

# Author Bio

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## Monroe S Tarver

### Tales from the Mapmaker

### *Imagia and the Magic Pearls*

Monroe S Tarver began drawing at an early age – a **very** early age. His grade school teacher had to send notes home to his parents, asking them to please keep him from drawing on his report cards. But that didn't discourage him. He next ventured into publishing at age eight. He had written down some of his stories and recruited a friend, who was an even better artist, to illustrate them. He then stapled together his "books" and sold them to other kids.

When Tarver was older, he went on a vacation trip to a popular theme park. This took his imagination to a whole new level – he began to dream of bringing his own characters to life. He was now eleven years old. That started Tarver's journey on the path to Mapmaker and Storyteller of Trillow.

Tarver attended Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia, where he practiced his art skills by "documenting his travels" in the fantasy lands of Trillow. After college, the desire to tell stories became strong again. This time, he was prepared to do his own artwork. He went into a career in printing, while continuing to draft the stories about his travels as he refined both his storytelling and artwork. Tarver's tales were well received by his friends' families and by storytelling groups at schools and libraries, where he was able to obtain valuable feedback from the children. The encouragement of his family and church gave Tarver the incentive to keep working toward his goals.

Where Tarver is now in his quest, is best stated in his own words...

***Imagia and the Magic Pearls** tells of an elf princess with a large imagination. My imagination has brought me to this point on the map of my travels. It was important to me to incorporate ethnic qualities into my characters, such as Imagia's braids and Flutterwalk's twists. It was also important to incorporate things that were so much a part of my childhood – like sweet potatoes and (like Imagia) spending most of my playtime alone. But it was just as important for my story to incorporate illustrations that would grab kids and make them want to read. I know from experience this book will do just that...*

*Now the time has come for me to share one of my travels with all who wish to not only read it, but to see it as I have.*