Designing a Game Your Teenage Daughter Will Actually Play

Graeme & Roque Devine GRL Games















Luckily, I happen to have a teenage daughter















• 91% of kids ages 2-17 play video games

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- 44% of all spending originates within this market
- Mobile devices were 8% of overall gaming market in 2009
 - 38% in 2011!

• \$315 million spent by teens aged 13-17 on virtual goods in 2011

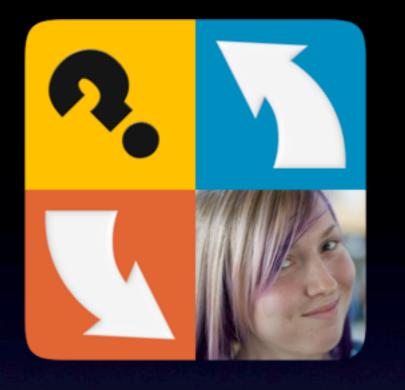
Source: Magid Advisors 2/29/2012

YES







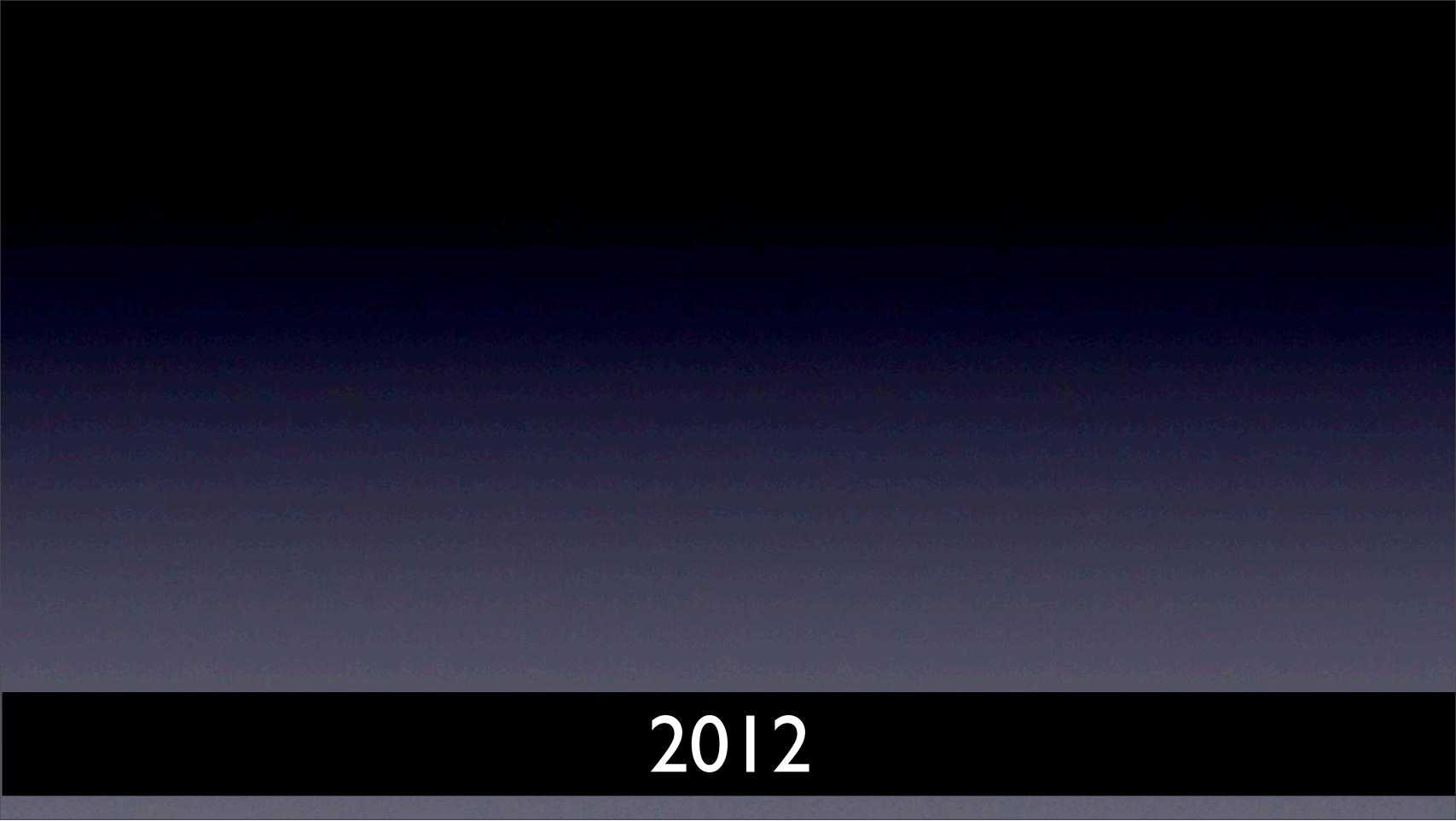




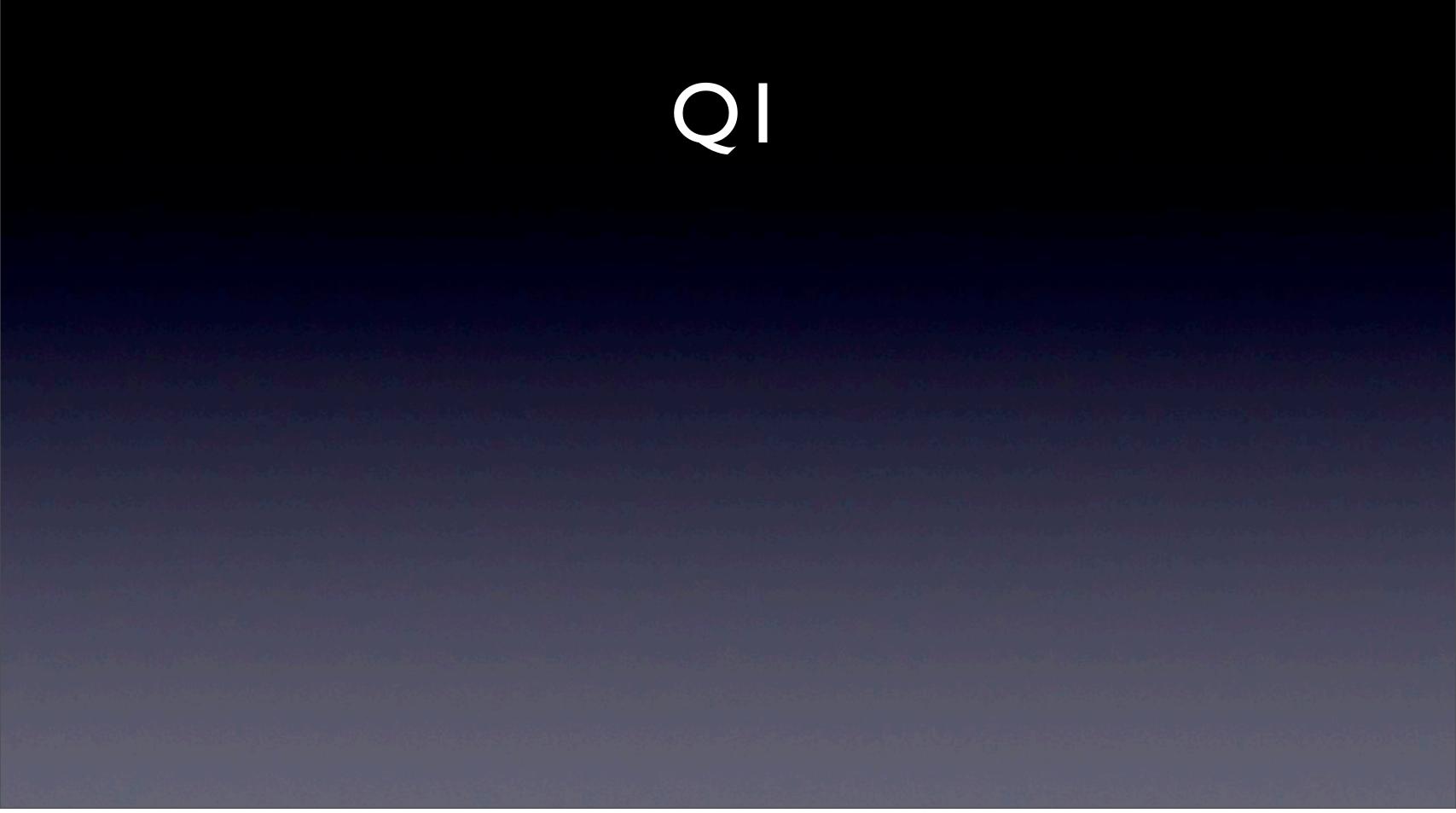


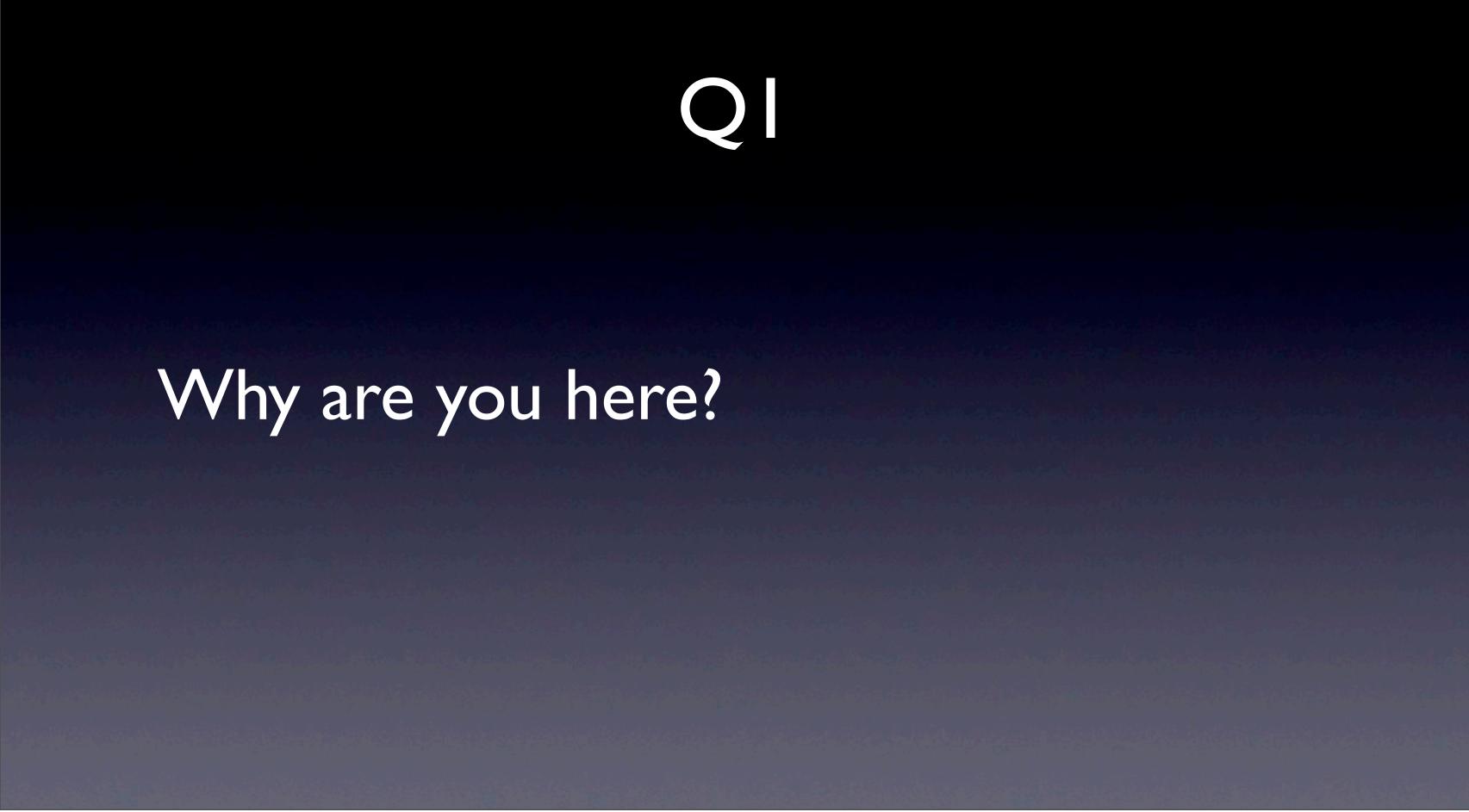


2011





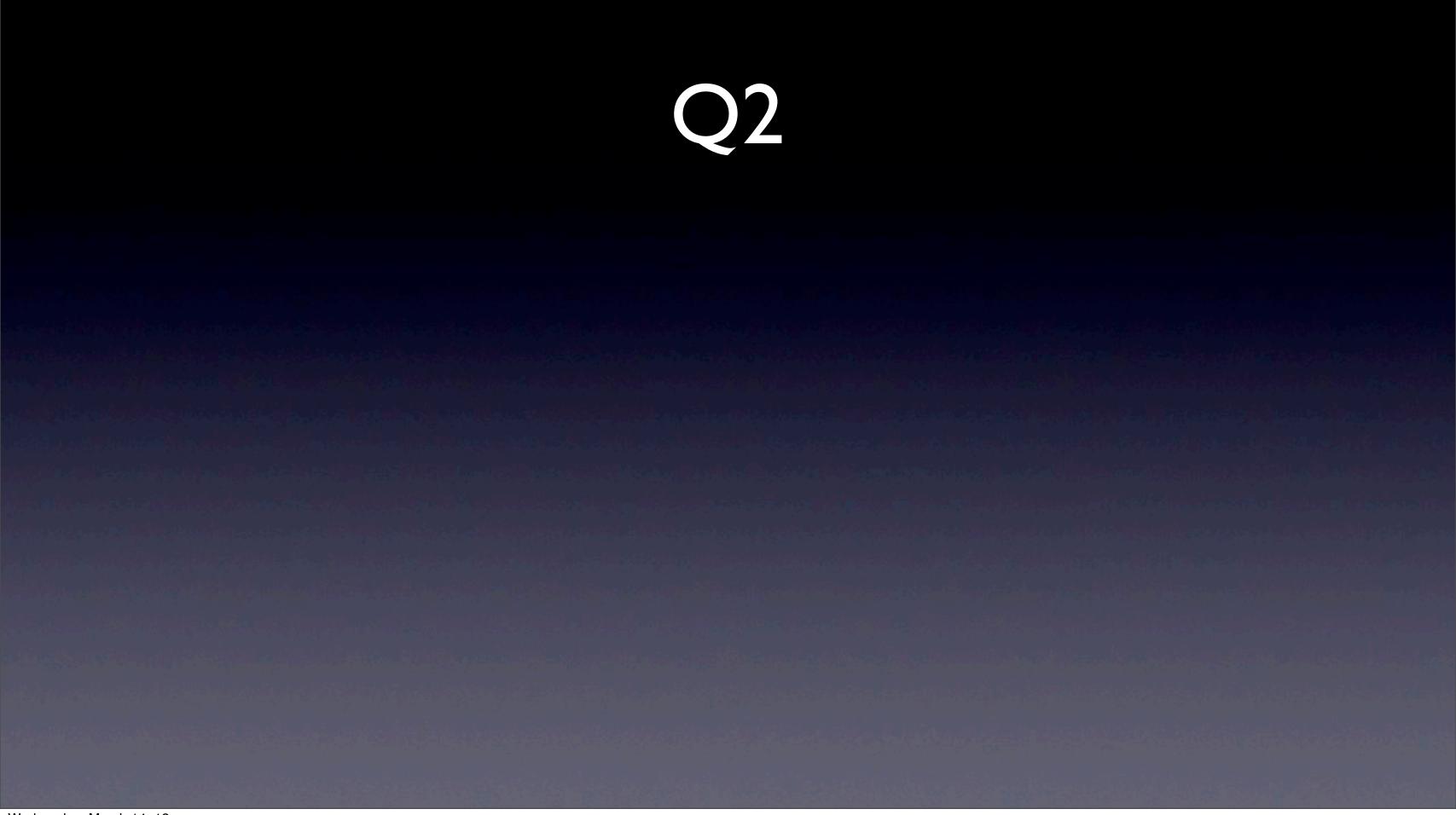






Why are you here?

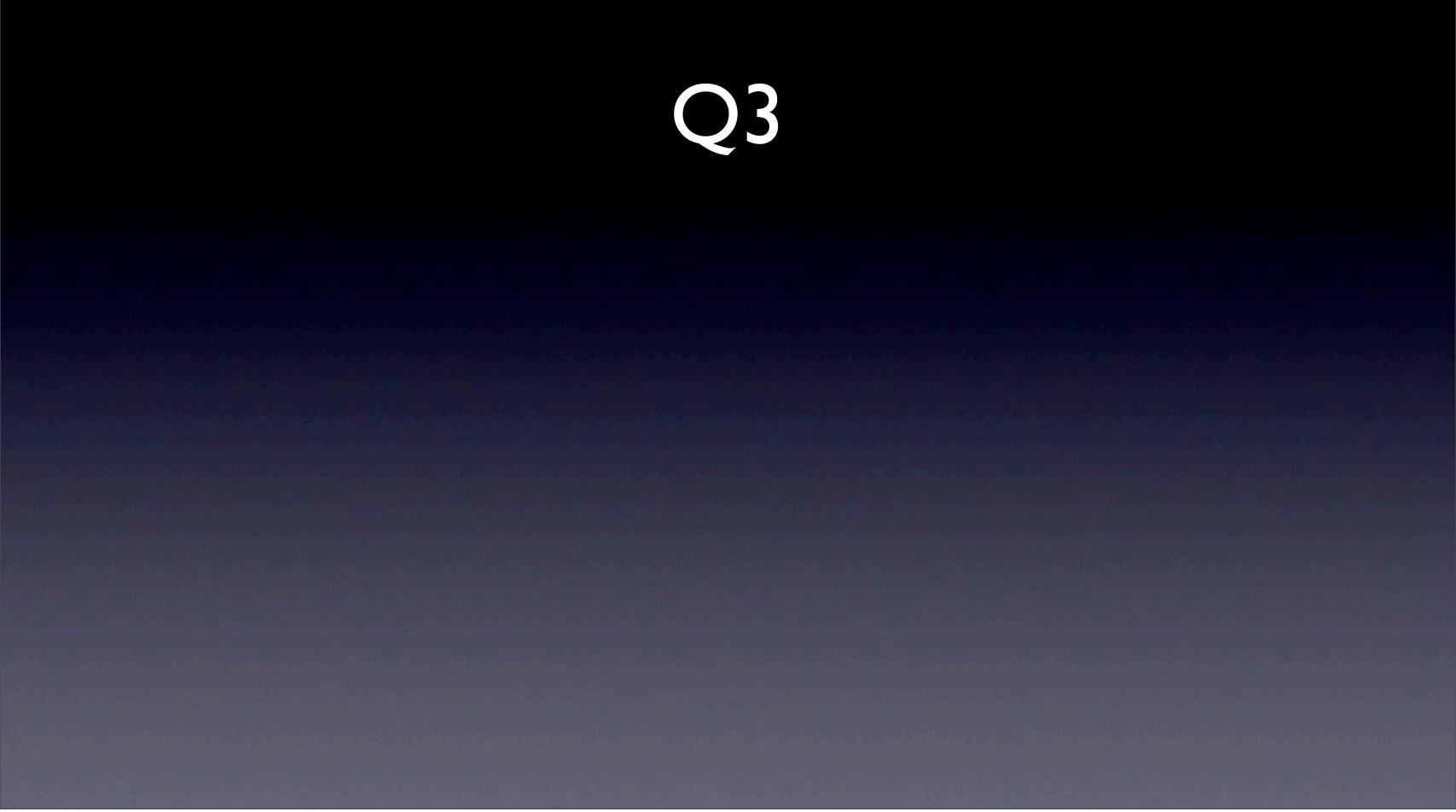
I like GDC.



Why do you go to GDC?

Why do you go to GDC?

