# **Beyond The Veil**

## **Overview**

In Beyond The Veil, the world has characters that each have access to The Veil, a source of magical power. Most characters can only access a small amount of power, with those rare few who can freely use the magic ascending to effective god-hood.

In this world, it is not just scholars and priests that utilise in magic; no successful swordsman or archer is without their magical guidance or enhanced weaponry. From defensive wards to elemental explosions, magic forms an integral part in combat.

Some choose not to weaponise their magic, however, with many – such as minstrels and chanters, using their connection to The Veil to impress others, gaining their favour, or in more sinister cases charm them out of their wealth.

## **Preface**

Beyond the Veil approaches the design of the game with the idea that characters should be unique in their strengths in a party; no character should be good at everything, with all-rounder characters being average at best at everything.

The intent is to provide players with experiences that feel iconic to their character, or group of characters; if the party decides to all be big strong buffoons, they won't be doing well in social encounters, hopefully as the players intended.

To this end, combat, environmental challenges (referred to as "Grit" encounters), and social encounters have been clearly split. Lots of things – such as moving AND attacking on one

combat turn – are more limited than in other games, in the hopes that by lowering the average power, those that can do more really feel the effects.

Finally, this is currently just a concept/design document, so please remember that any balance, values, or otherwise changeable facets of the game can and will be changed as I re-evaluate certain aspects of the design.

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Alleycat Prints

## **Basic Rules and Terms**

## **Maths**

If an effect ever asks to half a value, always round up.

## **Attributes**

Each character in Beyond the Veil has 5 Attributes:

#### **Power**

Power represents the physical strength of a character. It affects things such as melee weapon attacks, lifting or moving heavy objects, or engaging in physical contest with an enemy.

#### Dexterity

Dexterity represents the physical speed and accuracy of a character. It affects things such as ranged weapon attacks, dodging dangerous effects, and disarming traps.

## Knowledge

Knowledge represents all the knowledge a characters has about the world. It affects things such as skill checks, magical attacks, and identification of the unknown.

#### Focus

Focus represents a character's strength of mind. It affects things such as magical defences, morale, and rest benefits.

#### Will

Will represents a character's strength of ego or likeability. It affects things such as social interactions, resisting magical charms, and empowering others.

## **Attribute Values**

Each Attribute has a value. This can be negative or positive. Characters start with a set of Attribute Vales, that will increase in as they gain levels.

During gameplay, various things may ask a character to use or add an Attribute Value for an attack, skill, or similar action.

## Levels

To represent a character's power and experience, each character has a Level. Most characters start at Level 1, and gain experience as they defeat enemies or accomplish goals.

When a character gains a level, they will gain a benefit based on their class.

Levels range from 1 to 8.

## **Hit Points**

Each character has a number of Hit Points, a representation of how much they can endure in combat before dying. Hit Points can stem from a character's physical toughness, ability to dodge attacks, or ward off hits with armour or minor magic.

When a character is dealt damage, it is subtracted from their Hit Points. If a player character reaches 0 Hit Points, they gain the Dying condition. Non-player creatures immediately die when reduced to 0 Hit Points.

Each Class determines the base amount of Hit Points a character gains per level.

## **Ward Points**

Ward points are an extra barrier on top of Hit Points. When a character has Ward Points, any damage taken is subtracted from their Ward

Points first. If damage would deal more damage than a character has Ward Points, the remainder is subtracted from their Hit Points as normal.

If a character with Ward Points would gain more Ward Points, add the new value to the current. A character cannot have more Ward Points than their maximum Hit Points.

## **Dice Pools**

To differentiate between combat, social, and explorative play, characters have access to different pools of dice.

## **Spending Dice**

Many effects will ask a player to "Spend" dice. When spending a die, roll it, record the value, and remove the die from its pool. Some effects will then use the rolled value, whilst others may not.

Generally Weapon Dice do not get spent, only rolled, and each other type of Dice are spent as they are used.

#### **Dice Sizes**

A die's size is how many sides it has.

A die's size may be increased or decreased in the following sequence:

$$D4 \rightarrow D6 \rightarrow D8 \rightarrow D10 \rightarrow D12 \rightarrow 2D8$$

A die cannot increase beyond 2D8, nor decrease below D4.

## **Weapon Dice**

Weapon Dice represent the damage dealt with a weapon by a character. They are rolled each time an attack hits. Most characters will have one or two Weapon Dice, that may vary in size or damage type.

### **Grit Dice**

Grit Dice represent a character's ability to perform in the wilderness, dungeons, and other unknown situations. These dice are replenished during rests. Some classes will have significantly more Grit Dice than others, whereas some will use larger dice types in lower quantities.

#### **Social Dice**

Social Dice represent a character's ability to turn social situations in their favour. These dice are replenished during rests. Class determines size and quantity of a character's Social Dice.

## **Magic Dice**

Magic Dice are wildcard dice. When spending a Grit or Social Die, a Magic Die can be used in place or in addition to the normal die. Most Magic Dice are D4, but some characters may be able to increase this. Magic Dice are few in availability for most characters. Magic Dice replenish during rests, but at a slower rate than the other dice.

When features or spells use Magic Dice, an **[M]** always refers to the total value rolled on the die or dice used.

## **Temporary Dice**

When replenishing Dice Pools, you may not replenish Temporary Dice. Most dice you gain and/or use from spells, items, or other bonuses are Temporary Dice, can only be used once, and will not be replenished.

## Saves

Some effects will ask characters to make a Save. In each case, the relevant Attribute will be listed; for example, a character may need to make a Power Save. To succeed on the Save, they must roll an equal or higher value than the Challenge of the effect.

#### **Save Training**

When making a Save, the listed Attribute Value is added to a die roll. This die is a D10 if a character is not trained in the Skill, and a D20 if the character is trained in the Skill. In addition, a player may choose to simultaneously spend a Magic Die to increase their result.

## **Damage**

Damage is dealt with attacks and spells. Anything that would deal damage always deals at least 1 damage, regardless of Attributes, spells, or any other abilities.

## **Damage Types**

There are many types of damage, each with creatures that resist or are weak to them. Most creatures are limited to one or two damage types, and may find themselves relying on their party or their environment to deal with enemies that resist their damage.

The damage types are: *Arcane*, *Umbral*, *Fire*, *Holy*, *Ice*, *Lightning*, *Physical*, *Poison*, *Psychic*.

#### **Resistances and Weaknesses**

When a creature takes damage that it is weak to, it gains the *Weakened* condition.

When a creature would take damage that it resists, it ignores the damage roll and takes the minimum possible damage instead.

# **Spell Challenge**

When a creature does something that provides its target an opportunity to resist, the default Challenge of the Save is based on the character's Spell Challenge.

A character's Spell Challenge is listed in its class description.

## Languages

Each creature can speak a number of languages. Most civilised creatures can speak *Common*.

A non exhaustive list of Languages is:

Common, Elvish, Gallian, Dwarven, Giant, Goblin, Rana, Draconic, Infernal, Angelic.

#### **All-Tongue**

An exceptional language is *All-Tongue*. A creature that knows *All-Tongue* can be understood by anyone, and can understand any language spoken to it. This does not allow it to read those languages.

## **Sizes**

Creatures come in various sizes. Each size takes up a square area with sides of multiples of 5ft according to their size:

Size	Size of Square
Tiny	Does not occupy space in a meaningful way. Uses 5ft squares in combat.
Small, Medium	5ft
Large, Huge	10ft
Massive	15ft

This size represents the presence of a creature, which could be from physical size, threat level, weapon range, or even a very imposing aura.

## **Size Modifiers**

For non player creatures, size will already be taken into account for their abilities and statistics.

For player characters, the following penalties and bonuses apply:

- → **Tiny** and **Small** characters reduce the size their Weapon Dice once.
- → **Large** and **Huge** characters increase the size of their Weapon Dice once.
- ightarrow **Massive** characters increase the size of their Weapon Dice twice.

The modifiers apply whenever a player character changes size.

# **Resting and Recovery**

Between encounters and during travel, characters may need to rest. There are two types of rests:

#### Safe Rests

A safe rest can be taken in a trusted and comfortable environment. This can be a known inn, a character's home, or similarly safe location. Safe Rests take two days of low stress activity to complete.

When characters finish a Safe Rest, they restore all of their Hit Points, replenish their Dice pools in their entirety, and recover any other similar resources that they may have spent.

## **Risky Rests**

A risky rest is any rest that isn't a Safe Rest. This includes camping in the wilderness or a dungeon corner, in a new inn that you can't trust, or an expedited rest in a safe location. Risky Rests take 6 hours of watches and rest to complete.

When characters finish a Risky Rest, they restore some Hit Points, and replenish some of their Dice Pools:

If they are below half their maximum Hit Points, they restore enough Hit Points to have half their maximum Hit Points. Otherwise, they may use the Persevere Skill once without spending the rolled Grit Die. (They must have a Grit Die prior to beginning the rest).

They then choose to replenish Grit Dice or Social Dice in any combination. The number of Dice they can replenish is:

1 + Class Level

#### Recover Checks

When characters want to take a Risky Rest, one of them must make a Recover Check. The characters then gain the following benefits based on the result. These benefits are cumulative:

10	Replenish a Grit, Social, or Magic Die.
15	Heal an additional 2 Hit Points per level
20	Replenish a Grit, Social, or Magic Die
30	The rest becomes a Safe Rest.

## **Keeping Watch**

One character may want to keep watch during the Risky Rest. This will help prevent anyone or anything surprising the party.

The character keeping watch does not rest as well as the others. They treat the result of the Recover Check as though it were 5 less.

#### Morale

After finishing a rest, each character must check their Morale (8).

## **Motivations and Morals**

## **Motivations**

Each character has one or more Motivations; goals which the character hopes to achieve. These are suggested by their Background, but may derived from another source, or even gained through gameplay.

## **Morals**

Each character also has a set of Morals. These are loosely split into "Good" and "Bad", and advise characters on how they would attempt to achieve their goals and fulfil their Motivations.

## **Morale Affirmations**

Whenever you finish a rest, after replenishing Hit Points and Dice, each character must affirm their Morale.

Morale can be determined by how a character has been acting with regards to their Background's Motivations and Morals.

Between each rest, when a character acts in a way that either furthers their Motivations, demonstrates their Morals, or increases their Devotion, they are considered to have Affirmed their Morale.

After each rest, consider if a character has Affirmed their Morale:

- → If a character has not, they become Distressed.
- → If a character has, they become Resolute.

## **Conflicted Morale**

On a failure, the character stays Conflicted.

## **Devotion**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, characters must choose their Devotion *(page 62)*.

Based on their current Morals, they should decide if they wish to get "better" or "worse", represented as behaving more "good" or "bad" respectively.

When a character chooses a Devotion, they choose either a Tenet or a Temptation to follow. Characters then gain bonuses based on their starting Morals and Motivations.

## **Increasing Devotion**

Whenever a character proactively furthers their goals or Motivations, if they did so in line with their chosen Devotion's tenets, they increase their Devotion by 1.

## **Losing Devotion**

Devotion can decrease, in various ways.

## **Hollow Resting**

If a character's Devotion does not increase after three rests, it decreases by 1.

Each time a character's Devotion drops below 0, they risk Madness.

#### **Madness**

Whenever a character's Devotion decreases and the resultant value is below 0, they must make a Will Save of Challenge:

5 + Negative Devotion

Where Negative Devotion is the difference between 0 and the character's Devotion. For example, a character with -3 Devotion would need to make a Will Save of Challenge 8.

If a character fails, they become Conflicted until they increase their Devotion. This can be cured, but otherwise does not end as normal.

## **Skill Checks**

There are 3 types of Skills: Grit, Social, and Magic. Each type has several Skills associated with it. Skill Checks are used to see if a character can gain a benefit for the party. To succeed on the Skill Check, they must roll an equal or higher value than the Challenge of the Check.

Skill checks will be described in the following format:

Skill Check (Challenge)

For example, a skill check of

Athletic Check (10)

Requires the creature to make an Athletics Check of Challenge 10. To succeed, they would need a total result of 10 or higher.

## **Skill Training**

When making a Skill Check, the listed Attribute Value is added to a die roll. This die is a D10 if a creature is not trained in the Skill, and a D20 if the creature is trained in the Skill.

#### **Spending Dice**

In addition, a player may choose to spend a die from the associated die pool for the skill. They may do so after the original roll, potentially turning a failure into a success.

# **Challenge Difficulty**

When determining the Skill Challenge, use the table below to estimate the appropriate Challenge. Note that many creatures and characters will overstep the bounds via Magic Dice, but this is encouraged.

Difficulty	Challenge
Anyone should easily succeed	0

Anyone could succeed, but with challenge	4
Hard for most	8
Achievable by those skilled in the task	12
Difficult even when trained in the task	16
Exceptionally hard to succeed	20
Impossible but for great skill, luck, or magic	30

## **Skills**

After each skill, a letter is shown in parentheses. This letter corresponds to one of the five Attributes: (**P**)ower, (**D**)exterity, (**K**)nowledge, (**F**)ocus, or (**W**)ill. When asked to make a skill check for that skill, add the Attribute Value to the result.

## **Grit Skills**

Grit Skills are used to observe the environment, setup safe camps, and track animals or enemies. When Grit Skills fail, the party is put at risk of nearby threats.

## Athletics (P)

Used to move objects about, clearing obstacles or creating hiding spots.

Athletics may also be used defensively when defending from falling heavy objects, special enemy attacks, and similar dangerous.

## Recover (F)

Used to set up camp in harsh environments.

Recover can also be used defensively when responding to a sudden shift in the environment, such as sudden weather, or crossing planes.

## Disarm (D)

Used to disarm traps, secretly lift items from a creature, or open locks.

## Persevere (W)

Used to replenish lost Hit Points.

Persevere may also be used defensively when interacting with poisons, toxins, or similarly hazardous objects.

#### Healing

A creature may attempt to heal themselves by making a Persevere (8) check. On success, spend a Grit Die and add your Will. Restore that many Hit Points. If a creature is not trained in this skill, they restore half as many Hit Points.

A Grit Die used to pass the Skill Check may be used for the subsequent healing. If used, re-roll that die.

A creature cannot attempt to heal themselves with Persevere more than once every 6 hours, excluding rests.

## Track (K)

Used to trail an enemy, identify the location or origin of a natural feature, or otherwise use Knowledge to learn about the environment.

## **Social Skills**

Social Skills are used to interact with other characters, usually in non-combative scenarios.

## Culture (K)

Used to recall information that informs about the area's traditions, history, or religions.

## **Elocution (W)**

Used to speak in any manner to persuade, lie, inspire, or otherwise effect emotion in a creature.

## **Intimidate (P)**

Used to scare creatures into acting in accordance with your wishes, using your physical appearance as a threat.

## Observe (F)

Used to glean if a creature is lying or hiding, or gain information about a person or group.

## Sneak (D)

Used to get by unnoticed by other creatures. Failure can carry a more serious penalty depending on circumstance.

## **Magic Skills**

Magic Skills are used to identify magical items or enchantments, peer into the Veil, or magically bolster others. When Magic Skills fail, different effects happen based on the skill. Magic Skills are intended as High Tier uses for Magic Dice, in place of their primary use as wildcard dice for other skills. As such, these skills are generally quite difficult to succeed on.

Unlike other skills, most magic skills can only be used when given a chance via object or situation.

## Arcanery (K)

Used to identify magical items or enchantments. These can then be used, avoided, or disenchanted.

#### **Spell Scrolls**

Arcanery can be used to cast spells from Spell Scrolls. To do so, a character must make an Arcanery Check and choose to commit a number of Magic Dice. The Challenge is determined by:

10 + Magic Dice Committed.

On a success, the spell is cast, using the committed Magic Dice as the spell requires.

On a failure, the committed Magic Dice are considered spent, and the character takes Arcane Damage equal to the result.

After either outcome, the spell scroll burns away, consumed.

## Curse (W)

Used to place a negative magical effect on an object or creature.

Can attempt to place a Weak Condition or a Strong Condition on a target. The Challenge scales with the Condition.

Condition	Challenge
Dying	35
Paralysed	25
Frenzied	20
Weakened	15

Unless otherwise noted in the condition description, the curse lasts for an hour on creatures. Curses on objects last forever.

On failure, the user suffers the effect of the intended curse for an hour. Any target aware of the attempt will react accordingly.

## Disenchant (D)

Used to remove an enchantment from an object or character.

A character can attempt a Disenchant Check to remove an Imbuement or spell effect on an object or creature. The Challenge is determined by:

15 + Magic Dice committed (to the enchantment)

On a success, the enchantment is removed. The spell effect then begins to activate, targetting the disenchanter if appropriate. This activation can be prevented by the disenchanter by making a

Disarm Check, with a Challenge equal to half the original Disenchant Challenge.

On a failure, the spell effects activates, targetting the disenchanter if appropriate.

## Imbue (P)

Used to imbue an object or creature with the user's power.

A character may make an Imbue Check to bind a spell to an item they wear or carry by committing a number of Magic Dice. The Challenge is determined by:

15 + Magic Dice committed.

On a success, the item becomes Imbued with that spell. It may be used repeatedly to replicate that spell's effects, rolling the Magic Dice committed to it in place of any Magic Dice rolled for that spell. Each time the item is used this way, the user must make a Focus Save to maintain it. This save has Challenge equal to:

Magic Dice Committed + Times Used Since Rest

On a failed save, the Imbuement is lost.

If a character fails the Imbue Check, the committed Magic Dice are considered spent, and the character takes Arcane Damage equal to the result.

## Scry (F)

Used to attempt to find out new information by tapping into the Veil's magic.

To Scry, a creature must choose a creature, location, or object that they know of. If the chosen target is on a different plane, the Scry fails. Otherwise, the character must make a Scry check. The base Challenge is:

20 – Level of the Scrier

The Challenge may increase if targetting something with wards or of great power.

On a success, the Scrier gains the ability to see the target for 10 minutes. This vision is in their mind, and they cannot see through their normal vision for that duration.

On a failure, either due to the target being on a different plane, or from the Scry Check, the Scrier loses a Magic Die. If they have none to lose, they take *Psychic* damage equal to three times their level.

# Buffs and Conditions Buffs

Buffs are positive effects that can affect creatures.

Unless stated, all buffs end when the affected creature rests.

## **Confident**

A confident creature may choose to autmatically roll a 10 on any Skill or Save that they are Trained in. Once they do, they are no longer Confident.

#### **Invisible**

You are hidden from sight.

You are considered Trained in Sneak.

Whenever you attack whilst Invisible, choose one:

- → You automatically hit the target.
- → Your attack deals maximum damage if it hits.

#### Resolute

A resolute creature can choose to succeed a single Will Save. Once they do, they lose the resolute condition.

## **Conditions**

There are several conditions that can affect creatures.

## **Strong Conditions**

Strong conditions are major effects that can potentially threaten a character.

## **Asleep**

A sleeping creature is asleep. It is unconscious, and cannot take any actions.

Any attack against the creature automatically hits.

Upon taking damage, it wakes up.

## **Conflicted**

A conflicted creature has acted against its core beliefs, and is less able to act.

A conflicted creature rolls a D6 for all Skill Checks, even if they are Trained in that Skill. Additionally, they may not spend Magic Dice on Skill Checks.

When a conflicted creature Affirms their Motivations and Morals, they lose the conflicted condition.

#### Confused

A confused creature is unsure what its next actions may be.

At the beginning of a confused creature's turn, it makes a Focus Save (10). On a success, it takes its turn as normal.

On a failure, the creature takes no actions this turn.

## **Dying**

A dying creature collapses on the floor. Their Hit Points become 0 (*Ward Points are unaffected*).

At the beginning of a dying creature's turn, they may roll a D20. On a 15 or higher, they may use the Persevere Skill (they must have a Grit Die available).

If the creature restores any Hit Points by any means, it is no longer Dying. If in combat, the next action it makes can only be a Full Move Action.

If a creature spends 3 consecutive combat turns Dying, it dies.

## **Paralysed**

A paralysed creature cannot move.

A paralysed creature's AV is reduced by 5.

Any attack against a paralysed creature deals maximum damage. If a creature would normally resist that damage, instead it takes rolled damage as though it neither resisted the damage nor was paralysed.

## Weak Conditions

Weak conditions hinder creatures, but pose low threat if maintained.

## **Distressed**

A distressed creature does not add their Focus or Will to relevant Skill Checks or Saves. This condition ends after such a Skill Check or Save is attempted.

## **Entangled**

An entangled creature's AV is reduced to 4.

## **Frenzied**

A frenzied creature must attack the nearest creature it can sense as often and as strongly as it can, prioritizing damage over inflicting conditions.

#### **Prone**

A prone creature cannot take the Full Move action.

A prone creature cannot make ranged attacks.

At the end of its turn, a prone creature loses the prone condition.

## Weakened

Whenever a weakened creature would roll a D20, it instead rolls a D10.

Whenever a weakened creature would roll a D10, it instead rolls a D6.

## **Combat**

In combat, each creature rolls a D10 and adds their Dexterity Value. This is each creature's Initiative, and determines the turn order. The aggressors of a combat roll a D20 instead.

In Initiative order, each creature in the combat then takes its turn.

Combat ends when all risks, environmental or creature based, are absent.

Many effects will refer to "creatures". A creature is any entity with agency, including player characters, enemy characters, animals, plants, or similar. Non-creatures are referred to as "objects".

## **Combat Turns**

On each creature's turn, they may one or both of two things: *Move* or use a *Combat Action*.

## **Move Action**

When in combat, creatures may move up to their Speed. A player character's Speed is defined by their species.

When next to an enemy creature, the cost of moving is doubled.

Creatures must have at least the required movement to make a move. This means any creature with only 5 feet of movement may not move if next to an enemy.

#### **Difficult Terrain**

Difficult terrain doubles the cost of moving through it.

#### **Combat Actions**

There are many spells and class features that can be used as Combat Actions, but all creatures can use the following common Combat Actions:

#### **Combat Action: Attack**

Using their weapon, the creature makes an attack. Roll a D20, then add Dexterity to the result, if the attack is ranged respectively. Additionally, a creature may spend a Magic Die to increase the attack roll.

