

# DADDY ISSUES

MAY 2020

**AT-HOME EDITION!**

DARRYL'S HP (HAPPY PARENT) RESTORING TONIC RECIPE

GLENN ASKS: WHAT IS A LOCK, REALLY?

PLUS! REEL REVIEWS FOR AT-HOME VIEWING



# VIDEOGAMES THAT SCRATCH THE TABLETOP ITCH

## ROLEPLAYING WHILE YOU'RE STUCK AT HOME



ANTHONY BURCH  
DADDY MASTER

SO: you wanna replicate the feeling of in-person tabletop roleplaying, but you're stuck at home. Thankfully, the internet provides many delightful ways to scream at your friends from the comfort of your own office!

### PROJECT WINTER

It's *Werewolf* and *Mafia* combined with *Don't Starve*. Eight survivors must work together to escape a blizzard while their food, health, and warmth meters slowly tick down... AND while two of their number are secretly plotting against them.

Traitors have to cleverly pretend to be trustworthy and find opportune moments to split away from the pack. Innocent survivors must go out of their way to be EXTRA innocent and generous in order to

avoid suspicion. It takes a little bit of practice to become enjoyable; until you've gone a few rounds, it may seem nearly impossible for the survivors to win. But there are few game mechanics more uniquely suited to multiplayer than both survival and betrayal.

Alternately, you could always play *Trouble in Terrorist Town*, which is basically *Werewolf* crossed with *CounterStrike*. If you DO play TiTT, make sure to play on the custom map that recreates the arctic outpost from *The Thing*. It's the best multiplayer map in any game, ever.

### DIVINITY: ORIGINAL SIN

*Divinity: Original Sin* and its sequel are optionally multiplayer, 80+ hour RPGs that often allow you to do all the crazy, gamebreaking crap you might attempt in an in-person tabletop setting. Wanna move a bunch of explosive barrels next to the boss and detonate them from a distance rather than fighting? You can do that. Want to have one player talk to an NPC to turn him away from his valuables, which a second player then steals? Go for it.

I will say that unless you're really, really into turn-based combat, I'd bump the difficulty down: where cheesing the bosses is a fun thing you can do on the lower difficulties to make yourself feel smart, it's basically mandatory on Normal and above. Being FORCED to act like a big doofy coward to succeed is a lot less fun than doing it of your own volition.

### THE OLD REPUBLIC

If you want something a little less mentally taxing than *Divinity* and also totally free, I'd recommend this Star Wars MMO.

It's a pretty typical MMO in most respects- combat comes down to blank-facedly mashing hotkeys while waiting for cooldowns- but it includes BioWare-quality dialog trees. More than that, the dialog trees actually work in multiplayer! When speaking to someone of import during a quest, all the players separately roll to see who gets "control" of the conversation. This means that you'll sometimes get into delightful situations where three of your four party members want to respond to an NPC with a light side response, only for your single morally ambiguous smuggler to say something offensive and kick off a fight you hadn't intended. And, again, it's free.

### ROLL20, FANTASY GROUNDS, & TABLETOP SIMULATOR

Failing all of the above, you could always just literally play tabletop roleplaying games online. There are plenty of programs that allow you to do so. *Roll20* is probably my favorite, as it's (A) free and (B) relatively uncomplicated. Still, if you wanna go really deep into a program that automates all the DnD mechanics we ignore on a regular basis, you can't do much better than *Fantasy Grounds*.



# RON'S REEL REVIEWS

STUCK AT HOME EDITION



MORE  
FILM REVIEWS  
FROM  
RON STAMPLER

**HOME ALONE (1990)**  
DIR. CHRIS COLUMBUS

*Home Alone* is a movie about criminals where criminal parents forget their criminal child in a house that gets robbed by criminals. It is supposed to be a funny movie but crime is no laughing matter. When the criminal parents leave for a vacation they leave their criminal son Kevin behind to do things that are, at first, not criminal. For instance, he eats many marshmallows and sleds indoors.



The moral of this story is do not be rich, because you will have many children and you will afford to fly to Paris and you will care about money more than your child and you will forget that child in your big rich home that burglars are likely to burgle. Being upper middle class is a good goal for any businessman though. When criminal burglars stop by the house, Kevin commits mostly felonies and some misdemeanors, resulting in the brutal attempted murder of two criminals. Then there is rejoicing because Kevin isn't arrested and neither are his parents, despite their crimes. Kevin did not have to leave his house though and that seems very festive.

