

Esteemed housemates one and all,

I come before you today, humbly, not as a private eye, an Englishman, or a yellow journalist, but as myself, Ben Brubaker, secretary of Hitchcock House. You may have noticed, amidst the hustle and bustle of third week, a conspicuous absence of minutes from your inboxes of late. Resist the urge to pelt me with tomatoes next time you see me, tempting as it may be. The shocking truth is that the minutes didn't appear on schedule because last week's house meeting never actually happened. *It will be happening approximately 24 hours from now.*

How is this possible, you ask? The fluctuations in the space-time continuum reached a new extreme last week when the velocity of Snell-Hitchcock increased to within  $1/(10^{25})\%$  of the speed of light, causing this week's house meeting and last week's house meeting, ordinarily separated in time by one week, to become simultaneous. Of course, the invariant length of the house meeting in space-time had to remain constant, requiring that the Green Room be separated from itself by approximately one hundred and nineteen billion miles. No, I did not make these numbers up.

The bifurcation of the Green Room has resulted in a curious and highly precarious state of affairs in which the Green Room exists in two identical iterations separated by a length that is an appreciable fraction of our solar system, in which the same individuals participate in different house meetings simultaneously. This will persist until either the house government collapses as a result of being stranded in outer space, the probability function collapses as a result of somebody trying to measure one of the Green Rooms, or I collapse as a result of having slept too little before writing these minutes.

So, ladies and gentlemen, today I give you minutes. No funny business, just the facts of two rather muddled house meetings, as they unfolded chronologically over the span of thirty minutes and a hundred billion miles.

10:00:19: The Bifurcation occurs. Everybody who is not already in the outer space version of the Green Room by this point is unable to enter, as the door now leads to a bottomless void.

10:01:02: In Chicago, Jory Harris bangs his fist on the podium, calling the meeting to order. He congratulates Graham Albachten on his exquisitely prepared caviar appetizer. He asks the RHs whether they have anything to announce. Meanwhile, in outer space, Jory waits for more people to show up before beginning the meeting.

10:02:21: Tom Wood thanks 72% of the house for completing the housing survey and formally excommunicates the remaining 28%.

10:02:38: General chaos erupts in the Green Room suspended in outer space as its inhabitants realize that they are isolated from the rest of humanity by a thoroughly ridiculous distance. Levi Foster decides to test the properties of free space scientifically and steps out of the Green Room door with initial velocity  $v_0$ . He floats off into the void and is never heard from again.

10:04:49: Malika informs the house that T-shirt designs were due yesterday, and therefore, not only will you not be getting new shirts, the RAs will actually be systematically destroying all the shirts that you already own.

10:06:26: Elizabeth Lee informs the house that Hitchcock's stellar sporting record has been growing patchier, and all of us need to get our respective heads in the game.

10:07:02: The excommunicated Hitchcockers, having been expelled from their rooms on several minutes' notice, show their solidarity by creating a facebook group called "Tom Wood is my Nemesis."

10:08:12: In outer space, Jory manages to get the house in order. A census is taken of the remaining inhabitants of the Green Room. Among them is Ashley Altman, who finally got around to fulfilling her Vice Presidential duties and going to House Meeting. Now she has no way to leave the Green Room. Oh, the irony.

10:10:53: Falko arrives in the Green Room with an overabundance of food stolen from Bartlett, and encourages residents to eat their fill of the limitless cornucopia to be found just blocks away. Residents of the earthbound green room reflect on the sweetness of life.

10:10:59: The inhabitants of the floating Green Room reflect silently on the fact that all of them will likely die of starvation within the week. They eye the solitary pack of Oreos left in the Green Room by Jesse Roth before she ran off to rehearsal, narrowly escaping a fate worse than death. Nobody moves.

10:13:42: Sam Bowman and Talia encourage residents of the Chicago Green Room to attend Iron Chef: Britchkenschnock and eat large quantities of sumptuous food, as if deliberately goading their famished extraterrestrial counterparts.

10:15:37: Space-Green-Room-Mandy gloomily remarks that HARC was actually going to have a meeting for the first time ever. The irony grows thicker.

10:17:55: Earth-Green-Room-Lisa reminds everybody in attendance to fill out a Scav Survey. Everybody does so. There is much rejoicing.

10:21:06: The residents of the interplanetary Green Room decide there's nothing much they can do other than continue to conduct house business as usual. The first order of business is electing somebody to the at-large seat vacated by Levi, who is by this point approximately 1200v<sub>0</sub> meters away from the door of the Green Room and still floating. Aaron Ewall-Weiss is re-elected to the position he held at the beginning of Autumn Quarter. The irony coagulates.

10:25:22: Ben falls asleep, leaving the account of the simultaneous events of next house meeting and last house meeting to be continued at an indeterminate time in a form more amenable to narrative.