If the total result is equal or higher to the target's Armour Value (AV), the attack hits. Otherwise, the attack misses.

When a creature hits with an attack, they roll all of their Weapon Dice to determine how much damage is dealt, adding their Power to the result. Check if any Resistances or Weaknesses are applied, and then subtract the damage from the target's Hit Points.

#### **Unarmed Attacks**

A creature does not need to use a weapon (page 85) to attack. There is no penalty for this, and represents unarmed strikes or improvised weapons (such as rocks).

## Melee vs Ranged Attacks

Melee attacks can be made against creatures within 5ft. Ranged attacks can be made against creatures further than 5ft from the attacker.

Any weapon can be used to make a Melee or Ranged Attack. Sometimes this might be odd, such as using a sword from 30ft, but it represents using the weapon to weaken the target in any way, such as flourishing to unnerve them, or spraying dirt at them, or channeling magic through the weapon.

#### **Ranged Attacks**

Ranged attacks, when used correctly, can be much more impactful than melee strikes. However, the following penalties apply:

- → If there is an enemy creature within 5 feet of the attacker, that creature rolls a D10 instead of a D20 when rolling to hit.
- → When a character hits with a ranged attack, halve the total damage dealt.

A creature may spend a Magic Die to ignore the above penalties. Increase the hit roll and damage dealt by **[M]**.

Many caverns, dungeons, and other locations are smaller than 60 feet across.

#### **Combat Action: Full Move**

A creature opts to reposition, using all their time to move. Until the end of their turn:

- → They may move an additional 30 feet.
- → They have no penalty for moving due to being next to an enemy.

## **Combat Action: Change Equipment**

A creature spends their time swapping their weapons, armour, or any other equipment they have. They can also use this action to transfer an item to a willing creature. To give an item to an unwilling creature, they must make a Disarm Check (10 + target's Dexterity)

#### **Combat Action: Use Skill**

Sometimes a skill is useful in combat.

Disarming a trap or locked door, sneaking past enemies, or attempting to persuade and deescalate the fight are all common examples of this.

Many encounters will have expected skill actions listed as their own Combat Actions. However, there may be other actions the GM has not accounted for. In these cases, the GM will decide the Skill Challenge for what a creature is trying to do, or if it is possible at all.

#### Reactions

Each creature has the opportunity to use its Reaction each combat round. There are no base Reactions, although classes and other features may provide some to creatures.

Only one Reaction may be taken by a creature each round.

# **Equipment**

Each class can use any weapon, with damage dealt determined by class, not the weapon itself.

The main types of equipment for combat purposes include:

- Ranged weapons: these must be used with both hands. Any feature or item that requires a free hand cannot be used whilst holding a ranged weapon.
- Melee weapon: can be used whilst holding another item, but may have penalties when used in such a manner.
- **Shield:** provide a bonus to AV, but at a cost to attacks.
- Armour: can be removed or worn as part of the Change Equipment action, but usually is changed prior to a combat scenario. Most armour does not provide the base AV of a creature (this is instead based on class), but may provide alternative benefits or penalties.

Each Weapon has a bonus, usually in the form of a daily Temporary Die, to reflect its advantage in the field, or in casting spells.

Equipment is listed on page 85.

#### **Armour Value**

Armour Value (AV) determines how difficult a creature is to hit. For player characters it is

determined by their class. Some classes may increase their armour via different Attributes. Characters can also purchase armour in town to increase their AV.

# **Exploration**

Exploration covers the time spent traversing unknown areas, wildernesses, dungeons, and similar locations.

When exploring, characters' skills and spells are used to help guide their movements, and overcome obstacles.

The use of Magic Dice to amplify Grit Skill Checks is used as an alternative to an expanded set of spells; as a magically inclined character pushes a boulder, they put more magic into it than physical strength.

Exploration in dangerous places should leave characters struggling for resources, and having to choose between bolstering their Grit Skill Checks with magic, or saving their Magic Dice for spells later on.

Exploration is a great way to present tension that the party can spend time talking through, allowing the strengths of each character to shine through.

## Wilderness Travel

Whilst each environment can present its own dangers, there are many obstacles that may hinder a party of characters.

When travelling, the adventuring day is split into four parts: Dawn, Day, Dusk, and Dark. Each part represents about six hours of the day.

#### Rations

Rations determine how far and fast a party can travel before it must stop.

One day of rations provides enough food and water to sustain a creature for one day.

Rations may be scavenged by making a Track (K) Check. Not all environments yield rations.

#### **Rests**

When taking a Risky Rest whilst travelling, it takes one part (six hours) to complete the rest.

When the players decide to rest – this is usually during Dark, but doesn't have to be – they must choose one character to make a Recover (F) Check. Depending on their environment, and how well they do, this may lead to one time benefits or penalties to the rest, such as additional healing, or fewer dice replenished.

#### Hazards

During each part of the day, the players may encounter a hazard – this can be predetermined by the GM, or randomly generated – that bars their passage. Common environmental hazards include storms, swamps, landslides, or poisonous plants. Common civil hazards include bandits, other travellers, or those that live along the pathways.

These hazards are mostly split between Combat and Grit types. For Combat, see the Combat rules. For Grit, see below.

Rarely, hazards may present opportunities to utilise characters' Social skills. In these cases, refer to the Social Interactions section.

To make a journey more challenging, present multiple hazards of the same type, or in the same day.

## **Non-Skill Grit Checks**

Many proactive actions performed by player characters will use the Grit Skills listed earlier. However, when an environment is dangerous in its own manner, non-skill Grit Checks can be used.

When using Grit Checks, you may or may not choose an Attribute that would help; a swamp of dazzling lights may need characters to maintain their Focus, an area of active geysers may cause characters to rely on their Dexterity to proceed. Some situations may fit multiple Attributes – consider letting characters use differing Attributes if they can justify it. A Grit Check will follow the format:

Grit (X, Y) Check

Where **X** is the first letter of the required Attribute, and Y is the Challenge of the Check.

To maintain the relevance of Grit Dice, no characters start Trained in Grit Checks, which means that they use a D10 to try and pass the check. With this in mind, the average "difficult" check should have a Challenge of 10-12, allowing those with large Grit Dice to have substantially stronger chances at succeeding than those without.

Some classes may allow characters to become Trained in Grit Checks (*meaning they roll a D20*) – this will allow them to confidently navigate difficult situations with ease. In line with the principles of the game, this should be highlighted, not restricted, and provide the player with a feeling of strength. Some classes, spells, or situations may even allow characters that pass the Grit Check by a wide margin to help out those that fail.

## **Discovery**

Sometimes, players will stumble upon locations that aren't hazardous or settled, instead granting welcome benefits; a natural spring or lake would provide a convenient place to camp.

Locations like these make good places to provide Risky Rest benefits, and may even become locations for the party to take Safe Rests, should they take lengths to protect and secure them.

## **Social Interactions**

Social interactions are any interactions with non-aggressive characters.

Usually the "easiest" component of the game, Social Interactions are used to give characters new objectives, acquire wealth by accepting quests, or purchasing items. They can also act proactively, sneaking through reconnaissance missions, asking after the specifics of their personal goals, or simply developing their characters beyond their use as mercenaries.

Social Interactions should present characters with situations that feel like they are committing resources to strengthen or further their positions, rather than to ward off danger.

Use Social Skill Checks to provide challenges for characters during social interactions.

## **Levels of Trust**

Each creature that a player character interacts with will view them in a certain way. From aggressive hatred to unwavering adoration, you can use the Trust Tracker as a guide on how creatures will react to characters' interactions.

## **Trust Tracker**

The levels of trust are:

#### Hostile

The creature views the character with pure antagonism, either from hatred, opposing goals, or being a wild animal.

They will not consider anything the character says, and will likely try to kill or subdue them to continue their goals.

#### **Distrust**

The creature has reason to believe the character is untrustworthy. They may have opposing goals, have done something illicit nearby, or just plain dislike the character.

They will not attack the character unless provoked, and negotiating with them will be very difficult.

#### **Indifferent**

The creature has no opinion either way about the character. They will respond positively to reasonable questions or actions, and negatively if they feel the character is overstepping, or does something to wrong them.

Characters can negotiate with them, although it's likely that money or favours will be brought up for exchange.

#### Friendly

The creature considers the character to be their friend. They will consider the topics of acceptable requests to be much broader.

Negotiating with the creature will be much easier, and they may even offer favours or secrets without cost, assuming the character will repay them or make good with the result.

#### Charmed

The creature is infatuated with the character. Either by romance or magic, the creature would follow the character anywhere.

They will do anything asked to the best of their ability, and assume the character is always telling the truth. Obviously false claims will be taken as metaphor.

# **Complex Encounters**

A group of bandits chase the party towards a ravine, crossable by a narrow bridge.

Occasional eruptions of magma threaten any that try to cross. At the other end: a Troll, ready to demand payment and eat those that refuse.

Some encounters combine elements of all three parts of the game. These encounters will test the party's ability to fight, evade, and talk their way through the world.

These encounters will be referred to as Complex Encounters.

## **Initiative**

Complex Encounters usually involve enough actionable ideas that using Initiative is recommended. For most purposes, treat Complex Encounters as Combat Encounters with regards to Actions, movement, and other character abilities.

For details, see "Combat".

#### **Environmental Hazards**

During Initiative, environmental hazards should also get a "turn". Mark a point in the Initiative order for each hazard – this might even vary if the hazard is randomly occurring. On each of a hazard's turns, make any characters affected by it perform a Grit Check like they would in a regular Grit Encounter.

#### **Additional Combat Actions**

Most Complex Encounters will have additional Combat Actions that players can perform. The GM can decide whether to outright tell the players what they are, or hint through descriptive terms.

Whilst some example encounters may list additional combat actions, if a player suggests something suitable for the encounter, the GM should consider treating it as an additional combat action.

# Example Complex Encounter: The Bridge

As described above, the party is being pursued, there's a dangerous ravine crossing, and danger waits on the other side.

This encounter has three main aspects, each with an "expected" role:

- The bandits are expected to engage in Combat with the party (*Combat*)
- The dangerous bridge represents an opportunity to test the party's Grit (*Grit*)
- The troll will likely ask for payment before attempting to eat the party (Social)

## **Additional Combat Actions**

In this encounter, several additional Combat Actions can be performed:

#### **Combat Action: Steady the Bridge**

A creature uses their might (**P**) to steady the bridge. The creature must make an Athletic (12) Check. On a failure, they slip and take 1d4 of Physical damage. On a success, until their next turn, each character on the bridge reduces any damage from the Hazard: Eruption by an amount equal to the user's Power.

To use this action, a character must be immediately next to or on the bridge.

**Combat Action: Convince the Troll** 

A character may try to convince the troll to let them pass. When doing so, choose one of the following:

- → Pay the Troll 5 gold per party member to allow the party to pass.
- → Make an Elocution (12) Check. On a failure, the troll gets angrier. On a success, the Troll becomes more amenable. After two successful attempts in a row, the Troll steps aside and lets his new friends go. Two failed attempts in a row will cause him to become an enemy combatant and roll Initiative.
- → Make an Intimidation (12) Check. On a failure, the troll rolls an Initiative if he hasn't already, and becomes an enemy combatant. On a success, the troll cowers and moves aside.

## **Hazard: Eruption**

Each round, roll a D10 for the eruption's Initiative.

On the eruption's turn, each character on the bridge (including bandits and/or the troll) must make a Grit (D,8) Check. On a failure, they take 2d4 Fire damage. On a success, they avoid taking any damage.

#### The Bandits

The bandits will chase down the party members, and force them to either fight or flee across the bridge. Depending on the desired difficulty, increase the number of bandits to ensure the party choose to flee. Bandits will also be hesitant to cross the bridge until the troll is gone, but will likely send one bandit onto the bridge anyway.

#### The Troll

The troll is perfectly happy sitting and waiting for someone to pay him. He won't make any major actions until he is unsuccessfully intimidated, or otherwise angered.

## Wrap Up

Overall, this encounter, whilst encompassing several elements of play, does not take too long to outline, but still presents the party with choices. Further additions to the encounter could provide actions to Parley with the bandits, or try push them over the bridge.

Below are some other example encounters:

#### **Complex Encounter: The Ritual**

A group of cultists are gathered in a basement, chanting the ritual to summon a demonic lord. Stopping one cultist won't end the ritual, all of them must be stopped. The more still chanting when the demon is summoned, the stronger it will be.

This encounter is more combat focused, but may feature things such as actions to gag and silence cultists, sway cultists via speech, or modify the ritual circle.

#### **Complex Encounter: Lights in the Marsh**

The lowlands have many swamps, but few are so littered with daze-bugs as this one. To cross without detection from the wildlife is hard enough, but whilst blinded? Better hope the crocs aren't awake.

This encounter relies heavily on Grit and Grit Skill checks, but may give room for Social Skill checks in the form of culture and sneak. As a worst-case scenario, the party can always try to fight off the crocodiles.

## **Complex Encounter: The Trial**

In the lower halls of the Giant's palace, you find yourselves surrounded by glyphs and stone tablets. On each one: a riddle or puzzle. Only by overcoming each one can you win the Giant's

favour. But be not too hasty, as a false answer can result in physical dangers.

This encounter relies on Social skills, such as recalling knowledge, asking the Giant questions, and looking about the area for clues. Failed attempts may raise enemies into being, drop traps, or anger the Giant. By placing a time constraint on the party to demonstrate their skills, a simple puzzle room is converted to a tense situation.

## **Character Creation**

Creating a character is quick and easy. It is recommended to read through all the steps before completing each one, as it will help to inform decisions for the character.

## **Creation Steps**

## **Step 1: Attributes**

First, allocate the following values across your Attributes:

-1,0,1,2,3

These Attributes determine how good your character is at the different aspects of the game.

## **Step 2: Species**

Pick the type of species that your character is. This will influence your languages, speed, and give minor benefits to your character's abilities.

## **Step 3: Backgrounds**

Pick the background that your character is from. Each background provides a set of Motivations and Morals that help define how your character wants to act. Additionally, backgrounds provide a minor feature.

Backgrounds are linked to the world setting, and may need modification/replacing if swapping setting.

## **Step 4: Class**

Pick a class. Classes determine the bulk of your character's abilities, and determines what aspect of the game your character has tools and abilities to deal with.

## **Step 5: Spells**

Whilst given to your character via its Class, picking spells is a major part of character creation, so you should make sure you know your options as you pick your other choices.

## **Step 6: Equipment**

Each character can choose two to use:

- → A weapon with the **Ranged** property.
- → A weapon without the **Ranged** property.
- $\rightarrow$  A shield.

These options must be chosen from the Equipment list (85).

In addition, characters start with 3d4×10g, and 2 days worth of rations.

#### **General Gear**

General gear such as bedrolls, lanterns, or rope is assumed to be carried by all characters. When situations call for specialist equipment, such as rock climbing gear *(beyond rope)*, characters should seek local merchants who may be able to help.

# **Character Progression**

As your characters progress and develop through stories and relationships, your power will increase. The GM will inform you when you gain a level. The below table outlines the general progression for most characters:

Level	Feature Gained
1	Class, basic distinctive abilities and spells
2	Class Specialisation, Moral Devotion
3	Class Feature, Attribute Increase
4	Subclass Feature

5	Can learn Unleash Spells, Attribute Increase
6	Combat / Magic Mastery
7	Class Capstone Feature, Attribute Increase
8	Class Specialisation Capstone Feature.

# **Increasing Attributes**

At 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> levels, you will be able to increase your character's attributes. To do so, either increase two Attributes by 1 each, or increase one Attribute by 2.

# **Species**

# **Species**

In Beyond the Veil, each character has a species, which may grant them minor bonuses. The following is true for all species, unless otherwise stated:

Languages: All species know Common.

**Size:** All species are Medium unless otherwise

stated.

**Speed:** All species have 30ft Speed unless

otherwise stated.

#### **Subcultures**

Most species will have several Subcultures to choose from, representing the various skills and qualities valued by that group.

#### **Dwarf**

Hardy folk that keep to the mountaintops, they seldom travel down as a culture, although merchants and explorers will venture forth in order to maintain a presence in the world.

## **Protectors of the Mountains**

Long ago, when Santryl was first created, the giants used the central mountains as a home. When they left, they entrusted them to the Dwarves. Having been passed on ancient knowledge, the Dwarves protect the giants' secrets with a fervour so strong that it is unclear how many still know which truths their home.

## **Dwarven Lineages**

Like most cultures, the Dwarves have a great respect for the powerful families that shape their society. Despite this, there is no division of families into sects, nor any guilds that claim to run the city. Instead, Dwarves all contribute what they can to further the strength of High Mount, their singular city home.

## **High Mount**

The only city of the Dwarves, and home to their King, Brolf Stanguard, High Mount houses thousands of Dwarves. The city itself is spread out across several peaks of the highest mountains in Santryl.

Whilst most reside in stone halls atop the snowy peaks, there are tunnels that lead down into the depths of High Mount, allegedly harbouring secrets, treasures, and perhaps even what remains of the giants themselves...

## **Subcultures**

Though united in their cause, the dwarves remain split in their methods. Some, known as Hall Dwarves, prefer to strengthen their position politically, harbouring treasure and using it as

bargaining pieces with the Elves, Goblins, and Humans across Santryl.

Others, the Mining Dwarves, seek adventure, either in the lost tunnels of old, or out across Santryl, and push towards ancient depths to uncover their secrets.

## **Physical Features**

Dwarves are typically around 4'6" to 5' tall, and around 200lbs heavy. Most dwarves, male or female, wear a large bushy beard. Their hair usually ranges from black to brown, and more rarely, ginger.

## **Species Features**

**Languages:** You know *Dwarven* and *Giant*. **Hardy Folk:** Your maximum Hit Points are increased by 2 each level.

**Speed:** Your speed is 25ft.

#### **Subcultures**

Choose a Subculture from Hall and Mine.

#### Hall

Hall dwarves sit in palaces hewn from stone, and cities of riches. Seldom leaving, and staunchly resolute, Hall dwarves hoard riches all to themselves.

**Immovable:** You can choose not to be moved by hostile effects that would otherwise move you.

**Rich:** You are Trained in Skill Checks related to wealth and treasure.

#### **Mining**

Mining dwarves love to explore. Digging deep into the mountains, they seek out adventure and glory in the depths of the unknown.

**Deep Dweller:** When underground, you are considered Trained in Track, Observe, and Arcanery Skill Checks related to the environment.

#### Elf

The Elves of Santryl mostly live in the Unvariant Empire, in Santryl. However, several travel, and end up all over the world. They all share a long life, ageless appearance, and love of art.

Languages: You know Elvish.

**Trance:** When you take a Risky Rest, your Focus is considered to be 1 higher for the

purposes of replenishing dice.

## High Elf

The ruling class of the Unvariant Empire are trained from birth to recognise how others would react, in order to not bother them.

**Trained Insight:** You are Trained in Observe. **Magic Training:** After each rest, you gain a

Temporary Magic Die (D4).

**Quick Assessment:** Add your Knowledge to

your Initiative rolls.

#### **Wood Elf**

The elves that wander across Santryl on their own have adapted to the life in the wilderness.

**Keen Senses:** You are Trained in Track and Observe

Observe

**Speed:** Your speed is 35ft.

**Ambush:** When you take the Attack Combat Action whilst Hidden, instead of rolling damage, use the maximum possible value.

## **Goblinoids**

Goblin folk live all across the lands of Santryl, and come in many different forms. They all share a common love of treasure, but have differing attitudes on how to get it.

Language: You know Goblin.

**Keen Eye for Treasure:** You are Trained in Skill Checks related to looking for treasure. Additionally, any treasure you find always has 1d4 extra gold pieces with it.

**Subculture:** Choose a Subculture from **Goblin**, **Rock Goblin**, **Hobgoblin**, and **Bugbear**.

#### Goblin

Goblins live in gangs, scrounging the grounds around them for discarded treasure, and occasionally stumbling upon a vein of valuable metals, or some other commodity, when they do, they capitalise on the opportunity and become shrewd traders.

**Size:** Your size is Small. **Speed:** Your speed is 25ft.

**Shrewd:** You are Trained in Elocution. **Scrounger:** You are not slowed by difficult

terrain.

#### **Rock Goblin**

Rock Goblins live in the mountains, and rarely venture outside. Most could easily be mistaken for piles of rocks when standing still, and their appetite for gemstones often unnerves others.

**Size:** Your size is Small. **Speed:** Your speed is 25ft.

Consume Gemstone: You can eat gemstones. When you do, you gain a Temporary Magic Die (D8). You cannot consume more than one gemstone between each rest. A gemstone must be worth 50 gold in order to benefit you in this way.

#### Hobgoblin

Militaristic warriors, Hobgoblins are proud and respectable, and will not go to war without good reason. Sadly for those with treasure,

Hobgoblins consider "wanting your treasure" a good reason to go to war.

**Militaristic Culture:** You are Trained in Athletic.

**Strategic Formation:** When within 5ft of a friendly creature, your attack rolls of 9 or 20 deal an additional Weapon Die of your choice *(that you already have)*.

#### **Bugbear**

Big, furry creatures, Bugbears are surprisingly sneaky, and will easily find a weak point in their foe. Preferring to operate alone or in small groups, many Bugbear offer protection to travellers, usually from other Bugbears.

**Sneaky:** You are Trained in Sneak.

**Exploit Weakness:** When you make a melee weapon attack, increase your Weapon Dice by 1d6 Physical for that attack.

#### Half-Elf

Unsurprisingly, Humans and Elves run into each other often. The result is a population of Half-Elves, all across the world. They inherit the physical advantages of their Elf heritage, and tend to associate into Human cultures, being closer in longevity.

**Languages:** You know *Elvish* and *Gallian*. **Trance:** When you take a Risky Rest, your Focus is considered to be 1 higher for the purposes of replenishing dice.

**Adaptable:** You are Trained in a Skill of your

choice.

**Subculture:** Choose a Human subculture.

## Halfling

Halflings are similar in proportions to Humans, albeit with large feet and hands for their size. Barely surpassing 4 feet, they find it easy to hide in places that others don't think to look, such as behind other people.

