
Comments on Issue #380

Oops

Have I been screwing up my comments numbering? Sorry for any confusion.

Robert A Dushay

Don't be too surprised about Stephanie's roleplaying revelation. RPGs are a natural extension of the games of make-believe kids play without being taught. I will note that Stephanie was not so much *roleplaying* as *GMin*¹, which is even harder, in my opinion. *Once Upon a Time* might just be the game for her, but then so might any light traditional rpg like *Faery's Tale*.

Lee Gold

Radio plays have been mentioned before as a good analog to rpgs. I avoid comparisons with books, which tend to contain a lot of internal dialog, description, and exposition that is not desired in rpgs. Yes, television and movies are visual, but often the specific visual details are not important. For example, Minas Tirith in *Return of the King* was visually striking, but it did not really add to the story. A GM could simply describe it in general terms and get the exact same dramatic impact as either the film (or the novel).

Spike Y Jones

While Terri and I were in Monterey recently, we went into a store that carried British knickknacks, sweets, and groceries. I'm pretty sure I saw Weetabix on the shelves. Surely there are similarly-themed, specialty groceries on the East Coast. Heck, I know of one not 10 minutes from my home here in Campbell.

I bemused myself recently with the notion that the First Commandment doesn't actually say there are no other gods. Furthermore, it doesn't even say you can't worship other gods. It really just states the pecking order (coming from a "jealous god"). Biblical magic could potentially come from other sources, other gods.

Of those who try to dodge jury duty, how many do so because of the financial burden as opposed to the inconvenience? Yes, jury duty is an imposition, but a jury trial is one of our cornerstone civil liberties and cornerstone civil responsibilities. At least in Santa Clara County, financial

hardship can get someone excused from jury duty, but I do not know how difficult such hardship is to prove.

"Peers" is a vague and potentially loaded term. In the past, stacked juries were not uncommon (if not the norm), but the system as evolved to better create fair and impartial juries of private citizens.

To pick a nit from your response to Lisa about D&D spells, spells like magic missile and fireball do indeed increase in power with caster level in D&D 3.5. But as you pointed out, the growth is capped (unlike earlier editions).

Louis La Mancusa

Given that I disagreed (on one level or another) with everything you asserted to me starting with "Justice" and ending with "non-veterans", and given that your paragraph managed to push most of my buttons on political, economic, and social issues, I think it is best that I not respond (except to explain the lack of a response) and simply step away.

Pum

The font you mentioned is Lowrider. The issue before that was Chronicles of a Hero. Both are from Blambot (www.blambot.com)

Brian Rogers

I too have felt the pain of initiative, fixed combat rounds, and movement. It is one of the reasons for attack of opportunity rules, which prevent you from running past someone before (or after) they have acted that round. Personally, I see nothing wrong with adding freeform initiative when appropriate, but I would modify your example to "He's running"; "I tackle him"; "Make an attack roll to tackle".

On the matter of "Dagget":²

- It's name was Muffit II;
- It was a robotic daggit;
- And it was a pox upon the show.
- It's kid, Boxey, was also annoying.
- K-9, on the other hand, rocks on toast.

That's it for this month. I seemed to just run out of time (and my account funds). I'll leave you with one parting recommendation. *Grindhouse* was very gripping with humor, suspense, style, and simple movie pleasure.

1 And it appears she is a sadistic, cruel GM at that!

2 Thanks to Wikipedia.