

Florkana

Home: Arbor Aurelius Island

Role: Protect Arbor Aurelius and moderate Leaf distribution

Overview

Florkana are humanoid plant people who live to protect the sacred money tree.

Florkana, although similar to the human races, is its own distinct species. Florkana are extremely diverse, so there are many subspecies, though most of the time they are all grouped together. The pure amount of diversity in their species makes them considered more varied than even the Beorc, who cover a huge amount of different appearances.

Appearance

Florkana, as said above, vary greatly. For starters, some Florkana grow flowers or fruits, while others are more reminiscent of trees, bushes, or shrubs. Most Florkana, however, have some sort of petals, leaves, or fruits growing, usually around their necks, wrists, and ankles, though they can be located in some other locations. Flower Florkana, for example, tend to have rings or manes of petals around their necks and wrists specifically. Other Florkana may have thorns, and others may have vines that act as extra appendages or just for decoration. Florkana do have hair, but it tends to be the same color as their skin, petals, or leaves, making them very colorful. Their ears vary, though most are long and somewhat pointy.

Florkana's skin can be a few different things. Firstly, some Florkana can just have normal, Beorc-like skin, but these Florkana will always be colored in some sort of green or brownish-green. Florkana with this type of skin tend to be flower or other small plant-based. Other Florkana have an outer covering similar to a flower's or small plant's stem. They do in fact have structures such as cell walls, though they've adapted to be very flexible but also sturdy. Again, these sorts of Florkana tend to be flower or small plant-based. Finally, some Florkana have barky skin, with stronger cell walls and a tough outer covering. This hinders their movement somewhat, but they're still able to move around. This makes these Florkana sturdier and stronger. Most often, Florkana with this type of covering are tree or bush Florkana.

The height and size of Florkana also greatly varies amongst the population, though these things correlate with the type of Florkana they are. The smallest may be only half or so the size of a Beorc, but the tallest may be a decent bit taller. While they do tend to be skinnier, some may be fairly large. Even if they are larger, they're also usually physically fit.

Florkana who bear fruit, petals, or leaves feel no pain when they fall off, but refuse to eat their own productions. However, they will allow other Florkana and peoples to eat them, and they're said to be much more delicious than normal fruits. Sometimes, a Florkana's fruits will have healing properties, which can be very useful to cure illnesses and injuries alike. Other things can be used for self-defense or for attacking.

Some Florkana change colors as the seasons go by or as their setting changes like most plants do.

Florkana, although they don't have a need for genders, can be masculine or feminine in the same way as Beorc in body size, shape, and the like.

Life Cycle

Florkana are born from seeds in a manner similar to plants. Seeds are produced from any Florkana that produces fruits or other parts, and they can be pollinated directly or indirectly. In addition, some types of Florkana may grow in stolon systems, but the majority do not. For the first few years of their life, Florkana must stay in the ground and take nutrients from the soil and earth around this. During this time, they start off with no senses other than whatever plants have - this phase would be comparable to a zygote. After a few years, their more human-like body parts such as their brain, eyes, ears, and hands, start to form. Despite the formation of these parts, they must still remain in place for a few more years. Of course, during all of this time, they're extremely vulnerable, so saplings, as they're called, are protected heavily and praised as a huge gift of life. This stage would be an infantile stage. During this stage, they would be placed in a pot to be cared for above ground.

After a few more years and some final growths, they are moved to an altar, where the grown-up sapling is blessed, then removed from their carrying pot. At this point, their roots have formed into feet that can release roots if they stand in place, and the Florkana is accepted as part of the society. They would generally be considered adolescents or young adults when it occurs. This ceremony is immensely important to the Florkana culture.

Many Florkana don't know who their exact parents are because of this system, but some parents stay with a seed they know is theirs for years at a time. Otherwise, however, the community is considered the sapling's caretaker.

Florkana can become ill with both human illnesses and plant diseases, though are more prone to the later. Florkana's immune systems have developed over time to repel many common human illnesses, though this trait is slowly going away in the species due to their secluded lifestyle.

Florkana bleed like other human races, but a larger part of their blood is water, making it a clearish-green, though if exposed to pure oxygen long enough (~5 minutes), it will turn brown. This is because their "veins", xylem, phloem, and the like, need large amounts of water to function due to their moving bodies. If a part of this complex system is cut off, that part of the Florkana's body will wither and possibly fall off, but it will grow back after a few days, weeks or longer, depending on how severe. If too much damage occurs to this system, the Florkana will wither completely and die an unnatural death.

Otherwise, Florkana generally die of old age, which varies by subspecies. Trees and such live longer, while weed or small-plant based Florkana die faster. Upon a natural death, the Florkana will lose its human features (eyes, mouth, brain, hands, etc.), and turn into a plant that will function like that plant would for about half of the plant's normal lifespan before withering away. If the conditions of the Florkana's death aren't sustainable, the Florkana will wither away.

Behaviors, Habits, Processes, etc.

Florkana eat by absorbing nutrients from the ground with their feetroots and absorbing sunlight, which is made into needed materials through photosynthesis, which occurs on its own in a Florkana. However, Florkana can eat normal foods as well, though whether they enjoy it or not is up to personal preference. It won't hurt them, but it doesn't give many needed nutrients either. Florkana also need plenty of water, especially in their sapling stage.

Florkana can either sleep normally, or "shut down" by rooting themselves for more than a few minutes. Either of these processes end similarly to how a human would wake up.

Unfortunately for them, Florkana have a lowered sense of hearing in exchange for their self-sustainability. However, this weakened sense can cause issues from time to time, though they can still easily carry out a normal conversation and the like. There are more

deaf Florkana than any other species or race, so some have developed various sign languages.

General Characteristics

Disclaimer: Like usual, these are common traits they have. Like most races ever, every person is theirself and can be wildly different from these assumptions.

Florkana are generally fairly peaceful, being guardians of a sacred place and all. Most of the time they only fight for self-defense, though some are more aggressive or play games and such. Florkana are also loyal to their ideals, culture, and group, and are generally opposed to large-scale changes.

Florkana also prefer working as a group or community rather than as individuals, due to how close they all live to each other and how much of a role they play in each other's lives. They're also fairly resourceful, making the most out of what they have, grow, and find.

Race-wide Culture

Clothing

It isn't uncommon for Florkana to forego clothing altogether. They don't have breasts or genitalia, so there's not really much to cover up. However, out of respect for other cultures, they will happily wear clothing they weave themselves from various natural materials.

Combat

Florkana can fight using either Beorc weapons or with their own Florkana weapons such as katana, scythes, clubs, kunai, or even slingshots. However, Florkana mages often prefer the elements that Plants need to live, such as Earth, Water, or Light, or even use Nature magic itself. Florkana mages tend to stay away from Fire and Poison magic, however, as both are considered extremely deadly to their kind, or even the money tree.

Cuisine

Florkana cuisine, as might expect is heavily based on vegan and organic lifestyles. They also often pray before their meals, thanking the goddess for blessing them with non-Florkana plants to eat. Pasta is a delicacy among the Florkana, as making it naturally is a pain. However, for many that hear the tale, their vegetable-based Lasagna is considered to die for. They also are known to make very exquisite teas, served both hot or cold. Florkana cookies also are said to be delicious, despite the strange

mouthfeel. This is often attributed to the chocolate or coffee beans, other delicacies from the Florkana.

Other

Florkana don't use last names at all. However, they have a trend of using two first names (ex. Mary Rose).