

how to become a developer

about me

hi, i'm john mosesman.

**i'm an independent developer and
consultant who would rather be in
the woods or playing video games**





Things I've learned related to programming.

[How to Become a Developer Part 4: The Steps](#)

October 07, 2017

[How to Become a Developer Part 3: What type?](#)

April 21, 2017

[How to Become a Developer Part 2: What skills?](#)

April 19, 2017

[How to Become a Developer Part 1: Why?](#)

April 15, 2017



our goal:
become full-time employed as a software developer

talk structure

why?

what skills?

what kind?

ok but how?

first job?

(bonus* how to be an outstanding junior developer)

why?

practical reasons

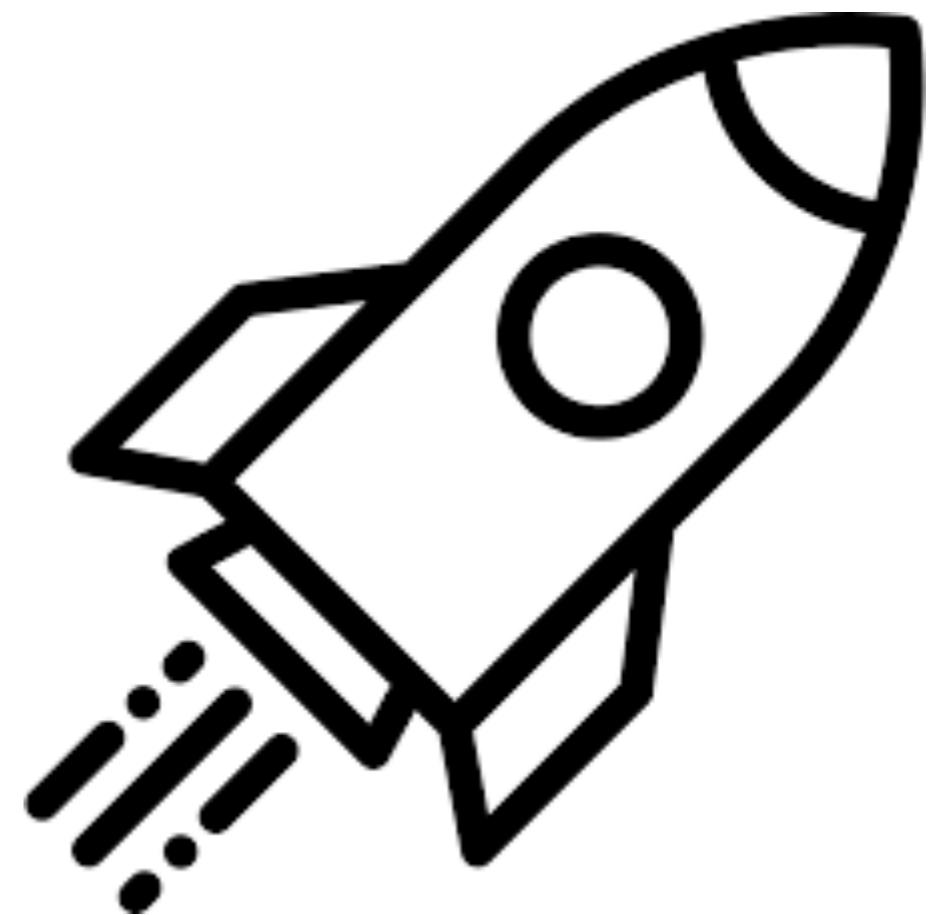
MONEY





“connected”
read: hackable.

bootstrap-ability



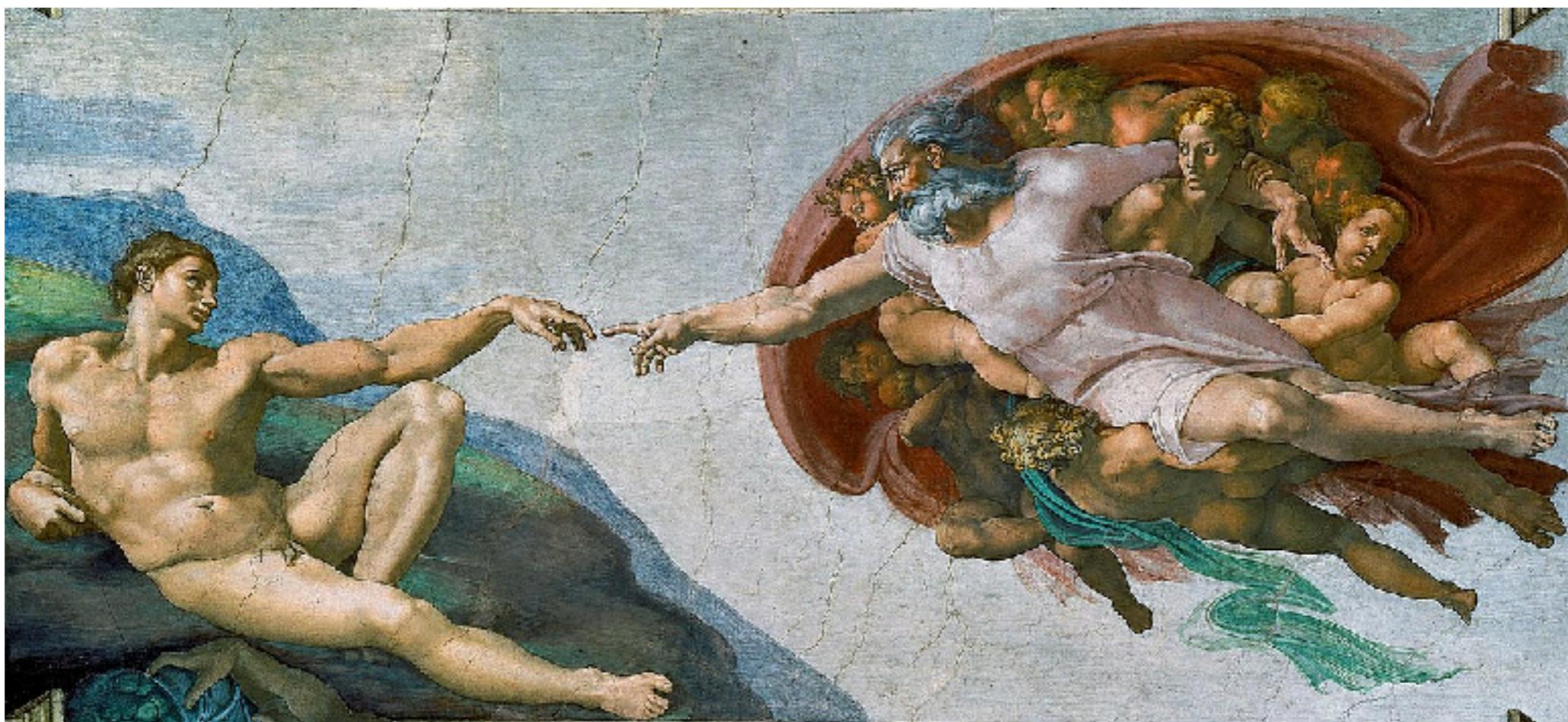
known path

not hard, but a lot of hard work



personal reasons

creation





Ryan LaBouve

@RyanLaBouve

Following



Making invisible robots from words

Abstractions conf returns 2019 @abstractionscon

What five words best describe programming?

Show this thread

8:21 PM - 23 Apr 2018

8 Retweets 33 Likes



8



33



programming is domain-less

programming is a tool

a very versatile tool

**apply it to whatever you're
already interested in**

[domainless.com](#)

for sale

[domainless.net](#)

[domainless.org](#)

[domainless.co](#)

available

[domainless.io](#)

available

[domainless.us](#)

available

[domainl.es/s](#)

available

[domai.nl/ess](#)

[doma.in/less](#)

[dom.ai/nless](#)

[do ma/inless](#)

why not?

don't learn programming if

you don't like computers

you don't like desk jobs

you don't like to learn new things

notable exclusions!

notable exclusions

not “good at math”

not “smart”

what skills?



DETERMINATION

"THE QUESTION ISN'T WHO'S GOING TO LET ME, IT'S WHO'S GOING TO STOP ME." AYN RAND

story time

skills you don't need!

