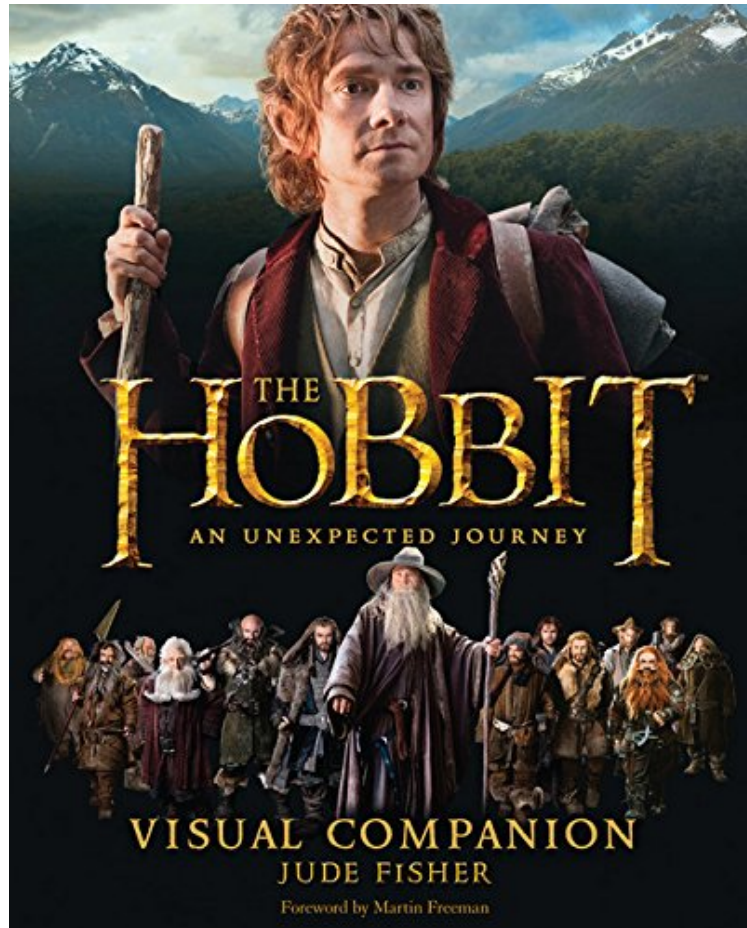


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The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey Visual Companion

Jude Fisher

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Jude Fisher : The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey Visual Companion before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey Visual Companion:

45 of 47 people found the following review helpful. Clean, sharp, and very unexpectedBy Graham SwearingenGranted, this book more than anything, is just a promo for the upcoming film. Yet I was pleasantly surprised with the overall presentation which is very nice and (pun intended) very unexpected. There is a great four page fold out map of Middle Earth in the middle of the book, there are numerous two full page pictures that are immense in detail and very high quality with no upscaling. Regardless of the fact that this is a \$14 promo book, there are awesome pictures, great page layout and such a cool forward by Martin Freeman (Bilbo Baggins). I wasn't expecting much from this book, I got it because I cannot contain my excitement for the movie and am getting any and everything Hobbit related while it's cheap and available. This book covers broad subjects in sections like Hobbiton, the Shire, Bilbo, the Ring, Gandalf, each Dwarve, the White Council, Rivendell and so forth. All the pictures look like finished post production photos from the actual film transfer. Note: there are no pictures of Smaug or the Necromancer

or spiders or Lake-Town, Bard or Beorn, but there are some great pictures of Orcs and Goblins and the Goblin King. This book, as the title states, is only covering the first film "An Unexpected Journey". I am very pleased with this book. It's a little on the small side, but *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey Chronicles: Art Design* by Weta Digital should have far more content and behind the scenes info when it's released on December 14th. If you love anything Hobbit related or like collecting any and all things Middle Earth, this book is well worth the price for the great pictures and fold out map.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. *A Battle to Get Through...* By Paul B. For a book that is billed as a 'visual companion' to *The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies*, this book comes up short on substance. I have collected all of Jude Fisher's companion books to the *Lord of The Rings/The Hobbit* movies. This one is visually beautiful and put together well. It has a nice, shiny, colorful hard cover and a dust cover to match. Regarding content, the first 2/3 to 3/4 of the book are just there to tell the reader the story of *The Hobbit* 'up to now,' and include photos from the first two movies. The latter part of the book is very ambiguous, regarding *The Battle of The Five Armies*. Ms. Fisher talks about the trolls, ogres, bats, and more that appear in the great battle, but there are no photos of these, odd for a 'visual companion' to the movie. She alludes to Thranduil's lack of love for the dwarves, unlike Tauriel's, but goes no further. She alludes to Kili and Fili's propensity for being 'young and reckless,' and says '...that propensity places them in greater danger...' but doesn't say what that danger is. The photos that are included in this area of the book are indeed from the movie the book is said to be about, but they are all close-ups of the various characters. It's nice to be able to see what they are wearing, but there is very little background to view. A few Elven bows, some injured folks from Lake Town, some old Dwarvish armour and weapons in the foreground or background.

I pre-ordered this book, and rec'd and read it before the US release of the movie. Perhaps Ms. Fisher was not allowed to divulge too much info before the movie premier? It is just fine if you are looking for a good-looking book for your shelf or coffee table, or to complete your collection. But for information about the movie, *The Battle of the Five Armies*, there is very little to discover.

12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. *The Characters Revealed.* By Customer. This book is small, but it packs a great deal of information into its pages. I was very impressed with the assessment of Thorin Oakenshield, the dwarf who would be king under the mountain. One cannot doubt his bravery, but his outlook is flawed. The true effects of gold on an individual are aptly shown in Thorin's behavior. Which helps to set the stage for the final battle. The Wizards, the Elves, and the Humans, are well portrayed, as they will all have a place in the final conflict. I highly recommend this book, just for its outlines of the different characters involved in this final story. JRV

Join the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, Gandalf the wizard and the Company of Dwarves on their Quest to recover treasure stolen by the Dragon, Smaug the Magnificent. Leaving the comfort of Bilbo's home they must face many perils before they can claim their long-lost gold -- Trolls, Elves, Goblins, Wargs, and worse. Richly illustrated with more than 100 color photos from the film, and featuring a brand new fold-out map charting the journey from Bag End to Wilderland, *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey Visual Companion* begins the Quest for the Lonely Mountain in spectacular style.

About the Author: JUDE FISHER is a pseudonym for an established fantasy author. Her *Two Towers Visual Companion* was a New York Times bestseller.