

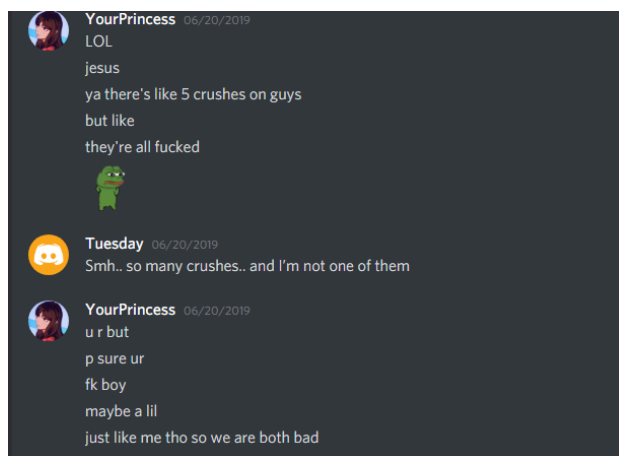
To begin:

Hey everyone, I've been taking the last week to think about if I should respond publicly to Jayden's twitlonger. I've been hesitating to post something because in order to tell the full story, other people involved in the story would again be called into question and placed into a situation they had no fault in. Since this already happened when Jayden chose to keep some names uncensored in her screenshots, I didn't want to keep adding fuel to the fire by responding.

In addition to that, I didn't want to inadvertently pushback on the MeToo movement in the gaming community by publicly discrediting someone's story. After being labeled a creep and being grouped into a category along with abusers and criminals, I realized that my silence might paint me as guilty and that I don't really have a choice but to respond.

Context + Background Information:

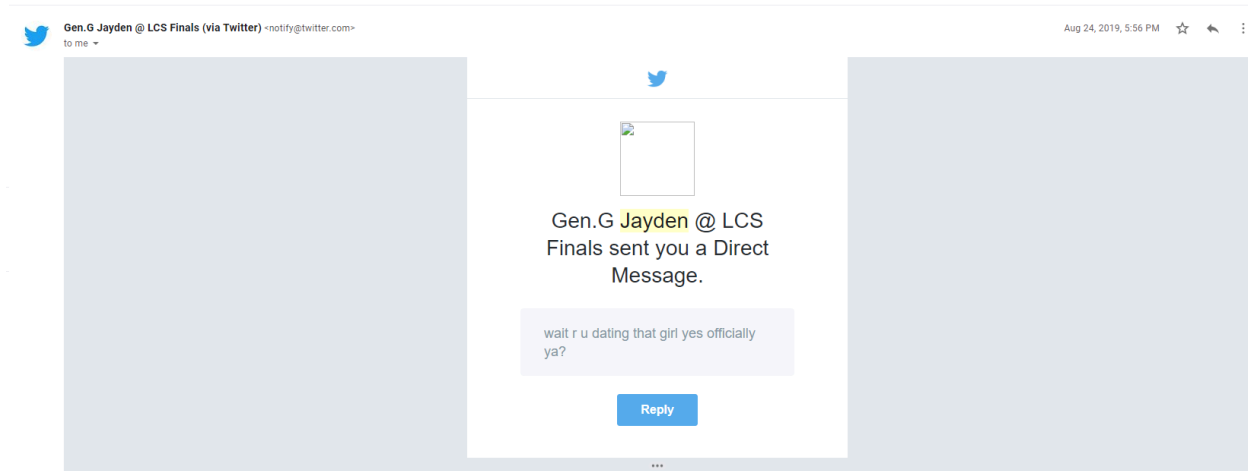
Jayden and I have been friends for a few years, and exchanged flirty messages on and off over the years. Her and I talked about people we were interested in, and showed casual interest in each other:



