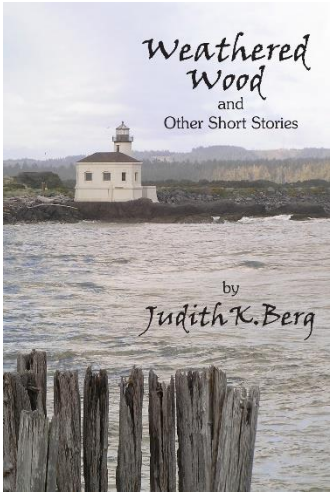

Preface

Wanderings of my mind guided my creative inspiration into exploration of the short story. Many ideas for these stories materialized during the long hours spent as a professional wildlife researcher alone within the natural world. Others sprang into my conscience during vacation breaks from my work, while writing *The Otter Spirit,* and just randomly from unknown corners of my mind. What emerged from this journey are stories of mystery, humor, and our finite existence. The stories are all fictional; the characters are all products of my imagination. Enjoy them!

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