

RAIJŪ (THUNDER BEAST)

RAIJŪ LORE

Animal Handling 20: Those who manage to calm an agitated raijū often find them exceptionally affectionate and loyal companions, though their tendency to attract lightning strikes has led many to regret cuddling with them.

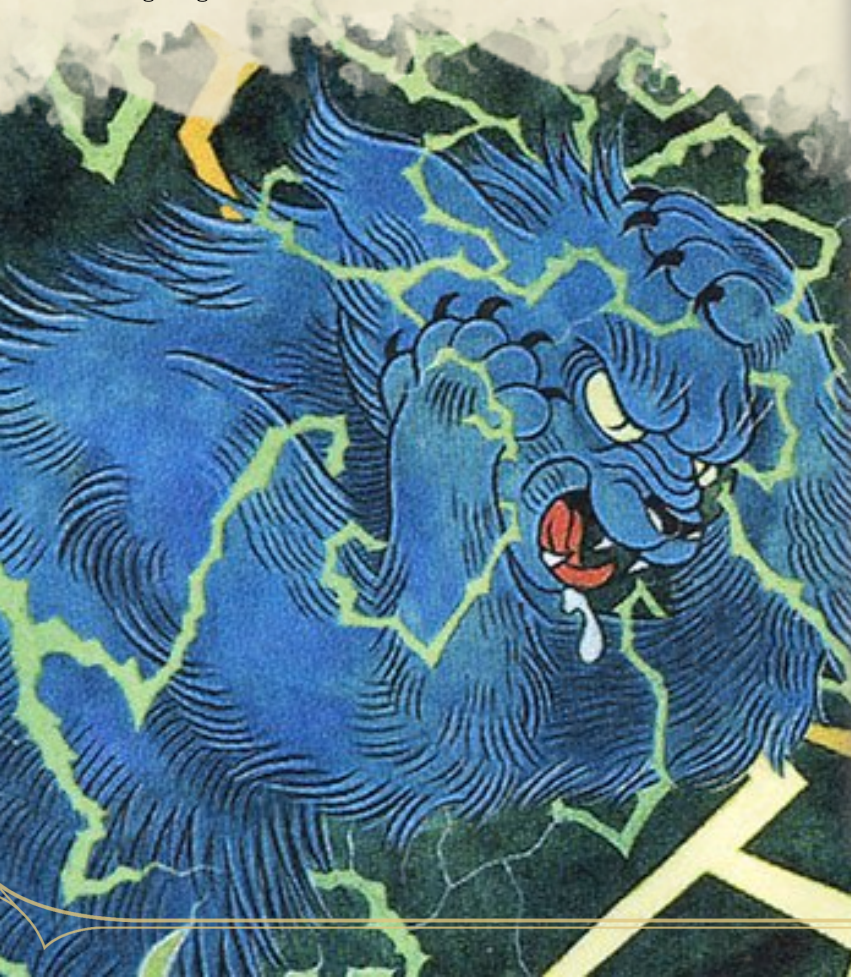
Arcana DC 15: Raiju that stray too close to earth lose the ability to fly and will often become distressed, climbing and leaping about in their efforts to escape the earth's pull. While sufficiently tall trees can sometimes carry them high enough to return home, mages capable of calling lightning can provide them with a bolt to ride back to the skies.

History DC 10: Though said to originate in the two-sided skies of Bytopia, raijū can be found throughout the planes wherever storms brew, cavorting through the towering thunderclouds in which they lair.

Nature DC 20: Raijū are generally quite placid when encountered in their skyborne homes, but often become confused and agitated when flung to earth by a stray thunderbolt, starting fires and causing mayhem as they leap from tree to building in their efforts to stay off the ground.

RAIJŪ TACTICS

Raijū that ride thunderbolts to earth immediately dash to climb onto a non-earthen surface, then use their Blackening Leap each turn to try to climb to a higher one, using their Drum-Thunder Cry against any creature that approaches them. If hit with an attack, they begin using their Drape With Lightning each turn and attacking with their Barkbiter Claws, though will still prioritize fleeing from earthen surfaces over fighting.



RAIJŪ

Small celestial/elemental (kami), chaotic neutral

Armor Class 16 (Natural Armor)

Hit Points 66 (12d8 + 12)

Speed 30 ft., climb 30 ft.

