

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

Character Name: Rime

Classification: Lesser

Summary: You are one of two beings that the Rose Queen has given some measure of power to. You embody frost and the cold that comes in autumn. As Rime, you have been responsible for helping the trees change in fall and signaling the time for repose to the creatures that sleep during the winter.

You are also the being that metes out justice in the Garden, when others have done something that destroys part of the garden or injures without good cause, the Rose Queen holds a special court that determines a punishment and you execute the decision.

Details: You were one of the first to come to live in the Garden as a full time Denizen. You remember slipping into unconsciousness and being free from your pain. You thought maybe it was the Morphine twisting the world around you and the attendant was transformed into a woman who was delicate and jewel like who eased your suffering. When you were here in this world, you could move and do as you pleased, even enjoy the world around you. You were regularly pulled back from this land when the Morphine wore off, dragging you back to the intense pain that was your life in The Real.

Over time the young woman took you to meet a dignified woman who offered to allow you to stay in their world forever. You were hesitant, mainly because you would never see your wife or daughter again, but you accepted freedom from the pain. That evening as you were being dragged back to your decrepit wounded body, two beings of immense power came and stood beside you. The young woman took your hands and pulled you gently. The feeling was like being pulled slowly out of bed without falling on the floor, and suddenly you were free. You fell to the floor and the two beings linked hands with the girl, forming a circle around your body. You felt a chill creep into your bones, expanding outward into the soft tissues. The feeling of being frozen alive was terrifying, the pain seared outward to your skin, then stopped. You opened your eyes to the face of a concerned Blaze, the young lady from your vision. You arose, the frost cracking as you moved. From that day forth you were known as Rime.

You never had to return to The Real, which you usually didn't want to do. Occasionally you would feel longing for something that was there, but it has never lasted very long. In time, the life you lived before the Garden faded into a jumble of disconnected memories, like someone else's dreams. You still feel a bit of The Real when you look at Blaze, could it be just memories?

Since your transformation, you have been tasked with the execution of the will of the Rose Queen. Your tasks have mostly been mundane, though occasionally there have been times when you have had to protect the Garden or the Queen herself from damage. Most of the time, it was just expelling the offender, though

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

there have been times when the culprit was harmed or destroyed. You take no joy in the harming of people, but the Garden is easily damaged by those with ill will, and your loyalty resides with the one who took the pain away from you and allowed you to live in the Garden.

The most memorable event to occur during your tenure was the destruction of a monster that hurt one of the children who frequented the garden. On that day, the Blot was created. The Blot was one of the few instances where the Justice dispensed was meted out by all of the powers in the Rose Garden: Blaze, yourself and The Rose Queen. The spot where the child died became tainted upon his death and was forced into a separate part of the Garden. You wish the Blot could be removed, but it is very much beyond the power of the Rose Queen and the others here in the Garden.

You love to tell stories and make up fables. (See Attached) It seems to brighten the Garden.

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

Recent Events

The Rose Queen has passed on. She disappeared from the Garden several days ago, and upon searching for her, you found only a few trinkets. You know that she is not alive because the Garden has begun to shrink and fall back towards The Real. If this occurs, you will disperse and the Garden shall be forever gone. Several Greaterers have arrived and are here to coronate a new Rose Queen, but you have only a few hours to locate the most suitable candidate.

You and Blaze are disqualified because of the nature of your creation. The Greaterers have no interest in ruling the Garden as they have their own domains.

Candidates for ascension to the role of the Rose Queen are:

The Candidate must not be bound to the garden. (Candidate must be a Lostling, Foundling, or an Honored Guest.)

They must be willing to ascend to the role, realizing they will forever be bound to the Garden with limited access to other Dominions and be Isolated forever from the Real.

They must undergo a trial by a jury of Greaterers or those appointed by the Greater Powers. This includes revealing a most hidden secret, even one they may not know because they have hidden it from themselves.

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

Astrianna- A self-styled muse, friendly and outgoing.

Ataxia- She is part of the group of Greater here to determine if this Dominion should live. She is very unpredictable, and usually plays the wildcard in votes.

