

The Mah Jong Players Companion

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since the arrival on the market of patricia thompson and betty maloney s two previous books the

game of mah jong illustrated and improve your mah jong a wide range of hands from many parts of the world has been sent to them in this player s companion the authors have put together a cross filled reference guide where over 120 hands illustrated in colour can be quickly identified by following the flip top headings on each page a full synopsis of each hand is included the extra hands give an international flavour to the book adding new interest and challenges

this is the essential companion for the dedicated mah jong player who also enjoys the social aspect of the game since thompson maloney s previous books on mah jong a wide range of hands from many parts of the world has been sent to them this book is a cross filled reference guide where over 120 hands illustrated in color can be quickly identified by following the flip top headings on each page a full synopsis of each hand is included descriptions of the subtleties of the strict chinese japanese games are not given here because this book deals with a western version of mah jong which has been developed by players thirsting for greater variety it contains hands already played in many countries

games allow players to experiment and play with subject positions values and moral choice in game worlds players can take on the role of antagonists they allow us to play with behaviour that would be offensive illegal or immoral if it happened outside of the game sphere while contemporary games have always handled certain problematic topics such as war disasters human decay post apocalyptic futures cruelty and betrayal lately even the most playful of genres are introducing situations in which players are presented with difficult ethical and moral dilemmas this volume is an investigation of dark play in video games or game play with controversial themes as well as controversial play behaviour it covers such questions as why do some games stir up political controversies how do games invite or even push players towards dark play through their design where are the boundaries for what can be presented in a games are these boundaries different from other media such as film and books and if so why what is the allure of dark play and why do players engage in these practices

this book interrogates the role games and playfulness bear in both formal education and informal social learning responsive to contemporary social and ecological challenges this book especially explores games interactions with social power on one hand games sometimes operate to reinforce ideologies that normalise social injustice and environmental disregard on the other games offer rich possibilities for questioning such ideologies and encouraging change strongly interdisciplinary the book assembles 20 chapters written by 50 experts across fields including

education game design cultural studies sociology indigenous studies disability studies queer studies stem legal studies history creative writing visual arts music the creative industries and social inclusion these contributions not only make games a focus but incorporate playful research writing strategies demonstrating methods of what we term ludic inquiry this includes chapters written using arts based research practice led research poetic inquiry narrative inquiry autoethnography duoethnography and more organised across four themes philosophical sparks lived experiences pedagogical perspectives and the spirit of play this book emphasises the radical egalitarian possibilities inherent in critical attention to games and how we play or get played by them its fresh insights will interest all readers interested in creatively remaking our worlds

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