

SURVIVE THE LINKS

The following samples are from a game called *Survive the Links*, a golf game with a twist. It starts out plainly enough, you head to the pro shop and outfit yourself, but after a few holes things get stranger and stranger. The racoon infestation you've heard about turns out to be zombie hoards raised from the dead taking over the Shady Dawn Country Club. You have the choice: be the hero and battle the zombies to get to the bottom of the problem, or ignore it and try and play your game as best you can through the obstacles. It's a more lighthearted zombie fare, satirizing golf club culture while putting a spin on a classic genre.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Hero and XANDER, your caddy, goofy and aloof, ride in the gold cart towards the first hole.

It's a gorgeous day and they pass by smiling, happy golfers. One or two throw them a suspicious look.

XANDER

Oooo I can feel it, this'll be the round that qualifies you for the tour, I just know it.

HERO

Thanks for the confidence. Today is just about putting up a solid showing and getting back to basics. Solid fundamentals, you know?

Passing PRESTON, preppy and snobbish, giving them the stink eye.

HERO (CON'T)

And maybe keeping our heads down.

XANDER

Sure, sure, sure. It's a beautiful day, the greens are perfect, and today you prove to (motioning back) that chump Preston that you're not a loser.

HERO

(Sarcastically)

I truly don't deserve you.

XANDER begins humming as he drives. Suddenly there's a dark flash in the corner of the screen. Hero jumps.

HERO (CON'T)
Woah did you see that?!

XANDER
Was it a raccoon? They've been having
a terrible infestation lately.

HERO
I guess so... It just seemed so
fast...

XANDER
They're wily little punks. Well, here
we are! 1st hole, par 4-

HERO
I know the hole Xander, thank you.

They leave the cart and walk to Hole #1.

Cut to Hole #1 gameplay.

EXT. HOLE #4 - DAY

There are several ZOMBIES in the middle of the fairway
meandering slowly. They haven't noticed HERO or XANDER yet.

HERO
So this was never about raccoons...

XANDER
(Trembling)
Most definitely not. I'm panicking,
are you panicking?

HERO
Jumping out of my skin. We're in the
middle of the course surrounded by
zombies, what would you suggest my
faithful caddy? Got a zombie wedge in
there?!

XANDER
Let me check... Oh I get it now, good
one. Maybe we can channel our inner
stillness and become like the trees
and they won't notice us.

HERO
Guess we have to decide.

CHOICE:

A. Fight your way through the zombies and save the day

B. Finish the round and qualify for the tour

A.

XANDER

Exactly what I'd hoped you'd say! Now
I have myself a meat shield.

HERO

Just get my clubs ready for zombie
bashing. We're goin' down swinging.

Go to ZOMBIEBASH mode start.

B.

XANDER

You want to play through? Aw man, the
blood is gonna make the greens
impossible to read.

HERO

If I can't do it through this, then I
don't deserve the tour. Tee me up!

Go to PLAYTHROUGH mode hole #4.

EXT. HOLE #17 - UNNATURAL DUSK

Approaching hole #17, a young woman comes running from the clubhouse. RAQUEL, hysterical, stops just before HERO.

RAQUEL

That little brat, I told him just to
start a tech company and he goes and
does this!

HERO

Raquel! Preston is behind this?

RAQUEL

He's been hiding things from me for
months! I just thought he was bad at
cheating on me, but no! He's been
concocting this scheme to raise the
dead and take over THE COUNTRY CLUB of
all things. I can't believe I didn't

leave him for Lauren when I had the chance.

She breaks down crying. Xander starts to step towards her.

XANDER
(Tactlessly)
Oh... Now, now... Maybe you'll feel better if you tell us how to stop him?

HERO
Xander, good grief.

He steps in front to try and shake RAQUEL out of it.

HERO (CON'T)
Look, Raquel, I'm so so sorry, but it's kind of important that we keep any more people from dying.

RAQUEL
(Through sobs)
He's got... some book... says it's... his beloved... instead of me!

HERO
We can work with that. Thank you, we'll be back.

XANDER
I've got a good shoulder to cry on!

They run away towards more oncoming zombies.

INT. PRO SHOP - UNNATURAL DUSK

HERO and XANDER step through the entrance to the pro shop. It has been completely trashed and a dark energy fills the air.

On the far side is a throne made of golf clubs and bag. Atop it sits PRESTON, zombie lord, with a golf club scepter and a crown made of golf balls.

PRESTON
You surprise me. I'd have put money on you being the first to high tail it out of here.

HERO
Why are you doing this Preston? You already have life being handed to you

on a silver platter!

PRESTON

Quit your sniveling. You don't deserve to draw breath in my presence, let alone question me.

HERO

Sure, you've always been a stuck-up jerk, but this?? This is too much!

PRESTON

Silence!

HERO

Grow up!

PRESTON

No one gave me the chance to prove myself, but this. All this. This is of my making. I am worthy and can bring a new beginning to the Shady Dawn Country Club!

