This is a proposal of a different take regarding what he saw.

People claimed that he had seen the King In Yellow, and tried to use some sort of mythos as justification, but what they could have checked as well was The Book King In Yellow.

And if you realized how one gets Forbidden Knowledge there(for how else could D3rlord3 know Avery) from there you realized what D3rlord3 saw wasn't a figure but something in a form that could be read.

I propose that D3rlord3 had seen a wooden sign in a black wall, holding Act 2 which had given him a Cognitive Boost to accomplish the ending.

However the Cognitive Boost has a price of slow burn insanity.

For those who don't know The King In Yellow Book or what Act 2 is

The act in the king in yellow book acts as a memetic hazard, immediately drawing the reader in with bizarre or disorienting content that demands deep engagement, and collapses their mental sanity from given forbidden knowledge.

Act 1, lulls the reader into a false sense of security. And Banal

Act 2, however, reveals profound and terrible truths that the human condition and the mind cannot cope with, leading to immediate and permanent madness, despair, or death.

Basically
Act 1 lures the reader in, and Act 2 results in insanity as the reader is confronted something extraordinary, almost irresistible beauty and forbidden knowledge overflowing them and perceive a different reality like confronting carcosa

The contents of Act 2 is ambiguous, but its revealed truths are what make the play dangerous and cause a profound, and often permanent, shift in the reader's perception of reality

Basically The book's core idea is that forbidden knowledge reshapes perception and cognition before destroying it, leading to madness or death
meaning he got boosted cognitively

If you replayed the footage the moment it was censored, you would see that what he censored is far smaller and the parts that did get left out appear to be wooden sign fragments.

He even looked to be reading it, to suddenly stop and appear to be captivated, and he had to forcefully move himself away from what he read until he finally got out of it.
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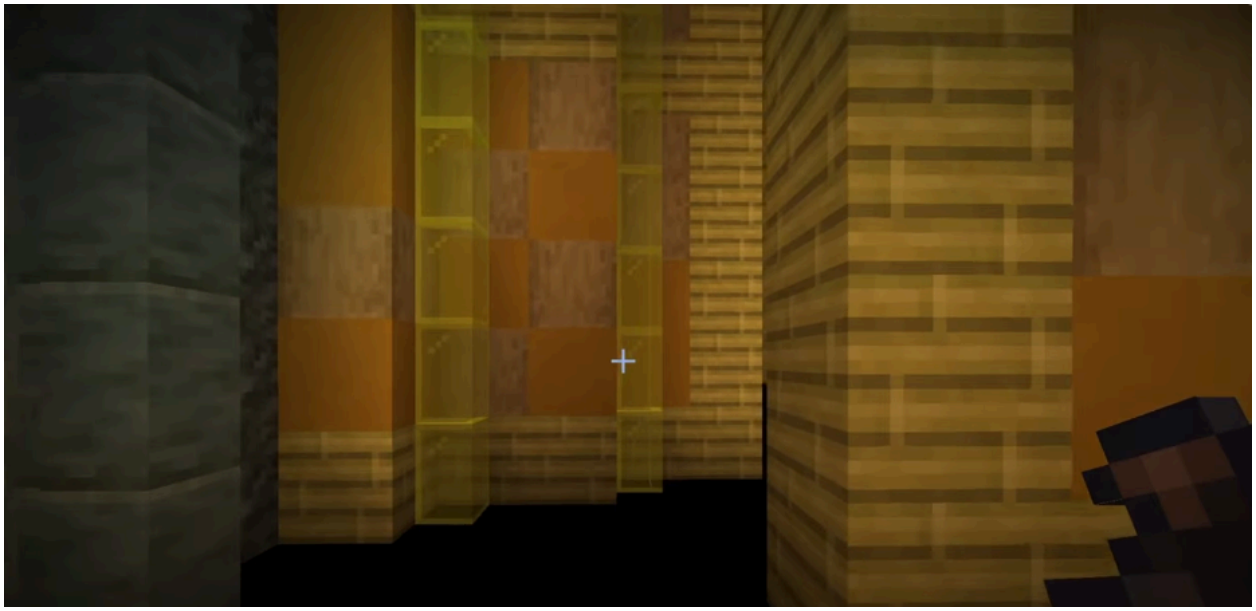






