Mapping the Design of

AMONG THIEVES

The Making and Playing of the Game

NAUGHTY DOG



Drew Davidson
Richard Lemarchand
James Paul Gee



Analysis

- Narrative
- Gameplay
- Design
- Development
- Literacy
- Mastery





Why?

- In-Depth Close "Reading"
- Critique & Analysis
- Gameplay Experience
- Meaning & Value

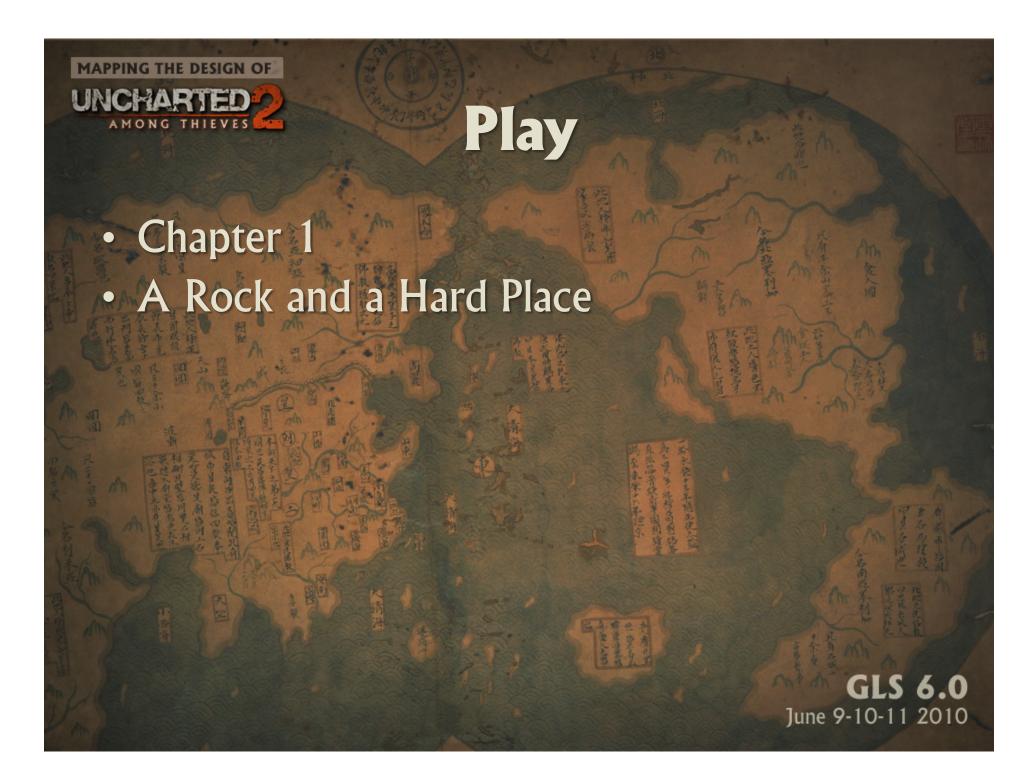




Full Disclosure

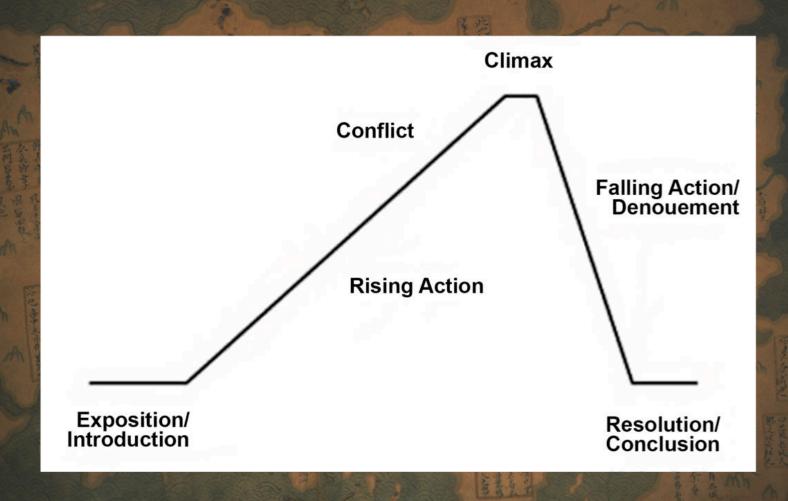
- Played the game 2+ times
- Played about 1/3 of 1st game
- Some GameFAQs
- Talked with Richard
- Spoiler Alert!





