

THE MYTH OF THE REAL JAVASCRIPT DEVELOPER

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front-end engineer / [TED](#)

“REAL DEVELOPER”

“REAL DEVELOPER”



REAL DEVELOPER



**“I NEED TO
KNOW
EVERYTHING”**

THE FRONT-END SPECTRUM



MASTER OF NONE



“You still use gulp?

You should be
using webpack!”



Ooh!

Something shiny!

December 2013

webpack

August 2013

gulp

May 2013

broccoli

March 2012

grunt

USE NEW AND
SHINY WHEN IT
SOLVES A
PROBLEM

**“I NEED TO
KNOW
MEMORIZE
EVERYTHING”**



Richard Feynman



“They had wasted
their time
memorizing stuff
like that, when it
could be looked up
in fifteen minutes.”

Richard Feynman

THIS IS NOT
A TEST

REAL DEVELOPERS
USE
RESOURCES
WISELY

“If you want them
to RTFM, make a
better FM”

Kathy Sierra



YOUR PEERS ARE
A RESOURCE

“My biggest professional development was getting comfortable admitting what I don't know.”

Jessica Rose @jesslynnrose

YOUR EGO
ISN'T WORTH IT

You are here.

#JUNIORDEVFORLIFE

Dan Abramov @dan_abramov

Ryan Florence @ryanflorence

REAL DEVELOPERS
ACCEPT THE
UNKNOWN

“I MUST
WRITE
PERFECT
CODE”



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BUT CUTTING IS
MORE FUN
THAN MEASURING

SOFTWARE IS SOFT



CONTINUE?



