

ATLAS ORIANA: THE SACRIFICE

DESERT ELF LORE HERE

MULTIVERSE BACKGROUND

Atlas is bound by the celestial laws of the universe to do good in every timeline. No matter the cost, whether they must sacrifice their own life or the lives of another, Atlas will do what is necessary to keep the good in power and remain a beacon of hope for the downtrodden across every dimension. In their earlier days, Atlas and their twin brother Pluto were inseparable. They were best friends. They trained together, grew up together, worked together, and fought together. It's when Pluto passes that Atlas realizes how delicate mortality truly is, and sets out on a lifelong journey to mend the balance in their world and eventually reunite with their brother in the glory of death.

APPEARANCE

Atlas is tall and very fit and toned. An attractive person with angular, almost elvish features. They have a strong nose with a bump on the high bridge and full lips. Their skin is freckled from the sun and slightly tanned. They are femme-presenting in most timelines. Atlas has long white hair pulled back from their face and a piece always falls out and covers their right eye. They have grey blue tattoos on their face, neck and left arm - though the style of the tattoos varies throughout different timelines as do their facial scars. They have black/grey eyes and a peaceful expression. Some say they look cold because of their features, despite them having a slightly upturned grin at all times.

PERSONALITY

Atlas is kind, patient, and fiery. They are extremely dexterous and quite strong. Atlas spends a lot of their time training and thinking about the universe and its balance. They can't cook at all, but they have a knack for scavenging and tend to eat raw foods and breads. In most timelines, Atlas is a heavy drinker as it helps them cope with the constant possibility of their death - one that they are willing to accept for the greater good. Atlas exudes an aura of confidence. They are stoic and strong-willed. Chaotic good, they will always do what is necessary to help someone who has been wronged. Their sexuality changes depending on the timeline.

Spotify Playlist: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3Ubxn2soMBBKQl7hmeHU9I?si=a211531352774e4a>

Pinterest Board: <https://www.pinterest.ca/tabitharosegibsonxo/atlas-oriana/>

Ref pics:  AtlasRefs

IN BALDUR'S GATE

Atlas and Pluto were born under a cold desert sky, their eyes imbued with the light of the moon. Desert elves, the twins were forced into a life of nomadic ostracism - a dying subrace of a much larger and physically stronger race of peoples in the forgotten realms. The harsh sun beat down on their clan as they travelled up and down the dunes of Zakharan, the two of them learning the ways of the desert and how to best survive. They trained night and day using scimitars and throwing knives, mimicking the movement of sidewinders and dust devils. Though weaker than other elves, the desert elf race was fast, dexterous and dangerous, unaffected by weather or terrain. Using ancient machinery long forgotten by the high desert smugglers, their small clan - lhúg - harvested water and resources from deep under the sand's surface. Their people were skeptical of magic, believing that such power and knowledge belonged to the enlightened clans that inhabited much of the Zakharan lands they too resided upon. Instead, their clan worshipped the Zakharan goddess of truth: Hakiyah, since truth (to the lhúg) was based in fact and science. After generations of desert elves fled to Faerun and mated with wood and high elves, the ones who remained were dedicated to keeping their history and traditions alive.

Pluto was destined to become the next leader of their clan and follow in his father's footsteps, with Atlas being forced to become a healer. Though all of the desert elves were warriors in their own right, every elf in their respective clan had a job and duty to uphold and their children would soon take over their position once they were no longer fit to carry out their duties themselves in their old age. Atlas was desperate to become a scout rather than a healer, but it was not in tradition to do so. As Pluto and Atlas grew into their teen years, it was obvious to most of the clan that Atlas had outranked their brother in skill and speed, and that despite being of slightly smaller stature, they always had the upper hand both physically and intellectually. The twins trained and sparred under the light of the moon every night, and as Atlas progressed, Pluto became more and more frustrated with himself and his inability to surpass his twin sister. In an effort to prove himself, Pluto set out on an expedition disguised as a scout to help them find their next place of settlement, hopefully one with an oasis. The roads were dangerous and riddled with Thawrs and bandits, both of which the true scouts were trained to deal with. Pluto was only 15, and had never learnt the ways of the lhúg scouts since this was not his birthright. When attacked by a group of raiders, Pluto froze in fear which alerted the lhúg scouts that he was in fact the heir to the clan and not a part of their party. The scouts desperately tried to protect him from the raiders, but they couldn't hold them all back from Pluto. As the raider leader approached him, Pluto drew his dual scimitars and stepped forward to meet his match - but instead, met his maker. After only a few minutes of sparring and the leader toying with him, he cut Pluto down. Quickly, the head lhúg scout threw a knife towards the raider, hitting him square in the neck, but not before he had already buried his scimitars into Pluto's torso. The scouting party regrouped and killed the remaining raiders before abandoning the expedition in order to bring Pluto's body back home to his family.