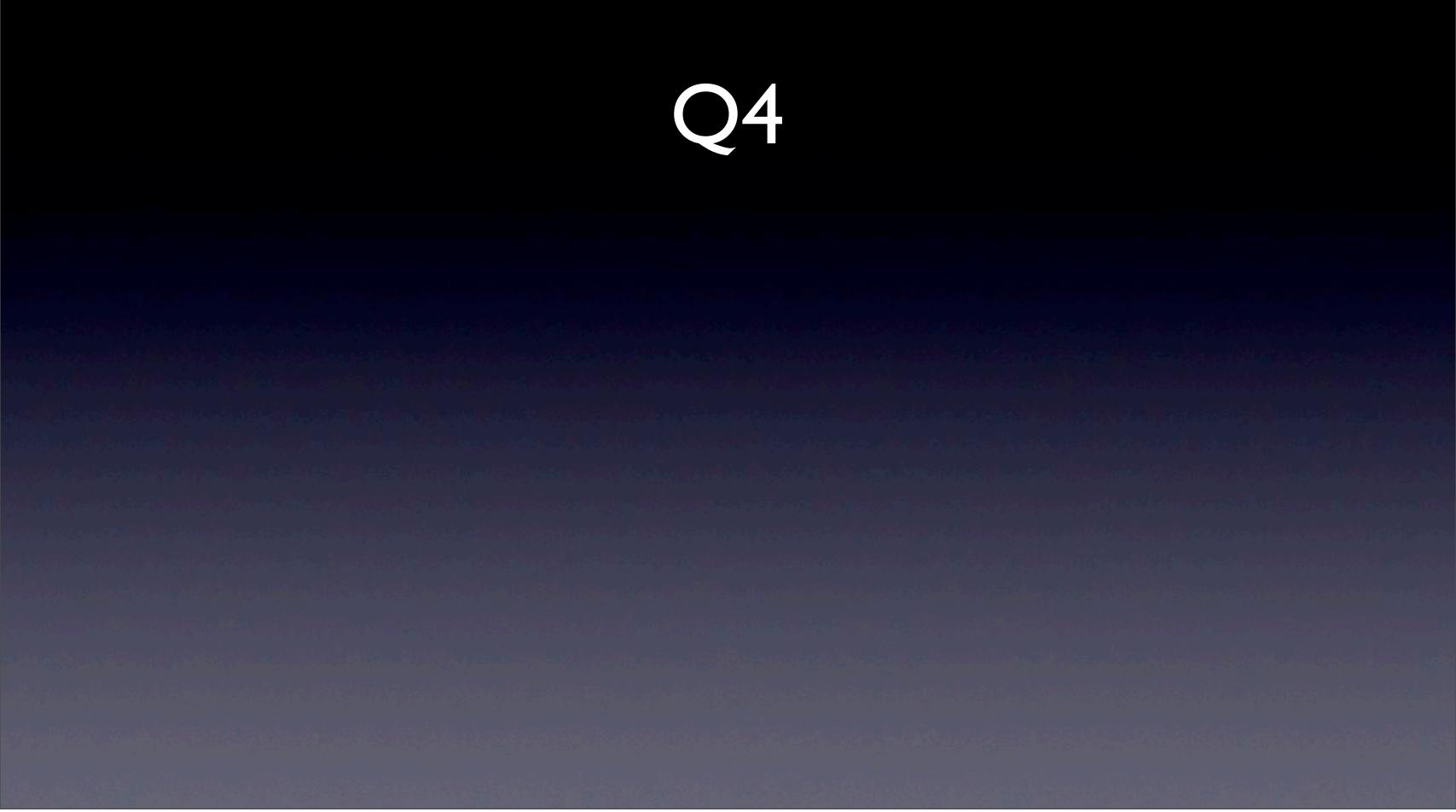
Because I like going to a conference about games.



Why do you like going to a conference about games?

Why do you like going to a conference about games?

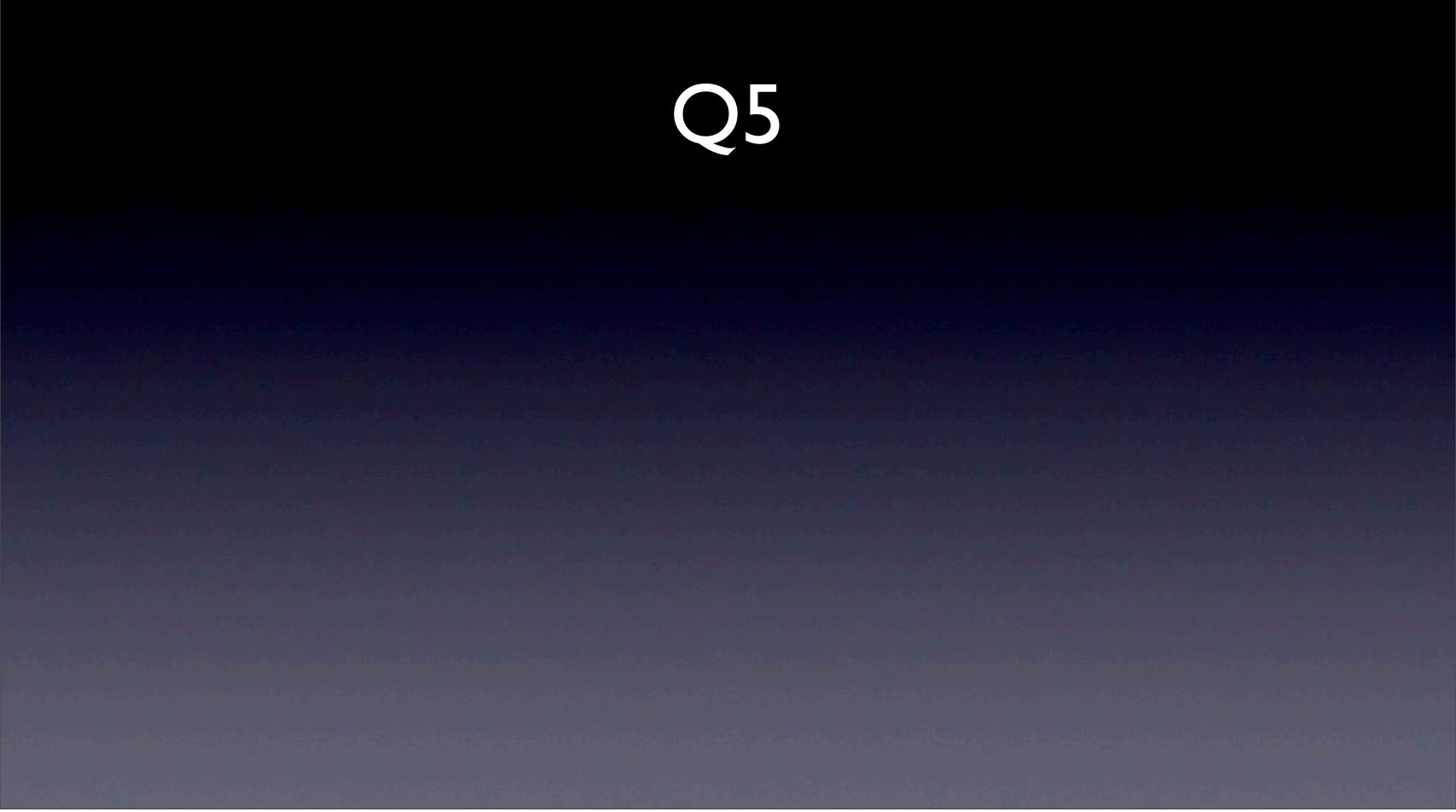
Because I get to go to talks on game making and drink lots of alcohol.



Why do you like drinking lots of alcohol?

Why do you like drinking lots of alcohol?

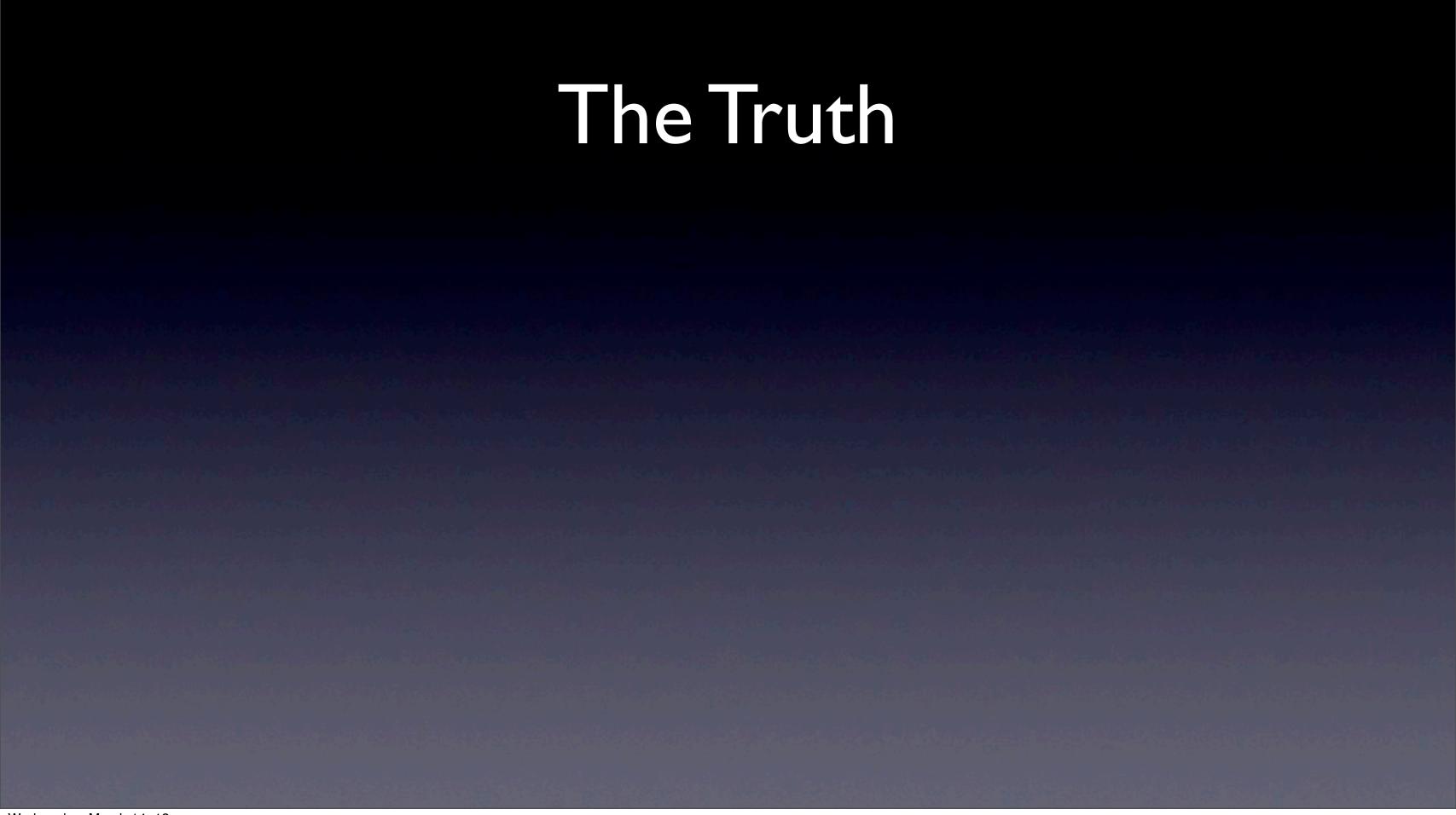
Because I get to hang out with my other friends in the game industry.



