



GUIDE TO ISSUE 12:

THE MIDNIGHT HOUR



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40 MINUTES EARLIER...

ALLRIGHT, YOU'VE PROVEN
YOURSELVES, SO IT'S
TIME TO LEVEL WITH YOU.

**...OR 1,700 YEARS, 3 MONTHS, 2 DAYS, 11 HOURS, 23 MINUTES LATER...
... DEPENDING ON HOW YOU COUNT.**

I WORK FOR A GROUP
DEDICATED TO STUDYING
THE REALM OF THE
OCCULT AND ARCANE.

WE STRIVE TO
UNCOVER THAT
WORLD'S SECRETS...

... TO SERVE AS A BUFFER
BETWEEN THIS WORLD AND
OUR OWN...

**ASHLEY MCKNIGHT,
AEON UNIVERSITY**

AND OCCASIONALLY...
...JUST OCCASIONALLY...

...TAP INTO THE POWER
OF THAT REALM FOR
OUR OWN NEEDS.

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CREATED BY CHASE ARCANUM & CINDER FLAME

CAMEO APPEARANCES BY: BIGMONEYHUSTLA, CLAYMORE FROST, WAR UNICORN, ILLUSIONIST MAGE, AMERICAN VALOR, LEATHERPUP, ENN-VEE, MISS MIST AKKE, SCREAMING WIDOW, WHITE DOMINO, PSYDEKICK, BATTLE MAVEN, GRAVE RAYVYN, ACHILLES PUNKS, INVICTATOR, PYPER CRAB, LADY DIST, DEKAHN, CRIMSON EAGLE, MEMENTO MORI, CACOPHONIA, TRIX THE KID, THOUGHT EXPERIMENT, KNIGHT OF BAST, STORMY DAZE, DR. CATASTROPHE, SERA ASH, DRAGO, TEMPLARIS, MISTER MASKED MAN, AVIATOR, PRINCESS PYRA, DOUGHBOY, LIBERTY BELL, FILM NOIR, MADAME, THUNDER, CAPTAIN REFLEX, CRIMSON CLOUDBURST, AXE MASTER ONIX, EARTHLY POWER, XAOOO, SKANNERZ, STAR JUSTICE, FIERYBLAZE, PROJECT COLD SNAP, RIAN FROSTDRAKE & FIRE PETAL

THE

MIDNIGHT HOUR

HAS ARRIVED.

I MUST WARN YOU, THOUGH:
YOU WILL FACE MYSTERIES
TOO ALIEN FOR THE HUMAN
MIND TO FATHOM....

ARE YOU
PREPARED?

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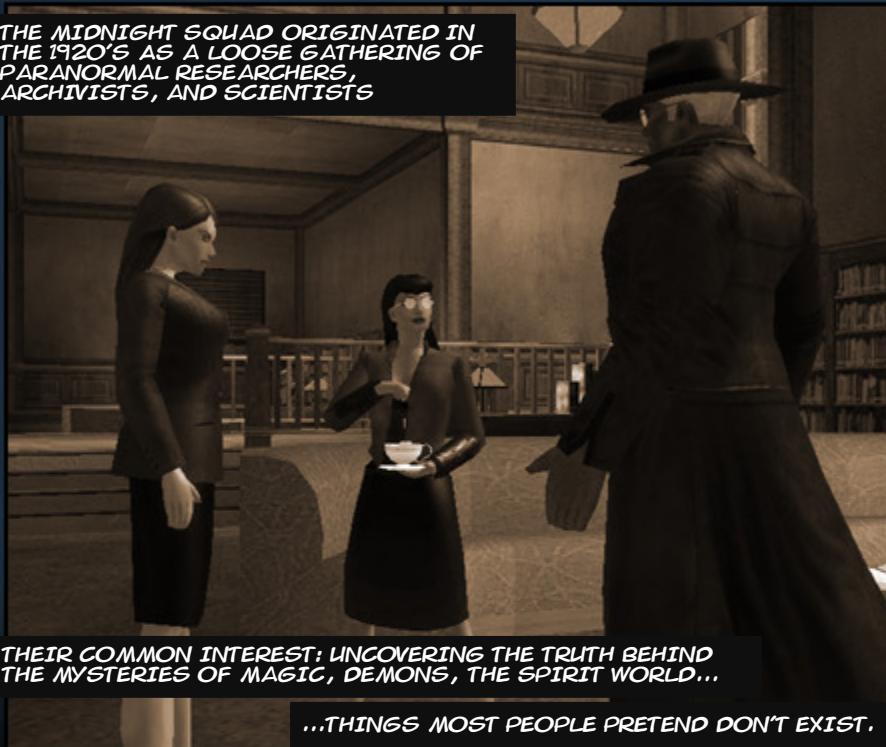


BACKGROUND:



THE MIDNIGHT SQUAD ORIGINATED IN THE 1920'S AS A LOOSE GATHERING OF PARANORMAL RESEARCHERS, ARCHIVISTS, AND SCIENTISTS

THAT KIND OF HOBBY DIDN'T EXACTLY ENDEAR YOU WITH THE PUBLIC OR HELP YOU EARN TENURE



THEIR COMMON INTEREST: UNCOVERING THE TRUTH BEHIND THE MYSTERIES OF MAGIC, DEMONS, THE SPIRIT WORLD...

