# Mythgrove: Festival of Yew - Game Design Document



# Mythgrove: Festival of Yew

By: Jason Skillman, Joel Hanson, Kyle Gray, Amanda Coler, Bella Weikman, Juan Santos and Christian Martin

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## **Game Description**

### High Concept Statement

Mythgrove: Festival of Yew is a rogue-like dungeon crawler game where the player discovers a secret forest with a dungeon entrance. The player soon realizes that the legends of the yearly dungeon festival is real and enters to meet different spirits and adventures. The player is the only human in this festival and must attend the sport of dungeoneering to enhance their fame and experience. Through a mossy dungeon terrain, the player will have to rely on their skill in battle to enhance their weapons and kill the boss to prove their worth in the festival.

#### Genre

Rogue-like Dungeon Crawler

**Target Audience** 

12-17+ All Genders

**Target Platform** 

PC

**Development Platform** 

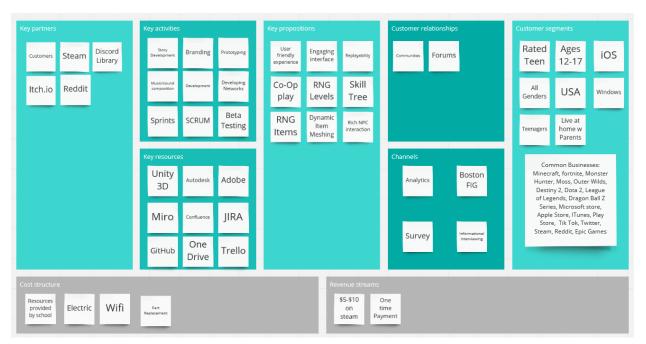
Unity

**Target Rating** 

T for Teen

Length of Play

3 hours



#### Core Game Mechanics

These are the three unique ideas that make our game stand out.

#### 1. Weapon Modifiers

a. Based on the weapon's rank, each weapon will receive a certain number of modifiers that change the way the weapon works. This can be done by increasing the damage, having it shoot projectiles, increase player movement speed, etc.

#### 2. Weapon Generation

a. Each weapon is generated with random stats and meshes based on the weapon parts that were randomly chosen by the loot generator system.

### 3. Room Builder

a. Each time a player enters the dungeon, the dungeon is randomly built based on room pieces. Each room that shares a matching pivot point attaches and builds off those points, creating a dungeon levels, based on a range of desired rooms.

### Player Archetypes

(How different player types can affect the gameplay)

#### 1. The Achiever

- a. They wish to receive all the achievements in the game, gain rewards, increase score
- b. The coin currency acts to gain access to more rewards & content in the game. The dungeon system is a way for players to explore, collect and progress to the boss room.

#### 2. The Explorer

- a. They wish to explore the whole game
- b. The dungeon is randomly built each time. The player will always have to fight a series of monsters while trying to search for the boss room.

#### 3. The Socializer

- a. Players who wish to socialize with other players
- b. Players can add friends and invite friends to the dungeon and play.

#### 4. The Killer

- a. Players who enjoy killing things
- b. Players must kill the boss in order to exit the dungeon. There are many other monsters in the dungeon that have the chance of dropping more items that could enhance the player's ability to defeat the boss.

## Reward Schedule

#### Variable-Ratio Schedule

- · Response is reinforced after an unpredictable number of responses
  - · Examples: Gambling, lottery Games
  - RNG Item Drops
  - RNG Levels
  - · Lucky Wheel
  - · Pets (low)

#### Variable-Interval Schedule

- A response is rewards after an unpredictable amount of time has passed
  - Examples: Giving a pellet to a rat follow a one-minute interval; a second pellet for 5 minute interval; and a third pellet after a 3 minute interval with this pattern as a continuation.
  - RNG Item Drops
  - RNG Levels

#### **Fixed-Ratio Schedule**

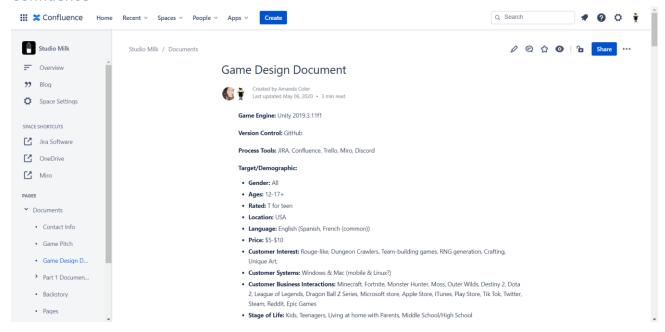
- · A response is reinforced only after a specified number of responses
  - · Examples: Giving a pellet to a rat after it presses the bar 5 times
  - · Rare drop from boss
  - Bosses drop skill points?
  - · Mobs drop some form of item

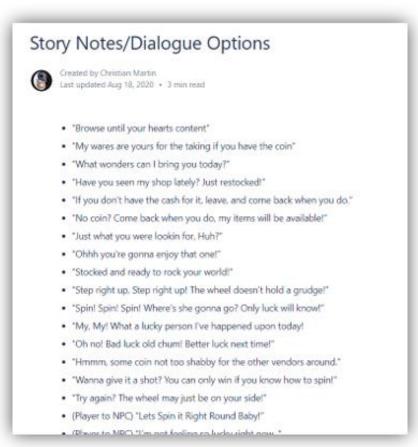
#### Fixed-Interval Schedule

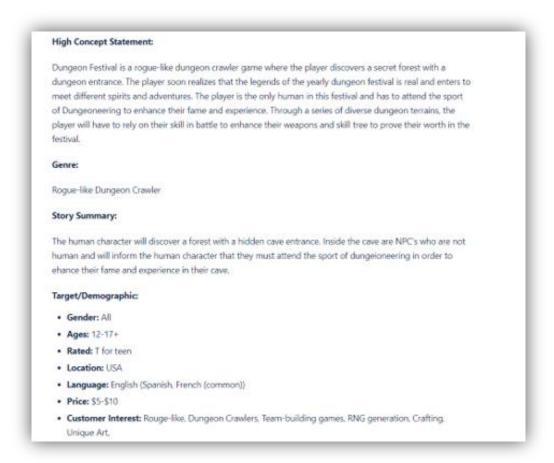
- Responses only rewarded after a specified amount of time as elapsed
  - Examples: Reinforcing a rat with a pellet after the first bar press after a 30 second interval has elapsed.
  - Scroll drops

## The Process

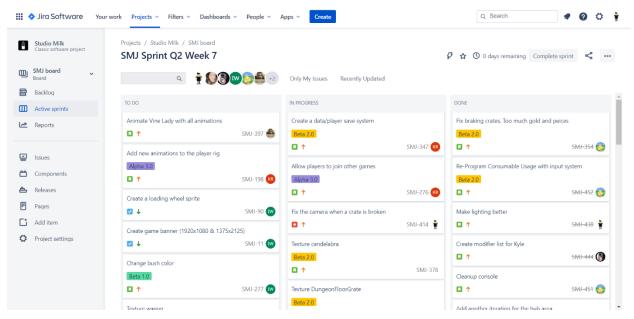
## Confluence







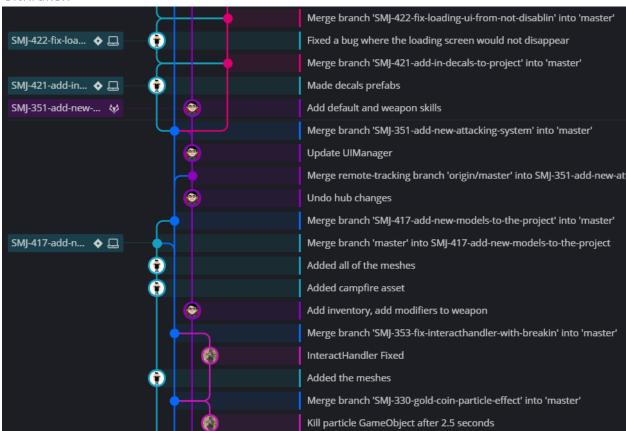
#### Jira



#### Trello

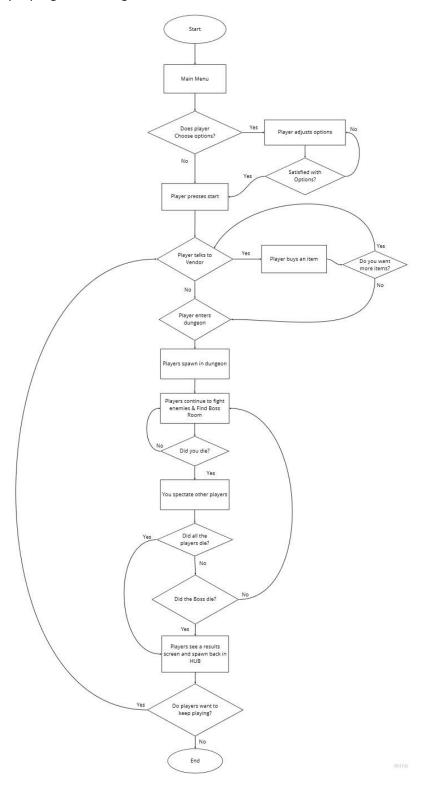


#### GitKraken



Flow Charts & Diagrams

Gameplay and player progression diagram



## Diagram exaplaining how the dungeon is generated

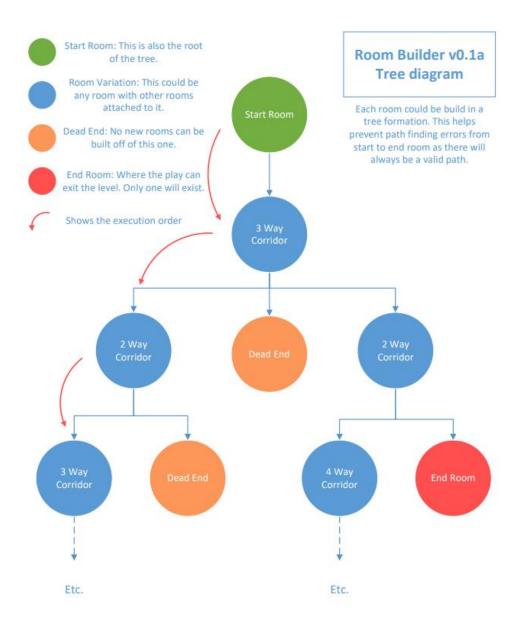
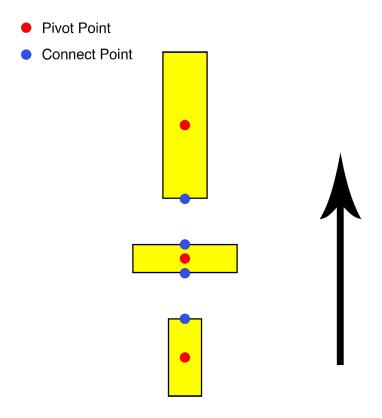


Diagram showing the designers how the swords will be dynamically built in game.



# **Concept Art**

## Early & Alpha Concept Art

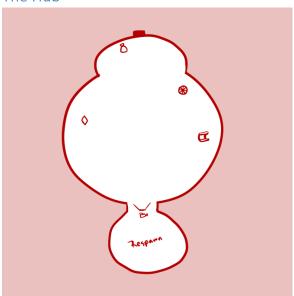
These pieces of art was created before the team started developing the game. This become the foundation and inspiration in the creation of Mythgrove.



