@APIHANDYMAN
HUMAN CENTERED
API GOVERNANCE

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Arnaud Lauret
The Design of Web APIs
@apihandyman

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API all the things
And now for something completely different

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Why doing APIs?

@APIHANDYMAN
Flexible IT

@APIHANDYMAN
Enhanced business

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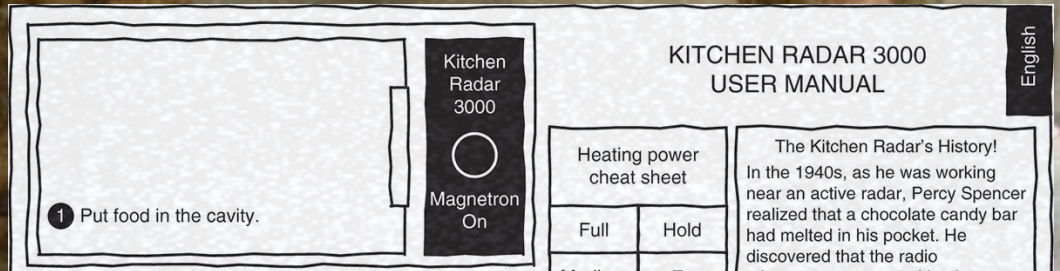
Good API Theory



KITCHEN RADAR 3000 USER MANUAL

English

1. Put food in the cavity.
2. Push the Magnetron On button to generate microwaves and start heating your food. Turning the magnetron on and off modulates heating power (see cheat sheet for timing).
3. Enjoy your food when it's cooked enough.

Heating power cheat sheet	
Full	Hold
Medium	7s
Low	11s
Thaw	13s

The Kitchen Radar's History!

In the 1940s, as he was working near an active radar, Percy Spencer realized that a chocolate candy bar had melted in his pocket. He discovered that the radio microwaves generated by the radar's magnetron could heat matter. After a few experiments he created a new type of oven that heats food faster than gas or electric ovens.

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Simple to understand and use
Fulfill needs

It's ...
Complicated
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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS

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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS
More concerns

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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS
Consistency is hard

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Not all experts

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OFF ON
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BRIGHTNESS
Not all care

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Good APIs at scale is hard

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Foster good APIs creation
And now for something completely different

@APIHANDYMAN
Advocating

@APIHANDYMAN
50
40
30
20
10
23%
28%
43%
Changing IT mindset

@APIHANDYMAN
50
40
30
20
10
23%
28%
43%
Raising business awareness

@APIHANDYMAN
50
40
30
20
10
23%
28%
43%
Breaking silos

@APIHANDYMAN
50
40
30
20
10
23%
28%
43%
Ensuring sponsorship

Design with
consistent style
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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS

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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS
Why design guidelines?

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Designer experience

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Consistent with
the outside world

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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS
No nonsense style

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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS
Actionable design recipes

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No rules without explanations

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OFF ON
VOLUME
CONTRAST
BRIGHTNESS
Listen to feedback

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API design support

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Mistakes

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Incomplete guidelines

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Domain consistency

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Make sense for outsiders?

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Guidelines are not enough

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Need API design reviews

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Nobody expects
the API inquisition

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People expect a helping hand

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Respect and promote
ownserhip

