Chrono Trigger Ending Guide

by wrp103

Updated to v2.10 on Mar 1, 2009

This walkthrough was originally written for Chrono Trigger on the SNES, but the walkthrough is still applicable to the PSX version of the game.

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Chrono Trigger Endings
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Version <#version> 2.10, Nintendo SNES, Sony Playstation, and Nintendo DS versions

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Introduction [intro]

When Chrono Trigger came out for the Super NES, I made a list of the various endings and put it on my web site. When the game was released for the Playstation, I couldn't find my original list, so I searched the web. I found my list on a bunch of sites, but mostly without my name on it. Worse yet, some of them made it look like *they* found the endings!

Please, if you use this information, give me credit!

I have reformatted the page, updated the descriptions in certain places, and changed the names of the endings to agree with what they are called in the Extras section. If you find any typos, or you think I missed something important, send e-mail to wrp103@gmail.com.

<mailto:wrp103@gmail.com> Make sure that you include "Chrono Trigger" in the subject. I get a lot of spam, and an e-mail with a subject of "A question" might get deleted without being opened.

The most recent version of this file appears in two formats: an HTML file on my home page at http://BillPringle.com/games/ct_end.html http://BillPringle.com/games/ct_end.html, and in text form at http://www.gamefaqs.com/. I recommend that you use the HTML format, since you will be able to take advantage of the HTML links. It might also be more current than the text version.

The text version of this page is created by FireFox, which is the browser I use instead of Internet Explorer. At the end of each link in the web page, FireFox inserts the target address surrounded by angle brackets.

For example, the link to the top of the page you see after each section is created with the following HTML code:

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which FireFox will change to:

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in the text file.

To let those of you who are using the text file take advantage of these links, I have inserted the link target within square brackets at the end of the line. Links within the same page all start with a pound sign (#). So, if you see something like:

Introduction <#intro>

you can use the search feature of your text viewer (or browser) to search for

[intro]

to find the section of the page that the link is pointing to.

(This is one of the reasons I suggest using the HTML version of this FAQ. You just clck on the link and you are there.)

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Differences Between Versions of the Game

Chrono Trigger was first released in 1995 for the Super Nintendo (Super Famicon) 16-bit game system. It was the result of a collaboration between some people who worked on Square's "Final Fantasy" and others from Enix's "Dragon Quest" (two of the most popular RPGs of the time.) Sony called this group "The Dream Team."

The original SNES version of this game had a long delay at the start of each battle. Being a 16-bit game, the graphics were pretty limited. Nevertheless, the game remained interesting, and was expressive enough to keep players connected to the game.

The Playstation added some FMV cut scenes. Frankly, I don't care for them, and would like to be able to turn them off. They interrupt the flow of the game, and the characters in the cut scenes look totally different than the ones in the game. Fortunately, they kept the SNES graphics effects also, so at least you can see what the original game looked like. The DS version keeps these changes. The Playstation version also created an "Endings Log" and gave official names to each ending. (I had simply made up my own names to the SNES endings.)

The PS version allowed you to save your game on a PS memory card, which could store 15 game saves. This allowed me to dedicate an entire card for the game, saving just before each of the endings, as well as some

minor variations, along with room for the current game. However, the DS version has only three save areas, so you have to think out which saves you want to keep. You will need one save area for the game you are playing. You might want to keep one save area for when you have the option to fight Magus so you can choose to fight him and let him join your party. The main difference is that if you defeat Magus, Frog becomes Glen during the endings. (Lucca comments that Glen is cute.)

The DS version reduced the time delay at the start of the battles. It keeps all the features of the PS version. It also provides the option of using the touch screen with a modified UI that allows the top screen to be the main screen, and the bottom (touch) screen to enter commands and see stats. (I like the new interface, since it makes it easier to keep track of which enemies you have charmed with Ayla.) It also added some new dungeons and new features, including a new ending, which you can get by defeating a new final boss that is controlling Schala. There is also an arena, where you can raise and train your own monsters.

