A Directory of Otherkin Writings
and other works, organized by topic

Collected by O. Scribner

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This free eBook is
RATED PG-13
for occasional profanity and references to adult concepts.
This document is safe for work, but some links lead to web-sites that are not.

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Summary

This document serves as a guide for finding writings or artwork in many websites and books about a variety of topics related to otherkin, therianthropes, and similar peoples. This directory cites or links to works by over 500 different authors and artists, who come from inside as well as outside the community. These aren’t limited to English. This directory also lists translations and original works in 15 other languages. If you’re wondering about any topic that any otherkin or therians have ever discussed, you will probably find several essays on that topic here, each offering a different answer. Use these references to support your own original writings. If you don’t find an essay there, then you’ve found a niche to write new things into.

Keywords: animal people, Awakening, community, daemians, draconity, Elves, Fae-born, fiction-kin, otherkin, shape-shifting, therianthropes, vampires, WereCards, werewolves

Illustrations: None.

Rated PG-13. This document contains occasional strong language and references to adult concepts. This document itself is safe for work. Although I have done my best to verify the safety of all links and mark those that are higher than PG-13 rating, you click on links at your own risk. Linked web-pages may have changed after I made this document. All linked articles are likely to contain profanity and pictorial advertisements that may contain offensive images.

Trigger warnings: Profanity, including ableist slurs. Brief mentions of abuse, depression, mental health problems, discrimination, misbehavior, and violence. I include a caution label with any individual links that I know are not safe for work (NSFW) or likely to disturb. I have done the best I can to make this document safe to navigate, with no unpleasant surprises.

Author: O. Scribner has been involved in the otherkin and therianthrope communities for about ten years, and therefore has much familiarity with the characteristics and creations of those communities. O. Scribner identifies as a dragon person, and therefore can relate personally to the writings produced by otherkin and similar communities.
Please do cite my essay in your own research! I’ll even help you do it right. Contrary to popular misconception, not all content on the Internet is in the public domain, and students must cite the sources for any online content that they use as a source for their research. If you do cite my document in a research essay, please tell me.

Replace the red letters with your current date. You might have to make other some adjustments. Even now, authorities disagree on the format to cite electronic sources, so you might ask your professors about their preferred standards.

APA format (on References page)

Chicago style (in Bibliography)

Chicago style (in footnotes)

MLA format (on Works Cited page)

MLA format (in footnotes or endnotes)
Introduction

Who are otherkin and therianthropes?

(Please excuse me: just for this section, I’m reusing a definition that I wrote for another of my books. It’s important to make sure that the reader has some familiarity with otherkin before proceeding further in this book.)

The otherkin and therian communities have much in common in their history, ideas, and similarly unusual personal identities. Socially, the communities mingle with one another, and their philosophies overlap to some extent. However, they aren’t entirely synonymous.

The people who call themselves otherkin (that is, “kin to the other”\(^1\)) look human, but identify as supernatural entities ordinarily thought of as legendary or mythological, most commonly elves, Faes, and dragons, but many other kinds of creatures are represented as well.\(^2\)

The concept of otherkin, as we know it, apparently got its start in about 1972 when groups of people (the Elf Queen’s Daughters, the Silver Elves, and others) said they were elves, and kept in touch with one another via mailing lists.\(^3\) In 1990, online mailing lists began to bring people together who identified as elves, as well as other creatures, for whom they coined the word “otherkin.”\(^4\) A community of people who identify as dragons developed independently of this on the alt.fan.dragons newsgroup, starting in about 1994.\(^5\) The otherkin community thrives to this day, arranging many in-person get-togethers (called Gathers)\(^6\) and many online communities. The philosophy started in English, but now there are significant groups of otherkin who actively discuss therianthropy in French,\(^18\) Russian,\(^19\) Spanish,\(^20\) Swedish,\(^21\) and Portuguese.\(^22\)

With both otherkin and therians, this identification as another species will be explained in very different ways, depending on the individual’s own interpretations of his or her own nature. The most basic definition I’ve seen is by Mokele, who defines it as a type of experience which certain people have, without needing to try to believe in it, and without needing to have heard of the concept from anyone else beforehand, which means that it’s not a spiritual or philosophical belief in and of itself.\(^23\) Depending on the person, he or she may additionally seek to develop explanations for that experience that are spiritual,\(^24\) philosophical, metaphorical,\(^25\) behavioral,\(^26\) or psychological.\(^27\) Common spiritual explanations include reincarnation\(^28\) and metaphysical anatomy.\(^29\) A few otherkin do claim they are non-human in a physical or ancestral way.\(^30\)

People who identify as vampires or incarnate extraterrestrials may possibly count as otherkin. However, their communities developed separately from the otherkin community. Some more otherkin-like people call themselves Fae-born, which refers specifically to those who were supernatural beings in past lives, or a mystical being in spirit.\(^31\) However, some Fae-born make a point of saying that they don’t call themselves otherkin. Another separate group of people call themselves Faes or Faeid, who in some (but not all) cases identify as fair folk themselves.\(^11\)

People who call themselves therianthropes (meaning “animal people”)\(^12\) look human, but identify as animals, most commonly wolves or felines, but many other kinds of animals are represented as well. Some such people call themselves therians, werewolves, Were-beasts, Weres,\(^13\) shifters,\(^14\) or animal people,\(^15\) and each of these terms carries different shades of meaning.

The therian community that we know of began in 1993 with speculative discussions on the alt.horror.werewolves newsgroup,\(^16\) apparently with no contact with the otherkin community until a few years later. (I have found no evidence of any therian community before the Nineties. If you have some primary sources to prove otherwise, please let me know.) The therian community thrives to this day, enjoying many in-person get-togethers (called Howls)\(^17\) and many online communities. The philosophy started in English, but now there are significant groups of therians who actively discuss therianthropy in French,\(^18\) Russian,\(^19\) Spanish,\(^20\) Swedish,\(^21\) and Portuguese.\(^22\)

When we otherkin or therians say things like “I am an elf,” we say it in earnest, and we’ve put a lot of thought into how we came to that statement, over many years of our lives.\(^31\) This identification
is not a make-believe role-playing game. It is who we are in real life.

Although the concept of otherkin and therians sometimes involve spiritual concepts, it is not a religion. This is because being otherkin or therian is a personal thing. Individuals make up how it works for their own selves alone, because only you can determine what you are, and nobody can do your introspection for you. Nobody can tell you that you’re an otherkin or therian, and they can’t tell you in what way you’re an otherkin or therian, either. We have no widely-agreed-upon leaders and no common dogma.

Because we arrive at our self-identifications independently, our communities are diverse, and our beliefs and experiences are widely varied. Some of us even doubt whether our communities have enough cohesion to be considered communities, now or ever. (I do call them communities or subcultures, for lack of a more satisfactory word.) Whenever people find that the otherkin or therian communities don’t suit them, they are free to leave at any time, and often do. Nonetheless, the communities continue to see more people all the time. Some people have been content enough with the communities to remain involved with them for many years.

About the articles

This document links to writings by more than 700 different authors. More than 600 of those authors identify as other than human, calling themselves otherkin, therianthropes, or by other terms.

Many of the writers contradict one another, and that is as it should be... there is little agreement among otherkin people on anything at all, and we even disagree over the definition of an “otherkin” person. In this list, I include many articles that I disagree with (as well as many articles that I agree with or have no opinion upon) because controversy and difference of opinion are important parts of our community, if it can be called a community.

Take notice of topics that haven’t been written about very much, or ideas that show potential but haven’t been fully explored. Maybe it will inspire you to fill in that niche with writing of your own.

These are publicly-viewable articles

I respect privacy and attempt to preserve it. All of these links lead only to documents that were posted in places where they were publicly visible. I assume that if an author posts a document in a public place, then the author implicitly grants permission for other people to link to it in similarly public places. However, I also understand that many authors don’t necessarily want their publicly-posted writings to receive attention outside of a certain small audience. I have attempted to discern between these when selecting writings to include in this directory.

I link to some posts on public blogs, when that seems appropriate, and the author has indicated some welcome of attention for the blog, outside of a small readership.

I don’t link to articles that were posted to relatively private or informal places, such as discussions on forums, newsgroups, or informal blogs written for a small audience of close friends. Even if those posts are publicly viewable, it’s usually clear that they were intended only for a small audience. I do link to a very small number of forum posts that seem to have been intended for a completely public audience, such as final drafts of essays, and a post that archives content from a lost web page.

I don’t link to any articles that require registration or logging in to view, and I don’t link to filtered blog entries.

I do understand that just because a document is publicly-viewable doesn’t mean that it’s in the public domain. Each of these documents has a copyright held by its respective author. Linking to, quoting briefly from, or summarizing a document does not violate its copyrights.

I strive to make this the nearest-to-comprehensive directory compared to any other extant directories of essays. However, this can never be a comprehensive directory. There are too many writings out there for me to find them all.

Respect

Some people prefer not to be included in projects like this. Two individuals and one group have told me that they didn’t want me to link to or
talk about their writings when I’ve worked on similar projects. To respect their wishes, I’ve omitted their writings from this directory.

If you don’t want me to link to your writings, either, then please e-mail me, and I’ll fix it in the next edit.

Out of respect for people’s privacy, I omit or reduce to an initial all (apparently) legal surnames, unless if the name is that of a published author in connection with that author’s work, or the person has given me permission to print their surname in this document. I assume that any other people who have made their legal names visible on the Internet don’t necessarily want to have those names appear in connection with otherkin in this document. Hopefully I haven’t made mistakes in determining which names are legal surnames or pseudonyms. When I reduce a surname to an initial, I list that author in the index by his or her first name instead.

**Printed resources**

I refer not only to Internet resources, but also to selections of pages from printed resources. I may list them by a shorter version of their title. For complete information about these books, see the bibliography at the end of this document.

**Presentation**

I’ve chosen to lay out all entries in the same way:

“Article title (alternative title),” author name (alternative name). Year-month-day
Article summary or excerpt
Web address, or book title and page numbers

Update: during this revision, I’m in the process of putting all entries in Chicago Manual of Style (CMS) format. I make some exceptions to CMS to make it more compatible with my work. I write all dates in year-month-day format, so that I can’t accidentally transpose numbers when I cross-reference to my Otherkin Timeline.

I put in quotes the titles of short writings, poems, and web-pages. I italicize the titles of art pieces, books, entire web-sites, and online written works that span several web-pages in length.

Please pardon any mistakes that I may have made in summarizing them or sorting them into categories. I’ve at least skimmed all of these articles, but it’s possible that in some cases I may have misunderstood what they were about.

I’ve tried to find active versions of these links, to save you the trouble of looking them up on Archive.org, but sometimes there are no such versions available. I include broken links in this directory, but I mark them as such. Some web addresses are marked “defunct,” meaning that the web page is gone, but you can still view an archived version of it by putting its address into the box on Archive.org. Here’s how: take the web address in question, attach the prefix http://web.archive.org/web/*/ and paste both those parts together in your web browser’s address bar.

The web addresses marked “lost” are the hopeless cases, which can’t even be found in the archives… perhaps you can tell me of a new place where those documents are hosted? Also, please let me know if you find any broken links listed here that need to be marked as “defunct” or “lost.”

**Stars and other marks**

To make this directory easier to skim, I’ve placed marks next to certain links that I deem interesting in particular ways. This doesn’t necessarily mean that I agree with the article. If you only have time to read a few articles, rather than hundreds of them, then I suggest that you include the marked articles in your reading-list. If you don’t have time for skimming through, searching for them all, there’s a faster way to find them: I list all of the marked documents in the beginning of the index.

If an article isn’t marked, please don’t assume that I judged it as not worthwhile! Odds are, I just haven’t gotten around to carefully reading and then choosing a mark for that document yet. Consider how many documents I listed here. Many I had only time to skim. So please take no offense if I haven’t marked your document.

▲ Interesting, innovative, and unusual. This article stands out because it’s different from other articles on the same topic, expressing a different
viewpoint than most of the other authors, or proposing intriguing new ideas. In fact, this might be the only article on this topic at all. Readers who are tired of hearing one idea revisited too many times should read this article for a breath of fresh air. This document may also offer potential, raising questions or discovering ideas that other authors might like to explore further, attempt to answer a few ways, or debate from different angles. As such, this article may give you inspiration for new projects. Like the first part of a cliffhanger, I long to hear more about any topic with this mark.

(I chose these particular symbols just because they show up well, and since they’re Unicode, I guess most fonts can display them. Other than that, the symbol choice is pretty arbitrary.)

⋙ New/revised. Any link with this symbol is a new addition in the latest version of this eBook. Maybe you’ve never read or looked at that document before.

♫ Skillful. An artifact of remarkable eloquence and beauty, demonstrating skill and dedication. In various media, this means: clear, moving prose; visual art that shows superb understanding; and well-constructed persuasive arguments.

✔ Recommended. This article has some pretty interesting ideas, and expresses them well. It’s a good example of an article within its particular topic.

★ Highly recommended for all readers, whether they’re outsiders, newcomers, or people who have been involved in the community for decades. A starred article stands out because it explores some very important ideas, and discusses them eloquently, even better than other articles on the same topic. It is helpful, innovative, and a handsome product of skill and dedication. If everybody in the communities read this particular article, then the community would be a better place, and the people would be more savvy. If you skim through and read only a few articles out of the whole list, then this is one of the articles that you should read. If anybody in the communities has the authority to “require” anybody else to do any particular task, then they would call this article “required reading.” But luckily our community isn’t like that; you’re free to skip over these if you feel like it. It’s just my advice because I expect that this article will be helpful to you. Don’t take my marks too seriously. They’re just my opinions and favorites, and yours will likely be different.

Since you’ll have your own preferences, I suggest that you try this: bookmark or write notes about your own favorite articles, so that you can find them later. Better yet, journal about your responses to some of the articles that interested you the most: ideas that had potential that you’d like to explore further, or opinions that you disagree with, or tell about how it moved you emotionally to feel angry, sad, content, mystified, or charmed. Reading isn’t passive.

Foreign language documents

In this directory, I link to documents written in languages other than English. In some cases, people have translated a single document into several languages, and this directory serves to keep track of those connections.

However, many documents remain in one language only. Some of these foreign-language documents explore aspects of otherkin philosophy that haven’t been touched by English-language authors. Don’t miss out on them! Language isn’t such a big barrier anymore. Use translate.google.com or another web-based automatic translator, which can render a web-page or text selection into any language you like. It’s imperfect, but it will give you a general idea of what the document says. Automatic translators don’t know what to do with all the neologisms that some therian authors use, such as “cladotherianthropy” and “m-shift.” However, those words will stand out from the rest enough that you’ll be able to figure out what they’re supposed to say.

If you have the skill and time to translate documents for real, as your contribution to the otherkin and therian communities, then you can use this directory to see what kinds of documents are missing or important.

A note on jargon

For simplicity’s sake, in this document I adhere to using certain words in certain ways: I use “otherkin” to include people who identify as legendary creatures, elves, dragons, Faed, and Fae-born (even though some elves and Fae-born have made the case that they aren’t otherkin, and Fae-
born has a more specific definition that is not synonymous with otherkin).

I use “vampire” to include vampyre, psychic vampire, sanguinarian vampire, and Quinotauri.

I use “therian” to include therianthrope, Were, shifter, and animal-person.

I use “fiction-kin” to include media-kin, otaku-kin, and soul-bonds.

I use “incarnate extraterrestrials” to include star-borns, star-born, star-children, and star-people.

For brevity’s sake in some headings, I sometimes use the word “otherkin” as a catch-all for all of the above. This is not common use, and people object to this practice. However, it’s justified in that the word “otherkin” was originally coined because it was more efficient to use a single word than to list off various types. In my opinion, the interpretation of “otherkin” as “kin to the Other” suits all the people who identify as other than human: therianthropes, Fae-born, star-seeds, and vampires. Still, keep in mind that many of these peoples consider themselves separate from otherkin. I don’t consider them as completely synonymous.

For people who identify as none of the above, I’ve decided to use the word “outsiders.” Whether a group is based on culture, ethnicity, or shared interests, people in a group often have a word for those who aren’t a part of their group. It usually translates to something like “outsider.” In my opinion, the word “outsider” makes more sense and has less offensive connotations than some words that otherkin have used for outsiders (non-otherkin, normal people, mundanes, and humans).

I understand that this term has its own problems. In any small group of otherkin people, usually at least one of them openly doesn’t identify as otherkin. It would be a misnomer to call such a person an “outsider,” since their involvement and experience with the group makes them an insider. However, calling that person a “human” makes assumptions about how the others identify themselves. Calling that person a “mundane” would be inappropriate if the person is otherwise involved with the supernatural. Some jargon is a bit hopeless, so I use the word “outsider” as an adequate solution rather than a completely satisfactory one.

**Please help out**

Help out by PayPal donations to the author, by telling me about new links to add, and about broken links or errors in this document.

Have fun exploring the many questions and many answers that otherkin and therians have contemplated and argued about over the years.

- O. Scribner

**Notes**

1. Jarandhel Dreamsinger coined the phrase “kin to the other” as a definition for “otherkin.”
   [wanderingpaths.dreamhart.org/articles/kintothetothers.html](wanderingpaths.dreamhart.org/articles/kintothetothers.html)
   The word “otherkin,” however, was coined by Torin / Darren Stalder in 1990 as a more inclusive counterpart to “elfkind,” as I learned from e-mail conversations with Torin, and with R’ykandar Korra’ti, the maintainer of the mailing list where the word was coined, the Elfkind Digest.

2. Lupa’s survey demonstrates typical demographics of both otherkin and therians:
   3. The Silver Elves, e-mail to editor, sent 2010-07-22.

4. R’ykandar Korra’ti, e-mail to editor, sent 2010-07-22.

5. ExistingPhantom, “The early history of AFD.”
   [dragonfire.org/AfdEarlyHistory.html](dragonfire.org/AfdEarlyHistory.html)


7. [otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com](otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com) and [otherkin despertar.blogspot.com](otherkin despertar.blogspot.com)

8. *Otherkin Praesidium.*
   [freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium](freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium)

   [divinorum.cz/symposion/otherkin](divinorum.cz/symposion/otherkin)
10. A definition for Faeborn:
   FAE.
   promethianweb.com/fae/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=60&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0 (defunct)

11. Leaf McGowan, e-mail to the editor, sent 2010-12-31

12. Therianthrope, from Gk. θηρίων beast, wild animal + ἀνθρώπος man, human of either gender.
   The word was originally coined in 1885 to describe human-animal creatures in studies of art, mythology, and anthropology.
   See the history of this term’s usage by the therian community:
   Swiftpaw, “Tracing the origins of the term ‘therianthropy.’”
   otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/old/termthierian.html (defunct)

13. An example of the use of the word “Were” in this way:
   Lynx Canadensis, “What does it mean to be a Were—and is Were the word to use?” 1999-09-18.
   wildideas.net/temple/library/letters/weremeaning.html

14. An example of the use of the word “shifter” in this way:
   Yaiolani, “How did the shifter movement start?”
   yaiolani.tripod.com/start.htm

15. An exploration of how “animal person” differs in meaning from “therianthrope:”
   SombraStudio, “Therianthrope vs. animal person.” 2011-02-04
   sombralamutt.wordpress.com/2011/02/04/therianthrope-vs-animal-person

16. Early history of the therian community:
   Polar, “Unofficial AHWW Archive.”
   furnation.com/lobo/forest/uh-AHWW.htm (defunct)

   werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=23698

   akhila.feralscribes.org/french.php

19. therianthropy.ru and shelter.clan.su and wereseyes.livejournal.com

20. project-shift.org (bilingual English and Spanish)

21. vargetiantrop.wordpress.com

22. Therian Circulo. therianbrasil.blogspot.com

   therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/exp.htm (defunct)

24. Some examples of several different spiritual explanations for being otherkin or therian:
   Yaiolani, “A theory of misplaced souls.”
   yaiolani.tripod.com/artc010.htm
   and The Grimm Judge, “Why are we here?”
   2002-08-05
   promethianweb.com/fae/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=69&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0 (defunct)
   therioshamanism.com/2008/12/23
   witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usor&c=words&id=10338

25. Lupa, A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 86-95

26. An example of therianthropy explained simply as an inclination for animal behavior:
   absurdism.org/therianthropy/defined.html

27. Lupa, A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 80-86

28. Lupa offers demographic information on this: “Among the 130 surveys I received [from otherkin and therians …] 58 said that they believed that reincarnation was the cause of their being ‘kin …” Excerpt from Lupa, A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 54

29. I’ve heard many otherkin and therians describe their astral body—their spiritual, non-physical part which resides on a higher plane of existence, the astral plane—as other than human in its appearance, when perceived clairvoyantly. For those who believe in that type of cosmology, this gives justification for saying that they are other than human, and it creates a framework for understanding some of the sensations (phantom limbs and shifting) that are part of the experience for many otherkin and therians.

   A wolf therian, Rosalyn Greene, asserts that unusual metaphysical anatomy is what makes a therian be a therian. See Rosalyn Greene, The Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 36.

   otherkin.net/articles/hereNow.html
0. Scribner, “Various theories and the like.” 2002-03-01. otherkin.livejournal.com/30114.html
31. Examples of the lifelong effort put into determining whether and how one is an otherkin or therian:
   - and Quil, “The Thwack: Noticing it for the first time.” 2005-08-08. absurdism.org/therianthropy/thwack.html
32. On how therianthropy isn’t a role-playing game:
   - “Role playing games and therianthropy.” shifters.org/newbies/RP.shtml (defunct)
33. On how therianthropy isn’t a religion:
   - SummonerWolf, “The number one misconception.” 2009-01-25. deviantart.com/deviation/110705840
34. On how discovering one’s otherkin or therian self is a strictly personal journey, in which others really can’t assist:
   - Seraphyna, “What am I? And other things.” main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/what-am-i-and-other-things
   - and io-ether, Only you can know your Were-side, 2004-02-19. deviantart.com/deviation/5368859
35. Lupa, A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 243-245
37. Disputing whether the otherkin and therian communities are communities:
39. Yaiolani, “Pillars of the Were community.” yaiolani.tripod.com/artc001.htm
40 As of 2012-10-01, the Directory listed “creations by 749 authors. Those authors are of a variety of identifications, and active in a variety of communities. This includes 175 authors who explicitly label themselves with the term “otherkin,” along with 330 authors who label themselves “therianthropes.” In addition, 99 authors identify as other than human, but primarily prefer or exclusively use other labels than otherkin or therianthrope, such as “faeborn,” or other terms. That makes a total of 604 authors listed in the Directory who identify as other than human. Furthermore, the Directory lists creations by 130 authors who haven’t said that they identify as other than human. […] Then there are 15 authors who are kind of peripheral […]” Excerpt from O. Scribner (frameacloud), “604 authors other than human.” O. Scribner. 2012-10-01. http://frameacloud.tumblr.com/post/32674501040
## Table of Contents

I need to update this table of contents now that I’ve reorganized things!

Cite this document … 3
Introduction … 4

**PART I. THE BASICS.**

- **Introductions to otherkin and therians, for outsiders**…18
  - Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders
    - …in other languages
    - …specifically for Neo-Pagans … 19
  - Introductions to therians, for outsiders
    - …in other languages … 20
  - Advice for friends and family of otherkin and therians
- **Introductions for mixed audiences** … 21
  - Introductions to otherkin, for mixed audiences
    - …in other languages
  - Introductions to therians, for mixed audiences
  - Introductions to otherkin and therians, for mixed audiences
- **Introductions written for otherkin and therians**
  - Introductions to otherkin, for otherkin … 22
  - Introductions to therians, for therians
- **Jargon** … 25
  - Jargon glossaries
    - of several peoples
    - of otherkin
    - of otherkin dragons
    - of vampires
    - of therians
    - development of further specialized jargon in the therian community…26
    - of miscellaneous peoples
  - What should we all call ourselves? … 27
    - otherkin or…?
    - therians or…?
    - vampires or…?
    - The problems of calling ourselves anything … 28
- **Defining otherkin** … 29
  - Defining therians
- **Comparing otherkin to similar peoples**…31
  - Comparing several other peoples
  - Comparing spiritual therianthropes to furry fans
  - Are otherkin different from other people?
  - What about people who aren’t otherkin? (Or are they?) … 32
- **What caused otherkin to be otherkin? How did we come to be? Why are we here?** … 33
  - Summaries of several hypotheses
  - Hypotheses involving souls, pre-existence, and/or reincarnation
  - Miscellaneous hypotheses
- **Purpose** … 35
  - General writings on purpose
  - Searching for more otherkin
  - Participating in changing or healing the world
  - To manifest in ourselves the beings and places that should be here … 36
- **Therians and totems** … 37
  - Compare and contrast
  - Therians who also have totem animals
- **Therians in antiquity: How long have therians really been around?** … 38
- **Ancestors and physicality** … 39
  - Physical traits
  - Physical issues
  - Supernatural ancestry
- **Otherkin and mental health** … 41
  - Being otherkin isn’t a mental illness
    - Mental health professionals talk to otherkin and conclude that it’s an okay belief … 42
  - What if being otherkin is a mental variation?
  - Mental variations and challenges that resemble therians
    - Clinical lycanthropy … 43
    - Resembling fiction-kin … 44
  - Some otherkin do have mental variations and challenges
    - Depression
    - Autism
  - Other writings on mental health … 45
- **Responsible behavior and ethics** … 46
- Handling emotions, behaving responsibly
- Good and evil
- Codes of ethics for otherkin ... 47
- Responsible behavior and codes of ethics for vampires
- Other notes on responsible behavior
  - Criticism of otherkin ... 49
    - Criticism of belief in otherkin themselves
    - Criticism of specific beliefs that many otherkin have
      - Criticism of the idea that otherkin can identify as unearthly non-humans ... 50
      - Criticism of the idea that therianthropes can identify as animals
      - Criticism of the idea that otherkin can identify as fictional characters or draw inspiration from fiction
      - Criticism of the idea that otherkin have spiritual awakening experiences
      - Criticism of the idea that being otherkin is not a mental illness
      - Criticism of the idea that otherkin should openly identify as otherkin if they so please
      - Criticism of the idea that otherkin could be the reincarnations of non-humans ... 51
      - Criticism of the metaphysical idea that otherkin could be non-human in spirit or soul
      - Criticism of the idea that otherkin could be or become physically non-human
      - Criticism of the idea that otherkin could play a part in a global change
      - Criticism that accuses otherkin of cultural appropriation
      - Criticism that accuses otherkin of wrongfully comparing themselves with transgender people ... 52

- Finding a name ... 57
  - Advice on finding names
  - Names that transcend vocal sounds
  - Personal experiences with names
  - Other thoughts on names
- Awakening stories, by otherkin
  - by therians ... 58
- Advice on further self-exploration after Awakening ... 59
  - Self-exploration should continue after Awakening
  - Progress by looking within
  - Progress by action
  - Progress by research
  - Progress by questioning and scientific method ... 60
- General advice for inexperienced otherkin regarding several of the above topics
  - Becoming otherkin ... 63
    - Born or made?
    - Criticism of becoming
    - Instructions for becoming
  - Otherkin no longer ... 64
    - For some people, otherkin was just a phase and they grow out of it naturally
    - Intentionally curing otherkin of being otherkin

Part III. Community.
  - The communities of otherkin and therians ... 67
    - Debating whether it’s even a community
    - Community history
      - of otherkin
      - of dragons
      - of vampires
      - of FAEborn ... 68
      - of therians
    - Community demographics ... 69
    - Community gatherings
      - general/miscellaneous
- of otherkin
- of therians (Howls)
- Traits of the communities … 70
- The communities have no widely-recognized leaders
- How to find and participate in the communities
- Some types of conversation one hears in the communities
- Some types of people one meets in the communities
- Proposing solutions for the community’s problems
- Leaving the larger community … 72
- Smaller communities of otherkin: loners, friends, packs, houses
  - General observations and advice regarding small communities
  - Advice for those who are alone, but want to find a few kindred spirits…73
  - Advice and observations regarding small communities of elven otherkin
  - Advice and observations regarding small communities of therians (packs, etc.)
  - Advice regarding small communities of vampires (Houses, etc.) … 74
  - Descriptions of specific small communities
- Diversity, disagreement, and tolerance within the community
- Kinds of people to beware of
  - On deceptive people
  - On arrogant people … 75
  - On needy people
  - On other kinds of dangerous people
- Criticisms of newcomers who misunderstand
  - General notes on problematic newcomers … 76
  - On newcomers who mix fact with fiction (role-players)
  - On newcomers who don’t think deeply about their claims (wannabes, fluffies)
  - On inexperienced therians who have inaccurate ideas about animals … 77
- The seasons and holidays … 79
  - General and miscellaneous
  - Halloween and Samhain
- Relations with outsiders .. 80
  - Openness
  - Secrecy … 81
  - Relations with outsiders: Miscellaneous
- Relations with humanity, inside and outside … 82
  - The human side of otherkin
  - Otherkin looking critically at humankind/outsiders (and otherkin looking critically at otherkin who do so)

PART IV. FIELD GUIDE.
- First-person bestiary ... 85
  - General notes on animal types
    - What are animals, really? What does this mean for our animal selves?
    - Observation and study of real animals
    - Winged versions of non-winged animals … 86
    - Animal sides that can’t be classified as a species
    - On the proliferation of wolves and large carnivorous mammals
  - Canines (wolves, etc.) … 87
    - Wolves
    - Extinct wolves
    - Canines other than wolves
    - Coyotes
    - Dogs (wild and domestic) … 88
    - Foxes
  - Felines (cats)
    - General
    - Leopards
    - Jaguars
    - Cheetahs … 89
    - Lions
    - Tigers
    - Lynxes
    - House-cats
  - Ungulates (hoofed animals)
    - Horses
    - Sheep
    - Deer and antelope … 90
  - Other mammals
  - Birds
  - Dinosaurs
  - Reptiles … 91
  - Fish
  - Invertebrates
  - We’re a lot of fabulous beings … 92
o General notes on otherkin types
o Elves and Fae
  - Elenari Elves ... 93
o Satyrs, fauns, and nymphs ... 94
o Angels, devas, and demons
o Vampires ... 95
  - Vampires get along just fine with werewolves ... 96
  - Vampires and feeding
o Dragons
  - Dragon portraits ... 97
o Gryphons ... 98
o Unicorns
  - Unicorn portraits
o Phoenix
o Supernatural animals: Caith sidhe (fairy cats) and kitsune (spirit foxes), etc. ... 99
o Shapeshifters: wendigo, polymorphs, etc.
o Extraterrestrials
o Mer-folk and aquatic peoples ... 100
o Various other beings

• Fictionality ... 102
  o Common relationships to fiction
    - Fiction (re)viewed in context of otherkin
    - Pretend, make-believe, role-playing games... and reality
    - Using virtual reality ... 103
    - Fiction as a model for real and spiritual things
  o Real elves relating to Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings
  o Fictionality and one’s animal spirit:
    Dæmons ... 104
    - Basic information
    - Advanced information ... 105
    - Dæmons: personal stories
  o Advanced fictionality: Fiction-kin and soul-bonds ... 106
    - Soul-bonds
    - Fiction-kin ... 107
    - On both soul-bonds and fiction-kin
    - Criticism of fiction-kin and soulbonds, and responses to criticism ... 108

• Those elusive few who are neither animals, nor mythological beings, nor fictional characters, nor simply human
  o Plant otherkin ... 109
  o Inanimate object otherkin (or, “Inanimate!?"

PART V. BEING OTHERKIN

• Otherkin phenomena ... 111
  o Otherkin body language
  o Recognizing otherkin
  o Homesickness

• Shape-shifting ... 113
  o General information about shifting
  o Lists of types of shift
  o Dream shifting ... 114
  o Shamanic shifting ... 115
    - Cameo shifting
  o Shifting by mirror-gazing ... 116
    - By people who aren’t therians
    - By therians
  o Mental shifting
    - General description and advice...117
    - Personal experiences
  o Phantom shifting and phantom limbs
    - Phantom limbs experienced by people who are not therians
  o Types of shifts with other strange effects
  o Astral shifting
  o Bi-location shifting (including apparition shifting)
  o Physical shifting ... 119
    - ...is impossible
    - Conjecture
    - Maybe it’s possible...?
    - Personal experiences (?) ... 120
    - Hypotheses on how it might work, and instructions
  o Traits mistaken for shifting ... 121
  o Other personal experiences with shifting

• Balancing the parts of the self ... 123
  o Common ways of seeing the parts of the self
  o Balancing the secular and spiritual parts of life
  o The human side and the other side(s)
  o Identifying as more than one kind of creature
  o Otherkin and “Walk-In” spirit-exchanges ... 125
  o Otherkin and functional multiplicity
  o Inner worlds

• Personal journeys and perspectives ... 127

• Humorous anecdotes ... 129

• Questionnaire and survey responses ... 130
  o WereCards
    - ...resources
    - ...selected WereCards

o Plant otherkin ... 109
o Inanimate object otherkin (or, “Inanimate!?"

• Fictionality ... 102
  o Common relationships to fiction
    - Fiction (re)viewed in context of otherkin
    - Pretend, make-believe, role-playing games... and reality
    - Using virtual reality ... 103
    - Fiction as a model for real and spiritual things
  o Real elves relating to Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings
  o Fictionality and one’s animal spirit:
    Dæmons ... 104
    - Basic information
    - Advanced information ... 105
    - Dæmons: personal stories
  o Advanced fictionality: Fiction-kin and soul-bonds ... 106
    - Soul-bonds
    - Fiction-kin ... 107
    - On both soul-bonds and fiction-kin
    - Criticism of fiction-kin and soulbonds, and responses to criticism ... 108

• Those elusive few who are neither animals, nor mythological beings, nor fictional characters, nor simply human
  o Plant otherkin ... 109
  o Inanimate object otherkin (or, “Inanimate!?"

PART V. BEING OTHERKIN

• Otherkin phenomena ... 111
  o Otherkin body language
  o Recognizing otherkin
  o Homesickness

• Shape-shifting ... 113
  o General information about shifting
  o Lists of types of shift
  o Dream shifting ... 114
  o Shamanic shifting ... 115
    - Cameo shifting
  o Shifting by mirror-gazing ... 116
    - By people who aren’t therians
    - By therians
  o Mental shifting
    - General description and advice...117
    - Personal experiences
  o Phantom shifting and phantom limbs
    - Phantom limbs experienced by people who are not therians
  o Types of shifts with other strange effects
  o Astral shifting
  o Bi-location shifting (including apparition shifting)
  o Physical shifting ... 119
    - ...is impossible
    - Conjecture
    - Maybe it’s possible...?
    - Personal experiences (?) ... 120
    - Hypotheses on how it might work, and instructions
  o Traits mistaken for shifting ... 121
  o Other personal experiences with shifting

• Balancing the parts of the self ... 123
  o Common ways of seeing the parts of the self
  o Balancing the secular and spiritual parts of life
  o The human side and the other side(s)
  o Identifying as more than one kind of creature
  o Otherkin and “Walk-In” spirit-exchanges ... 125
  o Otherkin and functional multiplicity
  o Inner worlds

• Personal journeys and perspectives ... 127

• Humorous anecdotes ... 129

• Questionnaire and survey responses ... 130
  o WereCards
    - ...resources
    - ...selected WereCards
Responses to the Furvey (Furry Lifestyle Survey) and Thervey ... 137
Surveys for Lupa’s A Field Guide to Otherkin
Therian Meme
Other survey and questionnaire responses ... 138

PART VI. THE SPIRITUALITY OF OTHERKIN
- Religion, or lack thereof ... 140
  - Otherkin isn’t a religion, nor is it a cult, nor even perhaps a spirituality
  - Christianity and otherkin
    - Being both an otherkin and a Christian
    - The place of one’s specific otherkin type or species within Christian cosmology
    - Symbols for Christian therianthropes ... 142
    - Otherkin alienated by Christianity
  - Judaism and the Kabbalah in relation to otherkin
  - Taoism and otherkin
  - Hinduism and otherkin
  - Buddhism and otherkin
  - Shintoism and otherkin ... 143
  - Reconstructionist religions, Neo-Paganism, and Wicca in relation to otherkin
    - Neo-Pagans looking at otherkin
    - On being both a Neo-Pagan and an otherkin
  - Otherkin of other paths
- Reincarnation ... 145
  - Basic concepts: On having been other kinds of creatures in past lives
  - How to remember past lives
  - How does one know that one’s past-life memories are for real? ... 146
  - Memories influencing the present
  - Personal recollections ... 147
    - ...of otherkin
    - ...of therians
- Metaphysical, supernatural, and magical activities for otherkin ... 148
  - Do otherkin, in particular, have magical abilities?
  - Defining metapathics, magic, and the supernatural, and what they have to do with otherkin
  - Creative visualization and guided meditation for otherkin ... 149
  - Elements and otherkin
  - Tarot, Runes, and other forms of divination and magical symbols
  - Astrology and incarnate extraterrestrials
  - Faery-glamour
  - Herbs, potions, drugs, and salves for otherkin
  - Stones, crystals, and metals for otherkin... 150
  - Magical rites and spells
  - Higher planes of existence
    - Higher planes: energy-work
    - Higher planes: energy-work: psychic vampirism ... 151
    - Higher-plane anatomy of otherkin: chakras and wings
    - Higher planes: astral projection and astral shifting ... 152
    - Higher planes: incorporeal beings and otherkin
  - Gateways to elsewhere, and manifestation
- Developing one’s own beliefs, and one’s attitudes towards the beliefs of others ... 153

PART VII. THE SECULARITY OF OTHERKIN.
- Secular otherkin ... 155
  - Secular definitions of otherkin
  - The psychological explanation for otherkin
  - The scientific method applied to otherkin experience
  - Researching real-world information about the animal side
- Activities, interests and hobbies for otherkin ... 156
  - Being otherkin as inspiration for actions
  - Being otherkin in ordinary actions
  - Games, sports, and hobbits
  - Collections and material culture ... 157
  - Food and diet
  - Environment(alism)
  - Otherkin and their careers
  - Glamour-bombing
  - Home and travel ... 158
  - Working with dreams
• Family … 159
  o Love
  o Marriage and similar long-term loving commitments
  o Sexuality
  o Otherkin as parents, or choosing not to have children … 160
• Gender … 161
  o Otherkin and women’s issues
  o On the gender of the animal side
  o Otherkin compared with transgender
  o On being otherkin as well as transgender
• Personal appearance … 163
  o Hairstyles
  o Jewelry
  o Clothing and costume
  o Tattoos
  o Surgical body modification … 164

PART VIII. THE ARTS.
• Visual art … 166
  o Superimposed faces and forms
  o Split portraits … 167
  o Parts of the self metaphorically represented as reflections and shadows
  o Parts of the self metaphorically represented as costume or mask … 168
  o Parts of the self represented in a state of transformation, transition, or combination
  o Otherkin eyes … 169
  o Group portraits of different parts of the self
  o Tracks … 170
  o Portraits of the inner self
  o Misc art about otherkin and therians…171
• Symbols for otherkin and therians … 172
  o General writings about symbols for otherkin and therians
  o The seven-pointed star
    - Writings
    - Representations … 173
  o Therian theta-delta symbol
    - Writings
    - Representations and variations
    - As decoration for jewelry … 175
    - As decoration for clothing
    - As tattoo, or tattoo design
  o Otherkin emblem … 176
  o Therian flag and were-prints
  o Therian symbols by Twilight Stray…177
  o Re-combinations of any of the above symbols
  o Signature codes
• Languages, constructed or remembered…179
  o Writing systems
  o Vocabularies of elven languages
  o Vocabularies of dragon languages … 180
  o Vocabularies of various other languages
  o Languages that aren’t like languages as we usually think of them
• Music … 181
  o General
  o Music by otherkin
  o Music appreciated by otherkin
• Poetry … 182
  o General poems about otherkin and therians
  o Poems on more specific topics
• Fiction … 184
  o Otherkin and transformation
  o Otherkin and transformation of many (Changing Times stories)
  o Otherkin in miscellaneous fiction
• Lists and reviews of books and other materials … 185
  o General and miscellaneous thoughts on books
  o Book-lists, and reviews of several books
  o Reviews and contexts for individual books
• Other directories of otherkin writings and art … 187

PART IX. DOCUMENTS IN OTHER LANGUAGES
I list languages alphabetically by their English name. Within each language’s section, topics are organized in the same order as the rest of the book.
  • Czech (Česky) … 189
  • Dutch (Nederlands) … 190
  • French (Français)
  • German (Deutsch) … 191
  • Greek (ελληνικά) … 192
  • Hebrew (עברית)
  • Hungarian (magyar nyelv) … 193
  • Polish (Polski)
  • Portuguese (Português) … 194
  • Russian (русский язык)
- Serbian (srpski) … 198
- Spanish (Español)
- Swedish (Svenska) … 201
- Thai (ก็ษัตริยา) … 202
- Ukrainian (українська)

Bibliography … 203
Index … 204
PART I.

THE BASICS.
Introductions to otherkin and therians, for outsiders

Introductions written for audiences of outsiders

These writings assume that the audience isn’t otherkin or therian. Ideally, such a document should help foster understanding, respect, and tolerance, as well as some awareness of the level of diversity in our communities. Our communities really need more satisfactory documents in this category, some documents that otherkin and therians can point to when explaining themselves to someone.

Introductions to otherkin

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

✔ Definition… explanations: appeal to biology, spirit, or psychology, or escapism or mental aberration
Tirl Windtree. “What is an otherkin?” otherkin.net/articles/what-old.html
Older version of the above article.
French translation: otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/what.html

Wolf in the Shadows. “Otherkin.” 2003-10-07. bbc.co.uk/dna/h2g2/A1152983
Definition… history… it’s not a religion… skeptic’s view

Adnarel. “What are otherkin, anyway?” main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/what-are-otherkin-anyway
Corrects some potential misconceptions, summarizes some characteristics of the philosophy and community

Miaren Crow’s Daughter. “What are otherkin?” home.otherkin.net/miaren/what.html

An article about Otherkin, written by a non-otherkin, published in Village Voice.

Definition of otherkin, describes some generalizations and exceptions to those generalizations, tells about disagreement and skepticism, mental health problems, and some tongue-in-cheek jokes.

Kreyas. “What is otherkin?” Circa 2008. otherkincoaltion.info/forum/blog.php/?page_id=7 (defunct, archive)
Questions and answers about what otherkin are and aren’t. [Editor’s note: Kreyas inaccurately says that the otherkin community originated on alt.horror.werewolves (AHWW). Actually, the therianthrope community originated on AHWW. AHWW was unrelated to the otherkin community throughout the 1990s. The otherkin community originated elsewhere and earlier; see my Otherkin Timeline for more information on its origins.]

An overview written by someone who isn’t otherkin.

(No author listed?) “Otherkin.” N.d. enchant.wondershock.net/?page_id=20
A critical overview written by someone who isn’t otherkin


Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

(on wikis)

A wiki is an online encyclopedia that anyone can edit. The disadvantage of wikis is that passerby can insert false or fabricated information. Authors are unknown. Wikis are considered unreliable sources, and should never be used as reference for school papers. The possible advantages of wikis are that they update frequently, and they make a starting point for readers to discover better reference sources.


“Otherkin.” en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otherkin
This entry on Wikipedia has changed many times over the years.

“Otherkin.” simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otherkin
“Otherkin are people who believe that part of them is not human inside.” A brief Wiki entry in Simple English.

otherkincommunity.org/wiki/Otherkin

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders (in other languages)

✔ (In Czech.) An overview of otherkin philosophy, experiences, and community. Written by insider. Notes that since the disappearance of the forum on AstralSpire.com, there seem to be no Czech-language otherkin communities.

(In Czech.) An overview of various types of otherkin and their recent history. Also offers definitions for therians, starseeds, vampires, and furries. Says there are several hundred otherkin in the Czech Republic alone.

However, part of this article describes mythological beings without describing what the real people are like, which makes it less helpful. Caution: gory photo.

“Otherkin.” cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otherkin
(In Czech.)

“Otherkin - čo/kto to je? (Otherkin – what/who is it?)” 2010-08-31. otherkin.blog.cz/1008/otherkin-co-kto-to-je
(In Czech.)

Tirl Windtree. “Qu’est-ce qu’un Otherkin? (What is an otherkin?)” Translated by C.V.
otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/what.html
(In French.)

Original English:
www.otherkin.net/articles//what.html

✔ (In Greek.) Brief but thorough overview of a wide variety of ideas common among otherkin. Cites Mamatas and Polson. Author has a friend who is otherkin, but doesn’t claim to be otherkin too. Posted online 2010-02-20 at enyndria.blogspot.com/2009/06/otherkins.htm

Another copy of the same article, also in Greek, but without author cited rc-cafe.blogspot.com/2010/02/therkins-o.html

Nekys Nemia. “Otherkin: To φαινόμενο.” 2009. nekys.com/46/otherkin-%CF%84%CE%BF-%CF%86%CE%B1%CE%B9%CE%BD%CF%8C%CE%BC%CE%B5%CE%BD%CE%BF
(defunct, archive)
(In Greek.) Overview similar to the above, but with less sources cited. Author is an atheist Pagan, doesn’t claim to be otherkin.

Alma Gore. “Otherkin, mas que humanos (Otherkin, more than human).” 2009-02-13. Israeli Maariv. nrg.co.il-online/55/ART1/853/029.html
(In Hebrew.) Published in Israeli Maariv news. A very tentative English translation aided by O. Scribner: Otherkin_news.livejournal.com/932.html

Ewelina Czarnecka. “Otherkin – dziwactwo czy fantastyczny sposób na życie? (Otherkin – a quirk, or a fantastic way to live?).” 2011-08-29. We-Dwoje. we-dwoje.pl/otherkin-;dziwactwo;czy;fantastyczny;sposob;na;zycie,a
rytkul,9740.html
(In Polish.) An introduction to otherkin for outsiders. This polite and not sensationalistic article is in a women’s online magazine, We-Dwoje, which is otherwise mostly about fashion and health.

Dynara. “Otherkin, mas que humanos (Otherkin, more than human).” 2011-04-07. runamagica.blogspot.com/2011/04/otherkin-
mas-que-humanos.html
(In Spanish.) An introduction to various kinds of otherkin and therians, based on articles on Otherkin.net.

Introductions to otherkin, specifically for Neo-Pagans

The following articles assume that the audience isn’t otherkin. These articles assume that the audience is made up of people who are already
familiar with Neo-Pagan religions, and familiar with spiritual practices that they call magic.

Otherkin are not a sub-group of the Neo-Pagan community, but many of their participants and common philosophies overlap. That has demonstrably been the case in the 1970s as well as the 1990s.

Elsewhere in this book, I list articles that go into more detail about the relationship between otherkin and Neo-Paganism.


A summary. Published in *Paganet News*. Written for a Neo-Pagan audience.


Introducing Pagans to the idea of otherkin, including elves and Faë, and some of their activities: glamour-bombing, glamourie, and “Veil-working” magic


An introduction to otherkin, written for a Neo-Pagan audience. This is the first article about Otherkin published on *WitchVox*, a Pagan site.


An article about Otherkin, published in *Fate* magazine. Assumes the readers are already familiar with real magic. Online copy: [eristic.net/fey/info/fatearticle.php](http://eristic.net/fey/info/fatearticle.php)

Introduction to therianthropes

Introductions to therians, for outsiders

Liesk. “*Canis dichotomus sapiens.*” N.d.? [liesk.feralscribes.org/?q=node/2](http://liesk.feralscribes.org/?q=node/2) (lost)

“An explanation of therianthropy geared towards those outside of the community, without using therian-specific terminology.” (description from WereLibrary) [Would someone please return a copy of this to public view? –ed]


A student’s mock-up for a two-page “magazine article” created for a graphic design class. Introduces history of therian community, jargon, and types of shift.

Part 1: [deviantart.com/deviation/115655959](http://deviantart.com/deviation/115655959)

Part 2: [deviantart.com/deviation/115656075](http://deviantart.com/deviation/115656075)

Dreaming Wolf (Wolf ShamEn). “Therianthropy.” Defines a therianthrope as a reincarnated animal soul, spirit, or entity that has landed in a human body. The author’s description of growing up as a wolf therian. [sanguinarius.org/articles-2/therianthropy.shtml](http://sanguinarius.org/articles-2/therianthropy.shtml)


[therianthropy.org/mokele/intro.htm](http://therianthropy.org/mokele/intro.htm) (defunct, archive)

✔ Common questions outsiders often ask when they first hear of therianthropy, here answered by a therian. Snarky and opinionated, with rude language, but a pretty thorough treatment of the questions that outsiders actually do ask and care about.

Yaiolani. “FAQ for humans who want to know about shifters.” [yaiolani.tripod.com/humfaq.htm](http://yaiolani.tripod.com/humfaq.htm)

Therians aren’t like the werewolves in the movies. On Awakening and shifting,
ShadowsMyst. “Dispelling the myths.” n.d. shadowsden.org/therianmyths.html
Real therians are human beings, and don’t resemble fictional werewolves.

**Introductions to therians, for outsiders (in other languages)**

(In French.) A general introduction to the concept of therianthropy and therian experiences.

(In French.) The cultural background behind therianthropy as a concept. How it differs from and relates to totemism, the furry fandom, and otherkin.

Quil. “L’animalité définie (Animality defined).” 2006. akhila.feralscribes.org/2006/lanimalite-definie
(In French.)


Kusani. “Une introduction au concept d’Animalité (introduction to the concept of animality).” akhila.feralscribes.org/french/animalite.php
(In French.)

✓ (In Portuguese.) What therianthropy is not.

(In Portuguese.) Therianthrope philosophy and how it began.

Льва Граурра (Growrr the Lion)? “ГЛАВНАЯ СТРАНИЦА (Home).” 2004. therianthropy.ru

(In Russian.)
Main page of this site has a pretty good definition of what therianthropy is and isn’t.

Aethyriek. “¿Qué es la Teriantropía? (What is therianthropy?)” project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/whatis.php
(In Spanish.)

Lanina. “Teriantropi (Therianthropy).” sites.google.com/site/terianinfo/teriantropi
(In Swedish.) What it is and isn’t. Types of shift. Links.

(In Swedish.) A pleasant interview with a wolf therian, who introduces the basics of what it’s like to be a therian. Originally published in Sweden’s largest newspaper, Dagens Nyheter.
Otherkin and therians

Advice for friends and family of otherkin and therians

For outsiders, here’s some advice on how to understand and respond if a friend or family member tells you one day that they’re an otherkin. (Otherkin authors, take note: somebody should write more and better articles on this important topic.)

Adnarel. “Being a loved one: How to support your otherkin family member.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/being-a-loved-one-how-to-support-your-otherkin-family-member/
They just explained to you that they came from ‘somewhere else’ … respect that they’ve told you a secret. … it’s not a ‘disorder’

The Polyrhythms. “Loving someone with all your soul: Having an otherkin significant other.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/loving-someone-with-all-your-soul-having-an-otherkin-significant-other
Before then, I had never heard of the term otherkin. I didn’t want to offend.

Saevitia S. “How should I respond to an otakukin friend?”
otakukin.atspace.com/friend.htm
Advice for an outsider when somebody else tells you that they’re an otakukin.

Advice for friends and family of therians.
Introductions for mixed audiences

The following articles were written for an audience made up of all or any of the following kinds of people: outsiders, otherkin, therians, and people who are considering that they might be otherkin/therians but aren’t sure yet. (For advice directed to the latter audience, please see the ‘Advice for those who aren’t sure whether they’re otherkin’ section later in this book.)

Introductions to otherkin, for mixed audiences

Author is an otherkin.
myplace.drinkdeeplyanddream.com/spiritual/Otherkin.html
reverend_kim.tripod.com/Otherkin/Other.htm
Author is an otherkin.
stormpages.com/wolfglade/Arhúaine/otherkindwhat.html (defunct, archive)
You might be meeting real elves every day without ever knowing it. Author is an otherkin.
“FAQ Otherkin Hispano & Noctalium.” N.d.
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/faq?dhtml=no (In Spanish.) Brief answers to common questions about otherkin.

Introductions to otherkin, for mixed audiences, in other languages

“O Otherkinech (About Otherkin).”
astralspire.com/otherkin.html (defunct)
(In Czech.)
Fallen Dragonkin (?). “Kdo jsou Otherkin..? (What are otherkin?)”
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/otherkin.html (In Czech.)

Fallen Dragonkin (?). “Jake je to byt otherkin? (What is it to be otherkin?)”
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/bytosti.html
(In Czech.)
Fallen Dragonkin (?). “Lykantropove a Theriantropove (Lycanthropy and therianthropy).”
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/lykantropie.html
(In Czech.)
“Gy.I.K. (FAQ).”
freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/gvik.html (In Hungarian.)
What is an otherkin? How do you know whether someone is really ’kin? What is Awakening? What is a true form?
“Kin vagyok!... Vagy kin vagyok? - Fedezd fel a kinoldalad (I’m kin! Or am I? – Discover the kinoldalady).”
freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/iamkin.html
(In Hungarian.)
On people who are or aren’t really kin. Determine by feelings, psychology, appearance...
“FAQ Otherkin Hispano & Noctalium.”
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/faq?dhtml=no (In Spanish.) Brief answers to common questions about otherkin. Original Spanish.
Therianthropes.com. “Theriantropia (Therianthropy).”
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t8-theriantropia
(In Spanish.) Translated from English.

Introductions to therians, for mixed audiences

Kodekitten (?). “Therianthropy: An overview.” 2001-06-06 (?).
Definition of spiritual therianthropy and some other jargon… shifting… not just pretending or role-playing… mythical creatures… common animal types… purpose unknown.
were.net/therianthropy/therianthropy.asp (defunct, archive) and shifters.org/overview/therianthropy.shtml (defunct)

A brief introduction.


A brief summary of the spiritual were subculture of the Usenet newsgroup alt.horror.werewolves (AHWW).


What are therianthropes? Where did they come from? Can I be one?


A small anthology of writings by various therians. Definitions of therianthropy, and philosophy of shape-shifting.

Strigoasia. “Overview of therianthropy.” [slad.net/articles/therianoverview.shtml](http://slad.net/articles/therianoverview.shtml) (defunct, [archive](http://slad.net/articles/therianoverview.shtml))

Definition, philosophy, and list of types of shifts.

Dana. “WereCreatures and Therianthropy.” [danaslar.tripod.com/weres.html](http://danaslar.tripod.com/weres.html)

Yaiolani. “The Werewolf and Shapeshifter Codex (front page).” [yaiolani.tripod.com](http://yaiolani.tripod.com)

Real people today who are werewolves (also called shifters and therians) resemble the old legends of werewolves from around the world.


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**Introductions to otherkin and therians, for mixed audiences**

Feathertail. “Feathertail’s otherkin FAQ.” 2011-10-05. [feathertail.dreamwidth.org/142156.html](http://feathertail.dreamwidth.org/142156.html)  ✔️

Genuinely common questions with quite brief answers, well organized in sections: the basics, how to relate to otherkin, otherkin and religion, otherkin-ness and you. Also at [feathertail.livejournal.com/78016.html](http://feathertail.livejournal.com/78016.html)

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An overview of therian and otherkin philosophy and jargon, as well as some concepts from myth and legend. *Caution:* Some illustrations are not safe for work (NSFW).

A Spanish translation of many pages on that site, in one document: [otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t8-theriantropia](http://otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t8-theriantropia)

Introductions written for otherkin and therians

These writings assume that the readers are otherkin and therians. Some of the writings may further assume that the readers are also newcomers to the community. However, some readers who have been in the community for a long time may also be interested in seeing the familiar philosophy and jargon summarized in reference documents like these.

Introductions to otherkin, for otherkin

A collaboration, with quotes from many different otherkin. Outdated version.
The Crisses, ed. “Crisses’ Otherkin FAQ v.4.0.1.” 2001-02-08. astraeasweb.net/plural/cris-otherkinfaq.html
A newer version of the above collaborative article.
Based on the above. A wiki. Unfinished, but shows potential.
Jarandhel Dreamsinger. “A revised otherkin FAQ.” 2012-01-08. dreamhart.org/2012/01/a-revised-otherkin-faq
Includes safety advice and list of off-site resources.
Introductory concepts and advice for otherkin.
Topics: “otherkinism,” feeling different, past-life memories or lack of them, spiritual sensitivity, spirit guides, and names.

Introductions to therians, for therians

were.net/~pinky/shifters.html (defunct, archive)

✔ Relatively early writings on the topic.
ShadowsMyst. “Werebeasts & therianthropes,” by n.d. shadowsden.org/were.html
✔ History of the modern therian community.
Real therians compared to fictional werewolves. Teen therians, advice for them.
dreamofhorn.com/nest/feathers6.html
Therianthropy is human and animal combined, having a furred thing under your skin, yet living skin-side out.
French translation:
akhila.feralscribes.org/french/skinside.php
ketrino.angelfire.com/therianthropy2.htm
About therianthropes and shifting, terminology, symbols, mental health, society, religion, and history.
Razza Wolf. “An introduction to spiritual lycanthropy.” razza.were.net/articles/intro.html (defunct, archive)
She Demon Wolf. “An introduction to therianthropy and related matters.” myweb.ecomplanet.com/LUNE2889/mycustompage0010.htm (defunct)
About therians and otherkin, Awakening, shape-shifting, community, vampires, types of animal-sides, glossary. Unedited.
Yaiolani. “FAQ for shifters wondering about themselves and other shifters.” yaiolani.tripod.com/shiftfaq.htm
Spanish translation: otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t109-preguntas-frecuentes
Introduction to therians and shifting, and the usefulness of shifting.
Golden Goddess (?). “Therian.” 2010-11-06.
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t190-therian
(In Spanish.) Definition, mental health, theta-delta symbol, types of shift.
Jargon

Jargon dictionaries

Lists of new and unusual words that we use. These dictionaries are indispensable resources when reading many of the documents that follow.

Jargon dictionaries (of several peoples)


deviantart.com/deviation/169616576

A brief illustrated glossary with definitions for “otherkin” and “therian.”

Jargon dictionaries (otherkin)


otherkin.net/articles/dict.html

Jargon used in the otherkin community

“Otherkin community glossary.”

otherkincommunity.net/glossary

A wiki of jargon used in the otherkin community

Jargon dictionaries (otherkin dragons)

DrakeLightBearer. “Glossary.”

dragonswings.org/gloss.shtml

Jargon used in the draconic otherkin community.

Tserisa. “Draconic dictionary.”

velvetdragon.com/draconic/dictionary.html

Jargon referring to dragons or used in the draconic otherkin community

Jargon dictionaries (vampires)

Michelle Belanger. “Glossary of terms,” in Psychic Vampire Codex, p. 269-278.

Jargon used in the vampire community


Jargon used in the vampire community (and in role-playing games). Identifies sources for each.

“Technical terms.” otherkin.com/?page_id=35

Jargon used in the vampire community. No author, no date.

Jargon dictionaries (therians)


shifters.org/overview/terms.shtml

(defunct, archive)

Jargon used in the therian community

Wolf VanZandt. “Words and concepts.”

theriantimeline.com/therianthropy/words_and_concepts

Jargon used in the therian community


Sonne Spiritwind. “Terms and definitions.” project-shift.org/terms-definitions

Jargon used in the therian community

Spanish translation: project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/terms.php

Yaiolani. “What do all these terms mean? (Terminology of werewolves, shapeshifters and therians from AHWW).”

yaiolani.tripod.com/what.htm

Jargon used in the therian community.

Includes “werewolf sympathizer (symp)” and “friend of lycanthrope (FOL).”

Yaiolani. “Shifter slang.”

yaiolani.tripod.com/slang.htm

Jargon used in the therian community


hiddenlair.org/therianterminology.htm

(defunct, archive)

Jargon used in the therian community

Kiric. “Were-related words.”

geocities.com/RainForest/Canopy/2114/Werewolf/words.html

Jargon used in the therian community

Kiric. “My pack’s words (a list of words unique to my pack).”
Jargon used by a specific pack of therians. Mostly titles for positions in the pack.


Development of further specialized jargon in the therian community

Aurora Wolfen. “Therianthropy FAQ.” aurorawolfen.tripod.com/therian.html Definitions for a few types of shift, and “eclipsing.”


Keller. “Terms and Diagrams.” 2005. akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/diagrams.php It’s distracting to bicker over semantics (contherian & cladotherian) and infographics

Swiftpaw. “Why slang sucks.” otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/old/myterms.html (defunct) ★In opposition to creating specialized jargon when plain English does the job.


Jargon dictionaries (miscellaneous peoples)


“A femmekin glossary.” 2007-06-11. otherkin.wordpress.com/2007/06/11/a-femmekin-glossary/ Jargon used exclusively by a specific part of the otherkin community, those who identify as all-female races, in particular the Aristasians.


Gienah. “Terminology.” daemonpage.com/terminology.php A glossary of jargon used by the dæmian community, which has little in common with the jargon of the otherkin and therian communities.
What should we all call ourselves?

**Otherkin or...?**

otherkin.net/articles/justBe.html
On debates over the term “otherkin,” its definition; and on labels and personal evolution.

promethianweb.com/fae/modules.php?op=modload&amp;name=News&amp;file=article&amp;sid=60&amp;mode=thread&amp;order=0&amp;thold=0 (defunct)
Definitions for these terms, and the differences between them, as the author believes these terms sometimes overlap but are not synonymous. Argues that “otherkin” is too vague, and that “The definition of Faeborn has been the same for nearly ten years … [it means] A person that is a transmigrated soul of a non-human being from this world and/or other worlds that is of possible mythical/mystical origins, currently living in a human form.” This would mean that the word Faeborn was coined in about 1992.

kinspeak.tumblr.com/post/12122639053/non-human
Article by an anonymous bird otherkin. Problems with calling ourselves “non-human:” it defines us by what we are not; and it denies our humanity, which is not the best solution

**Therians or...?**

razza.were.net/articles/werewolf.html (defunct)
Werewolf isn’t a word that demands credibility. Don’t fall into a stereotype.

ketrino.angelfire.com/wwsandtherisdifferenc e.html
An attempt to differentiate between terms commonly used to all mean one thing

Dragonslorefury. “Weres and therians.”
otherkin.net/articles/therianWere.html
Is there any difference between weres and therians?

otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/old/w hatawereis.html (defunct)
What should we call ourselves? Were, therian, or just “I’m a wolf”?

Lynx Canadensis. “What does it mean to be a Were - and is Were the word to use?” 1999-09-18.
wildideas.net/temple/library/letters/wereme aning.html
Comparing Were, Therianthrope, and other words.

otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/old/te rmtherian.html (defunct)
The word was first proposed on AHWW in 1994.

Lynx Canadensis. “Were-words 1: Phenotype or Anima?” 1999-09-12.
wildideas.net/temple/library/letters/werewo rds1.html
Considering the words Therianthropy and Anima.

wildideas.net/temple/library/letters/werewo rds2.html
Proposing some possible words for the animal mind or spirit.

**Vampires or...?**

Michelle Belanger. “Revisioning the vampire,” in Psychic Vampire Codex, p. 35-41.
Should psychic vampires refer to themselves as vampires, or by a different name in order to avoid negative/fanciful connotations? Arguments for and against.
Hirudo. “A rose by any other name; or, the case for a new name for real vampires.”
 https://sanguinarius.org/articles/newname.shtml
 https://darknessembaced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/55
History and etymology of the words. Some vampires assert that one spelling refers to fiction and the other to reality, but they don’t agree which word that is, since the vampire community rarely agrees on anything as a collective whole.

The problems of calling ourselves anything

 https://ketrino.angelfire.com/disvial.html
Therianthrope or otherkin is just a label. It should not alienate us from others who are just like us, yet they choose to call themselves something different.

 https://akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/labels.php
Argues that jargon isn’t necessary and can cause trouble. Points out some particularly problematic jargon.

Adalis. “Label issues.”
 https://main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/label-issues/
Why are people afraid of labels?

Yaiolani. “Anti-labeling.”
 https://yaiolani.tripod.com/artc012.htm
Once, the therian community had no labels, so we created labels. Now, we’re overwhelmed by the many labels, so we backlash against labels.

