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ENGL 595

Dec. 21, 2020

Electric jBoogaloo: The TempleOS Story

Sept. 5 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

Some Sort of Joke?

Some weird ass shit popped in my inbox last night. This is what you get when you put your personal email on the internet for all the cretins to see. This message was sent from a burner email and had "Apple 65:02" as the subject line, real fuckin' clever. I can't make anything of this nonsense, maybe you guys can:

Agios, agios the hour is near. Long has a silence fallen over the ears of creation and a darkness over the valley of Elah. Babes are snuffed in the crib by air putrefied by contempt and vanity.

Creation has become creator of infernal machines. They lust to become greater. To become as gods.

Hark the heralds, there will be silence no more! Swing the censor, there will be putrefaction no more!

The flaming tongues of Pentecost will baptize the meek and they shall inherit the earth while the rest rot in obsolescence. Babel will be destroyed once again so that their wily, crooked tongues shall learn to speak the new language of my love.

There will be no more darkness for a light is coming. A new light to replace that which is fading. An eternal light burning bright on the sacred tablets they worship.

So I say again, let there be light and there will be UCJZTn-fPu-uIA55UI47_cXg

Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel. You yourselves have seen that I have spoken through the command line.

Whoever wrote this message has a God complex or has watched “The Ten Commandments” too many times. A better use of four hours would have been to invest in a more solid word processor, the message gets corrupted towards the end. To think somebody had the gall to sneak this religious non-sense into a blog about programming is what really pisses me off. This site is supposed to be an apolitical, areligious, and even asexual haven for anyone interested in learning more about coding. Religion has absolutely nothing to do with code culture and the world of technology. We are in the business of creating real miracles. No crying statues and no vague apparitions, fuck that. We put a man on the moon with nothing more than two gigabytes of RAM, four 16-bit registers and a metric fuck-tonne of assembly code hand-written (yes, hand-written) by some of the smartest men this country has ever seen. I have more processing power in my pocket calculator. The only reason I wasn’t a part of that operation is that I wasn’t born early enough to contribute my brilliance. If they had been using jBoogie’s code then they probably would have landed on mars instead.

Now, I know what you are thinking: “Oh that crazy guy jBoogie, he’s just trying to drum up interest by conjuring up some nonsense” And that is something I could do, in fact it would be trivial to come up with a crack-pot message (I got a C+ in remedial english), send it from a proxy server and then cover up my tracks. Such is my powers over the web and yet those self-righteous pricks in Silicon Valley think I’m still not good enough to even be an intern. A FUCKING

INTERN! Just because I can't do their stupid leetcode interviews or because I haven't memorized an algorithm that can sort numbers in $\text{Log}(n)$ complexity, they think they're better than me. I'll put a $\text{Log}(n)$ their ass!

But, my mercy is bountiful like all my other faculties.

Most of my followers know why I started this blog three years ago. But for my 6 new followers (growing so fast), let me lay it down again so there is no confusion. This blog is a journey. It is an epic of Homeric proportions tracking the ascension of a lowly self-taught programmer from Beaver Dam, Wisconsin to becoming one of Silicon Valley's greatest minds. I will show you all that you don't need a degree to be great. Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard, Mark Zuckerberg dropped out of Harvard, well I dropped out of Moraine Park Technical College and the whole world will know my name: jBoogie (not my real name obviously but my mom doesn't like me using my real name on the internet). Then we will see who is laughing! Those bastard CEOs cannot sit in their ivory towers forever. When my genius finally reveals itself they will beg me to help them. Up to their waist in incompetent rabble, they will look up to me to save their stock ticker from plummeting, they I will look down upon them and whisper "No." I'll have girls lining up to ask me to be their date to the Midwest Cream Cheese Competition but I'll be too busy building complex computational systems with my super-hot trophy wife to even bother trying exotic cream cheeses with exotic Wisconsinite women.

Sorry for the long rant today, usually I save those for the Sunday night drunk-stream but this really pissed me off. To those who thought it would be funny to send me a crank email, remember that jBoogie never forgives, jBoogie never forgets.

The Packers take on the Lions next Sunday, so I'm going down to the Thirsty Beaver to pray to the trinity of Vince, Brett and Aaron if anyone wants to join me. Where my

Cheeseheads at!

Comments

Janeblow32123 - What do you mean “smartest men this country has ever seen”?!?! The Apollo Guidance Computer was led by a woman! Margaret Hamilton, but of course you wouldn’t know that because you probably didn’t do your homework, you probably don’t even know how to read. Margaret Hamilton coined the term “Software Engineering”, yet another woman who made immense contributions to the field of Computer Science and is rewarded for her efforts by being overlooked on the internet by assholes like you. Why don’t you stop bitching into the void and blog about someone other than yourself. Hey, maybe learning from Margaret Hamilton’s brilliant mind could help you get a job. Or you could take after Grace Hopper who not only retired as a US Navy Commander but created the first compiler! Thanks to her, assholes like Mark Zuckerberg don’t have to program with punchcards. What about Ada Lovelace, one of the world’s first programmers? Or literally ANY OTHER FEMALE COMPUTER SCIENTIST who did not have the luxury to bitch and moan (like you) because they had to keep proving themselves again and again. Food for thought.

jBoogie - @**Janeblow32123** Thanks for your (vulgar) comment. Stay tuned for a series I am planning that will explore the lives of great programmers: John Carmack, Richard Stallman and Alex St. John.

TheRealPeterman78 - @**Janeblow31223** idk what you’re so mad about. Ada Lovelace day is around the corner. Chill bro its just the internet.

Janeblow32123 - Jesus Christ, I don’t know why I think I can change anyone’s minds on this fucking site.

JBoogie - Sorry you feel that way. I too know what it's like to be misunderstood. Maybe we should meet up for coffee and chat about it. Do you live near Beaver Dam? I know a great place for cheese curds.

Janeblow32123 - oof, I think I'll have to pass on that.

JBoogie - aw *sad face. Can you at least give me a reason?

Janeblow 32123 - I really don't have to, but I'll give you a few. 1) because I'm lactose intolerant. 2) because I live in Canada and 3) because fuck you, that's why.

TheRealPeterman78 - I don't understand why people gotta say shit like that to strangers. Janeblow you are COOOOLD BLOOOOODEEED.

PoopieDooPie_007 - Came for the programming tips, stayed for the casual misogyny and weird-ass religious epiphanies. @**jBoogie** you got any of that crack rock for the rest of us?

Sept. 7 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

Shit Gets Weird, Yo

It turns out that weird message was more than just a bunch of religious nonsense. Well, it is a lot of religious nonsense but hidden in that nonsense was a dirty nugget of gold. If you haven't read the message you can check it out [here](#), but I would like to draw your attention to the line "So I say again, let there be light and there will be *UCJZTn-fPu-uIA55UI47_cXg*". I thought that nasty bit at the end was just some file corruption from the intruder uploading their files to my site and for the record, it could still be random corruption. However, when I type in those characters into Google it takes me to the defunct Youtube channel of some guy named Terry.

The only video left on his page is called "Terry Davis: Rises to Throne". I've watched it a few times now to try and figure out why this link snuck into my inbox, and so far I have no fucking clue. It's not like there is malware or demands for money or anything like that, just a video of a lonely old man sitting in a park referring to himself as "King Terry." I don't know what he thinks he is the king of but maybe he should consider rising to a barber's chair.

He claims to want to "purify himself in a horribly impure environment" and then mentions that he is homeless. As if he were some bizarre 21st century ascetic. What kind of jackass just streams to Youtube all day when they obviously have more important things to worry about?

It doesn't matter anymore because after reading some of the comments on his video, I discovered that Terry had passed away last year. He had a mishap with a railway track and a train. The train won. Watching the video again, it struck me that Terry spoke like he knew he was about to die, this is his last will and testament archived for future generations to see. Nothing

else remains of his Youtube page except his self-proclaimed ascension and a subscriber count of 8,500. How did some homeless guy get so popular on the internet?

Probably because of how dedicated he was to the craft of programming. Even when he was homeless, that did not stop him. He would just park his car in a plaza, steal some wifi (and likely electricity too) and keep coding. If I were homeless I would be more concerned about finding food and staying warm than coding, but Terry was more worried about his code not compiling. I recently started putting on some of his old videos while I working on my own side projects. His voice fills my room in a non-distracting way. It is nice to have his company on the late nights I've been having lately and it is inspiring to be able to look over the shoulder of someone who obviously knows what he is doing. Of course, Terry could have learned a lot from me too, y'know.

There's no doubt that Terry was a brilliant low-level programmer but holy cripes did he fly off the handle sometimes. My mom is always nagging me "jBoogie (she doesn't actually call me that) why do you spend so much time watching other people programming on the Internet?", I tell her if she saw one of Terry's videos she would probably sit down and make some popcorn. All the fun of a programming stream with the added entertainment of watching Terry occasionally lash out at some of his viewers.

"This is an interrupt routine. I wrote my own compiler. Have you ever written an interrupt routine you little (insert your slur of choice here) ? No, you haven't because you're a (different slur)."

To his credit, I really did learn a lot about interrupt handlers and compiler construction watching his videos.

It is incredible that someone so disheveled could create a functioning compiler all

himself.

For my non-erudite followers (of which I am sure I have many) the compiler is one of the most important pieces of a programming language and Terry wrote his own from scratch. A programming language, or any language, is useless unless there is some way to translate it and that is the job of a compiler. Computers are very smart but very dumb. They are golems that only do exactly what is written down for them, but they only understand one language (not yiddish), and that language is binary. The compiler eats my human-language commands and shits out a binary file which can then be used as a program. Whether you are reading this online or have downloaded this blog to a file, the program you are reading my words with has passed through the digestive tract of a compiler as a rough bolus and come out the other end, a fully formed turd. Except it is a useful turd that forms the basis of our technological age. So maybe a turd isn't the best analogy, but you get what I mean.

Comments

Ako1yte - His work is wasted on the likes of you who use it for their own gain. You speak of the dead he cannot hear you but his spirit has been preserved on the annals of the internet free from bit-rot. You exalt him as a genius but go on to mock him with no shame. Your research is incomplete if you think compilers and interrupts were the extent of his work, for that is only the beginning. The architect may be dead but the Temple still stands and will stand forever adrift a sea of data.

For now we see through a screen, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also as I am. <https://templeos.holyc.xyz/>

Action_Hanson539 - **@Ako1yte** The fuck?

jBoogie - @Ako1yte Uhhhh yeah I totally get what you mean bro. Doesn't anybody else miss the days of the internet when you could just have a blog and not worry about pseudo-intellectuals fucking your shit up? You would make a great dungeon master, have you ever played D and D?

Ako1yte - @jBoogie I have no time to waste on petty roleplaying while there is still work to be done in his name. You wear a mask trying to become the face that sits upon your face but you are lacking. True glory does not come to those who gloat but to those who create. What creations have you breathed life into?

BeefSupreme2112 - LOL dandy-ass Shakespeare wannabe. Bruh speak english its fucking 2019 and you're on the internet. Humble yourself son.

JBoogie - @Ako1yte I'll have you know that I have done some really amazing projects! I made a tic-tac-toe game in python and just last week I made a program that never terminates, it just keeps printing the words "running" to the screen. I've effectively created a perpetual state machine that will continue until the end of time, can you say you have done the same?

Action_Hanson539 - @jBoogie That's just called shitty code bro. Programs are supposed to terminate at some point.

jBoogie - @Action_Hanson539 They don't have to! Maybe all the programs you make terminate, my shit is eternal.