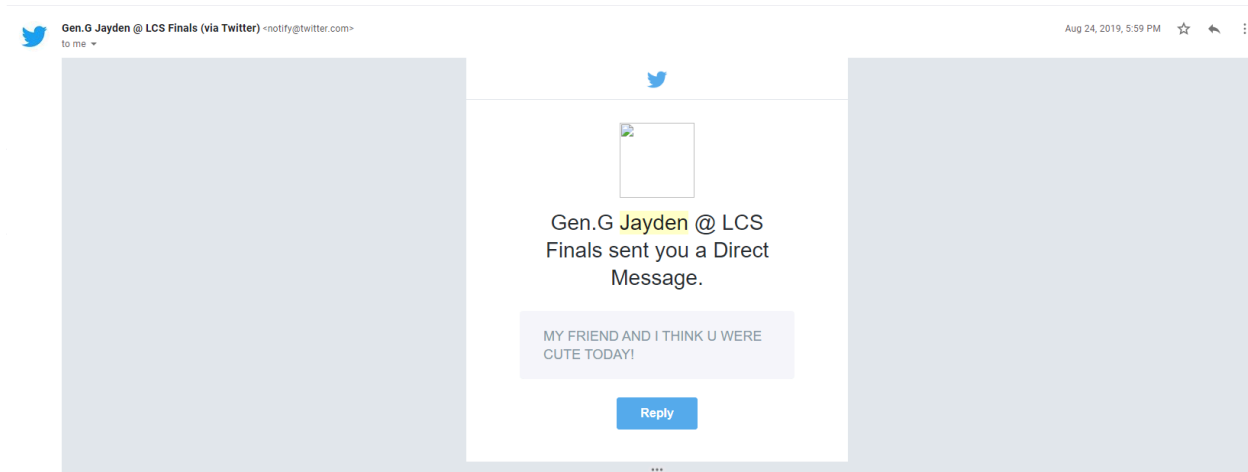
(1 example of this, 2 months before the incident)

I was surprised Jayden would say that we were purely platonic friends prior to the incident, because even that same day she dm'd me asking if I was single and calling me cute:

It was so weird to read when Jayden painted us out to be only platonic friends the whole time we talked. The day of the incident we were both fairly excited to see each other at the Detroit finals, and ended up spending most of it together, either in her booth or mine watching the games. When the games ended, we both went back to our respective hotels :

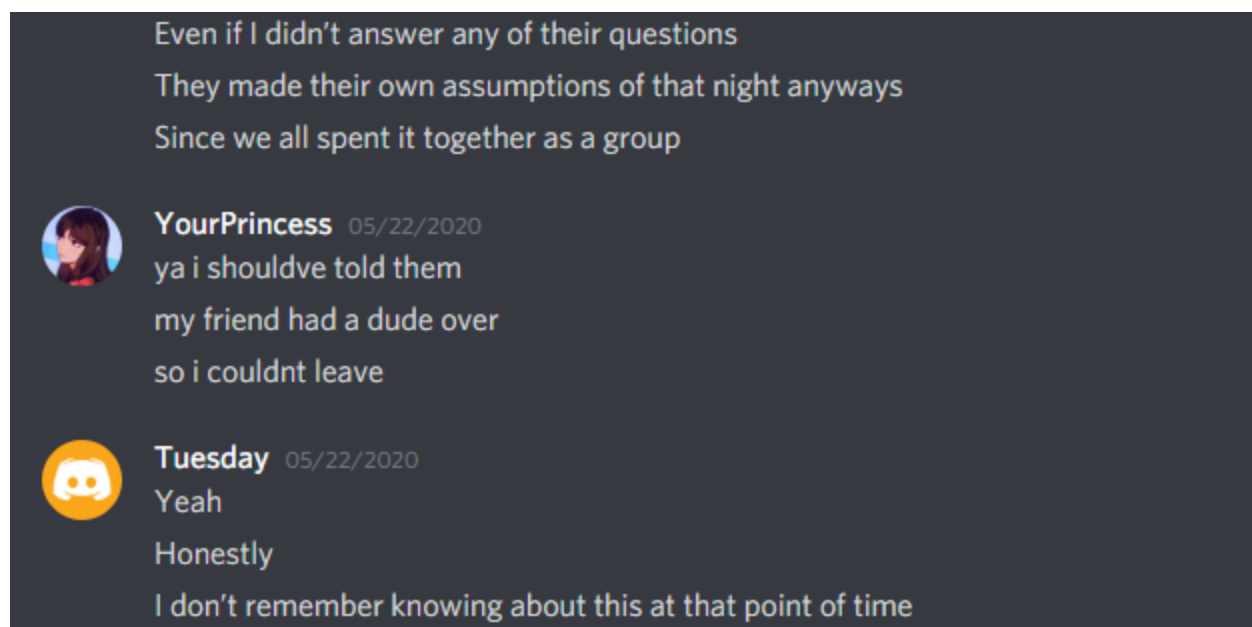


I then asked her why:

