



DrupalCon
GLOBAL 2020
JULY 14-17

D7 & D8 End of Life (EOL)

What Does It Mean, What Are My Options?

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About Us



Michael Meyers

Tag1 Managing Director

- Sales, Marketing, & Biz Dev
- Strategy & GTM Positioning
- CTO Top 50 Website
- VC Backed Founder w/ Exit



Jeremy Andrews

Tag1 Founding Partner/CEO

- Exec Oversight & Management
- Oversees All Infra & Dev
- Performance & Security Expert
- Load & Stress Test Expert





About Tag1

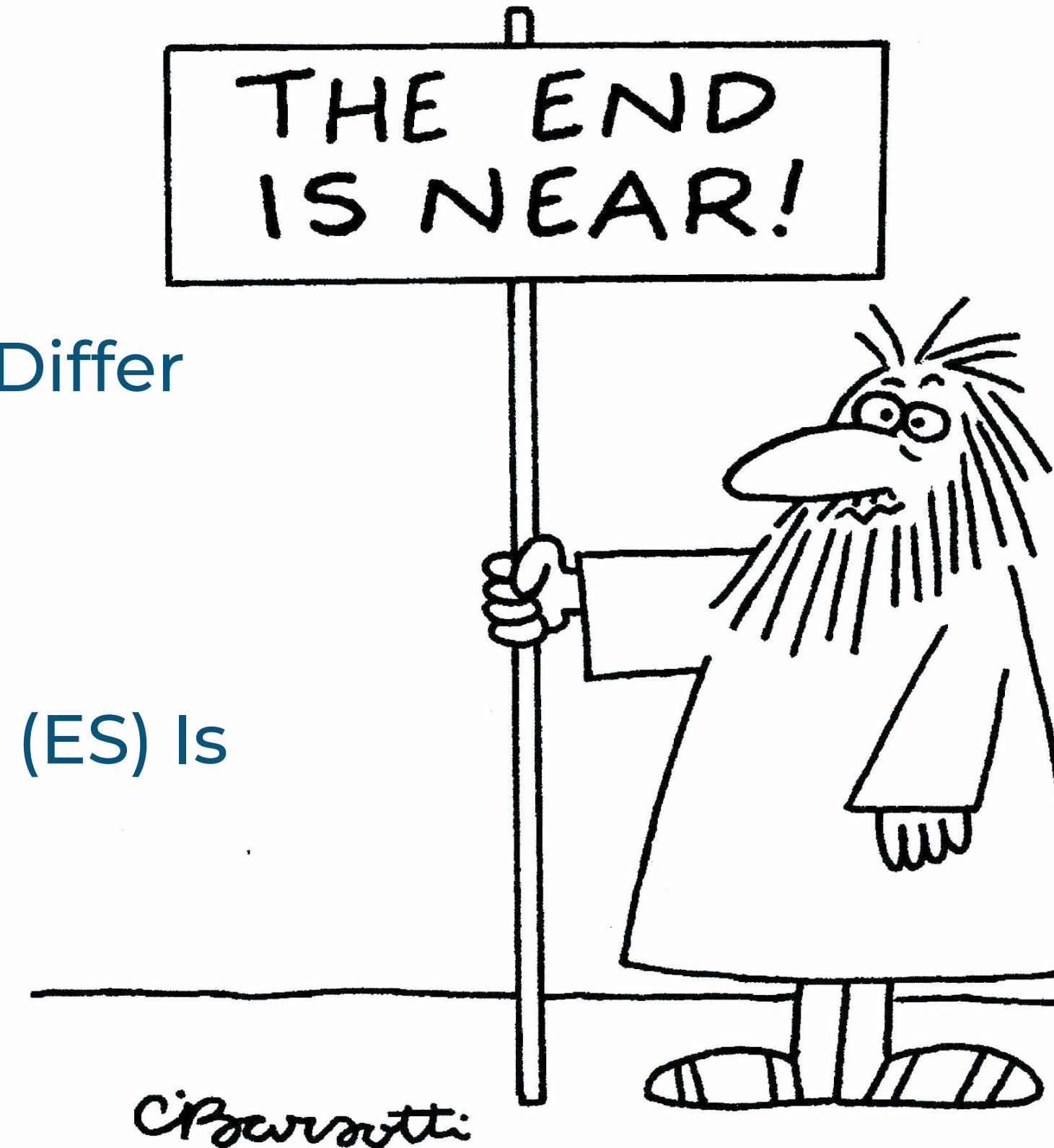
We work with industry leaders across all sectors





What we'll cover

- What Drupal “End of Life” (EOL) Means
- When It Happens, and How D7 and D8 Differ
- Why Widely Used Versions are Retired
- Practical Implications and Your Options
- What Drupal Vendor Extended Support (ES) Is
- Why ES only Covers D7, and Not D8
- How ES Operates, and What it Covers
- Your Questions





What is Drupal “End of Life”?





