





NO.NAMEDESCRIPTION1The DragonThe Dragon is a flying train without stations or safety me sures that continually weaves through buildings on an ol but seemingly repeating loop throughout the city. Not the way to get anywhere, but will get you where you want to a eventually.2BenjaminDespite appearing to be a clocktower on the outside, Ben is the home of the Church of the Two-Faced—a sect who constantly-worn masks resembling clock faces at 12:00, 6:00, or 9:00.3The PyramidOnce every seven months, the Pyramid unfurls like a flow a massive concert arena in order to host a week-long fes The rest of the year it is wholly inaccessible.4DualityThe Duality is home to two constantly-feuding gangs figh for turf—the Hatfields and McCoys. Once inside the built though, which side is which is hard to tell, with each gar attire varying only slightly in hue and style.5The PenthousesIronically named, the Penthouses make up a tall, vertical where people who can't or won't work with the corporatio live. It's somewhat self-sufficient, with UV grow rooms, a distillery, and a crematorium.6PrismaticIlluminated solely by ambient light, each jagged edge of matic collects faint scraps of sunlight and surrounding r and feeds them throughout the building.7RedwoodOne of a few such buildings scattered across the city, Re is a hollow shell containing a strange redwood forest. So build tents amongst the branches.8The AeryFloating high above the rest of the city, the Aery is a susp collection of hydroponic farms and recycling plants.		CITY KEY	CITY
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9 Westerly Designed to act as a hangar of sorts for hovertaxis, West now mostly abandoned. Technology and upkeep ended up too expensive.		nov	9
10 Smokestacks Smokestacks is a factory of sorts, with the bottom floors repackaging 'new' decks to put back into the market. A c pipe rises above the rest of the building and constantly v unexplained smog.	It back into the market. A central	rep pip	10

#### DANCING WITH BULLETS UNDER & NEON SUN

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PHILLIPS + LEICHTY + GALLAGHER

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This is a game set in a city. You were born in this city and you will die there, as your parents did and your kids will after you (if you have any). There isn't a way out—it's impossible. Your goal is to grab as much cash as possible before the city's concrete jaws snap shut on you and your dreams.

Dancing With Bullets Under a Neon Sun is best run with four to seven players, one of them acting as the Admin. The Admin controls the events within the city as well as any characters not controlled by the players (non-player characters or NPCs).

**Throughout this book, dice are notated in the following form: XdY+Z.** X is the number of dice to roll, Y is the size of the dice, and Z is the number to add to the sum of the dice. A standard set of polyhedral dice is a d4, d6, d8, d10, d%, d12, and a d20. Some specific rolls in this book may also call for a d2 or d3. A d2 can be a coin flip or an odds vs. evens die roll. To determine a d3, roll a d6: 1-2 is 1, 3-4 is 2, and 5-6 is 3.



Dancing With Bullets Under a Neon Sun's core mechanic is called a check. When a player character (or PC) attempts something with a chance of failure, you roll a d20 and check to see whether the result is equal to or below a relevant attribute. If you try to break open a locked door, for example, your Admin might require you to make a Might check. Roll above your Might attribute score and the door stays closed; roll equal to or below and you manage to force your way through.

If you have an advantage in a given situation—like the door already being loose on its hinges—you roll a d6 as well, adding it to the ability score you are checking for the purpose of the check. If you have a disadvantage, however—like the door being rusted shut—you simultaneously roll a d6 and add it to your roll before seeing if the result is beneath the relevant ability score.

It's also the Admin's decision whether a situation calls for a roll at all. If a task is so extraordinarily hard as to be impossible, even a successful check won't overcome it. Likewise, if a task is so easy that a chance of failure would be unrealistic, the Admin can rule a success at any time without a roll at all.

#### **OTHER DICE ROLLS**

Random tables and other specific situations often call for other dice rolls. For most random tables, simply roll the die specified in the table's top row and read the information marked in the row that corresponds to the die's result.

#### CHAPTER III: HOW DO I MAKE A **CHARTER III: HOW DO I MAKE A** Vou'll need a core of paper a nameil and a cot of disp. If you're feeli

You'll need a scrap of paper, a pencil, and a set of dice. If you're feeling fancy, you may even print the game's provided character sheets beforehand. You should have at least one on hand to reference during character creation.

- 1. Roll 2d8 and assign the total value to one of the attributes below. Repeat this process until you've filled all six attributes. If you roll 15 or higher, roll 2d6+1 not 2d8 for the next attribute value.
  - a. Might: Muscular strength and ability to resist physical harm
  - b. Agility: Reflexes and manual dexterity
  - c. Charm: Ability to convince others to listen to you
  - d. Intellect: Logic, knowledge, and reasoning
  - e. Perception: Ability to notice hidden or obscure things
  - f. **Tech:** Experience interfacing with technology of any kind\*

**MIGHT OR** 

INTELLECT

SCORE

3

4-5

6-15

16-17

18

HIT

DIE

d4

d6

**d**8

d10

d12

1.5

2. Reference your Might and Intellect scores to determine your hit dice. Your Might score determines your Physical hit die and your Intellect score determines your Mental hit die.

- **3. Choose a character class** and write down any special abilities.
- **4. Roll your character's starting resilience** as determined by their class.
- 5. Roll a d8 twice to determine a character quirk and a special belonging.
- 6. Spend starting credits as determined by your class on any equipment.
- 7. Choose a character name, appearance, general personality, and history.

8. Work with the Admin to pick three goals for your character.

\*Note: Tech applies only to interfacing with and understanding technology, not the dexterous use of tools. For example, aiming an electrogun would be an Agility check, trying to repair it before the people chasing you catch up would be a Tech check. Tech checks are called for when the main source of difficulty is interfacing with tech, like trying to hack a computer system.



## CONTRACTORS

Ex-military or ex-police that have turned to more illicit freelance work, contractors are unfortunately increasingly common.

### MERCS

Untrained professionals, mercs make up for their lack of formal training with ample amounts of can do attitude.

## PHREAKS

Anyone can connect to the Net, but phreaks' skills are unparalleled—leagues beyond their competition and bordering on the supernatural.



The physical embodiments of distant Al called puppeteers, puppets come in a countless variety of shapes and sizes, customized to the puppeteers' aesthetic.

## SHARKS

Expert con artists, sharks can get anyone to trust them right up until they're robbed blind.

SPIDERS

Spiders are burglars, muggers, and lockpicks, the first ones to see an advantage and the first ones to sneak out the back door when everything goes downhill.

## CONTRACTORS

Starting Resilience: 1d4 Starting Funds: 1d8×10 credits **Special Ability:** If a contractor successfully attacks an enemy while bloodied, roll the enemy's hit die twice.

100		
1D8	QUIRK	BELONGING
1	You killed your old boss after he dumped thousands of gallons of waste into the slum you were born in. Now some want the bounty on your head while others admire you.	An ancient, cartridge-based gaming system repurposed as a cheap deck. All visuals are rendered in low poly 3D.
2	Years of protecting clients from assassi- nation attempts has left you jumpy and untrusting.	A stylish pen that when twisted becomes a razor-sharp stiletto.
3	You listen to retro dubstep whenever you're not under immediate stress.	Mirrored sunglasses that pro- vide a basic heads-up display of publicly available data on your surroundings.
4	Your heart is an antique artificial replace- ment and has seen better days. Every heart- beat is accompanied by a faint grinding noise.	A cybernetic eye, constantly assessing your surroundings for signs of potential danger.
5	A while back you decided to only wear one specific outfit. You have ten identical sets.	A small, metallic scroll that when unfurled becomes armor padding.
6	You were alive before the creation of the Net and your brain has been transferred through a dozen generations.	A well-worn autobiography of a local revolutionary. All copies were supposedly burned decades ago.
7	You replaced your fingernails with telescop- ing razor blades (treat as monomolecular dagger).	A lifetime, all-you-can-eat membership card for a local chain of food vending carts.
8	You have a photographic memory and are an excellent artist.	An important corporate secret engraved on the inside of a golden ring in microscript





#### Starting Resilience: 1d6

Starting Funds: 1d6×10 credits

**Special Ability:** Mercs move their hit die up one step whenever they roll the highest possible result (an 8 on a d8, a 4 on a d4, etc.) but must reroll using their new hit die. If they roll the highest result on their new hit die, they do *not* increase the size of their hit die again. This cannot increase their hit die above its normal size. It is possible to increase your hit die a size and then instantly move it back down again.

1D8	QUIRK	BELONGING
1	You're deeply in debt (1d20x50 credits) to (roll 1d4): 1. The corporation that ran your birthing vat, 2. The cult you barely escaped, 3. Your bookie, who also happens to be your uncle, 4. The surgeon who saved you after a rough scrape.	A network of scars that create a map to an old stash.
2	You're friends with a top-notch accountant who can render your financial dealings untraceable for only 5% of the sum transferred.	An antique, non-magnetic firearm that doesn't need to verify your DNA before you use it.
3	You were raised by a mercenary group and there's a percentage chance equal to your Charm score that one will help you whenever you're in <i>serious</i> trouble. This chance decreases 1% after each assist.	A well-forged law enforce- ment charter.
4	You're extremely squeamish.	A false identity that resists all but the most in-depth examination.
5	Your hair is a mottled grey and fiery red. It resists all dye and other attempts to disguise it.	A small, single-shot pistol that can easily be concealed.
6	You have a favorite type of weapon that you use exclusively (pick during character creation).	A light, malleable armor that can be concealed under clothing.
7	A number of your teeth have been replaced by tiny containers, each holding a lethal dose of poison.	A digital skeleton key that has a 45% chance of instant- ly opening any standard lock.
8	Your eyes are mechanical implants. They creak and grind as your gaze swivels.	A small, pewter statuette of an ancestral deity. Very lucky.





#### Starting Resilience: 1d2

Starting Funds: 1d4×10 credits

**Special Ability:** Phreaks can burn points of their ability scores in order to perform extraordinary acts online; read *Chapter V: Navigating the Net* for more information.



1D8	QUIRK	BELONGING
1	Your skin has a metallic sheen. This is a conscious choice so you look more like the machines you love.	A gold-flecked crystal in the shape of a human brain.
2	Your skin is always damp and cold. Local children are convinced you're actually a zombie.	A well-worn paperback con- taining a variety of calming meditations.
3	Your eyes are too large for your skull. They bulge outwards, giving you a distinct appearance.	A pair of antique sunglasses that block out AR advertise- ments.
4	You compulsively hoard knowledge, reading and watching anything that comes your way. You have a 1-in-20 chance of knowing any trivia.	A tattoo that contains a sim- ple circuit (tells time, lights up, etc.).
5	You belong to the Cult of the Electric God, a society of like-minded anarchist phreaks. You can call upon them for help, but only in life or death situations.	A small sensor that tracks the source of data flowing through wires.
6	You are physically addicted to the Net. Going a full day without connecting causes a 1d4 cumulative deduction from your Might. This penalty goes away when you next plug in.	A ratty backpack with a dozen hidden pockets and compartments.
7	You require complete silence to use the Net effec- tively and carry noise-cancelling headphones.	A well-worn and well-sharp- ened pocket knife hidden in a jacket lining.
8	Emboldened by your skill on the Net, you have undue confidence in real life. This often gets you into trouble.	A set of spectacles with telescoping lenses that can magnify anything up to twenty times.





















Starting Resilience: 1d2 Starting Funds: 1d4×10 credits Special Abilities:

- Puppets don't have to make Tech checks to interface with unsecured technology.
- Puppets don't require decks to access the Net. Read *Chapter V: Navigating the Net* and pick two modes that your puppet has access to.



