

Script: The Bard

by

Alfonso Munoz

Calgary
Canada

VIDEOGAME
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FADE IN:

VILLAGE — NIGHT

[MUSIC: N-NEUTRAL]

In the middle of a sprawling grassland, a somber village sleeps quietly.

FADE TO:

VILLAGE — CLOUDY MORNING

[MUSIC: M-NEUTRAL]

Two VILLAGERS gossiping.

BARD, broke, aspiring musician, walks through the VILLAGE gates.

Two VILLAGERS notice and RUN OFF.

The VILLAGERS RUN back with the MAYOR, the mayor of VILLAGE, in tow.

MAYOR approaches BARD

MAYOR

Ah, here you are! So glad you could make it
out to VILLAGE.

MAYOR takes BARD along and they WALK into VILLAGE together.

MAYOR

Our bleak little VILLAGE has been quite
depressed as of late though everyone tries to
hide it. I was hoping that a performer of
your calibre could remedy the situation.

MAYOR and BARD stop at VILLAGE SQUARE, the center of VILLAGE.

MAYOR

As promised, we will have \$1,000,000 ready
for you by the end of the week. Ease the
burden of my VILLAGERS and the REWARD is
yours. Well then, good luck.

MAYOR RUNS OFF.

EXPAND TO:

DAY 1: VILLAGE SQUARE — CLOUDY MORNING

[M-NEUTRAL]

BARD approaches HELPFUL VILLAGER.

HELPFUL VILLAGER

Welcome to VILLAGE. We have very little food due to the DROUGHT but please enjoy your stay. Get to know the VILLAGERS by talking to them. Or don't, I don't really care. Sigh

BARD approaches YOUNG VILLAGER.

YOUNG VILLAGER*

Man, I wish I was back in CITY. I really enjoyed going to POP IDOL's concert. It was the big trend over there!

BARD approaches GOSSIPING VILLAGERS.

GOSSIPING VILLAGER

I miss the days when the CHILDREN would run around and play. Maybe you should play with them.

BARD approaches INN KEEPER.

INN KEEPER

Get out of my sight! I don't want to see you here.

BARD approaches CHILDREN.

[M-SAD]

LITTLE GIRL

Mister, why did you come to VILLAGE? If I were you, I'd have left a long time ago. I would've gone to CITY instead.

LITTLE BOY

Yeah, there's nothing to do here. It's much cooler down in CITY. They're so trendy.

LITTLE GIRL

This place blows. POP IDOL wouldn't even
visit VILLAGE on tour.

[RADIAL MENU]

BARD PLAYS POP-ROCK

[S-HOORAY]

[M-HAPPY]

LITTLE GIRL

Did.. did you just play POP IDOL's biggest
hit? I can't believe it!

LITTLE BOY

That is siiiiick! You played much better than
POP IDOL!

BARD PLAYS OTHER

[S-BOO]

LITTLE BOY

Bro.. You suck. That was not trendy at all.

LITTLE GIRL

Sigh. VILLAGE just keeps getting worse.

[S-LOSE]

FADE TO:

NIGHT 1: INN — CALM NIGHT

[N-HAPPY]

In the middle of supper, the INN comes alive with a surprising
conversation.

LITTLE BOY

Dad, the BARD played us a song today! It was
wicked!

LITTLE GIRL

You should've heard it!

INN KEEPER

...

FADE TO:

DAY 2: VILLAGE SQUARE — CLOUDY MORNING

[M-NEUTRAL]

BARD approaches GOSSIPING VILLAGERS.

GOSSIPING VILLAGERS*

The children seem to be more energetic these days. On the other hand, I heard some scientists managed to make MACHINES sing.

BARD approaches HELPFUL VILLAGER.

HELPFUL VILLAGER

Some people are more indirect than others. In that case, look for more hints in other places. Or don't, I don't really care. sigh

BARD approaches CHILDREN.

LITTLE GIRL

Oh, mister. Will you play for us again?

BARD plays POP-ROCK

LITTLE BOY

Sweet!

BARD approaches OLD MERCHANT.