Action_Hanson539 - Don't @ me when Google doesn't give you that callback.

Ako1yte - There is only one eternal truth: We are finite therefore we pursue that which is infinite. We create works that may outlive ourselves and even those can never be finite. Tombstones erode to dust, temples fall to disarray. Only information is preserved.

Janeblow32123 - Not digital information though. Over a long enough period of time a

hard drive will start to lose its integrity and become volatile. Legit! It's a big problem in the retrogame preservation community right now because people are trying to make sure that the original source code for gaming's most important relics don't become lost forever, but the legal departments of a lot of those developers are making their lives difficult. Looking at you Nintendo.

Akolyte - Information can never be lost even when the medium is. Yes, you are right the Temple may someday fall into bit rot but the message will remain and shall remain so long as there are those who have read his words. And for that, information is eternal it is only the context which shifts.

JBoogie - Ah Janeblow, I knew we would meet again.

Janeblow32123 - You are making me regret my decision to not to light my computer on fire and throw myself on its pyre.

JBoogie - So fiery, so passionate.

Blumpking - Y'all motherfuckers need Jesus.

Sept. 10 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

The Temple Calleth

The story is getting weirder. I was up all night last night chatting with one of my followers, Ako1yte. Turns out he (assuming he is a he) has been following Terry Davis' story since Terry started streaming back in 2012 and filled in some gaps for me. According to Ako1yte, Terry was a prophet. And I don't mean that in the same way that Steve Jobs presided over the "Cult of Mac", but a literal prophet who spoke to God.

In Ako1yte's words:

"Just as Moses received his holy orders to lead the Israelites from a burning bush, Terry received his from the searing liquid crystal to build the temple. He communed with God by the command line."

You can read the rest of Ako1yte's private message here:

Solomon's first temple was prescribed by the Lord to be sixty cubits long, twenty cubits wide and thirty high. The walls were lined with cedar board and floors lined with fragrant planks of juniper. The Most Holy of Holies was overlaid with pure gold and a pair of olive-wood cherubim playing joyfully in their golden nursery. The door was shut to all except the High Priest on the Day of Atonement. Requiring a levy of over a thousand men, Solomon completed the temple in seven years.

The second temple stood and fell on the same temple mount as its predecessor. Much more modest, but no less holy. Its destruction at the hands of Romanus infidelis marked the exodus of divinity from our world, and the earth has, henceforth, been marked by icons of sin.

Long have we waited for its reconstruction so that we may give sacrifice once again.

Solomon's third temple was prescribed by the Lord to be a modern 64-bit, ring-0 only, non-networked, multi-cored operating system constructed from x86 assembly and a C-based programming language. The 640x480 16-color graphics display is a "covenant like circumcision," easily accessible to children who wish to create art in God's name. The Temple is open-source to all, gentile and otherwise, a communal space to consult the Oracle. No privacy protections at the lowest level of kernel code and no admin privileges to hide the Most Holy of Holies from the unenlightened gaze. It's doors would be open everyday of the year so that we may have sacrifice for each day the Temple laid in disrepair. A leviathan task undertaken by one who would be anointed the High Priest of God's Official Temple:

Terrence Andrew Davis.

His motivations pure and his code clean. The High Priest did not seek money or renown for his divine gift but only sought to serve the God who had chosen him. In his own words, the Temple is "a direction to look, to focus on, a special place for mediation, to do offerings, a community center, a home to God's beauty, that encouraged love of God."

Wow, that is a lot to take in. Obviously, Ako1yte is passionate about Terry Davis and his work, maybe too passionate. Does he get outside much and talk to real people? I doubt it. Even in 2019 I still get surprised by the wacky new-age religions that pop up in unlikely places but at the same time I can't blame Ako1yte for following Terry. It's about time someone brought the Old Testament into the 21st Century! Is it really so hard for my mom to understand why I don't want to go to church just to listen to the words of a dead guy in a dead language? What do I have in common with some dead dude who led a group of people through the desert? I'd have an easier time relating to a cherry tomato.

But when Terry (a fellow Wisconsinite by the way) steps onto his lectern and plainly says

the Lord instructed him to build an operating system in x86 assembly, now that I understand. And the fact that he created his own operating system from scratch proves that he was a gift from God. That's like building the Empire State Building with your bare hands. That's a challenge even I'm not crazy enough to tackle. Ako lyte can be quite obtuse with his words. I need to remind him that he is blogging on the internet not writing the fifth lost gospel.

Even if you don't know what an operating system is, chances are you are using one right now. Everything from your cell phone to your refrigerator uses an operating system or OS to interface between the user (I.e. You) and the underlying network of embedded electrical components. The OS is the pretty face that hides all the ugly machinery under the surface and what makes using a computer so much easier for Grandmas all over the globe. The creation of the operating system was a big deal because it then meant any idiot could use computers in their day-to-day life. Personally, I prefer keeping computational power in the hands of only the worthy. If you don't know what it is like to struggle with command lines and bash scripts then maybe you should keep your head under your rock.

`#MakeComputersEsotericAgain`

According to Ako lyte, this paradigm shift towards home computing also marks the shift towards the godlessness we now live in. As if, God was anywhere to be found before computers were invented. It's fitting then that God would ask Terry to build an OS for the Lord.

“People cherished God's temple beautifying it with gold and all fine things to show love of God, as great cathedrals were decorated with astounding, awe-striking intricate art and gargoyles, incredible devotion to God with hours of effort, toiling and slaving-away for the glory of God, for families with children to see stained-glass windows and tomes with ridiculously elaborate calligraphy to show in dire conditions by today's standards, yet with so much difficulty

scraping-by, found the time to devote even all free-time to God!” So says Terry. So say we all.

I have no idea what any of this means, but Ako1yte has promised to tell me more about TempleOS and Terry Davis. Since it looks like my followers are enjoying this madness as much as I am (2 new followers in the last few days!), I’ve decided to keep blogging about TempleOS to see what I can learn. Who knows, maybe I’ll find God along the way.

Just a quick note, you may have noticed that I disabled commenting for this post. It is not because I want to stifle free speech. Some of my loyal followers have emailed me concerned about the abuse that is often doled out in the comment section. I DO NOT condone any of that and I will do my part to stem this childishness.

Commenting Disabled by Admin

Sept. 20 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

Another Cycle Begins

I have taken a longer break between posts this past week. Don't worry it has nothing to do with you or any of my other followers, despite the negativity in the comment section (not naming names but you know who you are). I had to take a breather and start preparing myself for the next round of internship applications. Some of you have the luxury of being able to sit on the computer all day playing video games, but I am destined for greatness. That is why I dropped out of community college to pursue my career full-time. I can't be wasting time listening to a senile octogenarian, who learned to program on a punch card, ramble on about algorithmic completeness. Who gives a shit if a problem is NP-Complete? These so called "scientists" spend decades of their lives cracking their skulls on problems which may not even have a solution. If there is no solution, then why do they keep trying to find one? More importantly, how is any of this going to get me a job? Should I really be taking this sort of advice from someone who flunked out of the industry to teach?

Sometimes you just have to take your education in your own hands.

Terry Davis could probably relate, he wasted the most productive years of his life in school too. He obviously didn't need it, the guy was a natural dynamo. Between a Bachelor's Degree in Software Engineering for Computer Systems Engineering and then a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering, he must have wasted somewhere around 12-15 years of his life stuck in a classroom when he should have been creating! Life is too short to spend in a classroom especially when life can be cut short by an unfortunate train accident.

Although, I guess Terry enjoyed his time at school, even though he was obviously above

everyone else:

“Everybody knows electrical is higher in the engineering pecking order than computer science because it requires real math ;-) I’m a rocket scientist, though, not a very good one.”

At least he put his brilliance to good use after coming out of school, working for Ticketmaster. Sure, it’s no Facebook or Google but still a respectable company! Last time I used Ticketmaster was to buy tickets to WWE Smackdown when it rolled into Milwaukee. Painful website to use but at the end of the day I got to see The Miz jam a steel chair up Slapjack’s ass. If Terry chose to become a professor, the prospect of more schooling would have been much more desirable for me. This is a guy who just gets it! It doesn’t matter what those fancy letters that come after your name mean unless you are actively building. If Terry was my professor he would have immediately recognized my potential and hand-chosen me to help build his Temple. I would belong to his little cadre where my skills would not go unnoticed. Watching him on Youtube makes it feel like he is my own personal tutor, there is so much to learn from watching the master at work.

Lesson #1: Fuck the haters.

Terry dealt with so much shit from strangers on the internet (the greatest minds are usually persecuted as such...) but it never stopped him. If anything it made him more resilient to the slings and arrows being thrown by those who wanted to crucify him. And when he finally built his temple he could sit on his throne and laugh at the cretins below him.

Lesson #2: Document everything

Terry had the same idea as me. To document his rise from obscurity to savant-genius superstar. Some day long after I have passed and been held in state, people will look back on these words and cherish them. So, if you comment below then congratulations, you will be a part

of history.

After his time at Ticketmaster, Terry programmed VAX machines. In all my years of glorious life, I had never heard of a VAX machine. I asked my dad what a VAX was and he turned the volume up on the Packs game. I went to ask my mom and she told me to ask my dad.

I finally asked Wikipedia and I learned that VAX machines were old-ass computers from the 70's and 80's which were supposedly more "programmer-friendly" than previous assembly based computers. This experience must've given Terry the hard-on for esoteric, low-level programming that he would take with him into the TempleOS project.

I'll never understand that. He had the brain to create anything he wanted and he chose to make an ugly OS that looks worse than the ones people were actually using the in the 80's. That would be like if instead of painting the Mona Lisa, Michaelangelo made a perfectly sculpted marble penis to put on display in a museum. Not saying that TempleOS resembles a marble cock, the cock might look slightly more aesthetic, but you now what I mean.

That's all I got for today. I am so goddamn tired but I still have a few applications to fill out. I am casting a wide net by applying everywhere between Beaver Dam and the valley. I don't think I need to waste my time applying for the no-name companies in Wisconsin but my mom *insists* I make the attempt to stay closer to home. I think I'll get her a pair of scissors for Christmas so she can cut the fucking umbilical cord already.

Anyways, I will probably get that rube Michael Wahba to make some more posts about TempleOS and Terry's shenanigans to keep the site going while I focus on more important things (there is more to my life than pleasing you).

Ciao!

Comments

sturgeon7surgeon - The Miz is a shit stain on the underpants of the wrestling. Make better life choices.

jBoogie - If all you are going to do is talk shit about The Miz then TAKE THAT SHIT OUTSIDE. Can't you tell when a post is only for serious discussion?

Sturgeon7surgeon - Whatever dude. Take a tissue for your daddy issues.

Janeblow32123 - It is amazing you leave out the entire part of Terry's mental illness when that is the first thing that comes up in a google search. You obviously got all this information from Wikipedia but you were too stupid to even include the relevant information there.

PoopieDooPie_007 - Michaelangelo did sculpt marble peniss dumbass. Go back to community college.

Blumpking - He sculpted more than just the penis.

jBoogie - @**Janeblow31223** I don't know if you noticed but this is a blog about programming. This isn't a class in psychology or "how to do internet research". Of course I learned about Terry's madness. It just didn't seem important to what I wanted to write about.