1D8	QUIRK	BELONGING
1	You require regular transfusions of blood to lubricate your delicate, mechanical innards.	A tiny, pewter oil can that can hold up to three cups of fluid.
2	Your servos and actuators gnash together, causing you to cough up sticky, black fluid regularly.	A neat, silver locket with a long-faded portrait.
3	If you stay out in the cold for too long your joints seize up, ceasing all movement.	A microchip from the comput- er that created you.
4	You can never stop moving. If you do, your mecha- nisms wind down and leave you inert.	A proprietary screwdriver that is necessary to open you up.
5	Your eyes see spiritual—not physical—reality. You see everyone as they truly see themselves.	A pocket-sized copy of a robot-oriented religious text.
6	You are certain that you lack a soul and feel empty as a result.	A glass sphere containing precisely one million grains of sand.
7	Your mind is a copy of your creator's and you are unused to your mechanical body.	An external storage device containing all of the data that makes up your person- ality.
8	You long to experience life as an organic being— to feel, to touch, to taste, to smell.	A piece of scrap derived from a foe you bested long ago.



# SHA RKS

Starting Resilience: 1d3

Starting Funds: 1d12×10 credits

**Special Ability:** Once per session, Sharks can attempt a d100 roll equal to or below their Charm score to calm an enemy or befriend an acquaintance. If they roll above their Charm score, however, they escalate the situation or alienate their acquaintance instead.

1D8	QUIRK	BELONGING
1	You <i>need</i> to be loved by everyone you meet and are easily offended when corrected.	A master key card to your old workplace. It can be traced back to you and disabled if used unwisely.
2	You still have "friends" at your old corporate job and call on them once in a blue moon.	A lifetime supply of Octopus Trust branded cigarettes thanks to a fully-redeemed punch card booklet.
3	Back when you were flush with cash, you developed a drug habit that you now can't kick.	A journal with a gold cover and gilded pages.
4	You siphoned and squandered thousands of credits from your employer, got caught, and fled. They're still hunting you.	A revolver encrusted with synthetic diamonds and other precious gems.
5	You are accustomed to opulence and disgusted by anything cheap.	A collection of finely-crafted gloves in various colors and styles.
6	You have managed to keep your skin soft and sup- ple, not cracked and weathered like many people's have become under neon lights.	A souped-up lighter with an enamel painting of your face on the side.
7	Your accent and speech patterns are noticeably upper-class.	A pair of silver, half-moon spectacles with ornate frames.
8	You're a textbook egomaniac, valuing yourself above all others.	A collection of ancient vinyl records. They're slowly degrading over time.





#### Starting Resilience: 1d3

Starting Funds: 1d6×10 credits

**Special Ability:** Spiders can roll a Charm check once per session to contact a dealer, a fence, or some other such underground resource. This contact will agree to help them, but only if a price is paid or a favor granted. Any debts arranged will eventually be collected.

1D8	QUIRK	BELONGING
1	When stressed, you instinctively begin looking for an escape route, even if not in physical danger.	A tattoo marking you as a member of a long-defunct gang.
2	You'd never seen the sun until a few days ago and can't stop sneezing when outside.	A pair of shades that high- lights anyone looking in your direction.
3	Your eyes are different colors, one a burnt umber and the other a brilliant blue-green.	A vial of accelerant that allows you to light almost anything on fire.
4	You had your fingerprints surgically removed a few years ago and still pick at the scars.	A necklace made of old, metal coins with strange engravings.
5	You were part of a literal crime family but had a falling out. Most of your contacts are relatives.	A leatherbound book detailing an obscure religion.
6	You get a new tattoo for every successful job you pull off. Your skin's fairly empty, though.	A ratty, golden jacket that is more hidden pockets than overcoat.
7	You're devoutly religious and justify your crimes through that lense.	A copper box with a biometric lock assigned to someone else.
8	Your father was an infamous criminal and you seek to live up to your family name.	A faulty, forged credits chip that works 15% of the time.



#### PICKING GOALS

Goals are what motivates your characters, what keeps them going after they've been knocked down three times already and are getting up for a fourth. Achieving those goals are also significant benchmarks in your characters' growth.

During character creation, pick three goals for your character. Two goals must be external—tasks to be performed for someone else—and one must be internal—something the character wants for themself. All goals must be approved by the Admin and should include a brief explanation of why that goal is important to the character.

#### INITIATIVE

When a fight starts, first ask yourself if either side is being surprised. If so, whichever side is doing the surprising gets a bonus turn before you determine initiative.

To determine initiative, every player must roll an Agility check. Any player that passes their check takes an action before the enemies do. Any player that fails their check goes afterward the enemies have completed their turn.

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: INITIATIVE**

Alex's character Path, Jack's character Alco, and Kim's character Jane are ambushed in an alley by a group of mercs. Because they are ambushed, the mercs get a bonus turn, which luckily all three characters survive.

Alex rolls an Agility check—they get a 7, under their Agility of 18, so Path will go before the mercs. Jack rolls and gets a 12, over his Agility of 9, so Alco will go after the mercs. Kim rolls and gets a 14, under her Agility of 15, so Jane will go after the mercs.

#### ACTIONS, ROUNDS, AND TURNS

A **round** is a unit of time equal to about one minute. During one round, every single character involved in combat has a chance to participate.

A **turn** is a smaller unit time based on initiative. There are **three turns every round**—one for PCs who passed initiative, one for NPCs, and one for PCs who failed initiative, in that order.

An **action** is a single operation a character can carry out during combat. Typically, barring extraordinary circumstances, every character can take **two actions during a round**. Here are some examples of what constitutes an action:

- Attacking with a melee weapon
- Moving a short distance (about fifty feet) safely
- Moving a long distance (about one hundred feet), leaving yourself open to attacks
  - If you get attacked after moving a long distance and fail your Agility check in response, you must spend two resilience to avoid rolling a hit die rather than one
- Grabbing a piece of equipment near the top of your inventory

• Performing most tasks that would be resolved with a single check (cracking a lock, scaling a fence, etc.)

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: ACTIONS, ROUNDS AND TURNS**

Alco is in the middle of a gladiator-style duel with his nemesis. He moves a long distance with one action and then attacks with his other action, rolling a successful Might check but failing to kill his opponent. When his nemesis attacks him that same round, though, Alco fails his Agility check. Because he moved a long distance in this term, Also has to spend two resilience instead of the normal one if and still wants to avoid rolling and potentially reducing his hit die.

#### WEARING ARMOR

Armor grants you additional resilience points you can spend to avoid rolling your hit die. If you are wearing armor and have depleted its granted resilience, you can choose to have the armor destroyed in lieu of spending a point of character resilience or rolling your hit die.

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: ARMOR**

Monty's character Joseph has just been attacked by a mugger and hit with a carbon steel blackjack; he failed his Agility check. As a result, and because Joseph's hit die is only a d4, Monty chooses to try to avoid rolling it. Joseph is wearing a projective jacket but Monty has already spent both the resilience granted by the jacket and Joseph's resilience, so Monty instead chooses to have the jacket be destroyed so he doesn't have to roll the hit die.

#### HITTING AND BEING HIT

When a player is trying to attack someone else, they should roll an Agility check if they are using a ranged weapon and a Might check if they are using a melee weapon. If they succeed on the check, the Admin should roll the enemy's hit die.

When a non-player character is attacking a player character, the player character must roll an Agility check. If they fail, the character takes damage.

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: BEING HIT**

Kim's character Jane is running away from an e-cafe fracas, but the bruiser she insulted hurls a knife at her. She rolls an Agility check and gets a 16, over her Agility of 15, so now Kim has to determine if her character takes damage.



#### PLAYER CHARACTERS TAKING DAMAGE

All characters have two **hit dice**. For most, this is a d8. When a player's character is hit, they roll the hit die that the Admin says is more relevant. On a 1 or a 2, they decrease the size of their hit die by one step (d8 to d6, etc.). If they roll a 1, they also roll again on the new, smaller die. If a 1 or 2 is rolled on a d4 hit die, that character dies. This means it is possible (but not likely) for a character to die with one hit.

Characters also have an expendable resource called **resilience** which is determined. by their class and by the armor they're wearing. A character can avoid rolling their hit die by spending a point of resilience.

Characters' resilience scores only recover after a night's sleep. The Admin may require you to reroll a character's total resilience when it's recovered. Keep in mind, however, that this can just as easily result in a lower resistance score as it can a higher one. Admins may also require this reroll mechanic in situations where a restful sleep or full recovery is unlikely.

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: MENTAL VS. PHYSICAL HIT DICE**

Every character has two different hit dice: Mental and Physical. When fighting in the physical world (i.e. outside of the Net) you will primarily use your Physical hit die. The Physical hit die represents actual damage to your body. The Mental hit die is typically used in the Net, but can also reflect non-physical attacks in the physical world, such as direct sonic or neural attacks.

#### NON-PLAYER CHARACTERS TAKING DAMAGE

Non-player characters die whenever a one is rolled on their hit die, and decrease the size of their hit die by one step every time they are successfully attacked, regardless of what they roll. Non-player characters very rarely have resilience and only have one hit die, reflecting both Physical and Mental damage.

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: TAKING DAMAGE**

Jack's character Alco has a d10 hit die and has already spent their resilience. A greaser they double-crossed catches them by surprise and Jack has to roll Alco's hit die. His first roll is a 1, so he moves Alco's hit die down one size to a d8 and has to roll again. On the second roll is a 2. He moves Alco's hit die down another size to a d6 and roleplays a fairly serious injury as a result.



#### **BEING BLOODIED**

Any character is considered bloodied when their current hit die is a d4. When bloodied, a player adds a d6—a bloodied die—to any check their character makes. If an enemy is bloodied and rolls a 1 on an attack roll, they attack with their last breath. Any damage is still dealt but the enemy dies in the process.

Being "bloodied" may not actually mean losing blood in the game's fiction. A bloodied character is always on the edge of total failure, though, and they know it.

#### MECHANICS IN PLAY: BEING BLODDIED

Alex's character Path is bloodied, is being chased, and is desperately attempting to bypass a warehouse lock to hide. They roll their standard d20 for the Tech check as well as the bloodied die, a d6. The d20 comes up an 8, but the bloodied die rolls a 6.8 + 6 = 14, over their Tech score of 12. They fail the check and will need to keep running to try and find another refuge.

#### THE UPPER HAND

In the city, you won't be fighting for long if you aren't willing to fight dirty. Advantages can come from a variety of sources—cover, ambushes, research, or even taking an adrenaline shot. Any boost that could make a difference in success vs. failure can count as an advantage. Likewise, however, any poor positioning can be counted as a disadvantage.

When you have an advantage, roll a d6 and add it to the attribute score you're checking against. When you have a disadvantage, roll and add a d6 to your d20's attribute check.

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: UPPER HAND**

Monty's character Joseph is laying down on a rooftop, taking his time to carefully prepare his sniper rifle to knock off the Heaven Motors president, so he has an advantage on this attack. His Agility score is 13, so he rolls a d6 and gets a 5, which means for the purpose of this attack it is now an 18. Rolling to attack, he rolls a 15 so successfully makes his shot!





There are countless companies in the city building the latest in security, the healthiest superfoods, the best neural interfaces—and it's all out there for the taking. Or, you could buy it too, I guess.

#### EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT

Every character has three main items they always have on them and can always access unless they've specifically been taken away (e.g. they were captured and searched). These three items are 1) their weapon, 2) their armor, and 3) their deck. Each character also has seven or more additional equipment slots, depending on their Might score. Reference your character sheet to determine how many slots you have. These equipment slots can hold additional weapons, back-up decks, additional armor, and any miscellaneous gear a character has picked up.

On your character sheet, each equipment slot also has a number next to it. This represents the number of actions it will take to dig that piece of gear out of your inventory in a high stakes situation. This loosely represents how a character has stashed items on their person and is meant to encourage inventory management, keeping some items in your inventory closer at hand than others.

#### WEAPONS

It's safe to assume that almost everyone in the city has a weapon somewhere on them. Professionals have entire arsenals strapped to their backs, though, swapping as necessary depending on the scenario. 1 in 10 weapons have a drawback—Admins may call for you to roll a d10 to see if yours is among them. Weapons are classified as either heavy or light. Heavy weapons deal damage if a 1, 2, or 3 is rolled on the hit die, not just a 1 or 2. When an NPC is struck by a heavy weapon, they will die on a 1 or 2, not just a 1. Ranged weapons have effective ranges. If you are aiming at a target outside of this range, you suffer disadvantage on your attack rolls.

WEAPONS					
1D12	NAME	RANGE (FEET)	COST (CREDITS)	HEAVY Or light	SPECIAL
1	Carbon steel blackjack	-	20	Light	-
2	Back-mounted gatling gun	50/300	1,000	Heavy	Rolls of 1 causes a misfire
3	Flamethrower	15/60	500	Heavy	Rolls of 2 causes an explo- sion (roll user's hit die)
4	Assault rifle	200/400	300	Heavy	-
5	Monomolecular dagger	-	400	Light	Can be easily concealed (advan- tage on rolls to hide weapon)
6	Submachine gun	50/75	200	Light	Roll hit die twice and use worse result
7	Revolver	40/60	250	Light	-
8	Automatic handgun	40/60	400	Light	Roll hit die three times and use worst result
9	Monomolecular katana	-	1,000	Heavy	-
10	Autoshotgun	10/25	750	Heavy	lf you roll a 2 on a hit die, roll the hit die again like a 1 was rolled
11	Sniper rifle	250/750	600	Heavy	Razor-sharp cast off from the ammunition cause another hit die roll a round later
12	Mispec laser	300/600	3,000	Heavy	Range halved through rain, smoke, or heavy dust

#### WEAPON DRAWBACK

1D6	DRAWBACK
1	Ammunition has been stockpiled by a greedy organization and is nigh impossible to get your hands on. Costs 1d8 credits per shot. Does not apply to katanas or daggers.
2	Replacement parts aren't sold anymore or were never made in the first part. If the user of the weapon rolls a 20 on an attack roll using it9, it becomes scrap.
3	The weapon has restrictive safety protocols and a password must be entered before every use. It can only be used every other round.
4	There's a tracking chip incorporated into the weapon that cannot be removed. It can be tracked by anyone with access to the manufacturer's Net presence.
5	Blinking neon lights adorn the weapon. It is almost impossible to hide.
6	Roll twice and combine results.

#### ARMOR

A good suit of armor can be the difference between a successful job and needing scrubbed off the concrete. 2 in 10 pieces of armor have a drawback that must be dealt with.

ARMOR				
1D8	NAME	GRANTED Resilience	COST	SPECIAL
1	Steel micromesh	1	1,000	Can easily be incorporated into or under everyday clothing
2	Ceramic plating	3	3,000	-
3	Protective jacket	1	2,000	-
4	Steel exoskeleton	4	10,000	Increases Might by three points, but reduces Agility by four points
5	Padded clothing	1	100	Can be ordered to resemble any style of regular clothing
6	Gel cladding	2	400	Audibly sloshes in response to sudden movement
7	Glass-steel armor	1	1,000	Practically invisible due to bending of light
8	Nanobot injec- tion	3	5,000	-

#### **ARMOR DRAWBACK** 1D6 DRAWBACK The armor is only effective against one type of attack (roll a d100, 01-49: melee, 50-1 98: ranged, 99-100: explosions) 2 The armor requires regular charging, roughly two hours of charging per hour of use. Without charge, lose all granted resilience. The armor is ineffective against firearms registered under law enforcement or a 3 private security firm. 4 The armor's protective technology leads to it stiffening during intense situations. Wearing it halves the user's Agility score during combat. 5 The armor includes an overly-helpful personal assistant. The difficulty of any task that requires heavy concentration is increased by two, but gain advantage on any task where a combination calendar-calculator-HUD would help. 6 Roll twice and combine both results.

#### DECKS

Decks are how you interface with the Net—mechanical spinal cords connecting organic brains to digital bodies. The kind of deck someone uses says as much about them as any other fashion choice, if not more. All decks have stock as a mode option unless otherwise noted. Reference *Chapter VI: Navigating the Net* for more details.

DEC	DECKS						
1D8	DECK	COST	MODES	SPECIAL			
1	Tapedeck	300	Dancing	Time in the Net must be accompanied by a persistent soundtrack			
2	The Diamond	1000	Ardent, Feral	-			
3	Razor	500	Feral	This deck does not have a stock mode option			
4	Splitter	900	Fractal	User's view is distorted and confusing but still passable			
5	555 Deck	700	Overclocked	A ticking emanates from the deck, compro- mising stealth			
6	Grandfather	600	Overclocked, Dancing	-			
7	Vender	250	Stock	1-in-12 chance of breaking after use			
8	Fusebox	300	Ardent	-			



#### GEAR

Gear is anything else you lug around in hopes that it'll help you out of a tight spot. In the city, it's always best to be prepared.

GEAR		
ITEM	COST	DETAILS
Adrenaline shot	100	Disregard any effects of being bloodied (does not work on puppets; includes positive effects)
Blast foam	150	A silver canister of a chemical that, when sprayed, expands 10 times in size before hardening
Blowtorch	150	Starts fires
Camera drone	100	About the size of a submarine sandwich and can quasi-accu- rately scan a large room in 10 minutes
Decoy projector	500	A small orb on wheels that projects a perfect holographic duplicate of its owner for 1d100 seconds
Digital presence	300	An exceedingly simple and shallow second identity
Digital thumb- print	80	A forged digital signature that can be used to frame someone for Net activity
Electromagnetic charge	2,500	Emits a directional EMP in a short cone that can brick a relatively small device, including puppets
Fabricator mem- bership card	100/ month	Membership to a tinkerer clubhouse with a fabricator able to manufacture/duplicate almost anything
Gas mask	125	Protects the user from tear gas and other potentially harmful substances
Grease	5	Render one small item or object (door knob, gun, patch of floor, etc.) nigh unusable
Heat-wicking paste	75/use	Disguises the user's heat signature almost completely
Holofilm goggles	75	Cheap VR tech intended to view cheap movies but can be altered to play any video
Inflatable dis- guise	75	A set of balloons that when inflated help disguise your body shape
Mirrored foun- dation	35/ appli- cation	A silvery, fractal makeup that confuses facial recognition technology
Musk spray	10	A strong-smelling substance that disorients scent-based tracking

GEAR (CONTINUED)			
ITEM	COST	DETAILS	
Net nook	100	A small, aluminum cube that expands into a coffin-sized cranny someone can use the Net in	
Pet robowolf	3,000	A chrome duplicate of a gray wolf that's perfectly loyal to its owner (dreams of electric sheep)	
Plasticks	250	A small glob of explosive, sufficient to blow through a cheap lock or make an unseemly hole in a wall	
Puppeteer housing	5,000	A nearly-indestructible titanium cube with enough processing and storage to store one puppeteer	
Rations	3	A cheap, disgusting source of protein and carbs that provides one day's sustenance	
Revolutionary mask	5	A common symbol of dissent used by protestors as to hide their identity	
Short-range radio set	60	Enables short, encrypted communiques between compatriots within 600 feet of each other	
Signal relay	200	Used to send short-range radio broadcasts an additional 100m and comes with adhesive backing	
Skeleton pass- code	200	Simple, off-the-shelf code that can bypass any super-simple electronic locks, door or otherwise	
Smoke bomb	25	Creates a giant smoke cloud that roughly fills a 10' by 10' by 10' area	
Softlight pen	5	A pen that releases single-use nanobots to allow the user to write in the air with colored light	
Sonic grenade	80	Provokes a Might save against a hit dice roll or single point of resilience within a 10' radius	
Spikes	10	Steel spikes and quick-bonding polymer used to impede ground vehicles	
Stun light	450	Provokes a Might save against being stunned for one turn	
Thermal goggles	400	Shows any visible thermal radiation	
Toy revolver	25	When fired, a bright red BANG flag pops out	
Viral spider	500	A small, code-carrying robot that can transmit a viral package through any gap large enough for an insect (must remain within 50 feet of operator)	
Voice modulator	100	A flesh-toned patch that, when applied to your neck, renders your voice unrecognizable as your own	

## 

The Net is one part marketplace, one part community, and a whole lot of electric heaven. Its technicians are as much scientists as shamans, conducting metaphysical energies across empyrean channels to commune with the Net without infinite loops or deadends. Using the Net is a transcendent experience that far sur-



paseses any of its technological forebears. It doesn't just contact far-off servers, it uploads your soul to the cloud, with all that entails.

Phreaks swim through the Net like fish while others doggy-paddle along. They can create programs essentially on the fly, instinctively writing code like a masterful jazz musician.

#### CAN I DIE IN THE NET?

Technically, outside of some incredibly nasty bugs and security systems surrounding the most classified secrets, you can't actually die in the Net. That doesn't mean you can't get messed up by the experience. If your digital self gets destroyed whilst in the Net, your consciousness immediately gets shunted back to your own body, where you are now in a comatose state for 1d6-1 hours. If you don't have any traps, defenses, or sympathetic allies set up to defend your physical self, you are left defenseless.

#### WHAT ARE MODES?

While in the Net, you aren't bound by the constraints of your body, but rather the limitations of your mind. Net users can also specialize in one of several possible options, or modes. These modes are typically determined by what deck you're using, although phreaks can access multiple modes and puppets have a small number of modes that they consistently have access to. Phreaks can change modes once at the beginning of each turn, while puppets must pick one of their available modes prior to entering



the Net (puppets do not necessarily have access to the stock mode).

**Stock:** There are no advantages or disadvantages to using this mode—your body in the Net is essentially the same as your physical body.

**Dancing:** Your body in the Net is ethereal. You have an advantage on any Agility rolls, but if you have to roll your hit die from an attack, increase the range that you decrease your hit die when you roll it by one. For example, if you have a d8 hit die, a 1, 2, or 3 will reduce the size of your hit die to a d6.

**Ardent:** Increase your Mental hit die by one size while in the Net (a d12 hit die will become a d20 hit die). Halve the distance that you can move with a single action, however. Successfully retrieving any item from your inventory also takes two actions.

**Feral:** Processing power prioritizes attacking routines over self-defense. You gain advantage on any attack rolls but cannot spend resilience to avoid taking damage.

**Fractal:** Your consciousness is divided across multiple digital fragments; a number of 1d6 hit dice equal to one half your Intellect, rounding down, replace your normal Intellect hit die. Each subroutine must be destroyed before your consciousness is shunted off of the Net. Roll all hit dice simultaneously when you are attacked.

**Overclocked:** Your brain activity is accelerated but loses precision as a result. You have three actions per turn but suffer disadvantage on all rolls.

