

# STEZOKIAN HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

*Translated written account of interview with the Protector Virm Nurn  
by historian Bruddurum Forgeright*

Long ago, before history, a dragon now known by the name of Virm Nurn settled on a mountaintop.

This mountain was special, because at its peak was a hole deeper than any hole Virm Nurn had ever seen.

Virm Nurn had seen volcanos before. This was not a volcano. This was a mountain with a hole in it.

The hole in this mountain was so deep that it could contain more gold than all the gold horded by every dragon who'd ever lived, so Virm Nurn called it home.

Year after Year, Virm Nurn returned to her hole. She return with whatever beautiful trinkets or interesting things she'd found, and drop them into the hole where they would be safe.

After centuries of this, she was surprised to return and find a Dwarf waiting for her.

The Dwarf was charming, so Virm Nurn did not eat it.

Instead, the Dwarf agreed that he and his people would become Virm Nurn's children\*.

Not only would they gather the gold that Virm Nurn didn't know was already in her mountain, all their lives and all their children's lives would also be her horde.

So the Dwarves built stairs that wound down the hole. From those stairs, they dug holes into the wall of her hole – tunnels into the mountain.

Those tunnels became a city, and every day the people of that city brought Virm Nurn gifts.

As time passed, the city grew, spindling down the walls of the hole, until it went so far that it reached a new world beneath this one.

After time, Virm Nurn began to see Dwarves return from the hole that didn't look like Dwarves at all. They called themselves Duergar. They too called Virm Nurn "mother" and brought her gifts.

So it was that Stezok was born under Virm Nurn's wing.

*\* there is some scholarly debate as to whether Virm Nurn said "sihe" (child) or "silit" (slave)*