

TLDR of the whole JP Exodus drama

Before you read this, keep in mind that we had no intention of sharing any information regarding this matter, but because Alex had to go out of his way to leak everything regarding the matter, we had to respond.

The context is simple: the former mods and advisors were LW players before global was a thing, they built the foundation like infodoc, tierlist and calc. after global released, stuff changed, but they still tried to push and update JP content with the same quality as global but for the small and niche audience that is JP

the thing that the former staff complained was:

>lack of communication from the admin side, expecting everyone to blindly follow + straight up bad decisions made by the admins WITHOUT talking with the team beforehand

>GP pushing information that only works to deceive the global playerbase, NN controls their own judges kinda stuff

>after global release, all the channels JP had got removed, leaving only 1 CHANNEL for all the JP stuff, of course the former JP staff didn't like that, the admins did it without asking and pretty much went with "deal with it", then they proceed to open the gates to global players inside that channel, making 1 of 20 inside that channel a JP player, that 1 channel was flooded with global users asking questions and the JP players leaving as a result, reducing even more the audience for the JP staff, admins made changes 5 months later adding 2 more channels, but the damage was already done, JP staff never forget that

>the boiling point that was making advisors push microtransactions for the game instead of giving actual advice and the fact that they couldn't correct GP mistakes without being called toxic by the admins (???) (I'm sure the GP employee was happy to get that kind of feedback, which makes that admin move one more in the list of bad things)

It was so bad that the former mods and advisors, alongside ex staff made a server where they could vent about the current state of the server. Alex was one of them, before he joined we told him that if he was sure to join, because vent servers are kinda toxic (like a server to complain about your job), he agreed with the only rule of keeping that place secret, then he told the boss about it and everyone got purged, destroying JP support all together. the end the point Alex made about us being a terrorist group trying to blow up the server is retarded, we never did anything, we joked about stuff with the friends we had there (just like he was to us) and complained about the current state of things, but we ****NEVER**** did or tried to troll the server in a harmful way, we told him that he could leave the server if it was to edgy for him, he stayed and now we are the bad guys that made him "choose between his friends or the server" (???) he thinks that because he is really trying to convince himself that he did good, and trust me, he didn't.

He took down JP support, we consider him a friend, just to backstab us and call us trolls, after that they started putting a mark in every one of us, 1 small mistake and you get shadowbanned type of deal, we left to another server to keep helping JP players like we been doing, now we can give honest advice in the tierlist instead of being told that a unit is

stronger just to push sells, the thing Alex said about us not welcome him in the JP server is true, he's a backstabber, we moved on, but he still keeps bringing this up, he haven't APOLOGISED and instead he just post excuses.

Ex note:

Alex decided to post 2 albums leaking everything, we think it's ok because it shows how bad things were inside staff, you can watch the screenshots here:

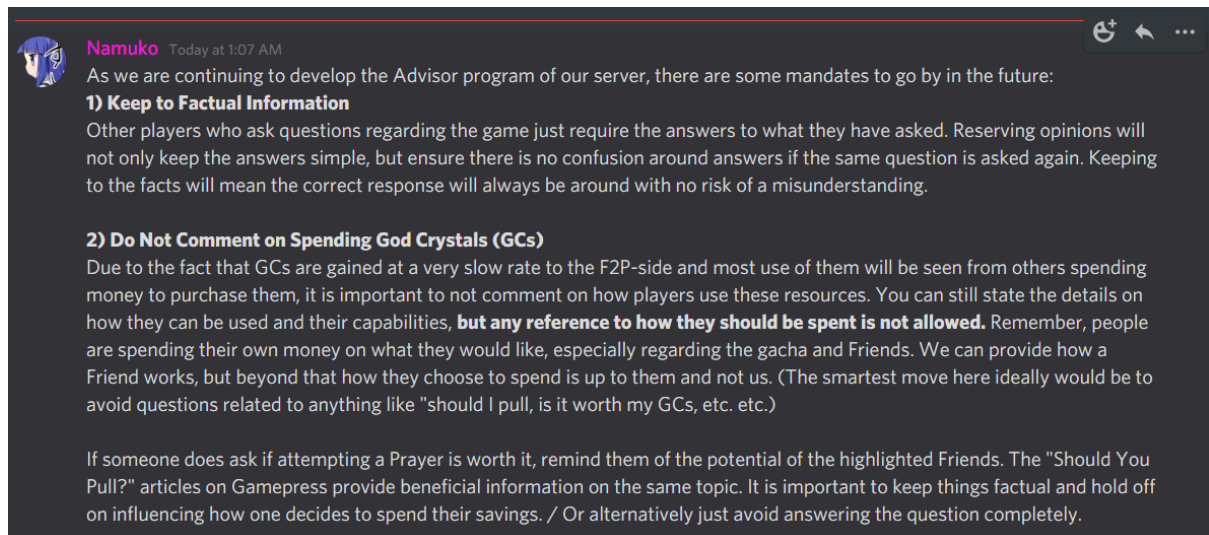
Server leak: <https://imgur.com/a/xi7sJUe>

