

UTO CODEX

2018 CE EDITION



FOREWORD & LORE PRIMER

From **Jist / Piershey** and **RetroInferno**

This redux is a fan project meant to preserve the lore and worldbuilding for Hetzer's UTO setting. Not only did his stories establish the setting, but many fans have created fanart for it!

The basic premise revolves around humanity being an anomaly in the universe. Not only are humans abnormally small compared to other species, coming up to the ankles of most nonhumans at most, but they developed a unique line of technology. Whereas most nonhuman technology is based on erestal energy crystals, humanity's homeworld and solar system distinctly lacks them. Instead, humanity discovered fission and other technologies considered mere hypotheticals by nonhuman scientists before first contact. Alien reptilians known as the Rynar Collective invaded Earth upon discovering humanity to seize this unique technology for themselves, eager to acquire nuclear weaponry. The subsequent invasion meant to last three days turned into a quagmire, prompting interference from the United Treaty Organization, a federation of over a dozen species that helped fend the rynar off.

Now humanity finds itself being integrated into this vast alien federation as a voluntary member state, rebuilding with UTO assistance during the invasion's aftermath. Although it can be a hostile universe, humans must learn to find their place in it with literal giants in the playground... whether they be benevolent to humanity or not.

"The year is 2018 CE. There is only cuddles and war."

- RetroInferno



INTRODUCTION



Welcome to the United Treaty Organization!

This codex was written in the year 2018 CE / 1198 UE and translated to the most common human language on Earth. Here you'll find an assortment of information specifically catered for a human reader to familiarize themselves with how the UTO works, its various member species, and other details about the wider galaxy such as common technologies.

We hope this will answer your most commonly asked questions while also acclimating humanity as a whole to the galaxy as the Union's newest member species!



UNITED TREATY ORGANIZATION

The UTO is, in modern times, the most powerful entity in known space. It currently represents an alliance of thirteen species. Technically, it is all merely a vast web of treaties, as the name suggests. What the name does not suggest however, and has for centuries been a point of reasoning for the name to be changed, is how closely tied together the member species are.

While the formation of the UTO had its struggles, from establishing a stable currency and deciding on a universal measurement of time all the way to dealing with secession and external threats, it is now its own stable civilization. It is no longer 'just' the system of treaties it once was. As the centuries passed and more species joined, the alien races blended together, the species barrier blurring as they created a diverse and egalitarian society.

Being a part of the modern UTO makes one a citizen of the Union. Any citizen may travel freely in UTO space. A lupari may find work on a kiori world, a neishor student can attend university on the tordenchi homeworld, and an ashari may run for high government office on a kadian colony, though their odds of winning would be slim. There are even worlds that cannot be called a neishor world, or a ralai world, as joint colonization guaranteed highly mixed populations. These planets, often called 'Hub Worlds' or simply 'Hubs', represent the most ideological virtue of the United Treaty Organization - a civilization where everyone was equal.

This will never be true for every citizen in the UTO. The sissach face discrimination every day, the asishi are judged as brutes, the falashai are seen as heartless, the kiori are looked upon as swindlers - prejudice has always and likely will always exist somewhere in the UTO. However, the belief in the Union has never been stronger than with the joining of humanity. Not since the joining of the sissach has the UTO been able to firmly say that all were equal - a belief that faltered when the neishor originally prevented the asishi from joining the Union. Humanity is a species that has no fur to keep it warm, overly dulled senses, not a natural weapon on their bodies, and they aren't even ankle high to a lupari. But that didn't matter. Much like artificial intelligence, humanity fulfilled the main requirement the UTO needed to define a person and therefore become a Union member by asking a single question...

"Can we talk to each other?"

Humanity presents the most complex period of integration in UTO history, but for many it is proof that the UTO can truly say all are equal, as they would find a way to make it work.

UTO GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE



Fun Fact:
The three stars represent the original UTO founding species, but modern UTO emblems include a star for every member species!

Original UTO Emblem

Although the UTO is not officially a confederation or a federation, it operates similarly. Layers of the government are divided into a centralized united assembly with ministers from every member species, each species retaining their original governments as individual states, and star system administrations functioning as the equivalent of local governments. Human historians regularly compare the UTO to the European Union with its various treaties economically and militarily bounding every species together as a supranational organization.

By design, this means the UTO is fairly decentralized. Although every member species is expected to follow what amounts to federal laws, each individual state is granted a great degree of self-autonomy. This also means the UTO isn't strictly a democracy, even if it practically operates as such on a central or federal level. The asishi have a military dictatorship with recurring coups, the kiori are ruled by a board of corporate directors, and the ra'lai have political leaders who also tend to serve as simultaneous religious or spiritual ones.

