

Twitter Quotes Bot

(CheapBotsDoneQuick Alternative)

[Source Code - GitHub](#)

Author - [@loonathedorm](#)



This is a quick guide on how to set-up Twitter-Quotes-Bot either using a free platform called ['Replit'](#) or it can also be hosted on a server if you have access to one.

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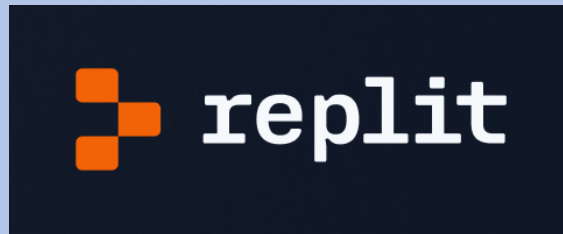
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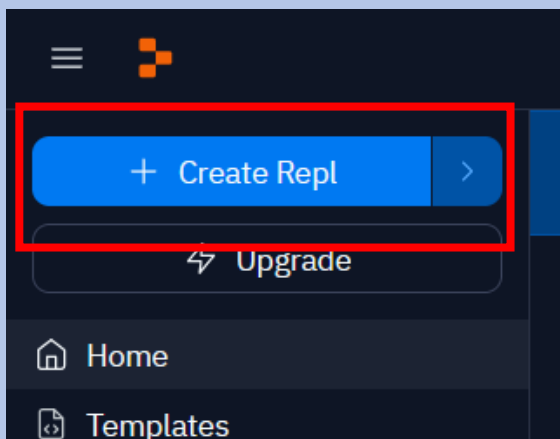
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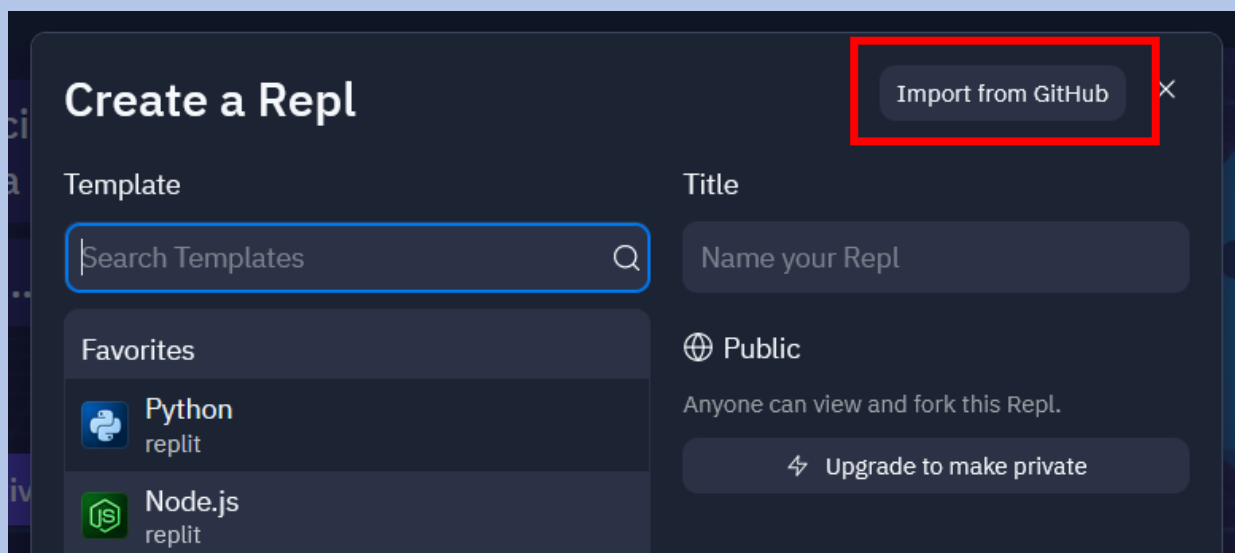
Set-Up Using Replit :



1. Sign up on replit.com
2. Close any welcome screens that might pop up
3. Click 'Create Repl' on the top left corner:



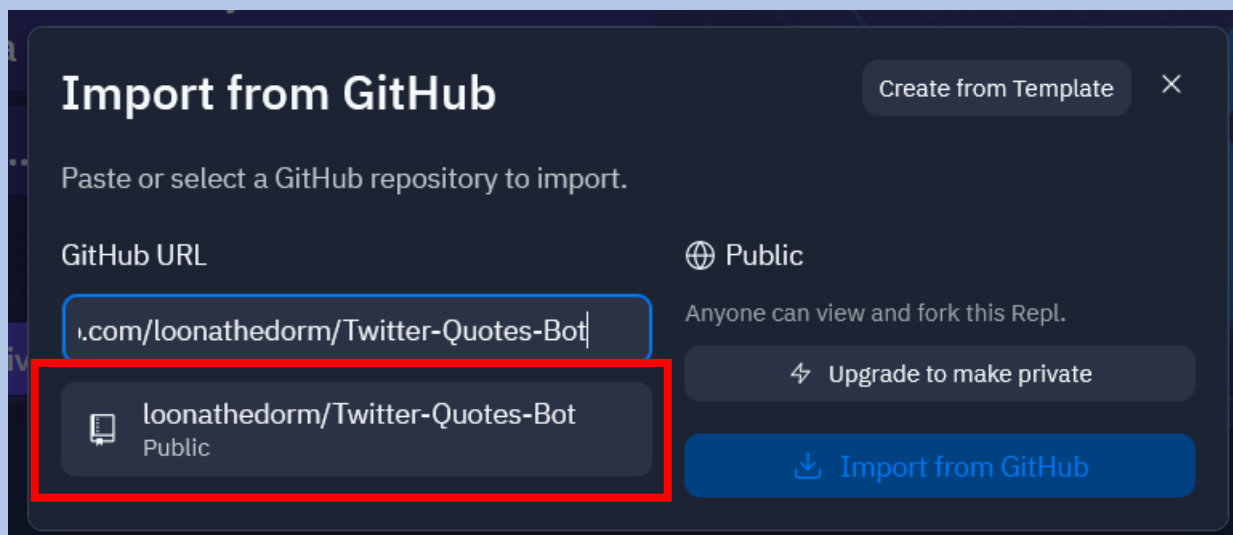
4. Click 'Import From GitHub'



5. In the 'GitHub URL' section, enter

'github.com/loonathedorm/Twitter-Quotes-Bot'

6. Click on the suggestion that shows up below it which says 'public'



Import from GitHub Create from Template ×

Paste or select a GitHub repository to import.

