

GETTING THINGS WRONG FOR FUN AND PROFIT

API PAIN-POINTS



@PHILSTURGEON #PHPSC15





CMS - The Content Management



Search Results Page

Searching for a New Black Camry or Avalon between \$22,001 and \$24,000 or between \$24,001 and \$26,000

Display: [icon] View: 20 results per page Sort: Price / Low to High

Compare Vehicles

New 2014 Toyota Camry LE
Type: New Miles: 0 Stock #: K14040
Regular Unleaded I-4 2.5 L/152, MPG City: 25 MPG Hwy: 35, 4DR, Attitude Black Metallic Exterior, Ivory Interior, 6-Speed Automatic w/OD
MSRP: \$23,000
Get your new Price
888-539-0911

New 2014 Toyota Camry LE
Type: New Miles: 0 Stock #: K140410
Regular Unleaded I-4 2.5 L/152, MPG City: 25 MPG Hwy: 35, 4DR, Attitude Black Metallic Exterior, Ash Interior, 6-Speed Automatic w/OD
MSRP: \$24,000
Get your new Price
888-539-0911

Narrow Your Search

Trans

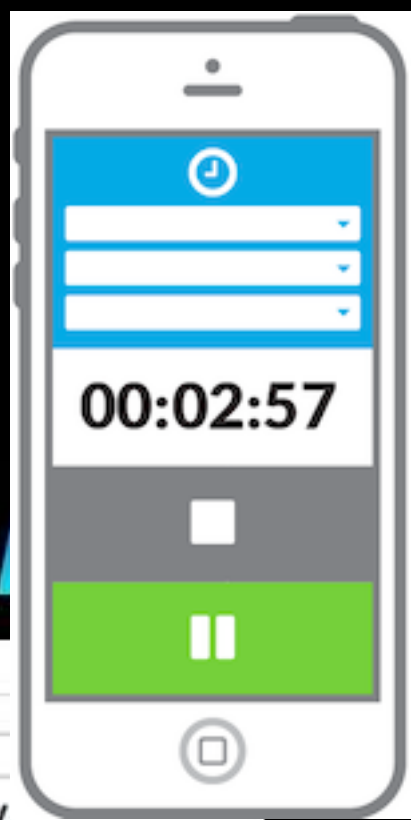
LE (1)
SE (2)

Price

\$22,001-24,000 (1)
\$24,001-26,000 (4)

Fuel Types

G (1)
Gasoline Fuel (1)



