

Name: **Mikashil** (nickname Mika, but only Nikhila can call him that)

*Original Information:*

Race: Half human, half jeht

Skin Color: Pink

Eyes: Violet

Hair: Dark red with dark purple tips

Build: Athletic, lithe build (looks like a skinny human)

Ears: Slightly pointed

Height: 5' 10"

Weight: 171lbs

Strength: 2

Durability: 2

Speed: 8

Intelligence: 7

Fighting Ability: 2

**Basic Capabilities:** Athletic and limber, Mika is good at anything that requires agility and dexterity. He also has an affinity for Dark, Wind and Fire, but no ability to use light or ice. From his human side he has inherited the rare ability to wield magic, yet does not know how to use it. He is also ambidextrous.

**Fighting Style:** Mika relies on his natural agility in combat, using acrobatics and speed in a strike and retreat style. Due to his poor background, he only knows the basics of fighting, and his only physical weapon is paired daggers. Unlike most knife fighters, Mika does not like to be in close quarters with his opponents and so developed his hit and run style of fighting. Occasionally he will rely on instinct and use some of his wind abilities, or even more rarely, dark or fire.

Mika tends to stay to himself, not to be anti-social, but to protect himself from being feared or worse, being looked at as an abomination. Due to this, he tends to keep to himself and does not have any friends besides Niki. He does have acquaintances with the children of the slums, as Mika has a soft spot for any innocent person, but especially children. Remembering what it was like for him as a young child, Mika does what he can to try to alleviate some of the suffering of the children of the poor. Though they wouldn't admit it, many of the street kids actually like Mika, but have trouble showing it. Mika is also quite fond of the kids, but like them, shows this affection in a more round about way.

Though a natural when it comes to wind, dark and fire energies, Mika is untrained and uses his power more by instinct than anything else. For fire, he mostly uses it to keep himself warm (think internal heating), for a small light (floating small ball of flame in hand), or to light a campfire. He only used dark to occasionally 'move' it out of the way to see better, or to intensify a shadow to hide in. Wind is his go to for things, from a simple gust for distraction to a stronger gust to slow a fall or to push someone away. He sometimes unconsciously used his minor earth and water sense to find food and water, but that was it.

Mika relied on his light build and natural agility to get out of situations (and sometimes unwittingly into them). He is quite acrobatic and is better at getting out of the way of things than anything else. He is not very good in a fight, as he has no offensive training nor knowledge of his magic. He relies primarily on his speed and surprise movement with his daggers and occasionally on a gust of wind.

His inability in combat is partially what lead him to accept the shady mysterious person who offered him knowledge of a forbidden power. It was his natural untrained talent with magic and dark energy that allowed Mika to even access the power he was shown.

**Other notable characters:**

*Nikhila Sheriliac* (Mika calls her Niki)

Race: Human

Hair: Strawberry blond

Eyes: Green

Height: 5' 6"

Weight: 124lbs

Strength: 1

Durability: 3

Speed: 4

Intelligence: 8

Fighting Ability: 1

Being a younger daughter, Niki had a little more freedom than her older siblings in that she could choose what she wanted to study. Having a gentle and caring heart, she choose to pursue the study of medicine and herbalism. Her secret dream was to open an apothecary. It was her caring nature and her dream that lead her to sneak out and help the children of the slums. Though she couldn't afford much on her allowance, it let her buy the necessary ingredients to help the children when they were ill. When she wasn't tending to their illness, she was teaching them how to read.

Niki fell in love with Mika as a young teen (he is only a year or two older then her) and was the first and only person he has met that treated him as a person and not a freakish abomination. He quickly fell for her and they became lovers. Niki's family had other plans for her though, and arranged a political marriage for her. Given her station, she knew she could not refuse, and thus had to marry someone she didn't even know even though she was in love with another. She didn't want her family to find out about her tryst with Mika, for not only would they not approve of such behavior, they would be horrified that she would have 'dirtied herself' with a halfbreed. Niki did what she could to keep her family from finding out about Mika, for she feared that they would hunt him down for daring to touch her. In the end, the arrange marriage is what lead to Mika's decent.

