

Take a Trip to the Most Unique Place in All the Multiverse.

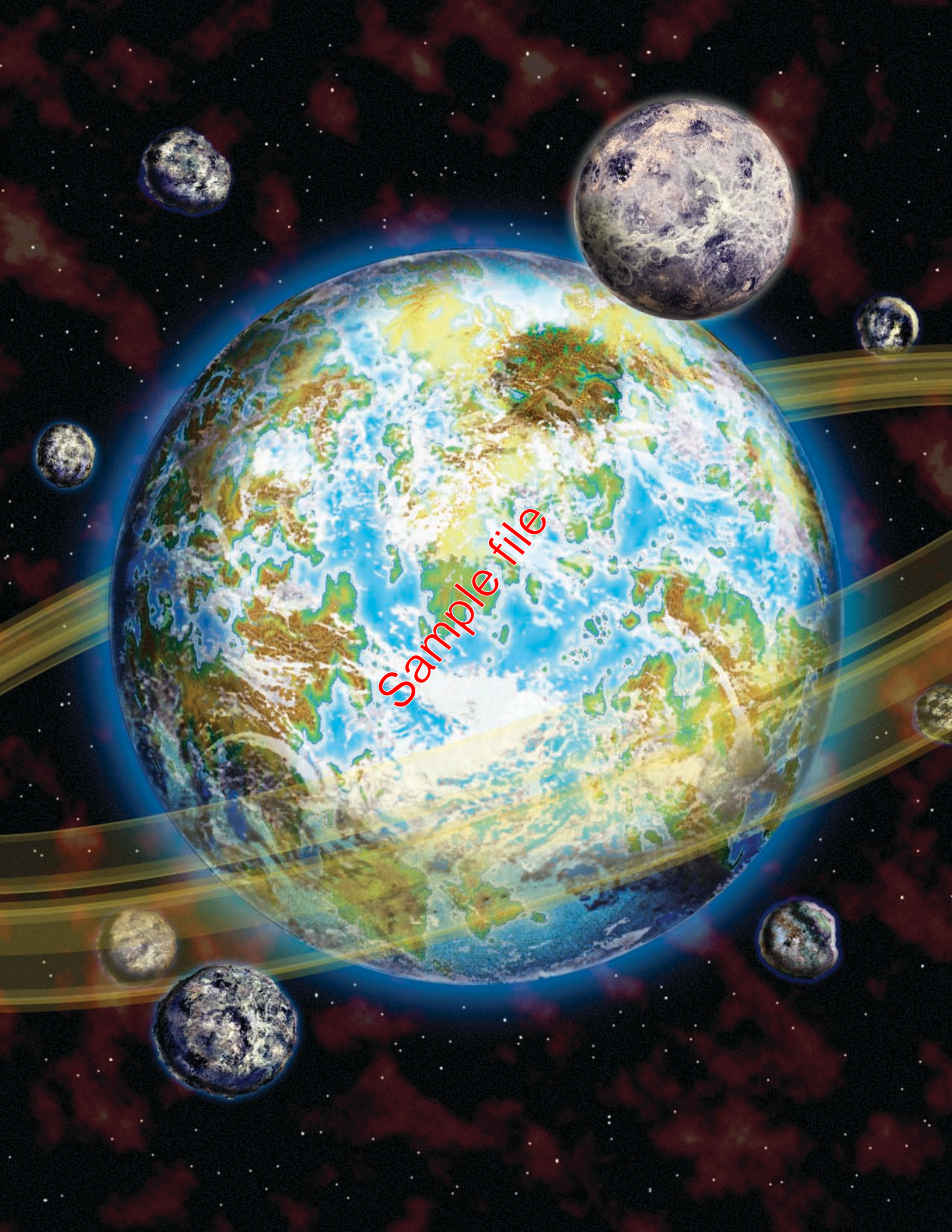
# MURPHY'S WORLD™

Where Things Can Always Get Worse...™



*A Humorous Roleplay Gaming World Where Reality Takes a Vacation!*

by **KEVIN DAVIES** with **DAVID BROWN**



Sample file

# MURPHY'S DOWNSIDE WORLD™

*Where Things Can Always Get Worse...™*

*Paradise!  
And it's all mine!*

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## Murphy's World

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Many thanks to the following people for  
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Sue Benger, Judy Benger, Russell Grant Collins,  
Brian Davies, Joseph Fleming, David Fountain,  
Albert Frank, Gingras Frederic, Jose Garcia,  
Allan & Leann Goodall, Chris Gow,  
Christopher Haase, Pat Hachey, Quinn Hansen,  
Jeff Hayes, Matthijs Holter, Anthony Hunter,  
Annette Ing, Steve Illman, Jonathan Keepers,  
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Glenn McGregor, Brian Misiaszek, Lisa Padol, Anne Patkau,  
Tom Pomes, David Sarachman, Bina Sharma, William D. Sharpe III,  
Ronald Smith, Erik Stiene, Steve Stirling, Mark Templeton,  
Kris Thomson, Jeff Westwood, David White, Andrew Wilson

Thanks to the following people for their kind suggestions and support:

Sue Benger, Brian & Irene Davies, Joanne White,  
Mr & Mrs White, Richard Wilson

*Dedicated to anyone with a dream.*

Murphy's World is published by:

**PEREGRINE**

40 Seymour Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4J 3T4, Canada

Phone: (416) 461-9884

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Email: peregrine@peregrine-net.com

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Rules presented in this book are derived from the Weapons & Wonder™ RPG system.

