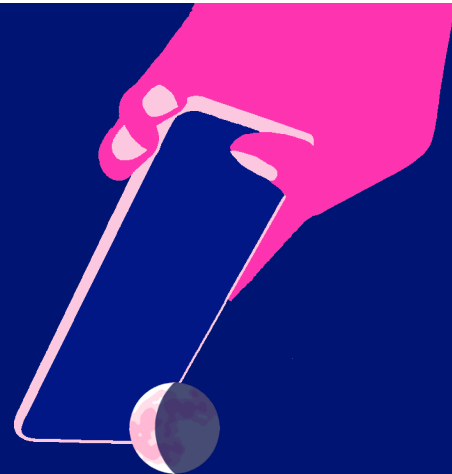


BY SPEAK THE SKY

MOON

THE

OVER



OVER

THE

MOON

BY SPEAK THE SKY

They were standing in a black-robed crescent waiting for you. That's... unusual. But what a lovely shape! Just like the moon. Just like the lovely, wonderful, beautiful, incomparable, shining, delightful, mmmmmmmmmarvellous moon.

Then the talking starts. 'Apparently', you have a problem. 'Apparently', you love the moon too much.

"Hey, we get you, we all love the moon. Everyone here loves the moon, right?"

"Yeah."

"Oh yeah."

"Absolutely."

"Right, it's just... we think you might be going just a bit too far. We were thinking it might be a good idea if you found love a little, like, closer to home. You know, within a few thousand kilometres. So we made you a profile on this dating site, and..."

You have to admit, they have a point. You really do love the moon way more than they do. Not in an unhealthy way, though, right? Well, it doesn't matter. You decide to take this seriously, if only to please them. No bullshit, all sincerity. You can make this work.

Little did you and your fellow moon-cultists/coven-sisters/moon-landing conspiracy theorists know, other groups with the same celestial idol had also gently or not-so-gently encouraged their own moon-sick acolytes to seek an earthlier love as well...



ABOUT THIS GAME

Over the Moon is a 2-player role-playing dating game by *Speak the Sky* (speak-the-sky.itch.io). Follow me on Twitter (twitter.com/SpeaktheSky) for new games, playtest releases, and more!

Each of you plays a moon cultist, witch, or other dark creature who loves the moon a little too much, and whose comrades decided to 'fix' this by online dating with 'normal' people... but you've just been matched with each other instead, and it's up to you to see if you can make this work. Is the moon your one true love, a third wheel in the sky, or the ultimate wingmoon? Play to find out!

The game was originally designed and written for the **Winter 2019 Moon Jam** on itch.io, a game jam with the constraint that submissions needed to use the sky in their rules. It was also submitted to the **Winter 2019 Ad Astra Jam** (feelings in space) and the **Winter 2019 Correspondence Jam** (epistolary games).

To play this game, you will need an online messaging app (e.g. Discord) and a view of the sky at night.

If you're uncomfortable with the direction the game is going in during play, just post the letter X. Always respect when your partner does this and ask what needs to be changed!

Credits:

Title and detail font: **YUMARO** by monotype (creativemarket.com/monotype)

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Hand holding phone image (original): fancycrave1 (pixabay.com/users/fancycrave1-1115284/)

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HOW DOES THIS GAME WORK?

Over the Moon plays out over the course of a full real-world moon cycle, starting just after the new moon, and changes with the moon's phase and visibility in the sky. That means the game takes around a month to play in its entirety.

The game starts on the night after the new moon (when the moon isn't visible in the night sky), so plan ahead to start on that date, though if you want, you could start after any night of the moon's principal phases (see later), or any night at all.

Each of you plays a character with a strong link to the moon, which they love a little too much. Here are some examples:

- A moon cultist worshipping an ancient, terrible moon god
- A witch, vampire, ghost, or werewolf
- A stranded lunar spirit, moon rabbit, or man in the moon
- An astronomer or little green moon-person
- A mad scientist or mad artist
- A moon landing conspiracy theorist
- A ghost-hunting astronaut on 'shore' leave
- *Any other moon-loving sort of person you can imagine*

You play the game using an online messaging app, though you won't need to use many of the features – just private/direct messaging each other and reacting to one another's posts with emojis for the first quarter moon, full moon, last quarter moon, and new moon (these are included in Unicode characters, which means they should be available by default in all apps).

Read through the rest of the rules before starting setup.

Good luck and have fun!



MOON PHASES AND MOON SIGNS

The cycle of the moon is roughly 29.5 days long and consists of 8 phases. Four of these – the ‘principal’ phases of First Quarter, Full Moon, Last Quarter, and New Moon – have special meaning in this game, where they’re called the **Moon Signs**.

Waxing Crescent



0.1 to 49.9% lit

First Quarter
(Moon Sign)



50% lit

Waxing Gibbous



50.1 to 99.9% lit

Full Moon
(Moon Sign)



100% lit

Waning Gibbous



99.9 to 50.1% lit

Last Quarter
(Moon Sign)



50% lit

Waning Crescent



49.9 to 0.1% lit

New Moon
(Moon Sign)



0% lit



SETTING UP YOUR PROFILES

First, fill out your Private Profile in-character, which is who you really are and what the moon means to you:

I am a [true age] [real identity] seeking [dark(?) goal].

The First Quarter is a _____ Sign because _____.

The Full Moon is a _____ Sign because _____.

The Last Quarter is a _____ Sign because _____.

The New Moon is a _____ Sign because _____.

Choose which **Moon Sign** is **Good**, which is **Bad**, and which two are **Ambiguous**. Briefly explain what each **Sign** means to you and to your group. You can add more detail later.

