

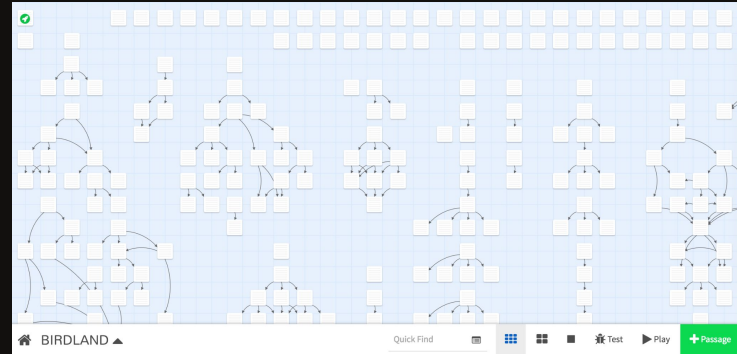
THE DARK ROOM

Tanisha and Kyra

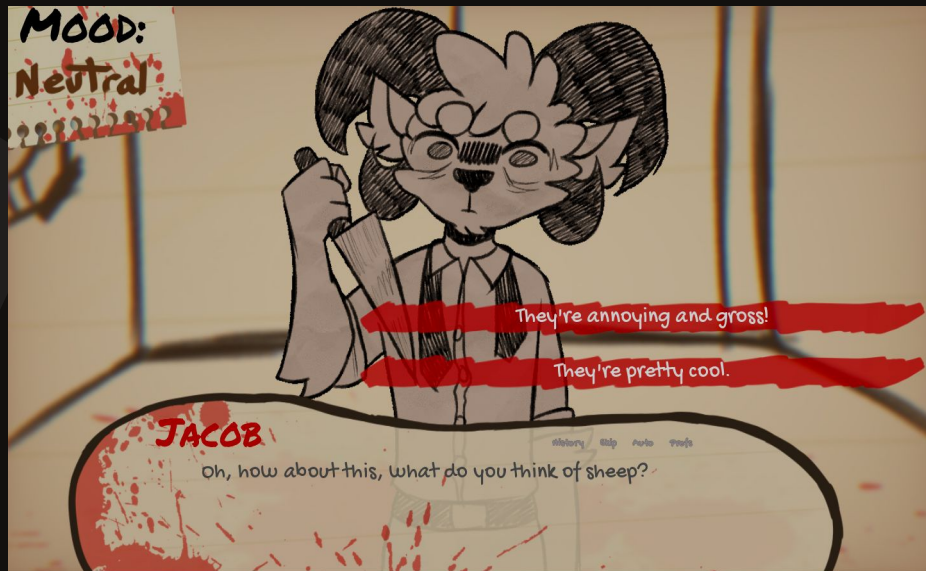


Our CONSIDERATIONS

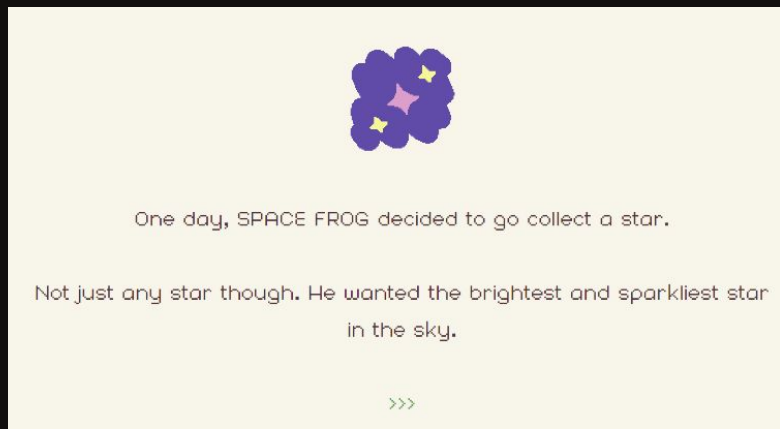
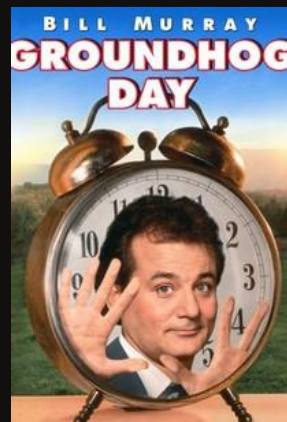
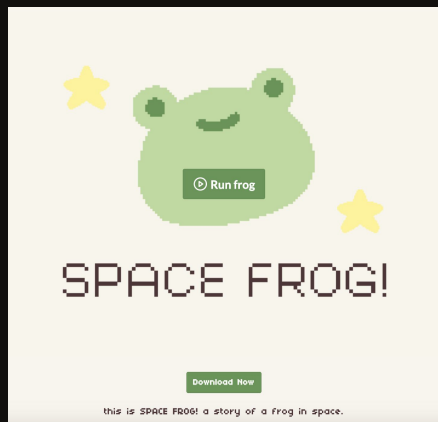
- Our strengths: writing and programming
- Our preferred aesthetics: narrative and challenge
- Tanisha's unity was not working...
- The theme: night and day
- Finally... our IDEA



