

Nivalis

*A Story And Map For ERP By
Watcher*

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Nivalis

1. Chapter One - Numen

On the Ship.

A ship exited hyperspace into an orbit over a planet, the scanners on it flashing with messages which the watcher studied and then he spoke.

“Excellent, we have found a planet with people ready to worship their new God.” The voice was deep and created a sort of echo.

“What if they already have a God, my lord?” This voice was meek yet beneath the meekness could be heard a gravitas in the words.

“Then the God will fall before me and be no longer a god.”

It was at that point there was a flash of light and a man stood on the bridge, the other figure melted into the background to observe.

“Who are you to come to this planet in a vessel of war.” Unlike the others this voice was genteel yet stern.

“I am your God.”

“There are no Gods.” The newcomers words were spoken without feelings or emotions just as facts.

“Do you question me?”

“Yes.”

At that simple statement of defiance the ship shook, the shields readings showed they were about to fail.

“Impressive... Very well if you tell me the truth then I will let this planet go untouched.” The voice seemed unperturbed but there was a hint of uncertainty and fear in the words.

“That is reasonable, I have no wish to kill you needlessly and I have no need to lie to you.”

2. Chapter Two – Coelum

On the Planet.

The oldest of five children and present leader of the settlement Valens Maxi wiped his sweaty brow as he paused for a break in the fields. While he was the leader, his people believed in equality in work if not in leadership. Everyone had to work for five hours a week on the food plains. He glanced up, the red light of the falling sun casting a long shadow behind him. Since his childhood he loved the legends of the past and once he became the protector and leader of the village he set to work on the gigantic library, the origin and purpose of the ring his primary task. Five years into his task he had only found the scantest information, nevertheless he made sure the ring was secure and built an outpost around it complete with power to last a lifetime and more. His obsession had long been the topic of interest amongst the rest of the villagers. Yet he was not a bad ruler, nor did he let his task consume him so much that he could not perform his duties.

He picked up his basket full of the green coloured food and lifted it onto his shoulders, the U shape of the basket enabling him to keep it in a secure position. The walk was a short one of merely a few minutes to the village entrance, where he would deposit the food for sorting and in some cases storing until it became ripe.

Valens approached the city entrance, the defences where walls with water sliding down them at such a speed to stop anyone or anything from touching the rock beneath. Even the gate was a wall of water and he had to wait for it to be turned off before he could pass through. As he stepped through he marvelled yet again at the size of the walls and the technology that powered it, of course despite their advancements they had yet to create a device to plough the awkward shaped crops and the creatures that lingered on some parts of the planet had proved immune to thousands of weapons. It was then that a friend and companion since his youth appeared, his name was Amicus Sideris.

“Ah our noble leader has returned from his work.” The voice conveyed a sense of warmth.

“How many times have I told you not to call me that old friend.”

“To many I think, yet you are our leader and I would say you are noble.”

“Spoken like a true friend, but come walk with me.”

“What are you planning now?”

“You always assume I am planning something.”

“You usually are.”

“Come to the outpost in an hour, I found something in my search that I think will prove very useful and interesting.”

“Very well but after that you have to come to my house, you would be most welcome to dinner.”

“I will be there.”

The two friends shook hands and parted, unaware that in an hour dinner would be the last thing on their mind.

The outposts walls where similar to the city walls but for decoration rather than defence, the water on the two adjacent walls followed the curve of the wall going inwards in a inwards quarter circle shape before falling down the straight walls except for at the front where the shape varied slightly outwards. Yet the back wall had a straight cascade of water falling down with no real shape. It was to this that Valens strode into setting up the book he had found in the library and started to prepare for the guests.

3. Chapter Three – Veredictum

On the Ship.

“Let me show you to your quarters, follow me.”

The figure inclined his head and they moved off, the door slid into the wall as they approached.

“What is your name?” The protector's voice flowed with curiosity.

“I am Lord Romulus of the Great Empire.”

“You speak with pride, I wonder if your subjects speak of the Empire in the same tone.”

After several minutes walking they stopped outside a door, without a word from Romulus he opened the door and the guardian walked in. The door closed behind him and he went to a bed that looked more metal than fibre. Resting his body down he shut his eyes and slipped into a state of meditation.

Romulus strode back towards the bridge his toga flowing out behind him yet once he got there he stared for a long time at the planet as if willing it out of existence. Eventually he came to his senses and turned to the silent figure standing ready.

“Their protector is powerful.” As he spoke his eyes were glowing fiercely.

“Could he be used?” The shadow's voice was perfectly calm and level.

“Did you not see it? No... he cannot be used, he is too devoted to this planet and its people. He must be killed.”

“Then why can't we use this planet my lord, it's people could be of great use and we could learn from their technology.”

“They are too powerful to succumb to force, the only way to win against an enemy like this is to turn their weapons against them. Once the planet is dead the protector shall soon follow.”

He strode to a sensor terminal and after a few brief taps he found what he was looking for;

“Their protector has made his fatal mistake, a signal was transmitted before we were attacked. I can replicate the signal and direct the weapon, this... weapon if reversed should do the opposite of what it did to us.”

“I do not quite understand my Lord.”

“They brought fire to us, I will bring cold to them. The weapon will be reversed and fired into their core. I shall use the serpent against the serpent charmer.”

A smile stole its way to the face of the figure in a black toga. The figure in the shadows merely looked to the lush vibrant planet, the planet who's fate was already sealed in an icy coffin.

4. Chapter Four – Ruina

On the Planet.