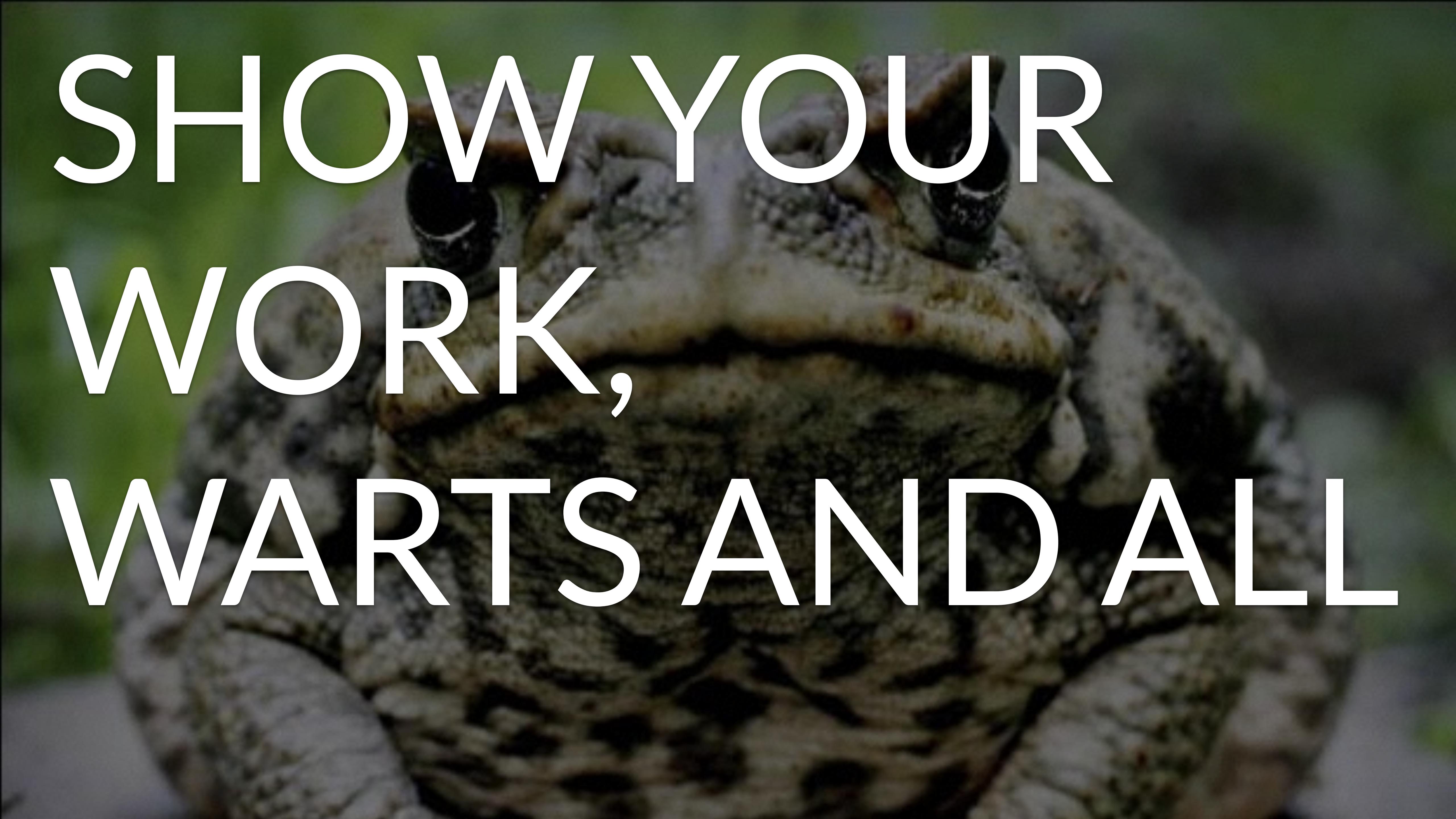


“I have not failed.
I’ve just found
10,000 ways
that won’t work”

Thomas Edison

REAL DEVELOPERS
LEARN FROM
MISTAKES

REAL DEVELOPERS
KNOW HOW
TO DEBUG



SHOW YOUR
WORK,
WARTS SANDAL!



“It’ll be pretty
when we get
there, but it
won’t be pretty
along the way.”

Ed Catmull *Creativity Inc.*

A close-up photograph of a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is looking upwards and slightly to his right with a thoughtful expression. The background is a soft-focus blue.