GitHub URL

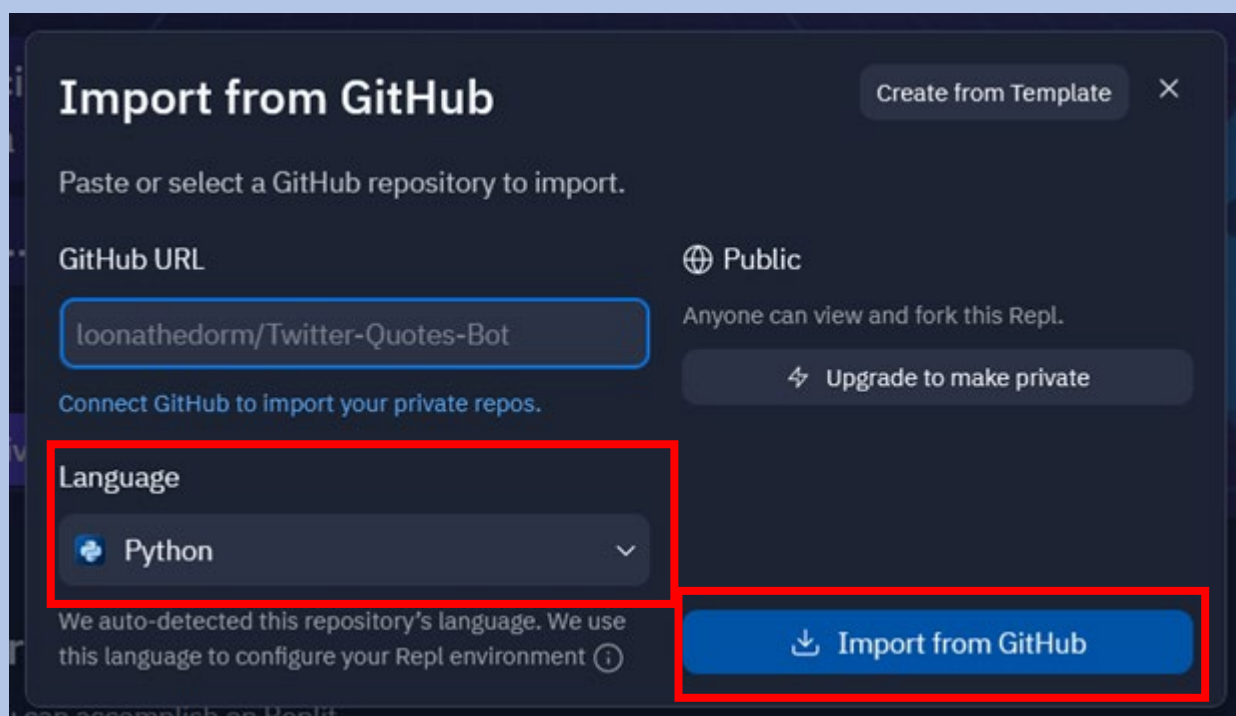
Public Anyone can view and fork this Repl.

loonathedorm/Twitter-Quotes-Bot
Public

⚡ Upgrade to make private

↓ Import from GitHub

7. Make sure the Language tab says 'Python' and then click 'Import From GitHub'



Import from GitHub Create from Template ×

Paste or select a GitHub repository to import.

GitHub URL

Public Anyone can view and fork this Repl.

Connect GitHub to import your private repos.

Language

Python

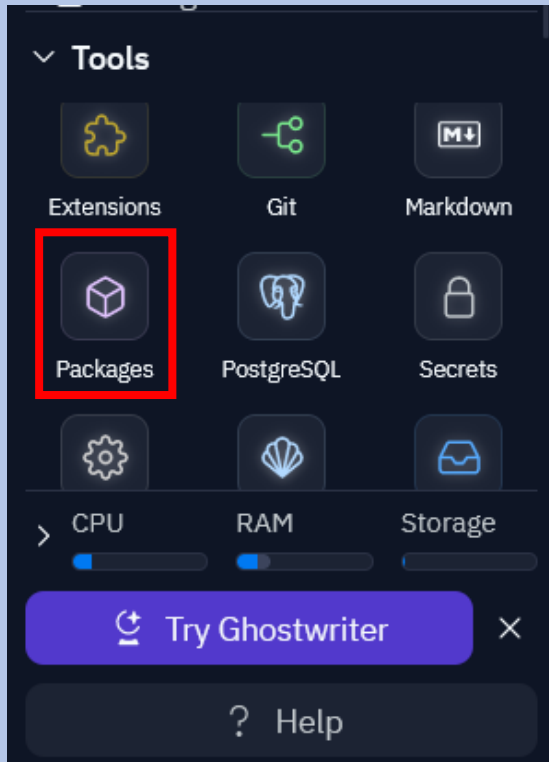
We auto-detected this repository's language. We use this language to configure your Repl environment ⓘ

⚡ Upgrade to make private

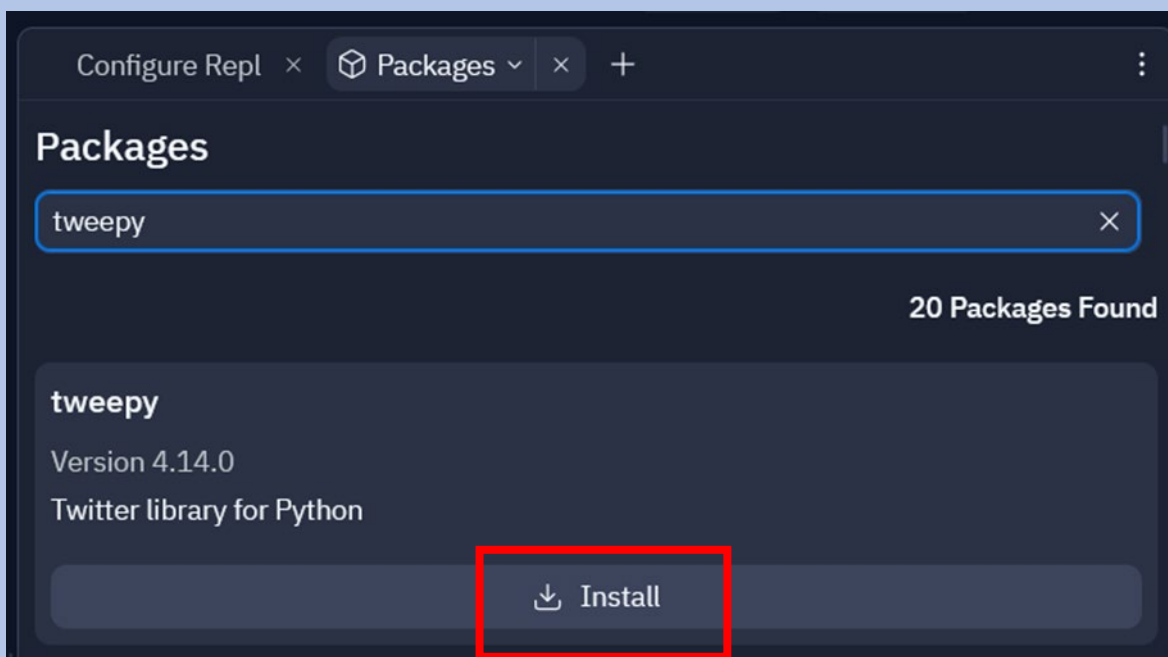
↓ Import from GitHub

- It should take a couple of minutes to import
- Close any welcome messages

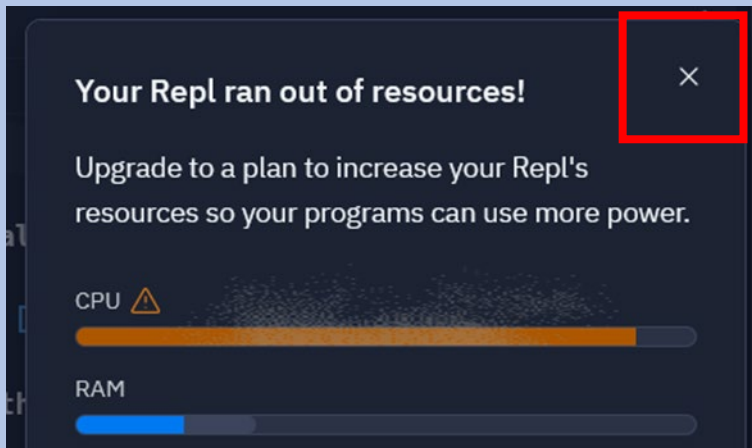
8. On the left side, under 'Tools' section, click 'Packages'



