The Hobbit, subtitled **There and Back Again**, is a fantasy novel written by J.R.R. Tolkien. It was first published on September 21, 1937. The book is set in a fictional world known as Middle-earth and follows the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit who lives a quiet life in his home at Bag End in the Shire. The book has been adapted into various forms, including animated films, a live-action film trilogy directed by Peter Jackson, stage plays, and radio dramatizations. It remains a beloved classic of children's literature and fantasy fiction.