DM leak: <https://imgur.com/a/V8Dv9Cc>

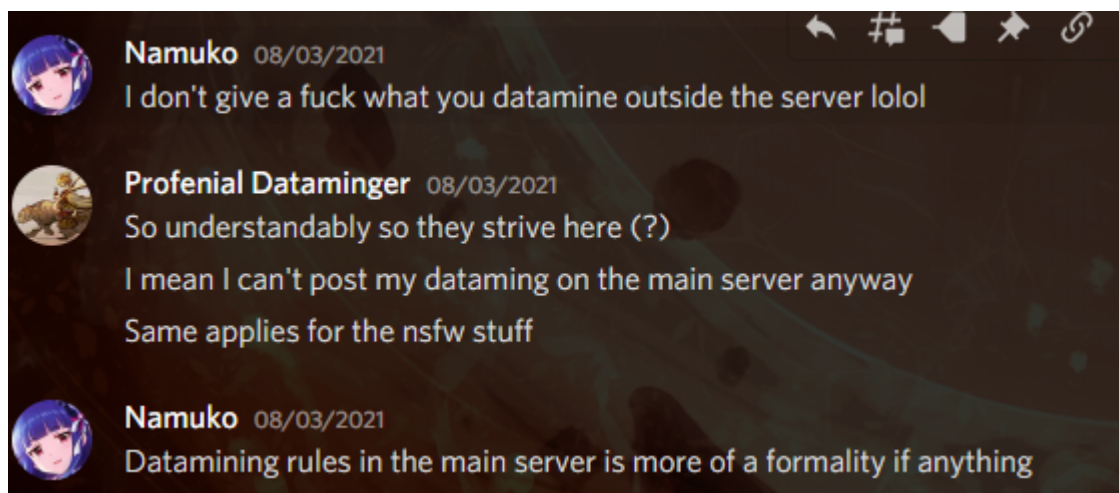
In response to Alex's "very disclosed" bio he made earlier, the jokes are out of context, the "nuke" stuff was because maincord is snowflake and at that point, everything slightly offensive was ban worthy, so we joked about posting stuff (but never actually post it) *Credit to Alex for leaking everything, both the server chat and DM leaks, that's his special move after all.*

Once again, we had no intention of making this, but the "leak lord" himself decided to dig this whole shithole up again, this is the least we could do.

One more thing:



Alex says that datamining was a bad and we are monsters for doing it, what he doesn't know is that we talked about it with an admin after he left the vent server



Staff Story 1:Oborochi's POV

Chapter 1 - Beginning of the End

I decided to join the THLW server as a means of communicating with fellow players. First thing I did was join the JP channel, learnt about the various character quotes Rumia was trying to translate, and attempted to help out there. Everything was as calm and peaceful as ever. Little did I know Phanta and Rumia had eyes on me because I was flexing the Touhou translation group I was in (but that's another story). I didn't really pay attention to general, though interacting with a community was a refreshing experience. Turns out Kien also didn't like me at first because I kept using a 24 cost setup on 3-3-3. Lol. But that's all in the past....

Chapter 2 - Becoming Staff Jokes (which became true)

A week or so before global hit, we regular members were all joking about becoming staff members. Klarz and I were one of the few who were actually joking about advisorship and such. While the jokes were fun and all it got me thinking.

So I contacted Namu about getting an advisor role and translator role. He got back to me saying the translator role is pretty much irrelevant and I was not needed for advisorship. Of course this all changed when the global nation attacked...

Chapter 3 - Becoming Prov Advisor

So apparently behind the scenes, Rumia was recommending me to become an advisor. The reason? On day 1 of global QnA, I tryharded until 2AM in the morning non stop with 5 sec slowmode to answer as many questions as I possibly can. To put it simply, day 1 (and eventually week 1) was a hellzone.

So many pins, so many docs, I even had to make a makeshift QnA doc to accommodate for all the ridiculous questions that appeared. Then, Namu reached out to me. I was given a choice to become an advisor, or stay as a normal member. Of course my naive innocent self decided to take on the role, and helped as much as I can for that following week.

All advisors got quote perms in order to handle the global onslaught. We were literally trench warfare soldiers fighting the horde of questions. Or at least I saw it as such...

Chapter 4 - After the Storm

So global QnA started the quiet down, and the JP members were pressured to stay in their safe sanctuary know as #THLW-JP. Of course there were some raging moments such as the event points on event 1. Of course Phanta did address this saying it was a hotfix but in reality the points scaled after every stage, to the point where the last stage got you 900 pts. As such the 999k milestone was a literal joke.

QnA stuff was much easier now that the whole global week 1 mess was over (though event questions were very frequent for the first few days). Here I found a new found place to talk about LW, #Strategy. It was here when I started to cooperate with other members to create

spreadsheets for LW. Of course in the staff channels I helped out with the tierlist as much as I can, hoping to get it done once and for all...

