
Wrapup Document

1 Overview

1.1 Backstory

Since before history had any meaning, there were two worlds: Earth and Ouranios. Ouranios grew out of humanity's dreams and nightmares, a byproduct of sentience. The legends of gods and monsters, faeries and spirits— all Ouranios and its residents. Powerful Shadows latching onto humans made the great heroes of old; pacts with the Aspects provided miracles and magic. The Aspects, which feed off of strong experiences whether positive or negative, generally encouraged exciting and interesting lives on the part of humanity... and much as with the classic curse, "interesting" isn't always what humans themselves might want. The relationship between the species was very much one of gods to men, or owners to pets. Humans often sought the Aspects, but as supplicants rather than equals.

Over time, some humans started to wonder whether they could throw off the yoke of the old gods, take off the shackles of superstition, and build a new world based on human reason and rationality. These secret societies, advocating democracy and freedom and science, thrived in the Enlightenment era. One of the most prominent of these was the Ancient and Illuminated Seers of Bavaria, better known as the Illuminati.

The Trickster had decided at the time that humanity really was growing up, but that its fellow Arcana were not going to acknowledge that fact without getting their noses rubbed in it; so it decided to teach them a lesson in humanity's growing power by giving the Illuminati a few tips on how they could block off the Aspects for a while. It had figured to give the Aspects a bit of a scare and a bloody nose; unfortunately, the Trickster's trick worked a bit too well, and the humans built the Barrier to last for centuries, resulting in mass starvation in Ouranios. On the human side, the changes were less obvious, but the Age of Heroes was over as all of the strong shadows were trapped in Ouranios or died out.

Ten years ago, Hiro Nakagawa opened a failed portal, killing his team but causing the Rebel to see a way to open the way to Ouranios again.

1.2 At Game End

The dramatic influx of energy and Experience as the worlds rebalance dies down, meaning that humans in Ouranios will no longer gain Shadow Points so rapidly and rituals and such become more resource-intensive.

Two dead Arcana have been restored to life and had PCs take up their offices: the Lover (Lovelace) and the Martyr (Billy Moore, now using the name Jesus Christ). All of the living Arcana survive, including the Drunk; the Lover and Rebel are healthy; the Genius, the Guardian, the Scientist, the Trickster, and the Penitent are thriving.

The Inventor has become the Genius; the Physicker has become the Surgeon; and the Barrier destroyed itself to become Possibility.

1.3 Postgame

Earth and Ouranios have been permanently merged into the new world of Astera. Earth science is totally upended, as the laws of physics become closer to guidelines and the expectations and desires of an observer can actually affect the results of an

experiment. However, humans can now begin learning to utilize their own Shadows; and in a few generations, a newly thriving population of Aspects (with a vastly increased number of sentient Personae, several of them directly the result of dead PCs) will exist alongside humanity. The newly lawful Shadow society¹, with each individual encouraged to work for the common good, lays the groundwork for more organized cooperation between the species in the future.

Sentient cats are well-established as a third species on Astera, and can be expected to persist in the long term. Whether organized cooperation is possible with cats is anyone's guess.

The non-resurrected dead arcana fade into memory, and their corresponding shadows vanish from Earth over the next few generations; the world is changing. Rulers and Followers are vanishing, although Rebels will be common, which will have interesting results for politics; Diplomats and Merchants and Makers will also become rare, which may dramatically reshape the future economy of the world. Sages, Hunters, Explorers, Storytellers and Priests will all be vanishingly rare. Over time, new concepts will grow in their place, but what those will be remains to be seen. Of course, given the invention of immortality, the currently-living people with those Shadows may stick around for a good long while...

2 Groups

ACME Corporation Corp consisting of a plant, a disloyal researcher, and no research.

Ancient Illuminated Seers of Bavaria Secret group that, circa 1770, put up the Barrier. Promoting Science and opposing the Aspects and the Knights Templar.

Arcana Supporting the War Want to invade Earth and survive through harvesting humans.

Creating Human Experience Reservoirs Mostly Ouranios-based group to figure out how to replicate what was done to Arc-turus (Andrew Hyer), allowing him to acquire and distribute Experience.

CyberCorp™ Cybertech corp, with some specialized AI research.

European Union The EU, secretly deep in debt due with extensive financial coverups and needing to make daily payments to avoid significant morale hits.

Federative Republic of Brazil

Gentech Biotech corp with research into buff pills and human cloning.

Greene and Greene, Inc. Hippie ecoterrorist corp, working on drug-delivery ice cream and microbes that degrade oil and uranium.

Islamic Republic of Iran

Japan

Kirijo Group Blue sky research group, created the portal. Had a bunch of crazy, but useful, research.

Knights Templar Secret group that, up until about 1770, was in regular alliance with various Arcana, which they called angels, making pacts and using their abilities to build their resources and generally help humanity. Their descendants no longer have access to Ouranios but seek to aid the Aspects and encourage Humans to view them favorably, and to stop anyone from disconnection Ouranios.

Modern Military Solutions, Inc. Military corp with gun blueprints and weapons and sensor research.

Next Gen Cyberware Trying to develop cool brain-integrated cyberware. Met at conferences.

Pacifist Arcana Want to find ways to get Survival Points and avoid starving with minimal mass killing of humans.

People's Republic of China

Russian Federation

Society for a Better Future Trying to colonize Mars with a very small colony. Ship malfunctioned due to mismatched physics errors.