Why do you like hanging out with other friends in the game industry?

Why do you like hanging out with other friends in the game industry?

Because I can show them my game and get cool ideas on how to improve it.



The Truth

Why are you here?

The Truth

Why are you here?

I can show friends my game and get cool ideas on how to improve it.



Old Game



- Old Game
- Mac OS version straight port of original



- Old Game
- Mac OS version straight port of original
- Pending iOS version improvements









Confusing gameplay







- Confusing gameplay
- No hidden puzzle games







- Confusing gameplay
- No hidden puzzle games
- Dusty graphics







- Confusing gameplay
- No hidden puzzle games
- Dusty graphics
- Free version important for decision













Why is the gameplay confusing?







- Why is the gameplay confusing?
- Why don't you get the point?







- Why is the gameplay confusing?
- Why don't you get the point?
- Why don't you get what the game is asking?







- Why is the gameplay confusing?
- Why don't you get the point?
- Why don't you get what the game is asking?
- So navigating the castle is the real problem?







- Why is the gameplay confusing?
- Why don't you get the point?
- Why don't you get what the game is asking?
- So navigating the castle is the real problem?
- How can I fix that?



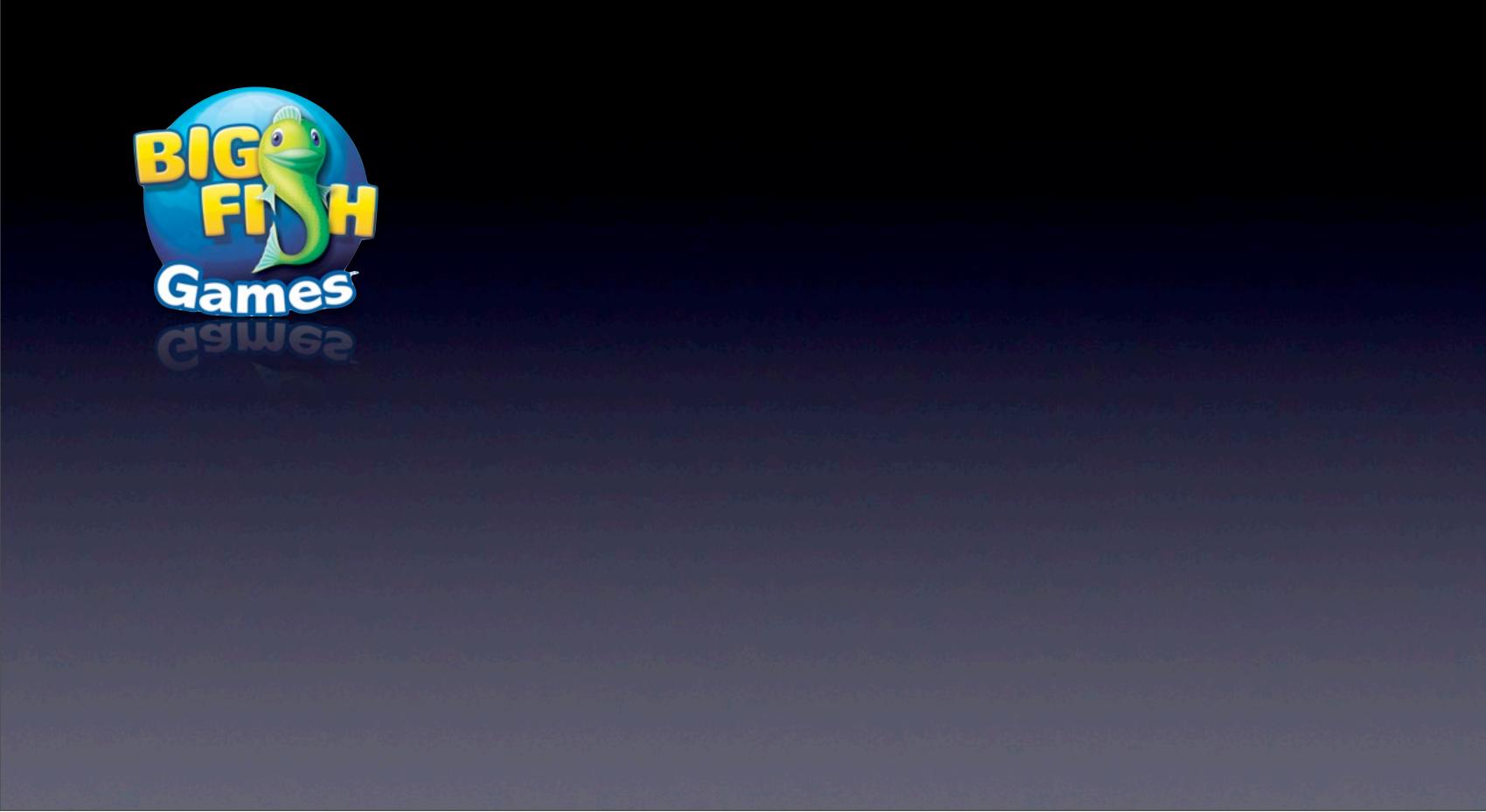




Hidden Mystery Genre



Hidden mystery game!



























Cames
Polissed Jan 25, 2012

B Game Center





Cames Pelessed Jan-25, 2012 El Came Center

Carnel Policiand Jan 10, 2013 (2000, 30

Vicolice Whisperer: Curse of a L... Clarice Participal Jan 10, 2012 (1986) (c)





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Comes Polescol Jul 20, 2011 (2008...s)

















Games
Updated Cort 2F, 2011

Game Game Conter

Cames Fainancel Jul 21, 2011 If Game Center

Antique Road Trip: US Games Folloand Jul 10, 2011 El Gama Genter



Garnes Schedules

Underhold Sep 26, 2011

Carrier

Carrier

Carrier

Carrier

Summer Contact of the District Aug 26, 2011





















Burger Buede HD Games Fathsand Nov 16, 2011 (ii) Game Center

Bush Tales - Edgar Altan Games Perbased Did 17, 2011 IB Game Center

Ancient Spirite: Columbus' Games Februard Cc1 06, 3011 If Game Center

Repoling Towars HD Gumes Federated Sep. 28, 2011 (MMC III)

Reunted Reld St. Belleve S German Released Sep-10, 2011 DKSHUNCIX



Gorner Francesco Cot 20, 2011 (MEEL IX)



























































Hidden in Tenur Mines Were Cannon Performed Jan-54, 2012 M. Come Center



Games Updated Dec 16, 2011 III Game Center

Variote bale 460 Glames Updated Jan 18, 2012 Ill Game Canter

Menus HD Games Released Dec 24, 2011 26 Game Center

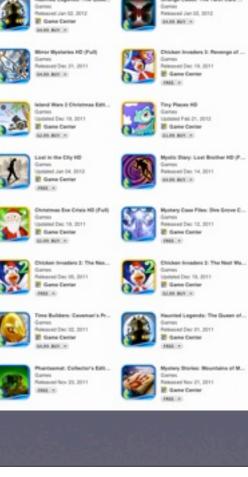
Chicken Investors 3: Rev Games Updated Dec 18, 2011 III Game Center

Kate Arrow: Deserted M. Garren Retexand One 14, 2011 (\$4.80 ART. (6)















Mom & Daughter design team



- Mom & Daughter design team
- Mac OS / iOS



- Mom & Daughter design team
- Mac OS / iOS
- Super / Too successful







Sharp graphics





- Sharp graphics
- Music support





- Sharp graphics
- Music support
- Customizable





- Sharp graphics
- Music support
- Customizable
- "This is too hard for you to do"









How important is customization?





- How important is customization?
- Why is it good that it's personal?





- How important is customization?
- Why is it good that it's personal?
- How does that make you come back?





- How important is customization?
- Why is it good that it's personal?
- How does that make you come back?
- So things you do outside the app make you want to change this app?







• Wanted to make different solitaire variant



- Wanted to make different solitaire variant
- Short development time



- Wanted to make different solitaire variant
- Short development time
- People love it... when they play it



• Poker is not a teenager's game







• Seemed logical after Solitaire



- Seemed logical after Solitaire
- Much harder than it appeared



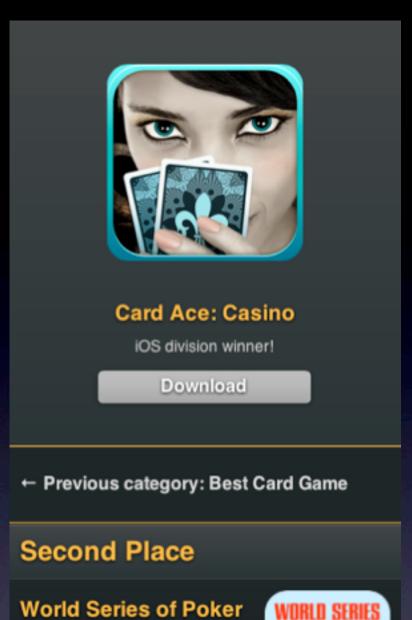
- Seemed logical after Solitaire
- Much harder than it appeared
- Video Chat



Always Make Games You Love!

