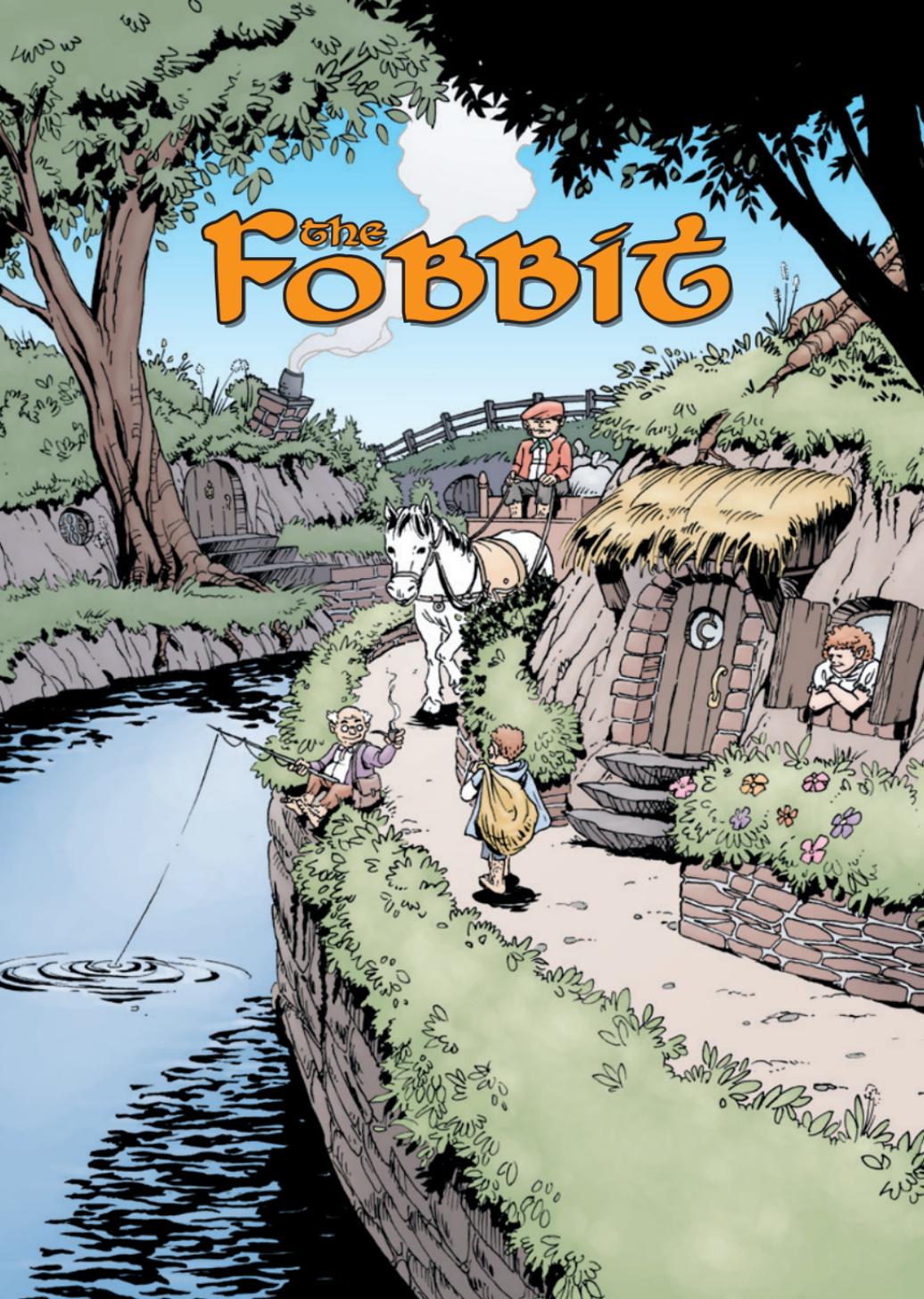


# the Fobbit





I HOPE IT'S NOT THAT TRAVELING SHOE SALESMAN AGAIN!

I'VE ALREADY TOLD HIM...



YOU SHOULD REALLY FIX YOUR DOOR BELL, HILGO.

DON'T YOU LITTLE PEOPLE EVER DO ANY MAINTENANCE?



RANDOLPH THE WIZARD???

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO MY FOBBIT HOLE?

AND WHY ARE AN ELF AND A DWARF WITH YOU? THIS IS ALL VERY PECULIAR.



WE'RE HERE TO TAKE YOU ON A GREAT BIG ADVENTURE, OF COURSE.

THE KIND WRITTEN ABOUT IN OLD BOOKS AND SHOWN IN HOLLYWOOD TRILOGIES.

