

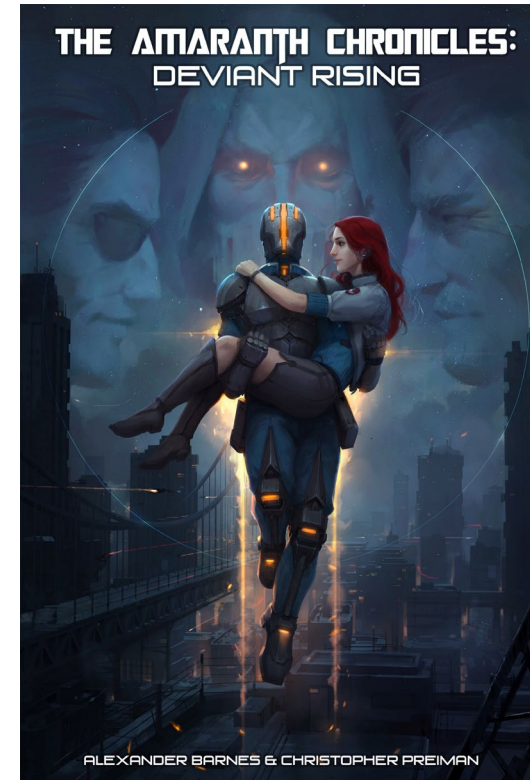
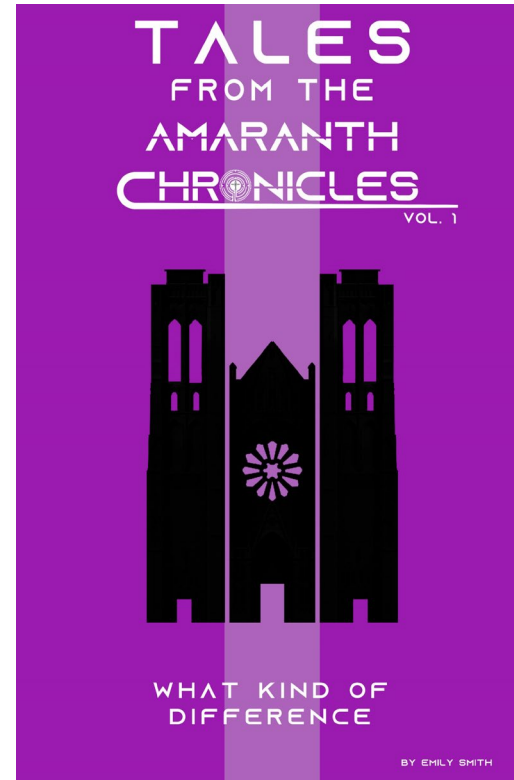