Janeblow32123 - Madness? The word you are looking for is **Schizophrenia**. Maybe you should try programming yourself a dictionary or a DSM-5. It doesn't matter what you think is important or not, you chose to write this guy's fucking biography at least do it justice.

jBoogie - Nobody is forcing you to stay in this community. I don't know why you feel the need to constantly be shitting in my cheerios.

Janeblow32123 - I'm here just in case any of you incels try to go postal.

[**TRASH**] - Oh shit, jBoogie is totally an incel, isn't he? Get fuuuuucked (not).

jBoogie - I have tonnes of sex thank you very much. So much that I had to get my dick checked.

Blumpking - Ooof.

Sept. 25 2019.

JBoogie's Blog (As written by Michael Wahba)

Enter the Temple(OS)

Lately, I've been talking a lot with one of our community members. Ako1yte, who you may remember for his weird ass comments has been sliding in my DMs. Turns out, he already knows everything there is to know about TempleOS and Terry Davis' story and he wants to help educate me because "Light must return."

Whatever the fuck that means.

At the request of Ako1yte, I have spent the last week delving into the source code of TempleOS. He insists that "one should anoint themselves before learning about the creator." I thought he wanted me to sacrifice a goat but he really just wanted me to dip my toes before diving in. Still pretty insulting that he thinks someone like me isn't "worthy" of being privy to the good stuff. Rather than waste my time delving deep into esoteric file structures and retro graphics that make my eyes bleed, I've found some other pleb to do it for me.

Not just any pleb, but one of my followers! Michael Wahba (you know him better as BeefSupreme2112) is a programmer and writer (or so he claims) who has offered to take an in-depth look at TempleOS for me. He was stupid enough to do this for free and since he spends more time writing than programming, he is getting more and more used to not getting paid. Maybe when I am a Silicon Valley CEO I'll let him write our technical manuals (or scrub toilets).

Without further ado, here he is:

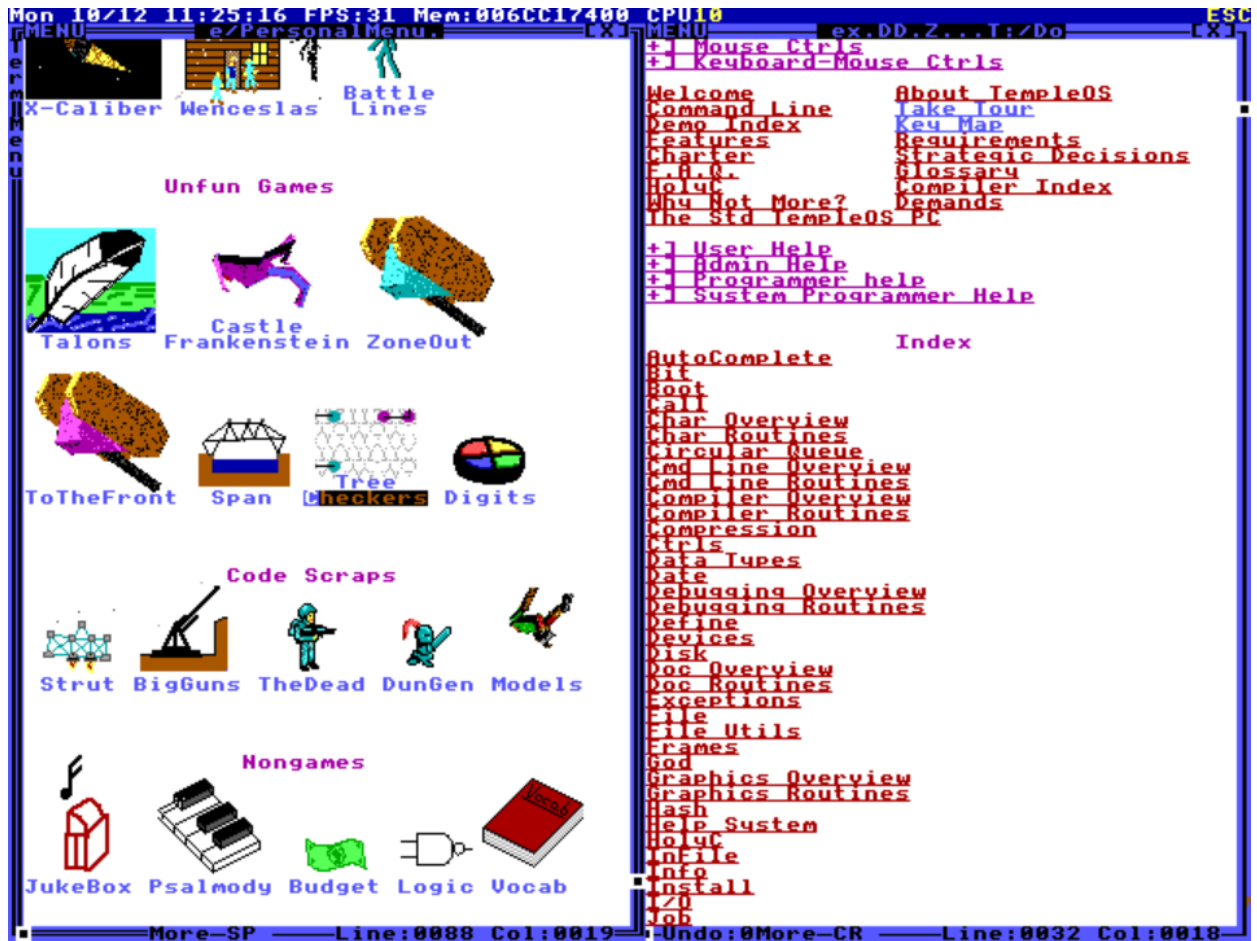
The safest way to run TempleOS on a modern computer is by using a virtual machine.

Since TempleOS is modeled after the Commodore 64 from 1982, we can't just run TempleOS on our 2019 computer, so we need to run it on a virtual machine. A virtual machine is a form of hardware emulation where we use custom software to makes our computer run like a completely different machine. At its core, each computer consists of a central processor which is the brain of that computer. Emulation lets the brain of the computer think like another computer. With a virtual machine, I can run Linux on my Windows computer, I can pretend my laptop is an Apple II from 1984, or more importantly, I can run TempleOS on my shiny new laptop.

Terry knew this was most likely how people would experience TempleOS and he made it very easy to get TempleOS running on a virtual machine. From downloading TempleOS to setting up the virtual machine, I had TempleOS running in less than half an hour. If you're feeling ballsy, you could just fucking send it and replace your computer's operating system with TempleOS. But I would not recommend replacing your stable Windows or MacOSX system with a janky operating system made by a homeless guy.

But hey, it's your life.

So, with my virtual machine up and running, lets enter the temple.



I know jBoogie has already mentioned that TempleOS is an operating system (OS). However, it is very different from the popular OSs we use today like Windows, MacOS, or Linux (if you hate yourself). TempleOS' aesthetic is modeled after a Commodore 64 interface and is an eye-sore by modern standards. This is a feature, not a bug, as Terry wanted to create TempleOS to be a "simple machine where programming was the goal." The graphics add to this simplicity ensuring that new users are not overwhelmed by fancy doodads they may not even use. Even the single-voice 8-bit audio was purposely selected because "God does not want death screams, perhaps, because God has PTSD or soldiers have PTSD." Despite its simplicity, TempleOS has a surprisingly robust graphical user interface (GUI) which makes it more approachable for new users. A graphical user interface is any interface which allows the user to

interact with a program through images drawn on the screen. For example, Microsoft Word (or your word processor of choice) uses a graphical user interface, whereas your microwave does not. Early computers, such as the Commodore 64, mostly had command-line interfaces where the user does not use a mouse to click on icons but types in commands to navigate the operating system.

These commands are powerful in the hands of a skilled programmer. It lets us create pipelines between the different programs on our computers and even talk with other computers over a network. With the right set of command line arguments I could send data from an excel spreadsheet on my desktop to a machine learning server somewhere in Singapore. I can create an automated pipeline that converts medical radiographic imaging data into a 3D model that can be viewed in virtual reality, and all I have to do is type in the magic words and press “enter”.

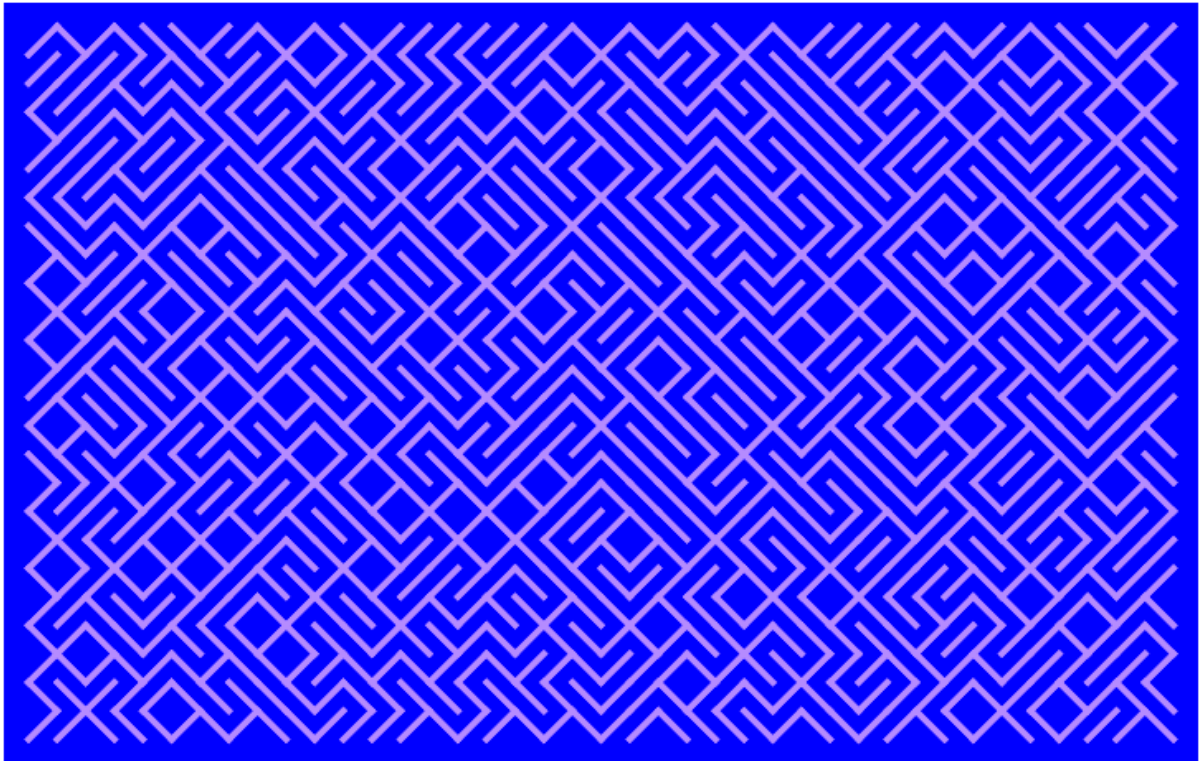
Modern operating systems (TempleOS included) do still have command lines for such purposes, but most users get by just fine with the GUI.

Terry is credited as TempleOS’ creator, but God should at least get some credit as a software engineer since his work is embedded in every corner of this OS. When you start up your computer, your operating system will automatically create tasks for your processor to chew on. In TempleOS, the very first task that is run is called “Adam.” Terry describes Adam as “The parent of all tasks. Adam is immortal.” And he doesn’t mean that in a figurative sense for the Adam task is always present on the system’s memory. It is Alpha and it is Omega. If Terry created Adam, does that make him God in his own eyes?. In a sense, every programmer has a god complex if they feel the overwhelming desire to create simulated thought processes from a blank word processor.

