FIRST CONTACT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING.

We couldn't agree whether to send soldiers, explorers, or diplomats, so the crew of the Eos is expected to be all three. You go wherever Sol *Command sends you, but your priorities are clear:* Protect humanity unto the ends of the galaxy, make nice with the Council of Worlds, and prove our worth to the interstellar community.

Astronomical objects

1 The Block, high-tech station drifting in space to avoid laws against for-profit prisons

- 2 COI-4711.03, disputed colony prospect, but hungry megafauna threaten all equally
- Delfino, dramatic tides recede kilometers for 3 years, revealing hidden alien ruins
- 4 The Dragon, 2,000-km-long body of a faceless, frozen reptile in space; actively studied
- Gree, diverse agrarian colony run by tree-folk 5 who plant selves offworld to reproduce
- 6 Jug'xi, gas giant, 8 moons, each hosting a different faction of religious civil war
- 7 Market, station run by aliens who only interact via robots directed by shareholder vote
- 8 Octogesimus, discharges from abandoned terraforming project mess with tech
- 9 The Sphere, believed to be a planetoid-sized supercomputer, possible "virtual" inhabitants
- 10 Yahaz-3, low-gravity moon, "Bouncy House" habitats, popular family tourist destination

An alien who looks like... Is naturally able to...

Missions (and twists)

But can't

- Claim Xenolith artifact that unlocks psi power 1 (dangerous; Council agents here to destroy it)
- 2 Capture and interrogate suspected terrorists (claim to be from future, here to avert crisis)
- 3 Investigate abandoned colony plaqued by swarms (swarms are - were? - the colonists)
- Make first contact with peaceful world of AI & 4 humanoids (made by AI after killing creators)
- Mediate alien peace talks (one side, a power-5 ful ally of humanity, is hiding grave misdeeds)
- 6 Mercs seize space station while you're there on leave (hired by enemies, looking for you)
- 7 Offer guns, training to aliens facing xenocide (most will die if you follow orders not to fight)
- 8 Save colony from planetoid collision (people refuse to leave, and that's no planetoid)
- 9 Stop aliens attacking human colony (which hid that it illegally colonized inhabited world)
- 10 Track down Kaz, roque Council agent (acting to avert bizarre threat the Council dismisses)

And the one you meet...

Begs for credits

Cares for young

Cleans a station

Crews a freighter

Deals drugs

Does research

Fences goods

Grows crops

Entertains crowds

Fights for credits

Helps refugees

Is a banker/lender

Leads combatants

Maintains a temple

Practices medicine

Surveys planets

Trades goods

Herds beasts

1	Arachnids or insects	1	Bite through bone	1	Be in direct sunlight	1				
2	Avians	2	Burrow quickly	2	Be in crowds	2				
3	Canines or felines	3	Camouflage	3	Breathe air	3				
4	Cephalopods	4	Climb quickly	4	Eat "dead" things	4				
5	Cetaceans	5	Echolocate	5	Empathize	5				
6	Crustaceans	6	Exert great strength	6	Escape stigma	6				
7	Fish	7	Exude noxious gas	7	Get too wet	7				
8	Flatworms	8	Fly or glide	8	Heal from burns	8				
9	Frogs or newts	9	Heighten fear/anger	9	Hold grudges	9				
10	Humans, mostly	10	Inherit memories	10	Live many years	10				
11	Lizards	11	Mimic sounds	11	Move if surprised	11				
12	Mollusks	12	Move very fast	12	Read without touch	12				
13	Pachyderms	13	Read minds	13	Resist eating	13				
14	Plants	14	Regrow limbs	14	Resist infection	14				
15	Rocks	15	Relive memories	15	"See" if it's noisy	15				
16	Rodents	16	Shock by touch	16	"Speak" to aliens	16				
17	Ruminants	17	Spray caustic fluid	17	Survive in high-G	17				
18	Skeletons	18	Stretch & squeeze	18	Tell humans apart	18				
19	Slime molds	19	Survive a vacuum	19	Use electronics	19				
20	Tardigrades	20	Use telekinesis	20	Willingly do harm	20				
Version 1.2. Art CC BY BEEPLE. More 2400 at jasontocci.itch.io/2400										

LO-FI SCI-FI RPG • JASON TOCCI



RULES

PLAY: Players describe what their characters do. The GM advises when their action is impossible, requires extra steps, demands a cost, or presents a risk. Players only roll to avoid risks.

