

## 2 LORE

The book is written by Pori, Dwarf of Durin's folk. It tells the story of a group of dwarfs, refugees from Gundabad, which somehow came to settle in the ancient Kingdom of Manetheren, in the area that today is called the North Downs. The kingdom of Manetheren seems to have existed in the North East of Eriador for most of the Second Age. You realize Monsfield is a corruption of the name Aemon's Field, the field of battle where the last king of Manetheren and his people fell to the last man and woman against the hordes led by Khamûl the Easterling. The symbol of Manetheren was a Red Eagle, and the Kings of Manetheren were called Friends of the Red Eagle, the Protector of Manetheren.

## 3 LORE

The book says Orcs swarmed Mount Gundabad, the most ancient dwelling of Durin's folk, and the site of Durin's awakening, sometime during the Second Age. Most survivors fled to Khazad-Dûm and the southern Misty Mountains, but a group of refugees tried to cross Eriador to reach the Blue Mountains. The Orcs harried them, until they were saved by the Men of Manetheren, who welcomed them to their land. The community of dwarves, grateful, settled in the Mountain Home, coexisted with the native Men, and helped their saviors building a majestic city capital, rivalling the cities of the Dunadain colonizers coming from the South. The book starts somewhere in the middle Second Age, but the last battle of Manetheren must date around the time of the Last Alliance between Elves and Men and the war against Sauron. Khamûl the Easterling was once a mighty King of Rhûn, the land to the north-east of Mordor, who had long raided Northern Eriador by the time of Aemon's fall, but the book mentions him wielding powers of fear and terror, and being a servant of the Enemy with dark magic at his command.

## 4 LORE

The book explains that the relationship between Elendil and Aemon were friendly but cool. The Kingdom of Manetheren existed before the Men of the West started their colonization of Eriador, and well before Elendil and his people founded the neighboring kingdom of Arnor and claimed sovereignty over the Men of Middle Earth. They were nonetheless allies against the raiding armies of Orcs and occasional Easterlings, and won many battles together. Elendil and his sons were much closer to the Elves than Aemon and Manetheren, who due to the Exiles of Gundabad, had closer ties and trade relationships with the Dwarves of Durin's folk in the Misty Mountains and the Firebeards of the Blue Mountains.

You also discover a poem about something called Lif's Heart, but it seems more than a pretty rhyme though you can't seem to figure out what it says.

## ALL 4 LORE CHECKS TO BE SUCCESSFUL PLUS A SUCCESSFUL RIDDLE CHECK

In encrypted verses, the book talks about Lif's Heart, an heirloom of the Exiles of Gundabad. It was a silver necklace with a large ruby embedded in it, and once belonged to the Queen of Nogrod in Beleriand.