skills you don't need

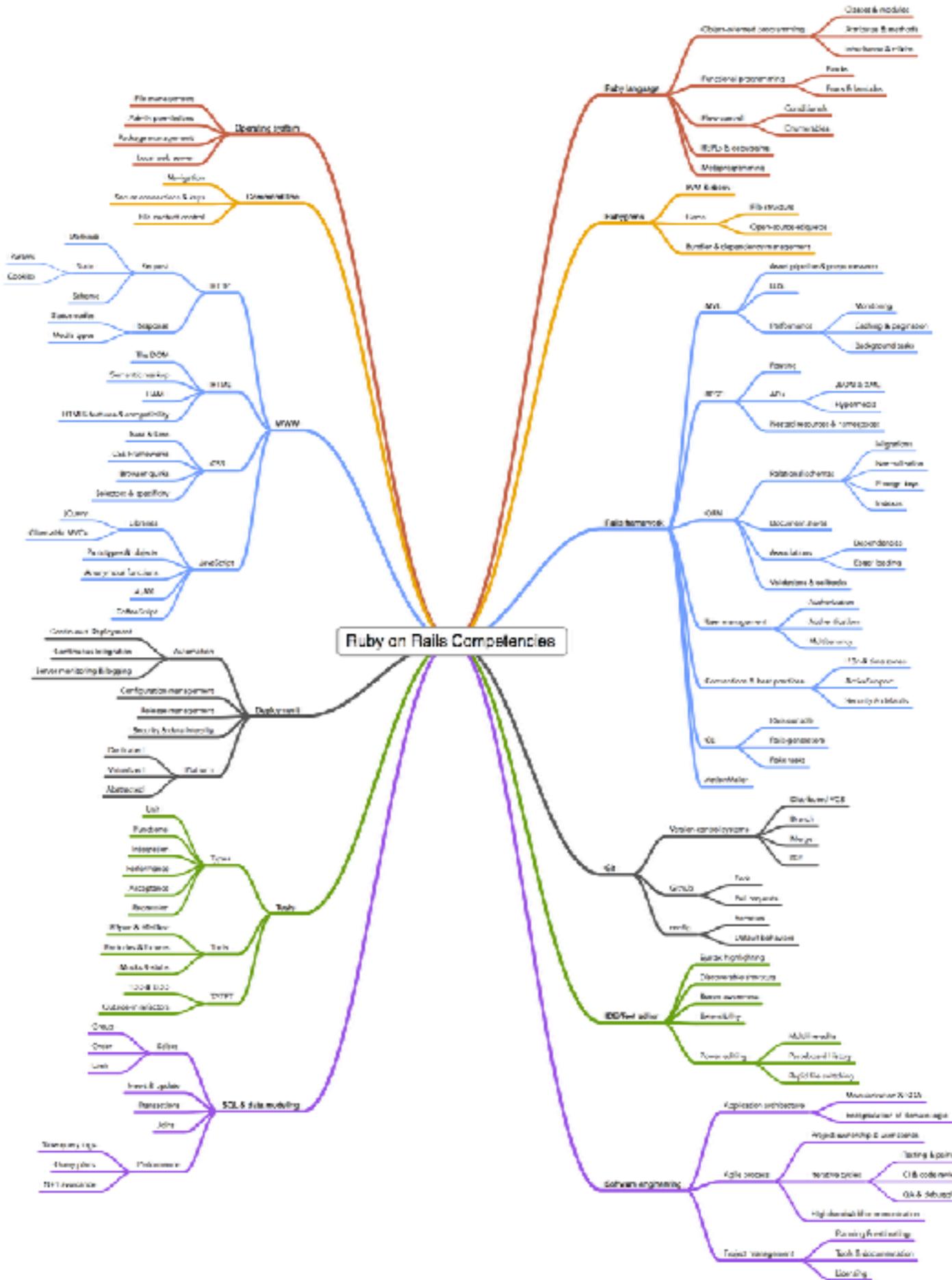
tech-savviness

good at math and science

computer science degree (!!)

welder vs material scientist

it's not hard,
but it takes a lot of hard work



what kind of developer?



types of applications

websites

web apps

native apps (desktop/mobile)

internet of things

websites



<https://www.warnerbros.com/archive/spacejam/movie/jam.htm>

web apps

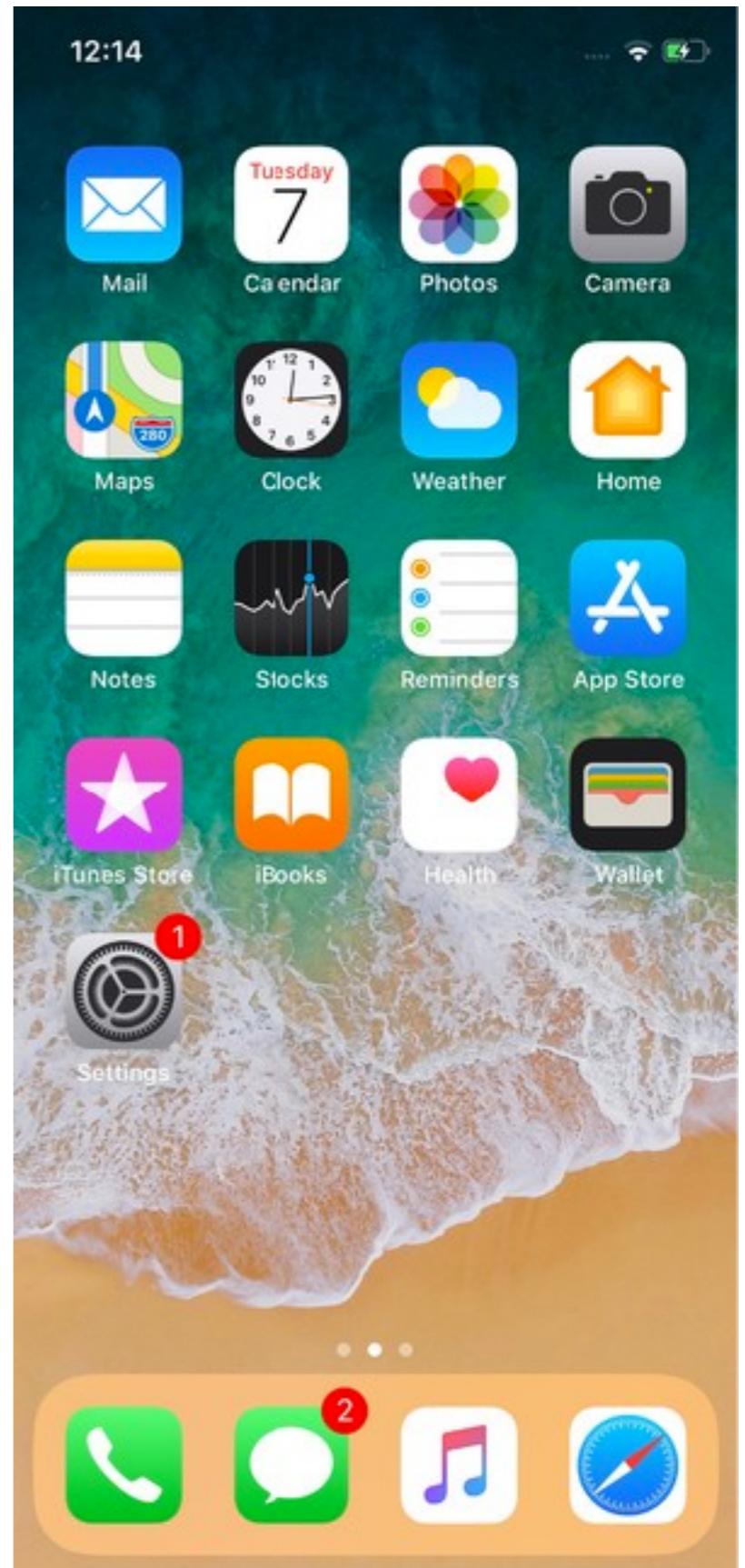
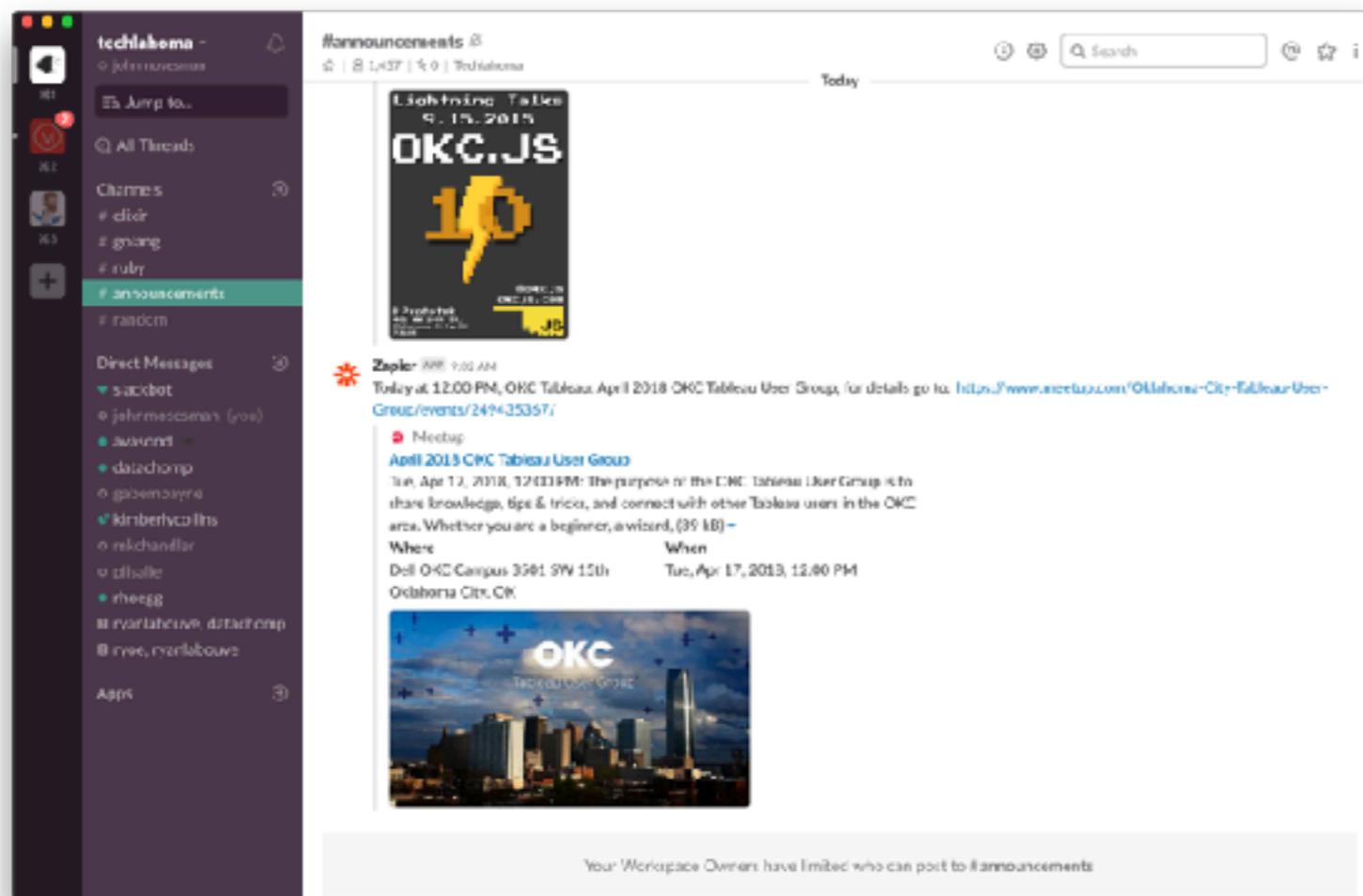


Google



native apps

(you know what these are)





internet of things (iot)

you want to make web apps

what kind of development?