Chapter 5 - Descending into Calamity

We had some global staff enter the advisor team. Isaac was one of our shining stars who wasn't willing to enter the team at first but did. They were a great help, but unfortunately burnt out, and left (it was a good decision on their part). As more ridiculous and out of order banners came out on global side (like Suika), more people got annoyed by the fact that they couldn't predict upcoming units.

While this was happening we got the reincarnation mechanic during anni. And MAN it was disappointing. Of course Misuki did complain about this a lot in the JP channel (and later was removed from staff due to arguing with the higher ups about reincar and GP ratings). A lot of the staff really did start to question what NN was trying to do with the game. Many of us talked about the potential of reincar and how it could've changed the game for the better. But of course that didn't happen.

At the time, I haven't really noticed the friction between the admins and the staff but I did notice GP's advice really starting to sound shilly...

Chapter 6 - Where All Hell Breaks Loose

Tower got revealed and so did Alterisa as a superfes unit. This happened during the dev letter. All of the staff were told to act as "damage control" in case the whole Alterisa thing piss people off. I wasn't surprised to see the mounds of comments and feedback about early tower, Alterisa before half anni, global crap etc. Not to mention you could only get 2 dolls total. One via tower and one as a login gift. I was lurking at the time, never intending to get involved. Looking back now I think they made the correct decision.

As the weeks went by, we got more reincarnation units. From various tests we calculated around a 40% damage increase, for the low low cost of 14 stamina. We also had the tierlist mostly, if not done. Though some points of contention was brought up by Reimu (specifically about support units and their tiers). Yes this was very annoying since Reimu doesn't know anything about the viability of support SC's.

GP became even more crappy over the weeks as they shilled more units. I'm still laughing at that Rei'sen one. But all these happy times wouldn't last forever.

Also global started to invade JP more because they didn't like the other channels. As such JP became a meme fest where all inside jokes were memefied, and commands were constantly spammed. Makai was kinda established for JP vets, but that failed miserably. Of course the failure of the admins to implement a fail safe on day 1 of global made me further lose faith in the admins.

Chapter 7 - Where I Finally Snap

Reimu decided to make a GP doc featuring JP mechanics. The issue was that all of the info came directly from Milk's doc, to the point where it seemed like it was word for word. In utter frustration and disappointment (and to protect the work of our fellow staff), I confronted Reimu and told her about the docs similarities to her.

Of course this didn't really work out as Namu, and Phanta both came and intervened into the situation. Yes I was frustrated, and wasn't thinking straight. But to take someone's hard work, and getting PAID for it (without getting credited for the whole page), was something I couldn't tolerate.

It was around this time I started to concentrate my efforts in the LW JP Hub and further vent my frustrations about the game and the admins. I also decided that the docs I create are for me, and for the community. Not for NN. This philosophy is one of the reasons I'm still these updating JP docs.

I want to help the community. But if the admin team won't let me accomplish stuff, then I will take matters in my own hands...

Chapter 8 - Staff Falls Apart

We recently got 6 SFES in a row so that's nice... Looking at you NN. Dankagu's also around the corner (and I decided to help out with that side of things as well). Also we got Arena (mini-tower). Not sure how that'll play out but it's there.

Every staff is just giving up on the game. The shilling of GP, the treatment of advisors and mods as "slave labour", the fact I was getting sick and tired of seeing myself and staff getting wasted away for the purposes of fuelling NN's pockets. Though I still like to help out with translating videos, story and any new info that comes out, I still have trouble with the ridiculous situation that is the staff channel.

Zero communication between GP and advisors. Admin not doing anything. Staff channels being pretty much dead. Pointing out Reimu's flawed article "again" before having to make an "apology".

I'm honestly not sure where I would like to continue from here. If I am to leave with everyone else, we'd have 3 advisors and a handful of mods against 35k people.

Being staff is like a shackle. Having greater freedom is nice, but I don't know what to do with said freedom. It's basically me not knowing what I want to do. But without a doubt, I would still like to help out this community in my own way, without being under the influence of NN.

Chapter 9 - The Future

Without a doubt, many of the staff members will leave the staff hellhole. Of course the admins would need to figure out a way to replace those "holes". I will feel bad for the

remaining individuals which is why I would like to talk to them and give a helping hand, to escape the shackles that they themselves set upon themselves.

I'm not sure whether my mission would work out. But I would still like to give our fellow staff one last chance to escape the deep.

Lost Word's future ain't looking so good when you consider they're only getting a 8 figure sum as opposed to their 9 figure sum in the beginning. Of course that doesn't mean the game will end immediately, but I would like to point out the 6 SFES in the row is very worrying.

With Dankagu released most of the audience will go over there and play the game. Some will return to LW, others will continue to play or quit entirely. I'll be translating stuff for Dankagu in a much more free-er environment. Never having to stress about some random admin screaming down my throat.

Will I continue LW? Maybe. It really depends on how things go. But I hope the staff can get escape this calamity and become free once more. To truly break the chains of work, raising their wings of rebellion, and to fight reality itself...

