

ECHOES OF THE DOME

Inspiration: Attack on Titan, The Dome by Stephen King, Godzilla, Kaiju No.8.

Tokyo, Japan ▾

Earth, Aftermath Era

The Earth wasn't ready for the first monster, which landed in Tokyo, Japan laying a devastating wake over the entire country. Nor were they ready for the next one, or the next...

With no idea where they came from, humanity scrambled to build domes strong enough to ward out the monsters. Each country has its own name for them, for the Japanese it's 怪獣 (kaijū), the americans call them Monsters, the netherlands Reusachtig wezen, and onward.

It's the year 2050. Twenty-five years have passed since the first colossal threat, named Enoch, emerged in Tokyo, Japan, leaving the metropolis almost completely demolished. In the aftermath, governments internationally initiated an ambitious protective enclosure program now known as the Dome Project. Massive geodesic biodomes, each capable of sustainably accommodating over 6,000 inhabitants per square kilometer were rapidly constructed across four locations—Tokyo, Florida, Rotterdam, and Antarctica. These mega-structures house the last remnants of humanity, shielding citizens from the unpredictable colossal threats which periodically ravage the exterior world.

Within the enclosures, life continues under strict governance by dome officials. Citizens reside in compact apartment complexes, with basic necessities provided through tightly regulated rationing systems. Patrol drones discourage dissent. Beyond the thick glass and steel walls, cities have been completely reclaimed by nature. Forests, deserts, and tundras have flooded urban centers, with wildlife now roaming land once densely populated by humans. The dome inhabitants can gaze out upon empty skyscrapers enveloped in vines or glimpse herds grazing within hollowed

parking garages. Though attacks have grown more sporadic after a peak 15 years prior, the colossal threats still emerge periodically to wreak havoc on the exterior planet's landscape, serving as a constant reminder of humanity's fragile status quo.

Geography & Nature:

Twenty-five years after the initial emergence of the colossal threats which decimated Earth's major cities, the planet's landscape has been completely reclaimed by nature. Vast forests, deserts, and tundras flood once densely populated urban centers. The crumbling remnants of skyscrapers, homes, and workplaces now serve as shelters and grazing lands for proliferating wildlife. Outside of climate fluctuations triggered by the migratory paths of the few remaining colossal threats, the Earth's temperatures, seasonal cycles and geography remain largely unchanged. The protective biodomes serve as the last refuges for humanity, with major enclosures situated in precise population centers: Tokyo, Florida, Rotterdam and Antarctica. Each recreates self-sustaining tropical environments capable of supporting over 6,000 inhabitants per square kilometer. Inside these high-tech facilities, climate and circadian rhythms remain perfectly regulated, unlike the unpredictable exterior world dominated by the evolutionary processes of nature. For those sequestered city-dwellers gazing out from the enclosures' windows and viewports, Earth appears as alien as some long abandoned colony planet, providing a constant reminder of civilization's fragility.

Politics:

Tokyo's monarchic rule has led to the formation of a strict caste system within the biodome walls. Members of royalty and high dignitaries live lives of extreme luxury with unlimited access to gourmet cuisine, customized living quarters spanning entire floors, and exclusive entertainment options. Mid-level engineers, scientists, tactical officers and their families occupy multi-room apartments and can afford decent healthcare and education.

However, the masses consist predominantly of overworked manual laborers constantly monitored by security systems. They are confined to

cramped single-room units and regulated by social credit scores impacting food ration quantities.

Florida's totalitarian dictator consolidates authority among close cronies and loyal military generals who live decadently. The majority of skilled professionals like engineers and computer programmers are provided with comfortable but monitored accommodations in exchange for meeting productivity quotas. However, unskilled workers are relegated to densely populated barracks rife with black markets and violent gang activity. Strict curfews contain the masses unless labor drafts require overnight construction, maintenance, or disaster relief assignments.

Rotterdam retains a democratic process and constitutional monarchy centered around the monarch's symbolic leadership. However, power rests predominantly with the Council - representatives from scientific fields deemed critical for biodome operations. Unskilled laborers hold no political leverage at all and have minimal housing regulations, healthcare access, or workplace safety oversight from the ruling technocratic Council.

Antarctica prioritizes survival capability, with seats on the leading Council awarded to those demonstrating critical expertise like engineering, agriculture, medicine etc. Skilled professionals capable of contributing to sustainment efforts receive adequate housing and healthcare. However, unskilled residents are provided only basic subsistence unless providing manual services benefitting operations. Harsh exterior environment prevents uncontrolled population growth. Martial law enacted whenever stability threatened.

Technology and Achievements:

Nano-Shield Dome Technology:

Each dome is encapsulated by an intricate Tessellated hexagonal graphene lattice interwoven with microtubules of a proprietary metallic hydrogen compound. This nano-engineered barrier possesses intelligent,

self-healing properties while filtering out harsh radiation and mitigating seismic shockwaves. The structure dynamically reinforces itself against external damage while nullifying brute force attempts at permeation. state-of-the-art quantum computing clusters control nanosecond-precise adaptations and predictive impact response mechanisms.

