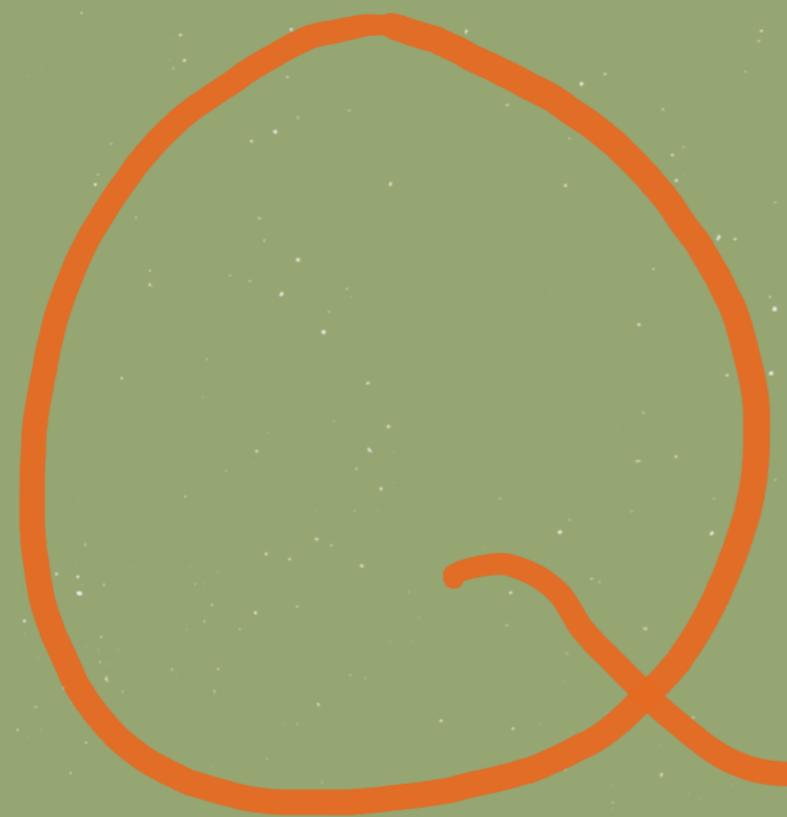




# Exploratory Testing with the Team

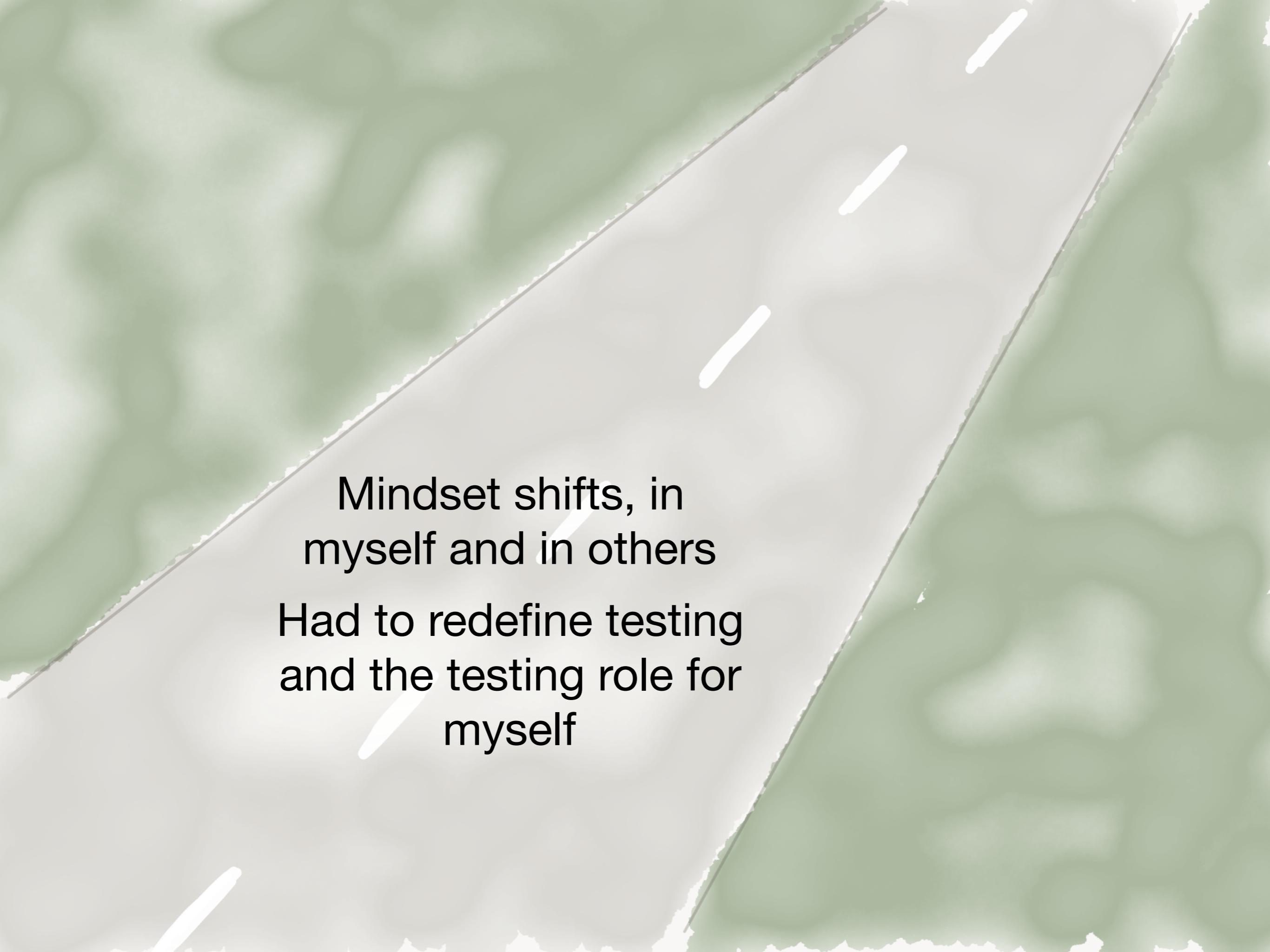
A Journey Worth Taking



Questions  
for you !

# A journey of realisations about what a tester can and cannot do

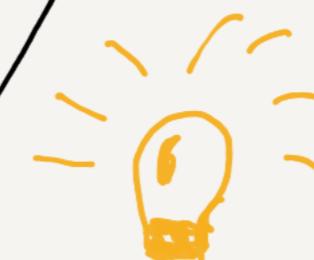


The background of the slide features a perspective view of a road. The road is light gray with white dashed lines. It starts from the bottom left and curves upwards towards the top right. The sides of the road are bordered by green grass. The sky above the road is a clear, pale blue.

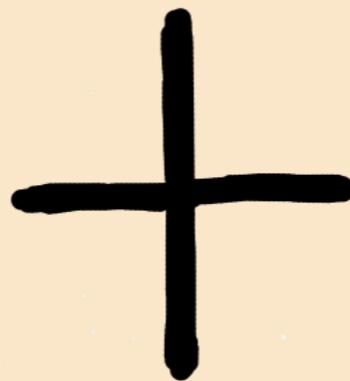
Mindset shifts, in  
myself and in others

Had to redefine testing  
and the testing role for  
myself

**what if more  
people test,  
but I help  
them with  
HOW to test**



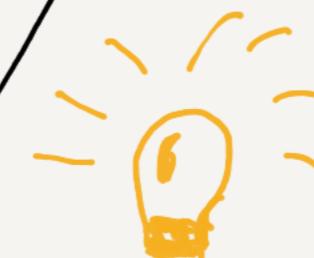
**Tested =**



**Give Exploratory  
Testing structure:**

**Use Charters, Missions, Test Ideas**

**Think about what  
you want to  
achieve with each  
test session**



Explore the app  
with a bad connection  
to see if the behaviour is still correct

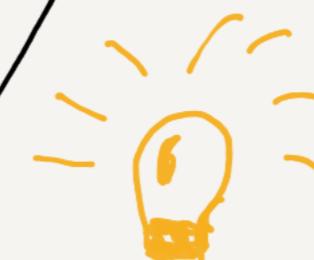
Explore the endpoints of API “X”  
with bad inputs  
to see its HTTP responses are correct

Mission: survey test user story “X”

