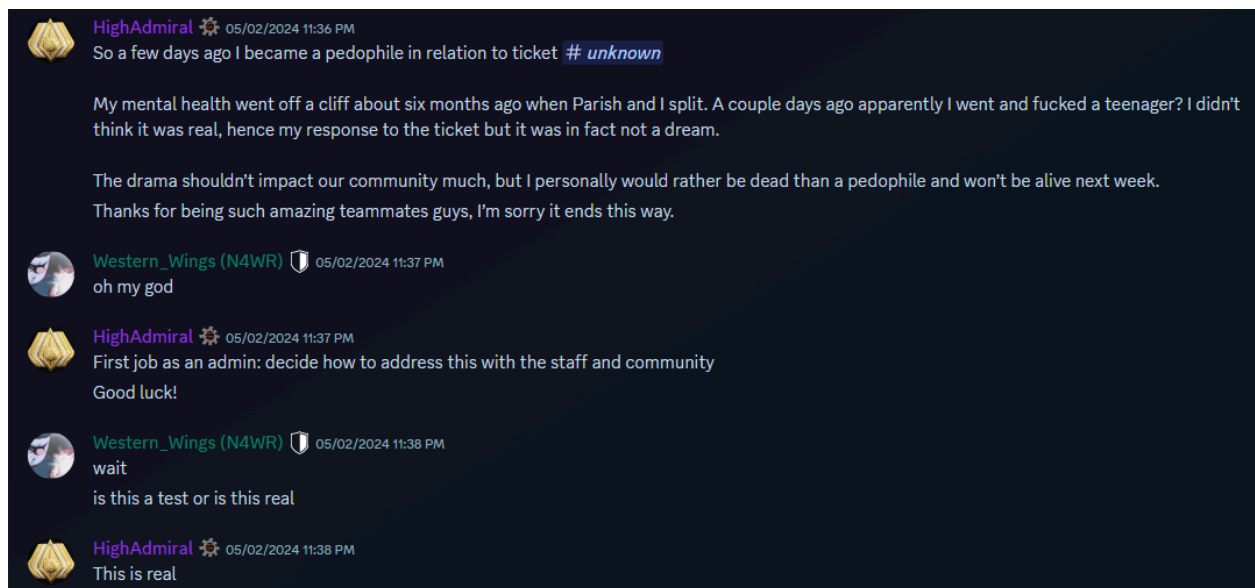


Due to messages we and other users have received, we feel that it is best to clear the air on some things involving HighAdmiral. Ultimately, we didn't want to make this announcement, but due to changing circumstances, and wanting to get ahead of any rumors being spread, we feel that it is important to be transparent about this.

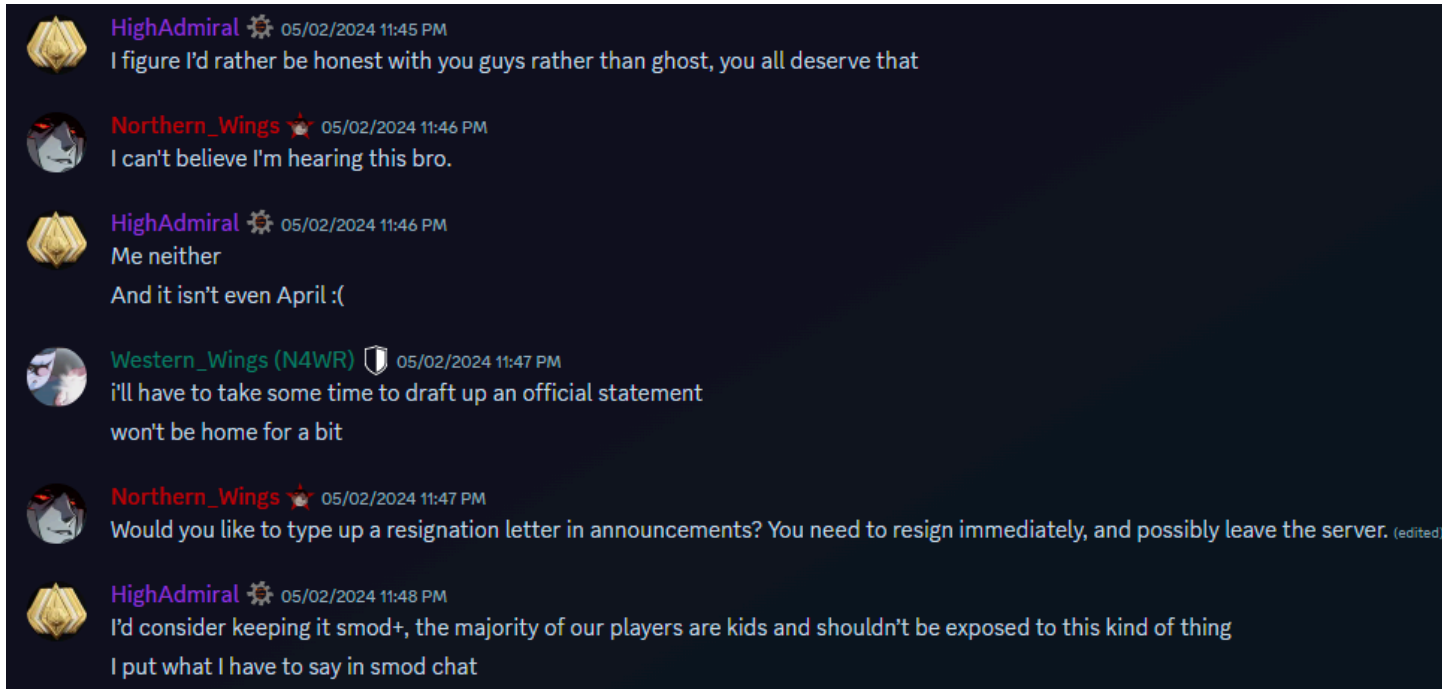
As some of you may know, HA did some pretty unsavory things while he was still alive. We have received a number of reports regarding it, and we feel that it is best that we bring it to you all before any rumors get out of hand.

