even just still remaining but one of the oldest trees throughout this whole time has been a battery, and it's been dated to between 3000 and 5500 years old.

00:24:04.000 --> 00:24:11.000

And it was done by carbon dating not by that scoring method so they don't have an exact number because they can't count the rings.

00:24:11.000 --> 00:24:24.000

But it's suffice to say this is a very old tree and it has been cared for by this one family I'm Sala boo all these family, so his father before him and I think further back than that.

00:24:24.000 --> 00:24:36.000

I'm for generations and his sons actually go out and help him care for this tree as well and he he refers to the tree as his fourth son.

00:24:36.000 --> 00:24:51.000

So he sees protecting and caring for this tree as his life's work, and also as as resistance to, you know what's being done in Palestine and then just the destruction of their trees.

00:24:51.000 --> 00:25:02.000

So, he also has this wonderful memorable quotes about this tree that he simply said, This tree is better than people.

00:25:02.000 --> 00:25:16.000

And that he believes that even if his family were not there to take care of the tree that it's so precious to me like it was a pilgrimage site for Sue fees, and it's, it's just really important that he thinks that others in the community with still care

00:25:16.000 --> 00:25:26.000

for it even if his family could not, but that that quote about the tree being better than people it's just, it's wonderful.

00:25:26.000 --> 00:25:40.000

And that is a beautiful glorious Old Olive Tree if you've ever seen an olive tree you know that none of them look like this. That is one huge old patriarch of a tree.

00:25:40.000 --> 00:25:55.000

The final story I wanted to talk about is Hindu guru, Abraham and her working on lake trout itself but also in the Lake Chad Basin which I've noted here is three times besides of texts, so when I talk about the Lake Chad Basin.

00:25:55.000 --> 00:26:04.000

Imagine that kind of a land area we're not talking about you know like the Rio Grande a river basin. We're talking about a huge amount of area and a huge number of people.

00:26:04.000 --> 00:26:20.000

So, like Chad, is this enormous freshwater lake in the Sahara Desert, it is not fed by mountains, it is not fed by anything except rain, and it provides because of where it is and what it is.

00:26:20.000 --> 00:26:34.000

It provides water for millions of people and for their livestock because the people in this area are primarily pastoralists so they have cattle, mostly cattle that they run.

00:26:34.000 --> 00:26:40.000

And since 1963 I think up until 19.

00:26:40.000 --> 00:26:43.000

This was a 1993 figure.

00:26:43.000 --> 00:26:57.000

The lake is struck has shrunk by 95% actually, you look at it on a map you can see the area that the lake us talk to you by an area that it now occupies, and it just like it's mind blowing how much it has shrunk.

00:26:57.000 --> 00:27:15.000

The people who rely on its waters are threatened by climate change so climate change is essentially causing increased demand on the water but then also increased drying of the water, as well as armed conflict in that larger Lake Chad Basin.

00:27:15.000 --> 00:27:20.000

This woman Hindu Murray, Abraham. She's like, 35.

00:27:20.000 --> 00:27:26.000

She's from the morrow people and they're in that lake chat area.

00:27:26.000 --> 00:27:43.000

She was motivated by her horror both at the loss of the lake, but also threats to local people. And by noting how other member rural people and also women were not being given the same opportunities that she had.

00:27:43.000 --> 00:27:52.000

And so, that basically led her to make this her life's work is that she advocates for women in the area.

00:27:52.000 --> 00:28:10.000

By running a nonprofit that also deals with the threats to the lake and threats to local people so kind of kind of combining all of this work, and she's been an advocate of climate action since 1999, and then she also.

00:28:10.000 --> 00:28:28.000

Notably, one of her big projects was to work with local people at the local elders to look at, basically Natural Resources information, because she recognized that with the younger folks moving out that this knowledge wasn't getting passed down and so

00:28:28.000 --> 00:28:37.000

she wanted to make sure that it got recorded, and that people could still have access to it.