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From reviews to workshops

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More awareness

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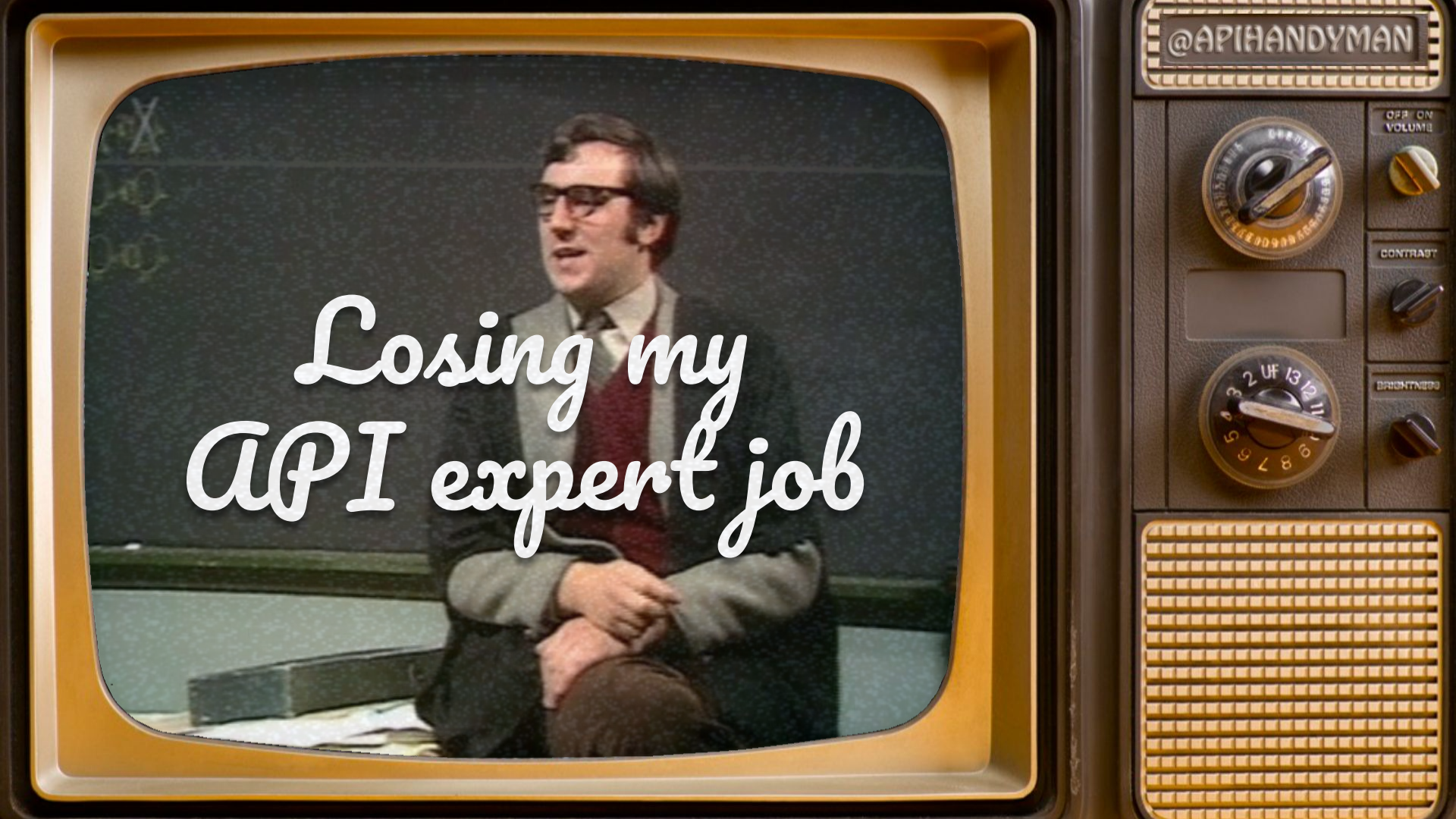
Free of charge support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Losing my
API expert job

