

hi



BALTIMORE

*two thousand fourteen*

# Uncommon JavaScript Libraries in WordPress

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[rami.nu/WCBalt2014](http://rami.nu/WCBalt2014)

A large, dark blue, stylized logo consisting of the letters 'J' and 'S' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'J' is on the left and the 'S' is on the right, both with rounded terminals.

**What do you mean “uncommon”?**

Libraries not used in ‘typical’  
development.

Ok, but what is  
“typical development”?

I don't know.

# Some common JavaScript tasks:

Parse data from objects

Add/remove attributes of nodes

Add/remove nodes

Populate nodes

Animate nodes

Validate data

Make something wiggle a little on :hover

Time Travel



weeee

JavaScript!!!!



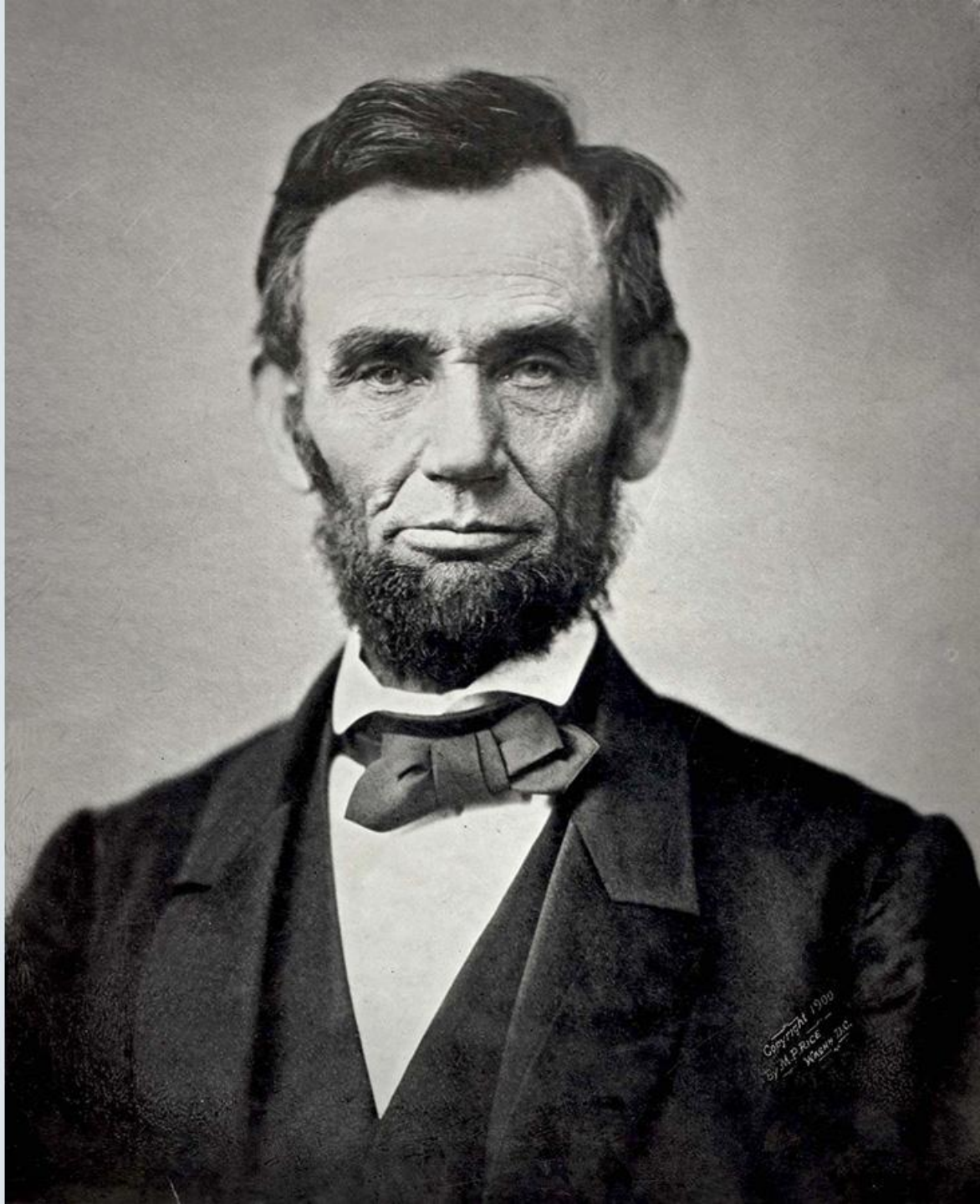
**JavaScript can do anything.**

But I try to live by  
these wise words...



