

101 AWESOME



Computer Programming Quotes

“What we
have to learn
to do, **we learn**
by doing.”

ARISTOTLE

AS QUOTED IN MICROSOFT BOOKSHELF



© kim taylor



**“To iterate is human,
to recurse divine.”**

L. PETER DEUTSCH



"If you don't like unit testing your product,
most likely your **customers won't like to**
test it either."

ANONYMOUS

Image Credit: Benson Kua



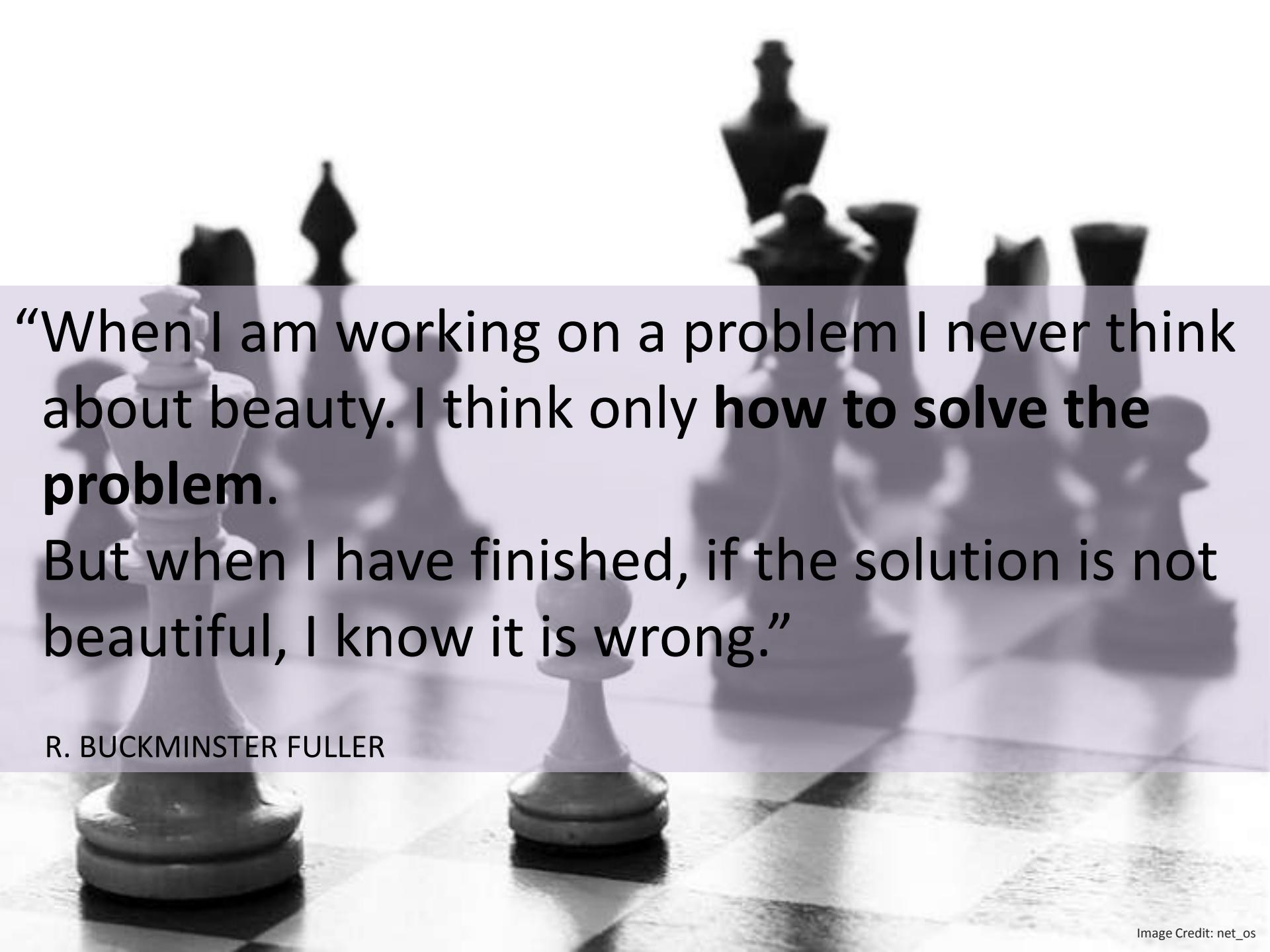
"Code doesn't exist until it's
checked into source control."

JEFF ATWOOD



**“Not only is it not right,
it’s not even wrong.”**

WOLFGANG PAULI



“When I am working on a problem I never think about beauty. I think only **how to solve the problem.**

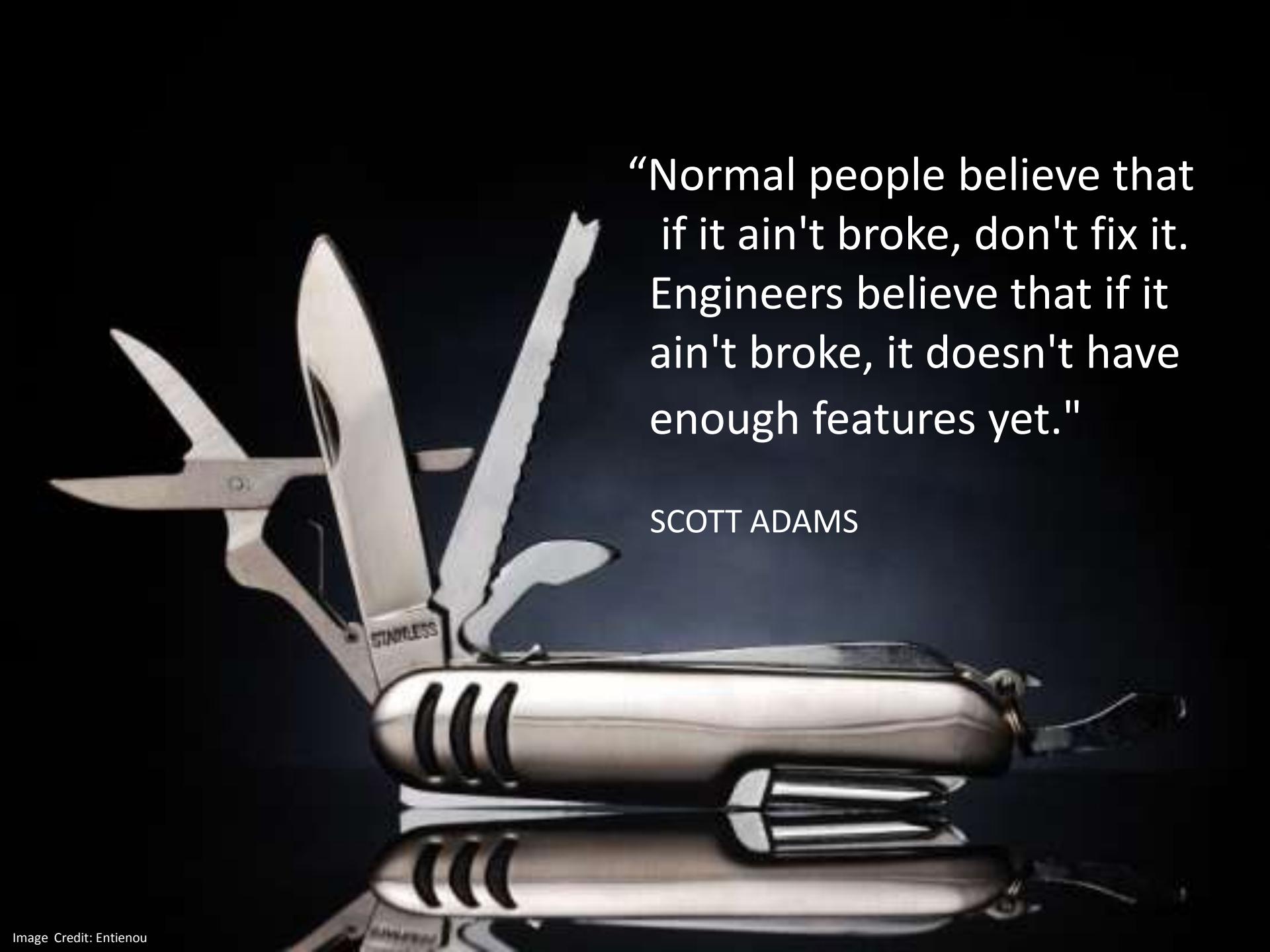
But when I have finished, if the solution is not beautiful, I know it is wrong.”

R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER

"Do things **right** in the first place, and you won't have to **pay** to fix them or **do** them over."

PHILIP B. CROSBY





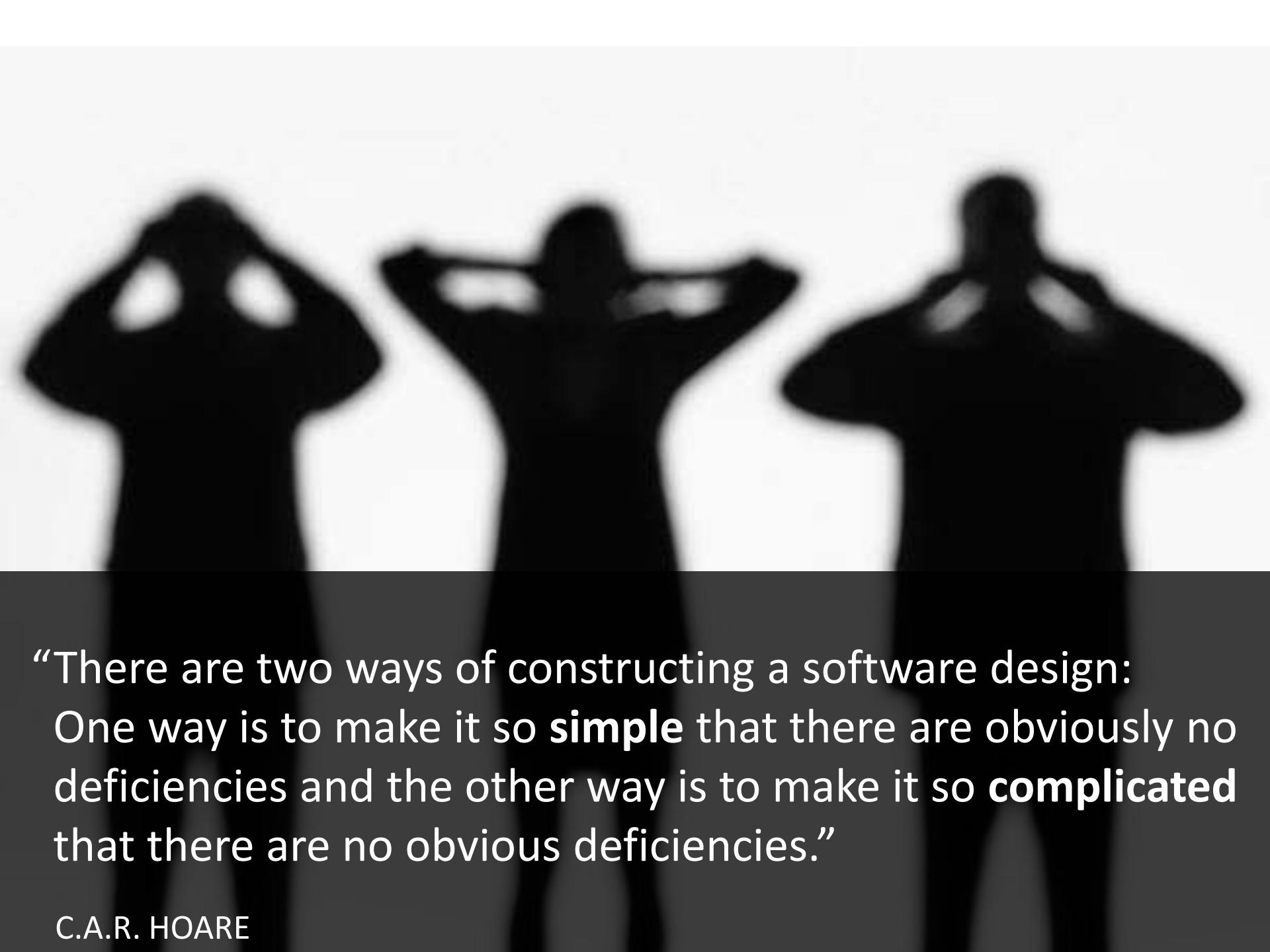
“Normal people believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it doesn't have enough features yet.”

SCOTT ADAMS

**“A program is never less
than 90% complete,
and never more
than 95% complete.”**

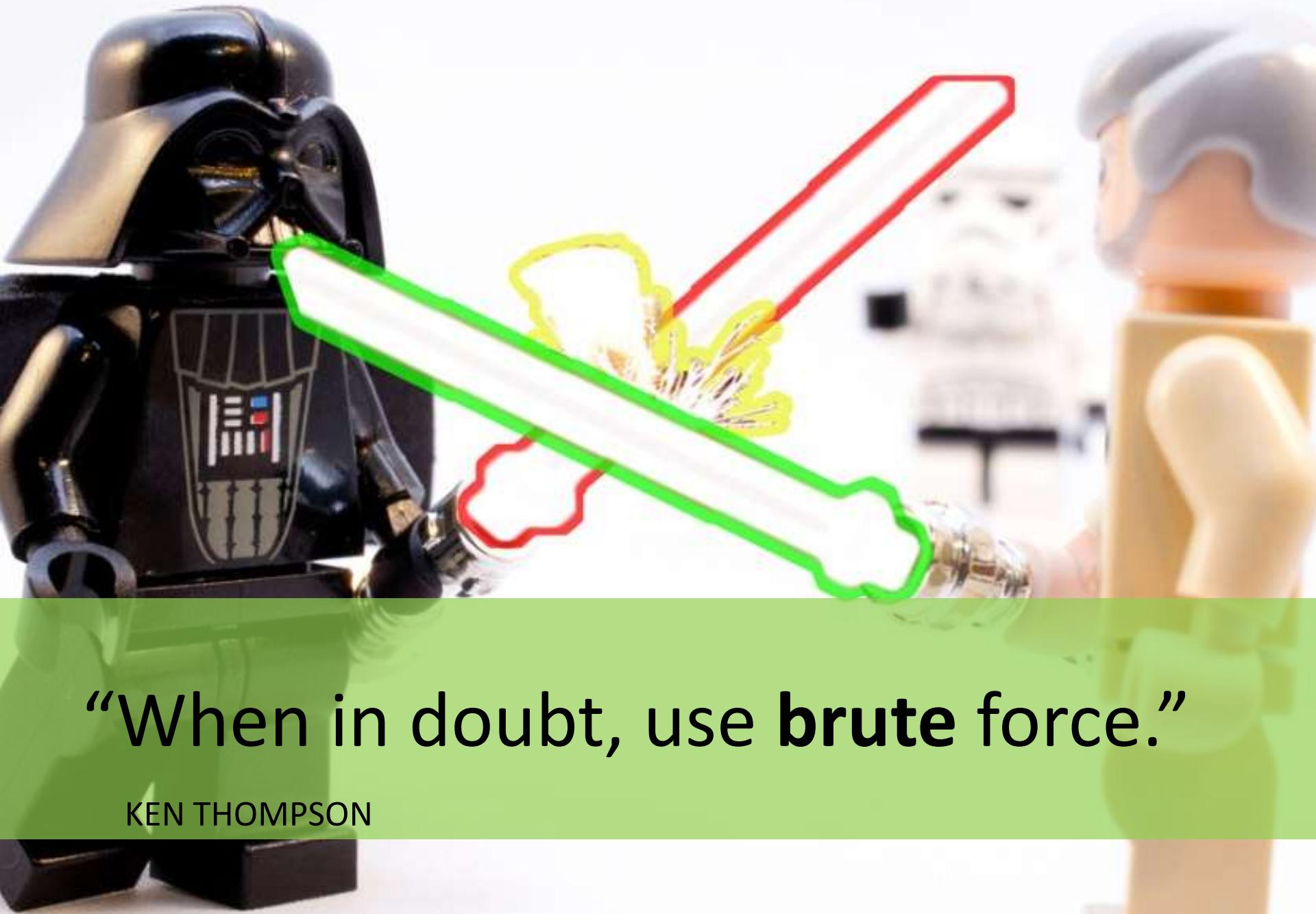
TERRY BAKER

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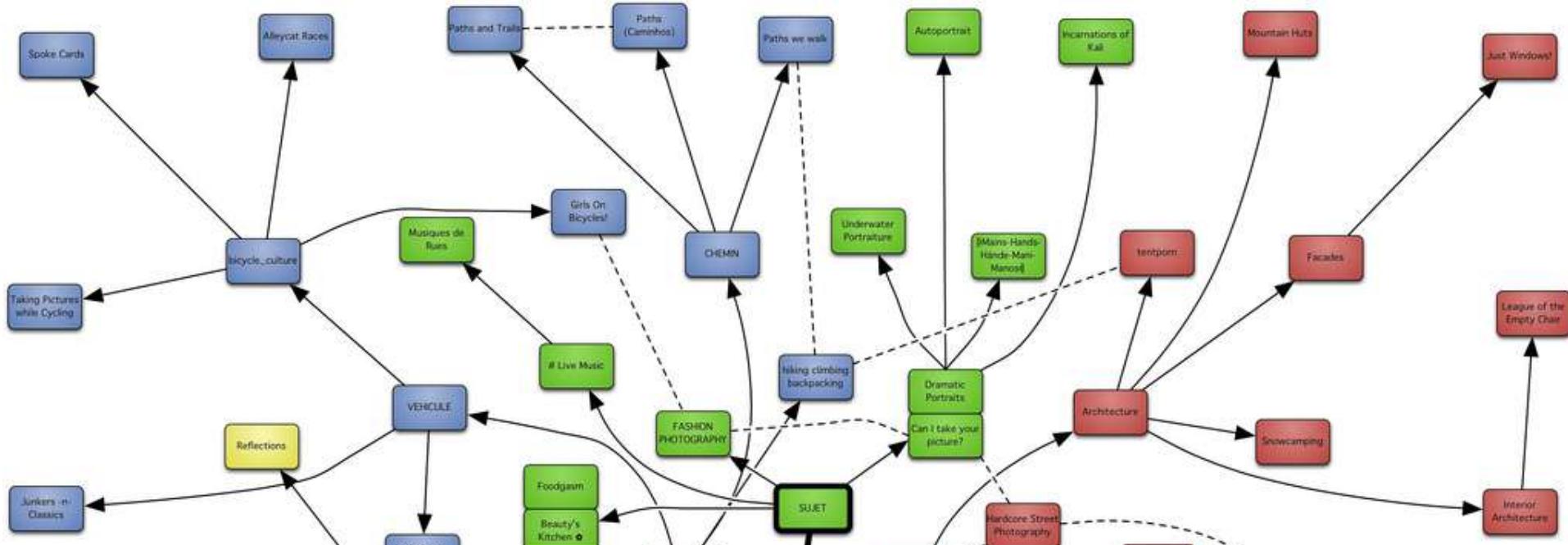
“There are two ways of constructing a software design:
One way is to make it so **simple** that there are obviously no
deficiencies and the other way is to make it so **complicated**
that there are no obvious deficiencies.”