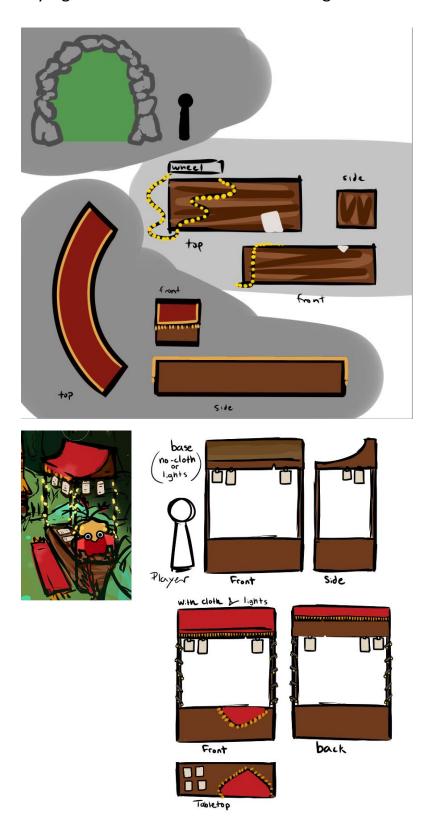




The Hub







Player





NPS's
Early image of all of the possible NPS's. The team's top four was chosen.

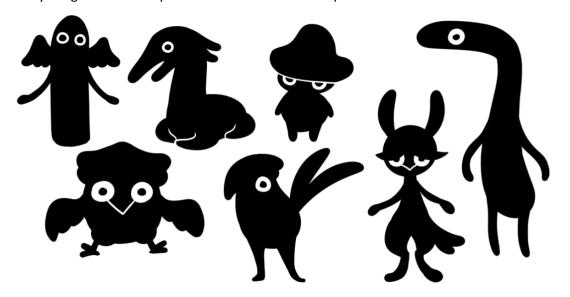
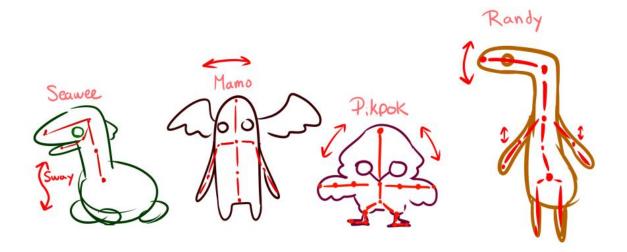
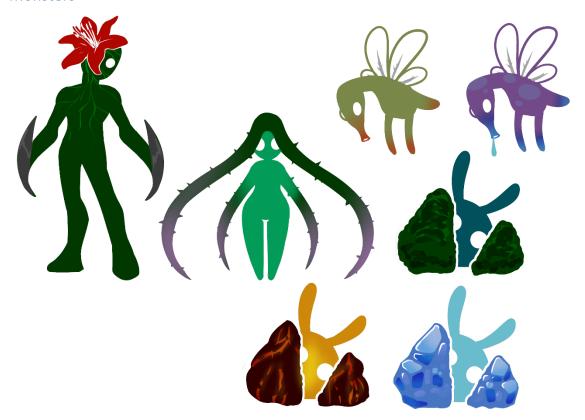


Image showing the winning choices. Names were also given.



## Monsters





## Props



## Color Palette







Fire Brick #BE2026



Dark Olive Green #413E1B



Dark Sea Green #79AA60



Dark Khaki #B2C172



Dark Olive Green #707042

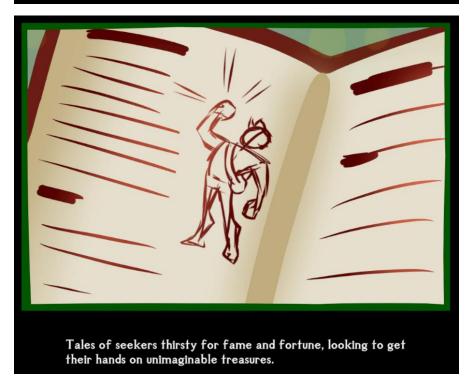
#### **Reasons for the Colors:**

Red/Green is a complimentary palette, and we wanted to keep the natural feeling of the greens, but the vibrancy of their reds as well. Red/Gold is a common symbolic combination in China, for celebrations and festivals, and so that's why the main colors ended up being green, red, and gold.

