

"Youi" © G.River as Miho Midorikawa, accessed at their website here

[Commissioned by <u>@listmaker-lastcity</u>. The yowie, whowie or wowie is a monster with a split personality. Several, actually. The original is a Swallower from Southern Australia, to use <u>@a-book-of-creatures</u> category, which resembles a giant lizard with a frog's head. It is used to explain the terrain of the Murray River—the creature shaped the dunes with its movements, and weird sounds heard in the night are its ghostly wails. In the 19th century, the name yowie was appropriated by European colonists to refer to a wild-man. Modern crypto sources consider the yowie to be the "Australian Bigfoot" and lump a few dozen other Australian Aboriginal monsters into the same category, regardless of how well it fits (see the <u>puttikan</u>).

The more insect-like whowie was invented for *The Encyclopedia of Things That Never Were*, presumably riffing off of the six legs in the original description. The commissioner requested I use this version, but the stats would suit the original frog-lizard just as easily. The art I'm using is circulated widely around the internet, without a source attributed to it. I guessed the artist due to the style and was happy to find myself correct.]

Whowie

CR 11 N Magical Beast

This massive creature appears to be a cross between insect and reptile. Its head has bulging eyes and an oversized maw, and it has a long, lashing tail. Its six legs are thin and plated like those of a beetle.

Whowies are enormous predators that live in gallery forests along riverbanks. Such areas are excellent hunting and fishing grounds, which is good because the whowie requires vast amounts of food. They are not evil or actively malicious, but consider humanoids to be food and often hunt in settlements or farms. A whowie is slow and stupid, but does not need to be fast or cunning. They are surrounded by a perpetual aura of silence, masking their movements, and can swallow an entire village worth of people, one or two at a time.

Whowies lair in burrows dug near the riverbank. They can alter the consistency and shape of earth and stone as if by instinct, and whowies seem to entertain themselves through sculpting berms, dunes and moats. Over time a whowie's territory will gain increasingly dramatic earthforms. They are solitary creatures that come together only to mate. During mating season, whowies call to each other over great distances—both creatures need to lower their auras of silence to make such communication possible. A male whowie is finished after fertilizing a female, but the female creates an elaborate nest out of earth and rotting vegetation and monitors it carefully while the eggs develop. Once babies are hatched, the whowie is finished with her parental care and leaves. Juvenile whowies are more aquatic than they are as adults, but all ages use water to cool off and

occasionally ambush prey.

Whowie CR 11

XP 12,800

N Huge magical beast (earth)

Init +1; Senses darkvision 60 ft., Perception +9, tremorsense 60 ft.

Aura silence (30 ft.)

Defense

AC 24, touch 9, flat-footed 23 (-2 size, +1 Dex, +15 natural)

hp 147 (14d10+70)

Fort +14, Ref +10, Will +7

Immune acid, electricity; SR 22

Offense

Speed 30 ft., swim 30 ft.

Melee bite +21 (2d12+8 plus grab), tail slap +15 (2d8+4)

Space 15 ft.; Reach 10 ft.

Special Attacks endless gullet, fast swallow, swallow whole (AC 17, 14 hp, 1d8+12 bludgeoning plus 2d6 acid)

Statistics

Str 26, Dex 13, Con 20, Int 2, Wis 12, Cha 12

Base Atk +14; **CMB** +24 (+28 grapple); **CMD** 35 (43 vs. trip)

Feats Blind-fight, Cleave, Great Cleave, Iron Will, Power Attack, Skill Focus (Stealth), Weapon Focus (bite)

Skills Climb +13, Perception +9, Stealth +12, Swim +21; Racial Modifiers +8 Stealth

SQ earthwarp, hold breath

Ecology

Environment warm forests and aquatic

Organization solitary or pair

Treasure incidental

Special Abilities

Aura of Silence (Su) A whowie is surrounded by silence, as per the spell, in a 30 foot radius. It can activate or deactivate this aura as a standard action.

Earthwarp (Su) As a standard action, a whowie can use *soften earth and stone* in a 20 foot radius within 60 feet. By concentrating for a minute, it can use *stone shape* or *move earth* in a 20 foot radius within 60 feet.

Endless Gullet (Su) A whowie's guts are an extradimensional space. It may have any number of creatures swallowed at a time, and creatures that cut their way out of a whowie do not prevent it from swallowing additional creatures. If it swallows an object that contains an extradimensional space such as a *bag of holding* or *portable hole*, it is sucked into the Astral Plane (as are all creatures it has swallowed) and the object is destroyed.