GDC



Keep players busy when they died:

Death system design in Conqueror's Blade

Shuhan Luo, UI/UX Designer, NetEase

Xi Wang, Producer, Booming Tech

#### Shuhan LUO

UI/UX Designer

Thunderfire UX Team, NetEase

#### Xi WANG

Producer of Conqueror's Blade

Founder of Booming Tech

#### OUTLINE

Threat and opportunity

Different elements' death

Death experience design

Takeaway



## CONQUEROR'S BLADE

Epic ancient battles

15 vs 15 siege battles

Fight with soldiers

Conquer cities



#### THREAT AND OPPORTUNITY

Death and Kill

**SHOOTING GAME** 

**BATTLE ROYALE GAME** 

**MOBA GAME** 

Kill Enemies

Survive To The End

**Destroy Inhibitors** 

**CONQUEROR'S BLADE?** 

## DEATH ELEMENTS



#### **UNITS**

Restraint relationship

Kill/Death Ratio

Can't respawn in game



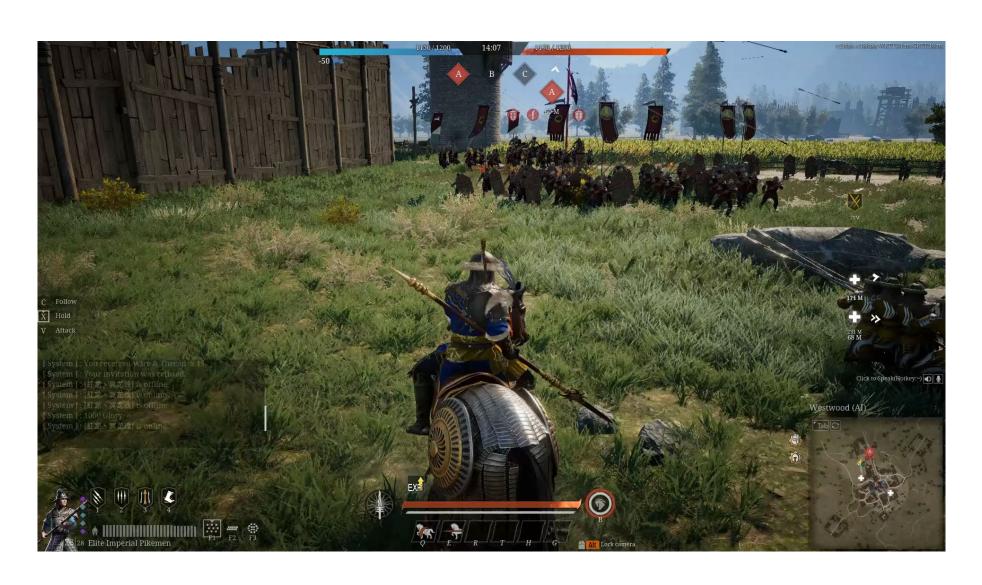
4,168,704,559 soldiers killed in 2020

#### **UNITS**

Restraint relationship

Kill/Death Ratio

Can't respawn in game



4,168,704,559 soldiers killed in 2020

#### **MOUNTS**

Flee/Pursue/Support

Can't respawn in game



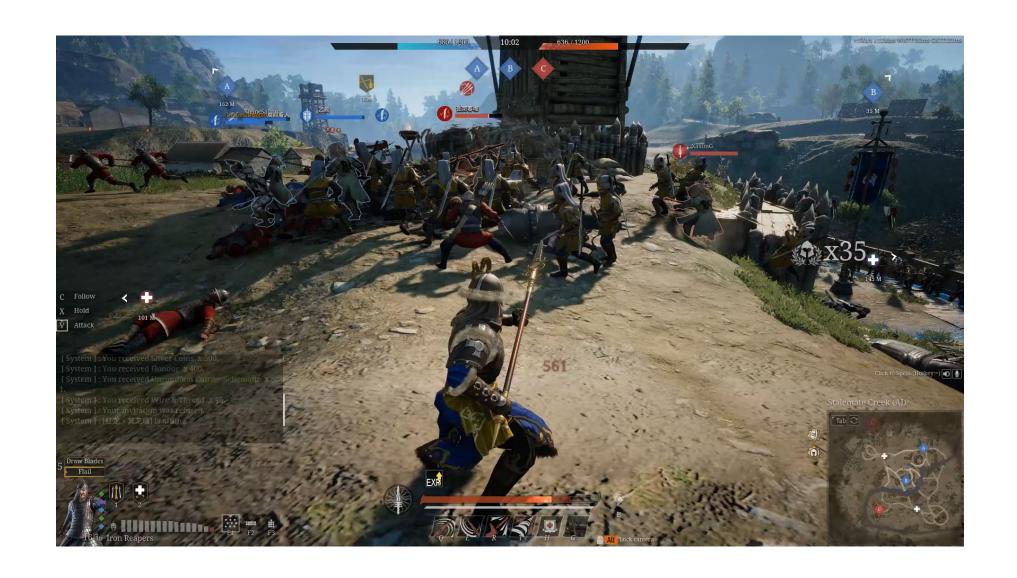
Sense of immersion

Core of the team



Sense of immersion

Core of the team

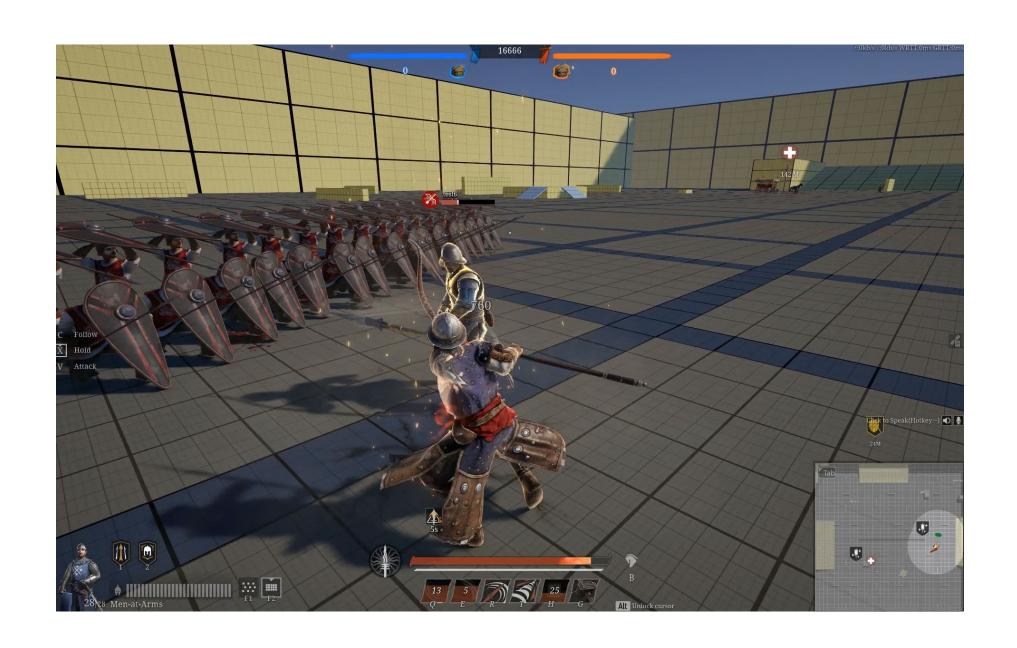


Should everything be gone when the hero dies?

