

ADVERTISEMENT

in: [Lore](#), [Characters](#), [Update 31](#), [Avatars](#)

SIGN IN

REGISTER

Drifter

69

VIEW SOURCE

- CHARACTERS
- TENNO
- FACTIONS
- QUOTES
- GALLERY
- Drifter
- Gameplay
- Intrinsics
- Customization
- Patch History
- Gallery
- Quotes

*But the path right, a paradox.
Here you are, a prisoner of a
[twisted king](#). Seemingly
powerless.*

—[Lotus](#)

The **Drifter** is a playable character as a version of the [Tenno](#) from an "unrealized possibility", or alternate reality. They are first seen in either [The Duviri Paradox](#) or [The New War](#) depending on player choice. The Drifter was initially introduced during [The New War](#) in [Update 31.0](#) (2021-12-15).

Contents

"Drifter"



Information

Outlaw (by [Koral](#))

1. Lore & History 1.1. The Duviri Paradox 1.2. The New War 1.3. Zariman Tablets 1.4. The Lotus Eaters 2. Notes 3. Trivia	First Appearance The New War (pre-Update 33.0 (2023-04-26)) The Duviri Paradox (post-Update 33.0 (2023-04-26)) Voice Actor(s) Scott Whyte (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0926697/?ref_=nv_sr_srs_g_0) (Heron) Griffin Puatu (https://twitter.com/GriffinPuatu) (Owl) Emily Wold (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4497308/?ref_=fn_al_nm_1) (Falcon) Maya Aoki Tuttle (https://twitter.com/mayatuttle) (Raven) Quotes Drifter/Quotes
---	--

Lore & History

The Duviri Paradox

Ever get that feeling you're stuck? Spinning inside your little wheel. Only to find... you're right back where you started.

And so it goes. Day by day, year by year, until you're dead... inside. You feel nothing. You're just a prisoner trapped in the spiral of someone else's dream...

—Drifter

Trapped in the [Void](#)'s [Duviri](#) in an endless loop failing to escape from the mad ruler [Dominus Thrax](#), one day the Drifter is [mysteriously stabbed](#) followed by a [strange hand](#) bonding itself to the Drifter and granting them powers and the ability to control [Warframes](#) that have arrived from beyond the Void. The Drifter is led by the hand to [Teshin](#), who offers his [Sun & Moon](#) and teaches them the ways of the Warframe, explaining the origins of the [Tenno](#) and the [Zariman Ten Zero](#) ship in Duviri's background. They recover a toy figure, which Teshin believes will help them escape Duviri, while peering into Dominus Thrax's emotional states that occurred on the Zariman.

Meanwhile, Dominus Thrax grows increasingly frustrated and eventually has Teshin captured and killed, and dies before the Drifter. They take control of an [Orowyrm](#) and raid Thrax's throne, completing the figurine. Recovering the final memory, they discovered Duviri was inadvertently brought to life from the [Tales of Duviri](#) storybook through [Conceptual Embodiment](#) not by Thrax, but the Drifter, as a result of their emotional anxieties aboard the Zariman. They seize the throne and use its time-rewinding powers to resurrect Teshin but put Thrax back in power, which the Drifter deems to be a fair trade.

No longer shackled by Duviri, the Drifter is now able to leave for the [Origin System](#) to repay the aid from beyond the Void's walls. Teshin warns that once they cross over they will not be as who they are now, but as they were then.

The New War

--[from the] future? Naw... but that'd be a lot easier to get, now wouldn't it? As far as I can make out: You're the me that got rescued from this shit. And I'm the you that did not. Not sure which of us got it worse.

—Drifter, talking to Operator in the Zariman Ten Zero

The Drifter eventually makes their way into the [Origin System](#) during The New War, which has now been thrown into disarray following [Ballas](#) and [Narmer](#)'s takeover. During the process, the Drifter subsequently lost access the strange hand bonded to them, removing their borrowed capability to Transference like in Duviri. They work together with [Ordis](#) to revive the [Lotus](#), and form an unlikely alliance with [Hunhow](#) to combat the [Archons](#).

While reviving the Lotus, she fails to recognize the Drifter and turns hostile. They flee long enough for [Eternalism](#) to catch up, granting the Drifter Void powers while restoring the [Operator](#), prompting the Lotus to leave. The Operator heads to the [Zariman Ten Zero](#) and meets with the Drifter, who explains that they are from a timeline where they were not rescued and were not given the powers of [Transference](#) and Warframes. However, the paradox only allows either one of them to continue on to end the threat of The New War.

Zariman Tablets

You wouldn't welch on a deal, would you?

