

## **The Founding of the Factions**

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You know the story of the Elemental Paragons? No?

There was a time where all four elements worked together in harmony. The Lord of Light left four Paragons (one for each element) to care for the world in his absence. The Paragons befriended all of creation and loved it.

They especially loved a girl by the name of Druscilla. She was more clever and more beautiful than any other and she eagerly studied under the Paragons. They taught her how to master each of the four elements. But Druscilla was not satisfied. Betraying the love of the Paragons, Druscilla studied under the dark goddess Tiamat and learned how to manipulate the human soul.

The Paragons were devastated and cursed Druscilla. They split her soul from her human body and placed it into a form more suitable for evil - the form of a dragon. The Paragon of Earth left her with these words of hope, "The curse will be broken once you learn the depth of love. When you love as we loved you then you will again be whole." Enraged, hurt and a bit lonely, the dragon called herself Bloodtharcken and rained fire down upon the world. The Paragons joined together to stop Bloodtharcken, but rank upon rank of their noble knights fell to the dragon's flames.

The Paragons met in council. The Air Master concocted a plan to ride to Bloodtharcken's Dark Keep under a banner of truce, and to break the gate. That way they would not kill anyone under the truce banner – they would simply be opening a door to win the war.

The Fire Master supported the plan quickly and vocally. "End the war at any cost", he said.

But the Water Master and the Earth Master would not support such a deceitful plan.

They argued long into the night, but not one moved on their position.

Dawn broke, and the Water and Earth Masters were not in camp. Elated that he commanded without opposition, the Fire Master sent a single rider to the Dark Keep under a banner of truce.

Yards before the gate, the rider was struck down by a single arrow through the throat.

The armies raged at the insult – the dragon's disciples were lower than a poxy chicken to kill a peace bearer at their own gate. Enflamed as they were, that day the armies pounded the Dark Keep until they broke through. Bloodtharcken escaped, but her greatest stronghold had been taken. The knights of the Fire and Air Master had won the war.

In the battle's aftermath the Air Master confided her secret to the Fire Master: She saw the arrow that pierced the rider that morning and it did not come from the bow of a Draco Disciple. It was shot by the Water Master.

"Betrayal!" cried the Fire Master. "Oath-breakers! Kin-slayers!" And he vowed that never again would he work with his two fellow Paragons.

So the centuries have rolled by, those who follow the Fire and Air Masters call themselves the Order of the Sun. And there are those who follow the Water and Earth Masters who call themselves the Lunar Tribe.

Bloodtharken has been slain, her curse seemingly never lifted. But she leaves behind an egg. This egg cannot hatch without a guardian - a guardian who has mastered all four elements just as Druscilla did so long ago. Rumors tell us that the Draco Disciples are even now training a champion to control the egg. Will you master all four elements and become the egg's guardian? Will you raise a dragon?

You cannot learn all the elements at once. Your first choice then is how will you begin? Will you join the Order of the Sun and master Air and Fire? Or will you cast your lot with the Lunar Tribe to master Earth and Water?

No matter which side you choose, remember our common enemy: the Draco Disciples. Be wary for they have successfully masqueraded as members of both our factions for generations.

If, mighty Heroes, you would walk the path to greatness you need only to return to The Scribe to declare your faction.