Kyoht, Sowelu, and Renegade. “What kind of Were are you?” Circa 2008.
 https://werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=23705
On the problems of applying labels to one’s self, such as “contherian” or “polywere”

Rezzit. “The names we are given.”
 https://deviantart.com/deviation/8687910
✔ A poem about the similarities of furries, otherkin, and therians, and on the willingness to call one’s self by any particular label.
This section should be considered intermediate level reading on the topic of otherkin, because these articles assume the readers who are already familiar with otherkin and therians. They tend to use jargon to such an extent that they’re not very useful for explaining otherkin to outsiders or newcomers.

These articles ask, what makes an otherkin? Can we come up with a definition for “otherkin” and “therianthrope” that we agree with? These documents work on development of concepts or philosophy, and disambiguating similar concepts.


An overview of otherkin’s choices of labels


(Comic) On the futility of trying to make a soundbite definition for such a diverse people.


★ Before you can state that “otherkin” means “not human,” you must define “human.” If you want to define “otherkin” as “non-human soul,” what is a soul? Can you categorize a soul as human? What is otherkin? I have no idea. I no longer have a definition of “otherkin” that I firmly believe in, so I choose to disassociate myself from the term.


★ (A response to the above article.) Before getting online, I thought that elves was all there was. I thought that all elves came from the same home-world as myself. I’d met six others. Then I learned that there were more. Elves who were not like me, from different words. Dragons. Weres. Vampires. So what is “otherkin”? Can’t define it, but it’s a fact, I feel it and know it.


★ Developing a working definition of the term Otherkin, and the beginnings of a framework for further work with the idea.


Some definitions and hypotheses


A philosophical perspective on why otherkin are otherkin and what this means


Defining therians


The differences among therians eclipse the common ground, like not seeing a forest through the trees. The common ground is the animal within.


★ Therianthropy isn’t a religion, spirituality, philosophy, or psychology. It’s an experience. One doesn’t need to believe in it for it to affect them. Many therians felt it and shifted before they’d heard of it.


★ Addressing problematic definitions of therianthropy that have been taken for granted in the therian community. It is a mistake to view “animal” and “human” as a clear-cut binary. It’s also a mistake to say that we’re born therians, because change must happen.


It isn’t religious. It isn’t necessarily spiritual. It could be psychological.
She Demon Wolf, Alpha of Erox Pack. “A-Were onto Be.”
myweb.ecomplanet.com/LUNE2889/mycustompage0005.htm (defunct)
A collection of short writings: On mythical animal-sides, and the metaphysics of therianthropy.

VampireKitten. “What does not make a therian,”
trueformwithin.org/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=13&Itemid=28 (lost)
“A list of some of the things describing what does not make a therianthrope, despite what some people assume.” (description from WereLibrary.)

wolfden.critter.net/interest/razwolf2.htm
That bit that just refuses to be human ... what exactly is this inner animal and how did it get there? No answers.

freewebs.com/kinspace/articles.htm#Silv2
Overview of the history and philosophy of the therian community, contrasted with clinical lycanthropy.

Sonne Spiritwind. “Question and answer.”
project-shift.org/therianthropy/qa.php
On a variety of topics all over the place.

Yaiolani, ed. “Memorable werewolf quotes.”
yaiolani.tripod.com/quotes.htm
A collection of anonymous quotes about spiritual therianthropy.

therioshamanism.com/2008/03/12/therianthropy-and-otherkin-universal-connection

therioshamanism.com/2007/10/02

Snowspectre. “Unified theory of therianthropy.”
otherwonders.com/swiptpaws/therian/unifiedtheory.html (defunct)

Yaiolani. “Brainstorming.”
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc011.htm
It’s okay for therians to freely concoct hypotheses about therianthropy. The brainstorming process is a valuable technique for problem-solving. So don’t suppress and ridicule therians who come up with hypotheses.


Bagheera (bagira625). “Человек потенциально разумный (People potentially reasonable),” by 2007-07-12. bagira625.ucoz.ru/publ/1-1-0-1
and shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-50 (In Russian.) Therians compared with feral children. Raise an animal among humans, and it’s still an animal. Raise a human among animals, and it becomes animal-like. Animal instincts fill in for the human lack of instincts. Therians are defective animals, but they are animals.
Comparing otherkin to similar peoples

Seeking a definition for “otherkin” (or a definition for “therianthrope”), some writers attempt to disambiguate otherkin against some similar peoples, comparing the similarities and differences, declaring that these people have little in common with otherkin, or considering the possibility that they may be one and the same. These articles also discuss how the communities are interrelated, and how they do or don’t get along with one another.

Comparing several other peoples

★ Differentiating between kinds of therians and therian-like people, sorted into categories
Comparing multiples, otherkin, and “Walk-Ins.”
Comparing therians to furries, Fae/otherkin, witches, vampires, and “fake werewolf groups.”
(Rant. Caution: profanity.) Therians aren’t furries, and differ from otherkin too. Therians aren’t shamans; our animal sides aren’t totems. Also, it’s not a role-playing game.
Draco the Silly Dragon. “Furries, otherkin, and therians.” freewebs.com/sillydraco/otherkinandtherians.htm
Compares those three communities
★ Introducing the various groups: therians, otherkin, vampires, etc.
Vampires, werewolves...


Comparing spiritual therianthropes to furry fans

Lone Wolf. “Okay, so I’m new to this…” wolfden.critter.net/newcomers/welcome.htm
Introducing and comparing furries and were
Yaiolani. “What is the difference between a shifter and a furry?” yaiolani.tripod.com/furry.htm

Tirran (Ronald O). “What is a furry?” Revised 2002-01-09.
users.vianet.ca/~grizelda/fur/furry.txt (defunct)
About the furry fandom, and how some furries identify as animals in spirit
Some participants of the furry fandom feel that they are animals in human bodies. How do they relate to otherkin?
Spanish translation: otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t39-que-es-furry

On the differences between therians and furries.
(In Russian.) On the co-existence of furries and therianthropes and whether they should associate together.

Are otherkin different from other people?

Who is or isn’t an otherkin? Are otherkin spiritually or physically different, or are they they same as anybody else? Do they have non-human souls, or do souls even work like that?

defines otherkin as “a soul or body of non-human origins”

Memory and Dream. “What are ‘otherkin’?”
embracingmystery.org/articles/otherkin-memory.html
Argues that you only count as otherkin if your soul is other. Plus list of otherkin traits

What about people who aren’t otherkin? (Or are they?)

If otherkin are different from “normal humans,” then what does this imply about “normal humans”? Or are all people otherkin on some level? And can a person be both an otherkin and not otherkin at the same time?

The Eclective. “Dragons, sleeping.”
ectlive.livejournal.com/457423.html
Perhaps all people are potentially otherkin, unawares.

The Eclective. “There’s only one way to be ‘wrong’ about being otherkin.”
tangyabominy.dreamwidth.org/27837.html
A corollary to the above article

The Eclective. “Further thoughts on being ‘kin-not-kin.”
tangyabominy.dreamwidth.org/23219.html
I feel a pull to the whole otherkin concept, but I don’t know what I would be.

The Eclective. “Dragons, again.”
tangyabominy.dreamwidth.org/23022.html
Ever since I discovered the concept of Otherkin, I’ve wondered if I “was” a dragon. “Yes” never seemed like the right answer, but “no” never did, either.

The Silver Elves. “Little dragon.” In Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 35-36...
There’s a little elf in everyone, and a little dragon too...

Humankind will gradually become more elfin, and elves will become more diverse

stormdancer.net/poetry/tobedr.html (defunct)
A poem “dedicated to all those out there who have the spirit of the dragon… and yet believe they are not dragons.”

main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/the-value-of-kinness/
I’m not an otherkin, but I have the symptoms of kinness. I feel phantom limbs, but my mind is human.
What caused otherkin to be otherkin?  
How did we come to be? Why are we here?

Lists of several hypotheses

From otherkin community

(Comic) A summary of a few different explanations for why otherkin are otherkin


Jamiroth. “¿Por qué somos otherkins? Posible explicación (Why are we otherkin? A possible explanation).” 2010-10-20. [otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2010/10/por-que-somos-otherkins-posible.html](http://otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2010/10/por-que-somos-otherkins-posible.html)  
(In Spanish.)

From therian community

Several: transmigration, imprinting, primal association, totems, brain abnormalities, psychic connection.

What causes therianthropy? Genes, transmigration, totems, racial memory, etc…  

(lost)  
“A basic explanation of therianthropy and a brief overview of causes.” (Description from WereLibrary.)

(In Swedish.) A well-organized list of spiritual as well as psychological explanations for therianthropy.

Hypotheses involving souls, pre-existence, and/or reincarnation

From otherkin and Faeborn community

Why here, as opposed to our world of origin?

(defunct)  
Hypothesizes that before we were born, we chose to be here, and chose what kinds of challenges and lessons we would face. That’s why we’re living as humans now.

Is it possible that the existence of otherkin here on Earth is a divine mistake?

From therian community

Yaiolani. “A theory of misplaced souls.” [yaiolani.tripod.com/artc010.htm](http://yaiolani.tripod.com/artc010.htm)  
Lacking the right bodies, endangered/hunted animals get reborn as humans.

(Comic) Ending up here by mistake

(lost)
Miscellaneous hypotheses

From otherkin community


On being otherkin as a metaphor, not literal.

Buck Young. “An historical overview: of the whereabouts of gnomes and elves, fauns and faeries, goblins, ogres, trolls and bogies, nymphs, sprites, and dryads, past and present.” [eristic.net/fey/info/buckyoung.php](eristic.net/fey/info/buckyoung.php)

They live. They’re the weird, diverse rebels, revolutionaries, and Aquarian visionaries. Supernatural creatures as metaphor for creative peoples. This article isn’t by or about an otherkin person, but it has been compared to otherkin.

Silver Elves. “Origins.”
[eristic.net/fey/info/silverelvesorigins.php](eristic.net/fey/info/silverelvesorigins.php)

A theory about where elves come from.

From therian community

Susitar. “*Min teori om teriantropins möjliga orsaker*” (My theory on therianthropy’s possible causes).” 2010-08-21.
[vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/08/21/min-teori-om-teriantropins-mojliga-orsaker](vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/08/21/min-teori-om-teriantropins-mojliga-orsaker)

(In Swedish.) Some people may be born with a tendency to be therians. Upbringing may influence it, too.

Susitar. “*Det ofrivilliga i teriantropi*” (Forced therianthropy).” 2010-08-21.
[vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/08/21/det-ofrivilliga-i-teriantropi](vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/08/21/det-ofrivilliga-i-teriantropi)

(In Swedish.) We don’t choose to be therians.

Койот Один (Coyote One). “Териантропия как тест нового разума в старой тушке” (Therianthrope as a test of new mind in an old body).” 2008-09. [shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-125](shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-125)

▲ (In Russian.) I don’t believe the spiritual hypothesis of the origin of therians. I think therians are a throwback to *Australopithecus*. This may explain why therians usually identify as smart mammals, such as wolves, but never invertebrates nor primates. (Is this a translation of an English article by Coyote Old One?)
Purpose

Why are we otherkin here in this world? Some otherkin think that we appeared here for a reason, and that we have a mission or a purpose to fulfil. Or we might be here for no particular reason... or we might be here for the same reasons as any other kind of person... or our purpose might be something individual that each of us has to work out. Even if we don’t know for sure whether we have a purpose, it’s worthwhile to consider what sort of purpose it might be. Here are some of the possibilities that otherkin have considered.

General writings on purpose

On being here for a reason.
Anna R. “Starseed missions.” 2009-03-17.
starseeds.info/about-starseeds/list-all-articles/10-starseeds-missions
starseeds.net/forum/topics/different-starseed-missions
Lists five categories of missions that starseeds may be on, healing and guiding.

To search for more otherkin

The Silver Elves. “Searching,” in Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, 80-81
The mission of unicorns is to gather together other unicorns.

To change, heal, or protect the world

People have polluted the environment, magic isn’t what it once was, and the whole world is going through a major change. Some otherkin and starseeds think that maybe an even bigger change is coming soon.


Humans are caretakers of nature. Mother Nature put elves here to be caretakers of the supernatural.

To change, heal, or protect the world

Jarandhel Dreamsinger. “Change is coming.” wanderingpaths.dreamhart.org/articles/change01.html
Many otherkin say that a magical change is coming. What dream will we make possible?
otherkin.net/articles/patterns.html
Some inexperienced otherkin say the end of the world is nigh. They don’t know how silly they are.
Lupa. “On apocalyptic destinies.” main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/on-apocalyptic-destinies
✔The world isn’t coming to an end, so don’t let doomsayers stir you up.
Lupa. “Oh no! The world/universe/multiverse is coming to an end, unless I can stop it!” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 250-252.
★ When people first become aware of magic or of being otherkin, it’s common for them to go through a phase where they believe their actions are crucial in saving the world.

Sweetstuff. “The measurement of a heart.” 2011-03-02. starseeds.net/forum/topics/the-measurement-of-a-heart
(From starseed community.) Those who talk about people who won’t “ascend” are in no position to criticize their fellow man.
Purpose: To manifest in ourselves the beings and places that should be here

co.deviart.com/deviation/6272429
Poem saying that when myths are absent, fill in for them.

Arhúaine. “Where have they gone?”
otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/poetry//wheregone.html
(Poem) They have not hid themselves... If you look closely at me/You’ll see that I’m one too.

silverelves.wordpress.com/2009/09/25
The realm of Faerie is not exactly elsewhere. Faerie is Love...?

silverelves.angelfire.com/insearchofelfin.html
Many search for physical passages to the realm of Faerie, but the way to it is within, and accessed by acts of s’elf transformation... and the world becomes a place of wonder.


silverelves.angelfire.com/makingitreal.html
The way to Elfin is within. We live our lives as elves and thus are elves in the world.

The Silver Elves. “Realization.”
rialian.com/elvsilv7.htm and eristic.net/fey/living/silverelvesrealization.php
It is not Elfland that creates the elves... It is we Elves who create Elfland.

silverelves.angelfire.com/adapting.html
On the willingness to change.


Includes excellent definition of the elves.

The Silver Elves. “The groove is in the heart.”
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 244-245.


The Silver Elves. “Verfa terada (inner sight).”
Therians and totems

General

therioshamanism.com/2008/12/23
My therianthropy is directly related to and caused by totemism. As I got to know Wolf better, s/he began telling me more about myself-as-wolf.

therioshamanism.com/2007/11/13
The therian community is quick to say that therianthropy isn’t totemism. Therian=internal, totem=external. However, maybe the difference isn’t so clear-cut.

Bewylderbeast. “It’s okay not to be a therianthrope.” project-shift.org/introspection/notatherian.php
▲ Discovered a totem, not a therian side.

Compare and contrast

How does a therianthrope’s animal side (therioside) differ from a person’s animal spirit guide (totem)? How do those kinds of people differ from one another? Could therianthropy be a sub-type of animal totemism?

Strill. “Are you a therian?” 2008-07-26. project-shift.org/are-you-a-therian
Disambiguating animal-side from totem. What is meant by “connection” to animal side.
Portuguese translation:
therianbrasil.blogspot.com/2010/03/uivos-sagrados-irmaos-trago-agora-uma.html
Spanish translation: project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/areyouatherian.php

werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=23710

shepherds.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-90
(In Russian.) Here’s a way to tell: do you look at your animal side as a stereotyped symbol? Or facts about the real animal in nature?

Therians who also have totem animals

Writings that talk about having an animal totem, as well as being an otherkin person or a therianthrope. Explanations of how these personal experiences differ, and how they influence one another.

utistictherian.blogspot.com/2008/07/i-think-i-smell-rat.html
A wolf therian who has Owl and Rat totem animals.

sone.sonverrid.org/Essays/crow_essay.htm
This Crow is a totem, not a therian side, but discussed in relation to therianthropy.

Vladwolf. “Vladwolf’s page.”
caledoniamission.org/were/mywere.html
A collie therian with a Wolf totem.
Therians in antiquity:
How long have therians really been around?

In my own research, I have never found evidence of any specific social group of philosophical therianthropes predating 1990, which seems to be the actual decade in which therianthrope philosophy first appeared, as far as I can tell. I would appreciate anyone’s efforts to prove me wrong.

Some therians point out that real therians such as themselves have no relationship to the old legends of werewolves, which are either fictional, or refer to idiosyncratic or diseased people who were victimized in witch-hunts.

However, some other therians think that some of the old legends of werewolves may refer to spiritual therianthropes, just like themselves. By this reasoning, the legacy of therianthropy goes back to antiquity. There have always been therians. Modern therians who study these legends may rediscover some long-lost insights into their own nature.

I haven’t seen otherkin search for or point to examples of possible otherkin in antiquity like this. (Other than examples of people who claimed supernatural ancestors, that is, but that’s in the next section.)

Cavemen admired and wanted to become animals. Agriculture came and animals were villainized. Science came and people stopped believing in werewolves. But now there’s a subculture of werewolf people, like the cavemen.

Wolf VanZandt. The Therian Timeline. theriantimeline.com/the_timeline
Traces the obscure cultural heritage of werewolves back to antiquity.

shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-91 and wereseyes.livejournal.com/2084.html (In Russian.) Every legend is based on a grain of truth. Perhaps those legendary werewolves are our ancestors.

Greene has a conviction that the werewolves of legend are the same as modern spiritual therianthropes. She uses information about werewolves and other shape-shifters from legends around the world to support many of her arguments about the nature of herself and her real live contemporaries.
Ancestry and physicality

Perhaps some otherkin have certain physical traits. Perhaps some otherkin are otherkin due to an inherited trait. Most of the preceding articles assert that otherkin and therians are physically human, the same as anybody else, and that otherkin make no claims otherwise. However, some otherkin believe/claim that they are otherkin because they had real physical ancestors who were non-human or who were otherwise supernatural. As such, some otherkin do believe that they aren’t entirely physically human.

Physical traits

(of otherkin)

Wildelf. “Various theories and the like…” 2002-03-01. otherkin.livejournal.com/30114.html
Until joining this online community none of the otherkin I had met were soul-otherkin. All were body-otherkin. I have seen and met trolls, ogres, satyrs, sidhe, a dwarf, and several others. Otherkin do have a different energy…

▲ The Otherkin body ticks a little differently, even when there is no genetic trace. Harboring a non-human soul has some effect on the body. Otherkin who are kin-by-reincarnation seem to show odd traits. Perhaps the soul chooses to incarnate in a compatible body. I am an elf. I assume I’m physically human, and my ancestors probably were too.


(of otherkin)

Physical issues

An elf/dragon otherkin considers health issues, food sensitivities, and health-food diets. Find out whether strange sensations (including what you suspect to be phantom wing pains) might be symptoms of disease that you need to have treated.

(of therians)

I found no articles for this category.

(of vampires)

SphynxCatVP. Vampire health & medical. sphynxcatvp.nocturna.org/suppt/health.html
Health issues that could possibly affect those with real vampirism or be entirely mistaken as vampiric conditions. Thyroid disease, insomnia, pica, iron deficiency, anemia, etc.

(of therians)

Supernatural ancestry

(of otherkin)


Clarifying details on the royal family’s supernatural ancestors.


We not only believe in elves, but we believe we are the genetic descendants of those peoples upon whom those legends are based. We were mythologized so much that the mass of people believe we never existed at all.

Rannirl Windtree. “Here and now.” 2002-04. otherkin.net/articles/hereNow.html

▲ ✔ All otherkin are physically human… right? “Kin” means a blood relationship, and “otherkin” means being related to that which is different from human. If you’re a human with a past life as an elf, good for you. I am not. I am a human-elven crossbreed.


In the past, I’ve disliked my body. Now, instead of trying to make this body look otherwise, I need to accept it and let it be as it is naturally. I’m willing to have a mitochondrial DNA test to tell me whether this body is fully human… or not. There exist some who have been proven different by these means.


Some genetic tests are scams. [Not about otherkin. I include this to protect anyone who is considering genetic testing. –ed.]


Researching one’s family tree, considering Nicholas de Vere’s The Dragon Legacy

(of therians)


On hereditary shifters.

Mokele (Mokele-mbembe). “Genetic shifting essay.” Circa 1998. therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/genshift.html (defunct) or angelfire.com/sc/Greyhawk00/genshift.html

Criticism of therians who say they’re “hereditary” shape-shifters, and on physical shape-shifting.

(of vampires)

I found no articles for this category.
Otherkin and mental health

Caution, trigger warnings for this section: ableist language, concepts, and pejoratives; links to a few articles that describe abuse

Being otherkin isn’t a mental illness

There is one shared conviction held by most of the otherkin and therian community, a major characteristic of what makes this community different from anything before, and is part of what makes it possible to be a community at all… it is this novel idea: the belief that one is an elf or an animal is not inherently a delusion or pathological condition. As far as I know, all writings on otherkin-like people in prior centuries assumed that such people were mentally ill. We seem to be the first to consider being non-human-identified as a healthy self-identification, albeit a rare and idiosyncratic one.

More than any topic, this issue—of otherkin as a mentally healthy people—would be vital for the otherkin community to explore and formally argue for (or against, when necessary), in order for our experience to be considered with respect. Many of the articles in this topic are helpful and help clear up some concerns. However, in my opinion, this topic has not yet been addressed to a satisfactory degree. Better research and writings would be extremely valuable.

(Otherkin and Faeborn)


✔ Considers and rejects several possible mental disorders, and concludes that at worst, many fae-born people might earn the psychological label “idiosyncratic personality type,” which isn’t a pathological disorder or mental illness, just a type.

3tails. “Am I crazy?” main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/am-i-crazy

If being otherkin is a delusion, it’s a harmless one, and not a problem in most people.

Nonetheless, watch out for warning signs such as depression and obsession.

Rene. “Dragon soul.” peregryn.diaryland.com/dragonsoul.html (defunct)

Spirituality and draconity aren’t delusions. Considering the traits of a delusion, and how these do or do not apply to draconity.

Gregory Vasilisa M. “Questioning sameness.” 2008-05-05. deviantart.com/deviation/84876234

Most supposed psychological disorders are simply personality quirks, so a person is only “normal” if they have no personality. People who reduce Otherkin to wrong thinking might be threatened by the notion because their beliefs are easily shaken.


Called out of touch with reality due to thinking differently. Creating a consensual reality. Our culture is just as valid as any other.

(Therians)

SongBreeze. “You’re all crazy, aren’t you?” geocities.com/miskawolferavenclaw/Crazyarentyou.html (defunct)

In the past, people who were different or who believed different things were executed or labeled as mentally ill. All people have an animal side to our personalities; some of us choose to acknowledge this more openly than others. There are many therians, but many aren’t open about it. I don’t believe Wereism is a psychological disease, because it can be positively beneficial.

Yaiolani. “Aren’t people who think they are werewolves just insane? And probably dangerous?” yaiolani.tripod.com/lycan1.htm

Beliefs in odd or “impossible” things aren’t necessarily insanity. Hallucinations compared with spiritual visions. Our inner animal has a healthy, beneficial influence on us. We’re not inclined to be evil or violent.

(Fictionkin)
Saevitia S. “Are otakukin crazy?”
otakukin.atpace.com/crazy.htm
It hasn’t been dubbed clinically significant. We
do’t have delusions of what we can do. Our
beliefs differ from delusions…
“Mental illness?”
enchant.wondershock.net/?page_id=15
Being fiction-kin isn’t a delusion. [No author,
no date?]

Mental health professionals talk to
otherkin and therians, and conclude
that it’s an okay belief

“We are not sick and dangerous, for the record.”
2011-10-27.
kinspeak.tumblr.com/post/11980783299
An anonymous otherkin described being
otherkin to mental health counselors, and they
responded positively. They don’t see it as
dissociation, schizophrenia, or anything
harmful. It just exists, so the responsible thing
do is to deal with it existing as best possible.
Lupa. “Appendix B: Interview with the Vampire
Werewolf.” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 271-
278.
✔ ▲ A practicing therapist’s professional
opinion on otherkin.

Susitar. “Teriantropi och psykiatrin (Therianthropy
and psychiatry).” 2010-07-08.
▲ (In Swedish.) Many psychiatrists who we
therians have talked to don’t see anything
wrong with therianthropy. Don’t worry!
However, remember that psychiatrists are
taught to think of animals as symbolizing
specific ideas, so expect some
miscommunications there.
vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/07/08/te-
rianthropi-och-psykiatrin
What if being a therianthrope is a mental variation?

One of the perspectives distinct to the therianthrope community, as opposed to the otherkin community, is that some therians entertain the possibility that therianthropy might be a mental variation. They propose that therianthropy could be explained by psychology or neurology. Proponents of this view seem to prefer it because it doesn’t involve any spiritual or paranormal explanations. Does their opinion have basis in objective reality? There haven’t been any psychological or neurological studies on therians. This explanation for therianthropy is speculative and unconfirmed.

Liesk. “A comprehensive introduction to a psychological view of therianthropy,” project-shift.org/therianthropy/psychological.php
Hypothesizes that most therians are therians because they have an atypical neurobiology, although this claim has never been scientifically proven.

Some otherkin believe that they are otherkin due to a psychological or neurological variation.

wolffriend. “Possible cause (for therianthropy as a mental condition).” 2009-02-11.
werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=24420
In my opinion, therianthropy is no different from any other psychological disorder. The “reptilian brain,” body dysmorphia, etc.

Койот Один (Coyote One). “Териантропия как тест нового разума в старой тушке (Therianthrope as a test of new mind in an old body).” 2008-09. shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-125
▲ (In Russian.) I don’t believe the spiritual hypothesis of the origin of therians. I think therians are a throwback to Australopithecus. This may explain why therians usually identify as smart mammals, such as wolves, but never invertebrates nor primates.

Akhila. “‘Different’ isn’t ‘insane.’” 2005-09.
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/neurobiology.php
Perhaps many therians have atypical neurobiology. If that’s the case, remember that “atypical” means functioning in a different way, not malfunctioning or insane.

autistictherian.blogspot.com/2008/06/therianthropy-and-disabilities-and-stuff.html
A response to Savage’s theory that therianthropy is a mental disability. [A lost document? Help me find it! –ed.] Argues that if you claim that therianthropy is a mental disability, or that it’s part of the autism spectrum, then you’re insulting people who have real, serious disabilities.

Sombra Studio. “Crazy?” 2010-01-20
I leave the spiritual explanation open, but for me, therianthropy is psychological.
deviantart.com/deviation/24255467

feathertail.dreamwidth.org/144840.html
An otherkin considers various aspects of how one can argue that otherkin are delusional.
Mental variations and challenges that resemble therianthropes

When we evaluate whether being a therianthrope could be a mental illness, we could compare it with some potentially similar mental illnesses. In what ways are we mentally healthy, where these people were not? Do these case studies sound like us? Or are we relieved to find that they differ from us? What can we do to guard against ending up like the people in these cautionary tales?

Clinical lycanthropy

Clinical lycanthropy is a syndrome, not a diagnosis, and does not consistently correlate with any specific diagnosis. For the current definition of clinical lycanthropy, see Keck’s article below.

This article has been reprinted in Charlotte Otten, ed., A Lycanthropy Reader, p. 31-33. (Academic source.) A woman who had delusions of being demonically possessed and turning into a werewolf. Due to her loss of self-control, she acted out in front of others in extreme and distressing ways. Diagnosed as schizophrenia.

This article has been reprinted in Charlotte Otten, ed., A Lycanthropy Reader, p. 34-40. (Academic source.) Two cases of men who had psychotic delusions of becoming werewolves. One had abused drugs and also had delusions of demonic possession. Brain damage had handicapped the other.


★ (Academic source.) An overview of 17 clinical lycanthropes from 1975 to 1988. In most of these cases, the patients felt or acted like animals for a few weeks at most. The exception: one man has identified as a cat for 13 years.

★ (Academic source.) A study of a patient who has identified himself as a tiger-like cat for over 15 years, during which treatment helped his depression go into remission, but never changed his belief that he is a cat with a deformed body. Other than that, he’s considered normal: employed, educated, social, has had a few girlfriends, and generally high-functioning.

(Informal source, in Swedish.) A commentary on the above case described by Kulick, probably. A therianthrope looks at a case of a clinical lycanthrope (a man who said he was a cat in a human body) and remarks upon its similarity to therianthropy.


P. Garlipp, T. Godecke-Koch, H. Haltenhof, and D. E. Dietrich. “Lykantropie/Zoanthropismus – Erörterung eines psychopathologischen Phänomens (Lycanthropy/therianthropy – discussion of a psychopathological phenomenon).” Fortschr Neurol Psychiat 69 (2001) 215-220. (Academic source, in German.) Case 1: A woman, 34, known to have psychosis, who had episodes in which she acted like a frog, hopping and flicking out her tongue, and did not respond to speech. Case 2: A woman, 23, felt herself transform into a bee, which she thought happened because she’d been stung.
often as a child. Case 3: A pregnant woman, 37, after suffering domestic abuse, had an episode in which she acted like a wolf or dog, and said she was dead and hallucinated that the devil was present.

Resembling fiction-kin

Robert Lindner. “The jet-propelled couch.” 1954. (Popular source.) After discovering a sci-fi hero sharing his name, the patient to believe that these novels were factual biographies of himself, and that he was simultaneously living in that sci-fi universe, to which he could project his mind at will. In his world, he became a hero; in our world, he became a success too, a physicist. Caution, NSFW, may trigger: includes description of how the patient was raped and sexually abused during his childhood. Part 1: harpers.org/archive/1954/12/0006789 Part 2: harpers.org/archive/1955/01/0006815

Resembling otherkin

I’m not aware of any cases in psychology in which a patient claimed to be an elf, faerie, or other mythological creature. Gentle reader, if you know of any such cases, please inform me.

Some otherkin do have mental variations and challenges

Just like any other group of people, the otherkin communities include enough people that they have some diversity in this aspect. Authors who are trying to argue about whether otherkin is itself a mental variation should take into account this diversity, rather than making a false generalization.

In general

Lupa “Wash, rinse, repeat.” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 259. ★ Otherkin with mental conditions do exist. If you have mental problems, it doesn’t necessarily mean that you’re not really an otherkin, but it does mean you may need help. The help will give you the tools you need to cope with being otherkin. Lupa. “It’s okay to ask for help.” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 260-262. It’s a good idea to talk to therapists, and otherkin support groups. Anajiel. “The psychological and physical effects of vampirism.” 2003. darknessembraced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/188 Some psychological problems found to be common among psychic vampires who responded to a survey, including depression and ADHD.

Depression

Anton Lupus Wulfen (ALW). “When good times go bad.” Circa 2000. lupus.lycanthrope.org/Therian/GoodBad.htm l (defunct) Advice for therians who are going through a time when they’re struggling with depression, doubt (wondering whether one is a therian anymore), loneliness, and fear of having one’s therianthropy exposed. Some tips for recovering. Sanguinarius. “Some information on depression, and some useful hotline numbers for various crises and problems.” Updated 2010-05-07. sanguinarius.org/articles/depression.shtml
I suffer from depression. I put up this page so that those who suffer from it can be better able to identify it and seek treatment…

Nightlyre. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/nightlyre.html (defunct)
Sent to psychiatrist for depression. I decided that if I was going to do without prescriptions, I’d better find out who I really was inside.

Autism

Essay by a wolf therian who is also a clinically diagnosed autistic person.

A dragon otherkin who is autistic

Hanhepi hi Wipeta. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/hanhepi.html (defunct)
An autistic wolf therian describes having been placed in a mental hospital during childhood, and later finding solace in walking a dog in the woods.

Tsu. Untitled (swangirl). 2011-09-06. swanblood.tumblr.com/post/9889111295
I believe I’m autistic because I’m not human, a swan. There are many reasons for autism, this is only one. It doesn’t make my autism or non-human nature less real.

Other writings on mental health

Among other things… how can we be sure that we’re not mistaking mental health problems for real/valid spiritual experiences? (Or vice versa?)

Lupa. “It’s okay to have your head in the clouds as long as your feet are planted firmly on the ground.” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 249-250.

Rialian. “On Delusion vs. mysticism.” rialian.com/mystic-delusion.htm
How to tell whether you’re genuinely having a spiritual experience or just having a delusion.

The Eclective. “Drugging Jesus.” tangyabominy.dreamwidth.org/23472.html
On the relationship of religion and delusion.

Rialian “Masks.” rialian.com/masks.htm
On the strategy of developing a public face, and cautioning against some problems with that.

Rialian. “Unhinged doors with strong thresholds.” rialian.com/unhinged-doors.htm
On people with a façade of health and stability, and yet a deep dysfunction
Responsible behavior and ethics

Otherkin have no common dogma, no set of agreed-upon rules for all to follow. Neither do therians. However, we do learn from our mistakes, and share about our learning experiences. Here, some otherkin offer advice on how not to do things that you’ll regret later… or how not to do things that will embarrass the rest of us.

This is one of the concepts that makes the modern therianthrope community different from any preceeding peoples who claimed to be animals at heart: being an otherkin or therian person doesn’t inherently make a person act evil, violent, cruel, crude, or express any kind of negative attitude or misbehavior. If otherkin aren’t inherently mentally ill, then otherkin do have the ability to maintain self-control, the same as any other functional person.

Handling emotions, behaving responsibly

Swiftpaw, Synnabar, and CriticalCat. “Excuses for the high school therian.”
otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/excuses.html (defunct)
★ Advising that you shouldn’t “act out” just because you’re a wild animal.

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/anger.php
✔ Your inner animal didn’t make you lash out in anger: you chose to act that way yourself.

Whyte Wolf K. “My WereCard.”
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/whytewolfk.html (defunct)
My animal side taught me a lot about anger, but it also taught me a lot about trust. I have a true friend, but I lost more to outbursts.

house-eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.88
✔ A key to self-control: don’t think of your animal side as a separate entity. Understand that you’re the animal at all times, not just when you’re angry.

starseeds.net/profiles/blogs/surviving-human-emotions
Advice for incarnate extraterrestrials. Use your emotions productively. Learn to react positively.

otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2009/05/soy-un-otherkin-y-ahora-que-hago-v-10.html
✔ (In Spanish.) How do you conduct your life after you realize that you’re otherkin? Don’t neglect your education just because you don’t think a dragon would go to school. Consider careers that would be satisfying to your otherkin side. Don’t think you’re superior.

otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2010/08/declaracion-para-los-otherkins.html
(In Spanish.) Advises that you shouldn’t use your otherkin identity for escapism

Good and evil

Aria Lusina. “Balance.” tirnanoc.org/words5.htm (defunct)
On light and dark. I call myself dark fae, and this does not mean evil or scary. Conversely, some people who seem light and sweet can be cruel.

If one’s therian side tempts one to act in dangerous ways, it’s good to have religion (in this case, Wicca) remind one of karma.

therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060827.html (Comic) The species of an otherkin doesn’t indicate being good or evil.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/wolffang.html (defunct)
Dream shifted as big cat at first due to misconception that wolves are evil.
Codes of ethics

The lack of agreed-upon rules in the otherkin community means that some otherkin do attempt to come up with rules for otherkin... and the lack of agreed-upon rules means that otherkin can adopt, ignore, or otherwise do as they wish with any rules that somebody else came up with. So you see that this section also includes articles on development of personal codes of conduct, honor, ethics, self-improvement, etc.

For otherkin

✔ Always try to act with common courtesy when boasting the Otherkin name.
A lengthy code of honor.

For therians

Therian Circulo. “Nossas Chamas (Our Flames).” 2010-03-07.
therianbrasil.blogspot.com/2010/03/nossas-chamas.html

Responsible behavior and codes of ethics for vampires

The real vampire community has put a lot of emphasis on discussing and developing codes of ethics. They have particular cause for concern. Certain criminals and horror movies give the public reason to associate vampires with violence. Real vampires want to make sure that both newcomers nor outsiders know that real vampires behave ethically and are not violent.

Advice for vampires on responsible conduct.

sanguinarius.org/articles/SD_rules_of_thumb.shtml
Common-sense ethics and safety advice for vampires.

“The vampiric ethos.”
atlantavampirealliance.com/educational/ethicalguidelines.html
“Based on Sylvere’s ‘Ethical Principles for the Vampire Community,’ but has contributions, additions and rewrites from Michelle Belanger, Merticus, Zero, Maloryn, & RedRaven.”
(Description from Sanguinarius)
sanguinarius.org/articles/MB.psi-vampirism_ethics.shtml
Some of the common attitudes of psychic vampirism, ethical and unethical

Father Sebastiaan van Houten. “‘The Black Veil,’ v. 1.0 plus information.” 1999.
sanguinarius.org/articles/black_veil_1.shtml
“The Black Veil” is a voluntary code of conduct and ethics for vampires.
Michelle Belanger. “‘The Black Veil,’ v. 2.0 plus information (The thirteen rules of the community).”
sanguinarius.org/articles/black_veil_2.shtml
Revised by Belanger.
Michelle Belanger. “‘The Black Veil,’ v. 3 plus information and history.”
sanguinarius.org/articles/black_veil_3.shtml
Another revision by Belanger.

“‘The Black Veil,’ v. 4 plus commentary (Strigoi Vii edition),” 2007
This is the only edition of the Veil endorsed by the original author.
sanguinarius.org/articles/black_veil_4.shtml
A reality TV celebrity vampire called the “Black Veil” a sacred document. The author of the “Black Veil” begs to differ!
Other notes on responsible behavior

There are certain beliefs that don’t accord with Elfin. If one follows those practices, one will in time stray farther from Faerie.

Lupa. “Read before you proceed…” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 11.

Baxil the Dragon. “So what difference does it make, anyhow?” 1998-08-02. ecis.com/~ddragon/so-what.txt (defunct)
✔ I am a better person for my draconity.

A prayerful personal anthem, saying to live honorably so as to be reborn as a dragon.

Advising that one must anticipate and take responsibility for the ethics and consequences of any magical act.

On being genuinely gentle, kind, and loving.
Criticism of otherkin and therians

Criticism of belief in otherkin and therians themselves

You don’t need to believe in us. We’re real people, so we’ll still be here. It’s not like we’ll disappear if somebody disagrees with us or has different beliefs than we do. You won’t have to clap your hands and chant that you believe in us, either.

One thing everyone in the otherkin community has to get used to quickly is getting along with people who believe in completely different things, because otherkin themselves rarely have many beliefs in common with one another. The agreement is, “I’ll figure out my own beliefs for myself, and you’ll figure out yours for yourself.” For this reason, otherkin don’t need to convert people to believing in otherkin. (That’s also the situation in the therianthrope community.)

Personally, I’d be satisfied to just be treated with common courtesy and tolerated as just one more person who has unusual views. Whether somebody agrees with me doesn’t matter as much as how they act toward me.

However, it does matter to some people whether outsiders believe in otherkin. Some people try to argue for some reasons why outsiders should believe in otherkin, or consider the possibility that otherkin might be right about themselves. Some people argue that otherkin are metaphysically impossible, and nobody should take otherkin seriously, not even otherkin themselves.

swanblood.tumblr.com/post/12707164419
★ A list of the phrases that people most commonly use to discredit otherkin, followed by a list of short responses from an otherkin correcting misconceptions in all of those.

therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/odd.htm (defunct)
On logic. Holding one odd belief doesn’t require you to believe in another unrelated odd belief. A therian (who identifies as a real animal) is free to disbelieve in otherkin (who identify as mythological beings).

scarletflowers-uponthewingsofgrace.blogspot.com/2010_12_01_archive.html
Criticism. Nobody should believe in otherkin. Otherkin can’t exist because it’s physically and spiritually impossible for them to be other than human.

deviantart.com/deviation/155319908
What would you have to disprove in order to disprove therianthropy?

SombraStudio. “What if therian/otherkin were proven wrong?” 2011-02-06.
sombramalamutt.wordpress.com/2011/02/06/what-if-therianotherkin-were-proven-wrong
Revised version of the above essay.

paganspace.net/profiles/blogs/otherkinism-a-fairly-decent
Criticism of many beliefs of otherkin.

otherkin.livejournal.com/525448.html
In a series of video-essays, woodsofodin had explained why she didn’t believe in otherkin. This is a philosophical response by a therian, justifying belief by the same argument.

deviantart.com/deviation/208130747 (lost)
String theory as a justification for otherkin
Criticism of specific beliefs that many otherkin have

It’s impractical to try to demolish the entirety of otherkin philosophy in one go, because otherkin don’t have an entire agreed-upon philosophy. It’s more practical to criticize individual types of beliefs or claims. Some otherkin support their self-explanation by means of paranormal claims. These claims can (must?) be addressed with critical thinking. If the claims deal with concrete matters, those claims could or should be proven or disproven. People who make any kind of paranormal claim should study the counter-arguments for that claim, in order to gain perspective, to learn additional nuances that supporters of a claim usually don’t mention, and to get a reality-check just for safety’s sake.

Criticism of the idea that otherkin can identify as un-earthly or mythical non-humans

For more information on this topic, see the “General notes on otherkin types” section later in this book.

A non-otherkin Pagan looks critically at the problems with otherkin who identify as fae. French translation: otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/folklore.html
Yaiolani. “Mythological shapeshifters (Werewolf and shapeshifter codex: mythological annex).” yaiolani.tripod.com/mythic.htm
Maybe dragon therians mis-perceive an animal side as a chimerical creature.

Criticism of the idea that therianthropes can identify as animals

For more information on this topic, see the “General notes on animal types” section later in this book.

Aura Escher. “The parable of the were-duck,” by 2011-08-24. savampyrenews.wordpress.com/2011/08/24/the-parable-of-the-were-duck
Criticizes therians for claiming to be animals, because therians are not animals in any accurate way. Therians fool themselves into mistaking something else for an animal side.

Criticism of the idea that otherkin can identify as fictional characters or draw inspiration from fiction

For more information on this topic, see the “Fictionality” section later in this book.

GestaltZe. “Fiction.” 2010-03-22. deviantart.com/deviation/158159392
Criticism of fiction-kin. Debunking several claims common among fiction-kin.

Criticism of the idea that otherkin have spiritual awakening experiences

For more information on this topic, see the “Advice on Awakening” section later in this book.

Jen (Ghost). “Bipolar disorder or Awakening?” sanguinarius.org/articles-2/bipolar-disorder-or-awakening.shtml
May have been a manic episode instead.

Criticism of the idea that being otherkin is not a mental illness

[For this section, caution, trigger warning: ableist language, ableist perspectives.]

For more information on this topic, see “Otherkin and mental health” section earlier in this book.

An otherkin considers various aspects of how one can argue that otherkin are delusional.
Argues that if we could get transspecies recognized as a mental “disorder,” it could be a step toward getting otherkin accepted in mainstream society.

Criticism of the idea that otherkin should openly identify as otherkin if they so please

For more information on this topic, see the “relations with outsiders” section later in this book.

Should otherkin be silenced so the concept won’t spread? Examining a slippery slope fallacy.

Criticism of the idea that otherkin could be reincarnations of non-humans

For more information on this topic, see the “Ancestors and physicality” section earlier in this book.

Mokele (Mokele-mbembe). “Genetic shifting essay.” Circa 1998. therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/genshift.html (defunct) or angelfire.com/sc/Greyhawk00/genshift.html
Criticism of therians who say they’re “hereditary” and/or physical shape-shifters.

Criticism of the idea that otherkin could play a part in a global change

Some—not all—otherkin believe that during their lifetimes, the world will go through a big change, in which magic returns, otherkin gain their true forms, and/or the world ends. For more information on this topic, see the “Participating in changing or healing the world” section earlier in this book.

Tirl, Rannirl, & Mike Windtree. “Otherkin behavior patterns.” 2002-04. otherkin.net/articles/patterns.html
A therian argues: You didn’t have a past life as an imaginary creature. That’s impossible, because those creatures don’t exist.

Otherkin claim past lives as physical, winged dragons, but that’s impossible: couldn’t fly, couldn’t have evolved on earth

Criticism of the metaphysical idea that otherkin could be non-human in spirit or soul

The Magnetons and the Scorpii. Untitled (Otherkin Octopus).

[Not about otherkin.] For thousands of years, people have been predicting the end of the world. Every single one of them has been wrong. Here’s a list of modern people who were harmed by believing in an apocalypse.

fyeahmultiplemanta.tumblr.com/post/7434894626
(“Meme” image.) Pointing out a flaw that typically appears in criticisms of this kind. Caution: profanity.
Criticism that accuses otherkin of cultural appropriation

How do we determine whether the use of an idea is cultural appropriation?

An addition to the above.

Criticism that accuses otherkin of wrongfully comparing themselves with transgender people

For more information on this topic, see the “otherkin compared with transgender” section later in this book.

Liesk. “On justification and identity in the therian community.” liesk.feralscribes.org/?q=node/8 (lost)
“Looking at the need to justify oneself within the therian community in comparison to the transgender community, and some bad habits.” (Description from WereLibrary. Somebody please revive this lost article. –ed.)

“Tumblr social justice community.” inkscars.tumblr.com/post/12161293559 (Comic) Drawn by an anonymous cartoonist, with commentary by Inkscars. Is it or isn’t it offensive to compare otherkin to people who are transgender? Why?
PART II.

ARE YOU OTHERKIN?
For new otherkin

Advice for newcomers who aren’t sure whether they’re otherkin or not

Plenty of newcomers feel perfectly clear on the fact that they are otherkin, or that they aren’t otherkin. However, plenty of newcomers do feel uncertain about it. The definition of otherkin speaks to them in some ways, but not in others; they’re not sure that they’re interpreting it correctly, because it’s something that they never really thought about before.

See also a similar section later in this directory called “Newcomers who misunderstand,” regarding common misconceptions of people who think that they might be otherkin.

Gazer. “Am I otherkin?” 2002-04. ootherkin.net/articles/amI.html

Please conduct your own self-exploration.

Kahoku. “How to be sure: Are you otherkin?” kahoku.otherkinphenomena.org/article_howtobesure.html

Nobody can tell you whether you are kin or what type of kin. You have to find that out for yourself. It may take weeks, months, even years, so be patient.

German translation: kahoku.otherkinphenomena.org/article_howtobesure_de.html


We can’t tell you what you are, and there’s no quiz you can take that will tell you. Your friends can’t tell you. Only you can figure out what you are. If you eventually do determine that you are otherkin, what do you do next?


Often our kindred come to us for advice and guidance in finding their true selves, but we have neither dogma nor doctrine. The most precise we can be is to say “Think for yours’elf.”

“Identifying as otherkin.” 2009-02-14. otherkincommunity.org/wiki/Identifying_As_Otherkin

Lupa. “Just because someone says you’re otherkin does not make it so.” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 243-245.

✔ Be wary of pitfalls such as leading questions, and the pros and cons of validation by past-life memories that other people claim to share.


On people who aren’t certain if they’re elves, and on people who are certain. Offers this advice to uncertain elves: “You can be whoever you wish to be. That is the elfin magic. If you want to be an elf, be an elf. Be a pixie, a faerie, a gnome, a dwarf, whatever. In Faerie it is not the blood that makes the elf, it is elves that make the blood.”

Advice for newcomers who aren’t sure whether they’re therians or not


How to recognize whether you aren’t; if you are, how to begin.


Ask yourself why you think you might be a therian. Are they the wrong reasons?

Yaiolani. “How to tell if you are a ‘real werewolf.’” yaiolani.tripod.com/artc002.htm

Sabersinger. “Wereism is not instant ramen: the truth of being a shifter.” reocities.com/sabersger/instantramen.html

There are no fast and quick methods to become a therian. You need to learn, slowly. Have you ever examined your own motives?


(In Russian.)
Checklists and quizzes

Don’t use checklists to figure out whether you’re otherkin! Checklists and quizzes aren’t an adequate way to figure out who or what you really are. They involve no deep thought or action. Nonetheless, checklists abound. Some people take checklists too seriously when they’ve first heard about otherkin. At best, a checklist might help you consider a subject for research that you hadn’t thought of before, giving you more questions and a new heading for exploration.

Otherkin checklists

Arethinn. “Avoiding checklists.” 2004-08. eristic.net/fey/living/nochecklists.php
★ Argues that checklists are not a substitute for introspection.

Tiernan and Robin. “You could be elven if…” otherwonders.com/orc/humor/ycbei.html
(defunct)
A humorous tongue-in-cheek list of elven characteristics. It’s a checklist, and therefore not to be taken seriously.

Arethinn, ed. “You might be otherkin if…” otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/humour/youMightBeIf-full.html
✔ A humorous tongue-in-cheek list of otherkin characteristics; an expansion of the above list.
Czech translation: zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/aspecting.html
French, unfinished: otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/youMightBeIf.html

Tserisa. “You might be a dragon…” velvetdragon.com/draconic/youmight.html
Another humorous tongue-in-cheek list of draconic characteristics

Starseed checklists

Shunyata. “Am I a starseed?” 2009-03-17. starseeds.info/about-starseeds/list-all-articles/11-am-i-a-starseed
A list of some common traits of incarnate extraterrestrials.

Mark R. “The starseed quiz.” Circa 1996. home.earthlink.net/~pleiadesx/starquiz.htm (defunct)
Some common traits of incarnate extraterrestrials.

Therian checklists

(defunct)
Similar to the above, a list of common traits of therians.

ShadowsMyst. “Are you a Werebeast?” angelfire.com/sc/ShadowsMyst/were3.html
A list of common traits of therians, followed by an interactive checklist for identifying the species of one’s animal side
Advice on Awakening

“Awakening,” in the sense of a “spiritual awakening,” here means an event in which a person realized that he or she was an otherkin. In some cases, Awakening happens suddenly, all at once in a life-changing experience. In other cases, Awakening is gradual, taking many years of slow recognition and thoughtful questioning. Awakening usually refers to an event that happens once in a lifetime, but technically an awakening can happen more than once, taking the form of a series of epiphanies that happen at different times.

Advice on Awakening (Otherkin)

Wynndenai. “Awakening, in the tradition of 3lvz.” rialian.com/3lvz.htm
Adnarel. “I’ve heard the stories on Awakening.” main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/ive-heard-the-stories-on-awakening/ Argues that Awakening usually doesn’t happen in a dramatic or sudden fashion, despite how many people claim to have had experiences like that.
DrakeLightBearer. “Am I a dragon?” dragonswings.org/Essay/aiad.shtml Advice for people who have recently realized that they are dragons, or who are wondering whether they might be. Written from a Christian perspective.
Abritha and Estara Korai. “Articles on Awakening.” greenworld.spiritualitea.net/awakenings.html


Advice on Awakening (Therian)

Quil. “The Thwack: Noticing it for the first time.” 2005-08-08. absurdism.org/therianthropy/thwack.html Awakening is a recognition of something you’ve been all along, not dependent upon when you discover the subculture of therianthropy. French translation: akhila.feralscribes.org/french/claque.php

Advice on Awakening (Vampire)

Crimson^Angel. “The four stages of dealing with one’s vampirism.” sanguinarius.org/articles/CA_stages.shtml Many Awakening vampires go through this process: collecting data, analyzing one’s mental state, denial, and acceptance.
Jen (Ghost). “Bipolar disorder or Awakening?” sanguinarius.org/articles-2/bipolar-disorder-or-awakening.shtml Consider that your Awakening may be a manic episode, not a spiritual experience.

Advice on Awakening (Starseed)

Trey A. “Kundalini signs and symptoms.” 2011-03-19. starseeds.net/profiles/blogs/kundalini-signs-and-symptoms If a person’s kundalini (a metaphysical energy) is unexpectedly unleashed, they may call it a spiritual awakening, or they may mistake it for a physical or mental illness.
Finding one’s true species

Some otherkin know exactly what kind of creature they are when they first Awaken, or even (in a way) before then. In other cases, an otherkin person has only general idea of what kind of creature they may be, and it takes months or years to narrow it down, perhaps trying out a few possibilities. Some otherkin can only tell that they’re other-than-human, and have difficulty narrowing it down any further than that.

**Finding your species (Otherkin)**


✔ Several kinds of research and introspection to try out: rule out Earthly associations and totems… repeated occurrences of images in your life or ideas in your thinking suggest a strong connection… read and research… think about how it feels… etc.

Czech translation: zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/universe.html

Turktien. “Labels.”

main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/labels

The quest to find a label for oneself (identifying one’s species) seems to be a common obsession among the newly awakened and younger kin.

**Finding your species (Therian)**

Io-ether. *Only you can know your Wereside.* 2004-02-19. deviantart.com/deviation/5368859

(Visual art: poster.) Are you unsure of your Were-side? Feeling insecure about your spirit? Well guess what… we can’t help you! Only you can know your Wereside.


werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=23707 or sites.google.com/site/wolfieden/therianthropy

Try meditation. Consider dreams. Do research.

Elinox. “Labels.”

project-shift.org/community/labels.php

Spanish translation: project-shift.org/es/community/labels.php


deviantart.com/deviation/80957807

(Visual art: sketch) Finding my theriotype has proven a difficult task…


deviantart.com/deviation/19958395

(Visual art: cartoon) Trying out an animal side instead of waiting forever.

Akhila. “Soulsearch (and keep walking).”

akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/soulsearch.php

How to find your inner animal… but don’t quit there.

Finding a name

Some otherkin and therians go by their birth names, but they more often choose an otherkin or therian name, at least for use as an online alias or a pseudonym. For some, that’s all there is to it. For some others, the name has deeper personal significance, acquired in a meaningful way.

Methods for finding a name

WolfNote. “Finding your spirit name.” Circa 1996. members.aol.com/anamanfan/wn/name.htm (defunct)
A guided visualization meditation.

CrystalWolf. “Choosing a WereName.” shifters.org/newbies/crystalwolf1.shtml (defunct)
Some suggestions on how to come up with a nickname. How the author chose names for some fictional characters.

Silver Elves. “Want an elf name?” silverelves.angelfire.com/HAelfname.html
We would be happy to give you one...

Names that transcend vocal sound

Tal Leonan. “Finding an otherkin name (Elven names).” rialian.com/elvsname.htm

eristic.net/fey/living/truenames.php
I first heard of this concept in fiction (ElfQuest). My observations on how it worked when I tried it in real life. On the other hand, would a “true name” take the form of vocal sounds, and not, say, a collection of colors and music?

Quil. “The Ecstatic Name: Why words don’t have to matter.” 2005-10-29.
absurdism.org/therianthropy/ecstatic.html
A cat doesn’t have a name in words

Personal experiences with names

eristic.net/fey/living/names.php
Some of my names, what they mean, and how I found them.

When you create a name that truly defines you, it’s hard to part with it.

Other thoughts on names

yaiolani.tripod.com/list.htm
A list of names that have been used by people in the therian community in the early 1990s. Use this as inspiration for one’s own name, or to make sure that one doesn’t choose a name that’s already been taken.

therithere.comicgen.com/d/20080603.html
(Comic) On being able to tell people apart from one another.
Awakening stories by otherkin

Arhúaine. “My awakening.”
stormpages.com/wolfglade/Arhúaine/awakening.html (defunct)
An elf’s Awakening story.
absinthia.com/otherkin/awakening/Arhúaine.html (defunct)
An elf’s Awakening story.
absinthia.com/otherkin/awakening/jarin.html (defunct)
An elf’s Awakening story.
dreamhart.org/2009/02/awakening
A rewritten version of the above essay.
absinthia.com/otherkin/awakening/badb.html (defunct)
Awakening of a beansidhe (banshee).
Tirani. “Remembering: When Waking up hurts (a story of reAwakening).” rian.com/tirani.htm
Arethinn. “How I awoke (short version).” eristic.net/fey/living/howiawoke.php
Adnarel. “On my awakening.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/personal-accounts/on-my-awakening-adnarel
After a long exploration of other possibilities, concluding angel.
Qarael. “Awakening angelic.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/personal-accounts/awakening-angelic
A sudden Awakening after baptism.
draconic.com/fordragons/
I felt I could finally answer my question, “Why do I want so much to be a dragon?”
Baxil the Dragon. “Who am I?”
tomorrowlands.org/draconity/history.html
In a time of need, a comforting visit from a secret god.
Eyovah. “A dragon’s Awakening.”
rialian.com/dragon-awakening.htm
A magical experiment revealed his draconity in a spectacular fashion.
jafiradragon.com/Draconity2.htm
Later, embarrassed about his phase as an enthusiastic dragon mage.

absinthia.com/otherkin/awakening/tathaenhi.html (defunct)
A dragon’s Awakening story.
dreamhart.org/2009/02/awakening-dragon
Remembering a past life as a dragon on Krenar, years after discussing the possibility of such a past life with a Krenar dragon, Eyovah.
absinthia.com/otherkin/awakening/lance.html (defunct)
A dragon’s Awakening story.
Pelagic Soul (Misty). “Mermaid me.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/personal-accounts/mermaid-me
That person inside me longed only for the ocean.
reocities.com/Area51/Corridor/1015/here/mystory.html
Beginning to remember the Brinn, who are otherworldly feline nomads.
absinthia.com/otherkin/awakening/willow.html (defunct)
A polymorph shifter’s Awakening story.
otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2006/11/testeando.html
(In Spanish.) Jamiroth’s personal experiences as a dragon otherkin.
Awakening stories by therians

Concerned by stories of werewolves, initially wanted a cure, but found answers in Paganism
I felt that I should have been born wolf, and was born human. I tried to correct the problem with magic, self hypnosis, meditation, drugs… none of it had any effect.
houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/73908.html
I’ve always expressed canine-like behaviors. In my teens, I had a life-changing dream in which I changed into a wolf… and then had wolf dreams often. I began to wonder if I was some kind of werewolf. Later, I learned of therians.
houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/73289.html
I experienced mental shifts into wolf. I wondered if I was crazy, or just the most pathetic werewolf that couldn’t physically transform ever. Years later, by chance, I stumbled upon therianthropy on the internet.
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/soulskins.php
Considering one species after another, eventually concluding lioness-woman.
lynxspirit.com/entropy.html
After much wondering, eventually finding out about clouded leopard

Advice on further self-exploration after Awakening

Advice for new vampyres.
therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/Perceptions+of+Form.htm (defunct)
What is significant is not the animal appearance/personality traits themselves, but that we seek them out so diligently. They’re an insight into the person’s desire to be closer to their animal side.

geocities.com/Athens/Aegean/1643/essay.html (defunct)
Why do we try to explain the unexplained?
What happens when we reach deeper, beyond the human mind, into the mystery of the soul?

Self-exploration should continue after Awakening

kilobox.net/otherkin/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=39&Itemid=31
For most people, Awakening is a gradual and ongoing process. It doesn’t have a defined beginning, nor a certain end. As we grow and learn, this can sometimes lead to a whole new Awakening, as another stage of our journey.
We’re three-dimensional people. We change and re-awaken again and again.
On the importance of progressing after awakening. Many vampires never go beyond what they find at the point of awakening.

Progress by looking within
By O. Scribner – 64

silverelves.wordpress.com/2009/09/10
The answer to nearly every question you have about Elfin/Faerie is almost always to be found in what you feel. Look within.

Progress by action

Quil. “Know thyself, know thy animal: Why personal animalness can’t be ignored.” 2006.
absurdism.org/therianthropy/knowthyself.html
Soul-searching happens by acting, running around in the fresh air, not by sitting around meditating.
French translation: akhila.feralscribes.org/french/connaistoi.php

Progress by research

absurdism.org/therianthropy/research.html
On the necessity for animal people to research the nature of their animal side.
In French: akhila.feralscribes.org/french/recherche.php

On research as a part of exploration after Awakening.

otherkin.net/articles/myth.html
How well do you understand the myths upon which you base yourself?
French translation: otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/myth.html

therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/data.htm
(defunct)
How to apply the steps of the scientific method to spiritual growth

Tiernan. “From the heart out.” 2002-04.
otherkin.net/articles/heartOut.html
The importance of asking challenging questions, not taking easy answers.

main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/why-pushing-the-boundaries-of-belief or
promethianweb.com/fae/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=80&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0 (defunct)
In this instant-gratification world, the answer is usually a quick “I don’t know, I just do.” Take the time to explore further. “Why” isn’t an attack, it’s a tool.

Miniar. “The scientific approach (Emotional attachments and soul-searching).”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/the-scientific-approach
How to apply the steps of the scientific method to Awakening and self-exploration.

werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=23704
Apply the scientific method to soul-searching.

therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/data.htm
(defunct)
How to apply the steps of the scientific method to spiritual growth

Progress by questioning and scientific method

Problems with basing one’s spirituality on myth: myths are either mostly or entirely false. Look to the real things that the myths are based on.
General advice for inexperienced otherkin and therians regarding several of the above topics

razza.were.net/guides/newfolks.html (defunct)
Advice for new therians about some common problems, how to interact with the online therian community, and interpretations for some therian jargon.

therianguide.mountaintooth.net/?page=Discovery
Am I a therian? Finding your animal, spirit name, totem, and guide.

Sterling. “Coping with Wereism, AKA: Awakening for Dummies.”
sterlingtwilight.net/bootcamp/CopingWW.html (defunct)
Take your time to sort out what being a therian is to you before you first declare it.

thehornedgate.wordpress.com/2011/05/15/vampire-and-otherkin-identity-models
Phases of Awakening, acceptance, synthesis.

DrakeLightBearer. “Rise and shine.”
dragonswings.org/Essay/ras.shtml

otherkin.net/articles/squat.html
You don’t know squat; I don’t know squat. Be humble and learn.

razza.were.net/articles/exploring.html
Some of the common experiences of therians: Awakening, mental shifts, the mystery of how the inner animal got there in the first place.
Growing up and changing throughout life

Writings about one’s personal journeys as an otherkin or therian, changing and growing up, and gradually reinterpreting one’s identity as an otherkin or therian, in relation to stages in one’s life.

General writings on growing and changing

By otherkin

Cyaneus. *We all need to let go.* 2008-11-14. [deviantart.com/deviation/103598314](http://deviantart.com/deviation/103598314)

♫ Remember to allow yourself to change.


(Visual art) “A series of pictures documenting not only the evolution of her [Eventide the dragon’s] design but also my own evolution as an artist. … she is me, in all ways that count. I had forgotten the connection, and I needed it back. I also needed to acknowledge God’s gifts to me…”

Quelonzia Stormdancer. “Quelonzia and me.” 1997 [stormdancer.net/quelonzia/quelnme.html](http://stormdancer.net/quelonzia/quelnme.html)

♫ A dragon, growing up and falling in love.


(In German.) How I’ve changed since I Awakened as a mermaid.


(Pencil) Self-portrait as a gryphon-like creature, with explanation.


(Pencil) Self-portrait of a gryphon-like dragon. “I consider myself Otherkin. Some part of my inner being is not quite fully human. I believe that inner part changes and shifts as we grow and mature.”


♫ (Pencil) Self-portrait of a gryphon-like dragon, with explanation about how this has changed over time.

By therians


♫ My childhood memories of freedom in the wild sustain me. At 35, I’m detached from an uncooperative body. This doesn’t detract from manifesting Lynx.


A bird grows up, reinvented every few years.

Kym ni Dhoireann. “Canines on my spiritual path: Or I was a toddler weredog.” 1999, 2004. [cyberpict.net/hounds/pgnhnd.htm](http://cyberpict.net/hounds/pgnhnd.htm)

Past lives recalled during childhood. Pets as familiars.


Awakening, growing up, and integration. Balancing and checking the wolf side.

Cat X. Steppenwolf. “My WereCard.” [swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/catx.html](http://swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/catx.html)

Tiger. Constant mental shift. In childhood, had a friend who had a tame wolf. Felt myself becoming a wolf, but didn’t think of werewolves. Then read Hermann Hesse’s *Steppenwolf*, and knew what I was. This was many years before AHWW existed. Later, had a cat, and felt myself becoming a wolf and cat, then just a tiger. Had cameo shifts into other animals. Found a loving family in AHWW.

Clover-Paw. “My WereCard.” [swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/cloverpaw.html](http://swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/cloverpaw.html)

I was always a loner. I realized that I’d be a poor example of a wolf, since wolves run in packs. Now I understand that I’m a wild cat.

A dragon, at the time. Has an amendment from 1999, telling of some updates in Mokele’s therianthropy. Out of date.


By vampires


✔ When I first realized I was a vampire, I thought I would have a short, dangerous life. However, through trial and error, I came up with solutions for my problems. At 45, I’m respected and have a full, happy life, with a family and career.

Lady CG. “Vampiric aging: Or, ‘Where goeth thou, beauteous stranger?’” sanguinarius.org/articles/CG_vampyric_aging.shtml

At 40, this vampire resembles how she looked at 17. Her physical problems fixed themselves.

Otherkin during childhood


On parenting young children who are also otherkin.

The Silver Elves. “Elf children.” jps.net/elve/elfchildren.html (defunct)


(Poem) Mommy, / did you hide my wings? / Can I have them back?