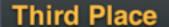


- 3rd place in "Best Apps Ever 2011"
- Ahead of Zynga!



iOS App by Glu Games Inc.





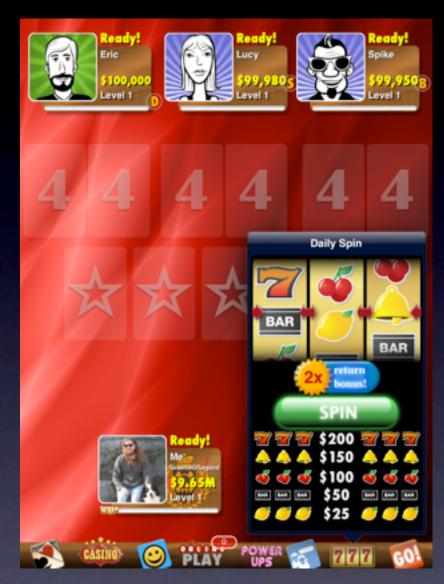
Full Deck Hold'Em

iOS App by GRL Games

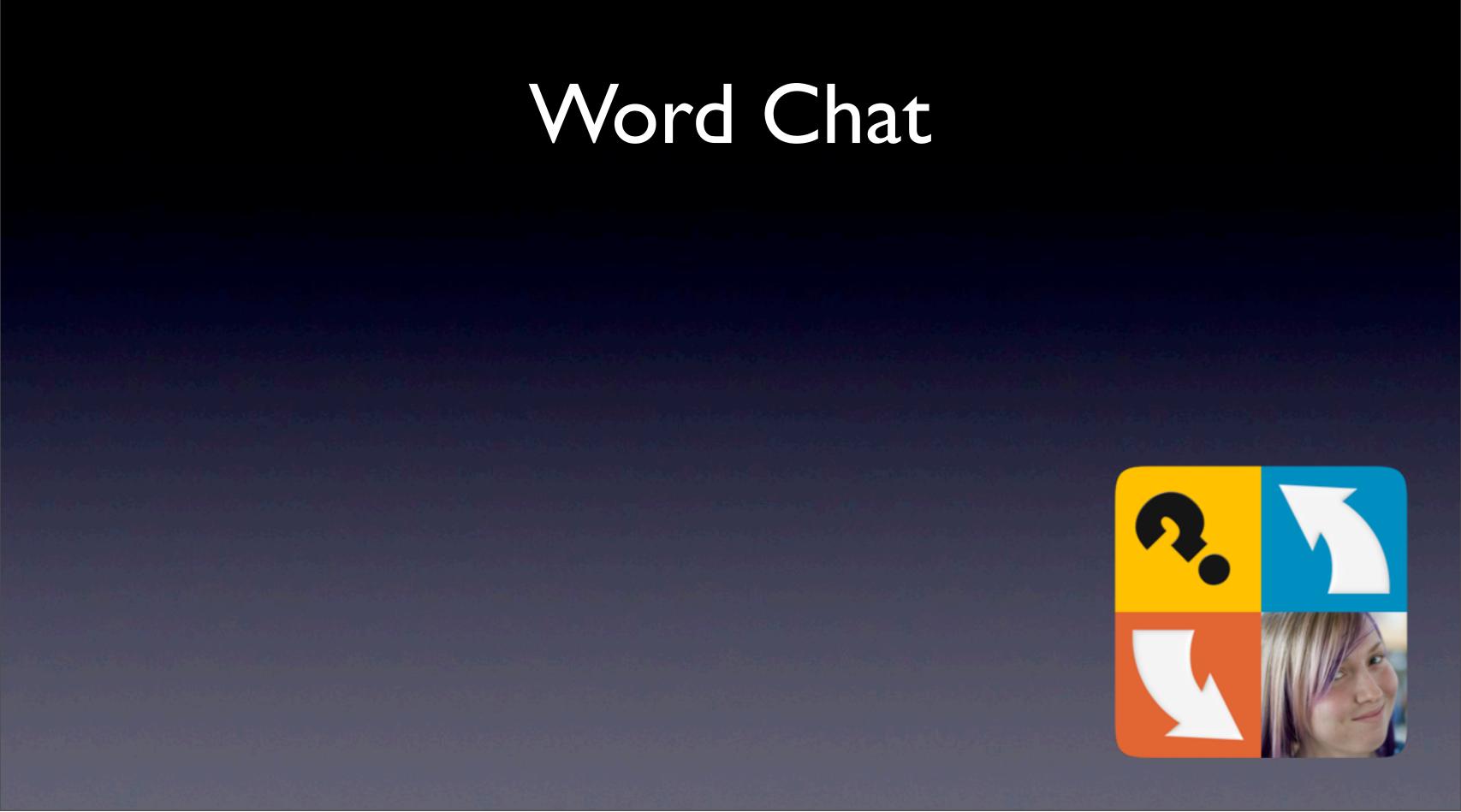
Download



• Poker is STILL not a teenager's game!



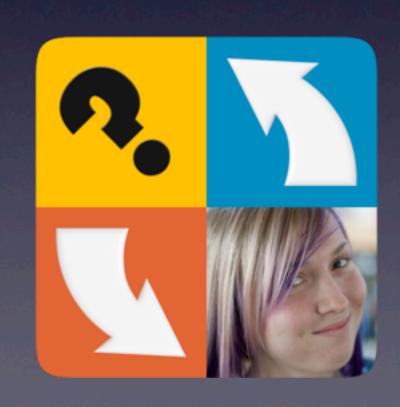


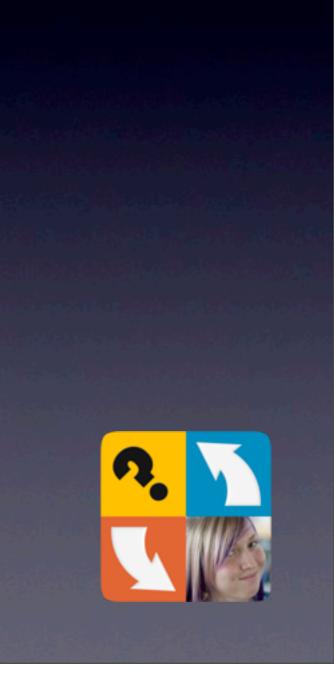


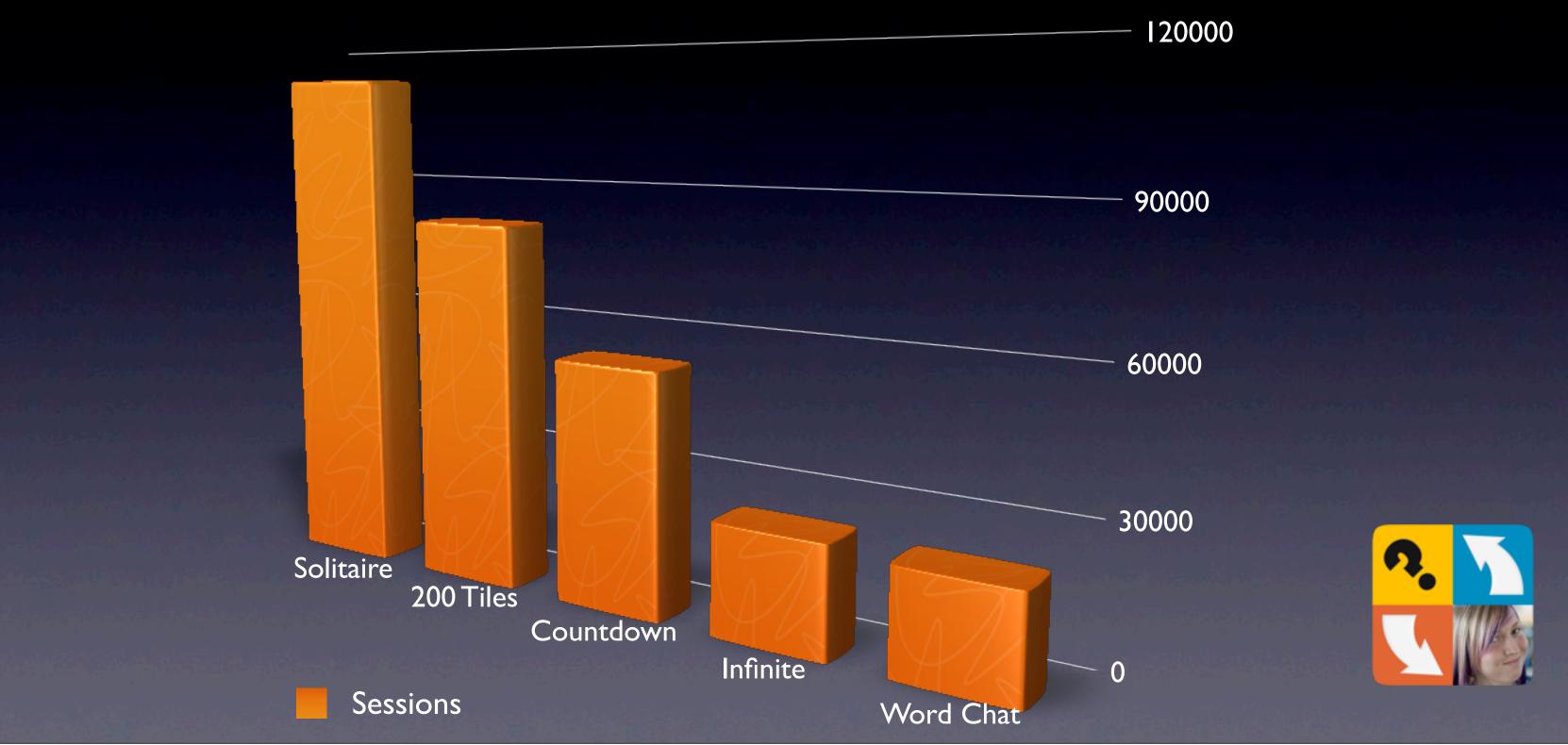
One Weekend....

