

Ever woken up in the morning to discover your world's changed in an unexpected way... just as expected?

Managlitch City Underground is a serial audiodrama podcast performed as a pirate radio show in a city where reality breaks on a regular basis, with a host who interacts with and comments upon the bizarre events that occur and the remarkable people who are trying to make a life there.

This podcast is the brainchild of Michael O'Brien, who does almost all the heavy lifting to make it happen. As of the beginning of 2018, the show has released over 30 episodes, each approximately 15 minutes depending on content. Every new episode contains startling revelations, additional mysteries, and moments of strange humor.

Chief Creative Officer and Furniture Mover

The writing bug hit Michael at a young age, after he watched a poorly-written science-fiction movie and decided he could do better than that - time will tell whether he succeeds. Acting followed in high school: Michael was dragged into a Drama Club performance of "You Can't Take It With You," and it's been impossible to keep him off the stage since.

Digital art, webmastering, and audio editing skills developed at later intervals, when Michael needed talent for various projects and could only find one person who was usually available, mostly inexpensive, and who usually understood his ideas.



The World of Managlitch City

On a world like our own, the rulers of the City have a monopoly on the production of low-priced, high-quality mana gems: technomagical crystals which serve as power storage, digital memory, data processors, and even motive power. Continent-wide wars once raged over the raw mana-pitch used in this production; eventually, all parties tired of conflict and built Manapitch City, the shining jewel of the Forty-One Worlds. Mana gem wealth wiped out all manner of inequality when used carefully, and resulted in a nearly utopian metropolis that has stood hundreds of years with little crime, poverty, or social tension.

One problem: raw mana-pitch is powerful, chaotic stuff. Despite assurances of safety by the Royal Family, the City Council, and the Cybercasters, pitch mining and gem processing methods leak wild magic. The City suffers frequent "glitches," where reality itself distorts around the populace. These glitches are generally troublesome but rarely dangerous or harmful; still the City soon gained a widely-used nickname it cannot shake: Managlitch City.



Report All Glitches Immediately

Glitches threaten the populace most when they strike an individual. Once again, personal glitches are usually not especially painful or fatal, but often produce disturbing visual changes or mysterious new personal abilities. "Glitchers" are feared and shunned as walking evidence of shattered lives. Families break up, promising careers are destroyed, and the most unfortunate sufferers go mad from the changes.

Those glitchers who best adjust to their new situation

band together in various communities. Some just wish to live quiet lives out of sight, or to practice newly gained abilities; others have angrier motives. The City's Ministry of Order keeps a tight rein on the most obnoxious glitcher activities. In response, the pirate broadcast "Managlitch City Underground" shares information, opportunity, and gossip to glitchers across the City and beyond. Aside from a bit of harassment now and then, the Ministry seems to tolerate the Underground broadcasts. Many people would like to know why.

Glenn SevenFiftyFive Here

Glenn SevenFiftyFive has been the host of the Underground for some time, and has been a glitcher for much longer than that. When he glitched, he developed minor spellcasting abilities and an additional talent he keeps secret. His family quickly disowned him, and he left Unchanged society. As many glitchers do, he changed his name at that point, choosing a private joke. Though he collects his Basic Income through shady channels, he supplements it as an information broker trading in the secrets of the City. Still, unlike many of his fellows, he loves Managlitch. So many other social issues have already been eliminated that he believes the end of glitcher predjuice is just a matter of time and hard work. Until that time, though, he broadcasts to support the glitcher community - and to cause a bit of mischief when he can tweak the famous and powerful. After the Underground show had to go on a short hiatus due to Ministry pressure, Glenn is there to triumphantly host its return. He and the broadcast aren't back for long before they're caught in events that change Managlitch City forever...



Who and Where

Michael O'Brien is the podcast's primary performer, in the role of Glenn SevenFiftyFive. Recurring guest characters include Princess Swiftstorm, played by Maya Kralovna; demon hunter Artema Sable, portrayed by Kara Dennison; and Prime Cybercaster Surrus MacAllen, played by Mako Allen.

The Underground's website is http://managlitch.com, where you can find episodes, information about the show, social media and podcatching links, and the transcripts we're adding to every episode.

Twitter: @managlitch - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/managlitch/ Episodes available through the site, RSS, Apple Podcasts, Google Play, and Stitcher Glenn SevenFiftyFive illustration by Ginger Hoesly, http://gingerhoesly.com