9. Now on the right side, under packages, search 'tweepy' and click install.



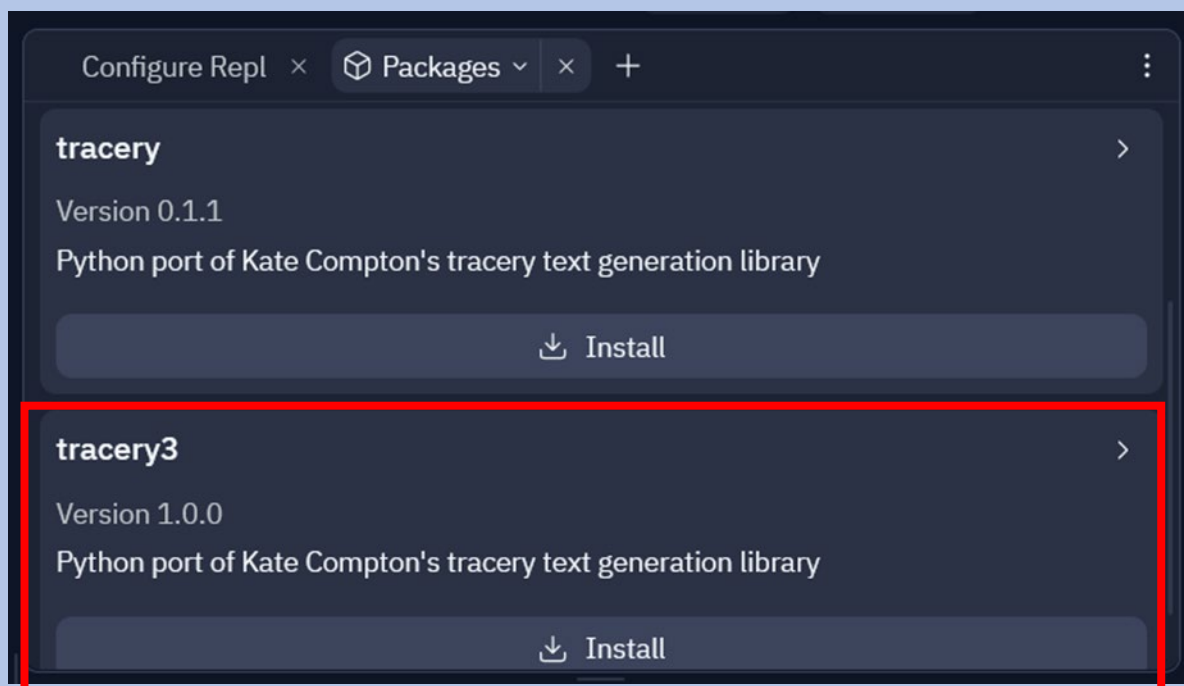
- If you see any 'Out of resources' error, just close it. It is temporary and you do not need to purchase anything.



- You'll get a small notification on bottom right corner indicating successful installation.

10. Now similarly search for 'tracery3' and install it.

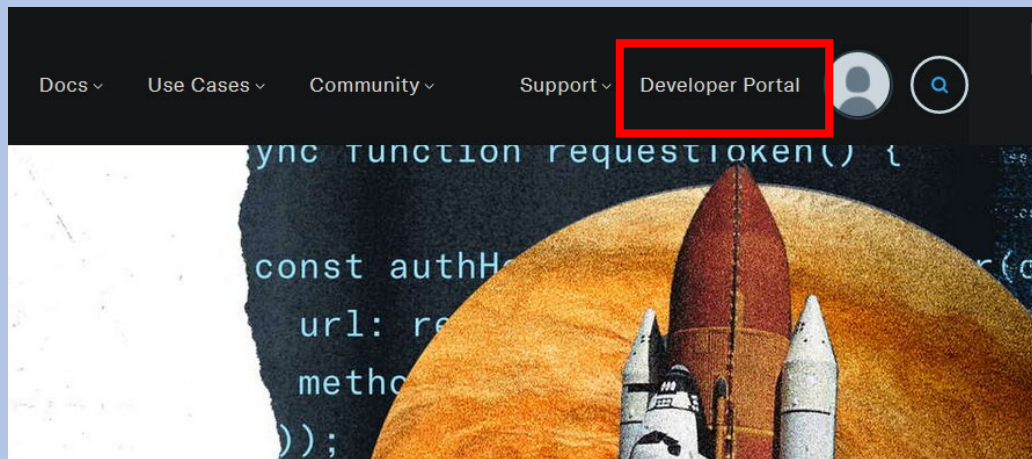
11. Make sure you install 'tracery3' and not the one that says just 'tracery'



- Now we're moving towards setting up our Twitter Developer Account.
- We need to get twitter developer account credentials.

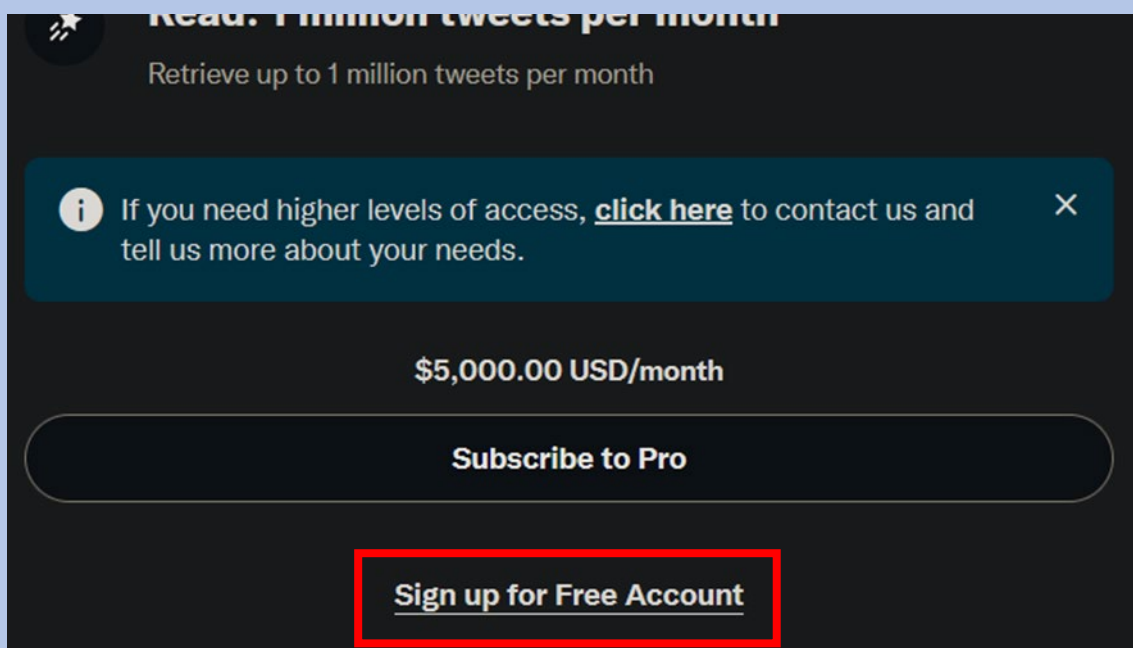
12. Make sure you're logged in to your Twitter bot account and navigate to developer.twitter.com

13. Click on 'Developer Portal' on the top



14. Scroll down and click 'Sign up for Free Account'

We do not need the expensive af paid plans.



- Now you need to describe your bot's functionality in 250+ words.

15. Tick all the checkboxes and click submit.

Developer agreement & policy

Describe all of your use cases of Twitter's data and API:

We need this information for data protection. [Learn more](#)

This is a twitter account that was made to post text based lyrics and/or quotes on twitter at set time intervals throughout the day. This account does not use the API to spam any messeges, nor does it abuse the api in any other way. The account also does not send any unsolicited DMs or mentions to other users.

