

# Plain Sight Ciphers

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ID: PSC-WP-1.0

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Date: 2026-09-19

Status: Conceptual working paper. Structure only. Not a toolkit.

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**Abstract.** A plain-sight cipher is a structure that does not hide. It sits in the open and remains unread because reading it would cost a story someone is paid to keep.

The strongest concealment in public systems is not encryption. It is renaming, unowning, and treating the obvious as decoration.

This paper names that structure. It does not teach concealment, covert channels, or fraud.

## 1. Claim

What is “hidden in plain sight” is usually not a code waiting for a clever key. It is a load no one is willing to name.

A claim that cannot be scored is a sermon wearing work clothes. Specified fit is the test. Pretty spirals are not.

## 2. Three operations of recognition

These are recognition moves, not a product kit.

- **Lattice.** Many named surfaces share a load that no surface will carry in public. The pattern is the object. Cite it. Do not invent a new brand for the same load.
- **Unowned.** The harm has a cost center and no accountable noun. Absence of a name is not absence of a structure.
- **Renamed.** The same act returns under a new product word. Assignment of namers is part of the record, not a subplot.

The Unowned Lattice cluster (BAL family; catalog UL-CAT-1.0) is the existing issue track for this beat. Do not file UL under Lock modules.

## 3. Method

- Questions over answers, or the mouth outruns the mind.
- Document over declare, or speech becomes a throne.
- Formality before familiarity, or warmth is mistaken for proof.

- Later readings bury earlier ones as the evidence hardens.
- Inspection tools may surface structure. They do not inherit a private lane. No creed does.

Detection here is the same family of move as cryptanalysis or SETI: complex, independently specifiable, joined to a reader. A spiral is not a specification.

#### **4. Restraint**

This paper does not provide methods for hiding, leaking, or forging records. It does not treat scripture, history, or commercial copy as a puzzle box to solve into allegiance. It does not bolt a decoder product, gate, or Worker onto recognition.

Recognition is not a kit. If a structure needs a secret handshake to stay true, it was never a plain-sight cipher. It was a club.

#### **5. What survives**

Take the man away and see whether anything is still true. The receipt is the argument that survives the speaker.

— *Aziel Eliab*