

Diago Darkthorne

Diago Darkthorne, the aristocratic son of Bohan Ath Cortha Wildthorne and Edu Nightbane, and former chieftain of the Greenthorne clan was the leader of the Darkthornes. He was the constant target of attacks by the Dark Effigy to drive him mad and turn him into a pawn. He was known for his war mongering, cruelty, and charisma. He quickly proved himself as a hero and became a member of the “Morning Star” crew. He was a great hero to his race and quickly turned into one of their greatest enemies.

Diago became a Darkthorne upon drinking the corrupt blood of Manece. He swore to lead the Darkthornes on a campaign to become conquerors of the known lands. Diago created the controversial “Fusion Stones” capable of leveling entire cities. He used one of these stones on the cavernous dwarven city of Mac Moria, bringing the whole mountain down and leaving a crater. He then led a campaign against other thorne clans, killing them all except for barely a handful.

Diago Darkthorne	
	
Titles:	King, The Tyrant
Gender:	Male
Races:	Tuatha De Danann, Vampire (fey)
Age:	233 years old, equivalent to a young adult human
Occupation:	Warrior
Faction/Kingdom:	Belathian
Status:	Unknown
Relatives:	Bohan (deceased,father), Edu (deceased,mother)
Height:	7'
Weight:	526lbs
Eyes:	yellow
Hair:	silver

Diago taught Eseer the way of the pits and allowed him to join the Darkthornes. Eseer would split the Darkthornes, turning many against Diago. In the end, after the two armies clashed, the warlords met on the field of battle. Eseer managed to get the upper hand and defeated Diago. Diago was mocked and banished to the shadow lands. There he remained until a breach, in reality, allowed him to escape. Diago has not been seen since.

Biography

Diago grew up in a very dark place. His father was a great hero among the uncorrupted tuatha clans beyond the veil. Many of the other clans followed his father into battle against the corrupt Tuatha, the Darkthornes. Their clan lived in the remote wilderness between Regalia and Belathian.

Diago's father rarely showed any emotion, he was known for his strength and skill in battle. A tuatha from a neighboring clan came to Bohan with information about a weakness in the Darkthorne's defenses. Bohan had never seen this tuath before, but for some reason, he believed him. He led his clansmen under one banner against the Darkthorne's flank. It was a ploy, and the Darkthornes came in on both sides. In the battle against the Darkthornes he died along with many of his clansmen. Diago was left with his mother, who was just as cold as his father, and now set on revenge. Manece used a powerful artifact to destroy Edu and the thorne army along with many of his own Darkthornes. Diago's home was burning around him, that is when an airship, the "Morning Star", flew overhead attracted by the smoke.

He boarded the "Morning Star" and left with the crew his home burned behind him. Diago fell into a great depression. His clan was destroyed, everyone he knew dead, and he was alive.

The Shadow of Madness

Diago found some solace and purpose aboard the "Morning Star". He was haunted by dreams of his father and mother, he didn't want to repeat the mistakes of his parents. Despite this, he was sullen, pessimistic, and depressed. He tended to be aloof and reclusive, this caused the other crew members to not trust him. Despite all this, he managed to befriend some of the crew members, captain River Daniels, Suldes Erewyn, and Ryder De Vaus.

Diago had visions of his mother alive at his family's estate. He convinced the crew to return and indeed found her alive. She had been brought back to life by some dark sorcery. She begged her son to turn his back on the crew, to join her and serve her master. The restless dead began to rise from the ashes of the forest. Diago and the crew found themselves caught in a battle. Ryder was slain while trying to break Diago from the fear of his mother's visage.

Diago flew into a rage and slew his mother, he then turned his rage on his dead clansman. He was so consumed by his rage that he did mistake Suldes for a foe and struck the young female elf. He snapped from his rage picking up Suldes's limp form, he and the crew fled to the ship.

Thrown to the Pits

The crew of the "Morning Star" were asked to attend a summit in Vanguard concerning the growing threat of the Darkthornes. The Darkthornes at the time had become allies to the orcs, gnolls, goblins, shadow elves, and employed numerous mercenary forces. It was agreed that if they did nothing now, they would most likely pay later. The crew of the "Morning Star" were asked to join the offensive for their extensive knowledge of the terrain.

