Book IV

# SOLAR WARS

## THE DAWN OF TWO SUNS

A long time ago, in unmeasurable eons of time... not in some distant galaxy, far, far away...but right here, in our own cosmic backyard.... in our solar system...there was no earth!

## THE GUIDE TO LEARNING TO SPEAK

# MER'KURIAN

Past Tense

Nouns & Verbs

Common Expressions



Kael'Ryn
MERCURY



Princess Lysara
VENUS



General
Vaelor Krynn
MARS



VX-17 (Vex)
Combat-Droid
JUPITER



The
Shallit'Biru



Xal'Zirath
MERCURY

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Welcome to **“The Guide To Learning To Speak Mer’Kurian”**.

### Terrestrial & Ancestral:

The Mer’Kurian language is ancient, earthy, and resonant. Think: roots in proto-languages. No fantastical vocal tools needed. In addition, it is a smooth, melodic consonant-vowel structure; nothing guttural or alien, but still distinct.

- **Precision** → Few homonyms, specific vocabulary, compound words used for clarity
- **Hierarchy** → Built-in honorifics, titles, or verb forms that signal rank/status
- **Beauty** → Euphonic, rhythmic patterns (repetition, vowel harmony)

## 🗣️ Mer'Kuri Consonant Phonics Chart

| Letter | IPA Symbol | Pronunciation Example | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| **b** | /b/ | *bat* | Voiced bilabial stop |
| **d** | /d/ | *dog* | Voiced counterpart of /t/ |
| **k** | /k/ | *sky* (unaspirated *k*) | Keep it crisp and short |
| **m** | /m/ | *man* | Bilabial nasal |
| **n** | /n/ | *net* | Alveolar nasal |
| **l** | /l/ | *light* | Lateral approximant |
| **r** | /ɾ/ or /r/ | *ladder* (flap r) or rolled *r* | Slight trill or flap; varies by region/speaker |
| **t** | /t/ | *top* | Unaspirated (like in many African languages) |
| **g** | /g/ | *go* | Voiced velar stop |
| **s** | /s/ | *sun* | Voiceless alveolar fricative |
| **z** | /z/ | *zebra* | Voiced alveolar fricative |
| **sh** | /ʃ/ | *shy* | Voiceless postalveolar fricative |
| **ch** | /tʃ/ | *church* | Affricate consonant |
| **ny** | /ɲ/ | *canyon* (like Spanish ñ) | Palatal nasal |
| **ng** | /ŋ/ | *song* | Velar nasal; never starts a word in English, but can in Mer’Kuri |

## 📝 Notes:

- Mer’Kuri speakers **do not aspirate** stops like *t, k,* or *p* (this makes them sound smoother than in English).
- The **"r"** sound can be a soft **flap** or a **light trill** depending on context or regional flavor within Mer’Kuri culture.
- **"Ny"** and **"Ng"** can occur at the **start, middle, or end** of words.
- There are **no silent letters** in Mer’Kuri; every letter is spoken clearly and musically.

| Letter | IPA | Example | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| h | /h/ | **h**at | Breath-like; good for softening |
| y | /j/ | **y**es | Approximant, glides into vowels |
| w | /w/ | **w**e | Approximant, used in diphthongs |
| q | /ʔ/ | Uh-**oh** (glottal stop) | Can mark separation or emphasis |
| x | /χ/ or /x/ | Scottish lo**ch** or German **Bach** | Harsh fricative; optional for ritual/ancient words |
| ts | /ts/ | ca**ts** | Voiceless alveolar affricate |
| dz | /dz/ | **ds** in “kids” | Voiced affricate; uncommon in English |

## 🌌 Style Notes:

- **Unaspirated stops** (p, t, k) make Mer’Kuri sound more fluid and less harsh than English.
- **No silent letters**: everything is clearly enunciated, giving it a rhythmic or chant-like quality.
- **Allowed word-initials**: Unlike English, **“ng”** and **“ny”** can **begin** words.
- **Flexibility in “r”** allows for expressive regional variation—some dialects flap it, others trill it melodically.

