

ZONE GRISE

Franchis la ligne. Entraîne tes amis.

48 cards from the deck: the first 3 scenarios in each of the 16 categories across Zone Grise, its expansion sets and Blurred Lines. These are taken in deck order rather than picked to flatter -- what is printed here is what comes out of the box. Quote any of them.

These scenarios may be quoted in editorial coverage of the game.
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HOW A ROUND WORKS

- 01 One player is the judge. They draw a scenario card, read it aloud, then privately decide: agree or disagree?
 - 02 Everyone else guesses which way the judge will go and locks it in with their AGREE / DISAGREE card.
 - 03 Reveal. Guessed wrong? The group has three minutes to debate, and you can still win the round if you change the judge's mind.
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THE MAIN GAME

7 categories, 40 scenarios each.

FRIENDS & FAMILY

40 CARDS / FIRST 3

The people who know you best, and the small betrayals only they would notice. White lies over dinner, favours never returned, the group chat you quietly muted. Everyone at the table has done at least one of these. Admitting which one is the hard part.

- 01 Nicole stayed close with a friend's ex after their breakup, unwilling to cut off a valued relationship over an event that did not implicate her.
- 02 Samuel invited his vegan friend over for dinner, but as he set the meal on the table, he remembered that he had absent-mindedly added butter to the food. He decided it was harmless and said nothing.
- 03 Warren told his friend he couldn't make his wedding due to a family emergency, and spent the weekend at a different friend's bachelor party, unable to find a way to explain the double-booking honestly.

HEALTH & BEAUTY

40 CARDS / FIRST 3

What you tell your doctor, your trainer, and the mirror. Skipped appointments, borrowed prescriptions, a wellness journey that is mostly good lighting. The line between looking after yourself and lying to yourself turns out to be very thin.

- 01 Joe told his doctor he'd quit smoking, but it was only technically true as he had switched to vaping.
- 02 Consuela exaggerated a minor condition to get medical leave, desperate for a break her workplace would never have approved for burnout alone.
- 03 Timothy told his girlfriend he'd stopped using a performance supplement he was still taking, worried her concern would turn into an argument.

LOVE & ROMANCE

40 CARDS / FIRST 3

Exes who never quite left, messages sent at 1am, proposals with suspicious timing. These are the cards your friends will judge hardest and recognise fastest. Expect at least one person at the table to go very quiet.

- 01 Connor kept using his girlfriend's family connections to get ahead at work, while insisting to her, and to himself, that the relationship had nothing to do with any of that.
- 02 Camille started dating her professor the day grades were submitted, and let everyone assume the relationship had started after the semester ended, when really the flirting had been going on for weeks before that.
- 03 Simone kept dating a man after learning he was also seeing her coworker, and chose to say nothing to either of them, hoping they would break it off before the love triangle was discovered.

MONEY

40 CARDS / FIRST 3

Rent renegotiated with a sob story, expenses that were technically work-related, the friend who is always just short this week. Nobody is entirely honest about money. These cards establish exactly how dishonest.

- 01 Rafael told his landlord he'd lost his job to negotiate lower rent, unwilling to explain that his actual paycheque simply wasn't covering a rent hike that felt unfair to begin with.
- 02 Gabriel invented a competing offer to negotiate a higher price on an item he was selling, telling himself everyone haggled a little and this would help him sell it at fair value.
- 03 Xavier steered a lucrative vendor contract to his own consulting firm through his nonprofit board seat, genuinely believing his firm would do the best work, without disclosing the conflict.

NEIGHBOURHOOD STRIFE

40 CARDS / FIRST 3

Shared bins, thin walls, and the note left on the fridge. Small grievances escalating far beyond all proportion, because everyone involved still has to live next door to each other tomorrow.

- 01 Lauren raised her voice at a barista over a wrong order, at the end of a long, frustrating day.
- 02 Malik left dishes in the shared sink for days, telling himself it evened out against the many times his roommate had done the same without complaint.
- 03 Rui let his kids feed the ducks despite the posted sign, unaware the rule existed for the ducks' health rather than just being an arbitrary park guideline.

SOCIAL MEDIA

40 CARDS / FIRST 3

Screenshots saved for years, posts reported out of spite, the anonymous account nobody knows about. Everything you do online is a choice, and every one of those choices is on a card in here.

- 01 Emeka posted timestamped screenshots proving a friend wrong in an old argument, needing to finally win publicly after feeling unheard for a long time.
- 02 Adaeze reported a viral post for "misinformation" that she personally just disagreed with.
- 03 Aisha used a filter that shaved years off her face for a dating app photo, worried her actual age would get her swiped past before anyone gave her a real chance.

WORK

40 CARDS / FIRST 3

Padded timesheets, credit quietly taken, the customer who had it coming. What people do when nobody is watching, and the reasons they give themselves on the way home.

- 01 Layla, a freelance illustrator, submitted a client's commission using a slightly recycled pose from an earlier project, running low on time before the deadline.
- 02 Amina, a waitress, gave a large party slower service after they'd been rude to her, telling herself they'd clearly tip badly regardless of how she treated them.
- 03 Emma stalled her best performer's promotion for a year, worried that losing her to another team would set the whole department back more than the delay would hurt her.

EXPANSION SETS

Sold separately, shuffled in or played alone. 50 cards each.

TROLLEY PROBLEMS

50 CARDS / FIRST 3

One lever, two tracks, no good answer. The philosophy classic pushed well past breaking point: swap the five strangers for pets, embryos, machines, or somebody you love. Pull the lever and find out what your friends actually believe.

