

Mulgogi Yeoja 물고기여자

"If I go back, how would I live, missing him? Even if I went back, living wouldn't be living. I could die here or go there and live as though dead. It's all the same." – Legend of the Blue Sea

Quote: Such a Handsome sailor you are. Please, stay and have a meal with me... You don't have a girlfriend, do You?

Do not confuse them with the Heng-Po family of Hirayanu, nor are they a family of Obake Animal Goblins- despite their animalistic nature. The Mulgogi Yeoja Family of Hsien are Bakemono. Though discerning exactly why is difficult. They are beautiful, inside, and out. They are kind, happy, and content to frolic amongst the waves of their bright Korean waters. It is a fair testament to highlight, that out of all the waters in the Three Kingdoms of Go, and all their Mermaid-esque aquatic families, the Korean Mulgogi Yeoja are the most benevolent.

Sure, there are the Ningyo of Japan, and the Kōjin of China – arguably the same family – but the Mulgogi Yeoja, which translates to "Water-Meat (Fish) Sweethearts" are by far the most compassionate. The old stories have them changing the weather for the better, aiding their beloved fishermen and sailors. There are a few stories of them throwing rocks at passing ships, but that was just to warn them of dangerous hidden rocky shoals.

Yet they are always considered a Bakemono Tribe. This may be due to their violently chaotic reactions when their tender little hearts get broken. They fall in love easily, and with such comes a whole gamut of emotions. They may pursue someone who doesn't reciprocate their advances, they may fall in love with the wrong person, or worse yet, they fall for the bad-boy, who wanders off in search of other lovers. The normally sweet Mulgogi Yeoja do not stand for infidelity. Any signs of their love beings spurned, or even not wanted erupts into the worst of weather... as their ties to the natural world reflect their mood. Only the hope of another love in the future can calm their tempestuous emotions.

Appearance: In the *Hotei-Mien*, the Mulgogi Yeoja are doe-eyed and alluring Korean women, wonderfully charming in their attractiveness, with an honest expression almost naïve. Their *Wani-Mien*, which is

HAENYEO – THE REAL KOREAN MERMAIDS

The Haenyeo - 해녀; literally translating as sea women) are female divers in small Korean province of Jeju. They are divers without peer, spending their days deep in the frigid depths of the sea, collecting all manner of sea-fare, from pearls and other treasures, to the seafood and seaweed that supports their diet. Plunging down to depths of up to 30 meters (nearly 100 feet) deep and holding their breath for over 3 minutes with each dive, it small wonder that many of the Mulgogi Yeoja count them as Kinain kinfolk, if not some of them living as Haenyeo themselves. Did we mention that their society is somewhat Matriarchal?

evident upon them entering their salty aquatic home is a classic mermaid of antiquity, with the bottom half a great scaled fish, in jeweled colors all the colors of the rainbow, and the top half a stunningly gorgeous woman with that same charming beauty.

They also have a Fish-form, (though they aren't considered Obake or Hirayanu), that has no changes to stats. This fish is glittering with jewel-like scales all the colors of the rainbow, long graceful fins, and large wet eyes. The exact breed of fish defies all scientific classification of genus and species and the like, and with one look at the fish form and none can say there's no magic involved.

The *Mask of the Shentai* appears as a large white whale-like creature, easily as long as a temple, with a strangely humanoid face- but with eyes that are unblinking, uncaring, unseeing. The beauty of their other forms is replaced with a cold static otherness.

Lifestyles: All the Kingdoms of Go have their mermaids, again arguably the same tribe. Yet Korea has the best and brightest of that number (who are far nicer than the ones from the other two Kingdoms, at least they'll tell you so). To a one of them, they have human lives close to the sea. They are often fisherwomen, caretakers of beach-front properties, custodians of shorelines, etc. Many of them boast the mortal lives of the actual Korean Mermaids – the Haenyeo, where their true Hsien nature provides in multiple ways. As can be imagined, their *Fae Lives* are even more-so bound to the waters.



Hsien-Tsu Mulgogi Yeoja, hopefully have yet to feel their hearts broken. They still have all the inexperience of youth, and all the hope for the future that comes with it.

Hsien-jin Mulgogi Yeoja have had their hearts broken, just how many times varies, but each of them is aware of how painful it is. The world around them suffered for it

Glamour Ways: Mulgogi Yeoja regain their Glamour/Yugen from the unconditional love of their paramours, and the answered prayers of poor lonely men. Of course, this may not always be reciprocated, so sometimes replenishing their magics is a more difficult task.