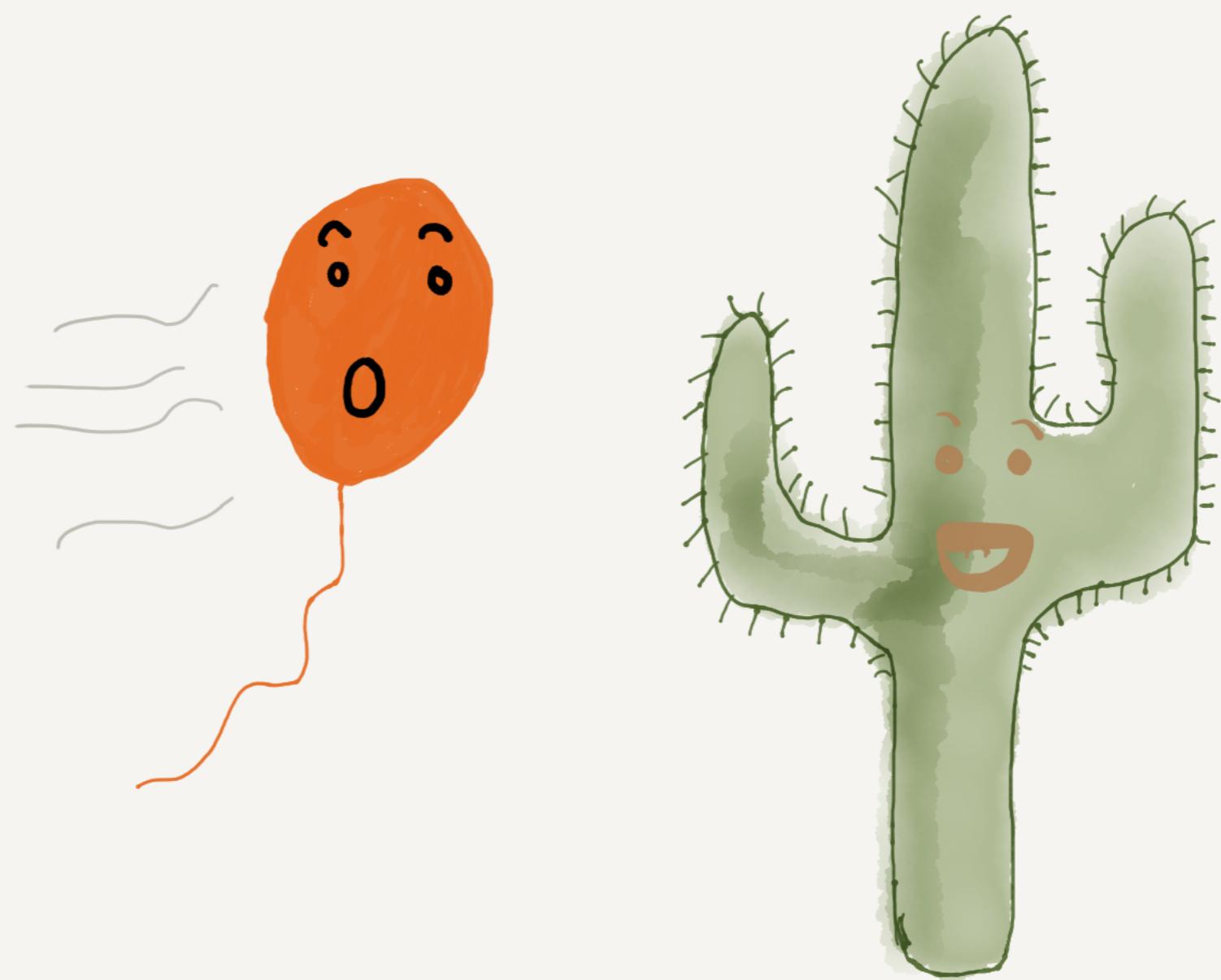
## **How to get ideas:**

**Heuristics, Conversations,  
Examine the existing testing**

**Focus on what cannot be  
automated (easily): UX,  
extremes , a11y**



# Always think of:

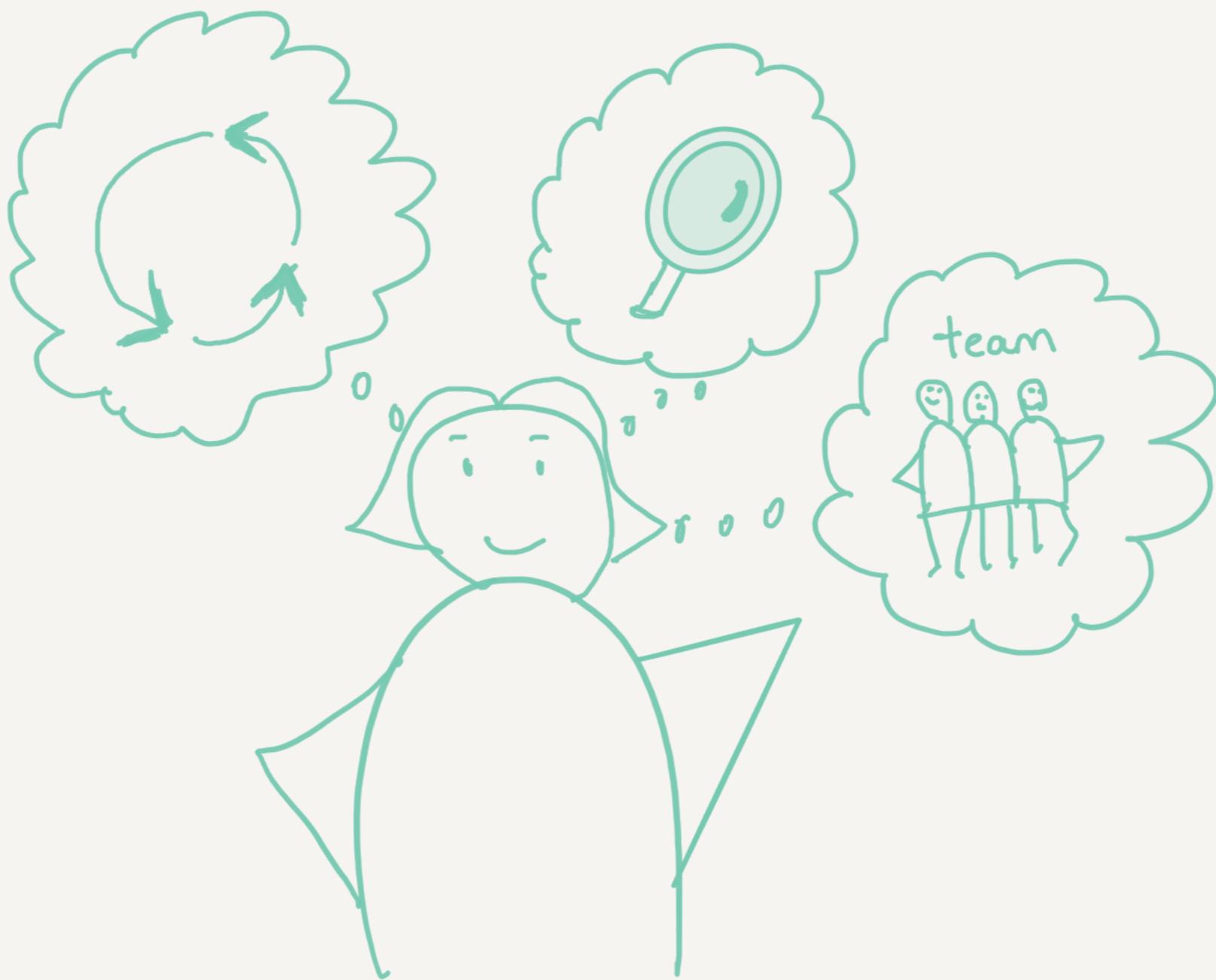


