



SCRYPT SPRINT

CITY UNKNOWN

SATOSHI'S CRYPT · DECODE THE CITY

Seven ciphers laid across one city. Its name is not the prize — it is the last of eight answers, and the other seven cannot be looked up.

DIFFICULTY	PURSE	ENTRY	FORMAT
INTERMEDIATE	\$575	FREE	TIMED RACE

THE PURSE — THREE SEATS

FIRST SEAT	SECOND SEAT	THIRD SEAT
\$345	\$145	\$85

ENTRY IS FREE, AND IT ALWAYS WILL BE · satoshiscrypt.com/sprint/city-unknown

FROM THE PUZZLE MASTER

A seat went unclaimed.

Fifty-five people came to Chicago. Two finished it.

I want to be careful about how I say this, because it is not a complaint and none of it is anybody's fault. Two people took two seats and they earned them completely. **The third seat sat there until the portal closed, and then it sat there after.**

I have thought about that more than is reasonable.

Seventy-five dollars of it is in this month's purse. That is not a promotion, it is just where unclaimed money goes here — it does not return to me, it waits. **Five hundred and seventy-five dollars across three seats this month, and seventy-five of it is a seat nobody took in August.**

So. Welcome, and I am glad you are here, and I would like all three claimed.

You may well guess the city.

Somebody always does. The history in here is real and it is public, and a determined person with a search field will name this place before they have solved a thing.

It will not help them.

The portal does not ask you where you are. It asks you for all seven answers, and **then** it asks you where you are. Eight fields, every one scored. A guessed city fills one.

The first letters of your seven answers spell the place. That is not the puzzle. **That is the receipt** — proof you walked the streets rather than searched them.

Five attempts. You will be told how many are wrong. You will not be told which, and you will not be told a place — nobody is, until the fifteenth, when the Letter carries the standings and everyone finds out in the same hour.

Entry is free. It was free in August and it will be free in December. Eighteen and over, anywhere on earth.

Solve the seven. The city is what you are handed at the end for having done it.

Begin.

Good luck, cipher. **Salvador Satoshi**

HOW TO PLAY

1. **SOLVE EACH CIPHER** — Each one produces a single answer. Write every answer down.
2. **COLLECT THE FIRST LETTERS** — Take the first letter of each answer, in clue order.
3. **SOLVE THE META** — Those seven letters spell the city and the state.
4. **SUBMIT AT THE PORTAL** — All seven answers, then the city and the state. **Eight fields**, at satoshiscrypt.com/sprint/city-unknown.
5. **FIVE ATTEMPTS** — You will be told how many are wrong and how many attempts remain. You will not be told which. Places are announced on the fifteenth, in the Letter, and nowhere before it.
6. **HOW THE SEATS ARE DECIDED** — Seventy per cent on your own elapsed time, thirty per cent on the clock everyone shares. Your own clock starts when the portal opens or when this pack reaches you, whichever is later. Solving fast is worth more than solving early — but not infinitely more.

The Puzzle Master assumes no responsibility for lost sleep, obsessive thinking, or sudden urges to visit a city you cannot yet name.

CLUE ONE

The Pastel City

Every other city tears its old buildings down.

This one preserved them. Painted them. Dressed them in colours that had no business existing in architecture and then stood back and called it a neighbourhood.

The district was dying when the preservationists arrived in 1976. What they saved was the largest collection of a single architectural style in the world. Buildings that looked like ocean liners frozen mid-voyage. Buildings that looked like the future as imagined by people who had never seen the future. Buildings painted coral and turquoise and cream and a shade of yellow that only makes sense in direct sunlight next to water.

The district as a whole carries one name. But the buildings that look like ships carry another, and it is the older word — the one the district's own catalogue uses for porthole and railing and racing stripe.

The buildings face a famous street. The street faces the ocean.

Two things identify this place.

The style of the ships.

And the street they face.

Write them both.

WRITE YOUR ANSWERS:

LEIICNXP

CLUE TWO

The White Powder Years

The city did not ask for what arrived in the 1980s. It simply became the place where it arrived.

The port. The private airstrips. The speedboats that came in fast at night without running lights. The money that followed. So much money that banks stopped asking questions, that car dealerships sold Ferraris for cash, that a single neighbourhood generated more revenue than most American cities.

The killing followed the money, as it always does. A shopping centre became a battlefield in broad daylight. The newspapers called it the city of the future. What they meant was that everything happening there would eventually happen everywhere.