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THIRD EDITION, April, 2004

Digital Edition (PDF format)

ISBN: 0-921821-23-9

Stock Number: PGN- 0101

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Sample file

WHY ME?  
WHY NOW?

IT'S JUST  
NOT FAIR...

SPLOOSH!

## PREFACE

“I’ve had worse days... at least today I didn’t end up sopping wet and naked....”

— Sean Murphy.

### From the Journal of Sean Murphy, Independent Space Explorer and Opportunist.

IT WAS A DREAM COME TRUE. I’D SPENT THE LAST THREE YEARS IN THE CRAMPED QUARTERS OF MY SPACESHIP, DESPERATE FOR A REST AND REFUELING STOP, WITH ONLY THE ODOR OF MY SOCKS FOR COMPANY. I WAS TAKING A SHORT-CUT THROUGH A DESERTED SECTION OF THE GALAXY WHEN I MADE THE DISCOVERY OF A LIFETIME — AN UNCHARTED PLANET THAT COULD SUSTAIN LIFE! THE THIRD OF SEVEN PLANETS ORBITING AN AMBER STAR, ALL BLUE AND GREEN WITH PASTEL PINK AND YELLOW CLOUDS, IT WAS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS I HAD EVER SEEN. A SCAN OF THE SURFACE REVEALED THAT IT WAS TECHNOLOGICALLY UNDEVELOPED AND TEEMING WITH LIFE.

TO SOMEONE SITTING COMFORTABLY ON A ROOMY AND TEMPERATE PLACE LIKE EARTH, THIS MAY NOT MEAN MUCH, BUT TO MANY HAPLESS SOULS ON COUNTLESS OTHER WORLDS, A FIND LIKE THIS IS THEIR CHANCE TO BUILD NEW LIVES FOR THEMSELVES. TO A LUCKY FELLA LIKE MYSELF, IT MEANS A TIDY PROFIT AND AN EARLY RETIREMENT. QUICKLY, I CALLED UP THE NECESSARY CLAIM FORMS ON MY TERMINAL AND FILLED THEM OUT, THEN FIRED THEM OFF VIA SUB-SPACE LINK TO THE PLANETARY CLAIMS OFFICE AT GALACTIC CENTRAL. THE PLANET WAS MINE!

FOR 10 YEARS I HAD BEEN LOOKING OUT FOR A PLACE LIKE THIS: AN UNCLAIMED WORLD WITH VAST RESOURCES, AN UNDERDEVELOPED CONSUMER MARKET, AND AN EXPLOITABLE LABOR FORCE. NOW I HAD IT ALL! IT SEEMED TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.

IT WAS.

I BROUGHT THE SHIP INTO LOW ORBIT AND SWITCHED ON THE AUTO-PILOT, TELLING IT TO SEEK OUT A TOUCHDOWN SPOT THAT WOULD HAVE THE BEST CHANCE OF IMPRESSING THE NATIVES. MEANWHILE, I HOPPED INTO THE SHOWER AND PUT THE FINAL TOUCHES ON MY COLONIAL TAKE-OVER SPEECH: ‘WHAT’S YOURS IS MINE, LET’S WORK TOGETHER’. AS I SLIPPED INTO MY BEST CYBERNETIC TUXEDO, I FOUND IT HARD TO BELIEVE HOW GOOD I FELT. EVERYTHING WAS FINALLY GOING MY WAY. I WAS IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF MY DESTINY. NOTHING COULD GO WRONG!

SUDDENLY, ALL THE LITTLE LIGHTS ON THE CONTROL PANELS, THE ONES THAT NEVER LIGHT UP, LIT UP. SIRENS SCREAMED. I SCREAMED. I SCRAMBLED AND TORE OPEN A SMOKING SERVICE PANEL REVEALING A JUMBLE OF LASER CIRCUITS. THE ONE FURTHEST BACK HAD COMPLETELY MELTED. SOMEWHERE IN THE BACK OF MY MIND I WONDERED, IF SOMETHING HAD TO GO WRONG, WHY DID IT HAVE TO DO SO IN THE LEAST ACCESSIBLE PLACE? I GRABBED A REPLACEMENT CIRCUIT CARD AND EASED INTO THE CRAWLSPACE... THEN THE AUTO-PILOT DIED.

I WAS THROWN AGAINST A BULKHEAD. I DROPPED THE NEW CIRCUIT CARD. IT HIT MY FOOT AND TUMBLED INTO THE HOLD. AS THE SHIP PLUNGED THROUGH PINKISH CLOUDS, I CURSED THE SALESMAN WHO SOLD ME THE AUTO-PILOT. THEN THE ENGINES BURST INTO FLAME.