3.5/5 stars. ★★★★★

**10 CLOVERFIELD LANE (2016)**  
DIR. DAN TRACHTENBERG

*10 Cloverfield Lane* is a movie about a woman who is cooped up inside and told not to go outside. It is sad but necessary because she has been told that there is a deadly toxin in the air that will kill everyone who is not quarantining in their homes. She has doubts though, because the person telling her to stay inside is mean. Ultimately she kills the mean man because she wants to go outside, and while the mean man wasn't right about the toxins in the air, he was definitely right about outside being dangerous because there are aliens. There are aliens because this is a Cloverfield movie even though it has nothing to do with Cloverfield. So in a way they were both right and it probably would be more fun and safe to just stay the heck inside.

3.5/5 stars. ★★★★★

**PANIC ROOM (2002)**  
DIR. DAVID FINCHER

*Panic Room* is a movie about a room. Jodie Foster and Kristen Stewart find this room while they're moving into a fancy house. It's like an attic, except instead of storing christmas decorations it stores human beings in danger. Panic rooms are very rare, which is why it seems like such a crazy coincidence that the house gets robbed on their first night there. Jodie and Kristen go into the Panic Room. At this point I would have said, "wow this room certainly came in handy!" but Jodie is scared instead. The moral of this movie is don't be rich because you will have a big rich home that burglars are likely to burgle and there will be a room in that house that prolongs the burgling process into a 2 hour movie even though the house was probably insured or something. It is ok as a businessman to be upper middle class though. In the end this movie is exactly *Home Alone* except not as festive.

3.5/5 stars. ★★★★★

**REAR WINDOW (1954)**  
DIR. ALFRED HITCHCOCK

*Rear Window* is a movie about a part of a house that lets you see into other houses, or in this case, an apartment. Jimmy Stewart has a hurt leg which makes him act creepy because he is bored. This movie occurs in the past, which was a time during which people with broken legs were not allowed to do anything except stay inside and act creepy. He sees something out the window. He sees a man carrying a suitcase to and from his apartment and concludes the man has killed his wife. Jimmy's girlfriend says he is crazy but I side with Jimmy on this one because a normal man would try to carry as much out of his apartment at one time because it is manlier than making multiple trips. Sure enough, I (and Jimmy) am right, and this guy totally killed his girlfriend. Jimmy breaks both of his legs



3.5/5 stars. ★★★★★



## **Maybe the only drink as refreshing and delicious as a cold beer on a hot day is the classic Gin and Tonic.**

Now, there is nothing wrong with taking your favorite gin, and splashing it with a high fructose corn syrup rich Canada Dry or Schweppes. However, if you want that sharp, delicious Quinine flavor, not to mention the satisfaction of a job well done, here is how you can make your own tonic.

**CINCHONA TREE!** Ever heard of it? Probably not. But the bark of that bad boy is where you get Quinine, the main flavor of tonic. Don't worry though, you can order cinchona bark easily. Then just grind it up using a coffee grinder or go old school with a pestle and mortar. Once you have the bark ground up, that's more or less all you need for Tonic.

### **The Canvas: Basic Tonic**

Lets just get the basic tonic out of the way. Think of this as the starting point for the eventual personalized tonic journey you will go on.

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- .5 cups water
- 1.5tsp chopped Cinchona bark
- 1 cup cane sugar

#### **DIRECTIONS**

1. Bring water to a boil.
2. Add Cinchoana to the water, and bring to a simmer for about 30 minutes. (This is also where you will add any other ingredients- such as lemon zest- you so wish to flavor your tonic with.)
3. Strain out the bark and anything else in the water. Carol loves a good French press coffee, so I just use that. But you can use cheese cloth or anything else.
4. Add sugar and stir until dissolved. You can make this as sweet as you want, just make sure it is at least a 1 to 1 ratio.

And there you go. You now have tonic syrup. Add to gin and soda water, and you got your G&T. You can feel free to add essentially anything you want with that above recipe. Like a little pepper? Want some lemon zest or orange zest? Just boil them with the bark. Experiment, find what you like, and what pairs well with your favorite gin .

### **Going the Extra Mile**

Now this here is the recipe I use when I'm treating my guests to a *real quality* G&T. It's a bit more complicated, but well worth it. Especially if you wanna taste what Darryl brings to the table.

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 4 cups water
- 1 cup chopped lemongrass (*roughly one large stalk*)
- ¼ cup powdered cinchona bark
- zest & juice of 1 orange
- zest & juice of 1 lemon
- zest & juice of 1 lime
- 1 tsp whole allspice berries
- ¼ cup citric acid
- ¼ tsp Kosher salt
- ¾ cup Agave Syrup

#### **DIRECTIONS**

It's the same as before. Boil all water, add all your ingredients, and allow to simmer for 20 to 30 minutes. But instead of adding sugar, add ¾ a cup of agave syrup to each cup of the mixture you have after boiling. And there you go. The most delicious tonic you will ever have.