Another difference with the DS version is that after "The End", click the "A" button and more credits will roll up the bottom screen, with some of the original concept art work on the top screen. When that is done, you will be asked if you want to save the completion data, and then if you want to overwrite the save area. Answer yes to both, and then yes that you want to go to the title screen. You can then load that save area to continue the game and get the next ending, or you can do a "Game Plus" using that save area to start the game from the beginning, but keeping character stats, money, and (almost) all the items.

While it is great that the DS version has a number of additions over the original SNES version, the fact remains that the basic 15-year old game is just as much fun now as it was when it first came out. This confirms what I have always said: it is the game that is important - not the graphics or the sound or anything else. Good graphics and good sound can make a good game better, but they can't make up for a bad game. Square has a long history of making great games, and Chrono Trigger is no exception.

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Endings

Here are the endings that I have found for Chrono Trigger. I include the soonest that you can get each ending. If you find anything else out, get an ending sooner, or get a different ending, please send e-mail to wrp103@gmail.com. <mailto:wrp103@gmail.com>. Contrary to what the original Dream Team ending tells you (in the SNES version - see ending 3), there are more than 10 endings (not counting minor variations). The numbers and names in bold match the ending titles on the PlayStation; the names in italics are the chapter headers (which would be the names in the save areas.) You can see slight variations <#variations>, depending on various things you have done in the game.

1 Beyond Time [01]

This is the normal ending if you challenge Lavos at the end of the game. If you defeat Lavos after restoring Crono, the opening scene of the game is shown, except that it is a soldier waking Crono up, saying he will be executed. The king pretends to be upset, but then praises him for saving the past, present, and future. If you let the Chancellor out of the chest after the "Rainbow Shell" incident, he

will be there; otherwise, it will be Pierre, the lawyer. Several characters appear (Doan, King Guardia from 600 AD, & Kino) saying what the team members had done. Marle realizes that these characters are her ancestors and descendants. After the Moonlight Parade at the fair, the characters assemble at the north side of the fair grounds and leave.

Variations:

If you didn't crash Epoch into Lavos, then Crono's cat jumps into the time gate, followed by Crono's mother. If you got extra cats, they all jump in together. Crono, Lucca, and Marle take the Epoch to find them. (This happens regardless of how much cat food you bought.) Meanwhile, the king is stuck trying to hang the Nadia Bell. If you crashed Epoch into Lavos, then the gate closes after the team members leave, and Marle, Lucca, and Crono talk to the King, who shows the Nadia Bell. Marle ends up holding some balloons and starts to float away. Crono jumps on, and the two of them float away while the credits roll.

(Note: if you killed Magus, he doesn't appear in this ending, but the rest is pretty much the same. Also, if you didn't get a clone before Crono is killed, talk to the Keeper and he will tell you to go to the fair.)

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2 Reunion [02]

If you beat Lavos before you restore Crono, you end up at the End of Time. Everyone is lying on the ground. You can control the characters, and when you talk the Guru, and he tells everyone that the gate is closing and they have to leave. All the other characters except Lucca and Marle leave to their respective times. Marle arrives at the Fair, walks in the Moonlight Parade by her self. She then sees the team members throughout the fair crowd.

When she goes back to the north part of the fair, they are all there. The other characters go back for Crono, and Marle sees her father, who asks her to install the new bell he has made in her honor. If you crashed the Epoch into Lavos, she is carried off by the balloons while the credits roll; otherwise she and Lucca take the Epoch to find the others. Marle ends up near a tree like the one on Death Peak, and in the distance you can see Crono coming. Marle runs towards him and the screen fades to black.

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3 The Dream Project [03]

This is the hardest ending to obtain.