Our REFERENCES

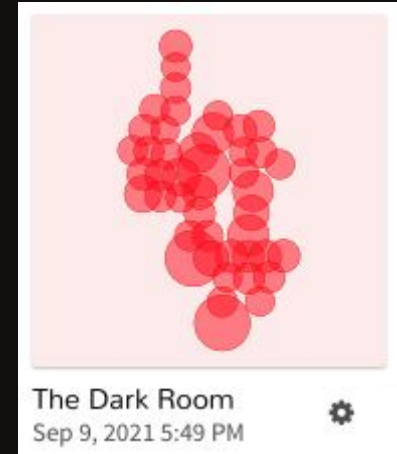


hmm, where should I start?



Our REFERENCES

- Space Frog // **itch.io**
 - Aesthetic (Discovery and Narration)
- Do Not Kill Me Jacob // **itch.io**
 - Dynamics (writing style and interactions with user)
- Groundhog day // **movie**
 - Day & night concept



The IDEA

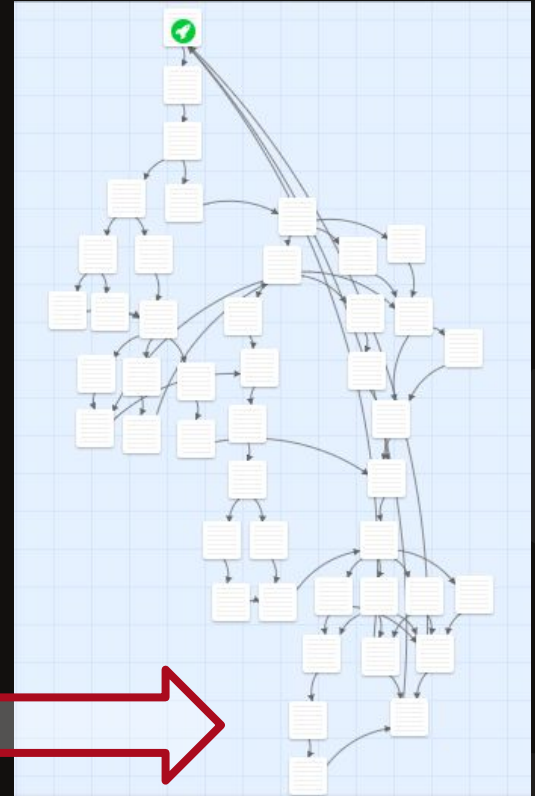
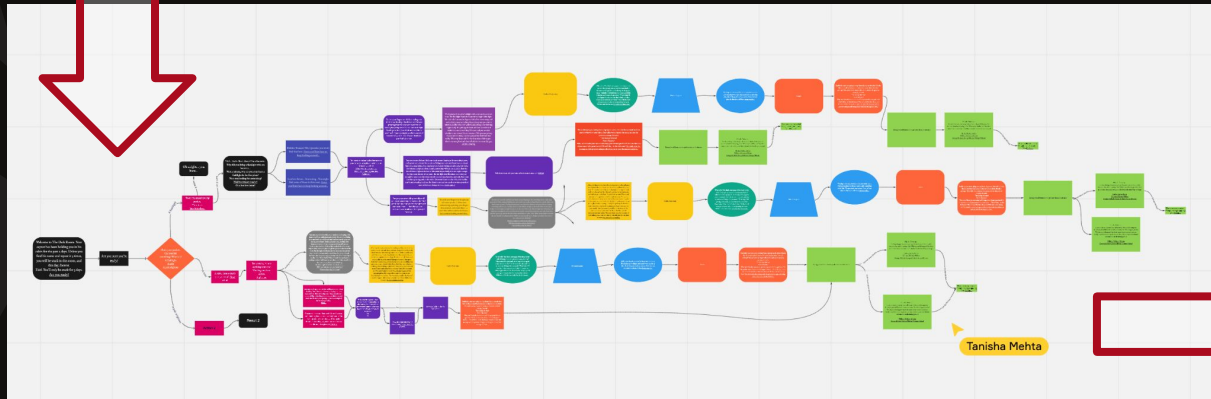
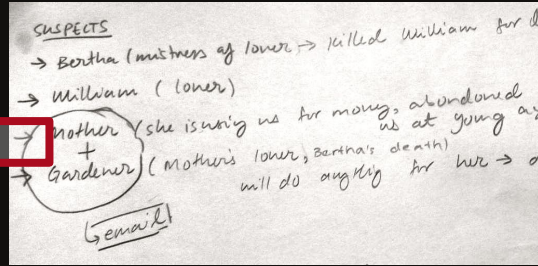
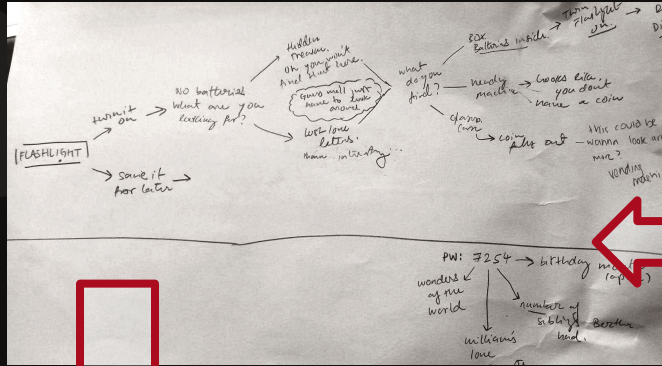
A story about an individual stuck in a **dark room** and a **time loop**.
The only way to escape the **night** and survive the **day** is to say their kidnappers name three times. They have three days before they are in the loop forever...

