



Man? Woman? Lost souls all.

D6	D8	NAME
1	1	Aerg-Tval
	2	Agn
	3	Arvant
	4	Belsum
	5	Belum
	6	Brint
	7	Börda
	8	Daeru
2	1	Eldar
	2	Felban
	3	Gotven
	4	Graft
	5	Grin
	6	Grittr
	7	Haerü
	8	Hargha
3	1	Harmug
	2	Jotna
	3	Karg
	4	Karva
	5	Katla
	6	Keftar
	7	Klort
	8	Kratar

D6	D8	NAME
4	1	Kutz
	2	Kvetin
	3	Lygan
	4	Margar
	5	Merkari
	6	Nagl
	7	Niduk
	8	Nifehl
5	1	Prügl
	2	Qillnach
	3	Risten
	4	Svind
	5	Theras
	6	Therg
	7	Torvul
	8	Törn
6	1	Urm
	2	Urvarg
	3	Vagal
	4	Vatan
	5	Von
	6	Vrakh
	7	Vresi
	8	Wemut

D10 OCCULT TREASURES

- 1 ASH-GREY RING a finger-width wide. All that passes through is obliterated.
- 2 The keening music of this small, VILE FLUTE animates a fetus-sized meat golem in a nearby corpse.
HP 5 Morale - No armor Bite D4 immune to Powers.
- 3 A note explains: one taste from this FAMINE SPOON means death from slow starvation.
- 4 The image of a being in this malevolently-accurate MIRROR shows only the shameful truth of their soul.
- 5 VAMPIRIC PHURBA. Heals you as it harms your target (D3), but beware: after stealing a total of 6 HP, test Presence DR14 or become addicted—you must then test Presence DR12 daily. Fail and you must stab someone with the knife before next sunrise. Or wither to ash and die as the sun rises.
- 6 A black PEARL. If dropped in darkness it rolls towards the nearest exit to day.
- 7 This TORCH burns for an immortal hour. Hold it and live. You can lose limbs and enter negative HP but won't die unless you drop the torch or it burns out.
- 8 Silver BIRD CAGE slays whatever is placed behind its bars, slowly, over one long night. That which is killed reanimates twice as strong, as a raging uncontrollable undead.
- 9 BLACK CROWN OF THE CRIPPLED KING. Wearing this crooks your body as you become aware that you and every creature within 100 yards gain +10 to attack rolls but -10 to defence rolls. Rolls that go above 20 count as crits, and below 1 as fumbles. The worn crown can only be removed in the pale light of a full moon.
- 10 Anyone wearing this ancient BLINDFOLD becomes invisible to those who breathe though the undead attack them obsessively and nearby corpses awaken in moaning, unholy wrath.

TRAPS AND DEVILRY (D12)

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Well dressed corpse, booby trapped |
| 2 | Wall-holes shoot poisonous arrows |
| 3 | Bells and marbles on the floor |
| 4 | Scorpion-filled basket poised to fall |
| 5 | Fish hooks hanging at eye level |
| 6 | Chest marked with explosive runes |
| 7 | Lock trapped with vial of poison gas |
| 8 | Jewel removal leads to roof collapse |
| 9 | Slanted floor, translucent oil, pit |
| 10 | Snake-cages on collapsing ceiling tiles |
| 11 | Evil urns release cold ghosts |
| 12 | Coins coated in grime and poison |

WEATHER (D12)

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Lifeless grey | 7 | Cloudburst |
| 2 | Hammering rain | 8 | Soup-thick mist |
| 3 | Piercing wind | 9 | Crackling frost |
| 4 | Deafening storm | 10 | Irritating drizzle |
| 5 | Black as night | 11 | Roaring thunder |
| 6 | Dead quiet | 12 | Gravelike cold |

CORPSE PLUNDERING (D66)

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 11–16 | The remains of something worthless crumbles in your hands. |
| 21 | Pot filled with extremely potent itching ointment. |
| 22 | Necklace of human teeth. |
| 23 | Bag of angry, venomous moths. Test Toughness DR6 or die. |
| 24 | Pocket full of broken glass, PC takes D2 damage. |
| 25 | Mad manifesto. If read, test Presence DR12 or lose 1 Presence permanently from confusion. |
| 26 | Key to nearby locked door. Stolen. |

CORPSE PLUNDERING (D66) CONT.

31	Map to a weak but wealthy family's house.
32	A hopeless amount of spiders.
33	Metal cylinder with gunpowder and fuse. Roll a D6. 1–2 you lose a hand. 3–6 3D10 damage wherever it lands.
34	Known and liked/despised witch-hunter's face. Flayed.
35	Note with PC's names. One is crossed out.
36	Tortured pixie with torn-off wings and gouged out eyes.
41	Map to a place that cannot possibly exist.
42	Unmarked bottle with a liquid that shifts between red and green.
43	Bond. A local potentate owes the holder a sizable amount.
44	Death mask of one of the PCs.
45	The 'Water of Life.' Heals D8. Test Toughness DR10 or go blind. Highly alcoholic.
46	There was something very wrong with this one. Hands covered with something lukewarm, brown and acidic. Take D2+1 damage and smell terrible for D4 days.
51	Black Kergüs dagger. 2D4 damage.
52	Labelled poison bottle. Test Toughness DR12 or lower random ability by D4. The ability can be increased when your character is improved.
53	Scalp with long black hair.
54	Golden ball with an invisible seam, twists open.
55	Bloodstained knuckle-duster.
56	Two weighted dice.
61–66	The result in silver.

Colophon

Original text, ideas and game design

Pelle Nilsson

Graphic design and artwork

Johan Nohr and couple of Public Domain images

English writing and creative consultation

Patrick Stuart

Plain text edition transcription

Walton Wood

Based on the second printing



OCKULT
ÖRTMÄSTARE
GAMES



MÖRK BORG is © Ockult Örtmästare Games & Stockholm Kartell 2019

MÖRK BORG is Swedish for DARK FORT and is pronounced *MURK BORG*

MÖRK BORG is dedicated to Pelle 'Dead' Ohlin (1969–1991).

Let the good times roll.

PLAYTESTING

Adrian Madden, Christian Sahlén, Dan Algstrand, Elin Hedström, Felix Dester Hultgren, Gunnar Landqvist, Karl Stjernberg, Markus Linderum, Nina Åkesson, Simon Perstrand, Stefan Hedström and Tobias Tarnvik-Laesker.

PROOFREADING/EDITING

Christian Sahlén, Dan Algstrand, Fiona Maeve Geist (MRC), Jarrett Crader (MRC), Johan Eriksson, Vi Huntsman and Skander Fanni.

ORIGINAL TRANSLATION

Johan Nohr

THANKS TO

Calle Niblaeus, Christian Plogfors, Christian Sahlén, Dan Algstrand, Domkraft, Fredrik Jarl, Gunnar Landqvist, Heimat der Katastrophe, Helene Rothstein Sylvesten, Jim Magnusson, Joakim Malmquist, Johan Eriksson, Jonas Stattin, Karl Druid, Karl Stjernberg, Niklas Wistedt, Simon Perstrand, Sofie Nohr, Tiina Pyykkö Nilsson, Tomas Härenstam, the folks on our Discord server and all our backers, fans and haters.

MUSIC THAT HELPED

Ash Borer. Batushka. Bell Witch. Belzebong. Black Tremor. Bongripper. Bongzilla. Cathedral. Conan. Dark Buddha Rising. Darkthrone. Domkraft. Dragged Into Sunlight. Dödsrit. Earth. Electric Wizard. Eyehategod. Gnoll. Godspeed You! Black Emperor. KTL. Mammoth Weed Wizard Bastard. Mayhem. Mephorash. Monolord. Morbid. Murg. Phurpa. Primitive Man. Profetus. Shadowmaster. Sleep. Slomatics. Sunn O))) The Body. This Gift Is A Curse. Thou. Tiamat. Ufomammut. Urfaust. Weedeater. With the Dead.

The Wind from the west. From the
sundered land. Rot rides it, and the
stench of blood. Cursed walker, will
you travel there? To the Valley of the
Unfortunate Undead? Our young
ones are taken by the child-thief
Tergol, known for his vile crimes
and alchemy of flesh.

DISTANCES SHIFT. PATHS BETWEEN PLACES WARP. As if this
pale, lightless world possessed a will and bitter life. Its mercy
curdled to wrath over a too-long age. Who are you? The grave
robber with silver glittering between cracked fingernails?
The mystic who would bend the world's miserable heart away
from its inevitable end?

Most likely, it makes little difference. No one has seen the
sun in years. The old care more for sacrifice and god-offerings
than their bawling spawn. Doomsayers are proved right time
and again and embraced by hidden powers. Maybe it's best to
surrender—to trust your own instinct and skill rather than the
whim of the dice? Before all is drowned in welcome silence.
Life locked and failing in a **DARK FORT**.

What Was Written Must Be Known

I

ANUK SCHLEGER, monk of the Creton order, encountered the basilisk Verhu in the year 565 and set down that creature's whispered prophecies. These lost texts came to be known as the Nameless Scriptures.

300 years later, while working on a new Cathedral, The Two-Headed Basilisks, an orthodox branch of the Creton order uncovered Schlegers tomb and with it the Scriptures.

Since then all events described within have come to pass. The prophecies are absolutely, factually true and have, thus, supplanted all other Scripture. Around this cathedral has grown Galgenbeck, the greatest city that ever was.

II

THE BASILISKS ARE TWO AND TWO-HEADED. The four heads have argued for hundreds of years. Verhu predicts inexorable annihilation and, since he's always right, has become utterly full of himself.

His is also the head worshipped most. If you could learn the codes of the apocalypse perhaps the right offerings might avert it? Verhu loves his position and hungers for temples to be raised in his name.

III

WHEN THE WORLD was but water, dust and clouds thick with plague-fat flies came SHE, first of the basilisks. From the cracks of Bergen Chrypt SHE crawled. SHE bears the head of Denial, Lusi, who looks up and down. Yet all shall be well. Her twin Arkh, Head of Deception, claims to be the first prophet of truths now prostituted by Verhu. Few have ever seen her, the oldest, but many walk her twin paths.

