

Welcome to the Joyride!

# STAR RIDERS

A delirious role-playing game  
in the best (and funniest)  
space opera tradition!

When the Dadourunrun  
Conquering Empire's bureau-  
crats mightily "misplace" Earth  
— the noblest planet in the Known  
Universe — during a galactic re-  
organisation, you start looking for it,  
of course! Live the great adventure, with  
the nor-so clever Leroy and the beautiful  
Tabada. Explore the Known (and Unknown)  
Universe while visiting strange places and  
meeting even stranger beings!

STAR RIDERS is a wacky science-fiction role-  
playing game. It comes complete with rules,  
equipment and character stats. Star Riders is also  
compatible with the Teenagers From Outer Space  
role-playing game from R. Talsorian Games Inc.

IANUS PUBLICATIONS, INC.  
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H2H 2M2

Star Riders  
A Wild Space Opera Comedy Game.

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IANUS GAMES

Printed in Canada

A Wild Space Opera Comedy Game

# STEALERS RIDERS



Sample file

by Hans Guévin

Compatible with R. Talsorian Games' Teenagers From Outer Space

IANUS GAMES

Ray



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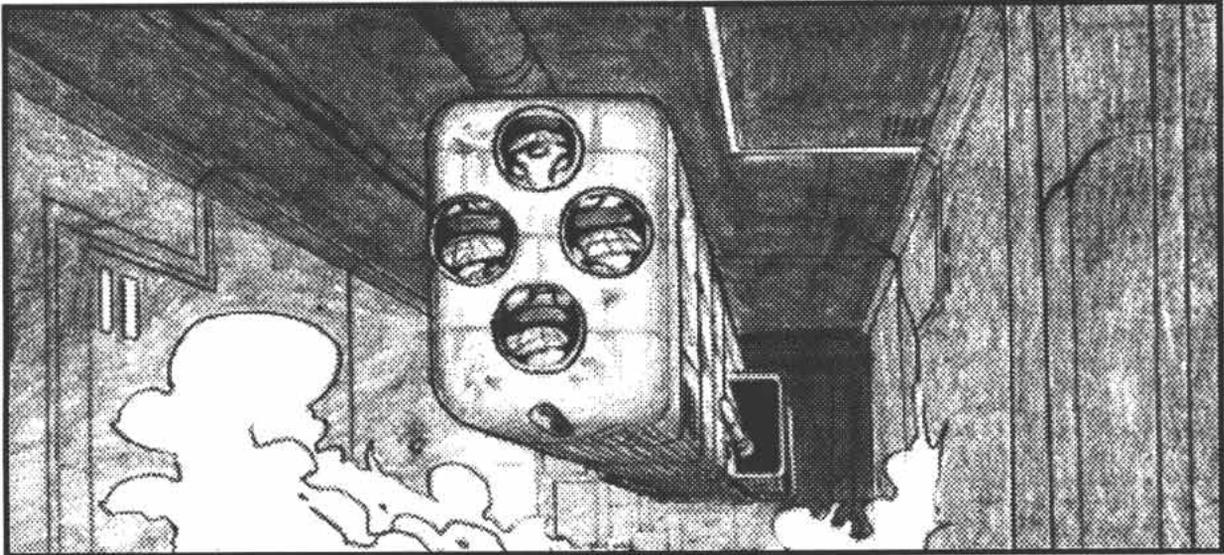


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## The story so far...

**A typical high school excuse:**

**"No Ma'am! I wasn't sleeping Ma'am! Yes Ma'am! Of course I did my homework Ma'am! No, I don't have it with me, but you'll have it on your desk first thing tomorrow! Thank you Ma'am!"**

**A typical real life excuse:**

**"No Boss! I wasn't sleeping boss! Yes Boss! Of course I did my report Boss! No, I don't have it with me, but you'll have it on your desk first thing tomorrow! Thank you Boss!"**

**Aren't you glad high school is over? Now you can do the same exact thing you did for years and get paid for it!**

During the 20th century, at a long since forgotten date, humanity made contact with the stars. Nobody remembers for sure which race came first. But one thing was certain: it came from outer space, and it asked for a date!

