Ayman Al Asad (translates to The Righteous Lion) was a minor Prince of Kishar’s House of Saffron. The House of Saffron was led by the youngest sister of the Sultan and known for her ruthless actions as a Merchant. The House of Saffron’s power came from wealth derived from the exotic tea and spice trade. While away on a trade expedition seeking new spices from foreign lands, Ayman came into the acquaintance of a strange individual known as Baab. While observing the care-free spirit of Baab engaging in a game with street urchins, Ayman came to realize the joy that was missing in his life. Ayman sent the caravan home, and used his personal wealth to build a home for street children in the town of Payang. This new endeavor provided not only a shelter and food; but also, a vocation of growing spices and cooking culinary delights. As the decade drew on, the letters demanding Ayman’s return grew less frequent.

Ayman settled into his life and grew from the teachings of Baab. Ayman realized that wealth and power are simply gilded chains. Acquisitor and profit only fuels greater desire for power; rather than succor for the true problem, a meaningless life. Upon the urgings of Baab, Ayman took frequent pilgrimages to the mountain monastery of Wayling. Under the tutelage of the enlightened teachers of Wayling, Ayman discovered the ability to connect his own life energies to the energies of the cosmos; cultivating powers of divination and life energy channeling. Ayman found purpose and peace.

This idyllic life in Payang was interrupted when a desperate letter was received. Ayman knew from his meditations that unlike previous letters used for kindling, this one should be read. It was a desperate plea from his mother to return home. The kingdom of Kishar was descending into civil war in the wake of the death of his Uncle the Sultan. Ayman could sense there was more to the letter and noted that the handwriting seemed off. Upon closer study, Ayman deduced that while the letter was written in the correct rare ink and parchment, the hand writing was of another. Ayman enlisted the aid of Baab. Baab opened a mystical portal that instantly transported the pair to the Palace of Saffron.

While momentarily swept into sentimentality, reminiscing of his childhood, Ayman gathered himself as he was approached by Assi; the seneschal of House Saffron. Ayman learned that his mother and siblings has also been assassinated. Ayman was to assume control of the House; and subsequently be second in line for the throne. Ayman wisely sidestepped this fate, by elevating Assi. His family had dutifully served his family faithfully, sometimes without reward, as stewards of the house hold. Ayman discovered a band of heroes who sought resolution to the strife facing Kishar. Pledging loyalty to the Adventures Guild, Ayman and Baab joined them on the adventure. The city was saved from civil war and foreign threat. The guild uncovered plots by a former guild member Delahari. Ayman wondered about the Guild of Adventures, after discovering that the civil war and the Flame Lord threat came from within the Guild. while Ayman and Baab did not fully understand the actions that followed, they assisted the Guild as necessary. Ayman could sense that their presence and actions were being guided by a higher purpose. Prior to the final confrontation with the Flame Lord, Ayman discovered a large refuge population that had been displaced on a floating city. Ayman gathered into a meeting two former childhood friends: the Head of House Saffron Assi al Assad and Sharron al Mezah the High Priests of the Temple of Laurela, Goddess of Transitions. Ayman shared his vision of a relief effort to the refugees of Diamond City. House Saffron would provide financing and soldier to establish a safe zone withing the city and build a trade house. The Temple would re consecrate the land and provide spiritual support. Baab and Ayman would recreate their previous work and guide the locals in cultivating agricultural practices required for growing high altitude spices. House Saffron, The Temple of Laurela, and the local population benefited from the growing of faith, economic stability, and military security of within a small zone of the city. This work continued, until Ayman was called upon for the final Battle against the Flame Lord. While Ayman provided healing during this confrontation, Baab worked on a ritual of containment. The Adventure Guild succeeded in banishing this powerful spiritual being.

This worked continued for over a year, after the defeat of the Flame Lord. Ayman and Baab eventually called upon a few of now grown up street urchins from the mission in Payang to support the growing mission in Diamond City. Ayman also worked on Assi to abandon some of his mother’s exploitive merchant practices to take a more “fair trade” approach. Ayman and Baab were honored in a ceremony by the local temple of Laurela for aiding in the resettlement of refugees in Diamond City. Ayman and Baab remained humble despite growing notoriety. Each eventually fell into a daily routine. After morning meditation and breakfast, Baab would venture into the streets to greet the local children and organize them into playful games woven into life lessons. Ayman would monitor the activities of the market place, check on the progress of crops, and arbitrate conflicts between locals. In the evening, Baab and Ayman would enjoy a simple dinner, share the events of the day, and then observe the evening spiritual practices of Wayling. Occasionally the settlement was attacked by autonomous, magical construct warriors. Baab and Ayman found that spiritual projections of Chi easily defeated them. There were more than a few locals that requested training in this practice. Those found suitable and spiritually pure among the congregation of Lorelle were trained.

It came to Ayman’s attention that a few members of the guild had self-proclaimed themselves as the Royalty of Diamond City. Furthermore, they had accessed an ancient library. Ayman felt some concern about these claims, especially since one had partially ben the cause of the Flame Lords destructive actions and the other was a notorious necromancer. The legends of Wayling describe an era when the Mountain community was ruled by an evil necromancer. The spiritual practices of Wayling had been perverted into the abstraction and imprisonment of souls. Ayman has always felt suspicious of these practitioners. Ayman met with Baab and discussed his distress. After meditation and several exchanges of letters with Assi and Sharon; an action was discerned. A letter was written to the Sultana of Kishar. In this letter concerns of both individuals were laid out, along with a urging for the crown to either take a claim on the City of Diamond or to establish a (spy network) diplomatic embassy to these new “Sultans.” Ayman emphasized the need to closely monitor the situation as these individual with less power and wisdom managed to invoke the wrath of a dangerous being; what harm could come if they had real power.

With the growth of local leaders (often former street kids from the Mission in Payang) growing in strength and autonomy, Baab and Ayman were able to shift focus away from the refuge resettlement. Baab and Ayman discussed over tea the events of the last 2 years, each realized that they were ill equipped to deal with the most recent otherworldly and political threats. Ignorance was a threat as great as the beings they faced. Baab set their intention on reclaiming the Sword of Baab, in order to grow in martial ability. Ayman set his intention upon studying the nature of the Path of the Mind. While Ayman was curious about the mysterious nature of Diamond City, he lacked the tools. Together they gathered the requirements for a 3-month long ritual that included meditation and fasting.

Baab recovered some vague memories of how the blade became lost, what physically looked like, and last known location. Baab set out to gather myths from the local population, utilizing their ability to mystic teleport as necessary. Ayman continued to meditate on the nature of the Path of Mind. How are these abilities different than the path of Magic or Faith. Ayman made trips to the University in Kishar to enrich his own experimentation. Ayman quickly realizes the depth of his quest is beyond his own ability and time; fortunately, his research draws the attention of a mysterious entity who has similar interest. Ayman’s thoughts are also bothered by why the Flame Lord refused to strike him. He tries to focus on his task, but there is something worrisome about this preferential treatment.