# 2014: starting the journey with the team





# The pivotal moment



## **Why is team testing powerful?**

**Different backgrounds,  
Different blind spots**

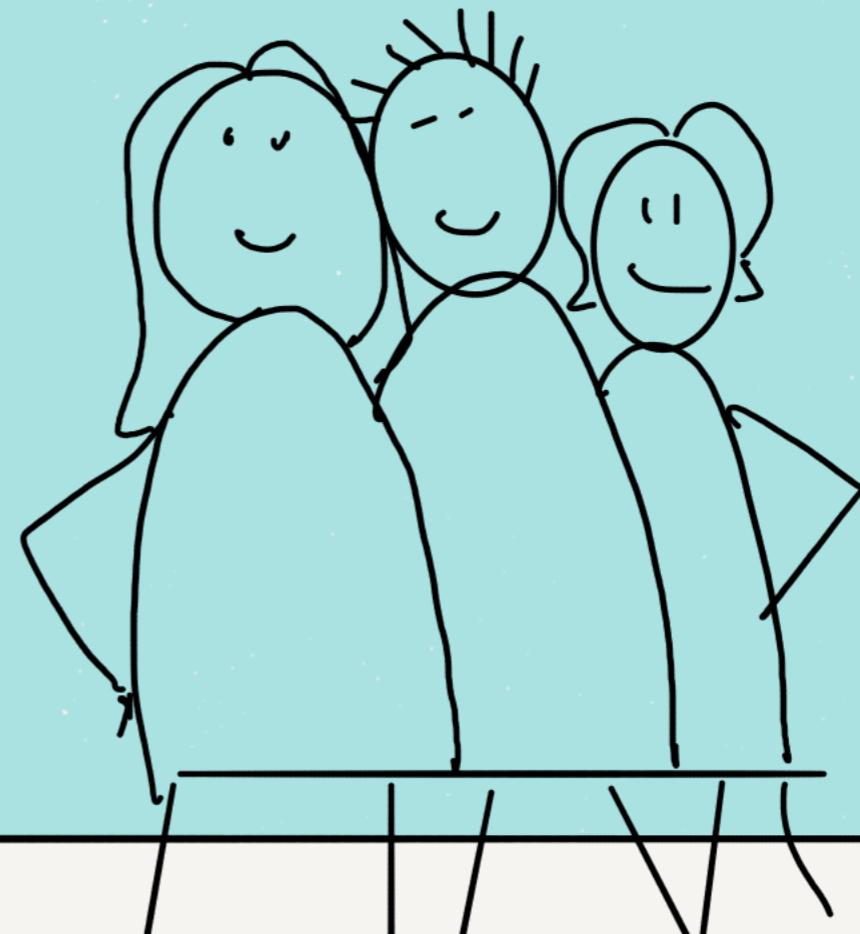
**Everyone is biased**

**more people ==  
more test ideas**