Blaze- Your partner in assisting the Rose Queen. She is ineligible to ascend to control this Dominion.

Epoch- He is part of the group of Greater here to determine if this Dominion should live. He plays the role of speaker for the group and he organizes the process.

Gerid- A courtier of the Rose Queen

Guram- A strange being that seems to be neither male nor female. Would be an interesting choice for the new monarch of the realm.

Queen Jasmine- One of the spiritual siblings of The Rose Queen. She is regal and exotic.

Malkin- A feline being who is one of the creatures living here.

Meerie- A young woman who has a strong affinity for this Domain. Would be an interesting choice for the new monarch of the realm.

Silversleeves- A flamboyant addition to the Garden. Would be an interesting choice for the new monarch of the realm.

King SnapDragon- One of the spiritual siblings of The Rose Queen. He tends to be loud, but fair and regal.

Tempest- - He is part of the group of Greater here to determine if this Dominion should live. He is unrelenting but fair.

Terra- One of the group of Greater here to determine if this Dominion should live. She is very stable well thought out.

Vacuity- One of the group of Greater here to determine if this Dominion should live. He seems very distant at times, but is known for his judgment..

Queen Tigerlilly- One of the spiritual siblings of The Rose Queen. She tends to be a bit more feral than her siblings.

Whutzyt- This being could almost be called mechanical, yet it lives. A curiosity. Yet very friendly!

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

The Boys and the Frogs

Some boys, playing near a pond, saw a number of Frogs in the water and began to pelt them with stones.

They killed several of them, when one of the Frogs, lifting his head out of the water, cried out:

"Pray stop, my boys: what is sport to you, is death to us."

Frog in a Milk-Pail

A frog was hopping around a farmyard, when it decided to investigate the barn. Being somewhat careless, and maybe a little too curious, he ended up falling into a pail half-filled with fresh milk.

As he swam about attempting to reach the top of the pail, he found that the sides of the pail were too high and steep to reach.

He tried to stretch his back legs to push off the bottom of the pail but found it too deep.

But this frog was determined not to give up, and he continued to struggle.

He kicked and squirmed and kicked and squirmed, until at last, all his churning about in the milk had turned the milk into a big hunk of butter.

The butter was now solid enough for him to climb onto and get out of the pail!

The Frog in the Shallow Well

Once a frog that lived in a well bragged to a turtle that lived in the Sea.

"I am so happy!" cried the frog, "When I go out, I jump about on the railing around the edge of the well.

When I come home, I rest in the holes inside the wall of the well.

If I jump into the water, it comes all the way up to my armpits and I can float on my belly.

If I walk in the mud, it covers up my flippered feet.

I look around at the wriggly worms, crabs, and tadpoles, and none of them can compare with me.

I am lord of this well and I stand tall here. My happiness is great.

My dear sir, why don't you come more often and look around my place?"

Before the turtle from the Sea could get its left foot in the well, its right knee got stuck. It hesitated and retreated. The turtle told the frog about the Sea.

"Even a distance of a thousand miles cannot give you an idea of the sea's width; even a height of a thousand meters cannot give you an idea of its depth.

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

In the time of the great floods, the waters in the sea did not increase. During the terrible droughts, the waters in the sea did not decrease.

The sea does not change along with the passage of time and its level does not rise or fall according to the amount of rain that falls. The greatest happiness is to live in the Sea."

After listening to these words, the frog of the shallow well was shocked into realization of his own insignificance and became very ill at ease.

Blind Men And the Elephant

"Once upon a time there was a certain raja who called to his servant and said, 'Come, good fellow, go and gather together in one place all the men of Savatthi who were born blind... and show them an elephant.' 'Very good, sire,' replied the servant, and he did as he was told. He said to the blind men assembled there, 'Here is an elephant,' and to one man he presented the head of the elephant, to another its ears, to another a tusk, to another the trunk, the foot, back, tail, and tuft of the tail, saying to each one that that was the elephant.