There are two ways to get this ending. Jump on the right Telepod at the beginning of the game. If you don't talk to anyone, Marle will go with you. If you talk to somebody, then Marle will leave your party and you will have to fight Lavos alone, which is possible, but not for the faint of heart. Frankly, Marle is not much help in fighting, but at least she can keep feeding Crono Ethers and casting Cure spells. You can only try this after a Game+. Make sure you equip them well, and set the controller the way you want it before you enter the telepod. The second way to get this ending is to beat Lavos when you first fight him in the Ocean Palace. While you will have an entire party at the Ocean Palace, Lavos is much faster (and meaner) when you attempt this. If you try this, make sure you have lots of Megalixers available.

You end up at the End of Time. Each of the characters you see represent actual members of the Chrono Trigger development team.

They say a variety of things: from saying hello to their family, jokes about how long and hard they worked, boasting about what they did, etc. One of them says: "Legendary Programming waiting for that Special Someone. Waiting for those cards and letters." It appears that Square wanted to create some mystery about the endings (they didn't list what they were, they just told players to find them.) In the SNES version, one of them told you there were ten endings. Of course, there were really 12, so now he says "more than 10".

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4 The Successor of Guardia ("We're Back!") [04]

Use the telepod as soon as you get back from 600 AD. You end up at the Fair. Some people tell Marle she is dressing normally, while others say she is in a costume. When at the Castle, the King says they have just found a 400 year old wedding movie (from 600AD). Frog and Queen Leene (or a descendent) are married, and Marle's father is a frog.

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5 Good Night ("The End of Time") [05]

Use the bucket at the End of Time as soon as you get there. (You will have to talk to the Guardian of Time and Spekio first.) During the credits a Nu and a Ribbit are chasing each other and doing various antics. The Nu keeps falling asleep while the Ribbit is harassing it. "THE END" has two 'Z's above it.

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6 Legendary Hero ("The Hero Appears") [06]

You can get this ending as soon as you go to 600 AD the second time, but when you finish and try to save the system file, the game will think you are trying to save ending 5 instead of 6. So, wait until you hear that Tata is the Legendary Hero, but before you get the Hero's Badge from him. This has been fixed on the DS version. The first scene shows Robo and his wife (or girlfriend) in front of the Leene Bell in the Future. The girl runs into Robo just like Marle runs into Crono at the start of the game. You then see them sitting together at the peak of Denadoro Mountain, similar to the "Beyond Time" ending, but without the Epoch streaking across the sky. The next scene shows Tata sitting on the throne with King Guardia & Leene standing around. Tata jumps off the throne, runs after Magus, only to find Crono, Marle, and Lucca laughing at him.

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7 The Unknown Past ("Tata and the Frog") [07]

Beat Lavos after you get the Hero Medal from Tata. During the credits, there are a number of clips of scenes with the various characters. Most are about scenes that you wouldn't see and characters you haven't met: Crono, Marle, and Lucca coming out of the closet in the monster village; Kino & Ayla chasing reptites; Magus at the cove with his three henchmen; King Guardia & Queen Leene; Frog in the Cursed Woods; and at the end Robo running across the screen.

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8 People of the Times ("The Masamune!") [08]

Beat Lavos after you get the Gate Key back in 65,000,000 BC. While the credits are rolling, various still characters are displayed singular or in groups around the credits.

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9 The Oath ("The Masamune!") [09]

Beat Lavos after the Masamune is repaired and Frog joins you. You start out at Lucca's house, where she is fixing Robo. When she complains about Crono sleeping in the corner, Marle defends him. Frog goes to leave, and Marle complains she just made some tea. Frog says he has business to attend to. During the rest of the credits you see scenes of Frog. He defeats each of Magus' fiends, and then goes after Magus himself. After the battle with Magus, you see Frog standing on top of the statue above the gate to Magus' castle.

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10 Dino Age ("Forward to the Past") [10]

Beat Lavos after you defeat Magus (Ayla will wake you up in 65M BC). The opening scene is repeated, except that Crono and his Mother are Reptites! When you go to the Millennial Fair, everyone there are reptites as well, except for the Green Jogger, who is human. After the credits, Azala is alone on the screen, and "THE END" drops on her.

