The magical realm of Kyur’ax has collided with Earth, shearing the dimensions and creating a mashed-up borderland between our reality and the monster-infested domain of the wizard Kai Shira Kai. You play working-class heroes who explore the twisted Break seeking fame and fortune. But don’t stay too long, or the Cloud of Woe will surely find you!

**CHARACTER CREATION**

1. **Who were you before you became a Breaker?** Choose a general background category (Civilian, Criminal, Military, Science, or Weird) and then write the specifics on the line above. For example, you might choose Science and write “Department of Energy Agent.” Or maybe you’re Weird and you were a “Kyuraxian Death Seeker” who once fought against Kai Shira Kai’s vile legions in the other world.

2. **Determine your experience level** and assign scores to your attributes. By default, for experience, you start as a **Colt**. Fill in the experience triangle in the column over Colt—this means that you’ve gone on one adventure and you’re **Level 1**. Each time you complete an adventure, fill in a triangle. When you fill the triangles above an experience level, you advance to that level.

The attributes are:
- **Insight:** Awareness, understanding, smarts.
- **Prowess:** Fighting, athletics, might.
- **Resolve:** Willpower, fortitude, toughness.

Attribute scores range from -1 to +3, with zero being average. Your attributes sum to your character level. At level 1, they all add up to +1. You might have +1 Insight, 0 Prowess, and 0 Resolve. Or -1 Insight, +2 Prowess, and 0 Resolve, etc.

At Colt level, you have 8 Hit Points (HP). You get +4 HP per level.

3. **Choose your talent.** At Colt level, you have one talent. You get +1 talent per level.

4. **Determine your equipment and speed.** The more stuff you carry, the slower you are. Speed is a measure of both reflexes as well as movement speed.

**ROLLING THE DICE**

When you perform a risky action or try to avoid a bad outcome, The GM will tell you to make an attribute roll that fits the situation at hand. You roll 2d6, and the quality of your roll will determine how things turn out. The GM will tell you to make an attribute roll that fits the situation at hand. You roll 2d6, and add your attribute modifier to get the result.

A total of **6 or less** is a **miss**; things turn out badly.

A total of **7-9** is a **partial success**; you do it, but there’s a cost, compromise, reduced effect, or harm.

A total of **10 or 11** is a **full success**; you do it without complications.

And a total of **12 or more** is a **critical success**; you do it to some extra benefit or advantage.

**STRAIN**

Breakers have a special resource they can spend to boost their rolls, called **Strain**. You have a number of strain available equal to your level +1 (Colt: 2, Pro: 3, Ace: 4, Veteran: 5). When you spend a level of strain, add +1d6 to any roll (attribute roll, damage roll, whatever). You may use only one strain per roll.

**DAMAGE & HEALING**

Normal harm does 1d6 damage. Weak harm does d3 damage. Really powerful harm does 2d6 damage. Subtract your Armor from the damage taken. As long as you have Hit Points, you’re fine. When you take damage past your HP, you’re in trouble. Make a Resolve roll to find out how bad it is. On a miss, you suffer the worst of it and you’re out of action—if this was a deadly attack, that means you die. Otherwise, maybe you break your leg, get knocked out, etc.

If you’re killed, you can choose to survive instead by taking a permanent **Scar**: Hazy (-1 Speed), Weary (-1 Strain), or Broken (-4 max HP). If you mark all three scars, that’s it… you can’t cheat death again.

When you take a rest, you get to roll 1d6 for each of your unspent Strain and recover that much HP. You can also use a First Aid kit to recover 1d6 HP when you rest.

**EQUIPMENT**

**Armor:** Blocks 1 damage from physical attacks.
- C-4: Explosive charges and detonators.

**Climbing Gear:** Harness, rope, grappling hooks.
- Flashbangs: Area. Inflicts SLOW speed. 2 uses.

**Grenades:** SPRAY. 2 uses.
- HAZMAT, SCUBA Gear:** Protective explorer gear.
- Heavy Tools:** Crowbar, drill, sledgehammer, etc.
- NVGs+Gas Mask:** Night vision w/ toxic gas filter.

