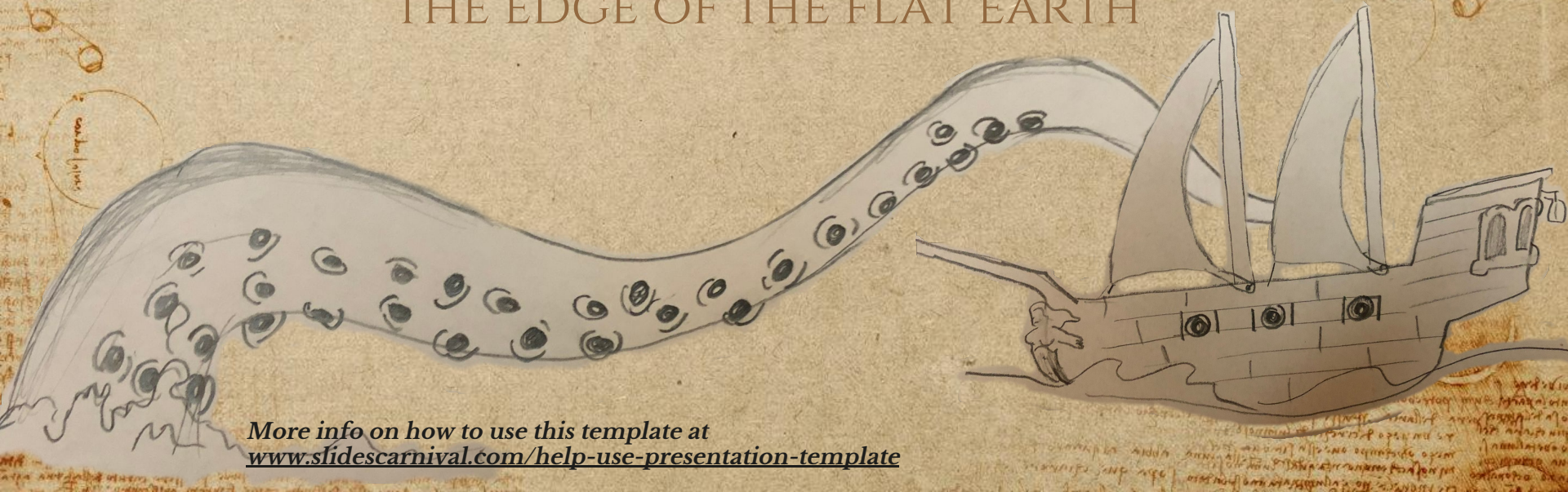
# Sailing the Seas of Open Source

## A Conversation about avoiding dragons (& Dungeons) and sailing over the edge of the flat earth



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AVAST!

