

Places to Go, What to Do, Post-Twitter?

Hi Twitter friends! Please use the time available **now** to extend your online presence, so you're in good shape as the lack of technical support catches up eventually with Twitter. Here's [the rolled up thread](#) by a reliability engineer.

Based on the [revelations about Musk's background](#), I doubt he's read Perrow's *Normal Accidents*. This is a pioneering work about how, as systems become more complex, they are more likely to have unusual failures – which are not only technological, but socially linked to complexity.

You don't have to leave. Just prepare for the inevitable – things are going to get broken. The main thing is to find a way to hold onto the friendships and communities.

Here's the short version of what you can do right now:

- 1) [Back up your tweets](#) - if you can. Start this first! My archive took several days to complete.
- 2) Consider joining **Tumblr**, **Instagram**, **YouTube**, and **Discord** as well.
- 3) Definitely join **Mastodon**, but listen carefully to specific caveats and advice, including why you should not **just** join mastodon.social. (It appears to currently be closed for new registrations, but the advice goes for other giant installations.)
- 4) Make sure you stick your Mastodon email in your Twitter profile, then activate [Glitch's fedifinder](#) to find friends who have done the same - and to add Mastodon accounts for everyone you already follow (or who are following you, if you haven't had a chance to mutual follow them back). If you want to directly follow me, by the way, my main account is @noirdame@universeodon.com.
- 5) Consider joining [Counter.Social](#) if it feels like a good fit for you. That was the first alternative I was invited to “jump ship” onto. It is not part of the Fediverse anymore. Truth.Social (bwah haha ha!! 😊) and Counter.Social are both formerly Mastodon instances.
- 6) Use **about.me** and/or **linktr.ee** to collect places where your friends can find you, and stick it somewhere on your profiles.

First, on **Mastodon**:

- [This is the site's basic walkthrough.](#)
- If you're going to use the online app, [try this walkthrough.](#)
- Here's a [solid video](#).
- There are lots more resources on the [Medium post “Mastodon Migration”](#).

Important: When I first joined, I saw the default listing: a small number of different communities, or instances. I also saw that a lot of people I knew in the livetweet community were joining a popular instance, *mastodon.social*.

Mastodon.social has some issues:

All of you who fled that one site 🐦 ended up at mastodon.social for likely a few reasons. It was obvious, it was big, and it's where you saw a bunch of folks going.

But it has a long history of being poorly moderated, which means a LOT of instances are silencing or blocking it. Which means you're on the big island that SEEMS like it's "where everyone is", but in fact, it's a giant island unto itself (momentarily trending toward turning into a post-bird-site echo chamber), and huge swaths of the Fediverse don't talk to it, or even see it.

If you want the quality of interaction (and moderation!) Mastodon is known for, move thy funky buns to a smaller instance of cool folks you enjoy. 🐱

[For the full discussion by Hollie@weirder.earth - including responses - go here.](#)

That's why I checked **social.instances** to see many of the *thousands* of servers that are available to join, many of which are not widely blocked. If you use Fedifinder, you'll also see a lot of instances your friends on Twitter have already joined that are *small*.

I kept mastodon.social for a live tweeting account, because I have live tweeting friends there. But I also signed up for another server, Universeodon, that seems pretty healthy as my **main** location, is much smaller (though I still donated; everyone should; these places generally don't have ads!) and I'm also joining at least one other for a professional interest.

Remember: you CAN copy your information from one server and move it to another if you need to. This major migration of thousands of users is fairly sped up - and it's not going to be clear which systems can handle the strain of absorbing 1,000 or more new users.

I also like that on instances.social, you can designate the size of the server (minimum/maximum users), look for specific interests, and you can also tailor it by how it handles pornography, nudity and so on.

More information on those other sites you may want to join:

Tumblr is good for microblogging and is already home to people like **MoviesSilently**.

