

Alterhuman Experience Collection:

Dragonkin

Volume 1

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Content Warnings:

- Discussion of species dysphoria.
- Mentions of discourse (though vague).

Intro

This is a collection of writings about my (Shrapnel) experiences relating to my dragon kintype. I don't always write large essay-like posts, that takes a whole lot of time and energy. But I do write little bits here and there about my day-to-day life and experiences, and there's value in preserving those, I think. Alterhumanity can be mundane, and it largely is for me—I live my life as a dragon, as a fictive, as my other identities, and I don't always have the time to think in-depth about how to write detailed posts on it. It's similar to how a human might struggle if you asked them to write pages upon pages of what it's like to be human—I just am, it's natural, I don't always dissect it.

But, I still want to create. I usually manage smaller posts much better, so I've made more of those than longer-form content. For the sake of archiving these, I've done my best to compile all the things I've written, created, and said about my kintype before the date of writing this (January 6th 2026), all into this document. In the future, I plan to compile another one for a volume 2 of sorts, following the same logic as this one.

2024

Rambling About Phantom Shifts

(Original post date: November 7th, 2024)

I've had phantom shifts that I can't explain since I joined the system. Something that feels like it could be wings, maybe even 4 of them. A tail, occasionally, though the only thing I can tell is that it's long and moves with emotion. Sometimes a bit of a snout, but it's not particularly long. Claws overlay my hands and feet, my legs feel more digitigrade.... But I have no idea what it is.

I get euphoria from being compared to a dragon, but it's.. complicated. I feel like if it were that, it'd make more sense immediately in my brain. I wouldn't have to question it this hard if I were dragonkin, or otherwise draconic. Maybe that's a silly line of thinking, but it's what makes sense to me considering how the rest of my system tend to experience kintypes.

I debated being a sylvesqual from Creatures of Sonaria, but... if anything, those might be closer to a hearttype. Love those weird ass birds, but they're not *me*, they're just like... close friends to me. And I have a pet one in-system, haha.

They could be coming from some sort of collective identity, but no one gets those shifts aside from me, so that line of thinking isn't worth the trouble.

I've just got creature features sometimes and I can't tell why. Maybe drawing it out on some paper could help? I just don't want to force something that isn't true and end up more confused than I started. But writing this out here so I remember it is a start at the very least.

Relevant tags:

yeah this is because we're trying to write more due to that alterhuman writing thing this month
but also? this is good to write down anyway
because i chronically forget everything

Hoardings

(Original post date: November 30th, 2024)

Y'know. With that whole "dragon has a hoard" thing, even though my system collects a lot of things, those aren't My Hoard. If anything I don't really hoard in the dragon way, traditionally. Not all dragons have to, of course.

But if I had to define a "hoard", the things I keep close and protect are just people I care about. In a roundabout way I hoard friends, and absolutely defend them with as much firepower as you'd expect a dragon to defend their most important things.

By extension? I see myself having the same reactions of protection towards people in the alterhuman community. The community is important, vast and diverse--and to be protected with fangs, horns, claws and anything else at your disposal. It gives me the same sort of instinct that protecting my friends does. We're all here together in spite of alterhumisia, pluralphobia, nonhumisia and any other form of exclusionism. The collection that is our community, and the experiences contained within it, are very much worth fighting for.

Relevant tags:

this is not meant to be dehumanising

this is about the protection aspect not whatever property angle you want to come at it from

Various Chatroom Messages

(Original post dates vary. Also some are in here just because they're funny. I wanted to include a section like this because the mundane silliness of just being myself is important to my identity—it doesn't have to be all about The Experience. It can be just Being.)

Post 1:

"trying to figure out an appearance for my dragon kintype I think I was like. The dragon equivalent of a kingfisher bird? One of the little birds that sit up on a branch then nosedive full speed into the water to grab a fish

I'm only really certain about the long snoot, + wyvern shape

But also the shape of the feet looks right too

I'm going off of phantom shifts and vibes here lol"

Post 2:

""you wouldnt be able to x anymore!"

i wouldnt care about phone and mcdonalds if i was a dragon....

i would only care about catch fish, lie on warm rock and get good sleepies

why does dragon need phone or house or human things when he can lie on a warm rock?"

