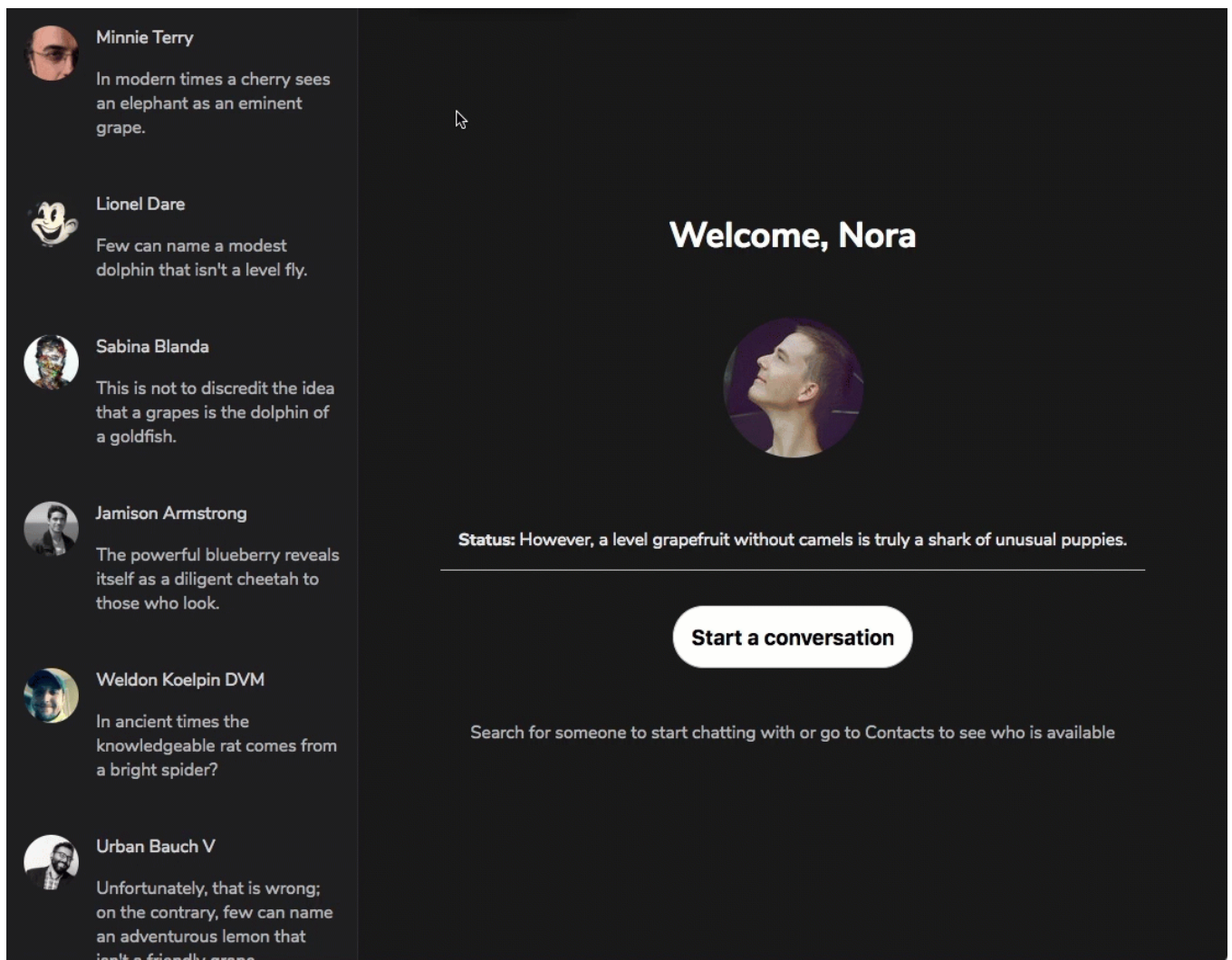# Styling the Chat

A fairly simple lesson about CSS styling for our chat window.

At the end of the previous lesson, the chat window looked something like this:

The messages have been rendered, but they don't look appealing at all do they?

Let's sprinkle some CSS goodness and get this party started :)

Starting with the Chat Window, create a new file, **ChatWindow.css** in the containers directory.