ROLLING: Roll a d6 skill die - higher if skilled, or d4 if hindered by injury, circumstances, or carrying over 1 bulky item. If helped by circumstances, also roll a d6; if helped by an ally, they roll their skill die and share the risk. Take the highest die.

- 1-2 Disaster. Suffer the full risk. GM decides if you succeed at all. If risking death, you die.
- 3-4 Setback. A lesser consequence or partial success. If risking death, you're maimed.
- Success. The higher the roll, the better. 5+

If success can't get you what you want (you make the shot, but there's a holo-shield!), you'll at least get useful info or set up an advantage.

ADVANCEMENT: After a mission, get 1 *credit* (𝗶) and either raise 1 skill (none $\Box d8 \Box d10 \Box d12$), or choose a talent related to your skills (e.g., Electronics and Engines relate to Jury Rigging).

BONDS: Between missions, play out a scene with a crewmate to increase your bond die with them (none $\Box d4 \Box d6 \Box d8 \Box d10 \Box d12$). Use when you help each other, by action or inspiration.

DEFENSE: Break an item to turn a hit into a brief hindrance. Broken gear is useless until repaired.

HARM: Injuries heal gradually, and faster in your ship's med bay. If killed, make a new character to be introduced ASAP. Favor inclusion over realism.

MODERATING: Lead group in setting lines not to cross in play. Fast-forward, pause, or rewind/redo for pacing and safety; invite players to do likewise. Present dilemmas you don't know how to solve. Move spotlight to give all time to shine. Test periodically for bad luck (e.g., run into hostiles) roll d6 for (1-2) trouble now or (3-4) signs of trouble. Offer rulings to cover gaps in rules; on a break, revise unsatisfying rulings as a group.

CHARACTERS

Choose your character's specialty.

COMMANDER: Skilled in Inspiration (d8), Intimidation (d8). Start with an Influence talent.

PSIONIC: Skilled in *Telepathy* (d8, sense surface thoughts), Telekinesis (d8, as strong as your arms), or pick one at d10. Start with a *Psi* talent.

SOLDIER: Skilled in Shooting (d8), Hand-to-hand (d8). Start with a *Combat* talent.

SPY: Skilled in Stealth (d8) and Climbing (d8). Start with an *Espionage* talent.

TECHNICIAN: Skilled in *Electronics* (d8), Hacking (d8). Start with a *Technology* talent.

► Take or increase 3 skills, using these or others.

Climbing, Deception, Electronics, Explosives, Hand-to-hand, Intimidation, Labor, Persuasion, Piloting, Reading People, Running, Shooting, Sleight of Hand, Spacewalking, Stealth, Tracking

► Take a holo-tool (smartphone + multitool), a pistol, vac-rated uniform, holo-shield projector (break as defense, recharges in a few minutes), and *Q*1. Most items/upgrades cost *Q*1. Ignore microcredit transactions (knives, meals, etc.).

TOOLS: Flamethrower (bulky), holo-tool welder, low-G jetpack, med scanner, mini drone, survey pack (climbing gear, flare gun, tent; bulky).

WEAPONS: Grenades (4 from EMP, flashbang, fragmentation, smoke), pistol, rifle (bulky), shotqun (bulky), stun-glove. Upgrade firearms with armor-piercing, auto, collapsible, scope, silencer.

UNIFORM: Upgrade with active camo, plating (bulky, break 3× as defense), self-healing fabric.

▶ The crew shares a *ship*. Upgrades cost **Ø10**.

