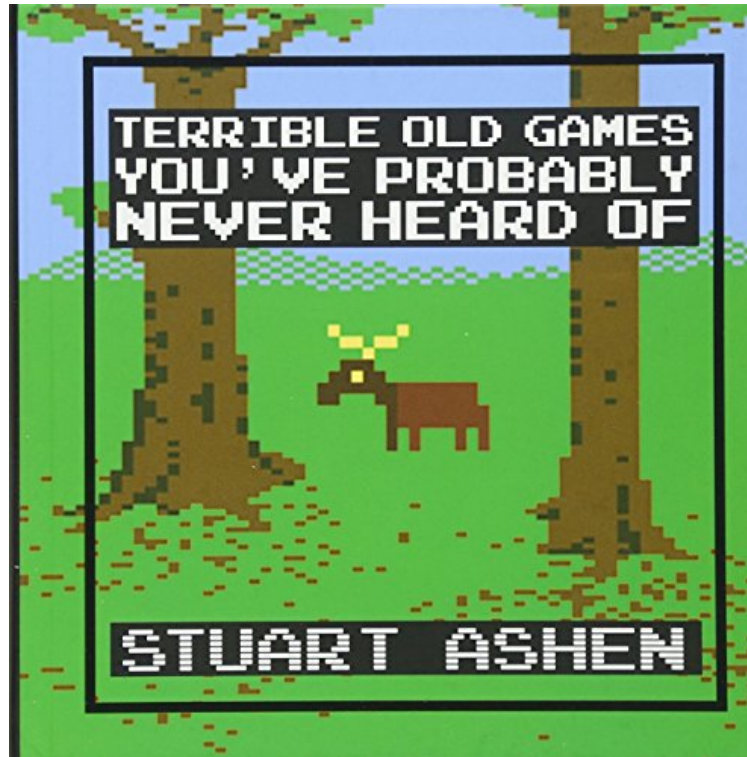


# Terrible Old Games You've Probably Never Heard Of

Stuart Ashen

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**Stuart Ashen : Terrible Old Games You've Probably Never Heard Of** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Terrible Old Games You've Probably Never Heard Of:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Come For the Games, Stay for the HistoryBy Dinogirl7A fun read- I only wish there was more of it. Which is actually why I deducted a star; the book is half as long as I expected, with about 50% of the page count devoted to reviews of these terrible old games. The other half is a long list of names of people who supported the book on Kickstarter. There's also a long "Choose Your Own Adventure" section, and numerous interviews with influential people describing the most disappointing game they've ever played. So you're really only getting about 25% game reviews, but the other content is solid and Stuart Ashen's writing is hilarious, so given what a labor of love the book seems to have been for Ashen and his fans, I'd still call it well worth it. I'm not a gamer, so I actually assumed the book was about console games, but instead it focuses on early computer games. This was a bit of a surprise for me, but it actually made the book a lot more interesting, and taught me something about a universe I knew nothing about. Ashen focuses on early 1980s systems like the Amstrad, Electron and Amiga, mostly the UK models, although the author does extensive discussion on different versions available for various systems internationally. This was actually very interesting, and it also helped explain some of the awfulness of certain games that were hastily produced and even more hastily converted. These asides provided some great insights into the early games industry and how it evolved. I knew that there was an era where successful games might be programmed by 1-2 people in a basement somewhere, but this book did a lot to really flesh out what that era was like. So while I didn't get

a solid 200 pages of hilarious reviews, I think I actually got a little bit more than that. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I waited too long to get this! By Feelah the tigress I've long been a fan of the Ashens channel on youtube and I love his youtube video series of the same name. I, unfortunately, forgot all about the creation of this book and the crowdfunding of it, etc. so I didn't pick it up until it had been out for quite some time. Still, now that I've finally got my grubby mitts on it, I'm pleased to say that it's excellent! The premise of the book is that Dr. Ashen (and Larry Bundy Jr. in one guest entry) essentially "review" some terrible old games. The book is also interspersed with various semi-famous people who describe the worst game that they had ever bought. Dr. Ashen keeps the scope of the games to old PC systems from the UK, so being from the U.S. and being a bit too young for those systems (I didn't get into gaming until the Gameboy Color), I didn't really recognize any of them (aside from what little I've gleaned about them from youtube videos). Still, despite me knowing next to nothing about the ZX Spectrum or the Amstrad I still found this book quite entertaining. It garnered quite a few chuckles out of me. My only complaint is that the list of backers at the end takes up quite a bit of space and further exacerbates my disappointment in how short the book is. Well, maybe it's not fair to say the book is too short, rather that I wish it were longer! So, I could see this book being a very niche product – I only imagine that fans of Stuart Ashen or fans of books on old computer games would ever pick this up. Still, if you happen to fall into one of those two categories or if you like a bit of wry humor in your books, go ahead and pick it up! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ashens provides a humorous and interesting look into the worst that retro games have to offer. By Porter H. Humbert Internet comedian Stuart Ashen masterfully adapts his Terrible Old Games You've Probably Never Heard Of webseries into print format with this book. As the title suggests, this is a list of terrible retro games that you've probably never heard of, namely European computer games from the 80's and early 90's, with systems ranging from the ZX Spectrum to the Atari ST, as well as some lesser-known computers. Each entry is given a several page summary, with many spot-on jokes made at its expense, along with screenshots with hilarious captions. If you're familiar with Ashen's videos, you'll understand the kind of humor to be expected from one of his books. Also included are reviews from several guests, and an interview with a programmer who worked on computer games back in the 80's, giving some interesting insight into how the industry worked. If you're looking for a new take on the "worst games ever" kind of list, definitely check this out. And if you're an Ashens fan, let's face it, you already bought this.

Terrible Old Games You've Probably Never Heard Of is a full-color illustrated compendium of the most painfully bad games, based on Ashens' YouTube series of the same name. Everyone's heard of E.T. for the Atari 2600 and Superman for the Nintendo 64, but these are almost nothing next to the abject incompetence of Count Duckula 2 on the Amstrad CPC. There are people who seriously believe that Shaq Fu is the worst fighting game ever made, having never experienced Dangerous Streets on the Amiga. This book will blow their very soul apart. (Not a guarantee.) Terrible Old Games You've Probably Never Heard Of is meticulously researched and written, with the dry humor you'd expect from a man who has somehow made a living by sticking rubbish on a sofa and talking about it. Each entry is accompanied by a series of full-color images from the games.

"Stuart Ashen does a great line in Larry David-esque incredulity, and excels at rounding up a gang of genuinely obscure, implausibly released rubbish." —Mr Hyde