the frontend

the presentation layer

communicates data with
backend

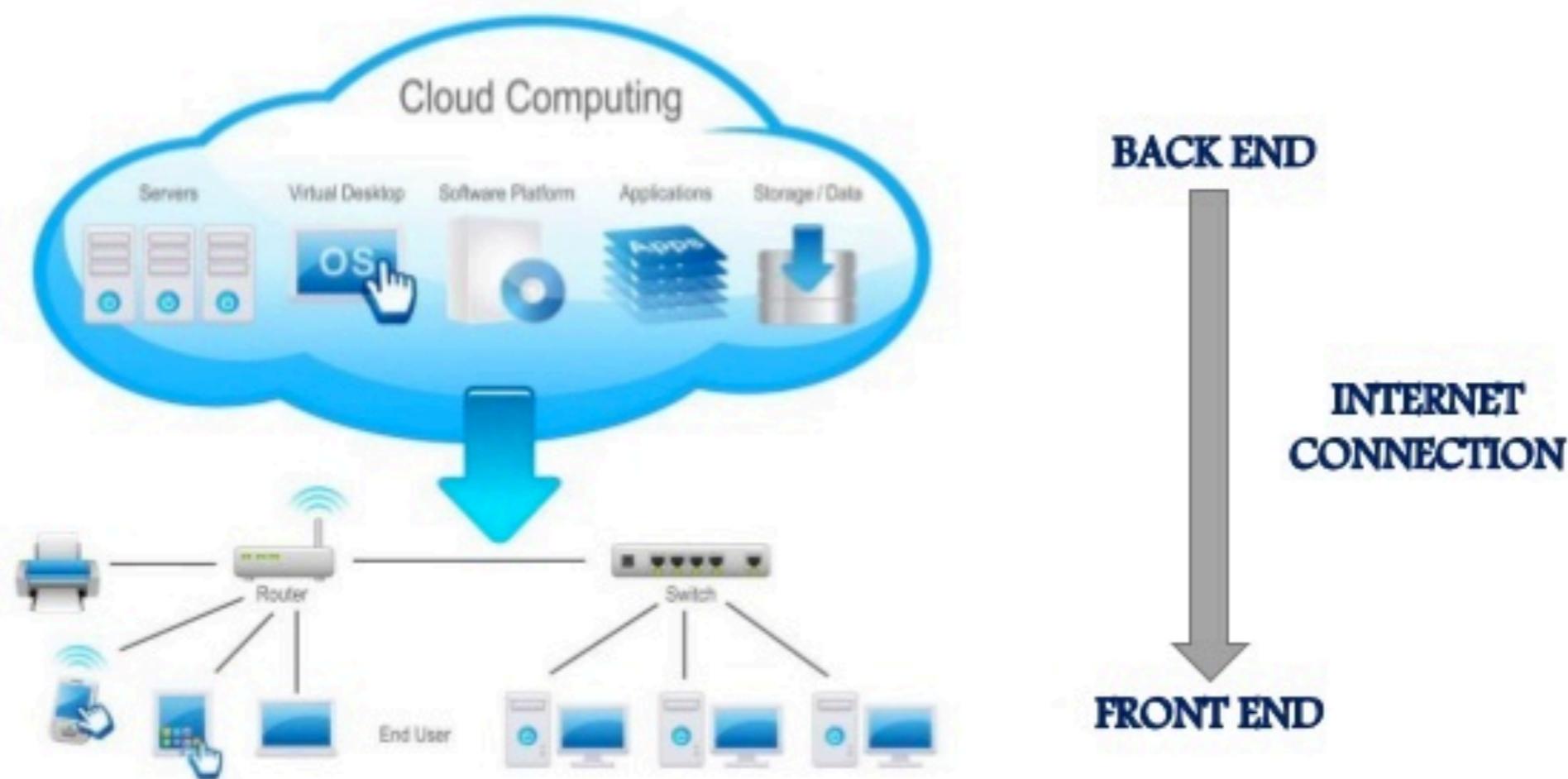
handles how the app
looks, feels, and interacts

html, css, js, react/
angular/ember



the backend

CLOUD ARCHITECTURE



the backend

powers the frontend

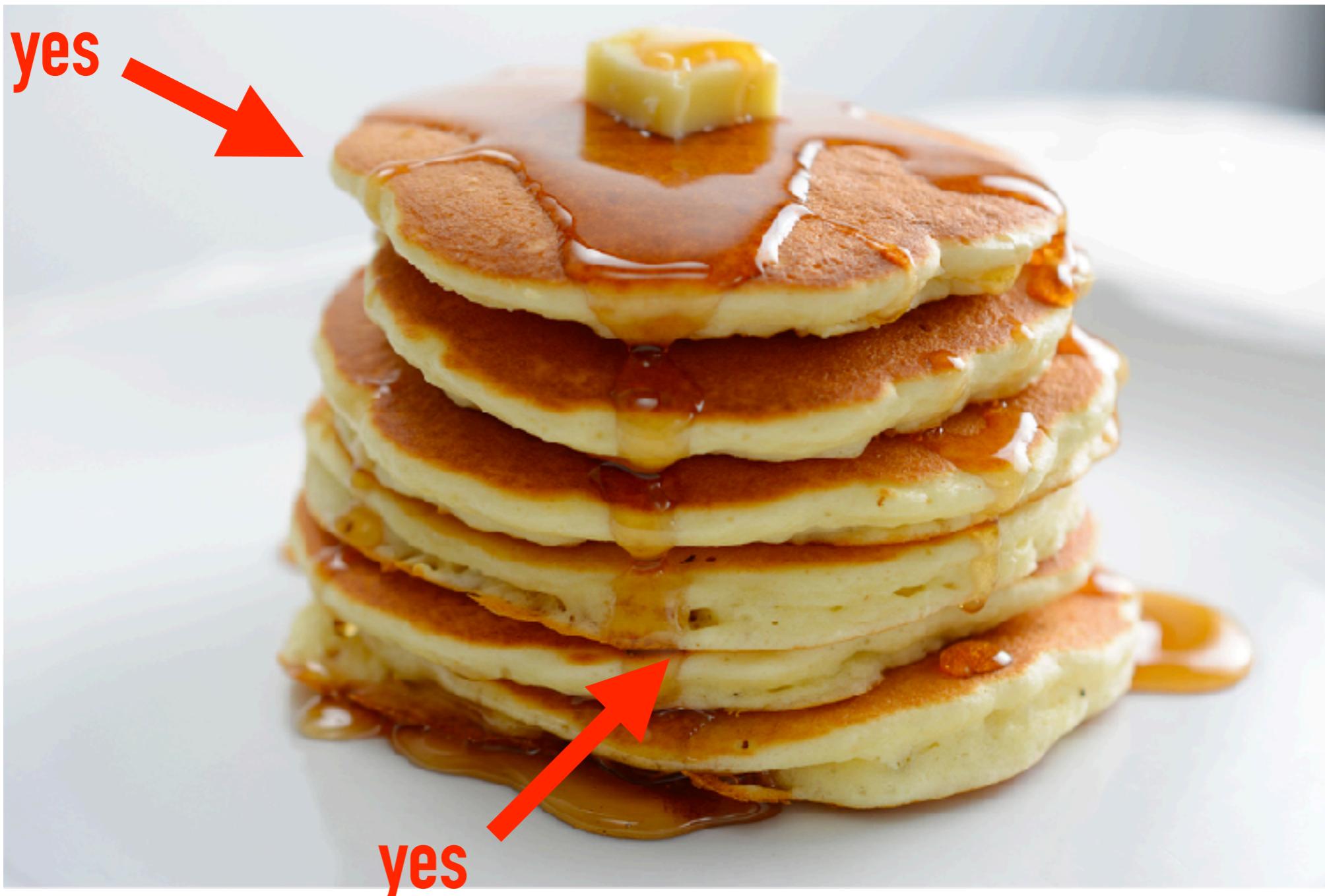
servers, network
requests, databases

storing, retrieving, and
validating data

ruby, python, rails, node

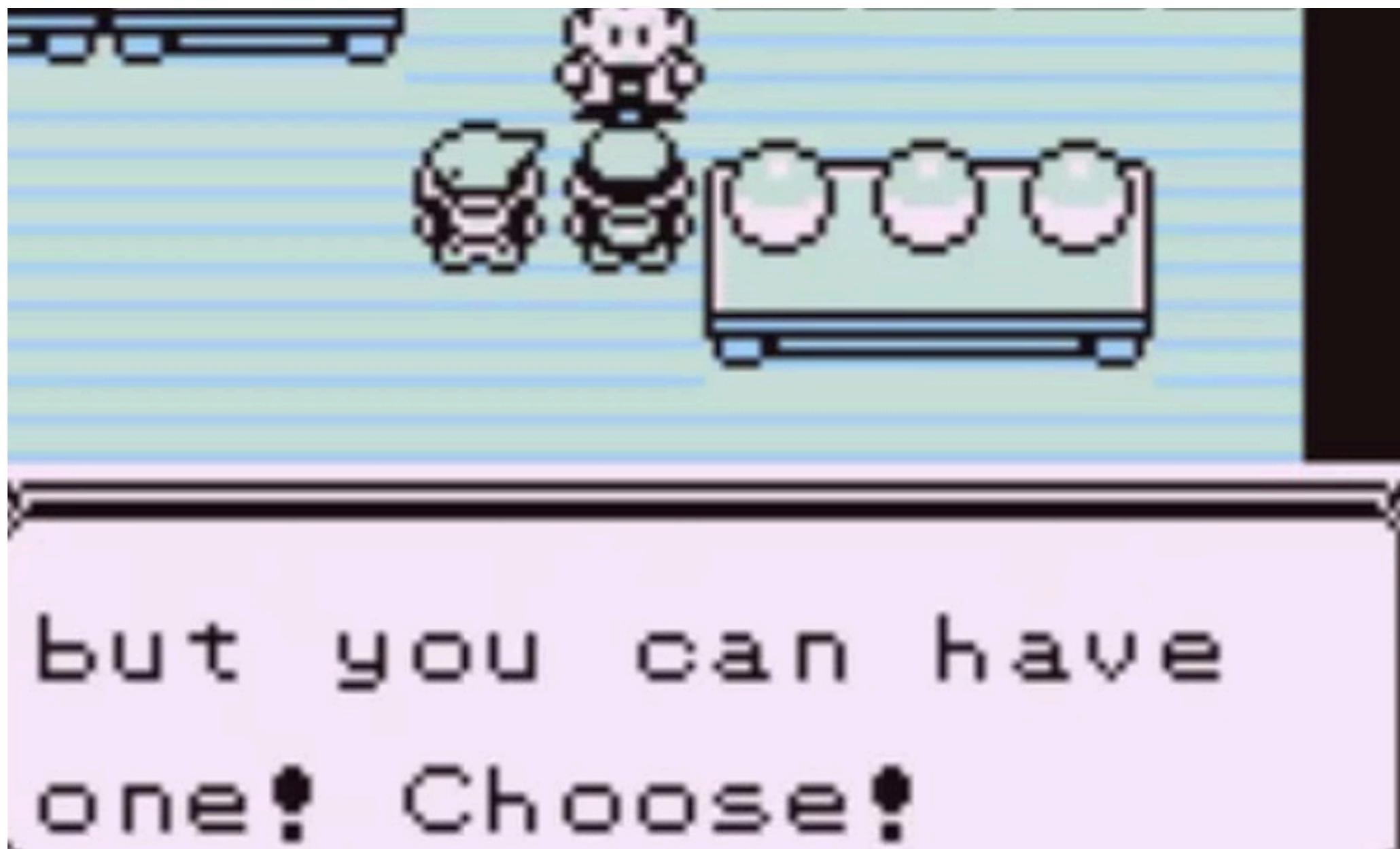


you want to be “full stack”