"When the blind men had felt the elephant, the raja went to each of them and said to each, 'Well, blind man, have you seen the elephant? Tell me, what sort of thing is an elephant?'

"Thereupon the men who were presented with the head answered, 'Sire, an elephant is like a pot.' And the men who had observed the ear replied, 'An elephant is like a winnowing basket.' Those who had been presented with a tusk said it was a ploughshare. Those who knew only the trunk said it was a plough; others said the body was a grainery; the foot, a pillar; the back, a mortar; the tail, a pestle, the tuft of the tail, a brush.

"Then they began to quarrel, shouting, 'Yes it is!' 'No, it is not!' 'An elephant is not that!' 'Yes, it's like that!' and so on, till they came to blows over the matter.

"Brethren, the raja was delighted with the scene.

"Just so are these preachers and scholars holding various views blind and unseeing.... In their ignorance they are by nature quarrelsome, wrangling, and disputatious, each maintaining reality is thus and thus."

The Monkey King

There was once a kingdom of monkeys in the forest. The King of the Monkeys was very very large, and was very kind and wise. One day, the King was strolling & he noticed mango trees along the side of a river. He also noticed a human castle downstream. He then ordered the monkeys to remove all the mangos from these trees, "or there would be disaster". The

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

monkeys did not understand the King's intention, but they did as told anyway. All the mangos were taken off these trees except one. This one was hidden behind a nest.

One day, this mango was ripe and fell into the river. It flowed downstream where the human King was having a bath. He noticed the mango & asked the Prime Minister what it was. The PM told him it was a "mango", a fruit of wonderful taste. The King then ordered that the mango be cut into small pieces & he gave a small piece to each of his ministers. When satisfied that the mango was not poisonous, he ate the rest of it & realized how tasty it was. He craved for more.

The next day, the human king, with his troops, went upstream to search for more of these fruits. There were lots of mango trees, but also lots of monkeys. The human king doesn't want to share the mangos with the monkeys, so he ordered all of them to be killed. A massacre started.

When the news reached the wise Monkey King, he commented, "The day has finally arrived". The thousands of monkeys were chased all the way to the edge of the forest. There was a deep cliff at the edge of the forest, and a bamboo forest at the other side of the cliff. The Monkey King saw that if his subjects could cross over to the bamboo forest, they will be saved.

With his huge body, he formed a bridge over the cliff and thousands of monkeys trampled over him to reach the safety of the bamboo forest. He endured all the pain. One monkey did not like the King & he saw this as an opportunity to get even. As he was crossing over the King's body, he pierced a spear through the King's heart. The King screamed in pain but endured the pain until all his subjects were safely across. Then he collapsed.

The human king witnessed the whole thing. He was so touched that he ordered the Monkey King be saved. When the Monkey King recovered his consciousness, the human king asked him, "You are their King, why did you bother to die for them?". The Monkey King replied, "Because I am their King". With that, he died.

The human king was so touched that he decided to be a good king from that day and he ordered that the monkeys in the bamboo forest be protected from harm forever.

The Old Man and the Scorpion

One morning, after he had finished his meditation, the old man opened his eyes and saw a scorpion floating helplessly in the water. As the scorpion was washed closer to the tree, the old man quickly stretched himself out on one of the long roots that branched out into the river and reached out to rescue the drowning

The Awful Truth

Character Information Sheet

creature. As soon as he touched it, the scorpion stung him. Instinctively the man withdrew his hand. A minute later, after he had regained his balance, he stretched himself out again on the roots to save the scorpion. This time the scorpion stung him so badly with its poisonous tail that his hand became swollen and bloody and his face contorted with pain.

At that moment, a passerby saw the old man stretched out on the roots struggling with the scorpion and shouted: "Hey, stupid old man, what's wrong with you? Only a fool would risk his life for the sake of an ugly, evil creature. Don't you know you could kill yourself trying to save that ungrateful scorpion?" The old man turned his head. Looking into the stranger's eyes he said calmly, "My friend, just because it is the scorpion's nature to sting, that does not change my nature to save."