# *Here be Cap'n CRob*

*Scurvy dog that be herd'n cats for a large Commercial OSS vendor*

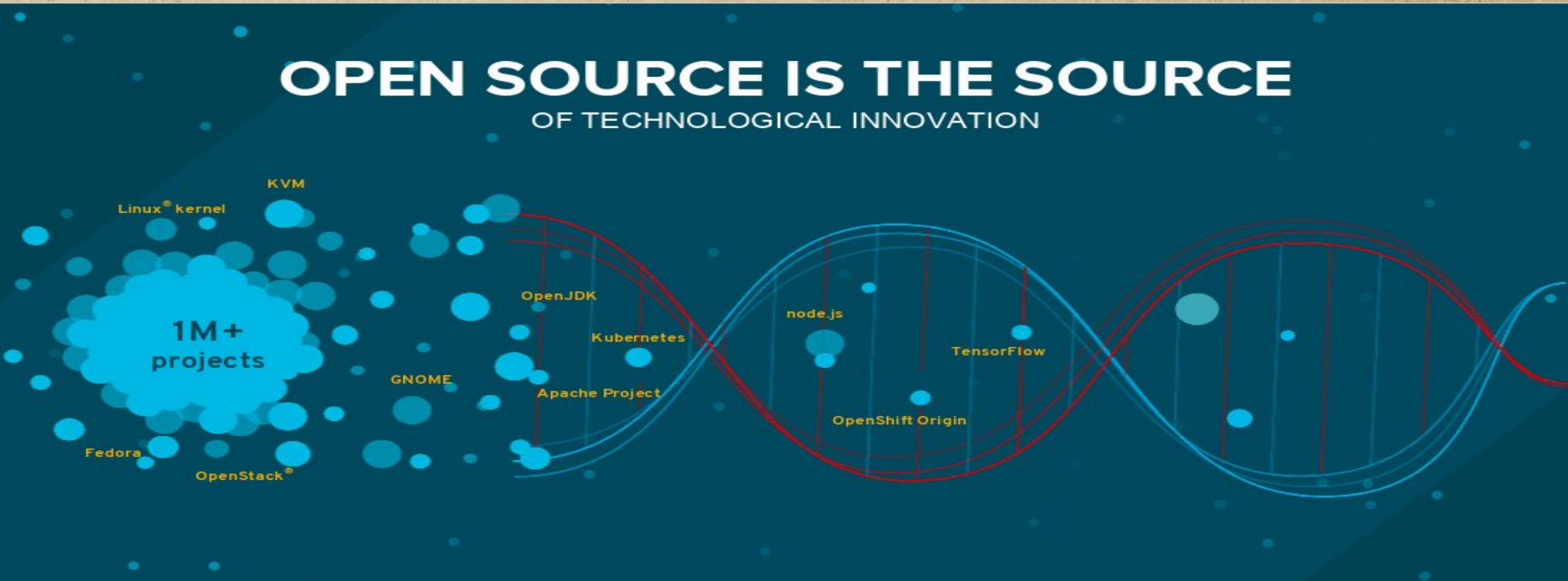
Most of what he says are solely his thoughts…..ish

CRob does NOT represent all of THE OPEN SOURCE….please be kind

# 1.

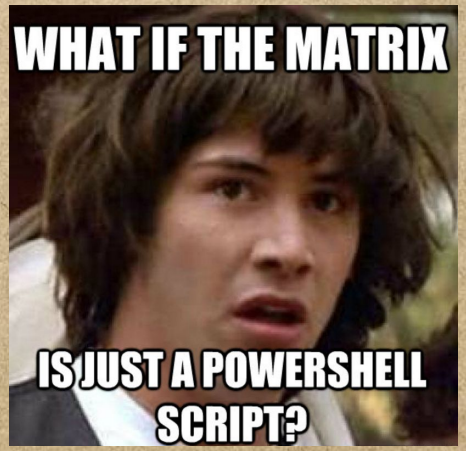
## Wut is Open Source?

Open Source refers to works that the original source code is made freely available for redistribution and reuse, they are typically written by communities of developers



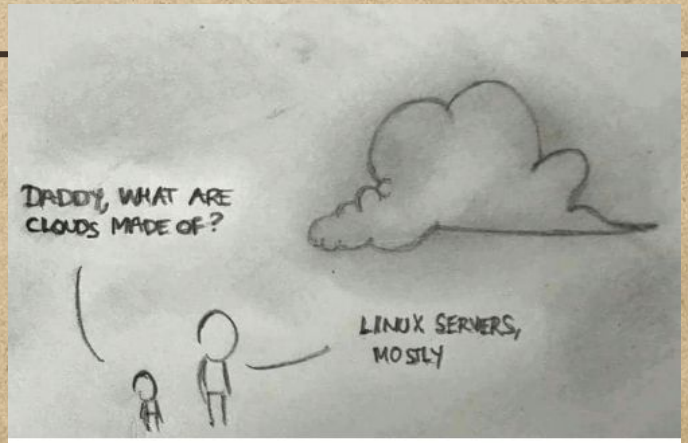
# 2.

