

Re: Hello There?

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.logic/2005-06/msg00078.html>

- *From:* "Peter Webb" <webbfamily-diespamdie@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 5 Jun 2005 02:20:01 +1000
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"Torkel Franzen" <torkel@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:vcb8y1q4b8t.fsf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

> Robert Low <mtx014@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:

>

>> And didn't Carl Sagan write a bizarre

>> novel in which a circle encoded into

>> the digits of pi was proof of the

>> existence of God?

>

> There was some kind of message encoded in pi in the

> book. Unfortunately, this nonsensical idea was not taken up in the

> movie version.

>

>

I loved the idea. It certainly made me think of the limits of omnipotence – can God make arithmetic work differently? Not a concept often discussed in airport thrillers.

It also had a nice context, in that she (the astronomer) originally received a message from the aliens by radio; they advised her to look for another message in the base 11 representation of pi – just a different communications medium.

BTW, if you thought it was nonsensical why are you disappointed they didn't have it in the movie (which I didn't see)?

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- *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ [Re: Hello There?](#)

- ◆ *From:* Torkel Franzen

- **References:**

- ◆ **Re: Hello There?**
 - ◇ *From:* Robert Low
- ◆ **Re: Hello There?**
 - ◇ *From:* Torkel Franzen
- ◆ **Re: Hello There?**
 - ◇ *From:* Robert Low
- ◆ **Re: Hello There?**
 - ◇ *From:* Torkel Franzen

- Prev by Date: **Re: Hello There?**
- Next by Date: **Re: Hello There?**
- Previous by thread: **Re: Hello There?**
- Next by thread: **Re: Hello There?**
- Index(es):
 - ◆ **Date**
 - ◆ **Thread**