

# Eight Centuries of Adaptation

The *Stellar Horizon* carried perhaps a few thousand survivors. Now, 40 million descendants live across the twilight belt and caves. Population is tightly regulated—birth quotas maintain balance with carrying capacity. Superstorms, resource wars, and auroral disruptions have prevented unchecked growth.

Culture blends Earth traditions with Duskanan innovations. Time is measured in wind cycles, not day and night. Architecture flows with environmental forces. Festivals celebrate the Storm Seasons, Thermal Shifts, and Geothermal Awakenings. Ancient Earth satellites still orbit, their data streams partially decoded but fragmentary.

Technology is sophisticated but sustainable: wind turbines, thermal exchangers, water reclamation systems. Every drop of water is precious. Every settlement depends on its neighbors. When one falters, the entire chain feels it.

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