# **Opening Cinematic**

Prototype















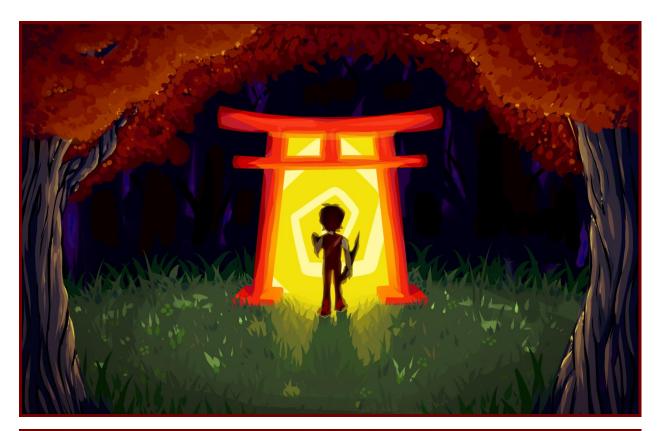
Final



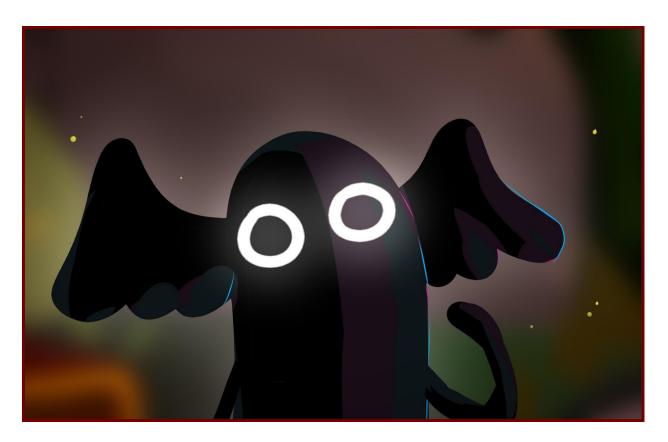








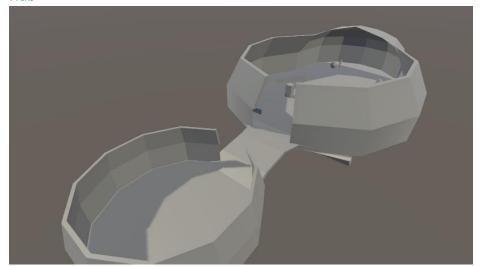


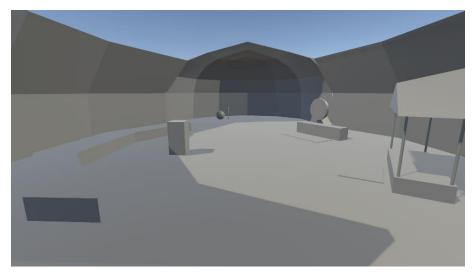


# Game Stages

Prototype

Hub





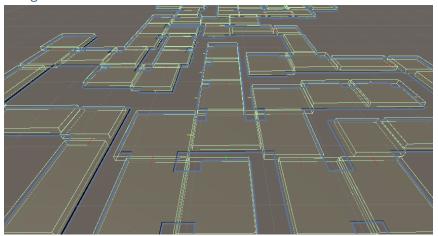






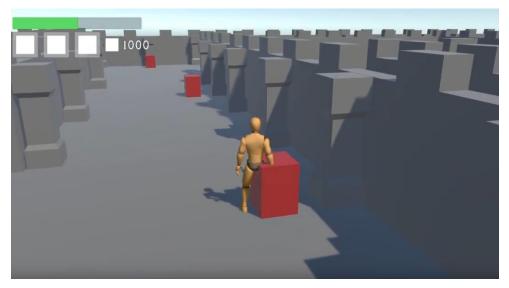


Dungeon





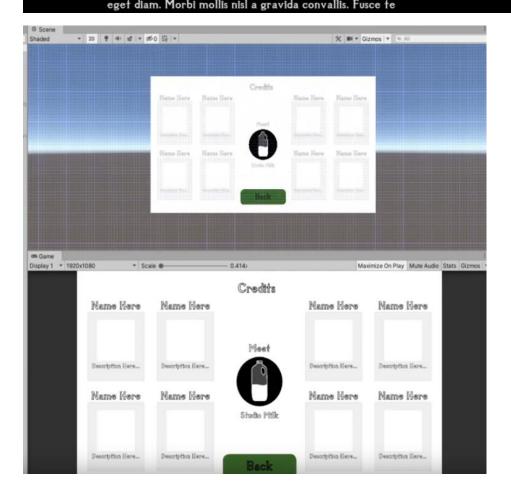


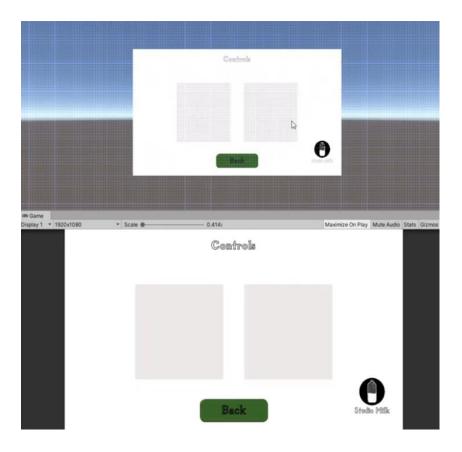


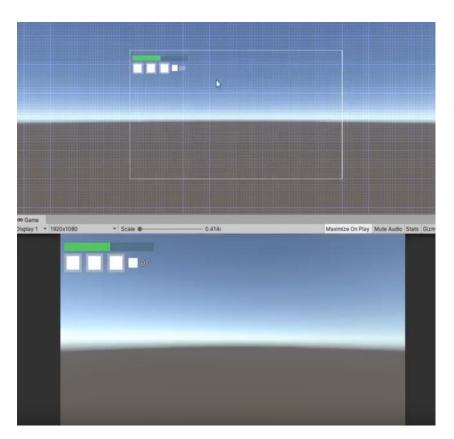


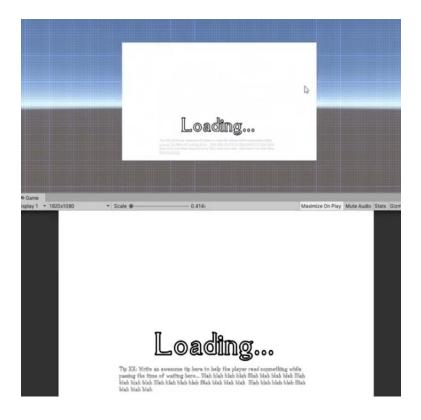
UI

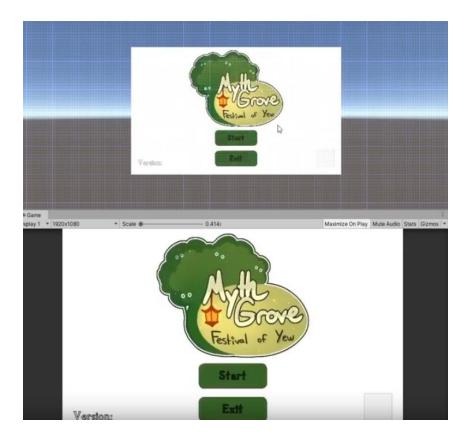


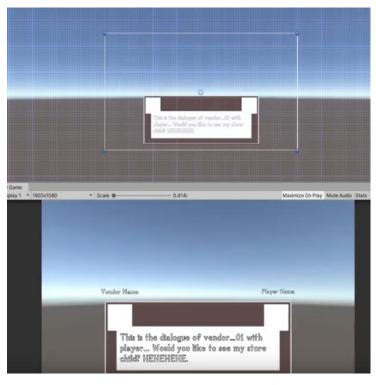


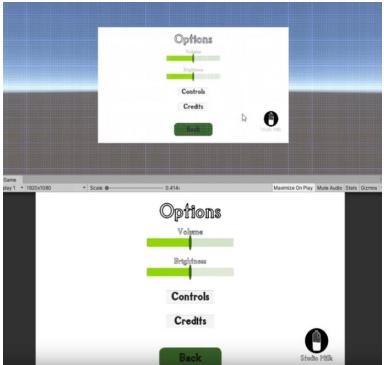


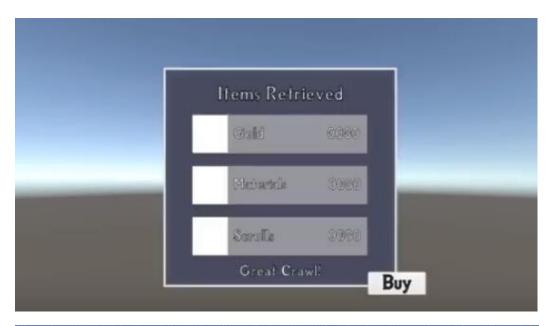


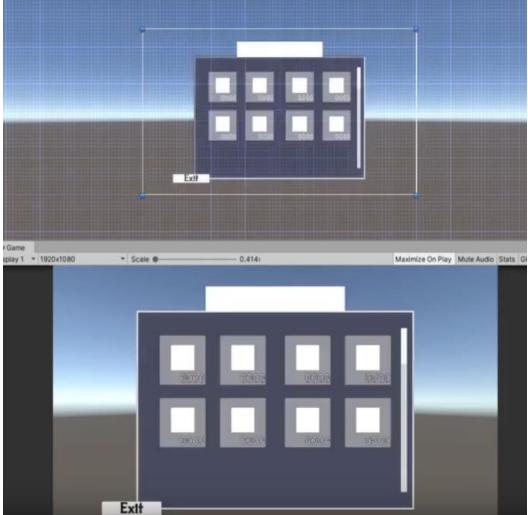


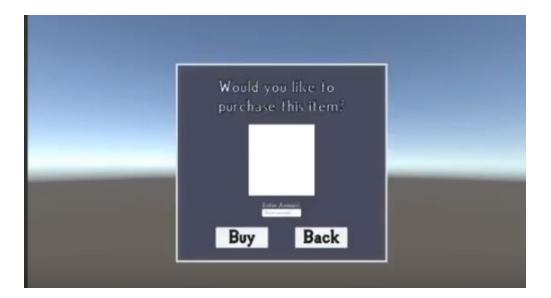












Alpha





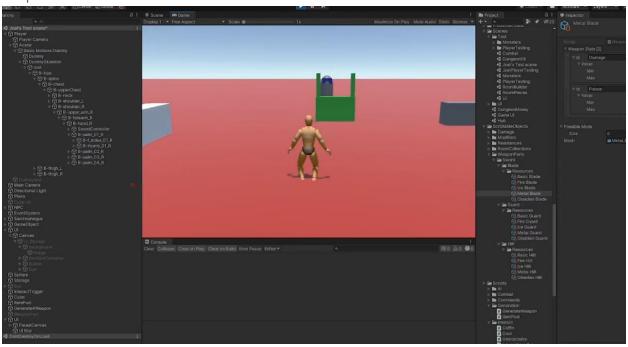


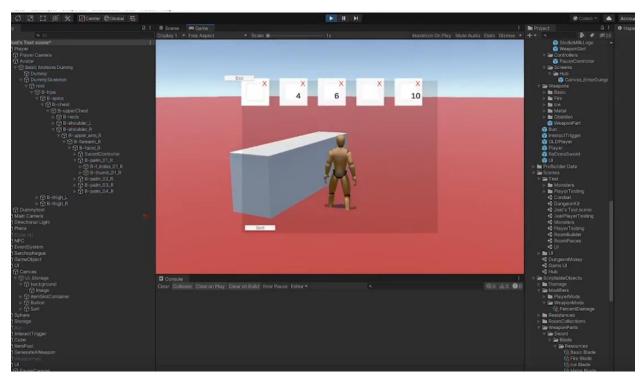


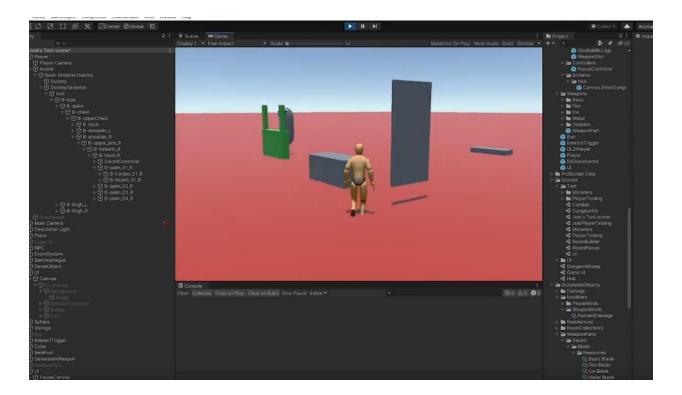




# Shops







Dungeon

Iteration 1





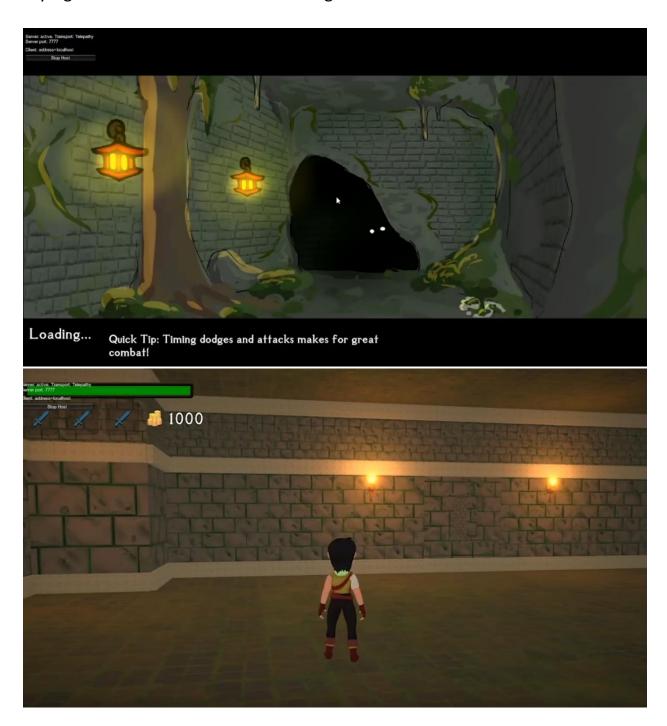














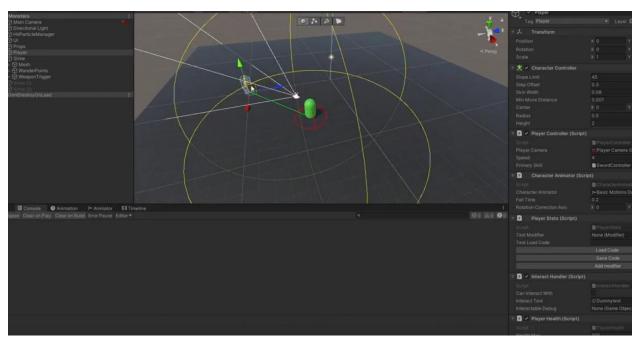


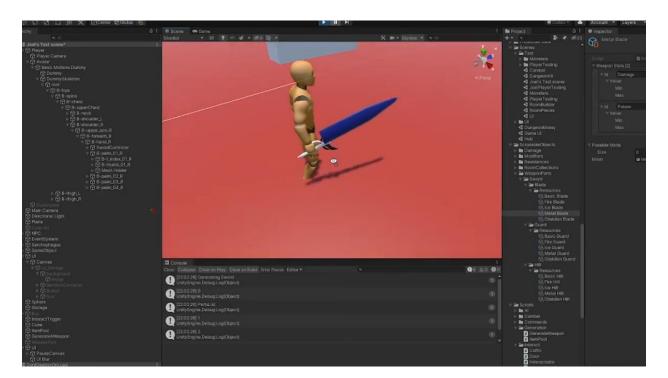




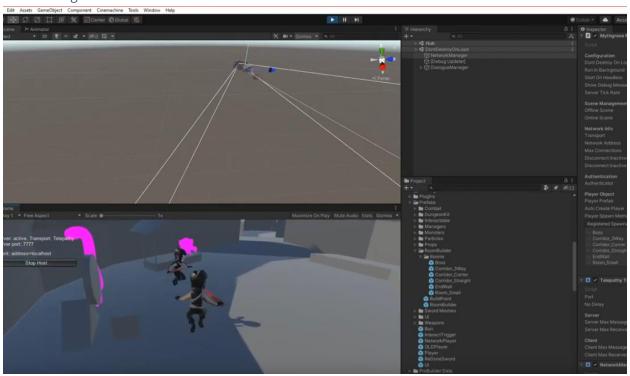
# Combat

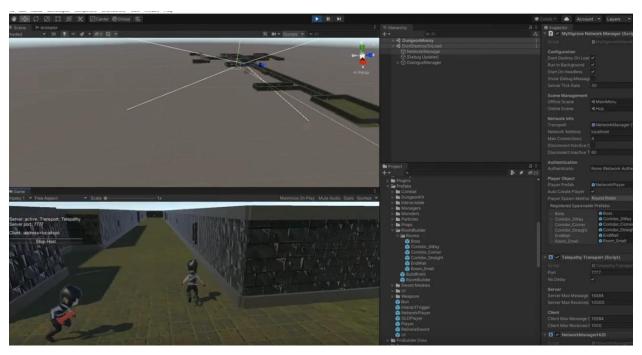






# Networking





UI



Beta Hub





















### Dungeon



















UI











Release

Hub







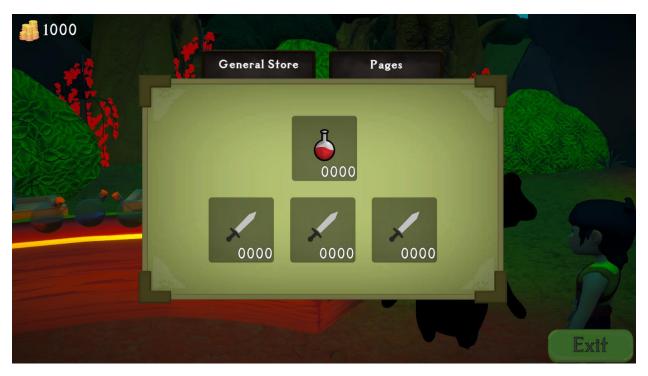


















Dungeon







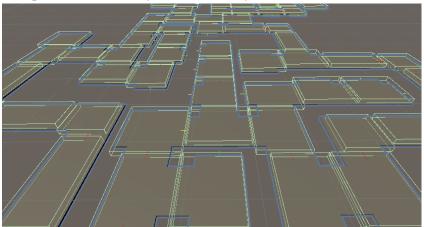






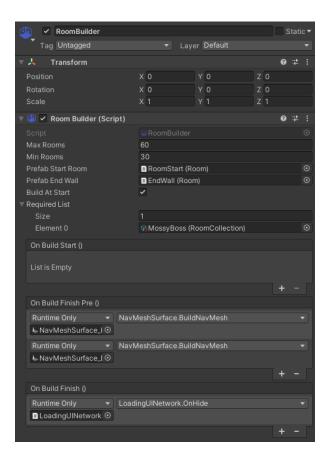
# Mechanics

Dungeon Generator (Room Builder)









