

*Stranger  
from a  
Strange Land*

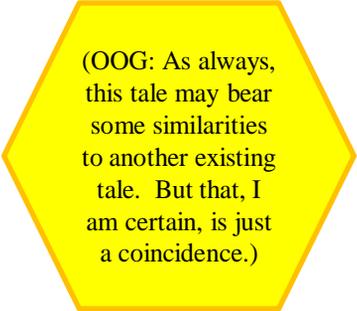
*Stranger from a Strange Land*

## Stranger from a Strange Land

This book contains the fictional tale of Walter Nigel Thomas, who spent the formative years of his life living in the Fairylands.



This is an abridged  
version of that  
tale.



(OOG: As always,  
this tale may bear  
some similarities  
to another existing  
tale. But that, I  
am certain, is just  
a coincidence.)

## Stranger from a Strange Land

The story focuses on a human raised in the Land of Fairy and his adaptation to, and understanding of, humans and their culture.

Orphaned in Cottington Woods, Walter Nigel Thomas was raised in the culture of the Fairies. Some twenty years later, travelers in the woods stumble on the boy and return him to human civilization. Thomas's parents left to him a small fortune in Faraway City, and because of this he becomes a pawn in the political games of several houseland families.

Thomas is confined to Asylum, where he is befriended by Sandman Gillyman Bored. Thomas creates fairy wine, and they share a glass, forming a bond. Bored tells wandering bard Caxton about her experience with Thomas, and Caxton later disappears under mysterious circumstances. Bored convinces Thomas to leave Asylum with her, but they are attacked by sandmen adepts. Thomas discards the adepts irretrievably into the Fairy Mists, then is so shocked by Bored's terrified reaction he enters a semblance of catatonia. Remembering Caxton's reference to a witch named Hershaw, Bored conveys Thomas to Hershaw's home.

Thomas continues to demonstrate fairy-touched abilities, coupled with a childlike naïveté. When Hershaw tries to convey the importance of the Church of the Word to him, Thomas understands the concept of the patrons only as "ones who write", which includes every human, elf and goblin. Many concepts such as Death are strange to him, while the idea of coming back from the dead is a fact that he takes for granted because in the Fairylands when a fairy dies, it is instantly reborn. Eventually Hershaw arranges freedom for Thomas from the doctors at Asylum.

Now free to travel, Thomas becomes a celebrity. He wanders the Houselands, spending time in the Warehouse District among Men of Science, as well as with the magicians of Laketower and the bards as Briardown. Thomas also has a brief stint among a circus, where he and Bored befriend the show's tattooed lady, an enigmatic woman named Patowski.

Eventually Thomas begets a fairy influenced following, whose members acquire fairy-touched powers of their own. In Redbridge, the house belonging to the following is destroyed by fear mongering fairy haters, but Thomas and his followers teleport to safety. Thomas is detained by the Redbridge watch, but escapes and returns to his followers. Bequeathing his fortune to his followers, Thomas explains that they could re-organize human culture, including the nearby Canyonlanders, the marsh goblins of UnderMarsh, and even the reclusive elves of Greencloud.

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Thomas is killed by a mob of fear mongering fairy haters, but returns as a spirit and speaks briefly with Hershaw, saving him from an attempted suicide after the horror of Thomas' own death.

Hershaw, Bored and the remaining followers return to Hershaw's home to re-create their former conditions. Meanwhile, Thomas returns to the Deathlands amidst hints that he was in fact an incarnation of the First Patron.