What's in this book?

At some point in your life, you’ve had to deal with a fool.

The fool has a long tradition. Being rich enough to support a fool to entertain you is a sign of high status and wealth. Among the superstitious, beating a fool can be seen as a sign of good luck.

Sometimes a fool is brought in to lead the cheer, to whip the warriors into a battle frenzy.

Small villages can take great pride in their “village idiot”, because even if things are bad, at least you’re not that guy.

Larger courts usually have a fool. Since the fool doesn’t lose any pride by insulting people or by pointing out flaws in plans, a fool can say things in court that other people would never think to say.

Credits

Written by Norman Rafferty
Co-written by Canio Pagliacci, Lewis Theobold, and Friedrich Wallenhaupt
Illustrated by Brett Foster, Brian Harp, Christine Klunder, Norman Rafferty, and Sara Palmer
Game Design by Jason Holmgren
Edited by Chien Petit Méchant
Special thanks to all the fools out there.

Copyright ©2011 Sanguine Productions. All rights reserved. Several fools were harmed in the making of this game, but it’s okay, we were sure to hit them in unimportant areas, like their heads.
While you wouldn’t normally think that Fools are in high demand, many bosses seem to hire nothing but Fools and then complain about them. Or is it that everyone complains that their boss is a Fool? I forget.

**Clown**
- Often works as a street performer.
- Include Career Dice with: Dodge, Jumping, Presence
- Career Gifts: Coward, Fools Trappings, Foolery
- Trappings: Cloth armor (d4), marotte, motley outfit, random items to juggle

**Hobgoblin**
- Nicknamed after an obsessive (but imagined) fear, the Hobgoblin is an assassin who hides in plain sight, as a clown.
- Include Career Dice with: Deceit, Presence, Throwing
- Career Gifts: Coward, Foolery, Legerdemain
- Trappings: Leather armor (d6), three juggling Daggers (Damage +1), three juggling balls (Damage +0)

**Haranguer**
- A trouble-maker who rouses the rabble against the status quo.
- Include Career Dice with: Gossip, Inquiry, Presence
- Career Gifts: Coward, Foolery, Oratory
- Trappings: Leather Armor (d6), Dagger (Damage +1), effigy, list of public grievances

**Itinerant Fool**
- No doubt you’re on some dread errand. Even less doubt that you won’t succeed.
- Include Career Dice with: Dodge, Endurance, Presence
- Career Gifts: Cosmopolitan, Coward, Foolery
- Trappings: Leather Armor (d6), Staff (Damage +1, Parry d12), bindle, pointy shoes

**Jester**
- An entertainer to the royal court. And sometimes an advisor. And sometimes, a spy.
- Include Career Dice with: Gossip, Inquiry, Presence
- Career Gifts: Coward, Etiquette, Foolery
- Trappings: Cloth armor (d4), pamphlet of salacious ribaldry
### Jinxter
A dabbler in the wizardly arts, who is more effective at berating people than bewitching them.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Dodge
- Presence
- Supernatural

**Career Gifts:**
- Foolery
- Literacy

**Trappings:** Cloth Armor (d4), Staff (Damage +1, Parry d12), pointy hat

---

### Picaro
A low-class, humorous fellow who lives by their wits among the dishonest and the fradulent.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Dodge
- Observation
- Presence

**Career Gifts:**
- Foolery
- Streetwise

**Trappings:** Leather armor (d6), Mace (Damage +2), Wooden Shield (Cover d8), knife, first aid kit, wineskin with cheap wine

---

### Mime
A Fool who specializes in silent pantomime.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Dodge
- Presence
- Stealth

**Career Gifts:**
- Foolery
- Low Profile

**Trappings:** Cloth armor (d4), makeup, invisible box, invisible rope

---

### Poltroon
Often petty and mean-spirited, this warrior is much better at enraged their foes than engaging them.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Dodge
- Melee Combat
- Presence

**Career Gifts:**
- Foolery
- Veteran

**Trappings:** Leather & Cloth Armor (d6, d4), Bastard Sword (Damage +4, Awkward), Wooden Shield (Cover d8)

---

### Naybob
This Fool’s constant negative approach to life would be more annoying ... if they weren't so often right.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Dodge
- Observation
- Presence

**Career Gifts:**
- Foolery
- Danger Sense

**Trappings:** Leather armor (d6), Dagger (Damage +1), useless good-luck charm, second useless good-luck charm

---

### Stooge
An underling whose wit can serve as a distraction.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Dodge
- Inquiry
- Presence

**Career Gifts:**
- Comic Relief
- Foolery

**Trappings:** Leather armor (d6), Mace (Damage +2), Wooden shield (Cover d8), knife, first aid kit, ridiculous hat

---

### Patsy
This person only thinks they're in charge, but they’ve been set up to take the fall for another noble, crime lord, or boss.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Dodge
- Leadership
- Presence

**Career Gifts:**
- Foolery
- True Leader

**Trappings:** Leather armor (d6), Shortsword (Damage +1 Impaling), Wooden Shield (Cover d8), incriminating evidence

---

### Town Fool
Hark! The village has called. It seems they’re missing their local idiot.

**Include Career Dice with:**
- Gossip
- Presence
- Searching

**Career Gifts:**
- Carousing
- Foolery

**Trappings:** Cloth armor (d4), three shiny rocks, bucket with a hole
Foolery (Foolish, Keystone)

You've often been called a Fool... but when you have this Gift, you certifiably are one!

Requires
Coward

New stunt “Taunt”
As a stunt, you may Taunt another target. Your character insults the target, or performs rude gestures, or generally does something to the target to make them angry with you. You may taunt even if this Gift is exhausted.

