Jumpable 0.1

It's tail time!

After a band-aid accident blew up a NASA rocket his dad was on for a tapioca experiment, the young gecko Gex looked away from the world, taking refuge in television. After some twists and turns involving imaginary friends and moving to California, the death of an uncle made Gex's family filthy rich. His mom took revenge by turning NASA into a theme restaurant, Gex's siblings purchased Australia, but the lizard himself? He bought the biggest mansion in Maui and settled in for a lifetime of television... but fate has other plans for him.

It turns out, there's a whole world representing all the television and movies humans and geckos go crazy for, the media dimension... and recently put under the iron fist of the megalomaniacal Rez! A few days from now, he'll kidnap Gex to turn him into his network's new mascot, unwittingly driving the despondent reptile to shape up and free the media dimension from the cyborg madman's rule... for two years or so, at least. Rez will get up to his evil business again, this time drawing the ire of Uncle Sam (or was it the Queen?) who'll pay Gex with a fine suit and loads of money to ice him.

Gex will end up becoming a secret agent going on missions across the world and living the high life for some time, until Rez decides to kidnap the lovely Agent Xtra, and gets beaten one final time. Whether he'll actually stay dead that time is anybody's guess... as is whether any of this will even happen now that you're here.

Your decade in this world begins right as Gex settles into his new home.

+1000 Choice Points

Origin

But I gotta know, what are you? Any of these can be taken as Drop-In, choose age and gender as you will.

Gecko

What's a hard-workin' lizard to do? Kick some tail, with tail, baby! You're a lizard, just like Gex himself. You can tail whip, slip the ladies some tongue, crawl on walls and so on.

Media Icon

Maybe you're a cartoon rabbit, or a sitcom actor, or a spy so hot everyone knows who you are even though that kinda runs counter to the whole idea. Either way, you're in the tubes.

Overlord

Searing heat. Stabbing pain. A gaping emptiness. The accident took everything from you, so now... you'll take over the world! You are a cybernetic conqueror in the same vein as Rez.

Perks

Discounts are 50% off. Freebies are Free.

SHUT UP - Free and Mandatory

You can make outdated pop culture references and context-sensitive quips constantly.

“Let’s get it on!”

Eternal Comfort - 50 CP

Even if your father dies, even if the world's going to hell, one thing will always be with you: good ol' fashioned television. You don't need nuthin' and no one besides your sitcom friends and movie idols (or whatever it is you like watching) to be happy. Doesn't mean you couldn't be even happier with a real life, but hey. I ain't your mom.

“Sorry, I only cry at weddings.”

Deep Cover Gecko - 100 CP (Free to Gecko)

The horror, the horror... you can't face society like this. So you won't. Even if you got international acclaim for saving the world and shook hands with the POTUS himself, leaving the limelight is easy. No 'razzis, no annoying groupies. If someone actually goes through the trouble of finding you, they'll jump to offering you piles of cash (or whatever it is you'd like as a bribe) in return for your help with relatively little fuss.

Pre-Marital Gex - 200 CP (Discounted to Gecko)

Geckos are a remarkably seductive lot. Or maybe that's just Gex. Either way, you've got the charm to have a sexy lady spy all hot and bothered after you've rescued her from a villain or get paid "doing errands" for neglected housewives despite being a lizard. Well, if you don't want to get some gex, being this charming also helps your terrible jokes land or have people legitimately think you're cool. You really make the smug mascot look work.

Remote Hunter - 400 CP (Discounted to Gecko)

Haven't your heard, babe? Collectathons are all the rage! You've got a hound's nose and a kid who sees dead people's sixth sense for collectibles. Remotes with power over the media dimension, interchangeable baubles themed after their surroundings that may or may not give you anything of value when you get 30 of them, bonus coins, basically all the random stuff video game characters hunt down for arbitrary reasons. You still need to grab them and some of these are a pain in the hiney to get, though.

Enter The Gecko - 600 CP (Discounted to Gecko)

How's a couch potato supposed to save the world? As it turns out, playing rough with the boys and doing sports as a kid. Yeah, crazy. Your tail hits hard, you climb fast, and you can take some heavy punishment. By watching TV, you can get even better. Vegetate in front of enough action movies and you'll be strong enough to shatter metal and leap twice your height. Eat some popcorn while slashers and ghosts do their thing and you won't even flinch when facing the real thing. Marathon some martial arts movies and you'll be doing kung fu with all the power of ancient chinese secret. For you, a watching sesh is just training.

