

= Poison ( Final Fight ) =

Poison ( ???? , Poizun ) is a fictional character in the Final Fight and Street Fighter series of video games . Created by Akira Yasuda for Capcom , Poison first appeared in the original Final Fight alongside a similar character , Roxy , later appearing in Capcom @-@ produced games , media and merchandise related to the Street Fighter franchise . She is voiced by Atsuko Tanaka since the Street Fighter III series and Masae Yumi in SNK vs. Capcom : SVC Chaos .

Originally conceived as a female thug in Final Fight and part of the game 's antagonist group , Mad Gear , concerns during the game 's development about reactions from North American audiences to fighting women , resulted in the character being re @-@ imagined as a trans woman . However , that was not considered satisfactory and both Poison and her palette swap Roxy were replaced by the male characters " Billy " and " Sid " , and have been for every subsequent North American port of the title on Nintendo consoles and handhelds . After the Final Fight series , she later appeared alongside wrestler Hugo , acting as his manager , with her schemes revolving around finding a tag team partner for him or developing their own wrestling organization . Poison was also to appear in both Capcom Fighting All @-@ Stars and Final Fight : Streetwise ; however , the former was canceled , and she was omitted from the latter as development progressed . Following those aborted attempts , she ended up appearing as a playable character on Street Fighter X Tekken . She was also added as a playable character to Ultra Street Fighter IV .

The character 's status as potentially a trans woman , consciously left ambiguous by the developers , has remained a topic of frequent debate by both fans and media alike .

= = Conception and history = =

Poison 's first appearance in Final Fight featured her and a palette swap character named Roxy as recurring minor enemies for the player to fight . Named after the band by an unnamed female employee at Capcom , she was designed by Akira Yasuda to contrast against the bigger characters in the game and move about randomly . According to the book All About Capcom Head to Head Fighting Games and Final Fight director Akira Nishitani , the characters were originally planned to be cisgender females , but were changed to " newhals " ( a Japanese term for pre @-@ op trans individuals ) after the game 's release , due to the suggestion that " hitting women was considered rude " in America and the concern that feminist groups would sue . However , concept artwork included in the 2005 compilation Capcom Classics Collection of the pair specifically uses the kana for ' newhalf ' ( ?????? ) , contradicting the statement the change occurred post @-@ release .

A later appearance by Poison as a playable character in Final Fight Revenge , an American @-@ produced 3D fighting game spinoff of Final Fight , portrayed the character in a highly feminine manner and had her romantically interested in Final Fight hero Cody . Commentary about her ending in the game in All About Capcom suggested that the character may have received sex reassignment surgery . The Final Fight @-@ related character profiles featured in Capcom Classics Collection instead allude to her being a cross @-@ dresser , while addressing Roxy as a " she " who dislikes Poison 's cross @-@ dressing .

The discrepancies regarding Poison have been addressed more than once in interviews with former and current Capcom employees . Nishitani stated that he supposed the character " could be male " , but added it was up to the viewer to decide . He later clarified in a discussion on Twitter that in his personal view Poison was a woman . Street Fighter IV 's producer Yoshinori Ono , when asked in an interview about the matter , stated : " Let 's set the record straight : In North America , Poison is officially a post @-@ op transsexual woman . But in Japan , she simply tucks her business away to look female . " He later emphasized it again when asked about what female characters could be included in the game Street Fighter IV , stating that it would be too confusing to include her due to the region @-@ specific gender . However , in a 2011 interview with Electronic Gaming Monthly at the Tokyo Game Show , he stated that Capcom " doesn 't have a stance technically " , and while they wouldn 't give an official answer , felt it was up to the viewer to decide . He added that his intent was to please all fans and that the mystery behind her gender was the core of the character . During

the same interview , a Capcom representative further added that they worked closely with GLAAD , an organization concerned with the portrayal of LGBT people in media , to ensure " anything that might be offensive has been very tailored to not be " for Poison 's portrayal in Street Fighter X Tekken .

== Designs ==

Poison is shown to be a female with long , rugged , pink hair . She wears a black cap , a choker , cutoff , blue jean @-@ shorts , red high @-@ heels , and a tanktop cut just below her breasts . In Final Fight Revenge and some artworks , her hair is shown to be purple instead . She wears several armbands around her right arm and has chains and a pair of handcuffs suspended off her shorts . Final Fight Revenge features her also possessing a whip used in attacks , though the character has not been shown with one in other titles or artwork ( other than Street Fighter X Tekken and Ultra Street Fighter IV ) . Poison stands about 5 feet 9 inches ( 175 cm ) tall and has three sizes of 34 @-@ 25 @-@ 35 " ( 88 @-@ 66 @-@ 89 cm ) .