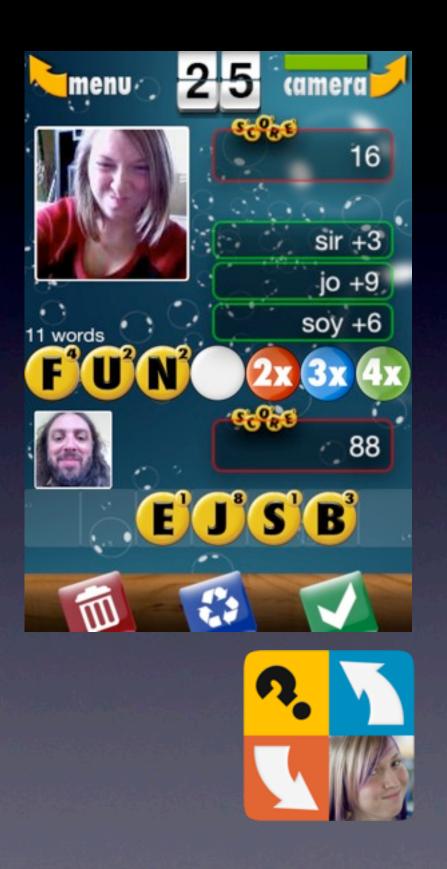


- One Weekend....
- Initial chat idea failed









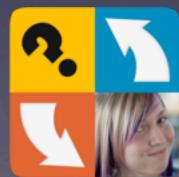
Sharp graphics





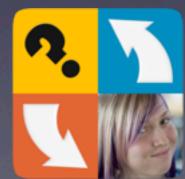
- Sharp graphics
- Easy to play





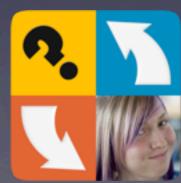
- Sharp graphics
- Easy to play
- Hate the icon

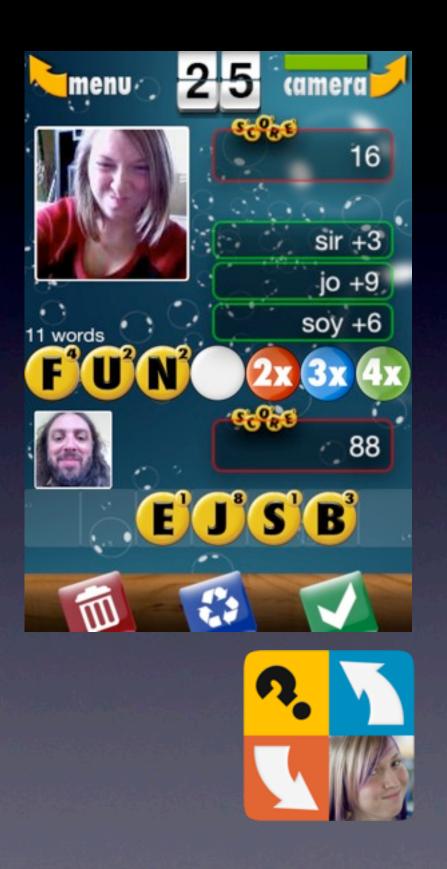




- Sharp graphics
- Easy to play
- Hate the icon
- Chat is awkward







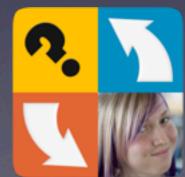
• Why is the chat awkward?





- Why is the chat awkward?
- What sort of games do you like playing with your friends?





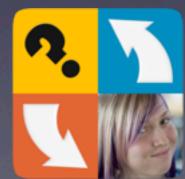
- Why is the chat awkward?
- What sort of games do you like playing with your friends?
- Why do you play turn based games with friends?





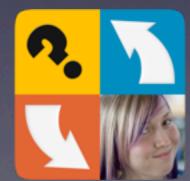
- Why is the chat awkward?
- What sort of games do you like playing with your friends?
- Why do you play turn based games with friends?
- Which games do you play?





- Why is the chat awkward?
- What sort of games do you like playing with your friends?
- Why do you play turn based games with friends?
- Which games do you play?
- So turn based games are better than video chat games?







• Development schedule was challenging



- Development schedule was challenging
- Our second most popular game!







• Game play is fun!





- Game play is fun!
- Twitter and Facebook features









Why don't you like the Facebook / Twitter options?





- Why don't you like the Facebook / Twitter options?
- They look like spam?





- Why don't you like the Facebook / Twitter options?
- They look like spam?
- What sort of games don't spam?





- Why don't you like the Facebook / Twitter options?
- They look like spam?
- What sort of games don't spam?
- So personalizing the social media made a huge difference?

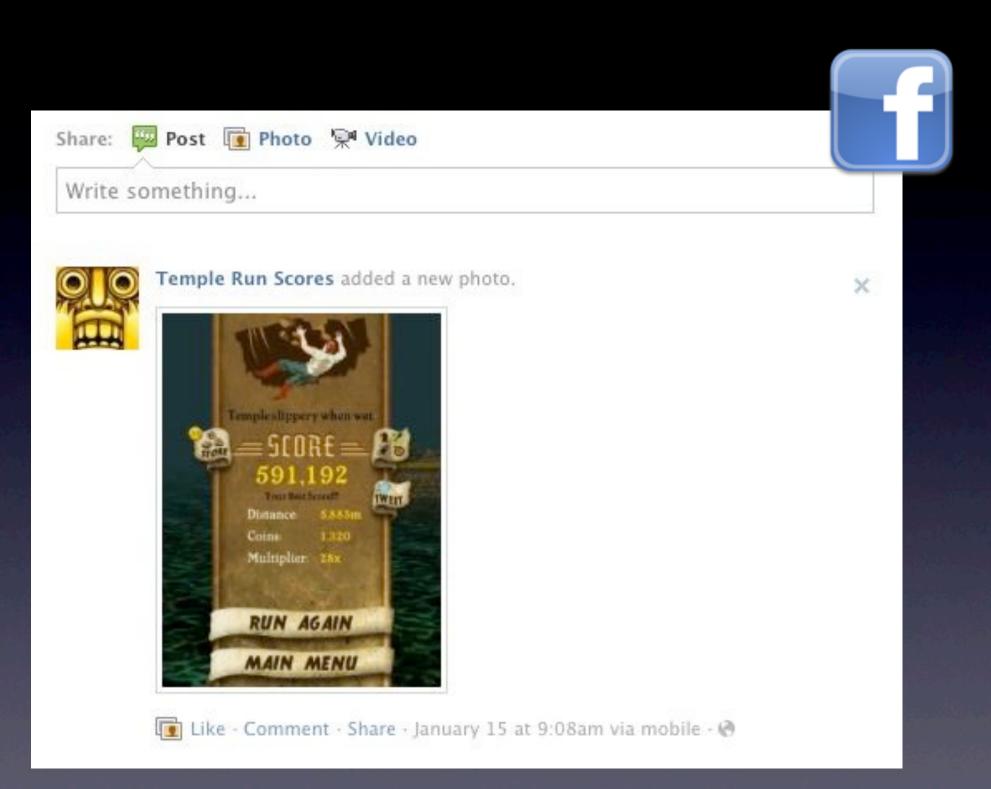




- Why don't you like the Facebook / Twitter options?
- They look like spam?
- What sort of games don't spam?
- So personalizing the social media made a huge difference?
- And you actually discovered Temple Run because of that?









Why make Dance City?



