

# Myth of Khazan



## The Early Years

Long, long before the Age of Kings, a shining beacon of life was born. As near as history records, Khazan had an uneventful youth. As a young man, Khazan studied to be a Druid. His mentors discovered that he was brilliant and methodical. He took to studying much faster than many druids who found their calling in nature. He quickly absorbed everything his masters had to teach. Time passed and soon enough, with a dash of age and wisdom, Khazan was the one doing the teaching.



## Darkness Rising

During the Time of Darkness in the valley, Khazan helped the Fey and Ursari stonemasons construct the Amber Temple to protect the valley from the Dark Forces. Khazan learned from the Fey that the dark forces were called evil vestiges. They were mere shadows and reflections of elder celestial gods who were vanquished. The evil vestiges spend eternity trying to break into the mortal plane, to seek revenge by devastating the peoples that worship the gods that destroyed them in ages long forgotten. The vanquished evil vestiges found a way into the mortal plane and decided to assault the Barovian valley.

The amber within the Ghakis Mountains can harness magic. The Fey instructed Khazan in new powerful magic, including methods to imprisoning the vestiges within the amber and blessed Khazan with exceedingly long life. Khazan's druidic knowledge and teaching of the Fey were invaluable, and his knowledge and skills surpassed those of his fellow druids, and he became the first wizard of Barovia. Khazan would teach others to become wizards and together the wizards would guard the Amber Temple and remain vigilant of any coming darkness.

A century passed since the darkness was imprisoned in the Amber Temple. Khazan choose to return to the valley and constructed a tower on a small island in Lake Baratok and pursue his remaining years studying nature and magic, alone. He left the wizards he had trained to protect the Amber Temple and to pass on their knowledge to the next.

## Age of Kings

Khazan remained a recluse in his lone tower when the first kings arrived, for he did not like or wish to be a part of the world of kings that disrupted nature. Khazan's wisdom knew a balance must be struck between the new kings and the old ways. The peoples of Barovia turned to the new ways of the Morninglord and Khazan's brethren druids ventured southwest to Yester Hill, a fragile peace was at hand. Khazan knew, in time as with all things, the time of the kings would eventually end.





## Great War

Peace was not to endure as the warring forces of the Terg began to invade Barovia. Khazan remained neutral to the plights of man, alone in his tower, for kings would have their war, but the Fey and the valley will endure long after the kings and their wars had left.

The war with the Terg grew long and scared the valley. The royal family of Barovia was slaughtered by Terg forces, leaving the remaining knights and nobles to fight a long siege. A young prince arrived to save Barovia from the Terg invaders.

The young prince learned of the old sage Khazan and came to visit with him. The young prince seemed naïve and wish to learn about this history of the valley, for if the war was to be won and peace to resume, knowledge was required.

Khazan did not know if he could help but explained to the young prince the dark vestiges imprisoned in the Amber Temple must never be allowed to escape or the valley and all in it would be destroyed. Khazan told the young prince about the balance of nature and the Fey and wish to see peace return to the valley. The young prince was fascinated with the Amber Temple, the dark vestiges, and its history and pledged that he would never let the Terg gain access to the Amber Temple and peace for all in the valley would be at hand, once the Terg were defeated.

## Dark Prince

Khazan learned forces attacked the Gates of Tsolenka which protected the Amber Temple from invaders. Khazan rushed to the Amber Temple, fearing that if the gates did not hold the darkness within the Amber Temple would be released.

When Khazan reached the Amber Temple, he found the Amber Temple was invaded and to his horrible surprise it was the young prince who had gained entry. The Mountain Fey had come to the Amber Temple seeking Khazan, for her sister the Water Fey had been captured by the young prince. She had shared with Khazan the young prince has gained vast powers and made a pact with the dark vestiges in the Amber Temple, for he was no longer the young prince, but an evil dark prince.





## Ravenloft

Khazan set out to meet with the dark prince, strike a bargain, free the Water Fey, and seek neutral ground. For Khazan was a powerful wizard and the dark prince would listen to reason.

Upon his arrival at Castle Ravenloft, indeed the young prince had changed, and darkness pulsed within him, his eyes dark, and he reeked of death, he had become a dark prince. Khazan spoke with the dark prince and attempted to reason with him, the pact he has made with the dark vestiges gave him the power to defeat his foes, but at what costs? For the dark prince's life belong to the dark vestiges and he was now a mere servant of the dark vestiges.

The dark prince grew angry, for he claimed he was a servant to no one. He was the master, the lord, the land of Barovia. The dark prince, imbued with dark powers, attacked Khazan. It was the first time Khazan would face anyone who has been imbued with the dark powers from within the Amber Temple. The dark prince was powerful, and the dark powers flowed from him with an evil the valley had not seen in centuries.





## Hope Springs Eternal

But Khazan never expected the dark prince to give in to reason and release the Water Fey, for Khazan's visit was a ruse, Khazan knew he would not survive an encounter with the dark prince aided with the dark powers, he only needed time and used the engagement as a diversion. Khazan channeled all his magic powers while engaged with the dark prince to aid the Water Fey in her escape.

Khazan knew for any hope to exist and for the Valley to survive, it rested with the Fey. His sacrifice was his destiny, his last act in serving the Fey, the druids, and the beautiful valley he had loved.

No one knows what happened to the great wizard Khazan. Some believe he survived the battle and ventured back to the Amber Temple. Others believe his spirit wanders Barovia in his tower by the lake or in the halls of Ravenloft.