# Organised Team Exploratory Testing Session

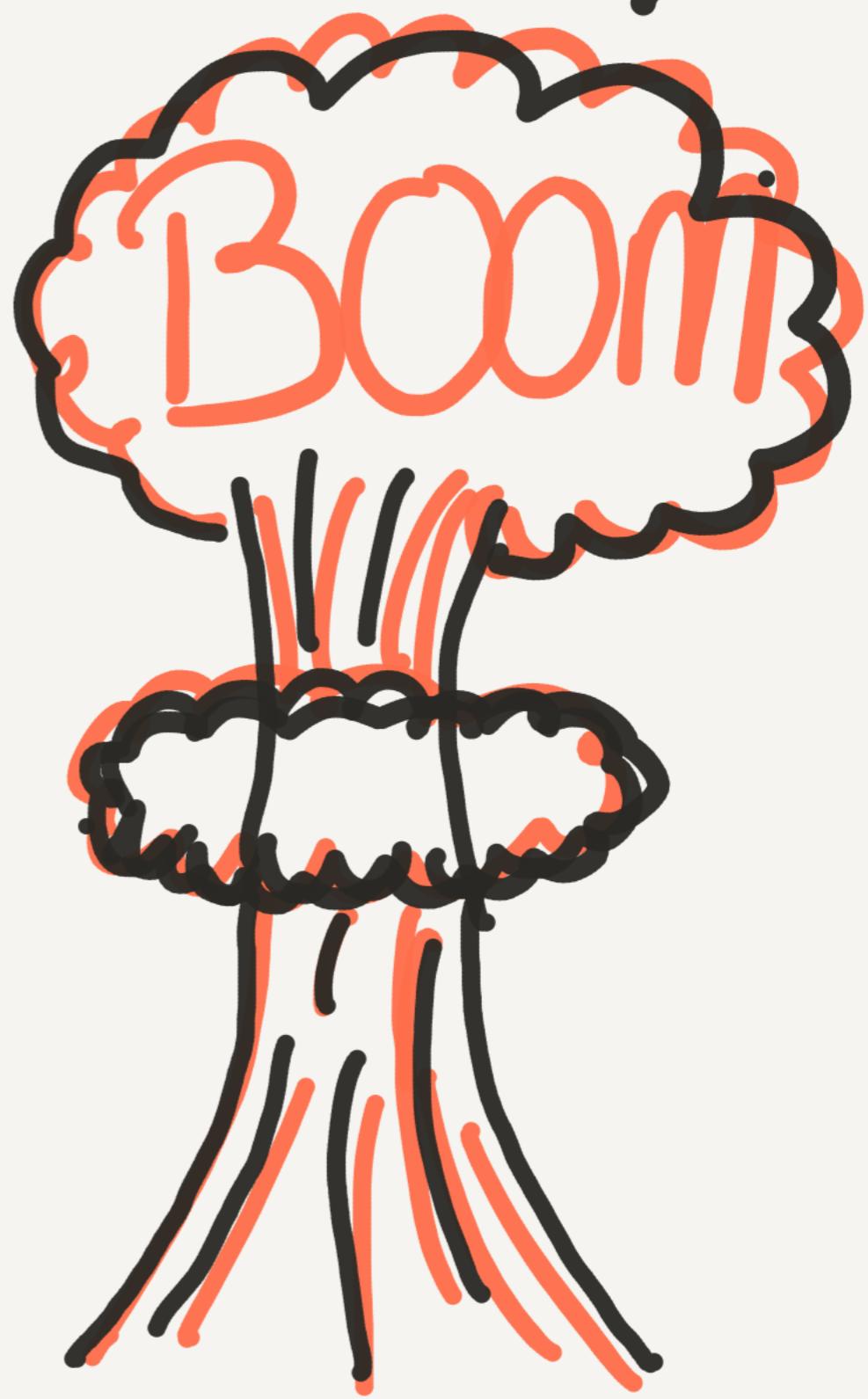
- Got the PO on board, she liked the idea.
- Invited everyone and prepared the charters
- Explained the basics of Exploratory Testing
- Time-boxed testing session