## 🗣️ Mer'Kuri Vowel Phonics Chart

| Letter | IPA Symbol | Pronunciation Example | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| a | /a/ | **a**s in *father* | Open front vowel, never "ay" |
| e | /e/ | **e**s in *they* (but shorter) | Close-mid front; no diphthong |
| i | /i/ | **ee** as in *machine* | Close front, tense |
| o | /o/ | **o** as in *go* (but pure, not diphthong) | Close-mid back vowel |
| u | /u/ | **oo** as in *flute* | Close back vowel |

## 🔔 **Optional Additions** (for flavor or expressiveness):

| Letter | IPA Symbol | Pronunciation Example | Use Case |
|---|---|---|---|
| ə | /ə/ | **a** in *sofa* | Schwa; could be rare or stress-weak |
| ai | /ai/ | **eye** | Diphthong; rising tone/emphasis |
| au | /au/ | **ow** in *now* | Another musical diphthong |
| ei | /ei/ | **ay** as in *say* | Optional melodic transition |
| oi | /oi/ | **oy** in *boy* | Used in emotional or exclamatory words |

## 📝 Notes for Mer'Kuri Vowels:

- **Every vowel is clearly pronounced**, even in sequences (like *a-i* is [a.i], not [ai]).
- No silent vowels.
- Diphthongs are intentional and melodious—not defaults.
- **Vowel harmony** may exist in ceremonial speech (e.g., certain vowels only occur with certain consonants for harmony).
- Vowels can **carry tone or stress** but we can decide later whether Mer'Kuri is tonal, pitch-accented, or stress-timed.

## ✨ Sample Mer'Kuri Words (with Meaning Suggestions)

| Word | Pronunciation | Meaning | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| **meka** | /ˈme.ka/ | light | Simple and soft |
| **noru** | /ˈno.ru/ | sky | Vowel harmony; fluid |
| **Tinga** | /ˈti.ŋa/ | star | Velar nasal adds spacey texture |
| **zalun** | /ˈza.lun/ | spirit | "z" gives energy; "un" sounds mysterious |
| **darek** | /ˈda.rek/ | to rise | "r" is flapped; feels upward-moving |
| **shomi** | /ˈʃo.mi/ | moon | Peaceful and round |

| Word | Pronunciation | Meaning | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|
| **nyeka** | /ˈɲe.ka/ | child | “ny” is tender and nurturing |
| **goruq** | /ˈgo.ɾuʔ/ | fire | Ends with glottal stop—snaps shut |
| **chalu** | /ˈʧa.lu/ | water | Soft affricate; fluid-sounding |
| **lungi** | /ˈlu.ŋi/ | dream | Velar nasal and high vowel = airy/surreal |
| **merku** | /ˈmer.ku/ | home | Could be the origin of “Mer’Kuri” |

## The Mach Conversation

Speaker 1: **Zhakai tari. To ka zuni?**
Excuse me friend. What is your name?
Speaker 2: **Na zuni Natalia**.
My name is Natalia
Speaker 1: **Sala Natalia. Na zuni Donte.**
Hello Natalia. My name is Donte.
Speaker 2: **Na lumi mariqen tari, Donte.**
I am pleased to meet a friend, Donte.
Speaker 1: **Na kira lumi mariqen tari, Natalia.**
I too am pleased to meet a friend, Natalia.
Speaker 2: **Shali tari, Donte.**
Thank you, friend.
Speaker 1: **Ha Shali, Natalia.**
You’re Welcome, Natalia.

## The Breakdown

**Zhakai** - *Excuse me* / *Pardon me* / *May I have your attention?*
**Tari** - *Friend*
**To** - *What* (is)
**Ka** - *Your* (Pronoun You)
**Zuni** - *Name* (Verb: To Call, To Name)
**Sala** - *Hello*
Na - *My* (Pronoun I/Me)
**Lumi** - *Like* (Verb: To Love, To Care, To Like)
**Mariqen** - *To Meet* (To Get Acquainted)
**Kira** - *Too* (Also)
**Shali** - *Thank You*
**Ka Lena** - *Please* (Lit. You Understand)
**Ha Shali** - *You’re Welcome*

# Lesson Two: Past Tense

Root Verb: ***zala*** + **ta** - *"talked, to spoke"*

### 🔤 Examples with -ta Past Tense

| Root Verb | Meaning | Past Form | Meaning |
|---|---|---|---|
| **zala** | to talk | zala**ta** | talked / spoke |
| **lumi** | to see | lumi**ta** | saw |
| **shoma** | to listen | shoma**ta** | Heard / listened |
| **darek** | to rise | darekta | rose |
| **meni** | to feel | meni**ta** | felt |
| **fungi** | to dream | fungi**ta** | dreamed |
| **beka** | to build | beka**ta** | built |
| **toma** | to carry | toma**ta** | carried |
| **yara** | to love | yara**ta** | loved |
| **kava** | to go | kava**ta** | went |

