

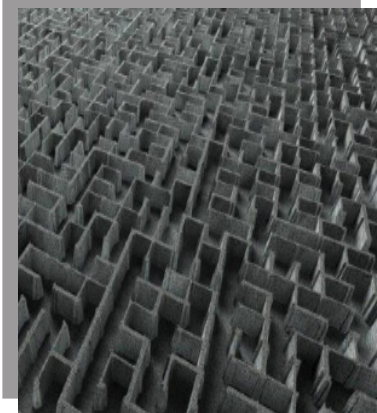
## Corn Maze Cultivation

Hiedi Greer  
Reporter

Mazes have appeared throughout history, but have just become an attraction in the last twenty-five years. During the fall season, the corn maze popularity increases, and so does the questioning of their history. Some may wonder where these life-sized puzzles came from, and how they came to be.

### The first maze

The first sign of mazes date back to Greek myths with the use of stone labyrinths as entertaining rituals. It is said in Greek mythology that one



particular labyrinth held the Minotaur, a giant killing beast. Prisoners were sent into this "maze" as a punishment for their crimes, and this practice was seen as a form of enjoyment for the spectators. Other

labyrinths were used as a form of meditation and spiritual rituals. Labyrinths represent the tedious process of finding our "center", or ourselves, and then going back into the world to use our gifts. As time progressed, these stone labyrinths turned into garden hedges that resembled a geometric shape for the pleasure of European kings and princes. The object of going through the maze was to make it to the center of the "puzzle" and then work your way back to the start. However, these mazes were only built for the wealthy and prestigious.

### The largest maze today

In 1993, Don Frantz worked

with Adrian Fisher and created the first corn maze that opened up to the public at Lebanon Valley College, in east-central Pennsylvania. This dinosaur maze, called "Amazing Maize Maze", became the world's largest corn maze, however, various other corn mazes have surpassed it. At Richardson Farm in Spring Grove, Illinois, the 2018 maze has been built to a scale of 28 acres of corn with nine to ten miles of trails, currently making this the largest in the world. It consists of four different mazes joined together, and it has various checkpoints that could be reached throughout the trails. Since it is the two hundredth anniversary of the establishment, Richardson Farm created a maze that has multiple Illinois features within the maze. The shape of Illinois, farmland, Abraham Lincoln, and the city of Chicago are all incorporated into the maze.

Public places have been built over Illinois for people to enjoy not only corn mazes, but other fall activities. A few of these mazes are:

Konow's Corn Maze--Homer Glen, IL-- \$10 per person Monday-Friday; \$12 per person Saturday-Sunday

Settlers Pond Pumpkin Patch and Christmas Tree sales--



Beecher, IL-- \$10 per adult  
Windmill Acres--Beecher, IL-- \$6 per person

Goebbert's Pumpkin Patch--Hampshire, IL-- \$12 Monday-Friday; \$15 per person on Weekends

Siegel's Pumpkin Fest--Lockport, IL-- \$11.95 per person Monday-Friday; \$14.95 per person on weekends



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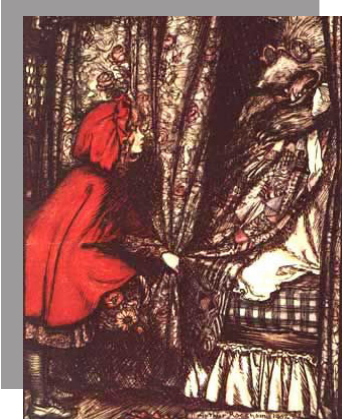


## THE TRUTH BEHIND DISNEY

Ryan Jones  
Reporter

### Little Red Riding Hood

In Disney's Little Red Riding Hood, there was a little girl who lived in a village near the woods and wore a red riding cloak. Little Red Riding Hood went to her grandma's house and was ambushed by a wolf. The little girl was saved by a woodsman, who dragged the wolf to a place where he couldn't harm anyone anymore. In Grimm's version, when Little Red Riding Hood arrived, the wolf leapt from his disguise and ate both the little girl and the grandma. Luckily, the wolf had decided to take a nap and a huntsman, coincidentally, was close by and decided to investigate. When the huntsman



found the wolf, he killed the wolf, setting both them free.

### Zootopia

Another dark example is from the movie, Zootopia. In Disney's version, a cop named Judy Hopps works in a city where both predators and prey live in harmony. While working, she uncovers a conspiracy that would tear apart the population using a drug to turn predators against prey. The origins of this movie are still unknown, but multiple fans have formed a conspiracy theory about where these connections came from. In the 1970s and 1980s during America's war on drugs, the American government supposedly would distribute drugs to drug dealers who would then deliver them to minority communities. This would make the public fear these communities because they may have assumed they would become a danger.

### Pinocchio

Another great exemplification of these dark origins is Pinocchio, which is famously known for being a "Disney classic," and is less known for its infamously vile influence. In Disney's version, Pinocchio



was a boy made out wood. He was known for his nose growing every time he told a lie fueled by his desire to become a real boy. Although the movie

is more kid friendly, the original story is quite dismal. In the original story, Pinocchio was tortured everyday for lying. This can be seen when Pinocchio caused the death of Jiminy Cricket. Pinocchio's legs were burned in a stove. Because the town was tired of his behavior they hung him from a tree, where he suffocated to death.

Disney has a wonderful surface of stories with happy endings and fantasized realities; however, when one digs under what lies beneath, what they find could be shocking and gruesome. Most, or all of the Disney movies that you know



and love may have dark roots. From discrimination and distribution of drugs on minority communities, to extreme punishments for a lying child.

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