

WoWinSchool Project: LiveTweeting of the pre-Cataclysm In-World Events

In this project, students assumed the role of a chosen NPC in the World of Warcraft virtual world. In the weeks leading up to the launch of Blizzard Entertainment's 3rd expansion of the game, the game developers began making changes to the game world that gave foreboding hints of the coming *Cataclysm* (the expansion's title). In this story thread, a very powerful and corrupt dragon, Deathwing, had been imprisoned deep within the planet. However, while imprisoned, he's grown more powerful and has a devoted cult following him. This plot culminates in an event known as "The Shattering" in which Deathwing breaks forth, with cataclysmic results, from his prison and begins attacking the surface dwellers of Azeroth.

Context is provided in some cases as you read this series of messages:



[KingVarian](#): Whoa. Did anyone else feel that? [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 8, 2010 4:08:24 PM

(One of the early developments added to the game was the occurrence of frequent earthquakes about the world. Varian Wrynn is the king of the human race in the capital city of Stormwind.)



[Erunak_S](#): Look at all the people leaving stormwind the land of the treacherous I will stay here for the worst. [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:53:01 PM

(Erunak Stonespeaker is a powerful shaman, attuned to the elements. He has met with a council in Stormwind to discuss these strange occurrences about the world.)



[CaptAnton](#): Why is the ground shaking? Why are people running out of town? Why are people going crazy? [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:52:18 PM



[Doomsday_Elf](#): The world will end, join us or die! [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:50:16 PM



[Soaring_Thor](#): Do you want to be prepared for the end of the world? [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:49:17 PM



[TheHighTinker](#): The earthquakes are horrible as well. They continually happen, and kill off some. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:49:05 PM



[Kiras_Breads2Go](#): Bread and drink for sale! Get ready for the end of the World![#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:48:54 PM



[LilCatKid](#): The ground shaking? These earthquakes are getting more frequent. Are the stories about the end of the world true? [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:48:38 PM



[KingOfDwarves](#): We need to discover what is causing all of the earthquakes.[#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 9, 2010 1:47:12 PM

(Magni Bronzebeard is the king of the Dwarven race who make their home in the mountain city of Ironforge.)



[ChieftanChoGall](#): ... The cat food is Stormwinds defenses and the cat is Deathwing [#wowinschool](#)



yfrog.com

Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:53:03 PM



[GryphonMaster](#): Yea stocking up on bread is a good idea. [#wowinschool@Kiras_Breads2Go](#)

Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:48:38 PM

(On November 16th we introduced the concept of the “mention” or “reply” in Twitter. You’ll notice these in student posts.)



[KingVarian](#): Bronzebeard([@KingOfDwarves](#)) we need to meet, and talk about the cataclysmic events that have been happening. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:47:07 PM



[CaptAnton](#): Attention citizens in Stormwind, I'm trying to help the guard to to uncover the problems in the city. [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:45:10 PM



[LilCatKid](#): [@Doomsday_Elf](#) Hey how can i join your cult ? [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:45:00 PM



[Kiras_Breads2Go](#): [@GryphonMaster](#) would you like to buy bread for your gryphons?[#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:44:11 PM



[SMSPrincipal](#): Sell all your sarontie, the end is near :) [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:42:13 PM



[TheHighTinker](#): [@Erunak_S](#) Then stop wasting your breath! They will believe when they are all dead! [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:42:03 PM



[Doomsday_Elf](#): [@CheiftanChoGall](#) I will see to it that your servants get back to working. [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:41:39 PM



[GryphonMaster](#): My gryphons are acting weird; something is happening.[#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:32:00 PM



[ChieftanChoGall](#): My supporters are slacking off. Master Deathwing ([@DWTheDestroyer](#)) will not be pleased. [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:28:34 PM



[StormwindGuard](#): I am sick of these cultists summoning elementals around Stormwind . [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:28:22 PM



[KingOfDwarves](#): My people, do not listen to the lies that the cultists are spreading. The world is NOT coming to an end. [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:27:35 PM



[Soaring_Thor](#): Stormwind is under attack, let's fly south! [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:22:29 PM



[KingVarian](#): What is going on? Where are all these elementals coming from?[#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 16, 2010 1:20:15 PM



[KingOfDwarves](#): Residents of Stormwind, please do not leave your homes. There is a great battle being fought in the streets. [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 18, 2010 2:47:14 PM



[ChieftanChoGall](#): Master Deathwing will be will soon be release. Then this puny world will be destroyed.[#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 18, 2010 2:40:07 PM



