

# SHATTERED EARTH

2020-2050

Between the years of 2020 and 2050, before nature decided to try and wipe out humanity by blowing rock and lava and ash across the globe, the world continued to advance; both in technology, and in war. Whilst unstable governments threatened conflict, military arms and medicinal knowledge became better to combat the extra needs of citizens in an uncertain time.

2024 saw chemical warfare released across much of Asia, forcing technology to advance to contain the death and save lives. Gene therapy was developed to allow those in this part of the world to breathe better through the polluted air, and respirator technology advanced in conjunction with this. Nobody truly knows where the chemical came from, or who released it, or why; though rumours say it came out of a misguided mind of a mad genius from Italy.

Tension across the western world eventually brought war, a short sharp conflict, between 2028 and 2029 where nuclear power, much feared and much threatened was briefly realised. In the devastating wake that saw much of Australia destroyed and New Zealand wiped off the world map, a cross nation coup soon brought a stop to this. America, England and Sweden united the western world in an effort to stop people dying. Japan isolated themselves, much of southern Africa cut all ties with the outside world, and Russia went silent.

Out of this conflict however, and its abrupt stop, technology previously classified by the military was spread out to the civilian population. Combat medicines emerged; fast acting healing substances and advanced diagnostics machines, and India rose up on the world stage to become a superpower after developing and releasing a strength enhancer; the supply of which made the country very very wealthy. Communication technology took a dip however, the phone industry took invasive signals too far, causing brain tumours that killed a significant amount of people over a 3 year period before the communication towers were turned off for good.

10 years of peace followed this, and a lot of the devastation was cleared, and the areas left to recover. A lot of parts of the world started to turn back to nature during this time, learning to live off of and work with the land again; growing natural food, getting rid of plastic and the extraction of fossil fuels was finally stopped. This age of peace and human wellbeing did not last however, and in 2045 covert troops reporting to an unknown authority started to assassinate world leaders. Their replacements, unprepared for office and the pressure of assassination attempts caused bad judgements to be made.

The Blackout happened amongst the wreckage of a true WWIII.