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11 What the Prophet Seeks ... ("Unnatural Selection?") [11]

Beat Lavos after you defeat Azala at the Tyrano castle. During the credits, you see a scene of Frog approaching the statue of Magus in the Cathedral from 600AD. (It is the same statue in the Dream Team ending.) You also see a number of scenes with Magus, Schala, and Janus. You also see a number of drinking scenes (at a tavern and the fair.)

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12 A Slide Show? / Memory Lane ("The Magic Realm") [12]

Beat Lavos after you see Schala use her pendant to open up the door, but before you power up Marle's pendant. This will be a slide show, with comments from Lucca and Marle about all the men in the game. This ending is called "A Slide Show" for SNES and PS1 versions, and "Memory Lane" for the DS version

Make sure you don't miss this one! At the end, Crono actually talks!

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13 Dream's Epilogue After completing the Dimensional Vortex [13]

This is the new ending created for the DS version. Beat Lavos after you complete the Dimensional Vortex, and Crono, Marle, and Lucca have been powered up.

At the end of time, the bucket has an additional option "Time's Eclipse". Select this option to get this ending. You will warp to an area and meet Magus (even if Magus is in your party), who will give you the option to fight or flee. Then you will fight "Dream Devourer", who is controlling Schala.

This enemy will steal all your MP when you attack, so you want to either use physical attacks, or have somebody feeding your strongest magic caster with ethers each time. Make sure you have a good supply or recovery items, and don't be afraid to use them.

If you "win" the fight, Magus reappears and your party is blown away. Magus and Schala talk for a while, Magus is transported into a forest, and apparently loses his memory. He then sets out to find it. After the final credits roll, you see the FMV that was added for the PS1 version about the fall of Guardia and the loss of the Masamune. You then get Crono's "Dreamseeker", which has a 90% critical hit rate.

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N/A Bad Ending [bad]

I don't really call this an ending, but some people included it on early SNES lists.

If you lose any fight against Lavos (except in the Ocean Palace), you see Lavos coming out of the earth, and the command center in the future collapses.

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Variations in the Endings

You can see slight variations, depending on various things you have done in the game. Where the changes are significant, they are listed with the appropriate ending. However, certain minor variations happen across multiple endings depending on certain things you do or don't do in the game.

The start of the final battle changes slightly, depending on how you decide to fight Lavos. If you use Epoch and fly to 1999, there is a flight scene where you crash into Lavos. If you use the bucket, you first fight the Lavos Spawn shaped monster. Once you beat this monster, it stays beaten. If you leave at this point and come back later, it will just be a shell.

The endings can be slightly different, depending on if you crash into Lavos with Epoch or not. If you don't crash into Lavos, there will often be a reference to using Epoch now that the gates are gone, and you can see it streak across the sky in the background of several scenes. If you crash into Lavos with Epoch, then the characters usually ride up and away using the balloons that were used to mount Leene's Bell.

Sometimes, the endings are radically different. For example, you will see Frog or Glenn, depending on whether you killed Magus or not. If you let Magus join your party, then he will appear in the closing scenes where the characters are returning to their own time periods. Another variation depends on whether you save Lucca's mother after completing Fiona's quest. If you do, she walks during the ending, but if you don't, then she remains sitting.

Getting All the Endings [getall]

The first step to see all the endings is to complete the entire game and get the first ending. Take your time so that you can build your levels up for all the characters. (Playing an RPG is like eating at a fine restaurant; you are supposed to enjoy the experience, not see how fast you can finish.)

Once you get Ayla, try doing Charm on all the enemies. There are a number of enemies that have magic, speed, or power tabs. Many of these

will reappear if you leave and come back. That is an easy way to increase your stats.