...THINGS MOST PEOPLE PRETEND DON'T EXIST.

..SO THEY MET UNDER THE COVER OF NIGHT



THEY RESEARCHED

AND OBSERVED... AS ACADEMICS DO...



AND CATALOGUED

BUT THEY DIDN'T DO MUCH.



WE DROVE THE CIRCLE OF THORNS UNDERGROUND IN THE 30'S.

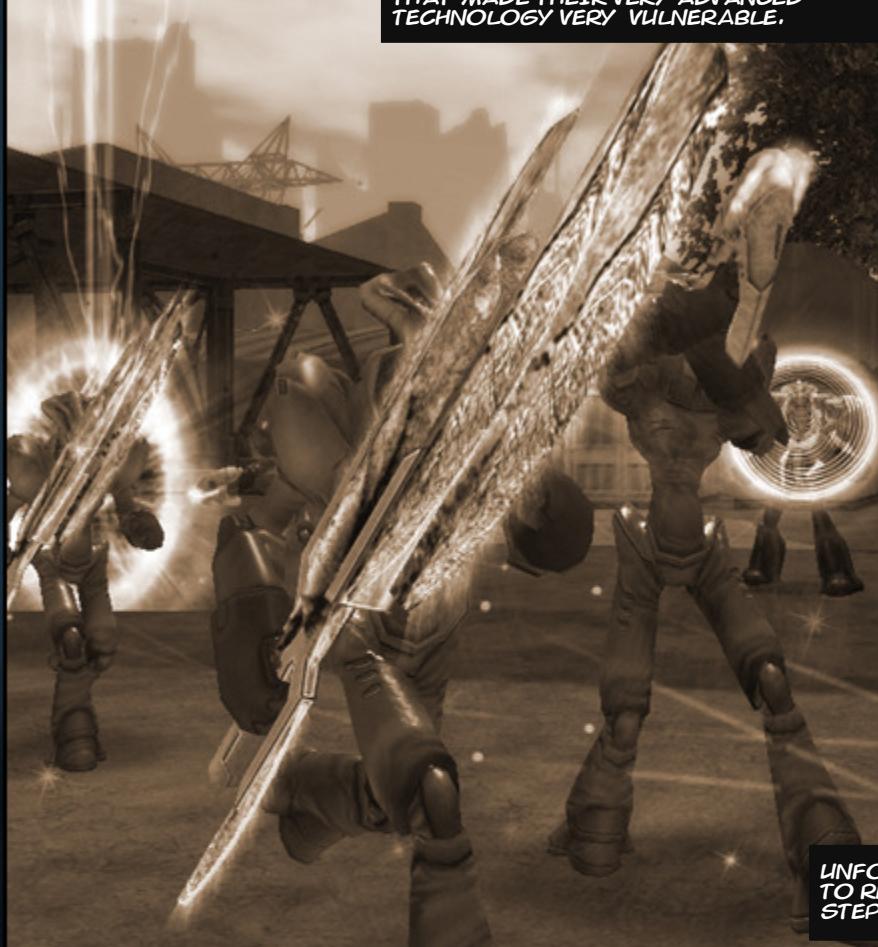


WE TRAPPED RULARULU THE RAVAGER IN THE SHADOW SHARD IN THE 60'S



AND ON MAY 23RD, 2002 WE UNLEASHED OUR FULL ARCANE MIGHT AGAINST THE RIKTI INVADERS.

THE RIKTI WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH MAGIC. THAT MADE THEIR VERY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VERY VULNERABLE.



