

Solution to Bond, Jail Bond

By Peter Schlichting

Firstly, you are to notice the 'Beale' clue in the text about the puzzle. What follows is a fairly straightforward cipher exactly like one used by Beale in one of his three letters which are together a famous unsolved cryptographic mystery. This is essentially a book cipher with the Declaration of independence as the key.

The cipher text is:

4 43 42 101 49 48 79 17 250 z z 42 7 21 73 51 102 42 89 47 48 37 15 31 29 21 31 58 38 42 36 35 73 51 42 189 y 5 250
59 18 24 35 33 28 53 79 77 49 42 31 10 48 50 56 250 78

By going to the word indicated by the number and using the first letter from that word in the Declaration of Independence you unlock the message. For example:

“When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands”

'c' is the letter starting the fourth word, and so in this encryption, the number '4' decrypts to the letter 'c'.

The numbers decrypt into:

College puzzle challenge dot com slash all your base are belong to us

You should immediately recognize this is a url and go to it, giving you a page which includes the following limerick:

All good lim'ricks pack laughs in quite thick

And sometimes they will hide a small trick

But the good ones I've seen

Are so seldom made clean

And they all are read through far too easily

You should recognize there is one word, specifically the last word, which neither fits the rhyming scheme of a limerick, nor the rhythmic structure. Fix the limerick with the final solution, **QUICK**.

Slick also fits, so the submission system hinted toward a different answer.