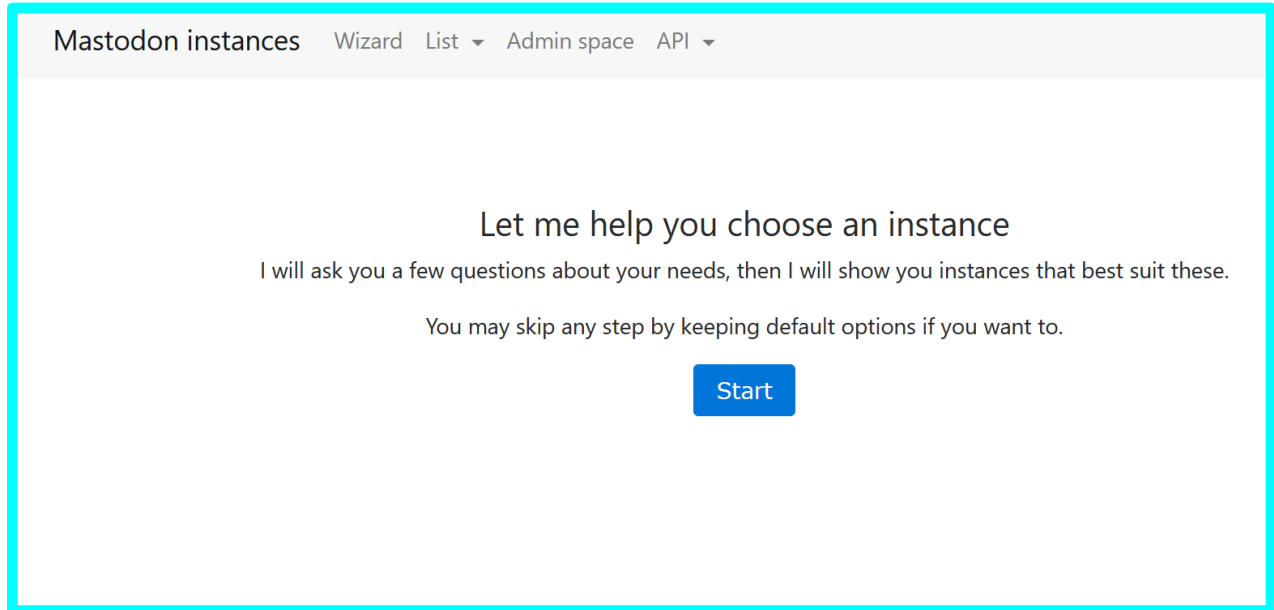
Instagram has a broad community of artists and is home to #TCMParty stalwarts like **@jaxbra**, curator of Classic Men in... you know.

On **Discord**, you'll find some specific communities that are great for chatting in real time: **#BMovieManiacs** and **#TOSSatNight** have already set up some stops there. There's a neat 300-person Star Trek group called the LLAP Collective that is 🏳️- friendly.

I already have a **YouTube** account, which is good for streaming an event if this goes away, but am considering **Twitch** for its excellent live streaming. Twitch is big on game streaming.

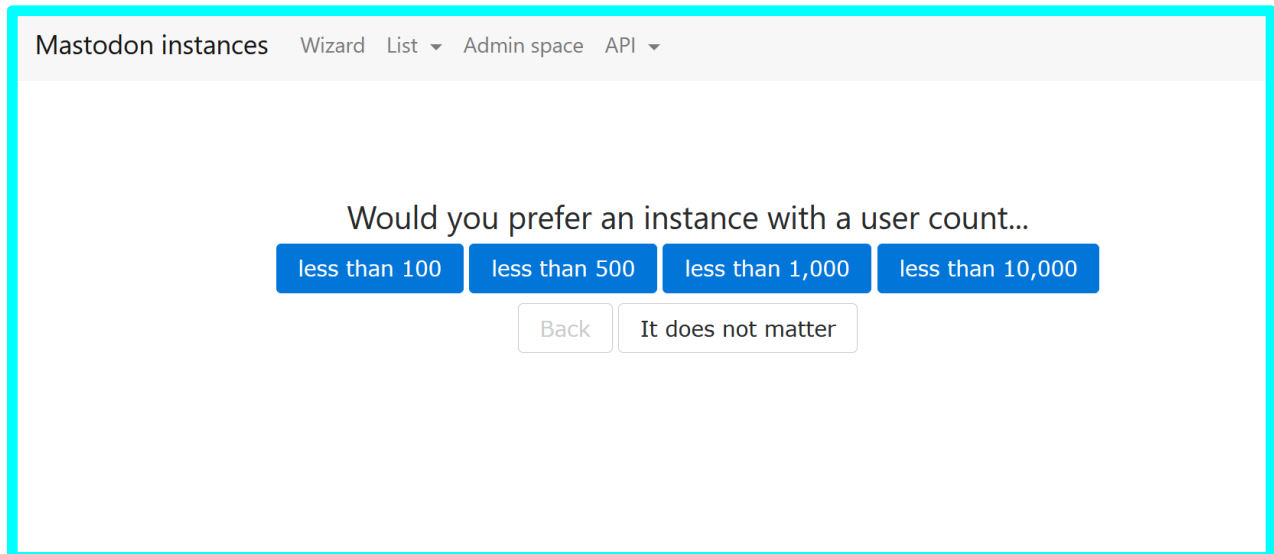
Quickie walkthrough:
How to use <https://instances.social/>
to find a new Mastodon instance

First, you click “Wizard” at the top of the screen, then click the Start button.



