

The Legend of Dragoon FAQ/Walkthrough

by triemblem

Updated to v1.0 on May 20, 2001

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C O M P L E T E

ACII made and Copyright
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Update Log:

Next update: Bestiary fixes.

May 20th, 2001 -

Well, I start yet another FAQ. Here goes nothing!
Wait, I just had an epiphany, I should turn on CAPS!
Ouch, huh? Jeez ...

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i. introduction to the l.o.d demo

Well, 'Legend of Dragoon', The' is is Sony's first attempt at a Role Playing Game. Good idea or bad? Well, that's up to you. The game a unique battle system and is a great breather from the 'Final Fantasy's, and it's clones. Considering you should be starting the demo now, I'll let you go and get at it. Have fun.

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ii. controls

The controls for Legend of Dragoon are nothing new from typical RPGs, so you shouldn't need this section too much. But if you get lost in the middle of the demo, look back here.

- Directional Pad - Move Menu Cursor
Move Dart on Screen
- Circle Button - Cancels Menu Selections
Dash
Counter the Counter Strike
- Triangle Button - Displays Menu Screen
- Square Button - Not Used
- X Button - Select Menu Items
Talk
Addition Strike
Open Chest
- L1 - Rotate Area Screen Left
Switch Icon Display
- R1 - Rotate Area Screen Left
Switch Icon Display
- L2 - Switch Screen
- R2- - Switch Screen

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iii. navigation

Alright, Legend of Dragoon is taking off where Final Fantasy left off. You have a little arrow floating above your head to show where you are, and more arrows to show where you can progress onto the next screen. But Sony thought of a clever innovation. Due to the arrow, you can now tell when you are going to engage in the next battle. The arrow degrades from green, to yellow, to red as the next battle grows near. A great feature, though the battles do seem a little too common and systematic. You shouldn't have much trouble. If you have to find something, try another arrow.

The menu system for Legend of Dragoon is not a difficult one. There are a total of seven items on the list:

- Status - The status of your characters.
- Item - Use, toss, list, or view your items.
- Armed - Equipd the weapons and armors you have picked up on the way.
- Addition - Select the addition you will use in battle.
- Replace - Replace a party member with another.
- Config - Game configuration.
- Save - Save

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iv. battle

Attack and Additions-

Alright, this is where things get interesting. It actually doesn't resemble anything like Final Fantasy's battle system. It resembles Super Mario RPGs, another Squaresoft title. Ah, heck. Oh well, I have a question for you. Do you have good timing? If not, you're not going to like the battle system at all. Each battle's victory or loss depends on it.

These timing-strikes are called, 'Additions'. In order to pull them off, you are required to press the 'X' button as the outer squares moves over the center one. A bit confusing? Let me draw a diagram. ... I change my mind. I can't possibly make a decent diagram out of ACII. So, I'll just make point notes for you.

- two squares, one big, one small.
- big one getting smaller, small one sits in center
- big one almost overlapping small one, finger is poised to jab
- big one is right on top of the small one, the button better have been pressed

Now, the center-square will flash a different color according on how your timing was. Gray, was too fast. Blue, was too slow. White, means just right. Finish a succession of them in a row, and you will complete the 'Addition'. They DO cause more damage, so the tedious prodding at the controller is worth it.

You can strike the enemy without timing, but keep a few things in mind.

- the damage will be minute, always.
- the damage will be really, really small.
- there are no additions, so the damage will be puny.

A tip for you when timing your strikes:

Always watch the center square, not the outer one. When the outer square is in a proximity of a few millimeters of the center, tap the X button. You should pull it off, just don't let your eyes blur! Relax them, don't concentrate too hard or else you will mess it up.

Tired of the same old Double Slash? Gain a few levels, and you will learn new additions. Just remember to equip them. Also remember, when you use additions, you gain skill in them. Use them enough, and they will become stronger. Don't leap into a boss battle with an addition you have never tried though, you may find it too difficult, or it may not fit your taste. Always practice with it first. You don't eat a poop expecting it to taste like ice cream. So don't jump into battle with a new addition expecting it to be the best in the world. Make sense?

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Items -

Okay, well this is simple. You can find items in chests, and you can buy them from stores. Then with this command, you can use them in battle to aid you or hurt foes. Matters on the item.

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Enemy Counter-Strikes -

This is a nice little feature that is hated, yet appreciated. It adds depth to the battle, instead of the typical turn based attack, attack back, attack, attack back. Now the foes can counter-strike while you are baraging them. To avoid the retaliation, you need to use timing in a similar fasion as you did additions.

