



ALONE IN THE ANCIENT CITY



By Takuma Okada | noroadhome.itch.io



You are a lone traveler in a bustling ancient city. People have flocked here for thousands of years. You decide to stay a while and explore each district of the city. Each district has features that make it unique. They are represented by cards dealt face down.

To create a new district, roll a six-sided die and place cards face down equal to the number rolled.

To flip over a card to discover something, roll a six-sided die:

On a **1-2** it is in a crowded place.

On a **3-4** you come upon it suddenly.

On a **5-6** you spot it as you are resting.

The suit and rank determine the discovery. In a travelogue (a small journal if you have one), record a short description and your reaction in a few sentences, and roll for the next card. Each time you complete a district, write down its name, and deal another set of cards face down.

Play until you have tired of the city and find yourself wishing for a little peace and quiet. If you want to remember your travels, save the journal. If it brings you unwanted feelings of loneliness and longing, burn it.

◆ **Diamonds**

Diamonds are culinary attractions: Cafes, restaurants, food stands, farmers' markets, walking vendors, etc.

♣ **Clubs**

Clubs are pockets of nature: A majestic tree, a quiet park, someone's terrace garden, a well-tended flowerbed, etc.

♥ **Hearts**

Hearts are interesting people: The elders playing chess in the park, young lovers on the balcony, frolicking children, etc.

♠ **Spades**

Spades are public art: bronze sculptures with well-rubbed features, colorful graffiti, painted mailboxes, street performances, etc.

A: At the top of a tower.

2: Under the light of a streetlamp.

3: On a riverside walkway.

4: In a narrow alley.

5: On a quiet street lined with shady trees.

6: Next to an old church.

7: By a bubbling fountain.

8: On a main street.

9: In the shadow of the tallest buildings.

10: On a flight of worn stone steps.

J: In a large plaza full of birds.

Q: Under a bridge.

K: In a square of market stalls.