COMMS: Includes deep-space sensors, escape pod, med bay, military-grade turrets, reentryrated hull armor (break for defense), tachyon comm relay (no in-system lag, but up close, signal plays a split-second before you speak).

TALENTS

Choose 1 as prompted by your specialty.

COMBAT TALENTS

- □ Close Protection: When you help someone, on a 1-4, you can take all consequences alone.
- □ Martial Arts: Follow any 3+ hand-to-hand roll with a grab, disarm, throw, trip, or the like.
- □ Sharpshooting: Fire trick shots or at multiple targets as easily as others pull a trigger.

ESPIONAGE TALENTS

- Blending In: Be effectively invisible in crowds, darkness, and ductwork, no roll needed.
- □ *Intrusion:* When bypassing security, treat disasters as setbacks, setbacks as success.
- □ *Filching:* Pickpocket or palm a small object in plain view, no roll needed.

TECHNOLOGY TALENTS

- □ Holography: Scan something to project it as an illusion from your holo-tool or mini drone.
- Jury Rigging: Make a broken item work just one more time before it's properly repaired.
- □ Sabotage: Use Electronics to attack remotely using targets' own gear (e.g., guns backfire, holo-shields overload, drones go berserk).

INFLUENCE TALENTS

- Leadership: Give orders or a speech to allow allies to include your Inspiration die in a roll. You don't share any risk on that roll.
- Reputation: Ask the group what heroic or grim deed you're nicknamed for. This may help, hinder, or avoid risk in interactions.
- □ *Sincerity:* People may or may not believe you're right, but always believe you're honest.

PSI TALENTS

- Barrier: You have psychic protection against physical or mental assault; break as defense.
- □ Nosebleed: Accept or worsen a hindrance to amplify effects of a psychic skill roll.
- □ *Hold:* Concentrate to hold 1 target in place with Telepathy or Telekinesis, no roll needed.

DETAILS

▶ Invent or roll for personal details.

NAME

2

5

6

7

1	Abara	6	Foster	11	Lowry	16	Ryan
2	Biggs	7	Gibbs	12	Mori	17	Sachs
3	Chavez	8	lm	13	Novak	18	Tsang
4	Denton	9	Jin	14	Ono	19	Wade
5	Eno	10	Kemp	15	Pace	20	Zoric

WHY YOU WERE PICKED FOR THIS

- Aliens know of you 11 Made first contact 1
 - Bold peacekeeper 12 Noted scholar
- 3 Crewmate's mentor 13 **Pioneering settler** 4
 - Crewmate's spouse 14 Powerful friends
 - Grim determination 15 Promising rookie
 - Idealistic defector 16 Retired expert
 - Infamous penitent 17 Warhero
- 8 Influential family 18 Young prodigy 9
- Just lucky, you quess 19 "The best." once
- Legendary mentor 20 Xenolith-touched 10

► Take 1 bond below, or with a player's character.

CREWMATES

- Rayan Al-Ghazzawi, engineer, warm, but seems to always be tinkering with engines
- 2 Jae Dixon, telekinetic gunnery sqt, acts like a hardass, but like a big brother to rookies
- Kiran Gadhavi, executive officer, very with-it 3 with work, flustered in social situations
- 4 Alex Johannsson, big-hearted trooper, has been known to shout "Damn the regs!"
- 5 Nic Kasabian, rookie trooper, won't shut up about "the Xenolith conspiracy"
- 6 Dr. Desta Mwangi, brilliant physician, decent xenobiologist, huge nerd, loves old movies
- 7 Capt. Rin Oshiro, no-nonsense but not cold, widowed, son serves on another ship
- 8 João Vargas, communications officer, gentle, often sought for thoughtful personal advice
- 9 Dany Wright, stealth & recon specialist, easy smile, tired eyes, drinks alone
- Kelly Wu, scrappy pilot, calls the Eos "her 10 girl" ("but don't be jealous," if she likes you)