One notable exception is hub worlds. These are crown jewel worlds jointly settled by multiple species and administered directly by the central government, acting as unique polities and cultural melting pots. Each hub can have a specialization ranging from academia, industry, or even nature reserves. They exemplify UTO values and are fully democratic, able to select and vote for their own ministers for the united assembly like each individual member state.

UNION STANDARD TIME

The UTO uses a system of round numbers for time measurements known as Union Standard Time (UST). This time system was formed by the katians and the falashai. It's not based upon any planetary seasons, and the calendar started the moment the UTO was formed.

100 seconds = 1 minute

50 minutes = 1 hour

20 hours = 1 day

50 days = 1 quarter

200 days = 1 year

Dating is arranged as the following: **Day.Quarter.Year**

Example - **42.3.1341** - This reads as the 42nd day of the 3rd quarter of the 1341st year.

Year 1 of the calendar marks the formation of the United Treaty Organization. The year 1341 is 1341 UTO years following the formation of the UTO.

UST compared to Earth Time:

1 second : .89 seconds

1 minute : 89 seconds

1 hour : 74 minutes

1 day : 25 hours

1 year : 206 days

Convert Earth Year to UST Year

$x = \text{Earth year}$ $y = \text{UST year}$

$$(x - 1341) * 365 / 206 = y$$

Convert UST Year to Earth Year

$x = \text{UST year}$ $y = \text{Earth year}$

$$206(x) / 365 + 1341 = y$$



UTO MEASUREMENT SYSTEMS

The UTO uses measuring systems in the same vein as the human metric system with increments of 1000 for each new tier of measurement. Distances are measured in valens, weight is calculated by faarir, and temperature is gauged by piasa. Direct translations use common terms from the metric system, resulting in terms such as kilofaarir and centivalen.

VALEN - DISTANCE

A valen is approximately equal to 12.331 meters, which means any combining form of a meter may be converted to a valen or vice versa through a simple equation.

Meter to valen: $x = \text{meters}$ and $y = \text{valen}$

$$x / 12.331 \approx y$$

Valen to meter: $x = \text{valen}$ and $y = \text{meters}$

$$x * 12.331 \approx y$$

$$1 \text{ Valen} \approx 40.455 \text{ feet}$$

FAARIR - WEIGHT

A faarir is approximately equal to 1874.398 grams, and may be converted to or from metric with a simple equation. However, unlike metric with the metric tonne, the norm is for the faarir to continue into larger prefixes - megafaarir, gigafaarir, ect.

Gram to faarir: $x = \text{grams}$ and $y = \text{faarir}$

$$x / 1874.398 \approx y$$

Faarir to gram: $x = \text{faarir}$ and $y = \text{grams}$

$$x * 1874.398 \approx y$$

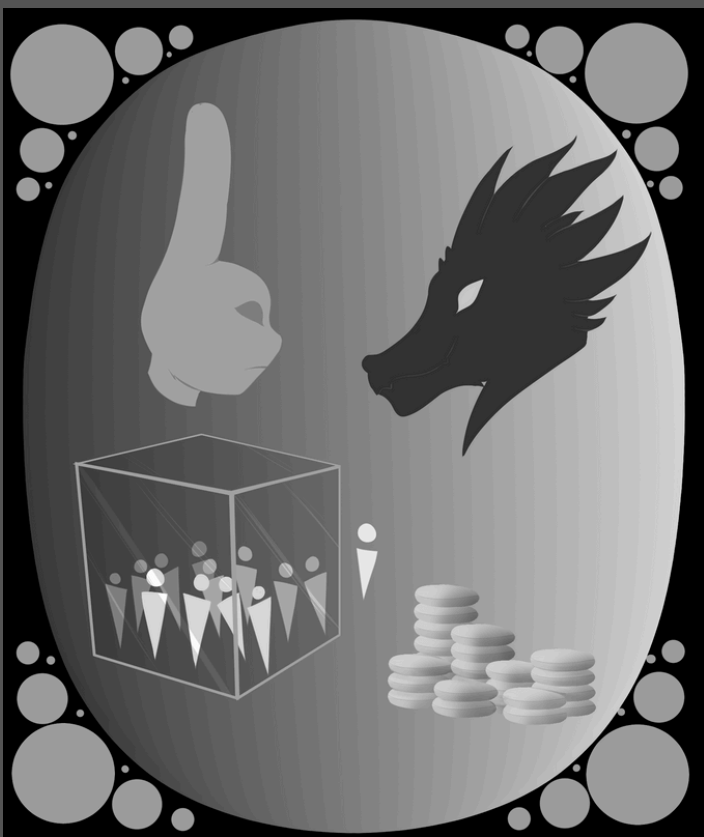
PIASA - TEMPERATURE

The UTO's standard unit of temperature is known as piasa. Like celsius, it uses water's freezing and boiling point for its 0 and 100, but due to the changing boiling points of environments, a piasa isn't exactly a celsius at about 1.01775 times a celsius.

