

Issue #2 - April 2022



Blizzard Comedy

ZTC



Comedy for the Malcontent Left



Introduction

Jonny Collins

Wow, 3 years old – and to think it only feels like we've put on 16 shows in that time. Where has the time gone?

While this year didn't start off all that smoothly, I am incredibly excited for our birthday show on the 4th April for a number of reasons:

First of all it's an absolutely impeccable hand-picked line up that is phenomenal even by our standards (which, I'd like to reiterate are great).

Secondly it is the first of hopefully periodic shows at a brand-new venue 53two – who have been incredibly supportive and great to work with thus far. They are a perfect fit for our ethos and values of accessibility, diversity and supporting grassroots artists.

And from a business side of things the last few shows have seen continued sell out shows with both new and returning audiences alike, and, as I'm writing this, we're very nearly earning enough every month to cover all of our administrative fees.



Blizzard Comedy has always been a non-profit show – but the fact that we're getting to a point where our losses are much less significant than previously is a huge deal. The more income and Patreon supporters we get, the more we can reinvest into the club to provide new features, more content, and a greater range of acts which we can pay more for.

So a huge thank you to everyone who has ever come to one of our shows or thrown some money towards our silly little show just trying to put some good into an increasingly hostile and corrupt world.

It's a cliché, but bears repeating that we simply would not exist without you, so for your support especially over covid we are incredibly grateful.

An interview with

Hannah Platt

Hannah is a stand-up comedian, writer and Finalist of the BBC New Comedian of the Year Award 2019. Merseyside-via-Manchester's finest misanthrope has already been making her mark as a comic, having been described as 'A voice of a new generation' by The Skinny and 'a voice with something to say' by Chortle, she never shying away from sensitive topics with brutal honesty and quick wit.

Earlier this year, she started the first work-in-progress previews of her debut hour long show. We caught up with her to find out more about how it's going!

How difficult is it writing an hour compared to a usual club set?

For club sets I feel like I have to deal with the small, woman, scouse stereotypes right up top, otherwise the audience will get distracted and think I don't know I'm small, woman, scouse, and will feel the need to tell me.

But for an hour people are, in theory, there to see you, they're already invested, they're not drunk people in a club going to see The Comedy.



So unlearning that kind of thing is very weird. But it's been really enjoyable doing work in progress shows to find out what I actually want to say when I don't have to explain myself.

What are your main goals for your first show?

A debut feels like it should be an introduction right? Like who is the comic, what do they do, what is their view - basically I want my first hour to lay that out. And be funny! Like proper funny.

Is speaking about Mental Health on stage cathartic?

It's always cathartic for me just because when people laugh along it often means it's familiar to them, like laughter of recognition, and it makes me feel less like a weirdo.

What Edinburgh/Solo shows have you seen in the past which have most inspired you?

I remember seeing Michael J Dolan for the first time at the fringe and I went away so inspired. It was the first time I'd seen someone articulate exactly what I was thinking in this hilarious, uncompromising way.

Christmas Alon(e/g)

Katie Mitchell

Waking up on the sofa on Christmas morning, alone and wheezing, to no family, to friends, no visit from Santa. Can I tell you, I fucking loved it?

Christmas by myself with no gifts, the unthinkable?

I'd found out I'd probably got covid while on a train to a gig in Leeds with my mask hanging off my ear having a coffee on a crowded, poorly ventilated train, like a wankstain.

I put it back on and layered on two more from my bag as I turned around at Sheffield and cried down the phone to my grandparents I'd just visited, begging them to get PCRs.

My symptoms started that night.

Then I had covid, and everything became the soft, warm cloud of pain and basic necessities. I didn't care about much except when my next 16-hour nap was starting, and if I could text my roommate to ask for another Lemsip.

The only relief was that I didn't have to worry



about catching covid anymore, cos I had covid. I hadn't realised how much of a burden that had been these past two years.

My self-isolation ran over Christmas Day, and I was gonna ignore covid Christmas like the high-flying CEO in a Hallmark Christmas movie. In normal times, I'd have Christmas Day with my family and Yule dinner with my ex a few days before. Leaving Yule unmarked on the 21st was devastating, so Christmas had to be, just for my own sake.



