

Greetings from Novus Ordum Mundi

There are secrets to be known of the world around you.

If you are reading this, it means that you have found one of them...

Novus Ordum Mundi is a collection of thieves, scoundrels, and villains, just like yourself, who seek the simple pleasures that life has to offer – a voice in the chaos and a chance to improve your own life at the expense of others.

Welcome to the next stage in your illustrious career.

During your tenure with us, you will gain influence and advance within the ranks through the actions of others. This is our way, as it has been since the dawn of the Old Republic. It is the first lesson you will learn – that the actions of those you sponsor are more important than your own. Only through them will you have a true opportunity to change the world.

Your mission is one of utmost importance. You must scour the continent of Théah (and beyond if necessary) to gather the world's finest Heroes, convince them to undertake missions to test their mettle, and report their progress to us. All you must do is choose the order and nature of each mission. But remember the following rules. They are our credo, and your dogma.

- 1) Challenge. Do not overwhelm. Bloodshed is messy, and wasteful. We have no use for dead Heroes.*
- 2) Challenge. Do not succumb. Never waver in your dedication to the enrichment of your subjects. Weak Heroes are a threat and a stain upon society.*
- 3) Knowledge is power. Always ensure that you distill information to your subjects with the utmost care.*
- 4) Always remember your place, while watching the one before you. Remember that ambition is a virtue and is to be rewarded, while betrayal is a flaw, and will be dealt with accordingly.*

As a member of NOM, you will be contacted four times each year by someone you do not know. He will provide you with a series of documents, each containing a brief mission meant to challenge your unsuspecting Heroes. Using these guidelines, you are free to construct whatever challenges suit your fancy, keeping in mind our credo. The results of these missions are to be reported back to us at the first available opportunity, using the standard mailing address.

The first such communication will occur shortly. Watch the shadows and look for unfamiliar faces. You are warned.

Novus Ordum Mundi also encourages a healthy sense of competition within its own ranks. As you will soon see, we endorse annual contests, in which we pit your cunning against that of other villains working for us. The rewards for excelling beyond your peers are bounteous. Just as Heroes who survive your machinations will prosper, so will those who stand forth and demand our attention. Do not waver in your dedication to our cause. We are watching.

We ask that you submit to us a dossier of your exploits in tyranny, in the form of a completed character sheet and one page history (of your original villain NPC.) These should be forwarded to the standard mailing address for review. Your cooperation in this matter will ensure that you are represented in official records of our struggle for a better world. The most intriguing among you may even find your names within the pages of a future NOM publication!

Your Confidant and Worst Enemy,

Alvara Arceñiega