

# Proky Backstory

**Full Name:** Proky

**Species:** Reptilian - Dinosaur (species unspecified)

**Sex:** ♂

**Age:** 22

**Height:** 174cm

**Weight:** 74kg

**Siblings:** No full siblings; 4 half-siblings by the same father. Proky has no contact with these

Proky is an original character. He is creative and generally quiet, but passionate about his favourite topics.

## Trust & Confidence

*(newborn)*

Proky was the first and only child born to his parents. His father did not expect to have a child on the way and left Proky's mother soon after they discovered that she was pregnant.

His mother was lower-middle class and worked at an insurance company. She was well prepared for him when he came along and was as relaxed and happy to have him as a new mother could be. As a result Proky learned that he could rely on her to be there for him and that he was welcome in the world. This trust in the reliability of 'the other' and in his own basic goodness stood him in good stead later in life.

## Freedom & Self-Determination

*(toddlerhood)*

When Proky was between 2 and 3 years old, a friend of his mother's introduced her to a new mate. He was upper-middle class. He ran his own tech repair company and made a good income from this. Proky's mother and this new male were strongly compatible and settled down in the long term as partners. He became Proky's step-father and Proky came to see him as his dad.

They moved from his mother's flat to his new dad's flat, which was bigger and in the capital city.

With Proky being an only child he had no need to share the attention his parents were capable of giving him, with any siblings. His mother went back to work part-time to work a morning shift; his father was generally busy with his tech company so couldn't spare much time, but was a caring and loving presence when he was physically present. Whenever neither of his parents were available to look after him, his grandparents visited his house to look after him.

With his care involving so many people and with a sense that his mother was busy, he developed a tendency to immerse himself in playing with his toys. These gave him a better sense of permanence, of continuity, and he came to value this feeling. Indeed, he felt so

certain that these various members of his family would be there for him that he developed a confident attitude towards exploring. For a toddler this didn't mean travelling very far: just the bathroom, toilet, bedroom, kitchen, lounge, and hall, but his intrepidity made these little forays easier than they might have been for a clingier toddler.

Proky learned early in his life how to keep himself entertained and developed a taste for creative play.

When his mother was able to give him her full attention he accepted it gladly and cooperated with her. It was relatively unusual for him to be wilful as he didn't want to risk driving her away. She wasn't likely to do this in real life of course, but Proky felt happy and relaxed when she was around and he was keen to be a pleasant person for her to be around to encourage her to stay. As part of this, he wasn't particularly prone to crying as he quickly worked out that she didn't like seeing him cry and held off from doing it as a way of getting what he wanted from her - whatever he might want at any given time.

## **Ambition**

*(young childhood)*

As Proky got a little bit older he took an interest in the world beyond his house. He developed a liking for playing outside. His neighbourhood and a few spaces beyond were interesting to his young self: there were parks, places where sports were played, and even an ancient castle complex.

He continued his trend of eagerly exploring the world beyond his mother's lap and made some new friends, dinosaurs of a similar age. He wasn't the most energetic of them but he enjoyed their company and they accepted him even during his more pensive moods.

Proky also came to love rain. He found it soothing - it made him sleepy when he listened to it and watched it cascade down the window in his house. It made people take shelter or go home so the streets were empty. It created a mellow atmosphere, and he liked the unique smell it generated. He also enjoyed watching the streams that heavier rain caused to flow down the street, and whenever he got the chance to play in rain this heavy, he liked to control the flow to see how he could influence it.

He started going to kindergarten. During the first week or so the teacher focused on game activities to allow the children to get to know each other.

At first Proky was deeply shy about meeting other people. He tentatively spoke to and played with two or three other children and stuck with just those.

He enjoyed the activities side of school – the artwork, the creative activities and listening to readings. It all gave him the chance to immerse into the experience which again, he quite enjoyed as a way of giving himself a sense of permanence in an ever-shifting world. He also found creative activities soothing. With this in mind he could sometimes be possessive about toys or creative materials.

## **Productivity**

*(older childhood)*

Proky moved on from kindergarten, and found that none of the three friends he'd made there went to the same school as him. He was so apprehensive about going to a school where he didn't know anybody that his mother felt the need to consult with a psychologist to help Proky manage the move. The final decision was to wait a year before introducing him to school so that he could develop more confidence in himself.

