

THE HOBBIT – A MUSICAL

A musical based on the well-loved story by J.R.R. Tolkien
Script and Music by JOHN MILLS

ACT 1 SCENE 1: AN INVITATION NOT ACCEPTED

(Bilbo, Gandalf & Hobbits)

(HOBBITS enter, very chatty and friendly little folk with big feet, gently tilling the land etc. Set as a rural hillside with a large green door, the entrance to Bilbo's Hobbit-hole. BILBO enter through the door, at peace with the world. GANDALF enters in a magical way, singing extract from #01 'Roads Go Ever Ever On'. GANDALF points his staff at the audience.)

GANDALF

(Dramatically) Be stone to you! *(Chuckles to SELF and lowers his staff)*

BILBO

(Uncertainly) Good morning.

GANDALF

What do you mean? Do you wish me a good morning, or mean that it is a good morning whether I want it or not; or that you feel good this morning; or that it is a morning to be good on?

BILBO

All of them at once. There's no hurry, we have the whole day before us!

GANDALF

I am looking for someone to share in an adventure. I'm finding it very difficult to find anyone.

BILBO

I should think so, particularly here in sleepy Hobbiton! *(HOBBITS gather round)* We hobbits are plain, quiet folk and have no need for adventures. No adventures here, thank you!

HOBBITS

No adventures here, thankyou!

BILBO

You might try that road to The Hill, or that road goes across The Water. And that road goes ...

GANDALF

Now you mean to get rid of me.

BILBO

Not at all, not at all, my dear sir er let me see, I don't think I know your name?

GANDALF

Yes, yes, my dear sir, but I do know your name, Mr Bilbo Baggins. I am Gandalf the Grey.

HOBBITS

Gandalf!

BILBO

Gandalf. Gandalf! Not the wandering wizard, the fellow who tells such wonderful tales at parties, about trolls and goblins and dragons? I had no idea you were still in business. Do you like riddles?

GANDALF

Yes I do, and I'm rather good at them.

BILBO

I love riddles ! How about you try this one ...

GANDALF

I'm sorry Bilbo, but there's no time for riddles at the moment. I've more important business, I want to send you on this adventure. Just a little trip might do you some good. Broaden your horizons!

BILBO

No thankyou, Gandalf, I'm very happy living a quiet life here, thankyou.

HOBBITS

Yes, a quiet life for us.

BILBO

I never leave Hobbiton unless it's a real emergency. (*To AUDIENCE*) And as we never have any real emergencies I haven't ever left Hobbiton!. (*To GANDALF*) So thankyou for the invitation but, 'No Thankyou'!

GANDALF

(On the edge of being angry)

I don't think you're really listening to me. I need someone to go on an adventure, and I'm looking at you, Bilbo Baggins, to be that very person!

Music starts for #01 Roads Go Ever Ever On**GANDALF**

You really ought to go, you know!

HOBBITS & GANDALF

ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!
ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!

BILBO

ROADS GO EVER EVER ON, OVER ROCK AND UNDER TREE,

GANDALF

BY CAVES WHERE NEVER SUN HAS SHONE,

BILBO

BY STREAMS THAT NEVER FIND THE SEA;

GANDALF

OVER SNOW BY WINTER SOWN,

BILBO

AND THROUGH THE MERRY FLOWERS OF JUNE, OVER GRASS AND OVER STONE,

GANDALF

AND UNDER MOUNTAINS IN THE MOON. AND UNDER MOUNTAINS IN THE MOON.

HOBBITS

ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!
ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!

GANDALF & BILBO

ROADS GO EVER EVER ON
UNDER CLOUD AND UNDER STAR, YET

HOBBITS

ROADS GO EVER EVER ON
UNDER CLOUD AND UNDER

ALL

FEET THAT WANDERING HAVE GONE, TURN AT LAST TO HOME AFAR.

