



WEATHERGUARD GOLD ~2009 SPELL SAGA DESIGN JOURNAL

Dear Weatherguard, this letter is to acknowledge the debt you paid to own a piece of gaming history--The 2009 original design journal for Spell Saga.

In 2009 I came up with Spell Saga--but it wasn't what it is now. It was the beginning of a dream, and (just like a dream) all I had were little pieces and thoughts. Spell Saga was an idea that was mostly just a wish list of emotions I wanted to create and then share. It was a game, sure. But it was a story too. And both the game and story came to me over the course of (well, many years) but all those first big parts came to me in the Winter of 2009, and most of them were written down in the very journal now in your possession!

It has been nine years since I first started working on this thing that took over my life. NINE YEARS AGO THIS MONTH! And a lot of those ideas--now taped along the left-hand pages of the beginning of the journal, were scrawled down while I was bored and lost and stuck at my old job. I used to work in an office at a hospital. It was my job to type in hundreds of numbers everyday. It hurt my eyes. And it hurt my soul. What little was left of my heart I put into writing ideas down on my phone or scraps of paper. On my breaks I would walk down the stairs and outside to this really ugly parking lot, and just walk up and down, staring at gravel as I worried how on earth I would ever do something impossible like Spell Saga.

It is funny to write this letter to you now--as I by sheer coincidence, was standing in that same parking lot yesterday. And I even walked inside and up the stairs, and stared at my old office, from a distance, as if getting too close might be dangerous. And I walked down the long hall and remembered what my life had been like, and how it is now. I did something impossible. I have fucked up so many things in my time on this earth (including Spell Saga) but I did it. With lots of help, but I did it. Spell Saga happened.

The journal in your hands went everywhere from my old job, to my old home, and even six hours away to St. Charles, Missouri USA, where I put quite a lot of work into it. In fact, it sat next to me as I played my very first game on a kitchen table of my ex-father in law's (RIP Andy).

And by happenstance--if it wasn't enough that I was back in my old parking lot yesterday), next week my wife and I are driving to Missouri, and we'll be stopping by St. Charles JUST to go meet someone who likes Spell Saga and has been a real friend to me, someone I never would have met if not for the game. We'll be meeting at a bookstore I used to sit inside, right at the far end of the cafe--and I bet there's a chance we sit down at the very same table I used to write in this journal.

The book is yours, it was the most important thing in the world to me when I was working on it. And I am so very happy that you get to have it now, with all the terrible ideas, good thoughts, and sincere worries written inside of it.

Inside this Box is the original Spell Saga design journal, crafted at 918 Knox Avenue, Nashville, TN. & parts of St. Charles, MO. USA.