2025

Plushies

(Original post date: January 5th, 2025)

I'm sitting here like... bro... we do fibre crafts.... we like sewing.... we could totally make plushies of our kintypes. I so viscerally want to make a little dragon-me plushie so bad holy shit. We have the power to create.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Artwork: Kintype Sketch

(Original post date: January 10th, 2025)

Art of my (Shrapnel) dragon kintype. Or, at least, the best I can figure out.

I'm almost certain of the neck and ear frills, and the overall body shape. I also definitely feel a long, thin snout is correct. Other things are just based on vibes, in the end--but it doesn't necessarily feel wrong either. This was moreso a quick one to get the general anatomy down on paper.

I think I was some sort of fishing dragon? Kind of the dragon equivalent of a kingfisher bird--perches high in a tree and divebombs into bodies of water to snap up a fish. I'm pretty sure I was also a small dragon, maybe the size of a housecat?

Overall, drawing helped me figure some stuff out. Hopefully I can continue figuring things out and maybe make some more detailed art later on.



Interstellarchooses
Tumblr | DeviantArt | Instagram

Relevant tags:

N/A

Artwork: Kintype Art

(Original post date: January 22nd, 2025)

An abstract piece of my kintype. I guess making the background oh him all spacelike is a representative of, in a way... In some other space, this was me. Physically. I'm here in this body now, but somewhere, I was also this dragon.



Relevant tags:

N/A

Artwork: Red and Shrapnel

(Original post date: January 25th, 2025)

Posted by Red, includes Shrapnel.

Being a big dragon means that if you have a little dragon, you can curl around them no problem.

Art of me (big dragon) and Shrapnel's (little dragon) kintypes. We're trying to figure out how we looked pattern-wise before we figure out colours and stuff.



Relevant tags:

N/A

Artwork: Shift Self Portrait

(Original post date: January 27th, 2025)

An image of me, with my dragon kintype sort of.. fused into it. It's sorta meant to be representative of phantom shifts that I get, but also just.... Me, as a whole.



Relevant tags:

N/A

Storms and Shifting

(Original post date: February 9th, 2025)

There's something about storms that gets me all shifty. They're so so tied to my draconity and I'm not even sure why.

I smell the rain before it hits. I feel the wind, I feel the temperature drop and the pressure shift. I hear the low rumble of thunder as a storm rolls in, maybe even the wall of rain approaching in the distance... And mentally, in that moment, I am a dragon.

Nothing but the wind, the rain, the sky itself and me. I'm nothing but a dragon. The body I'm in isn't relevant, it's barely even there. I'm simply a dragon out in a storm, even just for a little while.

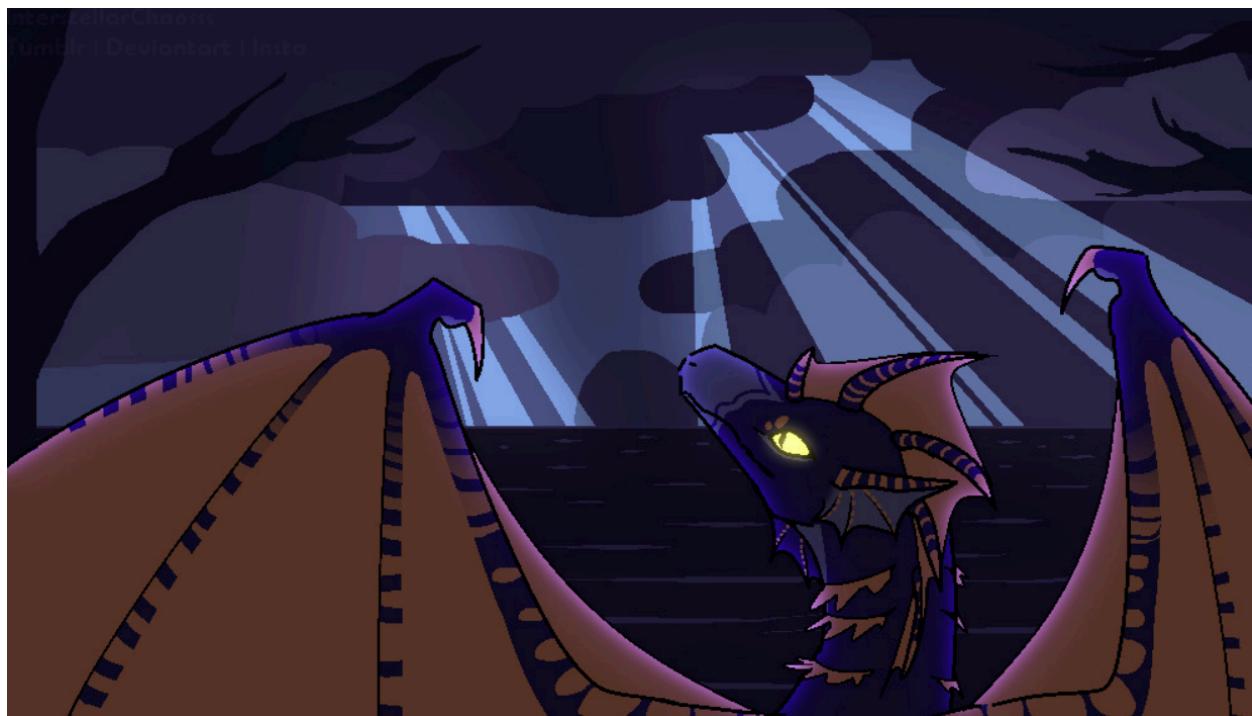
Relevant tags:

