

# Chiaroscuro

## Lucian Dark, Mage War Veteran, Hero

Brawling:	<b>Gr(+2)(15)</b>	Reputation
Agility:	<b>Gd(+1)(10)</b>	· Mage War Refugees:
Strength:	<b>Gd(+1)(10)</b>	<b>Ou(+3)(20)</b>
Endurance:	<b>Gr(+2)(15)</b>	· People of Earth:
Willpower:	<b>Ph(+5)(40)</b>	<b>Dr(-3)(1)</b>
Intelligence:	<b>Ou(+3)(20)</b>	Health Points: <b>50</b>
Perception:	<b>Ex(+4)(30)</b>	Story Points: <b>105</b>
Resourcefulness:	<b>Gr(+2)(15)</b>	Character Points: <b>3100</b>



## Powers

### Magic: Ph(+5)(40)

Chiaroscuro has mastered two different magical paths. From his mother, he learned *The Path of Light & Shadow*:

- All spells tap *The Source Without*.
- **(+1)** bonus when casting spells based on light or darkness.
- **(+2)** bonus when casting spells within a half hour before and after dawn or dusk.
- **(-2)** penalty when casting spells within a half hour before and after high noon, or in complete darkness.
- **(+3)** bonus when casting spells during a full or partial eclipse of the sun.

Lucian knows the following spells from this path:

- **Light the Dark:** light all candles, matches, and lamps.
- **Light of Morning:** Distance attack, concentrated light.
- **Light of Purity:** purge someone of poison and disease, or free her from mind control or possession.
- **Light of Renewal:** Regenerate, but only in full sun.
- **Light of Truth:** force everyone within range to make a Willpower check in order to lie.
- **Light of Warding:** Protection from light-based attacks.
- **Shadow Cloak:** IR Chameleon, but only in shadows.
- **Shadow Form:** Control Phase, as a translucent grey-scale ghost who cannot cross reflective surfaces.
- **Shadow Hand:** Negative Energy attack, only by touch.
- **Shadow Puppets:** Illusions made of light and shadow, which are silent and only appear in shades of grey.
- **Shadow Selves:** Extra Attacks +5, hand-to-hand only.
- **Shadow Sight:** Night Sight.

From his father, he inherited the *Vermilion Path* of Susur:

- All spells tap *The Source Beyond*.
- A magician cannot deny a legitimate challenge from a worthy magical opponent.

Mr. Dark's repertoire of *Vermilion Path* spells includes:

- **Susur's Feast:** Conjure, but only for real food and drink, and only once a day.
- **Susur's Key:** opens magical and mundane locks.
- **Susur's Labyrinth:** a maze for the mind, which can only be escaped through an Intelligence check.
- **Susur's Vestments:** Transmute, but only for clothes.
- **Vermilion Aegides:** Armor, Mental Armor, and Protection from Magic, all at once.
- **Vermilion Coils:** distance attack, entangling.
- **Vermilion Ram:** distance attack, blunt.
- **Vermilion Scythe:** hand-to-hand attack, sharp.

Chiaroscuro has also picked up and adapted a few spells from other magical traditions, which he casts in the style of *The Path of Light & Shadow*:

- **Door:** Create a temporary functional door in any mundane wall, ceiling or floor.
- **Minions:** Convert up to five roughly human shaped forms (scarecrows, dolls, statues) into animated semi-autonomous beings with no Willpower trait, **Poor** Perception and Intelligence traits, and **Phenomenal** Brawling, Agility, Strength, and Endurance traits.
- **Resonance:** Enhanced Hearing and Sense Sonar.

## Sense Magic: Gr(+2)(15)

Lucian inherited his father's ability to detect enchanted gear, magical creatures, spells, and other manifestations of magic. To him, it's like a music that he feels right through his bones. He can recognize magic he's encountered before, similar to how humans recognize familiar tunes.

## Limitations

### Limp: Ex

Due to an old war wound, Mr. Dark's Strength and Endurance are both considered **Wk(-2)(2)** for the purposes of running and jumping. A direct hit to his right knee automatically forces him to consult the *knock out* column of the Combat Consequences table.

