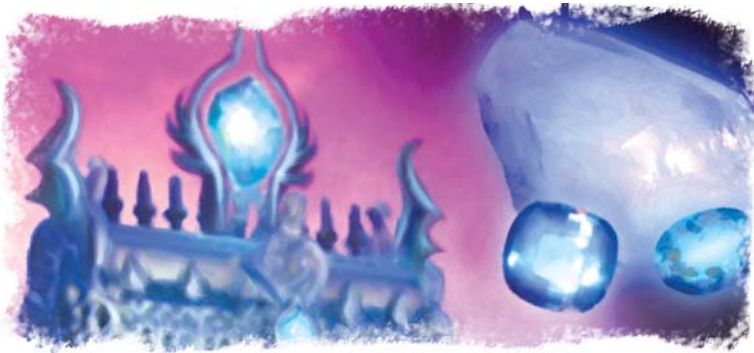


Rabíshu, Blue Stones of (rah-BEE-shoo)



are still uncovered on rare occasions here and there, in mines and other remote digs. Unlike the Fiery Stones of Rabíshu (see below), their blue cousins glow individually without needing to touch one another, have never been seen to extinguish unless shattered, and give off no heat of any kind. Only the most prestigious, rich, and influential members of society can afford to decorate the outsides of their palaces and holy places with stones such as these.

- These usually small, brilliant blue crystals glow perpetually (and apparently for countless centuries) with an otherworldly blue-white radiance that comes from within their translucent depths. They are incredibly rare and very expensive, though ancient lore seems to indicate that they were once mined in greater abundance. Most that had adorned the ruins of once-great monuments and temples have long since been looted but they

Rabíshu, Fiery Stones of (rah-BEE-shoo)



each, when available in the markets. These stones are favored by herbalists and healers or indeed by anyone who wishes to heat something at a constant, reliable temperature. They have been used with darker intent as well, for harsh lords have been known to torture and execute particularly vile criminals by forcing them to swallow such Stones of Rabíshu one at a time. The properties of these crystals can last for many years before they finally go forever dark.

- These small, dark reddish-orange crystals are inert when separate, but when two are allowed to remain in contact, they begin to emit a bright orange glow from within, becoming slightly warm. As more are added to create a small cluster of touching stones, the heat will grow more intense until a cluster of four or five will emit enough heat to set afire small combustibles such as paper and kindling all the while continuing to glow. They should be removed from any real fire once started, however, for being subjected to flames for more that a few minutes will crack or shatter the crystals, destroying their properties. Large collected numbers (thirty or more) could actually generate enough heat on their own to warm a sleeping chamber comfortably on a chill night. Great temples and palaces will sometimes collect them in mighty braziers to provide light and warmth to warm their impressive halls. The stones are slightly rare, however, and are usually about five dalán