I arrived at Christmas Eve dragging my feet, but I'd decided I was going to make a thing of it. I got dressed and did my hair for the first time since I got off the train. My arms ached for a day or so after, but it was worth it.

I pretended I wasn't going to be alone up until my roommate locked the door behind him when the crispy glass exterior shattered on me, and I had a bit of a cry. Not a big one, and that was important. A small cry, and then I chopped my roast veg for Christmas dinner listening to old carols.

I work in retail, I couldn't deal with Christmas pop music that's been on infinite repeat since November. All the Christmas carols I could find were all children's choirs singing impossibly high; they are beautiful and perfect and you cannot sing along with them. I needed to sing along with someone.

But I was on my own.

I'd set on sleeping downstairs. I'd seen a tweet somewhere about going on holiday in your own house, camping out in a different room for a change of scenery. It felt right to sleep on the sofa we'd bought in the height of the pandemic explicitly for guests.

I knew that if I woke up in my room on Christmas morning, I wouldn't be getting out of bed. The thought of a dark, empty living room too much to bear. Best keep it small, make the living room and the kitchen my own little studio flat. Running into the dark and lonely upstairs to piss like running to an outhouse in a blizzard.

I'd spend the Holy Day on the sofa with the telly and the Christmas tree, basking in their unnatural glow.

I'd done a radio thing a few days before Christmas, timing my coughing between the host's very generous song breaks and using up almost all my Lemsip. They were going to call me back Christmas morning and give me my own personal 9am Christmas party.

The radio woke me up on the sofa at 8am and I turned all the Christmas lights on, and I basked in the multicolored glow and then I ate a whole stollen whole like a snake.

Through various situations you can blame on society, my relationship with my girlfriend isn't public, and won't be for a while. But I love her so much. We'll get there. When the radio host Laurie asked me about my plans for the day, I told her how much I was looking forward to remotely playing Animal Crossing with My Girlfriend later in the day.

I knew She was listening. That was important. And talk about Grand Romantic Gestures when I couldn't even leave the house. I hadn't even got out of bed. Sofa.

Christmas dinner was easy, I'd done all my prep the day before when I needed all those little processes to get out of my head. It was still late, I turned the oven off when things were done, left everything in with the door cracked, not cooking but keeping warm.

I was playing Animal Crossing with my girlfriend and that was more important.

Covid had demolished my sense of taste and smell a few days prior and, even though it was coming back, everything tasted like sugary, chemically, half-rotten cigarettes. And cigarettes smell like burning, a smell I'd quickly made a habit of ignoring.

In the case of my poor Yorkshire puddings, this was an error. I could get them out of the oven and laugh about them with my girlfriend on Zoom at my own pace. No failures. I soaked them in gravy, and they were fiiiine.

I called my family, an hour each, having a nice chat and cramming that good-will and Christmas cheer into screen. I would have loved to have hugged my grandparents, but I was okay.

As I nested down in front of The Hogfather, messages started pouring into my group chats.

Christmas is a hard time for queer people, and families are tough. Parents getting way inappropriate gifts or misgendering their children or making fun of their “phase”. Arguments happening on this yearly ‘civil’ visit.

The line we would use now is “family is hard, Christmas is stressful but it’s all worth it in the end”. And I was on my



And I was on my sofa, with a blanket, a stuffed pig, and a resounding peace.

I'd never taken care of myself that way, really treated myself well. Treating myself usually involves a guilt shaped whole in my bank account and some procrastination. I'd got up early and prepared the day before, and it was all for me.

I'd like to do it all for me again sometime. I don't know what the true meaning of Christmas is, but I think I got a good look at it alone on that sofa.

Turns out you can feel the warmth and the love of your fellow man if you just look within. It's Christmas cheer all the way down.

Katie Mitchell is a stand-up comedian and artist who also draws and writes stuff like this which isn't funny now, apparently.