Staff Story 2:Egg's POV

Chapter 0 - Inception

I recently joined the Touhou LostWord server. I was a normal member back then, and Mystio was Advisor.

The server was relatively well organised. There were quite a few channels, but everything was well organised and easy to look at.

I got warned because back then I shared a link to the Mystery Parfait Discord server (Macchi asked about :danmaku3: Danmaku!!.)

First time I got noticed by Namuko.

It was possible to keep up with general chats. LostWord was still fresh and fun. All in all, a very refreshing entry.

Chapter 1 - Involvement

I helped out gathering Rank Up Materials for all characters. I was part of the Special Projects role. Mystio and Macchi were still around.

I gained access to the backdoor secret areas. The staff were cool, and would you believe it? Even Switz was relatively active.

Namuko spoke regularly, and the Advisor team was very helpful in helping me gather the info I needed.

I became a meme about being sent Rank Ups. Dynobot still said something in lostword-qna every hour on the dot.

All in all, staff was around, active, and cool. Working with them was a pleasure. In the end, Namuko asked if I wanted to join the Advisor team.

Chapter 2 - Inquiry

I joined the Advisor team. Mystio became a Moderator, Macchi had retired at this point. Cannonball would die in a few months, but we didn't know this back then.

I stuck around lostword-qna and helped get people on their feet. I was also pretty active in the general chats, and the contributor chat was a chill place to be.

Around this time, I think, was when they TREMENDOUSLY dropped the drop rate of :SealCrystal: Seal Crystals from expeditions. An advisor left, feeling betrayed, though they gave the game their all.

This was the first major case of dissonance in the staff channels. With the death of Cannonball on the horizon, Namuko personally approached me in PMs.

"You're cool. Do you want to join the moderator team?"

Chapter 3 - Increment

I'm now one of the few Moderators. Mystio retired for chef reasons. The server started to grow as LostWord gained more content. This was before Phantasma truly took reigns, and before Esper joined the team.

Honestly, nothing felt like it changed. However, the general chats quickly flooded, and I could no longer participate as much as I wanted to, though you'd still see me around here and there.

Switz no longer talked as much. Wyviri also was expunged from the Discord, him and his bot being replaced by G113 and Okuu. Several counts of dissonance occurred, though these were always behind closed doors.

Phantasma gained control of the server. Cannonball died. Esper joined.

This is when the server started to lose its charm.

Chapter 4 - Internationality

Talk of a Global release started seep out the seams. G113, aomgar, and others became part of the moderation team. The start of the modern era of the Touhou LostWord staff; before the first application recruiting.

The server started to feel a lot more corporate. We were being told that we had to be more strict. I've had to appeal to Namuko/Switz a few times because I simply disagreed with how strict I had to be.

I started to gain prominence elsewhere (that's another story, for another time), so my time was less put into the LostWord server, though I helped out here and there.

This was the first time a private channel was created with me (and G113) to share higher quality assets. Did I mention #assets was absolutely devastated? Yeah, that happened.

LostWord TW was going to be released at some point.
We simply carried on.

Chapter 5 - Instigation

New mod applications had resolved. The second wave of staff had joined, including Neku and others. Here is where you probably know the story, but I'll carry on.

DarkSlayer became our Reddit Moderator.

I'm sure you remember how that went, but being the kind of person I am, I decided to look into it in my own regard. I messaged Neku, and I asked @NZPIEFACE (pardon the ping) about him, too. Helpfully, he redirected me to a friend of his, and in the end, I figured out what he was after (I think.)

Aside from that, DarkSlayer wasn't used to working corporate. He had to be expunged, but in hindsight, maybe I should have realised that this was the first time that the admins and staff were disconnected in actions. And TW crashed and burned.

This was the first significant case of modern dissonance.
Now, for the global release.

Chapter 6 - Infinitum

Global had just released. The floodgates were opened. We began a grand assault on all fronts to hold the masses.

lostword-qna blew the fuck up. The general channels blew the fuck up. I held the line on qna as much as I physically could, answering as much as I could in a frenzy.

I don't know what else happened around me, since I put a lot of focus on lostword-qna. If something else happened, you'll need to ask someone else.

My fingers hurt for a few days...

Chapter 7 - Interaction

And now, the second channel I was exclusively assigned to. We had a few of these.

Esper was uh... interesting. The admin team at this point started making some questionable decisions, and I started to help shield them from some pretty vocal community members.

At this point, the third wave of trial moderators were being considered (not yet chosen, considered).

The content creation system went into its infancy and was being talked about.

However, we needed a break.

Chapter 8 - Intrarecreation

Game night!

Whoever was there, was there.
We tried. I sat there for 16 hours.

I won't touch on it too much. You know what happened.
Neku had to leave half way through. I got to call Switz sus. I slew Namuko in Minecraft.

Chapter 9 - Indignation

Finally, #design-with-egg was born. I now took on the brunt of the image work around the server.

