

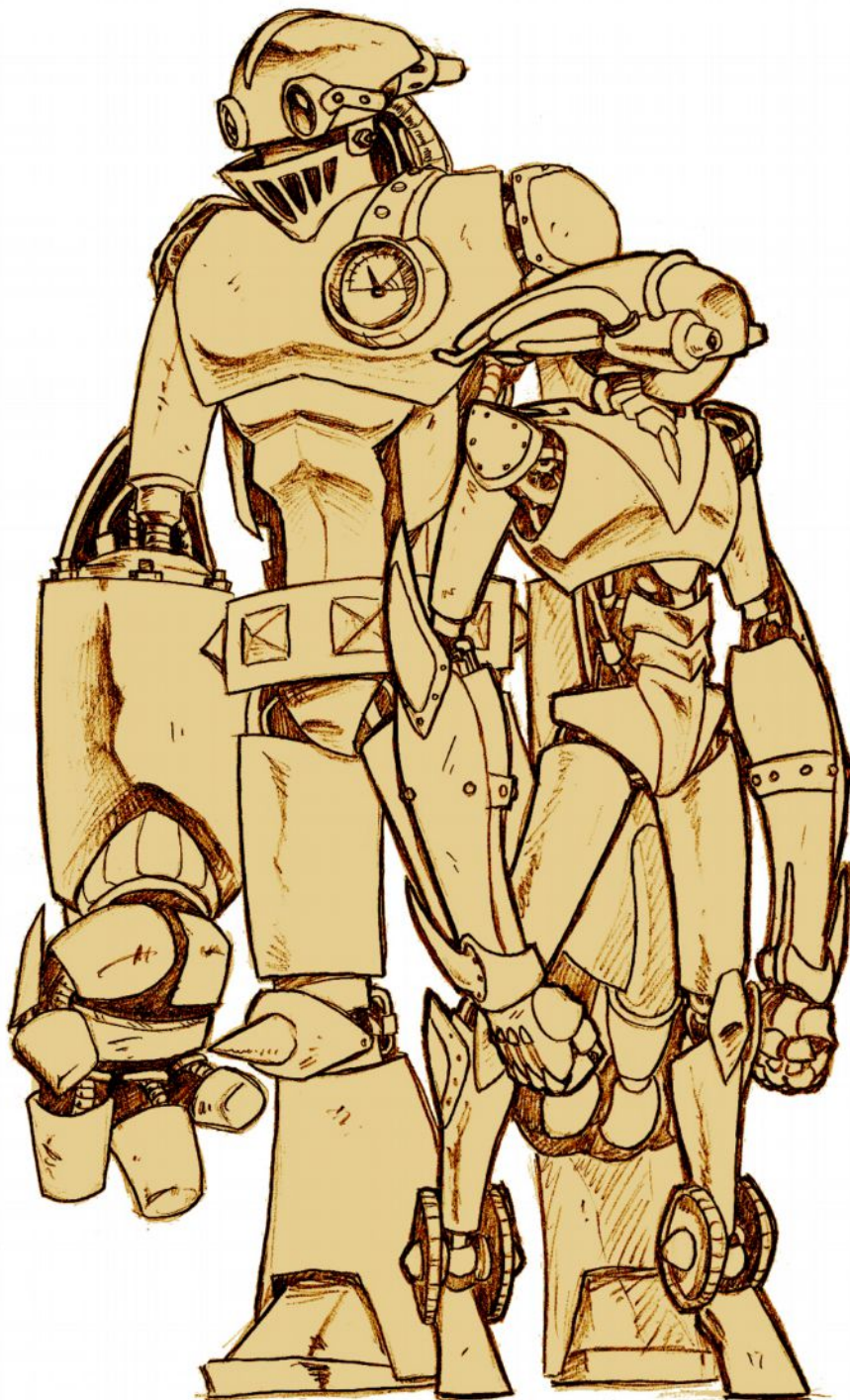
# STEAM SCION

+2 Str OR +2 Dex

## RELEASE VALVE (RACIAL POWER)

Once per battle as a quick action, vent scorching steam onto 1d4 creatures in a group. Damage is equal to one d4 times the escalation die. If the escalation die is at zero, damage is half 1d4.

*Champion Feat:* The d4 becomes a d6



The steam scions are a new breed of warriors created by the Lord of Steam. Due to the fact that they are mechanical constructs, it is not uncommon for them to be mistaken for a forgeborn. Unlike their cousins, however, each steam scion is a living individual, not a mass produced automaton. The reason is in their design: each is powered by a splinter of the Crystal of Souls. Once a receptacle for stolen life energy used in the Wizard King's experiments, over centuries the crystal became a living, growing artifact. The Lord of Steam discovered a way to use it to grant his creations actual life instead of the pale simulation of life present in the dwarves' machines.

Even though each steam scion is as unique in both appearance and personality as any other race, there are two basic builds: one for speed and the other for strength. Although technically genderless, as a general rule scions built for speed adopt more feminine mannerisms while their counterparts display more masculine ones.

The Lord of Steam allows his creations all the rights associated with any free person within the boundaries of his city in the Caves of Steel. None of them are required to remain in his service against their will, but most do in one way or another, partly due to loyalty and partly because society as a whole tends to see them as servants or tools instead of equals.

As a consequence of the utilization of the Crystal of Souls in their creation, the Lich King is especially antagonistic of steam scions, angry at the power he was unable to retain from his former empire. From the perspective of the scions themselves, the Lich King and his undead minions represent one of the few forces in the world capable of subjugating their free will and robbing them of the gift of life they have been given. If a steam scion's body is destroyed by normal means, their soul will revert back to the crystal from which it grew; if destroyed by the undead, however, their life force is consumed to add to the influence of the Lich King.