

= Planetarian : The Reverie of a Little Planet =

Planetarian : The Reverie of a Little Planet (planetarian ? ????????? ? , Planetarian : Chiisana Hoshi no Yume) is a Japanese post @-@ apocalyptic visual novel developed by Key , a brand of VisualArt 's whose previous works include Kanon and Air . It was released over the Internet on November 29 , 2004 for Windows PCs , and is rated for all ages . The game was later ported to the PlayStation 2 (PS2) and PlayStation Portable , as well as mobile devices . The story centers on a middle @-@ aged man who comes across a malfunctioning robot in a dead city . The man , known simply as " the junker " , stays with this robot for a time and attempts to fix the projector of the planetarium where the story takes place .

Key defines Planetarian as a " kinetic novel " , since its gameplay offers no choices or alternate endings . Instead , the player proceeds through the story solely by reading . The story is written by Y?ichi Suzumoto and Planetarian is one of two Key games not to have Itaru Hinoue as an artist , using Eeji Komatsu instead . The game 's soundtrack was composed and arranged by Key 's signature composers Magome Togoshi and Shinji Orito . A light novel of short stories set in the world of Planetarian was released in April 2006 , and three audio dramas have also been produced . An original net animation adaptation premiered in July 2016 and an anime film will be released in September 2016 . Planetarian 's story , artwork and music have been praised , and the PS2 version ranked first for console games in terms of satisfaction in 2007 .

= = Gameplay = =

Planetarian is a post @-@ apocalyptic visual novel in which the player assumes the role of the junker . Unlike traditional visual novels , no choices are given to the player in Planetarian to advance the story , and there is only one possible ending ; this is what Key referred to as a kinetic novel . The player can choose when to advance to the next dialogue screen or put the game on auto play . In this respect , the player does not play the game as if it were a video game , but plays it rather more like one would play a music track on a CD or play a DVD film . During gameplay , the player can choose to hide the text from view and go back to any previous lines . The game can be saved at any point in any of the five save slots available , and a load option is available where the player can load any of the automatically saved chapter markers , or choose to load any of the manually saved games .

By length of story , Planetarian is the shortest of Key 's games . Excluding the opening and ending sequences , there are 16 parts to the story ; the first half is set within the planetarium while the latter half is set outside in the ruined city where the planetarium resides . The novel takes four hours and forty minutes to complete on auto play . After the game has been completed at least once , two new options appear on the title screen . The first is a feature that allows the player to view twenty images of CG artwork observed in the game . The second option allows the player to listen to eight of the nine music tracks featured in the game .

= = Plot = =

= = = Setting = = =

The game is set in a post @-@ apocalyptic world . It is said that due to the depletion of natural resources , overpopulation , and the failure of the Space Exploration Project , humanity has virtually eradicated itself through biological and nuclear warfare , turning a once prosperous civilization into complete ruin , cast in darkness and poisoned by constant rain from nuclear fallout . One military invasion in the past was at Mare Nectaris . The bloodshed continues 30 years after the war in a dystopic world via automated war machines , which kill anyone trespassing into their territory . Of the remaining humans , there are those known as " junkers " who go around scavenging for anything in order to survive ; the protagonist in the story is one .

The main location where most of the story takes place is the fictional Flowercrest Department Store in a derelict city . It is based on the real Matsubishi Department Store of Hamamatsu , Shizuoka in Japan , although the planetarium on the rooftop is fictitious . The onset of the story takes place within the planetarium which is where the protagonist first meets Yumemi . The most prominent feature in the room when a show is not taking place is the large black planetarium projector called " Miss Jena " , which is placed on a stage in front of the seats . The planetarium has electricity when the protagonist arrives , but only for a short time . Once a year , for 168 hours , electricity in the planetarium is operational , but the projector is broken . The rest of the floors in the department store are in ruins ; mold and rats run rampant .

= = = Characters = = =

The junker (?? , Kuzuya)

Voiced by : Daisuke Ono

The protagonist is a nameless middle @-@ aged soldier living the life of a " junker " ? scavenging useful items among ruined cities to survive . He enters a derelict city searching for undamaged goods and finds an abandoned planetarium on the roof of a building he first thinks is a military facility . There , he meets Yumemi Hoshino , a gynoid designed to look like a young girl who annoys him greatly due to her constant talking . The protagonist has a tough personality that comes from trying to survive in a dystopic world . He carries a grenade launcher with him and covers himself with a waterproof coat to protect his skin from the toxic rain . For drinking water , his canteen has a water purifier that can purify the rain . He is constantly searching for rarer substances such as cigarettes and alcohol which can be sold at high prices .