THE
AMARANTH
CHRONICLES

Tarja

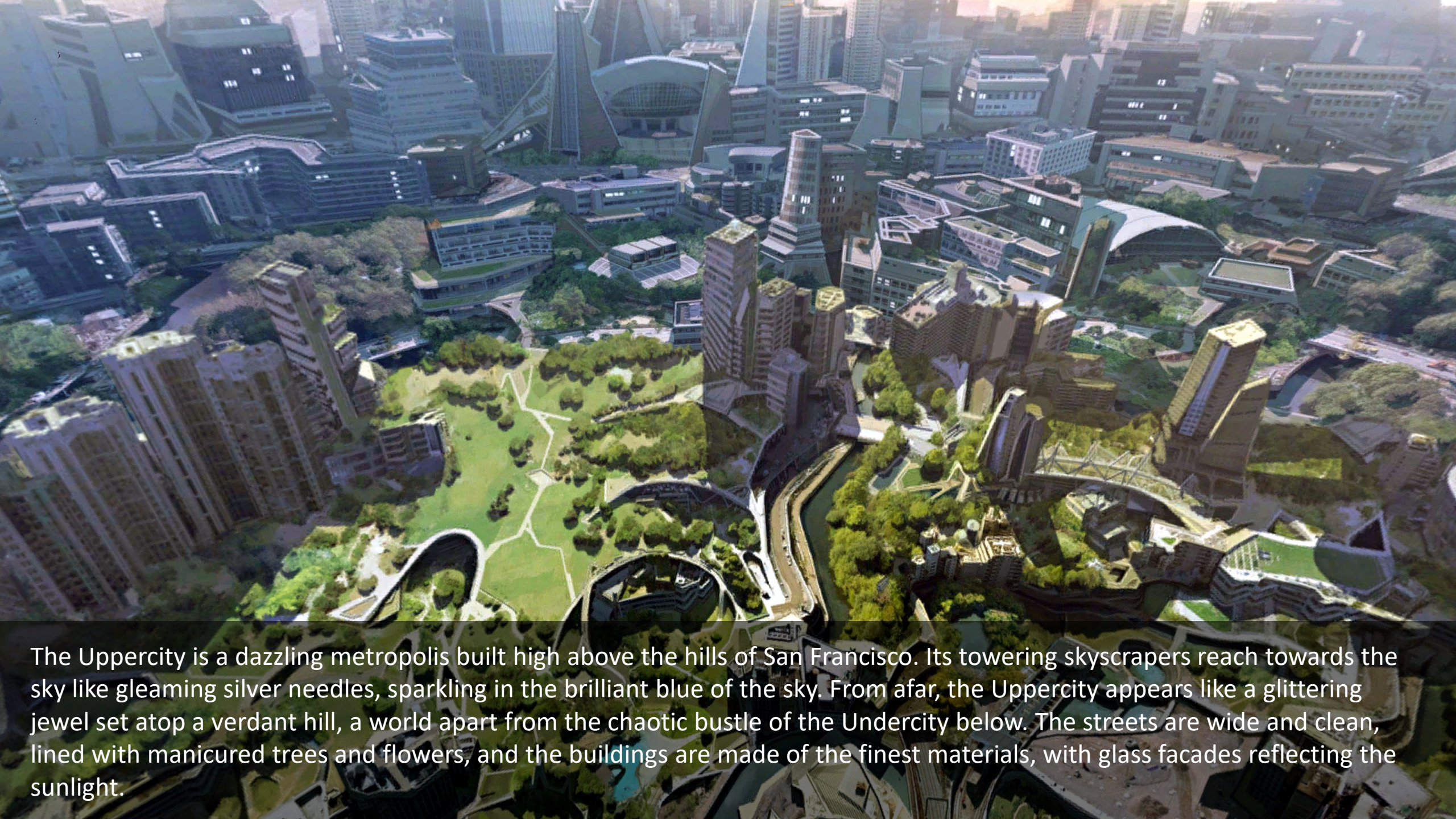


Before the “Deviant Rising”, Tarja grew up in San Francisco’s Uppercity, but she became fascinated with knowledge and old books, and became a Salvager for the Undercity’s abandoned buildings.