The screenshot shows the 'Mastodon instances' page with a navigation bar containing 'Mastodon instances', 'Wizard', 'List', 'Admin space', and 'API'. The main heading is 'Let me help you choose an instance'. Below it, the text reads: 'I will ask you a few questions about your needs, then I will show you instances that best suit these.' and 'You may skip any step by keeping default options if you want to.' A blue 'Start' button is centered at the bottom.

You can select the language you prefer to connect in, then next, choose user count. You can go for a very small server or one that’s moderately sized.



The screenshot shows the 'Mastodon instances' page with the same navigation bar. The main heading is 'Would you prefer an instance with a user count...'. Below it are four blue buttons: 'less than 100', 'less than 500', 'less than 1,000', and 'less than 10,000'. At the bottom are two white buttons: 'Back' and 'It does not matter'.

Next, most important to me, is how the content is moderated. The default is “Don’t care” across the board. Instead, I selected these to include more sites, and to have some content that’s sensitive hidden behind a “NSFW” filter, just like on Reddit..

Remember too that on any server, you will have lots of control over certain words you don't want to include, whether you're looking on your local server or across all the federated servers.

Any specific moderation rules?

Nudity without NSFW tag	<input type="radio"/> Allowed	<input type="radio"/> Don't care	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Forbidden
Nudity with NSFW tag	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allowed	<input type="radio"/> Don't care	<input type="radio"/> Forbidden
Pornography without NSFW tag	<input type="radio"/> Allowed	<input type="radio"/> Don't care	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Forbidden
Pornography with NSFW tag	<input type="radio"/> Allowed	<input type="radio"/> Don't care	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Forbidden
Links to illegal content	<input type="radio"/> Allowed	<input type="radio"/> Don't care	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Forbidden
Spam	<input type="radio"/> Allowed	<input type="radio"/> Don't care	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Forbidden
Advertising	<input type="radio"/> Allowed	<input type="radio"/> Don't care	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Forbidden
Spoilers without content warning	<input type="radio"/> Allowed	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Don't care	<input type="radio"/> Forbidden

Now, I get a result of hundreds of potential servers to make my choice from - and if I change my mind, I can always tinker with the settings on the left.

Mastodon instances

Wizard List Admin space API

LANGUAGES

× English (English)

ALLOWED CONTENT

× Nudity with NSFW tag

PROHIBITED CONTENT

× Nudity without NSFW tag

× Pornography without NSFW tag

× Pornography with NSFW tag

× Links to illegal content

× Spam × Advertising

MIN USERS

MAX USERS

Search

tchafia.be Generalistic
generalist instance in Belgium FR/EN/NL 13 users

troet.eloquer.de Generalistic
(Noch) kleine Instanz für Mastodon-Neulinge von einem Mastodon-Neuling. 3 users

bytetower.social creative space
Queer-friendly, creative community instance aligned with the rules and goals of mastodon.art 75 users

masto.pt Portuguese speakers
Portuguese instance 11895 users

socialcoderz.com Generalistic
SocialCoderz ride the internet rails for fun and fortune! 5 users

halifaxsocial.ca Generalistic
Halifax. NS based server for Haligonians: past, present and who wish they were. 867 users

How do I use Glitch's Fedifinder ?

Remember – this tool will help you find more of your friends/followers quickly.

Now, with Fedifinder, you'll want to login to Twitter, and then make sure you've already selected and joined the Mastodon instance you want to add your friends to. Before anything else, you need to list your handle in your profile like I did here:

The Noir Dame (<https://linktr.ee/noirdame>)

@noirdame

Classic movies, TV, Star Trek 🖐 Livetweet host.

Please join me through the linktree URL - Trekkin' on Discord;

@noirdame@universeodon.com and more

📍 great tweep train migration 🔗 linktr.ee/noirdame

🕒 Born January 9, 1925 📅 Joined July 2008

2,870 Following 2,881 Followers

Next, you'll authorize use of the tool, by clicking the authorize button. This will trigger a confirmation of your handle in your Twitter profile.

