

# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Monday, January 5th 1998

Hiya boys and girls and things that go bump in the night. This is the 1st entry and I'd like to welcome you to my world of the weird and strange. Every since I was knee high to a grasshopper I've been interested in paranormal stuff. My favorite show growing up was "Operation UFO" and "The Night Stalker" I went as the Loch Ness Monster for Halloween. My nickname skating was "Bigfoot" On my first date I kept doing cheesy Leonard Nimoy narration.

Not a pretty picture, is it?

Well here's where it all pays off. I've got a website and I'm going to use it. Just consider me the Sid Vicious of the web (without those nasty needle marks) Mommy dearest got me a digital camera for my birthday/Xmas present. (sucks having a birth on January 1st, I always feel like I'm being cheated out of gifts) For our first lesson I shot some high weirdness over at [Spook Hill](#) (insert high wailing theme music here) I also posted some of my favorite stories; [The Maine Treasure Hole](#) and the [Ghost Dog of the English Highlands](#). I'll be posting more each week!

what's that? . . .you want to know more about me?

Well I'm your typical single 24 year old white male Capricorn. I enjoy long walks on the beach, teaching my dog to yodel, my goldfish to swim backwards, and searching for the answer to life, the universe and everything. (Don't even bother e-mailing me with the answer of 42, I already know that one.)

If you want to know even more then head over to the ["Freakquently Asked Questions"](#) page. This here space is more or less a place for me to let off a weekly rant about what's on my chest.



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hurdy gur,  
Derek

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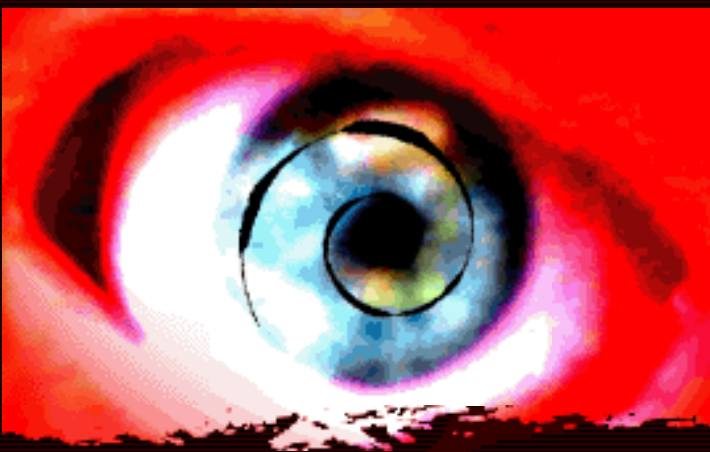
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Monday January 12th

Howdy friends and neighbors,

Have you noticed a new look to the screens? Yes that's right, I went out and bought an HTML code book. See, that just shows you the dedication I have to making this the best site money can buy. (well actually I read the book and returned it for a refund but I think you get the general feeling.) At least now the background is a soothing black color. I like black, cause that's the way I feel on the inside. I also wear a goatee and listen to Bauhaus because only they can understand my post teenage angst (oh the pain, the pain!)

wait, wait, I just changed the background to sea-foam green. It looks pretty, like a maid of honor at a sorority girl's wedding.

no, wait now I changed it to mauve. (OK I'm lying I have no idea what color mauve actually is)

I shot video over at Spook Hill but even with the book it was beyond me how to post it so you have to settle for stills for right now. I know you had your heart set on seeing a car roll uphill but . . . . .

I've also put up 2 new stories guaranteed to warm the cockles of your heart. A lovely Sister of the Church who just happened to [bleed like a stuck pig](#) and a [spoon bender](#) you'll be wanting to invite over for your next little soiree. (well since he disappeared into the vaults of commie Russia I doubt you could find him to invite for tea)

I've also got [T-shirts for sale!](#)

"But Derek", I can hear you saying, "The web site looks like crap, it's got no content and it's mostly filled with your incoherent babbling. Isn't it to early to try and suck money from people who are just searching for a little mindless



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entertainment?"

Well come closer to me my little internet buddy and let me be truthful to you.

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO GET PAID!

(insert carnival music) That's right folks, step right up and get your MonsterFreaks T-shirt. Ten measly dollars. One Alexander Hamilton or 2 Abe Lincolns get you a wonderful souvenir of a web site you never knew existed. Amaze your friends, astound your enemies., make your mother faint from your lack of fiscal responsibility. Yes sir-re-bob I gots the T-shirt for you! One size fits all. (As long as you fit into an XL) Click here to see a picture of the shirt modeled by Mr. Crowley the web wonder dog

Well I'd love to stay longer and reminisce about the old times and how you saved my life in the Nam but I must go tend to a hot color copier machine at a copy center that shall remain nameless to protect my integrity.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "You want that glossy?" Barnes

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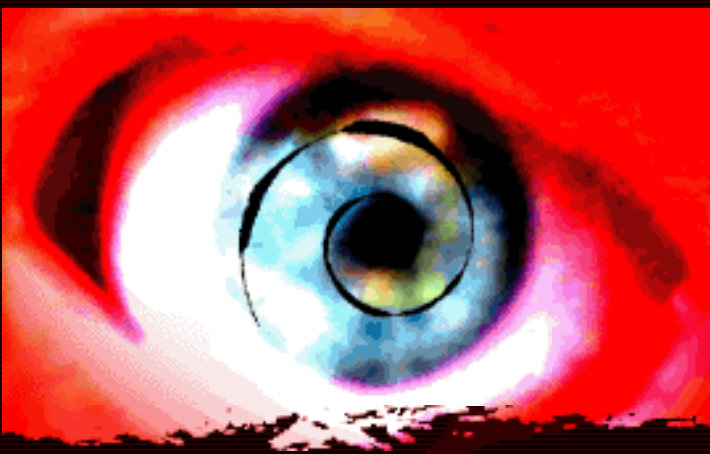
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

February 2nd

Hiya,

Hey, stop it, stop it, I know you missed me but hugging is uncalled for. It was only 2 weeks or so.

Went out to Tallahassee (thats the capitol city ya know) with a bunch of my freaky little friends and helped shoot a new skate video. High styling, free flying, boogie-on-down-till-ya-puke-yer-guts kinda stuff. I need to edit the little monster and then you'll be able to order it on-line. It'll also be available through a little tiny ass ad in the back of your cheaper skate magazines. Lot's of street stuff and a coupla amped bowls. You can watch my friend Crater eat it trying for a kickflip backside transfer.

Actually to tell you the truth I wasn't too into the skate thing. Oh sure I popped a coupla inverters for the camera but while everyone else was discovering Zen and the art of the half-pipe, I spent most of my time in the state library. Discovered some of the half hidden truths of the Sunshine State (including the [Florida Skunk Ape](#), the [coral castle](#) and the fact that some people believe [the Garden of Eden is in Florida](#).) Make sure ya check them out.

Also got my first T-shirt order so here's a big Monsterz and Freakz howdy-do to Fred. Wear that shirt with pride up there in lovely Cimarron Kansas. Also hi to Lan who didn't buy a T-shirt but e-mailed me to say that while I have a great style I lack something in the presentation department.. Why then thank you . . .I guess . . .

hurdy gur,  
Derek "Skateboarding is not a crime" Barnes



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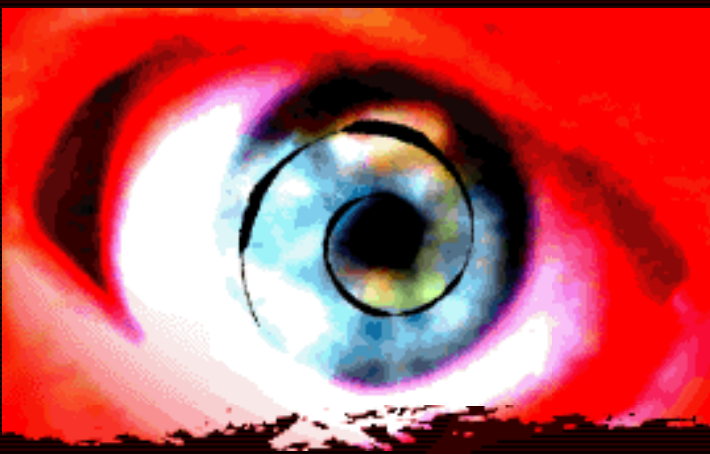
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FREAK-O-PEDIA

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

February 12, 1998

Yowser,

For the first time I feel like a reporter! (now if I can only find one of those press signs to put in my fedora. Hum, maybe I should get a fedora as well.) The local paper had a photo of this big ass frog this boy caught in Lake Apopka. (a nearby famously polluted lake) I summoned up my best social interaction skills and called the reporter.

(insert sound of ringing phone being answered)

Hello?

Oh yea, can I speak to the reporter who did the giant frog story?

Hold please, while I transfer you

(sound of canned music being played at a very high volume)

Hello?

Is this the reporter who did the giant frog story?

Yes it is, How can I help you?

Well I run a web site and I was wondering if I could interview the kid who found the giant frog.

Well that would actually be up to the kid. You would need to talk to him.

er . . .OK. what's his number.

And the rest is history. Be sure and check out the amazing in-depth field report of the [boy child and his amazing battle with the giant frog o' doom](#). (sounds exciting don't it?)



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I finished editing the skate video and it's looking pretty phat (as all the home boys say). That reminds me I need to take my friend's VCR back to him.

If you wanna copy of the video you can click here to go to the MonsterFreaks store. The video is called "MonsterFreaks" (see how everything interconnects?) That's correct, I am a genius.

Oh yea, what else . . . . Since the suggestion box was being filled up here by a certain e-mailer (who shall remain nameless but the first letter in the name starts with LAN) I have taken it upon myself to start a guest book. Click here to go to it. (or you can find a link on the home page if I didn't screw everything up) No seriously, thanks Lan, it's a good idea and now I can actually keep track of everyone and use the information it gathers to follow your every move, to know when you are sleeping, to know when you are awake. Have you been good? I know, I KNOW . . . .

but I digress. . . .feel free to sign the guest book (cue up creepy Peter Lorre music) and if you know anything I should know, drop me an e-mail

Till next time

hurdy gur,  
Derek "King of Ice Cream" Barnes

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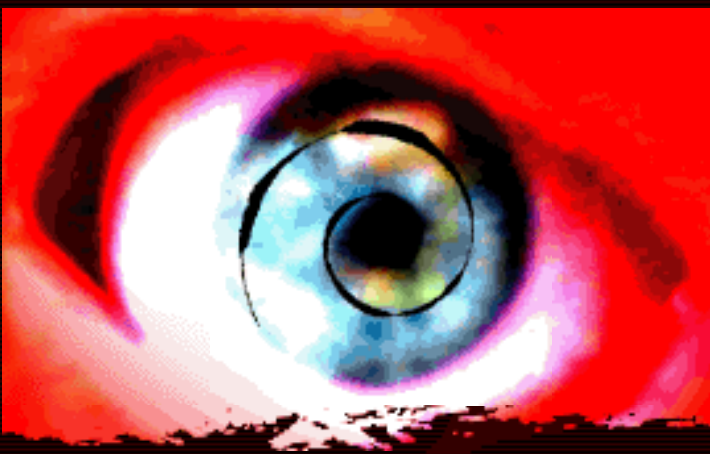
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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

February 20th

Oh man,

Mr. Crowley, the amazing wonder dog got a hold of the computer mouse and seemed hell bent of staying on some dog food web page. It took some doing but I think I've talked him out of his plans for eating the monitor. I turned on the Animal cable channel on the set and he seems content to bark at the freaking rhinos.

"freaking rhino's" Doesn't that always sound weird when they put in "freaking" for the f word on TV when they show a feature film? Like when the mob boss orders a hit and he says "Put him to sleep with the freaking fishes" Like this cold blooded murderer actually thinks that "freaking" puts more emphasis on his words. From now on I resolve to never use the word "freaking" again.

ever and ever, amen.

Anyway, I got this cool freaking e-mail from a guy who claims that you can [order satellite photos of Area 51](#) from the Russian air force. (does Russia even have an air force any more? Didn't they sell it to Libya for a crate of vodka and a camel?)

It sounded to weird to be true, which perked my interest immediately. The e-mail didn't give any facts to back it up so I decided to once again don my reporter's hat. (I now have a reporter's hat but instead of a sign that says "press" mine says "Supreme Being of Information Retrieval" I had to buy a bigger hat but I think it's worth it)

So I decided to call the Russians. Not knowing any Russian air force generals I settled for calling the consulate in Washington DC I also decided to talk to them in my best illiterate white trash accent.



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Well the accent didn't throw them one little bit. (Guess we all sound alike to them) After a few minutes of canned music (normal American canned music and not some strange Russian polka) my name and phone number was taken.

Two hours later the Russian Government gave me a call.

Well actually it was the Alexi Langa who works for an American corporation run by the Russian Space Agency

Yea, I thought it was weird too but evidently the Russians have embraced capitalism with both arms.

"Why yes Mr. Barnes the Russian government does have satellite photos of many of earth's features. Yes, we do have an image available of that section of your state of Nevada. No, Mr. Barnes there are currently no laws restricting the sale of such images to a private American citizen. Could I interest Mr. Barnes in a quantity discount?"

So I ordered one. They even take charge cards and use overnight delivery. I got it hanging up on the wall right now. Maybe I should sell them on-line.

