

“Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.

-- Nido Qubein

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Rigel and the Witch Head Nebula

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Explanation: [Double, double toil and trouble](#); Fire burn, and cauldron bubble -- maybe [Macbeth](#) should have consulted the Witch Head Nebula. The suggestively shaped [reflection nebula](#) is associated with the [bright star Rigel](#) in the [constellation Orion](#). More formally known as [IC 2118](#), the Witch Head Nebula spans about 50 light-years and is composed of interstellar dust grains reflecting [Rigel's](#) starlight. [In this cosmic portrait](#), the blue color of the Witch Head Nebula and of the dust surrounding [Rigel](#) is caused not only by [Rigel's](#) intense blue starlight but because the [dust grains scatter blue light](#) more efficiently than red. The same [physical process](#) causes [Earth's](#)

[daytime sky to appear blue](#), although the scatterers in [Earth's atmosphere](#) are molecules of nitrogen and oxygen. Rigel, the Witch Head Nebula, and gas and dust that surrounds them lie about 800 [light-years](#) away.

## Word of Wisdom

demiurge DEM-ee-erj, *noun*:



: one that is an autonomous creative force or decisive power

### EXAMPLES .....

The powerfully talented singer-songwriter-producer has been described by at least one music-industry insider as a "*demiurge*."

"A noisy group of video-game critics and theoreticians laments the rise of story in games. Games, in one version of this view, are best exemplified as total play, wherein the player is an immaterial *demiurge* and the only 'narrative' is what is anecdotally generated during play."  
– From Tom Bissell's 2011 book *Extra Lives: Why Video Games Matter*

## Ron's Comments

**Welcome to September! The summer is over countdown starts - only 20 days of summer left!** The cooler weather is on the way, I can't wait!

Unless you live in a vacuum you've heard about the cyber-attacks last week that shut down many websites. The most famous ones were eBay and the New York Times' website. Some 30,000 sites in all were hacked, and six of our clients!

I won't mention names, but the six of our clients are like each of us - busy running our own companies, the last thing they wanted was a complete disruption of their business! It's terrible, it's disrupting, and it's just not fair!

It can happen at any time, and it can happen to you. There are 9,500 websites that are blacklisted on a daily basis due to malware infection, many are shutdown. Statistically 4% to 20% of websites get infected each year, websites just like yours and mine.

People ask "why me"? In most cases it's just unlucky to be one of these shutdown sites. There's not usually a person actually working on hacking *your* site, what they do is write scripts that go out and search for a certain type of program, a form, a blog, and many other parts that are in everyone's website. They come up with a way to inject code and HACK with this script - it's sent out on the search and if your unlucky, it finds your site latches on,

injects some "phone home" code and then the phishing begins... Trust me, it's not good old fishing, it's a technique used to trick people out of their passwords!

Bottom line - hackers are out there, you should protect your home computers, your website, and databases. Everyone has heard of protecting home computers, but just how can we protect our websites?

**First**, you should be hosting with us (yes I'm biased) - we offer state-of-the-art cloud hosting and it's harder to hack updated new platforms.

**Second**, you should update your site with the latest versions of your software - if it's older it's easier to get hacked.

**Third**, I recommend backing up your site at least monthly that way should anything happen the worst case would be rolling back 30 days - no big deal! Oh, if you have a CMS site like Joomla or WordPress you'll need to back up the databases too.

**Finally**, a security monitor if you really want to cover yourself, these monitor your site hits on an individual basis and can challenge the user (or script) if certain telltale signs of a hack occur effectively blocking the attack!

Remember since big guys like the NY Times and eBay get hacked you'll have to realize nothing is foolproof - a simple backup can keep you from having your back up against a wall!

As usual if there is anything we can do to help you with your business, website, email, or even backing up your website we are just a phone call or email away!



Best Regards,

**Ron Van Alstyne**  
Ready, Willing & Able



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