Language: You know Gallian.

**Size:** You are Small.

**Speed:** Your speed is 25ft.

**Sneaky:** You can move through the space of, or attempt to hide behind, creatures at least one

size larger than you.

**Subculture:** Choose a subculture from

**Clayfoot** and **Ironfoot**.

#### Clayfoot

Clayfoot live in small settlements, embracing tradition and not travelling too far from home. They have a talent for craft, and a keen eye for secret doors, storing much of their wares in hidden basements.

**Traditions:** You are Trained in Culture. **Eye for the Hidden:** You have advantage on Perception Checks to detect hidden doors, traps, or treasure.

#### **Ironfoot**

The Ironfoot live in Santryl, alongside the Galls. They share a love of metallurgy and work on some of the best metalworks in the continent. Their familiarity with armour craft allows them to make the most of the defence it provides.

Metallic Shielding: Your AV increases by 1 if it is 10 or above.

**Forge Prowess:** When making a melee attack, you may re-roll one damage die. If you do, you must take the new result.

#### Human

Humans are commonplace in Santryl.

Depending on where they hail, they carry different strengths. All humans, however share a determination to see things through.

Language: You know Gallian.

**Stubborn:** When you Persevere, you may choose to regain the maximum possible Hit Points. You may choose to do this once between Risky Rests.

**Subculture:** Choose a Subculture from **Gallia, Lost Land Wanderer**, or **Unvariant Empire**.

#### Gallia

The Humans from Gallia have a culture focused on development, discovery, and learning. **Culture of Learning:** You are Trained in Arcanery

**Fearless:** You are Trained in Saves against being Frightened.

#### **Lost Land Wanderer**

The Humans from the Lost Lands fight each day to survive amidst the Hobgoblin wars.

Culture of Struggle: You are Trained in

Recover.

Language: You know Goblin.

**War Torn:** Your Weapon Dice increase by 1D4

**Physical** 

#### **Unvariant Empire**

The Humans from the Unvariant Empire enjoy a comfortable, if low opportunity, lifestyle.

**Culture of Antiquity:** You are Trained in

Culture

Language: You know Elvish.

**Elven Medicines:** You may spend a Magic Die when another character uses the Persevere Skill. They restore additional Hit Points equal to the

result.

#### Rana

Frog people native to Santryl, Rana are large, rotund, and perpetually smiling. They have a strong affinity for the natural world, and take pride in caring for it.

Language: You know Rana.

**Swimmers:** You have a swim unhindered, and can hold your breathe for twice as long as normal.

Guardians of Nature: You are Trained in

Track.

**Faithful Guardians:** When you cast a *Warding* spell, you may increase the size of one Magic

Die used by 1 step.

**Subculture: Croaking Conclave** 

#### **Croaking Conclave**

Those that reside in the Croaking Conclave in Santryl are quiet, reserved, and wise. They

dedicate their lives to maintaining natural peace in the forest they reside in, although a few venture out to care and tend for other places.

**Healthy Body:** You always heal for the maximum possible amount when affected by healing spells and potions, or when using the Persevere Skill.

# **Uncommon Species**

These species are very sparse in their presence in Santryl, either coming from other continents, or merely low in population.

## Drakkenkin

The Drakkenkin came on boats long ago, according to legend. Most of them carried on their journey, but a few stayed behind. Legend has them as direct descendents of the god-like being called The Platinum Lady, who they revere as both creator and all-mother.

**Languages:** You know *Draconic*. **Draconic Legends:** You are Trained in Elocution Checks when asking about cultural history or seeking refuge.

**Metallic Alignment:** Choose a metal from which you are made. You gain resistance to the listed damage type.

Metal	Resistance Gained
Brass	Fire
Bronze	Lightning
Copper	Umbral
Mercury	Poison
Silver	Cold
Steel	Arcane
Gold	Holy

**Subculture:** Choose a Subculture from **Chosen**,

Kobold

#### Chosen

Tall, shiny, and strong, Chosen Drakkenkin are imposing foes, no matter how they fight their battles. Each has a gift of The Platinum Lady's great breath, the element of which is determined by their alignment.

Breath Weapon: When you take the Attack Combat Action, you may instead breathe an exhalation of destructive magical energy in a 15 ft. cone. Every creature in that area must make a Dexterity (Spell Challenge) Save. Each creature that fails the save counts as having been hit by your breath. They take half your Weapon Dice damage, and an additional 1d10 damage of the type associated with your Metallic Alignment. You may use this once per Risky Rest.

#### Kobold

Weaker forms of the Drakkenkin, Kobolds possess many other feature that make them great social creatures.

**Metallic Alignment:** Choose a metal from which you are made. You gain resistance to the listed damage type.

Metal	Resistance Gained
Brass	Fire
Bronze	Lightning
Copper	Umbral
Mercury	Poison
Silver	Cold
Steel	Arcane
Gold	Holy

**Pack Creatures:** You can choose to share your Grit Die with another creature for any Grit Check you both make. They use that Die instead of their own, and you cannot benefit from a similar ability. Use before rolling.

#### Gnome

Gnomes reside almost solely on Gnome Island, which floats across the skies. Driven by a curiosity to learn about the world below, and cursed to forget where they came from, those that descend quickly find themselves adapting to survive.

**Size:** Your size is Small. **Speed:** Your speed is 25ft.

Language: You know an additional language of

your choice.

**Adaptive:** You may use your Knowledge for any Social Skill Checks you are not Trained in.

## Fiendblooded

Mortals with the blood of Fiends, most Fiendblooded exhibit devilish elements in their physique, the luckier ones merely having slightly reddish skins. Since many cultures frown on fiends and demonic entities, Fiendblooded tend to hide their heritage as long as possible.

Language: You know *Infernal*.

**Infernal Ancestry:** You have resistance to Fire damage.

**Demon Blood:** As a Combat Action, you may call upon your ancestor's infernal powers that run dormant in you. Whenever you use this ability choose one benefit:

- → Your vision range increases to 120ft for eight hours.
- → You can read writing in any language, excluding encoded texts, for one hour.
- → You may cast a *Blood* spell. If you spend one or more Magic Dice in doing so, you replenish a Magic Die.

Once you use this ability, you may not use it again until after you take a Safe Rest.

#### Melis

Upright standing badgers from the Restless Fields, the Melis are doggedly religious. Their main sect follows the sands on the continent, believing that when the land finally comes to rest, in the desert shall their saviour appear to bring salvation to the devout.

Language: You know Melis

**Religious Culture:** You are Trained in Culture. **Stalwart:** When Dying, you Persevere on a roll of 10 or higher *(instead of 15 or higher)*. **Forbidden Knowledge:** You are Trained in Arcanery when trying to use Spell Scrolls.

## **Dark Denizens**

Not all species in Santryl are good, even in their own eyes. The following species lurk in dark places, often looking for reasons and opportunities to cause harm. It is not recommended to play these species without working with the GM to understand why your character might have joined the adventuring party.

#### Ratfolk

Half rat, half something else, the Ratfolk scutter in sewers and cave systems, most of their thoughts consumed by a desire to take, and take, and take. Filled with greed, these creatures carry and spread diseases, leaving plagues in their wake. Led by their god, Onchus, they plot and scheme to take over villages and towns, and add them to the swarm.

**Size:** Your size is Small.

Language: You know Dark Speech.

**Toxic:** You are resistant to Poison damage, and immune to disease. Additionally, whenever you make a melee attack, you deal additional Poison damage equal to your level.

#### Sea Elf

Their name belying their true nature, Sea Elves are strange fish-like people from the dark depths of the oceans. Seldom seen by those not sailing the seas, Sea Elves hunt any ship naive enough to venture into their waters, luring them to their demise with a twisted yet beautiful song.

**Language:** You know *Dark Speech*. **Aquatic:** You can breathe, talk, and move

normally underwater.

**Twisted Song:** As a Combat Action, you can sing a captivating song. Each creature within 30ft must make a Will (Spell Challenge) Check. On a failure, that creature is Charmed by you until the end of your next turn.

## **Shade Creepers**

Legend has that Shade Creepers are created when a soul, ready to be born into the world, is snatched away by evil forces, intended to be conscripted into some nefarious army. Dark shadowy creatures, Shade Creepers are constantly shrouded by swirling smoke. For some, this is too thick to even see the true form of the creature, but for others it is merely translucent tendrils wrapping around their body. Either way, their sinister appearance betrays their nature. Shade Creepers have to feed on another's soul to sustain themselves, else live in agony.

**Speed:** Your speed is 20ft.

Language: You know *Dark Speech*.Smokey Form: You are Trained in Sneak

The Hunger:

You know the *Den'Wyt's Kiss* spell. You gain a D4 Temporary Magic Die after each

rest, that can only be used to cast this spell. When you cast this spell, the following applies:

- → The target may willingly fail the Save.
- $\rightarrow$  The target takes **[M]** Umbral damage on a failed Save.

→ Until the next time you rest, you can use the Shady Step and Shadow Feeder abilities.
 Shady Step: You treat all shadows as adjacent to each other. Can only be used after The Hunger is successful.

**Shadow Feeder:** Whenever you deal *Umbral* damage, you regain Hit Points equal to your level. This only applies after **The Hunger** is successful.

#### Undead

Zombies are commonplace in folklore, and all too common in Santryl too. A rare few of them maintain their mental faculties into undeath, and these few usually end up commanding a horde of lesser undead to demand vengeance for wrongdoings against them in life. Very rarely a true individual, not driven by revenge, is formed from an undead, and sets out to relive a new life.

**Species:** Choose another non-*Dark Denizens* Species. You gain the benefits of that Species.

**Speed:** Your speed is 25ft.

**Grisly Appearance:** You always roll a D10 on Social Skill Checks (even if another ability or feature would allow you to roll a D20).

**Undeath:** When you are Dying, you don't need to roll to make the Persevere Check (*you still need a Grit Die*).

# **Backgrounds**

Each Background provides a set of Motivation prompts, a minor feature, and a spell choice.

# **Choosing Motivations**

When you choose your background, you must choose two Motivations, which are goals your character intends to achieve. These should be long term goals.

To aid in character creation, a set of general Motivations are suggested in the *Generic Background* below. In addition, each other Background provides more specific prompts.

A player can choose to create their own Motivations, but should consult with their GM if they do so.

Some Motivations will mention objects or people in a general sense, such as "A legendary treasure". Where they do, speak with your GM to specify this object or person.

# **Choosing Morals**

Morals are loose terms that define how a character strives to achieve their goals. Loosely, these are split into Good or Bad categories. When choosing their Morals, a player should decide if their character is Good or Bad.

Good and Bad are ambiguous terms, and describe what most creatures would call a creature's actions. Generally, Good actions are more selfless, and Bad actions are more selfish.

Whilst not directly influenced by a character's Background, a player should take into account their Motivations when determining their Morals.

## **Suggested Moral Qualities**

#### **Good Morals**

Selflessness, Generosity, Kindness.

## **Bad Morals**

Self-centredness, Greed, Spite.

## **Generic Background**

You didn't have a prominent role anywhere before setting out. You've made your own path so far, and will continue to do so.

## **Generic Background Motivations**

- I want to be the most powerful person alive.
- I want to bring lasting peace to Santryl.
- I want to avenge the death of my parent.
- I want to travel everywhere in Santryl.

## **Generic Background Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a spell from any school to learn.

# **Gallian Backgrounds**

#### **Excaver Delver**

You were a miner in the employ of the Excaver Guild.

## **Excaver Motivations**

Excaver motivations focus on recovering buried artefacts and treasures of value.

- I want to unearth a legendary relic
- Excaver wrongly fired me. I want revenge.
- There were legends of giants in the mines. I want to find one.

#### **Excaver Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Planar* spell to learn

**Expert Miner:** Increase your Recover Checks by 3 when underground.

## **MULE Mule**

You used to transport and escort packages and people across Santryl for the MULE guild.

## **MULE Motivations**

MULE motivations focus on protection, and political intrigue.

- I want to protect the ones close to me.
- My skills are highly prized in this more dangerous era, I want to profit off of it.
- I know a secret about a person of authority. I will use it to my advantage.

## **MULE Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Shadow* spell to learn

**Town Knowledge:** You are Trained in Culture Checks about key locations within Santryl's Settlements.

## **Shipwraught Swab**

A sailor, dockworker, or otherwise inclined individual, you gained your skills in the Shipwraught Guild.

## **Shipwraught Motivations**

Shipwraught motivations focus on using treasure from across the seas, and besting great adversaries.

- I want to defeat a creature of legend.
- I want to recover the treasure of a great explorer.

I want to gain enough fame to fund an explorative expedition.

## **Shipwraught Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Mysticism* spell to learn.

**Sea Legs:** You are Trained in Saves against becoming Prone.

## Thaumia Initiate

Once a student of the Thaum Academy, you strive to recover the magic that was lost to the Veil.

## **Thaumia Motivations**

Thaumia motivations focus on recovering the lost magic of Santryl

- I want to cast a legendary spell.
- I want to find a way to draw old magic from the Veil.
- I want to become the pre-eminent teacher for future students.

## **Thaumia Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Divining* spell to learn.

**Spell Scrolls of Yore:** You have a Spell Scroll (*of GM's choice*). You are Trained in Arcanery when you attempt to use it.

## **Wracket Spanner**

A crafter of great skill, you lent your abilities to the Wracket Guild, for a while.

#### **Wracket Motivations**

Wracket motivations focus on creating and using magical equipment.

 I want to create an artefact that goes down in legend.

- I want to expand the Wracket Train to the rest of Santryl.
- I want to recover the mechanical notes lost under Borevyiet.

## **Wracket Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose an *Enhancement* spell to learn.

**Imbuement Trainee:** You can re-roll one Magic Dice when you make an Imbue Check. You must then finish a Safe Rest before using this feature again.

# Unvariant Empire Backgrounds

## **House Asceliv Lorekeeper**

You were a lorekeeper in the great library of Vrei.

## **Asceliv Motivations**

Asceliv motivations focus on amassing, sharing, or protecting knowledge.

- I want to recover lost knowledge.
- Asceliv hoards its secrets too closely. I want to set them free.
- I want to find a giant and ask them their wisdom.

## **Asceliv Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Divining* spell to learn.

**Aeons of Knowledge:** When making a Culture Check, you may roll a Social Die instead of spending it. You must finish a rest before doing so again.

## **House Firal Expeditionist**

You were a member of Firal's expeditionist to unclaimed territories, returning with great treasures.

## **Firal Motivations**

Firal motivations focus on recovering treasure from dangerous, unsettled areas.

- I found a map to lost treasure. I will recover it and become rich.
- Deep in the lost lands are powerful artefacts that I must have.
- Many cultures lost relics throughout history. I want to recover and return them.

## **Firal Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Plant* spell to learn.

**Lost Treasures:** You start with a common Magic Item.

## House Kiin Lorekeeper

You were a soldier in Kiin's military forces.

## **Kiin Motivations**

Kiin motivations focus on combat prowess and protecting others.

- I want to become the greatest tactician in the land.
- There is a famed warrior in the Goblin lands. I will find him and defeat him to prove my strength.
- I believe Kiin to be corrupt, and I will return to set it free.

# **Kiin Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Combat* spell to learn.

**Weapon Master:** When attacking, increase the result of each Weapon Die rolled or spent by 1.

## **House Mineia Lorekeeper**

You were a member of the elite Mineia Commune.

## **Mineia Motivations**

Mineia motivations focus on finding others with talent, or honing their own prowess.

- I will die soon. I must pass on my wisdom to a worthy protege.
- Mineia is too selective in its membership. I will start my own commune with a focus on being welcoming.
- The only way to achieve perfection is through Divine guidance. I must seek out such a source.

## **Mineia Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose an *Enhancement* spell to learn.

**Incredible Talent:** When you fail a Skill Check that you are Trained in, you may treat the result of the D20 as a 10, potentially turning the failure into a success. You must rest before doing so again.

## **House Oberiell Exemplary**

You were an exemplary member of the illustrious House Oberiell, experts of illusions.

## **Oberiell Motivations**

Oberiell motivations focus on secrets, avoidance, and misdirection.

- My true identity must remain secret. If it gets out, I am certainly doomed.
- My mastery of illusions will earn me a place in a rich house, or even as a famed performer.
- I see through the lies of the elites. I must find proof to expose them for what they really are.

## **Oberiell Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Mysticism* spell to learn.

**Illusory Control:** Illusions you create are more realistic. Creatures must be 5ft closer than normal to determine them as fake.

## **House Qiet Operative**

You were an operative of House Qiet, masters of the shadows.

## **Qiet Motivations**

Qiet motivations focus on political intrigue, and using it how they see fit.

- I know a great secret. I will exploit it for personal gain.
- A conspiracy is afoot, but its members elude me. I must seek them out before it's too late.
- I've spent too long in the shadows. I must adopt the light of day and reform my habits.

## **Qiet Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Shadow* spell to learn.

**Leverage Secrets:** When making an Elocution Check to deceive someone, you may increase the result by your Knowledge.

## **House Veyair Druid**

You were a druid of House Veyair, who looked after the land in the name of its fauna.

## **Veyair Motivations**

Veyair motivations focus on protecting wildlife, and preventing environmental destruction.

- The Fire Spire shows signs of eruption. I must find a way to prevent it.
- The animals deserve the forests more than our new settlements. They must be removed.
- I will assemble an army of bears, and with it I will become arch-druid. Only then will I be able to properly protect the wild.

## **Veyair Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose an *Animal* spell to learn.

**Fauna's Friend:** You are trained in any Skill Check involving non-hostile interactions with animals.

# High Mount Backgrounds Of The Deep Halls

You worked the Deep Halls, guarding passage and knowledge alike.

## **Deep Halls Motivations**

Deep Halls motivations focus on ancient knowledge, relics, and a fascination with the Giants of old.

• The Giants trusted us with their secrets. I will uphold that trust.

- I have sequestered a relic deep in the caverns. I must return one day to retrieve it, lest another finds it first.
- In the east, it is said a Giant still roams the surface. I must find out if this is true.

## **Deep Halls Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Planar* spell to learn.

**Ancient Relic:** You start with a common Magic Item.

## Of The Royal Halls

You are a fourth cousin thrice removed, or something similar, to the king of High Mount.

## **Royal Halls Motivations**

Royal Halls motivations focus on public image, and strengthening their position.

- I must make sure people respect me and my skills. I will not tolerate disrespect.
- My liege has trusted me with a message to the elven lords. I must deliver it swiftly.
- Too long have we sat on our wealth. It must be shared out amongst the other cultures. I will see it done.

## **Royal Halls Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Planar* spell to learn.

Great Wealth: You start with an additional 20g.

## **Goblin Backgrounds**

# **Grushnak or Nukgrash Warren**

You were a member of one of the major warring Warrens, either Grushnak or Nukgrash.

## **Grushnak/Nukgrash Motivations**

Grushnak/Nukgrash motivations focus on rivalry, ancestry, and harnessing new power.

- I reach through the past, and draw power from my ancestors. One day I will channel all their knowledge.
- The strange new magic has touched me.
   I feel enhanced. I feel connected. I must share this with all I can.
- I cannot let others best me at my own skills. I will show them who is better.

## **Scavenger Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Necromancy* spell to learn.

**Strange Magic:** When you Safe Rest, you gain a 1D4 Temporary Magic Die. When you use this die, you take **[M]** Arcane damage.

A friendly creature you are touching can also use this die, but you still take the damage.

## **Happy Goblin Village**

You are a happy goblin, from the Happy Goblin Village.

## **Happy Goblin Motivations**

Happy Goblin motivations focus on being happy.

- I am a Happy Goblin.
- I am a Happy Goblin.
- I am a Happy Goblin.

## **Scavenger Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Hexes* spell to learn.

**Happy Goblin:** When asked about your past, you can only mention how happy you were in the Happy Goblin Village.

You are Trained in Saves against being Frightened.

## Scavenger

You make your life by scavenging eastern Santryl, hunting what you can. Occasionally cave systems yield old treasures or scraps to sell.

## **Scavenger Motivations**

Scavenger motivations focus on survival, and making do with what they have.

- If it's abandoned, it's mine. I need to take everything with me. Leave nothing behind.
- I like to return what I've found if possible. Including this strange artefact.
- I collect the corpses of the fallen, and give them a proper burial.

## **Scavenger Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Mysticism* spell to learn.

**Scavenger:** When looting corpses or locations that have already been cleared out, you may find 1 ration or 3g. You must rest before doing so again.

### **Warren Goblin**

A member of the various warring Warrens, you have finally escaped the cycle of raiding and being raided.

## **Warren Motivations**

Warren motivations focus on raiding, theft, and fighting.

I take what I can, and destroy what I can't.

- I feel guilt for all I've taken. I must repay my debt.
- None can beat me. I will show them. I will return and seize the Warren for my self.

#### **Warren Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Combat* spell to learn.

**Raider:** You are trained in Skill Checks when attempting to bypass walls, fortifications, or similar barriers.

## **Olgrath's Chosen**

## **Olgrath's Protector**

You reside in Olgrath's Baths, protecting Olgrath and her secrets.

## **Protector Motivations**

Protector motivations focus on warding, healing, and balance

- I must keep the Baths safe at all costs. I will pre-emptively incapacitate those who would harm it.
- I serve Olgrath with my life. She has tasked me with finding her remaining kin.
- I look to restore health to any I can. I cannot let the injured go unnoticed.

## **Protector Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose a *Warding* spell to learn.

**Healer:** When you make Persevere Check to heal yourself, you may instead heal another creature that you are touching.

## Olgrath's Vigilant

You long since left the Baths, roaming the world for threats to Olgrath's peace.

## **Vigilant Motivations**

Protector motivations focus on rooting out threats to Olgrath.

- I must keep the Baths safe at all costs. I will pre-emptively incapacitate those who would harm it.
- My service isn't just to Olgrath, but to any settlement. I will defend their peace like it was my own.
- There's an ancient city to the west.
   Beneath it lies one of Olgrath's kin. I am
  to wake them and return them to the
  surface.