Yumemi Hoshino (?????? , Hoshino Yumemi)

Voiced by : Keiko Suzuki

Yumemi is a goodhearted but extremely talkative gynoid attendant of an abandoned planetarium ; she is designed to look like a young girl . Yumemi is slightly damaged and completely unaware of the changes that have occurred in the past 30 years , as none of the facilities and databases that she connects to exist anymore . Therefore , she treats the protagonist like a regular guest by calling him " Mr. Customer " (??? , Okyaku @-@ sama) , speaks of the world as it was before the war , and fails to understand any information he tells her , other than things related to her job at the planetarium . The name " Hoshino Yumemi " itself is a pun ? " hoshi " means star or planetary body ; " no " is a possessive particle ; " yume " is a dream or a reverie ; " mi " means see . Yumemi is the only character shown to the audience of the game .

Yumemi is very adamant about protecting humans and is happiest when she is helping those she serves . When she is unable to help someone , she gets terribly worried that she is incapable of offering assistance and must instead indirectly help a customer by directing him or her to someone who can . Protecting humans is her top priority and will even ignore previous orders to make sure no human is harmed when in her care .

= = = Story = = =

While dodging detection from war machines in a ruined city , the protagonist enters a building with a dome on the roof to search for usable supplies . Once inside the dome , he meets Yumemi , who offers to show him a special commemorative projection especially reserved for the 2,500,000th customer , although he is in fact the 2,497,290th customer . Despite his aggravation with her , he agrees to attend her show . However , the projector device , " Miss Jena " , has broken down and is in need of repair . After he repairs it , Yumemi starts the show , presenting a projection of the starry sky , something that cannot be seen from the surface because of the polluted skies . The power goes out in the midst of the show , but Yumemi proceeds through the rest of the event with no visuals at the request of the protagonist .

Afterward , both of them leave the planetarium , as Yumemi insists on escorting him back to his vehicle outside the city walls . The protagonist plans to transport Yumemi out of the city after her

battery runs out and find a way to reactivate her . A machine the protagonist calls a fiddler crab , due to its design , is guarding the entrance to the city in which he came from , and he devises a plan to destroy it armed with only a grenade launcher . After his initial plan fails and he is forced to face the machine front on , Yumemi tries to protect the protagonist , but is blown in half by the war machine 's machine guns .

Yumemi spends her emergency battery life replaying her pre @-@ war memories to the protagonist using a tiny holographic projector on her ear . When the video fades , she reveals that she had known that the planetarium would never have more customers during the 30 years she was alone , despite her apparent infinite optimism up to this point . In her final moment as she " dies " in front of him , Yumemi ejects the memory card from her artificial brain for his safekeeping . Touched and completely shaken by the loss of the beautiful world she left in his mind , he throws away his gun and puts the memory card in his coat , before wandering off with a broken leg as the fallen war machine 's automated backup units are closing in on the scene .

= = Development = =

Planetarian is Key 's fourth visual novel , and had a small staff of three main people that did the majority of the work for the game 's first release . Unlike previous Key titles , Planetarian 's art director position was given to Eiji Komatsu instead of Itaru Hinoue who had held the position for the three previous games . Komatsu was chosen not only because of his specialty in depicting mechanics and robots , but also because he could represent short scenes which touch on a robot 's existence to reproduce a person 's ideals . Furthermore , Key was not short on staff at the time , and was not forced to outsource the artwork of Planetarian . Jun Maeda , Key 's main scenario writer and project planner , was left out of the project , and Y?ichi Suzumoto was given the position of planning and scenario . The music , excluding a single piece composed by Shinji Orito , was arranged or composed entirely by Magome Togoshi , one of Key 's signature composers . Planetarian was the first game under the brand name KineticNovel to be described by the term " kinetic novel " .

In the original version , Yumemi is only voiced during the beginning and ending scenes , while other characters are not voiced . When Planetarian was released for Windows PCs on CD @-@ ROM , Yumemi had full voice acting . The PlayStation 2 (PS2) port offers full voice acting for the entire cast . Other changes to the PS2 version include a higher resolution for the computer graphics and an extended soundtrack . All other later versions contained full voice acting .