## Skills

**Arcana: (+1)** bonus to Intelligence.

**First Aid: (+1)** bonus to Intelligence; Permanently stabilize a dying character; Characters under your care recover HP as if their Endurance were one level higher.

**Language:** English (US), Spanish (Mexico), Susurrante.

**Local Geography:** Chicago.

**Profession:** Art Dealer.

**Specialist:** *The Dragon Staff*; **(+1)** bonus to Perception and **(+1)** bonus when fighting using this weapon.

**Unarmed Combat: (+1)** bonus in unarmed hand-to-hand combat.

## Gear

### The Dragon Staff

Resource Cost: **Wo(+7)(100)**

- Material: **Wo(+7)(100)**, magically reinforced silver-banded hawthorn, tipped with a "cold" iron spike, and topped with a silver dragon's head handle; sharp and blunt. On command, it can appear as a plain walking stick or a simple cane.
- Fly: **Ex(+4)(30)**, 360 kph (225 mph). This staff can levitate or even carry aloft anything it touches weighing up to 600 kg (1,200 lbs).
- Warding Sphere: **Ou(+3)(20)**  
On command, the staff can surround Chiaroscuro in a semitransparent sphere that provides **Outstanding** Armor, Protection from Cold, Protection from Fire, and Self-Sufficiency.
- Warding Mark: **Ph(+5)(40)**  
The tip of this staff can be used to trace a glyph that will fix any other spell on a surface, un-cast, until a pre-determined trigger occurs within it. The trigger can be a change of light, time, or movement.
- Dragon's Sigh: **Ex(+4)(30)**  
Fill up to 60 m<sup>3</sup> (2,100 ft<sup>3</sup>) with an **Extraordinary** white fog which forces anyone who breathes it to make a Willpower check or forget the past day.
- Dragon's Breath: **Ex(+4)(30)** Generate Fire.

## Contacts

### The Vermilion Maelstrom

A powerful extra-dimensional being/concept which fuels Lucian's spells from the *Vermilion Path*.

### Hex

Leader of the Broken Saints, a group of Mage War veterans scattered across the Earth.

### The Midnight Cabaret

A traveling variety show run by a troupe of refugees from many different dimensions.

### Tochtli "Rabbit" Gutiérrez

Member of the White Fire, a group of human scholars and mages headquartered in Chicago.

### Veronica Cho

Mr. Dark's human business partner, the co-owner and public face of Gallery Cho.

## Followers

### The Quiet Society

A group of 20 Susur refugees who remain on Earth to help those fleeing from the current Susurrant regime, the Incandescent Order, pass safely into other dimensions.

## Description

### Appearance

Lucian Dark can usually pass as fully Human, even though he's really a hybrid of Human and one of the native lifeforms from the extra-dimensional realm of Susur. In medieval terms, Chiaroscuro is the progeny of an incubus and a witch. He stands about 150 cm (5 ft) tall, weighs about 90 kg (200 lbs), and has the build of an athletic man in his 30's. Lucian has light brown skin, a dark brown beard, and chocolate-brown eyes that either turn silver or red when he casts spells —depending on whether he's tapping into his Human or Susurrant heritage. A series of whirling red scars radiate from the outside of Dark's right knee, twisting halfway up his thigh and down his calf.

Chiaroscuro often uses the (disguised) Dragon Staff as a cane. When he has dealings with others from the Susur Diaspora, Lucian wears his father's mage robes, and his accent seems to get thicker.

### Background

When he's impatient, Mr. Dark sums up his background as:

*"Boy meets girl; Boy marries girl; Boy takes girl to his magic kingdom. Girl has baby; Mom and Pop teach Junior their magics. Civil war breaks out; Death, carnage, inhumanity; Mom and Pop don't make it; Junior barely gets out alive."*

## Notes

**Home Base:** Modern-day Chicago.

**Story:** A Home of Our Own.

Chiaroscuro could fit into many modern fantasy stories. As one of the main coordinators of Susur Diapsora relocation efforts, your heroes could cross paths with him any time the aftershocks of their Mage War cross over to Earth.

**Unused Character Points:** 20

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