

Read the Docs



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OSCON 2011

What this talk is

- » Talk about the history of Read the Docs
- » Technology Involved
- » Interesting outcomes of openness



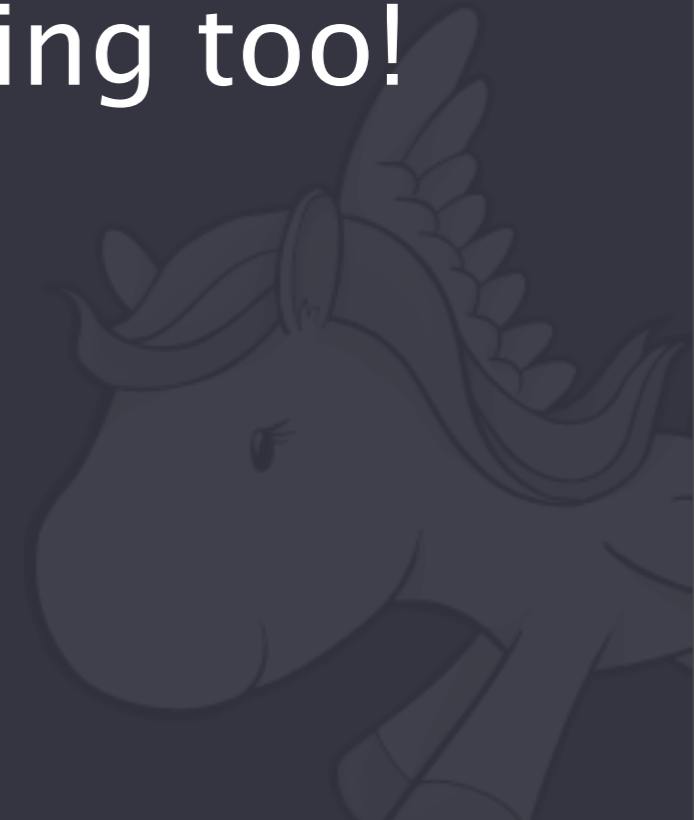
Who am I

- » I come from Django
- » Work at Urban Airship
- » Like automating systems



Why I'm here

- » Feedback
- » Ideas
- » Hopefully you'll learn something too!
- » Shameless self-promotion





Read the Docs

Create, host, and browse documentation.

[Sign up](#)

or [Log in](#)

What is this place?

Read the Docs hosts documentation, making it fully searchable and easy to find. You can import your docs using any major version control system, including Mercurial, Git, Subversion, and Bazaar. It also supports webhooks so your docs get built when you commit code. There's also support for versioning so you can build docs from tagged versions of your code in your repository. You can even create docs on the site. It's free and simple. Read [Getting Started](#) and find out how to host your docs on Read the Docs!

Find a project

[Let's do this.](#)

Officially Hosted

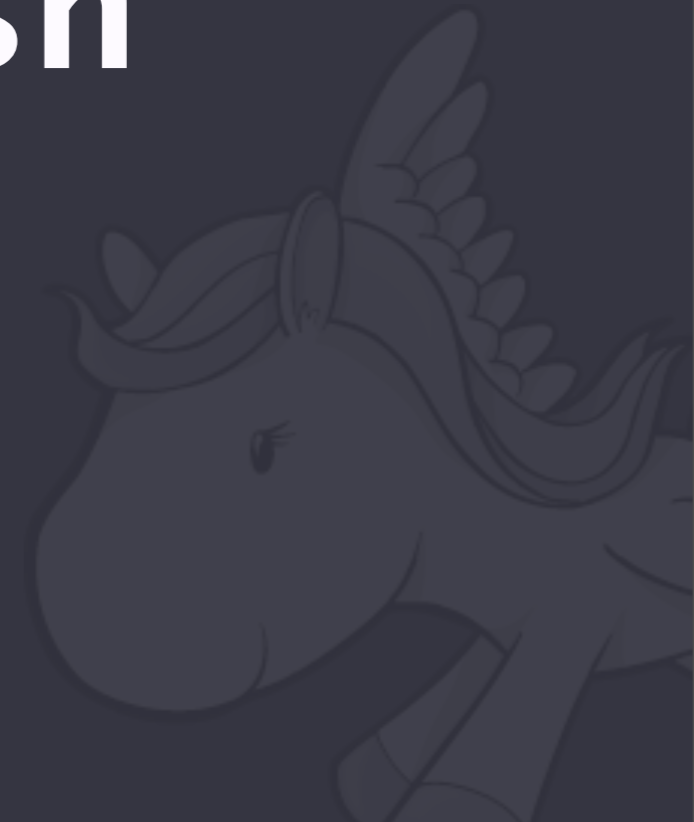
- » Celery
- » Fabric
- » Pip
- » Virtualenv
- » Django CMS
- » Django Grapelli/Floppyforms/Sentry
- » Lots more