[DWTheDestroyer](#): The time of my rein is close! BEWARE PEASANTS, YOU MIGHT WANT TO LISTEN TO THE CULTISTS! [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 18, 2010 2:33:10 PM

(This is Deathwing himself, speaking)



[Doomsday_Elf](#): There are earthquakes happening all the time., if you join our cult you will live! [#wowinschool](#)
Twitter - Nov 18, 2010 2:31:39 PM



[ChieftanChoGall](#): Muahahahahahahaha! The time is almost here. Soon, Azeroth will be destroyed. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 19, 2010 2:50:27 PM



[KingOfDwarves](#): The elementals are attacking, we need help from brave warriors to help defend Stormwind. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 19, 2010 2:44:31 PM



[Soaring_Thor](#): I am selling gryphon rides to go to a better place, so you can not be killed. The rides are 400 gold. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - [Nov 19, 2010 2:20:01 PM](#)



[Doomsday_Elf](#): My master's elementals will soon wreak havoc on the cities of Azeroth! [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 19, 2010 1:27:40 PM



[TheHighTinker](#): The elementals are swirling in waves. They show without warning, killing anyone in their way. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 19, 2010 1:27:10 PM



[KingOfDwarves](#): The Dragon, Deathwing, has just destroyed the dam! We need to get everyone out of the city before they are washed away. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 2:38:12 PM

(By the 23rd we had avatar pics associated with most of the students' accounts. The following tweets take place after "The Shattering" in which Deathwing has broken through to the surface (See the cinematic here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wq4Y7ztznKc>)



[TheHighTinker](#): Deathwing is on the Stormwind towers, spitting fire. Everything in sight is bursting into flames. The Shake-a-ton is no use now. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 2:34:45 PM



[DWTheDestroyer](#): Finally out of that wretched ground. I breath my first real breath, and make my first kill, and spit fire at Stormwind. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - [Nov 23, 2010 2:30:19 PM](#)



[Kiras_Breads2Go](#): Happy Thanksgiving! We are offering only 10 copper for 2 loafs of bread and 1 drink on count of the worlds end.[#wowinschool](#).

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 1:17:01 PM

(It was about this same time that the Pilgrim's Bounty in-world holiday began (coincides with Thanksgiving).)



[Major_Mattingly](#): Due to the elemental activity , guards will work an extra shift this week. Happy Pilgrim day !!! [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 1:15:15 PM



[StormwindGuard](#): Finally, a break. Thank the Titans that The Pilgrims Bounty day is here. Lets hope the Elementals don't disturb me[#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 1:05:42 PM

(The "Titans" are the beings thought to have created the world of Azeroth.)



[Soaring_Thor](#): Lets fly south, so we can not be roast turkey on this Pilgrim's Bounty [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 1:03:14 PM



[ChieftanChoGall](#): Pilgrims bounty is a fools holiday. Master DeathWing will burn this world like a ruined holiday turkey.[#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 12:58:29 PM



[Doomsday_Elf](#): Work hard, and master ChoGall may let you take the day off for Thanksgiving. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Nov 23, 2010 12:57:44 PM



[DWTheDestroyer](#): Hope all you want, newbs. I am Deathwing, and I will rock your world to its core! If you try to defy me, you will see my inside![#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:54:49 PM



[KingVarian](#): The citizens of Stormwind will rebuild the city. We will all come together and take this threat head on. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:46:18 PM



[Soaring_Thor](#): Everything is being fixed again. My gryphons were ready for you! Why?! [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:25:55 PM



[StormwindGuard](#): Well, my helmet is melted and my hair is gone but at least Deathwing didn't destroy me completely. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:19:28 PM



[Kiras_Breads2Go](#): Now that Cataclysm is over our world is at peace TOAST FOR SALE![#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:17:30 PM



[TheHighTinker](#): My Shake-a-Ton is not yet perfected. The beast flies over, destroying all. Perhaps I could make a device that could stop it...[#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:15:12 PM



[CaptAnton](#): People in Stormwind we have just been attacked by the beast Deathwing. He hit the front towers.[#WOWINSCHOOL](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:15:04 PM



[Erunak_S](#): Akama please help me protect these people from the vial beast known as Deathwing. [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:10:32 PM



[Doomsday_Elf](#): Master ChoGall has deserted us and saved his own life. If you want to live, run, hide, and pray he will not find you! [#wowinschool](#)

Twitter - Dec 2, 2010 2:00:17 PM