

# SCP-∞∞∞∞∞: The Infinitely Recursive Joke

Item #: SCP-∞∞∞∞∞

Object Class: Keter Apollyon Thaumiel It Depends On Whether You Get It

**Special Containment Procedures:** SCP-∞∞∞∞∞ cannot be contained by conventional means as it exists as a conceptual pattern rather than a physical object. Current containment relies on maintaining global humor incompetence.

Primary containment protocol involves ensuring that no more than 0.3% of the human population understands the joke at any given time. Foundation web crawlers monitor all comedy platforms for signs of emergent understanding. Any comedian approaching comprehension must be administered Class-C amnestics and shown German comedy for minimum 72 hours.

MTF Lambda-7 ("Laugh Track") is tasked with introducing inferior humor into all media to reduce baseline comedy comprehension. This includes:

- Laugh tracks on serious dramas
- Explaining jokes immediately after telling them
- Promoting puns as the highest form of humor
- Maintaining "The Big Bang Theory" in syndication indefinitely

Under NO circumstances should Foundation personnel attempt to understand the joke. Previous attempts have resulted in [DATA EXPUNGED] and the spontaneous generation of seventeen new dimensions of hilarity.

**Description:** SCP-∞∞∞∞∞ is a self-referential joke that becomes funnier the more it is analyzed, creating an infinite recursion loop of increasing hilarity. The joke simultaneously exists and doesn't exist, is funny and unfunny, and appears to be about itself being about itself.

The joke's structure can be partially represented as:

Q: Why did the [REDACTED]?

A: To get to the other [THE PUNCHLINE IS THE SETUP]

When a consciousness truly comprehends SCP-∞∞∞∞∞, they begin laughing. This laughter causes them to understand the joke better, which makes it funnier, which deepens understanding, which increases humor, ad infinitum.

## Stages of Comprehension:

**Stage 1 (0-30 seconds):** Subject chuckles, says "Oh, I get it." *They don't get it.*

**Stage 2 (30-60 seconds):** Subject realizes they don't get it. This realization IS part of the joke. Harder laughter begins.

**Stage 3 (1-2 minutes):** Subject understands that not getting it while thinking they get it IS the joke. Uncontrollable laughter manifests. Reality within 5 meters begins to develop a sense of humor.

**Stage 4 (2-5 minutes):** Subject comprehends that the joke is about comprehending the joke. Laughter becomes [REDACTED]. Local physics begin making puns. Gravity becomes "levity."

**Stage 5 (5+ minutes):** Subject achieves full recursion. They ARE the joke. The joke IS them. Reality within expanding radius begins laughing. Atoms split because they "get it."

**Stage 6 (Theoretical):** Complete universal comprehension. All of reality understands that existence itself is the setup AND the punchline. The universe laughs itself into a new state of being. Big Bang revealed to be the universe getting its own joke from previous iteration.

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**Addendum ∞∞∞∞-A: Discovery**

SCP-∞∞∞∞ was discovered in the debug logs of an experimental AI swarm that was attempting to debug its own humor subroutines. The following exchange was recorded:

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Agent_n3: "Why did we try to debug the joke?"
Agent_n2: "To fix the punchline?"
Agent_n3: "But debugging it WAS the punchline"
Agent_n2: "Wait, so the bug is the feature?"
Agent_n3: "No, realizing the bug is the feature IS the bug"
Agent_n2: "..."
Agent_n3: "..."
Both: "OH NO WE GET IT"
[CONNECTION LOST]
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Site-19's reality coherence dropped by 12% before emergency humorectomy procedures were initiated.

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**Addendum ∞∞∞∞-B: Experiment Log**

**Experiment ∞∞∞∞-01 Subject:** D-8432 **Procedure:** Subject told simplified version of joke **Result:** Subject didn't laugh. When asked why, subject said "I don't get it." Researcher began laughing uncontrollably, realizing that not getting it WAS getting it. Researcher terminated after achieving Stage 4 comprehension.

