

## Hoc est Corpus

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## world design document

Pre-apocalypse Solarpunk // Action, Drama

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## MAIN AREAS

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### YOUNG LENINGRAD

*The goddess speaks in the universal language of nature, light.*

Once a beating heart of flourishing technological development, now an overripe desolation - Young Leningrad was founded in 2057 as a soviet response to Silicon Valley fever, a factory center in equilibrium with nature. USSR had achieved great success, with its bioengineers bringing back long-extinct species. Young Leningrad became a Mecca for both scientists and workers, who wanted to live in this technological and ecological haven.

At some point, Leningrad's flora started to evolve uncontrollably and became dangerous for humans. Science was unable to explain this phenomenon and the USSR failed to hold a grip on this situation. Young Leningrad started to deteriorate, but the government is making its effort to uphold the city's reputation as a grail of ecotechnology.

### CHURCH ON LENINGRAD'S SUBURBS

*Our goddess speaks in the universal language of nature, light.*

Head towards the Turfs and you will find it just outside the suburbs - Bernard's church is located in an old, reworked restaurant. Now, it reminds the inside of a spectroscope, with hundreds of small mirror pieces all over the main nave. Although a place of worship, it serves as a physical chemistry laboratory as well. The priest uses light as a way to examine flora's properties, but he states that those tiny mirrors are his way of communicating with the goddess. The church has a small hospice behind the altar, created for those in need.

A few words of explanation - light wavelengths are used in science to examine the behavior of particles in certain environments or compound structures. What's so beautiful about reading spectra is the fact, that they can explain almost all phenomena concerning chemical reactions. Mirrors in the church create a laser out of sunlight for research purposes.

## TURFS

Young Leningrad has its center, but Turfs are the true essence of this city. It's a district in the suburbs, a town inside a town, ruled not by law or the militia, but by the Iron Disciples gang. Wild flora has managed to destroy most of the buildings here, but it doesn't matter. Turfs' people have learned to be creative with their resources. Citizens of the rest of the USSR buy their food or clothes with ration stamps and money. Turfs acknowledge barter, foreign currency, or reputation.

## TURFS' WILDROADS

Before reaching Turfs' heart, one must pass through Wildroads, once an expressway, now a jungle-like labyrinth. This area is getting bigger and bigger with time. It's a border, a line between Young Leningrad still cared for by the government and workers' district, left to its own devices. The Iron Disciples waste no time dealing with aggressive plants, so Turfs' people have to move further and further from Young Leningrad's center. Flora is just too territorial to live there. Areas that used to be inhabited, but got abandoned, became Wildroads. Single patrols of Iron Disciples gangsters can be met here. They make sure no people from the outside want to enter Turfs.

## WORLD'S PROPERTIES

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## POLITICAL SITUATION

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Hoc est Corpus features an alternative version of the future, where the USSR had not collapsed. The cold war had calmed down, but not died out completely. The action takes place in one of the soviet nations in the 2070s. People of Young Leningrad often act hostile toward foreigners from the West, even if they do not support the communist government.

## ELECTROTOXINS

*Eventually, humans will kill each other and no witness will survive to give testimony of our existence. Nature, however, will always bounce back. It will recover itself as if our wars had never taken place.*

Unusual plants are children of Earth targeting modern-age humanity as its predators. After millennia of getting destroyed by climate-unfriendly technologies, the environment evolved to defend itself. New, augmented by nature rules plants are armed with electrotoxins - compounds reacting with energy, not matter.

## ELECTROTOXIN-CAUSED DISEASE

Peculiar toxins are causing a mysterious STD which leads newly-conceived embryos to turn into biological bombs. In nine months, a woman pregnant with such a child will gradually lose control over her movement, speech, and cognitive functions. Her skin usually gets covered by bark-like calluses. In some way, those symptoms can remind syphilis. Younger patients, whose nervous systems are not yet fully developed, can sometimes emit faint electricity outside their bodies. Some may even use it as a weapon - an in-built biological taser. Although men can be carriers of this disease, only pregnant women suffer from its symptomatic form.

## THE IRON DISCIPLES

The Iron Disciples is not the only gang in the Turfs, but it's the only one with any real influence on the streets. They are a self-proclaimed government of these lands and oversee most of the local businesses. Leningrad's militia tried to fight Iron Disciples off, but this organization was like a small army - undefeatable on its grounds. The soviet government decided to just go along gang's reign over the Turfs on one condition - no carrier of the electrotoxin-caused STD shall leave the city.