Some Obligatory History

- Bill Joy created vi in 1976 for Unix
  - Continuation of the "ed" line editor
- Vim stands for "Vi IMproved" and was released in 1991
- Started as a basic port but has added a bunch of new features over vanilla vi
  - Default distribution with most flavors of Linux

Modes!

The part that scares everyone away from Vim is the concept of "modal editing". What does this mean?

- You can be in one of three different modes at any point
  - `i` or `a` puts you in insert mode
  - `v` puts you in visual (or "highlight") mode
  - Exit either of those modes by hitting escape. This puts you in Normal mode (which is also the default)
- It usually says on the bottom which one you're in.
- If you're ever scared, just hit escape. It will be OK.

Simple Movement

There is a relatively non-intuitive set of keys for moving around character-by-character

- ▶ `h` moves left
- ▶ `l` moves right
- ▶ `j` moves down
- ▶ `k` moves up

- ▶ You can also use the arrow keys

More advanced movement

I almost never use the `hjkl` commands to move around, and prefer to usually go by word or by paragraph.

- ▶ `w` moves you forward a word and puts your cursor in front of the next word.
- ▶ `e` moves you to the end of the current word or the end of the next one
- ▶ `}` moves you to the end of the paragraph (or the next one)
- ▶ `{` moves you to the beginning of the paragraph (or the previous one)

I find it's useful to get into the pattern of going "by word" instead of "by character" as it makes writing macros a lot simpler

More advanced movement

- 0 jumps to the beginning of the line
- \$ jumps to the end of the line
- I jumps to the beginning of the line and puts you in insert mode
- A jumps to the end of the line and puts you in insert mode