

The Gems Within

ANSWER: HEAVYMETAL

Written By: Richard Huang, Claudia Sanchez

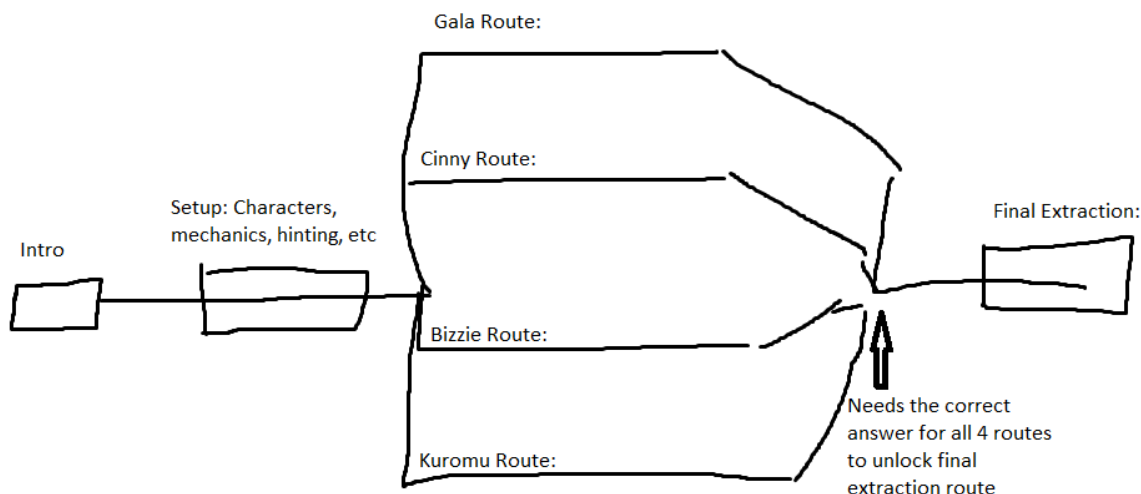
Rocks and minerals - must date (carbon date) them and have chemistry (identify their chemical composition)

Gala - Galena (Lead) Pb (number 82)

Cinny - Cinnabar (Mercury) Hg (number 80)

Bizzie - Bismuth Bi (number 83)

Thalia - Thallium (number 24)



4 different famous Chemists/Geologists/Scientists

Gala - Carl Axel Arrhenius - Born 1757

Cinny - Ernest Rutherford - Born 1871

Bizzie - Victor Goldschmidt - Born 1888

Thalia - Alexander Rose (Alex the Geologist) - Born 1781

“The Gem Within” is a visual novel centered around four endearing characters: Gala, Cinny, Bizzie, and Thalia. Unbeknownst to the puzzlers initially, all four characters represent a certain element of the Periodic table. As the puzzler progresses through the novel, they are given the option to pursue all four characters *~romantically~*, yet for some reason they all rebuff the puzzler’s advances even after agreeing to spend time with them and give them their “number”. If the puzzler successfully manages to woo all four characters, they will be able to progress to the ending of the novel where they will be rewarded with the answer to the puzzle (HEAVYMETAL).

The Novel begins with the “character” deciding what to call themselves (their name). This is an incredibly important mechanic. After, they will progress through the introductory phase of the novel, where they will meet the characters and learn about the setting. The introduction serves as the flavor text of the puzzle, in a way, as well as providing them with all the (albeit cryptically given) hints they need to solve the puzzle. After they complete the introduction, they will be given the choice to pursue one of the four characters. The puzzler may go back any time they want with the save mechanic or simply restarting the game (although, at the end, the puzzler must have a save file that has been successfully completed). This allows the puzzler to go back and correct any mistakes they might have made.

Puzzlers must identify the element and atomic weight of all four characters (hinted by their names and personalities, as well as some interesting trivia). The element’s atomic weight will allow the puzzler to identify the specific Radioisotope of the element. With this identity, the puzzler will have to use half-life of the isotope to figure out when the character was “whole” (100%). Each character gives the puzzler their “number”, which is actually their current remaining percent. With this information, as well as the seed year 2021, the puzzler can figure out the exact year the character was “whole”.

The year serves to hint towards specific famous real life Chemists and Geologists, chosen randomly. The key mechanic for this puzzle is that the puzzler, at the beginning of the game, must name themselves after that scientist for a specific character to finally “open up” to them (and provide them with extraction hints). Otherwise, the characters will reject the puzzler’s advances but encourage them to try again.