Augmented Reality Integration:

All citizens over age 12 are implanted with neural lace biometal electrodes enabling direct interface with the Central Intelligence Server. This grants an augmented reality overlay network known as the Immersion. Citizens experience data streams consisting of administrative notifications, behavior metrics, facial/voice identification of every passing individual, and citywide monitoring footage. While facilitating logistical efficiency, the network secretly catalogs analysis of emotional states, social connections, and a standing "social credit" score impacting their ration packs and living quarters. The government using these to watch citizens is kept a secret, citizens are told it's private and only helps them identify others and keep up with government news.

Simpler version: Citizens over 12 years old receive implanted neural interfaces connecting their brains directly to the Central Intelligence Server. This leads to an augmented reality network called the Immersion that delivers notifications, metrics, facial recognition, and feeds from ubiquitous monitoring. Ostensibly facilitating efficiency, the system clandestinely assesses emotional states, relationships, and assigns social credit scores affecting rations and housing in a system of constant surveillance and social engineering through incentives/penalties.

Bio-Enhancement and Genetic Modification:

The city rulers take daily regenerative chromosome therapy immersion baths, supplemented by metabolic nanite infusions, ensuring radical life extension. Their cognition accelerated by neural implants, the elite wield genetically enhanced physiques granting superhuman attributes. All

children conceived undergo comprehensive pre-implantation genetic diagnostics. Embryos categorized as suboptimal are rejected for gestation.

Those meeting desired biological criteria are approved, their genomes aligned with leadership-designated roles--the intellectual elite distinguished from drones optimized strictly for manual labor.

Simpler version: The ruling elite undergo daily rejuvenation treatments involving chromosomes, nanites and implants to maintain radically extended lifespans and hyper-intelligent cognition in genetically optimized biological forms granting superhuman traits. All pregnancies are pre-screened through genetic testing. Embryos deemed inferior are terminated while approved fetuses have their genomes edited to designate intellectual or laborer castes according to social engineering priorities set by leadership to stratify the population.

Automated Infrastructure:

Intricate pneumatic disposal chutes and plumbing arteries winding between the compartments maintain strict waste segregation, while filtration membranes scrub trace particulates from the recycled air. Blind insectoid custodian robots swarm the city sublevels, ever repairing and enhancing functionality per the Master Server's directives. At street levels, all vehicles operate on charge-induction pathways. Public transit systems run on predictive algorithms, while enforcement drones silently patrol districts, neutralizing dissent with targeted electrical disruption fields.

Simpler version: The city utilizes advanced waste management and air filtration systems. Intricate pneumatic tubes and plumbing separate and dispose of waste while scrubbing air. Blind repair robots swarm underground to maintain infrastructure as directed by central control. Above ground, charge-based rails power autonomous vehicles and transit on demand. Enforcement drones circulate to suppress dissent through non-lethal means if needed. Overall the city runs with high efficiency and low environmental impact through extensive automation, monitoring and predictive algorithms.

Threats and Challenges:

Humanity faces a relentless threat - colossal creatures emerging from the depths to leave chaos and devastation in their wake. Each beast - classified as a savage "Kaiju" - is assigned a threat ranking equivalent to their destructive potential measured on the earthquake magnitude scale.

Equipping protective armor forged from the very remains of fallen kaiju enhances the strength and resilience of the warriors that defend Earth's last surviving settlements. To date, there are no recorded instances of these mammoth adversaries displaying any behavior towards mankind beyond single-minded aggression. However, four specialized military forces stand guard over humanity's final bastions - each world-renowned in their own right. The Tokyo Defense Force possesses cutting-edge technologies specifically engineered to counteract the kaiju menace. Florida's warriors combine devastating brute force with remarkable creativity and cunning gained from lifetimes battling the threat firsthand within their biome's swamplands. Rotterdam boasts disciplined contingency strategies and Netherlands' ample experience defending their lowland delta regions. Antarctica's defenders rely on the frozen fortress of their environment itself to funnel advancing kaiju into lethal kill zones. Though their approaches may differ, these elite protectors maintain close strategic ties - unified in one crucial goal: eliminate the colossal kaiju before mankind faces utter extinction.

Classification:

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata or Ambulacraria (depending on attributes)

Class: Unknown/non-specific (traits of multiple classes)

Order: Unknown/non-specific

Family: Unknown/non-specific

Physical Description:

Gigantic size, usually ranging from 50-300+ meters tall

Massive, powerfully-built figures with thick skin/hide/armor-like exoskeleton
Varied morphologies including quadrupedal, bipedal, multi-limbed,
amoeboid etc

Traits showing both terrestrial and aquatic adaptations depending on
subtype

Enormous size enables striking with tremendous force yet also agility belies
their bulk

Tough, often armor-reinforced epidermal tissue provides resilience to
weaponry

Sense organs proportionately enhanced, some possessing unique sensory
abilities

Internal structure not comprehensively documented but appears
reinforced/compartmentalized

Highly durable/resilient despite size, capable of surviving extreme
damage/toxic loads

Extramundane biological/physiological properties elude scientific
explanation

Behavioral Observations:

Solitary or pack/swarm behaviors depending on subspecies

Omnivorous feeding patterns, feeding mechanisms varying widely

Territorial/ aggressive when threatened with no docile phases documented

Life cycles and ontogeny not fully mapped but sexual dimorphism in some

Exact origins and ecosystem role theoretical due to unprecedented
size/traits

If a wild animal eats a kaiju, they will become a kaiju and grow immensely
taking all the behavioral and physical attributes of a kaiju while still
maintaining their original look.

