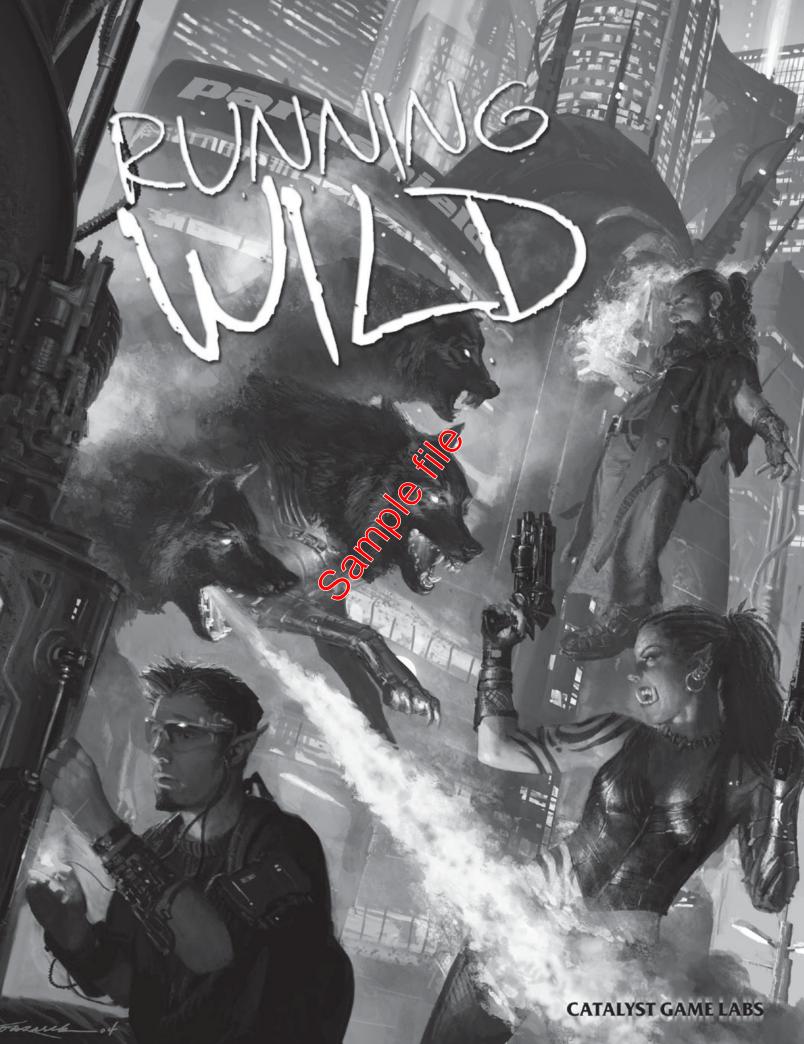


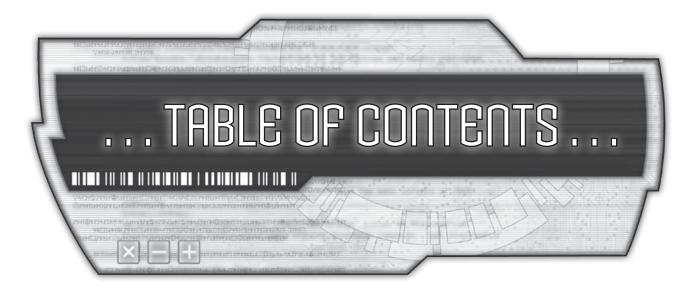
Proving you're the fittest only ends when you aren't anymore. Know your prey—it's the only way to catch them. But remember, you just might be something's prey too.

Running Wild is a sourcebook for Shadowrun, Fourth Edition. It presents a detailed overview of the animals, spirits, and other non-metahuman entities that dwell in the Sixth World: from mundane animals that have survived the incursions of mankind, to paranormals that have Awakened, to emergent animals that have found their own ways to embrace the Matrix, to the spirits and feral Als that may not even acknowledge metahumanity. Game rules and mechanics are provided for these beings and their unusual abilities, but so are rules for characters to interact with, to augment, and to train the critters presented. Every living being is constantly in search of its ecological niche, Running Wild can make a campaign home to hundreds of them.









