Character Profile: Elrond

Who is Elrond?
Elrond is the Master of Rivendell. He is called Elrond the Half-elven. His name means ‘Star-dome.’ He’s the son of Earendil, son of Tuor, who was born in Gondolin before its fall. His mother was Elwing, daughter of Dior, son of Luthien of Doriath.

What is Elrond like?
Elrond has been described as: very wise, a healer, greatest of loremasters, able to foresee/foretell the future, he knows all about runes of every kind, and has very good advice. “His face is ageless, neither old nor young, but in it is written the memory of many things both glad and sorrowful. His hair is dark as the shadows of twilight, and upon it is set a circlet of silver. His eyes are grey as a clear evening and in them, is a light like the light of stars. Venerable he seems as a king crowned with many winters, and yet hale as a tried warrior in the fullness of his strength, . . . and mighty among both Elves and Men... He is as noble and as fair in the face as an elf-lord, as strong as a warrior, as wise as a wizard, as venerable as a king of dwarves, and as kind as summer.”

What is Elrond’s background?
Elrond has seen three ages of the West of the World. Some of the big events of his life are: when he was the herald of Gil-galad and marched with his host, he was in the battle of Dagonlad before the black gate of Mordor, and he was there when Isildur cut the ring from Sauron’s hand and refused to cast it into the fire. At the end of the first age, he chose to belong to the Firstborn, and remained in Middle Earth until the end of the Third Age. He became Master of Imladris (Rivendell) and keeper of Vilya (the ring of air), which he had received from Gil-galad.

Who is in Elrond’s family?
Elrond married Celebrian, daughter of Galadriel and Celeborn. Her kin were from Lorien. She was tormented in the dens of the Orcs. Their children were: Elladan, Elrohir, and Arwen.

Where does Elrond live?
Elrond lives in the Last Homely House east of the sea, in the Valley of Rivendell. He can be found, as is his custom, sitting in a great chair at the end of a long table upon a dais.

What is Elrond’s home like?
Imladris is “a refuge for the weary and oppressed, and a treasury of good council and wise lore.” At the beginning of the Third Age, after the first fall of Sauron, the house harboured the Heirs of Isildur because of the kinship of their blood with Elrond. His hall is filled with folk, mostly elves, but a few guests of other sorts. “His house is perfect whether you like food, or sleep, or work, or story-telling, or singing, or just sitting and thinking best, or a pleasant mixture of them all.” Visitors grow strong and get refreshed there. And it is said that evil things don’t come into the Valley of Rivendell.

Elrond’s most important role in The Lord of the Rings Trilogy:
Elrond was the one who foretold this: “In the hour that Isildur took the ring and would not surrender it, this doom was wrought, that Sauron should return.” He is a member of the Council of the Wise (the White Council), and his wisdom is his key characteristic.