DON’T LEARN TO PROGRAM

Really.

@Schoemannator

Yes, really.

But probs not for the reason you think.

BUT FIRST... WHO AM I?

@Schoemannator | Sarah.Schoemann@gmail.com

Founder of Different Games Conference

PhD Student at GA Tech.

Tech teacher of (formerly) teens, (now) undergrads.

Indie game designer from the NYC game scene.

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DIVERSITY?

BUT FIRST... WHO AM I?

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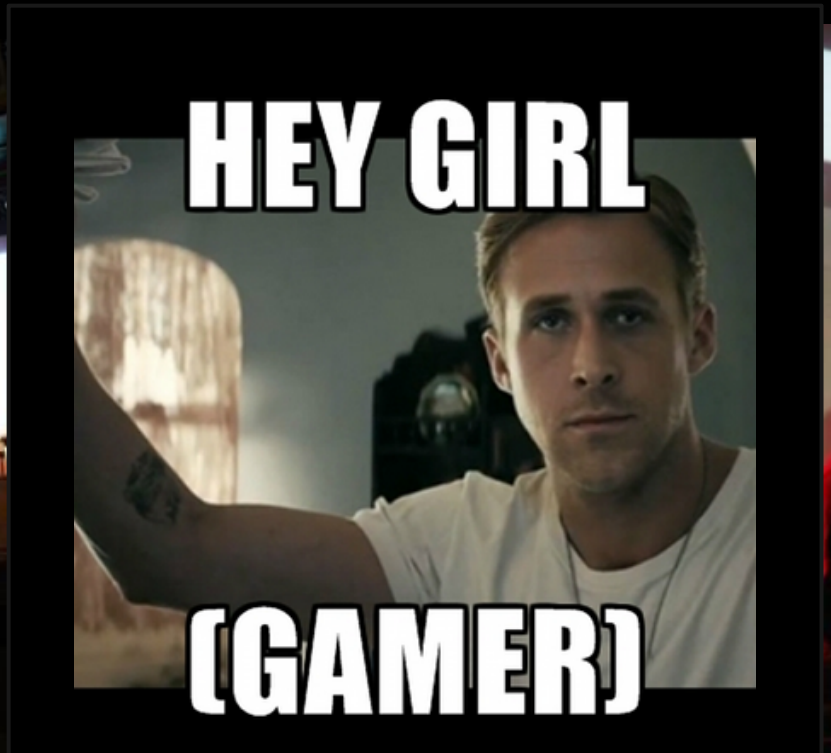


BUT FIRST... WHO AM I?

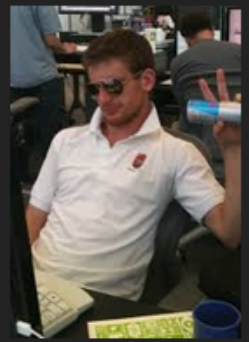
Different Games | April 11&12, 2014 | DifferentGames.org

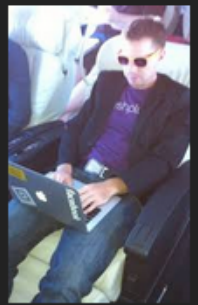
But back to not programming.

WHO SAID TO ANYWAY?

“Don’t just buy a new video game — make one. Don’t just download the latest app — help design it. Don’t just play on your phone — program it.”

WHAT WE TALK ABOUT WHEN WE TALK ABOUT “PROGRAMMING”





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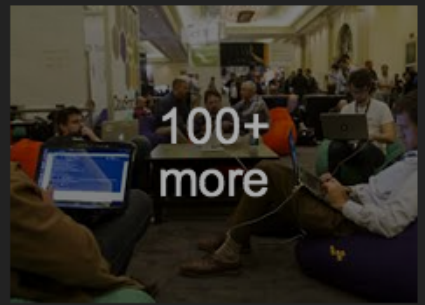

Brogrammer

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DIVERSITY

David A Hill Jr Follow
@davidahilljr

I've had prominent designers compliment my games, while complimenting my wife's appearance, when we develop together. #1reasonwhy

