



# Japanese Dating Sim Games

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What is a dating sim?

# What is a dating sim?

Cast of  
cute girls



Tokimeki Memorial (1994)



# What is a dating sim?

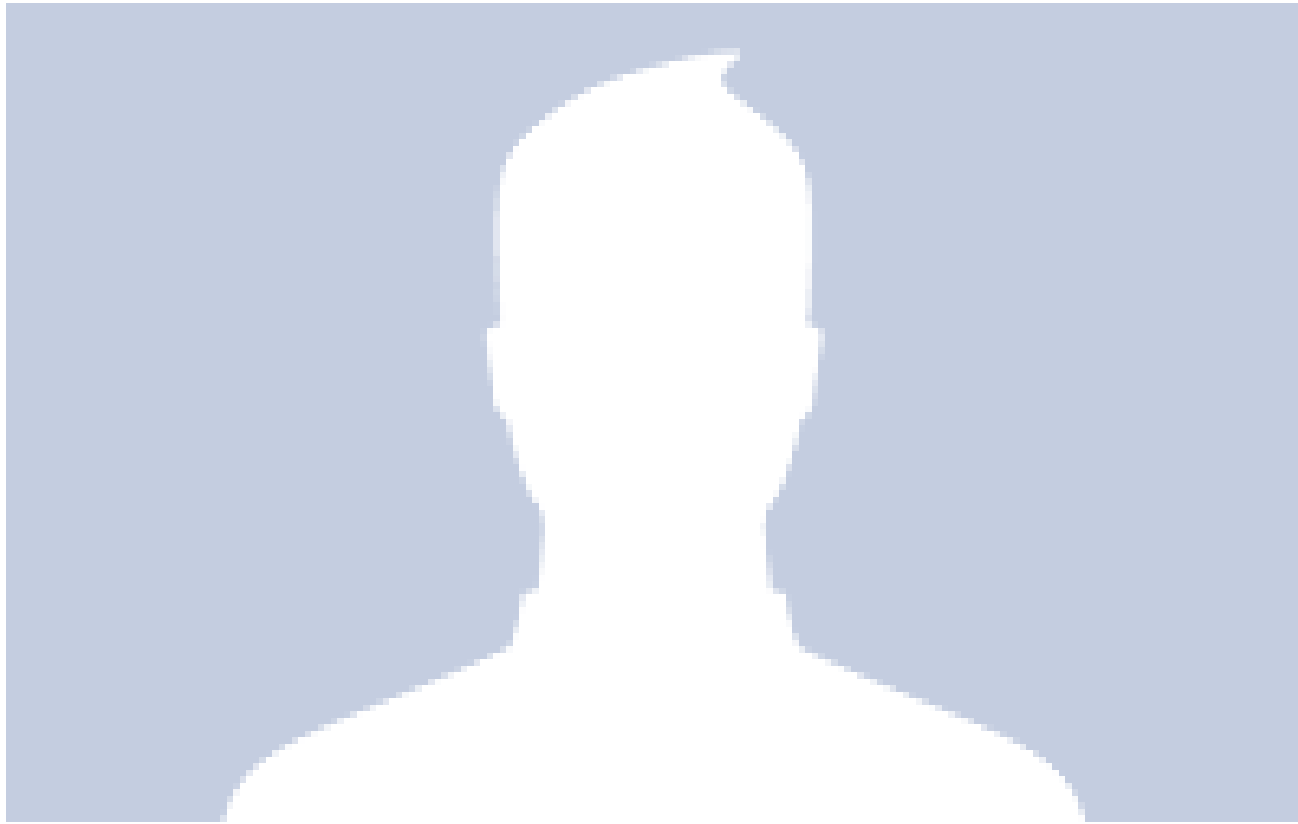


Or a cast  
of cute  
boys

Tokimeki Memorial Girl's Side (2002)

# What is a dating sim?

And you



# Goal

Get boys/girls to fall in love with you(r character)

# Story

Most common is high school-based

Other settings exist



# Gameplay: Stats



Improving stats in Princess Maker 4 (2006)



# Gameplay: Dates



Adventure Mode of  
Sakura Taisen (1996)

Going on a date in Tokimeki  
Memorial Girl's Side



# Gameplay: Mini-games

Pillow fight: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxcgPeAU5ps>

Bread eating

I don't have a picture of the ridiculously hard chocolate making mini-game :(



# Winning

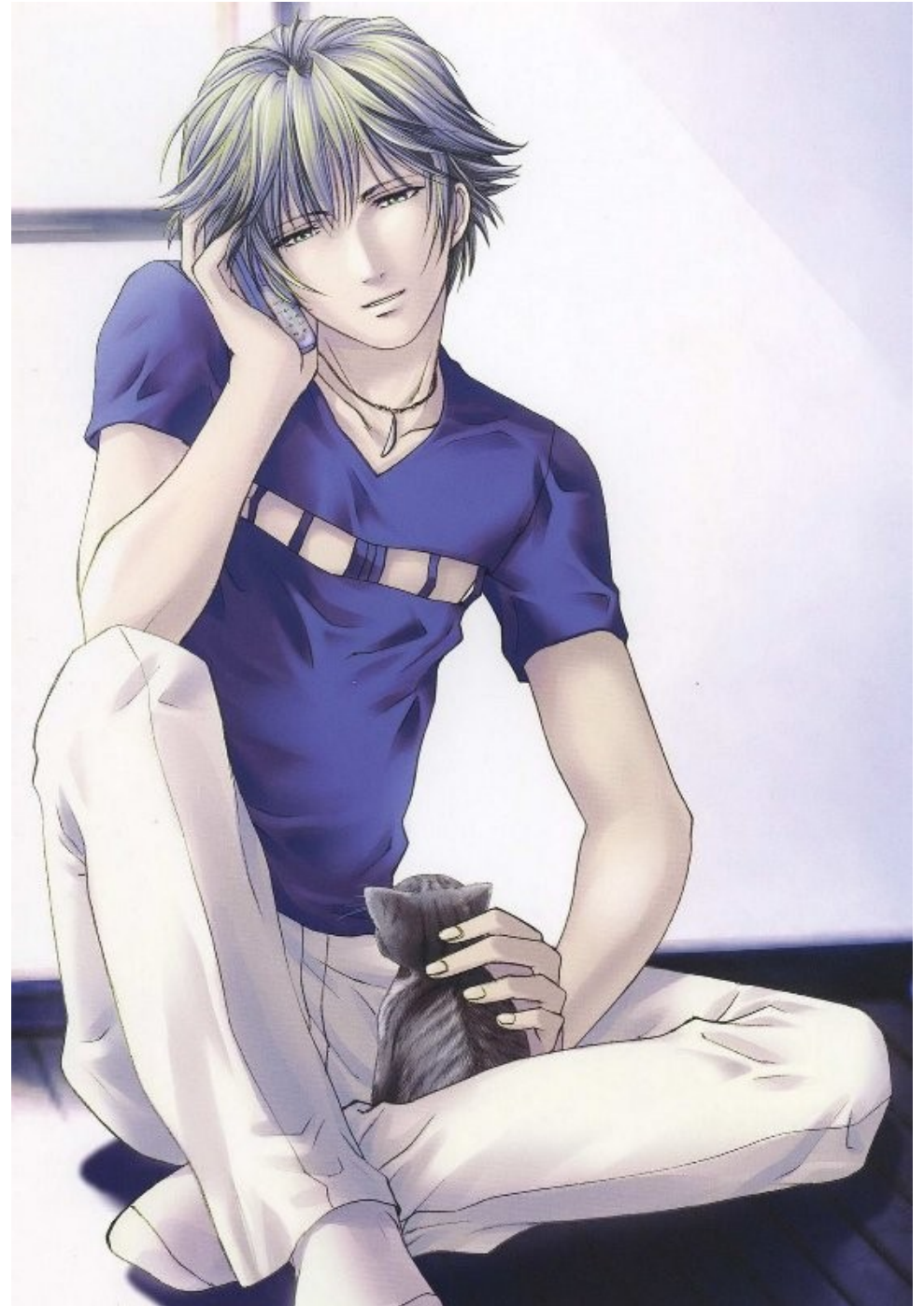
Confession of love



# Winning

Fill your gallery with  
CGs