Unleashing: When the Mulgogi Yeoja casts her cantrips, the air around her shimmers like a pearl, a cool salty breeze washes across the scene, and light dances everywhere, like light dancing off of the waves... Unless of course, she is angry, and then there is lightning, thunder, and all of the worst aspects of inclement weather.

Affinity: Nature **-or-** Kwannon-Jin **Fortune:** Water
Yin: 3 **Yang:** 1

Birthrights:

Sea Beauties (*Bada Yeon-in*): Out of all the varied aquatic Dreaming Tribes, the Mulgogi Yeoja are perhaps the most attractive. They begin character creation at a +3 Appearance. Bear in mind that this beauty is both inside and out. The Mulgogi Yeoja are kind, warm-hearted, and happy creatures. That is, until they have their heart broken. In addition, with a point of Glamour/Yugen spent, the Mulgogi Yeoja can turn into beautiful magical fish – no genus or species save magical, all glittering scales with bright rainbow colors.

Weather Sense (*Nalssi Gamgag*): The Mulgogi Yeoja are naturally attuned to the weather in a way that few are. They automatically know what weather will be for the next few days. If someone somewhere is supernaturally manipulating the weather, a successful Perception roll, difficulty 7 will let them know. With a difficulty 10, they can feel out the weather-changing culprit and discern their location and seek them out. In addition, Arts involving the Mulgogi Yeoja changing the weather are at a -2 difficulty.

Frailties:

Naïve Hearts (*Sunjinhan Yeol*): The Mulgogi Yeoja are suckers for pretty faces, or a good romance story. This sometimes clouds their judgements. Any wits rolls are at a higher difficulty when faced with certain circumstances. A pretty face (usually rated 4 or higher) of someone that strikes their fancy is one such factor. When presented with a storybook romance (any good story – such as Star-Crossed Lovers, or a handsome Thief-with-a-Heart-of-Gold) is another. These difficulties can rise as



high as difficulty 10 or even 11 in some particularly heart-felt occasions... It is up to storyteller to judge accordingly.

Stormy Hearts (*Poggung-u Chineun Ma-eum*): If the Poor Dear's Heart is broken, due to the unfaithful lover, bad romance, or simply the object of her affections not reciprocating, then she must succeed on a dice roll, based on her current level of Glamour/Yugen. The difficulty is based on how slighted/heart-broken/ dejected she feels, with slightly miffed being a difficulty 7, while heart-wrenchingly miserable being as high as a 10.

If she succeeds on the roll, then she is able to shake it off and move on with her life until the next sweetheart comes along.

If the roll fails, then the weather turns for the worst, with her or without her, with storms roughly comparable to how hurt she is. Slightly miffed would-be cold showers and high winds. Heart-wrenchingly miserable might be a monsoon. This weather will continue until some of her friends can shake her out of it (through good storytelling).

If the roll botches, than that object of her affections, whether they are responsible or not, are doomed, the weather singling them out to bear the full weight of nature's fury.

Soo Ah, lounging on the sand, but tail in water, laughs at her dour Bakemono cousins...

Jing zǐ Shēngwù: I am great friends with most fish, monster Same-Bito Sharks amongst them, so I think the mirror Goblins are too afraid to deal with me.

Nopperabo: I am sorry that they don't have good faces, but I don't want them to have mine.

Oni: Eating a priest? Why? Do they taste better than thieves, I wonder?

Rokurokubi: I have had to help chase down their head once. That should be a warning not to go snooping about. It never is.

Satori: I feel that they their bad reputation may be unjustly earned; I may have some experience with it myself.

Yama-Uba: I am sure that they have an important role to play in Heaven's will, but I can't imagine it as anything good.

Yuki-Onna: I understand.

Gasin: I do wish that they would come down here, and honor me as one of their families... It would make much more sense to me, and it would make me all so happy.

Obake: I have met the Kappa, and they are horrible people.

Yaoguai: I am good friends with the Between-Eels, they are always so pleasant. But they never visit long enough – they are always on the go.

Kamuii: I do not see them as Gods of anything, and do not believe that their Will is the same as Heaven's. I do believe that most of them are good-hearted, though, and that is important.

Hirayanu: Heng-Po? No, there is no relations. They aren't mermaids, just carp and sometimes dolphins.

The Sunset People: I have a great deal many friends among the Merfolk. They come through every so often, and we always have a nice visit.