

THE MYTHICAL ORIGIN OF HUMANKIND

Legend says humans arrived from far to the East taking many years to get to a fertile land. Wyrms flew ahead in the shape of a raven with a snake in his claws.



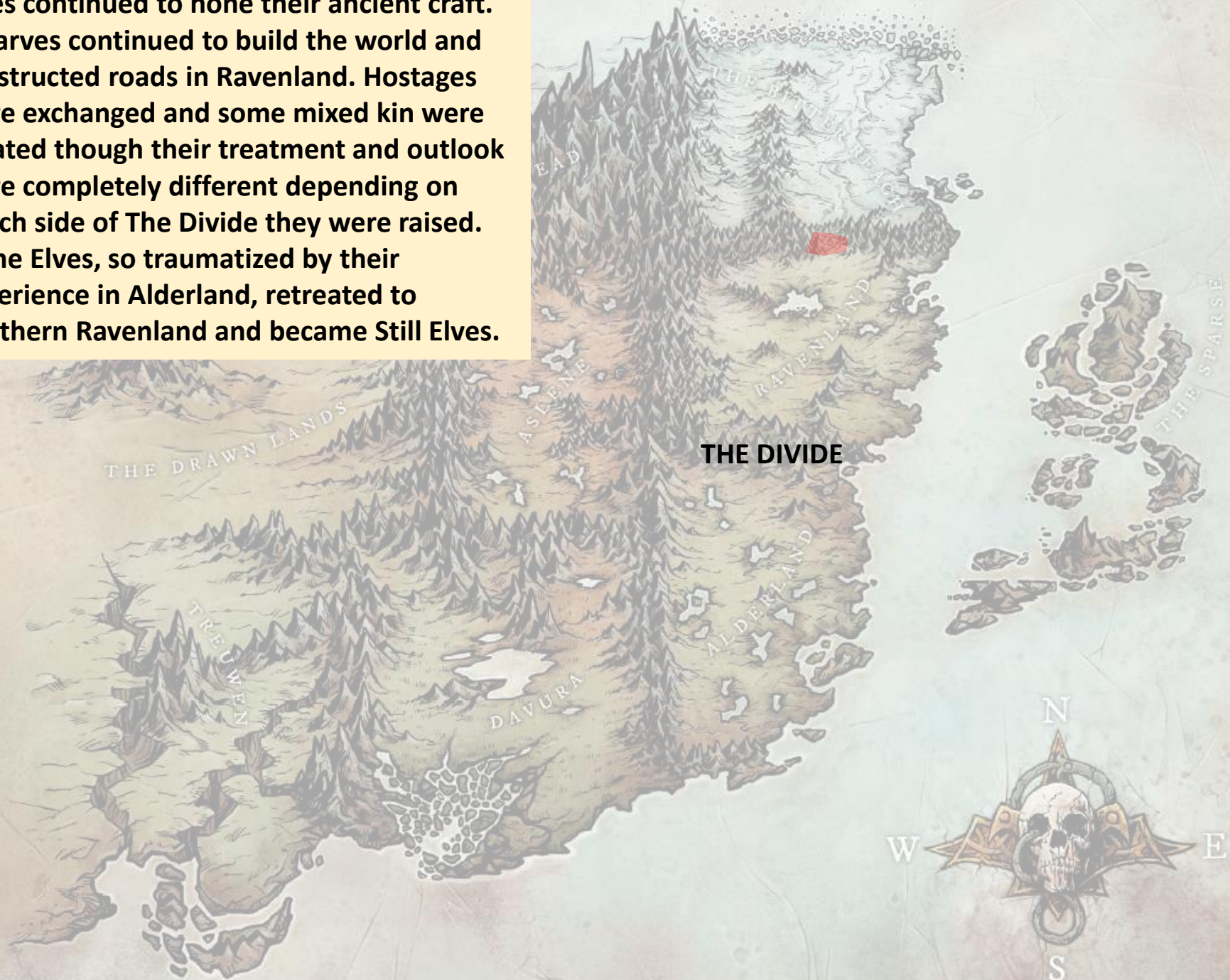
THE SHIFT – YEAR ZERO

Wyrms raised the mountains separating the lands giving the lands South (Alderland) to Humans and the lands North (Ravenland) to Dwarves and Elves. Wyrms ordered Clay to create Orcs to serve the Dwarves and Elves as slaves in compensation.



0-500As – The Divided Years

Elves continued to hone their ancient craft. Dwarves continued to build the world and constructed roads in Ravenland. Hostages were exchanged and some mixed kin were created though their treatment and outlook were completely different depending on which side of The Divide they were raised. Some Elves, so traumatized by their experience in Alderland, retreated to Northern Ravenland and became Still Elves.



510–540AS THE EXODUS OF THE AILANDERS

Around the year 500 plague and religious wars ravaged Alderland. Refugees fleeing persecution entered Ravenland, violating the dictates of The Shift. This sect, called Ailanders, were led by Jamharda, a raven sister who pleaded before the combined armies of the Dwarves and elves to let them stay or slay them outright for such was their fate if they returned to Alderland. The Elves, impressed by the nature magic of the raven sisters convinced the Dwarves to let them stay. The newcomers had to agree to the Law of the Land which governed not only their behavior but stated they must stay south of a line delineated by the rivers Seyster and Elya.



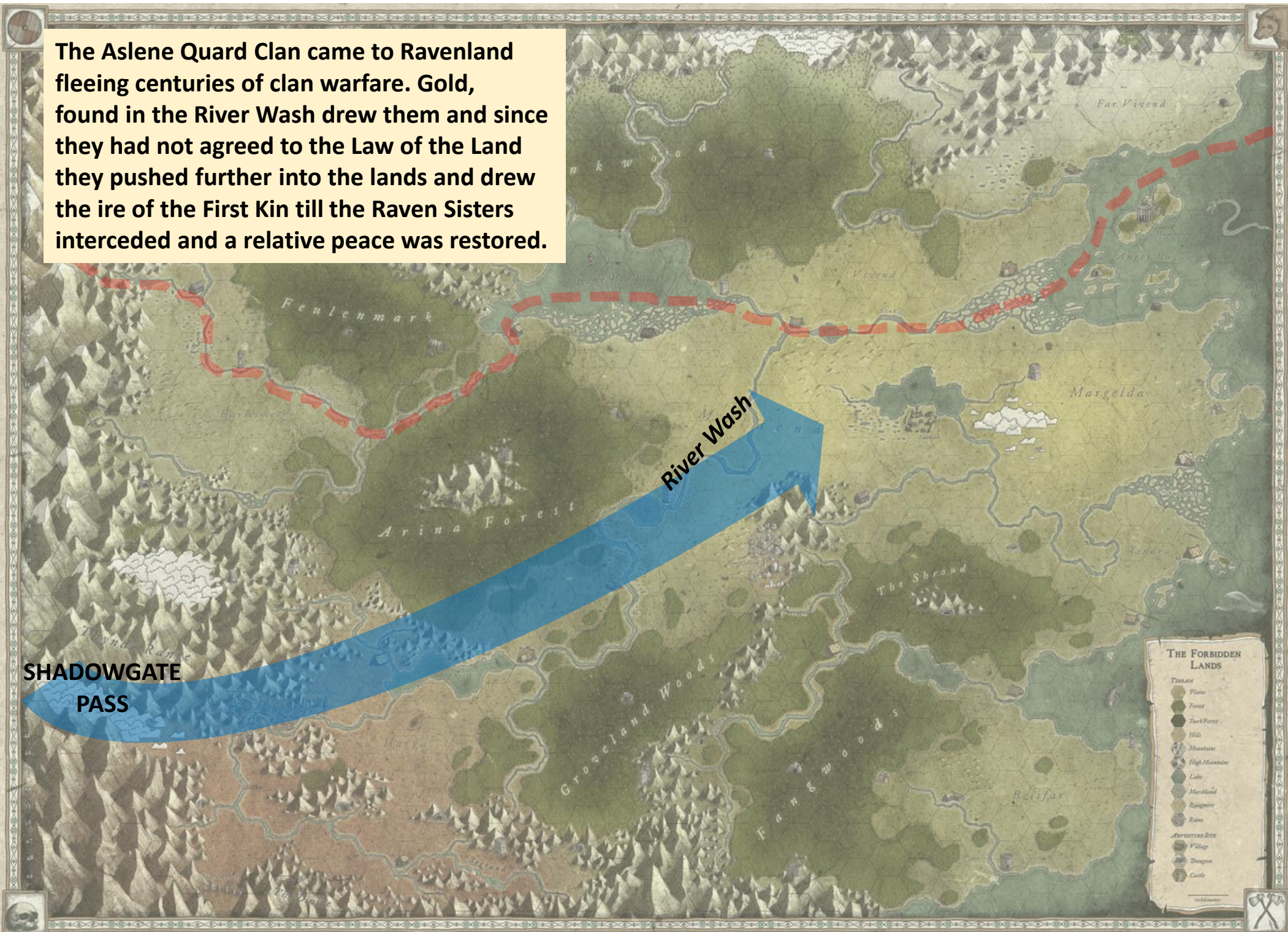
550AS MOUNT BILICA RISES

With the coming of a new group of Ailanders into Ravenland, the Dwarves had had enough and raised Mount Bilica to block passage into Alderland.



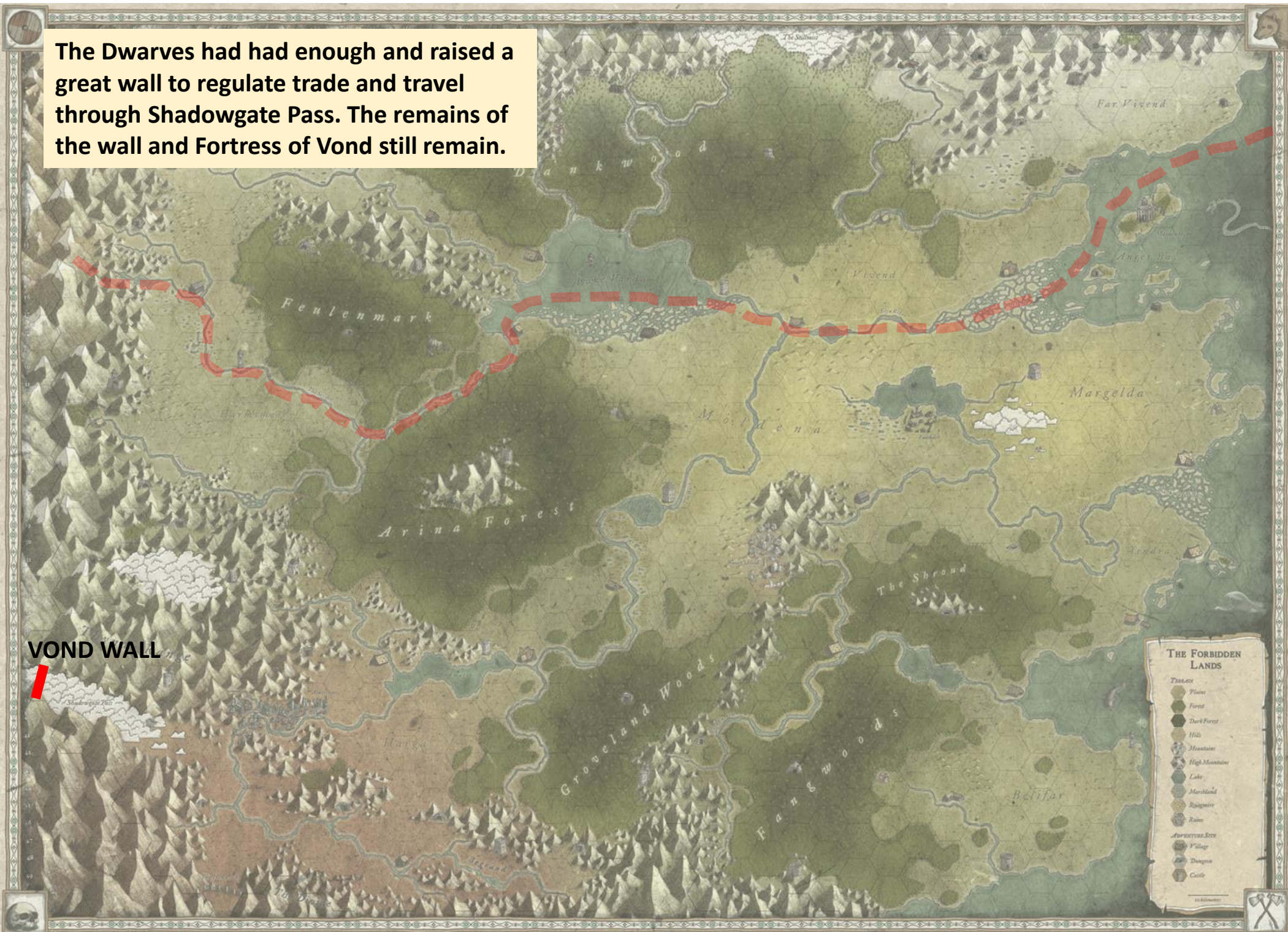
610AS THE ARRIVAL OF THE ASLENES

The Aslene Quard Clan came to Ravenland fleeing centuries of clan warfare. Gold, found in the River Wash drew them and since they had not agreed to the Law of the Land they pushed further into the lands and drew the ire of the First Kin till the Raven Sisters interceded and a relative peace was restored.