☒ You understand that you may not resell anything you receive via the Twitter APIs

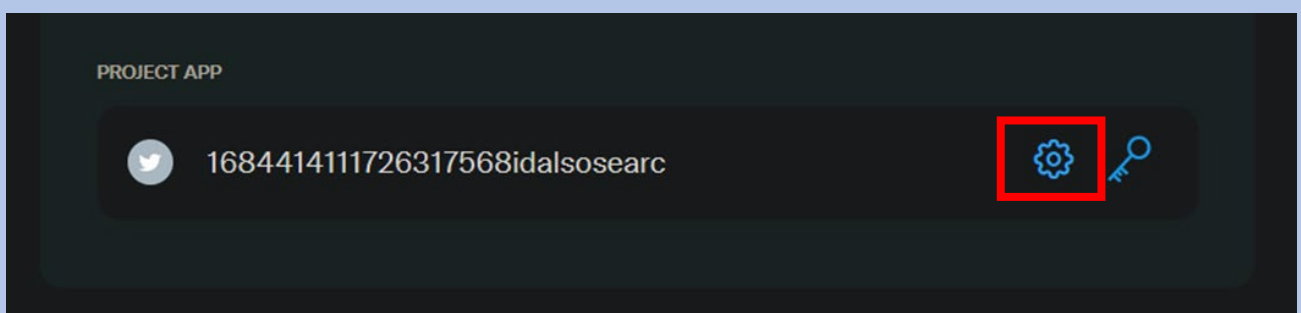
☒ You understand your Developer account may be terminated if you violate the Developer Agreement or any of the Incorporated Developer Terms

☒ You accept the Terms & Conditions

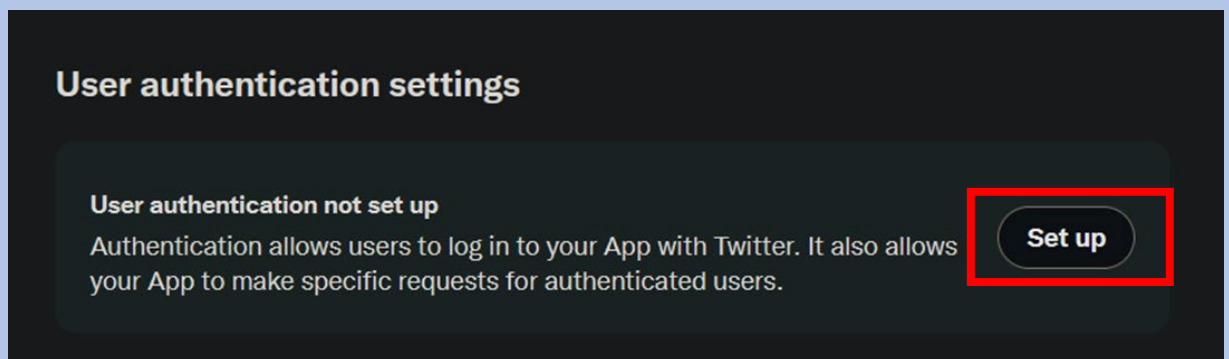
By clicking on the box, and by otherwise accessing or using any Licensed Material, you indicate that you have read and agree to this [Developer Agreement](#) and the [Twitter Developer Policy](#)

BackSubmit

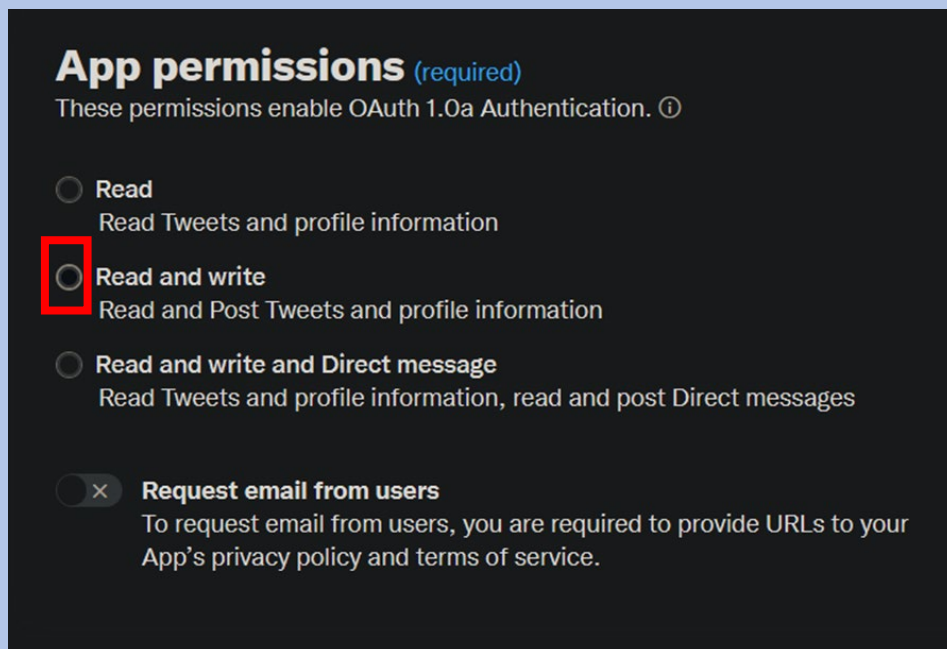
16. Now on the projects window, click the settings gear icon besides the default project app.



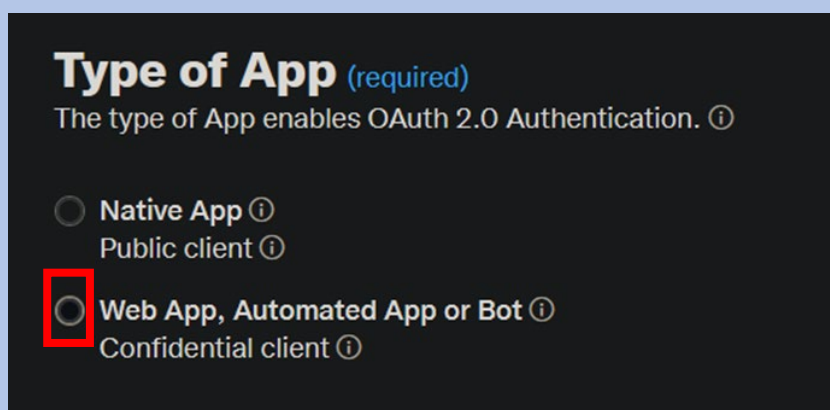
17. Scroll down to 'User Authentication Settings' and click 'Set Up'



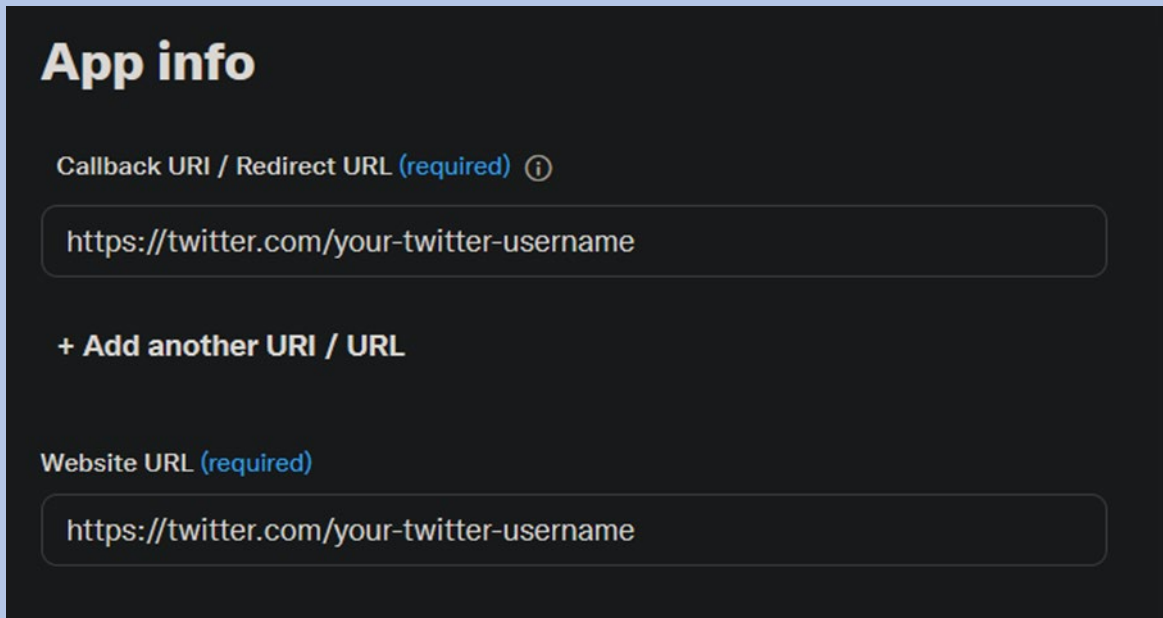
18. Tick 'Read and Write'