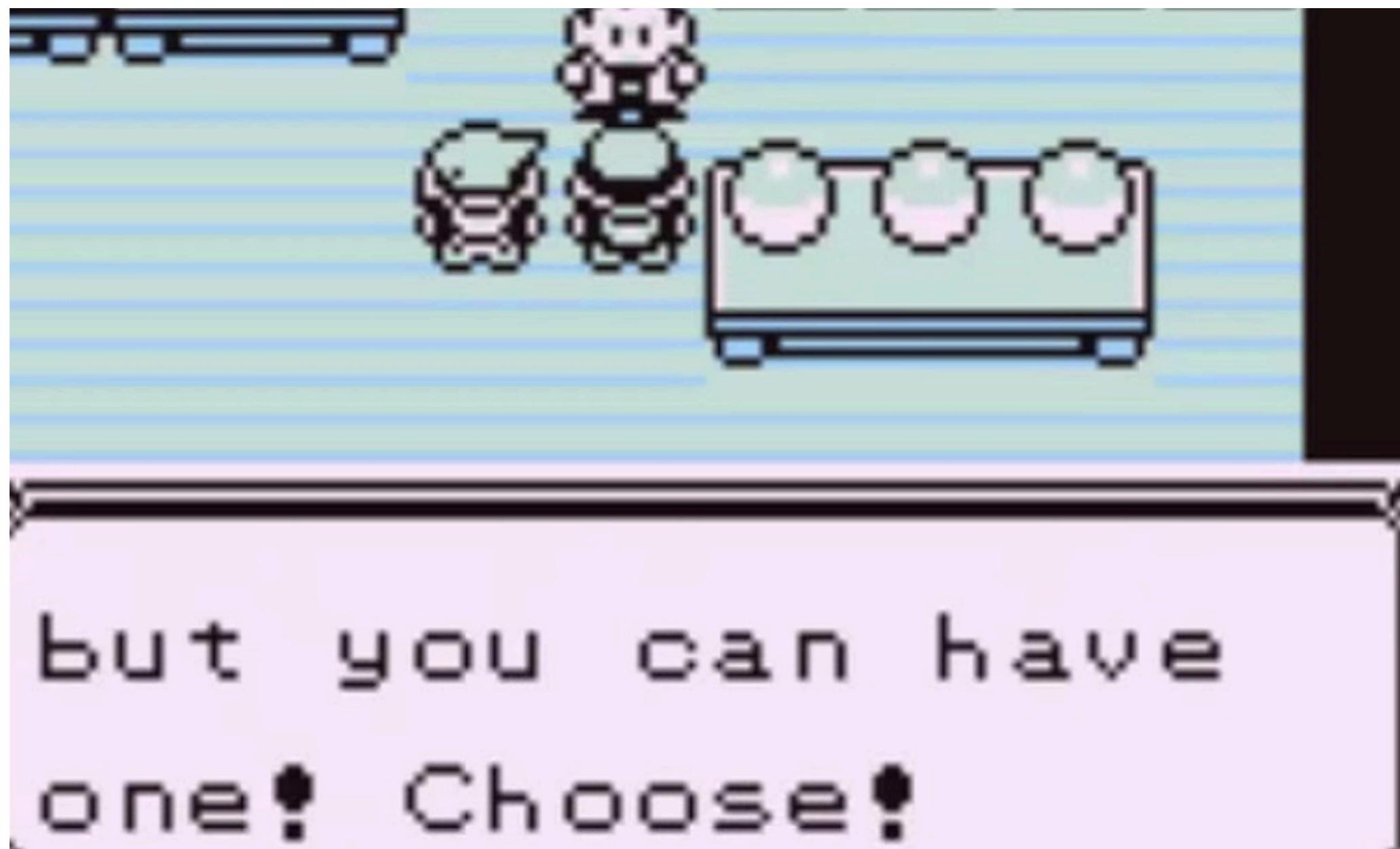
ok for real but how

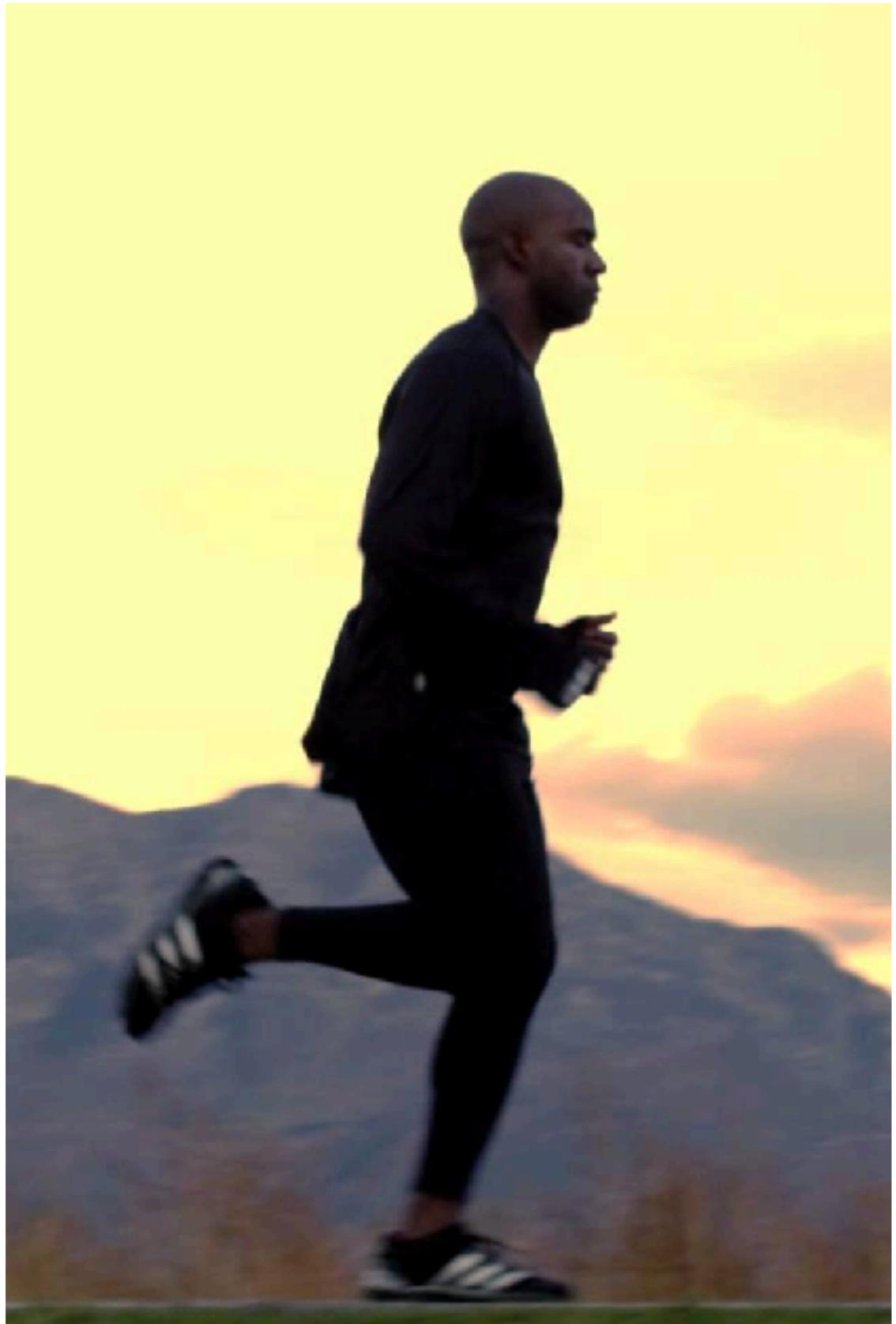
choose your tool



but you can have
one! Choose!