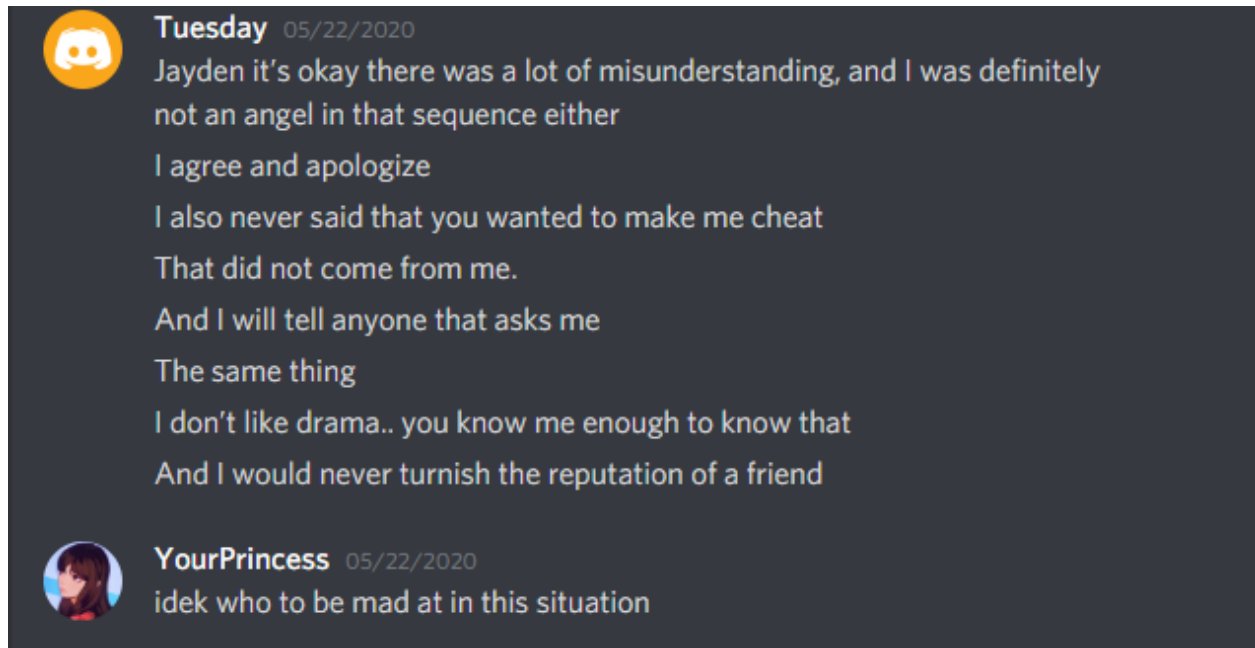


Jayden 100% knew at the time that I was in a relationship as I had told her multiple times about seeing a girl in the months leading up to this. Like I mentioned before we talked about these things openly, and she mentioned this fact in her twitlonger as well.

As far as how the actual afterparty went, nothing crazy happened, we were both drinking and hanging out with friends. During that night, her close friend came up to me and without remembering word for word, she told me that Jayden was pretty into me and tried to give me the “ok” for flirting back with her. The afterparty was coming to an end, and me and 4 other guys were planning on finishing the night at my place watching a movie and hanging out. Jayden then asked if she could come with me, never mentioning that she couldn’t go back to her own place (she only mentioned this to me months later so no one else with us knew about this reason at the time). I didn’t expect that and it felt a little weird but accepted nonetheless. When we got to the hotel, the group decided to move the bed from the bedroom to the living room.

