When I sinned my sin in drunken pride, - I used it to force compliance with my evil will. When Heaven sent me down to the mortal dust, - I committed all kinds of wickedness down here. I used to devour people in this cave – *Journey to the West*-

**Quote:** *(Wild)* Ho there mortal, did you bring me tribute, lest I eat your commoner flesh like so much peasant fare? No tribute at all? No chocolate? Popcorn? Any soda?

**Quote:** (*Domestic*) Of course I agree with your imperial personage, some small tribute should be paid by mortals. Perhaps some commoner food stuffs might serve to illustrate proper tribute, surely the lowest of them can afford it? I humbly submit that this lowly person be permitted the honor of ensuring such tribute is befitting. A taste-test if you will?

The Gong Zhu, also known as the Zhu Bajie or more popularly the colloquial pseudonym Pigsies, are a disturbingly malicious and hungry Tribe of Obake Hsien. Some mythology paints their forbear- the infamous Pigsy of "Journey-to-the-West" as an affluent mortal cursed for enacting revenge on a unfaithful lover. Others posit more infernal origins, that the Pigsies are cannibal demons, little better than the Hungry-Ghosts of Buddhist cosmology.

Perhaps both origins bear some merit, as the Gong Zhu tribe comes in two flavors, as it were. There are the domesticated of the family, who favor eloquence and crave wealth and influence. They resemble pale and pinkish domesticated pigs in their forms, with pronounced bellies. Then there are the Wild of the numbers, who care only for violence and great shows of rage. They resemble great hirsute boars with thick quills and angry looking tusks, and like-wise have a bit of a belly. Both are greedy, and both have a history of cannibalism and violence. But perhaps the Domesticated are worse because they take great pains to hide their hungry nature.

Can any of their number rise above their base Obake nature? Mythology looks to the great Pigsy of antiquity, and his elevation due nigh sainthood by the hands of the Buddha. It is up to each of their Tribe, Domestic or Wild, to tell their own story.

**Appearances:** The Gong-Zhu come in two stripes, as said. The Hotei-Mien of the Domesticated Gong-Zhu are portly (but still quite muscular underneath all that fat, mind) and sloppy individuals who drape themselves in ostentatious displays of frippery. Too much make-up (especially the males) too much jewelry, and silk outfits; they wear with the intention of looking elegant, but it just makes them creepy. The Wild are large and muscular (but still a little portly under all that muscly bulk) fearsome wild-folk with thread-bare clothing, unkempt hair, and angry eyes.

In Wani-Form both the Domesticated and Wild are pigheaded individuals with ugly faces. The Domesticated have forced smiles. The Wild have angry scowls. Both aren't very much to look at.

The Gong Zhu"s *Mask of the Shentai* form appears as a blazing devil-pig as large as cottage with flaming eyes, quills made of iron, and teeth and tusks made of angry black jade. The

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#### NINE-TOOTH SPIKE-RAK

Perhaps the most iconic weapon every wielded by the Gong Zhu, these blood-hungry rake has 9 angry looking points crafted of the angriest looking black iron. These barbs are constantly sticky and wet looking, and the handle is stained an ugly brownish red. It counts as a level 3, treasure. Those whose wield it gain a +3 to any social roll involving other Gong Zhu (either Domesticated or wild) and a +3 intimidation roll to any Hsien who knows what it is.

A strength of at least 4 to carry one and a successful melee + Dexterity roll, Difficulty 8, to wield properly. It is worth it however, as it deals Str + 9 dice worth of bashing damage, if successful.

Though the Hsien aren't susceptible to Cold-Iron in the same manner as their Sunset People counterparts, the 'Nine-Tooth Spike-Rake' deals damage as if it were crafted of sanctified jade.

Sun-set people may understand this as Hogzilla, but most in the Kingdoms-of-Go can only comprehend this as it is; a great porcine demon-god.

## BOAR

# Attributes: Strength +2, Dexterity +1, Stamina +3, Attacks: Gore- Str +2, Trample Str +1

**Lifestyle:** the life of the Domesticated Gong Zhu is one that constantly seeks out the idyllic livelihood of the well-to-do. They prefer the high-courts, and the wheeling and dealing of Hsien politics. Their capable minds and eyes for details may indeed warrant them a position of authority in the courts too, despite their Obake natures. Fine dining, expensive clothing, maybe a fancy gold bracelet? All the trappings of wealth are desired.

The life of the Wild Gong Zhu is one that seeks out to be left alone to their own desires. The rural become mountain hermits, the urban angry street-thugs. There is little they desire that the rest of the sausage-wallets amongst the Hsien can offer.

