

Hanayomeningyo

私はあなたが最初にデート、キスした人、あるいは最初の恋人じゃないかもしれませんが、あなたの最後の人になりたいです
(I may not be your first date, kiss, or love, but I want to be your last)

Quotes: The movies on Saturday? I'm sorry, I am waiting for my husband. He's coming home that night, and everything has to be perfect.

During WWII, some Japanese mothers and sisters, frightened of their soldier sons, and brothers dying alone, would craft home-made brides for them. These Mascot dolls, or bride dolls, were placed in Imonbukuro - Comfort bags, and sent to the front lines. There is one account of a Soldier requesting two Brides, one for him and one for his plane. Sadly, not every one of these soldiers made it home and their bride-dolls were left husbandless as it were. Yet that raw fear, loss, and regret of war's horror, coupled with the near tangible love and hope for getting back embed these mascots with the spark of life.

Not unlike their Mannikin cousins among the Inanimae courts, the Bride-Dolls are a Krofted creature, made of wool and silk, wood and paint. Yet they are created to be more radiant and more beautiful than any living creature- a fitting partner for the beloved sons and brothers there on the front lines.

A Hanayomeningyo's life is one of heart wrenching devotion. From the moment of their awakening, they are devoted to their husbands, regardless of them never even having met that husband, so long gone from the world. Their Chrysalis usually takes years, if not decades, following their creation. One day, they simply wake up, and find themselves excited for the return of their husband. They know his name, his likes, his fears, all of the things a good wife knows. She works and works to create the perfect home for him to return to, and eagerly awaits a day that will never arrive.

Storytellers and Players should take great care in creating who the husband was, and what he wanted in his bride- the crafter of the Hanayomeningyo's doll-form certainly did when creating her. His name, his likes, his fears... all aspects that go into the character creation. If the storyteller and players are dark enough, they might look at the **Wraith: the Oblivion** Supplements "*Dark Kingdoms of Jade*" or "*Dark Kingdoms of Jade Adventures*" to create a husband beyond the pale, one that might theoretically still be in the picture...

anchors: The Anchors of the Hanayomeningyo are their own delicate little bride-dolls, and the Imonbukuro-comfort bags that they were sent in. All of them are Krofted.

Appearance/Husks: The Hanayomeningyo are attractive women, with all the grace and demure bearing that any Japanese Soldier in WWII would have wanted.

Their Hotei-Mien is that of a marrying age Young Japanese woman, but with different traits depending on who she was made for. If her soldier wanted a firecracker, she might be a hot-Japanese vixen with red streaks in her hair and a wicked sense of humor complete with buxom body and a can-do attitude. If her soldier wanted a soft accommodating violet, she

WARNINGS

We here at Koyoht Bleu may sometimes do some zany things, but we also sometimes do Dark things. We often explore aspects of the world that are dismally disheartening to say the least. The Hanayomeningyo are perhaps the darkest and most heart-wrenching we'll ever offer. As always with such caveats, players beware. These creatures are based on very real circumstances that happened to very real people in a very real war. Approach the subject matter with all the due respect it serves and sensitivity it demands. And for the sake of All the Powers, get approval not only from the storyteller, but fellow players. Proceed with Caution and go with whatever Gods you pray too. As always,

-Very Respectfully,

Koyoht Bleu

might be a quiet, sweet girl in traditional clothing and a shy smile. All are stunning in their beauty.

The Wani-Form is just as stunning, but after a closer look, is unsettling in how truly stunning they are. Their soft body is woven cloth, delicately stitched from fine silk. But so fine as to be overlooked. Their heads, however, are wooden, but so intricately painted that even attentive observers would miss it. Their eyes shine like lacquer, and their lips are painted on with a master's precisely gentle touch.

Her *Mask of the Shentai* is that of a doll, small and unassuming, but the implications of this doll are horrifically emotional, and even those unfamiliar with a Hanayomeningyo's purposes still feel the gravity of war, and the stifling sadness that goes with it.