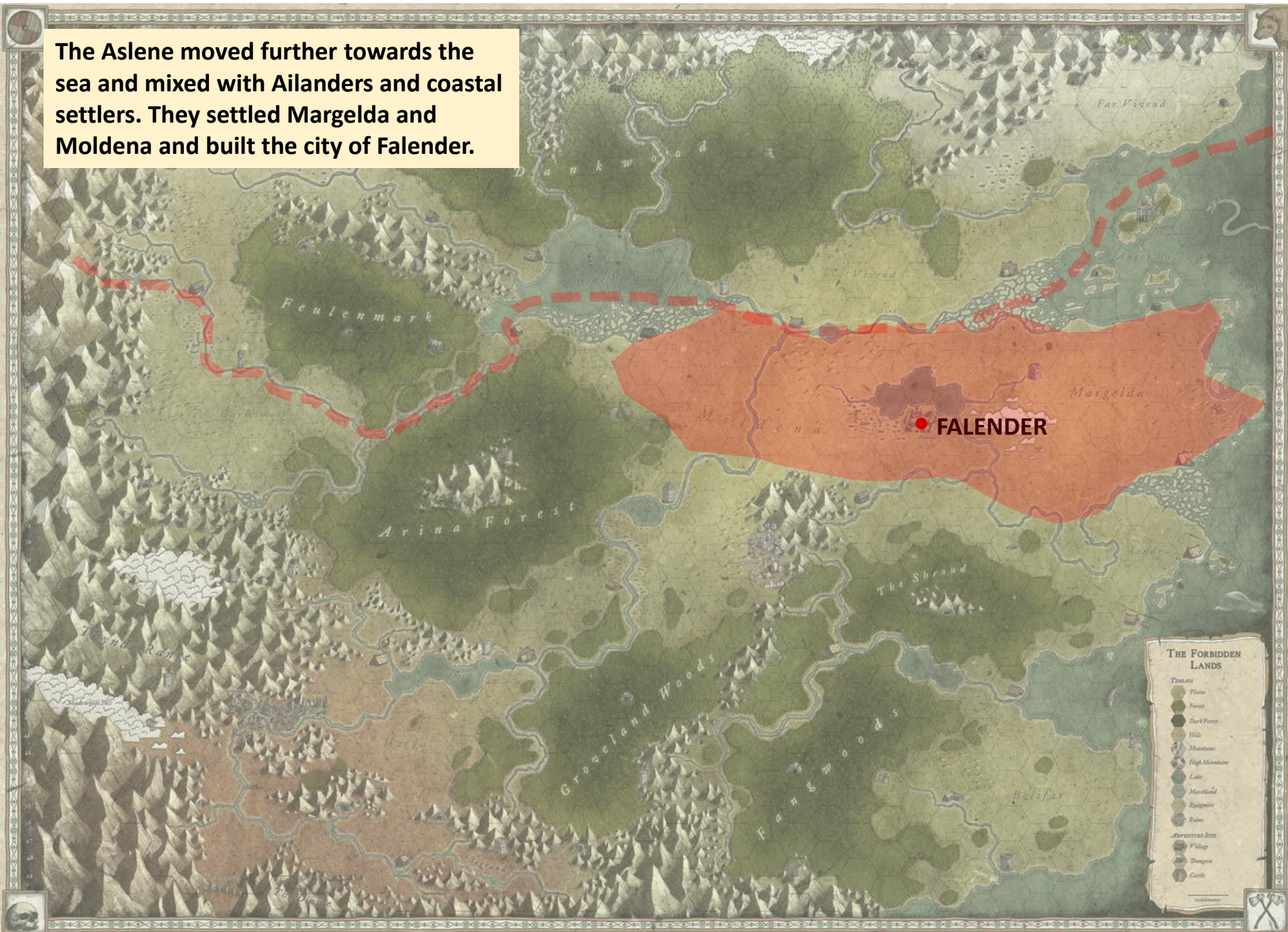
620AS THE VOND WALL IS RAISED

The Dwarves had had enough and raised a great wall to regulate trade and travel through Shadowgate Pass. The remains of the wall and Fortress of Vond still remain.



615-650as ONWARD TO THE SEA

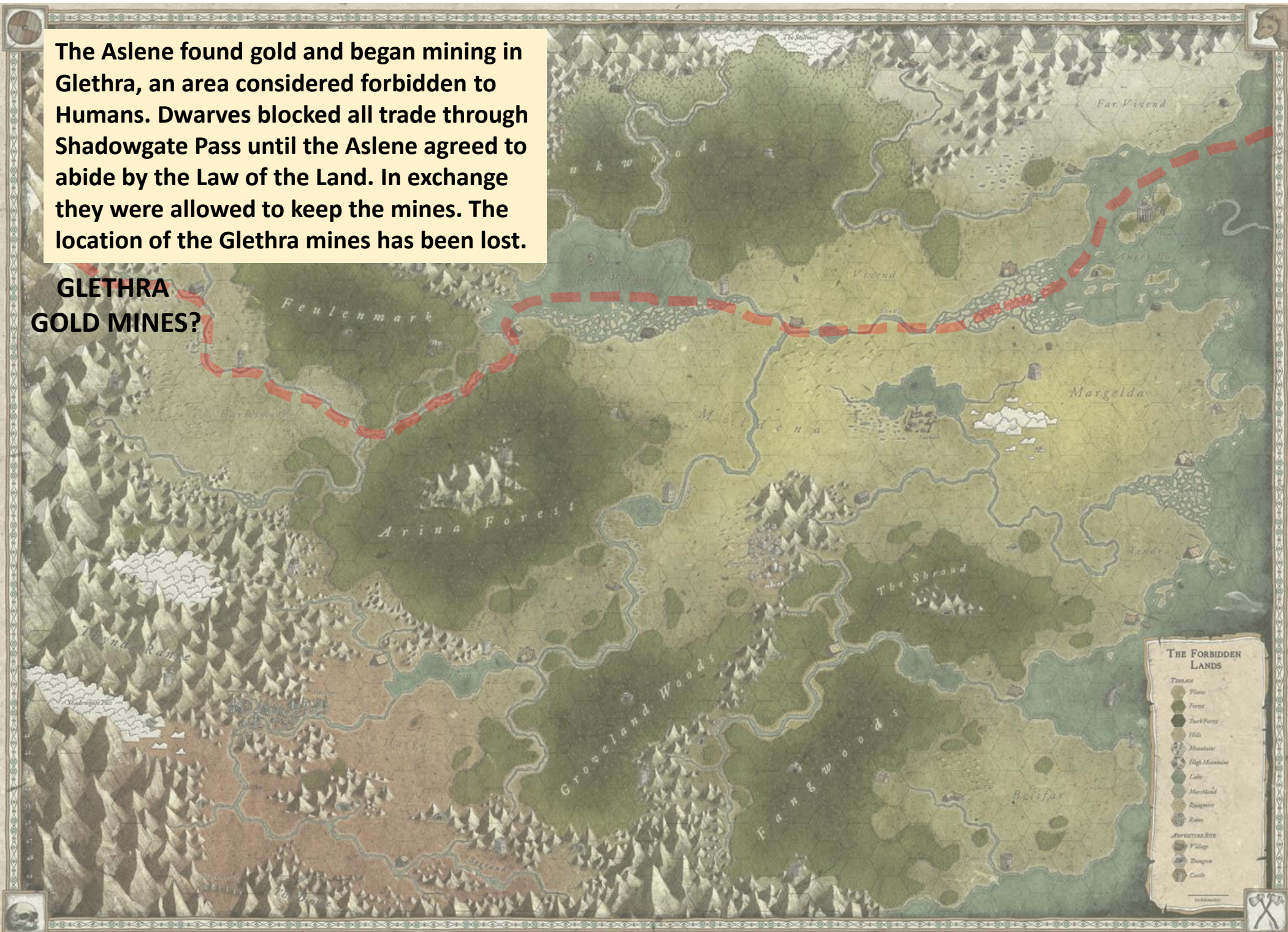
The Aslene moved further towards the sea and mixed with Ailanders and coastal settlers. They settled Margelda and Moldena and built the city of Falender.



690-695AS THE GOLD MINES AT GLETHRA

The Aslene found gold and began mining in Glethra, an area considered forbidden to Humans. Dwarves blocked all trade through Shadowgate Pass until the Aslene agreed to abide by the Law of the Land. In exchange they were allowed to keep the mines. The location of the Glethra mines has been lost.

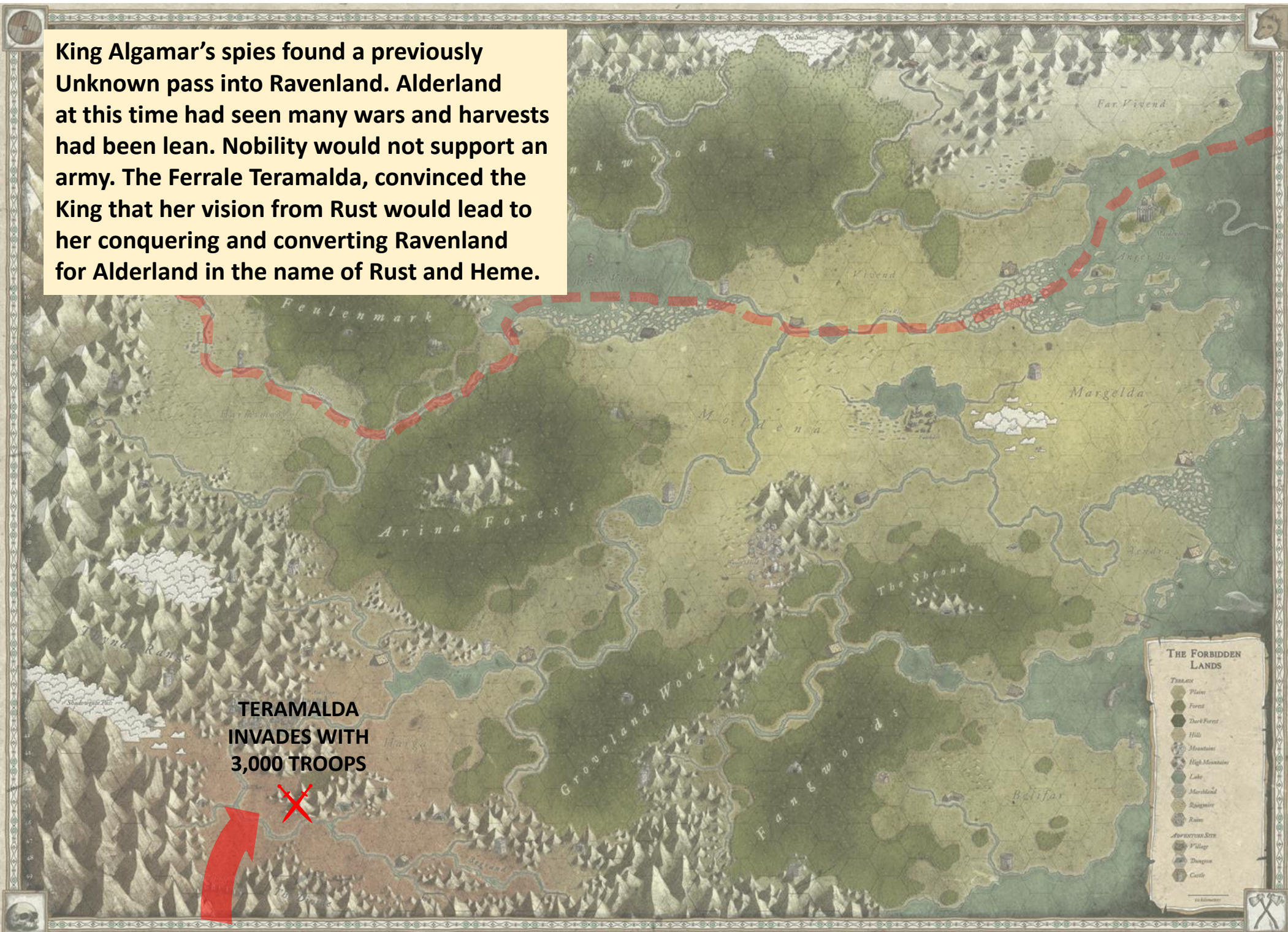
**GLETHRA
GOLD MINES?**



800AS THE IRON LEAGUE INVADES

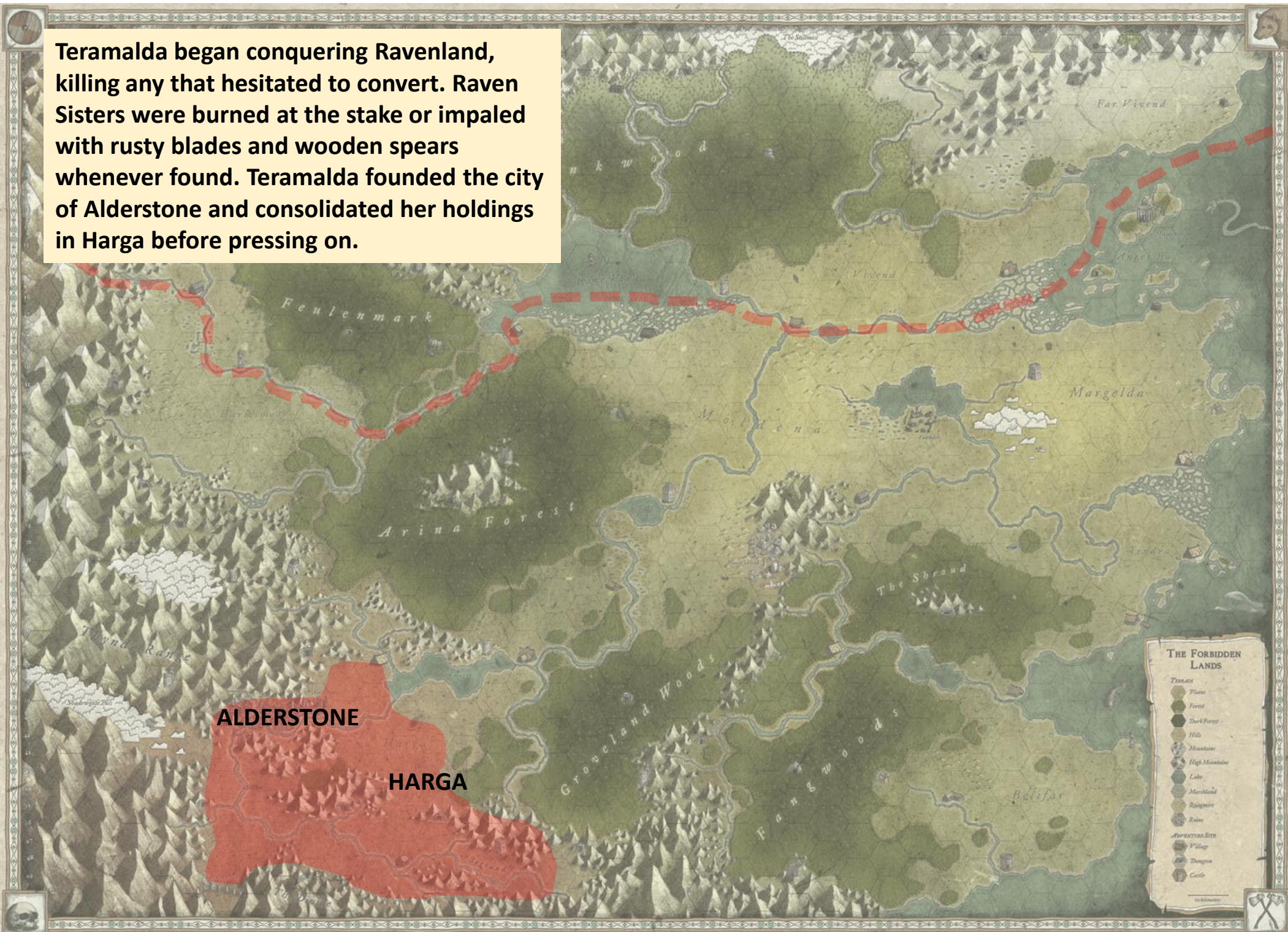
King Algamar's spies found a previously Unknown pass into Ravenland. Alderland at this time had seen many wars and harvests had been lean. Nobility would not support an army. The Ferrale Teramalda, convinced the King that her vision from Rust would lead to her conquering and converting Ravenland for Alderland in the name of Rust and Heme.

