

SIMULACRA SCRIPT SAMPLE

written by

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A note about style: *Simulacra's* storytelling takes place entirely in a simulated phone interface, and uses social media and texting as its main elements. The style is somewhere between slice-of-life and (later in the game) B-Movie. We wanted to realize mobile conversation as much as possible, so each character's grammar issues or complete lack of grammar are characteristic to each of their texting styles. Furthermore, the texts are spaced to mark individual texts and their pacing.

The game begins when you find Anna's phone. As you read through her texts and pictures you learn that Anna recently broke up with her boyfriend Greg, got on a dating app named Spark, and then went missing a few weeks later.

Below is a sample of a past conversation between Anna and her best friend, Ashley, which the player reads early on in the game.

TEXT HISTORY - ANNA & ASHLEY

Anna and Ashley are both women in their mid-20s.

ASHLEY

How are you feeling pretty girl?

ANNA

Bag of rocks.

Bag of those bricks made out of
poop they dry out

in developing desert communities.

They use them to build amazing
houses

with decent insulation

and stabilize a small rural
economy.

And the nonprofit takes a glammy
picture of the whoever people and
the CEO

and you feel weird

cus, you're like is this picture
boasting about helping people

(MORE)

ANNA (CONT'D)
or is it promoting the CEO and
their self-interest somehow?

And

in the background of the pic there
are unused extra bricks

which will get rained on.

Return to a former but lesser poop
form

and eventually dry out in the sun,
leaving nothing but a stain.

And

I am that stain.

ASHLEY
wild applause

ANNA
I've been reading a lot.

ASHLEY
Call me if you need to, okay?

ANNA
10/4

A FEW DAYS LATER

ASHLEY
Hey there handsome.

ANNA
Who me?

ASHLEY
How you doiinnnnnn?

ANNA
About the same.

ASHLEY
Let's hang out tomorrow.

ANNA
I don't know.

(MORE)

ANNA (CONT'D)

I'm pretty content in my angry
lonesome hole.

Got a good book rhythm going.

Did you know Vonnegut wrote a book
about Kevorkian?

Well not exactly about, but

ASHLEY

let me stop you right there my
languid friend

why won't you hang out with me
tomorrow?

ANNA

You know.

also, that's not what languid means

ASHLEY

haaaaannngggg outtt withhh meeeeeee

ANNA

Eh

ASHLEY

i'll get us dates

we'll get pretty

and go out

ANNA

Ehhhhhhhh

ASHLEY

come onnn

ANNA

I don't have anyone I want to bring
anyway

ASHLEY

get Spark

ANNA

I don't know.

ASHLEY

I WILL MAKE YOUR PROFILE FOR YOU

ANNA

Haha.

ASHLEY

you're not going back to Greg, so
what's the harm?

ANNA

Hm.

Hmmmm.

You can come over to my place
tomorrow.

And we can swipe.

But we're not going out.

ASHLEY

<3

ANNA

<3

ASHLEY

:3

meow

ANNA

Haha.

I'll text you later.

LATER THAT DAY

ASHLEY

did you get Spark?

ANNA

No.

I don't know if I really want to.

I know I could date. But it feels
like

Those apps are just objectifying
anyway.

Dismissing people like an emperor
at the coliseum.

(MORE)

ANNA (CONT'D)

But they get no chance to fight cus
you're just looking at some
stranger's selfies wondering if
that's really their dog or if his
ex took the photo

ASHLEY

HEY!

it's just supposed to be fun
we're not looking for your husband
but like
visual stimulus

ANNA

I'd prefer some brain stimulus.

ASHLEY

lol

you like visual stimulus just as
much as I do

greg is like 90% stimulus

ANNA

Blurg.

ASHLEY

sorry

ANNA

*blurgs extend tiny mouths that
also blurg, like Alien*

ASHLEY

oh baby

ANNA

Maybe I should focus on getting out
of my dumb job instead.

ASHLEY

bb

ANNA

Yeah

I'll ttyl

ok ASHLEY