UNFORTUNATELY, THEY WERE SMART ENOUGH TO RECOGNIZE THEIR WEAKNESS AND TAKE STEPS TO NEUTRALIZE IT

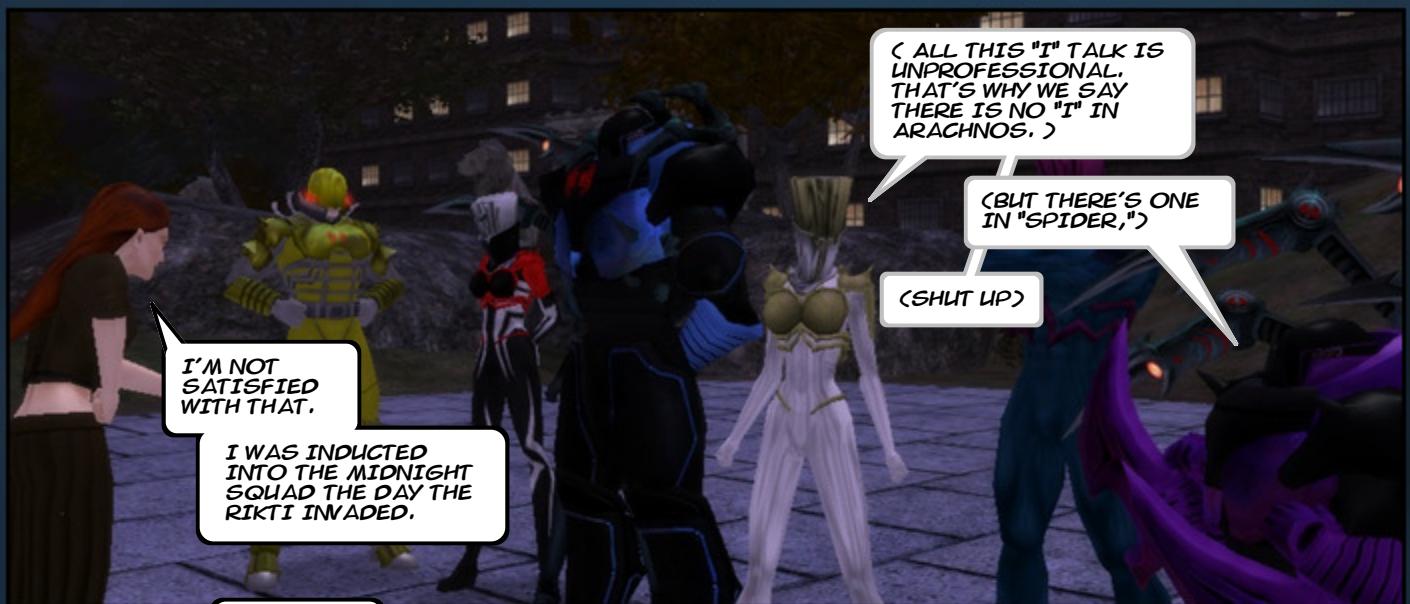


MOST OF THE MIDNIGHTERS ARE NOW DEAD OR MISSING IN ACTION. THOSE THAT SURVIVE ARE PRIMARILY RESEARCHERS...

MORE SCHOLAR THAN ADVENTURER



IT SEEMS WE'VE COME FULL CIRCLE.



ROGUE ISLANDERS CAN FIND ME AT AEON UNIVERSITY.

GETTING IN:

I'M LOOKING FOR VILLAINS HIGHER THAN THREAT LEVEL 15 TO HELP LIBERATE SOME INTEL FROM OUR EXTRADIMENSIONAL INVADERS.

HEROES CAN FIND MONTAGUE CASTANELLA IN THE STEEL CANYON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.



MONTAGUE CASTANELLA
PCU, STEEL CANYON

HE'S ENCOUNTERED SOME STRANGE RIKTI ACTIVITY OF HIS OWN...