*Niki's husband* (needs a name)

Race: Human

Mika does not know much about him, other than his name and that he is from a well off family. Mika wanted to talk to the guy about marrying his Niki and to learn more about him, but found that he had taken his beloved out of the city to an undisclosed location before he had the chance. Mika wanted to make sure that Niki would be happy with the guy and was going to silently watch over them. He had decided that if he thought the guy was good enough for his Niki (ie, if Mika actually liked him), then he would have openly offered to be a bodyguard for Niki, and use his information gathering skill for the couple. If he didn't like the guy, then he would just quietly and secretly watch over Niki and keep her safe. Unfortunately, he never had a chance to even see the guy, nevertheless talk to him.

**Backstory:**

Mika doesn't remember much from his childhood, mostly just memories of trying to survive on the street. Though he doesn't know for sure, Mika believes that his mother must have been the human parent, for why else would he be in a human city. He doesn't know if he was abandoned, or if something happened to his parents and had no knowledge of any possible relatives.

At first, he did what the needed to survive, flinching mostly food and savaging for scraps of cloth for cover. It was a combination of luck and his natural affinities that helped him survive the early years. At some point, he made the decision that he didn't want to spend his whole life living mouthful to mouthful, and worked at getting out of his current lifestyle.

Though he was shunned more often then not, due to his obvious mixed heritage, he managed to

become a source of information for what was going on in the city. Though not the 'best' source, he was one of, if not the only source of information that wasn't shady, as he refused to form ties with the underground. It was here that his mixed heritage worked for him, for though there was some respect for his entrepreneurship, it was more fear of what he may be capable of that kept the underground leaders, the slum lords from 'persuading' him to join, or from taking out a hit on him.

When he could, Mika helped other children in the slums get by, giving them things they needed like food. Though a bit distrustful of people in general, especially one who looked as Mika did, the street children occasionally would gather the courage to briefly talk to him. This awkward relationship with the urchins is what helped Mika have a decent knowledge of what went on in town. The kids that he helped would let him know what they had heard or seen whenever he brought them things. So though Mika kept himself isolated to avoid being shunned or worse, he did have a tentative tie to the community through those he assisted.

The information broker style job was not a steady source of income, but was enough for him to be able to afford to have decent clothing or a decent place to stay. Mika opted for the clothing, as he had found a somewhat decrepit building to use as shelter (he felt that presenting a good image would get him farther in life, and really, he didn't need much more than a roof over his head). Due to the nature of his somewhat permanent residence, he kept all his belongings either on him, or hidden someplace safe.

Not long after getting to have a decent reputation, around the age of 14 (give or take, as Mika does not know when he was born and is guessing at his age), Mika ran into a young lady from a noble household doing charity work of tending to sick children in the slums at a place of worship. Normally, Mika would keep his distance from people unless they sought him out for information, but her kindness to the 'riffraff' of the streets made him curious. Feeling that she would react like everyone else and either shun or fear him for his heritage, Mika satisfied his curiosity by watching her from afar as she did her charity work.

Something about her drew him, and soon he became like silent shadow, watching over her when she navigated the city, only leaving his vigil to either do his information broker 'job' or once she returned to the nobles area (those who grew up in the slums knew that if they were caught in a nicer neighborhood, the worst would be assumed, regardless of the facts or evidence). From watching over her, he learned that her name was Nikhila of house Sheriliac. Her family probably had no clue that she was secretly sneaking out to tend to sick children of the poor. From what Mika could tell, her family would have given her an entourage of some sort or at least a personal body guard if they had known.

Mika used the few connections he had to spread knowledge of her activities of helping out the children in the slums so that she would hopefully be left alone. Whether from their code of conduct or from the source of the information, most of the organized underground left her alone as the Slumlords seemed to ignore her presence.

One day, when Nikhila turned down an alleyway, she was accosted by some street thugs who didn't care if she was helping the children in the area or not. She was a pretty girl, who also had money (or at least looked like her family had money), so they targeted her as fair game. She lucked out, for Mika had been keeping an eye out for her as usual and had trailed her into the alleyway. When the thugs tried to corner her, Mika let his presence be known to try and scare them away. Either they thought that they could take him, or hadn't paid attention to some of the rumors of him (some of which Mika spread himself, just so he would be left alone), as they told him that the girl was their prey and that he should leave, if he knew what was best.