HERO

Oh, buddy.

PRESTON

And you won't stop me!

PRESTON slams his scepter on the ground and a batch of zombies run in to attack.

INT. PRO SHOP - DAY

HERO is engaged with Pro Shop employee GREG VORLOP IV, a proud worker.

GREG

Welcome back! We've got lots of new products in if you'd like to erm... update your gear, or add some odds and ends. We've got new and used clubs, balls and clothes. (quietly) I'd recommend thinking about spending a little before you tee off. Better to blend in a little and avoid the eye of some of the snootier constituents. (Back to regular volume) Now! What'll it be?

CHOICE:

- A. Clubs
- B. Balls
- C. Clothes
- D. Why is everyone so stuck up around here?
- E. I'm good, thanks.

A.

HERO

Maybe Mr. Reliable hasn't been my greatest asset. What do you recommend?

GREG

Oh now, now, don't insult the clubs.
You'll know which one speaks to you.
Find your match, young one.

HERO

Oh come-

GREG

Ha! Couldn't resist myself. No, the Star Shooter is the way to go if you ask me, but look at them all!

Go to Club selection, then return to main choice.

B.

HERO

Do the balls really make that big a difference?

GREG

You're really looking to get smacked aren't you? They can make or break you.

HERO

I had no idea.

GREG

That much is very clear. I won't mention it to any future suitors of yours. Take a look and choose wisely.

Go to Ball selection, then return to main choice.

C.

HERO
Is there something wrong with what I'm wearing?

GREG
I wouldn't say wrong so much as uninformed. Styles change quickly these days and I wouldn't call it a coincidence that the top performers stay up to date on the stuff.

HERO
And here I thought it was just about golf...

GREG
(Dead serious)
It's never been just about golf. Take a look.

Go to Clothes selection, then return to main choice.

D.

HERO
I'm sick of the attitudes around here, what gives?

GREG
We are the preeminent Country Club and I daresay any "attitudes" you're encountering are members who take comfort in being the best.

HERO
Doesn't it ever get old?

GREG
Not yet. Not until someone upends the status quo I'd guess. For now, the attitude is the way to the top.

HERO
That's... surprisingly honest.

GREG
Now, if the judgement is done, would

you like anything?

Go back to main choice.

E.

HERO

You know what? I think I'll pass for now.

GREG

I don't want to overstep, but that's a mistake.

CHOICE:

- A. Really, I'm good.
- B. Ok I'll take another look.

A.

HERO

I'm gonna stick with what I got. If that isn't enough, then you can sleep well that you warned me.

GREG

I like someone that sticks to their guns. Good for you, I'll be rooting for ya out there.

Go to End Conversation

B.

HERO

Fiiiiine.

Go back to main choice.

END CONVERSATION

GREG

Oh, before you go! Be careful out on the course, we've had a slight rodent problem around the fourth hole, but nothing to worry about. I've got my best guys on it, so I'm sure it'll be clear by the time you're out there.

Return to Pro shop play.

DIALOGUE BARKS

INT. PRO SHOP - DAY

HERO bumps into another customer while browsing.

CHAZ

I swear, this place is going to the dogs. Do you mind?

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Passing a course employee sitting in his cart with his feet up on the steering wheel.

JOEL

Heard some people whining about racoons up ahead. Just keep an eye out. And don't tell my boss that- never mind.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

On the course headed to hole #2, another golfer passes you in his cart, leaving the course.

WINSTON

Uh. Uh. Best of luck. Be careful around the traps. (sighs) I'm too old for this.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Golfer is on the side of the green, stunned in disbelief.

ASHLEY

That putt was going in. I was going to make it. You know what? I'm not going down without a fight.

Runs off after the zombies.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

A zombie is attacking another golfer in front of HERO.

ZOMBIE

GRAWFFGRAW-TAKE A MULLIGAN-HURFFPH-ON YOUR LIFE

ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

CLUBS AVAILABLE IN BAG/PRO SHOP

MR. RELIABLE

#1 Driver that you've had for years. Fits like a glove. Doesn't give you any bonuses, but your chance of an errant shot decreases by 25%. In the event that you need to swing it at something besides a ball it gives you a 25% increase in damage due to its old, sturdy build.

K3000 STAR SHOOTER

#1 Driver that's the top of the line. Powerful alloy hybrid that the pros use. Gives you a 25% potential distance boost and a 10% increase in errant shot chance. Don't try and use it on anything but golf balls though, it's very fragile and likely to break.

OLD IRONSIDE

Pitching Wedge that must be 40 years old. Weighs a ton, so you will never overshoot your target, but there's a 15% chance the shot gets away from you or barely goes anywhere. No one wants to be on the receiving end of this solid blow. Chance of stunning anything it hits.

MULTI-WEDGE XL

Can operate as a 5-9 iron. Looks like a very useful gadget. Its versatility comes with a price though; there's a 15% chance the wedge will hit at a different number than the one you set. It is a very sturdy club though and could provide a beating if the situation arose.