Once you have beaten the game, you can start a "New Game Plus", which will start the game over with whatever levels, equipment, and items you ended up with (except for a few key items). This means you will be able to breeze through the game the next time around. The first ending you should be able to get during this second time through is Ending 3, the Dream Team ending. Save just before you go into the back of the Millenial Fair, then hop on the right transport. (If you don't speak to anyone, Marle will be with you; it is possible to beat Lavos with just Crono, but it will take you a lot longer and you had better fight a bit more conservative than if you have somebody else in the party.) If you have problems winning this battle, then you probably didn't level up enough. Skip that ending for now, and try for Ending 4, "The Successor of Guardia", and then work your way through the rest of the endings. When you get all the other endings, you should be much stronger. Start a new Game-Plus, and then try for the Dream Team ending again.

After you beat Lavos, restart the game, starting from where you last saved. Then continue through the game until the next ending. You should be able to get all the remaining endings during this second time through the game. If you feel lucky, beat Lavos at the Ocean Palace and get Ending 3 the second way. Once Crono is gone, and you get out of the Blackbird and Epoch, and meet with Magus, you can then beat Lavos again to get Ending 2.

If you want to be able to see any of the endings whenever you want, you will have to set aside an entire memory card. (This doesn't work with the DS, which has only 3 save slots, but it will work with either SNES or Playstation.) There are 12 endings, each one would require one block. You also need one for the System File. There is room for 15 blocks on a memory card, which means you only have two blocks to work with for saving during the game. One of those you probably want to use just before you meet Magus at the Northern Cape. This will let you recruit or kill Magus and then go for whatever ending you want to see.

The endings are slightly different if you fight Magus or if you let him join you, so you probably want to save just before you meet him to see all the variations. Another variation depends on whether you save Lucca's mother, so you might want to save Fiona's side quest until the end, so you can see the two endings without having to redo too much of the game. So, that's endings 1 through 12 in slots 1 through 12, the save before beating Magus in slot 13, and a save before Fiona's quest in 14 (where Magus has joined you). Finally, the system file goes into slot 15. Now you can see any ending you want within a half hour by selecting the save just before the ending you want to see. After you see the ending, you can load from a different save slot to see a different ending.

Unfortunately, since the DS version only has three save areas, you can't do the above. In that case, I would suggest that you save at the very start of the game (or when you are ready to see Lucca at the back area of the fair), and just before you meet Magus and decide to fight or let him join. You can then use the third area to save your progress as you play. This means it might take you a little longer to see the ending you want, but at this point you should be strong enough to get to the desired ending quickly. Don't bother doing any side quests, and you probably don't care about opening any chests, which can save you some time. Also, remember that you can often avoid battles. Walk around the enemies to avoid fights. That will save considerable time.

How to Beat Lavos [beat]

There are plenty of ways to beat Lavos. You should experiment with the characters you have and how hard they hit with their double combos. Much depends on the stats of your characters. Everytime I get a Magic Tab, I usually feed it to Lucca. She is the best offensive magic user; her Flare is very powerful. Marle, on the other hand, is pretty useless, IMHO. Her cure spells don't really do that well, and they are mostly single spells. Frog and Robo, on the other hand, have better multiple character cures.

The best combination depends on the levels of the characters, as well as your own personal fighting style. I usually have all my characters maxed out, equipped with items that prevent status ailments, and a Gold Stud to reduce MP use. I tend to cast powerful spells that damage all enemies, like Luminaire and Frog Flare. I have found that my best team is Lucca and Frog, who can do Frog Flare, and then Robo, who can either do Uzzi Punch or Heal Beam, depending on everybody's status. Before you send me an e-mail telling me of a "better" combination, remember that your best team might vary, depending on your fighting style and the level of your characters. Eventually, you should be able to beat Lavos with just about any combination of characters.

Approach 1 - Target the Center Bit

Start by doing your strongest spells that attack all the enemies. Your goal, of course, it to finish off the right bit. However, as long as all the characters are alive, the right bit has high defense. As soon as one of the other bits is killed off, concentrate on the right bit with your hardest attacks. Usually, those are single enemy attacks, but can be multiple instead. For me, Frog Flare was stronger than any single spell, so I tended to use that all the time. The third character healed when necessary, and attacked otherwise. You can safely ignore the left bit using this approach (but check out the alternative approach below).