#WELLACTUALLY

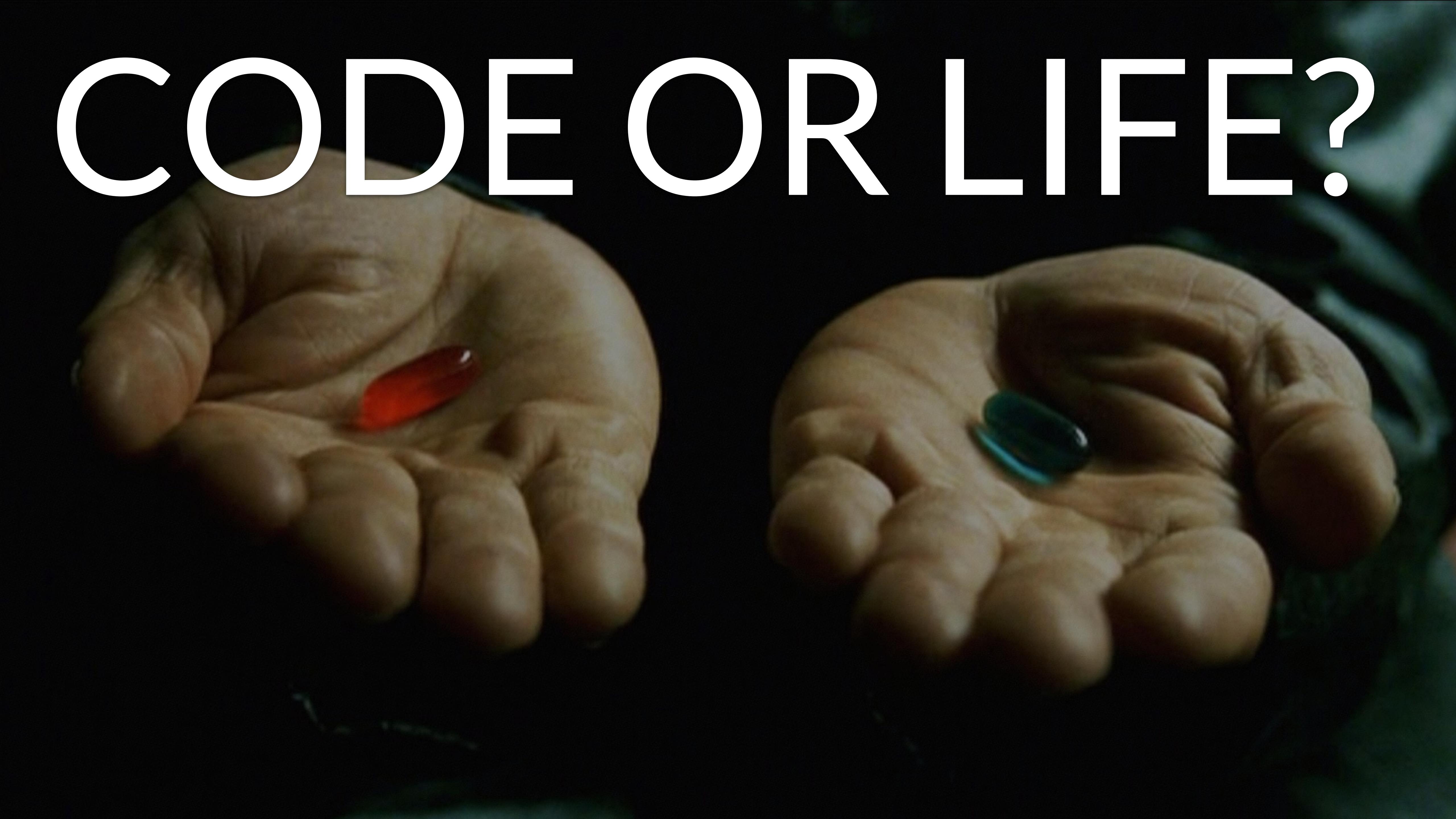
CELEBRATE SUCCESS!

A photograph of a baseball game in progress. In the foreground, several spectators wearing red jerseys with white lettering are cheering. One jersey clearly shows the number '7'. Behind them, players in blue and red uniforms are on the field. A large crowd is visible in the background, and a green banner with the word 'BUD' is partially visible.

REAL DEVELOPERS
ENCOURAGE
EACH OTHER

**“I HAVE TO
CODE ALL DAY
EVERYDAY”**

CODE OR LIFE?

A close-up photograph of two hands, likely belonging to a woman, resting on a dark, textured surface. The hands are positioned palm-up, with a single red capsule held between the thumb and index finger of the left hand, and a single green capsule held between the thumb and index finger of the right hand. The lighting is dramatic, casting deep shadows and highlighting the texture of the skin and the smooth surfaces of the capsules.



“They want to change the world, but they work all the time. So what exactly do they know about the world [outside] the cloisters of VCs and startup culture?”

