

BUILD BETTER WEBS






HELLO
WORLD

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THE WEB IS
MAGIC

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Any sufficiently advanced
technology is indistinguishable
from magic - Arthur C. Clarke



emoji spell to fix the internet & build
new webs
take a pic to charge, post your
version to cast

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How Infrastructure Works

'Pulsing with wisdom and
humanity... a masterpiece.'
Ed Yong

Transforming
our shared
systems for a
changing world

Deb Chachra



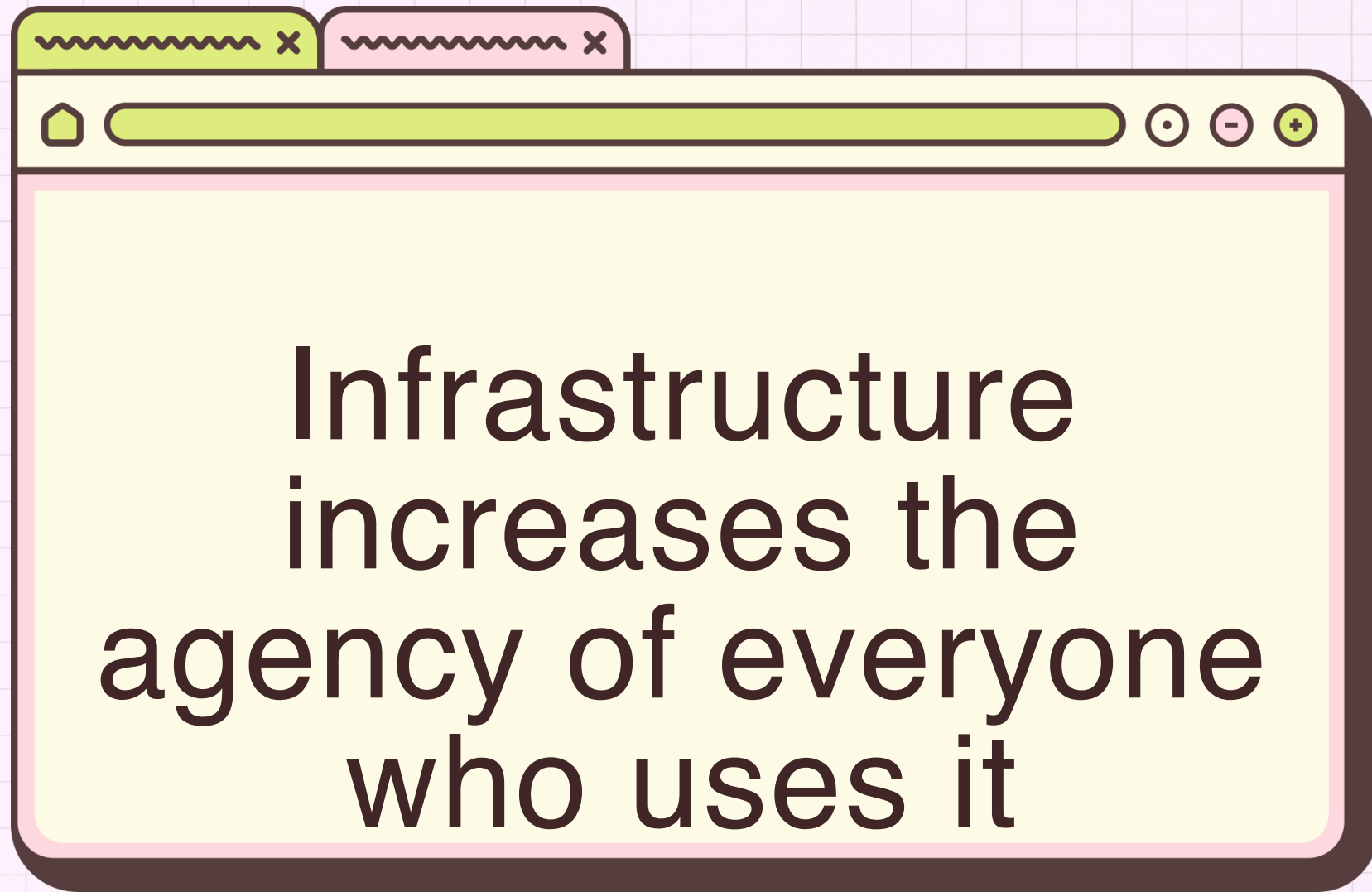
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the web is
valuable
because it is a
network

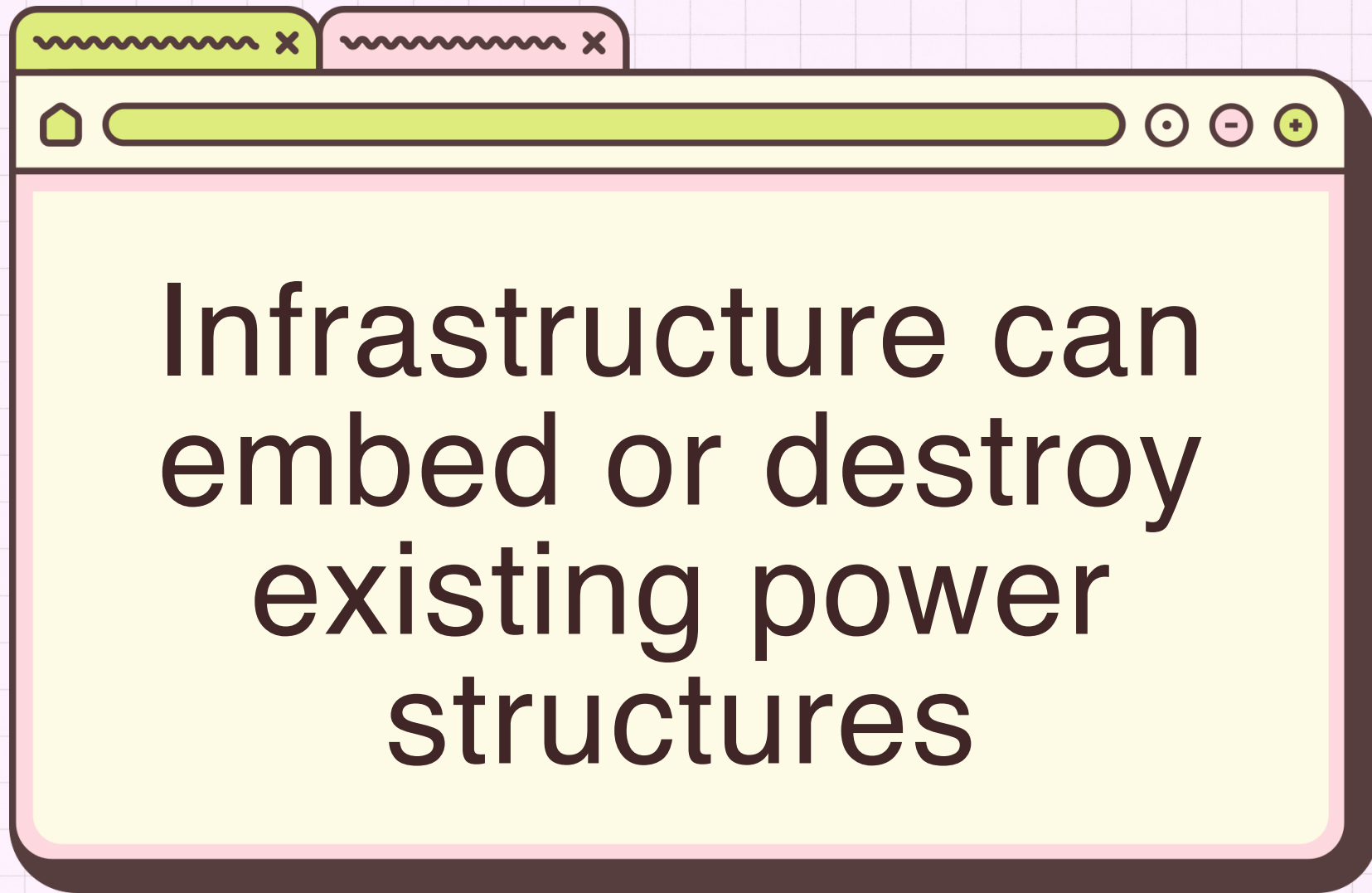
everyone using a
network makes it
better and more
valuable