The skies turned dark and a great shockwave hit the village, everyone felt it. A pure pervading cold struck the city turning the walls of water into ice and killing the people who were not inside instantly. Valens turned around, as the cold hit the outpost it did not penetrate. His face was one of shock at what had happened to the village but also hope, that his outpost built to protect from all perils had survived its power creating a wall of heat preventing the cold from entering. He turned to his gathering a look of resolution on his face, his friend white faced and shaking from the shock and the realisation of its impact.

“Today I had hoped to see what this gate could do, after my many years of scouring the library I had found a book with the symbols the same as on this device. What we see out there is terrible but it changes not my purpose in coming here.”

Valens looked at the book and began pressing symbols on the DHD, copying slowly the pattern in the book that he was holding in one of his shaking hands. The sequence completed and after everyone reeled back at the unstable vortex, Valens strode into the Stargate his eyes closed as he hit the wormhole. Like the trickle that starts the dam busting all the survivors followed him each closing their eyes as they hit. The book lay on the floor forgotten, it was facing downwards with the words “Portus” and a gate address obscured from view on its old pages.

5. Chapter Five – Deliquio

On the Ship.

Above the planet the lone ship orbited. The Praeses strode onto the bridge, his violet robes whirling around him.

“What have you done? TELL ME!” The voice escalated into shouting towards the stately figure in the night black toga.

"I reached out my hand to the planet and with my touch the planet grew cold and dead." The voice was deep with no visible emotion.

You promised, you gave your word it wouldn't be touched!"

“I said it would come to no harm if you told me the truth.”

“I have not lied to you, my lord.” The Praeses voice seemed to recover for a brief second.

“That is not the same as telling me the truth.”

“I am the guardian of that planet, I swore to protect it. I see now you have turned the world into a barren wasteland with no care to the people.”

A knife slid out of his cloak and plunged towards Romulus, a shot hit the Guardian and he stumbled collapsing to his knees. His eyes rolled upwards towards Romulus.

“Kill me for my failure...”

Romulus drew his own knife and lowering himself to the half conscious kneeling figure he slid it into the heart. Then he stood up and nodded his head in a brief bow to the shadow.

“Never let it be said I am not a merciful god.”

“What if some escaped?” The figure cloaked in darkness asked.

“They have lost their planet and their protector. Never again will they recover their technology and we will be troubled no more. We need do no more, even if they did escape they are already dead in all but fact.”

6. Epilogue – Perditus

In the not to distant past.

The gate that had stood inactive for thousands of years lit up with the orange chevrons activating. A team of four people stepped out of the gate, looking around they began their mission.

About The Map.

7. The Beginning And Release.

The map was started on 08 August 2006 and the first save of it was at 21:06:43 GMT on that date. The map started after I had a look at the BlueIce map file and discovered patch meshes for the first time. Due to that I was able to create the two gateroom side walls with patch meshes, soon after I used Terragen and Easygen to create the floor and following the full creation of the gate room he started on the cliffs. The cliffs took a very long time due to their complexities and the alignment. After that came the constant tweaking and the nagging of Berle asking him how to get such and such a thing to happen to which he answered the best he could. There was then a great delay where I left the map to gather dust, I recently took it up as the ERP: SG was about to launch the server and completed it.

As of the current version (1.00) it takes forty five seconds to get from the Stargate to the end of the map running, you can jump at full force jump strength and not hit the ceiling.

About The Story.

8. Notes In A Mind.

While the story was all mapped out in my head the first time I typed it anywhere was actually on MSN in a conversation with Kirby¹, after that I began working on it in Word. The format of it was originally going to be Wiki then translate it into a format for PDF but I decided to do it the other way around because the overall look is better in PDF and look is a factor in motivation, also the Wikification isn't hard so it wasn't a priority to do that first. In the process I looked at my last story that was in PDF format and I have updated some ideas from that, tweaking the idea.

Due to the fact that the word Nivalis² is a Latin word I thought it appropriate to name the chapters of the story as such but I have also compiled a list of the chapters in ascending order with their names in English so you can understand (without a Latin translator program) what they are actually called³.

Chapter One – Divine Will

Chapter Two – World

Chapter Three – Truth Speaking

Chapter Four – Fall

Chapter Five – Failure

Epilogue – Ruin

¹ The sentence was “I reached out my hand to the planet and with my touch the planet grew cold and dead.”

² Meaning “Snow Covered”.

³ There are also a few other Latin words in there some have future consequences some are just in there because they sound better than their English counterparts and you can get the drift of them even if they are in Latin.

About The Author.

9. A Little About the Creator.

Peter Jenkins AKA Watcher was born in Wales in 1990, he was officially accepted into the Star Wars Division of Elite Roleplaying on January 30th, 2005, 07:43 PM (GMT). Since then he has lead an interesting carrier in Elite Roleplaying progressing to the rank of Acting Sub Lt before the rank system was redone. He has been with ERP to see many changes including the introduction and joined ERP: SG on the day of its release despite being in Canada at the time and is currently a Captain in the division. This story is his third that has been publish in PDF format.

The Credits.

10. Contributors.

George Lucas – For making this all possible.

Raven Software – For creating the game.

MGM and all the people who helped make Stargate – For providing one of the best Sci-Fi programs in existence.

Berle – For his amazing advice/guidance and his DHD and gate texture.

Wade – For his wonderful gate and DHD models and for his event horizon textures.

Kirby – For making me vocalise my story.

ERP: SG – For existing and giving people who love Stargate a place to roleplay in.

Szico VII – For giving out the .map file of BlueIce so I could discover patch meshes :P.

Vivaldi – For creating a great song.

My Mind – For providing me with a place to go when I was bored and a place to think when I wasn't.