When his peaceful methods didn't work, Mika knew that he would have to go on the offensive to save the one who fascinated him so. The thugs soon learned that not all the rumors about Mika were rumors, and were taken by surprise at his speed. This allowed him to dispatch them quickly, before they could even think to use Nikhila as a hostage. Having obviously blown his cover, Mika approached Nikhila and made sure that she was unharmed. He was quite surprised that her reaction to him was not

one of fear or revulsion (after all, he is obviously not fully human and just took out her attackers), but one of genuine thanks. He made sure she made it to her detestation safely, before disappearing back in to the shadows. After that, She would look for Mika every time she went to see and tend the poor children.

Determined to find him again, Nikhila started coming more frequently to the slums and asked the children that she worked with about him. Though it took her awhile, she finally managed to 'track' Mika down (really, to get him to come out of the shadows from which he watched over her) and talk to him. From that point on, their friendship formed, and though Mika kept his distance while she did her charity work, afterwards, as she made her way home, he would leave the shadows and talk to her on the way.

They soon got to know each other very well, and Nikhila started calling him Mika and told him he could call her Niki for short. It turns out that they were very close in age, and despite their very different backgrounds, found that they complimented each other well. By the time Niki reached the age of 16, her feelings for Mika were far stronger than that of just friendship, and she was determined to change their relationship from one of just being friends to one a bit more romantic. Given Mika's fascination with her before he really got to know her, he just hadn't realized what his feeling for her were, as he was used to being alone and on his own.

Niki help him learn to care for another and what it meant to want to truly be in love. It didn't take long for the young teens to become lovers, though it would be scandalous if anyone found out about their illicit relationship. Surprisingly, they managed to keep it completely secret from her family (and hopefully from the underground).

Sadly, being from a noble family, Niki's life was not her own to determine, and she would have to leave her beloved. For her family had arranged a political marriage, and even with her begging them not to make her marry someone she didn't love, they could not refuse. Her family had to keep this agreement or risk losing their status. So despite being unwilling to marry someone she didn't know, Niki knew that she had to do her duty for her family.

### **The beginning of the fall:**

For reasons Mika does not know, once Niki was married, instead of staying in the city, her husband took her and moved to an undisclosed location. By taking her away from the city, Niki's husband prompted Mika to investigate where they moved to. At some point in his search for where they went, he became convinced that Niki's husband had something to hide or some ulterior motive and was purposely keeping Niki from (possibly holding her against her will as Mika figured that Niki would still want to see him, even if they couldn't truly be together). During this search, Mika stumbled across a shady individual who offered him the power to 'save' Niki. Running purely on emotions (having never experienced anything like what he was feeling, Mika had trouble controlling this new emotion, and thus gave into it), Mika accepted and learned to tap into a 'forbidden' dark magic.

Mika's natural affinity for the dark element combined with his inherited magic potential helped him to pick up this new power at an alarming rate, which made Mika cautious of using it too much. He essentially placed a barrier of sorts between himself and this power and only drew on it if he felt he needed to. This caution is what slowed his decent (and still does, when he's not letting his emotions control him), as the demonic power he tapped into did not have complete access to him, nor to his psyche.

Once he felt he was ready to face Niki's husband, Mika sent out once again in search of the couple. He used a combination of his new power with his wind affinity to find where Niki was. Unconsciously, under the influence of the dark power that kept trying to corrupt him, Mika sent ahead a sort of curse on Niki's husband. Thankfully, due to his not knowing anything about the guy and the barrier Mika kept between him and the dark power, the 'curse' was only able to lessen the guy's luck. This led to misfortune plaguing the couple, usually forcing them to move to try to outrun it, and even

sometimes forcefully being run out of town.

This went on for several years, with Mika always a step or so behind the couple (Mika being still somewhat poor, could not travel that fast as he had to go by foot and had to hunt for his own food, and thus was greatly slowed in traveling after Niki). Despite never actually managing to reach the couple before they moved on, Mika still relentlessly pursued them, still wanting to 'save' his beloved Niki.

As for Niki and her husband, they were unaware of Mika's desperate attempts to find them. As time went on, the misfortune curse became stronger, and finally, the couple was chased out of town before they even had a chance to move in. Rumors of things happening around them had spread (and been greatly blown out of proportion), which prompted their exile. It was not long after leaving the town that disaster finally struck.