**Repair Kit:** Tools and parts to fix broken items.
- Scanner:** Tri-corder style multi-spectrum scanner.

**Shield:** Choose an enemy and get either +1 armor or +1 damage against them in close combat.

**Special Weapon:** 1d6 dmg for either close combat or ranged battle, plus one special feature: AP (ignores and destroys 1 armor per hit), FAR (can attack at extreme range), HEAVY (+3 harm, then reload/reset), SPRAY (rolls 3d6, assign 1 to each target in a small area).

**Supplies:** Food & water.

**Tech Kit:** Specialized tools for technical work.
- Weapon:** 1d6 dmg. Choose close combat or ranged.
THE PREMISE

The whole point of Breakers is for modern-day, wise-cracking characters to go into dungeons and deal with monsters and magic as a matter-of-fact kind of ordinary job. It’s a little bit Ghostbusters, a little bit Hellboy, and a little bit Ash from Army of Darkness.

When the Breakers go on a call, a region of the dark world has broken through the dimensional cracks and fused with part of Earth. Maybe it’s a mashup of the local multiplex theater and the Fire Bog of Ugrok. Or maybe the Tower of the Flaming Skull has overtaken the top of the Seattle Space Needle. Find a location on Earth, then grab your favorite small dungeon map (maybe from www.dungeoncontest.com, or blog.trilemma.com/search/?label=adventure) and mash them together. Voilà! Instant adventure.

Within each break is a keystone shard—a large (and highly valuable) iridescent crystal which “pins” the dimensions together. If the crystal is destroyed (usually with C-4) or somehow removed, the Break collapses in spectacular fashion. Imagine Indiana Jones running away from the giant boulder, except the giant boulder is a rolling mass of dimension-shattering energy. It’s the Breakers’ job to close the break, for which they receive payment from FEMA. But most Breakers make a living by selling the weird artifacts and shard-fragments they find during their adventures. See Loot.

USING DICE ROLLS

Make a dice roll when a PC does something risky or when they try to avoid a bad outcome. If neither of those apply, just say what happens—and when you say something bad happens, the PC can roll to avoid it! The GM doesn’t need to roll dice. A player’s roll will usually cover both the PC’s action as well as the action of an enemy. If a PC fights a monster toe-to-toe, for example, a 10+ means the PC does harm, a 6– means the monster does harm, and a 7–9 means they both do harm. (Just an example—some fights will be different.)

A fortune roll can be useful if shear chance is involved—just roll 1d6: high is good, low is bad. “Does the explosion also wreck the valuable artwork in the room?” I dunno, make a fortune roll.

Use a montage roll whenever you want to skip over something. You might ask one of the PCs to make a roll to lead the team through an area or to execute a plan instead of playing out every moment of it (Insight, Prowess, or Resolve, depending on the nature of the situation). Then use the outcome to establish the PC’s position for the next encounter: good, bad, or in-between.

BONUSES & PENALTIES

The GM may assign bonuses and penalties to the players’ rolls to reflect unusual circumstances. When a PC has a significant advantage, give them +1 to their roll. When they have a dominant advantage, give them +2. When a PC has a disadvantage, give them -1 to their roll. When they have a serious disadvantage, give them -2.

Don’t overdo it with the modifiers! Most situations won’t need modifiers. One way of saying “this is gonna be tough” is to simply call for a roll. However, sometimes it’s important to reflect the details of a situation—the players might come up with a great idea and execute it well; they deserve a bonus! Or maybe they make a huge mistake or are in a really bad position, so penalties are called for. Here are some situations for modifiers that will likely appear in your games:

BONUSES

- Follow-through (teammate entangles a monster with a rope, you follow-up with an attack)
- Slower enemies (if the PCs have room to maneuver: easier to hit or escape from them)
- The perfect tool (an industrial saw to cut through a wall, a flame-thrower to force enemies away, a wicked knife in a fight inside an elevator)
- Teamwork