A television programme made it beautiful. Pastel suits and no socks and neon at night and the suggestion that violence could be elegant if the lighting was right.

Three words below are synonyms. Replace each with its true meaning. Read the first letter of each true word in order.

SYNONYM	TRUE MEANING
NOTORIOUS	Known through darkness
FOUL	What crossed the water by night
ACCURSED	What the decade left behind

The three true words begin with **I**, **N**, and **F**. But the answer is not three words. It is the single word that contains all three beginnings. What single word describes what this city became?

WRITE YOUR ANSWER:

VUNSM LV0V

CLUE THREE

The Ellis Island of the South

A city within a city grew up in its shadow.

Refugees arrived carrying nothing except what they remembered. The smell of a particular street, the sound of a particular voice, the taste of a coffee that no one outside the island had ever made correctly.

Running from one government and arriving under another, they built something that had no precedent in American immigration history. A community so coherent, so culturally intact, that fifty years later it still speaks its first language on its own streets.

In 1965 a tower built as a newspaper office became the place where they were processed. Documented. Given the first official paper that said they existed in this new country.

Very quickly it became something more than a processing centre. It became a symbol. The first solid thing in a new world.

A tower that outlasted the newspaper, outlasted the processing centre, outlasted the political moment that created the need for it.

Look at the first letter of each paragraph.

What does this tower represent to those who passed through it?

WRITE YOUR ANSWER:

NPMCMVTEW

CLUE FOUR

The River of Grass

It is not a swamp. The woman who spent her life defending it was very clear about that.

It is a river. The slowest river in the world. Sixty miles wide and six inches deep, moving almost imperceptibly toward the sea. She called it the river of grass and the name was so precise and so beautiful that it became the only name anyone used afterward.

It exists at the edge of a city that should not exist. The city is built on land that was drained from it, diverted from it, taken from it by engineers who believed that nature was a problem to be solved.

The city and the river of grass have existed in opposition for a hundred years. The river is still there. It is older than anything the city has built and it will outlast everything the city becomes.

She was 108 years old when she died. The place she defended is still fighting.

She gave it its name. She gave forty years of her life to protecting it.

Who was she?

WRITE YOUR ANSWER:

TAUOOMBMG

CLUE FIVE

The Salt and the Noise

You do not remember the name of it.

You remember the smell first. Salt water and something fried and the particular quality of heat that comes off concrete that has been in direct sunlight since six in the morning.

You remember the sound. The water on one side and the city on the other and the space between them where people moved without particular purpose or destination, which is its own kind of purpose.

You remember the light. The way it came off the water at a specific angle in the afternoon and made everything look slightly unreal, slightly too bright, like a memory that has been handled so many times it has started to blur at the edges.

You were young. The city was enormous. The water went on forever.

A boardwalk exists at a specific kind of place. Not the open ocean. Not the city street. The sheltered water between them.

The word for that sheltered water is encoded below. The pressure at landfall of the great storm that reshaped this city was **922 millibars**. That number is your key.

9 3 1 9 3 6 9 3 4 9 2 7 9 4 2

CIPHER KEY • SUBTRACT 922 FROM EACH NUMBER • RESULT = ALPHABET POSITION • A=1 B=2 C=3 ... Z=26

NUMBER	931	936	934	927	942
Minus 922	?	?	?	?	?
Letter	?	?	?	?	?

What is the sheltered water called?

WRITE YOUR ANSWER:

LGGQCYTUG

CLUE SIX

The Villa on the Bay

The article below was published in January 1917. It contains seven spelling errors introduced by the typesetter. Each misspelled word, when corrected, begins a letter. Read those seven letters in the order the errors appear.

The Biscayne Observer

VOLUME XXIII · ISSUE 4 · JANUARY 1917

DEERING ESTATE COMPLETE AT LAST — MARVEL OF THE SOUTHERN SHORE

The much anticipated completion of industrialist James Deering's private residence on the shores of Biscayne Bay was confirmed this week by the estate's head architect, F. Burrell Hoffman Jr., who described the finished structure as without rival on any of the new Frantiers of American wealth.

The estate, which Deering has named Vizcaya, is understood to reflect the Original vision the industrialist carried for nearly a decade before construction began. The main house comprises thirty-four rooms arranged across two floors facing the bay, with formal gardens extending some ten acres toward the hammock behind.