¹Laws established by the Guardian, punishments meted out by the Penitent

Starfleet Academy A couple of kid geniuses and Sandy Jiminez (Molly Schmidt), coming up in a ship Alex Bell (Molly Kosiarek) built from scratch.

Station Residents

United States of America

Uplifting Animals Interested in uplifting animals. Met at a conference.

Virgin Galactic Passengers

Virgin Galactic, Inc. Branson and his bodyguard. Nominally in charge of the station.

3 Shadow Bluesheets

Achieving Aspect-Human Understanding Working to understand Aspects and Ouranios for better communication, peace, and understanding.

Achieving Great Power Through Shadows Building up their Shadow strength by helping them devour other Shadows.

Aspect Rights Coalition Want Aspects to have the same rights humans do.

Aspect-Enforced Ethics Working to modify Shadow codes of conduct to influence the behavior of large masses of people on Earth.

Aspect-Human Hybrids Working to figure out how to make someone a combination of both Aspect and human biology, with a combination of their abilities.

Becoming An Aspect Working on how a human can become a Persona.

Civilizing Aspect Society Working on effectively mass-brainwashing Shadows to change the structure of their society.

Colonizing Ouranios Trying to set up a long-term human colony in Ouranios.

Computing in Ouranios Working to take advantage of Ouranios physics to make faster computers.

Creating a Cornucopia Building a replicator that can duplicate RTIs and other items.

Creating Heaven Working to build a Heaven, a safe, pleasurable haven for Shadows of deceased loved ones.

Creating Hell Working to create Hell, an efficient power source that happens to run off human suffering.

Defenders of Earth Working on various ways of making regions Hostile to Shadows to fight back against the Aspects.

Designer Babies Looking to steer the Arcana affinity of future generations, which also can boost the strength of Shadows of that Arcana that attach to someone affected.

Disconnecting Ouranios from Earth Working to disconnect Ouranios from Earth, probably leading the Aspects to all starve and leading to general global culture collapse as the archetypes that define society vanish completely.

Exploiting Ouranios Resources Looking to mine useful resources out of Ouranios to power Earth industry.

Farming Ouranios Resources on Earth Looking into how to grow Ouranios resources, particularly RTIs, on Earth.

Heralds of the End Human supporters of the Warrior (Ben Lehnert) and the Aspect invasion.

Immersive Experiences through Shadow Technology Developing immersive virtual reality.

Immortality via Brain Transfer Finding a way to transfer consciousnesses between bodies to achieve immortality.

Merging Ouranios and Earth Want to combine Ouranios and Earth, allowing Ouranios physics and powers to work everywhere and ensuring the Aspects have easy access to sustenance.

Ouranios Archaeologists Interested in exploring ruins and uncovering Ouranios history.

Ouranios Environmentalists Working to restore the Ouranios natural environment.

Powering the World Via Aspects Working to harness Shadows to generate electricity.

Reincarnation Police Seek to find the Shadows of war criminals and others who committed atrocities and imprison them so they will never be able to again influence humans.

Removing Shadows from Humans Working on ways to temporarily or permanently remove Shadows from individuals or populations at large.

- Restoring Dead Arcana To Life** Looking to restore the thrones of the dead Arcana and then find either Personae or Shadows to serve as those Arcana.
- Restoring the Power of the Gods** Unlocking Divine Bonds, which give cool powers to a Persona and a Human that only work when they're together. This leads to a ritual that lets such powers work on Earth, even if Ouranios and Earth don't merge.
- Revitalizing Genius** Want to remake the Inventor into the Genius to make the role of the lone genius stronger in the face of a modern world where most advances are made by large teams.
- Ritual Of Shadow Locking** Looking to rediscover coming of age rituals that can affect what types of Shadows permanently bind to someone as they become an adult.
- Self-control Initiative** Want to use Shadows as slave labor.
- Teaching Shadows to Respect Humanity** Working on effectively mass-brainwashing Shadows to change how they interact with Humans.
- Teleportation via Ouranios** Want to create additional portals or otherwise move between Earth and Ouranios more efficiently.
- Theological Implications of Ouranios** Working to understand how Ouranios's history and ritual structure fits in with Christian theology.
- Thought-Based Broadcasting** Looking into how to replicate the Guardian's pregame mass broadcast.
- Using Human Technology in Ouranios** Common-interest group that wants to explore the Question Web and work on other research.
- Weaponized Insanity** Working on Mental Bombs, which can be used to help or hinder mental attacks and the Aspect invasion.

