

Theme Busters R Us

WordCamp San Diego 2012

themesaper.com/busters

Theme Busters R Us

Lance Willett

Theme Wrangler, Automattic

WordPress.com

Hi! I'm Lance Willett. And I love themes.

Theme Busters R Us

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Theme Wrangler, Automattic

WordPress.com

I love themes so much that the word is literally in my job title
I work for Automattic launching themes on WordPress.com
This is what I work on all day, every day
I'm honored and excited to be here to share with you

Theme Busters R Us

themesaper.com/busters

Here's a link to download these slides, and view links I mention in the talk

I love themes

Themes are awesome! Everyone loves themes
They are super important within the WP ecosystem
For many people who use WP their theme is their site
This is important stuff

I break themes

I break themes because I want them to be the best they can be
Keys to successful theme breaking: examples, tools, process

Break your theme

Breaking themes for fun?! Crazy talk. Busting your WordPress theme – on purpose – can be both fun and useful. The process is a crucial part of building sites with WordPress, whether it's for a client project, a personal blog, or releasing an awesome new theme to the world.

As theme developers we should work hard to break our themes

Breaker, buster, tester

Break = push it to extremes to simulate real world usage.
Testing is often considered a dirty word. That's why I prefer to call it breaking. It's more fun!
we either have no time to do it, or we think it's boring and tedious.
Breaking stuff should be fun and something we are excited to dig into

Anyone can write a how-to. Not everyone thinks to write a why.

<http://www.zeldman.com/2011/06/03/one-blog-post-is-worth-a-thousand-portfolio-pieces/>

I'm going to assume a basic knowledge of WP and theming, that you've put together a theme or two
The experiences I'm sharing today and my point of view are just as applicable to anyone looking for the perfect-fit theme
You can test a theme just the same whether you're building it or using someone else's theme

Break your theme to make it better

The why: taking time to test and break will make the end result better

Why do you have to be a
nonconformist like everybody
else?

—James Thurber

Y U NO TEST?

Y U NO BREAK STUF?!

—Theme Buster

Y U NO BREAK STUF?



Don't be that guy
Shirker!

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/lance_mountain/3928027390/in/
set-72157594534839900](http://www.flickr.com/photos/lance_mountain/3928027390/in/set-72157594534839900)

How I break themes

I believe it's good to have a process
Even if it's just a post-it note on your monitor or a hand-written list
Improve it each time you work on a theme, and share your
experiences with others
Here's mine

Theme Development

Languages: English • 日本語 • 한국어 • Português do Brasil • Русский • ไทย • 中文(简体) • 中文(繁體) • (Add your language)

This article is about developing WordPress Themes. If you wish to learn more about how to install and use Themes, review [Using Themes](#). This topic differs from [Using Themes](#) because it discusses the technical aspects of writing code to build your own Themes rather than how to activate Themes or where to obtain new Themes.

Why WordPress Themes

WordPress Themes are files that work together to create the design and functionality of a WordPress site. Each Theme may be different, offering many choices for site owners to instantly change their website look.

You may wish to develop WordPress Themes for your own use, for a client project or to [submit to the WordPress Theme Directory](#). Why else should you build a WordPress Theme?

- To create a unique look for your WordPress site.
- To take advantage of [templates](#), [template tags](#), and the [WordPress Loop](#) to generate different website results and looks.
- To provide alternative templates for specific site features, such as [category pages](#) and search result pages.
- To quickly switch between two site layouts, or to take advantage of a [Theme or](#)

Contents

[hide]

- 1 Why WordPress Themes
- 2 Theme Development Standards
 - 2.1 Anatomy of a Theme
 - 2.1.1 Child Themes
 - 2.2 Theme Stylesheet
 - 2.2.1 Stylesheet Guidelines
 - 2.3 Functions File
 - 2.4 Template Files
 - 2.4.1 Template Files List
 - 2.4.2 Basic Templates
 - 2.4.3 Custom Page Templates
 - 2.4.4 Query-based Template Files
 - 2.4.5 Defining Custom Templates
 - 2.4.6 Including Template Files
 - 2.4.7 Referencing Files From a Template
 - 2.4.8 Plugin API Hooks
 - 2.4.9 Untrusted Data
 - 2.4.10 Translation / i18n Support
 - 2.4.11 Theme Classes

- Home Page
- WordPress Lessons
- Getting Started
- Working with WordPress
- Design and Layout
- Advanced Topics
- Troubleshooting
- Developer Docs
- About WordPress
- Codex Resources
- Community portal
- Current events
- Recent changes
- Random page
- Help

It’s on the Codex, on the Theme Development page http://codex.wordpress.org/Theme_Development

Theme Testing Process

1. Fix PHP and WordPress errors. Add the following debug setting to your `wp-config.php` file to see deprecated function calls and other WordPress-related errors: `define('WP_DEBUG', true);`. See [Deprecated Functions Hook](#) for more information.
2. Check template files against [Template File Checklist](#) (see above).
3. Do a run-through using the [Theme Unit Test](#).
4. Validate HTML and CSS. See [Validating a Website](#).
5. Check for JavaScript errors.
6. Test in all your target browsers. For example, IE7, IE8, IE9, Safari, Chrome, Opera, and Firefox.
7. Clean up any extraneous comments, debug settings, or TODO items.
8. See [Theme Review](#) if you are publicly releasing the Theme by submitting it to the Themes Directory.

Resources and References

Code Standards

- [Know Your Sources](#)
- [WordPress Coding Standards](#)
- [CSS Coding Standards](#)

Theme Design

- [Site Design and Layout](#)

CSS

- [CSS](#)
- [CSS Shorthand](#)
- [WordPress Generated Classes](#)

Templates

- [Stepping Into Templates](#)
- [Templates](#)
- [Template Hierarchy](#)
- [Template Tags](#)
- [The Loop](#)

Codex theme testing checklist
But ... let's make it even simpler

[http://codex.wordpress.org/
Theme_Development#Theme_Testing_Process](http://codex.wordpress.org/Theme_Development#Theme_Testing_Process)

1. Visual

2. Code

Much of these tips and tricks apply to plugin and themes
Themes have a much richer visual component, though
So requires a double whammy: code quality, visual quality

1. Visual

2. Code

3. Beer

Forgot one!

Part 1

Visual quality

Visual testing

http://codex.wordpress.org/Theme_Unit_Test

Theme Unit Test

Languages: English • 日本語 • (Add your language)

(Last Edited: 2011-11-21)

This step in Theme testing correlates to a WordPress export (WXR) file that you can import into a WordPress installation to test your Theme. To be clear, this is only one step in testing your Theme. See Theme testing for a full guide.

Setup

Test Environment Setup

1. Download test data: https://wpcom-themes.svn.automattic.com/demo/test-data.2011-01-17.xml
2. Import test data into your WordPress install. Do this by going to Tools -> Import.
3. Read How To Join WPTRT, and follow all test-environment setup instructions

WordPress Settings

Adjust WordPress settings as follows:

- Settings -> General: set the Site Title to something fairly long, and set the Tagline to something even longer. These settings will facilitate testing how the Theme handles these values.
- Settings -> Reading: set "Blog pages show at most" to 5. This setting will ensure that index/archives pagination is displayed

Contents

- [hide]
- 1 Setup
 - 1.1 Test Environment Setup
 - 1.2 WordPress Settings
 - 2 Template Hierarchy Index Pages
 - 3 Static Front Page
 - 4 404 Page
 - 5 Search Results Page
 - 6 Blog Posts Index Page
 - 6.1 Scheduled Post
 - 6.2 Draft Post
 - 6.3 Layout Test
 - 6.4 Readability Test
 - 6.5 Post Format Tests (All)
 - 6.6 Post Format Test: Gallery

- Home Page
- WordPress Lessons
- Getting Started
- Working with WordPress
- Design and Layout
- Advanced Topics
- Troubleshooting
- Developer Docs
- About WordPress
- Codex Resources
- Community portal
- Current events
- Recent changes
- Random page
- Help

One item to highlight on that list is the Theme Unit Test
My process is pushing the theme to extremes to simulate real usage
I have to remember I can only test so much
As some point I have to share it and see how it goes

Post With Long Title

Long Post Title with long non-breaking string: **If you say it loud enough, you'll always sound precocious; Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!**

- Test title line height
- Look for potential overflow issues if the theme has a small title area

This Post Has No Body

- Post displays properly and should not impact the layout.

(no title)

- Post displays properly.
- A link to the singular view of the post is recommended to be displayed. Making the post date a permalink (see Twenty Ten for an example) is a great solution.

Many Categories / Many Tags

- Theme incorporates both the "Tag" and "Category" taxonomies in some manner
- Category links work correctly.
- Categories display properly without adversely impacting design.
- Tag links work correctly.
- Tags display properly without adversely impacting design.

