

## Spart

Spart is the eldest of all Breeds (or put another way, the first ever offspring from the joining of Sidhe and human blood). She is one of three sisters who have come to be known as the Crane Women, daughters of the now-deceased Queen Elme of the Sidhe who fell in love with a mortal human male some 9000 years ago. Spart's sisters are Nare and Coom, and they live in a large hut on top of a mound on the outskirts of Halftown.

Owing to their vast knowledge and skills accumulated through the ages, the Crane Women are sought out by full blood Sidhe for training of their young male novices (like Biri) to enter the Sidhe priesthood. It is unheard-of for humans to receive training in the ways of the Sidhe, and therefore it comes as a surprise when Lamia orders that Michael be trained by the Crane Women for survival in Sidhedark.

Of the three Cranes, Spart most demonstrably possesses what we might think of as leadership skills, and she also seems most at ease when dealing with humans. She oversees Michael's training and she regularly counsels him (in a manner that he frequently finds to be rather demeaning and condescending). More than anyone else, Spart is responsible for keeping tabs on young Michael, keeping him in line, and (hopefully) keeping him alive. Her strategy for the latter: avoid the battle in the first place.

*Voiced by a BASSOON in the sound files.*

"Breeds" as they are known, are a mixed race, having both Sidhe and human blood. Like the Sidhe, Breeds do not have a soul. Both Sidhe and Breeds are immortal, but they can be killed in battle. Breeds are not treated as equals by the Sidhe, and so they are kept isolated along with humans in the area known as the Pact Lands. Like the Sidhe, many Breeds are able to perform magic.