“Never do with  
JavaScript what  
you can with...  
*not* JavaScript.”

- Abraham  
Lincoln



# A few libraries we're all familiar with:

jQuery

Grunt and Gulp

MooTools

Chosen

Backbone

Angular

Ember

Scriptaculous

*...yadda yadda who cares*

**There are two primary reasons  
...to use an unfamiliar JavaScript  
library...**

1. Use a different approach to solve a recurring problem.

# Why? Learn something new.

- Consider a fresh approach to an old problem
- Learn new skills
- Have fun
- Learning
- Learn
- Learn stuff
- Learn things about stuff

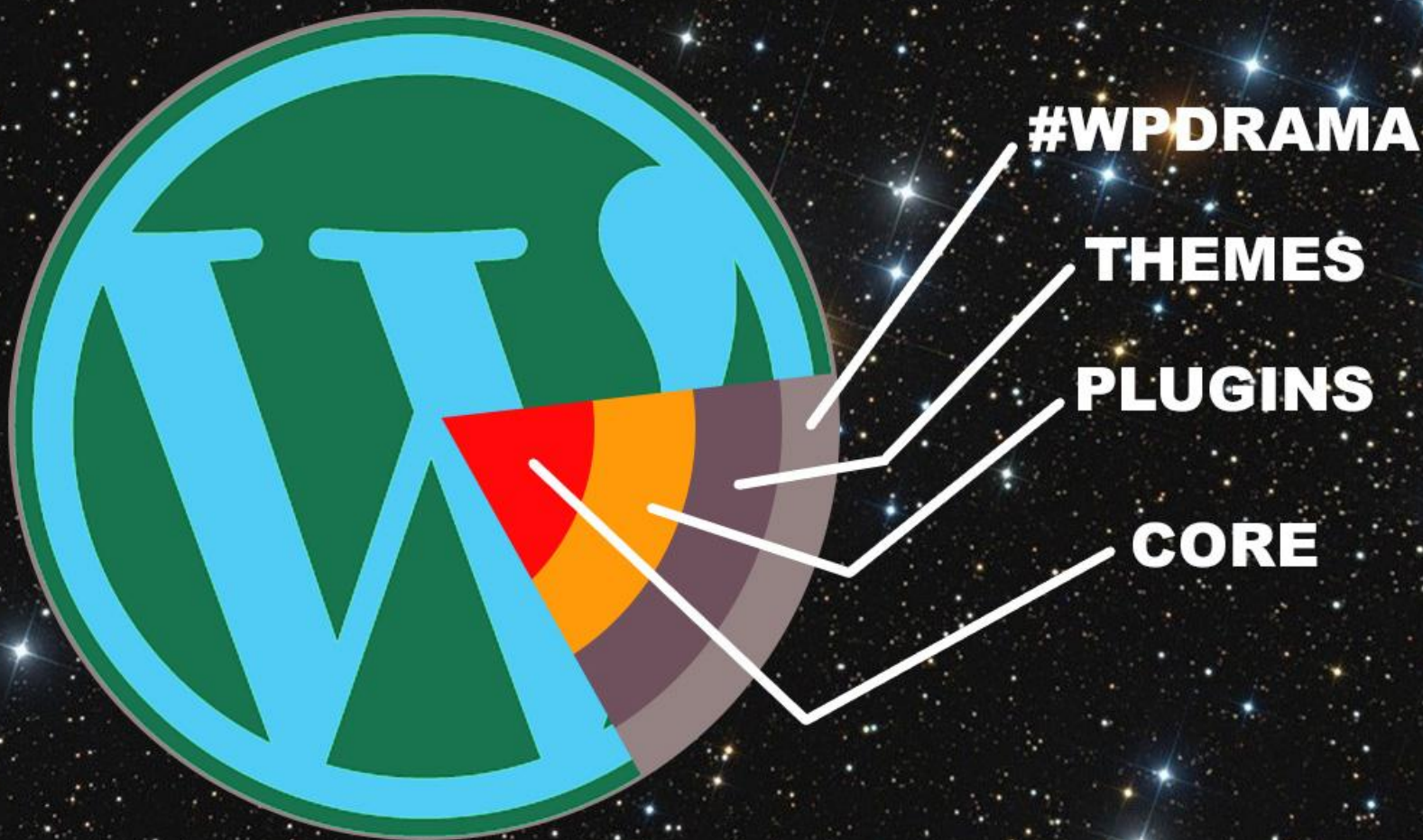
2. The new library is required by the project.

Ok, but what's included  
in *core*?



