

Jella-Lan Di Lorenzo

Baroness of Goriidel

AC 1014

By Michael Berry

“yes, while I am proud of my heritage it is not without its neanderthal like faults!!!”

I. Appearance

Jella-Lan is a pretty woman who has grown only more attractive as the years have passed. Once a tall lithe woman motherhood changed her body and she filled out from an athletic young woman to a curvaceous middle aged woman. She is fanatic about her body image and works out everyday for two hours minimum with her captain of guards practicing wrestling and hand to hand combat and though no longer an adventurer she remains in top physical shape and would be ready to resume the rigorous lifestyle of adventurer quite easily.

The Baroness who kept her hair short as an adventurer has let her hair grown down to her shoulders and she often ties it off with pink silk ribbons. She is fond of jewelry and will wear selected pieces of her collection when meeting important visitors or when attending social functions. While she is fond of adventurers garb and will be often be found around her tower or attending her normal duties as the Baroness dressed in a tunic and leather pants, she also has a large and stylish selection of silk gowns for more formal occasions.

II. Personality & Quirks

Jella-Lan possesses a strong moral sense of right and wrong but has little care for tradition or for living up to societies standards she feels forced upon her. She fully understands the role that Ethengarian women are supposed to fill but has rebelled against it since she was a young woman and tries to lead by example for any young Krondaharian women that might be looking up to her as an example of what they can be and may achieve on their own talents and abilities. Like all Ethengarians of Glantrian birth Jella-Lan is not just loyal to Glantri but fanatically loyal knowing that she and other Ethengarians are watched closely for any hint of disloyalty. She is a strong support of the Grand Army and directs her representative at the House of Lords to support any measures regarding the Grand Army regardless of the wishes of Prince Jherek or even Prince Urmahid.

While Jella-Lan is one of the most eligible and sought-after women in Glantri she only half-heartedly will meet potential suitors and has made it a point to turn away any Ethengarian men. Though proud of her heritage she is personally attracted to Thyatian men, as her husband himself was, and secretly hopes that the future will bring her a man who can accept her as their superior and the ruling noble in any potential match, but one that she is attracted to herself. Even more so than finding love in her life again

Jella-Lan's primary interest is her young son Rjekai whom she dotes on and is preparing for his coming enrollment at the Great School of Magic.

III. History & Background

Jella-Lan was born in 980 in the Krondaharian village of Züüngovi along the Krondaharian border with Klantyre to the north. She was the first child of Chimeg and Sarni Khalium who were farmers who owned a good-sized piece of land along the border upon which they grew peppers that were sold to producers of the regions famed Paprika spices. Jella-Lan grew up happy and was showered in love and attention by her parents. She was soon followed by a younger brother but who tragically passed away of the swine flu before he reached his 2nd birthday. To this day Jella-Lan still has fond memories of picking peppers in the families fields with her parents and often helped her mother with chores around the house including cooking which she still loves to do to this day.

As her father was arcaner who never progressed past basic levels of magical ability and her mother being a mundaner it was with great excitement that Jella-Lan was taken to the village's Temple of Rad on her 5th birthday to have magical testing done. The family was overjoyed to find out that the child tested positive for magical ability and could with the proper training become a magic user and an arcaner herself and thus a profitable match for a upper class Ethengarian man. Jella-Lan was excited herself and dreamed of becoming a powerful wizard but was too young to realize the yoke her society was going to place upon her dreams. As her parents were moderately successful financially, they could afford to send Jella-Lan to Braastar to receive a proper education for an Ethengarian lady where she would also receive the training she needed to learn magic. Jella-Lan spent the next four years at the Krondaharian Academy where she not only learned the basic of magic but proper Ethengarian etiquette and social training. While Jella-Lan loved her magical studies, she felt the etiquette and training to be not just boring but demeaning and requests to learn more academic subjects like biology or mathematics were rebuffed harshly by her masters as unbefitting a proper Ethengarian lady. Young Jella-Lan sulked her way through her years at the Academy but did arrive back home in 990 as a magic user with three spells in her spellbook.

