

SolitaryWings

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SolitaryWings (*Blue HiveWings*) are subspecies of HiveWings, one of the three tribes that live on Pantala. Tribe inhabits a forest-mountain massif called Teal Forest in Pantala "wings" territory. SolitaryWings formerly isolated themselves from other dragon tribes during the Tree Wars. Unlike common HiveWings, their scales primarily include shades of blue, purple and always black, some gray, white and sometimes variations such as teal color. SolitaryWings are not ruled by any Queen, and primarily based on blue bees. They share the same ancestry with common HiveWings, who descended from BeetleWings with NightWing blood from Clearsight and split up into 2 subspecies, Common HiveWings and SolitaryWings.



Description

SolitaryWings have slender, strong, and muscular bodies, with four thin and clear segmented wings that are similar to that of blue bees. SolitaryWings can be blue, purple, and/or teal with some gray and white, but always have black scales due to their shared NightWing ancestry. Some can even be almost completely black in color. SolitaryWings have a slightly compact face,

with a smaller axe-like ridge on the tip of their snout, and a larger curved ridge on their forehead. Some SolitaryWings may have freckle-like scales. Eye colors include blue, purple, black, dark orange, brown, red, amber, yellow-gold, and green. They have a pair of long, curved, and smooth-looking horns that raise slightly above their head, the tips curving slightly forward, giving them an almost regal appearance. Long, thin spikes go down their spines, to the tip of their tails, which have a slightly larger spine. Unlike HiveWings, who sometimes don't have any powers, SolitaryWings always have a tail stinger and sometimes wrist stingers, which also comes with venom. SolitaryWings blood has more of a dark bluish hue due to copper based proteins called hemocyanins. Their eggs are blueish white. Hatchlings have fuzzy scales, especially underbelly, and molt most of it by the age of 2-3 years old. Sometimes fuzz doesn't molt, resulting in adult SolitaryWing with a layer of slight fuzz on their scales. It's hardly noticeable, until touched, and feels like one of the softest things in the world. Occasionally fuzz continues growing until adulthood turning into fluff in the underbelly area, and in rare cases - around the neck, blue, just like in blue bees. It's a recessive trait passed down from BeetleWings that lived in cold areas. Dragonets, hatched under Blue Moon light, sometimes can have wing patterns that resemble constellations. It happens very rarely because SolitaryWings keep their eggs deep in tree roots or underground in caves. Believed that such trait is a result of distant NightWing's genes acting up.



Diets

SolitaryWings are mostly vegetarians and feed on everything they can find, preferring fruits, nuts, berries etc, both fresh and dried, sometimes mushrooms and vegetables, and very rarely meat. They hunt only if there are no other options and not huge fans of it. SolitaryWing also make flower nectar as food for their young and occasional sweets. They drink tea, coconut shakes and smoothies. SolitaryWings eat chocolate and also have methods of cooking food.

Abilities

From all variations of common HiveWing's abilities SolitaryWings have venomous tail stingers and sometimes wrist stingers, depending on genetics. Their venom is a colorless, acidic liquid, that excreted through stingers into a target. When injected, dragons typically experience an itchy swelling spot on their scales where they were stabbed or immense pain depending on how much venom they received. This pain can last for days depending on how deep the venom seeped in. Some dragons are also naturally allergic to the venom and will die without quick medical attention if injected. Beside venom, SolitaryWings can create a very high sound which, depending on pitch, capable disorient, induce unconsciousness, damage ears or cause internal bleeding, sometimes resulting in death. These effects are created either by vocalizing or wings buzzing. They also have a precise internal clock which keeps track of time and is able to sense upcoming weather. SolitaryWings are capable of flying and finding a way in dark nights. Their eyes are more sensitive to blue and purple, also able to see ultraviolet light.

No registered evidence of SolitaryWings being exposed to Othermind.