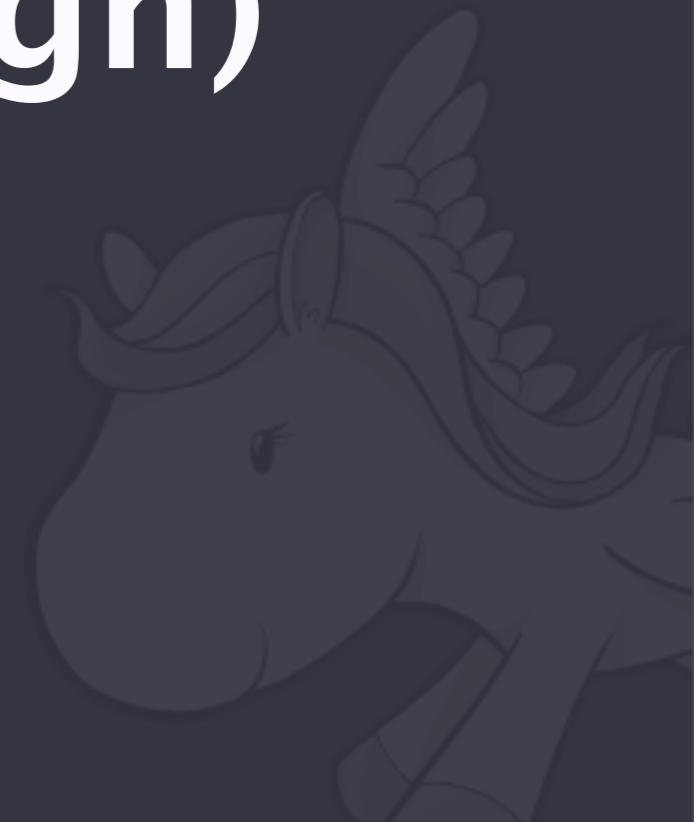
The story



2010 Django Dash



Charles Leifer
Bobby Grace (Design)
Me



Doc Hosting Sucks

- » packages.python.org
- » Github Pages
- » Your own janky cronjobs



We can rebuild him.

We have the technology.

