The Keeper of Flame and Shadow

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Excerpt

Before names, before fire curled in cupped palms, I was here. Stone-bellied, dark-lunged, waiting. They came to me with ochre fingers and a breath warm with wonder. Come closer. Not too fast. Let your eyes adjust. Do you see them? They're still here. The spirits of those who danced with flame and shadow. I have kept them safe. Thirty-six thousand years ago, they stepped into me with torches; children of flesh and bone. And with time, they began to sing. Then, they painted. And in that instant, I became more than stone.

About the Author

Luisa Coskun is a second-year student at McMaster University, double majoring in the Arts & Sciences program and Anthropology. She finds herself most drawn to the discipline of Anthropology, specifically the subfield of Archaeology and biological Anthropology. In the future, she hopes to visit all the sites she studies!

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