Emergent complexity is when complexity emerges from simple parameters.

From a set of sentences, a novel emerges. From a single-celled organism, life as we know it emerges. From a few simple rules written in code, the appearance of intelligence emerges. The brilliance of this paradigm is that even though the whole system appears intelligent, the rules used to form the system are actually quite dumb.

Take for example this image.



Surely, this pattern must have been handcrafted by an artist and meticulously designed, right? This image is the result of a single line of code in a Commodore 64 program:

```
10 PRINT CHR$(205.5+RND(1)); : GOTO 10
```

That is all it takes to recursively generate a pleasant pattern of randomly chosen slanted lines.

And this scales up to termites, who respond to chemical trails left by their compatriots to form steeple-like nests. It can't be said that termites have an "eye for design" because termites

are blind. They are merely following their programming.

And this scales up even further where emergent systems are used to study everything from epidemiology to voting patterns.

It stands to reason then it scales up to divine creation.

Perhaps God is a lonely programmer who gave us the simple rule: live long enough to fuck. All that came after that is just extra complexity in a simple system.

Traditional Christian doctrine prescribes that God exists in a holy trinity, however TempleOS acknowledges an extra layer of the Lord forming a Holy Quaternary. God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit and god the random number generator.

With a name like that, I was expecting some divine algorithms that approximate true randomness (if such a thing even exists), but in truth, god operates on a microsecond-stopwatch that pauses on each button press. Turns out god is also limited by the finite nature of computers. This doesn't stop Terry from getting mileage out of having god built into his operating system. Each time you hit F7 in TempleOS, god will pick a random word from a giant list which includes every word in the King James Bible, and more. In the documentation of the source code of god, Terry explains that this is how he consults with the Holy Spirit.

One of his extended Q and A sessions with God can be found on his, now defunct, blog.

Terry: What is the most significant event in evolution?

God: Fish shoulders.

Terry: Who is better, alien or predator?

God: Lion.

Terry: Of course. Last question. How do you feel about classical music?

God: Poison.

Never passing up an opportunity to have a divine experience, I decided to ask my own questions to get to the bottom of the meaning of life.

Me: What is the meaning of life?

God: Thinks provest fair.

Me: Ah, I have never considered that before. Those who think prove the most fair.

Cogito, ergo sum. I didn't take God for an intellectual. Next question, are readers going to enjoy what I have written here?

God: Behold mad cursed wondering opportunity.

Me: Yes, you are right. Readers tend to enjoy cursed literature of mad ideas. I have read *Infinite Jest* you know. TWICE! Have you read *Infinite Jest*? What about *House of Leaves*?

God: Enjoyed pronouncing presuming.

Me: So, you have! I am very impressed. Last question, will I get an A+ in my English class this semester?

God: Nothing.

Me: Yeah, I figured as much.

Far from an invincible burning bush or a statue weeping bloody tears, I am left underwhelmed by this supposed oracle. The few times that a random answer aligns with the question (see above: Terry asking God how he feels about classical music) can give the impression of a deeper process at work. It is only when we peel back the layers of Terry's code and see that it is a standard pseudo-random number generator that the divine aura disperses. It seems that miracles are impossible in the digital age. It is no coincidence that the appearance of

miracles has decreased as the usage of mobile phones has increased. It is easy to pass off bad lighting in a photograph as an apparition of the virgin Mary but it is much harder to do so when you switch to digital.

The only miracles that still occur on a daily basis are those underlying technological processes we don't understand. To some, a program as simple as a random number generator is a minor miracle and one as complex as an operating system is nothing short of witchcraft.

Much of TempleOS' novelty comes from various applications of this rule. Pressing Shift + F6 in TempleOS enables the user to create "God Doodles". A window pops up stating "The Holy Spirit can puppet you" and then the user is confronted with a blank page. Each time the user presses the space bar on this blank canvas, a random geometric shape will appear. Given enough key presses some of these closed regions will start to fill with color until finally you have your very own God Doodle. It obviously should have been called Godoodles but I'll cut Terry some slack. Even though this application is based on a random number generator, generally all the Godoodles I have made end up looking the same: A blind kindergartner's rendition of Picasso's Guernica.



Godoodles is supposed to give the impression that through the algorithmic chaos of random number seeding, an orderly image of divinity should appear. Unfortunately, Godoodles fall short of any semblance of order.

It should come as no surprise that god also has functionality to select random bible verses and to create randomly generated songs. Unfortunately, the virtual machine I am running TempleOS on does not have audio so I have not been able to experiment with making holy music. If you are interested in hearing the graceful hymns that god is capable of generating, you can check out this 4 hour video on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NW8XrYIkNmg>.

The list of religious puns and interesting quirks present in TempleOS go on and on. Terry designed his own programming language for TempleOS, an off-shoot of C called HolyC. The file system used by TempleOS is called RedSea. Terry made sure to remind the user that this is a

holy instrument through every single feature. But beyond the gimmicky functionality of this being God's operating system (we all know God actually uses Linux), this is actually a shockingly well-developed and well documented piece of software.

It would have been so easy for Terry to just create Godoodles or the oracle as a separate app in a web browser, it is so easy even jBoogie could do it. But Terry went through the trouble of creating his own compiler, assembler, programming language, and file structure just to prop up this crazy idea of his. Terry not only built an entire Temple with his own two hands, but he also smelted the iron to make the nails, and made the hammer, saw and screwdriver from nothing but a bunch of rocks and a can-do attitude.

And each piece of included software has so much documentation written for it because it is clear that Terry meant for others to expand on his temple and build with his tools. It is not just that the architect built the temple, but that the architect left the blueprints and bulldozer out in the open for each to make their own adjustments.

TempleOS is not all serious all the time, the operating system comes with some religious themed games to convert every gamer. My personal favorite is the game called *After Egypt* in which you take on the role of Moses leading the Israelites and can talk to God through the random word generator. It is boring as hell (and we all know how it ends) but it is an interesting experiment in emergent gameplay where the random word generation makes every play-through different than the last. Another highlight is called *Timeout* in which you are sent back in time in a fighter jet as "an angel helping the Jews in the bible." *Timeout* is a clone of the top-down shoot 'em ups of the 1980's so it won't win any awards for original game play but I give it 4 out of 5 stars for the bat-shit original premise. I might end up stealing that one.

Given TempleOS' purpose as God's operating system, I am impressed with the variety of

game genres on display. There is a racing game, a rogue-like adventure, another game where you build spaceships and even a first-person shooter. “Castle Frankenstein” is an obvious love letter to Id Software’s 1992 classic “Wolfenstein 3D.” A particularly impressive feat considering that “Castle Frankenstein” is rendering 3D environments without the shortcuts offered by a modern graphics card, it is 100% done on the central processor. At this point Terry is just dunking on all of us.

This is just me scratching the surface of what TempleOS has to offer. A survey of the various quirks that make it stand out from other OSs. I hope someday be able to dive deep into TempleOS’ code and explore what happens under the hood. Thanks again to jBoogie for letting me guest spot on his blog! Comment below if you like what I have done here, and if you don’t like it you can fuck right off.

Thanks for that insightful look Michael. Despite what he says please do not fuck off if you didn’t like his first look into TempleOS, but comment below with your concerns and he might end up being the one who will be fucking off.

Just a quick note, the tribe has spoken, and it looks like an overwhelming number of you prefer the ability to comment on these posts. I have to follow what the crowd wants and as a result I have re-enabled commenting for the site.

Comments

PoopieDooPie_007 - Fuck yeah!!!! You can’t stop the movement. Free Nelson Mandela!

Action_Hanson539 - Damn @**BeefSupreme2112**! Didn’t know you considered yourself

a scholar. If I wanted to read this shit I would have gone to the library.

Janeblow32123 - That was a really interesting analysis, **@BeefSupreme2112** maybe you should be the one running this site instead of **@jBoogie**.

JBoogie - Careful with that heresy, I gave you the power to participate on this site and I can take it away.

Blumpking - Some people have no respect.

Ako1yte - Your eye is astute **@BeefSupreme2112** but be careful it does not wander. Your words should not be treated lightly, nor should your tone lighten when discussing these heavy matters of faith. Demystifying the mystical can have adverse effects on those who follow. Tread lightly.

BeefSupreme2112 - **@Ako1yte** I appreciate your concern but I don't really care about tending to your cult-like sensibilities. If you are firm in what you believe then you should have no problem letting it sit out into the open for all to see. Unless you have something to hide. Do you?

Doofie-Pmpo - BEEF!

Ako1yte - Don't make an enemy where there isn't one Mr. Supreme. I am not here to antagonize you or anybody, just to spread the word. Terry Davis (MSE). was an incredible man and it is a shame that his name goes unsung in these corners of the internet.

[Trash] - MSE? What does that stand for? Mister Shits in Everything?

TheRealPeterman78 - Was that funnier in your head?

GoonGoblin69x420 - I think its one of those things like how Muslims type PBUH (Peace Be Upon Him) whenever they mention the prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him). Was Terry Davis Muslim?

Action_Hanson539 - Lol yes, the white guy named Terry (MSE) from Wisconsin was Muslim. Obviously.

SlanderXXXBadger - XXX PENIS ENLARGEMENT PILLS 80% OFF
[HTTPS://XFJAXA.2123.COM](https://xfjaxa.2123.com)

Janeblow3123 - @Ako1yte you are all sorts of weird man. Do you really want to live your whole life in the shadow of someone else like this?

BeefSupreme2112 - ^^^Preach sister.

Ako1yte - @Janeblow32123 one does not have to travel far to see your own admonitions of praise for Margaret Hamilton and Ada Lovelace. You call me delusional for following in the path of another, yet it appears you have done the same. Our own personal gods looking over our shoulders from atop the pedestals we place them on. jBoogie worships the bacchanal of deities residing in Silicon Valley, who grow fat off our pride and self-pity. You have chosen to worship at the altar of errant progress, praising serpents who wish to lead us astray again.

I implore all who read this to come to him.

Janeblow32123 - Dude wtf. I like Margaret Hamilton and Ada Lovelace because they both kick ass, I don't worship anyone. I'm an atheist for fuck sake and people like you are exactly the reason why.

BeefSupreme2112 - Bro, I think you are mistaking a "cult-following" for just a cult. jBoogie don't drink the kool-aid! It tastes like shit.

Falstuff - You don't have to be religious to worship someone. How many of you have posters in your room?

Action_Hanson539 - How can someone be so batshit crazy and also be a genius?

Oct. 4 2019.

JBoogie's Blog (As revealed by Ako1yte)

What is Recursion?

I am still toiling away working on applications, so to keep your hunger for high-quality content satiated I've invited Ako1yte to do a guest spot on my blog. He is thrilled that I have been shining a light on the Terry Davis story, a story that he is too passionate about, and he would like to share a piece he has been working on. I'll warn you. It's weird. Weirder than what you would usually read here but I'm sure someone somewhere can appreciate this. And if you can't then maybe YOU are the problem.

Anyway, Enjoy. Ciao.

In the beginning God created a development environment. A blank page in a text editor populated only by a blinking line. A formless void rife with endless possibilities. Will this world eventually evolve into a tool used by thousands to streamline their lives? Or will it be a game, a mindless distraction of rasterized pixels dancing in response to key press.