A year later when the psychologist, his mother, and Proky himself deemed him ready, he entered the first year of school. This made him the oldest in the class by quite a margin. However, the plan worked and he felt confident enough to make friends with most of his class.

His school introduced week-long trips to experience nature, and these helped Proky to be more forthcoming as well.

As Proky grew older he developed better friendships with his schoolmates. He liked to engage in group play and had a way of taking leadership in these situations. While he wasn't a 'loud and proud' type of leader, his leadership style was more intermittent and he tended to only take leadership when he saw a solution and the group seemed lost about how to go forward.

Proky became passionate about his favourite topics of history and space. He developed an interest in sci-fi games, and games that required strategy. If engaged in any of these topics then he could talk about it for hours, if his conversational partner let him.

Overall, despite his attitude towards getting things done, he preferred to play rather than work. That is, unless work involved one of his favourite subjects.

### **Child to Adult Transition** *(adolescence)*

By the time Proky reached adolescence his aunt had died and left his parents an entire flat complex. They decided that they no longer wished to live in the city and preferred the idea of living somewhere more peaceful, so they sold the complex and bought a beautiful 2-floor house with a garden in a small village.

Proky found this move very difficult. As a teenager, with all the different changes happening to him both physically and psychologically, he needed some form of stability in his life but it was hard to find. With great reluctance he left his friends behind and moved to a new school close to his new home. Once there, he began the arduous task of becoming acquainted with his new school-mates. Being the outsider like this also made it harder for him to talk to girls, and his self-esteem took a nose-dive as he became convinced that he wasn't up to the task.

With that said, his interest in talking to girls wasn't sexual. He had no interest in getting into a sexual relationship; indeed, he found the whole subject rather disgusting when he considered getting involved with another person. What he did want was a romantic relationship in which he could hug, cuddle, and kiss, or a more platonic relationship.

Proky added 3D modelling to his arsenal of passions.

When Proky graduated from high school he got a graduation picture, which he added to

Pawbook. Some time after this he got a comment on this picture from his biological father. Between them they didn't take the conversation any further than this.

### **Closeness in Relationships**

*(young adulthood)*

Proky took a passion for history into his adult life. He found history fascinating because he could see how one event led to another. It was complex and gave him plenty of information to immerse himself in and he would have made a career out of it if he had been able. However, despite his best wishes in this area he was unable to.

His other passion, which he had brought into his adult years, was a love of working with his hands. He took a job as a sand-blaster and, whenever he could, he took the opportunity to play with Lego. Indeed, he collected Lego so that he could enjoy it at home.

When off-duty, he played a lot of games, including sandbox style games where he had to manage environments such as Stellaris, Hearts of Iron 4, and Zoo Tycoon. He also enjoyed RPG games such as World of Warcraft, Star Trek Online, Crossout, and others.

Being an adult inspired Proky to begin thinking about what he wanted, as far as family went. He liked the idea of continuing his family, but at the same time disliked the idea of having children himself. He found the idea nerve-wracking, and worried that he might make mistakes as a father. Perhaps if he had had a sibling who had children of their own, this might have alleviated his feelings about this, but unfortunately he didn't.

As far as having a partner went, all he wanted was a girl to have a snuggly romantic relationship with. He never developed a desire for sex and continued to feel that sex was disgusting and distinctly unappealing. If asked, he generally discribed it as "filthy, with all the naked organs and fluids".

### **Passing on Responsibilities**

*(older adulthood)*

Given that Proky never had children, he had to tailor-make his own legacy. Long before he reached middle age he took to various creative pursuits: he made simple games, 3D designs, and wrote, among other things. Whenever he could he offered mentorship in these areas, and any other area where he had expertise to offer.

### **End of Life**

*(old age)*

Proky worries about dying, especially the fact that he doesn't know what comes after the end of this life. He also hated the idea of dying in obscurity and wanted to live on in some way.

Occasionally he had a novel thought about surviving into the 22nd century (or further), and he came to relish this fantasy. He had been born towards the end of the 20th century and currently lives in the 21st, so for him, the idea of living up to (and being able to experience) further centuries is fascinating to him. As an enthusiastic historian, perhaps it's no small

wonder that the future holds such appeal!

### **Credits**

Based on theory by:

Erikson, E., (1951) 'Childhood and Society', W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. chapter 7.

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~Hayley, The Character Consultancy