

-Rules and Guidelines-

This is a revised document. The original document and credit for the original is found below:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15WUIz6wSI-9EqjoB57VB8QZLW6wkdqiL5G2lkYD_Kkl/edit

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1.) Rule of Role-Play:

At any time it is unacceptable to control another person's (role-player's) character without that person's consent. This is where Godmodding comes into question. Some are unsure of what exactly is considered "Godmodding". Godmodding is when a role-player indirectly manipulates another role-player's character in the interest of their own writing sometimes deliberately or in most cases inadvertently.

Subsection 1.1 - Godmodding: Godmodding occurs when a character describes an event or a series of events he or she has taken against a player character in a roleplay, with the person who plays the character acted against then describing actions taken that completely nullify the original actions against them. Godmodding is thus used as a 'Get out of jail/death free card' when things do not go the way a player wants, rather than working with previously unfolded events. It is also used as a single word definition of having an invincible character or unbreakable armor, limitless power, etc.

At any point, a roleplayer cannot twist the rules to benefit themselves. As seen in Subsection 1.4, if one's OC has done something to get themselves into trouble then they cannot twist and/or manipulate the rules of character death so that they can survive after doing something offensive IC.

Examples include:

[Incorrect] Lily punched Sara in the face, sending her flying back into the wall.

In this particular instance, Lily being the writer's character and Sara being the character of another role-player. The writer took it upon themselves to decide Sara's fate without permission from the other writer making it an illegal post. The following is an example of the correct way to write the above post.

[Correct] Lily moved forward her fist swinging through the air as she prepared to punch Sara in the face. The force would have been enough to send Sara flying back into the wall though Lily could only hope that her attack would land.

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This role-player who control's Sara has the option to decide what happens to her character. Specifically the role-player can decide if maybe Sara had the reflex's needed to dodge the attack or if maybe the attack grazed her.

Godmodding can also be achieved by merely making the character completely undefeatable or allowing them to achieve unnatural feats outside the established boundaries of the role-play.

Subsection 1.2 - Metagaming: Metagaming is another very large no-no in text-based roleplaying. This is an occurrence when a player has become aware of, or told, information pertaining to or directly regarding an ongoing storyline or situation and then, by means of roleplay, uses that information either to their own benefit or as a means to interact with or against other players.

Simply put it is a person using what they learn out of character, in character.

Example:

Lily's roleplayer learned that Sara's roleplayer had planned for her character to be captured and Lily therefore takes it upon herself to instantly rescue the character after.

Or, Sara's roleplayer found out that Lily's roleplayer managed to get her character sick and Sara instantly finds a cure for a curse that was cast not even two posts ago with no information behind the curse itself.

This is extremely aggravating for people who are trying to provide fun and, possibly, in-depth storylines. Oftentimes, no roleplay is involved at all or there is mixed information and something happens where a character is stuck because of the metagaming performed by another person.

Subsection 1.3 - One Liners: The "Rule of Role-Play" also addresses the 'one liner' issue. 'One liners' are seriously frowned upon within forum social hierarchy. Not only do they show a level of disrespect to the subreddit as a whole, but they reflect on the writer's potential as a possible role-playing partner. Often this results in a lack of participation in the progressing role-play for the role-player in question primarily because other role-players will search out more reliable role-players with more creative, thoughtful depth to their posts. These are strongly discouraged but keep in mind, **no one is being asked to write a novel in their replies**, simply be sure to give someone something to go off of.

Subsection 1.4 - IC Consequences: While OC death is a given only by the owner of the OC, there are exceptions to this. People here will go by the assumption that the members are fully capable of behaving in a mature manner. The mods generally avoid micromanaging what a person is doing with their character development and will only take action when it is necessary to stop or prevent disruption to the sub as a whole.

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This includes spam, IC abuse/illegal activity, godmodding, etc. There are several ways for this rule to be broken, not that it needs to be, however there is no way to be able to predict what someone will do with their OC IC. Therefore, all the possible examples cannot be listed here. This rule is subjective to what happens IC to warrant a character death as a consequence. For example, if an OC enters enemy territory and does something to piss off said enemy to the point where they're attacked, it's highly possible that entering OC might just be killed.

2.) Rule of Civility:

This rule states that all members are considered equal. However, we do request that the words of the moderators be taken into higher consideration than that of a regular member. Remember, these are the same people that have the power to approve an OC's abilities as well as remove someone from the roleplay if they are being generally disruptive or disrespectful in any way, shape, or form.

Subsection 2.1 - Types of Disruptive and Disrespectful Behavior: This rule also raises the issue of harassment which can be achieved simply by:

Excessive private messages that are unwanted by the user: We all know that the private messaging feature can be used for its intended purpose in a variety of ways. However, it can become quite an issue when there is an excess amount of messages that are coming through and at a rate which the recipient does not feel comfortable with, contains racial or hostile undertones, sexual harassment, etc. *Every user* has the right to block/ignore a user for continuous messaging. If they feel that it may interfere with their ability to roleplay in the community, they have the right to message the moderators with the other person's username and, if they wish, a transcript of the PMs that have been sent. It is then the job of the mods to contact the person and see what has gone on. The mods are peacekeepers, not a police force.

