

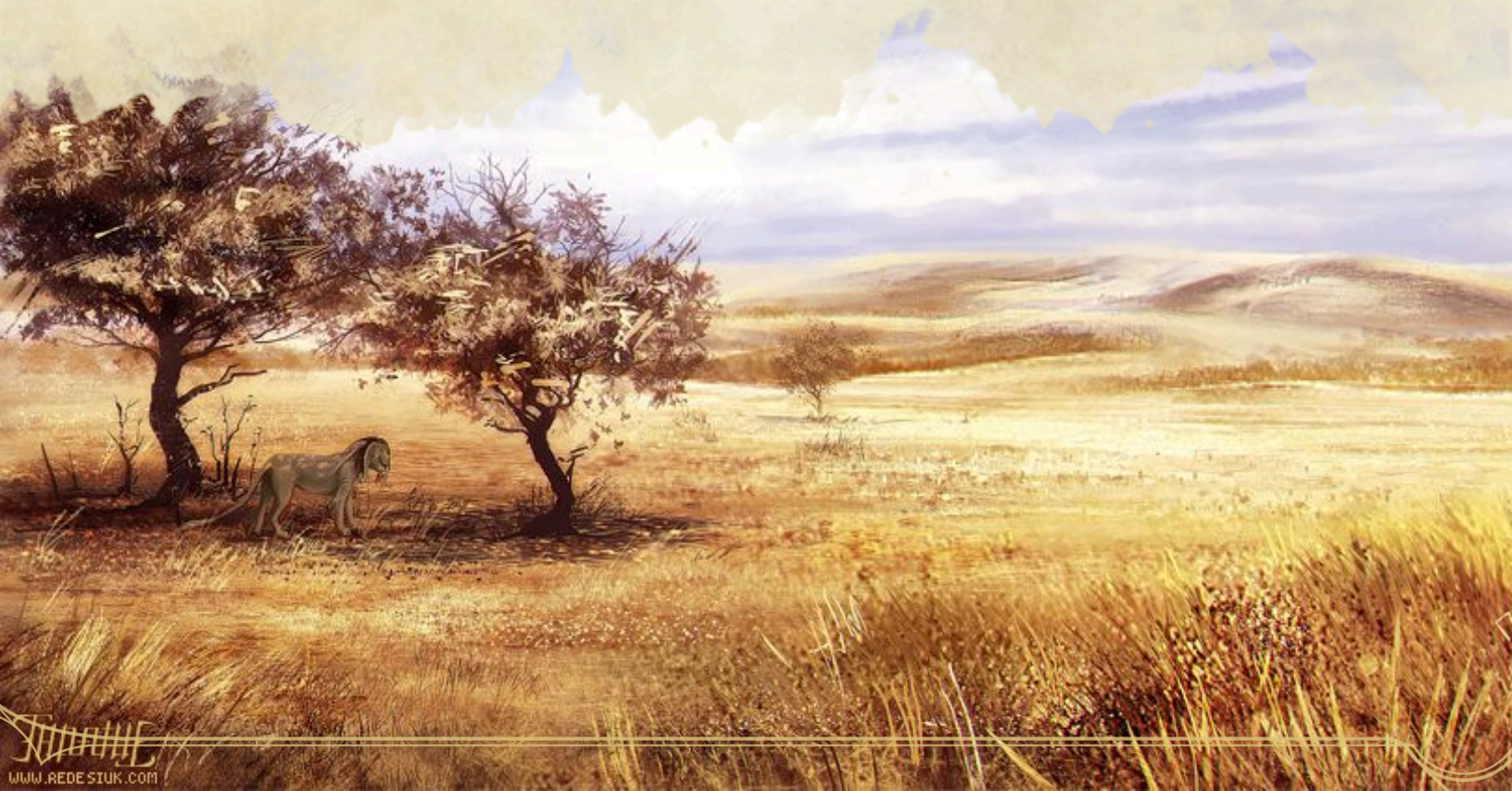
PLAINS AROUND PHANDALIN

The plains around Phandalin stretch for miles, a vast expanse of golden grasslands that undulate gently with the wind. The air is fresh, and the sky feels endless, its soft blue color contrasting with the occasional puffy cloud. Small herds of wild animals graze on the plains, and the ground beneath your feet is soft and yielding, save for the occasional dry patch. The only real feature breaking the sea of grass are occasional clusters of trees, thin and sparse, offering brief respite from the sun. To the south, the land dips slightly, giving way to a wide river that cuts through the earth like a silver ribbon, sparkling under the daylight. This peaceful expanse feels serene yet vulnerable to the elements, a place of both isolation and beauty.

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Feature Description

- 1 **Endless Grasslands** – A vast stretch of golden grass sways in the wind, the horizon blending seamlessly into the sky. The ground is soft underfoot, with only the occasional tuft of wildflowers breaking the monotony.
- 2 **Rolling Hills** – Gently undulating hills stretch across the plains, covered in grasses and dotted with small clusters of shrubs. The terrain is open and clear, offering a panoramic view of the land.
- 3 **Wide, Shimmering River** – A broad river cuts across the plains, its water sparkling under the sun. The banks are wide and muddy, with occasional patches of reeds and cattails growing near the water's edge.
- 4 **Dusty Trails** – A dry, dusty path winds through the plains, leading to the horizon. The earth is cracked and barren in places, creating long, winding fissures through the landscape.