When an enemy is about to counter-attack, the square will turn red. At that time, don't freak out and mash on the buttons. Just shift your finger over to the Circle Button, and press that instead.

Failure to do this will result in getting thrown back, ending your assault. Success will deal additional damage to the enemy.

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Defend -

Okay, now this is a vital command. Sorta. Legend of Dragoon's defend system is what every player would have wanted in a Final Fantasy. When you defend: you lower the damage you take, you defend yourself against all status ailments, and you recover a small ammount of HP! Utilize this well, and you will succeed in battles that seemed impossible.

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Retreat -

Well this is simple, you run. That's it. You either fail, and the next person's turn is up, or you succeed, and you leave the battle field.

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Dragoon -

Consider this Legend of Dragoon's 'Limit Break' system. To perform this move, you require striking the enemy enough times so that you gain 'SP'. When enough SP is aquired, you can morph into the fabled Dragoons. From there, you have two options: D-Attack and Magic. When you transform, you lose the ability to flee, use items, and defend. Be careful.

D-Attack is another addition system, but replacing the squares is a wheel gauge. At the top of it is a shining emblem of some sort. As soon as you press the 'X' button, or three seconds elapse, the spark will begin to circulate the wheel at a rapid pace. You're going to need to tap the X button each time it arrives at the top in order to succeed in Dragoon Additions. Do it well enough, and you will be awarded with a "Perfect!!" and increase damage.

Magic, works the same as it would in other RPGs. You need MP to draw upon to use it, and the spells are there to aid you or damage your foes. But in this case, you have to be a Dragoon to perform it. To gain more spells, gain more SP through the course of several battles. After enough is gained, you will acheive a new spells. Who knows what Sony is using to rival Squaresoft's flagship title.

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v. characters

Dart - Well, the main character of the story. Apparently he has lost his family to a beast called the 'Black Monster'. He travels the world in search for it, and in search for vengeance. He resembles 'Vahn' (of Legend of Lagaia) a great deal, by means of in-game stats, build, armor, and hair.

Race	: Caucasian	Hair	: Brown
Height:	Average	Eyes	: Blue
Build	: Average	Weapon:	Sword
Age	: Young Adult		

Lavitz - The captain of the Knights of the Duchy of Basil, the reason for his joining Dart is purely for survival means. Although prideful and well-postured, a kind heart lies within his large exterior. Resembles 'Gala' (of Legend of Lagaia) a great deal, by means of in-game stats, personality, appearance, and build.

Race	: Caucasian	Hair	: Blonde
Height:	Tall	Eyes	: Brown
Build	: Large	Weapon:	Pike
Age	: Middle Aged		

Shana - A childhood freind of Dart's who doesn't seem to have grown up as he has. Naive, yet caring, she is a decent distance character in your group. She resembles 'Noa' (of Legend of

the river, and find yourself a nice little "Angel's Prayer" for your work.

Continue down the new path to find a woe-stricken family, read through some of the dialogue, and continue on your way. Now, you're on the very-linear world map. Yech, at any rate, continue until you are at the Limestone Cave. ... enter.

Starting about now, save your SP for Dart and Lavitz so the boss of the cave will be even simpler. Shana regains her SP fast enough that it won't matter squat if you expend it at whatever rate you choose.

Okay, before you head in, make sure you pick up the 'Detonate Rock' to the left. Go ahead and delve into the depths of the cave. There is something of a mini-slide as soon as you enter. Take the path that looks as if it is a minute river, and Dart will skid about on his butt to land right in front of a chest that holds '20 Gold'. Now, scale the path once more and ride down the slide once more. But this time, hold up on the D-Pad so that you take another path, and down on the next fork. You want to plop down in front of another treasure chest that contains a 'Bastard Sword'. A very important item in this demo, anything that hit's hard is a good thing, sort of.

Before you, lay a series of stepping stones that give you access to land across another river. After a warning from Dart, hop across. Don't forget to pick up the 'Total Vanishing' and the 'Body Purifier'. Now for a little bit of fun. Don't like Shana? Jump onto a rock she's on and the two go wobbling all over the place. No real purpose, it's just there. So, hop onto the opposite land mass of your starting ground, and Lavitz will go and stumble. Saved by Dart, Lavitz expresses his appreciation profusely. Continue on.

Another fork, joy. Take the upper road to find a squeaky rat, and a couple of treasure chests. One that contains '100 Gold', is accessible but the other where the rat stands is not, so go get it later. Head back to the main fork.

