

## The Story of Volcanis

At the beginning of existence, a bright light ripped through a space of eternal nothingness, creating time. It burned for ten thousand years with the heat of ten thousand suns. From this crucible were born celestial beings, too numerous to count. Each of these celestials, destined to live eternal lives as gods of all creation, were endowed with empyrean powers. With each fleeting moment in time the gods began to shape the cosmos, ultimately sparking the life of their most precious creation - man.

The gods devoted their lives to man, vowing to never serve themselves, until two gods - the god of the mountains and the god of the sea fell in love, breaking the sacred vow. Once their impiety was discovered they were shunned by the rest of the gods and their love forbade. Over the millennia these two gods grew bitter, each blaming the other for the shame with which they were eternally burdened. Their hostility grew until the day when the two gods disagreed on how to better serve man, provide them with fertile land or bountiful waters. The argument resulted in a clash between the gods, scaring the land with a cataclysmic volcanic eruption. The people were devastated, and for years lost faith in the gods. The gods, devastated themselves, that the ones they lived to serve were made to suffer by their actions together transformed the towering mass of volcanic rock into magnificent city. With their selfless act of benevolence and compassion towards men, the two gods at last earned their place amongst their celestial brethren once again. The city became a beacon for those who wished to live in a realm created by the gods. They traveled by land, over mountains and by sea from foreign lands. Over time this new city, Volcanis, became a lively, harmonious waterfront community.

With the passage of time the people of Volcanis began to expand and transform their city; carving new structures out of the adjacent hillside and portions of the volcano untouched by the gods. They expanded into the sea; constructing magnificent buildings on islands of black volcanic stone. Plants thrived in Volcanis, resulting in the breathtaking landscape there today. Crystal clear streams now run through vacant underground lava tubes, carrying people from the mountains to the sea. The people of Volcanis, never forgot their gift from the two gods and erected temples of worship for each of them. One in the mountains, the other on the islands. They stand now to remind the people of the once scored lovers who destroyed an entire civilization, only to replace it with a utopia born from the earth.