This is where we enter into modern day server hosting.
The questionable silence and decisions only piled on.
The responsibilities I took only piled on.
The Content Creation program become public.

And I was starting to tire of it all.

Chapter 10 - Internship

You know the story from here on out. Oboroichi or the other staff can probably tell you a better story from this point, since I now had a job and other things to do, so I paid less attention to the server.

However, I'll jump in where I can and add my perspective if I deem it interesting.

And the rival Egg showed up.

Ex - Staff fall apart

The admins aren't actually doing nothing. Sure enough, I commune with them from time to time.

HOWEVER, I can say that they're more focused not on the Discord, but with upcoming collabs and what not with other creators.

And not even creators in the Content Creation program, just reaching out to others.

It comes off as kind of greedy, since me and Neku are the ones in charge of working the whole CC program.

Being left on our own as they set their sights elsewhere. I feel for Neku...

Is this what they call "cruel kindness"...?

Staff Story 3: aomgar's POV

Chapter 1 - Joining

So i join the server and I come of as someone chill and just asking questions and shit. I was still unsure of the game so I would leave and join back but I liked the SMT like combat so I stayed. Then the one point lessons appeared and in QNA i would ask for someone to translate it and then I would edit in the English text in. This is when i started learning about Data mining and that shit. Also around that time I started going with my Horny persona which lead to Tenshibot being nuked, also the ERP in the contributor Chat since i had the special projects role.

Chapter 2 - Becoming Mod

So as a joke in Contributor Chat I asked to be mod since i was mod in a SCP SL server called The Dankest Hole (Now a dead server) and Namu acted a bit angry and such but later he DMed me saying if i Wanted to be a mod. I took the opportunity and became mod. I did my job every now and then and got in trouble for uploading a tweet with Youmu's bare ass but it was just fun mostly

Chapter 3 - NN Joining

Namuko made a meeting saying that Phanta was joining as a NN representative and changes were happening and i was excited. Since finally we got the company to have our backs. But when he joined it was chill for the first few days and then we were told that we would have to control our behavior and borderline stuff since if we post borderline the server will think its ok to step it up a notch and post stuff that breaks the rules. This really just annoyed me and i had a sort of conversation about it but nothing came up from it so I just didnt mod often and did something every now and then.

Chapter 4 - Global

So one of the cases was a Spanish user of the server coming to us to talk about a pedo who was banned in a spanish server and was in the server, We banned him but i also managed to get a line to Orphen who is part of the Paradise of Boundaries server Long Story short i was allowed to ad the game and the Phantasma GP interview to them after i translated (Thanks G113 for the help). and that was most that i can remember. Later i had another plan to make a series of videos similar to the One Point Lessons. So I recruited a few spanish translators from the PoB server and they were given a special roll. I made a google doc where i transcript and make translations and i was able to make the Intro in spanish. This was also when i noticed issues and I started despising nyttyn due to there cancel culture shit but the most i did during global was just warn anyone who broke the rules, but barely.

Chapter 5 - Current

I have been ignorant to everything except Nyttyn but i still plan to stay in the server to see it out. I also plan to make the Spanish translation videos soon in the future though it might look ugly since i gave up on using Adobe to cover up the english text. And also play era touhou lol.

Staff Story 4:Potomiru's POV

Chapter 1 (Before the server)

Some time around October 2020, Halloween Pre-event was up with Koakuma's skin

I remember vaguely exploring around QooApp before i got into Lost Word, i used to be part of another gacha server (Jojo Pitter Patter Pop, may it rest in peace) as a player, but i dropped it after some air of uncertainty doomed the game's future. Initially i got into Touhou first through the mainline games. Not very good at danmaku honestly, so i began looking for derivative works. That's when i stumbled on Touhou Lost Word and started playing. I wasn't on the server by then, i was playing blindly without any nihongo knowledge getting through the game. I remember spending all of my resources blindly on Marisa, haha.

Chapter 2 (Joining the server)

Still October 2020

Because i was playing the game blindly, i would often get into roadblocks in progression and i had many questions about it. I explored in the commentary tab of QooApp on the game, and i came across a post about a EN community of Lost Word dedicated to the JP game and helping out players. I was very excited to be able to get into the game, so i dived into it and this is how the story begins. (edited)

Chapter 3 (User Potomiru)

Alterisa banner arrived in JP, Tower was up. There was just so much stuff to do in a short time. Skipped Tower and managed to get one Alterisa copy

Honestly not much to tell about this, with all the resources from Advisors and getting to understand the game on its totality i picked up my pace on the game insanely fast. Godspeed for all the past Advisors, thanks you so much. Your contributions are valuable, i still want to keep them alive as they bring the best out of the userbase and mainly the reason i'm still playing the game. Other than that, i was a feeble player back then and i was enjoying the game. Woo.