Ah, see that swarm of lights? Approach it, and 'talk' to it. You will hear an explanation that they are rock fireflies, and that they heal you. After that, you have two treasures to snatch up for your collection. An 'Angel's Prayer', and a 'Burn Out'. To access the 'Burn Out', you need to hop on the rocks north of the 'Angel's Prayer'. Go to the next cavern now.

Right away, you will find a 'Charm Potion' on the platform above you. Just climb up the stairs and you will be able to get it. Before you go east, head all the way north. You will be able to get the treasure chest the squeaky rat is guarding, it's a 'Spark Net'. Catch the rat, and he will drop a treasure chest, it's a 'Poison Guard'. Good, now you have all the treasures, head back to the previous cavern.

Okay, this is it. The boss' chamber, a giant snake. Okay, make sure you don't miss the treasure chests. They hold a 'Body Purifier' and a 'Bandana', you don't need the latter. Okay, walk to the arrow on the furthest platform. You're about to face a boss.

Name : Urobolus
Level : ??

HP : Above 450 for sure ...
EXP : 500

Strategy:

Okay, he's got two main attacks, physical and a poison attack. Not bad either of them, but the poison attack can drain you over time. Therefore, you have three options. One, wear the 'Poison Guard' you found earlier, and two, bring lots of Body Purifiers. Three is just kill him fast. I tend to like mixing one and three, nice and quick.

Okay, so if you listened to me, Dart and Lavitz should have a fairly high SP, allowing them to morph. That's something you want to do, but not necessarily right away. See, he has this 'attack' where he poises himself through a hole so that unless you are a Dragoon or Shana, you can't hit it. So it would be suggestible, if not advisable, to wait for him to do so. Then, you can deal the most damage, in the least amount of turns. He will get down eventually, so in that time, just defend and heal yourself. Patience will do you good.

Other than that, keep healed up. Make sure the poison doesn't stay on you too long, it does drain quite a bit over time, and that could be your downfall. I don't care how easy this guy is, you still have to be careful. Keep up the pace, and you'll do fine.

Dart will end the battle with a leaping slash to his face, you don't command it.

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??????. bloopers and tidbits

"Typos. Need I say more?"

Sony did a horrid job at transilating this game, heck. I don't even need to give you examples, you'll see it right away.

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"Heh-heh, you hear what he said?"

"Fart!", wails Lavitz whenever he defends against a strike. (grins)

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"Hrmm .. that should preee-eety familiar."

Doesn't Shana's voice actor sound alot like Rena from Star Ocean 2?
Hrmm!

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"Is it Lavitz or Lavits?"

During battle, Lavitz is 'Lavits'. During any other situation, he is just 'Lavitz'. More typos, bleh.

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viii. script

A warning to you before you read this, I have never seen such a pooked-up translation as the one for Legend of Dragoon. There are many instances where the characters will say things in wrong contexts, and so forth. So, if you see something wrong, it's probably a translation error. But please don't hessitate to tell me of it.

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Dart, Shana and Lavitz dash onto the screen, apparently worn out by their mad sprint from the Hellena Prison.

Dart : "Lavitz, can you keep going?"

Lavitz: "Yeah!"

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The trio follow along a path, until they realize they are still being persued. Struck by an arrow, Lavitz falls.

Lavitz: "Aaah!"

Dart : "Does it hurt?"

Lavitz: "It's just a scratch."

Shana : "But you gotta cover the wound."

Lavitz: "It can be treated later. We gotta run first."

Dart : "I will carry Lavitz. Shana, go first."

Shana : "Don't treat me like a child. I will go with you guys."

Lavitz: "I can walk by myself."

Shana : "Here they come!"

Dart : "Lets go!"

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A pair of Hellena guards persue the party through some over-grown bush.

Dart: "!!"

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The guards gaze down the path for the runaways, but do not see them. Then,

the tall grass before them begins to rustle.

Hellena Warden A: "There they are!"

Hellena Warden B: "Women first!! Then we might spare those people in Basil!"

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A family of rats trot out from behind the weeds.

Hellena Warden B: "Is this the fugitive?"

Hellena Warden A: "Don't be silly!! Go look over there!!"

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The sentries run down a path, continuing their search.

Dart : "That was close."

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The party then continues their venture to find a suitable place to rest. They find an abandoned cottage, and decide it is adequate for their needs.

Lavitz: "Tut, such a trifle wound."

Shana : "Does it still hurt?"

Lavitz: "A little bit."

Shana : "I learned first aid. I thought it would be useful, particularly in times like these."