Poison was given a secondary outfit for Capcom Fighting All @-@ Stars alongside her primary classic attire . Made of shiny , silvery material it consisted of boots that extended halfway up her thighs and a combined sleeveless shirt / short skirt with a plunging neckline . Gloves and a small hairband were also added , as well as a belt , with the handcuffs hanging off of it . Her arm straps were removed , though the strap around her neck remained .

The concept art section of the promotional comic for Final Fight : Streetwise showcased concept art by designer Trent Kaniuga for the game , including a reimagined Poison . The design features red hair , a red micro skirt showing a hint of underwear , a jacket , a button @-@ up white shirt showing some of her abdomen , black high @-@ heeled boots , a gold belt , and a wool cap . In August 2006 , Kaniuga revealed three additional alternate designs on ConceptArt.org 's internet forum ; one being the classic look ; another being a white button @-@ up shirt with red pants , high @-@ heels , and short hair ; and the third keeping the high @-@ heels and pants , but adding shades , returning her hair to full length and swapping the shirt for a jacket with deep cleavage . All four designs use the same color scheme , belt , and handcuffs .

== In video games ==

Introduced in the original Final Fight , Poison is an orphan from Los Angeles . She enjoys fighting and uses it as a means to stay in shape , making use of her ties with the original Mad Gear Gang to keep herself out of prison . In Final Fight Revenge , her behavior was represented as womanly and sultry , ranging from flirtatious comments to pole dancing . She frames Cody for her assault crimes and gets him arrested by Edi . E , though she later visits him in jail having developed romantic feelings for him . In the Street Fighter III series , she reappears working as a wrestling manager for her friend Hugo , who could not find a tag team partner due to his immense strength . From here their plots would focus on the two searching for a tag partner or starting their own wrestling association , echoed in their SNK vs. Capcom : SVC Chaos appearance . Poison later appeared as a playable character alongside Hugo in Street Fighter X Tekken with similar goals , and in Ultra Street Fighter IV , in which she combined the concept with a rock band theme in her character ending .

Poison was also planned to appear both in Capcom Fighting All @-@ Stars and Final Fight Streetwise , though the first game was canceled and she was cut from the second . In Mighty Final Fight , a super deformed parody of the character named " Poison Kiss " appears as a generic enemy , a corrupt cop and characterized as her younger sister . Poison has also appeared based on her role as Hugo 's manager on cards for SNK vs. Capcom : Card Fighters Clash and the game 's Nintendo DS sequel , as well as the related printed trading card game . Poison appears as one of the spectators in the Metro City stage in Marvel vs. Capcom 3 : Fate of Two Worlds .

== Gameplay ==

In the original Final Fight , Poison and Roxy both utilized standing and acrobatic flip kicks to attack the player . As one of the fighters in Final Fight Revenge , her moveset was expanded heavily , and she was armed with a whip . The whip is used primarily in her Cat Claw and Thunder Whip attacks ( which are comparable to Shoryuken / Shinryuken styled attacks , respectively ) , and can be used to steal a weapon from the opponent . Additionally , her handcuffs can be thrown as a horizontal projectile move to immobilize the opponent for a short time .

One particular attack , Poison Kiss , has her blow a large heart @-@ shaped kiss at the opponent that travels in a sine wave path . If it connects , a quick peep show of Poison in several erotic poses is displayed , and afterwards the opponent is shown stunned with hearts dancing over their head . Defeating an opponent with this attack results in Poison doing a pole dance for her win pose , with her whip serving as the pole . Though not playable in the beta test of Capcom Fighting All Stars , promotional material released by Capcom for the title show that this move would have been retained for her gameplay . However , in Ultra Street Fighter IV , her Poison Kiss follows up with several slaps and a groin kick when it hits the opponent , similar to her Cross Art move from Street Fighter X Tekken .