Upon returning home Jella-Lan pestered her parents about receiving more complete education where she could learn the subjects, she would need to become the powerful wizard she knew was destined to become. Her father laughed out loud upon hearing that, which absolutely broke his daughters heart, and told her that her place was not going to be in some dusty and lonely wizards tower but taking her honored place in society, like his mother, and support her husband and raise lots of healthy grandchildren for her parents to coddle and spoil. The devastated Jella-Lan broke down in tears and left her parents standing aghast as she turned her back upon them and ran to her room and locked the door and cried her eyes out. Her dreams grew less and less attainable as the days helping her parents in the field grew into months which grew into years until she reached her 14th birthday, and a big party and celebration was planned for Jella-Lan with the promise by her father of a special gift. The party for Jella-Lan was filled with friends and family and Jella-Lan for the first time in years was joyous and happy though she did notice the arrival of some strangers that her father had met upon arrival that she had not seen before. The nature of the guests was not revealed until her father, during the dinner toast,

revealed his secret gift to his daughter and introduced her to her future husband, the 16-year-old son of a prominent and wealthy merchant who had just graduated from the Great School of Magic earlier that year. Jella-Lan had nothing to say but muttered pleasantries which everyone took for proper behavior of a well bred Ethengarian lady but in fact was just the total collapse of all her hopes and dreams. The couple were to be married in two weeks. However, as Jella-Lan cried herself to sleep that night she swore that that marriage would never happen.

After a great deal of thought and planning Jella-Lan left home in the middle of the night, atop her brand-new white mare, vowing never to return, in her hand a small bag containing all the precious gems and jewels her betrothed had given her as an engagement gift along with the white mare. Having decided that she would be rapidly chased down upon the main roads Jella-Lan decided to head cross-country southeast towards Dunvegan and Skullhorn Pass instead of north or south along the main road as she thought they'd assume she'd have done. Jella-Lan was indeed correct in her assumptions and the villagers led by her father first went south then north giving her 4 full days to get out of her father's reach which she did reaching and emerging through the pass on the eastern side of the Colossus Mounts before her father realized that is where HE would have gone if trying to evade pursuit. By the time her father reached the pass, and his fears were confirmed that a young lady matching her description had indeed passed this way, Jella-Lan was already attached to a Darokinian caravan heading into Ethengar with the Kingdom of Vestland. Upon arriving in Norrvik she sold much of her remaining stock of gems and jewels and enrolled herself in the Uppsala School of Magic where she spent the next four years under an assumed name, as a Vestlandian of Ethengarian ethnicity, receiving the solid academic education, in addition to furthering her magical studies, that she so craved. Even after being frugal with her coin, it started to run low after four years of tuition, spell components, magical research in addition to food and rent and decided to see the world and try her hand at the life of an adventurer. She took much of what she had left of her bridal coin and booked passage on a ship to Thyatis City.

Upon arriving she headed off to the foothills of the Altan Tepes in the Duchy of Retebius and hooked up with an adventuring party in need a mage. She spent the next six years finding fortune, even if not fame, as her and new friends became successful adventurers. She became intimate and eventually fell in love with one of her adventuring party, a Thyatian fighter named Lucious di Lorenzo and were considering retiring and starting a family when war broke out between Alphatia and Thyatis, and its ally Glantri. Upon hearing the savage terror attacks upon Glantri by Alphatian terrorist and the need for experienced adventurers to combat them the party decided to travel to Glantri and offer their services. It was great trepidation that Jella-Lan agreed but on one condition, that Lucious marry her that night, he joyfully agreed and the two were married by their friend and party member Francesca Cianciulli who was a cleric of Valerias. Upon arriving in Glantri the group, with their cleric pretending to be a fighter, registered as a Hunter-Killer (H-K) group and were assigned to Fort Nordling where they spent the next several years hunting down Alphatian mages and their summoned monsters. The adventuring group proved highly effective immediately hunting down several groups and killing off the Alphatians and their monsters and gaining a lot of recognition from the Council of Princes. However, the hunter eventually became the hunted when a group of Alphatian wizards laid a trap for the group and ambushed them killing over half the party before being driven off and the H-K group disbanded and settled in the town of Leenz and

plotted their next move. Before the group could recruit new members and register again Jella-Lan discovered she was pregnant with her first child and decided to retire completely from adventuring. She and her husband plotted their next move and an offhand remark by Francesca about becoming a noble rekindled the childhood dream, seeming squashed by her father, of not merely becoming rich or famous but becoming powerful, a powerful wizard.