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### 👤 Full Past Tense Conjugation (with Pronouns)

| English | Mer'Kuri |
|---|---|
| I talked | **na zalata** |
| You talked | **ka zalata** |
| He/She talked | **tu zalata** |
| We talked | **naka zalata** |
| They talked | **tula zalata** |

Same pattern applies to all verbs:

[**pronoun**] + [**root verb**] + **ta**

### ✨ Notes & Flexibility

- **-ta** always signals the past tense.
- Verbs ending in **-k, -m, -n, -i, -a** absorb **-ta** naturally; ***darekta*** (no extra linking vowel needed).

# Lesson Three: Nouns

| Noun | Meaning | Notes |
|---|---|---|
| **maka** | person, being | general term for a sentient |
| **toma** | hand | also a verb “to carry” (context decides) |
| **zura** | light | poetic or physical light |
| **shoru** | voice, sound | musical/energetic voice |
| **noku** | stone | strong, unmoving |
| **fina** | fire | energetic, sacred |
| **kali** | tree | nature-connected |
| **sami** | star | directional and spiritual term |
| **venu** | knowledge | also a verb root “**veni**” (to know) |
| **laka** | path, way | used metaphorically too |
| **merku** | home | root of "Mer'Kuri" (homeland of light?) |
| **taku** | sky | big, expansive concept |

## 🧩 Sample Present Tense Noun + Verb Sentences

| Mer'Kuri | English |
|---|---|
| **na kava laka** | I walk the path |
| **ka shoma shoru** | You listen to the voice |
| **tu beka merku** | He/She builds the home |
| **tula fungi sami** | They dream of the stars |
| **naka meni fina** | We feel the fire |
| **na zala maka** | I speak to a person |

## 🧩 Sample Past Tense Noun + Verb Sentences

| Mer’Kuri | English |
|---|---|
| na kava**ta** laka | I walked the path |
| ka shoma**ta** shoru | You listened to the voice |
| tu beka**ta** merku | He/She built the home |
| tula fungi**ta** sami | They dreamed of the stars |
| naka meni**ta** fina | We felt the fire |
| na zala**ta** maka | I spoke to a person |

## More Nouns

| Mer'Kuri | English | Notes |
|---|---|---|
| **meli** | change, transformation | from verb *meli* (to change) |
| **nira** | wind, breath | airy, flowing |
| **tari** | friend, companion | gentle sound |
| **vuma** | enemy, threat | tense contrast to *tari* |
| **jona** | mountain | sturdy, sacred feel |
| **fari** | river, flow | pairs with *naru* (to flow) |
| **zaka** | starship, vessel | tech-ritual hybrid |
| **heni** | crystal, gem | glowing or sacred tool |
| **mota** | animal, creature | non-sapient life |
| **xari** | heart, center | used literally or metaphorically |
| **luma** | moon | dreamy, feminine tone |
| **raka** | tool, device | any object with function |
| **nari** | eye | often symbolic |
| **thulo** | gate, portal | for transitions or travel |
| **duma** | firelight, flame | more poetic than *fina* |
| **sona** | idea, thought | pairs with *veni* (to know) |
| **keru** | voice of ancestors | spiritual noun |
| **yona** | dream-vision | noun form of *fungi* (to dream) |
| **sara** | song, chant | from *nali* (to sing) |
| **vuri** | dust, ash | remains or endings |
| **gala** | time, cycle | broad concept |
| **zemi** | truth, essence | noun of *zemu* (to speak truth) |
| **moru** | darkness, shadow | emotional or physical |
| **kera** | light-being | could mean Mer'Kurian |
| **panu** | peace, stillness | serene vibe |
| **telu** | circle, unity | geometry and metaphor |
| **funi** | joy, happiness | bright and light |
| **rima** | pain, wound | noun of *tavi* (to suffer) |
| **lora** | dreamer, seer | someone who *fungi*s |
| **ziri** | spark, beginning | origin or energy start |