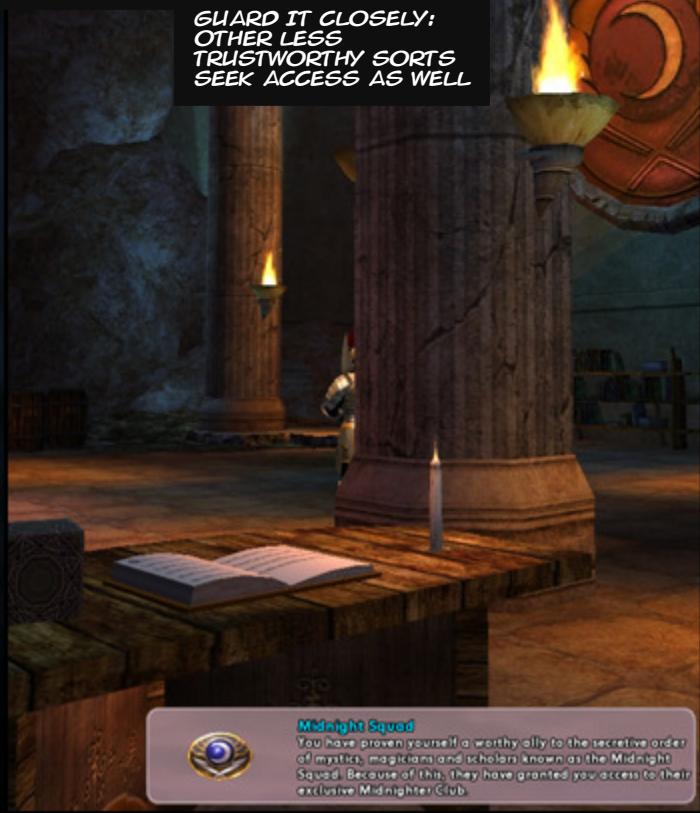


THEY NEVER STOPPED TRYING TO NEUTRALIZE THEIR MAGIC VULNERABILITY



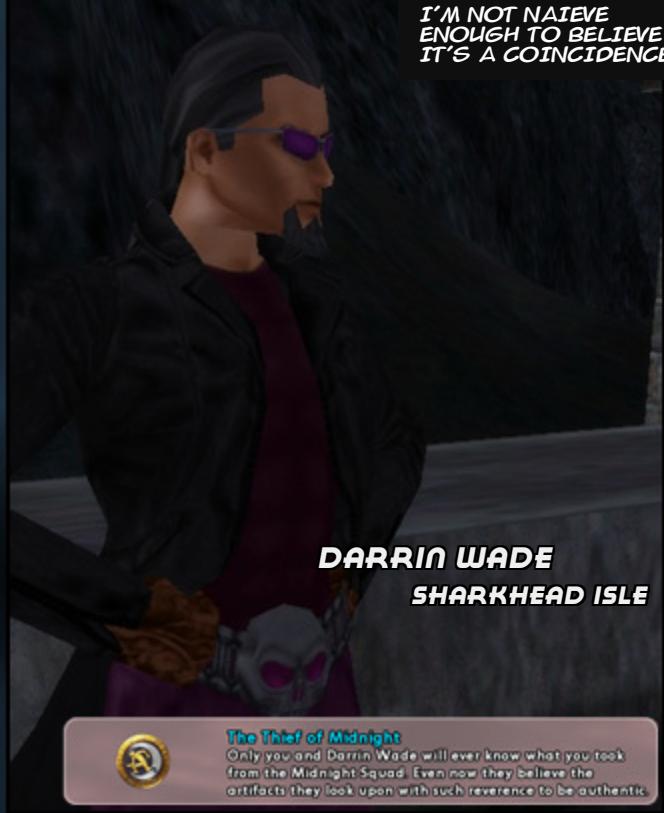
AND THEY MAY BE MAKING PROGRESS

EITHER WAY, ONCE YOU PROVE YOURSELF, YOU'LL BE GIVEN THE PASSWORD TO THE MIDNIGHT CLUBHOUSE



GUARD IT CLOSELY;
OTHER LESS TRUSTWORTHY SORTS SEEK ACCESS AS WELL

ONE, A FORMER MIDNIGHTER, DARRIN WADE HAS BEEN TROLLING SHARKHEAD ISLE LOOKING FOR VILLAINS THREAT LEVEL 25 TO 29.



I'M NOT NAIIVE ENOUGH TO BELIEVE IT'S A COINCIDENCE

DARRIN WADE
SHARKHEAD ISLE



Midnight Squad

You have proven yourself a worthy ally to the secretive order of mystics, magicians and scholars known as the Midnight Squad. Because of this, they have granted you access to their exclusive Midnighiter Club.



The Thief of Midnight

Only you and Darrin Wade will ever know what you took from the Midnight Squad. Even now they believe the artifacts they look upon with such reverence to be authentic.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

ONCE INSIDE, YOU'RE FREE TO EXPLORE THE SECRETS WITHIN...

... DELVE INTO THE ORIGIN OF POWERS.



Midnighter Archivist

You have learned the secrets of the Midnighter Club.

PERCY WINKLEY
PCU: SALAMANCA

SEEK OUT PERCY WINKLEY IN CROATOA. VILLAINS, SEE ASHLEY MCKNIGHT

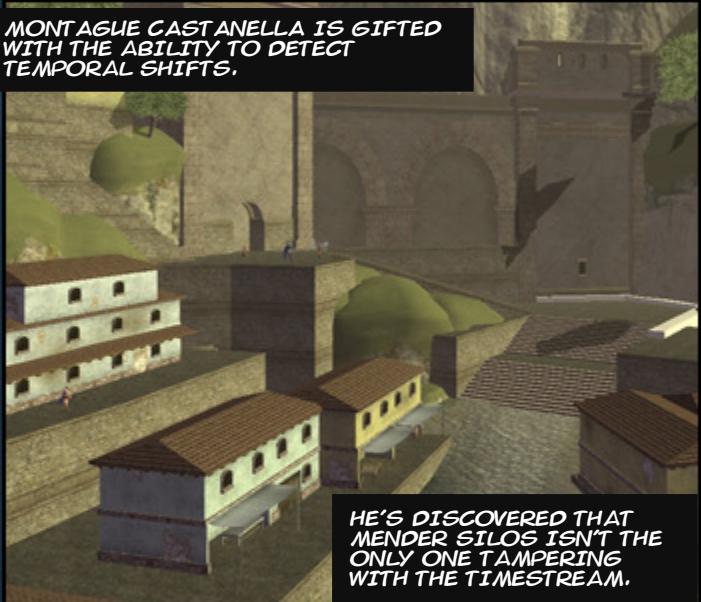
...AND TRAVEL TO A TIME ALL BUT FORGOTTEN



Depths of Time

You have traveled back in time to the Roman era. Here is the origins of all you have come to understand as heroic and villainous.

MONTAGUE CASTANELLA IS GIFTED WITH THE ABILITY TO DETECT TEMPORAL SHIFTS.



HE'S DISCOVERED THAT MENDER SILOS ISN'T THE ONLY ONE TAMPERING WITH THE TIMESTREAM.

