Aeolf



Metadata	Details
Gender	Female
Pantheon	Nine Gods of Skyss
Affinity	Flames and the Sun
rune/word	M
colour	Orange

Domain

Aeolf is the Goddess of Flames and the sovereign of the sun. She is one of the eldest children of the Mother of All and the twin sister of Malfin, the Lady of Darkness. In the first days of the world, while in her infancy, Aeolf brought the sun into existence, and the dancing of its flames provided the primary source of warmth to the frozen world.

She presides over the long days of summer and is the divine patron of energy, growth, and transformation. Her affinity for fire extends to all forms of intense creation and destruction; she is the goddess of the forge and the laboratory, overseeing the processes of smelting and study. According to Skyssian legend, her home is situated on the northern shore of the Violent Lagoon, a region of intense volcanic activity she shares with Frijdodr. Together, they are credited with the creation of the Thousand Isles.

Aeolf’s relationship with her siblings is complex. While she is the literal twin of Malfin, the two take turns presiding over the heavens through a compromise brokered by Fafnir. Furthermore, Aeolf suffered significant grief in the early days when her brother Meniaxter brought chaos to the gods' creations. The tears she shed, alongside those of Frijdodr and Kari, are said to have turned the world's freshwater lakes into the salty sea.

Followers

The followers of Aeolf are those who seek the light of truth and the power of transformation through their knowledge. She is particularly revered by:

- **Scholars and Students:** Due to her association with the “light” of knowledge and the discipline of studying.
- **Metalworkers and Smiths:** Those who work at the forge, particularly in the process of smelting ores, invoke her name for the success of their work.
- **Dancers:** Her infancy was defined by the “dancing” of flames, making her a patron of artistic movement.
- **The Bereaved:** Those who carry her blood, like the **Heroes** of Skyss, are often tasked with providing comfort, a role shared with her brother Meniaxter.

Those carrying significant divine blood from Aeolf, such as Arinhildr, exhibit a terrifying capacity to generate intense heat, sometimes resulting in the internal combustion of their enemies.

Celebrations/Observances

Aeolf is prominently honoured during the **First Night** ceremony, which occurs in late summer (typically during the Summer Moon). While the initial part of the ritual pays homage to the coming darkness of Malfin, the secondary and most visible phase involves the lighting of a massive ceremonial bonfire. As the sun drops below the horizon, the community prays to Aeolf to bring the fire into life, seeking her protection through the coming “dark time” of winter.

Ordinary people use small rituals to invoke her, such as touching an attuned amulet while tending a hearth or starting a forge. It is considered a sign of her favour if a fire catches quickly and burns with a vibrant orange flame.

The Order of the Flame

The primary mystery cult of Aeolf is composed of initiates who dedicate themselves to the mastery of fire and the preservation of light.

- **Initiation:** Seekers must prove their devotion through a “Trial of the Hearth,” which often involves the prolonged study of ancient runes in the presence of a sacred flame to internalise the goddess's affinity for discipline and focus.
- **Rituals:** High-level adepts use rituals to master the use of heat and fire, often in conjunction with smelting metal ores, or creating using metal and glass. They are also responsible for maintaining the warming fires in main Skyssian settlements.
- **Observances:** Members of the cult often serve as observers and witnesses, ensuring that those “descended from god’s fire made flesh” are protected and their lineages recorded in the Book of Heroes.

Relationships

People

- Arinhildr: A hero of the Silent Service who is a descendant of her line.

Places

- Violent Lagoon: The site of her divine home and forge.
- Aeolfberg: A massive, active volcano in Heimdal named in her honour.

Skyss - Story Background	Characters	Skyss - Places	Pantheons of the World	Other Background

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