00:28:37.000 --> 00:28:56.000

And so, you know, all of these people saw environmental horror and it kind of planted the seeds of wanting to do something about it and trying to enact some restoration in their communities to respond to this environmental horror, and we see kind of that

00:28:56.000 --> 00:29:12.000

same, we see kind of something like that. In Lord of the Rings and so we can tie this back to token, looking at how environmental destruction is just right within Lord of the Rings most of it wrought by Sauron and his allies.

00:29:12.000 --> 00:29:31.000

And interestingly in, in token, but was so in like contemporaries and another fantasy series destruction of nature is is treated as its own grave and justice, it's not like just something that coincidentally happens it's like, it is specifically cited

00:29:31.000 --> 00:29:50.000

as a bad terrible thing that they do, and recovery from those various environmental whores is really important to just the overall sense of narrative justice enclosure kind of this during the conclusion of the story so during the last chapters of Lord

00:29:50.000 --> 00:29:52.000

of the Rings.

00:29:52.000 --> 00:29:55.000

And this kind of parallels.

00:29:55.000 --> 00:30:13.000

How addressing environmental horror and environmental destruction in our world is a really important step in the process of justice not like legal justice necessarily although it you know it is part of legal justice but more justice in the sense of making

00:30:13.000 --> 00:30:19.000

sure that people are done right by.

00:30:19.000 --> 00:30:30.000

Um, so, some of the some of the best examples and one of the. Well, one of my favorite examples of restoration of nature is.

00:30:30.000 --> 00:30:49.000

I've got some of them here but essentially the restoration of nature is central to that theme of recovery after the war so we hear about things that have been restored gardens are replanted in ministry, notably by the elves and dwarves working together

00:30:49.000 --> 00:30:59.000

to. I mean, the dwarves are presumably also rebuilding buildings but I'm in my head, they're helping rebuild raised beds as well for gardens.

00:30:59.000 --> 00:31:07.000

So, the gardens have been absent since before the war, other than that one that's near the house of healing but essentially after the war.

00:31:07.000 --> 00:31:17.000

The gardens are brought back, and there are birds and children laughing and it's just like, Oh, it's, it's been restored to like this beautiful, it's got green spaces again.

00:31:17.000 --> 00:31:19.000

I'm the end.

00:31:19.000 --> 00:31:40.000

After destroying the damage that sorrow sorrow on did the ends and their trees repopulate the forest around or think, and it becomes the tree guards of or think, and it's essentially given back to them to be responsible for by Aragorn affiliation, which

00:31:40.000 --> 00:31:49.000

should become, which was once, essentially, a beautiful garden land but, you know, became not that during the war.

00:31:49.000 --> 00:32:07.000

It's not just said that it's like restored to its former glory, but then it's brought well past it and like my favorite part was the, I was the note that legless was largely responsible for planting gardens, both in ministry here at designing gardens

00:32:07.000 --> 00:32:23.000

but also designing them in affiliation, and for fair Amir and a win and so I just idea of like whitelist who's been tromping around being a glorious office whole time like dude is actually a landscape designer gardener at heart, he's like going around

00:32:23.000 --> 00:32:42.000

designing gardens for everyone he loves. Um, and then, and then brings a bunch of his friends to live there. So, and then finally Merc wood is returned to the Sylvan listens family, that'd be mornings and the woman and even after the Sylvan, leave it

00:32:42.000 --> 00:32:56.000

it remains in the care of the buildings and would men and basically stops being terrifying Merck would and becomes more just like normal forest again,

00:32:56.000 --> 00:33:17.000

the Shire, of course, is one of the most notable examples both of description of it just like pure environmental horror as well as a site of significant recovery so I'm of course sermon just he industrializing the Shire, he chops down the tops down the

00:33:17.000 --> 00:33:36.000

party tree he destroys the Bagshot row houses and their gardens, and he builds like this giant sand pit, it's just like, it's this horrible mental image that we think you barely get to see in the movies mind you missed opportunity there but after the

00:33:36.000 --> 00:33:48.000

war of course they basically immediately start you know after they've gotten rid of them immediately start recovering so they first rebuild the Bagshot row houses and gardens.

