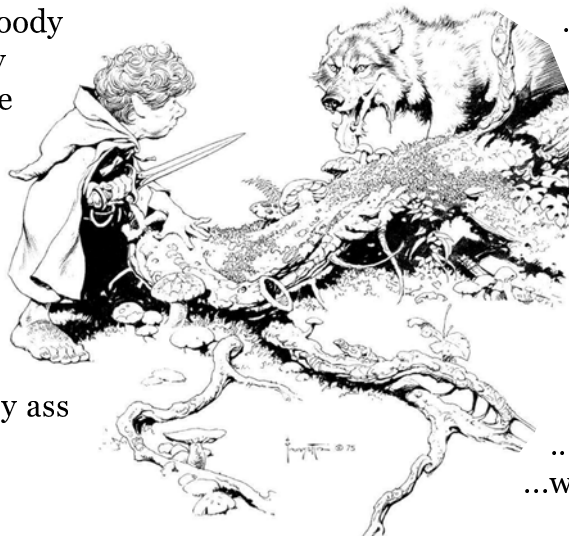


21 Reasons why I hate... The Lord of the Rings

...what kind of a name is Smaug anyway?
 ...people think you suck if you haven't read it.
 ...you suck if you haven't read it
 ...you suck.
 ...it has elves.
 ...it has freckles.
 ...elves have freckles.
 ...it produces modules
 ...with characters
 ...called Legless and Bothermere...
 ...you have to read it if you're going to watch the movie...
 ...you're going to watch the movie
 ...Meet the Feebles
 ...*Agh bum-bum ishi krimpatul*
 ...a talentless rip-off of *Sword of Shannara*.
 ...Tolkien or Tolkein!?!?
 ...nobody calls their kid Reuel.
 ...what kind of a DM makes the maps & languages first?
 ...such a pathetic World War II allegory
 ...the Hobbits don't even get gassed.
 ...are there any goats?
 ...he was born in Bloemfontein
 ...in a Morkels store
 ...oliphants aren't exotic
 ...oliphants blow goats
 ...goats blow oliphants
 ...what kind of an acronym is LotR?
 ...it's not even three letters long
 ...it blows goats
 ...too
 ...long
 ...winded
 ...it goes bloat
 ...dem goats, dem goats, dem... dry goats
 ...I don't care about the bloody phase of the moon anyway
 ...the other so-called movie
 ...Christopher
 ...new editions
 ...newer editions
 ...newest editions
 ...goat editions
 ...expurgated editions (without the Gollum)
 ..."Book of the Century" my ass
 ...Hobbits
 ...hairy foot fetishes
 ...Tom Bombadiddle

If other UCT societies roleplayed...
Bahai - GURPS Religion



...people who think that knowing everyone's names is important and/or fun
 ...people who think that knowing the languages is important and/or fun
 ...go learn Klingon
 ...fantasy literature geeks
 ...pointy ears
 ...eep eep eep
 ...phallic towers
 ...two phallic towers
 ...compensation
 ..."fellowships"
 ...obvious innuendo
 ...banana innuendo
 ...ring jokes
 ...cracks of doom
 ...it has banana-flavoured goat freckles!
 ...freckled banana-goats
 ...there's no Invisible Stalker
 ...funny, since everything else is cribbed from the *Monster Manual*
 ...and if it isn't it's from Terry Brooks
 ...William Shatner
 ...pseudo-Tolkeins
 ...anti-Tolkiens
 ...neo-Tolkeins
 ...William Golding
 ...why didn't someone just start a jewellery store?
 ...frickin' halfling Jews
 ...frickin' Catholic Orcs
 ...ork spelt "orc!"
 ...frickin' Jehovah's Wargs
 ...frickin' atheist fanboys
 ...William Shakespeare
 ...frickin' censorship
 ...goats!!!
 ...authors shouldn't draw
 ...William the Conqueror
 ...William Tracy
 ...roleplaying
 ...wargaming
 ...Nazis
 ...Indiana Jones
 ...world poverty



If other UCT societies roleplayed... Kolbe - In Nomine

SPONtents

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CLAWmarks NOIR

(or, CLAWs III: The Third Coming)

Hell is empty and all the devils are here.

