

Mikail Zirchevski

Baron of Lipetsk
Master of Dracology at the Great School of Magic
Dragon Master of the 3rd Circle

AC 1014

By Michael Berry

“NO! Dragons are no more noble than we humans are!”

I. Appearance

Mikail is notorious for being considered one of the most gorgeous men in Glantri. Mikail Zirchevski is a handsome man any way you cut it. He is always dressed in latest fashions that accent his physique perfectly. Standing just over six feet tall and weighing a bit over 160 pounds he is not particularly muscle bound but has not a ounce of fat on him. Zirchevski has a strong face with perfect teeth and a smile that can sooth the angriest or charm of the coldest. His has unblemished perfect skin with thick black hair that comes down to his shoulders. Even if married to the daughter of perhaps the most powerful of non-Princely families in Glantri, he is still the dream of many women. His favorite color to wear is black which contrast nicely against his pale white skin.

II. Personality & Quirks

Never one to stop and smell the roses Mikail is a driven individual. He has lived his life ruled by his passions. His thirst for revenge, quests for knowledge, and drive to be foremost in his field of expertise. To this point in his life it has left him a frustrated individual. He has been unable to exact revenge for his father, and he knows that he has a rival in draconic study that he may never top. He pours his frustration into magical study hoping one day to use brute magic to overcome those that stand in his way. He has a very high opinion of himself and his abilities which have made his failures harder to swallow and made him a bitter man. Very aloof even among fellow mages and barely recognizing non-arcancers, his social skills are not as well developed as his magical abilities are. The only people he truly feels love and affection for are his wife and daughter. While he is the object of forbidden desire for many young ladies Mikail is often oblivious to it and even if he wasn't he wouldn't ever think of dabbling outside of his marriage. He loves his wife deeply, and he fears the wrath of his mother-in-law even more.

III. History & Background

Mikail was born in Kopstar in 979 and was the first and only child of Sergei Zirchevski, an arcaner and merchant and Aaltje Schoonhoven who was an alchemist and from a middle class family of perfume designers. He had a happy and stable childhood and like his parents showed a strong affinity and talent for magic and was sent off to Glantri City to study at the Great School. While away at the Great School as a teenager his father disappeared while trying to explore and exploit a rumored direct trade route to Wendar through the Wendarian Mountains. His mother commissioned an adventuring party to find him, and find him they did as they were captured and led to the lair of the mighty ruler of the Dragon Realm of Amanthyr, the feared red dragon Amanth. One of the party was allowed to return to Glantri, with a

warning to stay out of her realm, but not after seeing her party including Mikail's father devoured by Amanth and her bodyguards.

When Mikail learned of the fate his father and how he died he took a leave of absence from the Great School to tend to his devastated mother. Mikail returned to the school a year later and swore to have his revenge and dedicated himself to learning all he could of dragons. His 'interest' in Dragons caught the eye of the masters of the Secret Craft of Dracology who sponsored him into the secret craft. Mikail graduated from the Great School in 998 and immediately went on the adventuring path in a quest to gain power and experience. After a couple of years adventuring in Norwold he felt he had progressed enough as a wizard to avenge his father and so returned home to prepare for a show-down with Amanth. Mikail and his party fought their way to Amanth's stronghold where he announced to her that her death would be revenge for his father. Unfortunately though his party was overwhelmed by Amanth and was forced to run for their lives. Mikail bore the brunt of Amanth and she mocked the use of his puny Dracologist abilities. Mikail was close to death by the time they made it out of the mountains and back to Ft. Nordling. After a few close calls he recovered from near death though he still bears the physical scars of that encounter with scars to his chest where Amanth gouged him with a claw. The taunts of the dragon as they ran still haunt him to this day telling him just how tasty his father was.

He retired from adventuring after that failed attack and lived with his mother who was in failing health and spent a year with her until she passed away. While he was in Kopstar he met Andara Verlien, daughter of the Count of High Sonden, at a party and they soon fell in love. Though Mikail struggled to get the approval of Lady Sinaria eventually she relented when she saw her daughter would marry the half-Flaem mage with or without her permission. She eventually gave her permission and blessing and they were soon after married in 1002 and moved to Glantri City. Andara became pregnant with their first child soon after and in 1003 their daughter Katya was born and showed amazing magical ability as an infant. Mikail became a Professor of Dracology at the Great School in conjunction with their move to the capital, teaching Dragon biology and psychology and becoming a prominent member of the Secret Craft. In 1006 due to her amazing talent Katya was admitted to the Great School at the age of 5 and is considered one of the most talented prodigies the School has seen in many years. A year later the humanoid invasion reached Glantri City and Mikail commanded a section of students in charge of defense of the city walls. His group saw heavy action but performed well in the defense of the wall and only had 3 wounded students during the fighting.

Shortly after the Great War ended the Council of Princes decided to have a 2nd round of dominion creations. In part to reward some of the great Glantrian war heroes, but also to help increase taxation and control of the lands. Mikail decided to make feelers and was pleasantly surprised to see that he looked to have a good amount of support. He then announced his candidacy for a new Barony being carved out of the Eastern Czaikow Free Province in the far northeast of Glantri. That particular dominion did happen to be the last desired of the new dominions and Mikail soon outclassed and outpoliticked his potential opponents until only one was left by the time the matter came before the Council of Princes. Mikail easily won the new Barony against his Ethengarian opponent and became a noble, a Baron of Glantri which pleased to no end his mother-in-law and wife.