**Had a workable site in 48
hours**



Fully Open Source



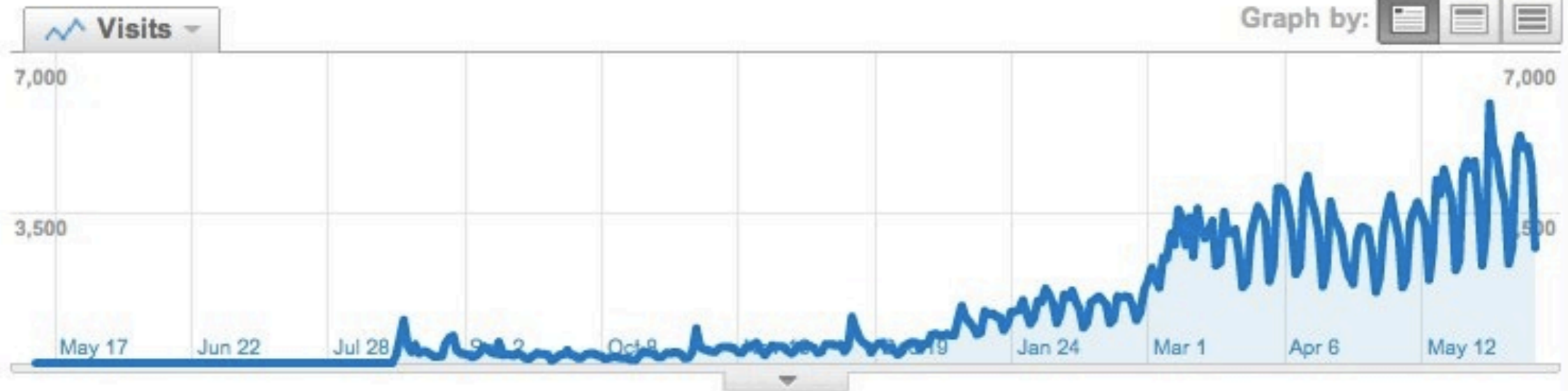
Fully Open Source

- » github.com/rtfd/readthedocs.org
- » github.com/ericholscher/chef-django-example
- » ericholscher.com/tag/chef-series/



