Chinese Mythology

Jumpchain CYOA by ericshaofangwang
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Welcome, Jumper. You might recognise this place from the myths of the Far East. This is the land of Chinese myth, a world born when Pangu split the primordial egg that contained the universe. To prepare you for your journey here, take 1000 CP. You may freely choose your age or gender, it does not truly matter much here.

Time and Places

You may choose your time and place of origin.

Time

Creation
You arrive just after the world has been created, and its first creatures have formed. Pangu has since perished from the strain of creating the cosmos, with his body becoming the features of the new universe.

Three Sovereigns and Five Emperors
A mythical age, when god-kings and emperors ruled the people. This time is a golden age for mortals, being prosperous and guarded.

Dynastic China
From the Xia to the Qing, these are the times that mortals rule themselves.

Places

Diyu
The underworld, or hell. Presided by the Yama kings, this part of the afterlife is where souls are judged for their actions in life. The afterlife is not a place for one to stay, for it is a transitory phase in the ever turning wheel of reincarnation. It's unknown how you arrived here, but unless you work in this place it's best for you to leave.

Tian
From the 36 Heavens to the Pure Lands, the places that make up Tian, or Heaven, are where celestial beings reside. Presided over by the Jade Emperor and the Buddha respectively, this locale is mostly safe and calm. This may not always be so, however, for there are times when Heaven has been in tumult. From the conflicts that arose between Gong Gong and Zhurong for

the Heavenly Throne, to the rebellion of Wukong and the numerous court intrigues in the Celestial Bureaucracy, there is no shortage of affairs in Heaven.

Earth

Ah, yes. The earthly realm, sitting between Tian and Diyu. This is the location for most events that take place in this world, and where the stories of great heroes and monsters came to be.

Origins

All origins are free. All three origins can be used as drop-in options, where you don't receive in-jump memories.

Human

You count yourself among the mortals of the land, being a fragile existence of flesh and blood. Life is dangerous, with humans being small fish in a big pond. While many great figures come from this lot, the journey to renown is fraught with danger.

Yaoguai

Monsters, spirits and fallen celestials, the yaoguai are a very broad category of supernatural beings. These supernatural entities are as distinct as they are varied. They are considered to be mostly earthly beings, with some having links to heaven or hell. You can choose what kind of yaoguai you are.

Celestial Being

From the immortals of Heaven to the Bodhisattvas and Arhats of Nirvana, these figures are seen as divine. Celestial beings reside not in the earthly realm, but in the various heavens and pure lands.

Perks

100 CP perks are free when discounted.

Universal

[**Free**] **The ********** Sage**

If there's one thing that can be said for the figures here, is that they hold poetic and flavourful titles. You can style yourself a title that others will know you by instinctively should you introduce yourself to someone.

[**Free**] **Three Hun and Seven Po**

The dualism of existence is seen in all things, and this is all the more evident in the soul. A soul in this mythos is divided into two main parts, the *hun* and *po.* The hun is the ethereal/yang soul, tied to consciousness and existing independently of the body. The po, also known as the

dense/yin soul, governs and is tied to the function of one's physical vessel. The effects of possessing this combined soul is twofold. Your mind is no longer affected by the ills and failings of your body, for it is divorced from such by the hun. Your body's condition is now affected by the state of your po, or physical soul; a healthy soul will help maintain your physical vessel in its prime condition, barring the interference of outside forces.

[100] Hermit

There are many sages and immortals who live a solitary existence away from civilisation. Long periods of isolation do not negatively affect your mental state, and you can spend as much time outside society and civilisation as you want without worry.

[100] Yin and Yang

The duality of the cosmos is expressed in the concepts of Yin and Yang, two forces that give rise to all that is through their interplay. The universe is balanced on a cycle of two opposites, just as your mind is. You possess this balance in both mind and body. You are healthy and fit in body and mind, not being subject to fragility in either.

[200] Alchemy

The art of alchemy is as ancient as it is mystical to the common man. From the creation of potent medicines to deadly poisons, countless alchemists have tried to attain immortality through their craft. Some are said to have succeeded, and some failed. You have satisfactory skill in this supernatural art, being able to transmute one substance into another and create elixirs and potions of longevity, if not outright agelessness.

[200] Cultivated Power

For every famed figure, there are often dozens of lesser ones supporting them. Every great yeaguai has his followers, just as deities and immortals have their disciples. You are a passable Taoist magician, one that has gained some proficiency but not enough to truly make a name for yourself. You can perform most basic spells, such as creating simple wards to repel lesser yaoguai, imbue items with magical power to enhance some of their qualities and are able to perform a few transformations. Your spirit is stronger than most mortals and you can live several centuries.

[300] Oracle Bones

As far back as the Shang, oracles would use divination rituals such as carving inscriptions on tortoise shells to predict the future. You are a skilled diviner, able to read prophecies of the future through various divining rituals. The events that are in these prophecies are always the most likely outcomes of current and future affairs, and can go as far as several centuries into the future.

[200] General

Tales and legends abound for the generals of celestials, demons and mortals alike. You have what can be considered decent skills for a general. You are skilled in martial arts and fighting with weapons that can be expected to be seen on ancient and medieval Chinese battlefields.

Your leadership skills are enough to command several hundred men competently and you are well versed in tactics and strategy.

[300] Wu Xing

The five elements of wood, metal, fire, water and earth represent some of the fundamental concepts and cycles of existence. From the waning and waxing of the seasons, to the phases that occur with the celestial bodies, each element embodies a change in the cosmic cycles. A deep understanding of these elements and their interplay offer a greater insight into the cosmos itself. One that you hold, it might be added. Your comprehension of these elements has seen you gain a previously unseen understanding of reality, one that has influenced your very being. Your movements possess a sense of grace and decisiveness, attuned as you are to the flow of the cosmos. Your ability to wield supernatural arts has similarly been refined; there is a greater control of your abilities, alongside an intuitive sense of their effects on reality and yourself. Additionally, the powers you wield have become less random, attuned as you are to flows and cycles that permeate reality.

