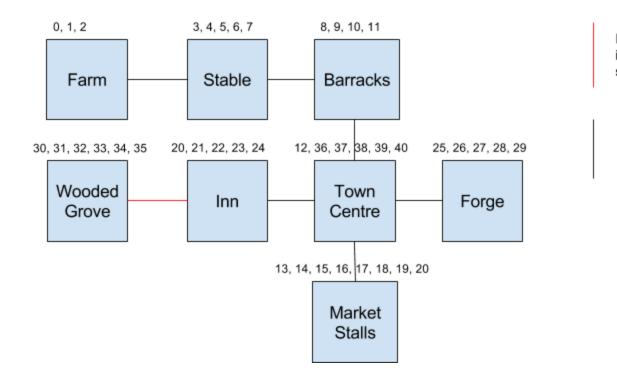
Narrative Branch Plan



Indicates that the area is unavailable at the start of the game

Indicates that the area is available at the start of the game

Farm - introduction

	x, riding in following rumours of something unusual going on amongst the townsfolk of farms - no doubt supplying vegetables and meat to the markets situated within.
	index
n	1
s the town	3
	n s the town

Farmer - interaction

index	1		
text	You slow your horse to a trot and then to a full stop, calling out to the man. He looks up and narrows his eyes at you with apparent suspicion. You can see that his clothes are fairly thin and ragged and a scraggly beard covered his chin and lower jaw.		
	"Was it you? Did you scare off my pigs? All you adventurers, can't trust any of ya!"		
	You shake your head and try to calm the man, you explain that you are here to investigate exactly this kind of unusual activity. You ask him if there was anything he could tell you about the culprit.		
	He pauses for a moment, scratching his chin.		
	"I mean they were long gone before I even got out of the door"		
choices			
	text	index	
	Ask the farmer about the pigs 2		
	Leave the farmer and continue past to Fandalin	3	

Farmer - pigs

index	2	
text	You ask the farmer for more information about the pigs.	
	"They weren't easily scared i'll tell you that! Takes a lot to spook 'em"	
choices		
	text	index
	Thank the farmer and continue on to the town	3

Stables

index	3	
text	You leave the farmer behind you and ride right up to the edge of the town called Fandalin. Just outside of its boundaries you spot a stable. Beyond that you can see a few townspeople milling around and hear the distant clang of a blacksmith working metal.	
choices		
	text	index
	Go to the stable	4
	Go back to the farmer	1
		<u> </u>

Stable - Entrance

index	4	
text	You arrive at the stable and swing down off your horse, smiling at the stable boy who regards you warily.	
choices		
	text	index
	Investigate Stable	5
	Talk to stable boy	6
	Leave the stable alone and continue on into the town proper	8

Stable - investigate stable

index	5	
text	You look around the stable and see, to your surprise, that it is more or less pristine. The hay all looks to have been changed recently and the wooden supports and dividers look to have just recently been cleaned.	
	[unlocked compliment for the stable boy]	
choices		
	text	index
	Talk to the stable boy	6
	Return to the entrance of the stable	4

Stable - talk to stable boy

index	6	
text	You wave to the stable boy and try a hello. He just looks at you, his eyes shifting from side to side as though he is about to make a quick escape. You can tell he is uncomfortable.	
	You try asking if he has seen anything unusual. To this he just sha	ikes his head quickly and looks away.
choices		
	text	index
	[Tell the boy how you can tell that your horse will be well looked after]	7
	Leave the boy alone	4

Stable - extra info

index	7	
text	The boy smiles and seems to appreciate that you noticed his hard work.	
	"Wellwhen I was tending to one of the horses that was here last night, something scared her pretty bad. I tried to get a look but I couldn't see anyone. I thought I heard someone whispering behind me thoughI didn't understand the language but it sounded like a woman's voice. Sent chills right down my back."	
choices		
	text	index
	Go back to the entrance	4

Barracks - entrance

index	8	
text	You leave the stable behind you and head towards a low, squat building with barred windows and a heavy wooden door. Sitting on a bench just outside is a guard with a gaunt looking face. He wears a padded cloth shirt and rests his hand on a short club at his belt. He looks up as you approach.	
choices		
	text	index
	Talk to the guardsman	9
	Go past and into the town centre	12
		1