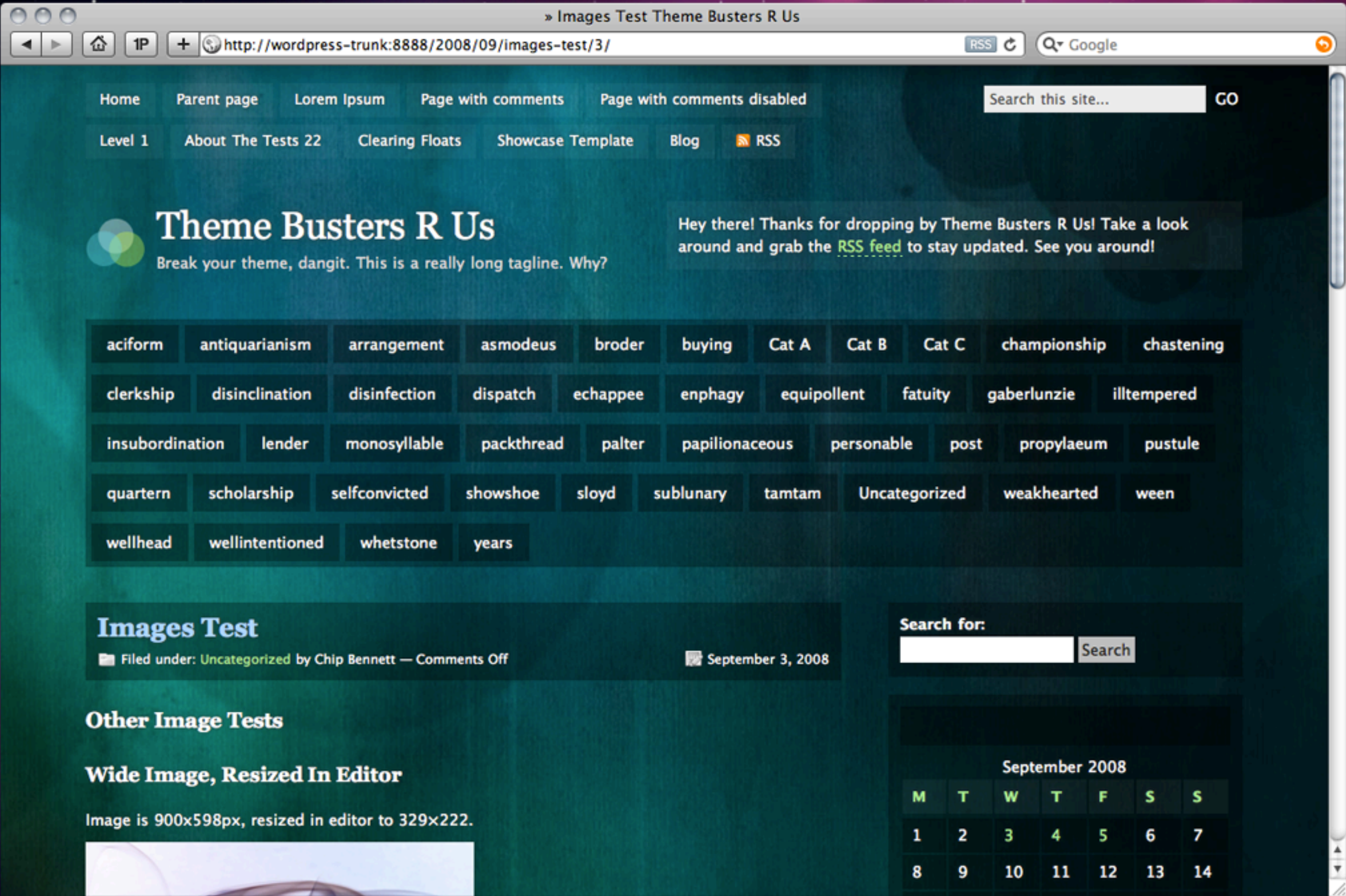
Protected Test With Secret Password

- Password input form displays properly.
- When correct password (`secret`) is entered, the post and comments are displayed.

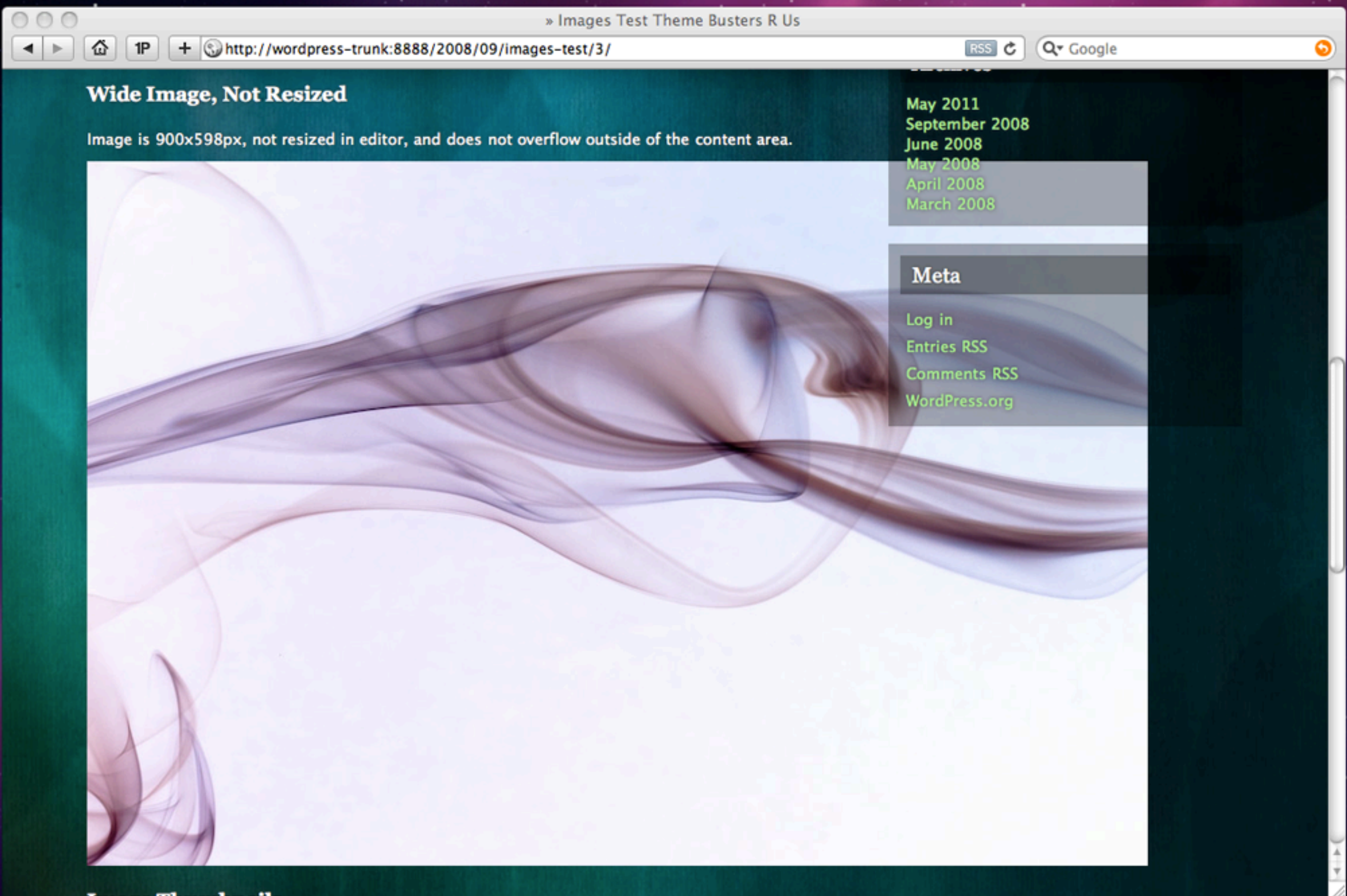
Comment Test

- Comments are displayed correctly.
- Threaded comments display correctly.
- Comment pagination displays correctly.
- Author comment is styled (as appropriate).
- User avatars are displayed properly.