once everyone
is on a network,
it stops being a
luxury and

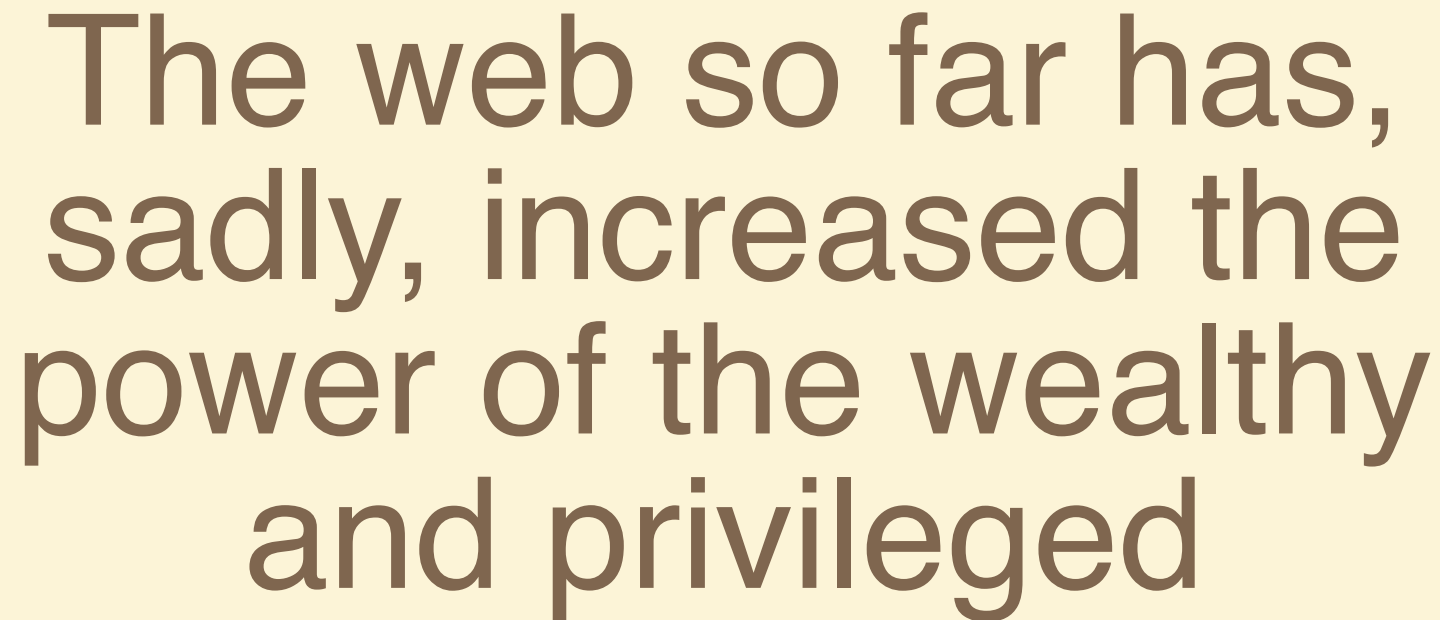
needs are
infrastructure



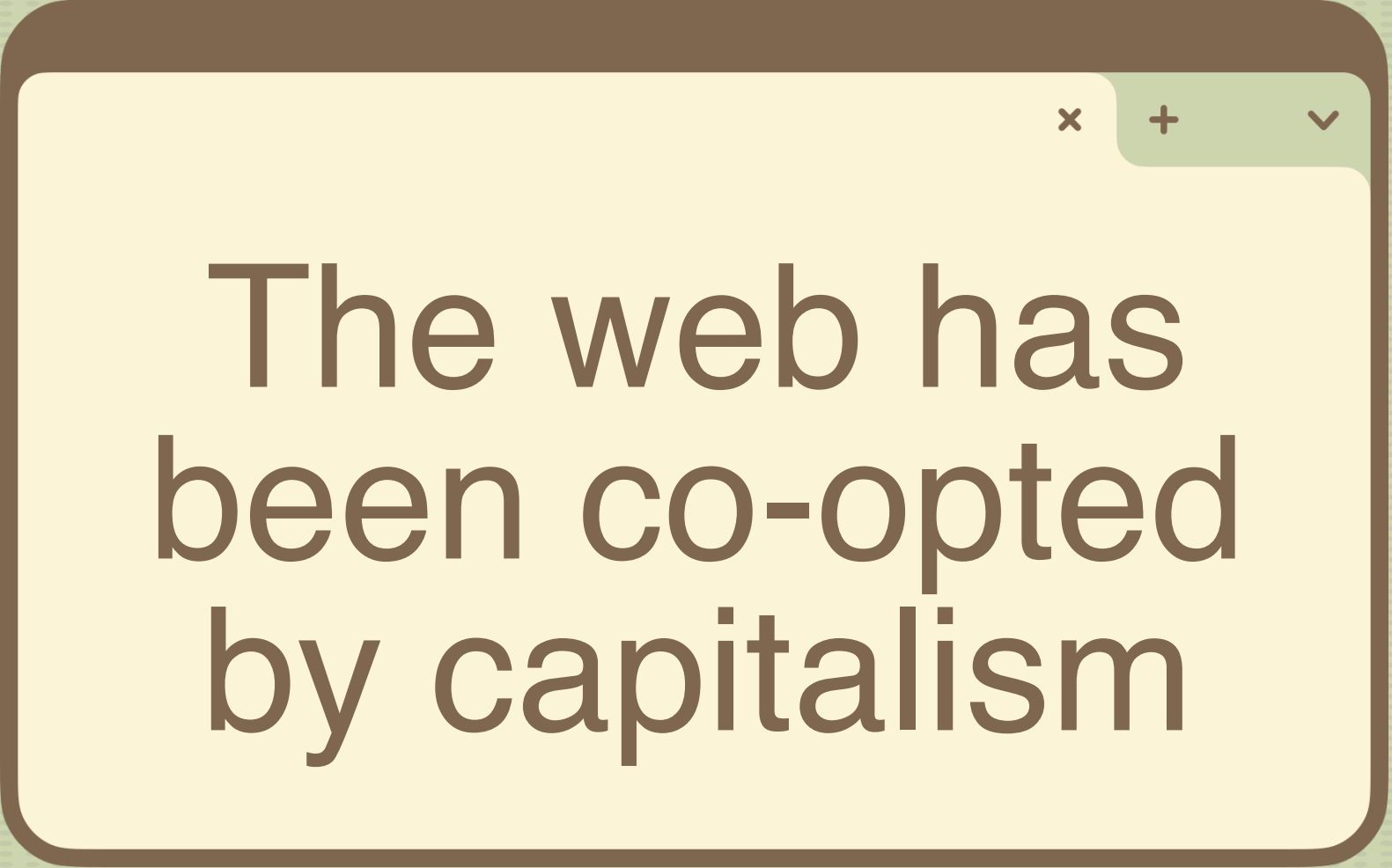
Infrastructure
increases the
agency of everyone
who uses it



