

# SUNBORN RISING CAST OF CHARACTERS

# HEROES

#### BARRA SWIFTSPUR

The daughter of Brace Swiftspur and the late Gammel Swiftspur, Barra is an adventurous, willful Listlespur of eleven rings. She has trouble following the rules for the rules sake, and doesn't always agree with authority—anyone who isn't her mother, that is—but always tries to do her best.

Barra is the glue holding together a trio of intrepid friends, including Tory Mafic, and Plicks Battidash. Her desire to uncover the world of her father's journals leads her and her friends on a great adventure from the top of the Reach to the Cerulean Sun. She'll do whatever it takes to bring light back to the Loft.

#### PLICKS BATTIDASH

Plicks is a young Kolalabat of eleven rings. He is one of Barra's most trusted friends, and although he doesn't always agree with her, he would do anything for her. He is the youngest of eleven brothers and sisters who all live in the Umberwood with their parents, Vens Kable and Drahvay Battidash. He is a

little awkward and a lot nervous most of the time, but he is intelligent and loyal, and overcomes his fears for the sake of his friends.

# TORY MAFIC

At twelve rings, Tory is a lanky, but strong and confident, Rugosic. He has an easy smile and understanding eyes—a kind of hard-learned wisdom from losing his mom. Tory lives with his father, Ven Luke Mafic, in the Loft of the Umberwood, and spends most of his free time with his best friends, Barra and Plicks. He's ever-willing to test his own limits, and his charm and confidence tends to convince others to join him. He's also an accomplished Pit-player, though he isn't as competitive as everyone thinks.

# SUPPORTING CAST

# BRACE SWIFTSPUR

Thirty-six rings and some change, Brace Swiftspur is an adult Listlespur, and Barra's mother. Mainly, Brace cares for her daughter and their den in the Umberwood Nest, but she's also active within the community, organizing numerous festivals including perhaps the most important of all the festivals, the celebration of the New Ring. Avid readers, Brace and Gammel met for the first time in the archives.

# GAMMEL SWIFTSPUR

Brace Swiftspur's partner, Gammel is a Listlespur and Barra's father. By trade he was the equivalent of a botanist, but also, he was an explorer. Although no formal station exists, he was the de facto monitor for the health of the Umberwood, the Great Tree itself and its Loft. He disappeared before Barra was born, and was thought to have fallen as a result of his exploration of the Middens.

# JERRUN NEBBLEWISER

Jerrun is a well-known member of the Umberwood community and Head of their Elder Council. As the Head Elder, he presides over the regular meetings of the Council and directs discussion. His acerbic personality and intimidating presence prevent most any Arboreal from speaking to him, and none speak against him.

#### Red

Red was one of the first Nebules to meet the trio, and she was named for the bright red, semitranslucent color of her skin. She has a bell-shaped body with four long tentacular arms, and

a curtain of even longer, thin tentacles that look similar to human hairs though Red's are almost invisible.

#### BLUE

Blue was one of the first Nebules to meet the trio, and he was named for the bluish tint of his skin. Similar in shape to a manta ray, Blue moves through the water like a swirling, cloudy blue wing. He befriended Plicks almost immediately.

#### CHAR

Char was one of the first Nebules to meet the trio, and he was named for the charred-wood color and texture of his gelatinous flesh. A more complex shape than most Nebules, Char looks a lot like a kushball, only his tendrils end in small spheres. Playful and mischievous, Char was immediately drawn to Tory and they became fast friends.

#### Vallor Starch

Venress Vallor Starch is Barra's mentor. Miss Starch has a special place in her heart for Barra, who reminds her of her own daughter, who fell young. She believes that a strength is cultivated through adversity, and frowns on the more polite version of Arboreal society.

#### REN ARGUS

Generations before Barra's birth, Ren Argus was among the Aetherials who governed the Root. He pledged his devotion to the natural flora for Cerulean, and worked to prevent the burgeoning society of Arboreals from overrunning the treescape at the expense of other life. In particular, he championed research to keep a rare and fragile vine alive that rapidly approached extinction. The vine actually gave birth to flying insects—the only plant of its kind.

#### **FIZZIT**

Fizzit is a three-eyed, three-tailed multi-dimensional Aetherial who got lost trying to save Cerulean. He's finally found the pathwood home, and now he'll allow nothing to stand in his way.

## LOOTRINEA

Lootrinea is one of the few remaining Aetherials in the Great Forest, though she lives in the Cerulean Ocean, making her home in the Drift. She helps the trio find their way back to the surface.

#### THE ROEDTAW

The Roedtaw is an ancient creature that travels the Cerulean Ocean in search of Nebules that need to return to the sun. He is larger than Blue Whale with scales like a dragon, and a hollow center that spins water like a turbine to generate thrust and propel him through the water like a jet. Many legendary stories have been written about the Roedtaw, and only he knows the truth of them.

# GUEST APPEARANCES

#### DARBY FENROAR

Doctor Yorg Fenroar and his partner Ven Darby Fenroar are a Muskkat and Leghund respectively who live together in the Nest of the Umberwood. Together, they conduct research in the Nest of the Umberwood Loft. Yorg is particularly well-known for his intelligence and sense of humor, while Darby is known as a bit of a curmudgeon though he's actually quite nice once you get to know him.

## GORRECK TADAFELL

One of the numerous mentors who frequent the Coppice daily, Ven Tadafell is a Kolalabat known for his extraordinary binding techniques. If you have a question about binding, he's the Arboreal to ask

# Juddol Alkali

Juddol is a Rugosic like Tory, but not nearly as personable nor approachable. Juddol considers himself a friend to the trio, but spends most of his time insulting them. Barra, Plicks, and Tory might include him more often if he didn't exclude himself with his generally surly and overly-competitive attitude.

## LUKE MAFIC

Ven Luke Mafic is Tory's stoic father, a Rugosic overcome with grief for his fallen partner, Ravva. He doesn't show his affection often or well, but he loves his son.

#### Mareki Shurriver

Ven Mareki Shurriver, a Muskkat being groomed for the Elder Council, was a friend to Gammel Swiftspur before Barra was born. They became estranged when the Council impugned Gammel's research, but Mareki never lost respect. He joined the expedition without hesitation when he heard Barra was missing.

#### NEVEL

Brace's most loyal and quickest Rush, Nevel carries the message to Jerrun that begins unravelling the role he has played in at least covering up the existence of the encroaching creepervine.

## SEAROWE ARENBEE

A talented Weaver, Ven Searowe Arenbee is one of Ven Mareki Shurriver's closest friends and confidants. He holds great respect for Brace Swiftspur though he knew her partner, Gammel, better. He was one of the first volunteers to help find Barra.

# YORG FENROAR

Doctor Yorg Fenroar and his partner, Ven Darby Fenroar, live and do research together in the Nest of the Umberwood Loft. Yorg is particularly well-known for his intelligence and sense of humor, while Darby is known as a bit of a curmudgeon though he's actually quite nice once you get to know him.