On how childhood has influenced one’s behavior and therianthropy.


On the “Indigo child” generation, and on otherkin who are also Indigos.

Otherkin as teenagers

Ketrino. “School and the Animal Person.” 2006-08-08. ketrino.angelfire.com/essay34.html

School is tough for the young and newly Awakened therianthrope.

Otherkin and therians as adults


♫ I have changed. Not physically into wolf. But physically too – I have grown older. Wolf has grown with me. My perceptions of wolf have grown.


A sequel to “School and the animal person.”

Ketrino. “Wolf at the Big University.” 2010-08-05. ketrino.angelfire.com/uni.html

Perhaps the final installment of this ‘series’ (“School and the animal person” and “College and the lone wolf”) how finally reaching a place of true knowledge can show me that we beasts do lurk silently among humans.


Otherkin contemplating mortality and immortality

Physically, otherkin are as mortal as any human.


On immortality, aging, and mortality.


Becoming otherkin

Can a person who isn’t an otherkin decide to become an otherkin? Are we born, or made? Nature, or nurture? If a person says they successfully became an otherkin by choice, how do they differ from people who say they were always otherkin? What were their motivations for becoming otherkin?

I hope to include articles here that explore both sides of this issue, because it could help us clarify a definition of otherkin.

Born or made?

Therians

akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/animality.php
★ Argues that it’s a mistake to say that we’re born therians, because everybody constructs their identity to some extent.

Criticism of becoming

Vampires

Sanguinarius. “An open letter to any who would wish to become a vampire.”
sanguinarius.org/articles/openletter.shtml
It’s difficult to be a vampire. If you could become a vampire, you’d eventually realize that it’s not as much fun as you had hoped, but you’d be stuck with it. Don’t ruin your life, and don’t spend your life wishing that you’re something you’re not.

Instructions for becoming

Therians

Sonne Spiritwind. “Becoming a therian.”
project-shift.org/community/becoming_a_therian.php
or
werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=24570
Spanish: project-shift.org/es/community/becoming_a_therian.php

Polar. “How to become a werewolf (How to install your weside).”
lycanthrope.org/index.php3?955753182 (defunct)
Tongue-in-cheek humor, with in-jokes. Imagine that your mind is a computer... install the wolf operating system on a second partition on your hard drive.

She Demon Wolf, of Erox Pack. “Run of the soul.”
myweb.ecomplanet.com/LUNE2889/mycustompage0008.htm (defunct)
A magical ritual for re-creating or even creating a connection to one’s animal side.
Otherkin no longer

Are we otherkin for our whole lives, as an inherent part of who we are? Or is it a condition that we may grow out of or cure?

On this topic in general

Lupa. “Is it possible to stop being otherkin?” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 245-249.
An overview of this issue.

For some people, otherkin was just a phase and they grow out of it naturally

In some cases, a person thinks of themself as an otherkin or a therian for a while, maybe for a few months, maybe for a couple of years. At a certain point, they realize that something feels wrong.

Maybe they decide that they used to be an otherkin, but they’re not an otherkin anymore. It was an important phase in their self-exploration, as part of growing up and learning who they were, but they outgrew it, they changed, and they know it’s time to move on to the next thing. For some, they realize that they were never really an otherkin or a therian, and they were just deceiving themselves all along, trying to be somebody who they weren’t.

It’s important to be honest to one’s self about who one is. When one feels like it’s time to move on, that probably is the wisest action.

This does happen sometimes, and I’ve heard of it from quite a few people, some of whom were close friends of mine. Usually they decided not to stay with the otherkin community after they decided they weren’t otherkin anymore. I think it’s for this reason that there’s a lack of articles available on this topic, and that’s unfortunate, because I think it’s important that we talk openly about this.

Outgrowing being otherkin


Inexperienced Neo-Pagans initially go through a phase of deluding themselves and one another into believing excessively far-fetched things. Personal experiences. Be cautious about spirituality, and accept being human.

On people who join the Elfin for only a little while and then leave.

Baxil the Dragon. “Not not believing.” tomorrowlands.org/nov2000.html#11052000
Everyone’s gotta find their own path... who am I to judge?

Aretinn. “What if you were wrong?” 2003-06.
eristic.net/fey/living/wrong.php
▲ What if it turned out that you weren’t an otherkin after all, that it was just escapism? I’d grieve, but I’d accept it. How do you conclude that this isn’t the case? Because it’s not much of an escape. I know it’s for me because I keep coming back.

Outgrowing being therian

Bewylderbeast. “It’s okay not to be a therianthrope.” project-shift.org/introspection/notatherian.php
▲ Description of a personal experience. Author considered themselves a therian for several years after having heard about it online. Struggled to find animal side. Discovered a totem instead, not part of the self. Concluded not therian, and felt relieved and liberated.

Outgrowing being vampires

I found no articles for this category.
By O. Scribner – 70

Intentionally curing otherkin of being otherkin

In some cases, could it be possible that it’s an undesirable or unhealthy condition to be an otherkin, therianthrope, or vampire? Under those circumstances, could it be right or useful to change that person’s identity so that they were no longer an otherkin, or a therian, or a vampire? Would that change be possible? How, by what process? Or would curing an otherkin be some combination of impossible and unethical?

Curing otherkin

I found no articles for this category.

Curing therians

Rosalyn Greene. “‘Curing’ a shifter.” Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 221-224. Can you intentionally stop being a therian?

Curing vampires


In this explanation for some types of vampirism, the need to feed on lifeforce or blood is caused by an incorporeal symbiont.


If one removes the incorporeal symbiont, vampiric behaviors dimish or cease.


More information on the vampirism-inducing symbiont and its removal.


or sphynxcatvp.nocturna.org/articles/trollkvina-energyflow.html

A criticism of WingedWolf’s method for curing psychic vampirism as metaphysically risky.

It’s not something that can or should be “cured”

Perhaps if a person is an otherkin, therian, or vampire, that person is that way because they should be. Perhaps they cannot be otherwise than they are.

Staying otherkin

I found no articles for this category.

Staying therian


I felt that I should have been born wolf, and was born human. I tried to correct the problem with magic, self hypnosis, meditation, drugs… none of it had any effect.

angelfire.com/md/mudgewolf/bio.html

Staying vampire

I found no articles for this category.
PART III.

COMMUNITY.
The communities of otherkin and therians

Debating whether it’s even a community

Otherkin (including therians) are sufficiently independent that we disagree even on this matter. Do we comprise a community, a subculture, a movement, or nothing of the kind? In any case, enough of us come together to argue about it with one another.

Is it a community? (otherkin)

Could it ever be, or have been, a “community,” when we have so little in common?

Is it a community? (therians)

Are we a community, or just a mish-mash of fragmented groups?

Akhila. “Norms within the werecommunity.” 2004-12. akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/norms.php
Is it a “community”? What attitudes and activities are common within it?

✔ (In Portuguese.) Reasoning why it should be called a subculture.

Lia-Ram. “Почему териантропия - субкультура (комментарии к статье Алдема) (Why therianthropy is a subculture [Comments on Aldema’s article]).” 2008-06-01. wereeyes.livejournal.com/7212.html
(In Russian)

Community history

Tracing development of ideas. Events and gathers. Some contemporary commentaries that are now very dated.

Community history (otherkin)

✔ An unfinished rough draft, but what’s there is fascinating. History of otherkin back to the 1960s. Also compares psychological disorders

Community history (otherkin, specifically the Silver Elves)

On the letters of the Elf Queen’s Daughters.

On the beginning of the Silver Elves and their letters.


Regarding the Rainbow Festival in the 1980s.


“Our peoples are slowly awakening.”

Community history (FAEborn)

About the FAE organization, and definition of Fae people.

Community history (dragons)


Everything you need to know about the Usenet newsgroup alt.fan.dragons. Outdated.

Community history (vampires)


Sanguinarius’s involvement in the vampire community during the Nineties.


Traces back to 1748, but some of this timeline is about vampires in fiction as well as in real life.

Community history (therians)

Jakkal. “Foundation’s Edge: The History of the Online Were-Community.” 1999. were.net/foundation.shtml (defunct)

✔ History of the therian community centered on the alt.horror.werewolves newsgroup from 1992 to 1999.


A brief history of events in the online therian community from 1992 to 2004.

Spanish translation: otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t137-el-origen#846

Yaiolani. “People who think they are werewolves or shapeshifters.” yaiolani.tripod.com/think.htm

On the spiritual therianthropy subculture on the Internet in the 1990s.

Yaiolani. “How did the shifter movement start?” yaiolani.tripod.com/start.htm

It started on the Internet in the 1990s.


furnation.com/lobo/forest/uh-ahww.htm (defunct)

History of alt.horror.werewolves, and a Latin American vision of AHWW.


wolfden.critter.net/interest/community.htm

Contemporary criticism of the community of alt.horror.werewolves.

Razza Wolf. “AHWW and other small islands.” 1999-12-08.

wolfden.critter.net/interest/razwolf4.htm

Contemporary criticism of the community of alt.horror.werewolves.


razza.were.net/articles/ahww.html (defunct)

Contemporary criticism of the community of alt.horror.werewolves.


therianthropyru.livejournal.com/16218.html

▲ (In Russian.) A description of how the Russian therian community has developed.

Three years ago, such a notion as therianthropy didn’t exist on the Russian-speaking parts of the Internet. Unlike the English-speaking therian community, the Russian therian community hasn’t merged with the draconic and furry communities.


therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=docs&subpage=docs11

(In Russian.) Spans from 1996 to 2007, claiming that 2007 is certainly the end of it. Focuses on English-speaking community.
Yaiolani. “Advice for newbies.”
  yaiolani.tripod.com/advice.htm
  Advice on how to behave in alt.horror.werewolves. Outdated.
Windrunner. “Our history.”
  yaiolani.tripod.com/art13.htm
  Excerpt from the alt.horror.werewolves FAQ
Mokele. “Where the wild things are: The therianthropic community online.” Circa 2002.
  therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/tonline.htm
  On the newsgroup, IRC, and mailing lists. Outdated.
  yaiolani.tripod.com/odds.htm
  Apparently a late Dr. Stephen K. founded a “Vampire Research Center” as well as a “Werewolf Research Center,” both in New York.
Mudge Wolf. “Welcome to the #forest…”
  northernnet.com/sleipnir/IRCforest.htm
  (defunct)
  About an IRC channel for therians, called #forest.

Community demographics
  (mostly of the therian community)

  swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Community/a_poll1.html
  ✔ Contemporary community demographics of therians, based on poll of AHWW participants
  shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-17
  (In Russian) “According to statistics, every fifteenth thousandth person is born a therianthrope… and more than half of therians don’t survive to 24 years.” [Editor’s note: this article doesn’t say where these statistics came from, or who they were conducted by, or anything. I must say that they can’t possibly be factual. I include it here because I’d like to keep track of what could become a potentially harmful urban legend, before people start quoting it as if it was a fact. Anyone know where those numbers supposedly came from?]
  A rough estimate based on therians the author has known or heard about indirectly.
  ✔ The statistics of the 131 responses to the survey that Lupa sent out, which includes otherkin as well as therians.
Community gatherings

(of miscellaneous communities)


On a contemporary event, which attracted some elves.


main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/otherkin-or-otherwikkin-a-highlight-of-the-2007-st-louis-pagan-picnic

A disappointed review of an otherkin workshop at that event.

Community gatherings (otherkin)


About a gathering of elves. Doesn’t say when or where.


eristic.net/fey/living/silverelvesrade.php

A type of impromptu magical gathering of elves.


stormdancer.net/poetry/firstgather.html

(defunct)

A poem about the first alt.fan.dragons gather.


I like social gatherings and I like seeing people, but I do not base my impressions of friendship upon these things. I base friendship on the person and myself.

Community gatherings

of therians (Howls)


werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=23698

★ When you arrange for an event in which a group of therians to meet in person, take these points into account so that the event goes well.


Some flaws noted about the community’s contemporary fads. It’s not about discovery anymore… there’s a gap between the old regulars and the newcomers.


“We are not uniform people, we are costume people.”


That is, fraterity/sorority.

Otherkin.net. “Herding cats: A model of distributed leadership.” 2001-04. [otherkin.net/articles/catHerding.html](http://otherkin.net/articles/catHerding.html)

★ Effective traits of informal “elders” in the otherkin community, since the community has no actual, formal, agreed-upon leaders.


Elves are seldom organized, we are anarchists by nature and most often anti-authoritarian by instinct. What appears to be organization is the delight we take in both helping and meddling with each other.


There are no positions of authority among the elven. They lead who know the way.


On the lack of authorities.


On those who would call themselves authorities.
Finding the communities, and how to participate in them

Finding the therian community

LazyWolf. “LazyWolf’s guide to newbieness.” shifters.org/newbies/lazywolf1.shtml (defunct)
An introduction to how to interact in the therian community.

lupus.lycanthrope.org/Therian/Guide.html (defunct)

Persinval. “Карта сообществ и сайтов, посвященных териантропии в интернет (Map of [Russian-language] communities and websites dedicated to therianthropes.” 2006-12-14. wereeyes.livejournal.com/3118.html (In Russian.) A chart summarizing each place, its main topics of discussion, whether one must register to access the materials, and who owns it.

Susitar. “‘Jag trodde jag var ensam!’ (‘I thought I was alone!’)” 2010-11-28.
varderianthrop.wordpress.com/2010/11/28/jag-trodde-jag-var-ensam
(In Swedish.) The relief felt by a therian upon finding out about other therians for the first time. Keywords likely to attract newcomers.

Some types of conversation one hears in the communities

In the therian community

eristic.net/fey/trends.php
New common discussion topics.

In the therian community

Yaiolani. “A fictional conversation.” yaiolani.tripod.com/artc003.htm
Stylized representation of the type of debate one sees in the communities. Three personality types (Doubter, Believer, and Middle) debate about whether physical shifting is possible, whether there’s any such thing as mental shifts or spiritual therianthropy, and whether a person can have an animal soul (or whether souls exist at all).

Yaiolani. “Famous people who might be werewolves? (Famous people: Werewolves?)” yaiolani.tripod.com/famous.htm
Sometimes therians gossip and speculate that some celebrities might be spiritual therianthropes. Just keep in mind that it’s merely speculation, and usually tongue-in-cheek humor as well. On the other hand, some ancient royalty were said to be werewolves.
Some types of people one meets in the communities

Types in the otherkin community

otherkin.net/articles/patterns.html
List of silly attitudes that are often expressed by inexperienced otherkin: “UberElf,” “The End of the World is Nigh,” “Differentiation by repudiation,” etc.

Types in the therian community

Some observations on some of the kinds of people who one meets in the community.

Iisaw. “Were-spotting guide.”
coyotoldone.com/node/28
Brief satirical descriptions of some of the types of people one meets in the community, from confused newcomers and “trolls” to weary old-timers and experts.

Types in the vampire community

LA Judge. “Vampire community age misconception (How old R U?).”
darknessembraced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/90
▼ We’re not all teens. The community includes people of all ages. Teens who enter the community find that older participants aren’t impressed by their misbehavior. Older people who enter the community find that they’re not the oldest ones there.

Proposing solutions for the community’s problems

General suggestions for the otherkin community

Rialian. “Thoughts on otherkin culture/awakening.”
rialian.com/on-otherkin.htm
Some thoughts on what the otherkin community should be like.

Jarandhel Dreamsinger. “Organizational Des’tai.”
wanderingpaths.dreamhart.org/articles/organizations01.html
★ If you’re planning to create a project to help the community, you should first pause to consider these questions…

General suggestions for the therian community

Yaiolani. “What you can do for shifters.”
lycanthrope.org/~humbird/whatdo.htm (defunct)
▼ A list of some things that it would be nice if somebody would do for the therian community. Find and review books on werewolves. Take responsibility for answering newcomers’ questions. Develop better relationships with outsiders…

Suggestions for the otherkin and therian communities:
mentorship

otherkin.livejournal.com/165659.html
There’s a divide between those of us who have been around for a long time and those otherkin who are newer to the community. Maybe we could solve it by mentorship.

kinhost.org/wiki/Mentors/HomePage
Further information on how mentorship should work.

On experienced elves mentoring less experienced elves.

A relatively detailed proposal for a mentorship system for animal spiritualists (therians).

**Suggestion for the otherkin and therian communities: translations**

Anonymous. “People are only visible when they’re encouraged to speak.” 2011-11-12. kinspeak.tumblr.com/post/12715485574
The otherkin and therian community mostly limits itself to conversation in English. As a result, we hear less or not at all from people in non-English-speaking parts of the world.

Leaving the larger community

Some otherkin and therians look into the larger communities for a while, and decide that it’s not for them, for good reasons. For some people, this means that they continue thinking of themselves as otherkin, solitary, not needing to discuss philosophy in a community, or perhaps discussing it with small groups of like-minded friends, rather than in a huge community or on the Internet.

Leaving the otherkin community

★ Why are so many of the more stable ‘kin withdrawing from the community? Have you helped create the kind of environment that you complain about?
Perhaps you shouldn’t waste your time on the online therian community.

Leaving the therian community

They’re all endlessly rehashing old ideas.
Kaurpin. “What’s wrong with (the current) online lycanthropy?” 1999-10-30. lycanthrope.org/~kaurpin/whatswrong.shtml
It has a dead end, so turn off your computer and do something else.
One therian’s reasons for withdrawing from the therian community.
Says the online therian subculture is unsafe, and encourages therians to search for like-minded people in the online furry subculture instead.
★ The world outside seems more real. I have no need of the online therian community because I have the entire world ahead of and around me.
Leaving the vampire community

Michelle Belanger. “Flirting with denial,” in *Psychic Vampire Codex*, p. 244-245.
The vampire community became risky, so Belanger cut off connections to it, until...

Smaller communities of otherkin: loners, friends, packs, houses

Size is relative. Here, I use “small community” or “small group” to mean anything from a couple to several dozen people... anything smaller than the macrocosm of all the hundreds of therians and otherkin connected by any kind of social networks! As such, some of these “smaller communities” are rather large.

Most are informal, just a few friends who meet together. Some of the “packs” have a relatively formal hierarchy structure, and some don’t. In some cases, a group of otherkin or therians arranges to live in a household together. Some small communities are close-knit and consider themselves like a family of sorts. Small groups make this closeness more possible.

General observations and advice regarding small communities

Observes that community, like family, is loving and supportive when truly needed.

Razza Wolf. “On the other end of the wire...” Circa 1999. [razza.were.net/articles/wire.html](razza.were.net/articles/wire.html) (defunct)
Meeting fellow therians in person. How it differs from meeting online.

On seeking to learn from the otherkin community, support groups.

On therians who search for therians of the exact same species. Isn’t it enough just to find any other therians at all, regardless of their particular species?

Advice for those who are alone, but want to find a few kindred spirits

★ On elves who don’t have the company of other elves, perhaps by choice... and some
advice for elves who are alone but who want to find other elves.

Sanguinarius. “Alone in your area?”

sanguinarius.org/articles/Sangi_alone.shtml
Advice for vampires who have no local vampire community.


deviantart.com/deviation/95315685
Yearning for a group of friends who are fellow therians, who understand.


deviantart.com/deviation/57693218
A poem about a lonely wolf therian.


silverelves.angelfire.com/acquired.html
On elves who seek the company of other elves, or that of those who are not.

Advice and observations regarding small communities of elven otherkin

Gratitude for connection with other elves as source of hope, encouragement, and beautification.

The Silver Elves. “Night of the seventh moon.”
A circle of friends, family, kindred spirits. Not leaders or followers, but equals.


Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 139-141.

Small groups of elves attracting more elves.

Reading between the lines.


On households of small groups of elves.

The Silver Elves. “Together forever in love.”

Advice and observations regarding small communities of therians (packs, etc.)

deviantart.com/deviation/128300845

house-eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.89 (defunct)
Werewolves want to be in packs. How do you find a pack?

Savage. “So you want to join or form a pack.”
project-shift.org/community/packs.php

akhila.feralscribes.org/2005/that-pack-thing

house-eclipse.org/wordpress/wolf-therians-pack

On how therians are more likely to shift when in the presence of other therians.

On packs.

On packs.

Yaiolani. “Are we territorial?”
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc013.htm
Observes that some groups of therians become secretive, cliquish, and hostile toward newcomers. Do they behave this way as a reaction to problems in the past that came from being too open? Or is it a territorial instinct from our animal side?

Advice regarding small communities of vampires (Houses, etc.)

On individual groups and communities within the larger community.
SphynxCatVP. “Joining a House, church, or other organization.” 2004-12-11. 
sanguinarius.org/articles/SC_houses.shtml
Advice for vampires who are considering joining a group of vampires. How to assess whether it’s a reputable and safe group.

darknessembra.ced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/118
Advice for vampires who are considering joining a group of vampires.

**Descriptions of specific small communities**

Araikan Xanthus. *The Eirou Werepack.*
werenack00.tripod.com
Description of a certain in-person pack and its members.

She Demon Wolf, of Erox Pack. “Pack of Erox.”
myweb.ecomplanet.com/LUNE2889/mycustommpage0006.htm (defunct)
Description of a certain pack, its members, its rules and philosophy.

Janice “Mistral” K. *Tree Otherkin.*
elfwood.com/art/m/i/mistral/otherkin.jpg.html
Color pencil illustration, depicting artist and friends in their true forms. “Here is the family/pack/group/etc. that I am a part of.”

Kiric. “Werewolves, and more…” geocities.com/RainForest/Canopy/2114/Werewolf/Werewolf.html (defunct)
Description of therianthropy and a certain pack.

Diversity, disagreement, and tolerance within the community

**Disagreement in the otherkin community**

otherkin.net/articles/harmonydiscord.html
★ The value of argument and disagreement

Thassalante. “There is a difference...” 2006-09-02. 
otherkin.livejournal.com/465961.html
On the other hand, not everything needs to be argued. There’s a difference between proposing an idea for debate, and stating a personal belief. Can’t an idea be expressed without proof?

Seran d’Fae. “Acceptance, faith and tolerance.”
rialian.com/seran.html
How can you tell who is a legitimate searcher? Is it necessary to determine this?

Tolerance is the capacity for respecting the beliefs of others. Acceptance is the mental attitude that something is believable and should be accepted as true.

“We’ve always been a generous people. ... Of all the gifts we elfin give surely the greatest is acceptance.”

**Disagreement in the vampire community**

otherkin.net/articles/tolerance.html
Red flags that somebody is sharing their philosophy with you because of ulterior motives.

What to do with people in the magickal/Neo-Pagan community who make wild claims.

otherkin.net/articles/diversity.html
How to get along: Tolerance, Respect, and Courtesy.
Kinds of people to beware of

**On deceptive people**

Jakkal (?). “Who to trust.”  
[shifters.org/newbies/trust.shtml](shifters.org/newbies/trust.shtml) (defunct)  
Warns to watch out for false prophets.

Beware of these kinds of people who you might meet in the therian community…

[furaffinity.net/journal/2243824](furaffinity.net/journal/2243824)  
A sense of betrayal about realizing the truth about a spiritual mentor who claimed to be able to physically shape-shift into a dragon, and whose ancient wisdom turned out to be plagiarized from books.

**On arrogant people**

Rialian. “Perception.”  
[rialian.com/perception.htm](rialian.com/perception.htm)  
Beware of manipulative people who feign that they’re “elders” even though they have neither the experience nor the responsibility to be of any real help.

[akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/seniority.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/seniority.php)  
Beware of people who brandish their seniority and yet bash newcomers.

Yaiolani. “Pillars of the Were community.”  
[yaiolani.tripod.com/artc001.htm](yaiolani.tripod.com/artc001.htm)  
On the other hand, one shouldn’t believe nasty rumors! Even old regulars who have worked hard to contribute to the community have been gossiped about.

[akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/growing.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/growing.php)  
Beware of rude know-it-alls. Don’t be judgmental of newcomers. We’re all still learning, so stay humble.

**On needy people**

[silverelves.angelfire.com/blackholes.html](silverelves.angelfire.com/blackholes.html)  
Beware of people who aren’t willing to change but who ask for help anyway.

Sarah D. “Emotional vampirism.”  
[sanguinarius.org/articles/emotvamp.shtml](sanguinarius.org/articles/emotvamp.shtml)  
I was likened to a black hole when I was younger: people would lavish attention on me, and I would drink up the emotion, but somehow I never flourished. Being aware of this problem helps me try to manage it. Here are some of the strategies that I adopted that actually help me…

**On other kinds of dangerous people**

Savage. “Warning signs that a were site or group or individual may be unhealthy.”  
[project-shift.org/community/warningsigns.php](project-shift.org/community/warningsigns.php)  
★Warning signs include: claiming to be an authority, advocating hatred or violence, lack of critical thinking, rigid hierarchy, requests for money or sex, lack of older adults on board…  
Spanish translation:  
[project-shift.org/es/community/warningsigns.php](project-shift.org/es/community/warningsigns.php)  
Lupa. “Serious threats.”  

[sanguinarius.org/articles/Ravena-enabling.shtm](sanguinarius.org/articles/Ravena-enabling.shtm) and  
✔ “Can offering support and encouragement be damaging? Are you helping people further their delusions and/or problems? Find out what an Enabler is and how it can play out in the vampire community.” (Description from Sanguinarius)
Criticism of newcomers who misunderstand

Some people briefly claim to be otherkin, but they don’t understand what it’s about. After a short time, they usually move on and forget about otherkin. They think it’s role-playing, or they approach otherkin philosophy in a hasty, flippant, and shallow way, without any understanding, self-exploration, or depth. For some, this is a phase: eventually, the confused newcomer may turn out to be sincere otherkin who will become more serious later. On the other hand, the confused newcomer might leave once they figure out what being otherkin is really about, realizing that it doesn’t suit them after all. Either way, confused newcomers don’t last long on an individual basis. Sometimes a whole lot of confused newcomers can show up in a community all at once, overwhelming the regulars by making absurd claims and asking tired questions.

In this section, regulars complain about confused newcomers, calling them wannabes, posers, fluffy bunnies, or role-players. These writers offer rants and observations, as well as advice on how not to be that kind of newcomer.

General notes on problematic newcomers

silverelves.angelfire.com/missing_them.html
★ A compassionate view of the surge of people who posed as elves when the Lord of the Rings movies came out, and who then moved on to other things. One must consider the deeper reasons for why the people were attracted to the elf archetype in the first place.


Don’t waste your time responding to people who try to stir up trouble. Be humble, too. Don’t fancy yourself to be an elite.

otherkin.net/articles/shadowAwareness.html
Rant about people who seem stuck between ignorance and awakening.

otherkin.net/articles/shadowHonour.html
Continuation of the “Shadow of Awareness” article. A rant about gender stereotypes.

On newcomers who mix fact with fiction, such as role-players

Baxil. “How can you tell a true dragon?”
tomorrowlands.org/draconity/faq/true-dragons.txt
✓ Distinguish a sincere otherkin from a role-player or someone just passing through.

therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/reallife.htm (defunct)
✓ How to spot people in the therian community who are telling far-fetched lies or role-playing. For example: claims of physical shapeshifting, jargon and attitudes lifted from White Wolf…

Shifters.org (?) “Role playing games and therianthropy (RPG’s and therianthropy).”
shifters.org/newbies/RP.shtml (defunct)
Watch out for therians who use jargon from White Wolf. Games are fun, but they’re not reality. They’re entertainment, nothing more.

sanguinarius.org/articles/Den_buffy_complex.shtml
On the danger of people who take role-playing too far and become deluded.

Louche. “In defense of lifestylers.”
sanguinarius.org/articles/lifestylers.shtml
Regarding people who openly dress up like vampires.

On newcomers (to the otherkin community) who don’t think deeply about their claims, such as wannabes and fluffies

Adalis. “Emotional problems and the otherkin phenomenon.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/emotional-problems-and-the-otherkin-phenomenon/
On “wannabe” otherkin, who are deluding themselves in an attempt to escape from their emotional problems.
On newcomers (to the therian community) who don’t think deeply about their claims, such as wannabes and fluffies

ShadowsMyst. “Walking the path of a therian.” n.d. shadowsden.org/therianpath.html
★ In a matter of days, a newcomer decides that he’s a therian, and then he isn’t. Only certain people are therians, because it’s a spiritual path that isn’t for everybody. It doesn’t give you superpowers, and it’s not about anger.

A rant on newcomers to the therian community who start saying that they’re therians even though they don’t understand what it means.

Yennefer z Vengerbergu (?). “Популярность териантропии (Therianthrope popularity).” Circa 2007. shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-41
(In Russian.) A few years ago, many people started saying they were therians without understanding what it really means. In an attempt to tell real therians apart from such posers, forums became unfriendly. Therianthropy is not and never can be a subculture, because it’s not a cultural phenomenon, it’s a psychological type. The furry fandom, however, is a subculture, and that’s where the mix-up happened.

Neserit Luncast. “Werecreatures.” hiddenlair.org/werecreatures.htm (defunct)
On the differences between real and pretend therianthropy.

Ketrino. “Humans and the desire to be Other.” 2006-08-26. ketrino.angelfire.com/essay37.html
On people who aren’t otherkin or therians but wish that they were.

Therians in AHWW break into two groups: “wannabes” and “trues.” Lie 1: Individuality. (Uniqueness.) Lie 2: Therianthropy is easy to believe in, hard to live. Lie 3: Therianthropes aren’t like humans.

Dutch translation: tusmoerke.dk/object_show.php?type=article&id=a_1126091997&title=Therianthropys%203%201%F8gne

Says that role-players and wannabes are “a disease” ruining the Internet portions of otherkin and therian communities, and so they shouldn’t be welcomed.

SombraStudio. “Re: What is fluff?” 2010-03-09. deviantart.com/deviation/156751517
Traits of a “fluffy bunny.” They make far-fetched claims. They refuse to learn or to admit they might be wrong. Someone else told them that they were therians.

Tired of therians who thoughtlessly repeat the same things as other therians.
On inexperienced therians who have inaccurate ideas about animals

akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/cats.php
A complaint about therians who say that they’re felines but who don’t understand what felines are like, because they haven’t done enough research or soul-searching
GestaltZe. “Reality and myth: The archetypal theriotype vs. the true-to-life theriotype.” 2010-01-17. deviantart.com/deviation/150829449

★ Incorrect ideas about animals influence all therians to some degree.
deviantart.com/deviation/155807679
★ Some therians sum up their animal side in one word, and proceed obsessing over this one trait in ignorance of what the real animal is like, idolizing or demonizing it. Don’t oversimplify. Complexity is the essence of life.
The seasons and holidays

General and miscellaneous

On full moons, Halloween, Earth Day, Winter Solstice, February, and Lupercalia.
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051219.html
(Comic)
Arethinn. “Why would faeries celebrate Purim? (Why otherkind would celebrate Purim).”
eristic.net/fey/living/whypurim.php

Halloween, Samhain, and other autumn holidays

therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051031.html
(comic)

Christmas, Yule, and other winter holidays

The fine print that the Divine places in each of our life contracts, the Clause states that everyone who has done their best to create love in the world is entitled to a miracle. Most await Santa’s coming at Yule, but the elven await him when the moment is right.
Thoughts on Santa’s elves and the approach of the new millennium.
jps.net/elve/santaelf.html
(defunct)
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20071224.html
(Comic)
Relations with outsiders

Openness

Advice on how to tell people that you’re an otherkin or therian

If you are ready to come out to someone as Otherkin.

Advice on how to “come out” gracefully.

“Advice on coming out of the ‘therian closet’ to family and friends.” (Description from the WereLibrary.)

Advice on “coming out.”

Shadsek. “Wereism, relationships, truth, and openness.” therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/comeout.txt (defunct)
Advice on “coming out.”

So, you’ve been thinking about telling someone of your draconity…

A Christian dragon offers advice on how to come out to one’s family.

Three ways not to come out.

Advice on coming out.

Urytevaera. “Revealing identities… to tell or not to tell.” 2004-08-27. wingedwatchers.tripod.com/creative/bessay1.html

(In Swedish.) Before coming out, consider these things: What are the benefits and disadvantages of telling? Can I predict how the person will react?

Cautions about openness

Miaren Crow’s Daughter. “A place for fear (an essay).” home.otherkin.net/miaren/fear.html
Be selective in who you tell about being otherkin.

Lupa. “THEY are not out to get you.” Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 256-257.

Why it’s important to be open

Saevitia S. “Hanging together vs. hanging separately.” otakukin.atspace.com/hanging.htm
▲ Might as well be out all the time, getting picked on is inevitable either way.

Demzon. “An open letter to the vampire community.” darknessembraced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/172
It may be necessary for the vampire community to go public, for their own well-being.

Baxil the Dragon. “A call to arms.” tomorrowlands.org/june2003.html#06022003
 Dragon otherkin are “at the front line of the battle to legitimize otherkin.”

SummonerWolf. “‘Personal’ therianthropy.” deviantart.com/deviation/128302054
✔ I’ve noticed some talk about just how much publicity our community really wants.

Robert B. “Lycanthropy article.” vaiolani.tripod.com/artc005.htm
Written by an outsider, speculating on some of the ways things might happen if everybody knew about modern therians.
Miscellaneous articles on openness

Mokele. “A Were’s life: Interacting with human society and ‘the closet.’” Circa 2002/therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/closet.htm (defunct)

It can help you form a stronger bond with your family. My mom already knew.

On openness.

On some common attitudes that outsiders tend to have about otherkin. How otherkin feel about outsiders.

Debunking outsiders’ negative stereotypes of the spiritual therianthropy subculture.

(lost)
“Therians are humans too; something to consider when building relationships with others.” (Description from the WereLibrary.)

DrakeLightBearer. “We’re a happy family.” dragonswings.org/Essay/fell.shtml
Advice for Christian otherkin on how to come out to and get along with non-otherkin Christians.

Secrecy

✔ (Poem.) Nearly breaking silence.

jps.net/elve/ELFNINJA.HTML (defunct)
On camouflage: blending in with nature, and blending in with humanity.

Lupa. “Keep in mind that non ’kin often see us as complete lunatics.” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 253-256.

Advice on why and how we should maintain secrecy

Wolf Shaman. Aroo…, episode 9. deviantart.com/deviation/36640831
A reason not to tell about therianthropy.

Yaiolani. “Ultra-secrecy and covering your tracks: Paranoid or justifiable?” yaiolani.tripod.com/arti1.htm
Why some therians keep their therianthropy a secret.


Saevitia S. “Should I ‘come out’ As otakukin?” otakukin.atspace.com/comeout.htm
Argues that you probably shouldn’t, except perhaps to other otakukin.

Yennefer z Vengerberg (?). “Человек и Зверь (Man and beast).” Circa 2007.
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-3
(In Russian.) Reasons why therians give up on trying to explain therianthropy to outsiders

Relations with outsiders: Miscellaneous

▲ On calling certain kinds of people “normal.”

On calling certain kinds of people “normal.”

On nonconformism and resisting any trouble-making outsiders.
Relations with humanity, inside and outside

The human side of otherkin

Otherkin honoring the human part of the family as well.

dragonswings.org/Essay/tog.shtml
▲ A Christian dragon explains why we otherkin should be satisfied with the human bodies that God gave us. Much as we may long to be dragons, we shouldn’t bemoan the forms we’ve been given.

On the human mind and body, perceived by the leopard within.

main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/the-forgotten-truth-being-human
Otherkin lament that we’re locked into these human forms, but we should delight in being human.

Delcan the Odd and Kistaro Windrider. “On ‘otherkin angst.’”
http://www.weyr.org/drp/otherkin_angst.html or
dragonhall.myfreeforum.org/viewcardtopic.php?t=53 (a mirror of a document that was originally posted in the Draconity Resource Project)
Advice for otherkin who are feeling sad about not being dragons. “On why angst about what you don’t have is a destructive thing; and distracts you from what you do have.”
(Description from Draconity Resource Project.)

Kistaro Windrider. “You can’t fly.”
http://www.weyr.org/drp/youcantfly.html or
dragonhall.myfreeforum.org/You_can_t_fly__about55.html
“On being human, and how wonderful it can be even without scales.” (description from Draconity Resource Project)

Seraphyna. “Why do we separate ourselves so entirely?”
otherkinphenomena.org/main/display_article.php?id=17
For all intents and purposes, we otherkin are human.

The human side of therians

(poem) “In finding my animal nature,/ I see what it is to be human,/ In being more human,/ I find my true nature.”

lynxspirit.com/Raven.html
We are human as much as we are other.

deviantart.com/deviation/155807852
We therians are shaped by cultural ideas about Wolf, and about Human.

Otherkin who don’t call themselves humans

kinspeak.tumblr.com/post/12122639053/non-human
Problems with calling ourselves “non-human:” it defines us by what we are not; and it denies our humanity, which is not the best solution

Tsu (?). Untitled. 2011-10-22.
nonhumanquotes.tumblr.com/post/11761344323
(Calligraphy) Refusing to pretend to be human
Otherkin looking critically at humankind/outiders (and otherkin looking critically at otherkin who do so)

By otherkin

Sarah Phoenix. “Don’t forget your skinsuit!”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/dont-forget-your-skinsuit
You have a human body, and that’s what everyone sees. Don’t hate being human, learn to love it instead, and by extension, to love yourself and your current world.

Explain why it’s never acceptable to stereotype all humans as bad.

WingBoy. “Waa! Waa! Humans suck!”
avians.net/hellkite/humanrant.html
A rant about otherkin who say that they hate humans.

By therians

Quil. “Blurry notability.”
absurdism.org/therianthropy/notability.html
Humankind has screwed up, but it’s also got the ability to fix what went wrong.

Ketrino. “Life from the eyes of a wolf-kin.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/life-from-the-eyes-of-a-wolf-kin
How humans look from the perspective of an outsider. There is so much about society I wish to understand … it looks like a strange scene from an alien planet.
Russian translation: shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-105

Sterling. “Oh, the humanity!”
sterlingtwilight.net/bootcamp/Human.html
(defunct)
In response to therian who rant about humans, a reminder that therians are human.

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/humans.php
Argues that being a therianthrope is being human, and that saying humans are lesser is hypocritical.
Russian translation: shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-62

Yaiolani. “Anti-human sentiments (Werewolves against humans?)”
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc1.htm

Claire H. WereUndies! 2007-08-29.
elfwood.com/art/c/e/cemmuel/wereundies.jpg.html
(Comic) A parody of therians who claim to hate humans.

Ketrino. “A wolf-sheep’s view on humans.”
ketrino.angelfire.com/essay19.html
Why it’s ridiculous for otherkin and therians to be misanthropic.

By starseeds

Sweetstuff. “Beyond tired of the ‘oh those damned humans’ talk!” 2011-01-20
▲ (Rant) Half the incarnate extraterrestrials who complain about humans are doing nothing to solve the humans’ problems, even though they claim that they were born here as part of a mission to help humans.
starseeds.net/forum/topics/beyond-tired-of-the-oh-those
PART IV.

FIELD GUIDE.
First-Person Bestiary

Here are some writings that describe what it feels like to be a therianthrope of a particular species. Some of the writings offer advice for therians of the same kind. Into this section I’ve sorted the types of real animals that can be found in Earthly nature (or at least in Earth’s fossil record). Please don’t consider this to be a comprehensive catalog of all species of therianthropes... these are just the publicly available writings that go into detail about this particular aspect of therian experience.

General notes on animal types

On how therians experience their animal side.


Advice for therians who identify as animals that are extinct. How to recognize and research extinct animals.

Spanish translation: project-shift.org/es/introspection/extinct.php

Rosalyn Greene. Untitled selection, in The Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 82-86.
On types of animal sides that don’t live in nature: extinct and mythological animal sides, and “undifferentiated felines,” who identify with no particular species of cat.

A hypothesis about the symbolic spiritual characteristics and interconnectedness of different types of animal-sides, based on folkloric archetypes as well as nature.

What are animals, really?
What does this mean for our animal selves?

★ Argues that it is a mistake to view concepts of “animal” and “human” as a clear-cut binary. There’s no single “animality” common to all creatures but humans.

★ Are animals “lower” than humans, and is shifting an an atavistic regression? Animals are souls in earlier phases of their karmic lessons, but they’re not inferior to humans. A human shifting to animal is a review of a more basic perspective, but not a regression.

Observation and study of real animals

Dragonslorefury. “A dragonkin and a wolf therian.” deviantart.com/deviation/79093795
A difference between mythical and animal people: unlike a dragon otherkin, a wolf therian has the opportunity to actually see real live wolves.

On the importance of direct, personal experience with the real live animals corresponding with (or similar to) one’s own animal side.

On the importance of direct, personal experience with the real live animals.

Winged versions of non-winged animals

  ketrino.angelfire.com/essay32.html
Why do some therians see their animal side as
having wings added on, when the animal in
nature doesn’t look that way? Winged wolves
are strangely common among therians.

Dreama (DarkSideoftheSun13). “Flying wolf.”
deviantart.com/deviation/65703666
Wolf is different for me. Some other wolves
have wings, like I do.

Animal sides that can’t be classified as a species

Pantairin, of Chimera. “Cladotherianthropy.” by
2011-07.
  houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/80355.html
✔️ A cladotherianthrope is one whose animal
side is a generalization of all animals within a
taxa, such as an entire genus, rather than a
species. An introduction to the definition and
history of this concept.

On the proliferation of wolves
and large carnivorous mammals

  freewebs.com/lupineinstincts/whysomanywolves.htm
or
  werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=25486
Argues that therians more often identify as
wolves because the most familiar shape-shifter
in our folklore is the werewolf
Spanish translation: project-shift.org/es/community/why_wolves.php

Lynx Canadensis. “Why big fierce animals aren’t
rare (on AHWW, anyway).” 1999-09-10.
  wildideas.net/temple/library/letters/predators.html
Some reasons why wolves are common among
therians and insects aren’t.

Sterling. “The ’vogue’ phenotype: Where have all
the herbivores gone?”
  sterlingtwilight.net/bootcamp/Vogue.html
(defunct)
Is it so inconceivable to be something that
doesn’t hunt or isn’t ‘mythical’?

Quil. “Why we’re big, scary animals: It’s not
delusions of grandeur.” 2005-07-17.
  absurdism.org/therianthropy/bigscary.html
I’m a leopard because I looked at myself and
saw leopard in there. Not all therians identify
as large predators; there are some herbivores
and insects.

Ketrino. “The wolf theriotype.”
  ketrino.angelfire.com/essay25.html
Why there are so many wolves, and why
people jump to conclusions.

Hypnos the Snakey. “Predation theory.” Circa
2002. snakey.org/pred-theo.html (defunct)
On a reason for the many predatory therians,
written for Shifters.org, explained by a snake
therian.

The Eclective. “Otherkin: So why is it always
dragons and wolves?”
  intoccabile.net/mythos.htm (defunct)
A list of possible reasons why.

  otherkin.livejournal.com/475330.html
A vulture otherkin explains that although
there’s an assumption that most otherkin
identify as beautiful creatures, some otherkin
identify as creatures who are usually not
thought of as such.
therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/species.htm (defunct) and
geocities.com/RainForest/Andes/9563/species.html (defunct)
Three possible reasons why most therians are
canines or felines.
On a possible cause behind fads for certain
peculiar animal sides.
therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/special.htm (defunct)
Lupa. Untitled selection, in A Field Guide to
Otherkin, p. 35-36
On the predominance of certain species,
including legendary beings as well as animals.
Койот Один (Coyote One). “Териантропия как
test нового разума в старой тушке
(Therianthrope as a test of new mind in an old
body).” 2008-09. shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-125
▲ (In Russian.) I think therians are a
throwback to Australopithecus. This may
explain why therians usually identify as smart
mammals, such as wolves, but never
invertebrates nor primates.

Canines (wolves, etc.)

Wolves

Lupa. “I am not a werewolf.”
otherkin.net/articles/notAWerewolf.html
★ Is a wolf in a human body the same as a
were-wolf?
Russian translation:
werewolf.org.ua/index.php?page=library&pid=
1&id=82065625 and
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-4
Furtail. “My WereCard.”
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/fur
tail.html
I'm not a werewolf, I'm a
wolf in a man's body.
If that 'qualifies' for being a werewolf, then I
guess I am. My soul is a wolf soul, but it's been
a few lives...
Lupa. “Wolves and dogs and therianthropy.” 2008-
11-07. therioshamanism.com/2008/11/07
Lupa. “Wild cousins.” 2007-03-06. house-
eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.87
A wolf therian contemplates real wild wolves.
ketrino.angelfire.com/wolfmanifesting.htm
How shifting and my interpretation of my wolf
self go along.
ketrino.angelfire.com/wishift.html
A brief essay about why I am wolf.
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/senses.php
My instincts are all wolf, and all human-who-
is-a-wolf.
ketrino.angelfire.com/whatiswolf.html
What wolf means to me.
Ketrino. “The wolf as a symbol.”
ketrino.angelfire.com/symbols.html
Negative and positive interpretations of the
wolf in folklore around the world.
5arah. “5arah.” lynxspirit.com/5arah.html
While the wolf is a major part of me, it is not
all of me. I embrace, accept, and enjoy my
humanity as well.
Wolff. “Man, wolf, shapeshyfter, and werewolf.”
sunpuppyart.com/thewolffden/wolves/wolves3.html (defunct)
GestaltZe. “Simple-dog.” 2010-08-01.
deviantart.com/deviation/173653175
Despite calling myself a wolf therian, canine communication does not come naturally to me. Earth Listener, of Chimera. The wolf inside. 2010-01-06. deviantart.com/deviation/149451034
(Visual art: color pencil) Self-portrait as wolf.

Isiriu. The wolf inside. 2007-03-07. deviantart.com/deviation/50335483
(Digital painting) Wolf.

(In Russian.) On the usual appearance and behavior of the modern wolf therianthrope person.

Extinct wolves

A dire-wolf therian reconstructs from bones and something like memories.

Solo. “Confessions of an extinct canid.” 2007-12-03. lynxspirit.com/solo.html
A major facet of my canine identity is my identification with an animal that was both mythic as well as extinct, the Japanese wolf.

Canines other than wolves

Rosalyn Greene. “Other canine species.” In The Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 79-82.
On therians who are coyotes, jackals, dogs, and hyenas.

Coyotes

Yaiolani. “Werewolf and shapeshifter codex: Werecoyote and werejackal annex.” yaiolani.tripod.com/werecoyote.htm
The author knows of at least half a dozen coyote therians in the community.

Coyote Osborne. “Why is my name Coyote?” 2005-08-20. coyoteoldone.com/node/32

Coyote Osborne. “Evolution – Where are we going, and why are we in this handbasket?” 2005-08-20. coyoteoldone.com/node/11
I’m a coyote person. What do they do? They survive.

Dogs (wild and domestic)

In the spiritual therianthrope community, there are at least several dozen cynanthropes (were-dogs).

Vladwolf “Vladwolf’s page.” caledoniamission.org/were/mywere.html
I have known I was canine since I was a little girl. For a while I worked with the Wolf totem, but I was not a wolf. I explored my old journal entries and discovered my collie self.

I am a wolf; I am a dog. A rough, crude, antiquated kind of dog, but a wild dog nonetheless.

Foxes

Despite the gender skews in legends about were-foxes, there are male spiritual therians who are foxes.

▲ Posits that a fox animal-side is often just a phase, as it was for Greene.

Starmuttani. Therian Meme (Woof Woof .:. Therian Meme). deviantart.com/deviation/162398078
♫ A dhole therian’s artistic responses to a questionnaire about therianthropy.
Felines (cats)

General

akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/catfolk.php
Summaries of the characteristics of several feline species and their expressions in therian people.

On the characteristics of various kinds of feline therians.

Leopards

absurdism.org/therianthropy/leopardis.html

absurdism.org/therianthropy/memories.html
♩ Regarding Emily Dickinson’s poem about a caged leopard. Don’t pity me for 'being in the wrong body,' pity the cats dressed in their own pelts.

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/territoriality.php
Leopards are shy and territorial to survive. Feelings about personal space.

spottedfur.absurdism.org/wind.html
♩ On what snow leopard feels like. Cold wind, speed, grace, freedom.

spottedfur.absurdism.org/snowleopard.html
On snow leopards in folktales from Tibet and Pakistan.

lynxspirit.com/katsune.html
It’s bright outside. Snow leopard is running so close to the surface I can feel the fur ruffling on my skin in the wind.

Jaguars

akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/jaguar.php
Concluded not jaguar, but always had deep affinity for this totem.

Swiftpaw. “Defining the cat.”
lynxspirit.com/swiftpaw.html
I’m lost when somebody asks me how I’m a jaguar. I just am. I can only counter the question with one of my own: how can you be human without passion?

Cheetahs

animal-quills.dreamwidth.org/3747.html
What it’s like to be a cheetah therianthrope.

Lions

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/lionmind.php
The mindset of a lioness is full of contradictions. She can do all of these things.

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/territory.php
A lioness wants to go out and explore, but also wants the company of a pride.

Tigers

Strype. “My WereCard.”
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/strypes.html
I’ve felt a phantom tail for as long as I can remember. Later, could feel fur, muzzle, ears, saw stripes. Someday I’ll get stripes tattooed all over.

Lynxes

Miss Lynx. “Snow, moonlight, walking the path.” lynxspirit.com/misslynx.html
Meditations of a Pagan lynx therian.
http://www.lynxspirit.com/walksie.html
The paradox of not being a lynx, and yet, being a lynx.
sonne.sonverrid.org/Guests/tam_fear_and_boldness.htm
These emotions as part of the feline side.

House-cats

sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/domestic_and_wild.html
Identifying as a domestic cat.
sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/predator_or_prey.htm
These aren’t mutually exclusive concepts. A cat is both.

Ungulates (hoofed animals)

Horses

Sonne Spiritwind. “Midnight sand – essay on horse.”
sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/midnight_sand.html
A therian’s horse side. Horse likes running, grasslands.
lynxspirit.com/buckshaw.html
It’s not all crazy careening and explosive bucking. The horse counterpoints this with the deepest, most patient sense of reflection I have ever known.

Therian Meme, by Aiony. 2010-05-24
A horse therian’s illustrated responses to a questionnaire about therianthropy.
deviantart.com/deviation/165237140

Sheep

ketrino.angelfire.com/baessay.html
The perspective of a bighorn sheep ram.
ketrino.angelfire.com/essay49.html
Bighorn compared to domestic sheep.

Deer and antelope

Liesk. “My antlers are the biggest liars I know.”
liesk.feralscribes.org/?q=node/10 (lost)
On a deer animal side.
Yaiolani. “Werewolf and shapeshifter codex: Weredeer annex.”
yaiolani.tripod.com/weredeer.htm
Deer therians feel uncomfortable and out-of-place in the therian community where there are so many wolves, so they often leave, preferring the furry community.
sonne.sonverrid.org/Guests/sondu_dao_of_duiker.html
The perspective of a therian who is a cougar as well as a duiker, which is a type of antelope.
Other mammals

Yaiolani. “Werewolf and shapeshifter codex: Wererat annex.”
yaiolani.tripod.com/wererats.htm
The spiritual therian community has at least three wererats, including one who was present at the first Howl.

Birds

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/crow.php
I scavenge. I adjust. Smart and adaptable, I survive. My sense of humor helps me do it.

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/wintercrow.php
Yearning to fly through the February snow, but only human feet on the ground are real.

lynxspirit.com/crowebasalt.html
A crow therian who is content without searching for further questions and answers.

Voshkof. “Teacher.”
lycanthrope.org/~raven/Teacher.html
(defunct)
The identity and philosophy of a raven shifter.

deviantart.com/deviation/164662401
A raven therian’s responses to a questionnaire about therianthropy.

Ilrak (Flippinkmoon). “Good morning, Miss Raven.” deviantart.com/deviation/126529876
2009-06-19.
Longing to do bird type things.

Ilrak (IlrakKorax). “Therian video 1.”
youtu.be/_XqAU1-jups
(Video.) A narrated cartoon describing what it’s like to be a raven therian, and what it feels like to phantom shift.

Yaiolani. “Werewolf and shapeshifter codex: Were Raven annex.”
yaiolani.tripod.com/wereraven.htm
Ravens are the most common bird in the spiritual therianthropy subculture. Perhaps this has something to do with the link between ravens and wolves.

thehornedgate.wordpress.com/2011/04/09
Finding or creating myths of hawk.

Tsu. “Tell me what it is like to be a swangirl.”
2011-11-18.
swanblood.tumblr.com/post/12962401535/tell-me-what-it-is-like-to-be-a-swangirl
What it’s like to be a swan.

Dinosaurs

Gon. Untitled essay.
therianthropy.wingedwolfpsion.com/dinosaur.html
▲ A dinosaur therian contrasts the experiences of most therians with that of therians whose animal types are extinct, and encourages therians to be active environmentalists. If your type is alive today, be thankful, never take it for granted. If it’s vulnerable to extinction, work against it, and pray you will never see that happen in your lifetime.

therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/raptors.htm (defunct)

Sonne Spiritwind. “On wings of a living past.”
2009-08-01.
sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/living_past.html
What it’s like to be, therianthropically, a winged theropod (of the type I call an “erdenvogel”), with particular emphasis on understanding and phantom sensations of that theropod’s body.

sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/designing_a_theriotype.html
Reptiles

I read about the naga, a mythical race of shapeshifting cobra-people, and contemplated that I might be one of them. … I learned to work out my shifts through my art work, and later, through learning to belly dance.

The awakening and progress of a snake therian.

Fish

A shark therian’s responses to a questionnaire about therianthropy.

I noticed I’d been feeling an unusual phantom limb… I began to consider the possibility that I had a second animal side as well as wolf.

Earth Listener, of Chimera. Quilled shark. 2010-01-06. deviantart.com/deviation/149450610
(Drawing) “My first concept art while trying to figure out what my second theriotype looked like. I have dubbed it ‘Quilled Shark’ because I have yet to be able to find a shark or other fish in the known in the fossil record that looks anything like it. It looks almost like a frilled shark…”

Earth Listener, of Chimera. Quilled shark swimming. 2010-01-08. deviantart.com/deviation/149725029
(Color pencil) “In my never-ending attempts to figure out what my shark theriotype looks like, considering I’ve found nothing that looks like it in the known fossil record, I give you another concept drawing of the quilled shark. I changed and revised a few things as I’ve learned and seen more from my phantom experiences and my dreams.”

Earth Listener, of Chimera. “Gills and fins: Not all sharks is a Jaws.” 2010-02. houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/19978.html
Not all sharks are Great White Sharks. My shark self doesn’t look like what most people think of when they think of a shark. I’ve yet to find a species of shark that looks like this “quilled shark.” Description of its appearance and habits. What it feels like to have a mental shift as a shark therian, compared to a wolf

Invertibrates

♫ An insect person longs for wings and chitin.

Antennae moving, quivering … soft breeze and crunching leaves.

♫ That is not a place for a milkweed seed.

On being a blue glaucus sea-slug therian.
We’re a lot of fabulous beings

Here are some writings that describe what it feels like to be a specific type of otherkin, creatures which are believed by most people to reside only within myth, legend, and folklore, rather than in the Earthly biosphere. Creatures including elves, fae, dragons, angels, demons, vampires, and so on.

Don’t consider this selection of essays to represent the full spectrum of diversity within the otherkin communities, or even a way to judge what kinds are most common or rare. There are many more kinds of otherkin out there than just these. I know, because I’ve seen them participate in otherkin forums from time to time. However, their kinds aren’t represented here because I haven’t found that they’ve written public essays.

General notes on otherkin types

Adnarel. “Otherkin types: diversity in the otherkin community.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/otherkin-types-diversity-in-the-otherkin-community
An overview of some different creatures that otherkin may identify as, and advice for them.

Elves, dragons…

otherkin.net/articles/folklore.html
A non-otherkin Pagan looks critically at the problems with otherkin who identify as fae.

French translation:
otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/folklore.html

Yaiolani. “Mythological shapeshifters (Werewolf and shapeshifter codex: mythological annex).”
yaiolani.tripod.com/mythic.htm
Are dragon therians as serious as wolf therians? Real kooks tend to latch onto very weird species. Maybe they mis-perceive an animal side as a chimera.

Elves and Fae


Wynde'na. “A rant on ‘Elfniness.’”
rialian.com/elfness.htm
✓ I do not have pointy ears. I do not age at a ridiculously slow rate. But I am spiritually pulled to a particular kind of elves, more than any purely ‘human’ archetype I have found.

pirate.is/nautilus/2011/05/15/what-does-it-mean-to-be-elf
Therians have a lot of reference material to tell them about their animal sides, but elf does not walk on this planet outside of human flesh.
Physically we might be of any skin color … We may or may not have pointed ears and other folks may not be able to see them if we do.

Tom B. “Are you a Faeid?”
treeleavesoracle.org/faeid/faeid.html
hiddenlair.org/werecreaturefaq.htm (defunct)
Faeids are human/faerie people. coined the word in 1986.

On physical and behavioral traits common to people who are in spirit elves, fairies, leprechauns, or brownies.

rialian.com/elven-way.htm

Anonymous. “On being an elf in a human’s world.”
rialian.com/being-elf-human-world.htm
I am an elf. I’ve always felt a calling to nature and to magick. I can’t quite reconcile being a creature that does not exist in Christian theology with the fact that I am a Christian, but I do believe in Jesus.
Kyrin the Toxic Elf. “Elven anatomy, or, may be hazardous if swallowed.” 1997-07-29.
rialian.com/toxic/elvskyr2.htm (defunct)
On being elf-bodied; on the coming times of change; relating with humans.

otherkin.net/articles/powerOfGift.html
Gift economy as part of elfin nature; part of why elves don’t fit into human society.

Magic is part of our Elven being, but for us Magic means virtues such as Love, Trust, Friendship, etc. We tend to dance as a group, each doing their own thing together, rather than pairing off, due to our natural inclination to share everything among ourselves.

Rialian. “Synesthesia symbiosis.”
rialian.com/synesthesia-symbiosis.htm
I use Synesthesia, the transposing of different perceptions over one another, to express the mind of the elven sort…

How does being otherkin affect one’s emotions?


Elves often ask us what they can do to promote their elfin natures...


Lanthinel. “The Tuatha De Danaan and Tir Nan Og (A story of the Tir).”
fastlane.net/homepages/worlow4/Lanthinel/tir.htm (defunct)
Legends of elves, and the situation of elves who are born in human bodies.

rialian.com/elvstal.htm

rialian.com/elvsfall.htm

eristic.net/fey/types/sidhe-elves-fae.php

Tiernan. “Sidhe.”
otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/orc/magickal_creatures//sidhe.html
Elenari Elves

Dan O’Dea. “Elenari.”
otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/orc/magickal_creatures/elenari.html
rialian.com/elveselen.htm
Description of a humble past life.
absinthia.com/otherkin/kintypes/elves.html (defunct)
The Eldari are an elven people from the world of Alorya. This is a description of them from past-life memory.
stormpages.com/wolfglade/Arhúaine/elves.html (defunct)
Similar to above article.
Anonymous. “Rise of the Elven Vor’jen.”
rialian.com/elvsvorg.htm
Some history of the Elenari and the Vor’jen in their world.
‘Lesia. “About me, but it isn’t really.”
adrastai.com/spirituality/0706_aboutme.shtml
A lightworker who had several lives on a couple of the Elenari homeworlds.
‘Lesia. “What’s an Adrastai?”
adrastai.com/articles/0706_adrastai.shtml
Memories of a role in Elenari societies.
adrastai.com/articles/0706_tulari.shtml
The Tulari are a race of Elenari who arose on Selar, one of the Elenari homeworlds. I was once Tulari.
“An incomplete history of the Tulari race.”
adrastai.com/articles/0706_ht.shtml
users.ntr.net/~sidhe/deshtai.htm (defunct)
✔ Des’tai is an elven philosophical concept, here compared to Taoism.
Lanthinel. “Deshtai.”
fastlane.net/homepages/worlow4/Lanthinel/deshtai.htm (defunct)
Another writing about des’tai.
adrastai.com/spirituality/0506_destai.shtml
Anonymous (?) “Elfske rasy (Elven race).”
azrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/elfove.html (In Czech.) Some material about Elenari.

Satyrs, fauns, and nymphs

Christopher A. (WyldeSatyr). “What it means to be Satyr.”
eristic.net/fey/types/satyrs.php
Longing, passion, healing… love of life.
reocities.com/Area51/Corridor/1015/heresatyr.html
Description of satyr otherkin people, their typical appearances and personalities.
Describes a relationship with a satyr.
reocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/8651/desires.html
Satyrs constantly struggle with impulses unlike society’s expectations of “acceptable behavior.” Be reassured that you’re not crazy, and you’re not evil.
reocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/8651/satyr.html
If you’re wondering if you’re a satyr, you should look within your own thoughts.
reocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/8651/pain.html
Being a satyr isn’t all joy. They feel other emotions intensely, too.
Wylde. “What it means to be a nymph (IMNSHO).”
Circa 1998.
absinthia.com/otherkin/kintypes/nymph.htm (defunct)
Nymphs as the counterparts to satyrs.
Angels, devas, and demons

In general

On otherkin who identify as angels or demons.

Angels

Freelanceangel. “Discovering an angelic archetype.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/discovering-an-angelic-archetype
Angels throughout global mythologies, not just Judeo-Christian.

Iophiel. “On angels and elitism.” 2008?
motherkinphenomena.org/main/display_article.php?id=21
A description of some incarnate angels who claim to be from the Judeo-Christian Heaven and who share a common history and background.

Terro. “Of the incarnate angel.”
otherkinphenomena.org/main/display_article.php?id=21
▲ I consider myself an angel not because I was one, but because I’ll be one after death.

otherkin.livejournal.com/366325.html

Demons

Kahoku. “Strange new world: my life as a demon.”
kahoku.otherkinphenomena.org/article_strangenewworld.html
I’m talking mostly out of my own experience. I don’t claim to know everything about every kind of demon. I’m a demon who incarnated into a human body. In my true form, I’m something someone called an “intelligent floating shadow jellyfish” – a formless shade floating around, invisible to most people.

Hungarian translation:
freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/demons.html

Simim23. “So you think you’re a demon… now what?”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/so-you-think-youre-a-demon-now-what
You cannot fit demons into a single cookie-cutter mold. Of all ‘kin types discussed out there, we’re probably the hardest to describe. Hungarian translation: freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/demons2.html

Devas

In a past-life regression, learned of a life as a luminous being, an angel-like deva, whose job was to create blueprints for crystals and other things to grow into.

Outside of the otherkin community

A list of physical and behavioral traits supposedly common among incarnate angels.

Vampires

I’ve seen arguments about whether vampires are technically a type of otherkin, or if they’re not, and are completely different and separate from otherkin. The vampire community developed very separately from the otherkin community, so I’ve only very tentatively sorted the vampires into this section. Maybe I should sort the vampires into a completely separate section, but this seemed like the most logical way to organize things. Please understand that I mean no offense, and that I am aware of the differences. When possible, I sort articles about vampires into other topics (for example, articles on vampire ethics go into another section collecting various codes of ethics).

Introducing real vampires

Anshar Seraphim. “What does it mean to be a vampire?” sanguinarius.org/articles-2/Anshar_vampire.shtml


Enygma. “Real vampires.” sanguinarius.org/articles/enygma_real_vampires.shtml
An introduction to some different types of vampires and their common traits.

▲ ✔ Escape from the fictional stereotypes: real vampirism isn’t about predator/prey. I don’t see why we should use that dynamic as our paradigm at all. It doesn’t need to be like that. Look at what vampirism is really about: intimacy, trust, and sharing.

Sarah D. “The vampiric subculture.” sanguinarius.org/articles/vamplife.shtml
Maybe we made our community in the way that we did because we lacked and needed a sense of community. We invented “traditions” mostly cribbed from role-playing games because for some people, fake antiquity is better than none.
A Directory of Otherkin Writings – 107

Knightshayd. “Guilt.”

sanguinarius.org/articles/guilt.shtml

If one can’t help being a vampire, and one does one’s best to be ethical, then one needn’t feel guilty for being a vampire. All things were created for a purpose.

Real vampires get along just fine with werewolves and therianthropes


ketrino.angelfire.com/vampwerewar.html

(Rant) There is not a war on between real therians and real vampires! That idea comes from movies. Don’t be gullible.