I gots to go over to Mom's and wash clothes, so enjoy the site and make sure to sign the guest book. If your screen suddenly changes to a shot of dog food just yell "bad dog" and it should change back.

hurdy gur,  
Derek

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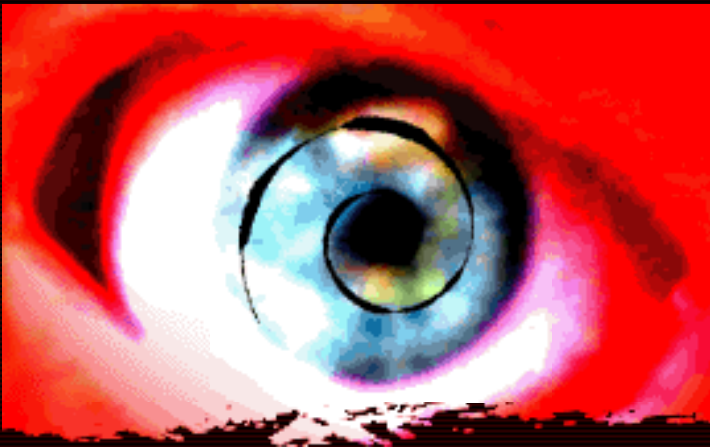
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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

March 17th

Hiya,

Sorry for the delay but I went up to North Carolina with Mom to visit her sister and just got back. (Maybe a portable means of communication is in order.) Good time had by all. I did the family thing for as long as I could take it but finally begged the car away from Mom and did a little sightseeing on my own.

Big shout out to my local homies in the big N.C. (don't I sound all street and stuff?)

Seriously though, I did hook up with some of my e-mailers and got some fantastic new information from them. Did you know [life from other planets is living here on earth?](#)

Speaking of other life. I also got some great stills from them on this [great big fleshy something](#) that landed on the beach after the last big hurricane hit.



RANTS:

Brad (the leader of these Carolina crazies) told me that there's a local beach where a sea serpent is sometimes spotted. We hung around there for a day, at his condo, swilling beer and trying to convince girls to come by but nothing happened. Maybe the girls were in cohorts with the sea monster, I dunno.

I borrowed a board and tried out the waves but the surf was lazy so we just body surfed for a bit and came back to the beach to drink more.

Anyway, all this stomping around on the beach gave me that warm fuzzy feeling of being proactive again. I really feel like this is what I want to do, be an information gatherer for the new world wide weird. Of course it would help if I could support myself with this new hobby. I took an unexpected leave of absence from the current McJob. (someone else will have to make sure the toner cartridge is full.) Show your sympathy by buying a T-shirt and the new skate video by [clicking here](#).

On the way back I convinced Mom to take a detour to Athens Ga. so I could meet Lan. I had always thought it was a guy and she never took it upon herself to correct me so let me just say now that I'm an idiot for assuming the sex of an unseen person with an ambidextrous name. Lan pulls double duty working at a computer design firm and as a bartender at a very noisy bar. When she wasn't pulling beers for the frat boys she gave me lots of helpful pointers about how the web page can be improved (and maybe start making a profit for itself) So see Lan, I did keep all those bar napkins we were writing on (although one of them is a bit blurred from a beer spill). She also gave me some local news clippings that she has collected. (once you read them you'll also be convinced that everyone in Georgia is nuts)

And a very special message to my friend Jason. The next time you say you will feed the goldfish while I am gone. FEED THE GOLDFISH! That's right brothers and sisters the two aquatic loves of my life "Loch Ness" and "Kraken" are dead, DOA, kaput, belly up. In other words, a bit under the weather. Make sure and yell "killer" at Jason when you see him on the street. He's not hard to miss being 6' 3" and built like a Detroit linebacker who never cuts his hair.

I must now go to the bathroom and give my former pets the burial at sea that they so richly deserve.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "beer drinking, information gathering, mother freaker"  
Barnes

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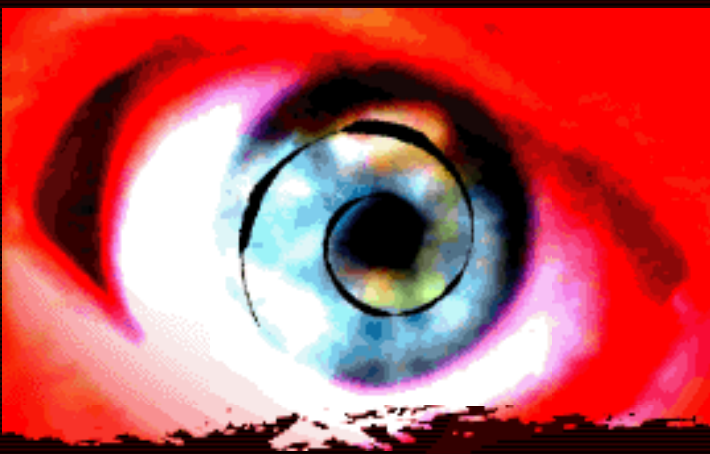
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

March 28th

Hola my web friend,

Excitement has faded as I faced the collection of bills that have piled up since I got home. (insert sad theme music here) Just because you use their phone line, watch their cable and use their electricity they expect some kind of strange symbiotic relationship where I give them money for this stuff.

So to make a long story short, guess what:

I got a new McJob.

Doing what you might ask?

Being a bartender at a lame watering hole where I can watch sun burned tourists try to forget how much money they are spending on vacation.

Better McJob yes, but still one that requires me to wear a nametag.

That reporter who did the story on the giant frog called me to say he found a woman who claims she can make clouds dissolve just by thinking about it. The paper was not interested but he thought maybe I would be (but of course!) She has a phat trailer and if she is having this read to her please believe me when I say that I think shag carpeting is still very much in style.

Sales of the skate vid are picking up from the ads I placed in magazines. I spent a couple hours yesterday and today boxing and shipping. Laura from the post office wants to give a big hiya to the all the skate boyz and remind them that the zip code is not only a good idea, it's the law.

Jason has been forgiven for being a murderer of all creatures



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great and small. He told me he went surfing in Daytona, and before he left he filled up his slowly dying radiator with water. He of course forgot to put the cap back on the radiator and the truck's engine basically exploded halfway there. So he had to hitch a ride back to town and met up with some old friends that were going surfing too and then of course he met a girl on vacation and . . . . .

you get the drift, I'm sure

hurdy gur,  
Derek "Tip me or I water down your drink" Barnes

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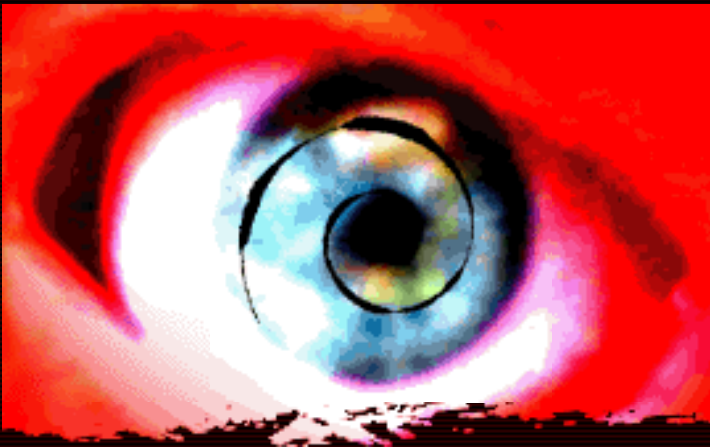
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

April 14th

Hello,

Welcome to another edition of "Learning to Love Your Hair Implants" I'm your host, Derek and in this action packed episode we'll explore the many wonderful ways that hair plugs have made life worth living . . . .

Sorry about that, I thought for a minute I was hosting an infomercial.

How's, everything been going with you? Me? Well I'm glad you asked. I've just been super duper busy making my own life a living hell. Well , no not really but it sure grabs you as a great opener don't it?

Been making T-shirts left and right. Mostly being sold to those rad and amped skater boyz who are trying to copy the nollie heel flip indy poke to fakie they saw in the video. Maybe I should sell MonsterFreaks band-aides.



**RANTS:**

Laura from the post office wanted to say hi and that priority mail is the exciting new service from the post office. I told her skaters do not want to know about priority mail but she insisted. I insisted she give me her phone number but that's another story.

I just posted a in-depth report of the [Mongol Map](#) go check it out and then e-mail me and tell me what a cool d00d I am. I cross referenced stuff and even posted a close up picture. In a fruitless attempt to bring what information I have about the map up to date I even went so far as to go to the library! (insert nerd theme here) I of course got lost in the dewey decimal system and had to be rescued by a librarian with varicose veins and a bad attitude.

Ever heard about Casadega Florida, the home of many a spiritualist? If not then there's [more for you to read about](#). I also got some great aura photography snaps from a very nice medium who only wanted \$20 a pop for them.

After you finish reading, sign the guest book, order a T-shirt, and then sit back in the comfort of your home and think about what a hip and happening new web friend you have made.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "Scuse me while I bask in the radiant light of my ego"  
Barnes

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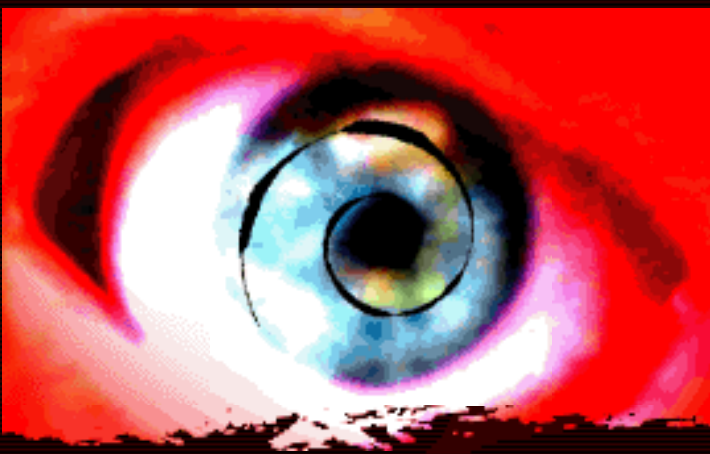
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FREAK-O-PEDIA

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

April 21st

Hey there,

Another week full of duping videos. One of the skate mags gave us a positive review on the video and the orders are pouring in. (Well maybe not pouring but kind of a nice gentle stream) With all this new found lower middle class wealth, I'm able to take an undeserved break from the McJob.

Yes, that's right I've quit my job again. This one lasted less than a month. (which is actually the 4th shortest job I have ever had,) The world's record for shortest time on a new job by Derek Barnes is currently 4 hours and 21 minutes. This was bad job number 17 in a series and I proudly keep all the nametags and put them on the bulletin board of working class stiffness that hangs in my hallway. Jason says that this just proves that I was not meant to be a responsible adult (coming from him, that is really weird)

I'm putting a new tag on the end of the video that all the skate-rats should let me know if they come across anything strange. Strange as in paranormal. Not strange as in my sister practices kissing with the poster from a teen magazine. (unless your sister is of age. . . . and you have photos . . .color photos . . . video would be better)

hurdy gur,  
Derek "no longer with the Dominoes" Barnes

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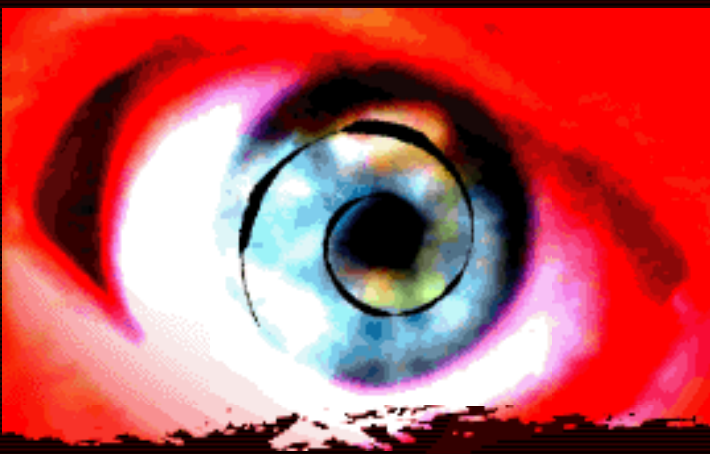
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

May 1st

Howdy partners,

Like the flashy new code on the home page? I snatched some icons from a free server and presto chango we got a shiny new logo. I also redid the code for the guest book so it no longer crashes. You can also put in your own code to make a link to your web page from there. (if you so choose)

Slow news week here on the home front. My mother got a new car so I gots the old one (and thank you for inquiring but no I do not still live with my mother. I have a very small little home all to my own.)

Considered getting a new job and then decided that I would cancel the cable instead. All the porn channels were scrambled anyway. Still getting a trickle in from the skate videos and I just (insert trumpet fanfare) sent off my 100th T-shirt. Either you guys dig the logo more than I figured or you've grown tired of the rag you use to wash the car and need a new one.

In our continuing coverage of strange people with bad ideas, our roving reporter Lan, (actually she does not rove that much any more, not since the hip surgery.) sent in a interesting story on a woman in Ledyard Connecticut that can [cure infertility with a fish](#). If you have done anything interesting with a fish please feel free to send me the info. Unless it's really sick and disgusting. In that case send me color photos.

It's Jason's birthday next week and I'm not sure what to get him. If you have any ideas, lemme know. He's very fond of anything that he can eat.

hurdy gur,  
Derek



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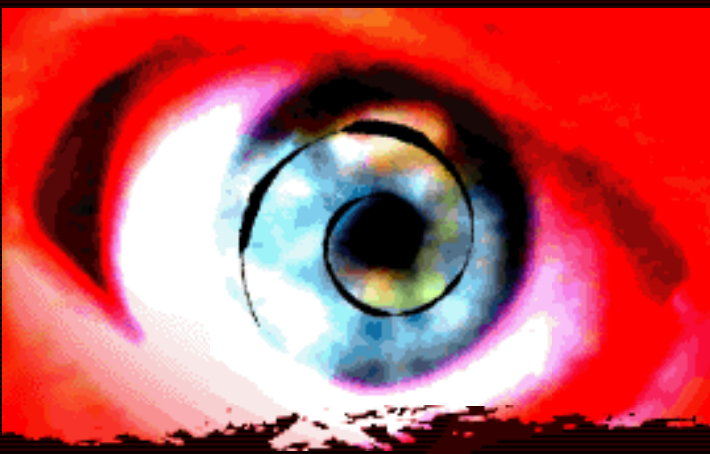
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FREAK-O-PEDIA

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## DIARY OF A MADMAN

May 5th

Hey there,

Little bit of excitement has crossed the news desk here. A young riot girl in Van Nuys left me an e-mail this week that her father has actual footage of a hoop snake on some old super 8 that he shot in the 60's. Interesting, yes?