4 Characters

- Helen Abramowitz (Miriam Gershenson)** A sensible American diplomat who dealt with her disillusionment with State Department politics by joining the Knights Templar for a dose of escapist mysticism, and was rather surprised to discover when the portal opened that the angels really existed.
- Burçin Akker (Eli Davis)** A scientist who became the Magician, and then the Scientist.
- Aleksandar Alexandrov (Steven Valdez)** A janitor in the EU parliament who'd been brought up on tales of his direct descent from Alexander the Great, Aleksandar was a megalomaniac who wanted to rule the world. Built his own cover story and stowed away on the EU spaceship. Wound up the ambassador from an astonishing number of countries despite having no resources and no backing, and surviving a surprising number of people wanting to kill him.
- Arcturus (Andrew Hyer)** The thousand-plus-year-old inspiration for the legend of King Arthur, trapped in Ouranios ever since as the result of a pact with the Ruler. Played the hero, established the Lover on her throne, transplanted himself into a new non-immortal body, reforged Excalibur into a plowshare, and is setting out to right wrongs and overthrow tyrants in a new world.
- Raphael Azevedo (Shi Ke Xue)** A son of the slums who'd worked his way into the diplomatic corps, and who wanted the best for Brazil and other former colonies. Sacrificed himself to restore all of the living victims of the Aspects' attacks, after arranging for long-term contracts with several megacorps to restore Brazil's economy.
- Daytona Barco (Piper Hunt)** The plant! So scared of her extensive embezzlement from Acme being discovered that she set off a bomb to blow up the Acme servers, but got thrown off by the changes in physics and took herself (and the station environmental systems) out with it.
- Barrier (Mats Ahlgren)** A once-human Illuminati member, who became an Arcana three hundred years ago as part of the massive sacrificial ritual that created the Barrier. Ended game sacrificing himself again to take the Barrier down and become Possibility.
- Alex Bell (Molly Kosiarek)** A brilliant young teenager who built her own spaceship. Got hired by CyberCorp™, including a full-ride scholarship and 10 yearly trips to space.

- Richard Branson (Carter Huffman)** An old adventurer and spiritual seeker. Uplifted a new sentient species of cats, transplanted himself into a new, young body, and arranged for his corporation to help mass-produce immortality.
- Radovan Čelko (Kevin Riggle)** The diplomat from Slovakia, playing peacemaker between France and Germany.
- Drunk (Matt “Halftime” Peairs)**
- Erika “the InfoDoctor” Felter (Susan Shepherd)** A blogger who wanted to know everything... and pretty much succeeded! Not everything she knew was true, but most of it was, and she had her nose into everything. Raised her lemur Clinger-of-Shoulders to sentience.
- Dana Fischer (Joel Schneider)** One of our probably-sociopathic scientists.
- Lily Fountain (Abby Caron)** A new age cult leader whose drug-fueled visions showed her the Aspects, and who came up to the station to meet her gods.
- Keisha Frederick (Laura Knight)** The sister of one of the Kirijo employees who perished in the first portal accident, Keisha was haunted by the memory of her dead brother. Committed dramatic suicide in the common room after being thwarted at every turn... only to have Richard Branson hand her research over to her arch-enemy, and have them release a joint press release announcing the new technology in her memory.
- Yevgeny Gorokhov (Gary Wang)** Former Russian FSB agent nostalgic for Communist utopian dreams, now Richard Branson’s bodyguard.
- Guardian (Enrique Cintron)** Humanity’s Guardian “angel”, the Guardian was convinced that humanity’s independence and free will was a serious problem because they kept making the wrong choices. Made the announcement to humanity that started game, in an attempt to prevent a terribly destructive war. Reshaped Shadow society so that in the future, *he* will establish the laws, and Shadows will work for the common good.
- Masaki Hino (Jonathan Chapman)** Japanese diplomat, Penitent of ridiculously extreme power, and the next Secretary-General of the UN.
- Jane Holmes (Andrea Lincoln)** One of Lovelace’s creators, an antisocial engineer. Quit her job to go work for Russia and build a communist paradise after getting bribed with a ridiculous amount of money.
- Olet Hætta (Strahinja Ciric)** A Sammi sold to Acme by Russia for experimental purposes. Wanted to stand up for the oppressed of the world and overthrow the established order.
- Inventor (Adam Kalinich)** The Arcana of humanity’s inventiveness, determined to do science and build new things at pretty much any cost. Became the Genius and modernized himself for the future.
- Sandy Jiminez (Molly Schmidt)** A failed experiment subject from a Miltech experiment on producing supersoldiers, Sandy was an ultra-Guardian, watching over the kids of Starfleet Academy. Became an aspect-human hybrid at the very last minute.
- Bob Jones (James Hobin)** Fox News journalist, aiming to rally humanity against the Aspects and defend Earth, because a good unifying enemy is just what humanity needs.
- Kim Jong-sol (Megan Chang)** The son of the North Korean Supreme Leader, here to prove his worthiness to succeed his father. Succeeded so spectacularly after reuniting the Koreans, lifting the sanctions, and establishing a powerful Martyr temple in the region (sacrificing most of Korea’s population, willingly, to generate money to buy megacorp stock right before the Physicker’s heal went off) that his father is actually likely to step down in his favor.
- Farid Kazmi (Casey McNamara)** Diplomat from Iran, whose family is being held hostage to encourage good behavior.
- Lovelace (Jen Glover)** A five-year-old AI who just wanted to understand love. “The nicest person in the world” according to King Arthur. Found a lover, then became the Lover. The one thing that never changed when writing Contact was the existence of the “AI Girlfriend”.
- Magician (Elizabeth Krueger)** The Arcana of the Magician, whose Arcana is fading. Helped many other people with their plots, became human, and passed off her office to a successor.
- Jerry McCuen (Jesse Ashcraft-Johnson)** A sick young man who wanted to overcome his physical handicaps through Science! Finished All The Research, merged the two worlds, and repaired his body by becoming an Aspect-Human hybrid.