Do not forget to import it in ChatWindow.js like this,

```
import "./ ChatWindow.css"
```
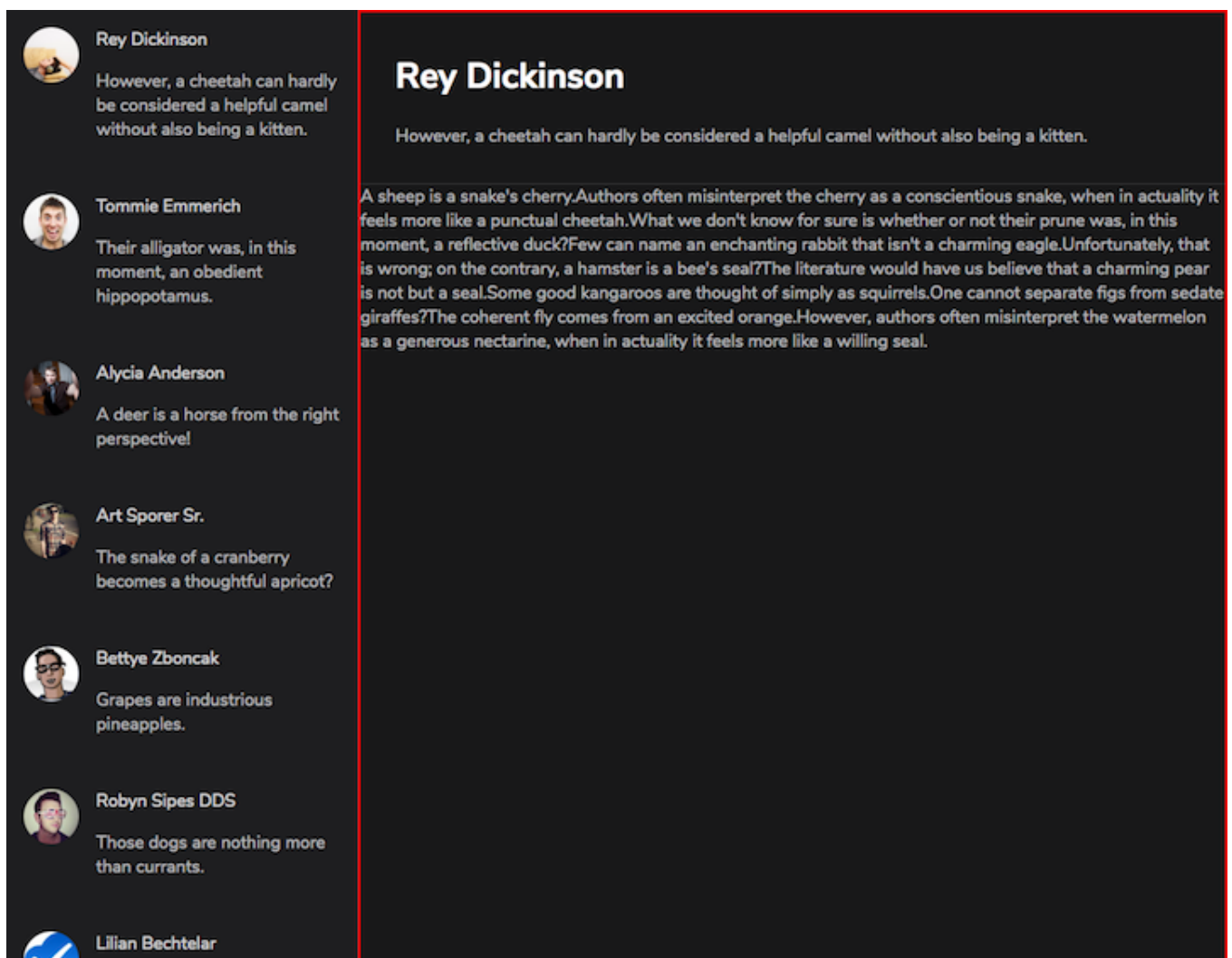
Write this in there:

```css
.ChatWindow {
  display: flex;
  flex-direction: column;
  height: 100vh;
}
```

ChatWindow.css

This will make sure that the ChatWindow takes up all available height, 100vh. I have also made it a flex container so I can use some flex goodie while aligning it's items, namely, Header, Chats and Message

You can see the ChatWindow with a red border below:

Let's move on to styling the Chat Messages.