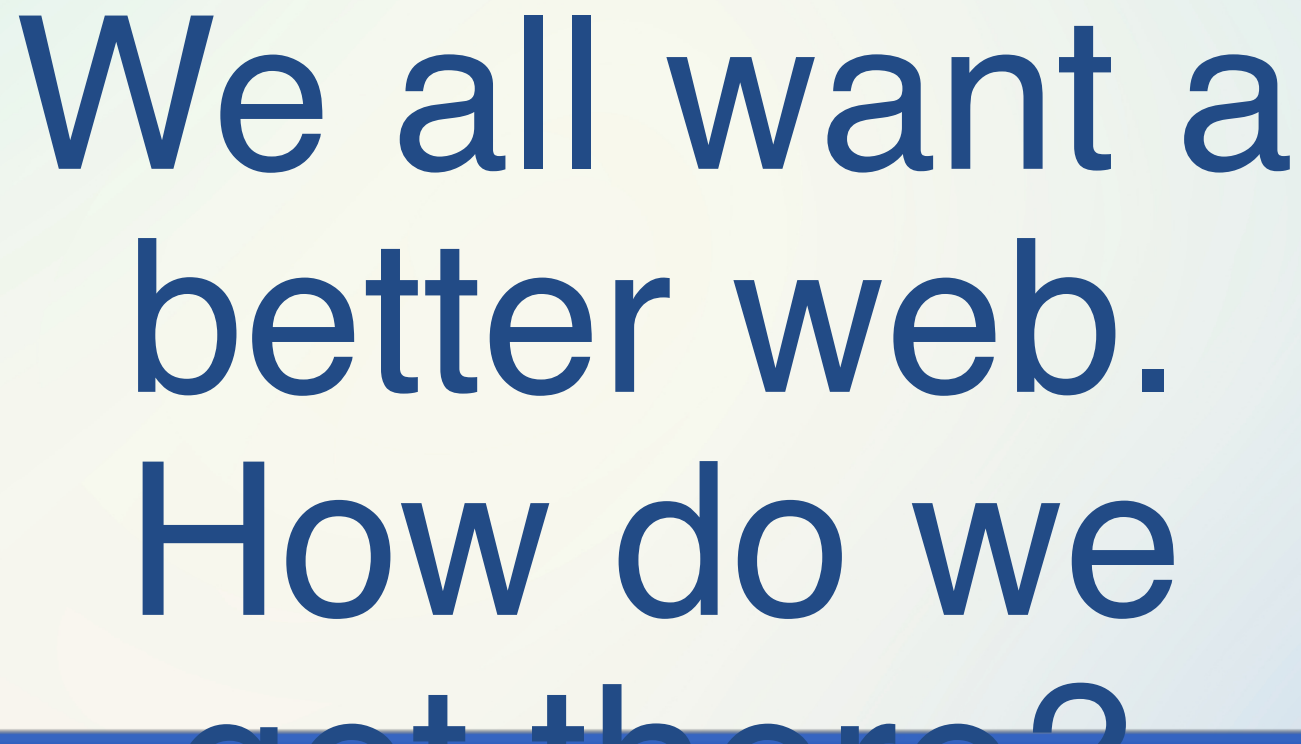
Infrastructure can
embed or destroy
existing power
structures



The web so far has,
sadly, increased the
power of the wealthy
and privileged



The web has
been co-opted
by capitalism

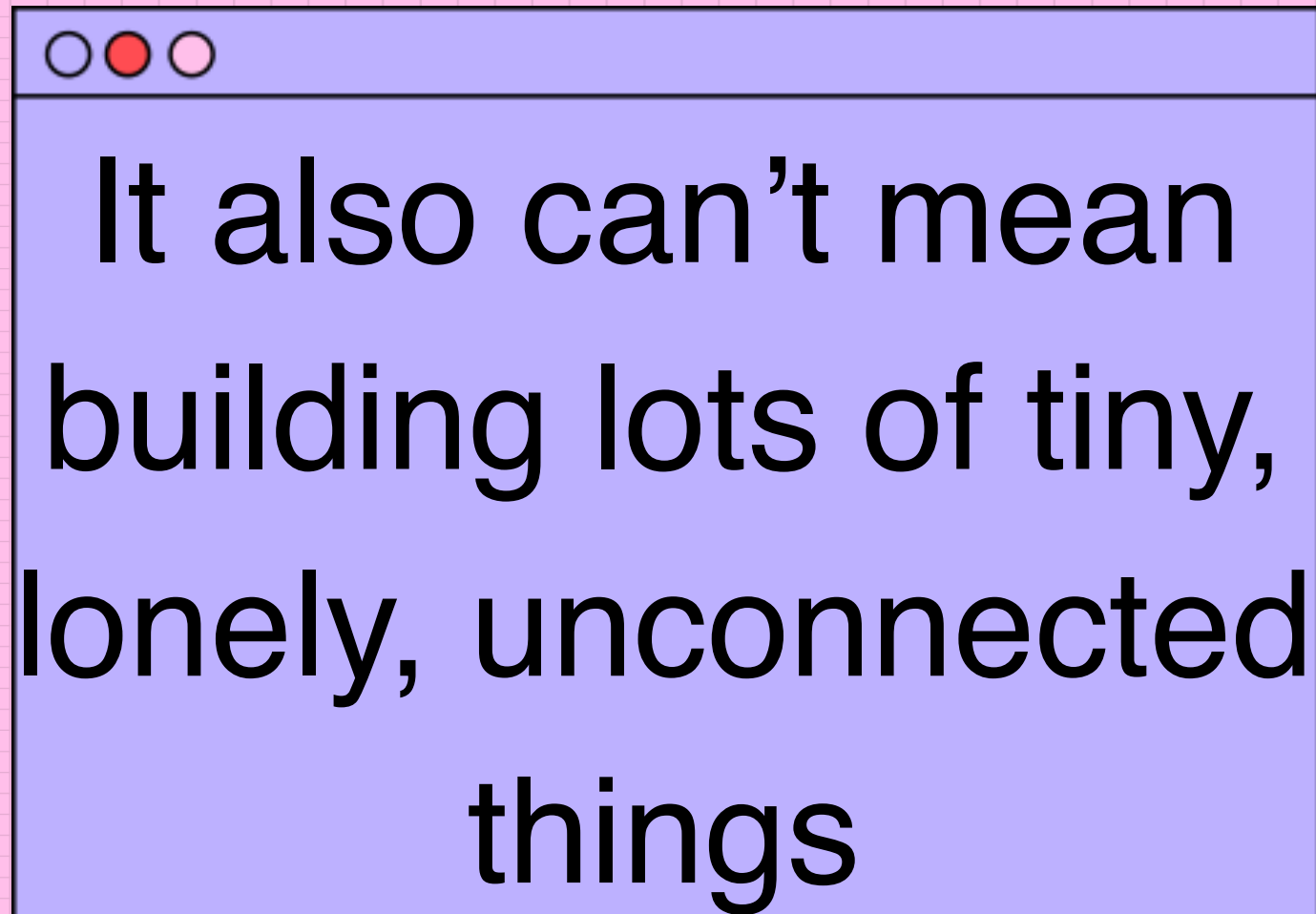


We all want a
better web.
How do we
get there?