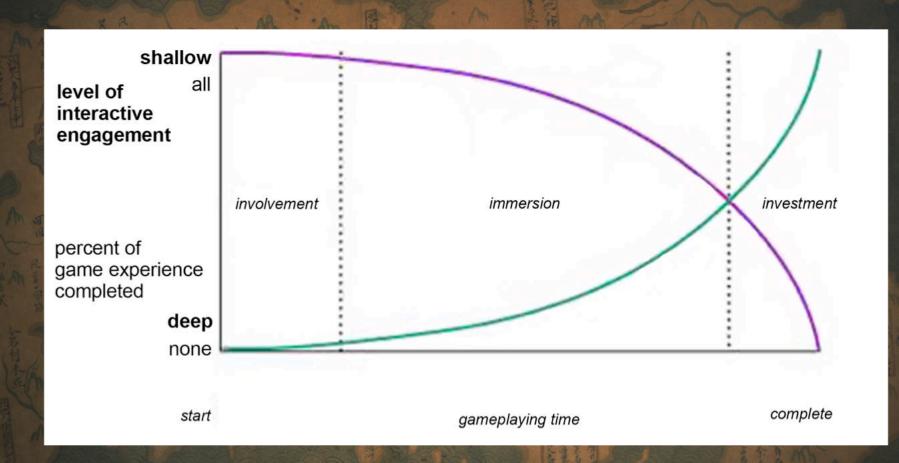


Narrative





Gameplay



UNCHARTED
AMONG THIEVES

Overall Experience

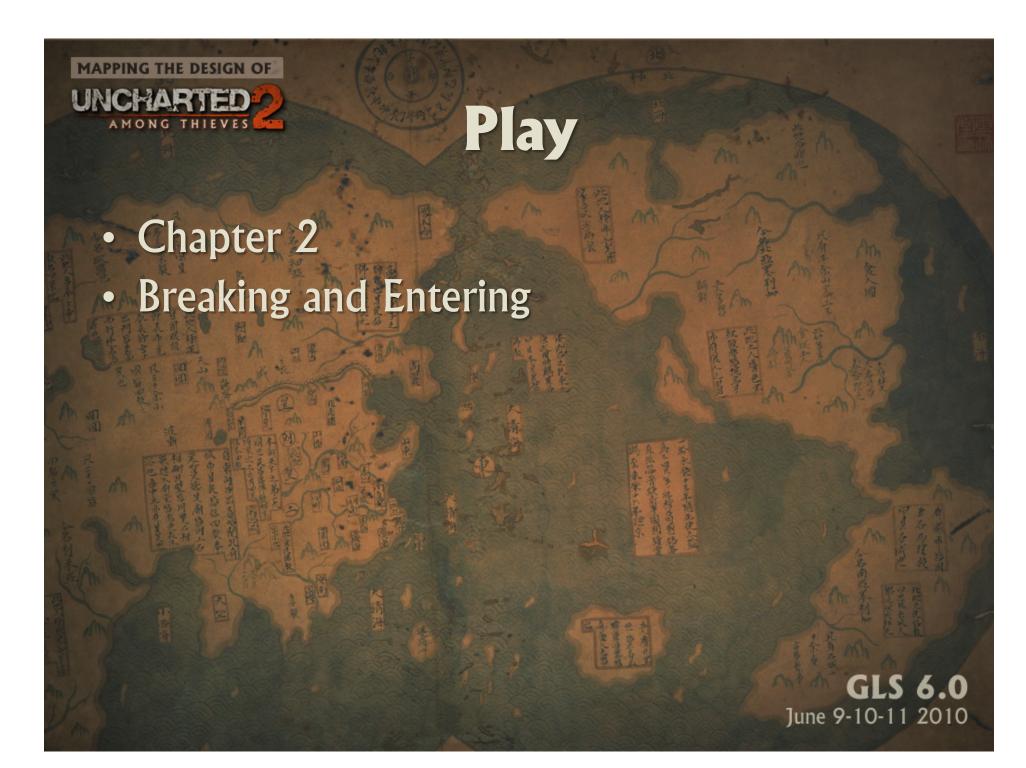
- Playing the Game
- Making the Game
- Throughline
- Becoming a Hero
- Gameplay
- In-Game Cut-Scenes





