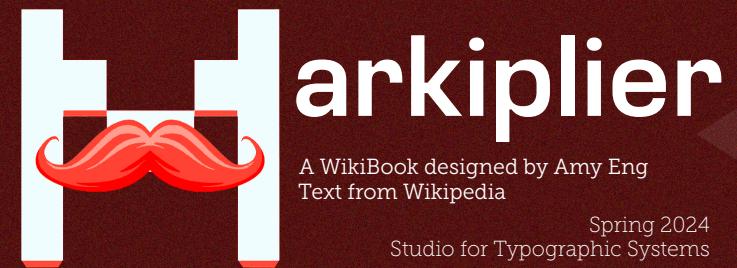
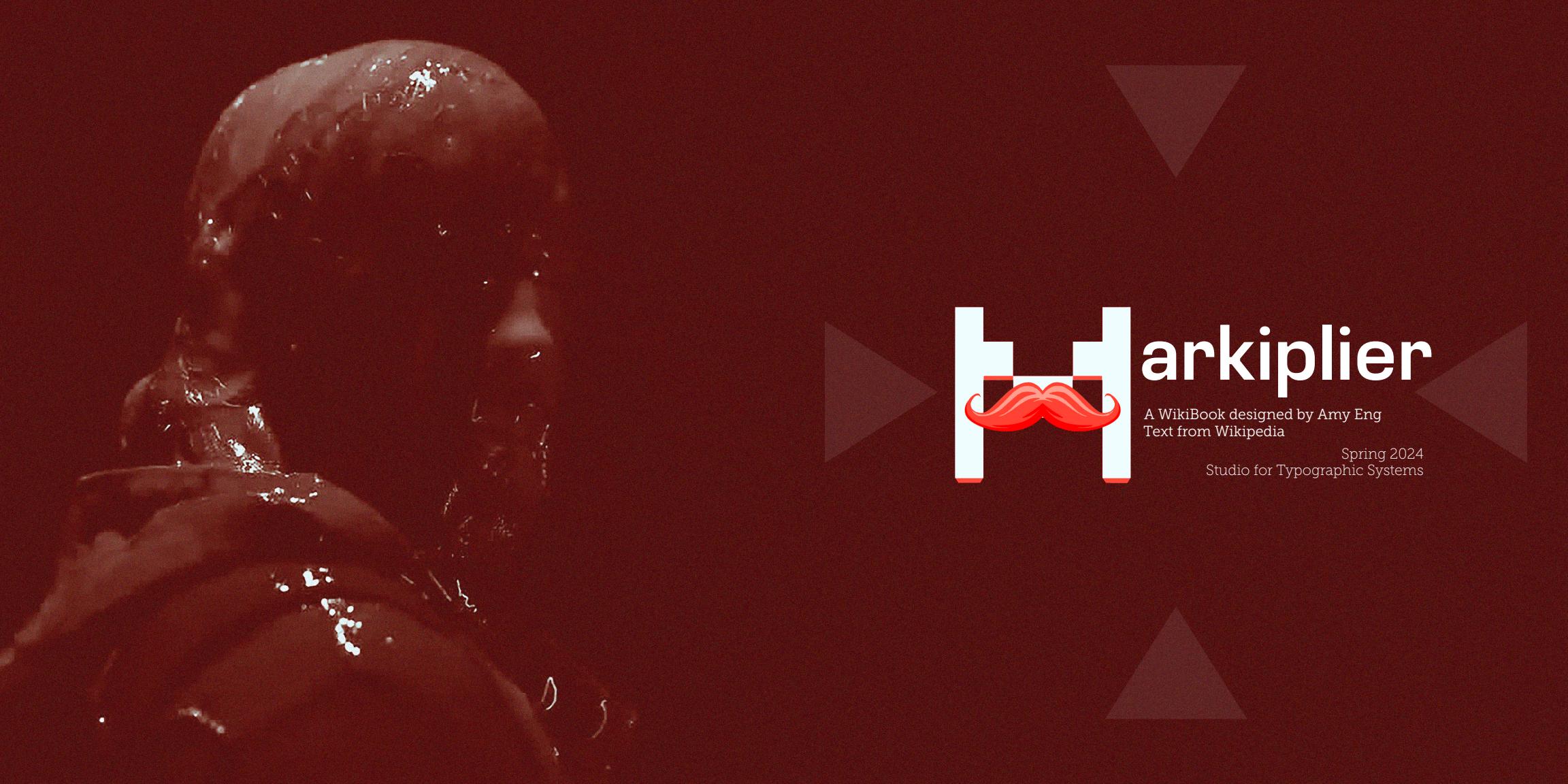




A WikiBook by Amy Eng

MARKPLIER

ACTOR DIRECTOR PRODUCER COMEDIAN SCREENWRITER
CINEMATOGRAPHER PHILANTHROPIST VOICE ACTOR ENGINEER
CAPTAIN ASTRONAUT MURDERER ENTITY CHOREOGRAPHER
POLE DANCER COOKARTIST SECURITY GUARD GAMER
ENTERTAINER CONTENT CREATOR



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introduction

Mark Edward Fischbach, (born June 28, 1989), known online as Markiplier, is an American YouTuber, actor and filmmaker. He mainly uploads Let's Plays and is known for his videos of indie horror games. After joining YouTube in 2012, Fischbach became popular on the platform with Let's Plays of Amnesia: The Dark Descent (2010) and the Five Nights at Freddy's series.

