

*It all began with First Light, the dawn of Mankind, their coming into existence. They came within the backdrop of light, forms enveloped in shades, and thus so they materialised into existence, from light. There in the merging of light over the harsh earth, a great alchemical transmutation occurred, for the substance of Man was created when the spectra of light lit through a divine rain, and like dew did that rain fell, into the bodies of these early Man, gifting them with the Divine, a small spark that elevated them above mere animals. The dew gifted Man with speech and a symphony of tongues followed, which created divisions among them according to the nature of the speech that was gifted them.*

*The torrential divine rain did fall, and amidst the downfall they did dance, soaking in the rain even as they spoke and sang in the glory of being alive. For they were filled with the intensity of the new, unsullied and pure, formed from the illumination of Light. So in the purposeless beginning, their sole and only purpose they found was to dance and sing, burning as they were with the fires of divine inspiration. The great spark of the Divine burned within them, and they performed great miracles in ecstatic spirit. Some drew that same Divine spark from the depths of their stomach, and brought forth fire from it which they threw into the heavens, creating lightning. Others still forged with that same fire, the tools that would bring about civilisation. Thus, it was with Fire that civilisation began, even as it is with Water that they came into being. Fire, the most advanced element, that scorches as it raises. Devastating when made used, but equally dangerous to its user.*

*As civilisation began, the Golden Dynasty of Man was heralded, and Man lived as a great nation of many languages, with all sorts of arts, sciences and philosophies pursued by one and all. The Golden Dynasty of Man, greatest of all the ages of Mankind, and its era marks the beginning of the chronicles of Man, spanning ten thousand years. Many great achievements were made in all fields, and there were many great contemplators and thinkers of Man who arose to guide the populace, in both thought and action. Thought, in how they think, of towards the progressive and the enlightened; and deed, in the exercises and issues of morality did Man followed after role models of immaculate conduct. This was all not to hold however, for Man grew comfortable within the conveniences of civilisation. Soon, the divisions of languages between the populace was a source of contention, and Mankind drifted apart. They threw wary eyes at their neighbours for their divisions among them, and plotted and schemed, and developed weapons to go to war with. An arms race took hold of the nations, and soon war raged across the world, with escalating advancements made towards the goal of war.*

*Weapons such as light lances, which used the light within them to project out intense beams from lances, to fireball cannons, that hurled balls of fire at the enemy, and thunder chariots, chariots powered by lightning that rammed into their opponents amidst the sound of thunder and lightning, were created, and devastating wars were fought as a result of these destructive weapons. Many died, and the great civilisation of Man was toppled as a result, just like that. What proceeded from there was the Devastated Age, in which Man was stripped of all its glory and forced to live like animals. Fire was their great downfall, for Fire brought about civilisation. Fire was to be reclaimed, and it will be Water that will heal the lands once again. At least that has remained unchanged.*

*It was indeed a great war of Light, that only ended when the Earth had been devastated in the extreme. As a result of the destructive forces of Light energy unleashed, the entire Earth was shook with a resonance that split it into two parts, and the lesser part was forever known as the Lost World, and it resided within a separate dimension.*

*In this age of devastation, Man lived in irreconcilable distance from their own selves. Unable to rally under a single banner irrelevant of differences, Man continued to perpetuate petty disputes until there was nothing left to fight over. A period of disrepair followed, and the leaders of the nations knew that if they were ever to rebuild their world once again, the previous old embittered generation had to die out. Thus Man was born anew.*

*The age that followed was known as The Legends. Much technology was lost during this period, as Man forgot their divine heritage and became mere shadows of former glory. Living like mere beasts, Man devolved into a state of superstitious living, believing in the powers of the elements over theirs, and fearing them as personifications of gods, thus. The predator beasts of the land grew in power during this period, and Man drew unity from the need to face this adversity. It was an age called The Legends for now so far gone from the Golden Dynasty, it appeared to Man that their history of grandeur and power were but legends, and in the distinction felt of the great difference experienced from their fall from grace, they could not imagine the life they once lived as. Man lived in a superstitious era of myths, and amidst a world of legends, legends of Man would arise, heroes who would face off great adversity for the sake of the race. Legends that could swallow fire and eat lightning, summon rain and shake earth.*

*Having degraded to a state where the technology that Fire crafts are all but lost, Man could not fight against the forces around them with the technology of iron, and had to resort to more mystical means to survive. The legends of that age were indeed synonymous with its name, for they performed many great feats, that carried on into myth. To slay a cave lion, a man cut its stomach open with lightning just as it pounced at him. In another case, a great leader melted away the ice of an avalanche with fire, thus saving the lives of his tribe. In this slow, arduous way, progress was reclaimed where only decline once laid, and Man rediscovered iron, and the Aeon of Iron began.*

