

No Review this Week, I Was Too Busy Playing Castle Crashers.

Sorry, I couldn't get to the review this week. I've been playing this game called "Castle Crashers" on my XBOX 360. In fact writing the last sentence sent me off into a bout of playing (I'll tell you how long when I get back to the keyboard).....OK, 10 minutes later I'm back to tell you that it is great to be challenged by a game again. It seems that games these days are relatively easy. Don't get me wrong, that's not necessarily a bad thing. You pretty much know that when you drop \$40 or \$50 on a game, you are not going to be stuck at the bottom of a random pit (for those of you that go WAY back, think ET for the Atari). So think back to Nintendo games back in the late 1980's and early 1990's (NES, SNES especially). Castle Crashers is Super Mario Brothers meets Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles meets Zelda. Like the Nintendo games of past, Castle Crashers is not an *easy* game.

If you liked the challenged of Nintendo Games, you'll appreciate this game. If you like a low key, easy romp through a game, this one is not for you. And if you are of the Nintendo generation, and you thought the graphics back then were pretty good (they were, especially for the time), you will be very excited to see HD graphics. If you are reading this, and you are not a 25-45 year old who grew up playing Nintendo Games and still has some nostalgia for that playing style, I bet you know someone who does. Tell them to get Castle Crashers. If they don't own an XBOX 360, tell them to look on Craig's List, they will get a great deal (Read this next bit as you would read the advice in the bubble above the head of the common townspeople in a Zelda game. "You may not want to mail cash to someone who lists their item on Craig's List. Arrange a one-on-one meeting where you can test the items and ensure their quality.") Heck, why don't *you* have a 360, they are cheap, play DVD's, and you can play video files directly from your computer's video library to the TV it is hooked up to (like your home video library).

You may be asking yourself: "How did I possibly miss this game?" The answer is simple: you haven't. Still here? Go, get playing (you can play with up to four players simultaneously), stop reading. If rather, you don't really play games, you may be asking yourself what to tell your nephew who is into games. Tell him "the Wizard disguised as a Professor who writes for Fourth Coast Entertainment said that he has no choice, he has to play Castle Crashers" (you can write that down). Good Bye, I have to go finish playing Castle Crashers. ANTHONY BETRUS, CASTLE CRASHERS FLAME SORCERER

P.S. I just beat it. Great finish, unbelievable credits. It's definitely in my all time top 10. Too bad you can't beat it....