

1. Consent Form

You are about to participate in a research study regarding interactive narrative. If you choose to continue, you will be asked to:

1. Complete a short background survey.
2. Play a text-based game named *Demeter: Blood in the Sky*
3. Complete a short response survey about your experience of the game
4. Play the same game a second time with slightly different settings
5. Complete the same response survey again

The complete study should take you about 90 to 120 minutes to complete.

Your participation is anonymous, and you are free to quit at any time.

You will need the Java plug-in (including Java Web Start) installed on your current machine to play the game. (Most people already have this.)

Details:

RESEARCH:

This research project is being conducted as a component of a doctoral dissertation. The purpose of the project is to investigate the effects of different algorithms on the generation of an interactive narrative experience.

PARTICIPATION:

Your participation should take approximately 100 minutes. Your participation will consist of:

- filling out a form on background information about yourself (10 minutes)
- playing a short, text-based computer game (40 minutes)
- filling out a form regarding your experience of the game (10 minutes)
- playing the same text-based computer game again (running with different settings) (30 minutes)
- filling out a form regarding your second experience of the game (10 minutes)

Participation in this research project is completely voluntary. You are free to withdraw your participation at any time during the duration of the project with no penalty or loss of benefit to which you would otherwise be entitled.

RISKS:

The investigator believes that, beyond the risks associated with normal computer use, there is little or no risk to participating in this research project.

BENEFITS:

Participating in this research may be of no direct benefit to you. It is believed, however, the results from this project will help improve the design of interactive narrative systems.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

Your name will not be associated with your responses on the questionnaire forms or with any other generated research data. Your participation in the project will be confidential to the extent allowed by law. Agencies with research oversight, such as the UH Committee on

Human Studies, have the authority to review research records. Record of your participation will be destroyed at the end of the project.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions regarding this research project, please contact the investigator:

Zach Tomaszewski
ztomasze@hawaii.edu / (808) 923-5372.
<http://zach.tomaszewski.name/argax/>

If you have any questions regarding your rights as a research participant, please contact:

UH Committee on Human Studies
2540 Maile Way, Rm. 253
University of Hawai'i
Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone: (808) 956-5007

I have read and understand the above information, and I agree to participate in this research project.

☐ Yes

How did you hear about this study?

- ☐ An email list. Please specify: _____
- ☐ A personal email.
- ☐ Other. Please specify: _____

Is this your first time participating in this study or playing *Demeter*?

- ☐ Yes, this is my first time.
- ☐ No, I have played/participated in the past.

NEXT

2. Your Background

Please answer the following questions regarding your computer use and game-related experience.

"I feel comfortable using a computer."

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree
- ☐ N/A

"On average, I use a computer for the following number of hours each day:"

- ☐ Six or more hours a day.
- ☐ Three to five hours a day.
- ☐ One to two hours a day.
- ☐ Less than one hour a day.
- ☐ I rarely or never use a computer.

"On average, I spend the following number of hours per day playing online or computer games on a personal computer (PC):"

- ☐ Six or more hours a day.
- ☐ Three to five hours a day.
- ☐ One to two hours a day.
- ☐ Less than one hour a day.
- ☐ I rarely or never play computer games.

"On average, I spend the following number of hours per day playing digital games on platforms other than a personal computer (such as on a gaming console, mobile phone, hand-held device, arcade game, etc.):"

- ☐ Six or more hours a day.
- ☐ Three to five hours a day.
- ☐ One to two hours a day.
- ☐ Less than one hour a day.
- ☐ I rarely or never play digital games on a non-PC platform.

"I have played approximately the following number of different games using a personal computer:"

- ☐ Over 100.
- ☐ 50 to 100.
- ☐ 20 to 50.
- ☐ 5 to 20.
- ☐ 1 to 5.
- ☐ I have never played a game on a personal computer.

"I have played approximately the following number of digital games on platforms other than a personal computer (such as on a gaming console, mobile phone, hand-held device, arcade game, etc.):"

- ☐ Over 100.
- ☐ 50 to 100.
- ☐ 20 to 50.
- ☐ 5 to 20.
- ☐ 1 to 5.
- ☐ I have never played a digital game on a non-PC platform.

Please indicated how familiar you are with each of the following computer game genres.

	I have played a number of games in this genre	I have played at least one game in this genre for many hours	I have briefly played or watched someone else play a game like this	I know what this is, but I have never played one	I do not know what this is
Text adventure / interactive fiction (Zork, Adventure, games by Infocom or Legend, modern IF, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Adventure games (King's Quest, Space Quest, Monkey Island; AGS games, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Computer or console roleplaying games (Diablo, Final Fantasy, Grand Theft Auto, etc)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

MUDs and/or MOOs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
MMORPGs (World of Warcraft, Everquest, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Social simulations (The Sims, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
First-person shooters (Doom, Quake, Half- Life; Tomb Raider, etc)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please indicated how familiar you are with each of the following traditional roleplaying game genres.

	I have played a number of games in this genre	I have played at least one game in this genre for many hours	I have briefly played or watched someone else play a game like this	I know what this is, but I have never played one	I do not know what this is
Branching novels and gamebooks (Choose Your Own Adventure series, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Table-top roleplaying games (Dungeons and Dragons, GURPS, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Live-action roleplaying games (White Wolf's Mind's Eye Theater, etc; dinner mystery games)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improv (Improvisational theater; roleplaying training exercises, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Your gender:

☐ Male

☐ Female

Your age category:

- ☐ under 18
- ☐ 18-24
- ☐ 25-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65-74
- ☐ 75+

The highest level of education you have completed:

- ☐ Doctoral / Professional (PhD, MD, etc)
- ☐ Graduate School (Masters, etc.)
- ☐ University / College (Bachelors, etc.)
- ☐ Community College (Associates, etc)
- ☐ Some college, no degree
- ☐ Graduated high school or equivalent
- ☐ 12th grade or less (none of the above)

How do you feel about reading text on a screen like the one you are currently using?

- ☐ I regularly read text on a computer screen without trouble.
- ☐ I dislike reading text on a computer screen, but I can tolerate it for short periods.
- ☐ I avoid reading text on a computer screen whenever possible.

How often do you use a command line interface?

- ☐ I use a command line at least once a week for many different tasks.
- ☐ I use a command line at least once a week for a small number of tasks.
- ☐ I use a command line a few times a year, or I have regularly used a command line in the past.
- ☐ I rarely use a command line.
- ☐ I have never used a command line (or, I do not know what a command line interface is).

Thank you! After you click Submit, you should be redirected to another webpage where you can play the game.

SUBMIT