Let's clear up some misconceptions, and lay out the facts:

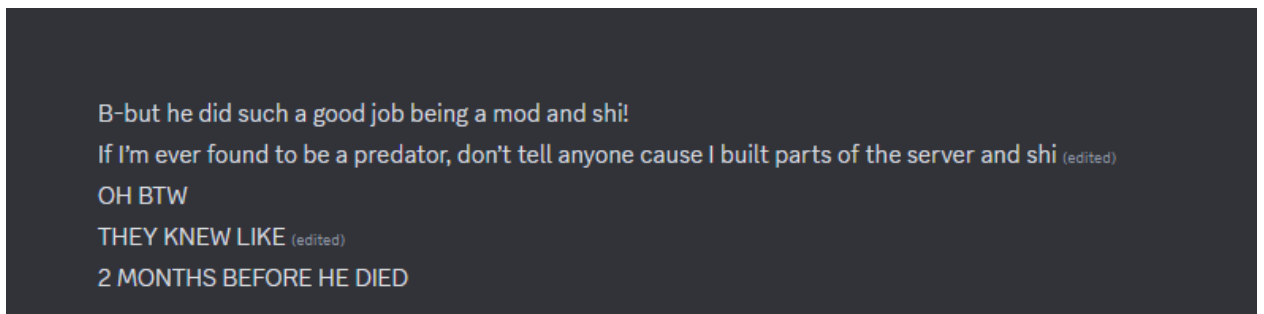
**HighAdmiral (Joshua) committed statutory rape. The victim was 17, and according to Joshua, didn't cooperate with the police. He later committed suicide. There are members of another server spreading this information to our users.**



1. We were unaware of his actions to the victim, and as soon as Joshua told us of this, we removed him from the staff team immediately and launched our own investigation. We created the “onto better things” cover story to smooth things over with the community while we investigated.
  - a. Naturally, we weren't going to throw one of our admins under the bus immediately without giving him a fair trial. This is standard procedure while we investigate claims such as these. While it's not the first time, it is certainly the most high profile.



2. We knew “two months before he died”. This is false. We knew two weeks before, and at the end of those two weeks, Joshua passed. We didn’t have enough time to chase evidence and sift through it all.



In closing, while we are not excusing Joshua’s actions, we feel that it is important to recognize his contributions to this community and the individual support he brought to many members of this community personally. We chose the neutral, cautious route, and elected to keep the circumstances of Joshua’s passing a secret. The truth of the matter is that Joshua is dead now, and that spreading this information ultimately changes nothing.

Many of you, until this moment, have probably had nothing but good things to say about him. We, the staff team of Aeronautica, choose to remember him for the good that he did for us. We understand that some of you may feel strongly about this issue, but we hope you can understand why we did what we did given the circumstances. It’s easy to say that you’ll immediately throw your friend under the bus in a situation like this, but actually committing is very different.

We'll be scrapping plans for any in-game memorial content. If you choose to harass Aeronautica staff, direct it towards the senior management (Administrators & Lead Devs). No one below these levels knew of the situation prior to this announcement.