SHE spawned many since the dawn of time, their conceptions not without agony. All were cast down the cliffs of Bergen Chrypt, only HE survived. Down in the Valley of the Unfortunate Undead his eyes locked upon the mountain's peak, HE spits out curses upon his evil mother. The head Gorgh is bitter, rank with envy that only his twin Verhu knows the damned truth. Time and time again his prophecies are brought to be. The piles of gold-gift riches from his faithful teeter and slide, so tall are they.

IV

THE WORLD DIES EVEN NOW. Reality decays, truth becomes dream and dream, truth. Cracks grow in the once-stable structures of the past, allowing things misshapen and vile to worm through, emerging into day's wan light. The world closes in, bounded to the west by the massive Bergen Chrypt with its catacombs and ice-caked peaks east. Many have ploughed the wave's furrow in search of and surrounded by the Endless Sea to the north, south and known new lands. They all return, against their will. Alive or dead.

Galgenbeck

GALGENBECK IN THE LAND OF TVELAND is the greatest city that ever was. No King or Queen rules in Galgenbeck but an arch-priestess: Josilfa Migol. Deep beneath the Cathedral of the Two-Headed Basilisks, in a cool black chamber crossed by shards of light, lies her throne. Josilfa, old but still young, commoners gossip that she colludes with the god Nechrubel, who gave her eternal life. Nechrubel: the shadow that covers all. Nechrubel is melancholy, crop failure, conflict and war. It is said he whispered the apocalyptic prophecies in Verhu's ear.

As time grows ever shorter the Two-Headed Basilisks become ever-more desperate in their recruitment. To take one's own life is considered sinful cowardice. The road to salvation lies through mortification of the flesh; the apocalypse is to be met with eyes wide open. Only then can the soul be allowed passage to the Shimmering Fields. Heretics and apostates are hunted down and corrected, in public and at length, by the Inquisition.

In Tveland also lies

Sarkash

THE FOREST SEEMS, lately, to spread unnaturally fast. Paths tangle and wind in the overgrown gloom, leading wanderers astray. Far in the depths of Sarkash, always where one least expects to find it, in a halo of dying trees, is Graven-Tosk. A truly ancient cemetery filled with mausoleums, blank-eyed cherubs, stagnant fountains, plague pits and ordinary graves.

But hasn't it grown warmer in this usually cold place? Do you hear the frantic scratching? The air feels heavy, stale and hard to breathe.

Rising over Graven-Tosk like rage rising over pain is the

Palace of the Shadow King

A GOTHIC BLACK CASTLE, like a mirror to the Cathedral of the Two-Headed Basilisk in Galgenbeck. Most of the palace lies in crumbling ruins, home to unfortunate souls sheltering beneath its broken halls. None dare dream what might lie under the rubble covered catacombs and cellars. Tunnels sprawl beneath like writhing roots, digging deeper into the cold earth like cancerous veins. The inner wing still stands, acting as the home of the Shadow King, a being obscured by ritual. The slaves of the servants of the courtiers of the King come forth and do his will.

The title is hereditary: sons are always born to the Shadow King. It's whispered Princes of that line disguise themselves as ordinary men wandering the ruins engaging in games and tricking travelers, multiplying the miseries of their people.

Grift

FROM AGES PAST, Grift grew upon an eastern peninsula of the Endless Sea. Cut from the world by the bottomless Múr, the thriving city state can be reached only by three bridges of such might and cyclopean size it is said that only enslaved giants could have raised them. Grift was once a place of harmony and the light of reason, a shelter from the plaguewracked, war-torn world beyond.

But the world turns and even the Múr cannot protect Grift from its inevitable fall.

King Sigfúm the Kind is mocked in the street. Much of Grift has fallen into disrepair as vile creatures begin crawling from the dried, cracked earth. Each night the bridges scream and roar like great ships grinding upon rocks. Sigfúm is defeated. He knows the end is near, believes the prophecies of Verhu and so, kindly and calmly, prepares his people for death. Huge parchments dot the streets, calendars of despair marking each correct preparation and its time. Each day a leaf is turned and when the last page comes, Sigfúm will march his people to the cliff Terion to fulfill what was written. Terion, a thousand meters of vertical rock with the raging sea biting at its base.

The inquisition of the Two-Headed Basilisks is not too keen on the heretical suicide scheme of Sigfúm the Kind.

Kergüs

DESOLATION ROLLS OVER KERGÜS like a frostbarren wind. The lawless and forlorn trek across its ice-wracked expanse, crawling over the plains or cowering in the cracked earth to flee Blood-Countess Anthelia. North, where the wind is born, lies Allíans, a storm-piercing spire-city of black glass. Within stands a castle like a waterfall of white stone: the throne of Anthelia. She as pale as her castle's walls, as youthful as a drop of melting ice. Some say she is eternally young. The gulls cry the names of Knights who sought her hand, a reminder that suitors and signs of Anthelia's age disappear in conjunction. But who listens to a gull? And in Kergüs, even gulls freeze in the cold that rolls from the dreams of the Countess. Dreams of her unending youth.

Anthelia's Ambivalence

Anthelia is well aware time is short. Neuroses burden her. *"Why is everything so pale? So cold?"* She cries out for colour or warmth. She drains the world of both with every glance, touch and breath. Those who bring her vibrant life are promised great rewards. All fear to do so. Excuses are made, explanations found. The feelings of the Countess are fragile, her powers absolute. Court life entails grey opulence, excitement and fear.

The Western Kingdom

THE WESTERN KINGDOM, called Wästland in the songs of the simple and rhymes of the poor, once home to peace and wealth when Lake Onda gifted fish and the river-trade thrived.

Now, terror and despotism stalk. In the secret citadel of the sad-but-gaudy city of Schleswig King Fathmu IX schemes.

Paranoid, fat and increasingly mad, he is consumed with psychosis and invisible fears.

Obsessed with the prophecies of Verhu, the King raids and invades houses and villages, barns and temples. Nowhere and no one is safe, especially the poor. Taxed into starvation, the contents of their larders and storehouses are carted off by Fathmu's men.

A place few wish to speak of is the

Valley of the Unfortunate Undead

RUMORS WHISPER THE BASILISK *HE* is coiled within its crypts, a sight infrequently survived. Lies and legends enshroud the valley, obscuring any truth. Peddler's tales say the soil, the very air, is lethal—bringing a sleepless, stumbling death. This is no clean fate but a slow-growing, fathomless despair, weighing down the traveler with poisoned memories and dark thoughts until the spark of life is mutated into a mournful, hopeless undeath.

Others claim lost wanderers can fall and find themselves in the Realm of the Dead when the black soil hungrily drags them under the earth.

Those without hope travel here seeking an end to pain, a golden afterlife beyond this dark and ruined world. They gather in suicide cults and the valley's few twisted trees begin to droop strange fruit from hempen rope. Others plumb the crypts seeking Verhu, believing they can persuade him of other fates. Some simply and stupidly leave gifts and sacrifices to a power they cannot comprehend. Gloom grows, obscuring the world like an oil-stained image.

The Calendar of Bechrubel

THE WORLD TREMBLES. One can feel it in ways sharp and subtle, mysterious and clear. One by one, inevitable events demand their place.

Illustrating this, the Game Master (GM) rolls a die each dawn. A result of 1 activates one Misery. The die used is determined by the GM and the group.

The GM then rolls D66 to determine which Misery occurs. The same Misery will not befall the world twice.

7:7

The seventh Misery will always be 7:7, and the world finally dies. The seventh seal is broken for the seventh and final time. The game and your lives end here.

Burn the book.

WHEN WILL ALL THIS AGONY END?

Years of pain	D100
A bleak half-year	D20
A fall in anguish	D10
A cruel month	D6
The end is nigh!	D2

The Calendar of Nechrubel – The Nameless Scriptures.

Transcribed by Anuk Schleger the monk.

PSALM I

1:1 The City shall be made hollow. Of those who rest in hollowness, they shall not be seen.

1:2 And the earth shall shake and be riven. And from the cracks shall rise a poisonous mist, and in ten days it will shroud the world.

1:3 Of those who build mightily, stone by stone, so shall they fall, stone by stone.

1:4 And the depths of the underworld shall bring forth flying spectres and crawling beasts. In their passing the worm grows fat, the vulture weary.

1:5 Doubt is crowned. The loyal shall turn their blades on those who silver gave.

1:6 And blood-cough shall spread like fire across the wastelands of the drought.

PSALM II

2:1 As at the beginning, so at the end, all manner of fly and wasp shall fill the air.

2:2 And the ground pale with maggots.

2:3 And from the Spears: a frost. Born from Bergen Chrypt and covering all.

2:4 And in ten days and one the writings of sorcerers will be made pale as air.

2:5 And glass shall become quartz.

2:6 And SHE shall see HIM grow stronger. And SHE reveals herself and all shall be slain.

PSALM III

3:1 At Graven-Tosk the soil shall grow warm and those who rest be made to walk.

3:2 In the heart of Sarkash fog and dusk shall breathe beneath the waking trees. That which was hewed by man shall now hew in its turn.

3:3 And hunger shall come among you. You shall dig roots and pull children from the breast. The gaunt shall prey upon the gaunt.

3:4 The great shall be made poor and the poor poorer still.

3:5 Then shall come rain unending and the day shall be made night by its coming.

3:6 Brother shall slay Brother and Sister poison Sister.

PSALM IV

4:1 For five days and five nights mothers flesh shall be the cloak of demons.

4:2 And for five days and five nights shall fathers weep.

4:3 Look to the West. Forth comes fire, and a horde, and the Kingdoms burn.

4:4 The liar, Arkh shall make knots of the hearts of men, sundering the strongest of bonds.

4:5 Behold now the Endless Sea, where Leviathan causes waves to be as mountains.

4:6 And Leviathan shall come among you. Children winter-born and fated to fall before snow, both shall it take.

PSALM V

5:1 The lake and brook shall blacken and the water become tar.

5:2 The trees shall wither, shrivel and die.

5:3 And birds shall fall dead from the sky.

5:4 In one night all those not yet of seven years and seven days shall pass. Born and unborn. And dawn shall give them life as eaters of men.