Once all four routes have been completed this way, the final “route” opens up, which actually is the ending and serves to just inquire the puzzler to think more about the extraction hint and the overall theme of the puzzle. At this point, the puzzler now has all the extraction hints available (PAT HARE LED ZEPP). Pat Hare is widely regarded as one of the founding fathers of Heavy Metal music, along with Led Zeppelin and all the elements used in this puzzle are all part of the Heavy Metals. Thus, the answer to the puzzle is HEAVYMETAL

~~~ BONUS: CHARACTER NOTES:

## Gala:

Galena is a mineral of **Lead**

Isotope used: Pb-210 (HL = 22.3 years)

### Character Info:

Name: Gala

Age: (to be solved)

Hair color: Silver with gold dye

Gender: Rock

Likes: Plumbing

Dislikes: X-rays



### Character bio:

Despite being one of the students of the prestigious Shiwa Academy, Gala is extraordinarily dense. Gala is a cheerful character, who enjoys adventure and discovery. Gala's father owns a plumbing business, but in the events of the novel it is currently going bankrupt as its plumbing style is going out of style. One time in their childhood, Gala once fell and broke their arm after trying to explore a mine. Unfortunately, the doctors were unable to find anything broken (in fact, nothing at all!), so Gala was forced to continue school and work with a broken arm until it naturally healed.

Gala's type is the person who they saw in that cave that day in their childhood, who helped them get back home. This person is Carl Axel Arrhenius, the geologist/chemist who discovered the Ytterby mines and is credited for discovering many of those elements.

For the most part in the introduction, Gala is the character's main guide until the different route selection.

Ok so for what they look like they're a

## **Cinny:**

Cinnabar is a mineral of **Mercury**

Isotope used: Hg-194 (HL = 444 years)

### **Character Info:**

Name: Cinny

Age:

Hair Color: Lustrous red

Gender: Rock

Likes: Immortality

Dislikes: solidity



Aloof and mysterious, Cinny is actually a kind hearted person (rock) that goes with the flow. Cinny prefers not to be around others, as they are socially awkward.

As a child, Cinny was ostracized because whenever others played around them, they would mysteriously get poisoned and sick.

Ok, they're literally cinnabar from Land of the Lustrous idk it's kind of hard to make a character whose personality trait is "poisonous" but in a realistically positive kind of way. I imagine they look like Momoe from Wonder Egg with a bit longer hair.

## **Bizzie:**

Bizzie is Bismuth

Isotope used: Bi-207 (HL = 33 sec)

### **Character Info:**

Name: Bizzie

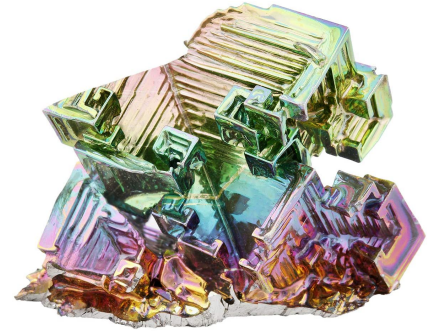
Age:

Hair color: Rainbow

Gender: Rock

Likes: Custard, especially the ones from the Teletubbies

Dislikes: Stomachaches, Gala



Bizzie is a studious rock who is currently the number 1 student at Shiwa Academy. Bold, brash, and hardworking, they are the model student that every teacher likes. Bizzie's favorite food is pink custard, because as a child they would frequently get stomach aches and the custard would help them a lot. They were childhood friends with Gala, but due to Gala being more liked and popular Bizzie distanced themselves from Gala and tried their best to become a better rock. Bizzie studied hard to get into the academy, and besides that they don't have any other hobbies other than studying.

They're a tsundere ok.

I'm not sure entirely what they look like, but twin tails are a MUST

## Thalia:

Thalia is Thallium

Isotope used:

### Character Info:

Name: Thalia

Age:

Hair color: Silvery

Gender: Rock

Likes: Exterminating rats

Dislikes: rats



An extraordinary. . . passionate student, Thalia is an aggressively energetic student, moreso than Gala. The school's nutcase, Thalia is somehow the best toxicologist in the school despite never attending a single class. You can usually find Thalia eradicating a local colony of unwanted mice with their experimental poisons. I imagine them just being an incredibly wild person, so think of the wildest character or most chaotic character you know in anime and that's probably what they look like.