

DREAM DAY

True Love

Behind the Scenes of the Newest Dream Day Game

Cara Ely,

Creator of **I-play's** Dream Day Series

Q: With the newest Dream Day game releasing online this Fall, can you give fans insight into what they can expect?

This Dream Day is unlike any of the previous games! It's based on a real couple – my very own grandparents, Helen and Bill. As they get ready to celebrate their 70th anniversary, we're bringing their story to life within a game by incorporating actual photos, letters, and other mementos from throughout their lifetime. The players will learn about their love story through a vintage scrapbook, and use it to plan a surprise anniversary party. The game will take you from the 1930's to present day.

Q: How did you come up with the story behind Dream Day True Love?

In order to continue growing and improving the Dream Day series of games, I wanted to give this game a new twist. What better way than to focus on a real couple?

My grandparents are such wonderful people, and I've always thought their love story was amazing. They met while my grandfather was on leave from the military in San Francisco. They were engaged less than two weeks later and have now been married for 70 years. They've lived all over the world and survived two years of separation during WWII. As they are such an inspiration to me, I thought it would be a great story to share.

Q: How did you approach your grandparents about the idea of making a game about them?

My grandparents are not big game players; however they have tried a few of the Dream Day games. My grandmother and I email quite a lot so I explained what I wanted to do; they were nervous at first, but after a little convincing they happily agreed. Since my grandfather had written a book of memories for our family a few years ago, and my grandmother is currently working on a second one, it's been a fairly smooth road collecting letters, photographs and gaining answers to my many questions. I'm also very lucky that they kept so many mementos from their life together. Reading the letters my grandfather wrote during WWII – it just boggles my mind.

Q: As the mind behind the Dream Day series, what is it like putting such a personal investment into this game?

I have always felt very lucky to do the type of work I do, but this game has taken that to a new level. I don't think I can fully express how special this project is to me. I've learned so many new things about my grandparents! Since they are such an inspiration to me, I feel like this game is one small way of thanking them, and showing them what they mean to me. I am also really excited to create a game based on real people – I think it's a new direction that players will truly enjoy.

I-play

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