

VIDEO GAME REVIEW:

LAW & ORDER: JUSTICE IS SERVED

By Tim Muncher

In his ineffable wisdom, TV Writer.Com guru Larry Brody has entrusted me with the sacred duty of testing and reporting on video games sent to the site by their ever-plugging publishers. First up is "LAW * ORDER: JUSTICE IS SERVED" by Legacy Interactive.

The Brode has asked me to be gentle, but here's the bottom line: this game proves that Legacy Interactive is very well-named, on account of the fact that everything about this game feels like a legacy – an old-fashioned hand-me-down.

And dull! Jesus, one storyline, a dead Anna Kournakova type tennis player is all you get, which means that there ain't no way nohow anybody would want to play this thing twice.

Or once, for that matter.

Did I say this fucker was dull?

First things first though. And the first thing I noticed was that the review copy Legacy sent TV Writer.Com was packed like a real piece of shit. Two CD-ROMs in two old-fashioned legacy jewel cases, both of which broke, shattering on their hinges, when I opened them. And I'm not a tough guy. I'm a player, not a fighter. Beautiful, long-fingered gentle type hands are my claim to fame. (But someday I'll have more, I swear by Odin's beard! Or Freya's pubic hair.)

Anyway, after picking up the plastic splinters scattered all over my dorm room I installed the game. It took 12 fucking minutes even with a P4 3.0 processor and 1 gig of ram. The graphics and music take up a gig and a half of hard drive space and you **still** have to play with the second CD-ROM in your machine.

This is bullshit, especially with a game that has no action at all. Start 'er up and you hear the LAW & ORDER theme and see badly animated, rubbery looking simulacra of Jerry Orbach and that dull African American guy who plays his partner. Orbach must've had image approval because his badly animated alter ego looks about 50 years younger than he is and as gentile as Leonardo diTitanic, whatever the hell his name is.

The game starts with a cut scene of two equally badly animated women tennis players entering the locker room and finding the Anna K imitator dead. Their entrance is the most action you'll see. After that it's you, the player, as Orbach, navigating from ill-marked place to place, asking questions from the same kind of list you could find in my father's DOS games, stuffing items to be examined in the same kind of "wallet" found in the first version of DOOM, and talking on his cell phone for no reason except that it's there.

If you miss something (and only an idiot can because when you pan around the game your cursor automatically turns into a great big dick-shaped pointer that just about screams "Click here!" whenever it touches something important) you can always go back. There's no jeopardy, no tension, no danger, no reason to care.

I'll be honest. Your friendly neighborhood munchman only played the first half of the game. The Players Guide says you'll have a swell time in the courtroom phase of the game, objecting and bargaining and generally engaging in all the activities that have caused America to regard lawyers as the lowest of the low. But as soon as I'd gathered enough evidence to make an arrest I was out of there.

I mean, who the fuck wants to go through an hour or two of gameplay as that dithering holier than thou nerd Sam Waterston? And that's all this game gives you – maybe three to five hours of play for whatever exorbitant price they charge.

Reviewers always give recommendations. My recommendation is that unless you've got some kind of fetish for the show and have never played a video game before and believe – so help you Jesus – that everybody in the world should be drawn in a pseudo-realistic style that still makes them look like the old Stretch Armstrong toy I

found at a swap meet outside of New Haven LAW & ORDER: JUSTICE IS SERVED is a real must-miss of a computer experience.

Hell, if you want to play at being a detective go to eBay and buy a used version of the BLADERUNNER game. That's got great atmosphere, some action, and a terrific twist in its storyline that makes it a true sequel to the film. But even then, why in the name of Bill Gates would anybody want to sit at a computer and do something so dull when you can be driving, shooting, and even fucking your way through one of the GRAND THEFT AUTO games? Go get yourself one of those and you'll see what I mean.

P.S.

The Brode also forwarded me another package, and when I opened it I found a cardboard wrapped CD-ROM labeled LEISURE SUIT LARRY – MAGNA CUM LAUDE. It was marked PC Demo, which meant it wasn't the full game, and it was made by Sierra, a company whose games I never install on any of my machines because they're always adding all kinds of components and linking you to websites you didn't choose and the games always crash in the bargain.

But this package brought with it an added twist. One genuine Trojan brand condom. It was packaged in turquoise, had the name of the game on it, and doesn't expire until November of 2007, giving me 3 whole fucking years to finally get laid!

And that, btw, is the basis of the game – you play the part of Leisure Suit Larry Junior, nephew of the Leisure Suit Larry remembered so fondly by dorks over 30. This game gives no clue as to why the original was memorable. Its animation is only slightly better than that in L & O, and why would any dude in my generation want to look at 3d animated versions of hot chicks that are obviously “drawings” when we can go to <http://www xnxx.com> and find flesh and blood babes doing things that would make yesterday's porno queens like Linda Lovelace, well, gag?

The point of LSL – MCL is to get Larry laid. To do that you've got to play through a string of really stupid side scrolling arcade situations that even Linda Lovelace could've handled without swallowing. The

better you do, the better Larry's chances of scoring. But winning isn't half as much fun as losing because Larry's reactions when he screws up are much more interesting than when he screws.

I played through the whole demo in about half an hour and then I wiped my hard drive clean of both games. I've still got the condom, though. Can't wait till the time is right, the mood is all around us, love and lust and need and sexual frenzy are in the air and I pop out this goofy turquoise packet and say, "C'mon, baby, unroll this Leisure Suit on your little muncher. You'll be a fuck of a lot gladder you did than I was that I played these games.

Bye for now –

Munchman. 🤖👉