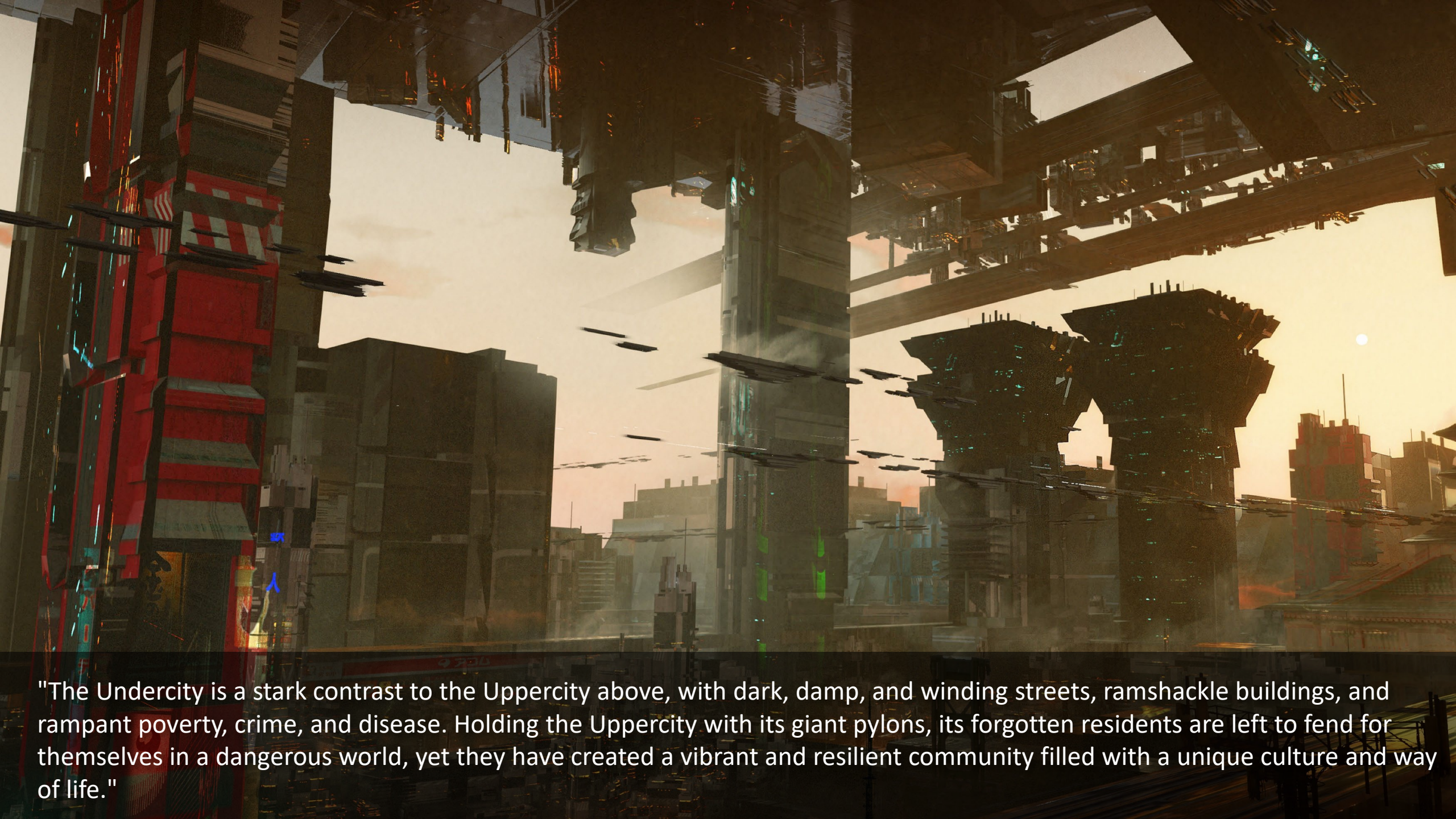


*A Prequel Short Story to
Deviant Rising*





The Uppercity is a dazzling metropolis built high above the hills of San Francisco. Its towering skyscrapers reach towards the sky like gleaming silver needles, sparkling in the brilliant blue of the sky. From afar, the Uppercity appears like a glittering jewel set atop a verdant hill, a world apart from the chaotic bustle of the Undercity below. The streets are wide and clean, lined with manicured trees and flowers, and the buildings are made of the finest materials, with glass facades reflecting the sunlight.