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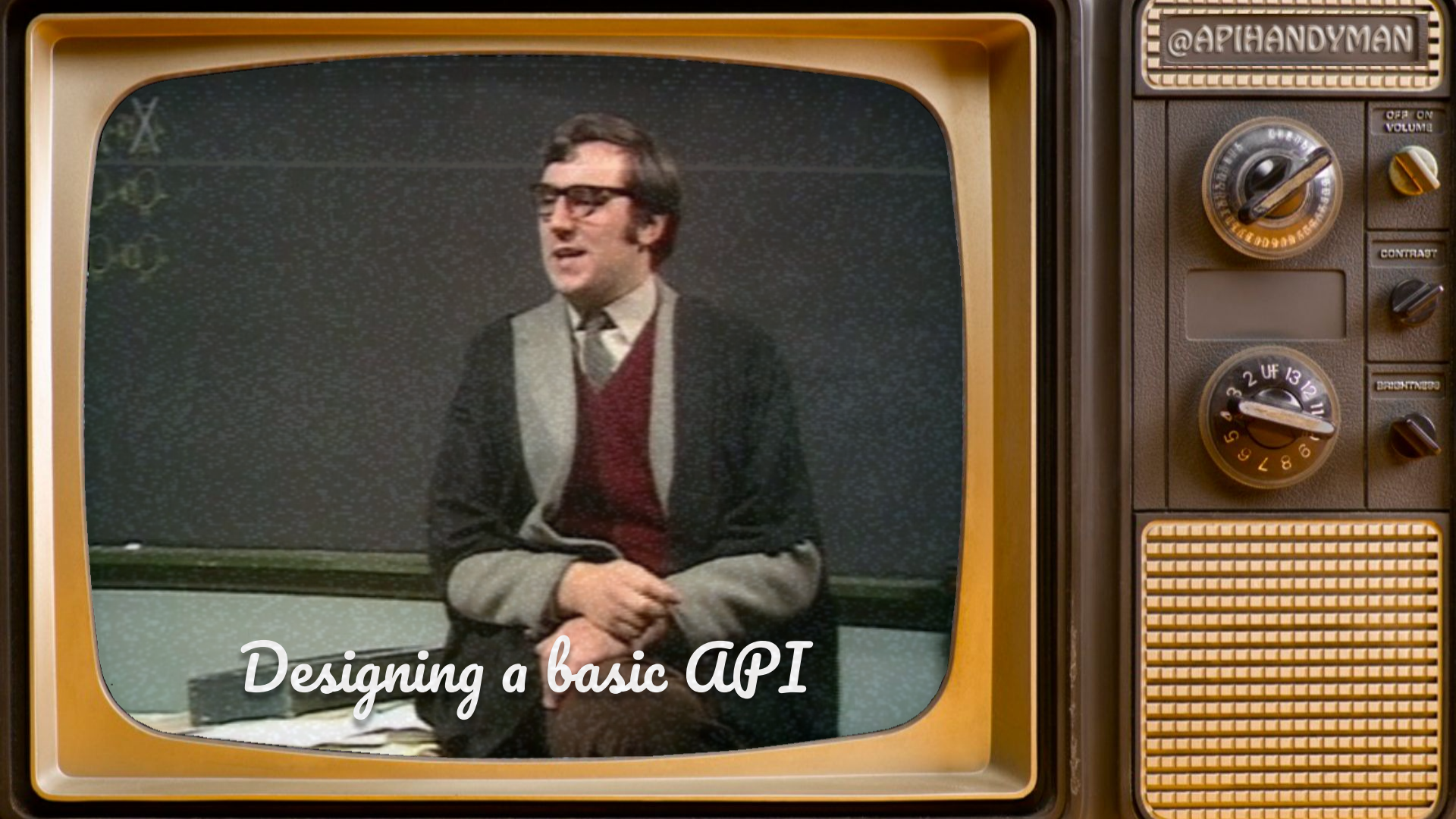
CONTRAST
Seeking local experts

@APIHANDYMAN
Training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Designing a basic API