5:5 The sky shall weep fire and a great stone shall plummet as a city fallen from heaven. Its gift is Death and madness is its herald.

5:6 And the last King and the last Queen shall wither to dust. Their wretched courts are devoured by wolves.

PSALM VI

6:1 You shall know the last day is come. The sun shall set and never rise.

6:2 And day shall be as night and night as day. You shall not sleep, neither shall you wake.

6:3 Anthelia shall have her will and drink all colour from the world.

6:4 Those who walk on two legs shall be nameless as the beasts of the field.

6:5 The earth shall vein, bringing black serpents forth from within the earth.

6:6 And the unnamed enter the earth, passing through the Veil as it is sundered by Daejmon, the left underling of Nechrubel.

PSALM VII THE LAST

7:7 All praise Yetsabu-Nech, the underworld's nightmare, the black disk which stands before the sun! All praise Verhu, beaming with delight! All praise the fire which burns all! And the darkness shall swallow the darkness.

Create a Player Character (PC)

1. Randomize your starting equipment on this page and the next.
2. Randomize weapon and armor.
3. Roll your abilities.
4. Roll your Hit Points.
5. Name your character if you wish. It will not save you.

OPTIONAL RULES:

† Start by choosing or randomizing a class (page 46 and on) and follow the class' instructions on rolling for equipment, weapons and armor.

† Roll on the tables on pages 38–42.

† Roll a number of Omens (page 37).

IN THIS WORLD there are those who seek riches or redemption. Some say the apocalypse is escapable, that it might even be stopped. And there you walk in discord and despair. One hand holds 2D6 × 10 silver (s), the other holds a waterskin and D4 days worth of food. Your soul and your silver are your own and equally easy to lose. To begin with, you are what you own:

D6

1–2	nothing
3	backpack for 7 normal-sized items
4	sack for 10 normal-sized items
5	small wagon or one item above of your choice
6	donkey, not bad. Or one of the above of your choice

DI2

1	rope 30 feet
2	Presence + 4 torches
3	lantern with oil for Presence + 6 hours
4	magnesium strip
5	random unclean scroll
6	sharp needle
7	medicine chest Presence+4 uses (stops bleeding/infection and heals D6 HP)
8	metal file and lockpicks
9	bear trap (Presence DR14 to spot, D8 damage)
10	bomb (sealed bottle, D10 damage)
11	a bottle of red poison D4 doses (Toughness DR12 or D10 damage)
12	silver crucifix

and

DI2

1	1 life elixir D4 doses (heals D6 HP and removes infection)
2	random sacred scroll
3	small but vicious dog (D6+2 HP, bite D4, only obeys you)
4	D4 monkeys that ignore but love you (D4+2 HP, punch/bite D4)
5	exquisite perfume worth 25s
6	toolbox 10 nails, tongs, hammer, small saw and drill
7	heavy chain 15 feet
8	grappling hook
9	shield (-1 HP damage or have the shield break to ignore one attack)
10	crowbar (D4 damage)
11	lard (may function as 5 meals in a pinch)
12	tent

Scrolls are the twisted magic of MÖRK BORG. Read more on page 34.

WEAPONS D10 (*D6 if you begin with a scroll*)

	Unarmed	D2 damage
1	Femur	D4
2	Staff	D4
3	Shortsword	D4
4	Knife	D4
5	Warhammer	D6
6	Sword	D6
7	Bow	D6, with Presence +10 arrows
8	Flail	D8
9	Crossbow	D8, with Presence + 10 bolts
10	Zweihänder	D10

ARMOR D4 (*D2 if you begin with a scroll*)

1	no armor (tier 0)
2	light (fur, padded cloth, leather etc, -D2 damage, tier 1) 20s
3	medium armor (scale, mail etc, -D4 damage, tier 2) 100s <i>DR +2 on Agility tests including defence.</i>
4	Heavy armor (splint, plate etc, -D6 damage, tier 3) 200s <i>DR +4 on Agility tests, defence is DR+2</i>
	shield -1 damage 20s <i>You can choose to ignore all damage from one attack but shield breaks.</i>

Scrolls will never work when wielding zweihand weapons or medium/heavy armor.

Equipment

Backpack	6s	Holds 7 normal-sized items
Bear trap	20s	Presence DRI4 to spot, D8 damage
Blanket	4s	
Caltrops	7s	D4 damage + infection on 1 in 6
Chalk	1s	
Chewing tobacco	1s	
Crowbar	8s	
Crucifix, silver	60s	
Crucifix, wood	8s	
Dried food	1s	1 day
Exquisite perfume	25s	
Firesteel	4s	
Grappling hook	12s	
Hammer	8s	
Heavy chain	10s	15 feet
Iron nails	10s	10 nails
Ladder	7s	
Lantern oil	5s	Presence + 6 hours
Lard	5s	May function as 5 meals
Large iron hook	9s	
Lockpicks	5s	
Magnesium strip	4s	
Manacles	10s	
Mattress	3s	
Meat cleaver	15s	
Medicine box	15s	Stops bleeding/infection and +D6 HP. Presence + 4 uses
Metal file	10s	
Mirror	15s	
Muzzle	6s	
Noose	5s	

Oil lamp	10s	
Poison (black)	20s	Toughness DR14 or D6 damage + blind for one hour. 3 doses
Poison (red)	20s	Toughness DR12 or D10 damage. 3 doses
Preserved corpse	66+D6s	
Rope	4s	30 feet
Small wagon	25s	
Tent	12s	
Toolbox	20s	10 nails, hammer, small saw, tongs
Torch	2s	
Sack	3s	Holds 10 normal sized items
Salt	4s	
Scissors	9s	
Scroll	worth roughly 50s to the right buyer	
Sharp needle	3s	
Waterskin	4s	4 days of water

Improvised weapons do D4 damage. Who wouldn't forgo fisticuffs for a grappling hook?

SERVICES

Night in hospice	3s
Drink	1s
Steady meal	2s
Bribe, guard	20–40s
Bribe, clerk	30–60s
Bribe, rabble	5–15s
Repair Armor*	
Tier 1 to 2	25s
Tier 2 to 3	40s

*Armor cannot be repaired to a tier higher than its original.

WEAPONS

D8	Battle axe	35s
D6	Bow	25s
D6	Club	10s
D8	Crossbow	40s
D8	Flail	35s
D4	Femur	worthless
D6	Handaxe	15s
D4	Knife	10s
D6	Mace	25s
D4	Shortbow	13s
D4	Shortsword	20s
D4	Sling	8s
D4	Staff	5s
D6	Sword	30s
D6	Warhammer	30s
D2	Whip	5s
D10	Zweihänder	60s
	20 arrows	10s
	10 bolts	10s

BEASTS

Dog (trained)	25s
Dog (wild)	10s
Horse	80s
Mule	10s
Rat (tame)	8s

Abilities

AGILITY	Defend, balance, swim, flee
PRESENCE	Perceive, aim, charm, wield Powers
STRENGTH	Crush, lift, strike, grapple
TOUGHNESS	Resist poison/cold/heat, survive falling

ROLL 3D6 AND USING THE TABLE ON THE RIGHT to generate each ability score from -3 to +3. The sum is not used in the game once the character is created, only the table value.

Player Characters not created with the optional classes can roll 4D6 and drop the lowest die for two of their abilities. When the character is later improved an ability can never exceed +6 or -3.

ABILITIES

1-4	-3
5-6	-2
7-8	-1
9-12	±0
13-14	+1
15-16	+2
17-20	+3

Tests

TESTS ARE MADE AGAINST A DIFFICULTY RATING. To succeed roll D20 \pm your ability with a result equal to or greater than the DR. Creatures don't use abilities, they just roll a D20 against DR. For example, find bear trap DR14 or resist red poison DR12.

DIFFICULTY RATINGS (DR)

6	so simple people laugh at you for failing
8	routine but some chance of failure
10	pretty simple but not simple enough to not roll
12	normal
14	difficult
16	really hard
18	should not be possible

Carrying Capacity

YOU CAN CARRY STRENGTH+8 normal-sized items (for example crowbars, lard, scrolls, torches but not anvils, chests, ladders, corpses) without a problem. After that when testing Strength and Agility DR increases by 2 (from 12 to 14 etc.). It is impossible to carry more than twice Strength+8.

Hit Points

BEGIN WITH TOUGHNESS + D8. In worst case 1HP, but never less.

Zero HP: broken **Negative HP:** dead

BROKEN (D4)

1	Fall unconscious for D4 rounds, awaken with D4 HP.
2	Roll a D6: 1-5 = Broken or severed limb. 6 = Lost eye. Can't act for D4 rounds then become active with D4 HP.
3	Hemorrhage: death in D2 hours unless treated. All tests are DR16 the first hour. DR18 the last hour.
4	Dead.

Violence

INITIATIVE (D6)

1–3 enemies go first

4–6 PCs go first

Agility + D6 for individual initiative or to determine who goes first within the group.

Players roll for both their attacks and defences.
Creatures and enemies don't roll dice in combat.

The DR for attacks and defence are modified as with any test.

MELEE

Test Strength DR12

RANGED

Test Presence DR12

DEFENCE

Test Agility DR12

If you fail the enemy hits you. Enemies attack once per round unless noted otherwise.

CRIT (NATURAL 20)

Attack: Double damage, armor/protection is also reduced one tier.

Defence: PC gains a free attack.

FUMBLE (NATURAL 1)

Attack: The weapon breaks or is lost.

Defence: PC takes double damage and armor is reduced one tier.

When armor is damaged penalties to Strength and Agility tests are not modified.

Armor reduced below 1st tier is ruined and cannot be repaired.

For armor repair costs, see Equipment on page 24.

How long is a round?

A round is enough time to make an attack (or use a Power) and traverse a normal-sized room. There are usually 10 rounds in one minute.

Rest

† Catch your breath, have a drink. Restore D4 HP.

† A full night's sleep restores D6 HP.

† Without food or drink no HP is restored when resting and after two days a starving PC loses D4 HP per day.

† An infected character does not benefit from resting. Instead, D6 HP is lost daily.

Reaction (2D6)

WHEN MEETING CREATURES whose reaction is uncertain.