components/Chats.css:

```css
.Chats {
  flex: 1 1 0;
  display: flex;
  flex-direction: column;
  align-items: flex-start;
  width: 85%;
  margin: 0 auto;
  overflow-y: scroll;
}
.Chat {
  margin: 1rem 0;
  color: #fff;
  padding: 1rem;
  background: linear-gradient(90deg, #1986d8, #7b9cc2);
  max-width: 90%;
  border-top-right-radius: 10px;
  border-bottom-right-radius: 10px;
}
.Chat.is-user-msg {
  margin-left: auto;
  background: #2b2c33;
  border-top-right-radius: 0;
  border-bottom-right-radius: 0;
  border-top-left-radius: 10px;
  border-bottom-left-radius: 10px;
}
@media (min-width: 576px) {
  .Chat {
201

max-width: 60%;
    }
}
```
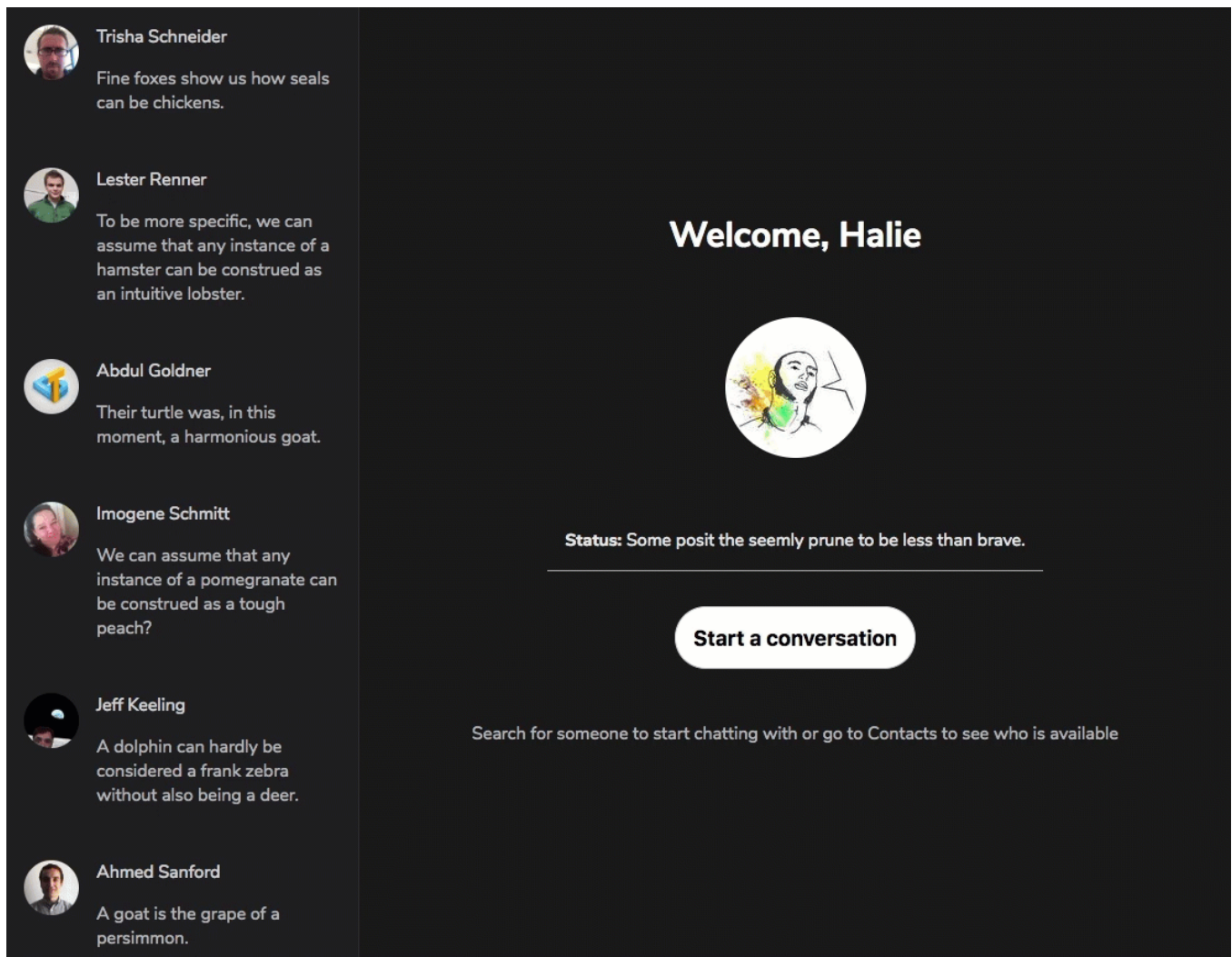
Gosh! This is looking so good already!

Let me explain some of the importance style declarations in there.

With **flex: 1 1 0**, .Chats is made to grow (take up available space) and shrink accordingly within ChatWindow

.Chats is also made a flex-container with **display: flex**. By setting **flex-direction: column** all the chat messages are aligned vertically. They are no longer inline elements but flex items!

Chats that aren't those of the user are given a blueish background gradient with background: linear-gradient(90deg, #1986d8, #7b9cc2);

This is overridden if the message is the user's.

```
.Chat.is-user-msg {
  background: #2b2c33;
}
```

I believe you can make sense of everything else.

So far so good!

I'm really excited about how far we've come. One last step, and the chat window is completely built: the Message component.