

CYRICAS

Born 29 Calistril 2048 AR;
Coronated 13 Roa 2087 AR;
Felled by the Gorilla King 8 Arodus 2089 AR

Born on the 29th day of Calistril—a day that comes but once every 8 years—the Leaping Lion was predestined for a greatness born of exceptionalism. As a child, the noble-born Cyricas suffered from a debilitating illness that mystified even the most skilled healers



of the land, each summoned by his mother, a prominent senator, who used her influence to gain their services. Cyricas spent much of his childhood in bed, reading about the great rulers of Taldor and dreaming about one day joining their ranks. On his eighth birthday, Cyricas leapt from his sickbed, proclaimed himself well, and embarked on a life of adventure—as all Taldans are told on their own eighth birthdays.

Cyricas spent much of his young adulthood traveling, taking special interest in the natural world. His love of hunting in particular eventually led him to the heavy jungle interior of Garund. There, his guides had chained a mighty gorilla, offering it as a trophy. Cyricas was horrified, releasing the beast and chastising his well-meaning hosts for debasing a free creature. Though Cyricas left the ape behind, it followed him for 8 days and nights, until the great adventurer accepted his new companion and named him Mardu.

Back in Taldor and approaching middle age, Cyricas held court with all manner of Taldans, from senators to commoners. He spoke to thousands in a series of popular public lectures, regaling them with tales of adventure and calling on all Taldans to overcome their circumstances and achieve greatness.

Upon the death of his father (may his corrupt and vile name remain ever struck from the record), Cyricas won approval for coronation over his elder brother, his will and abundant allies making him a stronger candidate to lead Taldor into a new era. The Leaping Lion could not be contained, however, and no sooner was he crowned—on the same day of the year as Taldaris himself—than he made plans to join the Sixth Army of Exploration in northern Garund. Countless often-contradictory tales tell of Cyricas's many great deeds in the 2 short years that followed, but the accounts agree that at the end, the mighty Leaping Lion fell in glorious battle with the vicious Gorilla King, fighting alongside his people.