2–3 Kill!

4–6 Angered

7–8 Indifferent

9–10 Almost friendly

11–12 Helpful

Morale

MOST ENEMIES WILL NOT FIGHT to the last drop of blood.

ROLL FOR MORALE IF

the leader is killed

half the group is eliminated

a single enemy has only 1/3 of its HP left

If you roll greater than the creature's Morale value with 2D6, it is demoralized. Roll D6 to see if the enemy (1–3) flees or (4–6) surrenders.

Getting Better

or worse

THE GAME MASTER DECIDES when a character should be improved. It can be after completing a scenario, killing mighty foes or bringing home treasure.

When this happens the following things occur:

More HP

Roll 6D10. If the result is equal to or greater than your current maximum HP, increase it by D6.

Left in the debris you find

D6

1-3	nothing
4	3D10 silver
5	an unclean scroll
6	a sacred scroll

Ability changes

Roll a D6 against every ability. Results equal to or greater than the ability increase it by 1, to a maximum of +6. Results below the ability decrease it by 1.

Abilities from -3 to +1 are always increased by 1 unless the D6 result is 1. The ability is then reduced by 1, but never below -3.

Powers

A FEW SO-CALLED POWERS are known and they are usually found written in scrolls.

Roll Presence + D4 every morning to determine how many times you can use Powers that day; choose from your available scrolls. When reading a scroll, test Presence DR12. If you succeed, the Power is activated and you subtract one use from your daily total. If you fail, the Power doesn't work, you lose D2 HP and you become dizzy for the next hour. During this time, Powers will always fail in the worst possible way.

The GM decides the effect on a Crit or Fumble, but on page 43 is an optional table of arcane catastrophes.

UNCLEAN SCROLLS D10

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | PALMS OPEN THE SOUTHERN GATE: A ball of fire hits D2 creatures dealing D8 damage per creature. |
| 2 | TONGUE OF ERIS: A creature of your choice is confused for 10 minutes. |
| 3 | TE-LE-KIN-ESIS: Move an object up to D10×10 feet for D6 minutes. |
| 4 | LUCY-FIRES LEVITATION: Hover for Presence + D10 rounds. |
| 5 | DAEMON OF CAPILLARIES: One creature suffocates for D6 rounds, losing D4 HP per round. |
| 6 | NINE VIOLET SIGNS UNKNOT THE STORM: Produce D2 lightning bolts dealing D6 damage each. |
| 7 | METZHUOTL BLIND YOUR EYE: A creature becomes invisible for D6 rounds or until it is damaged, attacking/defending with DR6. |

UNCLEAN SCROLLS Dio, CONT.

- 8 FOUL PSYCHOMPOMP: Summon (D6): 1–3 D4 skeletons
4–6 D4 zombies
-
- 9 EYELID BLINDS THE MIND: D4 creatures fall asleep for one hour unless they succeed a DRI4 test.
-
- 10 DEATH: All creatures within 30 feet lose a total of 4Dio HP.
-

SACRED SCROLLS Dio

- 1 GRACE OF A DEAD SAINT: D2 creatures regain Dio HP each.
-
- 2 GRACE FOR A SINNER: A creature of your choice gets +D6 on one roll (damage, tests etc.)
-
- 3 WHISPERS PASS THE GATE: Ask three questions to a deceased creature.
-
- 4 AEGIS OF SORROW: A creature of your choice gains 2D6 extra HP for 10 rounds.
-
- 5 UNMET FATE: One creature, dead for no more than a week, is awakened with terrible memories.
-
- 6 BESTIAL SPEECH: You may speak with animals for D20 minutes.
-
- 7 FALSE DAWN/NIGHT'S CHARIOT: Light or pitch black for 3Dio minutes.
-
- 8 HERMETIC STEP: You find all traps in your path for 2Dio minutes.
-
- 9 ROSKOE'S CONSUMING GLARE: D4 creatures lose D8 HP each.
-
- 10 ENOCHIAN SYNTAX: One creature blindly obeys a single command.
-

The Basilisks Demand (D20)

- 1 A sword that has killed exactly one dozen times
- 2 A widower's wedding ring
- 3 Silver from a sinner's grave
- 4 Eyes that have seen the Shimmering Fields
- 5 The year's first-born goat
- 6 Blutday bread
- 7 The cuticle of an executed innocent
- 8 A troll's heart valves
- 9 A dagger onto which the condemned carved their victims' name
- 10 Rare anti-obsidian from the Urilian crypts
- 11 The forbidden brew of the hermit of Terion
- 12 An orgh-maggot from the ice of Kergüs
- 13 A body mutilated by those who loved it in life
- 14 Joy's lampoon written in blood
- 15 The gall of a Chrypt-vulture
- 16 Moss upon which a dying man has slept
- 17 A child born with the third eye
- 18 A body drowned in Lake Onda
- 19 The rear molar of the Gluttonous
- 20 Gems from overflowing pockets

Optional Rules

Omens

“järtecken”

CLEARLY THE EYES OF OTHER POWERS are upon you, Eldritch watchers or the tangled Fates of alternate worlds. Call it luck if you like. Every class gains a number of Omens. If you play without classes every character begins with D2 Omens. When depleted roll the class’ designated die (D2 if playing without classes) and regain that many Omens after resting at least six hours.

USE OMENS TO:

- | | |
|---|--|
| † | deal maximum damage with an attack |
| † | reroll a dice roll (yours or someone else’s) |
| † | lower damage dealt to you by D6 |
| † | neutralize a Crit or Fumble |
| † | lower one test’s DR by -4 |

Optional Tables

Trauma, a bad childhood, hidden history or a twisted fate attending your birth already shaped you.

TERRIBLE TRAITS, D20 (ROLL TWICE)

1	Endlessly aggravated
2	Inferiority complex
3	Problems with authority
4	Loud mouth
5	Cruel
6	Egocentric
7	Nihilistic
8	Prone to substance abuse
9	Conflicted
10	Shrewd
11	Vindictive
12	Cowardly
13	Lazy
14	Suspicious
15	Ruthless
16	Worried
17	Bitter
18	Deceitful
19	Wasteful
20	Arrogant

BROKEN BODIES, D20

1	Staring manic gaze.
2	Covered in (for some) blasphemous tattoos.
3	Rotting face. Wears a mask.
4	Lost three toes, limbs.
5	Starved: faunt and pale.
6	One hand replaced with rusting hook (D6 damage).
7	Decaying teeth.
8	Hauntingly beautiful, unnervingly clean.
9	Hands caked with sores.
10	Cataracts slowly but surly spreading in both eyes.
11	Long tangled hair, at least one cockroach in residence.
12	Broken, crushed ears.
13	Juddering and stuttering from nerve damage or stress.
14	Corpulent, ravenous, drooling.
15	One hand lacks thumb and index finger, grips like a lobster.
16	Red, swollen alcoholic's nose.
17	Resting maniac face, making friends is hard.
18	Chronic athlete's foot. Stinks.
19	Recently slashed and stinking eye covered with a patch.
20	Nails cracked and black, maybe about to drop off.

BAD HABITS, D20

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Obsessively collect small sharp stones. |
| 2 | Won't use a blade without testing it on your own flesh.
Arms knitted with scars. |
| 3 | Can't stop drinking once you start. |
| 4 | Gambling addict. Must bet every day. If you lose,
raise and bet again. |
| 5 | Cannot tolerate criticism of any kind. Results in rage
and weeping. |
| 6 | Unable to get to the point. Have never actually
finished a story. |
| 7 | Best friend is a skull. Carry it with you, tell it everything,
you trust no one more. |
| 8 | You pick your nose so deep it bleeds. |
| 9 | Laugh hysterically at your own jokes which you then
explain in detail. |
| 10 | A nihilist. You insist on telling everyone you are a
nihilist and explaining why. |
| 11 | Inveterate bug eater. |
| 12 | Stress response is aesthetic display. The worse things get
the fancier you need to be. |
| 13 | Permanent phlegm deposit in throat. Continuously cough,
snort, spit and swallow. |
| 14 | Pyromaniac |
| 15 | Consistently lose important items and forget vital facts. |
| 16 | Insecure shit-stirrer. Will talk about whoever just left
the room. |
| 17 | You stutter when lying. |
| 18 | You giggle insanely at the worst possible times. |
| 19 | You whistle while trying to hide. You will deny this.
Whistle when 5, 7, 9, 11 or 13 is rolled on a D20. |
| 20 | You make jewelry from the teeth of the dead.
<i>If this can be considered a bad habit.</i> |

The whole group can share the same backstory, or groups within the group can share a tale. Or the GM can quickly give history to a seemingly mundane character.

TROUBLING TALES, D20

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Pursued for manslaughter. There is a bounty. |
| 2 | In massive debt. The debt is being traded to successively more ruthless groups |
| 3 | Have a rare, sought after item. |
| 4 | Have a cursed never healing wound. |
| 5 | Had an illegal, immoral and secret affair with a member of the royal family. Has proof. |
| 6 | Escaped cult member. Terrified and paranoid.
Other cultists are everywhere. |
| 7 | An identity thief who recently killed and replaced this person. |
| 8 | Banished and disowned for unspecified deeds.
Can never go home |
| 9 | Deserted military after witnessing a massacre, bounty on head. Hunted by former friends. |
| 10 | Very recently murdered a close relative. Very recently. |
| 11 | A puzzle cube has been calibrated incorrectly (or has it?), awakening a slumbering abomination. |
| 12 | Evil creatures love the scent of your spoor and are drawn to it, bringing disaster in your wake. |
| 13 | A battle wound left a shard of metal slowly inching closer to your heart. Every day there is a 2 % chance it reaches it. |
| 14 | Violence forced you into the wilderness. You think waving trees are whispering. You talk to, scream at, attack trees. |
| 15 | Cursed to share the nightmares of others, you sleep far, far away. |
| 16 | At permanent war with all corvids. No contact without some violence. You carry a sling. |

- 17 After dreaming of an underground temple to a forgotten
god you understand the songs of insects and worms.
-
- 18 Being tracked and observed by a golem after an agreement
which you know has been wiped from your mind.
-
- 19 *“Burn or be burned”* is the fate you accept.
-
- 20 Your flesh heals twice as fast, but your companions
twice as slow. You see a many-eyed “guardian angel.”

