

***TL;DR: GIANT SCARY SCALY DRAGON CAPITALISTS THAT ARE EQUAL PARTS VIKING, FERengi IF YOU REPLACE THE SLIMEY WITH ANXIETY, STRONG FAMILY VALUES, AND HAVE LITERAL DRAGON HORDES THAT MAKES THEM SEXIER AND HUNKIER THE BIGGER THE HORDE GETS (unconfirmed)***

5/100 BRO #7 Gathara

~~(haven't decided on a species name yet)~~

Physical Profile: Large and muscular, these thick and sharp-scaled reptilians have large digitigrade legs and broad shoulders carrying an anterior postured neck and head/face with significant departure from the standard facial structure of bipeds in the galaxy at large (Yauya and Drezdin notwithstanding), standing at a size that dwarfs a bull Cannidor. In terms of sexual characteristics, while female proportions are in line with the larger end of the galactic average, the sheer scale of the species leaves each breast larger than a Gravia's entire bust. Males tend to be even larger and even more muscular than their female counterparts, with even broader chests and shoulders, and similarly proportional-yet-large-scaled sexual characteristics.

It is of note that there are reports whose verification is ongoing, that the standard characteristics of a Gathara, both male and female, are not the largest the species can achieve. There are accounts of Gathara becoming more voluptuous or stocky (and hung) as the Gathara's sense of safety, security, and wealth increases, though again these reports are currently being verified. Part of the problem of verifying these reports is that Gathara are notoriously mobile as a race. They're constantly out doing whatever to get more of what drives their society, cold hard cash, and preferably lots of it. By trade, by trick, or by force the Gathara are notorious space pirates and nearly as ruthless merchants, plying the axiom lanes in pursuit of unfathomable wealth.

(Note: think Ananta's battle form that you see on the first page from Wail of Perversion, also known as Wail of a Dragon's Rage)

The digestive system of a Gathara is quite robust by galactic standards, able to extract nutrition from even the most inedible of substances with the assistance of axiom. The downside of this robust internal digestion is that the Gathara are significantly vulnerable to null. Something important to note about Gathara physical characteristics is that while there are few axiom adepts within the species, their physical prowess as warriors and physical fighters make them a physical match for even Apuk Battle Princesses or Veteran Cannidor Crimsonhewers, but can be overpowered with moderate Warfire use or with proper equipment.

As a reptilian species, Gathara are naturally egglayers, typically forming the egg within a week before laying a clutch of 2 to 5 eggs that hatch in about a month if all goes well. However, a Gathara woman does have the rare, by galactic norms, to "hold onto" her clutch rather than lay them immediately to hold out for better circumstances, stranger still being able to give live birth this way with the womb and vaginal tunnel being durable enough to endure the sharp edges and spikes of both the broken eggs and the claws and teeth of their children.

Psychological Profile: to accurately communicate the psychology of the Gathara, context is required. the homeworld of the Gathara can be charitably considered barren. resources even as basic as food and water are scarce, and what little there is, is notoriously difficult to extract or harvest.

this has led the Gathara as a species to develop a painful awareness of resource scarcity as a concept. indeed, resource scarcity informs everything about the species' politics, culture, psychology, and even, according to some of the theories of various reputable paleontologists, their biology. even axiom itself is treated as a limited and scarce resource by the Gathara. this resource anxiety, as coined by famed diplomat \_\_\_\_ (note: the muse pulled the diplomat out of nowhere as I was typing this), manifests in several critical ways

1; Raider Behavior: resource anxiety is characterized by many different beliefs and ideas held by various individuals Gathara, however the most destructive manifestation as embodied by the most violent of their people, is the perception of reality as a "Negative Sum Game", or the idea that to maintain the status quo, not to profit, not to grow, but to NOT become poorer, one MUST steal from others, deprive others of resources for yourself. this has regrettably resulted in Gathara space and neighboring space being lousy with pirates and raiders, constantly robbing passing cargo freighters, and raiding lightly defended planets for food, medicine, materials, and industrial goods. many security personnel, both private and state military, who operate in Gathara raider space have proven that raiders are, thankfully, easily bribed as Gathara raiders are predominantly made up of desperate women or entire clans simply trying to make ends meet in the only way they know how and believe is possible within their framework of how reality works.

