



## **THE GREAT DARKENING** **Epic of Haven Book One**

### **BOOK SYNOPSIS**

#### **Short version:**

When the great burning tree of Haven begins to die, leaving the otherwise unlit world of Aiénor in a state of ever-growing darkness, a young man sets upon a quest to discover a new source of light before the unknown evils lurking in the shadows unleash their fury upon the unsuspecting world.

Fear strikes the citizens of Haven at the diminishing of their holy tree, and they determine that the only way to fend off the impending dark is to set about making their own light. There are plenty of trees in the forests of Aiénor to burn. But what happens when the timber has been consumed and the great tree has failed?

Could it be that one will emerge who will uncover the prophecies of old and seek the promised light?"

#### **Long version:**

The world of Aiénor is rich with many tales worth telling, for the notes heard in its ancient melodies are long and terrible, yet bright and beautiful. For thousands of generations the reaches of its borders have been lit by a mysterious power in the form of a great, burning tree. Aiénor knows no sun, nor moon, nor stars; the great tree is its only source of unmade light. Then, without warning, the unthinkable happens. This immortal burning tree begins to fail one burnt, lifeless branch at a time. With each felled branch, the reach of its light is diminished. Soon there will be no power left to keep the hidden evils of Aiénor bound to the edges of the shadows. Haven, the once bright and blessed city, has turned into a greying corpse

of its former glory. Beauty has been exiled and fear has taken up its pious reign over its citizens. The forests of Haven have been ravaged and decimated in attempt to bring temporary illumination to the impending dark. But when the timber has been consumed, what will the people of this once-shining city do to light their world?

Though fear rules with hardened resolve and darkness eagerly awaits its victory, hope still remains. For in the face of such insurmountable odds, there are a few who still hold on to the prophecies of old and still seek the promised light.

Cal, a young groomsmen in service to the Citadel of Haven, is one of the hopeful. A series of events orchestrated by a power greater than Cal draws him out of the city of Haven and into a tale of darkness and prophecy and legend. As his journey brings him maturity and wisdom, it also clearly reveals his quest: to seek the light.

This story, the story of Calarmindon, "Bright Fame", begins to unravel the mysteries of the fast-darkening world of Aiénor. Cal discovers a colony of long-lost dreamers, an ancient race of terrible and powerful birds of prey, and a remnant of forgotten sprite-people trapped for centuries underneath a mountain fortress. The hope and promise of new light propel him into an expedition across the Dark Sea, where he encounters a taste of the monstrous evil that awaits Haven when the light of the great tree is finally extinguished forever.

How far will fear go to keep hope hidden? How long will the light of the great tree hold? And how will Haven find its new light unless there is one brave enough to seek it out from within the bowels of darkness?