

## Excerpt: Wizard's Square – Book 1

### The Wizards of Weeping Rock

#### *Prologue*

In the eons before man's rise to dominance; in the millennia governed by the magic things, came a gigantic stone from the heavens. It bore down upon the land with a great roar and a tremendous fire. No amount of magic could save them. No amount of prayer could prevent what was to come.

In the days hence, those who survived, men and beings of magic, were forced into an alliance of survival. The children of the earth, called mankind, were strong of back and limb, will and determination. The beings of magic were dying, but they gifted mankind with their powers. Together, power and strength rebuilt the world.

The survivors lived in peace with mutual respect and a desire to see their world flourish. Great cities were built and the Council, a central governing body, was created consisting of men, women, magic folk, and the Ethereals.

The Ethereals were the old magic things. Some said they were older than the world itself. Their bonding with man gave birth to the magic folk, humans blessed with magic.

The Council governed with wisdom, knowledge and above all, fairness; favoring no race above the other. For 700 years, the world now called Americanas, thrived.

But in the ending years of the Ethereals, the magic folk also declined. Magic was failing in the world and man stepped forward to rule. In the beginning, Americanas continued as before, a world of benevolence and tolerance. Man, however, will be as his

nature dictates, and in time, the Council was challenged for control of the planet by emerging generals and potentates who grabbed control of the major cities.

Traden the First, self-declared ruler of Bellington, was by far the biggest threat. Unlike the other warlords, he did not confront the Council directly. He professed to support it. He would attack and defeat a city, claiming to do so in the name of Council. He would then appoint himself Military Governor de Council. In this fashion, he'd took control of most of the smaller provinces and three of the world's largest cities.

The last city fell and the Council surrendered to Traden in the post-apocalyptic year 1455. Traden accepted their surrender in the main Council chambers of Sylvania. He took only a silver chalice as a trophy and announced the members of the Council would be allowed to leave the capitol unharmed. He kept his word.

They were executed on the road ten miles from the capitol's gate.

Traden's daughter, unknown to most, was one of the magic folk – a seer. Her last vision, before her father put her to death, was his fall at the hand of a wizard. Traden's first act as Supreme Ruler of Americanis was to declare war on the magic folk.

At first, it seemed the resistance formed by magic folk and men might have a chance against Traden's army, but by 1508, the resistance was all but crushed and the survivors were running for their lives.