## **Vigilant Features**

**Spell Choice:** You may choose an *Enhancement* spell to learn.

**Vigilant Eye:** You are Trained in Culture Checks concerning Giants and their enemies.

Additionally, increase your Observe Checks by 1.

## **Classes**

Beyond the Veil uses a class based system, with each class utilising magic in a unique way.

## **Progression Outline:**

Levels 1-5 is normal progression

levels 6-8 is effective "prestige"

#### Class outlines:

- 1: basic feature spell casters get a lot of spells to choose, martials get a combat power, etc.
- 2: specialisation -1 of 3 choices to flex how the character plays
- 3: base feature expands the core role of the class
- 4: specialisation feature highlights the choice
- 5: large power spike cool feature that's situation and strong
- 6: Can do 2 <X> per <Y>, (combat actions for martials, spells for casters, etc.)
- 7: class capstone
- 8: Final level, subclass capstone.

## **Assassin**

In the new world of limited magic, those with a knack for elimination are available to remove the few left with their powers.

## **Making an Assassin**

**Hit Points:** 10 + 8 per level.

Saves: You are trained in Dexterity and Focus

Saves.

**Skills:** You are trained in Track and Sneak

**Spell Challenge:** 7 + Focus. **Armour:** 7 + Dexterity.

Weapon Dice: 1D6 Physical per level.

**Grit Dice:** 1D6 per level. **Social Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Magic Dice:** 1D4 per level.

## **Spells**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, choose 1 *Enhancement* spell.

At each level thereafter, choose an additional *Enhancement* or *Shadow* spell.

## **Assassinate**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, whilst you still have one or more unspent Magic Dice, each time you hit with an attack, you gain X D6 Umbral Temporary Weapon Dice, where X is your level. You must spend those dice on the damage roll for that attack. If you don't, they are lost.

## **Assassin Specialisation**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, choose a Specialisation from *Death Harbinger*, *Mindraker*, *Spellblade*. These choices will be listed at the end of the class description.

## **Deft Step**

At 3<sup>rd</sup> level, you are able to slip through shadows.

When you take the Move action, you can move 30ft, and your movement isn't reduced by enemy proximity.

## **Deep Cuts**

At 5<sup>th</sup> level, your ability to strike true increases.

Your Assassinate Weapon Dice become D8, and you gain twice as many.

## **Combat Mastery**

At 6<sup>th</sup> level, you can take two Combat Actions on your turn (*They can be the same*).

## One Hit Kill

At 7<sup>th</sup> level, you are able to accurately identify weaknesses in an enemy's defence.

As a Combat Action, you can choose to kill a creature within 5ft.

You can do this once per combat.

# Assassin Specialisations Specialisation: Death Harbinger

You are a harbinger of death, fulfilling contracts not just for mortals, but for gods and other supernatural forces.

#### **Death Magic**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you twist the corpses of those you kill to your whims.

When you choose your spells, you may also choose from any *Necromancy* spell.

#### **Death Contract**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you take on the responsibility of ending the lives of those that the supernatural desire dead.

At the beginning of combat, choose an enemy creature. Each time you use Assassinate against

that creature this combat, you add your Knowledge to the damage dealt.

#### **Doom Sight**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you are able to see those that are at the end of their mortal tether.

You know when a creature is below 10 Hit Points (regardless of their maximum). Those creatures are considered Doomed. If one of your attacks would cause a creature to become Doomed, you can choose to kill it immediately.

As a Combat Action, you can choose to instantly kill a Doomed creature you can see. You may do this a number of times equal to your Knowledge. You regain all uses after finishing a Safe Rest.

#### **Death Walking**

At 8<sup>th</sup> level you are a master of death.

You learn an additional Necromancy spell.

The Hit Point Threshold for Doomed creatures increases to 20.

As a Combat Action, choose one or more:

- → Each enemy creature you can see must make a Will Save. On a failure, they become Doomed (*Their Hit Points become 20 if higher*).
- → Gain a Temporary D10 Magic Die, then cast a *Necromancy* Spell.
- → Each creature that dies this combat becomes a Skeleton. These Skeletons obey your instruction and last for one hour.

Once you use this ability, your must finish a Safe Rest before using it again.

## **Specialisation: Mindraker**

You target your marks not through their body, but through their mind.

#### **Mental Strike**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level. <filler fluff text>

Your Assassinate Weapon Dice become Psychic.

When you use Assassinate, you may have the target make a Focus Save. On a failure, that creature is Distressed until your next turn.

You may use this ability a number of times equal to your Focus. You regain uses when you finish a Safe Rest.

#### **Psychic Grip**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you can hold your blade with your mind.

You can make ranged attacks using a D20 to hit.

When you hit a creature, you can choose to embed your blade into its mind. The blade vanishes, and on each of that creature's turns, you can use Assassinate as though you had just hit that creature. The blade reappears next to you when that creature dies. You may recall the blade after each strike.

Once you use this ability, your must finish a Safe Rest before using it again.

#### **Phantasmal Killer**

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, you become a vessel for your mind between marks.

Creatures no longer get a Focus Save against your Mental Strike, instead always becoming Distressed.

You may use Psychic Grip without limit.

At the beginning of combat, choose a creature. You hijack that creature's mind. Whenever it makes an attack or fails a Save, you may use Assassinate as though you had just hit that creature. When that creature dies, you may choose a new creature to suffer this effect.

Once you use this ability, your must finish a Safe Rest before using it again.

## **Specialisation: Spellblade**

You recognise the strengths that magic can give you, and incorporate what spells you can into your techniques.

#### **Magical Proficiency**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you utilise magic more adeptly than your peers.

Your Magic Dice increase to D6s.

Additionally, you choose one from *Combat*, *Destruction*, *Hexes*, and *Mysticism*. When you choose your spells, you may choose spells from the chosen school.

#### **Imbued Power**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you are able to trap your spells in your weaponry.

You are Trained in Imbue.

You no longer need an unspent Magic Die to use Assassinate.

### Magician's Edge

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, your spells course through your weapon with ease.

Your Magic Dice increase to D8s.

Your successful Imbue checks gain an additional committed Magic Die. (*This applies to your current Imbued items*).

You can swap Imbued spells on weapons at will.

When you cast a spell in an Imbued weapon, you may cast it twice.

## Charlatan

Charlatans travel the world, bringing joy, laughter, and shallow pockets to all.

## **Making a Charlatan**

**Hit Points:** 10 + 6 per level.

**Saves:** You are trained in Focus and Will Saves. **Skills:** You are trained in Culture and Elocution.

**Spell Challenge:** 9 + Focus. **Armour:** 5 + Dexterity.

Weapon Dice: 1D4 Psychic per level.

**Grit Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Social Dice:** 1D8 per level. **Magic Dice:** 1D6 per level.

## **Flourish**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, you are able to perform a misleading flourish to distract and disarm others.

As a Combat Action, choose one:

- → Target creature's speed becomes 0 until the end of their next turn.
- → Target creature's opinion of you becomes Friendly for 1 minute or until your next question, request, or deception.

## **Inspiring Performance**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level whilst resting, choose a character that has not Affirmed their Motivations and Morals. That character does not suffer the resultant negative effects.

## **Spells**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, choose 1 *Mysticism* spell.

At each level thereafter, choose an additional *Mysticism* spell.

## **Charlatan Specialisations**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, choose a specialisation from Harlequin, Thief, and bingo bongo 3<sup>rd</sup> subclass.

# Charlatan Specialisations Specialisation: Harlequin

Harlequins seek to start their own merry troupe of performers. With a large enough band, they are GOOD AT RESTING.

## **Troupe**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you form a troupe of performers. Initially, the troupe consists only of yourself.

- → Each member increases your Recover by 1.
- → Other members will not follow you to danger (they are clowns).

You can order the troupe to perform for up to 6 hours. During that time, you are Trained in all Social Skills. You and your troupe must Safe rest between performance.

## Heretic

Heretics follow not the established pantheon of gods, instead bargaining with the Rogue Gods for slivers of power, hoping one day to ascend themselves.

## **Making a Heretic**

**Hit Points:** 10 + 6 per level.

Saves: You are trained in Knowledge and Will

Saves.

**Skills:** You are trained in Elocution **Spell Challenge:** 10 + Knowledge.

**Armour:** 5 + Will.

**Weapon Dice:** 1D6 Physical per level.

**Grit Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Social Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Magic Dice:** 1D8 per level.

## **Choosing a Patron**

Each Heretic has a rogue god that they have bargained power from. Choose a rogue god (page 60) to worship. This decision will grant you a unique version of the spell *Eldritch Conduit*.

## **Spells**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, choose 1 *Mysticism* spell.

At each level thereafter, choose an additional *Hexes* or *Mysticism* spell.

## **Eldritch Patronage**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, choose a Rogue God. This god is your Patron, from where your magic stems. Should you upset your Patron, you may lose your magic.

Each Patron will grant you a unique version of the spell *Eldritch Conduit*. After each Safe Rest, you gain a Temporary D6 Magic Die. This Die can only be used to cast *Eldritch Conduit*.

## **Heretic Specialisation**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, choose a Specialisation from *Aspirant, Devoted Servant*, and *Opportunist*. These choices will be listed at the end of the class description.

## **Ignobility**

At 3<sup>rd</sup> level, your disregard for the highest powers shows in your actions, and your confidence in them.

You are resistant to Holy damage.

In addition, if you would lose Devotion, instead you become Resolute. Once you have used this feature a number of times equal to your Will, you must finish a Safe Rest before doing so again.

## **Patron's Chosen**

At 5<sup>th</sup> level, your prowess has earned you favour from your Patron. You gain the following benefits:

- → Whenever you cast *Eldritch Conduit*, increase the size of the Magic Die used to D12
- → Whenever you cast *Eldritch Conduit*, you may cast it up to three additional times.

  Decrease the size of the Magic Die used once for each additional cast.

## **Magical Mastery**

At 6<sup>th</sup> level, whenever you cast a spell, you may cast a second spell immediately afterwards. When you do, use the same Magic Dice as was spent for the first spell, where applicable.

## **Eldritch Intervention**

At 7<sup>th</sup> level, you have impressed your God enough for a show of power.

As a Combat Action, choose a creature that you know of. You do not need to see, be near, or

otherwise sense the creature, merely know it exists. Choose one:

- → The creature dies.
- → The creature gains any number of Conditions.
- → The creature gains the benefits of your *Eldritch Patronage* and becomes resistant to Holy damage for one day.
- → For one day: You gain resistance to all non-Arcane damage, your speed increases by 5 feet, and you gain 2D8 Temporary Magic Dice.

When you use this feature, you gain the Dying condition. You may not use Eldritch Intervention again until you spend a week without casting *Eldritch Conduit*, as a show of respect to your Patron, such that they grant you the power once more.

A creature may be aware of Gods' meddling, and may have taken necessary precautions (Such as the Divine Aegis spell) to guard against it, preventing the Intervention from having the desired effect.

# Heretic Specialisations

# **Specialisation: Aspirant**

One day, you will be a God. You have no intentions of following your Patron forever. Killing your Patron is never an easy task though.

#### **Big Dreams**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you are able to channel your aspirations into your spells. Whenever you cast a spell, increase **[M]** by your Will.

#### **Quiet Machinations**

At 4th level.

# **Specialisation: Devoted Servant**

You don't need to be at the top. You're perfectly content to be the right hand of your Patron. And if you used your position to suggest some ideas of your own, well...

#### **Right Hand**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, whenever you target a friendly creature with a spell, or a friendly creature targets you with a spell, one target of that spell may make an attack.

## **Specialisation: Opportunist**

You don't really buy into your Patron's dogma, but you needed power, and you needed it fast. Now you're bound to a powerful being, and you need a way out.

## **Priest**

The devout amongst the world worship gods, and in return gain access to magic.

Priests focus on ensuring that characters in the party recover well.

## **Making a Priest**

**Hit Points:** 10 + 8 per level.

**Saves:** You are trained in Focus and Will Saves.

**Skills:** You are trained in Recover and one

Social Skill of your choice. **Spell Challenge:** 7 + Focus. **Armour Value:** 6 + Dexterity.

**Weapon Dice:** 1D4 per level. Choose a damage type from your god's profile. Your weapon dice

deal that damage type. **Grit Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Social Dice:** 1D6 per level. **Magic Dice:** 1D6 per level.

## **Choosing a God**

Each Priest has a god that they worship and from which they rely on to channel their magic from the Veil. Choose a god (page 58) to worship. This decision will affect the damage you deal and the type of spells you can channel.

## **Spells**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, choose 1 spell from your god's spell list.

At each level after the 1<sup>st</sup>, choose an additional spell.

## **Comfort of the Devout**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, whenever you use a Magic Die to Recover, increase the size of that Die once.

## **Priest Specialisation**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, choose a Specialisation. This choice will give you additional choices for spells, and additional abilities. These choices will be listed at the end of the class description.

## Sermon

At 3<sup>rd</sup> level, whenever you take a rest, you can give a sermon to others resting with you. Each creature attending the sermon regains an additional Grit or Social Die after that rest is complete.

You must be able to communicate clearly, and not in hushed tones, in order to give a sermon.

You can give a Sermon a number of times equal to your Will between each Safe Rest.

## **Divine Plea**

At 5<sup>th</sup> level, your magic grows to a strength capable of reaching the gods themselves.

As a Combat Action, you may call out to your God. When you do, choose one:

- → Target creature that died in the last 6 hours is brought back to life with 1 Hit Point.
- → Each other creature within 60ft of you must make a Dexterity Save. Spend all your Magic Dice. Each creature takes that much damage on a failed save, and half as much on a success. The damage type is the type not chosen when you selected your God.

You may use Divine Plea once per Safe Rest.

## **Magical Mastery**

At 6<sup>th</sup> level, whenever you cast a spell, you may cast a second spell immediately afterwards. When you do, use the same Magic Dice as was spent for the first spell, where applicable.

## **Divine Intervention**

At 7<sup>th</sup> level, you have impressed your God enough for a single favour.

As a Combat Action, choose a creature that you know of. You do not need to see, be near, or otherwise sense the creature, merely know it exists. Choose one:

- → The creature dies.
- → The creature is brought back to life if dead, and healed to full Hit Points.
- → The creature gains any number of Conditions.
- → All records, memories, and similar traces of the creature are removed from the world. The creature remains.

When you use this feature, you gain the Dying condition. You may not use Divine Intervention again until you spend a month of daily worship in your God's temple.

A creature may be aware of Gods' meddling, and may have taken necessary precautions (*Such as the Divine Aegis spell*) to guard against it, preventing the Intervention from having the desired effect.

# Priest Specialisations

# **Specialisation: Divining**

You dedicate your magic to prediction, sourcing information, and identifying the unknown.

### **Spells**

When you choose your spells, you may also choose from any *Divining* spell.

#### Glimpse

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you gain the ability to see the future, albeit in short glimpses.

Whenever you cast a Divining Spell, you may spend an additional Magic Die. If you do, an

ally of your choice increases their AV by that much until they next get attacked, or if either you or they take a rest.

#### **Portent**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, your predictive skills allow you to become acutely aware of a future event.

As a Combat Action, choose a part of the day (*Dawn*, *Day*, *Dusk*, *Dark*). Any time you would roll a D10 or D20 during that part of the day, you may roll that die twice, and choose which result to take.

Once you use this feature, you must finish a Safe Rest before using it again.

#### **Improved Portent**

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, your Portent becomes much more potent.

When you use Portent, it applies for the whole day, instead of just one part of it.

## **Specialisation: Plant**

You dedicate your magic to protection, warding off danger and preventing harm before it happens.

#### Spells

When you choose your spells, you may also choose from any *Plant* spell.

#### **Natural Connection**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, your studies into nature allow you to find strength from the world around you.

Each time you roll a 6 or higher on a Magic Die, a surge of plant life erupts around you. You gain two days of rations.

#### Power of the Land

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you can pull what you need directly from the ground itself.

As a Combat Action, you can choose one or more:

- → Gain one day of rations for each creature of your choice within 30ft of you.
- → Create a shelter out of the environment. This shelter can be used for a Safe Rest by any creatures for one day.
- → Create a path that leads to the nearest major road or route. The path is limited to 3 miles, if the nearest road is further than that.

Once you use this action, you must finish a Safe Rest in an area not created by this feature before using it again.

#### One with the World

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, you are connected deeply to the world.

Your Natural Connection activates once on rolls of 1 or more, and twice on rolls of 6 or more.

Your Power of the Land can be used twice between Safe Rests, and the path's range limit is removed.

You can choose to ignore the effects of any Plant spells.

## **Specialisation: Warding**

You dedicate your magic to protection, warding off danger and preventing harm before it happens.

#### **Warding Spells**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, when you choose your spells, you may also choose from any *Warding* spell.

#### **Constant Ward**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you gain a perpetual ward whilst you have magic to feed it.

For as long as you have unspent Magic Dice, you gain a Constant Ward. After each rest, and

at the beginning of your turn in combat, if you have fewer Ward Points than three times your level, your Ward Points becomes that value.

As soon as you no longer have any unspent Magic Dice, you lose Ward Points equal to three times your level *(to a minimum of 0)*.

#### **Shared Ward**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you are able to share your ward with others.

After each rest, choose a number of other creatures up to your Focus. Those creatures gain the effect of your Constant Ward. If they would gain Ward Points from it, they instead gain half as many.

## **Ward of Perpetuality**

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, your ward no longer requires you to funnel magic into it.

The ward persists even when you have no unspent Magic Dice.

Any creatures affected by your Shared Ward now gains the full amount of Ward Points instead of half. Additionally, whenever a creature casts a spell within 60ft, any creatures affected by the Constant or Shared Ward gain 8 Ward Points.

## **Scholar**

Studious followers of magic, many were left significantly weakened following the Veil's arrival.

## **Making a Scholar**

**Hit Points:** 10 + 6 per level.

Saves: You are trained in Knowledge and Focus

Saves.

**Skills:** You are trained in Observe and Elocution

**Spell Challenge:** 9 + Knowledge.

**Armour:** 3 + Focus.

Weapon Dice: 1D4. Choose a damage type

from *Fire*, *Ice*, or *Lightning*. **Grit Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Social Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Magic Dice:** 1D10 per level.

## **Spells**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, choose 1 spell from any school.

At each level thereafter, choose an additional spell from a school you have not chosen before.

## **Endless Pursuit of Knowledge**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, when you cast a spell, you may choose to spend a Grit or Social Die. If you do, you become Trained in a Skill matching the die's type for 6 hours. You can only be Trained in one skill this way at once.

## **Scholar Specialisation**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, choose a Specialisation from *Elementalist, Lorekeeper*, or *Malefict*. These choices will be listed at the end of the class description.

## **Heightened Magic**

At 3<sup>rd</sup> level, your spells are enhanced. Your Spell Challenge is also increased by your Focus.

## **Crossing the Veil**

At 5<sup>th</sup> level, you find a way to the source of your magic itself.

You learn three additional spells. These are not restricted by your other choices, and do not restrict further choices.

Whenever you rest, you replenish an additional Magic Die.

## **Magical Mastery**

At 6<sup>th</sup> level, whenever you cast a spell, you may cast a second spell immediately afterwards. When you do, use the same Magic Dice as were spent for the first spell, where applicable.

## **Magnum Opus**

At 7<sup>th</sup> level, your magic is unparalleled.

Your Magic Dice increase to D12s.

You may learn an additional **Unleash** spell.

You may cast an **Unleash** spell by rolling all your Magic Dice, instead of spending them. Once you do, you must finish a Safe Rest before doing so again.

# Scholar Specialisations Specialisation: Elementalist

You bend the elements themselves to your whims. Destruction is what you want, and the elements are all too useful in giving you that.

#### **Elemental Adept**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you focus your studies on the control of an element.

Choose *Fire*, *Ice*, or *Lightning*. If not already, your Weapon Dice become that type.

Whenever you deal the chosen type of damage, increase it by your Knowledge.

Whenever you cast a spell that deals damage other than *Arcane*, you may change that damage to be your chosen type.

## **Elemental Self**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, your body begins to become one with your element.

Depending on your chosen element, you gain a bonus:

**Fire:** Whenever you are attacked, the attacker takes Fire damage equal to your Power (even if they miss).

**Ice:** Your AV increases by 2.

**Lightning:** Whenever your cast a spell, you may move 5ft.

#### **Elemental Dominion**

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, the elements themselves are under your dominion.

You can swap between *Fire*, *Ice*, and *Lightning* at any time, gaining the equivalent bonuses from Elemental Adept and Elemental Self as you do.

Whenever you deal *Fire*, *Ice*, or *Lightning* damage, you may deal the damage again as the other two types to up to two other creatures within 60ft. You cannot target the same creature twice. This ability does not trigger itself.

## **Specialisation:** Lorekeeper

A scholar of the ancient secrets, your interest lies in artefacts and knowledge.

## **Chasing Stories**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you hear tales of artefacts spread across the land, and resolve to learn their secrets.

You are Trained in Arcanery.

At the end of a Safe Rest, you may make an Arcanery Check (10). On a success, you find a random spell scroll.

#### **Deciphered Secrets**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you come to understand magical properties with even the slightest glance.

You can correctly determine the effects of a spell scroll before it is cast.

You may cast *Inspect* by rolling a Magic Die, instead of spending it. Once you do, you must finish a Safe Rest before doing so again.

#### **Omniscience**

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, you approach a near-omniscient level of knowledge.

You automatically pass Arcanery Checks.

You are trained in Scry.

You may cast *Inspect* via Deciphered Secrets as often as you want.

You can choose to pass any Track, Observe, or Scry check without rolling. You may do this once per Skill. You regain uses at the end of a Safe Rest.

## **Specialisation: Malefict**

Bitter from your loss of power from the Veil's arrival, you focus on diminishing those who oppose you.

#### **Curses**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level you begin to dive into the curses of the world.

You are Trained in Curse.

#### **Bitterness**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you pour your bitterness into your magic.

Whenever you successfully apply a condition to a creature, that creature must make an additional Will Save. On a failure, that creature is Distressed until your next turn. This ability does not trigger itself.

#### **Master of Curses**

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, your curses become unavoidable and enduring.