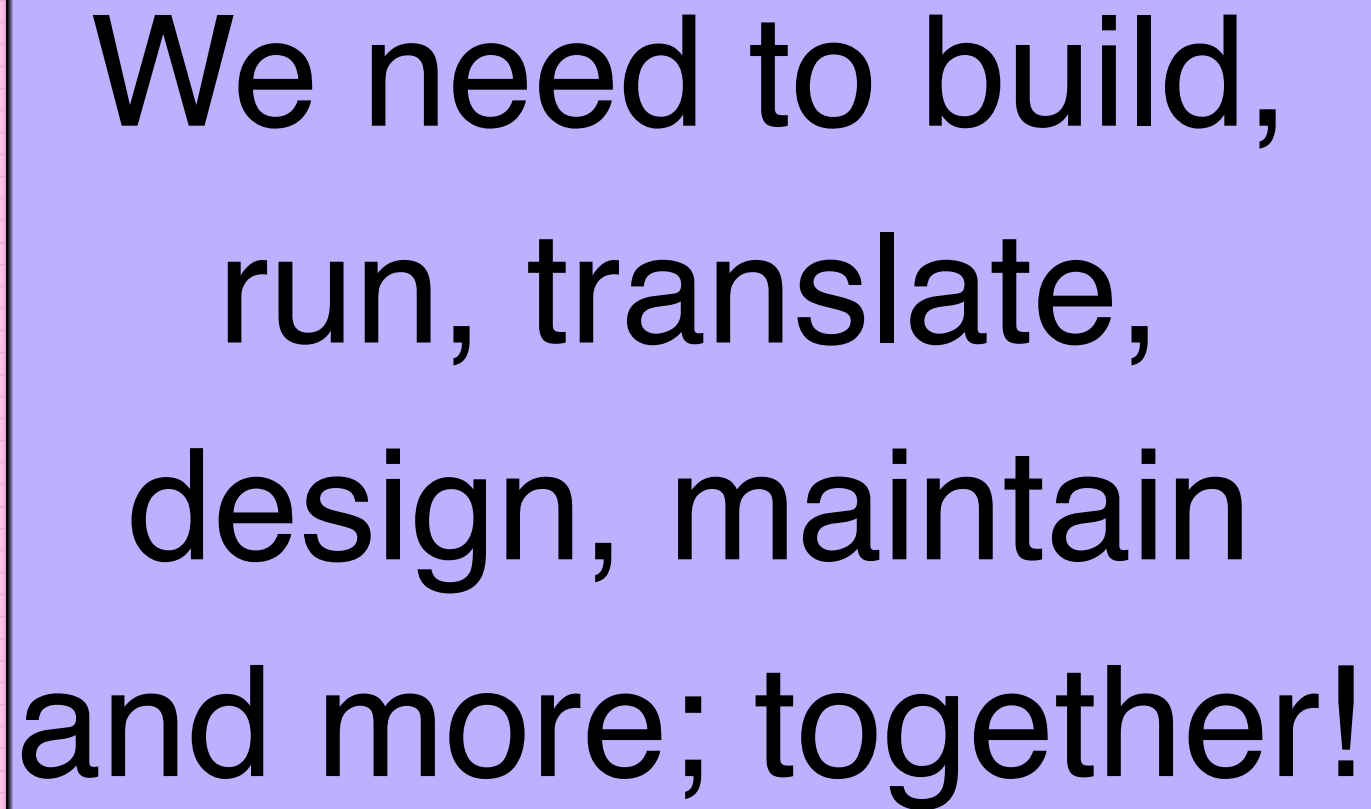
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It can't mean
building The Big
Thing To End All
Other Big Things



It also can't mean
building lots of tiny,
lonely, unconnected
things



We need to build,
run, translate,
design, maintain
and more; together!



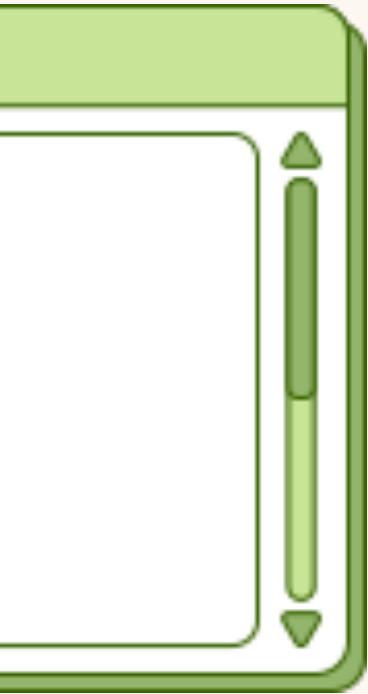
we need to work together;
and “we” includes the
person often referred to as
the “non-technical user”





“What should we be concentrating on?” is the wrong question.





A few better questions in no particular order:

What's important to you?

What motivates you?

What would make thankless work its own reward?