Life Itself

It Takes A Lot of People and Systems to Create and Manage Versions

Drupal Core

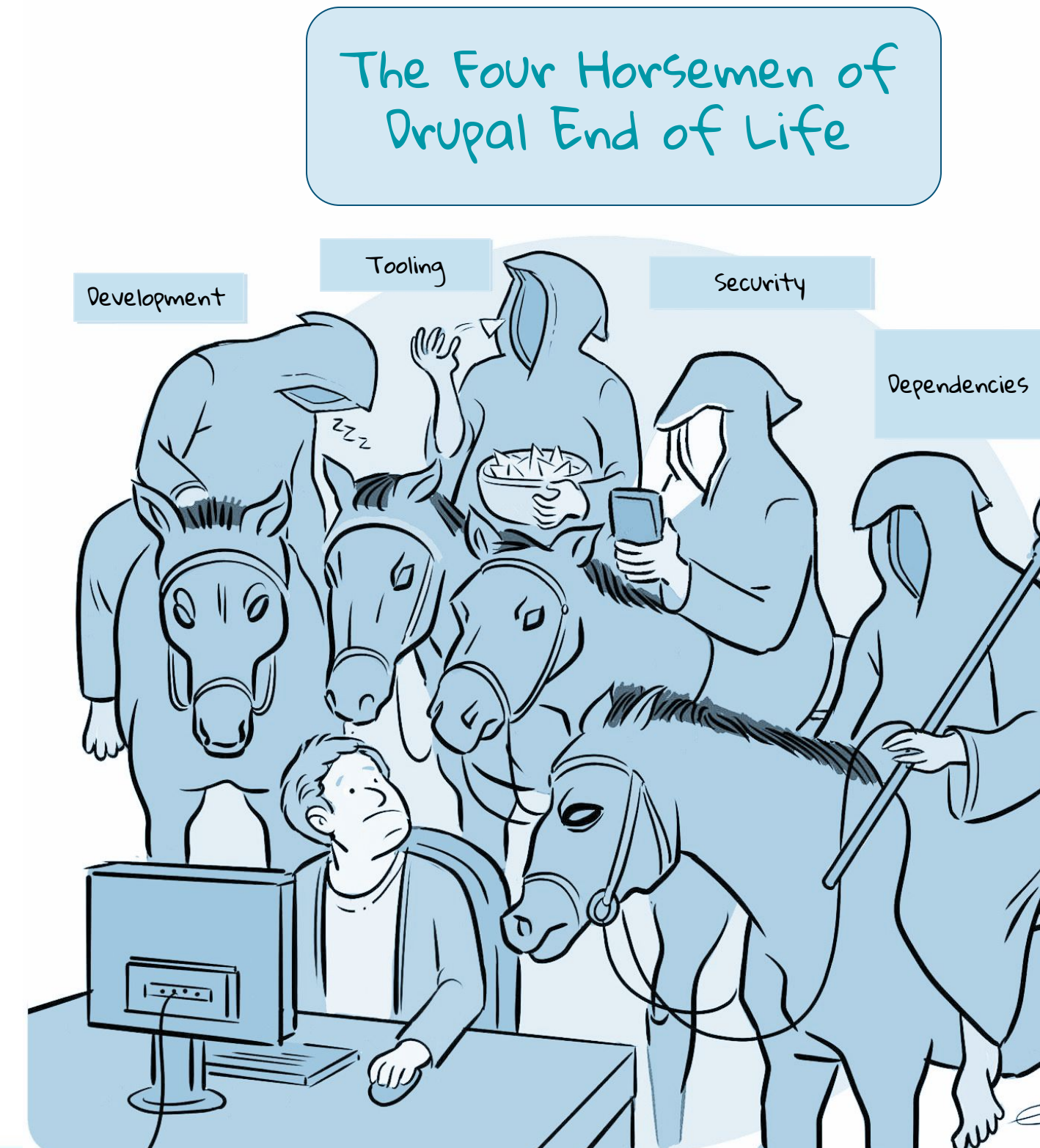
- Formal Roadmap & Releases
 - Strict Guidelines & Process
 - In-Depth Automated Testing
 - Dedicated Security Team
 - Appointed Core Committers
- Oversee & Approve All Code



End of Life

You Get What You Pay For....

- **Development:** No Core Enhancements or Bug Fixes
- **Tooling:** Issue Queues Locked, Testing Infra Turned Off, etc.
- **Security:** No Security Advisories or Security Updates
- **Dependencies:** - Versions of PHP, Symfony, etc. Going EOL





When Do D7 & D8 Reach EOL?





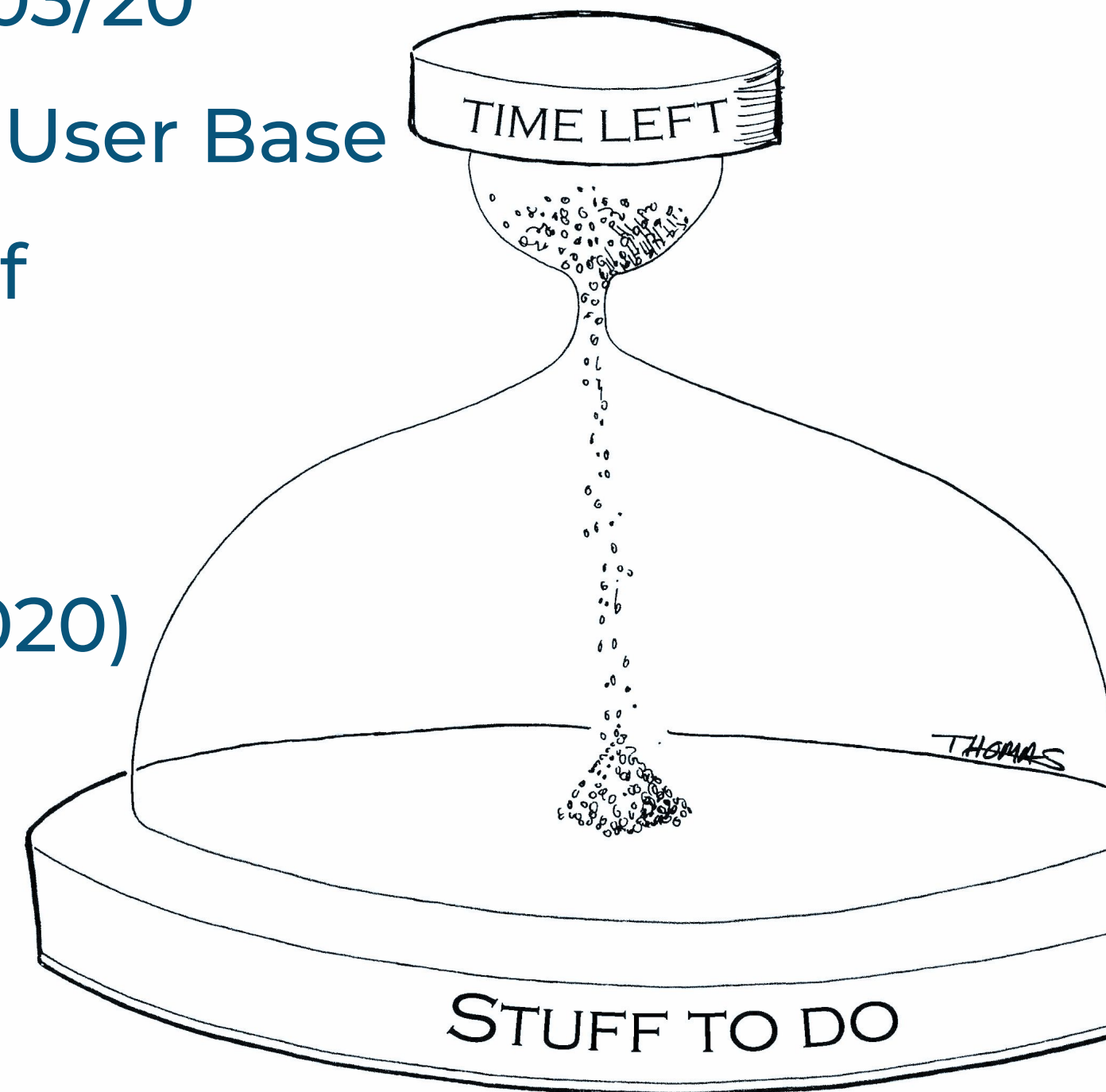
When is Drupal 7 EOL?