Conditions you apply via the Curse Skill last forever (they can still be removed by effects that remove curses).

You can choose to pass any Curse check without rolling. You may do this three times, regaining uses on a Safe Rest.

## **Soldier**

Masters of fighting and inflicting damage, soldiers use magic to enhance their combat capabilities.

## Making a Soldier

**Hit Points:** 10 + 12 per level.

Saves: You are trained in Power and Dexterity

Saves.

**Skills:** You are trained in Athletic Choose one to be trained in:

→ One Social Skill of your choice

→ One Grit Skill of your choice.

**Spell Challenge:** 9 + Power. **Armour:** 9 + Dexterity.

**Weapon Dice:** 1D10 Physical per level.

**Grit Dice:** 1D8 per level. **Social Dice:** 1D4 per level. **Magic Dice:** 1D4 per level.

## **Spells**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, choose 1 *Enhancement* spell.

At each odd numbered level thereafter, choose an additional *Combat* or *Enhancement* spell.

## **True Grit**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, whenever you finish a Risky Rest, you replenish an additional Grit Die.

## **Critical Strikes**

At 1<sup>st</sup> level, whenever you hit an enemy and the attack roll surpasses the target's AV by 10 or more, you deal the maximum possible damage instead of rolling your weapon dice.

## **Soldier Specialisation**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, choose a Specialisation from *Archer, Shield-bearer*, or *Brute*. These choices will be listed at the end of the class description.

## **Martial Manoeuvrability**

At 3<sup>rd</sup> level, your prowess in combat allows you to move around the battle with ease.

On you turn, the Full Move Combat Action can be taken for free (*Even if you took another Combat Action that turn*).

### **Peak Performance**

At 5<sup>th</sup> level, you are able to perform at the highest level in combat.

As a Combat Action, choose one or more:

- → Cast any Enhancement spell, or spell you know.
- → Move up to 60ft. You cannot be attacked during this movement.
- → Make two attacks. These attacks always hit.
- → Heal all your missing Hit Points.

Once you use Peak Performance, you may not use it again until you finish a Risky Rest.

Once you use Peak Performance twice, you may not use it again until you finish a Safe Rest.

## **Combat Mastery**

At 6<sup>th</sup> level, you can take two Combat Actions on your turn *(They can be the same)*.

## **Lord of War**

At 7<sup>th</sup> level, your ability to command the battlefield is unparalleled.

As a Combat Action, you may choose any number of creatures you are aware of within 60ft. For each of those creatures, choose one or more:

- $\rightarrow$  They move up to 15ft.
- → They make an attack (You choose the target).
- → You attack them.

Once you use Lord of War, you may not use it again until you finish a Safe Rest.

# Soldier Specialisations Specialisation: Archer

You practice deadly strikes with ranged weaponry.

#### **Incredible Shot**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, your magic flows to ensure your strikes land true. Whenever you make a ranged attack, you don't halve the damage dealt.

In addition, your ranged attacks deal additional damage equal to your Focus.

#### **Trick Shot**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you develop a set of trick shots, ammunition that applies special effects.

When you hit with a ranged attack, you may choose to do minimum damage. If you do, choose one:

- → Debilitator: Your target must make a Dexterity save or be affected by a Weak Condition of your choice until your next turn.
- → Tracer: Your target's AV is reduced by 5 until your next round.

You may use Trick Shot a number of times equal to your Power (*Minimum 1*). You regain all uses when you finish a Safe Rest.

#### Bullseye

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, your use of ranged weapons cannot be matched.

When making a ranged attack, whenever you would add your Power, Dexterity, and Focus to a roll, you instead add it twice.

You no longer have a limit on Trick Shot uses.

Each time you make a ranged attack, you may make an additional ranged attack at the same target.

## **Specialisation: Shield-bearer**

You carry a heavy shield to protect yourself and others. You must be using a shield to use these features.

#### **Heavy Shield**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, you develop techniques with your shield.

When a creature within 5ft of you is attacked, you may choose to take the attack in their stead.

#### Wall

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, you are able to effectively wall off areas of the battlefield.

The area 5ft to the left and right of you cannot be crossed by enemy creatures.

When a creature ends its turn within 5ft of you, you may attack it. For that attack, if you would roll a D20 to hit, instead you roll a D10.

#### One Man Vanguard

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, your presence is comparable to a whole vanguard of soldiers.

Your AV increases by 10.

The area of Wall increases to 10ft, and you ignore the restriction on attack rolls from that ability.

As a Combat Action, you may slam your shield into the ground. Roll all your Weapon Dice. Any creatures 60ft in front of you take that much damage and are knocked Prone.

## **Specialisation: Brute**

You are a rough brute, and revel in your strength over the weak.

#### **Bloody Glee**

At 2<sup>nd</sup> level, whenever you kill a creature, you heal X, where X is thrice your level.

#### **Oppressive Power**

At 4<sup>th</sup> level, whenever you attack a creature, you add your Power twice to the hit result.

In addition, whenever you land a Critical Strike against a creature, that creature becomes Weakened until your next turn.

#### Slaughtermaster

At 8<sup>th</sup> level, you consider combat more of a demonstration than a battle.

Your Bloody Glee now also applies whenever you hit a creature for half healing.

The first hit you make against a creature each turn is considered a Critical Strike.

At the beginning of combat, each enemy creature that can see you becomes Frenzied until the end of their turn.

## Warden

Warden (ranger equivalent) will have benefits for recovery checks, "predicting" (choosing) next weather, animal, plant, divination spells

## **Paladin**

Paladin will choose a god similar to priests, albeit at level 2 as part of the subclass. Will focus on inspiring others in social situations

## **Forsaken**

Those who struggle to use any magic at all, or reject it altogether. Subclasses will be barbarian, inquisitor, or "commoner" i.e. will do what they want despite the lack of magic.

## Gods

## Gods

These gods are available for religious classes to worship. Each character that is prompted to choose a god by their class gains their respective features.

## **Magic School**

Each god will grant access to an additional magic school.

## **Invoke Divinity**

Each god will grant one or more Invoke Divinity abilities. Once one is used, no more can be used until the character finishes a Safe Rest.

Each Invoke Divinity is a Combat Action unless stated otherwise.

## **Natural Pantheon**

## God of Day - Crol'rim

Crol'rim's worshippers can invoke an essence of his divinity to spread light where there is none.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Fire. **Magic School:** Divining.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Light**

You fill the world with light. A 120ft sphere of light emits from you for 1 hour.

## God of Death – Ish'per

Worshippers of Ish'per are able to prevent or expedite death.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Umbral. **Magic School:** Necromancy.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Death**

Choose one:

- → Target creature loses the Dying condition. If they have 0 Hit Points, they gain 1 Hit Point.
- → For 1 minute, target creature within 30ft is considered Weak to the next damage type that hits it.

## God of Entropy - Tual'ven

Those that worship Tual'ven can find strength even as the world decays around them.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Ice. **Magic School:** Mysticism.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Entropy**

You gain twice your character level as Ward Points. For the next 6 hours, when another creature is reduced to 0 Ward Points, you gain 2 Ward Points.

## God of Life - Spri'eek

Spri'eek delegates the care of the living to the mortals that worship Them.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Fire. **Magic School:** Plant.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Life**

For the next minute, whenever you or a creature heals, you can choose to increase that healing by your character level.

## God of Night - Den'wyt

Those that worship Den'wyt are left mostly to their own devices, though are given the tools to do so.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Umbral. **Magic School:** Shadow.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Night**

For the next hour, it is considered the Dark portion of the day. For that hour, you can turn Invisible whenever you cast a Shadow spell.

## God of Planes - Zak'zar

Followers of Zak'zar consider themselves guardians of the planes, ensuring nothing is where it doesn't belong.

#### **Basic Features**

Damage Types: Holy, Physical.

Magic School: Planar.

### **Invoke Divinity: Planes**

You teleport to an empty space you can see within 30ft. You may bring one other creature you can touch with you, if there is room at the destination.

## **Civil Pantheon**

## **God of Bargains – Deel**

Those with Deel can often find themselves at an advantage when striking deals.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Psychic. **Magic School:** Mysticism.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Bargain**

You demonstrate your divine connection. The next time you make a Social Skill Check, you gain a Temporary D10 Magic Die. You must use it on that check, or it is lost. This effect lasts for one hour.

### God of Disaster – Ohn

Prepared for anything, Ohn's devout can forage and scrounge for life saving resources in even the most desolate landscape.

#### **Basic Features**

Damage Types: Holy, Lightning.

Magic School: Plant.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Disaster**

#### Choose one:

- → You find 2 rations.
- → Target ruined structure is restored to a liveable condition for one night. A structure cannot be affected by this ability more than once a week.

## God of Shelter - Chelt

Chelt's followers are masters at making locations safe for resting and recovering.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Fire. **Magic School:** Warding.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Hearth**

You create a healing campfire. Risky Rests taken by it restore full Hit Points.

## **God of Justice – Scayl**

Balancing the scales of justice is an ever present tenant in the minds of Scayl's disciples.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Ice. **Magic School:** Divining.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Justice**

For one hour, the next time you ask a question, you can tell if a creature replies with dishonest intent.

## God of Roads - Pave

Travel for followers of Pave is rarely an issue, as they are able to steer themselves back on track.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Physical.

Magic School: Planar.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Roads**

For the next day, you can travel unimpeded by any slowing effects from natural terrain you pass through. Other dangers or features of the area are unaffected.

## God of Seas - Bow'Tee

Followers of Bow'Tee don't receive his blessing so much as a forewarning of the terrors that lurk in the depths.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Ice. **Magic School:** Animal.

#### **Invoke Divinity: Seas**

For the next 6 hours, you know when a Monstrous creature is within 3 miles.

## God of War - Agres

Masters of inciting violence, those under Agres can encourage others into a dangerous frenzy.

#### **Basic Features**

**Damage Types:** Holy, Physical. **Magic School:** Destruction.

#### **Invoke Divinity: War**

Target creature within 60ft becomes Frenzied for 1 minute. They will know you caused their frenzy after it ends.

## **Rogue Gods**

The Rogue Gods are god in name alone, and are commonly once-mortals that have ascended into such power that they eclipse most others.

They often provide power to lesser mortals in exchange for services rendered.

#### **Eldritch Conduit**

Each Rogue God offers its followers an essence of its power. Each god provides a Spell named *Eldritch Conduit*, but each with differing effects.

A character can only know one Spell named *Eldritch Conduit*. If it would learn another, it instead doesn't.

## Kinnos, Machine God

Self proclaimed Machine God, Kinnos blesses those that create their own machines, and pushes them to further the industrialisation of Santryl, strengthen his power.

#### **Eldritch Conduit**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any object within 5ft. **Duration:** Instantaneous Spend a Magic Dice.

The target object becomes a Homunculus, and retains any other properties it had before. If the object could explode, it may choose to do so as a Combat Action.

The Homunculus follows your orders.

Metal legs sprout from an otherwise wooden barrel.

#### **Homunculus**

**HP**: 3 [M], AV: 6 + [M]

Resistance: Umbral, Weakness: N/A

**P:** 3, **D:** 0, **K**: -2, **F:** -2, **W:** -2

**Weapon Dice:** 3D4 Physical.

Skills: Disarm

**Ability: Clumsy** 

Homunculi aren't renowned for their control. Homunculi always roll a D10 to attack. Spend one or more Magic Dice. Any creatures in the area take **[M]** *Fire* damage.

You breathe fire of the first dragon out upon your foes.

## **Rat Master Onchus**

Onchus strives to turn all into part of his Rat swarm. Either as Ratfolk, rats, or carrion to feed them. His followers are usually desperate, stupid, or lied to.

#### **Eldritch Conduit**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** [M] hours.

Spend one or more Magic Dice.

You can talk to rats, and you can cast *Borrow Form* once *(using [M])* to become a Rat. You can choose to end the form early. If this spell would end, so does your *Borrow Form*.

Soon, it will be all rat.

## **The Platinum Lady**

Mother of all dragons in the world, The Platinum Lady is believed to have arrived from another plane. Her followers preach order, and enforce it when needed.

#### **Eldritch Conduit**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** 5ft wide, 15ft long line in front of you.

**Duration:** Instantaneous

## **Devotions**

When a character chooses a Devotion, they must pick one of the seven tenets, or one of the seven temptations. Each one will give them benefits based on their initial morale.

## **Devotion Track**

The Devotion track shows a character's Devotion to their chosen goal. As it increases, they gain benefits, and if it decreases, they lose them.

A character's starting Morals and Motivations determine where a character starts on their Devotion Track.

#### **Tenets**

The Tenets are the seven holy principles, embodied by the Virtuosos on the Heavenly Plane. They focus on the betterment of self, and those around them.

Characters with "good" initial Motivations and Morals start at 10 devotion on Tenets, but can not gain the benefits of 0-9.

Characters with "bad" initial Motivations and Morals start at 0 devotion on Tenets, but can not gain the benefits of 20+.

## Charity

Those in need are readily helped by the seven Virtuosos that represent Charity. Quickly the vulnerable will find themselves back in a position to make their own way in the world.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Giving things of significant value away counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, another

	resting creature gains 1 Devotion
10	As a Combat Action you may grant another creature that you touch a D4 Temporary Magic Die, that must be used within 1 hour.
15	Sentient creatures will never be less than Indifferent to you.
20	You may gain audience with Charity's Virtuosos with a day's notice.
50	You have <i>Divine Aegis</i> on you at all times.

# Diligence

Watching from the four corners of the Heavenly Plane, the four Virtuosos of Diligence sit waiting. Without their ministrations the worlds may fall into disarry, or so it is told.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Succeeding Observe and Track Checks count as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, another creature becomes Trained in saves against being Frightened.
10	You cannot be Distressed.
15	Your presence is considered a safety for others, even if they dislike you. Others will likely come to you first for help.
20	You and friendly creatures within 30ft cannot be Distressed or Fightened.
50	You have <i>Divine Aegis</i> on you at all times.

# **Inspiration**

Blessings of Inspiration are often given in groups, as batches of hopefuls are tested by the six Virtuosos in trials of leading, giving, and helping others grow

Devotion	Bonus
0	Succeeding Eloction checks counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, another resting creature becomes Confident.
10	As a Combat Action, each creature you choose that can hear you becomes Confident until the end of its next turn.
15	You presence is reassuring to others, and their performance on tasks is unaffected by nerves or anxiety whilst you are nearby.
20	You are always Confident, as are those within 5ft of you that you consider allies.
50	You have <i>Divine Aegis</i> on you at all times.

# Humility

The most willing to imbue their Blessing, the five Virtuosos of Humility roam the Heavenly Plane on their own, meandering without major intent, other than to find those to impart their teachings or Blessing upon, or just to aid in menial tasks.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Helping in menial or humbling tasks counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, another resting creature gains a 1D4 Temporary Grit or Social Die.

10	As a combat action, you may let a creature attack you. After, they may not attack or target you again until the end of your next turn.
15	Others feel relaxed around you. They are more open to discussing their shortcomings and failures with you.
20	Whenever a creature you haven't damaged attacks you, it always deals 1 damage instead of rolling. Whenever a creature you have damaged attacks you, it may not attack you on its next turn.
50	You have <i>Divine Aegis</i> on you at all times.

## **Patience**

The only Virtuosos not able to be sought out, those wishing to speak with the Patient Three must wait. If they are fortunate, and if they are worthy, they may find themselves an audience and chance to prove themselves.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Inaction with intent counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, another resting creature increases its AV by 2 until its next rest.
10	As a Combat Action, you may adopt a reatilatory stance. Your AV becomes 5 until your next turn. If you are hit by an attack before then, you immediately damage the attacker as though you hit with an attack.
15	Sentient creatures will not try to haggle or swindle you.
20	Whenever you roll your last Grit, Social, or Magic Die, its roll

	becomes 20.
50	You have <i>Divine Aegis</i> on you at all times.

## **Purity**

The only virtue upheld by a single Virtuoso, Purity is the consolidation of self. Those that practice Purity show restraint in the face of inner conflict, and strive to perfect themselves further.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Succeeding Persevere Checks outside of resting counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, another resting creature becomes resistant to a damage type of your choice, except Physical or Umbral, until its next rest.
10	As a Combat Action you may spend a Grit, Social, or Magic Die to heal that amount.
15	You cannot be Frightened or Distressed by another's words.
20	You may end all conditions on you once between Safe Rests.
50	You have <i>Divine Aegis</i> on you at all times.

## **Temperance**

Temperance is very rarely seen giving out their blessing. Instead, their representatives are reserved, quiet, and non judgemental. On the rare occasion an individual is able to impress them, that individual will find themselves imbued with one of the strongest magic available.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Not indulging in vices or pleasures counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, another resting creature becomes Trained in Will saves until its next rest.
10	As a Combat Action you may do nothing. On your next turn, your AV becomes 15 until the end of your next turn thereafter.
15	Others will not judge you for withholding information or items, nor from refraining from partaking in offered customs.
20	Instead of Risky Resting, you may fully restore one of: Hit Points, or one pool of your Dice. You may do this once between Safe Rests.
50	You have <i>Divine Aegis</i> on you at all times.

## **Temptations**

The Temptations are the seven selfish sins of the Hellscape, the infernal plane where demons and devils reside. Each embodied by a Daearch, those following temptations can expect power – at a price.

Characters with "bad" initial Motivations and Morals start at 10 devotion on Tenets, but can not gain the benefits of 0-9.

Characters with "good" initial Motivations and Morals start at 0 devotion on Tenets, but can not gain the benefits of 20+.

#### **Avarice**

The need for more, to see it all, to know it all, those chasing Avarice seek riches in all its varieties, never satisfied.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Acquiring new significant items or knowledge counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, you gain a Temporary 1D4 Magic Die.
10	You may do two different Combat Actions on your turn. If you do, roll a Weapon Die after each of those actions, and take that much damage.
15	Others will be unnerved by your presence, and reluctant to discuss items of value. They will always charge high prices for you.
20	After each rest, you gain 5g, 2 rations, and 1 Devotion.
50	You gain the Avarice Boon.

# Envy

Followers of Envy cannot stand to see another with something they themselves lack. Be it material, or a quality of personality, they *will* try to obtain it.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Stealing significant items or mimicking others' novel behaviour counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, you become Trained in a Skill or Save that another resting creature is Trained in until your next rest.
10	On your turn, you may do any Combat Action an enemy creature affected you with since your last turn.
15	Others will be unnerved by your presence, and refuse to discuss items of value. Anyone Indifferent

	or less friendly will refuse your entry to their business.
20	You may take on the appearance of anyone you've seen for 1 hr. You must Safe Rest before doing so again.
50	You gain the Envy Boon.

# **Gluttony**

Consume. That is all that Gluttony and its devotees feel. The need to consume, any and all.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Eating additional rations counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, you acquire a Potion of Healing.
10	You may consume potions and similar without using a Combat Action.
15	Others will be unnerved by your presence. You require double rations.
20	Potions and similar consumables have double effect on you.
50	You gain the <i>Gluttony Boon</i> .

## Lust

Passion drives those devoted to Lust. Be it physical, artistic, or emotional passion, pursuing it is a thrill in itself.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Thrill seeking activities count as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, you gain Ward Points equal to twice

	your level.
10	Whenever you take an action for the first time in a combat, you Heal equal to your level.
15	Others will be unnerved by your presence. They will lie to you to exploit you.
20	Whenever you Heal, you become Confident, and you gain a Temporary D4 Magic Die. You cannot cast spells with this Die.
50	You gain the Lust Boon.

# **Pride**

Confidence and power courses through the followers of Pride, as they know with all their heart that their actions are correct.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Lengthy boasting and spreading your reputation counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, you become Confident until your next rest.
10	Whenever you kill an enemy, or clear a significant obstacle for friendly creatures, you replenish one Grit Die.
15	Others will be unnerved by your presence. They will say what they think you want to hear, even if untrue.
20	You are always Confident. After each rest, gain 1 Devotion.
50	You gain the <i>Pride Boon</i> .

# Sloth

Those who follow Sloth admire the way in which life and rewards come to them, not the other way around. Putting in minimal effort is the ultimate goal.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Taking unneeded rests or letting enemies succeed counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, double any Devotion you gain until your next rest.
10	Whenever you miss an attack, you become Confident.
15	Others will be unnerved by your presence. They will be reluctant to commission your service, and will underpay you.
20	After each rest, gain 2 Devotion and Ward Points equal to twice your level.
50	You gain the Sloth Boon.

# Wrath

Wrath and their devotees don't see it as letting their emotions get the better of them. Instead, they see it as letting them get the better of their emotions, and using that as a weapon.

Devotion	Bonus
0	Killing or getting revenge counts as Affirming.
5	When resting, you may choose to lose 1 Devotion. If you do, increase your Weapon Dice by one size.
10	Any attack against a creature that has hurt you gains an additional Weapon Die.
15	Others will be unnerved by your presence. They will try to leave

	your presence as fast as they can.
20	Your Weapon Dice increase one size.
50	You gain the Wrath Boon.

# **Spells**

Spells each belong to a school of magic. These schools distinguish the types of effects that each spell creates.

Most classes are restricted to spells from one or two types of magic.

Many spells will be ambiguous about certain circumstance. If an effect of a spell is not listed, but seems intuitive *(or intended)*, the GM should rule as appropriate.

## **Spell Challenge**

If a spell ever asks for a Save or Skill Check, and the Challenge is not listed, the spell's caster's Spell Challenge is used.

## **Verbal Invocations**

Most spells require verbal invocations to cast, meaning they cannot be whispered or half-spoken to avoid detection.

## **Targets**

Unless otherwise stated, targets must be visible to the caster.

#### **Duration**

A spell lasts as long as the listed duration. If they choose, the caster of the spell can end the spell early, at any time they like.

Spells always end when the caster dies.

## **Unleash Spells**

Some spells are tagged as **Unleash**. These spells cannot be learned until level 5, and no character can learn more than one **Unleash** spell.

## **Casting Spells**

To or cast a spell, a character must abide by its timing restrictions. Usually this is as a character's turn action, but some spells can only be used out of combat, or in response to certain events.

