The Lookout

an excerpt from
Five Luminous Towers

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Although the surrounding town was built on the highest of nine hills, a desire to extend the view lay so deeply within the human psyche that it pulled relentlessly at the minds of the townspeople.

They tempered their hunger for elevation by building a stone platform on the hilltop.

Still, this was not enough.

Over the years, several vertical extensions were added. Now a steep curl of steps leads to the top, and those who make the strenuous climb are rewarded with the rush of a long and undulating horizon.

Even on clouded days, powerful authorities claim revelations of political insight from the structure's exalted altitude.

But the tower best serves poets and painters who make nocturnal ascents to draw visions from the vast profusion of stars.