When the center character is gone, concentrate all your efforts in doing as much damage as possible to the right bit. After the center character is resurrected, you still have a couple of turns to beat up the right bit before the defense gets restored. Take adavantage of every chance you get. Even if some of your characters are somewhat low, keep hitting the right bit. If needed, use a MegaElixer to restore everybody's HP and MP at the same time. Remember, you have saved your game before you started, and you will restart the game using that save. That means no matter how many items you use to beat Lavos, they will all be there when you restart the game. (This is even true for the DS version - you will save over the previous save area, but that doesn't affect the items - only the completion log.)

Approach 2 - Concentrate on the Left Bit

An alternate approach is to take out the left bit instead of the center character. The left bit absorbs elemental attacks, so that means you want to use physical attacks on the left bit, like Ayla's Drill Kick, Crono's Frenzy, Robo's Uzi-Punch, etc. Taking out the left bit also

causes the defense of the right bit to go down. As soon as the left bit is gone, you can use strong magic spells (including those that hit all enemies) or use physical attacks on the right bit. Experiment with various approaches and see what kinds of attacks work best for you.

Comparing the Two Approaches

The advantage of taking out the left bit is that you aren't hit with the X-Strike counter attack after each attack when the center character is gone. (If you do a combo, only one character will be attacked.) The disadvantage is that the center character can still cause some serious damage, even when the left bit is gone. Experiment with the two approaches and see which one best fits your fighting style.

To repeat, there are many ways to beat Lavos. One of the great things about this game is that you can create many different combinations for your battle party. Even with the same characters, you can use different combo attacks to change the nature of the battles. The approach that works best for you and the one that works best for me can be totally different.

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Thanks [tnx]

The following people have helped with suggestions, finding typos, asking questions, etc. This list covers everyone that helped on this list since 1995. I list their real names if they used them (in the early days of the Internet, people usually used their real names), otherwise the user name (but not their e-mail address.)

- * Jason Pool
- * Nicholas Yarymowich
- * Derek Kisman
- * Garland
- * tchao251
- * James Wenzel
- * Lindsay Cibos
- * Shelby Hepner
- * demian
- * DR.Nick
- * DR DAVID E BROWN
- * Stephen C. Tang
- * Eric Steffens
- * The Wizard Glenlin
- * Mark S. Baumgartner
- * Jeffrey R. Hand
- * David Syas
- * CELLOPLAYER93359
- * Drake Gannon
- * k43nick
- * Glen G.
- * Charlie Bolin
- * Sam B
- * Matthew Ust
- * Bluedragon094
- * Ian Browning
- * Jacob Jones

- * GildardoTrejo
- * HA|E Nightmare
- * jaime guerrero
- * Fred Dobson
- * Tyson Hopkins
- * Shinkada Renzetsuken
- * Josh Logan
- * 9stairstarnes
- * Kcaz
- * Matthew Dalili
- * Robert Brisco
- * Pain
- * EricTwitch
- * G H

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Version History [version]

2.10 Mar 1, 2009

Corrected section about save areas on a memory card.

2.9 January 5, 2009

Changes to ending #6 and cat food.

2.8 December 28, 2008

Added section discussing variations to endings depending on game play. Reorganized the page, including adding subsections to the ways to defeat Lavos.

2.7 December 23, 2008

Added differences between the versions.

Added alternative method to beat Lavos.

2.6 December 18, 2008

Added details for the new ending.

Minor tweaks.

2.5 December 14, 2008

Added Nintendo DS changes.

Minor tweaks

2.4 Jul 26, 2007

Fix HTML problems

Minor tweaks

2.3 Jul 2007

Started tracking change history Corrected Crono's name

Added search tags for text file

Added thanks section going back to the 1990s

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