

NAME: Iuchi Li-Hsu
CLAN: Unicorn
SCHOOL: Iuchi Shugenja **RANK:** 3

Age: 18 **Sex:** Female **Height:** 4'11"
Physical Description: Impish, skinny and wild-looking, with frequently bared arms. Refuses to wear fancy women's kimonos.

FIRE 3
Intelligence 3
Agility 3

AIR 3
Awareness 3
Reflexes 4

EARTH 2
Willpower 2
Stamina 4

WATER 3
Perception 4
Strength 3

VOID 3

GLORY 4.6
HONOR 1.2
INSIGHT 185
TN TO BE HIT: 20

Wounds	Dice Penalty
____(0-4)	-0
____(5-8)	-1
____(9-12)	-2
____(13-16)	-3
____(17-20)	-4
____(21-24)	Down
____(25-28)	Out
____(29-32)	Dead

TECHNIQUES
Free raise to all Water Spells.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES
See next page.

EQUIPMENT
Unicorn horse, fine kimono that needs a cleaning, scroll satchel with 14 scrolls, 2 pillow books, pillow, 4 blank sheets, personal journal, fine tanto (Str +2k2), fine bo staff (Str +3k2), fine traveling pack, umbrella and bedroll, bag o' herbs, heavily-knit bag of steel shot, salt, parts for a game snare.

Learn to see what you are meant not to see.
--Mirumoto Hojatsu

SKILLS

Athletics 4	Horsemanship 3
Bojutsu 2	Hunting 3
Calligraphy 2	Jujutsu 3
Courtier 2	Locksmith 1
Dance 1	Lore: Shugenja 2
Defense 3	Meditation 2
Etiquette 2	Navigation 2
Heraldry 2	Sincerity 2
Herbalism 3	Spellcraft 2
Knife 1	Stealth 3

SPELLS

- Sense
- Commune
- Summon
- Counterspell
- Sukinjin's Gift (Water, innate)
- The Penetrating Drop (Water)
- Path to Inner Peace (Water, innate)
- Bo of Water (Water)
- Master of the Rolling River (Water)
- Fires of Purity (Fire, innate)
- The Light of Amaterasu (Fire)
- Calling the Elements (Earth)
- Whispers of the Land (Earth)
- Accounts of Shorihotsu (Air)
- Know the Shadows (Air, Innate)

ADVANTAGES

Ancestor: Bayushi (Kharmic Tie to Bayushi Hayato; can spend each others' Void. If he dies, you can never spend Void again.)

Crafty (All Low Skills at 1)

Luck (once per session, may reroll any roll)

Way of the Land (Unicorn Lands)

Innate Ability (marked)

DISADVANTAGES

Contrary (Cannot remain neutral on any issue; simple Willpower roll to avoid acting in tense situations)

Gaijin Name (-1 die on social interactions with non-Unicorns)

Dark Secret (see history)

HISTORY

Your Family

It would not have taken long even for a child much duller than you to sense the unhappiness which surrounded your home from your earliest memories. And it did not take long after your first questions for your half-brother Hayato to explain why.

He was the first to tell you of the war that ended almost exactly nine months before your birth. As a lad of ten, Hayato knew little about why the luchi had attacked the clan he loved, driving his family from their home. But he did know that it was luchi Ohasu who had demanded the death of his adored father, and took his mother as a trophy of victory, siring a daughter on her who, Hayato claimed, she could only hate to the end of her days.

You are that daughter, and when you asked your father of the war that led to your birth, he told a far different tale. Of Soshi treachery that had driven Unicorns from homes they had held for generations, and strangely branded assassins who crept through castles by dark and murdered his first family in their beds. It was only just, he said, to put to death the daimyo who had sanctioned such actions. Sparing your mother and her son was an act of mercy.

You have never known who to believe.

Most of your childhood was spent deep in the woods, chasing rabbits and climbing trees with village children. It kept you out of a house of arguments and winter courts you were expected to spend wrapped in silks, cringing under Hayato's jealous gaze, enduring the praise of the father you had come to hate. Hayato sneered at your lack of social graces and called you a peasant, but at least then, you saw a little

care in his eyes. And for that, you would do anything.