Ellen Ullman



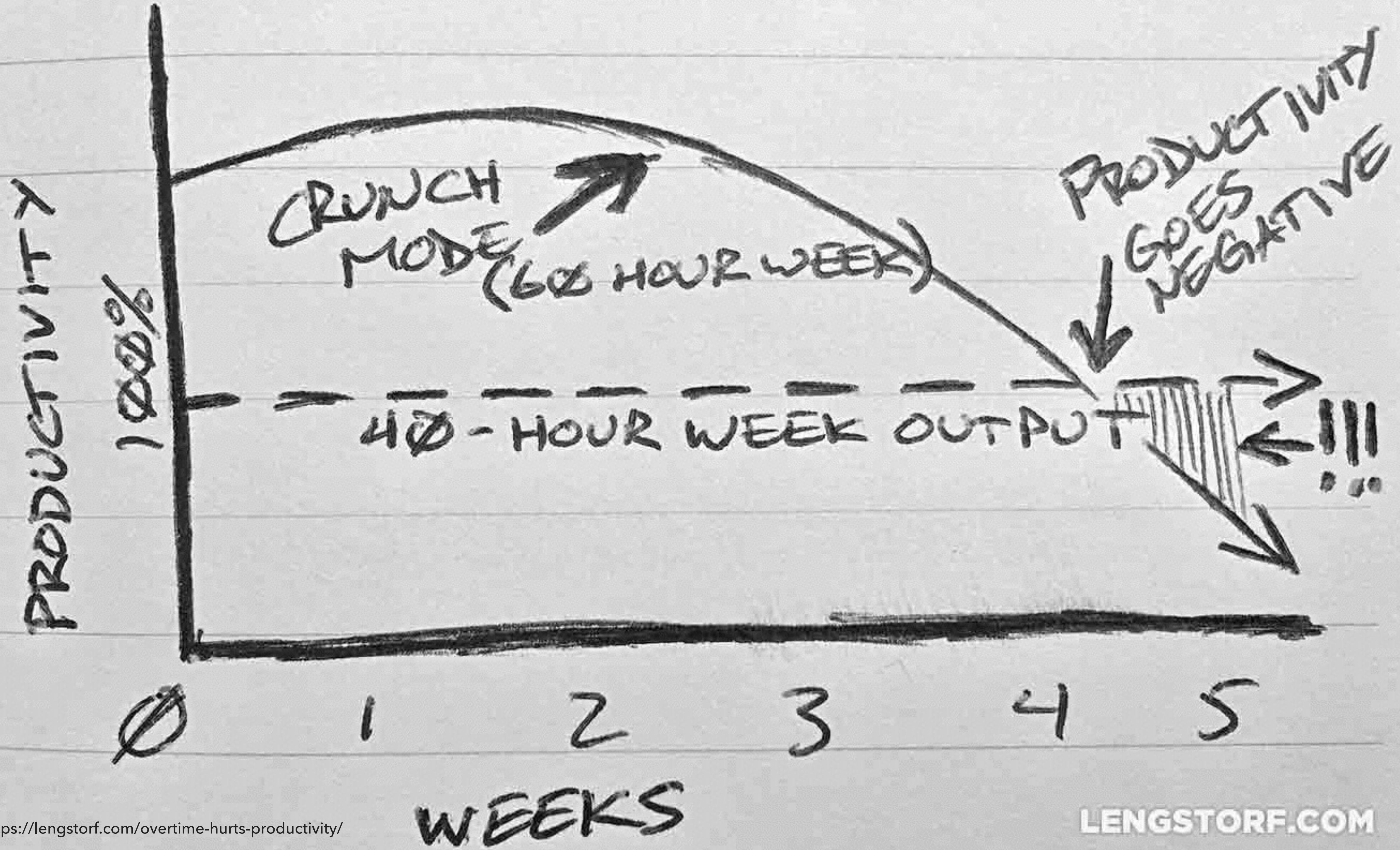
DEVELOPERS CAN
BE CARPENTERS

Matt Marquis @wilton

DEVELOPERS CAN BE PARENTS



Nicole Sullivan @stubornella



“Constraints are often advantages in disguise. Forget about venture capital, long release cycles, and quick hires. Instead, work with what you have.”

