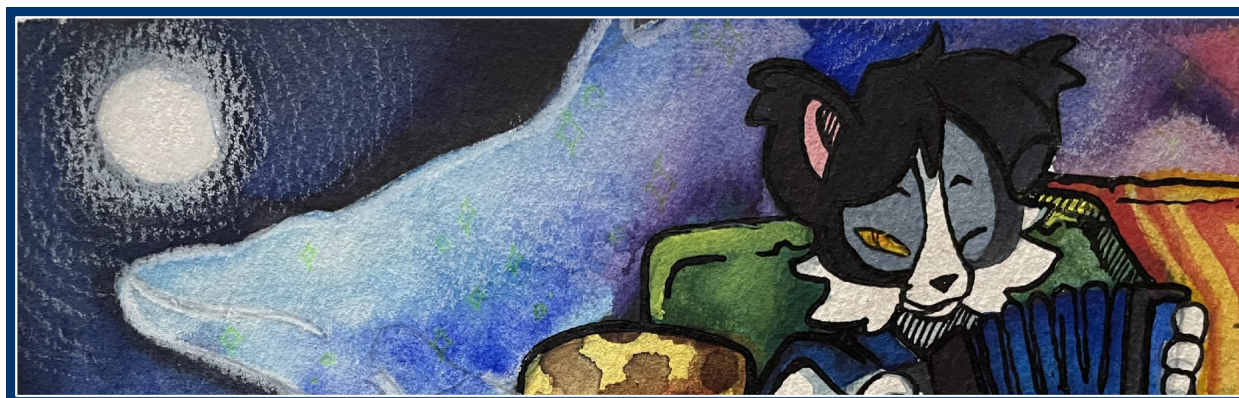




Roleplay Doc

CHARACTERS	SETTING
Venture - Played by Mikael Riza - Played by Okibi	<i>QUEST</i> - A series of local little secrets... Venture decides to explore the community around The Hideout, knowing the underground is the best place to start looking for any useful information. In there, they meet a fellow Guildmate, Riza, and both of them go around to complete the quest.



~♦ VENTURE ♦~

[[APPLICATION](#)]



If there is one place that is familiar to Venture, it is underground lairs. She remembers holding Howard's paw as they explored places a child her age surely shouldn't have been. But oh well, it did offer her a greater perspective and tools than many other cats would spend years looking for. For example, learning where to get the juiciest information of someone or somewhere was one of those.

With the guild asking them to learn some good intel from the locals, Venture knew the right place to find it, or well, at least start. Taverns were also great places, as cats normally slip up after some good entertainment and a lively conversation, or markets, where just the right few questions could get you literally anywhere. But, well, that was the thing, wasn't it? You need to know the people to talk to in a tavern to get somewhere, and you need some idea to come up with the right questions. And with the Guild not giving any clue apart from... find useful information for future reference, the best place to get it was the same way you would get any other service: From an exchange.

Skillfully slipping through the gaps, Venture was relieved she had gained further control of her fur, which was no longer constantly charged and messed around. Still, they kept a bit of electricity stored, just in case they needed their new abilities to dissuade any cat for any reason, which created a little spark after getting a bit too close to a nail. *Tsh*, they had to learn how to also control that. Still, inside of the Hideout there were a few cats, most of them keeping to themselves and some talking in hushed tones. Probably their best shot was asking the older cats, each sitting on their own, as they hoarded knowledge with age, though maybe trying to eavesdrop on the murmuring cats would give them a better lead. Venture was also surprised to look at a surprisingly young cat, *around Heidi's age, maybe?* Venture haven't seen a lot of young urchins around Greendoze, *weird*. As they stepped fully into the room, Venture made sure to do it with a flick of their cape, hoping to catch the attention of those around, nothing better than an entrance establishing intentions.

♦ STATS AND SKILLS ♦

STR -1

DEX +2

INT 0

CHA +1

+2 Performance / +1 Insight

◆ SUMMARY AND ACTION ◆

Venture goes to The Hideout looking for a lead on the information the Guild wants them to find.



RIZA | SHE/HER

APPLICATION ◆ FLORA ◆ LV 1 ◆ 1/4

—Despite joining the Guild knowing full well that such companies were typically cooperative organizations built on the backs of multitudinous members, Riza still finds the Guild hall... suffocating. So many cats surrounding her, talking, moving, silks and scarves rustling like ball gowns- it was too much, too soon. Riza flees early each morning, before she can become statuesque and still, another piece of furniture in the background.