A stay of execution

- D7 Was To Go EOL When D9 Released 6/03/20
- Extended to November 2021 Given Large User Base
- Extended Again to Provide Covid-19 Relief

D7 EOL is November 2022

Almost 2.5 Years (from Today, July 16th 2020)



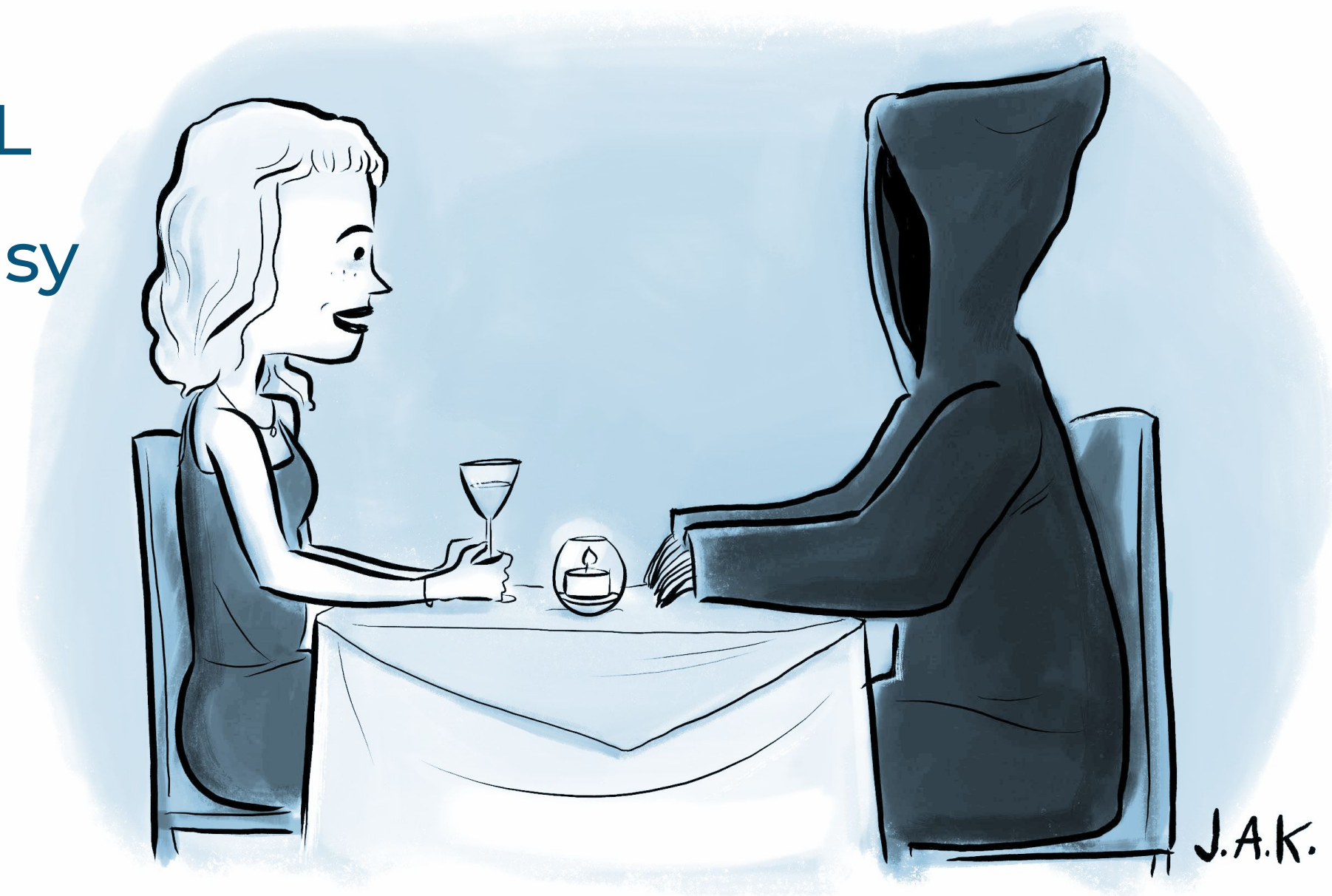


When is Drupal 8 EOL?

