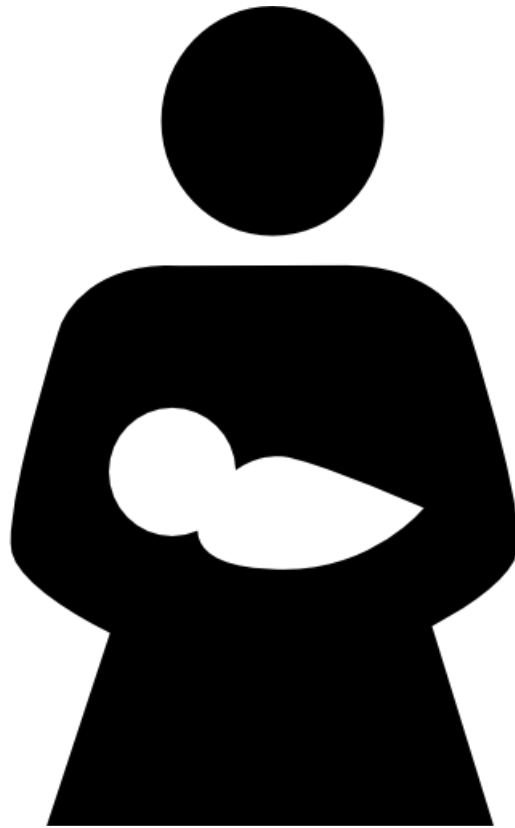


# Game overview



## A Burden?

---

## Elevator pitch

---

I've developed a PvP game that prompts players to reflect on their abusive relationships.

## Concept

---

### Overview

- **Genre:** Hide and seek
- **Target audience:**
  - **Age:** 15+
  - **Gender:** Male/Female

### Theme and setting

A single mother, who has devoted herself to raising her daughter and providing homeschooling, harbors intentions that are often difficult to foresee. She frequently changes their living environment, opting for isolated places, and actively undermines her daughter's relationships with others. This behavior stems from her deep-seated fear that her daughter's affection for her will diminish if she forms close bonds with other individuals.

The central theme of this suspenseful narrative revolves around **deception and the desperate battle for survival** within a deeply dysfunctional mother-daughter relationship.

1. **Desperation and Survival:** The theme of desperation and survival is evident as the daughter seeks to escape her locked room, discover the truth about the elusive university letters, and ultimately confront her abusive mother. The mother, on the other hand, is willing to take extreme measures to protect her secret, even if it means resorting to violence.
2. **Control and Abuse:** The abusive nature of the mother's actions underscores the theme of control and abuse. Her locking the daughter in her room and her sinister intentions reveal the extent to which she is willing to exert control over her child's life.
3. **Fate and Consequences:** The story's climax revolves around the consequences of the characters' actions and choices. It explores the theme of fate and the irrevocable impact that their decisions have on their lives.

Abusive parents who harm their children physically, emotionally, or psychologically can be considered criminals under the law. Child abuse is a serious crime in many jurisdictions, and those who engage in abusive behaviors can face legal consequences, including arrest, prosecution, and imprisonment.

## Backstory

---

In a small, isolated town nestled deep in the countryside, there lived a single mother simply known as Mom, and her daughter, referred to as Child. Their life had always been shrouded in secrecy and control. Mom had grown up in an abusive household herself, scarred by the trauma of her own childhood. As a result, she harbored deep insecurities and fears about losing the love and affection of her daughter, Child.

When Child was born, Mom resolved to shield her from the world's harshness. She chose to homeschool Child, citing concerns about the dangers of the outside world. This decision isolated them from the community, leaving Child with few friends and little exposure to the outside world.

As Child grew older, her dreams of attending university ignited her desire to explore the world beyond their secluded existence. She aced her exams, setting her sights on a brighter future. However, the acceptance letters from universities remained conspicuously absent, casting a shadow of doubt over her dreams.

Their strained relationship was marked by Mom's controlling behavior. Every day, she would lock Child's room, asserting a level of control that suffocated her daughter's aspirations. Child's curiosity about the locked room and the missing university letters grew with each passing day.

Meanwhile, Mom harbored a dark secret, one she had hidden from Child for years. She had obtained a mysterious parcel, the contents of which were intended for a sinister purpose. On Child's upcoming birthday, Mom planned to use these contents in a way that would forever change their lives.

Mom's desperation to protect her secret was fueled by her fear of losing Child's love, even if it meant resorting to extreme measures. This dark secret was a heavy burden, one that had festered for years, and Mom was determined to keep it hidden at all costs.

As Child's suspicions about her locked room and the missing university letters grew, she embarked on a mission to uncover the truth. Unbeknownst to her, this quest would lead her to the heart of her mother's sinister plan and confront a reality she had never imagined.