#### **PHREAK ABILITIES**

Phreaks are able to temporarily sacrifice abilities in order to improve their performance in the Net. They can "burn" points from any ability score other than Intellect to decrease their roll on a check in a one-to-one ratio. If the phreak burns more than six points to improve a check, they automatically succeed. For every two points burned, a phreak must also roll their Mental hit die. When a phreak gets the equivalent of a full day's rest, roll 1d4 and recover that many burned ability points.

#### **MECHANICS IN PLAY: PHREAK ABILITIES**

Jane is a phreak who is attempting to bypass a password lock. She makes a Tech check and rolls a 17, 4 higher than their Tech score of 13. In order to succeed she decides to burn ability points. She burns two Agility points, one Might point, and one Perception perception. She then rolls her Mental hit die twice because she spent four ability points. She rolls a 3 and a 4, so luckily does not have to decrease her hit die size.


# EHAPTER UF FAINING EXPERIENCE

Characters advance by achieving the goals they chose during character creation. Every time a character achieves a goal they 'level up'. After achieving their goal they may add a new one, internal or external, as long as the Admin approves it. They don't need to immediately replace the goal, however, and can wait until their character has sufficient motivation to

> Characters cannot exceed level 10, and stats cannot improve above 19. You can only improve a characteristic at levels 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10.

pursue something new.



When running a game of *Dancing with Bullets Under a Neon Sun*, you should try to keep the following core tenets in mind:

## 1: Tech is not practical. It's super bulky, unreliable, easily broken, or insanely expensive (at least two).

Tech isn't just players' gear and their weapons, it's the flying hovercab that drops from the air like a stone, the Net interface causing hallucinations, the electronic lock that lets them in before they even attempt to pick it. A new piece of tech should never be the easiest solution to a problem. Or maybe a skeleton key code works, but it also leaves a signature, linking heists back to your gang. Don't make everything malfunction or break, but tech use should steer Ipayers towards hard decisions, not bypass them.

#### 2: Money is precious, but wallets are loose. Everyone is grifting.

*Everyone*—from a netblind beggar on the corner to a Hydra Genetics CEO—is working an angle. No one should be trusted implicitly. That kind-faced shopkeeper could be planting your fingerprints on every crime scene for fifty blocks. Don't make the players too wary of every person they meet either, though. Most people are just people, but when players start digging into a specific NPC, there should almost always be some dirt under the surface.

#### 3: Creating and altering technology is ritual, an arcane science known only to a few.

Megacorps pump out new products day after day, but it doesn't take the sharpest knife in your back to realize that most are the same product with a new coat of paint. Actual, radical advances in hardware come from a scant few savants, making them the subjects of constant corporate espionage and asset acquisition.

#### 4. Science and technology are arcane and inscrutable to the average person.

To an outsider, a scientist is nigh indistinguishable from a magician or alchemist. Anti-static clothing looks like a sorcerer's robes, complex circuit boards like summoning symbols. As technology has continued to advance, the lines between arcane ritual and actual scientific practice have blurred to the point that they're nigh nonexistent. When encountering new technology, try to describe it to the party as if it were dark magic that none of the party truly understood. These tenants are meant to permeate through every level of gameplay.

### **CREATING INTERESTING NPCS**

Most NPCs will only be briefly interacted with before disappearing from the story, but it's important to give them some depth nonetheless. To add some texture to the setting, try to give each NPC at least a single notable trait, whether physical or behavioral. Physical details can include interesting tattoos, missing body parts, cool cybernetics, neon hair, etc., while social traits include accents, obsessions, pets or partners accompanying them, or even just a notably different attitude from the last few NPCs the party has addressed.

### PARTY ADVANCEMENT

There are many ways for the party to advance, or "gain experience," without leveling up! Players can work to gain allies, create bulwarks against corporations, or use spoils from their exploits to assist people who have it worse than them. Establishing a home base also allows a party to store supplies for future missions, provide shelter for allies, and even carry out some subroutines while the party is away.

Here are a few other ways the party can advance narratively without leveling:

- Create a gang or collective
- Win back estranged friends or family from characters' backstories
- Cache favors they can call on later
- · Collect and protect an arsenal of specialized equipment

### USING ADVENTURES FROM OTHER SYSTEMS

Here are a few basic tips for adapting an adventure or dungeon from another game into a corporate network:

- Every room is a Net site
- Hallways are the equivalent of web rings containing links to related sites or databases
- Intelligent enemies are real people in the Net
- Unintelligent enemies are antiviral crawlers and active firewalls
- Traps are, well, traps
- Treasure chests and the like are data caches
- Value in gold pieces and similar currencies translate to credits one-to-one
- An enemy's translated Hit Die increases one magnitude for every 10 maximum hit/health points:

1-10: <b>d4</b>	31-40: <b>d10</b>
11-20: <b>d6</b>	41-50: <b>d12</b>
21-30: <b>d8</b>	51+: <b>d20</b>



### MANAGING CHARACTER GOALS

Character goals are a major mechanic in this game—they're how characters level up and are meant to be a major role-playing element in the game. As such, every goal should be approved by you, the Admin, before it's made canon. Here are a few guidelines for handling goals:

- Every goal should be a long-term endeavor. Make sure that any goal will take at least a couple sessions worth of preparation and execution. Balancing pacing also falls on you as the Admin, though. Don't be reluctant to place roadblocks in front of the goals as long as they're interesting complications, but try not to go more than a few sessions without someone achieving a goal. The most important thing is balancing character development across the entire party.
- Goals should be fun! Think of every goal as a potential plotline for an interesting film or TV episode. Heists, revenge quests, and even pursuing awards can all make awesome goals!
- Encourage players to wait some before deciding on a new goal after they level up. Resist the pressure to fill that blank on their character sheet immediately and empower them to discover something emotionally resonant enough to become a new goal through play instead.
- Occasionally subvert player expectations. If a character's goal is to get revenge on an entire company whose tainted medicine that killed a character's fiancé, maybe the medicine was actually tampered with by a specific individual. Try not to do this when too much emotional investment has been built up in the current vision of a goal, though. If a player is enthusiastic about the backstory they've built into a goal or conflict, work with them to really bring that story to life at the table, don't work against them.
- Accomplishing a goal should be the result of a well executed plan by a player or by the party as a whole. Ask your players for specifics on what they're planning so that you can work together towards an engaging narrative, even if the plan itself falls apart.
- Most importantly, goals are meant to be compliments to play and to the story, not detrimental. If it's hurting your game, feel to award experience as you see fit, leveling up in the same increments when a "level" is achieved.

### CHAPTER IX: RANVOM TABLES

### I SEARCH THE BODY Roll d100

01	Smiling Buddha head	Actually an SSD housing a vocal, but manipulative, puppeteer
02	2 Chromed dog tags	Neurochip emulation of a deceased, and very confused, contractor
03	Blood plasma bag	Half empty, labelled "O RhD negative," from a children's clinic
04	Blue neo-millipedes	Clear box of d6 bio-modified, hallucinogen-excreting bugs
05	5 Plastic statuette	Small, 3D-printed Nelson Mandela healing a blind woman
06	6 Roll of fine tools	Well-maintained breaking and entering toolkit
07	Worn gunmetal tube	Dented telescoping baton that's seen better days
08	8 Red polymer disk	Key commonly used in capsule hotels labeled Pod #242
09	9 Spool of fine cord	Light, durable spider-silk rope of exceptional quality
10	) Small wooden box	Contains a resin block of rich-scented incense
11	Black cigarillo	When smoked, gain prophetic glimpses of possible futures
12	2 100ml camo spray can	Aerosol-delivered anti-laser mist for disrupting beam weapons
13	8 Roll of glo-stickers	Variety of self-adhesive and glowing animated emojis
14	Black 250ml bottle	Flask of Moskovskoya vodka, only half full
15	5 Baggie of pink hex-pills	d6 doses of a potent Hyperdex (+1 to Perception checks)
16	6 Onyx cell phone	Can only contact those who've died in the net
17	7 Stolen, silver credit card	Not the same name as the holder (2d6 uses remain)
18	Bulky camo goggles	Military-grade smart goggles, can toggle through visual spectrums
19	Okuda mood console	Triggers any desired emotional state via a plastic electrode 'tiara'
20	) Matte-black lozenge	Palm-sized audio/visual drone (requires new charger)
21	Small bodycam	Memory reveals meeting with prominent shark just hours ago
22	2 Plastic envelope	Keycard and address for very private, very hidden cyber clinic
23	B Pad of Post-its	Luminous paper daubed with kanji script to ward off evil spirits
24	Neon yo-yo	Comes free with a Zippy Meal, plays the Zippy jingle when used
25	5 Police ID	Same name and face as body but an expertly crafted forgery
26	6 Hypodermic needle	With three vials of insulin and one vial of an opiate derivative
27	7 Human eyeball	In a clear, climate-controlled jar, with an address printed on label
28	3 Mirrorshades	Built-in AR filters and thermal-imaging option (looks bitchin')

29 Handcuffs 30 **DeStress Xpress** 31 **Hive patches** Wad of receipts 32 33 Foil sachet 34 Visitor-access chip 35 Durable glass vial 36 Necklace 37 Cosmetics kit 38 Kawaii plastic doll 39 Gun Jesus rosary 40 Quivering wet organ 41 Battered e-cig 42 Cheap De Santo phone 43 Wristwatch 44 Cigarettes 45 Power bank 46 Blister pack of pills 47 Antique data-goggles 48 Penlight 49 Hefty plastic cowl 50 Thumb-sized fob 51 Dragon-handle knife 52 **Oversized monocle** 53 Electric golden whistle 54 **Digital tarot console** 55 Plastic atom model 56 Aluminium pot

With electro-mag locks and charges that explode if tampered with d6 anti-anxiety capsules laced with tracking nanotech d6+1 sticky-glands that access a hive-mind network when worn For an expensive neural backup, uploaded just yesterday DNA-eating nano-gel designed to destroy forensic evidence For a dome-covered gated community (good for next d3 days) Contains a live, venomous arachnid and eggs (not a natural breed) Silver chain strung with cybernetic fingers, each one numbered Wild, gaudy palette of makeup that confuses facial recognition Cutesy geisha figurine, good conversationalist, sings softly Worn prayer beads with a 7.62 bullet in place of the crucifix Fleshy, pulsing protuberance that can shoot barbed bone shards Liquid well contains 5ml of a previously unknown narcotic Disposable cell phone, still shrink wrapped (10 uses) Prohibitively expensive, bespoke craftsmanship, easily traced Two-thirds of a pack of Octopus Trust Lights and a Zippo lighter Worn universal charging device, initials JRS in sharpie Half-empty medication for virulently contagious skin condition Holds the ghostly form of a knowledgeable online spirit-guide Small torch held together with tape and bible verses Crude emitters project a devilish holo-mask over the wearer's face Emits an agony-inducing dog-whistle effect on puppets Chrome dragon handle with a glass-steel blade (+1)Eyes-up display projecting a targeting reticule (+1 to hit) Sends a beacon to all nearby transportation (incl. the Dragon) Animated and semi-sentient device the size of a VHS cassette Emits low-level heat, enough to boil water if submerged Nano-infused hair gel that allows color and style changes (d8 uses)