What's that? You say you ain't never heard of no hoop snake? Well the story goes that a hoop snake can grab it's tail with it's mouth to form a wheel out of it's body and roll to escape danger (or flee the scene if he just got caught breaking and entering)

I called the father (you can file him under gruff but lovable) He'll part with the footage but he wants some bucks.

Dare I send him money sight unseen?

Dare I empty the piggy bank?

Dare I live with out electricity to satisfy my own curiosity?

How much, you ask? Well lets just say it's about a weeks take home pay back when I was working the last McJob.

I know, I know, Any one with half a brain would say "Heck no Derek, save your money for something worthwhile like a 401K program."

Thing is I don't like 401Ks. Don't dig banks that much either. I do like hoop snakes. (well I've never actually seen one but I like the IDEA of a hoop snake)

Lemme think about it.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "Mind on my money and my money on a hoop snake"  
Barnes



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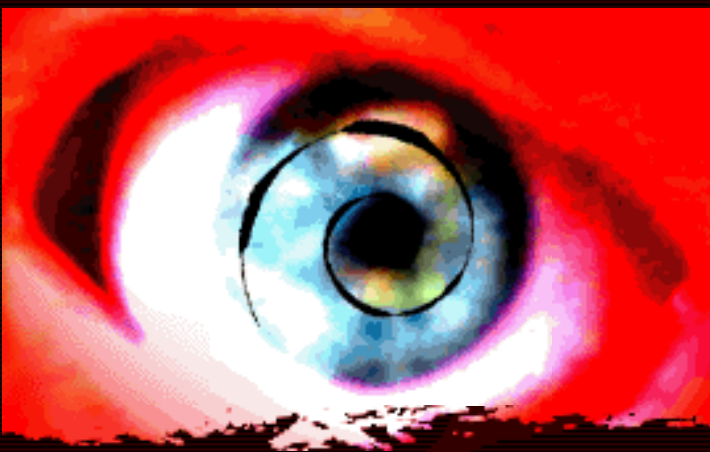
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

May 12th

Oh baby,

Here I am sitting in front of my ragged ass computer and just mere inches away from my incorrect spelling fingers (you should thank God that you see this stuff after it has been spell corrected) is the [hoop snake footage](#). Yea that's right, you heard me, I bought it.

Stop yelling at me, I got it at a reduced price. I kinda sorta watched it by unrolling it with a flashlight shining through it. It made me squint a lot. I gotta go buy a 8mm projector at the thrift store. (Should have asked to get that thrown in with the deal)

Lan, my number one fan and nitpicker said she would try and walk me through the steps needed to get it up on the site.

And before you go yelling at me for being an idiot you should realize that as a responsible adult I went and got a new job so I can pay for my filthy immoral paranormal habit. I'm bartending again, a job which is in no doubt because of the excellent fake reference that Lan gave me up there in Athens.

Jason is standing here and I thought now would be the perfect time to let him finally say a few words. So hereererere's Jason:

Whaz up! Jason in da house..Derek is a freak FREAK FREAK FREAK O!!!!!!!!!!!!111

Thank you Jason, Now you all know what I deal with on a regular basis.

Anyway I'm copping a ride with Jason to search for a projector and he gets antsy if he has to stay in one spot for too long. When he gets antsy he starts to eat. I can not afford for him to start looking at my refrigerator with that



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[Rants from 2000](#)

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### FIND A FREAK:

Search for:

crazed My-name-is-Jason-and- I-must-consume look

More as it develops,  
Derek

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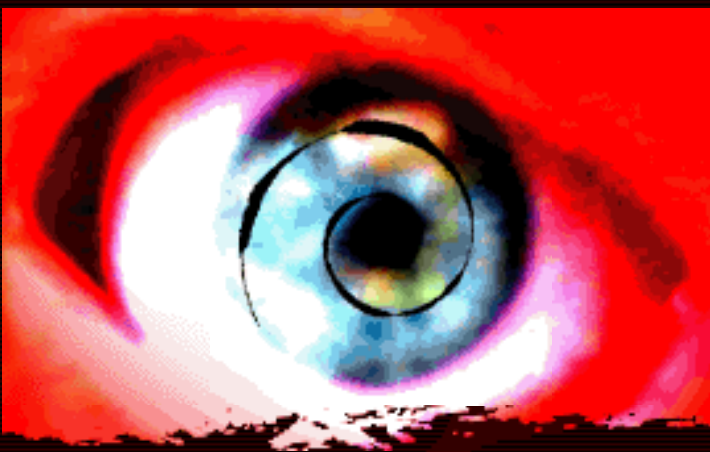
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

June 1st

Hey there fellow freaks,

What's happening. I spent the last coupla days being a responsible young adult. Had the car tuned up, mowed the grass so the landlady won't yell at me. Washed some clothes. All in all I did the upright uptight citizen thing.

Man, was it boring.

Luckily though one of my friends called to save me from a life in dullsville.

Rich is this guy who owns a pop culture store here. He sells toys from the 50's thru 80's, whacked out 60's plastic furniture and anything else that catches his attention for longer than 30 seconds. He goes on these road trips to the bad lands of Alabama and Georgia to find under priced stuff so he can bring it back here, wipe the dust off of it and call it a collectible. All in all it sounds like a pretty cushy job.

Anyways, he gave me a ring and told me he was a going on a road trip, his girlfriend Martha Mae couldn't go and wanted to know if I was into it. He pays for the gas and motels. All I do is sit back and feed my face in the lowest cost possible.

Well friends and neighbors I thought for about 2 seconds and said yes. Even better the new job bought the story about having to go to my Aunt's funeral and so I still have a job if I want when I get back. (That's the beauty of getting new jobs, you can keep having the same relatives die over and over again)

We leave on the 6th and to celebrate I unfroze the credit card. (which is a trick my mom taught me. If you have a credit card, stick it in a block of ice in the refrigerator. That way it'll keep you from overspending and if you really want something it takes a while for the ice to melt) So with my



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slightly cold revolving line of credit I went to Bobo's Cheap Computer Shack and bought a used laptop. My ever so generous friend Lan is going to tell me how to download stuff from the laptop while I'm traveling around this great land of ours. (I think it involves the use of a lot of wires and a pay phone)

That's right baby, I'm now on the road just like Charles Kuralt.

I'll keep you up to date on the goings on. Mom's keeping Mr. Crowley. If you see me on the road it's OK to wave but do not under any circumstances wave a Mr. T. doll at us. Rich takes that kinda stuff seriously.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "I got a tiger by the tail" Barnes

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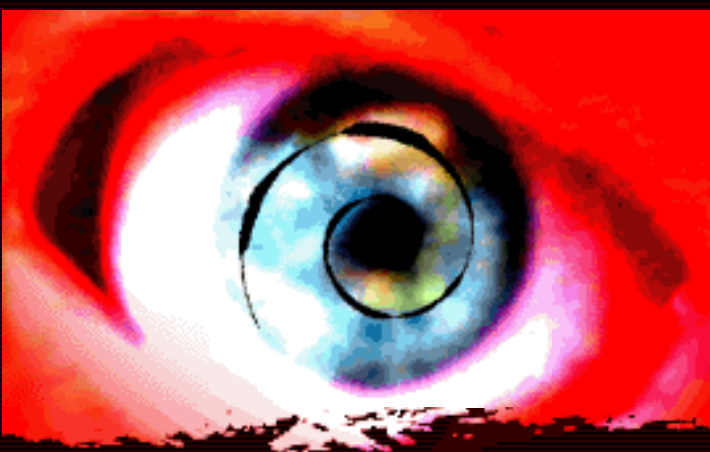
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

June 7th

Greetings from Dothan Alabama,



On the road with Rich.. He failed to mention the fact that we are lugging a giant shoe salesman head to Minnesota. (see picture)

Rich got the head at auction when this shoe store closed for like \$20. He sold it on-line to a guy for something like \$600 plus shipping (are you beginning to see how devious a man Rich is?)

What kinda guy buys a giant shoe salesman head? I dunno but I'm sure to find out.

Anyway we spent the day motoring around and stopping at anything that remotely interested Rich. (he can sniff out a Pee Wee Herman doll at 200 feet) I mostly stood around and said, "uh . . . is this valuable?" (chia pets aren't in case you're interested)

Struck up a conversation with this crazy looking trucker at a greasy spoon and mentioned the fact that I do a paranormal web site. He asked me if I had ever heard of [kudzu monkeys](#). I of course said no and the rest is available for your perusal in the Freakopedia. It's kinda toned down so to get the correct appreciation of it imagine that a lisping



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### FIND A FREAK:

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overweight trucker with oily hair is telling you the story while he slurps down french fries dipped in mayonnaise.

I'm going to sleep so I can get up and take first shift behind the wheel.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "Give me 20 acres and I'll turn this rig around" Barnes

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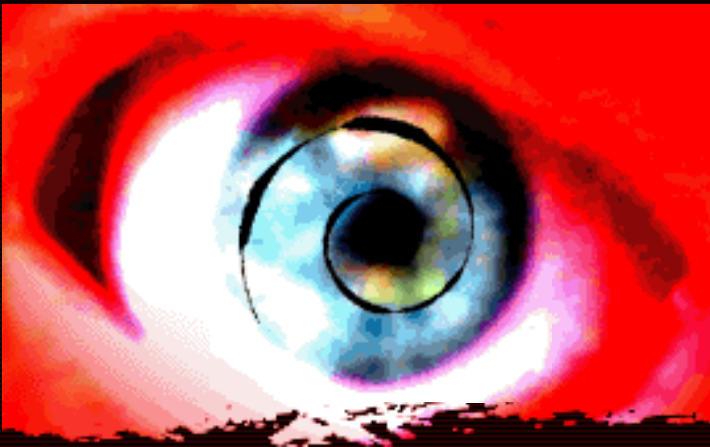
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

June 9th

Paris Arkansas is full of the undead!

Well probably not but it does sound a lot better than saying I'm in a cheap motel in Paris Arkansas.

Saw the most amazing animal show in Hot Springs earlier today. if you live in a 200 mile radius I urge you to clamber in the family roadster and get your ass on down to see the Educated Animals show. It's got everything including the kitchen sink. pathos, drama tragedy, comedy. chickens dancing. (I think you catch my drift)

The head is garnering a lot of attention in the land of Clinton. Whenever we park people ask us if they can have their picture taken in front of it. Or if we are on the move they wave. Like they know us.

"Look honey, it's those young men with the giant shoe salesman head. They love it when you wave, and I hear they are mostly harmless."



RANTS:

Went to this junk store in the middle of nowhere and made an amazing find. Over a 100 of those junky paranormal books that came out in the 60's and 70's were all stacked up. Got them all for \$20 The junk store owner didn't even bat an eye as he sold them to me. (although he did ask if the head was for sale) They're a bit moldy but man o man what a find!

(insert yawn here)

Right now Rich is attempting to watch some evangelical Christian broadcast through the snow on the motel TV and I'm getting so sleepy I keep imaging the shoe salesman head is in bed with me. (that's some serious Freudian thing that I don't even want to think about)

I'm going to sleep, maybe when I wake up I'll be out of Arkansas.

hurdy gur  
Derek "sheep counter" Barnes

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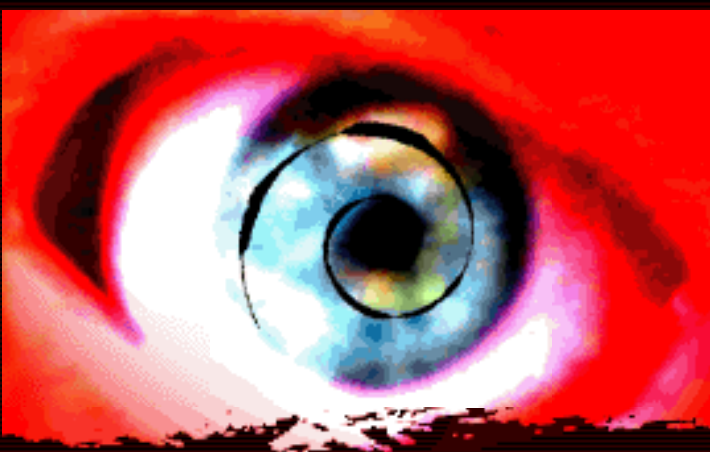
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

June 10th

Gladstone Arkansas



Words can not convey the doom and gloom that surrounds Rich and I.

The giant head caught fire and burned it and the truck down.

Imagine the giant head

of a shoe salesman on fire by the side of the road.

Imagine me and Rich looking on in disbelief.

Imagine me being a smart ass and taking pictures of it.

Rich had just gotten on an off ramp when he noticed smoke coming out the back. I thought it was the exhaust. Then I noticed the flames licking up from the giant armpits.

"It's on fire!" I screamed.

"Yea, yea," Rich answered.

"I'm not kidding about this." I screamed back.

So Rich pulled over but it was too late to do anything. Flames licked higher and higher, like the goat at educated animals trying to get his tongue on an ice cream cone.