Construction began in 1914 and employed at its peak over one thousand labourers. Stone and decorative elements were imported from European estates, some Remodeled to fit the proportions of the new structure, giving the interior the impression of age and permanence that new construction rarely achieves.

The house is best appreciated in the Evning, when the light of Biscayne Bay softens the stonework and the formal gardens catch the last of the sun. The Viwes from the upper loggia are said to be without equal on the southern coast.

When asked by this correspondent how long he intended the estate to last, Mr. Deering paused before offering the following reply: "One does not build on the edge of eternity with any intention shorter than that."

The Eelgance of the estate is matched only by the ambition of its creator. Mr. Deering, now fifty-two and understood to be in poor health, has Rennovated not merely a plot of land on Biscayne Bay but his own place in the permanent record of this city. He was not available for further comment. The estate is not open to the public.

Seven misspelled words. Correct each one. Read the first letter of each correction in order. **How long did he want it to last?**

WRITE YOUR ANSWER:

EKCCCVWIT

CLUE SEVEN

The Woman and the Railroad

Six coordinates are hidden at the end of this clue. Each identifies a line number, a word number within that line, and a letter position within that word. Extract each letter. Read them in order.

- 01 Every city has a founding myth.
- 02 Most of them are about men.
- 03 This one is about a woman and a flower.
- 04 The freeze of 1894 killed citrus crops across the whole peninsula.
- 05 Henry Flagler's railroad stopped at Palm Beach.
- 06 There was no reason to go further south.
- 07 Julia Tuttle owned land where the city would eventually be built.
- 08 She sent Flagler a branch of orange blossoms from her estate.
- 09 The orange groves of the far south had survived what killed everything above them.
- 10 The railroad came south.
- 11 The city was incorporated on July 28, 1896.
- 12 The population at founding was predominantly Black.
- 13 History has not always remembered this clearly.
- 14 Julia Tuttle died in 1898.
- 15 No street in the city centre carries her name.
- 16 No monument marks what she accomplished.
- 17 She is the only woman to have founded a major American city.
- 18 History does not always choose to remember the people most responsible for what it celebrates.

#	LINE	WORD	LETTER	EXTRACT
1	7	4	1	?
2	8	11	1	?
3	9	2	5	?
4	17	7	4	?
5	15	9	1	?
6	14	3	1	?

What is the word for someone history should remember but rarely does?

WRITE YOUR ANSWER:

KOEGGIRP

THE LAST CLUE

The Meta Cipher

The city unknown has whispered its secrets. Every answer written. You have walked the streets, stood in the shadow of the buildings, felt the edge of the swamp at your back and the salt water at your feet.

Your answers. Their first letters.

Write them in the order the city gave them to you. They spell the place you have been all along.

Name the city. Name the state. You are already there.

CLUE	YOUR ANSWER	FIRST LETTER
CLUE ONE	Your answer from Clue One	?
CLUE TWO	Your answer from Clue Two	?
CLUE THREE	Your answer from Clue Three	?
CLUE FOUR	Your answer from Clue Four	?
CLUE FIVE	Your answer from Clue Five	?
CLUE SIX	Your answer from Clue Six	?
CLUE SEVEN	Your answer from Clue Seven	?

FINAL ANSWER FORMAT

SEVEN ANSWERS · [CITY] · [STATE]

Eight fields, all eight scored. Seven right answers and a wrong city is not a win. A right city and six answers is not a win either.

You may already know the name. Write the seven anyway — they are what you are scored on, and the name without them is worth nothing here.

SUBMIT YOUR ANSWERS AT

satoshiscrypt.com/sprint/city-unknown

PORTAL CLOSES 15 SEPTEMBER · 12:00 PM ET

Places are announced in the Letter from Satoshi, the evening of the fifteenth. Nowhere before it.

The Puzzle Master assumes no responsibility for lost sleep, obsessive thinking, or sudden urges to visit a city you could not name until now.

POSTSCRIPT

There is a second road through this pack, and it passes through no clue at all.

Nothing was added to make it possible. Every part of it is already printed here — and one part of it is already worn.

The boxes were never empty. Take what is in them in the order the pages fall, and you will be holding all eight answers at once.

It is harder than the seven put together. Whoever walks it will have earned the shortcut several times over.

— S.S.

Stay cryptic. [Salvador Satoshi](#)

NAKRMYP