Lauren Girod Dr. Elizabeth Davis ENGL 3850S Writing and Community December 13th, 2023

Chris-Chan: The Most Famous Person on the Internet



"Glory be to all who are Light Powered, Good, Righteous and Neutrals with ability to be Good. All is and shall be good with the Ultimate Miracle and the Dimension Merge's completion. Let your auras and chakras be aligned and healed. Thank you and Bless you all; be safe and well. Mrs. Jesus Christine Weston Chandler Sonichu Prime."

Chris-Chan, better known as Christine [Christian] Weston Chandler, prevails as one of the most pivotal and recognizable characters of the early internet, considering the culture surrounding many known and notorious websites can be attributed to what she has done through means of unmoderated access to the internet at an early age. From *4Chan* to the first documented Let's Play, from Sonichu to the infamous Jail Saga: Chris-Chan is both a curious individual but also a warning for unregulated internet usage for those who may need it most.

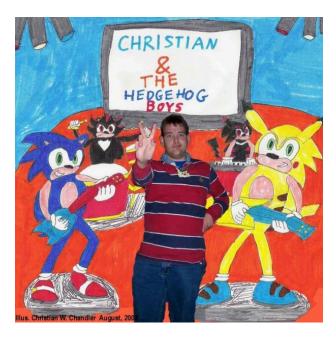
Born as Christoper Weston Chandler on February 24th, 1982, Chris-Chan was the doted-upon golden child of the divorced Robert Franklin Chandler Jr. and Barbara 'Barb' Chandler (*née* Weston, formerly Yeatts and Smithy). This attention that was fostered as the

youngest child to aging parents amplified her self-worth tenfold, considering she won the *Sonic the Hedgehog Watch & Win Sweepstakes*. With the media showering her with praise and special treatment being granted from her parents, it would solidify this need for attention regardless of how positive or negative it would be. She was given anything she wanted, and this only compounded with her diagnosis for autism. The world revolved around her, and her parents granted everything she could possibly want with as little resistance as possible. When forbidden from using copyrighted characters in a school project, she created the famous *Sonichu --* her magnum opus that would dominate her sphere, creating the religion that she holds so dear to herself and becoming the gasoline to be used by internet trolls.

Chris-Chan's desire to not be single would be the ultimate driving force to her actions, leading to her utilizing the internet as a sort of diary (or "Captain's Logs" as she would title them) to vent all of her frustrations to the world, at the expense of her and her family's privacy. This era of her life would be centered around completing her '*Love Quest*' - a self-titled, self-imposed challenge to find a "boyfriend free girl". This quest for love would turn to be the

driving force behind all of her actions, both for better and for worse.

Youtube videos sprung up from Chris-Chan's channel, adding to the exposure as she operated with zero filter. There were dozens of videos expressing rage against the trolls, accusing them of not understanding and performing various 'curses' on them in a way that would have them seek vengeance from a



higher power - influenced from various animes and cartoons that were related to Sonic the Hedgehog among other notable characters for the time. It is alleged that in this time, the first ever "Let's Play" occurred in 2003 when Chris-Chan created a 55 minute documentary exploring her *Animal Crossing* town, which signals a further impression of what influence she would go on to spread with Nintendo related intellectual properties. They also included covers for various songs circling back to her '*Love Quest*' with her band Christian and the Hedgehog Boys. The most infamous song is "So Need a Cute Girl", which serves as a parody of The Backstreet Boys' "I Want It That Way". This would not be the first cover she would do of famous pieces of music, and it would not be the last.

> Hey! Look at me! I'm sitting here sad and lonely! Without a fire,

Without a fire, But a desire To not hear you say, "I have a boyfriend!"

And I see da ladies walking Along one by one, And I never wanna hear, "I have a boyfriend!"

Tell me why I'm stuck as a virgin with rage! Tell me why I so need a cute girl my age! Tell me why I ain't ever wanna hear you say, "I have a boyfriend!"

"So Need a Cute Girl" by Christian and the Hedgehog Boys

As Chris-Chan began to age, the obsession of the infamous 'Love Quest' would center her universe. She was desperate to find a 'boyfriend-free girl' by creating advertisements at her

community college and being accused of loitering and soliciting. When this did not work, she would create her own "sweethearts" through original characters relating to the *Sonichu* comics: an original series of comics that spawned from the idea she created within high school. This external rambling of trying to seek out a "sweetheart" would go on to gain the attention of users of the website *4Chan*: an internet forum that prides itself on seeking out the most degenerate content known to man and creating memes and "trolling" people through means that can rapidly become illegal or immoral - oftentimes both.



Trolls would impersonate women and goad Chris-Chan into performing heinous, self-deprecating acts with the hopes of fulfilling her quest and finding someone who would want to spend time with her as a romantic and sexual partner. This would result in explicit videos of Chris-Chan circling the internet, particularly ones with her in the nude and oblivious to the audience that this was actually for, becoming a laughing stock after the truth was revealed that there had been no "sweetheart" at all. Proving reactionary and feeding the trolls would not help her every time the truth would come out that she had been once again been trolled: Chris-Chan would justify this as getting back at the 'jerkops', but instead of walking away, she continued. The trolls would continue the cycle of pretending to be friendly to Chris-Chan, catfishing her under various aliases and using pictures of women, ordinary and celebrity alike. This, along with the grooming from other trolls, would lead into what is famously known as the "Jail Saga".

In August of 2021, Chris-Chan was arrested after going online to a discord server with several trolls and began discussing her new "sweetheart". Being incredibly vague, she would often discuss these "sweethearts" that would eventually result in being personas created by trolls, but this was different. The intimacy in which she described having with this "lady friend" was well beyond anything she had conjured up with posturing on the internet. Only after a troll got too cocky with grooming Chris-Chan did it come to light: this "sweetheart" was indeed her mother. Her mother, who was in her 70's, was diagnosed with dementia, and Chris-Chan



controlled her finances. Filled with disgust and with the hopes of seeking justice, several trolls including the reformed "Null" (Joshua Conner Moon) sought out police and other authoritative figures to arrest Chris-Chan and get her mother much needed medical assistance and care.

As of March 2023, Chris-Chan has been released from jail, concluding the "Jail Saga" and moving into the "Second Coming Saga" - a coinage of her persona as assuming herself to be Jesus Christ in the flesh. There is no determination on what will happen next considering her criminal record and her restraining order from her mother, so it is entirely possible that she will continue living off the royalties of her own comic. Her legacy serves as a warning to those that wish to troll or be trolled, and that the privacy of the internet is something to cherish and not take for granted.