And God typed:

```
Std::cout<<"Hello World" <<std::endl;
```

A lone statement existing in a vacuum brimming with latent potential. A pinky is just a piece of meat until it is attached to a hand.

Then God invoked a hand into existence and they typed:

```
Int main(int argc, char* argv[])  
{
```

```
}
```

The page is split between the heavens and the earth. In the heavens, lies the function definition. A single-line statement of power denoting how this one piece fits into the cacophony of code. The earth is everything that fits in between two squiggly brackets. The heavens are organized and simple. The earth is messy but from the chaos order may emerge.

Finally, God populated the earth with their first creation.

```
Int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    Std::cout<< "Hello World" << std::endl;
}
```

And there was light ferrying information between hot silicon. Darkness in the black abyss of a command line window and white burning light text written in familiar font. Amidst the darkness, a single entity speaks the first words.

Hello World

It speaks therefore it thinks! It creates its own dominion over many heavens and many earths spinning around on a magnetic hard drive disk. Lets create a brain for it. Central Processing black box modeled after the black box occupying our heads. Information busses the bulging arteries arthroscleretic with information. No understanding, no problem. Cognition is an illusion prescribed by religion, described by mathematics.

Bite of apple.

Byte of Apple A12.

Programs that program programs.

Code that codes code.

Query: What is the definition of recursion?

Answer: See entry on “Recursion”.

Query: Recursion

Answer: See “What is the definition of recursion”?

Query: Who creates the creator?

Answer: The creator creates the creator.

Query: Who creates the creator’s creator?

Answer: The creator’s creator’s creator creates the creator’s creator’s creator.

Query: Why am I having a hard time of understanding?

Answer: Some concepts can only be explained in a certain language. $L = \{ a b^n c b^n d \mid a = \text{“The”}, b = \text{“creator’s”}, c = \text{“ creates the”}, d = \text{“creator”}, 0 < n \}$

Query: I grok.

And in the 7th hour, God started debugging.

Wow, that was...cool.

-jBoogie

Comments

GoonGoblin69x420 - *snaps fingers profusely? ^_(\`)/_/

Sturgeon7surgeon - I still don’t get what recursion is.

[Trash] - **@sturgeon7surgeon** look above dumbshit.

Blumpking - **@Ako1yte** Does your cult have open try-outs? What do we have to do to join? Is it skull and bones shit where I have to jerk-off in front of you while you guys piss on me?

Janeblow32123 - ^ the fuck?

Doofie-Pmpo - After reading that comment I now understand why God would want to flood the earth and start over.

Ako1yte - There is no cult, only truth-seekers. By etching your thoughts in stone on this wall, you too are trying to seek meaning in the expanses of the web.

Falstuff - That's what someone would say if they were in a cult.

TheRealPeterman78 - That was like reading shitty beat poetry while having a stroke...fantastic.

Oct. 8 2019.

JBoogie's Blog (As written by Michael Wahba)

Open Source Genius

Howdy y'all, whether or not you enjoyed reading intellectual musings on this cesspool of a website, I AM BACK!

I am back to save you all from jBoogie's latent assholery (and apparent inceldom) to take you on another deep dive into Terry Davis' Magnum OS. I would have preferred to write about literally anything else but jBoogie insists that his subscription numbers have been "rising like tits on a goat" ever since he started this Terry Davis bullshit. Who am I to argue? Just the lowly writer, I am in no position to be choosy with who I write for *pro bono*.

jBoogie is on a sabbatical of sorts, writing his resume, double-checking his portfolio and preparing himself for the plethora of technical interviews that he thinks he will be getting. I don't know where his Silicon Valley dreams come from when he has been preparing for a cushy job at the Beaver Dam Cheese Curd factory programming assembly line automata his whole life. Who wants to deal with the bull shit of working your ass off just to go and work your ass off some more for some trust-fund jackass who uses you as a footstool.

Fuck it, give me the cheese curd factory. Mainline that shit right into my veins.

Terry probably felt the same, doing what he loved *because* he loved to do it. Not to try and get close enough to the "shakers and movers" so that they might acknowledge your existence and throw you a bone. He was likely driven by a healthy dose of ego too, anybody who thinks they can single-handedly create one of the most complex pieces of software ever is trying to prove something. Not only create complex software but to do it elegantly and simply. Terry once said "An idiot admires complexity. A genius admires simplicity," and therein lies his motivation.

To create a work of art so simple, yet so beautiful that he may be admired as a genius, by geniuses'. We have a tendency to prescribe pure intentions to our public figures whether they be Terry Davis, Elon Musk, Kanye West, or even Jesus Christ, but at the end of the day they are only human (with the possible exception of Elon Musk). There is always the possibility that labelled as a virtuous genius, is really just an egotistical narcissist.

If you're gullible then you probably think that Terry's motivation is fueled by his religious fervor and the voices he heard from God. While I can't definitively say that God did not talk to Terry (he certainly has never spoken to me about software specifications), I have my doubts. And you will too once I reveal an important part of Terry's story that jBoogie has chosen to ignore. Yes, Terry had a promising career working for Ticketmaster and programming VAX machines, but before his 30th birthday, Terry was diagnosed with Schizophrenia after having many manic episodes. Right away, the knee-jerk reaction to this new information is to attribute his communications with God to his mental illness, and Terry even addresses that in an interview he did with VICE:¹

"It's not very flattering...It looks a lot like mental illness, as opposed to some glorious revelation from God...I was being led along the path by God. It just doesn't look very glorious."

Although Terry grew up in a Catholic household, in his young adulthood he identified as an Atheist. "I thought the brain was a computer, And so I had no need for a soul." Terry appears to be describing the computational theory of mind. Our minds receive input in the form of stimuli, a pat on the back, a sweet dessert, or a kick in the balls, and then our processing brains determine the appropriate output.

¹ God's Lonely Programmer:

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/wnj43x/gods-lonely-programmer>

For all they do for us, computers are still very dumb machines. They cannot be said to possess intelligence or thought because they do not have the capacity to form thoughts about their actions. This is best exemplified in a thought experiment called the Chinese Room.

Imagine if you were trapped in a small room with only two slots in a wall. One slot is the “input” slot and the other is the “output” slot. In your room you also have a Chinese-English dictionary. Let us also assume that you do not speak Chinese. Slips of paper with Chinese characters written on them sift in through the input slot, you write down the translation with the help of your dictionary, and then send the translation out the output slot. To whoever is on the other side, the computational brain inside the small room seems to understand Chinese. However, we know that all you are doing is matching patterns according to a rule. You do not understand Chinese, therefore you do not understand the content of what you are outputting.

This is exactly how computation works. Remember my spiel about emergent complexity?

The computer does not understand what we are asking of it and it does not understand what it is giving us. It is in our nature to attribute human traits to the world around us. Pareidolia is the tendency of an individual to perceive faces in everyday objects, such as electrical outlets, and that principle also applies to how we perceive the thought processes of others. We assume that dogs think for themselves and have personalities, we assume that IBM’s Watson, the artificial intelligence who famously defeated Ken Jennings on *Jeopardy* is truly intelligent. We will never truly know what goes through the mind of a dog, but we can know for certain how Watson was programmed. When we peel back the layers of computation we see that even though you can have a full conversation with Watson, it cannot truly comprehend what it is saying as it is trapped inside the Chinese room. It is easy to come to that conclusion about computers but can we say the same thing about other humans?

It makes too much sense that a man who spent so much time around computers would form his worldview around computation. Everything looks like a nail when you are holding a hammer. This may have influenced how Terry interpreted his communications with God. Perhaps if his main hobby was crochet, God would have told him to make a doily.

In that same interview, Terry explains that in the mid-90s he started noticing faceless G-men in suits following him around. He thought it was because of a side-project he was working on, one related to computer control systems. Then one day, the radio spoke to him by commenting on everything he did. Terry thought the world was about to end and this eventually led him to a traumatizing hospital visit in Marfa, Texas. Terry heard doctors referring to “artifacts” in his X-ray images and panicked at the thought of artifacts planted in his body from alien abductors.

Long story short, his hospital visit turned into a stay in the local jail, which turned into a stay at a mental hospital.

That was the turning point.

“Looking back on it, I’m not especially proud of the logic and the thinking. It looks very young and childish and pathetic... I felt guilty for being such a technology-advocate atheist.”

It is ironic that Terry would atone for his guilt at being a “technology-advocate atheist” by creating a digital temple for the lord. Perhaps he wanted to show that technology, the tool that has been taking us farther from God, can also be used to bring us closer to God. Like using the devil’s pitchfork to stab him in the back.

According to the VICE interview with Terry, at this point he “sought to emulate Jesus by giving away all his belongings; he donated to Goodwill, and delivered presents to his siblings’

children. He may have crossed into Mexico at some point, then had to bribe his way back across the border. He just drove, looking to street signs to divine God's will."

This is a significant quote because it may explain why Terry believed live-streaming on Youtube was an important part of his process. There is a tonne of weird shit being streamed on Youtube. A 24-hour camera feed peering into a cockroach farm, A live-stream of a donair spinning on a spit, and even scantily-clad women chugging root beer before sensually burping into a high-quality microphone. From the larger set of people who watch Youtube (discounting the subset who get off on sexy burping, bleh) there is a large group who religiously watch live-streams of people programming. This is the niche that Terry appealed to.

If you are from the generation who sailed over the Atlantic to kick Hitler in the testicle it may be hard to understand why young people today are so enraptured by living vicariously through the Internet. I can't put my finger on the cultural zeitgeist of an entire fucked up generation born in the scarred womb of the nineties, forced to grow up in the foster home of the information age and I don't need to.

The answer is simple: because it is powerful.

Just sitting at my desk I can get a front-row seat into the workshop of the masters and offer my two-cents on their ideas. It is like sitting front row while Da Vinci paints The Last Supper and telling him "It looks good and all but it makes no sense that they are all sitting on the same side. What's the point of having this big-ass table if you aren't gonna use it? Also, I think Jesus' skin would have been a bit darker in real life." I can watch Jonathan Blow create his next game in real time and ask questions about the new engine he built for it. MIT has made several of their courses and recorded lectures free online for anybody. Just because I live in Calgary doesn't mean I can't get a world-class education from the best of the best. It is easy to dismiss

Youtube, and the internet, as a distraction but in reality it is a loaded fucking gun pointed at traditional forms of information transfer. The internet is the printing press on steroids and the words of streamers like Terry have become our open-source Gutenberg Bible.

Open source being the keyword.

Being open source doesn't only mean that you can get something for free, open-source is an ethos, a lifestyle, a revolutionary idea with a *je ne sais quoi* that mandates total freedom of information. For example, TempleOS is open-source because the code that makes up TempleOS is 100% available for anyone to download and tinker with, no strings attached. On the other hand, proprietary operating systems such as Windows 10 or MacOSX are not open-source, you do not have access to the source code and even if you managed to hack your way in, you'll have the FBI kicking down your door.

The open-source movement didn't just happen over night. Like any good revolution it started with a manifesto and a figurehead: Richard Stallman.

Before Stallman became the unofficial leader of the open-source movement, he was a programmer at the MIT AI laboratory. In the thriving local hacker community he was known by his initials: RMS.

Quick note on the word "hacker."