C.A.R. HOARE



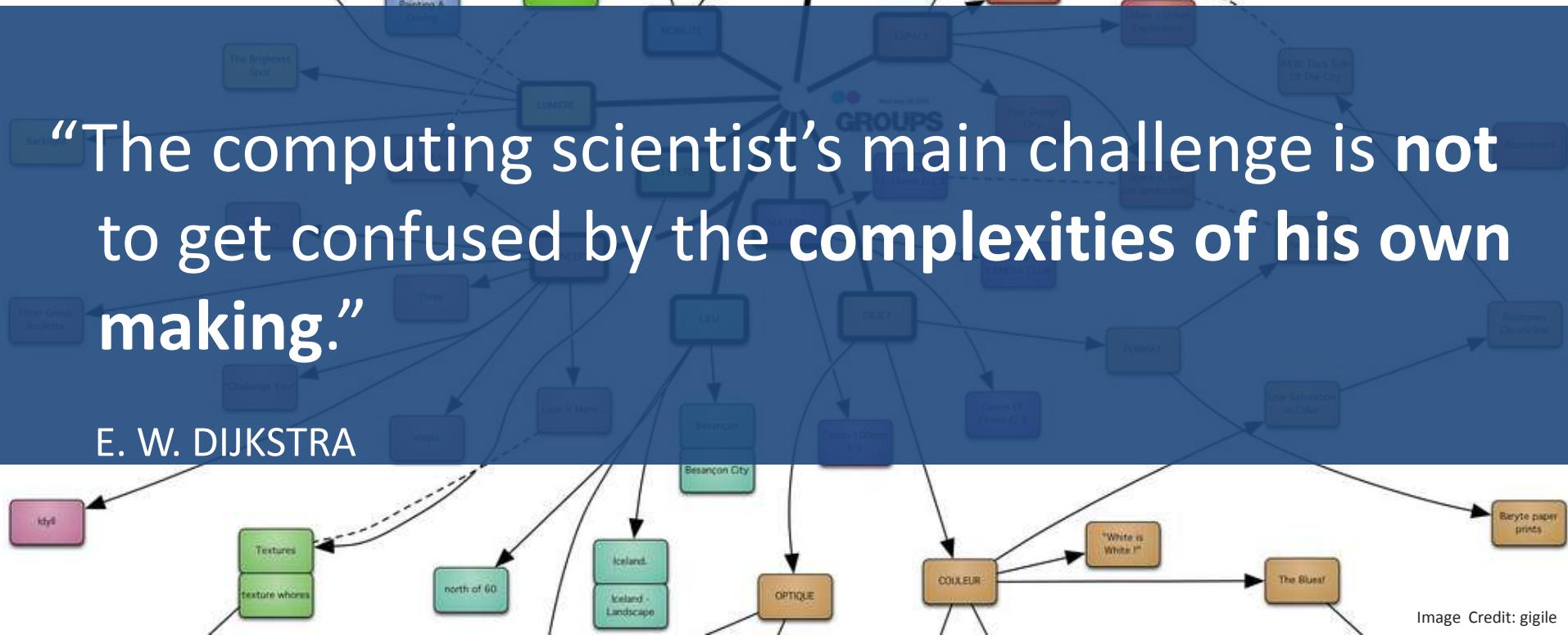
“When in doubt, use **brute force**.”

KEN THOMPSON



The computing scientist's main challenge is not to get confused by the **complexities** of his own making.”

E. W. DIJKSTRA



**“Deleted code is
debugged code.”**

JEFF SICKEL



"We have to stop optimizing for programmers
and start optimizing for users."

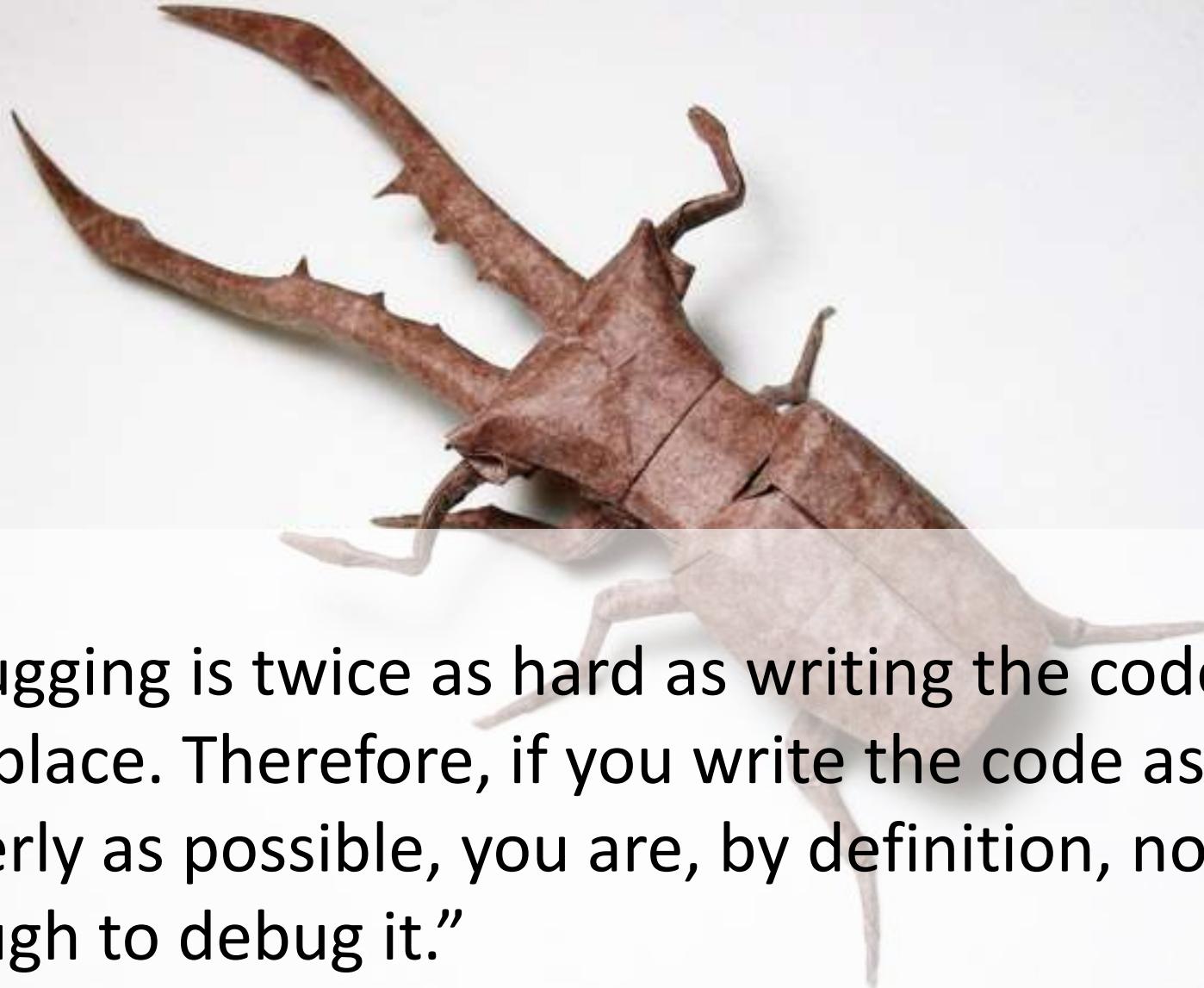
JEFF ATWOOD





**"Programs must be written for people to read,
and only incidentally for machines to execute."**

ABELSON AND SUSSMAN



“Debugging is twice as hard as writing the code in the first place. Therefore, if you write the code as cleverly as possible, you are, by definition, not smart enough to debug it.”

BRIAN KERNIGHAN

Image Credit: EmreAyar



“Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.”

LEONARDO DA VINCI

“The Internet is **not**
for sissies.”

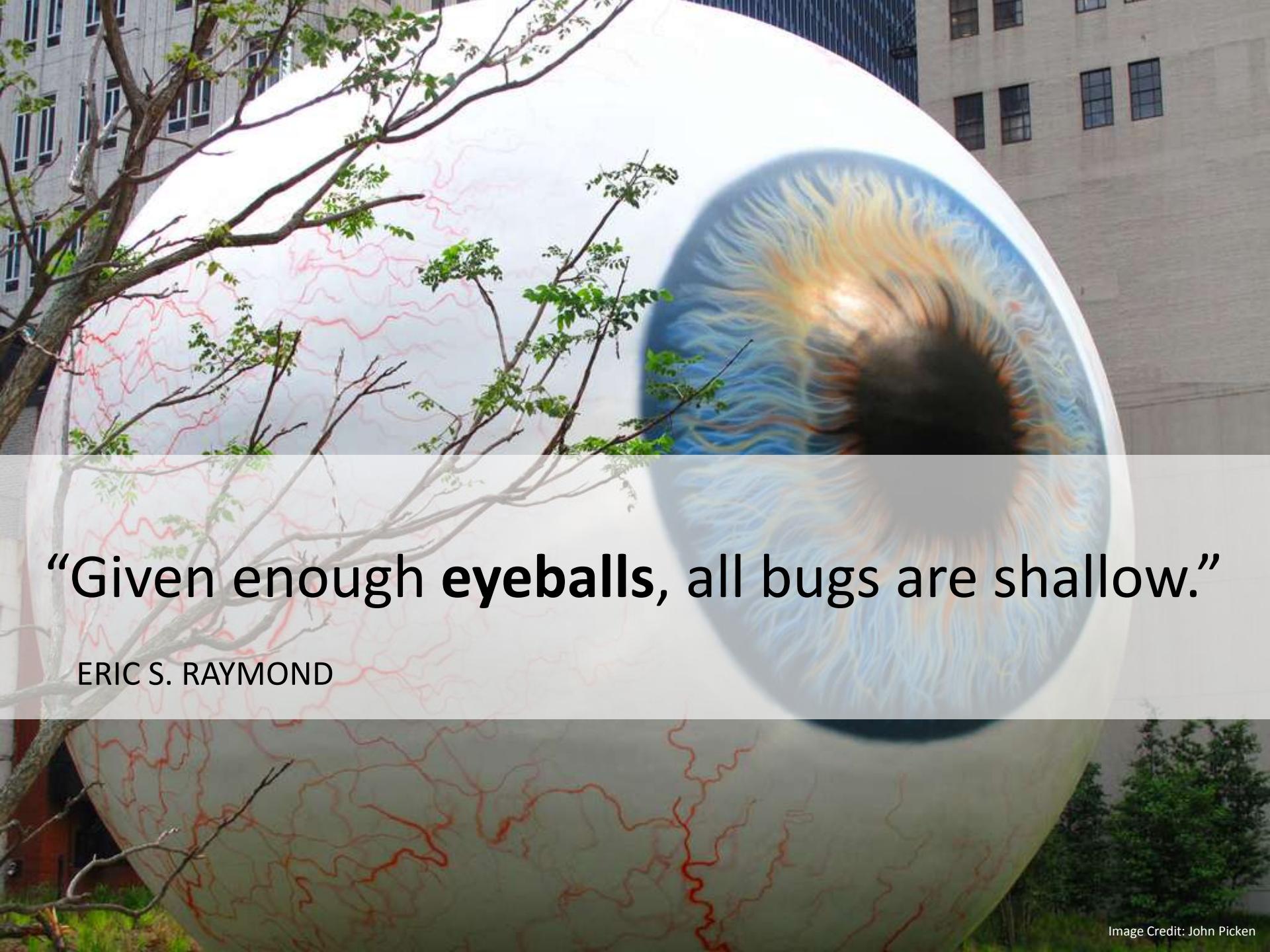
PAUL VIXIE



蜘蛛
獻給
人王
留芬

"I am rarely happier than when spending entire day programming my computer to perform automatically a task that it would otherwise take me a good ten seconds to do by hand."

DOUGLAS ADAMS



“Given enough **eyeballs, all bugs are shallow.”**

ERIC S. RAYMOND



“If you’re willing to restrict the **flexibility of
your approach, you can almost **always** do
something better.”**

JOHN CARMACK

**“Controlling complexity is the essence
of computer programming.”**

BRIAN KERNIGAN

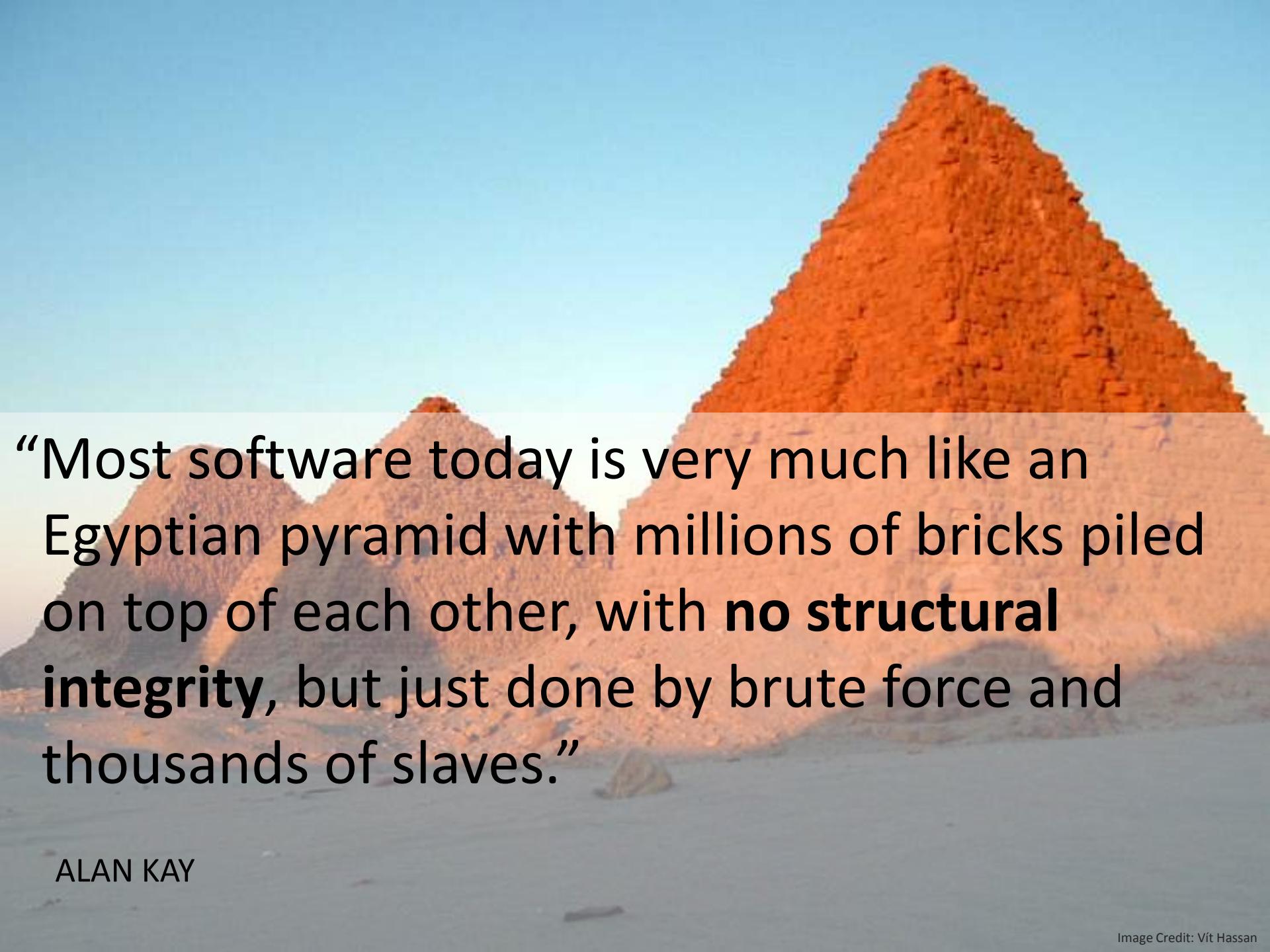


Image Credit: psiaki

“When done well, software is invisible.”