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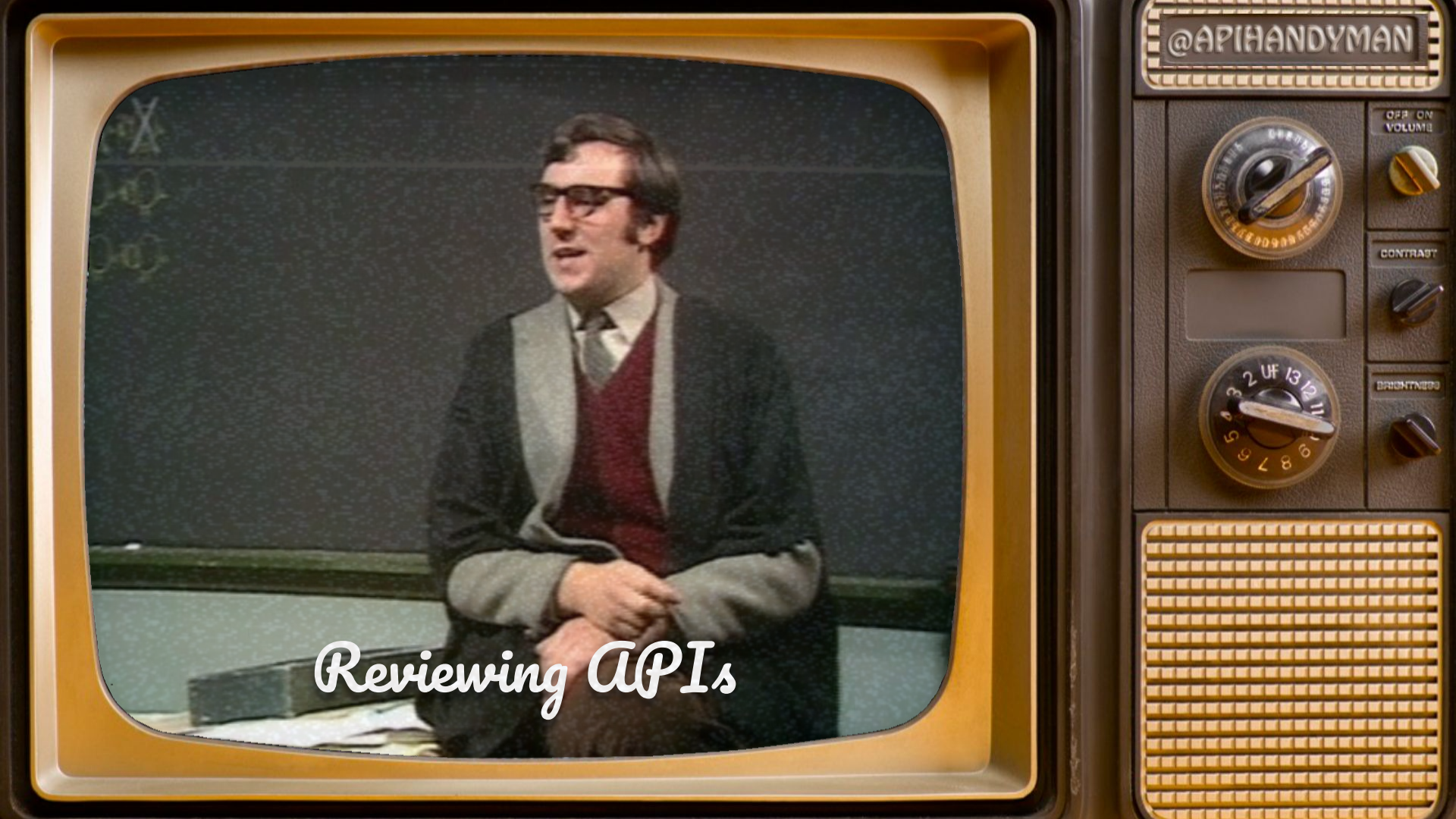
Designing complex APIs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Reviewing APIs

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OFF ON
VOLUME
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BRIGHTNESS
Training material

