

5 -The lost Continent

As we ventured further into the remnants of ancient London, the traces of its former grandeur became increasingly evident. Amidst the overgrown flora, the ruins of once magnificent structures hinted at the city's past splendor. We were initially met with fewer signs of predatory animals than anticipated, though the presence of a great, black-maned lion on a shattered balcony served as a stark reminder of the dangers lurking within.

Our journey led us along the Thames, driven by a desire to witness the remnants of iconic landmarks like the London Bridge, Westminster Abbey, and the Tower. However, as we progressed, the extent of devastation only seemed to intensify, with little left of the once bustling bridge except for a disintegrating mound of masonry amidst overgrown ruins.

Intrigued by a remarkably intact building swathed in ivy, we couldn't resist exploring its interior, where time appeared to have stood still. The opulence within spoke of a civilization of immense power and prosperity, now fallen into oblivion. The sight of murals and tapestries depicting ancient technological marvels stirred a deep sense of wonder in Victory, who expressed a wish to stay amidst these remnants of a bygone era.

Our exploration took a perilous turn upon encountering a pride of lions inhabiting what seemed to be a stately chamber, possibly a royal throne room. The encounter forced a hasty retreat upstairs into a secure room that held the skeletal remains of a soldier who had diligently recorded the fall of London to an unknown calamity around August 1937. His notes hinted at the devastating impact of "the Death" and the exodus that left Britain to the wild beasts, offering insight into the origins of the contemporary faunal inhabitants.

Resolved to escape this mausoleum of humanity's former achievements, we opted for a precarious descent down the ivy-clad exterior. Our progress was nearly thwarted by a lion ambush, propelling us into a dramatic escape through the underbrush and ultimately into the Thames to elude our pursuers.

Despite the immediate threat posed by a particularly relentless lioness, Victory demonstrated remarkable courage and solidarity, refusing to abandon me despite my commands to seek safety. Together, we faced the beast, with Victory prepared to fend it off with her knife. Our combined efforts and a fortuitous stroke of luck allowed us to survive the encounter, highlighting the unpredictable harmony between human resilience and the savage beauty of this lost world.

These chapters of "The Lost Continent" vividly depict the explorers' journey through the desolate relics of London, transforming their expedition into a harrowing fight for survival amidst the splendor and tragedy of a collapsed civilization. Their experiences serve as a testament to the enduring spirit of humanity and the profound mysteries of our collective past.