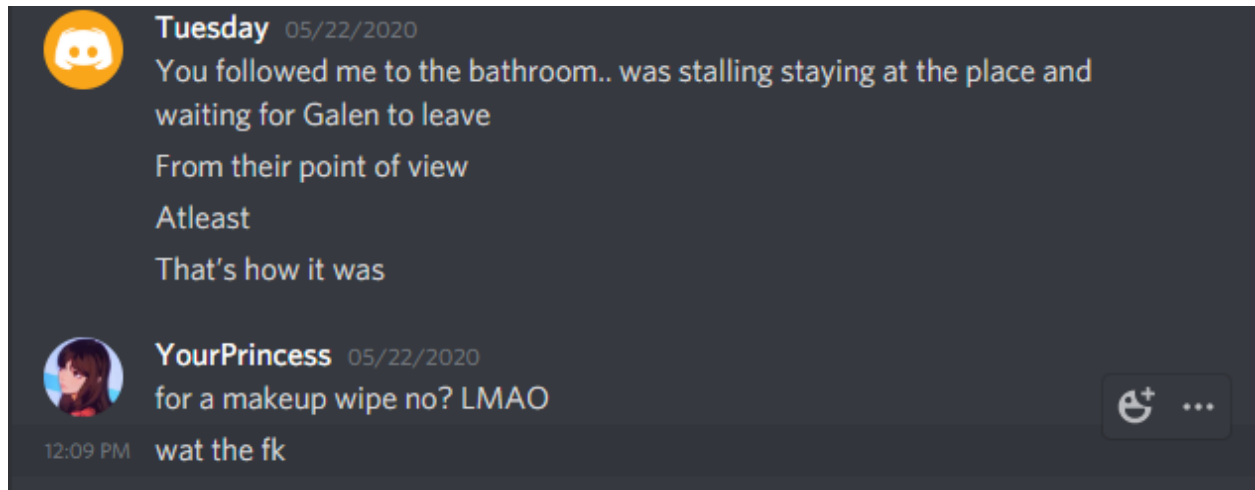


Jayden dmed me in May about what had happened last year, but it was right before I had scrims and I didn’t give that conversation enough attention because I felt rushed. We talked about it and I apologized, but I want to say that her and I only discussed these things twice- in her twitlonger she says she “*confronted [me] so many times*”. This just isn’t true and at first when I read her twitlonger, I didn’t understand why she would say this. Even after the hotel incident I think we both felt awkward but kept talking as friends only for months like everything was fine. She never once reached out to me about being made to feel uncomfortable, until the rumor about her got to her ears.



Incident

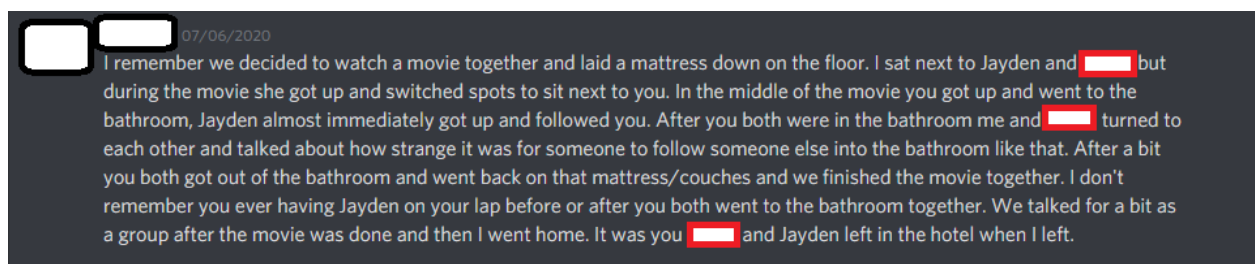
There's a lot of other inaccuracies in the twitlonger, like how **we were definitely not alone when she followed me to the bathroom**, there were still two other guys that hadn't left my room yet. When Jayden jumped up to follow me to the bathroom and **closed the door behind us**, in their eyes that's going to look pretty suspicious. I'm emphasizing these things because in Jayden's twitlonger she blames me for spreading rumors despite her actions directly leading to those assumptions. She 100% omits this in her twitlonger and even changes the timeline to accommodate her stories believability. I'm not saying she deserved gossip for following me into the bathroom, but she wants people to believe she was totally faultless when she in fact did flirt with me and mess around. We had been staying in the room for over 3 hours, so why follow me into the bathroom for makeup wipes during the two minutes that I was there? Almost everyone had been up to go to the bathroom (without following me) so I didn't get why she would claim that she only needed makeup wipes. I also don't wear makeup and I'm pretty sure she knows this. Here's a screenshot from our convo about this, where she admits that she followed me into the bathroom while other people were there:



Yet keeps dismissing other people were there and saw this happen :



After talking to the other guys who were still there at that point, neither of them agree with her story of me grabbing her and putting her on my lap “moments” after she came out of the bathroom after me. So yet again, the timeline is not consistent with the other 2 individuals who were there and also myself.