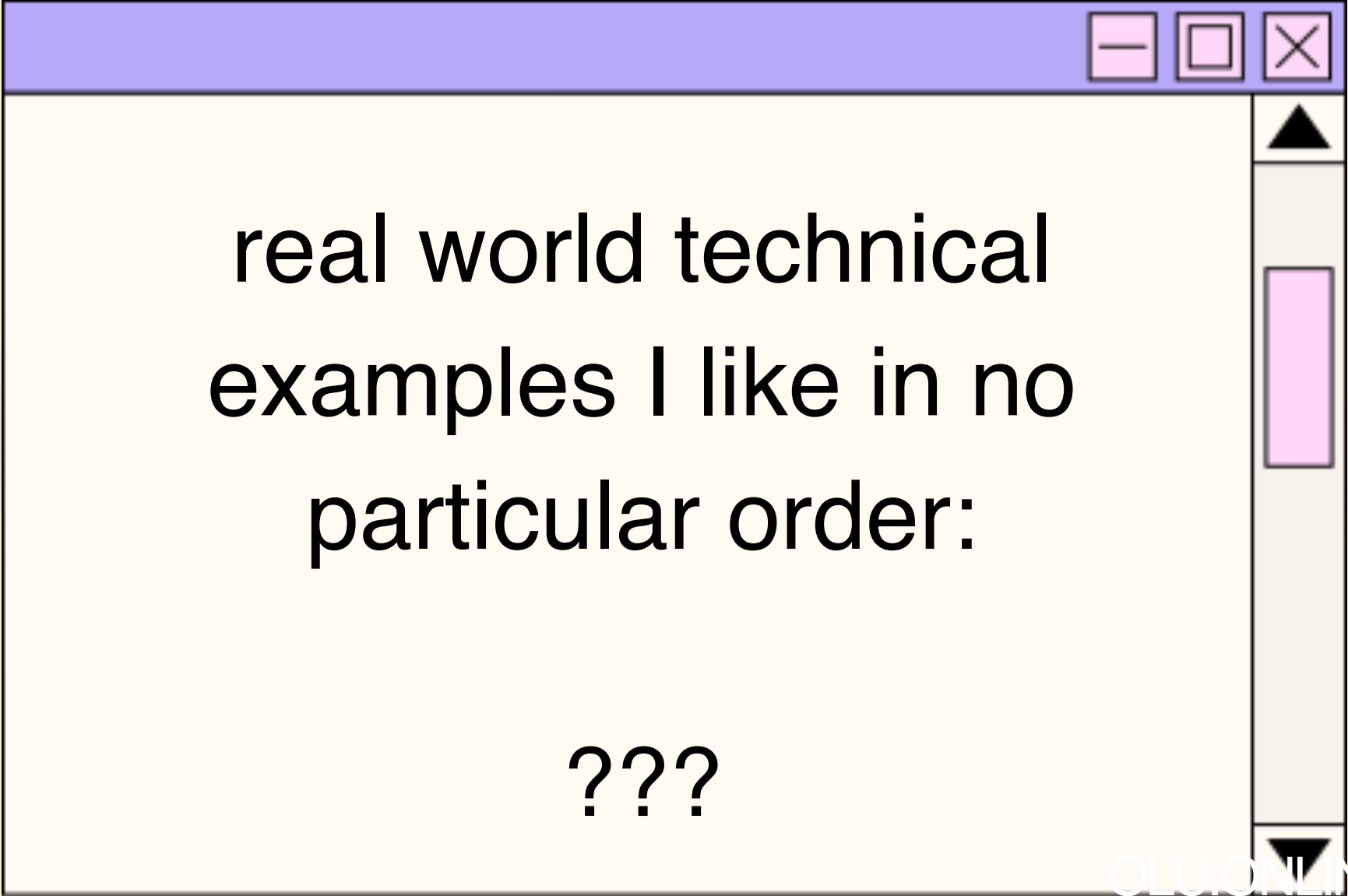




an important quality
of any work to make
better webs is that
your work should be

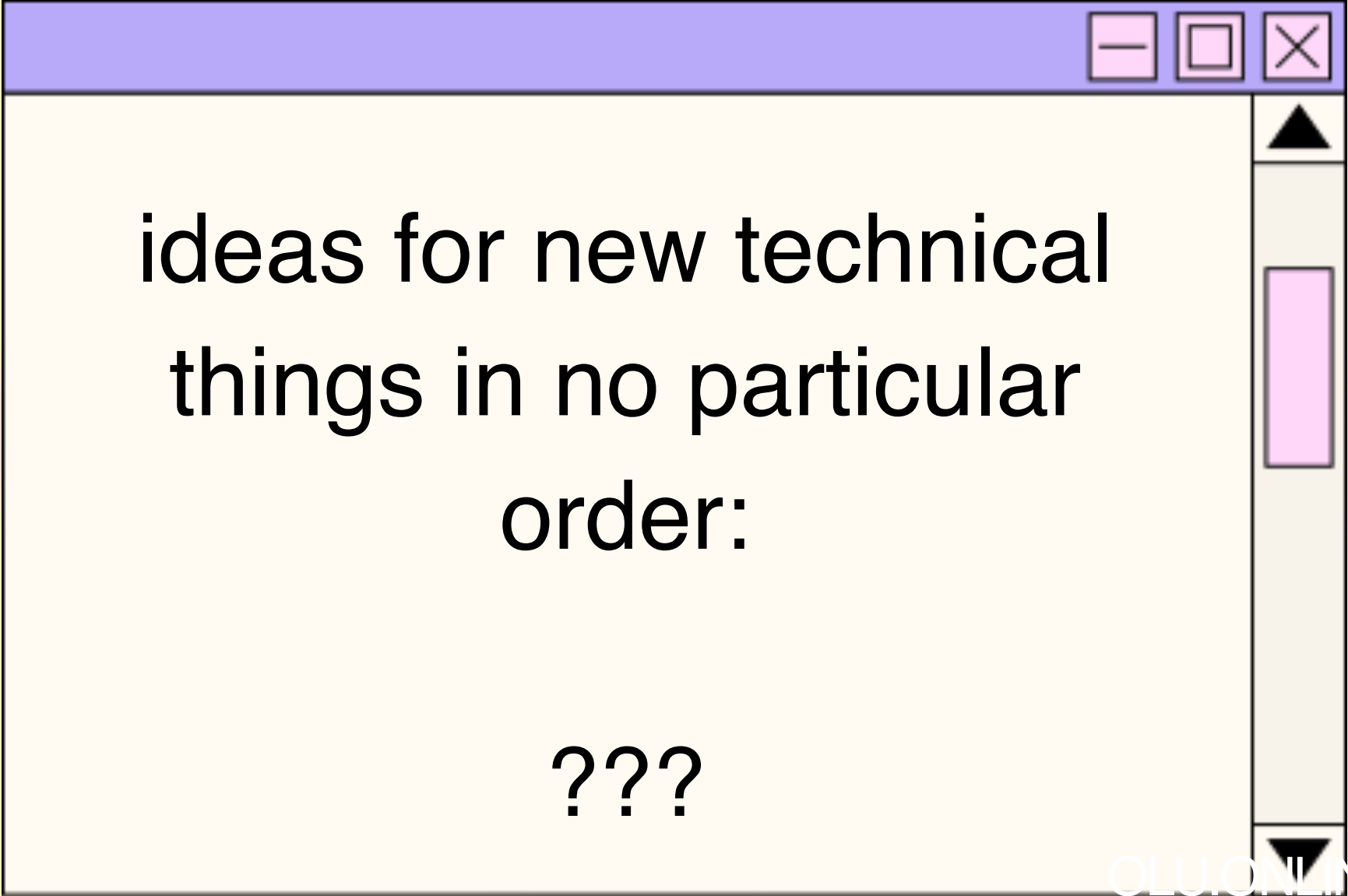
uncapturable





real world technical
examples I like in no
particular order:

???