19. Tick 'Web App, Automated App or Bot'



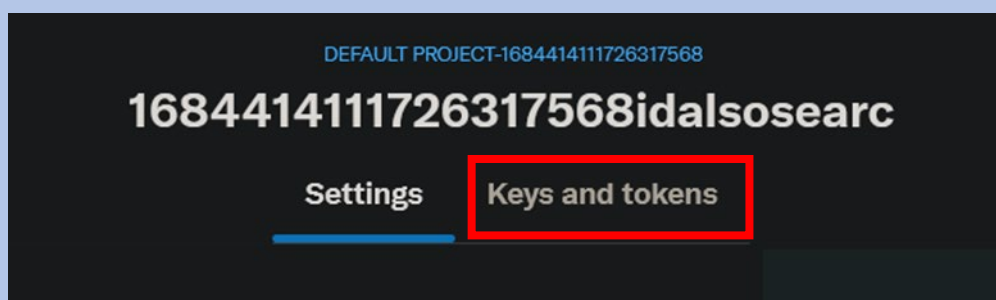
20. Under App Info, Enter your Twitter profile URL for the Callback URL and Website URL. All other fields are optional so we skip those and click 'Save'



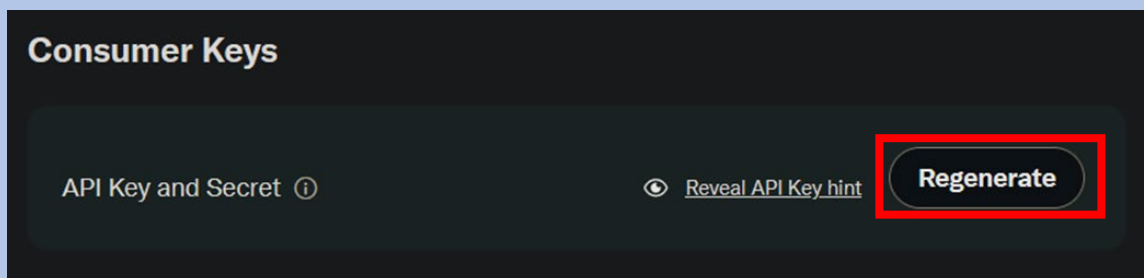
- A window shows up with OAuth Client ID and secret. You can save these if you want but we do not need them for our bot and you can always re-generate these if you need them in the future.

21. Click Done

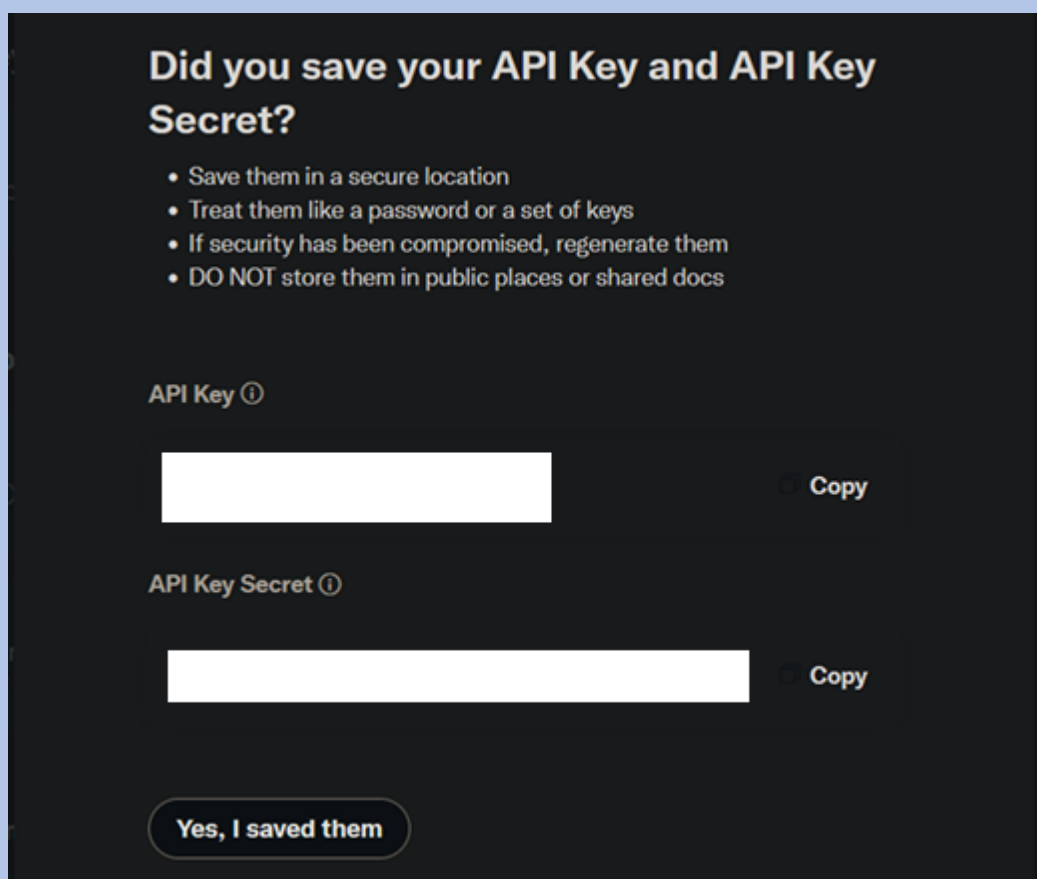
22. Now under your project app, click 'Keys and Tokens'



23. Under 'Consumer Keys' click 'Regenerate' for API Key and Secret.

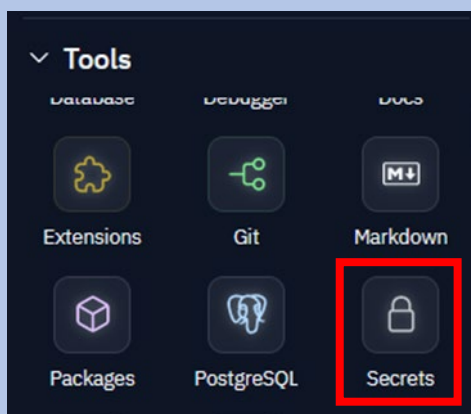


24. Save both the keys that pop-up in a notepad, we need these in the next steps. These keys are not to be shared with anyone as they allow direct access to your Twitter account.