N/A

Artwork: Storm-related Art

(Original post date: February 11th, 2025)

The wind is calling me... Art of my dragon kintype.



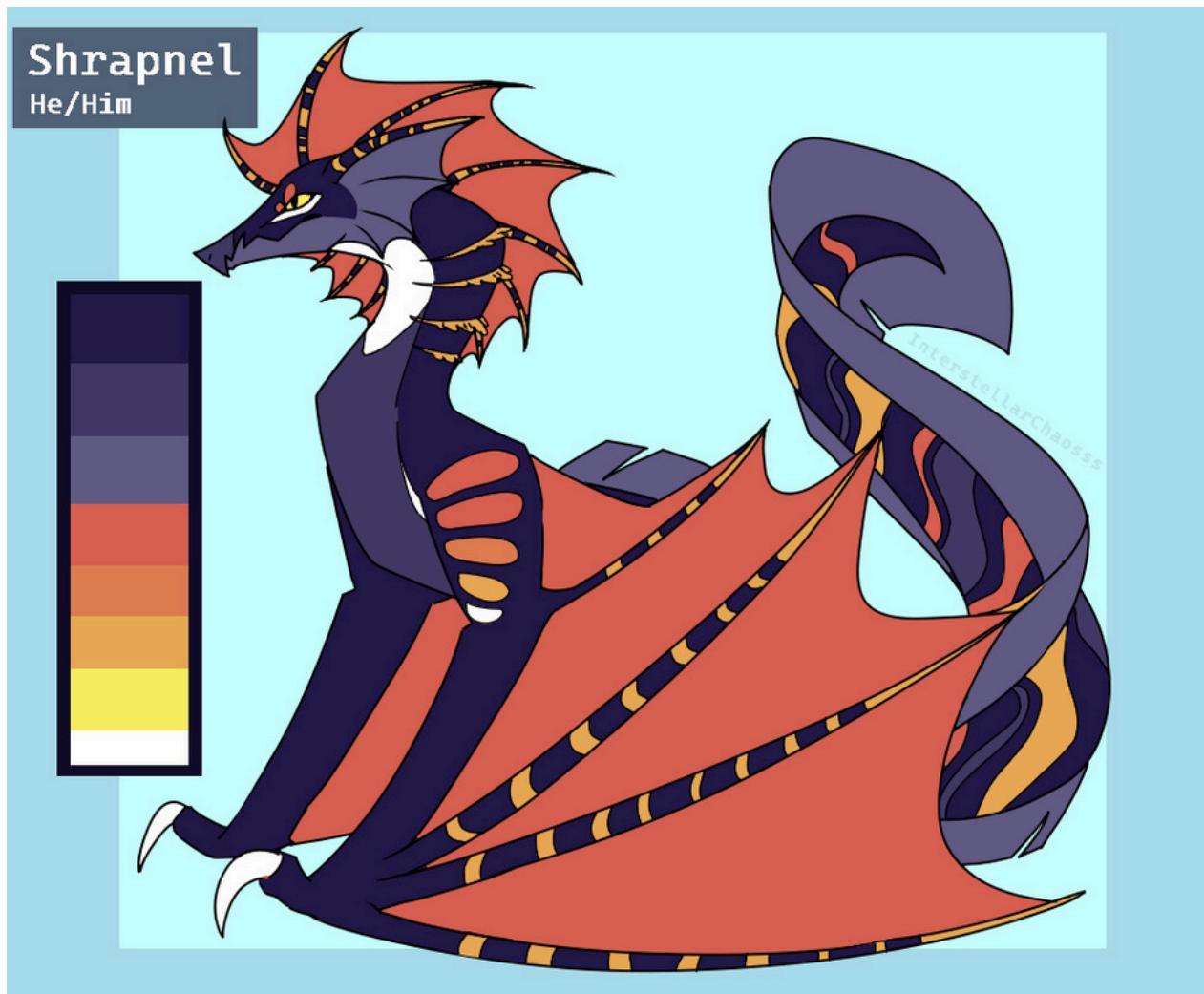
Relevant tags:

N/A

Artwork: Reference Sheet

(Original post date: May 19th, 2025)

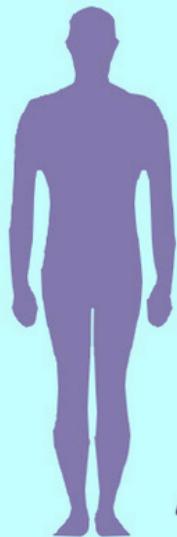
Part 1 of 2, a ref of my dragon kintype! I think I have the colours at a place I want em now? They feel right enough, anyway. I'm very happy with the wing and face structure, they match my phantoms really well.



Part 2 of 2, image of my dragon kintype. Needed some extra details in here, so here you go.

Traits:

- Crest raises and flattens with emotion
- Pupils dilate with emotion
- Semi-aquatic diver
- Neck frills are gills



Approx Height



Other Info:

- Male
- Wyvern (2 wings 2 legs)
- He/Him
- No magic/fire/etc
- A dragon if it was just an animal

Relevant tags:

hey chat look its me
im still happy with the shapes OUGH
looking at this is euphoric

Reblog: Thunder and Shifting

(Original reblog date: June 28th, 2025)

Your-Local-Dragon on Tumblr posted:

“Question to other dragons out here!

Do you creatures also feel very shifty when a thunder storm comes around? There's just something in these storms.. Makes me want to just fly away and follow it, even though my dragon self isn't really a thunder dragon or anything like that.. Do you guys get what I mean?”

I responded:

YEAH. Storms always make me so damn shifty even though I'm not related to storms at all. I'm a small fishing dragon, nothing related to thunder and lightning. Maybe storms had an effect on how easy fishing would be that day or something? Either way I get phantom and mental shifts almost every time it storms.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Angry Shifts

(Original post date: June 30th, 2025)

So I've learned that if I get mad, I immediately get a phantom dragon snout. Because of course, anger = need to bite, and I can't bite with this tiny little thing. So my brain goes "I know what to do!!" and makes the most vivid feeling dragon snout phantom shift it can--which is great for feeling like me! But it makes the urge to chomp someone sooo much worse.

Relevant tags:

- # man i get the tiniest bit angry and i wanna just SNAP my jaw at them
- # huh. maybe that's a specific behaviour
- # snapping jaws as a threat
- # anyway yeah this is
- # interesting
- # seeing as im fucking bakugo katsuki so of course my temper is. A Temper

Hand Fan Euphoria

(Original post date: July 1st, 2025)

Also, so I learned that hand fans are kinda euphoric in a dragon way. Like, those folding ones? While it's not really anywhere close to being the same... It feels like unfolding my wings. Like yep, that's some sticks with a membrane between it, that's my wing!

Might have to keep one with me when I'm shifty. Hell, maybe that's why I was so shifty the other day--I'd been using it to keep cool for a while at pride but I might've been accidentally shoving myself further into a shift. Oops!

Relevant tags:

N/A

Spring Shifting

(Original post date: August 16th, 2025)

I've been more and more shifty lately, dragon-wise. The phantom shifts are always pretty common, but I'm getting mentally shifty too. It feels like my instincts are waking up from hibernation, in a way. I'm a fishing dragon, so maybe I *did* hibernate through the winter? Maybe my dragon brain expects there to be a big boom of fish coming, ready for me to snatch up. The seasons are about to swing around into spring where I am--maybe that's it? I don't think I've had time since my awakening to actually... Experience the seasons changing like this. Definitely interesting. Any other dragons get more shifty around the start of spring?