DAY AND NIGHT

Wow, now that's a mouthful! Though, nothing's happening yet... **Oh wait-**

It is the next morning!!! You made it through the night. So [REDACTED] was indeed the kidnapper, huh? **Why'd [REDACTED] do it?**

Our PROCESS



The ACCOMMODATIONS
we had to make to meet the deadline

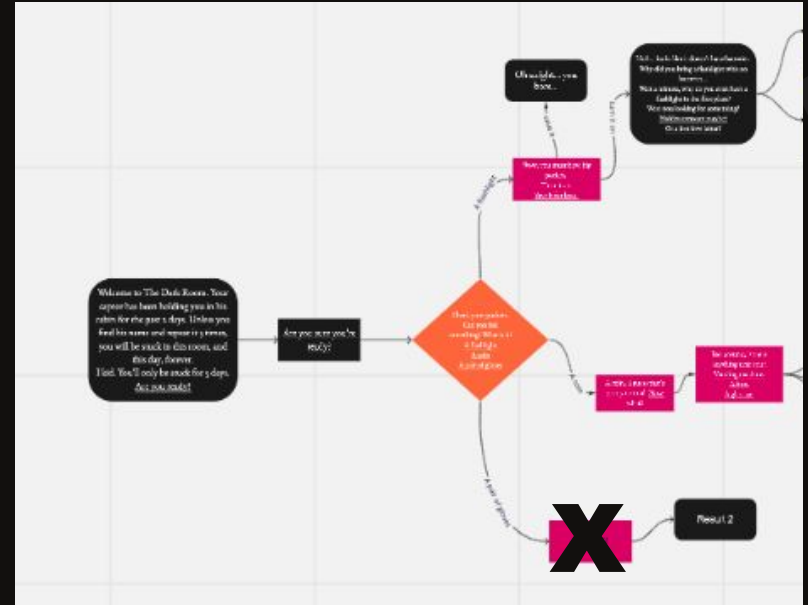
what we **NEED** vs what we **WANT**

- A loop back to the introduction (repetition of days) - **mechanic**
- # of “lives” (at least 3) - **mechanic**
- At least two suspects to grapple with - **dynamic**
- A few short stories & “gems” that the player can discover based on the branches they choose - **dynamic & aesthetic**