Any spell that can be cast as a Combat Action may always be cast out of combat.

## **Spell List**

#### **Animal**

Animal spells focus on interacting with beasts, natural or supernatural, and either pacifying and communicating them, or using them in battle.

#### **Animal Speech**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action

**Target:** A number of non-humanoid animals

within 30ft. **Duration:** 1hr.

Spend a Magic Die.

Up to **[M]** animals gain the ability to speak All-Tongue.

"There's someone trapped down a well! You've got to save them!"

#### **Animal Messenger**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: A non-humanoid animal you are

familiar with within 30ft.

**Duration:** 1hr.

Spend a Magic Die. You reach out and call to the target animal. It hears you, and alerts any nearby humanoids in any way it can. If **[M]** is 4 or more, it can speak a short message in a language you know.

"Hey dog, I'm stuck down a well. Go tell someone would you?"

#### **Borrow Form**

## **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** None **Duration:** 1hr.

Choose an animal that naturally lives in the environment you're in, then spend a Magic Die. For [M] hours, you become that animal (including Hit Points, AV and similar attributes). You cannot do anything as that animal that the animal wouldn't be able to do naturally, although you keep your mental capacities, and can understand language as normal. You cannot choose to revert back to your normal form before the spell ends. If you lose all your Hit Points in the animal form, you revert to your normal form, with 0 Hit Points, and gain the Dying condition.

Alive, but bear-ly.

#### **Briarhog**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A 5ft unoccupied space within 30ft. **Duration:** 1hr, or until the Briarhog dies.

Spend a Magic Die.

You summon a Briarhog. It understands what you want and will act in accordance without cues.

A pig from the bush is worth two from the farm.

Briarhog

**HP**: 3 [M], AV: 3 + [M]

Resistance: N/A, Weakness: N/a

**P:** 1, **D:** 3, **K**: -2, **F:** -2, **W:** -2

**Weapon Dice:** 2D4 Physical.

Skills: Track

**Ability: Hog Hog Hog** 

A Briarhog can choose to Hog Hog Hog when Initiative is rolled. If it does, it regains all its Hit Points and appears next to its summoner.

#### **Summon Livestock**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** None **Duration:** 1hr.

Spend a Magic Die. Any livestock within **[M]** miles of you begins to make its way toward you. If they are blocked by fences or similar, they will not attempt to pass it, instead just gathering at the edge of their pens and staring in your direction.

Any livestock that reaches you will allow you to eat or domesticate it.

There's usually one lost sheep prime for eating.

## **Combat**

Combat spells focus on amplifying the damage dealt by your attacks, and inflicting conditions on the target.

#### Attack!

After you cast a combat spell, you may immediately make an attack.

#### Manoeuvre

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** Until target hits with an attack Spend a Magic Die. The next time you make an attack, increase the hit roll by 2 **[M]**. Your AV increases by 2 **[M]** until the end of your next turn.

Sometimes taking a moment to adjust your stance can make all the difference.

#### Ricochet

## **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** Until target hits with an attack Spend a Magic Die. The next time you hit with an attack, it ricochets and strikes another creature of your choice within 30ft of your target for half damage. If **[M]** is 4 or more, it instead deals full damage.

An errant bolt, lucky shrapnel, or calculated strike?

### **Staggering Blow**

## **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** Until target hits with an attack Spend a Magic Die. You channel all your might into your attack. The next time you hit with an attack, the following occurs:

- → Your target takes an additional **[M]** Physical damage.
- → Your target must make a Power Save. On a failure, the target cannot move on its next turn. If the target succeeds its Save, it instead takes damage equal to your Power.

Your enemies crumble under your blows.

#### **Destruction**

Destruction spells focus on dealing damage and scaling that damage based on the magic invested.

#### **Bone Chill**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature within 60ft. **Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend one or more Magic Dice. Target creature

takes [**M**] *Ice* damage. They must make a Power Save. On a failure, they become Weakened until your next turn.

Freezing blood around bone grinds most to a halt.

#### **Chain Lightning**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature within 60ft.

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend one or more Magic Dice. The target takes **[M]** *Lightning* damage. Choose three other creatures in a chain, starting with the closest to the original target, and so on. They each take half of **[M]** *Lightning* damage.

Uncontrollable lightning has a tendency to find its way home.

#### **Hurl Boulder**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature within 60ft. **Duration:** Instantaneous.

Spend one or more Magic Dice.

You rip sediment from around you and hurl a small boulder. The target makes a Dexterity Save. If there are any other creatures up to 20ft behind the target, they each make a Dexterity Save afterward, in distance order.

The first creature to fail the save takes **[M]** Physical damage. Any other creature that fails the save takes half as much damage.

If a creature succeeds its save, it takes Physical damage equal to your Power.

A classic.

#### **Implosion**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A point within 50ft. **Duration:** Instantaneous

**Unleash.** Spend All your Magic Dice. Each creature within 60ft of the target area takes 3 **[M]** *Arcane* damage. Any creatures reduced to 0 Hit Points are vaporised. Any creatures not vaporised are hurled to the outside edge of the radius. All other matter in the area is vaporised and ceases to exist.

You take only half damage from this spell.

A single word and the world folds in on itself.

## **Divining**

Diving spells focus on the gathering of information, and detection of enemy spells.

#### Clues

## **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** One room or 40 x 40ft area within 30ft.

**Duration:** 1 hour.

Spend a Magic Die. You may create an illusion of the past up to **[M]** days or hours ago. The illusion displays the events of the chosen time frame over the next hour. The illusion only includes objects or creatures which have physical clues remaining in the area.

The good – or lucky – detectives always arrive within the hour.

#### **Detect Magic**

## **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** 1 hour.

Spend a Magic Die. For the duration, you are aware of the presence any magic that surrounds creatures or object. You don't gain any information about the magic, only that it is

present.

If **[M]** is 4 or more, you can determine the school of magic.

For each magic presence detected, you may make an Arcanery Check, adding [M], in order to determine the nature of the magic.

Magic always leaves a certain taste in the mind.

#### **Inspect**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action

**Target:** An object or feature of the environment

within 60ft.

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. If **[M]** is 3 or less, you ascertain basic information about the target. Otherwise, you gain knowledge that an appropriate Skill Check roll of 20 would grant you. You know if there are curses upon it, but not what those curses are.

"Yeah, that's cursed."

#### Locate

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any object, creature or feature of the

environment. *(no range limit)* **Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** hours, you know the direction of a creature or object, to a precision of 30ft. Once within the estimated 30ft area of the target's location, the spell ends.

Getting a rough 30ft area of where something is can be useful, though not if that something is a small key.

#### **Omniscience**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** Varied

**Unleash**. Spend all your Magic Dice. For five

[M] minutes, you are able to learn everything about anything you touch. This includes memories, secrets, knowledge, and similarly non-physical things when focusing on a creature. You can bypass language and encryption barriers with this spell.

I have gazed into the Veil, and now its knowledge gazes out through me.

#### **Predict**

## **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self, up to one other creature. **Duration:** Until one or both of the affected creatures make a Save or Grit Skill check. Spend a Magic Die. The next time the affected creatures make a Save or Grit Skill check, [M] to that roll.

A quick glimpse of failure can be self-preventing

#### **Translation**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. For [M] hours, you know all languages. This does not include encrypted or encoded information.

Since this spell was discovered, cross-language learning has decreased significantly.

#### Transpose

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action **Target:** Object **Duration:** 8 hours Spend a Magic Die

You analyse the structure of the target. For the duration, you can recreate the object. Any information shown on the exterior of the target is also recreated. The interior and any information inside is not recreated.

You conjure from the veil EXACTLY what you saw – nothing else.

#### Enhancement

Enhancement spells focus on modifying the user to suit their situation, such as providing elemental damage, resistance to conditions, or improving speed.

#### **Enhance!**

When a creature would roll Initiative, they may cast an Enhancement Spell, then roll Initiative.

### **Elemental Weapon**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** [M] successful attacks.

Spend a Magic Die.

You empower your next strikes with elemental damage. Choose a damage type from *Fire*, *Ice*, Lightning, and Poison. Until the spell ends, add a Temporary Weapon Die of that damage to your attacks. This Die is the same size as your Magic Dice.

A blade for all occasions – Derek, Sell-Sword

#### **Energy Surge**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** Until the start of your next turn.

Spend a Magic Die. You heal 2 [M].

Until the start of your next turn, your speed increases by 10ft and your AV increases by [M].

#### Resistance

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** [M] attacks hit you.

Spend a Magic Die.

Until the spell ends, you are Resistant to all

damage.

Fearless for all of 30 seconds.

#### **Speed**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** 6 hours

Spend a magic die. If **[M]** 4 or less, your speed increases by 10. Otherwise, increase your speed

by 20 instead.

Increase your Initiative rolls by 20.

One must hasten themselves.

#### Hexes

Hexes focus on lowering the abilities of enemies.

#### Confuddle

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action.Target: One creature.Duration: Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For  $[\mathbf{M}]$  turns, the target

cannot spend Magic Dice. It makes a

Knowledge Save at the end of its turn. On a

success, the spell ends early.

Since the Veil appeared, all it takes is a slight slur of an incantation to fail a spell.

#### Curse

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action. **Target:** One creature. **Duration:** Varied

Choose one, then spend a Magic Die:

- → Make a Curse Skill Check, adding 2 [M].
- → The target becomes weakened for [M] turns.

Somewhere on the other side of the Veil lies the Hellscape, full of malice.

#### **Debilitate**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action. **Target:** One creature.

**Duration:** 1 minute, or until you take damage. You twist your magic into a malignant force. Spend a Magic Die, then choose one effect:

- → The target makes a Power Save. On a failure, it becomes Weakened.
- → The target makes a Dexterity Save. On a failure, it becomes Slowed.

If the target succeeds its Save, it instead takes half [M] psychic damage.

Don't deliberate too long on their debilitation.

#### Disparage

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action.Target: One creature.Duration: Varied

Spend a Magic Die. The target makes a Will Save. On a failure, it becomes Distressed until your next turn.

Regardless of the save result, until your next turn, any time the target would spend one or more Magic Dice, it loses an additional Die.

As they concentrate on parts of their magic, they miss what slips away.

#### **Frenzy**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action. **Target:** One creature. **Duration:** Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For [M] turns, the target is

Frenzied. It makes a Focus Save at the end of its turn. On a success, the spell ends early.

Reported as one of the most traumatic events a person can experience, Frenzy is banned in most towns.

#### **Jelly Legs**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action.Target: One creature.Duration: Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** turns, the target cannot move more than 5ft on its turn.

Laughing at sailors has never been so karmic.

#### **Self Hatred**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action. **Target:** One creature. **Duration:** Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** turns, each time the target deals damage to another creature, it hits itself for half as much damage. It makes a Will Save at the end of its turn. On a success, the spell ends early.

*In brief moments of doubt, creatures mistake themselves for their foes.* 

#### Turn to Frog

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action. **Target:** One creature. **Duration:** Varied

**Unleash.** Spend all your Magic Dice. The target makes a Will Save. Increase the challenge of the save by 1 per Magic Die spent. On a failure the target becomes a Frog. Whilst a frog, the target cannot die, and can escape any confinement. It remembers only that it was cursed to be a frog, and remains hostile to its enemies, but nothing else. The frog knows and can speak every

language.

The frog can be returned to its normal form by someone who does not know of their original form. To do so, they must throw the frog over running water. The frog does not know this, but can learn it.

Ribbit

# **Mysticism**

Mysticism spells focuses on illusions, dispelling magical effects, and utility effects.

# **Mystic Rituals**

Mysticism spells may be cast as a ritual. This takes 10 minutes instead of its regular cast time. If the caster is interrupted during this time, the spell fails.

When a Mysticism spell is cast as a ritual, roll each Magic Die twice as you spend them, and take the combined total.

#### **Base Form**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any creature within 60ft

**Duration:** Instantaneous Spend a Magic Die.

You attempt to return a character to its original form. The character, willing or not, must make a Will Save. On a failure, it loses all Ward Points, all Temporary Dice, and all of its active spells end. It also loses all Buffs and Weak Conditions.

"Let's get a clearer look at what you really are."

#### **Cleanse Spirit**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** One creature within 5ft

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. Choose one:

→ The target loses one Strong Condition.

→ The target loses all Weak Conditions.

In addition, the target heals [M] Hit points.

### **Dispel Magic**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any creature or object within 60ft

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. Make a Disenchant Skill Check as though you were Trained, adding **[M]** to the result.

You use the Veil as a sort of exhaust for any push-backs.

#### Dream

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** One creature, either willing or Asleep

within 5ft

**Duration:** For [M] hours, or until the target

wakes.

Spend a Magic Die.

You and up to **[M]** others can enter the target's dream. A willing target may choose their dream setting, otherwise the caster chooses a location known to the target.

Whilst in the dream, creatures can lose Hit Points, but are ejected safely from the dream upon reaching 0 Hit Points. They exit with the same Hit Points that they entered.

If the target has visited the dream's location, they can recall with perfect clarity non-written information about the location that they reasonably would have noticed, even fleetingly. Written information is blurry and would require investigation.

Non-Magic Skill checks made within the dream are increased by half **[M]**.

The dream may feature creatures or environmental hazards that shouldn't normally be in the location, depending on the target's mood and opinion of the location.

The dream otherwise functions as a normal environment.

#### **False Face**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** [M] hours Spend a Magic Die.

Your face and general features become that of another. You can choose to mimic someone you know the appearance of, or create a new visage to adopt. Anyone within 10ft that has reason to doubt you must make a Focus Save to see through your illusion.

Who? Me? I'm Him? I'm not sure what you mean my good chap.

#### Fog

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A 30ft radius area centred within 30ft

**Duration:** 1 minute

Spend a Magic Die. Choose one:

- → A foggy mist 30ft in radius descends upon a point you choose. Anyone in the Fog is blinded.
- → Target creature must make a Knowledge Save. On a failure, they cannot remember any events or details that happened more than 1 hour ago. On a success, they take psychic damage equal to half [M].

Cold, chilly, and confounding.

#### **Minor Illusion**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** 5ft area within 60ft **Duration:** [M] minutes. Spend a Magic Die.

You create a magical mimicry of something you

have seen or imagined. It is obvious to any within 15ft that it is an illusion.

Perfect for a short distraction.

#### Phantasmagoria

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any creature or object within 60ft

**Duration:** Instantaneous

**Unleash.** Spend all your Magic Dice. Up to **[M]** creatures fall Asleep. At the start of their turn, they must make a Will Save. On a failure, they remain sleeping.

On a success, they become Phantaslept and have the following effects:

- → They are still Asleep
- → They may act as though they were awake.
- → They are Frenzied.
- → They may not cast Spells.

If a Phantaslept creature would die, instead it becomes unaffected by this spell and falls into a natural sleep with 1 Hit Point. This sleep lasts at least 10 minutes, after which the creature can be woken as normal.

If at any time all affected creatures are in the Phantaslept state, they immediately take **[M]** psychic damage. This only happens once.

Walking nightmares.

# **Necromancy**

Necromancy spells focus on using the dead as a resource, either for minor damage or for knowledge.

#### **Corpse Crank**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A corpse within 5 ft **Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. Choose one:

- → You rig the corpse to explode on a condition of your choice. Any creature within 10ft when it does so takes 2 **[M]** Umbral damage.
- → You learn when, where, and how the corpse died

You can only use this spell on a corpse once.

#### **Essence Theft**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature within 15 ft

**Duration:** Instantaneous, until trigger

Spend a Magic Die. The next time the target creature would spend or roll a Magic Die, reduce the die's size by **[M]**. When you do, you gain a Temporary D**[M]** Magic Die. If **[M]** is

odd, increase it by 1.

#### **Raise Skeletons**

**Requirements:** Level 5

**Use:** Combat Action **Target:** User

**Duration:** 1hr or until user drops unconscious

or dies.

**Unleash**. Spend all your Magic Dice. Create up to half **[M]** Skeletons. The skeletons will follow your commands, and will reanimate if slain. The skeletons are made out of nearby corpses, bones, and rocks.

When this spell would end and you are not dead or unconscious, you may spend a Magic Die. If you do, the spell lasts another 1hr.

#### **Skeleton Servant**

**Requirements:** 1 Knowledge, 1 Will

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A skeleton or corpse within 5 ft

**Duration:** 10min

Spend a Magic Die. You create a skeletal servant from the target. For the duration, you can have the skeleton perform non-aggressive

actions for you. It understands you, but cannot communicate vocally.

#### **Soul Trap**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature within 15 ft

**Duration:** [M] hours.

Spend a Magic Die. The next time the target creature would die, you gain all of its unspent Magic Dice as Temporary Magic Dice, which disappear when the spell ends.

If the creature had no Magic Dice, you instead replenish one of your Grit Dice.

### **Morbid Interrogation**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature or corpse within 5 ft

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. Choose one:

 $\,\rightarrow\,$  You call the memory of a creature known to

both you and the target.

→ You call the memory of the target.

You may ask the memory **[M]** questions. It can answer only "Yes", "No", or "Not Known". You cannot use this spell on the same target more than once per day. An unwilling creature can make a Focus Save to prevent the spell. If they succeed, the spell fails.

#### Thrall

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature or corpse within 15 ft

**Duration:** [M] hours

Spend a Magic Die. If a creature, the target must make a Will Save. On a failure, it becomes Enthralled by you. On a successful save, the creature takes psychic damage equal to your Will. Corpses automatically fail the Will Save and become Enthralled. They have the capabilities they did whilst they were alive, with the following restrictions:

- $\rightarrow$  Their Dexterity is -1.
- → They cannot have or use Magic Dice.

A creature or corpse cannot be targeted by this spell again until 12 hours have passed.

#### **Vampiric Touch**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** A creature within 5 ft **Duration:** Instantaneous Spend a Magic Die.

You infuse your attack with vampiric magic. Make a melee attack. If you hit, increase the damage by **[M]** damage, and it becomes Umbral. You heal equal to half the damage

dealt.

### Planar

Planar spells focus on restricting or improving creatures' movement and interactions with the world.

#### **Fold Space**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Two creatures within 60ft

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Choose two creatures, then spend a Magic dice. For **[M]** turns, those creatures are always considered within 5ft of each other.

#### **Manifestation**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** Instantaneous

**Unleash**. Spend all your Magic Dice. Choose

any point, on any plane. You and up to 5 other creatures are immediately teleported there. If you are not familiar with the location, each creature takes psychic damage equal to 40 - [M] (minimum 0).

### **Open Portal**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** 20 minutes

Spend any number of Magic Dice. You may reroll a number of them up to your Focus. If **[M]** is 19 or lower, the spell fails. If **[M]** is 20 or higher, you create a stable portal to another plane. If **[M]** is 26 or higher, you choose where the portal opens to, otherwise the GM decides. The portal lasts for one hour. If you cast this spell again at the same location (on either side) once the portal has closed, reduce the required roll values by 5 (to 14, 15, and 21).

#### **Planar Pocket**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** 10 minutes

Spend a Magic Die. You open a pocket dimension in which you can safely store things. The dimension is otherwise empty. No one else can access this pocket dimension unless you allow them. The same pocket dimension is opened each time you cast this spell. Any creature in the dimension when the spell ends will immediately die.

#### **Shape World**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** 1 hour

Spend a Magic Die. You may create a ledge, block, pillar, or similarly inert piece of matter at

the target point. The object can be up to 20x20x20 feet large. The matter will wrap around any existing objects or creatures, and will not harm or restrict them. Once created, the matter exists as any other rock, wall, or structure would for the duration of the spell, whereupon it gradually shrinks into nothingness.

#### **Tear Space**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action **Target:** 30ft by 15ft area.

**Duration:** 1min.

The target area becomes Difficult Terrain. Spend a Magic Dice. Any creature that ends its turn in the area takes [M] Arcane damage.

#### **Teleport**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Move Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic dice. Teleport to a target location

five [M] feet away.

#### **Thoughtcast**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Die. If **[M]** is 4 or lower, you may Scry on an object. Otherwise, you may Scry on an object or creature. In either case, you automatically pass the Scry Skill Check.

You may spend an additional Magic Die when casting this spell. If you do, you may Scry on a target on another Plane.

#### **Plant**

Plant spells focus on using the natural world as a resource for sustenance and travel.

#### **Berries**

# Requirements:

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** Instantaneous

Spend a Magic Dice. You create **[M]** magic berries. For each berry, decide if it is a

Dawnberry, or a Duskberry.

Any creature that eats a Dawnberry regains 1 + your Knowledge Hit Points.

Any creature that eats a Duskberry becomes Asleep for 1 hour. Only magical methods, or damage, can wake the sleeping creature.

Berries expire after 6 hours.

#### **Entangle**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Up to 1 mile radius area, at least part of

which must be within 5ft of you.

**Duration:** Variable

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** hours, the target area becomes Difficult Terrain. Your movement is not affected by this spell.

#### Grove

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** an area of land, at least 1000 square feet large, and at least 5 miles from a settlement.

Duration: [M] days

**Unleash.** Spend all your Magic Dice. A magical rejuvenating grove forms. In this grove, any non-hostile creatures gain the following benefits:

→ All rests are considered Safe

→ Any healing heals the maximum possible amount.

Weather has no effect within the grove. In addition, hostile creatures cannot enter the grove (but those inside may still become hostile).

Each morning, a full day of rations for each creature currently within the grove grows in the form of fruit, berries, and mushrooms. The rations decay at the end of each day, or if the spell ends.

Casting this spell again will cause the old grove to lose its power, and slowly decay over the next day.

#### **Plant Growth**

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat ActionTarget: 5ft areaDuration: [M] days

You cause the target area to experience rapid magical growth. Spend a Magic Die. Each day, you can harvest two days of rations from the

affected area.

#### **Purify**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** 1 hour.

Spend a Magic Dice. For the next hour, any food or drink you touch becomes safe to consume. For each time you purify something

this way, you take 1 poison damage.