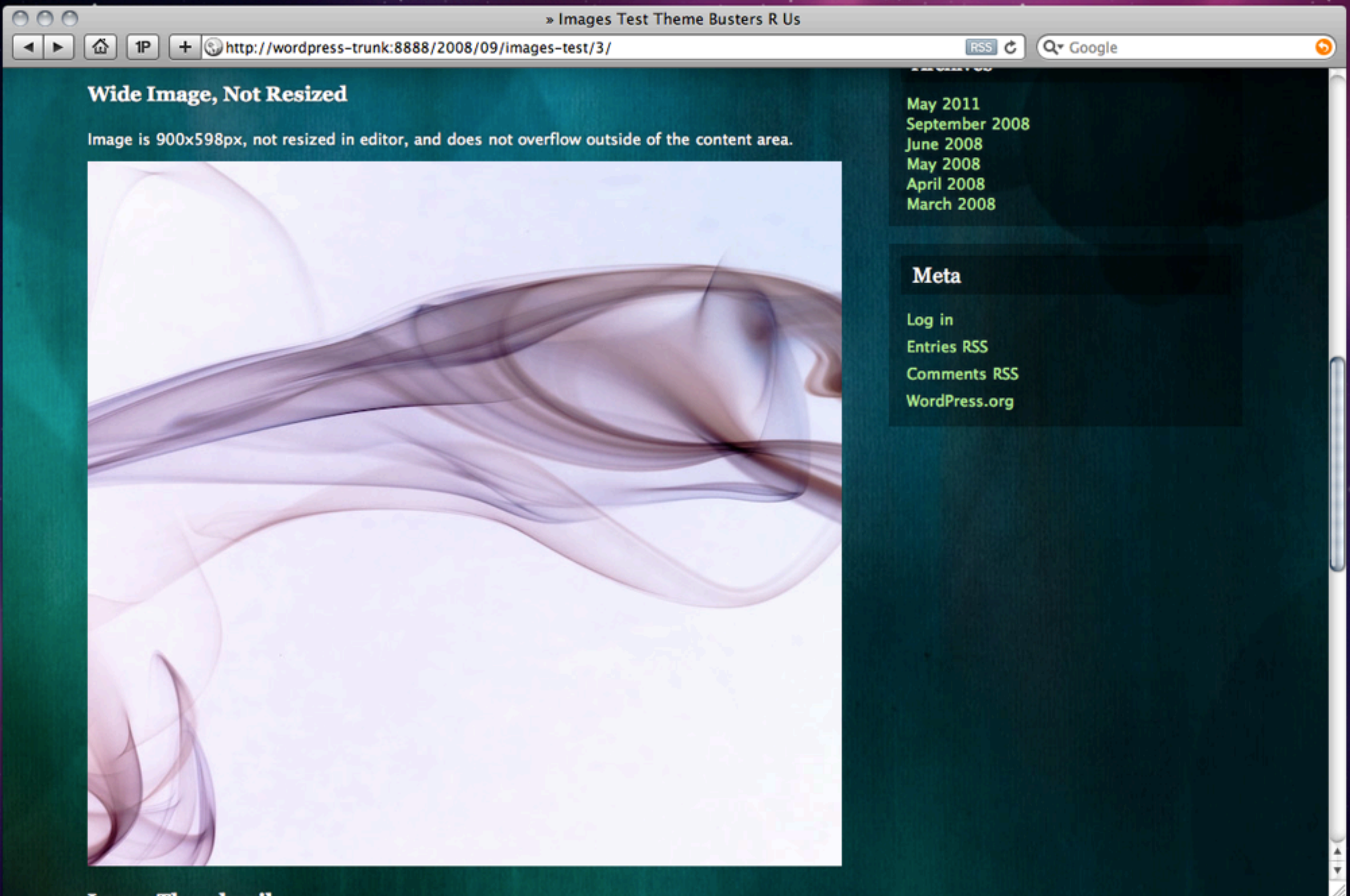
Each one of these visual tests corresponds with posts or pages in the test data



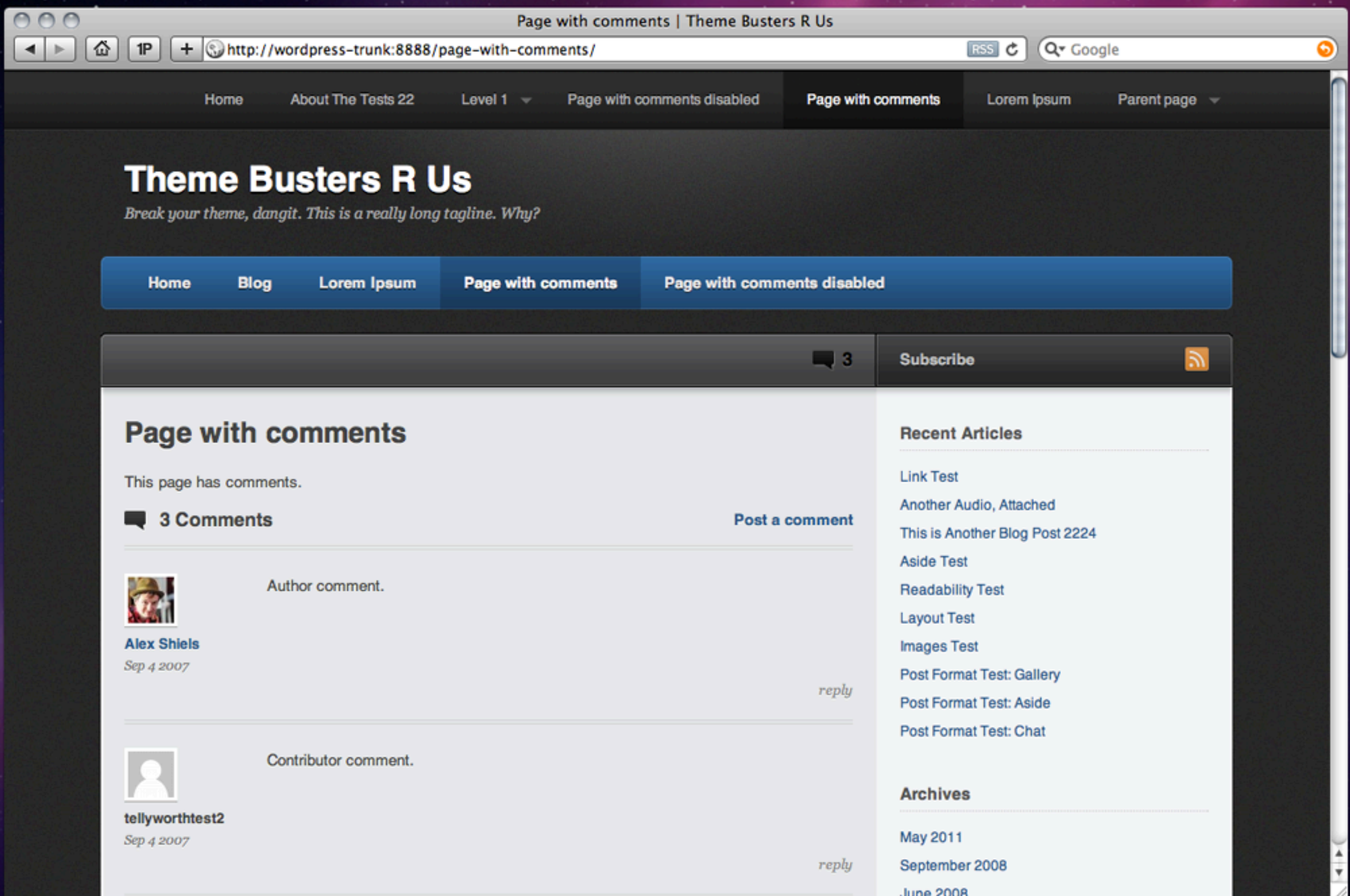
Motion, a theme I launched on WP.com
It's now in our top 10 most popular
Example 1: Huge images
<http://theme.wordpress.com/themes/motion/>



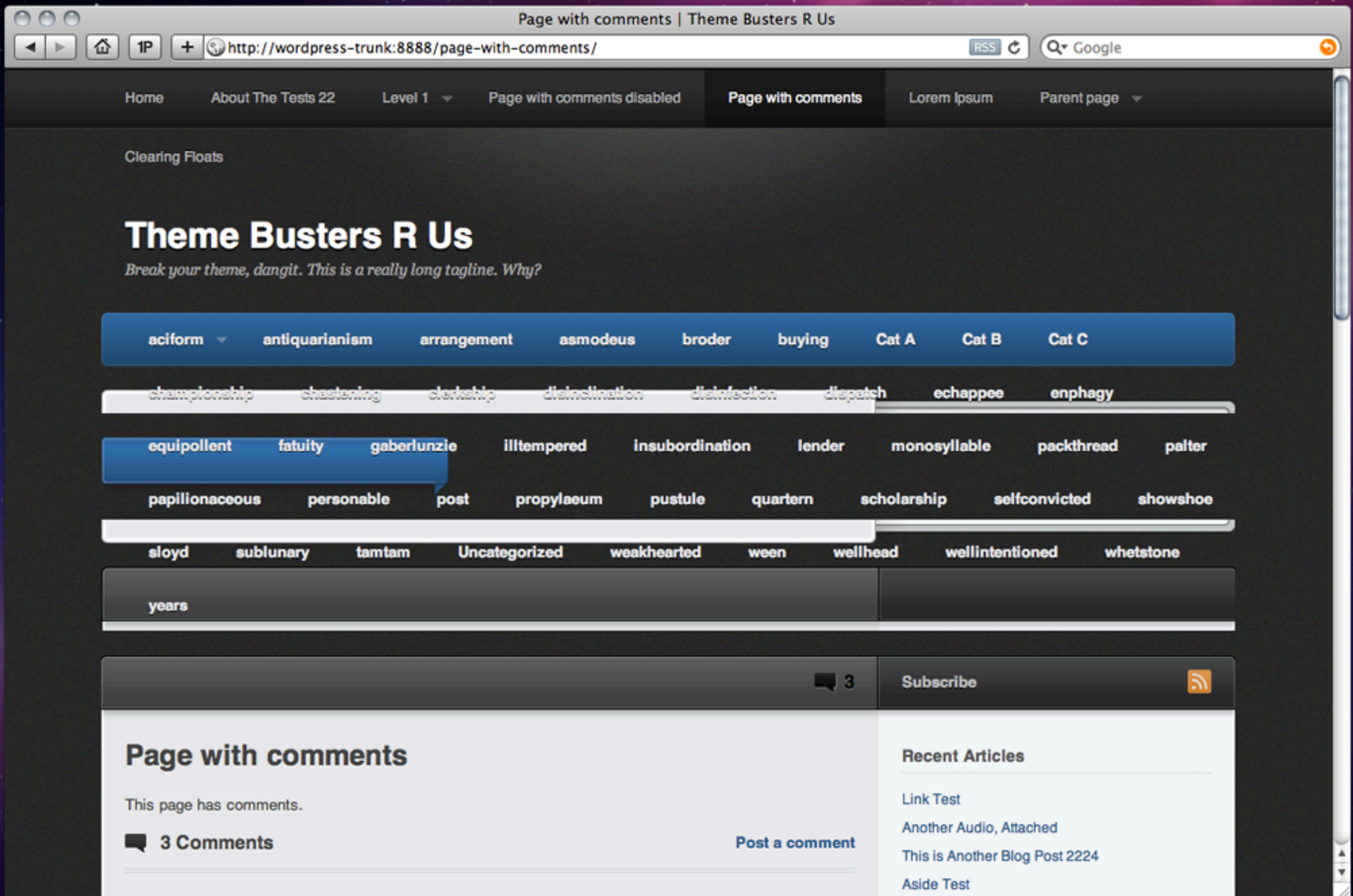
Full-size images uploaded, do they fit in the main content?



