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

Present 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	Pronunce	Meaning	Notes
meka	/ˈme.ka/	light	(as in glow, radiance, energy)
noru	/ˈno.ru/	sky	More poetic "sky"; Evokes awe
tinga	/ˈti.ŋa/	star	A guiding light, soul, or honored one
zalun	/ˈza.lun/	spirit	"z" gives energy; "un" sounds mysterious
darek	/ˈda.ɾek/	to rise	"r" is flapped; feels upward-moving
shomi	/ˈʃo.mi/	moon	Peaceful and round
nyeka	/ˈɲe.ka/	child	"ny" is tender and nurturing
goruq	/ˈgo.ruk/	fire	Ends with glottal stop—snaps shut
chalu	/ˈʧa.lu/	water	Soft affricate; fluid-sounding
lungi	/ˈlu.ŋi/	vision	A spiritual sight
keli	/ˈke.li/	light	(as in weight)
merku	/ˈmeɾ.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. Donte
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 One: Present Tense

Mer'Kuri Conversation 1

Speaker 1: **Zhakai. Ka zala Mer'Kuri?**
Speaker 2: **Ha. Na zala Mer'Kuri.**
Speaker 1: **Na zala ki'len Mer'Kuri.**
Speaker 2: **Ka Marshai?**
Speaker 1: **Ha. Na Marshai.**
Speaker 2: **Ka lena Mer'Kuri?**
Speaker 1: **Ha. Na lena nali Mer'Kuri.**

Learn The Mechanics!

Personal Pronouns

English	Mer'Kuri	Pronunciation	Notes
I / Me / My	**na**	/na/	Simple and centered
You (singular)	**ka**	/ka/	Direct and open
He/She/It	**tu**	/tu/	Neutral third person
We/Us	**naka**	/ˈna.ka/	Compound of "na" + "ka"
They/Them	**tula**	/ˈtu.la/	Plural of "tu"

Conjugate Verb "**Zhakar**" for Each Pronoun - *"to excuse, to pardon"*

Subject	Phrase	Pronunciation
I excuse	**na zhakar**	/na ˈzha.kar/
You excuse	**ka zhakar**	/ka ˈzha.kar/
He/She excuse	**tu zhakar**	/tu ˈzha.kar/
We excuse	**naka zhakar**	/ˈna.ka ˈzha.kar/
They excuse	**tula zhakar**	/ˈtu.la ˈzha.kar/

Conjugate Verb "**Zala**" for Each Pronoun - *"to talk, to speak"*

Subject	Phrase	Pronunciation
I talk	**na zala**	/na ˈza.la/
You talk	**ka zala**	/ka ˈza.la/
He/She talks	**tu zala**	/tu ˈza.la/
We talk	**naka zala**	/ˈna.ka ˈza.la/
They talk	**tula zala**	/ˈtu.la ˈza.la/

Ha - *Yes*
No - *No*
Ki'len - *A little* (used with verbs) [I speak a little]
Nali - *A little* (used with nouns) [A little boy]
Mer'Kuri - *Mer'Kuri* language

Conjugate Verb **“Lena”** (/ˈle.na/) - *“to know, to understand”*

Subject	**Phrase**	**Pronunciation**
I understand	**na lena**	/na ˈle.na/
You understand	**ka lena**	/ka ˈle.na/
He/She understands	**tu lena**	/tu ˈle.na/
We understand	**naka lena**	/ˈna.ka ˈle.na/
They understand	**tula lena**	/ˈtu.la ˈle.na/

Present Tense = [**pronoun**] + [**root verb**]

Mer’Kuri Conversation 2

Speaker 1: ***Zhakai. Ka zala Tiamari?***
Speaker 2: ***Ha. Na zala Tiamari nali.***
Speaker 1: ***Ka lena na?***
Speaker 2: ***Ha, na lena ki’len.***
Speaker 1: ***Ka marshai?***
Speaker 2: ***No. Na Mer’Kuri.***

In this context “**Mer’Kuri**” is the nationality; not the language.
Tiamari - *The national language on Tiamara*.

