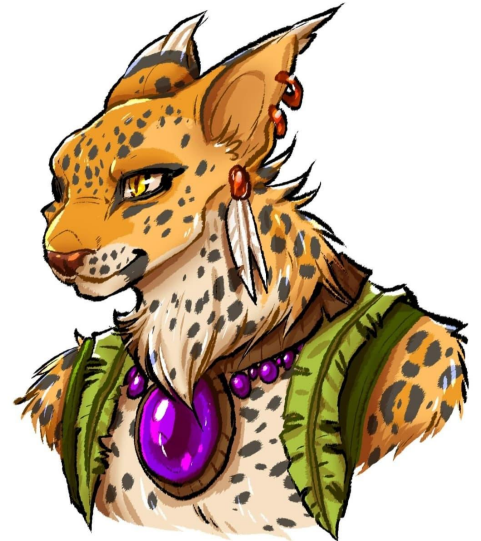


### Savar'Aving of the Neeli Pride

The Savar'Aving of the Neeli Pride are composed of various types of jungle dwelling Savar'Aving. Their customs are similar to those of Felnir, and they use a matriarchal society where males are seen as second class. In recent years their population has drastically declined, and so the Neeli Pride have put those who can give life at the forefront of their priorities. Males serve to protect the females of the Pride because they are the future, and so if one can give life, one should be responsible for taking it too. Thus, female Savar'Aving are decidedly the leaders and champions of the Pride.

The Pride is led by a pristine jaguar Savar'Aving, and she is recognizable by an obsidian circlet adorned by a magnificent neeli gem embedded in the center. To signify her status, her wrists carry two obsidian bracelets.



The honorific and title must be earned through combat. Traditionally, the Pride Mother is challenged, and the Neeli jewelry is surrendered to an witnessing elder. A space of 30 strides is cleared for their duel, and when one Savar'Aving is no longer able to continue or forfeits, the victor is celebrated. After the celebrant claims the circlet and bracelets, the defeated swears fealty to the new Pride Mother.

The local population of Savar'Aving is diminutive compared to Felnir and other regions. They lay their claim to the Forests of Mourning, and take shelter in small caves below a waterfall where their young are nurtured. By day, they hunt for any traces of Necromancy within the area, and when night falls vicious strikes are launched. The Neeli Pride is composed of many undead hunters and bounty hunters, and they pride themselves as the first defense against enemies of the Island.

The Savar'Aving govern their people with a firm hand, and their aversion to Necromancy makes the Pride very protective of their own. Superstition governs their views of the Killing Edge, and it is viewed as a necrotic taint. Lost Ones are exiled by the tribe and set loose to wreak havoc on the surrounding undead. Any who are lost the curse of undeath become hunted prey, and are destroyed without hesitation.

Natives to the Island understand the need for arranged marriages, and so most groups of cubs are fostered together to ensure compatibility between each pair. It is common for the Pride Mother to pair Savar'Aving in part due to their small population. The match decision is finalized when a Savar'Aving comes of age, and their talents begin to burgeon. Upon reaching maturity, the Pride celebrates these mating pairs by assigning them tutelage under the Pride's finest warriors. The Pride Mother will also

assign a small group of male Savar'Aving to the mother's side to tend to all her needs, and those with young are protected fiercely by warriors who have endured the hardships of child rearing.

While there is precedence, the separation of mating pairs is extremely rare. Before a pair can officially be conjoined, the male will be sent on a quest by his future partner with input from any previous mates he has had. Should he return successfully, the pair will be mated. Some males, who are found lacking in virtue are tasked with recovering a banished lost one for the Pride, and if he successfully does, is celebrated with a mate after his trial.

#### **Notable Figures:**

*Chiatl Brightclaw* - Mate to the first Pride mother on the Crescent isles, Chiatl is a tiger Savar'Aving and follower of the Jade Firstborn. He was granted a vision by the Firstborn herself on the location of a magical cloak called the Cloak of One Wing. In order to become his Pridemother's Mate, he pledged to retrieve this cloak for her. Embarking on this journey he managed to retrieve the cloak and bestowed it to his pridemother in order to secure his marriage.

*Eztli Spearmother* - The current matriarch of the Neeli Pride, she bears the responsibility of continuing the Pride and growing its numbers. With so many lost to the madness, or slain in battle she persists in ensuring that any enemies of the Neeli find no refuge in the forests of mourning. She is harsh and unforgiving in light of the recent loss of her child, and struggles with balancing her duties as Pride Mother with her desire to wage war on the Undead. Her patterning is that of a jaguar.

#### **Roleplay Tips:**

- This is a pride of proud warriors and gatherers. What you lack in numbers, you make up in competence. Great lengths are taken to ensure each and every child is raised in accordance with their talents, and that expertise shines through in everything the Neeli do.
- The Savar'Aving's desire to outlive their plague, and return to their former glory. While it is true you have been separated from your mainland counterparts for centuries, you still hold a deep-seated loyalty to your pride as a result of your need to grow the Pride.
- Feral and insightful, the Neeli Pride are as generous as they are proud. While they might not have lots of experience with outsiders, they are respectful and hold a noble bearing in their nature. Malicious wrongdoings are met with viciousness, and it is known that Neeli does not broker arguments. Offense will be taken care of swiftly and without remorse.