Marcelo Almeida

Writer & Narrative Designer

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Narrative Design

Aspire: Ina's Tale [Xbox One, X|S, Switch, PS4, PC] - Wondernaut Studio

A story-rich fantasy/sci-fi platformer that poses the question: what would happen to the damsel in distress if her rescuer failed and she had to fend for herself?

My role: Writer and Narrative Designer

- · Worked through the entire development cycle, from conception to shipping
- Developed the lore and characters, established the theme and tone, then developed the plot, fine-tuning it after each iteration
- Worked with the art and game design teams to build the story's main themes and beats into the game
- · Wrote all of the dialogues and in-game text (using lnk)
- · Wrote and maintained the Localization Guide
- · Created the achievements' list

Wonderbox: The Adventure Maker [Apple Arcade] - Aquiris

An Apple Arcade featured game, Wonderbox is an action-adventure maker where you can create, play, and share endless adventures.

My role: Creative Writer

- · Helped created and wrote the description of new characters for players to collect
- · Followed and maintained the game's established lore and tone

The Serpent Rogue [Xbox X|S, PS5, Switch, PC] – Sengi Games

A botanical RPG set in a Dark Ages-style fantasy world, with a heavy focus on taming creatures, experimenting with mutations, and mastering the art of alchemy.

My role: Writer and Narrative Designer

- · Fleshed out the world and characters, according to the established theme and tone
- · Wrote lore tomes, item and food descriptions, bestiary entries, main and side quests
- Worked with the game design team to implement the quests and overall game flow
- Wrote all of the dialogues and in-game text (using google docs)
- · Worked with localization teams to iron out any issues and last-minute amendments
- · Created the achievements' list

The Walking Dead: Destinies [Xbox X|S, PS5, Switch, PC] - Flux Games

An action-adventure retelling of The Walking Dead show, but where players can make their own decisions about characters and events, thus changing the course of the first four seasons.

My role: Additional Narrative Designer

I worked on the pre-production and early production stages of development

- Wrote the initial plot and chapter outlines, defining a number of key moments that could be changed and their consequences for the overall story
- Developed the early choice tree, using a "branch & bottleneck" approach
- Defined an early list of characters from the show, defining key moments and end states
- Wrote cutscenes and character dialogue for the first two chapters (using Final Draft and Articy:Draft)
- Held talks to the publisher and AMC, bridging the gap between stakeholder expectations and team's uotput

The Cauldron Kids: The Summoning of Mr. Vermicelli [PC] – Pet Golem Games

A narrative game where you play as one of two twin witches on through a series of sorcerous minigames and witchy shenanigans.

My role: Character writer

- Set up and established narrative best-practices
- · Created and wrote the first iteration of The Cauldron Kids
- Created the titular characters, the environment, and established the narrative vision and comic tone of the game's world

Murder by Choice [Mobile] - Nordcurrent

A hidden object murder mystery adventure set in the present day where players' choices shape how the story unfolds.

My role: Senior Writer

- · Wrote and revised episode scripts for Chapter 2
- · Helped the game design team by integrating narrative and design
- · Coordinated a writers' room, ensuring a positive, collaborative environment
- · Promoted new writers and guided them to delivering scripts
- Helped maintain script quality and voice integrity with each script

Wardens Rising [Q3 2024 - Xbox X|S, PS5, PC] - Big Moxi Games

An isometric game that combines ARPG shooter combat with MOBA-like base defense, pitting the player against interdimensional invaders to defend a far-future Earth. My role: Writer and Narrative Designer

- · Fleshed out the lore and universe, according to pre-established theme and tone
- Wrote character profiles, skill and item names and descriptions, enemy names and profiles, map names and descriptions
- Developed and wrote overall campaign story flow and dialogue for voiceover (using google docs)
- · Wrote cutscenes along the art and sound design teams
- Worked with the game and level design teams to implent story content and player instructions in a seamless, cohesive fashion

Detective Sklue: Blue Bayou Blues [Web] - Personal Project

An interactive fiction, dark humor investigation game featuring a colorful, quirky cast, branching dialogues and several choices along the way. Can you find out who killed "Fast Finger Phil"?

My role: Writer and Narrative Designer

- Co-creator, game designer, narrative desginer and writer
- Created the lore, characters, and plot
- Wrote the game's interactive, branching investigation (using Ink)
- Worked alongside every aspect of production (programming, art, music, UX/UI) to make sure the game's narrative was being told in a seamless, intrinsically funny fashion
- You should definitely play it (for free!) at: https://meanmuttstudio.itch.io/detective-sklue-blue-bayou-blues

Screenwriting

Bubu Fun [animation] - Up! Content Co.

An animated show based on the *Bubu and the Little Owls* property, by Disney Jr., with 1-minute long episodes aimed at older kids/early teens. You can watch the full season on YouTube, at: youtube.com/channel/UCB6uGil4HZqlkXOSriirJ Q

My role: Senior Writer

- Adapted the Bubu and the Little Owls property into a new format
- · Co-wrote the entire first season (13 episodes)

Starlit Adventures [animation] - Rockhead Studios/Sardine

An animated show based on the homonymous Brazilian game IP, by Rockhead Studio. The show features 11-minute long episoes, and was later acquired by Sardine (Canada) for co-development. The teaser is available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=ct2M7zO9tFw

My role: Staff writer

- Helped flesh out the world and characters from the game to the show
- Developed and wrote 5 episodes (from logline to finished script)

Awards & Nominations

IV FRAPA (Screenwriting Festival) — Original pilot [finalist]; Pitching contest [winner]
BIG Festival 2022 – Aspire: Ina's Tale: Best Brazilian Game, Best Art, Best Narrative [finalist]
CCXP Awards 2022 — Aspire: Ina's Tale: Best Brazilian Game [finalist]
BitBang 2022 — Aspire: Ina's Tale: Best Art, Best Audio, Best Latin American Game [finalist]