## Why iz tha Open Sources so Awesome?



# 25,300,000

*Number of repositories with activity in the last year on GitHub Oct2017*



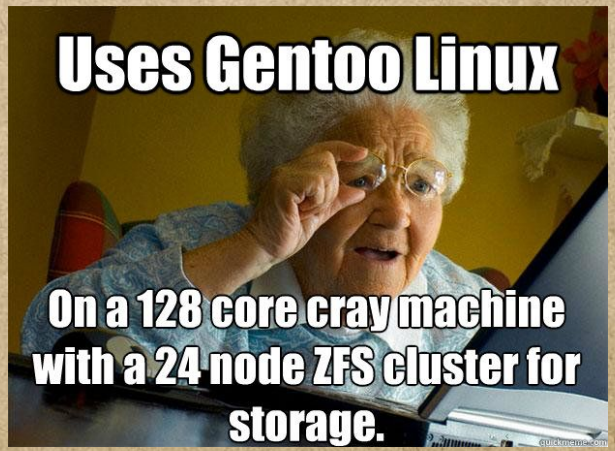

What are clouds made of?

# Why

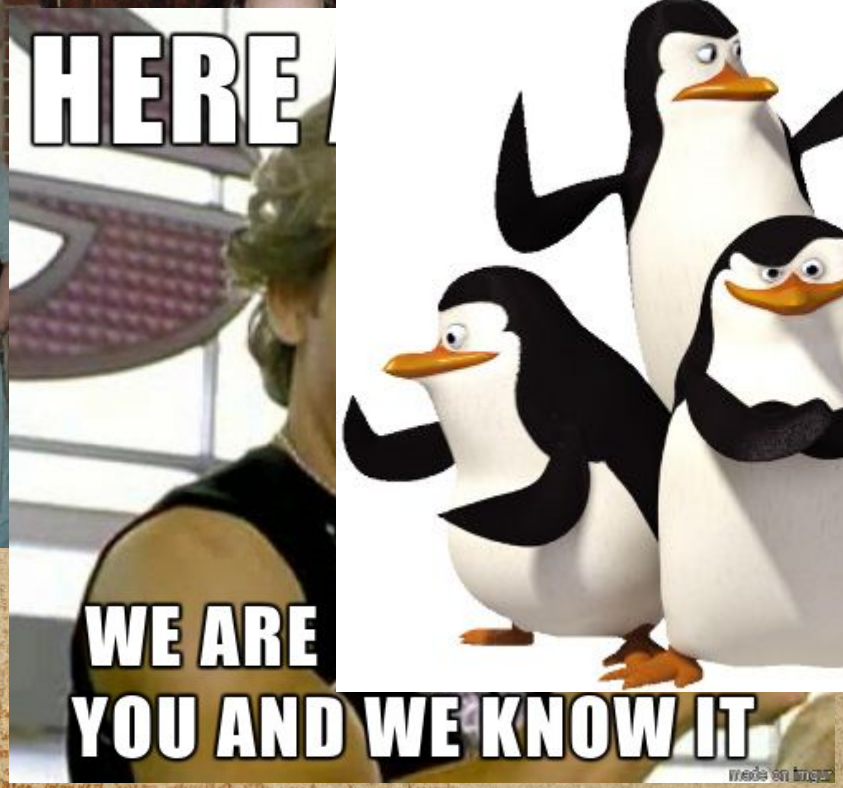
- The best ideas win (aka Meritocracy)
- Speed and agility
- Collaboration
- Fast innovation
- No lock-in
- The source code is publicly available for review
- You are (normally) able to edit/augment the code

