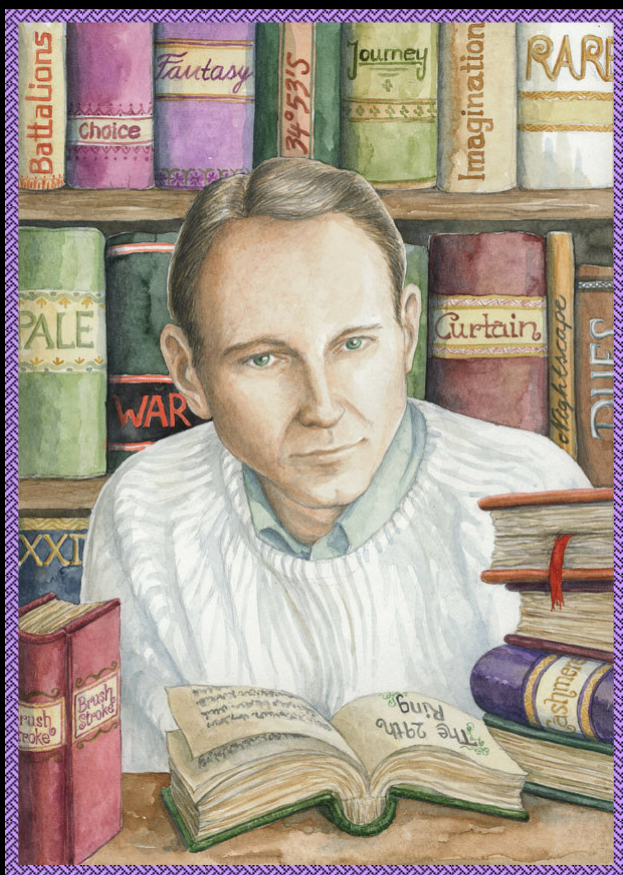


WAYFARER of the 29TH RING™ by D.H. DALE™
 A MINIATURESTORY™ from STORIESWEARETELLING™ for the MINIATURELIBRARY™ of the SHORTSTORYAFICIONADO™

The SHORT STORY AFICIONADO™ PRESENTS



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Image of an original watercolor by Anke Eissmann — 2009
 Out of the Imagination and Mind's Eye of the Short Story Aficionado™

aBITof MYSTERY, ROMANCE and ADVENTURE™
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Welcome to A STORY I'M TELLING™ from Far Beyond the Threshold of Imagination!

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Reader...

Spurred by the crisp coolness of any chosen Autumn afternoon...and before the violet blush of twilight fades to starlit night—hasten to find a comfortable easy chair...one where you may be warmed by the welcoming embers of a glowing hearth. From there, your imagination shall lift you up and whisk you down the narrow drive ahead—through the gateposts and beyond.



Once round the bend, you shall find yourself in a hitherto unseen quarter—as Far Beyond the Threshold of Imagination™ as you can ever hope to be!

It is there and then that you shall have the opportunity to reach out for one brief moment in time—to grasp the offer of an outstretched hand that is a Bit of Mystery.

y, Romance and Adventure.

D.H. Dale™ Wayfarer of the 29th Ring™

A Miniature Story™ from Stories We Are Telling™
for the Miniature Library™ of the Short Story Aficionado™

FAR BEYOND the THRESHOLD of IMAGINATION™
a Bit of MYSTERY, ROMANCE and ADVENTURE™

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Wayfarer of the 29th Ring™

Having Evolved into the Quintessential
MINIATURE STORY™
a Bit of MYSTERY, ROMANCE and ADVENTURE™
is Dedicated to

My FAMILY
Then, Now and Always

My DARLING and DEVOTED WIFE
You of Starlit Nights Come and Gone

My LOVING and FAITHFUL DAUGHTER
You're the Best!

My BELOVED WIFE and ALLY
You in the Autumn Blush of All the Afternoons Yet to Come
having been the First to Cross Over the Threshold into the
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Welcome to A STORY I'M TELLING™ from Far Beyond the Threshold of Imagination!

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Reader...

Taste aBitof Mystery, Romance and Adventure! Wrap yourself in the cloak of imagination, and ascend ever higher into the enigmatic mist



clutching at the lavender and golden skirts of the Turta Mountains—the Sea of Pearl and Darhan Steppe—becoming mere memories of fast fading and far-off vistas. Journey the veiled paths of east and west—crossing the threshold of The Archives at Ocher—to ponder the mysteries therein and long concealed!

Shy of summits rising abruptly out of lush, carpeted valleys harboring Ancient and Towering Corridors of Jade...hold your breath for a moment, as you gaze out across the vast

Battle Plain of Uvus Nuur—at the kaleidoscopic and perplexing splendors that are Sunrise and Sunset at the Rim of the World!

