Lore of the lješnik

Origin: In the ancient forests, where magic flows as freely as the wind, small shards, remnants of a bygone era of powerful magic, embedded themselves into the very heart of the oldest trees. These trees, standing as silent witnesses to the eons, absorbed the mystical energies of the shards, their roots intertwining with the fragments of arcane power.

Appearance and Abilities: Lješniks resemble humanoid forms, a mimicry of the humans they encountered over the centuries. Their bodies are composed of rough bark, with vines and moss adorning them, making them appear as walking, eerie embodiments of the forest. Their eyes, dimly lit with the shard's power, betray their otherwise dormant facade.

Behavior: The lješnik Fragments are not protectors of the forest. Their primary drive is to seek out and absorb more shard energy, making them gravitate towards Shardbinders. They are indifferent to regular humans and animals, as these beings do not emit the shard energy that they crave.

Interaction with ShardBinders: When a ShardBinder encounters a lješnik, they face a being that is part magical, part natural. Defeating this Shardspawn allows the ShardBinder to extract the minimal shard fragments from within, gaining a slight increase in their magical abilities. However, the lješniks are resilient, their wooden forms granting them a natural defense against many forms of magic and physical attacks.

Myth and Misconception: To the local populace, Lesnik Fragments are often mistaken for forest guardians or cursed souls. This misunderstanding sometimes leads to misguided attempts to appease or avoid them. Shardbinders, however, understand their true nature – not guardians, but a small inconvenience.