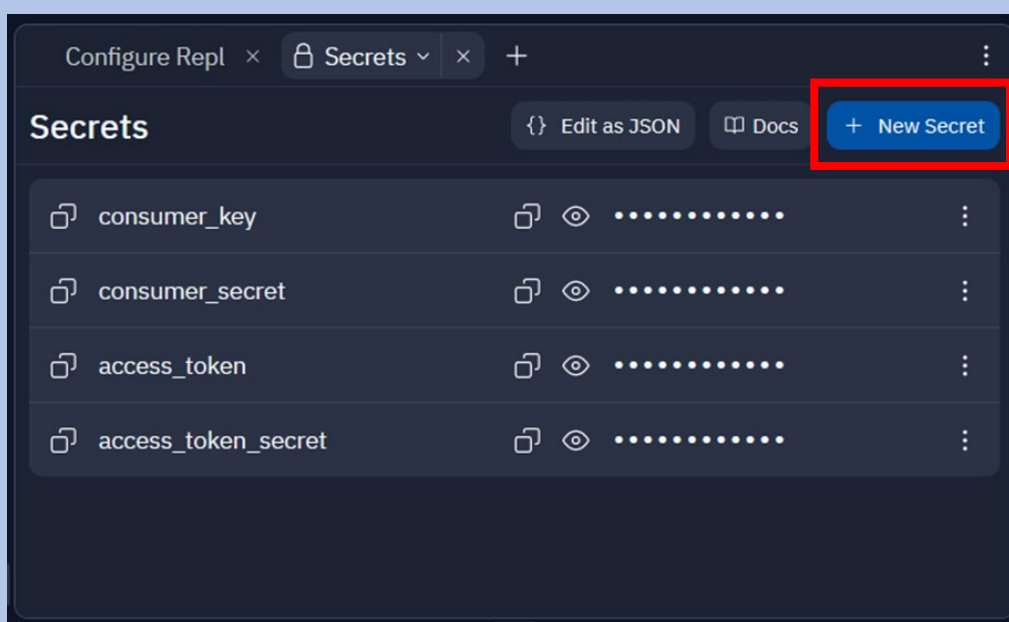


25. Do the same for Access Token and Secret under Authentication Tokens and save these as well.

26. Now come back to replit, Under Tools, click on Secrets.



27. In the secrets window on the right side, we need to add 4 secrets as shown in the picture. To add a secret, click 'New Secret'



- The names and values are as follows:

consumer_key = API KEY

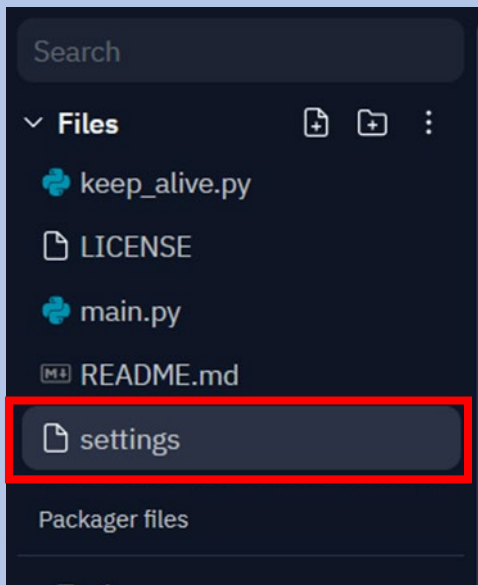
consumer_secret = API KEY SECRET

access_token = ACCESS TOKEN

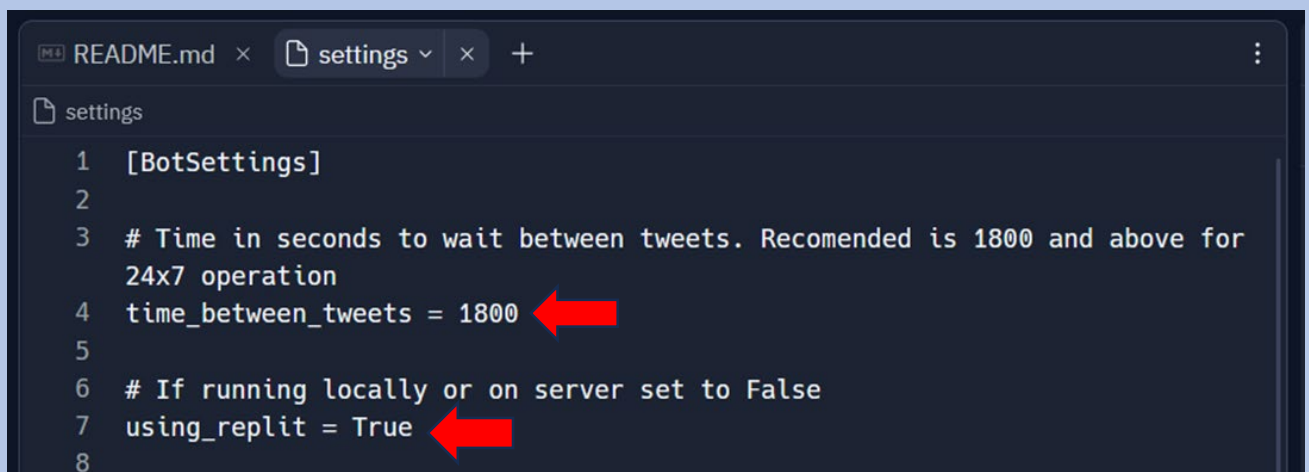
access_token_secret = ACCESS TOKEN SECRET

28. Enter the respective values that we saved from previous steps.

29. Now come to the Files tab on the left side. Click on the settings file.



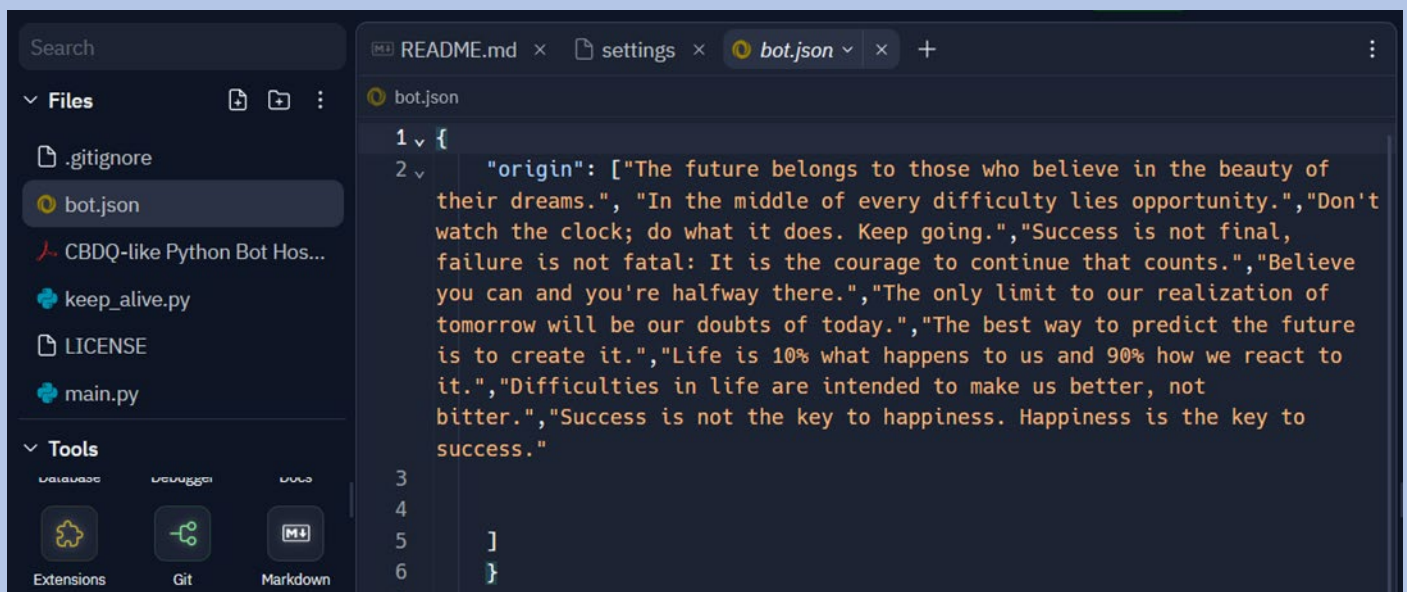
30. Change the 'time_between_tweets' value on line 4 to whatever interval you want. This value is in seconds. Recommended to set something above 1800.