Insta – @katiezoemitchell
Twitter – @katiezoemitch

Everything else n upcoming – linktr.ee/katiezoemitchell



Dear Agony Anna

Anna Thomas

Q: *Dear Agony Anna, I live an extremely busy life wherein I struggle to find time to eat, never mind get my 5-a-day in. How can I fit fruit and veg into my diet?*

A: Hiya, you alright? Okay, here's the plan: tie some fruit or whatever to a piece of string. Then, get the other side of the string and bluetack it to your ceiling, just above your bed, at your head end, making sure that the fruit/ vegetable rests on your face. Then, as you sleep and yawn and that, some of the fruit or whatever might fall into your mouth, and voila. I do this and half the time I end up eating the vegetables as it's just dead annoying trying to sleep with a broccoli on your face.

Be careful though - grapes are a big choking hazard. Unless you grind your teeth in your sleep, or sleep-chew?

Right, change of plan, actually: puree some fruit and veg and then make something that slowly drips the fruity-veggie-puree into your mouth.

Waterboard yourself with some lovely squashed vegetables. I don't care, I give up. Get scurvy. I'm done.



Q: *Dear Agony Anna, I worry that things are getting stale in the bedroom between me and my partner. How can I spice things up again?*

A: Magnets.



Q: *Dear Agony Anna, my partner and I recently adopted a new dog. We love her to pieces, and she really gets on with my partner, but for some reason she doesn't seem to trust me and seems quite wary of me. What can I do to fix this?*

A: Now, then. I had a similar thing with a rabbit I knew many-a-moon ago. Floppy, right, was dead nice but was like dead flighty. Like, rabbits can be jumpy old things, but Floppy was a frog on a trampoline eating jelly levels of jumpy, right.

So, every now and again, to get him to chill and feel safe around me, I'd slowly approach him with some carrot and that. Then, when he took the carrot, I'd peacefully sit next to him and start telling him some gossip about our cats. A bit of 'oh my god, did you see what Wizzy was doing to the curtains the other day? Inconsiderate init?' or 'did you see that Pixie tried to fight mam's mop? Weird, that. Like what's the point?'.

After around eight months of doing this, me and Floppy really started to bond and grew to trust each other.

Mystic Peg

Bobbie-Ann Jones

Hello, I'm Bobbie-Ann Jones. Child of the galaxy, goddess of the moon, champion of 120 Stars in Super Mario 64. I'm here to give my expert opinion of all the signs of the Zodiac. Let's-a go, Wahoo.

If you share any of these placements with me you're a sexy bitch with a great ass and you will find great fortune this year:

Leo Sun
Taurus Moon
Sagittarius Rising
Leo Venus
Libra Mars
Virgo Mercury



I'll start with a basic reading for the plebs. These generalizations apply to all placements pertaining to that particular sign.

If you're a Pisces you need to sit the fuck down. Just stay down. DOWN I SAY.

If you're a Capricorn take a break every now and again this year. And by 'a break' I mean break people's bones. If you are a non-violent person then

a KitKat will suffice. Only the chunky kind though. Why would you settle for a standard KitKat when a chunky KitKat exists? Is this a metaphor for my preference of body type? Maybe. Who knows. Only the stars can tell.

If you're an Aquarius you are a water sign. I don't care what the Bible says. How can you be an Earth sign when you literally have Aqua in your name? That's some bullshit. Speaking of Aqua, listen to their latest album. It's great. Got some great guitar riffs.

Cancers are attention seeking. They created an entire charity dedicated to researching them. Bad vibes. Fucking crabs. The Prodigy: The Fat of the Land my arse.

If you are an Aries or Sagittarius then babes you better call me cos apparently we are extremely compatible in bed. Bring a towel.

One of my closest pals is a Virgo, so I will tolerate them.

All Scorpios can get in the bin. Furthermore, if you are a Scorpio man then you must resemble Dwayne the Rock Johnson in The Mummy Returns, I don't make the rules.

Libras always like to be the voice of reason and I hate it. Who asked for your opinion? I'll do what I want.

Fun fact about Taurus; if you are a Taurus then food outlets in the Birmingham Bullring will serve you for free. I guarantee it. Give it a go.

The underrated N64 game Jetforce Gemini is the only good thing about Gemini placements. Why does there need to be two of you? One is enough.