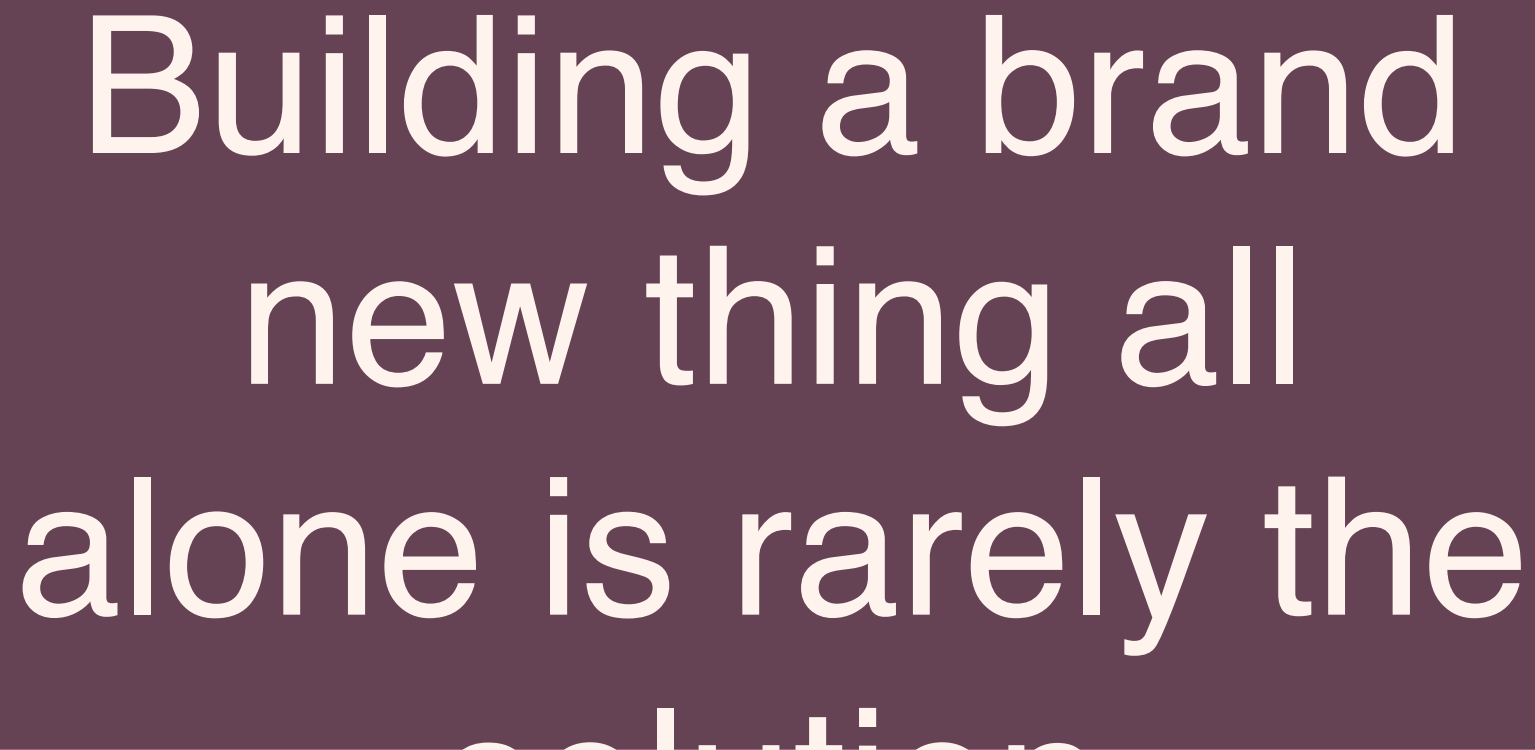


ideas for new technical
things in no particular
order:

???

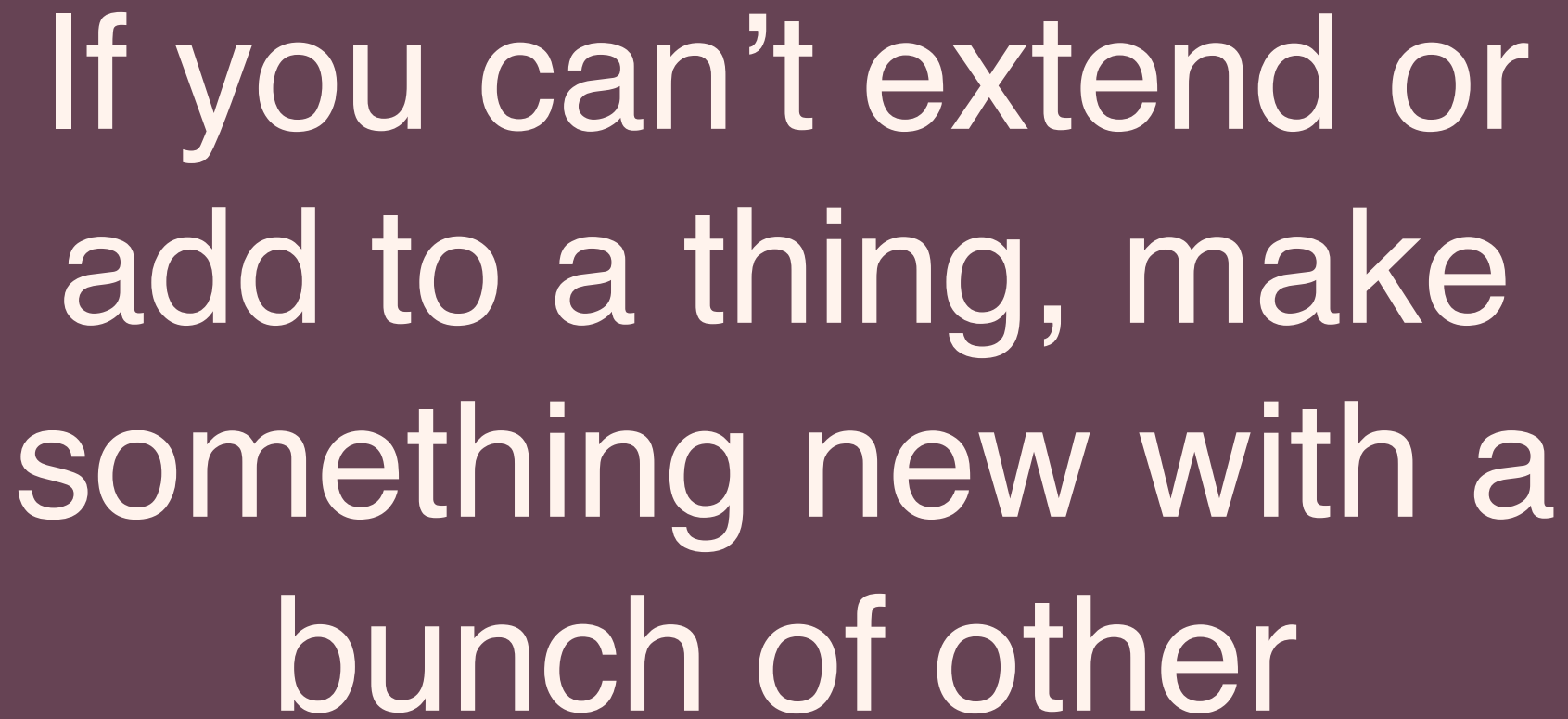
This is part of the work, and I have ideas, but don't hold me to them.

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Building a brand
new thing all
alone is rarely the
solution

