Keeper's Call

Game Design Document

Minstrelcy Studios

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Game Design

1.1 Summary

A girl is wandering through the forest, playing near a lake. She hears a mysterious voice: a call, beckoning her to the water. There she discovers her true calling.

1.2 Gameplay

The player operates in first person, exploring the area surrounding the lake. The mysterious voice will beckon to the player, but the player won't know where it's coming from. The main obstacle to the player is a lack of familiarity with the environment, and not knowing where the voice is coming from.

1.3 Mindset

The player should be intrigued, seeking to discover what the voice is, where it's coming from, and who it belongs to.

Technical

2.1 Summary

The game is a text-based adventure game (*interactive fiction*), with very simple keyboard-based input. The target play time is **10—15 minutes**.

2.2 Screens

The opening screen will have an intro title, graphic, and note about the "help" option. The word "help" can be entered at any time to give the player the list of acceptable commands. The player will need to type "Start" when they are ready to begin.

Each screen following will provide the player with a description of the area, including details about which directions are available to them. Finally, there will be a few areas where the player will "hear something," giving them the option to "listen." These scenes will be important story building points.

2.3 Controls

Players will be able to enter the following inputs:

Directional

• Straight

2. Technical

- Left
- Right
- Turn around

Actions

- Listen
- Don't Listen
- Pick up

Support Menu

• Help

2.4 Mechanics

The game has two basic mechanics:

Start -> Scene Description -> Direction input -> New Scene Description

Start -> Scene Description -> Action input -> Action Response -> Direction input -> New Scene Description

Level Design

- 3.1 Themes
- 3.2 Game Flow

Development

Development will happen in two phases: underlying engine and game proper.

4.1 Fabler

Fabler is the name of the game engine itself. It is a simple graphically-rendered text engine for interactive fiction. It is written in JavaScript.

Components

- Game (FABLER)
- Module

Component Compositions

- Module
 - GfxMan
 - Screen
 - Player
 - Location
 - World

4.2 Game Program

Components

Component Compositions

5

Graphics

5.1 Style Attributes

Graphics Needed

Development Timeline

Proposals

Please place proposals in new sections with any relevant and necessary information. If a proposal is adopted, ensure that it is added/incorporated into the relevant section. If discarded, please add it to the *Rejected Ideas* chapter, along with the discussion or reasoning.

Rejected Ideas