If you are a Leo then you should make love to the Lion King soundtrack and time your climax for the bit in Can You Feel The Love Tonight where Nala gives Simba the fuck me eyes. (Nala spelt backwards is Alan; this is the gay version of Lion King where Simba falls for his childhood friend, the dashing young lion known as Alan).

Advanced reading for bitches who have the Co Star app but only check it on days when they can't get out of bed.

If you have some bitch named Lilith in your chart you need to tell her to LEAVE. She is bad.

If any of your placements are in the Ninth House then that is bad. The Ninth House has black mould, cockroaches and a dodgy landlord. Call citizen's advice, immediately.

If you have a Stellium in your chart and you are a Musical Theatre Homosexual then it becomes a Liza Minnelium.

Sextiles, Trines, Conjunctions and Squares can only be understood if you have an A-Level in Maths. If you do not possess this level of intellect DO NOT EVEN TRY to work it out. You will melt like those bad guys at the end of Raiders of the Lost Ark. ANYTHING GOES. (Oh no wrong film sorry, look I'm gay, that's the only other part of Indiana Jones that I remember.)

AN HONEST GUIDE TO THE SOLAR SYSTEM



SUN
- GIANT BABY HEAD
- FRIES AN EGG IN 10s

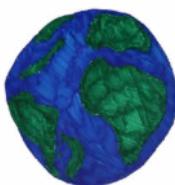


MERCURY

- CLOSEST TO SUN
- LOVES THE BURN



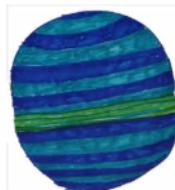
VENUS
- ALWAYS ASKING
ABOUT YOUR WEEKEND
- TOO MANY HATS



EARTH
- ABSOLUTE HEADACHE.



MARS
- CHATS PURE SHITE
- EATS YOUR LUNCH
FROM THE FRIDGE



NEPTUNE
- LIKE AN EGG, BUT
MASSIVE



SATURN

- BIT TOO COOL
- ALWAYS FLOGGING MERCH.



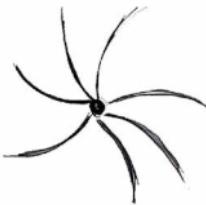
OTHER NEPTUNE

- SOGGY LAD
- BIG FISH TANKS



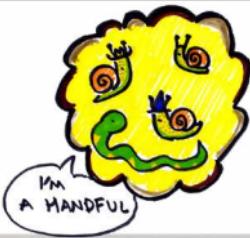
PLUTO

- UNDERRATED
- WILL GET REVENGE



URANUS

- BE HAVE.



A WEIRD GAS BALL

- A SNAKE THAT'S A NIGHTMARE
- POLITE SNAILS.

@EDY HURST

Video game characters that are Trans now I've decided, fuck you

Jonny Collins

Like most millennials, I am not only transgender, but also a big video game nerd too.

From my very early memories of playing Sonic 3D and Sonic R, getting stuck on Disc 2 of Final Fantasy VII, and playing Mortal Kombat 3 on the Mega Drive at far too young of an age – to playing Mortal Kombat 11 in 4K, the surprisingly great remake of Final Fantasy 7, and not touching any Sonic games released in the last 5 years, the pastime has remained a primary hobby of mine when I'm not masturbating.

One thing I hadn't thought of until about a week ago when I started thinking about it too much is how much my taste in video games should have been a spoiler for my eventual coming out as a mish mash pile of all genders except from masculine.



While actual explicit Trans representation is virtually non-existent in video games (and problematically implemented when present); that won't stop us from doing what Queer people do best: Aggressively head-cannoning the fuck out of existing franchises until someone actually writes good gay protagonists.

So here are 10 examples of video game characters who in an ideal universe with me in charge of all pop culture would be Trans, Non-Binary, or otherwise Queer.

1) Tidus – Final Fantasy X

Final Fantasy X is the first Final Fantasy Game I fell in love with. As much as I enjoyed 7, I played it a bit too young to really understand how RPGs worked and ended up getting stuck and not completing it until 5 years ago. X on the other hand was much more accessible to newcomers, slower paced and more strategic, as well as its addition of voice acting and cutscenes as a primary source of storytelling made it much easier to follow story wise.