#### Shelter

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action **Target:** 20ft radius area **Duration:** 7 hours

Spend a Magic Die. You bind together the foliage into a habitable shelter. Any Recover Checks taken inside ignore weather modifiers. In addition, any rests taken inside restore an additional **[M]** Hit Points.

#### **Spores**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: [M] creatures within 60ft

**Duration:** 1 minute or until you cast another

spell.

Spend a Magic Die. Up to **[M]** creatures must make a Focus Save. For each creature that fails, roll a D4. The creature gains the effect based on that result:

 $1 \rightarrow Asleep$ 

2 → Frenzied

 $3 \rightarrow Paralysed$ 

4 → Weakened

Each creature that succeeds its save takes half **[M]** poison damage.

#### **Trail of Vines**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** 6 hours

Spend a Magic Die. For the next 6 hours, a vine traces your steps, showing you the way you came. When the spell ends, or if you choose to end the spell early, the vine stops growing, and lies dead, no longer moving.

If **[M]** is 4 or higher, the vine is invisible to hostile creatures.

The vine always lasts the full 6 hours before disappearing.

### **Shadow**

Shadow spells focus on hiding creatures and information.

### **Subtle Shadow**

Casting *Shadow* Spells requires no verbal invocation.

#### **Cover of Darkness**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** 1 hour

Spend a Magic Die. Each creature within 10ft of you increases any Sneak Checks they make by

[M]. If it is Dark, [M] is 10.

#### **Deluminate**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** minutes, each unnatural source of light that would cast light within 30ft of you is extinguished. They are relit when the spell ends or if no longer in range.

#### Den'Wyt's Kiss

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** [M] turns

Spend a Magic Die. The target must make a Focus Save. On a failure, they fall Asleep. On a

Success, they fall Prone.

#### **Invisibility**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Target creature within 30ft

**Duration:** Varied

Spend one or more Magic Dice. You warp the shadows to hide a creature from sight. The target becomes Invisible for that **[M]** minutes, or until they take damage or perform a Combat

Action.

#### Lurk

#### **Requirements:**

Use: Combat Action.

**Target:** One character. **Duration:** [M] minutes

Spend a Magic Die. For that many minutes, you disappear from view and become Invisible. You cannot move until the spell ends, or until a creature moves within 5ft of you. When the latter occurs, you may immediately make an attack. This attack always hits and deals [M] additional Umbral damage. The spell then ends.

### **Nightfall**

### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** Varied

**Unleash.** Spend all your Magic Dice. For **[M]** hours, it becomes Dark. Each other creature within 60ft of you must make a Focus Save. On a failure, they are blinded whilst you are within 60ft of them.

#### **Obfuscate**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** An object within 15ft **Duration:** Until dispelled.

Spend a Magic Die.

Any written *(or equivalent)* information on the target object become obfuscated. That information cannot be understood by any means.

#### Smokescreen

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self **Duration:** Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** minutes, a 15ft radius cloud of smoke appears in the target area. Anyone in the smoke is Blinded and hidden

from those outside the smoke.

# Warding

Warding spells focus on preventing creatures from being harmed and restricting access.

# **Reactive Casting**

You may cast *Warding* Spells as a reaction to a friendly creature being hit by an attack. This may change the hit into a miss.

#### Armour

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** Until user takes damage, max. 8

hours

You ward yourself in magical amour. Spend a

Magic Die. Increase you AV by [M].

#### **Divine Aegis**

**Requirements:** Level 5 **Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Self

**Duration:** Indefinite

You raise a barrier against divine meddling. Spend 3 Magic Dice. You can not replenish those dice whilst the spell is maintained.

You and up to **[M]** other creatures are immune to the effects of Divine Intervention or other direct actions from a God.

Affected creatures shine a bright light 5ft around them, and have angelic affects about their appearance. This effect cannot be suppressed.

Wings of light envelope the group, shielding them from the dark.

#### **Encase**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action **Target:** One creature **Duration:** Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** turns, the target becomes encased in shielding magic. It cannot do anything until the spell ends, but is also immune to any new magic, and immune to all damage and new conditions. An unwilling target must make a Will Save. On a success, the spell fails.

### **Energy Absorption**

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

Target: Self

**Duration:** 1 minute

Spend a Magic Die, then choose up to **[M]** damage types other than Physical and Arcane. The target is Resistant to those damage types

until the spell ends.

Preparation prevents pain.

### Invulnerable / Impenetrable

**Requirements:** Level 5 **Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any creature, object that can be sealed

or locked, or 10ft passage. **Duration:** Indefinite

**Unleash.** Spend all your Magic Dice.

If you target a creature, they gain twice **[M]** Ward Points. This can exceed the normal restrictions on maximum Ward Points.

If you did not target a creature, instead the target is magically sealed. For each Magic Die spent, choose a specific action that will unlock part of the seal. (for example, dealing frost damage, or shining sunlight on the object). The target remains sealed until you choose to end the spell, or each action has been performed. Actions to unlock the seal can be performed in any order. Whilst the seal remains, your maximum Magic Dice is reduced by 1.

You or another creature with you must perform each action in the requirements as you cast the spell. Otherwise, the spell fails.

Many thieves make a habit of learning to play every instrument with their feet, just in case.

#### Lock

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** An object, door, or similarly lockable

device.

**Duration:** Until dispelled

Spend any number of Magic Dice. The target is magically locked. The lock can be opened and closed at will by the caster. Otherwise, the lock can be opened in the following ways:

- $\rightarrow$  An Athletic (20 + **[M]**) Check.
- $\rightarrow$  A Disenchant (15 + [M]) Check.

Safe and secure.

#### Seal

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any number of doorways, windows, or similarly open gaps in a structure or cave,

within 100ft. **Duration:** Varied

Spend a Magic Die. For **[M]** minutes, each space you choose is sealed off, and cannot be traversed.

No more leaky boats.

#### Shield

#### **Requirements:**

**Use:** Combat Action

**Target:** Any creature within 60ft

**Duration:** Indefinite

Spend a Magic Die. You cast your magic to shield yourself or another, blocking any damage they might take. The target gains [M] + Focus

Ward Points.

Part of any adventurer's wishlist.

# **Spell Scrolls**

Scattered throughout the world are spell scrolls, still enchanted with the powerful old magic that used to be so easy to cast.

Spell scrolls require an Arcanery Check to use. The Challenge of this check is specific to each spell scroll.

Spell scrolls are written in incantations, which allude to what the spell does. Theses incantations and effects are left to the GM to determine, though some examples are outlined below. Additional spell scrolls are described in the "Artefacts of Santryl" part of the "The World, Santryl" setting guide.

For added fun, make the player recite the full incantation as they cast the spell scroll.

After a Spell Scroll is used, it is destroyed.

#### **Components**

Some spells may require components that are mentioned in the incantations. The GM can decide if those components are needed, or if the user is likely to "have" the components already.

For example, it is likely that a character may carry bird feathers, iron powder, or similar small components, but they may need to seek out expensive gemstones.

#### **Consuming a Scroll**

Instead of attempting to cast a spell from a Spell Scroll, a character can consume it to gain a Temporary D8 Magic Die.

# **Spell Scroll Examples**

#### **Hands of Fire**

A burning candle in my palm; See it burst and do some harm. The user creates flames in front of them. Each creature up to 15ft in front (10ft wide) of the user must make a Dexterity Save. Gain and spend 3 Temporary D6 Magic Dice. Each creature that failed the save takes [M] Fire damage. Each creature that passed the save takes half [M] Fire damage.

#### **Door through Dimensions**

You, me, us, them
Gaze upon a wondrous gem
A pair of pairs that gaze upon
Will find their bodies moving on
To somewhere new but not too distant
An area of plane consistent
Could be up, left, down or right
Just so long as it's in sight
So here we go, let's take a breath
As we travel far in just one step

The user and up to one other creature within 5ft are teleported to another space they can see within 60ft. If the user is not holding a Gemstone, the spell fails.

#### Not a Very Large Hut at all

I have a marvellous house. It has but one window, yet only one way does its view extend. Its door, too, peculiar; you must observe the way it bends. Admittedly it is a bit small to be called a house, but a tent it is not. You want to see it? I'll find a spot. Once it is up it can hold fast for hours, even in strong winds. It is also private and is only ours, alarmed with clever pins. That is all I can say about my house, but here it is, do check it out.

Creates a small, magical hut. The hut is suitable for up to eight creatures to rest in. Any rest inside is considered a Safe Rest, and as such cannot be interrupted by outside factors such as aggressors or environmental factors. The hut will magically fit the space it is created in, with

the inside being larger than the outside if needed.

#### **Ball of Fire**

*For the dye:* 

Flower, red

Ink, violet

Rust, spoonful

Egg, rotten

For the seal:

Box, flint

Ants, handful

Leather, trim

Lotus, petalled

For the Incantation:

Flail'bre!

The user chooses a point within 60ft. Each creature within 20ft of that point must make a Dexterity Save. Gain and spend 8 Temporary D6 Magic Dice. Each creature that failed the save takes [M] Fire damage. Each creature that passed the save takes half [M] Fire damage.

#### Confusion

Red yellow green

Green yellow red

Red red green

Yel led red gred

Grow row yod grod

Grellod reen yeen green

Red yellow yellow red

Green red greel

Say it fast and say it thrice, we'll all know what you feel

Each creature within 20ft must make a Focus Save. On a failure, they become Confused until your next turn.

# **Equipment**

After each rest, each character must choose their equipment for that day. They can choose any two of:

- → A weapon with the **Ranged** property.
- → A weapon without the **Ranged** property.
- $\rightarrow$  A shield.

They may choose the same type twice (i.e. two *Ranged* weapons).

Once they have chosen that day's equipment, the character gains their associated bonuses.

# Weapons

Each weapon comes with a minor bonus, and a Temporary Die. These Temporary Dice are always replenished at the end of any Rest.

If a weapon grants multiple Temporary Weapon Dice, only one can be spent per appropriate opportunity.

### **Bells**

Bells are good at drawing attention to oneself.

**Temporary Die:** 1D6 Social.

**Attention Seeker:** Creatures prioritise you when talking, suspecting, or addressing your group.

#### Crossbow

Crossbows are only good for one thing, and they do it well.

**Temporary Die:** 2D6 *Physical* Weapon **Ranged:** You ignore the damage penalty when making a Ranged attack. You deal half damage when making a Melee attack.

# Dagger

Sneaky, stabby, and slicey. No one wants to argue with a knife.

**Temporary Die:** D6 Social.

**Quick:** Swapping between this weapon and another is free.

#### Greatsword

A massive sword not only helps slay foes, but to convince others that you mean business.

**Temporary Die:** D6 Social.

**Cleave:** When you hit with a Greatsword, you may deal *Physical* damage equal to your Power to another creature within 5ft.

# Longbow

Longbows are faster to use, and reward the quick reflexed.

**Temporary Die:** 1D4 *Physical* Weapon

**Ranged:** You ignore the damage penalty when making a Ranged attack. You deal half damage when making a Melee attack.

# **Magic Staff**

Harnessing the old magic stored in these staves is a frequent resort in the new era.

**Temporary Die:** D4 Magic.

**Ranged:** You ignore the damage penalty when making a Ranged attack. You deal half damage when making a Melee attack.

#### Net

Nets aren't practical weapons, but assist greatly in disarming opponents, or climbing up cliffs.

**Temporary Die:** D6 Grit.

**Netting**: Don't roll Weapon Dice when attacking with a Net. Instead:

- → The target takes damage equal to your Power
- → The target becomes Entangled until it uses a

Combat Action to break free with an Athletics (12) check.

# **Scythe**

A converted weapon for many farmers, their blades are long and sharp.

**Temporary Die:** D6 Social

Long Reach: You can make a melee attack with

a Scythe on a creature within 10ft.

# Whip

Whips are both a powerful weapon, and a helpful tool in the field.

**Temporary Die:** D6 Grit.

Quick: Swapping between this weapon and

another is free.

# **Shields**

Shields can't be used with any weapon with the **Ranged** property.

#### **Pavise**

A mobile piece of cover for ranged weaponry.

**Immobile Defense:** You can't move. Your AV is

increased by 2.

**Attack Penalty:** Reduce your attack rolls by 2. **Ranged Weapon Mounting:** You can use a

Pavise with a **Ranged** weapon.

### Shield

A shield is great for not getting hurt.

**Defense:** Your AV is increased by 2.

**Attack Penalty:** Reduce your attack rolls by 2.

# **Running the World**

This section is intended for GMs to use to help them run the game. There is not an issue with non-GM players reading this section, but they may find it less useful. That being said, an informed player is able to interact better with the world.

### Weather

On each day, roll a D4 for weather, based on the prior day's weather. Each weather has an effect on resting. This effect is ignored if characters rest indoors, or under suitable shelter.

If it is the same weather three days in a row, the fourth day is always Sunny.

#### **Sunny**

A nice sunny day.

Effect: Creatures add 1 to their Recover Checks

1	Overcast	
2	Overcast	
3	Sunny	
4	Light Rain	

#### **Overcast**

Cloudy, but not horrible.

Effect: None.

1	Light Rain	
2	Light Rain	
3	Overcast	
4	Sunny	

### **Light Rain**

A bit of rain makes the ground less desirable.

Effect: Creatures subtract 1 from their Recover Checks.

1	Light Rain	
2	Storm	
3	Heavy Rain	
4	Overcast	

### **Heavy Rain**

Heavy downpours make it much harder to rest.

Effect: Creatures subtract 5 from their Recover Checks

1	Sunny	
2		
3	Storm	
4	Overcast	

#### Storm

A raging storm prevents rest.

Effect: Cannot rest in a Storm.

1	Light Rain	
2	Sunny	
3	Storm	
4	Overcast	

	Beyond the Veil		Alleycat Prints
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# The World, Santryl

# **History of Santryl**

Santryl's history started when the six ancient Gods agreed on a collective experiment. Together, they blew apart the planes of an empty world, and oversaw the resultant patches of life. Together with the Giants, their first creations, they tended the new planes.

### **Formation**

One of the earliest continents to emerge after the planar separation, Santryl was the result of the Giants pulling together parts of the broken world and forging them into one landmass. From there they oversaw the gradual introduction of other species by the Gods, and supervised the development of the landscapes, ensuring good conditions for the new cultures to thrive. The Giants were proactive in these cultures for centuries, before leaving them to their own devices. They retreated to High Mount, and took residence deep in the caverns below. They remained available for counsel, and occasionally stirred to quell wars, but their interventions became fewer as the years went by.

Now they seldom leave their caverns, claiming their role as complete. They entrust the Dwarves with their locations, and whilst they don't encourage visitors, they will still willingly give advice to those that seek it.

The remaining species, most prominently the Dwarves, Elves, Humans, Rana, and various Goblinoids, settled into their respective cultures.

The Dwarves remained in High Mount, the mountains they claim to be the centre of the world. There they built citadels and towers, halls and towns, mines and excavations. They mostly keep to themselves, and have managed to maintain neutrality through the continent's various wars.

The Elves split in two; Some wanted to roam free the lands of Santryl, and became renowned wanderers, sharing stories and wisdom from across the continent. The others settled in the south west of Santryl, claiming lands for their own.

The Humans mostly stuck together, and together with the Halflings, built an industrious empire on the various metals in the north. What metals they didn't have access to they traded from the Dwarves, all to further their crafts and inventions. In the last century they have managed to build ships capable of travelling the great seas, and have been sending expeditionary forces off to seek new riches.

The Rana found a natural wonder: hot springs in the east, that are looked after by a lone Giant. Keeping their existence a secret, the Rana tend to the alpine forest with great care and caution. They welcome those that are deemed capable of showing restraint and wisdom, and reject those that they suspect would lead to the destruction of the springs.

The Goblinoids, numerous in their variations, spread out across Santryl. Though diverse in their forms, they remain singular in their roles as menaces to whichever culture happens to reside nearby. The lowly Goblin sticks to their pack, looting and scavenging for anything they can get their hands on. The Rock Goblin, hidden in the mountains, disrupt excavation sites and gnaw on the gemstones that decorate Dwarven architecture. The Hobgoblin fights to lead their warband, warring mostly with other Hobgoblin bands for something they've since forgotten about. The Bugbear, wisest of all Goblinoids, makes themself available for hire, as protection from threats on the road, such as other pesky Goblinoids.

# **Today's Nations**

In the thousands of years since the formation of Santryl as a continent, various cultures have come and gone, each warring and replacing one another. The spread of each species has stayed mostly consistent, but as time progresses, the more secluded species like the Rana drift into rumour, and the Giants into myth and legend. Now there remains four main nations in Santryl: The Unvariant Empire, The Galls, High Mount, and the Croaking conclave.

# **Faith and Religion**

After creating the world, the ancient gods took a largely hands-off role in the continued development of cultures, and although they continued overseeing aspects of life and death, they did not interact with mortals aside from a few miraculous interventions. They became known as the Natural Pantheon.

Below them are the Civil Pantheon, Gods that oversee the more civilised parts of life. Created alongside the developing cultures of the world, these Gods wield lesser power than their forefathers, but are much more familiar with the mortals, offering more occasional appearances and influence on the world.

Every now and then a creature with godlike power walks the world, and are occasionally elevated to a godhood of sorts. Named the Rogue Gods, they have no implicit domain, and are much more self-serving and present in the world's affairs.

#### The Natural Pantheon

Six Entities from far beyond, the Natural Pantheon created Santryl long ago.

# God of Day – Crol'rim

Crol'rim is perhaps the most trusted of the Natural Gods, His domain that of the Day, where most denizens spend their waking hours. He rarely interacts with mortals, but has been known to monitor those that worship and preach for His cause, making sure any disbelievers are punished for their lack of piety.

### God of Death - Ish'per

Next is Ish'Per, God of Death. Unlike Spri'eek, Ish'per waits, watching, curiously stalking those It will soon claim, and will regularly check up upon those who have passed through to another plane. Though It holds no domain in the physical plane, It is believed to influence events and delay deaths It deems unjust.

### God of Entropy - Tual'ven

All things come to a slow end, and Tual'ven is waiting there ready. Whilst Ish'per governs those whose physical form dies, Tual'ven watches for the moment that a concept, a memory, an ideal stops existing, the impetus removed from the world. It is said He collects these that fade away, but is loathe to share.

# God of Life - Spri'eek

Held in the highest regard by the denizens of Santryl, the God of Life Spri'eek oversees the bloom of life across the world. They tend to each new life with the utmost care, but then let it fend for itself once born. Life, the giving of it, is Their responsibility, and anything after does not concern Them.

# God of Night - Den'wyt

The God of Night, Den'wyt, is the most absent of Her Pantheon. The night comes with Her darkness, and She cares not to govern those that work beneath it, instead considering it a fitting challenge for mortals. Any who try, try on their own fortune, alone.

### God of Planes - Zak'zar

Zak'zar is the most present of the Natural Gods, for Their power is required each time planar travel is achieved. They are revered by the Gnomes of Gnome Island, and those wise enough to ask Their blessing when travelling through. Zak'zar care not, really, who travels, unless they intend on travelling to Their palace, but those are few who know or try such a feat.

### The Civil Pantheon

# **God of Bargains – Deel**

With his name almost becoming synonymous with trades and deals, Deel watches over every bargain and agreement made between mortals. From gambling agreements to wedding vows, Deel ensures either side pays up or serves the consequences. For obvious reasons he can't actually attend every follow up, but he appears often enough to hold respect in the mortals' minds.

#### God of Disaster – Ohn

Ohn oversees the prevention and allowance of natural disasters. Storms, eruptions, quakes, all must be given a chance to occur, and whilst Ohn does not hold malice for those afflicted, there may be a bias as to which are more deserving of the ensuing chaos.

#### God of Shelter – Chelt

No matter the size of the abode, if someone cares for it, Chelt makes it a home. Certain protections are afforded those in their homes, such as a minor defence against vampiric beings, and a quiet trust that the storms won't break through in the night.

# **God of Justice – Scayl**

Where Deel ensures bargains are upheld, Scayl looks to make sure they are fair, or justified in

being unfair. From reparations, to punishment, Scayl sees prisoner and warmonger alike.

### God of Roads - Pave

Pave is the god of travel, roads, and inbetweens. Any passage is his domain, as are straits, fords, bridges, and tunnels. He makes sure no monsters lurk too near to the major routes, and aids those accosted upon them.

### **God of Seas – Bow'Tee**

Upon the waves, sailors find little respite, as Bow'Tee cares more for the monsters than they do the more civilised creatures. Large beasts roam the oceans, feeding on those unfortunate enough to fall in. Luckily for sailors, Pave ensures that Bow'Tee does not go too far in sinking ships.

### God of War - Agres

Since creatures have had thoughts of self, they have had thoughts of war. Agres watches over, regulates, and often incites violence between factions on Santryl.

# The Rogue Gods

Mortals that attained god-like powers, or enacted forbidden rituals to attain godhood, the Rogue Gods each have their own agenda.

# Kinnos, Machine Spirit

Manifested by fanatical belief in Gallia, Kinnos is the source of any and all autonomous mechanical marvels. From robotic underlings to vehicles of war, Kinnos is theirs. Despite claims from their followers, it is unclear if Kinnos supports the aggressive use of machines, their signs being mostly apathetic if asked.

# **The Platinum Lady**

Progenitor of the drakkenkin, the Platinum Lady came from the cosmos, landing aeons ago in a comet. Now she wields power matching that of

higher gods, she seeks mainly to maintain whatever order she finds upon her lands.

#### **Rat Master Onchus**

Born from the festering filth of Gallia's underground sewage systems, Onchus was a Rat King that ascended mortality after reaching a size too large to sustain. His favourite blessings include toxic deluges and hordes of vermin. His offspring, the Ratfolk, lay in wait in the shadows, committing acts of violence and watching the blame get placed on the Goblins.

### The Giants

Though not gods themselves, the giants were granted magic and power from their creators, that they could supervise the development of Santryl. Many giants have chosen to leave the living behind, but a few remain vigilant and watchful.

### **Olgrath**

Hidden away in the hot springs known as Olgrath's Baths, Olgrath has a particular attachment to the natural state, and casts her influence to maintain the health of the various foliage in Santryl. Knowing that her life would be threatened if her location was common knowledge, she hides deep within the Croaking Conclave, and trusts them with tasks to help restore balance where it is needed.

