









"The human settlements that remain are ringed by THE WILD, a dense, uncharted wilderness from which ferocious new animal species emerge to prey on the helpless.

> "The high ground belongs to the rich and powerful. Fortresslike cities overlook vast expanses of desolate swampland, in which the scattered masses of castoff poor huddle in wet shantytowns under crumbling bridges.

"Iron-fisted rule ensures order with pitiless cruelty and allows the wealthy to harvest the poor as slaves.