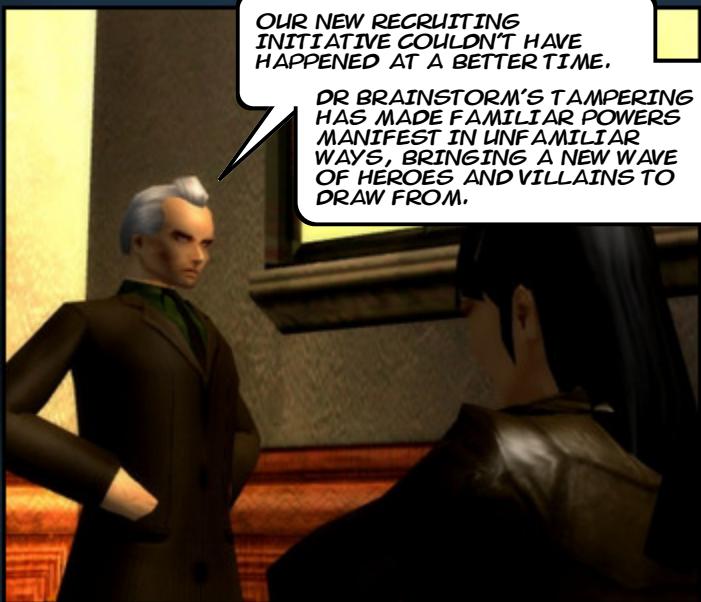
SOMEONE ELSE HAS AN INTEREST IN THIS SMALL ROMAN ISLAND FROM CENTURIES AGO.



Centurion

You have proved yourself on the battlefield by defeating 100 Cimeroran Traitors.

OUR NEW RECRUITING INITIATIVE COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED AT A BETTER TIME.



DR BRAINSTORM'S TAMPERING HAS MADE FAMILIAR POWERS MANIFEST IN UNFAMILIAR WAYS, BRINGING A NEW WAVE OF HEROES AND VILLAINS TO DRAW FROM.

NEW POWERSETS:

CONTROLLER

PLANT CONTROL

THERMAL RADIATION

TANK

DARK ARMOR

DARK MELEE

BLASTER

PSYCHIC BLAST

MENTAL MANIPULATION

DEFENDER

COLD DOMINATION

ICE BLAST

SCRAPPER

FIERY MELEE

FIERY AURA

THIS IS ONLY THE START OF POWERSET PROLIFERATION. IN FUTURE ISSUES, EXPECT MORE EXISTING POWERSETS TO BECOME AVAILABLE TO MORE ARCHETYPES.

CORRUPTOR

ELECTRICAL BLAST

STORM SUMMONING

BRUTE

BATTLE AXE

WAR MACE

SUPER REFLEXES

MASTERMIND

STORM SUMMONING

DOMINATOR

EARTH CONTROL

ELECTRICAL MANIPULATION

STALKER

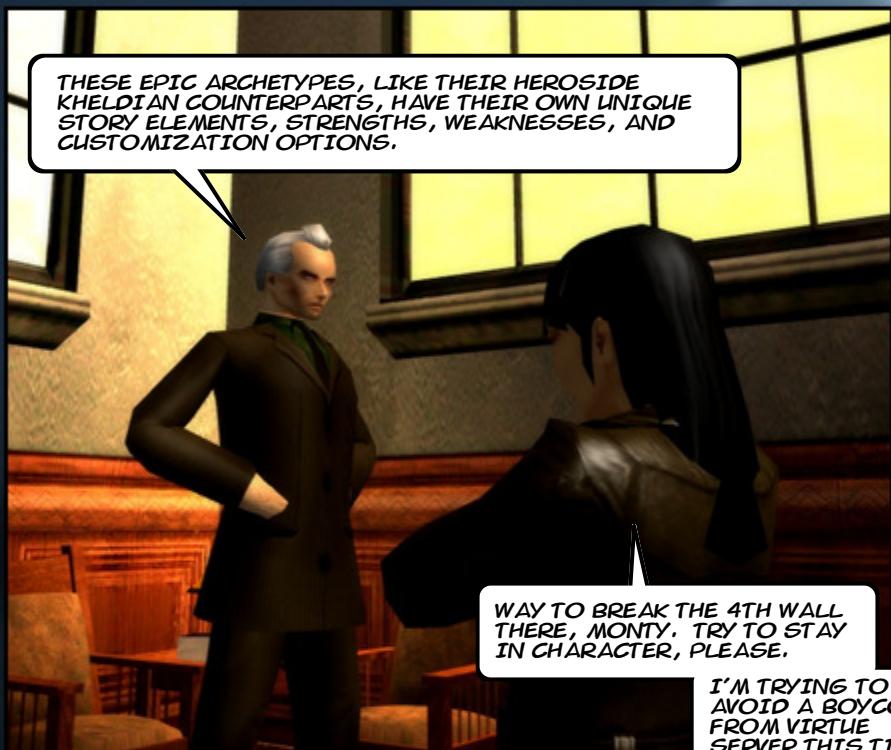
ELECTRIC MELEE

ELECTRIC ARMOR



EPIC ARCHETYPES

PLAYERS WITH AT LEAST ONE THREAT LEVEL 50 VILLAIN GAIN ACCESS TO TWO NEW VILLAIN EPIC ARCHETYPES: ARACHNOS SOLDIER AND ARACHNOS WIDOW.