# 3.

## Nice People You'll Meet in OSS



# Awesome OSS People!



# So many beards.....

# Nice People That work in OPEN Source

**Individuals**
OSS is driven by the innovation and creativity of little people with BIG ideas

**Small Communities**
Oftentimes these individuals will find each other and collaborate on these ideas

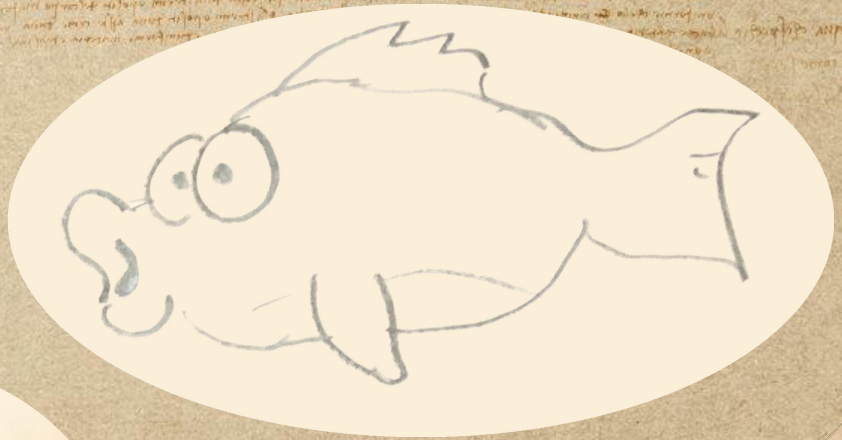
**Large Communities**
Certain ideas have so much interest that a formal group sometimes develop, with

**Commercial Vendors**
OSS always is free and available to use, but some end-users want a higher level of support;  There are many vendors that provide commercial support (with documentation, support, training, ...and package updates)

*These groups all have different goals and different ways to communicate.  They are all unified by a passion for Open source ideals!*

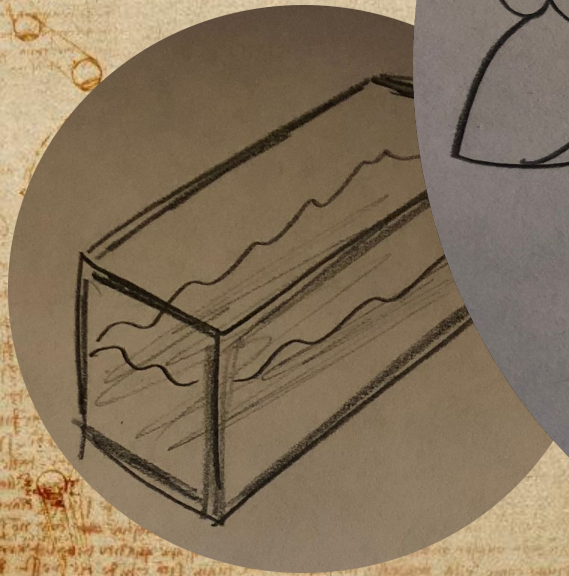
# 4.