As of June 2023, his channel has over 35 million subscribers.

In April 2023, Fischbach announced he was leading production of the horror film Iron Lung, which will be his theatrical film debut.



After expressing an interest in more traditional entertainment, Fischbach signed with talent agency William Morris Endeavor in 2016. In the following years, he went on a live tour, started a clothing line named Cloak, wrote and directed the YouTube Original series A Heist with Markiplier (2019) and In Space with Markiplier (2022), and hosted or co-hosted several podcasts—two of which reached No. 1 on Spotify. In 2023, Fischbach moved to United Talent Agency.

Fischbach is one of the most popular gaming YouTubers on the platform.

He was listed by Forbes as the third highest-paid content creator on the platform in 2022, and has won four Streamy Awards and a Golden Joystick Award for "Best Streamer/Broadcaster".

He has also ventured into other forms of media, such as podcasts, web series, and films. He is set to make his feature film debut in Iron Lung.





early life & education

Mark Edward Fischbach was born on June 28, 1989, in Honolulu, Hawaii. His father Clifton was a German American military officer who met his Korean mother Sunok Frank while stationed in South Korea. Fischbach's maternal family history is explored in the 2022 documentary *Markiplier from North Korea*.

After Fischbach was born, the family moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, but his parents divorced when he was young. Fischbach graduated from Milford High School in 2007 and enrolled at the University of Cincinnati, where he took a biomedical engineering program. His father died in 2008. Fischbach met Wade Barnes in sixth grade and roomed with Bob Muyskens in his freshman year—they would both become his long-term friends and collaborators.

In 2012, Fischbach was beset by many different issues: he went through a breakup, was laid off of his job, moved to an apartment after his mother kicked him out of her house, had an emergency appendectomy and went into debt. After being hospitalized because of an adrenal tumor, he

"Decided that he wanted to do something else."

youtube career

early years and growth

2012-2014

Fischbach registered his first YouTube channel on March 6, 2012. He originally intended to upload comedy sketches and action videos.

He named the channel "Markiplier", a portmanteau of Mark and multiplier,

as he would be portraying all the characters in the sketches. Fischbach later said it was a "really dumb name".



However, Fischbach also had a lifelong interest in video games and decided to



do gaming videos while the trend was growing. His first series was a Let's Play of *Amnesia: The Dark Descent* (2010), and the channel reached over 94,000 subscribers within the year.

YouTubers with over one thousand subscribers were then eligible to earn money under YouTube's AdSense program. However, Fischbach had problems with his AdSense account which prevented him from monetizing his videos, and he was forced to move to his current channel in April, originally named "markiplierGAME". He dropped out of university the same year to support his growing online career, only two semesters away from graduating. In early 2014, Fischbach moved to Los Angeles to be closer to potential business opportunities.

hiatus and breaking 10 million subscribers 2015

Fischbach and Janet Varney co-hosted the 2015 South by Southwest Gaming Awards, and he was featured in YouTube Rewind.

He was ranked sixth in a list of the twenty most influential celebrities among teenagers in the United States.



Fischbach and fellow YouTuber Jenna Mae appeared on Jimmy Kimmel Live! in September 2015 following backlash Kimmel received regarding jokes he made about YouTube and Let's Play videos.

Fischbach began living with fellow YouTubers Daniel Kyre and Ryan Magee, who ran the YouTube channel Cyndago. In September 2015, Kyre was found in critical condition after attempting suicide in his room. He was hospitalized, but taken off life support two days later. Cyndago was disbanded and Fischbach went on hiatus from YouTube for a month before returning on October 5.

He reached 10 million subscribers on the 15th.



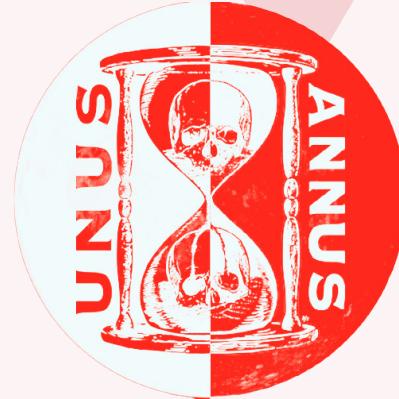
continued growth and larger projects 2016-2019

In November 2016, Fischbach signed with talent agency William Morris Endeavor (WME). His first project with WME was his "You're Welcome Tour" in Spring 2017, in which Fischbach and four other YouTubers—Muyskens, Barnes, Tyler Schied, and Ethan Nestor—performed thirty-one shows across the United States and Europe. Fischbach had said to Variety that he was interested in more traditional entertainment. Taking five months to plan, he incorporated musical, comedy and improv elements and audience participation in the tour.