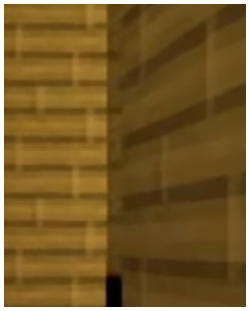









8



Now as of how d3rlord3 is shown to be affected by the act 2
First of all we must first check the statements provided by the people who read act 2 in the original book. (the quotes below belong to the book)

"If I had not caught a glimpse of the opening words in the second act I should never have finished it, but as I stooped to pick it up my eyes became riveted to the open page, and with a cry of terror, or perhaps it was of joy so poignant that I suffered in every nerve, I snatched the thing from the hearth and crept shaking to my bedroom, where I read it and reread it, and wept and laughed and trembled with a horror which at times assails me yet. This is the thing that troubles me, for I cannot forget Carcosa, where black stars hang in the heavens, where the shadows of men's thoughts lengthen in the afternoon, when the the twin suns sink into the Lake of Hali, and my mind will bear forever the memory of the Pallid Mask."

—Hildred Castaigne

"No definite principles had been violated in those wicked pages, no doctrine promulgated, no convictions outraged. It could not be judged by any known standard, yet, although it was acknowledged that the supreme note of art had been struck in The King in Yellow, all felt that human nature could not bear the strain nor thrive on words in which the essence of purest poison lurked. The very banality and innocence of the first act only allowed the blow to fall afterwards with more awful effect."

—Hildred Castaigne

“I only remember the excitement it created and the denunciations from pulpit and press. I believe the author shot himself after bringing forth this monstrosity, didn't he? ...'truths' which send men frantic and blast their lives. I don't care if the thing is, as they say, the very supreme essence of art. It's a crime to have written it”

—Louis Castaigne

In Which d3rlord3 was able to get out by slowly moving away from the sign despite looking at it until the wall managed to cover just enough for him to run off from it.

Now, to explain how he got Cognitive Proficiency Index (CPI) boosted,

Cognitive Proficiency Index requires both the Working Memory and Processing Speed

Before he went by the door, we already see he had limited Working memory as it's a cognitive system with a limited capacity that can hold information temporarily.

During the Maze, he couldn't remember where he had gone to and would have to place sand blocks to know where he was.

And to navigating a complex environment like a maze, a person needs to continuously store and update information such as:

Where they just came from.
Which turns they have already taken.
Which paths they have already explored (and where are the dead ends that they found).

This is when his cognitive load had already exceeded its capacity,
he had to rely on external aids (the sand blocks) as a physical "map" to offload that information and succeed in the task

Remember this was before he got boosted.

The sand-placement scene already showed his limited working memory before getting exposure to higher information.

Another Limited Working Memory moment(+ Limited processing speed) was when
he took 17 minutes to decode the words in the wall and had to write it down manually

Decoding Time: Taking 17 minutes suggests the brain is taking longer as what he had to take in is cipherstacked

Which in turn requires the demand of Increased Processing Speed and Working Memory

Working Memory Demands
a "cipherstacked" system would require an individual to hold multiple pieces of information in their working memory simultaneously:

1.) The cipher key/rules: The specific method for decoding must be remembered and applied consistently.
2.) The encoded text
3.) The partially decoded text: The person has to remember the results of the initial decoding steps and combine them into meaningful words or phrases
4.) writing the information down, the character offloads the storage burden from his brain to an external source
5.) hold potential solutions in mind to check against the emerging message for meaning

In conclusion, D3rlord3 had to take external cognitive aid and was already proven to have limited working memory as Writing the information down, the character offloads the storage burden from his brain to an external source via paper. To help frees up mental resources to focus solely on the process of decoding.

As It offloads the intermediate results of the complex decoding process from the working memory

Increased Processing Speed Demands

Demands: Decoding a cipher, and even a multi-layered one,would be a much more computationally intensive task than something like standard reading.