The Times, They Are A-Changin

- EOL Policy Changed As of D8
- D8 Has Dependencies Going EOL
- D9 Upgrade Path is Relatively Easy

Drupal 8 Was and Still Is Going EOL November 2021 (473 Days)



"So, is this a date with destiny?"



Why Are Heavily Used Versions EOL'd?

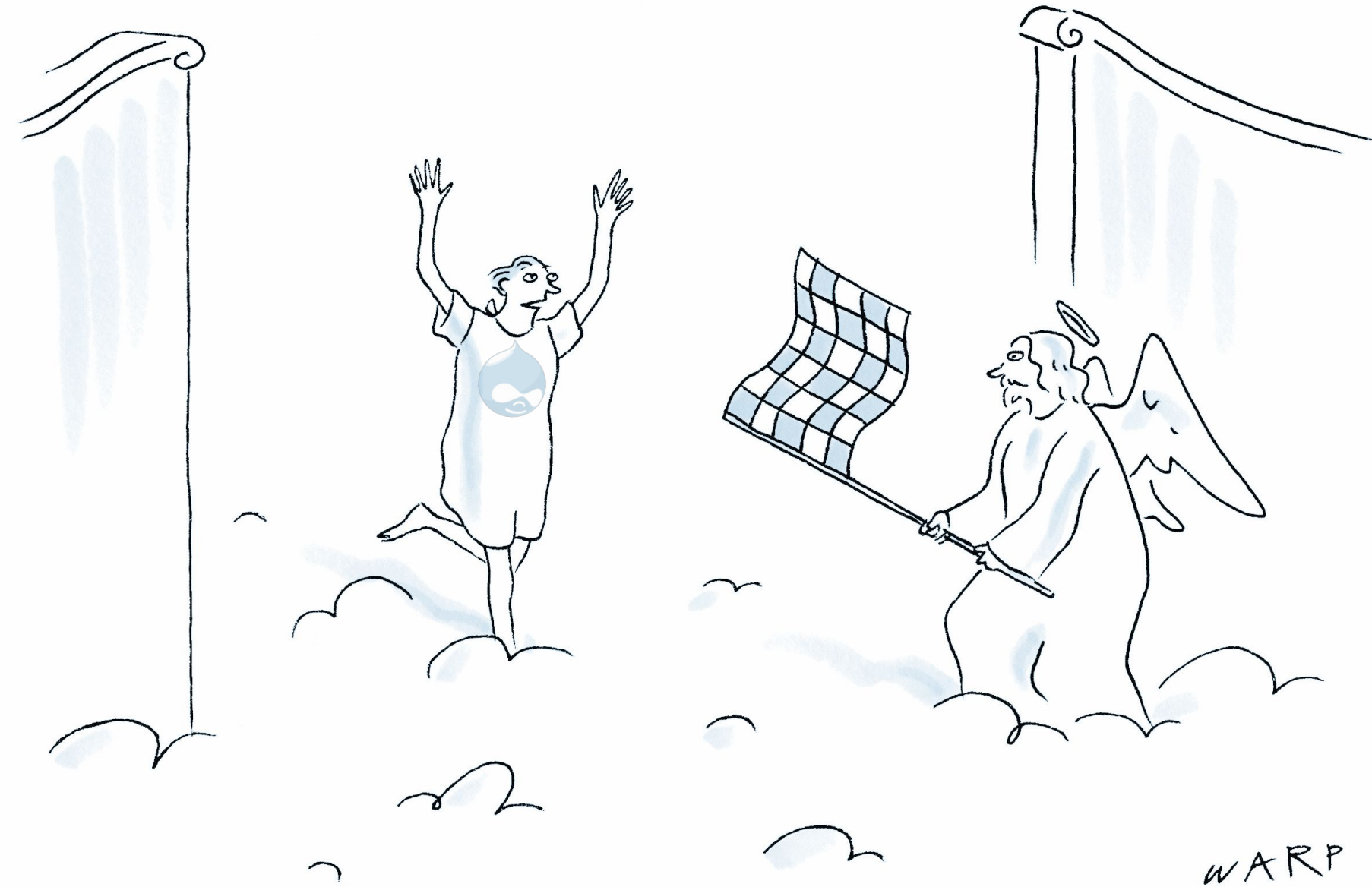




It's Not You, It's Me

Why EOL D7, the Most Widely Used Version of Drupal?

- **Legacy:** D7 is 9.5~ Years Old & Will be ~12 By EOL in Nov. 2022
- **Bandwidth:** Can't Support D7 & D8 and Build D9 & D10...
- **Interest:** Devs Don't Want to Focus on 10 Year Old Tech
- **Innovation:** Is What's Best for Drupal the Software



WARP



Getting Off The Island

With D8 The Rules For Assigning Version Numbers Changed (D9 is D8)

- D8 Built on Symfony, Twig, Guzzle, etc.
- Dependencies Go EOL Too
- So We Upgrade Drupal To Support New Versions
- Drupal Adopted Semantic Versioning & Upgrading Forces Major Releases (D8 -> D9)

Prior to D8, “Major Release” Meant an Entirely New Drupal. Now It’s More a Numbering Convention

