

BILBO 3

BILBO (frightened, to the eyes). Keep away from me, eyes! I wonder what happened to the Dwarves? I hope the goblins didn't get them! (Gasps.) My sword! (Holding it up.) It hardly glows. That means the Goblins aren't near and yet they're still around. Ugh! What a nasty smell! Go away, you horrible eyes! (Realizing, stage whisper.) I know where I am. I'm still in the goblin's cave! They smell that way and these may be just the eyes of bats and mice and toads and slimy things like that. (More naturally.) Cheer up, Bilbo. Fear always helps the thing you're afraid of. You're alive and you've been in holes before. You live in one. This is just an ordinary, black, foul, disgusting hole. So blah! (The eyes begin to flicker out, pair by pair, until all are gone. BILBO brightens further.) If this place were aired and decorated it would be nice and cozy. So now I'll just figure out how to get out of here. (BILBO crawls around on his hands and knees toward stage R.) Seems to be a lake over here--no use heading that way. Ouch! Something hurt my knee---- (Picks up small object.) It's a ring! Someone's lost a ring. Well, finders keepers. I'll just stick it in my pocket so I