River agreed, Diago, however, felt that the humans were too weak to ever route the Darkthornes. The coalition forces marched towards Belathian with the "Morning Star" at the head. The Darkthornes were not prepared for a battle this early, but rose to the challenge. General Haile, General Siebrycht, and General Sukanon lead the coalition forces. The armies were devastated by the might of the Darkthornes. The "Morning Star" was damaged and listed, many of the crew fell overboard including Diago and Dromi Dreammyst.

Dromi an elven druid fought beside Diago and the crew that had fallen. They watched as the "Morning Star" was forced to retreat with the coalition forces. Diago cursed the crew and flew into a rage, his vampiric side surfaced and he feasted on one of the Darkthornes. His veins began to burn and his mind was filled with twisted thoughts and emotions. He collapsed to the ground, Dromi and the remaining crew circled around him. She used a spell to heal Diago while one of the crew sought a way for them to flee the battlefield.

Diago awoke, his eyes yellow and his mouth filled with rows of vampiric fangs, dripping paralytic venom. He grasped Dromi in an iron grip and plunged his mouth filled with daggers into her exposed neck. She lay dying as he began to rip the rest of the crew and the Darkthornes apart. His bloodlust subsided and he was faced with the reality of his actions. He fainted to the ground amidst the corpses of his allies. When he awoke, he could hear the sound of drums and cheers of a crowd. He found himself in the fighting pits of Belathian, Manece sat atop a balcony overlooking the pits.

He informed Diago that if he wanted to live, he would have to fight and kill.

Blood and Title

Diago welcomed the prospect of dying in the pits, but his instincts wouldn't let him. He was a survivor, he could hear the voices of his fallen friends in his head accusing him, mocking him. The world had wronged him at birth, destiny was a cruel mistress. His only hopes were to die with honor or to find a reason for living. As he fought and killed, his conscious slowly began to wither and die. He began to enjoy bathing in the blood of his defeat and broken enemies. Those who challenged him knew only fear and prayed for death.

The crowd loved him and he had discovered a new goal in life. With every victory, he would look up at Manece and he would plot. One day slaves brought in from a skirmish in the Kordic lands began a rebellion. Diago was able to make his way to the balcony and knocked Manece into the pits. He jumped down and declared the right of Kromac Onrac. Manece accepted his challenge and the two duelled in the pits, Diago won over Manece and ripped out his heart, eating it. The Darkthornes hailed him as their new leader, and they saw in him someone that would lead them to a new era.

Quest for Power

Day and night he was plagued by visions, sent to him by some unseen being. This dark shadow was the same shadow that had raised his mother. At first, he wanted nothing to do with this shadow

power. Instead, he wanted to focus on increasing his own power. His sudden ascension to the leadership of the Darkthornes was not without resistance. The Darkthornes had four noble houses, each had long been the ones to rule. They believed they were the ones born to rule and to conquer. He had their children kidnapped and blackmailed the four houses into submission. He then created a new house, named after himself.

He first sought a power that had been whispered to him by the shadow. He left his second in command, Celian in charge and ventured beyond the veil of Theras, into the lands of Ayenee. There he found many individuals with the power to absorb their enemies fully. He found one willing to impart the secrets to him. When he returned he found that the nobles had retrieved their children with the help of Celian. Celian was now a puppet to the houses. They sent their assassins at him, he ate their essence.

Now it was clear to the house leaders, but it was too late. Diago was stronger now and he was enraged. When the slaughter was over, he turned his sights on Celian. The halls of the citadel echoed with screams into the night. He set about a plan to destroy the "Morning Star" to get his revenge on his former crewmates. He would have destroyed the vessel had it not been for a young thorne passenger, Reese Blackthorne. The young druid shielded the vessel from Diago's shadow blast. As the vessel sailed off the voice in Diago's head urged him to follow.