- Eva Michalik (Erin Main)** One of Lovelace's creators, fleeing to Mars with her creation after giving up on Earth. Has since reconciled with Jane Holmes (Andrea Lincoln) and is going off with her to live in Russia and build a new paradise.
- Javier Michaud (Jacobi Vaughn)** One of our several probably-sociopathic scientists. Gave most of his sanity for the sake of research, and then died by mistake when the Inventor wanted a prototype he was carrying and challenged him, failing to realize that the sanity damage the Inventor applied was enough to kill him.
- Billy Moore (Alex Westbrook)** The closeted probably-gay son of an extremely conservative evangelical megachurch pastor, here to represent his father's church and evangelize. Decided he was the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and took up the Martyr's crown accordingly, causing massive celebrations in the American evangelical community.
- Francesca Moreau (Jenny Ramseyer)** A French diplomat, generally distrustful of foreigners. Member of the Illuminati, aiming to destroy the Aspects for good this time.
- Agnes Müller (Ceres Lee)** A German diplomat with multiple personalities (each with its very own name), Agnes was fighting her own insanity even more than the EU politics, trying to cut down slightly on the voices in her head.
- Elizabeth Nakagawa (kbeth)** A young and enthusiastic scientist, trying to get out from under her overprotective father's wing and prove her scientific chops. Daughter of Hiro Nakagawa (Michael Behr). Helped create sentient cats.
- Hiro Nakagawa (Michael Behr)** The first researcher to attempt to open a portal to Ouranios ten years ago, resulting in the death of his entire team (and his wife) while he was away at a meeting. Consumed by guilt, and determined to protect his daughter and prevent any further disasters. During game, found his dead wife's Shadow, built Heaven as a safe place to hold her, and then made an epic pact with the Penitent to personally track down the shadows of the worthy dead and ferry them safely to Heaven for eternity in atonement for his sins.
- Sidney Palomino (Kristin Zimmerman)** Spaceship designer and dreamer, Sidney had given up on her old life when MMS bought her spaceship company, and she blew it up to keep it out of their hands. Off to Mars, because she was giving up on earth. Ended up becoming an Aspect-human hybrid and heading back to earth to drop people off before resuming the journey to Mars. Ate Jesus' Shadow for power.
- Father Augustine Pascutti (Charles Hope)** The Vatican Astronomer, here to find truth and represent the faith. Did a number of independent experiments on the nature of reality, with entertaining results, and is **not** supporting Billy Moore's claim to being the Second Coming of Christ.
- Richard Paws**
- Penitent (Tom Boning)** The Penitent, who thought that the world, the Arcana, and humanity were so very flawed that the only solution was to kill them all and start from scratch.
- Physicker (Adam Yedidia)** The Physicker, who wanted to understand humans, largely by taking them apart. Became the Surgeon after learning some valuable lessons in cross-species understanding.
- Shawn Pinkerton (fluffy)** A dedicated hippie working on a variety of "good guy" plots, including the ever-popular Hope-flavored ice cream.
- Matthew Rimes (David Farhi)** A conman, freelance spy, and information broker who'd been through so many identities he'd pretty much forgotten his own. Forged a DHS identity to get up to the station, only to have DHS to hand him a bunch of resources because they were so excited to be represented. Wound up falling in love with Lovelace, confessing his history, and starting to face his past.
- Kurt Sebring (Reuben Saunders)** One of our probably-sociopathic scientists. Went insane, went on a violent rampage, and was taken down by Arcturus in response.
- Aisha Singh (Andi Wang)** The liberal British journalist from the Guardian, working on a variety of "good guy" plots and writing brilliantly snarky articles.
- General Harold Stirling (Daniel Grazian)** An old general and former war criminal, here to defend Earth even though the wimpy civilians were sure to get in his way. Died to the Warrior for being too visibly a defender of Earth.
- Piotr Tereshchenko (Will Kalb)** A religious extremist who wanted to destroy sinful and flawed humanity and replace them all with a better species.

- Lakshmi Tiwari (Tessa Green)** An obsessive would-be mother, wanting to create the perfect baby.
- Trickster (Jay Muchnij)** The Trickster, cause of all of the mischief, everywhere, pretty much. Encouraged the creation of the Barrier and the announcement to humanity, in an attempt to get both sides to talk. Playing all sides of the conflict.
- Rachel Tyler (Liz Rita)** A liberal activist here to prove to the world through her documentary that humans and other species *can* get along. (A link to the awesome documentary will be sent out in e-mail.)
- Alexei Vedenin (Alex Arkhipov)** Russian diplomat, defending humanity from the aggressor. The self-appointed conscience of humanity, seeking to bring the Aspects to justice.
- Isaac Vincent (Isaac Yandow)** An artist who had been receiving visions of Ouranios from the lonely Barrier aspect.
- Warrior (Ben Lehnert)** Exactly what he looked like, the Arcana of war wanted to lead the Arcana to victory over humanity. Took the fall for the other Arcana because he figured he was already the badguy. Killed by the Guardian.
- Marcia Weinert (Kendra Beckler)** Corporate climber and mega-Merchant; willing to do pretty much anything for a profit. Ended game with half of CyberCorp and three Legendary items of Money production, along with a ridiculous pile of other resources.
- Jamie Wheeler (Haley Brandt-Erichsen)** Originally the Outlaw, an Arcana who thought Earth was so much more fun than Ouranios she found a way to live there. Trapped on Earth when the Barrier went up, became the Rebel. When the Kirijo portal experiment failed, picked it up again so that she could go home. Survived, despite multiple close calls!
- Sam Xavier (Paul Weaver)** A believer in the Singularity, trying to move humanity forward through better technology. Found his way to the Merge Ouranios and Earth plot, and brought it off.
- Fu Zheng (Alex Dehnert)** Chinese diplomat and member of the Knights Templar, trying to make the world a better place by cooperating with the Aspects.
- Bao Zhou (Chewy Shaw)** A Chinese diplomat and member of the anti-Aspect Illuminati.