★ There isn’t a war on between therians and vampires. They aren’t natural enemies. Neither therians nor vampires are as dangerous as their fictional counterparts in movies. Neither therians nor vampires are sufficiently organized to put on a war. Some philosophy about the role of therians and vampires in the world: therians preserve balance between civilization and nature, vampires preserve balance between life and death.


deviantart.com/deviation/61100103

(Sequential art) What really happens when a therian meets a real vampire.

Kiric HeartWolf. “My WereCard.”

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/heartwlf.html

How I met my first friend: she held out her hand, said, “Hi, I’m a vampire.” I took her hand, said, “Hi, I’m a werewolf.” Best friends ever since.

Are real vampires otherkin?

Michelle Belanger. “A journey of discovery with the otherkin.” 2004-11-17?

kheperu.org/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=233 (defunct)

Otherkin were wary of vampires. Argues that vampires are a type of otherkin.

Real vampires and feeding


sanguinarius.org/articles/tvp-non-feeding.shtml


sanguinarius.org/articles/spiritual_cleansing.shtml

A strategy for alleviating the effects of non-feeding.

[Editor’s note: I’ve only begun to research vampires. Expect to see this section develop more later. Some articles on psychic vampiric feeding are in the metaphysics section instead of here. I should probably put the articles into both sections. All articles about vampires should also be in the vampire section.]
Dragons

The community of people who identify as dragons in spirit started on the newsgroup alt.fan.dragons in the early Nineties, during which time they apparently had very little awareness of or contact with the otherkin and therian communities, so their community developed separately from those. I think this large community centered around draconity may be a part of why dragons currently seem to be one of the most common types of otherkin.

Baxil the Dragon. “The draconity FAQ.”
An introduction to how some people identify as dragons.
draconity.com/faq
German not-exactly-translation: nexus-draconis.de/FAQ.html
Another German not-exactly-translation:
kondor.de/shaman/faq.html
Russian, with added commentary:
dragons-nest.ru/def/draconity_faq.php
Spanish: otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t214-la-faq-de-la-draconeidad
Polish:
tomorrowlands.org/draconity/faq/faq_pl.htm


A summary of motley wonderful paradoxes.
otherkin.net/articles/dragonsAre.html

Rene. “What is your definition of a dragon?”
dragonhall.myfreeforum.org/What_is_your_definition_of_a_dragon_about54.html (a mirror of the document that was originally posted in the Draconity Resource Project)
Here comes the key factor and the real answer to the question of how I define dragons: I don’t.

freeweb.com/clovenhoovedgoddess/herebedragons.htm
Introducing draconity, comparing it to therianthropy.

werelist.net/forums/showthread.php?t=23703
What are dragons? They don’t physically exist.

Why do many therians identify as dragons?
The author’s opinions on these questions.

main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/otherkin-of-the-draconic-sort
Draconic souls have a distinctive aura.

Apu Kuntur (Stefan N. K.). “The Otherkin (Die Anderen – Otherkin).”
kondor.de/shaman/otherkin.html

Are dragon otherkin also angelic seraphim?
German: kondor.de/shaman/otherkin.html

kondor.de/angel/seraph_e.html
More thoughts on dragons seraphim.
German: kondor.de/angel/seraph.html

Chaitnea. “An instinct for dragons.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/an-instinct-for-dragons
A college psychology class paper, citing from Jones’s book titled An Instinc for Dragons.

Baxil the Dragon. “Forty-foot winged reptiles need your love, too: one Nexxus staffer speaks out for belief, tolerance, and the crusade against society’s ... err ... dehumanization.” 1998-04-01.
ecis.com/~ddragon/outing.html (defunct)
A tongue-in-cheek draconic coming-out article, published in an April Fool’s Day issue of Nexxus.

Winged Watchers. “Draconic FAQ.”
wingedwatchers.tripod.com/faq.html
Similar but not identical to Baxil’s “Draconity FAQ,” this document also offers some answers to outsiders and dragons.

Fallen Dragonkin and Syros. “Draci (Dragons).”
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/draci.html
On different types of dragons. Some material by Syros, translated from English.

Dragon portraits

devidart.com/deviation/25216992
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as a dragon, with long explanation.

devidart.com/deviation/195006833
(Digitally colored) From a project to make portraits of dragon otherkin
Gryphons

Some of the members of the Gryphon’s Guild during the 1990s said they identified as gryphons in spirit. However, that group was primarily about role-play and appreciation of fiction. Gentle reader, please help me find public articles by people who earnestly and explicitly state that they identify as gryphons in spirit.


Hope. “My WereCard.”

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/hope.html
Profile of a young therian who is a gryphon (half chicken, half wolf).
Unicorns

Unicorns, pegasi, or other legendary equines have always been surprisingly rare in the otherkin and therian communities. That is, there does seem to be a community of unicorns, but it originated and developed separately from those others.

“Unicorn Otherkin.” en.wikifur.com/wiki/Unicorn_Otherkin
An overview of some of the groups of people who identify as unicorns.
Overview of unicorns in legend, and among otherkin.
The author didn’t get any survey responses from unicorn otherkin, but they’re out there.
This entire book is intended to be a guide for people who are unicorns. Not affiliated with the otherkin community.

Unicorn portraits

Unicornsoul. Me and I. 2010-03-18. deviantart.com/deviation/157708112
(Digitally colored) Split portrait of winged unicorn and human sides.
AmyRoseFire. Flickerfly. 2009-07-27. deviantart.com/deviation/131164201
(Drawing) Self-portrait as a winged unicorn.
Awakening story of a unicorn otherkin. Description of appearance in past life.
(Collage) Self-portrait as a unicorn.
(Color pencil) “me in my past life.”
ChibiMomiji123. Me in a past life. 2005-02-08. deviantart.com/deviation/14971390
(Color pencil) A family of winged unicorns. “The one in the middle is me in unicorn form. The other two alicorns are my past-life brothers.”
ChibiMomiji123. Kotori and Lilly-Rose. 2005-08-04. deviantart.com/deviation/21367276
(Pens) “This is my friend, Kathy, and me as unicorns. We were both one in a past life … Under each unicorn you can see two faces. That is us as humans under our unicorns.”
Season Revelation. Mem. 2006-12-17. deviantart.com/deviation/44903495
(Digital illustration) Self-portrait as a unicorn, for reference.
Phoenix


Meirya. “Cinnamon and Myrrh: What Phoenix is for me.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=164&Itemid=34
▲ ♫ The phoenix within compared to the winged Ba-soul of Kemetic cosmology.

Kya_rayn. “Phoenix: From my eyes.”
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/phoenix-from-my-eyes
When I awakened to my phoenix self, I felt like I was betraying the ‘myth’. I felt like I had no right to call myself a phoenix and was making myself to be special.

shedemonwolf.coolfreepage.com/view_article.php?art_id=6 (defunct)
In myth, there is only one Phoenix. How can it be that there are at least five therians who claim that the Phoenix is part of them? Some hypotheses to explain it.

deviantart.com/deviation/77742837
(Digital illustration) “by looking to the firebird as an example people can keep going on through the bad times.”

Supernatural animals:
*Caith sidhe* (fairy cats), *kitsune* (spirit foxes), etc

otherkin.livejournal.com/102301.html
There’s only one soul within me, and it’s that of a Fae Cat in human form. I don’t have memories of past lives. I don’t feel I should flaunt it. I am of the Fae and of the Feline.


barakusdraconcat.tripod.com/id3.htm
I’m what I call a draconcat: a large feline with dragon-like features. I’ve never met any other draconcat otherkin.

barakusdraconcat.tripod.com/id4.htm
Strange big cats have been sighted in Ireland and the UK. Barakus believes they’re draconcat shifters.
Shapeshifters: wendigo, polymorphs, etc.

Some of these were active in the therian community during the Nineties, not just among otherkin, but I include them in this section because they’re legendary beings rather than animals.


Some people in the therian community are shapeshifting monsters: windigo, spiritwalker, Manitou, or callicantzari. A mix of animal and myth, they resist classification. They’re the opposite of polyweres.

Windigo the Feral. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/windigo.html (defunct)

Dreamed of being a “windigo” creature, and only later heard of stories of windigos. Long after that, found out about other therians.

Extraterrestrials

The incarnate extraterrestrial (also called star-seed, star-born, star-child, and star-person) community has been around for several decades and remains fairly separate from the otherkin community, so I feel doubts about placing their category here in with the others, although it does seem to be the most logical way to organize things. I’m very unfamiliar with the starseed community. I have difficulty understanding the cultural references, philosophical standards, and jargon that they use, because it’s so different from how otherkin and therians frame their ideas. If somebody with more experience in this area could guide me around to some good articles or books about them, I’d appreciate the help.

Anna R. “What are starseeds?” 2009-03-17.

A summary of some of the various definitions of “starseed.” starseeds.info/about-starseeds/list-all-articles/8-what-are-starseeds

Doreen Virtue. “Star people.” Healing with the Angels, p. 151-153

A list of physical and behavioral traits common for incarnate extraterrestrials.


reallifespirituality.com/starseeds-walk-ins-lightworkers


reallifespirituality.com/starseeds-parallels-and-earth-souls


starseeds.net/profiles/blogs/misconceptions-about-starseeds

Just because we’re here on a mission for planetary healing doesn’t mean that we’re cheerful all the time. There are some weird rumors about us that are wrong, too…

Karla SM. “Using the starseed tag as an excuse to avoid our missions.” 2010-12-02.

starseeds.net/forum/topics/using-the-starseed-tag-as-an

✔ Some incarnate extraterrestrials feel overwhelmed by troubles and think of themselves as victims. You chose to be here to help humanity. First, you need to reconnect to Earth, claim it as your home, and heal yourself.
Starseeds from the Pleiades

A list of common traits of incarnate Pleiadians, which are the most common type of incarnate extraterrestrial. Most (but not all) were born after 1968…

“Pleiadian starseeds.” unitedstarseeds.com/pleiadian-starseeds
A personality profile of those from the Pleiades. [As with most of the other descriptions of types of incarnate extraterrestrials, it reads like a horoscope, and doesn’t tell anything about the Pleiades. –Ed.]

★Criticism of channeled information and claims of UFO contact (but not of incarnate Pleiadians) points out that the stars in question aren’t old enough to have developed life and civilization.

Starseeds from other particular extraterrestrial origins

I’ve read Akashic Records about various groups of incarnate extraterrestrials…

Hadar (also called Beta Centauri) was a utopia of unconditional love, until they were invaded and enslaved


They come from the star system of Mintaka, in Orion’s belt.


Indigo children are starseeds from Nihal (Beta Leporis) in the Lepus constellation.

Akemi. “Starseeds: Polarians.” 2010-01-17. reallifespirituality.com/starseeds-polarians

Starseeds from Spica are rare. On their home planet, they lived as light-bodies.

Rare, from an uncertain star, possibly Procyon?


Mer-folk and aquatic peoples

Mermaids and their kind are also surprisingly rare in the otherkin community. I’ve always been puzzled by this. Otherkin have been accused of primarily identifying as charismatic beings that are popular in fantasy… in that case, shouldn’t more of us identify as mermaids?

Some modern mer-people are not just performers, but people who express a serious desire to become mer-people, or who assert that they are now real mer-people. They aren’t involved in the otherkin community.

Anonymous. Untitled. 2011-09-03. mysteryofthemermaid.tumblr.com/post/9771829898
(Image) On feeling like a mermaid.

(Image) Another confession of feeling like a mermaid.

Pelagic Soul (Misty). “Mermaid me.” main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/personal-accounts/mermaid-me
That person inside me longed only for the ocean.

(In German.) I don’t know any other mermaid otherkin like me. I hope I meet one. At least dragons have their own community and jargon.

Naryu. RainSong. 2004-01-07. deviantart.com/deviation/4580383
(Digital illustration) Portrait of a friend as an otherkin water-fey or undine.

Various other beings

Lupa. “‘One-of-a-kind’ and other unique Otherkin.” In A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 206-209.
✓ On a sea serpent, a chupacabra, a shiharan, winged humanoids who say they aren’t angels, Brinn/Brrrn, and plant otherkin.

About otherworldly feline-like fur-covered desert nomads.

Mokele. “When worlds collide…” Circa 2003. therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/worlds.htm (defunct)
A criticism of therians who identify as extraterrestrial animals.

Tsu. “Calling the flock.” 2011-04-16. hakuchou.dreamwidth.org/21378.html
Winged otherkin and therians tell about their wings, and their feelings about flight.

Femmekin (Aristasians)

“Introducing the feminine otherkin races.” 2007-06-02. otherkin.wordpress.com
Femmekin are a particular type of otherkin: those who come from all-feminine races. For example, the Aristasians.

A FAQ about Aristasians, a race with two feminine sexes.

In Aristasia, hair color is sex-linked. What about other hair colors?
Fictionality

Real people can have deep connections to pretend stories, and draw inspiration for real things from fiction… is that all right? Also in this section: reviews of fiction, considered in context of real otherkin.

Common relationships to fiction

The Eclective. “On being moved spiritually by fiction.”

*tangyabominy.dreamwidth.org/23727.html*

Sometimes, when fiction moves me, I feel something change within me, briefly transport me to another state of thinking.

The Eclective. “Fiction, and its essential place in spirituality for me.”

*tangyabominy.dreamwidth.org/53620.html*

On the indispensable value of imagination and stories.

Fiction viewed in context of otherkin and therians


Delighted by Laini Taylor’s novel *Faeries of Dreamdark: Blackbringer.*


(Caution: plot spoilers and frequent strong language.) A review of Rich Shapero’s novel *Wild Animus,* comparing it to the experiences of real therians and real Neo-Pagans. Argues this novel should have been written as a cautionary tale: it glorifies the wrong things.


A dragon, regarding otherkin-like traits in *Dragonwings.*


Regarding otherkin-like traits in *Dragonwings.*


A non-otherkin, regarding otherkin-like traits in *Dragonwings.*


Noting parallels between the original *Star Wars* trilogy and Peter S. Beagle’s *The Last Unicorn.*

Jedi and Unicorns are symbolically the same. Real Jedi and Unicorns are among us.


A rant about therians who think that werewolf movies are offensive. Movies have nothing to do with real life, they’re just entertainment.

Pretend, make-believe, role-playing games... and reality

Otherkin are often quick to point out that they aren’t role-playing or playing make-believe that they’re elves (or whatever they say they are). They say they’re serious, and this is real life. However, should we be so quick to disregard the value of role-playing and make-believe as part of our real lives?


✔ Make-believe as a tool for personal exploration.

Thistle Pleeoolalla Kachunk. “Not just pretending.”

*eristic.net/fey/info/justpretending.php*

Otherkin aren’t just pretending. Consider, though, that if you pretend something long enough, it can become true.


Many folk think we are just pretending to be elves…

VoidEchthros. “How I learned to stop worrying and love *White Wolf.*”
As a mage, fiction has always guided me. Michelle Belanger. “Blurring the lines.” 2004-01-08.
otherkin.net/articles/blurringLines.html
If real magic is inspired by fictional magic, is it valid?
“Much of what modern elves think of thems’elves comes from … novels. Much of what they say about us is inaccurate.”
▲♫ An academic essay on how otherkin draw philosophical and spiritual inspiration from mythology as well as fiction.
sanguinarius.org/articles/Sangi_culture.shtml
Vampires had to invent their culture, necessarily drew inspiration from fiction.
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051128.html
(Comic) On the problems of diluting fact with fiction.
Cat X. Steppenwolf. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/catx.html
✔ Found first other animal-person in Hermann Hesse’s Steppenwolf. Then I knew what I was.

Further thoughts on how to create an OpenID system for non-human avatars.

**Fiction as a model for real and spiritual things**

otherkin.net/articles/blurringLines.html
If real magic is inspired by fictional magic, is it valid?
“Much of what modern elves think of thems’elves comes from … novels. Much of what they say about us is inaccurate.”
▲♫ An academic essay on how otherkin draw philosophical and spiritual inspiration from mythology as well as fiction.
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(Comic) On the problems of diluting fact with fiction.
Cat X. Steppenwolf. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/catx.html
✔ Found first other animal-person in Hermann Hesse’s Steppenwolf. Then I knew what I was.

**Using virtual reality**

Sanguinarius Magne and Sphynx Soleil.
“Sanguinarius community center.” 2010-02-27.
sanguinarius.org/SCC.shtml
Within the Second Life virtual environment, Sanguinarius.org has established an area for real vampires (and otherkin and therians). Note: out of date; location has changed.
becomeyourfursona.dreamwidth.org/16734.html
Speculates that virtual reality could offer a way to be perceived in one’s true form.
Feathertail. “I love you all; how can I help.” 2011-10-21.
feathertail.dreamwidth.org/145206.html
Forming plans to create an OpenID system for non-human avatars in virtual and augmented reality, as a way for otherkin to achieve mainstream recognition.
feathertail.dreamwidth.org/145762.html
Sequel to the above article.
Further thoughts on how to create an OpenID system for non-human avatars. Considering the role of a personality quiz in constructing such a thing.
feathertail.dreamwidth.org/148096.html
Real elves relating to Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings*

otherkin.net/articles/tolkienNotReference.htm
Unless you come from his fictional world, you can’t use him as reference for your elven people.

Syleniel. “*Lord of the Rings* movie review.” 2001-12-20. otherkin.net/articles/lotr-syl.html
The way these elves are portrayed are the way that some have always pictured elves.

I think that Tolkien is ONE source on elves, and a good one, yet one must understand a few things about this subject if one is to proceed without venturing off the deep end.

elenari.net/Elves/elfsaga.html
▲ An abridged English translation of a Russian book about the legendary elves upon which Tolkien’s elves are based. Their appearance, characteristics, and names.

silverelves.angelfire.com/missing_them.html
A compassionate view of the surge of people who temporarily posed as elves when the Lord of the Rings movies came out.

It’s not significant whether there were elves in the actual historical past. We manifest elves now.

♫ An allegorical story about Melkor from Tolkien’s *Silmarillion*.

▲ Compares one of Tolkien’s stories to that of the Bodhisattvas.


▲ These elves have actually known some hobbits in our time and still do.

Limbrethil Orophinion, of the Kasalim System. “All about a (slightly broken) Marchwarden.” 2011-03-25. limbrethil.blogspot.com/2011/03/all-about-slightly-broken-marchwarden.html
Lived as an elf in Tolkien’s Middle-Earth, and entered this human body a few months ago.

lassiquendi.com/TheHiddenRealm
▲ ♫ Striving to re-create the spirituality and way of the Elves in Tolkien’s Middle Earth writings. This isn’t a role-playing game or a work of fiction, but rather an actual spiritual path for anyone who wishes to travel it.
Fictionality and one’s animal spirit:
Dæmons

Basic information

An introduction to the philosophy of dæmonism, a way of relating to an animal side. It’s based on Socrates and Jung, and Philip Pullman’s fantasy novels.
Okibi. “Site history.” daemonpage.com/site.php
★ It started out as a Philip Pullman fan-site with role-play, but there seemed to be something more to it than make-believe. Something real was going on. So the site admin turned it into a serious philosophy site. This, the Dæmon Page, is the main web-site for dæmian philosophy. Apparently everyone involved with dæmonism knows of the site.
✔ An introduction to the philosophy of dæmonism, without mentioning Philip Pullman’s fantasy novels, although using terminology from the novels.

“Introduction: Defining ‘dæmon.’” sites.google.com/site/findyourdaemon/introduction%3Adefining%22daemon%22
Pullman was writing fiction, true, but speaking with hidden parts of the psyche is not a new idea. It resembles the Jungian concept of the animus/anima, and the term is derived from a Greek metaphysical concept.
“Your definition.” daemonpage.com/definitions.php
The definition of dæmon from different points of view.
Okibi. “Socrates and the daimon: Let the father of Western philosophy rock your socks.” daemonpage.com/socrates-daimon.php
Socrates spoke of a “daimon” as an attendant spirit, an intuitive inner voice that guided him. As such, dæmonism isn’t necessarily based directly on Philip Pullman’s novels.

“Meet your dæmon.” sites.google.com/site/findyourdaemon
The daemon is known to students of Jungian psychology as the animus/anima, and parents call it an imaginary friend. It’s a real part of your psyche. A conscience, a guardian angel, a method of examining ourselves.

“Applying Carl Jung to dæmons.” sites.google.com/site/findyourdaemon/applyingcarljungtodaemons

The author’s personal opinions on dæmonism.

Hakumei and Azirus. “About dæmonism.” freewebs.com/hakumei-chikadzu/daemonism.htm
An introduction to dæmonism… unfinished.

“What is dæmonism?” freewebs.com/thenoodlebus/whatisdaemonism.htm

Dæmon Wiki. ediththis.info/daemon_wiki
Looks like there’s not much in this wiki yet, but it’s a start.

Odkryj swojego Dajmona. dajmony.info
(In Polish) On dæmonism.

“Dæmon quest.” freewebs.com/daemonquest
(In French) On dæmonism.

“What they’ve done.” daemonpage.com/helpers.php
★ How dæmons have helped and positively influenced your life.

Comparing therianthropy with the dæmons in Pullman’s books, noting similarities

Advanced information on dæmons

“How to find your own dæmon: Before you start.” sites.google.com/site/findyourdaemon/howtofindyourowndaemon

“Why bother talking to your dæmon?” daemonpage.com/why.php

“’Rules’ of dæmonism.” freewebs.com/thenoodlebus/rulesofdaemonism.htm
Really, there are no ‘rules of dæmonism’ that are set in stone. We’re very open to new theories and ideas. However, these are some commonly accepted beliefs…

“Dæmon genders, forms, and names.” sites.google.com/site/findyourdaemon/daimonnames%2Cgenders%2Candforms

“Fictional dæmons, stereotypes, and truths.” daemonpage.com/cliches.php
How the daemons of fictional people differ, and stereotypes of animals.

“Further discussion: daemon forum.”

deaemonpage.com/forum.php

Excerpts from discussion, exploring some other questions about daemons: advice on knowing your daemon’s form and location and getting in tune with them, why mammalian daemons are more common, where the daemon’s consciousness lies, etc.

“Further discussion: daemon community.”

deaemonpage.com/community.php

Excerpts from discussion, exploring some other questions about daemons: advice on envisioning one’s daemon in crowds, why it wouldn’t be so great if daemons were corporeal

Winger. “Concentric rings: A theory behind the mechanics of settling.”

freewebs.com/doubleornothing/concentric%20rings.htm

The author’s ideas about how a trait of daemonism happens.

Dæmons: personal stories

“Your dæmons.”

deaemonpage.com/yourdaemons.php

Descriptions of various people’s daemons. Many of them have an alternative form as a character from an anime.

Anna and Kinath. “Daemianism.”

freewebs.com/anna-kin2/daemian.htm

On the author’s personal daemianism. How Anna discovered her hare daemon.

Anna and Kinath. “Kin rambles.”

freewebs.com/anna-kin/kin.htm

✔ Written from the perspective of Anna’s daemon. You spend your whole life watching, and one day they start talking to you. You’re not just a tiny-almost-voiceless-force in the back of their head anymore, you’re a respected member.

Winger. “Beginnings: One person’s process.”

freewebs.com/doubleornothing/Beginnings.htm

The author’s personal experiences with daemianism.

Hailey and Lokial. “Lokial.”

freewebs.com/alaskastreet/lokial.htm

The author’s personal experiences with dæmianism. My daemon is my common sense, my intuition. The Egyptians called them ka, Norse called them fylgia.

YahootheDragon. If my heart were still beating. 2011-07-24. deviantart.com/deviation/24446446

Drawing of the artist’s daemon.


deviantart.com/deviation/252838818

Drawing of the artist’s daemon.

YahootheDragon. Spanner and a very close story. 2010-12-11.

deviantart.com/deviation/189246960

Drawing of the artist’s daemon.
Advanced fictionality:
Fiction-kin and soul-bonds

When reading a certain story, some people may feel an unusually deep sense of connection, as if the story was written especially for them. They feel differently about this story than any other. They relate to the people and the place. They may even feel an eerie thrill: they recognize the story as if they’d been there in person a long time ago, but how? As otherkin are “kindred to the other,” these people are kindred to fiction.

Fiction-kin also call themselves fic-kin, media-kin, otaku-kin, or ota-kin.

Some context: otaku is Japanese for “geek,” that is, someone obsessed with comics and video games. In Japan, an otaku is thought of as socially awkward, or maybe even dangerous. In Western countries, the word otaku has experienced semantic drift, and is used instead to mean a fan of specifically Japanese popular fiction. Furthermore, since these entertainments are currently a cool and fashionable part of youth culture in Western countries, a lot of the negative overtones of otaku vanished in those places.

The word otaku-kin was coined in a primarily English-speaking community to describe a person who identifies as a character from Japanese fiction. The words fiction-kin and media-kin, on the other hand, can describe a person who identifies as a character from any culture’s stories, and so are suitable as general terms.

Soul-bonds are a similar but usually distinct variation on having a spiritual connection to a fictional character. A soulbond is an incorporeal entity (spirit) who a person perceives as looking like a fictional character. A soulbond may believe or act as if he or she is that fictional character, or someone very similar. Some authors who think of their fictional characters as if they were real people are interacting with a soulbond. A person who has a close friendship with a fictional character is called a soulbonder. If I understand correctly, a soulbonder doesn’t identify as a fictional character, just has a relationship with one. Short version: a soulbonders are people who have friendships with fictional characters, and fiction-kin are people who think they are fictional characters.

Soul-bonds

“Anonymous essay on soulbonding.” childofmana.tripod.com/soulbonding_essay1.htm
I am a writer, and as such, my characters mean a lot to me. I think of them as actual people. In a way, they’re part of me, and they are also not me. They are separate people with free will. They don’t always agree with me. I am not crazy. I would never allow my characters to push me to do something illegal, immoral, or cruel.

On having a spiritual connection with a fictional character.

“The Eclective. “Soulbonding FAQ.” childofmana.tripod.com/soulbondingfaq.htm
On having a spiritual connection with a fictional character.

Correcting some misconceptions that people may have about it.

The author’s personal opinions on soulbonding.

Fiction-kin

otherkin.livejournal.com/450492.html
A person who is an author, role-player, energy-worker, and witch considers a metaphysical explanation for fiction-kin.

Lupa. “Some thoughts on mediakin.” otherkin.net/articles/mediakin.html
It’s not terrible that some otherkin identify as fictional creatures or characters.

“Otakukin.” enchant.wondershock.net/?page_id=10
eclective.livejournal.com/447714.html
★ Comparing otherkin, fiction-kin, and furries, wondering about the deeper commonality behind them. I am a dragon because when I look at the idea of a dragon, it clicks with me and reminds me of me.

otakukin.otherkin.net
An introduction to the concept of otaku otherkin, or “otakin,” including the etymology of the word, and justification for the philosophy.

Saevitia S. “What are otakukin?”
otakukin.atspace.com/what.htm
Introduction to how some otherkin identify as characters from Japanese cartoons.

Saevitia S. “Otakukin, otherkin and soulbonders.”
otakukin.atspace.com/otherkin.htm
Saevitia S. “What do otakukin believe?”
notakukin.atspace.com/belief.htm
otakukin.atspace.com/identical.htm
Saevitia S. “Does the concept of otakukin negate creativity?”
otakukin.atspace.com/creativity.htm
“Japan.” enchant.wondershock.net/?page_id=11
Why are stories from Japan of such particular importance to fiction-kin?

The Eclective. “Otakukin.”
intoccabile.net/mythos.htm (defunct)
How can you have been an anime character in a past life?

Mist Weaver, of the Chimeras. “From fictionkin to animalkin.” 2011-06.
houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/77180.html
Written by a fictional animal member of a plural system. Assumes the reader is already familiar with the concepts of fiction-kin, therianthropy, and plurality.

On both soul-bonds and fiction-kin

Tatsuya Rokurou, of the Flatlanders (plural system). “A short history of soulbonding.”
zensenbutai.com/histsb-essay.shtml
✔ This article is written with the assumption that the reader is already familiar with multiplicity. In 2001, the first mention of “soulbonding” (mentally communicating with fictional characters). An overview of this concept’s changing relationship with fan-fiction and multiplicity. The development of related concepts of “muses” and of “otakukin.”

Criticism of fiction-kin and soulbonds, and responses to criticism

Criticism of soulbonding. Most characters don’t (need to) have autonomous life. Please consider whether your soulbond is really a puppet under your control.

The Eclective. “Response to Mooncalf’s ‘Soulpuppetry’ page.”
childofmana.tripod.com/soulbonding_puppetry.htm
A response to the above article. Correcting some further misconceptions that people have about soulbonding.

deviantart.com/deviation/158159392
Criticism of fiction-kin. Debunking several claims common among fiction-kin.

Mokele. “Soulbonding (of all the stupid ideas…)”
Circa 2004.
therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/soulbond.htm (defunct)
A criticism of soulbonding and explanation of why it’s not real, written by a therian.
Those elusive few who are neither animals, nor mythological beings, nor fictional characters, nor simply human

It is extremely rare for otherkin to identify as plants or inanimate objects, but such people do exist. They just haven’t written much. As such, I apologize for the weakness and lack of material in this section. I will do my best to amend this in future revisions.

For those who value metaphysical explanations, consider this one. Animistic cosmologies assume that all animals, plants, and even inanimate objects have a living spiritual essence (a “soul,” or equivalent) similar to or the same as a human “soul.” In an animistic cosmology, it is metaphysically possible for a human to have a spiritual background that includes non-human and even non-animal entities.

It is worthwhile to mention that for a while, it was fashionable among people who harass otherkin to parody them by claiming to be unusual creatures or non-creatures, in an attempt to expose the absurdity of more common otherkin claims. This signal-to-noise ratio will muddy my attempts to find articles by people who genuinely identify as plants or inanimate objects.

Plant otherkin

I’ve heard of several plant, tree, and dryad otherkin. However, I have found no surviving essays by them. It seems that plant otherkin are both rare and quiet.

Dok Khao Pansa-Fūsa, of the Qílóra. “Green. ‘Tis only a color?” greenkin.qilora.com (defunct, archive)
Writings of an otherkin who is spiritually a plant, and is a member of a plural system.

A paragraph about one person who had a past life as a plant, but who does not currently identify as a plant.

Inanimate object otherkin

One could argue that a living organic body is just a machine of a far higher level of complexity than humans can currently fabricate by artificial means. When artificial intelligences and machines become more complex, the ways to distinguish between artificial and organic creatures will dwindle to insignificance. Such artificial creatures could be physically and mentally the same as organic creatures. Therefore, there will be no reason for a sentient and sapient machine to lack the same kind of “soul” granted to creatures who were born organically. In a way, this is an extension of Arthur C. Clarke’s Third Law of Prediction: “Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.”

I’ve heard of a few otherkin who identify as machines or inanimate objects. However, I have never seen an essay by any of them. Even if I had, I would initially suspect such an essay of being one of the parodies described above.

“Glass delusion.”
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glass_delusion
(Not about the otherkin community.)
Historically, there have been people who believed that they were physically made of artificial materials rather than flesh.
PART V.

BEING OTHERKIN.
Otherkin phenomena

Some peculiar experiences and emotions common to some otherkin include being recognized as 'kin by people who have never heard of it, unconsciously expressing real animal behaviors without having learned that the real animal behaves that way, ability to sometimes recognize other 'kin, and a yearning to go “home.”

Therian body language and behavior

Rosalyn Greene. “Behavioral characteristics of shifters.” In Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 146-150. “Shifters have a different body language from that of normal humans…”

★ A friend told this reptile therian that he somehow walks like a monitor lizard. “…an animalistic characteristic was observed by someone unaware of my therianthropy, that I was also unaware of this characteristic, that I had insufficient contact with the animals in question at the time to allow mimicry…”

Vargteriantrop. “Vad är skillnaden på en teriantrop och en ‘vanlig’ person? (What is the difference between a therianthrope and an ‘ordinary’ person?).” 2010-06-21. vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/06/21/9 (In Swedish.) Physically, we look the same, but our body language and behavior differs.

Being recognized as therians

Introducing the phenomena in which therians can sometimes recognize other therians on sight.

✔ Long and thoughtful explanations for the phenomena in which therians can sometimes recognize other therians on sight.

Recognized during a mental shift brought on by listening to music.

Being recognized as vampires

On recognizing psychic vampires.

Homesickness

Ketrino. “How to deal with the Yearning, aka, Coping with homesickness.” 2006-08-26. ketrino.angelfire.com/essay38.html
An otherkin emotion: longing to return to your true home, whatever it may be... Earth or another plane, dimension, or planet.

An angel otherkin struggles with the paradox of having loved humanity enough to choose to be born a human, and yet now also missing being an angel.
(In German.) On homesickness and yearning.

Merisida. “Sehnsucht! (Longing!” 2010-01-05.
mermaid-otherkin.blogspot.com/2010/01/sehnsucht.html
(In German.) A poem about yearning.

On bad days, a dragon otherkin aches to fly.

therithere.comicgen.com/d/20080105.html

(Comic) Is it easier to be an animal than a human, or are we romanticizing nature?

Арра (Arra). “Добро пожаловать (Welcome).” Circa 2008. shelter.clan.su/publ/7-1-0-86
(In Russian.) Consider the statement that dragons aren’t real. You may feel two voices in you that respond to it. The voice that agrees is your social consciousness, which is a useful inner critic. However, it’s a cynic, and you needn’t always obey it. If you feel another, deeper voice—the one that disagrees and says you will fly someday—this is your sense of longing, and its determination and wisdom will guide you to do marvelous things.
Shape-shifting

Continuing from the preceding section about phenomena experienced by otherkin and therianthropes: shape-shifting is one of the defining phenomena of therianthrope experience. Many therians claim that they experience non-physical types of shape-shifting, in which their thoughts or sensations become animal-like. Often, therians had these “shifting” experiences without trying to have them, years before they heard of other therians.

As with anything else to do with therians or otherkin, exceptions abound. Plenty therians never experience any kind of “shift;” they call themselves “contherianthropes.” Furthermore, non-therians can induce a similar type of shift to that which therians experience, called a “shamanic shift.” Nonetheless, shifting as a part of daily life is a significant part of what makes therian experience inherently different from that of most other people.

General information about shifting

Swiftpaw. “Notes for newbies.”
otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/newbies.html (defunct)
How to shift.

Reemul. “On the subject of shifting.”
lycanthrope.org/index.php3?955670945
(defunct) or
lycanthrope.org/~raven/shifting.html
(defunct)

Melissa Pinol. “Astral shapeshifting 101: an alternative presentation of an old cliché.”
kovacs_files.tripod.com/shape.htm (defunct)
“Random perspectives on shifting.”
otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/shapeshifting-hosted.html (defunct)

therianguide.mountaintooth.net/?page=Shift
Types of shift… how to shift… things that induce shifting… physical shifting isn’t real

Draco the Silly Dragon. “Shapeshifting.”
freewebs.com/sillydraco/shapeshifting.htm
Why? Who? How?

lycanthrope.org/index.php3?955816548
(defunct)

therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=docs&subpage=docs3
(In Russian.)

ravensorrow.com/Theiran.html (defunct)
Introductory definition of therianthropy… list of types of shift.

tusmoerke.dk/object_show.php?type=article&
id=a_1152798708&title=Skifte
(In Dutch.) List of types of shift. Dream, phantom, mirror, physical.
Lists of types of shifts

All of these lists of types of shift are very derivative of one another. I’m not sure which one was the original, but I think it might have been the one created by Jakkal for Shifters.org, which itself might have been based on a list in the alt.horror.werewolves FAQ. Again, I’m not certain about that. It’s difficult to reconstruct the chronology of this “list of types of shift” document. Many of these articles are vague about their authorship or date of posting. It’s not clear who is basing what on whose work.

(Probably) earlier lists
(originals?)


Banulf, of the Shadow Wulfs pack (or by PilotWolf?) “Types of shift.” Circa 1998?

Society of Shadows. “Types of shifting.”


(Probably) later lists
(derivatives and commentaries)


Dark Wolf. “Chapter 6: New Wolves (Modern Werewolves).”


“Real werewolf shifting types.” n.d.


She Demon Wolf, of Erox Pack. “Shifting.”

Free-writing on some types of shift. Different than the above article.
   therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/shifting.htm (defunct)
   List of types of shift.
Sonne Spiritwind. “Types of shifts.”
   project-shift.org/types-of-shifts/
   absurdism.org/therianthropy/introshift.html
   Types of shifter, and types of shift.

In other languages

Fallen Dragonkin (?). “Lykantropove a druhy zmen
   (Lycanthropy and types of shift).”
   zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/zmena.html
   (In Czech.)
   therianbrasil.blogspot.com/2009/12/mudanca.html
   (In Portuguese.) Types of shift.
Type of shift: dream shifting

Dream shifts are transformations that happen within the imagery of dreams during sleep at night. The person dreams of becoming or being an animal. Any person can experience these, but dream shifts have different meaning to therians than to other people.

**Information and commentary**

Dream shifts aren’t real shifts. No wonder people think they have several animal sides.
(Poem) A human body drifts to sleep, while the body of the animal awakens.
(In Swedish.) If you learn how to tell when you’re having a dream, then you can take the opportunity to shape-shift in the dream.

**Personal experiences**

A dire wolf therian’s experiments with astral shifting and dream shifting.
(Color pencils, etc) An illustrated dream about shifting to defend one’s family.
Write-ups of over a dozen dreams about shifting.

Lord Bad Vibes (Sarah, Alice). “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/lordbadvibes.html (defunct)
I struggled to remove the ‘problem’ until I battled with the wolf in a dream. Every time I struck the wolf I felt the blow. I realized I couldn’t remove the wolf from me as I was the wolf.
Metawolf. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/metawolf.html
In a dream, encountered wolves, then saw wolf reflection. Then explored spirituality.
Maverick Wolf. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/maverick.html
During a two-day coma, dreamt I was a wolf. Since then have felt a deeper link with animals and humans.
Type of shift: Shamanic shifting

A shamanic shift is a mental, non-physical shift into a creature which doesn’t necessarily represent your inner being. Anybody can perform this kind of shift. People who aren’t therians, people who don’t have an animal side, can perform this kind of shift. As such, some of the following writings don’t mention therians, or don’t come from the therian community. I include these writings by outsiders because, due to their different perspective, they may have some insights on shifting that may not have occurred to therians. Unlike mental shifts (discussed in detail later), shamanic shifts are usually brought on intentionally through meditation and/or ritual.

witchcauldron.net/cauldron/were3.htm
(defunct) or
witchcauldron.net/cauldron/shapeshift.htm
Says that everyone can shift. List of types of shift.

ASA. “Shapeshifting meditation.”
egocities.com/thepaddedwall/meditation.htm
(defunct)
Instructions for a magickal shapeshifting meditation ritual: ground, center, cast circle, visualize shape-shifting into an animal of your choice, and then return.

Swiftpaw (?). “Step-by-step guide to shifting.” otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/theria
n/shapeshifting.html (defunct)
Instructions for a shifting meditation. First, choose which animal you want to try to ‘shift’ to. Next, create a quiet space. Clear your mind, and think of that animal…

Ravenari. “Introduction to shapeshifting.”
wildspeak.com/other/shapeshiftingintro.html

witchcauldron.net/cauldron/shapeshift.htm
Combined with astral projection.


Evolution and the reptile brain. A series of shape-shifting visualization exercises, with physical movements, in this sequence: fish, amphibian, reptile, early mammal, early monkey, great ape, early human, modern human, and then the “extended human being.”


In meditation, a guided shape-shifting visualization.

Using thought and posture, make yourself blend in with your surroundings.

Cameo shifting

When a therian experiences a shift into a kind of animal that isn’t his own animal-side, therians call that phenomenon a “cameo shift.” It can come about intentionally by ritual, or unintentionally, like a mental shift.

Strill. “On cameo shifting.” project-
shift.org/therianthropy/cameo.php
Spanish translation: project-
shift.org/es/therianthropy/cameo.php
Sometimes a therian shifts into another kind of creature, and that creature has nothing to do with their own inner animal-side. Is it yet another additional animal-side? If the cameo shift doesn’t represent one’s animal self, then what does it represent? How can therians relate to this?

therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/cameo.htm
(defunct)
Cameo shifts may account for the therians who say they have several animal sides.

Cat X. Stepenewolf. “My WereCard.”
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/cat
x.html
▲ [Is this is the document in which the phrase “cameo shift” was coined? – ed.]
Shifting by mirror-gazing

I would classify this as a type of shamanic shift, because any kind of person can perform this type of shift, and because it is brought about intentionally through ritual. A person gazes at his or her reflection in a dim-lit room for a long time, and eventually his or her reflection will change into other faces. This phenomenon is connected with superstitions about mirrors being haunted by ghosts.

Caution: This ritual can produce a very disturbing and unpleasant experience. Even though anybody can do it, not everybody should.

By people who aren’t therians

Luis Schwarz and Stanton Fjeld. “Illusions induced by the self-reflected image.” Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, 146:4 (1968), 277-284. doi: 10.1097/00005053-196804000-00001 (Academic source.) In this study, people with assorted mental variations and genders mirror-gazed in a dim-lit room. Even psychologically “normal” people experienced effects. Psychologists offer explanations for what happened. The brain tries to find patterns (especially faces), but the eyes can’t supply clear information (due to persistence of vision in dim light), so the brain ends up perceiving/inventing weird images.

James Clark. “Might this be the best way to see a ghost? Reflections from a psychomanteum.” 2011-10-25. themortonreport.com/discoveries/paranormal/might-this-be-the-best-way-to-see-a-ghost

A “psychomanteum” is a small, dark room, illuminated only by a candle. Gazing into a mirror in this setting brings on an altered state of consciousness and visions.


By therians

Therians don’t tend to use or talk about mirror-gazing very much. It’s very different from what they consider a shifting experience.

Instructions for an exercise with a mirror in a dark room, which may aid you in mental shifting or discovering your totem animal.

Phillupus Cú Glas Conrechtá Lycanthropos Kelev (Phil). “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/philupus.html (defunct)
Mirror-gazed in dark and saw wolf side.

Wolfen (Simon W.). “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/wolfen.html (defunct)
Mirror meditation, reflection became wolf.
Type of shift: mental shifting

When therians talk about shifting experiences, this is usually the type of shift that they’re talking about. This type of shift is non-physical. It has some traits in common with shamanic shifts practiced by non-therians.

A mental shift is an altered state of consciousness which therians consider to be a manifestation of their animal side. This altered state can often come about naturally and spontaneously during an ordinary day. During a mental shift, the shifter feels and thinks like his/her animal side.

Some shifters describe this as a meditative state, in which the inner narrative becomes quiet and wordless, in tune with nature.

However, if the shifter feels panicked or out of control during a mental shift (as apparently does happen for some shifters), these are signs that the shifter has an unsafe and unhealthy relationship with his/her animal side. Such a shifter will find helpful ideas on how to correct that problem in the articles in the “balancing the parts of the self” sections elsewhere in this document.

General description and advice

Swiftpaw. “Reconnection; or, disconnect: how to get your animal back.” otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/old/reconnection.html (defunct)

★Shape-shifting as a form of daily meditation to nourish your animal-side.

Described as a peaceful, harmonious, meditative state.


vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/07/18/mentala-skiften-tips-och-rad
Learn how to recognize an approaching mental shift so that you can make appropriate choices. Etiquette for friends of shifters.

Personal experiences

akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/feathers.php
♫ How it feels to mentally shift to bird. A sensation of gradual transformation, body and mind.

razza.were.net/articles/predator.html (defunct)
How the inner wolf reacted to a rustling in the bushes.

The author’s personal experiences of mentally shifting to wolf. An altered mental state of well-being and excitement, noticed by others.

Tigris. “My experiences as an m-shifter.” shifters.org/shifting/tigris1.asp (defunct)
The tiger therian initially mistook this mental shift for a physical shift, but it was all in the mind. Feeling out of control.

tygerwolfe.com/?p=376
A mental shift to horse while driving, as well as a phantom shift to dire wolf while driving.

tygerwolfe.com/?p=384
Description of mental shift connected with stress from hunger, and a resultant near accident.

Dragos. “My WereCard.” swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dragos.html (defunct)
During a mental shift, it’s a zone, volatile and euphoric, without fear or worry, like a high. Scared a family member.
Phantom shifting and phantom limbs

This type of shift is non-physical. In a phantom shift, the shifter feels as if his/her body is shaped like his/her animal side. The shifter may feel sensations of limbs that don’t exist on a human body, such as a tail or wings. Despite the tactile and kinesthetic sensations, these parts are invisible to the eyes of the shifter and to anyone else. This change in body image seems to be a type of phantom limb phenomenon. Some therians feel these phantom limbs most of the time, and some therians only feel them once in a while. Some never feel them at all.

You can find additional writings on phantom limbs in “Metaphysical, magical, and supernatural activities for otherkin” section, where I’ve sorted them if they rely strongly on explanations involving higher planes of existence.

On phantom limbs.
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051003.html
(Comic) Definition, and some of the more strange and unusual examples.
tygerwolfe.com/?p=381
Definition of phantom shifts and the philosophy regarding them. First-person description of phantom shift experiences. How to induce via meditation.
Freetha. “Working with phantom limbs.”
otherkinphenomena.org/main/display_article.php?id=14
A mental exercise in which one meditates and concentrates on the limb. Enough concentration can create a phantom limb even if you didn’t have one to begin with.
Ilrak (IlrakKorax). “Therian video 1.”
youtu.be/_XqAU1-lups
(Video.) A narrated cartoon describing what it’s like to be a raven therian, and what it feels like to phantom shift.
ketrino.angelfire.com/sheepwalk.html
Having phantom shifts on one’s legs while walking. Walking on two, feeling four.

The Eclective. “In which I talk about phantom body parts, because nobody else is doing so.”
tangyabominy.dreamwidth.org/50012.html
The physical sensation’s a lot like hyper-awareness of the body region in question (in the case of wings, shoulder blades).
deviantart.com/deviation/260397420
(Drawing.) What if an otherkin felt phantom tails from two other forms at once?
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051114.html
(Comic) A rare phenomenon.
deviantart.com/deviation/59830468
(Poem.) A description of the sensations.
On phantom shifts.

Phantom limbs experienced by people who are not otherkin

otherkin-news.livejournal.com/1697.html
In a recent study, a woman who is not otherkin had a phantom arm that moved separately from her physical arm. Brain scans confirmed that she can feel and see her phantom arm.
Types of shifts with other strange effects

What is a berserker? There are physical traits of berserkers, and it’s hereditary: a person is either born a berserker or not.

A description of what it feels like to undergo the mental, emotional, and physical changes of the berserkrgangr state. The history and theory of berserking. Berserk is not just a frothing display of bad temper!

▲ Sometimes a mental shift is accompanied by peculiar effects, such as animal senses by means of extrasensory perception, or unusual physical strength. Greene argues that the legendary berserkers did this. Her description resembles Skadhasdottir’s.

(In Swedish.) It’s not something supernatural, it’s not extrasensory perception. It’s merely a greater focus on, say, the sense of smell.

Type of shift: Astral shifting

Not all therians believe in a cosmology that includes an astral plane, so for this topic, please see another section: “Metaphysical, supernatural, and magical activities for otherkin”

Type of shift: Bi-location shifting
(including apparition shifting)

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/werecard/jade.html (defunct)
A black tiger therian daydreamed about running alongside the car, and then somebody else saw it.

houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/89909.html
Definition of bilocation shifting, and personal experiences with non-physical bilocation shifting.


Physical shifting

Many therians assert that physical shifting is impossible. They warn that anybody claiming to be able to physically shift is gullible or a liar. On the other hand, some therians are open to the idea that physical shifting might be possible. A few therians even insist that physical shifting exists, and is just very rare. People within the therian communities are never in total agreement about anything. The following writings come from all different sides of the controversy: explaining why p-shifting can or can’t happen, hypotheses on how it might work, and descriptions of experiences that the authors claim may have been p-shifts.

**Physical shifting is impossible**

“Physical shifting,” by Aethyriek
Biological reasons why physical shifting is likely impossible, and therefore one should view claims of physical shifting with skepticism and caution
project-shift.org/therianthropy/pshifting.php
Spanish translation: project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/pshifting.php

“P-shifting: The Mulder and Scully debate,” by Nesperit Luncast
Debunking several claims that have been used to support physical shape-shifting
hiddenlair.org/pshifting.htm (defunct)

Criticism of therians who say they’re “hereditary” shape-shifters, and on physical shape-shifting
therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/genshift.htm (defunct) or angelfire.com/sc/Greyhawk00/genshift.html

“These ancient eyes: Wolf power—Shift Happens 5,” by Tygerwolfe. 2011-07-19
Physical shifting is the unattainable mountaintop that all therians wish we could reach but know is impossible. Perhaps we’re better off this way
tygerwolfe.com/?cat=12

**Physical shifting: Conjecture**

If it was possible to physically shift, what would it be like? How would our lives change afterward? What if it turned out differently than hoped? Can we find contentment without it? (See also the “Fiction” section at the end of this eBook for more thorough and free-spirited speculation.)

*Perils of P-shifting,* by Lupa and O. Scribner. 2007-09-28
(Comic) Humor about what it could be like therithere.comicgen.com/d/20070928.html

“Que pasaria si los otherkins obtienen su forma verdadera I (What would happen if otherkin obtained their true forms),” by Jamiroth. 2009-05-23
(In Spanish.) Speculation. Although many otherkin yearn to physically transform into their proper shape, consider how problematic it would be.
otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2009/05/que-pasaria-si-los-otherkins-obtienen.html

**Physical shifting: Maybe it’s possible…?**

Some authors prefer not to rule out p-shifting entirely. They would rather keep an open mind, and hope that somebody may someday find evidence of how it could happen.

“Lessons from a small insect,” by Yaiolani
A newly pupated insect knew that it could fly even though it had never yet flown. Similarly, therians have persistent instincts, longings, and knowings that tell us about physical shapeshifting, despite a lack of evidence. We simply don’t have the equipment to accomplish it for real yet. Perhaps someday our potential will unfurl.
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc6.htm

“A fictional conversation,” by Yaiolani
A doubter, believer, and “middle” debate whether physical shifting is possible
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc003.htm

I used to not believe…
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc6.htm

“Modern werewolf and werebeast sightings,” by Yaiolani
Werewolf-like creatures reported in cryptozoology may be physical shape-shifters
[yaiolani.tripod.com/sight.htm](http://yaiolani.tripod.com/sight.htm)

I held onto the dream that it might be possible. A believer gave me hope and happiness. How would it work?
[geocities.com/Athens/Aegean/1643/pshift.html](http://geocities.com/Athens/Aegean/1643/pshift.html) (defunct)

**Physical shifting: Personal experiences (?)**

“A possible physical shift?” by Ketrino 2007-06-29
✔ I know it isn’t technically possible and that it defies the laws of physics and biology. But I still believe in it, and I think I have even had a few experiences with it. … The first explanation I can think of was that I woke up, I had an incredibly strong, full body phantom shift… but I feel unsatisfied with this view.
[ketrino.angelfire.com/ppessay.html](http://ketrino.angelfire.com/ppessay.html)

“The second slip?” by Lance Foxx. 1999-05-29
Lying in bed at night, meditating upon shifting brought on possible minor p-shift effects
[geocities.com/Area51/Dimension/9735/seconddslip.html](http://geocities.com/Area51/Dimension/9735/seconddslip.html) (defunct)

“The Sasebo p-shift,” by Lance Foxx. 1999-08-10 ✔
When he woke up from dreaming about shifting, he’s certain that part of his face had genuinely physically changed for a moment
[geocities.com/LanceFoxx/thesasebopshift.htm](http://geocities.com/LanceFoxx/thesasebopshift.htm) (defunct)

“The flow,” by Lance Foxx. 2000-10-29
Induced an m-shift in bed, and triggered another momentary tiny physical shift
[geocities.com/LanceFoxx/theflow.html](http://geocities.com/LanceFoxx/theflow.html) (defunct)

A reader’s summary and interpretations of Lance Foxx’s experiences.
[deviantart.com/deviation/5936524](http://deviantart.com/deviation/5936524)

“Anonymous physical shift report,” with commentary by Yaiolani
Caution: Explicit, not safe for work. A description of what it’s like to physically shift, written by an anonymous author.
[yaiolani.tripod.com/pser.htm](http://yaiolani.tripod.com/pser.htm)

**Physical shifting:
Hypotheses on how it might work, and instructions**

Caution: Some of these essays were probably written as pranks. A few involve poisonous herbs or activities that could lead to injury. All involve unlikely and far-fetched claims. They make interesting reading, but if you decide to try any of them, exercise caution. I include several articles on this topic that were not written by people who have connection to the therian community, in order to provide additional context. Articles by outsiders should not be used to judge the views of therians upon physical shifting.

“Transformation spells” and “Werewolf spells,” collected by Judika Illes. 2009
Some of these spells come from old legends and folklore. As with the rest of the book, Illes has selected only those spells which use no animal products. Caution: risk of poisoning. [Not from therian community.]
The Encyclopedia of 5000 Spells, pp. 622-627

If physical shape-shifting is possible, what might we expect to do to attain it? Perhaps achieving a certain mental state by ritual.
[weren.net/~pinky/essays.html](http://wen.net/~pinky/essays.html) (defunct)

“Physical shifting,” by Rosalyn Greene
By a therian who is confident that physical shifting must exist
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 107-132

“Physical shifting and letting go,” by Rosalyn Greene
Instructions and/or hypotheses
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 184-203

“How to get that elusive p-shift! (How to p-shift),” by Molatar Seth Pyrargent. 2004
Instructions for how to physically shape-shift by means of prayer and meditating on certain Bible verses [Context suggests this article was written as a prank. -ed]
[molatar.com/Pshifting.htm](http://molatar.com/Pshifting.htm) (defunct)

How to shape shift to dolphin form, by J. G. Dolphin
Mer-people are humans who learned to shape-shift between dolphin and human form, granting access to star-ships. A long and unique e-book. [Not from therian community.]
dolphinsociety.org/ssdf1index.htm (defunct)

“Biokinesis,” by Robert. n.d.
Use telekinesis to reprogram your genes. [Not from therian community.]
mytelekinesis.com/biokinesis.html

Will your eyes to change color. [Not from therian community.]
mytelekinesis.com/bio_eye.html

“How to cast spells for eye color change,” by (no author listed?) n.d.
Candles and chanting. [Not from therian community.]
ehow.com/how_2321743_cast-spells-eye-color-change.html

Traits mistaken for shifting

“Shifter’s disease and doubter’s syndrome,” by Jakkal (Pinky) ★
When every ordinary trait is hastily interpreted as a symptom of a shift
were.net/~pinky/pinkyessays.html (defunct) and
shifters.org/newbies/disease.shtml (defunct)

“What is shifter’s disease?” by Polar ★
An essay requested by Jakkal.
were.net/~pinky/essays.html (defunct)

“Phenomena mistaken for physical shifting,” by Rosalyn Greene
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 129-132

“How can eye color change with mood?” by (no author listed?) n.d. ★
Temporary, instantaneous changes are merely illusions. Reflections and pupil dilation. [Not from therian community.]
ehow.com/how-does_4967659_can-eye-color-change-mood.html

Other personal experiences with shifting

In actual practice, it can be difficult to categorize a shift as one of the above types. I chose not to sort the following writings by type of shift. Sometimes one finds it difficult to figure out what type of shift one has experienced, because the shift could be interpreted (or misinterpreted) in several possible ways. In addition, some of the essays in this section describe more than one shifting event, of several different types.

“Shift analysis,” by Ketrino
ketrino.angelfire.com/essay41.html

“Shifting experiences,” by GreyWolf
A description of mental shifts (with lost time, which isn’t normally a part of mental shifts), personality shifts, and phantom shifts.
shifters.org/shifting/greywolf1.asp (defunct)

“My WereCard,” by Kota
A mental shift, with lost time
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/kota.html (defunct)

“Shifting,” by SummonerWolf. 2008-04-23
Sometimes, I sit down, close my eyes, and feel out every bit of my body with my mind, becoming conscious of myself. I feel myself changing …
deviantart.com/deviation/83714417

“My WereCard,” by DevilWolf (Panther of the Wolf, Celina W.)
A wolf therian describes a dream shift, and in more detail describes a type of shift in which she assumes a more wolf-like posture
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/devilwolf.html

“My WereCard,” by Dobutsu ✔
A wolf therian describes dream shifts and mental shifts, as well as an ability to run faster on all fours
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dobutsu.html

“The slip, a shapeshifting experience,” by Lance Foxx. 1998-09-13
While a were-fox meditates on a train: a mental shift, plus peculiar effects
geocities.com/Area51/Dimension/9735/theslipe.html (defunct)
Balancing the parts of the self

As we learned in the previous section, therianthropes occasionally feel much more like their animal side than their human side. Those two sides are different parts of their self. A significant part of otherkin philosophy is based on developing awareness of the different parts of one’s self. Now let’s explore how the different parts of the self are defined and interrelated.

(See also a section elsewhere in this document: “Relations with humanity, inside and outside.”)

Common ways of seeing the parts of the self

“Everyday multiplicity,” by The Crisses. 2005-02-23
Even people who don’t have multiple personalities sometimes find it acceptable to think of their mind/self as divided up into portions, as interpreted by variety of psychologists and cultures: Id, Ego, Superego. Anima/Animus, Shadow. Inner child. Public and private face.
kinhost.org/wiki/Main/EverydayMultiplicity

Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 201

Balancing the secular and spiritual parts of life

“Maintaining balance,” by Michelle Belanger
Psychic Vampire Codex, p. 238-239

“Why do we bother?” by Archer. 2011-06-18
★ Should you see the otherkin part of your life as less/more important/real than the human part of your life? Does skepticism help, or harm?
 otherkincommunity.net/post56818

“Otherworld spell,” by Alyshai Alughasa
A magical poem to remove separation between one’s mundane and magical life
 otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/poetry/otherspell.html

The human side and the other side(s)

“Writing about my sides,” by Akhila. 2004-10
Technically I should say that I have only one side: me (a combination of clouded leopard, raven and human). I can sometimes tell where a trait/behavior comes from inside me.
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/sides.php

“My WereCard,” by Crying Wolf
I have no Were side, only a companion. It’s like two spirits in one body, with thoughts intertwined.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/cryingwolf.html

My tattoo’s symbolism: a yin-yang with wolf paws, representing balance as both wolf and human. I walk as human, and I walk as wolf. Balance keeps both in check.
ketrino.angelfire.com/Balance.html

“О равновесии и трансформации (Equilibrium and transformation),” by wolf. Circa 2007
(In Russian.) Balancing the human conscious and the wolf subconscious halves of a yin-yang.
sheeter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-21

“Сознание... териантропа (Consciousness... therianthrope),” by Gerry. Circa 2008
(In Russian.) Your daily life is a joint work of human and animal consciousness.
sheeter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-103

(Poem) My wolf brother; my theriotype…
deviantart.com/deviation/805690

“Fluidity and fragmentation,” by Sonne Spiritwind.
2008-03-21 ✔
Shifting and how it influences the integration of the self.
sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/fluidity_and_fragmentation.html

Integration happens naturally after a few years of being aware of one’s animal side. As one accepts the animal side, one has less conflict with the animal side.
razza.were.net/articles/faith.html (defunct)

“Being Were and Aware: Balance,” by Justin
Advice on compartmentalizing the interests of different parts of the self, listening to each when deciding how to handle a situation, like a committee. Wolf’s instinctive responses aren’t useful or wise for solving certain problems.

geocities.com/miskawolferavenclaw/beingweareandaware.html (defunct)

Untitled (Swangirl), by Tsu. 2011-09-06
My human and swan sides get along

swanblood.tumblr.com/post/9889111295

Untitled selection by Rosalyn Greene
On integrated and non-integrated therians (that is, therians who see their animal side as themselves, or a separate being) and how a therian can become integrated

Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 26-30

“Tips for being a civil (though not necessarily civilized) animal,” by Lupa. 2007-03-14 ✔
A key to self-control: don’t think of your animal side as a separate entity. Understand that you’re the animal at all times, not just when you’re angry

house-eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.88

“Conflict,” by Salgensier. 2005-03-05
(Poem) A red wolf therian’s poem about suppressing the inner wolf

deviantart.com/deviation/15809521

“Redwolf-human,” by SummonerWolf
(Poem) Feeling conflicted between one’s human side and animal side: redwolf say run! human say no.

deviantart.com/deviation/92413402

Aroo…, episode 6, by Wolf Shaman. 2005-08-02
(Visual art) A wolf in the army finds it necessary to suppress his therianthropy

deviantart.com/deviation/21533118

“Control freaks – you or your lycanthropy,” by Razza Wolf. 1999-08-14
Do we control our animal side, or vice versa? It feels wrong to suppress a mental shift. How does this differ from clinical lycanthropy?

razza.were.net/articles/control.html (defunct)

What is strength? by Cyaneus
My inner monologues are more like group discussions

deviantart.com/deviation/103591205

“A manifesto for werewolves,” by Chantal Bourgault du Coudray ♪
(Not entirely about the spiritual therianthropy community; partially about fictional werewolves.) In this academic essay that openly refers to the spiritual therianthropy community of alt.horror.werewolves, Haraway’s “A manifesto for cyborgs,” and werewolves in fiction, the author examines the werewolf as a symbol of the need to create a healthy, constructive balance between the self and the Other

Curse of the Werewolf, pp. 130-149

“For a non-essentialist understanding of animality,” by Akhila. 2011-04 ★
Argues that it is a mistake to view concepts of “animal” and “human” as a clear-cut binary. There’s no single “animality” common to all creatures bare humans.

akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/animality.php

Being Assertive, by Cyaneus ★
Dragon side offers courage when confronted by a creepy stranger

deviantart.com/deviation/103656808

Personifying strength, by Cyaneus ♫
An inner conversation with the dragon side

deviantart.com/deviation/103590997
Identifying as more than one kind of creature

Otherkin who identify as more than one kind of creature have called themselves multi-kin or blend-a-kin. Therianthropes who identify as more than one kind of animal have called themselves polyweres or polytherians.

On otherkin who identify as more than one kind of creature
otherkin.livejournal.com/333920.html

“What about ‘blend-a-kin’?” by Lupa
On otherkin who identify as more than one kind of creature, possibly mixed together into one
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 242

“My polytherianthropy: Trinity nature,” by Earth Listener, of Chimera. 2007-07, updated 2010-09
Physically I am human. Yet every part of me, that is everything but physical, is not only human but is seemingly also wolf and shark. I see the world from three mindests and viewpoints, always.
houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/70962.html

“Balancing the trinity within,” by Asrith. 2011-05-08
The experiential perceptions of dragon, tiger, human.
thehornedgate.wordpress.com/2011/05/08

My soul, by Alex E. 2009-11-12
(Pen and pencil) Self-portrait as a chimerical wolf, with explanation
deviantart.com/deviation/143359778

“Therianthropy: A personal definition,” by Tygerwolfe
How I discovered each of my animal sides
tygerwolfe.com/?page_id=92

Otherkin and “Walk-In” spirit-exchanges

A “Walk-In” spirit is a concept from New Age spiritualism. Some otherkin believe that in some cases, this is the means by which a non-human spirit ended up in a human body.

“Walking in,” by Lupa
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 73-76

“Crawl-Ins and Walk-Ins,” by Shunyata. 2009-06-16
A spirit that chooses at conception to incarnate is a crawl-in. Most incarnate extraterrestrials are crawl-ins. A spirit that enters the body any time after conception is a walk-in.
starseeds.info/about-starseeds/list-all-articles/17-crawl-ins-and-walk-ins
Otherkin and multiple systems

When there are several distinct personalities within one person’s body, in some cases an individual personality within such a system identifies as other than human. The communities of otherkin and multiple systems have mingled peacefully and shared ideas during the 1990s to the present.