Their lives were on a collision course, as secrets, deception, and the desperate battle for survival converged in a gripping and suspenseful tale of love, fear, and the haunting presence of hidden truths.

## Characters

---

### Mom

---

#### Backstory

The mother's backstory is a poignant and harrowing tale of her own troubled upbringing, which has deeply influenced her actions and personality:

Born into a dysfunctional family: The mother, whose name is Sarah, was born into a dysfunctional and abusive family. Her parents struggled with addiction and mental health issues, creating a chaotic and unstable environment during her childhood.

Early experiences of abuse: From a young age, Sarah experienced various forms of abuse, including physical, emotional, and neglect. These traumatic experiences left her with deep emotional scars and a pervasive sense of vulnerability.

Desire for a better life: Despite her challenging upbringing, Sarah held on to a dream of escaping her tumultuous family life and creating a better future for herself. She yearned for stability, love, and security.

Escaping her past: As she reached adulthood, Sarah worked tirelessly to escape her tumultuous past. She pursued higher education and built a career, determined to break the cycle of abuse that had plagued her family for generations.

Becoming a mother: Sarah's life took a different turn when she became a mother. Her love for her child, Emily, was unwavering, and she was determined to provide the stability and security she had longed for as a child.

Fears and insecurities: However, Sarah's traumatic past left her with deep-seated fears and insecurities. She constantly worried about losing Emily's love and believed that keeping her isolated and under her control was the only way to protect her from the world's dangers.

The weight of secrets: Over the years, Sarah's desire to shield Emily from harm led her to keep a dark secret hidden away. This secret became a heavy burden, one that she was willing to protect at all costs.

Sarah's backstory serves as a powerful backdrop to her character, highlighting the profound impact of her own traumatic experiences on her actions as a mother. It adds depth to her character and underscores the complexity of her motivations and choices in the narrative.

## Personality

The mother's personality is marked by a complex interplay of emotions, motivations, and traits that shape her actions and decisions:

1. **Protective Love:** She loves her child deeply and unconditionally, and this love is the driving force behind many of her actions. She believes that she is protecting her child from potential harm by keeping her isolated and controlling her environment.
2. **Insecurity and Fear:** The mother's personality is marred by deep-seated insecurities and fears. Her own traumatic past and experiences have left her with lingering anxieties, particularly about losing her child's affection. These insecurities drive her to take extreme measures to maintain control.
3. **Control Issues:** Her controlling nature is a prominent aspect of her personality. She feels the need to have a tight grip on her child's life, believing that it's for her child's own good. However, this controlling behavior often becomes suffocating and detrimental.
4. **Deception:** She engages in deceptive acts to protect her hidden secrets. This deception stems from a desire to shield her child from painful truths, even if it means resorting to dishonesty.
5. **Desperation:** As the story unfolds, her desperation becomes more pronounced. She is willing to go to great lengths, including resorting to violence, to protect her secrets and maintain her control over her child.
6. **Conflict:** Her personality is riddled with inner conflict. She grapples with the consequences of her actions, torn between her love for her child and her need to safeguard her secrets. This inner turmoil adds depth to her character.
7. **Complexity:** Ultimately, her character is a study in complexity. She is not purely a villain but a deeply flawed individual whose actions are driven by a mix of love, fear, insecurity, and a troubled past.

## Appearance

In her 50s, grey hair.

## Special abilities

She possess a gun.

## Child

---

### Backstory

The child's backstory paints a picture of a resilient and determined individual who has faced adversity from a young age:

**Early years of isolation:** The child, known as Emily, spent her formative years in a secluded and isolated environment. Her mother, Sarah, chose to homeschool her, citing concerns about the outside world's dangers. This decision left Emily with limited social interactions and few opportunities to explore the world beyond their home.

**Academic excellence:** Despite her isolated upbringing, Emily demonstrated exceptional academic aptitude. She excelled in her studies, earning top grades and dreaming of a future filled with educational opportunities.

**Dreams of higher education:** Emily's dreams revolved around attending university and pursuing higher education. Her ambition was fueled by a deep curiosity about the world and a desire to escape the confines of her isolated existence.

**Absence of acceptance letters:** As Emily approached the age for university applications, she dedicated herself to her studies and excelled in her exams. However, despite her impressive academic achievements, she found herself waiting in vain for acceptance letters from universities, creating a sense of frustration and disappointment.

**Curiosity and determination:** Emily's natural curiosity and determination served as powerful motivators. She grew increasingly curious about her mother's locked room and the mysterious parcel she discovered, setting her on a path to uncover the truth.

**Conflict of emotions:** Emily's journey is marked by an inner conflict. Her love for her mother, Sarah, is undeniable, but it is juxtaposed with her desire for personal freedom and the pursuit of truth. This conflict propels her forward on her quest.