= = = Release history = = =

Planetarian was released on November 29 , 2004 via download over the Internet playable on Windows PCs , and was first made available only to Yahoo ! Japan Broadband users . The game was opened up for general sale on December 6 , 2004 . Key released a CD @-@ ROM version for Windows PCs on April 28 , 2006 in limited and regular editions . An updated version of Planetarian compatible for Windows Vista PCs was released by Key on July 31 , 2009 in a box set containing five other Key visual novels called Key 10th Memorial Box . Another updated version compatible for Windows 7 PCs called Planetarian : The Reverie of a Little Planet Memorial Edition was released on April 30 , 2010 . The Memorial Edition also came bundled with the three previously released Planetarian drama CDs . An HD edition for Windows will be released on July 29 , 2016 . Planetarian was released on Steam by Sekai Project in English for Windows on September 12 , 2014 , with later support planned for OS X and Linux devices . The Steam release was updated on September 17 , 2014 to allow the user to switch to the original Japanese version of the game .

A consumer console port of the game was released for the PS2 on August 24 , 2006 by Prototype . A version playable on FOMA mobile phones was released by Prototype through VisualArt 's Motto on November 24 , 2006 . < A limited edition version of Planetarian developed by Prototype playable on the PlayStation Portable (PSP) was available for purchase between February 28 and March 1 , 2009 at Key 10th Memorial Fes , an event held in commemoration of Key 's ten @-@ year

anniversary . A downloadable version of the PSP release via the PlayStation Store was released by Prototype on August 24 , 2009 . Prototype again sold the PSP version at their Prototype Fan Appreciation 2010 event on May 30 , 2010 . The PSP version was re @-@ released on May 12 , 2011 as a fundraising release for the 2011 T?hoku earthquake and tsunami . A mobile app version playable on Android and iOS devices was released on November 30 , 2011 . An updated iOS version released in January 2013 includes support for English readers .

= = Adaptations = =

= = = Light novel = = =

A light novel featuring a collection of four illustrated short stories , including a prologue and an epilogue , and based on Planetarian 's story were written by Y?ichi Suzumoto and illustrated by Eeji Komatsu . The 243 @-@ page novel was originally bundled with the limited edition of the CD version of Planetarian , and was also included in the limited edition of the PlayStation 2 version . The book was re @-@ published as a commercial release by VisualArt 's under their VA Bunko light novel imprint on October 31 , 2008 , and was the second title on the imprint . A downloadable version of the novel titled Hoshi no Hito : Planetarian Side Story on Android devices was released on November 30 , 2011 , followed by a version on iOS devices on December 14 , 2011 . The first two stories presented occur before the events of the kinetic novel , and the latter two occur during its aftermath . The front matter of the book reads , " Starry sky , words , God , robots . A collection of short stories in the key of these four themes . " A short preview of the book is available online .

Snow Globe (??? , Sun? Gur?bu)

This story occurs before the events of the war that brought the world to ruin ; at this point , Yumemi has been working at the Flowercrest Department Store 's rooftop planetarium for about ten years . One day , Yumemi begins to act strangely , culminating in her simply walking out and wandering around the town . The staff of the planetarium are bewildered , and one of the workers ? a woman named Satomi Kurahashi ? is ordered to go follow Yumemi and bring her back . Before long , Yumemi begins to run out of battery power .

Jerusalem (????? , Erusaremu)

This story occurs as the war reaches its height . The South American Unification Army receives reports of a rogue sniper operating deep in the jungles of Patagonia , and sends a platoon under the command of Master Sergeant Murdock to neutralize the threat . However , the entire platoon is killed off one by one by the sniper , until only Murdock is left . All alone , Murdock catches a glimpse of this mysterious sniper through his binoculars ? and is shocked to find that he gazes upon the figure of a beautiful nun .

Hoshi no Hito (??? , lit . " Man of the Stars ")

This story occurs some time after the events of the kinetic novel , as human civilization struggles in a losing battle against the poisonous rain . Three of the last inhabitants of a nearly abandoned underground fallout shelter ? named Levi , Ruth , and Job ? find a quaint old man collapsed in the snow outside the bunker . When they bring him down , they are surprised to hear the adults calling him " Man of the Stars " . The children grow quite interested about his strange nickname , as well as the fact that they have never seen a visitor from the outside world . The old man recovers a bit and has the children help him in putting together a portable planetarium projector . This story offers an ultimate conclusion to the story in the kinetic novel .

Tircis and Aminte (????????? , Chirushisu to Amanto)

Identical twins Tircis and Aminte study alone in a world of their own . Tircis begins to wonder why he is studying and how long will it go on . This is the story of how the answer reveals itself to Tircis and Aminte .