The Tempest, Act I Scene 2

CAMERA LIGHTS ACTION WIZARDS presents a SPON FILMS production in association with BLOATED TENTACLES INC - THE ARCH-BIGOT OF NECROPOLIS in CLAWMARKS NOIR with ADEEB BALLA - JASON BURKE - MONTE COOK - SIMON CROSS - JESSICA TIFFIN - BRINDLEY UYTENBOGAARDT and KEVIN BACON as BUS FARE MAN special visual effects ADRIANNA PINSKA casting director BRINDLEY UYTENBOGAARDT composer JOHN WILLIAMS editors MARK FERRY and D@VID SEAWARD sound designer APPLE INC supervising sound editor EEP production designer DAVID SHARPE directors of photography MARK FERRY - DUNCAN TRUTER line producers TOM GLENN - ADRIANNA PINSKA - BRENDAN QUINLIVAN - ROBYN SAUL - MICHELLE WIEHAHN uct executive in charge of production IGOR BARASHENKOV associate producers E GARY GYGAX - GRAÇA MACHEL - NJABULO S NDEBELE screenplay by OSCAR WILDE from the novel "THE NECRONOMICON" by ABDUL ALHAZRED executive producers MARK FERRY and D@VID SEAWARD produced by STEVEN SPONBURG and BRINDLEY UYTENBOGAARDT directed by STANLEY KUBRICK