And by the way. The Wilson's household is family friendly. Pour this syrup into some soda water, and its delicious as is. You don't need gin to enjoy a cold cup of Tonic Water.

Have a safe and refreshing summer!

# **DARRYL'S HOMEMADE TONIC FOR THE QUARANTINE BLUES**



# CHIP OFF THE OLD LOCK

## GLENN'S GUIDE TO BYPASSING LOCKS

**Maybe one of the most useful skills you can acquire is the ability to get around locked stuff.**

Locks are a construct of society- they don't mean anything. They're just symbols, and like all symbols, their power lies in how strongly we collectively believe in them. Unlike symbols, however, their power *also* lies in the grade of steel the shackle is made out of, but I digress.

Whenever I approach a locked object- be it door, window, or automobile- I always ask myself the same questions:

### **Do I have the key?**

Hah yeah, man, I know you're laughing at that, but seriously. Do you have the key? Digging through a closet to find a key to something is going to usually be the fastest way to get around a lock- plus you don't spook out the neighbors lookin' shady.

### **Do I have to go through this lock?**

This is one of those like lateral thinking brain twist-ers that people stumble over. It's easy to get fixated on bustin' out your lockpicks and flippin' pins Jack Bauer style- but that really should be a last resort. Instead, see if there's another way in. You might've "locked" "yourself" "out" of "your" "house," but it'll be way easier if there's a back window cracked open. Or maybe you can shimmy through the trunk over the back seat? Either way, take a stroll around before you get to more direct methods.

Taking a quick walk also lets you scope out the nosy neighbor situation. Plus you always gotta keep moving. People hanging around somewhere? Suspicious. Unless there's like a Redbox return nearby. Then just stand by it scratching your head and whoever sees you will be like "dang looks like that guy got his movie rental chewed up dang I guess he must still watch blu-rays huh weird." Perfect camouflage.

### **Are there non-standard methods?**

Again- that lockpick set is rad and makes you ninja as all get-out, but picking is hard, can take a while, and looks suspicious. Pull up YouTube and see if anybody made a video on how to bypass the lock that's in front of you. Don't attack the lock mechanism directly- try pushing the door latch with a credit card, or sticking a wire through a crack in the window to press the door unlock button. Usually, getting the thing to unlock using some other way is easier and faster.

### **Do you have your WD-40 with you?**

After you've exhausted all those other options, it's time to give picking the lock a shot. Plenty of good tutorials out there on YouTube, so just look for 'em. Just be careful- you break something here you're gonna have to call a locksmith. A *Glenn Tip* for you- pull out your WD-40 and just occasionally keep spraying the area around the lock. That way, if anybody sees what you're doing it just looks like you're a responsible homeowner fixing up your door. Say stuff like "Dang lock always gettin' stuck" or "Dang, good thing I got this WD-40 handy for those squeaky hinges" or even "Yeah, WD-40 probably ain't the best tool for this job, but sure don't got any silicone grease lying around." You know, stuff like that.

### **Do you have the number for a good locksmith?**

Especially if you, just for sake of argument, break multiple picks off in the lock and gum up the whole thing with, I dunno, spray sealant instead of WD-40, even though they don't look anything alike. If this happens you might find yourself stuck outside for, who knows, a few days maybe, sleeping out of, for example, a tour van or something like that and you really don't want to break a window...

So anyway, if you have the number for a good locksmith near you, for example, like in the San Dimas area, maybe hit me up on my Only Fans and let me know, just throwing that out there. Make sure you have a good locksmith on speed dial, turns out it's probably pretty important.

Anyway, good luck!



# OAKS & OGRES



**A FANTASY ADVENTURE  
FOR ONE TO TWO  
BRAVE AND BEAUTIFUL BOYS**

*YOU are the Brothers of the Oak, sworn protectors of Stinky Butt Swamp, home of the silly and smelly Ogre Kingdom. King Hangry Oak and Queen Merstaythese Ogrescia want YOU to embark upon an EPIC ADVENTURE, full of fun and awesomeness.*

*But first... you gotta LEVEL UP!*

## CHOOSE YOUR DEEDS

Prepare for your adventure by doing DARING DEEDS for the benefit of OGREKIND. Each deed grants you Experience Points you can spend when choosing your adventure!

**BEAST MASTER:** LaserWolfFartBlaster, the mighty Dread Hound, must conduct his daily patrol of Stinky Butt Swamp. Take him on a thirty minute scouting mission and earn 500XP.