WIDOW TRAINING

POISON DART

SWIPE

STRIKE

DART BURST

FOLLOW UP

SPIN

LUNGE

CONFRONT

NIGHT WIDOW TRAINING

MENTAL BLAST

BUILD UP

SMOKE GRENADE

SLASH

EVISCE RATE

PSYCHIC SCREAM

FORTUNATA TRAINING

MENTAL BLAST

TELEKINETIC BLAST

SUBDU E

AIM

PSYCHIC SCREAM

DOMINATE

PSIONIC TORNADO

SCRAMBLE THOUGHTS

TOTAL DOMINATION

PSYCHIC WAIL

TEAMWORK

COMBAT TRAINING: DEFENSIVE

COMBAT TRAINING: OFFENSIVE

TACTICAL TRAINING: MANEUVERS

INDOMITABLE WILL

TACTICAL TRAINING: ASSAULT

TACTICAL TRAINING: LEADERSHIP

FORESIGHT

WIDOW TEAMWORK

MASK PRESENCE

MENTAL TRAINING

MIND LINK

PLACATE

TACTICAL TRAINING: VENGEANCE

ELUDE

FORTUNATA TEAMWORK

MASK PRESENCE

MIND LINK

CONFUSE

TACTICAL TRAINING: VENGEANCE

AURA OF CONFUSION

ARACHNOS SOLDIER

SINGLE SHOT

PUMMEL

BURST

WIDE AREA WEB GRENADE

HEAVY BURST

BAYONET

VENOM GRENADE

FRAG GRENADE

CRAB SPIDER SOLDIER

CHANNELGUN

SLICE

LONGFANG

AIM

SUPPRESSION

ARM LASH

VENOM GRENADE

FRAG GRENADE

FRENZY

OMEGA MANEUVER

BANE SPIDER SOLDIER

BASH

MACE BEAM

MACE BEAM BLAST

BUILD UP

MACE BEAM VOLLEY

PULVERIZE

POISONOUS RAY

SHATTER

PLACATE

CROWD CONTROL

TRAINING AND GADGETS

WOLF SPIDER ARMOR

COMBAT TRAINING: DEFENSIVE

COMBAT TRAINING: OFFENSIVE

TACTICAL TRAINING: MANEUVERS

TACTICAL TRAINING: ASSAULT

TACTICAL TRAINING: LEADERSHIP

MENTAL TRAINING

CALL REINFORCES

CRAB SPIDER TRAINING

CRAB SPIDER ARMOR UPGRADE

FORTIFICATION

SERUM

SUMMON SPIDERLING S

BANE SPIDER TRAINING

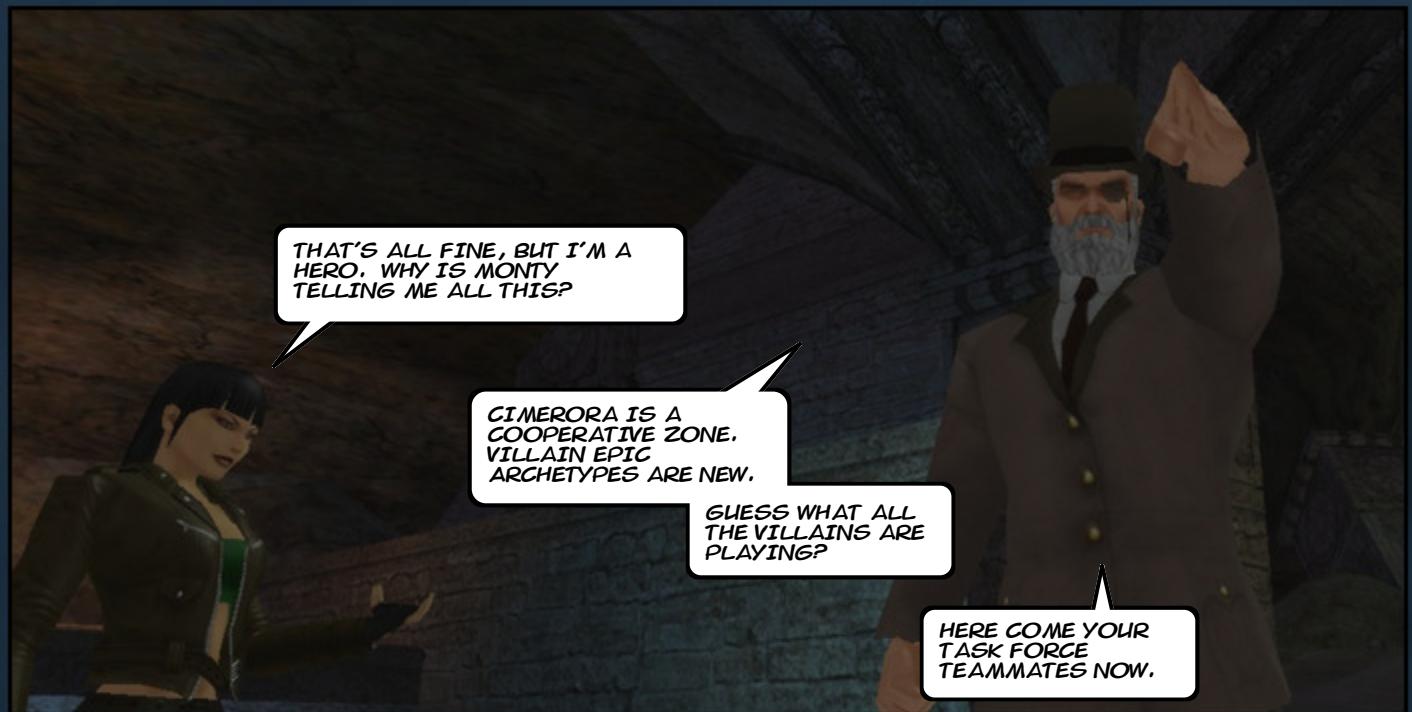
BANE SPIDER ARMOR UPGRADE

CLOAKING DEVICE

SURVEILLANCE

WEB COCOON

AND AT LEVEL 24,