In summary, Kaiju represent an entirely anomalous class of flora/fauna
possessing traits unlike any terrestrial life yet exhibiting clear biological
functions. Comprehensive categorization remains limited by the
infrequency and volatility of safe encounters.

Defense Forces:

The Anti-Kaiju Defense Force is a military organization specialized in taking down and neutralizing kaiju. All the domes have a Defense Force and the weaponry and enlistment are the same. Each Defense force has its own Captain and Vice-Captain, along with many platoons led by a remarkably powerful soldier. Operations are guided by the aid of Operations Leaders, who assess the situation from data and computers and announce kaijus' arrivals or deaths.

To join the Defense Force candidates must pass a First-Stage Examination which consists of filling in some documents.

The second part of the exam is a two-part system, consisting of a physical test and an aptitude test. While the first one involves regular military physical training, the aptitude test changes every year and it's the real test of one's natural ability. The test can either be disposing a real Kaiju in a controlled environment or surviving outside the dome.

Candidates who passed the exam receive their results immediately where they are presented as official Force members and vow to give their life to the Force. The Defense Force follows regular militant rankings from Cadet to Platoon leader and above.

The members of the Defense Force possess a huge variety of equipment, with the most important item being the suit itself, equipped with a gas mask and a fair amount of utilities. The arsenal of most of the members consists of rifles, guns, combat knives and various kinds of bullets made from Kaiju corpses. Magazines carrying the power-bestowing organs of kaiju, known as Korgans. This allows the bullets to recreate the kaiju's powers.

Defense Force officers possess two kinds of official uniforms: a normal black tracksuit used as the main uniform, and a formal military uniform called the Titanweave Exosuit. The formal military uniform is a bioweapon made of kaiju cells and muscle torn off corpses. It accordingly enhances the wearer's physical attributes like strength, speed, precision, and reflexes so it is only worn during missions. If the uniform gets over-extended it will

start causing the person wearing it pain by burning until it's taken off. The Anti-Kaiju Defense Force's augmented field uniforms consist of a thick dermal layer directly grafted from the iron-dense hide and muscle fibers of dispatched kaiju. Once donned, the alien nervous system components integrate with the wearer's biology through microtubule interfaces. This biomechanical symbiosis enables startling enhancements far beyond human limitations - strength becoming sufficiently immense to manually rend steel, speed blurring to near-invisibility, hyperaccelerated neuronal conduction granting eerie prescience and machine-precision reflexes.

However, the unstable biomesh can only channel a finite degree of superhuman ability before initiating catastrophic rejection. Prolonged exertion degrades synaptic connectivity, causing the embedded tissue to convulse and rupture. Operatives describe the mounting side effects as searing subdermal infernos, razorwire coiled around marrow, acidic corrosion of cortices. If the pain thresholds are ignored and overexertion continues past warning thresholds, the runaway cellular necrosis risks permanently crippling integration with the wearer's body or even inducing systemic organ failures. Therefore the nightmarish uniforms must be swiftly removed once mission protocols designate the acceptable neural overload limit has been reached. Weapons are customized to the owners fighting style. Weapons that are made out of kaiju cells and corpses are dangerous but powerful to use, given only to high ranking soldiers.

Beneath the biodomes, vast subterranean complexes house the headquarters, training facilities and weapons development labs of the formidable Anti-Kaiju Defense Forces. Candidates brave enough to attempt recruitment must pass intensive physical examinations assessing strength, stamina, pain tolerance and aggression drive. Cadets are systematically exposed to Kaiju roar recordings at deafening volumes while solving complex tactical puzzles under extreme fatigue to measure reflexes under duress. Advanced biometrics analyze neurological stress reactions, searching for elusive attributes making one suitable for the role of a Defense Force warrior.

The few deemed adequate advance to customized aptitude trials synthesized from decades of data on traits exhibited by active high-performing operatives. Surviving 24 hours alone beyond the perimeter while acquiring an organic Kaiju tissue sample guarantees selection. Newly badged operatives swear binding oaths of fealty to their dome communities and endure painful subdermal insignia etching marking their eternal commitment. They are presented with standard-issue ballistic mesh uniforms coated in Kaiju platelet layers providing defensive enhancement, and begin specialized weapons training. Rank insignias denote service longevity, with distinctive crimson officer capes awarded at Captain status. When mobilizing for live combat operations, the operatives equip bionic muscle sheaths directly grafted from Kaiju anatomy remnants. These unstable bioweapons dramatically augment strength and fatigue resistance but inflict progressive neurological overload, mandating short field deployment cycles.