

This Gaming Life: Travels in Three Cities

Jim Rossignol

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The University of Michigan Press

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Nobody leads a life of quiet desperation nowadays. The mass of men was quietly desperate a million years ago because the infernal computers inside their skulls were incapable of restraint or idleness; were forever demanding more challenging problems which life could not provide.

► KURT VONNEGUT, *Galápagos*, 1985

My friend Trevor is over at my house with his nephew Donny. We're playing *WarioWare* on the GameCube, but Donny's not really interested. When it came time to make a man jump on a banana, he pronounced it "gay" and put the controller down. So now it's down to me as a dancing cat and Trevor as some kind of alien in sunglasses and a cape. Donny's reading the manual for *Manhunt*. He's pretty psyched that you can kill someone with a plastic bag.

► TOM CHICK, "Saving Private Donny," 2004

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