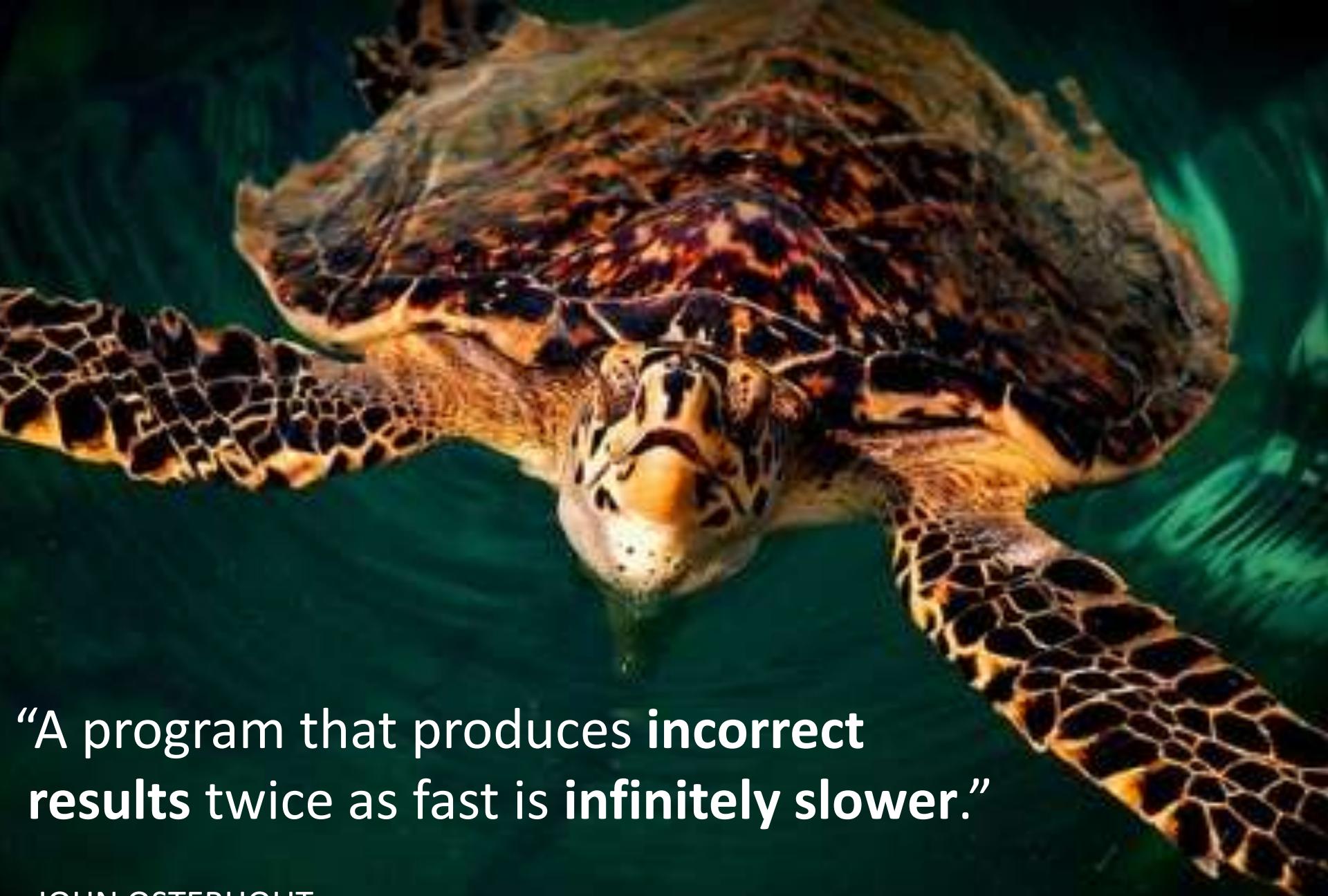
BJARNE STROUSTRUP



A photograph of the Great Pyramids of Giza under a clear blue sky. The pyramids are made of light-colored stone blocks and are set against a bright, clear sky.

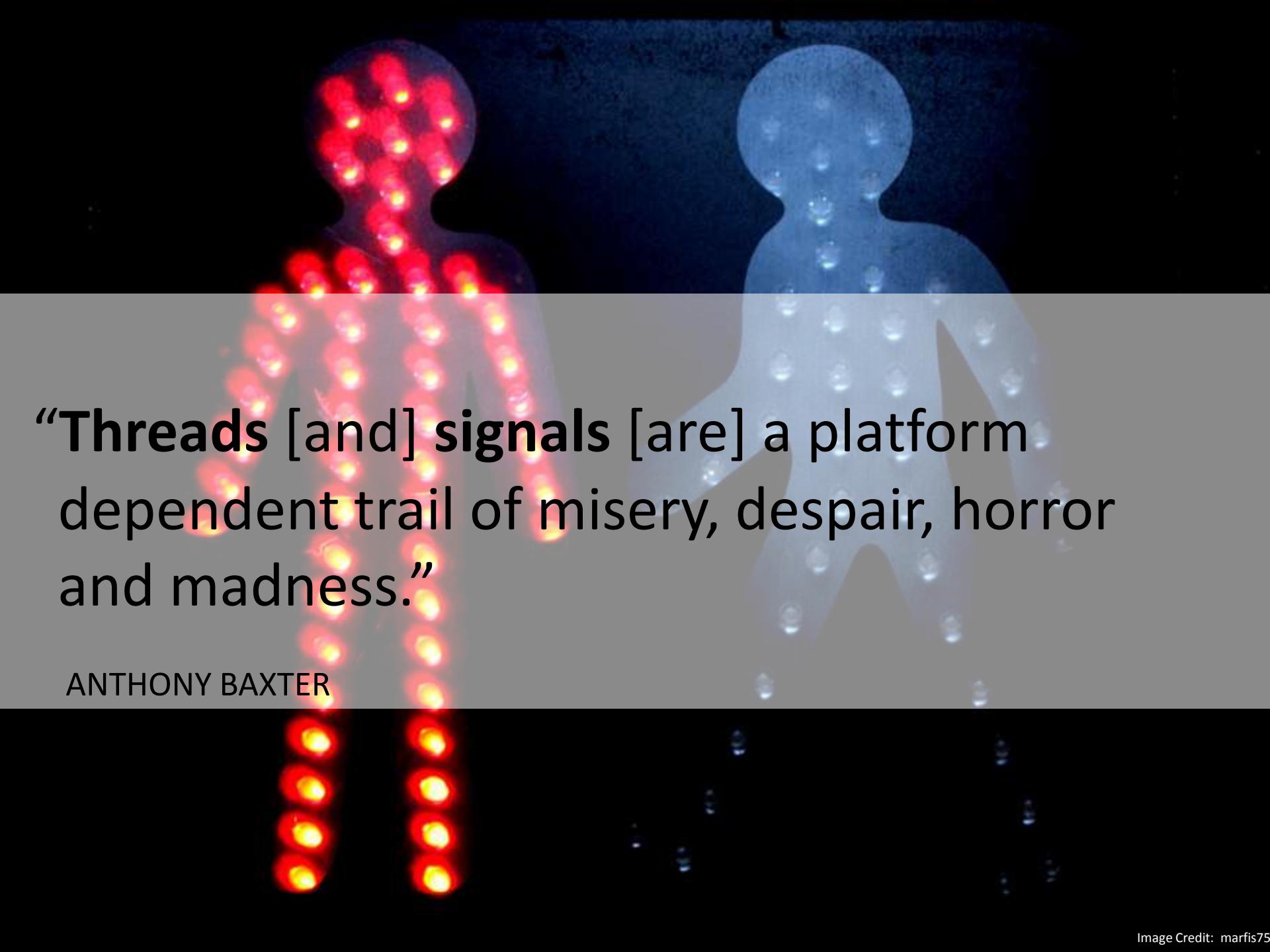
“Most software today is very much like an Egyptian pyramid with millions of bricks piled on top of each other, with **no structural integrity**, but just done by brute force and thousands of slaves.”

ALAN KAY



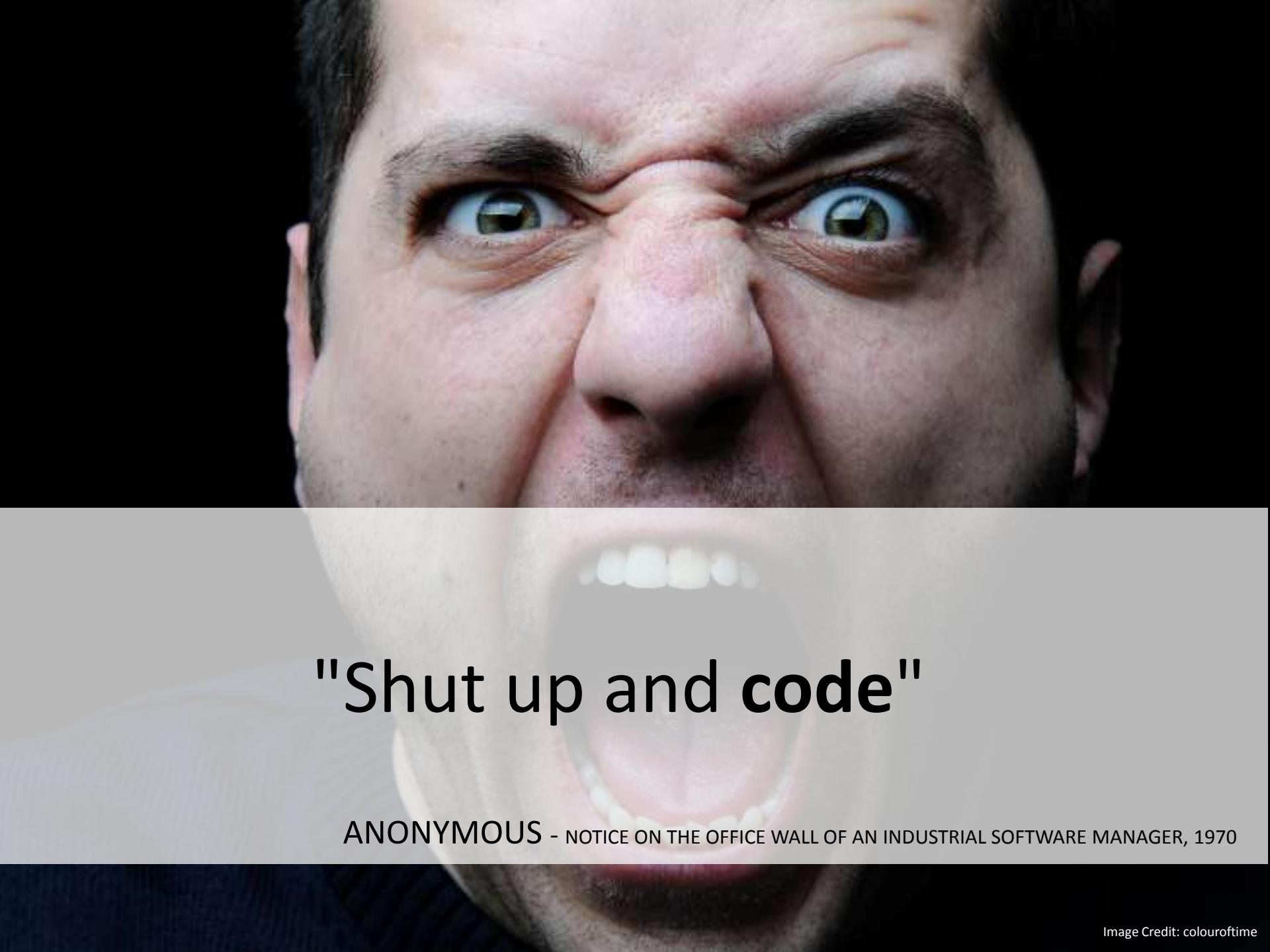
“A program that produces incorrect results twice as fast is infinitely slower.”

JOHN OSTERHOUT



“Threads [and] signals [are] a platform dependent trail of misery, despair, horror and madness.”

ANTHONY BAXTER

A close-up photograph of a man's face. He has dark hair, blue eyes, and a wide-open mouth showing his teeth. His eyebrows are raised, and his expression is one of surprise or shock. The background is dark.

"Shut up and **code**"

ANONYMOUS - NOTICE ON THE OFFICE WALL OF AN INDUSTRIAL SOFTWARE MANAGER, 1970

“Simplicity is prerequisite for reliability.”

EDSGER W. DIJKSTRA



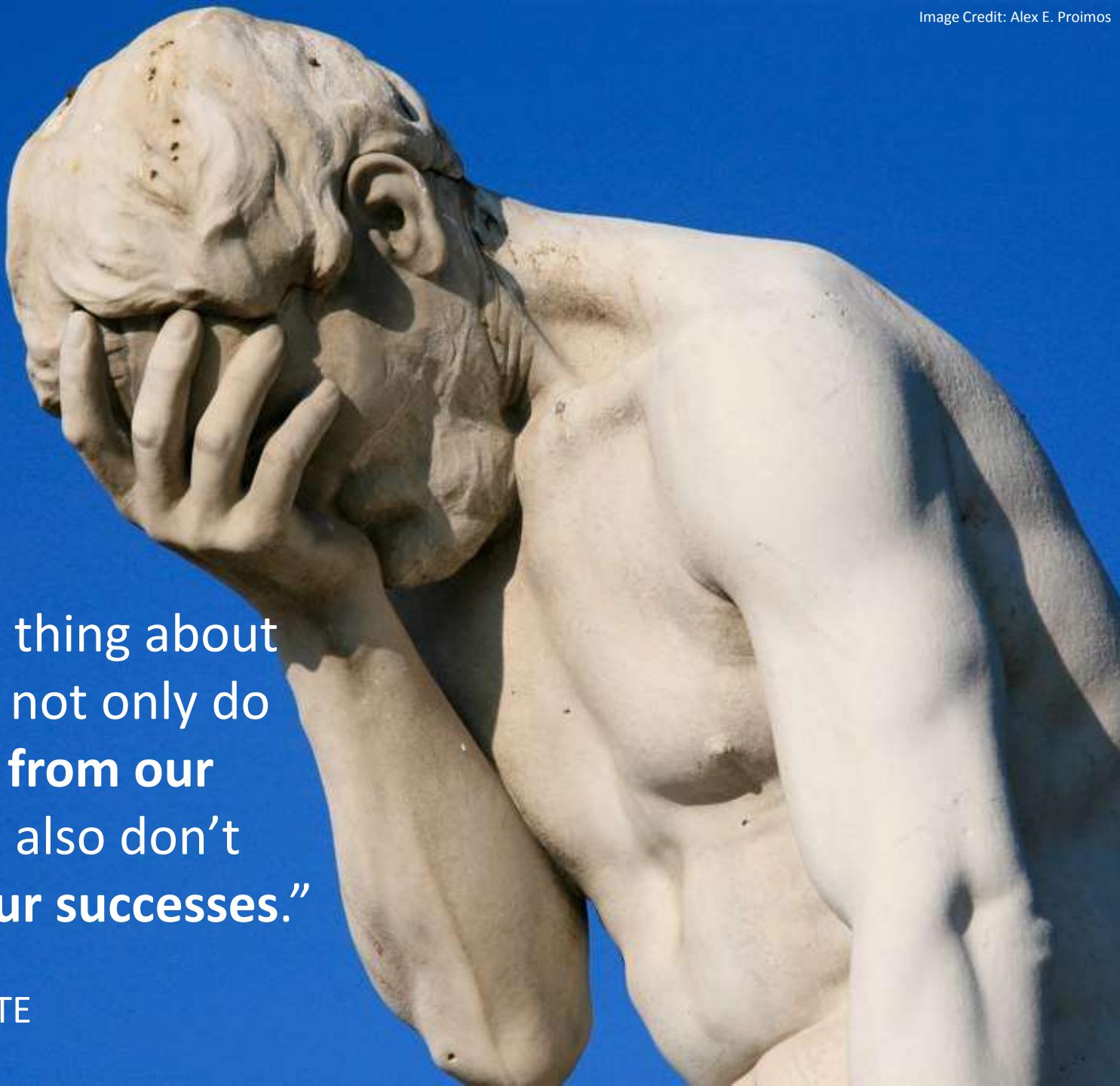


“Beauty is more important in computing than anywhere else in technology because software is so complicated. Beauty is the ultimate defence against complexity.”

DAVID GELERNTER

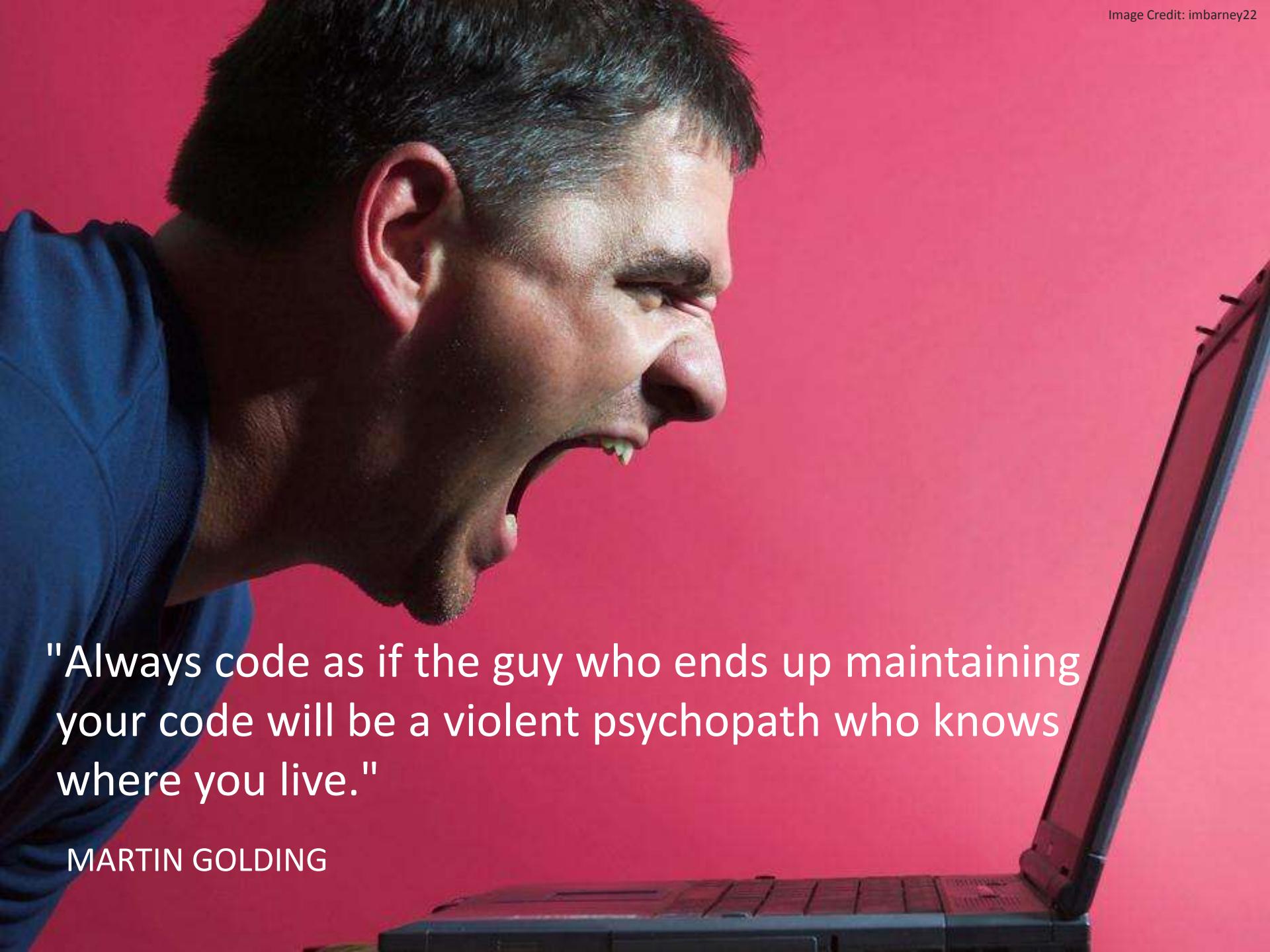


“Just because the **standard** provides a cliff in front of you, you are not necessarily required to jump off it.”



“It’s a curious thing about our industry: not only do we not **learn from our mistakes**, we also don’t **learn from our successes**.”

