

Collecting Emerging Formats: Capturing Interactive Narratives in the UK Web Archive

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Breathe is a smartphone ghost story that knows where you live

Kate Pullinger's tale subtly changes depending on where (and when) it is read



Children's tech

Snow White by Nosy Crow: 'Getting children sparkly-eyed about storytelling'

★★★★★

Hi ho, hi ho, it's off to the App Store the famous fairytale goes, with the latest app from a children's publisher that prioritises reading over digital gimmicks



Interview

Gruff Rhys' American Interior: a story told across film, music, book and app

Stuart Dredge

Super Furry Animal explains his 'tragicomic piece of history that is really sad and beautiful and damaged'



▲ Alexis Petridis recommends Gruff Rhys's concept album American Interior

02-08-16 | INNOVATION BY DESIGN

How Google Is Reimagining Books

Editions At Play sees designers and authors working simultaneously to build a new type of e-book from the ground up.



The Waste Land iPad app earns back its costs in six weeks on the App Store

Landmark poetry app prospering without price cuts says Faber Digital's Henry Volans



The Bizarre Digital Book You Must Destroy Before Sharing



The Emerging Formats Project

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“The term '**emerging formats**' refers to types of publication that are in scope to collect under the UK's Non-Print Legal Deposit Regulations, but whose content and structure are more challenging compared to those currently collected.”

(<https://www.bl.uk/projects/emerging-formats>)



What are 'emerging formats'?

- Born-digital with no print counterpart
- Often consist of more than one media type
- Device dependent
- Comprised of non-standard format and metadata types
- Not typically part of existing collections
- At risk of obsolescence

(Source: Smith, C., & Cooke, I. (2017). Emerging Formats: Complex digital media and its impact on the UK Legal Deposit Libraries. *Alexandria*, 27(3), 175–187)

Focused on two types of content:

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- Book as mobile apps
- Web-based interactive narratives



Key Collecting Challenges

- Finding works
- Determining UK authorship
- Knowing what to collect
- Ensuring quality of collection items

Finding Works



IFDB

<https://ifdb.tads.org>



φ

<http://philome.la>



sub-q

<https://sub-q.com>



itch.io

<https://itch.io>



CHOICE
OF GAMES

<https://www.choiceofgames.com>



people's republic
of interactive fiction
Boston's If Interest group

<http://pr-if.org>



Spring
Thing

<https://www.springthing.net>



READING
DIGITAL
FICTION

<https://readingdigitalfiction.com/writing-competition>



the 2018
IF
COMP

<https://ifcomp.org>



IF

<https://intfiction.org/>

Knowing What to Collect

Double/Cross
by Toni Owen-Blue

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You are the head bodyguard assigned to protect the richest... Enter a house filled with secrets and intrigue, and see if you... colourful cast that inhabits it. Choose between a host of rou... and female, but don't forget to protect your own interests b... or will you discard your morals for something more inviting?

- 85,000 word rou...
- Make friends an...
- double cross as...
- Schmooze, steal...
- Piece together th...
- the kidnapper a...
- Play male or fem...

...d who you'll... er yourself.

...er the secret of

You can play the first chapter of the game for free. Purchase the rest of the game below.

Buy It Now for \$1.99

If you've already purchased, click here to [restore purchases](#)

Play Now for Free

Download on the **App Store** | **ANDROID APP ON Google Play** | **FREE! Available at amazon** | and Get it on the **chrome web store**

Love it? Hate it? Write us at doublecross@choiceofgames.com

Completeness: Opening chapter only

Barrier to collection: Paywalled

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The limo slides smoothly to a stop in front of the marble steps leading up to the front door. You've just clicked open your door, ready to go and let Mr Haywood out when you hear a shout.

"Unknown figure on the roof!"

As Mr Haywood's primary protector, your priority is his safety at any cost. Your years of training have taught you to:

- Grab Mr Haywood's head and push him down into the foot well, order the driver to get moving again and take us away from the house. That's text book.
- Pull Mr Haywood's body behind you and become a human shield. This may not be the first port of call, but it's my personal knee-jerk reaction.
- Order a diamond formation around the car and send someone to the roof to check for threats. No need to jump at loud noises, it's a safe course of action without going overboard.
- Open fire on the roof, finally time for some action! Just what I've been waiting for!

Next

Download on the **App Store** | **ANDROID APP ON Google Play** | **FREE! Available at amazon** | and Get it on the **chrome web store**

Love it? Hate it? Write us at doublecross@choiceofgames.com

Knowing What to Collect

Interaction: Move Nina to advance story

Does this count?

Is this a game rather than
interactive narrative?



Ethan Fox, *Nina Aquila: Legal Eagle*, RPG Maker, 2018, <https://ethan-fox.itch.io/nale>