As for the Street Fighter series , starting from Street Fighter X Tekken , Poison has a unique moveset of her own that mixes agile Pro Wrestling techniques and her own streetfighting abilities . Poison 's standard throws include a multi @-@ hitting slap and a Frankensteiner , Aeolus Edge and Kissed by a Goddess which are the names of her Fireball and Shoryuken @-@ like moves , and Whip of Love which is a multi @-@ hitting whip attack and is done in a similar fashion to Fei Long 's Rekkas . Her famous flip kick from the original Final Fight games appears as a special called Love Me Tender . After the flipping axe kick , Poison can follow this move up with a reverse Frankensteiner ( Poison @-@ Rana ) . In addition , Poison 's Super Art is called Love Storm , and starts with her charging a large version of Aeolus Edge . Once it hits , she flips into the air and lands with a hard hitting axe kick that stuns the opponent in a prone position . Afterwards , she repeatedly smacks the opponent with her horse whip and delivers a final blow that knocks them into the air . Poison also retained her signature backflip from the original game .

== = Censorship == =

When Final Fight was ported to the Super Nintendo Entertainment System , an American playtester working for Capcom reviewed the content during the localization process with one of the Japanese designers and objected to the protagonist hitting females . While Akira Yasuda pointed out that the characters had already been made into trans women , believing this to be an acceptable compromise , Poison and Roxy were replaced with regular male punks named " Billy " and " Sid " in the English localization despite his objections . This change has been repeated with every English port to Nintendo consoles , including the Game Boy Advance version Final Fight One and the Wii 's Virtual Console . English versions of the Sega CD port censored the characters in a different manner , redrawing both of them with longer shirts and shorts , and covering the under @-@ cleavage shown when the characters were struck .

== = Promotion and reception == =

Poison has been featured in various promotional Street Fighter related artworks , as early as Street Fighter II . Additionally she has been used as a cameo character three times in the Street Fighter Alpha series . In terms of merchandise , an immovable model was being made for the 2008 Capcom Girls Collection line of figurines by Mitsumasa Yoshizawa , using her Final Fight attire and at 1 / 6 height , standing nearly 11 inches tall . A similar model was released later on , identical to the previous figurine except with her giving a thumbs down gesture and darker colors . A version with blonde hair was later released as well . In Capcom 's press kit for the 2010 release of Final Fight : Double Impact , a pink hair spray was included in tribute to the character , with the text describing it as " For men , women , and everything in between . " Capcom later featured her as one of the

characters for their Capcom Girls 2011 calendar .

In February 1991 , Gamest magazine named her one of the top fifty characters in video games of 1990 , placing her twenty @-@ sixth on their list . UGO.com ranked her thirtieth on their " Top 50 Videogame Hotties " list , citing her as " one of the most controversial video game characters to date . " Former Tips & Tricks executive editor Wataru Maruyama cited her design as an example of how an outfit is worn compared to its complexity can make a character memorable and stand out , stating " to use a phrase I don ' t particularly like to use , she totally worked it . " She has also been a subject drawn by non @-@ Capcom artists , such as Falcoon . GameDaily ranked her twenty @-@ third on their " Top 25 " list of their favorite Capcom characters , stating of the characters in Final Fight " The Mad Gear gang is a feisty bunch , and we could 've picked anyone from the list ... Instead , we selected Poison " . GamesRadar named her one of twelve Street Fighter related characters they wished to see in Super Street Fighter IV , arguing that her status should not be an issue against her inclusion and that the character deserved another stand @-@ alone appearance of her own . Later , GamesRadar included her in the list of " The 30 best Capcom characters of the last 30 years " . Joystiq named her their favorite character of the Final Fight series , stating that her " hypersexualized appearance and random flipping " made the character memorable , and that the controversy over her gender made the character even more so .

As the exact nature of Poison 's status as gender @-@ variant has been left deliberately ambiguous by Capcom , the topic has remained a popular subject for debate among fans and gaming media alike . Electronic Gaming Monthly 's Eric L. Patterson described her as being a significant character to the trans community , and a perfect example of how it is " so awkward when it comes to knowing how to deal with characters who aren 't white , male , and heterosexual " in video games . Complex pointed her out as an example of stereotypical depiction of trans hookers , listing Poison among The 15 Most Stereotypical Characters in Video Games . GamesRadar commented " Poison holds a distinction as one of gaming 's first trans characters , which began as a strange choice in localization but has become a part of the character that she wears with pride . If you take issue with it , that 's your problem , not hers . It 's that kind of confidence that makes her so appealing . "