

Name: Kyr'shin Yilenzo
Race: Kitsune
Current Age: 19
Birthday (Adoption): 8/1
Height: 5' 11"
Weight: 175 lbs.
Hair/Fur: Red-Orange
Eyes: Brilliant Blue

Code

Humanity and goodness are not measured by appearances. Kindness is the greatest magic and words have the power to change the world. Everyone has the potential for goodness. Avoid senseless bloodshed with sincere words when possible, but never compromise the safety and happiness of others simply to avoid conflict. Obey the law when possible, but do not limit yourself to its doctrines because your enemies will not.

Family

Duke Irja'won Yilenzo (Adoptive Father):

The youngest son of a powerful noble, Irja'won was granted his title by his father and mother in hopes that it would attract him a wife. When Irja'won showed little interest in the idea, he was married to the traveling Diplomat, Shiji'murel. Irja'won is considered somewhat stiff for a mist elf because he only has a single extra-marital affair every year or so. Irja'won is a samurai with the sword saint archetype.

Duchess Shiji'murel Yilenzo (Adoptive Mother)

Once a great mist elven diplomat who travelled the world over, Duchess Shiji'murel settled down in the mist elven capitol when her father married her to a higher-ranking noble, Duke Irja'won. Shiji'murel was the one who brought Kyr'shin home to her husband. Shiji'murel is a rogue with the rake archetype.

Liluss Yilenzo (Adoptive Brother, 130 years)

Kyr'shin's eldest adoptive brother was never home during Kyr'shin's formative years; Kyr'shin has only heard stories of his oldest 'brother,' but has very little contact with him. Liluss wrote often to his father and mothers, and from what Kyr'shin has seen of his letters, he has his mother's wanderlust and his father's detachment. Liluss is a druid with the urban druid archetype.

Varidil Yilenzo (Adoptive Brother, 31 years)

The younger of Kyr'shin's "older" brothers, Varidil was a constant companion and playmate of Kyr'shin until Kyr'shin quickly outgrew him. Although Vary is older now, Kyr'shin has a somewhat estranged relationship with Vary because he is a constant

reminder that Kyr'shin isn't a flesh and blood member of the Yilenzo clan; to Kyr'shin, Vary has scarcely aged a day from their boyhoods while he is now an adult, and will likely pass away before Vary is considered an adult by his own people.

Faun Yilenzo (Adoptive Sister, 14 years)

Faun is Kyr'shin's younger sister and was born when he was five years old. At the time, Kyr'shin bragged and boasted about having a little sister as a playmate, as he and Vary were still roughly the same age biologically. Like Vary, Kyr'shin watched himself grow older while his adoptive siblings stayed virtually the same.

Childhood

The exact specifics of Kyr'shin's early life are sketchy at best; all that he is sure of is that his adoptive mother, Shiji'murel, purchased him from an Altha Majere ship captain when he was a toddler. Kyr'shin's mother didn't bother asking any specifics, such as why the captain had Kyr'shin or where he came from, much to an older Kyr'shin's annoyance. Although he was given the family name, Kyr'shin's already possessed his given name when Shiji'murel brought him home. Although Kyr'shin wouldn't realize anything peculiar about it, Kyr'shin was a particularly adept shapeshifter, able to transform between his true self and his human appearance quicker than most and mastered the art of maintaining his form before his fourth birthday.

From a young age, the Duke and Duchess used Kyr'shin as a conversation starter during social gatherings. Because of the exoticness of his race, they were content with him tramping about when he was young, but as he grew older the Duchess began spending exuberant amounts of gold in order to train Kyr'shin in a wide variety of odd athletic skills, including discus tossing and catching and gymnastics. When he was eight years old, Kyr'shin was given to a mist elven samurai for training. A member of the Order of the Dragon, Kyr'shin excelled at wielding the katana and the Duchess quickly had a miniature suit of armor commissioned for him to attend parties in.

