

Peikko

O, Ye Many Unborn Nations,
Never Let Evil Nurse Your Children,
Never Give Them Out To Strangers,
The Kalevala - Rune Xxxvi, Song of Kullerwoinen:

Quote: Hey there, come over here for a second, don't worry, I won't bite. I have all this candy, and I can't eat it. I'll tell you what; if you pull your sister's hair, I'll let you have the whole lot of it.

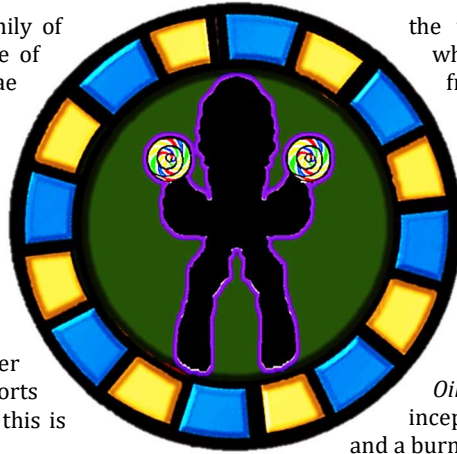
The Piekko Väki (Kith) is a wild family of Finnish Pirut (Unseelie), creepy to a one of them, and bordering what Keltoi Fae understand as Thallain - though it should be stressed that they do have strict rules of conduct and police their own. The Piekko are supposedly slow and stupid and lazy Monsters. They were hideous giants who could transform into rocky landscapes, or even better- turn invisible. They would drill holes in babies teeth, eat toddlers who wandered out of the house, and convince older children to disobey their parents in all sorts of creative ways. Unfortunately, most of this is correct.

They do promote bad behavior in children. However, as children are the only creatures susceptible to their Cantrips, then children are also the only means in which a Piekko can refuel their Lumoava. The slow, stupid, lazy monsters is somewhat misleading. They aren't lazy, as they will also go to great lengths to ensure that their young victims act like brats, sometimes plans are acted out months -or even years- in advance. The same for their supposed idiocy. No plan is too Machiavellian or extravagant if it means that a child acts in accordance with the Piekko's base needs. As far as slow? They are always faster than one would think, despite their large size.

Thankfully, for children everywhere, no Piekko will ever harm a child in that way. Causing a child's death brings them a permanent point of Lattea (Banality), and untold levels of psychological damage along with it. Despite their creepy, Pirut ways, the Piekko aren't Thallain, just Pirut. It should also be stressed, that the entire weight of the Piekko Väki will fall on such a child-murderer, who will ensure that such a Piekko never screws up again - and will never get the opportunity.

Appearance: In both Kasvot (Mien), the Piekko are large boned, hairy, and ugly. The Mies Kasvot (Mortal Mien) is comically ugly. Their clothes never seem to fit right, their hair is always disheveled, try as they might for otherwise, and their large frames seem ill-suited for the failed impression of haute-couture they try to convey. Their Lumoava Kasvot (Fae Mien) is no longer comically ugly but frightening and monstrously ugly. Their large frames are now upwards of 3 meters, and their large beefy hands with thick sausage fingers are the size of other's heads. There is still a sense of disheveledness about them, but it just adds to their threatening appearance.

Lifestyle: The life of the Piekko is a relatively tragic one. They exist on the periphery, as they rarely have many friends. There is always a sense of desperation about them that rubs people



the wrong way. Watching them hustle and wheedle their ways around a playground is a frightening, depressing, and sordid affair. They are boogey-men, who have little power over anyone except children, and regrettably, such children are their life-blood.

Pieni Peikko are thankfully rare. Most Piekko Chrysalis don't begin until young adulthood, or about roughly Oikukas time.