Her exploring of Greendoze is often kept to the shadows, unconsciously avoidant of her fellow Guild members, ears pressed back inside her cloak against the questions and probing she'd face should any of them get too close. Yet- she finds herself looking up, looking around, at every stray glimpse of ginger and green, of gray's and subtle orange, rich browns and vibrant reds-

It was simply ridiculous, to get attached to some strangers after barely spending a few days with them. She *wasn't* attached to them. They were just... some cats. Cats that could be useful, sure, but not ones she needed to go clinging to like some wayward child. She'd done well enough for herself before them, and she'd do well enough now.

Clinging to darker corners as she was, it doesn't take Riza long to gravitate toward lesser populated edges of the town, and then even lesser populated communities within that. Some of the places around here were so barren, she thought them abandoned- until she saw a few wayward souls enter. Caught by the conspicuous sight of cats disappearing into seemingly rundown places, she followed, hood tightly fixed over her head- quickly finding an unoccupied

wall to stand near once she realized that she'd entered some sort of... hangout. She wasn't sure what for- some sort of club or bar or something? Surely, the sort of place her parents would sneer down their noses at.

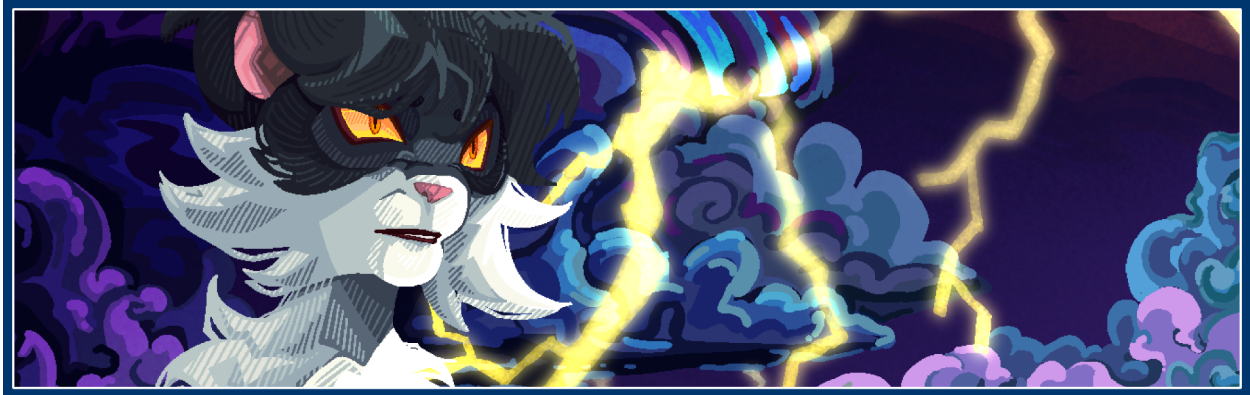
That thought alone makes her stubbornly stay near her procured wall, despite the churning in her gut that tells her she shouldn't be here. No one has paid her much attention- yet- but that likely wouldn't last if she stands off by herself for too long. Maybe she can eavesdrop if she scoots a bit closer to the other patrons? The Guild *had* told them to try and find more information around town, after all.

She hasn't been standing for more than a few minutes, thinking over her options, before another cat enters with a flourish. Despite the confident entrance, the cat lingers by the door, looking acutely around the place, as if seeing it for the first time, and cataloging its every detail. Unconsciously, Riza's paw goes to the guild scarf around her neck, her thoughts trailing on the idea that most of the newcomers around Greendoze, like herself, were there for a singular purpose. She catches the stranger looking straight at her, and hurriedly tries to tuck her neckerchief further below the neckline of her cloak to conceal it from sight, though she doesn't know quite why- she doesn't really know for sure that the cat is a fellow guild member. There were so many, she only knew the few that she'd traveled with, and, well, she's not really sure why it concerns her if this is another of them.

Something prickles her fur all the same, and she very pointedly looks away from the newcomer's flamboyant cape flourish, frowning and glaring off in a different direction, trying to emanate a "don't talk to me" sort of aura, like the other toughs in this place. If this other cat (possible guildmate?) comes over, her vague ideas of eavesdropping will surely be ruined. Having someone so eye-catching nearby would no doubt lead to trouble, especially in a seedy place like this.

