## Monaco: What's Yours is Mine

Interpreting Feedback and Maintaining Your Vision

"Design is a plan for arranging elements in such a way as best to accomplish a particular purpose"

#### - Charles Eames



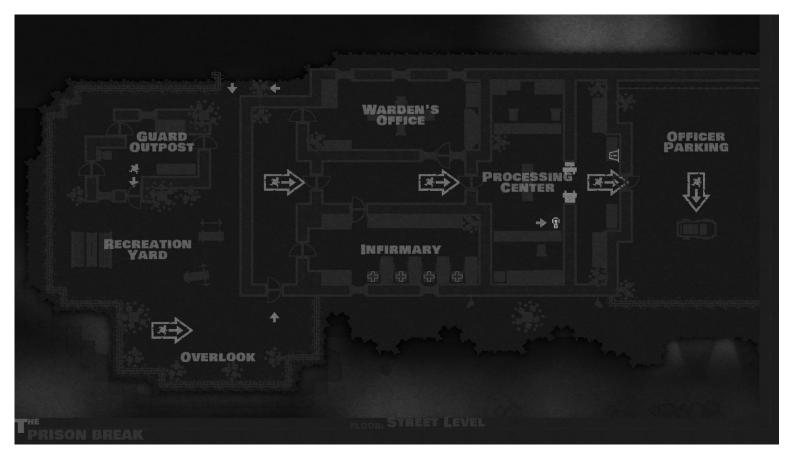
## Monaco: What's Yours is Mine



- Released:
  - April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013
- Platforms
  - Windows
  - Mac
  - Linux



– Xbox 360





## **Best Idea Ever!!!**





## Feedback

"That's the worst idea I've ever heard."

Andy Schatz

"You're going to injure yourself."

Andy Schatz

"You're the most retarded person I've ever met."

Andy Schatz



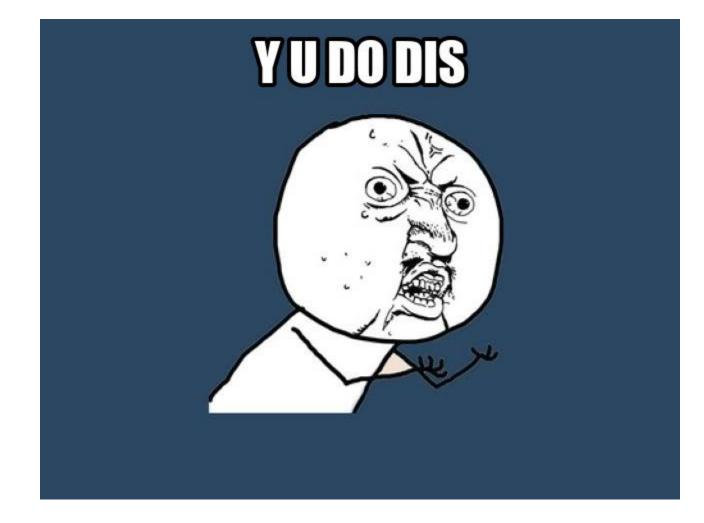
## **INTERPRETING FEEDBACK**

Part 1

#### **Beta Questionnaire**



- 1. What did you like?
- 2. What didn't you like?
- 3. What confused you?



## **3 MOST COMMON FEEDBACK**

## 1. Did not like LOS

- Wanted to plan more
- Traditional Stealth

"Observe your enemies from afar, manipulate them with your tools, and *execute your plan with precision*" – Mark of the Ninja



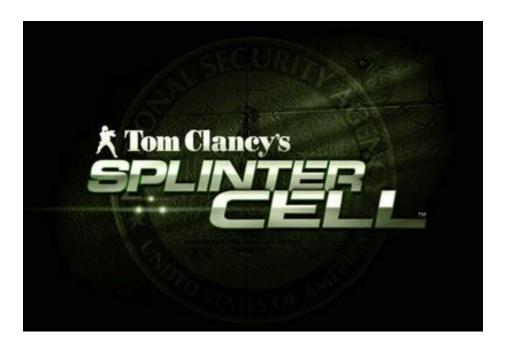
## 2. Did not like Random Al

- Wanted AI patterns
- "Solve" the game



## 3. Did not like lack of failure

- Wanted strict punishment
- Mandatory stealth
- Rewards "ghosting"



#### Monaco's Design Goals



- Unpredictability
- Improvisation
- Emotional Range

#### What did Pocketwatch do?

- 1. Kept the LOS
- 2. Kept Guard Al
- 3. Cannot Ghost







## **Change the Narrative**





Monaco isn't a stealth game, says creator. Getting caught is half the fun pennyarcade.com/report/editori...

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# MY D ORD FOR IT

## **3 INDUSTRY EXAMPLES**

## 1. Journey

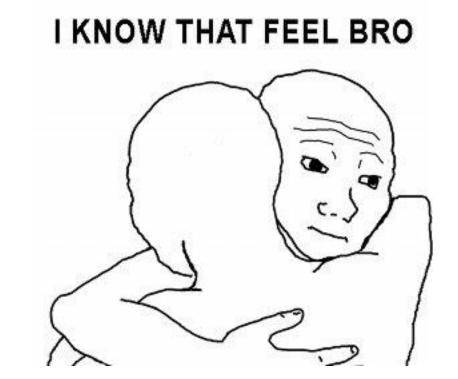


- Journey friend invites
  - "I want to talk with my friend"

## What did thatgamecompany do?

- "We want friend chat"
- Removed friend invites





#### 2. Borderlands





- Feedback on Skag Gully
  - "This isn't fun"
  - "Too many enemies"