Barracks - speak to the guard

index	9	
text	"Hail traveller, what can I do for you"	
	You notice that he looks very tired. You inform the man that you're here to investigate the strange occurrences and he appears relieved.	
	"Oh thank the gods, I was starting to get overrun with complaints about the same damn nightmares. I've been getting them myself as well. Mind you don't stay too long - I imagine you'll start getting them too."	
choices		
	text	index
	Ask the guard about the nightmare	10
	Ask the guard who he thinks you should go and see next 11	
	Thank him and continue on - heading towards the town centre	12

Barracks - guard about nightmare

index	10	
text	The guardsman shivers slightly as he thinks back to the nightmare - it's clearly an unpleasant thing to remember.	
	"I remember the whispering pretty clearly, it was a female voice but no language that i'd heard before. It's all dark to begin with - just the whispering - but then after a while it starts to get light and then you see that you're surrounded by trees I think there was also the sound of a quiet stream nearby? The whispering gets louder and louder, as though she's trying to direct you somewhere. Eventually it gets so loud that you wake up. It's the same story with everyone."	
choices		
	text	index
	Ask about something else	9
		,

Barracks - asking guard who he should see next

index	11	
text	You ask the guard if there is anyone in town that he recommends you see, perhaps regarding any recent changes in the town the could have led to this situation. He considers for a moment before nodding and pointing further into town. "I'd recommend you go see Mera at the Maiden and Shield - she knows all the local stories and could surely give you some information if you asked. Tell her Gunther sent you and she'll be a little more approachable."	
	He smiles at this and you suspect he and Mera are more than local acquaintances.	
	[gunther sent you]	
choices		
	text	index
	Ask the guard about something else 9	

Town centre

index	12	
text	are lots of people milling around and you imagine	is coming from and find yourself in what you assume to be the town centre. There that it would usually have an upbeat and social atmosphere. But not now - people wn and their clothes wrapped tightly about their shoulders.
	There is very little conversation, but what you can hear is hushed and frantic. Nestled between two large buildings are two market stalls, their wares on display for passersby to see.	
	Off to your right you can see the Maiden and Shield - obvious because of the drunken babble and warm glow.	
	To the left is the source of the metallic noises you heard at the entrance. It is a blacksmith's forge, its furnace glowing bright. Hammering away at one of the anvils you can see a heavyset man, forging what looks like a horseshoe.	
choices		
	text	index
	Head over to the market stalls	13
	Make for the Maiden and Shield	19

Market stalls

index	13	
text	You wander over to the market stalls and glance at the wares and those selling them.	
	The first of the stalls was a large, colourful, affair. It's blue and yellow bunting fluttered in the light breeze. Laid out over the tabletop is a wide variety of gems and fine jewelry. Standing behind the stall is a short plump man in fine fabrics. He had small eyes and a large nose - a cruel smirk on his lips as he regarded you.	
	Second was a smaller stall, more subtle and easier on the eye than the garish colours of the gem merchant. Its fabrics we browns and greens - almost blending into the murky shadow behind the stalls. Scattered across the bare wooden tableto selection of twisted branches and small bundles of herbs and leaves. As you regarded the objects you noticed a druid we in the shadow - curiously watching you with deep brown eyes.	
choices		
	text	index
	Talk to the man behind the gem stall	14
	Talk to the druid woman	17
	Go back to the town centre	12

Gem Stall

index	14	
text	As you approach the stall the plump man smiles widely. "Welcome fine adventurer! Looking for something a little more expensive? A little shiny? A littlemagical?" You inform the man you are here researching the strange occurrences surrounding the nightmares that everyone in the town see to have experienced. At the mention of the dreams he winces, clearly he has experienced them as well. "Oh yes, terrible! Terrible they are, I hope you can do something about it, I sure do need my beauty sleep"	
He smiles at you again but it does not reach his eyes.		
choices		
	text	index
	Leave the man alone 13	
	Tell him that you believe he is in possession of a necklace belonging to the dead woman, you need it to free her	15

Gem Stall - asking about necklace

index	15	
text	He looks at you suspiciously and spreads his hands wide.	
	"Why would I have an item like that, and even if I didwhy would I just give it up?"	
	His eyes sparkle maliciously at this, as he waits for your response.	
choices		
	text	index
	Accuse the man of selling glass as expensive jewels	16
		·