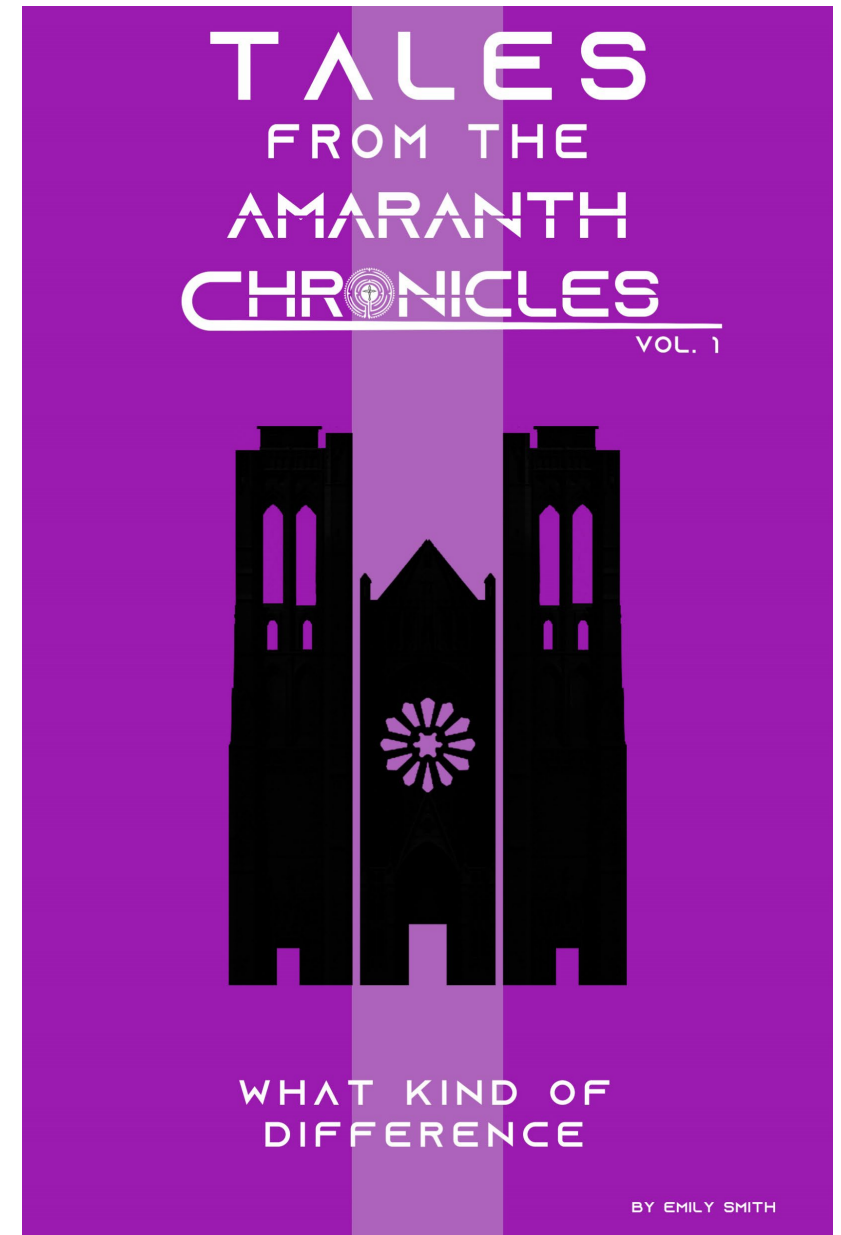
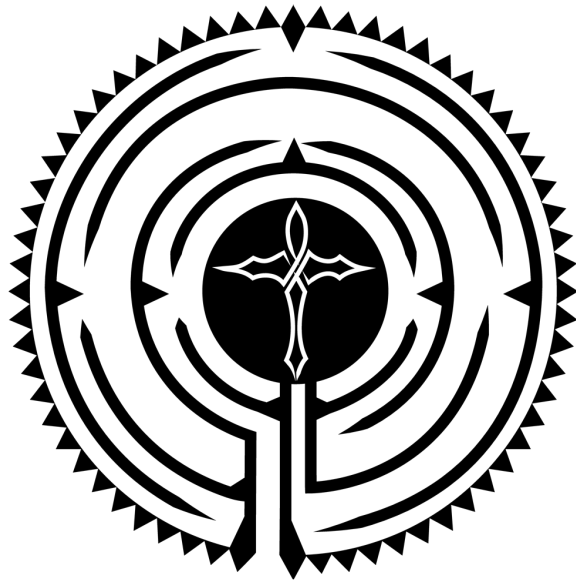
"The Undercity is a stark contrast to the Uppercity above, with dark, damp, and winding streets, ramshackle buildings, and rampant poverty, crime, and disease. Holding the Uppercity with its giant pylons, its forgotten residents are left to fend for themselves in a dangerous world, yet they have created a vibrant and resilient community filled with a unique culture and way of life."



Through Tarja's exploration, she found the Magdelenes, a homeless group who watched over old, forgotten archives, and Grace Cathedral, where they are in hiding from the UPE, who doesn't appreciate them safeguarding knowledge away from their watchful eye.

WARNING: There are spoilers ahead.

Before continuing this presentation, we highly recommend reading or listening to the audio book for this short story. It focuses on the introduction of Tarja, her husband and their child.



TALES FROM THE AMARANTH CHRONICLES

VOL. 1



WHAT KIND OF
DIFFERENCE

BY EMILY SMITH

Her husband, Liam, however, didn't trust the Undercity and the desperate poor, and started training as a Lambda under the UPE. The two of them grew apart, until Liam lost his memories of their life together as he became a full Lambda and now thought of himself as Cade. Their young daughter, Brooke, got caught in the crossfire of a UPE plot and was killed, and Tarja fled to the Magdelenes, becoming their leader.



Symbol of the Magdelenes



U.P.E. Logo



When *Deviant Rising* begins, Tarja is in her mid-forties and has been the Magdelenes' leader for some time.



Cade, now as a full Lambda, comes to her every so often looking for her guidance, but unaware of their previous life together.



Lithia, the main character in *Deviant Rising*, visits Tarja often and stores her spaceship, The Amaranth, in the huge cargo basement “Ruins of Moscone”.



The Magdelenes have flourished under Tarja's direction and have gathered much in the way of knowledge, with their physical archive of books.





THE AMARANTH CHRONICLES: DEVIANT RISING



In Deviant Rising, Cade finds out at the UPE someone has tampered with the online archive, as the Magdelene's trove has references to events that no one else knows about, and he is almost captured for attempting to find out more. Cade flees from the UPE with Lithia on her spaceship. Another Lambda named Torque, storms into Grace Cathedral and set fire to it, killing her and her followers, but not before Tarja uploads as much information as she can to other Magdelene servers.