

THE EASTER EGG CONSPIRACY

A Field Guide to Hidden Interfaces, Play and Curiosity

An interactive creative experiment by Sahil Tayal | sahiltayal.com | October 2026

The Big Idea

A website can be more than a collection of destinations. An Easter egg is a small intentional surprise discovered through attention, experimentation or lateral thinking. This museum uses six playful interactions to invite visitors to participate rather than passively consume.

Six Types of Discovery

1. Observation: a floating fox is a clickable artifact. 2. Exploration: typing commands in an old-school terminal. 3. Pattern reasoning: a one-step Caesar cipher. 4. Experimentation: altering and restoring the visual world. 5. Creative play: composing a six-note symbolic sequence. 6. Reflection: encountering a question rather than another answer.

How to Explore

Begin on the homepage. Read the case files, follow clues and try things. The terminal accepts HELP, MONKEY, FOX, VENUS, WHOAMI, SAHIL, CHAOS, ATLAS and CLEAR. The cipher says TUBZ DVSJPVT: shift each letter backward in the alphabet. Every discovery produces a collectible artifact. All six unlock a final message.

Design Principles

Make discovery optional, never obstruct essential navigation. A visitor should be able to read the core content and return home without solving anything. Provide visible keyboard focus, reduced-motion compatibility, readable contrast and a way to disable chaotic effects. The puzzle should reward attention, not gather personal information.

Play, Agency and Interpretation

A surprise can create memorable contrast; a self-discovered clue can encourage active exploration. These are design intentions, not a guarantee of psychological impact. Visitors may enjoy different elements. The experience is fictional, reflective, and deliberately unscientific as an assessment instrument.

Create Your Own Easter Egg

Hide a small clue inside an ordinary interaction. Make the clue discoverable, give immediate feedback, offer a satisfying resolution, and connect the secret to real substance. Ask: will the discovery delight somebody without confusing or excluding everybody else?

Doors Out

Canonical home: <https://sahiltayal.com/> | Identity playground: <https://sahilwho.online/> | More creative worlds: <https://sahilverse.online/> | Museum: <https://eastereggs.sahilwho.online/> | Feedback: sahil@sahiltayal.com

A Parting Question

What would you choose to hide in a place people think they already understand?