

ROOTS-OF-LIFE

Sandalphon Application

*"cause you're always looking away,
through all the dust, yeah i come running"*
@hawkthespork

ROOTS-OF-LIFE



NAME
SANDALPHON

GENDER
MALE

COLONY
VORTEX

RANK
STORM

About

Name	Sandalphon
Name meaning	✧ <i>A name from a story his parents heard and liked</i>
Nicknames	✧ <i>Sandy, Alphie</i>
Gender	Male
Pronouns	✧ <i>He/him</i>
Sex	✧ <i>Male</i>
Sexuality	Unsure
Age	45 months
Colony	Vortex
Rank	Storm

Appearance

Appearance	Fawn amber marbled lynx mink tom
Scars	✧
Impairments	✧

Accessories	✧
Genotype	ll blbl dd AA BmBm mcmc spsp tata ee cscb

Personality

Under pressure, Sandalphon is clever and collected, thinking of ways to get out of tough spots on the fly. His logic and drive makes him a cat you can rely on to get things done - and a cat you go to when there's a problem that needs solving! He comes across as **sharp, smart** - but also **compassionate and empathetic**, softening his eyes and speaking soothingly to calm anyone's nerves. Sandalphon is rather good at **getting into the heads of others** when he needs to, especially if they're hiding something or not telling the full truth. His time mostly communicating non-verbally with Muriel has made him **very attuned and aware** of small ticks and body language that might go unnoticed by others. As a leader and a teacher, Sandalphon is usually **selfless and patient**, always willing to sacrifice himself to help one of his cats. With a **comforting, steady presence** for his students, he assures them there's nothing they can't accomplish if they put their mind to it, building their confidence from day one.

This is how Sandalphon typically presents - **kind, intelligent, and independent**. However, he can also be **coldly pragmatic, vengeful, and ruthless** when it comes down to it, especially in the face of conflict or danger, where he's prepared to do whatever it takes to survive. He scarcely displays these qualities - a side of him very much rare and hidden - but it tends to come out when he's stressed or locked into a task he needs to finish. He's **incredibly loyal**, especially to his sister, who he knows better than anyone else and would do anything for. Although he knows Muriel can take care of herself, he's rather **protective** over her. He's **very devoted** to his colony and his family, and is often **prioritizing their wellbeing over himself**. Prone to making decisions that might put himself at risk for the betterment of others, Sandalphon cares little for himself if he can protect those he loves. If it means keeping his colony or loved ones safe, Sandalphon will make hard, scary decisions others may wince at. To him, the ends justify the means, whatever it may take to get there, and he's not afraid to be the one to get his claws dirty to get it done.

Family

Beacon • Father • NPC

Fluffy chocolate amber marbled lynx point with white

Casper • Parent • NPC

Fawn rosetted lynx sepia point molly with celestial eyes

Muriel • Sister • Owned by @pumpkin_spices

Lilac amber rosetted lynx mink molly with white

History

All the Time in the World

Beacon and Casper used to live in the forest, but when the prey ran scarce and Casper realized she was expecting kittens, the couple decided to move to the city hoping it would be easier living close to humans. Sandalphon and Muriel were born, named after a character from a story and Beacon's late mother respectively. It wasn't easier being in the city, though - it was harder than they expected. The kittens were too young to realize that, though. All they knew was the warmth and love of their parents.

Sometimes Sandalphon idly noticed Muriel didn't hear him when he called for her from a bit away - only really hearing him when he was up close. He didn't think it meant something was wrong, though. Just that he had to make sure he was close to her when he was talking or playing.

It seemed to be more serious when Muriel was playing by a road, and she didn't hear a car coming until it was very close to her. Luckily she wasn't in any danger, but it was still scary to her. Beacon and Casper checked her ears, discovering she didn't really have an ear canal. It explained a lot, but still - the news puzzled and worried Sandalphon at first. He looked troubled, but when he noticed Muriel looking to him for guidance, he gently perked up his ears and gave her a reassuring blink. They'd figure it out! He always had her back.

They were remarkably in sync as they grew up: as if they were one cat, they recognized each other's body language, their quirks, tells, anything that tipped off how the other was feeling or what they were thinking. They learned how to communicate without needing to speak. It felt like a secret language only the two of them knew. Soon, just from a tilt of a head or a flick of a tail Sandalphon almost always knew what Muriel was thinking. And the closeness was reciprocated for her, too. He could never keep anything from her, nor would he want to.

Trick of the Times

Then they were old enough to leave and strike out on their own. Their parents had been training them for this day - Beacon and Casper too had parents that raised them until they were a year old, and then encouraged them to leave the nest. Sandalphon and Muriel were well-prepared for the inevitability. Their parents left them with a warning: not to go into the woods, for dangerous beasts lived in there. Food may be scarce in the city, but it was better.

While on the streets, it was some months before they encountered an injured cat called Buggy, who insisted the two needed to be careful in the area. He said two groups had been fighting there for years, one led by four vicious cats, and the other led by two vengeful ones. Buggy wasn't apart of either group, but still found himself torn up when he was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The siblings talked about what would be the best course of action. They wanted to pass through the area, but it seemed to be dangerous. Though - what happened to Buggy wasn't a guarantee to happen to them. If they were careful enough, they might be able to make it through. They heard rumors that on the other side of the city was a massive beach, and the siblings were eager at the prospect of plentiful prey for once.

