Book Review
RESET: Reclaiming the Internet for Civil Society, **Ronald J. Deibert, House of Anansi Press, 2020, ISBN 9781487008086**
Reviewed by David Cole

In this modern age of surveillance capitalism, who is out there to defend us? Something that seems so innocuous as signing up for a Facebook page to keep in touch with friends and family can lead to your personal information being collected and sold. This includes your pictures and contact information, as well as that of your friends and family. Who is using this information and why? Is there anything we can do to stop this? All of this and more is discussed in *RESET: Reclaiming the Internet for Civil Society* by Ronald J. Deibert.

In 2020, Ronald Deibert was selected to deliver the prestigious CBC Massey Lecture series. This series is an annual event where lectures are given by distinguished writers and scholars who explore contemporary ideas and issues that affect Canada and the world at large. *RESET* was published after the fact to accompany the lectures delivered by Mr. Deibert.

Ronald Deibert is a professor of political science as well as director of The Citizen Lab (formed in 2001) at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto. The Citizen Lab focuses on policy and legal aspects regarding the intersection of human rights and information technologies. The Lab undertakes this work through research and field work to study the mostly unregulated surveillance industry, dark PR firms, and other such nefarious groups.

RESET discusses the issues around our personal information and how it is collected and used by others for their own personal or political gains. Through a series of five chapters, the reader is led along a discussion of the economic underbelly of social media, what's being done with the information collected and why it's not so easy for us to walk away from social media itself. The final chapter in the book discusses what can be done to combat these bad actors through regulations and policies, with the key idea being that of restraint.

Ronald Deibert writes with a smooth, concise style that draws the reader along. A copious notes section at the end will help the more curious reader to follow up on any points of interest they discovered along the way. With a style that is easy to read and not too heavy on the technical side, this book makes an interesting read for anyone who is interested in the "dark" side of social media, not just us 3l173 h4ck3r5.

Book Review
Rabbits, **Terry Miles, Del Rey. 2021, ISBN 9781984819659**
Reviewed by Tim R

A rabbit is an ornery animal. It moves with illusive purpose but never in a direct line. The same path is followed in the narrative of this book. Imagine crossing a river and the only way to do it is to step from stone to stone, barely visible in the moving water. You just move, you don't think. That's the feeling you get when reading this book.

Rabbits is the name of an ancient game that hides in plain sight. Many iterations of the game have been played, the winner of each iteration becomes exalted and memorialized forever. You can think of it as an alternate reality game (ARG) that was first created in the medieval era. Some of you might remember a podcast with the same name. If you have, you're on the right track. While the universe is the same, you'll find that the book stands alone. It is another puzzle piece that needs to be fit into the bigger picture.

You might be asking yourself, why *2600*? What does this book have to do with hacking? I'd respond by saying that the story perfectly aligns with the hacker mindset. In that you observe the things around you, but look at them differently. You look at the coincidences and patterns, find methods to make things happen, all in ways that weren't intended to be possible. It's not a techno thriller - computers and technology are part of the story but certainly not the only part. You can share this book with others curious about what the hacker mindset is but who are unable or unwilling to make the journey of discovery with technological means.

Here's the thing. The best part of *Rabbits* is not even the story. It is what you find on the pages. If you're clever, you'll also immerse yourself with what is hiding in plain sight. The hacker community is full of people who look at things in different ways, making progress all while avoiding roadblocks and dead ends. This book will reward that inclination and provide an intriguing and satisfying experience.

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