NIGHT MARKET SINGULARITY STALKER BLUES

TEMPLECON 2014 SF WORLDBUILDING WORKSHOP

THE SETUP

Inspirations: Altered Carbon, Neuromancer, Charles Stross, Deus Ex: Human Revolution, Schismatrix, The Diamond Age, Shadowrun 4th Edition (minus the magic), Transmetropolitan Setting: Space Habitat, Mars Orbit, 2177

Themes & tropes: biological immortality, human enhancement, micro-manufacturing, nanotechnology, capitalism vs. post-scarcity economics, personality uploading, uplifted animals, post-national social clades, techno-singularities, ubiquitous augmented reality

Heinrich Fong was a body	yhopper man/woman of :	1000 faces and my h	unt for him/her had
taken me to	, in Mars orbit. The $___$	$_{ m }$ who run the N:	ight Market might
spill his/her location	or they might feed me	to their	You can get any-
thing on:	, data on	, hell, even se	xual favors from
if that's ye	our thing. The	have their stronghold:	s out here, and be-
tween them and the	, us	_ have a hard time jus	t making a living.
And they say the	is coming, but me	I just want to make i	t to the next job.

- **1. The Space Habitat.** Cylinder spun for gravity, cluster of micro-G modules, hollowed out asteroid, or something else? What's the economy of this space station based on, why do people come here -- and how can they get into trouble?
- **2. The Night Market.** Literal southeast Asian night market, infomorph-run virtual marketplace, criminal red market exchange, or all of the above? You can get anything on the Night Market -- but so can your worst enemies.
- **3. Uplifts.** Artificial Generalized Intelligences (AGIs), talking bonobos, and dogs with AIs riding in their heads are just some of the possibilities. Why did humans create them, and how do they affect the world?
- **4. Nanotech.** If you can't buy it at the Night Market, you can probably print it out from a download. Describe how microscopic robots, nano-scale 3D printers, and other uses of nanotech affect this world.
- **5. Protagonists.** Ego-hunting gumshoes, hacktivists, & meat puppets with hearts of gold. Describe some good guys in this universe -- keeping in mind that no one in the Night Market is too good.
- **6. Antagonists.** Immortal oligarchs, soul-trading slavers, and people who've decided they're more advanced than the rest of transhumanity -- to the point where they think we're all cattle. Describe some villains -- keeping in mind that they probably have their reasons.
- **7. Post-National Factions.** The nation state is dead; all hail the clades! No longer dependent upon geography, transhuman organize themselves into nations of ideas. Describe one or two of these factions.
- **8. Social Issue.** Even in a post-scarcity economy, there are still have-nots. What happens if you can't afford a new body, or if intelligence enhancements leave you behind? Describe a social problem & how it creates conflict.
- **9. The Singularity.** Transhumanity is catapulting itself toward a point of technological enhancement so profound that beyond it, the effects of the changes it will wreak are nigh-incomprehensible. Are we about to become a god-like computer mind, an undifferentiated sea of programmable matter, or something weirder? What's about to happen to Transhumanity -- and is it good?
- **10. The Visitors.** We don't know why they came, or how, or even what they truly want. An outside intelligence has contacted transhumanity, and we don't know what it bodes. What are they, and did they arrive physically, or otherwise?



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GROUP 1: WHAT IS THE NIGHT MARKET?

MIGHT MARKET SCOPE: OVERLARPING WY STATION DARKHET - AUG REALITY ACCESS: RENT PART OF YOUR BRAIN TO THE CLUSTER RESTRICTIONS - PROHIBITIVE 105+2 SECURITY RISK - LEAVING A PORT OPEN DARK COUNCIL OF SYS ADMINS SERVER CLUSTER IS (NOWD SOURCED LY CODEPENDENCE POORER FOLKS LEASE EXTRA BRAINSPACE FOR LOATYS LY MEMORY LOSS, ZOMBIES, HACKING RISK, BLACKOUTS LOCATION: COSPATIAL W/ DAY MARKETS, REVEALED BY AUGREALITY DON'T LOG IN OFTEN OR THRU "CourtCIL" LY USE OLD-FASHIONED TECH PRODUCT: GAMBLING, ILLEGAL GOODS, HURVESTED MEMORIES, SEX, DRUGS PROGRAMS



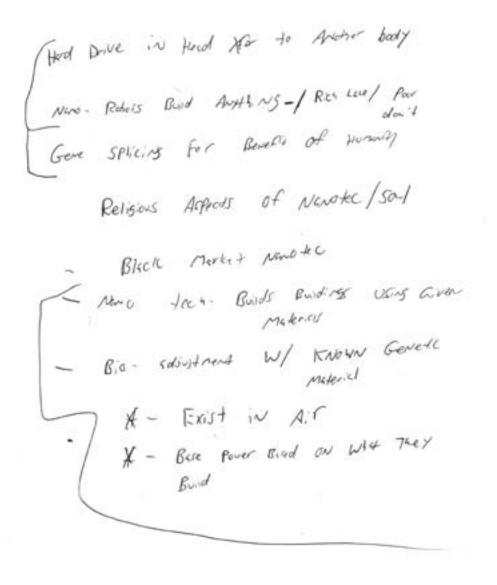
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GROUP 2: DEVELOP A KEY TECHNOLOGY THAT SHAPES LIFE IN THE NIGHT MARKET.

NANOTECH





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GROUP 3: SKETCH OUT A GROUP OF ANTAGONISTS.

PSYCHIC REAPERS / THE PRISIM

MODYS: STEAL MEMORIES & IDENTITIES (WITHIN A FEW FEET)

-NANITES USED TO CHANGE APPEARANCE

MOTIVE: PROFIT, POWER (LIKE THE MOB)

LEADER: SIRUS (CHEMICAL EXPERIMENT TO AUGMENT THE HUMAN MIND)

OTHER GROUPS

MANESTERS: BODY MART DEALERS

ORTHIDOX MOB: GLD SCHOOL FAMILY

PIXIES : DRUG DEALER

THE UNION : NANTE SWARM A.T. FROM UNWANTED MONORIES



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GROUP 4: SKETCH OUT A GROUP OF PROTAGONISTS.

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"uplisted	anottoned animal" doe d - iguana	s not like to a	se uplifted.	genetically	enhanced.
Kitey Kitais	~ group's a which al She gets can be	ispiration, clavers stole 40 revenge by ghout the 1	Kitteds.	inano tech wes corraled somall c	ells
Libera Nead His M	ted nano- because nissing men	of tech re nones are cont	moval rolled by	touched in in Adam. on Night Market	the of the Nortet Creators
- An	Ai- Cyrus				
C					



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