UNION MACRO ECONOMICS

Basic resources such as food, water, and energy are so abundant within the UTO that they're practically free. This resembles what humans would define as a post-scarcity economy. Although it can depend on where you are in the UTO, most developed worlds either freely provide basic resources required for survival or private entities provide the same resources at an extremely low cost. This does not mean scarcity has been completely eliminated, however. Luxury goods and other rare resources are still in extremely high demand. Citizens living on frontier worlds and fringe systems may also struggle to acquire basic resources. Despite the potential for economic insecurity, many more independent citizens still choose to live on the fringes for the freedom it provides compared to the more developed worlds.

Although every member species follows Union wide economic laws, exact economic structure can vary between each member species. Some species have highly collectivized economies run by the state while others such as the kiori are practically ruled by corporations. Free trade also occurs between each member species with no tariffs involved. Although some species may retain their own local currencies, such as the kiori with their penchant for physical currency, the digital Union Credit is universally accepted everywhere within UTO space. Even with AI and automation doing a great deal of the labor required to cheaply produce most basic resources, UTO citizens are still incentivized to pursue careers and other jobs to either find personal fulfillment or to earn credits for luxury products.



Despite this utopian abundance, more antisocial individuals may still turn to crime or even piracy to amass wealth and power for themselves outside the reach of the UTO. This includes a black market for illegal goods and even human trafficking in extreme scenarios.

Humans themselves fulfill niches in the UTO economy, ideal for settling erestal dead systems with their unique technology. Not only do humans require far less space and resources, but their homeworld cultivates luxury goods such as coffee that can fetch a small fortune when produced for nonhumans.

GUARDIANS & CHARGES

The concept of guardians and charges arose before humans were inducted into the UTO as a theory for successfully integrating humanity. The first pairs were made up of soldiers that met and became rather close during the attempted rynar conquest of Earth.



The practical idea behind a pairing is that a nonhuman will take on the commitment to helping a human function in places that are inadequate for supporting humans. Such duties can be summed up as carrying them to locations and offering their hands as a place to stay in nonhuman crowds. The psychological purpose behind guardians, however, was where the concept made its legacy. During human integration, guardians were critical for adapting the first humans to life with nonhumans. Naturally, many humans were initially intimidated or afraid of nonhumans. The concept of a guardian offered a single nonhuman for a human to adapt to. They helped associate the nonhuman in the pair as a protector, and not something to be afraid of.

In short time, it became apparent that pairs consistently lead to rapidly developing relationships with both becoming exceptionally close to each other. Within weeks, many pairs reach a point of being open and honest about their emotions. About 84% of modern guardian and charge pairs lead to a physically affectionate relationship, though the degree to which this may be indulged varies wildly. Such affections may be as simple as mutual rubbing, scratching, petting and so on. In some cases the relationship turns romantic or far more intimate with licking. Despite mechs eventually eliminating the practical need for guardians, many humans still prefer guardians due to the trust and intimacy developed over time.

GUARDIAN TRAINING

Guardians are selected on a volunteer basis followed up by a screening process. Screening involves background checks for any criminal history or mental instability, followed up by an interview with a guardian trainer and a live questionnaire. There are no standardized questions in these interviews, with the intent being to prevent anyone from preparing for them. As such, they are normally morality questions and unlikely scenarios made up by the guardian trainer. For example: "What do you do if your charge tries to attack you?"