choose your tool





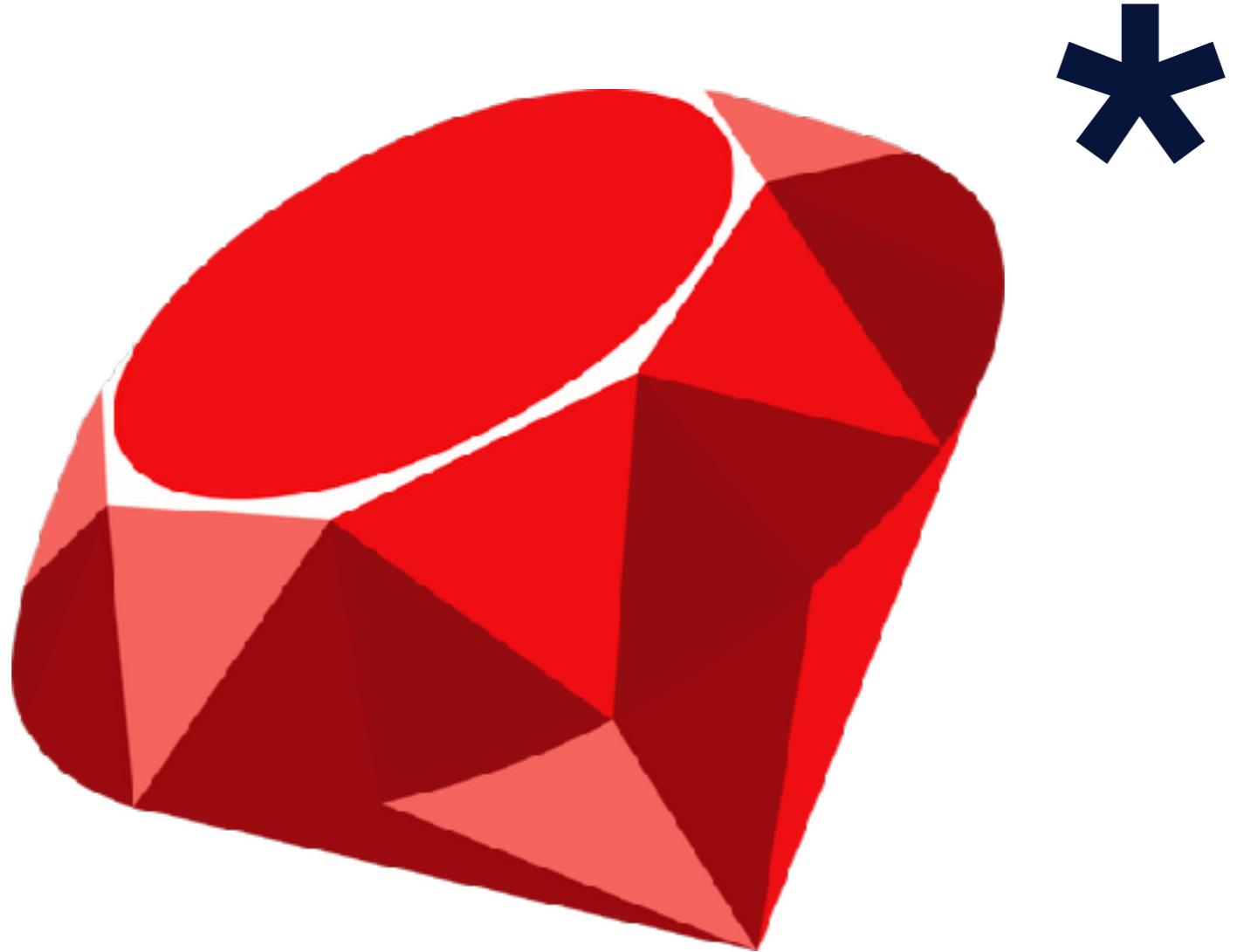
**any experience
is good experience**



okbutsrsllywhatlanguage

disclaimer!!

second disclaimer!!



pick a language that is

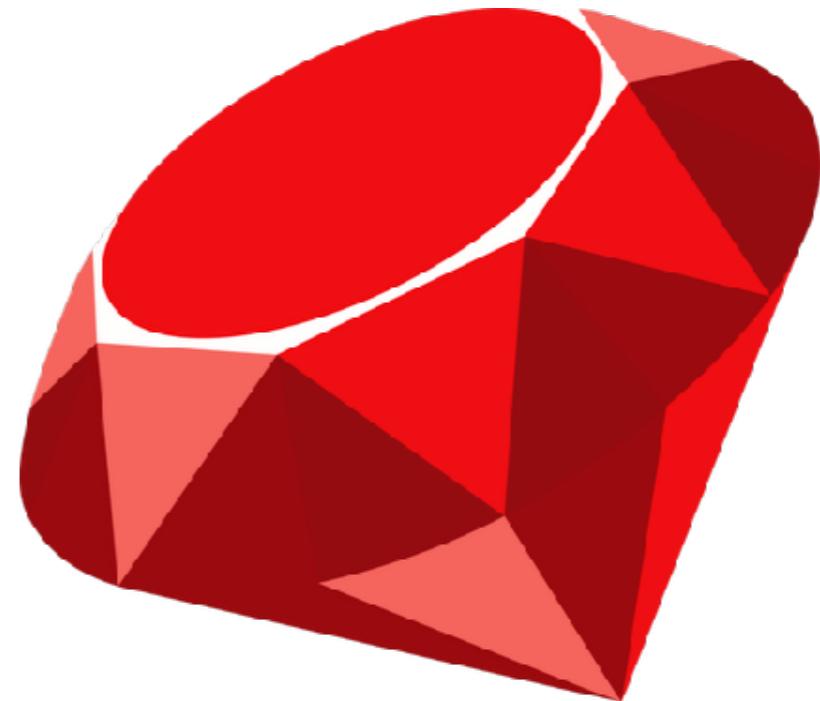
stable

beginner-friendly

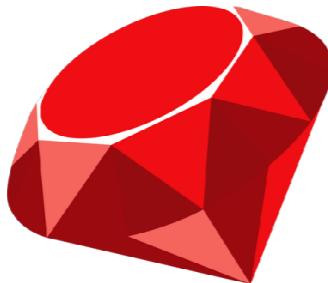
has a large community

has a web framework

**been around for a while... yet
still maintained and improved**



all good options

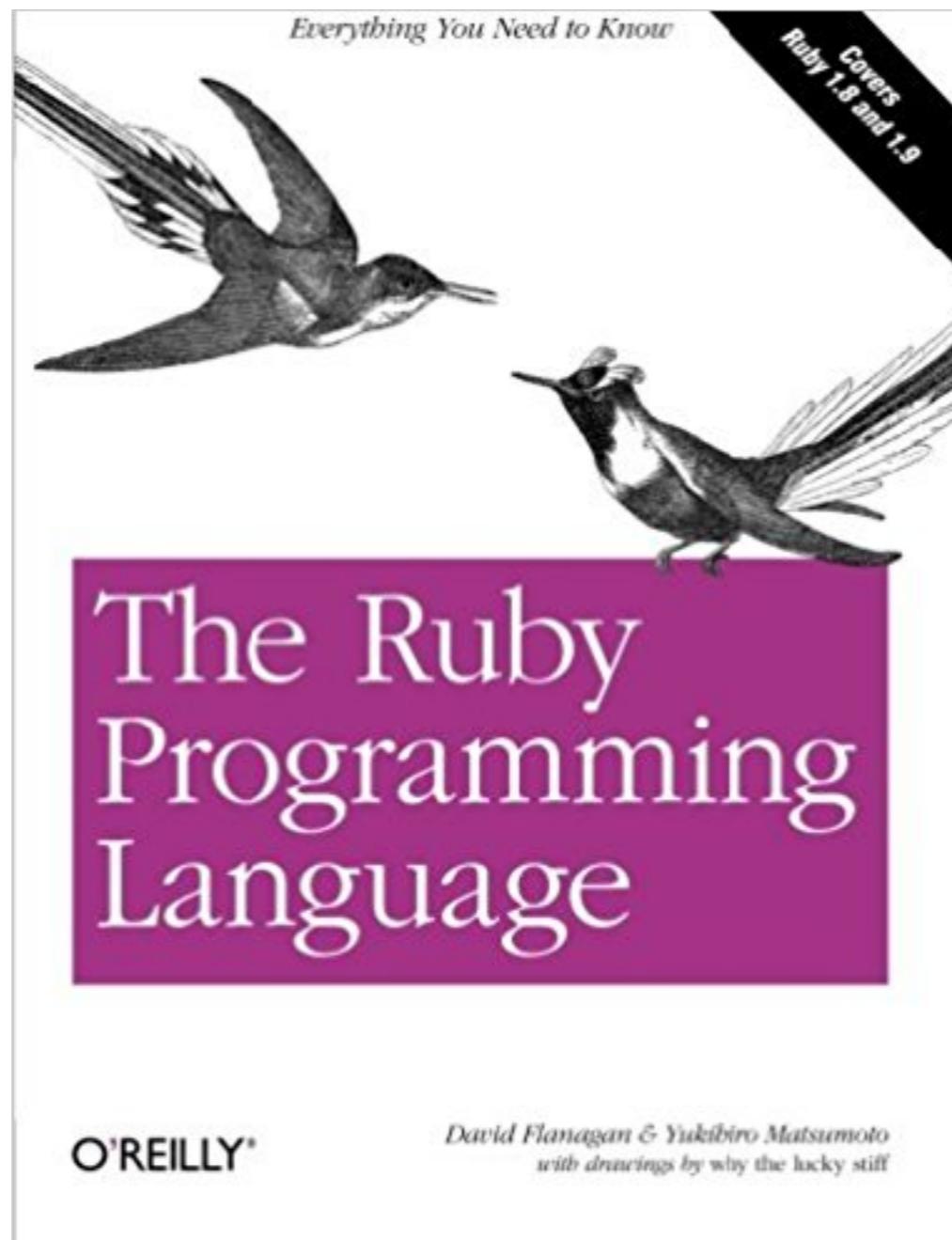


to an extent even this one...