# Lesson Four

## 🧱 1. Articles (“a,” “the”)

**le** "the" definite (specific thing)
**sa** "a/an" indefinite (any one of a kind)

## 🔤 Examples

| Mer’Kuri | English |
|---|---|
| na lumi **le** luma | I see **the** moon |
| ka shoma **sa** sara | You listen to **a** song |
| tu bekata **le** merku | He/She built **the** home |

## 🧩 2. Possessives (my, your, their, etc.)

| English | Mer’Kuri | Example |
|---|---|---|
| **my** | na’sa | **na’sa** merku = my home |
| **your** | ka’sa | **ka’sa** zaka = your ship |
| **his/her** | tu’sa | **tu’sa** sari = his/her song |
| **our** | naka’sa | **naka’sa** laka = our path |
| **their** | tula’sa | **tula’sa** moru = their shadow |

## ✨ Putting It All Together

| Mer’Kuri | English |
|---|---|
| na zalata **le** sara | I spoke **the** song |
| ka menita **naka’sa** ruma | You felt **our** home |
| tu fungi **sa** yona | He/She dreamed **a** vision |
| naka shoma **le** keru | We listened to **the** ancestral voice |
| tula bekata **tu’sa** zaka | They built **his/her** starship |

Learning to speak Mer’Kurian is very easy. It’s also fun! Be the center of attention when others hear you and your fellow Solar Warriors speaking to each other in Mer’Kurian.

# Lesson Five

## 🗣️ Essential Vocabulary for Everyday Use

| English | Mer'Kuri | Notes |
|---|---|---|
| Hello | **Luma'ka** | Lit. *"light to you"*; warm, bright greeting |
| Goodbye | **Tama'nu** | Lit. *"go in peace"*; can also mean *"farewell"* |
| Yes | **Ha** | Short, affirmative, rising tone |
| No | **No** | Firm and direct; doubles as negation word |
| A little (bit) | **nali** | Also means *"small"* or *"few"* in context |
| Also | **kira** | Adds/connects thoughts (*"too"*, and *"also"*) |
| At / From | **min** | Versatile preposition (location, origin) |
| Very | **shena** | Intensifier before adjectives or verbs |
| Well (health/state) | **fali** | As in *"I am well"* or *"you feel well"* |
| For now | shina | (Temporarily) |

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## 🔤 Core Verbs

| English | Mer'Kuri | Notes |
|---|---|---|
| To understand | **veni** | Already used; root for "to know" |
| To be pleased / to enjoy | **yani** | Root verb for contentment or joy |
| To meet / get acquainted | **mariqen** | Lit. "to begin together" (from *mariq* = to begin) |
| To be able to / can | **shavi** | Ability verb; can follow subject directly |

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## ✅ Examples Using These Words

| Mer'Kuri | English |
|---|---|
| **Luma'ka, maka** | Hello, person. |
| **Tama'nu, tari** | Goodbye, friend. |
| **Ha, na veni** | Yes, I understand. |
| **No, ka no veni** | No, you don't understand. |
| **Na shavi zala** | I can speak. |
| **Tu mariqen na** | He/She met me. |
| **Ka yani le sara** | You enjoy the song. |
| **Naka fali** | We are well. |
| **Na shoma le sari kira le shoru** | I listen to the song **and also** the voice. |
| **Na lena nali** | I understand **a little**. |
| **Tu menita shena rima** | He/She felt **very** much pain. |
| **Tula kavata min ruma** | They walked **from** the home. |

| **Mer'Kuri** | **English** |
|---|---|
| **Ka zala Mer'Kuri?** | Do you speak Mer'Kuri? |
| **Ha, na zala Mer'Kuri** | Yes, I speak Mer'Kuri. |
| **Luma'ka** | Hello |
| **Luma'ka. Ka zala Mer'Kuri?** | Hello. Do you speak Mer'Kuri? |
| **Ha, na zala Mer'Kuri** | Yes, I speak Mer'Kuri. |
| **Shena fali!** | Very well! *(Lit. "Very good")* |
| **Na mariqen ka** | I'm pleased to meet you. *(I meet you)* |
| **Na'sa nemi tari** | My name is Tari |
| **Ka lena Mer'Kuri nali?** | Do you understand Mer'Kuri a little? |
| **Ha, ka lena nali.** | Yes, I understand a little |
| **No, ka no lena** | No, I don't understand |
| **Tama'nu** | Goodbye |
| **Tama'nu, tari** | Goodbye, friend |
| | |
| ***Tama'nu shina, tari*** | Go in peace for now, friend |