= = = Drama CDs = = =

Three drama CDs were released by Key Sounds Label based on the short stories in the light novel . The first , A Snow Globe , was released on December 29 , 2006 at Comiket 71 bearing the catalog number KSLA @-@ 0027 ; it was later re @-@ released on May 25 , 2007 with a different cover . The opening track takes place one year before the protagonist arrives at the planetarium and the " Snow Globe " story is told as a flashback . The end of the drama CD is where the kinetic novel begins . The second drama CD , Jerusalem , was released on July 27 , 2007 bearing the catalog number KSLA @-@ 0029 . The insert song " Brave New World " by fripSide is included at the end of the drama CD . The final drama CD , Hoshi no Hito , was released on July 27 , 2007 bearing the catalog numbers KSLA @-@ 0030 ? 0031 . This drama CD covers both the " Hoshi no Hito " and " Tircis and Aminte " stories . A cast of voice actors perform the characters in " Hoshi no Hito " , but " Tircis and Aminte " is a recited story by Keiko Suzuki , the voice of Yumemi Hoshino .

= = = Anime = = =

A five @-@ episode original net animation (ONA) adaptation was produced by David Production and directed by Naokatsu Tsuda . The series premiered on July 7 , 2016 on Niconico and other online services . The screenplay is written by Tsuda and Shogo Yasukawa . Hitomi Takechi based the character design used in the anime on Eiji Komatsu 's original designs . Sound and music direction is headed by Tsuda and Takayuki Yamaguchi . Katsuichi Nakayama and Shunsuke Machitani are the series directors . The anime 's music is composed by Magome Togoshi , Shinji Orito , Donmaru and Tomohiro Takeshita . The ending theme of the ONA series is " Twinkle Starlight " by Sayaka Sasaki . The image song " Worlds Pain " is by Ceui . The same staff will also produce an anime film titled Planetarian : Hoshi no Hito that will premiere in Japanese theaters on September 3 , 2016 .

= = = Episode list = = =

= = Music = =

The visual novel has one main theme song , the ending theme " Hoshi Meguri no Uta " (?????? , Song of Circling Stars) sung by Mell of I 've Sound , an arrangement of the folk song by Kenji Miyazawa . The Planetarian Original Soundtrack was released on August 11 , 2006 at Comiket 70 by Key Sounds Label bearing the catalog number KSLA @-@ 0025 ; it was later re @-@ released on December 28 , 2006 . The soundtrack contains one disc with twelve tracks composed , arranged , and produced by Magome Togoshi , and Shinji Orito ; themes originally composed by Charles Crozat Converse and Miyazawa were remixed on the soundtrack . " Hoshi no Sekai (Opening) " (??? , World of Stars (Opening)) and " Itsukushimi Fukaki " (????? , Deep Affection) are rearrangements of the hymn " What a Friend We Have in Jesus " by Converse , and their titles reflect this as well : " Hoshi no Sekai " refers to the Japanese version of the hymn named " Hoshinoyo " , and " Itsukushimi Fukaki " is the Japanese translation of the hymn 's original title . A single performed by Sayaka Sasaki and Ceui will be released on July 27 , 2016 for the ONA series titled " Twinkle Starlight / Worlds Pain " .

All songs arranged by Magome Togoshi , except where noted .

= = Reception and sales = =

In a review by Marcus Estrada of Hardcore Gamer , he praised Planetarian for having a " beautiful story , " gorgeous CGs and a soundtrack that " sets a melancholic , but hopeful mood fitting with the story . " He also noted that " even as an aging property Planetarian still looks and sounds good . " Planetarian is one of several kinetic novels featured in the Lycée Trading Card Game ; Yumemi and the planetarium are playable cards in the second VisualArt 's card set . In the February 2007 issue of SoftBank Creative 's Gemaga magazine , the PS2 version ranked first for console games in terms

of satisfaction ; the game had ranked fourth in the previous issue . In the Japanese video game magazine Famitsu released on September 8 , 2006 , it was reported that the PS2 version of Planetarian sold 8 @, @ 170 units the week of August 21 to August 27 , 2006 (the PS2 version was originally sold on August 24 , 2006) . When the PSP version was re @-@ released as a fundraising event for the 2011 T?hoku earthquake and tsunami , 16 @, @ 663 units were pre @-@ ordered by the day of its release on May 12 , 2011 . From these sales , Prototype and VisualArt 's donated 22 @, @ 415 @, @ 069 yen .