

THE SEVENTH RAINBOW

In *The Seventh Rainbow*, you explore the life of a protagonist, from childhood to death, through six summer trips scenes.

PREPARATION

1. To play, you need one six-sided dice and something to write with. You may gather friends to play with you but the game can be played alone.
2. Choose the game setting by general consent. By default, the story unfolds in our world, in the present time, but you can choose less realistic settings.
3. Create the protagonist you will collectively play by choosing their name, their appearance, an object they hold dear and a detail of their personal life.
4. Read the section “How to play” below.

HOW TO PLAY

When you have to start a new scene (at the start of the game or after another scene), roll the die or choose by general consent the color that will be explored. Each scene and each color will be played only once. Choose when this scene is happening in the life of the protagonist; you don't have to follow a chronological order.

Choose who in this scene will play the protagonist, who will describe the setting and who will play the extras. Several players can have the same role. A player cannot have the same role two scenes in a row.

To start a scene, you can get inspiration from the keywords and starting situations present on each page by rolling the die, choosing freely, or creating your own.

Scenes unfold without any precise rules. Each scene takes place during summer, on a trip, and must include at least one reminder of a previous scene: an object, an extra, a repeated sentence... Several reminders can be present in one scene but you shouldn't include too many. Finally, each scene must feature a rainbow.

Scenes end by general consent. At the end of a scene, all the players decide whether the scene was positive or negative and write this somewhere.

When all the colors have been explored, go to the epilogue, on the last page, to describe the protagonist's death. After this epilogue, the game is finished.

1. RED

Keywords:

1. Anger
2. Violence
3. Blood
4. Fire
5. Danger
6. Power

It's summer; the protagonist is on a trip. The scene takes place:

1. After a fight
2. After an accident
3. After a reckless actions
4. During an unexpected flight
5. During a standoff with a large animal
6. During seriously bad weather

Who plays the protagonist? When in their life is this scene taking place?

Who describes the setting? Where is the scene taking place?

Who plays the extras? Which secondary characters are present or can potentially appear on stage?

Remember that players cannot hold the same role as in the previous scene.

If this scene is not the first you play, it must include at least one reminder of a previous scene. It must also feature a rainbow.

Play the scene freely, with the help of the keywords if necessary, until all the players decide it should end. Was it a positive or negative scene? Write the answer somewhere then move to the following scene. You will not explore the color red anymore.

2. ORANGE

Keywords:

1. Energy
2. Warmth
3. Joy
4. Movement
5. Friendship
6. Passion

It's summer; the protagonist is on a trip. The scene takes place:

1. After a swim
2. After an intense effort
3. After a sport match
4. During a reunion following a long separation
5. During a big party
6. During a pursuit

Who plays the protagonist? When in their life is this scene taking place?

Who describes the setting? Where is the scene taking place?

Who plays the extras? Which secondary characters are present or can potentially appear on stage?

Remember that players cannot hold the same role as in the previous scene.

If this scene is not the first you play, it must include at least one reminder of a previous scene. It must also feature a rainbow.

Play the scene freely, with the help of the keywords if necessary, until all the players decide it should end. Was it a positive or negative scene? Write the answer somewhere then move to the following scene. You will not explore the color orange anymore.

3. YELLOW

Keywords:

1. Sun
2. Optimism
3. Wealth
4. Madness
5. Jealousy
6. Illness

It's summer; the protagonist is on a trip. The scene takes place:

1. After the announcement of very good news
2. After a visit to an old person
3. After a love declaration
4. While the protagonist suffers from a light disease
5. During a frenzied dance
6. During an expected excursion

Who plays the protagonist? When in their life is this scene taking place?

Who describes the setting? Where is the scene taking place?

Who plays the extras? Which secondary characters are present or can potentially appear on stage?

Remember that players cannot hold the same role as in the previous scene.

If this scene is not the first you play, it must include at least one reminder of a previous scene. It must also feature a rainbow.

Play the scene freely, with the help of the keywords if necessary, until all the players decide it should end. Was it a positive or negative scene? Write the answer somewhere then move to the following scene. You will not explore the color yellow anymore.

4. GREEN

Keywords:

1. Nature
2. Growth
3. Youth
4. Hope
5. Chance
6. Balance

It's summer; the protagonist is on a trip. The scene takes place:

1. After the announcement of a birth
2. After the pruning of a tree
3. After an impulsive decision
4. While the protagonist is looking for the solution to a problem
5. During a family excursion
6. During a reassessment

Who plays the protagonist? When in their life is this scene taking place?

Who describes the setting? Where is the scene taking place?

Who plays the extras? Which secondary characters are present or can potentially appear on stage?

Remember that players cannot hold the same role as in the previous scene.

If this scene is not the first you play, it must include at least one reminder of a previous scene. It must also feature a rainbow.

Play the scene freely, with the help of the keywords if necessary, until all the players decide it should end. Was it a positive or negative scene? Write the answer somewhere then move to the following scene. You will not explore the color green anymore.

5. BLUE

Keywords:

1. Water
2. Dream
3. Sadness
4. Superiority
5. Peace
6. Wound

It's summer; the protagonist is on a trip. The scene takes place:

1. After a missed reunion
2. After the first leg of a trip which took longer than expected
3. After a long time with eyes closed
4. While the protagonist is trying to rest
5. During an intimate discussion
6. While the protagonist is crossing a limit

Who plays the protagonist? When in their life is this scene taking place?

Who describes the setting? Where is the scene taking place?

Who plays the extras? Which secondary characters are present or can potentially appear on stage?

Remember that players cannot hold the same role as in the previous scene.

If this scene is not the first you play, it must include at least one reminder of a previous scene. It must also feature a rainbow.

Play the scene freely, with the help of the keywords if necessary, until all the players decide it should end. Was it a positive or negative scene? Write the answer somewhere then move to the following scene. You will not explore the color blue anymore.

6. PURPLE

Keywords:

1. Sweetness
2. Melancholia
3. Grief
4. Nobility
5. Ritual
6. Memory

It's summer; the protagonist is on a trip. The scene takes place:

1. After a long transfer
2. After the glimpse of an unsatisfying future
3. After a break-up
4. While the protagonist is starting to come back home
5. While the protagonist is unexpectedly alone
6. During a starry night

Who plays the protagonist? When in their life is this scene taking place?

Who describes the setting? Where is the scene taking place?

Who plays the extras? Which secondary characters are present or can potentially appear on stage?

Remember that players cannot hold the same role as in the previous scene.

If this scene is not the first you play, it must include at least one reminder of a previous scene. It must also feature a rainbow.

Play the scene freely, with the help of the keywords if necessary, until all the players decide it should end. Was it a positive or negative scene? Write the answer somewhere then move to the following scene. You will not explore the color purple anymore.

7. EPILOGUE: THE SEVENTH RAINBOW

During the epilogue, the players will describe, via a succession of declarations, the death of the protagonist.

To that effect, count the number of positive and negative scenes you played so far. You will alternate positive and negative details about the protagonist's death. To do so, go around the table: each player gives a detail about how the protagonist dies and what they leave behind, starting if possible with a positive detail. These details can include reminder of the previous scenes but this is not mandatory. The last detail about the protagonist's death, whether positive or negative, should mention the apparition of a rainbow: once it occurred, the game is finished.

A mini-RPG by Côme Martin, written in November 2020 for the CyberConv2 jam; the theme was "journeys". The fonts used are CabinSketch and Bell MT. Thank you to Eugénie, Florian and Mass for playtesting and feedback!