**TERAMALDA
INVADES WITH
3,000 TROOPS**



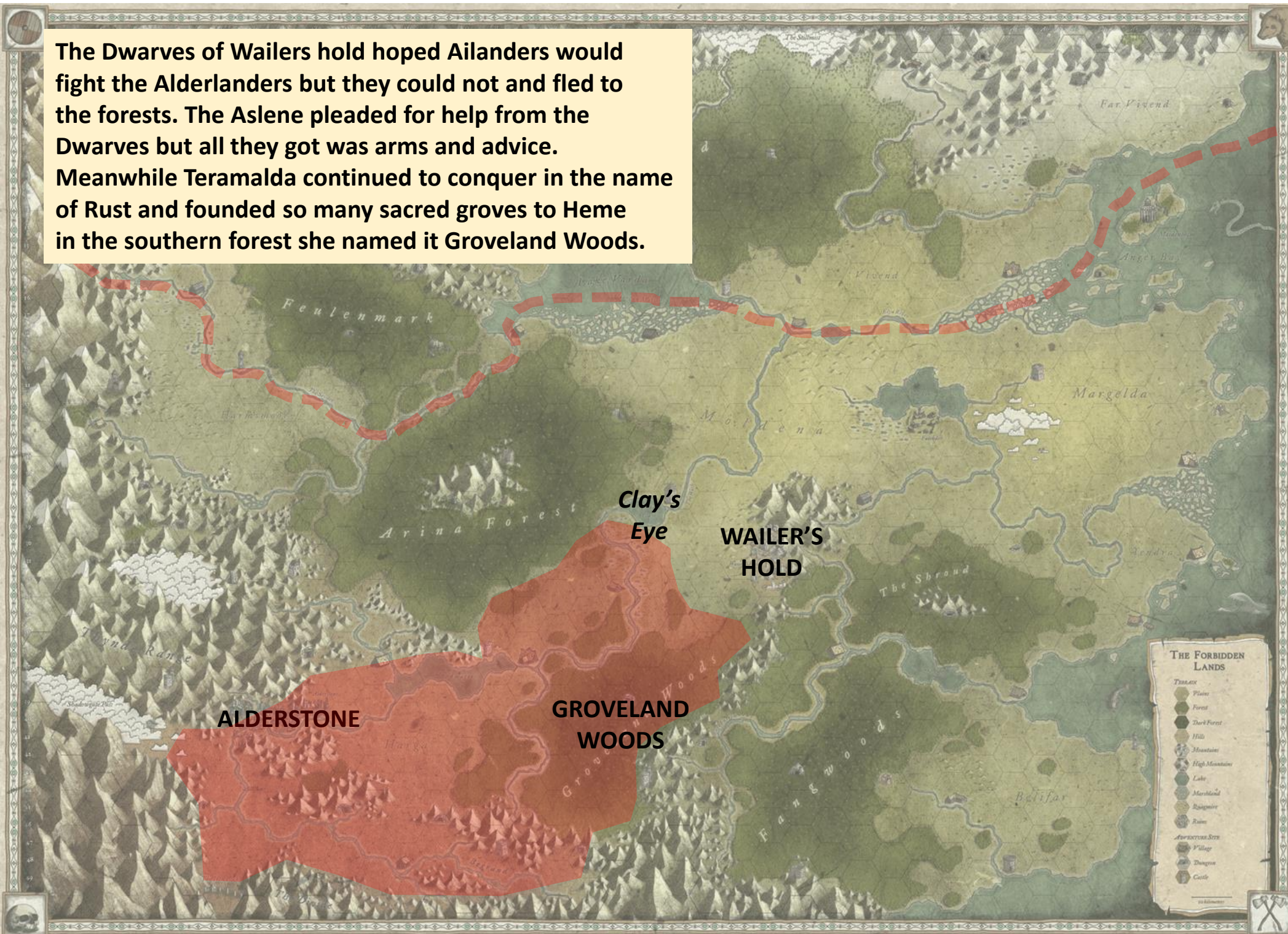
800-810AS THE CLEANSING OF HARGA

Teramalda began conquering Ravenland, killing any that hesitated to convert. Raven Sisters were burned at the stake or impaled with rusty blades and wooden spears whenever found. Teramalda founded the city of Alderstone and consolidated her holdings in Harga before pressing on.



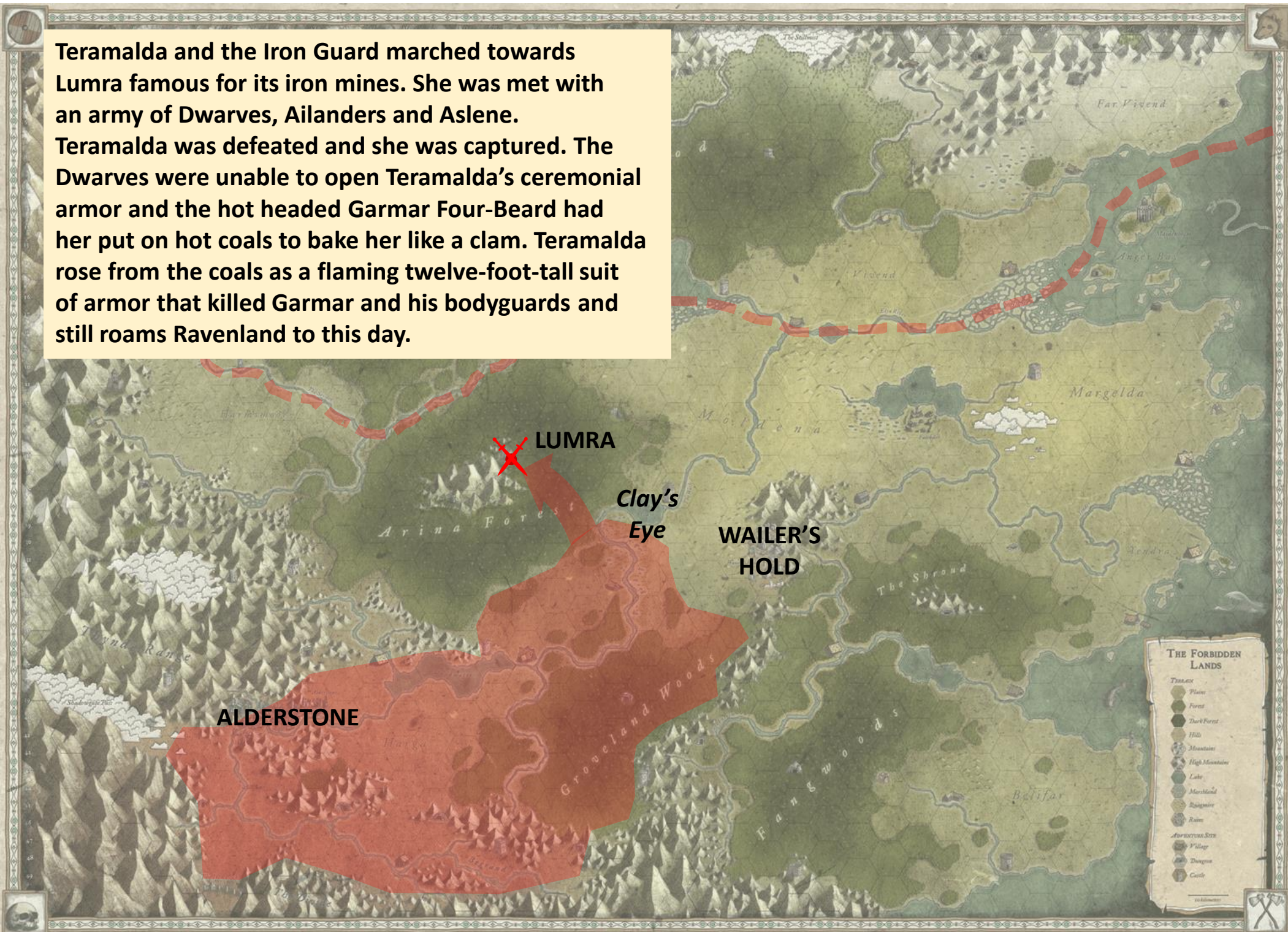
810-820AS IRON MIGHT

The Dwarves of Wailers hold hoped Ailanders would fight the Alderlanders but they could not and fled to the forests. The Aslene pleaded for help from the Dwarves but all they got was arms and advice. Meanwhile Teramalda continued to conquer in the name of Rust and founded so many sacred groves to Heme in the southern forest she named it Groveland Woods.



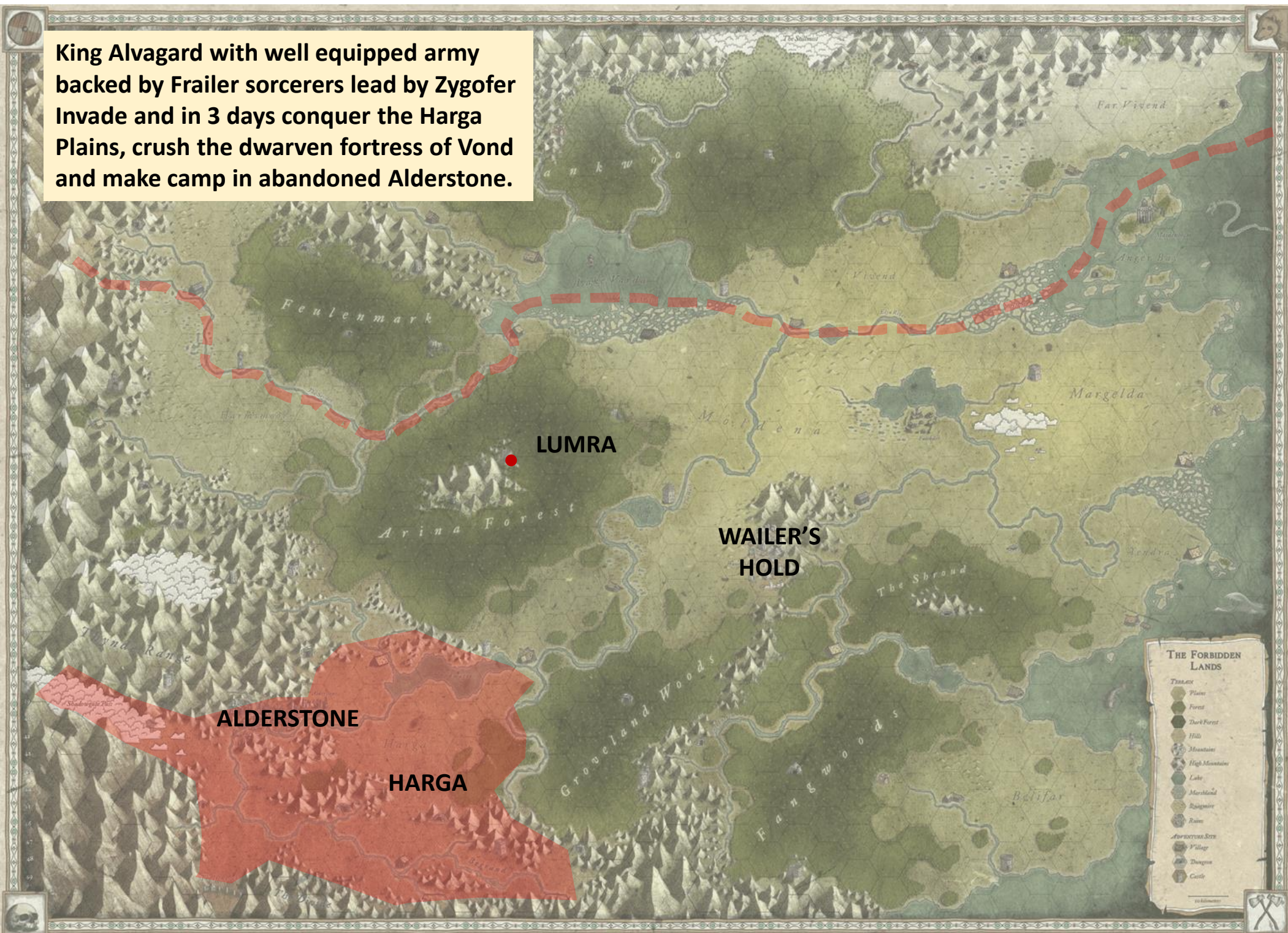
820-821AS THE FIRST ALDER WAR

Teramalda and the Iron Guard marched towards Lumra famous for its iron mines. She was met with an army of Dwarves, Ailanders and Aslene. Teramalda was defeated and she was captured. The Dwarves were unable to open Teramalda's ceremonial armor and the hot headed Garmar Four-Beard had her put on hot coals to bake her like a clam. Teramalda rose from the coals as a flaming twelve-foot-tall suit of armor that killed Garmar and his bodyguards and still roams Ravenland to this day.



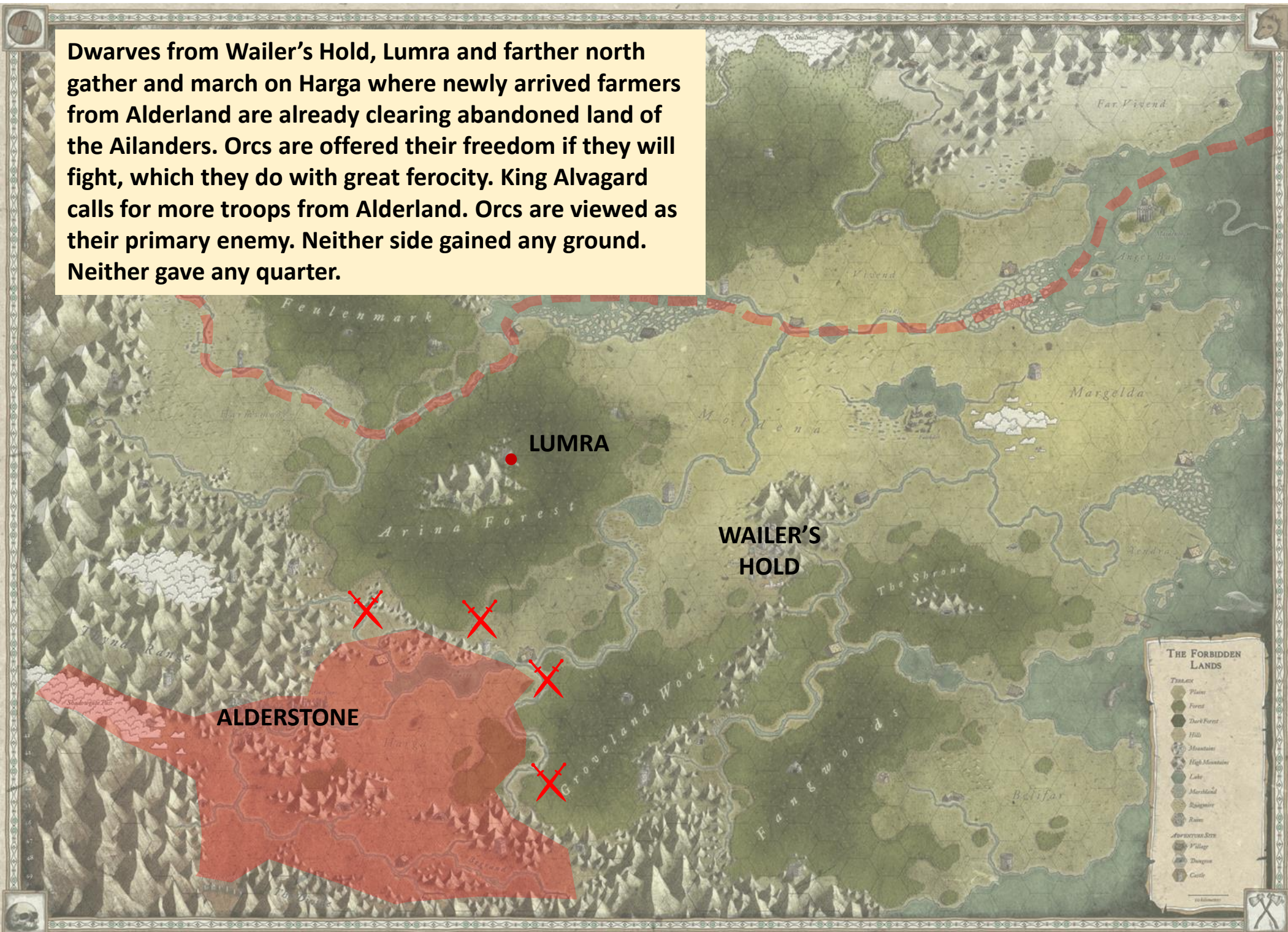
825AS THE MAN FLOOD

King Alvagard with well equipped army backed by Frailer sorcerers lead by Zygofer Invade and in 3 days conquer the Harga Plains, crush the dwarven fortress of Vond and make camp in abandoned Alderstone.