Upon their arrival, Atlas cried out in agony, summoning a sandstorm that whipped around their clan so violently that the surrounding dunes were no longer recognizable, and the clan settlement itself sat high on the top of a single dune left in the area. Terrified of the power that Atlas possessed, the clan quickly tried to exile them despite them being the new heir since Pluto's passing. Atlas and their parents burned Pluto's body at sunrise, and before they could meet with the clan elders and followers about their daughter's fate, Atlas gathered their belongings and left on their own. At only 15 years of age, Atlas used

the light of the moon and sun to guide their way through the desert. They cut down clan warriors and bandits with throwing knives that danced upon the winds of their making. They drew water from far beneath the sand with a single swoop of their hand, and learnt to embrace the natural arcane gifts that the gods had blessed them with since birth. After decades of exile, Atlas found themselves surrounded by warriors from the House of Tayif; a ruthless and dangerous clan made up of Zakharan fighters who were known as 'Ghost Warriors.' Atlas dropped her packs and stood tall in the circle, ready to fight to their death and reunite with their brother in Hakiyah's realm. But as Atlas summoned the winds around them and allowed their dozen daggers to swirl around them, once Tayif stepped forward into the circle stating "I know you, desert witch." Atlas stopped the winds and allowed the daggers to fall at their feet as the warrior before them unveiled their mask revealing a much older and weather worn version of their father. Atlas - having been reunited with him - was spared by the Tayif warriors and learnt all about their fathers own exile from their old clan, brought upon himself by desperation to find his lost daughter. Since losing Pluto and Atlas in one fell swoop, their mother had embraced the Faerunian goddess Shar and led their clan into darkness against their father's wishes. Horrified by this news, Atlas made haste to find any trace of their old clan alongside their father in the hopes that they could somehow convert them back to Hakiyah's truth.

For two years Atlas searched far and wide, until their father passed and they were forced to halt their journey to honour him properly with a ceremony fit for a passing leader. Atlas mourned for a week, drawing themselves in drink and getting into constant fights with Zakharan's who dared to cross them. Atlas begged Hakiyah to show them the way, to show them what their purpose was, and she answered. Presenting herself to them, Hakiyah spoke of their mother's journey to Faerun. Atlas knew it was necessary to go after them which in turn meant leaving the desert and their goddess, but having lived as a self inflicted exile for so long, it wasn't as if there would be a difference if they committed this act of treason. Upon entering Faerun and losing connection to the pantheon of their homeland, Atlas was visited by Selune, appearing before them as a vision of their brother who told them that their mother and clan were off on a quest through Baldur's Gate to find a Sharran cloister to reside within. Being loyal to Hakiyah, Atlas refused Selune's blessings and instead struck a deal with the goddess. As long as Atlas agreed to take down the Sharran cloister that their mother found, Selune would aid Atlas until they returned to the desert and their goddess. An alliance between the two was formed and Atlas embraced Selune's guidance, making their way to Baldur's Gate in search of their old clan. However, Atlas wasn't in Faerun for more than a week before they were snatched up by a nautiloid and forced to team up with their own worst enemy - a Sharran from the very cloister that their mother may have found themselves within. With no other choice of allies, Atlas begrudgingly kept their past to themselves and stayed far away from the Sharran, until her mystery and cold beauty became too much to push away. As the journey went on and the two enemies learnt more about each other, the two formed a strange and unbreakable bond, one that grew from hatred to respect and eventually, admiration to affection.

RELATIONSHIPS

Atlas had only one night stands and the occasional repeated lover. They were too nomadic and refused to get attached to anyone.



Shadowheart: After teaming up on the nautiloid, Atlas began to slowly find Shadowheart more and more sexually appealing. Her mystery and cold exterior was something that Atlas was intrigued by, and wanted to break. The tension between them was palpable, even before they knew of each other's opposing beliefs and goddesses. Though enemies through the beginnings of their journey, the two learnt to trust one another despite their differences and eventually grew close romantically. After throwing away her Sharran worship and embracing Selune, Shadowheart and Atlas only grew more connected to one another.