Getting lost was easier than it seemed. After a close encounter with a patrol from one of the enemy groups, Sandalphon and Muriel ended up lost and going the wrong way. They tangled needlessly deeper and deeper into the war zone, rather than passing straight through it. It was scary - on more than one occasion they were nearly caught and had to run for their lives. They spent months in the area, longer than he ever would have expected or wanted, and time felt like a blur for him.

Sandalphon always excelled in his speed and wit, and always managed to stay ahead of their pursuers, coming up with strategies to get around or outsmart them if speed wasn't going to be enough. It was stressful and scary, but he knew it couldn't last forever. He could tell Muriel was struggling more than he was, and kept his head up and heart steady to help them both get through it. He promised Muriel they'd get out of there soon. He was worried for her, though - what if he was a few too many steps ahead of her and she couldn't hear possible assailants behind her? He was determined to stick close to her until they were in a safe zone.

Finally, the buildings began to open up. Sandalphon saw the excitement on Muriel's face as she dashed forwards, thinking the beach must be just beyond.

Never Changes

Something wasn't right, though. As Muriel rushed forwards, cats were running the other way, towards the two. Humans were fleeing too, and the streets were lit up with cars leaving. Muriel stumbled back and Sandalphon met her as she pressed close to her brother for comfort, and he wrapped his tail around her reassuringly. They decided to head back since something seemed to be happening at the beach. Then they realized what was happening: the water wouldn't stop rising.

Muriel gestured to a tall building, and Sandalphon understood: maybe they could get to high ground? But on their way there, barking stopped them in their tracks. It was a large dog standing behind them, snarling with ears pinned back. A frightened creature, but it was going to take its fear out on them. Sandalphon defensively shifted into a stance, ready to run or attack, and the dog went for him first. He immediately darted away to draw the beast away from his sister. He heard her cry out, but couldn't stop for her - it was more important he lure this dog away.

Sandalphon jumped onto a fence, leaping his way to the top of a wall and out of reach of the dog - just in time. A wave crashed through the streets, carrying the dog away and nearly knocking Sandalphon off his paws too. He clung to the wall, desperately climbing higher to be out of reach of any more waves. It was close, just by a whisker. He caught his breath for a moment before he saw a chocolate cat crawling into the window of a crumbling building. He was moving before he realized it: first using floating cars and debris to jump over the water before diving in.

He saw a strange torbie come towards him at the opposite way, similarly diving into the water to help rescue the chocolate cat. Sandalphon swam towards the cat's sinking body, and the torbie helped him fish the cat out of the water, dragging them onto a safe surface. There was a fourth cat here now, a pale cat with a moth over their face. They resuscitated the unconscious chocolate cat, Sandalphon and the torbie waiting apprehensively as they woke and coughed up water.

The chocolate cat gave them an unexpected order: to save as many cats as they could and steer clear of the humans likely still around the city. The three cats glanced at each other and agreed to help. Sandalphon privately hoped that while he was searching for stragglers, he'd find Muriel, too.

Seeing more of the city was tragic - toppled over buildings, water higher than he'd ever seen it, cars and trees floating along in the flood. It wasn't hard to find struggling cats who had gotten caught in the waves. Sandalphon used his speed and strategic mind to find ways to them and then get them to safety, helping gather and lead them to a safe place. The other two cats that had helped save that strange chocolate cat were there, too, all of them seemingly have the same idea to gather them together.

The chocolate cat found the three of them again, introducing himself as Beau. He said there was only one thing they could do, and that was make a home out of what was left here, to keep everyone safe. They would establish a colony, he said, but he needed help - these cats didn't know him, but they all knew the three. He said he would lead the colony, but they must be the face of it.

Sandalphon agreed to help, introducing himself properly at last and learning the names of the others - the torbie was Bombardier and the pale cat Shade.

It was when he was helping guide others to safety and calling out soothing words to help their spirits when Muriel tackled Sandalphon, having spotted him from afar. She leaned into him happily, and he returned the giddy affection, pressing his muzzle into her shoulder. He was so glad she was okay. Muriel signed that she was so worried for him, and that she had brought a tom with her that needed medical attention. Sandalphon pointed him to Shade, knowing they had at least some medicinal knowledge.

When the little tom went off, Muriel asked her brother what was going on. Sandalphon explained all that had happened - saving Beau, helping save and gather the other survivors, and Beau asking him to be one of the faces of the colony they were going to make. They were all going to make a home, a safe place out of what was left, and Sandalphon was going to help with it. He said he wouldn't force Muriel to stay, but would really love it if she joined with him. He couldn't do it alone, not without her. To his delight, Muriel agreed to join.

As the colony founded, Sandalphon joined as one of the three Storms, joined by Bombardier and Shade as the faces of the Vortex Colony.

Trivia

Interests

- ♥ Strategy games
- ♥ Competitions
- ♥ Late evenings

- ✕ Cars
- ✕ Dogs
- ✕ New moons

Beliefs

- Defend those who care about you as if you're defending yourself
- Keep your head on in a crisis
- Everything has a solution
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Other

- Very fast, a little physically strong, but Muriel bests him easily
- He doesn't have the fear of cars that Muriel does, but still highly dislikes them from her experience with them
- Knows the territory like the back of his hand, loves giving tours or showing others little secret spots
- Worries about letting Beau and his colony down
- Loves teaching young cats, didn't realize how much he'd enjoy it
- Good at making connections

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