



### **Tales of the Black Bard**

*These are the words and thoughts of Odi Silvertongue, a half-elven wandering, warrior poet who in his many years has traipsed across the known world of Shatterdawn in his own roguish bohemian style gathering, tales, songs and scars along the way. They should in no way be taken as "true fact" as the Black Bard has a tendency to "color" himself in a better light than his less than savory reputation affords him in many of the known kingdoms of this vast realm. As Odi is found of saying "Take from a tale what truths you will and leave the rest a little better than you found it."*

***"Longest is the road that leads one home from war"***  
***-Odi Silvertongue-***

***Of The Great Northern Isle:*** *Is home to the human kingdoms of Relk, Bahr-Ith and Varnos and the dwarven country of Iron Rune, a rugged land where its people have carved "civilization" from the wildlands. It is a place that has the "feel" of home to even a wanderer such as myself. A place of simple hearty folk who accept a man for his deeds rather than his reputation, a land of mighty rivers, vast mountains and deep forests, were hearth and home are kept safe by sword or axe rather than by laws and magistrates.*

*Here Noble and commoner alike would rather have a sturdy blade than a pouch of gold. The written word is secondary to that of legend, tale or song, a fact that made my living amongst them fair and wonderful. What these lands lack in the squalor, bustle and inbred noble hierarchy that defines what these days is "Civilization" they more than amply compensate with hearty meals, stout drink, fresh air and a bond of kinship that is almost unknown on any of the other Isles. In this humble skalds words there is no better place for a man of courage to reside.*

*As for adventure, it is there for the finding, the great mountains and vast forest hold treasures and secrets from an age long past. Here kingdoms are carved, won and held by the sword. I have traveled the many realms of this vast world and always seem to be drawn back to this somewhat rugged, but homey place.*

*Excerpt from “**Tales of the Wanderer Volume VII**”*