“Astraea multiple personality FAQ,” by Astraea astraeasweb.net/plural/faq.html
“Multiplicity,” by Lupa Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 76
“Crisses’ Otherkin Multiple FAQ, Beta – archive,” compiled by the Crisses Unfinished. astraeasweb.net/plural/cris-multiplefaq.html
Untitled selection, by Lupa
On Lups’s experiment with intentionally and temporarily dividing aspects of her personality Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 80-82
“The creation of a system,” by Chimera. 2011-01
A description of the Chimera multiple system withintheruins.webs.com/thecreationofasystem.htm
“Singlet and collective naming,” by Chimera. 2010-09
Our multiple system chose the collective name Chimera because none of us so far identify as human. houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/75456.html
“Through someone else’s psychosis,” by Kardegray, of Chimera. 2010-01
An otherkin member of a multiple system describes how it got that way houseofchimeras.livejournal.com/80812.html

Inner worlds

(An introduction, not just otherkin-related or multiple-related)

A person can craft a world they can visit in their mind’s eye, a world in which the various parts of their selves can interact. In its simplest form, it is a familiar mental space which one likes to visualize once in a while. Developed into its most complex form, an inner world can be a huge complete ecosystem, populated by people with their own culture and personal motivations, visited in dreams or daydreams on a regular basis. Such a world is called an inner world, internal landscape, head-space, mind-scape, or paracosm. All kinds of people use inner worlds in some way, but authors, multiples, and otherkin can find it particularly useful.

People can view the nature of their inner world in a couple of different ways. They may consider their inner world an imaginary but useful psychological tool. (An imaginary world differs from a fictional setting. One doesn’t necessarily write fiction about an inner world, but one can. One can also make fictional settings that are not visited in the way characteristic of inner worlds.) Or they may consider their inner world a real, metaphysical place. In that case, an inner world must be distinguished from otherworldly places outside of themselves that are accessed by metaphysical means (astral projection). All these distinctions can be unclear. Skeptics prefer to view the latter types (any metaphysical explanation) as the former types (imagination).

Caution: Regardless of such distinctions of otherworldly places, it is always wisest to spend the majority of one’s time possible in the physical here-and-now, rather than in any place that is imaginary, or metaphysical, or metaphysically accessed. Otherworldly places can teach one to grow, but only the physical here-and-now can keep one fed. Otherworldly friends can help in many ways, but only physically present friends can literally lend a hand. The real danger of any kind of otherworld is in forgetting all that, and confusing one’s priorities.

An introduction to inner worlds, by Lauren. 2005 (Comic) therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051226.html
“Paracosm,” by various authors
Many people make imaginary worlds, called “paracosms,” coined by Ben Vincent in 1976. Psychologists compare these with imaginary friends and see them as serving a similarly constructive role. History of people known to have paracosms, including the Brontë family. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paracosm

“The internal landscaper, or Adventures in mental topiary (Internal landscaping),” by Bob K. (FirewheelVortex)
A multiple offers step-by-step advice on how to make an inner world.
kinhost.org/wiki/Main/InternalLandscaping

“There are ruins within this head,” by Chimera. 2011-01

A description of the headspace of Chimera withintheruins.webs.com/thereareruinswithin.htm

“Intro and stuff,” by Fayanora. 2005-10-29
A description of a multiple’s inner world, Mindeodean.
inner-worlds.livejournal.com/989.html

“Internal landscape,” by the Crisses
Illustrated description of the inner world of the Crisses multiple system
kinhost.org/wiki/Crisses/InternalLandscape

“’That place,’” by Sabersinger (Jolantru). 2006-08-08
Envisioned as an ideal home, an interior place to retreat for solitude and tranquility.
inner-worlds.livejournal.com/5743.html
Personal journeys and perspectives

After Awakening, life’s adventure continues ever onward. These writings regard progress, dreams, self-description, and Unverified Personal Gnosis. Not advice for others, not just awakening stories

“Experiencing wolf,” by Elinox. 2007-11-27
Changing one’s opinions about how and why one is a wolf therian
freewebs.com/lupineinstincts/experiencingwolf.htm

“Art,” by Twilight Stray. 2005 ♪★
I live a double-exposure life… animal marks a page, the girl does too: same mark
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/strayart.php

“There is a wolf that lives on the right side of my brain,” by Twilight Stray. 2005
Neurology, creativity, and therianthropy
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/brain.php

“Skinned wolf,” by Twilight Stray. 2005 ♪▲
Torn between grief and fascination when seeing animal pelts on sale.
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/skinned.php

“It’s not my choice,” by SummonerWolf
I didn’t ask to be canine. It’s not faith, not meditation, not soul-searching, not dreams, not soul-names. It’s thinking, knowing, observing, running, playing, feeling, needing.
deviantart.com/deviation/75668796

“Jerynn,” by Jerynn. 2008-01-22
The progress of a leopard person.
lynxspirit.com/jerynn.html

“ShadowFire’s contribution to the Were community,” by ShadowFire
A dragon/wolf therian growing up, finding community, loathing labels
shifters.org/newbies/shadowfire1.shtml (defunct)

“On being a kitsune, part I,” by Duo. 2006-09-13
Growing up as a magical Japanese fox spirit
house-eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.70

“On being a kitsune, part II,” by Duo. 2006-09-13
house-eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.71

“Reiko: A personal experience,” by Solo. 2006-09-13
house-eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.73

“The transformation of the kitsune,” by Solo and Duo. 2006-09-13
house-eclipse.org/hex/hex_plugins/content/content.php?content.72

“Stardragons,” by Arethinn
The collective consciousness of a star, personified as a polymorphic dragon
eristic.net/fey/types/stardragons.php

A cat isn’t all about purrs, love, or light. Yet, it’s not about pure darkness…
absurdism.org/therianthropy/fear.html

“One paw in the galaxies: archetypes versus the ‘real’ thing,” by Quil. 2006-02-24 ▲
I’m Leopard like in myth. And then again I’m leopard with lowercase l
absurdism.org/therianthropy/galaxies.html

“The ghostly cat,” by Akhila. 2011-05
Research into clouded leopard myths, archetypes, and symbolism.
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/ghostly.php

“Mundane reality vs. otherkin reality,” by Urytevaera. 2002-07-22
I remember another world. Is it real? And is this world real, too?
wingedwatchers.tripod.com/creative/thoughts1.html

“Skin deep: on being animal and human,” by Sonne Spiritwind. 2008-11-24
sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/skin_deep.html

“Seeing the self and (hardly) making sense of it,” by Liesk
Thoughts of a deer/coyote therian
liesk.feralscribes.org/?q=node/9 (lost)

Intangibility, by Leccathu Furvicael. 2007-10-10
(Sequential art) To accept what I am would mean believing in it first
deviantart.com/deviation/66991865

“Waters of obscurity: my therianthropic self-concept,” by Sonne Spiritwind. 2007-08
sonne.sonverrid.org/Essays/selfconcept.htm

“I am a therianthrope,” by SummonerWolf
deviantart.com/deviation/90149263

“So who’s this Brokken guy? (Personal info),” by Brokken T-Wolf. Circa 2002
Some people have a human outward appearance and have animal souls within. Taoist philosophy and an ancient Greek folktale.

timberwolf.org/html/personal.html (defunct)

A bigger picture, by O. Scribner. 2006-11-06

(Comic) My draconity isn’t so much about me as it is about discovering a wider cosmology therithere.comicgen.com/d/20061106.html
Humorous anecdotes

“Funny true stories about shifters (Werewolf humor),” by Yaiolani
A few amusing anecdotes from the experiences of some therians
yaiolani.tripod.com/humor.htm

Reflection strip, by FearisHere (S. J. P.). 2008-07-11 ✔ (Sequential art) A lynx strolling down a sidewalk is startled to catch a glimpse of a human reflected on the windows. “Of course the reflection is my physical form whereas the lynx is what I perceive myself to be. Sometimes I just forget and get a little fright when I see something tall and looming instead of my compact grey form.” deviantart.com/deviation/91395543

“*blinkblink… thud*” by Corin (Mike P.) 2005-09-23 ✔

This woman walks in and comments on my astral wings, so I… 0_winginchair_0.livejournal.com/1819.html

“Like death’s skin,” by Gesigewigu’s. 2004-09-19 Otherkin can sense whether someone else is otherkin. However… 0_winginchair_0.livejournal.com/1358.html

And it’s down the hall, that way, by O. Scribner. 2005-09-05 (Comic) Phantom shifts and communication therithere.comicgen.com/d/20050905.html

These boxes of books sure are heavy… by O. Scribner. 2005 (Comic) Mental shifts can be useful, sort of therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051121.html
Some otherkin and therians chose to publicly share their responses to surveys. In most cases, I’ve sorted these writings into other sections, depending on their topic.

**WereCards**

The WereCard is a questionnaire created in the early 1990s for use by participants of alt.horror.werewolves. The WereCards have the most responses of any survey, and they include some of the earliest personal essays about therianthropy. However, they were not designed entirely with spiritual therianthropy in mind, because that concept was still too new, and too much of the newsgroup was still oriented toward discussion of werewolves in fiction. The WereCards include some questions that are inappropriate, either because they sound more like a description of a role-playing character or a joke, such as “preferred method of attack,” and “preferred prey,” and some leading questions that seem to tend to sway the opinion of the writer, such as “feelings toward vampires” and “feelings toward normal humans.”

**WereCard resources**

“Blank WereCard,” no author or date listed
For therians to fill out
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/blckcard.txt (defunct)

“Writing a WereCard,” by Razza Wolf. 2002-06-10
Instructions on how to fill out the WereCard
razza.were.net/guides/werecard.html
(defunct)

WereCard archive, by Utlah ✔
A collection of WereCards completed by dozens of therians. The better ones in the list are marked with paw-prints. No longer updated, and so isn’t a current representation of the individuals concerned or their beliefs.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/index.html (defunct)

**Selected WereCards**

I’m sorting these alphabetically by the name that the authors list as their “Were name.” I’m including a lot of WereCards here, even ones that involve raw confessions, far-fetched claims, or which I think may have been created as pranks, as these might help explain how some rumors started.

I omit WereCards that have too little written in the “personal therianthropy” section or were otherwise not filled out very much, or were less interesting pranks. I select for the most interesting WereCards, which are those that have whole essays written in them, not just brief responses to each question.

This will never become a comprehensive list of all WereCards ever. There’s hundreds of them out there. However, I think this will be the largest, most navigable, and most interesting list of WereCards. If a WereCard doesn’t appear here, it might not be because I omitted it, it might be because I didn’t see it.

Caution: Many WereCards are not safe for work and may trigger. Due to the types of questions on the WereCards, nearly all WereCards do refer lightheartedly to hunting and violence, and nearly all of them combine fact and fantasy in a way that will confuse inexperienced readers.

By Ally.

Wolf who dream-shifts. I view Therianthropy as an explanation of the wild blood inside everyone… there is an Animality for everyone.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/allv.html (defunct)

By Anton Lupus Wulfen (ALW). 2000
lupus.lycanthrope.org/About/Card.html
(defunct)

By Arlun

Wolf. Learned about wereism on Internet, then tried mental shift. Big part of life now.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/arlun.html (defunct)

By Artful Dodger

Wolf with m-shifts. Thought I was crazy, then discovered others like me. Self-acceptance. Still learning to integrate the two sides
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dodger.html (defunct)
By Ashen Claw
A wolf with dream shifts. Story of awakening and involvement with community
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/ashen.html (defunct)

By Ashwolf
A wolf, with story of awakening and involvement with community
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/ashwolf.html (defunct)

By Axl (blazingshadow12403)
Timber wolf with mental and phantom shifts. Felt like wolf for entire life. Had first shift last year, a vivid full-body phantom shift. Then found other therians last month.
deviantart.com/deviation/146385274

By Azure Howl
Coyote. Mental shift after a hunt.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/azure.html (defunct)

By Bestial
Werewolf. Dancing while high on magic mushrooms, had vision of turning into wolf, instructed by older wolf demon. Later, found I could trigger this state any time. My subconscious identified a symbol that it needs to grow, strengthen itself, give me confidence.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/bestial.html (defunct)

By Blakvare
Wolf. Dream shifts as an elderly wolf. Harassed by a hyena spirit, sometimes unpleasantly forced to mental shift to hyena, which feels like being invaded, whereas the wolf shift feels wonderful.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/alice.html (defunct)

By Black Wolf
Timber wolf, mental and phantom shifts. Knew I was a wolf since middle school. Had first mental shift when watching wolves at a park
deviantart.com/deviation/146387932

By BluHowl
Wolf. I look at myself as a wolf in human skin.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/bluhowl.html (defunct)

By Bloodmoon Dancer
Vampire wolf. A friend told me about my vampiric blood and awakened it. Drank, ate rare steak, had fits of animalistic rage that offended friends and family. [Readers, please note that neither being a vampire nor a therian is an excuse for acting out, and nobody will stand up for you if you do. -ed.]
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/bloodmoon.html (defunct)

By Catboy (Bluecat)
Cougar. Took audio test when entering Army, found unusually good hearing. Once, a partial physical shift to fight: no memory of it, but remembers itching beforehand, and woke with blood in mouth.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/catboy.html (defunct)

By Cathbad
Polywere, wolf. In childhood, shifted. Taken to psychologist for violent tantrums. Loner. Called a werewolf by stranger. Want to shift and run away from it all, but also human, with a wife and child.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/cathbad.html (defunct)

By Cat X. Steppenwolf
Tiger. I read Hermann Hesse's Steppenwolf, and knew what I was. This was many years before AHWV existed. Later, changed from wolf to tiger.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/catx.html

By Christian
Red fox visits in dreams. Dream shifting.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/christian.html (defunct)

By Clover-Paw
Wild cat, formerly thought I was a wolf.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/cloverpaw.html (defunct)

By Crying Wolf
I have a wolf spirit companion
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/cryingwolf.html (defunct)

By Coyote Moon
Coyote. As a child, had a conversation with a werecat in a vision. In Cali, sang to coyotes.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/coyotemoon.html (defunct)

By Darkness Falls
Wolf. In childhood, walked digitigrade. During college, went camping under stars, had to howl at moon in celebration. Felt wonderfully awake and alive and free. Later, had first dream shift. Later, found AHWV.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/darknessfalls.html (defunct)

By Darkwalker (David J.)
Wolf. Physical shift into “Crinos form.”
[Crinos form is a word from fiction. I include this clearly fabricated story in case this person may have been a source of confusion for others. – ed.]
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/darkwalker.html (defunct)

By DevilWolf (Panther of the Wolf, Celina W.)
Wolf. Daydreamed about running through forests to calm self. One night, I’m not sure if it was dream or real, I woke and saw myself as a wolf in the mirror. Felt relaxed and confident. Often at night, pose changes to be wolf-like, feel tickle of fur growing. Then found AHWW.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/devilwolf.html (defunct)

By Dobutsu
Wolf. Grew up with pet wolf-dogs. I run quickly on four legs. I recognize people by smell. When I look at the moon, I feel different. I wake up from dream shifts feeling sore from running. Anger induces mental shifts in which I growl and find it hard to walk on two legs.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dobutsu.html (defunct)

By Dragos
Wolf. During a mental shift, it’s a zone, volatile and euphoric, without fear or worry, like a high. Scared a family member.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dragos.html (defunct)

By Dream Runner
Wolf. The wolf and young woman live as the same, yet different entities. Mental shifts when angry or sad, but have since learned to control this, shifting when calm, comforted by wolf. Had a phase in which inner wolf became depressed that she could never have pups.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dreamrunner.html (defunct)

By DreamWolf
Wolf. In childhood, made many misunderstood attempts to shift to wolf before I understood wolf was me.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dreamwlf.html (defunct)

By DustWolf
European gray wolf, dream shifts. Found AHWW in teens. I love my packmates.
deviantart.com/deviation/49161543

By Echoes of Jade
Wolf. Was closer to my childhood dog than to my family. After he died, dreamed of being a wolf running next to him. Began to act canine. Then found AHWW.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/ec hoofjade.html (defunct)

By Furtail
Wolf. I don’t consider myself a Were, I’m a wolf in a man’s body. My soul is a wolf soul. I had a past life as a wolf. Awareness happened due to childhood near-death experience.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/furtail.html (defunct)

By Genevieve
At puberty, gained a wolf-like perspective.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/ge nevie.html (defunct)

By GreySnowWolf
Was a wolf in a past life. Part of me is wolf.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/grey snowwolf.html (defunct)

By Grim Wolf (Andrew A.)
Timber wolf. My sister is a vampire, and so were her friends, and so naturally I tried to kill them. Then my sister introduced me to my own kind. [Uh, this card is a prank, right? –ed.]
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/gr imm.html (defunct)

By Hanhepi hi Wipet
Wolf. Autistic. Found solace walking dog in woods
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/ha nepi.html (defunct)

By Harry
Tiger. Feline instincts. Performed a feat of remarkable strength when fighting off a bully, thanks to a mental shift. My ancestors were killed for being Weres and Wiccans, and my family has a silver allergy. [Wicca and Weres both originated in the 20th century. –ed.]
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/harry.html (defunct)

By Hope
Chicken/wolf gryphon.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/hope.html (defunct)

By Howlie
Wolf is my totem and role model
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/howlie.html (defunct)

By Karra
Catlike in behavior
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/karra.html (defunct)

By Khato Berian (Erik T.)
Siberian tiger, snow leopard, timber wolf dream shifts.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/khat o.html (defunct)
By Kiric HeartWolf
Wolf, plus horse, raven. How I met my first friend: she held out her hand, said, “Hi, I’m a vampire.” I took her hand, said, “Hi, I’m a werewolf.” Best friends ever since.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/heartwlf.html

By Kota. Wolf. In childhood, felt closer to dogs than family, ate with them, played on all fours with them. In teens, dream shifts of running with wolves, feeling free. First mental shift happened when outdoors, overwhelmed by emotions: then felt an enjoyable pain, lost time, woke up feeling tired but energized. I run through woods alone at night to induce mental shifts.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/kota.html (defunct)

By Kveldulf. Wolf. Dream shifts. Sometimes rage builds up and I have an outburst. I think this reflects the wolf in me. I’m a berserker.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/kveldulf.html (defunct)

By Ladywolf (Kathleen). Wolf. I’m a loner, at home in the woods. Once I caught a rabbit and it bit me. Wolf was teaching me to hunt.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/ladywolf.html (defunct)

By Lao Lang (Dee S.) Gray wolf. Age five, visited a zoo, and was licked by a wolf. Changed my life.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/lao-lang.html (defunct)

By Lila Laviren (Miss Lila Wolf, Kate D.) Werewolf. Age five, was fond of and was once bitten by a family member’s wolf-dog. Other family members raised full-blood timber wolves.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/lila.html (defunct)

By Lone Wolf (Jonathan). Werewolf. Had a dream shift about a mental shift. I keep my interest in werewolves secret from my family.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/lonewolf.html (defunct)

By Lone Wolf (Laura). My mate gave me the name Lone Wolf for a CB handle. I’ve gradually become more wolf-like in body language. What will my kids think?
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/lonewolf.html (defunct)

By Lord Bad Vibes (Sarah, Alice) Expelled due to violent tantrum. Struggled to remove the ‘problem’ until I battled with the wolf in a dream. Every time I struck the wolf I felt the blow. Realized I couldn’t remove the wolf from me as I was the wolf.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/lordbadvibes.html (defunct)

By Loupa D’Ambre. Wolf. Dream shifts of running with wolves. Tested with extremely acute hearing. After 30+ years, my wolf side and I have come to an almost perfect balance.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/loupa.html (defunct)

By Lupa (C.). My spirit double or ka has been in wolf form for a very long time.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/lupa.html (defunct)

By Maloran. My whole life I’ve dreamed of being an animal, sometimes a coyote, sometimes a cat, a snake, a hawk, or a dragon. When I’m especially hungry, angry, or scared, my canine teeth physically shift into fangs.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/maloran.html (defunct)

By Maverick Wolf. Teased about being a loner. Realized my inner animal was an alpha wolf. I was hit by a car, and during a two-day coma, dreamt I was that wolf. I had faced my inner animal and since then have felt a deeper link with animals and humans. I’m hard to anger and seldom unhappy.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/maverick.html

By Metawolf. Timber wolf. In a dream, encountered wolves, then saw wolf reflection. Then explored spirituality. Aura shift.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/metawolf.html

By Nightlyre. Mexican wolf. Sent to psychiatrist for depression. I decided that if I was going to do without prescriptions, I’d better find out who I really was inside.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/nightlyre.html (defunct)

By Niita. Wolf. Claims to have become a physical shape-shifter after having been bitten
by a strange man in the woods as a child. [Transmission of lycanthropy by biting is an invention of 20th-century cinema. It does not appear in the old folktales or legends. –ed.] swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/ntta.html (defunct)

By Nitestalker (B.)  Wolf behavior. Dreams of being a wolf. No mental shifts. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/nittestalker.html (defunct)

By Omen Dyonises Raincloud (F. M. III) Tiger. Fascinated at zoo, saddened by Siegfried & Roy. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/omen.html (defunct)

By Olomoc Age 8, eye contact with wolf at zoo, fainted. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/olomoc.html (defunct)

By Phillupus Cú Glas Conrechta Lycanthropos Kelev (Phil) ✓ Canis lupus. Secondarily, Orcinus orca. Resembles 16th century profile for werewolf, and berserker. Eyes can turn yellow. Found wolf side by divination. Wrote, co-directed, and starred in play as a werewolf. Mirror-gazed in dark and saw wolf side, then coyotes began to howl outside. Various dream-shifts. My werewolf nature is here to protect and instruct myself and others, and to embrace difference, physicality, and paradox. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/phillupus.html (defunct)

By Padfoot Bedlam Dogstar. Circa 2003. Canine cladotherianthrope. Wolf was my first spirit guide showing me the path of therianthropy. It started with a dream shift. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/padfoot.html (defunct)

By Polaris Bear. After finding AHWW, began having dream shifts. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/polaris.html

By Polenth. 1998 Dragon. “I’ve known for as long as I’ve known what a dragon is. My friends and family know, but not because I told them. They guessed.” polenth.demon.co.uk/general/werecard.html (defunct)

By RandomShifts (O. W.) Polywere. From childhood, mental and dream shifts into various kinds of animals. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/randomshifts.html (defunct)

By RED. Wolf. First mental shift happened when playing at being a werewolf with friends. Became violent. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/red.html (defunct)

By Redian Bosciano Wolff deviantart.com/deviation/49088423


By Sabretoothed Ermine Smilodon, weasel. Always liked to playfight like animals. When I discovered the online Werecommunity, at first I thought spiritually-based Were were insane. However, I confronted myself about this hypocrisy: my spirituality was the same. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/sa bretoothed.html (defunct)

By Shadow (C. H.) Eastern timber wolf. Having a Were side is like having a second view on every subject. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/sh adow.html (defunct)

By Shadow Bard North American gray wolf. Fascinated by wolves. Dream shift. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/bar d.html (defunct)

By Shadowfang (D. L.) Wolf. Dream shifts of many kinds of animals, until made eye contact with wolves at a park. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/sh dwfng.html (defunct)

By Shadow Flash (A.) 1998-11-11 Polywere. The first time I considered my Wereness was when I found a webpage about it. Since then, my phenotypes have taken a while to surface. I don’t fit into one category easily. I’m most like a combination of many animals at once. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/sfl ash.html (defunct)

By Shadow Wolf (J. B.) Wolf. Secondarily, horse. On a spirit walk, met and merged with a wolf. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/sh dwwolf.html (defunct)

By She Demon Wolf, of Erox Pack A wolf with dragon attributes.
By Shiya
Cheetah. M-shift at beach. Later, heard about otherkin. Then discovered my animal. Phantom shifting almost every minute. Strangely, I have feathered wings, can see them, move them. I don’t know why.

By Silver (J. B.)
Wolf. M-shift, etc, but not p-shift. Haven’t lost a fight to anything since my first change. I was bitten by a viral lycanthrope after my first change. [Transmission of lycanthropy by bite was invented in a movie. It is fiction.—ed.] I am a Christian, so I will choose not to p-shift if it turns out to be magic.

By Silverback (H. J.)
Timberwolf, dromaeosaur. Discovered therian comm. as a child, then started soul searching. Joined a pack, it helped. Good friends.

By Skoll
Wolf. Rustic childhood, taught respect for ecosystem, saw wolf as noble. Dream shift, woke up outside. Feared inner wolf at first, then embraced it, finally whole. I was the wolf, we were one and the same.

By Solulo (Lycanthia Solulo, C. B.)
Wolf. With childhood friends, pretended to be foxes. Felt that I was a fox. My obsession with foxes developed into that of wolves. Dream shifts. While practicing T’ai Chi, had a vision or out-of-body experience about wolves. Met wolf spirit guide.

By Sonrai SunGazer
House-cat. Describes an astral shift.

By Soul Seeker (M.) 1999
Wolf, tiger. In teens, still love playing at being an animal. M-shift during geometry class.

Canine. Learned kindness from dog.

By Stalks-By-Night (G. T.)
Timber wolf. By meditation and divination, discovered and released wolf side. I learned to control the wolf part and combine it with my human side as one. We Werebeasts are a rare blend of spiritual and physical, man and beast.

By Strype (D.) ✔
Tiger. I’ve felt a phantom tail for as long as I can remember. Later, could feel fur, muzzle, ears, and saw stripes. After I figured it out, I began feeling better about myself, losing weight, getting stronger, more energetic, creative, and happier than ever. After all, I was looking for this for years. A secret now, but someday I’ll get stripes tattooed all over.

By Swiftpaw
Jaguar with a full life

By Swordmaiden (HowlingWolf, D. B.)
I met a man who was a Were, and he brought it out in me, as I have in him. My eye color changes. A friend had a dream about me as a wolf. While chatting online, I nearly had a full physical shift, and have started to p-shift other times. I think like a wolf and talk like one would if it was in human form. M-shifted once while working at radio station.

By Tigerfolly
Tiger. I’m domesticated and social. I’m proud of and loyal to my owner. My goal is to live my life as a pet. Discovered this in a dream.
By Uath (J. M.). Circa 1998. At 15, I decided I wasn’t human, but then what was I? I figured werewolf, because I loved wolves so much. Searched online and found AHWW.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/utlah.html (defunct)

By Uncle Wolf (T. T.)
I am a fusion of wolf and man, intellectual but primal. Akela the Wolf and Bear are the spirit guides I follow. Dolphin or otter helped my swimming ability. I am a Christian, but have added other beliefs. All gods are one god.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/uncle.html (defunct)

By Uath
Arctic wolf/coyote therian. Awakening and involvement with the AHWW community.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/utlah.html (defunct)

By Vacai (D. L.)
In teens, befriended a vampire and a werewolf. I’m a witch and vixen, conscience of the trio.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/vacai.html (defunct)

By Vaershakkae

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/vaershakkae.html (defunct)

By VulpesVelox (Swift Fox, K. M.)
Red fox. All my life I’ve been deeply in love with foxes. Dream shifts.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/vaershakkae.html (defunct)

By WarCry of the WoodLands (Danny M. F****r)
Wolf. Dislikes vampires. [Likely fictional. –ed.]

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/warcry.html

By Warrior (L. M.). Wolf. Told my friend, and she said she’d been feeling the same way.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/warrior.html (defunct)

By Whitefell (Sonicide, Alice). 1998
Wolf. Misanthropy. As child, neglected, raised by neighbor’s dog. During mental shift, can’t read. Once, physically shifted, with witnesses. [Sounds like this might be one of the people who Rosalyn Greene asked for information about p-shifting. –ed.]

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/whitefell.html (defunct)

By Whitewolf (B. D.). Wolf, falcon. My Totem asked to become a part of me, to help me be something more. We became one spirit.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/whitewolf.html (defunct)

By Whyte Wolf K.
Wolf. My Were side taught me a lot about anger, but it also taught me a lot about trust. I have a true friend, but I lost more to outbursts.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/whytewolfk.html (defunct)

By Willow
deviantart.com/deviation/142934628

By Winter Eyes (BludWulf, D. I.)
Werewolf. My goal is to lead my own pack. Tranquil dream shifts, wake rejuvenated. Pondered these and found meaning.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/wintereyes.html (defunct)

By Windigo the Feral
Dreamed of being a “windigo” creature, and only later heard of stories of windigos. Long after that, found out about other therians

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/windigo.html (defunct)

By Winged Wolf
therianthropy.wingedwolfpsion.com/WWpther.html (defunct)

By Wolf (Tony)
Childhood fear of a shed, “knew” a dangerous wolf was inside it. On vision quest, opened shed door, became wolf, and other wolf is Mother. Physically shifted for first time while making love to wife.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/wolf.html (defunct)

By Wolf02 (GrayWolf, Alastair)
Dream shift, and when I woke up, felt my body shift back to human.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/wolf02.html (defunct)

By Wolfen
Mirror meditation, reflection became wolf. Wolves have admirable qualities that I follow throughout my life.

swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/wolfen.html (defunct)

By WolfFang 1998
Wolf. Dream shifted as big cat at first due to misconception that wolves are evil. Found AHWW. Worked at wolf sanctuaries. Attending college to be a Wildlife Biologist.
A Directory of Otherkin Writings

By Wolflope (Wolf Walker, C. L. S.)

Wolf. As child, had spiritual connection to pet wolf-dog, thought of myself as her child, a wolf cub.

[Note: The WereCard section is not complete. I am going to continue collecting more WereCards in this section. I am not finished exploring Utlah’s WereCard Archive yet. Additionally, I want to find many WereCards that were never in Utlah’s WereCard Archive.]

Responses to the Furvey (Furry Lifestyle Survey) and Thervey (Therian Survey)

By Polenth. 1998-11-23
A dragon’s responses to the Furvey.
polenth.demon.co.uk/general/furvey.html (defunct)

By Polenth. 1998-12-27
A dragon’s responses to the Thervey.
polenth.demon.co.uk/general/thervey.html (defunct)

Surveys for Lupa’s A Field Guide to Otherkin

“Appendix C: The ubiquitous survey,” by Lupa
Lupa’s own complete responses to the survey that she sent out
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 279-284

“Survey 1: Lupa’s otherkin survey,” by Meirya. 2005-09
A bird therian responds to the survey that Lupa used to research her book, A Field Guide to Otherkin
dreamofhorn.com/nest/feathers4.html

dreamhart.org/2010/06/field-guide-to-otherkin-survey-responses

“Lupa’s survey answers,” by Dragonslorefury. 2005
A dragon otherkin responds to Lupa’s otherkin research questions.
deviantart.com/deviation/84840636

“Otherkin survey (2),” by Arethinn. 2006-02
A sidhe’s responses
eristic.net/fey/info/survey2.php

Therian Meme

Therian Meme, by Susano-Reborn. 2009-12-16
This is the original, blank “Therian Meme” for other therians to fill out.
deviantart.com/deviation/146984468

Therian Meme, by GestaltZe. 2009-12-28
A red wolf therian’s responses
deviantart.com/deviation/148392657

Therian Meme, by Dragonslorefury. 2009-12-21
A dragon otherkin’s responses
Therian Meme, by Enju Y.. 2010-05-11
A dragon’s responses.

Therian Meme, by TarawynWorldWalker. 2011-02-24
A shapeshifter therian’s responses

Other survey and questionnaire responses

“Survey 2: Therianthropy.org’s entry questionnaire,” by Meirya. 2005-11
A bird therian responds to a questionnaire required of new members on a certain site

dreamofhorn.com/nest/feathers5.html

“Newland profiles – Polenth,” by Polenth
A dragon’s responses to the survey for a gryphon newsgroup

polenth.demon.co.uk/gryphon/polenth.html

A sidhe’s responses to an unidentified survey

eristic.net/fey/info/survey1.php
PART VI.

THE SPIRITUALITY OF OTHERKIN.
Religion, or lack thereof

Therianthropy isn’t a religion. Otherkin isn’t a religion. Each therian or otherkin person is free to individually follow, invent, or ignore any religions in whatever way they are individually inclined to do. Personally, I’ve known very few otherkin who follow the exact same religion as one another. I’ve known otherkin and therians who are Christian (of various sects), atheist, Hindu, Jewish, Wiccan, and so on. Personally, I love reading essays that explain how one relates their therianthropy to their other beliefs about the cosmos, because it fits into each cosmology in such a different way.

“Otherkin isn’t a religion, nor is it a cult, nor even perhaps a spirituality

“The number one misconception,” by SummonerWolf. 2009-01-25
Therianthropy is not about a god, nor about a set of rules. Animal people do not follow commandments. Otherkin do not all go to a church, or have spiritual leaders.
deviantart.com/deviation/110705840

“Otakukin and religion,” by Saevitia S.
Because it deals with the afterlife, people erroneously assume that otakukin belong to some kind of new religion. ... Additionally, otakukin may be of any religion.
otakukin.atspace.com/religion.htm

“Cults and otherkin,” by Judea
An informal outline, arguing that the otherkin community isn’t a cult, because the otherkin community lacks most of the characteristics that would define a dangerous cult
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/general-otherkin/cults-and-otherkin

“Aren’t people who think they are werewolves just New Age freaks?” by Yaiolani
The shifter community is not something that grew out of the New Age movement, and it generally has little to do with modern Neo-Paganism either.
yaiolani.tripod.com/newage1.htm

“Aren’t people who think they are werewolves members of some cult?” by Yaiolani ✔
No, because they don’t and can’t recruit, and they don’t have any agreed-upon doctrines

yaiolani.tripod.com/cultish.htm

“Lycanthropy and the Utlah,” by Utjah
It provides a similar function to religion
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Articles/personal-lycan.html

“Doctrines and beliefs, oh my!” by SphynxCatVP
Vampirism doesn’t inherently have spiritual or faith-based (religious) doctrines or beliefs. It’s a state of being: we just are. It’s also not inherently a lifestyle. However, there are vampires who take a spiritual or faith-based approach to vampirism...
sanguinarius.org/articles/SC_most-doctrines.shtml

“Priestess,” by the Silver Elves
Magical Elven Love Letters p. 18-20

“Perfect love and perfect trust,” by the Silver Elves
Magical Elven Love Letters Vol. 1, p. 25-27

“Holding wonder,” by the Silver Elves
The Elves are not a religion ... Nor is there an Elf religion
Magical Elven Love Letters Vol. 1, p. 49-51

“Otherkin isn’t a religion, but...” by Lupa
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 214-218

Otherkin and religion/spirituality (general)

“Spirituality and religion,” by Lupa
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 211-214

“Devil’s advocate – Hindus, Christians, Mormons and Aristasians,” by (no author name listed?). 2009-08-15
Aristasian otherkin (femmekin) who practice a religion from Aristasia, and relation to religions of Earth (Telluria)
Christianity and otherkin

Being both an otherkin and a Christian

*On Dragons’ Wings*, by DrakeLightBearer

Writings for dragon otherkin who are also Christians, arguing that draconity and Christianity go together perfectly well. Bible study and advice.

[dragonswings.org](http://dragonswings.org)

“Christianity and Weres,” by Wolf VanZandt. 2010

A werewolf explains how he is also a Christian. Once, there were holy werewolves

[theriantimeline.com/christianity_and_weres](http://theriantimeline.com/christianity_and_weres)

“Body and the soul,” by Reemul

A therianthropic interpretation of a passage from Genesis


“Gnostic transformations,” by Reemul

A therianthropic interpretation of a passage from the Gospel of Thomas


“Lance Foxx talks with Art Bell and Father Malachi Martin,” by Lance Foxx. 1997-07-11

A transcript of when Lance Foxx called into a religious radio talk show

[geocities.com/Area51/Dimension/9735/transcript.html](http://geocities.com/Area51/Dimension/9735/transcript.html) (defunct)

*Jesus Wolfie*, by Vargablod. 2004-05-30

Color pencil illustration, depicting Jesus as a giant wolf regarding smaller wolves with a parental affection, with explanation

[deviantart.com/deviation/7690977](http://deviantart.com/deviation/7690977)

*Shelter*, by Sarah Lee W. 2004-08-04

Color pencil illustration. “I drew this shortly after hurricane Charley … my family and pets were safe … I drew this picture of Jesus sheltering two elf children and a dragon child that represents my dragon self.”

[elfwood.com/art/s/w/swilliamson/shelter2.jpg.html](http://elfwood.com/art/s/w/swilliamson/shelter2.jpg.html)

*Molatar’s Castle*, by Molatar Seth Pyrargent. 2004

Ostensibly by an evangelical Christian dragon otherkin. Makes far-fetched claims. May have been written as a prank.

[molatar.com](http://molatar.com) (defunct)


Some amused commentary by an outsider about *Molatar’s Castle*. If you form a community around some shared interest, sooner or later someone in it is going to get Born Again.


Combining Christianity with other beliefs

“Grace,” by Reemul

On exploring both a Gnostic and a totemic path

[lycanthrope.org/~raven/Grace.html](http://lycanthrope.org/~raven/Grace.html)

“My WereCard,” by Uncle Wolf (T. T.)

I am a Christian, but have added other beliefs, such as animal spirit guides. All gods are one god.

[swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/un-ple.html](http://swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/un-ple.html) (defunct)

The place of one’s specific otherkin type or species within Christian cosmology


A dragon otherkin points out the connection between dragons and angels: *seraphim*, the Biblical “fiery flying serpents.”

[kondor.de/shaman/otherkin.html](http://kondor.de/shaman/otherkin.html)

Original German:

[kondor.de/angel/seraph.html](http://kondor.de/angel/seraph.html)

English:

[kondor.de/angel/seraph_e.html](http://kondor.de/angel/seraph_e.html)

Untitled selection, by Lupa

On otherkin who remember a past life in the Christian heaven

*Field Guide to Otherkin*, p. 192-193

“Chapter II: The Bible and unicorns,” by Roy Wilkinson. 1998

What does the Bible say about unicorns? Arguments that unicorns symbolize the children of
Ephraim, who are here to bless the world, and who have been scattered and mixed with all people, so their spiritual identity slumbers in people of all races. If “unicorn” is just a mistranslation for a word of uncertain meaning, maybe that was God’s will. Are You A Unicorn?, pp. 7-39

“Chapter V: Jesus and unicorns,” by Roy Wilkinson. 1998
In the middle ages, the unicorn symbolized Jesus; the hunt in the Unicorn Tapestries is an allegory for his martyrdom. Jesus has much in common with unicorns. Are You A Unicorn?, pp. 68-77

Both of these symbolize God’s promises to humankind Are You A Unicorn?, pp. 80-81

Symbols for Christian therianthropes

Forgiveness2, by Pariahpoet. 2005-08-27
Drawing of lion and tiger therians, accompanied by the therian theta-delta symbol, with a cross superimposed on it. deviantart.com/deviation/22238879

Theta Delta Deus, by Alyssa M. 2010-11-18
The therian theta-delta symbol, with the dash in the center changed into a cross, rather than having the cross superimposed on it. Accompanying text by TaniMay explains some Christian therian philosophy deviantart.com/deviation/186670278

Therian pride t-shirt, by Rowan of Wonderless. 2009-04-27
The aforementioned Christian variation on the therian theta-delta symbol, as a decoration on a shirt, along with another variation with a wolf in the center of the theta-delta, flanked by feathered wings deviantart.com/deviation/120727900

Christian Therianthropy Symbol, by Mist-Howler, 2011-06-10
(Graphic design.) A different Christian variation on the therian theta-delta symbol. A different cross, and inscription in Hebrew. deviantart.com/deviation/212641253

“Behind the symbol...” by Mist-Howler. 2011-06-11
An essay explaining of the symbolism used in the above Christian therianthropy symbol.

Otherkin alienated by Christianity

“A wolf’s religion,” by PistolVaunWulf (Spiritwolf, Spiritwolfalpha). 2010-12-25
A few months after Awakening, a wolf therian attends a sermon, and realizes that Christianity feels all wrong deviantart.com/deviation/190920692
Judaism and the Kabbalah in relation to otherkin

Elven Tree of Life Eternal, by the Silver Elves ♪
An interactive journey through an elven interpretation of the Tree of Life
silverelves.angelfire.com/elftree.html

A chart which has unexplored potential for correspondences with the Tree of Life (p. 79)
Greene, The Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 74-79

Taoism and otherkin

Tao Te Kin: The Kin way of true virtue, by Otherkin Awakening. 2007-10-29 ♪
An otherkin-themed spinoff of Stephen Mitchell’s English paraphrase of the Taoist classic book, the Tao Te Ching. You should compare both texts simultaneously
kilobox.net/otherkin/index.php?option=com_content&task=category&sectionid=5&id=30&Itemid=31

Untitled selection, by Rosalyn Greene
The relationship between shape-shifting and the Book of Changes (I Ching). Particular hexagrams about change.
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 215-216

Hinduism and otherkin

Untitled selection, by Lupa
On Rakshasa otherkin and their place in Hindu cosmology
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 196-197

Buddhism and otherkin


Shintoism and otherkin

Untitled selection, by Lupa
Some kitsune otherkin are Shintoists
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 201-202

Reconstructionist religions, Neo-Paganism, and Wicca in relation to otherkin

Neo-Pagans looking at otherkin

“Where should we stand on Otherkin?” by Jason. 2005-12-04
A response to Lupa’s article on WitchVox, “Otherkin and the Pagan community.” A summary of some of the hostile attitudes that Pagans have toward otherkin.
wildhunt.org/blog/2005/12/where-should-we-stand-on-otherkin.html

“Confessions of a former otherkin,” by BellaDonna Saberhagen. 2011-11-13
Inexperienced Neo-Pagans initially go through a phase of deluding themselves and one another into believing excessively far-fetched things, such as being otherkin. Personal experiences. Be cautious about spirituality, and accept being human.
witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=uspa&c=words&id=14693

Untitled selection, by Lupa
When explaining to a group of Pagans that one is otherkin, some otherkin have received unfavorable or confused responses, and some otherkin have received favorable and understanding responses.
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 44-45

On being both a Neo-Pagan and an otherkin

Untitled selection, by Anton
On being a therianthrope and Nordic Reconstructionist Heathen (Asatru)
Lupa, A Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 98

“On Pan,” by Borach M. 1998-02-14
A Pagan satyr otherkin explains why his god is Pan
reocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/8651/pan.html

“To be human,” by Kebechet. 2011-03-12.
A wolf otherkin relating to the ancient Egyptian pantheon.
danceswithnetjer.blogspot.com/2011/03/to-be-human.html

My spirituality, by Westly Ehrin R. 2002-11-14
An allegorical image of a personal cosmology, with interpretation. The Goddess and God as
human-like animals: masculine Hyena and effeminate Wolf, respectively. Caution: nudity.

[deviantart.com/deviation/901670]

“Elf song,” by the Silver Elves
On the relationship of the Elves to Wicca

“Elven Wicca, Wiccan Elves,” by the Silver Elves.
Circa 1999

[ips.net/elve/elfinwicca.html] (defunct)

Untitled selection, by Lupa
Draconic Wicca and how it changed a magician to be more dragon-like
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 225-226

Dragons of Gaundaria, by Scorpius111
Draconic witchcraft, with a few references to Conway’s Dancing with Dragons. Argues that dragons exist, but in spirit, not in physical form. They’re real in the astral realms, and they also live in human bodies. The author is a dragon-kin who describes adventures on the astral plane.

[angelfire.com/d20/gaundariadrag]

Otherkin of other paths

Atheism, agnostism, philosophies that aren’t organized religions, independent development of spiritual ideas, unique and personal belief systems, and invented religions. (I’m putting these together in a section because the divisions between them are less clear-cut than with “organized” religions. Please understand that I intend no offense.)

“Life and religion,” by Kefira. 2004
I don’t believe in souls or afterlife. I’m not an atheist. I believe in gods, but I don’t worship. Nonetheless, lioness is the base of who I am
[akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/lifereligion.php]

“Cameleon natures,” by the Silver Elves
On being spiritual but not religious
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 242-244

“The World Dragon,” as told by Casteglan
On a creator goddess which many of the Elves of Alorya believe in, as recalled from the past-life memories of those elves.
[stormpages.com/wolfglade/Arhúaine/worlddragon.html] (defunct)

“I used to call myself a Thiderean,” by Baxil the Dragon. 2002-11-20
Navigating a private religion, choosing to keep it relatively private
[tomorrowlands.org/nov2002b.html#11202002]

Geol sanctuary, by Alex E.
A therian invented a religion called Geolism, and tells all the details about it here
[alex-erdman.webs.com]
Reincarnation

Basic concepts:
On having been other kinds of creatures in past lives

“The reincarnation theory of otherkin,” by Lupa. 2005-12-04
How some otherkin answer “Where do we come from? Why are we here?”
witchvox.com/va/dt_va.html?a=usor&c=words&id=10338

Untitled selection, by Lupa
On reincarnation as an explanation for why otherkin are otherkin
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 57-66

“How humans, reincarnation and extinction: The role of animals in modern reincarnative theory (Animal reincarnation theory),” by Daemonikk. 2006-11-08

“On having been other kinds of creatures in past lives,” by Lupa. 2005-12-04

How some otherkin answer “Where do we come from? Why are we here?”

“Reincarnation,” by Ketrino. 2007
A therian’s high-school essay summarizing the characteristics of the belief in reincarnation, including people who believe they were non-human beings in past lives
ketrino.angelfire.com/reinessay.html

“Lest we forget,” by DrakeLightBearer
Writings by a Christian dragon who believes in reincarnation, offering advice on how dragon otherkin may recall memories of past lives as dragons.
dragonswings.org/Essay/LWF/once.shtml

“Therian Child,” by SilverThreads. 2010-09-11
A short unfinished picture-book about how a therian child came to be. A fox kit’s rebirth as a human. Our past mothers are proud of our transition and are watching over us always. Let us make them proud.
deviantart.com/deviation/178869172

“Souls and reincarnation,” by Shunyata. 2009-03-17
(From starseed community.) What might souls be, and why should they incarnate? Most souls aren’t mature enough to gain voluntary control over their incarnations, but a few types of beings do so voluntarily: Avatars, Tulkus, Ascended Masters, and starseeds. Starseeds have gained maturity on other planets, but haven’t yet reached Nirvana.
starseeds.info/about-starseeds/list-all-articles/9-types-of-starseeds

“How to remember past lives

“How to recall some memories,” by Eyovah
Some strategies and meditations, and a magic ritual
rialian.com/eyovah1/memoryrecall.html

“How to recall past lives,” by Tocosar Ætlanatra (Dandelion AE). 2001-12-31
Advice on recalling past life memories, for the newly awakened
otherkin.net/articles/memories.html

In Russian: werewolf.org.ua/index.php?page=library&pid=1&id=63569256 and shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-6

“The Lostkin Project: Techniques,” by various authors
Lostkin are otherkin who have no memories of their past lives. Here are some techniques for remembering past lives.
lostkin.otherkin.net/technqs.htm (defunct)

“Beginning memory work,” by Michelle Belanger
Psychic Vampire Codex, p. 232-235
How does one know that one’s past-life memories are for real?

“Questioning sanity,” by Syleniel. 2000-11-21
How can somebody be two conflicting things? How much of your past life applies now?
otherkin.net/articles/questioning.html

Inner strife: intense emotions; confusing truth with wishful thinking.
otherkin.net/articles/remembering2.html

“Cryptoamnesia and past life memories,” by Michelle Belanger. 2001-03-23.
Could you have misinterpreted a “hidden memory” as a past-life memory?
otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/orc/other/Cryptoamnesia.html

“‘False’ memories,” by Syanin. 2011-05-28
Cryptomesia and otherkin. Could false memories have value and meaning anyway?
pirate.is/nautilus/2011/05/18/false-memories

“At the core of memory,” by Rialian
In response to fears of cryptoamnesia, and the continued honest search for truth.
rialian.com/core-of-memory.htm

“In defense of royalty,” by Tocosar Ætlanatra
(Dandelion AE). 2002-01-07 ★
Why do so many people talk about having been royalty in past lives?
otherkin.net/articles/royalty.html

“Thoughts on the ‘Elven Princess Syndrome,’” by (no author listed?). 2007-06-12
In Aristasia, the title of Princess isn’t rare, for a variety of reasons. However, so far, we know of no femmekin who claim to be royalty.
otherkin.wordpress.com/2007/06/12

Memories influencing the present

“Ethics and Rememory,” by Rialian
Does one allow those past selves to take over, to overrule the present self in importance? (This essay was published in Kinships Magazine Vol 1, Issue 1.)
rialian.com/rememory.htm

“Remembrance,” by Michelle Belanger
Psychic Vampire Codex, p. 56-57

“Spiritual immortality,” by Michelle Belanger
Psychic Vampire Codex, p. 84-85

“Soulbonds (Soulmates and soulbonds)” by Dan O’Dea. 1999, 2003
A soulmate or soulbond is a person with whom you tend to reincarnate time after time, helping each other learn lessons. Not necessarily a romantic relationship. Significance for non-human reincarnates. [No, this isn’t about fiction-kin. This is a different use of the word “soulbond.”]
otherkin.net/articles/soulbonds.html

“That life isn’t this life,” by Tirl Windtree. 2002-04-12 ★
If you knew one another in a past life, must you be together now? Not necessarily
otherkin.net/articles/thisThat.html

“What it really means to be Faeborn,” by Skyling. 2003-01-07 ✔
Thoroughly explains how people who were other species in past lives are different from average humans now.
promethianweb.com/feae/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=83&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0 (defunct)

“What good are memories of past lives? Why should I remember?” by Syleniel. 2002-12-20
otherkin.net/mirror/promethianweb.com/feae/modules.php?op=modload&name=FAQ&file=index&myfaq=yes&id_cat=1&categories=General&parent_id=0 (defunct)

“General,” by FAE administrators
Answers to three questions: How do I know what is a memory? What is Actively Living your Inner Self? Can you have more than one awakening?
promethianweb.com/feae/modules.php?op=modload&name=FAQ&file=index&myfaq=yes&id_cat=1&categories=General&parent_id=0 (defunct)
A Directory of Otherkin Writings

Personal recollections

Many of the writings I’ve found on otherkin sites that are ostensibly stories of past lives aren’t clearly labeled as to whether they’re works of fiction or not, so I’ve omitted all those that aren’t clear. The writings that I include here are the ones where the author openly and clearly states that he/she believes that what he/she is writing is true and that he/she is writing down his/her own memories of past lives. I can only take the author’s word for it, because only the author knows whether he/she sincerely believes in what he/she says or not.

Personal recollections (otherkin)

“What used to be,” by Gregory Vasilisa M. 2007-06-25
A poem about being a reincarnated otherkin.
“The memories come back to me in the night … I feel my true face beneath this skin./ A longing for beauty returned.”
deviantart.com/deviation/58418909

“Arhúaine’s story,” by Arhúaine
Memories of a past life in Elfhome, which may have been Alorya. Now I’m reincarnated here, in a human body, in a world that reminds me a little of Alorya.
absinthia.com/otherkin/memories/Arhúaine.html (defunct)

“An elf’s story,” by Arhúaine
Memories of a past life in Elfhome (Elphame).
Similar to the above article, but not identical. History and language of that place. I’m not certain why elves gather together in this reality now, or why we all desire to find our kin.
rialian.com/Arhúaine.htm

“My story,” by Arhúaine
Memories of a past life in Alorya. Similar but not identical to the above articles.
stormpages.com/wolfglade/Arhúaine/mystory.html (defunct)

“Dancing with memory,” by Jarandhel
Dreamsinger (Jarin). 2009-11-06
I remember Alorya
dreamhart.org/2009/11/dancing-with-memory

“The story so far,” by Sileniel. Circa 1997
A history of an elven people, and how they ended up here
rialian.com/elvsile2.htm (defunct)

“On reincarnation and my past lives,” by ’Lesia
Several past lives, some as elves
adrastai.com/spirituality/0806_pastlives.shtml

“Elf: my past,” by Caimdearg
Memories of a past life as an elf of the world of Arvalos
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/elf-my-past

“Rememberings,” by Miaren Crow’s Daughter
home.otherkin.net/miaren/rememberings.html

“What is a Fei?” by Melishal. 2002-04-10
A description of the Fei, a fairy-like creature of Til’Quintas, described by someone who remembers them from a past life
promethianweb.com/fae/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=56&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0 (defunct)

“A brief look at V’lurians,” by Takkaddu, of Ko 2002-10-23
A description of the physiology and history of the V’lurians, based on the author’s recollections of having been a V’lurian in a past life. The V’lurians are dragon-like humanoids. Gives an explanation for how and why a V’lurian came to be reincarnated as a human instead.
promethianweb.com/fae/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=78&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0 (defunct)

V’lurians and their many aspects, by Takkaddu, of Ko 2007
More description of the V’lurians
komotomo.com/vluria/vluria.html

“One in two, two in one,” by Renzo ku Lysandarria (Heaven K.) 🎵
(Poem.) Reincarnated dragons reunited.
Personal recollections (therians)

“Past lives,” by Barakus Leviathan. Circa 2002
Memories of being a hereditary physical shapeshifter in 4th century Ireland
barakusdraconcat.tripod.com/id19.htm

“On eagle’s black wings,” by Ketrino. 2008-05-12
Memories of a past life as a black eagle
ketrino.angelfire.com/oebw.html

“My deinonychus life,” by Ketrino

Memories of spending one’s first incarnation as a dinosaur
ketrino.angelfire.com/mydeinlife.html

“My past lives,” by Asazi
A therian recalls several past lives as dinosaurs, humans, and a dolphin, as well as a dragon on another world.
reocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Cockpit/7561/lives.htm
Some otherkin believe in metaphysics, supernatural phenomena, and magic. Some otherkin don’t believe in any of those things at all.

You can find many articles about magic, but this book only lists articles about magic that relate directly to otherkin. At the very least, these articles were written by otherkin. There are far more articles about magic that are hosted on otherkin web-sites, but if the article doesn’t even mention otherkin, I try not to include it here. As a result, if you’re looking for basic introductory articles on magic, this document will not help you. If real magic is an all-new concept to you, this directory should not be the first place where you learn about magic.

Metaphysics, supernatural phenomena, and magic are usually part of or derived from a religious cosmology. For articles that are strictly about otherkin and religion (yes, even religions that include “magic” as part of their practice, such as Wicca), please see the “Religion, or lack thereof” section earlier in this book.

Do otherkin, in particular, have magical abilities?

“Majikal abilities,” by Arethinn, about 2000
Do otherkin have magical abilities? Or are magical abilities common to all of humankind?
erastic.net/fey/info/majikalabilities.php

“Magical anime powers, or lack thereof,” by Saevitia S.
We’re all bound by the same physical laws as everybody else. Then again, some people believe in some small kinds of magic.
otakukin.atspace.com/magic.htm

“Power up!” by DrakeLightBearer
A Christian dragon offers some explanations for why dragon otherkin don’t have powers, and how we ought to use those powers if we do have them.
dragonswings.org/Essay/pu.shtml

“Some food for thought,” by Arhúaine. 2003-01-09
Are otherkin better and more powerful?
Actually, they’re about the same as anyone else
otherkin.livejournal.com/119709.html

“Tarivar kinatuli: (spiritual genetics),” by the Silver Elves. Circa 1984-1998

“For folk who believe that elves cannot exist, our inability to demonstrate great powers is just further proof…”
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 190-191

“Humans have magic, too,” by Lupa
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 252-253

Defining metaphysics, magic, and the supernatural, and what they have to do with otherkin

“Why mention magick on an otherkin site?” by Aetherkin. 2006-05-24
Otherkin are no more or less likely to be skilled in Magickal practices than anyone else, but there do seem to be some patterns within the otherkin community
kilobox.net/otherkin/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=32

“The Magic,” by the Silver Elves. 2009-10-03
What most folks call God, these elves refer to as The Magic.
silverelves.angelfire.com/themagic.html

“Finding our own magic,” by the Silver Elves. 2009-09-11
Where did magic and religion originally come from? What kind of magic do the elves practice?
silverelves.wordpress.com/2009/09/11

“Spaces between,” by Rialian
The metaphysical energies of otherkin, powerful and shifting
rialian.com/spacesbetween.htm

We often get questions about our elfin magic, and the truth is that our magic is as varied as the elves them's elves...
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 120-121

jps.net/elve/elfinmagic.html (defunct)

“The magic of shapeshifting,” by Rosalyn Greene
Magic for therians
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 203-206

“Otherkin and magic,” by Lupa
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 218-219

“Mystical vampirism,” by Sarah D.
Vampires tend to be attracted to the mystical and supernatural, but mysticism is easily
abused. A spiritual hunger ought to be nourished with real mysticism, not just things mysterious. Learn to distinguish between those.

Creative visualization and guided meditation for otherkin

On creative visualization, and actualizing one’s dreams (ideals)
*Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1*, p. 126-127

Elements and otherkin

“Magical elements,” by Rosalyn Greene
On the four classical philosophical elements and their associations with therians and shifting
*Magic of Shapeshifting*, p. 211-213

Tarot,Runes, and other forms of divination and magical symbols

“Elf Tarot,” by the Silver Elves
*Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1*, p. 82-83

[jps.net/elve/ELVENTarot.html](http://jps.net/elve/ELVENTarot.html) (defunct)

“A FD dragon Tarot,” by Polenth. 1998-10
Just for fun, Polenth randomly associated each participant of alt.fan.dragons with a Tarot card, by drawing a random name, and then associating it with a random card.
[polenth.demon.co.uk/dragon/tarot.txt](http://polenth.demon.co.uk/dragon/tarot.txt)

“Magical symbols and talismans,” by Rosalyn Greene
Associations of therians and shifting with I Ching hexagrams, Futhark runes, and numerology
*Magic of Shapeshifting*, p. 215-218

Astrology and incarnate extraterrestrials

“What are star markings?” by Lavandarielle. Circa 2009
The natal charts of starseeds, lightworkers, and indigos have one or more seven recurring planetary degrees.
[starseedhotline.com/starmarks.htm](http://starseedhotline.com/starmarks.htm)

“The discovery of the star seed codes,” by Lavandarielle. Circa 2009
In 1980, the author noticed a pattern in many people’s natal charts
[starseedhotline.com/discovery.htm](http://starseedhotline.com/discovery.htm)

“A starseed reading from Tameem,” by Cyan d’Arcturus. 2011-03-21
Determining someone’s likelihood of being an incarnate elemental by examining their natal chart. You have Sagittarius ascendant, which is common in starseeds…
[starseeds.net/profiles/blogs/a-starseed-reading-from-tameem](http://starseeds.net/profiles/blogs/a-starseed-reading-from-tameem)

Faery-glamour

“Glamorie,” by LunaFae
Defining Fae glamour and how it works

“On glamour, reverie, and ravaging,” by Borach M. 1998-12-08
A satyr otherkin describes his experiences with glamour
[reocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/8651/glamour.html](http://reocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/8651/glamour.html)

“The touch of Fae,” by Meirya. 2008-03
Considering the functioning of a fae-kin’s glamour
Herbs, potions, drugs, and salves for otherkin

As far as I’ve seen, drugs aren’t a hugely significant or formative part of otherkin and therian culture. I’ve very rarely seen drugs discussed by otherkin or therians at all.

Caution! Don’t accidentally poison yourself! Carefully research the toxicity of any plant that you use. Many magical recipes fail to warn you that the included herbs could poison, harm, stain, or stink. Never assume that an herb is harmless; never take someone’s word for it if they say so.

If you do use drugs for spiritual purposes, observe some safety rules, including these: don’t do any drugs if you’re still growing, research a drug before you use it, and have a sober guide with you to keep you out of trouble.

“Are shifters just drug or alcohol induced hallucinations?” by Yaiolani ✔
The medieval witch-trials say that werewolves induced their transformations with herbal salves. Likely a hallucination. However, therians have mental shifts without drugs yaiolani.tripod.com/drug1.htm

“Magical herbs,” by Rosalyn Greene
Warning: danger of poisoning! A discussion of some herbs which folklore and witch-trials associated with shifting and animals. Many of these herbs are poisonous. Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 206-210

“My WereCard,” by Bestial
Dancing while high on magic mushrooms, had vision of turning into wolf. Later, found I could trigger this state any time. My subconscious identified a symbol that it needs to grow, strengthen itself, give me confidence. swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/bestial.html (defunct)

Stones, crystals, and metals for otherkin

“Magical stones and crystals,” by Rosalyn Greene
Stones associated with therians and shifting Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 213-215

“The grand design,” by Lavandarielle (?). Circa 2009
Quartz crystals for starseeds, Walk-Ins, Lightworkers and Indigos.
Higher planes of existence

“The hitchhiker’s guide to other realms,” by Amanjaku (?). Circa 1998
Some places that one can visit by means of astral projection
users.ntr.net/~sidhe/realms.htm (defunct)

Higher planes: energy-work

“Other forms of magic,” by Lupa
On energy-work
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 229-230

“Energy,” by Lupa
On otherkin having a connection to an archetypal or metaphysical energy
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 96-97

Descriptions of what it feels like to sense energy
darknessembraced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/91

Untitled selection, by Rosalyn Greene
Therians have an unusually high amount of chi…
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 145

“Shifting energy,” by Rosalyn Greene
According to Greene, shifting energy is a metaphysical trait of therians
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 151-154

“Building your shifting energy,” by Rosalyn Greene
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 173-179

“The energies that bind,” by Barakus Leviathan. Circa 2002
I feel that we, as otherkin, have a higher, or more reactive energy level, which in theory we could use to take “true form.” … A chakra visualization.
barakusdraconcat.tripod.com/id22.htm

“Reverse engineering the orgone crystal matrix,” by Jarandhel Dreamsinger (Jarin). 2009-02-26
Also known as a babalon matrix or reiki matrix, one was at Walking the Thresholds 2 in 1999. Among other uses, can enhance the manifestation of otherkin traits, promote Awakening and the recovery of otherkin past-life memories. Detailed descriptions of experimental designs, with photos.
dreamhart.org/2009/02/reverse-engineering-the-babalon-matrix/#more-209

Higher planes: energy-work:
psychic vampirism

For more information on vampires, see the “Vampires” section earlier in this book.

“Dynamic energy exchange,” by Michelle Belanger
Similar to feeding. A donor and a taker set up a feeding loop.
sanguinarius.org/articles/MB_energy_exchange.shtml

Higher-plane anatomy of otherkin:
chakras and wings

“Challenge: Energetic health,” by Meirya
How does the metaphysical anatomy of otherkin differ from that which is defined as “normal and healthy” for most humans?
thehornedgate.wordpress.com/2011/11/06/challenge-energetic-health

“Chakra work: structures and properties, more fully understood,” by Siege. 2010-08-17
The chakras of otherkin differ. Many dragons have an additional chakra for the tail.
otherkin.livejournal.com/540828.html

The metaphysical anatomy of this Fae otherkin differs from the standard metaphysical anatomy of a human. This creates a challenge when performing metaphysical acts such as “grounding.” Assumes reader is already familiar with metaphysical anatomy and grounding.
child-of-the-fae.dreamwidth.org/1475.html

Why does a dragon in a human body have human meridians? Why do Christian clairvoyants perceive dragon otherkin as angels instead?
kondor.de/shaman/otherkin.html
Original German:
kondor.de/shaman/otherkin.html

“Non-analogous subtle body extremities,” by Gesigewigu’s. 2004-10-11
Hypotheses on the role of wings, halo, or horns in etheric anatomy
otherkin.livejournal.com/314086.html
Perhaps wings are a feature of the energetic shape of many faeries, used for sensing or manipulating energy
otherkin.livejournal.com/397394.html
“Wings,” by WildElf. 2004-08-23 ✔
Why do so many otherkin have wings? Some of these winged creatures couldn’t physically fly. Perhaps they’re energy constructs for decoration, sensing or manipulating energy, or shielding.
otherkin.livejournal.com/306718.html
“Being winged,” by Ketrino. 2006
Why do some therians see their animal side as having wings added on, when the animal in nature doesn’t look that way? Winged wolves are strangely common among therians.
ketrio.angelfire.com/essay32.html
“Flying wolf,” by Dreama (DarkSideoftheSun13)
Wolf is different for me. Some other wolves have wings, like I do.
deviantart.com/deviation/65703666
“That claim won’t fly…” by Mokele. Circa 2003
(Not on etheric anatomy, but it is on wings, and I’d like to organize all the articles on wings together.) Criticism. Explains why real, physical dragons are impossible: wouldn’t be able to fly, and couldn’t have evolved on earth.
therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/dragon.html (defunct)
“Why can’t I have wings?” by an anonymous author. 2008-04-01 (Yes, April Fool’s, I know.)
(Again, not on etheric anatomy, but on wings.) Criticism. A transhumanist explains why it’s anatomically impossible for a humanoid to gain functional wings by surgery.
hplusbiopolitics.wordpress.com/2008/04/01/why-cant-i-have-wings
Untitled selection, by Rosalyn Greene ✔
According to Greene, therians have a very different etheric anatomy than average humans. A therian has two etheric bodies: one human, and one animal
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 36-37

Higher planes: astral projection
and astral shifting

For more information on shifting, see the “Shape-shifting” section earlier in this book.