00:33:48.000 --> 00:34:06.000

They turn the sandpit into a shelter garden which is amazing. And then this is the other favorite example, other than legalistic secretly loving Gardens is soil from Sam's garden box that he was given by gladiatorial is used to restore the gardens and

00:34:06.000 --> 00:34:16.000

then he especially goes around and like gives a little bit of soil to each beloved tree that the hobbits had and I'm just like, Oh my gosh, that's amazing.

00:34:16.000 --> 00:34:33.000

But it also in restoration ecology, we actually do take soil from a place where the soil is quote unquote good so often that means that it's, it's in the, it's in a part of the plant community that hasn't been destroyed, we take that soil, sometimes and

00:34:33.000 --> 00:34:47.000

you can pick it up and move it and essentially restore the soil in another side so that it will grow plants better. And so, like, this is not actually completely alien, this is, this is a thing that restoration ecology does.

00:34:47.000 --> 00:35:04.000

Though restoration ecology didn't exist back when token wrote this so I just think it's really cool. At least I don't think it did grad school fail there, but, um, you know it's it's certainly not something that you see often and I just I love it because

00:35:04.000 --> 00:35:21.000

it's so very restoration ecology and gardeners do the same thing. Um, but then also he uses the single seed from his garden box and he plants at where the party tree was, and it's a Mallorcan so these are trees that don't grow outside of their little

00:35:21.000 --> 00:35:34.000

range and I believe for foreign, and he plants it there and its people come from all around to see this tree because it's the only one of its existence, outside of its range, and it becomes the new party tree.

00:35:34.000 --> 00:35:42.000

And so after he has planted this party tree and after he's used this soil to restore gardens and trees and everything.

00:35:42.000 --> 00:35:53.000

They say that that's the most productive year that they have, is just after he's done this so like they come back and, oh boy they're frightening.

00:35:53.000 --> 00:36:12.000

So, The thing that I find especially I guess poignant about the Shire is that when they restore the Shire it's really restoring like hobbit identity. So at least to me what makes the hobbits hobbits is, they're like, they're cooks, their gardeners, they

00:36:12.000 --> 00:36:30.000

are agrarian like they they grow things they grow things incredibly well like that is a huge part of who they are and how they do. And so being able to restore their gardens, their fields, their trees, it's restoring, you know, the way that they eat their

00:36:30.000 --> 00:36:50.000

food, the way that they get their food, but also their culture and their society and like so much of what makes them hobbits, and that I think means a lot to me because especially, we see in in our world that restoration of nature, especially when

00:36:50.000 --> 00:37:02.000

its land that's culturally or spiritually significant to a group of people can represent a restoration, not just of that land, it's not just land it's like a restoration of self and of community.

00:37:02.000 --> 00:37:18.000

And that's really important when we're talking about this this whole field that I, you know, would love to talk about for ages but cannot. It deserves dissertations called environmental justice that's one of the things that we talked about within it so

00:37:18.000 --> 00:37:35.000

I'm basically in Lord of the Rings, the restoration and recovery of nature after the war, contributes to this overarching impression of just wellness, where the tragedies of the war had been overcome not forgotten, of course they're not forgotten ever

00:37:35.000 --> 00:37:48.000

but they've been overcome and life has gone on and thrived and recovered and just always well are all is as well as it can be.

00:37:48.000 --> 00:37:56.000

And now we're going to go back to Jessica to talk about gardens.

00:37:56.000 --> 00:38:11.000

Wonderful. So I'm going to talk about Tolkien gardens, as restoration, I'm defining talking gardens, the way my mother defines Shakespeare gardens, which was one of her hobbies in the 90s, they are a, a garden designed to recreate a location or scene

00:38:11.000 --> 00:38:19.000

from tokens writings, or be a garden designed mainly using plants mentioned in Tolkien's writings. Some of these that I'm going to show you are a mix of them.

00:38:19.000 --> 00:38:29.000

Some of them are just one or the other. And actually don't have five I have six because there's a present for Kate at the end which is I dinner, I made her garden.

00:38:29.000 --> 00:38:36.000

So two key books which I've held up a couple of times for folks if you want to look at the plant list that I used.

00:38:36.000 --> 00:38:39.000

feel free to go and look through there.