OH, HEAVENS! I'M JUST A LITTLE FOBBIT.

WE FOBBITS NEVER GO ANYWHERE!



WELL, YOU ARE NOW AND WE LEAVE IN THE MORNING!

SO YOU BETTER MAKE SURE ALL YOUR GEAR IS IN WORKING ORDER AND GIVE YOUR SWORD A GOOD SHARPENING.



NO PROBLEM! I HAVE ALL MY PM PROCEDURES MEMORIZED-IT'LL BE A SNAP!



NEVER DO PM BY MEMORY, HILGO! ALWAYS USE THE TM SO YOU KNOW IT'S DONE RIGHT.

NOTHING PLAYS HAVOC WITH AN ADVENTURE FASTER THAN NOT TAKING CARE OF YOUR EQUIPMENT.



DON'T WORRY! I'LL DO IT LATER. I HAVE A HIGH SCORE TO BREAK NOW.



I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE TAKING A FOBBIT ON AN ADVENTURE.

EVERYONE KNOWS THEY'RE NEVER PREPARED.



WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME *WHERE* WE'RE GOING?

I'D GUESS TO SEE THE WIZARD, BUT YOU *ARE* THE WIZARD.

THE DESTINATION IS NOT NEARLY AS IMPORTANT AS THE JOURNEY ITSELF.

JUST BE PREPARED TO LEARN A LESSON ABOUT PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE BEFORE THIS ADVENTURE ENDS.

RRR?



RRR

RRR

RRR

RRR

RRR



FANTASTIC SHOT, LEGGO!

IT'S A GOOD THING I WAXED MY BOW STRING THIS MORNING.

I SHUDDER TO THINK WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED HAD IT SNAPPED.



WHY, I WAS JUST GETTING READY TO STRIKE THAT ORC DEAD WITH MY TRUSTY SWORD!



OH, REALLY? THIS BLADE IS ABOUT AS SHARP AS YOUR *MIND*, HILGO.

THIS WILL BE A LONG JOURNEY INDEED IF YOU DON'T START TAKING BETTER CARE OF YOUR EQUIPMENT.



HEY! IS IT JUST MY IMAGINATION OR HAVE WE *SKIPPED* PAST A FEW SCENES?

WHADDYA EXPECT WHEN YOU CONDENSE AN ENTIRE BOOK INTO *EIGHT* PAGES?



HILGO, I HOPE YOU DID PM...



...ON YOUR-

SNAP!



I HATE TO SAY I TOLD YOU SO BUT-



WHERE ARE THE LIGHTS?

SOMEBODY MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN TO DO MAINTENANCE ON THEIR GENERATOR.





**HOLD IT!** THIS FIGHT SCENE WILL TAKE AT LEAST A FEW MORE PAGES AND I'M AFRAID WE'RE ALMOST OUTTA SPACE.



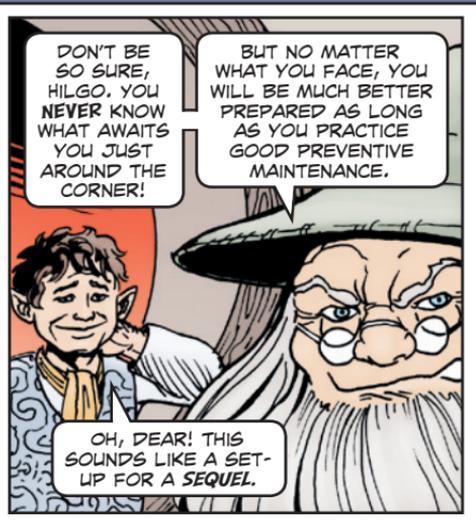
AW! I SHARPENED MY SWORD FOR NOTHING. I EVEN POLISHED MY NEW RING, THOUGH IT APPEARS TO HAVE NO SPECIAL POWERS WHATSOEVER... WHICH IS KINDA DISAPPOINTING.



GOOD PM IS ITS OWN REWARD. DON'T BECOME COMPLACENT. YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN THE NEXT BATTLE WILL BE SO YOU MUST BE PREPARED.



WELL, HERE WE ARE AT THE END. NO MORE GREAT BIG ADVENTURES FOR *THIS* FOBBIT!



DON'T BE SO SURE, HILGO. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT AWAITS YOU JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

BUT NO MATTER WHAT YOU FACE, YOU WILL BE MUCH BETTER PREPARED AS LONG AS YOU PRACTICE GOOD PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE.

OH, DEAR! THIS SOUNDS LIKE A SET-UP FOR A SEQUEL.