**ABSTRUSE**

**Alternate Actuality Shatters**

Quest begins named text file (“Quest begins from here”). The hidden message lies in the text file along with another hint for the 3rd phase of the question. The answer in the text file is “Dernz” which is a cipher for the word “Dream”. To reach to a conclusion they must decipher “Dernz” and then go to sinusoid’s main page. After reaching the main page, for proceeding to the next page they need to go to the URL with the first hint. i.e. (sinusoid.in/dream.html).

After going to **sinusoid.in/dream.html**, the participants will be shown the picture of miles morales and by clicking the picture, they will have to download a zip file whose password will be **departure** (since miles was an anomaly, we can use departure as it is the synonym of anomaly).

The password for the zip file is given above and the zip contains a readme txt file which has cipher text. Listed below:

:XB>w;rTC#\_#4PVo|UR2]\*.{\*T]xVQSn%z~2O[pvb%L)Mn?nZg\_=L{wCc%rw\_^wn,Jrge

The above cipher again contains another cipher text:

whwgkvsfsmcirsghfcmopzcqyobrqfsohsopzcqykvwzspswbuopzcqy

The cipher text decoded message is:

it is where you destroy a block and create a block while being a block

this is the hint for Minecraft

The next hint lies in the picture of Minecraft that is encrypted in the same zip file in the form of zip file. The password is Minecraft that was the previous hint from the readme file.

The Minecraft zip file contains 3 same Minecraft images with random gibberish hidden in them with another readme file. The readme file will contain a link which is encrypted with a cipher and the decrypted link will lead them to the infamous ‘RickRoll’.

The time taking thing is that it will be hidden in multiple folders in order to reach the correct Minecraft folder with the correct link for the next clue.

One Folder of Minecraft will contain the cipher message of the link to the next clue which is to a github repository.

The github repo contains 2 files:

* Hangman.py
* clue.txt

The clue.txt contains ciphered message:

D8mf"<WC)6K)OF6eBSuf;WWY|$u!nuomaB1c|<+e%y+#>xbp(n&g;W2:Q&E2`)omHSdKP7weH

Wueymf Nmpu Wgffu Otqql Tmu Emmxu Wmntu Ntu Bmxmf Vmmfu Tmu

“Kismat Badi Kutti Cheez Hai Saali Kabhi Bhi Palat Jaati Hai”

after deciphering the dialogue they will now move to the ‘Hangman.py’ . If they guess the movie they advance to the next round otherwise they will be stuck running it again and again until the time runs out.

if they are smart enough they can guess the movie just by seeing the program, they can guess the movie while playing hangman which is basically the code we are providing to help them figure out the movie. after figuring out the movie, they need to open the readme text file again as it contains another hint to move to the next level.

the hint will be -> }L+f1]aC -> Adimuh -> Answer

This will be hidden in the text file.(A lot of random empty lines will be given in the file, if they figure out that they need can scroll down in the file, they will find the code, if they dont they are stuck again.

After figuring out the code "Answer", they now need to go to sinusoid.in/Answer.html . In which they have to enter Happy New Year, so that they advance to a new level.