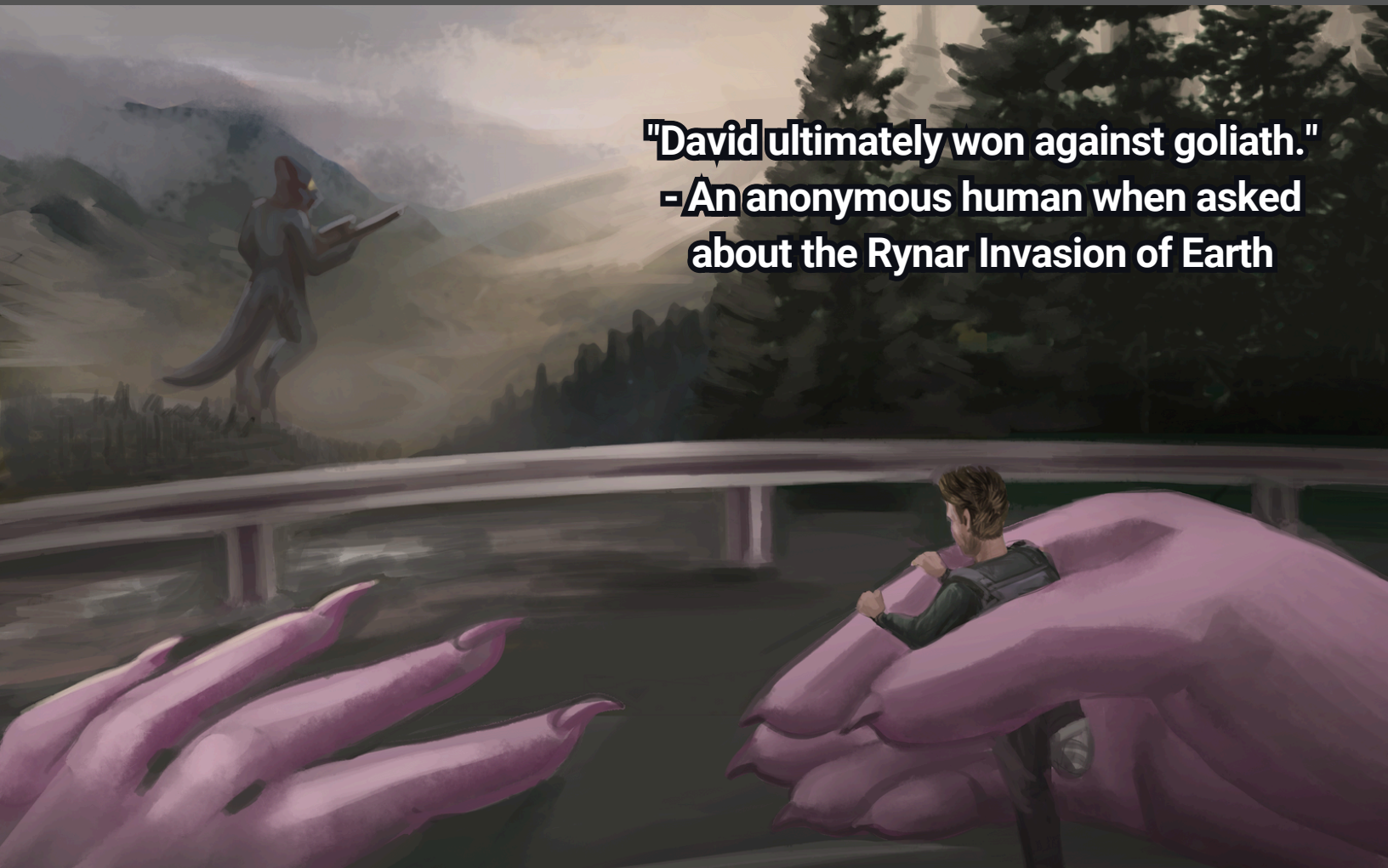
Once a guardian makes it through screening, they begin training, and are taught the following:

- Hyper sensitive handling for the sake of being able to handle any human, including one that may be injured or the exceptionally young such as an infant.
- Sensitivity training to reign in certain behaviors such as compulsions to stroke or pet, fawn over cuteness, or cutesy names. The importance of this training has greatly diminished once experience with humans became a standard part of every citizen's alien culture exposure education.
- Techniques for comforting their charges, such as offering a thumb for the human to hold onto and sounds they might find comfort in such as heartbeats or purring. This may involve experimentation and open communication to discover what an individual charge may like or dislike.
- Simulated scenarios, such as aiding an injured human.
- Human emotional cues.
- Techniques for avoiding intimidating a human, such as toothless smiling and small posturing. It's important to note that being overly careful in this way has become offensive to many humans that are experienced with nonhumans, and is seen as condescending. It's mostly reserved for humans that have never met a nonhuman before.
- Basic medical care for a human, including how to non-fatally administer CPR.
- Situational awareness and knowing the location of nearby humans at all times.

GUARDIAN DUTIES

Guardians have an array of duties, and not all of them are just for their assigned charge.

- Offer carrying assistance to their charges.
- Protect their charge from physical elements such as crowds.
- Offer emotional support to a charge in need.
- Be open to any instances where taking on multiple temporary charges is needed, such as being a designated, sober guardian during drinking nights with friends.
- Be ready to take temporary guardianship of a human that might need their assistance.
- Be prepared to offer assistance in human-centric emergencies, such as accidents, health crisis, or disasters.



**"David ultimately won against goliath."
- An anonymous human when asked
about the Rynar Invasion of Earth**