57 Unlabelled data disk Coded with a gunjacker routine for smart-weapon hacks 58 Shabby tantric interface Attaching electrodes during yogic meditation gives +1 to hacks 59 Worn notebook Handwritten ramblings on sacred geometry and mutable realities 60 Nine batteries Standard AA batteries, each painted with a different Nordic rune 61 Bronze ball Golf ball-sized sphere housing a neophyte digital familiar 62 Shower-in-a-can Aerosol of soapy water for hygiene on-the-go (d6 uses remain) 63 Sparkling popcorn bag Corn that when popped forms the shape of human faces 64 Plastic flavoring canister Contains chemicals that drastically improve any food's taste 65 Yellow plastic pistol Boxy with a uranium core, commonly called a 'cancer gun' 66 Silver cufflinks These expensive-looking cufflinks are fitted with holo-emitters 67 Fist-sized egg Revealed to be a dinosaur egg if incubated or candled 68 Balled-up fabric Morphwear fabric configurable to any cut/style Will reshape itself to users' desire (different utensil, etc.) 69 Rusty old spoon 70 Magni-goggles Unwieldy blue, plastic goggles with up to 1000x zoom 71 Incendiary capsules Releases volatile fuel and accelerants when thrown, pill-sized 72 Cumbersome gloves Wired gloves that allow the wearer to feel textures in the net 73 Perfume spritzer Delicately ornate and contains powerful pheromones 74 Rain poncho from a vendomat with some minor tears **Clear-vinyl** garment 75 Thin blue gloves Programmable textures mimic any DNA sequence 76 Foam beads Ziplock baggie containing colorful disposable ear plugs (4 pairs) 77 Foil unicorn Origami mythical beast made from thin tinfoil 78 Large bullet Laser-etched with the full name of one of your compatriots



79 Playing cards 80 Sapphire monocle 81 Tin dunce cap 82 Communion wafer 83 Silver polyhedral 84 **Violet lipstick** 85 White ceramic ring 86 Ten chrome fingertips 87 SMG magazine 88 Pale, wet, sinewy cord 89 Smiley-face contacts 90 Technical grimoire 91 Smooth white eyes 92 Single white glove 93 Methusaleh pack 94 Silver wire loop 95 **Building blocks** 96 Leatherbound deck 97 Jumpstart rig 98 Branding kit 99 Ancient data tape 100 Jar of metallic liquid

Feature animated images of people with uncollected bounties Allows wearer to see the ebb and flow of electromagnet currents Carefully-targeted electrostimulation grants +1 Intellect Placed on the tongue, triggers a backdoor Net link to Shadowland Compact data storage medium holding an outraged digital ghost Once applied, kiss a target to deliver a powerful neurotoxin Summons a ghostly holo-guide linked to a city tourism database Placed on fingers, delivers an electrical charge (roll hit die) Holds d10 Haunt-branded explosive rounds (roll hit die twice) Organic universal-interface cable that morphs to fit any port When worn, allows wearer to see streams of data in the real Digital tome jam-packed with detailed, searchable machine-lore Once implanted allows visual predictions of opponents' intent Supercooled to -200°C, runs on body heat Application brings someone back from the dead (once, with PTSD) Used as a garotte, razor sharp and functionally unbreakable Each is a simple circuit that when combined can form machines Functions as a standard OTC deck but decorated with occult runes

Applied to puppets, allows a post-damage reboot (once only) A blowtorch and metal insignia used to induct gang members Contains a virus from the early days of the Net

Becomes a silky cotton fabric when exposed to UV radiation

### CITY LOCATIONS Roll d100

01-02 Office block 03-04 Media village 05-06 Mega-hotel 07-08 Car park/Sky dock 09-10 Nanorganic growth 11-12 Religious structure 13-14 Gated community 15-16 Suspension bridge 17-18 School stack 19-20 Rusting tenement 21-22 Gallery/Museum 23-24 Luxury apartments 25-26 Multi-mall 27-28 Recycling block 29-30 Sky mansion 31-32 Prison pylon 33-34 Laboratory 35-36 Vertical warehouse 37-38 Arcology pyramid 39-40 Leisureplex 41-42 Trashtopia 43-44 Factory block 45-46 Underslum 47-48 Sleek stratoscraper 49-50 Pocket park

Rentable spaces for small start-ups and shady commerce Sweatshop conditions: racks of coders and meme-omancers Ancient & crumbling, sleek & hi-tech, or sleazy and worn Tiered concrete maze of poorly lit vehicle bays Writhes skyward, it's original purpose long forgotten Mosque, temple, Dataorthadox Church, or Gun Jesus cult Hyper-secure, old money keeps the masses out Road bridge slowly subsumed by makeshift homes Corporate education-as-industry; elite indentured learning Corroded and rain-streaked, they say people still live here Floor after floor of corporate approved arts and culture Elegant and oft engaged in a cold war with a nearby block A consumertopia where anything can be found (for a price) Re-purposes plastics and water reclaimed from organics Spacious grand manner and gardens built atop a skyscraper Inmate population toils for pitiful company credit Alchemic-techs create mad science for the highest bidder Company product stored in labyrinthine distribution towers Secure company ziggurat that employees need never leave Gyms, cinemas, arcades, and theatres cradled in neon Scavenger families mine this toxic blight for reclaimables Relic industry sustained by generational maintenance clans Compact shanty towns epoxied beneath roads or skywalks Mirrored and angular or a shard wreathed in video screens Walled garden with fountains/statues that crowns buildings



51-52 Slum-stack 53-54 Capsule hotel 55-56 Nightclub 57-58 Hydroponic project 59-60 Police precinct 61-62 Senior citadel 63-64 Drone hive 65-66 Low-rent depthscraper 67-68 Gigamarket 69-70 Canal/Drainage 71-72 Necropolis 73-74 Bunker network 75-76 Hospitality spire 77-78 Skywalk 79-80 Storage modules 81-82 Monorail station 83-84 Commercial hub 85-86 Militia barracks 89-90 Fuller dome 91-92 Data haven 93-94 Farm cylinder 95-96 Scrap yard 97-98 Power station 99-100 Government monolith

Precarious squatter-filled favela-tower growing skyward Rows and rows of compact, rentable pods; sometimes clean Myriad levels of perma-raves; the fun goes all the way up Entire buildings given over to wild, verdant greening Oppressive, fortified cylinder looming over the district Elderly enclave that's part nursing home, part fortress Thin honeycombed towers host the city's maintenance bots Subsurface habitation funnels that descend for miles Anodyne shelf-maze of gaudy food packaging and muzak Deep channels of frothy filth, coated in trash; bitter stench Skyscraper of the dead; row-upon-row of digital memorials Vast conflict-proof dungeonscape for a war that never came Neon-drenched shard of bars, restaurants, vircades, casinos Pedestrian walkways between buildings, drenched in neon Racks of rentable storage spaces served by freight elevators Elevated rail network held up by other buildings Car showrooms, chic fashion houses, bespoke fabricators Brutalist garrison keep designed as a defensible bastion 87-88 Autonomous manufactory Tireless robotic assembly lines with little human oversight A geodesic covers the district but no-one remembers why

The entire structure is a powerful server tower Crops and livestock entombed in a climate-controlled spire Vast swathes of old technology piled high and forgotten The puppeteer-controlled beating heart of this city district Secure, ominous, and featureless home to secrets and lies

### WHAT'S NOTABLE ABOUT THIS BUILDING? Roll d100 (or roll twice and combine results)

01-02 There's a hidden puppet commune within this structure

03-04 Home to a powerful Contractors' Guild

05-06 Conceals a hidden Church of the Holy Carcinogen cancer cult

07-08 A back rooms serve as a base for an illegal puppeteer dealer clique

09-10 The structure is tightly controlled by a criminal syndicate

11-12 In the basement you can find a group of gun whisperers-talented weapon-tech-adepts

13-14 This building is dominated by an insane puppeteer with its own agenda

15-16 An ancient and venerable clan of spiders lives and operates within the walls

17-18 There's a self-aware arcade machine that works as a powerful shark hidden here

19-20 Rumours claim a revolutionary phreak collective can be contacted here

21-22 A group of elite, wealthy mercs operate a Condottieri Club in the basement

23-24 Stitchers—illegal medtechs—work out of a former 'Zippy' fast food franchise inside

25-26 There are smuggler tunnels running between this and the neighbouring building

27-28 The upper and lower levels seem to be at war with one another

29-30 Some brave souls have erected a precarious tent city high on the side of the building

31-32 The building is adapting itself against perceived threats and holds the populace captive

33-34 Prone to power outages and vertical riots, while those at the top live in luxury

35-36 Rotting, with a terrible mold problem; even the residents are infested with fungi

37-38 Most people here practice free love, but divergence in thought is prohibited

39-40 The building is a null zone, regularly dropping out of the Net to residents' despair

41-42 Death's Head—a multi-limbed puppet warlord—claims this place; visitors must pay tribute

43-44 Festooned with prayer flags, but nobody knows who's doing adding them or why

45-46 Heavily guarded by white-uniformed Paladin Security goons for unknown reasons

47-48 The lines between the Net and the real here are dangerously blurred

49-50 Constructed from building blocks, the structure likes to 'redesign' itself at random



51-52 Swarming with camera drones who play games with the occupants' lives 53-54 Puppet-housing baroque statuary protects this space, animating against threats 55-56 The Dragon passes through a narrow passage cut into the centre of the building 57-58 Synthetic beings are deathly afraid of something residing within the structure 59-60 An experimental hierarchy of patricians, templars, and lowly serfs plays out here 61-62 A spirit trap-stairs lead nowhere, doors don't open, floors pitch, and corridors alter 63-64 A deep hum sends vibrations throughout the structure; some posit meaning in the sound 65-66 This building craves attention and will wake residents or distract anyone at work 67-68 Occupying multidimensional space, it's bigger on the inside than the outside 69-70 Poorly illuminated, the occupants live a troglodyte-like existence 71-72 Built from vat-grown organics, you swear you can hear its heart beating 73-74 Everything is grey—the walls, the windows, the people, the light... everything 75-76 Despite its outward appearance, this place is a vast library staffed by ancient cyborgs 77-78 The building's superintendent is obsessively protective and armed to the teeth 79-80 The air here is heavy and oppressive, causing rapid fatigue 81-82 Bathed in bright neon inside and out, you can't escape its maddening colours 83-84 An infestation of insects here is actually the bot distribution of a single puppeteer mind 85-86 Due to be redeveloped into corporate apartments regardless of the occupants' wishes 87-88 So large that motorized bubble-carts are needed to travel the vast interior 89-90 Faulty air-conditioning keeps the place at subtropical temperatures and smells delightful 91-92 There are only children here, what has happened to all the adults? 93-94 The Duct 33 Cognitive Collective (self-aware nanotech dust) rules with an iron fist 95-96 The interior is a labyrinth of pipes and wires; people say they see them move 97-98 This building can be sealed completely and possesses its own microclimates 99-100 Haunted by intrusive and bothersome pixel-ghosts who demand to be avenged

### SAMPLE NAMES BY CLASS Roll d20

Roll 01	Contractors Dominique Ryland	Mercs Mayumi Ito	Phreaks nROM
02	Abel Kane	Joe Panzer	i_am_root
03	Katya Kaiser	Solitaire Pope	False Protocol
04	Vikram Grierson	Omar Hurricane	Krypter
05	Eden Crawford	Monica Shears	Count Hackula
06	Antonio Paradiso	Caleb Moth	Edit
07	Phoenix Garrison	Redd Mercy	The Glitch Witch
08	Dugan Nash	Zahid Khan	Blank Doussant
09	Rosa Montero	Clarissa Blitzkreig	Interrupt
10	Hunter Vandervoort	Saigon	Random Mao
11	Echo Fox	Zaneta Zone	Slick Meta
12	Tracer Dayden	Boomzilla	Comrade_A.I.
13	Alicia Denard	Origami Coil	Difference Babbage
14	Curtis Takahashi	Nagamasa the Demon	ANOM4LY
15	Lorelei McKee	Fury Weyland	Infojunky
16	Aiden Odel	Volkovoy	Kabuki Hashtag
17	London Winter	Naomi Helix	Suboptimal von Meh
18	Milo Tully	Trent Steelneck	[default_user]
19	Amber Vance	Connie Splinters	Versace Tamagotchi
20	Elias Barnes	Ramirez Noname	Kompromat