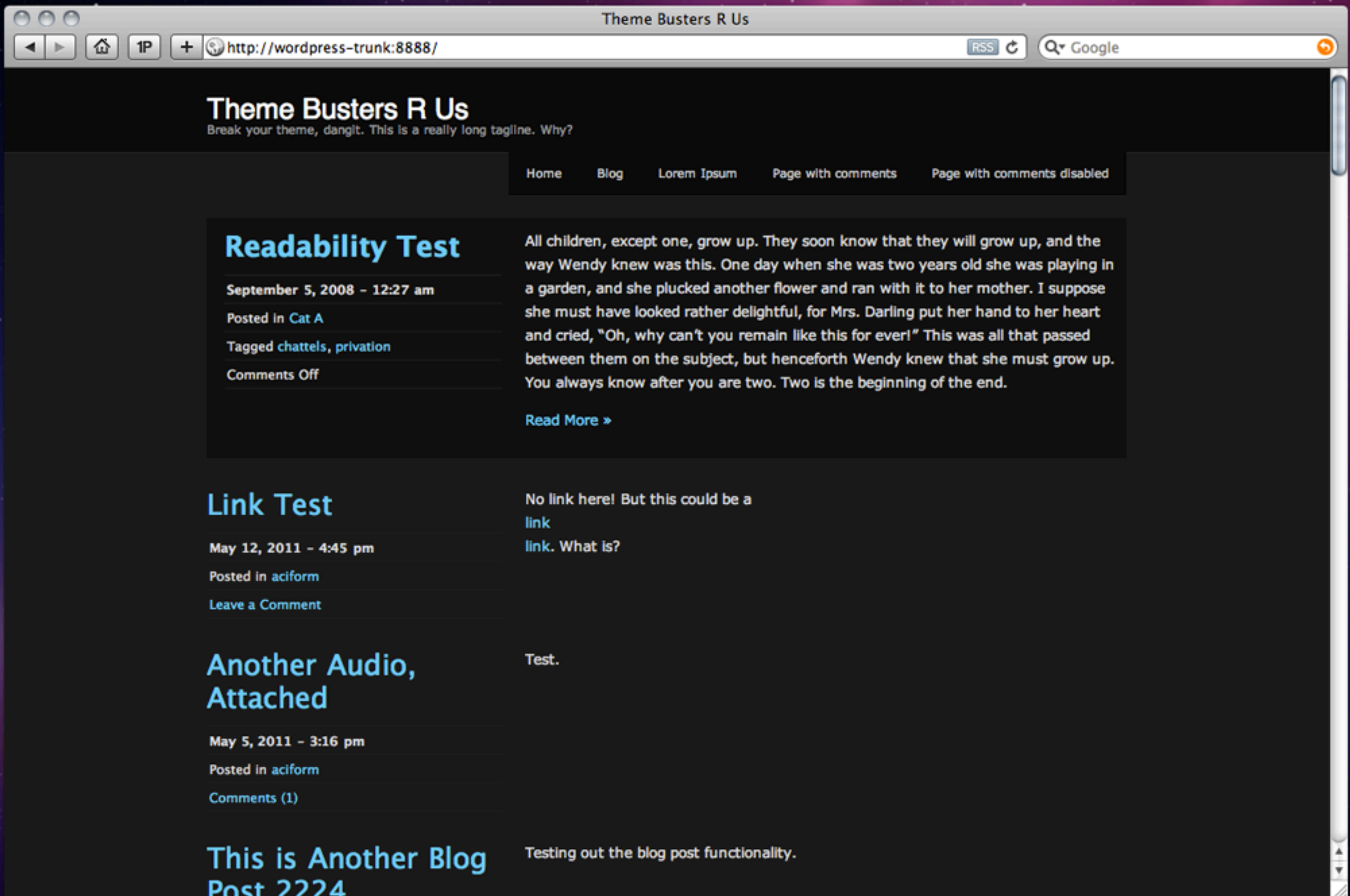
HTML attribute adjustments by users
Maybe pasting in an image URL from Flickr or somewhere else



This is Traction, a cool theme for The Theme Foundry
<http://thethemefoundry.com/traction/>



Example 2: Too many menu items
This can happen when you use a custom menu
or if your site has a lot of pages



Example 3: Super long titles
This is ChaosTheory, a theme developed for WP.com
That I recently revamped and released to WP.org
<http://wordpress.org/extend/themes/chaos-theory/>

Posts < Theme Busters R Us — WordPress

◀▶🏠1P+

Ⓜhttp://wordpress-trunk:8888/wp-admin/edit.php?paged=2

↻

🔍Google

🏠Dashboard

📌Posts

All Posts

Add New

Categories

Post Tags

🖼️Media

🔗Links

📄Pages

💬Comments

🖨️Appearance

🔧Plugins

👤Users

🔧Tools

⚙️Settings

⏪Collapse menu

🌐Theme Busters R Us

Howdy, admin

📌Posts

Add New

🔍

Search Posts

All (29) | Published (26) | Sticky (1) | Scheduled (1) | Drafts (2) | Trash (1)

