

YETI འཕྲུལ་མེད་

"Chasing angels or fleeing demons, go to the mountains."

Bringing Progress to Paradise: What I Got from Giving to a Mountain Village in Nepal— *Jeffrey Rasley*,

Quote: ... None, just quiet watching from afar.

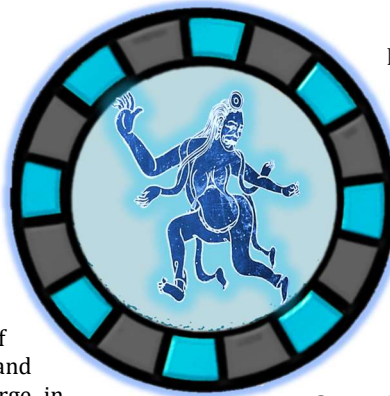
Experts will tell you that they are bears, or yaks, or perhaps an ape found at unusually high climes. Of course, the rest of the world's not-experts have their own Truth, that the Abominable Snowman howls across the Himalayas, leaving behind footprints and mystery. None are correct, for the reticent and quiet Yeti is its own entity, with its own needs, and what it needs and wants is just to be left alone.

This Zo-dor (Kith), one of the varied tribes of Hairy-Volken scattered across the Dreaming and Waking World, happily remains inscrutable. Large in body even before their Chrysalis, they take great pains to go unnoticed as much as they are able. Whispering voices, avoiding eye-contact, crouching behind others, the painfully shy Yeti take to the lonely snow-covered mountain-tops as soon as they are able, leaving the world of mortals far behind.

However, this isn't just due to their fear of crowds. It is also because at the end of the day, the Yeti are wild creatures of the icy wild mountaintops. It is a grave mistake to underestimate the strength of any Kith, and the Yeti are far more dangerous than they appear. Their monstrous visages complete with dark eyes and thick tusks highlight their monstrous nature, equally monstrous strength, and their ability to vanish into an icy storm unhindered by cold, all should serve as reminders that the wild places of the world aren't meant for mortals... and the Himalayas are no exception.

Appearance: The Yeti are in turns easy to overlook, but hard to miss. Their quiet manner, and unobtrusive nature keep them out of trouble, but their large size sometimes makes that a bit difficult. The Nirmana Kya (Mortal Mien) is taller than their peers, even the Childings being taller than a full-grown man (as per the slipped seeming). They have large sad eyes, and puppy-dog faces under a mop of shaggy hair. The Dharma Kya (Fae Mien) is even taller, with the Childing pushing upwards of over 2 and ½ meters. Their thick muscular bodies are covered with shaggy fur that gets lighter with age. Their face is animalistic, but not exactly threatening, with large dark eyes, tusks, and sometimes even a pair of horns jutting out from their brow.

Lifestyle: Even prior to their Bodhicitta (Chrysalis), the Yeti are a shy bunch. They are introverted and quiet, running away to the silent snow-covered peaks whenever their mortal lives get too loud. This doesn't change after they discover their Zo-dor nature. Up where the air is thin, and the only sounds are the



howling winds, the Yeti can relax and be themselves. They may form small tight-knit motleys of only Yeti, or they may prefer complete solitude. All, however, will aid the wandering mendicant that needs their help. Monks (especially the Awakened *Akacha Yanay*- Mind Monks) can call on a Yeti for aid if the need is dire enough. This aid, however, does not necessarily extend to other Zo-dor.

Cetana Yeti are the smallest of their number, and each one is at least 2 and ½ meters tall (8.2 ft) and covered with a greyish brown fur. They still fear their own strength, and hopefully have a beloved Elder to coach them through these tough times. They escape to the mountains whenever it gets too loud for them.

Chonyil Yeti, also called *Meti* are taller, upwards of 3 meters (9.8 ft) and covered with light greying fur. As strong as they are, they disdain using it, and spend more and more time alone, fleeing to the mountains for some much needed quiet. They are perhaps the easiest to convince of serving as guides if needs must but would prefer to be left alone.