GANDALF

EYES THAT FIRE AND SWORD HAVE SEEN

HOBBITS

EYES THAT FIRE AND SWORD HAVE SEEN

GANDALF

AND HORROR IN THE HALLS OF STONE

HOBBITS

AND HORROR IN THE HALLS OF STONE

ALL

LOOK AT LAST ON MEADOWS GREEN
AND TREES AND HILLS THEY LONG HAVE KNOWN.
AND TREES AND HILLS THEY LONG HAVE KNOWN.

BILBO

BUT I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE MY HOME!

GANDALF

THERE'S A GREAT WIDE WORLD OUT THERE!

BILBO

I'VE NEVER FELT THE NEED TO ROAM

GANDALF

THERE'S NO TIME TO WATCH AND STARE.

BILBO

I'VE NO DESIRE TO CHANGE MY LIFE

GANDALF

HOW D'YOU KNOW IF YOU DON'T TRY?

BILBO

I'M HAPPY JUST TO STAY AT HOME

BILBO

I WON'T GO!

I WON'T GO!

GANDALF

YOU MUST GO!

YOU WILL GO SOON!

HOBBITS

ROADS GO ON FOR EVER!
ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!
ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!

GANDALF & BILBO

ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!
ROADS GO EVER EVER ON! ROADS GO EVER EVER ON!

ALL

ROADS GO EVER EVER ON.

*(HOBBITS continue chatting, return to their work, then exit in groups)***GANDALF***(Speaks as if casting a spell)* I'm glad you've come to your senses, little Hobbit and agreed to accept my invitation. It'll be very good for you, if you ever get to the end of it!**BILBO**

But, but I don't think I've agreed to anything yet. Let me think about it. *(No break. To AUDIENCE)* I've thought about it. *(To GANDALF)* Sorry, but I don't want any adventures, thank you. Not today. Not ever. Good morning, Gandalf! But please come to tea – any time you like! Good day to you!

*(GANDALF raises his staff threateningly. BILBO rushes inside his Hobbit-hole)***GANDALF**You will go on this adventure, Mr Baggins, because I want you to!*(GANDALF makes a mark on the door and exits in a magical way.)***Scene Change Music – Extract from #01 Roads Go Ever Ever On**

ACT 1 SCENE 2: AN UNEXPECTED PARTY
(Bilbo, Gandalf & Dwarves)

(DWALIN enters and knocks once on the door. BILBO opens it)

DWALIN

Dwalin, at your service!

BILBO

Bilbo Baggins at yours! I am just about to take tea; do come in and have some with me.

(DWALIN goes inside. BILBO fetches food. BALIN enters and knocks once on the door)

BILBO

Excuse me, Dwalin! Someone at the door. *(BILBO opens door to BALIN)*

BALIN

I see they've begun to arrive already. Balin at your service!

BILBO

Thank you! Come along in and have some tea.

BALIN

A little beer would suit me better, if it's all the same to you, my good sir. And some cake – seed-cake, if you have any?

BILBO

Lots! I love cake! *(BALIN enters and greets DWALIN. BILBO fetches more food and drink. KILI and FILI enter and knock twice on the door)*

BILBO

Excuse me, Dwalin, Balin!

DWALIN, BALIN & BILBO

Someone at the door. *(BILBO opens door.)* What can I do for you, my dwarves?

KILI

Kili at your service!

FILI

And Fili! I smell something good to eat!

KILI

Dwalin and Balin here already I see. Let us join the throng!

BILBO

Throng! Not sure I like the sound of that!

(BILBO, KILI and FILI go inside and everyone greet each other. DORI, NORI, ORI, OIN and GLOIN enter and knock noisily on the door five times.)

DWALIN, BALIN, KILI, FILI & BILBO

Someone's at the door!

BILBO

(Opening the door, to AUDIENCE) Some five, I should say. (DWARVES enter bowing and saying 'At your service' one after the other. Greet everyone merrily, settle down to eat and drink. GANDALF enters magically with BIFUR, BOFUR, BOMBUR and THORIN close behind. GANDALF beats on the door with his staff and stands aside. BILBO opens the door, and dwarves fall on top of each other.)

GANDALF

Carefully! Carefully! It is not like you, Bilbo, to keep your friends waiting on the mat and then open the door like a pop-gun! Let me introduce Bifur, Bofur, Bombur and especially ...

