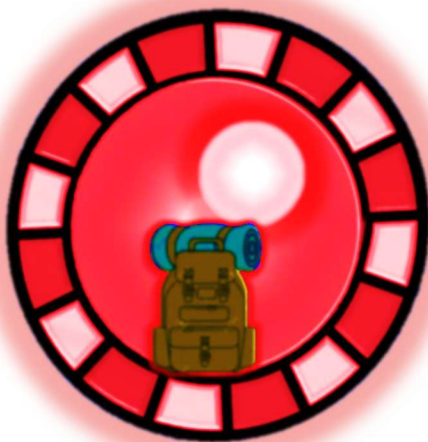


# Sun-Downers

**"Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong Under the shade of a coolibah tree,  
He sang as he watched and waited 'til his billy boiled "You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me"  
Waltzing Matilda – Slim Dusty**

**Quote:** Big bikkies for a Brekkie is Mickey-mouse Mate; get with the tinnies or plonk and Fair go. Ridgy-didge way for me.



Less than an Aboriginal Baijini (Kith) but more than a Celtic one, the Sun-Downers are a unique Yuuri (Changeling) born of the White-fella's dreams of the Outback. They are the Aussie Kithain's imaginings of a life at one with the Bush.

Part White-

Fella, part

Dreamtime, these kithain are all the Crocodile Dundees, all the Ned Kellies, and every mad-cowboy-wizard of the Australian wilds in one.

Sun-Downers (also known as Swaggies, Swag-Men or Tussockeers) is an old Australian term used for an underclass of roaming drifters and peripatetic highwaymen, who travelled by foot during the Australian Depression of the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Essentially the Australian parallel of American hobos, the Sun-Downers grew famous for their knowledge of the Bush, and their hearty ways. They were also never without their traditional swag (their few possessions rolled up and carried in their *swag* or bedroll).

Swag also has another definition, in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century Britain, the term swag was used by thieves to describe any amount of stolen goods, a testament to the Sun-Downers's affinity for Sleight of Hand. For the Turong (unseeleie), this might mean Greed. However, only the most Turong of the

## "SWAG AND THE TUCKER-BAG"

A Sun-Downer's "tucker-bag" is his life-line and is his most important Swag. A tucker-bag is a sack he fills with his foraging, and contains Nuts, fruit, roots, leaves, mushrooms, for eating. Odder fair, (for more Euro-Centric Kithain anyway) such as Witchetty grubs, and the odd jumbuck, lizard, emu or boomer (Male-Kangaroo meat) are also readily available.

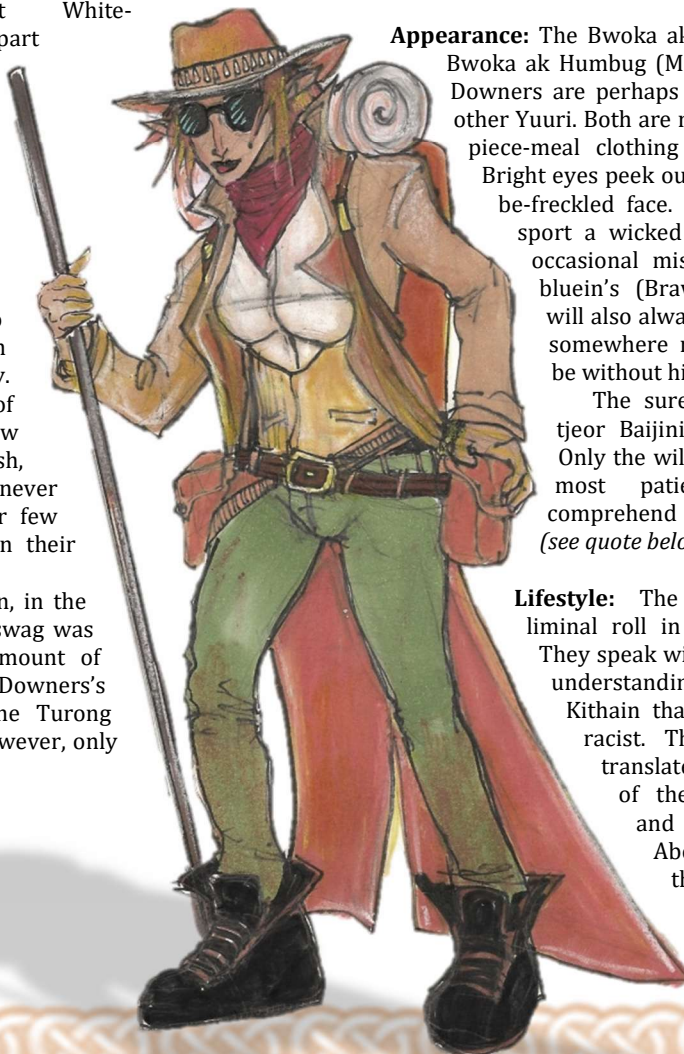
Kith would resort to this as they each have a particular code of Honor that prevents them breaking certain rules of the road. Most make their ends meet by performing odd-jobs at local farms. They can be found shearing sheep or rounding up cattle, (but were not above stealing the odd jumbuck to fill their "tuckerbag".)

**Appearance:** The Bwoka ak Yuuri (Fae Mien) and Bwoka ak Humbug (Mortal Mien) of the Sun-Downers are perhaps more similar than any other Yuuri. Both are rakish looking figures in piece-meal clothing covered in trail-dust.