PENALTIES

- Bad conditions (slippery footing, blinding smoke)
- Faster enemies (if they have room to maneuver: harder to hit them or escape from them)
- A bad tool (an industrial saw to cut someone safely out of wreckage, a flame-thrower in a fight inside an elevator, a wicked knife to force enemies away)
- A terrible idea (that still might work, use the Arcane talent to absorb the ghost energy of the Wraith when it attacks)

TEAMWORK

You can help a teammate, or cover for them, or take a hit in their place, or any other kind of teamwork maneuver by taking the appropriate action (if there’s a risk, you’ll make a roll for it). If things have already gone wrong for your teammate, and you’re stepping in to deal with it in a split second, you have to roll, and you take -2 for being at a serious disadvantage.

For example, the team tries to sneak past a sleeping Ogre. Max and Torres make their rolls, but Pickett blows it. Torres says she’ll cover for Pickett: when Pickett starts to slide on some loose rock and make a noise, Torres grabs her and holds her steady. Torres can make a Prowess roll to try this, but she’ll take -2 to the roll.

THE CLOUD OF WOE

Kai Shira Kai, Dark Radiance of the Wastes, Lord of Sorcery, is attended by a terrible demonic entity known as the Cloud of Woe. The Cloud stretches across the skies of the dark world, always watching, always waiting, ever-ready to consume interlopers.

In the game, the Cloud is the countdown clock for a Breaker expedition. The longer the Breakers run around looting and fighting monsters, the more attention they draw from the Cloud, until finally it coalesces and descends on them.

The GM makes a countdown clock with eight parts (see example at right), and fills in segments as it counts down. The GM fills one segment every time the Breakers take a rest. The GM might also fill a segment as a consequence if an Arcane roll goes poorly or when the Breakers mess around with the keystone shard. When the clock is filled, the Cloud appears and attacks the PCs. The Cloud is a very deadly monster that you do not want to tangle with—plus it can’t really be killed. It’s best to get out of the Break before the Cloud finds you.

The PCs may try to hide from the Cloud or otherwise evade it after the clock is filled, but this always counts as a serious disadvantage, so they’ll take -2 to any rolls to do this, and it will continue to hound them at every opportunity until they leave the Break.

THE ARCANE

Magic can be very complicated in some fantasy stories and games. Not so here. Only Kai Shira Kai, Dark Radiance of the Wastes, Lord of Sorcery, is a true “wizard.” Everyone else just opens their mind to any magical energy that happens to be around and tries to channel it without blowing their brains out. It’s like a lot like drinking from a fire hose. You can do it... but damn.

When a player uses their Arcane talent, ask them what source of magical energy they’re channeling through their mind and body. Then ask them what they try to force that energy to do. The more powerful the effect, the more risky the roll.

The Techie talent is a bit like this, too. It’s intentionally vague so the player can get creative with it. But the risk should generally fit the effect they’re trying to achieve. If they want to collapse the probability wave of the energy portal to turn it into a resurrection machine—okay, sure, but if they mess up someone’s getting disintegrated.

LOOT

The amount of loot the PCs are able to haul out of a Break is the scoreboard for the game. Every two pieces of loot a PC hauls out is like one letter-grade worth of performance. 2-D, 4-C, 6-B, 8-A. You can track the Breaker’s careers this way on their path to retirement after Veteran level. Was your career a forgettable D-average? Or were you an A-level kind of Breaker that retires to fame and fortune?

Loot can be shards (weird crystals that form at Break sites) or strange artifacts from the Dark World (the usual dungeon treasures—golden coins or magical items). Any given area of a Break site might have Loot. The PCs can scrounge to find it.

The keystone shard that keeps a break open is essentially a huge piece of Loot (equivalent in value and weight to about 20 Loot). Most Breakers just set timed C-4 charges on it and try to get out of the Break before it detonates. But especially daring PCs may be tempted to figure out a way to haul the thing out, intact. Hell, driving a 4x4 truck with a winch into a Break might be a fun adventure in itself.