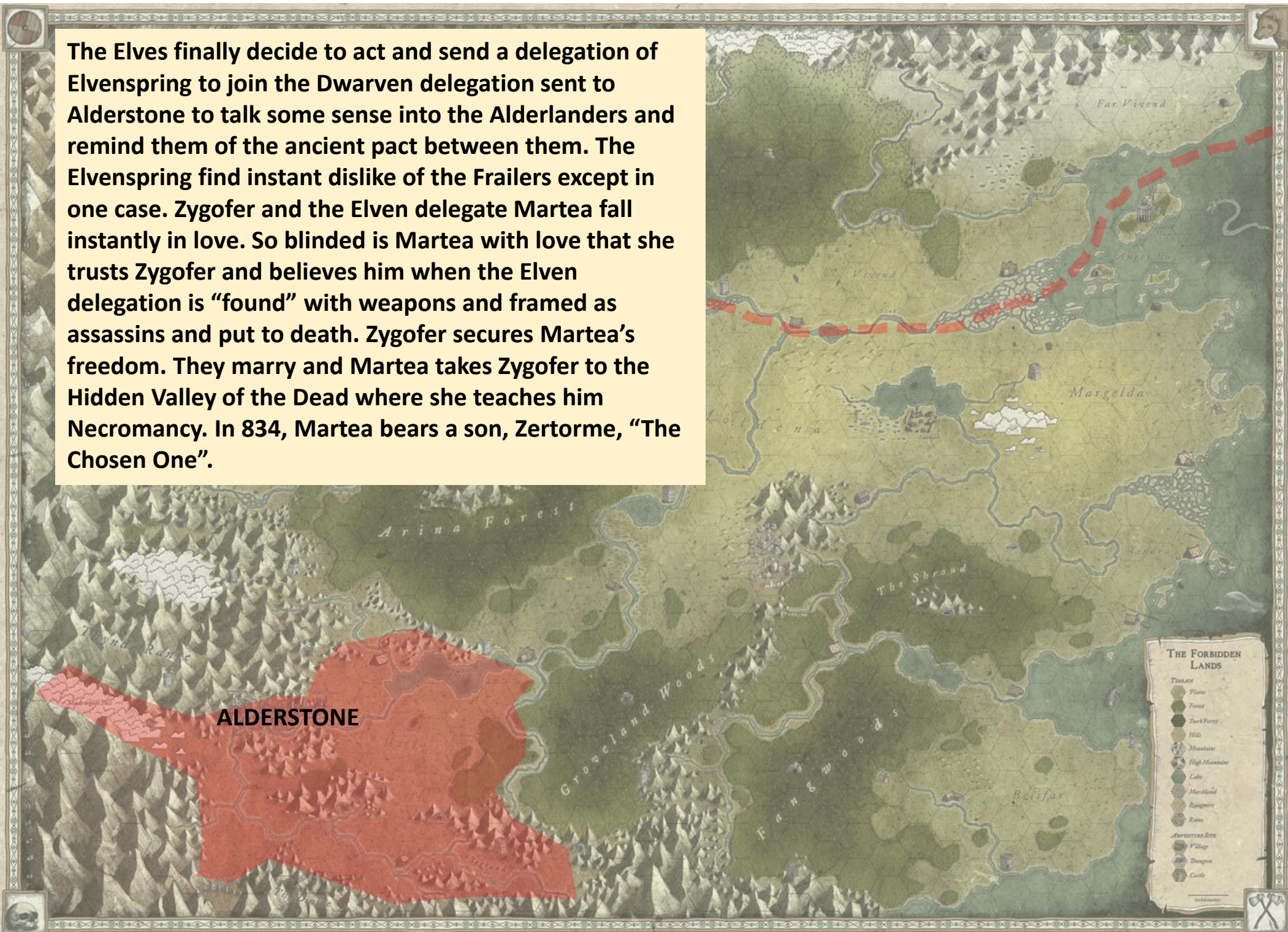
826-833AS THE SECOND ALDER WAR

Dwarves from Wailer's Hold, Lumra and farther north gather and march on Harga where newly arrived farmers from Alderland are already clearing abandoned land of the Ailanders. Orcs are offered their freedom if they will fight, which they do with great ferocity. King Alvagard calls for more troops from Alderland. Orcs are viewed as their primary enemy. Neither side gained any ground. Neither gave any quarter.



833AS PEACE & BETRAYAL

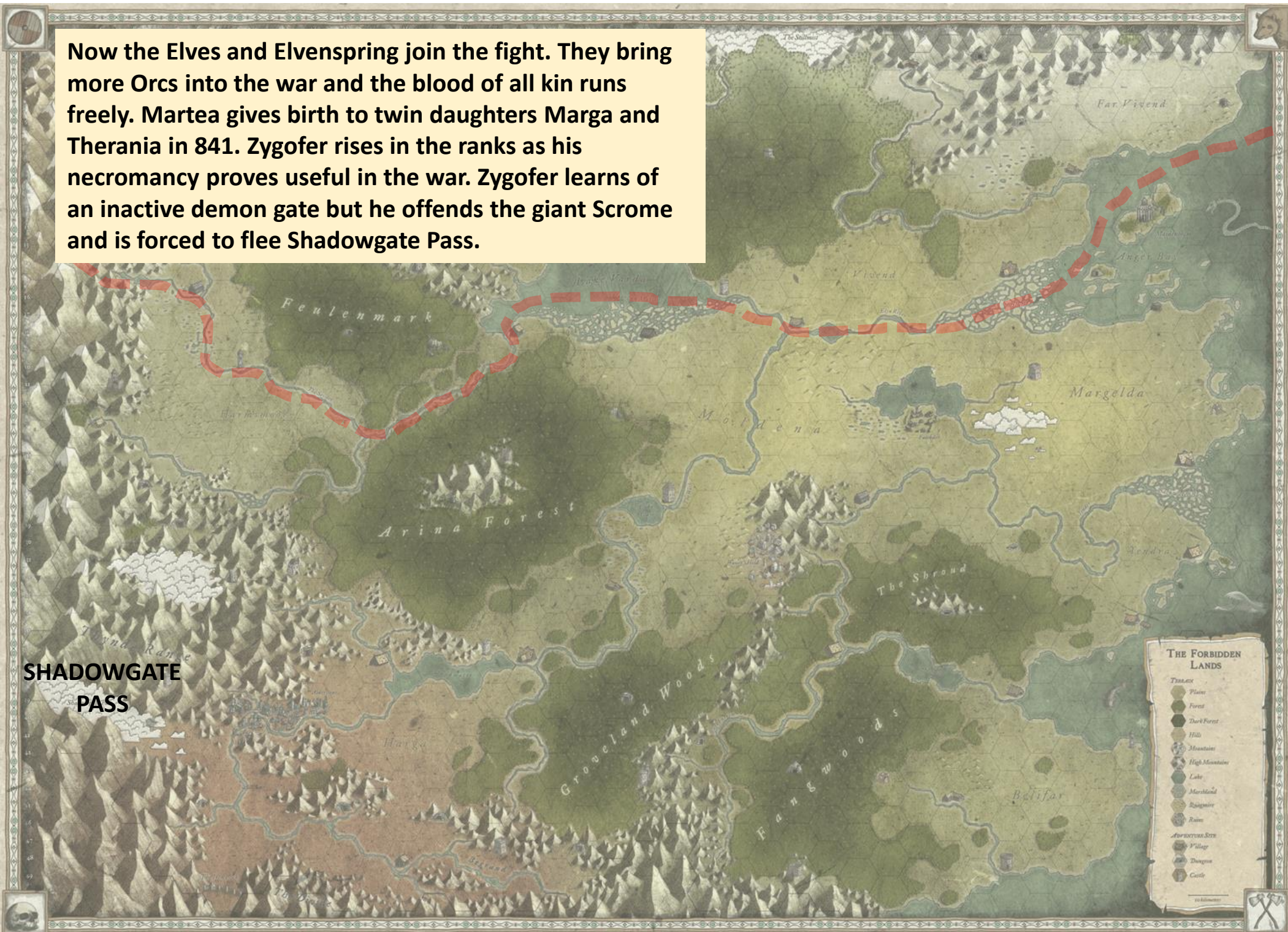
The Elves finally decide to act and send a delegation of Elvenspring to join the Dwarven delegation sent to Alderstone to talk some sense into the Alderlanders and remind them of the ancient pact between them. The Elvenspring find instant dislike of the Frailers except in one case. Zygofer and the Elven delegate Martea fall instantly in love. So blinded is Martea with love that she trusts Zygofer and believes him when the Elven delegation is “found” with weapons and framed as assassins and put to death. Zygofer secures Martea’s freedom. They marry and Martea takes Zygofer to the Hidden Valley of the Dead where she teaches him Necromancy. In 834, Martea bears a son, Zertorme, “The Chosen One”.



833-845as The Third Alder War

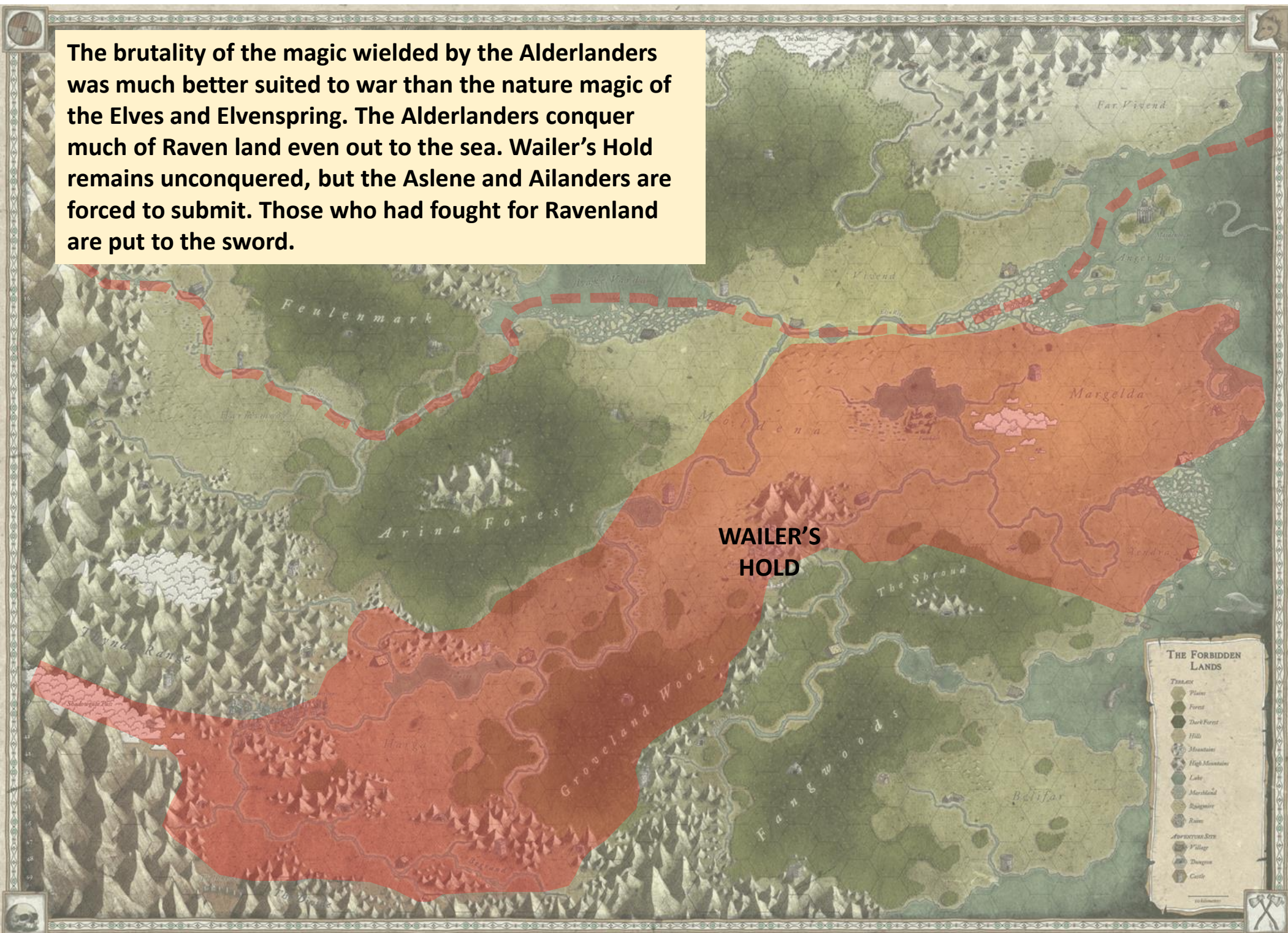
Now the Elves and Elvenspring join the fight. They bring more Orcs into the war and the blood of all kin runs freely. Martea gives birth to twin daughters Marga and Therania in 841. Zygofer rises in the ranks as his necromancy proves useful in the war. Zygofer learns of an inactive demon gate but he offends the giant Scrome and is forced to flee Shadowgate Pass.

