SAMPLE SCENARIOS

ZONE GRISE

Franchis la ligne. Entraîne tes amis.

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48 cards from the deck: the first 3 scenarios in each of the 16 categories across Zone Grise, its expansion sets and Blurted 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.

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 Carol stopped scheduling playdates with a mom she didn't get along with, even though it meant her daughter saw less of her best friend.

03 Jordan began transitioning without telling his extended family, letting his parents quietly decide who else in the family would be told and when.

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 Denise kept using her late mother's disabled parking placard, since her own arthritis makes long walks painful even without the official paperwork.

02 Ravi listed himself as five-eleven on a dating app when he is five-nine, after noticing his matches dropped sharply every time he told the truth.

03 Owen, forty-five, uses a smoothing filter on every work video call, worried that looking his age is quietly costing him promotions.

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 Tobias proposed to his girlfriend the same week his parents threatened to cut him off over the relationship, wanting to prove the threat wouldn't work.

02 Penny replied to a message on her boyfriend's phone pretending to be him, to find out why his ex was texting him at midnight.

03 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.

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 Roger negotiated his salary using a competing offer that didn't exist, needing the leverage after watching less qualified coworkers get raises he felt he deserved more.

02 Julie made a stock trade using insider knowledge from her job. She knew she was breaking the rules, but she assumed everyone was doing it.

03 Colby only donates at public charity galas where his name goes on the program, and never gives anonymously.

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 Anton pulled a stranger's wet laundry out of the shared washer and left it in a pile, after waiting forty minutes past the end of the cycle.

02 Donna knocked her neighbour's drone out of the sky with a garden hose after it hovered over her backyard while she was sunbathing.

03 Duncan corrected a stranger's deadlift form without being asked, convinced the man was about to seriously hurt his back.

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 Jasmine posted a full photoshoot of herself volunteering at a food bank, even though she only stayed for an hour.

02 Kofi recorded a stranger's public meltdown at a restaurant and posted it for views, justifying his choice by saying that he was documenting noteworthy events for the public.

03 Paige reported a stranger's offensive political post to his employer, and he was fired that week.

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 Vanessa lied in an interview about why she left her last job, unwilling to explain a firing that she still believes was unfair.

02 Leopold worked three part-time jobs at once without disclosing it to any of them, since none individually paid enough to survive on alone.

03 Ottoline took a job offer specifically to leave a toxic team, then quietly encouraged three of her former teammates to follow her within the year.

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 When faced with multiple competing explanations for something, the simplest one, per Occam's razor, is usually the correct one.

02 A painting generated by an AI that moves people to tears is exactly as valuable as an equally moving painting made by a human.

03 Economic inequality is only unjust when it results from unfair processes like discrimination or fraud, not simply by existing on its own.

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.

BLURTED LINES

The kids edition, ages 8–16: 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 Zara told her grandpa about his own surprise party, since he hates surprises and at the last one fell backwards into the cake.

02 Amara refused to hold her new baby brother for the first two weeks, because everyone kept jokingly calling him "the new favourite" and she did not find it funny.

03 Otto refused to hug his great aunt Bernice. She smells like mothballs and pinches his cheeks with the grip strength of a dairy farmer.

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 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.

02 Xavier spent three hundred dollars from his first summer job on a single in-game skin. His dad called it an insane waste of money. Xavier pointed out that his dad buys golf balls.

03 Hattie entered a contest she knew Wren desperately wanted to win. Hattie won. Hattie did not even want the prize. The real prize was satisfaction and condescension.

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 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.

02 Bodhi skipped his shower before school. He was not sweaty, his hair looked fine, and frankly who out here is auditing this.

03 Quinn, babysitting the neighbours' toddler, left a very full diaper for the parents to handle when they got home, since diapers were never mentioned when she took the job.