Kyr'shin's greatest upset happened when he was ten years old; his older brother, Liluss Yilenzo, whom he had never met, returned to the Land of Mists posthumously with a band of adventurers he had been traveling with. The heroes had hoped to use the Yilenzo family's influences to afford a resurrection for their companion, which the Duke and Duchess happily agreed to. Young Kyr'shin watched a local cleric return a dead man to life that day, and from then on Kyr'shin was convinced that most problems could simply be cast away via spellcasting.

Adolescence

When Kyr'shin turned 13, his samurai instructor abandoned his training, frustrated at the speed at which his pupil was physically growing. He claimed that his time was not spent because of Kyr'shin was short-lived. Kyr'shin spent the next six years training himself alone while seeing to his father's errands. One such errand had young Kyr'shin spending most of his time with a young, flighty mist elven minstrel named Daezeindrae, the son of a lesser noble house. Daezeindrae came from a long line of mist elven diplomats, and after the minstrel helped talk Kyr'shin out of a messy conflict with some traveling humans, Kyr'shin begged his new friend to teach him everything he knew about wordplay. A retired diplomat herself, the Duchess was thrilled with this development and encouraged the development of Kyr'shin's diplomatic skills. Although not quite as good as true mist elves, Kyr'shin's reputation as a diplomat spread quickly.

Although Kyr'shin's adoptive parents never hid the fact that he was adopted from him, up until he was an adolescent he always thought of himself as their true son and would inherit a title from them when he came of age. At the age of 16, Kyr'shin's self-image was described when Irja'won explained as gently as he could that Kyr'shin couldn't inherit these things because by elven law one wasn't an adult until he was elven decades old, and Kyr'shin would probably have died from old age by then. Swallowed in his doubts and remorse, Kyr'shin did the only thing he could think of; visit Daezeindrae, who informed the young man that he desperately needed to get laid.

One skill that Kyr'shin was as proficient in as any mist elf was courting. Kyr'shin has always humans to elves as partners and he has had several relationships of note with the daughters of various human ambassadors; aided by Daezeindrae, his first major fling was with the daughter of a human ambassador, which ended several weeks later when Kyr'shin was caught a white lie. He had claimed that he was the bastard son of his father, and therefore nobility. Kyr'shin's second relationship lasted much longer; he talked his way into his ex-girlfriend's best friend, an adventurer, sixty minutes after his previous relationship ended in order to spite her. During his 12-month relationship with this young lady, Kyr'shin never revealed his true form to her out of fear of how she would respond. Daezeindrae convinced him otherwise, and on the night of their anniversary Kyr'shin showed himself to his love. And she ended the relationship with him in disgust. Following this Kyr'shin had several short relationships, but he never allowed himself the luxury of a long-term relationship with another.

Adulthood

As an adult, Kyr'shin was sent on more minor missions on behalf of his father, the Duke. Kyr'shin was officially inducted as Irja'won's only samurai as a political stunt; Kyr'shin is well aware of this, but it is a title he bears proudly none the less. At 19 years of age, Kyr'shin convinced his father to send him abroad to a dwarven sword master in order to learn the craft of swordsmithing. It was there he met Dyme and the two became fast friends. When Kyr'shin's father wrote to him, requesting that he sail south to check a business venture, Kyr'shin happily complied, more than willing to partake his first (and only) mission on behalf of the Duke.

Personality

Kyr'shin has a very laid back personality on account of living with the mist elves for his entire life. He is very boastful of his accomplishments because of his family; despite carrying the Yilenzo name, Kyr'shin is aware that none of their prestige is his own and decided long ago to leave behind a legacy of grandeur. As an adopted orphan, Kyr'shin values family over everything else and is hard-pressed to turn his cheek towards family problems. Kyr'shin thinks highly of Dyme and because of his somewhat sheltered life, he projects much of his relationship with Daezeindrae onto Dyme, despite the former still living in the Land of the Mists.

Kyr'shin can be remarkably headstrong and has a deep appreciation for the cultures of others thanks to his mist elven parents; that said, Kyr'shin does not consider the elven culture his own, no matter how much it has impacted his world view. Because his samurai training was never finished in the Land of the Mists, Kyr'shin's only true service is to himself and his family; Kyr'shin proudly boasts of his own skills and his family's prestige.