SHADOWGATE
PASS



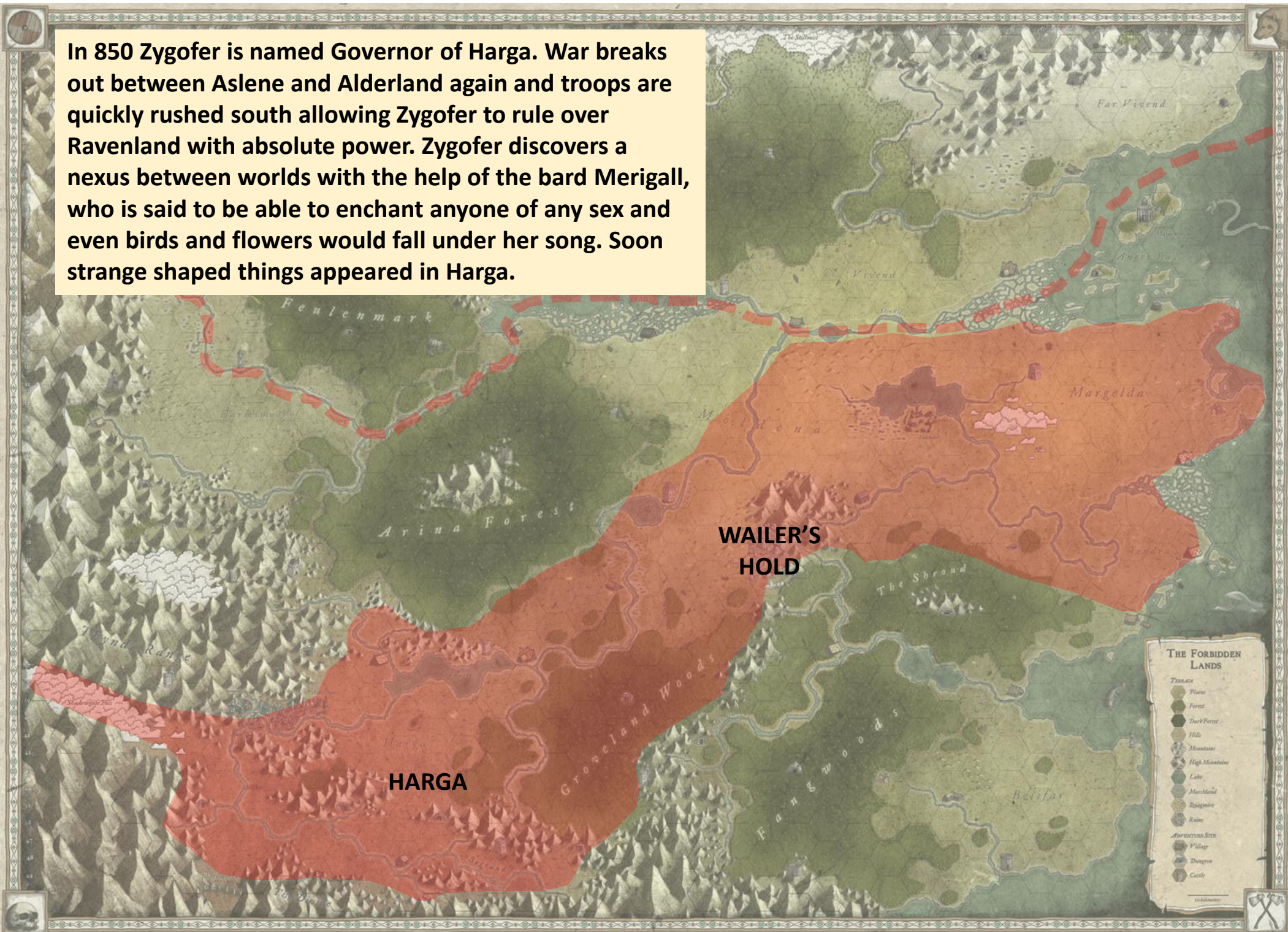
845-857As The QUELLING

The brutality of the magic wielded by the Alderlanders was much better suited to war than the nature magic of the Elves and Elvenspring. The Alderlanders conquer much of Raven land even out to the sea. Wailer's Hold remains unconquered, but the Aslene and Ailanders are forced to submit. Those who had fought for Ravenland are put to the sword.



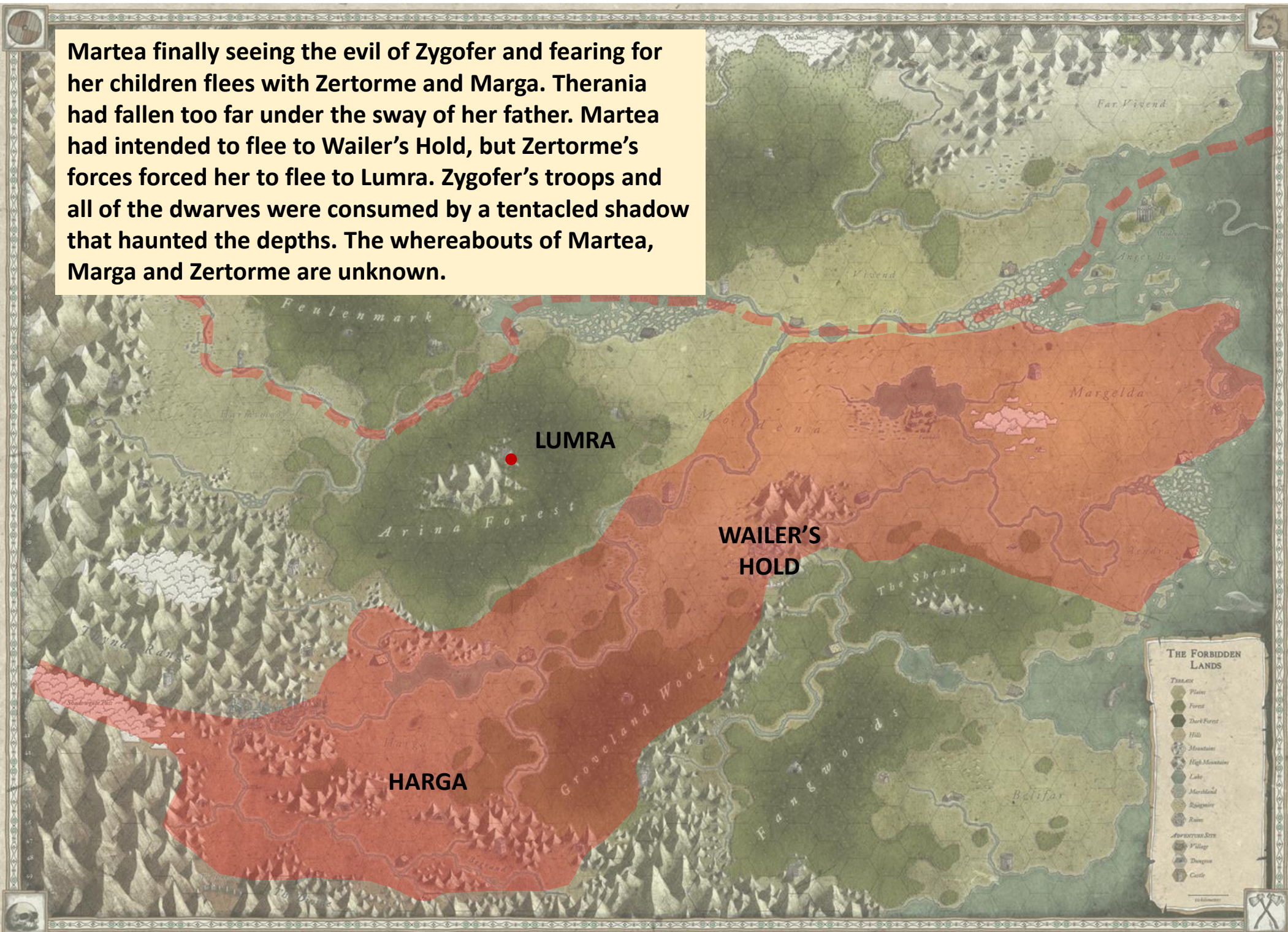
850As Merigall and the Demons

In 850 Zygofer is named Governor of Harga. War breaks out between Aslene and Alderland again and troops are quickly rushed south allowing Zygofer to rule over Ravenland with absolute power. Zygofer discovers a nexus between worlds with the help of the bard Merigall, who is said to be able to enchant anyone of any sex and even birds and flowers would fall under her song. Soon strange shaped things appeared in Harga.



852AS MARTEA'S FLIGHT & LUMRA'S FALL

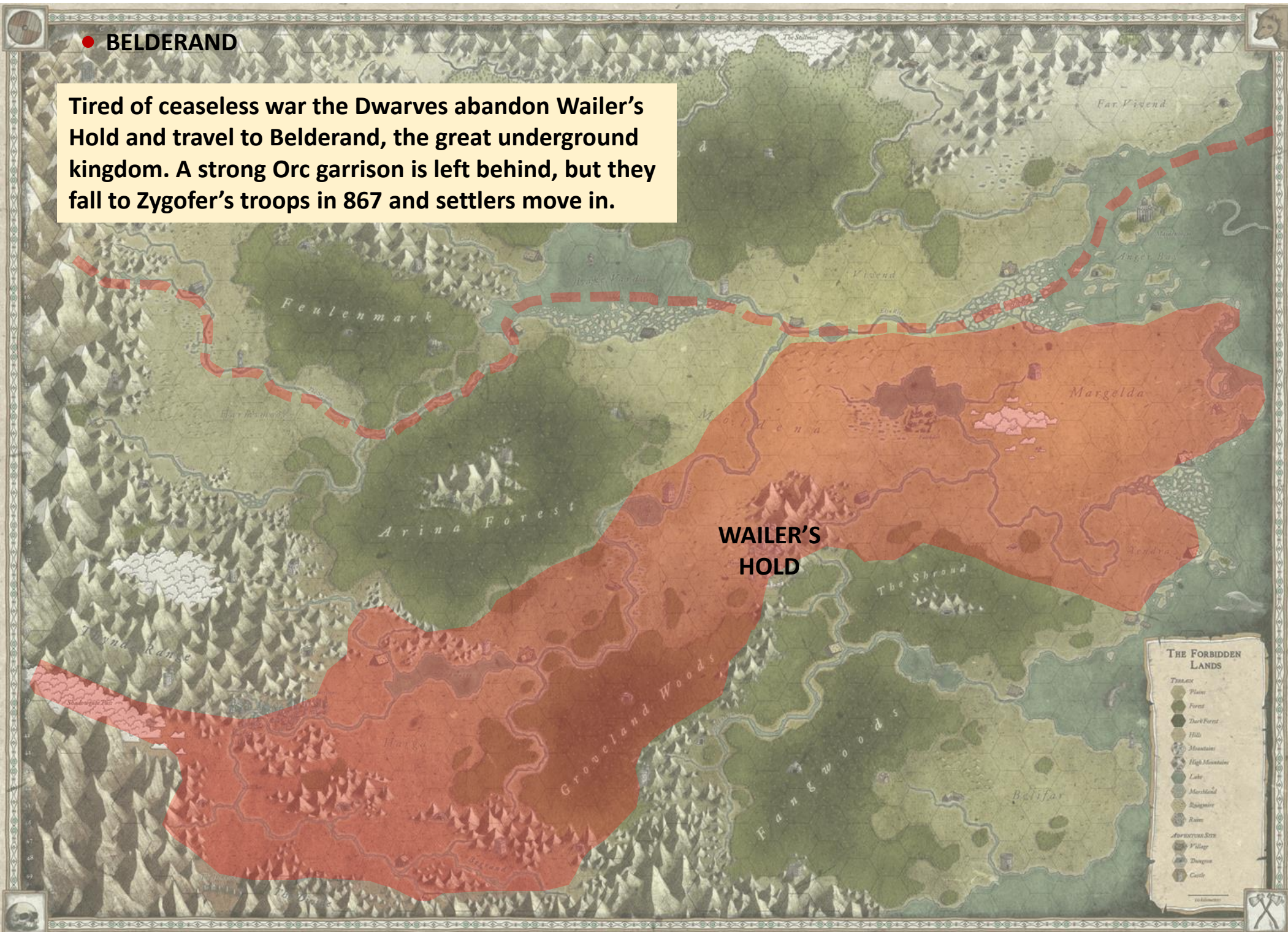
Martea finally seeing the evil of Zygofer and fearing for her children flees with Zertorme and Marga. Therania had fallen too far under the sway of her father. Martea had intended to flee to Wailer's Hold, but Zertorme's forces forced her to flee to Lumra. Zygofer's troops and all of the dwarves were consumed by a tentacled shadow that haunted the depths. The whereabouts of Martea, Marga and Zertorme are unknown.



865-867AS WAILER'S HOLD IS ABANDONED

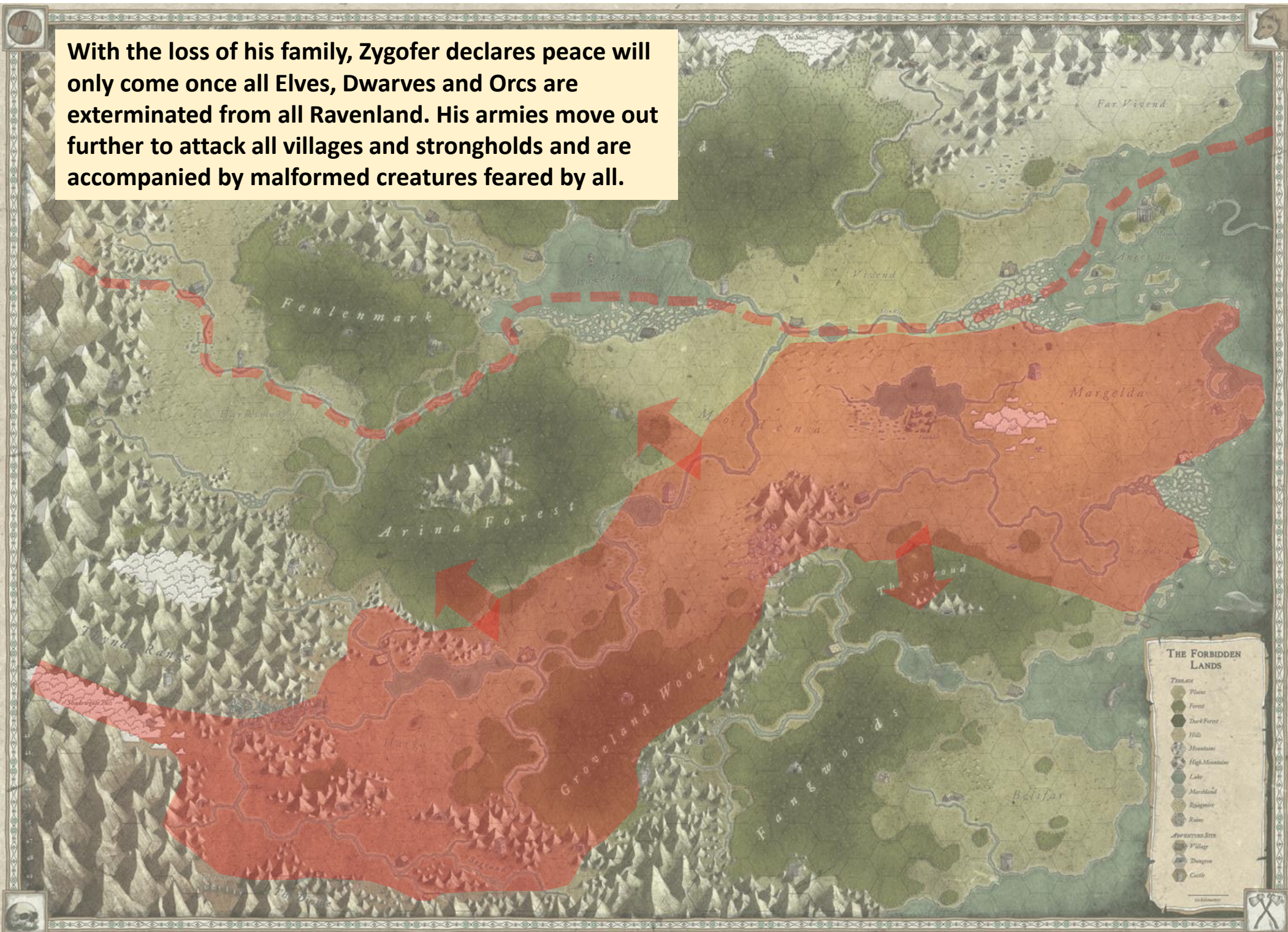
● BELDERAND

Tired of ceaseless war the Dwarves abandon Wailer's Hold and travel to Belderand, the great underground kingdom. A strong Orc garrison is left behind, but they fall to Zygofer's troops in 867 and settlers move in.



