

Contents

Series Foreword ix

Acknowledgments xi

Introduction: Is There a Platform in This Book? 1

Cutting Edges 3

Expanding the Platform 4

A Method (Hardly) 6

Kusoge Love 14

Grounding History 16

1. The Bit Wars 19

The Fog of War 22

Stories They Made Up? 24

Signature Visuals 28

On the Edge of Fury 33

The Next Generation 35

2. Enter the Glitch 43

What's Wrong with This Picture? 45

Mountains beyond Mountains 47

Electric Blue 52

Gameworld on a Wire 54

Picture Perfect 58

Black Box Obsessions 61

3. Anatomy of a Cutscene 65

Tragically Comic 69

Do It Hardcore 73

Love in the Age of Corporeal

Disintegration 78

Loaded Guns 83

Growing Pains 86

4. The Media Snatcher	91
CD-ROM Antics	93
A Doll of Plastic and Sound	96
The Case of the FMV's Curse	100
Land Slides	104
Death of the Gamer	109
Monster Mashup	113
5. Intromission	117
The Straight Storyworld	119
Bigger in Japan	125
Any Which Way You Can	130
Add It Up	135
Catch On Everywhere	137
Discerning Animals	139
Conclusion: PC Effects	147
Bring It Home, One More Time	148
All Your B**** Are Belong to Us	151
CD-ROMatics Attack	156
Spin Me Right Wrong	160
Shiny Silver Discs	166
Notes	169
References	179
Index	189