Architecture

Instead of hives, SolitaryWings build themselves individual living places. Some may prefer to live completely alone away from others, some build homes near to each other forming villages, which is quite common. It depends on individual preferences, but in both cases they respect privacy and alone time. SolitaryWings live both in treehouses and caves, depending on the territory and presence of trees. In forest dragons build themselves a treehouse with few sections on different levels of the trees, and in mountain areas they dig caves where it's possible. Design depends on individual preferences. As a source of light, SolitaryWings usually use firefly lamps or glowing mushrooms. The nest is always a separated section placed underground in the warmest place. If it's treehouse variant, the nest is placed deep in tree roots, if it's caves - the most far away section closest to the ground. Some hermitages prefer simple wood huts or burrows over complex treehouses or caves.

Society

SolitaryWings doesn't have a Queen nor hive system, preferring solitary lifestyle over kingdom structure. Their society can be described as Tribalism in its good light, rule by small groups.

SolitaryWings lifestyle organized in clans within a closed network sharing cultural identity, in which customs replace rules. They are solitary but social, meaning individuals can form any type of social relationship if they are willing to. Dragons either live alone as hermitage or form villages within coven of privacy, in which social hierarchy is uncommon. They simply live by themselves with relatively few economic or political distinctions and can form deep bonds between individual dragons. SolitaryWings are less aggressive than common HiveWings. They absolutely have nothing against trees or other tribes, neither propaganda about being an upper class tribe. SolitaryWings simply mind their business instead of controlling everything.

In family hierarchy females are dominant. SolitaryWings have 3 types of family organization: common, parthenogenetic and Cuckoo clan. Common families consist of partners who raise dragonet/s together. Parthenogenetic families are formed by female lineage who tend to live together. Female SolitaryWings are able to lay eggs asexually by parthenogenesis. In that case hatchlings will always be female. The Cuckoo Clan members don't build living places and have nomadic lifestyle. Instead of forming families, partners basically give away their eggs. Originally when they had egg, these SolitaryWings looked out to find an already prepared nest, and replaced the laid egg with theirs, similar to Neon Cuckoo Bees. Over time SolitaryWings organized orphanage nests in villages for Cuckoo Clan to leave their eggs there instead of replacing others eggs, and so both sides were pleased. Dragonets are taken care of until they can live by themselves. Then they do whatever they are willing to, starting from building their own living place or moving to a free one wherever they want, nearby to family or far away, depending on individual preferences. Dragonets can find a mentor and learn things they are interested in (either they can be taught by family members as they grow up). Same as in every other tribes, SolitaryWings can be gardeners, crafters, artists and sellers, librarians, travelers, mentors, fighters and so on, living life by using any opportunities.

Culture

SolitaryWings don't worship Clearsight, but respect her as an ancestor. They pay tribute to both NightWing and BeetleWing ancestry, which is reflected in their culture. Traditionally SolitaryWings have two festivals. The Jubilee of the Endless Moon is celebrated every Blue Moon in honor of ancestors (2 of 3 moons are full, which happens every 2-3 years, but very rarely visually Blue Moon can occur too). Usually SolitaryWings gardens on the top of trees or mountains and sing songs, old and new, and just enjoy the view. The Blue Meadow Feast is celebrated around a week in late summer when most of the blue flowers bloom and SolitaryWings living places are covered in blue. It's a celebration of life, dragons often wear accessories out of blue flowers, make lots of sweet nectar and just enjoy the time of their lives.

SolitaryWings superstitions and beliefs mostly related to flowers and astronomical events, taking roots from their hybrid heritage. Here are some examples of beliefs:

- Number 6 is considered lucky among SolitaryWings, representing happiness and blessings. Dragons often hang 6 bells near the entrance to invite good fortune and wealth. As per numerology, the number 6 signifies domestic happiness, harmony and stability

- Blue flowers are believed to have positive energy and just look beautiful. SolitaryWings pick them, make accessories and decorate living places in blue
- Blue Spider Lilies are associated with stability in life, freedom of doing something, inspiration and positivity. It's a rare flower with sacral meaning
- Daylilies are believed to have the powers that would help one forget a problem, especially in a time of distress
- Seeing a bluebird in dreams is a sign of an end to some struggle. This bird is associated with joy and good messages.

