## The Cult of Kern

Wood Elves of the Laurëlorn Forest believe that their gods sometime take physical forms to walk and live among them. Occasionally these visitations may result in the birth of a demi-god who becomes a hero in the folklore of the Laurëlornalim and inspires some to dedicate their lives to follow her example.

One of the better known of these semi-divine beings is Kern, son of the River Goddess Torothal. It is believed that he was the being that sealed the borders of the Laurëlorn Forest from the Dwarfs who were quickly returning to the mountains after sacking the High Elven colonial city of Sith Rionnasc'namishathir at the end of the War of the Beard. One of the legends had it that Kern also erected the megalithic stones that mark the boundaries of the Laurëlorn in order to offer some protection against Elven enemies as well as maintain the mystical enchantment of the forest itself.

One of the better-known groups that revere Kern is the troop known as Skarloc's Archers. The mysterious leader of the band is also called 'The Hooded One.' Many young and idealistic Elves flock to Skarloc's banner. Among their number is Glam, the Laughing Warrior, renowned as the one of the greatest of the Elven wardancers. It is whispered that only Skarloc can control his mercurial temper. Another member of the band is Kaia Stormwitch, the scouts' wizard and standard bearer. The standard she carries is a holy relic and contains the ashes of the heart of Kern. Finally, there is Araflane Warskald, whose great bronze carynx warhorn doomsounder strikes fear into the hearts of the Archers' enemies.