“Wax on, wax off.”

Xtra Pretty - 100 CP (Free to Media Icon)

Ain't nobody ugly in Hollywood, except for all the ugly people, but let's ignore that and focus on what matters: you're hot! Blazing, baby, a real charismatic piece of work anybody would enjoy looking at on the TV. What that means in terms of your body is up to you, but at minimum you've got two very photogenic features that draw attention like magnets.

"You'll never defeat the evil Mooshoo." - 200 CP (Discounted to Media Icon)

If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. Much like Mooshoo Pork and the Brain of Oz, you're a slimy little toady who can cozy up to any greater villain and... earn their genuine respect, or what passes for it in their cold dead hearts? Huh. Wow. This is assuming you actually help to some worthwhile degree, but it's enough for them to actively keep you around, save you after failures without demanding anything for it, and not mind you building churches with both of you depicted via stained glass art in the heart of their empire.

Playing Rough - 400 CP (Discounted to Media Icon)

Even if the government is supposed to hold a monopoly on force, that's not always how it works out in practice. So, if a maniac is threatening the world, you'll just have to get a bigger force. You're a natural at finding persons of interest, whether they're just nobody or a reclusive millionaire, and bringing them back for enhanced negotiation. But more than that, you're also very good at bribing them into working for you despite said kidnapping. Maybe they'd ask for a smaller salary if you played nicer, but what do I know.

"...started giving me the business. I give a little back. So, we negotiate a little something to cover my expenses."

Has Anyone Even Taken Any Of The Vidya Boss Perks I've Written So Far - 600 CP (Discounted to Media Icon)

Don't they know who you are? You're not just some washed-up Z-lister, you're a star burning like the sun above! A juggernaut embodying an entire concept from popular media, like how Morphina reps all demonic ghost girls and the Brain of Oz ruled the land of Oz. The former could levitate, spin the world around her, summon deadly skulls, and projectile vomit hard enough to kill. The latter was a crablike centaurian mutant whose overgrown brain projected an electrified ghost head that spit burning meteors hiding evil robots inside. That's the level of power you've got to work with, although the specifics are up to you and whatever it is you hail from. You can also star as yourself, akin to Rock Hard, being a human fully enmeshed with their stage persona. Whatever the case, your survival will ensure your source material (be it a specific genre, all stories based on a public domain IP, or a wrestling promotion) will flourish, in turn granting you popularity and fiscal success.

Casting Calling - 100 CP (Free to Overlord)

Out with the old, in with the new. What new? Your newest victim. You're a pro at kidnapping whether by grabbing someone with some goons or sneaking a plot device that'll let you drag them kicking and screaming into your domain into their stomach or whatever plan you prefer. Word of warning, maybe frisk them before leaving your victim alone unattended, just saying.

"No one can defeat the Tiki Brothers." - 200 CP (Discounted to Overlord)

This world belongs in the palm of your hand. Those who refuse your iron grip... deserve to shatter at the hands of your metal claws. You are a bonafide tyrant who can exert control over the most diverse and widespread of domains via force. The masses will have no recourse but to accept your rule, while lesser villains eagerly gather under your banner. Assuming you have the power to assert your dominance in the first place, of course.

TERMINATOR REFERENCES - 400 CP (Discounted to Overlord)

Losing your body wasn't enough to end you. Do they really think you'll give up just because everything you've worked for went up in flames? After a conclusive defeat, you can rebuild at incredible speeds, even salvaging the lieutenants and underlings anyone else would write off as totally dead. If the fortress of doom your whole empire was built upon got wrecked, you'd replace it with a city of carnage in just two years, and if that went like the dodo, you'd move on to a flippin' space station next. You'll always be ready for the next sequel!

Channel Z - 600 CP (Discounted to Overlord)

Who makes the camera? Who makes the mikes and the antennas and the reels? It's you. You're the malevolent genius behind all mass media, a mastermind of malice on par with Rez himself and possibly ex-NASA. Flying insects that act as secret transmitters, giant brains hooked into the mainframe, space stations, deadly walking TV robots, missiles, laser beams and all kinds of devices that can manipulate the media dimension in a variety of ways. You have the mad science to challenge the world, all you need now is to build your army and march!

Items

Discounts are 50% off. Freebies are Free.