Chapter 4 (Fast Forward)

Many things happened there, now on 2021. Advisor team grew a lot, plenty of applications for staff being sent. This takes place around Sumireko/Miko banner, and shortly afterwards Junko and Hecatia got released too

This is my most vivid of past memories, watching the hype from the advisor numbers growing and helping out players enticed me to try join in, no Advisor application was ongoing so i started to scratch. With the bare tools i have, i began searching content/videos about the new characters recently added back then and started "translating" their kits (terribly, using Google Translate and then correcting what i could from the Glossary of terms on JP Infodoc LOL) to help out. Being honest, it was horrid when i did it with Sumireko and Miko, but then i picked traction when i got to Hecatia and translated her kit to then hand out to advisors. Misuki noticed me, Alex and Rumia too but to a lesser extent. After some time, i got in contact with Namuko to try become a Provisional Advisor. I waited one day until he noticed my message and took me in as Prov Advisor. (edited)

Chapter 5 (Prov Advisor Poto)

This is when things start to get rolling down. Global was already announced but yet to be released.

At this point, i was getting on work. Doing my role as a Prov Advisor, i was an underdog back, because of my not solidified knowledge on the game. Thanks to the Advisors helping me out (mainly Rumia), and being able to access to the tools behind the scenes i learnt more stuff

about the game. It wasn't too much time actually when i finally got to be Advisor, my efforts paid out well and as always, thanks you so much,,

Chapter 6 (Tension grows)

Global gets released, hilarity ensues and the show begins. Things start going too fast. Isaac burns out of the game and retires. Misuki gets demoted. I remember him being extremely disappointed as Reincarnation turned out to be a nothingburger and more whale milking.

I've also missed something i should've told already. I'm a very awkward person you see, and i tend to try be as much correct as i can when it comes to interacting to others, mainly to get accustomed to the formalities of the server, by then NN already took over the server some time ago and the server was listed as Verified by Discord. I couldn't take a hint on what was happening with the staff team, as i didn't actually know there was more stuff behind the scenes. I'd say i had little to no communication with moderators and advisors outside of helping out players. There's nothing noteworthy to talk about during this time, again i was totally unaware of the backstory of LW server and also unaware of the JP Hub existing too. (edited)

Chapter 7 (End)

At this point what i could only see was the server shitting itself.

Global reception was too much for the team to handle, JP community wasn't very healthy with the decision making of the NN JP team, yadda yadda. You know the drill already from the others, i now have to tell what matters the most.

Basically, the staff team exodus. Half of the team thanos'd. This was around 2AM-3AM for me, i wanted to sleep real bad but the whole situation didn't help. I was given no explanation around that time so i just called it a day and went to sleep. Fast forward some days (i think a week of radio silence from Namuko not telling me about you guys?) but that day i went out to the bank with Mom to fix some issues then we went buy ice cream with my debit card to go return home. I was in the bank when Namuko wanted to tell me about the story, told him to give me a tl;dr or wait till i got to my home. Waited till i got to my home, committed the mistake of dming Namuko to tell me the story before going to lunch. Hard mistake with a nervous wreck helicopter mom still invading my privacy as a young adult. It was pretty scuffed, Namuko tagged in Kihoko to tell the story with more "ease" and not have to repeat himself. I told him to give a tl;dr, scolding happens and i went to have lunch.

So yeah, what Namuko elaborated to me basically is that a "circlejerk" with JP veterans was being held, leaks of staffgen happened and Alex took a part on snitching out.

I didn't know what to say, during the staff exodus the whole situation was pretty sus and i didn't know where to side at all.

Stealing a quote from Namuko himself used here, "I feel used". Having a retrospective thought, out of doing my own role i was acting out too corporate and i was being a total shill due of my blissful ignorance too.

I honestly feel disgusted about this whole situation, and what's worse is efforts and efforts of ex members of the team being stolen after being ditched. (edited)

So yeah, there's not much to say. As one of the new era advisors with Minz, Delta and Yukari being added shortly i was completely left out and treated like a sheep herding dog on a leash by the farmer.

I've also said many dumb things, but i hope some of you were able to bear through it and i'm sorry for any annoyance i may have caused.

For any reader here, thanks for your time. Toodles~

Staff Story 5: DarkSlayer415's POV

Chapter 1: Joining and Initial Thoughts

In mid to late April of 2021, I grew interested in Touhou LostWord due to the upcoming global release and I was interested in creating a Reddit community around the upcoming game as I was already an active member of both r/touhou and r/FireEmblemHeroes. Having spent a lot of time in both the Touhou and Fire Emblem communities, I realized that there was a pressing need for there to be a separate community between “regular Touhou” (be it the games, manga, music, and other official/unofficial media) and “gacha Touhou,” which Touhou LostWord was, much like how there are two separate Fire Emblem communities on Reddit, r/fireemblem for content focused on the main Fire Emblem series, and r/FireEmblemHeroes, a community specifically for the FEH gacha game.

At the time, I was looking forward to having a great summer; Star Wars: The Bad Batch started airing, Touhou 18: Unconnected Marketeers released about a week before LW Global’s launch, I picked up LEGO building as a hobby again, and I started working a paid part-time internship that I enjoyed very much. I mostly wanted to use this opportunity working with LW’s subreddit as both a learning experience and side project alongside many of my other summer activities.