*Through the methods of forging, instead of weapons, tools of agriculture were crafted, and Man moved from a hunter-gather existence into an agrarian one. Man became more cultured; through their trials, they learnt the hard way not to squander the gains of civilised living. Convenience will not be taken for granted, and once again, Man can live in peace with the Earth. The Aeon of Iron went on for five hundred years, and Man lived in a semblance of their former glory. So for five hundred years, no real advancement was made, except in the degree of iron. Equipped with iron, the lesser men and women who had forgotten their divine heritage could fight and defend themselves from the predatory animals that roamed the lands, and Man came to install itself once again as the dominant lifeform on the planet. Within this era, the lands became united once again under a leadership forged from iron, with the nations formed from the disparate people whom spoke different languages.*

*A genius thinker at the end of the aeon came up with an idea to compress the steam produced from fire into iron furnaces, and from such thinking came inventions like cars and trains. It was to be the dawning of a new age, the Aeon of Steam, a new hallmark in the progress of Mankind. In the Aeon of Steam, Man sought to conquer the world territorially, and thus produced massive steam ships to traverse the oceans and see for themselves the edge of the world. They found that the world ended at an edge where no more land could be seen from any angle, where only a deep drop into the centre of the Earth stood. Then came from among the wisest and oldest of them, of a story of a Lost World, that came in part from theirs. Great plans were conceived to discover this Lost World, and great skyships were created to venture into that other world, which must certainly lay across the edge of their own world.*

*Thus setting aboard those great skyships, they took off, and encountered a huge gash in the sky, from which another world could be seen. Entering into that other world, into the great abyss of the unknown...fear gripped them, but the adventure laid ahead, and there was no turning back for true men of courage. Across into the unknown, an entire half of a world laid below them, and they saw it was rich in the primordial jungles of past ages, during the days of the Golden Dynasty of Man. It still laid pristine and unsullied, from the ravages of time and technology. Or so they thought then that whatever remained of their people here were but living lives of primitive savagery. They couldn't be more wrong than that. Vast city spheres loomed in the distance, and it appeared that the forgotten men of the Lost World were already aware of their arrival, for aboard great skychariots were the exploration fleet met with and greeted, and contact was finally made after such a long time between both worlds. The sages describe this event as the Seventh Passage.*

*Great celebrations were held at the golden palaces of the forgotten people, and merrymaking was joined between both sides day and night under a sky of unchanging darkness, for the Sun was not carried over into that dimension of twilight, and the people yearned to see the light of day once again. They only knew time from clocks that worked from their memories of how time once ran in ages past, long ago when the world was but one, and have thus kept track of the years that had gone by since the separation. This separated people, once thought gone and lost, lived on in the era of the Golden Dynasty, and thus was far superior to anything the people of the World of Origin, as they began to call themselves, were in technology and spirituality. Combining the best of their minds together, they concocted a great plan, to heal the dimensional gash and rejoin the worlds together, bringing back the lost age of the Golden Dynasty into the Aeon of Steam and Iron.*

*But a mistake was made, and the dimensional gash started closing before the Lost World could be moved back into the World of Origin, and the Lost World was lost, sealed forever, while the men of the explorer fleet of the Seventh Passage lost together in time and place with it. This tragedy was held with much solemn regard by the nations of the World of Origin. But this loss only spurred on the undying spirit of Man, to accomplish even greater heights, and the merging of the Aeon of Steam with Iron, came the Aeon of Rebirth, when Man experienced a renaissance of culture and civilisation. The entire Aeon of Rebirth was to span 500 years, and within that time, there followed the Age of Science, when Man reached a crescendo of technological achievements, after the political reformations during the Aeon of Rebirth. Man was to be reborn with a renewed vigour for life, after the loss and tragedy of the Seventh Passage. Such pain suffered was not to be repeated, and thus Man went about securing the nature of his future.*

*Prosperity was not to be eternal however, for Man at the height of their rebirth, grew complacent once again, and divisions between the nations grew, resulting in war. The second world war was fought, and it was a war fought with technology, for Man had lost his divine heritage, and was no longer aware of the powers he possessed. This era was known as the Aeon of Decline. Upon reaching the Eleventh Epoch, so called for it was the hallmark of Man's progress after the Decline, where things stabilised and defused after centuries of long war, Man was to enter the transitional stage before the era of Modern Earth, where life was to become very much like it is in our own reality.*

*During the period of Modern Earth, Man looked towards the stars and sought to claim it. The technology for interstellar space travel was developed in the later stages of this era. In Universal Year 1, Man, remembering ancient stories of a lost world, manned great spaceships, in search of a forgotten era, a lost time.*