Gem Stall - accusing

index	16		
text	You bring up what the blacksmith told you about the jewelers lies. You watch with some satisfaction as his face falls and he responds to you in a hushed voice - tripping over his words.		
	"Keep your voice down! Don't bring that up here, please don't bring it to the guards they'll kick me outyou want your necklace? Fine I have it"		
	He rummages around in a small lockbox underneath the stall and returns with a fine necklace clutched in his palm. It is fairly inconspicuous for the amount of trouble it has caused - just a simple silver chain with a number of glinting rubies hanging from the chain along its length. You feel a rush of relief as the merchant drops it into your palm.		
	"Now get out of here, the guards will start sniffing around if you're not careful"		
	Get necklace		
choices			
	text	index	
	Go back to town	12	
		•	

Druid woman

index	17	
text	"You are here investigating the nightmares?"	
	Her voice is low and you have to strain to hear her over the hubbub of the town centre. You nod at her, you say you were wonder if she had seen anything like this before.	
	She nods slowly.	
	"I have seen something like this beforeit was a spirit, trapped here when it shouldn't have been. It created nightmares as messages, so that it could be freed."	
	You say that the spirit didn't seemed to speaking any language yo	u had heard before, so how were you to follow its messages?
	"Ah of coursespirits speak with a dead tongue, you will need"	
	Her hand moves over the talismans and branches arrayed on her stall. You notice that her eyes stay fixed on you. "something like this" She hands you a small length of twisted root, simple runes scratched into one side. [can now understand ghost] [it is a spirit] + translator	
choices		
	text	index
	Thank the druid and go back	13
	[If spoken to mera] Ask how to help a spirit move on	18

Druid woman - banishing

18	
"Ahso you know who the spirit is? That's goodin order to free them and help them move on you will need to determine the cause of their entrapmentan item perhaps?"	
text	index
[Mention that the Joanne had a necklace that she loved, it had since gone missing - if previously spoken to blacksmith]	19
Tell the druid you will keep your eyes open and head back to the town centre	12
-	"Ahso you know who the spirit is? That's goodin order to free cause of their entrapmentan item perhaps?" text [Mention that the Joanne had a necklace that she loved, it had since gone missing - if previously spoken to blacksmith] Tell the druid you will keep your eyes open and head back to

Druid woman - got item

index	19	
text	"If you can find the item, you'll need to bring it to the location of her burial. Once there the spirit should take the item from you and free to move onthe burial location however is something I cannot tell youmaybe a member of her family will be able to help you?"	
choices		
	text	index
	Thank the druid for her help and go back to the town centre	12

The Maiden and Shield

20	
As you enter the inn through a large wooden door, you are greeted with a warm and friendly interior. It is lit by a large fireplation one wall and multiple wall sconces scattered around the others. A large pot is bubbling over the fire - from the smell of it it's peppery stew, ready to be served on demand. The inn is busy but not unpleasantly so and the patrons appear more friendly conversational than those outside. You assume that this is due in part to the seemingly endless supply of cheap ale. Standing behind the bar is a hard looking woman, mera you assume, who surveys the residents of the inn with a calculating You think that if any were to start getting too rowdy - they would be on the road outside the inn in an instant. You head for the	
text	index
Ask the bartender if she knows anything about the nightmares	21
Leave the inn and go back to the town centre	12
If you know about the wooded grove, go through inn and out	30
	As you enter the inn through a large wooden door, you are greeted one wall and multiple wall sconces scattered around the others. A peppery stew, ready to be served on demand. The inn is busy but conversational than those outside. You assume that this is due in Standing behind the bar is a hard looking woman, mera you assume You think that if any were to start getting too rowdy - they would be text Ask the bartender if she knows anything about the nightmares Leave the inn and go back to the town centre

The Maiden and Shield - rude interaction

index	21	
text	The bartender cuts you off as you begin to ask about the nightmares.	
	"- look here, everyone has had the same damn nightmare and no I don't know anything about it either. I've had drunken fools coming up to me all day complaining about it and thinking they're the only one. Unless you're ordering food or drink go someplace else. I don't want to hear it."	
choices		
	text	index
	Tell her Gunther sent you	22
	Leave the woman alone and go back to the town centre	12

