

GAMING

'The World Next Door' Brings an Anime Twist to a Popular Game Genre

BY **CAMMY HARBISON** ON 3/29/19 AT 4:33 PM EDT

SHARE



Unlimited 30 Day Ad Free Trial

SUBSCRIBE NOW >

You have **5** free articles remaining this month

Sign-up to our daily newsletter for more articles like this + access to 5 extra articles

Email address

FREE SIGN UP >

and Nintendo Switch. Drawing on its vast experience as a global publisher and distributor of some of the best known titles in anime, the company has brought a new twist to a well-known genre of video games.

At its roots, *The World Next Door* is a match-3 style offering, but it has been artfully wrapped in a teen-themed storyline, complete with anime-inspired graphics that will likely appeal to an audience as youthful as its characters.

VS

Democrats Must Emphasize Boldness, Not Moderation

BY ISSAC BAILEY



OPINION



Communist China Is Preparing To Eat Joe Biden's Lunch

BY BEN WEINGARTEN



Immigration Politics: Wishful Thinking?

BY PEDRO L. GONZALEZ



Conservative Georgians Must Turn out for America's Sake

BY NEWT GINGRICH



CNN's New Year's Eve Hypocrisy

BY JASON RANTZ



What Do Trump's Lower-Court Appointees Mean for Biden?

BY GIANCARLO CANAPARO



The Soleimanification of the Middle East

BY SETH J. FRANTZMAN



China's Nuclear Build-Up Should Worry the West

BY MICHAEL R. POMPEO AND MARSHALL BILLINGSLEA

WORLD
NEXT
DOOR.

JUN

- Age: 17
- Race: Human
- Powers: None
- Traits: Loner, Determined, Truth-seeker

Jun is a human teen that has always felt like an outsider, often immersing herself in monster culture, imagining herself living in the parallel world of Emrys. At the time the game takes place, Jun is basically floating through life, until she is notified that she has won a trip to Emrys during the portal opening.



Jun
VIZ MEDIA

N START YOUR DAY WITH OUR
TOP 5 ARTICLES

FREE SIGN UP >

NEWSWEEK SUBSCRIPTION OFFERS >

In *The World Next Door*, players follow the story of Jun, a teenage girl who dreams of visiting the world of Emrys. According to the game's lore, Earth and Emrys are two parallel worlds divided by a single dimension. For one day each year, a portal opens between them, during which a handful of lucky individuals may travel between universes. To celebrate the portal opening, the worlds hold a cross-dimensional celebration called The Festival. In *The World Next Door*, Jun has been selected to make the journey to Emrys.

While Earth is a planet governed by humans and technology, Emrys is full of mystical, magic-wielding creatures. When Jun arrives on Emrys, she immediately meets up with Liza, a fun-loving and slightly mischievous Emrysian teenager. The two have been communicating via text ahead of Jun's arrival. While on Emrys, Liza introduces Jun to a handful of her friends who decide to give Jun a taste of life in their world. The clan teaches Jun how to cast magical spells by activating colorful runes in specific arrangements. As players progress through the game and the perils of the story unfold, Jun must use the tactics she's learned from her new friends to battle mysterious enemies known as Grievances.



Throwing fireballs is child's play on Emrys.

VIZ MEDIA

The spell-casting battles embody the match-3 aspect of the game and each encounter allows players to unlock a bit more of the story. While character development is somewhat limited, the narrative is engaging enough to make you want to stick with it to the end. Players are given more than one way to respond to various characters, which allows for a certain amount of replay value through the exploration of the various dialogue options.