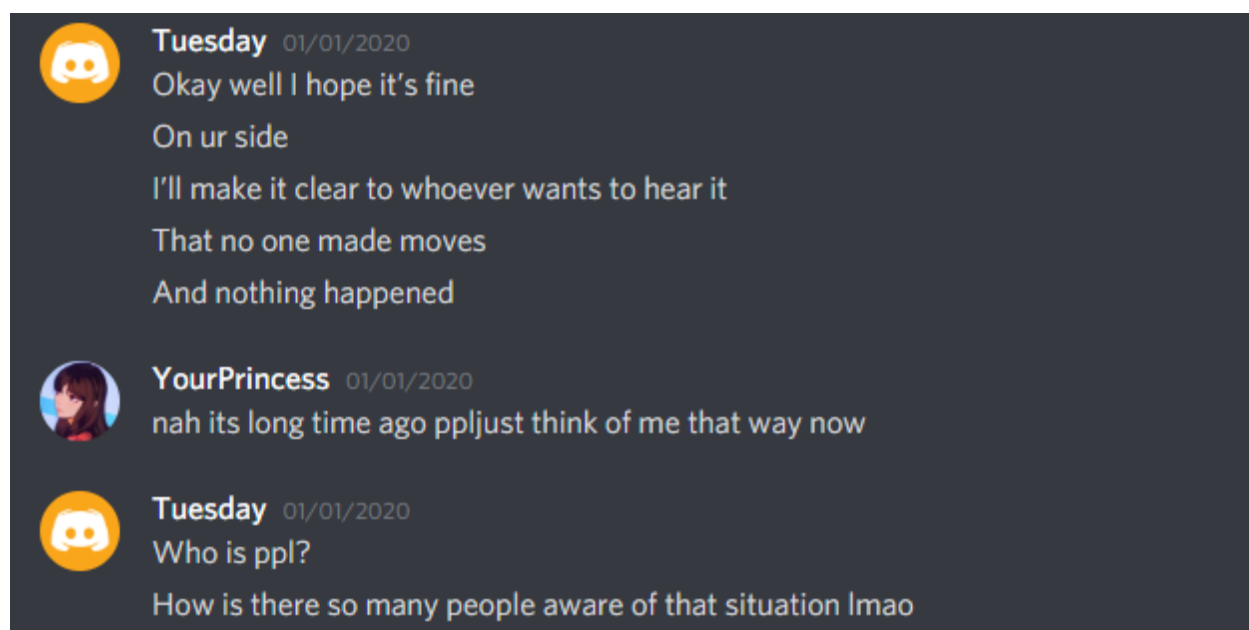


Eventually, only one other guy was left, and him being smarter than me he tried to stall for time to make sure Jayden left before I did, so that we didn't make any stupid decisions like sleeping together despite me having a gf. He even made up excuses like saying his Uber app wasn't working so he would chill, and Jayden was trying to get him to leave and tried to call him one herself despite him saying not to. His hotel room was less than half a mile away and he could have walked but chose not to because he had seen how Jayden had been acting toward me that night.

Eventually the last guy left because we were both adults and he did the most he felt comfortable doing, but Jayden and I didn't go back into the bathroom once. Instead, we started getting heavier with the flirting and it led up to us locking eyes and then mutually agreeing to not go any further. She was never in my lap like she said in her story, and actually when we decided what we were doing was wrong, I was closer to being on top of her. We then ended up sitting on the couch and talking about how we were glad nothing happened. I walked her out to the elevator, and she left in her lyft.

Aftermath

I want to make it clear that if the point of Jayden's story was that I made her uncomfortable and she felt the need to speak about her experience, that would be understandable and I would support her decision. However, with the context of the flirting from that day and the inaccuracies with her story (that paint her in a different light than how others saw her that day), it makes me think she had a different reasoning for sharing her twitlonger. I didn't go around telling people about that night, it was a point of shame for me and a reminder of how I jeopardized my relationship with my girlfriend. It was another person present that night who theorized about why she stayed in my hotel and then told his own friend, who then relayed it back to Jayden. Even in Jayden's own twitlonger, she says that *"there was a girl that I had just met for the first time. She told me that **many of the guys on the team had speculated** that I was trying to get Tuesday to cheat on his girlfriend with me."* So again, this was not me maliciously spreading rumors, this was a conclusion drawn from her actions and behavior. It wasn't fair to blame only her because I also flirted, but her twitlonger doesn't mention anything that might incriminate her as someone equally at fault for this 'rumor'.