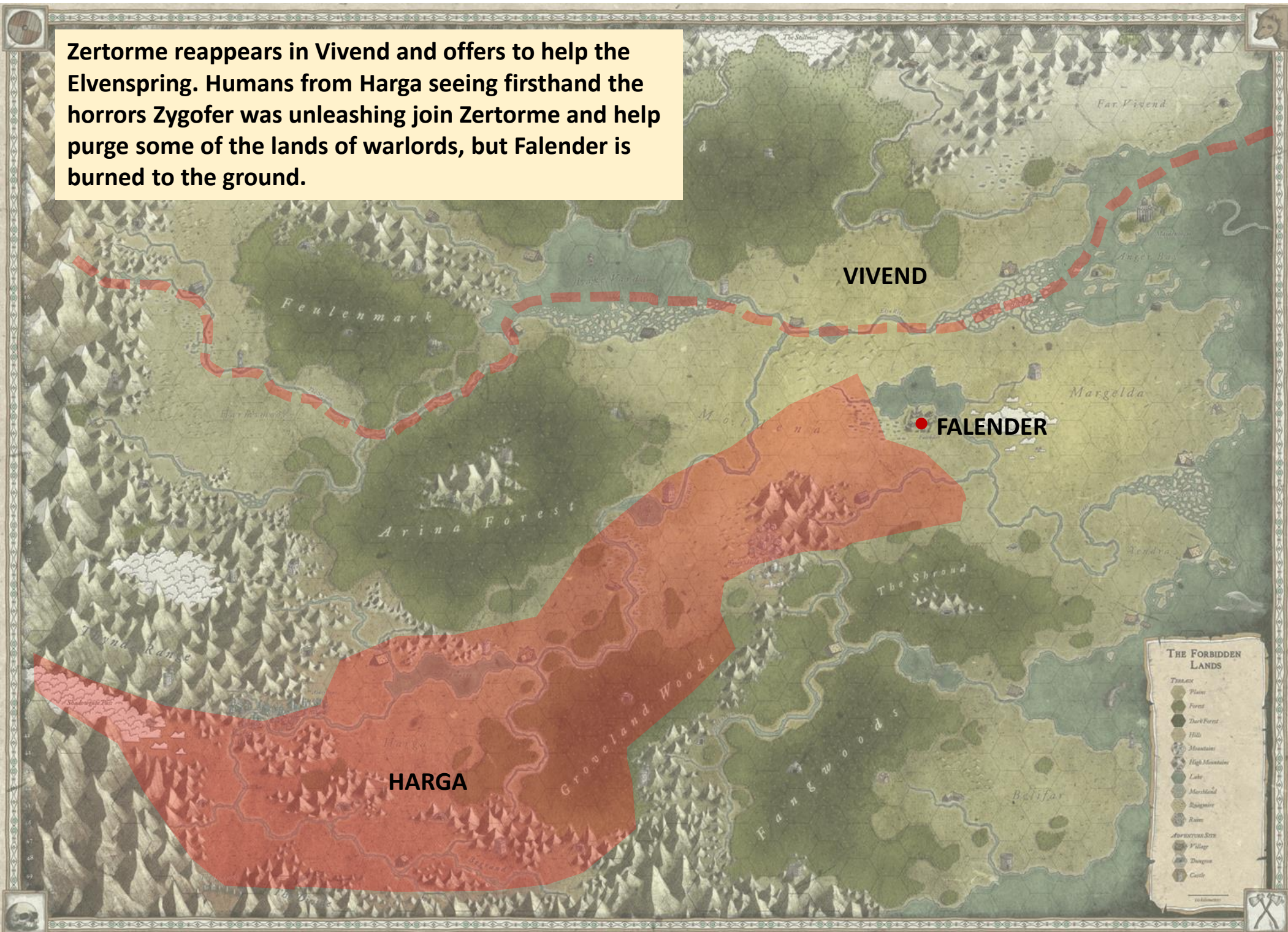
868-871AS THE GREAT PURGE

With the loss of his family, Zygofer declares peace will only come once all Elves, Dwarves and Orcs are exterminated from all Ravenland. His armies move out further to attack all villages and strongholds and are accompanied by malformed creatures feared by all.



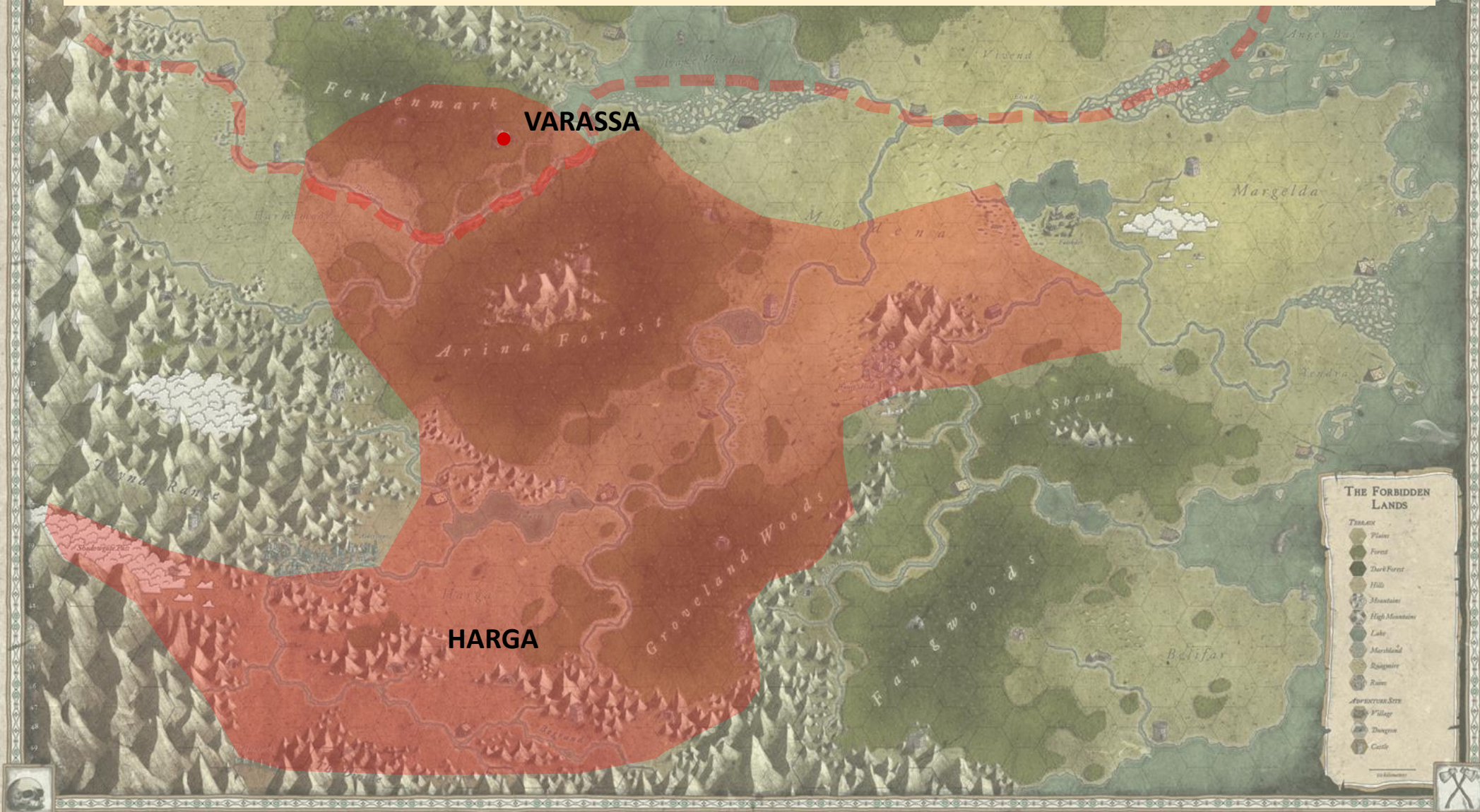
869AS FALENDER IS BURNED

Zertorme reappears in Vivend and offers to help the Elvenspring. Humans from Harga seeing firsthand the horrors Zygofer was unleashing join Zertorme and help purge some of the lands of warlords, but Falender is burned to the ground.



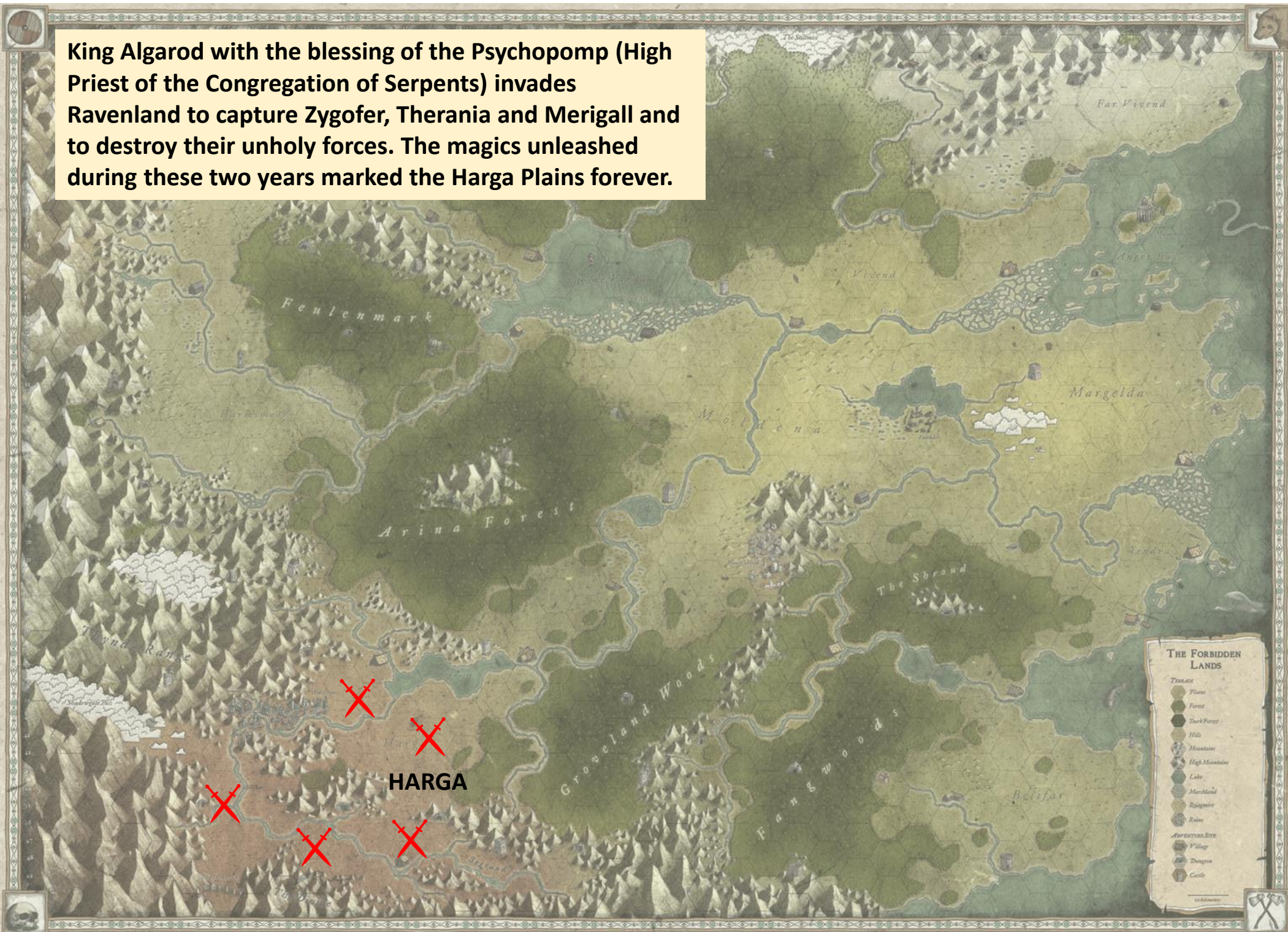
869-874AS THE MISGROWN GATHER

In 870 Algarod is crowned King of Alderland and makes peace with Aslene. King Algarod sends an Emissary to inform Zygofer he had been removed as governor. The emissary returned with a living pig's head between his shoulders to inform the King that Zygofer was declaring Ravenland his own through Elvenspring birthright. With troops and supplies refused from Alderland Zygofer redoubles his research into demonology with his daughter Therania and his most trusted followers. Therania masters the art of raising the dead and soon Zygofer has plenty of troops. They make the Elven city of Varassa a bloodbath.