- 26 Chapters
- 14 Locales around the World
- Combat and Platforming
- Linear, @ 10-15 hours







- Naughty Dog
- Design and Development
 - Co-Lead Game Designer
- Fall 09 Release
- Tons of Awards





The Game

- Sequel to Uncharted: Drake's Fortune
- Added Multiplayer
- Action-Adventure







Throughline

- Among Thieves
 - Trust
- Becoming a Hero
 - Choices
- Adventure
 - Hollywood

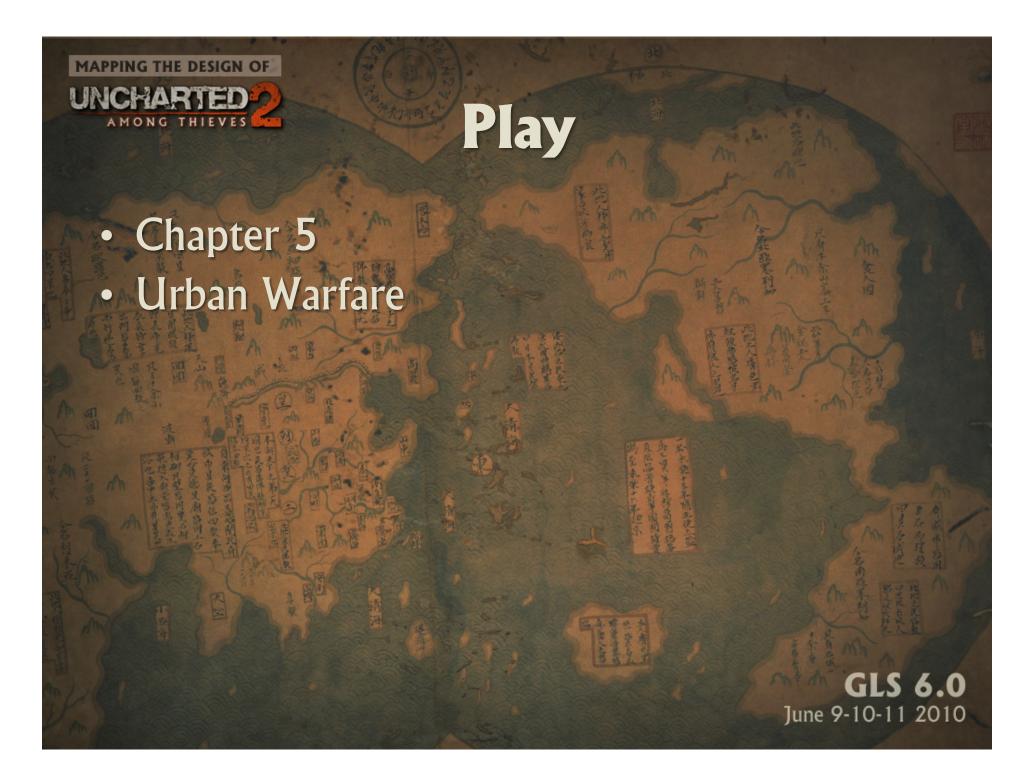




Platform

- Move through Space
- Explore Environment
- Solve Puzzles



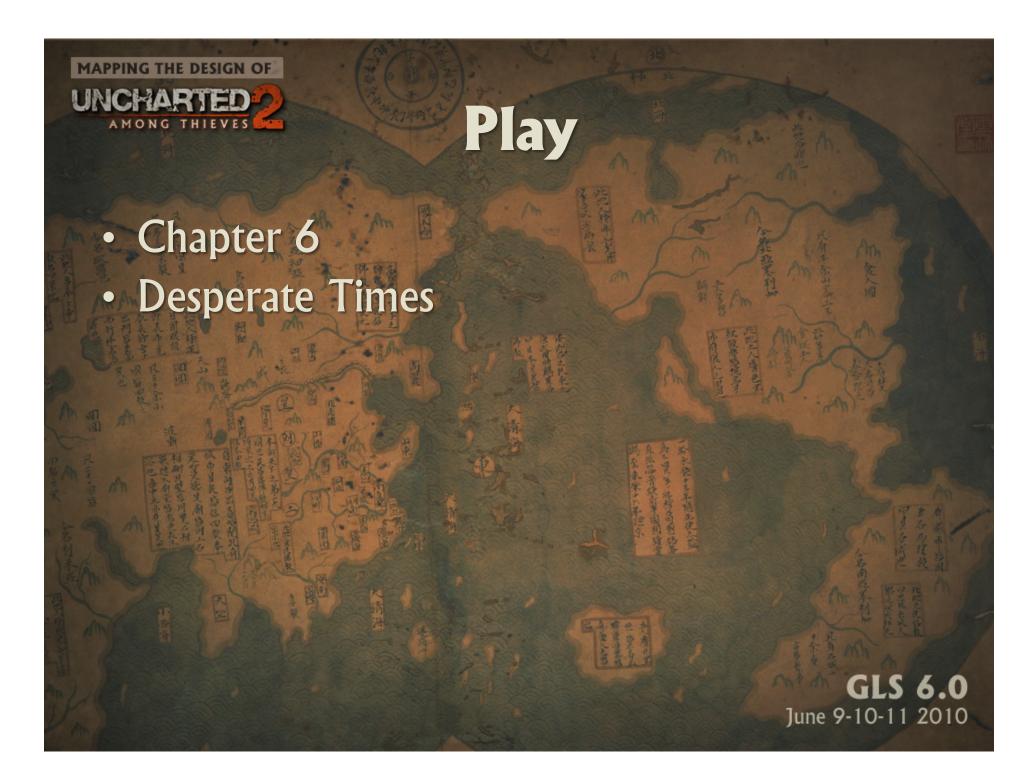




Combat

- Hand to Hand
- Gunplay







IGCs

- Cinematic Set Pieces
- Dynamic Object Traversal System
- Seamless Gameplay and Narrative