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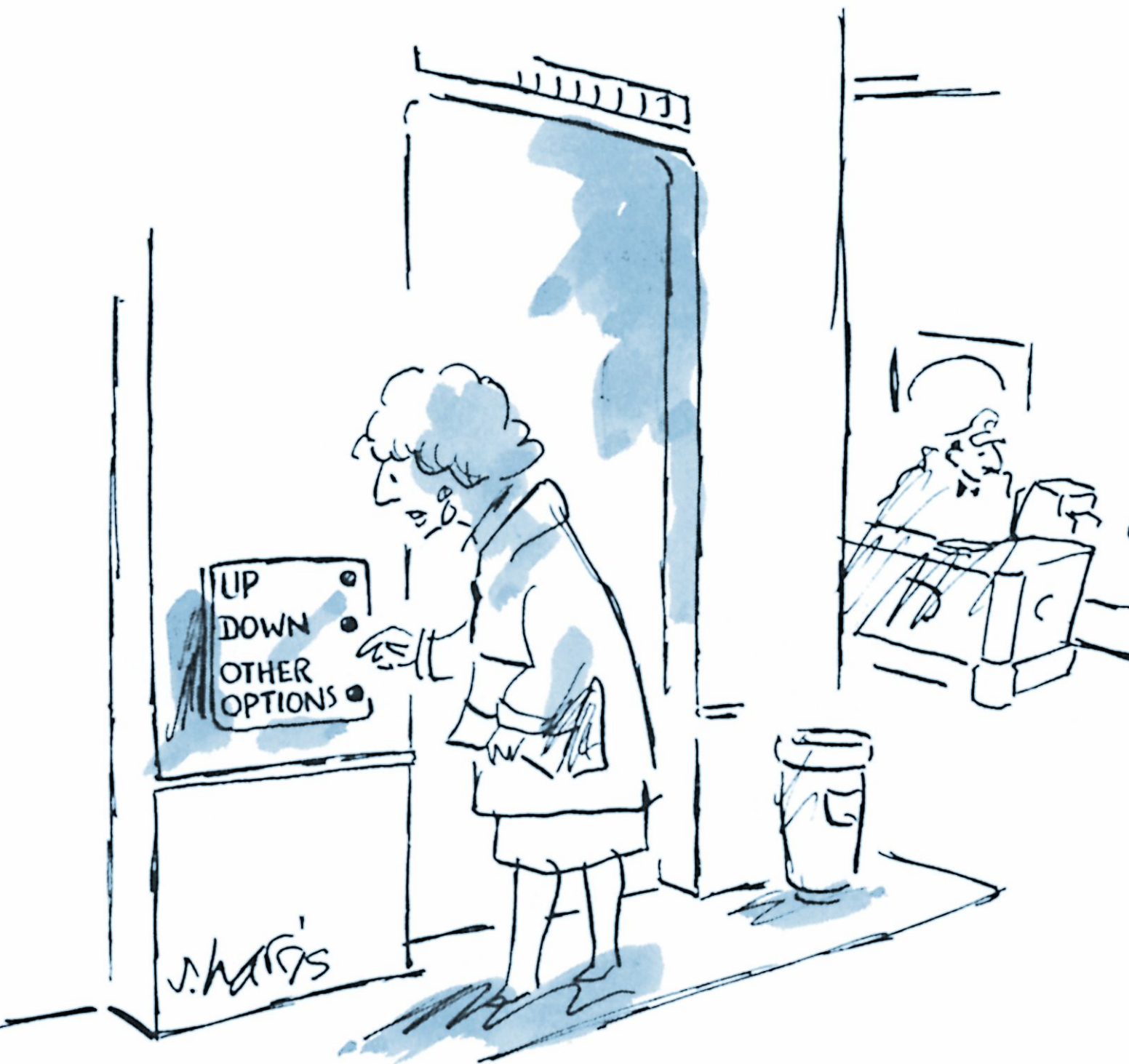


What Are My Options?





If I'm on D7, What Are My Options?



High Cost

- Do Nothing (Please Don't Do This)
- Migrate to D9
- Migrate to Another CMS

Low Cost

- Shutdown or Archive The Website
- Purchase D7 Extended Support (D7ES)

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Extended Support is Not a New Thing

Originally Called Long Term Support (LTS) & Introduced at D6 EOL

- Two Companies Currently Provide D6 LTS
- With 4.5 Years of Experience, Extended Support is a Proven Model
- Many Organizations Still Rely on D6 LTS
- Committed to Offering D6 LTS Extended Indefinitely
- If There is Enough Demand & It Can Be Done, It Will Be Provided





What is D7 Vendor Extended Support? (D7 ES)