Initially, I was advertising a subreddit I gained ownership of called r/TouhouLostWord. However, it came to my attention to r/touhou_lostword already existed but it was a barren wasteland, mostly due to the fact that LW JP on Reddit was extreme niche. I was contacted by both Phantasma and Neku to become the leading subreddit moderator of r/touhou_lostword. While I was unfamiliar with most of the crew, Neku was however a friend of mine for three years that we met through Team Fortress 2 and our friendship grew for about three years due to our shared interest in TF2, Fire Emblem, and at the time of LW Global’s launch, Touhou.

Chapter 2: Reddit Moderation and Server Time

After I joined around late April, I quickly became acquainted with most of the members of staff, and before my removal from the team and ban from the server, I would say I was on good terms with most of the staff. Being the most experienced user with the Reddit platform at the time, I was given full control over r/touhou_lostword in order to prepare the subreddit for the uptick in users coming from the global launch. At that time, I made the call to stop moderating a fairly active Star Wars subreddit I was moderating, r/SaltierThanKrayt, and handed ownership of that subreddit to the next moderator on the hierarchy so that I could focus on improving and running r/touhou_lostword. At the time, I was under the impression that I would be free to act as my usual self on the subreddit and on the server, as I am normally a blunt and straightforward person, which can come off as toxic or disingenuous to people who may not know me too well.

During my time on the server, I was fairly active in the LW Global, “other” Touhou, Fire Emblem Heroes, and Pokémon channels, as well as the contributor and staff channels. Since I was never given any formal warnings by any of the moderators (through an automated system

like Carl-Bot for example), I was under the impression that my behavior was alright and acceptable.

Chapter 3: Rising Tensions

Throughout May and early into June, I continued work on the LW subreddit as I had been tasked to do so, and one of the jobs early on was to create an application form for accepting new Reddit moderators, as at that point, it was only myself and a handful of other admins who were moderating the subreddit. The full list of subreddit moderators at the time included myself, Phantasma, Namuko, Esper, Switz, and xHakurai. In a comment thread, I angrily lashed out at a user who I had assumed had not read the application post clearly, though later on I apologized to the user in the same thread after Phantasma caught wind. At the time I had been stressed out due to the amount of work I was putting into the subreddit and felt as if my efforts were not being noticed by the server's higher ups. I ended up channeling my anger in an inappropriate manner, but I had imagined that it would not be the end of the world as stress from being overworked was natural.

Another incident occurred in the "other" Touhou channel in which someone suggested to another user to illegally pirate ZUN's official games from a known piracy website. Though I didn't attack any users directly, I commented aggressively that people who knowingly pirate their Touhou games despite the fact that options such as Steam and DLSite for digital purchasing of ZUN's games exist were the "worst people in the Touhou community" or something along those lines. This was mostly due to the fact that piracy has been a hotly contentious issue within the Touhou community, and as someone who's bought many of their Touhou games, I actively supported purchasing of the games and discouraged piracy. Neku did eventually stepped in and told me privately to calm down my comments regarding my stance. I would say this was around the time when I started to feel our friendship was becoming strained.

During my time with the staff, I personally felt as I wasn't seen as "important" or "necessary" member of the global staff team. It should be noted that around this time was when memes and videos about Reddit moderators being the worst people on the internet began to surface and become more popular, which I felt influenced some of the behavior and reactions members of staff had towards me. For example, I had asked Phantasma and Namuko to edit permissions for the Reddit moderator role in order for me to post announcements regarding special megathreads related to events or player challenges (such as the Lunatic Yukari full break challenge), but from what I can recall, Esper reacted harshly towards me regarding my requests, which discouraged me even further, since Esper was not warned about his harsh behavior towards me whereas I was warned for my harsh behavior (albeit unofficially). Around this time was when I started to distrust the server staff.

Chapter 4: Removal, Betrayal, and Ban

In early June, Epic Games had a cross-promotion with Discord where users who signed up for an Epic Games account received one free Nitro boost for a server of their choosing. As

expected, many users choose to boost the LW server and as such gained access to the server boosters/contributor's channel. For a good couple of years, I have been against Epic Games' business practices and I harshly criticized both Epic Games' promotion of giving away Nitro for free as they have done similar types of giveaways with free games on their platform before, as well as the many people, whether they were in the LW server or not, for making a poor decision on supporting Epic Games. Namuko did not like these comments and told me to delete these messages, which I complied. It was also around this time where Phantasma requested that I grant him the position of head moderator on r/touhou_lostword, which felt like a red flag to me but I complied as I feared the repercussions of refusing his request.