AS EVERYTHING AROUND ME FELL INTO CHAOS, I REALIZED THAT ANYTHING THAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG, HAD JUST DONE SO. WITHIN SECONDS THE SHIP, NOW A BLAZING FIREBALL, CRASHED INTO A SHALLOW BODY OF WATER (WHICH I LATER DISCOVERED IS CALLED THE SEA OF TRANQUILLITY).

I SPENT THE REST OF THE DAY TURNING INTO A PRUNE WHILE SALVAGING AS MUCH AS I COULD FROM MY TOASTED SPACECRAFT, SUBMERGED IN ABOUT 5 METERS OF WATER.

A SMALL CONTINGENT OF FINELY DRESSED NATIVES CAME OUT OF A NEARBY SETTLEMENT AND OFFERED ME A FORMAL GREETING. GRADUALLY, THE ENTIRE TOWN ASSEMBLED AND HELD A PICNIC WHILE WATCHING ME THROUGHOUT THE AFTERNOON. I’M SURE THAT MY DISHEVELED AND SOAKING WET APPEARANCE MADE AN AUTHORITATIVE IMPRESSION.

I DECIDED TO OMIT MY PREPARED SPEECH.

MURPHY WAS TO SPEND THE NEXT FEW YEARS OF HIS LIFE wandering around on this special planet, which the local inhabitants call Færie — ‘The Beautiful Land’. Murphy chose to call it ‘Chaos’. He passed the time writing notes, drawing maps, and crying a lot. Eventually, he became acclimatized to the unique character of the world he had discovered. He made some contacts, developed a workable marketing plan, and prospered. Murphy’s World became his home.

Murphy’s World is a silly place which operates according to Murphy’s Laws. The real culprit is Ludo, the planet’s sun. This amber orb assaults the little planet with strange energies which toss any predictability regarding natural laws or supernatural forces right out the metaphysical window.

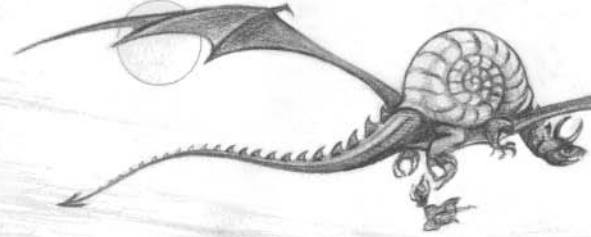
The planet also happens to possess an extensive, though faulty, network of dimension doorways — through which many of the inhabitants have unwillingly arrived — connecting Murphy’s World to just about everywhere. New arrivals can pop up anytime, anywhere: confused, embarrassed, and often vulnerable... yearning to return from whence they came. The trouble is, spaceships usually crash upon entering the atmosphere, and return portals are hard to find.

This book provides a gateway to this remarkable world, an alternate and anything but internally consistent reality, within which you may adventure.

Welcome to Murphy’s World.

May your bread occasionally land butter side up!

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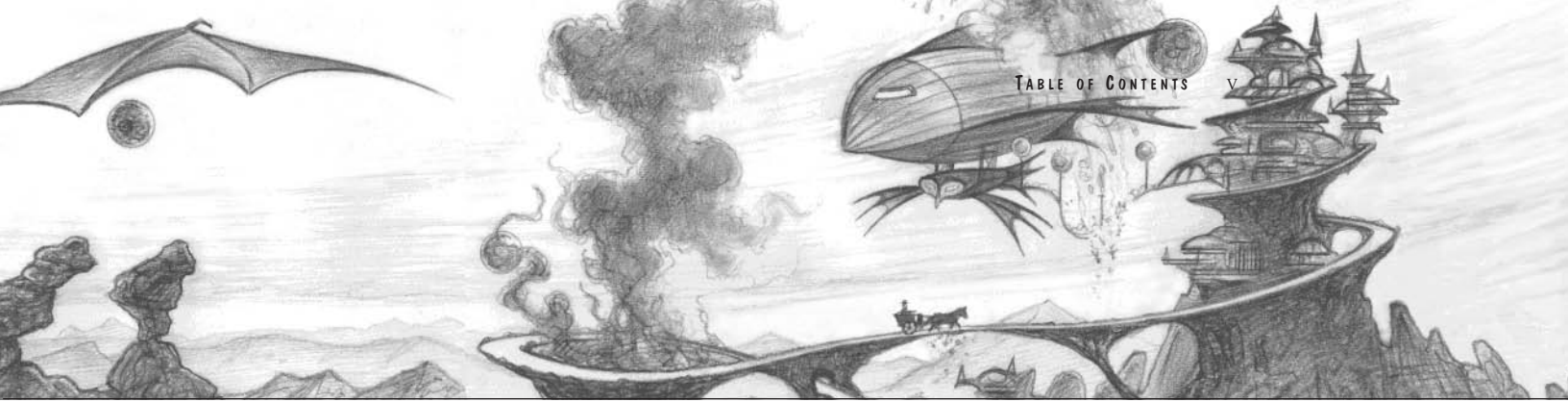
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There is no limit to how *weird* things can get.