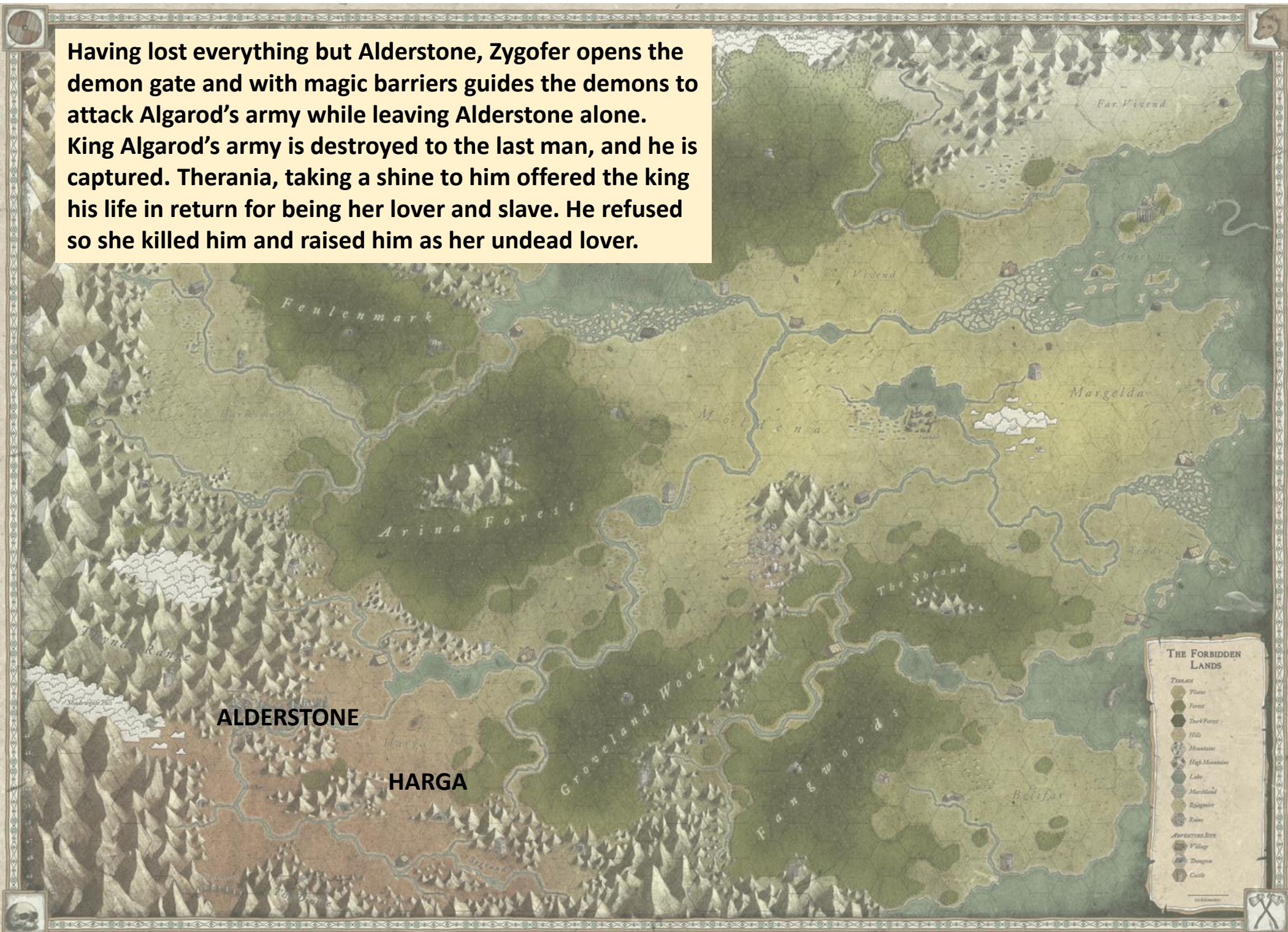
872AS THE FOURTH ALDER WARS

King Algarod with the blessing of the Psychopomp (High Priest of the Congregation of Serpents) invades Ravenland to capture Zygofer, Therania and Merigall and to destroy their unholy forces. The magics unleashed during these two years marked the Harga Plains forever.



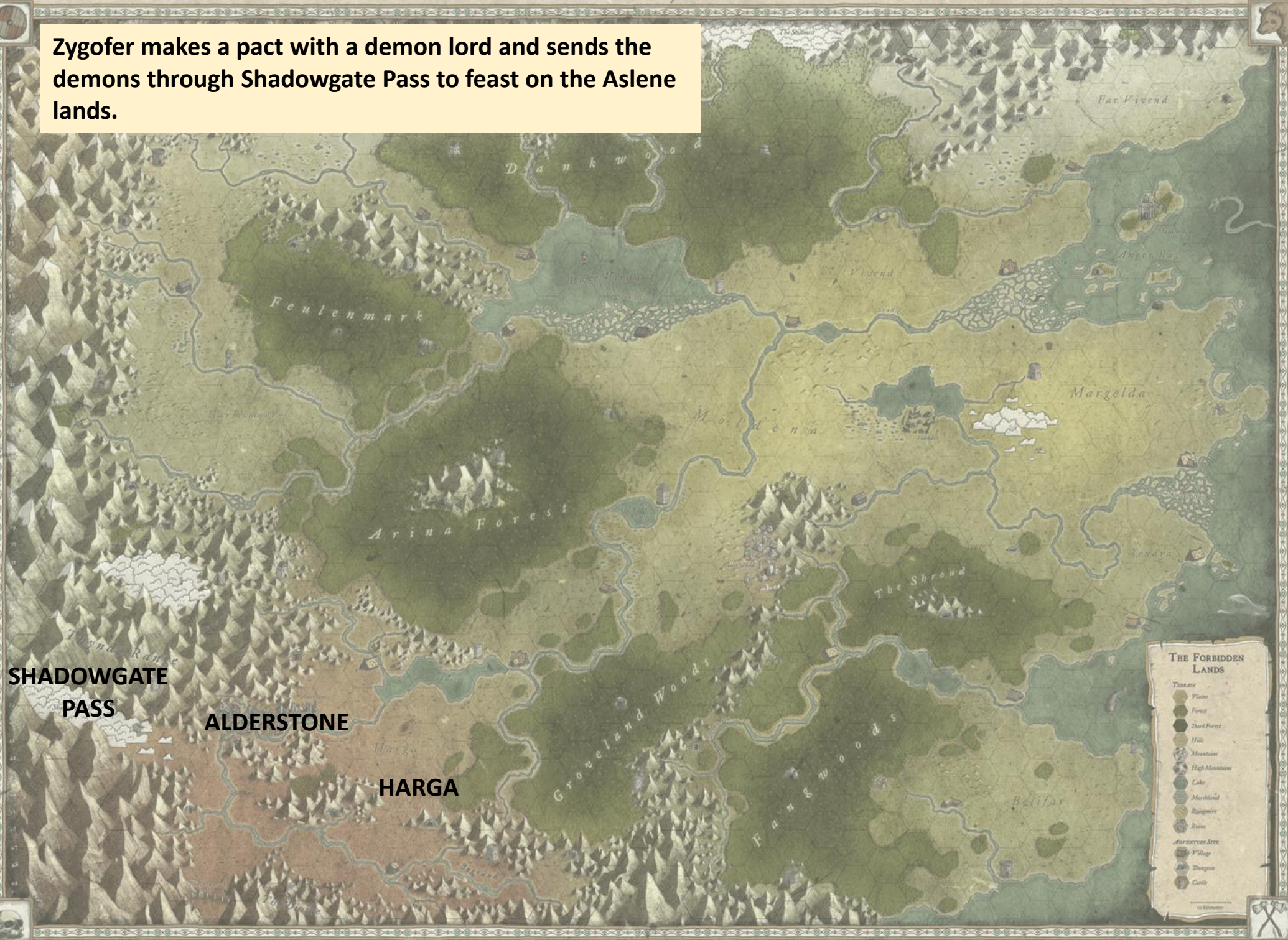
874AS THE DEMON FLOOD

Having lost everything but Alderstone, Zygofer opens the demon gate and with magic barriers guides the demons to attack Algarod's army while leaving Alderstone alone. King Algarod's army is destroyed to the last man, and he is captured. Therania, taking a shine to him offered the king his life in return for being her lover and slave. He refused so she killed him and raised him as her undead lover.



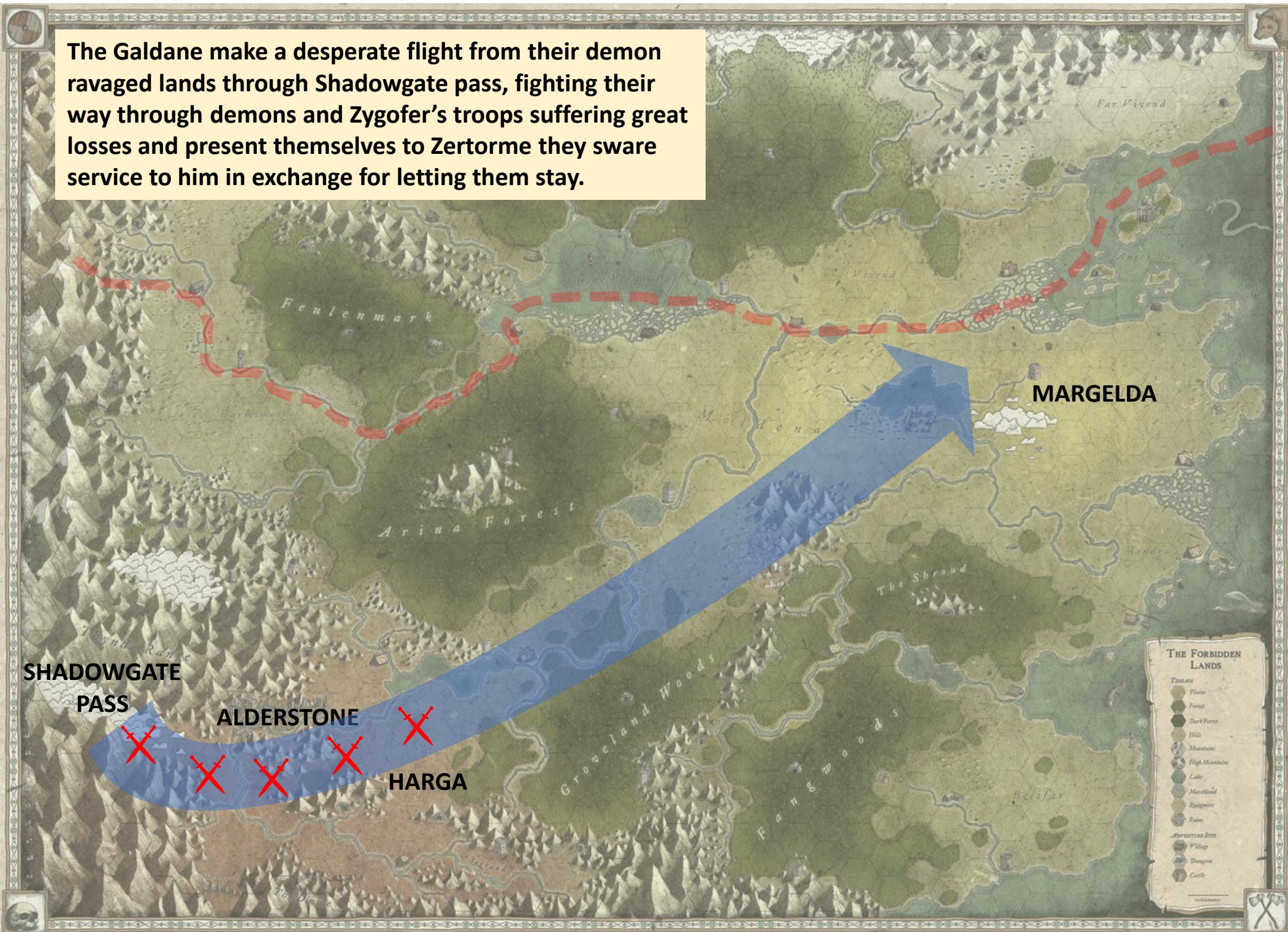
875AS THE WESTERN GAMBIT

Zygofer makes a pact with a demon lord and sends the demons through Shadowgate Pass to feast on the Aslene lands.



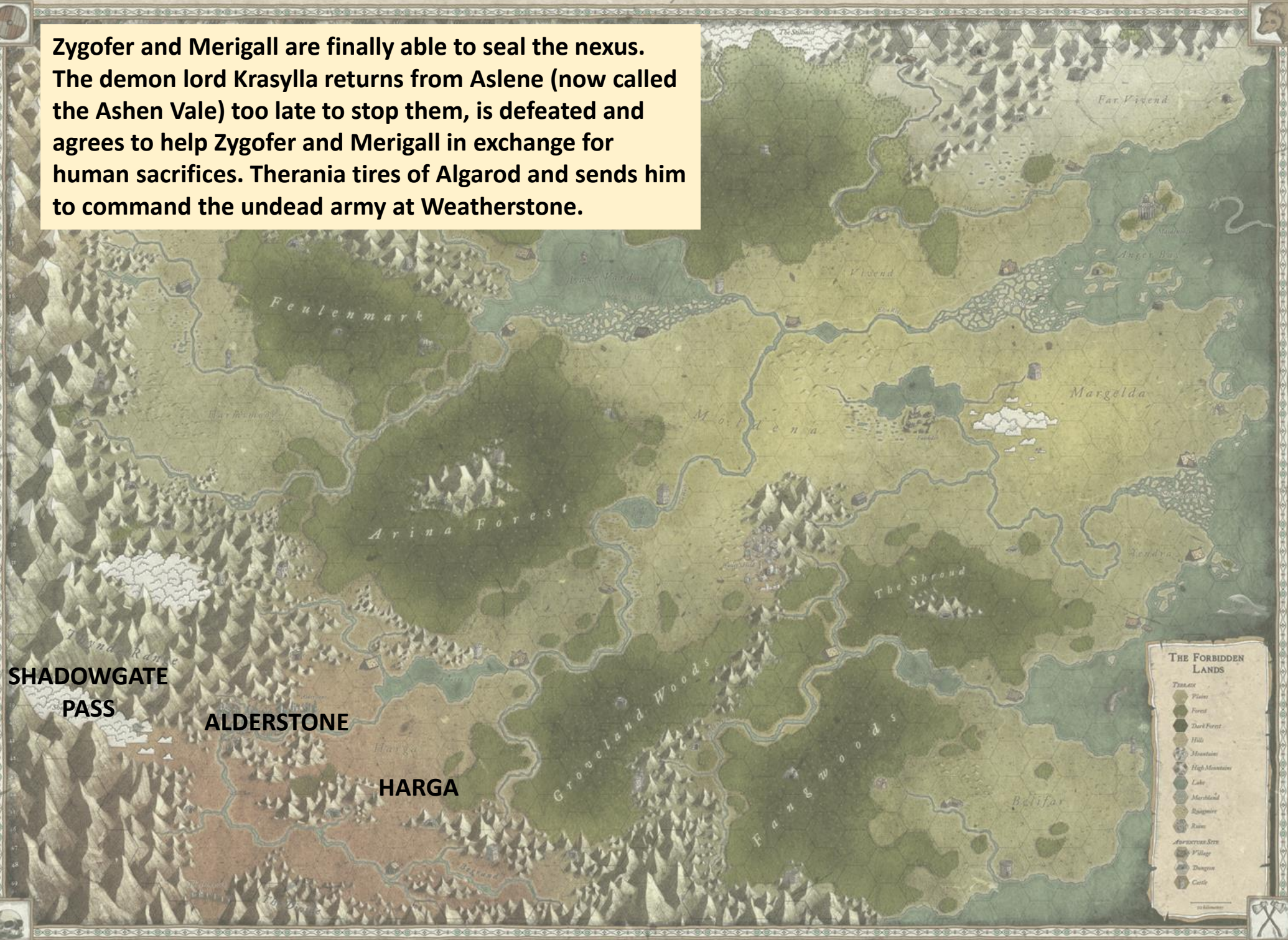
876AS THE GALDANE ARRIVE FROM ASLENE

The Galdane make a desperate flight from their demon ravaged lands through Shadowgate pass, fighting their way through demons and Zygofer's troops suffering great losses and present themselves to Zertorme they swear service to him in exchange for letting them stay.