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We grabbed what stuff we could out of the front cab. (I grabbed my laptop, digital camera and some of those books I bought a coupla days ago.) and then got away and watched the flaming pyre light out the Arkansas night.

The firemen think maybe gasoline vapor got into the muffler and ignited. The state troopers just shook their head and drove us to a motel next to the greyhound station.

Rich is on the phone now calling the giant head's owner to explain things. I think after that we are planning to walk to a bar and get drunk.

Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we decide to drive a giant shoe salesman head across country.

hurdy  
Derek "no gur" Barnes

June 10 (later)

Too hel with the hed !!!!!

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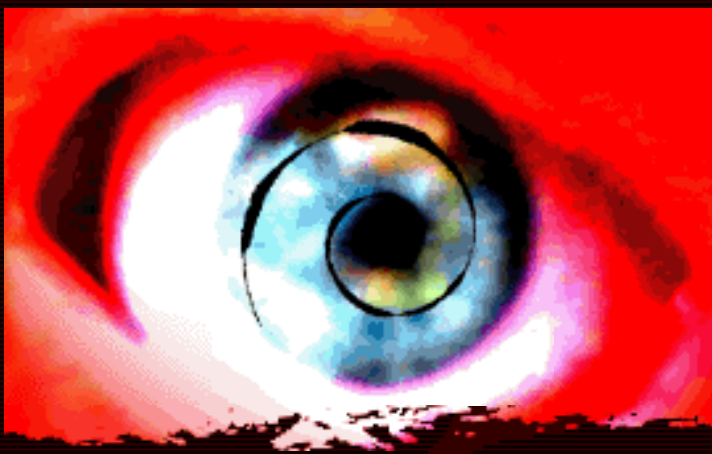
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

June 11th

Onboard a greyhound heading south. Have a hangover.  
Whenever I close my eyes I still see that giant head looking  
at me.

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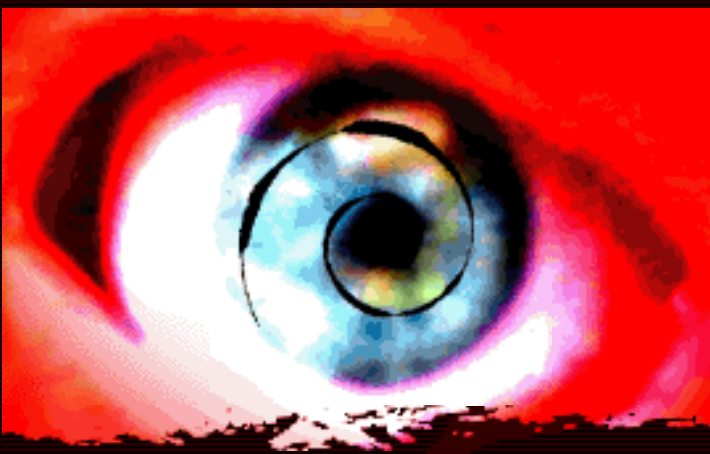
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

June 12th

Hiya,

Made it home. Mr. Crowley was glad to see me. One advantage to having all your dirty clothes burn up is that you don't have to do any laundry.

Called Rich but he was in the midst of the insurance settlement for the truck. I don't even want to know what kind of deductible the head had on it.

Let me get settled in here at the ole' Casa de la Barnes and I'll be back up to speed in no time. I thumbed through most of those books and I'll have some stuff up from them pretty soon.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "the sleeper has awakened" Barnes



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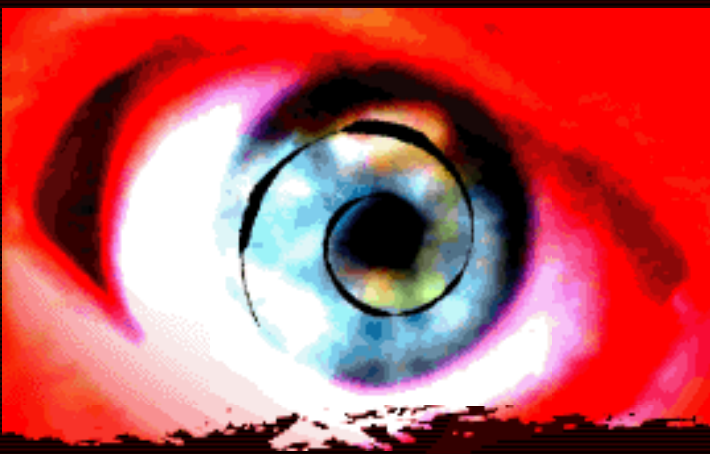
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

June 20th

Hey,

Most of these books are b.s. but make for interesting, Leonard Nimoy 70's cheesy strangeness type reading. Stuck between the pages of one I found an old photograph of a bunch of civil war guys gathered around this huge dead bird. I posted it tonight and answered e-mail and that sort of thing.

Jason dropped by to say "Whad up" (his exact words) and drop off the mail he had been collecting.

The worst part of the fire was that whole loss of personality thing. I had this T-shirt I owned since 1989 go up in that head bar-b-q. It had all this killer insignia stuff going on around this bald guy's head and in the middle of his forehead were the words "I Will Show You Fear in a Handful of Dust" I made it back when I was living on the beach. That shirt didn't just bring back memories. That shirt was a memory.

Well the shirt IS a memory now.

That "I Will Show you Fear . . ." thing is a line from a poem called the Wasteland by T.S. Elliot. It's my favorite poem.

See you're getting to see the soft, frilly side of me. Liking poems and all. Don't worry, it's a manly poem. I ain't no sissy, tree hugging, granola eating, liberal pinko commie spy or anything just cause I like a poem.

Aarrghh, I'm all man, big old lumberjack kinda man, big ole woman loving, beer drinking, gun toting kinda man . . . Let's go out and club some baby seals.

More as it develops,

hurdy gur



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Derek

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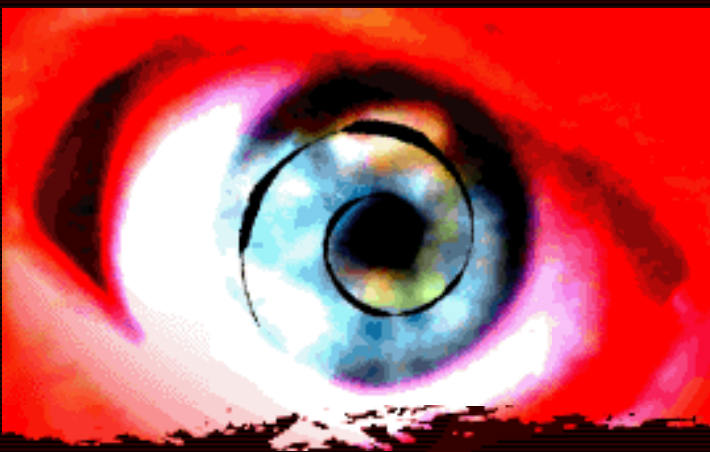
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

July 1st

Hi,

Talk about your karmic flip flop. Here I was going off on a jag about a lousy T-shirt and 10 days later I'm the talk of the paranormal circuit.

In case you're as dumb as I am lemme fill you in. Evidently that photo I found stuck in that book is some sort of holy grail for the freaks out there. (or it might be the holy grail there's a lot of discussion on the fact) It's called the thunderbird photo and was thought to have been long lost. Everybody has claimed to see it but no one had a copy of it until now.

A paranormal magazine called me yesterday for an interview. Wowzers, this is pretty unbelievable. Crazy even.

The funny thing is that this is my first big find and I just sorta stumbled across it. If I had grabbed those books when the truck caught fire we wouldn't even be having this conversation (not that we're really having a conversation to start with)

Lots of e-mails asking what kind of freak I am. "Why I'm a good freak, sir, now would you like to buy a MonsterFreaks T-shirt?"

hurdy gur  
Derek "dazed and confused" Barnes

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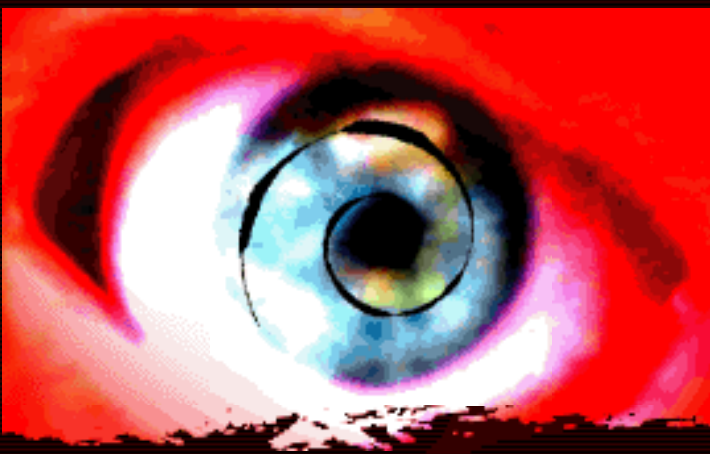
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

July 2nd

Hey there,

Just got off the phone with Lan (MonsterFreaks number one critic) she wants to come down and join my highly motivated crew. I asked her for a resume and forwarded her call to the personal department.

Seriously though, she wants to quit her jobs and motorvate down here and help me manage the site. If you ask me she's nuts. Sure I'm a hot potato right now but what is she going to do when my 15 minutes of fame is up? Pack T-shirts?

She says that she can have the site not only paying for itself but making money for us. She's got big plans boys and girls and I'm part of it. (you, the loyal viewing audience are part of it as well)

I told her to go for it. If she wants to ruin her life by hanging on to my tattered coat tail then so be it. Who am I to give advice when I can't even hold down one job long enough for all the other employees to remember my name. I told one waitress at the restaurant I tend bar at that my name is Beelzebub but I don't think she got it.

hurdy gur,  
Derek

July 2nd (later)

Hey,

Maybe good things do come in threes.

1. finding the thunderbird photo
2. Lan coming down to help me run things
3. (get ready for this one) A COMPANY WANTS TO ADVERTISE ON MY SITE



### RANTS:

[Rants from 2000](#)

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### FIND A FREAK:

Search for:

Do you understand the implications? They want to PAY ME MONEY FOR DOING NOTHING. This is an amped idea. This is an idea I can roll with. An idea I can wrap around my mind like an angora sweater wraps around Ed Wood's fake bosom.

Of course, I called Lan and told her about it. She's handling the details. I'm just sitting back and letting the money roll in. I need one of those big cigars and a sign that says "Fat Cat" to hang around my neck.

Here's a thought, maybe I should make Lan wear a nametag.

Oh the irony of it all.

hurdy gur,  
Derek

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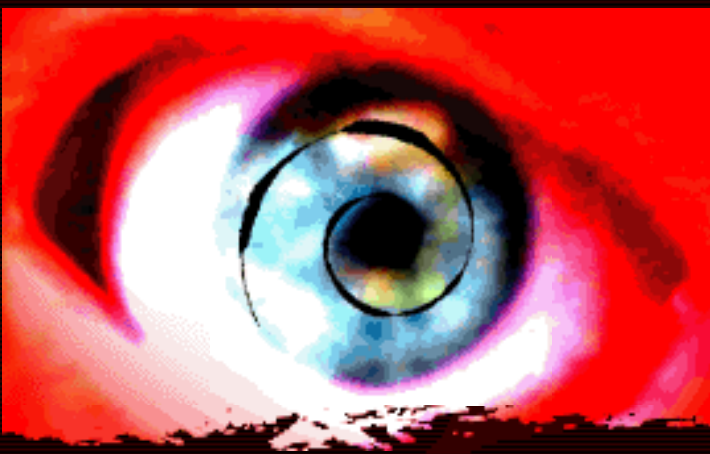
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

July 3rd

Hiya,

Lan called and gave me the bad news. For some reason I was envisioning an advertising check for thousands of dollars to show up delivered by a nice young man in a brown suit. Instead the reality is that I get 50 cents (thats 2 quarters to you and me) for every time someone clicks on the advertisement.

Looks like I'll be making those T-shirts and videos and pouring vodka and cranberry for a while yet.

Lan also mentioned the little fact that she is in no way working for me. Instead we are a team. I handle the freaky stuff and she handles the more down to earth matters.

Rereading the last entry I can see where I might have gone a little too far in my celebration.

She also said that there's no way she's wearing a nametag.

hurdy gur

Derek "You want fries with that?" Barnes



### RANTS:

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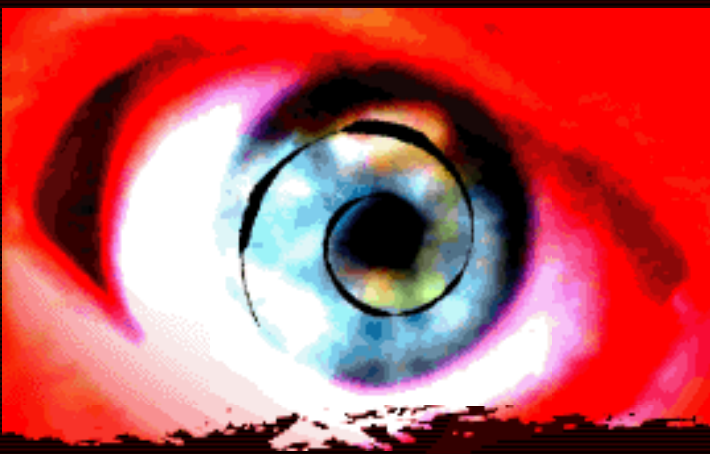
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

July 10th

Hey,

Lan's here. I had no idea she was a neat freak. The work space in my house has now become a organized center of paranormal investigation. I may joke about being responsible but she IS a responsible young adult. Mr. Crowley likes her which is a good sign until you remember that he likes Jason too. (no accounting for taste)

Did I mention that Lan borrowed my Mom's vacuum cleaner? (like I said, a real neat freak)

As of right now Lan is sleeping at my place (on the couch) and writing code for the new web site. Lot's of changes in the works, friends and neighbors. You'll just have to wait and see. This place is going to be an on-line supernaut of a freak show.