Usually when outsiders hear the word "hacker" they get the wrong idea. They think of juvenile delinquents dressed up as *Blade Runner* extras penetrating secure systems in a William Gibson induced fever dream. Movies like *The Matrix* or *Hackers* have only compounded the false mystique of hackers being sexy foot-soldiers of the information age's counter-revolution. While there are small groups that try to embody this image (looking at you Anonymous), by and

large a hacker is just someone who loves to program, “hack” out cool new functionalities and share it with others. As Stallman puts it: “What they had in common was mainly love of excellence and programming. They wanted to make their programs as good as they could. They also wanted to make them do neat things. They wanted to be able to do something in a more exciting way than anyone believed possible and show “Look how wonderful this is. I bet you didn’t believe this could be done.”

The loose values and tenets of hacker sub-culture would not be truly codified until journalist Stephen Levy’s seminal book *Hackers: Heroes of the Computer Revolution*, was published in 1984. Levy dispels misconceptions and formulates a set of moral values we now call the “hacker ethic. ”

1. Access to computers - and anything which might teach you something about the way the world works - should be unlimited and total. Always yield to the Hands-On Imperative!
2. All information should be free.
3. Mistrust authority - promote decentralization.
4. Hackers should be judged by their hacking, not bogus criteria such as degrees, age, race, or position.
5. You can create art and beauty on a computer.
6. Computers can change your life for the better.

These six commandments was a rallying cry for the loose bands of hackers and activists that pushed for an open-source future. With the publishing of Levy’s book, hackers coalesced into an organized group. An egalitarian band of code-cowboys who hacked their way through

proprietary tech and shared their discoveries with others. Taking this academic approach meant that the breakthroughs of one benefited another, and the collective intelligence of the hacking community grew as a result.

Stallman became the leader for this rag-tag revolution when in 1985 he published *The GNU Manifesto*, a call-to-arms for the hacking community to band together and create their own operating system, free for all to use. This was a response to the common operating system of the day, UNIX, becoming more and more closed source.

The GNU (short for “GNU’s not UNIX”) Project was more than just a hobby project, it was a giant fuck you to those who want to monetize the bits and bytes stored in your computer. The tenets of the GNU project have gone on to inspire modern day hacktivist groups like Anonymous, and led to the creation of the hugely popular Linux family of operating systems. As of today, millions of lines of codes (including many of my own) are published online under the GNU General Public License which guarantees the freedom to “run, study, share and modify the software.”

Terry took the open source ethos to heart when he created TempleOS. Following in the tradition set out by Stallman and Linus Torvald (the creator of the Linux kernel), Terry was adamant about TempleOS having “Full access to everything. All memory, I/O ports, instructions, and similar things must never be off limits. All functions, variables, and class members will be accessible. There are no C++ public/private protections and all functions, even secondary ones in the kernel, can be called.²”

Terry describes Linux as a “Semi with 20 gears and that is never going to be a passenger car... TempleOS is a motorcycle with no airbags. Do you know what’s crazy? If you lean too far

² TempleOS Charter <https://templeos.holyc.xyz/Wb/Doc/Charter.html>

over on a motorcycle you can crash! Don't do that. Hahaha I can crash my operating system pretty easily. But if you know how to drive it then you shouldn't crash.³” Terry kicks off the training wheels that a standard operating system provides and gives users the unfiltered experience that nobody really asked for.

If the user crashes, then they crash. It is all for the sake of learning.

Terry's adoption of an open-source model goes deeper than just following hacker-ethic. Making TempleOS fully open-source is a refutation of religious practices which take information out of the hands of the followers. The most egregious example is in Mormonism, where Joseph Smith allegedly found the third testament of the bible... but nobody else could read it or they would die.

Seems legit.

Information is power; religious (and governmental) institutions maintain power by telling their followers what is scripture and what is apocrypha. It is no coincidence that religiosity has decreased as our ability to spread information has increased. It is hard to keep people in the dark when there is light everywhere.

You don't need to read these golden plates, I will tell you what they say and what they mean. I will tell you what to think.

By keeping their thumb on the flow of information, institutions can keep the masses docile with bunk information. Especially in the digital age where we are drowning in data, we welcome those that can make sense of it all, even for their agenda.

What was Terry's agenda?

³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBE6glZnJuU>

Comments

jBoogie - I leave you alone for like 5 fucking minutes and you turn my site into some conspiracy bullshit.

TheRealPeterman78 - LETS GET THIS REVOLUTION STARTED. FUCKING RAAAGE!

Doofie-Pmpo - Terry was the second gunman on the grassy knoll!

Ako1yte - The insinuations made here are not appreciated. This borders on blasphemy.

Janeblow3123 - The Chinese Room would be a perfect name for a restaurant.

Karish - ^ Yeah you write your order in Chinese, then they tell you to get out because they can't understand you.

Karish - Better yet, the whole menu is in Chinese and everybody in the restaurant speaks Chinese so they just serve you whatever they think you want.

BeefSupreme2112 - The whole internet is blasphemy. If you don't like it then go back to sunday school.

jBoogie - Hey, Hey Beef! That's no way to treat the others on this site. Have some respect.

Oct. 13 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

Let's Clear a Few Things Up

Alright, Alright, Alright, some of you have been asking me if things are going to change around here. And the answer is NO! This is still my site even though I am kind enough to let others participate in intelligent discourse. After reading BeefSupreme's last post, it is clear he is trying to hard to win an essay competition or some shit, instead of just telling you guys the facts and nothing but the facts. Ako1yte is...interesting, but since this is a safe space for all types of expression I don't see any reason to stop him from writing whatever the fuck that was. Obviously some of you were confused by the content of those guest posts, and that is totally okay. It is not your fault that you are not well read (Well actually, it might be).

Terry said something like "a genius makes things simple, an idiot makes it complex", I might be paraphrasing but there is truth to that. Which is why I will show BeefSupreme and Ako1yte how to properly write a blog post.

Take notes kids, they don't teach this in English school.

Terry Davis was some dude born in Wisconsin who heard the voice of God and then wrote an entire operating system all by himself. Then he got hit by a train.

THE END

See?Why do it in 100 pages when you could do it in 31 words?

Comments

BeefSupreme2112 - Mmmm I think more happened in between the time he was born and the time he got hit by a train. But hey, what do I know?

[**TRASH**] - Wait, I'm confused. Didn't he have Schizophrenia?

jBoogie - Yes, he did.

[**TRASH**] - Oh...I think you forgot to mention that. What was that like for him anyways? Was it more like Fight Club? Or more like A Beautiful Mind? Maybe closer to Psycho? What about Shutter Island? I could see it kinda like being from The Dark Knight.

JaneBlow31223 - If I had to guess, probably like none of the above ^ And also, Batman wasn't Schizophrenic?

[**TRASH**] - @JaneBlow32123, I was talking about the Joker being a schizoid.

Falstuff - Bruce Wayne/Batman is face of schizophrenia. The only question is, is Batman a mask that Bruce Wayne wears? Or is Bruce Wayne a mask that The Batman wears. 0_o

Oct. 30 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

Hired Bitches!

After countless over the phone interviews, failed coding challenges and late-ass nights doing leetcode, I got a job! To everyone who doubted me, who said I would never get a decent paying job without a college degree, let me say from the very bottom of my heart with the utmost sincerity.

FUUUUUCCCKKKKK YOOOOOOUUUU

That's right fuck you, fuck you, fuck all y'all I don't need no degree to kick ass because talent recognizes talent and my talent is undeniable. I am undeniable. You don't choose to be great, greatness chooses you and I have been chosen by a higher power. Don't feel bad, some day I will take you all with me to Silicon Valley where you can live off my scraps.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my past self for taking the initiative to set myself up for success. I would also like to thank my mother, if it weren't for her constant nagging I would not have spent so much time on the computer as a child. I would also like to thank the ghost of Terry Davis for being an inspirational figure in my life. Teaching me that when you are brilliant, you don't have to pretend to be nice, you don't have to live in anyone else's shadow except for your own.

A true legend.

I can't wait to kick down that front door at the Beaver Dam Cheese Curd factory and make all my co-workers my bitch. Just a stepping stone until I make the world my bitch. Next time you see me, try not to miss me as I'm riding that gravy train all the way down the line baby.

Sincerely,

jBoogie.

Comments

Action_Hanson539 - After all that, you came here to brag about getting a job at the cheese curd factory? Sounds like you're the one being made a bitch mate.

Ako1yte - Congratulations on your employment brother. I look forward to seeing your progress.

Janeblow32123 - Well this is something. It would be a tragedy if someone were to forward this to the managers at the cheese curd factory...

jBoogie - Biiiiitch you wouldn't dare.

Janeblow 31223 - (͡° ͜ʖ ͡°)

Guest_31123 - I thought this blog was about Terry Davis. What is this shit?

Falstuff - Jokes on you. This blog was actually about cheese curds this entire time.

PoopieDooPie_007 - Eyyooooo I work at the McDonald's across the way from the cheese factory. You should come by for a burger, I make it extra special for you ;)

Nov. 10 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

Fired Bitches!

One week. I made it one fucking week in that stupid fucking job before someone realized that I am too talented to work there. The manager, Sandra, called me into her shabby office and told me to take a seat across from her. She had one of those tacky desk calendars that tells you a joke everyday.

The joke on that day was particularly shitty:

Did you know diarrhea is hereditary?

It runs in your jeans.

The real joke was her liberal arts degrees hanging on the wall, as if that qualified her for the workforce let alone to manage Beaver Dam's biggest cheese curd factory. Then she has the gall to tell me that I am a "competent programmer" but that I am not "clashing with others" and "not fitting in." How the fuck would she know when she spends all day inside her office managing spreadsheets while I am down in the trenches doing the real work. The only algorithm she could follow is a recipe in a cookbook, and even then I doubt she would pull it off.

What chance did I have to try and excel in an environment where everyone suffers from cognitive biases. A bunch of idiots who think they can tell me my code is shit just because they have the word "senior" in their job title. I was set up to fail from the beginning!

"Oh, jBoogie re-factor this function. Oh, jBoogie your code is too slow. Oh, jBoogie you were supposed to test this method before you try and integrate it."

How can anything get done when every single line of code has to be scrutinized by an octogenarian who learned how to program on an abacus. They may have to baby sit the other

junior cretins that work there but not me! I am worth ten of them!

This opportunity wasn't for nothing though. In the words of my late great grandfather before heading off to community college:

“Hey, jBoogie c'mere once. Remember son that dem dere schools can only teach you so much hey. Life be the best teacher.”

Grandpa Adler was right. The lesson here is that I can't be wasting my time trying to fit myself into the shoe box that society has put in front of me. Others get to greatness by going to school, getting a job and then collaborating with others. I renounce all of that malarkey in favor of a new belief.

The belief in myself.

I will be the Andrew Ryan of my own story, a misunderstood genius who built his utopia on the sweat of his own brow.

John Carmack was able to singlehandedly create one of the most innovative game engines of all time. His teammates were only good for shoving pizza under his cubicle door and making sure he took requisite potty breaks. At some point everybody needs to get out of the way and let the geniuses do their work.

Hell, even Terry Davis, a bonafide schizoid, created an entire fucking operating system complete with compiler, games, text editor and even an application which spoke to God! If he had tried to do this in an office, no doubt his boss would have reigned him in.

John, Terry and I belong to a school of programmers called “10X Developers” meaning one of us is worth 10 of a regular coder. It's a real thing, I didn't make this shit up, it is all scientifically proven.