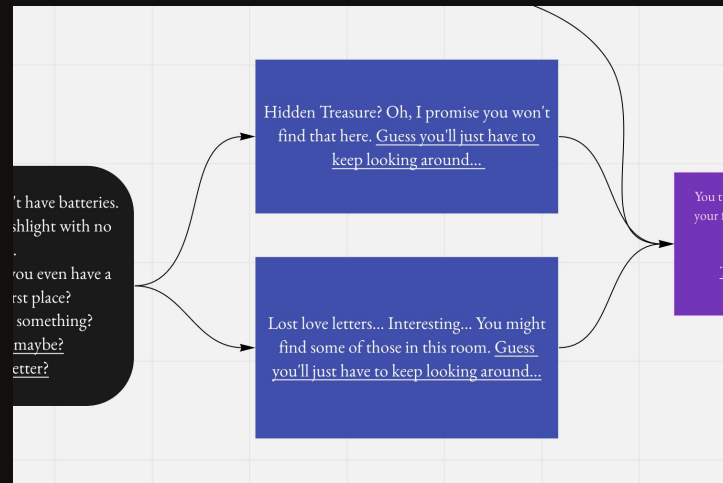
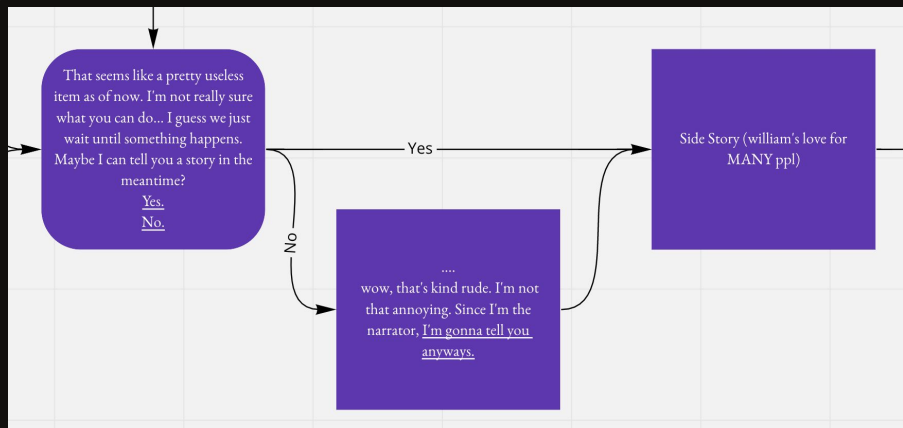
- ✗ Pictures & sound - **mechanic**
 - ✓ A little more difference in color and formatting eg. outlines, fonts, moving text, etc.
- ✗ Three different story lines - **dynamic**
- ✓ More suspects to choose from - **dynamic**
- ✗ Mini games (more, we only had one) **dynamic & aesthetic**

Turning down the complexity...

- In our Miro planning, we began with 3 start options of what's in your “pocket”
 - “coin” + “flashlight” + “gloves” → “coin” + “flashlight”
- Cut down the # of potential suspects (and thus, the # of back-stories we had to write)



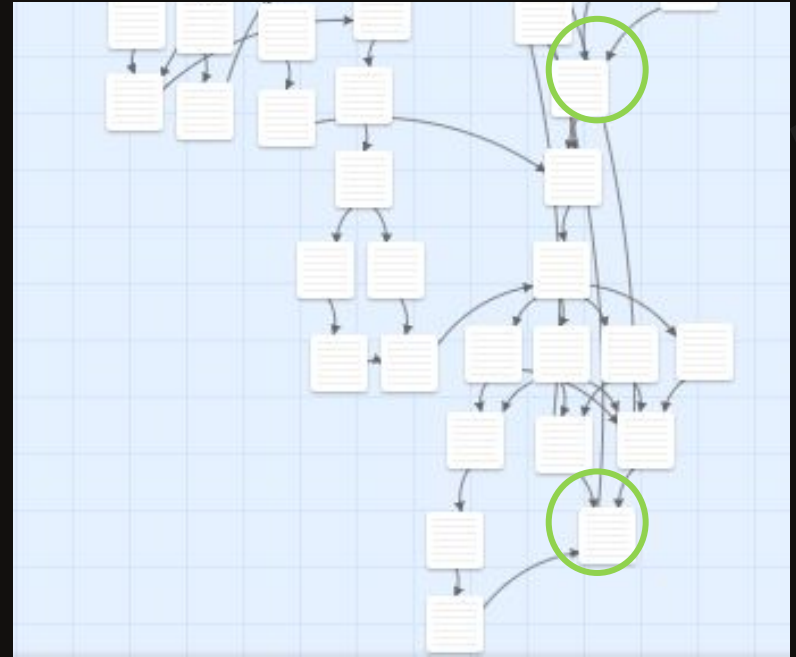
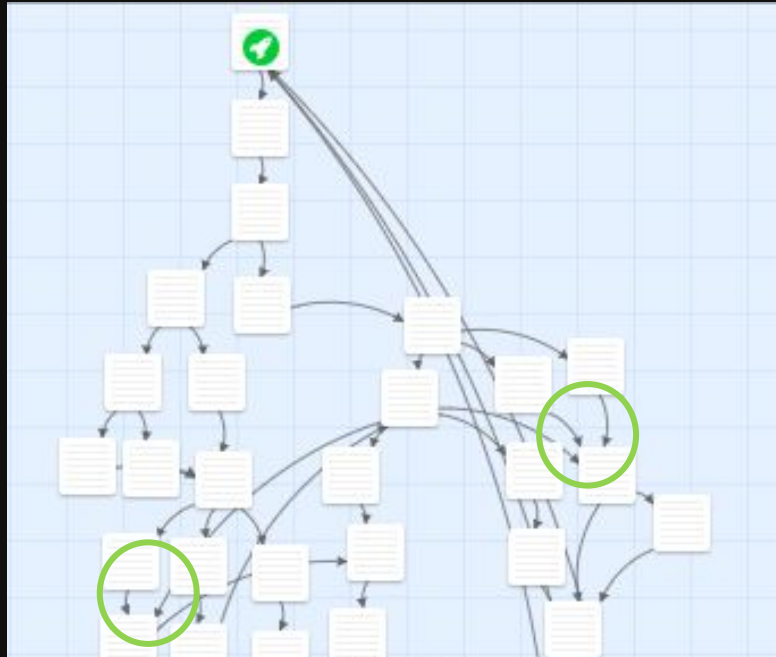
Collapsing options to ↓ branches