It was just past this town that Mika finally was able to catch up to the exiled couple. When on the trail that their carriage had taken, Mika ran across a horrifying sight. His beloved Niki, great with child, was badly injured on the side of the trail, with no one else in sight. Mika immediately went to her, but it was already too late. Recognizing her beloved Mika, Niki gained a little bit of life back in her eyes, as her love for him was still strong. After lovingly saying his name, Niki died in his arms, trying to tell him something with her dying breath. He could not make out what she was saying, and in his grief, vowed to hunt down any and all responsible for her death. In this emotionally clouded state, he jumped to the conclusion that since he saw no others around, her husband must have abandoned her, and thus had to pay.

The anguish he felt at her passing prompted him to reach for the demonic power he normally kept walled off, and tapped into it, without any safeguards in place. It was pure rage that grasped that power, directed at whoever was responsible for his love's death, and that rage overwrote all reason. The torrent of power from that unguarded, rage infused grasp for power would forever change him, starting him down a path to become a demonic entity himself.

After the torrent of power abated and Mika was able to gain control of his grief stricken self, he found that he had been physically transformed. His ears became more pointed (obviously so, as before they could have passed as slightly pointed human ears), his skin and eyes darkened in color and in the dark, his eyes faintly glowed with an inner dark purple light. He also had grown a pair of leathery reddish wings on his back.

Still hurting in his grief, he didn't really think about the change and instead focused on hunting down the missing husband. Following the path, he found where a cart had turned off and followed it. This lead him to discover a badly shattered carriage and no trace of the missing husband. Instead of thinking that maybe the husband had survived (or been injured himself or kidnapped), he felt that his revenge had been stolen from him. He desperately searched for traces of whoever may have done this and eventually found a group of Jeht bandits in the area. Placing the blame on them, Mika went and slaughtered all that he found. With the bandit's blood staining the ground, Mika decided that any race that could harm a pregnant lady deserved to be killed. Thus, deciding that what a few had done was indicative of the race as a whole (especially coupled with the stories he grew up with), Mika (greatly influenced by the demonic energies that now flowed through him) declared that all Jeht should die for such crimes.

He thought to let the town know that the Jeht were killing innocent women and unborn children, and though still stricken with grief, managed to put his emotions in check. He then replaced the barriers between him and the demonic power, though it was not possible to fully expel it from his body. Finding that the physical change was apparently permanent, there was no way he could easily let the town know. So sneaking in under the cover of night, he decided that maybe he could place a few rumors and have the town help with taking out the Jeht. Instead, as he listened and waited for an opportunity to inform someone, he heard some of the rumors and gossip about what the town had done. With the discovery that the town had forcefully chased his beloved out, and were thus (in his mind)

responsible in her death, he decided not to warn them. In fact, this infuriated him, and decided that any race that could chase someone out of town based on (to him anyways) senseless rumors were almost as bad as those who killed Niki.

Not making the connection (or perhaps not able to make the connection due to the demonic influence), Mika placed the blame solely on the humans in the town and did not even contemplate that other factors could have been the cause. He then turned his back on the town, refusing to warn or aid them should anything befall them. For a while, he spent his time burring and building a grave site for Niki, trying to come to terms with his grief and how events had played out.

He may have only blamed the town and not all of humanity for his sorrow, had not a group of travelers stumbled across him. Seeing his terrifying visage (he had wings after all), the travelers attacked first, forcing Mika to defend himself. After that altercation, upon which he once again drew upon the demonic power, abet in a more controlled fashion, he realized that humans would turn on him for no reason but his appearance, nurturing a hatred for humanity that he didn't even realize he had until then. Mika didn't even consider that this hatred might not be his own, instead letting it cloud his judgment and actions. Forced to flee to unpopulated areas to survive, Mika fled from both races that he hated, and yet would always be apart of, given he shared the blood of both. It was sometime in this fleeing that he called upon that demonic power a bit too much, finishing his transition into his 'stage 1' form, gaining a tail and claws.

### **After Demonic Infusion:**

#### *Transformation Stage 1*

**Appearance:** Skin color has darkened to red, eyes darkened to a royal purple and he gained a pair of demonic wings. By the time he gained a tail and claws, he also lost any ability to use water or earth based abilities and his connection to fire lessened. This oddly gave him a slight ability with ice.

**Abilities:** Mika lost his ability to sense the location of edible plants (earth) and fresh water. Since he didn't use his greater affinity for fire, he didn't really notice the loss of it, though he found he could make an area cold if he wasn't careful (does not have a good control on ice at all). It is probably his affinity for wind or an instinct with magic that let him place a barrier between his power and the tapped demonic energy (which he found he could not sever once the connection was made. It would take light ability or magic to counter the connection, and he cannot use light at all).

