

ALTERNATE BLOODLINES, VOL. 1: TROLLS

Credits:

Written And Edited By David Woodrum Published By Top Fashion Games www.topfashiongames.com

CONTACT:

Game Label:

Top Fashion Games 594 Stoney Battery Road Marion, VA 24354

Author:

David (Dave) Woodrum davewoodrum@comcast.net

Original Art:

David (Dave) Woodrum

Original Graphics (Cover And Interior):

David (Dave) Woodrum

About The Author:

Dave Woodrum has worked in the role playing game industry for over seven years. Most of his success, however, has been over the last two years writing on various related products. Dave lives in the Eastern part of the United States.

Copyright Information:

The contents of this product are copyright 2004, Top Fashion Games.

UNIVERSALLY COMPATIBLE:

This product contains information that is designed to be universally compatible with most forms of paper and dice, fantasy role playing games.

OF TROLLS AND DIVERSE BLOOD...

While the common troll stock is the most easily recognized and understood, there are a great number of trolls with diverse, offshoot bloodlines. In the following pages of information we will take a glance at the physical and cultural diversities of these rather uncommon trolls.

CAVE TROLLS:

Dwellers of the darkest of cavern lairs, cave trolls are stout, simple brutes who often express more curiosity than anger at the sudden presence of underground explorers.

Physical Features:

Cave trolls tend to stand about a foot shorter than the common troll stock and weigh around 25% more. Their hides are dull, dusty tan to whitish gray in appearance and has a rough, beaded texture. The head of a cave troll is round and bald, and their noses tend to be somewhat wide and flat. The cave troll's eyes are large and bulging, and it is a common sight to see one deformed in a manner of being set somewhat lower than the other.

Living in the controlled underground climate and having little contact with other creatures, cave trolls are lost to the concept of clothing and armor. To find a cave troll as being anything other than stark naked is a rare and unlikely thing.

Diet:

Cave trolls are omnivorous creatures who have a diet consisting mostly of fungus, toadstools, large insects, and the pale, blind fish and crustaceans found in deep underground lakes. Though many cave trolls are too naive to figure out that the arrival of a creature from the lands above means another form of meat, those cave trolls who have enjoyed the blood and flesh of such squirming, squealing delights are particularly ravenous in the presence of such unfortunate intruders.

Personality:

Though a great number of these trolls are as

every bit as evil as their cousins of common blood, quite a few cave trolls are simply neutral to the natures of good and evil, order and anarchy. As they see little action down below it is fairly common for a cave troll to approach an adventuring party with more of a sense of curiosity rather than hatred.

Society:

The cave troll society is loose and simple at best. These creatures associate with one another only through the instinctiveness of breeding, and have no real known forms of established banding or government. Most cave trolls tend to seek out cavernous lairs to call their own upon reaching adulthood, and may become extremely aggressive should another cave troll stumble into their territory unexpected. Though having no use for the concept of trade, cave trolls love treasure, hides, discarded weapons or armor, and all manners of pretty, shiny objects. These things are a curiosity to the cave troll, and it is not a rare thing to stumble across a cave troll quietly sitting in their lair looking over such objects with sheer amazement and wonder.

FROST TROLLS:

Tall, muscular creatures with blue white skin and weathered, harsh features, these trolls are the survivors of the bitter, northern arctic.

Physical Features:

Frost trolls are a bit more tall and muscular than the common troll stock. Their facial and body features are much the same as the common troll, but are somewhat more harsh due to the uncaring, unforgiving environment that these creatures dwell in. The skin of the frost troll is bluish white in coloration, and the strong nails on their hands and feet are black, sapphire blue, or lavender in coloration. The sharp, jagged teeth of the troll have a slight lavender tone to their appearance. Frost trolls have long, stringy hair that is blue, pale sea green, deep lavender, or black in coloration.

Diet:

As food is scarce in their environment, frost trolls are scavengers with an opportunist sense of taste. Anything that is living or once living is fair game for a frost troll.

Personality:

Frost trolls are harsh and aggressive at times, but mostly out of sense of their environment. The climate and geography that these creatures inhabit is quite unforgiving and adopting a softer principle of living would surely spell out certain doom for the survival of a frost troll.