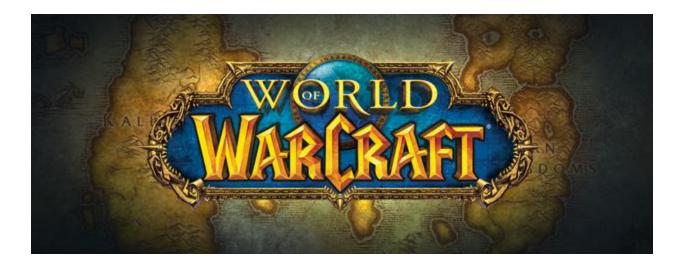


### What did Gearbox do?

- "Too many enemies"
- 3x number of enemies
- Became a "Combat Zone"



#### 3. World of Warcraft

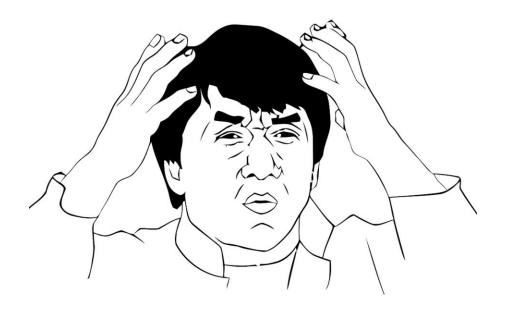




- Fatigue XP
- Player's HATED it
- Punished for playing

## What did Blizzard do?

- "We hate Fatigue XP"
- NOTHING!
- Renamed "Bonus XP"



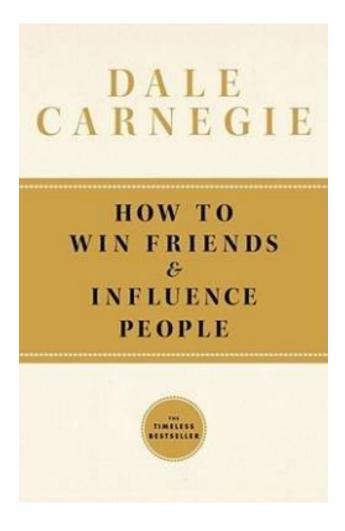
## DOES IT MAKE PEOPLE ANGRY?

Part 2



#### **Maintaining Healthy Relationships**

- Released 1936
- 15 million sold
- A feeling of importance



## <3 our Community

Mastastealth Difference Laremere CrosbotIV Durgrobach cpi Darkunderdog MonkeyPocket Fearful Ferret Psychopath SleightSoda Annexed

Kasp3r ATF\_El\_Mexicutioner **BobbyBalls Indie** madhaha Skyman Shane Toxic DanHeistman Miao Xiao SuperMac RVII Giu Magician And many more...

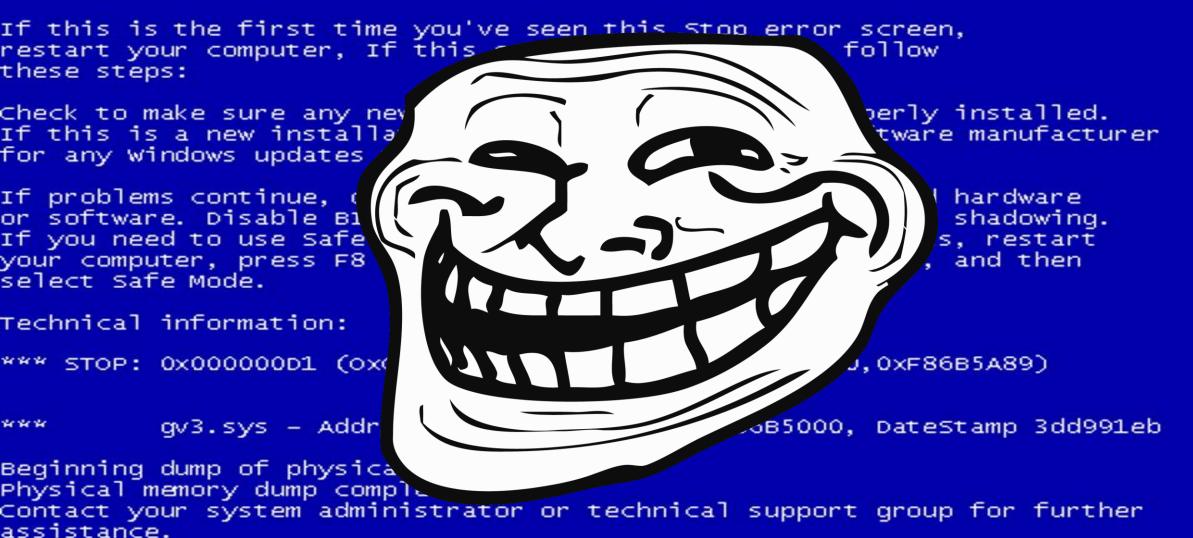


**Final Part** 

## THE BIG TAKEAWAY

A problem has been detected and Windows has been shut down to prevent damage to your computer.

DRIVER\_IRQL\_NOT\_LESS\_OR\_EQUAL



**Final Part** 

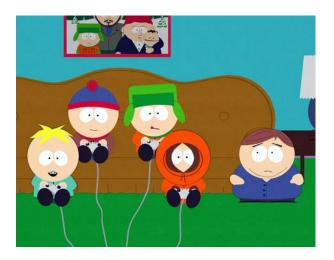
## THE BIG TAKEAWAY

#### Games as a Conduit

- Starts with idea
- Player is goal
- Your game is the conduit







#### **Game Over**

Andy Nguyen

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Monaco Art by Adam DeGrandis

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