[400] Expulsion of Three Worms

Through the practice of Taoism, you have reached the goal of eternal life. By permanently expelling the three worms, Disease, Old Age and Death from the body, you have shed away your physical mortality. You cannot ever become sick nor age, and your body is nigh-unkillable. Nearly any injury you take upon your body will heal, up to and including total annihilation, though sufficiently powerful magical and/or otherwise supernatural weapons and effects can negate this protection. Your mind and soul do not share this protection, however, so be careful.

[600] Present Gods

Every phenomenon, life form and object has a god. No matter if it's the wind and seas, or mountains and forests, a god resides in each one. Most of all, this is especially true for you. Every time you offer up a sacrifice in the form of food and drink or currency or valuable possessions to the gods, the phenomenon or action you ask for will come to fruition. The sacrifices scale with the potency and scale of the phenomenon or action; asking for some light rain on a farm might only cost a meal or two, while asking for a flood or great catastrophe might cost a banquet fit for hundreds. Similarly this can also be used to dispel natural phenomena, with appropriate costs accordingly.

Human

[100] Which Emperor?

For the most part, the common citizens of the various dynasties have lived the same lives for thousands of years. The emperor may change, but most of the time, life was the same and people would carry on. Things are similar for you. Worry and fear about changing times and circumstances will never overwhelm you, and you'll carry on like always.

[200] Speaking Ill of the Emperor

The scholar-gentry of imperial China often had a… tempestuous relationship with the ruling dynasties. Naturally, most emperors wished to present themselves as benevolent rulers worthy of claiming the Mandate of Heaven. What this entailed was a large amount of censorship of criticism and punishment of critics, with the occasional burning of records pertaining to preceding dynasties. One must be careful with their choice of words when speaking of their ruler, after all. This isn't quite the case for you, however. You are able to criticise others without fear of retribution from figures of authority; with most not quite minding your words while others find their attempts at punishment getting lost in bureaucratic red tape and strange circumstances.

[200] Examinations and Bureaucrats

Imperial China's administrative machine needed both a solid bureaucracy and people to fill those roles. You can now proudly call yourself a capable administrator, having some expertise in logistics and delegation. You are able to go through paperwork at a rapid pace, quickly reading everything and not missing a single detail.

[200] Philosopher

There's something to be said for the far-reaching influence of philosophers in China. Confucius and Laozi undoubtedly left deep marks in the development of Chinese philosophy. You, too are able to make your mark on others' mindsets, crafting attractive philosophies and ideologies. You are socially adept and charismatic as well, navigating social cues and quickly extrapolating circumstances of people from your interactions with them.

[200] Controlling the Floods

The floods that once devastated the central plains were able to be tamed by humans. And in particular, the efforts of one man stand out above others. Yu, the first ruler of Xia. You hold the same strength of will as he, for you will carry through any adversity and obstacle. Even when your body is crumbling and worn, your unshakeable will shall be the same as ever.

[400] Shooting Suns

Just as Hou Yi was able to shoot down nine suns with the skill of his archery, so too can you. Your skill with the bow is legendary, rivalling that of the greatest archer in Chinese myth. You are able to effortlessly shoot the wings off a gnat from kilometres away, hit a moving target obscured by bushes and trees, and a whole manner of archery skills.

[400] Potential for Divinity

If there's one thing standing out in this world, it's the number of mortals who either ascend or become deified by others. You too hold a similar sort of potential; while the rate of growth for your abilities has not changed with this perk, your potential for improvement is unlimited. Through hard work and effort you too can call yourself a peer to the celestial beings above.

[400] Ancestral Favour

To honour one's ancestors was an important facet of life for much of Chinese history. From as far back as the Shang, people had worshipped their ancestors in the hope that they would watch over their descendants and grant them their favour. Good fortune is said to follow when one showed filial piety, and misfortune when they did not. So it is that your ancestral spirits favour you. You are blessed with great fortune and luck, often happening across beneficial coincidences and events, while disasters and catastrophes always seem to have a silver lining. You may also call upon your ancestors' souls for advice and consultation, conversing with them on decisions and choices to be made.

[400] Wugushen

It was said that Shennong, the legendary founder of Chinese of medicine, tasted and tested hundreds of plants to test their medicinal value. You have managed to inherit his skill in the same arts. Your body is immensely resistant to poison and toxins, unaffected by all but the strongest poisons this world can offer. Your knowledge in the medicinal value of various substances is broad and deep; you are able to identify the effects different materials have on the body with but a taste, if not from a glance, and you are able to quickly and accurately diagnose patients with conditions in but a fraction of the time it usually takes.

[600] Mandate

The Emperors of China ruled under the Mandate of Heaven, an accord that the people would accept their rule if they performed their role justly. While many used it as a convenient justification for their overthrow of a previous dynasty, for you it is a very real thing. Should you lead a group or organisation of any sort, the people within will accept you as their rightful leader without opposition so long as no serious transgressions are performed against them. Likewise you are also able to easily incite rebellions against oppressive leaders and regimes, having them replaced by you or someone else. Your ability as a ruler and leader would be comparable to the most legendary earthly emperors in their ability to rule.

[1000] Holding up Heaven

The primordial human Pangu was a being of immense strength. After separating the metaphysical forces of Yin and Yang, he kept them apart by holding Heaven aloft and the Earth down for 18 000 years. You have a measure of the same strength as him, able to hold up Heaven itself. Your strength extends well into the supernatural, able to resist and push back against metaphysical forces and concepts through pure physical might.

Yaoguai

[100] Strange Creatures

Yaoguai are a vast category of beings, but many have been known to disguise themselves in human forms to fool their victims. You are, relatively speaking, very good at disguising yourself. You can trivially change your outward character and mannerisms, and adopt the forms of beings you have lived in close proximity to for a prolonged period of time.

