

CZS005: Breaking Down Talion, The Kindly Lord

- 1) UPKEEP STEP
 - 2) MAIN TOPIC
 - 3) CLEAN-UP PHASE
-

*****CLAP AND SLATE*****

- 1) INTRO JOSH & RACHEL

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We've been preparing for all of the Wilds of Eldraine episodes to come, but couldn't resist making a mini episode about one of the most powerful legendary creatures in the set. He asks his controller to make an important choice and we've done the math to find out just what choice is correct. BUT FIRST:

- 2) **MAIN TOPIC: TALION, THE KINDLY LORD**

Read the card.

BASELESS SPECULATION

THE WHOLE CARDPOOL

This data is gathered by Magic Data Science (@mtg_ds on Twitter) using EDHREC Data. They Tweeted a chart. (editors)

Proportion of cards in the 99 of decks on EDHREC with power, toughness or mana value equal to the numbers 1-10. This is weighted by popularity.

- 1 - 18.1% of cards - third**
- 2 - 27.7% of cards - first**
- 3 - 23.7% of cards - second**
- 4 - 15.2% of cards**
- 5 - 9.5% of cards**
- 6 - 5.2% of cards**
- 7 - 2.8% of cards**
- 8 - 1.1% of cards**
- 9 - 0.6% of cards**
- 10 - 0.3% of cards**

A LITTLE DEEPER

That gives us a chance to be generally correct when making the choice with Talion. Choosing 2 is most often the correct choice, but there are likely pods where 3 is the correct choice, depending on who you're playing against.

We went through the Top 50 Commanders on EDHREC and broke down the average deck of each Commander to see what would be the best number to choose against those Commanders. It also gives us an idea of what number is best against similar decks.

HOW DOES COLOR AFFECT IT?

| | White | Blue | Black | Red | Green |
|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | 19.32% | 22.39% | 22.41% | 19.30% | 19.01% |
| 2 | 38.03% | 39.15% | 38.74% | 37.31% | 37.21% |
| 3 | 32.88% | 30.56% | 31.13% | 32.11% | 34.56% |
| 4 | 21.14% | 17.24% | 19.23% | 20.26% | 18.52% |

HOW DOES CARD TYPE AFFECT IT?

| | Creatures | Instants/Sorceries | Enchantments | Artifacts |
|----------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | 21.67% | 6.68% | 25.13% | 26.11% |
| 2 | 39.10% | 10.13% | 41.71% | 39.41% |
| 3 | 33.67% | 8.03% | 36.68% | 24.14% |
| 4 | 20.78% | 4.50% | 14.07% | 21.18% |

SPECIAL CASES

Shrines Deck (Go-Shintai)

Dragon's Approach Deck

Keruga Companion

X Spells (Zaxara)

Big Creature Decks (Dragons, Dinosaurs, Angels, Animar)

3) CLEAN-UP STEP

Big thanks to our amazing team here at The Command Zone! **Damen Lenz; Eric Lem; Megan Yip; Gaurav Gulati; Jordan Pridgen; Jamie Block; Arthur Meadowcroft; Manson Leung; Josh Murphy; Jake Boss; Sam Waldow; Evan Limberger; Ladee Danger; Craig Blanchette; Katie Cole; Mitch Trafford; Gabriel Pozos; and Jimmy Wong.**