



**Below a certain point, if you keep too quiet,
people no longer see you as thoughtful or deep;
they simply forget you.** -Douglas Coupland

Quote: Oh my, look at all those presents – and what a wonderful Cake! (*Whispered watching a party while hidden high in a tree*)

Deep in the warm tropical jungles, Veli skulk and creep, watching the Waking World quickly pass by. Taciturn by nature, this Fijian Kadugo interacts with others- be they Huringa (Fae) or Mortal, only in the direst of circumstances. This may seem a detriment to many Happy-Go-Lucky Fae Folk in the Sea-of-Islands, but the Veli have done simply fine for themselves during the last few thousand years....

Even before their Chrysalis, there are signs of A Veli's true Whanau. A quiet nature spent watching but happy to participate in the fun coupled with tell-tale signs of coppery hair shining red in direct sunlight- the Veli watching this all unfold (and there are always Veli watching) know that the time is soon. When the change comes, the new Veli is welcomed with open arms.

Though that can quickly change if someone were to catch them by their hair. The red hair of the Veli is Kapu, and if seized, the Veli is sworn into a Geasa for a month of service. Hopefully the captor isn't too demanding. The Veli may be obligated to help, they certainly won't go against their own natures. That Captor should also be aware of one key factor- at the end of the Month, the Veli will be free again to do as they will....

Appearance: In both Kino Lau (Mien) the Veli are shortish and waifish figures, with quick eyes and small mouths. Their Iki Kino Lau (Mortal Mien) boasts the sprite body of an athlete- though much shorter, just over 5 feet, and even shorter sometimes. Even here, the hair shines coppery red or strawberry in the light. The Nui Kino Lau (Fae Mien) finds them even shorter, rarely over 4 feet, with a fine covering of reddish gold fur on their bodies and a head full of cherry-red curls. The eyes of the Veli are bright red as well, and never seem to blink- which can be unnerving for those not used to it.

Lifestyle: The Veli have small tight-knit communities of their own number, with outsiders being rare. Other Kadugo may occasionally be welcome, but mortals almost never. They are also the least traveled of all the Kadugo- with almost the whole of their number remaining behind in Fiji. Though the rare Kanaka may go adventuring with another Whanau (Family) – and not without good reason - most of them stay close to home. Special mention should be made of their musical abilities, as every one of their number enjoy performing music (for their own of course, never for others) and each can play at least one instrument.

Keiki Veli are kept close at home, and unfortunately are too young to fully appreciate the Secret ways of their Kadugo. Yet they quickly learn how fun their secretive ways can be. They are the undisputed champions of hide-and-seek... though they rarely have any others to play with...

Kanaka Veli aren't out to prove themselves, like so many other Wilders. They are content to watch and learn. A person can learn a lot by watching the mistakes of others, and the Veli secretly watch those mistakes.

Kumu Veli with some grey streaks in their Scarlet tresses, are wise beyond their years, and capable of high supernatural powers of stealth. Even the other Veli tread lightly, never knowing if there is an Elder sneaking about

Glamour Ways: The Veli regain Mana whenever they can participate in human affairs, without the humans knowing that they are there. Sitting in the back at Slam Poetry Night, listening in on a happy family at a restaurant, watching through the window at a birthday party- as creepy as all this is, it refuels the Veli's magics.

Unleashing: Mele cast by the Veli are horridly aromatic affairs. They smell like rotten onions and decaying fish guts, with just a hint of garlic. The colors grow warmer and any reds in the scene are saturated to a nausea inducing brightness. Worse than all of that, is the strange music that comes from nowhere and everywhere at once, that is delightful to the ear, but horrendously juxtaposed with everything else.

Affinity: Actor

Birthrights:

Stealthy-Spiders (*Vuni Vakacava*): The Veli are perhaps the stealthiest of the Huringa -with the whole of the existence spent behind the scenes watching the world unfold. They are also natural climbers, who can scramble up rocks, trees, or other steep surfaces as quick as a spider.

At Character Creation, every Veli begins with 3 free points of Dexterity, even above 5. In addition, any Stealth rolls made for sneaking or athletics rolls for climbing are always at a -2 difficulty- and they can never botch such a roll.

Frailties:

Sacred Hair (*Tabu Ulu*): The long crimson locks of the Veli are sacred ties to their ancestors. If someone were catch a Veli by their hair, the Veli will be bound to them for a full month. While that doesn't make them a slave, they will be forced to aid their captor in any way that they can, and to renege on the aid would accrue them a temporary point of He Tukino.

It must also be stressed that if the other Veli found out that one of their own broke the Hair Kapu, then the Kadugo (Kith) as a whole would have a say in the matter and seek restitution to the captor. The Veli, for all their wild ways, are sticklers for the rules.

Tevita keeps out of sight while he shares his opinions.

Aikanaka: Of course, they are large, but they are also incredibly slow. It works well for all of us, hey?

Adaro: Bad News, yes, but as they spend most time in the water, and I never go down to the water, I'd like to think I'm safe.

Ariá: Bad news. Incredibly unlucky bad news. Stay clear away.

Fe'e: You Dad was a God? While I'm sure that is something to brag about, when was the last time you got a Birthday Card from the big-lug? Not so keen to brag anymore, now are you?

Kakamora: Poisonous little pissants with all the charm of a dead roach. Coming from me that says a lot.

Keiki-Pua'a: Not everybody likes to wrestle, or rassle as they call it. Not everybody likes to party loud. Sometimes the pig-boys need to be reminded.

Tipua: I honestly don't know if I've ever seen one, and if'n I did, would I even know? I'm good at hiding, they take it to the next level.

Tūrehu: I know that so many of us are hiders, it keeps us safe, and if we're safe we're alive. But do we have to hide from even each other? The Tūrehu and the Veli are damn near twin-Tribes. We should be bestie-mates, and not hide from each other at all.