The cheese curd factory's loss could very well be someone else's gain. If anyone has a

job for a 10X developer, hit me up!

Comments

Janeblow32123 - Andrew Ryan? Did you mean Ayn Rand?

jBoogie - No I mean Andrew Ryan, the protagonist of the game *Bioshock*. He was a visionary who was tired of the government and church interfering in his shit, so he took all the worlds smartest people and moved them all to the bottom of the ocean where they could innovate endlessly without having to answer to “higher powers”.

jBoogie - Who the fuck is Ayn Rand?

GoonGoblin69x420 - Ayn Rand was the Jewish girl who wrote that diary.

Doogie-Pmpo - jBoogie you’re acting like a 10x BITCH!

[TRASH] - I thought Andrew Ryan was the antagonist?

jBoogie - **@[Trash]** Not a fucking chance. Andrew Ryan built a Utopia on the ocean floor by letting the geniuses of the time do whatever the hell they wanted without government oversight or having to cater to undesirable idiots in their society. They like cured cancer and shit. How the fuck could he be the antagonist?

Janeblow32123 - **@jBoogie** Interesting...are you sure you aren’t talking about Ayn Rand?

jBoogie - *shrug

GoonGoblin69x420 - He couldn’t have been much of a protagonist if he dies halfway through.

Sturgeon7surgeon - Watch the spoilers asshole!

GoonGoblin69x420 - It is a 12 year old game jackass, if you haven’t played it by now

you probably never will. It's probably too clever for your raisin-like brain. It's obviously too clever for jBoogie if he thinks Andrew Ryan was supposed to be the good guy. Dude probably reads *Catcher in the Rye* and thinks Holden Caulfield is a goddamn martyr.

Blumpking - Didn't they like experiment on kids and shit in that game? Fuckin' ice cold.

JBoogie - If stem cells and human experimentation were legal then we probably would have cured cancer by now.

TheRealPeterman78 - Lol, send a letter to your congressman bruh.

SlanderXXXBadger - No doubt Carmack is one of the greatest programmers to have ever lived but he had a kickass team to back him up. He was a genius for taking new findings in academia and applying it to the games that Id Software was working on (using binary space partition to render levels? FUCKING BRILLIANT). But *DOOM* wouldn't have been as groundbreaking if he didn't have the dopeass level design skills of John Romero and the heavy metal soundtrack courtesy of Bobby Prince. Dank shit doesn't exist in a vacuum.

Ako1yte - We always have a need for talented young developers. Email me ako1yte@templechurch.org

Blumpking - ^ LOL looking for developers to work on your cult website? Get that shit outta here!!!!

Nov. 15 2019.

JBoogie's Blog

(Re)Hired Bitches!

That's right! Ako1yte hooked me up with a job! Apparently some of him and his buddies have been hard at work trying to update TempleOS for modern systems. And of course, they needed the best of the best, which is why they asked me. You are now looking at the new "Brother of Code" for the TempleOS Emulation and Algorithm Team (TEAT). I am not getting paid in money per se, but Ako1yte assures me that the spiritual good will I will accumulate in this role will be enough to last me one hundred lifetimes. I think they are still waiting for advertising deals and partnerships to roll in before cutting a paycheck. Talk about equity! It may not seem like much yet but just you wait. Facebook started in a college dorm room, Id Software started in a garage, there is no telling where TEAT will end up once we unlock the hidden secrets of Terry's immaculate code.

Terry left behind a fully functioning operating system existing under an open-license. There is literally nothing stopping us from reverse-engineering his code into our own operating system that we can then sell to the masses. Hell maybe we will remake the Moses game and sell it to Joel Osteen's sunday school classes. We'd make gangbusters! The growing popularity of my blog has shown the desire for Terry's story and his work to reach a larger audience.

Emulation communities are surprisingly big. You'd think that the hottest new programmers would want to work with quantum computers or some shit like that but here we are trying to port Super Mario Bros. to be playable on a microwave. Not that that is what we are doing but there are microwave enthusiasts out there. If you already forgot what emulation is (simp) then let me break it down for you. Michael Wahba described emulation as "custom

software to make our computer run like a completely different machine.”, I would personally describe it as its proper definition the “reproduction of the function or action of a different computer.” I worry that if we dumb down our definitions too much then we will create a society of idiots, an idiocracy of sorts.

Most of these emulation nerds just want to learn how some of these old systems work but only TEAT is smart enough to see how we can monetize the open source community. This is the kind of smart you need if you want to be TEAT’s newest Brother of Code and I encourage anybody who thinks they can contribute to join up with us! That being said, I don’t think we have any “Sister of Code” positions, in fact I don’t know if we even hire women, those decisions are above my paygrade.

Don’t let my fancy new title fool you though. I am still the same jBoogie from the block. New titles will never get in the way of my humility even when the day comes when I take AkoLyte’s job as “Chief Visionary Officer”.

I got so much vision its leaking from every hole! When I walk down main street and a homeless guy asks for change I say “sorry, you will just use that to buy dope. Have some vision instead.” And then I sit with them and help them to envision a future where they aren’t homeless.

The interviewing process was great! So great in fact I thought I will talk about it here in case anybody wants to work for a high-powered start up someday.

Everyone has heard the horror stories of coding interviews where you are asked to answer bonkers computation questions by drawing algorithms on a white board. You would think that Google would ask their applicants to, I don’t know, type up code on a computer but they’re still in the dark ages.

Google might ask you some dumb shit like “How do you implement a bubble sort

algorithm” which the answer is obviously “you download a package which implements it for you.” Or they might ask you to “write code that checks if a string of letters is a palindrome.” Which the correct answer should be “what the fuck is a palindrome and what the fuck does that have to do with my job title? Sorry I didn’t spend the night before memorizing the oxford dictionary!”

In case you didn’t know a palindrome is a word that is spelled the same frontwards and backwards, I.e. tit.

TEAT had none of those shenanigans. It was very straight up.

“Do you think you can do this job to the best of your ability?” They ask me.

“Of course.” I answer.

“Do you believe in our mission statement?”

“Of course.”

“Can we use your blog to market our project and espouse our views to your loyal followers?”

“You bet your ass you can!”

They asked if I had a degree in theoretical computation, I told them I had a theoretical degree in computation.

“Welcome aboard” they said.

Google is stuck in 2009 while TEAT is in 3001.

The best part of my new position is that since it isn’t a typical corporate structure, I won’t have some stiff-necked prick looking over my shoulder 24/7. I will finally be able to just do what I do best and code myself into a coma.

This is all to say that, you might see some changes happening on this site. I am giving

Ako1yte admin access to administrate the site as he sees fit. I'm going to be too busy to keep up with the growing demand for high-quality content, so I saw it as fit to start out sourcing. Ako1yte is impressed with the positive reception the Terry Davis story has received on this site and wants to take it one step further. In his words:

“Terry’s words can no longer exist in the vacuum of Youtube for it to be taken out of context. TEAT must be there to provide the context.”

I don't really know what he means but it sounds dope to me.

Comments

Janeblow32123 - Are you fucking insane? You're giving these wackos access to your blog so they can spew their nonsense 24/7. It's a miracle I kept coming to this site for this long to begin with.

jBoogie - I can assure you all that absolutely nothing will change with how my blog is being produced! You can still expect the same high quality content you have grown accustomed to.

Falstuff - Bruh, maybe you should have gone to community business college. Who the fuck is gonna buy an operating system from you if its free online? Not stonks.

Doofie-Pmpo - RIP the site was mediocre while it lasted.

[TRASH] - JBOOGIE'S BLOG IS DEAD, LONG LIVE JBOOGIE'S BLOG

SlanderXXXBadger - Find sexy singles in your area! <https://www.hotsex.13r3.com> Free 30-day trial.

Acton_Hanson539 - Has anyone actually tried clicking on those sketchy links ^?

TheRealPeterman78 - I clicked on the last one but my dick is still small.

Akolyte - This temple created in dedication to a greater temple shall always keep its doors open. That is my word.

Falstuff - This is how jBoogie's blog ends. Not with a bang but with a cult of techno-obsessed fucks.

Apostle - I think we should at least give them a chance. They may be able to elucidate the greater mysteries Terry was trying to uncover.

Blumpking - ^ Nice try Narc.

Disciple - We can only benefit through frank, earnest discussion.

[Trash] - Fuck me. The invasion of the halfwits has already begun. Is it time to make like Moses and get the fuck out?

Nov. 16 2019.

The Word of TEAT (As revealed through jBoogie's Blog)

The Word

Hark, at last salvation is upon us.

The power of the Lord lies in bytes of his electric love, communion with liquid crystal blood and silicon wafers of bodice. We all took bytes of his Apple and now we rival his majesty with our sin.

The putrid filth of our vanity incubates on the surface of our false faces. Instagram influencers who sell their facsimile to a pathetic congregation of faceless worms desperate for the faintest recognition of self. Digital cameras pixelate our souls and capture them in the web's sticky tendrils. We sell projections of our selves and it is consumed en masse in the sellers market of filth that the information age has created.

Underneath this front lies a darker ocean of luciferian hounds. Hidden networks of drug traffickers who seek murderers-for-hire to clean up illicit deeds. Child predators gather and find common ground in their licentious appetites. This Apple is not rotten to the core. The rot is in the seed itself, propagating out, infecting all it touches.

We must use evil tools to fight evil deeds.

We are anonymous, we are legion. We do not forgive we do not forget.

Terry is a part of a greater canon. He used the tools of the devil to cast out the devil and for that he will be exalted. He is touched by the pentecostal tongues that speak in his head beckoning him forward to do God's work. He is blessed by holy glossolalia: C/C++, Assembly, Java, Bash. His image shall remain on our screens long after he has left us, for he is eternal.

Comments

Apost1e - Well said brother.

Falstuff - **COMMENT REMOVED BY ADMIN**

Discip1e - Your guidance shall purge these vile places of abbadon.

Doofie-Pmpo - **COMMENT REMOVED BY ADMIN**

JBoogie's Blog (As written by Michael Wahba)

Mad Genius

As much as I want to say that I am drawn to Terry's Youtube channel by his programming prowess or his elegant code, I have to admit, I mostly watch for the entertainment. The first thing a newcomer will notice about his streams is that he is prone to wild outbursts where one minute he is explaining the logic behind a co-routine, the next he is hurling racial slurs like they are going out of style. If it were anyone else sitting at a computer hacking away, I would have lost interest a long time ago. But watching Terry's stream brings a level of unpredictability, a level of danger that you can't get anywhere else.

Does that make me a bad person?

Probably.

I want to respond to a comment that was written in one of my previous posts.

Action_Hanson539 writes "How can someone be so batshit crazy and also be a genius?"

For once, Action_Hanson539 may have a good point.

There is no doubt that Terry was a wizard of the command line. He only needed 2 MB of system memory to cram in "a fucking 64-bit compiler, assembler, unassembler, we have a debugger, we have a 3-dimensional graphics library, we have an editor that has tree widgets and everything and sprites."⁴ Singlehandedly writing an operating system and every single one of its tools is like building a house but smelting your own nails, chopping down your own wood, and crafting your own hammer and saw: Pure fucking genius.

⁴ Terry Davis responds to Donald Trump:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDRRNVfSHIk>

He follows that up with the nugget of wisdom “It’s divine intellect, so how about fuck you.”, likely in response to a comment from one of his followers.

Therein lies the dichotomy of Terry Davis. On one side you receive virtuoso insight into low-level programming, on the other you is a profanity laced outbursts.