Excessively bothering someone to post: A few reminders are fine but remember that people do have a personal life, this includes family events, work schedules, sleeping time, and the fact that there are quite a few different timezones going on here. One person could be RPing from Ireland and the other RPing from New Zealand or even South America. Please be patient with people. Creativity isn't something that can be forced nor is inspiration. It is fine to ask someone for a post but when the person is being harassed daily, it becomes an issue.

Disrespect: There are several different ways in which someone can disrespect another and in text, it is equally as easy to inadvertently offend another as it is to apologize. However, this roleplay has a Tynychat room where people go to interact with one another. It is far easier to disrespect someone when it's instant and out of character.

Bullying: This falls right in with 'disrespect' as well as 'harassment'. Bullying in any way, shape, or form will not be tolerated. This means that if it is seen or heard, a moderator

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has the right to warn the offender even if the person being bullied is not within the Tinychat room at that time. Each moderator may have their own view of what bullying actually implies, however that does not mean that a warning can be ignored. One warning should be more than enough for the behavior to cease entirely. If it continues after that, the moderator has the right to take this instance up with the other mods for a punishment of the offender. This is not limited to the offender being banned from either Tinychat or the subreddit. If the person deletes their posts and the deletion is obvious, unless there is a screencap [using the Print Screen button], there is nothing the mods can do to prove or disprove the bullying instance.

Moderators reserve the right to ban those who disregard this rule for a period of one day, any longer would need approval from the the majority of the moderators approval.

The "Rule of Civility" is rather simple to follow, treat your fellow role-players with respect. It is fine to have opposing opinions but never is it ok to attack someone because of their opinions. Role-Play can often lead to arguments within forum chat-rooms or similar places, if a moderator catches this behavior they reserve the right to mark the subjected posts as spam as well as implement punishments ranging from public or private warnings, suspension of privileges or even banning.

Subsection 2.2 - Trolls: Trolls are also addressed here. Trolls are highly frowned upon within roleplay social hierarchy as well as the internet itself. We know who you are and mods reserve the right to perm-ban a troll on sight. So if you're here to troll then you might as well find somewhere else because you will be slapped with a perm-ban before you can even say "Trollo!"

Subsection 2.3. - Discord: Mutiny is another thing that will not be tolerated within the subreddit as a whole. Mutiny can be seen as anyone purposefully trying to cause discord within the subreddit is accepting that their thread will most likely be spammed. 'Discord' includes: Slandering mods, other members, mods choices, etc.

Subsection 2.4 - Constructive Criticism: Critique is accepted openly but only when done in accordance with the Rule of Civility. It is perfectly fine to offer advice on how one believes that something should be changed as well as other possible solutions but do remember that these are only suggestions and there may be another way that the moderators feel it should be handled. Any kind of critique is appreciated and will be kept in mind.

If a mod or admin feels a mutiny is being formed they reserve the right to seek a ban for the members in question for an undetermined amount of time. If members believe that they have something of a statement to make about the way themselves or another roleplayer is being treated, they may bring it to the attention of the moderators of the subreddit, that is what the moderators are around for.

At any time it is unacceptable to bring a persisting argument/issue to another subreddit not in correlation with the subreddit the argument/issue is taking place in. Meaning, don't bring your problems from other subreddits to us. Not to be mean, but we don't care.

3.) Rule of Text:

Spelling, grammar and punctuation are important to the success of a role-play. It is highly suggested that all members use some form of spell-check or proof read their posts before posting. This rule can be slightly bent within chat-rooms and other non-roleplay related spaces.

We all understand that nobody can be perfect with their writing, though it's expected that everyone put in effort when writing so they can always be at their best. As this is the internet, there are several people in attendance whose English may not be the best and it may also be that it is not their first language. Spelling something correctly not only helps the primary English speakers but it can also help those who are still learning the language. It's never too late to edit your post.

4.) Rule of Rules:

The rules are here for a reason and are subject to change over time. If you have read over the "Rules and Guidelines" then you will be held accountable to the rules if you don't then you will be held accountable for not reading them in the first place.

At all times role-players are expected to know the above rules.

Using the excuse that you didn't know the rules won't get you sympathy, only further the hole being dug. If you follow the rules then you won't have a problem fitting in. Rules are part of life and they are meant to keep order and balance within any thriving society. If you aren't ok with this then maybe this subreddit isn't for you. Rules aren't meant to be broken they are meant to be followed otherwise there would be no point to them.

-Warning System and Various Consequences-

Warnings will be at moderators discretion and *will vary* depending on the offense.

Do not be afraid to message the moderators if one feels as if they have been subjected to the breaking of the rules above. The moderators are in place to help one feel comfortable within the community as well as help to mediate and dissolve disputes if one feels that they are in need of this service.

Any kind of time bans or multiple bans will be discussed among the moderators before any kind of decision is made. If the offender believes that they should not be banned, they may send their own contest of the situation to the modmail so that it may be taken into consideration when the decision of punishment is made.

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