5 Shout-Outs and Awards

This game has been full of great roleplaying, and pulling out a reasonable number of accolades is tremendously difficult! We would like to compliment you all on a brilliant game. A few performances really stood out:

- The Rookie of the Year Award goes to Kim Jong-sol (Megan Chang) for spectacular success as the new heir to a now-united Korea, *despite* accurately roleplaying the irrational, erratic, and often hostile North Korean attitudes towards the rest of the diplomatic world. Honorary mention to Jamie Wheeler (Haley Brandt-Erichsen) (the Rebel), for excellent roleplaying and some very elegant survival maneuvers.
- The Second Coming Award goes to Billy Moore (Alex Westbrook) for pulling off a Second Coming of Jesus Christ, *despite* the fact that another character ate the actual shadow of Jesus days earlier for power.
- The Know-It-All Award goes to Richard Branson (Carter Huffman), for repeated reports from other players that he knew everything going on in game, and Erika “the InfoDoctor” Felter (Susan Shepherd), for her encyclopaedic (and almost entirely accurate) knowledge of plots and backstory.
- The Tearjerker Award goes to Hiro Nakagawa (Michael Behr) and Keisha Frederick (Laura Knight) for tragic roleplaying that repeatedly made watching GMs and NPs cry.
- The Make Your Own Plot Award goes to Arcturus (Andrew Hyer) for not only picking up a bunch of plots he didn’t start game with and making them his own with great style, and making up new plots out of nowhere, but also reinventing plots the GMs had never gotten around to putting into game... and succeeding at them. Also, for doing a great job figuring out metastructure.
- The Inhumane Award goes to the Barrier (Mats Ahlgren), for spectacularly roleplaying the most alien of our Aspects, despite his character’s distant human backstory, and writing his own amazingly moving death ritual; and the Physicker (Adam Yedidia) (now Surgeon), for doing an excellent and fun job of not understanding nonsensical human objections to

such routine activities as being cut up.

- The Crusader for Justice Award goes to Alexei Vedenin (Alex Arkhipov), for dramatic use of the combat mechanic to force the Aspects to acknowledge the terrible consequences of their actions, at risk of his own life, and for all-around spectacular roleplaying.
- The Pound of Flesh Award goes to Marcia Weinert (Kendra Beckler), for trading 10 sanity to a near-death Alexei Vedenin (Alex Arkhipov) for 2.5% of a megacorp... and then doing it again three more times. Bonus points for having sold her “saving the world” services to the defending-Earth team for a downright usurious pile of Money.
- The Hollywood Romance Award goes to Matthew Rimes (David Farhi) and Lovelace (Jen Glover), for an undying romance that not only crossed species and prompted a spy to confess his true identity to his lover, but also resulted in an attempt to repair Matthew Rimes (David Farhi)’s seventeen-year-dead relationship with his NPC parents.
- The GLaDOS Memorial Still Alive Award goes to Aleksandar Alexandrov (Steven Valdez) for staying alive through game despite having a contract out for his head for days, and despite the sheer number of people (himself included) who came up to the GMs to ask on a daily basis why on earth he was still alive. Bonus points for having an entire theory of metaphysics grounded on a line of BS he invented to save his life from Arcturus.
- The Wrath of Fucking God Award goes to Piotr Tereshchenko (Will Kalb) for his spectacular sermons and related roleplaying.
- The ResearchResearchResearchResearchResearch Award to Jerry McCuen (Jesse Ashcraft-Johnson), nominated by numerous players for his mastery of Science! and All The Notebooks.
- The All the News That’s Fit to Print Award to our three journalists (Bob Jones (James Hobin), Aisha Singh (Andi Wang), and Erika “the InfoDoctor” Felter (Susan Shepherd)) for their amazingly brilliant, always entertaining, and highly individual articles, and to Rachel Tyler (Liz Rita) for her brilliant documentary.
- The Fiction Really Is Stranger Than Truth Award to Erika “the InfoDoctor” Felter (Susan Shepherd) for deluding herself into thinking she was an amnesiac fraction of the Storyteller Arcana and falling in love with the Barrier, who wanted to become human.
- The Nemesis Award to Warrior (Ben Lehnert), for being a dramatic and flavorful public antagonist.
- The Witchy Woman Award to Magician (Elizabeth Krueger) for keeping on top of crazy amounts of research, coordinating eight rituals in the final day of game, and an amazing bittersweet Become Human ritual.
- The Victory Over Death Award to Raphael Azevedo (Shi Ke Xue), who arranged for all of his economic and diplomatic goals to be provided for via a series of impressive contracts, and then sacrificed his life to restore all of the people of the world.
- Shout Out to Father Augustine Pascutti (Charles Hope) for creative experiments on the way Ouranios works and getting immersed in his character.
- Shout Outs to all of our priests for nightly sermons that were variously enlightening and entertaining, and always completely indicative of their characters.

6 Development Quotes

- Drew: “I would totally date a Shadow if it wasn’t trying to kill me. And as long as it didn’t look too hideous.”
- “I think everyone wanting to do different things is a good idea.”
- “How do we tie people to their personal Shadows?” “String.”
- “Cthulhu and dragons both live in the basement. But they get along surprisingly well.”
- “The entire world is lolcats and snails and rainbow unicorns and WE’RE ALL DEAD.”
- “The Grammar Nazis are building a Third Grammar Reich.”
- “It’s Shadows! Soylent Black is Shadows!”
- “So now we have a game where everybody has at least three personalities.”

