

## The Hobbit Character List

### **Bilbo Baggins**

is the main character of the story. He is a hobbit of the Shire who prefers domesticity to adventure, but he soon finds himself caught up in the escapades of Gandalf, the wizard, and a company of dwarves. Bilbo is hardly the raw material of a hero, but as the story progresses he develops into a clever and brave hero. Throughout the novel, he longs for his home but he is able to perform his duties as a member of the group. Finding the ring that makes him invisible is certainly the greatest tactical advantage that he gains in the story.

### **Gandalf**

is a wise wizard who appears in The Hobbit intermittently, though he has a more sustained presence in the first novel of the Lord of The Rings Trilogy. Gandalf is a friend of Bilbo's mother, Belladonna Took, and he contrives the gathering of Bilbo and the dwarves that initiates the adventure. He has plenty of wisdom, magical skills (usually fireworks) and useful contacts with individuals like Beorn and the Lord of the Eagles.

### **Smaug**

is a major villain of the story. He is a gargantuan dragon that has terrorized several towns for decades, within his mountain he guards a massive horde of treasure. Part of this treasure belongs to the dwarves and so they intend to reclaim it. Smaug dies in battle against the villagers of Esgaroth, when a warrior named Bard shoots an arrow through his unshielded breast.

### **Thorin Oakenshield**

is the leader of the dwarves that accompany Bilbo to the cave of Smaug. Like most dwarves, he is focused on wealth, political ascendancy and historical lineage. He carries an ancient sword and he is heir to the throne established in Smaug's mountain. Unfortunately, Thorin's negative tendencies reveal themselves in his power-hungry maneuvers at the novel's end as the treasures under the mountain corrupt his mind.

### **Bard**

is a valiant human archer from the lake-town of Esgaroth. As an excellent Bowman, he slays and kills the dragon Smaug with the legendary black arrow. He too is heir to an ancient king and takes lead of the townsfolk after Smaug desolates the town.

## Gollum

is a creature (once much like a hobbit) that Bilbo encounters in the caverns of the Goblins. He is old and drained by the rings power and is now a sad and unfortunate beast who's only desire is to be in the rings presence. Gollum has lost his birthday-present, the ring which Bilbo has found. The ring renders its bearer invisible and so, this is a great loss for Gollum. He reappears in the LOTR Trilogy desperate to recapture his precious.

## The Hobbit Settings

### The Shire

The Shire is a region of Middle-earth, described in The Hobbit. The Shire refers to an inland area settled exclusively by hobbits (the Shire-folk) and largely removed from the goings-on in the rest of Middle-earth. The Shire is described as a small but beautiful and fruitful land, beloved by its inhabitants.

### Smaug's Lair

Smaug guarded his hoard in the Great Hall of Thrain, the lowest hall in the great dwarvern hold of Erebor. The once mighty dwarvern fortress, now fallen to disrepair due to the movements of the mighty dragon. The main hall is packed with treasures of every kind, gold jewels and antiques beyond value are piles against every wall and around the gigantic pillars the sprout from the centre of the hall

### Erebor in the Lonely Mountain.

After barricading the entrance into the mountain with huge rocks, Thorin and Company were trapped in a bloodless siege, with Thranduil and Bard hoping to wait them out. However, Thorin had sent messages of his plight to his relatives using talking messenger Ravens that lived near the Lonely Mountain. These reached Dain II Ironfoot of the nearby Iron Hills, and he marched down the rocky slopes of the Lonely Mountain with 500 heavily armed Dwarves, most skilled veterans of the War of the Dwarves and Orcs.