The Maiden and Shield - polite

index	22	
text	Meras face softens and she smiles.	
	"Ah of course, apologies if I seemed a little on edgeyou have to	be to run a place like this. How can I help?"
choices		
	text	index
	Ask if she has had the nightmare too	23
	Ask if anyone has died in the town recently [if you know it was a spirit]	24
	Go back to the town centre	12
	Go back to the town centre	12

The Maiden and Shield - has she had the nightmare too

index	23	
text	"Oh of course, who hasn't eh"	
	She smiles wearily at this.	
	"I hope someone can sort this out soon - i'm starting to hear that whispering when i'm awake too"	
choices		
	text	index
	Ask if anyone has died in the town recently [if you know it was a spirit]	23
	Go back to the town centre	12

The Maiden and Shield - dead people

index	24			
text	You explain that you believe the nightmares are being caused by a spirit who is stuck in the village and wants to leave. You describe how the nightmares are effectively messages - explaining what we need to do.			
	Mera nods and waits until you are finished explaining.			
	"Okay I understand, so what do you want from me?"			
	You explain that you were hoping she could tell you if anyone had died in the town recently - especially if there had been any mysterious circumstances surrounding their deaths.			
	She furrows he brow, thinking, and suddenly her eyes widen.			
	"Of course! The Orner girlJoanne I think? She passed away recently. That must be it, I thought I recognised the voice from the dreamsshe used to come by here all the time. Her father is the local blacksmith - he might be able to tell you more. Also if you need help actually helping the spirit move on, the druid woman with the stall might be able to help you out."			
	[ghost is Joanne Orner, daughter of the blacksmith] [druid has extra info about how to banish a spirit]			
choices				
	text index			
	Thank Mera and head back to the town centre	12		
	Go around the back of the inn to the forested grove	30		

Blacksmith

ndex 2	25		
ext You make your way over to the forge - following the sound of hammering metal and roaring flame as air is pumped in from huge set of bellows. The heavyset man does not seem to notice you approach until you stand almost in front of point he stops hammering, lays down his tool and looks you over.			
u	"What's this about"		
F	His voice is gruff and hoarse, it does not seem as though he is in the mood for much conversation.		
hoices			
	text	index	
	Ask the man if he knows anything about the nightmares	26	
	Ask for any information regarding his daughter - you think it could be important for freeing the town from the nightmares [if you know the spirit is joanne]	27	
	Ask for any information regarding his daughter - you think it could be important for freeing the town from the nightmares [if		

Blacksmith - nightmares

index	26	
text	He looks at you incredulously for a moment, before shaking his head and reaching for his hammer once again. He clearly does not have anything more important to say regarding the matter.	
choices	ices	
	text	index
	Apologise for asking and retreat to the town centre 12	

Blacksmith - Joanne

27	
He looks at you for a moment as though trying to determine if you are telling the truth. After some time he nods and asks you what exactly it is that you need to know.	
s	
text	index
Ask where she was buried [if not known]	28
Ask if there was any suspicious occurrences surrounding her death [if not known about necklace]	29
	text Ask where she was buried [if not known] Ask if there was any suspicious occurrences surrounding her

Blacksmith - Burial location

index	28	
text	"She was buried in the small grove out behind the inn, in that little clearing? She always liked it out there"	
	[access to wooded grove]	
choices	ices	
	text	index
	Ask if there was any suspicious occurrences surrounding her death	29

Blacksmith - suspicious

index	29
text	The blacksmith furrows his brow and looks angry.
	"That pig of a man at the gem stall kept sniffing around - he's tried to get me to sell her necklace for years. After she passed I couldn't find the necklace anywhere. I'd put money on him having taken it"
	You say you need the necklace to help rid the town of the nightmares.

	"In that case you tell him that you know he's been selling glass as expensive jewels for years - and you'll bring it to the guards if he doesn't return what you need, that should do it"	
choices		
	text	index
	Thank him and go back to the town centre	12
		,

Wooded grove

index	30	
text	You slip out of the back door of the inn and follow a small winding path up to the crest of a low mound. The trees are packed in around the inn but as you get further away the trees fall back and give way to low shrubs and tall grasses. The clearing opens out before you and you can see a small stream weaving its way around the border before disappearing into the trees. On the far right hand side you can see a fairly fresh pile of turned earth. You recognise the location as the burial site of Joanne Orner. As you walk over to investigate the air appears to drop in temperature. You look around you and notice that the surroundings match the guards description of the nightmare almost perfectly.	
choices	hoices	
	text	index
	Listen to see if you can hear any of the whispering that the guard described	31
	OR Listen to see if you can hear the whispering described by the guard (with translator)	32