Dashboard

May 12, 2010 - Jun 11, 2011



Site Usage



437,263 Visits



55.17% Bounce Rate



1,232,502 Pageviews



00:03:04 Avg. Time on Site



2.82 Pages/Visit



54.34% % New Visits

No excuse



What makes it tick



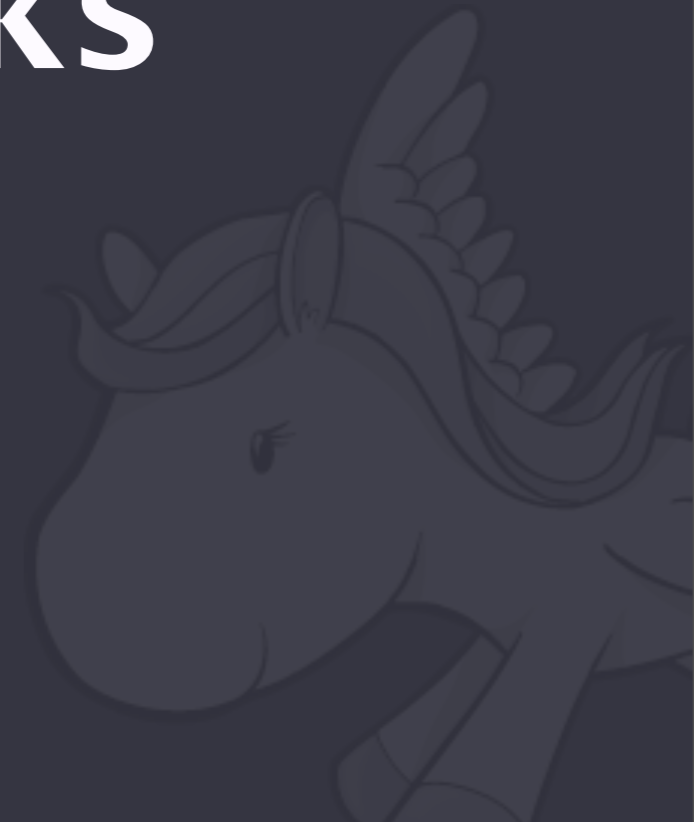
Features



Git, Hg, Bzr, Svn



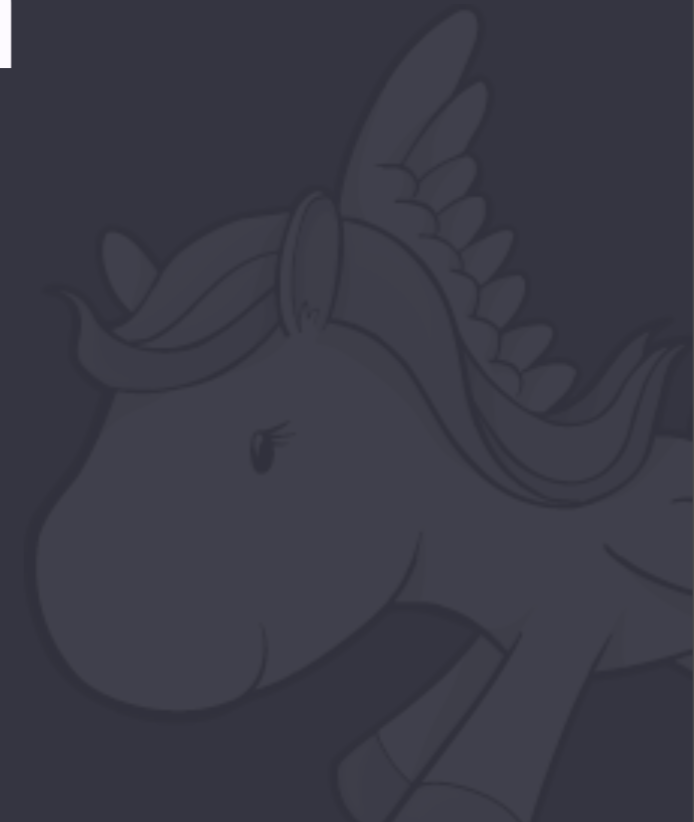
Post commit hooks



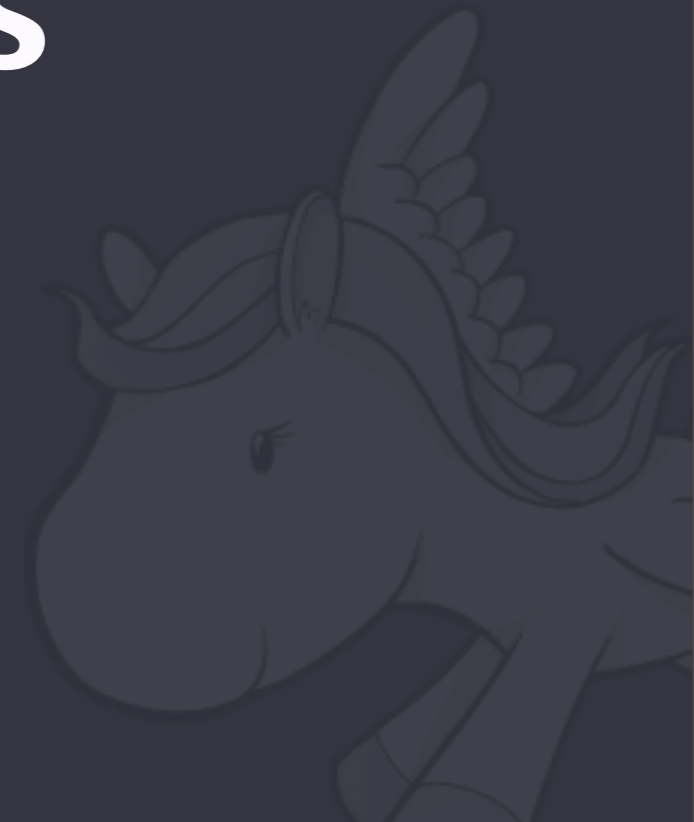
Custom Themes



Full-text search



Tags & Branches