[200] Unnatural Powers

Many yaoguai have some sort of powers they are known for. Some are famous for their ability to bring plague and misfortune, others known for trickery and illusion, and yet others for several different abilities. You have an area of magic that you are particularly skilled at, like plagues, misfortune, shapeshifting etc.

[200] From Lower States

A few kinds of demons were once inanimate objects. Being spirits of those, they could manifest their true forms. You are able to manifest an object of your choice, and depending on what it is, are skilled in its use. If it's a musical instrument like a Pi Pa you can play music with it skillfully, or if it's something like a sword you may be skilled in fighting with it. What manifests will be able to channel your powers through it.

[200] Consumption

Yaoguai of all sorts consume humans in both flesh and spirit. In their bid to obtain immortality, many spirits and demons alike will take the spiritual power of their victims, empowering and reinforcing their own souls and bodies. You are able to consume other beings for their spiritual essence, adding their energy to your own, or drain them through intimate contact. The amount you gain from others depends on how powerful they spiritually are; an ordinary human might be equivalent to a few drops of power, while immortals and powerful yaoguai can grant much more. These increases in power can help enhance your magic and other soul related abilities as your soul power grows.

[200] Hidden Misdeeds

In the many legends and myths of yaoguai, it is not uncommon for their misdeeds to take years to catch up to them. A combination of subtlety and magical concealment does well to keep others in the dark for prolonged periods of time. Both are keen additions to keep any yaoguai alive and unnoticed. You have an uncanny ability to hide or dispose of evidence arising from your misdeeds through the use of magic, alongside adept skills in the art of manipulating circumstances to be less suspicious for you. You could kidnap and consume the people of a village for years on end without suspicion being directed at you, or place yourself directly in a monarch's court while indulging in less savoury pleasures with none the wiser.

[400] Huli Jing

The fox spirits of folklore are of great cunning and power. You can freely take on different humanoid forms, from young or old, male or female and with an appearance and figure of your choosing. Accompanying this is great skill in illusion magic, being able to conjure voices and images from thin air, and create life-like apparitions and glamours. Over centuries and millennia , your abilities naturally grow to its apex; after a millenium, your powers will eclipse what they were a thousand years prior.

[400] Rid of Weakness

Some yaoguai have fears and weaknesses towards certain materials, methods or charms and talismans. Whether it's things like peaches or blood, or even something as simple as certain breathing exercises monsters can be repelled. The same cannot be said for you. The materials, charms and methods that specifically work on your kind does not affect you in the slightest. Racial weaknesses are nullified and moot for you.

[400] Apparitions in the Night

More than a few varieties of yaoguai are ghosts, spirits who for whatever reason did not or could not pass on to the afterlife. Some wander around, looking for bodies to possess, while others terrorise and bring harm to the living. You are one of these beings. You can survive without a body and physically affect things with your wandering soul, and possess mortals and those that are weak of will.

[400] Monstrous Sage

It is a fact that many yaoguai are met with hostility and suspicion from mortals. Yet, this is not a universal occurrence. Some spirits can coexist in peace with normal humans, perhaps even forming beneficial relationships with them. Some can be faithful wives and husbands, dutiful protectors, or even wise sages. It is a good thing, then, that people do not default to hostility in your presence. No matter what you are, people that might otherwise be hostile will be neutral and initially give you the benefit of the doubt. They will not attack you until you make such hostile intent clear, granting you ample opportunity to form positive relationships.

[600] Demon King

Some monsters, through either their charm or power manage to gather a following of lesser demons. In many cases, these beings proclaim themselves as lords and kings, ruling over a small domain filled with yaoguai. Much of it is the same thing for you. You are an exemplary example of a powerful, charismatic demon. Your skill in fighting, combined with your physical and magical might makes you an equal to the likes of the Bull Demon King or the Gold and Silver Horned Kings. You have a commanding presence over demons and monsters, with those your significant lesser bending the knee at your order or command.

[1000] Monster of the Great Flood

When the demon Gong Gong lost the battle for the Heavenly Throne to the fire god Zhurong, he rammed and nearly destroyed Mount Buzhou in a fit of rage. With one of the Pillars of Heaven now irreparably damaged, the sky itself tilted sideways and the world's axis altered, leading to a great flood bringing ruin to the earthly realm. Gong Gong's might has passed to you. Your physical power and skill is such that you can bring down the Pillars of Heaven with your blows, and fight for days on end against the best of Heaven's combatants. What's more, any major actions you take will often cause unforeseen and catastrophic negative consequences for your opponents, causing disasters in their ranks and making dealing with you all the more difficult.

Celestial Being

[100] Area of Influence

Every god or immortal needs to have a role to play in the Celestial Hierarchy. You can choose your domain/s or area/s of influence, to be a god of something, whether that's fire, earth, water rain etc. and receive powers related to those areas. Keep in mind, however, that your powers in those areas won't exceed that of a minor god or goddess. You also have a body fit for a celestial being, as you don't age, have better physical abilities than mortals and are more resistant to ailments and disease.

[200] Celestial Bureaucracy

If there's one thing Heaven and Hell are known for, is that they both have large, churning bureaucracies. With every bureaucracy comes red tape and delays. Not for you, however. Whatever organisation you are part of, you'll receive priority queueing for your requests and complaints, superseding everyone except those in the highest positions. Likewise, you can have any actions you plan to take authorised immediately and without delay by the group or organisation in question.

[200] Hierarchy

The constraints of the Celestial Hierarchy can be highly restricting and sometimes even suffocating. It shouldn't come as a surprise that those who step outside their station are punished, often harshly. Be it banishment or reincarnation into a lesser form, it is not unknown for fallen immortals to face harsh fates for their transgressions, real or perceived. These stringent rules don't quite apply to you. You find that, whether through nepotism or lack of oversight, that you are given quite the degree of freedom for your station. You can bend the rules and laws of your organisation a fair way before scrutiny comes in your direction. What might be a moderately concerning scandal for others is not one for you, for it would take an act that cannot be ignored to make others take notice.

