

MORE BAD BLOOD

The Orion/Human Hybrid for ST:RPG2

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The Orions were not often seen in *Star Trek*, and therefore they remain very much a mystery. But since Orions and humans are capable of cross-breeding, it is necessary to take a closer look at this enigmatic race.

The Orion race, as most people know, does not come from Orion at all, but rather from the Rigel Star System near the current Klingon/Federation border. They were given the name Orions by Terran explorers who travelled to the Rigel System on Stardate 0/7907 in hope of colonizing it. These explorers interpreted the native word "O'rijons" as "Orions", and that name has remained with them to the present day.

When the Orions were first encountered, they had already developed interplanetary space travel and had colonized several worlds within the Rigel System. Some exploratory ventures had been made to nearby star systems, but the slow speed of sub-light travel made colonization impractical.

The initial contacts with Terra were unfavorable, as diplomats from Earth and other worlds tried to persuade the Orion Colonies to join in signing the Articles of Federation in 0/8706. As potential persuasion, Terra offered knowledge of Warp Drive Technology to the Orions, who continued to refuse to sign. After a very close vote, the Federation decided to withhold Warp Drive Technology from the Orions.

Over the next several years, a number of Federation ships were captured by the Orions. Careful study allowed them to utilize subspace communications, but they were not yet able to understand the intricacies of Warp Drive. Use of these captured ships and their communications breakthrough did, however, allow the Orions to put several small colonies on nearby star systems.

Shortly after the Romulan War (Stardate 1/0909), the Orions succeeded in discovering how to produce a Warp Drive. This permitted them to massively colonize additional systems. As of the current time period, however, expansion is impossible because the Orions are hemmed in between the Federation and the Klingon Empire.

Surrounded, with no more systems to expand into, Orion society began a slow but noticeable change from expansionistic to a liberal, capitalistic structure perfect for trade and double-dealing. This trade included green Orion slave women, later officially abolished due to economic sanctions inflicted by the UFP. Because of this and other pressure from the Federation, honest trade became increasingly difficult and piracy and illicit smuggling more and more prevalent.

In recent years, Orion piracy has decreased in the face of more vigilant patrolling by Star Fleet vessels. In turn, the Orions have begun a brisk trading relationship with the Klingon Empire. Due to the strong similarities between Orions and humans, there has also been an increase in Orion intelligence networks within the Federation, selling information to the Klingons or the highest bidder.

It is necessary to know the above background to understand why the Orions dislike the Federation in favor of the Klingons. They blame the UFP for the majority of their problems in the years since first contact was made. The Federation denied them information that would have allowed them to colonize other worlds much sooner, worlds which would have made their sphere of influence much greater than it is



today. The Orions are, therefore, much less influential than they could have been due to the political policies enforced by the Federation. These same policies also compelled the Orions to abandon the legal sale of their hottest trade item: Orion slave women.

Green Orion slave women are considered to be "the only item the Orion Colonies have that is worth possessing," at least according to Star Fleet men, especially those who have never seen one. These women are trained from birth to please men. To this end, they are not educated, but are raised and trained by other green females.



Humans cross-breeding with Orions almost always produce pale-skinned offspring. These children possess the genes of the dominant, caucasian Orions. They possess some of the strength of their Orion parentage (STR +5), are more rugged looking (CHA -5), are considerably less lucky (LUC -15), and not adept psionically (PSI -30).

Human/Orion hybrids have never produced the dark green skin tone of the slave women. A female child is sometimes born with a mild hint of green in her skin tone, through this is infrequent. These children show no signs of mental inferiority, lending credence to the belief that Orion slave women would be just as capable as men if they were properly educated. The Orion/Human hybrid of this type does have some of the genealogical traits normally found in the green Orion female. Their agility is increased (DEX +15), and they are considered quite beautiful (CHA +15). They are only slightly less lucky than normal humans (LUC -5) and possess some of the green Orion female intuition (PSI -20).

Orion/Human hybrids are rare, and when they do occur, the fact is often kept hidden as much as possible. There is a high amount of unfair prejudice about the loyalties of these individuals, the green-tinted females having the worst time of it, the majority of men wrongly assume they are capable of only one type of service. None of these hybrids, either wholly Caucasian or green-tinted, have ever knowingly been allowed into Star Fleet.

	STR	END	INT	DEX	CHA	LUC	PSI
Orion/Human (Caucasian)	+5	-	-	-	-5	-15	-30
(Green Tint)	-	-	-	+15	+15	-5	-20