PDF Generation



Man Pages



Virtualenvs



Tech



Sphinx



Subdomains



CNAME Support



Haystack & Solr



Celery



Varnish



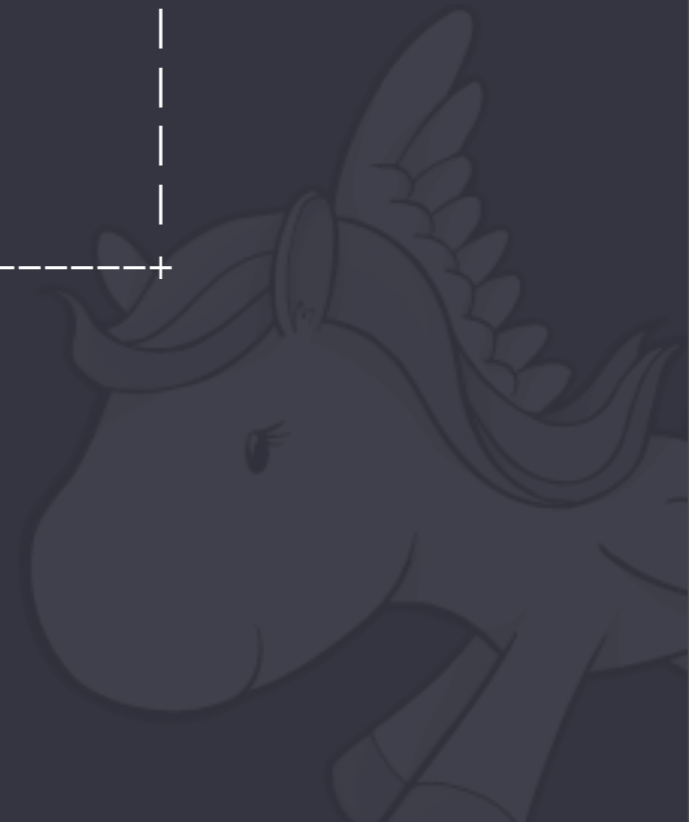
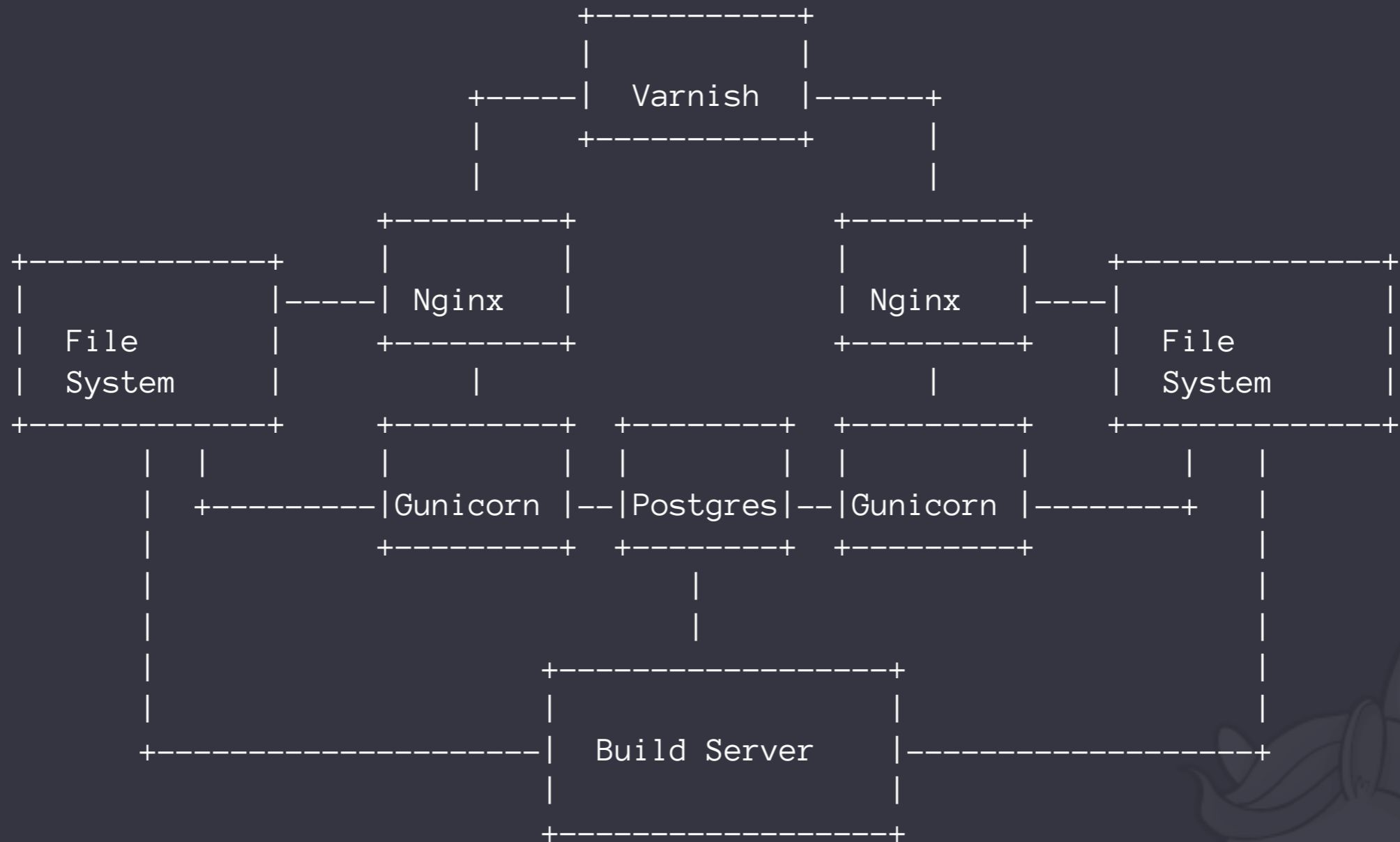
Chef