# Expectation



# Reality

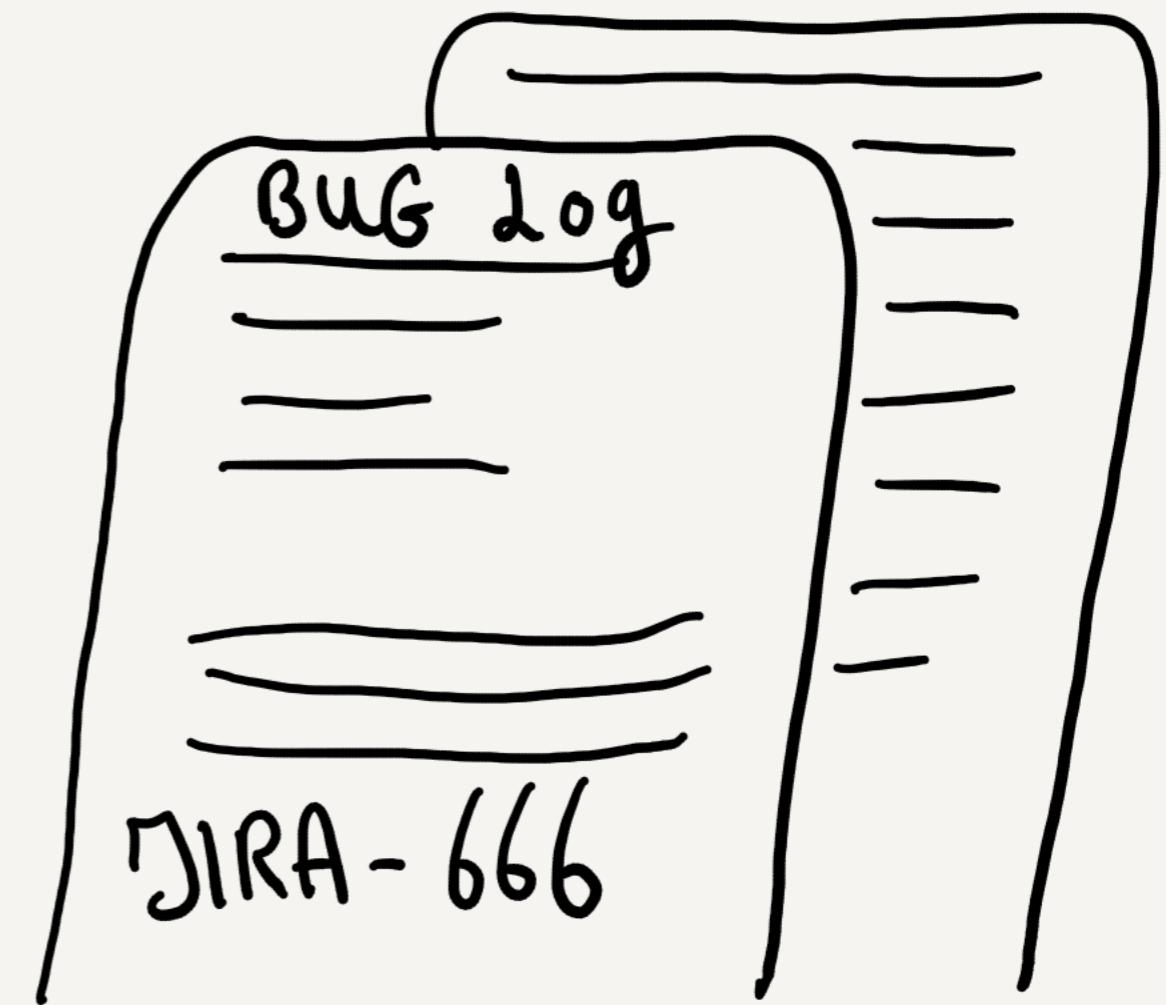