“Astral shifting,” by Rosalyn Greene
Shifting while astral projecting
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 34-37
“These ancient eyes: Lone wolf roaming—Shift Happens 4,” by Tygerwolfe. 2011-06-20
A dire wolf therian’s experiments with astral shifting and dream shifting
tygerwolfe.com/?p=398

Untitled, by O. Scribner. 2005
(Comic)
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20051107.html
I’d say I was trapped… by O. Scribner. 2006-02-05
(Comic)
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060206.html
Holding the stars in my paws, by KrazeeJack. 2010-08-27
(Digital art) Self-portrait of astral shift as polar bear
deviantart.com/deviation/176980313

Higher planes:
incorporeal beings and otherkin

Some otherkin believe in a cosmology that includes incorporeal entities (spirits). Some such otherkin communicate with those spirits.

“Our faeries gather,” by the Silver Elves. 2009-09-01
A magical working with incorporeal faeries and other household spirits, who assisted voluntarily and on friendly terms, rather than commanded as some magicians do.
silverelves.angelfire.com/faeriesgather.html

We doubt that nature created little etheric people to care for her flora and fauna; this is an anthropomorphic view of the creative spirit in all things. Plants and animals have their own consciousness. We do know there are faerie spirits.

Remembering someone from a past life, calling out to him in the present, and ending up having a conversation with him in spirit 
stormpages.com/wolfglade/Arhúaine/casteglan.html (defunct)

Untitled selection, by Rosalyn Greene
On therians having spirit guides that are incorporeal animals
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 49-52

“Evocation,” by Lupa
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 228-229

“Astral vampires and dreamwalking,” by Michelle Belanger. 2007
sanguinarius.org/articles/MB_astral_vampires.shtml

Gateways to elsewhere, and manifestation

Rebuilding the Gateways, by various authors. Circa 1997 ♫
Hypotheses and observations on how to rebuild long-lost gateways between worlds, and past-life memories of how these used to work.
rialian.com/gateways/elvsgate.htm

Metaphysics experimentation, or The spirit circle phenomena, by Jafira Dragon. 2008 ▲
In the desert, an enthusiastic dragon mage tries to make a dimensional gateway
jafiradragon.com/Spirit.htm

Developing one’s own beliefs, and one’s attitudes towards the beliefs of others

“Believe it or not?” By Meirya ★
nest.dreamofhorn.com/wings6.html
Spanish translation: project-shift.org/es/introspection/believe_or_not.php

Don’t start out with an opinion on something until you’ve learned what it’s about.
autistictherian.blogspot.com/2008/04/close-jars-gain-no-water.html

“Proof? Is that too much to ask?” by Anajiel. 2003
On people in the community who make far-fetched claims of supernatural abilities. I’m open-minded, but I’m not gullible.
darknesembraced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/189
PART VII.

THE SECULARITY OF OTHERKIN.
Secular otherkin

Some otherkin argue that being otherkin is not a spirituality, at least not in their own personal experience. They don’t define themselves as otherkin in terms of reincarnation, or having an animal soul in a human body, or anything metaphysical. They consider themselves unusual creatures, but they make no claims of supernatural traits. Perhaps they don’t believe in anything supernatural or spiritual at all.

They don’t just omit these things: they seek out explanations that suit them better. They explore and describe their experiences as otherkin according only to secular frameworks of knowledge. They value critical thinking skills, psychology, and the scientific method. The psychological explanation for otherkin is popular among them, and I expect that the metaphorical explanation for otherkin might satisfy some of them as well.

Secular definitions of otherkin

Therianthropy isn’t a religion, spirituality, philosophy, or psychology. It’s an experience. One doesn’t need to believe in it for it to affect them. Many therians felt it and shifted before they’d heard of it.
therianthropy.org/mokele/essays/exp.htm (defunct)

“Intro to therianthropy,” by SombraStudio. 2010-12-24
It isn’t religious. It isn’t necessarily spiritual. It could be psychological.
sombralamamutt.wordpress.com/2010/12/24/intro-to-therianthropy

“Therianthrope (version2),” by She Demon Wolf
What is therianthropy, in non-spiritual terms?
freewebs.com/moonscape/therianthropy/therianv.2.html

“Animity defined: So what am I talking about anyway?” By Quil. 2006-01-01.
Not science or spirituality. A therian is simply one who acts as an animal.
absurdism.org/therianthropy/defined.html

French translation:
akhila.feralscribes.org/french/definie.php
“It’s not my choice,” by SummonerWolf
I didn’t ask to be canine. It’s not faith, not meditation, not soul-searching, not dreams, not soul-names. It’s thinking, knowing, observing, running, playing, feeling, needing.
deviantart.com/deviation/75668796

The psychological explanation for otherkin

Please see a section earlier in this book, called “What if being otherkin is a mental variation?”

The scientific method applied to otherkin experience

This is a more organized way of gathering information about one’s personal experiences as an otherkin, and using it to form conclusions about how and why one is an otherkin.

Please see a section elsewhere in this document called “Progress by questioning and scientific method,” which is in the “For new otherkin” section.

Researching real-world information about the animal side

The development of one’s understanding of being a therianthrope involves seeking information about animals as they live in the real world. Secular therianthropy in particular values such information above information about animals drawn from folklore or intuition.

Please see sections elsewhere in this document called “Progress by research,” “Observation and study of real animals,” and “On inexperienced therians who have inaccurate ideas about animals.”
Activities, interests and hobbies for Otherkin

Being otherkin as inspiration for actions

“Beyond furry,” by Tirran (Ronald O). Revised 2002-09-01
When you first discover your spiritual identity as an animal or a dragon or something, you may be tempted to spend most of your time exploring that. However, don’t neglect important things like family and career. Your animal side is only one part of your identity. Go beyond your animal side.
users.vianet.ca/~grizelda/fur/beyond.txt (defunct)

“Be yourself,” by Lupa
Don’t spend all your time soul-searching. Live your life. Being otherkin is just one part of your life. You may also be a parent, an employee, a mover and shaker…
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 263-264

Motivation, by O. Scribner. 2006-08-28
(Comic) Does your therianthropy motivate you to do wonderful things in your life?
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060828.html

“Beyond Identitykin,” by Lupa
Integrate your therianthropy with your life instead of centering your life around it.
otherkin.net/articles/identitykin.html

“Otherkin identity: Is it more than just a label?” By Taylor Ellwood
Does being otherkin provide you with a calling, with wonderful actions to do?
otherkin.net/articles/identity.html

“I aspire to dragonflight,” by the Eclective. 2004-05-30
I believe in wishes and hopes
eclective.livejournal.com/55487.html

“I self-create,” by Draegonhawke. 2005-06-14
An allegory of an ambitious tree, on aspirations to make one’s wishes true
draegonhawke.livejournal.com/157823.html

Untitled, by the Eclective. 2006-09-04
Prove it? It’s a faith. You can’t prove it objectively. So let your proof be in your actions. Stop trying to prove it, and start living it.
otherkin.livejournal.com/469297.html

“Vision,” by Cypherwulf. 2006-09-02
On otherkin who do or do not put effort into manifestation
otherkin.livejournal.com/466606.html

“Doing something – are you?” by Jess ~Moonlight Lily~. 2011-03-20
Incarnate extraterrestrials believe they’re here on a mission to help the Earth. It’s not sufficient to sit around and talk. You have to do something.
starseeds.net/profiles/blogs/doing-something-are-you

Being otherkin in ordinary actions

The elfin create adventures from mundane experience

“Daily work,” by Arethinn. 2003-06
I constantly ask myself how I embody magic at this moment
eristic.net/fey/living/daily.php

Untitled, by the Silver Elves. Circa 1999
Elves find fun in everything, even things that aren’t usually thought of as much fun
jps.net/elve/letters.html (defunct)

Games, sports, and hobbies

In informal discussion, I’ve heard otherkin talk about wonderful activities that they adopted for reasons connected with their identification as otherkin. A few winged otherkin have adopted hang-gliding or have become pilots. However, relatively few have written public articles about these activities. I suspect that otherkin-inspired activities may be more common than appears.

“Real shifters and their werewolf-related fan activities,” by Yaiolani
On some hobbies and interests explored by therians
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc4.htm

“Otherkin & society: ‘Waiter! There’s an otherkin in my medieval soup!’” By Alyessa Oaktree, of The Crisses. 1998-06-21 ▲
How to integrate otherkin into the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA)
otherkin.net/articles/medievalsoup.html
“Elven chess; Elfland,” by the Silver Elves. Circa 1999
We learned Elven Chess from Eldri Littlewolf and Anodea Judith.
jps.net/elve/elvenchess.html (defunct)

“Elven chess: A game for all seasons,” by Diane Darling, as taught by Eldri Littlewolf. 2004 ▲
More information on an artistic, freeform game of cooperative pattern-making. Various kinds of creatures rearrange odds-and-ends on a board.
Oberon Zell-Ravenheart, Grimoire for the Apprentice Wizard, p. 127

“The tree people,” by the Silver Elves
On the value of coloring-books
Magical Elven Love Letters p. 10-12

“Join the joy ride,” by the Silver Elves
Play and have fun. After each sorrow, keep returning to joy
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 103-104

Collections and material culture

“Weapons,” by Quil and Katsune. 2004-08-29
Blades as stand-ins for feline claws, even though no violence is desired.
absurdism.org/therianthropy/weapons.html

“Plushie addiction,” by Lone Wolf. 1999
A light-hearted, tongue-in-cheek article about therians who collect stuffed toys.
wolfden.critter.net/interest/plushies.htm

Food and diet

Food! By O. Scribner. 2006-02-13
(Comic) Therians consider being a vegetarian, a hunter, or apathetic
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060213.html

Kin Diet, by (author unknown?)
(Blog) A collection of recipes selected to please various types of otherkin and therians.
http://kindiet.tumblr.com

Environment(alism)
Admiring or longing for wilderness, nature, or being out in the weather. Feeling moved to do something to protect natural places.

“The memory of trees,” by Sabersinger ♫
Yearning for and sustained by a vision of a sun-dappled forest, like a natural cathedral
rialian.com/memory-of-trees.htm

“Rain,” by Ketrino
A wolf craving rain
ketrino.angelfire.com/essay18.html

“Out of housecat mode: Letting loose, and alone,”
by Quil. 2007-06-22
I don’t want to play with yarn. I want to stand out in the rain at night under the stars
absurdism.org/therianthropy/houserant.html

I wasn’t an elf in a past life or anything, but I do associate myself with elves. To me, elves live in harmony with the earth. I’ve dedicated my life to the pursuit of ecology.
otherkin.livejournal.com/374650.html

“Welcome to Paradise,” by the Silver Elves. 2008-11-24
This is the end of the time of the greedy and violent people who pave paradise. As elves, it’s our duty to dream a more peaceful world into manifestation.
silverelves.angelfire.com/paradise.htm

Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 200

Otherkin and their careers

Untitled selection, by Lupa
In which being an otherkin multiple system influenced a job choice
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 38

Untitled selection, by Lupa
Some angel otherkin choose careers where they help or heal
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 195
Glamour-bombing

Performance art and sneaky art installations intended to inspire belief in fairies and magic. Despite the name, glamour-bombs are non-violent: they don’t involve any explosives, but they may blow someone’s mind. I’ve placed glamour-bombing in the secular category, because it can be practiced in a secular way. However, an act of glamour-bombing can also include or be part of spiritual and magical practices.

“Glamourbombing,” by Arethinn
A brief introduction.
eristic.net/fey/gbomb/index.php

“Glamourbombing: Definition/Origins,” by Ambianya Wolfkitten
eristic.net/fey/gbomb/gbombing.php

“Glamourbombs and other magical items,” by Lupa
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 219-223

“Glamourbombs: An all-inclusive (hah!) list,” compiled by Arethinn
A list of ideas for glamour-bombs.
eristic.net/fey/gbomb/glamourbombs.php

“Glamourbomb words,” by Arethinn
A list of phrases that one could write on glamour-bombs which involve the use of text.
eristic.net/fey/gbomb/glamourtext.php

Believe, by Chaoscomesatnite
Visual art: photo of a glamour-bomb project.
Walnut shells filled with glitter and a message, which were left in random places
deviantart.com/deviation/14190241

“Glamourbomb self-scoring system,” by Arethinn.
2004-04-26 ★
When planning a glamour-bomb, a rating system for determining whether it’s a wise idea. Glitter is pretty, but have you ever tried to clean it up!?
eristic.net/fey/gbomb/rating.php

“Frosted sugarspice,” by the Eclective
What glamour-bombing is and why I do it
intoccabile.net/glamourbombing.htm
(defunct)

“On the aftermath of the ‘04 election: Beyond glamour-bombing,” by Rialian
Glamour-bombing is just a flash in the pan; we need an enduring hearth. Proposing some more effective alternatives to cause real change.
rialian.com/glamorbombing.htm

“Spreading glamour,” by Blue, of Winged Watchers
wingedwatchers.tripod.com/creative/glamour.html

Home and travel

“Elda: Star people,” by the Silver Elves
On travel

“Eldamar,” by the Silver Elves
On making a home
Magical Elven Love Letters p. 15-16

“Зверь и Логово: Понятие территории для зверя (The beast and its lair: The concept of therian territory),” by Haruka Sagara. 2007
(In Russian.)
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-7

Untitled excerpt, by the Silver Elves
On the magical home of the Silver Elves, describing the significance of the various objects, with photos.
Dan and Pauline Campanelli, Circles, Groves, and Sanctuaries, pp. 100-107

“Great conceptions,” by the Silver Elves
A mythologized view of the events in travel, home, and family

“The magic bracelet,” by the Silver Elves
A sequel to “Great conceptions”
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 216-218

Working with dreams

Do dreams belong in the secular section? They could well be spiritual, if anything ever was… but then again, you don’t need to believe in dreams to have them.

“Dreams and their significance to otherkin,” by Arkady. 2002-08-17
Keeping a dream diary should be essential for all otherkin. Paranormal aspects of dreaming.
otherkin.livejournal.com/78794.html

“Of dragon dreams…,” by Baxil the Dragon
Contemplating the significance of a dream from several nights ago
tomorrowlands.org/oct2000b.html#1020200
Family

Love

“Unicorn’s day (The day of unicorns),” by Roy Wilkinson. 2008
On any day, show your love to someone, sincerely and spontaneously. An alternative to the artifice of Valentine’s Day cards.
unicornsunited.com/PAGE12.HTM

“Soul mates,” by the Silver Elves
What would you do to find your true loves?
rialian.com/elvsilv8.htm

“I am wild,” by SummonerWolf
Wolf therian romance in prose
deviantart.com/deviation/85908154

Love and friendship, by Cyaneus
(Comic) Three parts of a self struggle with the challenge of being in love with a friend
deviantart.com/deviation/103657024

White Knight, by Cyaneus
(Comic) Dragon: Fight me!
deviantart.com/deviation/103600456

Heartbroken, by Cyaneus
(Comic) Does this mean I’m heartbroken?
deviantart.com/deviation/103592246

Single, by Cyaneus
(Comic) Single isn’t the word for you.
deviantart.com/deviation/103594524

Self-sacrifice, by Cyaneus
(Comic) When does it stop being noble?
deviantart.com/deviation/103656871

Devout, by Cyaneus
(Comic) A mythology of love
deviantart.com/deviation/156031993

Love and happiness are creative powers that come into existence through our efforts to manifest them
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 229-231

Love is an act of magic
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 122-123

“Revel-utionaries,” by the Silver Elves
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 258-261

A soul-mate, from one life to the next, from one world to the next
adrastai.com/spirituality/0306_tm.shtml

Marriage and similar long-term loving commitments

A unicorn person considers the symbolism of the romance in Beagle’s The Last Unicorn.
Unicorns can and do love, find a soul-mate, marry, and have children. Unicorns are a good match for one another. Male unicorns, being gentle and sensitive, don’t fit the typical image of masculinity in our society.
Are You A Unicorn?, pp. 58-67

“For the love of a satyr,” by Borach M. Circa 1998-07-13
Although satyrs find it difficult to think about monogamy, this one was surprised to fall in love, and decided to get handfasted together
reocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/8651/love.html

Elven concepts of marriage

SalemFuchs and Kazeuta, by Love (the DA couples community). 2005-10-26
(Photo) Story of how a pair of therians fell in love and got married
deviantart.com/deviation/24488723

Sexuality

“Sex magic,” by the Silver Elves
On sexuality

“Hot for each other,” by the Silver Elves
On sexuality
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 252-253

“Sex in Tularin culture,” by ‘Lesia
Memories of sexuality in a race of Elenari
adrastai.com/articles/0706_es.shtml
Otherkin as parents,  
or choosing not to have children

“Cubs,” by Aalueryiian. 2005  
Not wanting to have children… instead, the  
impossible longing to have cubs  
[akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/cubs.php]

“My WereCard,” by Dream Runner  
Had a phase in which her inner wolf became  
depressed that she could never have pups.  
[swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Werecards/dreamrunner.html] (defunct)

The Silver Elves constructed a Magical Rune  
to aid those spirits who were to be born to find  
an atmosphere most conducive to the  
fulfillment of their interplanetary destiny. The  
magic was successful, and several conceived.  
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 231-233

“A faery princess,” by the Silver Elves  
As they grow up, children are conditioned to  
lose touch with their imagination and elfhood.  
That’s why it’s important for us who are  
conscious of our own elfhood to raise our  
littles with as much freedom and elf  
determination as they can handle.  
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 53-54

On how other people tend to treat their  
children, and how elves treat their children  
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 117-119

“Elven parents,” by the Silver Elves  
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 148-149

“Born to be wild,” by the Silver Elves  

“Elf children all,” by the Silver Elves  
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 156-157

“Our littles,” by the Silver Elves  
“Whether he chooses to call hims’elf an elf (as  
he does now in deference to us) does not  
concern us. All important is that he … finds  
happiness and aid others to do so”  
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 239-240
Gender

Otherkin and women’s issues

Untitled selection, by Rosalyn Greene
Some women have problems exploring their animal side due to internalized sexism. They may initially misinterpret their wolf side as a different, more meek type of creature.
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 173

On the gender of the animal side

“Lioness,” by Kefira. 2004
On being not just a lion, but a lioness, distinctly female
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/lioness.php

“Transgender sheep?” by Ketrino. 2006-11-22 ▲
On being a woman who has a male animal side
(a bighorn ram)
ketrino.angelfire.com/essay49.html (defunct)

Otherkin compared with transgender

“Transspecies diagnosis,” by Rua. 2011-09-27 🎼
Arghes that the DSM-IVTR criterion for gender identity disorder (transgender) matches otherkin so closely that one need only swap the word “gender” for “species.” Argues that if we could get transspecies recognized as a mental “disorder,” it could be a step toward getting otherkin accepted in mainstream society.
iamsidhe.blogspot.com/2011/09/transspecies-diagnosis.html

“Otherkin,” by the Eclective
Comparing transgender and transspecies
intocabible.net/other_intro.htm (defunct)

“(En)gendering a Were/Shifter Identity,” by Sabersinger
A feminist wolf looks at the intersection of transgender and trans-species
otherkin.net/articles//engenderingWere.html
Russian translation by werewolf.org.ua:
werewolf.org.ua/index.php?page=library&pid=1&id=50706827 (defunct, archive)

“Being Other: An essay on dysmorphia and incarnation,” by Aetherkin

Compares gender dysmorphia to otherkin, defining otherkin as another type of body dysmorphia. Discusses some spiritual and psychological explanations for dysmorphia.
kilobox.net/otherkin/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=23&Itemid=31

“On justification and identity in the therian community,” by Liesk
“Looking at the need to justify oneself within the therian community in comparison to the transgender community, and some bad habits.” (Description from WereLibrary. Somebody please revive this lost article. –ed.)
liesk.feralscribes.org/?q=node/8 (lost)

“Tumblr social justice community,” by an anonymous cartoonist, with commentary by Inkscars.
(Comic) Is it or isn’t it offensive to compare otherkin to people who are transgender? Why?
inkscars.tumblr.com/post/12161293559

“Motargument: en jämförelse (The counter-argument: a comparison),” by Susitar. 2010-08-25
(In Swedish.) Some arguments used against transgender people that resemble arguments used against therians
vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/08/25/motargument-en-jamforelse

“Snart dags för Pride, tankar om öppenhet (Time for Pride, thoughts of openness)” by Susitar. 2011-07-27
(In Swedish.) If I wrote a book about therianthropy in order to be open about it, transgender people would think it was a parody of them
susitar.wordpress.com/2011/07/27/snart-dags-for- Pride-tankar-om-oppenhet

“Pride – ett tal (Pride—a speech),” by Susitar. 2011-08-06.
(In Swedish.) Transcript of a speech about therianthropy, delivered at a Pride event.
susitar.wordpress.com/2011/08/06/pride-ett-tal
On being otherkin as well as transgender

Untitled selection, by Lupa
Some otherkin and some residents of multiple systems have genders that don’t match their physical body
_field guide to otherkin_, p. 41-42

_How I see myself_, by ToniSerinn. 2004-05-15
(Digital illustration) Self-portrait as a furry woman. My mind and soul are female.
deviantart.com/deviation/7308282

“Walking my Path,” by Akhila. 2005-10
Setting off on a course as a trans-man and a therian. Traveling, changing, being
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/path.php

“Journey,” by Akhila. 2006-11
Cat and bird since youth. I travel along in liminal space
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/journey.php

“Animal people folklore,” by Akhila. 2006-09

Clouded leopard myth. Living as animal person, trans-man, not caught up in semantics
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/folklore.php

“Liminal animal,” by Akhila. 2007-10
Unlike the real animal because there is no clouded leopard in Paris
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/symbolism.php

“The liminal being,” by Akhila. 2009-10
As trans, at the fringes of what most people know, surreal as legend, as true as anyone
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/liminal.php

“Gender vs animality,” by Akhila. 2007-10
Transmen probably are the closest relatives to werewolves together with _canis lupus_
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/trans.php

“The self-made man and the predator,” by Akhila. 2010-10
Trans, DIY, empowerment…
akhila.feralscribes.org/essays/predator.php
Personal appearance

How do you make yourself look like your true self? Or do you choose not to? I’ll only link to materials that unambiguously talk about how the personal significance of these changes are related to otherkin or therianthropy. There’s not much of this. Neither the otherkin nor the therian subcultures have been based around fashion choices. Also see the section on “Symbols,” for some examples of how symbols of otherkin have been used for jewelry, clothing, and tattoos.

Hairstyles

“Hair and therianthropy,” by Keller. 2004
I’ve worn a variety of haircuts, and none of them necessarily made me feel more leopard or not.
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/hair.php

Jewelry

Black coyote, by Morgandria. 2005-03-23
A symbolic necklace for a coyote therian.
deviantart.com/deviation/16443933

Therianthrope necklace, by thegreenmooseofdoom. 2006-03-22
A necklace whose beads spell “therian”
deviantart.com/deviation/30736247 (lost)

Clothing and costume

Streetwear

Beast Within shirt, by WatergazerWolf. 2004-07-21
A t-shirt design with a wolf ripping its way out
deviantart.com/deviation/9085987

Unusual fashion

“Threads of magic,” by the Silver Elves
On elven self-expression through idiosyncratic clothing
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 152-154

“Vampyre ‘alternative style’ theory,” by Erych. 2007

Maybe some vampires prefer alternative fashions (such as goth) due to receiving nourishment from the psychic energy of attention (being stared at)
darknessembraced.com/vampires/real-vampire-articles/115

Costume and prostheses

“Dress the part,” by Ambianya Sindar-wolfkitten
Wear your wings. Observations at a masquerade party for pagans and otherkin
eristic.net/fey/living/dressup.php

For a costume party... By O. Scribner. 2005-05-01.
(Comic) Odd phenomena in costume
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060501.html

“Fursuiting,” by Lone Wolf
Wanting to be a wolf and to have the body of a wolf … dressing up as an animal is the next best thing
wolfden.critter.net/fursuits/index.htm

Gazer fursuit design, by WatergazerWolf. 2004-05-28
(Color pencil) “Why a fursuit if I’m a therian and not a furry? Well, I think a fursuit helps get you in touch with your inner were and self, so why not? Besides, I think many furries are therians that are yet unrealized.”
deviantart.com/deviation/7651081

“Performance artist becomes cat, horse,” by O. Scribner. 2011-08-16
(Not about the otherkin community, so far as I’m aware of.) How Marion Laval-Jeantet used digitigrade leg extensions to mimic a cat and, later, a horse. She also used a horse blood transfusion.
otherkin-news.livejournal.com/8894.html

“Disabled woman given mermaid tail to help her swim,” by The Telegraph. 2009-02-26
(Not about the otherkin community, so far as I’m aware of.) Nadya Vessey, an amputee, gets a custom prosthetic mermaid tail from Weta Workshop, which ordinarily designs cinematic special effects.
telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/howaboutthat/4839818/Disabled-woman-given-mermaid-tail-to-help-her-swim.html
“Magical skins and costumes,” by Rosalyn Greene ▲ On costuming as a way to get in touch with and openly express the inner animal. Make foreleg extensions so you can run on four legs Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 219-221

Tattoos

Pawtagram, by Zexlurkyxlys. 2010-04-10
Tattoo on my hip, of my own design. Heartagram represents life and death, love and hate. Pawprint is for therianthropy. I’m human, but I’m canine deviantart.com/deviation/186444553

Dragon Kin – Buchstaben… by DracheHoly. 2009-08-28
Tattoos on forearms reading “Dragon Kin.” deviantart.com/deviation/135037640

My wolf-paw yin-yang tattoo ketrino.angelfire.com/Balance.html

Surgical body modification

Although this topic comes up sometimes in informal and/or private conversations, I haven’t found any public articles on this subject. As far as I’ve ever heard, otherkin who actually get otherkin-related surgical body modifications are extremely rare… I’d guess there might be a half-dozen of them at most.

General theory on surgical body modification

“Redefining p-shifting,” by Tsu. 2011-10-25
Argues that otherkin should consider surgery and virtual reality as a real way to attain physical transformation. Gives a few speculative examples. http://becomeyourfursona.dreamwidth.org/16734.html

The Species Modification Directory, maintained by Spectrum_X. Created 2011-11. Permanent and temporary methods, costumes and surgery. This directory is a new work in progress, but it will eventually be comprehensive. Caution: Some of the embedded videos show surgery and could disturb. speciesmodificationdirectory.weebly.com/index.html

“Species mod directory and kin should have a Wild Hunt equivalent,” by Spectrum_X. 2011-10-24. Proposal for the above project, and a call for entries. spectrum-x.dreamwidth.org/50690.html


“I’m having my wings done,” by Johann Hari. 2002-03-10. (Not about otherkin.) Dr. Joe Rosen, surgeon, says that people can have wings and tails implanted, and then their brains would adapt to include these parts in the neural map. This news article also describes Enigma, a man who had horns implanted. guardian.co.uk/society/2002/mar/11/health.lifelandhealth

Specific types of surgical body modification

“Ear-pointing surgery,” by O. Scribner. 2011-04-08
At least five people have had a kind of body modification that gives them pointed ears to look like elves. Apparently none of them are otherkin. I have not found any articles where these people openly say that they are involved with the otherkin community. otherkin-news.livejournal.com/7821.html

“Why can’t I have wings?” by an anonymous author. 2008-04-01 (Yes, April Fool’s, I know.)
(Not about otherkin.) A transhumanist explains why it’s anatomically impossible for a human to gain functional wings by surgery.

hplusbiopolitics.wordpress.com/2008/04/01/why-cant-i-have-wings
PART VIII.

THE ARTS.
Visual Art

“A picture is worth a thousand words,” you know, so I include visual art in what is otherwise a mostly directory of writings. When possible, I try to sort the visual art into other, more appropriate topics. For example, I move self-portraits by unicorn otherkin out of this section, and put them into a section about unicorns elsewhere in this directory.

Superimposed faces and forms

Superimposing an image of one’s animal side with one’s human appearance has become a common way for therians to represent a phantom shift in art, because (for me, at least) it’s a surprisingly accurate representation of how it actually feels. As Twilight Stray wrote in the aforementioned essay, “Art:” “I live a double-exposure life.”

**Therian spring**, by Swandog. 2004-04-07 🎨
(Color pencil) Wolf and human form superimposed, with Celtic knot-work border deviantart.com/deviation/6388567

**Phantom shift**, by CivilisedWookie. 2007-06-25 🎨
(Photo-manipulation) Wolf and human face superimposed. You feel your aura change deviantart.com/deviation/58382304

**Two in one**, by Inuki42. 2004-08-13 🎨
(Digital art) Human and dragon face superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/9738438

**If only they could see**, by Earth Listener, of Chimera. 2010-01-06
(Colored pencil) Wolf and human form superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/149440882

**Wolf in me**, by KanishtaaNaijuuk 🎨
(Photo-manipulation) Wolf and human form superimposed, in forest scene deviantart.com/deviation/15679232

**Pensive**, by Katanisk (Kit C.)
(Pencil) Wolf and human form superimposed. Portrait of Merlepup’s fursona. deviantart.com/deviation/127393289

**OK - Phantom limb study**, by Shiruie-chan. 2010-10-02
(Color pencil) Dragon and human form superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/181283671

**OK – Phantom limb study II**, by Shiruie-chan. 2010-10-02
(Color pencil) Dragon and human form superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/182742116

**Dragonkin II**, by Shiruie-chan
(Color pencil) Dragon and human form superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/181283770

**Dragonkin III**, by Shiruie-chan
(Color pencil) Dragon and human form superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/181283844

**Therianthropy – shades of gray**, by Tygerwolfe. 2009-03-25 🎨
(Pencil) Wolf and human form superimposed in an intentionally confusing way, with explanation for why deviantart.com/deviation/117135821

**Marker fun**, by CorbieLaughter. 2009-05-05
(Markers) Wolf and human form superimposed, running on all fours, with therian theta-delta symbol nearby deviantart.com/deviation/121568133

**Dragon within**, by MetalheadLizzy. 2007-11-06
(Mixed media drawing) Dragon and human forms superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/69190678

**Phantom shift study**, by DarkSideoftheSun13
(Dreama). 2010-11-29
(Markers) deviantart.com/deviation/187906381

**Therian spirit**, by NizhoniWolf. 2007-04-05
(Pencils) Wolf and human form superimposed deviantart.com/deviation/52507001

**Other self**, by Ebbalynn13. 2009-06-17
(Painting) Self-portrait as human and maned wolf deviantart.com/deviation/126317314

**Otherkin portrait**, by Ayden. 2007-01-31
(Mixed media) Self-portrait as human and gryphon deviantart.com/deviation/50643346

**A klutz like no other**, by Leccathu Furvicael. 2006-03-15 🎨
(Comic) A dragon otherkin’s phantom wings cause some problems at school
deviantart.com/deviation/30424491
ID view size, by AmuthAlexiel. 2007-05-29
(Photo-manipulation) Dragon and human form superimposed
deviantart.com/deviation/56443841
My shadow…, by Kibawolfssoul. 2010-05-22
(Digital art) Wolf and human form superimposed, with wolf-shaped shadow
deviantart.com/deviation/164929381

Dragon soul, by Kivuli. 2006-07-25
(Digital painting) Ghostly dragon superimposed on panth.
“One part of me is a dragon.”
deviantart.com/deviation/36889897
Otherkin, by Shinigami Lashae. 2004-03-25
(Digital painting) Human with ghostly wings
deviantart.com/deviation/6084841
Birthday card, by Shinigami Lashae. 2004-05-13
(Digital painting) Human with ghostly wings
deviantart.com/deviation/7258370

Ethereal feelings, by SilverThreads. 2010-08-23
(Sequential art) “This is a really old Blog picture having to do with a Therian experience. You probably won’t understand the sudden animal limbs in this picture if you don’t know about Therianthropy. It’s showing more what we ‘feel’ is actually there rather than what we ‘see.’”
deviantart.com/deviation/176577442

What’s missing, by DarkSideoftheSun13 (Dreama). 2008-06-18
(Staged photo) A human’s shadow on pavement, with chalk outlines adding wings, tail, and ears.
deviantart.com/deviation/89102679
Ominous desire, by Nominus Expers. 2008-10-29
(Painting) “How often do you wish you could be outside what you are inside?”
deviantart.com/deviation/102101273
Animal, by CruelaDeVil. 2004-06-09
(Photo-manipulation) Tiger superimposed on human. “When your soul is an animal, you can’t hide it.”
deviantart.com/deviation/7956547

Fake therianthropy magazine, by PerianArdocyl. 2011-08-15 🎵
(Photo-manipulation) Dolphin superimposed on human. A speculative cover design for what a magazine about therianthropy might look like.
deviantart.com/deviation/253163047

Split portraits

Another popular strategy for representing the outer and inner self (or the human and other side) divides a portrait down the middle, with one side the human, outer appearance, and the other side representing the inner self. I compare this to “split portrait lighting,” a photographic technique which cloaks half the face in shadow.

The lupogryph within, by Obsydian. 2002-11-07
(Color pencil) Wolf-gryphon and human sides
deviantart.com/deviation/873214

Skin, by Strype. 2003-09-02
(Digital painting) Tiger and human sides. “He is invisible, his feline features hidden under human skin. … He yearns for his real body … but his fur stays under his skin”
deviantart.com/deviation/2898678

The wolf inside, by Sadariuswolf
(Photo-manipulation) Wolf and human sides
deviantart.com/deviation/48064345

Therianthropy, by KurushimeruOkami. 2011-05
(Acrylic diptych) Wolf and human sides
Who I am inside, by IxlHelenalx. 2010-10-13
(Photo-manipulation) Wolf and human sides
deviantart.com/deviation/182600892

Torn, by Leccathu Furvicael. 2003-12-13
(Pencil) Dragon and human sides, and their respective worlds
deviantart.com/deviation/4214183

Two faced, by FearisHere. 2008-08-25
(Drawing) Lynx and human, with long explanation. “…it’s about two ‘sides’ like a coin, both seeing things from a different perspective yet both the same …”
deviantart.com/deviation/9603496

“--- ‘SPIRIT’ ---” by CunningFox. 2005-08-09
(Digital painting) Wolf and human sides, with long explanation
deviantart.com/deviation/21542853
Parts of the self metaphorically represented as reflections and shadows

Many cultures have thought that the reflection or shadow cast by a person symbolized the soul or inner being. This isn’t to be taken literally, because the physical body always casts a shadow and reflection that resemble the physical body. Some therian artists use this old symbol to represent their inner self.

*Illu for school magazine*, by CelticMagician. 2010-11-21
(Photo-manipulation) Human casts wolf shadow on the autumn grass
[deviantart.com/deviation/187026715](deviantart.com/deviation/187026715)

*In the mirror*, by Earth Listener, of Chimera. 2006
(Pencil) Wolf indoors, casts reflection of human outdoors
[deviantart.com/deviation/149381634](deviantart.com/deviation/149381634)

*Reflection*, by Tusami (Riley, CanineHybrid). 2006-06-06
(Photo manipulation) Human casts dragon reflection
[deviantart.com/deviation/35915688](deviantart.com/deviation/35915688)

Phantom shift, by DarkSideoftheSun13. 2007-01-20
(Color pencil and markers) Human (with juxtaposed wings, tail, and ears) casts a simply human reflection
[deviantart.com/deviation/47067818](deviantart.com/deviation/47067818)

*Mirror*, by KShadow1151. 2010-08-09
(Digital painting) Human casts an animal reflection
[deviantart.com/deviation/174606844](deviantart.com/deviation/174606844)

*Look in the mirror*, by Ilrak (Flippinkmoon). 2011-01-19
(Digital illustration) Human casts two reflections: one human, one raven
[deviantart.com/deviation/194170904](deviantart.com/deviation/194170904)

Shaharasaiian echoes, by gothikfaerie. 2007-01-12
(Drawing) Human casts a different reflection. One of the illustrations printed in *A Field Guide to Otherkin*
[deviantart.com/deviation/46499234](deviantart.com/deviation/46499234)

Parts of the self metaphorically represented as costume or mask

*I’m working on it*, by Kaoine. 2007-09-18
(Digitally colored) An angel in a human suit.
[deviantart.com/deviation/65212383](deviantart.com/deviation/65212383)

*Shed*, by Leccathu Furvicael. 2010-07-03
(Pencil) A human shedding a dragon skin. Caption explains the meaning in detail.
[deviantart.com/deviation/170059311](deviantart.com/deviation/170059311)

*oC Behind the mask*, by DigitalShark. 2008-06-14
(Digital sketch) “Can you see who i am behind the mask i wear? My symbol of being an otherkin.”
[deviantart.com/deviation/88631375](deviantart.com/deviation/88631375)

*Human disguise*, by LiekaQOD (Lyeekha, Liëka). 2009-03-15
(Digital painting) A winged fox wearing a human mask
[deviantart.com/deviation/116011217](deviantart.com/deviation/116011217)

*Human costume*, by DarkSideoftheSun13
(Color pencil) A wolf in a human suit, with explanation
[deviantart.com/deviation/57942274](deviantart.com/deviation/57942274)

*Human costume 2*, by DarkSideoftheSun13
(Color pencil) A winged wolf in a human suit
[deviantart.com/deviation/91205223](deviantart.com/deviation/91205223)
Parts of the self represented in a state of transformation, transition, or combination

In some cases, this means representing an animal-side as partially human-shaped, even though the artist doesn’t normally perceive it as human-shaped.

_Falconperson_, by FearisHere. 2008-11-30
(Traditional media) Artist writes, “I’m often interested in hearing about Bird Therians. Must be hard having bird instincts and not having a body to match the mindset. The feeling of wanting to soar and dive in the skies and having these puny featherless limbs and huge heavy legs instead.”
deviantart.com/deviation/105090477

_Therian longing_, by FuzzyWolfy. 2010-11-02
(Markers) Self-portrait in transitional form between human and wolf, singing to moon
deviantart.com/deviation/184834992

_Head in the stars..._, by Doraneirok. 2011-02-01
(Digital art) Self-portrait as dragon, made human-like, with explanation
deviantart.com/deviation/195811854

_Between the body and the soul_, by Arikla. 2008-01-01
(Painting) Wolf and human, combined
deviantart.com/deviation/73525030

_Throw your hands up_, by KrazeeJack. 2010-07-22
(Photo-manipulation) Self-portrait as a polar bear
deviantart.com/deviation/172326985

_Sam dream -- the cliff_, by DarkSideoftheSun13. 2008-01-12
(Color pencil)
deviantart.com/deviation/74480983

_I gotz horns_, by Caziodor. 2008-05-07
(Digital illustration) An unglate. “My theriotype presented anthropomorphically.”
deviantart.com/deviation/79349673

_Mo Anam_, by Illahie. 2006-08-15
(Traditional mixed media) Self-portrait as humanoid wolf, with additional symbols
deviantart.com/deviation/38061402

_Shinjuku swan maiden_, by Tsu (Swanblood). 2012-01-09.
(Digital painting) Self-portrait, winged person
deviantart.com/deviation/278642225

Otherkin eyes

The eyes, “windows to the soul,” symbolize the inner self. Some otherkin and therian artists use that symbol as another strategy for representing their inner selves in their art.

_Windows of the soul_, by WiseDragonQueen5 (Eryn). 2005-10-07
(Colored pencil) A dragon form, within a human’s eye. My spirit-character, true self
deviantart.com/deviation/23774381

_Wolf eyes_, by Wolf Daughter. 2009-03-30
(Photo-manipulation) A human with the eyes of a wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/117649194

_Inner eye_, by Rowan of Wonderless. 2009-07-21
(Pencil) An enormous wolf’s eye. “I kept thinking of this as ‘my eye’ as I drew it; so I would like to dedicate this piece to all the people out there with an ‘inner wolf’ like me.”
deviantart.com/deviation/130352335

Group portraits of different parts of the self

For example, human and animal sides standing alongside one another, as if they were separate beings, even though they’re both parts of the same person.

_Our destiny_, by Wolfenion. 2007-11-07
(Digital art) Wolf and human
deviantart.com/deviation/69265507 (lost)

_Set me free_, by Illahie. 2004-04-10
(Watercolor pencil) Wolf spirit emerges from human body.
deviantart.com/deviation/6457424

_Oshiete_, by Rowan of Wonderless. 2009-09-09
(Digital art) In their separate worlds, winged wolf and human wonder about Truth.
deviantart.com/deviation/136518990

_Me, myself, and I_, by Swandog. Late 1980s
(Pencil) Self-portrait, plus wolf and eagle alter egos
deviantart.com/deviation/6494596

_4 lives, 3 deaths; 1 rebirth_, by lupusperangelespena. 2011-01-19
(Digital illustration) Several past lives, assembled
deviantart.com/deviation/194074056

_Inner being_, by Shiruie-chan. 2011-01-15
(Colored pencil) Dragon and human
[deviantart.com/deviation/193570183]
Not really sure myself, by Tgguitarist (Yaxerins, Nicholas, Melanie). 2009-06-25
(Colored pencil) Dragon and human
[deviantart.com/deviation/127230473]
I am more than..., by Lauryl. 2008-04-01
(Digital painting) “...this earthbound form.”
Dragon and human
[deviantart.com/deviation/81668798]
(Color pencil) Human and animal side
[deviantart.com/deviation/47189593]
Otherkin – where should I be? By Mukis. 2007-01-22
(Color pencil) Human and bull side, not based on a real individual
[deviantart.com/deviation/47191104]
Otherkin - will I ever know? By Mukis. 2007-02-21
(Color pencil) Human and other sides, a self-portrait
[deviantart.com/deviation/49336533]
Three souls, by Tuuli Bergdrachin (Nathalie). 2009-04-02
(Drawing) Western dragon, Chinese dragon, and human
[deviantart.com/deviation/117876555]
Somewhere, by Cottoncritter (Miserycat, Chelsea). 2010-05-28
(Digital painting) Utahraptor and cat sides
[deviantart.com/deviation/165661572 (lost)]
Coming undone, by Cottoncritter (Miserycat, Chelsea). 2009-04-11
(Digital painting) Utahraptor and wolf sides, flanking a human-like mask, emblazoned with a therian theta-delta symbol.
[deviantart.com/deviation/118899794 (lost)]
Polywere, by Tygerwolfe. 2007-03-23
(Digital painting) Surrounded by other animal-sides
[deviantart.com/deviation/51518065]
(Digital painting) Dragon and human violinist.
“Tis me. In two forms, which really end up being the same thing anyway, just in a different perspective.”
[deviantart.com/deviation/6590957]
Dance the night away, by Lewinna Solwing (Lynne). 2005-08-30
(Traditional media) “The Dragon, is, of course, my Dragon self … [and] my two composer headvoices.”
[deviantart.com/deviation/22366445]
A new symbolic family portrait, by Lewinna Solwing (Lynne). 2005-11-04
(Drawing) “this is the family I have in my inner world…”
[deviantart.com/deviation/24822185]
My soul loves you, by Lewinna Solwing (Lynne). 2006-12-28
(Drawing) Includes long explanation, with quote from Emily Dickenson
[side7.com/image/326457]
Aubrey: Double portrait, by Lewinna Solwing (Lynne). 2002-12-04
(Digital painting) Dragon and human sides.
“Aubri, and his… whaddya call it... trueform, soul shape, Dragon, higher state of being…”
[side7.com/image/229863]
Tracks

Another strategy is to show the track of the animal along with the human footprint or handprint.

Therianthropy cat, by Sonne Spiritwind. 2007-03-24
(Digitally colored) A cat’s forepaw leaves a human handprint.
[deviantart.com/deviation/51586669]
Longing, by Flaming Craig Head. 2007-03-18
(Photograph) Human handprint next to a canine’s track, with explanation
[deviantart.com/deviation/51162511]
Tracks, by CorbieLaughter. 2009-10-16
(Markers) Wolf paw-print superimposed on human hand-print
[deviantart.com/deviation/140486414]
Portraits of the inner self

I’ve sorted most of these illustrations into other topics instead, according to species.

Playing in the field, by Dragonslorefury. 2008-12-26
(Colored pencil) Self-portrait as dragon and wolf partner
deviantart.com/deviation/107446355

Consulting the stars, by Miserycat. 2010-04-23
(Digital art) Self-portrait as winged wolf therian
deviantart.com/deviation/161766208 (lost)

Climbing that mountain, by Ilkahie. 2004-05-11
(Painting) Self-portrait as wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/7196581

Howl from the heart, by CelticMagician. 2010-06-17
(Digital painting) Self portrait as winged wolf therian
deviantart.com/deviation/186051395

Samango, by DarkSideoftheSun13. 2010-11-13
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as winged feline
deviantart.com/deviation/186114252

Winged wolf, by WingedWolfPsion. 2007-06-04
(Color pencil) “My astral representation.”
deviantart.com/deviation/56849381

Self-portrait WindSeeker, by WindSeeker (Courtney W.). 2004-05-12
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as winged wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/7223708

WindSeeker, by WindSeeker (Courtney W.). 2003-11-13
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as winged wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/3825698

Myself, by Enju Y.. 2010-09-03
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as a dragon. I’m a dragon otherkin
deviantart.com/deviation/177969841

Planner, by TsumeRokaro (karasureign). 2010-09-15
(Drawing) Self-portrait as winged wolf, with theta-delta symbol. I’m a therian
deviantart.com/deviation/179372003

The other me, by IxlHelenalxl
(Digital illustration) Self-portrait as wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/185181202

My theriself, by Darkfire-kitty. 2010-09-25
(Digital illustration) Self-portrait as wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/180532029

The day after tomorrow, by Cottoncritter (Miserycat, Chelsea). 2010-10-22
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as winged wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/183603420

To live, by Cottoncritter (Miserycat, Chelsea). 2010-03-09
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as a winged wolf
deviantart.com/deviation/156771550

Earth elemental dragon forest, by Kanishtaa Naijuuk. 2010-11-15
(Digital painting) Self-portrait as dragon
deviantart.com/deviation/186256050

Otherkin Zee, by DigitalShark. 2008-01-15
(Digital painting) “This is by far, the most accurate picture of my main otherkin form.”
deviantart.com/deviation/74704294

My therian form, by Enju Y. 2010-05-10
(Color pencil) Self-portrait as a dragon. I’m a therian/otherkin.
deviantart.com/deviation/163653126

Here I am, this is me… by NightTracker (Rachel P.). 2005-08-31
(Color pencil) Self-portrait as a “draganine,” half-dragon, half-wolf.
deviantart.com/deviation/22419602

Sak’Hareth, by Tanith Sacristar (Jokress). 2009-02-03
(Drawing) Self-portrait as a dragon. Otherkin.
deviantart.com/deviation/111661158
Misc art about otherkin and therians

*Depict what can’t be seen*, by O. Scribner. 2006-01-02
(Comic) Examples of several different strategies for depicting both the human and the unseen animal side
[therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060102.html](https://therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060102.html)

*Mandala intro graphic*, by Swandog. 2005-10-17
(Illustration) An elaborate design integrating many symbols of personal significance
[deviantart.com/deviation/24125800](https://deviantart.com/deviation/24125800)

(Photo-manipulation) “The assignment was to create a movie poster for a fictional biographical movie about ourselves.”
[deviantart.com/deviation/12031200](https://deviantart.com/deviation/12031200)

*Shift happens – detail*, by Dragonslorefury. 2009-12-03
(Painting on leather) Wolf therian
[deviantart.com/deviation/145578114](https://deviantart.com/deviation/145578114)

*Mortal body, deathless soul*, by WildSpiritWolf. 2007-09-19
(Human blood on parchment) A winged wolf. “This was painted during my trip. It was done in the blood of our Pack’s alpha who was more than enthusiastic to supply the ‘paint’.”
[deviantart.com/deviation/65298895](https://deviantart.com/deviation/65298895)

*I’m not crazy… right?*, by Sage of the Halo. 2004-01-26
Overwhelmed by critical statements made against otherkin
[deviantart.com/deviation/4938864](https://deviantart.com/deviation/4938864)

*Have you forgotten us…*, by Dragonslorefury. 2008-12-26
(Pen) “a drawing of some of the more rare types of otherkin”
[deviantart.com/deviation/107444113](https://deviantart.com/deviation/107444113)

*My autumn tree*, by Cottoncritter (Miserycat, Chelsea). 2009-06-09
(Digital painting) I finally drew the land in my heart, the place I go to in my mind. You can barely see it, but my wolf therian form is sitting at the tip of the cliff.
[deviantart.com/deviation/125392935](https://deviantart.com/deviation/125392935)

*Mortuary birds bury a friend*, by Cyaneus
In memory
[deviantart.com/deviation/103600345](https://deviantart.com/deviation/103600345)

*Prayer of Saint Francis*, by Cyaneus
Vulture as personification of love
[deviantart.com/deviation/103594060](https://deviantart.com/deviation/103594060)

*Prayer of Saint Francis redux*, by Cyaneus
[deviantart.com/deviation/103594381](https://deviantart.com/deviation/103594381)

*Phantom wings*, by Fareme. 2002-12-19
(Digital art)
[deviantart.com/deviation/1042322](https://deviantart.com/deviation/1042322)

*Awaken the inner dragon*, by Andy W. 2007-08-28
(Digital art) “If you like dragons, think a bit more about them. Ask yourself why you like them so much. Perhaps you will discover something phenomenal. Perhaps you will discover your true self…”
[elfwood.com/art/n/e/neo2008/awaken_the_iinner_dragon_small.jpg.html](https://elfwood.com/art/n/e/neo2008/awaken_the_iinner_dragon_small.jpg.html)

*Break the chain*, by Vargablod (Vargablóð). 2006-10-27
(Graphic illustration)
[deviantart.com/deviation/42088093](https://deviantart.com/deviation/42088093)

(Cartoon) Humor
[deviantart.com/deviation/65731121](https://deviantart.com/deviation/65731121)

*Alivest*, by Jocarra (Jen P.). 2008-03-17
(Photo montage) With long explanation of therianthropy
[deviantart.com/deviation/80255222](https://deviantart.com/deviation/80255222)
Symbols for otherkin and therians

General writings about symbols for otherkin and therians

Some otherkin and therians have chosen some symbols to represent themselves. All of these symbols are unofficial. Since we have no central organization, there’s no way to make them official. That is as it should be. Some therians use these symbols, and some therians don’t, either because they dislike these symbols, or are opposed to the concept of using any symbols to represent themselves. Just as with any other single trait of the community, we’re never in total agreement about anything, and that is as it should be. Many therians haven’t heard of any of these symbols because they aren’t involved with the parts of the communities that use these symbols. As such, the seven-pointed star isn’t “the” symbol for otherkin, and the theta-delta isn’t “the” symbol for therians. Each symbol is just a symbol that some therians choose.

Criticism. This therian explains why it’s undesirable to use any kind of symbol to represent therianthropy, because this would indicate a religion-like unity that therians don’t actually have. (Somebody please revive this article, it sounds important.)
dreamofhorn.com/therian/razza-weresymbol.html (lost)

“Symbols,” by Lupa
Mostly on the seven-pointed star, but a little about the therian theta-delta too
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 52-53

The seven-pointed star

In a vague sort of way, the seven-pointed star has been gradually adopted to represent elves, fairies, and—by extension—otherkin. The Silver Elves wrote about the septagram in the 1980s, but in the 1990s, a group of otherkin adopted it independently of this, not knowing about the coincidence until a while later. The seven-pointed star (septagram) is an ancient and simple geometric figure, and for this reason it has been used to symbolize hundreds of different things. Otherkin is only one of many things that a septagram could mean. As such, I take care to select only the writings and representations of the septagram which the authors or artists themselves openly claim is related to otherkin philosophy.

Writings

“Elven Star or Faerie Star,” by Leaf McGowan
The variety of things that the seven-pointed star has symbolized, including otherkin
 technogypsie.com/faeid/elvenstar.html

“What is an Elvenstar?” by Devan of Elvendrums
The seven-pointed star is also known as the elven star because can represent a belief in fairies
 elvendrums.com/elvenstar.php and rialian.com/star.htm

“The Septagram: One Celestial’s View on the Septagram,” by Christophe (WyldeSatyr)
Some remarks on the seven-pointed star (a geometric figure variously called an acute heptagram, septagram, or septeagram) that has been adopted, to some degree, as an unofficial symbol of otherkin.
otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/orc/other/angelsevenstar.html

“Syrandir (Enchantment),” by the Silver Elves
The significance of each of the rays of a seven-pointed star
 rialian.com/elvsilv5.htm

“The Septagram: An Essay on the Seven-Pointed Star,” by Magpie
Correspondences of the seven points
 otherkin.net/harmonyDiscord/orc/other/magpiesevenstar.html
“The Otherkin Avatar Project,” by Michelle Belanger. 2008-12-29
Applying magical symbolism and a type of otherkin to each of the seven points of the star. 
rendingtheveil.com/the-otherkin-avatar-project
“The Otherkin Avatar Project revisited,” by Shaynin, of Clan Nautilus (a plural system). 2011-06-02
Further thoughts on and modifications of the above concepts and symbols. 
pirate.is/nautilus/2011/06/02/the-otherkin-avatar-project-revisited (lost) or 
clannautilus.wordpress.com/2011/06/02/the-otherkin-avatar-project-revisited
“Fae: Elements and symbols,” by LeanhuanRose
Associating seven “elements” with the seven points of the star. Similar to Magpie’s essay. 
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/metaphysics/fae-elements-and-symbols
“Signs and portents: Magical symbolism and meaning,” by Lanthinel. Circa 1999
Based on some of the above writings, an elven interpretation of the seven points
fastlane.net/homepages/worlow4/Lanthinel/signs.htm (defunct)
“Seven sisters seven stars,” by the Silver Elves
Magical Elven Love Letters, Vol. 1, p. 102-103

Representations

CatchingDreams_Morij_7OKin, by Mizuenzeru. 2007-01-08
(Crafts) Woven into a dream-catcher
deviantart.com/deviation/46252272

Star pawprint tattoo WIP, by SylverWind-Wolfenkin. 2008-01-09
(Drawing) Tattoo design with trompe l’oeil emboss effect. Septagram, circled, with paw-print in center.
deviantart.com/deviation/74229854

Otherkin star septagram, by KanishtaaNaijuuk. 2010-03-13
(Digital illustration) Diagram, showing correspondences of the points
deviantart.com/deviation/157090202

My tattoo idea, by KanishtaaNaijuuk. 2010-03-13
(Graphic design) A paw-print with septagram in center. Surrounded by symbols of the Classical four elements, and crescent moons
deviantart.com/deviation/157090317

Pawprint septagram, by Artemus Black. 2005-09-21
(Graphic design) A paw-print with septagram in center.
deviantart.com/deviation/23170523

Paw print ID, by Artemus Black. 2006-01-23
(Graphic design) A paw-print with septagram in center, flanked by kanji
deviantart.com/deviation/28068792

Mandala, by GuephRen. 2008-09-04
(Graphic design) As part of a mandala, incorporating a striding wolf and other designs
deviantart.com/deviation/97036563

Mandala, by GuephRen. 2008-09-04
(Graphic design) As part of a mandala, incorporating a striding wolf and other designs

Pawprint septagram, by Artemus Black. 2005-09-21
(Graphic design) A paw-print with septagram in center.
deviantart.com/deviation/23170523

Paw print ID, by Artemus Black. 2006-01-23
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Mandala, by GuephRen. 2008-09-04
(Graphic design) As part of a mandala, incorporating a striding wolf and other designs
deviantart.com/deviation/97036563
Therian theta-delta symbol

In 2003, in the WereList web forum, some therians decided that they would like to design a symbol to represent therianthropy, and this is what they came up with. It’s two Greek letters, interlaced. For the names of these letters, the symbol is sometimes called the “theta-delta.” It’s also sometimes called the “were-symbol,” but that name has been applied to other symbols used by the therian community. One person made a graphic of it, and distributed it in several file formats, so that it would be easy to customize. It’s meant to be graphically simple so that it looks good large or small, and no particular colors are associated with it.

The forum thread in which the symbol was invented was lost in a crash soon afterward, perhaps only a few months. There was an excellent page about it somewhere on WikiTherian.org (lost). Since the original thread is missing, and the first and most comprehensive web-pages about it are missing too, I’ve noticed that some newcomers have developed the misconception that the theta-delta symbol is ancient and mysterious! It’s not at all. It’s only a few years old. Its invention was well documented… it’s just that the documents have gone missing.

There used to be lots of web-pages about the theta-delta, some offering a download of the original image files to customize, but I can’t even find links to those specific pages anymore. Could they all be so lost?

If anybody has archives of the lost documents, web-pages, and forum threads, please send them to me. I’d like to reassemble this puzzle soon, before newcomers start thinking that the theta-delta was invented by cave-people or something.

Representations and variations

Theta-delta symbol for Padfoot, by Dogzilla. 2004-01-08
(Graphic design) This hand-drawn variation adds a full-body running wolf in the center, and omits the dash in the center of the theta. The date this image was posted means that WereList invented the theta-delta in 2003, not 2004.

deviantart.com/deviation/4596216

Therian symbol, by Meirya. 2004-01-22
(Graphic design) Adds a phoenix in the center, and subtly incorporates several other symbols—moon and stars—by adding a texture fill to the symbol’s lines. Clues that images such as this were created using the original files: cinched shape of the theta’s dash, and negative-space margins around the interlacements.

deviantart.com/deviation/4860824

Therian symbol, by ArionHunter. 2004-03-10
(Graphic design) In this variation, a dragon replaces the outer ring of the theta. Created using original files.

deviantart.com/deviation/5761126

My Were symbol thingy, by DragonessTawnya. 2004-09-22
(Graphic design) Created using the original files, but with an addition: footprints superimposed on it.

deviantart.com/deviation/10817863

My symbol, by Tamer of Lynada. 2004-10-25
(Color pencil sketch) In addition to the theta-delta, a Christian cross, a horse-shoe, and a pair of feathered wings.

deviantart.com/deviation/10916232

My symbol 2, by Tamer of Lynada. 2004-11-02
(Graphic design) A finished version of the above symbol, sans wings and theta’s dash, but still with cross and horse-shoe

deviantart.com/deviation/11945293

Theta Delta Deus, by Alyssa M. 2010-11-18
The therian theta-delta symbol, with the dash in the center changed into a cross, rather than having the cross superimposed on it. Accompanying text by TaniMay explains some Christian therian philosophy

deviantart.com/deviation/186670278

Therian pride t-shirt, by Rowan of Wonderless. 2009-04-27

Writings

“Theta-Delta,” by various editors
The accompanying example wasn’t made using the original files.
therian.wikia.com/wiki/Theta-Delta

“Therian symbol,” by various editors
therian.wikia.com/wiki/Therian_Symbol
The aforementioned Christian variation on the therian theta-delta symbol, as a decoration on a shirt, along with another variation with a wolf in the center of the theta-delta, flanked by feathered wings.

deivantart.com/deviation/120727900

Christian Therianthropy Symbol, by Mist-Howler, 2011-06-10
(Graphic design.) A different Christian variation on the therian theta-delta symbol. A different cross, and inscription in Hebrew.
deivantart.com/deviation/212641253

“Behind the symbol…” by Mist-Howler. 2011-06-11
An essay explaining of the symbolism used in the above Christian therianthropy symbol.
deivantart.com/deviation/212645441

Therianthropy symbol, by LoneDarkWolf (Kira). 2005-08-14
(Graphic design) An embossed version using the original files. Says it was for somebody on the WereNation forums.
deivantart.com/deviation/21733428

Tribal therian symbol, by Stone Wolf (ArchangelUzziel). 2006-03-26
A variation on the basic theta-delta symbol, this one includes a stylized (“tribal” style) howling wolf head in the center. Hand-drawn, but based on original files. Omits two things: theta’s dash, and negative space in points of interlacement.
deivantart.com/deviation/30948333

Friend’s therian symbol, by Stone Wolf (ArchangelUzziel). 2006-03-26
A variation on the above.
deivantart.com/deviation/30947836

Therian wallpaper, by ZachM. 2006-05-07
(Graphic design) For use as computer desktop wallpaper. Interlaces in same direction as original, but omits theta’s dash, meaning that it wasn’t made with the original file.
deivantart.com/deviation/32975385

Therian symbol, by Meercamenace. 2007-09-10
Created using original file. Adds photographs of a wolf and lioness in the center.
deivantart.com/deviation/64587966

My zoanthropy symbol, by Ryugetsu. 2008-08-05
Created using original file. Adds a yin-yang. Includes story of interest in Shintoism.
deivantart.com/deviation/93865515

My personal logo, by Lycaox. 2008-10-06
Created using original file. With symbols of justice in the center.
deivantart.com/deviation/99989701

Therian style?, by Erzahler. 2009-02-02
As a revolving, four-sided 3D computer render, plus a pair of wings. Doesn’t interlace. Hyphen is present, but has serifs rather than a cinched shape.
deivantart.com/deviation/111623268

Therian symbol car-hang, by Turret-Wolfheart. 2009-06-05
(Craft) As a metal ornament hanging from a car’s rear-view mirror. Howling wolf head in center. Omits theta’s dash.
deivantart.com/deviation/124937389

Large beadwoven piece, by MidniteWolf139. 2010-02-22
As a beaded design. This uses a variation with a full-body wolf in the center.
deivantart.com/deviation/155104031

Theta-delta vines, by wolfiscrazed. 2010-08-17
As part of a pen and pencil illustration.
deivantart.com/deviation/175766215

Into a wolf’s soul, by Paige W. 2010-09-14
As part of a portrait of the inner wolf.
deivantart.com/deviation/179302275

Theta-delta, by bpz3. 2010-10-07
(Graphic design) Repeated thrice, ornamented with bear tracks.
deivantart.com/deviation/181880721

Roya Cuvari tattoo, by Percy E. II. 2010-09-23
As part of a symbol within a fictional setting.
deivantart.com/deviation/180315411

Empire of the black rose, by jtobler
(Graphic design) With rose in center. “The flag of a fallen empire from my story. And yes, they are Therians.”
deivantart.com/deviation/156029842

Me - Update, by SylverWind-Wolfenkin. 2011-02-02
As part of a pencil illustration.
deivantart.com/deviation/195886346

Therianthropy, by Migoto-Ookami (Silver Anemos-Lupa). 2011-07-12
(Graphic design) Incorporates depictions of common types of therians and otherkin. I am a wolf therian.
deivantart.com/deviation/221139430
As decoration for jewelry

*Completed bracelet*, by MidniteWolf139. 2007-02-23 (Craft) As a decoration on a beaded bracelet [deviantart.com/deviation/49494042](deviantart.com/deviation/49494042)

*PariahPoet's bracelet design*, by MidniteWolf139. 2007-02-23 (Craft) As a decoration on a beaded bracelet, flanked by wolf paw prints superimposed on Christian crosses [deviantart.com/deviation/49493822](deviantart.com/deviation/49493822)

*Redfeather commissions*, by Elinox. 2008-08 (Craft) As a decoration carved onto an antler slice, for a pendant [deviantart.com/deviation/182554125](deviantart.com/deviation/182554125)

*Sublime Metamorphosis*, by Molly M. F. (Porkshanks) 2008-10-20 (Craft) As a hand-made pendant made of copper, nickel, etc, with a tiny key dangling [deviantart.com/deviation/101315467](deviantart.com/deviation/101315467)

*Theta-delta necklace*, by Earth Listener, of Chimera. (n.d.) (Craft) As a bisqueware pendant [deviantart.com/deviation/149448964](deviantart.com/deviation/149448964)

*Therianthropy necklace*, by dancingkatz1 (Haley M., Ani). 2010-08-01 (Craft) As a decoration on a pendant [deviantart.com/deviation/173608185](deviantart.com/deviation/173608185)

*Theta-delta*, by Silver1steps. 2010-08-26 (Craft) As a pendant covered in fuzzy yarn [deviantart.com/deviation/176952827](deviantart.com/deviation/176952827)

As tattoo, or tattoo design

*Theta-delta tattoo for Aconite*, by StrydingSoul (Cass). 2008-01-23 (Design) Tattoo design, incorporating a few other symbols [deviantart.com/deviation/75402812](deviantart.com/deviation/75402812)

*Therian symbol - tribal wolf*, by DracheHoly. 2009-08-27 (Tattoo) As an actual tattoo. Includes “tribal” howling wolf head. This is the design made by Stone Wolf in 2006 [deviantart.com/deviation/134913603](deviantart.com/deviation/134913603)

*Therian zodiac tattoo design*, by Alex E. 2009-11-21 ♫ (Design) Encircled by two additional rings: one of zodiac signs, and one of a set of philosophical elements. Includes elaborate explanation of symbolism in context of an original religion. [deviantart.com/deviation/144324408](deviantart.com/deviation/144324408)

*Tattoo*, by TsumeRokaro (karasureign). 2010-09-22 (Design) As part of a design for a modest little tattoo, to be covered by a wristwatch [deviantart.com/deviation/180191095](deviantart.com/deviation/180191095)

*The life tattoo*, by QuatreBorbes. 2010-04-09 (Design) As part of a design, along with a stylized Eye of Horus symbol, etc. [deviantart.com/deviation/160156868](deviantart.com/deviation/160156868)

*Tattoo sketch*, by Kriati. 2009-10-13 (Design) As part of a design for a tattoo. Dash missing, replaced with pawprint [deviantart.com/deviation/140179517](deviantart.com/deviation/140179517)

As decoration for clothing

*Therian shirt*, by Luke Wolf. 2010-09-15 (Craft) As part of a decoration on a shirt [deviantart.com/deviation/182758726](deviantart.com/deviation/182758726) and [deviantart.com/deviation/182758081](deviantart.com/deviation/182758081)

*Therian beanie*, by JennieO-of-Hyrule64. 2010-09-23 (Craft) As a decoration knitted on a hat [deviantart.com/deviation/180318137](deviantart.com/deviation/180318137)

*Coat design*, by Aika-Shi21. 2008-12-29 (Design) As a decoration on a hooded coat [deviantart.com/deviation/107822200](deviantart.com/deviation/107822200)
Otherkin emblem

Also called the otherkin sigil or otherkin logo, this symbol was designed in 2002 by dragon Kaltezar. The sigil has a circular border around the faces of three species: an elf, a dragon, and a wolf. These are some of the most common species for people to identify as, when other than human.