[200] Taking the Offering

As a god or immortal, people will inevitably pray to you and give you offerings. Now, you may receive them! You are now able to hear prayers directed your way, and have the ability to process all the prayers made to you. Whether you act on those prayers is your choice, though hopefully you don't disappoint people in their time of need. You are also able to receive the offerings people give to you, with the offerings teleporting next to you as you will them to do so.

[200] Long

The dragons of eastern myth have long been seen as deities associated with water; be it the rivers, rains, or seas. You hold similar authority and powers, able to invoke rain and thunderstorms, control the rivers and seas and manipulate water. Your presence is larger than life; commanding and regal, your stature being greater than the mediocre individuals around

you. Your voice also holds weight in most discussions and discourse, so long as you have a mote of expertise in the subjects of those.

[400] From Clay and Dirt

The goddess Nuwa was renowned and respected for her creation of mankind. Her craftsmanship is second to none; repairing the sky and the pillars of heaven and creating life from dirt and clay. You too possess her divine skill, able to craft intelligent life from seemingly worthless material, and creating magical items able to perform great feats, so long as you have the ingredients for them. The powers of the items you create are only limited by your imagination; whether they're gems that control the weather, stones that repair the sky itself or great pillars able to hold up heaven, few things are out of reach.

[400] Bodhisattva

Those who have delayed their own pursuit of Nirvana in order to ascend all sentient beings to Buddhahood are known as Bodhisattva. You as well can be counted among them. You are an exceptional teacher, able to pass on lessons and skills with great ease. With only a few lessons, or even a single one, you may steer someone away from their negative tendencies, move them beyond their inner demons and pass on your skills to them.

[400] Samsara

The cycle of death and rebirth is something that pervades this land to its deepest levels. The journey of reincarnation is one that all living things must undergo, be they beast, man, and sometimes celestial being. You are able to reincarnate once every ten years should you meet your untimely demise or make the choice consciously. Reincarnating will also clear you of all damage done to your mind and soul.

[400] Celestial Guardian

Most famed and powerful yaoguai are exemplars of both magical and martial might. Where mortal forces fail, it often falls to the guardians of Heaven to drive away powerful yaoguai. Whether they be as high as the Four Heavenly Kings or as lowly as the celestial footmen, there are no shortage of celestial forces that are experienced in combating yaoguai and rogue immortals.

So too can you be considered a seasoned magician in combating supernatural threats. Years upon years of being sent against yaoguai has seen you develop a host of magical methods to combat them, be they defensive or offensive in nature. While experience has made you a somewhat competent fighter and warrior, your true talent lies in sorcery. Instincts honed over years of battling with yaguai sorcery has seen you develop an intuition for spells and magical artifacts being used against you. Experience and studies of repelling demons and supernatural beasts has granted you a great deal of expertise in defensive and offensive techniques and spells. From wards and seals designed to repel or trap powerful beings, spells that cast down divine fire and light and techniques able to reinforce and enhance the body, you are proficient in combat focused supernatural arts.

[600] Heaven's Eye

The deity Yang Jian was well known for his exploits, even during his mortal life as a demigod. From saving his mother by carving Mt. Tao to carrying a mountain on his back, his mortal life was marked by almost peerless strength and martial prowess. As a deity, his legends only became greater in scope and magnitude.

Whether through some strange union between a god and a mortal, or a birth from some divine object, you have emerged to possess similar traits to him. Firstly, on your forehead is a third eye, one able to distinguish between truth and lies, see through glamours and illusions and perceive good and evil in any being. Through this eye you also possess a form of clairvoyance, being capable of seeing others from vast distances. The eye can also produce divine fire and light, disintegrating armies and mountains. Secondly, you are nearly invulnerable to physical and magical damage, being able to effortlessly shrug off magical weapons capable of killing or severely injuring lesser gods and immortals. Your physical strength is great enough to slice apart mountains and you're skilled enough in armed and unarmed combat that few others can call themselves your equal. You will find that this metaphysical eye grants you great talent in any magical arts you deign to learn should you decide to pursue such endeavours.

[1000] Nirvana

The state of Nirvana entails an escape from the wheel of Samsara, where they no longer become subjected to death and reincarnation. Your soul has achieved complete liberation from the cycle of death and rebirth. Indeed, with your mind and soul free of such constraints, your spirit has become truly immortal. No harm nor death will come to your spirit from anything that befalls it, nor shall the same be done to your mind. Your will is likewise unbreakable, and can endure any adversity. This same transcendent state also marks any prison you are trapped in moot, for you can instantly escape their confines. Your body is granted no such protection, however, and this by itself will not prevent the death of the body.

Items

Universal

[Free] Hulu

Both in culture and mythology, gourds have long been used as containers for alcohol and medicine. This use has brought with it an additional association; healing. The hulu in your possession is an ever-refilling vessel holding an (non) alcoholic beverage of your choice with very minor medicinal properties. Drinking from this gourd dispels minor discomforts and pains, while leaving alone anything more serious. A fine addition for any traveler wandering the lands.

[100] Warding Staff

In many legends, peachwood served as a deterrent towards yaoguai and malevolent spirits. It stands to reason then, that objects made from this wood can repel such entities. What you have is a relatively simple stave made of peachwood. When being carried and in plain sight, this stave wards away lesser demons and minor supernatural creatures. Should it be broken or destroyed, it will miraculously reappear in your warehouse a day later.

[100] Sack of Coins and Notes

This shopping bag sized sack is filled with currency appropriate to the time and place you're in. In this case it comes with coins, sycees and/or notes depending on which period of China you are arriving in.

[200] Humble Abode

You now own a small house. It contains three bedrooms, a kitchen, a guest room, and all the other necessities a home has. It's enough to live comfortably, but not extravagantly. Restores itself in three days in the Warehouse after damage or destruction. In future jumps, this home will be in a location that is out of sight, but still easily reachable.