Mer’Kuri Conversation 3

Speaker 1: ***Zhakai. Ka lumi ruma?***
Speaker 2: ***Ha. Na lumi ruma nali.***
Speaker 1: ***Na lumi zura.***
Speaker **2:** ***Ka*** **lumi** ***ruma?***
Speaker **1:** ***Na lumi ruma nali.***
Speaker 2: **Na lumi samin.**

Conjugate Verb **“*Lumi*”** (/ˈlu.mi/) - *“to love, to care, to like”*

Subject	**Phrase**	**Pronunciation**
I like	**na lumi**	/na ˈlu.mi/
You like	**ka lumi**	/ka ˈlu.mi/
He/She likes	**tu lumi**	/tu ˈlu.mi//
We like	**naka lumi**	/ˈna.ka ˈlu.mi/
They like	**tula lumi**	/ˈtu.la ˈlu.mi/

Nouns

Ruma - Music
Zura – Dance
Samin - Song

Mer'Kuri Conversation 4

Speaker 2: **Ka sava chalu?**
Speaker 1: **Ha. Na sava chalu, juni, an havi.**
Speaker 2: **Ka palu mako?**
Speaker 1: **No. Na palu binu**.
Speaker 2: **Ka sava havi en merku?**
Speaker 1: **Ha. Na sava havi, juni, an chalu en merku**.

Conjugate Verb **"Sava**" (/sa.va/) - *"to drink"*

Subject	Phrase	Pronunciation
I drink	**na sava**	/na ˈsa.va/
You drink	**ka sava**	/ka ˈsa.va/
He/She drink	**tu sava**	/tu ˈsa.va/
We drink	**naka sava**	/ˈna.ka ˈsa.va/
They drink	**tula sava**	/ˈtu.la ˈsa.va/

Conjugate Verb **"Palu**" (/ˈpa.lu/) - *"to eat"*

Subject	Phrase	Pronunciation
I eat	**na palu**	/na ˈpa.lu/
You eat	**ka palu**	/ka ˈpa.lu/
He/She eat	**tu palu**	/tu ˈpa.lu/
We eat	**naka palu**	/ˈna.ka ˈpa.lu/
They eat	**tula palu**	/ˈtu.la ˈpa.lu/

Nouns

Chalu - Water
Juni - Juice
Havi - Tea
Mako - Fish
Binu - Fruit

Mer'Kuri Conversation 5

Speaker 1: **Ka sinu teni?**
Speaker 2: **Ha. Teni maka. Na sinu noku, fina, an luma**.
Speaker 1: **Ka lumi fina?**
Speaker 2: **Ha. Fina an luma na lumi.**
Speaker 1: **Ka ruma nala o taka?**
Speaker 2: **Ha. Ruma nala.**

Conjugate Verb **"Sinu**" (/si.nu/) - *"to see (notice, perceive, look at, observe)"*

Subject	Phrase	Pronunciation	Meaning
I see	**na sinu**	/na ˈsi.nu/	I see
You see	**ka sinu**	/ka ˈsi.nu/	You see
He/She see	**tu sinu**	/tu ˈsi.nu/	He/She see
We see	**naka sinu**	/ˈna.ka ˈsi.nu/	We see
They see	**tula sinu**	/ˈtu.la ˈsi.nu/	They see

Teni - Sky
Tena - Light, Daylight, Brightness
Maka - Sun, Bright
Noku - Cloud
Fina - Star
Luma - light
Kurea - Art
Nala - Soft
Taka - Strong

ka - you *(pronoun)*
...but in questions, it doubles as a marker for:
"Is it...?"
"Do you...?"
"Does the...?"

Ka ruma nala o taka?
Is the music soft or strong?