However Mikail had no interest in actually ruling a dominion so after spending a break from teaching at the Great School in his dominion, which he named Lipetsk after a favorite poem of his, he decided to hire the former mayor of the largest town in his new dominion as his seneschal. Thus Mikail returned to Glantri City and his family and teaching duties at the Great School. His choice of a seneschal has proved to be a great decision as the seneschal was widely respected by the population and has proved to be a

very talented administrator. Mikail has shown his appreciation by giving many financial bonus's and gifts to him in reward for the sterling service provided and has promised him greater rewards in the future for continued loyal and efficient service.

Today Mikail is quite content in his status as a noble, and with his family, and position at the Great School after being promoted to Master of Dracology this year after the previous Master blew himself up in a laboratory accident. His daughter now nine years old continues to amaze the Masters of the Great School and has risen quickly in power and abilities. Zirchevski's relationship with his wife is as strong and passionate as when they first met. However two things cloud Mikail's otherwise perfect life. One is the failure to avenge his father's death and the second is the political schism within the Secret Craft of Dracology. Zirchevski is now beginning to worry that he is on the wrong side of Prince Jaggar and thus will be on the losing side. Other than those two things, life could not be any better for the Baron of Lipetsk.

IV. Web of Intrigue

Fully ensconced in the world of academia at the Great School Mikail has made a name for himself in intellectual circles. His classes at the Great School have always been popular with the ladies who struggle to focus on his fascinating lessons about draconic politics, while they un-dressing him with their eyes. While Zirchevski has few enemies, he has allies in the powerful Sinaria Verlien if only for her daughter and grand-daughters sake. Another ally that Zirchevski is not aware of is the Prince of Boldavia himself. Prince Morphail has had his eyes on Zirchevski ever since he was awarded his Barony. Morphail has not attempted to infect Zirchevski yet for several reasons. First the experience with Sergei Wutyla and now the problems he is having with him have made him a bit unsure as well as cautious of attempting to infect Mikail, especially as Morphail knows Zirchevski is a far more powerful wizard. Morphail has also not failed to take into account that 'word' of his nature has been passed from Wutyla to Zirchevski thus Mikail might well have made preparations as Sergei obviously did himself. The second reason is the family connections of Zirchevski. Morphail knows that if Mikail joins the undead, his family likely soon will or will surely flee in knowledge of it. Morphail does not fear a confrontation with Countess Sinaria Verlien however Prince Morphail has not survived for centuries by taking chances and being that Verlien is as powerful a wizard, if not more, than Morphail it would be too much of a risk in his opinion to convert Zirchevski, especially when he has not shown any notion to leaving or betraying House Igorov. However Morphail watches him closely for any signs of betrayal and would move against him if he found out he planning to do or, or actually did before he could act.

Zirchevski is currently is deeply involved in a bitter philosophical power struggle within the Secret Craft of Dracology. There are two opposing schools of thought within the secret craft regarding the uses of their abilities. One quietly promoted by Prinz Jaggar through the famed adventurer Viscount Michel Leconte, himself a 4th circle blue Dracologist, who shares Jaggar's belief that the purpose and reason for the groups existence is to study and understand dragons. Mikail, though neutral in alignment, has allied with the chaotic Dracologists and their leader Ezechial Naramis and believes the purpose of the Secret Craft is simply learn to use Draconic abilities to further to their own power to combine the power of Dragons and their own wizardry power. Mikail, unaware of Jaggar's subtle influence in the matter and thinking that he would support their faction due to his reputation as a dragon hunter, has come to hate his rival and has considered plans to eliminate the Blue Dracologist. He may come to find though that that engaging Amanth in her lair was not the worst choice of opponents he could have chosen but time will tell if this philosophical schism will evolve into full blown violence between the two sides as Prince

Jaggar over the last few years has been distracted by personal affairs to participate in the discussion and is unaware of the brewing trouble within the Dracologist group.

V. Statistics & Style of Magic

Statistics: 15th Level Wizard, Master of Dracology at the Great School of Magic, 3rd Circle Dracologist (soon will be studying for the 4th circle);
S-12 I-17 W-11 D-12 Con-13 Chr-16; AL - Neutral

Languages: Traladaran (Boldavian dialect), Thyatian (Glantrian dialect), Ethengarian, Dragon

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

Skills: Alchemy (I), Alternative Magics (I), Magical Engineering (I), Draconic Lore (I+1), Draconic History (I), Draconic Culture (I), Glantrian Society and Nobility (I), Monster Lore - General (I)

As befitting a White Dracologist Mikail loves to use cold based spells and always has a couple Ice Storm spells memorized and at the ready. He has an impressive array of magical items relating to fire and cold based attack and defense. Though retired from adventuring he still harbors a desire to mount Amanth's head over his fireplace in his manor. As such he is always on the lookout for the latest in offensive and defensive related spells.

'why are the good ones married, if he wasn't I would'

rest of sentence rated NC-17 by the Glantrian Moral Majority for a better Glantri

(Monique D'Ambreville during Mikail's lecture on the process of draconic sublimation)