KEITH BRAITHWAITE

A dramatic profile shot of a man with dark hair and a mustache, wearing a blue shirt. He is screaming into the screen of a black laptop. The background is a solid red color. The lighting is high-contrast, emphasizing his face and the screen.

"Always code as if the guy who ends up maintaining your code will be a violent psychopath who knows where you live."

MARTIN GOLDING

“A language that doesn’t have everything
is actually **easier to program in** than
some that do.”

DENNIS M. RITCHIE



“The cheapest,
fastest, and
most reliable
components
are those that
aren’t there.”

GORDON BELL



SUCCESS!

“I think it’s a new feature.
Don’t **tell** anyone it was an accident.”

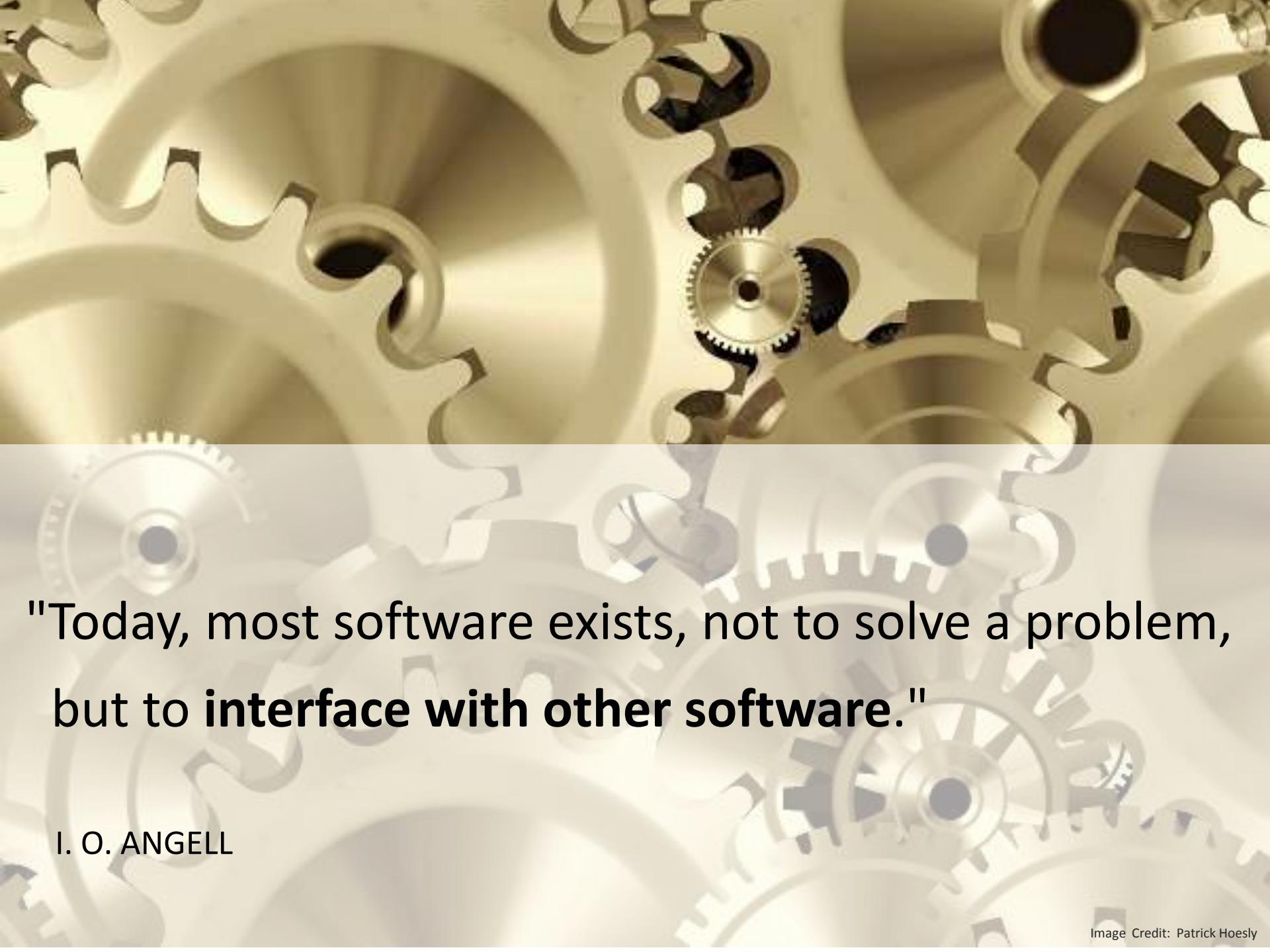
LARRY WALL



"The art of programming lies in that nether region between the hopeful wishes of an elegant architecture and the hard grindstone of technical details."

A. HUNT AND D. THOMAS.





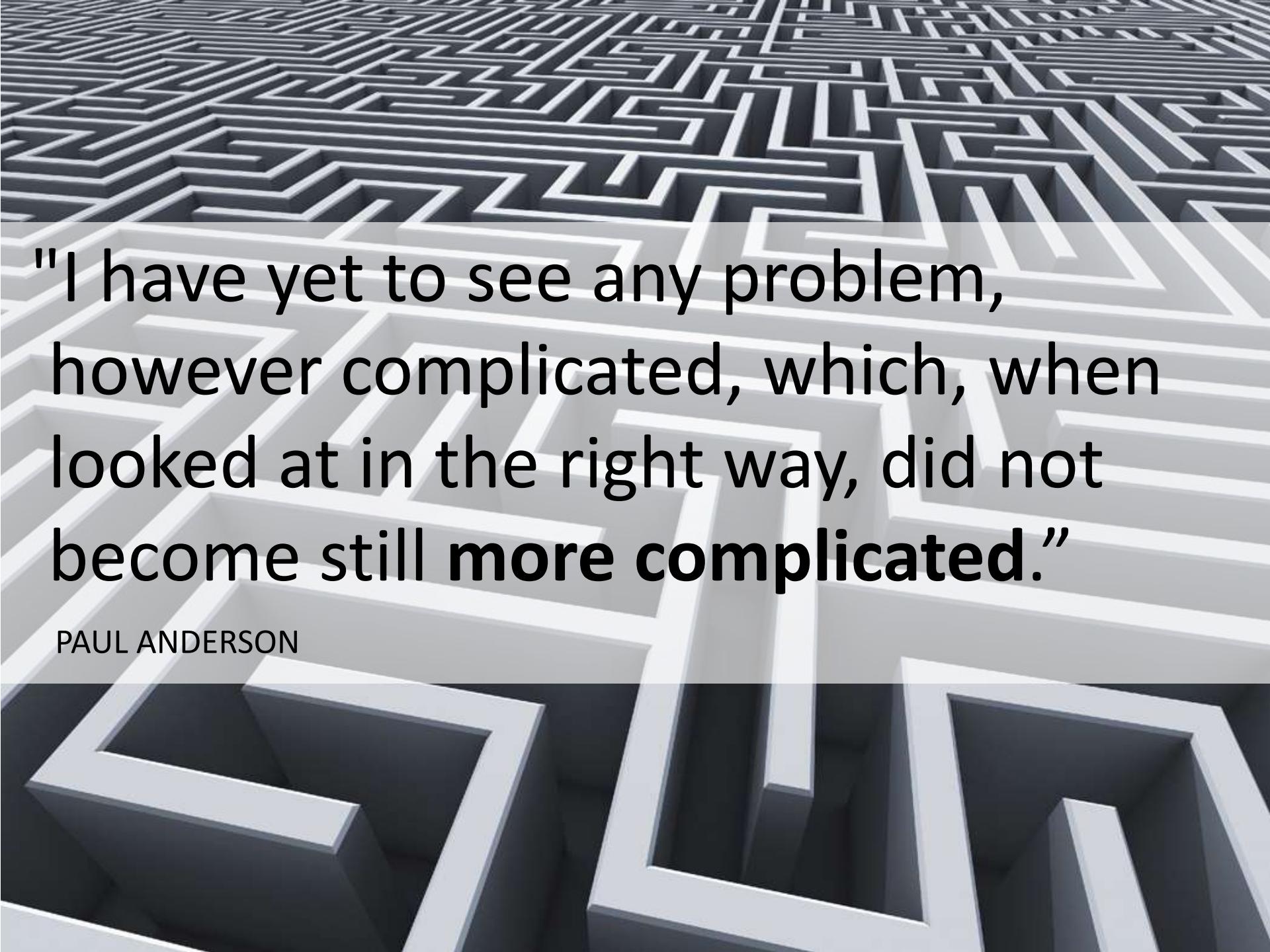
"Today, most software exists, not to solve a problem,
but to **interface with other software.**"

I. O. ANGELL

“One of my most productive days was **throwing away** 1000 lines of code.”

KEN THOMPSON



A complex 3D perspective view of a white maze on a black background. The maze is intricate, with many paths and dead ends, receding into the distance. It occupies the top half of the frame.

"I have yet to see any problem,
however complicated, which, when
looked at in the right way, did not
become still **more complicated**."

PAUL ANDERSON



“The first 90% of the code accounts for the first 90% of the development time. The remaining 10% of the code accounts for the other 90% of the development time.”

TOM CARGILL

"I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by."

DOUGLAS ADAMS





“Are you quite sure that all those **bells and whistles**,
all those wonderful facilities of your so called
powerful programming languages, belong to the
solution set rather than the problem set?”

“Measuring programming progress by lines of code is like measuring aircraft building progress by weight.”

BILL Gates





"Software: do you
write it like a book,
grow it like a plant,
accrete it like a
pearl, or **construct it**
like a building?"

JEFF ATWOOD



**"Time is so short,
you can't make a debug..."**

SCOTT ADAMS

“**The Eight Fallacies of Distributed Computing** essentially everyone, when they first build a distributed application, makes the following **eight assumptions**. All prove to be false in the long run and all cause big trouble and painful learning experiences.”

1. The network is reliable
2. Latency is zero
3. Bandwidth is infinite
4. The network is secure
5. Topology doesn’t change
6. There is one administrator
7. Transport cost is zero
8. The network is homogeneous



"Every program has at least one bug and can be shortened by at least one instruction - from which, by induction, one can deduce that every program can be reduced to one instruction which doesn't work."

ANONYMOUS



“A program is **portable
to the extent that it
can be **easily moved**
to a new computing
environment with
much less effort than
would be required to
write it afresh.”**

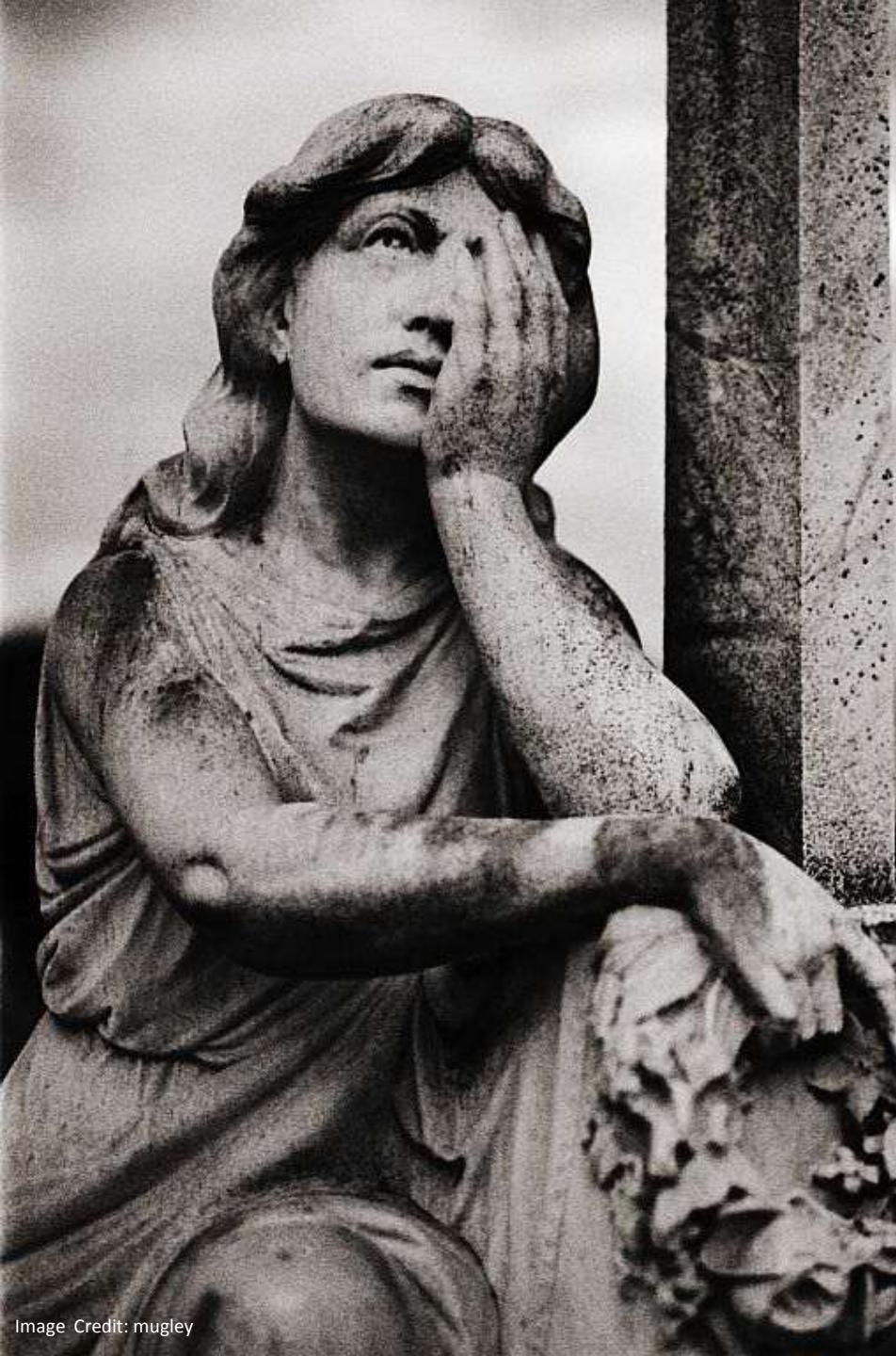
W. STAN BROWN



“Beware of “the real world”. A speaker’s appeal to it is always an invitation not to challenge his tacit assumptions.”

EDSGER W. DIJKSTRA





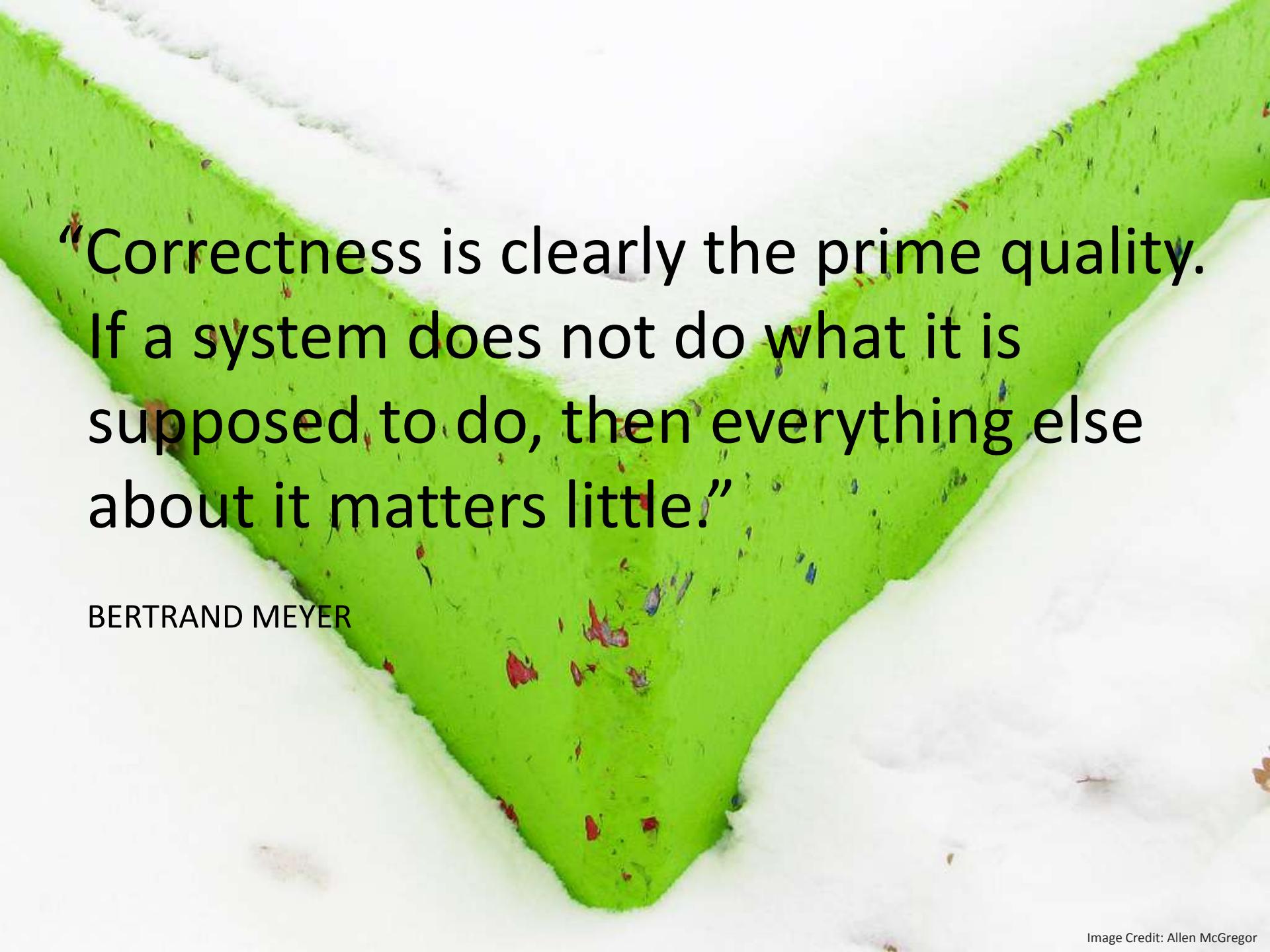
“Writing code has a place in the human hierarchy worth somewhere above grave robbing and beneath managing.”