*Hsien-Tsu Gong Zhu* are angry little bullies, who expect the world to kowtow to them, and throw a fit when they don't get their way. If lucky, they have an elder to put them in their place. If not they grow to be the absolute worst of their tribe.

*Hsien-Jin Gong Zhu* are those elders putting the little bastards in their place. They learned that being a bully can only get one so far.

**Glamour Ways:** The Gong Zhu Regain Glamour/Yugen in one of two ways dependent upon their Family. The Domestic of their number refuel their magics by the disappointment felt by the mortal victims and unanswered prayers that fall to deaf ears; and then the cajoling and lick-spitting of their mortal dreams and consoling them that maybe the Gods don't like them.

The Wild of their number refuel their magics by the fear felt by their victims and the fearful prayers for a pitiful mortal life not spent well enough as their Boar form comes rushing out of the night, squealing and squalling and tearing up the countryside.

There is also the small matter of the Gong Zhu being able to garner Glamour/Yugen from their still warm flesh of their victims. But such is best left unsaid ...

Unleashing: Cantrips cast by the Gong Zhu are accompanied by fiery blasts of heat, the squeal of something that might be a burning human, might be an angry pig, and the delightful perfume of what might be bacon cooking ... it might be ...

> Affinity: Actor -or- Kwannon-Jin Fortune: Earth Wild – Yin: 1 Yang: 3 Domestic - Yin: 3 Yang: 1

**Birthrights:** 

Demon Pig's Blessings (Èmó Zhū de Zhùfú): The Gong Zhu, by dint of their infernal heritage, have access to supernatural skills that surpass most Hsien.

- The Wild Pigsies gain 3 extra dice to allocate to any physical ∻ attribute that makes sense
- The Domesticated Pigsies gain 3 extra dice to allocate to either •.\* Charisma or Manipulation, in any way that makes sense.

marks, and then making off with the poor-victim's hopes and Demon Pig's Hunger (Emó zhū de Jī'è Gǎn): If need be (and something frowned upon by everyone, including most Obake), the Gong-Zhu has a last trick up their sleeve to refuel their magic. They can convert the flesh and blood of sentient creatures into raw Glamour/Yugen. One pound of warm living tissue, or one good pint of blood, is roughly equivalent to one point of their magick fuel.

### Frailties:

Demon King's Sins (Èmó Zhū de Zuìguo): Every one of the Gong-Zhu has a vice of which they must partake on a regular basis, at least every few nights or so. The more Domesticated may enjoy gambling or drinking expensive wines (that they certainly can't afford very often) The Wild may enjoy hunting and killing recklessly, or simple thuggery and picking fights with strangers. It is a willpower roll, difficulty 7 to abstain from said vices.

If they abstain too often, or just can't get their fix, they begin to manifest another vice- they crave mortal or fae flesh and the Glamour/Yugen that comes with it (see birthright above). For every week that they go without their chosen vice, they must roll willpower difficulty 9. Failure means that they choose a victim and get their pound. Botch means that they frenzy, becoming a vicious demon-boar killing indiscriminately.

Ugly (Choulou): Pug noses, beady eyes, bristly chins, mismatched teeth- at character creation, the Gong Zhu cannot have an appearance higher than 1.

### Wang-Si, as wild as the night, looks down from his handmade-throne and enters a tireless tirade berating the Hsien, ... all of them.

**Daitengu:** The closest to what might be called friends, but still ass-hats.

**Gumiho:** Flaky tricksters who I wouldn't piss on if they were on fire. Oh, you mean the Hsien and not the wishy-washy foxes who left us for the moon tribes? Flaky tricksters who I wouldn't piss on if they were on fire.

Hsigo: I don't get it.

Jurogumo: I like music as much as the next one of us, but I certainly don't need to get it from these cannibalistic hookers. **Kappa:** You bow to them, they bow back, they spill the stupid water in that stupid bowl on their stupid head. You win. You're welcome.

**Suzume:** If I had a wallet, I'd hold the wallet tight if one were around.

Gasin: Toys? Dolls? Care-takers and house-cleaners? These aren't Hsien, they're mortal servants and children's playthings, and should only be respected as such.

Yaoguai: Call it want you want, they are as docile as house-pets and half as dangerous.

**Bakemono:** Ineffectual children flinging their own muck a the wall in vain attempts at making a name for themselves as anything but what they are, ineffectual children.

Hirayanu: Servants sniffing Kamuii farts.

Kamuii: Servants sniffing the long forgotten farts of a displaced that certainly doesn't care anymore.