



## A Middle-earth Traveller: Sketches from Bag End to Mordor

*John Howe*

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Let acclaimed Tolkien artist John Howe take you on an unforgettable journey across Middle-earth, from Bag End to Mordor, in this richly illustrated sketchbook fully of previously unseen artwork, anecdotes and meditations on Middle-earth.

Middle-earth has been mapped, Bilbo's and Frodo's journeys plotted and measured, but Middle-earth remains a wilderland for all that. The roads as yet untraveled far outnumber those down which Tolkien had time to wander.

A Middle-Earth Traveller presents a walking tour of Tolkien's Middle-earth, visiting not only places central to his stories, but also those just over the hill or beyond the horizon. Events from Tolkien's books are explored – battles of the different ages that are almost part of legend by the time of The Lord of the Rings; lost kingdoms and ancient myths, as well as those places only hinted at: kingdoms of the far North and lands beyond the seas.

Sketches that have an 'on-the-spot' feel to them are interwoven with the artist's observations gleaned from Tolkien's books and recollections of his time spent in Middle-earth while working alongside Peter Jackson on the Lord of the Rings and Hobbit film trilogies. Combining concept work produced for films, existing Middle-earth art and many new paintings and sketches exclusive to this book, A Middle-earth Traveller will take the reader on a unique and unforgettable journey across Tolkien's magical landscape.

## A Middle-earth Traveller: Sketches from Bag End to Mordor Details

Date : Published October 4th 2018 by HarperCollins

ISBN : 9780008226770

Author : John Howe

Format : Hardcover 192 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Art, Fiction



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## **From Reader Review A Middle-earth Traveller: Sketches from Bag End to Mordor for online ebook**

### **Talbot Hook says**

If you desire an afternoon through Middle-earth, revisiting old haunts and inspiring deeper travels, this is a patient and knowledgeable guide along those paths. Aside from a few typos and questionable font choices, a lovely book with exceedingly-marvelous illustrations. We are all in debt to Howe and Lee for guiding the films with such profound artistic vision. Thank you both.

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### **Lyle Blosser says**

Intricate, wonderful, and inspiring sketches (and a few superb paintings) make this book a joy. The author's commentary on the many lands and peoples and objects of Tolkien's works only serves to enrich the experience.

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### **Saman Usman says**

Such a visual treat for those who love fantasy art and Lord of the Rings. The drawings are from the artist to help conceptualize the movie. He drew his inspiration from Tolkien's own sketches and of course the storybooks. Some of the sketches are mind blowing. Incredible to see this artistry especially if you obsess over LOTR. The sketches are accompanied with some detailed explanations comparing and contrasting the characteristics and struggles of each unique race. It also talks about Tolkeins religious beliefs and the origin of the world and of the importance of light and how it is used in the story. For example about the spider how much afraid and yet so allured by the light at the same time. It has a deeper study of the evil concepts and explanations of the role of the elven people in middle earth.

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### **Sandra Brant says**

Highly recommended for fans of Tolkien. I bought this book for the illustrations of John Howe and was not disappointed. Wonderful to see and read the thoughts behind some of the images we have come to know through the books and the films.

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### **Joel Mitchell says**

My wife gave me this beautiful book for Christmas. It showcases John Howe's gorgeous sketches, focusing primarily on the lands, peoples, and creatures of Middle Earth rather than main characters. A few colored pictures are mixed in with the sketches, but most are so dark that they lack the exquisite detail of the sketches. John Howe's brief commentary throughout was okay, but I did catch at least one error (he mentions

that Sauron was incorporeal and trapped in Barad-Dur which is not the case in the books). The fantastic artwork more than makes up for the so-so narration.

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### **Patricia says**

A+ sketches and the written bits told with a great voice (I laughed aloud in several places, it was a good time)

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### **Lizy says**

Note: many thanks to the rep from HMH for giving me this book at SIBA '18. It made my day.

A Middle-Earth Traveler is absolutely amazing. I was drawn in by John Howe's famously incredible illustrations, but once I opened it, I was captivated by the accompanying texts which are perfectly paired to the visuals. This book goes beyond my expectations and helped me have a greater understanding - both visually and comprehensively - of Tolkien's world in a casual, low-investment kind of way. Perfect companion resource to any of Tolkien's publications. This one is a treasure.

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### **Céline says**

Un magnifique livre illustrant la vision de la Terre du Milieu de John Howe.

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### **Sergio Sánchez says**

After reading this book and delighting in each beautiful illustration I am in awe of John Howe's immense gifts as an artist. It really is a work of art, a perfect companion to Tolkien's books and a treasure box for all lovers of Peter Jackson's films.

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### **Sean Smart says**

A beautiful book, I would recommend to any fan of the Lord of the Rings book and films

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### **Judy says**

A literal tour through Tolkien's world through pencil sketches and photos brought to us by one of the illustrators of both the Lord of the Rings and Hobbit movies. For lovers of Middle Earth this is a treasure. Howe writes comments and commentary according to themes and places. Well done!

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### **Chris says**

Great sketches, I've loved John Howe's Middle-Earth work from before PJ hired him as a concept artist for the films. This would be five stars except for a couple of blatant errors in the written portions, the first is page 97 Dunland borders Rohan to the West not East as stated. The second on page 121, Durin's Door isn't in the Dimrill Dale, it's on the other side of the Misty Mountains. How did the editors miss these details?

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### **Nyanbooks says**

Tengo que decir que he disfrutado de principio a fin con cada una de estas páginas porque las ilustraciones tan maravillosas te hacen sentir como si realmente viajaras por La Tierra Media y otros lugares, además de una gran cercanía hacia estos paisajes y personajes. Por otro lado, las breves descripciones que poseían muchas de estas páginas me han hecho recordar con nostalgia la gran aventura que había vivido al leer estos libros. Esto ha sido sin duda lo que más me ha gustado de este libro.

Otro aspecto importante que también me ha gustado mucho, han sido las referencias hacia distintos mitos y mitologías en los que se pudo haber inspirado Tolkien para crear el origen de su mundo y personajes, como por ejemplo, la relación de "Smaug el Dorado" con historias islandesas y nórdicas. Esto me sorprendió mucho, ya que desconocía la gran semejanza que poseen.

Por otro lado, me hubiese gustado que aparecieran algunos pocos lugares que eché en falta.

En conclusión, si os gusta todo lo relacionado con este impresionante mundo, os lo recomiendo, ya que te sumergirá de nuevo en él. Es un libro realmente precioso, con una lectura muy amena y rápida.

Ten en cuenta que si no has leído otros libros de Tolkien, puedes spoilearte.

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### **Rayco Cruz says**

Una auténtica maravilla para aficionados a la Tierra Media y para los que no. Cada ilustración es un trocito de historia, una gota de Tolkien en esencia. Cada página se disfruta sin resquicios.

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### **Tomás Sendarrubias García says**

Bueno, bueno, bueno. No tengo mucho que decir sobre este libro, que simplemente es una preciosidad. Quizá los textos pudieran haber estado un poco mejor revisados (hay alguna errata en la nomenclatura de los valar y fallos muy tontos), pero por lo demás, no es un libro que brille por sus textos si no por las preciosas ilustraciones, que son absolutamente fantásticas.

Una auténtica joya que cualquier fan de la Tierra Media tiene que tener.

