

# *Liber Sodalitas*

## *The Blind Path*

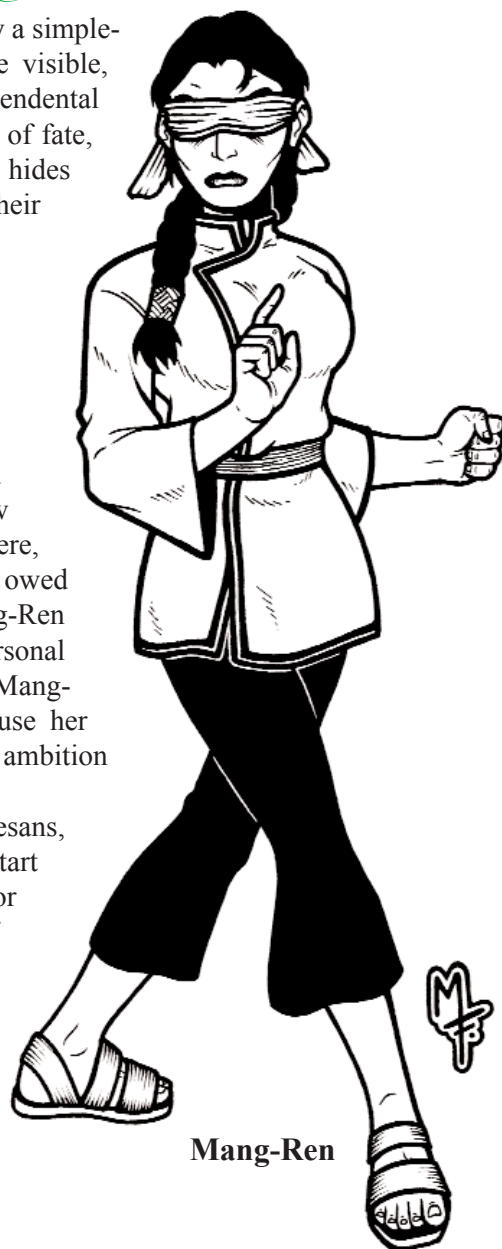
Though called by some a monastic order, the Blind Path is really a simple-yet-deep philosophy teaching its followers to see beyond the visible, beyond the obvious, in order to experience a new and transcendental reality. Developed by a woman who, through the machinations of fate, found herself in need of a new "vision" in life, the Blind Path hides within its ideals secrets that allow the blind to go beyond their physical limitations and become one of the unsighted.

### *History*

The woman known today as Mang-Ren went by a different name when she was young and served as a courtesan in the Emperor's palace. Steeped in the cutthroat and politically charged atmosphere of the Emperor's court, young Mang-Ren excelled in her duties as a giver of pleasure and gatherer of secrets. Few were the nobles who did not owe Mang-Ren a favor here and there, who showered her with gifts in exchange for her silence, or who owed her his life because of a well-placed and well-timed word. Mang-Ren had everything she could desire, even—and especially—the personal attention of the Emperor himself above all other courtesans; in Mang-Ren's eyes, it was only a matter of time before she could use her influence to take her rightful place at the Emperor's side. Her ambition was her downfall.

The Emperor's wife decided that, while she could stand courtesans, she could not tolerate a rival for her place, especially an upstart from the provinces with a seductive demeanor and a thirst for power. After trying, in vain, to sway her husband to dispose of the brash courtesan, the Emperor's wife took matters into her own hands, using her own resources to deal with the pest herself.

Mang-Ren never saw it coming, a testament to how complacent she had become. The Emperor's wife set her up with one of her agents passing as an ambitious noble seeking Mang-Ren's help. When she was finally alone with



Mang-Ren



This product requires the use of the Dungeons & Dragons, Third Edition Core Books, published by Wizards of the Coast Inc. This product utilizes updated material from the v3.5 revision.