STR	DEX	CON	INT	WIS	CHA
12 (+1)	17 (+3)	13 (+1)	8 (-1)	13 (+1)	14 (+2)

Damage Immunities Fire, Lightning, Thunder

Condition Immunities Deafened

Senses Darkvision 60 ft., Passive Perception 11

Challenge 3 (700 XP)

Bolt-Rider. While at least 100 feet from any earthen surface, the raijū has a 60 foot fly speed.

Whenever a creature or object within 5 miles of the raijū takes or deals any lightning damage, the raijū knows and can teleport to an unoccupied space within 5 feet of it.

Belly-Dweller. A prone creature in the raijū's space has disadvantage on saving throws against effects that deal lightning damage.

A creature that completes a Long Rest while in the raijū's space gains resistance to Lightning damage for the next 24 hours.

Actions

Multiattack. The raijū makes two attacks with its Barkbiter Claws, one of which it can replace with a use of its Drum-Thunder Cry, if available.

Barkbiter Claws. Melee Weapon Attack: +5 to hit, reach 5 ft., one target. Hit: 5 (1d4 + 3) slashing plus 7 (2d6) lightning damage.

On a critical hit, the target begins [Burning](#) (1d10).

Drum-Thunder Cry (Recharge 5-6). The raijū barks out a concussive shockwave in a 15 foot cone, forcing each creature in the area to succeed on a DC 13 Constitution saving throw or be pushed up to 15 feet away.

Bonus Actions

Skyfire Leap. If the raijū is climbing on a non-earthen surface, it can leap up to 20 feet, then the surface it leapt from ignites.

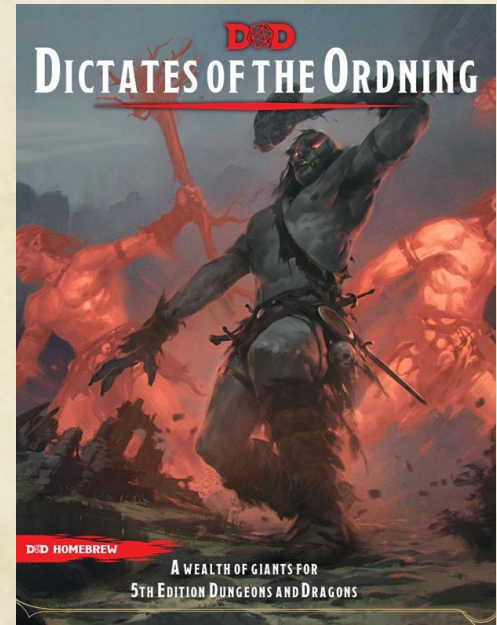
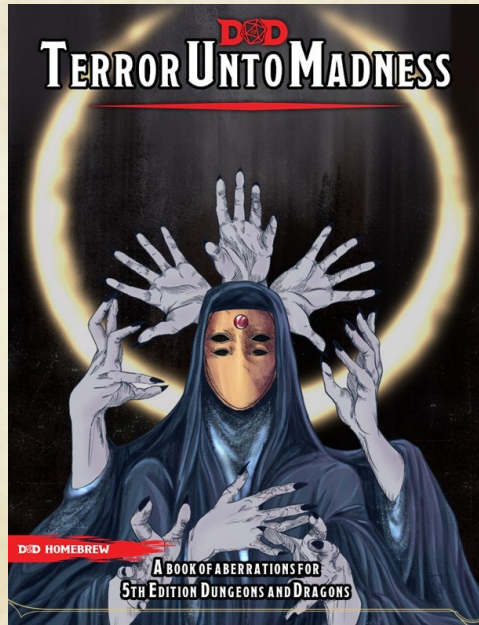
Drape in Lightning. Sparks crackle through the raijū's fur, raising it on end.

The first time a creature hits the raijū with a melee attack before the beginning of the raijū's next turn, it takes 7 (2d6) lightning damage and is pushed up to 10 feet away.

ART CREDITS

- Ayako Ishiguro
- Bisk, Goblin King by [Rae Elderidge](#)

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A large illustration of a green goblin-like creature with a crown, sitting on a red patterned rug. The creature is holding a glowing blue orb. Surrounding the creature are stacks of gold coins, books, and various items. The books are titled 'CONFLUX CREATURES', 'NASTY BOYS', and 'B.B.E.G. DIARY'. There are also dice and a small blue dragon. Several red buttons with the Patreon logo and the text 'Become a patron' are scattered around the scene. A large red button with the Patreon logo and the text 'Become a patron' is at the bottom center. A small signature 'GEPFUCKER 2022' is in the bottom right corner.