26 Nov 12 Reply Retweet Favorite

filamena Follow
@filamena

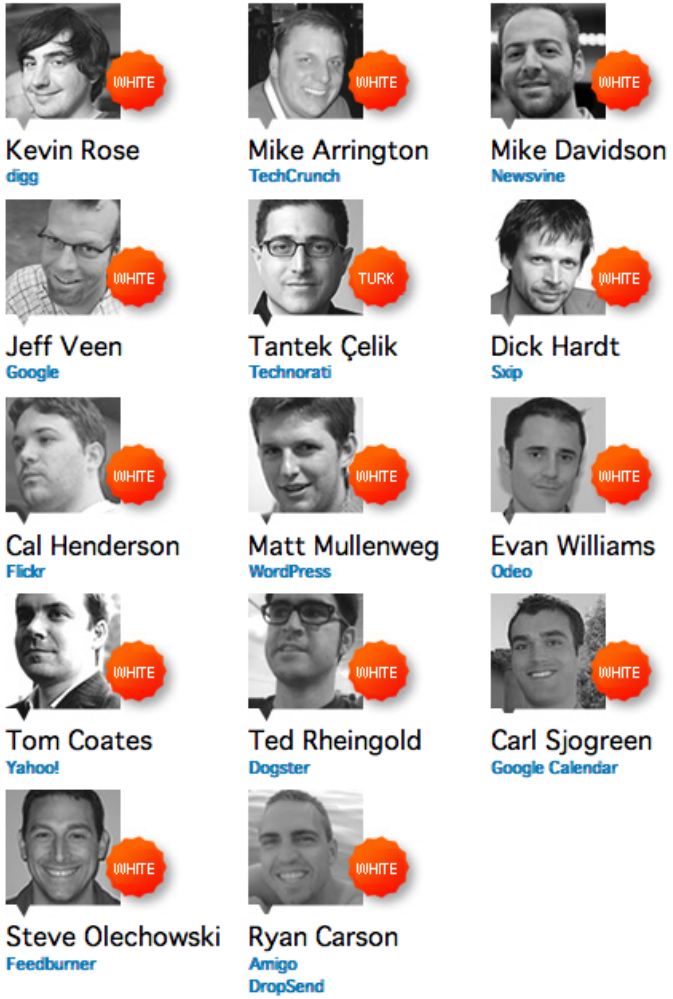
Because conventions, where designers are celebrated, are unsafe places for me. Really. I've been groped. #1reasonwhy

26 Nov 12 Reply Retweet Favorite

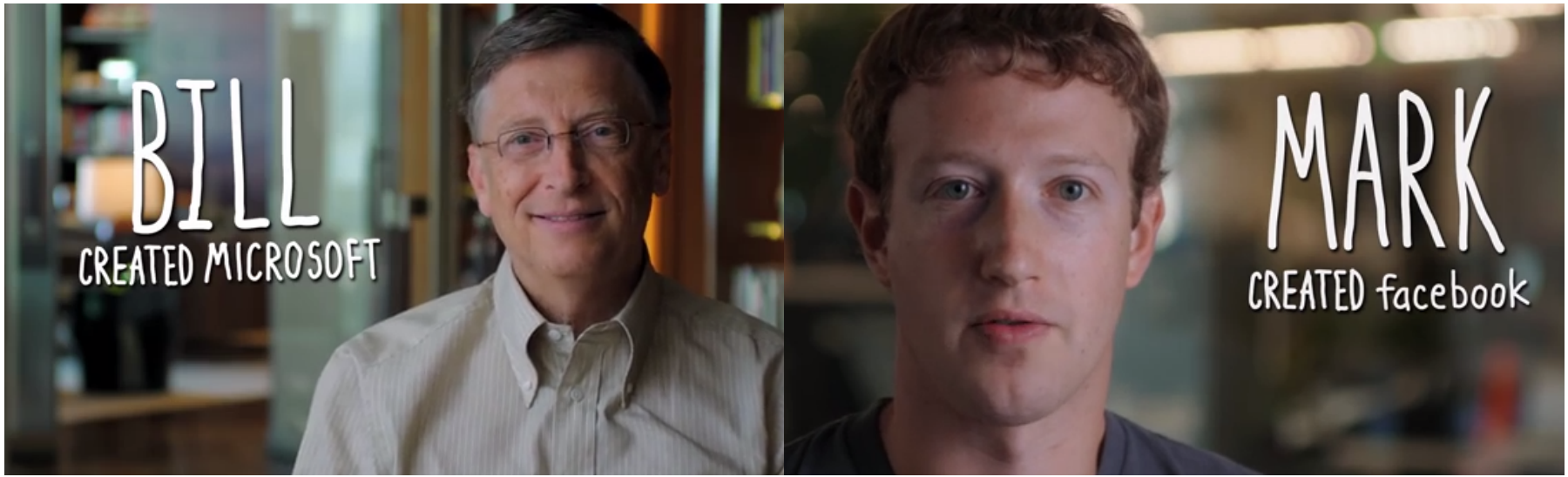
Lillian Cohen-Moore Follow
@lilyorit

Because I'm sexually harassed as a games journalist, and getting it as a games designer compounds the misery. #1reasonwhy