STR -2	DEX +1	INT +1	CHA 0
+2 Culture / +1 Stealth			

SUMMARY: Riza wanders her way into a hidden hangout spot while trying to avoid crowds, and contemplates doing some eavesdropping. A new and conspicuous cat enters, who Riza quickly resolves to avoid.



~♦ VENTURE ♦~

[APPLICATION]

2

LIGHTNING ♦ LV 1 ♦ She/Her &
They/Them



A quick momevement caught Venture’s eye. The young cat and... *was that one of the Guild’s bandanas?* She thought about her bright red one, hanging on her neck for everyone to see. *Was the tugging some type of code?* If this cat was from the Guild, she probably was also on the same mission as them, maybe they were meant to work together? She thought about approaching as innocuous as possible, but as the cat seemed to try a bit *too hard* to look the other way, another feeling started to trickle up her fur: Mischief. Whoever this cat was, whatever they had going on would be at the very least entertaining to unravel.

In one long stride the got to the side of the white cat and sat with a pretty satisfied smile. “**So, I assume we are here looking for the same huh?**” She said in a hushed tone, despite knowing several others eyes were laid on them, as expected, Venture still didn’t want too much eavesdropping, or at least not make it such an easy job. “**This place sure seems like a nest for information. After all, only cats that aren’t afraid, or are part of, its reputation would approach it**” She said eyeing the other cats around. Some of them looked away the moment Venture made eye contact with them, clearly not wanting to be caught snooping around. While others, particularly the older cats, maintained a calm but judging look at them, clearly being able to read their intentions of getting something out of this place. Venture smirked, those were

the most likely to give them something useful, probably having very little to lose and an encyclopedia of knowledge.

However, those are the cats one was meant to approach, while Venture's guildmate seemed to be trying to catch something from the groups speaking in hushed tones. **"Eavesdropping is a bit passive, but still good to find get something for later. Have you caught any leads?"** Venture confidently said to her while still leaving some vagueness on her tone. Despite feeling pretty confident in that this cat was here for the same reason as them, it was still a good idea to play this confusing game, in case she wasn't related to the guild but still held some knowledge. This is why they pointedly didn't share their name, in case she was expecting someone else. In the look-out for information it was always a good idea to thread carefully.

◆ STATS AND SKILLS ◆

STR -1

DEX +2

INT 0

CHA +1

+2 Performance / +1 Insight

◆ SUMMARY AND ACTION ◆

Venture approaches the young cat out of a sense of curiosity and hoping she is part of the guild, and examines those around her and how they get something out of them.



RIZA | SHE/HER

APPLICATION ◆ FLORA ◆ LV 1 ◆ 2/4

—Underneath her cloak, Riza's fur begins to prickle up as the stranger grins at her and boldly begins walking right over, no care in the world for any sort of propriety or the ever-increasing frigidity of Riza's glare. As the cat parks themselves right next to her, Riza

breathes harshly out her nose as she spots the familiar crest on a bandana hanging across their own neck- of course it was another Guild member. Who else would be so obtrusive in a place like this?

Riza is torn between refusing to look at the intruder and trying to murder said cat with her eyes alone as they instantly lean in close and start acting all buddy buddy, whispering like they're somehow in this *together*. Like suddenly *they're* in charge now, and Riza's no more than their little lackey.

"Maybe I would have, if you hadn't interrupted." She spits, eyes narrowed and her tail twitching beneath her like an angry rattle. Nose scrunched up unpleasantly, she unconsciously follows the other cat's gaze, growing more tense as she sees all of the cats now looking at them.

Great. Just, great.