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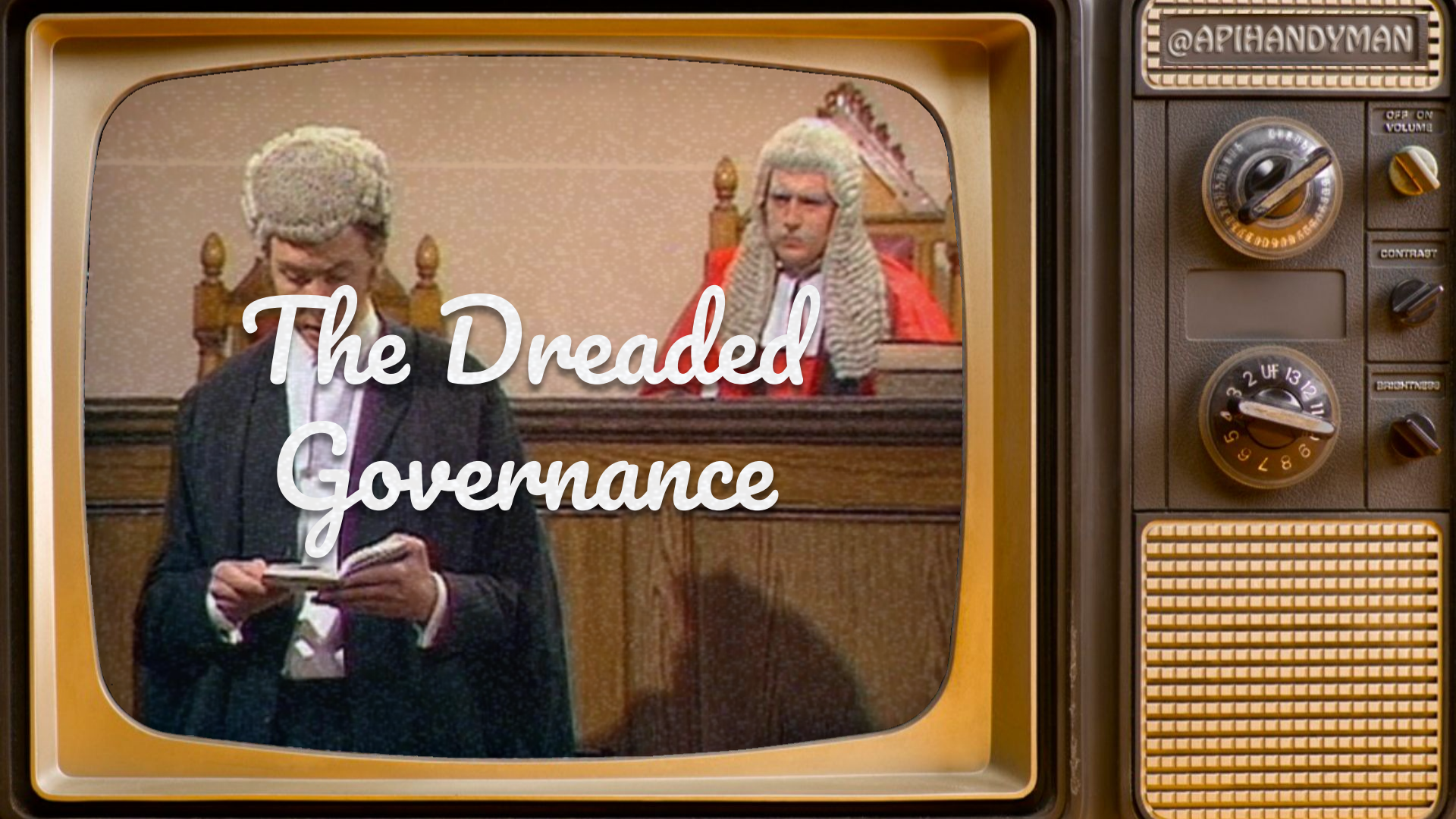
But the topic was supposed to be ...
And now for something completely different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The Dreaded Governance

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Kafkaesque dictatorship?

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Helping rather than enforcing

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Adapted constraints

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Willingly self-constrained

Humand centered
API governance
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Not only tools and processes

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People first

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Thank you!
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