

Overcoming Fear of the Command Line with Rainbows and Dragons

Three Quick Tips

by

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Problem #1

The command line was a dark and terrifying place that I was scared to go as a new programmer.

IT'S DANGEROUS TO GO
ALONE! TAKE THIS.



Tip #1

Bring a creature along to protect you

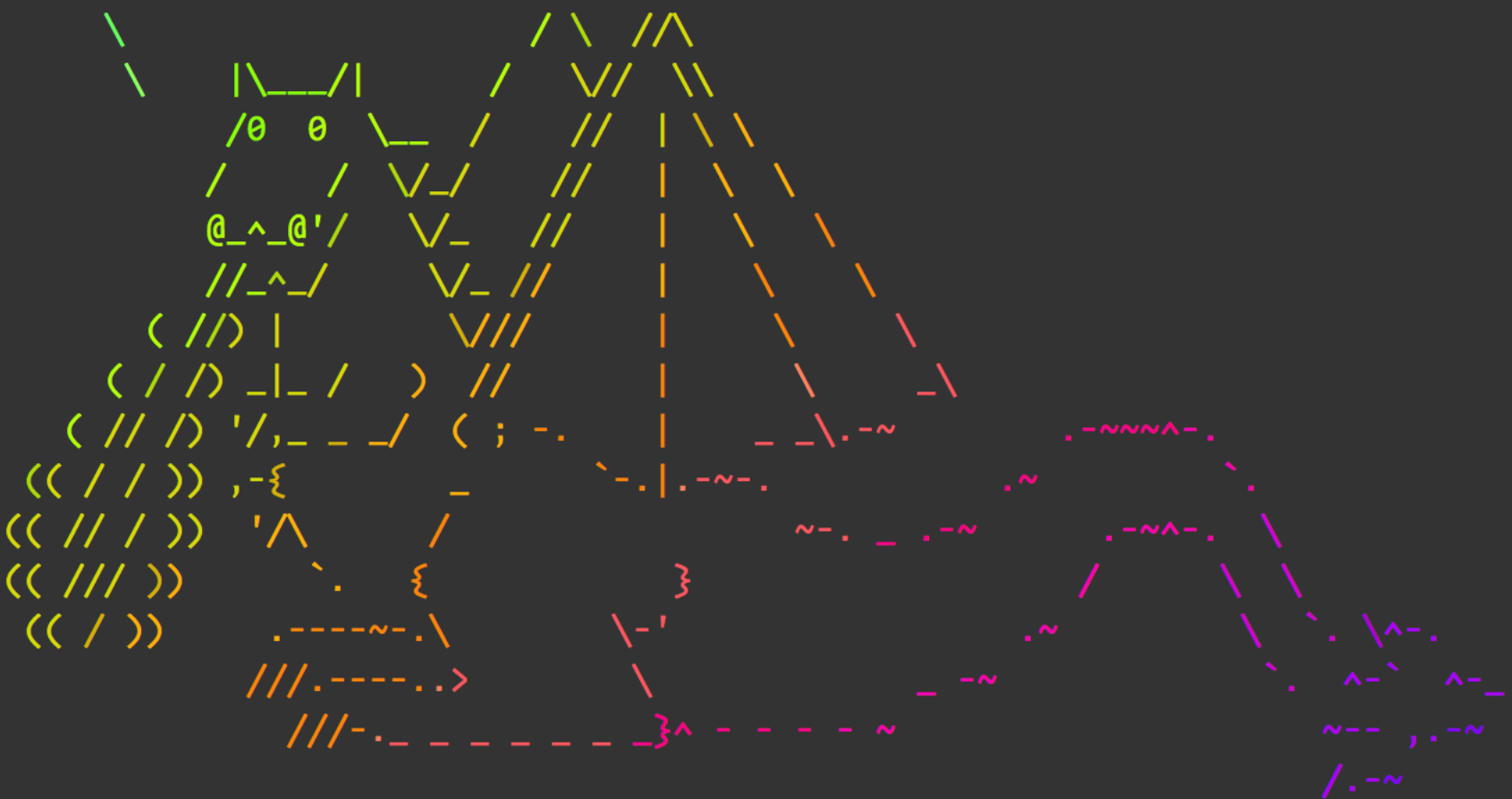


Tip #1

Combine the magical powers of 'cowsay' (ASCII art) and 'lolcat' (rainbows) to create...

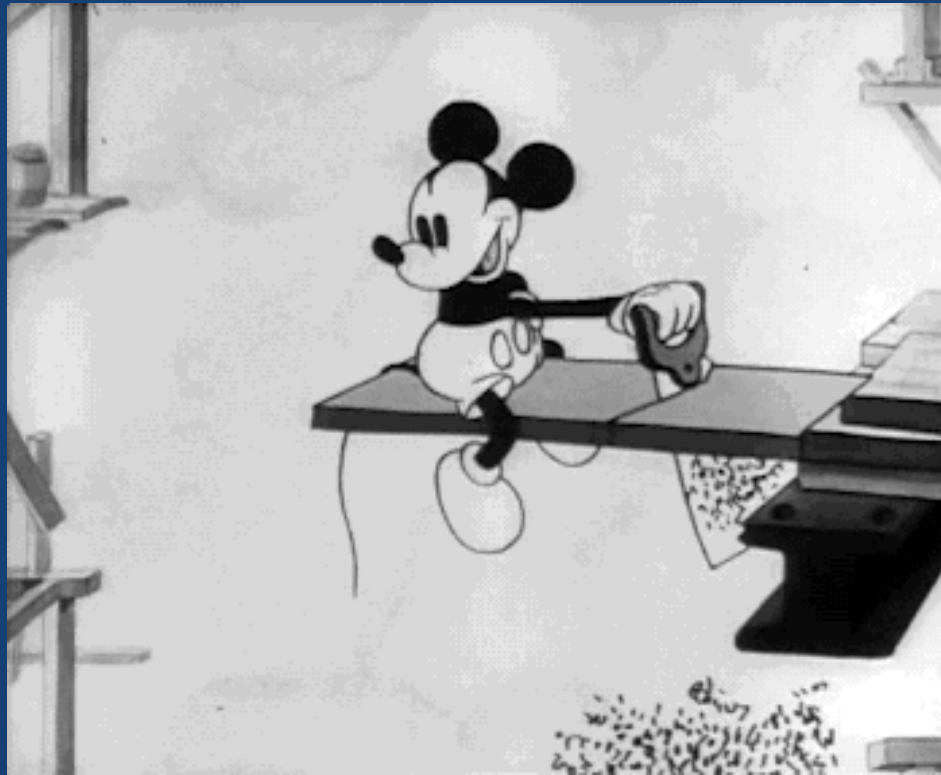
```
# Greeting that lives inside my .zshrc file  
cowsay -f dragon 'Greetings, Human!' | lolcat
```

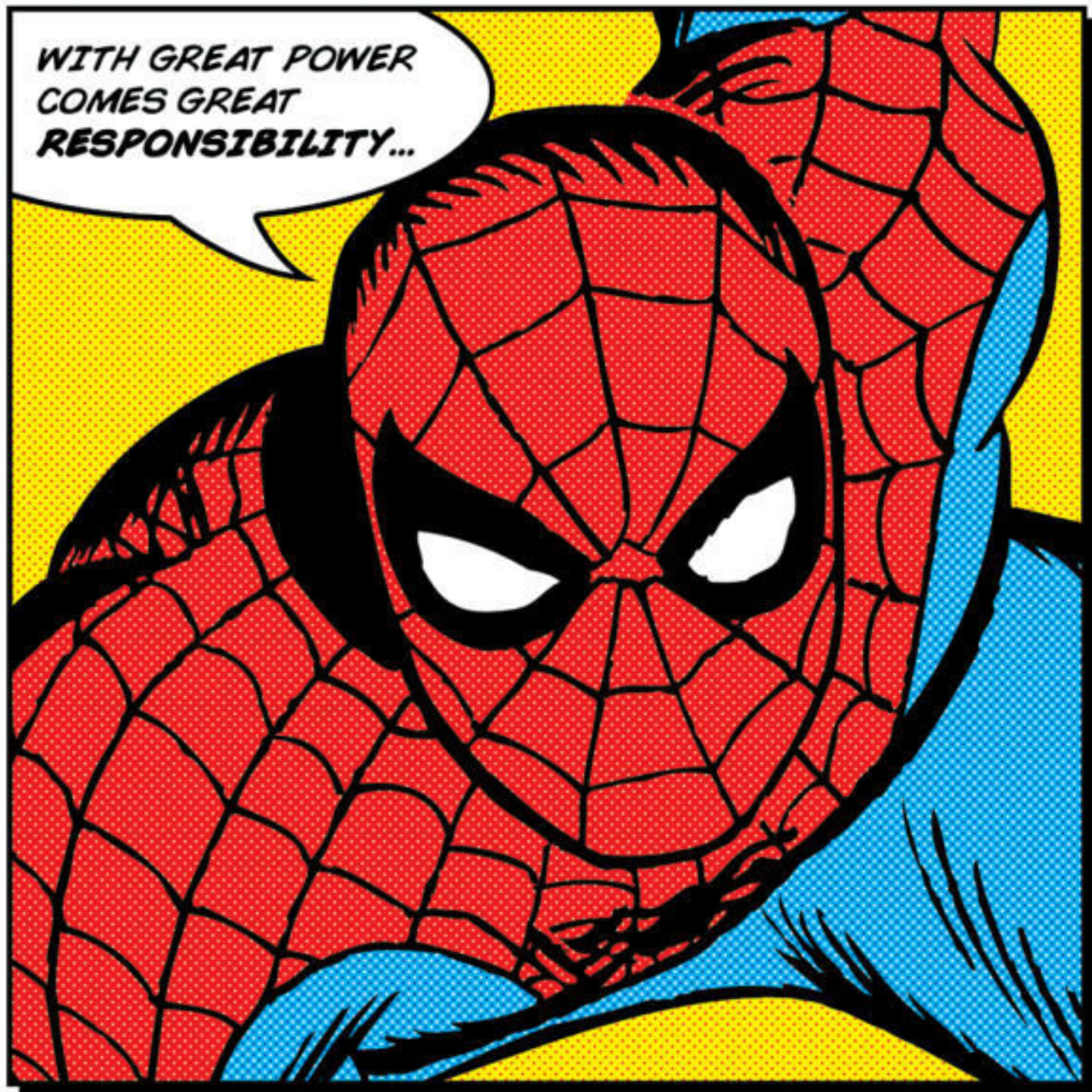
< Greetings, Human! >



Problem #2

Commands like 'rm -rf /' exist.





*WITH GREAT POWER
COMES GREAT
RESPONSIBILITY...*

Tip #2

Defang the beast



I'm harmless, I swear

Tip #2

Set an alias for 'rm' that gives a totally harmless warning.

```
# Alias rm to make it harmless  
alias rm='echo "Cant touch this"'
```

```
8.7.0 ~/Desktop
<< ❄ >> rm Screen\ Shot\ 2017-11-10\ at\ 7.08.56\ PM.png
Cant Touch This! Screen Shot 2017-11-10 at 7.08.56 PM.png
8.7.0 ~/Desktop
<< ❄ >> █
```



Problem #3

The command line is intimidating and frustrating enough. Typos just make things more annoying.

Tip #3

Make errors more exciting



Tip #3

Install "alternative" programs to deal with common typos.

For me, the two commands I use (and typo) the most frequently are "ls" and "git"

Demo Time!

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Tip #3 Bonus

Very little makes me as angry as the error messages that have "Did you mean..."



8.1.4 2017
◀◀ ✎ ▶▶ git stts

git: 'stts' is not a git command. See 'git --help'.

Did you mean this?

status

8.1.4 2017
◀◀ ✎ ▶▶ fuck

git status [enter/↑/↓/ctrl+c]

On branch master

Your branch is up-to-date with 'origin/master'.

Changes not staged for commit:

(use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)

(use "git checkout -- <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)

modified: views/partials/sidebar.pug

no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")

Questions?