

THE BEST LAID PLANS

About the Game

The Best Laid Plans is an interactive narrative point-and-click adventure game.

You play as the quivering goblin minion of the all-powerful Dark Overlord. Your master has sent you on a quest to find a bottle of hair tonic and return with it to the Dark Tower where he dwells.

As you play, you will switch between acting out a plan to get the hair tonic and watching your plan happen. You can change your plan when you change your mind or when things go wrong. The game ends once you return to the dark tower bearing the hair tonic that your master sent you to fetch.



Goal



This is the hair tonic! Your quest is to find it and bring it back to the Dark Tower, where your master awaits.

INTERFACE

The Dark Overlord is always watching!

Current game mode

The plan you have acted out so far



You, the goblin.

The items you are carrying

Use this button to take back your last action if you make a mistake.

How many more actions you can take

Your score. High is bad; low is good

GAME MODES

The game switches back and forth between two modes: **Make Your Plan** mode and **Watch Your Story Unfold** mode.

Make Your Plan




Watch Your Story Unfold

Make Your Plan

You begin the game in **Make Your Plan** mode. You should act out a plan for getting the hair tonic and bringing it to the Dark Tower. When you are in this mode, the other characters in the game will not do anything. This mode ends automatically when you finish acting out a plan for fetching the hair tonic. Then it's time for...

Watch Your Story Unfold

When the game is in **Watch Your Story Unfold** mode, you simply sit back and watch your plan happen. You can't control the goblin at all in this mode, but the other characters might do something! If you decide that you want to change your plan, you can press the  button to go back into **Make Your Plan** mode. Also, if you die, the Dark Overlord will bring you back to life, rewind time, and put the game back into **Make Your Plan** mode for you.

ACTIONS



Look at an item. The Dark Overlord will give you some information about it telepathically.



Talk to another character. Talking to a character is a good way to learn who they are and what they can do for you.



Trade an item you are carrying for something that another character is selling. Talk to them to learn about trades.



Give an item away to another character. You may not be able to get it back if you give it away.



Pick up an item that is within arm's reach. Be careful: if you pick up an item someone is selling, that's stealing!



Attack another character. The attacker always wins a fight, unless the victim has a weapon and the attacker does not.



Cast a magic spell. If you don't know what a spell does, look at it and the Dark Overlord will tell you about it.



Eat or drink a food item. You do not need to eat or drink to stay alive, but a little snack never hurts, right?



Poison a food item. If a character eats or drinks a poisoned food item, they will die, so be careful!

WORLD MAP

The hair tonic can be found
in the town potion shop.



You begin the game here, in
the Dark Tower. Your quest
is to get the hair tonic and
bring it back here.

CREDITS

Team

Project Lead and AI Programmer Stephen G. Ware
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