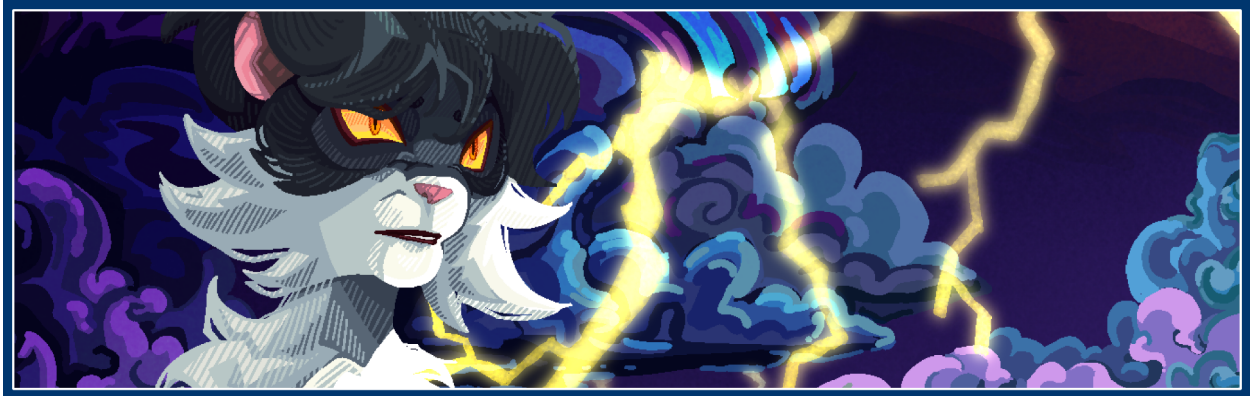
Riza briefly hunches her head between her shoulders, before suddenly stiffening, pulling up her posture to glare defiantly back at the patrons still watching them. Her gaze flickers, noting the relaxed and aloof way the black and white cat leans and watches the hideout beside her, and it makes her look down again, paws clenching and unclenching.

"You-..." It takes her a moment, grinding her teeth before speaking quietly. **"You're here on a quest?"** She glances surreptitiously sideways, toward the other cat. She hates how comfortable they seem, like nothing at all is wrong in this dark, dingy, dangerous place.

Riza weighs things internally for a moment, before muttering, **"They were mainly just talking about all the guild cats around now."** Her ears fold back tight against her head beneath her hood, glad that most of her face is hidden as she bites her lip. She glances ever so slightly toward the other cat, brows furrowed as she searches their reaction.

STR -2	DEX +1	INT +1	CHA 0
+2 Culture / +1 Stealth			

SUMMARY: Riza is unhappily bratty about her new cohort, but gives in and shares what little she heard in the brief minutes she was alone.



~♦ VENTURE ♦~

[APPLICATION]

LIGHTNING ♦ LV 1 ♦ She/Her &
They/Them



A mischievous chuckle came from between Venture's teeth at Riza's response. As much as they enjoyed making a good impression on those around, there was always that nagging instinct of being a nuance. Pirate's blood, they called it. However, as funny as it was to see the cat's reactions, the truth is that Venture could tell she was nervous, *too nervous*. Whatever led this child to get involved in such a place, she didn't seem to be the most prepared to.

But well, Venture wasn't really the one to talk about. *After all, they both got into the Wayseekers Guild.*

"Ey, I know you are nervous, but in a place like this it is better not to show it." Venture said, dropping their wicked smile and instead feeling a fondness for the kid. After all, she used to be like her, holding her brother's paw as they walked around pirate coves and black markets. ***"If you don't want to be bothered, you have to make sure that you are scary, or be unfaced. Showing nervousness is only asking for trouble."*** Venture said, repeating what the Captain told her when she acted the same the first time she took a pirate job. Truth be told, Venture wasn't the best mentor. *Buckeye is probably still angry at me*, she thought, but if Venture got something out of the

expedition with team 3, is that she somehow had a soft spot for younger cats, and would hate to see the white feline get hurt, even if her piercing eyes told Venture the feeling wasn't mutual.

However, Venture decided it was better to not increase the cat's stress. She already assessed that both of them were here because of the guild, so there was no more use to being cryptid. **"Yes, I am here on a quest from the guild, getting some local intel"** They said in a more relaxed tone, hoping to not come across like they were still making fun of her. **"Name's Venture"** They introduced themselves with a soft smile. Then, after a very focused moment, they decided to look around the room again, knowing it was better to not fully lower their guard. Most cats seemed to have gone back to their previous interests. **"So we are the talk of the town huh? It isn't surprising, I wonder if they ever got such an influx of new faces"** She said softly, loud enough that only her companion could hear.

"Another tid-bit, approaching groups is not the best idea, who knows how defensive they might get. But the older, lonely cats at the outskirts? They are knowledgeable and experienced enough to be willing to share something of interest" They said, looking back at Riza **"What do you say? Wanna find out more?"**

◆ STATS AND SKILLS ◆

STR -1

DEX +2

INT 0

CHA +1

+2 Performance / +1 Insight

◆ SUMMARY AND ACTION ◆

Despite being a general annoyance being funny, Venture decides to drop the act for the sake of her stressed companion. She starts giving some advice and then introduces herself, and decides to ask Riza how she would prefer to proceed.