00:38:39.000 --> 00:38:51.000

So quick landscape design theory in 30 seconds or less in general when it comes to a project, anything can be good cheap or fast but you only get two out of the three.

00:38:51.000 --> 00:39:01.000

So, there are projects here that are good and cheap but they're not fast they involve growing stuff from seed yourself, or they are good and fast but they're not cheap because you have to buy the plants already made.

00:39:01.000 --> 00:39:16.000

There are also nine general shapes in garden design, according to my very favorite garden design book which is right here and you can find it in the five separate slides of citation, save a lot of pictures here, but all of them are so excited at the end.

00:39:16.000 --> 00:39:30.000

So those are exactly the shapes you see on this screen. And if you want to play a game in the chat section, as we go through these See if you can identify which shapes I'm using in each of these gardens.

00:39:30.000 --> 00:39:44.000

So thank you to the six volunteers, and let's get going through this. My goal is to get done so we have time for questions. So what I'm going to do for each of these gardens, is give you a sense of what it would be like to be in that garden, but I'm not

00:39:44.000 --> 00:39:57.000

going to read you every, every part of the slide because these are our working documents. So first up is for Alicia and Toronto. I've included the homelands, of which.

00:39:57.000 --> 00:40:11.000

First Nations and tribal communities and tribal nations. Each of these gardens is on both because I think it's an important acknowledgement, but also because those communities often maintain websites on native plants and so botany, so this is a backyard

00:40:11.000 --> 00:40:25.000

area that is very shady and it is cold, but beautiful I would argue, at least from what I've seen from Google Maps. It features, especially a bill berries, climbing clematis and under planting that's a checkerboard of wild flowers.

00:40:25.000 --> 00:40:39.000

So each of these sections, divided by a gray line that's a walking path is a different native flower. And then there are the raised beds in the back for potatoes, and other necessities of life.

00:40:39.000 --> 00:40:51.000

And as talking talked about in his story and as we touched on each of those stories about other people who are inspired by environmental devastation to try and heal it.

00:40:51.000 --> 00:41:04.000

A lot of these stories include the three elements necessary for a wildlife garden which is food, water and shelter. So almost all these gardens include some of those elements because they're designed to be wildlife gardens.

00:41:04.000 --> 00:41:21.000

So here are what those plants look like there's different varietals that you'll notice that I'm using for the most part, native plants for the location of the garden, not necessarily what Tolkien was used to seeing in his world when he had these plants,

00:41:21.000 --> 00:41:25.000

and you'll see that throughout the presentation.

00:41:25.000 --> 00:41:40.000

So here's the specific plan and budget. This whole plan comes to about \$349 and 38 cents. Next up is for Megan, and Albuquerque I think folks on discord have seen Megan's delightful bunny name Stockholm.

00:41:40.000 --> 00:41:46.000

So this is a bunny safe backyard garden in Albuquerque.

00:41:46.000 --> 00:42:01.000

And it includes dog woods, which are some of these are very different looking dog was the Melinda Tolkien would have seen, but they are absolutely stunning and actually really commonly used in British formal gardening currently, but they are native to

00:42:01.000 --> 00:42:04.000

the Colorado area as well as northern New Mexico.

00:42:04.000 --> 00:42:16.000

Also miracles daisies nasturtiums ending Cyprus and desert Willow now standing Cyprus is not the Cyprus that Tolkien was thinking about, but it is an important part of this, I will note.

00:42:16.000 --> 00:42:34.000

He did not only include native plants he included plants in his works that felt familiar because the purpose of a lot of, including plants from his own community and his own experiences was to create that sense of sub creation.

00:42:34.000 --> 00:42:45.000

So nasturtiums are actually from South America but they've been in England for hundreds of years. There's a diagram of how to make a gravity fed. Well, our gravity fed water fountain.

00:42:45.000 --> 00:43:01.000

Using a large beer cooler, and you can put your feet in the nice cold water at the bottom of it and it waters, all of the most water intensive plants that are in the middle, and then kind of spreads out, so you've got that dog would if you look at that

00:43:01.000 --> 00:43:14.000

incredible red, and then the nasturtiums which can make it lovely ground cover and shade great for rabbit runs, and then it doesn't really providing a shade at the end and then this very non Cyprus looking Cyprus but add the word Cyprus in the name so

00:43:14.000 --> 00:43:22.000

I thought I would cheat a little bit, and then a local stage. There are stages for every almost every ecology so I picked that one.

