
THE ASSASSIN SARCHOLI NUNKA

What lies within the mind of a man that serves the unknowable? If one can answer that question, you might begin to understand the will of Sarcholi Nunka, Skyborn and assassin.

For more than thirty cycles, Sarcholi Nunka has been the hidden, violent will of the Novapendra Birthrighters (see pg. 31 of "The Skyborn Order & Its Enemies") and has never once failed to fulfill their demands.

How Sarcholi came into the service of Nova's alien lords is a matter of conjecture. One theory—held by those rare persons who have even heard of the assassin—is that Sarcholi was among those impoverished and desperate children that dwell on the edge of Haark when he was rescued by a nameless Novapendra, and later fostered upon Nova. There are many that would argue that such a gesture of compassion is historically outside the witnessed tendencies of the great centipedes.

The truth is that Sarcholi is not a Haarkeen native at all. Sarcholi was, in fact, born on Nova to Haarkeen parents who were devout members of The Disciples of the White Sands (see pg. 19 of "The Skyborn Order & Its Enemies"). His parents loved him intensely; for a healthy Haarkeen born upon Nova is a very rare thing and is viewed as deeply auspicious in the eyes of the Disciples. Haarkeen that are born upon the white shard rarely survive more than a few moments past birth. Whether it's the harsh climate or something more sinister at work, none can say, but Sarcholi was different. And so his parents gave up the child to the

Novapendra—an unconditional offering, a sacrifice.

It was thirteen cycles after the infant was handed over that one of his secret Novapendra masters completed his indoctrination into the philosophy of the Birthrighters and put a pair of Silt-fang daggers into his sand-worn hands. His face was wrapped in white silks—no being since has seen his true face. The Birthrighters sent him into the world, where he melted in among the teeming masses, and was forgotten by any Haarkeen who had known his name.

Sarcholi is a master of disguise and never reveals his actual face. He is of average height and build, which only contributes to his ability to go unnoticed. While his eyes do naturally bear the Skyborn sheen, he uses painful poison drops from Zenith to cloud and suppress their inherent opalescence. Were anyone to get close enough to see his naked back, one might see the Novapendra script that was scarred into the flesh while Sarcholi was still a babe. But, as no human has ever seen the writing, the tale told there is anyone's guess.

The Novapendra Birthrighters are growing in influence and solidarity. Until recently, they have been isolated ideologues that espouse a megalomaniac faith. Yet, now they are finding each other, and so the movement is growing deeper as they become more organized and their schemes infiltrate more and more sectors of life throughout the shards. Any attempt to stymie the will or intent of these beings stands a good chance of being on the receiving end of a terminal meeting with the assassin called Sarcholi Nunka.

SARCHOLI NUNKA, SKYBORN ASSASSIN

Physical Dice	4d10
Mental Dice	5d10
Health	8
Zeal	5

Surge: Knives of Poison (4). The target of this attack has been affected by the Novapendra poison that coats Sarcholi's daggers. That character must succeed at an Open Test (Resistance vs. Physical) or lower all their Vigor and Might dice by one Rating level until the end of the combat. Similarly, if they fail the Open Test, but survive the combat, the character must perform a Hazard Test (Poison d10 vs. Resistance) unless treated for a Dramatic Wound within a short amount of time. To make matters worse, Sarcholi can use his Chroma to track anyone infected with the poison as long as they remain on the same Shard as the assassin.

Special: Sarcholi is entirely insane. He has lived under Novapendra parenting and tutelage his entire life and has developed the expected sociopathic tendencies that come with it. As a result, he has a deep inability to relate at all to the emotional condition of normal humans. Furthermore, Sarcholi has shattered one of his chroma, and it has resulted in him dealing with constant fractal-filled nightmares as Novapendra intelligence constantly invades his mind and human identity over and over again. This renders him reliant on an assortment of drugs if he ever wishes to peacefully sleep or otherwise relax. If Sarcholi is put in a situation where children are involved, he will always act sympathetically and kindly, almost as if possessed. This is because many of his night terrors relate directly to his demented childhood of being a human sacrifice. This considered, Sarcholi is possessed of stupendous intelligence and will and has grown skilled at working around such obstacles of compassion.