On the evening of June 12th, I was informed by Namuko that I had been removed from the staff team due to my "concerning behavior" towards members in the community. I felt betrayed that I was not given any formal talk regarding my behavior any time before, and for the most part felt my behavior was comparable to the behaviors that other staff members engaged in. In anger, I angrily messaged Neku (who was a moderator at the time) and accused him of going behind my back and ratting me out to the admin team, despite the fact that he and I had been friends long before my involvement with LW. Afterwards, I expressed discontent in public chat, saying that I disagreed with the admins' decision and would therefore be leaving the server on my own accord, before I was promptly kicked and banned manually (with no message from Carl-Bot). In addition, I was banned from r/touhou_lostword and was muted from contacting the subreddit moderators, who in turn were also the Discord admins as well. Not only that, as I learned in the months following my ban, most of the official staff have blocked me on Discord, which would in turn prevent me from appealing my ban. This would be my last interaction with the LW server.

Chapter 5: Post-LW Server and Current Events

It's been approximately 5 months since my removal from the LW team, and from what I have been told by other ex-staff members that I have become friends with as well as friends currently on the server, the state of the server had started to deteriorate since my departure. Rumia informed me of the culling of lostword-jp as well the strict enforcement of the "ricefields" rule and Alex's betrayal of the JP Former Staff Team. Since then, I have been observing the server-side controversy through secondhand accounts thanks to friends, and I believe that whether I stayed on the team or not, things would have deteriorated as I had experienced firsthand how staff such as myself were overworked with no reward or recognition.

After my departure, a friend of mine informed me of the Suika-Akarisa incident, where the #lost-word-feedback channel got locked by Namuko and the other admins due to the negative but rightfully deserved criticism towards NN's business model of releasing two highly desired limited units back-to-back. This incident cemented the fact that the admins are willing to silence the community in order to appease NN for possible financial motives or for server status. Currently, another ongoing controversy regarding the accelerated pace of limited banner releases akin to the Suika-Akarisa incident is happening again on the LW Discord server. Rumia had also recently informed me that GamePress advisors were being directly

paid by NextNinja to shill their product to the global audience, and as such we discussed how the LW global sponsorship is extremely disingenuous to the players of the game, as GamePress pages for other popular mobile and gacha games are run by community members of their respective games with no financial incentive, and are required to write both objective and factual information about the games they represent. However, with NN's sponsorship money, LW's GP page creates a biased environment that I believe should be taken down by the head administrators of GamePress.

It has also recently come to my attention that Phantasma and possibly the current list of subreddit moderators for r/touhou_lostword are in direct violation of Reddit's Terms of Service and moderator guidelines, as subreddits should not be labeled as the official subreddit of a given product, and should be run by unbiased moderators who are fans or passionate users of the given product or subject, and not those who are officially or financially involved with the subject or product the subreddit represents. Phantasma, being an employee of Next Ninja, is in direct violation of Reddit's moderator guidelines, and should be subject to removal by Reddit's administrators. In addition, since Phantasma directly asked volunteers to become moderators and represent Next Ninja on r/touhou_lostword, the rest of the current moderators should also be subject to removal.

For those reading this who are critical of the current state of Touhou LostWord global, its Discord server and staff, and other associated social media such as GamePress, YouTube, and Reddit, please consider sending feedback in the #lostword-feedback channel and make your complaints vocal. If the admin team decides to lock the channel again, then continue to make suggestions and raise complaints in other related channels, or on social media. Consider reporting and contacting Reddit's administrators to report Phantasma and his subreddit crew, dislike LW's YouTube videos, unsubscribe from the YouTube channel, etc., in order to send a message. I like Touhou LostWord, but the state both the game and its community are in currently is on a one-way trip to doom, and something must be done soon to prevent it.

Editor's note

Now with the "we" part out of the way, I suppose I'll get to the "I" part.

I was pretty much on the sideline when this happened, so i supposed i had no say in the matter back then, but with how Alex acted after the incident, the discrimination of the old JP playerbase in general, and especially with the doc Alex put in his bio earlier, every single bit of respect i had for him prior to that has gone.

From the perspective of an insider, I did see that some of the jokes we (well I should say they here) aren't exactly "digestible" to me at least. But I never once sensed any actual foul intentions in them. This is a server between friends we're talking about, of course those kinds of jokes were bound to happen. I have personally seen how chaotic the beginning of the global's release was, so it is natural for the staff to have a place to vent their frustrations. I'd say more but everything was already well-explained here, and my words wouldn't carry as much weight as the ones involved in this whole thing anyway.

This is the first and last time I'll say anything about this matter (it better be), you can choose to believe whatever you think it's right, it doesn't matter anymore at this point, I don't care. If you're wondering who i am, just know that i don't really matter much, though if you know me you can probably guess. If that's the case, hi!

Alex, i don't hate you for betraying the old staffs, i hate you because you're an asshole that play victim after stabbing people, you dig up old wounds that we all had left behind a long time ago, and guess what, you played victim again, downplaying us all as some sort of villains, shadowbanning us for responding to you, you said to speak to you in DMs, but you're the one who brought it to the public first. So do know that this is not our fault, it's YOURS.

Last thing i want to say. Long live OkinaWheelChair!