00:43:22.000 --> 00:43:29.000

And there's a specific plan and budget you can do the whole thing for about 440 \$459 and 40 cents.

00:43:29.000 --> 00:43:45.000

Of course you can always spend more, but it's nice to get a sense of what is possible here. So this one is a mix of A and B for talking gardens it's both plants that are mentioned in Wilkins books, as well as a recreation of a specific moment.

00:43:45.000 --> 00:44:03.000

So, in fellowship, there's a moment where they enter into the hall I ron paul of fire may say, and they went across a wide passage and through other doors and came into a further Hall in it, were no tables, but a bright fire was burning and a great hearth

00:44:03.000 --> 00:44:19.000

between the carbon pillars on either side of the hall Gandalf says there's always a fire here all the year round but there is little other light. So, these are posts in the corners, covered with shade cloth that prevents about 85 to 95% of UV rays from

00:44:19.000 --> 00:44:28.000

coming through. So it's a shady desert backyard and the sense of fire is created by sunflowers mountain daisies.

00:44:28.000 --> 00:44:42.000

And stumps that provide some structure and some additional seating and some nutrients in the soil there. Then, Here are some pictures of some of the absolutely beautiful there's a ground cover sage.

00:44:42.000 --> 00:44:56.000

I in rereading fellowship I kept having positive feelings towards Lilia Sackville Baggins because I'd spent so much time designing around plants that share her name, which I'm sure was not the intention, but they are really beautiful plants, and then

00:44:56.000 --> 00:45:03.000

that climbing clematis, and there's the whole budgets about \$588 and 75 cents.

00:45:03.000 --> 00:45:19.000

Next up is one of our two balcony gardens. This one's from Leah in Seattle. I know it looks like I have imprisoned a small cohort of gnomes, but that is because we as apartment building has orange railings and I wanted to make sure that the colors, a

00:45:19.000 --> 00:45:35.000

match. Now, as you can see there are lots of links here and that's why I've dropped the PowerPoint presentation to the chat, because you can look through each of these and see where to buy each of them, and which specific ones I'm talking about.

00:45:35.000 --> 00:45:46.000

Normally I don't include lights in garden designs because they're bad for bats and they're bad for bugs, they get really confused because they're, you know, not so bright being bats and bugs.

00:45:46.000 --> 00:45:55.000

But in this particular case about the in Seattle. There's nothing Leah can do to distress the bugs more than a concrete building already has so might as well have some pretty lights.

00:45:55.000 --> 00:46:05.000

These are pictures of the plants here. Now when you're designing for a balcony it's really important to include small and lightweight plants so you know you don't the balcony doesn't fall off the building.

00:46:05.000 --> 00:46:20.000

So all of the ones that I've selected our from a nursery that specifically grows, small versions of plants, these are actually some of the most beautiful plants in this entire presentation so if you only click through a couple of links try clicking through

00:46:20.000 --> 00:46:23.000

the miniature conifers and maples here.

00:46:23.000 --> 00:46:33.000

And it ends up this one is not cheap so it is fast and good and it ends up at 1039 and 63 cents.

00:46:33.000 --> 00:46:48.000

Though of course you could easily spend \$5,000 and buy more mature trees. Next up is our second to last one which is a balcony retreat for Maddie in Arlington I wanted to make a little bit of a hobbit Grove like the experience of being hanging out in

00:46:48.000 --> 00:47:00.000

the backwoods and the brandy buck area. So it has ferns a couple of flowers, a small herb Murray for use in the apartment kitchen. And it's a very dark.

00:47:00.000 --> 00:47:06.000

There's not a lot of light and it's a pretty cold area in Arlington.

00:47:06.000 --> 00:47:19.000

And so, I tried to added mirrors to reflect some of that light into that area and get the plants a little bit more, their beautiful native ferns in Virginia, including ones like this with these red stems.