Wayfarer of the 29th Ring™ by D.H. Dale™

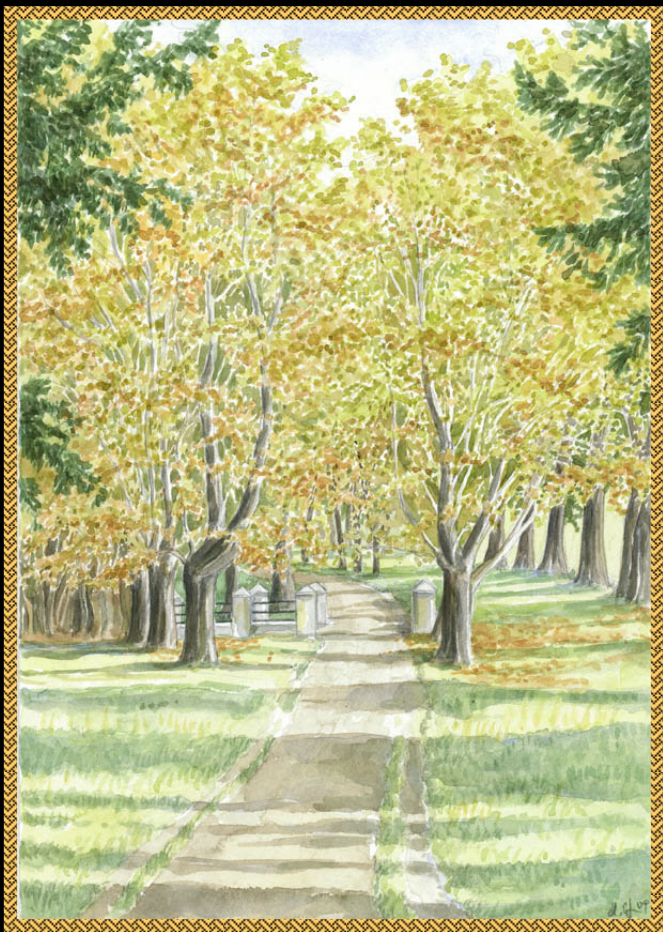
KNOLL on the BATTLE PLAIN of UVUS NUUR
WAYFARER and SAVIOR the HADASAN STALLION™

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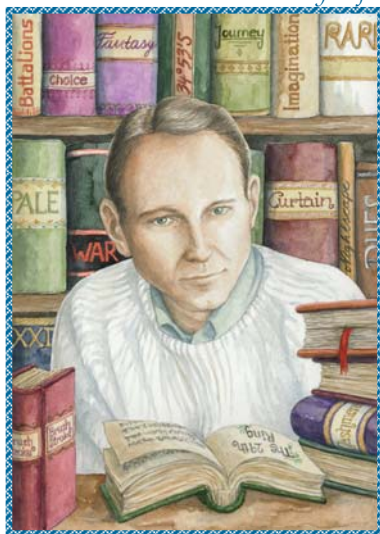
The Producer

Wayfarer of the 29th Ring™

FROM HERE BEHIND the fittingly book laden and well worn old oak desk of the *Short Story Aficionado™*, some—but not all—who come knocking are bid a personal welcome to the softly lit corridors and volume packed mahogany shelves of this, the *Miniature Library™*.

So, take pleasure in knowing that you happen to be among the select few, *Mr. and Mrs. Reader*—!

Once inside the entryway, you may find that the sapphire-blue glow of a reading lamp suits your tastes to a tee—as it burns brightly atop the reading table within a private nook.



You can be assured that this is the appropriate place for seeking out and discovering *Miniature Stories™*—tales by tellers that appeal to the imagination.

Naturally, I'm referring to short stories that lend a hand up in the quiet

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quest for *aBit of Mystery, Romance and Adventure™*—your quest it is presumed, *Mr. and Mrs. Reader*—!

In that regard, allow me to say that I am pleased to be the exclusive producer of *D.H. Dale's™*¹ splendid short story—aptly entitled *Wayfarer of the 29th Ring™*.

As the producer here, I take my literary and business obligations seriously—to include balancing reality and fantasy with the otherwise ordinary aspects of short story publishing.

In my view, perhaps the responsibility most key to my position is that of acquisition—seeking out tellers and tales who and which fit the high standards of the *Miniature Library™*.

Having been true to the purpose of that search, note that *The World of the 29th Ring™* encompasses an *authentic teller's tale*. Also note that the teller's fictional world is presented as intended—entirely for your reading pleasure, and as a diversion for your imagination.

¹The freewheeling imagination and evocative storytelling of *D.H. Dale™* crown otherwise commonplace themes with *aBit of Mystery, Romance and Adventure™*—a bejeweled and magical coronet not shackled by convention. Herein lies the work of a self-styled painter of the written word—the full kaleidoscope of hues, blushes, shades, tones and tints flowing from the storyteller's inkwell to parchment. It is upon these leaves of paper so unselfishly bestowed by some mighty tree—that the teller has penned this *Miniature Story™* entitled *Wayfarer of the 29th Ring™*. The storyteller's thread of events, like all praiseworthy accounts, is a manifestation of the routine yet exceptional practice of observing, analyzing and drawing heartfelt as well as compelling conclusions. Inevitably, the finalities reflected in such reasoned judgments can be said to draw themselves up out of a shallow inkstone. After all, that vessel is the lone crucible in which the dry ink of deliberation is measured and mixed with just the right amount of imagination from the well of reflection—thereby maintaining the fragile flow of creativity that the pen can never completely manage on its own.