Society:

As grouping together means being able to take down larger game as well as an increased chance of survival for the race as a whole, frost trolls a bit more social than most troll bloodstock. These creatures huddle together in deep, element blocking caves, where small tribes, clan ships, or war bands are formed, governed, and thrown together for the purposes of mutual protection, gathering of food, and general needs of survival. Though the strongest and most intelligent rule, each troll is recognized as serving a degree of potential and purpose for the tribal unit. Frost trolls that are weak, slow, or foolish enough to allow their selves to wind up in the jaws, claws, and clutches of a common enemy, however, are quickly forgotten by the rest of the tribe.

LAVA TROLLS:

Lava trolls, also known as island trolls, favor coastal areas with nearby volcanic activity, particularly island and smaller, subcontinent regions. Though these trolls are as vulnerable to the effects of heat, fire, and burning magma as any other creature, the red, yellow, or orange skin of the vicious lava troll causes the superstitious to believe that such trolls are borne from the very heart of the volcano itself.

Physical Features:

Lava Trolls are muscular creatures with smooth sleek skin that is deep red, burnt orange, or brilliant yellow in coloration. As with most trolls the facial features of a lava troll are rather unnerving, having sharp, fanged teeth, elongated chins, wide grins, and long, broad noses. The beady eyes of a troll are solid black and piercing.

Lava trolls often adorn war paint, battle masks, and the worked flesh or hides of their fallen victims. It is not uncommon to find the jet black hair of the lava troll beaded with bits of bone, nor is it too rare to find these creature's ears and noses bejeweled with multiple piercing.

Diet:

The lava trolls are omnivorous creatures who consume fresh meat, fruits, and vegetables alike. Their food of choice, however, is the flesh, organs, and brains of intelligent humanoid creatures. Lava trolls are also ravenously cannibalistic and often enjoy the flesh of common trolls as well as the roasted carcasses of rival lava troll tribesmen.

Personality:

Lava trolls are evil and cunning, and would think nothing of doing whatever it takes to put a visiting stranger into their stew pots and roasting fires. Though these creatures value jewelry, weapons, and even armor the lava troll isn't much for trade. A popular lava troll legend that is passed down from elder to youngster that more or less states that if something can be eaten, then it is really not worth negotiating with.

Society:

Lava trolls have well organized tribes and war bands where the strongest, cruelest, and the most battle worthy of trolls are the leaders. From the very top of this chain begins a cruel pecking order where the lowest lava trolls on the chain are subject to either hard labor or the knowledge that they will eventually wind up on the roasting pit.

SWAMP TROLLS:

Swamp trolls are wicked, ruthless individuals with gaunt but muscular bodies and pronounced facial features.

Physical Features:

Swamp trolls have lean bodies that are gaunt yet surprisingly muscular. Their faces are somewhat exaggerated, with long, pointy noses, elongated chins, and wide, toothy grins. Their eyes are sunken back and nearly pitch black with piercing white pupils. The teeth of a swamp troll are all jagged, yellowed fangs and these trolls have long, bluish tongues that roll out whenever the troll is hungry or expressing any degree of emotion.

The hair of a swamp troll can be murky brown, dull black, or dirty red. A few swamp trolls have been reported with hair of filthy green or vivid blue tones, and it is suspected that there may be a few swamp trolls with dirty yellow and peppered white hair. The skin of these creatures range in tones of deep, emerald green to black, bluish green, and dirty blood red. The long fingers and toes of the swamp troll end with black or bluish claws.

Swamp trolls have no real sense of modesty

but do wear a sense of clothing for protection against the elements. Such garments are usually nothing more than the stitched together rags taken from the clothing of human or elven victims, and the swamp troll is also known to wear a variety of rotting hides, pelts, and furs.

Diet:

If something is organic then its likely that a swamp troll will pop it in their mouth for a taste. If something happens to squeal, chatter, or scream then a swamp troll will attempt to eat it without hesitation. Swamp trolls are ravenous creatures who take a great delight in food that can be tortured. They are also scavengers who can dine on most anything that is or was once alive when needed.

Personality:

Swamp trolls are hateful creatures for the very sake of hatred itself. For a monstrous creature a swamp troll doesn't have a very bad lot in life. These creatures are capable of finding enough in their native swamps to stay well fed, despite their gaunt, gangling appearance, and a swamp troll suffers few natural predators.

Society:

Swamp trolls are really much too vicious to maintain a strong sense of society for very long. Often these creatures will band together in order to raid a village, secure another area of swamp, or fight off a much larger creature, but for the most part swamp trolls are too hateful to get along with anyone.