[200] Refined Materials

A must-have for any practicing alchemist. You have a set of alchemical ingredients such as cinnabar, gold, lead, mercury etc. that replenishes every week, usable for everything from transmutation, pills of health and longevity and medicine.

[400] Yinyang Mirror

Mt Kunlun is a mythical location for many, as the western counterpart to the eastern Penglai. Presided over by the Queen Mother of the West, this mountain houses many powerful artifacts and mythical materials. This artifact is one of them. This is a double-sided mirror, that has two functions associated with its Yin and Yang sides.. When the Yang side is invoked, it can instantly bring someone back to life so long as there is a body and no supernatural measures have been taken to prevent resurrection, and the Yin side can instantly kill a mortal.

[600] Five Coloured Brush

In legends and folktales, it was said that whatever was drawn with this brush would materialise or come to life. In this case, this replica you wield can bring to life or materialise anything smaller than a small mountain, and with less power than you. Hope you're skilled with brushwork, you don't want to be bringing weird stick figures to life.

[800] Jade Books

You hold in your hands the Jade Books in Heaven, which contain the untold secrets and workings of the universe. The knowledge within these books are beyond priceless, detailing the creation and workings of everything from Heaven, Diyu and the earthly realm. In future jumps, this book will update to also hold detailed knowledge of the current universe's laws and workings.

Human

[100] Jian

The China of myth is a dangerous place, teeming with spirits, beasts and gods. A defense, no matter how paltry, is a welcome addition to any traveler's equipment.What you have here is a relatively simple sword. It won't rust nor need to be maintained, but that's all that's special about it. Is restored in your Warehouse three days after being broken or destroyed.

[200] Golden Coin

The Treasure Defeating Golden Coin is a small flying object able to deflect and block projectiles. This one is bound to you, and can block dozens of magical weapons of middling potency. Should it break, it will be restored in your Warehouse after five days.

[200] Baton

The Immortal Thrashing Whip is… a baton. No, seriously, it's a wooden stick. This club is empowered by the various Taoist inscriptions on it, and is able to inflict great harm upon many monsters and immortals. Downside to it, or upside, depending on your view, is that this baton can only harm beings that have their names written on to a tablet that comes with this weapon.

[200] Yaoguai Bestiary

There exists a vast variety of yaoguai in the legends of ancient China. From spirits to ghosts to monstrous beasts, the creatures of the supernatural have as many forms and types as their mundane cousins. This extremely thick book describes the basic information of every creature that appears in Chinese myth, from behaviour, weaknesses, abilities and illustrations of their appearance. This bestiary will update to contain information of supernatural creatures with every new setting.

[400] Flying Dagger

Daji, the legendary temptress of the Shang, was said to have been finally felled by a decapitating strike from a mystical artifact. This one, in fact. Contrary to its original title, this artifact is a rather small humanoid in a gourd. Upon its invocation, a small wispy humanoid will emerge, fly and proceed to decapitate, or failing that, dismember the target, and capture its soul. Captured souls are held within the gourd, and can only be freed by your will alone.

[400] Sun Felling Bow

This is a perfect replica of the bow that Hou Yi used to fell nine of the ten tripedal sun crows. It possesses immense range and power, able to bring down gods and immortals from kilometres away. This bow does more harm to creatures closely associated with the sun, inflicting far greater wounds and damage against such entities.

[400] Peach Blossom Spring

This sanctuary is obscured by a forest of peach trees, with a stream leading through the forest. Past this forest is a grotto with residences and living amenities, where one can live in relative comfort. This place is perpetually hidden from prying eyes, and cannot be reached nor detected through mundane means unless you allow it. This sanctuary will always be within reach for you, and in future jumps will follow you in close proximity.

[600] Imperial Palace

An Emperor isn't without his palace. This is your palace, where thousands of people live and work for you. Soldiers, bureaucrats, courtesans, and more are housed in this immense palace and its surrounding land and buildings. Has everything you can expect of such a property, from residences, barracks, replenishing food storage and more. This is stored as an attachment to your Warehouse for future jumps, though it can be brought out. Reconstructs itself two months after damage or destruction in your Warehouse. The individuals within are followers, and will respawn in the Palace if killed and will not be affected by age. These followers can leave the palace if you allow them to.

[1000] Pangu's Axe

The mighty axe of the creator is a wondrous thing to behold. The axe is immense, standing as tall as a tree and requiring titanic strength to wield. This was the tool that was used to part the primordial Chaos and separate the metaphysical forces of Yin and Yang. By wielding this axe, one could part Heaven and Earth, and even metaphysical forces and concepts with but a single strike. Use with caution.

Yaoguai

[100] Fearsome Outfit

What terrifying demon doesn't stand out? Presentation can sometimes be just as important as execution. This is an outfit of your design that is catered to emphasise your more terrifying features and make you look more intimidating.

[200] Spare Body

For yaoguai, corpses can be a valuable resource. Whether it's nourishment or fuel, the body of a mortal comes as something useful. This is, well, it's a rather morbid item. What you have here is the soulless corpse of someone. It can serve as a bit of nourishment for you in a pinch, or as a target for possession if you are able to do so. It will never decay and never undergo rigor mortis, regenerating in the Warehouse a day after being damaged or destroyed.

[200] Small Shrine

Small shrines and places of worship are everywhere in this land. With how many gods and spirits there are, it's no surprise that most places will feature some tribute or offering to the local deities. This is a small shrine to receive offerings from. Anything that is offered to you and interred into this shrine will be teleported next to you. It can be disguised as a shrine for other

gods or as something for yourself. It will follow you in future jumps, manifesting in a location you find suitable, in a form appropriate to the setting that won't draw undue attention unless you want it to appear foreign or incongruous to its surroundings.

