

Secrets Beneath Ironcrest

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Some kingdoms are built above the earth. Others hide beneath it.



The Forgotten Entrance

Historical Event:	An expedition discovers a colossal sealed doorway deep within Iron Mountain.
Location:	The Lower Mines of Ironcrest
Main Characters:	Royal explorers, miners and rune scholars
Major Consequence:	The discovery proves the mountain contains structures older than Ironcrest.
Legacy:	The doorway becomes the first known entrance into the hidden civilization.



The Endless Staircase

Historical Event: A stone staircase descends far below every known mine and map.

Location: The Descent of Echoes

Main Characters: Expedition captain, torchbearers and royal cartographer

Major Consequence: The explorers lose contact with the surface and enter unknown territory.

Legacy: The staircase becomes the boundary between the human kingdom and the ancient world below.



The Ancient City

Historical Event: The expedition discovers a perfectly preserved underground metropolis illuminated by blue energy.

Location: The Buried City of Vaelor

Main Characters: Ironcrest expedition, ancient constructs and unknown inhabitants

Major Consequence: Valekor learns that a highly advanced civilization existed before the known kingdoms.

Legacy: The city rewrites the accepted history of civilization.



Hall of the Stone Kings

Historical Event: Giant statues of forgotten rulers guard the central hall of the underground city.

Location: The Royal Hall Beneath Ironcrest

Main Characters: Stone Kings, expedition historians and royal guard

Major Consequence: The explorers uncover evidence of a vanished dynasty with power across ancient Valekor.

Legacy: The Stone Kings become the first identifiable rulers of the lost civilization.



The Crystal Core

Historical Event: A massive blue crystal powers the hidden city and its dormant mechanisms.

Location: The Heart Chamber

Main Characters: Arcane engineers, rune scholars and city guardians

Major Consequence: The crystal begins reacting to the presence of the expedition.

Legacy: Its energy is revealed as the source sustaining the city for thousands of years.



The Iron Warden Awakens

Historical Event:	A colossal armored guardian opens its eyes after millennia of silence.
Location:	The Warden Vault
Main Characters:	The Iron Warden, expedition survivors and ancient sentinels
Major Consequence:	The hidden city activates its defenses and identifies the explorers as intruders.
Legacy:	The Iron Warden becomes the first living threat from the ancient civilization.



Escape from the Deep

Historical Event:	The expedition flees as tunnels collapse and ancient machines awaken around them.
Location:	The Shattered Passage
Main Characters:	Expedition survivors, Iron Warden and awakened constructs
Major Consequence:	Only a small number of explorers reach the surface with proof of the discovery.
Legacy:	Their escape warns Ironcrest that the danger below is no longer contained.



The Signal Reaches Valekor

Historical Event: A pillar of unknown energy erupts from Iron Mountain and becomes visible across the continent.

Location: Iron Mountain and the skies of Valekor

Main Characters: Dragons, sages, royal courts and distant kingdoms

Major Consequence: Ancient powers across Valekor react to the signal.

Legacy: The event begins a new age and leads to the Return of the Ancient Builders.



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040 - The Return of the Ancient Builders

The first civilization was never truly gone.