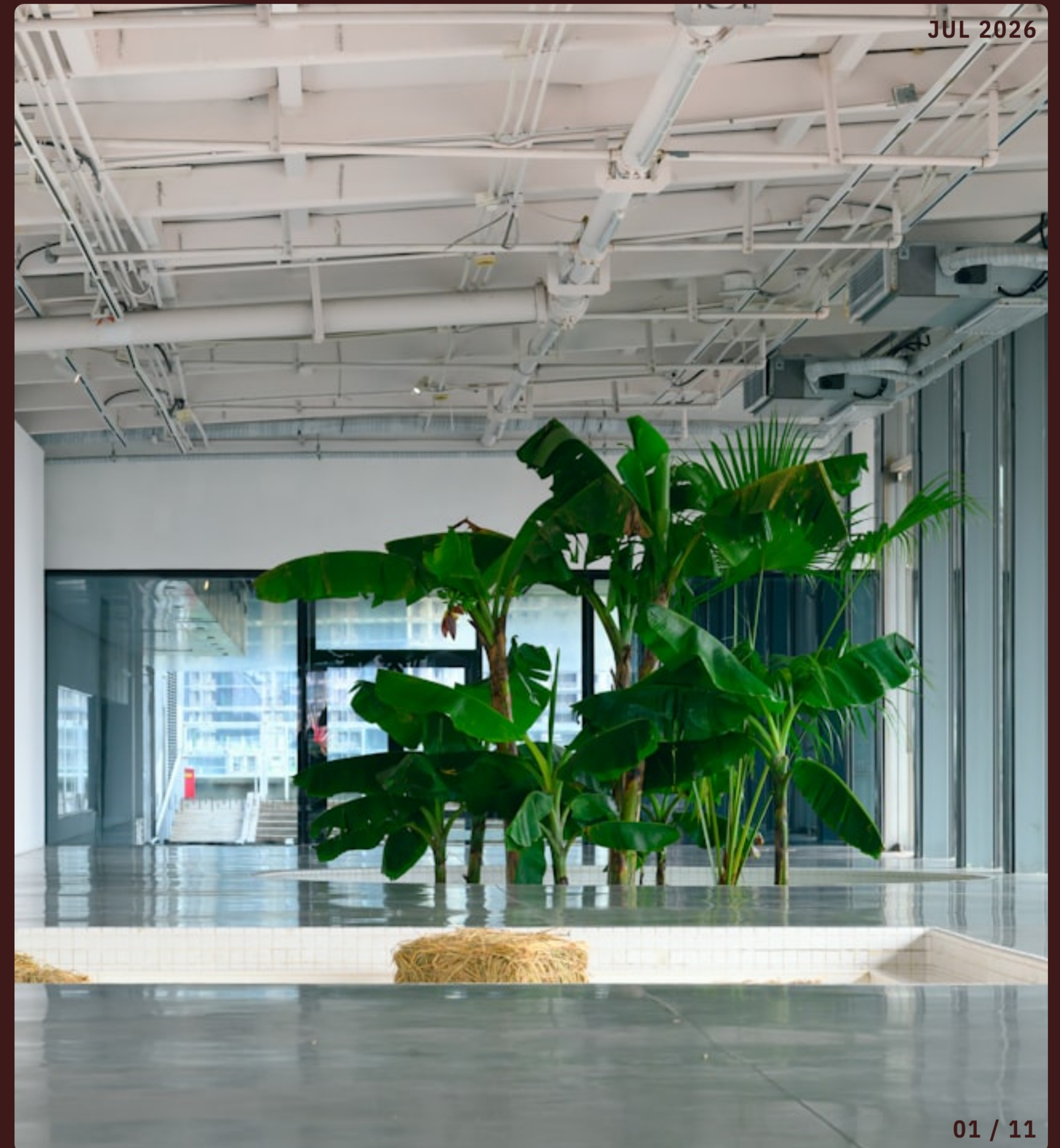


AN INTERNET HORROR PHENOMENON

# The Backrooms

Endless yellow rooms and buzzing lights

A journey into liminal space



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01 / 11





DEFINITION · THE CONCEPT

Liminal spaces and quiet dread

# A fictional endless maze of empty rooms

Born from online horror communities, the Backrooms evoke eerie, familiar-yet-wrong spaces — a lasting symbol of liminal places and the dread they carry.



# Origins of the Myth

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Started as a 2019 4chan image post.

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The now-famous yellow room photo.

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Caption sparked a viral horror concept.

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Grew into a shared collaborative mythos.

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A modern legend built by thousands.

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THE ORIGINAL CAPTION THAT LAUNCHED IT ALL

Falling through the boundaries of reality

"If you're not careful and you noclip  
out of reality..."

— ANONYMOUS · 4CHAN, 2019





HOW TO ENTER

# Noclipping out of reality

You slip through walls or floors at weak spots in reality — a glitch that pulls you out of the ordinary world. It almost never happens on purpose.

Old buildings and empty halls feel especially dangerous. Once inside, there is no clear way back — only rooms, and more rooms.



LEVEL 0 · THE BASELINE

The hum is the only sound

# The classic mono-yellow rooms

Damp carpet and buzzing fluorescent lights fill roughly 600 million square miles of space. The endless hum of the lights is the only sound you will ever hear.





# The Levels System

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Community-built network of distinct levels.

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Each with unique dangers and environments.

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From The Hub to flooded and dark levels.

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Explorers 'noclip' between them.

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An ever-branching map with no known edge.

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# Lurking in the halls

Mysterious creatures roam the endless rooms — the unknown threats that make every corner feel dangerous.

# Named terrors

Hounds, Smilers, and Skin-Stealers are among the most feared entities catalogued by explorers.

# Hostile or indifferent

Some hunt, some ignore you entirely. Either way, they are a core source of the horror.





A myth that spread across the internet — and beyond.

100M+

Views across YouTube and TikTok.

Wikis

Sprawling fan-built encyclopedias.

Games

Dozens of indie horror titles.

Films

Countless fan-made found-footage  
TOPIC shorts.

2022

Kane Pixels' viral found-footage  
series.

A24

A Hollywood film adaptation  
announced.



# Familiar yet wrong

It taps into a primal fear of familiar empty spaces — nostalgia twisted quietly into unease.

# Built together

Open-ended, collaborative storytelling lets anyone add a level, an entity, or a new terror.

# No end in sight

Its sheer endlessness fuels the imagination, leaving space for dread to grow forever.



WHY IT RESONATES

The horror of the ordinary



A MODERN MYTH OF THE LIMINAL AGE

Community-driven and ever-expanding

THE DREAD LIVES IN THE ORDINARY

# Escaping the Backrooms



Thanks for wandering along.

Mind the noclip on your way out.