Find fediverse handles of Twitter contacts

Authorize to extract handles

Fedifinder looks for @user@host.tld,
user@host.tld and host.tld/@user in the name,
description, location, url field and pinned
Tweet.

This will in turn, confirm which handle it found in your Twitter profile:

Your fediverse handles

These handles were found in your profile @noirdame

- @noirdame@universeodon.com
(After exporting the CSV, import it at universeodon.com/settings/import)

Fediverse handles of your Twitter contacts

While the handles are sorted by their instance, they can all follow and interact with each other. You can **export all handles at once with the green button at the bottom** of the list and import them to your fediverse software (domain.tld/settings/import for Mastodon).

These buttons are very straightforward. One is for the people you follow, another for the people who follow you; you can also add handles from people on lists (for instance, if you have some people you only read occasionally, when you access the lists).

Add handles from accounts you follow

Scan followings

Scan followers

Add handles from list members

Load lists

You'll see the summary in real time as it scans your Twitter data:

2871 accounts scanned

155 unique handles from working fediverse domains found

33 handles from other services (eg. mail) or unresponsive servers

0 domains are still being checked

[hide follow buttons](#)

It will report back with all the handles it found that relate to different Mastodon instances - and it will be organized by instances.

Pay close attention to the information about each instance, whether it is open or closed for new registrations, and how many people have joined overall.

universeodon.com

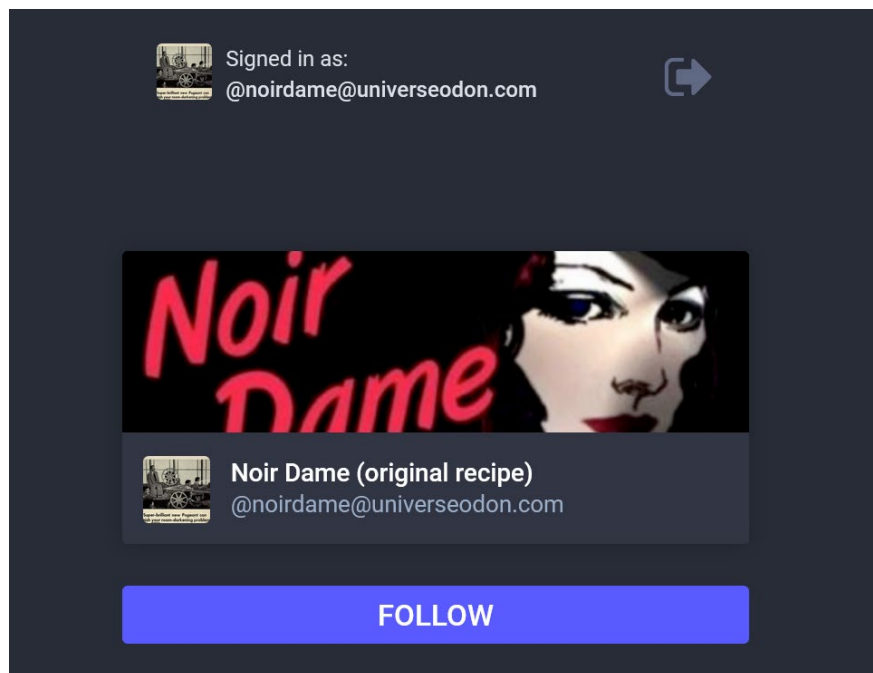
mastodon 4.0.2, 15,508 users, **registration open**

1. [@noirdame@universeodon.com](https://universeodon.com/@noirdame) (@noirdame)

FOLLOW @NOIRDAME FROM
@NOIRDAME@UNIVERSEODON.COM

So what happens if you click the blue button?

It's easy to follow this person and it's set to add them directly from your account, listed in the Twitter profile you authorized to pull from. See the Follow button?



Two more neat things about the Fedifinder tool.

First, after you go through the main groups (followers, followed, lists) don't ignore the button that helps you resolve remaining addresses.

Display handles from unreachable servers.

Some of them are email addresses, some of them are to locations (like counter.social) that have forked off the fediverse, some of them are perfectly good but maybe their instance's server timed out or just didn't link properly for a nano-second.

You can manually add them if they're on a site like counter.social, and you sign up there, or manually add them on Mastodon if they just need to be tweaked.