- 5 **Vast Open Sky** – The sky above feels overwhelmingly vast, with only sparse clouds passing overhead. The wind is open and unobstructed, carrying scents of wild grass and distant flowers.
- 6 **Scattered Boulders** – Large, weathered boulders sit scattered across the plains, worn smooth by the wind and elements. Some appear to be broken in half, exposing rough interiors.
- 7 **Dry Creekbed** – An ancient creekbed runs through the area, its path visible as a wide, dry channel. The cracked earth shows signs of occasional water flow, but now only dust and stones remain.
- 8 **Windblown Prairie** – The grass here is bent low by constant winds, creating ripples in the landscape. The open plain stretches out in all directions, making it easy to lose track of time.
- 9 **Large Stone Cairn** – An imposing cairn of stones rises from the plains. The rocks are uneven, some cracked or broken, but the cairn stands as a lasting testament to something long past.
- 10 **Mud Flats** – A wide stretch of soft, muddy ground that sinks beneath your feet. Water pools in scattered patches, and the air is thick with the scent of wet earth.
- 11 **Tall Grass Patches** – Thick clusters of tall, dense grass make navigation difficult. These grass patches seem to grow thicker as you move deeper, making the surrounding landscape feel claustrophobic.
- 12 **Sparse Tree Line** – A thin line of **scrubby trees** marks the beginning of an approaching woodland area. These small trees appear stunted and gnarled, but they provide some welcome shelter from the sun.