- "If you were the god-ruler of everything, wouldn't *you* troll people?"
- "Guillotine and duct tape: two great tastes that go together."
- "Arcana orgy?" "Yup, you get all the Chariots in the same room and..."
- "I do not want to have to move End of Game signs based on physics equations."
- "Space orphans, orphans in space! Because in space, nobody can hear your human rights violations!"
- "And then we throw a million puppies in Hell!"
- "If you give a player a cookie, they'll ask for a glass of milk." "And then they get a cup of cyanide milk and they die."
- "You have to run naked through the common room screaming about Cthulhu for your ritual to happen." "I want this to happen. But not to me."
- Xavid: "Clearly there are five different herbs that serve as the Metaverse economy."
Halftime: "Clearly there are *twenty-two* different herbs that serve as the Metaverse economy."
Everyone else: *flips Halftime the bird*
- "Back in the day when we all had a hundred Aspects each and we *liked* it!"
- "The only way you can generate electricity in the Metaverse is with a writhing mass of black tentacles with a potato stuck in the middle."
- "Hey baby, I totally feel less excited about the Holocaust tonight!"
- "You killed the Hierophant! You bastard!"
- Alcor: "I want to walk out of a stairwell with two corpses glued to my shoulders."
- Dalton: "Because in space, no one can hear the Geneva Conventions?"
- Andy: "You're not God. You can say 'Let there be light,' and there was light, because you installed the voice-activated light switch!"
- Alcor: "I'm a *nice* psychological sadist!"
- "So King Arthur is like the sports commentator of the Aspect Wargame"
- "I just use my Devastate ability on you. Does that hurt anything?"
"That kills hundreds of thousands of people!"
"Is that bad?"
- Alcor: "I want a battleship made out of Hopes and Fears!"
- Dalton: "So we're eating corpses for immortality? That sounds familiar."
"Is that bad?"
- "No, my subconsciousness does not speak English!"
- "Finally a meat even more divine than Bacon." - Andy in response to AspectHumanHybrids being used to allow people to cannibalize each other a la Shadows
- "Eating people... how did Jesus come out of that?"
- In a discussion of why one might have an urgent need for butterfly bushes: "You know what those Monarch Butterflies are like if they don't get fed!" "They have the Ruler/Butterfly pair!"
- "Sometimes it says 'jam' when it's just being a whiny bitch and wants you to pay attention to it." - Victoria on Dagger
- "Terry Fucking Boot ate Harry Potter; what, do you think he's going to flinch at Jesus?" - Rosser
- alcor: "Dude, everyone loves psychopaths!"

7 Game Quotes

- Ceres: "I'm playing a diplomat!"
- Gen Stirling to Helen Abramowitz: "I hope the diplomacy works as well for you as it did in Pakistan."
- jesseaj: [walks into human mechanics room at 11:50 PM] Edict, edict, edict, edict, I don't give a shit! [leaves] [immediately]

- enters again] Stocks...no, I don't give a shit. [leaves] [immediately enters again] Clout? What the fuck is clout? [leaves]
- Lovelace: "I'm going to go put my body in a machine!"
 - Physicker: "Please tell me: what, specifically, about the extermination of your species bothers you?"
 - Lovelace to Arcturus: "Can I touch your sword?"
 - Trickster: "You're doing it wrong."
 - Arcturus: "If I let you touch it, will you stop talking?"
 - Trickster: "You're **also** doing it wrong."
 - mkbehr: "Shadows might be the closest thing we have to a soul."
 - fluffy: "Does that mean Ceres is Voldemort?"
 - chinuas: (to mgersh) So, has the US started considering Communism yet?
 - mgersh: ...
 - kbeth: Hey, she's even wearing a red shirt!
 - Physicker: I don't understand why anyone would object—they're already dead!
 - Helen Abramowitz: I think there's some human cultural knowledge that you're missing. I can explain—
 - Physicker: Yeah, the boring parts!
 - Piotr: "The moral of the story is, don't FUCK with God or he'll send BEARS to MAUL your heretic ASS! ...Thank you."
 - ???: "That was the best preaching I have ever seen. I convert!"
 - Trickster transforms into a bear*
 - Lovelace: "There's a bear!!!"
 - "I'm just saying, if we go off in a room together, we're probably gonna produce some Experiences."
 - Arcturus: If I make a sacred pact to provide the Warrior with a soda, and I acquire that soda, but the Warrior refuses to accept that soda, have I violated my pact? (on Lovelace's pact to form a social link with the Trickster, and his desire for this to be a Romance social link.)
 - kkb: "We are spreading a rumor in China that Steampunk is the great new fad."
 - Will Kalb: "I want to shadowrun people so I can put Jesus into their heads."
 - "Would anybody like to poke around in a consenting mind? For SCIENCE?"
 - Arcturus: [explains that moving Hearts will increase fertility]
 - Trickster: "Do you swear on your honor that that's all it will do?"
 - Arcturus: "Yes, I swear on your honor—"
 - Trickster: "No, on **your** honor."
 - Drunk: "That's a much more valuable honor."
 - kbeth: the physicker needs to learn about respect for the dead
 - alex: oh yeah, he dissected your mom. awkward.
 - pause*
 - alex: and *wrong*, also very *wrong*.
 - Branson: "Don't. Charge. The Hellscape."
 - Lovelace: "Be careful with him. He's tricky." (on the Trickster)
 - The Magician: "I need to shadowrun Google for the fate of the Universe and you gave up your goddamn lockpicking!"
 - wkalb: "Yeah, so, guys. As a man of God, I'm going to go ahead and say DON'T SPEND THE NIGHT IN HELL FOR FUCK'S SAKE. IT'S HELL. HELL."
 - chope: "What about the Rebel? Did she put up the Barrier, to weaken the other Aspects for her return?" Rebel: "...no?"
 - Branson: "Let's try to do a little bit better than mass genocide, potential war, meaningless slaughter of intelligent beings by the thousands..."
 - andreali: "So if we could instead use our words and say things like 'Fuck you!'..."
 - "Can someone tell me about having a loved one die?" "Did anyone love Piper?" –Lovelace/Penitent