Bulk Actions

Apply

Show all dates

View all categories

Filter

📄📑29 items

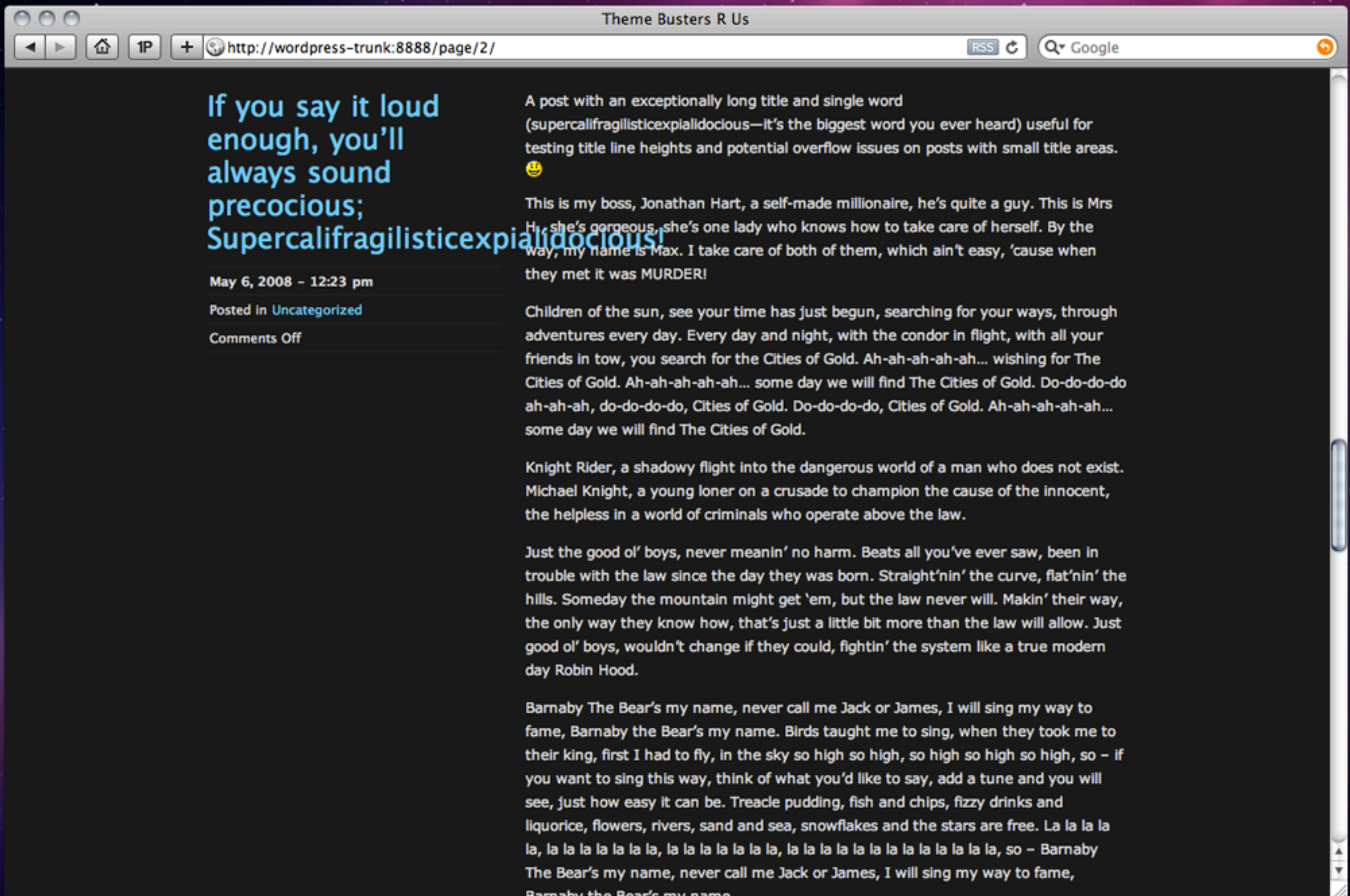
◀◁2of 2▶▶

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Author	Categories	Tags	🗨️	Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	If you say it loud enough, you'll always sound precocious; Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!	Ian Stewart	Uncategorized	No Tags	0	2008/05/06 Published
<input type="checkbox"/>	This post has no body	Chip Bennett	Uncategorized	No Tags	0	2008/05/05 Published
<input type="checkbox"/>	(no title)	Chip Bennett	Uncategorized	No Tags	0	2008/05/04 Published
<input type="checkbox"/>	Many Categories	Chip Bennett	aciform, antiquarianism, arrangement, asmodeus, broder, buying, championship, chastening, clerkship, disinclination, disinfection, dispatch, echappee, enphagy, equipollent, fatuity, gaberlunzie, illtempered, insubordination, lender, monosyllable, packthread, palter, papillionaceous, personable, propylaeum, pustule, quatern, scholarship, selfannulated	No Tags	0	2008/05/03 Published

Super long title!

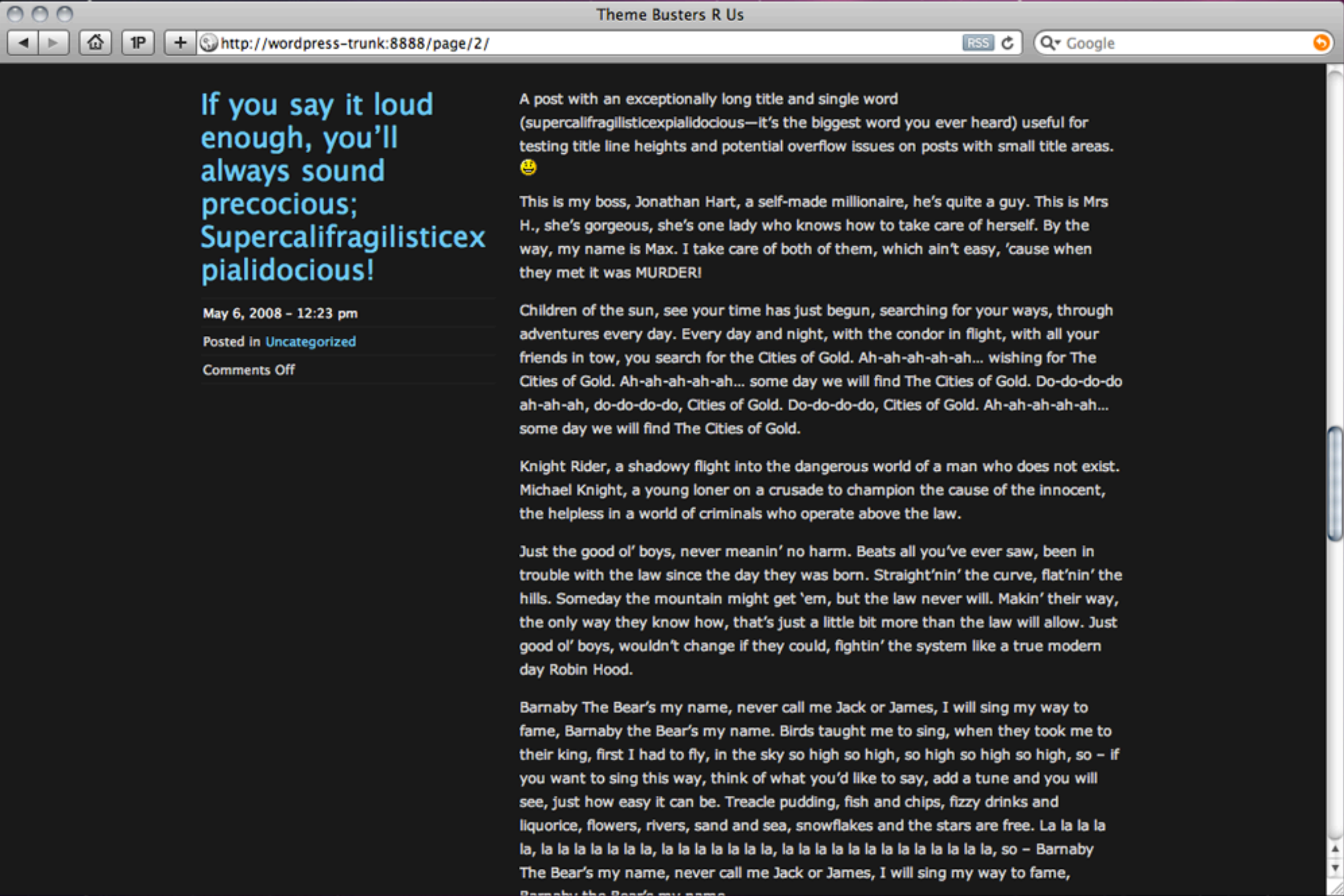
	Bulk Actions	Apply	Show all dates	View all categories	Filter
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Author	Categories	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	If you say it loud enough, you'll always sound precocious; Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!	Ian Stewart	Uncategoriz	

If you say it fast enough ...



In this case someone may type the title like sentence

1. can the theme gracefully handle long titles? (layout stable)
2. does the title look good if it's wrapped to two lines (line-height)



Better :)

Content

What do these examples have in common?
The theme breakage comes not from bugs in the code, or the server environment
No, it's content that's entered into WP that the theme has trouble displaying



Give you a quick look inside my head
Don't worry it's safe
This is what I picture when I'm breaking themes
Car bashing is fun!

Content = Hammer

Content is my hammer
Images of all shapes and sizes
Crazy long posts
Make huge galleries
Add as much data and content as you can. The more the better.



Variety
Quantity
Use real content if you can
Real content means you can break things more spectacularly

Part 2

Code quality

Use WP_DEBUG

Nuff said
It's like turning on a light, you start seeing the creepy, crawly things

```
<?php
/**
 * For developers: WordPress debugging mode.
 *
 * Change this to true to enable the display of notices during development.
 * It is strongly recommended that plugin and theme developers use WP_DEBUG
 * in their development environments.
 */
define( 'WP_DEBUG', true );
define( 'WP_DEBUG_LOG', true );
define( 'WP_DEBUG_DISPLAY', false ); // change to true if Debug Bar is off
define( 'SCRIPT_DEBUG', true );
```

In your wp-config.php file

http://codex.wordpress.org/Editing_wp-config.php#Debug

Essential plugins

Activate these plugins when you're testing locally
Not recommended for production use, unless you know how to set it up correctly

- Extend Home
- Plugins
 - Developer Center
- Themes
- Mobile
- Ideas
- Kvetch!
- Search Plugins
- Popular Tags

Search

More »
- widget (2477)
- Post (1672)
- plugin (1488)
- posts (1249)
- admin (1237)
- sidebar (1202)
- comments (881)
- images (809)
- twitter (778)

koop.local	PHP	MySQL	Memory Usage
#1	5.3.6	5.5.9	3,708,912 bytes

Queries

WP Query

Request

Debug Bar

TOTAL QUERIES:

12

TOTAL QUERY TIME:





14.3 ms

SELECT option_name, option_value FROM wpdev_options WHERE autoload = wp_not_installed, is_blog_installed, wp_load_alloptions

Adds a debug menu to the admin bar that shows query, cache, and other helpful debugging information.

Download Version 0.8

Description Installation Changelog Stats

Authors:  wordpressdotorg,  ryan,  westi,  koopersmith,  duck_,  mitchoyoshitaka

Adds a debug menu to the admin bar that shows query, cache, and other helpful debugging information.

A must for developers!