Bright eyes peek out of a dark-skinned and be-freckled face. Both men and women sport a wicked impish grin, with the occasional missing tooth from good bluein's (Brawls). The Sun-Downer will also always be sporting his swag somewhere near-by and will never be without his tuckerbag.

The sure-fire way to ascertain tjeor Baijini is to hear their talk. Only the wildest of Kithain, and the most patient of Yuuri can comprehend his accent and jargon (see quote below for example).

**Lifestyle:** The Sun-Downers fill a liminal roll in the Outback Country. They speak with a voice of Aboriginal understanding to a Eurocentric-Kithain that is more than a little racist. They are also able to translate the desires of the Rest of the World's Changelings and convey them to the Aboriginal Yuuri. While they fill this role, they



travel between the worlds of the Bush Country and the White-Fella Country, the Dreamtime Country, and the Dreaming Country. They make ends meet however they can, and worlds meet wherever they walk.

*Biny Sun-Downers* are bright eyed little shits with sharp tongues and fast legs. The call to the wild places is first heard at this stage, and they first discover their “walking name.” (a Name given to them by the Dreaming, that they will be known as for the rest of their lives).

*Tjiki Sun-Downers* find their niche in the bush, and also discover what that means to the White-Fella and Aboriginal both. This is also when they discover the ugliness that exists in the world of men.

*Gorah Sun-Downers* find a place in a remote expanse far away from both mortal and Yuuri. Only the wild fauna of the Outback keep him company. Here he gets ready for his final walk-about, that to his journeys end. Many Biny and Tjiki seek out these Elders in order to gain blessings, knowledge, or (the Dreaming-Willing) some Swag.

**Glamour Ways:** Sun-Downers regain Kwaba (Glamour) by being generous with their Swag, helping others along the road (both Aboriginal and Whitefella) and by showing mortals what it means to truly be unencumbered by the heavy weight of the world.

**Unleashing:** Kwaba Business (Cantrips) cast by the Sun-Downers are accompanied by the dancing slow light of a campfire, a smell of smoke and roasting grub (sometimes actual grubs roasting) and a general feeling of good-will. Some swear that they hear a lonely harmonica being played in the distance.

**Affinity:** Props

### Birthrights

**Lower Wall:** The difficulties of crossing over into the other Countries are always one less for the Sun-Downers. This includes the Dreamtime Country, the Spirit Country (the Umbra) and the Dark Dead Country (also known as Karta, or the Aboriginal Underworld of the Dead). Even if not crossing over, any effects that depend on the Gauntlet, Shroud, Mists or otherwise are at a -1 difficulty for the Sun-Downers.

**Survival:** The Dream will always provide for the Sun-Downers who will never have to worry about water, food, or a place to lay their head a night. While this only provides for the Sun-Downers themselves, if others along get hungry, the Sun-Downer can spend a point of Kwaba to magically produce a feast of Australian Delights to feed the whole of the party. The food will be odd staples for most but are delightful for denizens of the bush. The odd jar of vegemite, potted-meat, big thick grubs and termites, kangaroo-steaks, canned veggos, etc....

### Frailties

**Figjam:** While the role of the Sun-Downers is one of communication between two worlds, it is sometimes a bit

harder for outsiders. The language of the Bush-Masters is a hodge-podge of Australian Slang, Aboriginal words, and a handful of idioms that supposedly hail back to Arcadia (at least most European Kithain assume). It is a +1 difficulty to all social rolls when dealing with White-fella Yuuri-folk (Australian Kithain). When dealing with outsider White-Fella Fae Folk (other European Yuuri not of Australia) this rises to a +2 difficulty. When dealing with exceptionally high and mighty Kithain (Stuffy Sidhe and the Like) this rises to a +3. The Wandjina, however, aren't affected at all, and can understand the Sun-Downer no worries.

**Go a-waltzing Matilda:** This originally meant living the nomadic life of the down-trodden, but for the Sun-Downers it means never being able to stay in one place for too long. For every week spent sleeping in the same place (read five-mile square plot of land) they lose one point of Kwaba. For every week spent thusly while sleeping indoors, they lose two points of Kwaba.

**Lady Roberta, walking name Wallaby Bobbi, back of Bourke, fills her billy and shares the bizzo bout the bastards.**

**Adnoartina:** Yep. As dry as a nun's nasty, and half the fun.

**Eer-Moonan:** Bitzer Bogans ent they? Right ready fera blue efin yalike. Yule come a gutser tho, fair dinkum.

**Kurreah:** Yobbo's aint' wertha zack, wil whiteant their mum outta good dying. Humbug to a brick.

**Muldjewangk:** Sooky wusses and yabby-bangers.

**Nadubi:** Oi, gabberin about a bluein... Fair-go on them, mate.

**Ningauis:** Hit the turps and fair go, we're best-mates and that's London to a brick.

**Quinkin:** Now their blood's worth bottling feny ours is. Deadset mates what puts us in kindie-like. Alcheringa keep em.

**Wandjina:** We come to the raw prawn, yeah? I met em. I'm saying nothing.

**Yara-Ma-Yha-Who:** Grinning like a shot fox wen'n theys get your mug in their troppers.

**Yawk-Yawk:** Nope. Sayin' nutthin.

**Yowie:** lob in to see me girl like a mappa tassie eh? Fair-Go mate. Like in the nuddy mozzies, all skinny and dark. Good Mallee mugs though, ifn they aint one fer bluing.