Name: Shira Flamescar
Race: Kitsune
Current Age: 22
Birthdate: 12/5
Height: 6' 3"
Weight: 190 lbs.
Hair/Fur: Black-silver
Eyes: Violet

Code

Like a child, innocence is fleeting and weak. In order to protect those who are innocent, it is a luxury that I cannot afford. Innocence can be corrupted, and so it is my sworn duty to end that corruption whenever it arises. Corruption lies, corruption cheats, corruption steals innocence. But corruption dies as well as any monster at the end of my blade.

Family

Lei Shen (Adoptive Mother):

Lei Shen is the matron of the Lei clan, and has been for many years. Elderly when she adopted Shira, Lei Shen has been a major influence on Shira's life and although they are not related by blood, Shira refers to Lei Shen as her mother because she does not remember her true mother's face.

Shai Wavecrest (Childhood Friend, Age 21)

Shai was Shira's closest companions as a child and has had a crush on her since their adolescence. Because of her staunch devotion to the Lei Shen clan Shira has never noticed Shai's meager advances. Although he easily gets himself tongue-tied when flustered, stressed, or exhausted, Shai is actually a fairly competent and confident individual—except wherever Shira is concerned.

Kai Greenpaw (Adoptive Brother, Age 16)

Several years her junior, Kai's parents were among the first kitsune lost to pirate raids upon landing on the island where Kyr'shin would eventually find them. Although he was nearly an adult already, Lei Shen took him under her roof just as she had done for Shira many years before. For this reason, Kai never refers to Lei Shen as 'mother,' but he took to the teachings of Illys and Jin more than Shira, although the lessons he learned have seemingly been limited to the physical urges of a teenaged boy. Although he is somewhat flakey, Shira treasures Kai like a younger brother and tried to teach him how to fight on several occasions at his request—both times Kai either knocked himself unconscious or fainted at the first sight of blood.

Childhood

Lei Shen has told Shira that her parents, Lilren and Albini Blackjewel, were wonderful artisans and crafters of among the best jewelry and idols the kitsune have ever seen—it has been implied that Lei Shen's treasured idol of Illys and Jin was hand-crafted by Shira's parents. Shira has lived with Lei Shen for her entire life, and although she doesn't speak much of her childhood, she remembers having lived under the rule of the terrible creatures whose enslavement the Lei Shen clan escaped.

Even as a young girl, Shira had a natural affinity with the shadows. Lei Shen would spend hours trying to find Shira after an argument, only for her to turn up hours later in a place Lei Shen had searched several times over. Although Lei Shen mentions that her parents' fur was darker than most kitsune, Shira's own fur is pitch black with streaks of silver and would be considered melanistic. This has made other kitsune somewhat uneasy around Shira and she has always had a difficult time making friends among her peers. The exception was Shai, a young boy whose fascination with Shira quickly blossomed into a crush spanning most of their adult life.

Although she cares deeply for her friends and family, Shira has a dry, almost malicious wit born of the relative isolation she endured from her kinsmen as a young girl. In addition, Shira had a fascination with the katana as soon as she was old enough to recognize it for what it was—a weapon. Lei Shen has always had her grandmother's katana proudly sheathed and on display in her home, and although Shira didn't care for its gaudiness herself, she swore to one day own her own sword just like it.

Adolescence

When she was 12, Shira began working as a cutpurse where her natural skill at hiding and sneaking quickly earned her a reputation. Flinching money from mark and employer alike, Shira saved up her gold to purchase her own daisho set which she hid in a secret grotto near her home. Shira would often stop and admire local samurai who spent hours drilling their blade work for sessions at a time, until finally an elderly swordmaster called Piandao asked her if she would like to learn from him. Shira was thrilled and agreed whole-heartedly, although since teaching a slave martial arts was forbidden, he taught her at night and only while she took on the guise of a human.

