Duke Leopold Panzer

* **Name**: (unpronounceable growling roar), goes by Leopold Panzer, Duke of Fieras (he/him)
* **Entourage:** Dybele’s Intergalactic Empire
* **Role:** Duke of Fieras, emissary to the courts of the Intergalactic Empire on behalf of his people, the Mrrshan. Unofficially also a military advisor.
* **Why he wants these negotiations to be a success:** Dybele conqu…. The Empire incorporated his people into itself, and their integration had not been their proudest moment. The Mrrshan adapted because they considered Dybele’s humans to be indomitable, and if these negotiations fail, the resulting wars may break the Empire. Panzer has no illusions about the outcome; if the Empire falls, it means the once proud Mrrshan capitulated not to the ultimate force in the galaxy, but to just another fallen kingdom. That, his people will never accept.
* **His concerns:** 
  + Dybele doesn’t react well to being told “no”. She is used to wielding ultimate power, and to have someone oppose her, and oppose her so forcefully, it’s bound to lead her to make mistakes, be it out of pride, anger, or even insecurity.
  + Oberon’s forces are completely alien to theirs, and the cultural mismatch will prove difficult to manage.
  + There are always those looking to benefit from Chaos. There might be those who wish to dethrone or supplant Dybele, those who are out for revenge, those who think that the war could end by assassinating either or both of the monarchs, those who think they’ll profit from the extension of the war…. Everyone is suspect.
* **3 characteristics or areas in which he is particularly gifted/skilled/able.** 
  + Panzer is a 8 foot tall anthropomorphic panther from a high gravity jungle world. He is the very definition of a nightmarish stalking murder cat: big, strong, fast, deadly and silent. It doesn’t help that he’s also trained with a variety of weapons.
  + He was a Duke on his home world, a warlord extraordinaire among a feudal, feral race. His military cunning and prowess know no equal… among the Mrrshan, at least.
  + As a panther, he has some very keen senses. His sense of smell and hearing are beyond those of regular humans. His sight is comparable, but his night vision is six times that of humans.
* **2 areas where he struggles, and how you manage around this.**
  + “Social interaction with humans is… strange. For starters, Mrrshan females go in heat every few weeks, which very much changes the dynamic between males and females in this time period. Humans… don’t. Instead, they … yeah, you know what? Not going into that again. I got in enough trouble last time. Also, Fieras is feudal, and status and breed are very much intertwined. Things are different in the court, and I sometimes have trouble telling which human is what to whom. Usually, I just find someone who smells insignificant, and ask.”
  + “Everything around here is made for tiny, weightless monkeys. Nothing is my size, everything breaks, doors are too small and don’t get me started on toilets.”
* **Character description:** Duke Panzer is an 8 foot tall (2.50m) anthropomorphic panther from a feudal, feral, high gravity jungle world. His name is a bit of a joke; his real name is unpronounceable to humans (sounding something like a growling roar), but due to his appearance and his size (built like a tank), he was named Leopold Panzer by a courtier and the name stuck. The courtier himself did not stick around, though, not after the Duke found out about the joke.
* **The most important thing you should know:** Panzer was a Duke on Fieras, his home world, a high ranking warlord who had the ear of the Lion throne itself. That is… until Dybele and her humans came. At first, they seemed no threat at all. After all, humans are squishy compared to a Mrrshan. They’re small, hairless, weak, have no claws or teeth to speak of, and they break easily. Only… they don’t die easily. And they won’t stop coming. No matter how many battles the Mrrshan won, the humans would return in greater numbers. No matter how long the battle lasted, the humans kept going. No matter how devastating the victory, the humans never sounded defeat… How do you win against an enemy who just won’t lose? In the end, it was Panzer who had to suggest to the Lion throne that this war could not be won, and that the only way he saw for his people to survive was to capitulate and join the Intergalactic Empire. His shame was unrivalled: never had the Mrrshan ever ceded a battle, let alone surrendered. It was the highest dishonour, and for his shame, Panzer was exiled from Fieras, to join the humans he had elevated above his people as the Mrrshan emissary. He can never go home.