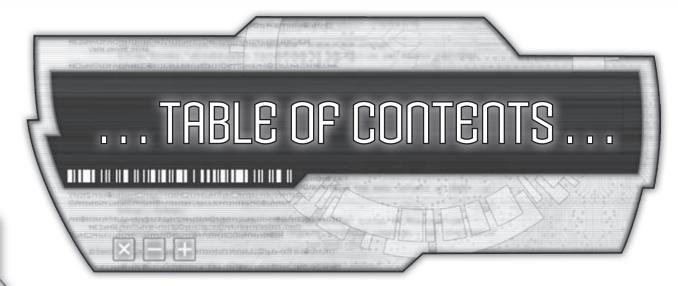


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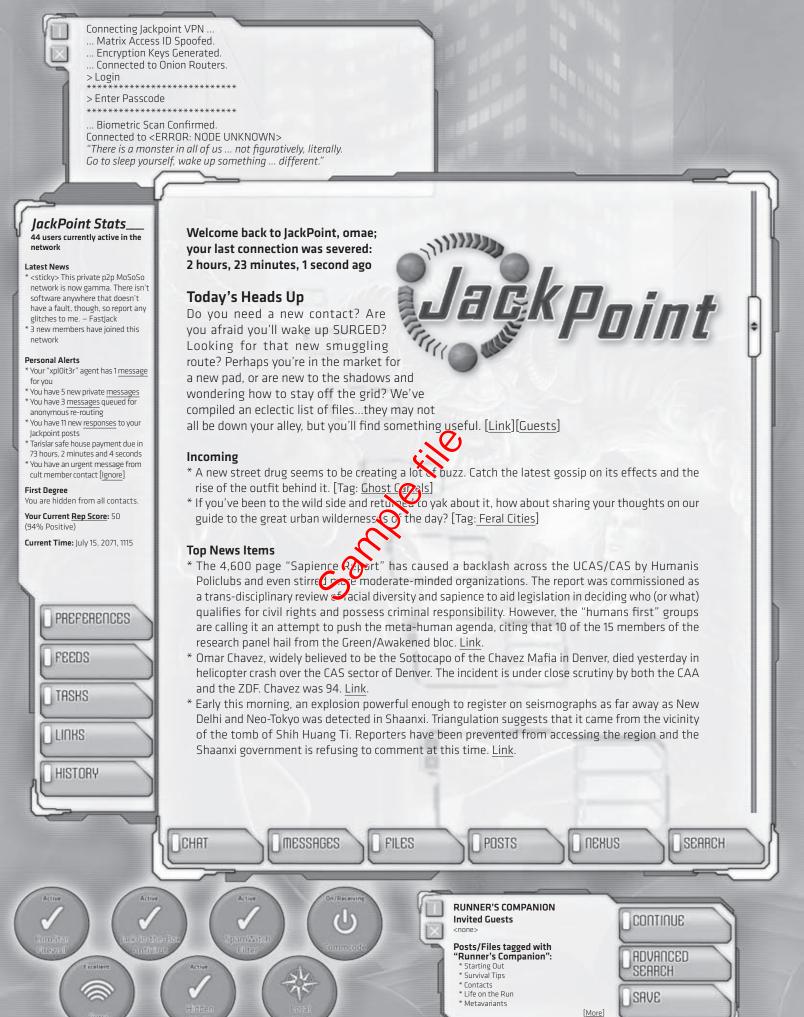


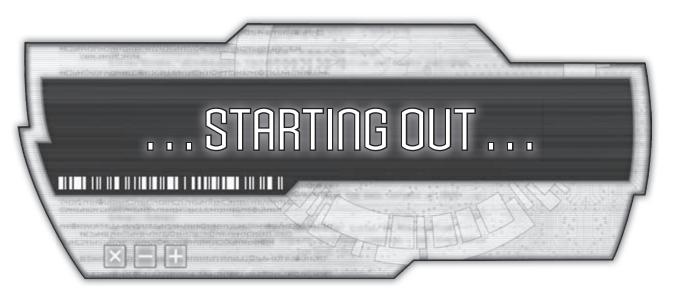
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Look, regardless of what you've heard, shadowrunners aren't just people who shoot other people right in the face for money. I've met dozens of runners worthy of the tag, and every one of them has a different story. Nobody chooses this life, it chooses them, and anybody who tells you otherwise has been watching too many old sims.

It's not an easy life. Right now, I can tell you three ways I can go to It of this restaurant, and I already know how I'm going to kill you if I need to. Chill, I'm not going to kill you unless I have to. You asked lady, I'm just telling you like it is.

Hell, most of us don't even choose our own street nature. When I started out doing corporate work in Sekondi, I jumped an anti-corp insurgent, stabbed in with a poisoned knife, and then got back into hiding to let him slowly die. My squad-mates started in ling me *Auwa* after that. That's not what I'm called now, of course, but you get the idea.

I was originally taught close quarters coulds, but I've also picked up some sniper training, infiltration techniques, Matrix security, and coulder provision driving. I've got more than my share of implants. I've had a role on each team I've worked with, and my skills complement theirs. I've picked up a lot of friends along the way and even lost some of them.

Since then, I've trained my abilities. Physical training, combat drills, studying. Yeah, researching. Sometimes, it's more important to know which gang is in control of what city block, or whose stock is selling hard, or even which school won the last Horizon Bowl than it is to know how to assault a strongpoint. I need to keep both my body and my mind sharp. Speaking of staying sharp, close your eyes a moment.

// 762-TRANSCRIPTION ERROR-NOISE ABOVE THRESHOLD //

Dumb fucker. This is Bravo Mike. Primary objective accomplished. Clear the street for extraction, the clock is running.

Now, where were we? Get up, have a seat. What, you think I'd come to a posh place like this for just an interview? Oh, suck it up. If you want to be a real journalist, you're gonna see blood. Besides, I didn't hit his wife or kids.

Before I go, I want to make sure you let your readers know that shadowrunning isn't all glamour, sex, and wealth. Sure, sometimes people will manage to get that for themselves. Sometimes, we don't choose the jobs, the jobs choose us. Sometimes, we get to stick it to The Man. Sometimes, we rob from the rich and give to the poor. Sometimes, we're the only thing standing between some innocent family and a corporate cleanup squad, a raving blood mage, or a hive of insect spirits. Sometimes, we're heroes. Sometimes, we shoot other people right in the face for money.

