

The background of the cover is a detailed illustration of a forest scene. In the center, a knight in blue and gold armor with a plumed helmet rides a dark horse. To the right, a warrior with a large feathered headdress and a battle-axe on his back looks towards the viewer. In the foreground, a man with a white beard and a hooded cloak holds a bow, while a woman in a brown hat and cloak looks thoughtfully to the side. The forest is filled with various plants, mushrooms, and a sense of mystery.

WARHAMMER
FANTASY
ROLE-PLAY™

DEFT STEPS
LIGHT FINGERS

A GRIM AND PERILOUS GUIDE FOR ROGUES,
RASCALS, RANGERS, AND ROVERS

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THE CULT OF RANALD



Seat of Power: None officially

Head of the Cult: None, officially, though rumours persist of a cult leader marked with ten crosses

Primary Orders: The Crosses, the Brotherhood, the Crooked Fingers

Major Festivals: The Day of Folly

Popular Holy Books: *The Riddles Ten*, *Midnight and the Black Cat*, *The Great Joke*

Common Holy Symbols: Crossed Fingers, Cats, Magpies

Ranald the trickster mocks the pomposity of other gods, bringing luck but also misrule. His worshippers aren't members of structured cults like the other Old World gods. They have a personal relationship with the Trickster and commune with him on their own terms. Ranald's priests may have followers, and preach parables, but there is little formal hierarchy or dogma to his worship.

Ranald doesn't much care for public displays of veneration, provided his followers respect his strictures. As a god who favours deceit and thievery, Ranald's worship is not trusted in many places. Cultists keep their worship discrete, especially where the authorities are concerned.

DEPICTIONS OF RANALD

Ranald is a mercurial deity, so his appearance changes readily. Typically a young, dashing man with a knowing smirk, sometimes a woman of high fashion and arch manners, or an older person looking refined but mischievous.

The Night Prowler often hides their face in a shadowy hood, while the Deceiver may have a featureless mask to conceal their appearance. Sometimes an artist uses a subtle depiction of Ranald in a work of art. In many such cases, they portray him as a black cat or a magpie gazing out of the canvas with a furtive look.

The best known depiction of Ranald is a work by the Tilean artist Grotto commissioned by Baron Gustav von Bruner of Ubersreik in 2226 IC. The noble was a keen gambler and believed honouring Ranald would help him win success at the gaming tables of Altdorf, Nuln, and Marienburg. Tintoverdi's model for Shallya was his muse Giulia, so it is no surprise the goddess dominates the scene. She draws the eye rather more than Ranald himself – whose face is hidden in respect for his followers' preference for anonymity.