Arcane Catastrophes

YOU READ IT WRONG YOU ILLITERATE FOOL!

Effects in italic are things the caster might not immediately realize.

A caster who rolls the same result twice explodes in screaming black fire in which the faces of the dead are seen. D6 damage each round. Water only feeds this fire.

ARCANE CATASTROPHES (D20)

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 1 | One by one your teeth fall out. Long, brittle fingernails replace them in your gums. <i>Your smile is horrific and you find it hard to eat.</i> |
| <hr/> | |
| 2 | You feel fine. It's fine . <i>You pustulate with a magical STD. Those intimate with you will die of plague within D4 days then rise as woeful weeping zombies who track you down in your dreams before finding you in reality.</i> |
| <hr/> | |
| 3 | Your skeleton is possessed by some unearthly force and will do anything to kill you and escape. Drowning or piercing is preferred so the bones are not damaged. Test Strength DR10 in stressful situations or take D4 damage. <i>When you die, you become a zombie.</i> |
| <hr/> | |
| 4 | The illusion of the celestial sphere is lifted, you now see what dwells beyond. And it sees you. Gazing upon a clear night sky drives you mad with fear. |
| <hr/> | |
| 5 | Around you falls an unending snow of black ash which only you and the mad can perceive. <i>Water sickens you from this day on. Only ash, soot or burnt remains can quench your thirst.</i> |
| <hr/> | |
| 6 | The earth decays around you like wet flesh. You sink 3 feet and cannot climb out without help. Clinging to you, screaming and biting are D4 translucent, crayfish-like children with your face. |

HP 3 Morale - No armor Bite/pinch D4

ARCANE CATASTROPHES (D20) CONT.

-
- 7 Your skin tatters like paper, your flesh melts like wax and your intestines bloat like balloons, bursting and falling out until all that is left is a walking, talking skeleton.
-
- 8 A gnashing gaptoothed mouth splits open on your neck. It spits out your secrets and inner thoughts *and can be silenced to sleep only with blood.*
-
- 9 The sky warps and stars spin like wheels. Thrown one day into the future, you arrive vomiting Time as evaporating silver bile. *A Misery is fulfilled.*
-
- 10 Light itself despises you. If you gaze upon a candle, lamp or torch it goes out.
-
- 11 *Within D4 days a vile cocoon heaves from the ground, soon bursting and spawning your exact clone. It is unintelligent and begins to spread mischief and suffering. This happens every couple of days until the ground is cleansed with holy water or fire.*
-
- 12 Your eyes burn with insufferable agony, bleeding heavily before loosening and falling from their gory pits. You continue to see through them wherever they are.
-
- 13 You and a random nearby creature pass out. *When you wake up, your souls have switched. Welcome to your new flesh.*
-
- 14 Five twisted, skeletal arms burst from your back. The hands are mischievous, violent and terribly cruel.
-
- 15 Your skin pales then begins to emit a sickly greenish light. *Living things held close to you slowly fall ill. They weaken, their bones become brittle, their teeth and hair fall out.*
-
- 16 The Power works, but fate or a demonic force perverts its effects to your precise disadvantage.
-
- 17 The scroll crumbles to tendrils of fine black powder which reach for your nose and mouth. Make a DRI4 Toughness test or lose D10 HP.

ARCANE CATASTROPHES (D20) CONT.

18 The Power pierces you like a knife, feeding on your anima. You are permanently gaunt and drawn, insatiably hungry. *When resting you restore only half of the rolled HP.*

19 You fall through Refva into the esoteric dimension of Cube-Violet, a place of mythical obscurity. The walls are smooth, iridescent and cold. Above, an endless inferno.

To leave (D4):

1. Slay riddling Kulvan (strong goblin, page 58) who holds three colorless pearls.
 2. Poison a close friend with crumbled Sict-Shroom (Toughness DR16 or -D6 HP and hallucinations). They are found only within the cube.
 3. Reach up through the fire to the golden key above. D4 fingers burn to ash.
 4. The cube is perfect, and empty. You can only wait in maddening timeless silence until another fool arrives.
-

20 Perhaps it's for the best. HE emerges from the shadows. At least your suffering is short, almost instantaneous, as the two-headed basilisk devours you.

Optional Classes (D6)

I. Fanged deserter

YOU HAVE THIRTY OR SO FRIENDS who never let you down: YOUR TEETH. Disloyal, deranged or simply uncontrollable, any group that didn't boot you out you left anyway. But your parliament of teeth—enormous, protruding, thick and sharp—have always been your allies.

BITE ATTACK: DR10 to attack, D6 damage. You must be close to your target. 1–2 on D6 chance the enemy gets a free attack.

Begins with 2D6 × 10s and D2 Omens. HP: Toughness + D10

EARLIEST MEMORIES (D6)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | A burnt-black building in Sarkash. Your home? |
| 2 | A derelict rotting ship rolling endlessly across a grey sea. |
| 3 | A brothel in Schleswig. Quite a friendly environment. |
| 4 | Sleeping with dogs in the corner of an inn, waiting for someone to return. |
| 5 | Following an army in eastern Wästland. |
| 6 | Suckling a wolf in the wild of Bergen Chrypt. |

ABILITIES

BUILT LIKE A BULL, roll 3D6+2 for Strength. NOT A BRIGHT SPARK, roll 3D6-1 for Agility and Presence. Normal Agility tests are DR14 instead of DR12, excluding defence. ILLITERATE; you are incapable of understanding scrolls. If you begin with one then reroll, eat it or use it as toilet paper.

YOU ALSO BEGIN WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (D6):

- 1 CRUMPLED MONSTER MASK: Strikes primitive fear into lesser creatures like goblins, gnoms and children. While worn, they check Morale every round.

- 2 THE BROWN SCIMITAR OF GALGENBECK: A stinking sword you pulled from a military shit-ditch. D6 damage. DR10 attack and defence while you wield it. 1 in 6 chance a wounded enemy is smitten with potent sepsis, dying in 10 minutes.

- 3 WIZARD TEETH: Four weird teeth rattle within a blackened pouch. Before battle roll a D6 for each one. For every 6 one of your attacks deals maximum damage.

- 4 OLD SIGÛRD'S SLING: Sigûrd was the strongest man whose throat you ever gnawed. Woven from his long grey hair, this sling has never failed you. 2D4 damage, requires fist-sized rocks which, perhaps regrettably, are everywhere.

- 5 ANCIENT GORE-HOUND: Asthmatic, deluded and on its last legs, this wizened creature still has a superb nose and can sniffle up treasure in the most disgusting debris. Attacks with DR10 (bite D6). Defends with DR12, 10 HP. Becomes frenzied around goblins and berserkers.

- 6 THE SHOE OF DEATH'S HORSE: It looks normal but since finding it in an obscure crypt you are convinced this shoe came from the horse of Death himself. In your hands it hits with DR10, D4 damage. 1 in 6 chance the shoe smashes the skull, instantly killing small-to-medium sized creatures. The shoe returns to your hand like a boomerang.

2. Gutterborn Scum

AN ILL STAR SMILED UPON YOUR BIRTH. Poverty, crime and bad parenting didn't help either. In your community an honest day's work was never an option. Not that you ever tried, what are you, some kind of mug? A razor blade and a moonless night are worth a week of chump-work.

Begins with 1D6×10s and D2 Omens. HP: Toughness+D6

BAD BIRTH (D6)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Dumped onto a moving shit-cart still in your birth caul. |
| 2 | Mother hanged from a tree outside of Galgenbeck, you fell from the corpse. |
| 3 | Raised by rats in the gutters of Grift. |
| 4 | Kicked and beaten beneath a baker's table in Schleswig. |
| 5 | Escaped the Tvelandian orphanarium. |
| 6 | Educated by outlaws in a hovel south of Alliáns. |

ABILITIES

SMALL, roll 3D6-2 for Strength. STEALTHY, all Presence and Agility tests have their DR reduced by 2 (normal tests are DR10 instead of DR12). Roll D6 on the weapon table and D2 on the armor table.

YOU ALSO BEGIN WITH ONE SPECIALTY (D6):

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | COWARD'S JAB: When attacking by surprise test Agility DR10. On a success you automatically hit once with a light one-handed weapon, dealing normal damage +3. |
| 2 | FILTHY FINGERSMITH: Your snaky little digits get into pockets and pick locks with a DR8 Agility test. You also begin with lockpicks! |
| 3 | ABOMINABLE GOB LOBBER: Your phlegm is viscous, lumpy, vile and ballistically accurate at short range. You can spit D2 times during a fight. Roll a DR8 Presence test for accuracy. Targets are blinded, retching and vomiting for D4 rounds. Anyone witnessing this—friend and foe—must make a Toughness test to not also vomit. PCs test DR10 and enemies DR12. |
| 4 | ESCAPING FATE: Every time you use an omen there is a 50% chance it is not spent. |
| 5 | EXCRETAL STEALTH: You have an astounding, almost preternatural ability to hide in muck, debris and filth. When hidden in these conditions a DR16 Presence test is required to notice you. |
| 6 | DODGING DEATH: You are so unpleasant, irrelevant, disgusting and vile even Death would rather avoid you if it can. On death, if there is even the slightest possibility that you survived, there is a 50% chance that you did. If successful, after 10 rounds you pop back up with D4 HP and an unlikely explanation of your escape. |

The first time the Scum gets better (see Getting better, page 33) another specialty is rolled. From the second time the Scum gets better it's possible to reroll these two specialties or just one.

3. Esoteric hermit

THE STONE OF YOUR CAVE is one with the stars. Silence and perfection. Now the chaos of a fallen world disturbs your rituals and the caul of night grows blacker than your cavern's gloom. Irritating!