Creating the Illusion of Choice

Reusing pre-written passages...

(efficiency)



The coding (Twine + basic CSS)

```
tw-passage{
  font-family: palatino;
}

tw-transition-in {
  opacity: 0;
  position: absolute;
}

tw-passage {
  transition: 1s;
  -webkit-transition: 1s;
}

tw-transition-out {
  opacity: 0 !important;
  position: absolute;
}
```

```
(if: $isBertha is 3)[[Close. -> decision all 3]](if: $isBertha is 2)--
[[Close. -> decision bertha & gardener 2]] (if: $isBertha is 1)[[Close. ->
decision william & gardener 1]](if: $isBertha is 4)[[Close. -> george
michael only 4]]|
```

```
//(text-colour: black)[--b--] She be just like the art hung on the wall
(text-colour: black)[--e--] The feeling lost in stars for this is love
(text-colour: black)[--w--] Yet now it makes you feel you're wrapped in pall
(text-colour: black)[--a--] Thou art brush strokes warm as the touch of
```

```
(text-style: "buoy")[Game Over.] (set: $item to 0) (set: $numNights to 0)
[[Play again?|Introduction]]
```

The PRODUCT

to get a taste of the game experience

make choices

Check your pockets. Can you feel something? What is it?

A flashlight

A coin

You turn around and walk a few paces to your front. Your leg hits something hard. What did you find?

A box with ornate carvings.

The side of a vending machine.

A glass jar.

George,

I found the documents you said to look for. She isn't under my custody anymore, but I am listed as a guardian. Dave said that she simply needs to sign a paper to hand over the rights. But there's a loophole—if she's injured, we can also cash out the inheritance for the medical bills as long as we show no insurance coverage. But you know she doesn't trust me, George. She never has. I knew only children are spoiled brats, no respect for their parents. We single mothers find it so hard. I think you'll have to try something. Talk to her. She liked you when she was younger and you were still our gardener.

But if she isn't receptive, let's go ahead with the plan as discussed.

Love you babe. Hold on tight, we'll find a way to pay off your ex-wife's loan sharks. And then we can have our honeymoon.

xoxo,

Natasha ❤️

[Close.](#)

dive into backstories



solve for clues

Fill in the blanks to get the password:

_ wonders of the world

William had at least _ lover(s)

I have _ brother and sisters

My birthday month is _

6143

4362

7254

7354

6283

Find hidden creator messages & “breadcrumbs”

started from an indentation
obstacle...

you understand that. Here is a poem just for you (inspired by Shakespeare):

--b-- She be just like the art hung on the wall
--e-- The feeling lost in stars for this is love
--w-- Yet now it makes you feel you're wrapped in pall
--a-- Thou art brush strokes warm as the touch of doves
--r-- Strikingly beautiful shade of fond pink
--e-- Although those splatters of crimson are gone
--o-- The red and yellow kissing hearts with wink
--f-- Will make you feel at home throughout the dawn
Applied creative skill to emotive
Artwork of beauty and of powered touch
So much thee frame of gold with glint may give
It's not the beauty but the feel for such
Of course, she is art but thee made own choice
As well as story made using thy voice.

Love,
William

Our LEARNING

how we “leveled up”

we both worked on the same skills and started from the same point

BEFORE

Writing

L3

**Project
Management**

L3

**“Programming”
(w/ Twine)**

L1

AFTER

L4

L4

L3

CREDITS

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Thank You!