Of course I'll still be the same ole' Derek you've grown to know and love. I'll still be the one you can come to when you scrape your knee or when you find that strange picture of a guy who cam tie his tongue into a knot.

One of the major changes I can tell you about is that we are changing the name of the site. To tell the truth I never liked the name "MonsterFreaks" Not classy enough. Not esoteric enough. It don't have what the French call, "magic meaning"

So here's the deal. I'm having a contest where you the loyal viewer can decide the name of the new site. Just drop me an e-mail and I'll look at your suggestion and laugh my ass off. No really, e-mail me your ideas. I'll have a prize and everything..

Lan wants me to go get a file cabinet. (neat freak neat freak neat freak) So off I go.



### RANTS:

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### FIND A FREAK:

Search for:

till next time  
Derek

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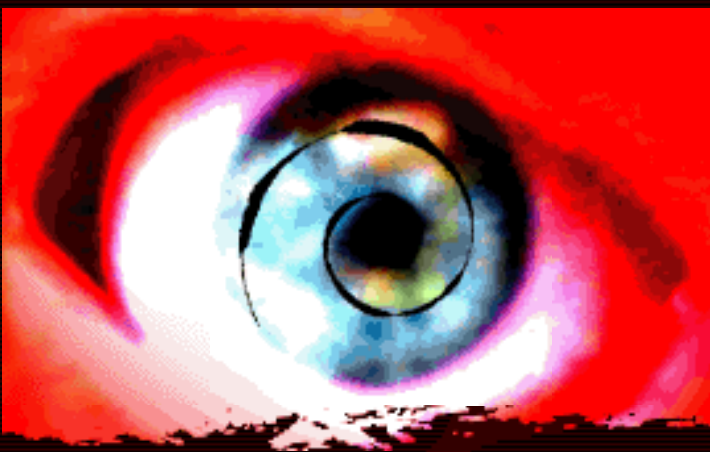
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

July 20th

Hey there, hi there, ho there,

I'd like to thank all of you for the e-mails. Our top suggestion right now is "Derek's Self Important Pile of Fake Crap"

Got a nice ring to it dontcha think?

Meanwhile keep sending in those e-mails. I really enjoy knowing that someone spent time out of their life to write to me. It kinda brings a tear to this little ole' skaters eye.

Also check out our brand new DISCUSSION BOARD! That's right. Now you can carry on a conversation about me with another person you have never met. Just another service brought to you from "Derek's Self Important Pile of Crap"

A discussion board was something I had been meaning to do but Lan took like 2 minutes to set it up and poof, viola, there it was. There's some ground rules so read the header before you go posting nekkid pictures of yourself on there.

We also now have a actual mailing PO Box so we can look official to all those companies Lan has been on the phone with. If you wanna drop me snail mail then just mail me at

Freakylinks  
PO Box 532112  
Orlando Fl  
32853-2112

No letter bombs, the post office frowns on that kinda stuff and I'm training Mr. Crowley to be a bomb sniffing dog just in case. (Here boy, here boy, go get the pipe bomb! Good boy!)

So there you have it. Two new ways to get information to me. I'm still not giving any of you freakz my home phone number though, so stop asking.



### RANTS:

[Rants from 2000](#)

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[Rants from 1998](#)

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One of the books I got in that junk store had a chapter on an interesting character called [Spring Heeled Jack](#). Basically a prankster from Victorian England. He fits my image perfectly so I'm making him the mascot. Viva la Jack!

Lan has a friend who is in Budapest, who has agreed to become our first foreign correspondent. Lan is full of ideas ain't she? She's a little whirlwind of gumption. A towering spire of dedication. A shining beacon of hard work that we can all look toward. (that should be enough praise to keep her working for the next week)

Lan also has a new job bartending at the same place I work at. (She is much better at it than me) If you see a girl with an attitude pouring you a drink, don't make any witty come ons.

For you gourmets out there I uploaded two stories on religious symbols found in food (one in a [banana](#) the other in a [cabbage](#).) Go check it out and leave me in peace so I can give Mr. Crowley his bath.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "monster" Barnes

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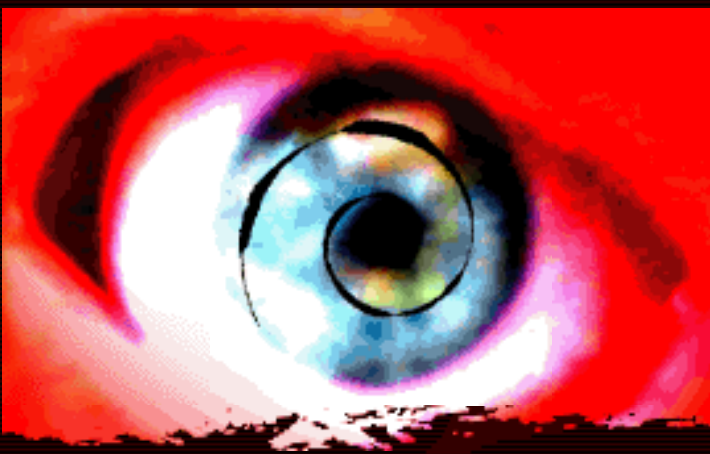
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

August 1st

After pouring through the entries for the name contest I did the only correct thing and deleted all of them. I should have realized I was the only one for this job. well then, without further ado, . . . FreakyLinks is born! A collection of the strange, bizarre, unusual (and hopefully marketable) events that make up the unseen world. FreakyLinks will be a link to the shadow on the horizon. A virtual homeless shelter for the freaks of the world to unite. (no hot lunches will be served, however) FreakyLinks will be my palace of information where I shall preside over the knowledge that dares not speak it's name! (insert pompous, overblown, John William's theme music . . .)

Anyway, back in reality, Lan is still working on code, although she has finally gotten an apartment and just comes over now to the "office" to work. I think Jason has gotten a crush on her. Lan ignores him.

She has also gotten the quicktime program running so we can finally bring back up the footage of the [hoop snake in action](#) (as well as that exciting stuff I shot at [Spook Hill](#)) I can't wait to answer the new batch of e-mails about that.

hurdy gur  
Derek



### RANTS:

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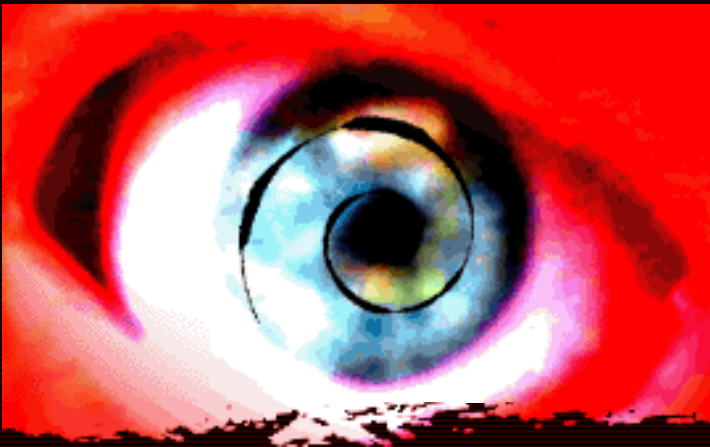
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Aug. 7th

Howdy,

Got a call from a guy who works at a leather tanning factory. Wouldn't say how he got my number but I suspect it was that reporter again. Anyway he says that he and another employee found a weird frog thing in the sludge pit. (For those of you keeping track at home, this is the second weird frog that has been brought to my attention) I told him me and my partner in crime (Jason) would come over in the next day or so to investigate.

In other news, Lan has made startling leaps and bounds in her code writing. We're getting closer and closer every day.

Still getting tons of e-mail about the thunderbird photo but no new information since the paleontology dude put in his 2 cents worth on the 3rd of this month. I'm just waiting for someone to e-mail me and say "Hey, that's my Great-Great Uncle Bob there 3rd from the left in the picture. I didn't give you permission to run his picture. I'm suing." (don't get any



RANTS:

ideas about that)

I'm trying to get to everyone's e-mails but they stack up pretty fast around here so be patient, I will answer you.

hurdy gur  
Derek

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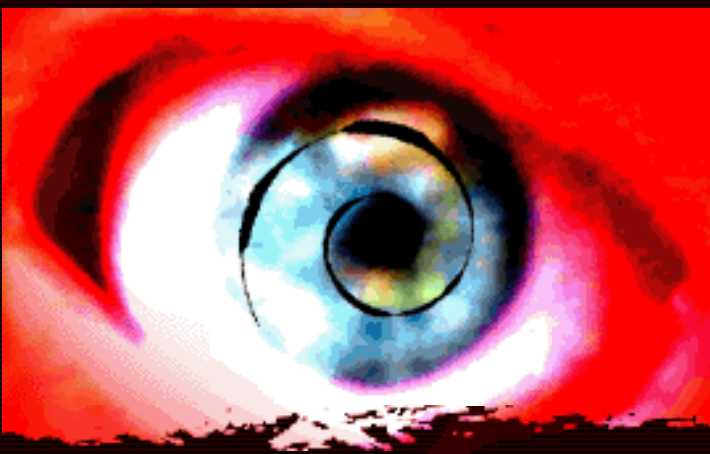
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Aug. 12th

So these factory dudes kept this thing at the factory office and it was a pain and a half to get in there. I had to wear overalls, tell everyone my name was Bob and in general act very excited around power tools. Then we almost got busted when the foreman saw the camera. That cost me a \$40 "donation to the foreman fund". I need to work on the sneakability of operating in hostile environments.

Anyway there's [a photo and story up](#) in the Freakopedia, go check it out and see for yourself if it was worth the trouble.

Lan also tracked down this couple who has some long working appliances. Oh . . .spooky. I conducted a phone interview with them and I think it turned out about as exciting as you can imagine.

later,  
Derek "hear no evil, speak no evil, see no evil" Barnes

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### RANTS:

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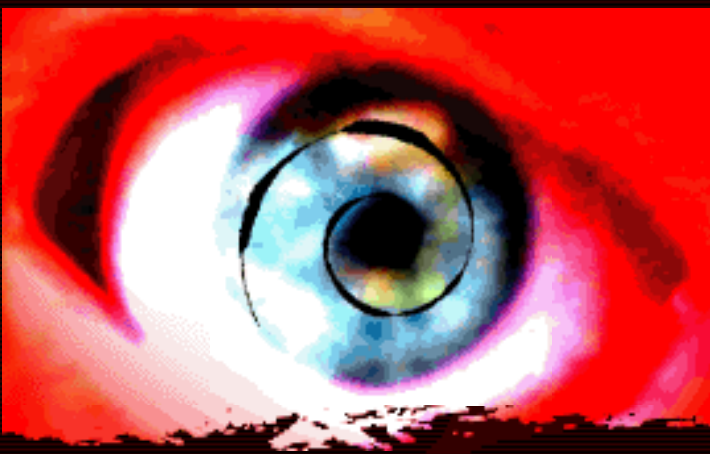
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Sept. 1st

Hey,

How's it going? I just spent the last two weeks once again catching up on orders for the tape and T-shirts. I even hired Jason for a few days to pack crap up. It's hard work keeping myself in the lifestyle I have grown accustomed to.

So here's the big news. We're moving. On Up. To that deluxe web site in the sky.

Somewhere around the middle of the month you'll be going to [www.freakylinks.com](http://www.freakylinks.com).

Exciting ain't it? A whole domain name of our very own. We're just bursting out in little joy fits at the very thought of it. Don't worry about missing it though. If you click here and we have moved the new start page will automatically load.

Maybe you noticed the store has a new look. (thanks once again to Lan) You can even, gasp at the horror of it, order on-line with your credit card! How's that for looking official and everything?

More surprises in store boys and girls. Just keep coming on back for more of the freak fun you've grown accustomed to.

hurdy gur,  
Derek



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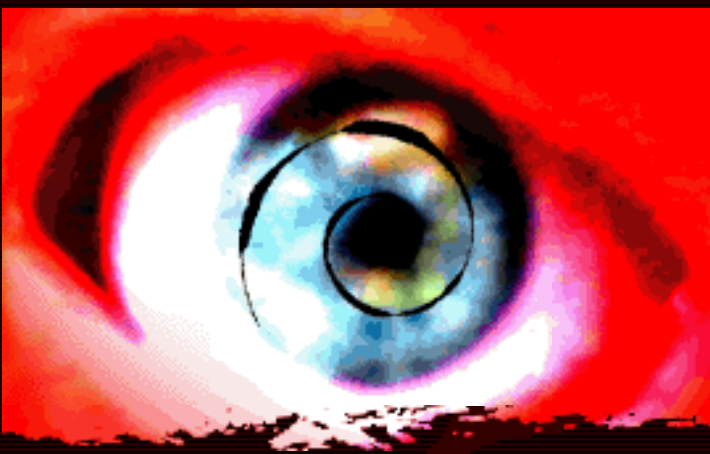
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Sept. 14th

Hey,

The new web site is up!. We are kicking it at [freakylinks.com](http://freakylinks.com). Come one, come all to the hottest web address this side of the Pecos. (you know I'm not even sure what side of the Pecos I am on)

Sept. 14th (later)

OK, we're back up again. Our official launch didn't go as smoothly as anticipated and we crashed after about 2 hours. Thank you very much. Everything looks smooth now though.

Spiffy looking, ain't it? Lan has done a kick ass job on this thing. I really, really like the Spring Heel Jacks she has put around the place. And of course the drapes that match the furniture are an excellent touch. It really says "decor de freak".