Relevant tags:

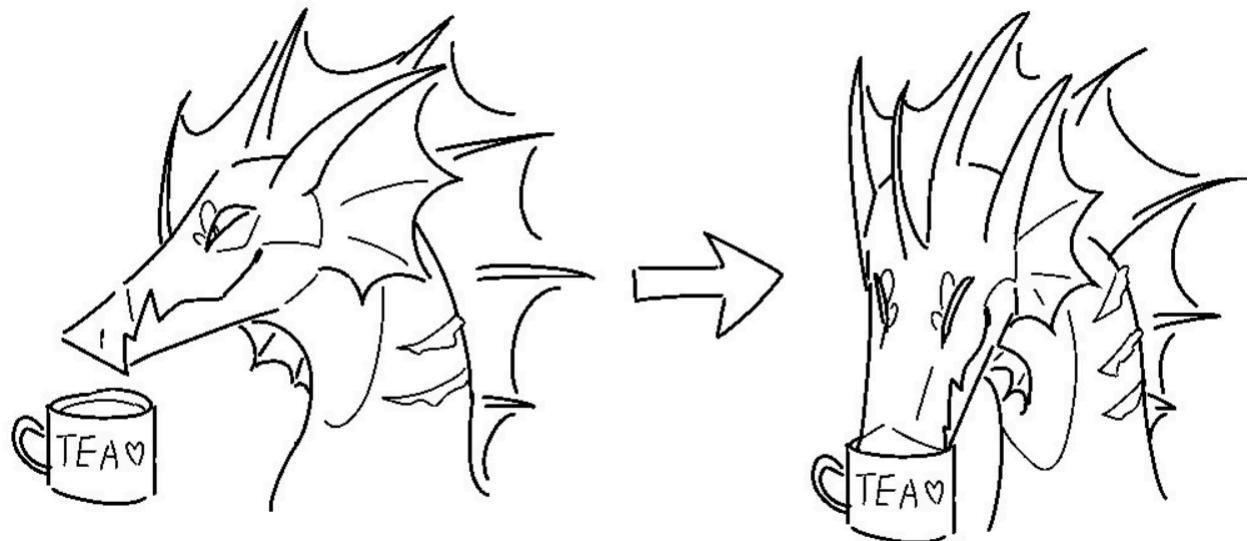
N/A

Phantom Problems

(Original post date: September 9th, 2025)

Phantom shifts are cool and all but it'd be nice if my entire snout didn't have to get shoved into the cup of tea I'm drinking about it.

Like this.



Relevant tags:

might clean this up and make it an alterhappening page lmao
(Note: I did!)

Jaw Snapping

(Original post date: September 9th, 2025)

Dragonkin culture is SNAPS MY JAWS AT YOU. HEY. SNAPS MY JAWS AT YOU.

Relevant tags:

idk maybe its just me
but dragon brain wants to snap my jaws together to like. get attention or something?
its also a threat snap ive learned seeing as i get an urge to snap at people when im mad

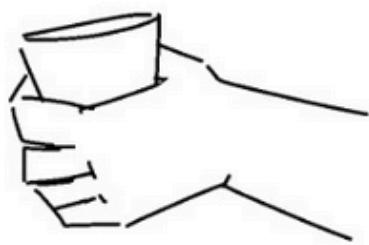
Wing Phantoms

(Original post date: September 24th, 2025)

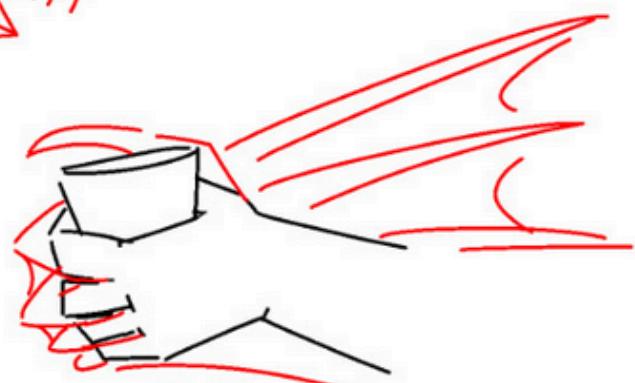
Weird having phantom wings as a wyvern because they get placed directly over my arms and hands. Which ends up being like this.