Second, fill out your Public Profile in-character. You can write your own or use the template your cult/coven/ghost gang/etc. made for you instead (or rewrite it as you like):

I am a [age] [my gender] seeking [partner genders]!
[quality #1], [quality #2], [quality #3]. I love [interest #1],
[interest #2], and [interest #3]. Looking for someone to
[activity #1] or [activity #2] with. [emoji] Don't message
me if you're [dislike #1] or [dislike #2]!

Also, I love the moon. It's really important to me. Don't
message me if you hate the moon!

EXAMPLES

Qualities: fun, driven, curious, wild, no-bullshit, kind, *etc.*

Interests: hobbies, pets, charity, politics, family, friends, *etc.*

Activities: watch films, go to gigs, get high, get rich, *etc.*

Dislikes: a player, a creep, a bot, 30 years older than me, *etc.*



READY? NO? LET'S GO!

Set up your Profiles on the night of the new moon. The next night (the first night of the waxing crescent moon), share your Public Profile with your partner. Keep your Private Profile secret – for now. Read their Public Profile, take a deep breath, say “we can make this work” out loud, and begin the game.



ON ANY NIGHT THAT THE MOON...



IS CRESCENT OR GIBBOUS

Ask your partner a Dating Question you haven't asked yet.

Answer your partner's question. However! If the moon is visible (feel free to wait until night-time), replace the underlined words in your partner's question with 'the moon' or other moon-related words, and answer *that* question instead.

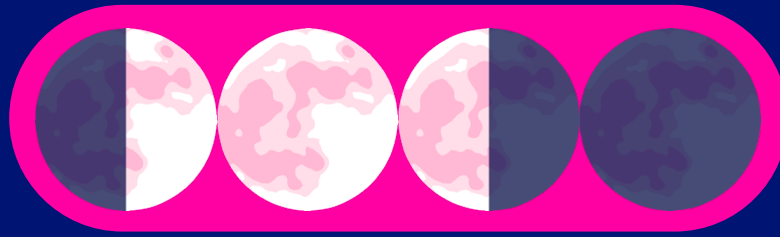
Answer with as much detail as you want, but only react to your partner's answer with one of your Moon Signs:

- If you liked it, use your **Good Sign**
- If you disliked it, use your **Bad Sign**
- If you have mixed feelings, use an **Ambiguous Sign**

If you don't like a question (in-character), you can always say “Pass”. Don't react to passes, only answers.



ON ANY NIGHT THAT THE MOON...



MATCHES A MOON SIGN

Explain what that Moon Sign means in your cult, coven, or belief, and whether and why it's good, bad, or ambiguous.

If it's an **Ambiguous Sign**, decide whether you feel like it's actually a **Good** or **Bad Sign** for you at the moment when you talk about it, and explain your interpretation. For the rest of the game, every time you use or used that **Sign**, it has the meaning you interpreted instead.



AT THE END OF THE MOON CYCLE

Well, how did it go? Count up your partner's reactions – if more are good than bad, they like you! Otherwise, not so much.

Whether or not either or both of you like each other, each decide whether you try to make this work.

Now count up how many times *you* used each Sign. Arrange them from most to least common, or least to most common. Take turns to narrate how your life goes on, together or alone, using the first Sign's deeper meaning (not whether it's good or bad) as inspiration. Do this again for each of your other Signs, in order, each time going further into your future, until you have no Signs left to see where this encounter took you in life.



DATING QUESTIONS!

- 1) What's your favourite song?
- 2) Should countries need the UN's approval to declare war?
- 3) What's your favourite food?
- 4) Should apes be given limited 'human' rights?
- 5) Museum or theatre?
- 6) Is climate change real?
- 7) What's your favourite film?
- 8) Do you think most people would like to be like you?
- 9) Is it morally acceptable to clone animals?
- 10) Has science gone too far?
- 11) What's your favourite holiday destination?
- 12) Countryside or city?
- 13) Would aliens want to contact us if they saw the internet?
- 14) Rain or shine?
- 15) Do people have a duty to help one another?
- 16) Ketchup or mayo?
- 17) Do different people see the same colour blue?
- 18) Should universal healthcare be a human right?
- 19) Cats or dogs?
- 20) How important is your star sign in your relationships?
- 21) What's your favourite animal?
- 22) Could a wood chuck chuck wood if it wanted to?
- 23) Is language political?
- 24) Wizard or barbarian?
- 25) What's your favourite form of exercise?
- 26) Is it okay to be married to more than one person?
- 27) What's your favourite book?
- 28) Thriller or romance?
- 29) What's your favourite colour?
- 30) Is it okay to steal money from a rich person?
- 31) Eat to live or live to eat?
- 32) Is voting an effective way to change the government?



CREATING YOUR OWN QUESTIONS

If you don't like the look of the questions on the list, you can come up with your own in one of these forms:

- "What's your favourite _____?"
- "_____ or _____?"
- A yes/no question about a serious or strange subject

Just make sure to underline the important parts – and remember, anything you ask is fair game to ask back to you!



STEAMY QUESTIONS



Here are 8 allegedly steamy questions to add to the 32 dating questions above, if you both feel like it:

- 1) Top or bottom?
- 2) Would you have sex with a clone of yourself?
- 3) What's your favourite sex position?
- 4) Clothes on or clothes off?
- 5) Would you have sex on the first date?
- 6) What's your favourite place to kiss?
- 7) [Daddy/Mommy] ;) (choose or change as appropriate)
- 8) Would you eat ass, if your partner really wanted you to?

Only include these if you both agree to allow them before the game begins. Respect your partner's boundaries and have fun!