# Let's take a look...

WPMUDEV



jQuery (core, multiple sub-libraries)

jQuery UI (core, multiple sub-libraries)

Thickbox

Iris

MediaElement

TinyMCE

Underscore

Backbone

*..and some others, as well as core js, such as  
media-upload, admin-gallery, wp-ajax-response*

**There are many.**

**Check out the `wp_scripts` global.**

**Whenever possible, use core.**



Don't leave the house for milk if there's already perfectly good milk in your refrigerator.

**However, core might not be what the project needs.**





**Here are some fancy use-cases.**

**One possible solution  
will follow, in the form  
of a cool JavaScript  
library.**

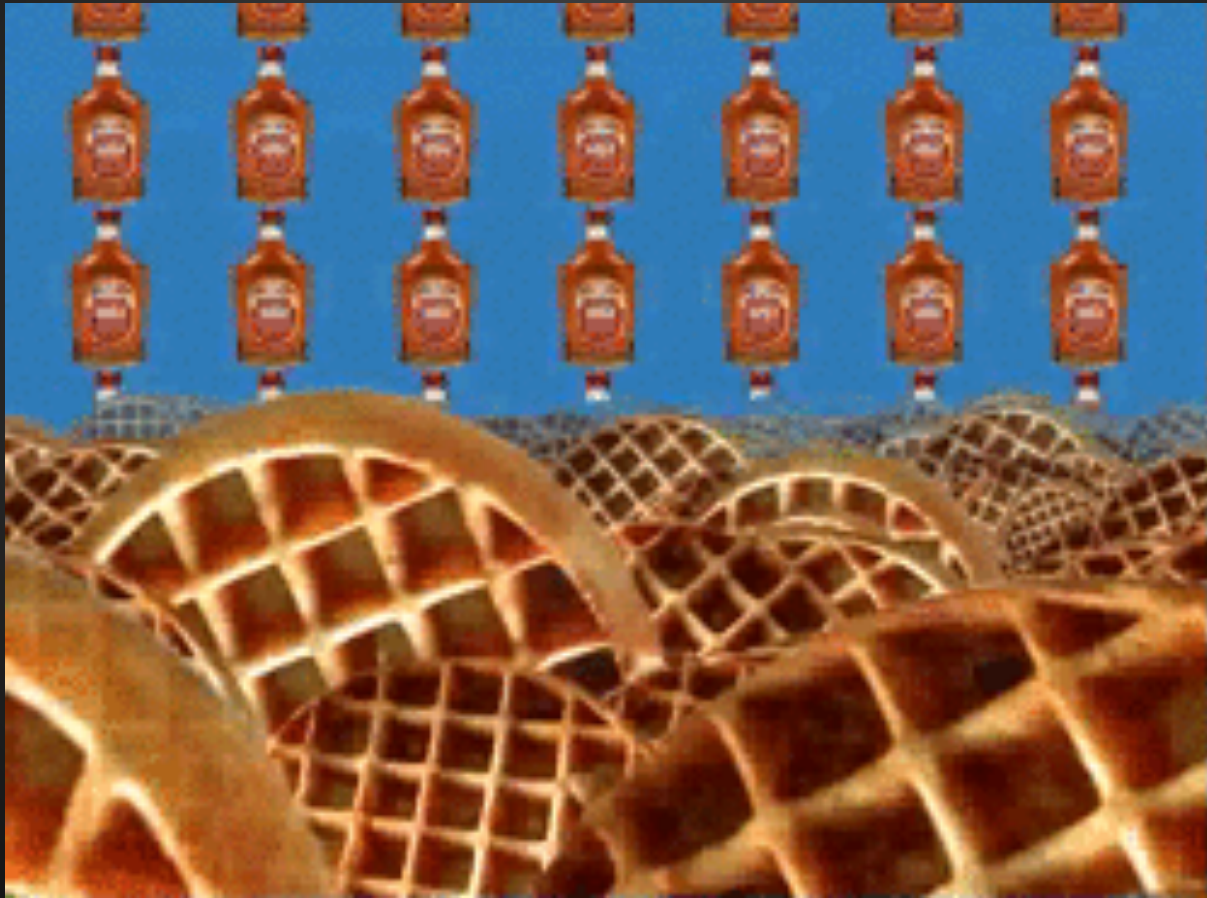
## Use Case:

“I need this data to be represented as an infinite landscape of constantly-scrolling waffles”



Sure, I'll use Three.js.