Early Builds

Retreat immediately

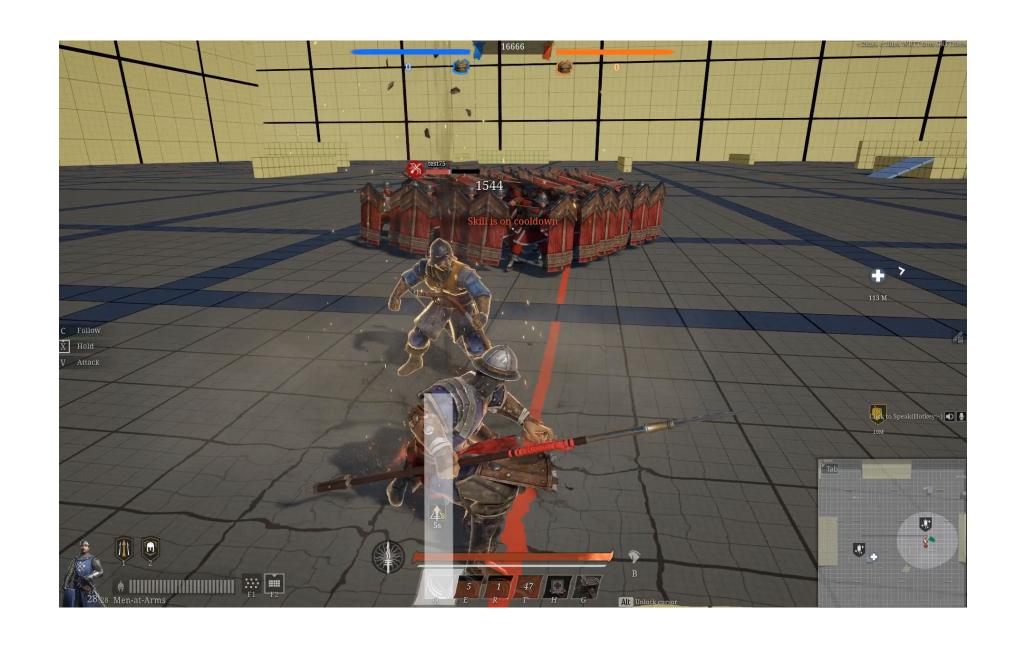
Individualistic heroism



Early Builds

Retreat automatically

Lose control of units

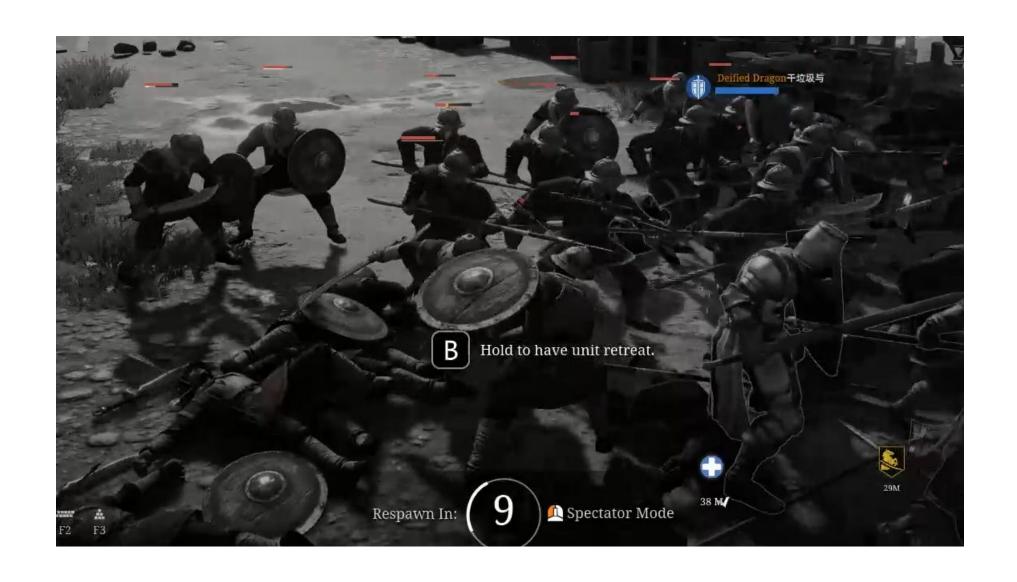


**Latest Version** 

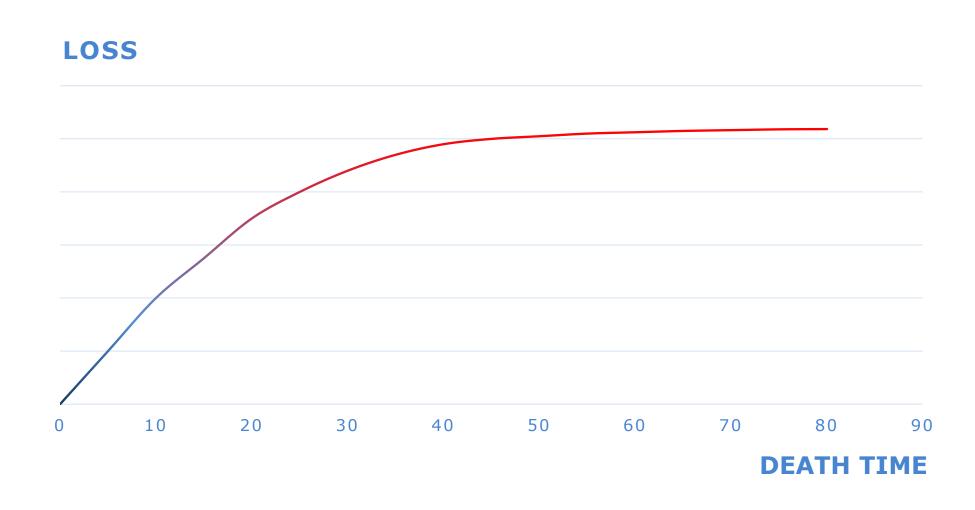
**Latest Version** 

Retreat manually +

Retreat automatically



#### Respawn Time



#### Respawn Time

Number of death

Dies more, pays more



Respawn Points