Prop Department - 50 CP

Coolers full of blood, seemingly living wooden signs, moving space rock platforms, put in an order and you can get any of the weird incidentals dotting the media dimension's many 'channels'. Not enough to build your own from scratch, not even close, but it can sure help spruce any place of yours. You can get the equivalent of an actual movie's prop supply per year, and you don't need to pay for any of it, either.

"A raft! How convenient! Those programmers think of everything."

Costume Department - 150 CP

...or whatever they're cooking up, at least. You have access to a supply of unusual clothing on par with Gex's own. A smooth tux fit for Bond himself that makes you just as much of a hit with the ladies, some Hercules cosplay that gives you enough strength to move whole pillars, a kaiju costume that makes you big enough to fight a giant robot one on one, and who knows what else. Unfortunately, outside their associated genre, these are just mundane outfits that do nothing special.

"Why am I in the mood to mercilessly beat an LA motorist?"

Australia - 400 CP

Yup. The whole country. Maybe you got a majority share and Gex's siblings pocketed some of the money they would have spent on this, maybe they decided to buy Great Britain instead, either way it's yours. You can keep it as permanent property for Double Australia action in other Earths, or instead gain ownership of each Jump's local Australia, chosen on purchase.

"Someone just smiled and gave me a Vegemite sandwich!"

Home Theater - 100 CP (Free to Gecko)

Oh yeah, baby, now that's what I'm talking about. You've got a hellaciously big TV, larger than your average human or gecko in height, with awesome quality. Plus a collection of DVDs for like, every movie, and a lifetime subscription to all the channels you could ever want.

Feed Me - 200 CP (Discounted to Gecko)

Does this count as street food, or is it more of a cinema thing? Weird TVs containing flies appear in your path on a regular basis, ignored by others until you draw attention to them, but these ain't just for the flavor. Eating these flies lets you channel different elements through your body, or recover your health, depending on their color. You can also let a fly buzz around you to take one hit in your place, despite the size difference. Eating them if you're not a gecko might be pretty gross, but you'll still get the benefits.

Hooray For Dead Uncles - 400 CP (Discounted to Gecko)

So sad, so very sad. One of your uncles died very recently, and you were in the will. They also became filthy rich due to image rights or something shortly before they died, leaving you a cool 5 billion bucks. So, yeah. You could probably buy half of NASA or equally large institutions with all the cash available at your fingertips. Or just spend the rest of your life relaxing in your private island. Whatever floats your boat, buddy.

Mission Control - 600 CP (Discounted to Gecko)

Working for Uncle Sam has its benefits, don'tcha know? Somewhere in one of the oceans, far from land, is an island. Your very own private island! It's beautiful, it's comfortable, and it's got regular shipments so you don't need to worry about foraging and fishing to survive. On the island is an opulent mansion, with a perfectly loyal butler or maid who handles all the boring stuff. But the mansion hides a secret, a secret spy base for you to use however you see fit, itself hiding a teleporter into your own little slice of the media dimension that is ALSO a secret spy base. That one has TVs that can be tuned to explore the many 'channels' of the current world's media dimension.

“Xtra, you’re gonna love this.”

Ho Ho Ho! - 100 CP (Free to Media Icon)

Whether you're an extra in the set for a mafia movie or a man in black, you've got the duds to play the part. A fine suit, colorful spandex, maybe a Santa costume, whatever fits your role. Alongside this is some form of projectile, be it a pile of dangerous presents or a toony hunting rifle with homing (but painfully slow) bullets. No need to worry about ammo, the writers don't care and neither should you.

Boss Room - 200 CP (Discounted to Media Icon)

A place entirely your own, smaller than a proper 'channel' yet all the more tailored to you for it. It might be a cramped laboratory where you can run down intruders like the horror movie victims they are, a round graveyard in which your rotational powers can easily slam your foes to paste, or just a wrestling ring. Maybe don't include something other people can use to damage you like many of the bozos serving Rez do. Comes with a paired set of TV teleporters so you can quickly enter it, or bait fools into facing you in your home field.

Anti-Terrorism Unit - 400 CP (Discounted to Media Icon)

Put on the black sunglasses and sand off your fingerprints, 'cause you're in the big league now. You head your own alphabet soup agency in the same vein as the TV Terrorist Defence Unit that will be formed a few years from now. The government funds you but it also expects you to actually fight supervillains and face worldwide threats, so you can't spend all day ruining your own country like certain groups do. On the bright side, you've got plenty of generic goons and a handful of Bond-like super spies who'll do anything you tell them to.

