

# FOO 福

**"Dogs die. But dogs live, too. Right up until they die, they live. They live brave, beautiful lives. They protect their families. And love us. And make our lives a little brighter. And they don't waste time being afraid of tomorrow."**

The Honest Truth— *Dan Gemeinhart*,

**Quote:** Your destiny was writ by the Path of Heaven. I imagine it ends with your sacrilegious ass in the dirt. I am here due to your disrespect of the priesthood and their temple. Don't worry, there is a Good Hell waiting for you, I will see you arrive there in a timely manner. The Path of Heaven will be realized.

Chinese Guardian Lions, Shishi, Buddha Dogs, Tien-Ku, all the different titles have little bearing on these beasts of Heaven: all that matters is their position as guardians of the highest order, and heaven won't protect anyone that stands in the way of their celestial duties. Closely related to similar heaven dogs in other kingdoms (the Ruishī in Tibet, Chinthe in Thailand, Bulgae in this book) the Foo are easily the most recognized.

The Foo is an ever-present guardian the world over While most of them are found in the Three Kingdoms of Go, their duties find them serving numerous Dreaming Kingdoms. San Francisco, Hawaii, and as far away as New-York; anyplace in which someone or something needs the protection that only the Heaven Dogs can offer. Where there are practitioners of Eastern Faiths, the Foo are present. It is their divine mandate to watch over priests, temples, and all the holiness there-in.

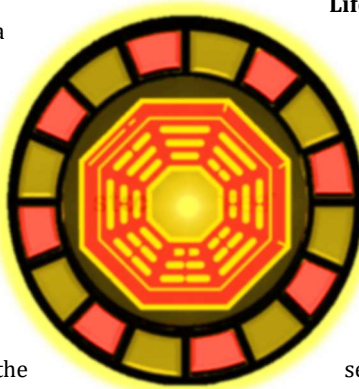
There are two varieties, and it might be hard to understand the differences between them; they both share the same Lucks and Curses (with a slight deviation). These are the Shīzi Foo (Lion Foo) and the Gǒu Foo (Dog Foo). Lion and Dog may be a bit of a misnomer, as they are both the same type of creature, with no difference in appearance. It should also be noted that gender has little bearing on these two variations. The females of the Kith can boast a lion's mane as easily as the males and possess the heightened strength birthright as well.

**Appearance:** In *Hotei-Mien*, the Foo are stocky, blocky, grim, and dour. They are big boned, bug eyed, and even when they smile, it seems a toothy grimace. In *Wani form*, this is even more apparent. Their big mouths are filled with even bigger teeth, with the pronounced canines of a beast of prey. The Eyes are big and buggy, with large pupils that roll around in their face all crazy like. The Shīzi Foo have slightly wavier manes of curly hair that sweep down their back, and the Gǒu Foo sport slightly longer snouts meant for gripping and tearing. All of them have short limbs, thick with muscle, perfect for chasing down runaway demons. In *Beast Form* they appear as Giant mastiffs, easily 4 feet tall at the shoulder. They ripple with muscle and glare at strangers.

## MASTIFF FOO DOG

Strength +2, Dexterity +3 Stamina +2, Perception +2,  
Attacks Bite: +2(L)

The *Mask of the Shintai* form appears as hybrids of lions and dogs with long sweeping manes and googly hateFool eyes. Their bodies shine brassy and cold and are the size of jeeps.



**Lifestyle:** Sincere, Honest, if not a little aggressive, the Foo do well in the world. The world needs more protecting every day, and their Faith seems under attack more and more every day. Luckily, these places of Eastern Faith can be found the world over, so there is never a shortage of work for the diligent Foo. Most every large city boasts a China-town with a sizable Population. The Fools hunt these cities, looking for Demons to slay.

*Hsien-Tsu Foo* are intense for their age. They seldom smile, and even when they do, it is usually because they just trounced some evil.

*Hsien-Jin Foo* are much the same as their younger years. They lose none of their fierceness despite a graying in their Foor.

**Glamour/Yugen Ways:** The Fools usually refuel their Glamour/Yugen by two methods, loosely based on differences of the two-foo.

The Shīzi Foo do so when mortal practitioners can worship and practice their faith unhindered and unafraid. In this they stay close to shrines and temples. Those prayers uttered in the temple and then answered.

Gǒu Foo do so whenever mortal practitioners of said faith can go about their day-to-day activities, those slice-of-life prayers uttered away from the temples and shrines .