- Why make Dance City?
- Influences

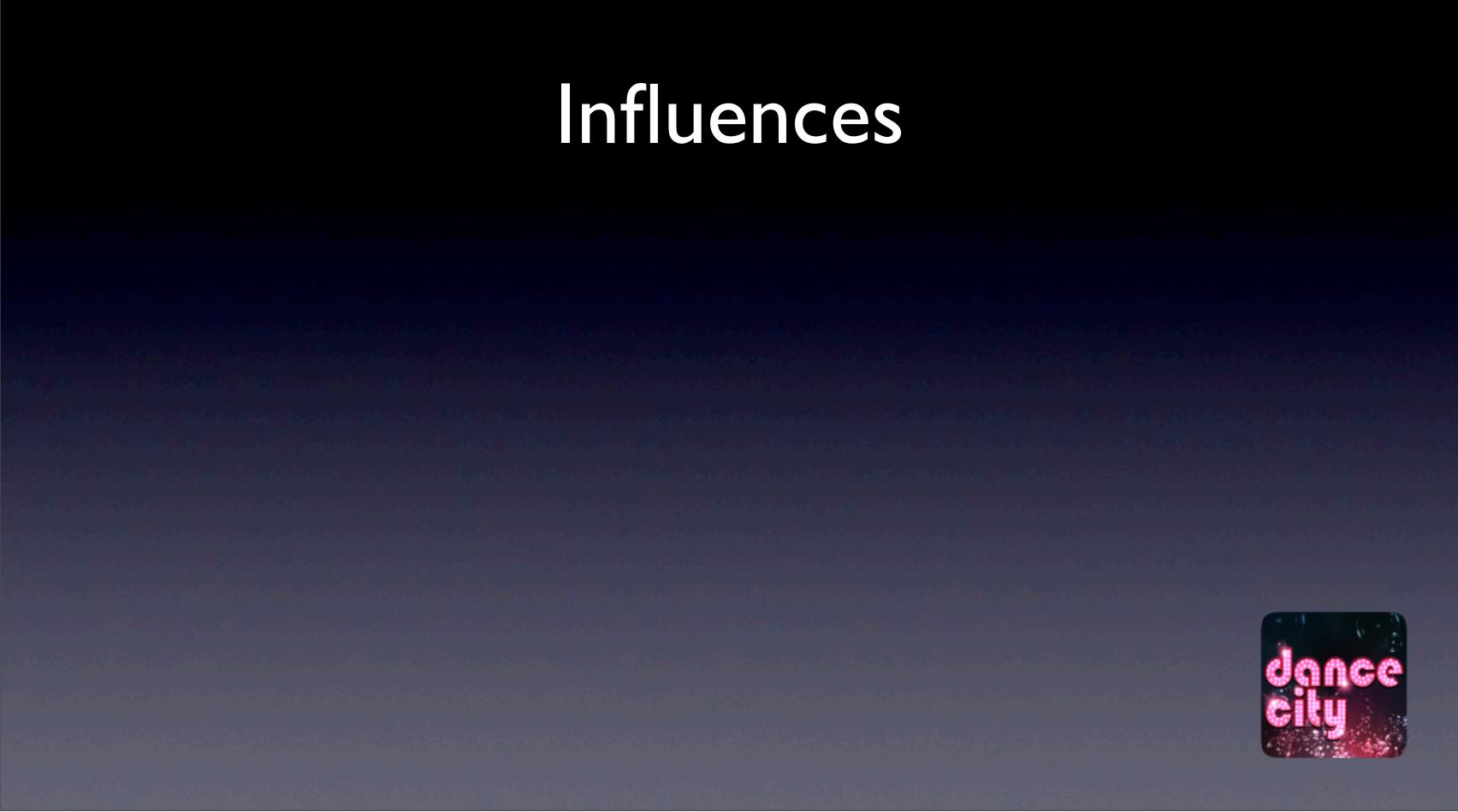


- Why make Dance City?
- Influences
- Process



- Why make Dance City?
- Influences
- Process
- Game

























LMFAO





Space Channel 5





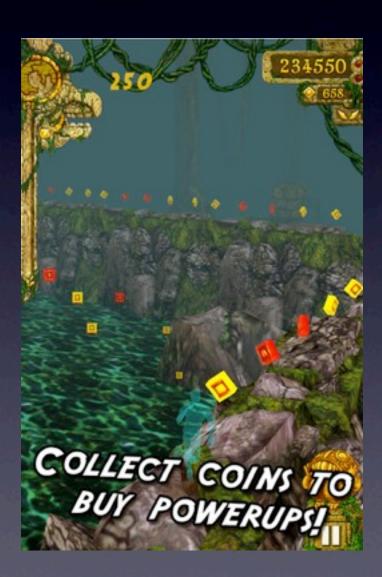


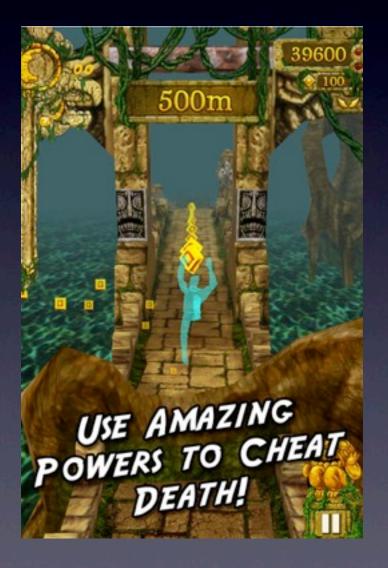




Temple Run



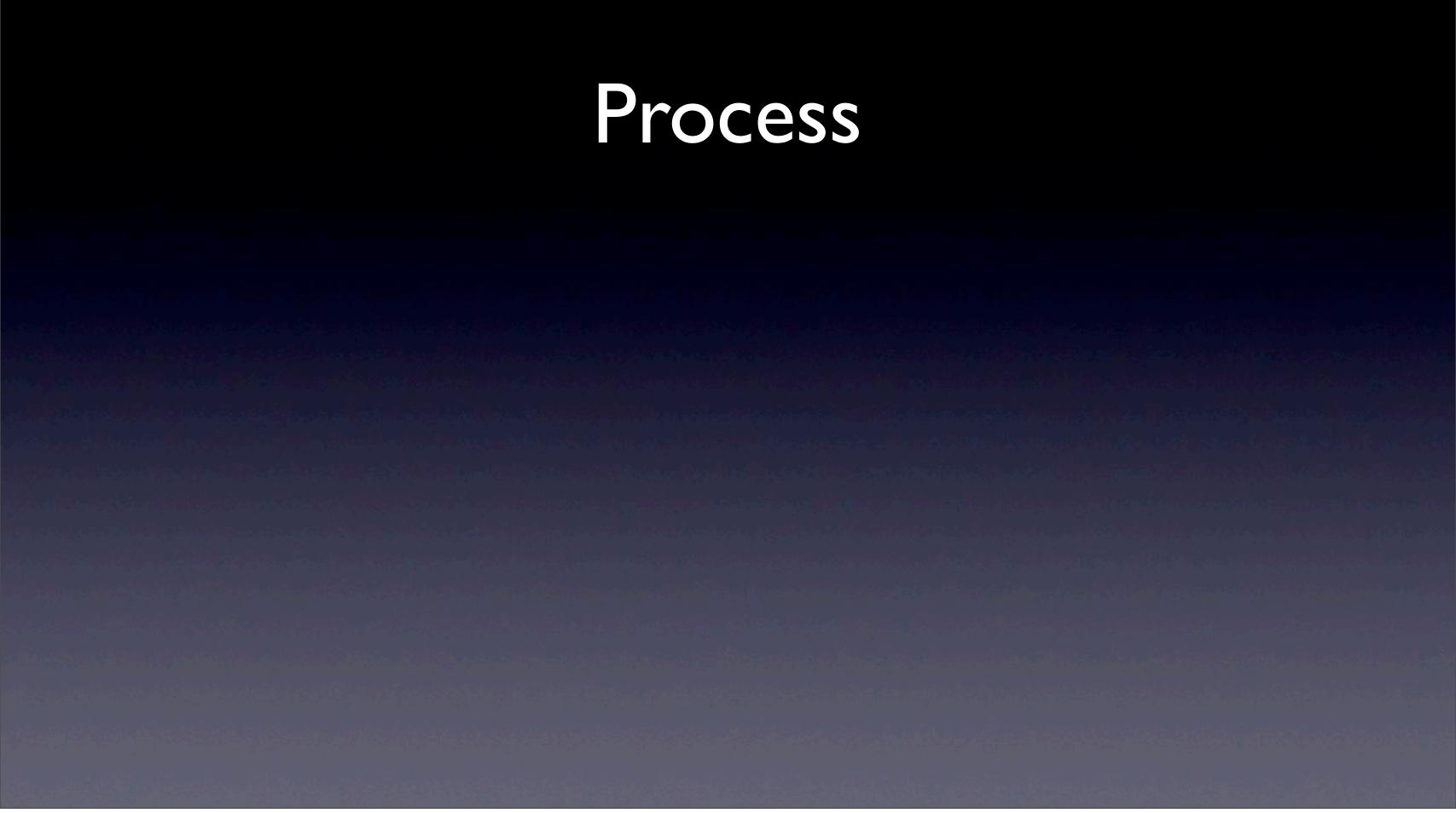








OMG, another run game?



