

# THE HIDDEN WORLD



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*Survival of Pagan Shamanic Themes  
in European Fairytales*

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**In memoriam**

*The three of us who stayed behind  
Dedicate this book to*

**Blaise Daniel Staples**

*Wherever the language becomes  
The most eloquent,  
The reader will catch a glimpse of him  
Still speaking amongst us.*



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# FOREWORD

We have no right to reproduce myth, which we have unavoidably done, an inevitable collision between now and then: we are captives within our own moment, victims of memory and an all too fleeting present. As does music bombard us with an afterimage of tonality, thus does the story universal echo and vibrate upon the tension we as listeners have tempered our spirits to hear. The transmission of the story evokes a response, a vox humana that is inescapable: we must attend the voice and let it intrude upon our very being. Myth is essentially autoerotic, a romance that the mind shares with itself, recognizing the psychic images mirrored therein.

As we have dived into the substrata of consciousness, we have emerged with an aqueous reflection that illuminates the Mystery, composed of imprints and negatives, which when developed reveal a "new world," to paraphrase, and abbreviate, Miranda. These huellas, to borrow from the Spanish, are the Fairies' Tale.

The odylic universe is Janus-faced, a reflector obsidian of both the corporeal and incorporeal. The nature of folk narrative is to walk tightrope along the limen of this surface which separates twin worlds, or more poetically, to span the gap between Is and Paris. With this riddle, the reader is invited to arrive at a solution.

B.D.S.