2; hyper-competitive business and resource extraction: if they can recognize reality as a "Positive Sum Game", rather than "zero" or "negative", many Gathara enter the galactic workforce and economy with entrepreneurial gusto and zeal. Whilst the Gathara in question still likely suffer some form of resource anxiety, in this demographic it instead manifests in one of the more positive and constructive traits that the species share, that being their "near supernatural" ability to analyze and evaluate resource cost/benefit, and cutting costs for maximum gain with minimal to no drop in safety or quality. due to the difficulty of extracting and utilizing scarce resources on their homeworld, the Gathara as a species had to get very good at making very little go a very long way, and this skill transfers well into a galactic economy that is constantly salivating for new resource deposits, cheaper manufacturing, wider distribution, and better quality.

the entrepreneurial worker has unfortunately gained many stereotypes over the years. one being the classic distant corpo agent that doesn't fully understand how normal people think and prioritize, the greedy penny pincher that wouldn't spend a single credit save their father unless they could profit from it, both gross exaggerations to the point of parody. one stereotype that stuck around and is, unfortunately, more accurate, is the image of a Gathara robbing the company they work for blind before fleeing into wild space to repeat the process all over again.

this particular stereotype comes from the now infamous "Gathara workforce integration program" initiative early on in diplomatic relations between the Gathara and the wider galactic community, more famously known among the masses as the "Raider Rehabilitation Program", given that the majority of participants were former Gathara raiders. sadly, many raiders maintained that negative sum mentality, leading to paranoia of their new employers, leading to raiders stealing from the companies they worked at before the company could do the same to them and theirs, regardless of whether their employers would actually do such a thing.

3; Familial Sacrifice: Quite possibly the most noble, if tragic manifestation of resource anxiety at least in the eyes of the public, Gathara society has a well-recorded practice of personal sacrifice for the sake of children and loved ones. indeed, there are many stories both old and current of mothers and fathers actively starving themselves so that there was more food for the children, of daughters, going through hell and high waters (< what would the galactic equivalent of that phrase be?) to obtain medicine for sick fathers, of sister-wives charging straight into a burning coal dust mine to get just one more load of material out so that their families could have that slightly larger payout, of fathers holding the line against literal legions so that their families can escape. it is said that one should count their lucky stars if they have a Gathara for a sister-wife, for she will fight like a clan of crimson hewers possessed by demons so that you can have a better future

4; Hoarding: possibly the most immediately unique behavior of the Gathara, Gathara families will literally pile their physical wealth into one large centralized location that acts as equal parts nest and storage, literally sleeping on piles of axiom ride trade bars. it is theorized that this hoarding behavior originally began as both a wealth display to attract potential mates and family members and as security measure to protect their wealth. stranger still is that this hoarding behavior is seen most commonly among males and those females that eventually become first wife, with one or both of those individuals going out to hunt and forage whilst either the first wife or the other wives stay behind to guard the horde, which is usually where they keep their eggs.

History: there is very little to say about the history of the Gathara. not only were they discovered early on in not only their own history, but recently on a galactic scale as well, only about 650 years ago, but they were discovered when a Gathara raider group attacked a science vessel that had scanned their world, then a literal lifeless rock, within the last thousand years, putting a definitive cap on how old the species could be. Diplomatic relations with the Gathara were touch and go for quite some time, with initiatives like the Gathara workforce integration program coming from this early era. it wasn't until former business mogul, economist, and now famous diplomat \_\_\_\_ opened trade schools and economic universities on the Gathara homeworld that Gathara integration found its footing, teaching Gathara students that no, the galaxy was not a zero-sum game, or even negative sum. that while resource scarcity would haunt all life until the heat death of the universe, wealth generation can overcome scarcity by incentivizing entrepreneurs to find and exploit new resources, new manufacturing, new ways to use currently available resources better, and cheaper, something the Gathara were already familiar with simply seen through a different lens.

I'll post my other ideas in other comments because holy crap this comment got away from me.