## **EMOTIONS**

## **EMOTIOS**

In movies

**Denial** 

Anger

Grief



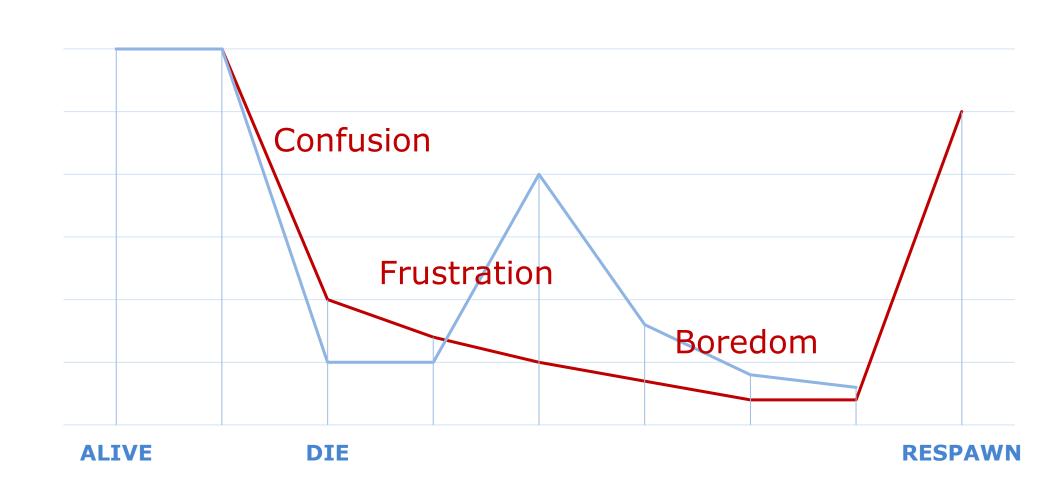
#### **EMOTIONS**

In games

Confusion

Frustration & Anger

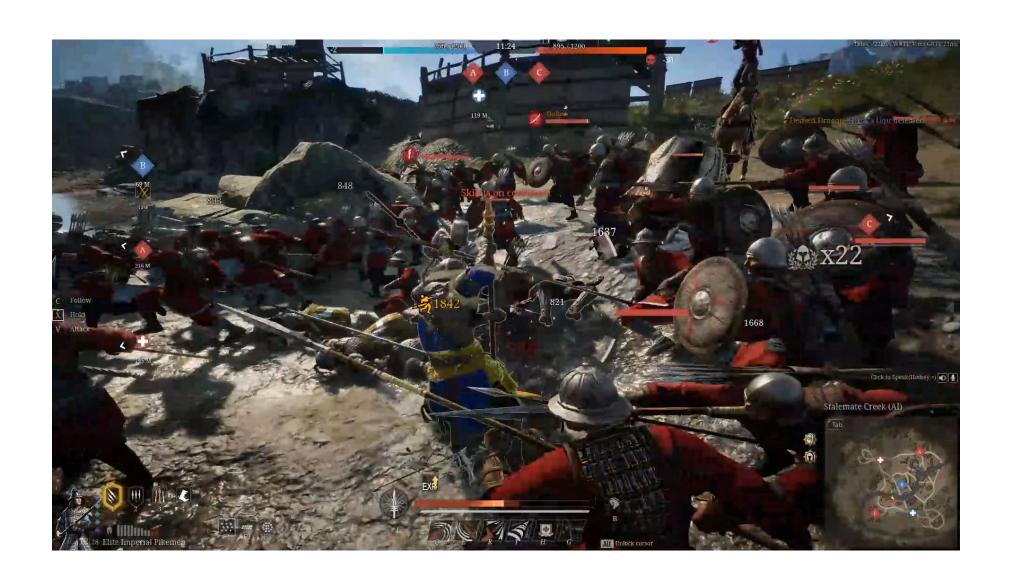
Boredom



Death Replay

Intuitive

(15 + 15 heroes) \* 30 soldiers



Charts



Charts

Damage types

Killer

Top3 damage sources



Charts

First layer: killer

Second layer: Data



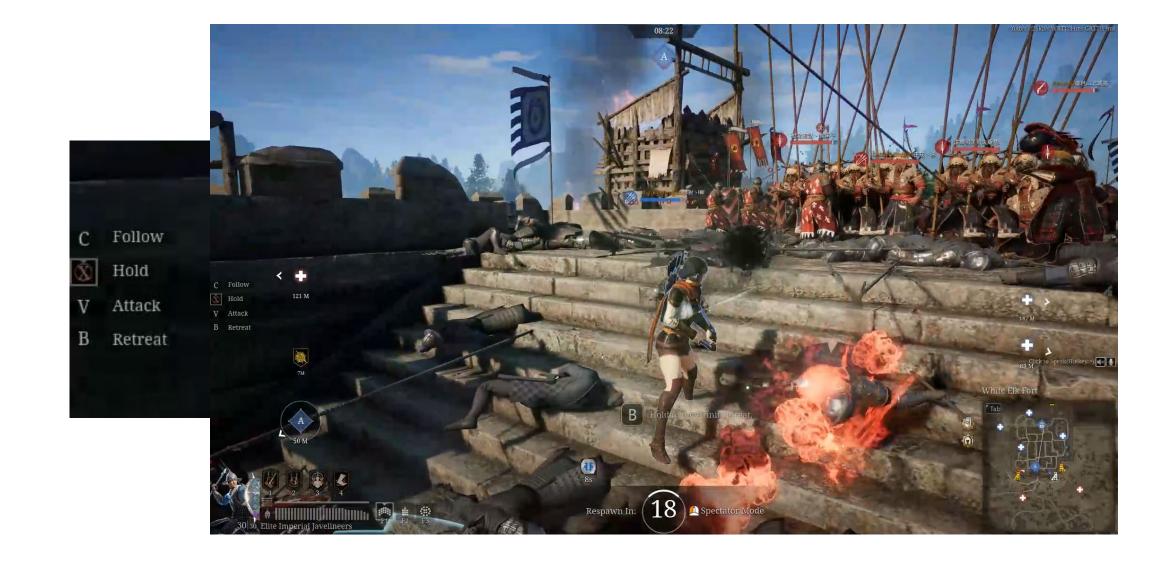
#### FRUSTRATED

Restore morale

Distract attention

## FRUSTRATED

#### **Control Units**



## FRUSTRATED

**Control Units** 

Spectate Allies



## **BORING**

Spectate

Communicate

Strategy



#### **UNEXPECTED RESULTS**

#### Faster unit change





#### **TAKEAWAY**

Gameplay, rules, and meaning of death

Optimize the death experience

Holistic design of death experience



# Thank you!

Shuhan Luo, UI/UX Designer, NetEase Xi Wang, Producer, Booming Tech