[200] Capturing Artifact

Artifacts able to capture objects and living beings certainly seem to have a way of ending up in the hands of the yaoguai. Be it the ring able to capture the divine armaments of heaven, to the various containers able to suck a living entity into themselves, there's no shortage of magical items that are able to take from others. You hold a similar artifact, in the form of a gourd or a flask. This item is able to capture mortals and less powerful supernatural creatures, before processing and refining them into pills or liquor. Consumption of the liquor or pills that have been refined by the vessel can both refill one's vitality/vigour and add to the spiritual strength of a being by small amounts.

[400] Piece of Hell

Many monsters and demons live in Diyu, often in service to the Yama kings present. This plot of land is your own little slice of hell, with a cozy residence and an environment hostile to unwelcome visitors. You can choose from which court of hell this plot comes from, such as the Mountain of Flames or the Hill of Ice. Has a mansion in the middle and the environment within will not harm you. Exists as a Warehouse attachment and will restore itself a month after damage or destruction.

[400] Somersault Cloud

This little cloud functions as a platform you can use. With a single leap, it can transport you ten thousand miles in moments. This cloud can be instantly called to you upon invocation, and can be called on to transport those other than yourself.

[400] Iron Fan

A replica of the magical fan used by the Bull Demon King's wife, this tool can create immense winds capable of putting out fires from long distances, or blowing people and objects thousands of kilometres away. The fan is heavy and requires some amount of inhuman strength to wield, and is more than sturdy enough to use as a melee bludgeon in a pinch.

[600] Demon King's Castle

As a powerful and influential demon, it is only right that you too have a fortress you can call home. Within this mountain-fortress, hundreds of lesser demons and yaoguai are at your beck and call. This fortress contains a self-refilling food storage, full residences, barracks and armoury. Will be restored in your warehouse a month after destruction, with all its inhabitants intact.

Celestial Being

[100] Banquet Table

A self-refilling table piled with the highest quality foods and drinks of your choosing. While it cannot refill itself with foods and drinks that make modifications to you or empower you, the meals are always guaranteed to be both filling and delicious. A particularly suitable addition to any feast or banquet you might host, or for having a meal to yourself.

[200] Badge of Office

While not all the deities and spirits of the land make use of particular tools for their role in the celestial hierarchy, a not insignificant number of them do. As examples, bureaucrats might have scrolls or tablets that hold some power or important information, while warriors possess their armour and weapons. What you have is a tool or a set of tools that both helps you in fulfilling your role in the celestial bureaucracy and serves as your badge of office. These tools are rather standard, as far as heavenly crafts go, so while they will have many advantages over their mortal equivalents, they are far from the signature armaments or artifacts that many figures hold as part of their office.

[200] Jade Seal

Whether it's in the mortal gears of mundane bureaucracy or the heavenly This jade seal is as much a proof of authority as it is of identity. Presenting this seal to someone will be the same as giving them irrefutable proof of either your in-jump identity or as your nature as a jumper, whichever you wish.

[200] Heavenly Mirror

Artifacts and abilities able to see beyond supernatural obfuscation are uncommon, but hardly unknown. This small mirror is a minor artifact, but one with powerful effects nonetheless. It can see through illusions, glamours and shapeshifting, revealing the true form of something through its reflection.

[400] Zhu Xian Zhen

In the battles that ended the Shang, many immortals and gods roamed the land, supporting either the old dynasty or the rising Zhou. So it was that those participating created new ways to kill their kin, such as this contraption. A trap powered by four magical swords, this contraption was designed to kill anything that enters it, immortals in particular. Immortal or deathless beings imprisoned in this trap will die a true death upon its activation. Should this trap be damaged or destroyed, it will reform after a week in your Warehouse.

[400] Bodhi Tree

The bodhi tree is a symbol associated with enlightenment, for it is under one that the first Buddha himself reached the transcendent state. This is a Bodhi tree propagated from the original that the Buddha himself sat under. While in close proximity to this tree you learn and master skills at a significantly greater rate, with endeavours taking weeks shortened to a few days and those taking months to only a few weeks.

[400] Peach Garden

This, my friend, is no ordinary peach orchid. This is a replica of the peach garden owned by the Queen Mother of the West, holding its own peaches of immortality. Unlike hers, your peaches ripen far faster, taking only a few months to bud and ripen, and holding its fruit all year round. Eating a peach from this garden grants agelessness and physical immortality, allowing one to live indefinite lives, and stopping them from dying to mundane means. This garden is housed in your Warehouse, and is restored in a month should it somehow be damaged or destroyed.

[600] Mount Penglai

The island and mountain of Penglai are said to be one of the residences of the Eight Immortals, being a resplendent and mystical location. You now have ownership of a replica of this paradisiacal island. Fruits that are able to grant eternal youth, cure ailments and bring back the deceased grow aplenty, and the food bowls and wine glasses here refill themselves. Exquisite gems grow on trees here, and the palaces on this mountain are made from gold and platinum. This isle follows you wherever you go and is always nearby, while being undetectable and unreachable through mundane means. Restores itself in your warehouse two months after being damaged or destroyed.

Companions

[100 for one, 200 for two, and 300 for three or more] Companion Import

You can import companions into this jump. Companions receive 600 CP each.

[300] Create Companion

You can create and customise your own companion.

[100] Jin Die

A mortal scholar and bureaucrat, Jin Die is not one for martial pursuits. However, he makes for a competent secretary, treasurer and administrator, and is knowledgeable and interested in supernatural creatures. Through certain circumstances, he has found himself in service to you and does his best to make sure you are prepared for anything.

[100] Shi Yuan

The ghost of a recently deceased girl, Shi is unwilling to pass on to the afterlife. In her life as a wandering soul, she has latched onto you, a being of power and for her, security. She does not ask for much from you, only some conversation and a willingness to occasionally keep her company.