Televised Territory - 600 CP (Discounted to Media Icon)

Don't touch that dial! Whether or not anyone knows you in the real world, you're definitely a big shot in the media dimension, being the undisputed master of an entire 'channel'. You can choose its genre as you desire, even basing it on a public domain property if you want, and that'll control the kinda goons and stuff you've got to work with. Given the times, you could totally pick something like anime to get tons of cool mechs and badass schoolgirls, just letting you know. Your 'channel' is about the size of a modern city and divided into a handful of 'levels' with different themes of your choice, in case you wanna parody certain entries in your genre or just really need something specific.

Grails - 100 CP (Free to Overlord)

From the depths of the network, comes the greatest of bounties. Whether it's a complete set of Star Trek bloopers, dozens of Star Wars tapes covering every step of the first trilogy's production, or accidents in American Gladiators that have never been televised, you've got something even the biggest TV tater ain't ever seen. Hey, everybody needs a hobby.

"It is me, your father." - 200 CP (Discounted to Overlord)

Or mother, I suppose. Once per Jump (ten years post-Chain) you can dramatically reveal that you were a specific person's parent all along. This will allow them to learn or awaken any powers that could have passed from you to your children. Whether you'll actually be a damn parent to your new kid or try to exploit them is up to you. They'll believe it, but there's no guarantee they'll care about you depending on the circumstances. Don't think too hard about how this works when used on people whose parents actually show up onscreen.

Dark Remote - 400 CP (Discounted to Overlord)

It's time to take control, using this TV remote. With a press of a button, you can summon flying screens that can be used for anything you'd use a screen for or just set to blow up like time bombs, or skip the preamble by dropping spiky mines from the ceiling that explode into pillars of harmful flame-like TV static. With some tinkering, this thing could be used to do weirder stuff like changing a person's size and making TVs into portals crossing long distances across the media dimension or maybe even the real world. It can even imbue other remotes with power, letting you use them as keys for any device under your control or give rubes access to media-based technology without the possibility of reverse engineering.

Twisted Reality - 600 CP (Discounted to Overlord)

Welcome to a world where you control the vertical and the horizontal. Just like Rez, you're the master of a very special 'channel' in the media dimension, one representing a network itself rather than the programming. Its nature is to your taste, whether you want a bulging fortress like the Nerve Center, a sprawling city like Rezopolis, a space station like Rez-Raker, or something else entirely. Although depending on its design, there may be benefits or demerits, like the space station being mobile yet much smaller or Rezopolis being more vulnerable to invasion due to its size in return for greater industrial capacity. But your choice will no matter the specifics harbor factories and replenishing scrapheaps as a means of enabling mad science, constructed with rather dark and disturbing aesthetics.

“Welcome to the only thing more evil than an IRS Headquarters.”

Companions

Companion Import/Export - 50 CP

Import a companion with an Origin and 600 CP or create a new companion of your design with an Origin and 600 CP. You can also attempt to take a canon character as a Companion, with your purchase ensuring the two of you meet in favorable circumstances.

The Digital Man - Free

Rez isn't the only person to be trapped in the media dimension by pure chance. But where he became a powerful creature, this poor man only suffered for it. Decaying, degrading, bit by bit, he looks like a compressed jpg more than a person nowadays. He doesn't want to return home, because his broken mind can no longer understand 'home'. A single hit will make him puke up his guts, not that he remembers or needs to eat. He can't even really fight.

“Cowabummer!”

...If you can't save him, then at least put him to rest, please.

The Other Gex - 50 CP

Where did this guy come from? It’s another Gex, a second Gex, one who sounds really quite posh if the original one was more of an American comedian, or the opposite if you believe the real Gex is a brit. Well, he’s got the convoluted family history down, and is basically just a second Gex. He is, however, rather intrigued by the Chain and wants to join your roster. Don’t take both Gexes together, their quipping will be insufferable.

Nikki - 50 CP

A sassy acrobat turned sorceress. She can throw fireballs, project a freeze ray, and summon bolts of lightning via magic, but don't ask her for help with your grimoires or she'll be out the room with half your loot before you can even blink. Dreams of world conquest and eating energy fields larger than her head. Very fond of you, at least as much as she would be of Gex and Fargus. Though which of the two in particular your relationship most closely resembles I leave at your discretion.