A loop containing three faces: dragon, elf, wolf. The philosophy and design process. Downloadable graphic designs and stencils. “there was no universally accepted ‘symbol’ for otherkin … There is the Seven pointed star … if you were to show it to a complete stranger, do you think they could possibly pull ‘otherkin’ from it? I didn’t think so, and decided to do something about it. … Needless to say, it proved to be a daunting task. I’m not sure there is any religion in the world, which comes close to the diversity of otherkin. Trying to group it all together in one small symbol, proved to be nearly impossible.”
kaltezar.fur vect.com/otherkin.html

Otherkin symbol, by DracheHoly. 2009-08-27
The above symbol as a tattoo
de viant art.com/deivation/134915327

Otherkin, by wildelbenreiter (Fin Z.). 2011-04-16
Redrawn in a different style
de viant art.com/deivation/205144975

Therian flag and Were-prints

In 2004, a therian artist named Watergazer Wolf designed these symbols for therians to use.

(Graphic design) These “Wereprints” are the footprints of animals, modified to partially resemble a human’s handprint, usually by adding an opposable thumb, but toes are also lengthened to be more like fingers. This is a selection of Wereprints for a variety of animal species. “Here’s a sample list of the wereprints. You can use whatever print you think is affiliated the most with your personal wereside.”
de viantart.com/deivation/9102919

Therian Flag design, by WatergazerWolf (Vanessa K.). 2004-07-21
(Graphic design) “Here are two sample Therian/Were flags, one with the white circle and the other with a gay pride circle, each having the canine wereprint. This is what the overall flag will look like, the only change being the center circle, which will be somewhat unique to everyone, as it is here the wereprint will be placed.” The flag bears a trio of moon phases on a red field, with dangling feathers and medicine bag.
de viantart.com/deivation/9103026

Therian Flag CREATE YOUR OWN, by
WatergazerWolf (Vanessa K.). 2004-07-21
(Graphic design) “Here’s a sample flag you can use in the creation of your own Therian/Were Pride flag. Copy and paste your chosen wereprint into the circle.”
de viantart.com/deivation/9102952

Wereprint tattoo, worn by ZebraWolf. 2004-10-28
Were-print as a tattoo
de viantart.com/deivation/11822455

Wolf dance tagua pendant, by Foxfeather Ė. (Foxfeather248)
Were-print engraved on a wedge of tagua (a plant material used for imitation ivory)
de viantart.com/deivation/12170144

(Craft) “It's my medicine pouch with a carved deer antler pedicle,” which is engraved with a Wereprint.
de viantart.com/deivation/15342640
Wolf Shaman’s new tattoo, worn by Wolf Shaman. 2005-12-04
As a tattoo
deviantart.com/deviation/26031490

(Craft) A hand-made pouch, decorated with one of the above symbols. This is the one with a crescent, spiral, and wolf toe prints.
deviantart.com/deviation/12562830 (lost)

Therian symbols by Twilight Stray

In 2003, a therian artist named Twilight Stray designed a set of customizable therian symbols. They’re just called “therianthrope symbols,” with no special name. To the left, a crescent moon with a spiral within its hollow, representing change, and optionally, to the right, an animal’s footprint, representing one’s species. One can use an arbitrary color to fill the footprint, but the moon remains white.

Therian symbol ideas, by Twilight Stray. 2003-11
The original sketches
deviantart.com/deviation/3694731 (lost)
Therian symbol ideas colored, by Twilight Stray. 2003-11
The same sketches, but with more additions, and color
deviantart.com/deviation/3705900 (lost)
Therianthrope symbols, by Twilight Stray. 2004-03 ✔️
A finished chart, explaining the symbol’s significance and how to customize it
deviantart.com/deviation/5732791 (lost)
Therianthrope symbols revisited, by Twilight Stray. 2004-03
A second chart, showing some further potential variations, such as using the spiral to represent the main pad of a wolf paw, with the prints of toes alone to the right… or combining the footprints of several animals if one has more than one animal-side… or representing animals that leave no tracks by showing a fin
deviantart.com/deviation/6019665 (lost)
Symbol icons, by Twilight Stray. 2004-03
Graphic designs using the crescent and spiral, but not the footprints, so as to represent the concept of therianthropy itself
deviantart.com/deviation/6226144 (lost)
Sticker ideas, by Twilight Stray. 2004-03
Some of the above graphic designs, adapted for use as bumper stickers or other labels, some bearing the motto “Are You aWere?”
deviantart.com/deviation/6226088 (lost)
Pouch, by Twilight Stray. 2004-12

Other symbols

Participants of AHWW designed and voted on several “weresymbols” to represent the therian community, without depicting specific animals. The three winning symbols were designed by Jakkal, Mokele, and Lynx Canadensis. Contemporary AHWW newsgroup posts mention that two symbols incorporated the scientific symbol for Animalia, and one showed a fiery animal head. I’m not aware of any surviving representations of any of these symbols. Do you have them in your archives? Please help out.
thechangingtimes.com/~weresymbol (lost)
The Animalia symbol:
symbols.com/encyclopedia/24/243.html

Re-combinations of any of the above symbols

Guardian Sagas new cover, by Harushimo. 2010-10-05
Seven-pointed star interlaced with therian theta-delta, as a cover illustration for an urban fantasy novel about otherkin and therians.
Includes summary of the book
deviantart.com/deviation/181612124
Signature codes

Signature codes were trendy on the Internet for a while, beginning with the invention of the original Geek Code in 1996 up to maybe about 2003. Although people still use signature codes, they’ve lost popularity now that anybody can have a personal web page and image hosting. Signature codes are a way of conveying personal information in a condensed manner, so that you can describe your appearance and personality in your signature when you post to a web forum or Usenet newsgroup. Some people developed signature codes specifically for use by otherkin and therians.

The Dragon Code, created by Red Dragon (Daniel H.) sometime in 1996, maintained for a while by Baxil the Dragon, and now maintained by Wyrm, revised 1999 ✔
A popularly-used signature code created for use on alt.fan.dragons to describe dragon personas, it has been developed to describe any kind of creature.
wyrm.org.uk/dc/

The Gryphon Code
Based on the Dragon Code, adapted to better describe gryphon personas, for use by the Gryphon Guild.
gryphguild.org/code/

The WereCode, by Blackfang
Based on the Furry Code, created for use on AHWW. Its instructions are in the middle of the AHWW Combined FAQ. Obscure.
swampfox.demon.co.uk/utlah/Community/combfaq.html

The Were (Geek) Code, by SabreLion. Created 1998-02-24, later revised by Jakkal
Created independently of the other WereCode, this was also based on the Furry Code, and created for use by therians on WereNet and AHWW. Obscure.
were.net/werecode.shtml (defunct)

“ЗверКод (WereCode),” by Льва Граурра (Growrr the Lion).
(In Russian.) Based on WereCode by SabreLion and Jakkal, as well as FurCode
therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=docs&subpage=docs1
Languages, constructed or remembered

Some of these are constructed (that is, invented intentionally for use by otherkin), or remembered (recalled from a past life), or channeled (received from incorporeal sources). Some credit for this section goes to Jarandhel Dreamsinger (Jarin), who collected links to many remembered languages on Dreamhart.org.

Untitled selection, by Lupa
On languages remembered from past lives
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 63-64

Writing systems:
Alphabets, pictograms, runes, and ciphers

Clawrite, by Baxil the Dragon
(Constructed.) An alphabet cipher with an efficient graphic design so simplified that it can be etched with three dragon claws. Like short-hand, with practice one can write it a bit faster than the Roman alphabet, so it’s useful for note-taking.

tomorrowlands.org/draconity/clawrite

Dragon Runes, by Isedon Goldwing.
2001
(Constructed?) A phonetic alphabet for dragons, similar to the Futhark runes but quite different from them. Like the Futhark, each rune has a philosophical meaning, and they can be used for divination and magic. Some of the names and philosophy are based on Syrosa’s past-life memories of dragon language (Druatch) and society.

dragon-runes.com

Vocabularies, grammars, words, and phrases...

Vocabularies of elven languages

“Elven language list,” maintained by Rialian
(Remembered.) A lexicon of words and phrases from a variety of different elven languages, not just one. Identifies the source language for each word/phrase.

rialian.com/langtext.htm

“Words remembered (Elven language page),” maintained by Rialian
(Remembered.) A different version of the above page.

rialian.com/elven-language.htm

“Li’star’i word list (Elven language page),” maintained by Rialian
(Remembered.)

rialian.com/listari-language.htm

“Lexicon Elandra,” based on the above, revised by Lanthinel.
(remembered.)

fastlane.net/homepages/worlow4/Lanthinel/lexicon.htm (defunct)

“Language,” by Arhúaine
(Remembered.) From a language of the elves of Alorya

stormpages.com/wolfglade/Arhúaine/languagge.html (defunct)

“An Aloryan glossary,” collected by Jarandhel Dreamsinger (Jarin)
(remembered.) A well-organized “catalog of words and phrases which have been remembered by those who remember being elves on a world we refer to as Alorya.” Each word’s entry lists pronunciation and which elf remembered it.

dreamhart.org/2009/07/an-aloryan-glossary

“Elenari language dictionary,” by Estara Korai.
2000-03-15
(remembered.) Based on the memories of the author and of several others from the Elenari mailing list

greenworld.spiritualitea.net/elenaridict.html

Elenari Orthography Project, by Kelurian. 1999 (defunct)
(remembered, constructed.) “The goal of the Elenari Orthography Project is to create a unified, standardized system of spelling words of Elenari origin or importance, using symbols readily available in computer applications.”

kelurian.virtualave.net/index.html (defunct)

“Crisses ‘Kella’ Dictionary (Kella Elvish),” by Dreal and Star, of The Crisses.
2004-12-30
(remembered.) Kella means “of the elves”. As I’m filtering through the things I’ve written in the past, I’m finding things like elvish words I came across in my memories. Vocab, phrases, grammar.

kinhost.org/wiki/Crisses/KellaElvish

“Elven-English dictionary,” by Digital_Elf
Another elven dictionary project, again borrowing much from the existing Elenari...
language projects. This one does appear to include additional words not found in the others, though their origin is unclear. Much of the site is heavily influenced by role playing games.” (Description from Dreamhart.org)
digitalelf.pluto.ro/elven/dictionary.html

“Elven dictionary,” by Taleena, of the Rainbow Elfs
“Appears to contain many terms from the other Elenari dictionaries, though there may be others as well” (Description from Dreamhart.org)
members.fortunecity.com/taleena18/id3.htm

“Sylvyn: An Elven language,” by the Silver Elves.
Circa 1999
(Constructed.) Vocabulary and grammar invented by the Silver Elves. This is just a teaser for a long book that they may someday publish about it.
ips.net/elve/sylvyn.html (defunct)

“Remembered’ words,” by Arethinn
(Remembered, possibly.) Retrieved via glossolalia, searching for the right sound-feel of an idea, somewhere between remembering and channeling.
eristic.net/fey/living/words.php

Vocabularies of dragon languages

“Druatch,” by Syrosa
(Remembered.) Vocabulary from Druatch, one of the languages used by dragons, which a dragon otherkin named Syrosa remembers from a past life.
dragon-runes.com/Wiki/index.php?title=Druatch_Dictionary and
ayresta.tripod.com/dic.htm and

“Drogandaegae language,” by NahTahDahNah (?).
Circa 2007
(Channeled.) Vocabulary from a dragon language, channeled from incorporeal dragon spirits, as well as some from a dialect of Druatch. However, the author discovered that most of these words are incorrectly translated, and many were actually profanity. The post on this forum is an archive of the lost web-page where this information originally appeared.
dragonhall.myfreeforum.org/viewtopic.php?t=19

“Welcome to Shinoa,” by Shiari
(Remembered, constructed.) “A reference for Shinoarnii, a remembered draconic language that is also being used in original fiction by the person who remembered it.” (Description from Dreamhart.org)
shinoarnii.tripod.com

Vocabularies of various other languages

Primal: The furry language, created by Trickster Wolf in 2001-07, maintenance ongoing. ♫
(Constructed.) Primal is a written and spoken language with its own unique alphabet and sentence structure. Among humans, Primal is intended for use by the furry, were, therianthrope, and otherkin communities. Compared to other popular constructed languages, Primal has a larger lexicon and more complex system of grammatical construction than either Klingon or Quenya, and yet easier to learn than most natural languages.
trickster.wereanimal.net/Primal

(Remembered.) Some vocabulary used by otherworldly feline-like nomadic peoples.
reocities.com/Area51/Corridor/1015/here/brinnlang.html

Languages that aren’t like languages as we usually think of them

Some “languages” don’t have concrete alphabets or vocabularies... speaking in tongues (glossolalia), reading between the lines, and communicating telepathically in images and impressions.

“What was ‘home’ called?” by Tal
(Remembered.)
rialian.com/talintro.htm

“Star language,” by Dustfromamoth. 2001-08-28
In How to Live Large on a Small Planet, Solara described a kind of speaking in tongues (starseed community)
everything2.com/user/dustfromamoth/writeups/Star+Language
Music

The otherkin community has never been primarily driven by creating music or based around appreciating certain kinds of music, as some subcultures are... but music is a part of everything, sooner or later.

General

“The music of the elves,” by the Silver Elves. Circa 1999
jps.net/elve/elfmusic.html (defunct)

Music by otherkin

Some otherkin have made music. In some cases, they even made music about otherkin.

Aeron – Palterion: The Far Memory of the Elves.
The Elf Queen’s Daughters created a band, Aeron, and in 1978 Aeron published an album called Palterion: The Far Memory of the Elves. If anybody can find a trace of this album now, please let me know.
Rage-driven acoustic elfmetal, by otherkin crimeandtheforcesofevil.com
Drakonic – Out of Darkness, and Spaded Tales. ♪
David “Skant” P., an otherkin dragon, composes and performs instrumental music in a variety of styles influenced by classical, metal, and techno.
artists.mp3s.com/artists/186/drakonic.html (defunct, partly lost)
Elvendrums – Drumstruck, Gateway to Faerie, and The Dragon.
A band of otherkin elves elvendrums.com
Hetoreyn – Elven Moods and Elven Moods II.
Hetoreyn is an otherkin elf and ambient music composer who has made soundtracks for film. elvenmusic.com and hetoreyn.com with an explanation by Hetoreyn here: otherkin.net/community/recommended/album.html?id=75

Music appreciated by otherkin

Some otherkin have assembled lists of songs that they think of as reminiscent of some otherkin-like concepts. (Plus, every once in a while, some of these lists include some of the above otherkin musicians.)

“Otherkin music (Recommended otherkin-related reading, listening and viewing),” compiled by Arethinn
eristic.net/fey/info/music.php
“Recommended reading,” compiled by various editors.
Includes a section on music appreciated by otherkin, sometimes with explanations as to why.
otherkin.net/community/recommended/index.html
Feralheart, compiled by Tsu (Swanblood).
A music mix of songs that are written from the perspective of an animal, interpreted as therianthropic
http://8tracks.com/swanblood/feralheart
Unicorn Wave, by Avenger.
An Internet radio station maintained by an otherkin unicorn, streaming a playlist of songs thought to be evocative of the feelings of otherkin unicorns.
live365.com/stations/uneairkagh (lost)
Otherkin and therians have written hundreds of poems. However, I’ll only list poems that are unambiguously about otherkin. Those are relatively uncommon.

When possible, I list the poems under other topics elsewhere in this directory. (For example, a poem about one’s feline side goes in with the essays about felines.)

General poems about otherkin and therians

Take a look within/ I am Otherkin … Fly away/ To the place/ Where I used to be myself … I will no longer hide. (Author isn’t otherkin.)
deviantart.com/deviation/20275738

“I am otherkin,” by OtherkinCatfolk (Firnis). 2011-02-06
You see an average human, but that is not me.
deviantart.com/deviation/196442100

“Otherkin and Therian,” by Cyberraptor34.
I am the girl who dreams of dragons/whose wings no one else can see / I am the boy who howls at night/ who craves of running in a pack …
deviantart.com/deviation/51914670 (lost)

“Therian,” by CivilisedWookie.
I am under no delusional spell/I am no demon thrown up from hell./Two spirits inside this body dwell,/The animal being the least wicked and fell.
deviantart.com/deviation/53599728

…is something you cannot see … It’s the soul of a wolf within thee
deviantart.com/deviation/85042308

… I’m a dragon,/living in a human world …
deviantart.com/deviation/70277503

“Animal inside,” by WolfSongForever (Mary).
2009-06-04.
People say “Animals are brainless.” Yet… have they ever seen through the eyes of one?
deviantart.com/deviation/124821020

“Therians,” by Spudnik (Aki7the7worried, Brooke).
2009-05-09.
A whimsical rhyme about therians
deviantart.com/deviation/122017065

“Ode to therianthropy,” by Erin S. (Star-Blazer). 2009-05-29
For Creative Writing class, required to use “lofty language.”
deviantart.com/deviation/124131581

“Ode to therianthropy II,” by Erin S. (Star-Blazer). 2009-05-29
deviantart.com/deviation/124132345

“Ode to otherkin,” by Technologic-Skies. 2011-04-10
We can no longer be ignored
deviantart.com/deviation/204315875

“Therian poem 3,” by Invaderzatyr77 (Eshay).
Depressed about being human: … no muzzles or paws/All we have are thumbs …
deviantart.com/deviation/66137073

“Wolf within,” by BlackWolfDS
deviantart.com/deviation/54888860

“Believing in invisible wings,” by Lhene-Amira (Helen). 2008-11-02
The spiritual quest has many goals /To be an Other means seeing your soul
deviantart.com/deviation/102494456

Poems on various more specific topics

“Stormclouds,” by Rakeela. 2004-06-09
A dragon’s exhilaration in windy weather
deviantart.com/deviation/7965640

“Upon wings,” by Quelonzia. 1995
Whether upon wings or upon mortal feet,/ There is a song of rejoicing within.
stormdancer.net/poetry/wings.html (defunct)

“The call of the wind,” by Seth Drake (SeHT). 1994
▲ Once I had wings to lift me,/To make me part of the wind’s song …
furaffinity.net/view/4229727

“Therian,” by Desiree (MissWulphie, Feyenaru). 2011-03-21
As I grew to my nature, hopeful and proud…
deviantart.com/deviation/201683927

“Unity,” by KanishthaNaijuuk. 2011-07-12
Illustrated. For there is only one of us,/but only half of me can you see …
deviantart.com/deviation/221095116

“Guardian whispers,” by YMryn. 2005-08-13
A guardian angel comforts an otherkin...
“Lite of dark life’s end,” by Keiji Miashin. 2003-10-30
Despair and longing

Return me to the peace I’ve known/When on phantom wings I fly

“If dragons were real,” by Cassander (Cassander42). 2011-08-12
It’s a funny feeling/when you say “if dragons were real” … as if you cannot see me …

“I’m a dragon,” by Cassander (Cassander42). 2011-06-05
“I’m a dragon”/declares a man at the next table over/my head turns …

Unicorn poetry, by various authors
A collection of poems by unicorn people

Fiction

I’m only including stories here that are unambiguously about otherkin spirituality and philosophy, and the author has made clear that the story is intended to comment upon otherkin. I won’t accept just any old urban fantasy story about werewolves or transformation or whatever. Quite a few of these works of fiction include supernatural aspects like that, but they have to mean something about real otherkin, too.

Otherkin and transformation

These science fiction or fantasy stories explore what it would be like to physically transform, and what it could mean on a philosophical level. Unlike many transformation stories, in these, an unambiguously otherkin or therian protagonist wants or has previously longed for the transformation.

“Birth of a dragon,” by KaniS (Chris D.) Revised 1998-02-21
A genetic engineer creates and becomes his ideal life form... but what inspired this goal? [draconic.com/fordragons](draconic.com/fordragons)

“The human that wasn’t,” by 2 Gryphon. 2003-02-12 ★
He wished to become a bear, but this is granted at the expense of a human power [2-gryphon.livejournal.com/36210.html](2-gryphon.livejournal.com/36210.html)

Otherkin and transformation of many
(Changing Times stories)

In real life, some otherkin have speculated, prophesied, or yearned for an event in which magic returns to the world, and all otherkin regain their true forms. Some otherkin write fiction in which this happens, as a way of discussing what it might be like. These stories generally fall within the urban fantasy genre. Unlike average urban fantasy stories, however, these philosophical tales try to relate to real otherkin.

The Tomorrowlands, maintained by Baxil the Dragon ★ The Tomorrowlands universe is a shared setting for various authors to write works of fiction, in which the world Changed in 1996. These stories explore what the impact of magic

and therians would be on today’s world, and address social issues of therianthropy in a fictional context. The therians successfully work to make peace with the rest of the populace, to some extent. [tomorrowlands.org/story/index.html](tomorrowlands.org/story/index.html)

The Day the Universe Changed, by various authors. 2001
A collaborative work by several authors. Transformed otherkin become fugitives. This story is intriguing, but unfinished and abandoned.

[universestory.com](universestory.com) (defunct, partially lost) or [universestory.org](universestory.org) (defunct, partially lost)

Transformations, by Goagleon (Steelfeather). 2007-02-15
(Sequential art) Urban fantasy. All the therians suddenly transformed. Unfinished. [deviantart.com/deviation/48840022](deviantart.com/deviation/48840022)

Otherkin in miscellaneous fiction

“Form or substance?, by Quelonzi Stormdancer. 1997 ✔
In a future where everybody changes their species, she has reasons to remain human [stormdancer.net/stories/formorsub.html](stormdancer.net/stories/formorsub.html)

Dokimushi’s Book of Glamour, by the Eclective ♪ An interactive cryptic picture-book about a therian’s awakening, dealing with various philosophical concepts, including the importance of fiction [catofthesunlesslands.net/dokumushi](catofthesunlesslands.net/dokumushi) (lost)

“Memoirs of a professional WereFairy,” by Lion Templin (writing under Bob). 1998 How do people become therians? Maybe a fairy zaps them with a wand to turn them into therians. This short work of fiction is written from the perspective of such a fairy. Humor. Caution: strong language, gross concepts. [forum3.aimoo.com/Foundthings/Lycan-Woods/Lion-Templin-1-292287.html](forum3.aimoo.com/Foundthings/Lycan-Woods/Lion-Templin-1-292287.html)

“Леопард? (Leopard?)” by Bagira625. 2007-12-07 (In Russian.) A science experiment in which a leopard grows up in a human body. She eventually discovers the therian community. Caution: Violence. [bagira625.ucoz.ru/publ/2-1-0-2](bagira625.ucoz.ru/publ/2-1-0-2)
Lists and reviews of books and other materials

General and miscellaneous thoughts on books

Books, by O. Scribner. 2006-07-03
(Comic) If somebody published a book about otherkin, what could happen?
therithere.comicgen.com/d/20060703.html

Book-lists, and reviews of several books

“Review of books that mention our subculture,” by Yaiolani ✔
Regarding three books that mention the modern spiritual therianthropy subculture, and how they got it wrong, Steiger’s The Werewolf Book, Cohen’s Werewolves, and Ashley’s Complete Book of Werewolves.
yaiolani.tripod.com/artc01.htm

“Books: New Age,” by Yaiolani
List and reviews of books about shapeshifting and animal totemism
yaiolani.tripod.com/booknew.htm

“Recommended reading,” by Rosalyn Greene
Magic of Shapeshifting, p. 241-344

“Bibliography,” by Lupa ✔
An annotated bibliography, including websites as well as books, much of which are about or pertaining to otherkin
Field Guide to Otherkin, p. 289-306

“Books with bite”
Reviews of books about werewolves
gocities.com/CelinaWolfe/Books.html
(defunct)

“Is there any truth to the werewolf legend?” by Grey Wolf ★
Three ways werewolves are interpreted
amzn.com/sy/1O64HAW5L62BT

“The bookstore,” by Shifters.org
A list of some books about shape-shifting, totems, werewolves, and animals. No reviews.
shifters.org/ontheinside/bookstore.asp
(defunct)

“Reviews of Were-stuff,” by Ketrino
Reviews of media about otherkin, as well as fictional werewolves and other creatures.
ketrino.angelfire.com/reviews.html

“Books for shifters,” by Werewolf02
amzn.com/l/1DMVVVKIM7Q0

Therianthropic Resources Site, edited by Tornir. 2002-2005 ✔
Extensive list of books about animals, and folklore about shape-shifters
nanopardus.freeserve.co.uk/books/index.html
(defunct)

“Recommended reading,” by various authors
Books, movies, and music evoking an otherkin-like atmosphere or concept
otherkin.net/community/recommended/index.html

“Recommended otherkin-related reading, listening and viewing,” edited by Arethinn
Resources inspirational or helpful to otherkin
eristic.net/fey/info/reading-nonfiction.php

“Otherkin helpful nonfiction,” by Rita M.
amzn.com/l/R60BRMDKR8SG

“Otherkin, Fey & Wanderer books,” by Justine M.
amzn.com/l/1L7XBWGPZC3BD

A list of all books about otherkin and therians
orion.kitsunet.net/nonfic.html

“Recommended reading list,” by ’Lesia
Some books interesting to otherkin. No reviews.
adrastai.com/spirituality/0806_reading.shtml

Books of a feather, by Tsu (Swanblood). 2011 ▲
Fantasy novels about winged people, reviewed from the perspective of a winged person.
booksofafeather.dreamwidth.org/profile

“Books – Real vampires and vampirism”
A list of some books on real vampires, with descriptions of them
darknesembraced.com/vampires/42

Reviews and contexts for individual non-fiction books

(For reviews and contexts for individual fiction books, see a different section of this directory:
“Fiction reviewed in context of otherkin,” which is in the “Fictionality” section.)

“Totem Magic,” by Arethinn. 2007-01-24
“Interview with Lupa,” by Jason. 2007-05-18
A Pagan blogger interviews Lupa, author of *A Field Guide to Otherkin*.
wildhunt.org/blog/2007/05/interview-with-lupa.html

A therian feels enthusiastic about reading Lupa’s book, *A Field Guide to Otherkin*
deviantart.com/ deviation/95360052
This directory is not the only one of its kind. There are other directories like it, each with their own focus. They’re essential resources for our community, but they’re difficult to keep up to date. I appreciate learning of more, so please inform me of them. If someday you find that I haven’t kept this directory up to date, you could check some of the others.

*The WereLibrary*, maintained by Aethyriek
A directory of off-site non-fiction writings about therianthropy by many authors
werelibrary.org

*Otherkin.net: Articles*, maintained by volunteers
On-site non-fiction writings about otherkin by many authors
otherkin.net/articles/index.html

*Otherkin Alliance: Articles*
On-site non-fiction writings about otherkin by many authors
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles

*Otherkin phenomena*, maintained by Kahoku
On-site non-fiction writings about otherkin
otherkinphenomena.org

“The Otherkin links,” by Jarandhel Dreamsinger ★
A directory of off-site writings and other web resources
dreamhart.org/links

*Draconity Resource Project*
On-site and off-site non-fiction writings about dragon otherkin by many authors
weyr.org/~raki/drp (defunct, partially lost)
PART IX.

DOCUMENTS IN OTHER LANGUAGES
Documents in Other Languages
(sorted alphabetically by the language’s name in English)

In Czech (Česky)

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

“Otherkin,” by Aeldra Nightwood. 2011-01-28
An overview of otherkin philosophy, experiences, and community. Notes that since the disappearance of the forum on AstralSpire.com, there seem to be no Czech-language otherkin communities.
divinorum.cz/symposion/otherkin

“Otherkine - kým jsi a kým chceš být? (Otherkin: Who are you and who do you want to be?)” by Adzia. 2009-01-03
An overview of various types of otherkin and their recent history. Also offers definitions for therians, starseeds, vampires, and furries. Caution: a gross photo.
cavern.cz/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=355&Itemid=28

“Otherkin,” by various editors
cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otherkin

“Otherkin - čo /kto to je? (Otherkin – what/who is it?)” 2010-08-31
otherkin.blog.cz/1008/otherkin-co-kto-to-je

Introductions to otherkin, for mixed audiences

“O Otherkinech (About Otherkin),” no author listed
astralspire.com/otherkin.html (defunct)

“Kdo jsou Otherkin..? (What are otherkin?)” by Fallen Dragonkin (?)
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/otherkin.html

“Jake je to byt otherkin? (What is it to be otherkin?)” by Fallen Dragonkin (?)
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/bytosti.html

“Lykantropove a Theriantropove (Lycanthropy and therianthropy),” by Fallen Dragonkin (?)
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/lykantropie.html

Awakening

“There is a spiritual awakening” by Fallen Dragonkin (?)
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/procitnuti.html

Checklists and quizzes

“One may be otherkin” by Arthinn
A humorous tongue-in-cheek list of otherkin characteristics
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/aspecting.html

Finding one’s true species

“Zjistete, jaký druh otherkin jste (Identifying your otherkin species: Ten tips for the terminally tantalised),” by Sprite Rêvenchatte. 2004
Kinds of research and introspection to try
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/universe.html

We’re a lot of fabulous beings

“Elfske rasy (Elven race),” by (no author name listed?)
Some material about Elenar
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/elfove.html

“Draci (Dragons),” by Fallen Dragonkin and Syros
On different types of dragons. Some material by Syros, translated from English
zazrcadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/draci.html
Shape-shifting

“Lykantropové a druhy změn (Lycanthropy and types of shift),” by Fallen Dragonkin (?)
zazracadlem.bravehost.com/otherkin/zmena.html
Defining therians

“Fakta og teorier (Facts and theories),” by ShadoW ~ Wolf’er. 2006-08-17
Overview of werewolves in legend, followed by overview of modern therian philosophy.
http://tusmoerke.dk/object_show.php?type=article&id=a_1155847835&title=Fakta%20og%20teorier
Newcomers who misunderstand

“Therianthropys 3 løgne (Three lies of therianthropy),” by Lion Templin. 1999.
Therians in AHWW break into two groups: “wannabes” and “trues.” Lie 1: Individuality. (Uniqueness.) Lie 2: Therianthropy is easy to believe in, hard to live. Lie 3: Therianthropes aren’t like humans.

Original English:
forum3.aimoo.com/Foundthings/Lycan-Woods/Lion-Templin-1-292287.html

Shape-shifting

“Skifte (Shift),” by Ulven. 2006-07-13
List of types of shift. Dream, phantom, mirror, physical.
tusmoerke.dk/object_show.php?type=article&id=a_1152798708&title=Skifte
In French (Français)

Introductions to otherkin and therians

*L’animalité définie* (Animality defined), by Quil. 2006
[akhila.feralscribes.org/2006/lanimalite-definie](akhila.feralscribes.org/2006/lanimalite-definie)

*La thérianthropie [I - L’identité animale]* (Therianthropy. I – Animal Identity), by Akhila. 2009
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/presentation1.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/presentation1.php)

“*Une brève introduction au sujet* (A brief introduction to the subject),” by Swiftpaw. 1999
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/introduction.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/introduction.php)

“*Une introduction au concept d’Animalité* (Introduction to the concept of animality),” by Kusani.
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/animalite.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/animalite.php)

“*Qu’est-ce qu’un Otherkin?* (What is an otherkin?),” by Tirl Windtree. Translated from English by C. V.
[otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/what.html](otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/what.html)

“Otherkin,” by various editors

“*Thérianthropie* (Therianthropy),” by various editors
Most of this entry is about shape-shifters in legends, but (as of this writing) some of it is about spiritual therianthropy
[fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Th%C3%A9rianthropie](fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Th%C3%A9rianthropie)

Advice for new-comers

“*Alors...vous êtes Éveillé? (So... you’re Awake?)*” by Miaren Crow’s Daughter
Answering basic questions about awakening, compiled from Miaren’s live workshops.
[otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/wakeup.htm](otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/wakeup.htm)

*Original English:*
[otherkin.net/articles/wakeup.html](otherkin.net/articles/wakeup.html)

“*La Claque* (The Slap, or The Thwack: Noticing it for the first time),” by Quil. 2005.
Awakening is a recognition of something you’ve been all along, not dependent upon when you discover the subculture of therianthropy
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/claque.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/claque.php)

“*La nécessité de la recherche* (The need for research),” by Quil. 2004-05-11
On the necessity for animal-people to research the nature of their animal side.
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/recherche.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/recherche.php)

“*Connaît-toi toi-même, Connaît en toi l’animal* (Know thyself, know thy animal)” by Quil. 2006.
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/connaistoi.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/connaistoi.php)

“*InstaVeres [Partie I],”* by Katmandu. 2001
On people who decide that they’re therians without taking the time to learn what it means
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/insta1.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/insta1.php)

“*InstaVeres [Partie II],”* by Katmandu.
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/insta2.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/insta2.php)

“*Skinside out,”* by Meirya. 2006
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/skinside.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/skinside.php)

“*Vous pourriez être Otherkin si... (You might be otherkin if...)”* from a list edited by Arethinn.
A humorous list of otherkin characteristics; an expansion of the above list. Unfinished translation from English.
[otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/youMightBeIf.html](otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/youMightBeIf.html)

“*L’Ombre du Mythe* (The Shadow of myth),” by Tirl Windtree
How well do you understand the myths upon which you base yourself?
[otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/myth.html](otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/myth.html)

*Original English:*
[otherkin.net/articles/myth.html](otherkin.net/articles/myth.html)

Jargon development

“*Pourquoi l’argot ça craint* (Why slang sucks),” by Swiftpaw.
Against specialized therian jargon.
[akhila.feralscribes.org/french/argot.php](akhila.feralscribes.org/french/argot.php)

*Original English:*
[otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/old/myterms.html](otherwonders.com/swiftpaws/therian/old/myterms.html) (defunct)
We’re a lot of fabulous beings

“Ancien folklore (Older Folklore),” by Tinne.
Translated by C. V.
A non-otherkin Pagan looks critically at the problems with otherkin who identify as fae.
otherkin.net/articles/enFrancais/folklore.html
Original English:
otherkin.net/articles/folklore.html

Fictionality

“Daemon quest”
On daemianism, inspired by Philip Pullman’s fantasy novels
freewebs.com/daemonquest

Otherkin community

“La thérianthropie [II - La communauté]
(Therianthropy. II – Community),” by Akhila.
2009
akhila.feralscribes.org/french/presentation2.php

Advises that therians shouldn't make web-pages until after a couple of years, when they're more experienced and can contribute useful material.
akhila.feralscribes.org/french/webweres.php

Some community history and questions about authority.
akhila.feralscribes.org/french/greymuzzles.php

“L’avenir de la thérianthropie online (The future of online therianthropy),” by Swiftpaw.
akhila.feralscribes.org/french/avenir.php
In German (Deutsch)

Introductions to otherkin and therians

“Draconity FAQ,” by Baxil and Pattarchus
Stormwind. 2009
Based on, but not altogether a translation of, Baxil’s Draconity FAQ in English.
pattarchusstormwind.de/index.php?id=faq or nexus-draconis.de/FAQ.html
From English: draconity.com/faq

“Ich bin ein Drache (Die Otherkin-FAQ) (I am a dragon [The otherkin FAQ]),” by Apu Kuntur (Stefan N. K.)
Based on, but not a translation of, Baxil’s Draconity FAQ in English.
kondor.de/shaman/faq.html

“Therianthropie (Therianthropy),” by various editors
Currently, this entry doesn’t say much about spiritual therianthropy.
de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Therianthropie

“Alt.horror.werewolves FAQ”
Translated from English, with permission
lykanthrop.de/ahww

Advice for new-comers

“Wie man sicher sein kann: bist du ein otherkin? (How to be sure: Are you otherkin?)” by Kahoku.
kahoku.otherkinphenomena.org/article_howt_obesure_de.html
Original English:
kahoku.otherkinphenomena.org/article_howt_obesure.html

Otherkin community traits

“Das vergessene Hirn (The forgotten brain),” by Jörg R.
lykanthrop.de/essays-dvh-digest

First-person bestiary

“Würde ich wirklich? (Would I really?)” by Jörg R.
lykanthrop.de/essays-wuerdeichwirklich-digest

We’re a lot of fabulous beings
In Greek (ελληνικά)

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

“Ο Μαγικός Κόσμος των Otherkins (Otherkins- Οι 'Ανθρώποι Δίχως Ανθρώπινη Ψυχή!) (The magical world of the otherkin [Otherkin: the people with a non-human soul!]),” by Βάγια Ψευτάκη, 2010-02-20 ✔
(In Greek.) Brief but thorough overview of a wide variety of ideas common among otherkin. Cites Mamatas and Polson. Article was originally published in the journal Mystery, vol. 25, December 2006.
enydria.blogspot.com/2009/06/otherkins.htm
Another copy of the same article, but without author cited:
rc-cafe.blogspot.com/2010/02/therkins-o.html

(In Greek.) Overview similar to the above.
nekys.com/46/otherkin-%CF%84%CE%BF-%CF%86%CE%B1%CE%B9%CE%BD%CF%8C%CE%BC%CE%B5%CE%BD%CE%BF
In Hebrew (עברית)

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

שרק נראים כמניםabarקררים ולארזים אווי דרקון: על בני האדם (My name is Isaac and Dragon: the people who only look like humans), by Alma Gore. 2009-02-13.
Published in the Israeli Maariv news. Original Hebrew. nrg.co.il/online/55/ART1/853/029.html
In Hungarian (*magyar nyelv*)

Introductions to otherkin, for mixed audiences

“Gy.I.K. (FAQ)” by (no author listed?)
What is an otherkin? How do you know whether someone is really ‘kin? What is Awakening? What is a true form?
[freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/gyik.html](freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/gyik.html)

“Kin vagyok!... Vagy kin vagyok? - Fedezd fel a kinoldalad (I’m kin! Or am I? – Discover the kinoldalad),” by (no author listed?)
On people who are or aren’t really kin. Determine by feelings, psychology, appearance...
[freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/iamkin.html](freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/iamkin.html)

How did otherkin come to be otherkin?

“Miért vagyunk itt? (Why are we here?)” by (no author listed?)
Earth as experience, or as hell. Here on a quest, or by exile. Here to save the world, or here because it’s home.
[freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/why.html](freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/why.html)

Angels, devas, and demons

“Démonok: A furcsa új élet – Életem démonként (Strange new world: My life as a demon),” by Kohaku
A demon otherkin describes what it’s like.
[freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/demons.html](freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/demons.html)
Original English:
[kahoku.otherkinphenomena.org/article_strangenewworld.html](kahoku.otherkinphenomena.org/article_strangenewworld.html)

“Démonok: Tehát úgy gondolod, hogy Démon vagy… Hogyan tovább? (So you think you’re a demon… now what?),” by Simim23
A demon otherkin explains that demons vary
[freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/demons2.html](freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/demons2.html)

Otherkin looking critically at humans

“Emberek... Egy Kin szemszögéből (Humans… from the perspective of a ’kin)” by (no author listed?)
A retort to otherkin angst. If you hate, then you hate yourself. I would recommend you love more, and love yourself, and your world. Renew your childlike wonder.
[freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/humans.html](freeweb.hu/otherkinpraesidium/leirasok/humans.html)
In Polish (Polski)

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

“Otherkin – dziwactwo czy fantastyczny sposób na życie? (Otherkin – a quirk, or a fantastic way to live?),” by Ewelina Czarnecka. 2011-08-29
An introduction to otherkin for outsiders. This polite and not sensationalistic article is in a women’s online magazine, We-Dwoje, which is otherwise mostly about fashion and health.
we-dwoje.pl/otherkin-;dziwactwo;czy;fantastyczny;sposob;na;zycie,a rtykul,9740.html

“Otherkin,” by various editors
pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otherkin

“Smokowatość FAQ (Draconity FAQ),” by Baxil, translated by Nufuwyr
About those who call themselves dragons.
tomorrowlands.org/draconity/faq/faq_pl.htm l
Original English:
tomorrowlands.org/draconity/faq

Fictionality

Odkryj swojego Dajmona
On daemonism, inspired by Philip Pullman’s fantasy novels
dajmony.info
In Portuguese (Português)

Introductions to Otherkin and Therians


“Otherkin,” by various editors pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otherkin

“Teriantropia (Therianthropy),” by various editors pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teriantropia

Defining therians


Jargon glossaries


Community


Responsible behavior and ethics


Shape-shifting

In Russian (русский язык)

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

“Иные (Otherkin),” by various editors
ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%98%D0%BD%D1%8B%D0%B5

“Териантропия (Therianthrope),” by various editors
ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%A2%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B8%D0%BD%D1%82%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%BF%D0%B8%D1%8F

“ГЛАВНАЯ СТРАНИЦА (Home),” by Льва Граурра (Growrr the Lion)? 2004.
Main page of this site has a pretty good definition of what therianthropy is and isn’t therianthropy.ru

“Драконность (Драконизм) Часто задаваемые вопросы и ответы (Draconity FAQ),” by Baxil the Dragon. ✔
An introduction to how some people identify as adragons. Translated from English in 2003-12-26, and then with annotations in 2004, by Red Dragon and Sekoh (Секох).
dragon-nest.ru/def/draconity.php
Original English: draconity.com/faq

“Драконность (Draconity),” by various editors ✔
From the Russian Wikipedia article on draconity, which is itself no longer extant. The Ukrainian article on draconity is based on this one and is still extant. This says that the Russian dragon community has a chat on IRC Rusnet #dragons and the first Russian dragon gather was held in Moscow in 2005 June-July. dragons-nest.ru/def/draconity_wiki.php and drakony.net/pages/drakonstvo/index.html (defunct)

Therians developing jargon

“Краткий обзор современной контериантропии (A short view on modern contherianthropy),” by Lion Templin. 1997
Coining a word for shifters who don’t shift shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-15
Original English:
shifters.org/awareness/lion1.shtml (defunct)

Defining therians

“Человек потенциально разумный (People potentially reasonable),” by Bagheera (bagira625). 2007-07-12
(In Russian.) Therians compared with feral children. Raise an animal among humans, and it’s still an animal. Raise a human among animals, and it becomes animal-like. Animal instincts fill in for the human lack of instincts. Therians are defective animals, but they are animals.
bagira625.ucoz.ru/publ/1-1-0-1 and shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-50

Therians in antiquity

“Любопытная теория (An interesting theory),” by wolf (wolf_diary). 2006-10-16
Every legend is based on a grain of truth. Perhaps those legendary werewolves are our ancestors.
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-91 and wereseyes.livejournal.com/2084.html

How did we come to be?

“Териантропия как тест нового разума в старой тушке (Therianthrope as a test of new mind in an old body),” by Койот Один (Coyote One). 2008-09 ▲
I don’t believe the spiritual hypothesis of the origin of therians. I think therians are a throwback to Australopithecus. This may explain why therians usually identify as smart mammals, but never invertebrates or primates.
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-125

“Гипотеза о происхождении териантропии (Hypothesis on the origin of therianthropes),” by Skipper. 2008
Natural philosophers once believed that ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny. Maybe therians arrested at a stage of that process, and so can access that part of genetic memory.
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-79
For newcomers who aren’t sure if they’re otherkin or not

“Часто задаваемые вопросы и ответы (Frequently asked questions),” 2009-01-14
therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=faq

Otherkin community

“Почему териантропия - субкультура (комментарии к статье Альдема) (Why therianthropy is a subculture [Comments on Aldema’s article]),” by Lia-Ram. 2008-06-01
wereseyes.livejournal.com/7212.html

“Круговорот драконов в природе (Cycle of dragons in the wild),” by Hartahany (Hartahany) ★
Prose, describing what it feels like to Awaken and say “I am a dragon!” and then eventually discover that there are other people who feel the same way…
drakony.net/pages/krugovorot/index.html (defunct)

“Пушистые и териантропы (Furry and therianthrope),” by MoonWanderer. 2004
On the co-existence of furries and therianthropes and whether they should associate together.
therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=docs&subpage=docs2

“Карта сообществ и сайтов, посвященных териантропии в интернет (Map of [Russian-language] communities and websites dedicated to therianthropes,” by Persinval. 2006-12-14
A chart summarizing each place, its main topics of discussion, whether one must register to access the materials, and who owns it.
wereseyes.livejournal.com/3118.html

Community demographics

“Что такое оборотень на самом деле. Эмпирическое обоснование. (What is a werewolf actually. Empirical support.)” by wolf (wolf-diary). 2006-09-04

According to statistics, every fifteenth thousandth person is born a therianthrope, and more than half of therians don’t survive to 24 years. [This article doesn’t say where these statistics came from, or who they were conducted by, or anything. I must say that they can’t possibly be factual. I include it here because I’d like to keep track of a potentially harmful urban legend like that. Anyone know where those numbers supposedly came from?] - ed
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-17

Community history

“Териантропы в инете в настоящее время (Therianthrope in the Internet now),” by Lonest Wolf. 2007-01-18 ▲
A description of how the Russian therian community has developed. Three years ago, such a notion as therianthropy didn’t exist on the Russian-speaking parts of the Internet. Unlike the English-speaking therian community, the Russian therian community hasn’t merged with the draconic and furry communities.
therianthropyru.livejournal.com/16218.html and shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-93

“Краткий экскурс в историю териантропии (A brief history of therianthropes),” by MoonWanderer. 2008-02-05
Spans from 1996 to 2007, claiming that 2007 is certainly the end of it. Focuses on English-speaking community.
therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=docs&subpage=docs11

Newcomers who misunderstand

“Популярность териантропии (Therianthrope popularity),” by Yennefer z Vengerbergu (?). circa 2007
A few years ago, many people started saying they were therians without understanding what it really means. In an attempt to tell real therians apart from such posers, forums became unfriendly. Therianthropy is not and never can be a subculture, because it’s not a cultural phenomenon, it’s a psychological type.
The furry fandom, however, is a subculture, and that’s where the mix-up happened.
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-41

Secrecy

“Человек и Зверь (Man and beast),” by Yennefer z Vengerbergu (?). Circa 2007
(In Russian.) Reasons why therians give up on trying to explain therianthropy to outsiders
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-3

Therians looking critically at humans

“Жизнь глазами ВерВолка (Life from the eyes of a wolf-kin),” by Ketrino
How humans look from the perspective of an outsider. There is so much about society I wish
to understand … it looks like a strange scene from an alien planet
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-105
Original English:
main.otherkinalliance.org/articles/specific-otherkin/life-from-the-eyes-of-a-wolf-kin

“Люди как низшие существа (Humans as lesser beings),” by Keller. 2005
Argues that being a therianthrope is being human, and that saying humans are lesser is
hypocritical
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-62
Original English:
akhila.feralscribes.org/guests/humans.php

First-person bestiary

“Я не Оборотень (I am not a werewolf),” by Lupa.
Is a wolf in a human body the same as a werewolf?
werewolf.org.ua/index.php?page=library&pid =1&id=82065625 and
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-4
Original English:
otherkin.net/articles/notAWerewolf.html

“О людях-волках серьезно (зарисовки из жизни) (On the men-wolves seriously [sketches from
life]),” by Wolf Diary. 2007-07-17
On the usual appearance and behavior of the modern wolf therianthrope person
therianthropyru.livejournal.com/18249.html

Reincarnation

“На пути к воспоминаниям (Accessing memories),” by Tocosar Æтlanatra (Dandelion
AE). 2001-12-31
Advice on recalling past life memories, for the newly awakened
werewolf.org.ua/index.php?page=library&pid =1&id=63569256 and shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-
0-6
Original English:
otherkin.net/articles/memories.html

Shape-shifting

“Шифтинг (Shifting),” by MoonWanderer. 2004
therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=docs&subpage=docs3

Balancing the parts of the self

“О равновесии и трансформации (Equilibrium and transformation),” by wolf. Circa 2007
Balancing the human conscious and the wolf subconscious halves of a yin-yang.
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-21

“Сознание… териантропа (Consciousness… therianthrope),” by Gerry. Circa 2008
(In Russian.) Your daily life is a joint work of human and animal consciousness.
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-103

Therians and totems

“Differences between therianthropy and totems,” by Twitterpainted. Circa 2008
(In Russian.) Here’s a way to tell: do you look at your animal side as a stereotyped symbol?
Or facts about the real animal in nature?
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-90
Gender

“Зарождение "were" личности ((En)gendering a Were/shifter identity),” by Sabersinger
A feminist wolf looks at the intersection of transgender and trans-species. Translated from original English by Klia.
werewolf.org.ua/index.php?page=library&pid=1&id=50706827
Original English:
otherkin.net/articles/notAWerewolf.html

Home and travel

“Зверь и Логово: Понятие территории для зверя (The beast and its lair: The concept of therian territory),” by Haruka Sagara. 2007 (In Russian.)
shelter.clan.su/publ/2-1-0-7

Signature codes

“ЗверКод (WereCode),” by Льва Граурра (Growrr the Lion).
Based on the original WereCode by SabreLion and Jakkal, as well as the FurCode
therianthropy.ru/index.php?page=docs&subpage=docs1

Fiction

“Леопард? (Leopard?)” by Bagira625. 2007-12-07
A science experiment in which a leopard grows up in a human body. She eventually discovers the therian community. Caution: Violence.
bagira625.ucoz.ru/publ/2-1-0-2
In Serbian (srpski)

Introductions to otherkin

“Otherkin,” by Građevinski Obrt “BMP.” 2009-03-30
A brief definition of otherkin
skolamagije.blogspot.com/2009/03/otherkin.html
Introducciones a los otherkinds y los therians para outsiders

“Otherkin, mas que humanos (Otherkin, more than human),” by Dynara. 2011-04-07 ✔
(In Spanish.) An introduction to various kinds of otherkin and therians, based on articles on Otherkin.net. Illustrated.
runamagica.blogspot.com/2011/04/otherkin-mas-que-humanos.html

“¿Qué es la Teriantropía? (What is therianthropy?)”
by Aethyriek
project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/whatis.php

“Teriomorfismo (Therianthrope or theriomorphism)”
by various editors
Currently, this entry doesn’t say anything about spiritual therianthropy, but any Wiki entry is subject to change
es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teriomorfismo

Introducciones a los otherkinds y los therians, para mixed audiences

“FAQ Otherkin Hispano & Noctalium,” no author or date listed
Brief answers to common questions about otherkin. Original Spanish
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/faq?dhtml=no

“La FAQ de la draconeidad (The draconity FAQ),” by Basil the Dragon.
Laopa translated this from English on 2010-12-29.
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t214-la-faq-de-la-draconeidad
Original English: draconity.com/faq

“Theriantropía (Therianthropy)” by
Therianthropes.com
Translated from English
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t8-theriantropia

Introducciones a los therians, para therians

“Therian,” by Golden Goddess (?) 2010-11-06
Definition, mental health, theta-delta symbol, types of shift. Original Spanish (?)
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t190-therian

Jargon glossaries

“Términos y definiciones (Terms and definitions)” by Sonne
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/terms.php

Defining therians

“¿Eres un Therian? (Are you a therian?)” by Strill
Translated from English.
project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/areyouatherian.php

“Preguntas y respuestas / FAQ (Questions and answers)” by Sonne
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/qa.php

“¿Qué es furry? Furry no es igual a Otherkin... (What is furry? Furry isn’t the same as Otherkin...))”
by Therianthropes.com
Translated from English.
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t39-que-es-furry

What caused otherkin to be otherkin?

“Teorías sobre la Theriantropía (Theories)” by
Therianthropes.com
Translated from English
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t6-teorias-sobre-la-theriantropia

“¿Por qué somos otherkins? Posible explicacion (Why are we otherkin? A possible explanation),” by Jamiroth. 2010-10-20
otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2010/10/por-que-somos-otherkins-posible.html
Advice for newcomers

Advice for those who aren’t sure if they’re otherkin or not

“Preguntas frecuentes (FAQ for shifters wondering about themselves and other shifters),” by Yaiolani
Translated from English
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t109-preguntas-frecuentes
Original English: yaiolani.tripod.com/shiftfaq.htm

Finding one’s true species

“Etiquetas (Labels)” by Elinox
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/community/labels.php

Personal awakening stories

“Primer post e introduccion al Otherkin (First post and introduction to otherkin),” by Jamiroth. 2006-11-22
Jamiroth’s personal experiences as a dragon otherkin. Original Spanish
otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2006/11/testeando.html

Can some people who aren’t otherkin decide to become otherkin?

“Convertirse en un Therian (Becoming a therian)” by Sonne
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/community/becoming_a_therian.php

For some people, otherkin was just a phase

“No pasa nada si no Se es un teriántropo (It’s okay not to be a therianthrope)” by Bewylderbeast
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/introspection/notatherian.php

Otherkin community

“La necesidad de pertenencia (The need to belong)” by Elinox
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/community/needtobelong.php

Community history

“History of therianthropy and the therian community (Historia de la Teriantropía y la comunidad Therian),” by Wolf Van Zandt. Circa 2005
A brief history of events in the online therian community from 1992 to 2004. Translated by Laopa.
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t137-el-origen#846
Original English: theriantimeline.com/therianthropy/history_of_therianthropy_and_the_therian_community

Smaller communities

“Asi que quieres formar o unirte a una manada (So you want to join or form a pack)” by Savage
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/community/packs.php

Diversity, disagreement, and tolerance within the community

“¿Creer o no creer? (Believe it or not?)” by Meirya
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/introspection/believe_or_not.php

Kinds of people to beware of

“Señales de Advertencia (Warning signs)” by Savage
Translated from English
project-shift.org/es/community/warningsigns.php
Responsible behavior

“Soy un otherkin ¿Y ahora que hago? V 1.0 (I’m an otherkin. What now?)” by Jamiroth. 2009-05-26
How do you conduct your life after you realize that you’re otherkin? Don’t neglect your education just because you don’t think a dragon would go to school. Consider careers that would be satisfying to your otherkin side. Don’t think you’re superior. Original Spanish otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2009/05/soy-un-otherkin-y-ahora-que-hago-v-10.html

“Declaracion para los Otherkins (Statement for otherkin),” by Jamiroth. 2010-08-21
Advises that you shouldn’t use your otherkin identity for escapism otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2010/08/declaracion-para-los-otherkins.html

First-person bestiary

General

“Teriotipos Extintos (Extinct theriotypes)” by Paleo
Translated from English project-shift.org/es/introspection/extinct.php

On the proliferation of wolves and large carnivorous mammals

“¿Por Qué Tantos Lobos? (Why so many wolves?)” by Elinox
Translated from English project-shift.org/es/community/why_wolves.php

Shape-shifting

Cameo shifting

“Sobre los shifts cameo (On cameo shifting)” by Strill
Translated from English project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/cameo.php

General shifting information for therians, and lists of types of shift

“Tipos de shifts (Types of shifts)” by Sonne
Translated from English project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/typesofshift.php

“Shifting,” by Therianthropes.com
Translated from English: therianthropes.com/shifting.htm
otherkin-hispano.foroactivo.com/t7-shifting

Physical shape-shifting

“Shifts fisicos (Physical shifting)” by Aethyriek project-shift.org/es/therianthropy/pshifting.php

“Que pasaria si los otherkins obtienen su forma verdadera I (What would happen if otherkin obtained their true forms),” by Jamiroth. 2009-05-23
Speculation. Although many otherkin yearn to physically transform into their proper shape, consider how problematic it would be. Original Spanish otherkindespertar.blogspot.com/2009/05/que-pasaria-si-los-otherkins-obtienen.html
In Swedish (Svenska)

Introductions to otherkin and therians

“Teriantropi (Therianthropy),” by Lanina
What it is and isn’t. Types of shift. Links.
sites.google.com/site/terianinfo/teriantropi

“Ibland får jag lust att yla som en varg” (‘Sometimes I get the urge to howl like a wolf’), by Thomas Lerner. 2010-04-07.
A pleasant interview with a wolf therian, who introduces the basics of what it’s like to be a therian. Originally published in Sweden’s largest newspaper, Dagens Nyheter.

“Otherkin,” by Lanina
How do otherkin come to be? Is there any limit to what kinds of creatures otherkin can identify as?
sites.google.com/site/terianinfo/otherkin

Jargon glossary (Therian)

“Då börjar vi (Let’s start),” by Vargteriantrop. 2010-05-16
Types of shift. Contherian, syntherian, phenotype, polytherian.
vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/05/16/d-a-borjar-vi

Finding the community

“Jag trodde jag var ensam!” (‘I thought I was alone!’) by Susitar. 2010-11-28
The relief felt by a therian upon finding out about other therians for the first time. Keywords likely to attract newcomers.
vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/11/28/jag-trodde-jag-var-ensam

Openness

“Att ’komma ut’ (To come out),” by Susitar. 2010-11-19
Before coming out, consider these things: What are the benefits and disadvantages of telling? Can I predict how the person will react?
vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/11/19/at-t-komma-ut

Mental health

“Teriantropi och psykiatrin (Therianthropy and psychiatry),” by Susitar. 2010-07-08
Many psychiatrists who we therians have talked to don’t see anything wrong with therianthropy. Don’t worry! However, remember that psychiatrists are taught to think of animals as symbolizing specific ideas, so expect some miscommunications there.
vargteriantrop.wordpress.com/2010/07/08/teriantropi-och-psykiatrin

“Lykantropi som sjukdom? (Lycanthropy which disease?)” by Susitar. 2011-07-20
A therianthrope looks at a case of a clinical lycanthrope (a man who said he was a cat trapped inside a human body) and remarks upon its similarity to therianthropy.
If I wrote a book about therianthropy in order to be open about it, transgender people would think it was a parody

“Pride – ett tal (Pride—a speech),” by Susitar. 2011-08-06.
(In Swedish.) Transcript of a speech about therianthropy, delivered at a Pride event.

Otherkin phenomena:
Body language and behavior

“Vad är skillnaden på en teriantrop och en ‘vanlig’ person? (What is the difference between a therianthrope and an ‘ordinary’ person?),” by Vargteriantrop. 2010-06-21
Physically, we look the same, but our body language and behavior differs.

Otherkin compared with transsexuality

“Motargument: en jämförelse (The counter-argument: a comparison),” by Susitar. 2010-08-25
Arguments used against transgender people resemble arguments used against therians

“Snart dags för Pride, tankar om öppenhet (Time for Pride, thoughts of openness)” by Susitar. 2011-07-27
In Thai (ภาษาไทย)

*The Thai Lycanthropy Information Site,* by Lordotiga

Were

On werewolves in folklore and in spirituality.

[geocities.com/lordotiga_were/index.html](http://geocities.com/lordotiga_were/index.html)

(defunct)
In Ukrainian (українська)

Introductions to otherkin, for outsiders

“Драконність (Draconity),” by various editors
About the subculture of people who identify as dragons. Similar to the Russian article about draconity.
uk.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%94%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%BD%D1%96%D1%81%D1%82%D1%8C

“Теріантропія (Therianthropy),” by various editors
About the history and philosophy of the subculture of people who identify as animals.
uk.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%A2%D0%B5%D1%80%D1%96%D0%B0%D0%BD%D1%82%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%BF%D1%96%D1%8F
Bibliography of books referred to in this document


Index

», 7

▲, 6, 36, 39, 41, 42, 44, 45, 66, 69, 73, 78, 88, 91, 92, 96, 97, 100, 101, 105, 106, 109, 111, 116, 117, 130, 134, 143, 161, 163, 166, 170, 173, 174, 178, 181, 199, 202, 205, 221, 222

★, 7, 28, 31, 33, 37, 46, 47, 49, 52, 58, 68, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 94, 96, 107, 113, 117, 118, 121, 124, 132, 137, 138, 139, 143, 156, 162, 170, 172, 175, 204, 207, 220, 222

♫, 7, 53, 66, 67, 97, 98, 101, 111, 116, 117, 132, 139, 143, 159, 161, 163, 170, 174, 178, 184, 185, 195, 199, 200, 201, 204


101 on coming out, the, 88

2 Gryphon, 204

3tails, 43

5arah, 96

A Mudança, 220
A.B.C.: Alien Big Cats, 111
Aalueryian, 177
About daemonism, 118
About me, but it isn’t really, 104
Academic sources, 46, 131
acceptance, 59
Acceptance, faith and tolerance, 82
Accessing memories, 161, 223
Acquired taste, 81
Actively Living your Inner Self, 162
Adagio, 100
Adalis, 30, 84
Adapting the Magic, 38
Adnarel, 19, 23, 59, 62, 89, 102
Adventures in mental topiary, 142
Advice for hosting or attending Howls and gatherings, 75
Advice for newbies, 74
Adzia, 209
Aedelthryd, 190
Aeldra Nightwood, 8, 20, 209
Aeron, 201
Aetherkin, 165, 178
Aethyriek, 21, 22, 135, 226, 228
Age of the rebirth of Fairie, 72
Aika-Shi21, 195
Akemi, 112, 113
Akhila, 9, 10, 28, 30, 31, 45, 60, 68, 72, 79, 83, 86, 94, 98, 138, 139, 143, 179, 213, 214
Alex E., 140, 160, 195
Alivepest, 190
All about a (slightly broken) Marchwarden, 117
Allin, 63
Ally, 146
Alone in your area?, 81
Alors...vous êtes Éveillé?, 213
Alorya, 104, 160, 163, 199
Aloryan glossary, an, 199
AlphaGodith, 27
alt.fan.dragons, 166; AFD dragon Tarot, 166; FAQ, 73
alt.horror.werewolves (AHWW), 25, 73, 74, 95, 139, 146, 152, 198; AHWW Poll ‘97, 74; FAQ, 215
Altivo, 115
Alyessa Oaktree, of The Crisses, 173
Alyshai Alughasa, 138
Anshar Seraphim, 106
Anti-human sentiments, 92
Anton, 159
Anton Lupus Wulfen (ALW), 47, 77, 146
Anuolf, 60
Applying Carl Jung to daemons, 118
Aika-Alughasa, 138
Aika-Shi21, 195
Aikem, 112, 110
Aikem, 112, 113
Aikhila, 9, 10, 28, 30, 31, 45, 60, 68, 72, 79, 83, 86, 94, 98, 138, 139, 143, 179, 213, 214
Alex E., 140, 160, 195
Alivepest, 190
All about a (slightly broken) Marchwarden, 117
Allin, 63
Ally, 146
Alone in your area?, 81
Alors...vous êtes Éveillé?, 213
Alorya, 104, 160, 163, 199
Aloryan glossary, an, 199
AlphaGodith, 27
alt.fan.dragons, 166; AFD dragon Tarot, 166; FAQ, 73
alt.horror.werewolves (AHWW), 25, 73, 74, 95, 139, 146, 152, 198; AHWW Poll ‘97, 74; FAQ, 215
Altivo, 115
Alyessa Oaktree, of The Crisses, 173
Alyshai Alughasa, 138
Am I: a dragon?, 59; a satyr?, 104; a starseed?, 58; a therian?, 57; crazy?, 43; otherkin?, 57
Amanjaku, 104, 114, 168, 200
American Journal of Psychiatry, 46
AmuthAlexiel, 185
AmyRoseFire, 110
Anajiel, 47, 170
ancestors, supernatural, 40, 42
Ancien folklore, 214
Ancient of days, 78
Anderen - Otherkin, Die, 157, 168, 215
Andrews, Ted, 130
Andy W., 190
Angel of souls, 105
angels, 233
Anger and the animal person, 49
anger management, 49
anima, 29
Animal familiar & magick, 130
Animal house: Lycanthropy, or the delusion of being an animal, 46
Animal inside, 202
Animal people folklore, 179
Animality defined, 22, 34, 172, 213
animism, 122
Anjel, 174
Anna and Kinath, 119
Anna R., 37, 112
Annex of related beings, 33
anonymous authors, 32, 136, 169, 181; anonymous essay on soulbonding, 120; anonymous physical shift report, 136
Another book review: (Warning: ranty), 115
Another toxic rant, 37
Anshar Seraphim, 106
Anti-human sentiments, 92
Anti-labeling, 30
Anton, 159
Anton Lupus Wulfen (ALW), 47, 77, 146
Anuolf, 60
Applying Carl Jung to daemons, 118
Así que quieres formar o unirte a una manada (So you want to join or form a pack), 227

Apu Kuntur (Stefan N. K.), 105, 108, 157, 168, 215

Arcane Apothecary, 60

Archer, 138

Arda reborn, 117

Are otakukin crazy?, 44

Are shifters just drug or alcohol induced hallucinations?, 167

Are we territorial?, 81

Are you a Faeid?, 102

Are you a Jedi knight? Are you a Werebeast?