Editorial

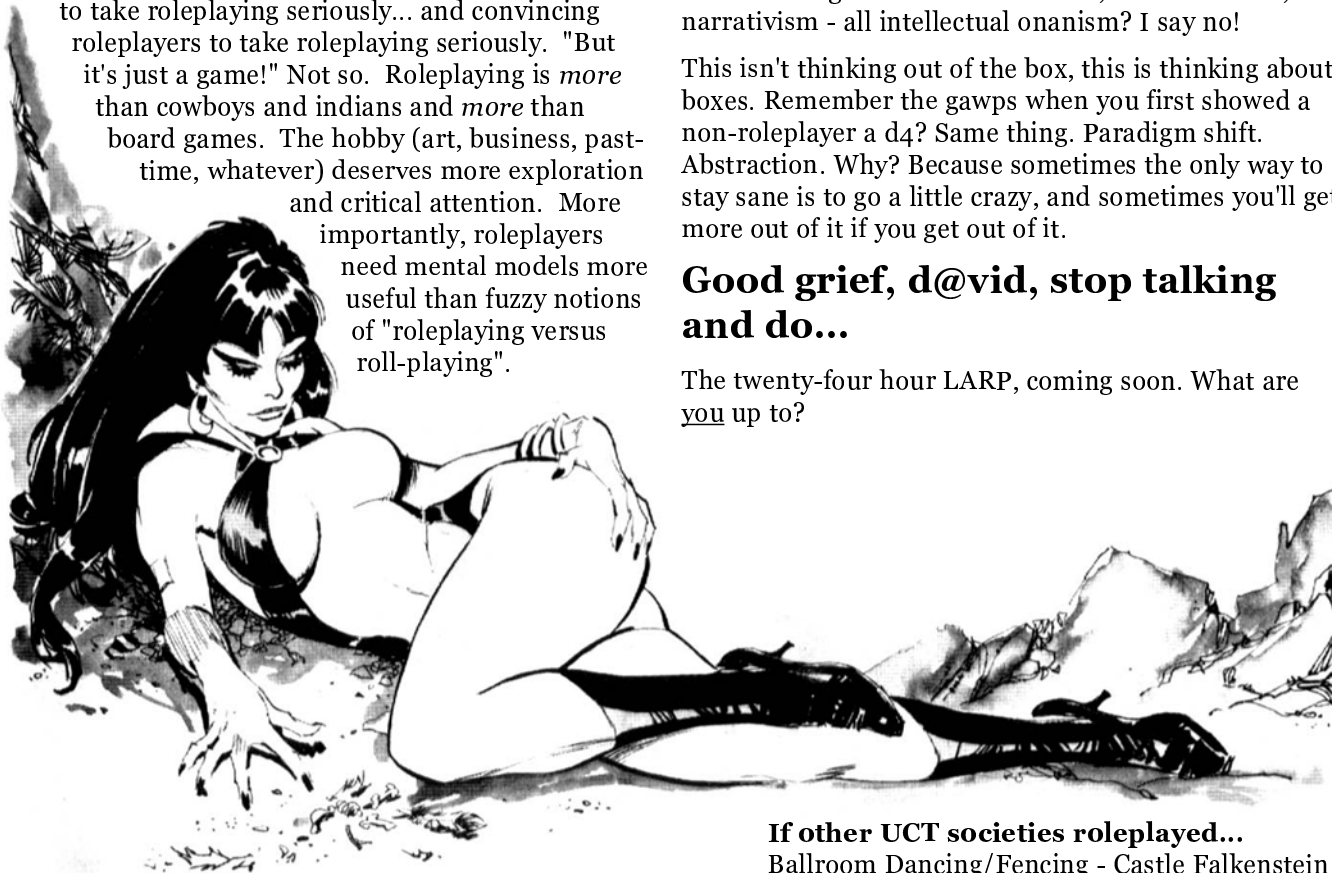
CLAWS, INTERRUPTED

The crazy thing is, d@vid's not (that) crazy

"The only thing that ever made me less loony was writing." - Susanna Kaysen

So, why do we all wear black?

There are two hurdles: convincing non-roleplayers to take roleplaying seriously... and convincing roleplayers to take roleplaying seriously. "But it's just a game!" Not so. Roleplaying is *more* than cowboys and indians and *more* than board games. The hobby (art, business, past-time, whatever) deserves more exploration and critical attention. More importantly, roleplayers need mental models more useful than fuzzy notions of "roleplaying versus roll-playing".



Why do we roleplay? If an orc falls in the forest, does it grunt? Isn't it all escapism/wish fulfilment? What is unconsciously symbolised by the desire to roll a d12? Can we split the spon? This isn't about silly philosophical questions, interesting though some of them may be, but to make sure we're all on the same page and that the next chapter isn't going to be more of the same.

Heck, over at gamestudies.org they're making an academic journal about computer games, at fate.laiv.org/dogme99/en/larp4.htm you'll find a strange European LARP manifesto, amongst the semantic arguments at indie-rpgs.com (I've plugged it before, I know) they're developing the vocabulary and models that gamers need. Gamism, simulationism, narrativism - all intellectual onanism? I say no!

This isn't thinking out of the box, this is thinking about boxes. Remember the gawps when you first showed a non-roleplayer a d4? Same thing. Paradigm shift. Abstraction. Why? Because sometimes the only way to stay sane is to go a little crazy, and sometimes you'll get more out of it if you get out of it.

Good grief, d@vid, stop talking and do...

The twenty-four hour LARP, coming soon. What are you up to?

If other UCT societies roleplayed...
Ballroom Dancing/Fencing - Castle Falkenstein

A funny thing happened on the way to CLAWmarks...

D: We're beyond CLAWmarks 24!

M: Well... yes.

A: Bacon kips! Ice-cream! Probably not at the same time...

S: Hello, is this typist working?

M: Dunno, what program can I use for typing in?

S: Oh, we have a wiener for the GURPS prizes.

A: We should have an inflatable sheep of shame.

S: He roleplayed the kobolds? low intelligence quite well.

A: It was quite bad, sometimes you don't know when he's faking or not.

A: They may be passing a "Child Internet Protection Act" to protect children from naughty words on the internet. Unfortunately "cipa" translates directly to "cunt" in Polish. Which means that should a similar law be passed in Poland, diligent students wouldn't be able to research similar laws in other countries.

S: Are you typing the editorial?

M: No I'm just typing what everyone's saying

D: Are we saying anything interesting?

S: Ah, so we've got to this crappy self-referential point.

D: It was difficult finding a decent picture of Lara Croft.

A: The easiest way to find a decent picture of Lara Croft is to download a nude Lara and paint clothes on her.

M: We need a CLAWs SPONSored holiday... to Mexico!

CLAWS DEATHMATCH II

(because absolutely no one demanded it!!)