Wooded grove - whispering no translator

index	31	
text	If you do not have the translator	
	As you strain your ears to listen for any sound, you notice a quiet whispering that seems to come from all around you. It doesn't sound like any language you can understand. The whispering seems to get louder and louder, it seems to be getting more urgent and frantic but you still don't understand what it is saying. Eventually the volume reaches such a point that you cannot stay - you retreat to the town center to regain your bearings and calm your shaken nerves.	
choices		
	text	index
Go back to the town centre 12		12

Wooded grove - whispering no translator

index	32	
text	You strain your ears to listen for any sound and you do hear the whispering begin to rise around you. This time however you can understand the words that are being said. It sounds as though lots of voices are layered on top of one another so you can only make out snippets but it's enough to understand the intention.	
	"Get the necklace" "return to me" "do you have the necklace?" "Have you come to return what's mine?"	
choices		
	text	index
	Say that you have the necklace	34
	Say that you do not have the necklace but you will search for it	33

Wooded grove - No necklace

index	33	
text	When you admit that you do not have the item that the spirit is looking for, you hear the voices take on a more disappointed tone.	
	"please try to find it" "bring it to me as soon as you can wanderer"	
choices		
	text	index
	Head back to the Maiden and Shield	20

Wooded grove - has necklace

index	34	
text	As you say that you have the item the voices begin to sound more excited.	
	"You have it?" 'you are the first" "please, place it on the branch over the grave" "we cannot take it while it is in living hands"	
choices		
	text	index
	Place the necklace on a branch above the grave	35

Place necklace

index	35	
text	You reach up and place the necklace on an overhanging branch. As soon as your fingers are no longer touching the fine silver - eerie strands of mist appear to form around the necklace, wrapping around. The strands of mist take the form of human hands, more strands appear and slowly elongate - stretching down towards the ground and twisting amongst the grass.	
	These begin to produce a human shape, until eventually you are standing before a young woman. Joanne presumably. She lifts the necklace from the branch and places it around her neck. You notice that the whispers are quieter now and more refined. They do not fight over one another as much.	
	"Thank you for returning what is mine"	
	Her voice is clear now, and she lowers her head before dissipating into the same mist from which she was formed. As soon as sl is gone you feel the temperature in the clearing begin to raise and the birds you had not noticed were missing begin to sing again	
choices		
	text	index
	Return to the town and conclude your business here	36

The end

index	36	
text	You return to the town and notice immediately that the atmosphere is happier and more cheerful. Conversation continues as normal and people greet those that they recognise in the streets. The hunched soft spoken figures of before have gone and are replaced with smiling townspeople.	
	You decide to stay in the town a few more days to ensure that the nightmares have passed.	
	Once you are ready to leave the town you visit each of the residents you spoke to during your investigations to make sure they are experiencing no ill effects.	
choices		
	text	index
	Talk to Mera	37
	Talk to the Blacksmith	38

Talk to the druid woman	39
Talk to the gem merchant	40
Talk to Gunther, the guard	40

Mera - end

index	37		
text	You find Mera behind the bar of the Maiden and Shield. She looks up and seems pleased to see you.		
	"Ah it's you! Thank you so much for all you've done for our little town. It's such a relief to know that Joanne is happier now a what she needed. You're more than welcome to stay here any time."		
choices			
	text	index	
	Talk to the Blacksmith	38	
	Talk to the druid woman	39	
	Talk to the gem merchant	40	
	Talk to Gunther, the guard	40	

Blacksmith - end

index	38	
text	The blacksmith is sitting behind a grinding wheel - honing the edge on a woodcutting axe that is resting across his lap. He spots you coming and raises a hand in greeting.	
	was stuck here just made it that much worse.	ou for helping out my daughter, it's hard enough losing a loved one but knowing she Give me a shout if you're ever in town again and we'll get a drink. By the way, that m, he's been taken in by the town guards. Apparently he doesn't want to take visitors"
choices		
	text	index
	Talk to Mera	37
	Talk to the druid woman	39
	Talk to the gem merchant	40
	Talk to Gunther, the guard	40

