

GAME COMMENTARY PROJECT

DIALOGUE OPTION (EIDOLON OR TERRARIA)

These dialogues are not meant to be spontaneous and emergent, but rather shaped and directed via an editing process. Think Plato's dialogues - they *seem* conversational, but they are actually artfully written to bring readers to a specific set of ideas, problems, etc. by design. These are fictional dialogues shaped for the purpose of providing new insight. However, as noted below, the process of generating them may pass through a phase of spontaneous dialogue - of what you two actually said in the course of your discussions. Consider the following suggested process for creating these dialogues...

Suggested Process

1. Reflect/Prepare: Separately, you should reflect and take notes on your personal game experience; what stood out? interesting incidents? vivid memories of an event? how did the game change your thinking over time? affect you over time? what connections to your life arose? Basically, you should prepare yourself for collaboration by having a strong "take" on your own experience.
2. Converse 1, Theme: Get together and discuss openly your experiences, noting themes, interesting potential "angles" for the dialogue, "talking points," etc. Just having this conversation will help shape the raw dialogue in the next step, if only indirectly.
3. Converse 2, Capture: Next, engage in an extended conversation with your partner about the game, capturing it in some way. This can be an email chain, back and forth, a Google Doc that contains the discussion, a chat program, or even an audio recording. The purpose is to create a "raw" dialogue text that you can either use as inspiration or borrow from directly in writing your formal dialogue.
4. Take Stock, Reflect: Discuss what happened and how you want to craft it, formalize it, etc. In this phase you are treating your own captured dialogue as a 'text' to reflect on - What emerged? How do you want to edit it? What should be cut? Amplified? What is your vision for the formal dialogue?
5. Shaping, Editing: Now, sit down and write the formal dialogue, adding visuals to supplement key moments in the dialogue and editing the language and content to serve your goals for the reader.