GERALD WEINBERG



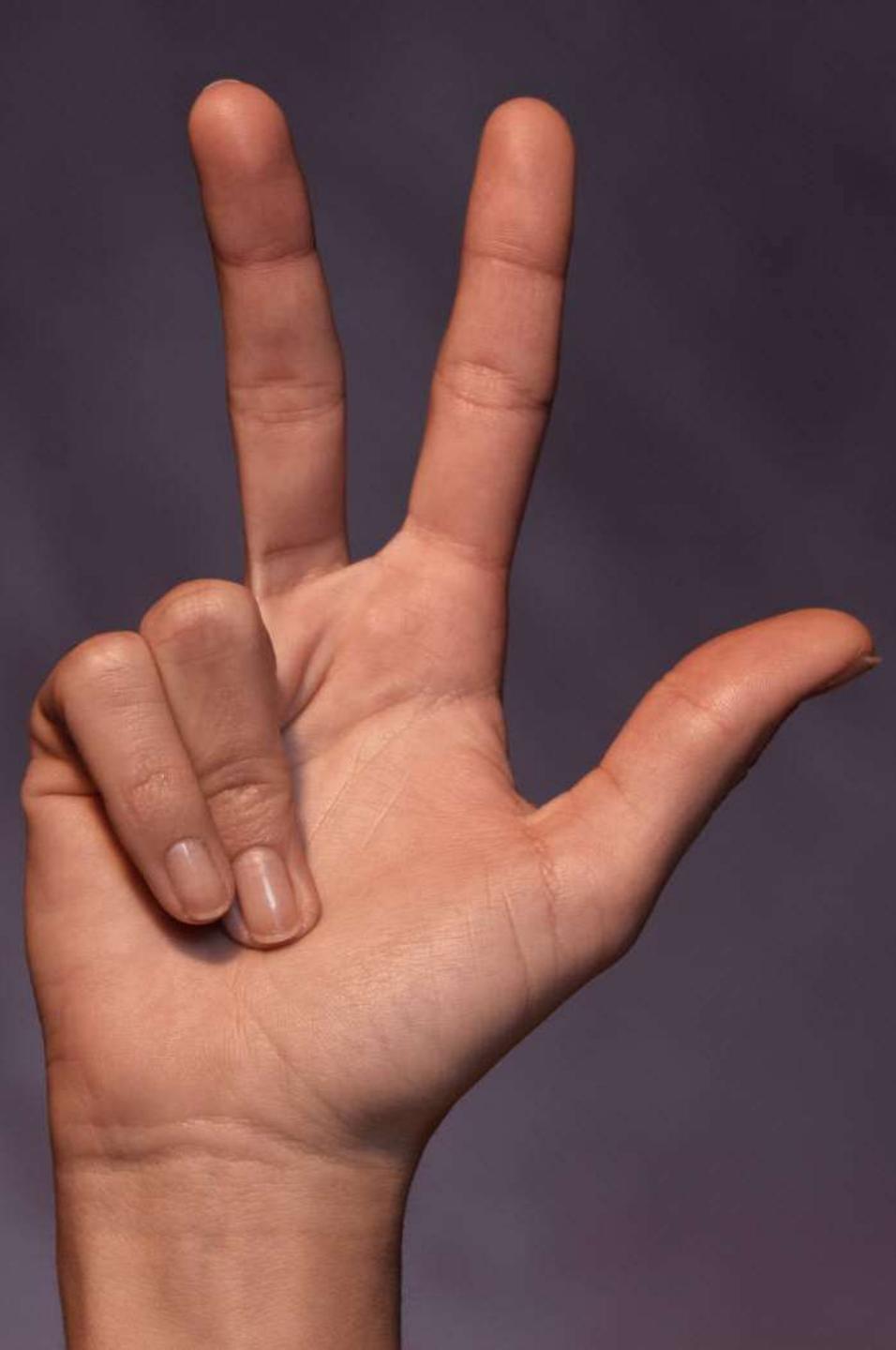
“Don't patch bugs out,
rewrite them out.”

ANONYMOUS



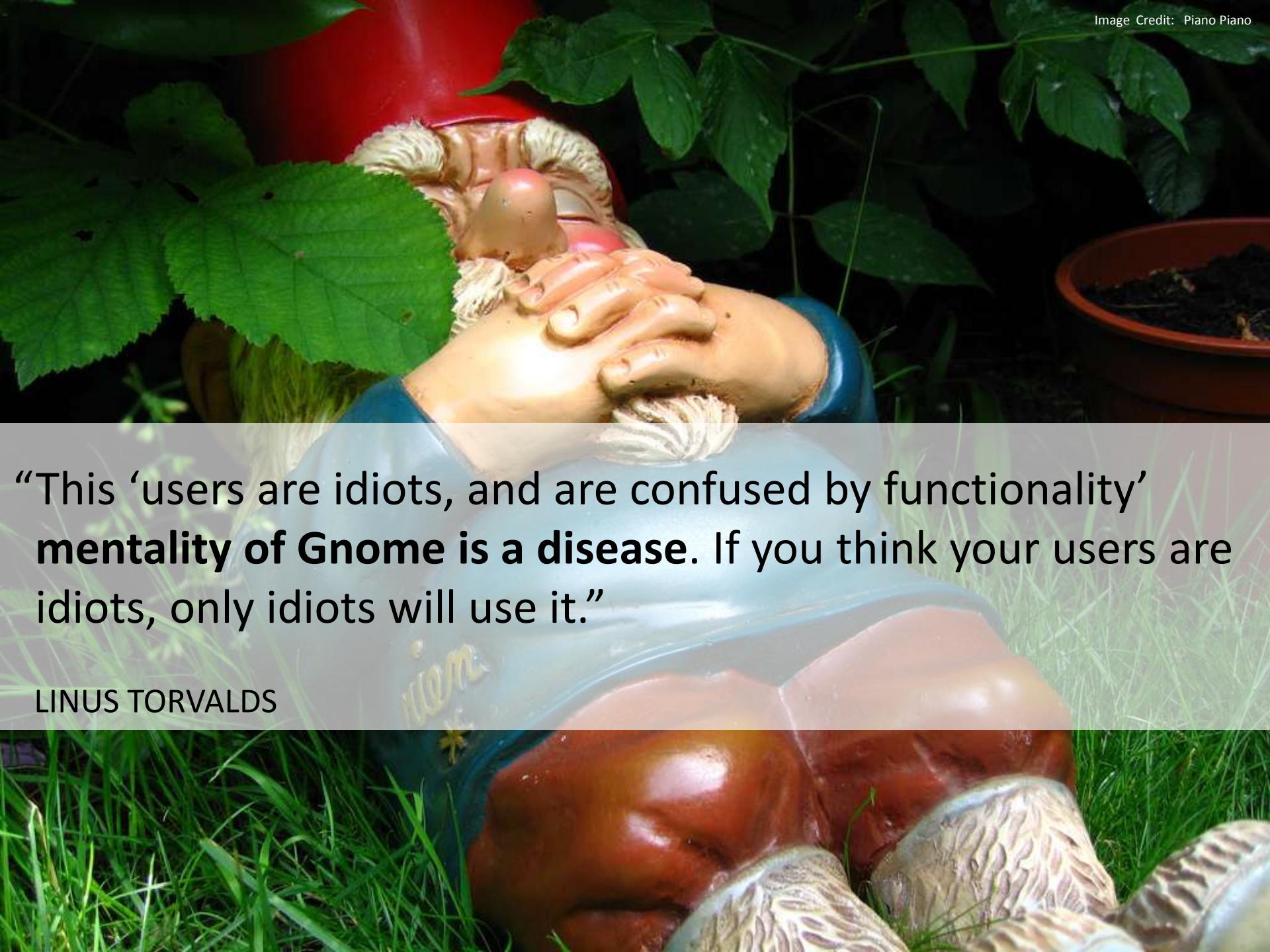
"Correctness is clearly the prime quality.
If a system does not do what it is
supposed to do, then everything else
about it matters little."

BERTRAND MEYER



“First **learn** computer science and all the theory. Next **develop** a programming style. Then **forget** all that and just **hack**.”

GEORGE CARRETTE



“This ‘users are idiots, and are confused by functionality’ mentality of Gnome is a disease. If you think your users are idiots, only idiots will use it.”

LINUS TORVALDS

“The key to performance is elegance, not battalions of special cases.”

JON BENTLEY AND DOUG MCILROY





“Complexity kills. It sucks the life out of developers, it makes products difficult to plan, build and test, it introduces security challenges and it causes end-user and administrator frustration.”

“Debugging is anticipated with distaste, performed with reluctance, and bragged about forever.”

ANONYMOUS



Image Credit: Mat Hayward



**“You can’t trust code that you did not
totally create yourself.”**

KEN THOMPSON

“Compatibility means deliberately repeating other people’s mistakes.”

DAVID WHEELER





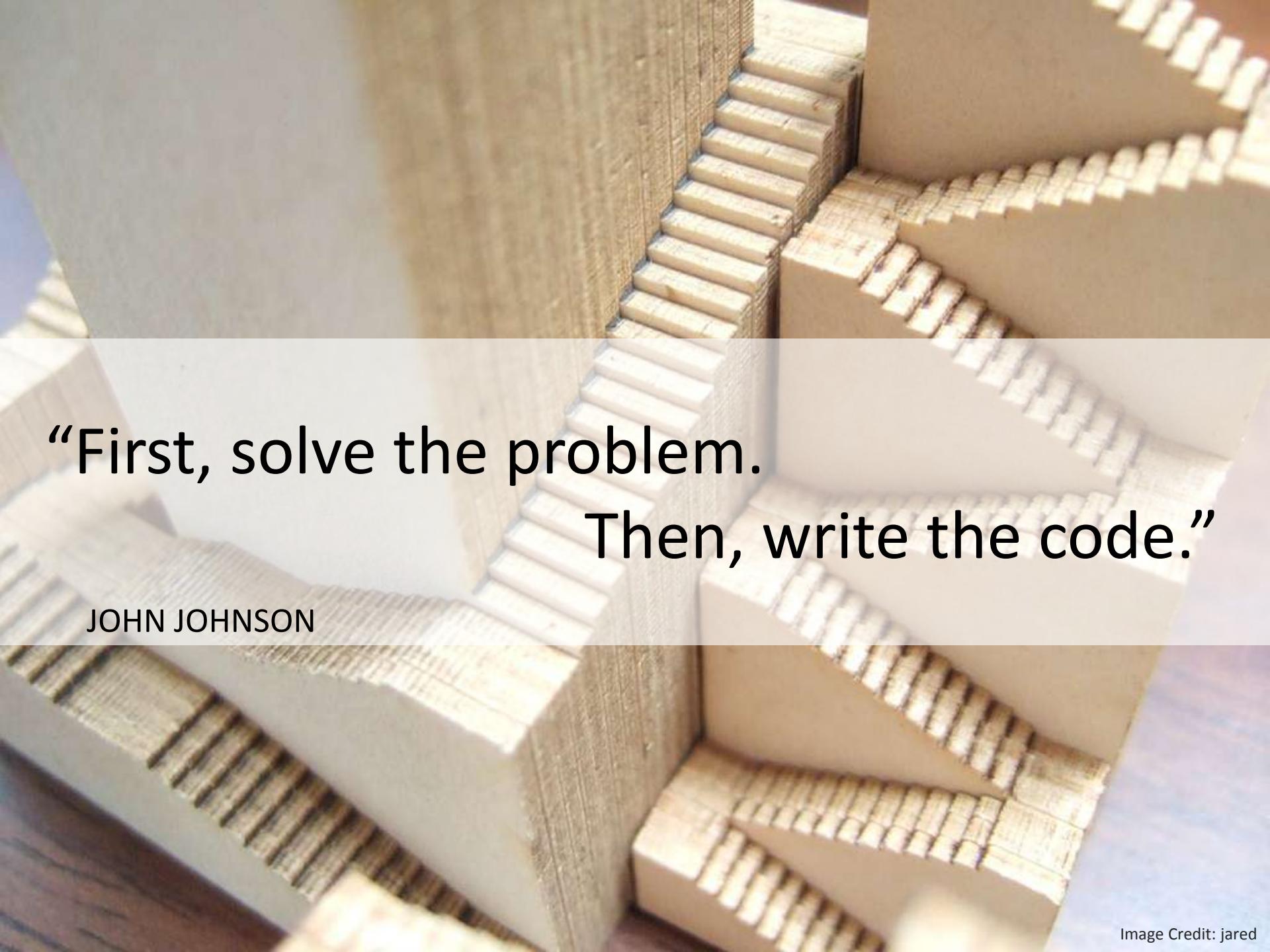
**"No one hates software
more than software developers."**

JEFF ATWOOD

**“A computer program does what you tell it
to do, not what you want it to do.”**

ANONYMOUS - GREER'S THIRD LAW





“First, solve the problem.
Then, write the code.”

JOHN JOHNSON

“A great lathe operator commands several times the wage of an average lathe operator, but a **great writer of software code** is **worth 10,000 times the price** of an average software writer.”

BILL Gates





“Beware of bugs in
the above code; I
have only proved it
correct, not tried it.”

DONALD KNUTH

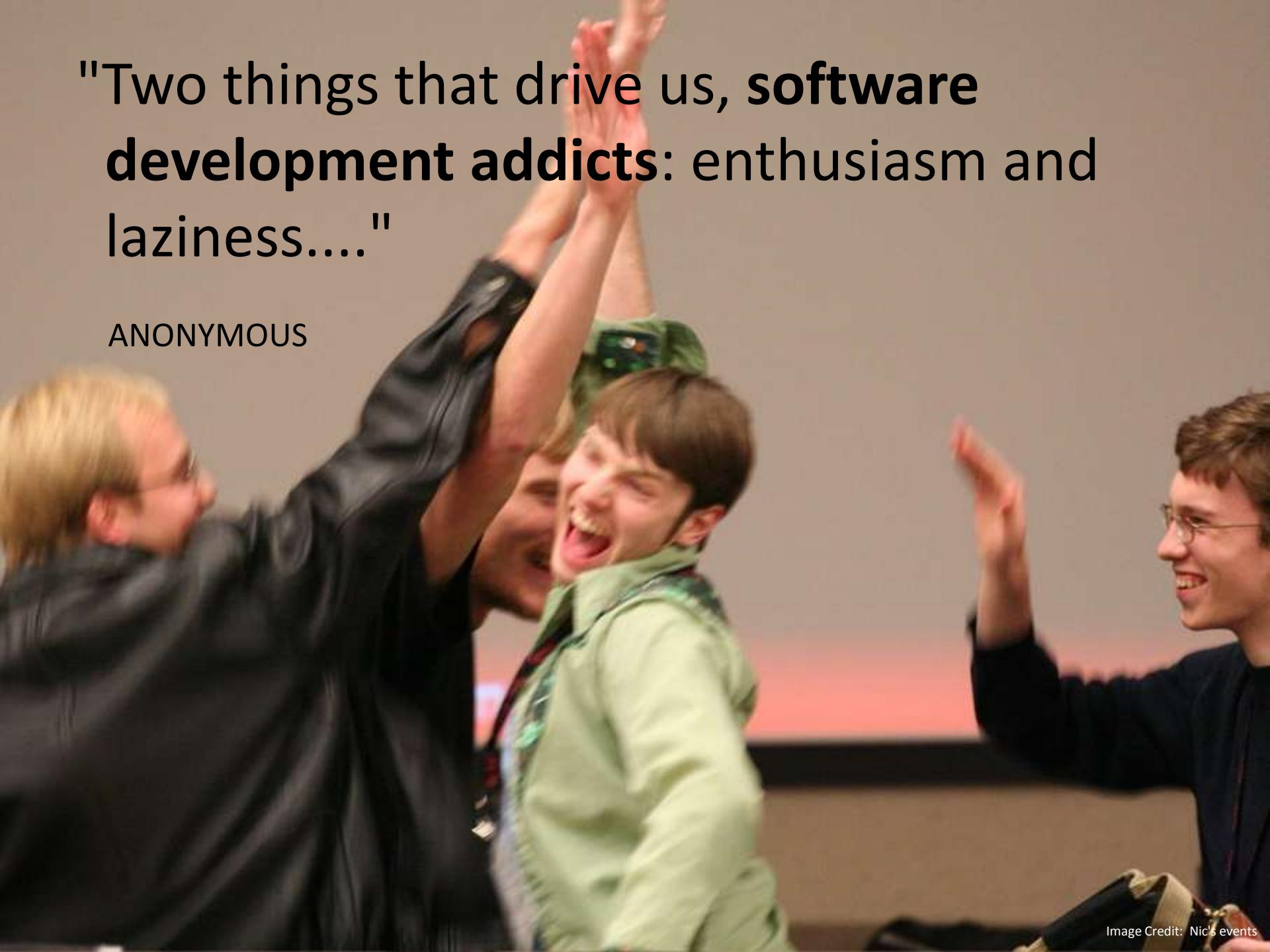


**“Good code is its
own best
documentation.”**

STEVE MCCONNELL

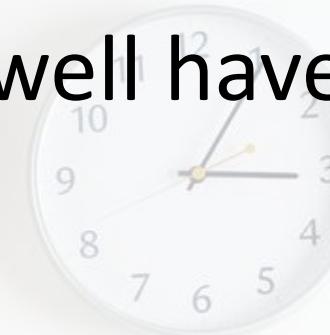
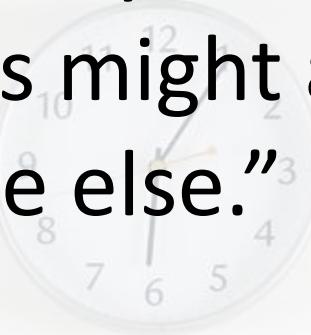
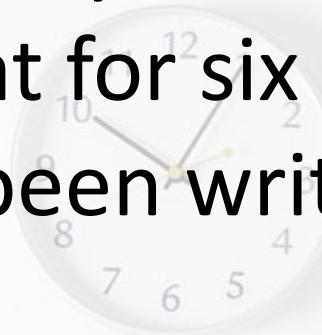
"Two things that drive us, software development addicts: enthusiasm and laziness...."

ANONYMOUS





“Any code of your own that you haven’t looked at for six or more months might as well have been written by someone else.”



EAGLESON’S LAW



**“I don’t care if it
works on your
machine! We are
not shipping your
machine!”**

VIDIU PLATON





“The most **exciting phrase** to hear in science,
the one that heralds new discoveries, is not
'Eureka!', but 'That's funny...'”