31. Make sure line 7 'using_repit' says True.

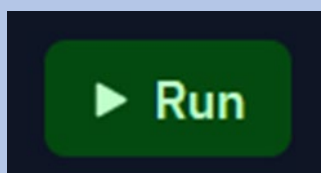
- For replit you do not need to make any further changes to the settings file.

- 32. Now from files, click on the bot.json file. It already contains some default text.**



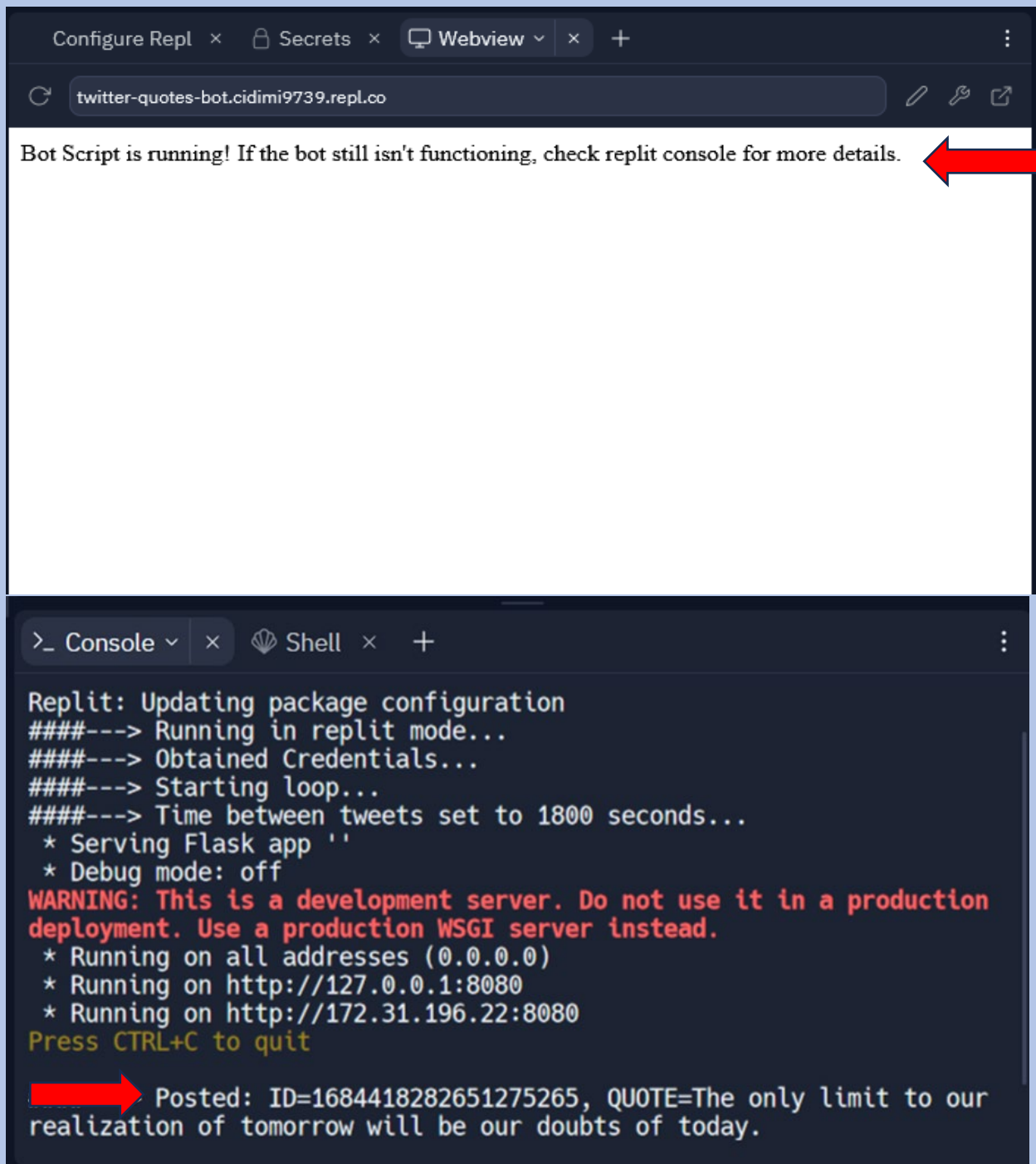
- 33. Replace the contents of this file with the contents of your json file that was being used with CheapBotsDoneQuick.**

- 34. Now we are all set up. Time to run the bot. Click on the green 'Run' button on the top.**



- Keep an eye on the console window at the bottom right corner. It will show you the updates and info. Give it a few minutes to set everything up.

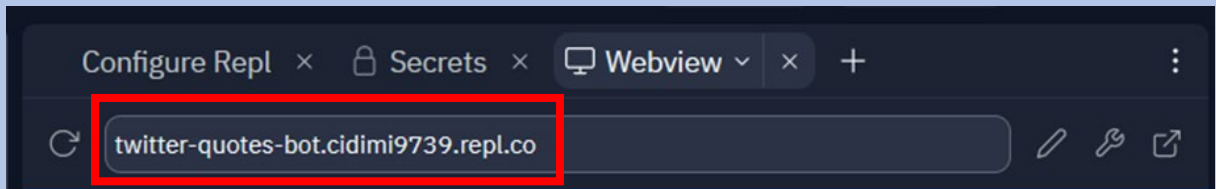
- When it's successful you should see something similar to the picture. You should see below shown message on the top window and the info for the first tweet that your bot has posted in the bottom console window.



- You should also see a new tweet on your Twitter profile.

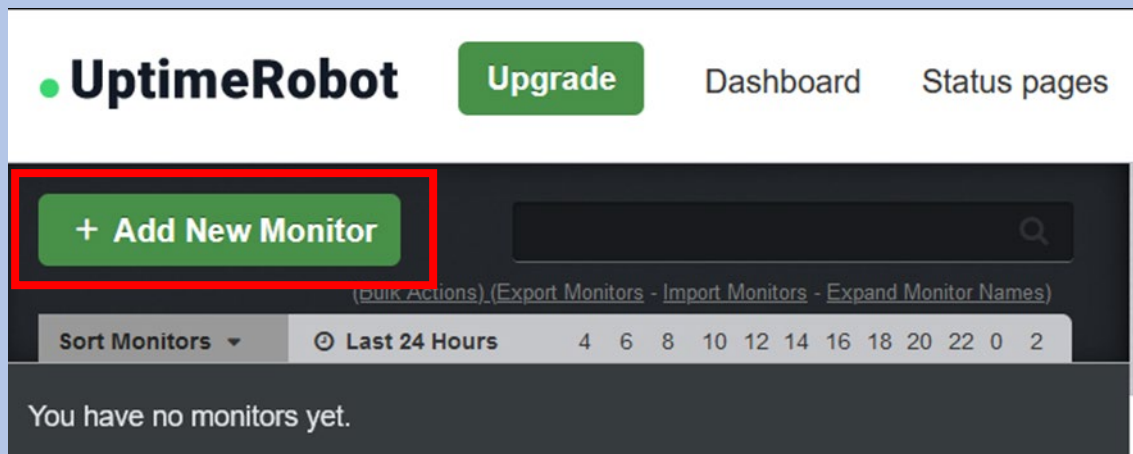
- Now we need to set-up another service that will keep the bot awake.

35. From the WebView window on the top, we need to copy the URL shown.



36. Go to uptimerobot.com and sign up.

37. On the dashboard, click 'Add New Monitor' on the left side.



38. Enter details as shown below.

- Monitor Type: HTTP(S)
- Friendly Name: Anything you want
- URL: Paste the URL we copied from replit earlier, include 'https://' at the beginning of the URL to avoid any errors.