RIZA | SHE/HER
APPLICATION ♦ FLORA ♦ LV 1 ♦ 3/4

—Riza bristles all over at the accusation of nerves, glaring defiantly in the face of the older cat’s mocking remarks. She didn’t need this cat’s lectures, it was- it was-

Well.

Did it matter that the advice rang a little too familiar? Years of wiping all emotion from her face- anxiety, fear, joy, sadness- to cause as little disturbance, as little of a scene as possible. Did it matter, if she hadn’t realized that mask beginning to slip, so far away from home?

With a sharp inhale and exhale from her nose, Riza settles, her fur lying flat, her eyes going round and dull, her posture loosening to a casual, passive lean against the nearby wall.

“... **Riza.**” She introduces in turn, a few moments after Venture, eyeing them through the shadows of her cloak. She didn’t trust them- not by a long shot, but for now, at least, it seemed like their goals aligned.

Venture continued offering more advice, which was, unfortunately, quite sound. The biggest gossip Riza had ever known was the old widow who would always sit at the edge of the ballrooms, waiting for anyone to wander close enough to be sucked into a conversation of “have you heard that-”s.

It was strange- lonely cats sitting themselves apart from everyone else. You’d think they’d want to be in the middle of things.

Riza can’t find any fault in Venture’s idea, and loathe as she is to admit it, she slowly grinds out a “**That... makes sense.**”

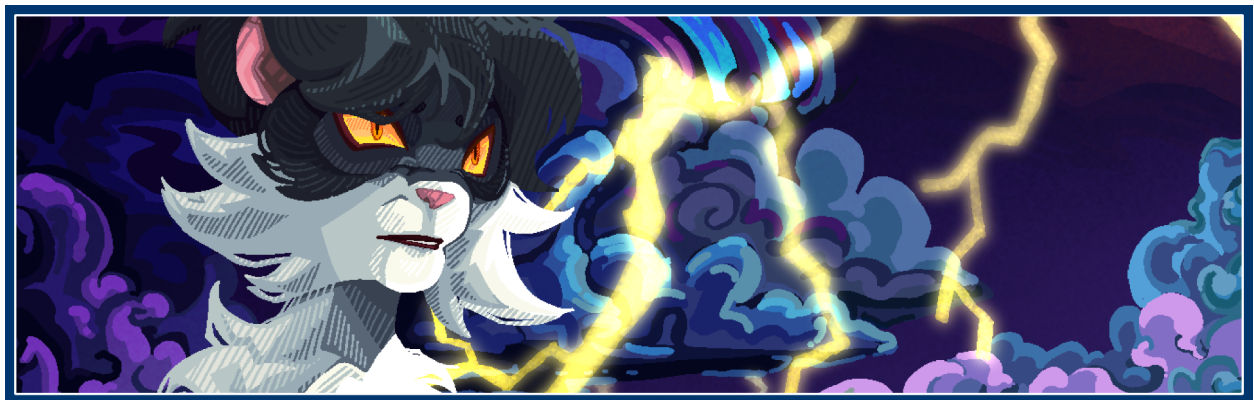
Riza glances around the room, eyes landing on one particular cat, before beginning to amble her way over to the stranger where they sat near a back wall, seemingly writing in a thin and tattered book of some sort. The weathering of their fur and whiskers spoke of advancing age, and their shirt was scuffed with wear and tear.

“You’ve got any interesting stories to share, gramps?” Riza meows as she settles near them, figuring she might as well just come right out with it. No use beating around the bush.

STR -2	DEX +1	INT +1	CHA 0
+2 Culture / +1 Stealth			

SUMMARY:

FORMAT BASE ♦ SHANNAH



~♦ VENTURE ♦~

[APPLICATION]

LIGHTNING ♦ LV 1 ♦ She/Her &
They/Them



Venture smirks when she sees Riza just go for it. *Quick learner* she thinks. However, part of her says that it is better not to leave the kid on her own, don't be that she gets tricked by someone with more experience. As she starts crossing the room, she gives a very pointed look at

the group of cats hurdled in a corner, catching them snooping. A pointed smirk with an electric shine their way made them quickly turn away, and Venture felt the pride run through their veins. Like she told Riza, she's been depending on confidence her whole life to get the upper paw in places like this, as no one particularly fears such a small, skinny cat. So having both the confidence and raw power to get her way around was a nice, refreshing change. Still, as much as she knew she could get whatever out of the bunch, Riza needed her more.