- 1. @truhollywdnoir@counter.social (@truhollywdnoir)
- [counter.social](#)
Maybe down, maybe not Fediverse. Error code: ETIMEDOUT
 1. @truehollywoodnoir@counter.social (@truhollywdnoir)
 2. @libnnc@counter.social (@libnnc)
 3. @elmofromok@counter.social (@elmofromok)
- [indiewire.com](#)
Maybe down, maybe not Fediverse. Error code: ETIMEDOUT
 1. @majones@indiewire.com (@marcus_jones)
 2. @klopez@indiewire.com (@Journeys_Film)

Just looking at this sample, the ones at indiewire are email addresses - while the others I will need to add manually over at Counter.Social.

Plus, you can also display ALL your accounts, too - or even better yet, download them as a .csv and open in Excel, Google Sheets, etc. Simply click the green button!

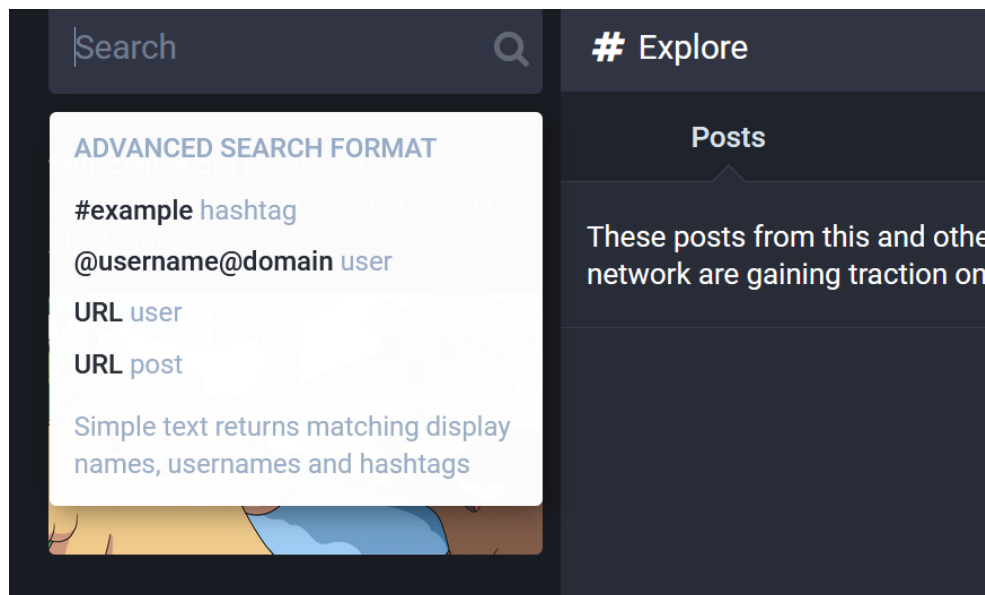
More infos about accounts

All scanned accounts. Those with handles and those without handles as well as the source (following, followers, lists). You can [display all accounts](#) or export them as a table [accounts.csv](#) or json [accounts.json](#).

[Log out](#) and/or [revoke app permissions on Twitter](#). Boost the [announcement](#) of the tool or give feedback there.

<https://batcomputer.net>

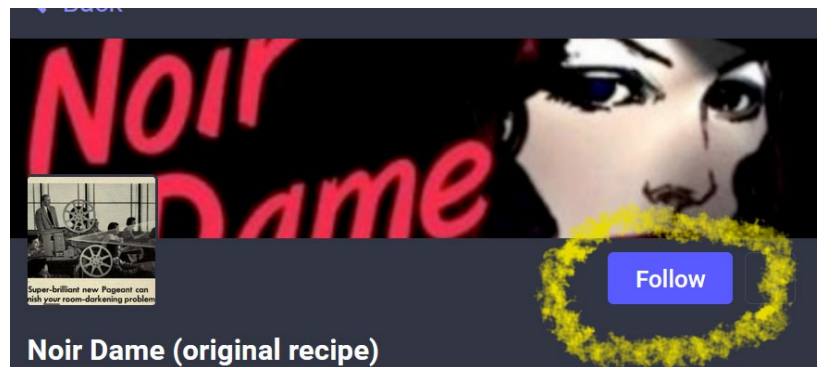
Finally, whenever Fedifinder is down, you can always manually search for, and add, people who are on another Mastodon instance by using the box in the upper left hand corner.



