

Table 1 Participant Personal Information

ID	Age	Game Duration	Marital Status	Education Level	Gaming Experience	Game Currently Involving Romantic Relationship
A01	19	4 years	Single	Sophomore	Light and Night; Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Tears of Themis	Tears of Themis
A02	19	5 years	Single	Sophomore	Light and Night; Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Tears of Themis; Lovebrush Chronicles; Ling Mao Zhuan	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice
A03	20	3 years	Single	Sophomore	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Tears of Themis; Light and Night	Tears of Themis
A04	19	3 years	Single	Sophomore	Tears of Themis; Light and Night; Lovebrush Chronicles	Tears of Themis
A05	21	3 years	Single	Vocational	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice
A06	18	2 years	Single	High School	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Ling Mao Zhuan	Ling Mao Zhuan
A07	22	2 years	Single	Senior	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Light and Night; Yujian Love	Light and Night
A08	21	2 years	Single	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Tears of Themis; Light and Night; Lovebrush Chronicles; Yujian Love	Light and Night
A09	21	1.5 years	Single	Junior	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Light and Night	Light and Night
A10	27	3 years	Single	Bachelor	Lovebrush Chronicles	Lovebrush Chronicles
A11	22	2 years	Single	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice
A12	21	4 years	Single	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Light and Night; Tears of Themis; Yujian Love	Yujian Love
A13	26	2 years	Single	Bachelor	Light and Night	Light and Night
A14	22	5 years	In a relationship	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice
A15	20	2 years	Single	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Light and Night; Tears of Themis	Light and Night
A16	21	1.5 years	Single	Bachelor	Light and Night;	Light and Night

					Tears of Themis; Lovebrush Chronicles; Ashes of the Kingdom	
A17	20	1 years	In a relationship	High School	Light and Night	Light and Night
A18	20	5 years	Single	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice
A19	23	5 years	Single	Associate	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Light and Night; Ashes of the Kingdom	Light and Night
A20	35	0.5 years	Single	Master	Tears of Themis; Lovebrush Chronicles; Light and Night	Tears of Themis
A21	18	1 years	Single	Associate	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Tears of Themis; Light and Night; Lovebrush Chronicles; Yujian Love	Light and Night
A22	24	1 years	Single	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice; Tears of Themis; Light and Night; Lovebrush Chronicles; Ashes of the Kingdom	Light and Night
A23	18	1.5 years	Single	High School	Tears of Themis; Lovebrush Chronicles	Lovebrush Chronicles
A24	20	1.5 years	Single	Bachelor	Tears of Themis; Light and Night	Light and Night
A25	22	1 years	Single	Bachelor	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice	Mr. Love: Queen's Choice

Table 2 Interview Framework

Interview Framework
Age
Marital status
Education level
Preferred name or pseudonym
Game Information
Which otome game are you playing (e.g., Mr. Love: Queen's Choice, Tears of Themis, etc.)? How many similar games have you played, and how long have you played each? Which one provided the best experience? Which relationship left the deepest impression?
Reasons for Playing
Why did you initially choose to play Mr. Love: Queen's Choice, Tears of Themis, etc.? If you switched games, what was the reason? Did you notice any differences in your experiences?
Establishing Emotional Connections (Key Questions)

Can you describe how you met and got to know the character in the game? Why did you choose to start an intimate relationship with this character? Why is he your favorite? Was it love at first sight or did your feelings develop gradually?

Description of Emotional State

What do you think about your emotional relationship with the male protagonist in the game? What kind of relationship do you feel you have with the characters in the game? Can you describe a particularly memorable emotional experience?

Sustaining Motivation

During your sweet interactions with the game character, what do you think sustains your relationship?

Emotional Satisfaction

Do you feel emotionally fulfilled in this intimate relationship? (e.g., feelings of security, filling a void, romantic needs, etc.)

Duration of Emotional Engagement

How long do you usually maintain an intimate relationship with a male character in a game? (How often do you switch to a different "boyfriend"?)

Factors Influencing the Duration of the Relationship

In your opinion, what factors influence the duration of your intimate relationship with the game's male lead? What are the decisive factors?

Behavior upon Changing Games

When you switch games and start different intimate relationships, do you experience any discomfort? How do you feel about changing? If you stop playing, do you feel heartbroken or experience a psychological gap?

Real-life Connections - 1

Are you dating someone in real life while you are romantically involved with a game character?

Real-life Connections - 2

Does the intimate relationship you establish in the game affect your social interactions in real life?

Ongoing Motivation

What motivates you to keep playing this game? (Why would you stop playing this game?)

Exclusivity

While you are involved in an intimate relationship with a game character, do you mind sharing him with others? Why or why not? (e.g., do you hope others also like this character, or do you prefer that he interacts only with you?) Do you participate in any communities, and what topics do you usually discuss?