[200] Wei Yang

A beautiful fox spirit, Wei Yang is mischievous and cunning. She has taken a liking to you as a friend, with perhaps a spark of something more. Her social skills have been honed over years of

disguising herself as a human, giving her a certain charisma. Wei is a powerful spirit, being very proficient in the art of illusions and shapeshifting.

[**200**] **Yi Men**
This demon lord is a minor celestial immortal who has descended to cause mischief and chaos. Currently, he's mostly been on the down low now that one of his relatives is looking for him, but he has made a few friends in the earthly realm, like you. Through a series of favours he's become your sworn brother and will follow you into hell and back.

[**200**] **Huang Shi**
Huang is a captain in the Celestial army, being responsible for vanquishing demons and ghosts. An exceptional fighter and leader, Huang is never one to back down from a challenge or insult. In his years of service he has befriended you, and in many of the times off duty he drunk and feasted with you. The captain respects you and holds you in high esteem, treating you as a sibling.

[**200**] **Canon Companion**
You can recruit one of the locals here for your journey, so long as you can convince them to join you.

Drawbacks

[+**0**] **Another Myth**
Chinese mythology, due to how it's a melting pot for different mythological imports, is not internally consistent and there are often multiple variations of the same myth or different myths altogether for the same occurrences, like the many creation myths that abound. You may freely pick from the myths and legends that form the foundations of this world.

[+**100**] **Unbearably Ugly**
Like some of the yaoguai in legends, your true form is ugly as sin. As in, it's nearly unbearable to look at. People who look at you feel queasy and perhaps even scared from your visage. Better be good with illusions, I suppose.

[+**100**] **Hauntings**
The reason some spirits stay around and don't pass on is often due to the proper burial rites not being observed. In particular, ghosts of this type tend to haunt you, being annoying and absolute nuisances. One will always appear at the most inconvenient moments to haunt you, and getting rid of it will have another take its place a week later.

[+**100**] **Mocking Title**
It seems that there were rather low moments in your history. Just as great figures can have poetic titles related to their station and deeds, so can some have titles that are somewhat

questionable or simply plain insulting. You are, unfortunately, one of the latter cases. You are known throughout the land by a rather insulting title, one that your foes will endlessly mock you for while your friends give the occasional ribbing about it.

[+**100**] **Red Tape**

In bureaucracies as large and churning as the celestial and earthly ones, it can take a long time to have one's request heard. Your petitions to government organisations take an inordinately long time before they are processed by the relevant authorities, and unless you press the issue with force and/or cajolery it isn't likely that any of them will be solved until well after the problem has passed.

[+**100**] **Petitioners**

Chinese myth abounds with legends of seekers of immortality petitioning sages and immortals for ways to attain eternal life. While these quests tend to make for good stories, epic and fantastic as they are, truly dealing with the people in them can be quite another matter. There seems to be an endless (and relentless) line of people seeking you out and pestering you for the secrets of immortality. They won't stop seeking you out until they get what they want or otherwise die, whichever comes first. Should you decide to kill these fools, be aware that the word of such misdeeds will spread, until it is no longer petitioners who are after you.

[+**200**] **Task of the Jade Hare**

For whatever reason, there is a task of great importance that you must perform regularly, and will keep failing at. Like Chang'e's servant, you have something of great emotional importance to you that you are obliged to perform, and without any result or success for the rest of your stay here. A feeling of futility will accompany this task.

[**200**] **Thieves**

You're… not quite as observant when it comes to your possessions, unfortunately. Somewhat important pieces of your equipment and possessions have a habit of disappearing rather unexpectedly when your back is turned. Coincidentally, some of your servants, acquaintances and followers seem to be rather shifty, often heading out for long periods of time just after something goes missing from your person. Especially strange is the fact that new yaoguai sightings often accompany these outings.

[**200**] **Disliked by Heaven**

Someone high up in the Celestial Bureaucracy has it out for you. Not enough to have you killed outright, of course, but definitely enough to make your life miserable. Natural disasters gravitate near you with unrelenting frequency; often on a scale of months between them. Torrential rains, coastal and river floods, earthquakes and forest fires are just some of the things they will send your way. On the bright side, however, you will be forewarned a few days in advance by the local minor gods. Hope you are willing to live as a hermit, for such disasters are rather intensely disliked by and damaging to others.

[200] Court Politics

Whether it is courts of Heaven, Earth or Hell, there always seems to be politics involved. The schemes of gods, mortals and demons are as numerous as they are convoluted. Gossip, sabotage and assassination are all part of the courtly games that those in power partake in, with many more caught in the path of their unsheathed daggers. Politics always seem to catch up to you, no matter where you are and how hard you work to avoid it. Numerous parties will often seek you out for their gain, be it gaining your support for their cause, or to sabotage and assassinate you. Those sent to you will tend to be low level emissaries and assassins, at least until you escalate your response to the parties that sent them, in which case more major figures will be sent.

[+200] Cast from Heaven

There's a… *distressing* amount of celestials being thrown out of Heaven in Chinese myth. For whatever inane reason, the Jade Emperor has decided to exile you to the earthly realm. You will never be able to return to heaven without armed resistance barring you, unless you make amends for whatever it is you did. Heaven is also monitoring your movements too, so don't be thinking you can just up and do whatever you want now that you're on Earth.

[+300] Youthful Flesh

It is said that many yaoguai consume the essence and flesh of humans in a bid to achieve immortality. And now they've set their eyes on you. Every year, some manner of supernatural creature will try to kill you and consume your flesh. Most of these will be minor spirits, but a few will hold the strength to grind mountains to dust and topple celestial armies with their might. Tread carefully.

[+300] Mischief on Earth

Many gods seem to run off without supervision to cause chaos and mischief in the earthly realm. More often than not, another immortal or god has to be called in to take care of the problem. Such troubleshooting can often involve heavy collateral damage, and you and your belongings tend to be caught up in the crossfire. Once every three months a celestial being will descend near you to cause mischief, and a god will be sent after them shortly to bring them back. The fighting that this inevitably results in will cause serious damage to, if not outright destroy your properties wholesale and you'll find yourself dodging stray attacks from these battles. Oh, and Heaven won't recompense you for any damages incurred either.