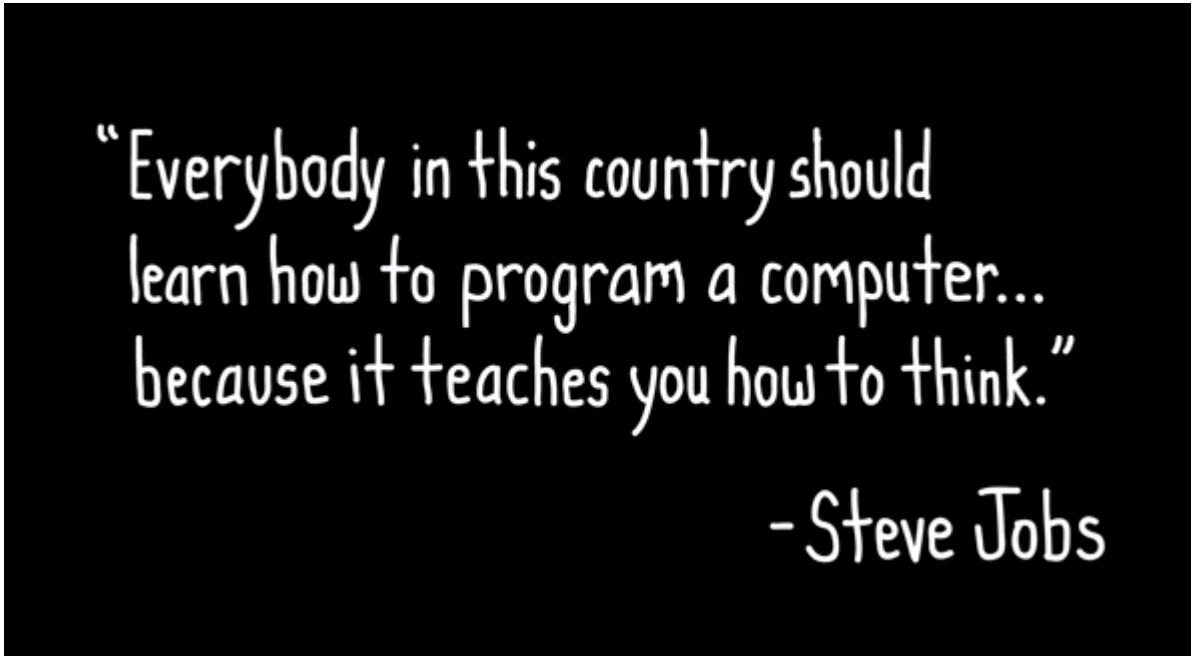
26 Nov 12 Reply Retweet Favorite



THE "NEW SUPERPOWER”