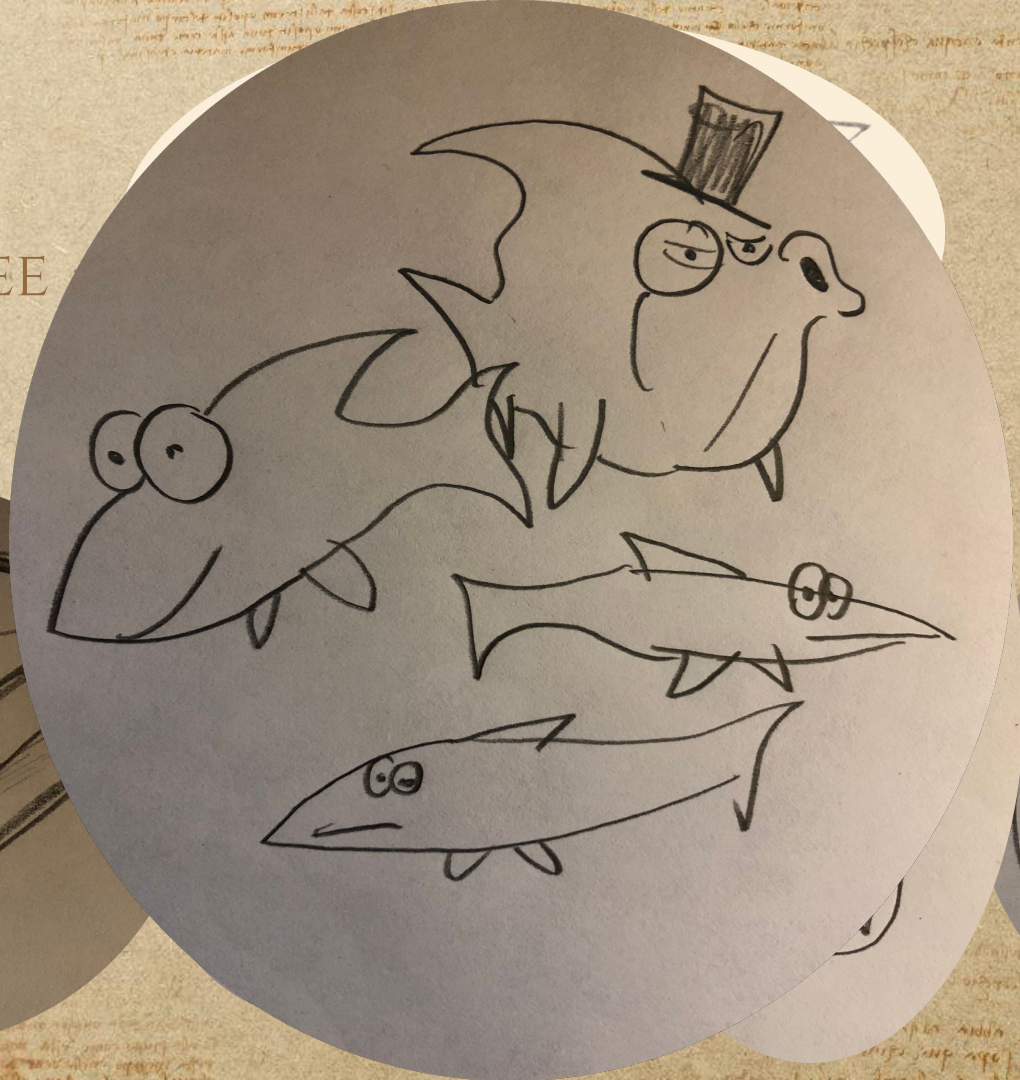
## Open Source is “free” like my kid’s Free fish

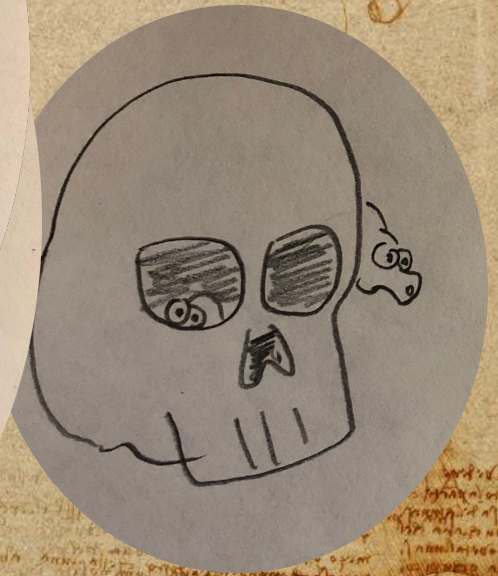


CROB'S "FREE FISH" BILL:

>$200 USD







# The moral

## Open Source is kinda like a free fish

You generally have extra work to do around the fish.