Begins with 1D6×10s and D4 Omens. HP: Toughness+D4

ELDRITCH ORIGINS (D6)

- 1 Awakening, adult, in a ritual circle underneath the northern bridge to Grift.
 - 2 Wandered, memoryless, from the mouth of a cavern at the cliffs of Terion.
 - 3 Single child survivor of an incident in the Valley of the Unfortunate Undead.
 - 4 Dying of plague in a Bergen Chrypt hovel, you touched something from outside.
 - 5 An average individual until you encountered something in a dim glade in Sarkash.
 - 6 Raised on a lonely island in Lake Onda. No one else has ever heard of this island and you can't return.
-

ABILITIES

WISE, roll 3D6+2 for Presence. WEAK, roll 3D6-2 for Strength. Ordinary starting equipment plus one random scroll (sacred or unclean). Roll a D4 on the weapons table and D2 on the armor table.

YOU ALSO BEGIN WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (D6):

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MASTER OF FATE: What use are maps when the substance of causality itself is open to you? You know the right way with a DR8 Presence test. |
| 2 | BOOK OF BOILING BLOOD: You may open and read from this book once a day. Your enemy must make a DR12 test to prevent this. If they fail D2 Berserker-slayers (see page 59) appear from the depths of a forgotten dimension of blood. Roll a D6. On a 1–4 these creatures fight alongside you. On a 5–6 they turn on you, attempting to kill you and destroy the book. After the battle they return to their imprisonment. |
| 3 | SPEAKER OF TRUTHS: Twice per day use your wisdom, knowledge, advice and inner calm to bring clarity to a creature of your choice. The DR of the next test they undertake is lowered by 4. |
| 4 | INITIATE OF THE INVISIBLE COLLEGE: Once per day you may summon D2 scrolls, whose power can be used only once. Roll a D4, on a 1–2 the scrolls are sacred, on a 3–4, unclean. If the scrolls are not used before sunrise they turn to ash. |
| 5 | BARD OF THE UNDYING: You learnt your melodies in the Otherworld. The music of your Harp gives +D4 on reaction rolls. |
| 6 | HAWK AS WEAPON: Your crafty almost-intelligent hawk is loyal only to you. Even without shared language, you understand its cries as it keeps watch, scouts and swoops to attack foes.
Attacks/defence DR10 (claws/bite D4) HP 8. |

4. Wretched Royalty

BOWED DOWN ONLY BY THE MEMORIES of your own lost glory, you could never submit to anyone else. Not you, of noble blood!
(Not that you expect these peons to understand the depths of your sorrow.)

Begins with 4D6 10s and D2 Omens. HP: Toughness + D6.

THINGS WERE GOING SO WELL, UNTIL... (D6)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | your Wästland palace was reduced to rubble. |
| 2 | your caravan kingdom of Tveland fell into penury. |
| 3 | King Fathmu IX's brother Zigmund, your father, was murdered. |
| 4 | the southern empire of Südglans sank into the sea. |
| 5 | Anthelia demanded a gift of noble blood. |
| 6 | two young princes were kidnapped west of Bergen Chrypt and disappeared into the black crevasse of the eastern slopes. |

PAINFULLY AVERAGE, you adjust no abilities. Roll a D8 on the weapons table. Roll a D4 on the armor table but reroll if you receive heavy armor.

YOU BEGIN WITH TWO OF THE FOLLOWING (D6):

- 1 **THE BLADE OF YOUR ANCESTORS:** This magnificent and clearly magical talking sword is foppish, unreliable and quietly despises you. It taunts your failures and, if continually disappointed, develops a 1 in 6 chance to ‘accidentally’ attack you or your companions. Deals D6+1 damage. Attack/Defence DR is 10.

- 2 **‘POLTROON’ THE COURT JESTER:** While practically useless, personally irritating and an emotional drain, Poltroon’s capering actually makes enemies lose their focus in combat. For the first two rounds you and your allies get +2 on attack/defence.

- 3 **BARBARISTER THE INCREDIBLE HORSE:** Barbarister is magical, intelligent, arrogant and vain. He can also talk. If you can persuade him to care, Barbarister occasionally adds +2 to Presence tests involving logic and intellect. The horse may be smarter than you and is quite aware of this.

- 4 **HAMFUND THE SQUIRE:** This intensely cowardly servant acts only as guardian for the scabbard of the cursed sword Eureka. Once per combat, if Ham can be found, Eureka may be drawn. The sword does 2D6 damage, and for every swing of Eureka roll a D6. On a 1 the squire is slain and Eureka vanishes forever.

- 5 **THE SNAKE-SKIN GIFT:** An expensive sandalwood box bound in snakeskin. It contains a seemingly ordinary dagger, wrapped in silk. The dagger does D4 damage but on a 1 the target dies immediately of deadly poison weeping from the blade.

- 6 **HORN OF THE SCHLESWIG LORDS!** Once per day release a blare from this dented old trumpet and test Presence DR12. One creature may make their next non-combat test an automatic success.

5. Heretical Priest

HUNTED BY THE TWO-HEADED BASILISKS of the One True Faith, this heretic can be found raving in ruins, traipsing endlessly down dusty roads and desecrating cathedrals by night.

Begins with 3D6 × 10s and D4 Omens. HP: Toughness + D8

UNHOLY ORIGINS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Galgenbeck, near the cathedral of the Two-Headed Basilisks. |
| 2 | Massacred Alliáns cult, sole survivor. |
| 3 | The crypts of Grift. |
| 4 | Temple ruins in the Valley of the Unfortunate Undead. |
| 5 | One of the many Graven-Tosk thief-tunnels. |
| 6 | Secret Bergen Chrypt church. |

ABILITIES

INSIGHTFUL, roll 3D6+2 for Presence. FRAIL, roll 3D6-2 for Strength. Roll a D8 on the weapons table and may use Powers while wearing medium armor.

YOU BEGIN WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING (D6):

-
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | SACRED SHEPHERD'S CROOK: Its head a hook of human bone inscribed with overlapping anti-prayers. This crook hooks through other worlds. Staff does 2D4 damage except to faithless humans. |
|---|--|
-
- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 | STOLEN MITRE: While wearing this holy hat the priest's vile body fades, becoming hard to hit in combat (Defence DR10). If pulled over the ears outside of battle the priest becomes nearly invisible, testing stealth against DR8. |
|---|--|
-
- | | |
|---|--|
| 3 | LIST OF SINS: A long and accurate document cross-referenced against reality to discover unseen evil-doers. Successful Presence DR10: A strange light surrounds evil creatures. The list's owner defends with +2 against any being discovered this way. |
|---|--|
-
- | | |
|---|---|
| 4 | THE BLASPHEMOUS NECHRUBEL BIBLE: So intensely blasphemous even the Priests themselves can only peruse it once per day. When read, roll a die. Even result: For the rest of the day PCs heal D4 HP after just five minutes of rest. Odd result: The priest is plagued by demonic hallucinations. The DM may invent D3 things that only the Priest can see and describe them to the player as if true. This effect ends with sunrise. |
|---|---|
-
- | | |
|---|--|
| 5 | STONES TAKEN FROM THEL-EMAS' LOST TEMPLE: Cast the stones on the ground. Their pattern reveals if danger lurks in an adjacent room. The stones can lie. The priest tests Presence DR10 to see if they are true but after failing they cannot test again until the sun has set. |
|---|--|
-
- | | |
|-----|--|
| 666 | (WRONG JESUS) CRUCIFIX: The crucifix can be used in encounters with the undead as well as lesser trolls and goblins. Check morale (add or subtract the priest's Presence modifier) to see if the creatures bow and kindly remove themselves. |
|-----|--|
-

6. Occult herbmaster

BORN OF THE MUSHROOM, raised in the glade, watched by the eye of the moon in a silverblack pool.

Begins with 2D6 × 10s and D2 Omens. HP: Toughness + D6

PROBABLY RAISED IN (D8)

1–3 calm isolation in the Sarkash dark.

...BUT MAY ALSO COME FROM

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4 | the illegal midnight markets of Schleswig. |
| 5 | the heretic isle of Crëlut, two nautical miles east of Grift. |
| 6 | the old frozen ruins not far from Alliáns. |
| 7 | a little witches cottage in Galgenbeck. |
| 8 | the ruins of the Shadow King's manse, thick with memories of mushrooms and smoke. |
-

ABILITIES

TOUGH AS WOOD, roll 3D6+2 Toughness. LOW IN PROTEIN, roll 3D6–2 Strength. Roll D6 on the weapons table and D2 on the armor table. You carry a PORTABLE LABORATORY and continually search for frequently expended ingredients. Daily you have the materials to create two randomly determined decoctions and can brew a total of D4 doses. If unused they lose vitality after 24 hours.

OCCULT HERBMASTER DECOCTIONS (D8)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | RED POISON: Toughness DR12 or -D10 HP. |
| 2 | EZUMIEL'S VAPOR: Pass a DR14 test or severe (and arguably fun) hallucinations for D4 hours. |
| 3 | SOUTHERN FROG STEW: Vomit for D4 hours, pass a DR14 test or you can do nothing else. |
| 4 | ELIXIR VITALIS: Heals D6 HP and stops infection. Can be habit-forming. |
| 5 | SPIDER-OWL SOUP: See in darkness, climb on walls for 30 minutes. |
| 6 | FERNOR'S PHILTRE: Translucent oil, must be dabbed right into the eye. Heals infection and gives +2 on Presence tests for D4 hours. |
| 7 | HYPHOS' ENERVATING SNUFF: Berserk! Two attacks per round but defend with DR14. Lasts one fight. Must be snorted, causes sneezing. |
| 8 | BLACK POISON: Toughness DR14 or -D6 HP and blinded for one hour. |

Creatures

Seth, Goblin

HP 6 Morale 7 Ropy skin -D2 Knife/shortbow D4

Special: Quick, attacks and defence are DR14.

ALL GOBLINS CARRY A CURSE. Once like you, they are now trapped in the prison of their crazed goblin flesh. Only their eyes reveal the truth: a ruined mind watching its body-prison perform terrible deeds. Even being attacked by goblins sends the curse, carried on the winds of their hate. Hit or miss, it doesn't matter. In the dark of Sarkash they shoot at passers-by with twanging bows. You must find and kill the goblin before your mind is paralyzed. If the cursecarrying creature still lives D6 days after the attack, you will warp irrevocably into one yourself. Then, only the dark of Sarkash will hide you.