Say Gex - 50 CP

...I'm not even gonna bother dressing this one up. Apparently, the Gex family had one more kid in the litter, and he's head over heels for you. Googoo gaga heart eyes, would buy the apartment complex you live in and the place you work at to make sure you can't leave him, should probably seek psychiatric care actually, levels of love. But he's cute, incredibly domestic, and rich. In other words, his red flags are just fun facts.

Build: Deep Cover Gecko, Pre-Marital Gex, Enter The Gecko, Xtra Pretty, Home Theater, Hooray For Dead Uncles

Drawbacks

If you need more points, take on some trouble. The viewers at home will love it!

Quipfest - +50 CP

You will make outdated pop culture references and context-sensitive quips constantly.

"Captain, they are a bizarre alien race that find Adam Sandler funny."

Growing Pains - +100 CP

Yeah, so, turns out 3D game development is hard. We had to cut some corners bringing you in here. As a result, you're now stuck with digital controls. Your movements and actions are stiff, 'locked' into certain angles and motions. It's not crippling, but it is pretty dang troublesome, especially if you ever need to look real close at something.

"I haven't seen blasts like this since taco night at James Earl Jones' house."

TV Addict - +100 CP

Gex has a problem, and so do you. You're genuinely addicted to media. Doesn't matter if it's reality shows, horror movies, or that Japanimation stuff weird teens are into, half your waking hours must be spent on screen time or you'll become increasingly unstable. No multitasking with stuff running in the background either, you're a dedicated watcher.

"In a land before time, when Saturday Night Live was funny."

Singles Only - +200 CP

Hope you're not a team player, because no team is playing on your side. For some reason, it is almost impossible for other people to help you 'in the field'. Sure, you can have the butler clean your home and do taxes for you, or get advice from a spy babe with your watch communicator, but any combat or adventuring or general excitement you get up to has to be done alone. Bedroom exercise is the only exception to this, despite the Drawback's name.

"Scotty, beam me into an Ivy League Sorority House."

There Is Another - +200 CP

Talk about sequel bait! Whatever it is you plan to do, don't expect beating Rez to be the end of it. There's a bigger, even more evil and powerful technofreak waiting in the wings. Kinda like how Sauron was really just an underling of Morgoth, pardon my nerding. If you're on the other side of the moral aisle, then wiping the smug grin from that gecko's face will bring in an appropriately more powerful and heroic hero to foil your evil plans. If you're morally gray, or just stay out of the media war? Both of these fools will make themselves your problem.

"It's over for *me*, pal."

"The media dimension is not what it once was young Gex." - +300 CP

Copyright law is rough. It's not surprising the media dimension is so... scuffed. But for some reason, things have gotten even worse, to the point even Rez has taken notice. Things are just kinda... bad. The real world's programming genuinely sucks, and the media world in turn is continually degrading in quality and appeal. It's possible to find the cause of the rot, but it'll take a deep dive into the world of television's most forbidden depths, and you'll be in for one hell of a boss fight once you find the culprit. Just giving up on all fiction might sound like a safer idea, but... if Rez can threaten the real world... do you really think you'll be safe from whatever is doing this?

The End

After ten years, it’s time to make your choice... if you died, you may only choose the first two.

Go Home

Stay Here

Move On

Notes

Gecko and Overlord make you Gex and Rez as of the first game, physically speaking. Media Icons are customizable TV mooks or human super spies a la Agent Xtra and James Bond.

I can't find any actual sources for Liquid Noise / Liquid Rez and the claims made about it on basically every wiki. There's a mention in the first game's manual but it's just talking about stage hazards. If you really need to be TV Angra Mainyu, fanwank something with Channel Z.

If you buy Televised Territory, Rez will begin the Jump considering you one of his subordinates, though he won't demand anything from you until you show off or Gex is already kicking down his doors. If you're cool with being at war versus him from Jump start, feel free to ignore that and declare independence.

"It is me, your father." doesn't give you the powers of, or turn you into, the canon parent of your targets.

The media dimension is a parallel world reflecting the human world's TV Shows and Movies, containing "generic" representations and outright parodies of the subject matter rather than the actual worlds and character of the media in question.

The various 'channels' inside it are depicted like interlinked dimensions in the games, although Enter The Gecko's main menu gives the impression it's all just one world. How it works in regards to video games, youtubers/streamers, or similar digital media is unknown. Fanwank something.

Changelog:

>0.1: Made the Jump.