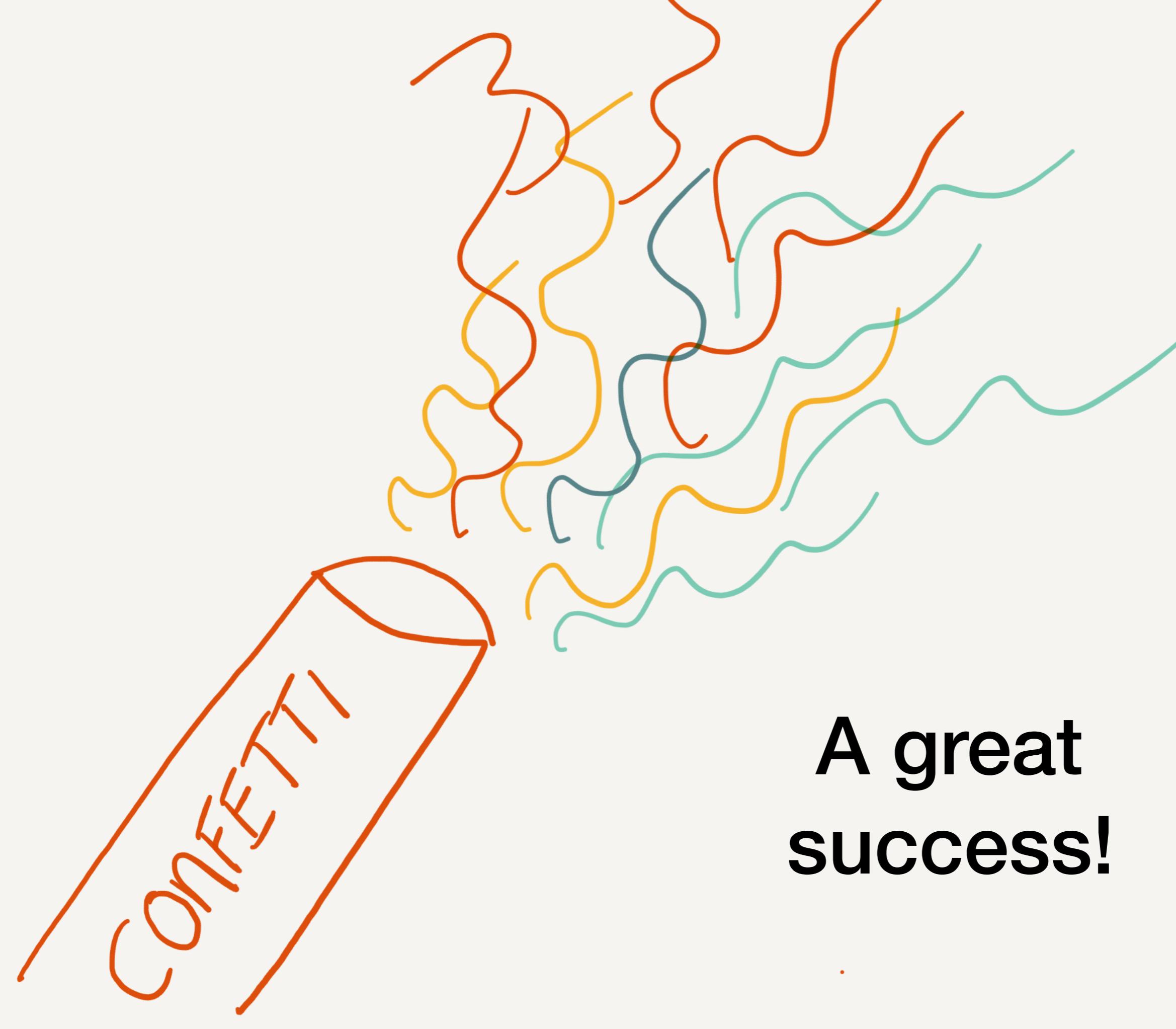
# Last Stage of the Test Session: Debrief