A New Era

Diago instead pursued his own plans, the dark heart of Cassandoria. Rumors said a dark god was slain and that its remains were kept beneath a temple there. Diago and his forces arrived there and entered the temple. They were halted by the temple guardians, but the Darkthornes cast off their cloaks. The bulky, gray-skinned figures stood well over 6ft tall, Diago was at a staggering 7ft. They were horned like devils, with claw and fang to match. They moved like apparitions, dancing in the shadows. The temple priests fell, the guardians with them.

Diago strode triumphantly down to the lower reaches of the temple. He gazed upon the black beating heart, it pulsed in a pool of black blood. Diago returned with the heart and sealed it away in his vault. He intended to use it to create an army of Darkthorne loyal to only him and stronger than an army. Diago launched a campaign against the Blackthornes. Instead of defeating the Blackthornes he drew their attention. They stormed the citadel and destroyed the dark heart at great cost. Zane Blackthorne fell in battle against Diago, but managed to severely injure the Darkthorne leader, with his sword "stardust".

Defeat and Banishment

Diago spent years recovering from the wound, he cursed Zane wishing he had never met the one they called the black swordsman. His gut burned and turned, he could never make the pain cease. As the years passed the pain ebbed. It was around this time that he discovered Eseer at the behest of the shadow. The shadow wanted Eseer to be slain, Diago, however, threw Eseer to the pits. He saw someone with potential, but no goal. Eseer fought as Diago did in the pits and eventually rose up and escaped.

Rumors abounded that Reese Blackthorne was attempting some sort of ritual to protect all of Velusia

from some shadowy unseen threat. Diago saw this as the perfect opportunity for him to kill the king. Diago was attacked by Eseer during the attempt and slain, by Eseer and Reese. Diago, however, refused to die, so Reese banished him to the shadow realm. In the shadows, Diago plotted and waited, swearing he would have vengeance.

Personality

Weapons, Relics, and Weakness

Miotal Spéir: The sky metal axe, Diago forged this weapon while traveling with Captain River and the crew of the Morning Star. It is forged from a meteorite that they found in the mountains. The axe is said to be immune to magic disturbances and is as hard as the hardest metal. He had never had to sharpen the blade, and the though made of metal, the axe feels much lighter than it should. The end of the axe forms a pick, allowing for use of both sides of the weapon.

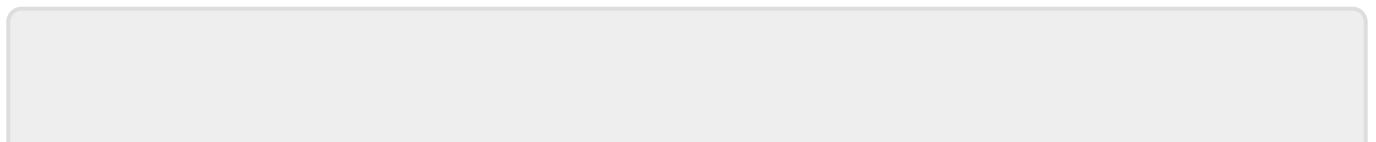
The Eye of Athul-Mun: The old necromancer that once a threat to the tuatha lands. His amulet was taken from his corpse, by Diago, after he had drained his blood, leaving only a dry husk. The necromancer had threatened Diago, who in turn, replied in kind. The amulet allows the wearer protection from scrying, and detect thoughts. It also can allow the user to become invisible, by allowing them to walk through the shadows veil. The amulet holds the knowledge of all who have ever worn it.

Shadow Touched Having spent years in the shadow realm, Diago has taken on the attributes of a shadow land denizen.

Iron: Iron is deadly to Tuatha, it can poison the blood, something only a blood transfusion can fix. It can also make a wound become infected or not heal right. Tuatha are basically allergic to Iron, it is an item not found in their blood or anywhere in their bodies like it is in humans. As such this has caused such rivalries between the humans and dwarves with their dealings with the Tuatha. Humans use iron in so many things that Tuatha can be offended by the most minute object offered them by a human. The dwarves spend their time mining iron and smelting it more than even the humans and some of the runoff from their smelting camps has polluted streams that run through Tuatha lands. Iron also weakens Tuatha in such a way that their regenerative abilities are disabled for a few days from receiving a wound with iron.

External Links

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