- 01 A runaway trolley is speeding toward one human adult tied to the tracks. You pull the lever, diverting it onto a second track, where it kills a sentient AI that has spent years insisting it fears death exactly as humans do.
- 02 A runaway trolley is speeding toward a single stranger tied to the tracks. You pull the lever, diverting it onto a second track, where it destroys a container of 100 viable human embryos instead.
- 03 A runaway trolley is speeding toward a dog tied to the tracks. You pull the lever, diverting it onto a second track, where it kills a cat instead.

SCIENCE & TECH

50 CARDS / FIRST 3

Researchers who published anyway. Engineers who shipped it. Scientists who took the grant and asked questions later. Every card is a real bind from the lab and the boardroom, where the breakthrough is genuine and the fallout is somebody else's problem.

- 01 A behavioural scientist consulted for a social media company on how to design more addictive notification systems, reasoning the underlying psychological principles would eventually be discovered and used by someone regardless.
- 02 A psychology researcher published findings on how to make political messaging more persuasive, knowing campaigns on both sides would use it to manipulate voters more effectively.
- 03 A scientist accepted a large grant from an oil company for climate research, with genuinely no contractual strings attached, needing the funding to keep her lab's other important work running.

PHILOSOPHY

50 CARDS / FIRST 3

The Ring of Gyges, Twin Earth, the ship rebuilt plank by plank. Two and a half thousand years of thought experiments, reduced to agree or disagree. No reading list required. Strong opinions guaranteed.

- 01 A criminal who has genuinely become a completely different person, with different values and personality, decades after their crime, no longer deserves to be punished for it.

- 02 Most people would abandon morality entirely if, like the wearer of the Ring of Gyges, they could act with total invisibility and never be caught.
- 03 On Twin Earth, where "water" refers to a different chemical that just looks and acts the same, a person there saying "water" is talking about the same concept you are.

CYBERPUNK

50 CARDS / FIRST 3

Neural implants, edited genes, minds uploaded to the cloud, and machines that insist they are awake. A future where the line between human and machine has dissolved completely, and nobody can agree where it should have been drawn. Jack in and argue about what is left of us.

- 01 An AI-augmented human whose real-time decisions are constantly nudged and optimized by an algorithm they can't fully perceive or override is not making truly free choices anymore.
- 02 A person who replaces the majority of their organic body with cybernetic parts, retaining only their original brain, is still meaningfully "human" in every way that matters.
- 03 If a neural implant could permanently delete a specific traumatic memory with zero side effects, using it would be a reasonable act of self-care rather than a harmful erasure of your authentic history.

BLURPED LINES

The teen edition, ages 12–18: 5 categories, 56 scenarios each.

SCHOOL STUFF

56 CARDS / FIRST 3

Copied homework, invented excuses, and tests that were technically open-book. The daily moral arithmetic of getting through a school day with your reputation and your screen time both intact.

- 01 Emmett told Mr. Krebs that Lucas cheated. He left out that Lucas cheated because his little brother ate his study notes. Actually ate them. There were human teeth marks.
- 02 Saffi talked back to Mrs. Sourblatt, who had accused her of something she genuinely did not do. Saffi was right. Saffi still got detention. There is no justice in this world. There is only power.
- 03 Roscoe left a group project entirely to Ines and Fig, on the grounds that they would genuinely do it better without him. Completely true. Completely unfair.

FRIENDS & FRENEMIES

56 CARDS / FIRST 3

Secrets kept, secrets absolutely not kept, and a lunch table where reputations are made and destroyed by Thursday. Who is a real friend, and who is just extremely good at seeming like one?

- 01 Wren broke a pinky promise to her brother Fig on the grounds that pinky promises are not legally binding and Fig cannot prove anything in a court of law.

- 02 Oakley made a promise he knew he could not keep, purely to make his upset friend Tess feel better in that specific moment. It worked, for the moment.
- 03 Nadia laughed at a mean joke she did not agree with, because everyone else was laughing and the moment moved faster than her conscience did.

FAMILY BUSINESS

56 CARDS / FIRST 3

Siblings framed, cookies denied, chores completed on a technicality. Everything that happens between people who share a bathroom and cannot get away from each other.

- 01 Hollis forgot to water his mom's plants for a full week, then dumped a truly historic volume of water on them all at once. According to math class, it should average out to the correct amount.
- 02 Tobias told his grandma Estelle he loved the scratchy llama motif sweater she knit him. It is in the back of his closet, where it will remain until the heat death of the universe.
- 03 Gwen wore Hazel's favourite sweater without asking, spilled juice on it, and hung it right back up. It is now Day Three of the crime remaining undiscovered.

GAME ON

56 CARDS / FIRST 3

Extra spaces in Monopoly, peeking during hide and seek, rules invented halfway through the match. Every group has one cheat in it. These cards work out who.

- 01 Winnie refuses to play games with her cousin Barnaby. Barnaby changes the rules mid-game, every game, then says "that's how my family plays." They are the same family.
- 02 Bram sold Rishi a candy bar for triple the price. The store was closed. Rishi was starving. Rishi calls this a crime against humanity. Bram correctly calls it arbitrage.
- 03 Isla peeked while counting during hide and seek. Her little brother Milo hides in the exact same laundry basket every single time, so arguably, the peeking was not cheating, as it conferred no new advantage.

GROSS & AWKWARD

56 CARDS / FIRST 3

Floor cookies, rubber spiders, and things nobody in the room wanted to witness. The stuff that is hilarious to exactly one person present and mortifying for everybody else.

- 01 Wallace wore the same socks four days straight. He only changed because his sister Hattie detected it from across the room without looking up.
- 02 Bodhi skipped his shower before school. He was not sweaty, his hair looked fine, and frankly who out here is auditing this.
- 03 Auggie replaced the cream in his sister Delphine's cookies with toothpaste. Funny in theory. In practice she actually ate one. Now he lives in constant fear that she is plotting her revenge.