

SKYREALMS of Jorune

Scarmis Society

By Sholari James

The scarmis were brought to Sho-Caudal as slaves by the cleash. Since the cleash can control scarmis when in close to them, it suggests that they originate from the same homeworld or that the cleash have adapted themselves or the scarmis to enable control over them. The scarmis brain is simple, yet extraordinary hard to understand. On one hand these creatures can be very scatter-brained and incapable of actions outside scarmis hive community, on the other hand they can be seen in cities trading for goods they cannot themselves produce. Although most scarmis can be quite individualistic in their point of view, humans see them as insect- robots. Especially their poor and robot-like attempts to speak any other language, gives them this facade. Scarmis are never philosophers and only use their brains to solve problems, perform orders and fulfil missions at maximum efficiency. Humour does not exist among scarmis.

Scarmis society is quite like that of terran termites. They communicate partly through clicking sounds (The Geebo language) and through pheromone odours. These odours tell the other scarmis who a certain individual is, where he comes from and what his tasks in life are. A great deal of information about mood, physical health etc is also transmitted by the scarmis with the help of these odours. These odours are used especially by the queen and enable her to bring order to and control over a hive. All the scarmis she comes in contact with are "contaminated" by pheromones, which they then spread along the walls and tunnels of the hive. Some particular odours program the workers and soldiers with the hive's need for food, protection and caring for the young. One particular odour prevents the drones from transforming into a female scarmis. Once the queen is dead or gone this odour slowly disappears from the hive structure and a drone becomes the new queen if pheromones from other scarmis are present.

Social status is upheld in this way. Scarmis are created for special tasks in life and the entirely different odours enable them to recognise each other and their tasks. They would never dream of passing a genetic border in their strict society as it is beyond their intelligence.

Geetoo'oolih The scarmis queen, simply called the queen by other races. The queen is the most important individual and is fanatically protected by all scarmis. The queen also displays a sort of cunning and very individual intelligence that is closer to that of other races. Iscin Jobhrra Horoo of Dobre has more than once proven the mathematical and arithmetical genius of a queen, as well as her aptitude to learn new languages. Although cleash cannot dominate the queen mother they can abduct all her scarmis leaving her to die in her hive. The queen dominates all other scarmis by using pheromone odours and translucent flashes. The queen was once a male drone, but upon becoming a queen she becomes bloated and creates a huge egg sack that is attached to the hive. Although capable of movement she is slow and vulnerable and the scarmis prefer to carry her if there is a need to move her. She can become up

to 80 years old. Not all scarmis societies have queens. All queen-based societies construct a hive building secreted from the worker scarmis, which keeps on growing forever. Non queen-based societies are built up around a village of small, secreted huts with a large underground chamber attached to them. These societies are never as big as the ones that have a queen and no drone are present. A queen can always "abduct" these scarmis, or make them construct a hive for her.

Cleash

It is not clear how these evil creatures can dominate scarmis totally and making them willless. Clearly the cleash are not related to scarmis or have any function in scarmis society, since their presence in scarmis society always constitutes a tragedy. The assumption is that they must be some sort of superior parasite. Cleash use scarmis as workers and soldiers since they are stronger, and sometimes they steal scarmis eggs and place them in their own egg sacks and thus creating a terrible hybrid called kopoka. Only higher generations of cleash such as the Trocarr and higher can dominate the scarmis drones. If this is done the queen has no defenders and is often brutally killed and eaten. To prevent this scarmis queen mothers close to human realms sometimes employ condrij of other races to protect the outer perimeter of the hive from cleash. Cleash control over scarmis wears off after two to three days if the scarmis hasn't been in contact with them.

Drones

The scarmis that mate with the queen and holders of all important positions in the hive. (Although they might not be so many.) They transform into a queen if the queen dies or gets too old. It is they who lead missions outside of the hive and they are quite individual for a scarmis. They are quite capable of living in human society and display some of the intelligence that can be found in a queen (this will be more clouded and suppressed in drones still living in the hive and subjected to the repressive pheromones). When the drones live outside of a hive, they always live alone and never with other scarmis, since their pheromone odours would start to transform it into a queen. If a mission lasts more than a month the drone must return to the hive for another dose of "blocking" pheromones, or abandon the scarmis it is commanding. A drone has a life span of 60-80 years, depending if it transforms into a queen.

Cleash

All cleash except for the Locksma and the Sro'mocrr can dominate the lower and more simple-minded scarmis if a drone isn't present. To make things easier the drones are simply killed by the cleash.

Kopoka

A terrible hybrid between a cleash and a scarmis, with the cleash cunning and malice, and a body which is a gruesome cross between a scarmis and a cleash. They hold superior control over the lower scarmis and immediately try to take control over the hive. The kopoka is very strong the first sixty days of its existence in order to be able to battle the drones and eventually kill the queen. If the resistance is too strong the kopoka will try to abduct all the soldier sand workers and create another community. This community, frequently visited by cleash, is called a kopoka hive, and is a dreaded place for both scarmis and other races. In these hives the kopoka sits in the centre

instead of a queen and soon grows and transforms into a hideous, bulbous and lazy monster. Cleash regularly abduct new soldiers and workers to these hives since they are unable to produce any offspring. The true motive and meaning of creating a kopoka and a kopoka hive is unknown. A kopoka has a life span of 50 years and normally ends its existence in a tormented and vicious killing spree that even the cleash are not safe from.

Soldier Scarmis They protect the hive, the queen, the drones and workers from any dangers. They are very strong, fast and enduring but short lived with a life span of 15 years. They are sometimes sent of on missions and are very capable of individual actions although suffer from being scatter-brained. It is the soldier scarmis who sometimes create small independent communities. (Mostly after hive destruction, escape from cleash domination, or when lost.) These communities will be tightly knit together and working hard towards surviving and gathering food, but will be able to breed.

Learsis scarmis Originally worker scarmis with special bulbous lower bodies, filled with healing protein fluid. This liquid is secreted upon wounded scarmis which heals their flesh as well as their exterior chitin skeleton. They only exist in hive communities and aren't very numerous. The liquid has some healing effect on terran creatures and works perfectly on cleash which often leads to their abduction. Learsis scarmis have a life span of 15-20 years.

Worker scarmis Totally scatter-brained and not capable of living outside of scarmis communities. Soldier scarmis might take them with them to create smaller hive-independent communities. They build and repair the hive, protect and care for the eggs and larvae (Only scarmis, not cleash, go through the larvae stage.), collects food and attend to the queen. Sometimes drones use them for construction outside of the hive. They are often seen working for cleash. Although scatter-brained they are ferocious fighters and quite capable of defending the hive. Worker scarmis have a life span of 30 years.

