

BURPS

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 23 Nov 1998

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Paul C Duggan — 23 Nov 1998, 16:34

The first draft of GURPS New Sun was turned in on time and uploaded for playtesting. A year or so went by. Instructions for a pre-final rewrite were handed down. This requested second draft was turned in on time, two or three years ago, and apparently never uploaded for playtest/review. (Turned in by me, I might as well bluntly point out, since I am the author and instigator of the whole cursed project.) It has been used as desk ballast, or so I've been told.

That is disturbing. I'm glad I got my playtest copy archived...

At this late date (seven years [objective time] in, but who's counting?), anybody wanting to play something like TBOTNS should probably just buy the science fantasy role-playing game "Fading Suns" (1996) and tweek it a bit. (Since I sense all sorts of copyright infringement or "unacknowledged homage" to Gene Wolfe in "Fading Suns"; but I'm probably just insanely bitter about this and Wombat, with his greater knowledge of the gaming industry and its intersection with the Law, Wombat, I say, could probably point out the fine line which "Fading Suns" doesn't cross.

I dunno. What do they got that only Gene got? So they call God Pancreator and have ALL the suns fading out due to some spiritual crisis.

They also have:
an active interstellar empire
jumpgates
lots of psi-powers
a factional church
a lot of other standard SF tropes.
no time-travel

Now Games Workshop's Tyranid aliens did some serious "atmosphere" rip-off of Wolfe.

Alien types include: Lictor, Carnifex, Heirophant, Heirodule, and Zoanthropes. All of these name seem to have been chosen for no other reason than that they sound kewl.

Keywords: "Gods &

Demigods" [first edition]; hobbits into bobbits, balrogs into balrons; issues of "look and feel"; etc.)

Those on a tight budget could probably squeek by with the "Pyramid" article and Metagaming's "The Fantasy Trip" (1980), or just "Melee" and "Wizard" (1977).

And don't forget to use Thundarr the Barbarian for additional inspiration! :-) BTW, Mr. Sarcos wants to know if Mantis is manic enough to attempt a reincept of his homonculus. (you know

what I refer to...)

Paul