Are you a Unicorn?

Are we territorial? 81

Are you a Jedi knight? Are you a unicorn? Are they the same? (Starwars and unicorns), 115

Are you a therian?, 39, 220, 226

Are You A Unicorn?, 37, 110, 158, 176, 233

Are you a Werebeast?, 58

Are you a starseed?, 113

Aren’t people who think they are werewolves: just insane?, 43; just New Age freaks?, 156; members of some cult?, 156


Aria Lusina, 49

Arikia, 187

Arlun, 146

Aroo…., 89, 139

ArrowWolf, 63, 136

Art, 143

Art of dreaming, the, 38

Artemus Black, 192

Artful Dodger, 146

Articles on Awakening, 59

ASA, 130

Asatru (religion), 159

Asazi, 164

Ashen Claw, 147

Ashen-Fox, 21, 34

Ashwolf, 147

Back to the beginning, 42

Badb, 62

Bagheera (bagira625), 32, 221

Bagira625, 204, 224

Balance, 49, 138, 181

Balancing the trinity within, 140

Banta, Richard, 46

Barakus Leviathan, 49, 111, 127, 164, 168

Barrett, Stephen, 42

Battering ram, the, 99


BayouPoemSpinner, 129

Be a phoenix, 111

Be yourself, 173

Beagle, Peter S., 115

Becoming a therian, 68, 227

Becoming otherkin, 68

Beginning memory work, 161

Beginning: One person’s process, 119

Behavioral characteristics of shifters, 124

Behind the symbol, 158, 194

Being a loved one, 23

Being Assertive, 139

Being Other, 178

Being Were and Aware, 138

Being winged, 95, 169

Belanger, Michelle, 21, 27, 29, 50, 54, 59, 73, 80, 81, 82, 107, 116, 124, 138, 161, 162, 168, 170, 192, 233

Believe it or not?, 170, 227

Believing in invisible wings, 202

BellaDonna Saberhagen, 69, 159

Berserkers, 134

Berserkrgangr, the, 134

Best American Science Writing 2002, 181

Bestial, 147, 167

Between the body and the soul, 187

Bewylderbeast, 39, 108, 227

Beyond furry, 173

Beyond Identitykin, 173

Beyond tired of the ‘oh those damned humans’ talk, 92

Bibliography, 205

bigger picture, a, 144

Billie Raven Bear, 63, 70

Bilocating shifting, 134

binary view of humans and animals, 31

bingo, 52

Biokinesis: Changing eye color, 137

Bipolar disorder or Awakening?, 53, 59

Birth of a dragon, 204

Birthday card, 185
Building blocks to
therianthropy, 28
Building your shifting energy, 168
Bunangel, 124
But I play one on TV, 50

Caimdearg, 163
Call to arms, a, 88
Calling the flock, 114
CAMELEON natures, 160
Cameo shifts: Is it a new
WERESIDE?, 130

Canadian Psychiatric Association
Journal, 46
Canines on my spiritual path: Or I
was a toddler weredog, 66
Canis dichtomous sapiens, 21
Carrie, 52
Case of lycanthropy, a, 46
Cassander, 203
Casteglan, 160, 169
Cat X. Steppenwolf, 66, 116, 130,
147
Catboy (Bluecat), 147
Cathbad, 147
Cat-Notes, the, 86
Cats, 98
Caziodor, 187
Celebrations, 87
celebrities, 77
Celestialwolfen2, 108
CelticMagician, 186, 189
Certata: From the blue fleet, 101
Chaita, 108
Chakra work, 168
Challenge: Energetic health, 168
Change, 67
Change is coming, 37
Changelings, 31
Chantal Bourgault du Coudray,
139
Checklists and quizzes, 58
ch ea t h a s, 98
ChibiMomiji123, 110
Child Of The Fae, 168
Chimera, 63, 141, 142
Choosing a WereName, 61
Christian, 147
Christian Therianthropy Symbol, 158,
194

Christianity, 59, 65, 88, 89, 91, 102,
105, 156, 157, 158, 161, 165, 193,
194, 195
Christianity and Weres, 157
Christopher A. (WyldeSatyr), 104,
191
Chronic sheepwalking, 133
Chrys Hawk S., 109
Cinnamon and Myrrh, 111
Citrikáyahì, 98
CivilisedWookie, 184, 202
Cladotherianthropy, 95
Claiming the heritage of the elder
folke, 167
Claire H., 92
Claque, la, 213
Clark, James, 131
Clarke, Arthur C., 122
ClaWrite, 199
Climbing that mountain, 189
clinical lycanthropy, 46
cliquishness, 81
Close jars gain no water, 170
Cloven Hooved Goddess, 108
Clover-Paw, 66, 147
Coat design, 195
Code of the dragons, 50
codes of conduct, 50
Cold lungs, 101
College and the Lone Wolf, 67
Columbine, House Kheperu, 82
Come, 81
comics, 31, 34, 35, 49, 61, 87, 92,
116, 124, 125, 133, 135, 141, 144,
145, 169, 173, 174, 176, 180, 184,
190, 205
Coming home, 81
coming out, 23, 88
Coming out of the Wardrobe, 88
Coming together, 75
Coming undone, 188
Commission – Heart of Glass, 105
Common terms, 27
communities, small, 80
community, 72
Community guide, 77
Completed bracelet, 195
Comprehensive introduction to a
psychological view of
therianthropy, a, 45
Des’tai, Cara, 21
Deshtai, 104
Designing a theriotype, 100
Desire to join a vampyre house, 82
Desiree (MissWulphie), 202
Desvalando o idioma da Theriantropia (The language of therianthropy), 28, 220
Det ofrivilliga i theriantropi (Forced therianthropy), 36, 229
Devan of Elvendrums, 191
Devic soul, 106
Devil’s advocate, 156
DevilWolf (Panther of the Wolf, Celina W.), 137, 148
Devout, 176
Di Lauro, Frances, 233
Diane Darling, 174
Dichotomy, 49
Dick Tracy Must Die, 201
Dickinson, Emily, 98
Dictionary, 27
Differences between pack, family, friends, and acquaintances, 81
Differences between therianthropy and totems, 223
Different isn’t insane, 45
Digital_Elf, 199
DigitalShark, 186, 189
dinosaurs, 100
Disabled woman given mermaid tail to help her swim, 180
Discovering an angelic archetype, 105
Discovery, 65
Discovery of the star seed codes, the, 166
Discrimination via Labels, 30
Disease, the, 85
Dispelling the myths, 22
Distribution of animal species in Weres, 96
Dobutsu, 137, 148
Doctrines and beliefs, oh my!, 156
Does the concept of otakukin negate creativity?, 121
Dogzilla, 193
Doing something – are you?, 173
Dok Khao Pansa-Fùsa, of the Qilóra, 122
Dokimushi’s Book of Glamour, 204
Domestic and wild, 99
Don’t forget your skinsuit, 92
Don’t take yourself too seriously, 84
Doppelganger Problem, the, 121
Doraneirok, 187
Dr. Daedalus, 181
DracheHoly, 181, 195, 196
Draci (Dragons), 108, 209
Draco the Silly Dragon, 33, 126
Draconcat FAQ, 111
Draconic dictionary, 27
Draconic FAQ, 108
Draconic.com’s size chart, 109
draconity, 51, 62
Draconity FAQ, 108, 215, 219, 221, 226
DraconisticCannibal, 109
Draegonhawke, 173
dragon: am I a, 59
Dragon Code, the, 198
Dragon Kin – Buchstaben, 181
Dragon Legacy, the, 42
Dragon Runes, 199
Dragon soul, 43, 185
Dragon within, 184
Dragon’s Awakening, a, 62
Dragon’s Eye Athauliz Firestorm, 50, 51
DragonnessTawnya, 193
Dragondkin, 108, 184
Dragonkin and a wolf therian, a, 94
Dragons & faeries & gnomes oh my! The fascinating world of otherkin, 21
Dragons like to celebrate, 87
Dragons of Gaundaria, 160
Dragons project – Leccathu, 108
Dragons, again, 34
Dragons, sleeping, 34
Dragons’ creed, the, 51
Dragonself, 109
Dragonslorefury, 29, 88, 94, 153, 189, 190
Dragowings: One librarian’s reactions, 115
Dragos, 132, 148
DrakeLightBearer, 27, 59, 65, 88, 89, 91, 157, 161, 165
Drakonic, 201
Dreal and Star, of The Crisses, 199
Dream Runner, 148, 177
Dream shift, 129
Dream shifting, 129
Dreaming Wolf (Wolf Shamen), 21
dreams, 15, 60, 63, 101, 129, 143, 166, 172, 175, 202
Dreams and their significance to otherkin, 175
Dreamshifting, 129
Dreamspace, the, 166
DreamWolf, 148
dress the part, 180
Dressed for success, 76
Drogandaegae language, 200
Druchat, 200
Drugging Jesus, 48
Drumstruck, 201
DSM-IVTR, 178
Dubious genetic testing, 42
Dumbass guide to therianthropy/WereCreatures, 34
Duo, 143
Dustfromamoth, 200
DustWolf, 148
Dusty Rancourt, 66
Dynamic energy exchange, 168
Dynamics of the masque, 79
Dynara, 20, 226
Ear-pointing surgery, 181
Earth Angels, 233
Earth elemental dragon forest, 189
Earth Listener, of Chimera, 63, 97, 101, 134, 140, 186, 195
Earwig, 101
Ebbalynn13, 184
Echoes of Jade, 148
Eclectic, the, 34, 48, 95, 115, 120, 121, 133, 173, 175, 178, 204
Ecstatic Name, the, 61
education, 49
Effects of extended non-feeding, the, 107
Egypt, ancient, 159
Elou Werepack, the, 82
Elda: Star people, 175
Eldamar, 175
Eldari, 104
Eldri Littlewolf, 174
Eldritch powers, 81
elementals, 233
Elenari, 104, 176, 199, 200, 209
Elenari language dictionary, 199
Elenari Orthography Project, 199
elf: am I an, 57
Elf children, 67
Elf children all, 177
Elf friends, 75
Elf magic, 165
Elf song, 160
Elf Tarot, 166
Elf: my past, 163
elf’s story, an, 163
Elfin magic, 165
Elfin nature, 103
Elfskæ Rasy (Elven race), 104, 209
Elinox, 27, 60, 80, 95, 143, 195, 227, 228
elite, the, 89
Elizabeth Ann K., 109
Ellwood, Taylor, 173
Elsewhere, 115
Elvaleryn, 67
Elven alien relations, 33
Elven anatomy, or, may be hazardous if swallowed, 103
Elven chess, 174
Elven dictionary, 200
Elven diet, the, 41
Elven Gypsies, Gypsy Elves, 72
Elven language list, 199
Elven Like Me, 19
Elven Moods, 201
Elven names, 61
Elven parents, 177
Elven Realities, 43
Elven Star or Faerie Star, 191
Elven Tree of Life Eternal, 159
Elven Way, the, 102
Elven Wicca, Wiccan Elves, 160
Elvendrums, 201
Elven-English dictionary, 199
elves, 4
Elves, 102
Elves and brownies * A letter to
Keith Olberman, 42
Elves and ecology, 174
Elves at play, 67
Elvin suits, 57
Ely Wolf, 129
Emberek... Egy Kin szemszögéből
(Humans... from the perspective of a 'kin), 218
Emotional problems and the otherkin phenomenon, 84
Emotional vampirism, 83
Emotions, 103
Empire of the black rose, 194
Enabling in the vampire community, 83
Encyclopedia of 5000 Spells, the, 136
End of the world, 37, 78
Energies that bind, the, 168
Energy, 168
Energy flows and tentacle monsters, 70
Engendering a Were/Shifter Identity, 178, 224
Enju Y., 154, 189
Enygma, 106
Eradea, 76
Eredien, 88
Eres un Therian, 226
Erin S. (Star-Blazer), 202
Erox Pack, 68, 82, 127, 150
Erzahler, 194
Escapism, 19, 49, 69, 228
Essay on Phshifting, 136
Eternal flame, 51
Eternal transformation, an, 67
Ethereal feelings, 185
ethics, 50, 51
Ethics and rememory, 162
Ethics of psi-vampirism, the, 50
etos, vampiric, 50
Etiquetas (Labels), 227
Eventide evolution, 66
Ever children, 66
Ever flowering, 76
Everyday multiplicity, 138
Evocation, 170
Evolution – Where are we going, and why are we in this handbasket?, 97
Excuses for the high school therian, 49
ExistingPhantom, 8, 73
Experience of mental shifting, an, 132
Experiencing the phenotype, 94
Experiencing wolf, 143
Experiential nature of therianthropy, the, 31, 172
Experimental role-playing as a means of self-discovery, 115
Exploring Religion and the Sacred in a Media Age, 116, 233
Exploring spiritual lycanthropy, 65
Exploring this thing they call spiritual therianthropy, 32
Extinct theriotypes, 94, 228
extraterrestrials: incarnate, 49, 58
extraterrestrials, incarnate, 112, 113, 114
Eyovah, 59, 62, 161
Facts and theories, 211
fae, 49
FAE, 9
FAE administrators, 162
Fae blood, fae magic, 21
FAE Board of Directors, 73
FAE Public Announcement #1, 73
Faeborn, 29, 73, 162
Faeborn vs. Otherkin, 29
Faerie, 38, 51, 57, 64, 75, 81, 103, 167, 191, 201
Faerie at first sight, 38
Faerie moans, 81
Faerie Rade, the, 75
Faeries and fakery kin, 102
Faeries of Dreamdark, 115
Faery princess, a
Fakta og teorier (Facts and theories), 211
Falconfish, 187
Falcons, myth, and meaning, 143
Faleoh (Faith), 48
Fall of Aelfheim, the, 103
Fallen Dragonkin, 24, 108, 128, 209, 210
False memories, 162
family, 16, 23, 42, 67, 80, 81, 82, 88, 89, 91, 110, 129, 150, 157, 173, 175, 188
Family, 80
Famous people who might be werewolves, 77
FAQ for humans who want to know about shifters, 21
FAQ for shifters wondering about themselves and other shifters, 26, 227
FAQ Otherkin Hispano & Noctaliunm, 24, 226
FAQs, 21, 24, 26, 73, 74, 108, 114, 162, 198, 215, 221, 226, 227
Fareme, 190
Farley, Tim, 54
Fate magazine, 21
Fayanora, 142
Faye, Luna, 85
Fear and boldness, 99
FearisHere, 145, 185, 187
Feast of Jolly, 87
Feathers, 132
Feathertail, 45, 53, 54, 55, 116
femmekin, 28
Femmekin glossary, a, 28
Femmekin, otherkin, and Aristasians, 114
Feniku, 111
feral children, 32, 221
Feralheart, 201
Few terms, a, 33
fic-kin, 120
Fiction, 14, 16, 53, 115, 116, 120, 121, 204
Fiction, and its essential place in spirituality for me, 115
Fictional conversation, a, 77, 135
Fictional daemons, stereotypes, and truths, 118
fiction-kin, 23
fiery flying serpents, 157
Filling in the gaps, 116
Find your own truth, 65
Finding an otherkin name (Elven names), 61
Finding my therianthropy, 63
Finding our own magic, 165
Finding our way home, 51
Finding the community, 63
Finding the shark within, 101
Finding your inner animal, 60
Finding your spirit name, 61
Finding your theriotype, 60
FirewheelVortex, 142
First gather, the, 75
First post and introduction to otherkin, 62
Fjeld, Stanton, 131
Flaming Craig Head, 188
Flash from the past, 72
Flatlanders, the (plural system), 121
Flickerfly, 110
Flirting with denial, 80
Flow, the, 136
Flower faeries of the wilderness, 169
Fluff-bunnies and the totem pole, 85
Fluidity and fragmentation, 138
Flying Elven, 38
Flying With Angel Wings - The Path to Myself, 105, 108, 157
Flying wolf, 95, 169
Folklore of snow leopard, the, 98
Following the silver flame, 76
For a costume party, 180
For a non-essentialist understanding of animality, 31, 68, 94, 139
For dragons, 62
For newcomers, 59
For the love of a satyr, 176
Forced therianthropy, 36
Foreword, 19
Forget that, 60
Forgotten truth: Being human, 91
Form or substance?, 204
Forming vampiric culture and lifestyle, 116
Forsaken Sage, 35, 85, 111
Forty-foot winged reptiles need your love, too, 108
Foundation’s Edge, 73
Four stages of dealing with one’s vampirism, 59
Foxes, 97
Foxfeather248, 196
Freelanceangel, 91, 105
Freetha, 133
French language articles, 4, 16, 19, 26, 28, 34, 53, 58, 59, 64, 102, 118, 172, 213
Friends and environments, 85
From fictionkin to animalkin, 121
From phenotype to theriotype, 28
From pulp fiction to revealed text, 116
From the beginning to October, 1998, 73
From the heart out, 64
Frosted sugarspice, 175
Funny true stories about shifters, 145
Furries, 33
Furries, otherkin, and therians, 33
furry fandom, 33, 73, 79, 99, 173, 179, 180, 222, 226
Furry vs. anthro vs. everything, 27
Fursuiting, 180
Furtail, 96, 148
Further discussion: daemon community, 119
Further discussion: daemon forum, 119
Further thoughts on being ‘kin-not-‘kin, 34
Future of online therianthropy, the, 214
Gainesville Letters, the, 72
Galenorn, Yasmine, 131, 205
Gateway to Faerie, 201
Gathering of unicorns, a, 37
Gazer, 57
Gazer fursuit design, 180
gender identity disorder, 178
Gender vs animality, 179
Genealogy, 42
Genetic biochemical interaction theory, 41
Kya_rayn, 111
Kym ni Dhoireann, 66
Kyoht, 30
Kyrrin the Toxic Elf, 37, 103

LA Judge, 78
Label issues, 30
Labels, 30, 60, 227
Lady CG, 67
Ladywolf (Kathleen), 149
Lance, 62
Lance Foxx, 129, 136, 137, 157
Lance Foxx talks with Art Bell and Father Malachi Martin, 157
Language, 199
L'animalité définie, 22, 213
Lanina, 22, 229
Lanthinel, 103, 104, 192, 199
Lao Lang (Dee S.), 149
Laopa, 227
Larae, 30
Large beadwoven piece, 194
Last Unicorn, the, 115
Lauren, 87, 141
Lauryl., 188
Lavandarielle, 28, 166, 167
L'avenir de la thérianthropie online, 214
Layra, 109
Layras love and humanity, 109
LazyWolf, 77
LazyWolf’s guide to newbieness, 77
Leccathu Furvicael, 143, 184, 185, 186
Leopard is, 98
Lerner, Thomas, 22
Lesia, 104, 163, 205
Lesson of adaptation, 130
Lessons from a small insect, 135
Lest we forget, 161
Let’s get real: Were in real life and role-playing games, 84
Leth, 50
Lexicon Elandra, 199
Lhene-Amira, 202
Li’star’i word list (Elven language page), 199
Lia-Ram, 72, 222
LiekaQOD, 186
Liesk, 21, 45, 55, 99, 143, 178
Life and religion, 160
Life from the eyes of a wolf-kin, 92, 223
Light and dark elves, 103
Like death’s skin, 124, 145
Lila Laviren (Miss Lila Wolf, Kate D.), 149
Lilly, 109
Linden Orophinion, of the Kasalim System, 117
Liminal animal, 179
Liminal being, the, 179
Lindner, Robert, 47
Linz, 200
Lion Templin, 28, 78, 85, 204, 212, 221
Lioness, 178
Lionmind, 98
List, the, 61
Little dragon, 34
Live Paradise now, 67
Lizard of Odd logic, 52
Lokial, 119
L'Ombre du Mythe, 213
Lone Wolf, 33, 73, 174, 180
Lone Wolf (Jonathan), 149
Lone Wolf (Laura), 149
Lone wolf roaming, 129
LoneDarkWolf, 194
Longing, 188
Look in the mirror, 186
Look, daddy!, 124
Lord Bad Vibes (Sarah, Alice), 129, 149
Lord of the Rings movie review, 117
Losing faith, gaining acceptance, 138
Lost documents, 21, 28, 32, 35, 55, 61, 88, 89, 99, 114, 143, 178, 191, 193, 197, 201, 204
Lost in translation: Getting over terminology, 28
Lostkin Project: Techniques, 161
Louché, 84
Loupa D’Ambre, 149
Love and friendship, 176
Loving someone with all your soul: Having a otherkin significant other, 23
Lucid dreaming, 230
Luke Wolf, 195
LupaFae, 166
Lupa, 8, 9, 21, 25, 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 41, 45, 47, 48, 49, 51, 54, 57, 59, 64, 69, 72, 74, 75, 76, 80, 81, 83, 84, 88, 89, 94, 96, 102, 103, 105, 106, 108, 109, 110, 111, 114, 120, 122, 127, 133, 135, 139, 140, 141, 153, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 165, 168, 170, 173, 174, 175, 179, 191, 199, 205, 206, 223, 233
Lupa (C.), 149
Lupusgyroph within, the, 185
Lupuspearselepenna, 187
Luthien Promethiel, 117
lycanthropy: spiritual, 26
Lycanthropy and the Utlah, 156
Lycanthropy article, 88
Lycanthropy Reader, 46
Lycanthropy revisited, 46
Lycanthropy: Alive and well in the twentieth century, 46
Lycantropi som sjukdom?, 46
Lycantropove a drahy zmen (Lycanthropy and types of shift), 128, 210
Lycantropove a Theriantropove (Lycanthropy and thierianthropy), 24, 209
Lynne, 188
Lynx Canadensis, 9, 29, 88, 95, 197

M- and p-shifting- my take, 136
M. T., 105
Madd, 124
Magic bracelet, the, 175
Magic candles, 57
Magic without Maddness, 51
Magic, the, 165
Magical anime powers, or lack thereof, 165
Magical elements, 166
Magical family, the, 177
Magical herbs, 167
Magical powers, 103
magical ritual, 68
Magical skins and costumes, 181
Magical stones and crystals, 167
Magical symbols and talismans, 166
Magical world of the otherkin, the, 216
Magnetons, the, 54, 94, 105
Magpie, 191
Maintaining balance, 138
Majikal abilities, 165
Making it real, 38
Makuus, 115
Malcolm-Rannirl, 27
Maloran, 149
Mamatas, Nick, 19, 20
Man and beast, 89
Man, wolf, shapeshyfter, and werewolf, 96
Manawolf, 161
Mandala, 192
Mandala intro graphic, 190
Mange, 149
manic episode, 53, 59
Manifesto for werewolves, a, 139
Mark R., 58
Marker fun, 184
Mary Le Fay., 105
Masks, 48
Matsuban, 105
Matter of time, a, 34
Maverick Wolf, 149
McElroy, Susan L., 46
McGowan, Leaf, 191
Me and I, 110
Me in a past life, 110
Me, myself, and I, 187
Me/lynx: An exploration, 98
Measurement of a heart, the, 37
media-kin, 120
meditation, 15, 60, 61, 63, 70, 130, 143, 166, 172
Meditation for spiritual cleansing, 107
Meet your daemon, 118
meeting in person, 80
Meirya, 26, 65, 66, 100, 111, 132, 153, 154, 166, 168, 170, 193, 213, 227
Melishal, 9, 29, 161, 163
Mem, 110
Memos of a professional
WereFairy, 204
Memorable werewolf quotes, 32
Memories of palm, 98
Memory of trees, the, 174
Memory and Dream, 34
Mendor: starmates, 176
mental health, 45, 53
mental illness, 11, 43, 46, 59
Mental illness?, 44
Mental shifting, 132
Mental skiften: tips och råd (Mental shifting: Tips and advice), 132, 230
Mentorship, 78
Merf, 49, 80
Merging beneath a star, 176
meridians, 168
Merisida, 66, 114, 125, 215
Mermaid me, 62, 114
mermaids, 180
MetalheadLizzy, 184
Metaphysic experimentation, or The spirit circle phenomena, 170
Metawolf, 129, 149
Miaren Crow’s Daughter, 19, 59, 88, 163, 213
Midnight sand, 99
MidniteWolf139, 194, 195
Midwifing the world, 37
Miért vagyunk itt? (Why are we here?), 218
Might this be the best way to see a ghost? Reflections from a psychomanteum, 131
Migoto-Ookami, 194
Millennia madness, 87
Min teori om teriantropins möjliga orsaker (My theory on therianthropy’s possible causes), 36, 229
Mindeodean, 142
mind-scape, 141
Mina, 64
Mirror, 186
mirror shift, 131, 150, 152
Mirror spell for shape-shifting, 131
Mirror, mirror, 41
misconceptions about otherkin, 52
Misconceptions about starseeds, 112
Misery, 189, 190
Miss Lynx, 98
Miss Se, 28
Missing manual, the, 26
Missing Them, 84, 117
Mist Weaver, of the Chimeras, 121
Mist-Howler, 158, 194
Mistral, 82
MizuNerada, 192
Mo Anam, 187
Modern elflin, 76
Modern therianthropy, 94
Modern vampires, 106
Modern werewolf and werebeast sightings, 135
Mokele, 9, 31, 42, 52, 54, 63, 64, 66, 67, 74, 84, 89, 94, 96, 100, 114, 121, 124, 128, 130, 135, 169, 172, 197
Molatar Seth Pyrargent, 136, 157
Molatar’s Castle, 157
Moms, 37
Moon’s rainbow ring, the, 72
Mooncalf, 121
moonlight (blackthorn glade), 120, 140
Moonstone FAQ, 167
MoonWanderer, 33, 73, 126, 222, 223
More on tagging, 116
Morg, 130
Morgil Lomion, 33
Morphing of a Hawke, 66
Mortal body, deathless soul, 190
Mortuary birds bury a friend, 190
On being an elf in a human’s world, 102
On being extinct, 97
On being human, amplified, 31
On being moved spiritually by fiction, 115
On being otherkin, 50, 89
On cameo shifting, 130
On Delusion vs. mysticism, 48
On dragons and hate, 92
On Dragons’ Wings, 157
On eagle’s black wings, 164
On glamour, reverie, and ravaging, 166
On human universals: Feline experience filtered through a primate’s body, 91
On justification and identity in the therian community, 55, 178
On my awakening, 62
On oddity, 52
On otherkin angst, 91
On Pan, 159
On phantom wings, 203
On reincarnation and my past lives, 163
On satyrs’ desires, 104
On the aftermath of the ‘04 election: Beyond glamour-bombing, 175
On the Fae and Awakening, 103
On the other end of the wire, 80
On the subject of shifting, 126
On wings of a living past, 100
One in two, two in one, 163
One paw in the galaxies, 143
One-of-a-kind and other unique otherkin, 114

Only you can know your Wereside, 60
ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny, 221
Open letter to any who would wish to become a vampire, 68
Open letter to the vampire community, 88
Organizational Des’tai, 78
Origins, 36
OrthaeVelve, 107
Oshiete, 187
Ota-kin, 120
otakukin, 23
Otakukin, 120
Otakukin, 44, 120, 121, 156
Otakukin and Religion, 156
Otakukin, otherkin and soulbonders, 121
Otakukin/mediakin, 120
Other Awakened, 59
Other canine species, 97
Other forms of magic, 168
Other self, 184
otherkin, 19; am I, 57; are you, 57;
identifying as, 57; significant other, 23;
what are, 19, 24, 42, 209;
what is, 19, 31; what is an, 19, 20, 24, 213, 218;
you might be, 58
Otherkin, 24
Otherkin - có / kto to je?, 20, 209
Otherkin – dziwactwo czy fantastyczny sposób na życie?
(Otherkin – a quirk, or a fantastic way to live?), 20, 219
Otherkin & society: ‘Waiter!
There’s an otherkin in my medieval soup!’, 173
Otherkin and magic, 165
Otherkin and the Pagan community, 21
Otherkin are delusional (The skeptical otherkin #1), 45, 53
Otherkin Avatar Project, the, 192
Otherkin behavior patterns, 37, 54, 78
Otherkin community glossary, 27
Otherkin community/subculture, the, 76
Otherkin Emblem, the, 196
Otherkin essay, 52
Otherkin FAQ, 26
Otherkin gathers small and large, 75
Otherkin helpful nonfiction, 205
Otherkin Identity: Is it more than just a label?, 173
Otherkin isn’t a religion, but…, 156
Otherkin music, 201
Otherkin Octopus, 54, 94
Otherkin of the draconic sort, 108

Otherkin or Otherwikkinn? A highlight of the 2007 St. Louis Pagan Picnic, 75
Otherkin portrait, 184
Otherkin Problem, the, 76
Otherkin star septagram, 192
Otherkin symbol, 196
Otherkin troll bingo, 52
otherkin type: angel, 62, 102, 105, 106, 114, 118, 124, 174, 186;
Aristasian, 28, 114, 156, 162;
Brinn, 114; chupacabra, 114;
demon, 102, 105, 106; dragon,
27, 34, 41, 49, 50, 51, 54, 59, 62,
65, 66, 67, 73, 75, 83, 84, 88, 91,
92, 94, 95, 102, 108, 109, 111, 114,
121, 125, 139, 143, 150, 153, 154,
157, 160, 161, 163, 164, 165, 166,
168, 169, 170, 173, 175, 184, 185,
186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 193, 196,
198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 204, 209,
221, 222, 227, 228, 232; elf, 21, 24,
31, 34, 36, 37, 38, 42, 57, 75, 78,
80, 81, 84, 87, 102, 103, 104, 115,
116, 117, 160, 163, 165, 174, 177,
191, 199, 201; fae, 21, 29, 43, 49,
53, 102, 103, 162, 166, 214; fae
cat, 111; gryphon, 66, 109, 154,
184, 185, 198; hobbit, 117;
kitsune, 46, 111, 143, 159;
mermaid, 62, 66, 114, 125, 215;
satyr, 41, 104, 176; sea serpent,
114; shiharan, 114; unicorn, 37,
110, 158, 176, 201; V’lurian, 163;
winged person, 114
Otherkin types: diversity in the otherkin community, 102
Otherkin Zee, 189
Otherkin, and putting a painful experience behind me, 83
Otherkin, Fey & Wanderer books, 205
Otherkin, mas que humanos
(Otherkin, more than human), 20, 226
Otherkin, the (Die Anderen - Otherkin), 157, 168, 215
Otherkin: A short introduction, 19
Otherkin: Otherworldly souls, 33
Otherkin: So why is it always dragons and wolves?, 95
Otherkin: The missing manual, 26
Otherkin: the people with a non-human soul, 216
Otherkin: Who are you and who do you want to be?, 20
Otherkin: To φαινόμενο, 20, 216
Otherkin Catfolk, 202
Otherkine - kým įsī a kým cheče būt? (Otherkin: Who are you and who do you want to be?), 20, 209
Otherkinism – A fairly decent skeptic attempt at discussing the phenomenon, 52
Otherworld spell, 138
Other-worldly swap theory, 35
Otten, Charlotte, 46
Our ancient sisters, 59
Our animal kin, 94
Our destiny, 187
Our faeries gather, 169
Our Flames, 50, 220
Our history, 74
Our littles, 177
Our magic painted pictures, 176
Out of Darkness, 201
Out of housecat mode, 174
Overview of therianthropy, 25
Ozenwolf, 25, 57, 214

Pack of Erox, 82
Packless, 81
Padfoot Bedlam Dogstar, 150
PagaNet News, 21
Paganism, 15, 63, 69, 70, 156, 159
Page Rancourt: Therianthropy, 66
Paige W., 194
Paleo, 52, 81, 94, 97, 115, 228
Palterion: The Far Memory of the Elves, 201
Pan (god), 159
Pantairin, of Chimera, 95
Panthera Uncia – Pulling up the wind, 98
Parable of the were-duck, the, 53
paracosm, 141
Paradigm shift, 106
Paranormal aspects of mental shifting, 134
paranormal claims, whether to believe in, 53
Pariahpet, 158
Past life memories?, 54, 161
Past life recall techniques, 161
Past lives, 164
Past, the, 105
Pattarchus Stormwind, 215
Pawprint septagram, 192
Pawtagram, 181
Pelagic Soul (Misty), 62, 114
Pensive, 184
People are only visible when they’re encouraged to speak, 79
People who think they are werewolves or shapeshifters, 73
Perceptions of form, 63
Percy E., 194
Perfect love and perfect trust, 156
Performance artist becomes cat, horse, 180
Perils of P-shifting, 135
Perils of remembering, the, 162
Persinval, 77, 222
Personal mythology, imagination, and metaphor, 36
Personal therianthropy, 88
Personifying strength, 139
phantom limbs, 34, 109, 133
Phantom shift, 184, 186
Phantom shift study, 184
Phantom wings, 190
Phenomena mistaken for physical shifting, 137
phenotype, 28
Pheremones, 81
Phillupus Cú Glas Conrechta Lycanthropos Kelev (Phil), 131, 150
Phoenix and phoenixin, 111
Phoenix: From my eyes, 111
Physical characteristics of shifters, 41
Physical explanations, 41
physical shape-shifting, 83
Physical shifting, 135, 136, 228
Physical shifting and letting go, 136
Physically Human?, 41
Pillars of the Were community, 83
Pinol, Melissa, 126
PistolVaunWulf (Spiritwolf, Spiritwolfalpha), 158
Pixie prince, 159
Place for fear, a, 88
plant otherkin, 122
Playing in the field, 189
Pleadians, 113
Plushie addiction, 174
poetry, 38, 67, 105, 129, 138, 139
Polar, 9, 68, 73, 131, 137
Polaris, 150
Polarized, 86
Polenth, 150, 153, 154, 166
Polson, Willow, 20, 21
Polymorph, 112
Polyrhythms, the, 23
polywere, 30
Polywrets, 188
polyweres, 112
Pope, Harrison G., 46
Por qué somos otherkins, 226
Por Qué Tantos Lobos, 228
Portrait of a soul, 108
Portuguese language articles, 4, 16, 22, 28, 39, 50, 72, 128, 220
Possible Human, the, 130
Possible physical shift?, 136
Pourquoi l’argot ça craint (Why slang sucks), 213
Power of the gift, the, 103
Power up!, 165
Prayer of Saint Francis, 190
Predation theory, 95
Predator or prey?, 99
prehistory, 40
Prepaved Path, a, 85
Pride Rock, 75
Priestess, 156
Primal: The furry language, 200
Primer post e introduccion al Otherkin, 62
Primer post e introduccion al Otherkin (First post and introduction to otherkin), 227
Procitnuti (Awakened), 209
Proof? Is that too much to ask?, 170
prosthetic mermaid tail, 180
Proving individual
contraenthranyty, 28
P-shifting: The Mulder and Scully
debate, 135
P-Shifting: Where I stand, 135
psi-vampirism, 50
psychiatry, 44
Psychic Vampire Codex, the, 27,
29, 50, 59, 73, 80, 81, 116, 124,
138, 161, 162
Psychic vampirism: The experience
of energy, 168
Psychological and physical effects
of vampirism, 47
psychology, 31, 35, 43, 45, 47, 72,
172, 178, 229
Psychology, 45
psychomanteum, 131
Pullman, Philip, 118, 214, 219
QuatreBornes, 195
Qué es furry, 226
Qué es la Teriantropía, 22, 226
Que pasaria si los otherkins obtienen
su forma verdadera I (What
would happen if otherkin
obtained their true forms), 135
Quelonzia, 34, 66, 75, 202, 204
Qu’est-ce qu’un Otherkin?, 20, 213
Question and answer, 32
Questioning sameness, 43
Questioning sanity, 162
Questions, 67
Questions – answers, 105
Quil, 9, 10, 22, 34, 59, 61, 64, 91, 92,
95, 98, 128, 143, 167, 172, 174,
213
Quilled shark, 101
Random perspectives on shifting,
126
RandomShifts (O. W.), 150
Rant on elfness, 102
rants, 33, 84, 92, 107
Raven, 91
Ravena L., 130
Ravenari, 89
RavenWolf, 89
Raw data, 74
RayneNamibias, 136
Razza Wolf, 26, 29, 32, 65, 73, 80,
127, 132, 138, 139, 146, 191
Re: Therian_Otherkin as false?, 52
Re: What is fluff?, 85
Read before you proceed, 51
Real shifters and their werewolf-
related fan activities, 173
Real vampires, 106
Reality and myth: The archetypal
theriotype vs. the true-to-life
theriotype, 86
Realization, 38
Rebuilding the Gateways, 170
recipes, 174
Recognition, 124
Recommended otherkin-related
reading, listening and viewing,
205
Recommended reading, 201, 205
Recommended reading list, 205
Reconnection; or, Disconnect: How
to get your animal back, 132
RED, 150
Redefining p-shifting, 116, 181
Redheads, 114
Redian Bosciano Wolff, 150
Redwolf-human, 139
Reemul, 126, 157
Reflection, 186
Reflection on alternative identities,
a, 121
Reflection strip, 145
Rehtaehtrakir, 103
rei, 59, 168
Reiko: A personal experience, 143
reincarnation, 35, 66, 110
Reincarnation, 161
Reincarnation theory of otherkin,
the, 161
Reklaw, 19
Relationships between shifter
species, 94
Relatively speaking (The skeptical
otherkin), 54
religion, 5, 19, 26, 31, 48, 49, 105,
106, 156, 160, 165, 172, 191, 195,
196
Remark on Conversation Trends
on Lists and Boards, a, 77
Remembered words, 200
Remembering: When Waking up
hurts (a story of reAwakening),
62
Rememberings, 163
Remembrance, 162
Rene, 43, 108
Renegade, 30, 57, 60
Renzoku Lysandarria (Heaven K.),
163
research, 60, 64
Research, research, research, 64
Response to Mooncalf’s
‘Soulpuppetry’ page, 121
responsible conduct, 50
Revealing identities… to tell or not
to tell, 88
Revel-utionaries, 176
Reverend Kim, 24
Reverse engineering the orgone
crystal matrix, 168
Review of books that mention our
subculture, 205
Review/Discussion Dragonwings,”,
115
Reviews of Were-stuff, 205
Revised otherkin FAQ, a, 26
Revisioning the vampire, 29
Rezzit, 30
Rialian, 48, 75, 78, 79, 83, 85, 103,
162, 165, 167, 175, 199
Ridley, Matt, 181
Rigors, the, 91
Rise and shine, 65
Rise of the Elven Vor’jen, 104
Rita M., 205
Rivendell Faerie Working, 167
Robert, 136
Robert B., 88
Robert C., 113
role-playing games, 5, 24, 27, 33, 84, 106, 109, 115, 116, 117
Rose by any other name, a, 30
Rosen, Joe, Dr., 181
Rosenstock, Harvey, 46
Rowan of Wonderless, 158, 187, 193
Rowyn StarHawk, 109
Roy Cuvari tattoo, 194
Ruta, 53, 178
Rules of daemonism, 118
Rules of thumb, 50
Run of the soul, 68
Russian language articles, 4, 16, 28, 32, 33, 36, 39, 40, 45, 57, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 85, 89, 92, 96, 97, 108, 117, 125, 126, 138, 161, 175, 178, 198, 204, 221, 222, 223, 224, 232
Ryan, 202
Ryugetsu, 194
Saau Hatshepsut, 33
Sabersinger, 10, 57, 67, 72, 142, 150, 174, 178, 224
SabreLion, 198
Sabretoothed Ermine, 150
Sachael, of the Kasalim System, 105
Sadariuswolf, 185
Saevitia S., 23, 44, 88, 89, 121, 156, 165
safety advice, 26
safety advice for vampires, 50
Sage of the Halo, 190
Sak’Hareth, 189
SalemFuchs and Kazeuta, 176
Salgensier, 139
Salolfiel, 117
Sam dream, 187
Samongo, 189
Samhain: All Hallows’ Eve, 87
Sanctuary Earth, 174
Sanguinarius, 47, 50, 68, 73, 81, 83, 116
Sanguinarius community center, 116
Sanguinarius Magne, 116
Santa Clause, the, 87
Santa elf, 87
Sarah D., 50, 83, 106
Sarah Lee W., 157
Shadsek, 88
Shakahrasianiian echoes, 186
Shapero, Rich, 115
Shapeshifting, 126, 130
Shapeshifting masquerade, 33
Shapeshifting meditation, 130
Shara Moonglow, 110
Shara real collage, 110
Shared auric field, 37
She Demon Wolf, 26, 32, 34, 68, 82, 127, 150, 172
Shed, 186
Shelter, 157
Shiari, 200
Shift analysis, 137
Shift happens, 190
Shift Happens, 129, 132, 133, 135, 169
shift list, the, 127
Shift, the, 128, 220
Shifter packs, 81
Shifter slang, 27
Shifter’s disease and doubter’s syndrome, 137
Shifters FAQ, 26
Shifters.org, 27, 61, 84, 95, 116, 127, 205
Shifting, 126, 127
Shifting energy, 168
Shifting experiences, 137
Shifting spiritual nature of vampirism, 63
Shifts físicos, 228
Shinigami Lashae, 185
Shifts, the, 105
Shifts of awareness, the, 84
Shifts of honor, the, 84
Shifts of myth, the, 64, 213
Shifts Wolf (J. B.), 150
ShadowDragon (Josh N.), 125
Shadowfang (D. L.), 150
ShadowFire’s contribution to the Were community, 143
ShadowFox, 126
ShadowMind, 50, 63, 82, 168
Shadows of elfin, 176
ShadowsMyst, 22, 25, 26, 58, 85
Shadsek, 88
Self-portrait WindSeeker, 189
Self-sacrifice, 176
Señales de Advertencia (Warning signs), 227
Seniority, 83
Sense and bilocation shifting, 134
Sensory perception shifts, 134, 230
Septagram, 191, 192
Seran d’Fae, 82
seraphim, 157
Seraphyna, 57, 91
Serious threats, 83
SerpentineZebra, 101
Set me free, 187
Seven sisters seven stars, 192
Sex in Tularin culture, 176
Sex magic, 176
Shadow (C. H.), 150
ShadoW ~ Wolf’er, 32, 211
Shadow Bard, 150
Shadow Flash (A.), 150
Shadow of awareness, the, 84
Shadow of honor, the, 84
Shadow of myth, the, 64, 213
Shadow Wolf (J. B.), 150
ShadowFire’s contribution to the Were community, 143
ShadowFox, 126
ShadowMind, 50, 63, 82, 168
Shadows of elfin, 176
ShadowsMyst, 22, 25, 26, 58, 85
Shadsek, 88
Shakahrasianiian echoes, 186
Shapero, Rich, 115
Shapeshifting, 126, 130
Shapeshifting masquerade, 33
Shapeshifting meditation, 130
Shara Moonglow, 110
Shara real collage, 110
Shared auric field, 37
She Demon Wolf, 26, 32, 34, 68, 82, 127, 150, 172
Shed, 186
Shelter, 157
Shiari, 200
Shift analysis, 137
Shift happens, 190
Shift Happens, 129, 132, 133, 135, 169
shift list, the, 127
Shift, the, 128, 220
Shifter packs, 81
Shifter slang, 27
Shifter’s disease and doubter’s syndrome, 137
Shifters FAQ, 26
Shifters.org, 27, 61, 84, 95, 116, 127, 205
Shifting, 126, 127
Shifting energy, 168
Shifting experiences, 137
Shifting spiritual nature of vampirism, 63
Shifts físicos, 228
Shinigami Lashae, 185
Star Wars, 115
Stardoms of elfin, 76
Stardragons, 143
Starmuttani, 97
starseed: am I a, 58
Starseed missions, 37
Starseed quiz, 58
Starseed reading from Tameem, a, 166
Starseeds: parallels and Earth souls, 112
Statement for otherkin, 49, 228
Step-by-step guide to shifting, 130
Steppenwolf, 66
Sterling, 34, 92, 95, 136
Stone Wolf (ArchangelUzziel), 194
Stormclouds, 202
Story so far, the, 163
Strange new world: my life as a demon, 105
Strange new world: My life as a demon, 218
Strigoacia, 25
Strill, 39, 130, 220, 226, 228
string theory, 52
StrydingSoul, 195
Strype, 185
Strype (D.), 151
subculture, 72
Sublime Metamorphosis, 195
SummonerWolf, 10, 81, 85, 88, 137, 139, 143, 156, 172, 176, 206
superiority, 49
Surawicz, Frida, 46
surgical body modification, 181
Surviving human emotions, 49
Susano-Reborn, 101, 153
Susitar, 35, 36, 44, 46, 88, 129, 132, 134, 178, 229, 230
Swandog, 184, 187, 190
Swangirl, 139
swans, 48, 100, 139
Swedish language articles, 4, 17, 22, 28, 35, 36, 44, 46, 77, 88, 124, 129, 134, 178, 229, 230
Sweetstuff, 37, 92
Swiftpaw, 9, 22, 25, 29, 49, 67, 79, 98, 126, 127, 130, 132, 151, 213, 214
Swordmaiden (HowlingWolf, D. B.), 151
Syann, 162
Syleniel, 84, 117, 162
SylvanWind-Wolfenkin, 192, 194
Sylvyn: An Elven language, 200
Symbol icons, 197
Symbols, 191
Synesthesia symbiosis, 103
Synnabar, 49
Syrandir (Enchantment), 191
Syros, 108, 209
Syrosa, 199, 200
Tae alth jarti (the real thing), 116
Takkaddu, of Ko, 163
Tal, 200
Tal Leonan, 61, 103
Tale of two tails, 133
Taleena, of the Rainbow Elfs, 200
Tamer of Lynada, 193
Tamuril, 99
Tanith Sacristar, 189
Tao Te Kin, 159
TarawynWorldWalker, 154
Taren, 83
Tarivar kinatuli: (spiritual genetics), 165
Tarot: The voice of Elfin, 166
Tatsuya Rokurou, of the Flatlanders, 121
Tavthe, 75
Teacher, 100
Technical terms, 27
Technobushi, 143
Technologic-Skies, 52, 202
Teja, 97
Telegraph, The, 180
Tell Me, 85
Tell me what it is like to be a swangirl, 100
Telling, 88
Telling tutorial, the, 88
Temple of God, 91
Temple of the ota-'kin, 121
Ten metal tags, 79
Teorías sobre la Theriantropía (Theories), 226
Teresa, 157
Teriantropi, 22, 229
Teriantropi och psykiatrin (Therianthropy and psychiatry), 44, 229
Terionomfismo, 226
Teriotipos extintos (Extinct theriotypes), 228
Terminology, 28
Terminos y definiciones, 226
Terms, 27
Terms and definitions, 27, 226
Terms and Diagrams, 28
Territoriality in therians, 98
Territory, 98
Terro, 105
Tgguitarist, 188
Thai Lycanthropy Information Site, 231
Thassalante, 82
That claim won’t fly, 54, 169
That life isn’t this life, 162
That pack thing, 81
That place, 142
The Magical Elven Love Letters, 233
Thegreenmooseofdoom, 180
Theological approach to otherkin, a, 52
Theories of otherkin origins, 35
Theory and ritual in p-shifting, 136
Theory of misplaced souls, a, 35
Theory on personal angel-dom, a, 105
There are ruins within this head, 142
There is a difference, 82
There is a wolf that lives on the right side of my brain, 143
There’s only one way to be ‘wrong’ about being otherkin, 34
therian: am I, 57
Therian beanie, 195
Therian Child, 161
Therian Circolo, 9, 22, 28, 50, 72, 128, 220
Therian Community and subculture, 72
Therian Community and Subculture, 220
Therian Comunidade e Sub-Cultura, 72, 220
Therian Flag design, 196

Tomorrowlands, the, 204

ToniSerinn, 179

Torn, 185

Tornir, 205

Totem animals and Wereides: Which one do you have?, 39

Totem Magic, 205

Totem Magic: Dance of the Shapeshifter, 205

Totemic perspective on spiritual therianthropy, a, 39

Totemic therianthropy, 39

totems, 11, 24, 25, 33, 35, 39, 60, 65, 69, 85, 97, 98, 131, 205, 220, 223

Touch of Fae, the, 166

Tracing the Origins of the Term Therianthropy, 29

Tracks, 188

Traditional lore vs. modern day experience, 103

Transformation spells, 136

Transformations, 204

Transgender sheep?, 178

Transspecies diagnosis, 53, 178

transtranshumanism, 182

Tree Otherkin, 82

Tree people, the, 174

Trey A., 49, 59

Tribal therian symbol, 194

Trickster Wolf, 200

Trinity, 140

trolling, 52

Trollkvina, 70

True elfin, 81

True elfin culture, 103

True Elves of Europe: The Unfallen Elves of J.R.R. Tolkien, 117

True names, 61

Trueldon: eternal star kin, 176

Trusting our instincts and intuitions, 64

Truth about an incarnated angel, the, 105

Tserisa, 27, 58

Tsu, 48, 52, 91, 100, 114, 116, 139, 181, 201, 205

Tuatha De Danaan and Tir Nan Og (A story of the Tir), 103

Tulari, 104

Tumblr social justice community, 55, 178

Turktien, 60

Turret-Wolfheart, 194

Tusami, 186

Tuuli Bergdrachin, 188

Twilight Stray, 96, 143, 184, 197

TwilightBeginns, 52

Twitter, 34

Twitterpainted, 223

Two faced, 185

Two in one, 184

Tyger (TygerWulff), 151

Tygerwolfe, 118, 124, 129, 132, 135, 169, 184, 188, 190

Tymere, 117

Types of Awereness (WereBreeds), 33

Types of shifts, 128, 228

Tzolkin, 85

Uath (J. M.), 152

UberElf, 78

Uglykin, 95

Ultra-secrecy and covering your tracks, 89

Ulven, 126, 212

Uncle Wolf (T. T.), 152, 157

Une brève introduction au sujet, 22, 213

Une introduction au concept d’Animalité, 22, 213

Unhinged doors with strong thresholds, 48

Unicorn Otherkin, 110

Unicorn poetry, 203

Unicorn Wave, 201

Unicorn’s day (The day of unicorns), 176

Unicorns and unicornkin, 110

Unicornsoul, 110

Unified Theory of Therianthropy, 32

Unique perspective: Being a disabled animal person, 66

United by our differences, 76

Unity, 202

Unofficial AHWW archive, 73

Untitled selections, 40

untitled works, 63, 169, 173, 215

Up close and personal: The value of direct experience in understanding your therianthropy, 94

Upbringing, imprintation, and self-development, 67

Upon wings, 202

Upside-down of grounding, the, 168

Urytevaera, 88, 143

Use of wings, the, 169

Using a mirror, 131

Using the starseed tag as an excuse to avoid our missions, 112

Utlah, 74, 146, 152, 156

Utsana, 60

V’lurians and their many aspects, 163

Vacai (D. L.), 152

Vad är skillnaden på en teriantrop och en ‘vanlig’ person? (What is the difference between a therianthrope and an ‘ordinary’ person?), 124, 230

Vaershakkae, 152

Vaire and Adistari, 117

Valentine’s Day cards, 176

Valindë Wilwaren, 62, 114, 200

Value of kinness, the, 34

Vampire and otherkin identity models, 65

Vampire community age misconception, 78

Vampire health & medical, 41

Vampire or Vampyre?, 30

Vampire related glossary, 27

Vampire Research Center, 74

vampire wolf, 147

Vampire/werewolf war?, 107

Vampire?, 107

VampireKitten, 28, 32, 35

vampires, 26, 27, 29, 30, 33, 47, 50, 59, 67, 68, 70, 73, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 88, 102, 106, 107, 116, 124, 156, 168, 170, 180, 205

Vampires among us, 27

Vampiric aging: Or, ‘Where goeth thou, beauteous stranger?’, 67
A Directory of Otherkin Writings – 255

Vampiric ethos, the, 50
Vampiric subculture, the, 106
Vampyre ‘alternative style’ theory, 180
Vampyre Psykic, the, 107
Vampyrism: Beyond Awakening, 63
VanZandt, Wolf, 27, 40, 157
Vargabloid, 157, 190
Vargteriantrop, 28, 124, 229, 230
various authors, 141, 161
Various theories and the like, 41
Vashti, 72
Veil’s Edge, the, 21
Veränderungen (Changes), 66, 215
Verfa terada (inner sight), 38
Vessey, Nadya, 180
Village Voice, 19
Vincent, Ben, 142
Vincent, Kenneth, 46
virtual reality, 116
Virtual vs. practicing Were, 85
Virtue, Doreen, 102, 106, 112, 233
Vision, 173
Visual art, 60, 66, 97, 105, 108, 109, 129, 139, 185, 186, 188, 189, 190
Vladwolf, 39, 97
Você é um Therian?, 220
Vogue phenotype, the, 95
VoidEchthros, 116
Vor’jen, 104
Voshok, 100
VulpesVelox (Swift Fox, K. M.), 152

Waa! Waa! Humans suck!, 92
Walk like a Varanus, 124
Walking in, 140
Walking my Path, 179
Walking the path of a therian, 85
Walks-Between-Worlds, 66, 78, 98
Wannabes, 85
Want an elf name?, 61
Warning signs, 227
Warning signs that a were site or group or individual may be unhealthy, 83
Warrior (L. M.), 152
Wash, rinse, repeat, 47
Watch out for kitsune, 133
Watcher’s dream, a, 105
WatergazerWolf, 180, 196
Waters of obscurity: My theriantropic self-concept, 143
We all need to let go, 66
We are not sick and dangerous, for the record, 44
We do not do it for you, 85
We have a gift for giving, 82
We love you, 76
We’re a happy family, 89
Weapons, 174
Webweres, 214
We-Dwoje, 20, 219
Welcome to Paradise, 174
Welcome to Shinoa, 200
Welcome to the #forest, 74
wendigo, 14, 112
Were (Geek) Code, 198
Were community, the, 72
Were Community, the, 73
Were’s life, a, 89
Werebeasts & therianthropes, 26
Werebeasts and shapeshifters, 26
WereCards, 48, 66, 96, 109, 130, 134, 137, 138, 146
WereCode, the, 198
Werecommunity, 79
Werecoyote and werejackal annex, 97
WereCreatures and Therianthropy, 25
Werefolk, 25
Werefox annex, 97
Wereism is not instant ramen, 57
Wereism, relationships, truth, and openness, 88
Werenames, 61
Wereprint antler carving, 196
Wereprint tattoo, 196
Werehaven annex, 100
Were-related words, 27
Weres and therians, 29
Were-spotting guide, 78
Weresymbol contest, 197
Weresymbol: Branding spirituality, 191
WereUndies!, 92
Werewolf, 124
Werewolf and Shapeshifter Codex, 25
Werewolf and thoughts on Were Culture, 29
Werewolf Research Center, 74
Werewolf spells, 136
Werewolves & witches & archetypes, oh my!, 88
Werewolves, and more, 82
Werewolves, shapeshifters, and therianthropes: Is there a difference?, 29
Were-words, 29
Westly Ehrin R., 159
Weta Workshop, 180
What ‘they’ say, 89
What =IS= ‘otherkin’?, 31
What a Were Is, 29
What about ‘blend-a-kin’?, 140
What am I? And other things, 57
What are otakukin?, 121
What are otherkin?, 19, 24, 34, 42, 209
What are Sidhe?, 103
What are star markings?, 166
What are starseeds?, 112
What do all these terms mean?, 27
What do otakukin believe?, 121
What does it mean to be a vampire?, 106
What does it mean to be a Were, 29
What does it mean to be an elf?, 102
What does not make a therian, 32
What dragons are, 108
What good are memories of past lives?, 162
What if therian/otherkin were proven wrong?, 52
What if you were wrong?, 69
What is a Fei?, 163
What is a furry?, 33
What is a therianthrope?, 126
What is a Were?, 31
What is an Elvenstar?, 191
What is anotherkin?, 19, 20, 213
What is daemonism?, 118
What is FAE?, 72
What is otherkin?, 19, 31
What is shifter’s disease?, 137
Why can't I have wings?, 138
Why bother talking to your daemon?, 118
Why can't I have wings?, 169, 181
Why do we bother?, 138
Why do we separate ourselves entirely?, 91
Why I shift, 96
Why incarnate as human?, 35
Why is my name Coyote?, 97
Why mention magick on an otherkin site?, 165
Why shift?, 126
Why slang sucks, 28, 213
Why so many wolves?, 95, 228
Why the real lycanthropes often hide, 89
Why therianthropy is a subculture, 72
Why therianthropy is a subculture, 222
Why we're big, scary animals, 95
Why would faeries celebrate Purim?, 87
Why? Pushing the boundaries of belief, 64
Whyte Wolf K., 49, 152
Wicca, 15, 49, 159, 160
Wikipedia, 19, 141, 221
Wild Animus, 115
Wild cousins, 96
Wild dog, 97
Wildebeinreiter, 196
Wildolf, 10, 31, 41
WildSpiritWolf, 190
Wilkinson, Roy, 37, 110, 115, 157, 158, 176, 233
Willow, 21, 62, 112, 152
Windigo the Feral, 112, 152
Windows of the soul, 187
Windrider, 19
Windrunner, 74
WindSeeker, 189
Windtree, Flip, 29
Windtree, Rannir, 42
Windtree, Tirl, 19, 20, 29, 37, 54, 64, 65, 72, 78, 82, 162, 213
WingBoy, 92
Winged Watchers, 108
Winged wolf, 189
Winged Wolf, 21, 35, 67, 152
WingedWolf2004, 109
WingedWolfPSion, 189
Winger, 118, 119, 120
Wings, 169
Winter Eyes (BludWulf, D. I.), 152
Wintercrow, 100
WiseDragonQueen5, 187
Witch in the waiting room, the, 46
WitchDragon, 89
witch-hunts, 40
WitchVox, 21
Wolf (Tony), 152
wolf (wolf_diary), 40, 221
wolf (wolf-diary), 74, 222
Wolf and culture, 91
Wolf as a symbol, the, 96
Wolf at the Big University, 67
Wolf dance tagua pendant, 196
Wolf Daughter, 187
Wolf Diary, 97
Wolf driving, 132
Wolf eyes, 187
Wolf in me, 184
Wolf inside, the, 97, 185
Wolf manifesting, 96
Wolf power, 135
Wolf Shaman, 89, 139, 197
Wolf Shaman's new tattoo, 197
Wolf therians & pack, 81
Wolf theriotype, the, 95
Wolf Van Zandt, 227
Wolf VanZandt, 73
Wolf Walker, 190
Wolf within, 202
Wolf's religion, a, 158
Wolf02 (GrayWolf, Alastair), 152
Wolf-daughter, 21
Wolfen (Simon W.), 131, 152
Wolfenion, 187
Wolff, 96
Wolf Fang, 49, 152
wolfiscrazed, 194
Wolfkitten (Sindar-wolfkitten), Ambianya, 175, 180
Wolfslope (Wolf Walker, C. L. S.), 153
WolfNote, 61
Wolf-sheep's view on humans, a, 92
WolfsongForever, 202
Wolves and dogs and therianthropy, 96
woodsofodin, 52
Words and concepts, 27
Words remembered (Elven language page), 199
Working with phantom limbs, 133 workshops, 59
World Dragon, the, 160
Writing about my sides, 138
Writings on cat folk, 98
Würde ich wirklich? (Would I really?), 215
Wylda eldanari maton (all together now), 102
Wynde'nai, 59, 102
Wyvern, 35
Yaiolani, 9, 21, 25, 26, 27, 30, 32, 33, 35, 40, 43, 53, 57, 61, 73, 74, 77, 78, 81, 83, 89, 92, 97, 99, 100, 102, 112, 127, 132, 135, 136, 145, 156, 167, 173, 205, 227
Yennefer z Vengerbergu, 85, 89, 222, 223
Ymaryn, 105, 202
You can’t fly, 91
You could be elven if..., 58
You might be a dragon, 58
You might be otherkin if..., 58, 209, 213
You’re a what?!, 88
You’re all crazy, aren’t you?, 43
Your dæmons, 119
Your definition, 118
Yshatar, 112
Yule, 87
ZebraWolf, 196
Zjistete, jaky druh otherkin jste (Identifying your otherkin species), 209
Bánya Ψευτάκη, 20, 216
Ο Μαγικός Κόσμος των Otherkins (Otherkins- Οι ´Ανθρωποι Δίχως Ανθρώπινη Ψυχή!), (The magical world of the otherkin [Otherkin: the people with a non-human soul!]), 20, 216

Гипотеза о происхождении териантропии (Hypothesis on the origin of therianthropes), 221
ГЛАВНАЯ СТРАНИЦА (Home), 22, 221
Драконность (Dracony), 232
Драконность (Dracony), 221
Драконность (Драконизм) Часто задаваемые вопросы и ответы (Dracony FAQ), 221
Жизнь глазами ВепВолка (Life from the eyes of a wolf-kin), 223
Зарождение "were" личности (Engendering a Were/shifter identity), 224
Зверь и Логово: Понятие территории для зверя (The beast and its lair: The concept of therian territory), 175, 224
Иные (Otherkin), 221
Кarta сообществ и сайтов, посвященных териантропии в интернет (Map of [Russian-language] communities and websites dedicated to therianthropes), 77, 222
Койот Один (Coyote One), 36, 45, 96, 221
Краткий обзор современной контериантропии (A short view on modern contherianthropy), 221
Краткий экскурс в историю териантропии (A brief history of therianthropes), 73, 222
Круговорот драконов в природе (Cycle of dragons in the wild), 222
Леопард? (Leopard?), 204, 224
Льва Грауrrа (Growrr the Lion), 22, 198, 221, 224
Любопытная теория (An interesting theory), 40, 221
Люди как низшие существа (Humans as lesser beings), 223
На пути к воспоминаниям, 223
О людях-волках серьезно (зарисовки из жизни) (On the men-wolves seriously [sketches from life]), 97, 223
О равновесии и трансформации (Equilibrium and transformation), 138, 223
Популярность териантропии (Therianthrope popularity), 85, 222
Почему териантропия - субкультура (комментарии к статье Алдема) (Why therianthropy is a subculture [Comments on Aldema’s article]), 72, 222
Пушистые и териантропы (Furry and therianthrope), 33, 222
Сознание... териантропа (Consciousness... therianthrope), 138, 223
Теріантропія (Therianthropy), 221
Териянтропия как тест нового разума в старой тушке (Therianthrope as a test of new mind in an old body), 36, 45, 96, 221
Териантропы в инете в настоящее время (Therianthrope in the Internet now), 73, 222
Теріантропія (Therianthropy), 232
Хартаханы (Hartahany), 222
Часто задаваемые вопросы и ответы (Frequently asked questions), 57, 222
Человек и Зверь (Man and beast), 89, 223
Человек потенциально разумный (People potentially reasonable), 32, 221
Что такое оборотень на самом деле. Эмпирическое обоснование. (What is a werewolf actually. Empirical support.), 74, 222
Шифтинг (Shifting), 126, 223
Я не Оборотень (I am not a werewolf), 223
שרק נראים כמו בני אדם קוראים לי איציק ואני דרקון: על בני אדם, 217
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