CENODRAGONS

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INTRODUCTION

Taliesin and Gwion, my two little critters, are, as we all know, dragons, but they hardly fit into any of the existing dragon categories! Having no horns, these odd earfans, and other peculiarities make them be a stand-alone new race of reptilians, that I'm going to call *Cenodragons* [*ceno* means "new"].

SO, WHAT A CENODRAGON ACTUALLY IS?

A cenodragon is an anthropomorphic creature of the reptilian family. They differ from the other species of dragons for some important and evident differences, making them rather unique in the already vast selection of dragons and similar. As said before, Taliesin and Gwion actually belong to this species.

MAIN FEATURES

The most important things that a cenodragon must (or can't) have are few and simple. However, since they're endowed with magical powers, it is possible that some individuals got their bodies modified through the use of their skills (we'll talk about this later). The basic body shape includes a head, two arms, two feet, a tail, a pair of wings good for flying, and they can move both on all fours and on their feet, and the latter is usually preferred.

First of all, **they have no horns**, no osseous excrescences coming out their heads. Instead, they have two wide **earfans**, used to capture sounds from the surroundings, making them pretty good at listening since they can be directioned thanks to over 15 different muscles used to set them in the best position for reception. They can be held up high when happy or kept down low when scared, worried or sad.

Another important feature is the line of **small spikes** running over their heads, from forehead to the neck joint. These small ridges are usually soft and not harmful at all, and similar ones are usually found behind their jaw. So, if you ever want to pet a cenodragon's head, don't worry about them – they're harmless!

Still on top of their heads, **hair** can be present, specially after puberty, though a good 70% of the overall population is usually bald. It is uncommon to find fur somewhere else over their bodies, but it might still happen to find some "furred" specimens. Any kind of color can be found, but usually hair tends to match or be quite similar to the scales' color.

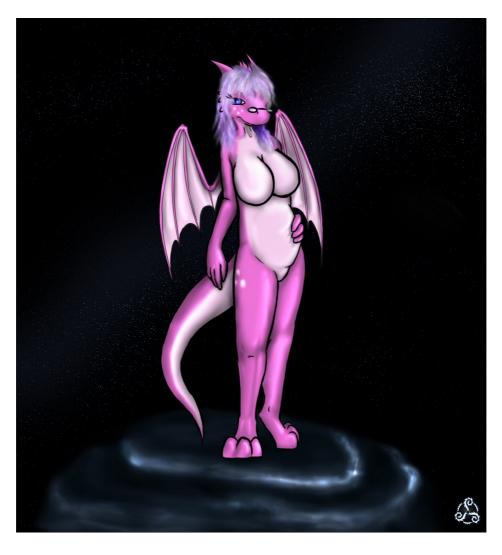
They are covered with **soft, shiny scales** that are so tiny and soft they feel more like some sort of hide, yet they are pretty resistant and resilient. They usually have two main colors, one as the main one and eventually a second for the softer belly and chest area. Again, colors are pretty various.

They usually have **big, gleaming** and **pretty expressive eyes**, coming in a lot of different colors. Most commons are green, blue, purple and red.

Their **tongue** is pretty long, prehensile and forked at the tip.

About **hands** and **feet**, they have common hands with 5 fingers and pointy nails, while feral (talons not touching the ground) feet with three bit clawed toes.

Their tail usually long, slim and very agile.



An important thing to learn before we go on is that they are reptilians, **but they can breast-feed** their whelps. It is not necessary, as hatchlings can already eat anything if small enough, but breastfed cenodragons usually grow up faster, stronger and bigger.

A peculiar series of traits concerns their **genders**. In fact, even if we can distinct "males" and "females" by the generic body silhouette (females have breasts, that may vary a lot in size, and are usually curvier and more delicate than males), this isn't just enough. Being quite the odd breed, cenodragons can be full males, full females, sexless or even hermaphrodite – so watch out when dating one! Still related to the sexual area, there really isn't a "standard" about this kind of features, yet all that's certain is that everything is kept safe and hidden into a scale slit, as most reptiles do. This gives them the possibility to be confident in public areas even when not wearing any clothes, since no naughty stuff is to be seen.

ABOUT BREEDING

First of all, masculine and feminine gametes are not so necessary, as any specimen provided with a womb can actually have fertile eggs with a special process called *parthenogenesis*: this means that the sexual act is not required in order for eggs to hatch into completely different individuals – this means that even whelps born this way have all a different genetic patrimony.

Eggs are usually long and pearl-white, pretty lucid and shiny, and each pregnancy can bring from 1 to 10 eggs to mommy.

A pretty peculiarity these dragons have is that their genes are quite complex. In fact, they carry way more information than they do with other species, so that a lot of information can be hidden as recessive by a single dominant trait – this means that, for instance, blue parents can virtually have children of any color, if the informations for said color is held into their DNA.



POWERS AND ABILITIES

Despite the fact they're quite lazy and not so agile, cenodragons have quite the skill in differently not-scientifically-proven disciplines. Usually, every cenodragon is skilled into a very specific (yet completely random, still decided through redundant genes as said before about colors and features) magical capability: for instance, Taliesin can manipulate water in all of its forms, while Gwion can "time shift", as in modifying her body as if she was older or younger at her will.

First of all, we can distinct 3 different categories of magical powers: **environment**, **time** and **space**.

The "environment" one is the one we could call as "elemental" magic. Any dragon with this kind of

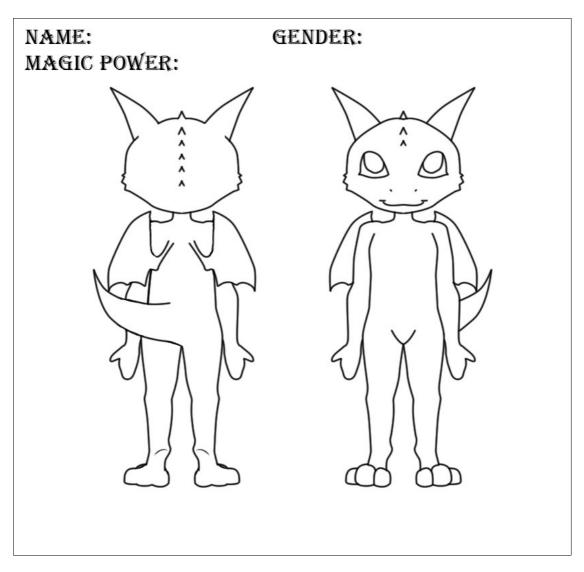
magical power usually can control (and morph him/herself into) a specific kind of material: water, air, wood, stone, light, iron, gold, and so on. It is pretty specific, so that an "iron" dragon can't directly manipulate tin nor gold, for instance.

The "time" category is pretty self explanatory, and it usually features dragons that can toy with the usual flow of time, as in stopping it, making it go slower or faster, or play with aging. Usually the specificity in such magic is related to targets: taking the example of Gwion's power again, she can time shift herself but not someone or something else.

The "space" one reminds the "environment" one, but focuses more on qualities more than on materials. So, a "space" dragon can shrink or enlarge things, can make them shine or darken, can chenge their shapes, can heaten up and burn, and things like these. Such a dragon can affect with his specific ability any material, but the way things can be manipulated is pretty limited.

MAKE YOUR OWN CENODRAGON

Now that you had your lesson about them, you're ready to adopt one – or to even become one!!! With this guide you get your own template that you can color and personalize as you wish! Enjoy!



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Taliesin