Here you can see I assured her the first time that I didn't tell anyone that she made a move (like kissing or anything past flirting)- I went out of my way to try to clear her name by bringing it up with people months after the fact as well. I did let people who were there know about the misconception that she was trying to "get me to cheat" and that we both made mistakes. I never thought or said she was trying to get me to cheat on my girlfriend, and this 'rumor' was stopped by anyone that was present way before Jayden confronted me for the 2nd time in May. If this rumor had gotten out past the people initially involved and the people in Jayden's twitlonger, then I had no way of knowing who possibly knew and there was no way I could track down people I had no knowledge of.. it seems unreasonable to hold me to the standard of squashing this idea when she wouldn't tell me where she heard more people talking about it.

When word got out about what happened that night, she needed someone to blame and instead of accepting her part in what happened, she chose me as an easy scapegoat. I don't think Jayden is a bad person, but I wish she didn't decide to try to hurt my name in order to clear her own. I feel bad that other people were holding her responsible for both of our regrettable decisions, but her twitlonger was not the right way to go about fixing it. Jayden says she didn't want to "start drama" by dming the people present that night and explaining, but that doesn't hold up considering her twitlonger.

"I just want to let anyone know that it's okay to speak up against those who make you feel really uncomfortable. Thanks for reading." - Her last words of the twitlonger

Reading her twitlonger it didn't seem like inspiring the voiceless was her main goal to me. She even says that the part that bothered her the most about this situation was when she found out that "I" told others about it. From my perspective, I think she felt her reputation was being harmed because of the embarrassment that would come with going after guys who had girlfriends. She didn't really have an issue with that night because beyond half of what she said being untrue/omitting context, she also never brought it up to me or others until after someone asked her if it was true that she flirted with me that night.

Apologies

I never meant for that night to be aired out publicly and it sucks for everyone involved that it got to this point. Most of all I feel sorry for my girlfriend, who now has the embarrassment of having to deal with people calling her stupid for staying with me, and making her feel bad for her choice to forgive me for how I hurt her trust. After Jayden left that night, I called my girlfriend and we spoke for almost an hour. I told her what happened in full, stuff Jayden didn't even mention in her twitlonger, and apologized to her knowing full well she would be in the right to break up with me. She didn't and I'm very grateful she has been such a huge support to me since then despite my hurtful choices.

At the end of the day, I have been trying to be accountable for my decisions. I have worked towards being a better person for my girlfriend, the people close to me, and myself.. I felt bad about myself for a while after the incident and this drama has brought up some negative emotions I thought I got past already. I would never want to be someone who hurts other people or makes them feel unsafe. I acted so selfishly towards my girlfriend and I spent a lot of time after that undoing the pain that I caused her. I acted selfishly towards Jayden too, I never should have let her come back with me knowing she was into me and I led her on by letting things go as far as they did. I am ashamed of this and I'm sorry. But I won't apologize for her shame surrounding the situation though, because I don't feel like I should shoulder the burden of a twitlonger accusation over two consenting adults flirting.

I don't think any story is too 'small' to speak about and I don't want anyone to feel discouraged to share their own stories after seeing backlash to anyone. There's many women and men coming forward with stories that take a lot of courage and strength to publicly post, and I still remain solid in saying that everyone's emotions and feelings should be listened to and not invalidated, but I hope the people reading this recognize that I am sharing more context on a night that was not accurately portrayed to the public, and not trying to attack Jayden.

I also want to say this is the last I will be addressing this issue, I didn't want to feed into this but felt I didn't have a choice. This has been affecting me mentally and it's emotionally taxing to have to rehash this situation- especially as publicly as it has been. I'm currently in the middle of my season and I don't want to let this affect my mental and my teammates any more than it already has. Thank you all for reading this and hearing my side of the story.

- Jean