#### Start Method

#### Choose Room Method

```
//Are their no room attachments?
if(baseRoom.roomAttachments.Count <= 0)</pre>
    throw new MissingRoomAttachmentsException();
    RoomAttachment roomAttachment = baseRoom.roomAttachments[i];
    if(roomAttachment.useMin) {
        //Check for an existing key
        if(dictionaryMinRooms.ContainsKey(baseRoom) && dictionaryMinRooms[baseRoom].ContainsKey(currentRoom)) {
            int amount = dictionaryMinRooms[baseRoom][currentRoom];
            if(amount < roomAttachment.min) {</pre>
               dictionaryMinRooms[baseRoom][currentRoom] = dictionaryMinRooms[baseRoom][currentRoom]++;
            //If the amount is greater than or equal too
        dictionaryMinRooms[baseRoom].Add(currentRoom, 1);
        return currentRoom;
```

#### **Recursion Method**

```
//Pick the room that we will be building
Rgom pickedRoom = ChooseRoom(currentRoom);

//Build the room at the <u>choosen</u> build point
Rgom newRoom = <u>BuildRoomAtPoint(pickedRoom</u>, buildPointStart);

//Did the build process fail
if(newRoom == null) {
    buildPointStart.BuildPointState = BuildPointState.DeadEnd;
    threadCounter = 0;
    continue;
}

//Add all of the <u>colliders</u> from the new room
listRoomColliders.AddRange( collection: newRoom.colliderGroup.SetComponentsInChildren<Collider>());

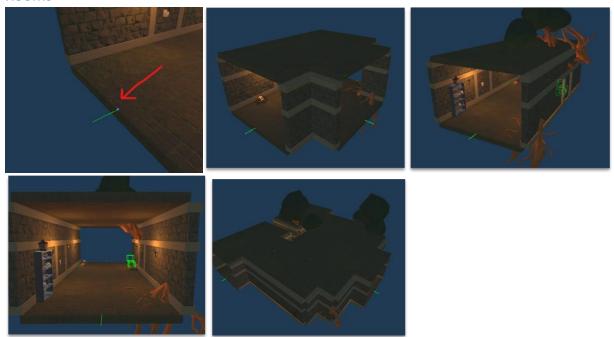
//Stare the room
listRooms.Add(newRoom);

//Debug: Slow mode
if(stowMode)
    yield return new WaitForSeconds(1);

threadCounter++;

//Recursion
roomsBuilt++;
yield return StartCoroutine( routine BuildRoom(newRoom));
```

Rooms



#### Monsters

Some networking code from the monster class

```
#region Attacking

/// <summary>
// Attacking the player
/// <fsummary>
/// <param name="obj"></param>
/// <param name="attackable"></param>
[Server]

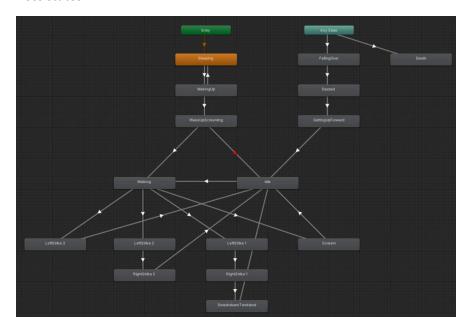
@lusse 'bloownds & issenSobman
protected virtual void DamageTriggerOnTrigger(GameObject obj, IAttackable attackable) {
    //Can the monster attack?
    if(!canAttack) return;

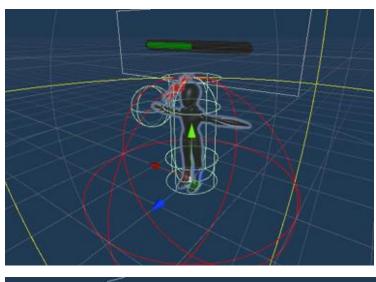
    //Send damage to the player
    Player player = obj.GetComponent<Player>();
    player.OnAttacked(senden this, damageData.damage, damageData.damageType);
}

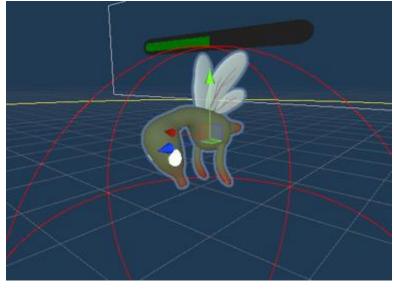
/// <summary>
/// Callback after sending the damage to the player. Player already took damage
/// </summary>
/// callback anne="actualDamage"></param>
[Server]

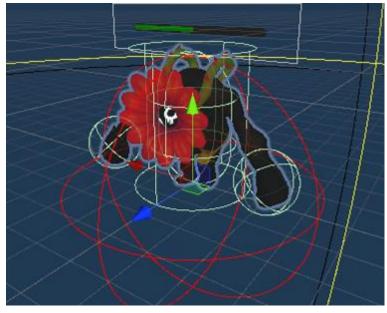
@lusse & lasonSolman
public virtual void DamageTriggerCallback(float actualDamage) {
    //Cap actualDamage to 8
    if(actualDamage < 8) actualDamage = 9;
}
```

#### **Boss states**



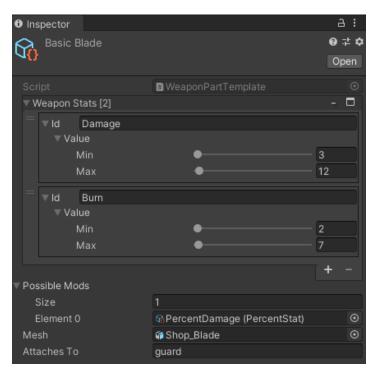






### Weapon Generation

```
public class StatRange : SerializableDictionaryBase<string, Range> { };
[CreateAssetMenu(fileName = "New Weapon Part", menuName = "Scriptable Objects/Weapon Part")]
public class WeaponPartTemplate : ScriptableObject
   public StatRange weaponStats; < Serializable</pre>
   public GameObject mesh; < Unchanged</pre>
   [Serializable]
public class ModifierDetails
   public Modifier modifier; ← Serializable
   public StatRange modStats; ← Serializable
[MessagePackObject]
[Serializable]
public struct MountInformation
   [Key( x: 0)]
   public string bone; ← Serializable
   [Key(\times 1)]
   public Vector3 position; ← Serializable
   [Key(\times 2)]
   public Vector3 rotation; ← Serializable
[Serializable]
public class Range
   [Range(0,999)]
   public floαt min; ← Serializable
   [Range(0,999)]
   public floαt max; ← Serializable
```



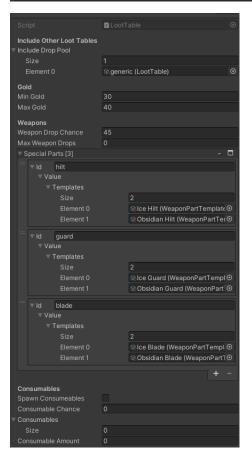
#### **Weapon Building**

```
### Application of the part of
```



#### **Loot Generation**

```
[CreateAssetMenu(fileName = "New Loot Table", menuName = "Scriptable Objects/Loot Table")]
public class LootTable : ScriptableObject
   [Header("Include Other Loot Tables")]
  public int minGold; <a Changed in 3 assets</a>
  [Header("Weapons")]
  public\ float\ weaponDropChance; 	ext{$<\!\!\!< } Changed in 2 assets
   public int maxWeaponDrops; <a Unchanged
  [SerializeField]
   public SpecialParts specialParts; < Serializable
  [Header("Consumables"), Tooltip("Do you want this loot table to spawn consumables")]
  public bool SpawnConsumeables; @ "true"
  public int consumableChance; 4 -5-
  public List<GameObject> consumables = new List<GameObject>(); <a serializable</pre>
   /// </summary>
  public int consumableAmount; <3 "2"</pre>
[Serializable]
public class SpecialParts : SerializableDictionaryBase<string,PartsList>
```

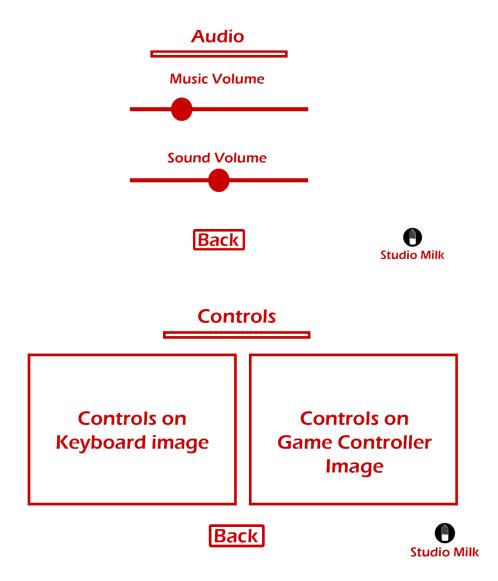


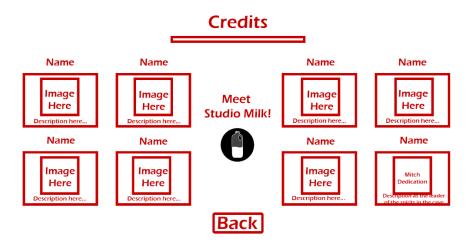
```
23 usages 03 exposing APIs
public class LootGenerator : NetworkBehaviour
    153 vages
    public static LootGenerator Instance { get; private set; }
    public WeaponGenerator wGen; Ochanges in 2 assets
    public GameObject pickUpWeapon, juansSack; Moreylack
    45 Event function
    public void Amake()
        if (Instance == null) Instance = this;
       else Destroy(gameObject);
    public void GenerateLoot(List<LootTable> dropTables){...}
    If I waspe
    public void GenerateLootAtLocation(List<LootTable> dropTables, Transform transform)
        GenerateGold(dropTables, transform);
        GenerateConsumables(dropTables, transform);
        var itemPool = new ItemPool();
        var weaponDropPercentage = @f;
        //Debug.Log(dropTables.Count);
        foreach (var table in dropTables)
            weaponDropPercentage += table.weaponDropChance;
        var wDropChance int = Random.Range(0, 188);
        # (wDropChance < weaponDropPercentage)</pre>
            itemPool.FeedTemplates(dropTables);
            spawnWeaponAtLocation(itemPool, transform);
```