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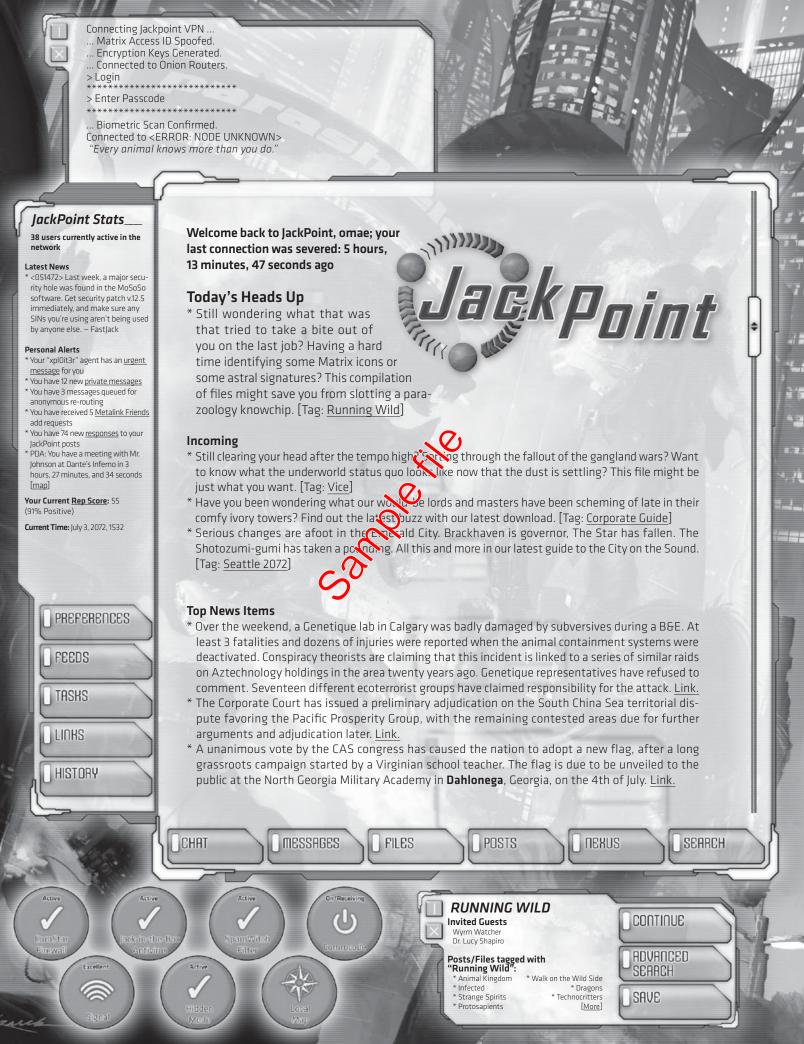
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With the taste of bile heavy on her tongue, Deepti could not bear to run any longer. Yet to stop meant certain death. She could smell each of them, their odors as distinct as colors on a palette. There were Burning Wood and Cigar, two men whose smells mixed so thickly in the jungle air you would think they were lovers. Can Cilyscared her, for he carried the scent of experience and death. The woman among this party stank of a flowery perfume, the sort their kind dabbed behind each ear, the lingering kind. She was closest now, moving cautiously through the underbrush. Deepti could be her below, close enough to touch. She could hide here, wrapped in the twisting arms of this Banyan tree, but the lives inside her would not stand that for long. They make tood, so she needed food. Deepti wished she could shift now, squeeze her slender brownbody deeper into the knotted limbs of the tree. She wished she could cry for them, prefer a to be a human so the hunters would pass. They would not fire on a pregnant with any However, her true form had no human skin. She was fur, striped white and black, wiry whiskers, and blue eyes.

No, these four would not let her pass.

Deepti's nostrils flared, and she leapt from the high Banyan branches with a piercing roar. Perfume spun mechanically, bringing her gun up an instant too slow to fire. Deepti was on her, teeth slicing through flesh. Perfume's scream died as a whimper between her powerful jaws.

"There!" Burning Wood shouted, raising a rifle to fire. Deepti spun, trying to keep the tree between her and her attackers. Wood splintered from the impact of bullets.

Cigar cried out, "Aim for the head, we need those cubs alive!"

Deepti froze in place. Hadn't she been the target? The Shapeshifter could smell Gun Oil far off to her flank, circling in behind her. The two lovers approached from the front with all appropriate caution. She could not fight them all in her condition. Another moment, and they would have her—have her offspring. Deepti would not let that happen. She reared up on her hind legs and roared.

"Shoot now, shoot now!"

She shoved a set of claws and then a second into her own belly. The searing pain buckled her knees and sent her to the ground. They would not have her young, not now.

"Shit." She heard Burning Wood moan as her eyes fogged over. "Can we at least save the fur?"