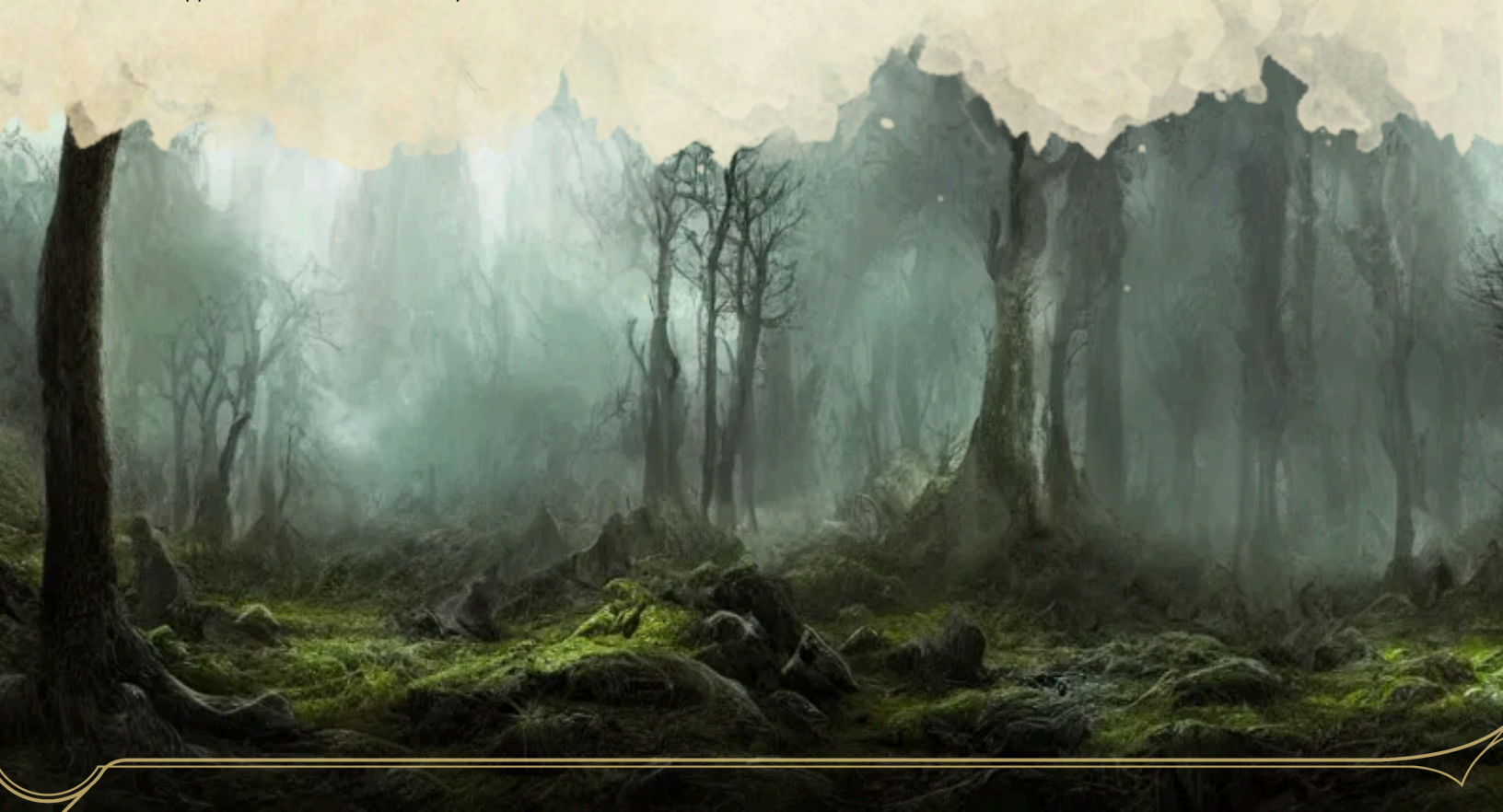
NEVERWINTER WOOD

The Neverwinter Wood is a dense, shadowed forest where the trees grow tall and ancient, their trunks gnarled and covered in moss. The canopy above is thick, allowing only the faintest glimmer of sunlight to filter through in dappled patches, leaving the forest floor in cool shadow. The air here is damp with the scent of pine and earth, and the sound of rustling leaves is ever-present, though footsteps are muffled by the thick carpet of fallen needles. The deeper you venture, the quieter it becomes, as if the forest itself is holding its breath. Streams of crystal-clear water babble over moss-covered rocks, and the underbrush is thick with ferns, making navigation tricky. Despite its beauty, the woods hold a sense of mystery and secrecy, as though ancient forces move unseen within its depths.