# The Unvariant Empire

Ruled by a council of ancient Elves, the Unvariant Empire is the largest nation in Santryl, and covers most of the southern and western coastlines. They maintain a powerful military, but have no desire to expand, instead looking to preserve their great empire and wealth forever.

The population of the Empire is mixed, mostly between Elves and Humans, but other species of Santryl are welcomed if they bring trade and money into the Empire.

The Unvariant Empire is ruled and governed by a parliament of ancient elves. However, their council room has remained empty for centuries, perhaps millennia, as prior meetings showed that the Empire has no interest in change, so any discussion about the matter would be moot.

Instead, small scale changes and day to day decisions are made by the House Premieres in the areas of the Empire that they govern.

#### The Elven Houses

The Empire is made up of seven houses of Elven lineage, each claiming to be the most valuable contributor to the stability of the Empire.

### **House Asceliv**

House Asceliv is the eldest house, with its Premiere, Ilvir Asceliv having run the house for over four hundred years.

Their business and rule started as documenters and recorders of history and events. This practice soon found them as the official administration sector of the Unvariant Empire. They hold the knowledge of everything that has been witnessed across the centuries, and use that knowledge for their advantage.

Their centre of knowledge is Vreil, an ornate library embedded in the heart of the great tree Vrei, which spreads its roots acres around the library. From Vreil, House Asceliv conducts business and investigates any rumours that travel the winds.

### **House Firal**

Led by Premiere Quinox Firal, House Firal tends the vast forests and woodlands that spread out across the Unvariant Empire. Being the only House of Wood Elf culture, House Firal are used to being sidelined by the other Houses.

Their business is in mapping, hunting, and retrieval of valuable resources from areas outside of distinct national borders. As such they maintain a strong political connection to those outside of the Empire, which they use as bargaining power.

Their bases are sparse and spread out across the Empire, but the woodland town of Lounotch serves as their official headquarters. Located on the far east of the Empire's borders, it guards the passageway through the Shadeslate Mountains.

### **House Kiin**

In charge of training the Empire's military, House Kiin takes its role extremely seriously, despite the Empire not having gone to war in three hundred years. Premiere Reive Kiin is regarded as a tactical genius, and championed as the reason for the long era of peace.

Holding most of the weaponry and artefacts from before the last war, House Kiin is not too keen to distribute more than the basic supplies to its soldiers, for fear of a coup, uprising, or covert war operations by other Houses.

Holding rule over the largest city in the Empire, Ilvmiot, Premiere Reive oversees any and all operations of safety and security. Unlike

other Premieres, he still serves in the ranks of his soldiers and servants, considering it the only true way to maintain the respect he asks for.

### **House Mineia**

The smallest of the Houses, Mineia is an elite group of Elves that consider themselves the best at what they do. Featuring scholars, warriors, poets, artists, wizards, priests, and other skilled individuals, they require unanimous agreement to allow new members to join.

Founder of the House, and current Premiere, Ghistan Triellen strives to be the best at anything and everything. In starting House Mineia, they hope to find a community of individuals that strives to bring out the talent and skill in each other.

Located in the woods on the north of the Empire, the Mineia Commune is not hidden, but rarely found by accident. Being close to the northern border allows Mineia to hear news from Gallia and occasionally recruit a Gall into the House.

#### **House Oberiell**

Masters of the illusory arts, House Oberiell is a centre of magical study into changing how the world is observed. Premiere Fioren Laret is so skilled at illusion magic that most people are unsure what they actually look like, or if they are even a single person.

Whilst the practical use of illusions to the Empire is fiercely debated, House Oberiell also sponsors research in other magical schools, which satisfies the other Houses enough to keep their power and influence.

House Oberiell is focused on the south west coast of the Empire, in the city of Pairul. Pairul shines and gleams with the sheen of magic, with only rumours of its true appearance.

# **House Qiet**

Masters of intrigue and covert operations, House Qiet is the dark sheep of the Elven Houses. Led by Premiere Snei Menar, they both provide valuable insight into the politics of other nations, and undermine other Houses with rumours and plots.

Originally founded with charismatic ideals of peace via discussion, the members of Qiet found they could achieve their goals more efficiently through deceit, deception, and the discovery of hidden truths.

With an official headquarters – as far as the other houses are concerned – in the city of Seoervil, Qiet also has a strong presence in civilian life, adjudicating courts and civil discourse.

# **House Veyair**

Veyair are led by Premiere Greolv Siena, and focus on the well being of the natural world within the Empire.

With the only truly decentralised spread of House members, Veyair have small collections of druids, priests, and wardens of nature spread out wherever they feel they are needed. When the Empire needs to change the landscape, Veyair oversee the preservation of what they can, and help to minimise the impact of the developments.

# **Religious Groups**

# The Bright

Eschewing their former lives, members of The Bright claim to have been reborn as part of Crol'rim, the God of Day. They are permitted a presence in many Empire settlements, as despite their claims being unnerving, and their behaviour even more so, they perform actions that mostly benefit the communities around them.

From maintaining lanterns and torches,

to guiding those lost in darkness to brighter places, The Bright have a dedication to making the most of each day, and making the day last as long is it can, believing that the day is not over til the last light is extinguished. In this sense, a Bright member believes it is almost impossible for the day to end, and that Crol'rim thus holds his full power continually.

#### **Memorial Circle**

The Memorial Circle dedicates their time and service to ensuring the deceased are remembered and cherished, or in the case of those more villainous in life, used as warnings.

With a priest in most churches, they maintain a presence across the Empire. Their main temple is located in the centre of Last Thoughts Lake, covering the entrance to its catacombs in order to keep its peace. Due to the lake's inaccessible nature, the nearby town of Eastern Flowers is used for sermons, ceremonies, and other outreach activities.

The Memorial Circle holds Ish'Per in high regard, using his visage as an idol for prayer. Ish'Per so far has failed to correct their actions, which they take as blessings to continue. Those that practice the divine arts for the Circle claim to feel Ish'Per's power in their magic, strengthening further their conviction.

### Saorkoth's Chosen

A recently developed sect that believe in Saorkoth, a mythical dragon that lurks in the depths of the Fire Spire. Despite no evidence of the dragon's existence – besides the group's collective claims of seeing him in visions – the religion has started to attract members to form small camps around the base of Fire Spire.

# Geography

# **Eastern Flowers // Last Thoughts Lake**

On the east of the Empire lies Last Thoughts Lake, a memorial to those that have fallen. Inside is a deep catacombs of the dead, placed in sacred remembrance. Next the lake is Eastern Flowers, a town dedicated to honouring the fallen. It is surrounded by a meadow of flowers of all types, one for each person placed in the memorial.

### Fire Spire

Named after the smokey plume rising from its summit, the Fire Spire has been quiet for centuries, with the last major eruption predating the Empire's formation. It does slowly spew magma out of its sides, preventing any major developments or villages on its base. The Empire does maintain a minor watch post and village, but it runs on the bare essentials.

#### **Minei Forest**

A small forest in the centre of the western half of Santryl, the Minei Forest houses the Mineia Commune of the Unvariant Empire. Split by the Gallian border, the Mineia are careful to tread the border line routinely to prevent any claims by Gallia of more land for their nation.

### **Shadeslate Moutains**

South of the High Mount range are the Shadeslate Mountains. Casting their dark shadow north across the valley that divides the ranges, the Shadleslate mountains house no civilisations other than various Goblin tribes.

### Gallia

Named by their peers for their bravery and daring attitude for trying new things, the Galls love to make and create new inventions. They also love to have their own take and style on tools and possessions, and will endeavour to have a Gall made item over those of other cultures.

Gallia is governed by a chain of guilds, each holding expertise over their area of craftwork. The five richest guilds convene in regular summits, and control most of the flow of wealth across the nation.

Contained within Gallia's borders is the Ironfoot Protectorate. Whilst the Ironfoot are keen weapon smiths, they are still Halflings, and averse to fighting beyond tests of strength or courage. They exchange much of their wealth for protection by Gallia, and enjoy a relatively quiet lifestyle. Their enclave, Stumble, lies in the north, bounded by hills and marking a major resting point for travellers.

#### **Gallian Guilds**

### **Excaver**

In charge of extraction of minerals and materials, the Excaver maintain strong ties with the Dwarves of High Mount, as their mining projects often cross paths.

Shoak Tarion leads Excaver, driven by her desire to find the rare artefacts and metals hidden beneath the mountains.

Positioned on the east of Gallia, against the base of High Mount, their base of operations lies in the mining town of Conorvyn. From there they monitor what treasures are recovered from ancient cultures, and make sure that anything truly valuable stays under their administration.

### **MULE**

The Management Union of Logistics Experts are a union of the workers that oversee the transport of goods across Gallia. Created as an insurance against what they perceived as a threat to the freedom of movement of goods and innovation, as the other Guilds started to form the Gallian government.

Whilst no one member of MULE has much authority over each other, they do

nominate speakers for the guild for each summit. In the interest of neutrality, these are usually a different representative each time.

Since they are a decentralised Guild, they have no true headquarters, with a representative building in important towns and a few members present in most trade caravans.

# **Shipwraught**

Historically one of the least influential Guilds, the Shipwraught has gained more power in the last fifty years as their overseas expeditions have finally started to pay off, yielding treasures and exotic goods from other continents.

Led by Admiral Drear, the Guild has successfully transformed the coastlines of Gallia into a secure trading network.

Within the coastal city of Fairsea the Shipwraught train their workers and manage business. Being publicly focused on ship building, they have a lack of presence anywhere too far from bodies of water. However, they have begun to work in more covert operations since their foray overseas, and now have a few members laying low across Santryl.

#### Thaumia

Specialists in magical enchantments, Thaumia supplies the final adornments to Gallian crafts, such as imbuing weaponry and armour with magic, or ensuring new transport innovations are maintained without fault. Due to this, they have a large part in supervising the security of the borders via their Thaum Academy, which uses its students as ad hoc guards, investigators, and scribes.

In charge of Thaum Academy, and with it Thaumia, Skimt Magi is one of the most knowledgeable mortals in Santryl. From the Academy they continue to further their learning by managing expeditions to locations both in and out of Gallia.

Thaum Academy is its own settlement, located just outside of Lorden. They share government for petty matters, but the Academy resolves any internal issues with its own hierarchy.

### Wracket

The Wracket Guild is made up of blacksmiths and metallurgists, who use the materials sourced elsewhere in Gallia to make both mundane armour and weaponry, and more niche projects such as tracks for the in-development train line.

Wracket is currently represented by Speck Loupe, a wizened old man, with years of wisdom and craftsmanship behind him. His short temper for foolery means those in Wracket maintain perpetually serious demeanours whenever he's around.

The main Wracket workshop is near the southern border of Gallia, built on top of an old ruin from a culture long forgotten. Likely an outpost destroyed in war, Borevyiet is home to an immense forge powered by magic that is barely understood by those using it.

# **Religious Groups**

### Domachin

Domachin is the product of a rejected Guild, that sought domain over construct, machine, and autonomous developments. Though officially discontinued, the disgruntled members still gather and plot their revenge, all in the name of their revered Kinnos, the god that powers their machines.

With plots heavily focused towards gathering gears, the Domachin are centred in the docks of Solemn Shore, giving them access to the overseas imports, as well as the heavy intra-Gallia trade.

# **Petalan Prophets**

There are those in Gallia with an excessive empathy for those in need. Wreathed in petalled, blossoming ivy scarfs, the Petalan Prophets are individuals that travel across the nation, seeking out the needy. Most Prophets are of limited skill, simple wanderers with nothing to prove. Others have joined the movement to repent for previous wrongdoings, or as a humbling experience. In each case, they seek the blessing of Chelt, asking that each of their temporary abodes be home, not just for them, but to anyone else in needs.

#### **Thaumic Tithe**

The Thaumic Tithe is a movement of magic users that believe with each spell cast, there is a cost to pay unto the gods. With no deity held in chief regard, they consider each in the pantheons to take a portion of magical power from their activities.

Though they have scholars that seek to explore the boundaries of magical use, most in the Thaumic Tithe do not fully push their magical capabilities, believing that to use all their power for themselves would be to deny it from the gods – blasphemy.

The Thaumic Tithe has a majority of its following located in Thaum Academy, or high up in Thaumia's administration.

# Geography

# **Iron Cape**

The only northern port, Iron cape is fully reinforced with iron structures. A collaborative effort from Shipwraught and Wracket, the town watches over the seas for any invaders from afar. Whether from intimidation or luck, the only visitors so far have been friendly traders.

#### **Ruinwatch Lake**

Oddly still, this lake reflects the ruins of a decrepit stronghold. The owner of the ruins,

since passed, has faded into legend, the only common tale telling of his slow descent into a tainted madness before throwing himself into the lake.

### **Tower Marsh**

An old wizard's tower, long discarded when a dispute with an adversary wizard resulted in the land becoming unstable marshland. Although, there's regular rumours of a new occupant in the tower, though who – or what – they are is never agreed upon.

# **Croaking Conclave**

The Croaking Conclave is an area high in the eastern mountain regions of Santryl, and is inhabited by Rana. They have a respect for nature above themselves, and strive to maintain harmony and peace in the Conclave.

Because the grounds they live on are sacred, the Conclave try not to advertise their location, although they welcome friendly strangers and hope to impart on them any wisdom they think would be helpful.

Within the Conclave are Olgrath's Baths, which they protect with great reverence. They use the hot springs in festivals and ceremony, but do not exploit them for value for outsiders.

The Croaking Conclave are one of the few still-practicing religious cultures, having not given up hope on the Gods. Perhaps this is why the Conclave always seems to see good fortune and a very low amount of illnesses amongst their populace.

# Geography

# **Olgrath's Baths**

Sacred hot springs guarded and looked after by the Croaking Conclave, Olgrath's Baths are named after Olgrath, the Giant that created them. Legend has that Olgrath still lives within the sanctuary around the Baths, but seldom do outsiders get any confirmation of the claim.

# **High Mount**

High Mount is a nation of Dwarves that live in High Mount, the mountainous region in the centre of Santryl. Often rumoured to be an ancient citadel of the gods themselves, it is home to great palaces hewn from stone, and plenty of feasting dwarves.

They tend to keep to themselves most of the time, maintaining a solid neutrality with the other nations of Santryl. Despite this, the occasional exploratory Dwarf will make their way down into the wider continent, and remind others of their existence.

High Mount itself consists of many stony towns on peaks and plateaus through the mountains, each one providing vantage across the land. Beneath some are also tunnels down to hidden homes of Giants, that only a few dwarves are allowed to visit.

Due to their proximity to the Giants of legend, the Dwarves of High Mount maintain a level of respect for the Gods, but do not base much of their culture around their worship. As such, any priests or worshippers do so within their own means and time.

# Geography

# **High Mount**

The main mountain range dividing Santryl in two, High Mount is home to the High Mount Dwarves, and claimed to be the centre of the world.

Beneath High Mount lies several chambers of Dwarven city, and below them: the home of Giants – at least those who remain.

# **Notable Goblinoid Factions**

Amongst the numerous Goblinoids there rises a few noteworthy factions. Some are those with the intelligence to realised they could achieve more together with other cultures, and others are just particularly cunning.

Roaming the eastern Santryl outskirts are the Hobgoblins. Many different tribes and orders cause havoc with raids and wars between both themselves and the more major cultures. Whilst none of them have yet to cross the central mountains and challenge The Unvariant Empire, they draw increasingly closer to their borders, and regularly disrupt trade routes headed for the UE.

Also scattered about are Goblins, lurking mostly in cave systems and forests. Rarely do they venture far from their warrens, but the occasional brave – or stupid – Goblin has been known to try make it big in the wider world.

# **The Hobgoblin Warrens**

### **Grashnuk Warren**

Claimed by its inhabitants to be the greatest of the warrens, the Grashnuk control the pillaged plains around them. Contested only by the Nukgrash, a much weaker and ineffectual neighbouring warren, the Grashnuk strive to claim ever more land

# **Nukgrash Warren**

Claimed by its inhabitants to be the greatest of the warrens, the Nukgrash desolate the plains around them. Contested only by the Grashnuk, a much weaker and ineffectual neighbouring warren, the Nukgrash hold dominion and fear over all nearby.

# **Enemies and Monsters**

Below are listed some example enemies and monsters, with some guidance on how to utilise them.

**Speed:** All enemies and monsters have 30ft

speed unless stated otherwise.

Size: All enemies and monsters are Medium

unless stated otherwise.

# **Making a Unique Monsters**

Sometimes a champion amongst goblins emerges, or a particularly strong undead mage persists in its tomb. Whilst there is no simple way to create a perfect champion enemy, some suggestions are:

- → Increase its Attributes by 1-5
- → Increase its Hit Points by 10-30
- → Give it additional Magic Dice, and/or additional Spells.
- → Give it a single piece of a Player Class, such as Soldier's *Lord of War*

#### **Rival Enemies**

For enemies *(or allies)* that play a significant part in the world or story, consider treating them as player characters, with full Class abilities instead of just using monster statistics.

Since it's a lot of investment to create these creatures, it's a good idea for them to not directly engage player characters until climactic moments.

#### **Monstrous Enemies**

Monstrous enemies are enemies that represent a serious threat to a party, usually cannot be bargained with outside of exceptional circumstance, and may even have reputations as individuals.

# **Dragons**

Dragons themselves are rare in Santryl, with the one true dragon being known to reside inside in the Fire Spire in the south west. However, Drakkenkin and Kobolds are widespread, though small in number.

### **Drakkenkin**

Stoic champions of their kind, Drakkenkin are born protectors, leading their lesser kin into danger. They inherit a resistance to certain damage depending on their lineage, which is represented in their skin colouration.

#### **Usage**

Drakkenkin are usually not aggressors, and should at worst be represented as hired muscle, or desperate wardens of the weak. Having one or two trying to corral a gang of Kobolds can be a good way to challenge a party's sympathy.

Drakkenkin

**HP**: 14, **AV**: 12

**Resistance**: One damage type that isn't Physical or Arcane, **Weakness**: N/A

**P:** 3, **D:** 2, **K**: 1, **F:** -1, **W:** -1

**Weapon Dice:** 2D6 Physical.

Magic Dice: 1D8.

**Ability: Dragon Breath** 

Spend a Magic Die.

Each creature in a 15ft line from the Drakkenkin takes **[M]** damage. The damage is the same type that the Drakkenkin resists.

### **Goblins**

A crafty group of species that inhabit the eastern part of Santryl, goblins are known for their makeshift weaponry.

### **Goblin Rascal**

Causing mischief wherever they go, Goblin Rascals are usually responsible for illicit activities in fringe villages.

#### **Usage**

Rascals should be used as ne'er-do-wells running low-stake schemes, usually as introductory opponents for characters.

Alternatively, Rascals can be used as minions for higher rank goblins.

**Goblin Ruffian** 

**HP**: 4, **AV**: 5

Resistance: N/A, Weakness: N/A

**P:** 0, **D:** 3, **K**: 1, **F:** -1, **W:** -1

Weapon Dice: 2D4 Physical.

Magic Dice: 1D8.

### **Ability: Grenade**

Choose a location within 30ft and spend a Magic Die. Each creature within 5ft of the location must make a Dexterity Save (8) or take that much fire damage.

### Rana

Rana deal with poisons, knowing well what heals and what is toxic to a body.

# **Bog Rana**

Bandits in the corrupted areas of the world, the Bog Rana loot and steal from travellers that are already struggling through the dangerous landscape.

#### Usage

Bog Rana should be used to either introduce an area as a poisonous or toxic one, or to harass

higher level characters as they face another challenge in such an area.

**Bog Rana** 

**HP**: 8, **AV**: 7

Resistance: Poison, Weakness: N/A

**P:** 1, **D:** 2, **K**: -1, **F:** -1, **W:** 0

Weapon Dice: 1D6 Physical.

Magic Dice: 2D4.

#### **Poisoned Weapons**

When the Bog Rana hits with an attack, it can spend a Magic Die to deal additional poison damage to the result.

### **Undead**

### **Skeleton**

Skeletons are the backbones of a necromancer's army. Usually used as a way to slow down those that oppose the necromancer, they are often used as workers on simple machinery too.

#### Usage

Skeletons should be used to present a violent, ever-present danger in a dungeon or encounter. Keeping combat characters busy can provide good tension in a fight, especially if those characters are needed to take care of more menacing enemies or problems.

Skeleton

**HP**: 1, **AV**: 6

**Resistance**: Umbral, **Weakness**: Holy

**P:** 1, **D:** 1, **K**: -1, **F:** -1, **W:** -1

Weapon Dice: 2D4 Physical.

#### **Ability: Reanimate**

Whilst the source of the skeleton's animation is still active, any skeleton that is killed will reanimate with 1 HP at the beginning of its next turn. On that turn, it can only take the Combat Action: Full Move.

from the stones. Otherwise, ROCKMAN reforms at the nearest cave, and makes its way back to its cave.

### ROCKMAN

ROCKMAN lives in cave. ROCKMAN makes sure anyone who comes in gets smacked by ROCKMAN's club. Sometimes ROCKMAN lets others stay, because ROCKMAN cares for the weak.

ROCKMAN was put here by the giants, to make sure some places stay hidden. ROCKMAN takes its job very seriously. Do not mess with ROCKMAN.

#### **Usage**

ROCKMAN should be used to deter parties from making too many rests in dangerous caves. ROCKMAN can be bargained with, and may even help those it considers weak or friends. ROCKMAN prefers not to help those that are too powerful, or that it suspects of wanting to uncover the secrets ROCKMAN is protecting.

# ROCKMAN

**HP**: 50, **AV**: 15,

**Resistance**: Physical, **Weakness**: N/A

**P:** 5, **D:** -3, **K**: 5, **F:** -2, **W:** 5

Weapon Dice: 3D6 Physical.

Skills: Culture, Intimidate, Observe

Language: Common, Giant

#### Giant's Guardian

ROCKMAN cannot die. If ROCKMAN dies in its cave, it returns again at sunrise as it reforms