Multiple Servers



Architecture



Nagios & Munin



Nginx & Gunicorn



Upstart



REST API



CoffeeScript



CLI



Lessons



**Think about your URLs.
Really hard.**



Lay your project out sanely



Write tests!



Build around a standard tool



Promote (Hi!)



Find a designer!



Log. Everything.



Follow the Unix Philosophy



Have a mission



Open Source Outcomes

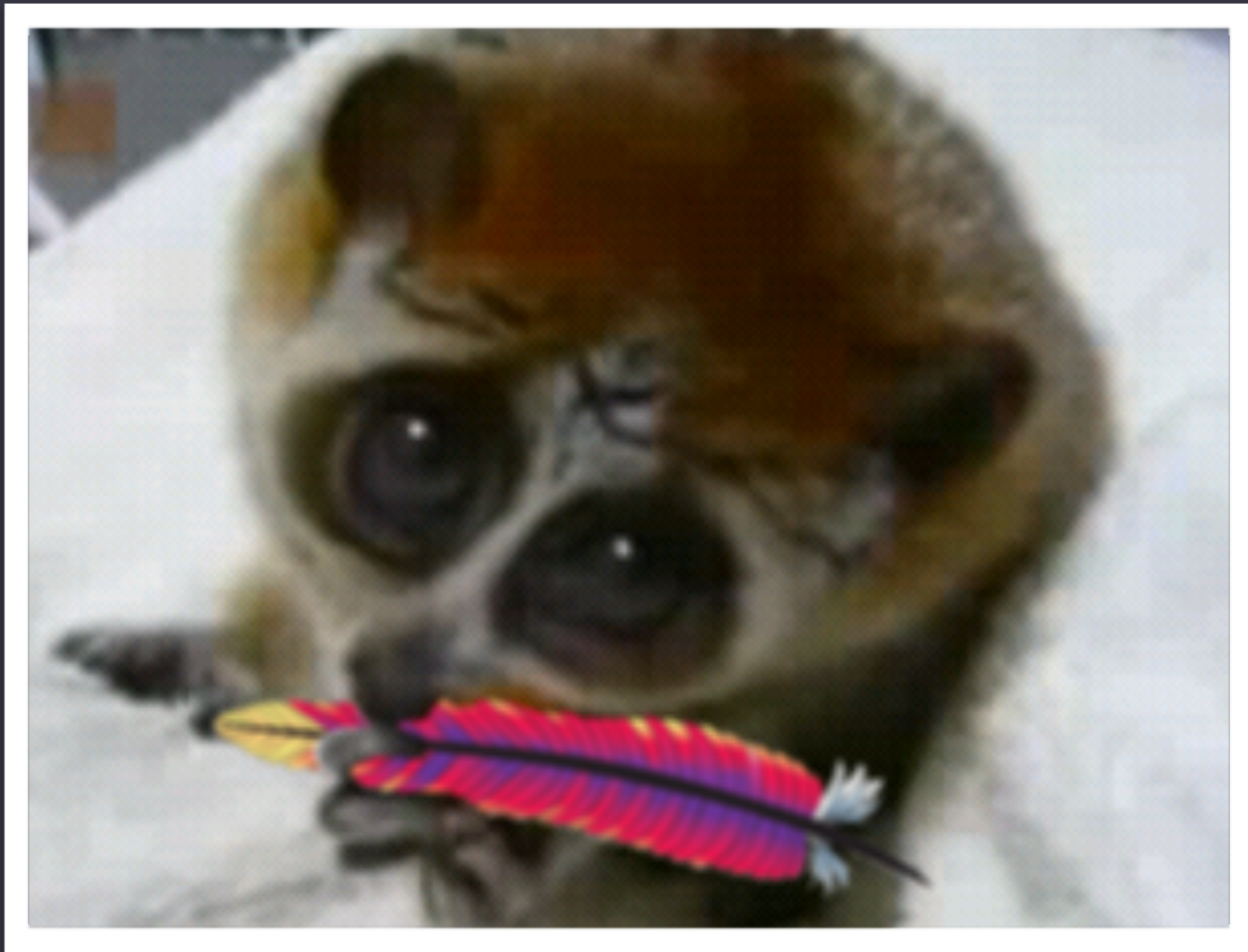


Patches

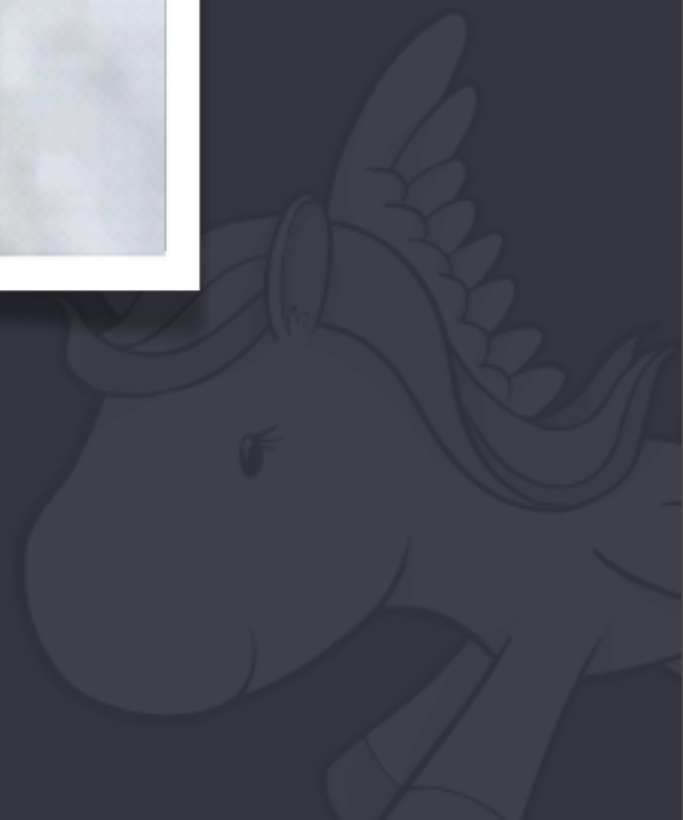


Known architecture information





Slow Loris



Trust



People Writing Docs



DEMO



Questions?

- » readthedocs.org / rtfd.org
- » #readthedocs on Freenode
- » github.com/rtfd/readthedocs.org
- » eric@ericholscher.com
- » twitter.com/ericholscher
- » Urban Airship