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Feature Description

- 1 **Thick Pine Canopy** – The towering pines form a dense canopy above, their branches interlocking to create a near-impenetrable roof. The forest floor is covered in a thick blanket of pine needles.
- 2 **Moss-Covered Rocks** – Large rocks, coated in a lush layer of moss, rise sporadically from the underbrush. Some are slick with moisture, and others have small mushrooms or fungi growing in the damp crevices.
- 3 **Shadowed Ferns** – The forest floor is carpeted with ferns and other low-growing plants, their fronds swaying slightly in the breeze. The area is cool and dark, with sunlight barely filtering through the trees.
- 4 **Crystal Clear Stream** – A stream runs through the forest, its water clear and pristine. Smooth stones line the bottom, and the water flows over them with a gentle gurgling sound.
- 5 **Dense Underbrush** – Thick, tangled bushes and brambles form a nearly impassable thicket. Only small, narrow trails exist through the undergrowth, forcing travelers to fight their way through.
- 6 **Rising Hillside** – The forest slopes upwards toward a small hill. The terrain here is uneven, with occasional outcroppings of rock and loose soil. The higher you climb, the more open the forest becomes.
- 7 **Gnarled Roots** – Massive roots from ancient trees have broken through the soil, creating a twisted and uneven terrain. Some roots stretch like fingers across the ground, while others curl upwards.
- 8 **Swampy Clearing** – A large clearing filled with shallow, stagnant pools of water. Tall grasses and cattails grow along the edges, and the area smells damp and earthy.
- 9 **Breezy Meadow** – A small meadow within the forest, filled with soft grasses and wildflowers. The air is fresh and carries the scent of pine and wildflowers, with a cool breeze moving through the area.
- 10 **Fog-Ridden Path** – A low-lying fog settles over the forest path, creating a sense of eeriness. The air feels damp, and visibility is reduced to only a few feet ahead.
- 11 **Broken Tree Stumps** – Numerous broken stumps of once-tall trees litter the forest floor. The stumps are jagged and worn, with fungus growing along their edges, adding to the decay of the area.
- 12 **Ruined Glade** – A small glade with an overgrown, ancient stone structure at its center. The area seems abandoned, and the stone appears weathered and worn by time and the elements.



STARMETAL HILLS

The hills surrounding Phandalin are rugged and rolling, their rocky outcrops and grassy slopes creating a patchwork of terrain. The hills rise and fall gently, offering stunning views of the land below, with winding paths that lead up through dense underbrush and patches of sparse trees. Here, the soil is rich and the air is fresher, cool breezes sweeping through the area. The occasional wildflower or tall grass sways in the wind, breaking the green monotony of the land. Scattered boulders and craggy ridges punctuate the landscape, offering both obstacles and vistas. As you climb higher, the views become grander, and the sun begins to set over the distant plains, casting long shadows across the hills. This is an area of natural beauty, marked by peaceful seclusion but also rough, untamed terrain.

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Feature Description

- 1 **Rocky Outcrop** – A high, craggy **outcrop of rocks** juts out from the side of the hill, offering a sweeping view of the surrounding landscape. The rocks are weathered and cracked, their sharp edges easily visible.
- 2 **Overgrown Valley** – A small **valley** between two hills, covered with a blanket of **wildflowers** and thick grass. The trees surrounding the valley are older, their trunks gnarled and twisted.
- 3 **Dry Streambed** – A dry, cracked **streambed** winds between the hills. You can see remnants of past water flow, with occasional pools of stagnant water still left behind in the shallow depressions.
- 4 **Rolling Grass Hills** – The hills are covered with rolling patches of grass that wave gently in the breeze. In the distance, the landscape merges into a wider expanse of farmland and open plains.
- 5 **Grazing Pastures** – A quiet hilltop overlooks a **pasture**, where small herds of animals graze peacefully. The soft lowing of cattle and bleating of sheep is faintly heard in the distance.
- 6 **Jagged Cliff Edge** – A **cliff edge** drops sharply into the valley below. The rocky outcrop is dotted with small trees and shrubs, but the drop is dangerous and steep.
- 7 **Small Waterfall** – A **waterfall** cascades down the side of the hill, its clear water splashing onto the rocks below. The sound of the falling water is soothing, and the area is misted with cool spray.
- 8 **Crumbling Stone Path** – An ancient stone path winds its way through the hills, covered in moss and faded by the years. The path is uneven, with scattered broken stones making it difficult to traverse.
- 9 **Rocky Ravine** – A deep ravine cuts through the hill, its rocky sides steep and jagged. The ravine is quiet, with the only sound being the occasional echo of birds in the distance.
- 10 **Wooded Slope** – The base of the hill is covered in dense **woodland**, the trees casting deep shadows. The ground is uneven with roots and rocks, making the climb up the hill slow and tricky.
- 11 **Fossilized Stones** – Along the hillside, a patch of **fossilized stone** reveals remnants of ancient plant life or sea creatures from a long-forgotten age. The stones are cracked but still imbued with history.
- 12 **Wind-Swept Ridge** – A narrow ridge on top of the hill, where the wind howls fiercely, making the terrain treacherous. The ground here is barren, with only sparse grasses clinging to the rocky surface.