Druid - end

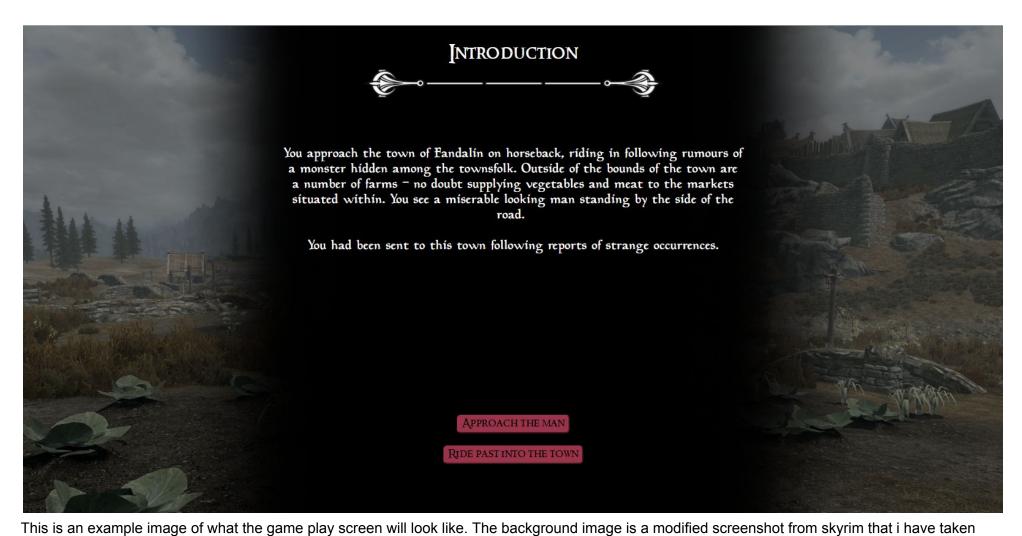
index	39	
text	The druid woman is seated behind her stall as you found her before. You do notice however, with some amount of satisfaction, the gem traders stall is empty. She watches you approach with a slight smile.	
	"I hear you weresuccessful, that is good" "The fewer unhappy spirits there arethe better"	
	You begin to remove the translator from your pocket to give back to her but she shakes her head and pushes your hand away. "No nothis is yours nowi'm sure you will find use for it" "Good luck on your travelsadventurer"	
choices		
	text	index
	Talk to the Blacksmith	38
	Talk to Mera	37
	Talk to the gem merchant	40
	Talk to Gunther, the guard	40

Guard - end

You head towards the jail block building near the entrance of town just in time to see the gem merchant being helped in throug door by a pair of guards. He sees you and scowls miserably before he is lost from view. Gunther, the guard you met at the sta watching as the guards entered the building but now turns to you with a smile.	
"Ah, it's you again. Great to see you, I was hoping you'd come by before you left."	
He gestures towards the door of the jail block.	
"It's certainly a nice change to be dealing with actual criminals now instead of complaints about those damned nightmares. Good thing you did, it won't be forgotten in a hurry i'll tell you that"	
choices	
	index
acksmith	37
	36
uid woman	38
ıic	d woman

After the player has spoken to all of the npcs and gotten their thanks and farewells, they are given the option to reset and start again.

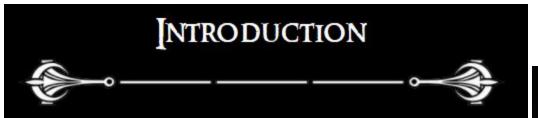
Art



and subsequently manipulated to fit the page. These images change as the player progresses through the town.



Shown here is an example of the background image changing as the player have moved forward into a new area - the stables.



You approach the town of a monster hidden among

The font choices throughout the game were picked to fit the fantasy theme better. The accent to the title was also chosen for this purpose. It also serves to break up the screen more and add extra interest for the eye.

TELL THE BOY THAT YOU CAN TELL YOUR HORSE WILL BE WELL LOOKED AFTER HERE

I did not want the buttons to look too over the top so they have a fairly clear and simple design. The font chosen helps them to blend with the fantasy theme better. The colours I picked are complementary and so look good together - the red buttons are the default and the blue are ones you have unlocked by gathering certain information.

LEAVE THE BOY ALONE

As shown here the buttons also have a simple fading animation when hovered over. It transitions from the button shown above to a lighter variant. I find that this helps the user to know where their mouse is and creates a more complete experience.