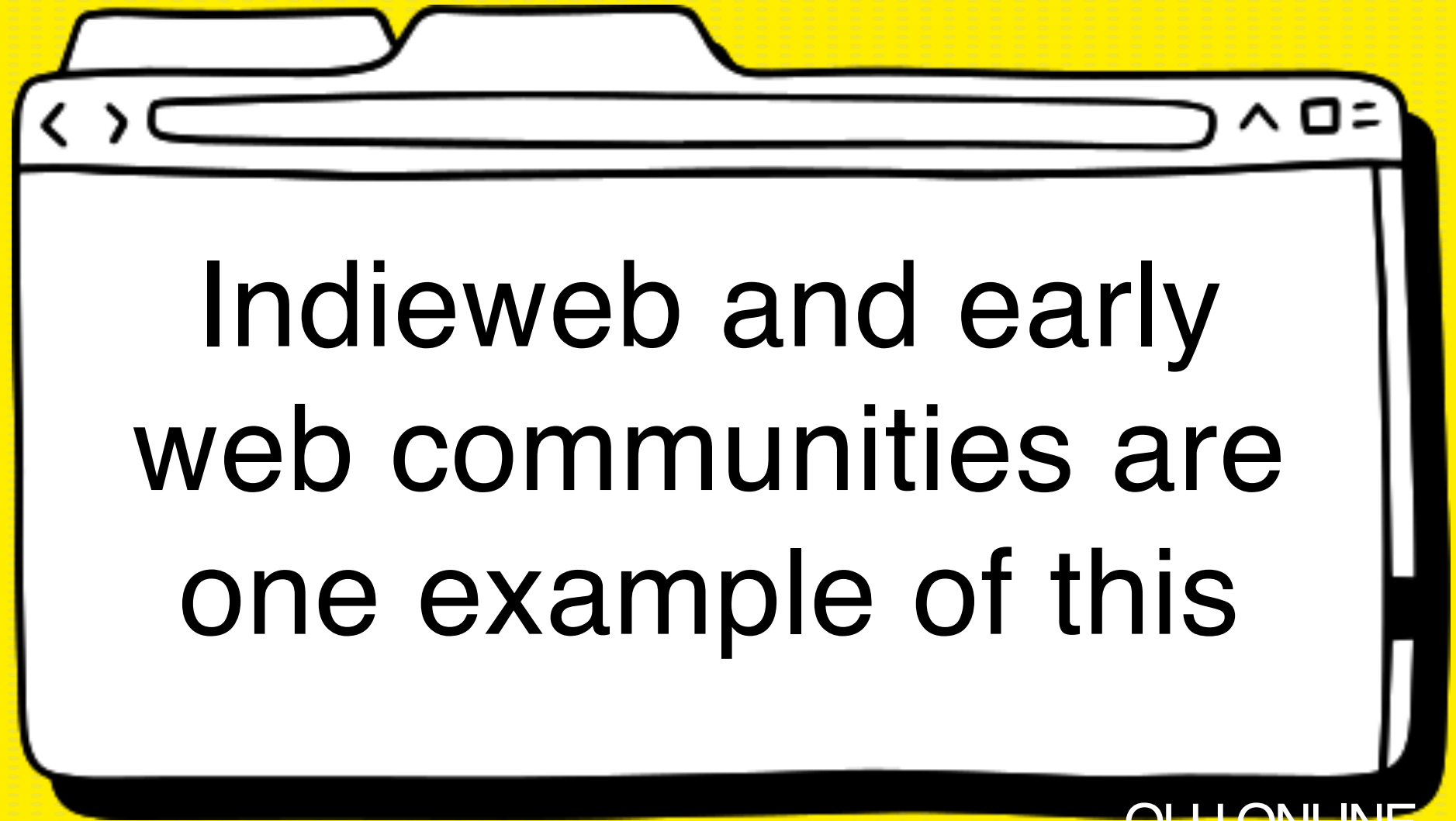
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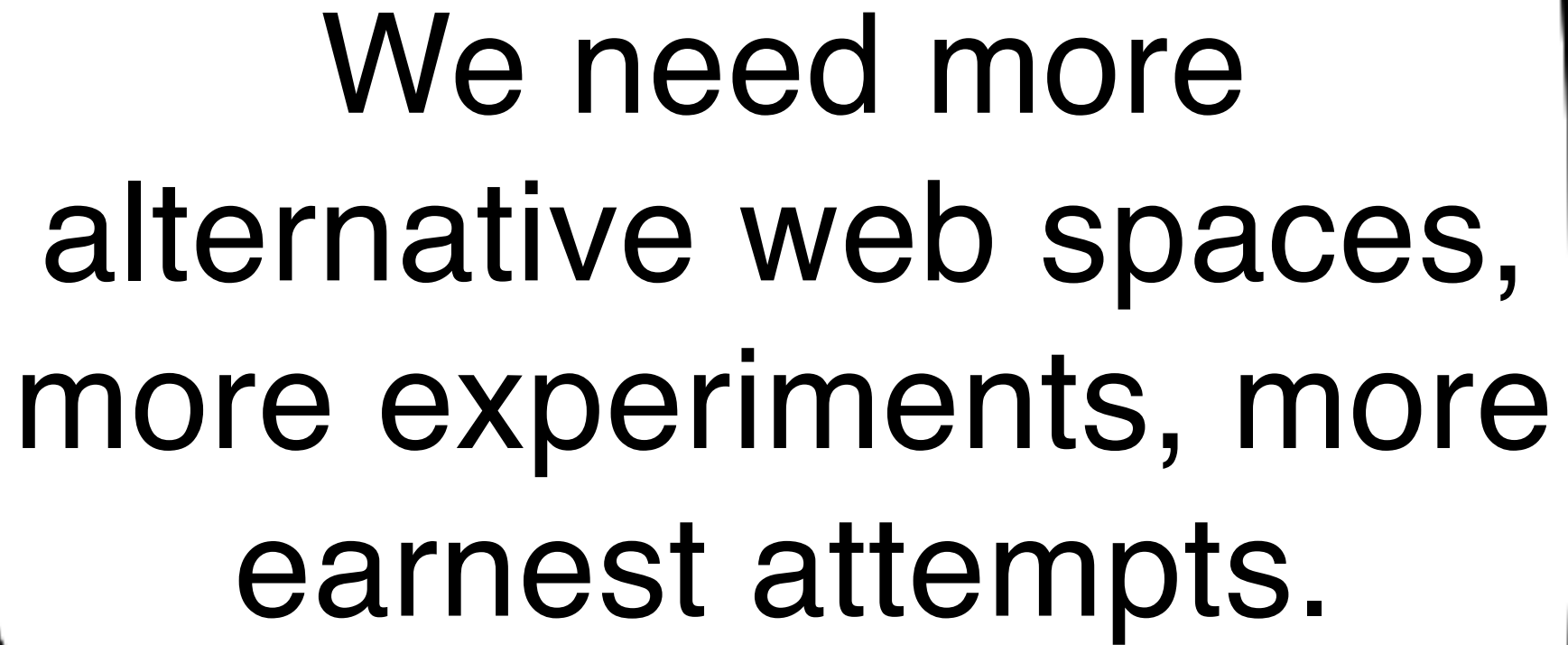
If you can't extend or
add to a thing, make
something new with a
bunch of other

people.

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Indieweb and early
web communities are
one example of this