39. Next, on the right side you can tick the box next to your email to get alerts if the bot goes down.

New Monitor

Monitor Information

Monitor Type

HTTP(s)

Friendly Name

My Twitter Bot

URL (or IP)

https://twitter-quotes-bot.cidin

Monitoring Interval

every 5 minutes

Monitor Timeout

in 30 seconds

Monitor SSL errors

☐

PRO Available only in the PRO plan. Upgrade

Enable SSL expiry reminders

☐

PRO Available only in the PRO plan. Upgrade

BETA Enable domain expiry reminders

☐

PRO Available only in the PRO plan. Upgrade

HTTP Method

HEAD

GET

POST

or

PUT

PATCH

DELETE

OPTIONS

Select "Alert Contacts To Notify"

Search

Type

Alert Contacts

(0)

☒

☐

Idalso Bot - E-mail - cidimi9739@wiemei...

Do you want to invite someone from your team?

Invite team member

Select "Integrations To Notify"

There are no integrations.

Search

Select "Maintenance Windows"

This is a PAID Plan feature for auto-disabling/enabling monitoring on pre-defined periods. Upgrade

40. Scroll down and click Create Monitor.

- You should now see your monitor and its uptime on your dashboard. This should keep the bot running constantly.
- Note : Since replit is a free service, I've noticed that regardless of this monitor, the bot will go down sometimes but should also come back online automatically.
- For full 24x7 uptime you will need to host the bot on a Linux cloud server or something similar but that will probably be a paid service.

-----End of Replit Guide-----

Set-Up for Linux :

1. Clone the GitHub repo and move into its folder:

```
git clone https://github.com/loonathedorm/Twitter-Quotes-Bot.git && cd Twitter-Quotes-Bot
```

2. Run the following command to install the required packages (Assuming you already have python installed):

```
pip3 install tweepy flask tracery3
```

3. Follow steps 12 – 25 from Replit Section to obtain Twitter Developer Account credentials and save them in a notepad.

4. Open settings file mentioned in step 29 of the replit section:

a. Add Twitter Developer credentials into the settings file under the appropriate options :

- i. consumer_key = API KEY
- ii. consumer_secret = API KEY SECRET
- iii. access_token = ACCESS TOKEN
- iv. access_token_secret = ACCESS TOKEN SECRET

b. Edit time interval value in line 4 as per your choice. Recommended above 1800. The value is in seconds.

c. Set value of using_replit on line 7 to `False`

5. Open the bot.json file.

- a. Replace the sample quotes/lyrics already present in the file with your own content.
- b. Each individual quote/lyric should be enclosed in double quotes "Like This" and separated by a comma as done in the sample content.
- c. The bot.json file follows the format used in CheapBotsDoneQuick. So if you have an existing file from there, it can be used here directly.

6. Time to run the bot. We will be using the screen command to run the bot in background on our Linux server :

- a. Make sure you have screen installed:

sudo apt install screen

- b. Start new session:

screen -S TwitterBot

- c. Run the bot:

python3 main.py

7. Hit Ctrl+A+D to exit the screen session, the bot should continue to run in the background.

- To get back to the bot you can use the command `screen -r`

----- End of Linux Guide -----

Basic Troubleshooting :

- If your bot isn't working as expected, the easiest way to identify any issues is to scroll through the output in the console window on replit. You will probably see what the exact issue is.
- I have also added basic tests to the bot to narrow down possible point of failure :

a. Go to the shell window in replit and type :

python3 main.py --quote

```
~/Twitter-Quotes-Bot$ python3 main.py --quote
####---> Current Version = v3
Often, foley artists will use well controlled forest fires to simulate the sound
of a plant growing, but speeded up.
```

If you receive an error here, this means something is wrong with the bot.json file parsing.

b. Go to the shell window in replit and type :

python3 main.py --tweet

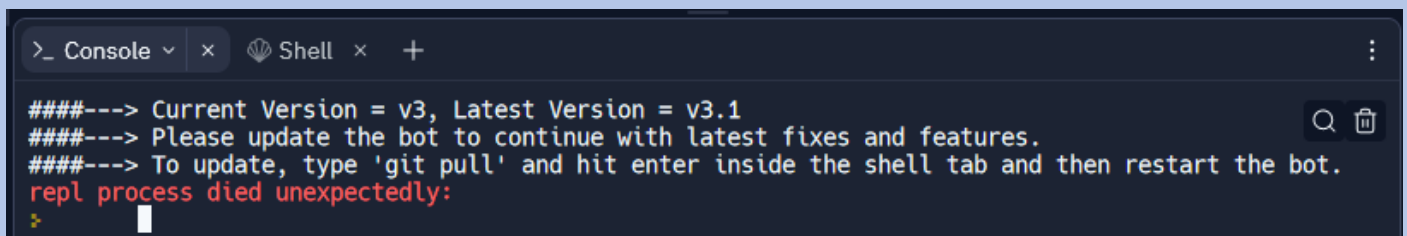
```
~/Twitter-Quotes-Bot$ python3 main.py --tweet
####---> Current Version = v3
####---> Obtained Credentials...

####---> Posted: ID=1684804480494149632, QUOTE=Often, foley artists will use a bag of
ball bearings to recreate the sound of zombies chewing on vital organs.
```

If you receive an error here, this means something is wrong with Twitter API. It could be an error on your side while entering the credentials or it could also be an error on Twitter's side like their servers being down.

Updating the Bot :

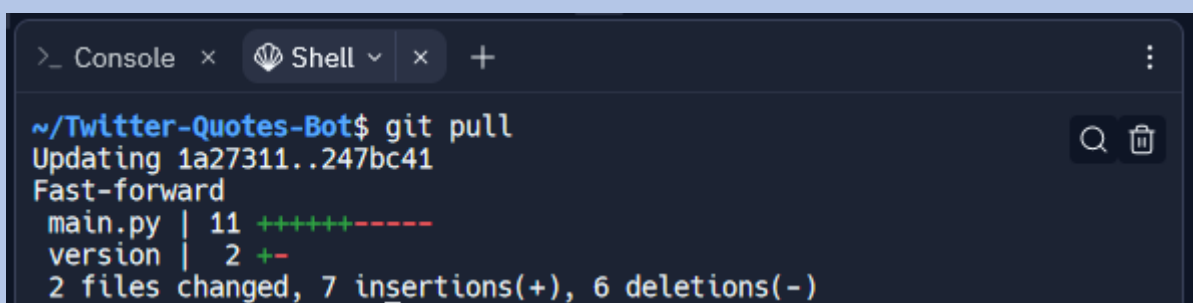
- There is a simple update checker built into the bot.
- If you run your bot and see the following output in your console window, this means you need to update the code to continue.



```
>_ Console x Shell x +
####---> Current Version = v3, Latest Version = v3.1
####---> Please update the bot to continue with latest fixes and features.
####---> To update, type 'git pull' and hit enter inside the shell tab and then restart the bot.
repl process died unexpectedly:
>
```

- The method to update is already mentioned in the output message, below you can see how it looks like when updating.
 - To update you need to enter the following command in the shell window in replit :

git pull



```
>_ Console x Shell x +
~/Twitter-Quotes-Bot$ git pull
Updating 1a27311..247bc41
Fast-forward
 main.py | 11 ++++++-----
 version | 2 +-
 2 files changed, 7 insertions(+), 6 deletions(-)
```

- Once you have updated successfully, you can hit the RUN button on top to execute the bot once again.

For any further questions/queries/ideas/suggestions, you can contact me directly on Twitter [@loonathedorm](https://twitter.com/loonathedorm)