Lifestyles: The life of the Hanayomeningyo can be summed up easily. "Eagerly Awaiting." Little else can be said. Perhaps in their waiting, they may make friends among the local Hsien courts. The Tennyo and Zashiki Warishi usually take great care of the Bride Dolls, and in sympathy, or perhaps pity, always take the time to visit. With that being said, if the Hanayomeningyo has the time in between upkeep of the house and planning a surprise welcome home party, she can go adventuring with the girls...

Hsien-Tsu Hanayomeningyo Only exist if they are the perfect marrying age, if a little young.

Hsien-Jin Hanayomeningyo Only exist if they are the perfect marrying age, if a little older.

Glamour Ways: The Hanayomeningyo refuel their Yugen/Glamour with the respect for the dead (not just their husbands) that mortals show. Festivals that honor the ancestors, families remembering their lost, or even simple shows like placing flowers on the graves are enough to refuel the Hanayomeningyo's magicks.

Unleashing: Cantrips cast by the Hanayomeningyo are accompanied by phantom smells of traditional Japanese fare, old-time WWII era music, and a strange sense of nostalgia for a life that never was. It also is heart-wrenching and sad, even for Westerners with no sense of what is happening.

-Affinity: Prop - or
 -Kwannon-Jin fortune: Wood -or
 -Sliver: Any
 Yin: 3 Yang: 1



Birthrights:

Perfect Little Beauties (Kanpekina Chisana Utsukushi-sa):

Each Hanayomeningyo is designed to be the perfect partner for a long-past soldier and have all the blessings of a perfect wife. Each gains a +3 to Appearance at Character Creation, even if above 5.

In addition, they have one other skill that the soldier would have loved and gains a +2 in appropriate Ability. If his ideal wife would have had sung like a nightingale, the

Hanayomeningyo gains a +2 to performance. If his would have wanted someone who cooks, she bakes the best sweets and gains a +2 in crafts. Storytellers and Players should decide on what kind of skills the husband would want and which ability works best.

Frailties:

True Love Waits (Hontō no ai ga Matsu): The love that brings a Hanayomeningyo to life also carries some grave stipulations. She is perpetually bound to him in a way that borders on mania. Any betrayal of that love brings with it a permanent point of banality. If another man wants to go out on a date with her, if she accepts love-tokens from another, if she gives out her phone number to another guy...

After all, she already has the perfect man, yes? The worst aspect of this is her crippling ignorance of the reality. Her husband is long long gone, and deep down, she knows it. If ever forced to realize that her husband is long long gone, than she will lose her Hsien self, and be shocked back into her doll-form, her essence lost for always.



Miss Lulu Suki- with a sad sort of smile, happily remarks on her fellow House-Goblins and a few others...

Bàofēngyǔ: Storms? Just as long as you don't rain on my picnic this weekend, you cheeky cheeky.

Daruma: Rallying the boys, is fine and all. Just leave my husband out of it, okay?

Enrena: Last time he stopped by my whole house smelled like smoke. If he wants to visit, he can do so outside.

Shinigami: Who? I'm sorry, I have no idea who you are talking about.

Tennyō: So pretty, so nice. The whole group stops by on my anniversary to bring me fresh peaches. The peaches are me the mister's favorite, yes?

Tokkaebi: These little scamps are delightful, if me and the Mister ever have any kids, I bet they'll be best friends.

Zashiki-Warashi: No thanks, I've got plenty of time to do my own housework. But do check by later just to chat.

Bakemono: They aren't as bad as the others say, just a little misplaced.

Obake: The same things as these little scamps, I think with enough care and attention, they can be as kind and helpful as any of us.

Yaoguai: Too adventurous for my tastes, I prefer quiet times at home with my Mister.

Hirayanu: I don't like the politics...

Kamui: I really don't like their politics...

Sunset People: I don't like the Yanks. They are always asking for my digits, as if I was some loose wanton girl of the streets.