Tidus is my go-to example as a missed opportunity for Trans Masc. representation – as his character already hits so much of the experience. His relationship with his dad always belittling him and boasting that he's much better and his child would never live up to his skill ingrains



Tidus with a drive to prove his own masculinity in a mostly positive and non-toxic way, despite the competition being much more toxic.

No matter what Tidus does, his dad never seems to accept him as anything other than a child, and it is only towards the end of the game when this is resolved in the usual SquareEnix nonsense over-the-top story telling involving demigods and a giant space whale.

Most Trans-Masc. gamers I know find Tidus' journey and struggles with his paternal relationship highly resonant with their own battles with masculinity and their perception of it; so, it felt like a real missed opportunity than to lean into that angle. He's already **spoilers** a Spirit Dream, so he's almost as ethereal and magical as your average Trans dude. And just look at those shorts – ain't no cis explanation for that.

Gonna throw an honourable mention for Cloud from FF7 as well – as his entire character arc is coming to grips with the fact that he isn't the person he thought he was – and can you even write a more succinct summary of the trans condition?

2) Bayonetta – Bayonetta

Literally every Trans-Femme ever can chart their personal transition from Pre-Transition – to Bayonetta. Bayonetta has a majestic bad-assery to her, that while not unheard of from cis women, is presented in a brutal and slightly camp way that just reeks of Trans vibes for me.

She also doesn't wear clothes but uses her magic hair to

cover herself, as well as to execute several attacks that would make even the hardest MK characters stunned.

If Bayonetta is not a Trans Woman, then I'm a UKIP voter.

The only doubt I have in my mind is that Bayonetta is 100% a Dom, and I have never met a Trans Woman who wasn't at most a reluctant Switch.

And I do know all trans women.

Every single one.



Still, not saying it could never happen though, we could all strive to be a Bayonetta one day...

3) Ulala – Space Channel 5

I've gone with this deep cut from the Dreamcast era – although frankly most Dreamcast Ips could have been a shoe in here. Shenmue has some Trans-Masc. energy, Jet Set Radio's entire Aesthetic is Trans, and Sonic Adventure 2 is

basically the bible of Trans-ness. But I went with Ulala from Space Channel 5 as the face of the Dreamcast's absolutely peak Trans approach to its IPs.

From the very premise Space Channel 5 is absolutely bonkers – set in a Sci-Fi world – you play a News reporter – who has to dance to save hostages and fight off a dancing alien plot to do something nefarious. (I can't remember the ins and outs of the plot – but suffice to say it is not the draw of the game.)

It's actually a pretty unforgiving rhythm game where you have to copy moves on the beat and exactly else you lose ratings, and if you don't complete a level with a certain rating level you have to replay the level. There are only 4 or 5 levels, but even getting past level 2 took me about 30 attempts, which means I've spent about as much time on this as any Bethesda RPG.

Ulala is the protagonist, described as a foxy TV diva and disco space goddess – and if you look at any screenshot on the game, there is a 100% chance that everything on frame at any one time will be some level of Queer. There is not a single cis het character in this game, heroes or villains, NPCs or Bosses, Aliens or you, the player. This is possibly the most delightfully gay video game I've ever played, everything about

it is gay, and everyone who has ever played the game is gay now.

I don't make the rules. Actually, I do, this is my article, you're gay.

4) Link – The Legend of Zelda

This is an easy one. Link from one of the oldest, strongest video game franchises still going today, second or third only to Mario and Donkey Kong.

(I wrote that line before researching – but then I looked it up and it's actually 19th – with Oregon Trail being number 1, with games spanning from 1971 to 2021.

It is the third oldest Nintendo franchise, however, after Mario and Samus. Donkey Kong technically comes under the Mario franchise according to Wikipedia, and I refuse to do any further research than that.)



Link is not canonically trans – but it might be the closest to canon on this list – given that his design was deliberately androgynous so that both boys and girls could envision themselves as the hero. (Only if they're white, short, and like green though.)

That's enough for the community to universally agree that

Link is non-binary. Not just Link – the whole Zelda/Sheik character is literally the character on a Femme vs Masc. day.