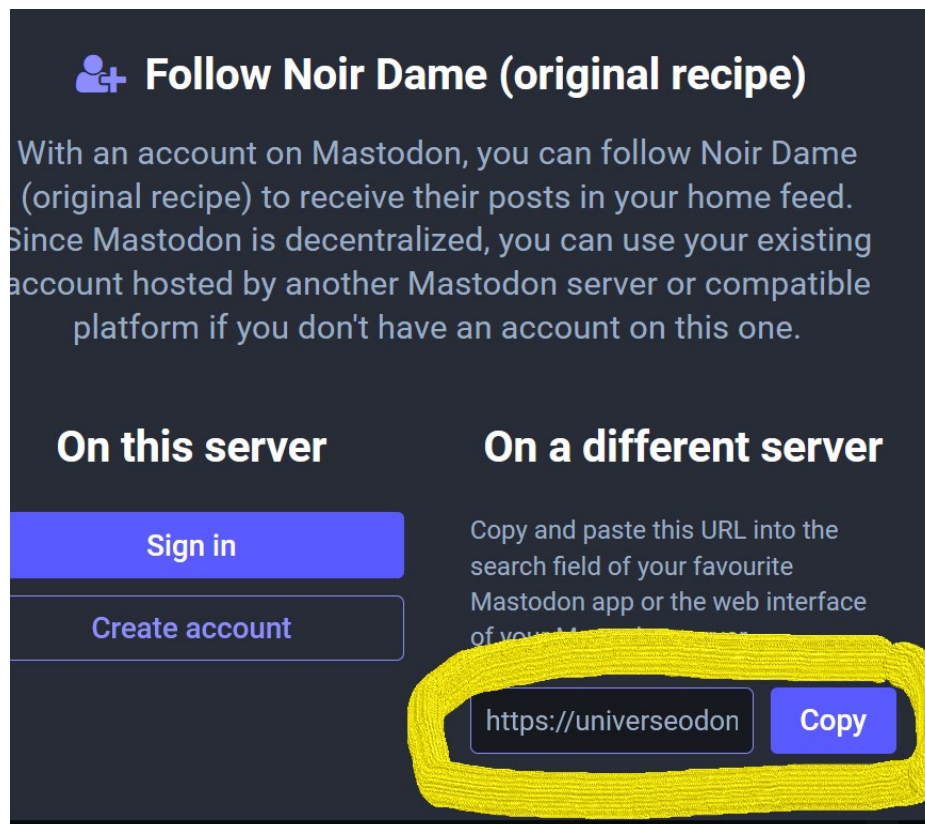
I think this aspect of Mastodon is something that has led to a couple of casual users thinking it's "hard" to follow across instances.

It's really not hard if you just do it a couple times...

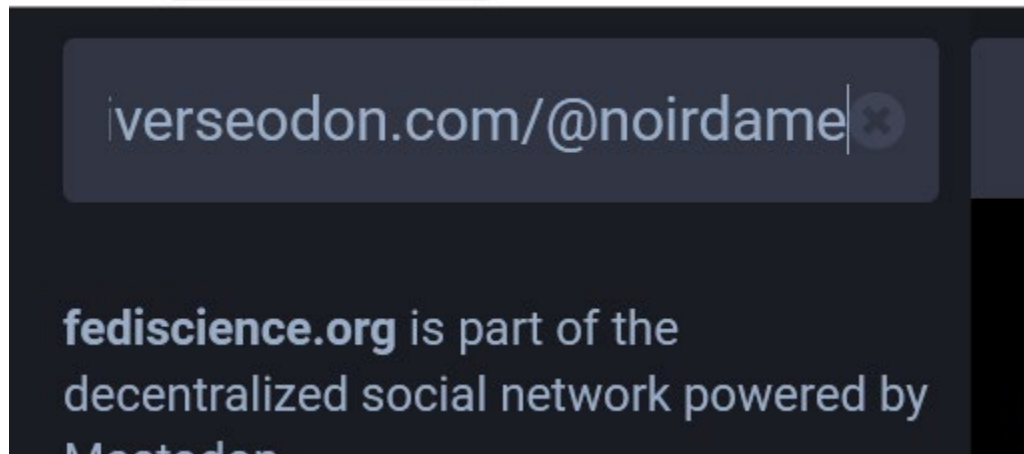
One trick I have had to use - Let's say that you want to follow me, but you're logged out, or *logged in another tab*, but *on another instance* than me. You click Follow –



If you get the following screen, it means that *this tab*, at least, sees you as logged out. If you are coming from a different server, simply copy the direct address in the right hand below “On a different server”



Now, paste it back into the upper left hand corner in your preferred instance, say, on a tab *where you are logged in*, and hit enter. That should do the trick and enable you to follow.



I hope this has been helpful! See you in the funny papers!