ISAAC ASIMOV

Image Credit: Julián Santacruz



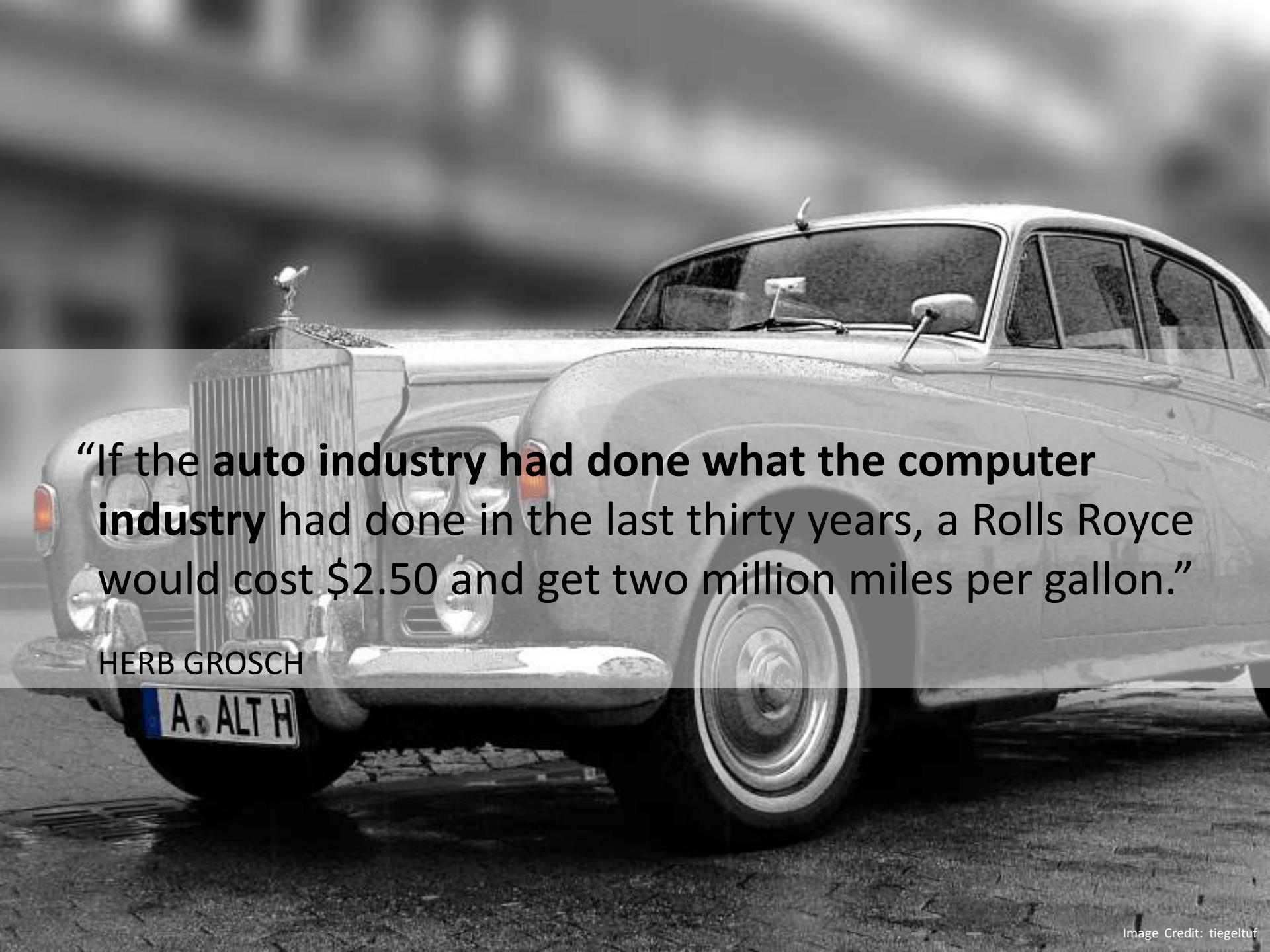
"Bad code isn't bad, it's just misunderstood."

ANONYMOUS

“Everything really interesting that happens in software projects eventually comes down to people.”

JAMES BACH





"If the auto industry had done what the computer industry had done in the last thirty years, a Rolls Royce would cost \$2.50 and get two million miles per gallon."

HERB GROSCH

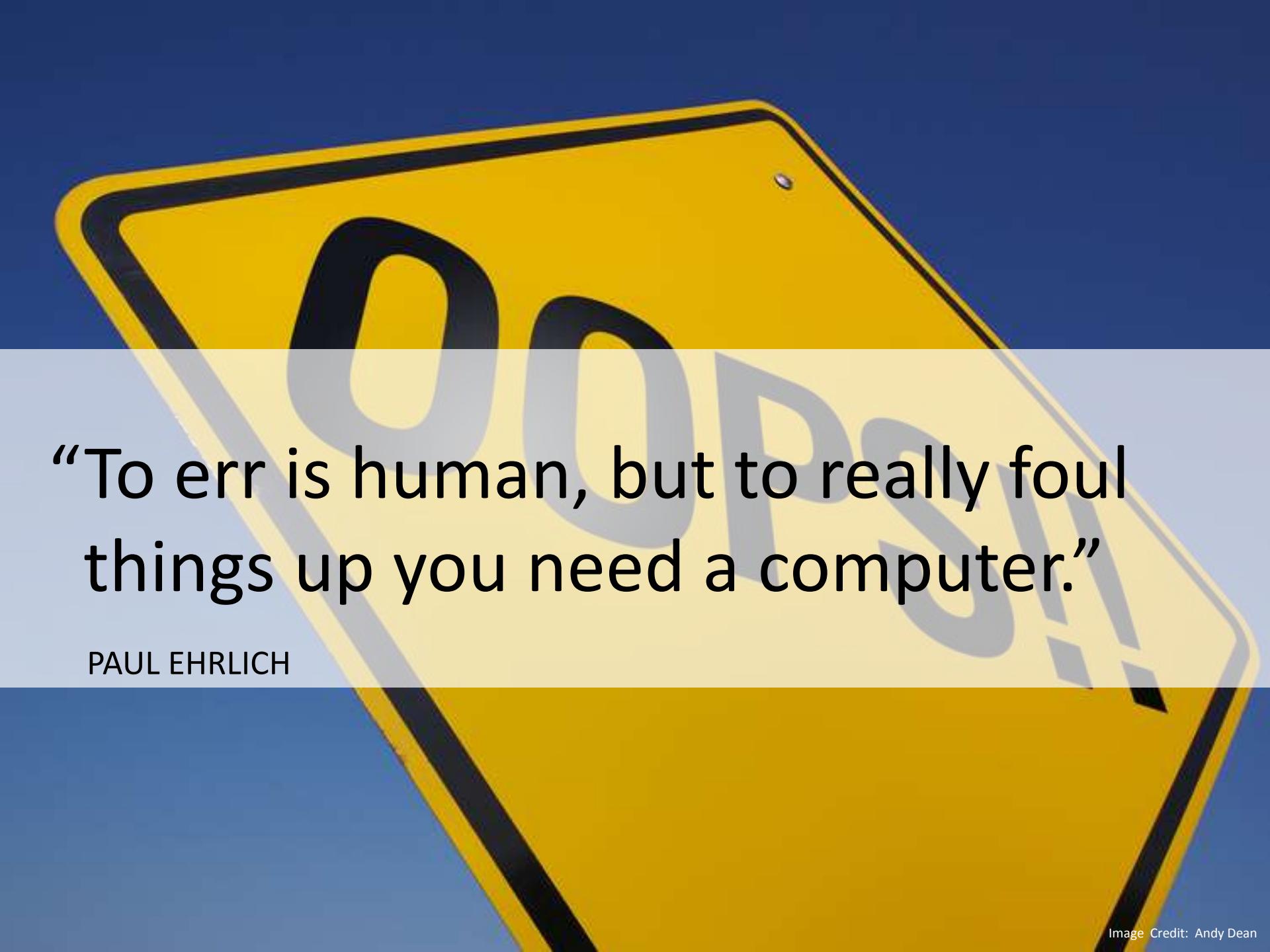


“When you spend time to find & fix all the bugs in your project, you can't complete the project in your life time.”



**“A documented bug is
not a bug; it is a
feature.”**

JAMES P. MACLENNAN



“To err is human, but to really foul things up you need a computer.”

PAUL EHRLICH



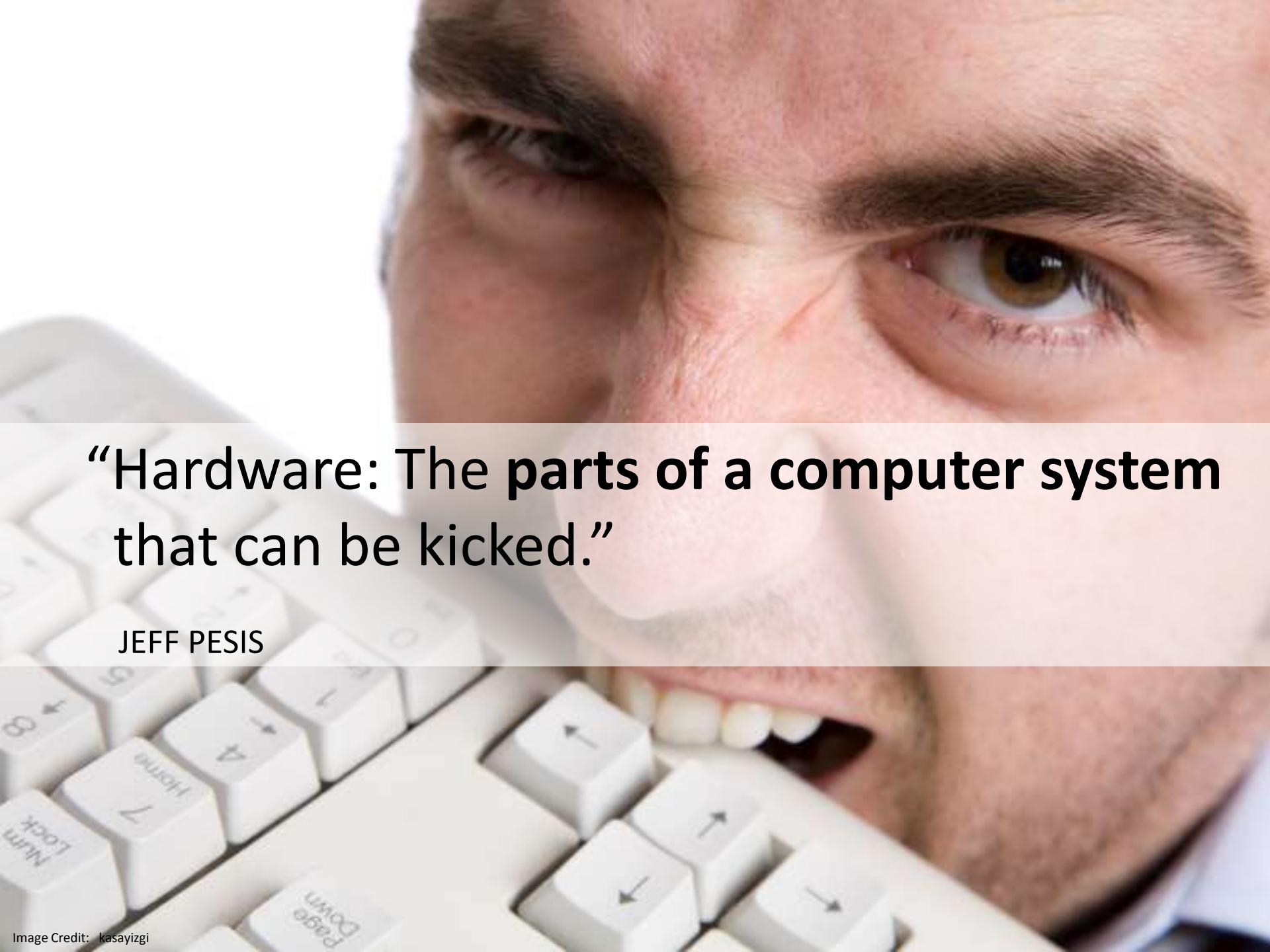
**“Controlling complexity is the essence
of computer programming.”**

BRIAN KERNIGHAN



“As soon as we started programming, we found to our surprise that it wasn’t as easy to get programs right as we had thought. Debugging had to be discovered. I can remember the exact instant when I realized that a large part of my life from then on was going to be spent in finding mistakes in my own programs.”

MAURICE WILKES



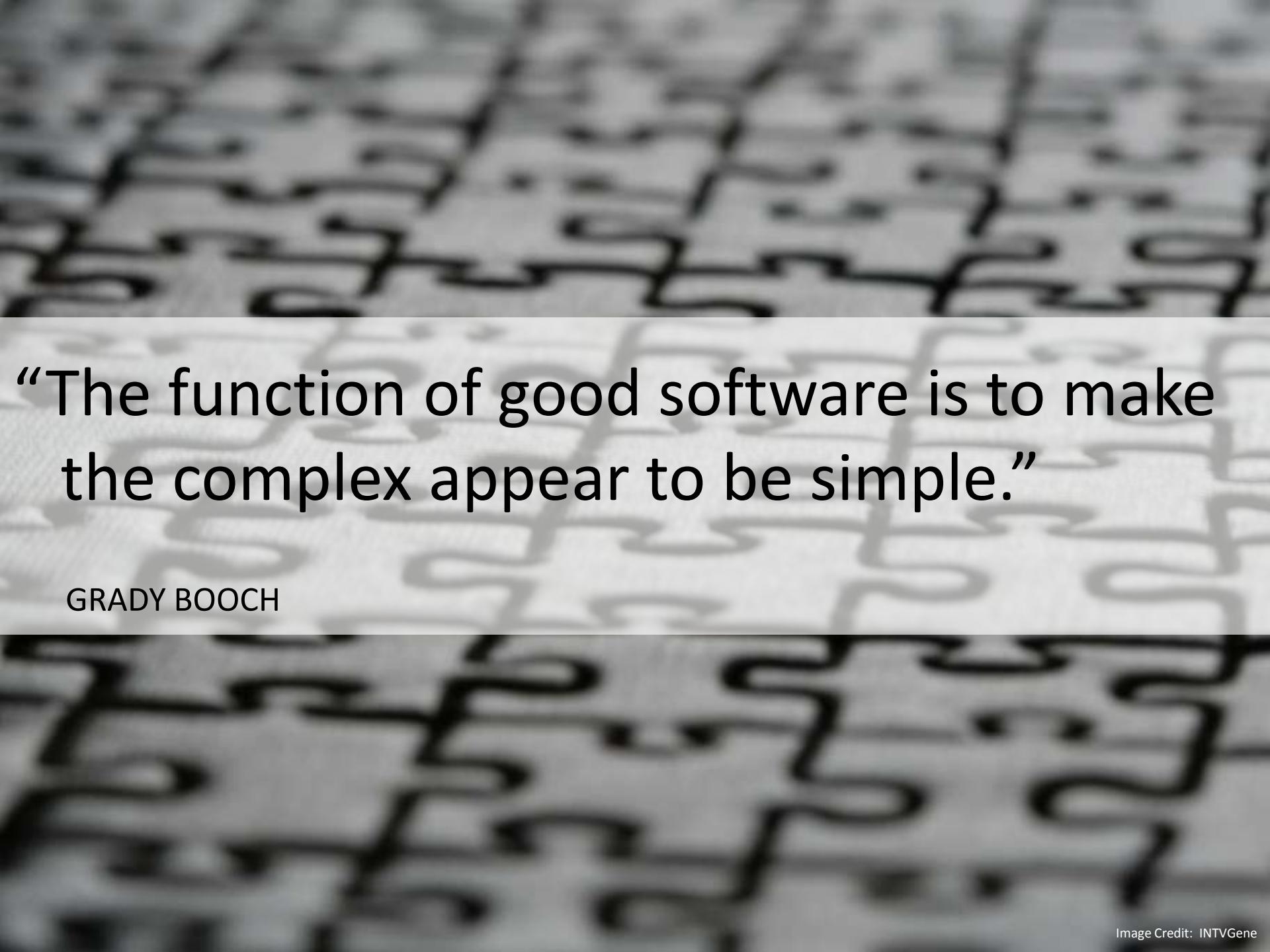
**“Hardware: The parts of a computer system
that can be kicked.”**

JEFF PESIS



“If the automobile had followed the same development cycle as the computer, a Rolls Royce would today cost \$100, get a million miles per gallon, and explode once a year, killing everyone inside.”

ROBERT X. CRINGELY



“The function of good software is to make the complex appear to be simple.”

GRADY BOOCHE



“You can either have software quality or you can have pointer arithmetic, but you cannot have both at the same time.”

BERTRAND MEYER

"I don't think a program is finished until you've written some reasonable documentation... I think its unprofessional these people who say, 'What does it do? Read the code.' The code shows me what it does. It doesn't show me what it's supposed to do."

JOE ARMSTRONG



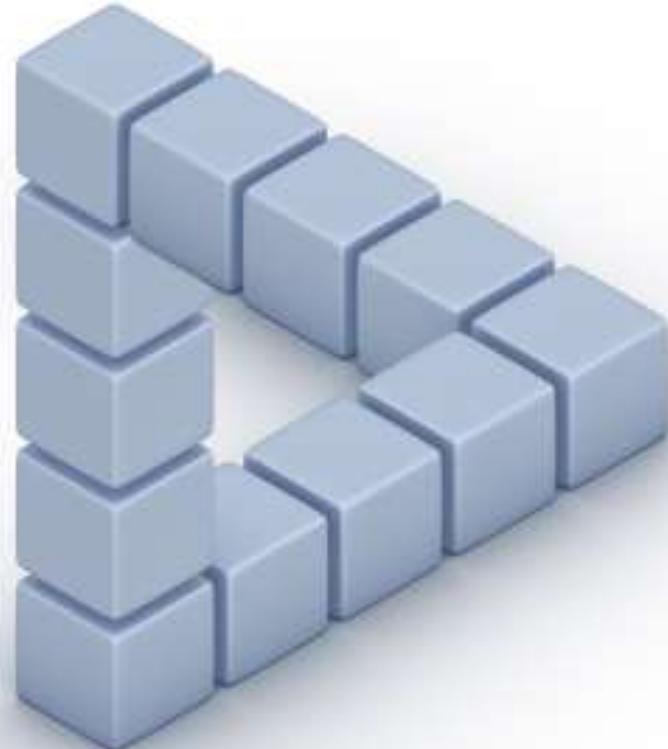


**“That’s what’s cool about working with computers.
They don’t argue, they remember everything, and
they don’t drink all your beer.”**

PAUL LEARY

“... Our basic ideas about what are better or worse practices are **strongly influenced by people we perceive** as knowing how to make software.”