At this point, the demonic energy slightly influences his thoughts, most notably when he is emotional (negative emotions give the best handhold for being influenced). He has become slightly more agile and can use his tail and wings in combat, though this is more based on instinct than actual combat ability. He is not used to using his slight claws, and is more likely to use his daggers if pressed.

If Mika feels that he is truly cornered, he will reach for the demonic power and lash out with it. This is not really controlled, just a blast of demonic energy. He also has very limited flight (more gliding than anything else, as Mika is a bit hesitant to try to fully fly)

The demonic energy that taints Mika keeps him from seeing past his hatred of the two races to get to know anyone. He can still be reasoned with, but is just very distrustful of people. The only ones who could get through to him would be others who share mixed blood like he or any of Niki's children, if any existed and survived. If another mixed blooded individual worked at it, it may be possible to recover his once caring heart. They would have to find a way to cleanse him of the demonic taint, but it still is possible to save him at this point.

The first time the players run into Mika would be in this stage 1 form. There is the possibility to try and save him, or for him to slide further down the dark path. He prefers to stay out of conflict and will only attack in self-defense, in the defense of one he considers helpless and innocent, or if something causes him to lash out in grief or anger (one way is if any of Niki's possible offspring are killed in front of him). If badly injured, Mika will find a way to retreat.

Possible Stats:

Height: 5' 10"

Weight: 176lbs

Primary wing size: ~7 1/2'

Primary wingspan: ~16'

Tail length: ~3 1/2' - 4'

Strength: 2

Durability: 3

Speed: 8

Intelligence: 7

Fighting Ability: 3

### *Transformation Stage 2*

**Appearance:** Mika's skin color darkens to a deeper shade of red, his eyes become slit, he gains fangs and a second pair of wings. His primary wings increase in size, as does his tail and height.

**Abilities:** At this point he can only utilize dark (strongly), wind (decently) and ice (minor) but also gains a minor shapeshifting ability (can temporarily blend in with either race, but it drains him to stay in a non-true form for more than a few minutes).

He totally loses his ability to warm himself and to light a fire. (no fire ability) He has managed to control the ice ability, but mostly uses it to keep food cold and to keep cold from himself. He has a bit more control when using demonic energy and can roughly shape it into 'attacks' (like a 'gust' of dark energy, or a bolt).

Though still relying on instinct, there is enough of the demonic energy infused in him that he is fairly competent in using all the physical weapons his modified body offers (wings, tail, claws, fangs) and is not likely to use any other physical weapon. His agility and speed has been enhanced as well. He can now fly for short periods of time and for short distances.

He can make himself look like his old self or make himself look fully human or jeht. Surprisingly, he can hold a random human or jeht form far longer and easier than his old self. Where as he can usually maintain a human or jeht form for 30 min or so, but can barely maintain his old shape for 10 minutes.

The second time the players find him (at least the dark path way), would be after he had transitioned to stage 2. Something would have prompted him to call upon even more of the demonic power without the safeguard in place, so it would have to be something that hit him emotionally (like finding out that Niki's husband was still alive, or having a 'demon hunt' sent after him after he tried to help someone). At this point it would be very hard to save him, but it still could be possible.

Mika would listen if someone managed to corner him, but otherwise would try to avoid people. He is much easier to provoke, though will tend still to not attack unless he feels threatened. His thoughts are very clouded by the demonic energy, so it is much harder to reason with Mika. This does not mean it's impossible, just difficult to get through the to real Mika. Only a truly helpless child (or any of Niki's offspring) can bring out his compassionate heart, and only long enough to try to help the child. The demonic energy would quickly reassert its' influence on Mika's heart and mind.

Possible Stats:

Height: 6'

Weight: 181lbs

Primary wing size: ~8'

Primary wingspan: ~17'

Secondary wing size: ~6'

Secondary wingspan: ~13'

Tail length: ~4' – 4 1/2'

Strength: 3

Durability: 4

Speed: 9

Intelligence: 7

Fighting Ability: 5

### *Final Transformation Stage 3*

**Appearance:** Mika's skin color is now a dark red (burgundy), his hair is almost pure black, and his eyes become pools of a purple and black swirling abyss. He gains his final pair of wings and sprouts two horns on his head, slightly to the side and above his eyes. Mika's fangs are more pronounced, as are his claws and he gains clawed feet. Again, he grew in height, his tail lengthened and both his primary and secondary wings increased in size.