*also I'll need a deposit of twenty-thousand dollars*



## Use Case:

“I need a detailed, scrolling  
timeline of events”

# Timeline.js

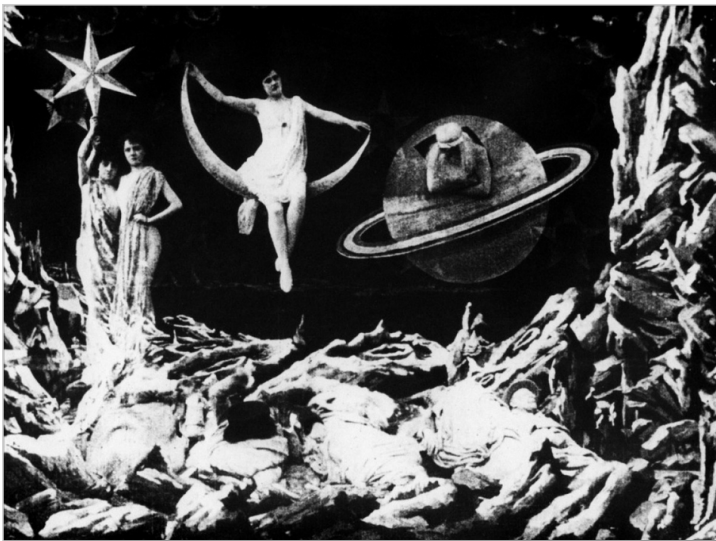
Timeline JS

Overview

Description

Examples

Help



## Welcome to TimelineJS

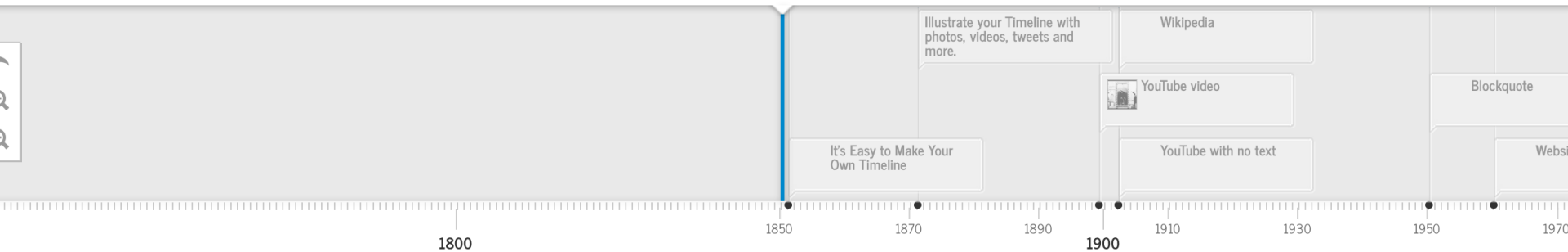
TimelineJS is an open-source tool that enables you to build visually-rich interactive timelines and is available in 40 languages.

You're looking at an example of one right now.

Click on the arrow to the right to learn more.



1851  
It's Easy to Make  
Your Own Timeline



## Use Case:

“I need to make a complex,  
multi-thread timeline-based  
animation”

# GreenSock Animation Platform



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**GSAP**  
The new standard for HTML5 animation

replay

The new standard for HTML5 animation



**Use Case:**

“I need safe, reliable form  
validation”

Use Gravity Forms,  
what's wrong with you



j/k, sometimes it needs to be custom

Parsley is a popular  
option for form  
validation.

## Use Case:

“I need a library that generates a fart sound when a user scrolls up or down a page”

Wow. Maybe talk with  
your client.

But yes, there's a  
library for that.

**Ok, no more  
examples.**

**What are some risks?  
How weird can this  
get?**

**Risks: Things to ask when adding a library**

Does core have a version of this library already?



# Risks: Things to ask when adding a library

Does core have a version of this library already?

Yes?

**Risks: Things to ask when adding a library**

Does core have a version of this library already?

**Yes? Yes?**

**Risks: Things to ask when adding a library**

Does core have a version of this library already?

Yes? Yes?

**It does?**

**Then what are you doing?**

**Then what are you doing?**

**.....is it jQuery?**

# Is it jQuery?



Is it jQuery?

IS IT????!



**ARE YOU  
ENQUEUEING YOUR  
OWN JQUERY?!?**



**(Please don't do that)**



*“Search through  
core before  
adding more.”*

**- Burt Reynolds**



**Risks: Things to ask when adding a library**

How will this affect DOM scope?

**Risks: Things to ask when adding a library**

How late can I defer loading?

**Risks: Things to ask when adding a library**

Should I consider a no-js fallback?

# developer

...and *Director of Snarky Comments*  
*about Slider Plugins*



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# Thank you.

k bye

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