Your Training

When you were ten, Hayato ran away. At first, you thought your life was over. You kept looking around, hoping to see him watching, or hear his snort of laughter as you tore up yet another kneecap tripping over your kimono hem. Though neither of you have ever spoken of it out loud, it was clear that he felt the same pull, and he returned a few months later to tell the family that he had been accepted to the Bayushi bushi-ryu.

It was scant weeks after that your father enrolled you in the luchi shugenja school. Your studies there helped to ease the parting a little.

Unfortunately, you were a mediocre scholar at best, still preferring to spend your time arguing with your teachers, exploring the woods past the school, and wrestling with the Hiruma scouts training at the Shinjo school down the road.

Becoming a Magistrate

But your father had served luchi Kurosho-sama and Shinjo Yokatsu-sama well, and he got you a position as a magistrate before your outspokenness earned you many nights mucking the stables.

Dispensing justice was a job you could sink your teeth into, and your willingness to ignore social convention in pursuit of speedy results earned you equal parts punishment and praise...until you learned to hide your methods beneath a polite veneer. Suddenly you gained the favor of your superiors, enough to get you appointed as a shugenja retainer of Doji Himeko, an Imperial Emerald Magistrate.

You were so excited when she asked for a recommendation of other magistrates to work with. At last you and Hayato could be reunited, and he would achieve his dream of working directly in the service of the Emperor. And he did seem happy at first... until you told him it was you who had recommended him.

It is easier now to understand why he despises the luchi, but that doesn't make it hurt any less. Sometimes you wonder if you made the wrong decision, but you work so well together that it is difficult to question. And you think you now understand why.

You asked your mother a few weeks ago if there was any way to make Hayato love you and forgive you for the circumstances of your birth. Your mother told you it would be difficult. Hayato loved his father and would never forgive the man who had killed him.

"Nor will I," your mother said, looking at you very seriously. "Bayushi Dokuro is the only man I acknowledge as my husband. I could not love any child who was not his."

And you know your mother loves you very much.

WHAT YOU THINK OF THE OTHERS:

Bayushi Hayato: Can you ever earn the respect he gives those of his clan so freely? You don't dare tell him what you suspect about your parentage. Were you wrong, he would never forgive the lie, and were you right and word got out, your mother would be executed and as for you...who knows?

Doji Himeko: You'd expected a spoiled Crane who would laugh at your clothes and accent, underestimate your spells, and despise your morals, but Himeko shares your sense of justice, and doesn't seem to mind where it comes from. You haven't gotten very close personally, but that may only be a matter of time.

Akodo Ryuko: Frightening. She looks at everyone like she's thinking about killing them, and from what you can tell, she is. Good thing she's a bodyguard and not one of those Scorpion assassins.

You feel sorry for her ward, Seppun Ichiko. Everyone else here has forgotten what being nine ought to be like. You try to show her whenever possible, but Ryuko wants her trained like an attack dog with manners. Frightening.

Shiba Kiyoshi: He makes you uncomfortable. Not that he's mean...or loud...in fact, he's always very quiet, like he's not sure what to say. But then, your father always got real quiet right before he got mad. And you've heard some things about what the Matsu did to him in the last war, and where those scars on his hands come from.

Mirumoto Seiji: When he's around, nobody gets mad at you. A little sparkling, a little mysterious, a little older...hmm. Does a samurai-ko's vow of chastity count for, uh, *everything*, or just...*some* things?

OTHERS YOU KNOW

Soshi Bantaro: Daimyo of the Soshi. Your father always used to call him "the little nipple who couldn't find dung in an outhouse," but you suppose it wouldn't be wise to mention that here.

luchi Kimiyo: Your mother. It would be wonderful to show her how much you've done as a magistrate, maybe even help set things straight in the war. Maybe this time, it will end right for her.

luchi Daiyu: The current luchi daimyo. He came to the school once while you were training, and gave candy out to the younger children. He is kind and knowledgeable, but you can't imagine him surviving in a court.

luchi Hiroichi: The *karo* of luchi palace, he was always straightforward on his inspections, and took no nonsense from the students. You hope he never figured out who pasted that sign to his horse's butt...

luchi Ohasu: Your father, nearing retirement age. The war has probably brought out the worst in him. And there was little enough good that he shows to people anyway. He always treated you with a distant affection, handing out money and high expectations, but rarely taking the time to listen. He frightens you when he gets angry, and you see why he has led so many troops to victory in battle.