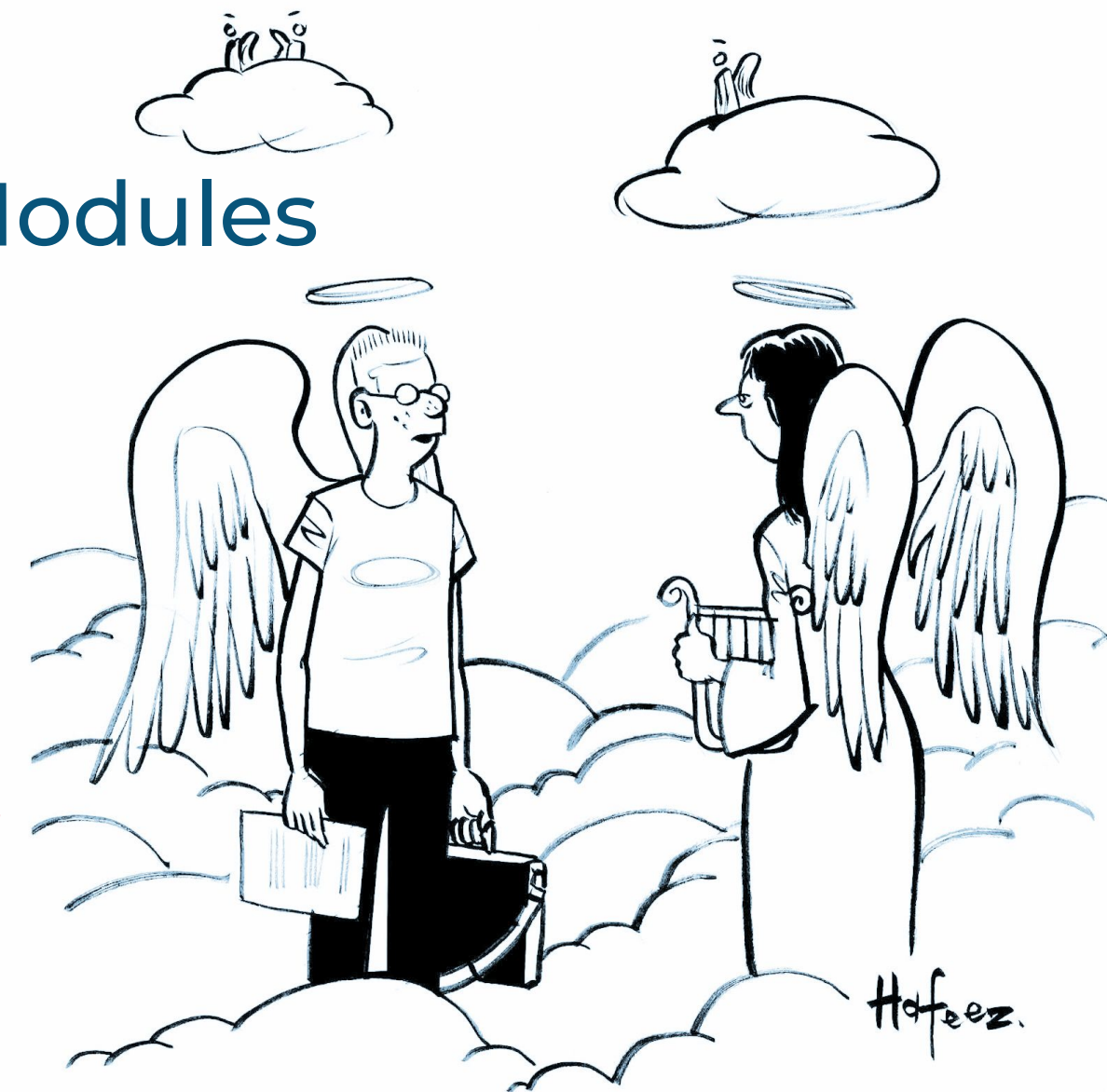
Drupal 7 Vendor Extended Support (D7ES)

All Approved D7 ES Vendors Must Offer the Following Services

- Tested Security Patches for Drupal 7 Core
- Tested Security Patches for Specific Contrib Modules
- Commit to Providing D7 ES for 3 Years

ANY & ALL Patches Must Be Open Sourced

Not Limited to D7ES! Includes Any Enhancements, All of Contrib, etc.



"I do tech support for the cloud."



Why Pay for D7 ES?

If All the Patches are Open Source, Why Should I Pay for Support?

- You Do Not Have To Pay for D7 ES
- If You Don't Support Vendors, They Won't Offer Support
- Vendors Will Offer Enhanced Services You May Need or Want



Vendors Can (and Will) Provide More

Beyond the Minimum Each Vendor Can Provide Additional Services

- Monitor Your Site, Alert You to Updates, Apply Them With/For You
- Bug Fixes, Feature Enhancements to D7 Core and All of Contrib
- Bespoke Work on Proprietary Code, Databases & Infrastructure
- Upgrading Legacy Drupal To Supported PHP Versions
- Dashboards & Other Tooling

If There is Enough Demand or Funding, Vendors Will Provide It!



Who Can Provide D7 ES?

How Can I Trust My D7 Site Will Remain Secure?

- Official Vendors Are Vetted & Will Be Publicly Listed
- Qualifications Ensure Expertise and Commitment
- At Least 1 Active Resource on the Drupal Security Team
- Participation in Drupal Core Development
- Active Participation in the D7 ES Program



How Does D7ES Work in Practice?





How does D7 ES Work?

The Basic D7 ES Offering Will Likely Follow the Proven D6 LTS Model

- Vendors Will Have Their Own Public Code Repos
- Vendors Can Have Their Own Conventions & Version Numbering
- Vendor Updates are Not Compatible, But You Can Switch
- Vendors Choose How To Deliver Updates



How does D7 ES Work?

The Basic D7 ES Offering Will Likely Follow the Proven D6 LTS Model

- No Set Release Schedule
- There are No Community Announcements
- You Must Be on the Final EOL Release to Apply D7 ES Patches



D7 ES Must Follow Security Policies

Vendors Must Follow Established Security Team Rules & Procedures

- No Private Communication Prior to Public Release
- Updates can't be sent to you before official release
- ES Release Are At or Near Official Releases



Really?!? No D8 Vendor Extended Support?!?