NEWSWEEK SUBSCRIPTION OFFERS >



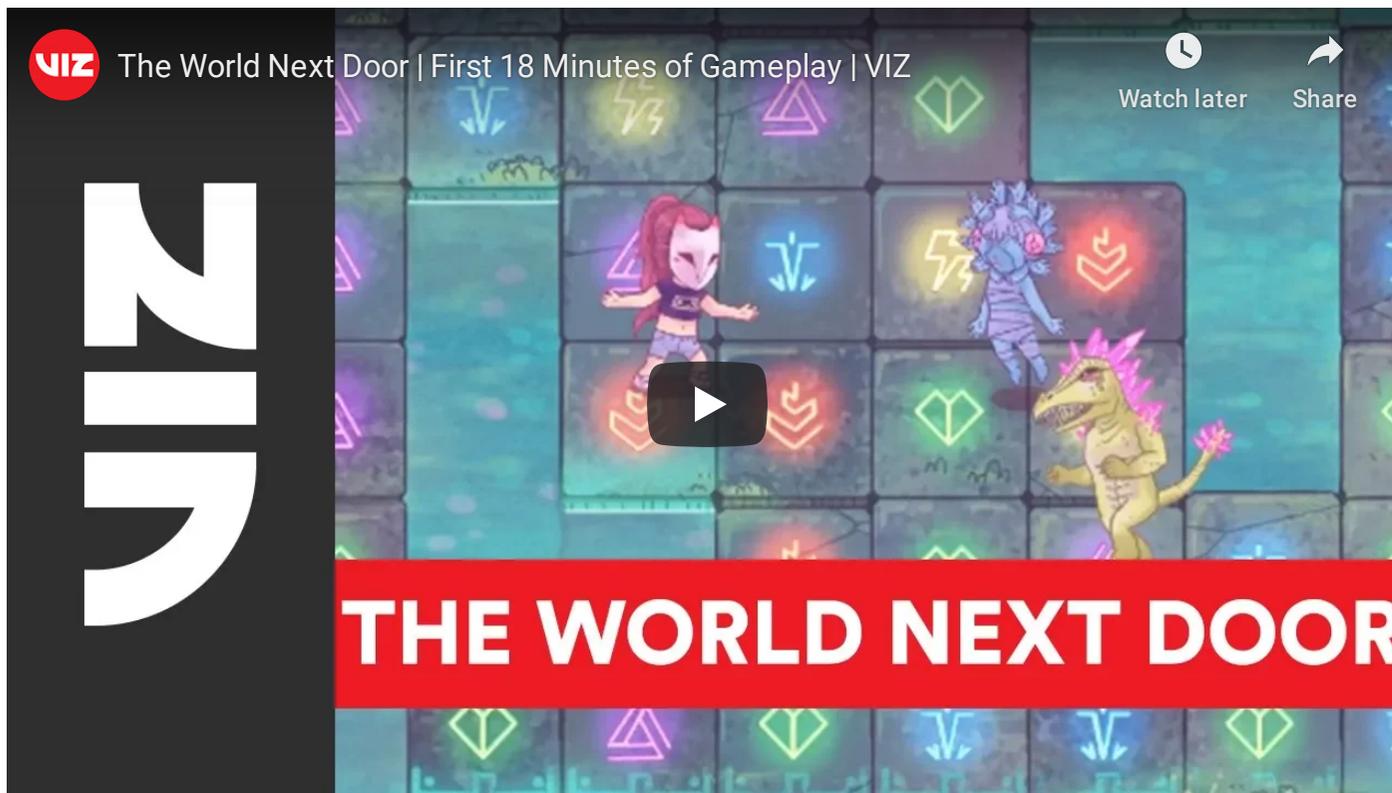
The World Next Door brings match-3 style gameplay to an engaging teen-themed narrative.

VIZ MEDIA

The game is a decidedly casual offering, but the laid-back nature of it adds to the charm. It's something players can easily pick up and put down at will, but each encounter offers the perfect amount of cheeky dialogue and puzzling challenges to make it enjoyable right up to the end.

The World Next Door is available for \$14.99 on a number of platforms, including Switch, Steam (PC/Mac), the Humble Store, Itch.io and GOG.com. Players can also purchase a premium game and soundtrack bundle for \$19.99 on PC and Mac.

What do you think of The World Next Door? Share your thoughts in the comments below!



N CHOOSE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

N NEWSLETTER

PREMIUM

- ✓ Newsweek magazine delivered to your door
- ✓ Unlimited access to Newsweek.com
- ✓ Ad free Newsweek.com experience
- ✓ iOS and Android app access
- ✓ Personalized daily newsletter

SUBSCRIBE ›

DIGITAL+

- ✓ Unlimited access to Newsweek.com
- ✓ Ad free Newsweek.com experience
- ✓ iOS and Android app access
- ✓ Personalized daily newsletter

GET YOUR FREE TRIAL ›

THE STARTING 5

See why nearly a quarter of a million subscribers begin their day with the Starting 5.

Email address

FREE SIGN UP ›

Newsweek © 2021 NEWSWEEK DIGITAL LLC



Editions: U.S. Edition | 日本 | Pakistan | Polska | România

About Us | Corrections | Contact Us | Editorial Guidelines | Advertise | Copyright | Terms & Conditions | Privacy Policy | Cookie Policy | Terms of Sale | Archive | Announcements |