**THE PATH OF KNOWLEDGE:** A brave and beautiful knight knows that knowledge is power! Train your brain for the adventure ahead by reading a book for one hour and earn 1000XP!

**FOREST DEFENDER:** Harry Bittercress, The Wicked Green Warlock has cast a curse upon the Royal Garden! Go forth and pull his evil weeds from the garden for two hours and earn 2000XP.

## CHOOSE YOUR BANNER

Every Knight flies the banner of a Noble Clan as he fights for his kingdom. Live up to the values of your Clan to earn DOUBLE XP!

**THE SIGIL OF THE SNAKE:** Snake Knights are the stealthiest, sneakiest warriors in all the land. Complete your deeds in total silence to earn the Snake's Sigil!

**THE PACK OF THE WOLF:** Wolf Knights value friendship, loyalty, and working as a team. Complete your task without fighting with your brother to join the Wolf Pack!

**THE ORDER OF THE OX:** Ox Knights are strong, resilient fighters who never quit til the job is done. Do your deeds for twice as long to join the Order of the Ox!

## CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

At last! You have performed your Daring Deeds. You have gained your Experience Points. Now it's time to spend them on an AWESOME ADVENTURE!

*Slay the SUGAR BEASTS (1500 XP):* Two GIANT MONSTERS made of ICE CREAM and TASTY TOPPINGs have invaded the Royal Kitchen. Using the Spoons Of Power, bring these beasts to their knees... and into your bellies!

*Gaze through the MAGIC WINDOW (3000 XP):* Legend tells of a magic window in the Ogre Castle Den that allows you to gaze upon stories from other worlds! Using the Remote Scepter of Control, you may explore the Worlds of the Magic Window for two hours (no HBO or Cinemax.)

*Prepare for NERF WAR! (5000 XP)* Stinky Butt Swamp must be prepared to defend itself at all times. Using pillows and blankets, construct a mighty fortress in Living Room Reach... then defend it in a MOCK BATTLE against King Hangry and Queen Ogrescia using NERF GUNS!

## SAY THE OAKEN OATH

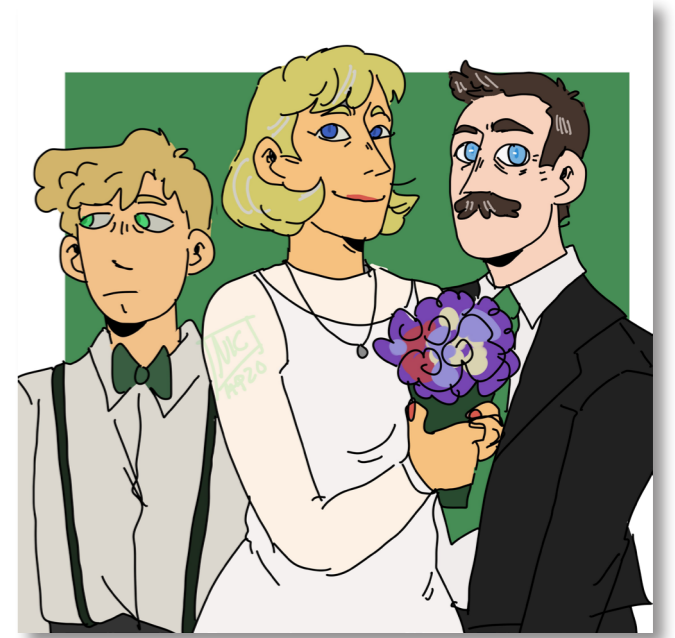
Your epic quest is at an end. Stinky Butt Swamp is safe once more. Now, cast a protective spell over the land to guard it until next weekend. Shake hands with your Brother Knight and recite the OAKEN OATH!

*The Day Is Done  
The Battle Is Won  
The Oaks and the Ogres  
Sure Had Some Fun!*





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When the Dads became Dads, by [@sspaceman](#) on Instagram

ABOVE: Paedon, by [@gryzdolnik](#) on Tumblr  
RIGHT: Glenn gets a call from Morgan, by [@navoika](#) on Tumblr







ABOVE: Different types of Dads. by Diarmuid O'Neil, @doodlindee on Instagram

RIGHT: Bodice-Ripper Cover by Anna Owenson, @aowensart on Tumblr



ABOVE: The Dads Meet Erin O'Neil by @haruranium on Instagram/Twitter

RIGHT: Moms of Future Past by @joshpineapple1 on Twitter







Dungeons & Daddies Tarot cards, Darryl as Strength and Grant as Death  
by Nick, [@ratcatering](#) on Twitter