When the aliens discovered Earth, a while ago, they thought it was the coolest place in the Known Universe. And they were right! This planet had all kind of stuff they had never heard about, such as beaches, rock and roll, fast food, hot rods, teenagers and a lot of other stuff we all take for granted. Sure they had megafast ships and powers, giant robots that transformed into tiny Hot Wheels, but they didn't have what we had! They also had a galactic organization the Dadourunrun Empire which encompassed most of the sentient races. A few of them decided not to join and became known as the Independents. Earth was part of the Primitives before the aliens came to us. The Primitives were planets which had not been contacted yet because they were considered either too primitives (hence the name – pretty clever huh?) or simply boring, although a few boring planets have been contacted over the years, if only to make the inhabitants of other planets realize their life wasn't so boring after all! Earth was simply considered too primitive. But after the aliens came, Earth joined the Dadourunrun Empire as "Cultural Carrefour of the Stars."

You and your buddies went to high school at that time. You had classmates who could transform into bigger versions of Godzilla, others who could fly or Xerox themselves, but it was okay. I mean, after all, YOU came from Earth, the coolest place in the Known Universe! They didn't. Your word was gold, your opinion revered, no matter how silly it was. All you had to do all day was try to stay awake in class, ditch the hall monitors, escape detention, avoid the principal and get a date. Those were the good days!

Alas, war broke out between the Independents, the Dadourunrun Empire and a third party called the Conundrum over who had the most interesting place to spend a vacation. They fought the war far away from Earth and we barely received any news of it. Next thing we knew, we were now part of the Dadourunrun Conundrum Empire. Nothing changed much, aside from the currency, which

changed from dollars to credits, and it now took twice the time as it took before to say the name of the empire. However, except for these minor inconveniences, nothing else had changed.

Eventually, after a while, you graduated. After the most boring ceremony you ever attended, you headed for Andromeda for fun on the beaches, which are open 25 hours a day, thanks to the planet's double suns.

Alas, it was at this precise date that the Big B.A.N.G. happened.

Not the original mega party the Boss had at the beginning of time of course! The acronym stands for: BIG Bureaucratic Affairs of Nebular Generalization. It's a fancy term used by the high officials of the Dadourunrun Conundrum Empire. What they actually did, was a simple matter of putting order in a galaxy that was so disorganized. At that time, the galaxy was so cluttered with all kinds of stuff that served no purpose whatsoever that people would lose themselves or bump into black holes all the time. So they did a big clean up and rearranged it quite nicely and symmetrically. They dislodged a few neutron stars here and there to make way for the Universal Highway (yet another government-funded project that cost a quadzillion dollars, huh...credits and never saw the light; even in space, some things never change). They placed the stars all at equal distance of one another, so that space navigation would become easier. They also bumped a few unwanted planets into the Unknown Universe, mostly the boring and the annoying ones.

That's what happened to Earth.

Of course, it wasn't supposed to happen. Earth was such a big attraction, it was supposed to be placed in the same system as Memyselndi IV, presently the center of the Known Universe. However, as with all government programs of such magnitude, the bureaucrats made a little... mistake and bumped it into the Unknown Universe. They bumped it so fast, no one had time to leave the planet, except for a few lucky and fast ones. They dislodged it so fast, the moon didn't even follow and neither did the satellites. The workers doing the moving were in kind of a hurry to go take their break and forgot to make a recording of the arrival coordinates of Earth. Neither did they file any sort of record. Since they lost all tracks of Earth, Earthlings who were in space at the time were stuck without a planet!

The good news is: its disappearance fueled a new wave of interest in it. Earth is now more popular than ever. You see, before the Big B.A.N.G., the Earth's popularity rating was slipping fast and even Disneyland had trouble receiving enough visitors to keep the landlord away. The bad news is: they lost your CD collection, your mom, your dad, your dog/cat/goldfish/whatever and yes, even your stereo system! Aaargh! You have to find the Earth!

Thus you became known throughout the Known Universe as the Star Riders! Brave young men, women and things looking for home in a universe filled with danger, perils and absurdities, exploring the Known Universe, with occasional side trips to the Unknown Universe, trying desperately to find their home and their loved ones, waiting for them to come back. In short, finding Earth and getting the car back to mom and dad as soon as possible!

Thus, finding the "misplaced" Earth, as the bureaucrats of the Dadourunrun Conundrum Empire call it, is the basis of this game. Your players will be Star Riders; brave young men, women and things who have lost their home, Earth. Post-adolescents, they only had time to finish high school and would probably like to go to college somewhere on Earth, if only to get a job!

A bit thin you think? A bit ludicrous? You betcha! (Wait 'till you see the map of the Unknown Universe!)

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