Roll 01	Puppets Cassandroid	Sharks Clarity Jones	Spiders Maria Blaze
02	Hydraulic Dave	Lucian Goboy	Brother Oni
03	Five	Natasha Black	Lacey Shade
04	Plastic Bertram	Matteo Salazar	Dr Rizla
05	011010011	Bizi Boratsu	Cherry Colletti
06	Svetlana-9	Karoshi Burn	Skullboi
07	Numan	Olivia Go	Pixie Pak Ma
08	Sad Robot	Nathan Zero	Dante Tatters
09	Меер	Autumn Black	Innocent Nagata
10	Mao Tse Tungsten	Johnny Yen	Kontakt X
11	Gilgamesh	Equity Bennett	Vanity Von Glow
12	Sorayama Chrome	Jesus Chimera	Low Rez
13	Pixelgeist	Alexa Slant	Aurora Salvador
14	Killface	Benson Benson	Kafka Icon
15	Lady Probability	Nubia Ceesay	Jane Glitches
16	Atom Hammer	Papa Dlamini	Eezee Moné
17	Karl Sparx	Kaela Yu	Opus Jackson
18	Gigaton	Angel Michael	Chico Nightshift
19	Valentine Neon	Piper Van Der Meer	Cypher Washington
20	Shelley Prometheus	Twisted Victor	Romeo Cola

### PUPPET GENERATOR Roll d10

#### **Roll Frame**

- 01 Spideroid - Multi-limbed; unnerving, alien movements 02 Brick Head - Humanoid; head like a sensor-rich block 03 Chromer - Elegant; a durable mirrored shell 04 Plastibot - Cheaply molded frame; brightly coloured 05 Microcephalic - Massive body, tiny head; intimidating 06 Automata - Exquisite craftsmanship; etching, clockwork Pompous, condescending, fragile 07 Big-Dog - Energetic quadruped: buky 80 Rubber Dummy - Fake skin, endoskeleton: unconvincing No sense receptors, clammy, smells 09 Manga-Mek - Flashy, boxy; dynamic, dramatic voice
- 10 Doll - Artificial plaything; wide-eyed and chipper

### PUPPET QUIRKS Roll d20

- 01 Extra arms 02 Surprisingly political 03 Hates other puppets 04 Wheels/tracks/jump jets 05 Covered in charms and wards 06 Twitches, sparks, or smokes 07 Makes unreliable prophecies 08 Depressed
- 09 Has a hidden agenda
- Hidden weapon suite 10

#### **Traits**

Former espionage unit, cunning Hyper-aware, over-stimulated Coldly logical, red neon eyes, vain Scuffed, worn, has a fixed grin Combat veteran, gruff, humourless Fast, high-endurance, eager to please Honourable, athletic, likes swords Adorable, cynical, has bad habits

- 11 Degraded logic processors
- 12 Faulty actuators, moves spasmodically
- 13 Mistrusts people
- 14 Houses multiple conflicting puppeteers
- 15 Developed a single emotion only
- 16 Glitchy behavioural inhibitors
- 17 Spirit vision
- 18 Unreliable sensors
- 19 Piloted by a much smaller puppet
- 20 Philosophical genius



### CORPORATIONS Roll d100 twice (or roll once and read across)

		10 TES			
01-02	Falcon	Holdings	51-52	Sword	Security
03-04	Cherry Blossom	Incorporated	53-54	Mallory	Transnational
05-06	Exordium	Biotechnologies	55-56	Lazarus	Society
07-08	Haunt	Armaments	57-58	Octopus	Foundation
09-10	Dojigiri	Solutions	59-60	Kuang	Intercontinenta
11-12	Hydra	Global	61-62	Ameron	LLC
13-14	Echo	Industries	63-64	Ghost	Defence
15-16	Cortex	Enterprise	65-66	Zippy	Foods
17-18	Numan-Lloyd	Group	67-68	White Circle	Engineering
19-20	Heaven	Communications	69-70	Akashinga	Collective
21-22	Phoenix	Petrochemicals	71-72	Van Haastrecht	Manufacturing
23-24	Oracle	Motors	73-74	Entropy	Syndicate
25-26	Modus	Matrix	75-76	Cobra	Associates
27-28	Nexus	Genetics	77-78	Okuda	Corporation
29-30	Asterion	International	79-80	Bianchi-Wu	Partnership
31-32	Horizon	Medical	81-82	Spirit	Factory
33-34	Matsushira	Cybernetics	83-84	Virtuality	Trust
35-36	Osprey	Combine	85-86	Wagner	GmbH
37-38	Solaris	Aerospace	87-88	Manticore	Robotics
39-40	Duanzhao	Multinational	89-90	Black	Sector
41-42	Slide	Applications	91-92	Abdullahi	Shipping
43-44	De Santo	Orbital	93-94	Advanced Theory	Cooperative
45-46	Sagal-Carr	Systems	95-96	Maskirovka	Banking Clan
47-48	Charon	Complex	97-98	Monarch-N'kosa	Optics
49-50	Equation	Intelligence	99-100	Shinatobe	Energy

### FUNKY NET SITES Roll d100

01-02 The Akashic Regency - Users relax, play God, and hold ancient knowledge hostage

03-04 Vircade - Online gaming for real world stakes styled like an 80s arcade

05-06 Kernel Panic - BBS messaging system used by puppets confused by the ways of people

07-08 The Solitude - A virtual sensory-deprivation and meditation space of light and shadow

09-10 Hypernode - By-the-nanosecond celebrity gossip and entertainment news

11-12 The Glass Castle - Exclusive meeting place for ambitious sharks and executives

13-14 Flower Demon Sanctuary - Run by a criminal syndicate dealing in 'procured' goods and gambling

- 15-16 Sword Lord VII Ancient MMO dominated by 1337 teens and monetised through dubious sponsors
- 17-18 Mere Anarchy Grimy virtual tunnels frequented by anti-establishment rebels who want to burn it all down

19-20 tertiary\_infektion - Meeting place for phreaks with dubious links to the state apparatus

21-22 ReminEssence - Virtual environment where you can upload and experience memories in a central database

23-24 The Maker's Cult - A forbidding virtual underworld for a handful of religiously zealous puppets

25-26 The World - The online home and hiring hall for many recently discharged contractors

27-28 FreeNet - Open-source software and abandonware share-site

29-30 Counter-couture - Download the latest fast-fashion designs for easy fabrication

31-32 The Black Ziggurat - Oil-black rooms and labyrinthine corridors with esoteric software for sale

33-34 Moddy Body - Lively forum for body modification enthusiasts

35-36 Groovy Voodoo - Retro-70's meeting place for lonely hearts and emotionless hook-ups

37-38 CNH - City News Hub: the finest, most aggressive corporate propaganda under the neon sun

39-40 Inner Temple - Payments in cryptocurrency or personal data buy an audience with an algorithmic augur

41-42 Moodify - Users can experience any emotion or psychological state imaginable

43-44 FINDR - Puppeteer-driven search engine where they dig up what they think you want to see

45-46 Elastic Reality - Decadent, baroque playground for the rich and powerful where anything goes

47-48 The Water Cooler - Inane chatroom hangout for corporates and other wage-slaves

49-50 Molly's - A hiring hall, hangout, and arms dealer for mercs with an industrial-chic overlay

51-52 The Salt Traders - Art Deco hotel simulation dealing in trade secrets and creative accountancy



- 53-54 Life/Echo Digital memory insurance brokers and recycling centre
- 55-56 Proxyland Slick, members only VPN hub with rentable Net idents
- 57-58 The Jade Palace A great place to find obscure, technological knowledge at a cost
- 59-60 Third Eye New site that trades in counter-propoganda, hoax-busting, and identifying media manipulation
- 61-62 Tru-U Social-bubble media site where users' deepest secrets and fears are revealed
- 63-64 The Road- An atomics-scarred wasteland hellscape of rumours, tall tales, esoterica, and apocrypha
- 65-66 Pixelpedia Popular online encyclopaedia with a reputation for aggressive edits and trolling
- 67-68 The Winter Market Well-protected, black-market commerce popular with spiders
- 69-70 Echo Chamber Members vent into the digital ether and everyone else agrees with them
- 71-72 The Ministry of Cognitive Cultivation State-sponsored education and cultural indoctrination
- 73-74 Geppeto's Online parts exchange for puppets and techno-wizards
- 75-76 Shadowland The preeminent online nightclub for phreaks, "bring your wildest avatar"
- 77-78 The Neurocropolis Upload the soon-to-be deceased and revisit them after they've passed
- 79-80 Trance The best-known visual media hosting site
- 81-82 Gardens of Ynn Sumptuous, metaphysical, virtual wild space where users sometimes disappear
- 83-84 Spirit Mill Amateur puppeteer coders upload their latest work for upticks
- 85-86 The Nix A net space so thoroughly encrypted, and for so long, that no-one knows what it is anymore
- 87-88 GigShare Looks like a run-down, 20th-century railway station, buy and sell freelance services
- 89-90 Apex Union Fractal art and living sculpture fill halls where sharks do deals and build alliances
- 91-92 Johnny Self's Glitchy, pixelated trailer park selling new and exquisitely detailed identities
- 93-94 The Valley of the Kinks Ancient Egypt-themed virtual sin-shop where anything goes
- 95-96 SagaTown Perma-streamed virtual soap opera embedded with hidden algorithms to subdue the masses
- 97-98 NeoDelphi An ancient temple of contributive knowledge housing strange curators and living programs
- 99-100 The Datasea A well-coded oceanscape haunted by ancient and inscrutable puppeteers

OPERATION GENERATOR: PERSONS OF INTEREST Roll d100 four times						
Roll	Client	Desire	Action	Target Person		
01-02	Gang member	Wants to	Kill	Programmer		
03-04	Corporate aristocrat	Needs to	Maim	Ex-con		
05-06	Pimp	Must	Deliver to	Priest/cultist		
07-08	Thug	Plans to	Protect	Cyborg		
09-10	Prostitute	Forced to	Intimidate	Scientist adept		
11-12	Shark	Wants to	Escape	Bounty hunter		
13-14	Priest/cultist	Needs to	Monitor	Techno-wizard		
15-16	Business owner	Must	Smuggle	Contractor		
17-18	Mercenary	Plans to	Find	Spider		
19-20	Phreak	Forced to	Blackmail	Artist		
21-22	Scientist adept	Wants to	Steal from	Performer		
23-24	Сор	Needs to	Collect from	Media		
25-26	Mobster	Must	Pay	Designer		
27-28	Smuggler	Plans to	Assist	Unemployed person		
29-30	Bounty hunter	Forced to	Modify	Child		
31-32	Syndicate boss	Wants to	Record	Driver		
33-34	Concubine	Needs to	Threaten	Financier		
35-36	Techno-wizard	Must	Kidnap	Shark		
37-38	Contractor	Plans to	0wn	Fanatic/extremist		
39-40	Scavenger	Forced to	Defeat	Courier		
41-42	Agent/Spy	Wants to	Ruin	Smuggler		
43-44	Doctor	Needs to	Control	Celebrity		
45-46	Drug Dealer	Must	Save	Clone		
47-48	Celebrity	Plans to	Submit to	Сор		
49-50	Puppeteer	Forced to	Entrap	Junkie		