In January 2018, Fischbach began producing exclusive content for Twitch as part of a deal with Disney Digital Network. His YouTube channel reached 20 million subscribers in March, before going on another hiatus in June to mourn his step-niece Miranda Cracraft, who had been killed in a car accident aged nineteen, raising over \$79,000 for her funeral through GoFundMe.

In October 2019, interactive special *A Heist with Markiplier* was released as his first YouTube Original. Produced by Fischbach and Rooster Teeth, the special follows two burglars—the viewer and Fischbach—and contains 31 possible endings. Fischbach had released a similar project titled *A Date with Markiplier* in 2017.

On November 15, 2019, Fischbach launched a new channel with fellow YouTuber Ethan Nestor (formerly known online as CrankGameplays) called *Unus Annus* (Latin for "one year"),



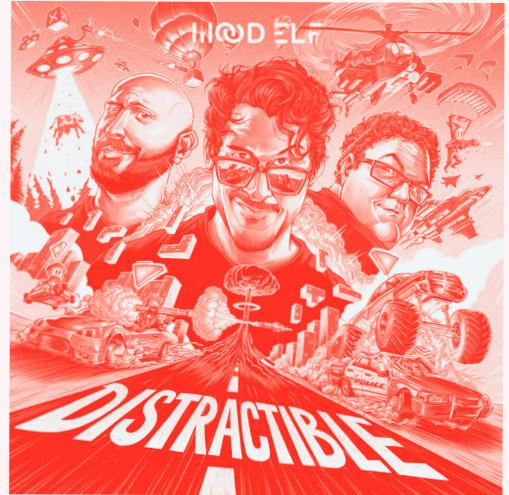
A channel which planned to upload a video every day for one year, after which the channel would be deleted along with its videos.

The channel rose to early success, gaining 1 million subscribers in its first 5 days and 4.56 million in its last few minutes, and over 11.5 million video views in its first week. Following a final 12-hour live stream that peaked at over 1.5 million concurrent viewers, the channel was deleted by Fischbach and Nestor on November 14, 2020, at 12:00 a.m. PST.

podcasts and new projects 2019-2023

Fischbach starred and co-produced a podcast drama called *The Edge of Sleep*, which follows a night watchman who discovers that everyone who fell asleep the previous night died and must try to stay awake. The first project from QCode's Wood Elf label, *The Edge of Sleep* debuted September 2019, and was renewed for a second season set for 2023. Fischbach will reprise his role in a television remake produced by New Regency, which as of 2023 has been fully shot and is being taken out to buyers. Lio Tipton and Eve Harlow will also star.

Fischbach, alongside Barnes and Muyskens, host the podcast *Distractable*. Also produced by Wood Elf,



It rose to No.1 on Spotify and Apple Podcasts' charts when it was launched in May 2021.

Fischbach and Scheid also launched *Go! My Favorite Sports Team* in February 2022, a comedy podcast where the enthusiast Scheid and the unknowledgeable Fischbach discuss sports.

The two-part In Space with Markiplier (2022) was again produced by Fischbach and Rooster Teeth as his second interactive YouTube Original. The viewer takes on the role of the captain of a collapsing spaceship with Fischbach playing its head engineer.

In Space was nominated for Outstanding Interactive Media at the first Children's and Family Emmys Awards.



Deadline announced at the start of March 2023 that Fischbach had signed with United Talent Agency (UTA). A week later, it was announced at Spotify Stream On that Spotify would exclusively host new video episodes of Distractible and Go! My Favorite Sports Team. Fischbach also said he was working on an upcoming film. On April 21, Deadline announced that Fischbach had begun production on a film adaptation of the 2022 indie horror game Iron Lung by David Szymanski. Fischbach is directing, producing, writing, and financing Iron Lung himself. The film stars him and Caroline Rose Kaplan.



content



Fischbach is best known for his Let's Plays of indie horror games. Fischbach has collaborated on sketch comedy and gaming videos with a number of fellow YouTubers, including Ethan Nestor, Jacksepticeye, LordMinion777, Muyskerm, PewDiePie, Matthias, Game Grumps, Cyndago, Yammimash, jacksfilms, CaptainSparklez, Egoraptor and LixianTV, the last of whom currently works as his editor. He has also collaborated with celebrities such as Jack Black and Jimmy Kimmel.

five nights at freddy's

Fischbach uploaded his first Let's Play of the survival horror game Five Nights at Freddy's (2014) on August 13, 2014. As of November 2023, the video has over 114 million views, making it his most-viewed Let's Play. Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF) was an indie game that had been released only five days prior. However, it quickly saw viral success after YouTubers such as Fischbach made videos playing it, with viewers being drawn by the hilarity of their "over-the-top" reactions.



colophon

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