Not more than four months later the Barony of Goriidel in the far northwestern part of Glantri and seemingly out of the range of any expected future Alphonatian attack came open to potential nobles to compete for. Jella-Lan decided to compete and was granted an exception to the requirement that nobles must be graduates of the Great School thanks to her service to Glantri. One notable objector to granting the exception was the Prince of Krondahar who questioned her and her background fiercely and upon learning what Jella-Lan had done as well as foreign educated, made clear that he did think Jella-Lan was qualified but left no doubt he disagreed profoundly with the notion of a noble Ethengarian woman who was also a thief. Perhaps as much to spite Prince Jherek as anything, and his ultra-conservative views on gender, and respecting the situation that Jella-Lan had been in most of the princes backed Jella-Lan and she easily won the Council vote and became the new Baroness of Goriidel. She declared herself allied with House Krinagar who had made a good impression upon her as a progressive forward-thinking man, especially for an Ethengarian one. Jella-Lan, her husband and all of her adventuring buddies heading west and took up residence in her newly won Barony. Her friend Francesca (Age 38, C19 of Valerias, AL-C) became her new Captain of Guards and other friends became high officials in the Barony.

In early 1009 her first child was born, a son they named Bataar (hero in Ethengarian). Tragically however her husband Lucious died in his sleep not a year later and the grief-stricken Baroness withdrew from all but her closest friends and sunk herself completely into the raising her son. It took several years for Jella-Lan to come out of mourning and find a measure of peace. As part of her healing process, she decided she would face what she had long dreaded, and ignored, facing her family. She sent one of her trust friends to her family home to deliver a letter expressing her sorrow at her actions and for any pain she might have caused them but never once expressed regret for one look at her infant son conceived and born in true love was enough to quash any thought of regret. Several weeks later the messenger returned, with the letter unopened and with a sad story he reluctantly shared with the Baroness. Her family no longer owned the family home or land, and which were claimed by her scorned fiancée's family as repayment for the 'stolen' bridal gifts. The last anyone in Züüngovi had heard of her parents they had moved to Braastar after her messenger asked around found both died there within several years. Her mother of an untreated venereal disease she must have got from a customer and her father of suicide a year later. Fighting back tears Jella-Lan quietly swore to herself to have revenge upon the merchants family with a special revenge planned especially for her former fiancée.

The years since her husband's death and the discovery of her family's fate have left little time for revenge as she had a young child to raise who was just this year tested for magical ability and found to have substantial magical ability and so she is prepping Bataar for enrollment at the Great School next year. However, once her son is safely enrolled at the Great School Jella-Lan plans on seeking some revenge.

IV. Web of Intrigue

Jella-Lan has few friends among the nobility. Though respecting Prince Urmahid she has no dealings with him since meeting him during the Awards Festival as Jella-Lan has remained at Goriidel and respectfully refused invitations to parties and gatherings at the capital. She instructs her representative at Parliament to follow the prince's lead explicitly. She obviously has also had few dealings or meetings with any of her fellow nobles outside of a few meetings with her neighboring Baron to the north, Baron Iriel Newleaf of Lantruen.

Two enemies she has though, and both are quite powerful. One is the Prince of Krondahar himself Prince Jherek IV. Though unable to do anything directly against the backwards thinking Prince whose thinking and stubborn adherence to tradition lead to Jella-Lan's fateful decision to flee her pre-arranged marriage. She plans on being a much more forceful voice for the rights and worth as wizards of Ethengarian women in their own rights and challenging Jherek and his outdated way of thinking directly. The other enemy of course is the merchant Chuluun Ulagan and his son, her former fiancée, Oktai who are among the most powerful and rich of Krondaharian merchants and who are well aware of Jella-Lan's reappearance in Glantri since she first came before the Council of Princes and who also spent large sums of money unsuccessfully to try to sway votes against her.

V. Statistics & Style of Magic

Statistics: 11th level Wizard;
Str 13, Int 16, Wis 12, Dex 18, Con 13, Chr 13; AL - Lawful

Languages: Ethengarian, Thyatian Common, Alphatian, Elf

Weapon Proficiencies: Dagger (basic), Staff (basic), Wrestling (skilled)

Skills: Alchemy (16), Alternative Magics (16), Cooking (16), Magical Engineering (16), Knowledge of Thyatian Society and Nobility (16), Knowledge of Glantrian Society and Nobility (16), Dominion Administration (16), Horse Riding (18)

Jella-Lan is a very capable and experienced wizard due to her years spent as an adventurer and knows all the common offensive and defensive magical spells. Unlike many wizards, especially female ones, Jella Lan enjoys engaging in hand-to-hand combat and her surprising strength and talent have been enough of surprise to opponents to allow her to defeat them quickly before they can adjust to the unexpected. Jella Lan is a proud wizard and enjoys using her magic in any way she can but especially in making life easy for her and her young son.

'I don't give a single flying Rad if she is a capable wizard or not, she needs to be in the kitchen or in a bed. That is a women's place in OUR society!

(Prince Jherek in a 'philosophical discussion' with his wife Lan-Syn and her brother Prince Urmahid)