Dart : "Shana? Learning? That's something new!"

Shana : "Mr. so-and-so might come back injured at any moment."

Dart : "... Let's use that shack over there."

Lavitz: "All right."

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The group finds the shack suitable, and Lavitz gets the medical attention he required.

Shana : "Here you go."

Lavitz: "Thanks, it's much better now."

Dart : "It seems we completely lost those fools from Hellena."

Shana : "Dart? tell me, about these last five years."

Shana : "It's okay, nevermind! we don't have time for this now."

Dart : "It was a journey for revenge. It was a journey to find the guy

who deprived me of something precious, and kill him. I couldn't tell you Shana, that's why I left by myself."

Shana : "The Black Monster?"

Shana : "I only know the name. Nobody would tell me more about it because they said I was still too young."

Lavitz: "What is the Black Monster? What are you talking about?"

Dart : "I have two homes. One is Seles where I spend time with Shana."

Dart : "And the other is where I spent time with my parents, my first home, which was taken from me by the monster eighteen years ago. Neet."

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You are taken back to one of Dart's memories.

Dart's Home -- 18 Years Ago

Dart: "It was when I was five years old. Neet was assaulted by the Black Monster."

Dart: "We were lucky."

Dart: "Only three of us could get out from the village."

Dart: "But, my father returned to the village."

Dart: "And my mother followed my father to the village to help everybody, but that's where the Black Monster was waiting."

Dart: "I was left alone, shivering and waited for dawn."

Dart: "The sun revealed a foreign landscape."

Dart: "It was a completely transformed Neet."

Dart: "And I found this."

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You are returned to the abandoned shack.

Dart: "What I found on the ground was only this. It's a momento, the only thing my father carried around all the time."

Shana : "Dart, it's okay. I understand."

Dart : "Shana, I'm sorry I didn't tell you."

Shana : "It's okay, I knew you would tell me someday. Don't say anymore."

Lavitz: "So, you just came back from a journey to bring closure to the past."

Dart : "I'm still not there yet."

Lavitz: "You said Neet, it doesn't seem to be a village in this country."

Dart : "It was located farther north from here. I guess nobody even remembers it's name anymore."

Dart : "Lavitz, tell me. What is going on in this country?"

Lavitz: "Currently, our Duchy of Basil is at war with the Imperial Sandora. The war has spread all over Serdio."

Dart : "Why was the truce broken?"

Lavitz: "Because of the dragon. The legendary monster added weight to Sandora and broke the balance of power. Then Emperor Doel started to be more aggressive."

Dart : "Dragon? No, no way! Such a thing can be used in war?"

Lavitz: "Do you know something about it!?"

Dart : "I was swooped down on by a Dragon before I entered Seles. I was overwhelmed. There was no way to escape from it. I was saved by a passing warrior. That's why I am still alive."

Lavitz: "The Dragon is advancing faster than I thought. We must do something or it'll be too late."

Dart : "You mean more casualties?"

Lavitz: "Yeah. It's a "war"."

Lavitz: "Anyway, I have to go back to Indels Castle in Bale. There are so many things I have to report to King Albert."

Lavitz: "You know what, Dart? You guys should come along with me. Minister Noish might know something about the Black Monster."

Dart: "I see. They're a royalty with a long history. I might be able to find out something new."

Lavitz: "It's a done deal."

Shana : "Lavitz, don't take chances. You are not completely well."

Lavitz: "You'll make good wife." (it's their typo, not mine)

Shana : "Thanks!"

Dart : "Let's go."

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The trio leaves the shack, and finds their way along the path once more. This time, they are headed to 'Indels Castle' in Bale. They approach a river.

Dart : "It seems too far to jump over."

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Trying to find another way, they head back to the cottage. Finding another path to the north, they venture that way. They find a rotting

tree.

Dart : "Almost falling."

Dart : "Wait. If we carry this to the river, it can be a bridge, can't it?"

Dart : "The blade won't last with this."

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Searching for some sort of tool, Dart ransacks the shack.

Dart : "A worn down axe ..."

Dart : "I get it. We can chop down the tree with this axe."

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Returning to the rotted tree ...

Dart : "If we put this tree across the river"

Lavitz: "Hmm.... it may work as a bridge. It could be worth trying."

Dart : "Whoa!!"

Lavitz: "Shoot!"

Dart : "Have to think about another way."

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Returning to the river ... oh look, there's the log.

Dart : "What's that!?"

Dart : "We can cross with this!!"

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The group crosses the river, to find a sobbing family.

Lavitz: "You look like a civilian. What is the matter?"