REAL DEVELOPERS
THINK
OUTSIDE THE
BROWSER



CODE CAN BE
CREATIVE

Mariko Kosaka @kosamari

CODE CAN BE
CREATIVE

Jenn Schiffer @jennschiffer

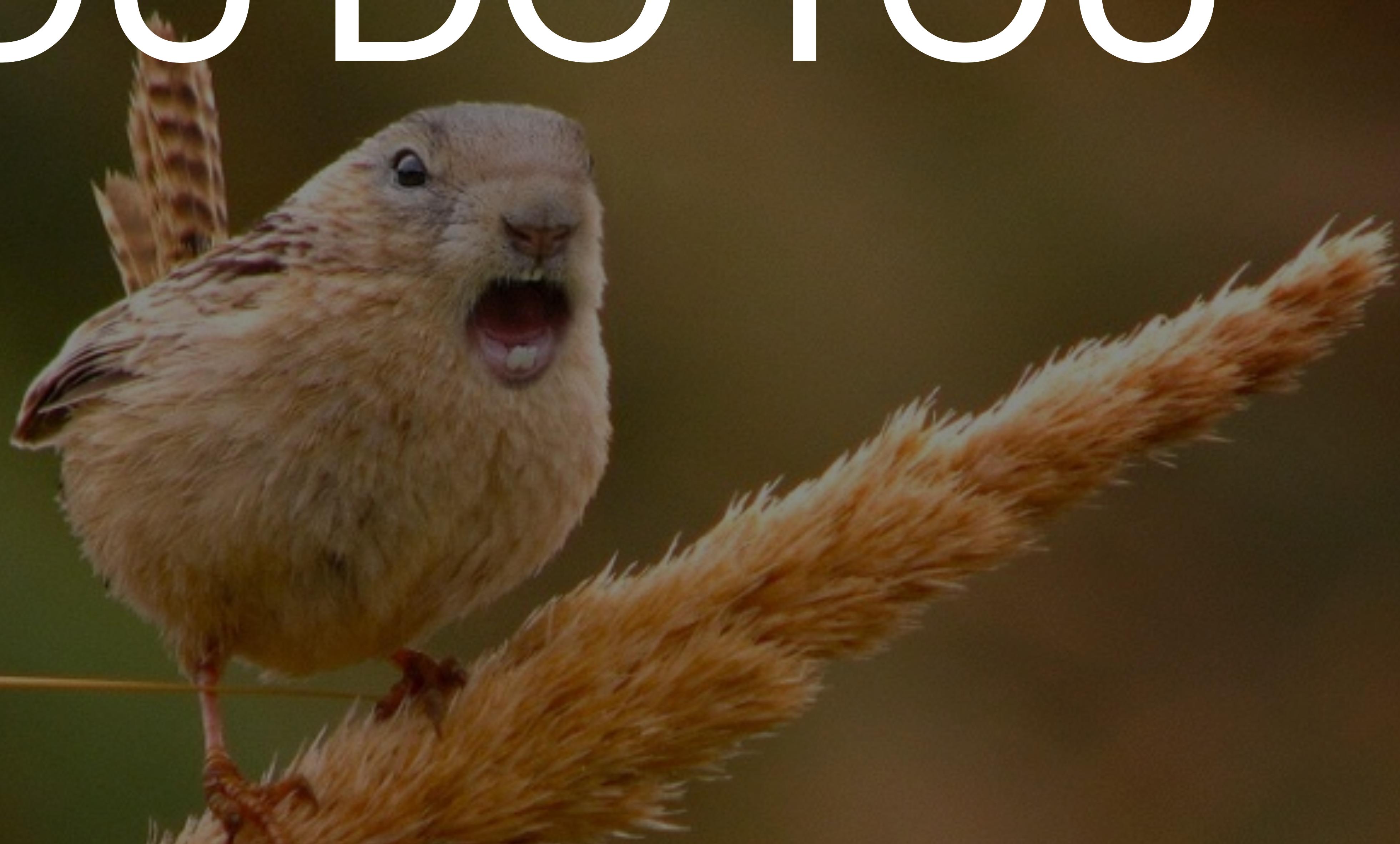
vart.institute



“Technology-inspired technology gives us incremental improvements. Art-inspired technology gives us brand new ideas.”

Amy Wibow @sailorhg

YOU DO YOU



REAL DEVELOPERS

RESOURCEFUL

ACCEPTING

CREATIVE

BUST THE MYTH.
RESHAPE THE
NARRATIVE.

Thank you!

[@brnnbrn](#)

talks.brennaobrien.com/real-developer