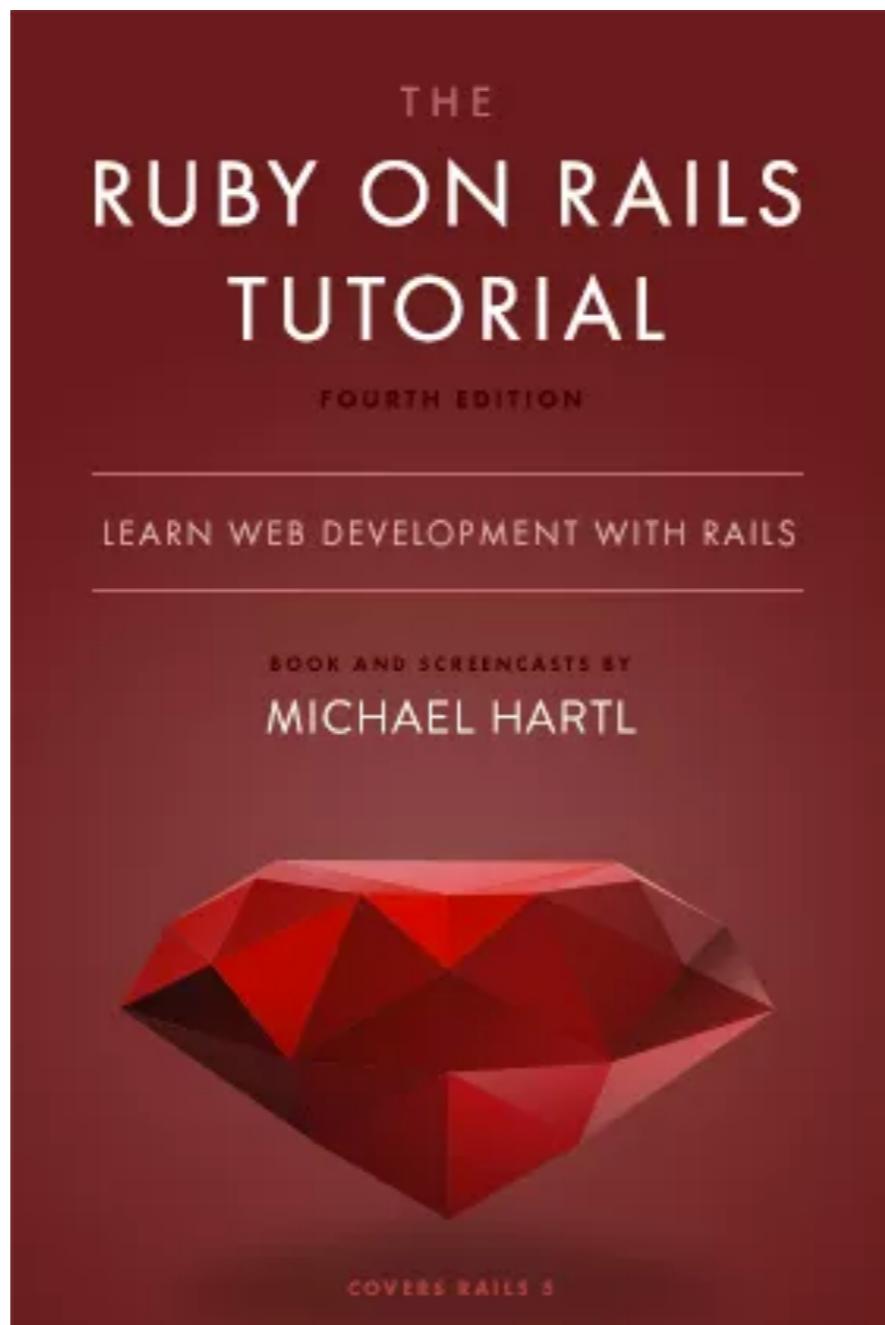
just pick something you can
do web things with

1) learn the language itself



<https://www.amazon.com/Ruby-Programming-Language-Everything-Need/dp/0596516177>

2) make CRUD apps



<https://www.railstutorial.org/>

3) learn concepts outside of CRUD

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for the user 'johnmosesman' with the repository name 'after_the_rails_book'. The page displays the contents of the 'README.md' file. The file content includes:

Extra topics

This is a list of topics you should be familiar with that may or may not have been covered in the Rails book.

How to use this doc

- Fork this document on Github
- Answer/complete the sections below and commit your changes to your forked version of this doc.
- Start by editing the space below to include your name and date (note: you may need to review [Markdown syntax first](#))

your-name-and-date-here

- Next, create a new branch called `name-and-date`, commit your change, push it to Github, and create a pull request (PR).
- Review the pull request and merge it.
- Continue with that process for the remaining sections (you don't have to do a PR every time, you can merge from the command line if you want).

The sections below can be done in any order, so feel free to skip around if you get stuck.

https://github.com/johnmosesman/after_the_rails_book

getting that first job

GETTING YOUR FIRST TECH JOB

**GET YOU A FRIEND
THAT CAN GET YOU A
JOB... HONESTLY THIS
IS PROBABLY THE
HARDEST STEP IN THE
WHOLE PROCESS**

JOHN MOSESMAN

The Fearless Interview

32

Tyler LaBouve | Free Code Camp OKC

411



probably the hardest part



todos

get a developer social media presence

get a blog/personal site (make this as a CRUD app!!)

attend meetups like a fiend

contribute to open source software (OSS)

have a github with things on it

answer questions on stack overflow

make as many stupid apps as possible

back to getting that first job

more todos

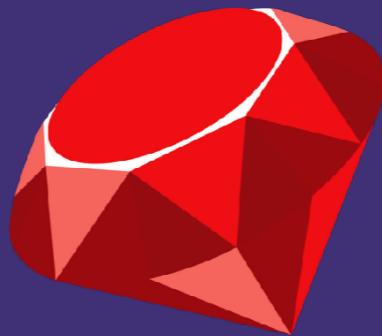
talk to recruiters

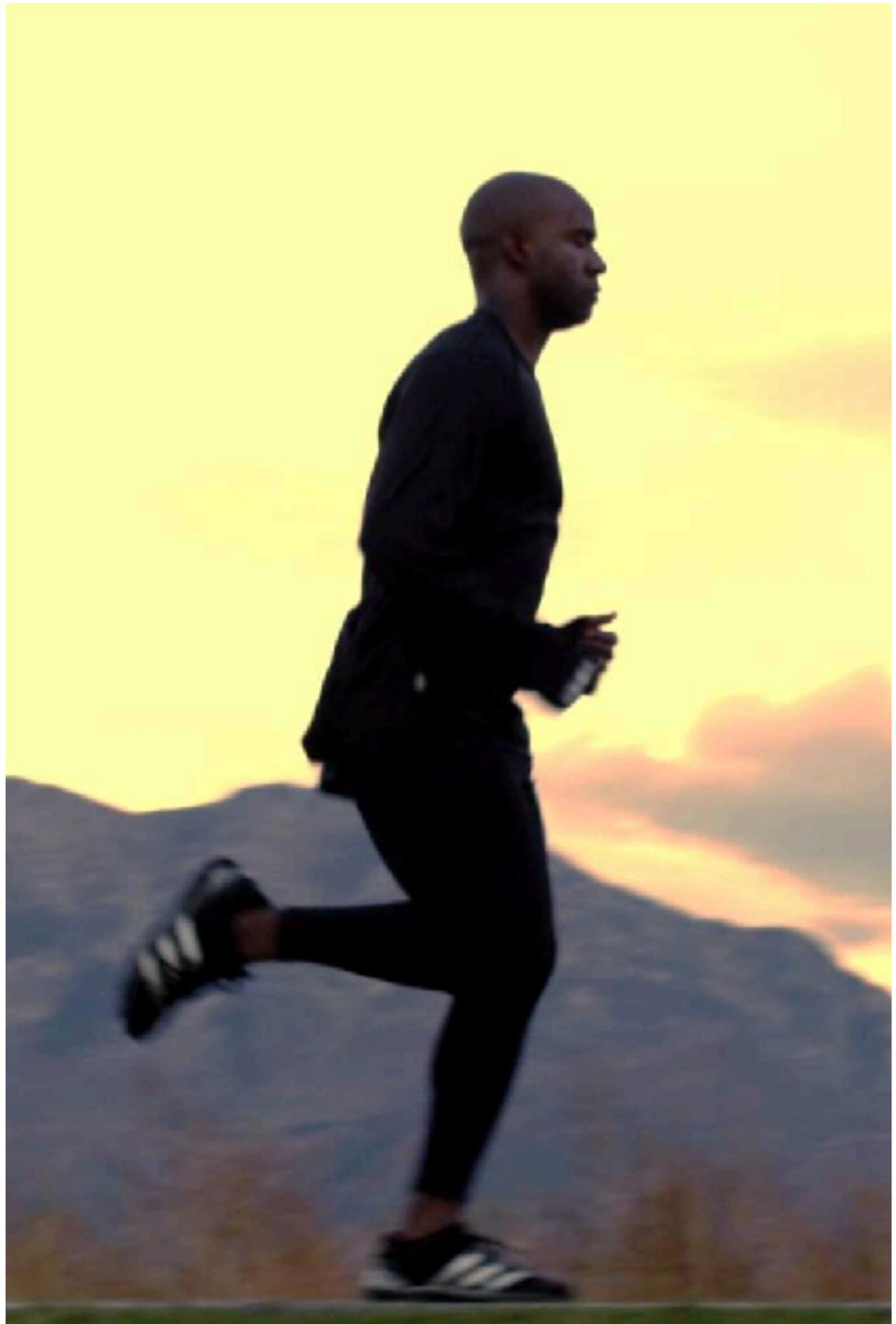
do the normal job things

watch Ryan's talk on interviewing

Tap Your Network™

now back to that asterisk*





**any experience
is good experience!!**



how to be an outstanding
junior developer

communicate

really really really really really really really really really
really really really really really really really really well

IT'S TIME
FOR
ANOTHER...

GOOD IDEA
BAD IDEA

BAD IDEA



“it errored”

“the page won’t load”

“im stuck”



i am working on _____,

but when i try _____,

_____ happens instead.

i've tried _____, _____, and _____,

and looked at _____ and _____.



i am working on the user password reset bug.

when i try to generate a password reset link,

the user's token is already empty.

i've looked at where the token is set and i can see
the token in the database, but the token is missing
on line X.

hone your google-fu

paste whole error message here



pg_restore unsupported version in file header

All Videos News Shopping Images More Settings Tools

About 109,000 results (0.37 seconds)

[postgresql - Getting "\[archiver\] unsupported version \(1.13\) in ...](https://stackoverflow.com/.../getting-archiver-unsupported-version-1-13-in-file-heade...)
[https://stackoverflow.com/.../getting-archiver-unsupported-version-1-13-in-file-heade... ▾](https://stackoverflow.com/.../getting-archiver-unsupported-version-1-13-in-file-heade...)
Mar 2, 2018 - If you're using the Postgres.app (<https://postgresapp.com/>) on a Mac make sure you're running v2.1.3 (as of this writing that is the newest **version**). When you upgrade the Postgres.app you get the newest patch release of Postgres, (which is likely causing the mismatch you're currently experiencing - Heroku ...

[postgresql - How restore a Heroku PG database on a ...](#) 4 answers Mar 25, 2018
[postgresql - pg_restore error: pg_restore: \[archiver ...](#) 2 answers Mar 19, 2018
[database - PostgreSQL 8.2 unsupported version \(1.11 ...](#) 2 answers May 8, 2013
[export - Use pg_restore to restore from a newer version ...](#) 5 answers Jan 5, 2011
[More results from stackoverflow.com](#)

top hit was answer

remove project specific info



undefined function whos_that_pokemon_its_pikachu() in gotta_catchem.



All Maps Shopping News Videos More

Settings Tools

Your search - **undefined function whos_that_pokemon_its_pikachu() in gotta_catchem_all.rb:84** - did not match any documents.