The advertisers are a big part of this whole new look so if you like the page show your support by clicking on one of them. It's all stuff I dig or think you might be interested in so feel free to explore my psyche (and help my checking account) by clicking on through to the other side.

Lots of new stuff to look at and if you are new here feel free to start a battle of the wits on the discussion board or drop me an e-mail. There's lots of pretty pictures for you to look at and plenty of things for you to chuckle over.

And of course no new web site would be complete with a T-shirt design. Oh yea, the official Freakylinks T-shirt is available at [the store](#). It's just the thing to wear around the workplace and confuse your boss.

hurdy

Derek "tripping over the ottoman in my new pad" Barnes



### RANTS:

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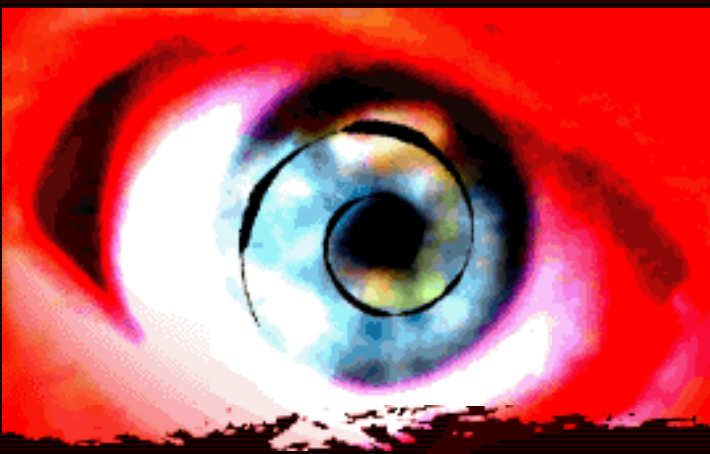
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Sept. 16th

Hey,

Even more stability has been added to the site for your viewing pleasure. The discussion board was revamped to make things a little easier on our server. Unfortunately I think we have lost some of the earlier archived discussions. If anyone has a copy of them, lemme know.

Two new advertisers this week, thank you very much. Good stuff, go check it out.

I'm breaking the Freakopedia down into different sections for ease of viewing. New items will still be easy to get to so don't fret about having to wade through old hoop snake footage to get to the juicy stuff.

More as it develops,

hurdy gur,  
Derek "Speaking of" Barnes



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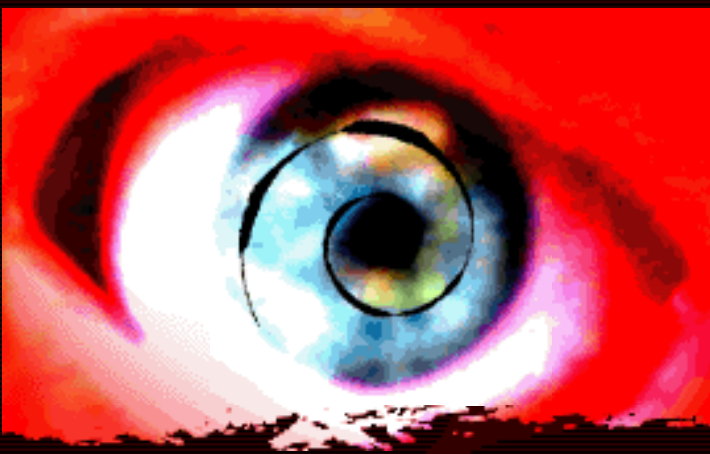
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Sept. 24th

What's happening,

The hit meter is steadily climbing thanks to the devotion of all you old-timers and quite a few new passers-by. Guess the change to our new neighborhood has gotten us a lot of new clientele.

Thanks to my reporter friend for the tip on the [levitating phone lady](#). She's got some stories to tell about that house she lives in. Don't worry I wrote them all down for ya.

Just for fun today I got the old skateboard down and tried to hang out with the boys down at the half-pipe. All the 14 year olds kept looking at me and whispering about how why an old man was on their turf. Just to show 'em I tried to flip kick off the rim and nearly broke my ankle. God, I feel old.

hurdy gur

Derek "the animal" Barnes

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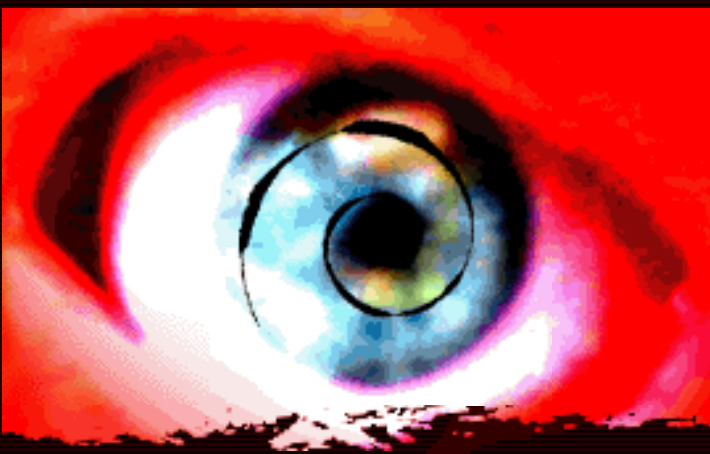
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Oct. 5th

Hey there,

Big news from the home front. Lan has written some new code that makes it possible to start a little e-mailed newsletter to all my little sherlocks out there in cyberspace land.

Yes, I know you're just dying to be part of a mass e-mailing and everything so don't let me stop ya. Just fill your name in on the form you see here ( its floating around various other parts of the web-pages as well) and then viola, you're part of the huge Freakylinks family. Just another cog in the machine, another brick in the wall another one that bites the dust (oh sorry, got my musical metaphors mixed up)

Anyways, once you are on the list you'll get a weekly newsletter with rants, information on new entries, special secret contests, and access to ultra cool hidden links. See doesn't it sound just ultra hip and happening? Go ahead, sign up for it. All the other kids are doing it.

Had to put the car in the shop today. I got a flat and so I drove it REAL slow to the repair shop around the corner and wouldn't you know it. The wheel was flat cause the car was out of alignment and the car was out of alignment cause the wheel arm (or something like that) was loose and had to be replaced. And then this, and then that, finally it was something like \$600 bucks to fix the darn thing. (insert sound of one man's wallet opening over and over again) Don't you just love mechanics?

I was thinking about quitting the bartending job but maybe now is not such a good time. Unless I want to go back to riding around on my bike.

hurdy gur  
Derek



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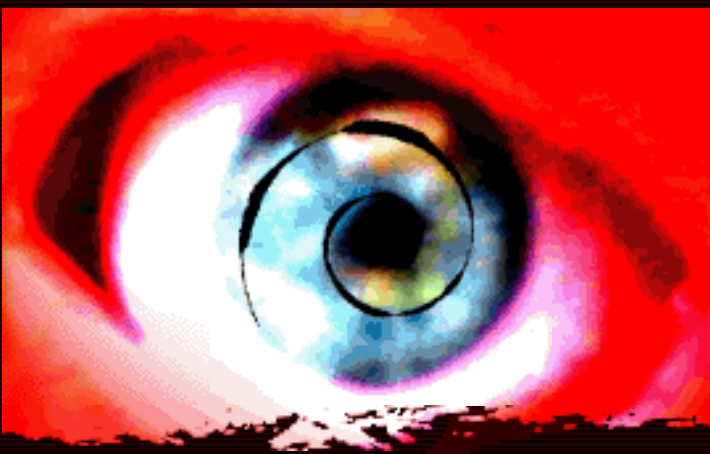
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Oct. 15th

Hey,

Hot news this week is that I hooked up with an ex-NASA guy who claims he has proof positive that the moon landings were faked. Read all about it in the Freakopedia. I'm actually doing a little more research on this one since it is so close to home. If any new info pops up I'll be sure and let ya know.

I always thought there was something fishy about that Buzz Aldrin. I mean what kind of person is named Buzz? Maybe his mother was trying to think up a name and the doorbell went off. I dunno.

hurdy,  
Derek



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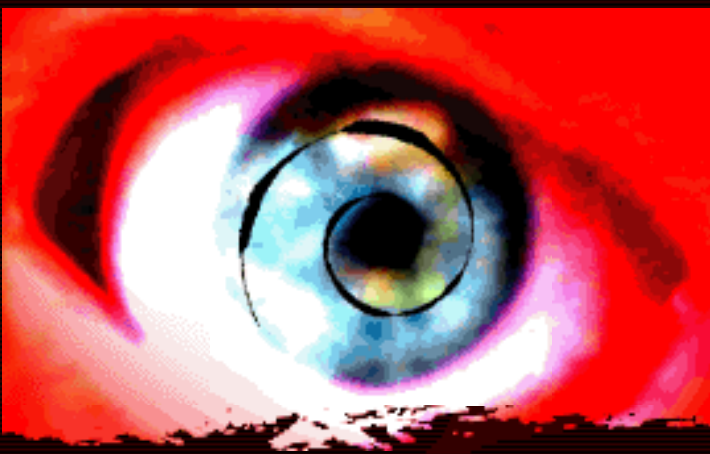
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Oct. 20th

Hi,

what's up? Remember that friend of Lan's in Budapest? Well he just sent us our first eastern European entry into the Freakopedia. Go check out what [those crazy Romanians did](#).

I got our official checks for Freakylinks Incorporated. I choose the checks with the little bunnies and the sun shinning down on the pretty fluffy clouds. I'm real big into juxtaposition.

Speaking of checks and money, Lan just told me my modem is out of date and we need to get an ISDN line (like I know what the heck that is). I think she's fibbing and she just hates to wait for a page to refresh. Think I will call her bluff and tell her we're changing the format to a printed magazine. She what she thinks of dat.

hurdy,  
Derek

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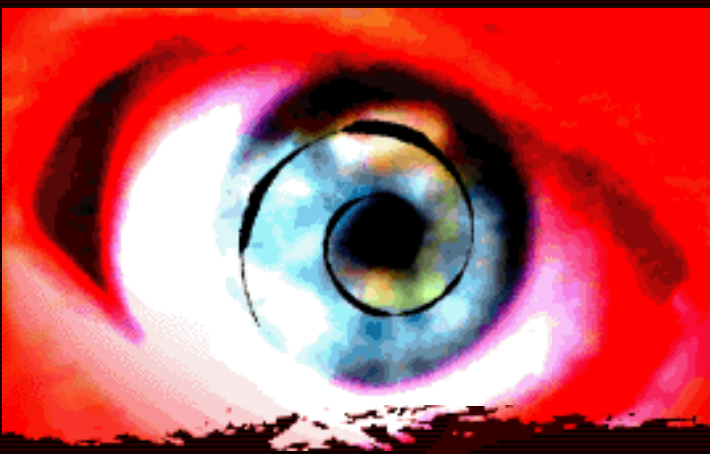
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Oct. 31st

Hello,

Today is the anniversary of my brother Adam's death. (he died a year ago) Don't feel like doing much. Went out and skated a little bit. Halloween use to be my favorite holiday but not anymore. The one bad memory blocks out all the good ones.

Adam was always the more mature one of us. He's the one that got his Bachelor degree and then went on the a Ph.D. while I was out practicing my footwork on the vert pipe. He was the respectable one.

Me and Mr. Crowley (Crowley was actually Adam's dog to start with) went over to Mom's and went out to his grave. Afterwards Mom made me lunch and I hung out at her house and looked through the old photo album. There's a great old Halloween picture of me and Adam dressed up as Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee when we were 12 or 13. Must have been right before we stopped letting Mom dress us alike. Being an individual becomes a big point to you around that age when you have a twin.

Feels like now I'm just the Cheshire Cat, just letting everyone see the smile while the rest of me is invisible. (insert harps and overblown synth music here)

Thought that writing this crap out would make me feel better but I just feel as empty as ever. I'm going to bed.

Derek



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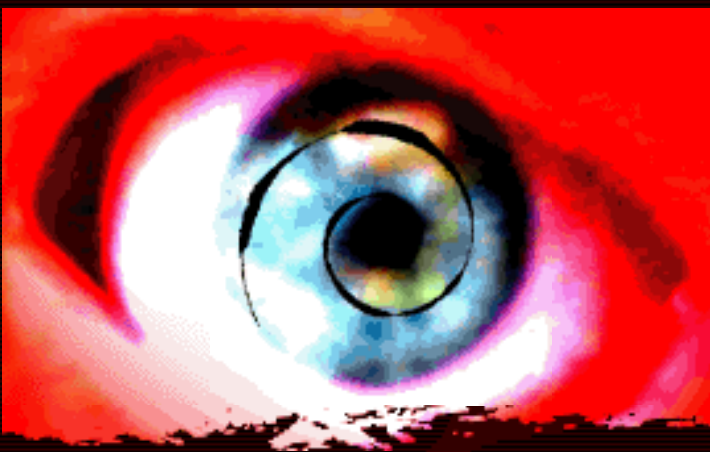
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Nov. 1st

Hey,

I slept on it and feel better. I almost erased that stuff I put up last night but I guess you should see the bad side of me as well (the whiny side more like it)

The interesting thing is that my friend Rich came by. Remember him? He of the flaming head?

Well he's bought another vehicle and is once again ready to hit the open road with his trusted companion, Derek "Kemosabe" Barnes.

I told him I thought maybe we should stick to traveling separately but he'll hear none of that. Told me that he's had this vehicle inspected from the outside in and is a raring to go. I was still a little hesitant but then he showed me the fire extinguisher he bought and I felt a little better.