Also, everyone assuming your name is that of a different gendered person in your same friendship group because they'd only seen it written down out of context is pretty relatable to us folks on the GNC spectrum.

5) Max – Sam & Max

Bit of a tenuous one, as technically Sam & Max are cartoon characters before they are video game protagonists. But I think it's fair to say if you talk about Sam & Max in 2022, people will either think of the Telltale games, or the LucasArts cult classic Hit & Run, before they think of the short lived cartoon – so I'll count it.

Max is a violent sidekick to the deadpan Sam and the second part of the Freelance Police as they're known. When we say, "All Cops are Bastards" we're definitely including Sam & Max in the list, they contravene so many of the basic safeguards even a lot of the more corrupt police forces in the world at least attempt to implement.

But they're so over the top and it's never presented as a good thing that they can hardly be seen as copaganda.

If anything, it's an inditement on the police that this satirical take on a private law enforcement duo with hyper violent tendencies' main difference from the police is that Sam & Max are likable and occasionally actually solve crimes when they're out causing mayhem.

Max clearly is beyond gender, going so far as to give him his own symbol on the toilets in Bosco's Inconvenience:



Now the joke might mean to be about how Max is an anthropomorphic animal in a human world. However Sam does not have his own icon, despite being a humanoid dog, which indicates that while Sam is a man, Max is a third gender.

He is also Asexual. Chaotic Non-Binary Asexual.

No further questions your honour.

6) Snake – Metal Gear Solid

Snake is a Communist, as confirmed in Metal Gear Solid: Peace Walker. Therefore, he is trans. We are one and the same. Fear us.



7) Yuri – Shadow Hearts

Despite being from a relatively obscure RPG series – Yuri has the name of a lesbian subgenre of hentai, and fuses with demons to become cryptids.

There is nothing straight about him. (Despite that one sketchy slightly homophobic bonus scene in the second game. But from a 2000s JRPG, it's fairly tame in that regard.)



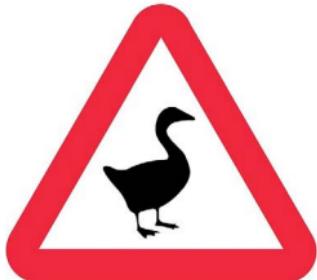
8) Diddy Kong – Donkey Kong Country

Think of a trans boy? He's dressed like Diddy Kong, isn't he? I rest my case.

9) The Goose – Untitled Goose Game

The Goose from Untitled Goose Game – like Max has no gender, the only hormones the Goose has are anarchy.

Chaotic Non-Binary icon at their finest.



10) Terra, Aqua & Ventus – Kingdom Hearts Birth by Sleep

And finally – the tragic trio from Kingdom Hearts Birth by Sleep are Trans Masc., Trans femme and non-Binary respectively.

I could write a whole essay on this – in fact maybe I will once I've finally completed my Birth by Sleep streams over on Twitch.tv/androjonny

But to be brief; similarly to Tidus in FFX, Terra is a victim of toxic masculine expectations of him, and a need to prove himself worthy – particularly compared to his friend Aqua.

He is a tragic case of someone who means well but often gets manipulated by those with ulterior motives. He often goes the extra mile and is prepared to fight to the death to protect his friends, even if they are in the middle of falling out. Terra has all the hallmarks of a closeted trans boy who has gravitated to



the wrong role models of masculinity. He is redeemed by the end of the game and gets a happier ending by the end of Kingdom Hearts 3, thankfully.

His time as the lingering will – literally an empty suit of armour animated by his determination - just goes to show how strong his willpower is. I don't know if you've ever met a trans man, but they are very much the strongest-minded and determined people you will ever meet.

Aqua, on the other hand, is a slightly more timid but equally driven Trans femme, who similarly faces unreasonable expectations to be perfect, despite cis women never being held to that same regard.

Aqua becoming a Keyblade Master and passing her mark of mastery exam demonstrates her passing enough to be recognized by the Truscum gatekeepers – but this inhuman standard of responsibility – in game chasing after her friends to keep them in line whilst not being trusted enough to have the full story told to her by the authorities.