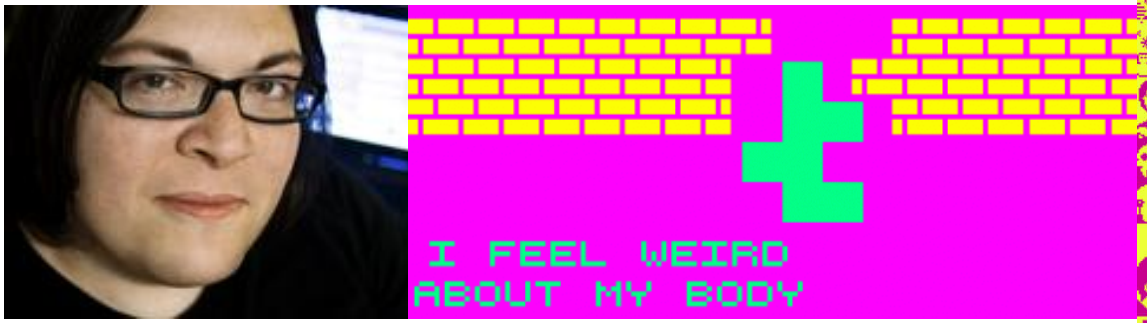


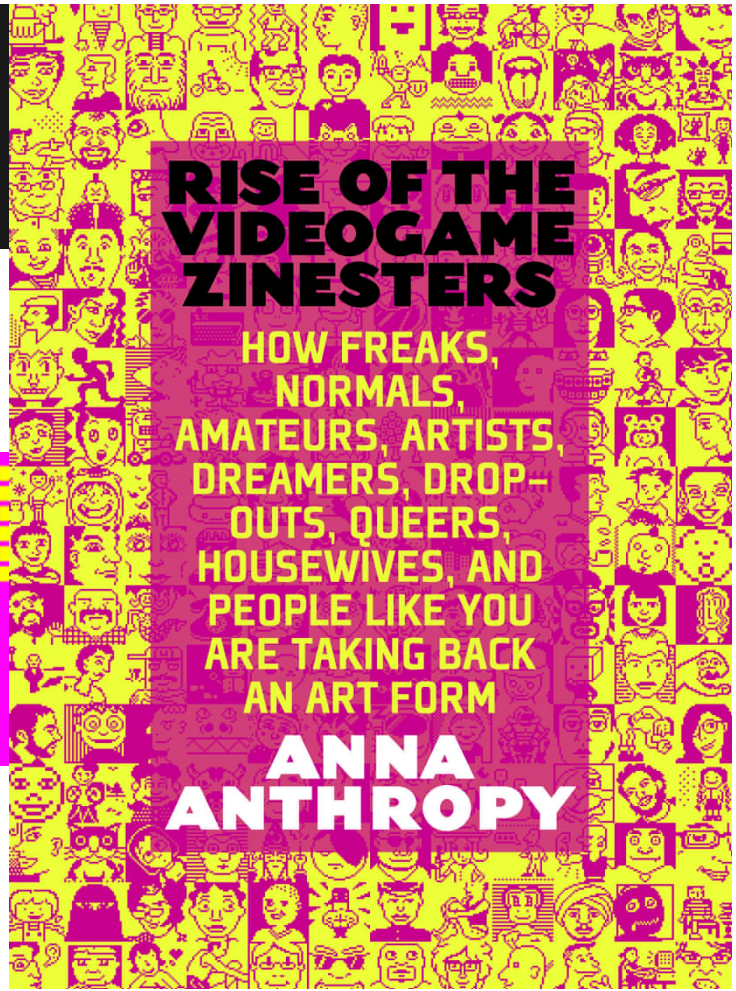
AND OF COURSE



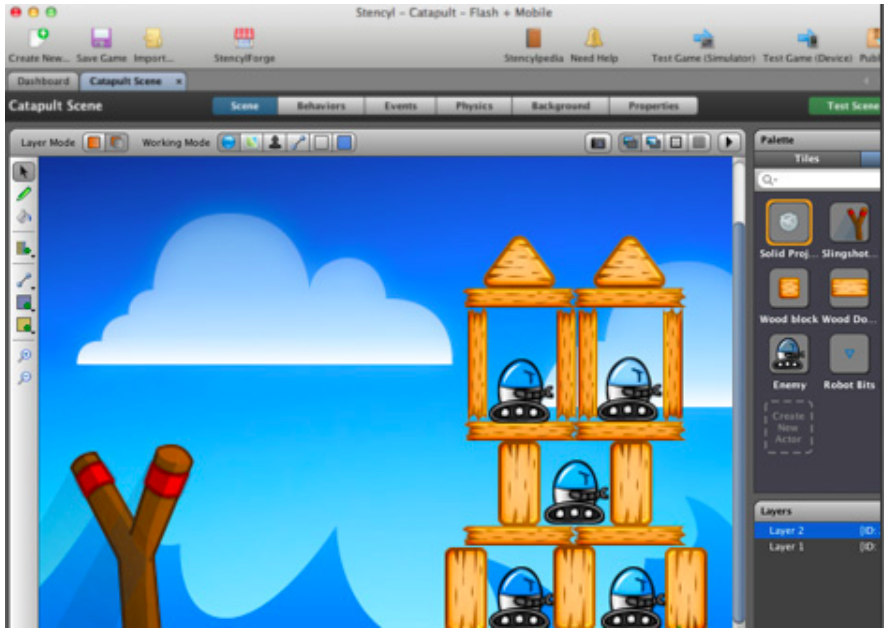
GAMES WITHOUT CODE?

