

Queen Mica

Queen Mica is seen standing in front of her hilltop Scintillant Palace. She habitually wears a blue skullcap and blue crystalline armour (as do all her people). Oddly though, and again like her folk, she never carries a weapon of any kind. She is also completely devoid of any body hair, no head hair or eyebrows being the more obvious elements of this.

However, the Queen is not as she seems. She is a part-Faerie creature, and her Palace is situated on a Faerie portal. This gives her access to a variety of innate illusory and communication magics, so both her humanoid form and the castle-palace itself are largely illusory. Sometimes, she may take mental control of any of her subjects, to become physically present in the outside world, as she cannot physically leave the Palace. In doing this, the selected subject may take on her humanoid appearance. She is also capable of projecting an illusory form of herself anywhere within half a mile, 0.8 kilometres, of the Palace, which is the limit of her powers. In any of her forms, she can see and hear all that happens in her projected form's vicinity, and can physically interact with objects or people there too, whether she is using one of her subjects as an avatar or not. Occasionally, her powers become strong enough that she can become physically real outside the Palace in her illusory shape alone.

By activating the "Queen Mica's Secret" toggle in the FCW file for this portrait, something of the reality behind the Queen begins to appear, as she is indeed a Queen, but the Queen of a giant ant colony. Consequently, the ants are both her subjects and her children. Here in her Faerie realm, they are essentially extensions of herself, hence how she is so readily able to employ them as her avatars in the world outside.

As she can see and hear through any of her ants at any time, she is almost always aware of larger creatures within her domain, and will frequently meet with groups of humanoids, to talk with them, or bring them to the Palace. She is fascinated by new things, especially ideas, people from far-away places, and magics. The nature of the site, and her close attunement to it, makes outsiders no real threat, since at worst she can simply have the entire Palace complex slip deeper into Faerie, leaving any hostile creatures on a hillside with no sign of either a Palace or a giant ant colony. Or she could slip the threatening folk deep into Faerie and leave them there instead.

The Faeries and others locally are all aware of what she is, and thus what the "Palace" too is in actuality. As a Faerie being, they respect her, while most folk generally avoid the area near the Palace.

For more information, see the notes accompanying the "Queen Mica's Scintillant Palace Level 1" map elsewhere in the Atlas.