Father: "What do you mean "What's the matter!?" It's your knight's fault!!"

Lavitz: "Hold on. I am a Knight of Basil. We should be allies."

Father: "I'm your enemy! We escaped from Sandora!"

Mother: "Honey! Don't say that or we're gonna be arrested!"

Father: "B, But, these knights destroyed our lives!"

Mother: "We couldn't stand living in Kazas and ran away from there. Please excuse us."

Lavitz: "You don't need to excuse yourself. King Albert always lends a helping hand to sufferers, even those from an enemy country."

Mother: "What?"

Lavitz: "Son, are you hungry?"

Child : "Yes."

Lavitz: "Then have this."

Child : "Th, Thank you."

Father: "You"

Lavitz: "If you go through here, you'll find Bale. You can go there if you like."

Father: "B, But we don't know anybody."

Lavitz: "Why don't you go to my house. It's too big for my mother and myself anyway."

Father: "You are?"

Lavitz: "My name is Lavitz. I am a knight in the service of King Albert."

Mother: "Th, Thank you very much!!"

Father: "How kind of you. Sir Lavitz!" (shouldn't that be a comma?)"

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They head off through the path to the world map, and find their way to a deep cavern. Spanning across a body of water are a series of stepping stones.

Dart : "Stepping Stones."

Dart : "Shana, be careful not to slip."

Shana : "Okay."

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Lavitz should have taken Dart's advice as well ...

Dart : "Lavitz!"

Shana : "Dart!! Lavitz!"

Lavitz: "Whoa!!"

Dart : "Huff huff huff!"

Lavitz: "This is the second time you saved my life."

Dart : "Huff, huff, I was just around."

Lavitz: "Even though that was the case, I was lucky you were around Dart."

Lavitz: "It'll be a long relationship we will have."

Dart : "Yup. That's right."

Shana : "Excuse me, you guys!"

Shana : "Don't leave me like that!"

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That swarm of lights .. rock fireflies?

Dart : "These are ... rock fireflies."

Shana : "Oh, you know a lot."

Dart : "Well, I used to be saved by these a lot."

Lavitz: "Me too. In particular, the ones close to a battlefield were helpful."

Shana : "Excuse me. Don't just chat amongst yourself and leave me out. Tell me what they are."

Shana : "Oh!!"

Shana : "Oh boy."

Lavitz: "The light from a Rock Firefly has a healing power." (now it's capitalized .. ?)

Dart : "Well, Shana learned at least one thing."

Shana : "Well well. I know something you don't know too, Dart."

Dart : "Wh, what is that?"

Shana : "I'm not telling."

Lavitz: "Well, you have been away from each other for five years. It's natural to not know about each other."

Lavitz: "Wait, my mom and I aren't like that. Every time I go back to Bale, she welcomes me with the same smile."

Lavitz: "Wh, What? Did I say something wrong?"

Dart : "Let's get going. Your mother is waiting for you in Bale right?"

Lavitz: "Yeah!"

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The party senses something...

Dart : "There is something there."

Lavitz: "Could that be the much talked about guardian of the Cave?"

Dart : "Shana, step back!"

Shana : "Don't worry about me. I can help!"

Lavitz: "It's coming!"

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The three defeat the giant Urobolus.

Dart : "Shana."

Dart : "Shana !!!!"

Shana : "Wh, what was"

Dart : "What on earth happened?"

Shana : "I, I don't know."

Shana : "..."

Lavitz: "Anyway, we are safe. We should think about how to get out of here. And"

Lavitz: "It'll be fine when we get to Bale ..."

Shana : "I think."

The three arrive at Bale.

Lavitz: "I would like to show you around, but we better hurry to the castle."

Lavitz: "We have to brief his Majesty Albert about the war."

Dart : "Shana, can you come with us?"

Shana : "I'm fine. I'm much better now."

Shana : "Shall we?"

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ix. my summary (review) of the demo

Legend of Dragoon, announced to go beyond the high standard SquareSoft's 'Final Fantasy' has set, but did it? Yes, no, and sort of. Graphically, the rendered backgrounds are above Final Fantasy VIII's, and about equal to IX's. The first scene you see is an grassy field with a path worn down through it. Soaring above it are a small flock of seagulls, and in the horizon we see the depths of a sapphire ocean. Doesn't sound so great? Well, maybe my literature is getting bad, because it ~~is~~ great. I just let my characters sit around for a few minutes as I admire the water cascade onto the coast. Phew.

Character wise, they were well designed but they looked familiar ...

