

Character Design Sample - Camila Mattos

TEHKRI HAODAI, the betrayed Essencemancer

Gender: male

Age: 16

Ethnicity: asian (Mongolian)

About:

A spellcaster from the Klingazar kingdom, acolyte with a focus on healing magic. He joined the essencemancers to help bring his sister back to life.

Main traits:

- *Loyal to his master, Soulon.* He owes a great deal to Soulon, the founder and leader of the group called the Essencemancers. Thanks to him, Haodai is no longer in constant physical pain.
- *A young idealist.* Like his master, Haodai believes firmly that regaining the gift of eternal life, once bestowed upon humans by Goddess Life, is the cure for all ailments of the world.
- *A Scholar.* Haodai spends most of his time studying and perfecting the manipulation of Essence.

Meaningful Connections:

- Soulon Legéones: His master. Haodai was Soulon's greatest pupil. One day, however, Soulon crossed a line that Haodai wasn't ready to cross, and thus their paths diverted—to tragic ends.
- Tehkri Quianlun: His big sister and a great martial artist. She raised by Haodai after their parents' death. He admires her as a figure of strength and protection. His safe heaven.
- Alurna of Meriva: Haodai always nurtured a great deal of respect for Alurna, the Essencemancer's Second-in-command. He never got to like her as a person, though.

Backstory:

Haodai lived with his sister, Quianlun, in the steppes of the Klingazar. They lost their parents at a very young age, but despite poverty, they always did their best to manage by themselves. Quianlun was an excellent fighter, while Haodai had been born with a **degenerative disease that provided him with the power to control Essence—the very fabric of life—beyond common knowledge.** While she acted on the front line of their battles for survival, he performed in the shadows, buffing his sister's fighting capability and weakening their enemies'. His abilities, however, didn't come without a cost. Along with such power also came excruciating pain. Haodai knew he didn't have much time left. The siblings decided to travel across the Four Kingdoms looking for a cure.

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However, little did they know that physical pain wasn't the worst to bear. With magical powers also came persecution. Upon arriving in Krulezgon, they were hunted down by the Church for unauthorized use of sorcery. To put an end to this, Quianlun snuck out of their quarters at the break of dawn and gave herself in, claiming that she was the spellcaster. Haodai ran trying to stop her, but it was already too late. When he arrived, she was trapped in a cage along with other captives ready to be publicly executed. All he could do was scream her name. Luck struck, however, her execution was interrupted by an attack by the 8th of Zehrim Movement, seeking to free the prisoners. In the struggle that ensued, most were slaughtered, but some managed to escape to the forbidden city of Akratya. His sister was among them.

At the Life Laboratories, Haodai searched for his sister, only to find out she died fleeing the execution. Taking advantage of his grief, Soulon offered his knowledge to bring his sister back to life and cure his illness. In denial and guilty for letting his sister take place alone in trial, Haodai joined the essencemancers. He wanted to fulfill his promise of saving Quianlun - even if it was too late.

With the Essencemancers help, his symptoms almost disappeared and he felt no pain anymore. After being persecuted his whole life, Haodai finally found a home. His powers and deformity weren't a cause for fear. They accepted him for who he was. Eventually, Tehkri became completely devoted to the essencemancer cause, ready to do anything for the group.

Blind by his obsession to bring his sister back to life and charmed by Soulon's charisma, he took part on several sadistic experiments in search for immortality. His methods were cruel, but effective. In no time, Haodai became Soulon's star pupil and protegee. He trusted Soulon completely - and that would end up costing him his life.

Personality:

Having lived only in the company of his sister his whole life, Haodai developed very poor social skills. Apart from his devotion from the cause, his only friends were books and manuscripts. Although he comes from a humble background, his studious nature prevails and he often uses academic vocabulary. Extremely intelligent, he dedicated his life to academic studies and research. Always calm, he acts as a good mediator, avoiding conflicts and looking to please all sides.

Have been coopted by a cult from at a very young age, Haodai carries inside of him a deep dichotomy. Humble and caring, he believes in the greater good and in helping those in need, always offering his healing powers for people around the city. He is the type of person who would rather help others than benefit.

At the same time, his devotion to his faction and obsession to have his sister brought back to life is such that he agrees to perform several sadistic experiments using human bodies. His faith to the cause blinds him to his actions, making him believe that everything is justified to bring immortality for all human kind. In denial, he naively believes he could fix everything if he could end Death once and for all. This way, no one would have to feel the way he felt when he lost her.