I called work to tell them about another dead relative I had to go see but they weren't buying it. The manager says that if I go this time don't bother coming back. Well I told him, I said "oh yea?" and he said Yeah!" and then I said "er . . .oh yea?" and then he hung up.

So it looks like I'm out another job. Luckily the site has been kicking it and it looks like I might be able to afford to live on the proceeds. I dunno, we'll see. Man but it would be nice to have a life that didn't include using a time clock.

So the open road awaits. I'll lug along the laptop and keep you up to date on my trials and tribulations.

hurdy gur,  
Derek



### RANTS:

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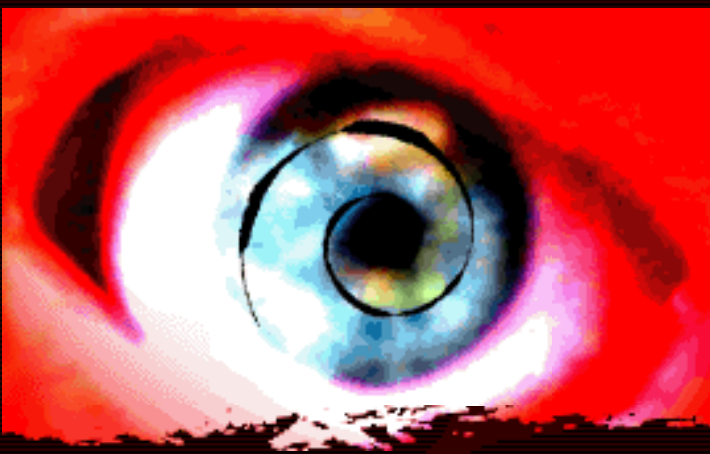
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Nov. 3rd

You know how I can always tell when we get in Georgia? The dirt turns into bright orange clay. That and of course the license plate all have peaches on them.

Spent the day combing through junk stores in Valdosta Georgia with Rich. That wasn't very interesting though. The interesting thing happened to us later that night at a bar-b-q joint/ redneck bar. It was karaoke night and once the beer started flowing the locals started a singing (I guess you could call it singing, it kinda made my ears feel all funny).

The highlight of the evening's entertainment was this one guy who got up and brought a mandolin on stage with him. First off he didn't want any of the canned music to accompany him. Everybody hooted and hollered at this guy but he just ignored them and starting strumming on that thing like he was Georgia's answer to Eric Clapton. The problem was he was not in any long stretch Eric Clapton. Hell he wasn't even Georgia's answer to Sid Vicious. It was awful. Then he put down the mandolin and picked up this battered old guitar. And he played that with the same intensity. Played it just as bad too.

And then he started singing . . .

Oh me, oh my, he had a voice fit to chase coons up a tree. (don't you love it when I go all southern on you?) He sang this old religious song called "Bringing In the Sheaves" and I have never heard anyone sing so badly.

I mean it was bad. Real bad. Bad with a capitol B and that rhymes with T and that stands for treeing coons He was so bad, we bought him a drink after he was finished. He thanked us, declined the drink and then sat down and told us how he got his musical gift. (I swear to you he kept calling it his gift) by shooting the sun with his shotgun.



**RANTS:**

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The rest friends and neighbors will be chronicled in a new Freakopedia entry. We're going up to his home tomorrow morning to do a photo shoot with him and his gun. Wish us luck.

How's that for a bedtime story?

hurdy gur  
Derek

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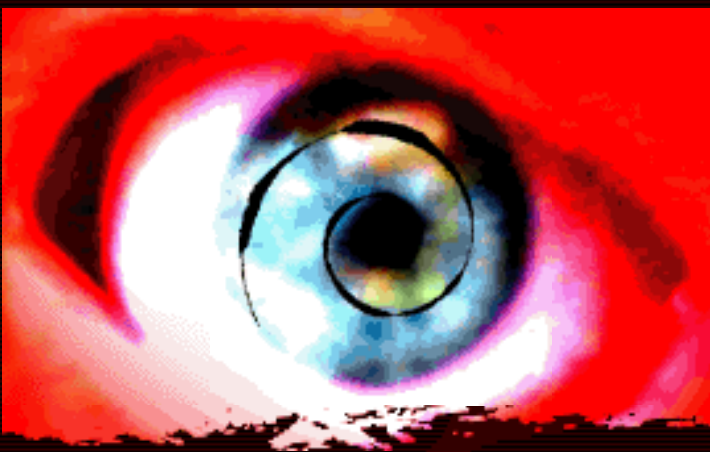
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Nov. 5th

Strangeness abounds. I didn't think anything could top the musical genius story I uncovered a couple of days ago but fate has stepped in and slapped me on the face again.

Going through north Georgia Rich and I got a hankering for some boiled peanuts. Usually you pass a guy on the side of the road every couple of miles but for some reason we drove mile after mile without seeing one. Finally we topped a hill and there in the valley below us was our peanut vendor.

Now you can always tell how good the boiled peanuts are going to be by what kind of signs the guy has out for advertisement and how good his spelling is. This is a theory that I have road tested on several occasions and it has always proven true. Well the first sign I saw was a ragged piece of cardboard that had been propped up against an old tire.

"Pe-nuts" it read. My stomach did a little growl in anticipation. This was a good omen. Careless use of cardboard by a semi-literate rural southerner always means good boiled peanuts. Always.

There wasn't another sign until we got to the guy and then we saw the kicker. Painted on the sides of this junked car were the words "Hot Boled P-nuts". It looked as if Tom Sawyer had gotten bored while white washing the fence and decided to go into business for himself. The crude lettering made saliva start to drip, tastebuds start to unfurl and my mouth already hung open in anticipation of the finest boiled peanuts money can buy.

Well this guy gave us a big smile, took a dull ladle hanging from the side of his battered cooking tub and filled us up two bags. Rich darted a hand into the grocery sack he was given and popped a test peanut into his mouth. He expertly spit out the shell and look at me and grinned.



### RANTS:

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"Damn that's a fine peanut."

I couldn't answer. I was too busy stuffing those salty treats into my mouth in an attempt to civilize my hungry stomach.

After a moment or two we thanked him kindly and mentioned the fact that it was surprising that we had not seen another peanut salesman on the roadside for quite a ways. Had word of his peanuts driven away the competition?

This peanut salesman god looked up at me and said "Nope, they think it's bad luck to be near me cause of my curse."

"C-Curse?" I stammered. Rich's hand froze halfway to his mouth and he looked at the peanut he held as if it might have been a cyanide capsule.

The salesman caught the look and grinned at both of use with a set of teeth that hadn't seen a brush in quite a while.

"Naw, it ain't nothing to do with the peanuts. The peanuts ain't involved at all. It's my ass."

"Your ass." I repeated back to him once again.

"Yup, I got this [new birthmark on my ass](#) that looks just like my mother-in-law. Damnedest thing."

I looked at Rich who stared back at me and then I turned back to the peanut salesman.

"That's very interesting. Tell me more."

God, can it get any better than this?

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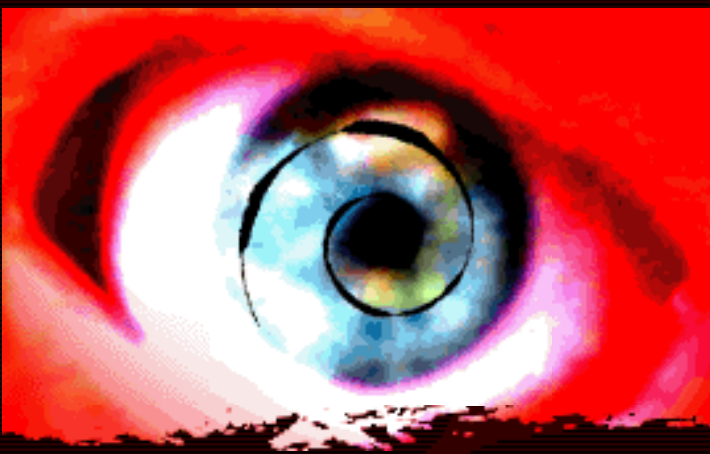
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Nov. 8th

Heya,

Back from God's country early. Rich's nose sniffed out this general store in upstate Georgia that still had toys from the 70's sitting on the shelf. Still had the 70's price tags too. He was in hog heaven and I wish you could have seen the clerk's face when he told them he wanted everything on the shelves.

Lan has been busy tweaking the pages. (thanks for the e-mails) and ignoring Jason's come-ons. Jason swears up and down that he's not interested but his flirt technique is like a great white shark in a feeding frenzy.

I saw the little flame war that erupted on the discussion board I refuse to take sides but I do think everyone should take a little "cool-out" time as my Mom use to say. Yelling and name calling never got anyone anywhere. Everyone should take this website in the spirit it was intended (a fun way to freak with your mind) Is the stuff true? Is the stuff fake? Who cares as long as it's keeps your interest.

I'm not a mad scientist working in a high castle in hopes of creating the perfect monster to screw with everybody's mind. (insert evil laugh here) I just like going out and investigating. The only thing I can promise is that everything I report on is as factual as I can make it. Stories that are reported to me and are impossible for me to check out should be taken with a grain of salt (or a tub of it)

Just keep saying to yourself "It's only a website, it's only a website."

Hope that clears everything up. If it doesn't then you should go elsewhere. (but before you go you should check out the sponsors and then go and buy a Freakylinks T-shirt)

Lan did some finish work on a couple of classic stories that I



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was working on before I left and they're up in the Freakopedia. That [crystal skull](#) always freaked me out as a kid, hope it does the same to you.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "planet of freak" Barnes

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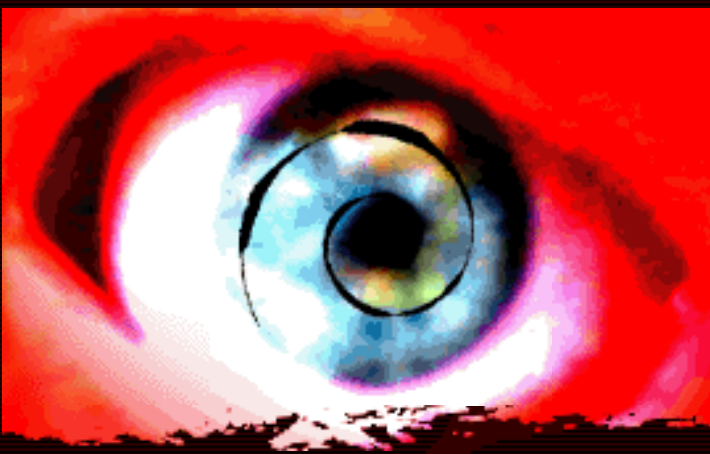
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Nov. 15th

Hey,

I'm sure you saw the big new flashing icon for our [sea serpent cam](#). If you haven't you can check it out by clicking [here](#).

You may remember those wild and crazy boys up in North Carolina that I went and visited some months back. Well one of them called with congrats on the web site and wanted to know if I would be interested in setting a monster cam up.

"But of course" I replied.

Well they had a spare video camera and one of them has a parental condo unit up on the coast near the spot where it's been spotted a coupla times. They got that sucker set up and on so as long as another Hurricane doesn't upset things then we should be in business.

This is what it's all about. Bringing the paranormal power straight into your living room. (or where ever it is that you keep that Timex Sinclair computer system you have) The study of the paranormal shouldn't be a dry old moldy book you keep in your sock drawer. It should be big screen, full color, 24/7/365. It's something that should drag you in, suck you under and then spit you out. The paranormal is real life. It's what IS but just not seen as often.

That's where I come in (and where you come in, my little cybernetic sherlocks) We need to drag this information out from under the bed. Grab its leg and shine a flashlight on it's face. See what it really looks like. Get a Polaroid picture of it's ugly snout and post that sucker on the web for anyone for half a brain to check out.

. . .geepers, I got a little into myself now didn't I?



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I can't keep watch on the thing all the time so if anyone sees anything then make sure and let me know.

hurdy gur

Derek "Master of Disaster" Barnes

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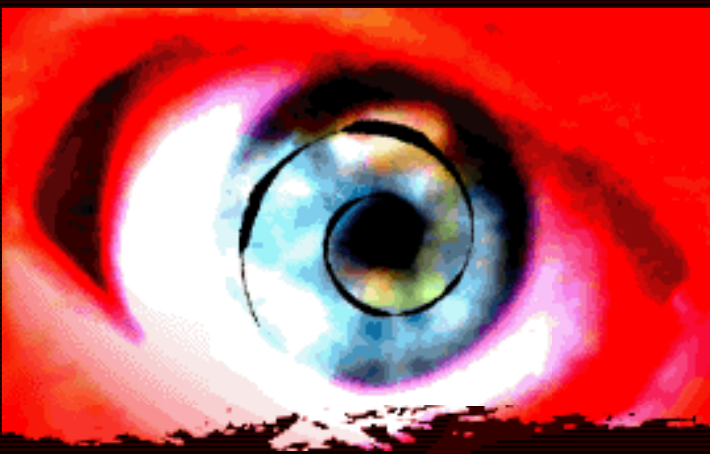
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Nov. 22nd

Hey man,

That local reporter who has been tipping me off on stories in town did a pretty nice article on me and the web site a couple of days ago. I thought it was fair and accurate. He even let Mr. Crowley be in the picture so in my book that makes him an OK kinda guy.

Well the long and short of it is that now I've been getting call after call as every local freak with a conspiracy theory comes out of the woodwork. (I may need to get an unlisted phone number)

"Is this the young man with the web site? Well my microwave oven is possessed by the devil. Can you help?"

Stuff like the above mostly. There has been a few calls that seem to be a little more original and eerie. We'll see. I've conned big boned Jason to help come and check out a couple that sparked my interest.