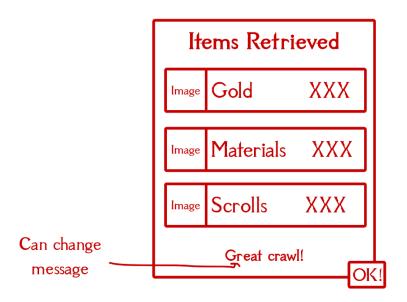
```
void spawnWeaponAtLocation(ItemPool itemPool, Transform transform)
   var gWeapon :GameObject = Instantiate(pickUpWeapon, transform.position, transform.rotation);
   var weapon = wGen.GenerateSword(itemPool);
   gWeapon.GetComponent<PickupWeapon>().weapon = weapon;
   var rb = gWeapon.GetComponent<Rigidbody>();
    //TODO: use variable, don't hardcode
   rb.AddForce(new Vector3(x: Random.Range(100, 150), y: Random.Range(100, 150)); z: Random.Range(100, 150)));
   NetworkServer.Spawn(gWeapon);
[Server]
public void DropWeaponAtLocation(Weapon weapon, Transform transform)
   var gWeapon :GameObject = Instantiate(pickUpWeapon, transform.position, transform.rotation);
   gWeapon.GetComponent<PickupWeapon>().weapon = weapon;
   var rb = gWeapon.GetComponent<Rigidbody>();
    //TODO: use variable, don't hardcode
    rb.AddForce(new Vector3( x: Random.Range(100, 150)), y: Random.Range(100, 150), z: Random.Range(100, 150)));
   NetworkServer.Spawn(gWeapon);
[Server]
public void GenerateGold(List<LootTable> dropTables, Transform transform)
    int totalMinGoldAmount = 0;
   int totalMaxGoldAmount = 0;
   foreach (var table in dropTables)
        totalMinGoldAmount += table.minGold;
        totalMaxGoldAmount += table.maxGold;
   var sack :GameObject = Instantiate(juansSack,
        position: new Vector3(transform.position.x, y: transform.position.y + 1, transform.position.z), transform.rotation)
    sack.GetComponent<MoneySack>().SetMoney(UnityEngine.Random.Range(totalMinGoldAmount, totalMaxGoldAmount));
   sack.GetComponent<Rigidbody>() // Rigidbody
        .AddForce(new Vector3( x: Random.Range(100, 150)), y: Random.Range(200, 250), z: Random.Range(100, 150)));
   NetworkServer.Spawn(sack);
```

### UI

### Wireframes





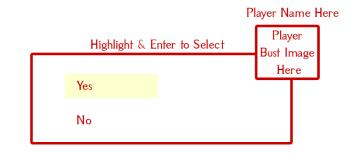


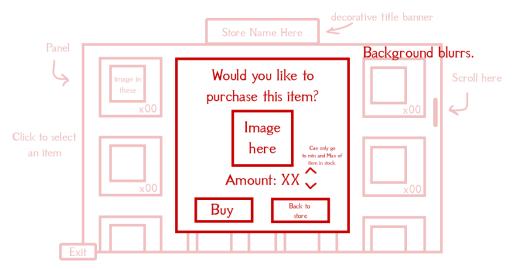
Note: The background to the loading screen will be different concept art pieces by Dorian. These loading images will be random out of a selection of different art pieces.

# Loading...

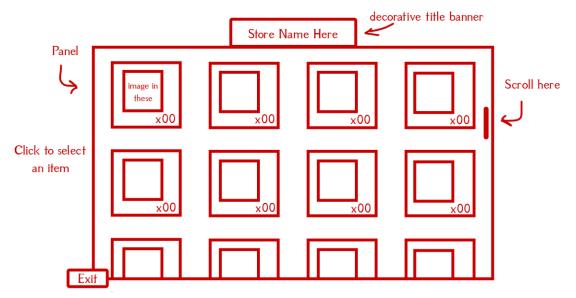
Tip #XX: Write an awesome tip here to help the player read something while passing the time of waiting here... blah blah





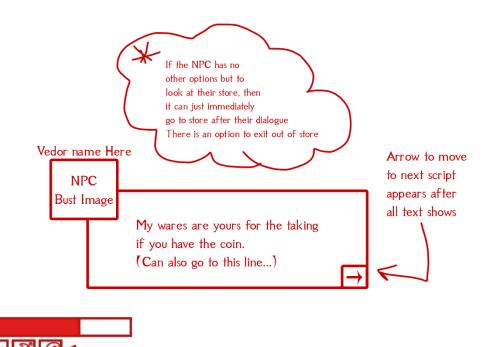


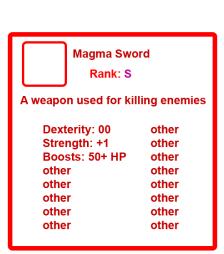
Background scene blurrs while store is open..



Background scene blurrs while store is open..





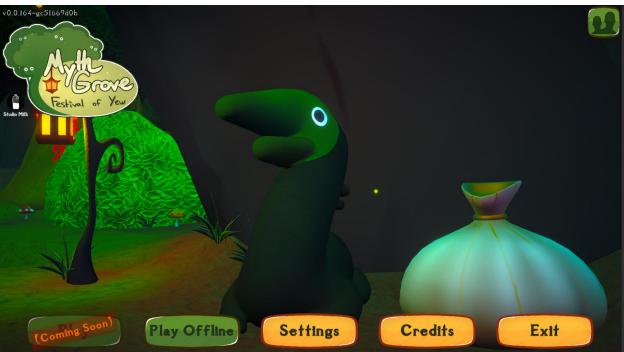


### Main Menu







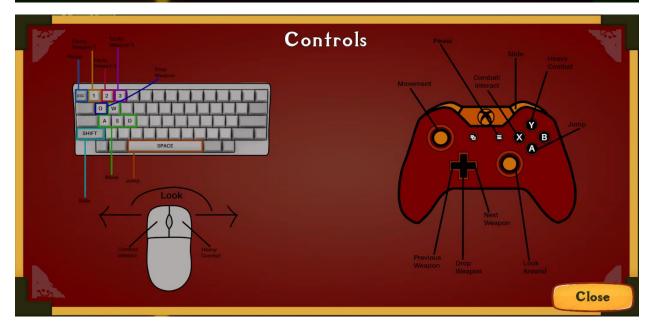


### Credits



### Settings





### Player Inventory & Equipment



## Interactions









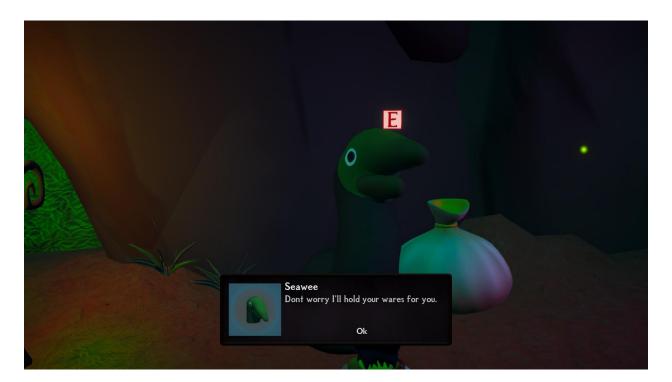
## Dialogue









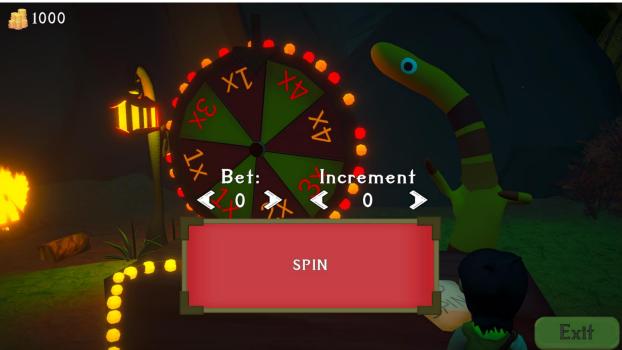


Store UI

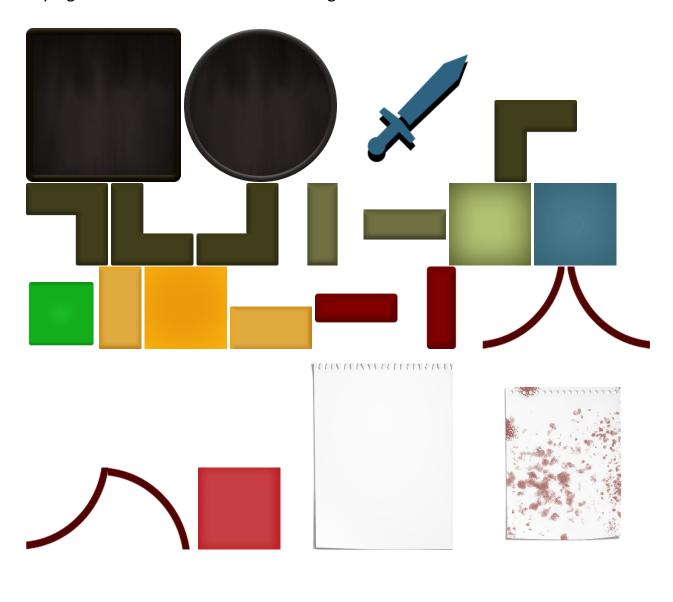




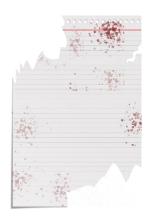
















I don't know where I am anymore... I don't know how long it's been. As I lie here, I think... I regret. I don't want to be here anymore. I thought this would be easy. I don't want to die.

# 700000 Journal 1:

Todays another day. Another search that may end up in disappointment yet again. I've been searching for so long I have no thought anymore just how many moons have passed since I began. I only have this single lead that I've been searching for about a week now. Have yet to find anything, maybe todays the day. Maybe I can finally rest.

### Journal 2:

It's quite misty in my usual spot....
strange. It's quite surny and light
out surne distance from here. Odd
signs. I've been hearing things in the
wind. Unusual whispers it seems the
things the sign. There's a Torii here.
One I haven't seen before. Alight be
a lead, I'll keep looking.

### Journal 3:

It was here! It was here all along! Finally, my hopes and dreams may come true! I was pulled into the Torii by this black translucent being! Maybe I can finally find out what's caused this legend so much traction. Here's to me surviving through this.

### My dear Lenai.

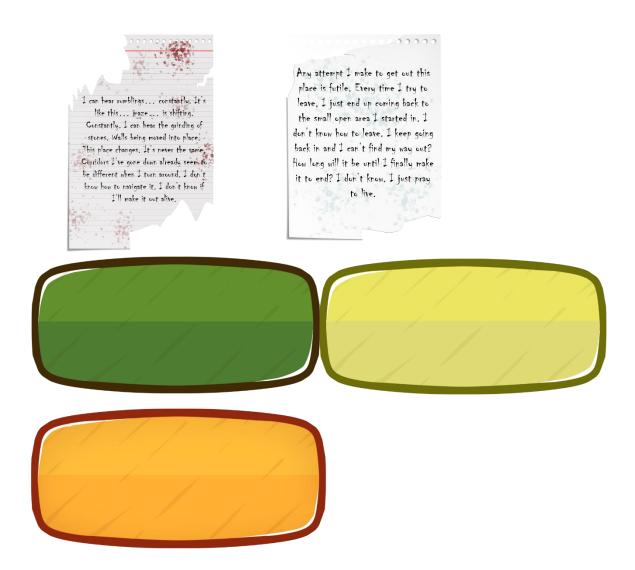
I know not how long it has been since I've last seen your face. Even as I write this, I can feel myself fading. Know I 've failed. But know that all I've done; I've done for you and what our future was supposed to be. If you find this one day, know I have never stopped loving you.

Yours forever,

Segi

I worder if they were telling the truth. Was there really anything in here to begin with? Was this all just an elaborate ruse to get me to play their sick game? I have no Idea. There doesn't seem to be an end to this thing. I was told by those.... Things, that there would be riches beyond my imagination if I could make it to the end. They seemed to be playing games with me. Do these scrolls even help? All I was given from that black angle creature is this wooden sword that's barely kept me alive. I have no idea if I'll make it out. I pray to live another day.