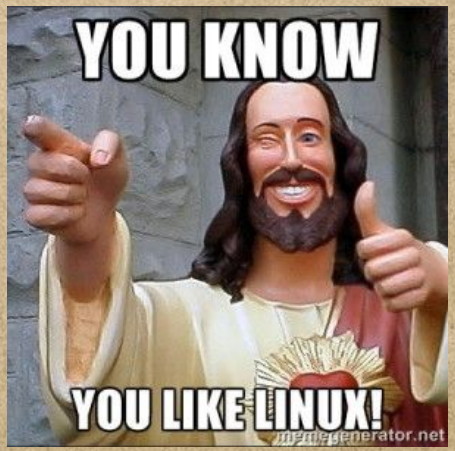
It can be pretty cool (that bubbly pirate chest was THA awesomes)!

If you leave a 12 yr old to oversee it it's GOING to die. <--FACT

.... In other words, with a little bit of effort, it can be beautiful, but it takes work!

# 5.

## To be successful you must do some stuff...
## (I know, this free software is a real drag, man!)



# Stuff and Things to think about

- In general, there is little to no formal organization around most OSS
- There are several larger projects (kernel, Apache Foundation, Openssl) that are more mature and structured
- When using open source packages you need to decide how you want support: Free (aka "Dr. Google"), Fee (commercial), or Community (build your reputation)

# Several Important concepts

**Distribution**

This (typically) refers to someone offering a "boxed" Linux flavour. It is generally (but not always) is based off of a commercial or very large community-curated set of packages

**Upstream**

This is the source of some software package or collection of packages. E.g.- kernel.org is a group of developers (headed up my Linus) that maintains the Linux kernel. It is not directly affiliated with any commercial entity (although "corporate" engineers do contribute

**Downstream**

This is the consumer of some upstream package/project. If you embed the Tomcat webserver in your products, you're considered "downstream". This is rarely a formal arrangement

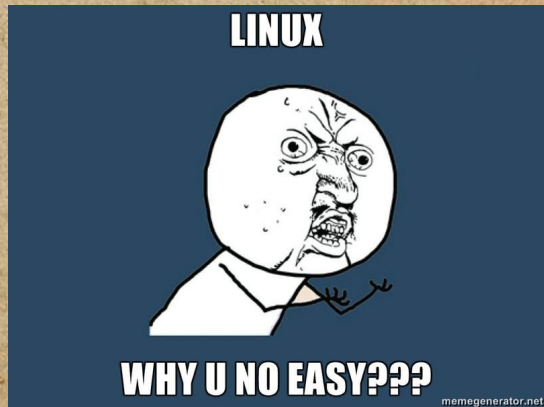
# Some other terms you should be aware of

## Backporting

This is when *specific* patches are brought into some form of downstream offering. This is not the exact code released from upstream

## Rebasing

When the whole upstream package is used and delivered via some downstream offering