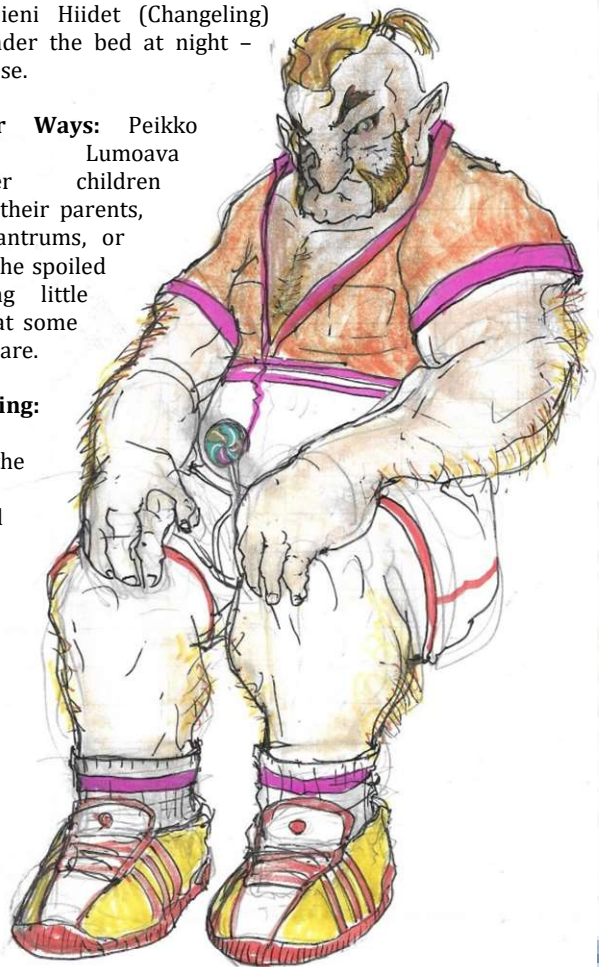
Oikukas Peikko, from the moment of their inception, inherit a strong distaste for children, and a burning desire to wreck their little lives.

Järkevä Peikko are horribly ugly monsters, the monster in the black van that kidnaps babies and puts razors in Halloween Candy, at least that's the rumor.

Every *Pieni Hiidet* (Changeling) looks under the bed at night - just in case.

Glamour Ways: Peikko regain Lumoava whenever children disobey their parents, throw tantrums, or act like the spoiled disgusting little brats that some children are.

Unleashing: Cantrips cast by the Peikko are smell like old mud and rotten



vegetation, but there is also the smell of way too much overly sweet perfume on top of that, as if the original smell was trying to cover up.

Affinity: Actor

Birthrights:

Invisibility (*Näkymättömyys*): One of the Peikko's most useful abilities, is their ability to disappear from sight – though the power is tricky and nebulous dependent on the Age of onlookers. It cost one point of Lumoava spent, and a successful Dexterity + Stealth roll with two difficulties. It is a difficulty 7 for Children, and a difficulty 8 for adults.

In reverse, that is, when an adult or child is actively looking for the Peikko, the Difficulties are the same. For an adult to see a Peikko (and they must actively be looking) takes a Perception roll difficulty 8, and a Children's Perception roll is difficulty 7.

Giant Strength (*Jättiläisvoima*): The Peikko are giants, albeit smaller ones, and still inherit the strength of arm that giants of other realms inherit. At Character Creation, they gain free dots of Strength based on Seeming. The Pieni Peikko, as rare as they thankfully are, gain an additional +1 to Str. Oikukas Peikko gain a +2, and Järkevä +3. In addition, all Peikko begin with 1 free dot to Stamina.

Frailties

Babies Only (*Vain Vauvoille*): In a strange turn by the Finnish Dreaming, the Peiko's powers can only affect children, i.e., Children are the only creatures susceptible to their Cantrips. Adults are immune to almost all of the Peikko's abilities, excepting their invisibility. It must also be stressed that without magic means they cannot overcome the mists and see the Lumoava Kasvot.

Ugly (*Inhottava*): The Peiko are ugly, but not just because they are ugly – they are- but because there is something fundamentally creepily other about them. No Peikko can begin with an Appearance higher than 1, and in addition, they are at a higher difficulty to any Social roll involving anyone other than children (who can overlook things like creepiness and ugliness). The Pieni Peikko, again thankfully rare, are at +1 diff to all social rolls involving anyone save other children, to Str. Oikukas Peikko are at a +2 diff, and Järkevä +3.

Jan Hammasjeikko, encouraging you to take another piece of Candy- spits out honeyed words about the delicious little Hiidet.

Haltijas: So many flavors, so many colors, it is a regular candy-shop of fun, yes?

Otso: Bah. Large bears, they are not so strong as they think. But that is good with their little ones, who think they are strong enough.

Pääpiru: When they are little, it is so easy to point and whisper and push and pull. Not so when they are older, they do those things anyway, but they do it against us. It is then not fun anymore.

Paasselkä: I wish I had more to collect, but I do not have a boat, and I do not swim so good...

Füchse: I do not like them. I have not seen their Pieni, and I would not trust them if I did.

Velho: There are some Children, smart and clever ones, who see through all our plans, and see us as we are. They aren't afraid but chase us away with all sorts of tricks. If you think one of your next children is a Velho, look to the next children to work on. It is safer.

Spriggans: There are Kelts who have copied our methods. They are much smaller and much squishier. When they cross my path, I squish them.