**Abilities:** At this point, he is very strong in dark and demonic magics and can only use lesser wind magic. His shapeshifting is limited to just a few minutes and all his magic is flavored/tainted with a strong demonic presence. He also gains a minor teleportation ability (short distances, usually line of sight).

Having been totally subsumed by the demonic forces, the demon is now in control. He can use no power other than the demonic energy, but has total mastery over that dark power. He has also gained even more speed, making him hard to hit and defend against. (he has more speed than physical power, but his mystical power is frightening). He also has full flight capabilities and uses that and a short distance teleport to ambush his enemies in combat. He is most vulnerable to light and holy magic and weapons. (dark cannot touch him, and may even refuel his dark power).

The final time (on the dark path) that the players would run into him would be after he fully gave into the demonic forces and his 'humanity' would have been totally subsumed by the demonic forces that infuse his mind and body. There would be no way to save him at this point. The only hope would be to take him down and hopefully let him rest in death.

Possible Stats:

Height: 6' 4"

Weight: 198lbs

Primary wing size: ~9'

Primary wingspan: ~19'

Secondary wing size: ~6 1/2'

Secondary wingspan: ~14'

Tertiary wing size: ~4 1/2'

Tertiary wingspan: ~9'

Tail length: ~4 1/2' - 5'

Strength: 3  
Durability: 6  
Speed: 10/max  
Intelligence: 8  
Fighting Ability: 8

**Notes:**

- It is not know if anything came from Mika and Niki's relationship, though that could explain the newly wed couple moving to a place that didn't know them, nor their marriage date so well.
- If Niki did have a child with Mika, that child would have the greatest impact (for good or ill) on Mika.
- It is possible that Niki had children that were left behind at a relatives
- It is possible that Niki's husband survived, as his body was not found by Mika (he could have any of Niki's children with him or even have remarried).
- Mika would be protective of any of Niki's offspring, but even more so if one was his own (which is a possibility, For though normally Niki would have been very careful and had the know how to prevent an 'accident', once she found out she had an arranged marriage, she spent as much time with Mika as possible. She easily could have thrown caution to the wind, or even intentionally tried to conceive a child, as she knew once she was married, she could never truly be with Mika again).

These are just possibilities that could be used to save, or force the fall of, Mika.

*Other things to think about:*

- Who was/is the mysterious shady individual who influenced Mika and convinced him to learn/tap into such demonic energy and why?
- Where did this demonic energy/influence truly come from and are others affected by it's sway?
- If there are real demons, then what are the Jeht and how do they fit into this?
- Did Niki's husband know about her relationship with Mika, and if so, how did he feel about it
- Niki and her husband's actual relationship is left open for interpretation, so that it could fit whatever narrative is needed. This is the same reason that only the possibility of children(and the possible different identity of the biological father) is mentioned.
- Mika doesn't really hate humans at all, it is just the demonic energy influencing him. Though he doesn't like to admit it, he does not like to see suffering and actually cares for the well being of innocent people (mainly children, but anyone who he sees as an innocent counts). This compassion becomes strongly blocked by the demonic force once he reaches stage 2.
- Mika has no clue who his parents are and never really cared to find the truth on them. By not seeking this information, Mika can believe that he was not abandoned, and that one or both of his parents may still be alive (regardless of how contradicting as that is).
- Mika also doesn't know if he has any other family, or if there may be other half-breeds like himself out there. He has never run across one, but that doesn't necessarily mean that he is unique.
- If humans and jeht normally cannot breed, then how was Mika conceived and why? (I don't know if the possibility of half-breeds would normally be possible or not)
- If Niki's husband does remarry, as long as it is for giving the children a mother (or for love), Mika could forgive him for it. If he remarries for lust, money or power, then Mika would hold it against the husband, as that would be an affront to Niki in Mika's eyes.

Feel free to change Niki's house/surname.

I figured that Mika could be saved as a DLC, or a 2<sup>nd</sup> play through bonus, possibly having him join the party if saved (your choice if saving him reverts any or some of the physical changes). If he did join the party, he would go by his full name, Mikashil, as only Niki called him Mika (though he would let Niki's children call him Mika if she had any).