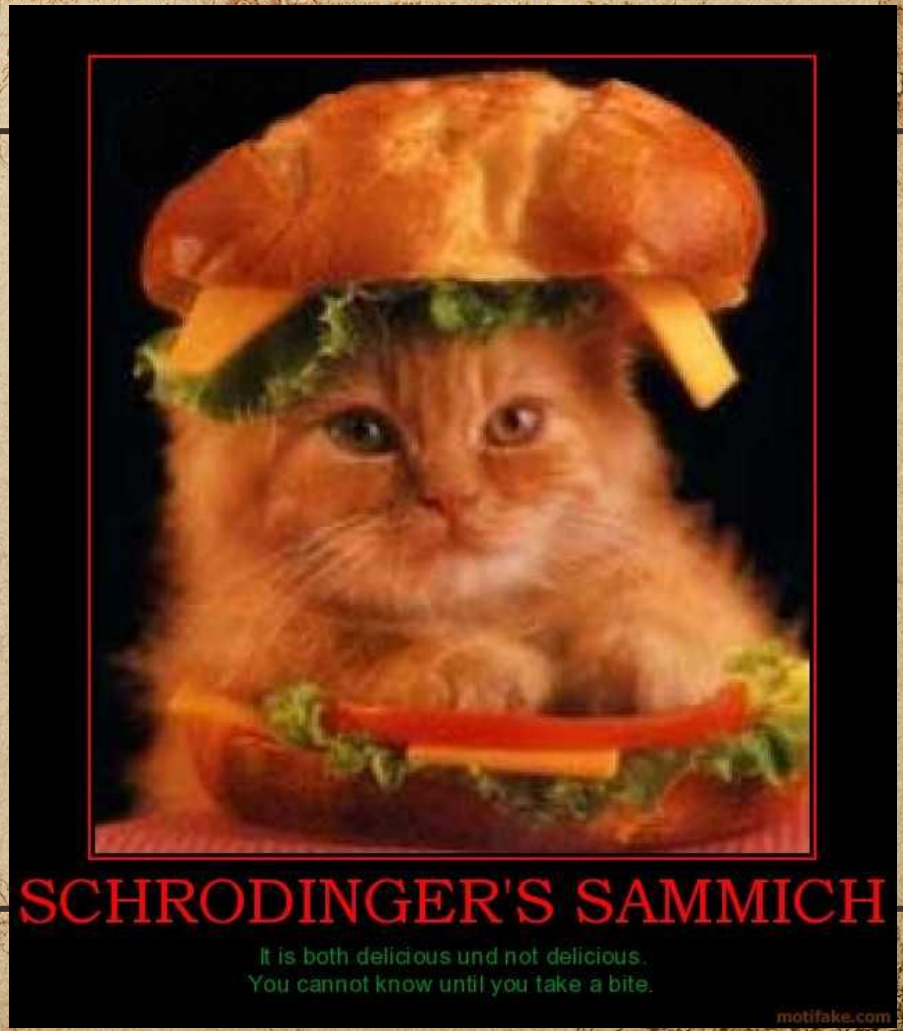
# Big concept

- **TALK**...yes actually talk to the maintainer of that package (OSS is cool like that that you CAN actually DO that...we don't bite.....*HARD*.)

# Cap'n CRob's Guide to #winning tha Open Sources

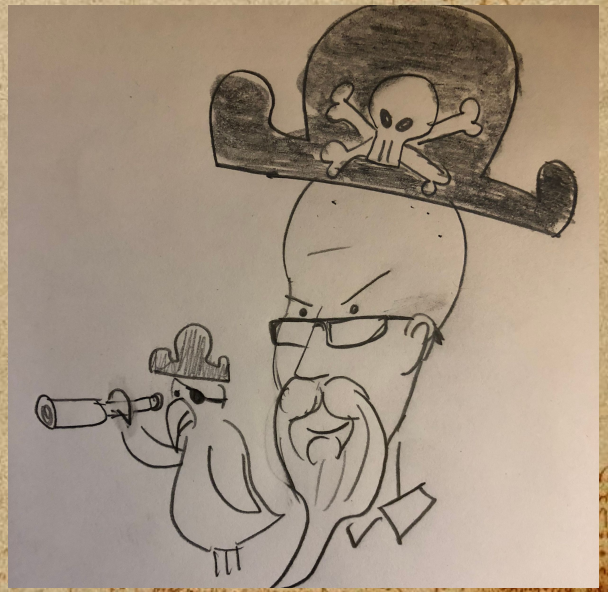
- **KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PUTTING INTO YOUR PRODUCTS** (If you don't have a manifest of packages and dependencies you are NOT tall enough to ride this ride)
- UNDERSTAND how those packages are developed and maintained

# *The Sandwich Paradox*


SCHRODINGER'S SAMMICH
It is both delicious und not delicious.
You cannot know until you take a bite.
motifake.com