JAMES BACH



“Never trust a computer you can’t throw out a window.”

STEVE WOZNIAK

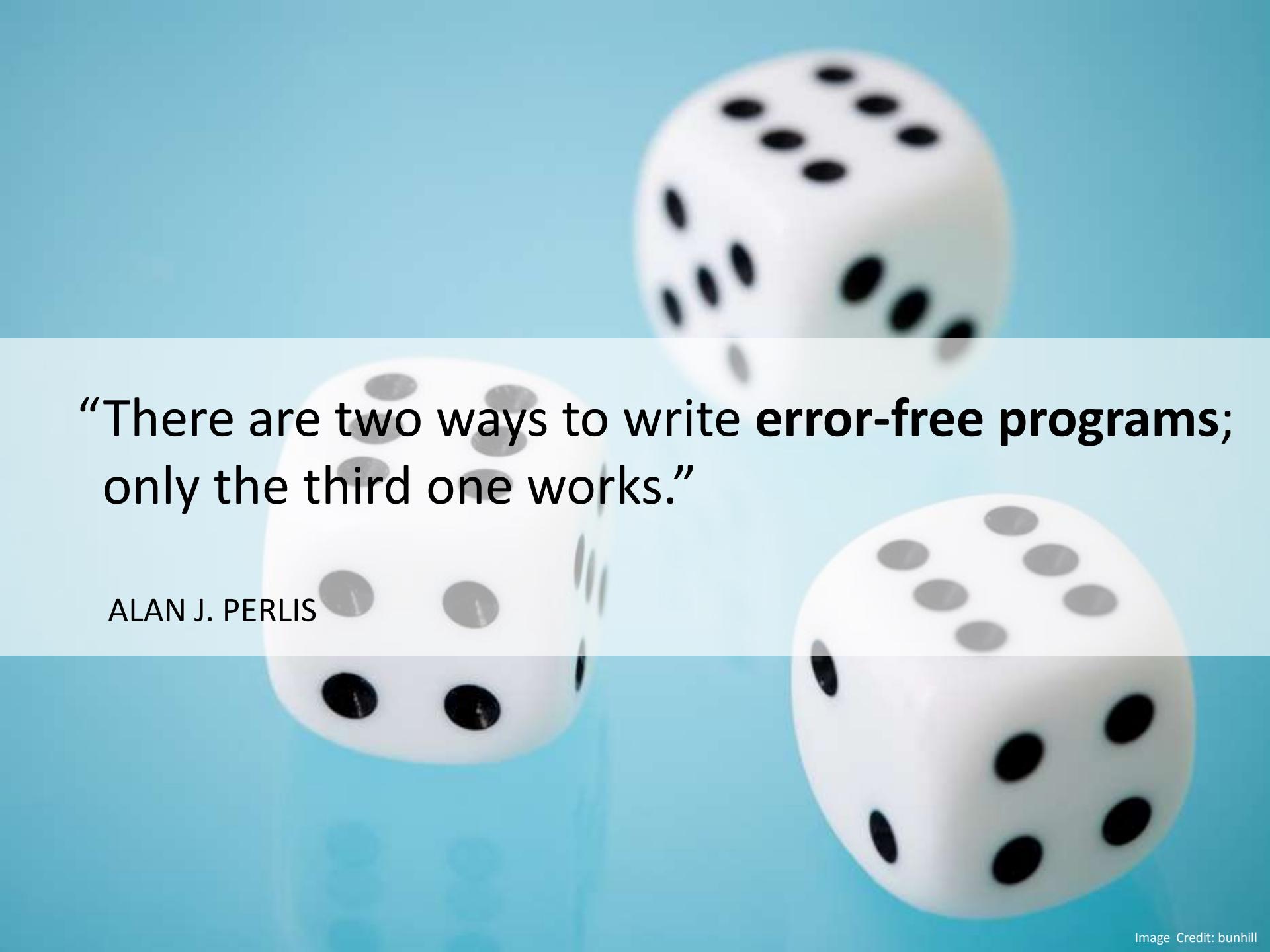


“The computer was
born to solve problems
that did not exist before.”

BILL GATES

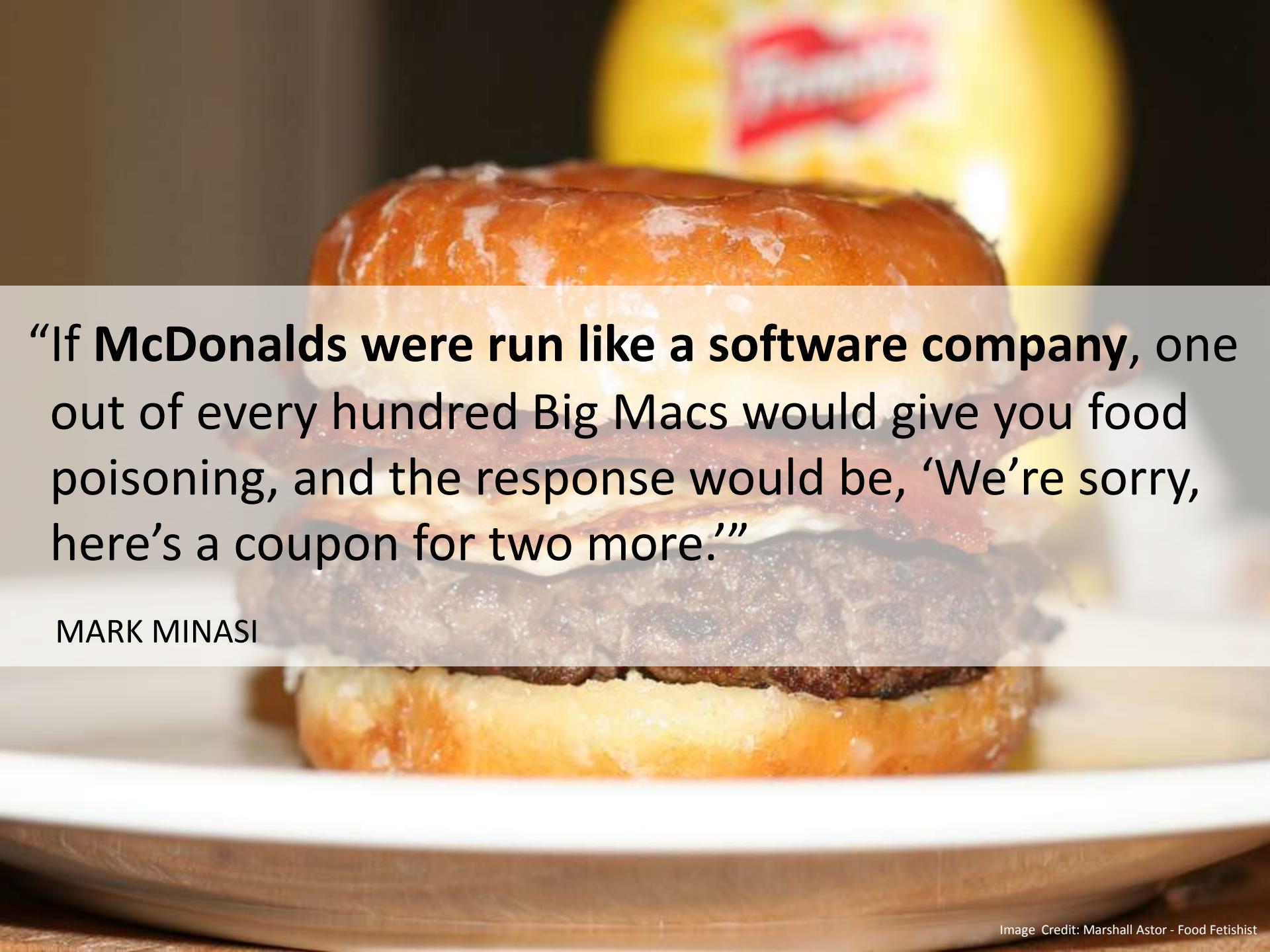


Image Credit: gracedustin

A photograph of three white dice with black dots, arranged in a triangular pattern. One die is in the foreground, showing faces with 1, 2, and 5 dots. Another die is partially visible behind it, showing faces with 3, 4, and 6 dots. A third die is in the background, showing faces with 1, 2, and 3 dots.

“There are two ways to write **error-free programs**;
only the third one works.”

ALAN J. PERLIS



“If McDonalds were run like a software company, one out of every hundred Big Macs would give you food poisoning, and the response would be, ‘We’re sorry, here’s a coupon for two more.”

MARK MINASI



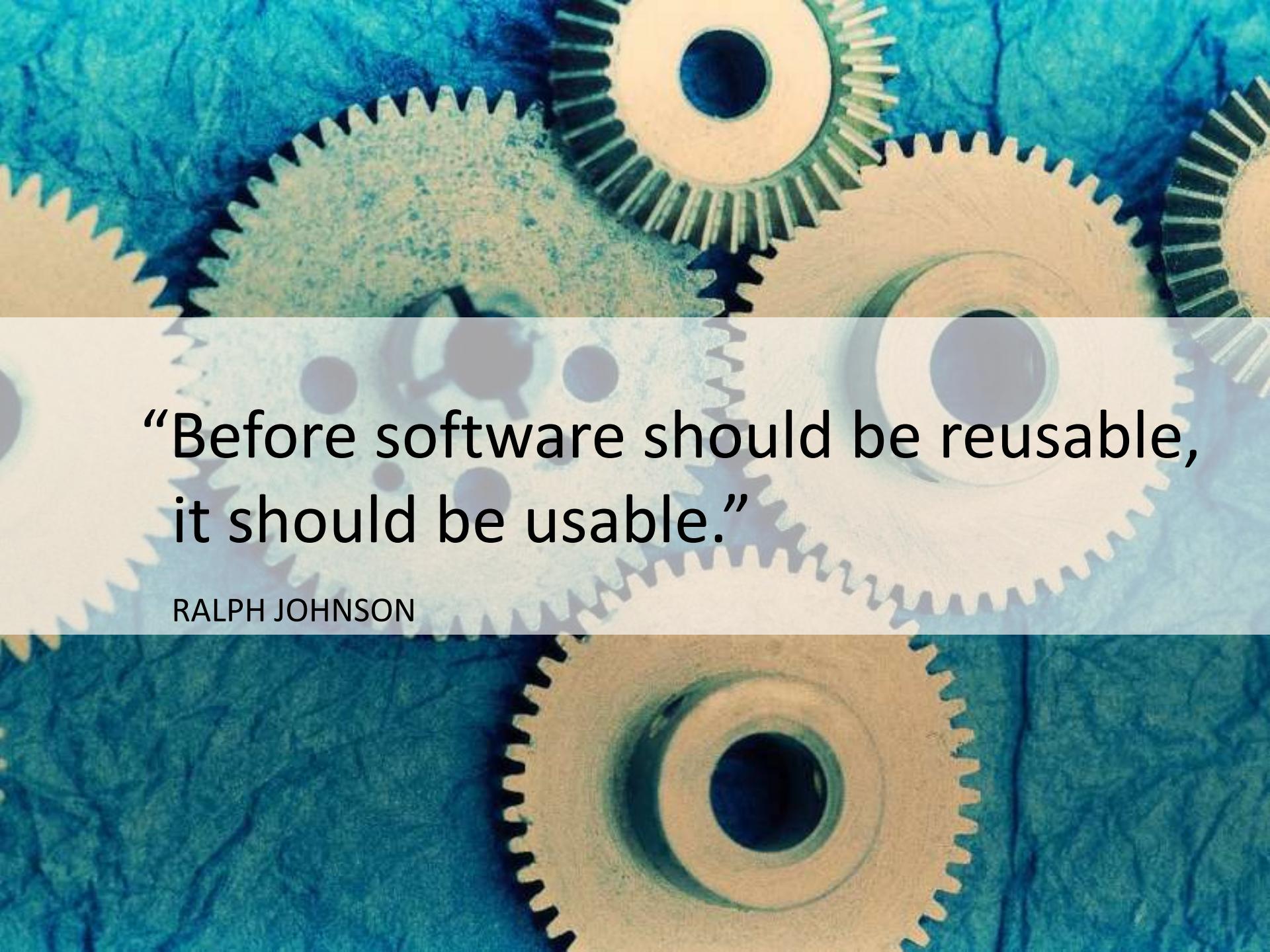
“It’s OK to figure out murder mysteries, but you **shouldn’t need to figure out code**. You should be able to read it.”

STEVE MCCONNELL

A photograph of a person from the waist up, wearing a light blue and white striped short-sleeved shirt. They are wearing a yellow leather tool belt with multiple pockets and rivets. A red tape measure is tucked into one pocket, and a roll of yellow and red tape is attached to another. The person's hands are on their hips. The background is plain white.

“Don’t document the problem, fix it.”

ATLI BJÖRGVIN ODDSSON



“Before software should be reusable,
it should be usable.”

RALPH JOHNSON

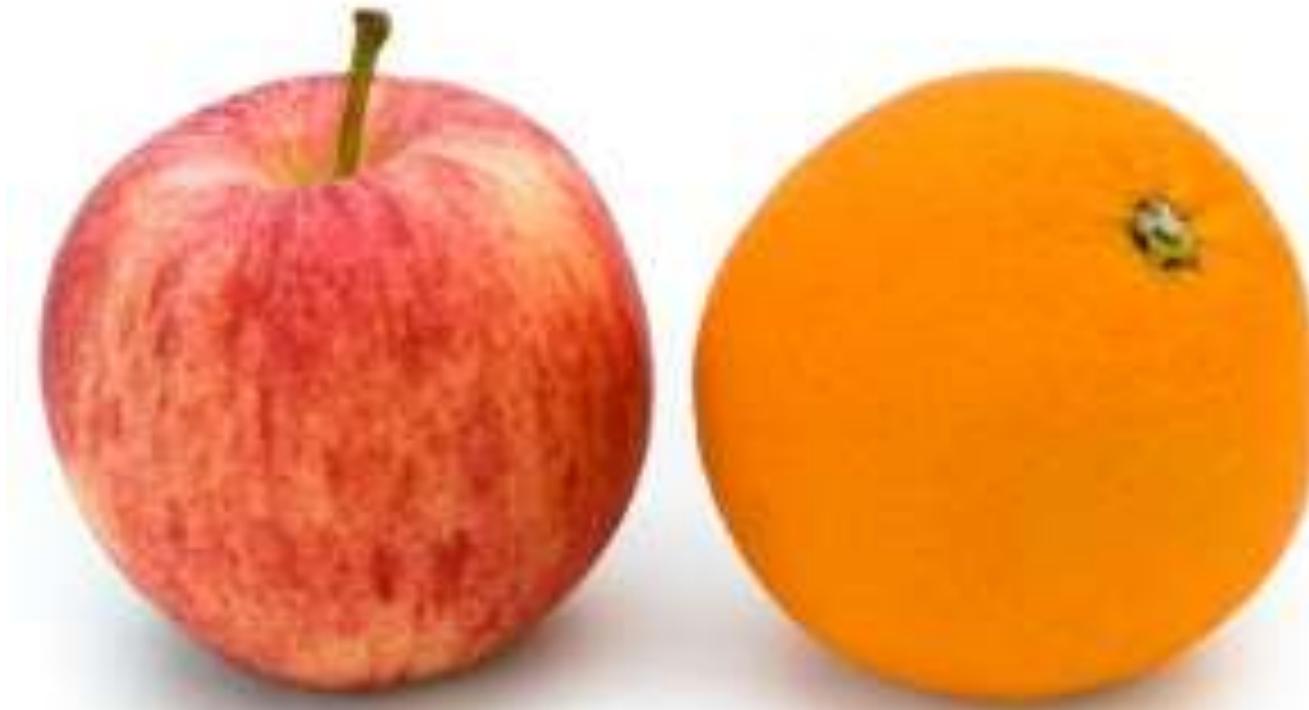


“A computer lets you make more mistakes faster than any invention in human history—with the possible exceptions of handguns and tequila.”

MITCH RADCLIFFE

“There are only two industries that refer to their customers as ‘users’.”