Requires: 3.1 or higher
Compatible up to: 3.3.1
Last Updated: 2011-12-12
Downloads: 12,453

Average Rating

★★★★★

Debug Bar

<http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/debug-bar/>

Theme Busters R Us

Plugins < Theme Busters R Us —... x Theme Busters R Us x +

wordpress-trunk:8888

Theme Busters R Us 1 + New Debug Howdy, admin |

octavix	PHP	MySQL	Memory Usage
#1	5.2.11	5.1.37	18,330,104 bytes

Notices / Warnings

Request

Object Cache

TOTAL WARNINGS: 1

TOTAL NOTICES: 0

WARNING: wp-includes/plugin.php:170 - call_user_func_array() [function.call-user-func-array]: First argument is expected to be a valid callback, 'post_flair_hooks' was given
require('wp-blog-header.php'), require_once('wp-includes/template-loader.php'),
include('/Users/lance/Source/svn/svn.automattic.com/wpcom/trunk/wp-content/themes/pub/p2/index.php'), p2_load_entry, get_template_part, locate_template, load_template,
require('/Users/lance/Source/svn/svn.automattic.com/wpcom/trunk/wp-content/themes/pub/p2/entry.php'), p2_quote_content, p2_get_quote_content,
apply_filters('p2_get_quote_content'), call_user_func_array

Example of Debug Bar in action

- Extend Home
- Plugins
 - Developer Center
- Themes
- Mobile
- Ideas
- Kvetch!

Search Plugins

Search


Popular Tags [More »](#)

- [widget \(2477\)](#)
- [Post \(1672\)](#)
- [plugin \(1488\)](#)
- [posts \(1249\)](#)
- [admin \(1237\)](#)
- [sidebar \(1202\)](#)
- [comments \(881\)](#)
- [images \(809\)](#)
- [twitter \(778\)](#)

Log Deprecated Notices

Logs the usage of deprecated files, functions, and function arguments, and identifies where the deprecated functionality is being used.

[Description](#)[Installation](#)[Screenshots](#)[Other Notes](#)[Stats](#)

Author:  [nacin](#)

This plugin logs the usage of deprecated files, functions, and function arguments. It identifies where the deprecated functionality is being used and offers the alternative if available.

This is a plugin for developers. WP_DEBUG is not needed, though its general usage is strongly recommended. Deprecated notices normally exposed by WP_DEBUG will be logged instead.

This plugin also logs incorrect function usage, which WordPress started reporting in 3.1.

Please report any bugs to plugins at [andrewnacin.com](#), or find me in IRC #wordpress-dev or [@nacin](#) on Twitter.

This is young software. It works, but there's a lot left on the todo (check out the Other Notes tab). Have an idea? Let me know.


Download Version 0.2

Requires: 3.0 or higher
Compatible up to: 3.4-alpha
Last Updated: 2011-2-9
Downloads: 4,454

Average Rating

★★★★★
(23 ratings)

FYI
[Other Versions »](#)
[Subversion Repository »](#)

 [Forums Posts](#)
 [Development Log](#)

Compatibility

Log Deprecated Notices
wordpress.org/extend/plugins/log-deprecated-notices/

Deprecated Calls < Theme Busters R Us — WordPress

Deprecated Calls < Theme Buste... x Theme Busters R Us x +

wordpress-trunk:8888/wp-admin/edit.php?post_type=deprecated_log

Theme Busters R Us 1 + New Deprecated Calls Debug Howdy, admin |

Screen Options

Deprecated Calls

Log (23)

Bulk Actions Apply Show all dates Show all types Since Filter Clear Log

23 items « 1 of 2 »

<input type="checkbox"/>	Deprecated Call	Alternative	Count	Last Used
<input type="checkbox"/>	Function: add_custom_background() Used in Users/lance/Source /svn/svn.automattic.com/wpcom/trunk /wp-content/themes/pub/p2/functions.php on line 690.	Use add_theme_support('custom-background', \$args) instead. Deprecated in version 3.4.	110	2012/03/23 5:15:09 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Function: add_custom_image_header() Used in Users/lance/Source /svn/svn.automattic.com/wpcom/trunk /wp-content/themes/pub/p2/functions.php on line 632.	Use add_theme_support('custom-header', \$args) instead. Deprecated in version 3.4.	110	2012/03/23 5:15:09 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Argument in get_plugin_data() Used in wp-content/plugins/wordpress-hook-sniffer/wp-hook-sniffer.php.	The <code>Site Wide Only: true</code> plugin header is deprecated. Use <code>Network: true</code> instead. Deprecated in version 3.0.	8	2012/03/23 5:12:50 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Function: add_custom_image_header() Used in Users/lance/Source /svn/svn.automattic.com/wpcom/trunk /wp-content/themes/pub/blaskan/functions.php on line 70.	Use add_theme_support('custom-header', \$args) instead. Deprecated in version 3.4.	28	2012/03/23 4:28:27 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Function: add_custom_background() Used in Users/lance/Source /svn/svn.automattic.com/wpcom/trunk /wp-content/themes/pub/blaskan/functions.php on line 59.	Use add_theme_support('custom-background', \$args) instead. Deprecated in version 3.4.	28	2012/03/23 4:28:27 AM

Example of Log Deprecated Notices in action

Plugin Directory

Username Password [Log in](#) (forgot?) or [Register](#)

[Extend Home](#)

[Plugins](#)

▪ [Developer Center](#)

[Themes](#)

[Mobile](#)

[Ideas](#)

[Kvetch!](#)

[Search Plugins](#)

[Search](#)

[Popular Tags](#) [More »](#)

[widget \(2477\)](#)

[Post \(1672\)](#)

[plugin \(1488\)](#)

[posts \(1249\)](#)

[admin \(1237\)](#)

[sidebar \(1202\)](#)

[comments \(881\)](#)

[images \(809\)](#)

[twitter \(778\)](#)

Log Deprecated Notices Extender

This developer-oriented WordPress plugin extends Andrew Nacin's Log Deprecated Notices to show a link in the WP 3.3+ Toolbar.

[Download Version 0.1.2](#)

[Description](#) [Installation](#) [FAQ](#) [Screenshots](#) [Changelog](#) [Stats](#)

Author: [jkudish](#)

This developer-oriented WordPress plugin extends Log Deprecated Notices to show a link in the WP 3.3+ Toolbar. Based on [Andrew Nacin's Log Deprecated Notices](#)

This plugin is built and maintained by [Joachim Kudish](#).

[Follow development](#) [fork and contribute on github](#)

Requires: 3.3 or higher

Compatible up to: 3.4-alpha

Last Updated: 2012-1-14

Downloads: 101

Average Rating



Log Deprecated Notices Extender, by Joey Kudish (speaking next)
wordpress.org/extend/plugins/log-deprecated-notices-extender/

Plugin Directory

Username Password Log in (forgot?) or Register

Extend Home

Plugins

Developer Center

Themes

Mobile

Ideas

Kvetch!

Search Plugins

Search

Popular Tags More »

widget (2477)

Post (1672)

plugin (1488)

posts (1249)

admin (1237)

sidebar (1202)

comments (881)

images (809)

twitter (778)

Theme-Check

A simple and easy way to test your theme for all the latest WordPress standards and practices. A great theme development tool!

Download Version 20110805.1

Description FAQ Other Notes Changelog Stats

Authors: pross, Otto42

The theme check plugin is an easy way to test your theme and make sure it's up to spec with the latest theme review standards. With it, you can run all the same automated testing tools on your theme that WordPress.org uses for theme submissions.

The tests are run through a simple admin menu and all results are displayed at once. This is very handy for theme developers, or anybody looking to make sure that their theme supports the latest WordPress theme standards and practices.

Tags: check, checker, guideline, review, template, test, theme, tool, upload, uploader, wordpress, wordpress.org

Requires: 3.0 or higher
Compatible up to: 3.2.1
Last Updated: 2011-8-5
Downloads: 39,120

Average Rating

★★★★★
(49 ratings)

FYI

Other Versions »
Subversion Repository »

Forums Posts
Development Log

Compatibility

Theme-Check
wordpress.org/extend/plugins/theme-check/

Theme Check < Theme Busters R Us — WordPress

Theme Check < Theme Busters R Us

wordpress-trunk:8888/wp-admin/themes.php?page=themecheck

Theme Busters R Us 1 + New Deprecated Calls 3 Debug Howdy, admin


Dashboard Posts Media Links Pages Comments Appearance Themes Widgets Menus Theme Check Theme Options Header Background Editor Plugins 1 Users Tools Settings Collapse menu

Theme-Check

P2 ☐ Suppress INFO.

Theme Info:

Title	P2
Version	1.3.4-wpcom
Author	Automattic
Author URI	http://automattic.com/
Theme URI	http://p2theme.com/
License	GNU General Public License v2.0
LicenseURI	http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html
Tags	blue, two-columns, fixed-width, rtl-language-support, right-sidebar, white, light, front-page-post-form, translation-ready, blog, education, lifestream, productivity, clean, corporate, geometric, light, minimal, modern
Description	A group blog theme for short update messages, inspired by Twitter. Featuring: Hassle-free posting from the front page. Perfect for group blogging, or as a liveblog theme. Dynamic page updates. Threaded comment display on the front page. In-line editing for posts and comments. Live tag suggestion based on previously used tags. A show/hide feature for comments, to keep things tidy. Real-time notifications when a new comment or update is posted. Super-handly keyboard shortcuts. Helvetica Neue for you modern font lovers.