Play

- Chapter 13
- Locomotion

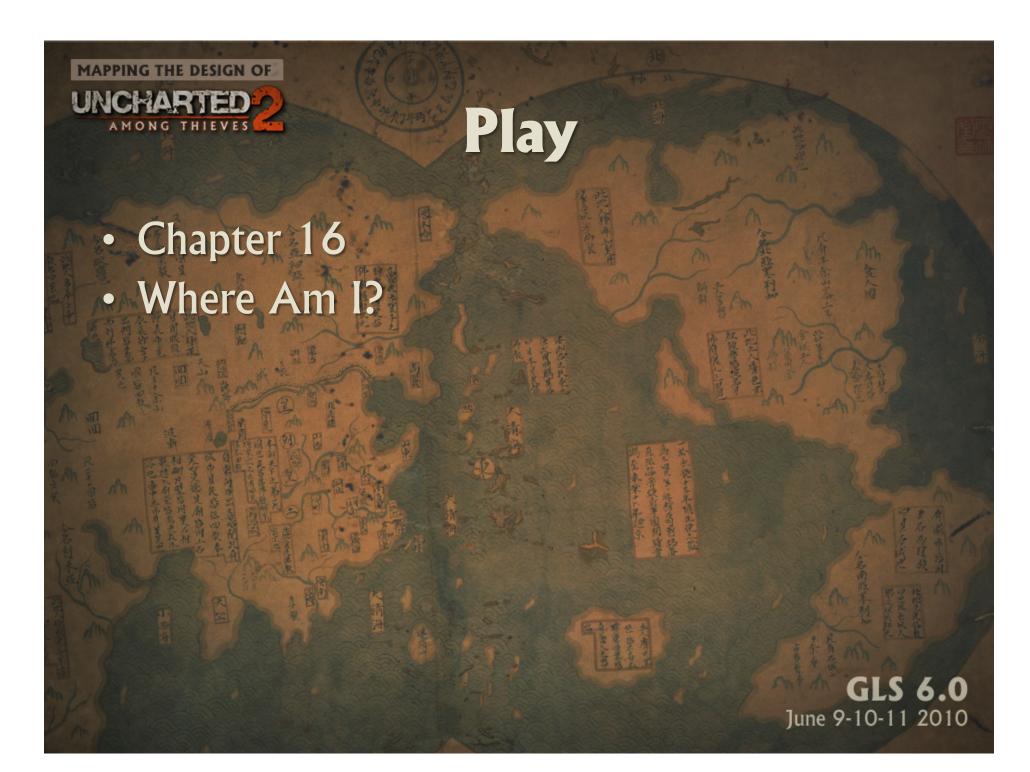




Among Thieves Among Thieves

- Developing Trust
- Relying on Each Other



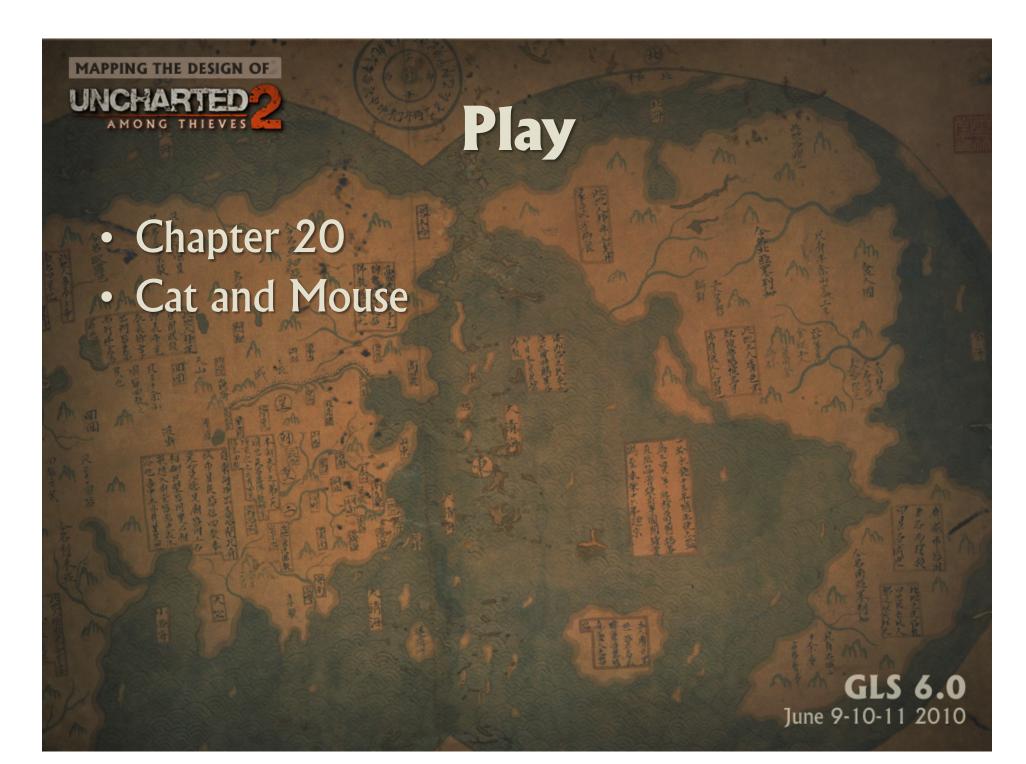




Becoming a Hero

- Performing heroic deeds
- Doing the right thing
- Saving the day
- Getting the girl







Adventure

- In-Game Cut-Scenes
- Dynamic Object Traversal System
- High Flying Hollywood Style





Play

- Chapter 24 & 25
- The Road to Shambhala
- Broken Paradise



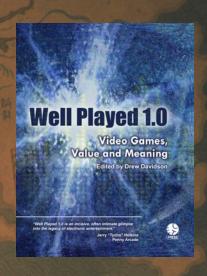
- Interpret & Analyze
- Design & Develop
- Narrative & Gameplay
- Flow & Meaning





Well Played

- In Both Senses
- Ludic Narrans
- Performance of Play
- Well Played 1.0, 2.0, 3.0
- http://etc.cmu.edu/etcpress/





Thanks!

Questions?

