

THE HOBBIT

CHAPTER ABSTRACTS – CHAPTER 7

- The Eagles take the adventurers to the territory of Beorn, who is a skin-changer capable of taking the shape of a man or a bear.
- Gandalf and Bilbo intrigue Beorn with the tale of their adventures so far, cleverly introducing the dwarves gradually so that the large party is accepted by the normally suspicious and reclusive Beorn.
- The travelers are guests at Beorn's house. Beorn, meanwhile, travels in bear form to the mountains to investigate the truth of their tale. He finds that the goblins and wargs are on the warpath hunting for the travelers.
- Beorn provisions the dwarves and Bilbo and gives them advice for traveling through Mirkwood. He lends them ponies and guarantees their safety to the edge of Mirkwood.
- Gandalf leaves the dwarves and Bilbo on the outskirts of Mirkwood, giving them some final advice and telling Bilbo to look after the dwarves.
- Bilbo has now developed his character to the point that Gandalf is confident that he can complete the quest without any further assistance.
- This chapter has a slower pace, allowing the travelers (and the reader) to rest and recover after the intense danger in the mountains and before the potential dangers of Mirkwood.
- Beorn's house is a picture of peace and contentment and another depiction of "home" that is similar to, but also different from, the peace and contentment of Hobbiton or Rivendell.