And it lines up all cool and stuff. Feels great to move my fingers around when I can feel them as parts of my wings. Until I need to pick something up or do literally anything else with my hands, which results in. This.



PHANTOM SHIFT



OUCH???

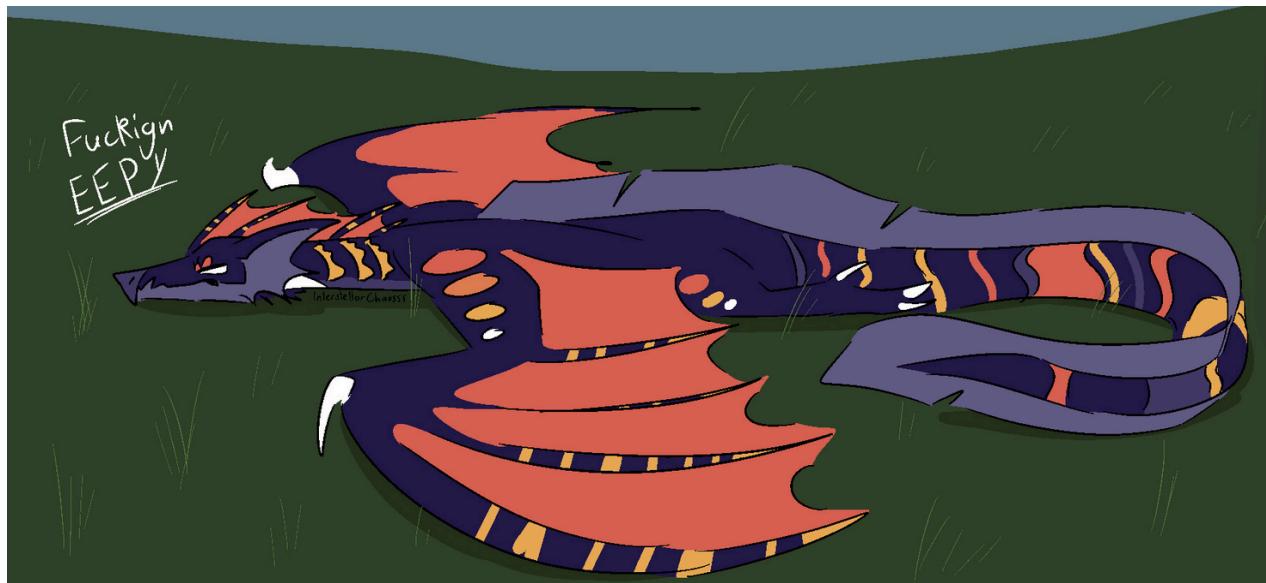
Relevant tags:

N/A

Artwork: Eepy

(Original post date: October 25th, 2025)

When you're a dragon and so so fuckign eepy.



Relevant tags:

N/A

Raining

(Original post date: October 28th, 2025)

Who up phantoming they shift.

Relevant tags:

its raining you know what that means
dragon mode

Reblog: How Old Is Your Dragonself?

(Original reblog date: November 10th, 2025)

Fractured-Nerd on Tumblr posted:

“Dragonkin, how old is your dragonself?” The poll following reads:

“0-5 yrs 1.4%
6-15 yrs 3.6%
16-25 yrs 13.5%
26-50 yrs 8.1%
51-100 yrs 6.3%
101-200 yrs 4.5%
201-400 yrs 2.7%
401-600 yrs 2.3%
601-800 yrs 1.8%
801-1000 yrs 1.4%
1000+ yrs 6.3%
Unsure 48.2%
Final result from 222 votes

Recently I discovered I was a baby wwyern, so I'm curious to see the ages of other dragonkin!

Please reblog this so it reaches more dragons! Thx!“

I responded:

Interesting to think about actually. I.. Don't think I thought about it before. My dragonself is more animalistic so I don't think I had a sense of years or time in the same way I would as a human. I was an adult for sure, and I think 100 years is probably way too old. I'd hazard a guess as to maybe my species reached 50-60 or so? And most of my noemata feel like a youngish dragon, like a young adult maybe. Which makes me think maybe 5-ish? Though I'm pulling these numbers based on vague vibes. How would a dragon who is basically a weird bird know what a year is, or how old it is?