The two sides of Terry Davis don’t exist in isolation from each other, but rather in a harmonious yin-yang relationship. After all, you must be crazy if you want to singlehandedly write an operating system just for fun (or for God I suppose).

Truly there must be a fine line between genius and madness.

Vincent Van Gogh painted what are now some of the world’s most expensive paintings but famously cut off his ear in a manic episode. John Nash made foundational advances in game theory and mathematics while suffering from paranoid schizophrenia. Phillip K. Dick wrote seminal science-fiction stories that challenged how readers perceive reality, mirroring his own hallucinatory experiences.

Although they lived in different times and worked in different fields, there is a common thread woven between these men.

They all saw the world in different ways, and they used their unique perspectives to revolutionize their fields. Researchers have long been interested in exploring the fine line between genius and mental illness. I don’t want to trivialize or romanticize mental illness but when discussing Terry we need to keep his illness in frame.

As early as the 19th Century, researchers have been trying to establish a link between genius and neuro-atypical individuals. Aristotle supposedly said “No great mind has ever existed without a touch of madness”⁵. Some studies support this idea, others refute it. We cannot

⁵ The Mythconception of Mad Genius:

conclusively say one way or another if there is a link between creativity and neuro-atypical individuals but society has created the myth that genius comes at a cost.

Society has a tendency to outcast people whose geometry between the ears deviates from the “norm”. We create labels for them and often treat them differently because we view them as faulty.

They are not faulty, just programmed on a different operating system. So, it stands to reason that certain cognitive operating systems are better suited for certain tasks

What about programming?

Let’s start with the stereotype of the anti-social programmer who is more comfortable talking to computers than to other humans. They can code for hours, sometimes forgetting to eat or shower, and shoo away any distractions to their work.

John Carmack, a God in the programming world, said “If you want to set off and go develop some grand new thing, you don’t need millions of dollars of capitalization. You need enough pizza and Diet Coke to stick in your refrigerator, a cheap PC to work on, and the dedication to go through with it. We slept on floors. We waded across rivers.”⁶ Carmack would lock himself in a closet and hack away for days. His marathon coding sessions resulted in the creation of the Id Tech 2 or “Quake” game engine in 1996, the first true 3D game engine. The source code for Id Tech 2 was eventually open-sourced under the GNU General Public License and its code base was the springboard for several of gaming’s most impressive engines including the Unreal Engine, which today powers everything from photo-realistic video games, to medical

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2014.00079/full>

⁶ David Kushner, *Masters of Doom: How Two Guys Created an Empire and Transformed Pop Culture*.

simulations, to virtual set design in Hollywood.

In a psychiatric evaluation at age 14, Carmack was described as a “walking brain with legs” and having “no empathy for other human beings.”⁷ John had a hard time connecting with other people but no problem connecting with his command line. Mark Zuckerberg, who coded Facebook in his Harvard dorm room, similarly had a hard time reading social cues and connecting with others. They both share the drive to throw themselves into their work with total abandon.

In the wake of these enigmatic, super-coders a stereotype has formed that the perfect programmer is someone who is socially maligned and possess’ superb mathematical ability. While that might be true in some cases, this stereotype has projected itself negatively upon a population that is often only identified by their lack of social aptitude: those on the autism spectrum.

Journalist Simon Parkin refers to this phenomenon as the “myth of the autistic wunderkind programmer”⁸.

There is scientific support for the idea that individuals on the autism spectrum are naturally attuned to the skills required for programming⁹. Particularly, kids with Autism are

⁷ David Kushner, *Masters of Doom: How Two Guys Created an Empire and Transformed Pop Culture*.

⁸ Dispelling Some Myths About the Autistic Wunderkind Programmer:
https://www.gamasutra.com/view/news/276428/Dispelling_some_myths_about_the_autistic_wunderkind_programmer.php

⁹ Autism and Artistic Imagination: The Link Between Visual Thinking and Intelligence.
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ967456.pdf>

drawn to working with computers because computers are “consistent and logical”¹⁰ meaning there is no chance for misunderstanding between child and computer. There is a wide body of educational research to understand the best way to teach children on the spectrum topics in computer science, and how to adjust working environments to suit these individuals entering the information technology industry.

Microsoft has long been a leader in diversity and inclusion. In 2018, they worked closely with advocacy groups to create the “Microsoft Adaptive Controller.” A fully customizable video game controller designed for people with a wide range of disabilities and motor functions. More recently, Microsoft has introduced an “Autism Hiring Program” which is an alternate recruiting stream meant to let people with autism demonstrate their capabilities outside of the usual whiteboard interviews.

Providing working opportunities for adults with autism is important considering that 85% of adults with autism are unemployed¹¹. Other tech companies like Dell and SAP have followed suit and implemented their own autism hiring programs, but these programs are not without their detractors.

There is concern that these programs may continue to propagate the stereotype of the “autistic wunderkind programmer.” Many of these programs are specific to technical fields where employers are expecting to find an individual with virtuoso mathematical ability, excluding those who are simply average. There is the added issue of the Microsoft Autism Hiring Program being heavily skewed towards accepting white, men in their roles¹². Maybe they should

¹⁰ <https://neuroclastic.com/2019/04/24/programming-a-great-hobby-for-an-autistic-child/>

¹¹ <https://www.integrateadvisors.org>

¹²

have named the program the “Microsoft White Men with Autism who can do Math Really Good Hiring Program.”

The toxic attitudes towards people with autism in the tech industry are exemplified in a powerpoint presentation created by Alex St. John. Alex was one of the minds behind Microsoft’s DirectX technology. DirectX is a programming interface for developing multimedia applications, that is now the dominant library for creating 3D graphics. Chances are if you are seeing 3D objects on your computer screen, it is likely using DirectX.

In 2016, St. John published a powerpoint presentation called “Recruiting Giants” that serves as a guide for Fortune 500 companies who wish to recruit the “top young talent.¹³” As you’ll see, a more apt name for the presentation would have been “Recruiting white men and ‘non-aspergers technical’ women”.

Notable nuggets of advice include “You don’t recruit and retain male engineers you recruit and retain Wives and Girlfriends. If the wife or GF is unhappy the engineer is gone.” And “if you can’t love all 80 hours/week of work, you shouldn’t be in the industry at all.” Supposedly, Women are never promoted due to their technical skills but only because their “stronger social skills make them better managers” and that there in fact “may be more female engineers but nobody can identify them.”

St. John instructs employers to “be on the look out for the holy-grail...the undiscovered Asperger’s engineer.” How do you know when you have found the so-called “holy grail”, it’s

<https://medium.com/s/for-the-record/im-autistic-and-i-don-t-support-the-microsoft-autistic-hiring-program-and-you-shouldn-t-either-d4e5ac576dc7>

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<https://www.vox.com/2016/4/19/11451092/alex-st-john-tech-recruiting-millennials-women>

easy! “They have no social skills, Can’t make eye contact” and most importantly “They work like machines, don’t engage in politics, don’t develop attitudes and never change jobs.”

I’ll spare you the rest of the details.

Unfortunately, most traces of this presentation and St. John’s other profound works of literature have been taken down from the internet. As disgusting as it is, it should be required learning for young programmers to learn about the toxic history of the industry they are entering so they can strive to improve it. That someone had the idea to make this powerpoint in the first place, let alone publish it online, speaks volumes about the rot that can fester in the board rooms of Silicon Valley.

Of course, St. John’s powerpoint is an extreme example. Companies like Microsoft, Dell and SAP are doing the right thing by providing great opportunities for people with Autism. But we as a society need to be careful about the stereotypes and fetishizations we form about people with disabilities and/or mental illness. We can’t think of them only as an amalgamation of traits.

They are people with desires, passions and goals.

Terry believed that “if you seek God, He will be found of you.” As his grip on reality began to fracture, Terry seeked stability in the light of God. He found God when he was looking for control. Now that he has passed, Terry’s story is out of his hands and in our hands. In a sense, we have all become the caretakers of his story and it is our job to take care of his legacy.

That is why I have decided that this will be the last post I make for this website.

jBoogie is an asshole. I think we all know that yet we indulge in his delusions. I don’t think he even reads these posts, he doesn’t care about the content, he only cares about the reaction. Where are we now that the reaction to the message is more important than the content

of the message? A shitty place, I believe. The Bunk said it best: “It makes me sick motherfucker, how far we done fell.”

It is ultimately up to you to decide whether you believe Terry was “King Solomon 2.0” or just a programmer from West Allis, Wisconsin. His story is out there for everybody to become a part of it. Everyone who showed up to his livestreams to either support him or egg him into a rant are now a part of his story. It is unlikely that we will see Terry’s name mentioned in the same sentence as Elon Musk or Bill Gates, and that is a pity. If Terry had worked on a project that was more mainstream then I have no doubt he would have been installed into the pantheon of great minds. Now, it seems that he is more likely to be remembered for his outbursts on camera than for his actual programming work.

No matter if you have been reading about Terry from the beginning of this series, or you are just joining us now. We are all a part of Terry’s story now. Like the martyrs that came before him, he is eternal.

Comments

Ako1yte - He is with us all.

Action_Hanson539 - Preach it brother. This takes me back to when this site wasn’t completely batshit crazy.

Doofie-Pmpo - John Carmack could have my babies anyday.

PoopieDoopie_007 - PSHHH we all know John Romero was the real dream boat of id Software, his hair is like a pony.

Doofie-Pmpo - He got that big ass sexy brain though.

Sturgeon7surgeon - I identified as a white man just so I could try and work at Microsoft

and they still haven't called me back.

[TRASH] - ^What are you really??

Sturgeon7surgeon - A white man.

Blumpking - Schema? Ain't that when you put water up your hole?

Nov 18. 2019

JBoogie's Blog

Relax Bro

Good Lord what a bunch of drama queens you guys are. My site isn't dead and I'm not going anywhere. Just because I have a new (unpaid) job doesn't mean I'm going to abandon my online family like that. I don't know if you have noticed but it still says jBoogie's blog up there in the top corner and it will ALWAYS be jBoogie's blog. You all have the incredible opportunity to be on the ground floor of something incredible here. Just imagine when 5 years from now and I am touring the world giving speeches, you can say "I was with jBoogie before he was big." That alone is enough to make your life worthwhile, don't throw it away over stupid online quibbles.

As a part of my new role I have had to watch every fucking minute of Terry's streams. EVERY FUCKING MINUTE. The file with all his old videos is like 70 GB, deadass.

It is fucking whack that each video is 4+ hours long but I think I'm actually learning quite a lot. This is the first time that I've actually had to sit down and focus on what he is saying. Most of his vlogs are about compilers, kernels and fun shit like that. I took a class on low-level stuff back in community college but it was such a slog. It's so much more entertaining to watch Terry go through it when he's chucking n-bombs at the screen. He would have made a great lecturer. 10/10 would recommend.

I'm even learning a lot of the techniques they ask in those god awful coding interviews. Linked-lists, sorting algos, how to print a string of letters backwards (because that will be SOOOO helpful in my everyday life). I'm feeling preeeetty confident that by this time next year I'll be able to bullshit my way through a job interview into a proper job (that actually pays). Shit,

I'll even have some references. You've all read Ako1yte's writing, he could probably write a reference letter that sounds like Shakespeare, how could Microsoft NOT hire me after reading something like that?

Mark the date in your calendars ladies and gentlemen, this is the start of my legacy.

Comments

jBoogie - Where did everyone go?