Said storyteller's medieval theme—much in the nature of that which is solemn and bittersweet—spans the complete spectrum of the *Designers*™ and *Terrestrial Architect's*™ grand and far-reaching setting that can only be found *In the Land of Granger's Birth*™.

AN OPPORTUNE ENTRANCE

NOTWITHSTANDING the eternal battle between good and evil—the timing of *Wayfarer*™, *Lord Granger's*™ entrance upon the teller's fictional stage couldn't be more opportu**5**rtune it seems to me.

This in my view is due to particularly unsettling times—and the disquieting predictions that so many beneath the fragile blue halo of our relatively tiny planet find themselves promulgating just about every hour of every day of the week.

Of late, the foreboding and uneasiness seem to be more intense than ever they have been—accompanied by several global natural disasters.

How unfortunate it is that these often half-baked prophesies proliferate in wide dissemination—as we all hurdle through infinite space and time with no

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real or palpable control over our individual and collective destinies.

As a matter of fact, the teller is of the view that you can look in most any direction—and basically just take your pick, *Mr. and Mrs. Reader™*.

That is, virtually every so called *seer* of any kind at all seems to be saying in one way or another that the physical and societal world as we know it is simply breaking down.

Said another way, the prognosticators seem to insist that the gathering storm of *Global XXI™* already fills the skys overhead—and that *The Supercilious Seven™* are hastening a global collapse.

Consequently—enter stage right and left the teller's *Wayfarer™*, *Lord Granger™* and *Cassandra™*, *Lady Viamar™*!

According to the storyteller, their presence is very much required. Why? The author tells us that it is they who are equipped with what it takes to make some real sense out what is actually going on—and then to apply that common sense to the rumors that are swirling all around *In the Land of Granger's Birth™*.



The PRODUCER'S CRITIQUE

AS THE PRODUCER of this short story, it is my belief that all of us, each and every one, need a *Wayfarer*™ and a *Cassandra*™ — as well as the strength of character residing deep within ourselves — to *put things right* from time to time.

I am also of the view that you shall find yourself nodding in agreement on this very point as you enter *The World of the 29th Ring*™.

In the end though, if you can't seem to find reflected herein at least some of your own personal outlook and temperament—or even a bit of your own intellectual curiosity—then perhaps you can take simple pleasure in the entertainment and enlightenment that this teller's tale offers.

The foregoing, because the story as it is told spells out *aBit of Mystery, Romance and Adventure*™ — such that these essential characteristics are quite personally appealing within the context and setting of *The World of the 29th Ring*™. That context embraces an ensemble that is straight, stout-hearted and true—its members all doing what they do so very well.

So, regardless of outlook, temperament and curiosity—I encourage you

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to leave your cares and troubles for a just temporary while. You can do this by simply hitching your imagination to the end of the blazing trail of a shooting star—the one that this *Miniature Story's*™ kaleidoscopic trail creates.

Thereafter, you can experience the singularly incredible ride that takes you far, far out and back—and finally to a high up, hushed shelf amongst the gilt-edged leaves of the *Miniature Library*™.

From this point on then, *Mr. and Mrs. Reader*™—and should you choose to embark on this remarkable journey—you can engage in the surefire formula that will get you from here to there.



The first step is to just for brief moment hold your breath. Then simply spread your arms, float upward and glide away on the occasional blustery, but also at times gentle zephyrs blowing close to the golden edges and lavender fringes of the collective and individual summits that stand astride the breathless path of the *Turta Mountains*™.

As you soar along, you shall pass—and surely ensure that your imagination takes careful note of—all the clearly marked signposts, pathways and events leading to *The 29th Ring's*™ final destination.

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We are informed by the storyteller
that the end of your journey is a
place on the edge of the *Sapphire
Forest™* at the brink of *Lavender
Falls™*—the legendary ancestral
home of *Wayfarer™, Lord Granger™*.



A name?

Well, it is a place known simply yet
optimistically as *Hope's Amethyst™*!

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Reader...

In advance of an intriguing and perhaps even perplex-
ing prologue, you are encouraged to peruse this addi-
tional introductory passage —

The GATEWAY

Your Producer in Miniature...
The Short Story Aficionado™

²The *Short Story Aficionado™* is the producer of *Wayfarer of the 29th Ring™* and other *Miniature Stories™*
from *Stories We Are Telling™* for the *Miniature Library™* of the *Short Story Aficionado™*. The *Short Story Aficionado™*
can be reached at producer@gttransglobal.com.

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SUNRISE and SUNSET at the RIM of the WORLD™
In the LAND of GRANGER'S BIRTH

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YOURS in MINIATURE... The SHORT STORY AFICIONADO™



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