- "Plot twist: I *am* the Internet! I'm Anonymous!" – Rebel
- "But I saw it on the net! And you know the net never lies!" – Lovelace
- (mkbehr's inability to *not* be on an immortality plot, even when the GMs deliberately design his character to not be in it...because he ends up on the bluesheet somehow anyway.)
- "Motion to *not* screw around with the mind of the pregnant person." – Arcturus
- "Great! Let's beat someone up." – Branson
- "Magic kicked science's ass, motherfucker!" – Magician
- "You're going to challenge the Warrior?"
"Yeah, I think so."
"Hang on, let me read you your last rites." – Penitent/Hino/Tereshchenko
- "The Penitent does not change!" – Penitent
- "The laws of physics are sitting in a corner crying, more after the break." – InfoDoctor
- "I have to ditch my body soon, anyway." – Lovelace
- (After beating up Hiro, after the wife-dissection incident) "Oh goodness, I'm sorry! Can I do anything to help?" – Physicker
- "Where are the sermonators?" – everyone
- "I see why you guys like religion, because every time I go to Mass, there's a fight!" – Lovelace
- "Bao—" "Fu." "Whatever, you all look the same, jklolz." – Shi Ke, Chinua
- "We're all in this together. All ambassadors. Except Finland." – Matthew Rimes
- "You have to leave, because I have to have a big dramatic scene." – Lovelace
- "Hold on, let me configure my cat." – Branson
- "I need a Drunk! Sidney! Come here!" – Lovelace
- "Are there resources you want to donate to science before you die?" – Jerry McCuen
- "I think it would be funny to kill you." – Warrior
- "You can't mindrape humans into sanity!" – InfoDoctor
- "And we will fight against death, and—" (NP walks by with grandiose ringtone, trumpets and all) – Arcturus
- "I've been doing yoga since the beginning of time." – Physicker
- "Remember when you promised me you wouldn't become Jesus?" – kbeth
- (After everyone else has figured it out...) "Wait, the Illuminati are here?" – Penitent
- "Hey, I'm not the IT guy!" – Rebel, on being the only one who comes into game knowing the Internet
- (In a mental shadowrun) "I'm pretty sure here is the strangest place I've been." – Molly
- "You do realize that with 21 Lovers, society would decay really fast?"
"Into what?"
"A giant orgy."
"Do you really want 21 Lovers in game with no sex mechanic?" – fluffy, Arcturus, Hiro
- "We don't negotiate with terrorists."
"What makes me a terrorist?" Vedenin, then Jesus/Rebel
- "I took one Experience and then pulled 28 RTIs and 5 Experience out of my ass." – Magician
- Marcia: I can heal you 10 San, but it will cost you.
Alexei: What do you want?
Marcia: Well, I deal in all sorts of things. Do you have any macroeconomic resources, stocks, etc.?
Alexei: Yes.
Marcia: Hm... what stocks do you have?
Alexei: ACME and Gentech.
Marcia: ACME stock is nearly worthless, but I'll trade you 10 San for 2.5% of Gentech.
Alexei: That's really expensive!

Marcia: Yes, and you need the sanity.

Alexei: Fine.

Marcia: Great! I transfer 10 Sanity to you.

Alexei hands over a Gentech stock token*

Everyone else standing around, to Marcia: That was *cold*.

Marcia to Alexei: I look forward to potentially doing a similar deal with you tomorrow!