I'm judging it based on vibes of how long it feels in comparison to myself now. But.. That all depends on if my sense of time as a dragon can equate 1:1 with my sense of time as a person. All I knew was hunt fish, swim, sit in tree, hiss at enemies.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Past Self Similarities

(Original post date: November 14th, 2025)

Anonymous Asked:

"I apologize if you've answered a question like this before, but I was thinking about this earlier in terms of my own past selves and thought it might be fun to pass it on;

Do you recall being aware of any past selves in any of your previous lives?

Such as knowing you were once a dragon while living as Bakugo in the world of MHA, or somethin' like that.

*If you didn't necessarily *know* because you didn't have the words to explain it like you do now, did you experience anything like memories or shifts that the you of the time didn't quite understand?"*

I responded:

Hey, no worries--worst I could do if I was asked this before is link to the previous answer lol.

But, not really? Not that I actively recall anyway. I'm kinda debating on if my Gojo and Tanjiro 'types are psychological in nature and not literal past lives, but regardless I don't remember having any kintype like experiences in those.

I don't remember anything specific for Bakugo either, *but*, I will say... Now that I know what my dragon kintype looks/feels like, that headpiece in my hero costume rings bells. I know it was meant to be explosiony stuff, but like. It feels in a way like it would replicate my ear-fins on my dragon kintype, so... Maybe that's where those came from, for me? Like one of those situations where you discover a kintype and go "ohh hold on, that makes so much sense because I [did a thing]".

Image example. Not a 1:1, but I know I'm dysphoric as hell about not having the fins so maybe that's where the idea came from subconsciously for myself.



I will also say that yes, orange is an explosiony colour, but like. Look at dragon me, lol. I think my vibing with orange and darker colours might be rooted in otherkinity too--though that might be looking into it a little much.

Behaviour-wise, I'm sure I could attribute a lot of my habits ("growling" when angry, huffing, baring my teeth, hating the cold) from my Bakugo life to being dragonkin--all those things are a part of both identities. But on the other hand, they're just as easily normal human-esque traits people can sometimes just have too. It's one of those ways where I think my nonhumanity and humanity are so intertwined they can't be separated. What came first, the dragon or the behaviour? I don't think I'll ever have an answer, aside from "well, they're both here now".

I added in a reblog later:

Also as Cole from the [@sparkssystem](#) just pointed out.. The mask almost replicates the colours of the upper and bottom jaw of my dragon 'type with being dark on top n light on the bottom, and there's even a spike like how my dragon self's jaw has a jagged toothy shape on it. Goddamn it goes deeper.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Pool

(Original post date: November 19th, 2025)

Aquatic dragon at the pool, what will he do? The answer is swim probably.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Pool pt. 2

(Original post date: November 19th, 2025)

So we hadn't been to the pool in years, I just went today. I know my system is unable to tread water but we can swim well enough that we won't drown so it's fine. But uh... I've learned that I can tread water no problem. Me specifically. It's just muscle memory or something, I just didn't think about it. Maybe it's just a fluke but either way it's euphoric that the water dragon therian can do more stuff in the water than the rest of us can. Like yep I'm supposed to be able to be good at water activities actually.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Dragon Dysphoria

(Original post date: December 17th, 2025)

Wings are cool and all, I miss having them and being able to fly and use em to swim.... But honestly, my dragon 'type didn't *fly* super often. I sat on tree branches above rivers and dove into the water to snap up fish. I *could* fly, I definitely did, but most of the time I don't miss flight too much. I can go without it. My body is still wrong, but not because I can't fly, it's just the entirely wrong shape.

One thing I do really miss, which seems so much more mundane compared to flight, is being able to snap my jaws. And hiss, kind of like a crocodile? I get angry and if I were to do the same stuff with my human mouth it'd be real silly, there's no *threat* to snapping a human jaw shut in the same way. I wanna be able to flash needle-sharp teeth and a good damn bite force to go with it as a warning.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Pool Again (I Like Swimming)

(Original post date: December 18th, 2025)

I really do like swimming. Best idea ever to start going to the pool every week. I get to exercise on a routine which makes me euphoric in the Bakugo way--I genuinely miss training and we don't have many spaces to work out in a way where it's not going to fuck up our chronic pain too much. I am basically one of the only guys in here who wants to actively get our body stronger, so it's great to have my own space to work on that a little.