Nyinmo Yeti, also called *Dzuti*, are the largest of their Tribe. They top at 3 and ½ meters (11.5 ft), with the strength to match and are covered with a thick cover of whitish blue fur. They are the most insular of their number, and rarely come back down from the safety of the wintry peaks. If possible, they interact only with other Yeti, abandoning the world of mortals and Zo-dor both.

Glamour Ways: Yeti regain Sog from the reverence and respect of fellow travelers on their mountain passes. Sherpa and similar guides especially walk the Yeti's domain with a quiet admiration and healthy fear, all of which refuel the Yeti's magics. It should be stressed that Yeti rarely deign to go interact with those travelers, content to follow from a distance, but sometimes following is enough to refuel their magicks.

Unleashing: Phowa cast by the Yeti are accompanied by powerful gusts of icy winds, a blasting of blinding snow, and a roar of something that may be a tempest wind, or may be an ancient beast...

Affinity: Nature

Birthrights:

Strong Arms: The Large Size of the Yeti, while a great shame to the Yeti, also has some small blessings. It manifests in greater Strength and more Health Levels, dependent on Seeming. Cetana gain a free dot of Strength at character creation even if over 5. Meti-Yeti gain 2 free dots, and an additional bruised Health level. Dzuti gain 3 free dots of Strength, and 2 additional Bruised Health levels. In addition, no hindrances to any rolls, due to ice, cold, or inclement weather, can affect to the Yeti, who are happily content in the harsh conditions of the mountains.

Camouflage: The harsh conditions of the mountains, the blinding snow, and the like, provide a natural cover for the Yeti, whose light-colored fur is naturally conditioned to provide a camouflage. All Yeti gain a +2 to all stealth rolls while outside in this weather. Depending on particularly adverse weather, this can sometimes be raised even higher...

Frailties:

Self-defense: The Yeti are soft-hearted beasts, scared of their own strength and hurting others – which could be a certainty. If ever they should throw down the proverbial gauntlet, the damage they could inflict would be quite the spectacle. Luckily, for their enemies at least, the Yeti prefer a life of non-violence to the best of their ability. They will only physically attack if they themselves are physically attacked. If they cause any harm to someone who hasn't attacked them, a point of temporary Dukha (Banality) may be coming their way. It should be remembered that despite this fear of harming others, no Yeti is a coward, and sometimes it takes more courage to walk away.

However, the other side of this remains, to attack a Yeti is an open invitation to a beat-ass, and no Yeti will feel remorse if they are actively defending themselves.

Slipped Seeming: The Yeti are large in body, if not personality, and this extends even to their Mortal Mien. They all suffer the Flaw Slipped Seeming to reflect this size – but not the Merit Huge-Size. In addition, most Yeti find the size a hindrance, as it makes it harder to escape notice. Not many of the Yeti walk with a straight back proud of themselves; hunching with a bowed head, and crouching behind smaller peers is all too common.

Wild: The Yeti are large and soft-hearted innocents to be true but are also wild creatures of the wild mountains. The real world has no place for them, and sometimes this displacement manifests in their interactions with the mortal folk. All social rolls have a higher difficulty based on Seeming that will forever prove a hindrance. Cetana- Yeti are at a +1 difficulty, Meti-Yeti a +2, and Dzuti, with nary a kind word for modern human settlement, are forever at a +3 difficulty.



Zopa, reluctant to reveal, meekly offers his opinions, with promise that you'll let him be after he shares.

Btsan: They engage in warfare only to distract them from the harshness of their own existence. I suppose that we all need hobbies.

Deva Putra: All the people, and object, and noise; being surrounded by it all day long. Godhood sounds tedious.

Gyalpos: I am never sure which face I am meeting whenever we cross paths. Sometimes it is a good face to deal with, sometimes it simply a waste of time.

Klesa: Fear is a powerful weapon, and they wield it well. I can admit to this.

Mrtya: For some reason, they are the strongest of the Mara, at least to the mortals. I find that the next world is far less frightening than this world.

Skhandha: I have lived with the mortals as a mortal, and I understand the slow creeping fright of an empty belly, a dirty house, an empty room with no family. The Skhanda should never be underestimated.

Huirnviu: The West has beasts, smaller and more frightening than anything that the Mara can offer. When traveling, it is best to keep the mouth shut and eyes open.