

Forum: [Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Whats the most interesting rabbit hole youve fallen into online?](#)

DryNode - October 6, 2026, 10:07 pm

For me it would be "Cicada 3301"

For anyone who doesn't know, it was this weird thing that started around 2012 where some anonymous group started posting these insanely complicated puzzles. They involved cryptography, steganography, programming, random books, math, Tor, real-world locations, PGP signatures, etc.

The interesting part is nobody really knows who was behind it or what they were actually looking for. There's a theory that they were trying to find/recruit really skilled programmers and cryptographers rather than it just being a puzzle for fun.

Apparently people who solved certain parts got led to even more clues, which is where shit gets really interesting.

What makes the whole recruitment theory even crazier is that after the first puzzle, they eventually posted a message basically saying "We have now found the individuals we sought." So it really sounded like they were actually looking for specific people.

Then there's Liber Primus, which is basically this giant encrypted book tied to Cicada 3301 and a lot of it still hasn't been solved :|

also "Liber Primus" means "First Book" in Latin.. meaning this possibly won't be the last..

7 - October 6, 2026, 10:13 pm

Actually very interesting shame it was on that forum as i missed it.

I also found this ... https://github.com/scream314/cicada3301/blob/master/liber_primus.md

DryNode - October 7, 2026, 9:58 pm

(Oct 6, 2026 10:13 PM)7 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Actually very interesting shame it was on that forum as i missed it.

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I may spend the next 2+ months (obviously more) going over everything.. this part already has me thinking.. the moment he stops trying to define himself, the master accepts him.

"A KOAN

A MAN DECIDED TO GO AND STUDY WITH A MASTER.

HE WENT TO THE DOOR OF THE MASTER

"WHO ARE YOU WHO WISHES TO STUDY HERE?"

ASKED THE MASTER.

THE STUDENT TOLD THE MASTER HIS NAME.

"THAT IS NOT WHAT YOU ARE THAT IS ONLY WHAT YOU ARE CALLED.

WHO ARE YOU WHO WISHES TO STUDY HERE?" HE ASKED

AGAIN.

THE MAN THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT, AND REPLIED

"I AM A PROFESSOR."
"THAT IS WHAT YOU DO, NOT WHAT YOU ARE"
REPLIED THE MASTER. "WHO ARE
YOU WHO WISHES TO STUDY HERE?"
CONFUSED, THE MAN THOUGHT SOME MORE.
FINALLY, HE ANSWERED, "I AM A HUMAN BEING."
"THAT IS ONLY YOUR SPECIES, NOT WHO YOU ARE.
WHO ARE YOU WHO WISHES TO STUDY HERE?"
ASKED THE MASTER AGAIN.
AFTER A MOMENT OF THOUGHT, THE PROFESSOR REPLIED
"I AM A CONSCIOUSNESS INHABITING AN ARBITRARY BODY."
"THAT IS MERELY WHAT YOU ARE NOT WHO YOU ARE"
WHO ARE YOU WHO WISHES TO STUDY HERE?"
THE MAN WAS GETTING IRRITATED. "I AM," HE STARTED,
BUT HE COULD NOT THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY,
SO HE TRAILED OFF. AFTER A LONG PAUSE THE MASTER REPLIED
"THEN YOU ARE WELCOME TO COME STUDY."

7 - October 7, 2026, 10:19 pm

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"THEN YOU ARE WELCOME TO COME STUDY."
This is very high level intellect. Very interesting. Who are you? Really...

Only when you realise you really do not know anything than just the labels of position, name e.t.c and only when you remove that will you discover your true self

Respect - October 7, 2026, 11:00 pm

9/11 is a basic but good one. Not just the event itself, but all of the geopolitical events leading up to it, starting back in the 80s and 90s.

The history of the Nazi Party, World War 2, and doing down the rabbit holes of top members of the party was interesting as well.

Rabbit holes tend to be incredibly more interesting late at night, then you wake up in the morning with 100 wikipedia tabs open and little interest in them.

7 - October 7, 2026, 11:04 pm

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I find if I start at night its much harder to sleep, don't you?

I start really thinking. I used to play The Black Watchmen and more stuff like this.. but trying to let go of that thought.

I use to read Liber Isfet: The Grimoire of the Mesu Betesh when I was much more explorative in this area.

Respect - October 7, 2026, 11:09 pm

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7 - October 8, 2026, 1:32 am

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Yes it gets weirdly real. You end up starting to wonder if it is real and the same with their other games like NiteTeam4 .. you will get calls and messages and random times in the day or night and you start to wonder is this even a game. ARG augmented Reality Games... really twists you up. You start noticing things you didn't notice before. Try and and let me know

Respect - October 8, 2026, 1:50 am

(Oct 8, 2026 01:32 AM)7 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes it gets weirdly real. You end up starting to wonder if it is real and the same with their other games like NiteTeam4 .. you will get calls and messages and random times in the day or night and you start to wonder is this even a game. ARG augmented Reality Games... really twists you up. You start noticing things you didn't notice before. Try and let me know

Sounds super cool, thank you for mentioning this

DryNode - October 8, 2026, 10:45 pm

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woah.. here I am again at 1:42 AM about to climb down a rabbit hole so tight a caver would spazz out.. but what about this "The Black Watchmen" I've never tried a ARG before? like is it something digital or more physical? or both.?. I may be assuming.

Lefty - October 9, 2026, 12:52 am

For sure 9/11. It was the first thing that I witnessed to make me think differently about everything.

7 - October 9, 2026, 5:19 am

(Oct 8, 2026 10:45 PM)DryNode Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) woah.. here I am again at 1:42 AM about to climb down a rabbit hole so tight a caver would spazz out.. but what about this "The Black Watchmen" I've never tried a ARG before? like is it something digital or more physical? or both.?. I may be assuming.

Its yeah both physical and game. The game takes you into the real world to find things

sharn - October 18, 2026, 4:39 am

I spent an evening reading about unusual animal behavior.

I discovered things about animals that I had never imagined.

DAL-SHA - October 18, 2026, 7:49 am

a Few criminal mysterious cases that happened around the world caught my eye once and got me deep inside the rabbit hole ! some occultist dark stuff !

DryNode - October 18, 2026, 7:56 am

(Oct 18, 2026 04:39 AM)sharn Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I spent an evening reading about unusual animal behavior.

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What's some things you discovered? I'm obsessed with weird information about all types of creatures

I did some similar research but about parasites a couple weeks ago, found out they are the most powerful creatures out there.. theyre so small and weak.. but can manipulate animals 5 - 10x their size

example: A parasite will get into an ant, and force the ant to climb to areas that heavily expose itself to animals brushing by, the parasite will then attach to a rat that came by, then it will eliminate (or alter) the odors the rat smells when a cat is nearby.. making the rat fearless in a way and allow it to walk straight up to a cat for no reason.. cat attacks rat, then parasite transfers to cat. After infection, the parasite reproduces in the cat's intestinal tract and produces oocysts, which are shed in the cat's feces.

Those oocysts contaminate soil/water/food and can eventually infect rodents and many other animals, allowing the parasite's life cycle to continue.

sharn - October 18, 2026, 9:00 am

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I read that lyrebirds can imitate chainsaws, camera shutters and other sounds they hear in their environment.

Their ability to copy sounds is almost unreal.

Oh_Well - October 18, 2026, 9:05 am

Cicada 3301 was actually insane back then. Have you ever found out what happened in the end?