And some examples of superstitions:

- First dragon in neighborhood who finds the first bluebells of spring will enjoy the prosperous year
- Setting gaze on the first star that appears after dark and making a wish results in its fulfillment
- Picking flowers and gathering berries during a Blue Moon is said to bring beauty to the beholder
- Full Moon brings good luck. Also It's believed that if a dragon plans a goal under the Blue Moon, they will attain it quite soon after.

Relations with other tribes of Pantala

As soon as SolitaryWings learned that HiveWing Queen can turn her subjects into zombies they closed their territory and completely isolated themselves from other tribes in Teal Forest. The borders of SolitaryWings territory are guarded by largest dragons who neutralize any dragon who comes too close by using high vocalizing to make possible invaders unconscious (large dragon = big radius of sound wave affection). If that was a HiveWing, guardians bring them back to a closest hive under the cover of night, if SilkWing or LeafWing - blindfold them and ask what business these dragons got and depending on the situation decide what to do with them.

HiveWings

Before Tree Wars SolitaryWings welcomed HiveWings on their territory, especially when The Jubilee of the Endless Moon was celebrated, and traded with them. Currently only HiveWing elders remember how things used to be before Tree Wars, including Blue HiveWings. Some find them fascinating and interesting due to their unusual social structure. As for Queen Wasp, she has other business to do so doesn't really bother to think about some individualist dragons. Especially if she can't put them to use. What's the point of hundreds of controlled dragons if they are all unconscious. There's no pride in losing to a few SolitaryWing guardians. For other HiveWings SolitaryWings are more like myth and when they see a SolitaryWing more likely thinks that they're some kind of Silk/HiveWing hybrid who are forbidden, so in most cases they ignore its existence which plays on SolitaryWings advantage who doesn't want to be exposed.

LeafWings and SilkWings

Before Tree Wars LeafWings, along with SilkWings, used visiting SolitaryWing territory and trade, especially on The Blue Meadow Feast, and even helped grow buildings on trees with leafspeak for exchanges on some rare stuff. Currently, again, only elders recall those times. As for SolitaryWings, when LeafWing or SilkWing comes across their borders, after getting info on who they are and confirming that they won't cause any problems, SolitaryWings can let those dragons live on their territory. Both sides get pros out of it so few LeafWings and SilkWings can be found living among SolitaryWings.

Hybrids

SolitaryWings absolutely have nothing against hybrids, especially considering that they as tribe take ancestry from hybrid lineage. They treat hybrids in the same way as any other dragons. It's up to the individual dragon to decide who they love and with whom they have eggs, that's none of the other dragon's business. They respect privacy. As SolitaryWings welcome non-threatening SilkWings and LeafWings on their territory, and as there's no taboo on hybrids, it's possible to meet one here and there. Hive/SolitaryWing hybrids are rare for obvious reasons, but at time before Tree Wars and after events of Flames of Hope the situation is different.

Names

SolitaryWings are named after any blue bee species, as well as blue wasps and blue bumblebees. They can also be named after anything blue or purplish, including other insects, birds, flowers, natural events, colors etc.

Trivia

- SolitaryWings absolutely dislike hives as concept, too much dragons concentrated in one place, too little private space
- If SolitaryWing are gifted with flowers for the sake of showing affection, the receiver will place them somewhere in the home or, in case of rare flowers, craft accessories out of it to make them last longer. If flowers were implied to be gifted upon making nectar, the receiver will make sweets out of it.
- SolitaryWings use forest ingredients for bookbinding. For example, sap is used for glue, tree fiber is used for threads, and book covers are made of bark with flowers as dye.
- Due to their vegetarian nature, SolitaryWings have no problem believing that creatures like humans are clever and should not be eaten. They feel similarly about other animals, and because of it dislike hunting, resorting to this method of obtaining food only in extreme cases.
- «Once in a Blue Moon» - poetic phrase used by SolitaryWings meaning something extremely rare in occurrence. The phrase refers to visually Blue Moon which occurs under certain atmospheric conditions, if volcanic eruptions or fires release particles in the atmosphere of just the right size to preferentially scatter red light.

- SolitaryWings have accents slightly different from other Pantalan dragon tribes, since they have been isolated from them (as most blue bees live in Australia, it can be implied as something similar to Australian accent).