

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

cyberpunkdreams press pack

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**Encroaching dust bowl. Environmental degradation.
Climate change. Water shortages. Dangerous political
polarisation. Class war. Sound familiar?**

Mix in ever growing corporate power, isolationism, quantum computing and augmentation technology. Add civil war and a major refugee crisis across half the continental United States. That'll give you the prescient world of cyberpunkdreams.

This is bleak, uncompromising cyberpunk. This is our future.

About cyberpunkdreams

"And that, my friend, is how the great United States of America ended up as a bunch of separate third world countries, and why you're living in a slum."

cyberpunkdreams is a dystopian world conceived by cyberpunk author Rob Chant. Based in Cambridge, UK, cyberpunkdreams is a project by Late Night Games, Chant's vehicle for releasing his world into ours.

The aliens have not arrived. The singularity has not happened. No big event or technological discovery has shaped our future. It's a slow hellslide into a world where tales of sleaze, debauchery and hustle are forged. Gangs? Drugs? Sex? Violence? You couldn't escape them even if you wanted to.

cyberpunkdreams was originally conceived in 2003 as a group writing project, where diverse authors contributed stories all set in the same world. This writing method evokes the exploration of many more themes, settings and characters than any one author can achieve on their own. Although this vision has persisted, cyberpunkdreams has evolved over the years to spawn several different manifestations.

The rich dystopian world of cyberpunkdreams will be unveiled through a series of independent projects starting in 2017:

- Cincinnati Stories, an illustrated collection of short stories, launched on Kickstarter during September 2017.

- City Streets, a board game, launching on Kickstarter on 2018.
- cyberpunkdreams: the game, an RPG and interactive fiction browser game launching in 2018.

About Cincinnati Stories

"Dog was the worst person I'd ever met. No exaggeration, and that was saying something."

Cincinnati Stories is the first collection of narratives from the world of cyberpunkdreams, created by author Rob Chant, based in Cambridge UK.

All the tales in Cincinnati Stories are interconnected and feature cameos from characters that live in world of cyberpunkdreams. Here we find sex, violence, sleaze and, of course, corruption, right up to the eyeballs. Folks doing what they can to survive, to get their kicks, all the way from the bottom of society to the top. There aren't many happy endings.

With an unmistakable atmosphere driven by compelling characters, all the stories in Cincinnati Stories take place simultaneously over the same day and night. The narratives are snapshots into everyday lives, distilling an overriding theme of people caught in the unrelenting crossfire of the city.

Release information

Fully illustrated, Cincinatti Stories will be available in hardback, softback and digital, launched on Kickstarter during September 2017:

kickstarter.com/projects/cyberpunkdreams/cyberpunkdreams-cincinnati-stories

Gangland

Gangland, the first tale from the book, is included in this press pack. This piece introduces Sally Stone as she navigates the worst day of her life: triads, snakeheads, corrupt rent-a-cops, fixers, dealers, street gangs and a lot of

blood. Is Sally an innocent caught in the crossfire or a willing participant in a world she claims to hate? Read Gangland to find out.

Exclusives

Contact +44 1223 365 834 / press@cyberpunkdreams.com for exclusive media, press previews and interviews.

About City Streets

"Riding low. Deep bass, smooth wheels, lots of ammo."

City Streets is a violent, visceral board game for two to four players. Take the role of a vicious crime boss and attempt to reign over a crime ridden city in the 2090s. The game will have you deal drugs, work with gangs, execute your enemies' agents, cause mayhem and watch the city burn. There is no way to play the good guy here: City Streets is definitely not for the faint-hearted (or the young and easily disturbed).

City Streets shares several themes and characters from the parent world, weaving together elements from Cincinnati Stories and cyberpunkdreams: the game. Players use strategy to control city sectors and complete a diverse range of objectives, such as stockpiling guns and ammo, mastering negotiation with other players or simply becoming known as "The Worst".

With over one hundred and eighty cards and pieces, a fully illustrated tiled game board and enough variation to ensure no two games will ever be the same, City Streets is designed for hours of gritty cyberpunk mayhem.

About cyberpunkdreams: the game

"The badlands are bleak; the border, bleaker. Dust, and the city behind. Guards drive armoured patrols around a decaying no man's land. The stench of oil. Minefields. Razor wire."

cyberpunkdreams: the game is a browser based text adventure game set in 2090s Ohio. Players take the role of a weary loner arriving at the gates of Cincinnati from the mid-Western badlands. However, there's a hidden agenda the player must discover and influence for themselves.

Originally developed on the StoryNexus platform, the home of *Fallen London* and *Dragon Age: The Last Court*, and currently in private alpha testing, cyberpunkdreams: the game contains thousands of items of unique content and will be released in April 2018. Players progress through the main story or take optional arcs that open up new types of gameplay. The game is built to run on both desktop and mobile and will be continuously developed and expanded.

cyberpunkdreams: the game brings together NPC interactions, such as rivalries and romances, side quests, substance abuse and an achingly painful narrative. Unlike traditional RPG games, players don't choose classes or alignments. Instead, their characters emerge from the complex web of interactions that they choose to make with the world. This leads to subtle narratives, ensuring that no two players' game experiences are ever the same.

The game is set in Cincinnati, which has always been the geographical and cultural crossroads of the United States, sitting between North, South, East and West. In cyberpunkdreams, Cinci has turned into a sprawling slum of twenty-four million people, dotted with police enclaves for the rich and corporate elite. The Third World of today brought into the First World of tomorrow.

Although decidedly not post-apocalyptic, Cinci now sits on the eastern edge of badlands which stretch over the rest of the continent. The city grew over the preceding decades as refugees fled from environmental collapse and a series of civil wars that have torn the country apart.

In this setting, players make of themselves what they will – ruthless assassin to salvation of the slums, all the while developing their hidden agenda through the main storyline.

About the author

"I didn't have a choice. I had to write. cyberpunkdreams needed to become real."

The world of cyberpunkdreams was conceived by Rob Chant. A fan of Neuromancer and Blade Runner from an early age, Chant studied Physics with Computing and readily admits he's never had a proper job. While Cambridge may not be the most cyberpunk city on the planet, Chant's work is scientifically detailed enough to fit him right in.

Chant's work is character driven, permeated by a looming atmosphere of survival. Technology forms the backdrop to a dystopia like no other, based on a vision of the future we could already be facing.

"The characters seem so real in my mind that I just have to write them. They have a life of their own."

"Call me pessimistic, but I believe the only possible future is for the entire system to collapse."

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