I don't know how long it's been. All I know is that I'm going deeper and deeper. This doesn't seem to end. There's.... things... around every corner. Monsters. I keep running, but they keep chasing. I find weapons in chests along the way. It's the only thing I can find to defend myself. I can only hope I can find my way back and make it out of this nightmare.



# Assets

## Font

Aetherius

## Example:



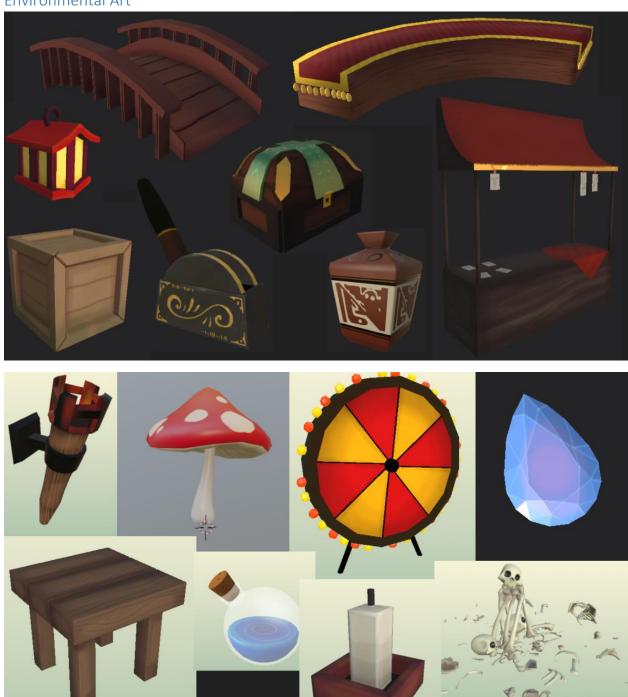
### Sound & Effects

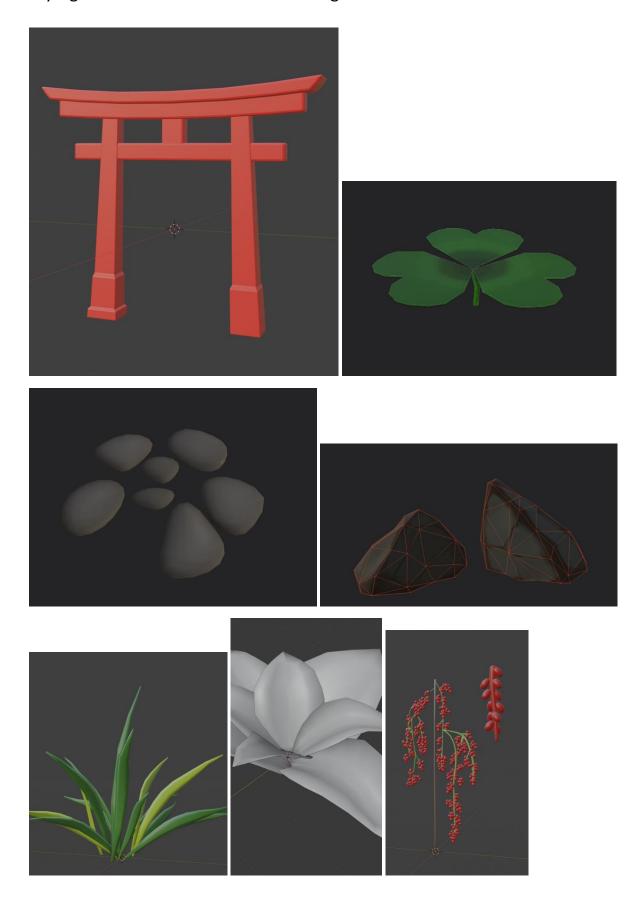
- AmbientHUBSound...
- AmbientMossyDun...
- BarrelBreak.mp3
- BoneDropCrush.mp3
- ChestOpen.mp3
- FireFlickerSound.mp3
- GateOpenSound.mp3
- GoldPickup.mp3
- GoldPickupSound2....
- HealthUp.mp3
- ltemPickupSound....
- MonsterDeathSoun...
- MonsterDeathSoun...
- MonsterldleSound\_...
- MonsterldleSound\_...
- PlayerDeathSound....
- PlayerHit.mp3
- PortalSound.mp3
- PotionDrink.mp3
- PotionPickup.mp3
- PullLeverSound.mp3
- ScrollOpen.mp3
- SlimeDeathSound....
- StepSound.mp3
- SwordSing2.mp3
- SwordsMetalClash....
- SwordSwing.mp3
- TeleportSound.mp3
- VineWhipSound.mp3
- WeaponEquipNew....