**Resilience and courage:** Emily's character is defined by her resilience and courage. She faces adversity head-on, confronting the unsettling reality of her mother's actions and risking everything to uncover the secrets hidden within their home.

Emily's backstory portrays her as a character who, despite the challenges of her upbringing, possesses a deep sense of determination, resilience, and an unyielding yearning for a brighter future beyond the confines of her isolated world.

### Personality

The child's personality is characterized by resilience, curiosity, and a longing for freedom amidst a challenging and abusive environment:

1. **Resilience:** Despite facing adversity and an abusive mother, the child exhibits remarkable resilience. She refuses to be entirely subdued by her circumstances and maintains a spark of determination to overcome the obstacles in her life.
2. **Curiosity:** The child's natural curiosity about the locked room and the mysterious parcel becomes a driving force in the story. Her desire to uncover the truth and escape her isolated existence propels her into a perilous quest.
3. **Yearning for Freedom:** The child yearns for freedom and a life beyond the confines of her isolated existence. Her dreams of attending university and exploring the world symbolize her desire for personal autonomy and a brighter future.
4. **Empathy:** Despite her difficult circumstances, the child possesses empathy and compassion. She loves her mother and grapples with the conflicting emotions of love and fear as she uncovers the truth about her mother's actions.
5. **Courage:** As the child's pursuit of truth and freedom intensifies, she exhibits remarkable courage. She is willing to confront the unsettling reality of her mother's intentions and face the consequences of her actions.
6. **Conflict:** The child's personality is marked by internal conflict as she navigates the complexities of her relationship with her mother. Her love for her mother clashes with her need for independence and the pursuit of truth.
7. **Quest for Identity:** The child's journey becomes a quest for identity and self-discovery. She seeks to understand her own place in the world and confront the shadows of her past.

## Appearance

18 years old, hippie teenager

## Gameplay

---

### Game progression

---

In a deeply unsettling and strained mother-daughter relationship marked by abuse, a mysterious parcel served as a harbinger of hidden secrets. The abusive mother, plagued by her own demons and driven by a desire to maintain control, had concealed this parcel away from her daughter's prying eyes. Little did she know that the contents of this parcel held the key to unraveling the enigma of her past.

Meanwhile, the daughter, resilient and determined despite the adversity she faced, had her sights set on the parcel. To her, it represented not only a chance to uncover the truth but also the possibility of finding the acceptance letters from the universities she had long dreamt of attending.

Their lives became a perilous dance of secrecy and discovery. The daughter's relentless search for the parcel was fueled not only by her dreams of a brighter future but also by the desperate need to escape the abusive grip of her mother. In her quest for the truth, she risked everything, knowing that the contents of that parcel held the power to reshape their lives in profound ways.

It was a high-stakes journey, fraught with danger and emotional turmoil, as the daughter pursued her dreams, yearning for a future that promised freedom and escape from the clutches of her abusive past.

## Objectives

---

Mom

Hide evidence

Child

Seek truth

## Mechanics

---

### Movement

Move - WASD + Arrow Keys

Run - Shift key + Move

### Objects

Drag objects - Hold right mouse button

Need to be close enough to the objects to interact with it

### Actions

Combat

Gun - Click middle mouse button

Interacting with objects

Open drawers/doors/fridge/oven/closet - Right click

Need to be close enough to the objects to interact with it

## Reading

Move to the next line - Hit enter key

Need to wait till both the speech and text is completed.

## Level walkthrough

---

Every day, the routine begins with the mother locking her daughter's room, a seemingly innocent act that conceals dark intentions. Unbeknownst to the daughter, this lock is merely a prelude to a sinister plan.

The daughter, having excelled in her exams, eagerly awaits the acceptance letters from universities. Despite her stellar academic performance, these coveted letters remain elusive, casting a shadow of doubt and frustration over her dreams.

One fateful day, as the daughter notices that she is locked inside her room, her curiosity is piqued. Determined to uncover the truth, she embarks on a mission to find the keys that will liberate her from this unexpected confinement.

Simultaneously, the mother, harboring a mysterious parcel, conceals it with great care. The contents of this parcel are intended for a dark purpose, one that will be revealed on her daughter's upcoming birthday.

The mother is driven by a deep-rooted need to protect her secret at all costs. The moment she senses her daughter's proximity to the parcel, she is willing to go to unimaginable lengths to safeguard her hidden agenda, even if it means taking her daughter's life.

As the tension mounts, the story hurtles towards a gripping climax, where the daughter's quest for freedom converges with her mother's sinister plot. In this high-stakes narrative, secrets and deception entwine to create a chilling tale of suspense, danger, and the desperate battle for survival.