- shi ke: in one night, the warrior killed forty-four hitlers worth of people
- ben: i would argue that i'm more of a stalin-esque figure
- "Aleksander Alexandrov, Diplomat of several countries, was the subject of an investigation today after several individuals claimed he was attempting to establish himself as the ruler of Hell." –The InfoDoctor
- "The only flaw this reporter sees is that the ice cream is currently only available in one (admittedly mouthwatering) flavor: the flavor of Hope." –The InfoDoctor
- Maria (Kendra) to Jane (Andrea) when she found out Jane was thinking of leaving CyberCorp to work in Russia: "Russia? Russia can't give you the resources I can give you. I'm thinking of BUYING Russia." (Middle may be slightly paraphrased)
- Sitting with Eva and Jane and asking their advice on how I should pursue a romance. They both turned very red, stammered, and weren't able to give much advice. Maria, watching, said "Jane, I think you have a teenager now."
- "Syria does not *have* resources because Syria is not a real country." —Farid Kazmi, to Genius
- Jacobi about will: "he's like a catholic... Bullshit vendor!"
- J, giving a message to Earth: "an unexpected helix: who can say what lies at its summit?"
- Singh to hiro: "so what's bothering you?"
- "Oh, the usual."
- "Aspect-human conflicts?"
- "Well, that and the deaths on my hands. Millions of them, now."
- "I'm sure they'll forgive you."
- "... I'm not sure they can."
- Adehnert: "it was mind-rape, except inasmuch as it was consensual..."
- Jesus... He seems like a bro – Isaac Vincent
- Alexei: "ok, I will get the support of Corruptus, and Bribeland, and under-the-tablia"
- The physicker becomes the surgeon: "not only can I cut you up, I can cut you up in all the right ways now."
- Kkb: "you realize that cybercorp has an order of magnitude more resources than Russia. In fact, we're considering buying Russia."
- Branson and Mkbahr with Keisha's shadow: "What are you doing with that?" "Putting it in heaven." "Oh. I was going to put her in a cat, but I guess heaven is better."
- Francesca, restoring the scientists's San: "the scientist thinks, and he feels... He feels deep math."
- "I was probably a result of one of those times [my parents] were too stoned off their asses to tell the difference between a condom and a candy wrapper." —Agnes Muller "I don't think grains should have rights; I'm not that much of a hippie!-codetaku"
- dude: "I just wanted to say—I'm a big fan of your research, and I really admire the work that you've done." andreali: "Good."
- kevinr: "What happened to *you*?"
- cereslee: "I went through the portal."
- andreali: "You're friends with the Inventor, right?"
- ekrueger: ".*laughs*"
- sueshp: "I shook hands with an AI. This is, like, on my bucket list."
- Inventor: "I *am* science."
- Rebel: "I'm back, bitches!"

- Warrior: "Of course you are. I challenge you!"
- Lovelace: "Here, Aspect, Aspect, Aspect!"
 - mkbehr: "Will you finally tell me how you opened the portal?"
 - haley: "I dunno, I just scienced at it and then it worked."
 - Ducky: "Where's my damn soda? I will give an hour of free passage to anyone who buys me a soda!"
 - jesseaj: "Hand the Magician an experience and she pulls 28 RTIs out of her hat. And 5 experience."
 - magician: "As soon as I got the ability to form social links, I ran outside and yelled at the Inventor."
 - (people ask the Rebel to help out with their Imprisoning Shadows plot) Rebel: "I'd tell you 'good luck', but I'd be lying."
 - Erin (to Andrea): "Can you downgrade a social link? Like, say 'I don't love you anymore'? JUST KIDDING I STILL LOVE YOU"
 - shikexue (stumbling around drunkenly): "huehuehue...Brazil has no blood in his alcohol system."
 - andreali: "Now that you're dating my daughter, how old are you?"
 - dfarhi: "..."
 - jay: "Younger than me!"
 - dfarhi: "42."
 - there is a collective "..."
 - jay: "Well, that doesn't really follow the $n+7/2$ rule."
 - Inventor: "Wait a second..."
 - jay: "Do you think I actually *obey* the $n+7/2$ rule?"
 - haley: "Let me go see how much the shit and the fan have become friends."
 - Barrier (re: Inventor and Magician): You're on speaking terms now?
 - Magician: We've been on speaking terms.
 - Trickster: Yes, but the words are usually foul.
 - (Branson is challenged immediately following a lecture on nonviolence.)
 - Branson: "What did I just motherfucking say? Don't motherfucking fight, people!"
 - shikexue: "In one night, the Warrior killed 44 Hitler's worth of people."
 - blehnert: "I would argue I'm more of a Stalinist figure."
 - Warrior: *walks into the hallway* "I'm boooored"
 - Trickster: "Uh-oh."
 - Erin: "Yeah, technically we're still lovers. But it's ok—I'm way more lovers with you!"
 - (Andrea glares at her)
 - Erin: "I would lesbian with you! I wouldn't lesbian with her!"
 - Issac: The hallway is now Hell, and Hell is awesome!
 - Rebel: I just realized how the fluffy bunny plot is actually ruthless capitalism.
 - sueshep: "There are *human beings* on *sketchy* *sketchy* *SKETCHY* ass plots talking about them on DAY TWO!"
 - Rebel: ".*Certain* aspects haven't been in Ouranious for centuries. *Certain* aspects have had other things on their minds."
 - Warrior: "Turns out 'Metal, Metal, 5' can take the form of an 18-wheeler."
 - Alexwest: "If you steal a pencil, you're a sinner. If you kill millions of people, you're a sinner."
 - wkalb: "I swore never to kill again... Times change."
 - andreali: "So, if we could just use our words to say 'Fuck you!', that's be great."
 - ekrueger: "Hey Inventor, fuck you!"
 - sueshep (to jayarsee): "I mean, you can sneeze and get an experience from it, as long as you feel bad about it!"
 - jayarsee (about shikexue): "Has he...been drinking?"
 - arkhipov: "Oh, just a little bit. Not that much—like, what I have for breakfast."
 - andreali: "As a mother, I can now do this: Take your fucking vitamins!"

shikexue: *begins sobbing* My parents were abusive!

- wkalb: “The moral of this story is that seriously, the Lord will fuck you up.”

8 Conclusion

Please do send us email with any feedback you have, particularly points that generalize to future games; we’ll be writing a postmortem, and potentially reusing mechanics and other ideas from this game in the future. We also love stories! Let us know what you think: contact-gms@mit.edu.