Ensuring Collection Quality

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UKWA
UK WEB ARCHIVE

UK
WA
W3ACT

 **Conifer**
by RHIZOME.org

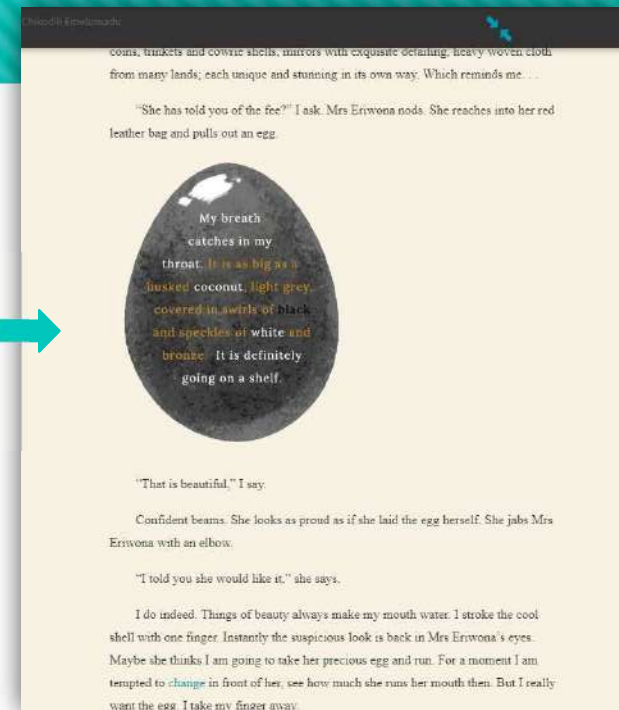
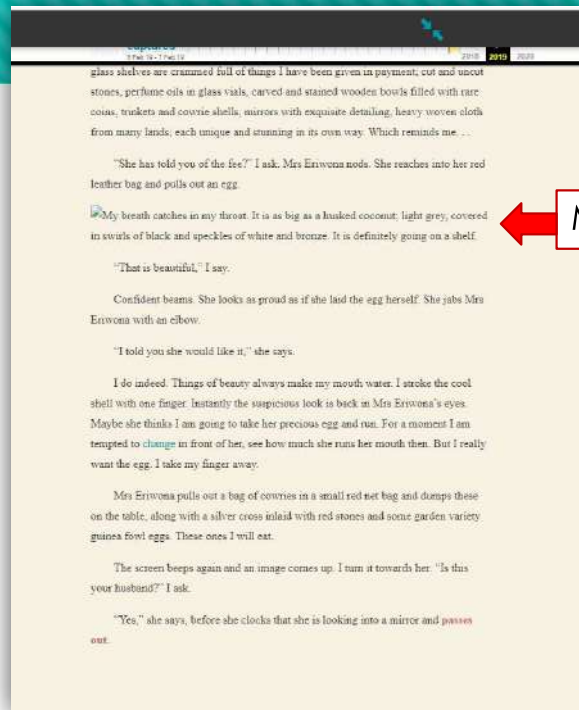
Ensuring Collection Quality

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UKWA
UK WEB ARCHIVE

Missing Image

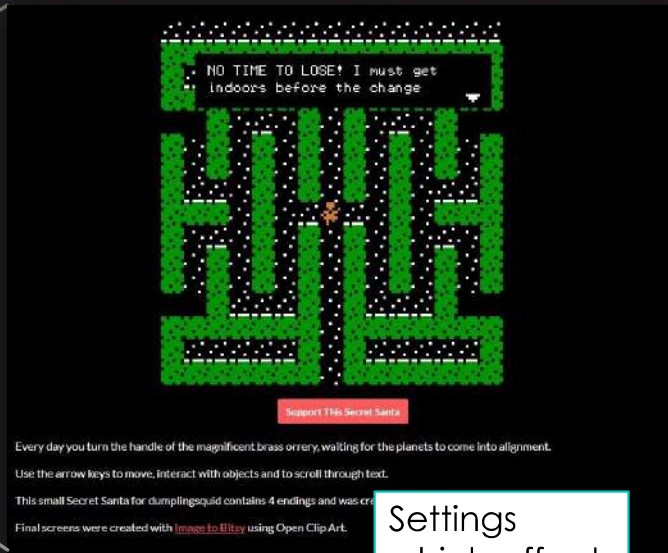
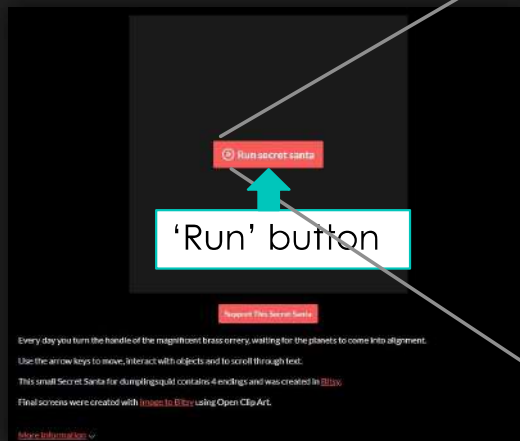
Conifer
by RHIZOME.org



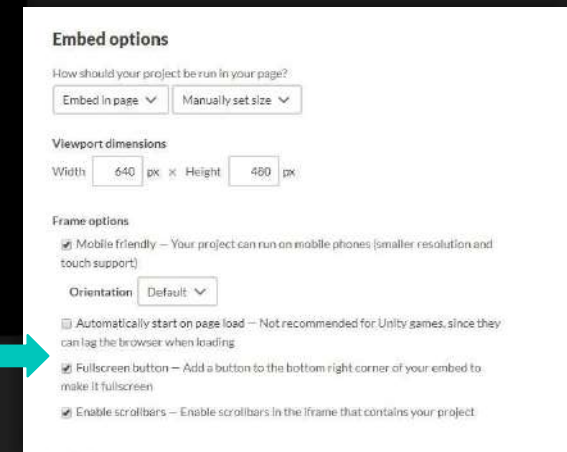
Chikodili Emelumadu, Onyinye Iwu & Tory Hoke, *The Fixer*, HTML, in *Sub-Q Magazine*, 2015,
<https://sub-q.com/play-the-fixer/>

Ensuring Collection Quality

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Settings
which affect
capture



Ash Green, *Changes: A Mysterious Tale*, Bitsy, 2018,
<https://ashg.itch.io/changes-a-mysterious-tale>

UKWA
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Collecting AI

Challenges

- Limited results with existing web archiving tools
- Questions of authorship and copyright
- Engagement with creators/developers
- Is it a publication? Is it in scope?

Thank you for listening!

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