Head 7s Captured 150s Dead 20s

Bent, Scum

HP 7 Morale 8 No armor Poisoned knife D4 + special

Special: Poisoned knife. Test Toughness DR10 or become infected.

THERE ARE FEW FIENDS MORE FELL than poverty or monsters more powerful than hate. In this stricken world, the slums and black alleyways are fecund scum, mothering countless abhorred miscreants. The PC with the highest Presence makes a DR14 test at the start of battle. Failure means a random party member is automatically hit with a cowardly backstab-normal damage +3.

Captured 50–120s (wanted, serious crime)

Dead 20–70s (wanted, serious crime)

Zukuma, berserker

HP 13 Morale 9 Hardened skin -D2

Wields (D4)

1	Long flail D8
2	Heavy mace D6
3	Chained sword D6
4	Huge warhammer D10

THEY'RE ON YOU! As if from nowhere, a frenzied ambush in dusty hallways and from behind the stacked black stones of catacombs. Special Attacks twice per round but doesn't have time for defence (DR10 to hit them).

Dead 20s Captured 55s Blood, per litre 3s

Wrat, Wraith

HP 15 Morale – No armor Touch D4 + special

Special: Swift, elusive and difficult to hit (DR14).

THESE SOUNDLESS PHANTOMS always win initiative. Their touch drains Strength, Presence and Agility by 1 for the duration of the fight.

Captured 120s Skull 70s Ectoplasm 25s

Belze, blood-drenched skeleton

HP 7 Morale 8 No armor Shortsword D4 or Knife D4

Bony knuckles D2

Special: Skulks about, impossibly soundless. Attacks by surprise.

CAN MIMIC VOICES to lure victims, but can only repeat what it has heard. Attacks on them with piercing weapons are DR14. Any strike doing 5 or more damage destroys the skeleton completely.

Captured 35s Destroyed 7s

Lich, Undead (weak) necromancer

HP 15 Morale – Barrier (necro) -D4 Strike D6 + special

Special: Paralyzing touch (Presence DR14 every round to break free).

NO ONE CAN USE POWERS near this anti-magical wound in reality. Every round they can steal the contents of a nearby scroll and use this Power against its owner.

Captured 200s Remains 130s Skull 100s

Arbint, Troll

HP 32 Morale special Thick hide -D2 Fist 2D6

Special: Easy to hit; attacks are DR10.

COWARDS DESPITE THEIR SIZE. Usually retreat if badly wounded. Never forget who hurt them. They grow larger during the healing process and will definitely come back, stronger than before. Any HP healed is added to their maximum HP. Every time they return, add another D6 to their damage.

Captured 200s Corpse 70s Horn 25s

Nodh, zombie

HP 7 Morale – Leather scraps -D2 Claw/bite D2 + special

Special: Anyone bitten tests Toughness DR8 or dies within two days before rising as a zombie. The only cure or vaccine is said to be found at the peak of a pale mountain within an infinitely-miserable forest of dark leaves.

KING FATHMU IX OF WÄSTLAND in particular seeks this cure and knows the name and location of the forest which the mountain overlooks.

30s Captured 5s Blood, per litre

Lady Porcelain, undead doll

HP 11 Morale – Porcelain -D2 Claws/piercing bite D4

IN TVELAND relic thieves, defamers and corrupt clerks suffer a punishment of exquisite and deeply impractical cruelty. Their children or grandchildren are enclosed in porcelain dolls then placed in cathedral windows, to die slowly of starvation and heat. Despite warding rituals, many return as vengeful undead, often gathering in large throngs to hunt their tormentors. Their mad gaze demands a Presence DR12 test at the start of combat to avoid being frozen with fear for D4 rounds.

Head 20s Captured 80s

Thinx, Grotesque

HP 18 Morale – Clay/stone –D6 Claws D6 or Eye-beam D8

LURKING ROUND CHURCHES, stalking graveyards, creeping closer when you look away. Disturbingly still, difficult to discern against gray stone and hard to recognize even when seen. They move slowly and are easy to hit (DR10).

Their terrifying gaze is used on 1–2 on a D6 each round.
Always hits.

Captured 190s Dead (intact) 100s Dead (in pieces) 10s

Aland, Wickhead knife-wielder

HP 10 Morale 7 No armor Knife with dried blood D4

SNEAKS UP BEHIND ITS VICTIMS, silent as the grave. Skulks around the cities' outskirts and the thickets of Sarkash. 25% chance wounds from the insanely filthy knife become infected.

Special: Can magically douse all nearby light sources, ignite its own blinding light and attack. Then vanish into the darkness.

Captured 60s Decapitated lantern 15s Corpse 20s

Eulotha, Wyvern

HP 25 Morale 10 Thick hide -D4 Bite/Sting D6

Special: 60% chance that she bites. The tail's venomous sting can paralyze a victim. Test Toughness DR14 to avoid one painful hour of paralysis.

WHERE THE WYVERN FLY CROPS DIE

200s Captured 100s Corpse 60s Poison gland 60s Tail spike

Outcasts (followers)

MONEY MIGHT CROSS HANDS but these weirdos don't cost silver to hire. Vagrants and refugees driven by loneliness, they just want somewhere to belong. Which is exactly why they often break into a run and disappear, usually at the most critical moments.

The GM makes a morale check from time to time (succeed and the outcast stays) and adds the group's highest Presence to the roll. The GM should also consider whether or not the group provides the outcast with the things he/she/it values.

I. Earthbound

HP 8 Morale 7 Leather -D2 Staff/Femur D4

THESE FREAKS ARE ROUGHLY THREE PARTS HUMAN to one part dog. Society sees them as foul, diseased and disloyal for a carrier of canine blood. Isolation and contempt have made them self-reliant scavengers.

TRAIT (D4)

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1 | Arrogant |
| 2 | Quiet |
| 3 | Joking |
| 4 | Hypochondriac |

SPECIALITY (D4)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Excellent cooking (D4 extra HP when resting) |
| 2 | Finds the right path |
| 3 | Senses danger |
| 4 | Makes/repairs items |

VALUES (D6)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | Fireplace discussions |
| 2 | Praise |
| 3 | Endless tasks |
| 4 | Items as payment |
| 5 | Carnal relations |
| 6 | Diluted black poison |

2. Wild Wickhead

HP 10 Morale 7 No armor Knife D4

WICKHEADS ARE SOLITARY BY NATURE, but the wildest and vilest are cast even from that loose community. Wandering forests and rambling ruins, they take any company they can find. Fickle, suspicious and bad, you would be well-advised to keep them chained.

TRAIT (D4)

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1 | Grumpy |
| 2 | Apathetic |
| 3 | Careless |
| 4 | Moody |
-

SPECIALTY (D4)

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1-2 | Walking lightsource |
| 3 | Expert with a knife (D4+2) |
| 4 | Backstab (test DR8 with D20 rolled by the GM. Deals weapon damage + 3) Aside from their specialty they will carry up to five items. |
-

VALUES (D6)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Holding long monologues about oneself |
| 2 | Verbal conflicts within the group |
| 3 | Getting paid in sharp weapons |
| 4 | Burnt meat |
| 5 | Depressing stories |
| 6 | Captured slaves |
-

3. Pale one

HP 5 Morale 8 No armor unarmed D2

AS IF FALLEN FROM THE STARS the pale ones fit in nowhere.

This unwilling alienation makes them destructive and detached.

TRAIT (D4)

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1 | Bitter |
| 2 | Incoherent |
| 3 | Mute |
| 4 | Self-harming behaviour |
-

SPECIALITY (D4), ONCE PER DAY

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Create D2 doses of a random decoction (see the class Occult Herbmaster) |
| 2 | Create D2 doses Elixir Vitalis (heals D6 HP and stops infection) |
| 3 | Use one random unclean Power |
| 4 | Use one random sacred Power |
-

VALUES (D6)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Not having to use their speciality all the time |
| 2 | Cleanliness |
| 3 | Listening to melancholic melodies |
| 4 | A couple of hours alone in darkness |
| 5 | Wine |
| 6 | Obscure rituals with the group |
-

4. Prowler

HP 8 Morale 8 Leather -D2 Knife/Femur D4

Occasionally **filthy shortsword D4+I**

LAWLESS GOOD-FOR-NOTHING CROOKS banished from civilization. Low on resources, allies and basic decency they seek retribution ... and coin.

TRAITS (D4)

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1 | Lazy |
| 2 | Bragging |
| 3 | Liar |
| 4 | Traitor |

SPECIALITY (D4), DR8

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Disarm traps (you need to find them first) |
| 2 | Steal single items |
| 3 | Climb impossible routes alone |
| 4 | Finds trails and corners that keep the group hidden. |

VALUES (D6)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Payment in silver |
| 2 | Food |
| 3 | Gossip |
| 4 | Liquor |
| 5 | Pointless death |
| 6 | Getting the credit for exploits |

Even more reasons to risk one's life

WHERE DO YOU WANDER? (D12)

1	On the barren fields of Kergüs
2	In the centre of Alliáns
3	On a beach not distant from Grift
4	On a dirty Schleswig street
5	In the poor Wästland countryside
6	At the city wall of Galgenbeck
7	In the untamed wilds of Tveland
8	Near the Valley of the Unfortunate Undead
9	Pretty much lost in Sarkash
10	At the Bergen Chrypt tree line
11	Onboard a ship on the Endless Sea
12	In a forgotten part of Graven-Tosk

WHO (OR WHAT) CONTACTS YOU?

1	One-eyed woman who rules the thieves
2	Bureaucrat with enemies and no honor
3	Badly burned priest
4	Noble child said to see dark visions
5	Warrior that switched loyalties
6	Faint whispers from the crypt
7	Remorseful hangman
8	Tortured traitor
9	Reccuring vision in a horrid nightmare
10	Hermit mocked by the other cave-folk
11	Demented elder
12	Sacrifice who escaped a death-cult

WHO (OR WHAT) CONTACTS YOU? CONT.

