Core game elements

Player movement

Physics handle

Interaction

Pick something up

Use it (read case file)

Store item

Put down item

Basic menu’s

Yes/no

Continue/quit

Main menu

New game

Storage of data per game instance

Basic inventory

Storage of data between game instances

Somethings will become permanent between loops

Somethings you do will trigger things in the next loop

writing

win state

you chase through trails of information to find the 1 or 2 pieces that totally clear you or reveal the real killer

How does the player know if what they found was right if they lose?

or it could be that at the very begining they give you "your" case file on a desk, and its filled with some true information and some lies and you have to figure out whats the truth and what isn’t

or

The newspaper

You only get the hint once you try to go to trial

so like you go with some evidence, not knowing anything about what happened, and the judge says "this is ridiculous, we know you were at sampsons house at 12:03 am the night of the murder! GUILTY!

but like maybe you need "an alabi" and "proof of who the real killer is

or maybe you just need evidence that proves your alibi "this thing says when the murder happened" "this thing says i was somewhere else"

newspaper headline: man murders neighbor in cold blood sunday night

and the newspaper heading would have things like what city youre in and the date

maybe you could knock out the guard, steal his wallet and then use the money from his wallet to bribe him on the next loop, giving you information you couldn’t find in a file

you check the newspaper, it says “man killed his neighbor in cold blood Sunday night”

you hunt for evidence looking for clues as to where this is

you go to trial,

you fail

the judge tells you the name of the victim

you find their case file, which has their address

you use that to find your address and files on your neighbors

you find inconsistencies about you in these files

you find images of yourself in the bg of photos

you find images of someone suspicious in the background of photos

maybe the end state has to be the 1 piece of evidence that totally proves your inocence, like you find something totally danming about someone else and the judge says "theyre not on trial, you are