She stood by Riza's side, not wanting to overtake the young cat's prying. Part of her remembered how Howard used to also stand behind her in cases like this: The smooth talker gets the information, the muscle stands back as a reminder of the other's position. Before they could stir on the thought for longer, Venture decided to focus their attention on the old cat. If only she could read properly, maybe they would be able to tell what it says. *Is Riza better at reading?* Venture wondered. On one paw, such a young cat on the streets probably didn't know, but on the other, her lack of experience indicated a different upbringing. Still, they didn't know how to indicate to her to try and read over, so whatever was in that book might stay a mystery. His clothes weren't in the best state, but they didn't seem uncared for, just over-used.

The older cat looked at them up and down, and a knowing, teasing smirk crossed his lips, showing a mouth lacking one of his teeth. **"Youngsters, take that you aren't from the surroundings?"** He said with his raspy voice, looking into Venture's still exposed Guild scarf. His eyes narrowed **"The adventurous bunch, I take"** He said as he closed his book and leaned forward, looking directly at Riza.

"Well, however it turns out to be, I have one that might spike up your interests! So you know how this place is rumored to be used by bandits of old? Well, this might have been their meeting spot, but whatever bounty they got was never found! It's rumored that they stole a great treasure from the city, so valuable that the knights followed them down here! But as much as they looked for after capturing them, they never found it."

"That's the end of the story for anyone interested in the facts. However, around our fishermen, is a well known fact that the waters around here come from a subterranean lake, and it has been rumored that it was hidden there! However, there is one problem, as is that no cat can swim for so long to reach there!" He said with a cough, but before being interrupted, he pointed at Venture's scarf **"But well, seeing your kind do all kinds of weird stuff, maybe one of you can finally find it!"**

Venture's interest peaked with the mentioning of a treasure, what could be so valuable that guards followed some criminals this far south? Also by the descriptions... Maybe no normal cat was able to swim that far down, but a water magic user? Probably. And though most

research around the magic seemed to point out they are the only magical cats to ever exist, the guild would probably find interesting the possibility of someone in the past also having them.

With a wide grin, Venture looked down at Riza. **"What do you think? Is that promising enough?"**

◆ STATS AND SKILLS ◆

STR -1

DEX +2

INT 0

CHA +1

+2 Performance / +1 Insight

◆ SUMMARY AND ACTION ◆

Venture decides to stand behind Riza as they talk to the old cat, who tells them about a possible treasure hiding in a subterranean cave, incapable of being reached by any normal cat.



RIZA | SHE/HER

APPLICATION ◆ FLORA ◆ LV 1 ◆ 4/4

—She raises her chin as the old cat looks her up and down, the patronizing smile on his face revealing his less than impressed view of her- like an indulgent parent with a particularly needy child. Riza stands firm and doesn't falter, as much as the indignation burns- the old coot was talking, and she'd be stupid to interrupt him now.

Unfortunately, he starts going off on some ridiculous tale about bandits and hidden treasure- just how old did he think she was? Those sorts of fanciful tales were fit for a children's picture book, not a serious adventurer's guild. Riza's twitching tail catches on something- Venture was behind her. It is only that reminder that stays her tongue for

the moment. She isn't about to give the weird cat any excuse to think she's incompetent, and unfortunately, calling bullshit would probably count as such.

Instead, she waits for the old man to finish his tale, her eyes narrowed to slits and her steely focus set squarely on the old timer- each twitch of his whiskers and shake of his ears. She is still and quiet as Venture seemed happily keen on accepting the silly fairytale, leaning toward her with a grin and rhetorical overtures of satisfaction.

Then, gaze unbroken on the story-spinning, Riza pipes up. **"You don't seem like the type to sit back and make others rich while you swim in rags. What exactly do you get out of this, old man?"** Her eyes are narrowed, and the accusation is thick in Riza's tone as she leans forward.

Obviously, she'd been the one asking around for information- but he'd been a bit too eager to answer her. And why *this* answer- revealing a supposed buried treasure- rather than something more benign? This reeked of a setup of some kind. No one just came right out and offered riches to another so easily, not without demanding something in return or having an alternative motive. For all they knew, some sort of ambush was waiting for them if they tried to go to the place he'd mentioned.

Riza sure as heck didn't trust this guy as far as she could throw 'im, and his eagerness to send them on some hairbrained search for treasure screamed that he was either trying to make them into a laughing stock, quickly get rid of them, or both.

STR -2	DEX +1	INT +1	CHA 0
+2 Culture / +1 Stealth			

SUMMARY: