

Simon: Hello, is there anyone you're concerned about?

Simon: Yes, I've noticed a middle aged character in a video game called 'Luigi' who keeps running around like an excited child. When he gets seriously injured, he immediately gets up, pulls a funny face and continues running whilst pulling more funny faces. It's not normal, is it?

Simon: What do you think his medical diagnosis is?

Simon: You're right, he must have at least something wrong with him. Bipolar mixed with psychopathy?

Simon: Interesting, interesting. I get what you mean by calling him a psychopath if injuries mean so little to him, but it could be because he's so manic and pumped full of adrenaline he doesn't feel pain...

Simon: Wow. Poor guy.

Simon: Right, imagine what the comedown must be like...

Simon: It's a less lighthearted game, but Luigi could be bedridden whilst screaming at the walls...

Simon: Try selling that to children...

Simon: It's the music that plays in the background which is really strange, it's really cheerful like children's music. It's not what Luigi listens to, is it? If so, you get the impression he's really mad.

Simon: It does sound like a psychiatrist needs to interview him.

Simon: Yes, before he stars in the darkest Super Mario games you can imagine. I've also been thinking about Larry. There's a phrase 'as happy as Larry' which sounds good, but what if Larry is sad? Are people named Larry happy constantly? It would be weird, right? If not though, an excellent thing to call your child.

Simon: I really think people should say 'I'm as happy as Larry. Sadly however, Larry is depressed.' It gives you a more accurate view of people called Larry.

Simon: Exactly. Also, if people do think Larrys are always happy because of the phrase, it could encourage neglectful parenting. I mean if Larry is always happy, why bother doing anything for him? Then Larry ends up with severe mental problems and has to be hospitalised with Luigi.

Simon: Two once inspiring people ruined, and for what?

Simon: Overwork and too much pressure trying to fit in with society's expectations, I guess.

Simon: Is there anything less dark you'd like to talk about?

Simon: At first I genuinely read 'West Mercia' and 'West Merica'. Needless to say, that surprised me coming from a serious news site.

Simon: It is a funny image if a so called 'sensible' news reporter says something like 'Donald Trump has been made president of the United States, once again... 'Merica!

Simon: Right, what if all news reporters start speaking like that?

Simon: 'A new burger franchise has opened in 'Merica!', 'Guess who the richest country in the world is... 'Merica!' It would be a bit much...

Simon: ... and saying 'West 'Merica!' isn't any better.

Simon: Right, that being Arizona, Colorado, etc.

Simon: Yep.

Simon: Any thoughts on American bands?

Simon: I've been listening to a live Blue Oyster Cult album and on it someone goes 'It's Blue Oyster Cult!' or whatever, and I THINK the only time that gets said on the album is immediately before a cover song.

Simon: 'Merica has been deliberately confusing people...

Simon: I know! Imagine Metallica ending a concert by saying 'It's Metallica!' for the first time and then playing a cover version of the Spice Girls song 'Spice Up Your Life'. People would be like '... I never knew Metallica wrote that...'

Simon: But you're not sure if it's the only time BOC said that on the album?

Simon: I think it is, but I'd have to listen to the album from start to finish and you know me, I don't like research.

Simon: I hate to say this but if you say some of this stuff, you really do need to do some research.

Simon: What do you mean?

Simon: I'm just saying, your theories on Luigi are actually pretty wild. I should have told you sooner.

Simon: And what do you mean by that?

Simon: Luigi isn't real, Simon. He's more of a cartoon character.

Simon: No...

Simon: It's true. He's not a troubled lunatic as you previously suggested, I mean how

could he be when he's a sprite you very easily control with a video game controller?

Simon: The graphics are pretty good...

Simon: And that makes him real?

Simon: He could be based on a real crazy person at least...

Simon: Luigi the nutter who can't feel pain and listens to children's music?

Simon: There you go!

Simon: Fine, that might have happened.

Simon: Thank you!

Simon: But you shouldn't be quite so certain, that's all.

Simon: Ok.

Simon: I've noticed your reviews on Metal-Rules haven't been posted yet...

Simon: I know. I could remind one of the staff members to post them but I don't like doing that as I sound like a selfish child. I mean how do you say 'You haven't posted my reviews yet?' in a way that sounds sensible, it can't be done. What's really annoying though is I've done over 250 reviews for the site and I don't get credit for any of them, I'm simply called 'Metal Rules staff'! I could take the power back and list all the albums I've reviewed here, but then I thought 'Oh what would be the point?'

Simon: I'm so sorry.

Simon: I'm not sounding childish here, am I?

Simon: Personally I'd say that's the least of your problems.

Simon: Ok, ok, I thought Luigi was real. Get over it.

Simon: Just checking but you don't scream at walls do you?

Simon: Nope. I'm wondering what happens in manic episodes, do people sing at the walls? If so, that sounds bad as well.

Simon: It's a cruel condition.

Simon: Yeah, singing at the walls really isn't something to look forward to when you're depressed. Unless you're a pro singer maybe...

Simon: Before you say Blue Oyster Cult sing at the walls, I want you to think very deeply.

Simon: I'm not calling them insane, I'm just saying you have to practice somehow...

Simon: Ok, that's not so bad.

Simon: Maybe I should end the interview before I do say something foolish?

Simon: Such as?

Simon: Blue Oyster Cult are mental.

Simon: Bye.