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51-52	Artist	Wants to	Con	Prostitute
53-54	Spider	Needs to	Flee with	Uplifted animal
55-56	Media	Must	Employ	Forger
57-58	Nomad	Plans to	Marry	Gang member
59-60	Puppet	Forced to	Sell out	Thug
61-62	Driver	Wants to	Extract	Puppet
63-64	Child	Needs to	Kill	Business owner
65-66	Financier	Must	Deliver to	Corporate aristocra
67-68	Unemployed person	Plans to	Blackmail	Agent/Spy
69-70	Clone	Forced to	Modify	Mobster
71-72	Programmer	Wants to	Escape	Pimp
73-74	Designer	Needs to	Ruin	Phreak
75-76	Homeless person	Must	Steal from	Mercenary
77-78	People trafficker	Plans to	Kidnap	Concubine
79-80	Revolutionary	Forced to	Protect	Puppeteer
81-82	Psychiatrist	Wants to	Find	Homeless Person
83-84	Cyborg	Needs to	Escort	Nomad
85-86	Uplifted animal	Must	Deliver to	Revolutionary
87-88	Courier	Plans to	Save	Doctor
89-90	Image consultant	Forced to	Collect from	Syndicate Boss
91-92	Forger	Wants to	Flee	Psychiatrist
93-94	Ex-Con	Needs to	Kill	Scavenger
95-96	Fanatic/extremist	Must	Sell out	Drug dealer
97-98	Performer	Plans to	Investigate	Image consultant
99-100	Junkie	Forced to	Submit to	People trafficker

### GUNS FOR HIRE Roll d20

01	Porsche Doubledown	Submachine gun	Ceramic plating	Vinyl trench coat, facial tattoos
02	Gunshi Frame	Twin revolvers	Micromesh vest	Golden mask, black suit
03	Mister Stompenato	Assault rifle	Padded clothing	Uplifted mandrill, suit, fedora
04	Arabella Strange	Milspec laser	Micromesh sleeve	Smoked-glass face, LED skull
05	Big Shaun Crowley	Large automatic	Padded clothing	Blue camo jacket, jeans, sneakers
06	Krash Kaufman	Submachine gun	Gel cladding	Neon green eyes, pastel leisure suit
07	Miss Who	Mono-katana	Nanobot injection	Black robes over leather catsuit
08	The Scandinavian	Gatling gun	Steel exoskeleton	Double denim, beard, braids
09	Rebel Weaver	Sniper rifle	Protective jacket	Big hair, tiger-stripe leggings
10	Elijiah Snow	Auto-shotgun	Glass-steel shell	Sharp chrome teeth, white hair
11	Kali Shrike	Mono-daggers	Gel cladding	4 silver arms with mono-thorns
12	Electric Gibson	Roboclaws	None	Dragon design jumpsuit
13	Jackson Carver	Platinum revolver	Padded clothing	Gold lamé tuxedo
14	Salvador	Chainsaw	Ceramic plating	Faux full-plate armor
15	Charles XXX	Submachine gun	Nanobot injection	Teardrop tattoos on eyes
16	Honest Ivory	Gatling gun	Micromesh sleeve	Holographic lion mask
17	James Caster	Blackjack	Protective jacket	Steel-spiked vest
18	Killer Orc	Mono-katana	None	Silver pigment implants
19	Jack Addams	Garrote wire	Micromesh vest	Synthetic fur cloak
20	Brightlight	Bare hands	Gel cladding	Subdermal LED floodlights



### POP-UP STREET VENDORS Roll d20 three times

#### **Roll Trader**

For Sale

01 Harem pants, glo-tattoos 02 Dreads, bulky goggles 03 Pink mohawk, gold teeth 04 Bulging eyes, sweating 05 Geriatric, mirrorshades 06 Polythene coverall, do-rag 07 Heavily-armed, obese 08 Looks exhausted, smokes 09 Unwashed, army fatigues 10 Impressive afro, friendly 11 Eye patch, flowery skirt 12 Alopecia, thin cyberarms 13 Leather apron, grumpy 14 Looks sick, cowboy boots 15 Painted respirator, shorts 16 Atrophied limb, quick wit 17 No legs, day-glo rainwear Designer coat, well-groomed Stolen Oni™ Praystations® 18 19 Buddhist robes, nose ring 20 Half-starved, vest, shifty

Cigarettes, smart cosmetics, porn Brick vid-phones, insect drones Puppet pets, tentacle prosthetics **Bio-modified narcotic flowers** Cyborg monkeys, bootleg hooch Armor, Net familiars, drugs, art Talismans, runes, sigils, totems Nootropic sodas, tantric interfaces Ammo, spiritual realities, hats Colorful hallucinogenic molds Adorable pocket-shoggoths, food GMO fruit, weed, city maps, toys Spiritware, soulcorders, cassettes Medicines, organs, eyes, glands Smart tattoos, swords, morphwear Pixeltrips, synthetic personalities Filter masks, EMP mines, books Mood consoles, bongs, guns, teas Neon umbrellas, tents, raincoats

#### **Display Method** Colorful plastic crates

Lining oversized raincoat In a filthy three-wheeled van Arrayed on rugs and carpets Cart pulled by twin puppets Salvaged ice cream truck In gaudy neoprene hexayurt Inside mismatched suitcases Overloaded electric tuk-tuk In metadimensional rucksack Repurposed fish tanks Filthy plastic hazmat drums In rusty wire-mesh baskets Series of portable fridges Hover-junk descends to street Piled high in a shopping cart Pair of motorized prams Nets suspended from drones Trailer attached to a bicycle On a top-heavy back-frame



<b>OPER</b>	ATION GENERATO	<b>R: DESIRA</b>	<b>BLE ITEMS</b>	Roll d100 four times
<b>Roll</b> 01-02	Client Gang member	<b>Desire</b> Wants to	Action Destroy	Target Item Satellite
03-04	Corporate aristocrat	Needs to	Сору	Vintage booze
05-06	Pimp	Must	Deliver	Photograph(s)
07-08	Thug	Plans to	Protect	Antique 'yestertech'
09-10	Prostitute	Forced to	Sell	Narcotics
11-12	Shark	Wants to	Steal	Weapon
13-14	Priest/cultist	Needs to	Destroy	Identity
15-16	Business owner	Must	Smuggle	Jewelery
17-18	Mercenary	Plans to	Locate	Hidden vault
19-20	Phreak	Forced to	Hide	Security passcard
21-22	Scientist adept	Wants to	Steal	DNA
23-24	Сор	Needs to	Collect	Cyber-deck
25-26	Mobster	Must	Receive	Offline digital files
27-28	Smuggler	Plans to	Control	Hard drive
29-30	Bounty hunter	Forced to	Modify	Designer disease
31-32	Syndicate boss	Wants to	Locate	Attaché case
33-34	Concubine	Needs to	Destroy	Data- or vid-chip
35-36	Techno-wizard	Must	Ransom	Video game
37-38	Contractor	Plans to	0wn	Vehicle
39-40	Scavenger	Forced to	Flee with	Esoteric research
41-42	Agent/Spy	Wants to	Spoil	Computer virus
43-44	Doctor	Needs to	Control	Cybernetics
45-46	Drug Dealer	Must	Save	Synthetic brain
47-48	Celebrity	Plans to	Upload	Taped confession
49-50	Puppeteer	Forced to	Protect	Spiritual interface



51-52	Artist	Wants to	Use	Cloning vat
53-54	Spider	Needs to	Flee with	Map/schematic
55-56	Media	Must	Sell	Blood
57-58	Nomad	Plans to	Steal	Nano fabricator
59-60	Puppet	Forced to	Flee with	Heirloom
61-62	Driver	Wants to	Locate	Explosive device
63-64	Child	Needs to	Destroy	Antidote/medicine
65-66	Financier	Must	Сору	Human eye/thumb
67-68	Unemployed person	Plans to	Steal	Puppeteer
69-70	Clone	Forced to	Hack into	Cybernetic eyes
71-72	Programmer	Wants to	Escape with	Beta trial software
73-74	Designer	Needs to	Destroy	AWOL puppet
75-76	Homeless person	Must	Protect	Operating system
77-78	People trafficker	Plans to	Locate	Tablet device
79-80	Revolutionary	Forced to	Design	A digitized memory
81-82	Psychiatrist	Wants to	Buy	Server
83-84	Cyborg	Needs to	Protect	Holdall of cash
85-86	Uplifted animal	Must	0wn	Biological implant
87-88	Courier	Plans to	Steal	Augmented pet
89-90	Image consultant	Forced to	Hide	Chemical
91-92	Forger	Wants to	Sell	Human Organ(s)
93-94	Ex-Con	Needs to	Deliver	Patient in cryo tanl
95-96	Fanatic/extremist	Must	Save	Work of art
97-98	Performer	Plans to	Сору	Drone
99-100	Junkie	Forced to	Steal	Laptop

### STREET GANGS Roll d10 three times (or roll once and read across)

Roll 01	<b>Trader</b> Narco-dependent	For Sale Death cult	Display Method Punks
02	Nihilistic	Techno-fetishist	Goths
03	Cannibalistic	Orthodox	Moto-cultists
04	Radical	Data-socialist	Skinheads
05	Synthaphobic	Bio-supremacist	Eco-activists
06	Primitive	Neo-tribal	Luddites
07	Militant	Cognitive libertarian	Mod revival
08	Ethical	Humanist	Puppets
09	Bourgeois	Neo-Victorian	Guardians
10	Cabalistic	Survivalist	Street kids



UAN	IU MAMES R	on uzo three ti	imes (or roll once and read across)
Roll 01	Part 1 Unplugged	Part 2 Demons	Schtick Garish and showy polymer devil masks
02	Nightside	Nephilim	Over 7ft tall, always net-connected, coldly serious
03	Jelly	Men	Suspended inside enormous armour-gel sleeves
04	Mach	Dogs	Well-maintained and fetishised motorcycles
05	Neon	Ninjas	Flamboyant, colourful karategi and sneakers
06	Midnight	Desolation	Bunch of pyromaniacs and bombophiles
07	Thunder	Tyrants	Actually a pack of cognitively-enhanced dogs
08	Silk	Ravens	Bio-sculpted to look like famous vid stars
09	Warlock	Blades	Wealthy and bankrolled by mysterious benefactors
10	Atomic	Angels	Regularly-irradiated, hardcore cancer-cultists
11	Kinetic	Servants	Consider themselves at war with the entire city
12	Polymer	Vampires	Harvest blood to fill their crude rejuvenation tanks
13	Orbital	Saints	Each member is a poorly-made clone of the founder
14	Mirrored	Serpents	Elaborately-decorated respirators and goggles
15	Obsidian	Power	Emblazoned with variety of corporate sponsorships
16	Durasteel	Disciples	They fuse studded-metal plates to their faces
17	Diamond	Samurai	All have day jobs in the same factory complex
18	Hypnotic	Monarchs	Led by a mysterious and prophetic cyborg monk
19	Inhuman	Society	Disassociated war veterans bonded by trauma
20	Basilisk	Eclipse	The world is a video game, believe they'll respawn