[+300] Vulpine Cruelty

You are… a sadist, to understate things. Your cruelty is such that Daji herself would be proud to call you her equal. An urge to harm and torture others is constantly active at the back of your mind. It is torturous to resist, and can only be sated by causing great suffering to another. Should you give in to these desires, Heaven will notice and send someone to deal with you, and they won't be small fry either.

[+400] Sacrifices

Some of the more benevolent gods and deities were not always so. Some, like Ao Guang, demanded human sacrifices to be paid to them. In this case, one of the Dragon Kings of the Four Seas demands tribute from you. Every year, you must give up something of immense importance to you, and that item has to be something that you would fight tooth and nail to protect. If the sacrifices are not met, he might pay you a visit personally and try killing you himself. If you manage to best him, his allies in Heaven will not hesitate to intervene on his behalf.

[+**600**] **Havoc in Heaven**
It seems that you have truly, monumentally pissed off Heaven. You have committed a transgression so grave and unforgivable that all in Heaven wish to see you dead. In order to do so, they are sending all their available forces to crush you. Have fun.

Ending

Stay Here
Fond of this place, are you? I suppose this isn't somewhere half bad. Have fun!

Go Home
Weary after your time here? Ah, well. You may return to your home universe.

Continue
And so your journey continues on. The Wheel of Samsara turns once again.

Changelog

Update 1.1

Added the perks: **Three Hun and Seven Po** and **Wu Xing** in the Universal line, **Speaking Ill of the Emperor** and **Ancestral Favour** in the Human line, **Hidden Misdeeds** and **Monstrous Sage** in the Yaoguai line and **Hierarchy** and **Celestial Guardian** in the Celestial Being line.

Lowered the price of the **General** perk to 200 CP

Added items: **Hulu** in the Universal line, **Yaoguai Bestiary** in the Human line, **Capturing Artifact** in the Yaoguai line and **Badge of Office** in the Celestial Being line

Added drawbacks: **Mocking Title**, **Red Tape**, **Petitioners**, **Thieves**, **Disliked by Heaven** and **Court Politics**

Notes

Chinese myth in general isn't as familiar in the west as Greeco-Roman or Norse/Germanic mythologies. To those who are less familiar with Chinese folklore, I offer a few links. This jump is meant to be very general and covering a broad, if conflicting, take on Chinese mythology, as Chinese myth tends to have elements of different religions bleeding into it, ranging from Buddhism to Taoism and folk religion. This muddies the line between some parts, as there is a thorough mixing of what can be regarded as different cosmologies..

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pangu
This an article about Pangu, who in some tales is regarded as the creator god of the universe.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/N%C3%BCwa
A link to an article about Nuwa, who in some myths created humanity from clay and silt.

http://fengshentranslation.blogspot.com/search?updated-max=2007-09-24T05:53:00-07:00
This one was the only free online translation I could find of the Ming dynasty novel *Fenshen Yanyi*, or *Investiture of the Gods*. The tales within are mostly about the transition between the Shang and Zhou dynasties, told through a mythologised account. In particular, it focuses on the downfall of King Zhou and his consort Daji, whose demise was ordered by the goddess Nuwa. Many of the items were sourced from this novel.

https://www.gutenberg.org/files/15250/15250-h/15250-h.htm
A book detailing the various myths of China. While it is a handful to read, I found sections of it to be rather useful as a resource for this jumpdoc. The book itself is interesting reading material, though the Wade Giles pronunciation can be annoying to some.

Journey to the West was also a source used during the creation of this document, given that it is quite a rich source of lore for the various demons and yaoguai

As a note, the three categories for origins have areas of overlap in Chinese myth. Yaoguai can also come from humans or celestial beings, with several types being the souls of deceased humans or exiled celestials or even the pets of some divine beings. Many mortals in myth also end up becoming gods themselves, either through their own merit or being deified by others after their death.

As some may have guessed, Heaven's Eye is based on Erlang Shen, the foremost general of Heaven and the one who fought Sun Wukong to a standstill.

Mandate, is, well based on the Mandate of Heaven. To explain how the concept works and its history, it began as a way for the Zhou to legitimise their overthrowing of the Shang, and later was expanded upon by Confucius and Mencius. The Mandate of Heaven was heavily meritocratic in nature and dictated that a King or Emperor's right to rule was in how well they governed their people. Should they do badly, however, i.e. corruption, poor administration, famine and poorly dealing with natural disaster, then they have lost the favour of Heaven and the people therefore had the right to rebel and install a new leader. In most cases this was used as propaganda to legitimise a new dynasty's rule, though most often the numerous histories the first few rulers commissioned had some grain of truth to them.

Chinese myth as a whole tends to have a lot of chronological and regional differences, and in some cases the line between folk religion and mythology is quite blurry; what in one region might be widely considered to be folk religion might be considered to be mythology in another, so I ask that people using this jump to be respectful and understanding of others' beliefs in this matter.

As far as chronological differences are concerned, from the Neolithic to roughly the Spring and Autumn period saw the first interpretations of Tian or Heaven, which is different to the Taoist or Buddhist interpretations. As a very general and oversimplified explanation, people in the Shang and early Zhou dynasties believed in a sort of Supreme deity of Heaven. This deity was rather aloof and really wasn't directly worshipped. Instead, there was (and in the present still is) a strong tradition of ancestor worship, where the spirits of the deceased are venerated and act as messengers for this god.

Taoist interpretations of the cosmos, which this jump draws very heavily from alongside the folk legends and myths, consists of a celestial hierarchy where everything has a god, from natural phenomena to objects to people and animals. Taoism really became active during the later parts of the Warring States, just as Buddhism made its way into China. The jump really doesn't go into the full nuances of this, as it's meant to be very general in coverage.