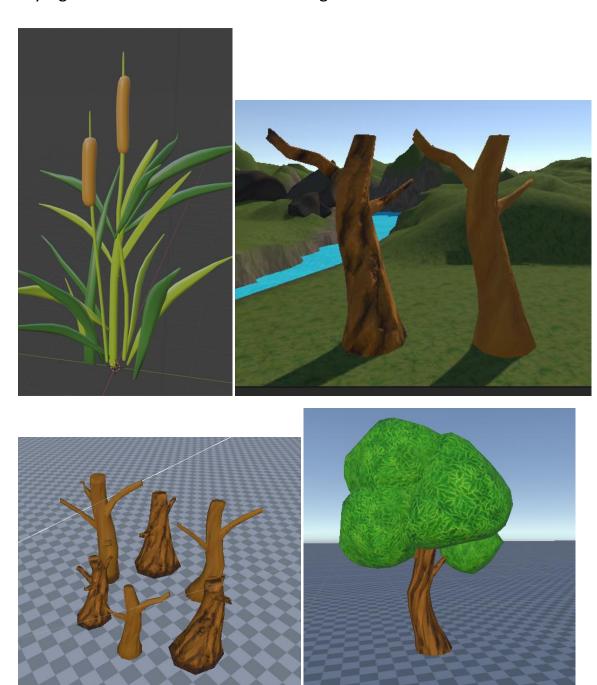
Particle Effects

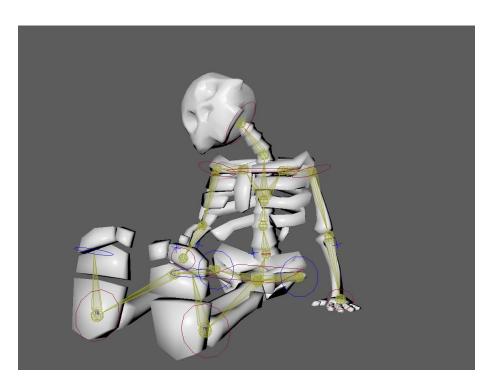


Environmental Art

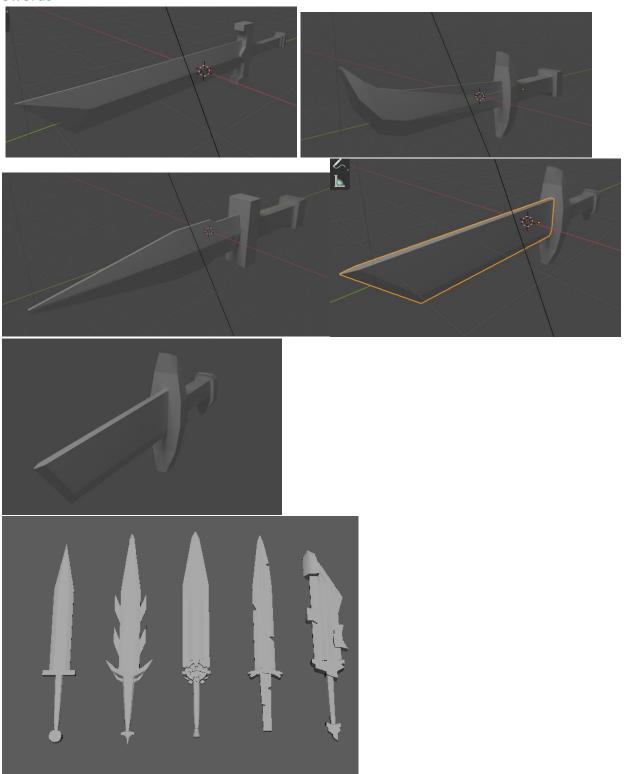








# Swords





# **Character Models**

Player





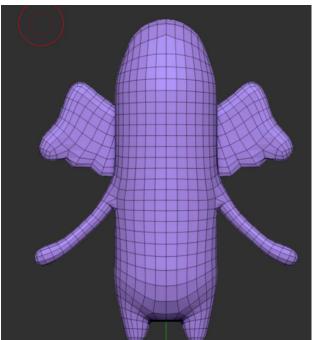




NPC Models

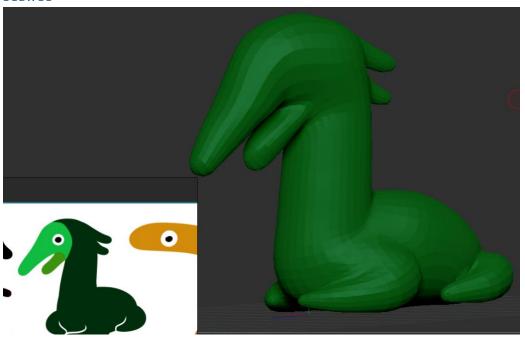


### Mamo



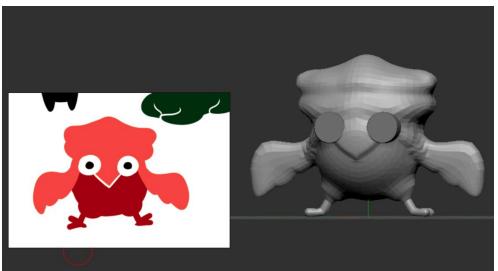


Seawee



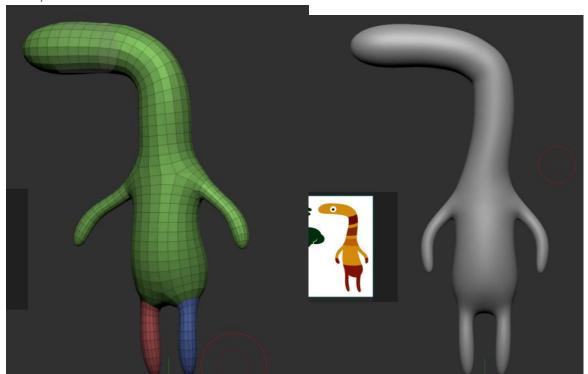


## PikPok





Randy

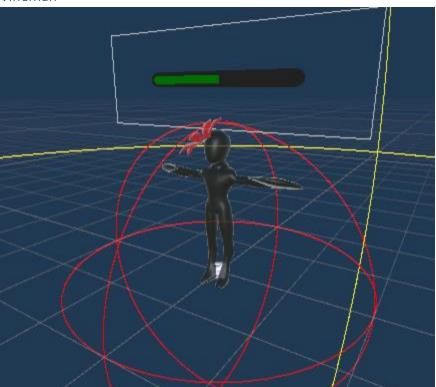




Monsters



## Vineman









Bugman







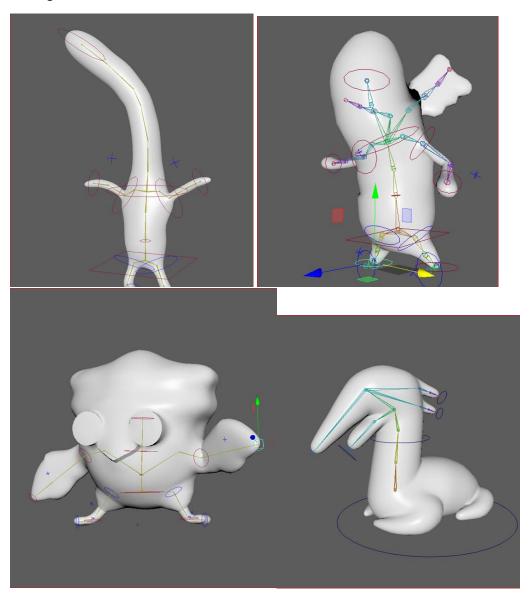


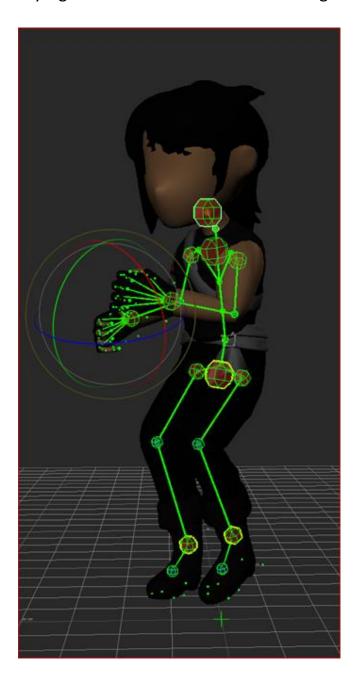


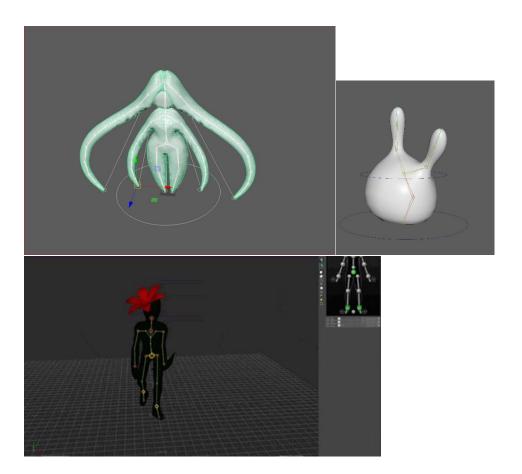


Animations & Rigging

NPC rigs







## Narrative Design

### Backstory

The legend had been passed down for years. Tales of hero's and seekers of fame looking to get their hands on a treasure so vast, no one knows how much is there. I myself am one of these "Seekers." I've been on the trail of this fortune for many moons now, but I fear that it might be just that, a legend. This day I happened to stumble upon something strange. A Torii where one normally isn't in my usual hikes around the place where the legend is supposedly whispered. I walk to the Torii and put my hand to it. Suddenly, a bright yellow light flashed before me, and as I look to the Torii I notice, its inner space is covered in the yellow light. I walk up to the light, and just before I put my had to light. I am grabbed by a black, translucent stub of a hand. A small round head with large, glowing eyes pops through the portal.

"Oh, another one! Welcome! Come, come there's much for you to know."

I get pulled through to somewhere I've never been. The aura here feels... unnatural. Though it looks like many other forests around the area, there is an air of spirits about. I know now that the tales are true. Many have tried, many have failed, and almost no one has come back alive. This time, it's my turn, and I won't be turning back.

### Dialogue

- "Browse until your hearts content"
- "My wares are yours for the taking if you have the coin"
- "What wonders can I bring you today?"
- "Have you seen my shop lately? Just restocked!"
- "If you don't have the cash for it, leave, and come back when you do."
- "No coin? Come back when you do, my items will be available!"
- "Just what you were lookin for, Huh?"
- "Ohhh you're gonna enjoy that one!"
- "Stocked and ready to rock your world!"
- "Step right up, Step right up! The wheel doesn't hold a grudge!"
- "Spin! Spin! Spin! Where's she gonna go? Only luck will know!"
- "My, My! What a lucky person I've happened upon today!
- "Oh no! Bad luck old chum! Better luck next time!"
- "Hmmm, some coin not too shabby for the other vendors around."
- "Wanna give it a shot? You can only win if you know how to spin!"
- "Try again? The wheel may just be on your side!"
- (Player to NPC) "Lets Spin it Right Round Baby!"
- (Player to NPC) "I'm not feeling so lucky right now. "
- (Player to NPC) "Let's give it another go!"
- (Player to NPC) "Maybe another time."
- "Wanna see what I got? Or maybe you'd like to align your stars?"

- "Skills and thrills! That's a good one!"
- "The mystery of the scroll never ends"

### Mamo NPC (C-Shaped Table)

- "Have you seen my shop lately? Just restocked!"
- "Just what you were lookin for, Huh?"
- "Stocked and ready to rock your world!"
- "Ohhh you're gonna enjoy that one!"
- "What wonders can I bring you today?"
- "Name's Mamo! What can I do for ya?"
- "Look what I found! Something that might interest you!"
- "Something creepy in this one, might wanna take a look."

### Mamo Story Side Dialogue

"Well I was hoping you wouldn't ask this."

### Randy NPC (Wheel Booth)

- "Whatever."
- "If you don't have the cash for it, go get some more.... I'll be here, as always."
- "Hi, name's Randy."
- "You again? Sheesh."
- "Come one Come all! Spin the wheel of fortune! 'Not that it does you any good."
- "Leaving? Do whatever you want."
- "You'll be back... Maybe."

#### Seawee

- "..."
- "... wee"
- "See?"
- "Seawee Sea."

#### Pikpok

- "Take a look! Please? Hopefully it's what you're looking for."
- "Spiffing!"
- "Maybe C-C-Come back? I'll be here!"
- "This should help! I think, I don't know, maybe?"
- "Thank you! Oh this is marvelous!"
- "Scrolls can be of great use!"
- Insert Astronomy fact here:
  - o On Mercury a day lasts twice as long as a year
  - o One teaspoonful of neutron star would weigh the same as the entire human population
  - There are stars we will never be able to see

- If Jupiter's magnetic field were visible, it would appear bigger than the Moon in the night sky
- Neptune has only completed one orbit around the Sun since its discovery
- Hot ice is a thing
- o One million Earths can fit inside the sun.
- You can't walk on Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus or Neptune because they have no solid surface.
- Olympus moon, which is 3 times higher than the Mount Everest, is the highest mountain known to man and is located on Mars.
- The sunset on Mars appears blue.
- Driving a car to the nearest star at 70 mph would take more than 356 billion years.
- o It would take nine years to walk to the moon.

#### **Chosen Narratives**

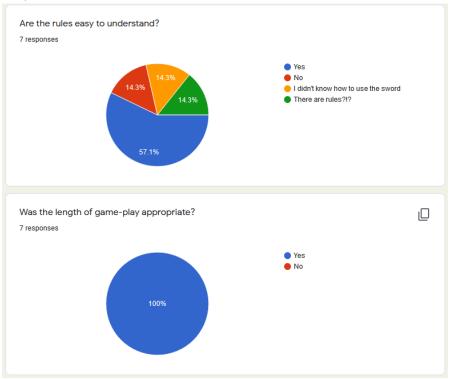
- Some of the narratives were designed with intent to create doubt or discomfort for the player.
   The player would pick up documents that had been written as "last testaments" for the other persons who had entered the dungeon before the player.
- Others were chosen by lines/descriptors given to me in order to create other scenarios or feelings for the player

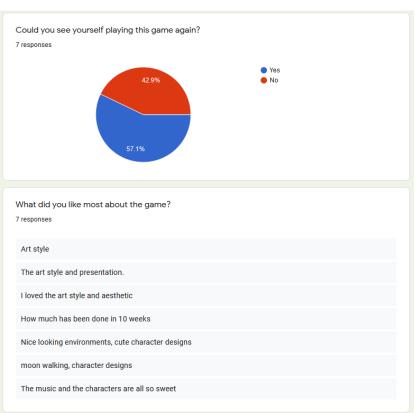
### **What They Are**

- The narratives themselves encompass the feelings or thoughts of characters made up to be persons outside or entering the dungeon before the main character in the game. They each have different personalities and themes in order to show the player that many people from many different timelines and places around the world could get to the place that he has in now.
- These narratives also serve to create the short, openness of story elements to help the player in connecting more to the world and want to continue playing the game and learn more.

# Conclusion

## Player Feedback





What did you dislike about the game?

7 responses

The combat was too simple, as it was really just trading damage

A lot of key mechanics don't work. The camera was also a bit too sensitive.

I don't think any of the mechanics worked, and there was no clear way to progress.

Turning was rather quick and abrupt

Combat system feels like it needs a lot of work, overall game felt a bit generic

Attack speed is too slow, UI did not show up for inventory, weapon slots, or randy's dialogue prompt, quick tips were too quick

The dungeon itself was a bit boring to go through but I think it was only cause I couldnt pick up stuff

Which game play mechanic stood out to you the most?

7 responses

It's very put together and nice to look at.

Not a whole lot.

My favorite part is the part at the beginning with the interesting creatures.

How much has been done in 10 weeks

Getting different loot, specifically getting cool new swords. Cute NPCs

gambling

I think I played with the wheel for about 20 minutes before I went into the dungeon

How would you describe this game to your friends?

7 responses

Bro, it's like this dungeon game and you can play together and you loots stuff wow epic

Has the makings of a good game.

The game is charming but needs a little work, definitely something to keep an eye on though!

Kill feminine black cleaver handed people, get loot, talk to merchants with scoliosis. Or that it's a dungeon crawler with online capability

Dungeon Crawling Rouge-like

hack and slash

Rouge lite dungeon crawler similar to wizard of legend

What did you find most confusing about the game?

7 responses

I'm not entirely sure what the money is useful for aside from buying loot at the shop, when that's more implemented.

The wheel, I guess?

I was not sure how to progress. There is no clear indication on what is going on and what you are meant to do, so you end up wondering aimlessly a lot. I know the point is to get lost, but I often found my self just running a bunch and not paying attention to anything else.

The controls. At least without going through menus

Where do I go in the dungeon? Might need a map implemented to remedy this

gambling and my swords didnt work

Nothing confused me a noticeable amount

Did you encounter any bugs? Write them here.

7 responses

with 4000, but suddenly was back to 500 when I left.

It seems like items in general don't get stored in your inventory. When I pick up a sword, it disappears completely, it didn't appear in my inventory it was just gone. It made fighting the boss pretty difficult.

Also you can't die in the game.

The buttons and shops do not work, my health would drop but my character would never die, pressing escape while in a dialog menu will bug out the camera, and I think that is about it.

You can jump on enemy heads to avoid them. Enemies walk through walls. Got stuck on a merchants screen, talked to them and couldn't press the button to continue away from them (no cursor). Other times I had the cursor on my screen the entire time playing. Didn't seem to be an end to the dungeon. Even a placeholder portal at the end to bring you back would be nice. I couldn't hit anything with my swords. No amount of head smashing keyboards helped. I got my first weapon half way through the first dungeon. Had to reprise my role as keep-away legend until I came across one.

Some enemies were able to teleport through walls. Walking sideways causes character model to slide.

Post-Mortem
Amana Color

#### What Went Well:

### • Documenting Process = Easy Iterations

Documenting our process helped us understand what we were missing and what elements we could add into the game that would be high priority for the player. Since we documented from the beginning, it was easy to pin-point and eliminate elements that wouldn't be adding to the player's experience.
 Some elements that were added to enhance the player's experience were particle effects, sounds, and hit feedback animations. We realized these were important because if we added all the elements we initially wanted, they wouldn't have been as enjoyable for the player, thus, making the game not desirable to anyone who would have to play it.