THEY CAN CHOOSE
TO SPECIALIZE INTO
NIGHT WIDOWS,
FORTUNATAS, CRAB
SPIDERS OR BANE
SPIDERS



CIMERORA:

CIMERORA IS AN ANCIENT ISLAND OFF THE ITALIAN PENINSULA.



YOU GET TO IT THROUGH THE MIDNIGHT CLUBHOUSE'S OWN ASPECT OF THE PILLAR OF ICE AND FLAME.

THEY'VE SET UP AN EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER AND NEED YOU TO HELP UNRAVEL THE MYSTERIES OF THE ISLE



WHO IS TAMPERING WITH TIME HERE?

LEARN THE STORY OF CIMERORA



SENATOR DECIMUS AQUILA

ENGAGE IN A TASK FORCE TO TAKE ON THE FORCES AT PLAY ON THIS ISLAND.



MARCUS VALERIUS
TEST YOUR METTLE AGAINST THE SEASONED LEGIONARIUS IN REPEATABLE MISSIONS.

I REALLY CAN'T SPOIL THE SURPRISE HERE

BUT I WILL TELL YOU THAT NOT A SINGLE CONTACT OR VILLAIN IS AN ANAGRAM FOR "LORD NEMESIS"



IMPERIOUS



THE HOLLOW REVISITED:

CIMERORA ISN'T THE ONLY NEW LOOK IN ISSUE 12. AFTER HUNDREDS OF HEROES HAVE FOUGHT TO RECOVER THE HOLLOW, WE'RE STARTING TO SEE HEADWAY IN THAT LEVEL 5-15 HAZARD ZONE.

IN MANY NEIGHBORHOODS, THE VILLAIN GANGS HAVE DIMINISHED IN SIZE, NOW RESEMBLING SIZES FOUND IN THE SAFER CITY AREAS.



EMERGENCY TRIAGE STATIONS NOW PROVIDE IN-ZONE MEDICAL SUPPORT



FORESHADOW NOW PROVIDES TRAINING NEAR THE ATLAS PARK ENTRANCE



ALONG WITH IN-ZONE FIELD TRAINERS



CONTACTS NOW FOCUSING ON ACTIVITIES HAPPENING WITHIN THEIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS AND A NEW CONTACT, MEG MASON, PROVIDES ZONEWIDE OVERSIGHT WITH REPEATABLE MISSIONS.



NEW COSTUMES:

WHEN IN ROME, DRESS AS THE ROMANS DO...



... BUT ONLY AFTER COMPLETING
THE IMPERIUS TASK FORCE.