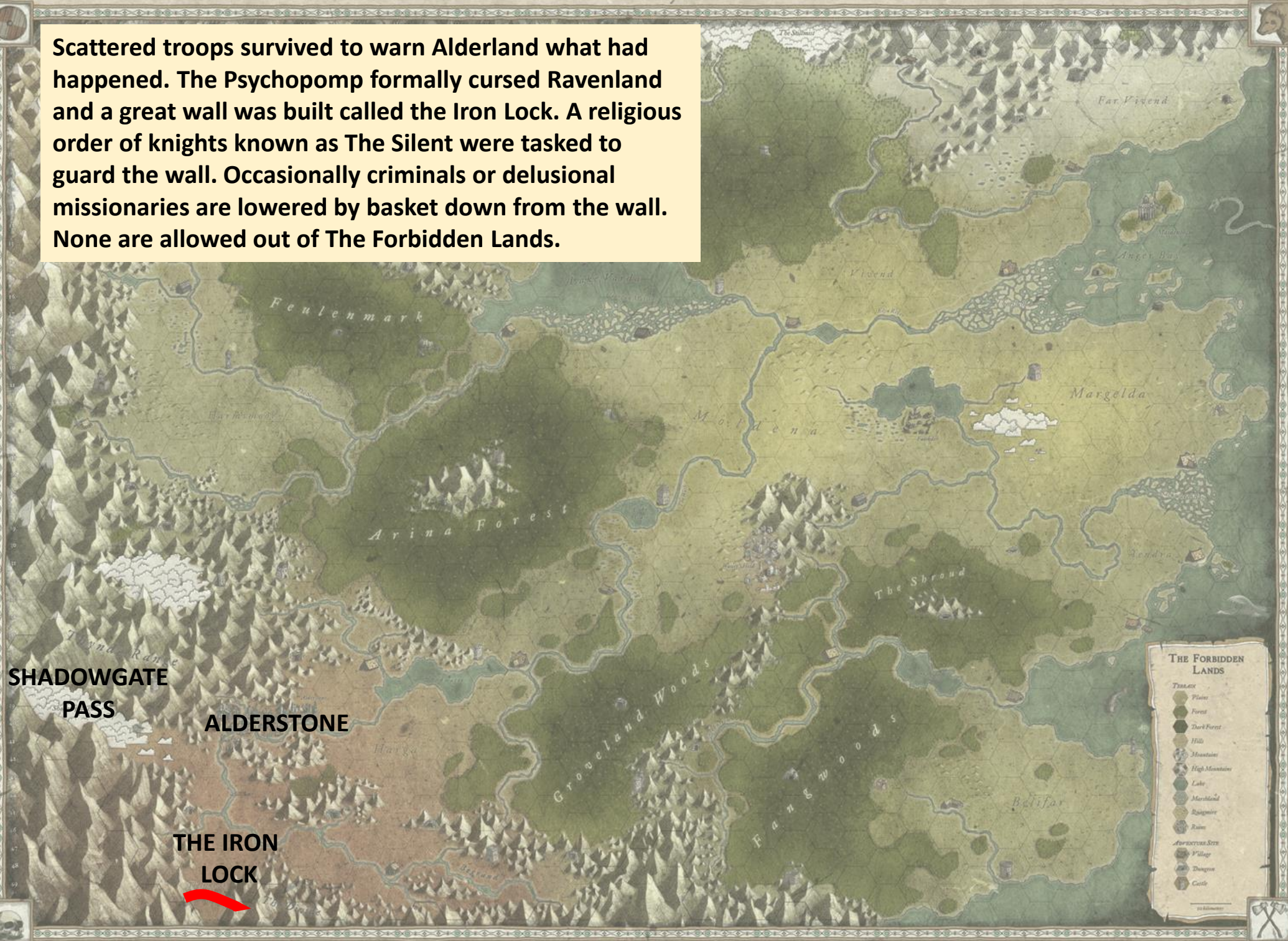
877AS THE NEXUS IS SEALED

Zygofer and Merigall are finally able to seal the nexus. The demon lord Krasylla returns from Aslene (now called the Ashen Vale) too late to stop them, is defeated and agrees to help Zygofer and Merigall in exchange for human sacrifices. Therania tires of Algarod and sends him to command the undead army at Weatherstone.



878AS THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE IRON LOCK

Scattered troops survived to warn Alderland what had happened. The Psychopomp formally cursed Ravenland and a great wall was built called the Iron Lock. A religious order of knights known as The Silent were tasked to guard the wall. Occasionally criminals or delusional missionaries are lowered by basket down from the wall. None are allowed out of The Forbidden Lands.



880AS ZYTERA IS CREATED

Merigall convinced Therania that all her father's secrets would be lost if he passed away and he was rapidly deteriorating from his great age and magics. Merigall with the help of demons in an unspeakable rite fused Zygofer and Therania into the creature, Zytera who was regarded as a god by their followers.

The Dwarves and Elves had returned to their lands. The humans were content to fortify their villages. The orcs were free to do as they wanted and none but the fanatical wanted to live in Harga. The nexus corrupted Shadowgate pass killing all living things that entered and the demon lord Krasylla feasted on the demons that sometimes came through from Aslene.

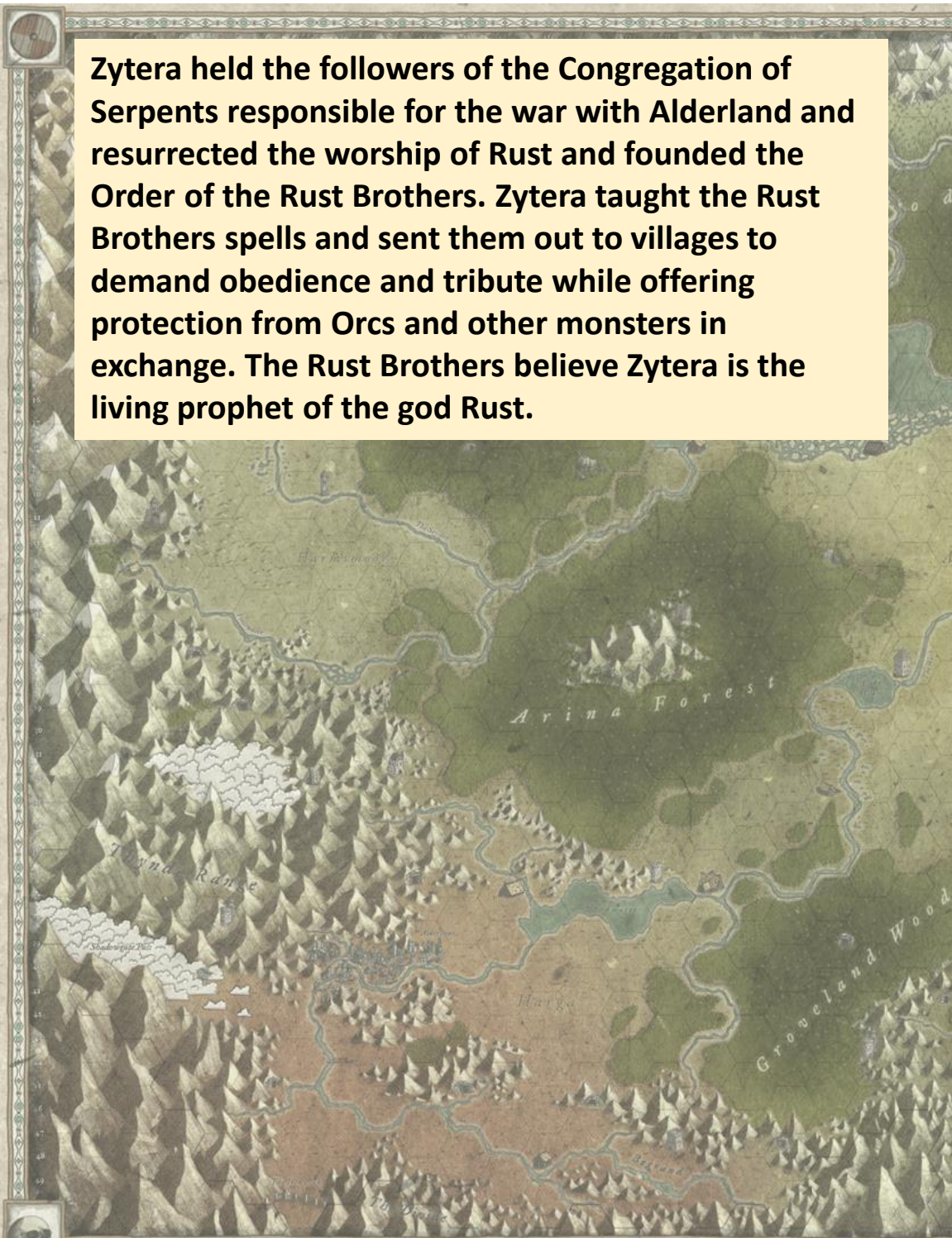


SHADOWGATE
PASS



883AS THE FOUNDING OF THE ORDER OF THE RUST BROTHERS

Zytera held the followers of the Congregation of Serpents responsible for the war with Alderland and resurrected the worship of Rust and founded the Order of the Rust Brothers. Zytera taught the Rust Brothers spells and sent them out to villages to demand obedience and tribute while offering protection from Orcs and other monsters in exchange. The Rust Brothers believe Zytera is the living prophet of the god Rust.



900-1200AS ERA OF THE BLOOD MIST

The nexus had never been fully closed and it went unnoticed that a demonic cloud had continuously seeped out over time and slowly spread throughout the land until it began manifesting as a red mist at night devouring all who left their homes. This effectively stopped all travel in the Forbidden Lands for a very long time and things that should have been remembered were forgotten.

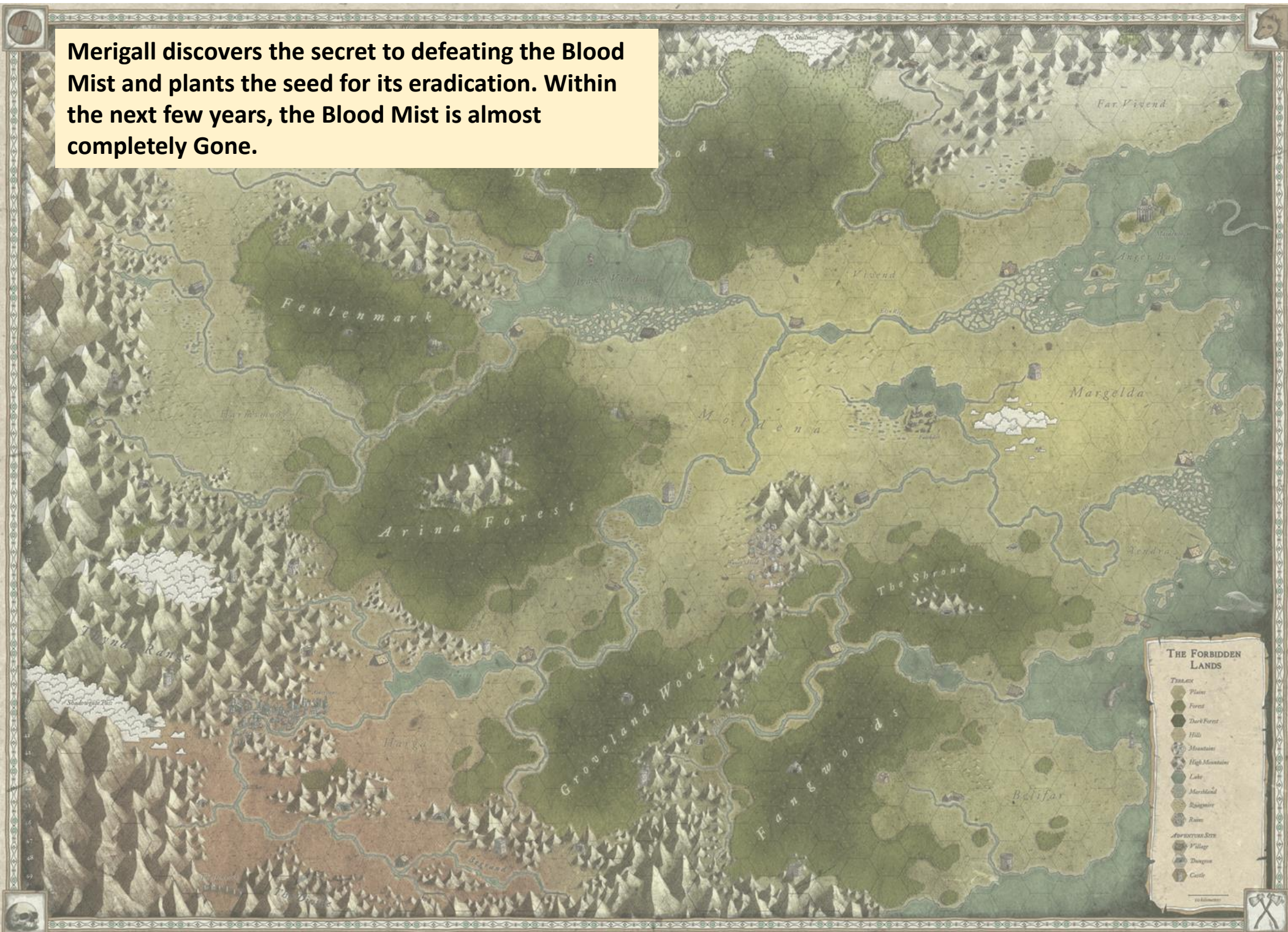
The Rust Prince Pyronax claimed Heme had spoken to him and told him the Blood Mist was her breath and he went out alone into the Blood Mist and survived. After that initiations in the Blood Mist were required for Rust Brother hopefuls. In 1038 the Ferrale Manudo learned to summon Bloodlings from the Mist and the Order did so after that with sacrifices. It was noted however that the Blood Mist did not go underground nor enter the Elven Lands. The period of 950-1160 is known as the Reign of the Rust Brothers.

THE FORBIDDEN LANDS

- TERRAIN**
- Plains
 - Forest
 - Dark Forest
 - Hills
 - Mountains
 - High Mountains
 - Lake
 - Marshland
 - Swamp
 - Rain
- ADVENTURE SITES**
- Village
 - Dungeon
 - Castle

1160AS THE MIST LIFTS

Merigall discovers the secret to defeating the Blood Mist and plants the seed for its eradication. Within the next few years, the Blood Mist is almost completely Gone.



1165As NOW

Your Forbidden Lands Campaign Begins.