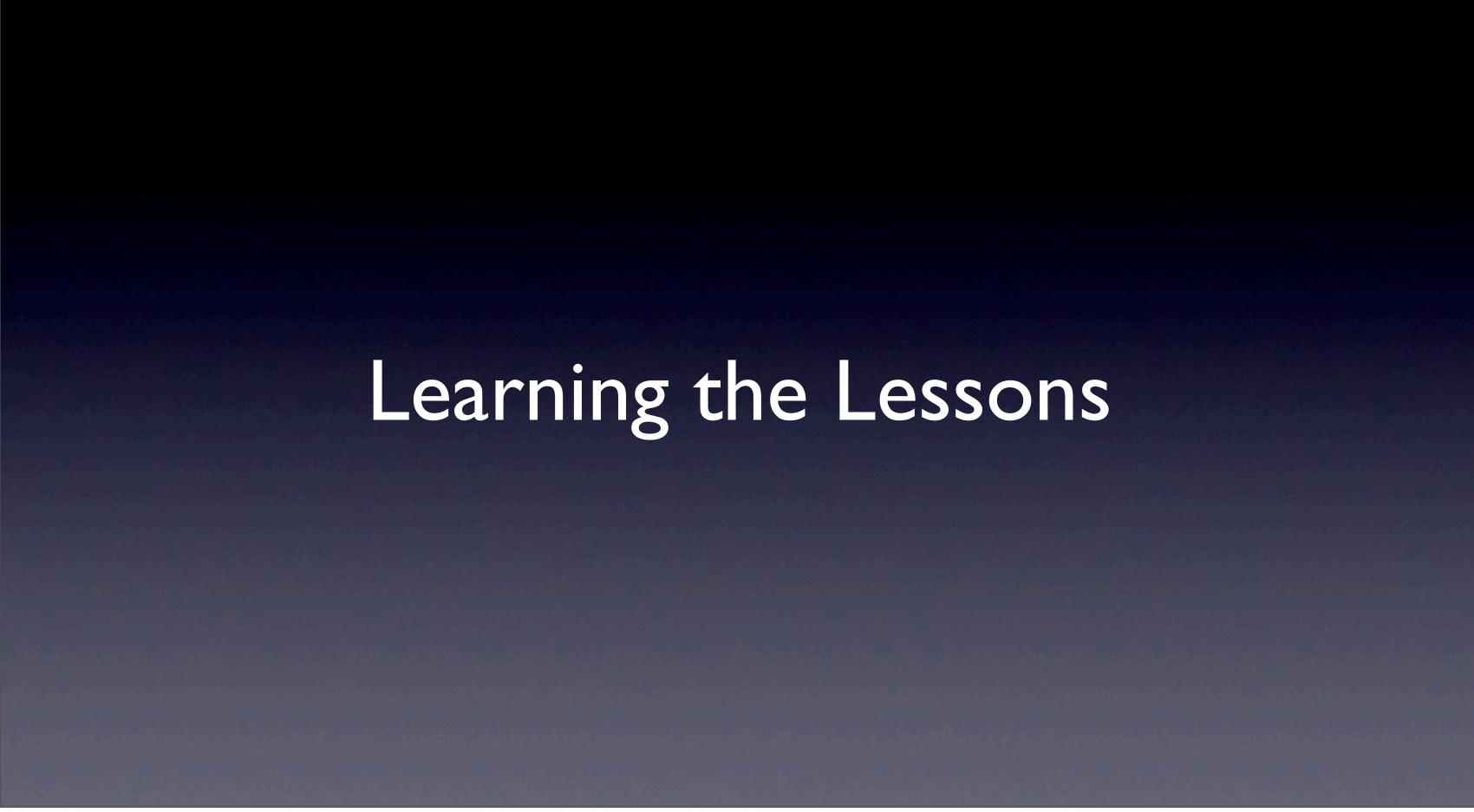
Observe

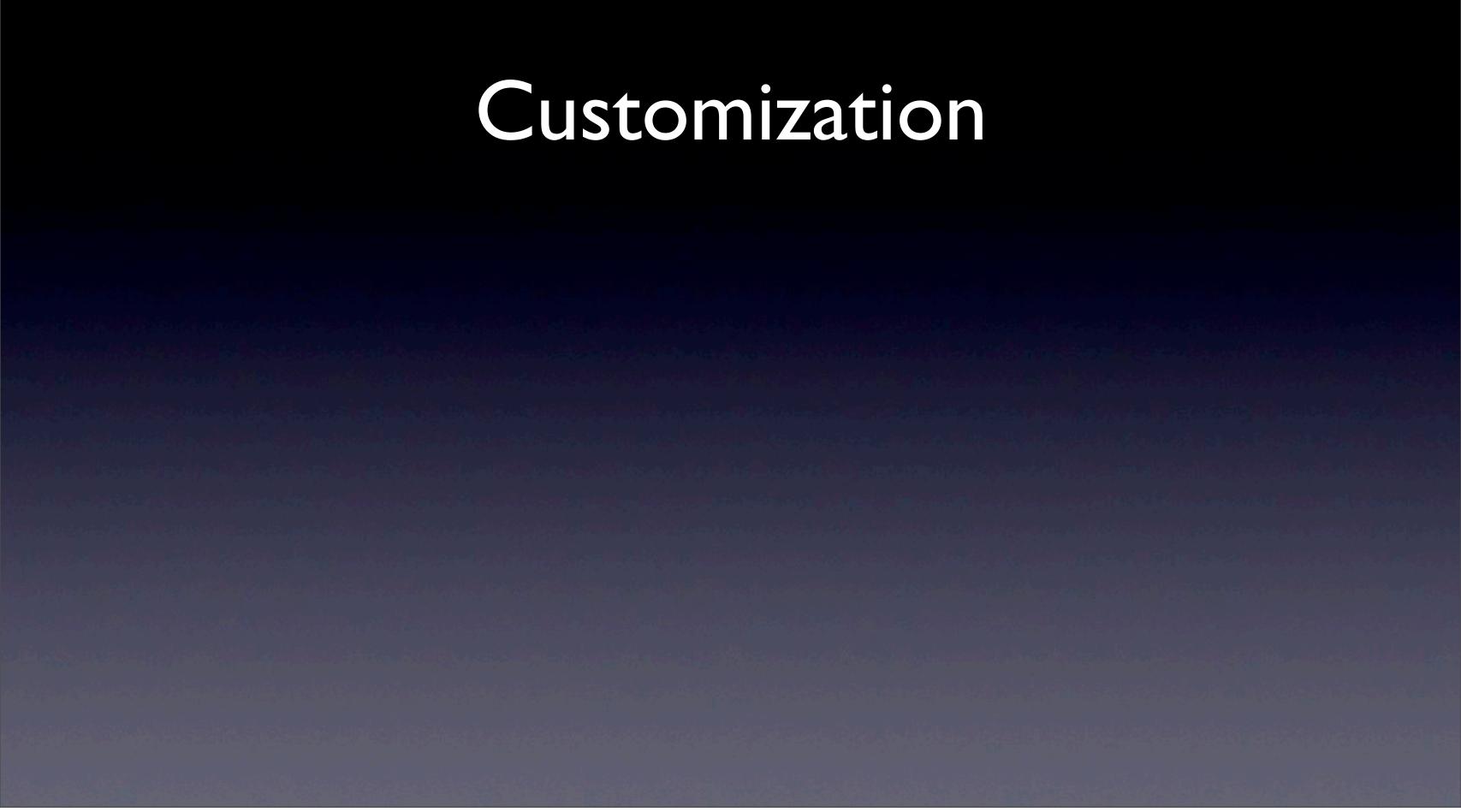
- Observe
- Find Time

- Observe
- Find Time
- Iterate

- Observe
- Find Time
- Iterate
- Play

- Observe
- Find Time
- Iterate
- Play
- Repeat



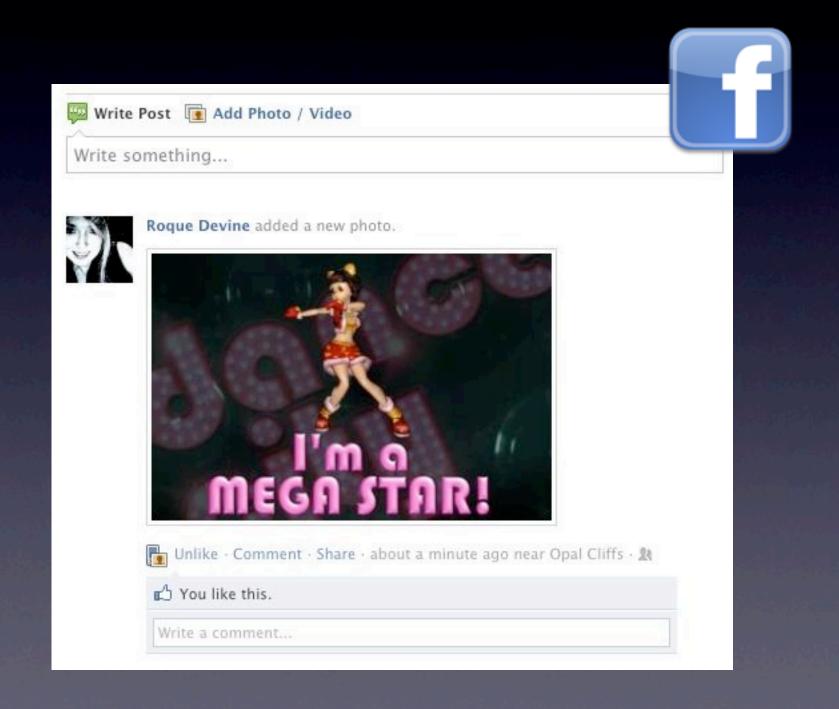


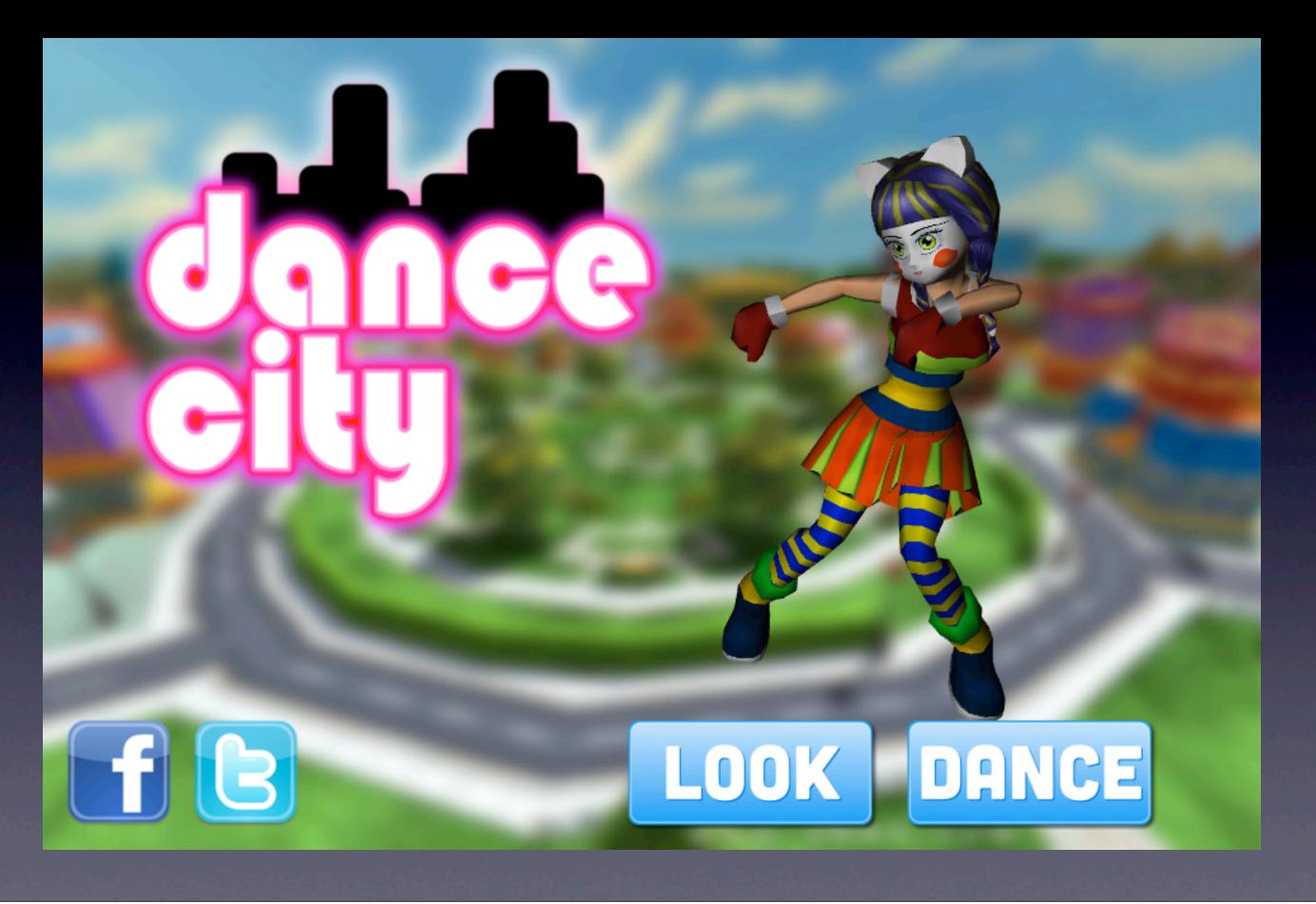
Customization



Social

- Visual
- Personal
- Customizable









Obvious navigation at all times

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- Free to play before purchase

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- Allow for customization from media outside the app

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- Want friends to contribute to the game on their own schedule

- Obvious navigation at all times
- Free to play before purchase
- Allow for customization from media outside the app
- Want friends to contribute to the game on their own schedule
- Individualize social media, spam is ignored

Thank You

- graeme@grlgames.net
- @zaphodgjd on twitter

