

# **DUNGEON RUNNERS**

Contagious Exquisite Online Action-RPG from the Ghetto

PUBLISHER: NCsoft DEVELOPER: NCsoft GENRE: Action-RPG AVAILABILITY: Free Download (www.dungeomunners.com)
ESRB RATING: Teen MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: 800MHz CPU, 256MB RAM, 1GB hard drive space, Internet connection
MULTIPLAYER: Massive-scale VERSION REVIEWED: Live ver. 53

### REVIEW

It's one thing to completely nail that carrot-on-a-stick thing that *Diablo* did so well; we've seen lots of games pull it off since then, and even more that tried. But to pull it off while simultaneously taking the piss out of every cliché in the genre—that's a trick.

Dungeon Runners knows it's a Diablo knockoff, and it beats you over the head with that knowledge, constantly and hilariously. Remember Diablo's Deckard Cain and his crazy Sean Connery voice? Half the people you talk to have even crazier Sean Connery voices and make stupid martini jokes in them. That "Godly Plate of the Whale" loot-naming convention everyone unabashedly ripped off? Dungeon Runners does it, too...except you'll be picking up crap like the "Contagious Exquisite Decoder Ring of the Nihilistic Crocodile" or the "Rambunctious Cardboard Ax from the Ghetto." NPCs sarcastically thank you for busting into their houses and raiding their chests. The whole thing doubles as not only a pretty good action-RPG, but as a send-up of the entire genre.

Better still, it costs exactly jack—unless you want to actually equip the game's rarer drops, in which case it'll run you five bucks a month. With no price tag for the game itself, and a subscription fee that asks about the same as a single gallon of gas, Dungeon Runners has a pretty nice costreward ratio going for it...and they'll probably even refund your \$0 if the game doesn't do anything for you. Scott Sharkey

### VERDICT

☐ Fun. Free. Something that starts with "F" and ends in "awesome."

■ Whaddaya want for nothing? A rubber biscuit?

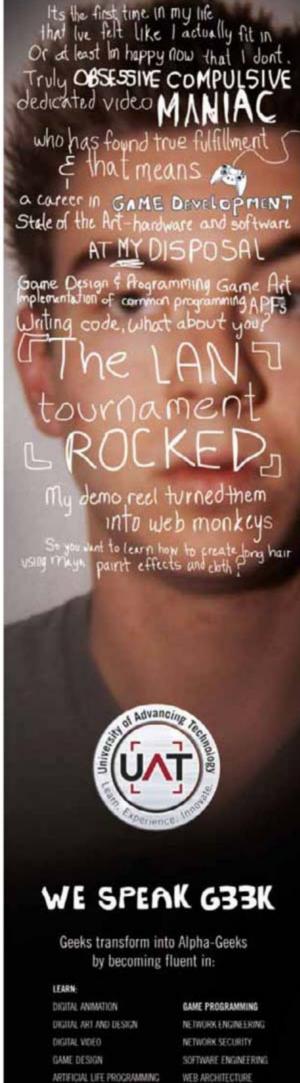








 Did we mention that the rat dungeon is named Algernon? Well, it is.



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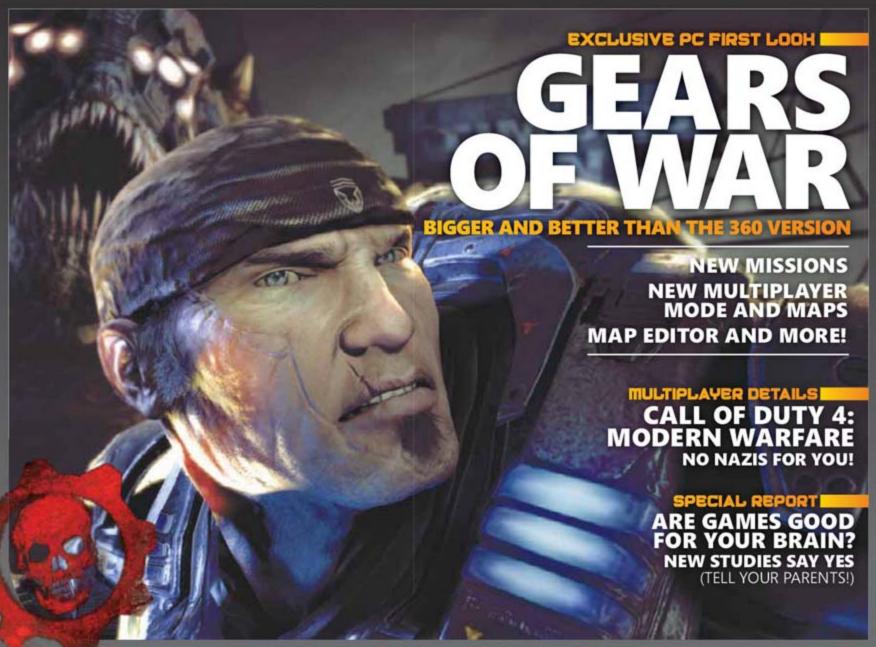
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