### GANG NAMES Roll d20 three times (or roll once and read across)

### ENCOUNTERS IN THE CITY Roll d100

Roll Result

01-02 A kaleidoscope of holographic butterflies explodes into the space and fly through the crowd 03-04 A gang of geriatrics with boxy SMGs and holdalls attempt to rob a local pharmacy kiosk 05-06 The police seem to be rapidly locking down this sector with a heavy show of force 07-08 The PCs are being followed everywhere, for some reason, by a trash-eating sani-drone 09-10 "Remember me? You killed me in Sector 3, Sector 16, and on 224th Street. Now it's my turn!" 11-12 A puppet in a business suit is recruiting protesters against the tech that made it obsolete 13-14 Three bloodied mercs burst onto the street firing back into the building they've just left 15-16 A swirling black hole has opened in an alleyway and is sucking up its contents 17-18 There's a skinny, catatonic phreak in a phone booth hooked up to a smoking OTC deck 19-20 A large, yellow construction frame strides down the street, piloted by drunk gang members 21-22 Residents of two neighbouring habitats open fire at one another, with everything they've got 23-24 The Dragon deposits four men in suits with assault rifles and they're heading for the PCs 25-26 Several credit chips, thumb drives, and a sneaker fall from a window high above the group 27-28 A team of contractors is snatching someone condemned to a new life in a factory-prison 29-30 A sobbing child's parents haven't returned from work, indentured until their debt clears 31-32 Sickly-looking cancer cultists are handing out fistfulls of free cigarettes to passers-by 33-34 An old man inside an upturned plastic barrel offers to tell your fortunes for pocket change 35-36 A clown-faced delivery drone carrying a polymer shipping crate is losing altitude fast 37-38 A rave suddenly breaks out in a packed laundromat, bass shaking the area's windows 39-40 All lights go out across the area 41-42 A swift increase in the numbers crowding the streets indicates the start of rush hour 43-44 Known mobsters leave a dance studio, chatting happily about what a great session that was 45-46 A flamboyant group of fashionistas mock the PCs' look; not hostile, just crushingly hurtful 47-48 Animated advertising holos screaming for their attention won't leave the PCs alone 49-50 Someone begs for help claiming they're being followed, but the PCs don't see anyone



51-52 A man missing both legs, an arm, and an eye, raves about the inherent evils of augmentation53-54 The painted runes and sigils are strewn through the district but people won't look at

55-56 A small boy in a red raincoat is selling bespoke curses recorded on reused audio cassettes
57-58 A renowned local politician is assassinated in the street with the same gun as one of the PCs

59-60 Utility workers set up subsurface access point and then wander off for their break

61-62 A 'Net influencer' wants to hang for 24 hours and live-stream the PCs' experiences

63-64 Everyone in view appears to be followed silent, digital ghosts

65-66 A man with dual eye patches has nailed himself to a database and is chanting incessantly

67-68 For a few brief moments, the hustle and the bustle of the city coalesces into beautiful song

69-70 A group of soldiers in neon spandex march through the street, poor mimics of pop culture

71-72 Buildings and people are slightly offset by stereoscopic blue & red copies

73-74 A discount hospital on wheels, surrounded by crowds of the needy, is parked here

75-76 Nanobots fly from building to building spraying offensive graffiti on every open inch

77-78 Mutagenic goop pools in the streets giving off noxious fumes and a thick haze

79-80 Piles of incredibly fine ash and gray dust fall from the sky without a visible source

81-82 Thirteen men in satin robes and plague doctor masks are wielding monomolecular scythes

83-84 A massive angel-shaped float crowds the street, impeding access to buildings and travel

85-86 A booth offers free plastic surgery with all patients emerging with the exact same face

87-88 A sect of puppets' physical bodies take liberal inspiration from famous muppets

89-90 Rival flocks of avian drones divebomb each other above your heads

91-92 A mob assembles to mock and deplatform an anti-puppet protestor

93-94 Death metal cultists armed with autoshotguns rampage through the street in skull make-up

95-96 Feuding food cart operators are taking potshots at each other from behind their carts

97-98 An EMP generator pulses every five seconds, taking out tech and puppets alike

99-100 Roll twice-both events are happening simultaneously in a horrid cacophony

### A GANG'S MODE AND MODUS Roll d20

#### **Roll Result**

01 Trade in Shiver Consoles, devices utilizing captured digital ghosts to spoof surveillance tech 02 Build their own crazy, unreliable weapons and armor from stolen and salvaged machinery 03 Adapt common chemical compounds into dangerously-unstable explosives and drugs 04 They're the secret paramilitary arm of a well-respected corporation and are very well paid 05 Homeless, each night they stage a different home invasion for somewhere to crash and eat 06 Exceptionally-talented propagandists and meme-creators, no-one knows how they do it 07 Puppet-jacking and grand theft robo are their central kicks as well as creative refurbishing 08 Hunt and root out suspected adherents to the Cult of the Electric God, but who's paying? 09 Sideline in data harvesting from Tru-U and selling those secrets to the highest bidder 10 Adrenaline junky street artists of some renown, actively courted by several rival gallerists 11 Steal prescription opioids from medicentres and care homes and cook 'em up for the street 12 Organise and stage prohibited raves in wildly inappropriate or heavily-secure locales 13 Kidnap kids to bolster their numbers, selling the problematic ones to just about anyone 14 Run an underground puppet fight circuit with bouts taking place in a new location each time 15 Hire themselves out as guides, intimately familiar with the city's more unsavoury aspects 16 Invested heavily in a string of co-operative agribusinesses years ago, which they must protect 17 Are currently involved in printing counterfeit money and poor attempts at laundering it 18 Operate a network of safe houses and stash vaults they rent out at exorbitant rates 19 In the process of setting up their own pirate broadcast channel for the sweet ad revenue 20 Have a fleet of motorised sewer barges they use to smuggle illicit goods around the city



### **SPECIFIC INFLUENCES:**

#### TTRPGs:

- Apocalypse World
- Super Blood Harvest
- MÖRK Borg
- Mothership: Sci-Fi Horror RPG
- Gathox Vertical Slum
- Veins of the Earth
- Palladium Games' RIFTS
- Barbarians of Lemuria

#### Movies:

- Repo Man
- Speed Racer (2008)
- Wolf Guy

### **SUPPORTERS:**

#### **Books and Comics:**

- Grant Morrison's Invisibles
- Jack Kirby's OMAC
- Terry Pratchett's *Going Postal, Making Money*, and *Raising Steam*
- 2000AD
- Jules Verne's assorted works
- Dune
- China Miéville's The City & The City

Aaron, Alberto De Jesus, Alexander Neumann, Alexander Saify, alley lopez, Andrew Smee, Andrzej Krakowian, Andy Williams, Appendix N Entertainment, Beau Doran, Bill Henderson, Bob Holt, Brandon Metcalf, Brendan Carrion, Brian Spinetti, Camilla, cancelvision, CASEY SHELTON, Chad Andrew Bale, Charles\_Bailey, Charlie Vick, Chris Berger, Chris Bjuland, Chris Herrell, Christopher Betancourt, Cige, Clay Grable, Clinton Hedges, Cody Eastlick, D. Corrie, Daniel Coker, David Haraldson, Dean Syrengelas, Dominic Lopez, Eric Swanson, Eric Willman, fizzball, Forest P., Forrest Johnson, Garrett Bibeau, Gary Montgomery, Glee Norto, Grant Klacan, Harrison Cross, HotDice, James E Davis, James Jefferson, JDTX88, Jeffrey Osthoff, John, Josh, Joshua Brutcher, karl deckard, Kevin Wadlow, Krieg Knight, Kurt Ellison, Kyle, Luis, Majdi Badri, Matt Ross, Michael Raichelson, Miguel Warlock Patreon, Mike (wrathofzombie) Evans, Mr.Punch, Noble A Hess, Patrick Walker, Raymond Bennett, Richard ("Brewbadour") Davis, Richard Newby, Roberto Micheri, Sage, Sarah Roberts, scot wright, Scott Bennett, Sean Duffy, Shawn M, Skylar Simmons, Snarkayde (Philip), Stephen Laydon, Steve Walsh, Steven Fujisaka, Steven Landry, Taiga Brenerman, Tanya Scott, Timothy Loughrist, TJ Beck, Tyler Riegle, Tyler Thomas Earnest, William Lee, William Valmus, WMcP3, Zachary Sculley, Zack Norwig

### **PATRONS OF THE ARTS:**

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## DANCING WITH BULLETS UNDER A NEON SUN

NAME			CLASS			
PHYSICAL HIT	DIE		LEVEL			
MENTAL HIT DIE			RESILIENCE			
MIGHT	AGILITY	CHARM	INTELLECT	PERCEPT	TECH	
WEAPON		NAME			LT/HVY	
ARMOR		NAME		AR	RESILIENCE	
DECK		NAME				

EQUIPMENT	ACTIONS	MIN. MIGHT	MODES	EFFECT
	1	-		
	1	-		
	2	-		
	2	-		
	2	-		
	3	-		
	3	-		
	3	5		
	3	7		
	3	9		
	4	15		
	4	17		

### GOALS

à			
	NET P	<b>(EY</b>	
	NO.	NAME	DESCRIPTION
	1	bac.chan.a1	A neverending virtual feast where visitors can indulge any desire without health ramifi- cations.
	2	WWWE	A testing ground for overconfident phreaks, the WWWE hosts the most visually appealing wrestling.
¥	3	Soldier's Dozen	A virtual design lab for customized weapon shells and paint jobs.
	4	Cubeland	Torture perfect duplicates of your worst enemies.
	5	Pharmacy	Download drugcode from talented biohackers for the latest in synthetic highs.
	6	The Catskills	Enjoy the luxury of a fantastic spot at an unblemished natural beach—now featuring rainbow sand and a hot chocolate ocean!
2	7	Prism.net	Perfectly randomized and only slightly traumatizing films are screened around the clock.
	8	DIGI	A home for puppeteers, phreaks, and others who prefer to reside in the Net 24/7.
	9	The Factory	Dozens of phreaks trapped in the Net and forced into labor tirelessly assemble code for digital mood enhancers.
	10	POP1-NG	Yellow monuments spread out across the Net serve as beacons and relays for communica- tion, able to seek out specific signatures on any site with a pyramid; this is their hub.
0.00	11	UNINET	A collection of amateur historians and philosophers endlessly debate the minutiae of long lost academia.
)	12	Panopticon	A streaming service where people congregate to watch the real world, altering it with invisible drones.
	13	ICEE	Simulated sleep here is designed to stimulate users' minds and keep them alert so they don't have to leave the Net.
6	14	asylum	A talent agency of sorts, asylum represents some of the greatest minds and muscle for hire, but takes payment in kind- usually a hit for a hit.
	15	1,000,000	Experience an entire (albeit quite bland) lifetime in a single hour!
	16	Golden Road	Browse the visual media of yestercentury, recently uploaded to the latest in interactive holofilm tech.
	17	heaven	Create and play in simulated worlds featuring near human level intelligence (one civiliza- tion at a time to save on processing power).
	18	$\bigcirc$	A rare site where no logs are kept and a high-level program obscures all incoming or outgoing signatures.
4	19	Godhead	A digital incinerator that disposes of any stray code fragments, including the remnants of advanced security system victims.
	20	Duh. Ants.™	You're an ant in a colony where dancing is outlawed! Rebel against the queen! Cause lasting change!
>	21		There's no site here. You must be misremembering.
	22	StorageSPACE	A Net-based collection of storage units for unfinished programs as well as highly specific, seldom-used ones.
	23	FOUNTAIN	A hypnotising abyss lures unprepared minds deeper and deeper into ancient recesses of the Net.

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