

Pudding Eater¹

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Conrad Barski. *Land of Lisp: Learn to Program in Lisp, One Game at a Time!*, chapter 4, pages 49–66. No Starch Press, 2010. ISBN 9781593273491. URL <http://landoflisp.com>

² Last updated October 11, 2017

Defining the Arch-Enemy Variable

Since at first we don't know who the pudding eater (a.k.a. our `*arch-enemy*`) is, set the initial value to `nil`.

```
1 <src/pudding.lisp 1>≡
  (defvar *arch-enemy* nil)
This definition is continued in chunk 8.
Root chunk (not used in this document).
Defines:
  *arch-enemy*, used in chunks 3 and 5.
```

“Global variable names should start and end with asterisks (also known in this context as earmuffs)” [Brown and Rideau, 2017].

Defining the Pudding-Eater Function

This chapter introduces `cond`, an extremely versatile function that's “been around since the Lisp Stone Age.” The basic form is as follows.

```
(cond (test-form form*)
      ...)
```

Since `test-forms` are evaluated for truthiness, we can branch on which `person` ate our pudding.

If `<it was Henry 2>`, the Lisp alien, `<blame Henry 3>`;

If `<it was Johnny 4>`, `<blame Johnny 5>`.

If it was someone else, `<ask them why 6>`.

The `cond` version of `pudding-eater` then, would look like this:

```
7 <cond-flavoured pudding-eater 7>≡
  (λ (person)
    (cond ((<it was Johnny 4> <blame Johnny 5>)
          ((<it was Henry 2> <blame Henry 3>)
           (t <ask them why 6>))))))
```

Root chunk (not used in this document).

More succinctly, with `case`, we can define the `pudding-eater` function.

```
8 <src/pudding.lisp 1>+≡
  (defun pudding-eater (person)
    (case person
      ((henry) <blame Henry 3>)
      ((johnny) <blame Johnny 5>)
      (otherwise <ask them why 6>))))
```

Defines:
pudding-eater, never used.

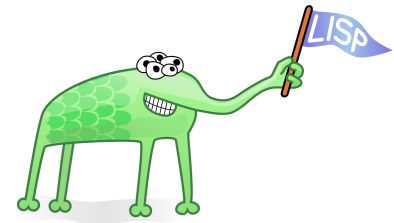


Figure 1: Henry, the Lisp Alien

```
2 <it was Henry 2>≡
  (eq person 'henry)
This code is used in chunk 7.

3 <blame Henry 3>≡
  (setf *arch-enemy* 'stupid-lisp-alien)
  '(curse you lisp alien - you ate my pudding)
This code is used in chunks 7 and 8.
Uses *arch-enemy* 1.

4 <it was Johnny 4>≡
  (eq person 'johnny)
This code is used in chunk 7.

5 <blame Johnny 5>≡
  (setf *arch-enemy* 'useless-old-johnny)
  '(i hope you chocked on my pudding johnny)
This code is used in chunks 7 and 8.
Uses *arch-enemy* 1.

6 <ask them why 6>≡
  '(why you eat my pudding stranger ?)
This code is used in chunks 7 and 8.
```

Full Listing

```

<src/pudding.lisp 1>:
(defvar *arch-enemy* nil)
(defun pudding-eater (person)
  (case person
    ((henry) (setf *arch-enemy* 'stupid-lisp-alien)
              '(curse you lisp alien - you ate my pudding))
    ((johnny) (setf *arch-enemy* 'useless-old-johnny)
              '(i hope you choked on my pudding johnny))
    (otherwise '(why you eat my pudding stranger ?))))

```

Example Session

After loading `<src/pudding.lisp 1>`, you might have a session like this:

```
$ rlwrap sbcl --load src/pudding.lisp
```

```

> (pudding-eater 'johnny)
(I HOPE YOU CHOKED ON MY PUDDING JOHNNY)
> *arch-enemy*
USELESS-OLD-JOHNNY
> (pudding-eater 'george-clooney)
(WHY YOU EAT MY PUDDING STRANGER ?)

```

References

Conrad Barski. *Land of Lisp: Learn to Program in Lisp, One Game at a Time!*, chapter 4, pages 49–66. No Starch Press, 2010. ISBN 9781593273491. URL <http://landoflisp.com>.

Robert Brown and François-René Rideau. Google Common Lisp Style Guide: Global variables and constants. https://google.github.io/styleguide/lispguide.xml?showone=Global_variables_and_constants#Global_variables_and_constants, September 2017. Accessed: 2017-10-08.