

- the scales of “ **hero** ” and “ **villain** ” in this universe are imbalanced, contrary to most other narratives. villains **overpopulate**, and mostly fall beneath the qualification of “ **super..** ” whilst heroes are more alike opportune vigilantes: hard—pressed to be found. many possess no powers at all, or very small—time ones.
- societal collapse took place in the eighties. “ the fog, ” formally known as the **nebel virus**, began as a low—lying sickness early into the decade and ravaged the world at large by the nineties. there is no known cure, and lethality is almost one—hundred—percent guaranteed.
- the **nebel virus**, firstly, consumes victims as an unexplained, relentless drowsiness — gradually morphed **crippling** fatigue. patients suffer from characteristic blurring of the sight in the early stages of their sickness, and by half—time their vision has faded completely. patients are often bed—ridden and incoherent in their last weeks, and slip into eternal sleep with little forewarning as their body crumples beneath the total sensory shutdown “ the fog ” induces.
- society is generally divided by the **filthy** rich and extremely poor. “ middle class ” is a falsified existence populated only by financial bootlickers who work for **megacorps** as assistants, wage distribution officers, bodyguards, etc. (note that.. these are all official titles gifted by their employers. none of these individuals are referred to as such the average citizen: perpetually met with scathing comments alike “ dickriders, ” “ bootlicker, ” “ pig, ” etc. all well—deserved.)
- small businesses have been completely done away with, unless associated with the black market. economically, this world is a **capitalist monopoly**. very few, very wealthy individuals bought out and rebranded as many markets as they could during the **collapse**, when prices were at an all time low, and built them back up bearing severe inflation.
- the concept of minimum wage was done away with. employees are paid individually by wage distribution officers based on performance. this system is often biased. additionally, basic labor laws remain in place to provide a sense of faux protection, yet are hardly abided by nor acknowledged.
- as systems began shifting, many small states merged to hold more power in legislative branches. north and south carolina, north and south dakota, nebraska and kansas, colorado and utah, etc. new york remained in—tact due to the possession of the **wall street financial district**.
- nearly every nation minds its own. what with the entire globe facing a **cureless pandemic**.. thoughts of **war** have been put on the back—burner. global communication and trade has ceased for fear of *contamination (*some countries have a better hold on “

the fog ” than others.) products which could normally be found pre—fall are now vacant from shelves. even the black market experiences difficulties obtaining foreign products.

- hospitals located outside of wealthy districts are regularly supplied by the black market, as they are poorly funded by the government and often under—provided for. **organs** are unquestioned where they come from, so long as the patient waiting for a life—saving procedure is given it. painkillers are a luxury known to few. sterilizers are often alcohols.
- activist groups are few and far between but well—protected by armed citizens. a sparse number of individuals are brave enough to actually step to the forefront of the war on utopia, yet other, average civilians will always rally behind those who do. legitimate police forces (meaning, those not **bought—out** by the wealthy) are small and oftentimes officers are guarded by gangs on patrol. (seeing as “ **crime** ” is no longer the real battle, here. it’s normies and vigilantes against superpowered freaks.)
- pollution is severe enough that “ days ” don’t really exist anymore. perpetual night is most common, with occasional dusks at best (usually after heavy rain, which clears some of the sky.) acid rain is frequent. a **nation—wide warning system** has been established for suspected onpours. the world has adapted to this by now, and most storefronts, homes, and apartment complexes have large overhangs to protect those commuting the streets.
- gas masks are household **necessities**. air quality reports are released hourly. every home has long—since been equipped with air purifiers. households are permitted a measured amount of water per day based on the number of occupants.