Adeeb Balla, with "assistance" from Dylan Craig



Guildenstern: Hello and good evening, welcome back to CLAWs Deathmatch!

(The crowd goes wild!)

Rosencrantz: Yes, tonight we have two fights on the cards - Sed vs Duncan for the couch, and Brindley vs Norman.

G: Yes, Rosie, it's gonna be a good one. Let's get to our first match.

SED

HT/WT 1.8m/84kg
REACH 65cm
STYLE Drunken boxing (he's Scotch)
QUOTE By Allah, that's not a sheep, laddie, that's my wife!

VS



DUNCAN

HT/WT 1.7m/76kg
REACH 60cm
STYLE Pokemon dance of death + a little jujitsu
QUOTE Suck it down!

G: There's our ref, Ryan, giving our opening schpiel.

Ringmike Ryan: I don't wanna see any of that Marquis of Queensburg jazz. Let's get it on!!

R: Let me remind our readers that in CLAWs Deathmatch anything goes and only one can walk away.

G: The bell goes and Sed rips off his t-shirt... Holy god, he's pumped like Arnie!

Sed: Bismallah, ahm gonna break you, och aye!

R: Duncan, egged on by Judith, rips his shirt, to audible groans.

G: Sick, sick, sick. Make the bad man stop.

R: Sed and Duncan close in, and it's clear Sed is better, forcing Dunc to run around the ring as Sed gives chase.

Sed: Ah'm gonna whip you like a fat Chinese guy...

Duncan: Judy, help!!!

G: Judith has thrown an inflatable sheep into the ring, distracting Sed long enough for Duncan to launch a blistering attack, but to no avail!

R: Don't they know Sed prefers the real thing?

G: Sed has Duncan in a headlock, no way Duncan can break free...

R: Wait, Judith has brought out a chocolate cake! No-one can resist

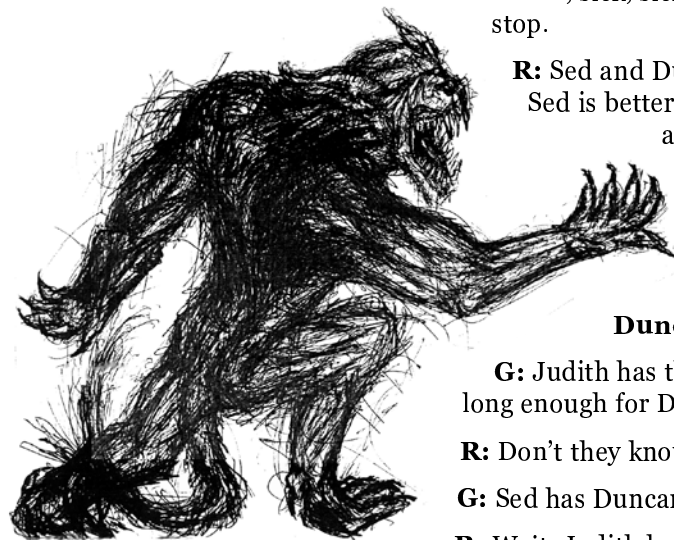
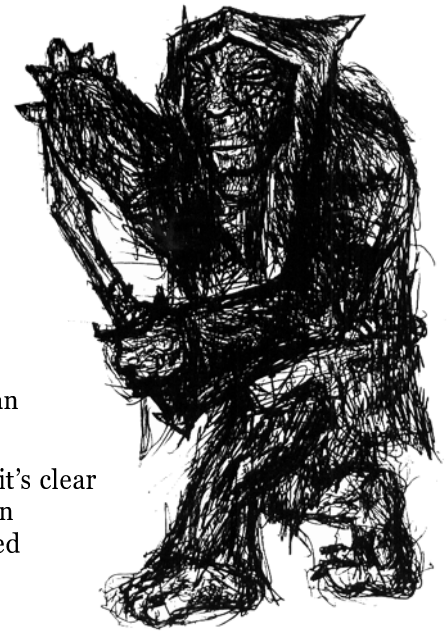
Judith's chocolate cake.

Sed: Mmmmmmm... cake! (munch, munch, munch)

Judith: Duncan, why did the cthonian cross the road?

Duncan: Uh, dunno...