- *A. *CORRUPT FILE DETECTED**
- ***B. I saved them. All of them. Never said I'd save you.***

—One of the Zariman Tablets in Duviri

Within one of the scattered Zariman Tablets discovered in [Duviri](#), there exists an entry implying the existence of an instance during **Zariman Void Jump**, where the player Tenno accepted their doppelgänger's deal to save everyone, but was the only one not rescued in the process. The exact process of the saving of the other children is left unknown, but the child would be left alone in the Zariman ship adrift in the Void, with no



the Void, bringing the Kingdom of Duviri to life via Conceptual Embodiment as an archipelago floating close to the Zariman. That version of the child would become the Drifter.

The Lotus Eaters

The [Operator](#) and Drifter meet the [Lotus](#) in [Sanctum Anatomica](#). She warns them that she is being influenced by [The Man in the Wall](#) who is targeting the former, thus she chooses to send the latter to [1999](#) and urges them to find [Albrecht Entrati](#).

Notes

- After the The New War quest, the player can be changed to play as either the Operator or the Drifter via a toggle button on the top right corner when accessing the Operator menu. Most of their armor cosmetics are not shared.
 - The roll maneuver for the Drifter uses a standard roll instead of sliding like the Operator, which travels slightly further. The distance travelled by rolling 3 times is roughly similar to an Operator sliding 4 times.
 - The Drifter is noticeably taller than the Operator, making them a far bigger target.
 - The Drifter can carry a different Amp and set of Arcanes to their Operator counterpart, making for a convenient way of quickly switching to an alternate build when necessary (i.e. a specific build for [Eidolon](#) hunts for the Drifter, another specific build for [Zariman](#) missions for the Operator).
- The Drifter can use [Operator Arcanes](#) that grant enhancements to Drifter survivability.
- All [Amps](#) equipped by the Drifter use the [Sirocco](#) model, even if the skin itself is not equipped.

Trivia

- On their reveal in [The Duviri Paradox](#) trailer, the Drifter bared a striking resemblance to [Hayden Tenno](#), the protagonist of [Digital Extremes'](#) previous successful video game, [Dark Sector](#). However, [Devstream 129](#) claimed this resemblance was coincidental.
- Even though the Drifter does not have the power of Transference, Ordis still wishes to call them 'Operator' and they are called 'Tenno' by Hunhow, a term that was given to the Zariman survivors by the Orokin after they were rescued.
- It is implied in the Lost Islands of Duviri [Fragments](#) that the Drifter is the only



Characters		Edit	[Collapse]
Main Factions	Syndicates	Mentioned Only	
 Tenno	Baro Ki'Teer • Berryn • Excalibur Umbra • Haigos • Jenva • Kahl-175 • Lotus • Mathon • Operator () • Rell • Terolee • Teshin • Varzia		
Cephalon	Apnar • Cy • Drusus • Jordas • Loid • Melica • Ordis • Otak • Suda • Sark • Simaris • Vull		
 Grineer	Captain Vor • Councilor Vay Hek • Garv • General Sargas Ruk • Grineer Queens • Kela De Thaym • Kahl-175 • Kuva Lich • Lieutenant Lech Kril • Sprag • The Grustrag Three • Tyl Regor • Ven'kra Tel • Wolf of Saturn Six		
 Corpus	Alad V • Exploiter Orb • Frohd Bek • Latrox Une • Nef Anyo • Parvos Granum • Profit-Taker Orb • Sisters of Parvos • The Sergeant • Vala Glarios • Veso • Xeto		
Infested	Fass • Helminth • Technocyte Coda (DJ RoM • Drillbit • Harddrive • Packet • Zeke) • Vome • Zealoid Prelate		
Orokin	Albrecht Entrati • Ballas • Isaah • Margulis • Nihil • Silvana		
Sentient	Erra • Hunhow • Natah • Pragma		
Murmur	The Man in the Wall		
Stalker	Angst • Malice • Mania • Misery • Stalker () () • Torment • Violence		
Narmer	Ballas • Erra () • Archon Amar • Archon Boreal • Archon Nira • Ka-Nuteru		
Duviri	Acrithis • Barris • Brimon • Bombastine • Dominus Thrax • Drifter • Koral • Luscinia • Lodun • Mathila • Pip • Sythel • Teshin • The Warden • The Vagabond		
1999	Amir • Aoi • Arthur • Eleanor • Lettie • Quincy		
Scaldra	Major Neci Rusalka		
Neutral	Clem • Darvo • Maroo • Neewa • Nora Night • The Unum		

Categories ▼

Community content is available under [CC-BY-SA](#) unless otherwise noted.

More Fandoms