13	Monk who was bitten at night
14	Unshaved mystic at The Paunchy Swine
15	Devastated mother dressed in white
16	Sailor too long at sea
17	Scoundrel covered in ulcers
18	Drunk seeress with no teeth
19	Restless soul by the name of Ghast
20	Terrified soldier with broken knees

ADVENTURE SPARK (D100)

1-2	The undead-riddled Valley awaits
3-4	Thirteen priests are missing
5-6	Wrongly imprisoned for murder
7-8	66 sacrifices are needed
9-10	Children missing at Lake Onda
11-12	Sinkhole swallows half of Schleswig
13-14	Sabotage an unholy alliance
15-16	The count goes insane at night
17-18	Hunted by bloodthirsty death-cult
19-20	Trapped by an earthquake
21-22	Verhu's prophecy is false!
23-24	Rumours of a cursed treasure
25-26	Kidnapped blood-wizard
27-28	A dead demon is resurrected
29-30	Every grave is emptied one night
31-32	Enormous cave system near Grift
33-34	The dead refuse to stay dead
35-36	PCs are selected for ritual sacrifice
37-38	Anthelia falls severely ill
39-40	PC dopplegangers go berserk
41-42	Take part in a holy mass burial

ADVENTURE SPARK (D100) CONT.

-
- 43–44 The entire kingdom has nightmares
-
- 45–46 Something has infiltrated the court
-
- 47–48 Artefact must be destroyed
-
- 49–50 Map the land in the west
-
- 51–52 Talk of an unexplored island
-
- 53–54 Gain the trust of a dangerous hermit
-
- 55–56 Find the way to Cube-Violet
-
- 57–58 Stop a Grift suicide-cult
-
- 59–60 Pardon a mad mass-murderer
-
- 61–62 Defend a fort from the undead
-
- 63–64 Steal a sarcophagus from a caravan
-
- 65–66 A fire threatens to devour Sarkash
-
- 67–68 Go to the land of the dead and back
-
- 69–70 HE demands a gift. See it delivered
-
- 71–72 Powerful elixir needs ingredients
-
- 73–74 Slave revolt in Galgenbeck
-
- 75–76 Mystical ruins are unearthed
-
- 77–78 They're coming out of the walls!
-
- 79–80 Three assassinations each night
-
- 81–82 Alchemist needs a living goblin
-
- 83–84 A strange ship ran aground
-
- 85–86 A weirdness leaves Bergen Chrypt
-
- 87–88 Seven women with black eyes
-
- 89–90 The icon's eyes have been stolen
-
- 91–92 The beast beneath the bridge
-
- 93–94 Movement in a black star's crater
-
- 95–96 Light from broken sewer gate
-
- 97–98 Children hum forbidden songs
-
- 99–00 Newly discovered path in Sarkash

One of the many Bedeviled Dungeons

DRAW OR FIND A MAP. Around 10 rooms is enough
for one night's session.

WHAT IS IT CALLED? (ROLL D12 TWICE)

	The	
1	Slaughter	pit
2	Death	church
3	Night	temple
4	Hadean	tunnels
5	Hell	crypt
6	Plague	grave
7	Sin	fort
8	Doom	ziggurat
9	Dark	den
10	Murder	maze
11	Torture	house
12	Slave	waste

STATUS (D6)

1–2	Still active
3–6	Inactive, because (d4)
1	The place was invaded
2	Everything ended in disaster
3	It was no longer needed
4	A Misery was fulfilled, roll to see which one (p. 10)

IMMINENT DANGER (D10)

1	Is slowly flooding with (d4): 1–2 oil, 3–4 water
2	Berserkers are appearing
3	Is about to collapse
4	Senses are being distorted
5	Underworld emissions of poisonous spores
6	A hunted cult intends it to be their new hideout
7	A terrible, dormant curse about to be unleashed
8	Fire is spreading from the deepest chamber
9	The gate will shut and seal, and not open again until seven days have passed
10	A lethal mechanism is about to activate

WHO OR WHAT DWELLS HERE NOW? (D12)

1	Animated suits of armor battling goblins
2	Nechrubel-worshipping lich with a skeletal court
3	Heretic cult lead by a possessed 11-year old
4	A vengeful cabal of undead porcelain dolls
5	Desperate thieves guild dying slowly of cholera
6	A meaty mass of slime, larvae and spider legs
7	Wickheads running from foreboding darkness
8	A Bark-Witch and her root-children
9	Four-legged pale gremlins stinking of dirt
10	Tergol's escaped experiment
11	Disease spreading ochre-beetles
12	Dissident courtiers dedicated to the occult

DISTINCTIVE FEATURE (D12)

I	Portal to the land of the dead, soon ready
2	Lab where corpses are assembled into golems
3	Black prism which twists all Powers
4	300 emaciated, mutilated prisoners
5	Blind hermit, firmly rooted in the ground, spreading his vile corruption
6	Bony remains of the Basilisk's spawn
7	Obelisk that separates body and soul
8	Rooms move around the dungeons center
9	High ceilings, whispers in the upper dark
10	Artwork affecting the surroundings
11	Ensnaring, intelligent plants
12	Giant pools of boiling tar

D4 D6 SAMPLE ROOMS

I	I	Inscriptions, the motifs are (d6)
	I	Vomit-inducing
	2	Terrifying
	3	Hypnotic
	4	Childish
	5	Teleportation causing
	6	Ugly and pointless
	2	Bloodied beds
	3	Flooded
	4	Leaning
	5	Stinks
	6	Fire damage
2	I	Obvious traps
	2	Full of blood
	3	Torture chamber
	4	Sooty walls

D4 D6 SAMPLE ROOMS CONT.

2	5	Freezing draft
	6	Creaking doors
3	1	Compact darkness
	2	Locked sarcophagi
	3	Shelves with (d4) 1-2 obscure literature 3-4 rotting food
	4	Abyssal pits
	5	Mirrors everywhere
	6	Ungodly yet exquisite chandeliers
4	1	Utterly silent
	2	Full of debris
	3	Sacrificial altar (d4) 1-2 cracked 3-4 fresh blood
	4	Remains of a throne
	5	Smoke-filled
	6	Bonfire in the center

Index

THE WORLD

15	Anthelia
10	Anuk Schleger
11	Arkh
10	Basilisks, the
11	Bergen Chrypt
17	Calendar of Nechrubel, the
10	Creton (order)
11	Endless Sea, the
16	Fathmu IX
12	Galgenbeck
11	Gorgh
12	Graven-Tosk
14	Grift
12	Josilfa Migol
12	Kergüs
11	Lusi
12	Nechrubel
17	Prophecy, the
12	Sarkash
14	Sigfúm the kind
13	Shadow King, the
13	Shadow King's Palace, the
12	Tveland
10	Two-Headed Basilisks, the
16	Valley of the Unfortunate Undead
11	Verhu
15	Western Kingdom, the
15	Wästland

CREATURES

59	Berserker
60	Blood-drenched skeleton
58	Goblin
62	Grotesque
58	Scum
60	Troll
61	Undead doll
60	Undead necromancer
62	Wickhead knife-wielder
59	Wraith
62	Wyvern
61	Zombie

RULES

27	Abilities
43	Arcane catastrophes
23	Armor
30	Attack
40	Bad habit
29	Broken (0 HP)
39	Broken bodies
17	Calendar of Nechrubel
28	Carrying capacity
30	Combat
21	Create a character
31	Crit
30	Defence
24	Equipment
50	Esoteric hermit
46	Fanged deserter
31	Fumble
33	Getting better (or worse)
48	Gutterborn scum
54	Heretical priest
63	Hirelings
29	Hit Points
31	Infection
30	Initiative
30	Melee attack
32	Morale
56	Occult herbmaster
37	Omens
63	Outcasts
34	Powers
30	Ranged attack
32	Reaction
31	Resting
34	Scrolls
21	Starting equipment
38	Terrible traits
28	Tests
41	Troubling tales
30	Violence
23	Weapons
52	Wretched royalty

Abilities and tests

AGILITY	Defend, balance, swim, flee
PRESENCE	Perceive, aim, charm, wield Powers
STRENGTH	Crush, lift, strike, grapple
TOUGHNESS	Resist poison/cold/heat, survive falling

TESTS

Roll d20 ± ability equal to or greater than DR to succeed. Creatures don't add any ability, only roll an unmodified d20 against the DR.

DIFFICULTY RATINGS (DR)

6	incredibly simple
8	routine
10	pretty simple
12	normal
14	difficult
16	really hard
18	should not be possible

Adventuring

REACTION (2D6)

2-3	Kill!
4-6	Angered
7-8	Indifferent
9-10	Almost friendly
11-12	Helpful

REST

Catch breath	heal d4 HP
A night's sleep	heal d6 HP

Infection: No healing when resting. Take d6 damage each day.

MORALE (2D6)

If you roll over the creature's Morale, d6:
1-3 Flees
4-6 Surrenders

ROLL MORALE IF

†	The leader is killed
†	Half the group is eliminated
†	Lone enemy has 1/3 HP left

Powers / scrolls

AMOUNT PER DAY

A PC can use their Powers a total of **Presence + d4** times per day. Roll the total amount every day.

WIELD A POWER

Make a **Presence DR12** test. Failure means the Power doesn't work and the caster takes d2 HP damage, becomes dizzy for an hour and cannot use Powers during that time. For fumbles, see page 43.

Combat

INITIATIVE D6:

1-3	Enemies begin
4-6	Player Characters begin

individual: **Agility + d6**

TEST

Melee	DR12 Strength
Ranged	DR12 Presence
Defence	DR12 Agility

CRIT (NATURAL 20)

Attack: ×2 damage, armor/protection reduced one tier.
Defence: PC gains a free attack.

FUMBLE (NATURAL 1)

Attack: Weapon breaks or is lost.
Defence: PC takes double damage, armor is reduced one tier.

ARMOR TIERS:

1. Light	-d2
2. Medium	-d4 +2 DR Agility tests
3. Heavy	-d6 +4 DR Agility tests, Defence +2 DR

BROKEN (0 HP) D4:

- 1 Fall unconscious for d4 rounds, awaken with d4 HP.
- 2 Roll a d6: 1-5 = Broken or severed limb. 6 = Lost eye. Can't act for d4 rounds then become active with d4 HP.
- 3 Haemorrhage: death in d2 hours unless treated. All tests are DR16 the first hour. DR18 the last hour.
- 4 Dead.