



## KHAJIITI COSMOGONY

Unlike other cultures' creation myths, the Khajiiti story doesn't begin with violent interplay between Anu and Padomay, but rather with loving intercourse between the First Littermates.

Clan Mother Ahnissi writes,

In the beginning there were two littermates, Ahnurr and Fadomai. After many phases, Fadomai said to Ahnurr, "Let us wed and make children to share our happiness."  
And they gave birth to Alkosh, the First Cat. And Ahnurr said, "Alkosh, we give you Time, for what is as fast or as slow as a cat?"  
And they gave birth to Khenarthi, the Winds. "Khenarthi, to you we give the sky, for what can fly higher than the wind?"  
And they gave birth to Magrus, the Cat's Eye. "Magrus, to you we give the sun, for what is brighter than the eye of a cat?"  
And they gave birth to Mara, the Mother Cat. "Mara, you are love, for what is more loving than a mother?"  
And they gave birth to S'rendarr, the Runt. "S'rendarr, we give you mercy, for how does a runt survive, except by mercy?"  
And many phases passed and Ahnurr and Fadomai were happy.

From this passage, one gleans that the First Litter of Ahnurr and Fadomai consisted of the Aedric et'Ada, but more was yet to come.

Clan Mother Ahnissi writes,

And Ahnurr said, "We should have more children to share our happiness." And Fadomai agreed. And she gave birth to Hermorah. And she gave birth to Hircine. And she gave birth to Merrunz and Mafala and Sangiin and Sheggorath and many others.  
And Fadomai said:  
"Hermorah, you are the Tides, for who can say whether the moons predict the tides or the tides predict the moons?"  
"Hircine, you are the Hungry Cat, for what hunts better than a cat with an empty belly?"  
"Merrunz, you are the Ja'Khajiit, for what is more destructive than a kitten?"  
"Mafala, you are the Clan Mother, for what is more secretive than the ways of the Clan Mothers?"  
"Sangiin, you are the Blood Cat, for who can control the urges of blood?"  
"Sheggorath, you are the Skooma Cat, for what is crazier than a cat on skooma?"  
And Ahnurr said, "Two litters is enough, for too many children will steal our happiness."

From this passage, one gleans that the Second Litter of Ahnurr and Fadomai consisted of the Daedric et'Ada. With the First and Second Litters sired, Ahnurr is satisfied; however, more was yet to come.

Clan Mother Ahnissi writes,

But Khenarathi went to Fadomai and said, "Fadomai-mother, Khenarathi grows lonely so high above the world where not even my brother Alkosh can fly." Fadomai took pity on her and tricked Ahnurr to make her pregnant again.

And Fadomai gave birth to the Moons and their Motions. And she gave birth to Nirni, the majestic sands and lush forests. And she gave birth to Azurah, the dusk and the dawn.

And from the beginning, Nirni and Azurah fought for their mother's favor.

Ahnurr caught Fadomai while she was still birthing, and he was angry. Ahnurr struck Fadomai and she fled to birth the last of her litter far away in the Great Darkness.

Fadomai's children heard what had happened, and they all came to be with her and protect her from Ahnurr's anger.

Fadomai, prompted by Khenarathi, tricks Ahnurr into impregnating her one final time. The Third Litter is more complicated than the First and Second. Fadomai births the Moons and Lunar Lattice, Nirni, and Azurah, but, after Ahnurr strikes her in his anger, she flees the Aurbis to the Great Darkness to birth the last of her Third Litter: her final cub. One can see that, here, the Khajiiti myth begins to adopt a more violent theme. Still, more was yet to come.

Clan Mother Ahnissi writes,

And Fadomai gave birth to Lorkhaj, the last of her litter, in the Great Darkness. And the Heart of Lorkhaj was filled with the Great Darkness. And when he was born, the Great Darkness knew its name and it was Namiira.

Lorkhaj, the last child of Ahnurr and Fadomai, is born in the Great Darkness outside the Aurbis, the den of his siblings. His unique birthplace separates him from the other children of the First, Second, and Third Litters, and connects him to the Great Darkness, Namiira. One last time, more was yet to come.

Clan Mother Ahnissi writes,

After many phases, Nirni came to Lorkhaj and said, "Lorkhaj, Fadomai told me to give birth to many children, but there is no place for them."

And Lorkhaj said, "Lorkhaj makes a place for children and Lorkhaj puts you there so you can give birth." But the Heart of Lorkhaj was filled with the Great Darkness, and Lorkhaj tricked his siblings so that they were forced into this new place with Nirni. And many of Fadomai's children escaped and became the stars. And many of Fadomai's children died to make Nirni's path stable. And the survivors stayed and punished Lorkhaj.

Desirous to birth children in the manner of her Mother, Nirni requests Lorkhaj's aid in making a birthing den—perhaps there is either no room or no safety for further offspring in the Aurbis. Lorkhaj agrees, and contrives to create the Mundus, but, his Heart bonded with Namiira, he tricks his littermates to succumb to weakness that the Mortal Plane be made suitable for Nirni—note that Lorkhaj's trickiness is similar to that of Fadomai, who tricked Ahnurr. The Second Litter doesn't fall for the trick, but the First Litter is sundered: the Magna Ge discover the plot and flee, the Earth Bones die to establish stability, and the Aedra become bound to the Mundus and punish Lorkhaj for his trickery. The rest of the Third Litter take their places in the Mundus: Nirni goes to the den, the Moons and their Motions orbit her, and Azurah links to them the Khajiit.