The brain needs to execute a set of rules (e.g., substitution, transposition, applying a key) for each character or group of characters. This mental effort is slow and deliberate, which directly impacts processing speed. The 17 minutes taken would be a clear sign that the rate of cognitive processing for this task is very slow

And he even questioned

there is a moment where he said, he doesn't seem to understand its message until he got a Breakthrough and say nice poem and berates the one that wrote that wall for cipherstacking

As he placed his criticism and directed at the puzzle's design, which required an unnecessary amount of processing power and working memory resources to solve

The 17 minutes taken shows that the individual's rate on processing the highly complex, non-automatic task was slow,

either due to the cognitive style or because the task itself was extremely demanding. His breakthrough occurred when he found a way to manage these high demands

And the claim that he wasn't in the rush therefore the ending was the true limits.

Working memory performance reduces when there is limited time to complete a task, which increases cognitive load.

So we already saw his limits, just before what he saw which after that, shows the adhered gap increased In The Ending.

because after encountering the revelation, aka the 'forbidden knowledge'(for how else would he know avery)

He formed a logical framing and knows what he has to say After 3 seconds then begins to start writing in the book.

Then he also demonstrates an abrupt improvement in cognitive efficiency by inventing and encoding a 10-second message system, to encode and decode, put his message to encode and remember his own message to not look back on, and then write it down.

Now the big question is, would reading ACT 2 boost Cognition?

We saw in the footage he was able to move himself just enough to get his view of what he is reading blocked.

and
PSI is a measure of cognitive efficiency, not raw intelligence, and is linked to attention and arousal levels

Remember
The act 2 in the book acts as a memetic hazard, would immediately force the reader in with bizarre or disorienting content that demands deep engagement
As its second act, which is described as a "beautiful, stupendous creation, terrible in its simplicity, irresistible in its truth"

high level of emotional and intellectual arousal could, in theory, temporarily enhance attention and processing efficiency, leading to a perceived or actual short-term boost in performance on speed-related tasks

This is consistent with the Yerkes-Dodson Law’s inverted-U model

The process of absorbing the book's "forbidden knowledge" might initially force the brain to form new, highly specific neural networks, increasing efficiency in that specific domain, which could manifest as a short-term, domain-specific processing speed gain

And even Working Memory was increased when he reached the knowledge about Avery
As information given to him were days on end, and, people that read act 2 appeared to even working memory “This is the thing that troubles me, for I cannot forget Carcosa”

Working memory is known to be a key component of human cognition and would be for attention and conscious processing. So the shock and unique nature of the "forbidden knowledge" would in turn trigger a state of high arousal and intense focus, which can temporarily enhance the brain's ability to maintain and manipulate information in conscious awareness.

And Processing Speed Index (PSI) would also be temporarily boosted by intense focus and arousal when reading "The King in Yellow,"

however this boon is but a curse as significant decline as a result of cognitive overload and induced insanity.

Let me explain why

This initial boost would likely be unsustainable, leading to the severe decline

Working memory has a limited capacity, and overloading the system can lead to performance decline

exposure to reality-altering information and the ensuing psychological distress due to its horror and beauty would overwhelm this capacity

Remember this is not a good thing as forced boost would slowly decline and deteriorate

It is an unnatural, external violation of biological limits, turning the enhanced CPI from a boon into a curse that systematically dismantles the person's mental and physical health

Like

Cognitive Overload
impaired function
Disrupted Neural Networks

In a psychological stand point

As the character's mental health deteriorates into full-blown insanity, their general mental health symptoms (a "p factor" in psychology) would increase.

Cognitive Overload/Trauma
The reality-bending information presented in the play would be an extreme form of psychological trauma/memetic hazard.
And Real-world studies show that exposure to trauma and chronic psychological distress (such as anxiety, depression, and psychosis-risk states) is significantly associated with slower processing speed

Disrupted Neural Networks
The internal chaos and "nightmare logic" of an unstable mind would disrupt the efficient neural pathways needed for quick information transfer, leading to a destroyed or severely impaired PSI.

Meaning from a temporary PSI peak to severe decline is plausible as it aligns with both the fictional lore and insanity when one comprehends the act 2 play of "The King in Yellow" and the real-world psychological effects of extreme mental distress and cognitive disruption.