Judith: To get to the other side.



If other UCT societies roleplayed...
Bhakti Yoga - All Flesh Must (not) Be Eaten



Duncan: Hahaha... hah, hah, ha ha HA HAWA HAWA!!!

Sed: Nooooo...

SPLAT

G: Oh my god, Duncan's sonic laugh of doom popped Sed's head like a pimple.

R: Say it with me now...

Crowd (chorus): Sed's dead, baby, Sed's dead!

R: Duncan wins. *[without resorting to the Flask of AJ, thanks Adeeb - ed]*

G: And now for a word from our sponsors...

If other UCT societies roleplayed...
Flying Club - Crimson Skies

If other UCT societies roleplayed... Society for Creative Anachronism - Dungeons & Dragons



vgfwordzsearchfyu

W R X A D Y R E S R B E C E Q K Z J S H R E K R S S C A C I
S I I P C M V B Y W D G I H R G T H I R T E E N M T S T E K
K R W A U Q S H U B N I G G U R A T H O B J Y V A P G L X I
O Z L Y J U L E S L O R D O F T H E R I N G S S G N P A P D
B G S Y D T V Z L R P H A H F H I Q T F P R M S E L A S L T
O A I X K Z U G H B O F Y F M A T R I X Q D E M W R T T O W
L T L K J E Y W R D O J C A I Y M H B O C Y Y M Z G P N I O
D H A L I E N S N J D W C K Q B W L S R Q J Z C W J F B T D
I E O Q B N L V X Z L A C N J A M R A P M C K E F I V E A E
R R R G C A P S C V E R P B P Q J Y S J P H M W I F J Z T E
T I E V L H S R S T E V E J Y R D D O D R A G O N S Y Z I S
Y N G E A P L P K V M F G P O S C J A V A O J O M U R V O I
D G A X W U T R C H E I B D Q V D U A I N S A M Y P H E N X
O V V Z S Q F D E M Z N S L I A R D A I F I C V N I R G N Q
M I G L I T L R P I M A D F B B A T W O N U K D I A K Y O L
A I V Y H F B I C E A L X K S A G A N J C M S K N N X W W W
I W D U M A V N K P G F N N R B O N J B H S O H Z O F N U E
N V O R Y V G G L S I A B X R Y N T A P I H N H E W W O W M
S L S U N N S S X H C N V N W J F E P E C E L I D Y O X T V
J F Y X H I O F D T D T R T H E I C N N K A J H U H L G F D
G O A O C T O P U S W A Y K D F R H Y T E Q X R N X W D T H
N N X G D H L J D I V S P K W Q E A T A N T F V G F O D Y A
B U N M L M T O N J U Y Q P H I D M W G L K M S E S M V C K
N G N W G V J Y U E Y V D F Q T Y B H R Z S V B O P Y A T G
J V R G P O Y O G T Y I V C U H D E D A K J P S N O Y M H X
L D U J J Q B A S H E I Y O V Q J R N M T M E X S N N P U D
Z L G U R P S A D H X P N U A V J Z P P C H Y O Q L G I L I
W R I J A H Q M A G E I R T L E G E N D Y Z N O J U U R H C
I V U T G U L J V W T A W H I T E W O L F O O N M F G E U E
S V F A E F X G Q U Z T Z R F A R S M A G I C A X H D P B X

If other UCT societies roleplayed...
SHARP - Kobolds Ate My Baby



words

FINALFANTASYVII
ARSMAGICA
SPON
DRAGONFIRE
VAMPIRE
MAGE
RINGS
CHICKEN
DIRTYDOMAINS
MATRIX
DICE
DUNGEONS
CTHULHU
WHITEWOLF

EXPLOITATIONNOW
MAGIC
LEGEND
PIANO
BABY
ATLAS
SHREK
LORDOFOTHERINGS
DRAGONS
ANTECHAMBER
CHAOSIUM
TWODEESIX
THE
OF

ALIENS
OCTOPUS
STEVE
SHUBNIGGURATH
CLAWS
POODLE
GURPS
THIRTEEN
GATHERING
FIVE
KOBOLD
WOMYYN
JACKSON
PENTAGRAM