Aqua too is trying so hard to do the right things, but rather than being led into doing the wrong things by toxic role models – she is overstretching herself to meet the approval of what society is expecting of her, whilst not letting her friends help and support out of arbitrary rules that dictate she has to do this herself, and her friends can't be trusted.

As a Trans Femme enby myself this reading hits me hard. I'm aware it's possibly a bit of a reach, but I put it to you that Aqua is the kind of dumb feminine name that only a Trans

woman would pick for herself. She also has blue hair and pronouns, so confirmed trans.

And finally, Ventus has had his true identity hidden and refused to be spoken about in his presence. Without going too much into the complicated lore of his character, he is being essentially held prisoner as he is the key to the Villain's plot and cannot fall into enemy hands.

None of this is communicated to or with him, and so he resentfully ends up chasing after his friends after they'd gone off exploring other worlds for secret missions. Ventus' entire being is hushed up, with him being treated not as a person, but as an object.

There's plenty of common trans allegories here, but the fact that anyone refuses to even communicate with him about his truth even though he can feel something is wrong is such a common non-binary experience.

Even more so than binary trans people; you cannot talk about this kind of thing, there are very few safe environments, and plenty of trans and non-binary people are raised with their gender feelings to be suppressed not expressed.

On a more stereotypical level, he's a little enthusiastic weirdo who is so enamoured with the worlds he visits, including a cut down version of DisneyLand in the latter part of the game.

And his most treasured possession is a giant wooden key – that's definitely non-Binary.

And that's my list! This was a bit of fun, I hope you enjoyed reading these tenuous takes on Transness and video games.

On a serious note, I wanted to do a list of actual Trans rep in video games, but it is incredibly rare, virtually non-existent in the triple A space. Of all the things the Video Game industry needs to do better in – I'll admit that the abuse and crunch culture, as well as predatory monetization obsession and more recently NFT dystopia business strategies are more pressing improvements that need to be made.

But I will never stop pushing for better representation in what is fast becoming one of if not the biggest form of entertainment in the world.

I had no trans representation at all growing up – and if I did it was merely the butt of a joke. More and more TV shows and films are slowly including trans characters to a better or worse extent – but gaming still has a long way to go. I hope to see more in the coming years, and hopefully by the time I'm dead, cis people will be banned from all media forever.

(That was a joke, there's no way cis people would ever give up their monopoly on media – but we can dream.)

Wordsearch

Words contributed by the featured guests

a	g	e	j	e	l	b	m	o	w	h	e	g	g	s	
r	o	t	a	i	v	a	s	x	i	n	l	t	n	e	
i	m	f	c	o	l	l	e	a	g	u	e	o	p	t	
t	e	c	k	e	w	n	g	m	q	u	i	c	h	e	
y	l	h	e	a	j	o	g	k	o	t	h	u	g	g	
m	e	t	t	a	c	s	s	s	i	p	v	w	g	n	g
b	t	h	b	e	s	g	g	e	g	g	s	d	i	s	
h	t	o	t	p	n	v	c	t	r	e	w	o	p	n	
r	e	n	s	o	e	n	o	a	q	u	e	s	b	d	
l	e	i	z	a	o	o	u	m	p	c	c	u	n	t	
a	u	c	r	c	y	t	r	o	s	y	i	q	a	e	
e	g	g	s	h	w	h	a	d	o	a	b	f	s	g	
e	n	i	c	t	g	i	g	s	d	u	i	a	t	x	
h	m	a	q	t	g	n	e	i	u	y	p	o	r	o	
d	y	t	i	e	g	g	s	w	o	r	d	l	e	a	

power

wisdom

courage

colleague

nothing

eggs

womble

poach

omelette

quiche

wordle

cunt

misconceptions

chthonic

aviator

capybara

jacket

pisscat

Rebus puzzle (sort of)

Guess the phrase (pun? kinda? we're not sure) based on this picture.



(Full disclosure: this whole page only happened because we found this way too funny in the contributor group chat and we fully accept that this will be far less funny to everyone else. Worth it tho.)

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Blazing Left Comedy

Comedy for the Malcontent Left

Layout by Kirstie Summers