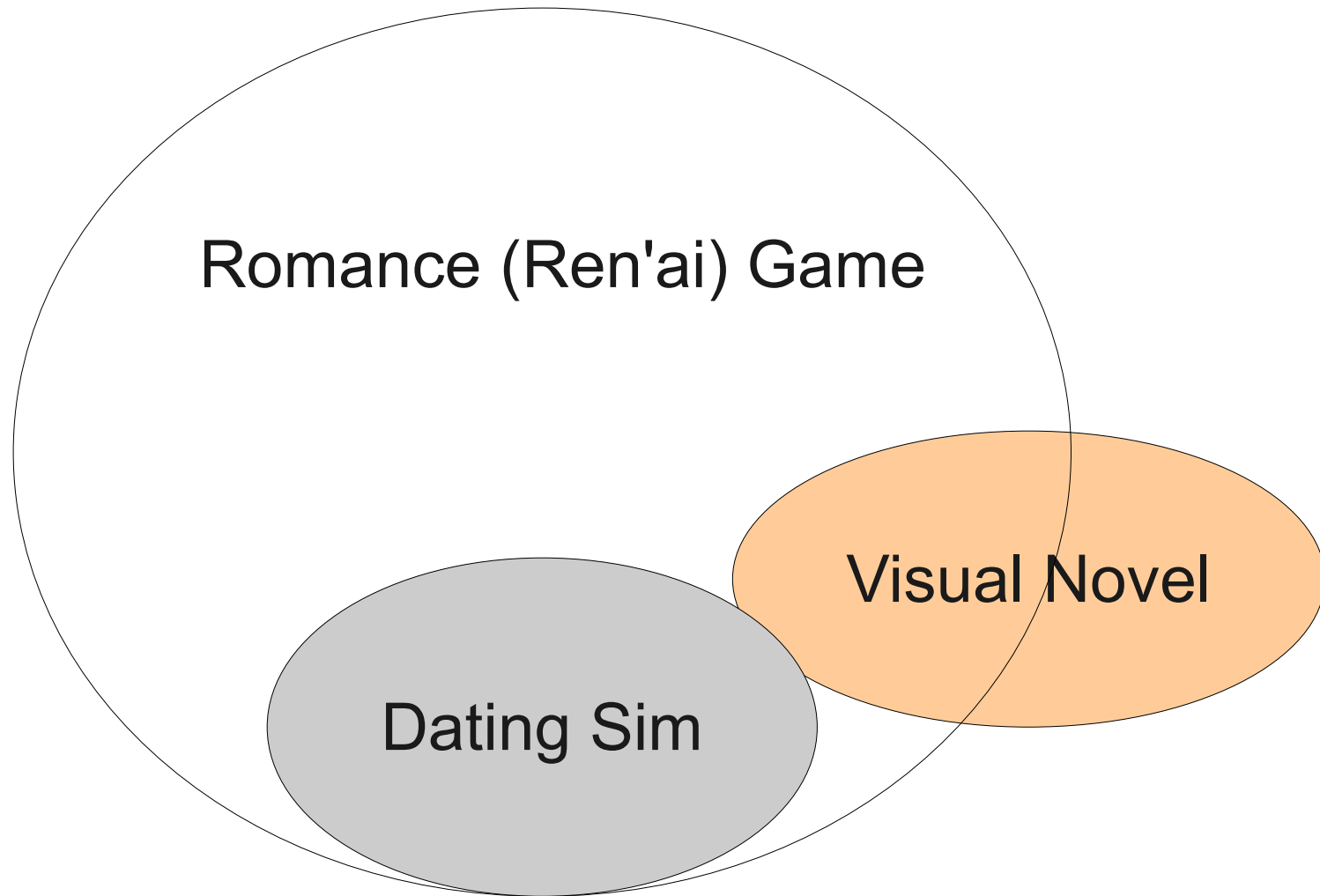
Like WoW  
achievements







# Dating Sims v. Visual Novels



Not to scale

# Visual Novels

- Often dramatic
- May or may not have romantic components
- Choose your own adventure style

# Romance Games

- Still have relationships
- Less focus on stats and dates
- Eg. Harvest Moon (1996) has some romance elements
- Can be combine with just about any genre