(insert reporter montage theme here)

hurdy  
Derek



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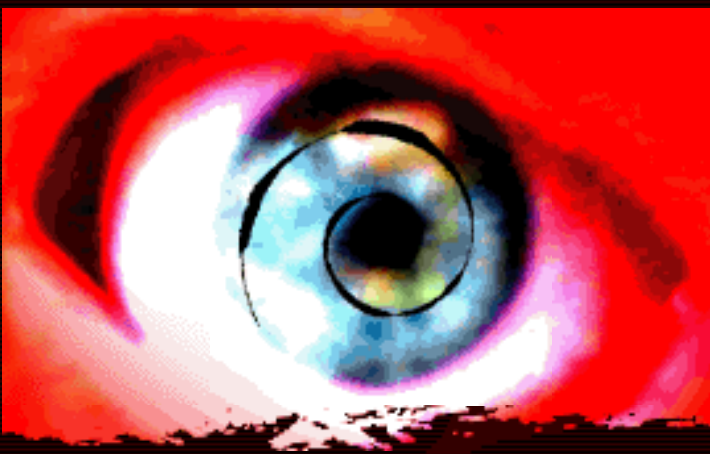
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Dec. 1st

What up?

Hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. I dragged Lan over to my Mom's and forced cranberry sauce down her throat. I can't believe she's never had cranberry sauce. I mean that's my favorite part of Thanksgiving. That purple can shaped blob that sits in the plate and jiggles when you bump the table. When I was little I tried to get Mom to serve cranberry sauce with every meal but she didn't go for it for very long. I mean, I would sit at the table shaking the sauce blob and not eating. After a while cranberry sauce came to be an incentive to do things.

"Derek if you clean up your side of the room then we'll have cranberry sauce tonight for dinner. "

I use to sneak into the kitchen and try to find unopened cans of cranberry sauce. Mom had to hide the stuff from me. I was a cranberry addict. Then when I turned 10 I discovered comic books and cranberries no longer held me in their purple berry grip.

Thats more about me than you wanted to know, right?

Just came back from my first [sinkhole worship service](#). That was one of the tips I got from the article written about us. I can safely say that I have seen things I have never seen before. (And hopefully will never see again, for specifics, go read the article and look at the pictures.)

Lan has added some new links and I appreciate everyone that is taking a second and clicking through. This is the first time I have thought that the web site may actually provide a living for me and her. Wouldn't that be hot? Finally something that I am:

A) good at



### RANTS:

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### FIND A FREAK:

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B) lets me live in the comfort level that I am use to.  
And it's all thanks to the support I get from you guys. I  
wouldn't be doing this if it wasn't popular (well I might be  
doing it but I'd also be flipping the figurative burger as well.)

The sea serpent web cam is getting a lot of attention and we  
are thinking of adding another. Maybe not a sea serpent but  
something in the same vein. Any ideas?

I'd also like to take a second and give out a thanks to the  
boys and girls over at the gothic network that have been  
giving me the good work of mouth. I'm lighting candles and  
wearing black in appreciation (well no, not really) That  
subculture gets some bad press but all in all they are a  
supportive group that helps each other. (at least until they tie  
you up in a closet and plan to drink your blood, but I digress)

hurdy gur  
Derek "Tragedy Andy" Barnes

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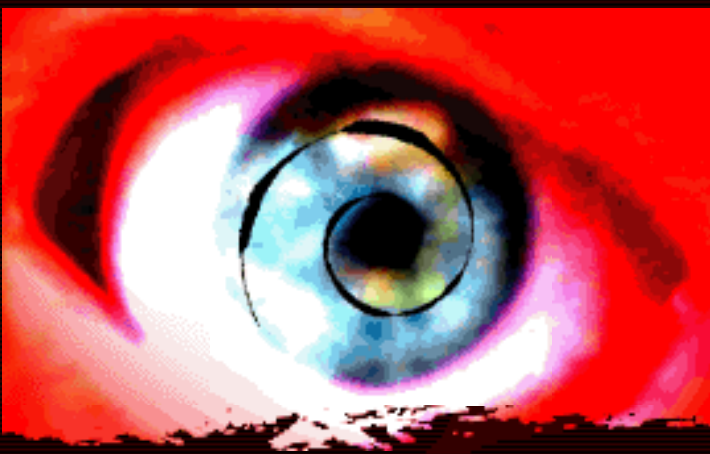
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Dec. 4th

### STOP THE PRESSES

Always wanted to say that. We don't have any presses here at Casa de Freakylinks but if we did I would stop them. I mean it. No fooling around.

The reason being is that I just got off the phone with a farmer in Puerto Rico who claims that his farm is being harassed by a chupacabra.

Anyway this guy read the article published about me, found the web site, and wants to fly me out to P.R. to set up a web cam to capture the elusive goat sucker . He's obviously not your average Puerto Rican farmer.

"Well gee, Sir, you want to fly me out to Puerto Rico in the middle of surfing season? I guess that would be OK . . ."

Publicity, thy middle name is freebie.

It's a win win situation for us so make sure and stay tuned for all the exciting developments as they develop. . . .hum, that sentence was phrased rather oddly.

hurdy gur  
The D. guy

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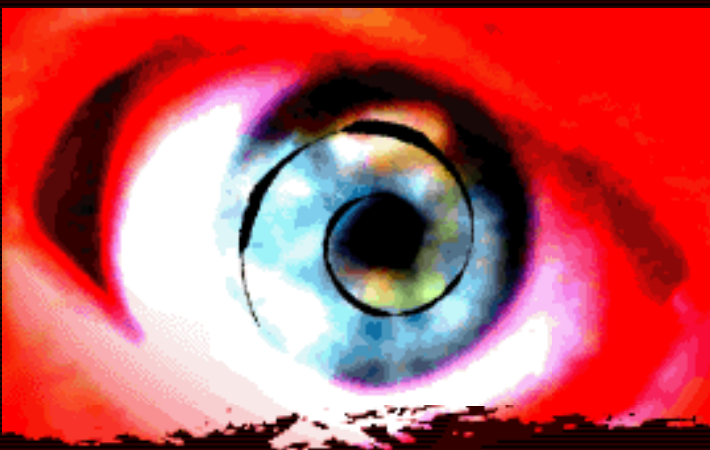
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Dec. 8th

Hey there my compadres,

I'm in Arecibo Puerto Rico It's the section of the island that has that great big ground based telescope you always see in the movies. I didn't get to talk to any aliens. I was much too busy hanging out with my benefactor, Mr. Hector Lopez. What sorta Puerto Rican farmer can afford to fly a lower middle class Caucasian out to his island home?

Glad you asked. This guy has cornered the market of mini mules. Well. he had cornered the market until a chupacabra started taking chunks out of his animals.

"But Derek" I hear you saying, "I thought this monster went after goats, and anyway what in the hell is a mini-mule?"

Well I hadn't heard of a mini-mule before either but near as I could figure out a mini-mule is a prize possession to some people. They keep 'em as pets and there's a circuit of shows that people enter their prized mini-mules into, in hopes of winning the prestige that comes with having a top of the line mini-mule. Some of these babies go for upwards of \$40 to \$50 grand. Being the marketing genius that he is, Lopez figured he would get me down here to 1) expose this horrible monster to the world and 2) expose the world to his mini-mules.

I'm a sucker for cross promotion so I've been all smiles since I got here. Hector speaks English just about as well as I speak Spanish so when his American educated son isn't around we just sorta smile at each other and drink beer. While we're drinking I got him to draw what he had seen earlier this month during a previous attack. It looks pretty much like an average goatsucker should look like so I'm convinced. (I convince easy)

Later we went outside with our beer and Hector showed me



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the spot where he had seen his prize mini-mule being devoured. The farmer gestured wildly around the livestock pen spilling cervesa all over his remaining animals. One mule in particular seemed to want more of the beer and he chugged half a bottle of mine.

Anyway I got the camera installed near the pen and wired up. The local phone company (some guy in a panel truck named Roberto) came by and laid in another phone line (Hector had to pay \$50 extra to Roberto plus he drank the last of the beer.) We also had a visit by a reporter from a San Juan tabloid come by and take some shots of Hector, the mini-mules and myself. Look for the article in your finer Puerto Rican supermarkets. Hector was very happy to see the reporter since this guy bills himself as "The Voice of the Chupacabra" . . .and I thought my job was weird.

Saying good-bye to the mini-mules I went over and spoke with Captain Inglashe at a near by prison (they call 'em a penal colony around these parts.) He told me of an attack on the prisoner's pigs which resulted in a burial for the porkers instead of a trip to the penal kitchen. All in all a bad time had by all. (the pigs and the prisoners, not me, I was still buzzing from the farmer's beer)

And in our surf report, conditions are very nice at Cueva Indio with a 6 foot swell breaking to the left when I visited it in the rental car. No locals out though, maybe they're all looking at each other's mini-mules.

hurdy gur,  
Derek "mucho cervesa" Barnes

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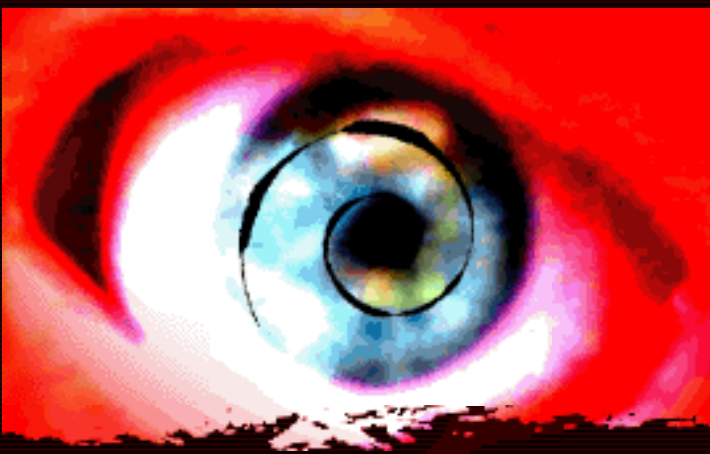
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Dec. 12th

Howdy,

I'm back from P.R. no worse for the wear. Unless you count the hair one of the mini-mules snatched off my arm while I wasn't paying attention.

Almost back I mean, I'm writing this as we circle for a landing at the airport. My left foot has fallen asleep cause it's being crammed into the back of the chair in front of me. I always try to get a emergency aisle when I'm flying (I call it the poor man's version of 1st class) Airline travel has to be the worst form of transportation in terms of comfort. I long for the days when giant dirigibles plied the skies offering rooms, bars, and plenty of stretching room. Well OK, they did have that little teensy-wheensie problem of catching on fire and burning up in about 45 seconds but other than that flaw everything was just perfect. Right about now, with my foot in danger of falling off from lack of circulation, the threat of a hydrogen fire seems a minor price to pay for being treated like a human being.

Surfing was a complete washout with a 2 foot breaks that kept bottoming out. I also managed to get a healthy dose of sea lice in my swim suit and to top it off someone broke into the rental car and yanked out the stereo. (maybe it was the goat sucker in need of some new tunes)

On the plus side, Lan says she's getting an [image from the new camera](#) so I guess it was worth the price I paid (never mind the fact that everything was paid for by someone else, isn't my time and comfort worth something?) Oh the price I pay to be King of the freaks. Oh woe is me, oh heavy hangs the head that wears the crown . . .

Gotta go, the stewardess (or are they all called airline attendants now?) is telling me to turn this laptop off before I make the airplane nose dive into Lake Ocheechobee



### RANTS:

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### FIND A FREAK:

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hurdy gur,  
Derek "Too tall" Barnes

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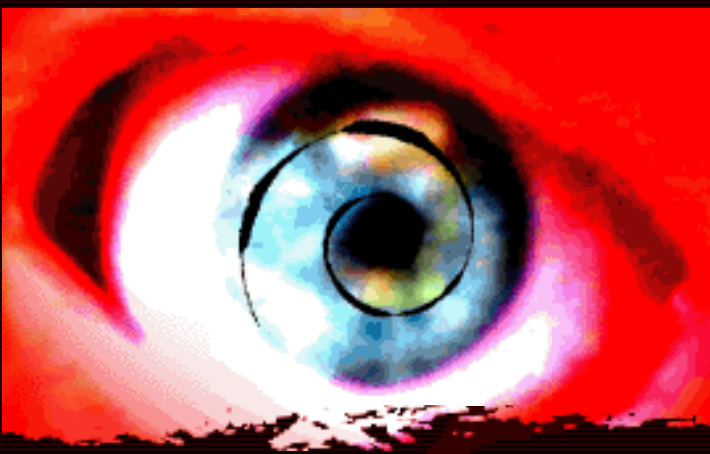
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# FREAKY LINKS



FREAK-O-PEDIA

DIARY

FRIEND OR FOE

## DIARY OF A MADMAN

Dec. 20th

Ho, ho, ho and all that crap,

What's up my mini mule fans and freaks? Thanks go out to bjudy for that insightful e-mail on the growing popularity of mini-mules. You can look for me at the next mini-mule competition. I'll be one of the judges.

Adrian the friendly medium woman (she of the [aura photography](#) we reported on earlier) phoned to inform me that a [genuine ectoplasmic dripping medium](#) was in Casadega to visit relatives. I went out but was a little upset that she refused to let me take my own pictures. I did buy some from her that are in the new Freakopedia article. They leave a little something to be desired but whatcha going to do? Complain to the local ectoplasmic better business bureau?

Our dear and dedicated web creator, Lan is going home for the holidays tomorrow and won't be back until Dec. 30th so if this web page has a seizure you can wait until after that date to check back in.

Anyway I hope that the holidays are a happy one to you and yours. Take some time to let your relatives know that you love 'em and think about 'em and all that happy crap.

I'll see you in the New Year!

hurdy gur

Derek "nuttier than a (fill in the blank)" Barnes

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