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# The Ambitious Guest

By Nathaniel Hawthorne

Createspace, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 198 x 129 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. The Ambitious Guest is a short story by Nathaniel Hawthorne. A young traveler stops for the night with a family that lives in a notch next to a mountain. They make friendly conversation, interrupted once by the sound of a wagon carrying other travelers (who pause but do not go inside, continuing on with their journey) and then by the sound of rocks falling from the slope. The father reassures the visitor that rockfalls happen regularly without causing harm, but that the family has a safe place to go in the event of a serious collapse. The group carries on with their friendly conversation. The visitor acknowledges that he is young and has no accomplishments of note, but hopes he will have achieved my destiny before he dies and then I shall have built my monument! The father expresses the wish for a more humble legacy, and the aged grandmother makes a request for her dying day. The outdoor weather corresponds to his mixed emotions. Suddenly, they are alarmed by the sound of a much larger avalanche....


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