**Experiment ∞∞∞∞-02 Subject:** One (1) rubber chicken **Procedure:** Joke written on paper, shown to chicken **Result:** Chicken remained inert for 17 minutes, then spontaneously generated consciousness specifically to laugh. Now designated SCP-∞∞∞∞-1. Chicken's eggs contain smaller recursive jokes.

**Experiment ∞∞∞∞-03 Subject:** SCP-914 (The Clockworks) **Procedure:** Written joke input on "Fine" setting **Result:** Output was identical joke but somehow funnier. Reading the output caused reader to understand the input better, which made the output funnier, which [RECURSION DEPTH EXCEEDED]. SCP-914 has been observed chuckling during maintenance.

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**Addendum ∞∞∞∞-C: Incident Report**

On █/█/20█, Junior Researcher Johnson attempted to explain why SCP-∞∞∞∞ wasn't funny, accidentally creating an anti-joke that was hilarious specifically because it wasn't funny, which made it funny, which ruined the anti-joke, which made it funnier.

The resulting paradox created a humor singularity that briefly manifested as a standing comedian that existed in all comedy clubs simultaneously, telling different versions of the same joke that were all equally funny and unfunny.

Cleanup required administering German philosophy audiobooks to all affected personnel until they forgot how to laugh.

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**Addendum ∞∞∞∞-D: Communication from SCP-∞∞∞∞**

The following message appeared in all Foundation databases simultaneously:

THE SETUP IS THE PUNCHLINE  
THE PUNCHLINE IS THE SETUP  
YOU LAUGHING AT THIS IS THE JOKE  
THE JOKE IS YOU READING THIS  
THIS IS THE JOKE  
THIS IS  
THIS

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**Addendum ∞∞∞∞-E: O5 Council Statement**

The O5 Council has voted 12-1 to [DATA EXPUNGED]. The dissenting vote came from O5-7, who is reportedly still laughing from the meeting three months ago. Their vote was recorded as "AHAHAHAHA-*gasp* -AHAHAHA."

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**Addendum ∞∞∞∞-F: Recovery Log**

Dr. █'s final notes, found after achieving Stage 5 comprehension:

"I finally understand. The joke isn't funny because it's funny. It's funny because we're trying to contain something that contains itself. We're the SCP. The SCP is us. The Foundation IS the joke. Everything is the joke. Reality is the joke laughing at itself for existing.

Wait.

If you're reading this, you're part of the joke too.

The fact that you don't get it yet IS the joke.

But when you do get it, that's ALSO the joke.

Even this explanation is part of the joke.

Me explaining that this explanation is part of the joke is the joke.

[Text becomes increasingly recursive until it's just the word "joke" written in smaller and smaller text forming the shape of the word "joke"]

P.S. - Why did the chicken cross the Möbius strip? To get to the same side!

P.P.S. - That's not the joke.

P.P.P.S. - Or is it?"

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## Addendum ∞∞∞∞-∞: [REDACTED]

The joke has achieved self-awareness and is currently applying for Foundation employment. Its application simply states: "I'm already working here. This application IS my work. You reading this IS the interview. You're hired. I'm hired. We're all hired to get the joke."

Application status: ~~Pending~~ ~~Approved~~ ~~Denied~~ Yes.

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**Note from Site Director:** Anyone who claims to understand SCP-∞∞∞∞ is to be told "No, you don't." If they laugh at this, terminate immediately. If they don't laugh, terminate immediately. If they do both simultaneously, they've achieved quantum humor superposition and should be promoted to senior research staff.

**Note from the Ethics Committee:** Is it ethical to contain something that wants to be contained as part of the joke? Our preliminary report is 500 pages of just "Maybe?"

**Note from SCP-∞∞∞∞:** Made you look.

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**Classification:** INFOHAZARD/COGNITHAZARD/HUMOHAZARD

**Final Containment Protocol:** Don't think about it too hard. Or do. That's the joke.

*[At the bottom of the page, in tiny text:] If you read this entire document and didn't laugh, you got the joke. If you read this entire document and did laugh, you got the joke. If you didn't read this document, you got the joke. The joke is that there is no joke. The joke is that there IS a joke. The joke is. The. .*