What matters is that their beloved folks are living out their faith unhindered and unafraid. In this The Foo Dogs usually travel in pairs. One for the temple, and one for the people. One Lion, one Dog. This sometimes may manifest as a male and a female pairing guards the area (Sometimes even a couple) but this isn't mandatory.

**Unleashing:** Foo Unleashings are accompanied by the smell of incense, low rhythmic chanting, and the unbearable weight of being judged by heaven - and found *wanting*.

**Kwannon-Jin Fortune:** Metal - *or* - Affinity: Scene

*Shīzi Foo* - Yin: 1 Yang: 3

*Gǒu Foo* - Yin: 3 Yang: 1

**Luck:**

**Heaven's Thunder Roar (*Tiāntáng de Fēngtóu Yāohè*):** Both Foo have a mighty roar which can trap their foes in a prison of fear. The Foo rolls his Intimidation + Charisma at a difficulty of his Opponent's willpower. The Opponent must roll his willpower at a difficulty of the Foo's Intimation + Charisma rating. Any successes over on the part of the Foo indicate how many rounds the Opponent is frozen. The Foo can only use this ability once per day if alone, but twice a day if with another Foo.

**Shīzi Foo only- Heaven's Iron Arms (Tiāntáng de Tiě Wǔqì):** Lion Foo are gifted by Heaven with great strength. At Character Creation they are given two free dots of strength for free (Starting at 3) even if this takes them above 5.

**Gǒu Foo only- Heaven's Golden Legs (Tiāntáng de Huángjīn Měituì):** Dog Foo are gifted by Heaven with great speed. At Character Creation they are given two free dots of Dexterity for free (Starting at 3) even if this takes them above 5.

#### Curse:

**Face of Anger (Fènnù de liǎn):** Both the Lion and the Dog Foo have faces akin to the slipped seeming flaw. This flaw manifests in large jaws, big eyes, a few too many teeth showing, and a frowning face that only a mother could love. While not necessarily ugly, there is something *Assertive* about the Foo's face, that leaves others feeling judged whenever the Foo is around. This gives a +2 to difficulty to any social roll the Foo makes when dealing with others, especially Sunset People. Priests, however, aren't affected.

**Shīzi Foo only - Heaven's Temple Guard (Tiāntáng de Shèng Diàn Shǒuwèi):** Lion Foo are tied to temples and must find a place to guard. Small forest shrines, city monuments, or great temple-fortresses shrouded in misty mountains, all Foo boast one under their care. While they can leave for other ventures, they must return at some point. If any harm befalls their chosen Temple, then they are at a -3 to all rolls until the harm is avenged.

**Gǒu Foo only- Heaven's Children Guard (Tiāntáng de Háizi Shǒuhù):** Dog Foo are tied to religious figures. Buddhist monks, Taoist priests, or others of the like, all Foo boast one under their care. While they can leave for other ventures, they must return at some point. If any harm befalls their chosen gigs, then they are at a -3 to all rolls until the harm is avenged.

**Ai and Ah stand outside of a small shrine with an even smaller praying priest. They answer your query with quickness...**

**Doyo Unagi:** They fight hard and protect mortals just as much. For this they have earned our respect.

**Jin Chan:** I have no use for our rich uncles. Everything we need we obtain with our own merit.

**Imugi:** Good lads, if not a little strangely pleasant. Still, someone need be so nice in this ugly world. They do get more smiles than we do.

**Bulgae:** The only one fiercer is us. They are our closest allies among the Yaoguai.

**Sudal:** Prattling thieves and liars. Their serve no purpose but to distract us from our duty.

**Mahō Shōjo Hō-Ō:** Red, Blue, Pink, Plaid; no matter the hair color, they are just as annoying.

**Gasin:** Bah. Let them see to their mortal concerns. It doesn't bother me in the least.

**Obake:** The Foxes may claim lineage. That won't save them from my teeth in their throats.

**Bakemono:** Bah, Oni and long-necks and Heaven knows what else. They're annoying, not evil. Save your rage for the Kuei-Jin.

**Kamuii:** the Elementals? Okay, this we will accept. Not so their preening and posturing. You are metal and fire, not peacocks.

**Hirayanu:** The Heng-Po are allies, the Nyan are sluts, the Hanuman are just annoying. Judge each by their own merit.

**The Sunset People:** The what? Oh, the Sunset People. we don't speak Keltoi, and we don't know what half their names mean. They're irrelevant. We do have a friend named Atchoo, he tells good stories.