### • Team Communication

During the production of our game, our team got together frequently to discuss Jira, Confluence and Weekly scrums. Having the open communication, we did led to mutual understanding on anything that was new, being worked on, or difficult to implement in the game. Since we had the limitation of the pandemic, talking frequently made it easy to keep on the ball and understand what parts of our premise we wanted to keep working on.

### **What Went Wrong:**

# Working from Home; A New Adventure for All of Us

Unfortunately, working from home was difficult for most of us. Having the culture of being able to be productive around your team-mates and have someone point on a screen when something went wrong is something we all took for granted when we encountered the stay at home order.

Since most of us have different home situations, sometimes it was difficult to stay motivated and keep a steady workflow. Not having a quiet space, or access to the hardware we needed, hindered us in the beginning. Some of the issues we dealt with hurt our workflow and production time. If we were in our normal location, with the technology we needed to complete the game and the human connection we all desired, I believe MythGrove: Festival of Yew would of been further than where it is now. There is a sense of accountability when seeing each other in person that I, truly, felt left as soon as we were told to stay home.

### • Senioritis

Oh yes, it's the MAD SENIORITIS that we all feel when we get closer to the end of the school year. Since our project was a cap stone project for school, and during the final countdown to our degree, we all felt done by the second quarter of this project. Being exhausted from having the distraction of other classes hurt our chances of increasing our workflow for the final part of iterating our project.

#### Overriding in Git

 The team was constantly overriding each other's work through git. This caused a lot of issues and extra time needed on the project in order to have a stable build.

### **Lessons Learned:**

### Networking is a Pain

Unfortunately, networking was a pain. When establishing networking you must write the code so that it works with networking. When you code a network game, everything must be coded with the thought that networking will be implemented in the future. Then you must use the networking syntax, that sends everything to the server and back to the player. Something as simple as jumping has to be more thought out because you are not receiving the jump animation feedback on one end, but multiple players' end. We did not fully plan out what was going to be networked which is why we had so many issues establishing networking to our game. Without the background thought of "this might need to be networked", we had to rewrite a lot of scripts that would in return break other scripts and our game. We had to code everything that would target all the clients rather than target locally. So, coding things to be over the network took longer, gave us a lot of bugs and opened us to many technical limitations because the software mirror does not like nested networkbehaviors which made us have to incorporate mechanics at runtime.

It also did not help all 3 programmers did not have previous knowledge of mirror, which hindered our workflow only because they had to learn a whole new software and how it functioned with our desired mechanics.

What did help is that they increased their knowledge of the software mirror and how to incorporate networking into other future games.

### Jason Skillman

#### What went well

- The planning process went very well and was completely documented. This helped create a strong foundation for the rest of the team to build off of during the development of the project.
- The team was helpful in helping each other out when they needed it. We constantly were helping each other with design and technical issue throughout the entire process.
- The game was very close to the concept art and stuck with the lore of the game.

## What went wrong

- Team was unable to help each other directly/physically. This stunted the growth of the entire team and the product itself.
- Networking the gameplay was a huge undertaking. Was unable to get some simple gameplay mechanics functionally working. Lost lots of hours trying to debug networking issues.
- Team did not have an animator so animations took four times as long as it normally should have.
- Team was constantly overriding each other's work through git.

### **Lessons learned**

- I learned a lot about how networking gameplay works.
- I spent too much time debugging issues instead of adding new gameplay. I need to learn when to cut it off.
- Learned how to effectively work remotely as a project manager.

#### Joel Hanson

#### What went well:

#### Communication

During this hard time, and staying home, communication was key in order to make this project succeed. And for the most part, we communicated everyday. We had 3 scrum meetings a day, and everyone would talk about what they were doing and what their next plans were. It was a huge process that I believe we nailed as a team

### Documentation

 We easily documented everything that was going to be in the game. everything was tasked out to people, so everyone knew what they were to work on. If there was something that needed to be worked on, a task was made. Everyone was up to date, and everyday Jira was update

### What Went Wrong:

### Networking

This was a huge undertaking, and I believe one of our biggest downfalls in the development of the game. There was countless hours spent trying to put in all the mechanics into the game while trying to get it to network well, especially with little to no experience in something like this. Many hours were spent debugging bugs or trying to figure out why one thing works but the other doesn't, etc. It was a huge pain.

#### Corona:

I believe this was the biggest problem that was wrong. It was hard to help someone if they had tech issues or something. So that person was on their own if it came down to it, the most someone could do was try and help over a call. Also the transition to online learning was also a huge undertaking and getting used to.

#### **Lessons Learned:**

- Networking is hard
- o I learned a lot how networking works though
- Even if you have a really really great team, things can still go wrong, which is okay.
- Corona is awful

#### Isabella Weikman

#### What went well:

- We all stayed pretty comfortable with each other as teammates and I feel that we worked well together because of this.
- The game's aesthetic matched the concept art pretty closely, and I believe that this happened because I provided a lot of references and in depth concepts really early on. Keeping people on track with even just a color palette can really help a game look visually appealing.
- From the beginning we put a lot of emphasis on maintaining an organized documentation process so that we could keep track of things that need work, and iterate in a way that gave us a safety net if things went wrong.

### What went wrong:

- We lost steam about half way through the production process, and motivations were low. I feel like most of us got sick of working on the game for a myriad of personal reasons. Life got crazy.
- 7 people is a big crew, and that could have been a factor in people not knowing what to do next, since delegating tasks throughout the team often lead to someone having too much to do and someone else having too little.
- We were so unaware of how the shops were going to work until the final weeks, and even at that point there was still confusion. If we had planned more in-depth in the beginning, the shops could have been more fleshed out by the end.

#### **Lessons learned:**

- Be honest with your teammates. Say when you are available and when you are not. Don't include something subpar and out of place for the sake of saving face. Communication communication, and don't let hurt feelings ruin a game.
- Scrum is essential, and keeping track of individual tasks (while tedious) is most helpful in the long run, especially when tracking progress.
- Give everything a reason. Don't try to add something in under the impression that you can fix it up and flesh it out in the future. Make decisions earlier so that executing is faster.

#### Juan Santos

### What went well

- I felt for the most part my team did a great job of staying communicated and transparent, often there would be a post of what was being worked on by individuals members and I believe that feed it to motivating the rest of the team.
- Documentation was very well managed and overall allowed the team to stay very organized.
- Our preproduction was don't before the class started and I feel because of that we had a good idea of what needed to be done as well as having everyone be on the same page.
- I felt the combo workflow of Bell doing the concept art and me doing the models allowed for some great assets, I was very happy with the overall look of the game.

## What went wrong

- After the first quarter things slowed down quite a bit I believe this is because of the amount of time people spent working on the game in the first quarter, the team was just tired after the initial burst.
- I was in charge of animations
- I heard that networking slowed the progress of the game's coding considerably
- Though I think the scoop we set was still achievable, the way we went about building the game wasn't the most optimal.
- Not having face to face contact with people I felt really effected the workflow we planned on having, it also made communicated less intuitive.

### Lessons learned

- How to communicate with my team as well as making sure my tasked on jira were being updated
- How to use many great software, like substance designer, motion builder, and blender
- To work more efficiently, I got good at pumping out models.
- Push your team mates to do more or try new things
- A good concept artist is essential to keeping a consistent look to the game.

### Kyle Gray

#### What went well:

- Learning In the end, this senior project was just another class which is meant for us to learn. I'll go over some specific things that we learned later, but using new tools and working in a diverse team allowed us to grow as game designers and developers.
- Version control Using Git worked great for us. We had to deal with the occasional merge conflict, but being able to work in branches was great for our productivity, if we make breaking changes then other people can still work on things while we fix them.
- Communication While we were working on the project we spent a lot of time in meetings, we talked a lot through messages in Discord, pretty much whenever we needed something somebody was available to hop in a chat. Communicating well was a big part of what went right in this project, if we weren't all on the same page all the time there would be a lot of backtracking to get everyone on the same page and to change features that somebody implemented that wasn't supposed to be, and if we weren't available to help each other it would have taken us a lot longer to complete our tasks, and we wouldn't have had as much done.

#### What went wrong:

- Playtesting I wish we had done a lot more playtesting and gotten a lot more feedback. In the article
  I linked about Cultist Simulator, the developers used a strategy called open production. With open
  production you are constantly taking in feedback from the community and giving out small updates
  frequently to test new features and get more feedback. We only did a few playtests and only really
  discussed the results of one or two, and if we had gotten more feedback we could have made a
  game that is more fun to more people.
- Networking Networking ended up eating a lot of our time, especially at the end, and not very much came from it in the project. Of course we all still learned a lot about networking, we would likely have a much easier time next time implementing it. However, this time it could have had a lot of improvement in the final product.
- Scope We originally had a lot planned for the final game, multiple dungeons, tons of enemies, tons
  of modifiers, but it was a lot more difficult adding all that content than we thought, it took is a lot of
  time to get the core functionality of all these systems in place we hardly had time to fill them with
  the content we planned.

### **Lessons learned:**

• If you're making a multiplayer game, make it multiplayer all the way through - Our strategy for making the multiplayer in this game was essentially to make it work in singleplayer first, then ass networking later. Turns out, this isn't a very good way to do networking. It wasted a lot of time redoing the same code when we could have had networking in mind when we made the code originally and had it already network ready when it was done. If we did this I think we would have had a much better game in the end, one which at every stage could be played with the whole team or playtesters.

 Playtest often - The feedback from playtesters is super valuable. Not only will playtesters find bugs and break the game in ways you never thought of, but they also will show you where the fun is in the game. If I were to do this class again I would focus on getting the game loop done within the first few weeks, and playtest every week after that incorporating the feedback throughout the process.

### Christian Martin

#### What went well:

- Team communication was abundant as the virtual environment we have been subjected to has lead to constant talking and working while voice-chatting
- Documenting the process as we went helped to define goals and set the pace for the game
- Each week tasks were distributed and a goal was set for the week on aspects of the game that were to be done. Alternating priorities and having tasks be distributed as evenly as possible among teammates helped to complete as much as possible for the weekly sprints.

### What went wrong.

- Overscoping. A lot of plans in the beginning fell through due to time constraints and other networking and bug issues taking up a lot of time.
- Working from home is a big challenge especially when we don't have that interpersonal connection between teams. Spending long amounts of time communicating on a screen is incredibly tiresome.

#### **Lessons Learned:**

• I personally could've stepped outside my comfort zone more. I learned a lot more about modeling, and how I need to be able to wear more hats in a small team rather than just being directed to one position.

### **Technical Limitations**

- Mirror does not like nested "NetworkBehaviors", so certain elements to game play could not be placed in elements that had "NetworkBehaviors" already there, so it had to be done at runtime.
- The only computer the game can be played on is a windows computer. The file does not work on Mac and Linux, so it is then not available to all players.
- Network bugs were very difficult to test and debug.

## Credits

# **Programmers**

### Jason Skillman

- Project Manager
- Dungeon Programmer
- UI Programmer
- Tools Programmer
- Level Design

#### Joel Hanson

Lead Programmer

# Kyle Gray

Lead Networking

### **Designers**

#### Amanda Coler

- Co-project Manager
- Lead UI/UX
- Sound Designer

#### Bella Weikman

- Lead Designer
- Lead Character Artist
- Lead Sound Designer

### Juan Santos

- Lead Modeler
- Lead Sculptor

# Christian Martin

- Modeler
- Narrative story writer

# **Special Thanks**

# Jeff Knapp

• Music Composition

Link

Itch.io URL: <a href="https://jason-skillman.itch.io/mythgrove">https://jason-skillman.itch.io/mythgrove</a>