00:47:19.000 --> 00:47:33.000

There's the regular plants that all of us probably have in our kitchen in a dried form that you can grow at least during the warm months, and then there's the specific plan and budget this one ended up at about 514, because it's hard to grow a lot of

00:47:33.000 --> 00:47:42.000

stuff from seed there. And then the last one is grasslands have Gander garden for Kate and Oklahoma. This is about a 10 by 30 space.

00:47:42.000 --> 00:47:59.000

And it uses Big Blue stem grasses, little blue stems and broad fruit bird read one of the difficulties with planning a grass garden, using only plants mentioned in Tolkien is Tolkien only names, a couple of grasses he right names reads and brooms, and

00:47:59.000 --> 00:48:15.000

that's about it so I decided when he said the word grass, he could have meant Big Blue stem but I'm stretching it pretty hard here. I was attempting to build a backyard garden which Ben can speak more to that provided a space for mushrooms cultivating

00:48:15.000 --> 00:48:24.000

mushrooms is really tough and really interesting but with kids awesome background I thought it might be a challenge you would enjoy.

00:48:24.000 --> 00:48:38.000

So these are pictures of some of those mushrooms there are 10 native edible mushrooms, just in Oklahoma, and they are peculiar and delightful as a gentle reminder for folks mushrooms are is different from plants as they are from animals.

00:48:38.000 --> 00:48:47.000

So they have an entirely different way of growing them up, but I happen to really like the bread fruit burger read I think it looks so alien and delightful.

00:48:47.000 --> 00:48:49.000

And there's the last budget.

00:48:49.000 --> 00:49:04.000

I didn't end up, including the amount but I think I kept it under 100 bucks for the whole thing. And then this is a bunch of free logs that provides habitat and a brush pile for birds and it adds nutrients to the soil as the logs decompose.

00:49:04.000 --> 00:49:21.000

So summing up the presentation. Talking expressed her at the unnecessary falling of trees from his 20s to a 70s, it comes up in his poetry is fiction private and public correspondence to many other authors leaders and activists have been have had similar

00:49:21.000 --> 00:49:36.000

experiences with environmental horror and works towards restoration because of it. Three Tolkien broke narratives where the restoration of nature through planting gardening conservation and engagement with wild places is a core part of healing from her.

00:49:36.000 --> 00:49:49.000

And for we can each engage in the restoration of nature, whether it's through a balcony affiliate or a token s rabbit run using local varieties of plants mentioned and tokens work token gardens can provide connection habitat for living things including

00:49:49.000 --> 00:49:53.000

us, and an inspiration in our own backyards.

00:49:53.000 --> 00:50:04.000

We only have two minutes for me to hand this over so we're going to move most of the discussion on to discord, but I can take one question, if somebody has one at the top of their, their list.

00:50:04.000 --> 00:50:09.000

Eric I see your hand.

00:50:09.000 --> 00:50:12.000

It's not a question it's just a comment.

00:50:12.000 --> 00:50:23.000

I think it was after a similar paper such as this Berlin Pfleger made a great point. She said, What about when the hobbits chop down all those trees and burn them.

00:50:23.000 --> 00:50:37.000

Right, I thought that was a very interesting point tonight So, to me, the moment where Sam sounds the most like a gardener and the fellowship is when he threatens to chew down old man Willow if he doesn't start to behave.

00:50:37.000 --> 00:50:54.000

Tolkien has a little bit of a tree approach to gardens sometimes, and Sam doesn't he writes a character who treats the plants. This way, where you have to manage them, if you look at the last 15,000 years of manage landscaping practices just in California,

00:50:54.000 --> 00:51:08.000

from how different native communities have managed it. We have no idea what a non tariff formed I dia of California forests, is because native peoples have been managing them with fire and with chopping down, and with other management techniques for 15,000

00:51:08.000 --> 00:51:17.000

years so we have literally no clue what they would look like without human intervention. so I am a you'll actually notice in the budget for Kate's is a chainsaw.

00:51:17.000 --> 00:51:28.000

Because, taking down trees is a key important part of forestry management. Just maybe not when they're 5000 years old because you like lost a \$20 tool.