And of course, I do it in the water which makes my water dragon brain happy. My phantom wings get so strong in the water, swimming with my arms makes me feel like I'm swimming with my wings, my fingers extended into the "fingers" that hold my wing membranes. My snout gets more vivid feeling too. Yesterday my qpp had the idea of getting fish for lunch after swimming for peak dragon euphoria and it was great. Living my best water creature life. Definitely a win all around.

If you can, do little things in your life that give you alterhuman euphoria. Even if it's not quite the same or not quite how you want it to be--incorporating your alterhumanity into your IRL life can be really rewarding.

Relevant tags:

N/A

Various Chatroom Messages

(Original post dates vary. Also some are in here just because they're funny. I wanted to include a section like this because the mundane silliness of just being myself is important to my identity--it doesn't have to be all about The Experience. It can be just Being.)

Post 1:

"can my stupid phantom dragon snout stop clipping weirdly into my glasses THANKS"

Post 2:

"i am so fucking RRRRGRHRRHHH
monster hunter autism idea: draw my kintype but make him big and in the monster hunter sorta way
i could be a monster hunter monster if i wanted.....
< is already a monster hunter monster
but i could draw my dragon 'type.....
after art fight its happening
i am a simple dragon
i only want to sit down and play monster hunter with my qpps and my friends

i could play monster hunter forever and id be happy i think
this has nothing to do with the autism”

Post 3:

“they change in every pic because i dont have the exact pattern decided upon yet LOL
how am i supposed to remember every tail stripe </3”

Post 4:

“I need to make more dragon plushies

Bonk isn't enough I need to make more. Bonk is beautiful. I can make him a family
He's so fucking stupid silly baby creature

I accidentally made a thing that makes my dragon brain go "!!!?! Dumb baby alert I need to take
care of him right fucking now”



Post 5:

“tbh i never even thought to talk about it but i have some stuff with my dragon 'type' that i hate
appearance-wise. its just not.. a thing thats talked about. ty for like., opening the conversation
bc it didnt even cross me as anything that could be a thought i ever voice

like i hate that im a tiny little thing and i also hate my 'types' jaw shape specifically. and i know in
some spaces id be met with 'then maybe thats not what you look like?' but like. orthohumans
can dislike how they look, if i decide later its not how i looked and im icked because its incorrect,
then i'll shut up i guess but. why cant a nonhuman dislike their features if an orthohuman can?
does an orthohuman wanting different coloured hair mean they're not allowed to id as their own
body?

like a lot of the time, my dragon identity is literally just "yep im a dragon" and not too much else.
the shifts and stuff? thats just like a daily life thing, like waking up in the morning. its
inconvenient sometimes, its annoying at others, its euphoric when i feel like my true self, and its

dysphoric when i dont. none of this cancels out any other type of way i feel about it though.

im trying to be more in tune with my dragon self, hence all the swimming time recently (and getting fish to eat after has been very euphoric ty kiri <3) and thinking/posting about it more. but thats because i want to be more in tune with myself, not because every part of it is all for funsies or all bad. its just my life. i get more in tune with my dragon self the same way others might get more in tune with making art or playing in a band--its me. i belong there. that doesnt mean its perfect, but i belong there regardless of how i feel about it"

Post 6:

"fucking. raining a lot so ive been airdropped into dragon mode
dragon brain goes "waow... raining..... hhrrngh fish time" like. okay!
im not gonna go have a shower in the rain like a bird unfortunately"

Post 7:

"I've been waiting for winter forever since I have shit heat tolerance but every time I feel even a tiny bit cold my stupid dragon brain goes "mm sleepy... You should get lots of food and do not much else. Conserve your energy!!"
Like I have things to do I can't sleep every time I'm cold"

Post 8:

"im bakugo katsuki and gojo satoru like im pretty sure those dont line up 1:1 but hey guess what? im also a dragon on the side too. sorry."

Conclusion

Unfortunately... I don't think I externalised any of my shift from "I'd know if I was a dragon" to "yep I'm a dragon", so we'll all have to miss out on any archive of that stuff. It'll be added if I find anything later, but back then I was much more cagey in my own thoughts and I really doubt I put anything out there. Oops!