

Nigel, Tanar's father, disappeared almost twenty years ago under mysterious circumstances. Nigel had been a Conjuror specialist of great repute, with a bent towards research and classification. Tanar has never been able to discover any of the specifics concerning the disappearance. Recently a page torn from a diary turned up between the pages of an old book which once belonged to Nigel. The diary fragment is unquestionably written in the hand of the missing man.

... tracked the energies all the way to the northern Shirelands, according to the map I procured from the cartographer's guild.

Not much detail is apparent from studying the map, except for a small village named Longbridge. The village is situated at the base of a mountain named Firestorm Peak, which itself is the first of a series of peaks and mountainous features extending east and west.

My studies indicate that the flux of magical and particulate radiations emanate from within the ominously named mountain; this is definitely the place described in the scrolls that I recently unearthed.

What's troubling is that the cyclical nature of the radiations indicate that the Vast Gate was still focused when it was abandoned by the Elders so long ago. What gives me more cause to worry are the localized contradictions in reality itself which arise whenever this cycle reaches it's apex...

although I have spent the last twenty five years of my life researching this location, it is possible that I have misled myself about the true dangers of the forces which I have sought to understand. I fear that I may be forced to use the three Crystal Components I have so laboriously gathered from the Elder Elven ruins to end a threat which none are yet aware of, save myself.

My friends of old shall be my companions on this journey of discovery and danger. Derek Warcaller, Wellfast Brightblade, and Quaren Ael Drim will be ecstatic to learn...

The date on this diary page predates Nigel's disappearance by two weeks. The names of Nigel's adventuring companions are all familiar to Tanar. While he was growing up, Tanar's mother would often tell tales of Nigel and his companions.