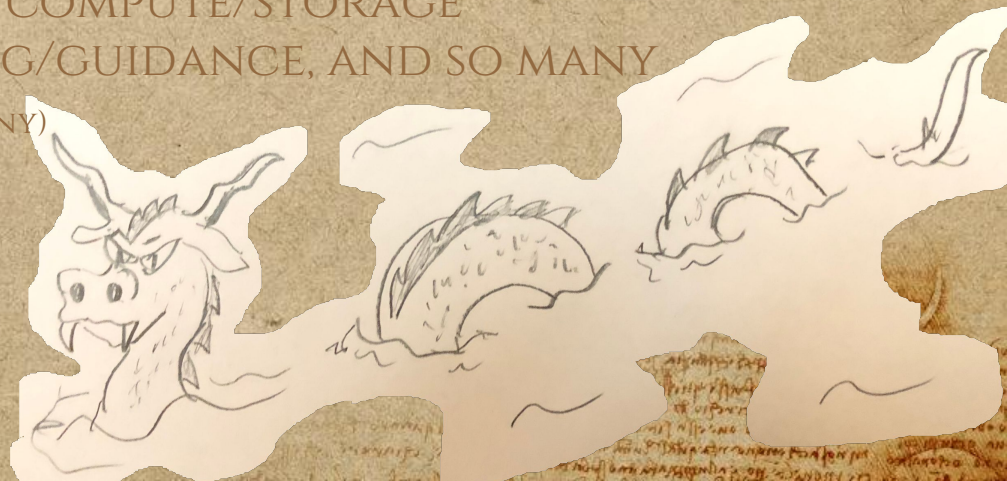
# What's in the sammich and how it was made matter

- Chain of custody/package ancestry matter
- Trusted builds by trusted maintainers on protected infrastructure
- Changes documented and tracked
- Signed with authorized_keys



# More #winning....

- **CONTRIBUTE** to projects you care about (or get support from nice people that do such things)
  - "Contributing" can mean many things - Adding.patches to make the project better, Peer code reviews, compute/storage resources, training/guidance, and so many other ways..... (so many)



# 6.

## So how do I find these open source people?

**HOW TO SPOT A LINUX USER:**

**STEP 1: MAKE EYE CONTACT**

**STEP 2: THEY'D HAVE TOLD YOU BY NOW**

# Open source is everywhere...here's how to learn more....

- Github
- Mailing Lists....so many mailing lists (so many)
- Forums/Communities
- Project Pages
- The Linux Foundation or other groups
- Conferences
- Most likely, get up and walk around your office...odds are SOMEONE at your company codes in their spare time
- ....CRob likes hugs too

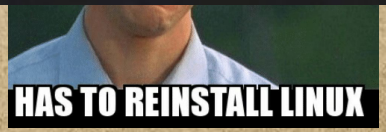
STOP TRYING TO MAKE LINUX DESKTOP A THING
IT'S NOT GOING TO HAP

EVERYBODY IS WORRIED ABOUT THE RANSOMWARE

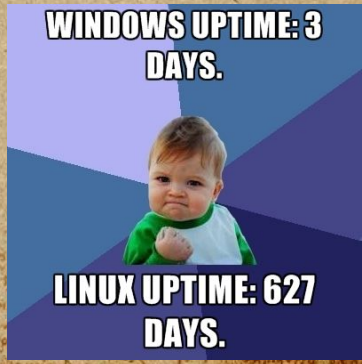
WE HEARD YOU LIKE DOCKER
DOCKER IN YOUR DOCKER

YOU INSTALLED LINUX?
YOUR JOURNEY TO THE DARKSIDE IS ALMOST COMPLETE.
memegenerator.net

I RESTARTED MY WEB SE
ONCE, 10 YEARS AGO.


HAS TO REINSTALL LINUX

LINUX GIVES YOU THE WHOLE HOUSE


WINDOWS UPTIME: 3 DAYS.
LINUX UPTIME: 627 DAYS.

# Thanks!

*Any questions?*

*You can find me at @RedHatCRob @RedHatSecurity*

*& CRob at Red Hat dot Com*