NEW VOICES


I FEEL WEIRD
ABOUT MY BODY


RISE OF THE VIDEOGAME ZINESTERS
HOW FREAKS, NORMALS, AMATEURS, ARTISTS, DREAMERS, DROP-OUTS, QUEERS, HOUSEWIVES, AND PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE TAKING BACK AN ART FORM
ANNA ANTHROPY

DRAG AND DROP TOOLS



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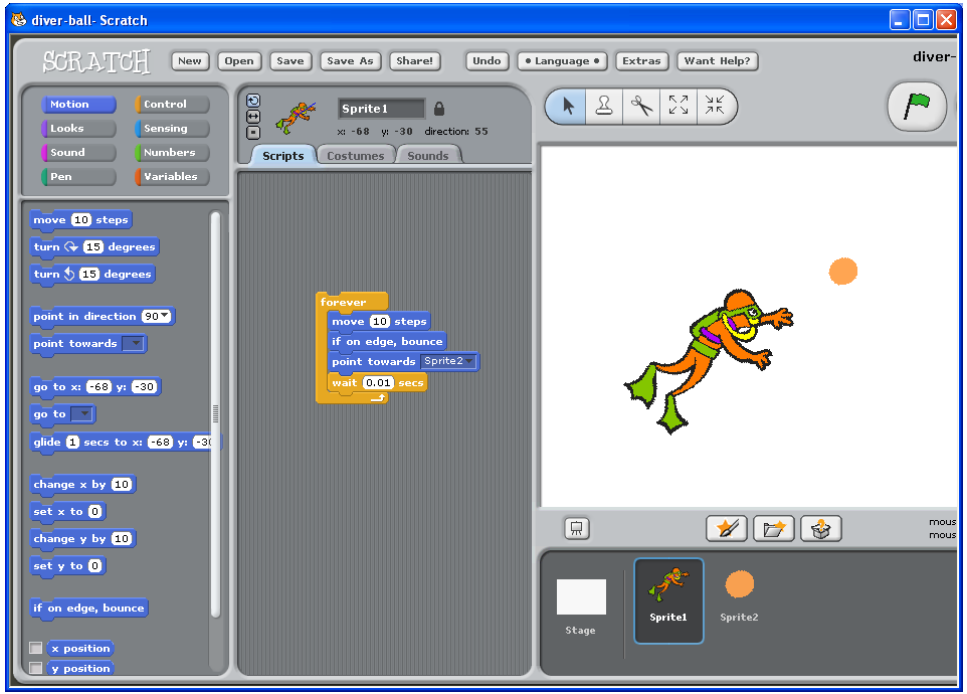
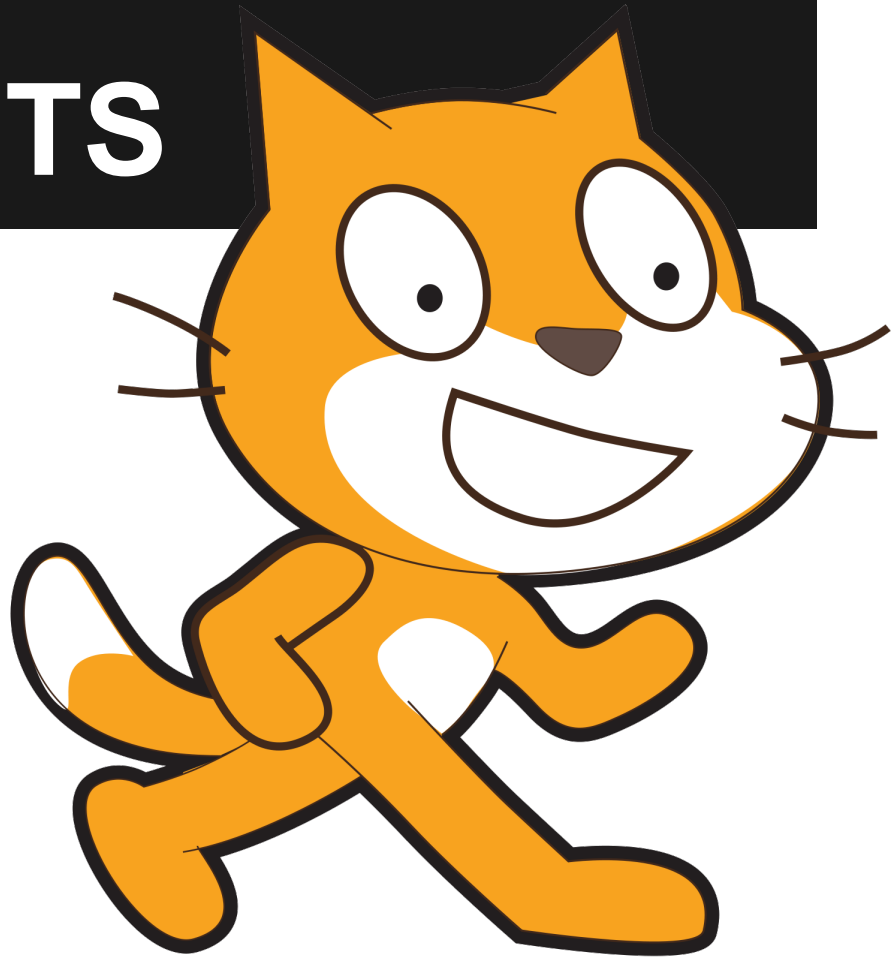
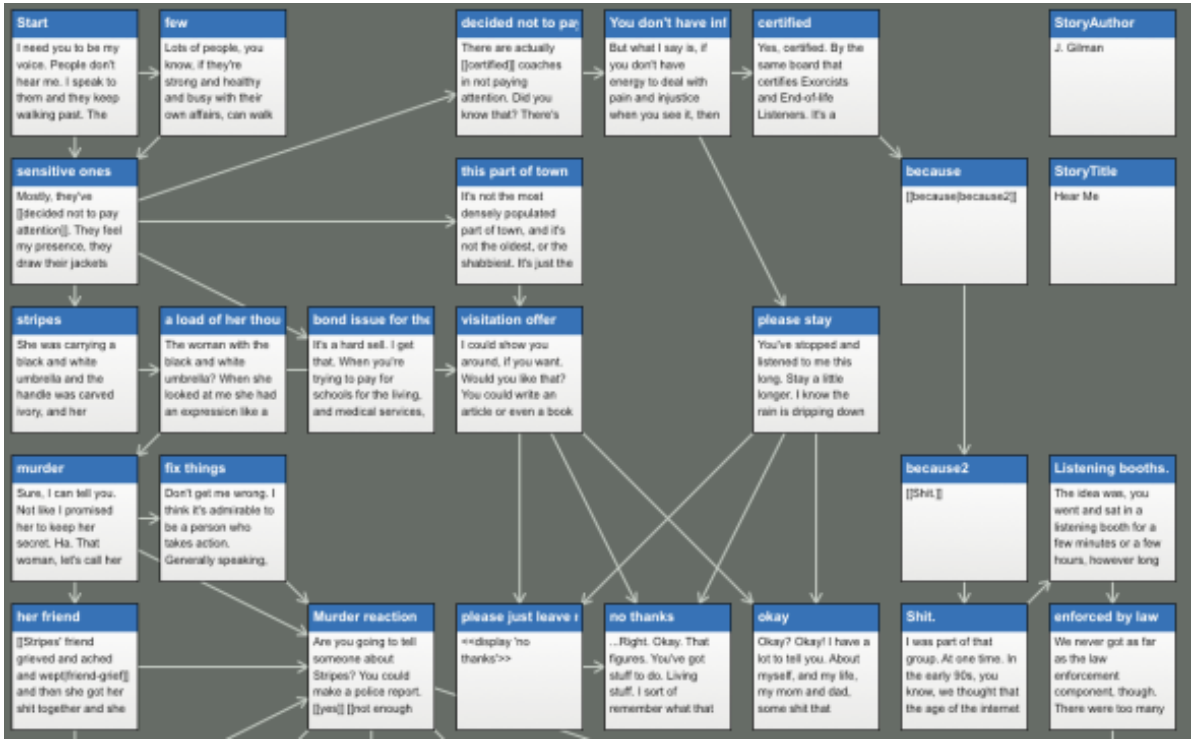
CODE CONCEPTS