Conjugate Verb **"kava**" (/sa.va/) - *"to walk"*

Subject	**Phrase**	**Pronunciation**
I walk	**na kava**	/na ˈka.va/
You walk	**ka kava**	/ka ˈka.va/
He/She walk	**tu kava**	/tu ˈka.va/
We walk	**naka kava**	/ˈna.ka ˈka.va/
They walk	**tula kava**	/ˈtu.la ˈka.va/

Conjugate Verb **"kora**" (/ko.ra/) - *"to run"*

Subject	**Phrase**	**Pronunciation**
I run	**na kora**	/na ˈko.ra/
You run	**ka kora**	/ka ˈko.ra/
He/She run	**tu kora**	/tu ˈko.ra/
We run	**naka kora**	/ˈna.ka ˈko.ra/
They run	**tula kora**	/ˈtu.la ˈko.ra/

Conjugate Verb **"davi**" (/da.vi/) - *"to give"*

Subject	**Phrase**	**Pronunciation**
I give	**na davi**	/na ˈda.vi/
You give	**ka davi**	/ka ˈda.vi/
He/She give	**tu davi**	/tu ˈda.vi/
We give	**naka davi**	/ˈna.ka ˈda.vi/
They give	**tula davi**	/ˈtu.la ˈda.vi/

Root Verbs

Verb Root	IPA	Meaning
lumi	/ˈlu.mi/	to look at, to observe
kava	/ˈka.va/	to go, to walk, to move
meni	/ˈme.ni/	to feel, to sense, to touch
fungi	/ˈfu.ŋi/	to dream (daydream)
yara	/ˈja.ɾa/	to imagine, to visualize
davi	/da.vi/	to give
kora	/ˈbe.ka/	to run
veni	/ˈve.ni/	to know; understand (formal)
huri	/ˈhu.ɾi/	to help, to heal
zuni	/ˈzu.ni/	to call, to name
kuni	/ˈku.ni/	to wait, to stay
darek	/ˈda.rek/	to rise (used for sun, action, awakening)
lanu	/ˈla.nu/	to open, to begin
sami	/ˈna.li/	to sing, to chant
voro	/ˈvo.ɾo/	to fly, to soar
sara	/ˈsa.ɾa/	to dance;, to sway
zura	/ˈzu.ɾa/	to glow, to shine
teni	/ˈte.ni/	to learn
kolo	/ˈko.lo/	to fall, to descend
janu	/ˈdʒa.nu/	to begin, to start
fina	/ˈfi.na/	to end, to finish
romo	/ˈɾo.mo/	to walk, to travel
xeni	/ˈxe.ni/	to protect, to guard
dali	/ˈda.li/	to write, to mark
huna	/ˈhu.na/	to remember
yeli	/ˈje.li/	to connect, to link
soku	/ˈso.ku/	to sleep, to rest
penu	/ˈpe.nu/	to enter
mari	/ˈma.ɾi/	to leave, to go out
mariq	/ˈma.ɾiʔ/	to die, to fade
tavi	/ˈta.vi/	to feel pain, to suffer

Root Verbs

Verb Root	IPA	Meaning
sali	/ˈsa.li/	to live, to exist
feki	/ˈfe.ki/	to create light, to illuminate
zemu	/ˈze.mu/	to speak truth, to reveal
loki	/ˈlo.ki/	to hide, to cover
naku	/ˈna.ku/	to call upon, to summon
hami	/ˈha.mi/	to sing with power, to invoke
jaka	/ˈdʒa.ka/	to break free, to escape
vani	/ˈva.ni/	to join, to unite
qeru	/ˈʔe.ɾu/	to divide, to separate
xalu	/ˈxa.lu/	to burn away, to purify
deru	/ˈde.ɾu/	to grow, to increase
meli	/ˈme.li/	to change, to transform
zako	/ˈza.ko/	to remember ancestrally, to honor past
thari	/ˈt̪a.ɾi/	to guard, to watch over
naru	/ˈna.ɾu/	to flow, to continue
xeniq	/ˈxe.niʔ/	to vanish, to disappear
kavi	/ˈka.vi/	to lift, to raise (physically or spiritually)
bora	/ˈbo.ɾa/	to return, to come back
yani	/ˈja.ni/	to be pleased / to enjoy
mariqen	/ˈma.ɾi.kɛn/	to meet / get acquainted
shavi	/ˈʃa.vi/	to be able to / can