RESTING & SCROUNGING

The PCs can rest during an expedition into the Break. When they rest, every PC rolls 1d6 for each unspent Strain and recovers that much HP. Then each PC recovers all of their Strain. Each PC may also use a First Aid kit to recover 1d6 HP. A character with the Medic talent can give an additional +1d6 HP to any character of their choice.

In addition, during a rest period, the PCs may scrounge the area. A PC can scrounge for Loot or they can scrounge for gear. Make an Insight roll. On a 12+, you find 4 Loot or a couple pieces of gear. On a 10 or 11, you find d3 Loot or a piece of gear you’re looking for. On a 7–9, you find d3 Loot or a piece of gear, but it’s an ordeal—stuck in wreckage, locked in a treasure chest, obscured by some stupid dungeon puzzle or whatever. You get the loot if you suffer 1d6 damage from fatigue and trouble. On a 6–, it’s like a 7–9, but you just suffer the damage and get nothing from it. What a rip-off.

When you rest, you can choose to scrounge first, then heal and recover strain, or vice versa. You might also use the scrounging mechanic to represent some other downtime activity during an adventure, like studying the magic runes in a temple to learn how to summon a guardian spirit, or using heavy tools and spare parts to fortify a position against an impending monster attack. Feel free to get creative.
SAMPLE MONSTERS

**CREEP SWARM**
FAST ARMOR 0 HP 12
(Or: Goblins, Kobolds, Giant Insects)

Attacks: Jump all over you, biting and clawing (d6). Saliva poison (d6. Resolve save. 0/1/2 damage). Spray attacks can hit the swarm with 2 of their damage dice. When destroyed, turns into 3 individual Creeps.

**CREEP**
VFAST ARMOR 0 HP 3
Attacks: Jump all over you, biting and clawing (d3). Saliva poison (d6. Resolve save. 0/1/2 damage).

**SCORCH**
NORMAL ARMOR 0 HP 5
(Or: Orcs or Skeletons w/ boves and bombs)

Attacks: Flame dart (d6 ranged). Channel fire (adds Spray to next flame dart attack). Burning claws (d3 close AP).

**WRAITH**
FAST ARMOR 0 HP 9
(Or: Medusa, Elemental, Living Shadow)

Attacks: Ghostly swipe (d6 AP close). Fear gaze (Or: Troll, Living Statue, Small Dragon).

Ghost Form: Physical attacks do only 1 damage to the Wraith. Energy attacks are strong against it (add +1d6 damage).

**OGRE**
SLOW ARMOR 6 HP 20
(Or: Troll, Living Statue, Small Dragon)

Attacks: Smash (d2d6 close). Throw wreckage (4d6 sprayed range).

**ROGUE BREAKER**
NORMAL ARMOR 1 HP 8
(Or: Evil Knight, Armored Skeleton Warrior)

Attacks: Assault Rifle (d6 ranged). Grenade (3d6 spray).

**THE CLOUD OF WOE**
FAST ARMOR 3 HP 30

WORLD OF DUNGEONS: TURBO—BREAKERS

Patreon Release v1.1
September 2016

This game is dedicated to Cameo Wood, Maitre Sinh, and Paul Tevis. Thank you so much for your amazing support!

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World of Dungeons: Turbo and the Breakers playset are by John Harper.

Contact: @john_harper oneseven@gmail.com

Inspired by: Ghostbusters (movie), Army of Darkness (movie), Thundarr the Barbarian (TV), Apocalypse World and Dungeon World (RPGs). Based on the World of Dungeons mini rpg.

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Elf type shit.

- Scent, speak to animals, do things with nature, track things by energy matrix or whatever.
- Polarity to overload the damage in close combat.
- Damage in ranged combat.
- A rest, give +1d healing.
- Aid during a conflict. During a rest, give +1d healing.
- Away scott free.

This is very dangerous, but hey, magic powers.

Once per expedition, avoid a bad outcome and get away scott free. Used.

You can use first aid during a conflict. During a rest, give +1d healing.

You can do science to things; like reverse the polarity to overload the energy matrix or whatever.

You get +6 HP.

You get +1 speed.

You get +1 speed.

You get +1 speed.

You get +1 speed.