Suggestions:

- Make sure all words are spelled correctly.
- Try different keywords.
- Try more general keywords.
- Try fewer keywords.

remove project-specific info
and be generic



undefined function ruby



All Videos Shopping Maps Images More Settings Tools

About 320,000 results (0.50 seconds)

[undefined method \(NoMethodError\) ruby - Stack Overflow](#)

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/.../undefined-method-nomethoderror-ruby> ▾

Jan 12, 2014 - This is because you are calling method choices , before defining it. Write the code as below: puts 'Select [1] [2] [3] or [q] to quit' users_choice = gets.chomp def choices (choice) while choice != 'q' case choice when '1' break puts "you chose one!" when '2' break puts "you chose two!" when '3' break puts 'you ...'

[Ruby "Undefined Method" for class method function - Undefined method \[\] in Ruby](#) Mar 13, 2016

Jun 28, 2015

[Ruby: NoMethodError, but why?](#) Oct 14, 2014

[undefined method 'id' in simple Ruby Program](#) Nov 7, 2011

[More results from stackoverflow.com](#)

[Ruby for Newbies: Missing Methods - Code Tuts - Envato Tuts+](#)

<https://code.tutsplus.com/tutorials/ruby-for-newbies-missing-methods--net-20924> ▾

Jul 11, 2011 - Ruby is a one of the most popular languages used on the web. We're running a Session here on Nettuts+ that will introduce you to Ruby, as well as the great frameworks and tools that go along with...

[Undefined Method - Ruby Forum](#)

<https://www.ruby-forum.com/topic/6879325> ▾

Mar 18, 2017 - 2 posts - 2 authors

Re: [Undefined Method](#). 21cb9b23398a37fc04850a17c2a6ba5d?d=identicon&s=25 Roy Browne (rubymore), on 2017-03-20 16:35. Looks like you are defining the determine_winner function INSIDE the play_dealer_hand function. Should probably be: def play_dealer_hand(dealerHand) loop do #if dealers ...

[undefined method for main:Object](#) 3 posts Jun 17, 2016

[undefined method '+' for nil:NilClass \(NoMethodError\)](#) 13 posts Feb 18, 2014

[undefined method '\[\]' for nil:NilClass - how to prevent?](#) 7 posts Jan 15, 2009

[undefined method 'parse' for Time Class Error](#) 10 posts Dec 9, 2008

[More results from www.ruby-forum.com](#)

[I keep getting, "NoMethodError: undefined method `find' for nil ...](#)

<https://teamtreehouse.com/.../i-keep-getting-nomethoderror-undefined-method-find-f...> ▾

Aug 11, 2014 - class BankAccount def self.create_for(first_name, last_name) @account ||= [] # conditional assignment operator - assigns value to a variable if it does not already exist @account << BankAccount.new(first_name, last_name) end. def self.find_for(first_name, last_name)

use a “try timer”

always reset the timer!



(remember to relax and take breaks)

misc!



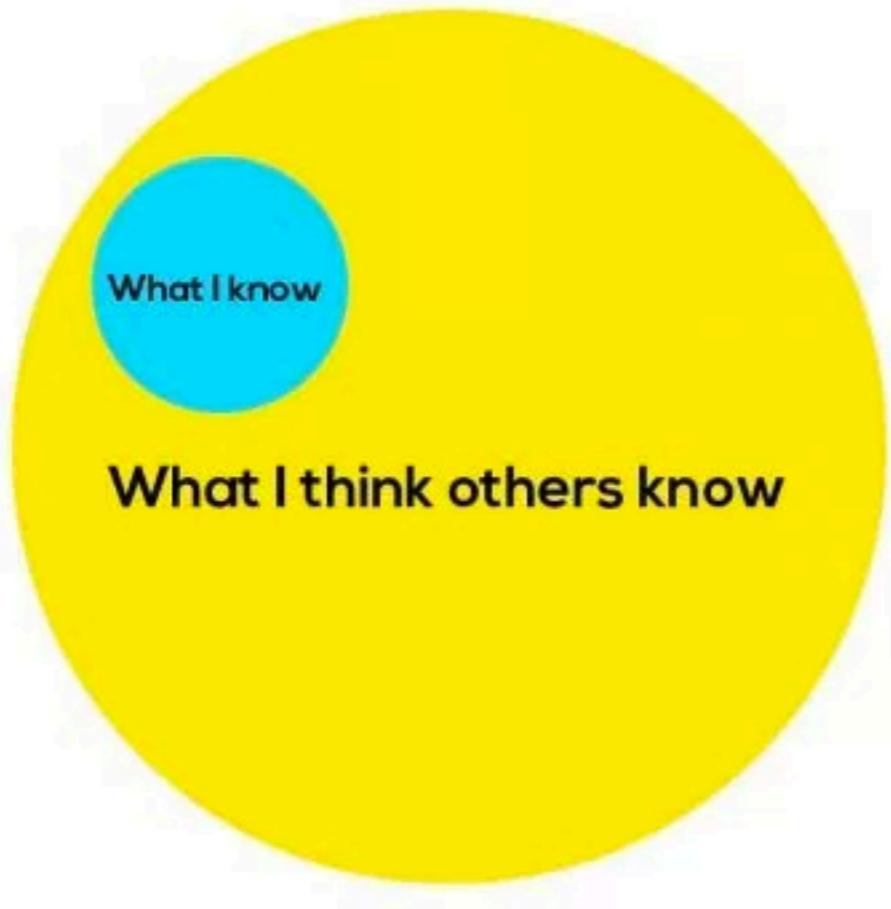
ask the duck!



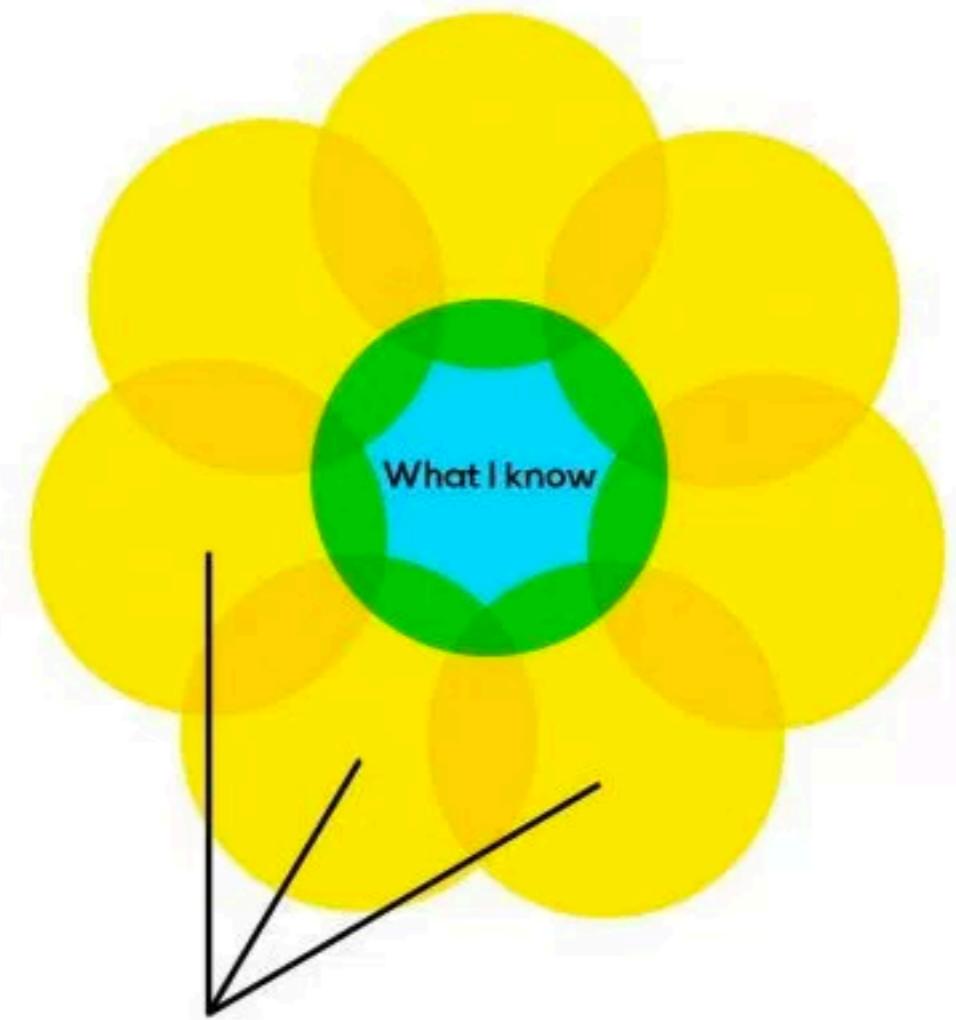
take notes!

fight imposter syndrome

Imposter Syndrome



Reality



What others know

closing the
junior-senior gap

yes, the senior has more
knowledge and experience,
but more importantly . . .

...they have a
problem solving system

5 debugging tips!





