## From the Fairy Handbook Character Profiles for Apple, Edelweiss, Harlequin, Helenium, Jasmine, Raven, Sea Dragon, Sparrow

<u>Apple</u> Name: London Pierce Fairy Spirit: apple blossom Wand: bright purple gladiola stem Mentor: Madam Mariposa Gift(s): healing, flexibility, widespread appeal First Introduced: age eleven, *Berylline and the Tree of Joy* Adventures: *Meadowsweet and the Magic Fountain, Apple and the Legend of the Western Star, Aurora and the Lights of Marfa, Journey's End* Misc: For centuries, apple trees and blossoms have been used as religious symbols and have long been featured as extremely prominent elements in stories of both mythology and folklore. Even

been featured as extremely prominent elements in stories of both mythology and folklore. Even now, the fruit is considered by many to be an important symbol. Apple is somewhat of an expert regarding the fruit's folklore. As a very young girl, even before learning about her fairy spirit, she kept a copy of *Johnny Appleseed* under her pillow because it was her favorite childhood story. However, aside from folklore and symbolism, apples have a wide range of uses. Over the years, the fruit has given rise to a great variety of delicious edibles, and is useful in making products such as vinegar and pectin. The healthful nature of apples has also been long recognized. Apple's fairy gifts relate to all aspects of the fruit.



Edelweiss Name: Sophie Hahn Fairy Spirit: an edelweiss flower Wand: a small twig from a rowan tree with a single, shiny white berry clinging to its tip Mentor: unknown Gift(s): bravery, elusiveness, protection of others First Introduced: age ten, *Sparrow and Edelweiss's Ghost* Adventures: *Sparrow and Edelweiss's Ghost* Misc: The spirit of Edelweiss was trapped in the walls of Blumenthal Castle in Germany for one hundred and fifty years until Sparrow and her friends were able to break a curse, which then allowed the spirit to pass into the hereafter. She was ten years old when she was kidnapped and cursed by an evil spriggan, which is how her spirit ended up in the wall. Edelweiss flowers themselves were once incredibly rare, growing only on perilous mountaintops. The flowers were also a symbol of purity and a source of mysticism. Since they were largely inaccessible, because they grew in inaccessible places and were difficult to find, they were said to hold the spirit of the

mountains and served to protect mountaineers from harm or capture. Edelweiss flowers were also the flowers of queens and were synonymous with bravery since those seeking the flower often had to endure long journeys and hardships. Edelweiss fairies are very rare, so rare that usually only one exists at any given time worldwide.



<u>Harlequin</u> Name: Elizabeth Grayson Fairy Spirit: a harlequin snake Wand: a cinnamon stick Mentor: Madam Monarch Gift(s): invisibility (related to the camouflage abilities of the snake), strength and coordination (because snakes are generally so) First Introduced: age ten, *Snapdragon and the Odyssey of Élan* 

Adventures: Harlequin and the Pebble of Spree, Dove and the Parchment of Dulcet; Brandtii and the Perils of Prima Della, Top Strawberry, and Big-Wag; Ginger and the Purple Ibex; Thyme and the Magic Dollhouse; Journey's End

Misc: Harlequin is the only snake fairy to ever exist. She is also the only fairy lacking wings. Due to her flightless state, she often rides on a kestrel or a white flamingo to travel. Harlequin's spirit comes from a copperhead snake; though poisonous, copperheads have excellent camouflage abilities. If her spirit had been from another multi-colored snake, such as a coral snake, her gift might have been the ability to attract or distract, like those snakes do in nature. They are brightly colored as a warning, so that other creatures can take notice of them and avoid them. Harlequin's name is connected to another Harlequin, the magical mischievous sprite of Italian Comedy, who also had the ability to become invisible whenever he wished. Related to this, our Harlequin is very playful and is known as the Fairy of Jokes and Mischief. Harlequin eventually marries Brownie Bob. Grown-ups Harlequin and Bob have twins named Anthony and Marjorie who are a part of the story in *Harlequin and the Pebble of Spree*.



<u>Helenium</u> Name: Cairo Gibson Fairy Spirit: helenium flower Wand: a bit of enchanted broom bristle Mentor: Madam Finch Gift(s): the ability to attract and communicate with butterflies and moths First Introduced: age twelve, *Scarlet, Willow, and the Two-Foot Witch* Adventures: *Helenium and the Really Very Confused House* Misc: Her nickname is the Sunshine Fairy.



Jasmine Name: Amy Scott Fairy Spirit: a Chilean jasmine plant Wand: a curled wisp of enchanted cloud, made by an elf so it will never come apart or drift away Mentor: Madam Mum Gift(s): resistance to disease (due to the heartiness of jasmine), the ability to temporarily mesmerize others to the point that they are put into a kind of trance (related to the intoxicating fragrance of the flowers), able to see future events First Introduced: age eleven, *Bumblebee and the Maze of Regret* 

Adventures: Jasmine, the Journal, and Magnolia's Sacrifice; Helenium and the Really Very Confused House, Journey's End

Misc: She is the only fairy to ever be a member of the Secret Society of Riffleberry Hunters.



<u>Raven</u> Name: Harper Borden Fairy Spirit: raven Wand: a fancy antique hatpin Mentor: Madam Finch

Gift(s): able to see the future with visions, the ability to see truth even when it is hidden deep within (related to ravens being prophetic birds and keepers of all truths)

First Introduced: age ten, Cherry and the Adventures of Pwensfourth-Greeves Mistooken Adventures: Raven and the Children of the Rainbow, Eglantine and the Laughing Owl, Jewels and Superheroes, Obsidian and the Last Brownie Prince, Journey's End

Misc: Raven is incredibly artistic and draws a superhero comic series called *The Adventures of Green Apple*. She is also a birdwatcher. In comparison to other fairies with black feathers such as Swan and Magpie, Raven is a sleek and streamlined fairy. Her style somewhat resembles Art Deco, stressing simplicity and symmetry blended with artistry.



<u>Sea Dragon</u> Name: Sandra Hernandez Fairy Spirit: leafy sea dragon, a type of seahorse Wand: a miniature yellow rosebud stem Mentor: Madam Oyster Gift(s): able to breathe under water, excellent camouflage abilities, expert knowledge of sea creatures First Introduced: age nine, *Blue, the Mermaid, and the Fisherman's Tale* Adventures: *Blue, the Mermaid, and the Fisherman's Tale*; *Sandpiper and the Ship of Pools* Misc: She lives in the Gulf Region of Fairies.



Sparrow Name: Kirsten Hernandez Fairy Spirit: sparrow Wand: a fresh dandelion stem Mentor: Madam Mum Gift(s): inconspicuousness which allows her to hide in plain sight (related to human psychology because most people don't even notice sparrows, though they are one of the most common birds in existence), excellent eyesight (a gift common to many bird fairies) First Introduced: age ten, *Raven and the Children of the Rainbow* Adventures: *Lilac and the Secret of Obsidian, Sparrow and Edelweiss's Ghost, The Glass Fairy, Berylline and the Tree of Joy,* Misc: She has never lost a game of *Hide and Seek*.