Very important!

This will take longer than you expect

The issues needed to be triaged





A great  
success!

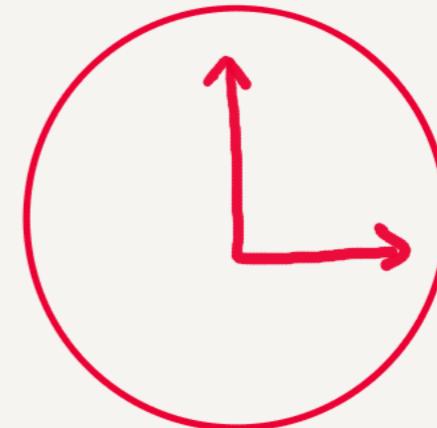
# How to deal with feeling “am I good enough as a tester?”

“Isn’t it my job to find all the issues?”

developer says: “why hasn’t this been found before?”



# The years thereafter...



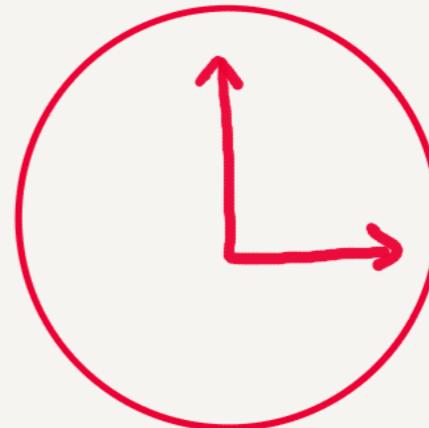
other clients, mixed experiences

some developers only  
believed in testing == test  
automation



Lesson: focus on people willing to learn, forget  
DEM HATERZ

# 2018 - Current Time



- Exploratory Test session with the team before every release
- Daily Exploratory alone (dev, tester)
- Daily Exploratory in pairs
- Daily Exploratory with devs from different discipline

# Alternative: Less Formal

- Go to a developer with a charter and test together
- Participate in code review / PR review and suggest test ideas
- Create basic charters for developers to help them test a little more by themselves
- Pair Programming
- Don't call it testing

# What this journey has taught me

- Testing is powerful when everyone in my team is involved
- My personal contribution still matters, but I don't scale well
- It's okay that I can't find all the issues by myself and I have a good story ready to explain to others why that is okay

**Mission as a tester: I want to be a catalyst/inspirator/facilitator to improve testing as a whole (automated + exploratory) with other people**

# Thanks!



[github.com/Maaikees/exploratory-testing](https://github.com/Maaikees/exploratory-testing)



@maaikees

[www.sensibly.nl](http://www.sensibly.nl)

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