[M-SAD]

OLD MERCHANT

Hello, nice to meet ya' lad. What're you buyin'? Nothing? Oh, well, not a lot of people can afford anything these days. Come sit beside an old man.

BARD SITS beside OLD MERCHANT.

OLD MERCHANT

I used to travel the world, always in search of something new. I decided to retire in this VILLAGE but it's been stale.

[RADIAL MENU]

BARD PLAYS CHIP

[M-HAPPY]

OLD MERCHANT

That is something I have never heard before.
Thank you. You have made an old man happy.

BARD PLAYS OTHER

[S-BOO]

OLD MERCHANT

That's wonderful but nothing I haven't heard
before.

[S-LOSE]

FADE TO:

NIGHT 2: FLOWER GARDEN — WINDY NIGHT

[N-SAD]

INN KEEPER standing in the middle of a wilting FLOWER GARDEN.

INN KEEPER

sigh

INN KEEPER WALKS OFF.

In the FLOWER GARDEN, a TOMBSTONE.

FADE TO:

DAY 3: VILLAGE SQUARE - CLOUDY DAY

[M-NEUTRAL]

BARD approaches HELPFUL VILLAGER.

HELPLFUL VILLAGER

Some are more secretive than others. In that
case, it's more productive to speak to others
about them. Or don't, I don't really care.
sigh

BARD approaches GOSSIPING VILLAGERS.

GOSSIPING VILLAGERS*

The OLD MERCHANT won't stop talking about you! On the other hand, I heard that the INN KEEPER's been giving you a tough time.

BARD approaches YOUNG VILLAGER.

YOUNG VILLAGER*

The INN KEEPER is a lot kinder than people realize. He used to play music for everyone.

BARD approaches OLD MERCHANT.

OLD MERCHANT

Come again to play for the old man?

[RADIAL MENU]

BARD PLAYS ANY.

OLD MERCHANT

Wonderful, though not something I haven't heard before.

BARD enters INN.

[N-SAD]

INN KEEPER is looking at a PICTURE FRAME with a somber expression. CHILDREN in the other room.

INN KEEPER notices BARD.

[M-NEUTRAL]

INN KEEPER*

How many times do I have to tell you to stay away from my INN? Get out of here!

BARD exits INN.

BARD approaches CHILDREN.

LITTLE BOY**

Dad wants me to clean out the shed. Can you

do it for me instead?

LITTLE GIRL**

Don't be lazy. You have to learn to do your chores.

LITTLE BOY

Fine.

BARD ENTERS SHED.

BARD picks up GUITAR.

NIGHT 3: OUTSIDE OF THE SHED - CALM NIGHT

[N-NEUTRAL]

BARD enters INN.

INN KEEPER

How many times do I have to tell you to stay away from my INN? Get out of here!

BARD stands his ground.

INN KEEPER

What do you want from me? Just leave!

BARD PRESENTS GUITAR.

[N-SAD]

INN KEEPER

.. Why do you have that?!

INN KEEPER SNATCHES GUITAR back.

[RADIAL MENU]

BARD PLAYS SERENADE.

INN KEEPER

She.. she loved flowers and I.. loved music.
She loved it everytime I played. I, uhh,
thank you.

INN KEEPER WEEPS openly.

BARD PLAYS OTHER.

[S-BOO]

INN KEEPER

GET OUT!

INN KEEPER THROWS GUITAR at BARD.

[S-LOSE]

FADE TO:

NIGHT 3: FLOWER GARDEN - CALM NIGHT

[N-HAPPY]

In the calm of the night, the flowers start to BLOOM in BRIGHT COLORS.

FADE TO:

DAY: VILLAGE SQUARE - CONCLUSION

[M-HAPPY]

The CROWD looks on as BARD WALKS to the CENTER.

MAYOR

As promised for making our VILLAGE a happier place, we award the mysterious BARD a sum of \$1,000,000.

CROWD CHEERS.[S-CROWD(?)]

[RADIAL MENU]

BARD PLAYS SUCCESS SONG.

BARD DISAPPEARS. CROWD STARTS TO MURMUR.[S-MURMUR(?)]

MAYOR

Where'd he - Oh well, have a good day everyone! I'm off to go shopping.

FADE OUT.

THE END