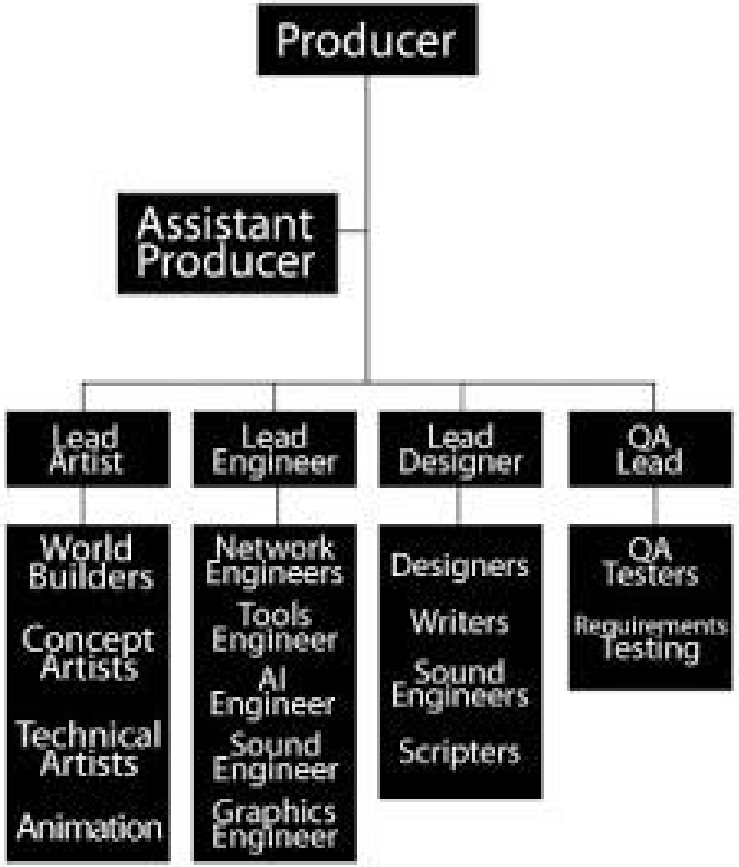
ENTER TWINE


Start
I need you to be my voice. People don't hear me. I speak to them and they keep walking past. The
few
Lots of people, you know, if they're strong and healthy and busy with their own affairs, can walk
decided not to pa
There are actually [[certified]] coaches in not paying attention. Did you know that? There's
You don't have inf
But what I say is, if you don't have energy to deal with pain and injustice when you see it, then
certified
Yes, certified. By the same board that certifies Exorcists and End-of-life Listeners. It's a
StoryAuthor
J. Gilman
sensitive ones
Mostly, they've [[decided not to pay attention]]. They feel my presence, they draw their jackets
this part of town
It's not the most densely populated part of town, and it's not the oldest, or the shabbiest. It's just the
because
[[because|because2]]
StoryTitle
Hear Me
stripes
She was carrying a black and white umbrella and the handle was carved ivory, and her
a load of her thou
The woman with the black and white umbrella? When she looked at me she had an expression like a
bond issue for the
It's a hard sell. I get that. When you're trying to pay for schools for the living, and medical services,
visitation offer
I could show you around, if you want. Would you like that? You could write an article or even a book
please stay
You've stopped and listened to me this long. Stay a little longer. I know the rain is dripping down
murder
Sure, I can tell you. Not like I promised her to keep her secret. Ha. That woman, let's call her
fix things
Don't get me wrong. I think it's admirable to be a person who takes action. Generally speaking,
because2
[[Shit.]]
Listening booths.
The idea was, you went and sat in a listening booth for a few minutes or a few hours, however long
her friend
[[Stripes' friend grieved and ached and wept|friend-grief]] and then she got her shit together and she
Murder reaction
Are you going to tell someone about Stripes? You could make a police report. [[yes]] [[not enough
please just leave
<<display 'no thanks'>>
no thanks
...Right. Okay. That figures. You've got stuff to do. Living stuff. I sort of remember what that
okay
Okay? Okay! I have a lot to tell you. About myself, and my life, my mom and dad, some shit that
Shit.
I was part of that group. At one time. In the early 90s, you know, we thought that the age of the internet
enforced by law
We never got as far as the law enforcement component, though. There were too many

ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVES

INDUSTRY JOBS

A Large Team Structure



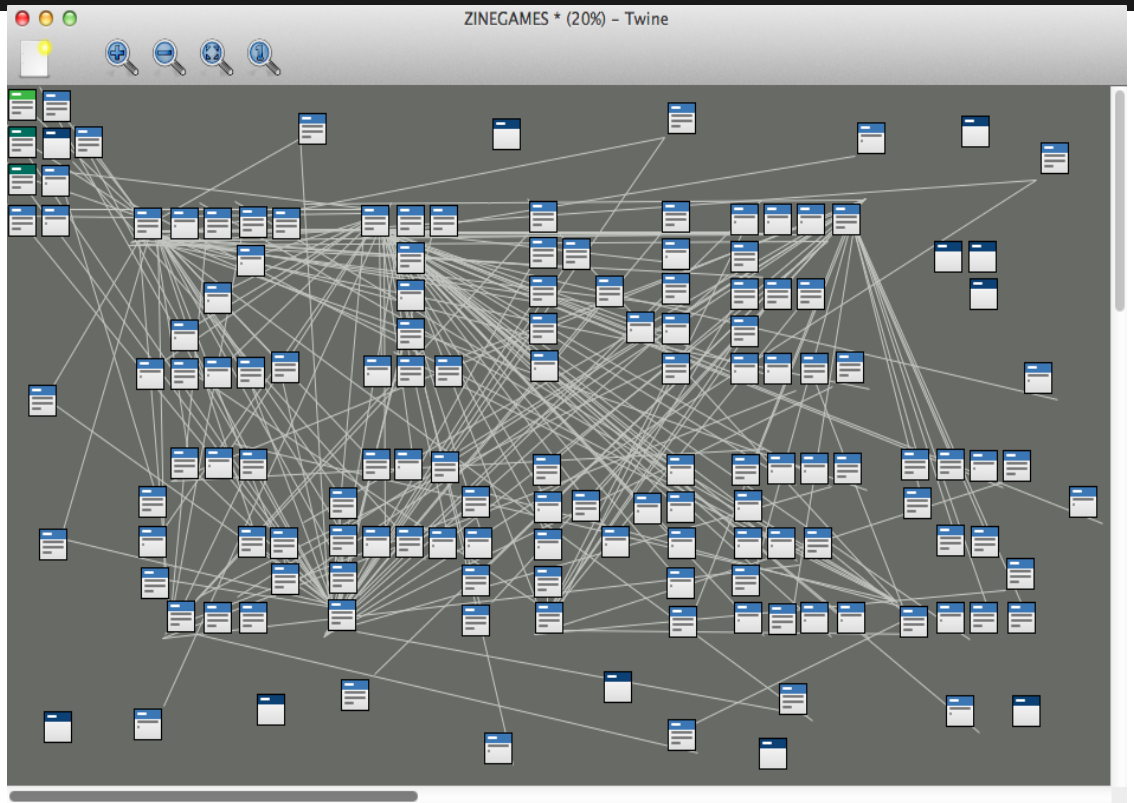
ALTERNATIVE DISTRIBUTION

DIY/ CREATIVE COMMUNITY

AND SO...

Knight Foundation

Knight News Challenge



OMG THANK YOU!

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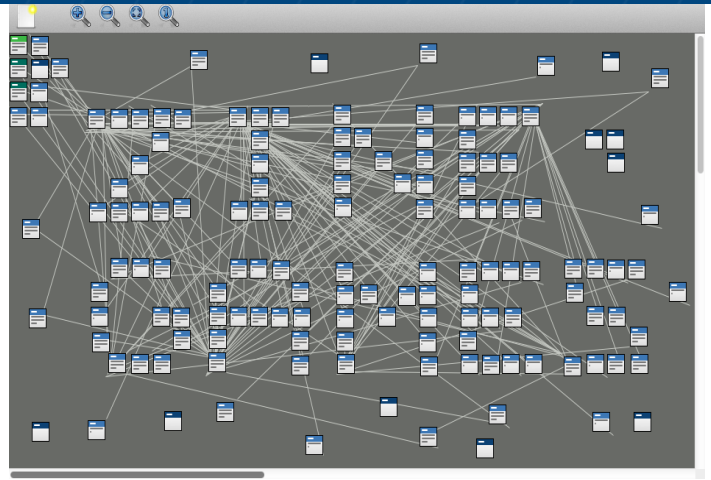
Knight Foundation

Knight News Challenge



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