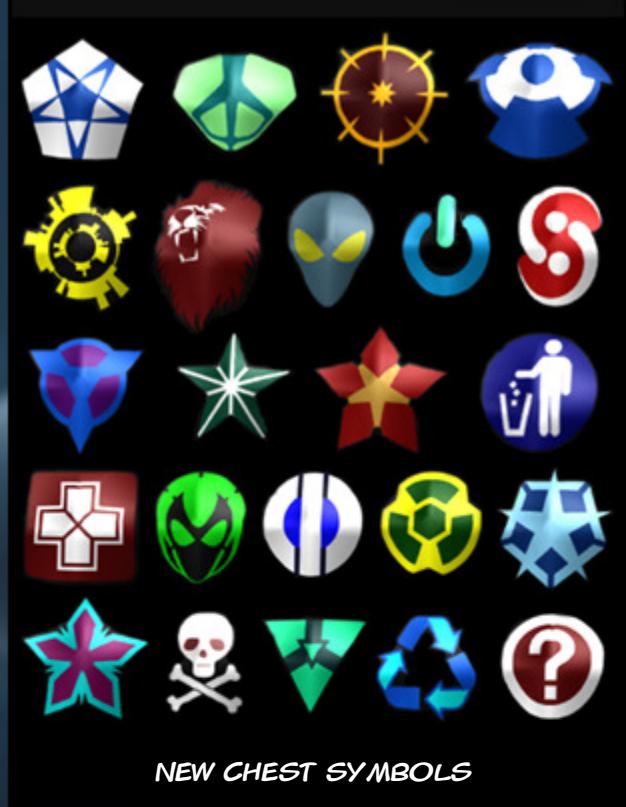
THE TASK FORCE UNLOCKS CIMERORA-THEMED
COSTUMES AND WEAPONS



UNTIL WE GET TO CIMERORA, THE FASHION-CONSCIOUS CAN FIND FRESH COSTUME PATTERNS AT THEIR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD ICON OR FACEMAKER



ARCTIC



NEW CHEST SYMBOLS



AND DON'T FORGET TO ACCESSORIZE! WE ALSO HAVE UNLOCKABLE ROMAN, RULARU, AND TALSORIAN CUSTOM WEAPON SETS!

41 MINUTES LATER...

I'M... I'M
NOT DEAD!

YEAH, TOLD
YA WE HAD
YOUR BACK.

BUT NEXT TIME...
SERIOUSLY... DUCK.

...OR 1,700 YEARS, 3 MONTHS, 2 ...

... WELL, YOU KNOW THE JOKE ALREADY...

DON'T TELL
HER THAT.

HOW AM I EVER GOING TO
GET TO USE VENGEANCE IF
NOBODY DIES?

I'LL JUST
PRETEND I
DIDN'T HEAR
THAT.

NOW THAT WE'VE
FINISHED THE
TASK FORCE

LET'S GET IN
SOMETHING LESS
CONSPICUOUS
AND GET SOME
R&R WITH THE
LOCALS

GIMME ONE GOOD
REASON TO GO INTO THAT
TOWN WEARING AN
OVERGLORIFIED SKIRT.

YOU'RE A MALE
WIDOW. HOW MUCH
MORE DAMAGE CAN
A SKIRT DO TO
YOUR MASCULINITY?

GOOD GOD,
YOU'RE A
WOMAN.

NO MESS
HALL FOOD.

THAT'S GOOD
ENOUGH FOR ME.

DON'T CALL IT
A SKIRT. CALL
IT CIMERORAN
CAMOUFLAGE.

CHICKS DIG
THE EXTRA
ARMS?

I... CAN'T PRETEND I
DIDN'T HEAR THAT.

THOUGH I
REALLY WANT TO.

FIN

UI IMPROVEMENTS:



PLENTY OF USER INTERFACE (UI) ENHANCEMENTS



Thunder Kick as used by level 50 Scrapper

Show PvP Effects

Displaying enhanced and (base) values.

Average Damage:	87.61 (52.55)
Damage Per Activation:	81.88 (49.11)
Time:	
Damage Per Cast Cycle:	26.99 (12.91)
Activation Time:	1.07s
Recharge Time:	2.18s (3.00s)
Endurance Cost:	2.67 (4.37)
Accuracy:	1.69X (1.05X)

Power Type: Click
Target Type: Enemies
Power Range: 5.00 ft.
Effect Area: Single Target
Attack Types: melee, smashing

87.61 (52.55) smashing damage on target

10.00% chance for 2.00 magnitude stun for 7.15s(7.15s) on target

5.00% chance for 87.61 (52.55) smashing damage on target
Only against minions and underlings

WE HAVE MORE ACCESS TO THE STATS OF ALL OUR POWERS THROUGH PART II OF THE "REAL NUMBERS" EFFORT.

WE HAVE AN ENHANCED CHAT THAT NOW LETS US DRAG-AND-DROP INFORMATION BETWEEN PLAYERS

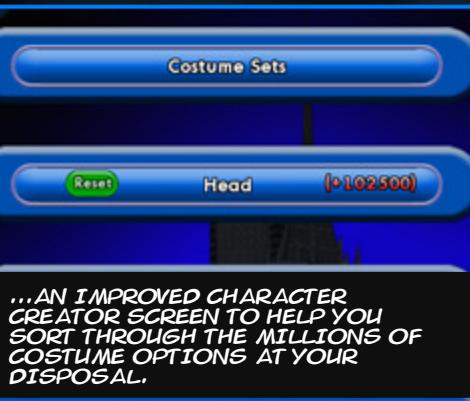


AND GIVE SINGLE-CLICK ACCESS TO COMMON TOOLS

Invalid Command ClearSpam
Left channel 'Wedding'

Chat

[NPC] Gravedigger Brawler: You got one minute, then I'm gone.
[NPC] Gravedigger Slugger: I dunno. Your price is steep.
[Local] Shandora Ward: [Dragon Rage, 53]
Send Shandora Ward Message
Invite to Team
Get Global Name
Add Friend
Add Note
Ignore Shandora Ward
Ignore Shandora Ward as Spammer



PLUS EXTRA ADJUSTABLE TOOLBARS.