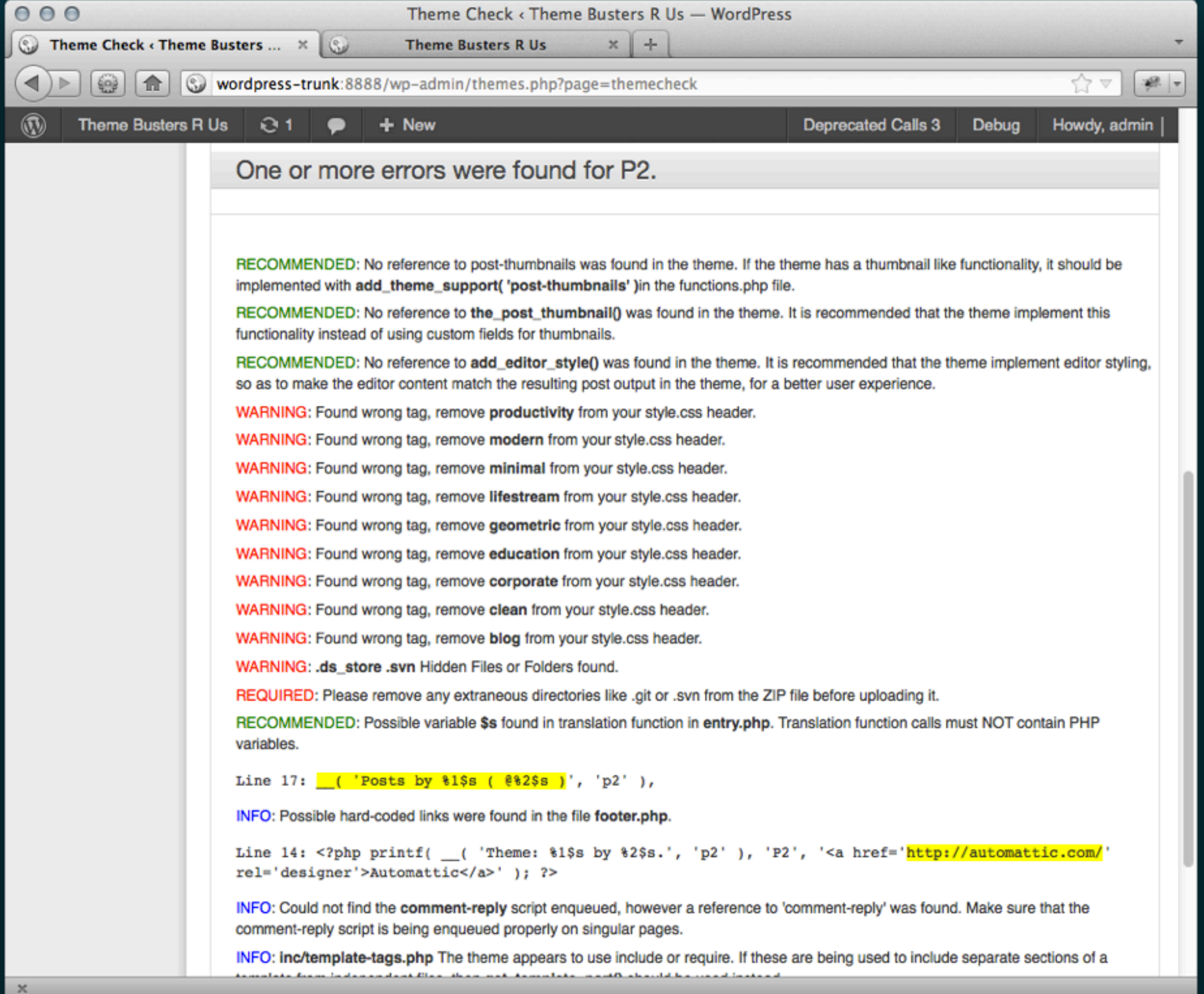


320x240 23k

Running 10648 tests against P2 using Guidelines Version: 20110805 Plugin revision: 1

One or more errors were found for P2.

Running Theme-Check on the P2 theme



D'oh, errors
Well, not too bad
But you see the example of the output from Theme-Check

Automatic / vip-scanner

Watch

Fork

15

5

Code	Network	Pull Requests0	Issues3	Stats & Graphs
------	---------	----------------	---------	----------------

Scan all sorts of themes and files and things! — [Read more](#)
<http://automatic.com>