Another DLC idea would be to have the players explore Mika's back story (either play as Mika and his fall into darkness [and possible redemption] or to somehow view the events of the past and 'watch' [or try to influence, if time travel's involved] the tragic story unfold).

I left it open as to whether or not Niki's husband is/could be a villain in this tragic tale (or just an unfortunate victim as well). So here's some possible scenarios as to what happened with the carriage that led to Niki's death.

After being unexpectedly driven from town, Niki and her family continued down the trail into the woods, hoping that they were headed towards the next town. Once they entered the woods, the carriage was ambushed and a struggle ensued. The bandits tried to take over the carriage to steal it, and during the struggle, Niki was stabbed and pushed overboard. Torn between seeing how his wife was and protecting the children, Niki's husband pretended to cooperate with the bandits to bide his time. Praying for his wife's safety, he took an opening when he saw it and set the carriage on a wild dash through the woods. Seeing that the carriage would crash, he garbed the kids and jumped off the speeding carriage. Leaving the bandits to their fate.

Wanting to get the children to safety and wishing to see Niki's condition, he took the kids through the forest back towards the town they were run out of. Staying in the forest to increase their chances of staying hidden from the bandits, they circled back, only approaching the path to navigate. Though a bit slow, the family managed to make it back without incident to where Niki had been thrown.

Scenario 1: Seeing a winged creature by his obviously deceased wife, the husband rushes his children to town, where once he sees to their safety, rallies some of the villagers to help him hunt the creature that 'killed' his wife. The villagers are also told of the bandits, and so the group splits up, one to hunt the bandits, the other to find the winged creature. (in this case, the husband misunderstanding leads to the travelers who attacked Mika after burring Niki).

Scenario 2: Coming upon Niki just after Mika had left her, Niki's husband sees she is dead and knows that all he can do right now is to make sure their children are safe and taken care of. Informing the town of the bandits and rallying a force to hunt the bandits responsible, he leaves the kids at the inn and travels with the townsfolk to find the bandit's hideout. By the time they get there, Mika has already slaughtered them, leaving an unnatural looking scene. In a state of shock that leaves the group with more questions than answers, they head back to town along the pathway.

Scenario 2A:

when traveling back, the group comes across the battle-scene with the travelers that attacked Mika. There are the corpses of the travelers, and a grave for Niki. This leaves the husband with an unsolved mystery of what happened and who avenged his wife for him.

### Scenario 2B:

When traveling back, the group is still uneasy about the scene they just saw and so though they stay close to the path, they try to remain out of sight just in case the one who did that is still around. When they pass by where Niki's corpse was, they see Mika tending to the freshly made grave, clearly affected by the body he just buried. Not understanding what they are seeing, they leave the quietly crying Mika alone and circle even wider out on their way back to town. Niki's husband knows that this winged creature buried his wife and even made her a proper grave, though not why. He would see Mika as an odd sort of possible ally, though he was too unnerved at the time to approach him.

This scenario would have the husband be sympathetic to Mika and may even be able to help save him.

### Side story:

It could be that the underground knew of Mika and Niki's relationship and 'leaked' that info to Niki's future husband to try to break up the marriage. Instead, Niki's future husband was accepting of it (he too could have someone he loved but could not be with), and didn't call off the wedding like the underground had hoped. Instead, realizing that Niki's feelings for Mika could be a problem, once they were married, they moved out of the city to avoid the potential of marital issues. In this scenario, he would have even been accepting of the child that was not his as long as Niki promised to have only himself father all her other children. Having grown to like him as a friend, Niki agreed. Though their marriage was not one of love, but of politics, they still cared for one another, even if it was more as friends than as romantic lovers.

Personally I prefer the Side story with Scenario 2 and path B. I also like the possibility of saving Mika, for who doesn't want to turn a 'bad guy' that they like back to good. These are just some suggestions, as it's your story, I'm just providing the character and some possibilities.

I am allowing you to use the characters presented in here and their story for your game. I retain the right to use any part of the presented characters that are not unique to your game world. If I should wish to use the parts that are tied into your game, then I would have to seek your permission first to use them. (basically, I retain the rights to my character and associated story, but I am giving you full rights to use them for Celestial Tear Demons Revenge, or for any game in that series)