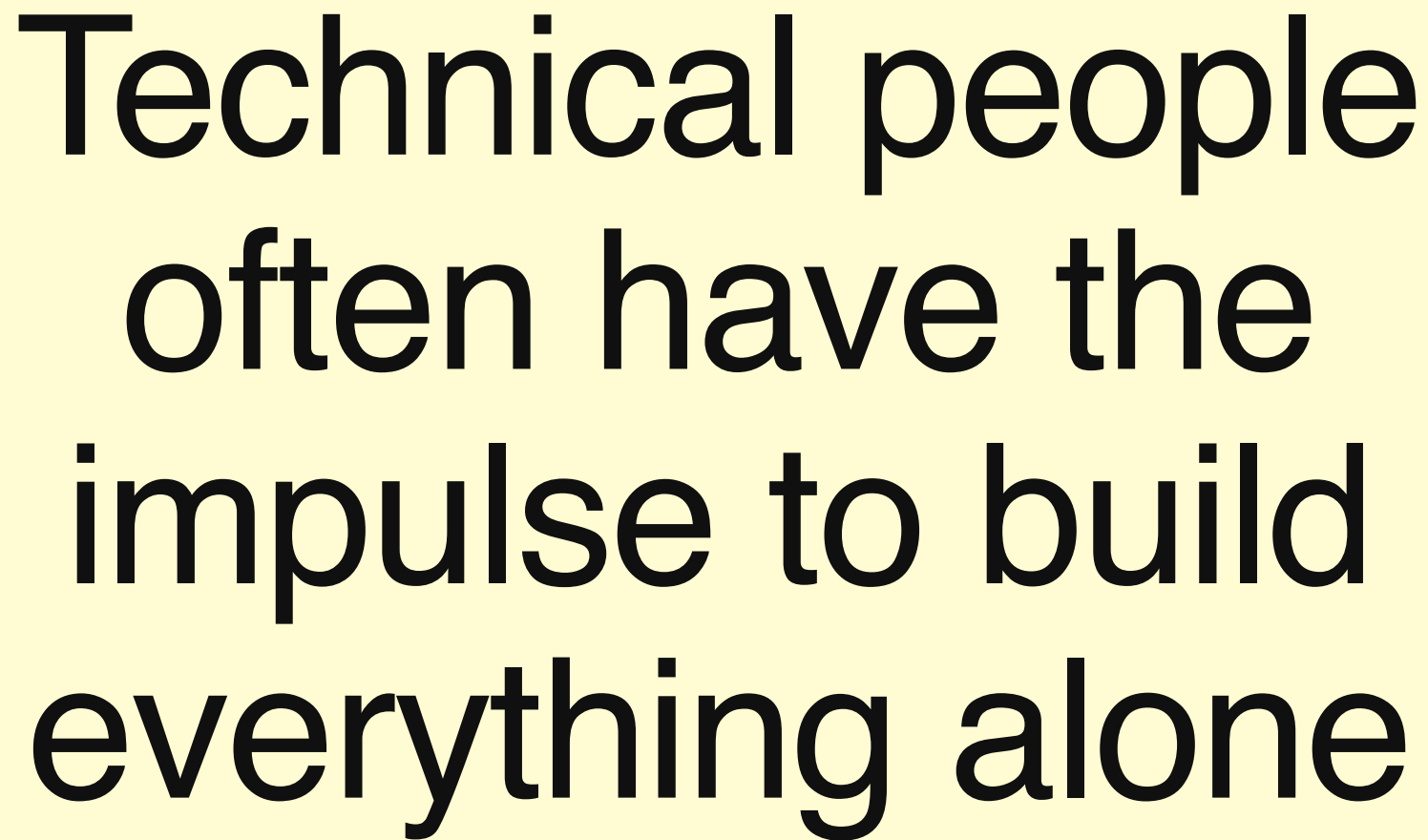


**We need more
alternative web spaces,
more experiments, more
earnest attempts.**

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So what have
we discussed?



Technical people
often have the
impulse to build
everything alone

Building alone means you'll rarely build infrastructure; things that are necessities in people's lives and bring them immense value, but aren't luxurious and uncommon

Focusing on building networks means that there will be adoption, and that we can wrest our networks - the places we connect - back from the hands of the wealthy.

The solution? build together. look at existing networks you use but dislike and see what can be learnt.

ideally, find existing alternatives and work to make them better and most importantly
uncapturable

if there aren't existing networks,
consider building new ones that
are not capturable

what have i said?

diagnosis: everyone's instinct is to build a new thing, alone, which means we will never build new infrastructure

strategy: focus on networks and community, build networks together

actions: ????

take existing networks that are in the hands of the wealthy and find ways to build resilient alternatives

identify the network: ideally, find existing alternatives and work to make them better and most importantly uncapturable

if there aren't existing networks, consider building new ones that are not capturable

being capturable is not a technical property, it's systemic and there are no rules. it will be messy and political.

the mess is the work

being capturable is not a technical property,
it's systemic and there are no rules.

building new webs will be messy and
political.

the mess is the work

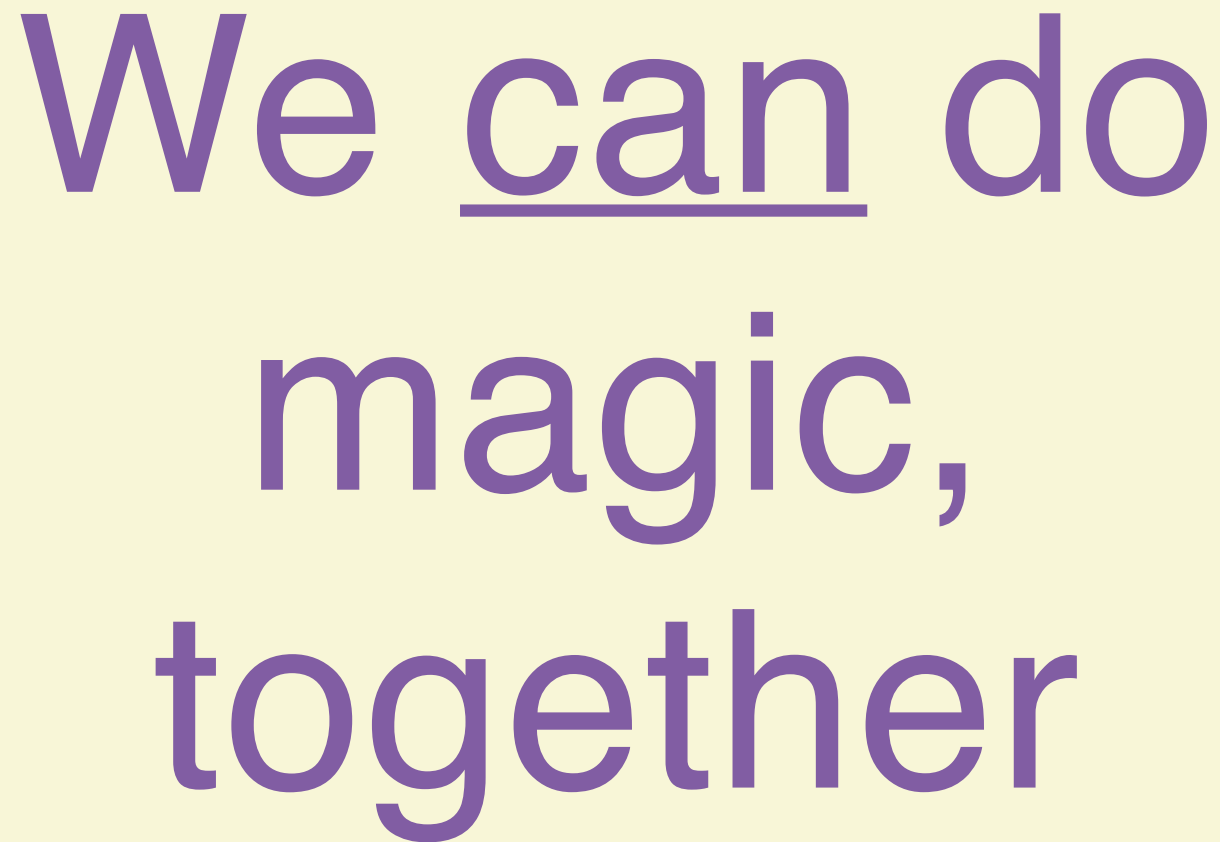


What's kinds of
spaces do you want?

schools? homesteads?

bunkers? skyscrapers?

infrastructure?



We can do
magic,
together