1. don't thrash your code!

```
Elixir.MatchError no match of right hand side value: %
>{"AmazonOrderId" =>...
  lib/mealthy/registrations.ex:97
Mealthy.Registrations.map_profile_from_amzn_order/1
  lib/mealthy/registrations.ex:60
Mealthy.Registrations.fetch_order_via_amazon/1
  lib/mealthy/web/controllers/registration_controller.ex:43
Mealthy.Web.RegistrationController.create/2
  lib/mealthy/web/controllers/registration_controller.ex:1
Mealthy.Web.RegistrationController.action/2
  lib/mealthy/web/controllers/registration_controller.ex:1
Mealthy.Web.RegistrationController.phoenix_controller_pipeline/2
  lib/mealthy/web/endpoint.ex:1 Mealthy.Web.Endpoint.instrument/4
  lib/phoenix/router.ex:278 Phoenix.Router.__call__/1
  lib/plug/error_handler.ex:64 Mealthy.Web.Router.call/2
```

2. read the error message!

error

Elixir.MatchError no match of right hand side value: %
{"AmazonOrderId" =>...

lib/mealthy/registrations.ex:97

Mealthy.Registrations.map_profile_from_amzn_order/1

lib/mealthy/registrations.ex:60

Mealthy.Registrations.fetch_order_via_amazon/1

lib/mealthy/web/controllers/registration_controller.ex:43

Mealthy.Web.RegistrationController.create/2

lib/mealthy/web/controllers/registration_controller.ex:1

Mealthy.Web.RegistrationController.action/2

lib/mealthy/web/controllers/registration_controller.ex:1

Mealthy.Web.RegistrationController.phoenix_controller_pipeline/2

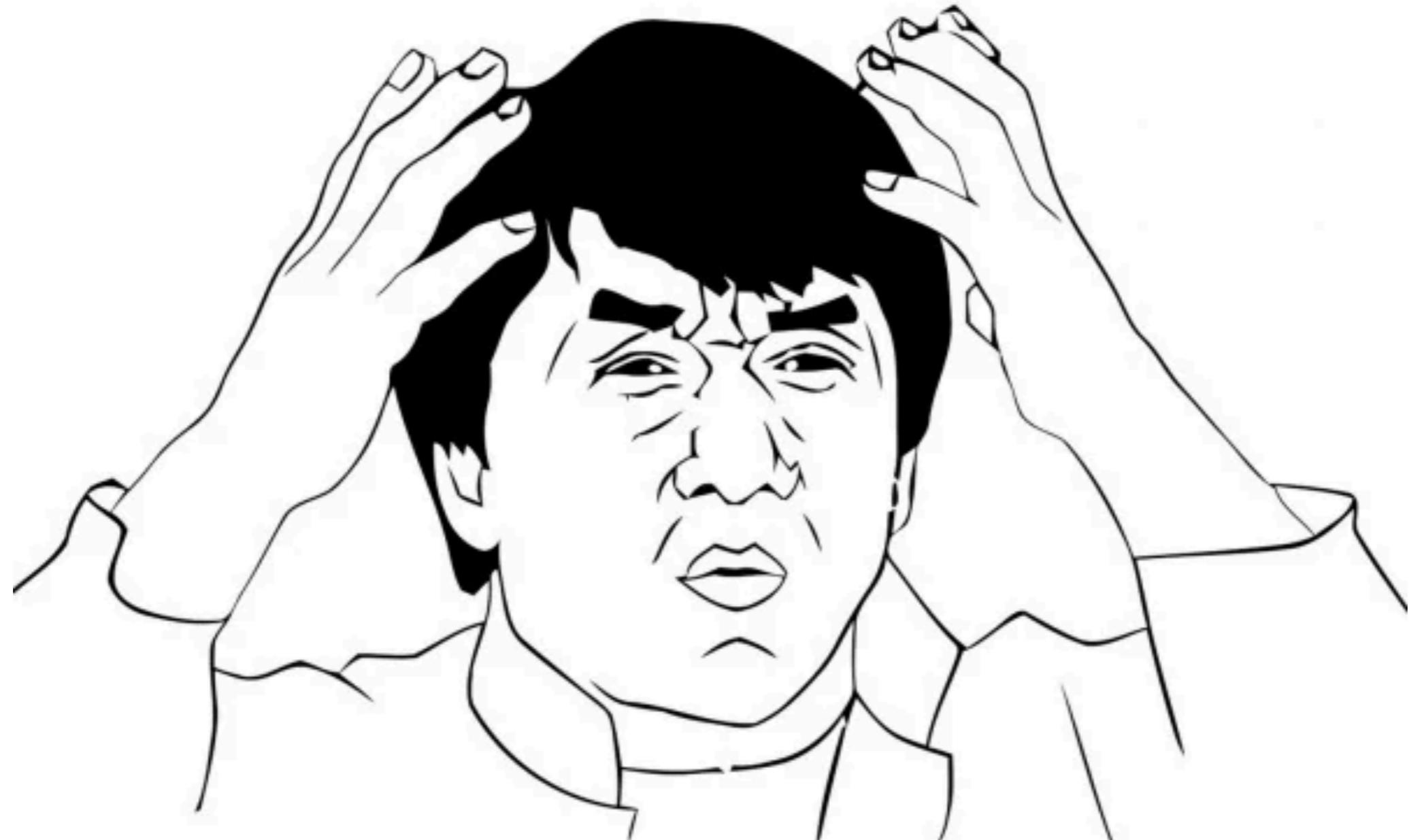
lib/mealthy/web/endpoint.ex:1 Mealthy.Web.Endpoint.instrument/4

lib/phoenix/router.ex:278 Phoenix.Router.__call__/1

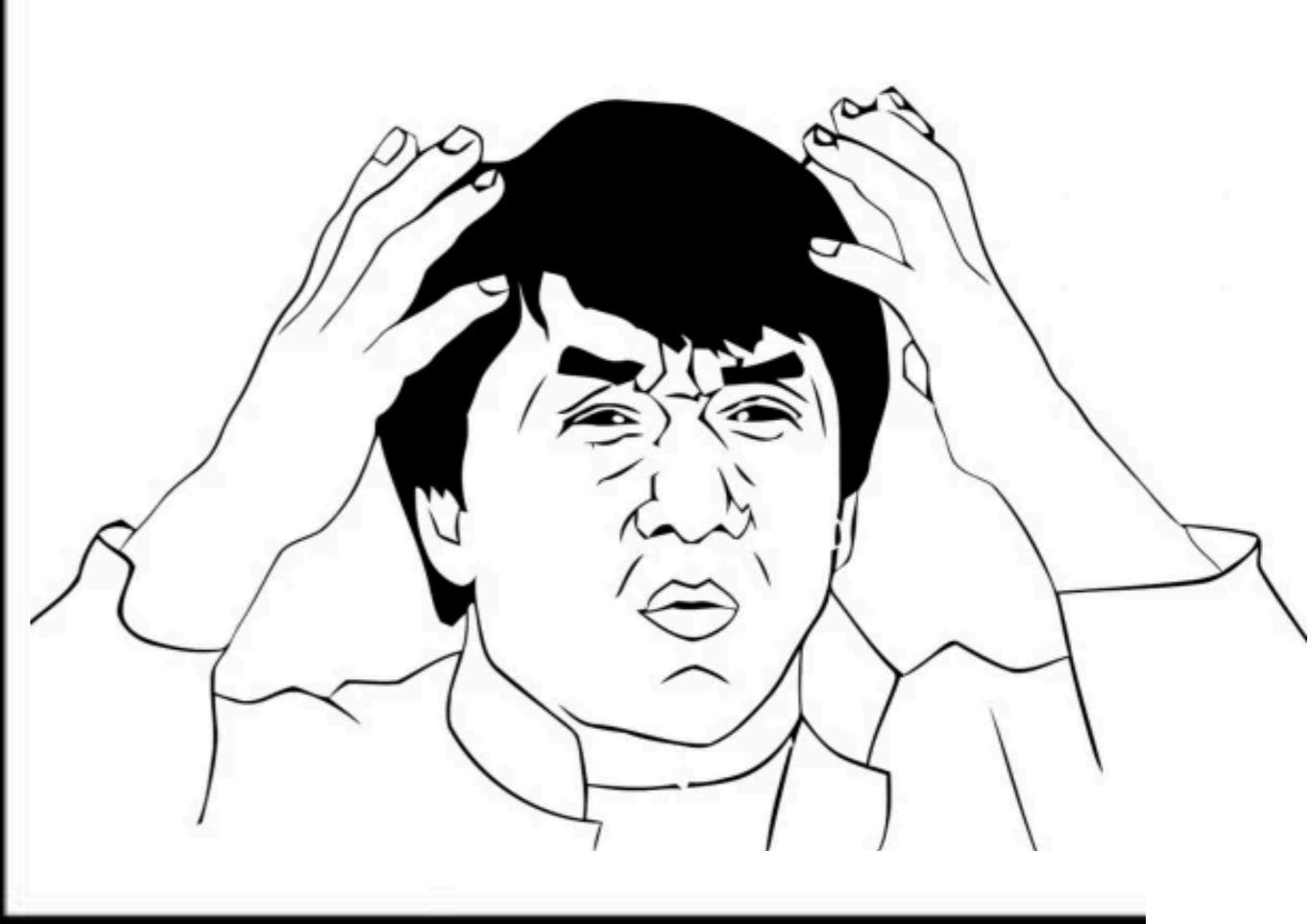
lib/plug/error_handler.ex:64 Mealthy.Web.Router.call/2

**file and
line number**

2. read the error message!



3. don't waste time on the impossible! (or at least the improbable)



4. “when in doubt, print more out.”

- some wise person

print, print, print señora!

```
function blah() {  
    console.log("IN HERE YO");  
  
    var user = getTheUser();  
  
    console.log("USER IS THIS YO " + user);  
  
    var updatedUser = magicMysteryBox(user);  
  
    console.log("adslfkjasdlfkj " +  
updatedUser);  
  
    return updatedUser;  
}
```



5. take it one step at a time
and print. it. out.

conclusion

you can do it, just believe.



references

Try Ruby - <http://tryruby.org/levels/1/challenges/0>

The Rails Tutorial - <https://www.railstutorial.org/>

“After the Rails book” - https://github.com/johnmosesman/after_the_rails_book

Ryan LaBouve’s “The Fearless Interview” - <https://www.twitch.tv/videos/250757059>

le fin

@johnmosesman

questions?

images

<https://www.earlychildhoodireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/InterestsBlog2.png>
https://securecdn.pymnts.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/shutterstock_605813378.jpg
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/64/Creaci%C3%B3n_de_Ad%C3%A1n_%28Miguel_%C3%81ngel%29.jpg/1200px-Creaci%C3%B3n_de_Ad%C3%A1n_%28Miguel_%C3%81ngel%29.jpg
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http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/music/files/2014/06/MG_9834-1024x682.jpg
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<http://i0.wp.com/soundingboard.tv/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Good-Idea-Bad-Idea.jpg?fit=640%2C244>
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https://is1-ssl.mzstatic.com/image/thumb/Purple128/v4/ac/f0/b6/acf0b628-4610-2548-e0d8-2538c766f321/AppIcon-1x_U007emarketing-85-220-5.png/246x0w.jpg
<https://findingmytruthorg.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/what-is-imposter-syndrome-1024x506.jpg?w=1024&h=506&crop=1>
<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/07/56/5a/07565a65236cd43fd3ac9d3376680e6f.png>
<https://i.redd.it/8one94n3vnpx.png>
https://media.npr.org/assets/img/2017/06/03/gettyimages-453879976_wide-d7ddb3aa4d06a6a9e58223303925f5f5d460e837.jpg?s=1400
<https://rlfconsultants.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/postit-1726554.jpg>