(DWARVES pick themselves up and enter bowing as their name is spoken and saying, 'At your service'.)

Dave.

DWARVES

Dave?

GANDALF

(Chuckling to self) Huh, just checking you're all still awake. Let me introduce Thorin Oakenshield, Chief of the Dwarves!

BILBO

(DWARVES all rise as a sign of respect)

Pleased to meet you, Dave, er .. um .. Thorin. What should I call you?

THORIN

You will call me by my birth-name, Thorin. Gandalf loves his 'Dad-jokes', but I daren't make a fuss about it with him! You wouldn't want to cross Gandalf. Nobody should cross Gandalf!

GANDALF

Now we are all here. Such a merry gathering. Thorin, let me introduce you to Mr Bilbo Baggins, a thoroughly charming little fellow. A Hobbit with big hairy feet!

DWARVES

What's a Hobbit?

GANDALF

A Hobbit is ...

BILBO

...a Hobbit. I'm just a little fellow who loves riddles. Now, have any of you heard this one ...?

GANDALF

No time for riddles now, Bilbo. *(Chuckling to SELF)* He's a bit anxious about your journey, so take very good care of him won't you, Thorin. He's a very special Hobbit and he means a lot a me!

THORIN

(Putting a friendly arm on BILBO's shoulder)

Pleased to meet you, Mr Baggins, stay close to me and all will be well.

GANDALF

Bilbo, I hope there is something left for late-comers to eat and drink!

(BILBO fetches a large tray of food. It is becoming very noisy!)

DORI

Raspberry jam and apple tart. Mmm, lovely.

NORI

And mince pies and cheese. Delicious.

ORI

Fresh strawberries and clotted cream. Yum!

OIN

Pork sausages and roasters. Very tasty.

GLOIN

And kippers and ketchup? A feast for a dwarf!

GANDALF

Put on a few eggs, Bilbo, there's a good fellow! And just bring out the cold chicken and pickles!

(More laughter, noise and food from BILBO. Plenty of slurping and burping etc!!)

THORIN

(Stands on the table, stamps his foot and raises his tankard for a toast)

To Mr Bilbo Baggins. Good friendship, good fortune and good food!

ALL

Good friendship, good fortune and good food!

THORIN

But, before we get down to business we must first have some music. Fill your tankards, clear the table. Bring out the instruments. I love a good song!

GANDALF

(To BILBO) I should stand back if I were you little hobbit, the dwarves can be quite ... 'enthusiastic' with their music-making!

Music starts for #02 Over The Misty Mountains**DWARVES**

OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS COLD, OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS.
OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS.

THORIN

FAR OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS COLD, TO DUNGEONS DEEP AND CAVERNS OLD

DWARVES

WE MUST AWAY ERE BREAK OF DAY TO SEEK THE PALE ENCHANTED GOLD.

DWARF SOLO

THE DWARVES OF YORE MADE MIGHTY SPELLS

DWARVES

WHILE HAMMERS FELL LIKE RINGING BELLS

DWARF SOLO

IN PLACES DEEP, WHERE DARK THINGS SLEEP,
IN HOLLOW HALLS BENEATH THE FELS.

ALL

Hic! THAT'S BETTER OUT THAN IN! Burp!

DWARVES

OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS COLD, OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS.
OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS

DWARF SOLO

FAR OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS COLD

DWARVES

TO DUNGEONS DEEP AND CAVERNS OLD

THORIN

WE MUST AWAY, ERE BREAK OF DAY, TO CLAIM OUR LONG-FORGOTTEN GOLD.

DWARF SOLO

GOBLETS WERE CARVED THERE FOR THEMSELVES

DWARVES

AND HARPS OF GOLD; WHERE NO MAN DELVES
THERE LAY THEY LONG, AND MANY A SONG
WAS SUNG UNHEARD BY MEN OR ELVES.

ALL

Hic! THAT'S BETTER OUT THAN IN! Burp!

DWARVES & BILBO

OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS COLD, OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS.
OVER THE MISTY MOUNTAINS.