Taunting does not require you to have your mental faculties. You can Taunt even when Confused or Enraged.

Roll your own Mind, Will, and Presence dice. The target rolls their Will, Inquiry, and your Body Dice. (That’s right – bigger people have less effective taunts, because the target is more likely to be scared than taunted.)

The target must be able to hear you. You can’t be Silenced, the target can’t be Asleep or Unconscious, etc.

Range penalties apply, but use the Cover and Concealment on yourself, not the target. (Taunting works better if you’re out in the open.)

•• No successes: Nothing happens.
•• One success: The target becomes Enraged. (If the target was Afraid or otherwise unable to become Enraged, nothing happens.) Enraged characters must take the “Attack” action every round.
•• Two successes: The target becomes Enraged. If anything would prevent the target becoming Enraged, negate those conditions and make the target Enraged anyway.
•• Three successes or more: The target becomes Berserk. If anything would prevent the target becoming Berserk, negate those conditions and make the target Berserk anyway.

X (Battle)
Trigger: “Scare, Trick, or Taunt Stunt”

Negate Reeling
Whenever you take the “Scare”, “Trick”, or your special “Taunt” stunt, you may Exhaust this Gift. You are not sent Reeling by the stunt.

The Stunt still ends your turn, as usual, but at least you’re not Reeling.

Blatant Fool
(Foolish)

Anyone, near or far, can clearly make you out to be a fool.

Requires
Coward
Foolery
Oratory

No Range Penalties for Rally or Taunt
Your Rallies and Taunts no longer suffer penalties for Range. (Your Scare and Trick taunts still have range penalties.)
Comic Relief
(Battle, Foolish, Plot)

Somehow, your wisecracks are just the right thing to say to relieve the tension and to urge our heroes to action.

Requires
- Coward
- Pacifism
- Foolery

X (Battle)
Action “rally (even when Afraid or Terrified)”

Exhaust this Gift, then take a Rally action, even if you are Afraid. This Gift only allows you to Rally when you are Afraid or Terrified – not with other bad conditions.

Fool’s Trappings
(Foolish, Plot, Trappings)

Sure, anyone who dresses like you looks ridiculous, but a real fool will properly accessorize.

Belongings
You begin the game with:
- An Expensive motley outfit in bright colors.
- An Expensive hideous mask, with either a contorted grin or a horrible frown.
- An Expensive floppy three-pointed hat, with jingling bells on each point.
- An Average-cost, Rare marotte, a small stick with a head carved on it.

Fighting Fool
(Foolish, Plot)

You rush in where others fear to tread.

Requires
- Counter Tactics
- Coward
- Foolery

2d8 Bonus to attack the Enraged or Berserk

If you declare an attack against an Enraged or Berserk combatant, you may claim a bonus 2d8 with your attack.

Licensed Fool
(Foolish, Influence)

You are a fool ... by law.

Requires
- Coward
- Etiquette
- Foolery

You are a court jester
You are officially licensed to be a royal fool, either by decree or by law.
You are expected not just to entertain the court, but you are also expected to say what everyone else is too afraid to say. As a fool, you are expected to insult people, to call out liars and cheats no matter how influential they are, and to point out flaws in plans that the invested can’t bring themselves to discuss.

You are a court jester

Sway the opinions of others
You may exhaust this Gift to push influence over other folks … even after failing a roll! Usually, Exhausting this Gift means “playing dumb” and getting out of some situation that would embarrass someone with more station than you … but a subtle fool can advise, can plant ideas in people’s heads, and can gain access to places that commoners aren’t usually allowed. Refer to the Influence rules for more details.
**Foolery**

**Massive Fool**  
*(Foolish, Battle)*

No mere simpleton, your foolishness can enrage a crowd.

**Requires**
- Coward
- Foolery
- Oratory

**X (Battle)**

**Stunt “Taunt multiple targets”**

Exhaust this Gift, then declare a “Taunt” Stunt – against a Group of targets (instead of just one).

The best result you can score on multiple targets is Enraged. Even if you score three successes, using the Stand-Out Fool ability to taunt multiple targets does not cause anyone to become Berserk.

**Obnoxious Fool**  
*(Foolish, Plot)*

There’s something about you that people hate just so much.

**Requires**
- Coward
- Foolery

**Enraged/Berserk foes have d12 penalty to attack targets that aren’t you**

If a hostile combatant is Enraged or Berserk, and they can trace line of sight to you, then they have a d12 penalty to all their attacks that do not include you as a target.

**Quick Fool**  
*(Foolish, Battle)*

You have to be quick, when folks are this mad at you.

**Requires**
- Coward
- Foolery

**X (Battle)**

**Trigger: Dodging an Enraged/Berserk attacker**

When you use the Dodge defense against an Enraged or Berserk attacker, Exhaust this Gift. (You may not use the ability against attackers who are neither Enraged nor Berserk.)

Take note of your highest Dodge die. You may move up to this distance, away from your attacker, in a straight line. For example, if your Dodge dice came up 7, 6, 4, then you may move up to 7 paces away from the attacker.

Dodge dice include your Speed Dice, Dodge skill dice, and any bonus dice from Gifts such as Coward. Dodge dice are limited by Encumbrance.

**Secrets of Foolery**  
*(Foolish)*

Any fool could do this ... but you’re not just any fool.

**Requires**
- Coward
- Foolery

**Trigger: Dressed like a fool**

**Extra action “Refresh any Foolish Battle Gift”**

To use this ability, you must be dressed like a fool. You cannot be wearing any Armor. The more impractical your clothes are, the better.

You may take an extra action each round: the Refresh action, but only to refresh a gift that has both the “Battle” and the “Foolish” descriptor.

The standard rule that you can’t perform the same action twice in the same round applies.