Over the next six years, Piandao taught Shira how to fight both with a single blade and with both blades late at night when his other students had long since been dismissed. If the swordmaster had offered Shira training in jest, he quickly realized that she was a natural with the blade, having memorized nearly

every stand and stroke simply from the time she spent watching his students. As a result, she learned how to move through the stances herself. Although she was an illegitimate pupil, after nearly three years of training Piandao confided in her that she was peerless among his students and he wanted to sponsor her as a samurai. Shira was elated and immediately resolved to leave the life of a cutpurse behind her.

Adulthood

This was not to pass, however. When Shira carelessly mentioned her skills to her employers, they greedily thought of the effect that their organization could use a fully-trained samurai and threatened to have Lei Shen and Rai murdered if she abandoned the guild following the completion of her training. Feeling trapped, Shira did the only thing she could think of and snuck into their quarters late at night and murdered each of her former employers in their sleep with her daisho. Out of grief, she confessed to Lei Shen what she had done, and swore never to use the blades again, turning down the samurai training.

For two years, Shira tried to settle down into an ordinary life. She learned how to set and fix broken hunting traps and earned coin for herself, leaving her swords all but forgotten in their grotto. As time continued, the slaves of the Lei Shen clan were treated harsher and harsher, but of the clan's four leaders only Lei Shen spoke for leaving the settlement behind. One night, while working on fixing a cellar lock Shira accidentally overheard a meeting between the other three clan leaders. They were being bribed with riches and power in order to maintain a sense of complacency among the kitsune and although they used much jargon, Shira's time spent as a cutpurse alerted her that they were planning on assassinating Lei Shen. With little time to think, Shira ran to her grotto and retrieve her daisho and eliminated all three clansmen, staging their deaths to look like they had committed sepiuku for their crimes against their people. Looking to Lei Shen for advice, the kitsune soon left for unknown lands, Lei Shen never speaking of whether or not she knew of Shira's roll in the 'tragedy.'

Personality

As a person, Shira embodies the kitsune counter-culture, which consists entirely of her own machinations. Where the kitsune are artistic, she is practical. Where the kitsune are sociable, she is aloof. Where the kitsune are flighty, she is hardened. Perhaps the most kitsune of all of her traits, however, is her unwavering devotion to her friends and family, as few as they may be. These are all traits that took root in Shira's youth but were forged in the fires of

her time as the sole fully war trained combatant of the clan on Cyclopes Isle.

Shira has always faced some amount of prejudice among the kitsune for her odd fur color which is sometimes interpreted as good fortune or an ill omen depending on the soothsayer in question. Before Kyr'shin, the only kitsune who have ignored her melanistic condition were Lei Shen, her adoptive mother, Rai, her adopted brother, and Shai. Although Shira personally finds Kyr'shin to be too showy and flamboyant for her liking, she respects his combat prowess, his superb leadership, and like many of her clansmen she believes that Kyr'shin possesses some divine power to change the world around him and acknowledges him as a symbol of hope and a chance for innocence for her people's future that must be protected at all cost.

Shira isn't particularly good at understanding the emotions of others, especially love. Although Shai has been trying to make advances on her for their entire post-pubescent lives, Shira hasn't responded not out of a lack of interest, but out of a lack of understanding and a blinded devotion to her duties.

All members of the Lei Shen clan choose their own surname, usually based on their profession or some other key aspect of their personality. Although Shira's name was originally Blackjewl like her deceased parents, she earned the name Flamescar roughly one year ago when the cyclopes first marched upon the kitsune. Although Shira never acknowledges her beauty, it was Shai who awkwardly warned her that the Cyclopes only took the most beautiful of the kitsune and that they might come for her, so Shira staged an accident where she inflicted heavy third-degree burns across her torso. Refusing healing from Lei Shen, Shira effectively ruined her own pelt so that she would not be taken by the Cyclopes. Since returning with Kyr'shin Lei Shen has healed the wounds completely, but the kitsune still acknowledge her devotion with the surname Flamescar.