SWORD MOUNTAINS

The Sword Mountains are a towering, jagged range that looms over the landscape like silent sentinels. Sharp cliffs and craggy peaks reach high into the sky, their jagged edges cutting through the air. The land here is harsh and unforgiving, with thin air at the higher elevations and dangerous cliffs to navigate. Snow often clings to the upper slopes, even in warmer months, and ice covers the rugged paths, making each step treacherous. Rocky outcrops and narrow ravines make the terrain difficult to traverse, and the only signs of life are the sparse patches of hardy alpine flora that cling to life in this unforgiving environment. The mountains are silent, save for the occasional rush of wind, the creaking of stone, and the distant echoes of falling rocks. It's a place of natural power and solitude, where the elements are in full force, and those who travel here must be prepared for anything.

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Feature Description

- 1 **Jagged Peaks** – The **Sword Mountains** are dominated by towering, jagged peaks that reach into the sky. The landscape is harsh, with little vegetation, and the air is thin at the higher elevations.
- 2 **Snow-Capped Slopes** – The mountainsides are covered in snow, even during the warmer months. Snowdrifts form in sheltered areas, making the path difficult to follow as you ascend.
- 3 **Rocky Pass** – A narrow **rocky pass** winds between two steep cliffs. The jagged rocks seem to close in on you, and the path is uneven, forcing you to scramble over loose boulders.
- 4 **High Altitude Meadow** – A small, grassy **meadow** lies at a high elevation, surrounded by towering peaks. The air is thin, but the meadow provides a welcome relief from the rocky terrain.
- 5 **Icy Ridge** – An icy **ridge** rises ahead, slick with frozen water. The terrain here is extremely hazardous, with ice-covered rocks making footing treacherous.
- 6 **Wind-Swept Bluff** – The wind howls across a high **bluff**, making it hard to stand steady. The cliff drops away sharply below, offering a terrifyingly steep view of the mountainside.
- 7 **Frozen Waterfall** – A frozen **waterfall** cascades down the mountainside, frozen mid-flow. The icicles shimmer in the light, and the ground around it is slick with ice.
- 8 **Tundra** – A barren, windswept **tundra** spreads across the mountainside. Little vegetation grows here, and the ground is hard and frozen, making movement difficult and exhausting.
- 9 **Rocky Plateau** – A high **plateau** made of jagged rocks offers a stunning view of the surrounding mountains and valleys below. The land is barren, with only scattered patches of lichen growing.
- 10 **Barren Cliffs** – The cliffs are mostly bare of vegetation, with only sparse grass clinging to the cracks in the rocks. The air is dry and thin, with few signs of life.
- 11 **Ancient Stone Pillars** – Eroded **stone pillars** rise from the mountainside, their surfaces etched with weathered markings. The structures seem to be remnants of an ancient time, their purpose lost to history.
- 12 **Alpine Forest** – A small **alpine forest** thrives at the lower reaches of the mountains. Tall pines and fir trees grow here, though the air is thin and the ground is often frozen.

