

Ekwu

When the shepherd comes home in peace, the milk is sweet. — Ethiopian proverb

Quote: *Whoah, traveler. You look weary, hey? Come in for a spell and rest up. I'm just after putting the kettle on, you'll have a cuppa rooibos, yes?*



Many of the Emere claim both name and descent from an ancient God of antiquity. Eshu, the Ogo, and the Nyar Viruze being a few. Yet the Ekwu are the only tribe who carries that divine ancestry directly into the hearth and home of mortals and Emere alike. Many incorrectly surmise the Ekwu to be simple fae servants, perhaps cousins of the Celtic Boggans. The Ekwu are so much more.

This Igbo Akuko (Seelie Kith) of God-Bloods are, protectors of mothers, children, property, and the fires of a home. Some even posit them the ultra rare Marcra, double Igbo. Their very presence marks a place as successful as their own magic nature blends with the homes, creating a bale-fire that provides Bilingo (Glamour) for all.

While there have been a few males of the Ekwu Akuko, the majority is overwhelmingly female. They are also tutelary entities, nigh-deities of knowledge in their own right, who have kept the magic of antiquity alive for millennia. With this, the elders of the Tribe have become great matrons that serve and protect entire motleys of both mortals and fae.

Appearance: For the Ekwu, easily overlooked is the first thing that comes to mind when describing them. In Bopha Umomo (Mortal Mien) they are shortish, with broad gentle faces and easy smiles. Their Bilongo Umomo (Fae Mien) is even shorter, rarely over a meter tall, with flesh that glows a rich mahogany. Their faces are sharp, with eyes that shine with wisdom and humor. They appear every bit the descendants of the goddess whose blood they carry.

Lifestyle: Ekwu are often the true power behind the throne or at least the gentle voice of correct action in difficult times, the Ekwu fill a special niche amongst the Emere. Confidants to the elite may be one such role, but so is a simple custodian who speaks his mind to the boss, no bullshit, and keeps the place spotless...

Ingane Ekwu, from the moment of chrysalis, seek out a little place for themselves. At this young of an age, however, that usually means being hired on as help.

Asendle Ekwu have risen up the employee ladder quickly. Even young, they run the wait staff, or the kitchen. Many become high ranking concierges while still in their teens. Their clients have no complaints.

Omdala Ekwu are ready to settle down with a place of their very own. Perhaps they take over the freehold for themselves, gaining titles and fiefdoms of their very own. Some forgo this pomp, however, content to be the quiet voice of seasoned success, and let the younger generation of Ekwu earn their salt.

Glamour Ways: Ekwu regain their Bilingo from their household and the contentment of its residents.

Unleashing: Cantrips cast by the Ekwu carry with them the best feelings the place has to offer. It smells like the best food ever cooked in the kitchen, it is the best temperatures for the region, it is as comfortable as the cushiest furniture... and the Ekwu smiles at it all.

Affinity: Scene

Birthrights

Magic House (*Nyumba ya Uchawi*): The household in which an Ekwu attached themselves becomes a freehold. By dint of their very presence the house begins to produce Bilongo of at least one a night. At character creation each Ekwu begins with a free dot of the holding background equal to their Seeming, Ingane receive 1 free dot, Asendle receive 2, and Omdala 3. However, they can easily purchase more at character creation if they wish.

If they ever leave for another household, it requires a full month of acclimation whilst their new household again becomes a freehold. In addition, while in a house she has acclimated to, all rolls made with the confines of the walls are at a -2 difficulty.

Frailties:

House Bound (*Nyumba Iliyofungwa*): An Ekwu cannot leave her household for very long, lest her own magics, as well as the house-magics fizzle out. An Ekwu can only leave her household for a number of days equal to her stamina. Afterwards she'll lose a die a day to any roll. If she is separated from the home for more than a month, she'll lose her Emere-self becoming undone. In addition, the house will no longer be a freehold (Regardless of whether or not others invested points to construct it).

No Scrubs (*Hakuna Sarafu*): An Ekwu also has strict rules of decorum and will not suffer the obnoxious in her holdings. If there is too much negativity, violence, ill behavior, or she is

ever offended enough, she will leave for another house, and take that magic with her. Between households however, she is at higher difficulties based on Seeming. Ingane are at a +1 difficulty, Asendle at a +2, and Omdala +3. This lasts until she has acclimated herself to the new Household (again, usually about a month). And yet again, the last household suffers for it, losing all the benefits of a freehold.

Serafina Enyonyam, boils a fresh pot of yams, pours a cup of tea, beckons you to put your feet up, and begins some small talk.

Abatwa: Oh hello! I saw you coming from way back there, welcome!

Aziza: Almost our kings, but never domestic enough.

Gnolls: Poor dears, they get such a bad reputation for such little fault of their own.

Kimbasi: Attractive? Yes. Arrogant, flighty, primadonnas? Absolutely.

Negoogungogumbar: Monsters yes, but not more so than some of our cousins.

Nieterkob: Almost our kings, but too wild.

Nyar-Viruze: Who needs a king, when we have such queens?

Ogo: The things that come out of, and go into, their mouths... it's unthinkable.

Tokoloshe: Goblins? Hardly. Demons more like, fit only to be eradicated...

Yombi: I had the pleasure of working at one's estate once, throwing a party and the like. So much joy to be had by all. Still, I wish that they could stand up for themselves more. It was awkward to see those hands stand up for them.

Eshu: Friends, but count your flatware after they leave.

Aithu: Filthy liars with all the allure of a chicken carcass.

Oba: Almost our kings, but not quite. But again, they have more of a case than the others.

Kithain: I once had dealing with a European household. The intrigue was dizzying. The taste of the food less-so.