EDWARD TUFTE

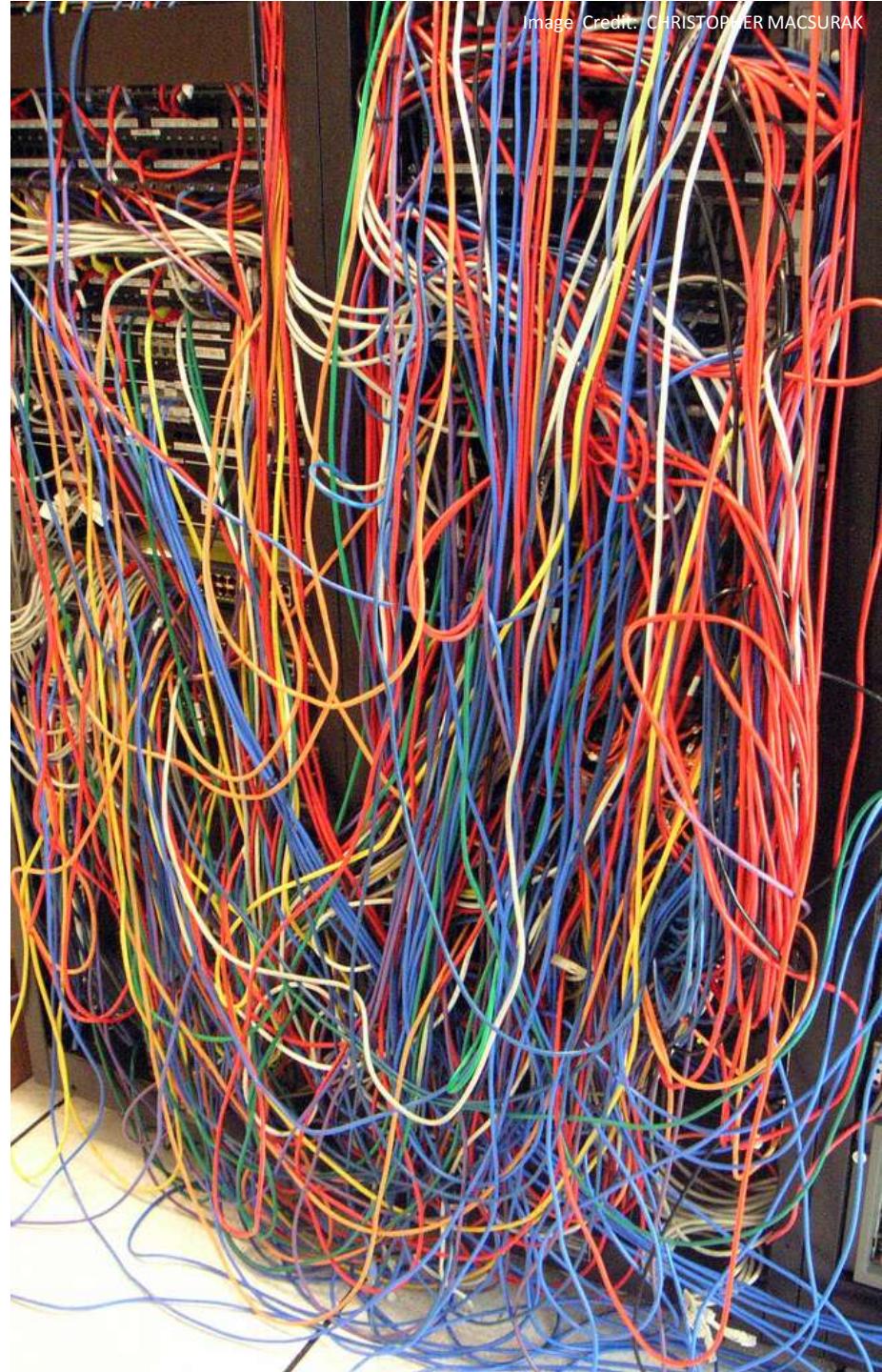


**“Program testing can be
a very effective way to
show the presence of
bugs, but is hopelessly
inadequate for showing
their absence.”**

EDSGER DIJKSTRA

**“If you automate
a mess, you get
an automated
mess.”**

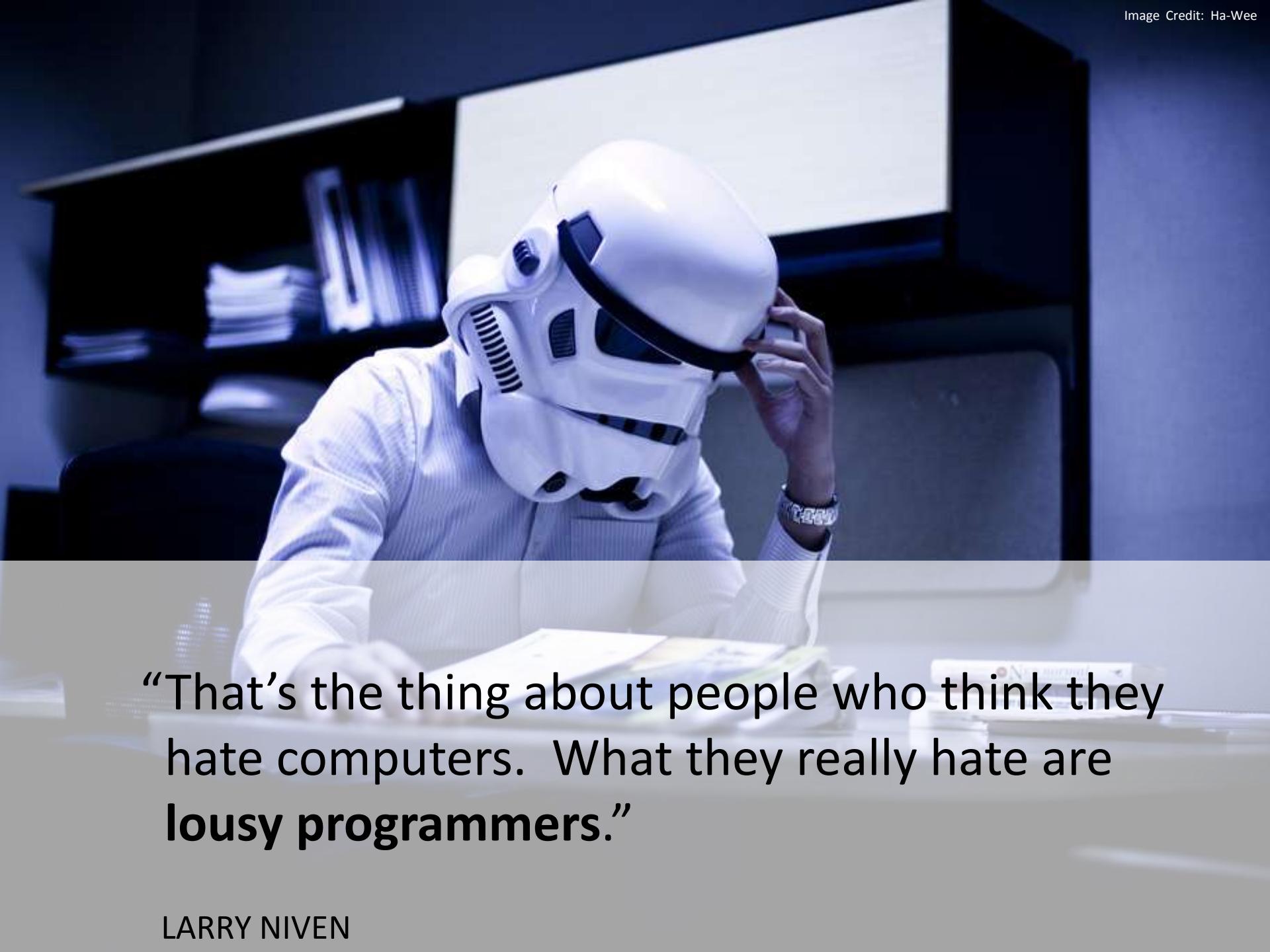
ROD MICHAEL



A close-up photograph of a man's face. He has brown hair, blue eyes, and is wearing black-rimmed glasses. He is sticking his tongue out towards the camera. He is wearing a white button-down shirt with a visible collar and a plaid bow tie. A pair of black suspenders is visible across his chest. In his right hand, he holds a clear incandescent lightbulb by its metal screw base. The background is plain white.

When debugging, novices
insert corrective code;
**experts remove defective
code.”**

RICHARD PATTIS



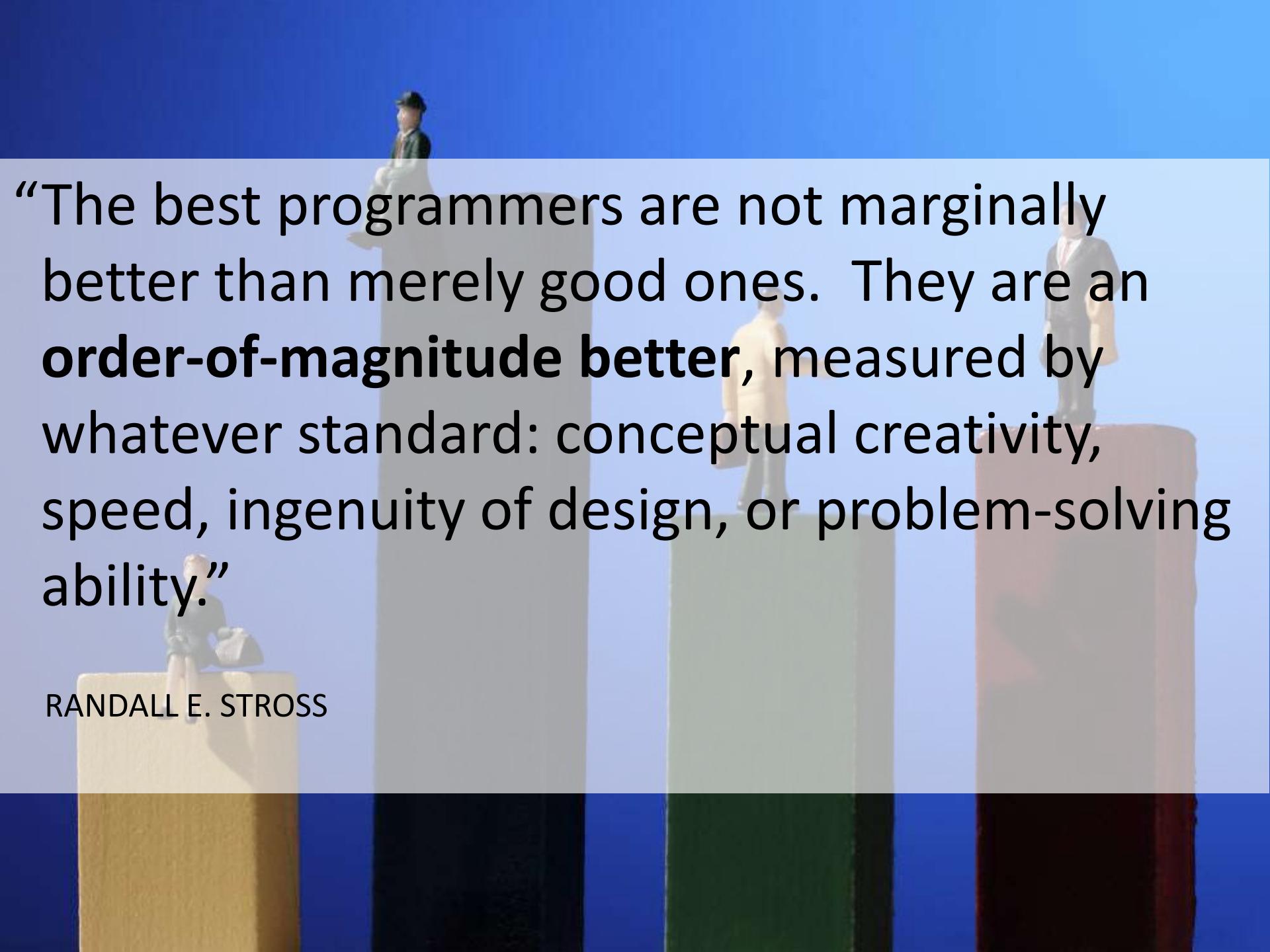
“That’s the thing about people who think they hate computers. What they really hate are **lousy programmers.**”

LARRY NIVEN

**"The first rule of debugging - the bug's
always in your code, not the compiler."**

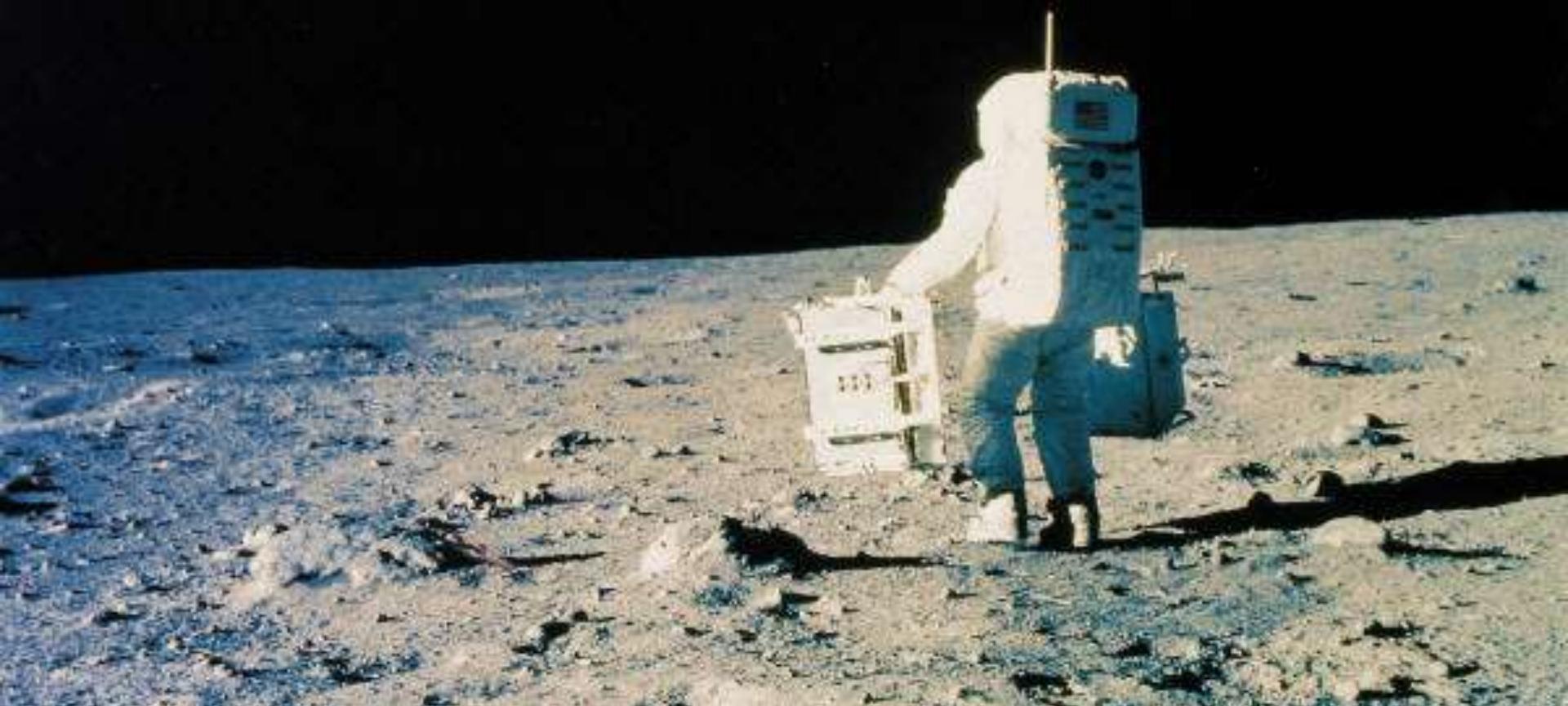
ANONYMOUS





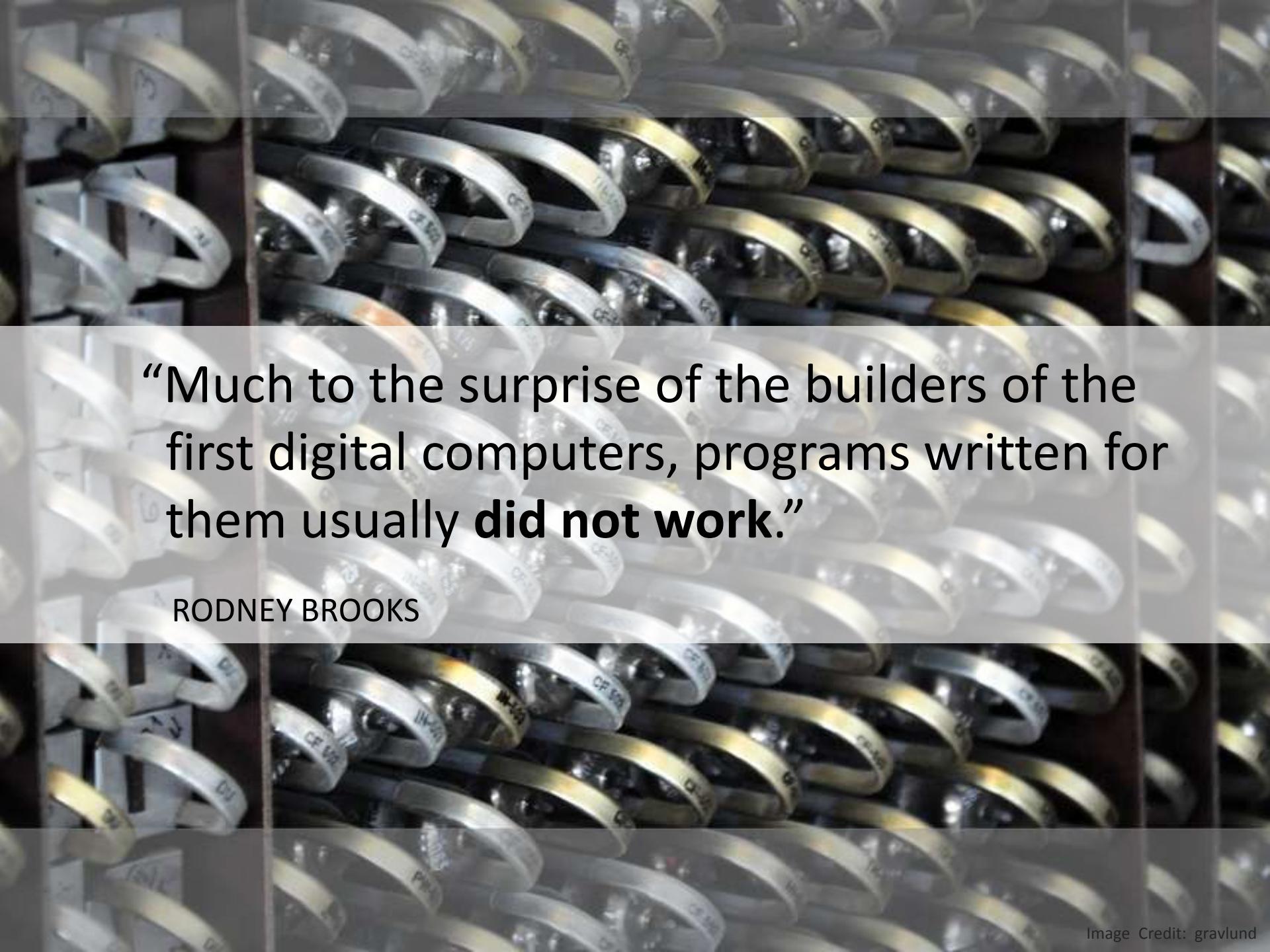
“The best programmers are not marginally better than merely good ones. They are an **order-of-magnitude better**, measured by whatever standard: conceptual creativity, speed, ingenuity of design, or problem-solving ability.”

RANDALL E. STROSS



"Don't just fix the mistakes -- fix whatever permitted the mistake in the first place."

ANONYMOUS - ONE OF NASA RULES FOR BETTER SOFTWARE

A close-up, low-angle shot of a massive stack of vintage metal computer tape reels. The reels are stacked in several layers, filling the frame. They are made of polished metal with a distinct gold-colored patina. Each reel has a white paper label attached to its side, which is partially visible and shows some handwritten or printed text, though it's not legible. The lighting is dramatic, coming from the side, which creates strong highlights on the curved surfaces of the reels and deep shadows in the crevices between them, giving them a metallic and industrial texture.

“Much to the surprise of the builders of the
first digital computers, programs written for
them usually **did not work.**”

RODNEY BROOKS

MOTIVATED?

Want to know how to use our platform to find out the ‘health’ of your software and have the tools to continuous monitor and control the quality of your software?

CodeExcellence can help with a no-obligation Quality Assurance Software Assessment. Get insight into your software quality and learn how you can make better decisions with your IT dollars.

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