

# --The Moving Castle--

On the border of the North and South woods sits an old castle, a great structure built by merchants of the Land of Earth who once sensed the potential of the hill standing near a main road connecting major cities of the kingdom. At first the settlement was small and rather quiet, but thanks to its key location, it quickly became a peaceful haven for travelers of all kinds. Merchants expanded the settlement, and with its rapidly multiplying population and wealth, more and more people arrived, eager to taste adventure and change their fate.

Decades passed, and the village became a bustling city. As time passed, it hosted many visitors, even those from distant lands, so that trade in all kinds of goods flourished. It welcomed merchants from distant Sands, who were eager to sell fine textiles and spices, wanderers from the Land of Metal, bartering all sorts of precious ores, and many other round-trippers.

Its ruler, Cai, strengthened his relations with high ranking noblemen of the kingdom. He wanted to ensure the safety of his subjects from possible threats. Massive walls were erected, the finest craftsmen from the Land of Fire helped build them.

The city, now a mighty fortress, standing high and tall on the hill covered with trees and moss, was given the name “Dun”, which would now adorn all the maps of the Land of Earth. Despite the cautious, defensive appearance, the city remained kind and welcoming to all travelers, regardless of race and elemental allegiance.

Although space was limited, the townspeople tried hard to make use of it all. There was no shortage of anything in Dun, food supplies were plentiful, water was brought from the surrounding lakes, and books from all over the world were available to everyone. They would have lived like this in peace and prosperity, had it not been for one event that put the existence of the entire city and its inhabitants at stake.

For you see, one day, the foundations of the city were shaken by a series of tremors that terrified both its residents and Cai himself. No one knew what was happening, and panic grew with each quake. The event lasted briefly, quieting down as unexpectedly as it began. Citizens wondered anxiously what had happened, thanking the Patron that no serious damage was done. However, unbeknownst to them, the worst was yet to come.