New Inventory

Used Inventory

New 2013 BMW 7 Series 750Li xDrive
Type: New Stock #: 13728

New 2014 BMW 7 Series 740Li xDrive
Type: New Stock #: 14142

New 2014 BMW 7 Series 750Li xDrive
Type: New Stock #: 14116

New 2014 BMW 7 Series 750Li xDrive
Type: New Stock #: 14141

New 2014 BMW 7 Series 750Li xDrive
Type: New Stock #: 14280

New 2014 BMW 7 Series 750Li

Used 2011 BMW 7 Series 740Li
Type: Used Miles: 41710

Used 2003 BMW 5 Series 540iA
Type: Used Miles: 148232

Used 2003 BMW 7 Series 745Li
Type: Used Miles: 49138

Used 2007 BMW 3 Series 328i
Type: Used Miles: 68708

Used 2007 BMW 3 Series 328xi
Type: Used Miles: 82682

Used 2007 BMW 5 Series 525i
Type: Used Miles: 88742

Total cost £415.00 over 12m

FREE Satio black

300 minutes to any network and unlimited texts

Total cost £420.00 over 12m

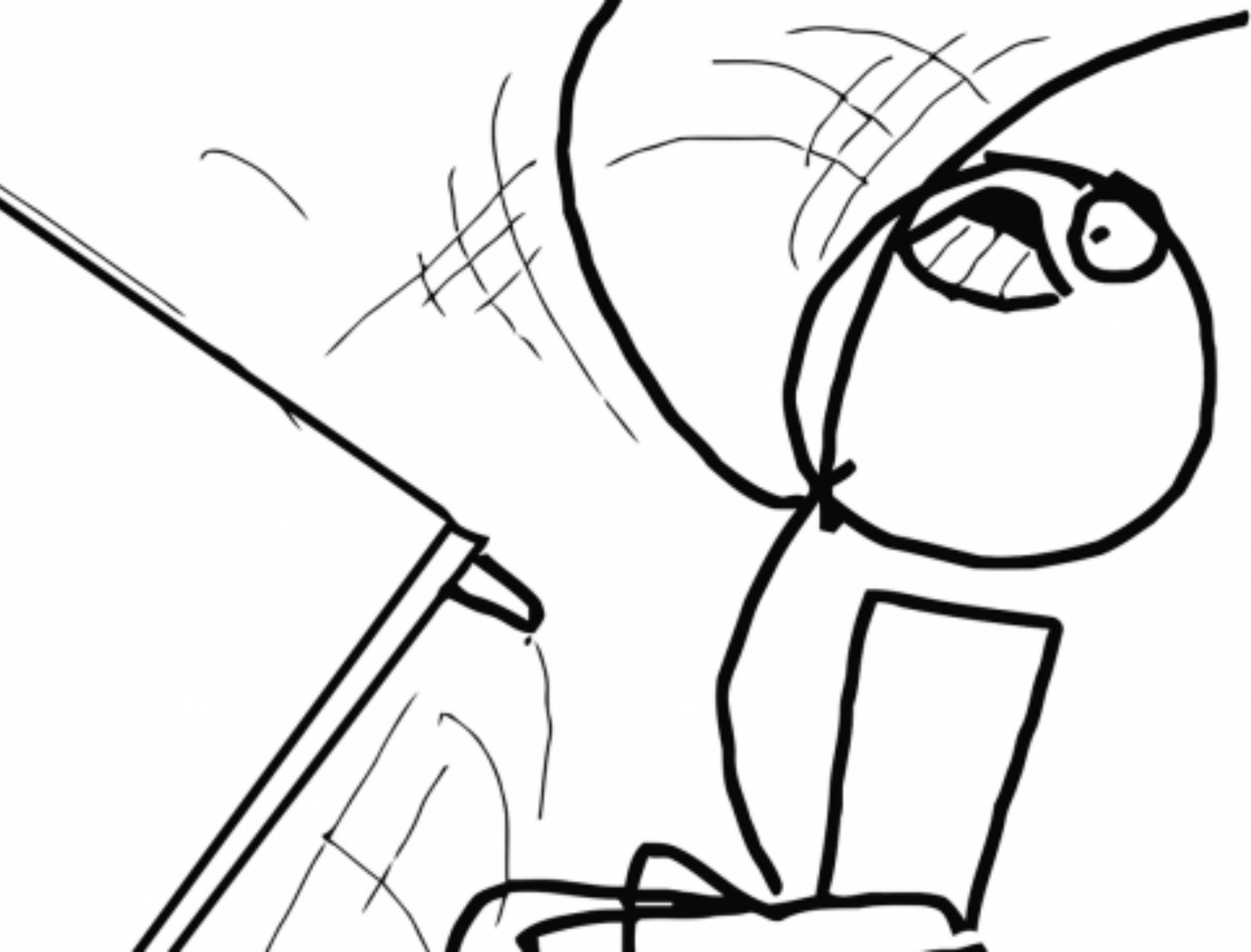
£35.00



More Info



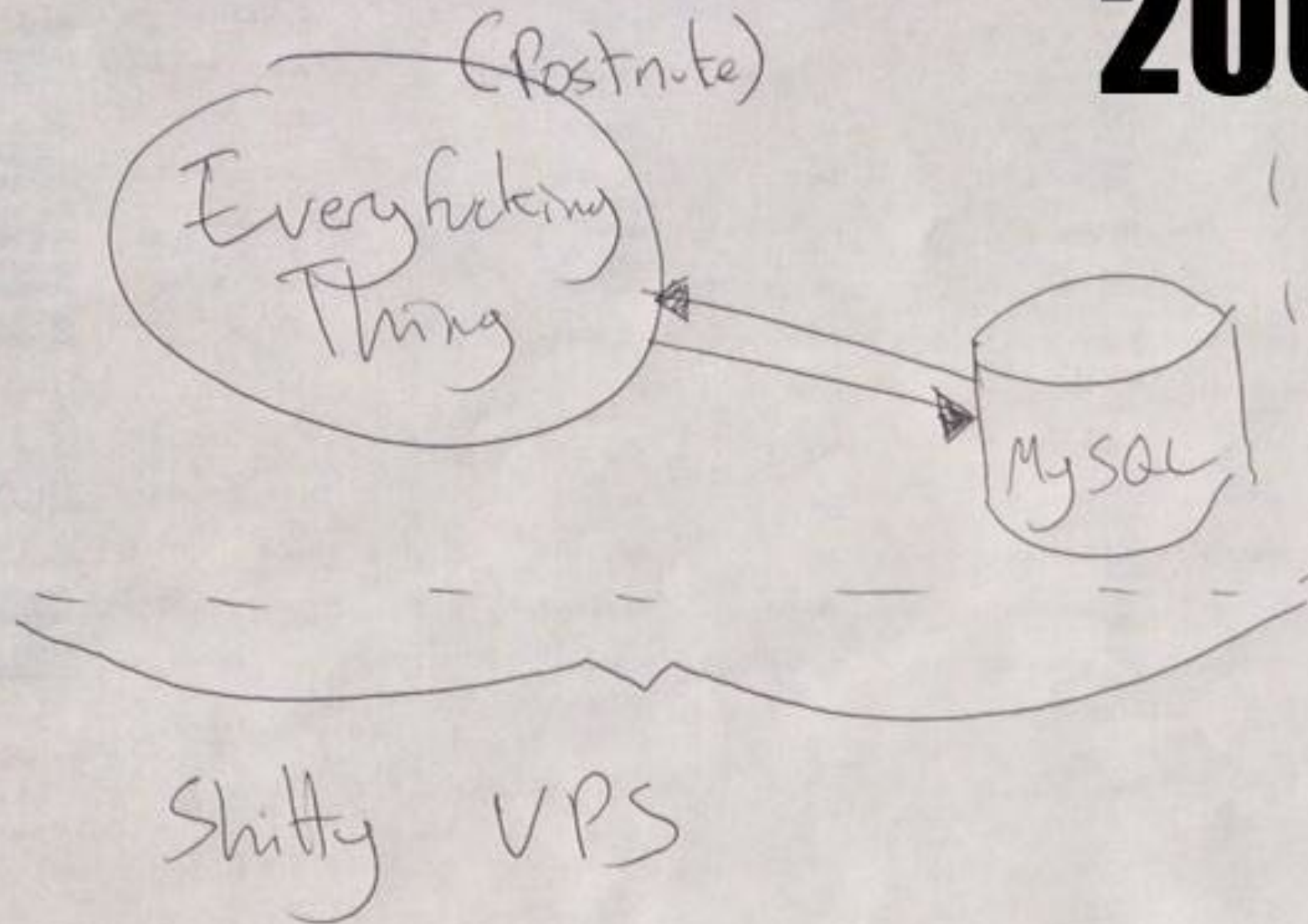
**KAPTURE
BADASS
MOMENTS**



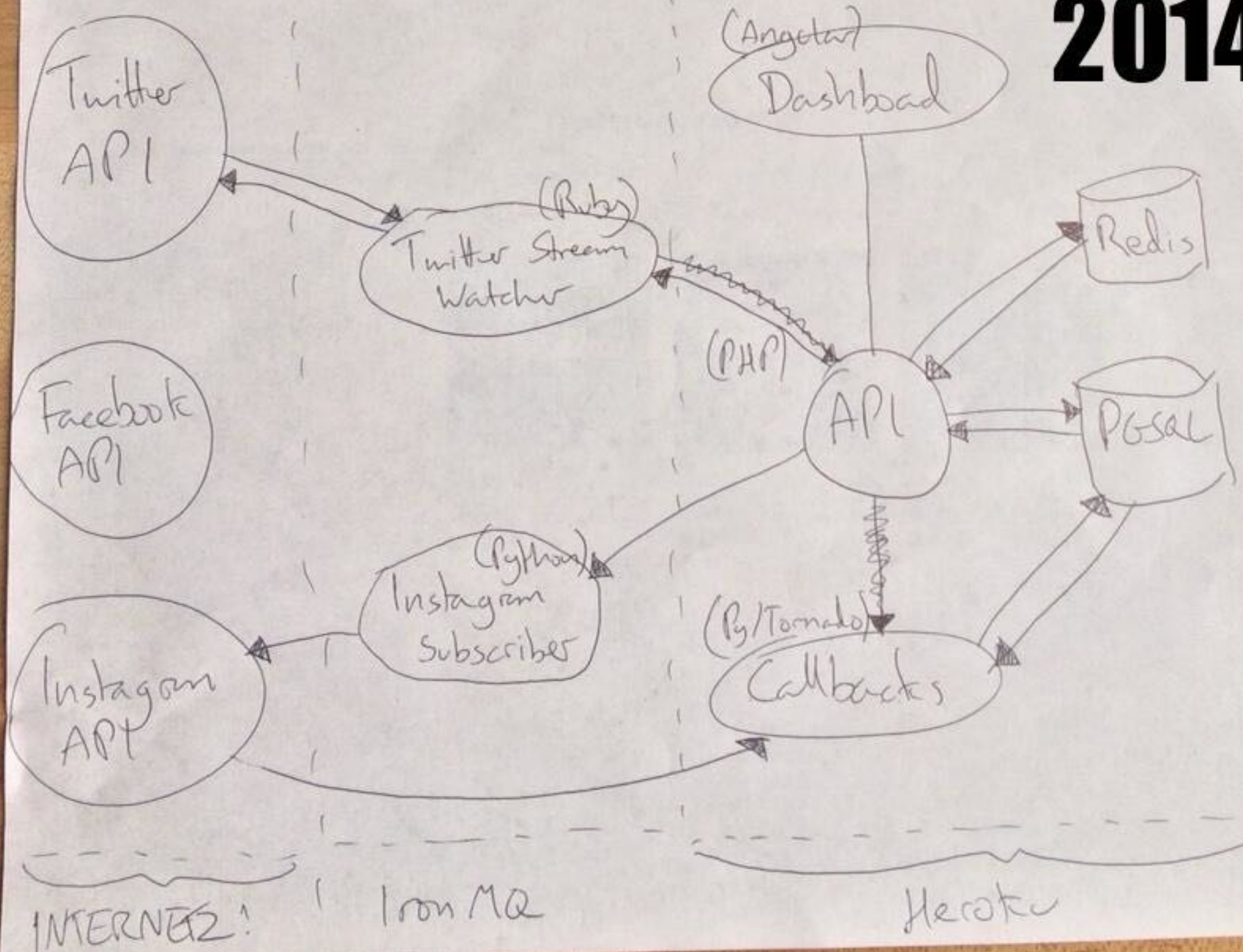
OLD SCHOOL

ARCHITECTURE

2004



2014



A photograph of a wooden sign with the words "Rest here" in a yellow, sans-serif font. The sign is mounted on a wall made of dark grey bricks. Below the sign, there are several horizontal wooden planks, possibly part of a bench or a set of steps. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is muted.

Rest here

LEAVE YOUR CUSTOMERS ALONE

DATABASE SEEDING



NAMING THINGS IS HARD

ENDPOINT THEORY



CONSISTENCY IS KING

PLURAL V SINGULAR?

/users

/user/23

CONSISTENCY IS KING

PLURAL V SINGULAR?

/opportunities

/opportunity/43

CONSISTENCY IS KING

PLURAL V SINGULAR?

/people

/person/dave

CONSISTENCY IS KING

PLURAL V SINGULAR?

/places

/places/12

/places/12/checkins

/places/12/checkins/34

/checkins/34

QUERY STRINGS ARE FINE

NO NEED FOR SEO

~~/users/active=true~~

/users?active=true

CTRL + S YOUR WEBSITE

AUTO-INCREMENT = BAD

/checkins/1

/checkins/2

/checkins/3

...

/checkins/2369

CTRL + S YOUR WEBSITE

AUTO-INCREMENT = BAD

```
$tiny = new \ZackKitzmiller\Tiny('IDpuU74QNH6B');
```

```
echo $tiny->to(5);
```

```
// E
```

```
echo $tiny->from('E');
```

```
// 5
```

github.com/zackkitzmiller/tiny-php

CTRL + S YOUR WEBSITE

AUTO-INCREMENT = BAD

```
use Rhumsaa\Uuid\Uuid;  
use Rhumsaa\Uuid\Exceptio
```

```
$uuid4 = Uuid::uuid4();
```

```
echo $uuid4;
```

```
// 25769c6c-d34d-4bfe-ba98-e0ee856f3e7a
```

github.com/ramsey/uuid

WHICH METHODS

List	GET	/users
Read	GET	/users/X
Update	PUT	/users/X
<i>Update</i>	<i>PATCH</i>	<i>/users/X</i>
Create	POST	/users
Delete	DELETE	/users/X
Image	PUT	/users/X/image
<i>Images</i>	<i>POST</i>	<i>/users/X/images</i>
Favourites	GET	/users/X/images

HONESTLY

HTTP VERBS MATTER



Jamie Hannaford
@jamiehannaford



@philsturgeon my favorite WTF story is using a GET verb to delete resources. Which was interesting when Google crawled the API cc/
@glenc

Dont be @jamiehannaford.
That sounds like a bad day.

BEFORE YOU SET OUT

PICK THE RIGHT FORMAT



JUST SEND JSON

FORM PAYLOADS

```
1 POST /checkins HTTP/1.1
2 Host: api.example.com
3 Authorization: Bearer vr5HmMkzlxKE70W1y4MibiJUusZwZC25NOVBEx3BD1
4 Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
5
6 checkin[place_id]=1&checkin[message]=This is a bunch of text&checkin[with_friends][]=1&che\
7 ckin[with_friends][]=2&checkin[with_friends][]=3&checkin[with_friends][]=4&checkin[with_fr\
8 iends][]=5
```

**foo=something&bar[baz]=thing
&bar[stuff]=junk&bar=true**

NOT LIKE THAT

HACKY PAYLOADS

```
1  POST /checkins HTTP/1.1
2  Host: api.example.com
3  Authorization: Bearer vr5HmMkz1xKE70W1y4MibiJUusZwZC25NOVBE
4  Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
5
6  json="{
7      \"checkin\": {
8          \"place_id\" : 1,
9          \"message\": \"This is a bunch of text.\",
10         \"with_friends\": [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
11     }
12 }"
```


THNX!

REAL JSON PAYLOADS

```
1  POST /checkins HTTP/1.1
2  Host: api.example.com
3  Authorization: Bearer vr5HmMkz1xKE70W1y4MibiJUusZwZC25NOVBEx
4  Content-Type: application/json
5
6  {
7      "checkin": {
8          "place_id" : 1,
9          "message": "This is a bunch of text.",
10         "with_friends": [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
11     }
12 }
```

THE HTTP WAY

READING REAL DATA IS EASY

Lazy

```
$_POST['foo'];
```

Proper

```
json_decode(file_get_contents('php://input'));
```

Proper in Laravel

```
Input::json('foo');
```

BEING WRONG CORRECTLY

ERROR MESSAGES



**Returns an
error**



200 OK

KNOW YOUR CODES

200 IS NOT THE ONLY SUCCESS

```
if ($statusCode != 200) {  
    throw new Exception('AAGHH!!');  
}
```

2xx is all about success

3xx is all about redirection

4xx is all about client errors

5xx is all about service errors

- 200 - Generic everything is OK
- 201 - Created something OK
- 202 - Accepted but is being processed async
- 400 - Bad Request (Validation?)
- 401 - Unauthorized
- 403 - Current user is forbidden
- 404 - That URL is not a valid route
- 405 - Method Not Allowed
- 410 - Data has been deleted, deactivated, suspended, etc
- 500 - Something unexpected happened and it is the API's fault
- 503 - API is not here right now, please try again later

418 - I am a Teapot

<http://httpstatus.es/418>

WHAT HAPPENED

CLEAR, HUMAN ERRORS

```
{
  "error": {
    "errors": [
      {
        "domain": "youtube.parameter",
        "reason": "missingRequiredParameter",
        "message": "No filter selected.",
        "locationType": "parameter",
        "location": ""
      }
    ],
    "code": 400,
    "message": "No filter selected."
  }
}
```

WHAT HAPPENED

ERRORS SHOULD MAKE SENSE

```
"reason": "missingRequiredParameter",  
"message": "No filter selected.",
```

...

```
&mine=true
```

WTF

WHAT HAPPENED

SUPPLEMENT HTTP CODES

```
{  
  "error": {  
    "type": "OAuthException",  
    "message": "Session has expired at unix time  
1385243766. The current unix time is 1385848532"  
  }  
}
```

WHAT HAPPENED

SUPPLEMENT HTTP CODES

```
{  
  "error": {  
    "message": "(#210) Subject must be a page.",  
    "type": "OAuthException",  
    "code": 210  
  }  
}
```

WHAT HAPPENED

SUPPLEMENT HTTP CODES

```
{  
  "error": {  
    "message": "(#210) Subject must be a page.",  
    "type": "OAuthException",  
    "code": 210,  
    "url": "http://developers.facebook.com/errors#210"  
  }  
}
```


OAUTH 2.0



thephpleague.com

github.com/thephpleague/oauth2-server

PASSWORDS, IMPLICIT, SOCIAL LOGINS...

OAUTH 2 CAN DO A LOT

http://dev.oauth.example.com

form-data

x-www-form-urlencoded

raw

access_token	CAAFqJEMWsJIBAAxqvLRwNZC04Jh	✕
client_id	DHdbhLEdrhsGSDFRertet	✕
client_secret	MuBCltPolbGRuPp5TzSM	✕
grant_type	social	✕
network	facebook	✕
Key	Value	

USE SSL



EXCEPT FOR...

LOL



SERIOUSLY

FACEBOOK... YOU B#%@*DS!!!

Refresh Tokens?

Lol

STILL SERIOUSLY

YOUTUBE... YOU SEMI-B#%@*DS!!!

Refresh Tokens?

Kinda

DONT LET USERS BEHIND THE CURTAIN

PRESENTATION LAYER



DONT LET USERS BEHIND THE CURTAIN

PRESENTATION LAYER

The background image shows a party scene. On the left, a person in a white party hat and a woman with blonde hair are visible. In the center, a large screen displays a person in a blue shirt. On the right, a person in a red shirt is visible. The scene is dimly lit with blue and red lighting.

```
return Places::all();
```



```
"data": [  
  {  
    "id": "1",  
    "name": "Mireille Rodriguez",  
    "lat": "-84.147236",  
    "lon": "49.254065",  
    "address1": "12106 Omari Wells Apt.",  
    "address2": "",  
    "city": "East Romanberg",  
    "state": "VT",  
    "zip": "20129",  
    "is_foo": "1",  
    "website": "http://www.torpdibbert.com",  
    "phone": "(029)331-0729x4259",  
    "links": [  
      {  
        "rel": "self",
```

```
  "etag": "\"ag-oqvH8dumDXQP6JcFz5Tsa_OA/xCKV1b:",
- "pageInfo": {
  "totalResults": 1,
  "resultsPerPage": 1
},
- "items": [
- {
  "kind": "youtube#video",
  "etag": "\"ag-oqvH8dumDXQP6JcFz5Tsa_OA/sxDD",
  "id": "R4OmUFaZxog",
- "statistics": {
    "viewCount": "2",
    "likeCount": "0",
    "dislikeCount": "0",
    "favoriteCount": "0",
    "commentCount": "0"
  },
  }
```

TRANSFORMERS... ASSEMBLE!

```
public function transform(Book $book)
{
    return [
        'id' => (int) $book->id,
        'title' => $book->title,
        'year' => $book->yr,
        'created' => (string) $book->created_at,
    ];
}
```

fractal.thephpleague.com

STOP YOUR IPHONE DEV COMPLAINING

FLEXIBLE RESPONSES

```
GET /checkins/dsfXte  
?include=place,user,activity
```


DATA GROWS FAST

PAGINATE

```
{  
  "data": [  
    ...  
  ],  
  "cursors": {  
    "after": "MTI=",  
    "next_url": "https://api.example.com/places  
?cursor=MTI%3"  
  }  
}
```

PAGINATION DDOS

DEFINE A LIMIT RANGE

```
if ($limit < 1 || $limit > 100) {  
    $limit = 100;  
}
```

IF YOU LOVE YOUR JOB

AUTOMATE TESTING



PHPUNIT + BEHAT



Scenario: Find a merchant

When I request "GET /moments/1"

Then I get a "200" response

And scope into the "data" property

And the properties exist:

""

id

title

year

created

""

Scenario: Try to find an `checkin

When I request "GET /checkins/nope"

Then I get a "404" response

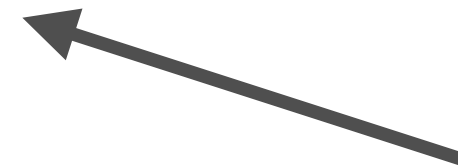
Scenario: Wrong Arguments for user follow

Given I have the payload:

"""

{"is_following": "foo"}

"""



Not a boolean

When I request "PUT /users/1"

Then I get a "400" response

Places
⬇ Place List
+ Create new place
≡ Places
⬇ Get place
✎ Modify place
⚠ Delete place
≡ Place Images
✎ Set place image
⚠ Delete place image

<https://api.example.com>

apiblueprint.org

CREATE NEW PLACE

POST /places

Request

Response 201

PLACES

Manage an existing place.

GET /places/{id}

Parameters

id integer (required)
The unique identifier of a place

Response 200

Response 404

PUT /places/{id}

Parameters

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/merchants/5

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/me/friends

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/me/rewards

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/moments

POST http://dev.api.kaptu.re/moments

PUT http://dev.api.kaptu.re/moments/692/image

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/opps

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/opps/search?lat=40.7641&lon=-73.9866&q=bamboo

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/stats

GET http://dev.api.kaptu.re/users/1,2,3

POST http://dev.oauth.kaptu.re/refresh

POST http://dev.oauth.kaptu.re/

PUT http://dev.api.kaptu.re/favorites/moments

getpostman.com /31

Normal

Basic Auth

Digest Auth

OAuth 1.0



No enviro

http://dev-api.kaptu.re/places/2?include=current_opp,pre

Send

Preview

Add to collection

Body

Cookies (3)

Headers (11)

STATUS 200 OK

TIME 9

Pretty

Raw

Preview



JSON



```
1 {
2   "embeds": [
3     "merchant",
4     "moments",
5     "current_opp",
6     "previous_opps",
7     "image"
8   ],
9   "data": {
10    "id": 2,
11    "name": "Mohr PLC",
12    "lat": -36.6391182,
13    "lon": -71.5096207,
14    "address1": "3816 Bruce Island",
15    "address2": "",
16    "city": "Thalialand",
17    "state": "SC",
18    "zip": "",
19    "website": "http://www.rolfsonkoep",
20    "phone": "1-237-411-9728",
21    "created_at": "2013-12-20 20:51:43",
22    "facebook_id": null,
23    "business_hours": "",
24    "last_kaptured_at": "2013-12-20 20",
25    "is_favorite": false
```

/V1/DOESNT COUNT

VERSIONING

<https://api.example.com/v1/places>

/V1/DOESNT COUNT

VERSIONING

<https://api-v1.example.com/places>

/V1/DOESNT COUNT

VERSIONING

Accept: application/vnd.example+json; version=**1**

Accept: application/vnd.example+json; version=**2**

/V1/DOESNT COUNT

VERSIONING

Accept: application/vnd.example.**user**+json; version=1

Accept: application/vnd.example.**user**+json; version=2

/V1/DOESNT COUNT

VERSIONING

~~Copy Facebook~~

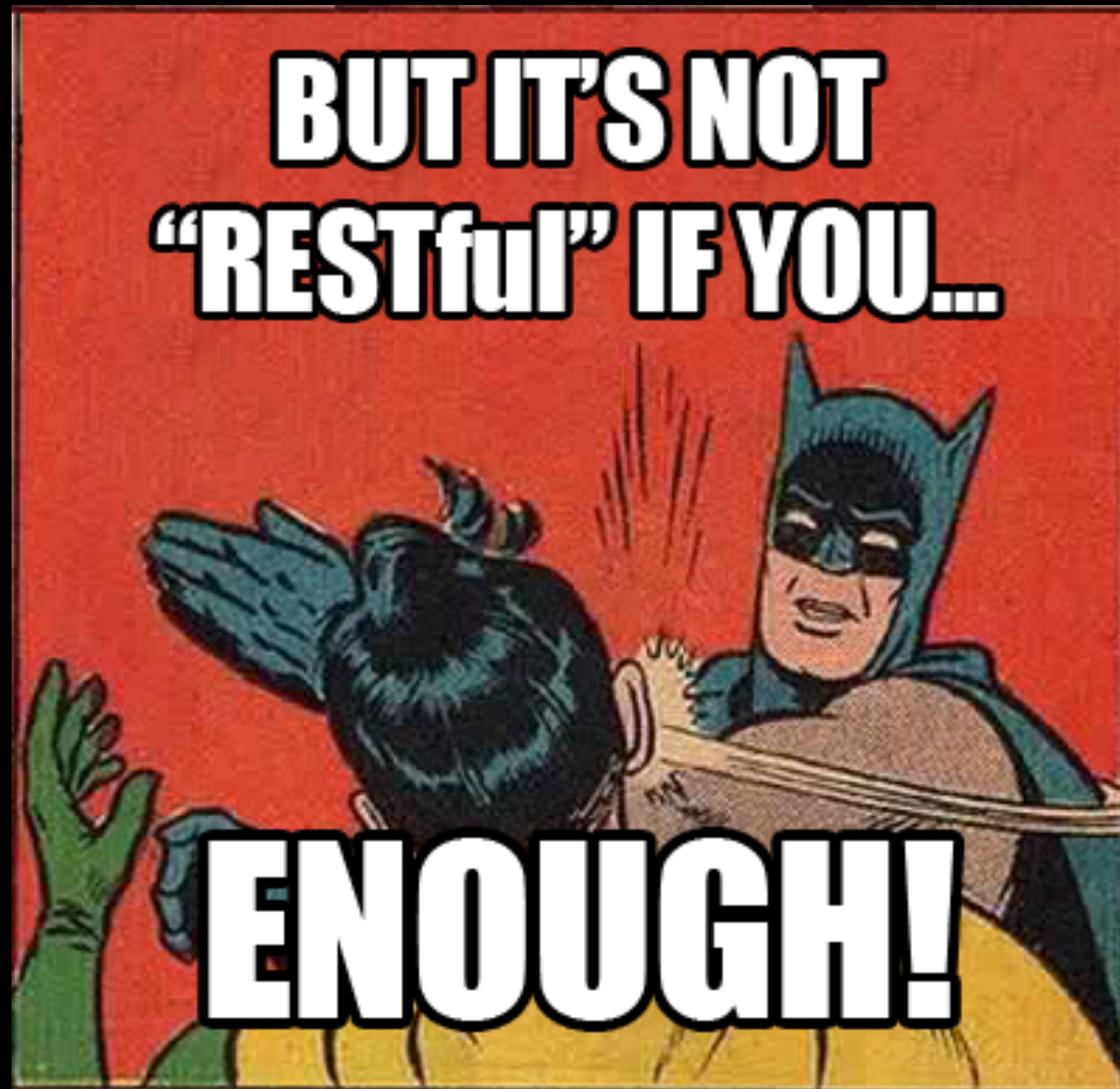
~~Maybe?~~

~~**THIS ONE TIME!**~~

Facebook ruined the one good thing they ever did

DONT BE THAT GUY

EVERYTHING IS WRONG



troyhunt.com/2014/02/your-api-versioning-is-wrong-which-is.html



Building APIs You Won't Hate



By Phil Sturgeon

Build APIs You Won't Hate

Everyone and their dog wants an API, so you should probably learn how to build them.

Tasked with building an API for your company but don't have a clue where to start? Taken over an existing API and hate it? Built your own API and still hate it? This book is for you.

1709 READERS

by



Phil Sturgeon

Free sample
read / download

1709
readers

206
pages

34,111
words

100%
complete

English

4 translations

Updated
2 months ago

TRANSLATIONS [Português \(Brasileiro\)](#) [Turkish](#) [italiana](#) [français](#)

leanpub.com/build-apis-you-wont-hate/c/ARGENTINA14