

## **MaxMovie December 2013 (Korea)**

### **A Real Leader Thorin**

*Sudden star? Few people have recognized who I am.*

Thorin is the prince of dwarves. He lost his homeland from the dragon Smaug and wandered for the rest of his life. But he couldn't forget the fabulous glory of the past. His pride and arrogance make the expedition dangerous and he has isolated himself. A proud leader, Thorin grew as a leader in part 2.

**Q : In part 2 of *The Hobbit : The Desolation of Smaug*, what change has he experienced?**

A : In part 1 *The Hobbit : An Unexpected Journey*, Thorin travelled with Gandalf, acknowledged Gandalf's authority and followed him. But this time, Gandalf separates for a long time from the Dwarves and Thorin has many opportunities to lead them. Unfortunately the expedition faces even greater trouble when they are captured by elves and are imprisoned. At that point Thorin realises Bilbo is essential to the Dwarves.

**Q : At last Thorin sees their lost homeland, the Lonely Mountain. How does Thorin feel at that moment?**

A : I pondered over how to act the scene at first. This quest is the reason he has lived. The map and key are the catalysts spurring on the journey. He dreamed of reclaiming his kingdom and acquiring power, promising to reclaim the wealth for his fellow Dwarves. However the fear of the tremendous monster residing in the Lonely Mountain made him regret everything, and he came into conflict. He went through that inner conflict to an extreme.

**Q : I've heard about the pick-ups in New Zealand as filming *The Hobbit : The Desolation of Smaug*.**

A : I was lucky to get to the set in the previous day of filming. That's because it took one day to get back the feeling of the character. We completed each character in detail, and organised the story throughout the filming pick-ups.

**Q : Lots of new characters appear in part 2. How did you feel about that?**

A : I didn't get to work with Evangeline, although we were in the same scene together where we exchange a glance. I worked with Lee Pace and Orlando Bloom, it was enjoyable. The scene where the Dwarves claim their rights in front of Thranduil was really fabulous.

**Q : Has your life changed since the release of the Hobbit series?**

A : Not much. People have hardly recognised me so far. However I experienced something amazing recently. When the Hobbit DVD was released in Australia, I did a Q&A session in a theatre and I really felt the huge response about the movie and my character. The most impressive question was "Who has Thorin loved in his life?" That was exactly what I have thought about all the time, throughout acting. People wonder not only about the story and character, but also about his past and the future of the character. So maybe I will ask more questions when I develop characters. After that, when I was filming the pick-ups, I tried to recollect the questions I was asked from the audience. Sharing feelings with the audience was a great help for me.