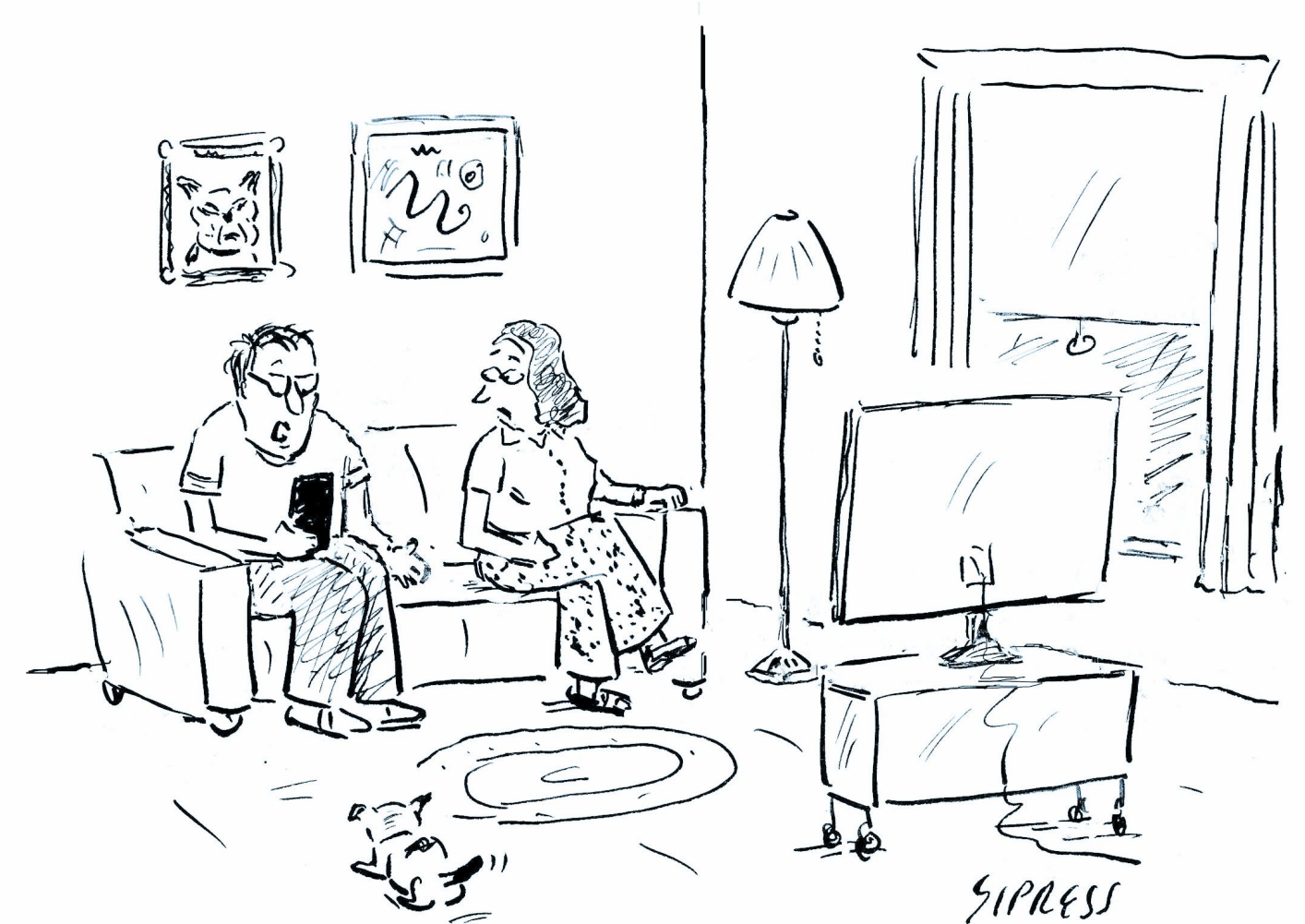


But Surely Some People Will Stay on D8?

What Can Organizations That Remain on D8 Do?

- There Will Be No Officially Sanctioned or Approved D8 ES
- Nothing Stops a Vendor From Offering It, But It Isn't Official
- Vendors Need to Be Experts In The D8 Dependencies as Well
- It Is Possible But Unlikely Vendors Will Offer D8 ES

Upgrade to D9 Do Not Hope or Plan On
D8 ES Being Provided



"It says it's sick and tired of telling me to update my software, and if I don't do it right now it's going to explode."

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Conclusion

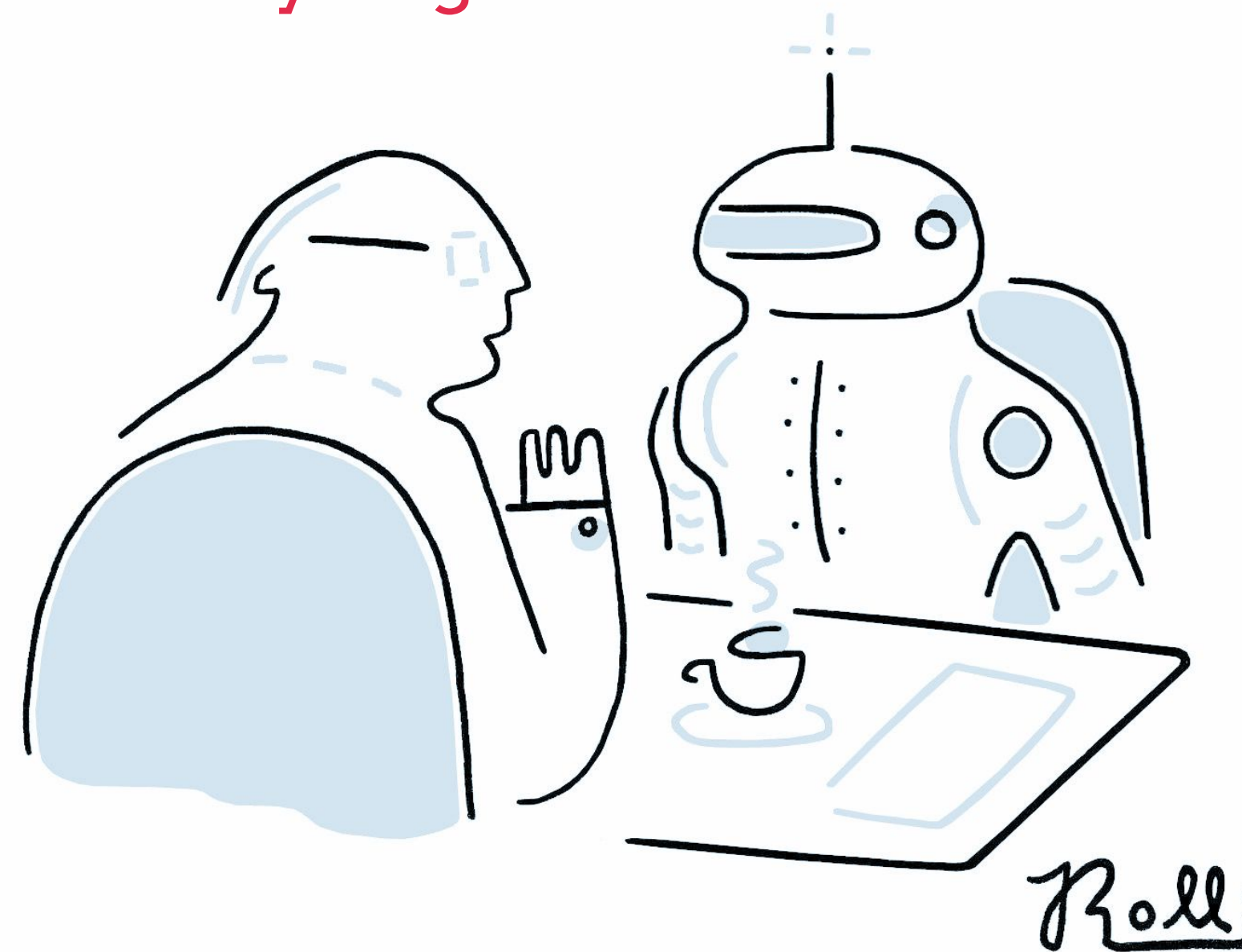




D7 Is A Great Platform

It Will Continue to Meet Their Needs of Many Organizations

- I'd Guestimate 300k+ Sites Will Continue To Use D7 After EOL
- Strong Demand for D7 ES Will Create Vibrant D7 ES Ecosystem
- Expect To Be Able To Run D7 For At Least 5-7 Years Post EOL
- Migrate If and When It Makes Business Sense To Do so

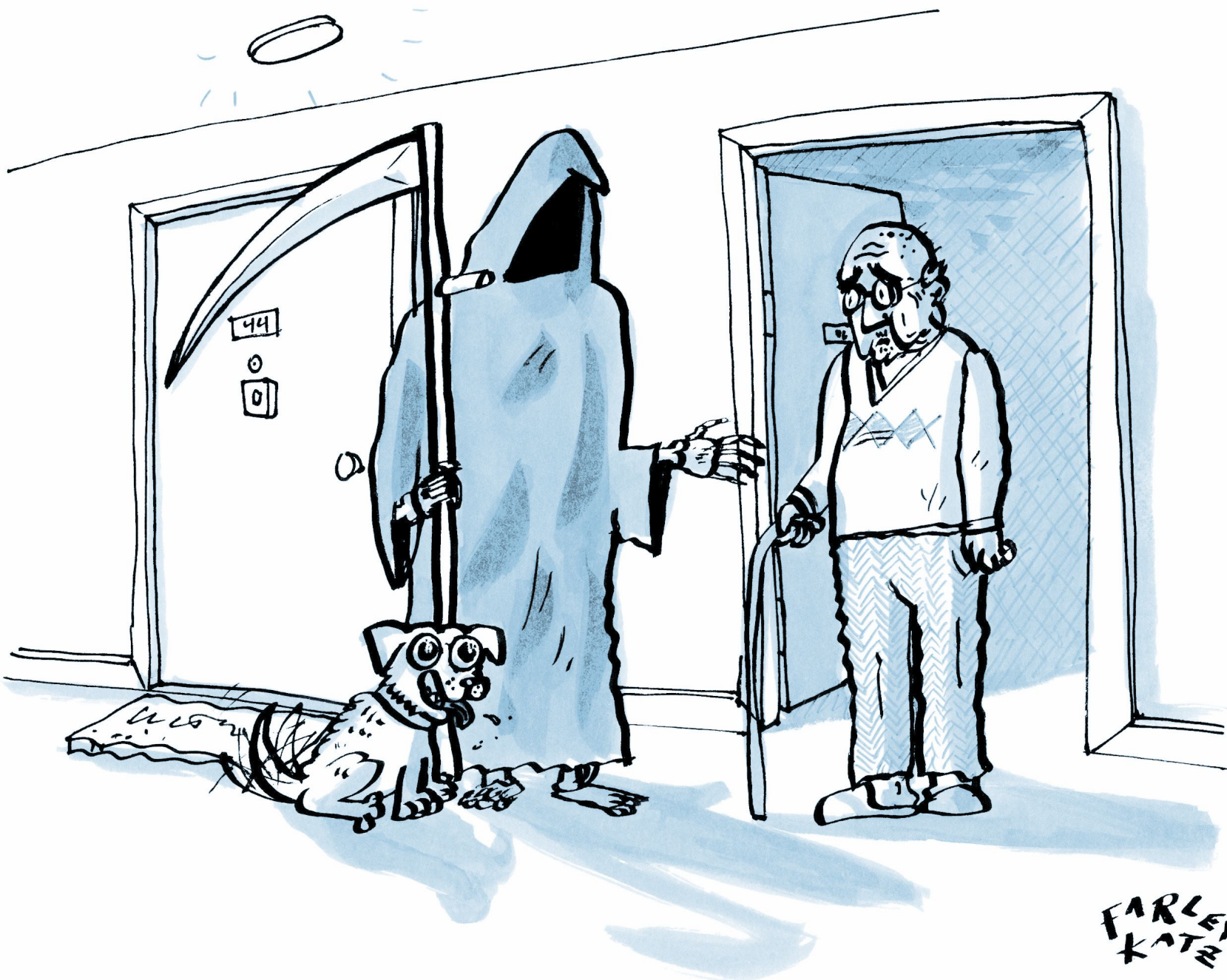


"Where do you see yourself in five updates?"



Don't Let D8 EOL Scare You, D9 is D8

Major Versions Now Numbers, Not New Platforms, & Upgrades Easy



- If You Keep Up With Minor Releases Upgrading To D9 (and D10) is Easy
- Drupal 10 To Be Released June 2022.

Moving Forward The Drupal Upgrade Process Should be Easier & The Need for ES Will Be Much Less

"People tend to take the news better when I bring Princess Cupcake."

CartoonCollections.com





Q&A





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