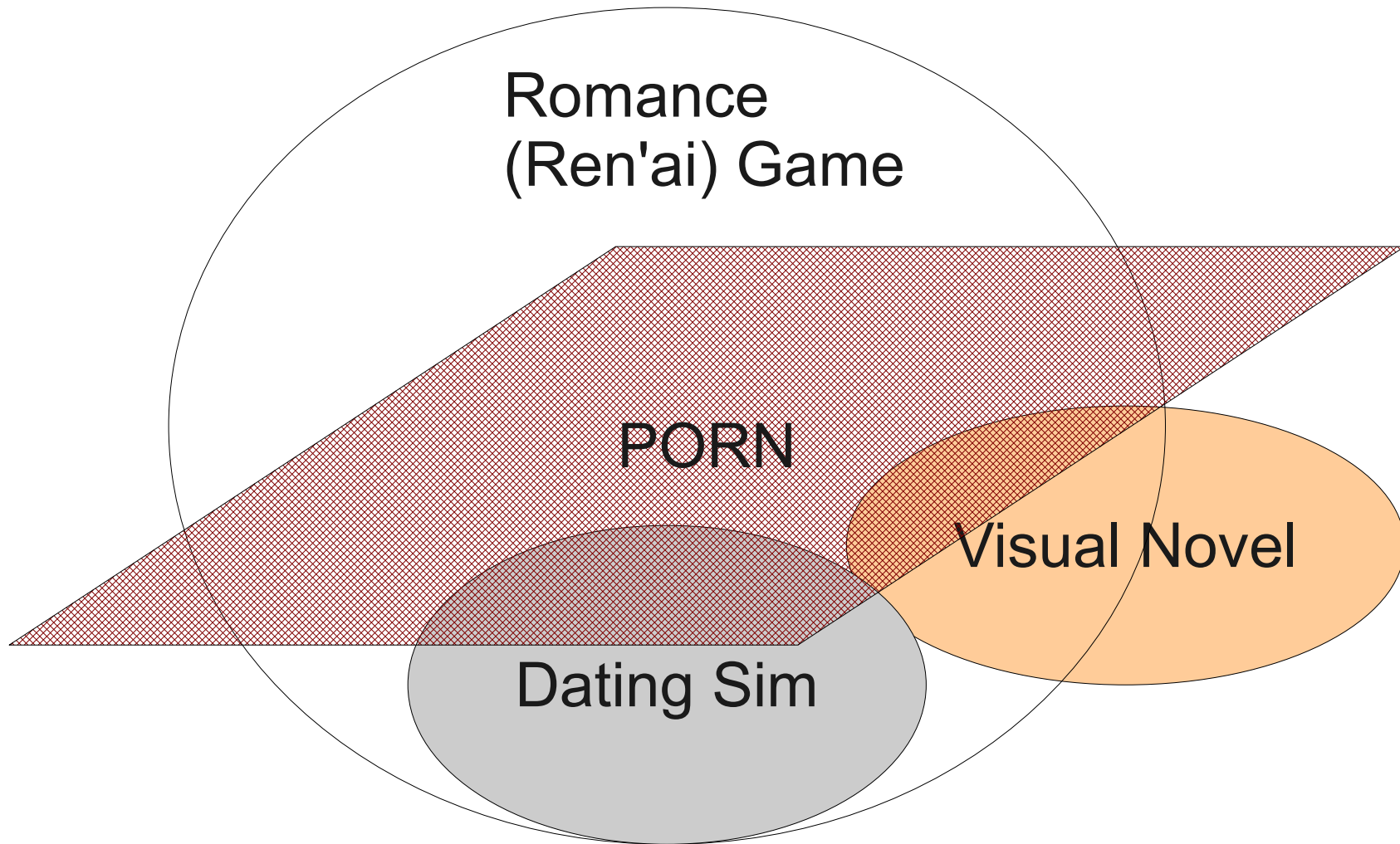
# The Harem Effect

- Dating sim games have influenced non-dating sim games and anime
- Many games/shows have unbalanced gender ratios



Tenchi Muyo (1992)

# Porn Games



Not to scale

# Porn Games

- Porn games exist for just about any kink
- Many but not all of them are also dating sims or visual novels
- Like romance games, can be combine with just about any genre



Duel Savior (2004)  
An 18+ 2D fighter game

# END

- Questions?