## **Terminal Lives Matter!**

In the era of modern technology, we have become accustomed to the GUI (Graphical User Interface). It keeps us safe and secure with its easy-to-grasp, point-and-click based interaction. The GUI is a great achievement. However, it's not the only option.

## **Enter 1981**

In the early days of computing, we had no graphical interfaces at all. We had something called MDA: the Monochrome Display Adapter. This was completely incapable of displaying images: all it was capable of showing was fixed-size, black-and-white text. No large headings, no fonts, not even italics - as plain as text can be.

Naturally, people wanted more. In the same year, IBM also released CGA: the Color Graphics Adapter. This was the first IBM graphics card capable of displaying images, and in glorious 640 x 200 resolution, with a stunning 16-color palette. A meager start, but a start.

Before long, people were using the power of pixels to display more than just text. The mouse was invented, allowing you to more visually interact with your computer. Undoubtedly, these were some of the finest innovations.

## **Back to 2024**

Now, in 2024, the GUI is inescapable. We look back with disdain on the ancients whose computing was limited to a keyboard. Except - why?

Accessibility is a huge issue in the modern world. You have a responsibility to make your tech available to the greatest number of users, regardless of handicaps. This is a good thing! We want computers to be as widely usable as possible, especially as they become more and more ubiquitous. *We must accomodate them.* 

## Links