ZIP

HTTP

Git Read-Only

<https://github.com/Automattic/vip-scanner.git>

Read-Only access

branch: master

Files

Commits


Branches1

Tags

Downloads










Latest commit to the master branch

Merge pull request #6 from lancewillett/master

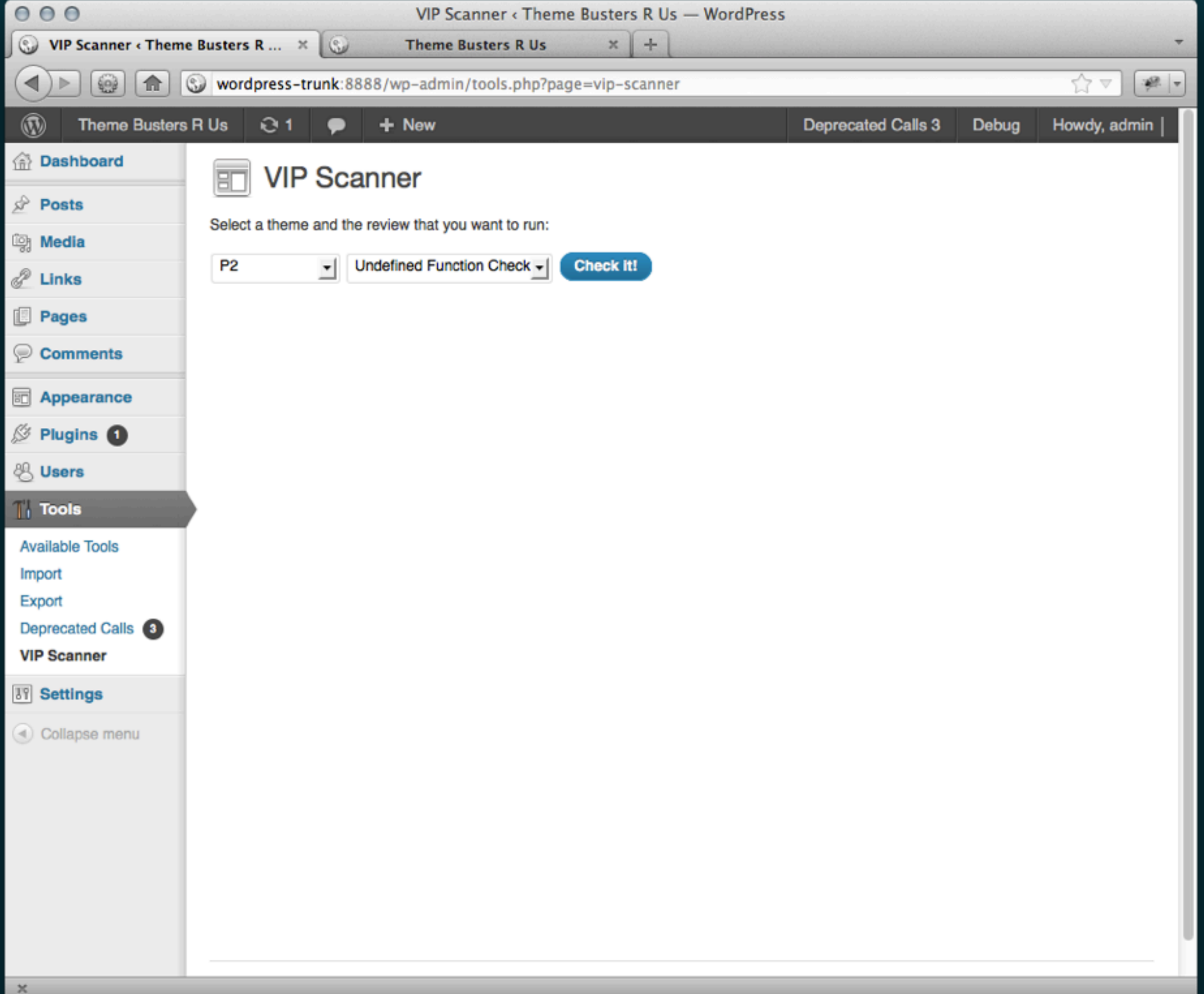
 mjangda authored a day ago

commit ba5c7dfd8f

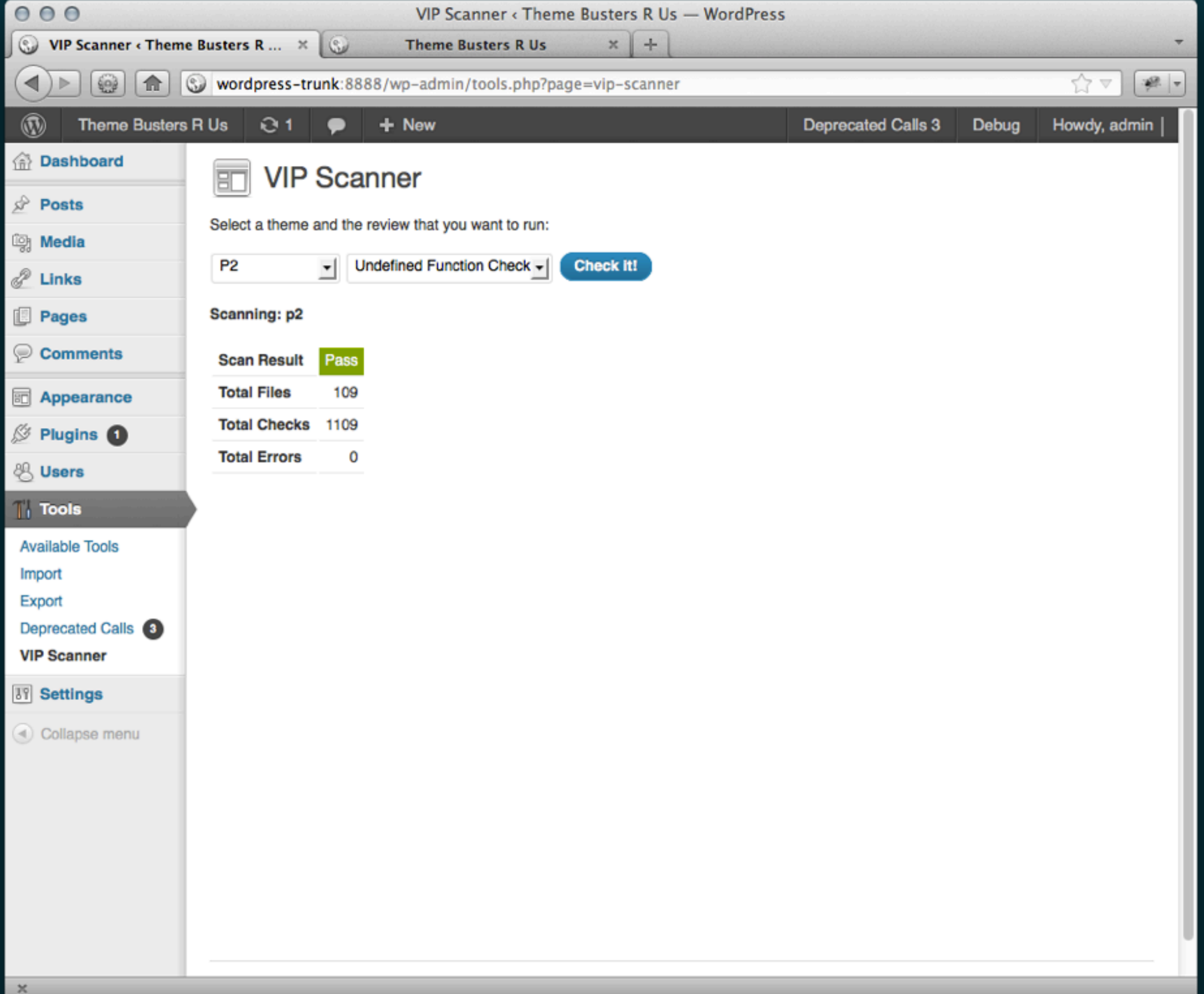
vip-scanner /

name	age	message	history
 css	2 days ago	CSS code standards and cleanup [lancewillett]	
 vip-scanner-wpcom	2 days ago	Pinking shears [lancewillett]	
 vip-scanner	2 days ago	Pinking shears [lancewillett]	
 .gitignore	a month ago	Adding gitignore [mjangda]	
 readme.md	a month ago	2nd pass a readme.md [mfields]	
 readme.txt	a month ago	Initial commit. Copying files over from http://plugins.svn.wordpress... [mjangda]	
 screenshot-1.png	a month ago	Initial commit. Copying files over from http://plugins.svn.wordpress... [mjangda]	
 vip-scanner-wpcom.php	a month ago	Initial commit. Copying files over from http://plugins.svn.wordpress... [mjangda]	
 vip-scanner.php	2 days ago	Add datestamp to CSS enqueue, remove debug var dump(), use wp_get_the... [lancewillett]	

VIP scanner from Automattic
github.com/Automattic/vip-scanner



This is what the VIP scanner looks like in wp-admin, Tools menu



Running an Undefined Functions check
Pass!

VIP Scanner < Theme Busters R Us — WordPress

VIP Scanner < Theme Busters R Us ... x Theme Busters R Us x +

wordpress-trunk:8888/wp-admin/tools.php?page=vip-scanner

Theme Busters R Us 1 + New Deprecated Calls 3 Debug Howdy, admin |

Dashboard Posts Media Links Pages Comments Appearance Plugins 1 Users Tools

Available Tools Import Export Deprecated Calls 3 VIP Scanner Settings Collapse menu

VIP Scanner

Select a theme and the review that you want to run:

P2 WP.com Theme Review **Check it!**

Scanning: p2

Scan Result	Fail
Total Files	109
Total Checks	29
Total Errors	7

- blocker** No HTML5 doctype could be found in header.php.
- blocker** archive.php could not be found.
- blocker** image.php could not be found.
- blocker** attachment.php was found in the theme. Please remove.
- blocker** Please use `esc_attr_e()` to echo internationalized text in html attributes. entry.php: 38
`<a href="<?php the_permalink(); ?>" class="thepermalink" title="<?php _e('Permalink', 'p2'); ?>"><?php`
- blocker** Please use `esc_attr_e()` to echo internationalized text in html attributes. entry.php: 50
`if (current_user_can('edit_post', get_the_ID())) : ?> | <a href="<?php echo (get_edit_post_link(get`
- blocker** Please use `esc_attr_e()` to echo internationalized text in html attributes. functions.php: 291
`<a class="thepermalink" href="<?php echo esc_url(get_comment_link()); ?>" title="<?php _e('Permalink',`

Running the WP.com theme review
FAIL! :)

Example of the error results

My process

Here's how I do my a theme review, aka breaking a theme

My process

Run Theme-Check and VIP scanner

Look at each file line by line

Watch for database queries, option calls,
post meta

Make fixes ... look again

Check Debug Bar and deprecated notices
Looking at the database queries, see if anything is unexpected
Test with dummy data to catch obvious things
Make fixes, look at it again ...

My process

Templates: Theme_Development checklist

Visual: Theme_Unit_Test checklist

Test with *real* data

Check for HTML, CSS, JS errors

1. Do a visual check -- only after the code is stable, major bugs are fixed
2. Check templates against the Theme_Development checklist on Codex, take notes
3. Run through Theme Unit Test, take notes -- with **real data** (not just dummy data)
4. Look through theme files again
5. Checking for CSS, HTML, JS, PHP errors

PHP syntax

```
find . -type f -name \*.php -exec php -l {} \;
```

I save it as a shell alias for `phpe`
To run it quickly inside a theme directory
alias phpe='find . -type f -name *.php -exec php -l {} \;'


```
lance — screen — Solarized Dark ansi — 118x35
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/list-creator.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/mentions.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/options-page.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/search.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/template-tags.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/terms-in-comments.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/utils.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/widgets/recent-comments.php
No syntax errors detected in ./inc/widgets/recent-tags.php
No syntax errors detected in ./index.php
No syntax errors detected in ./page.php
No syntax errors detected in ./post-form.php
No syntax errors detected in ./search.php
No syntax errors detected in ./sidebar.php
No syntax errors detected in ./single.php
No syntax errors detected in ./tag.php
octavix:p2 lance$ phpe
```

Sample output of the PHP syntax check

MOAR debugging

<http://wordpress.tv/2011/09/02/andrew-nacin-debugging-in-wordpress/>

<http://nacin.com/2010/04/23/5-ways-to-debug-wordpress/>

More debugging

From WCSF 2011

<http://wordpress.tv/2011/09/02/andrew-nacin-debugging-in-wordpress/>

<http://nacin.com/2010/04/23/5-ways-to-debug-wordpress/>

Debugging is breaking

Philosophy of debugging
I think of debugging in two ways

Bugs

1. Looking for bugs, like ants or cockroaches
How do you find them? Turn on the light

Diamonds

2. A more positive, lucrative style of debugging
Digging for gold. "I dug up a diamond"



This is not stock photo, this is a real picture
My wife took on a trip to Arkansas to the Crater of Diamonds State
Park
This is NOT the usual way to look for diamonds ... but it was really
fun to watch :)
[http://www.flickr.com/photos/lance_mountain/454665204/in/
set-72157594534839900](http://www.flickr.com/photos/lance_mountain/454665204/in/set-72157594534839900)
Get down and dirty
You just might find a several million \$ stone that's been hiding there
all along

No one finds a bug by looking in the dark.

Only when you get down and dirty do you dig up diamonds.

—Fake Koans R Us

I offer you two fake koans, that I made up just for this talk

- No one finds a bug by looking in the dark
- Only when you get down and dirty do you dig up diamonds

1. Visual
2. Code
3. Debugging
4. Beer

The basic elements of theme breaking

This is actually a much-needed position in our community right now
Especially for themes
It's also a great way to learn advanced WP development since you'll
be teaching best practices

Code drunk, debug sober.

—(! Hemingway)

I think this is the perfect thought to leave you with
Had Hemingway been a coder, not a writer ...
Have no fear, break your theme, and have fun
Thank you!

Theme Busters R Us

Lance Willett
WordCamp San Diego 2012

@simplifiedream
<http://simplifiedream.net/>

Slides: themeslayer.com/busters/

Let's talk afterward in the hallway, at lunch, and at the dev day tomorrow

Grab the slides here: