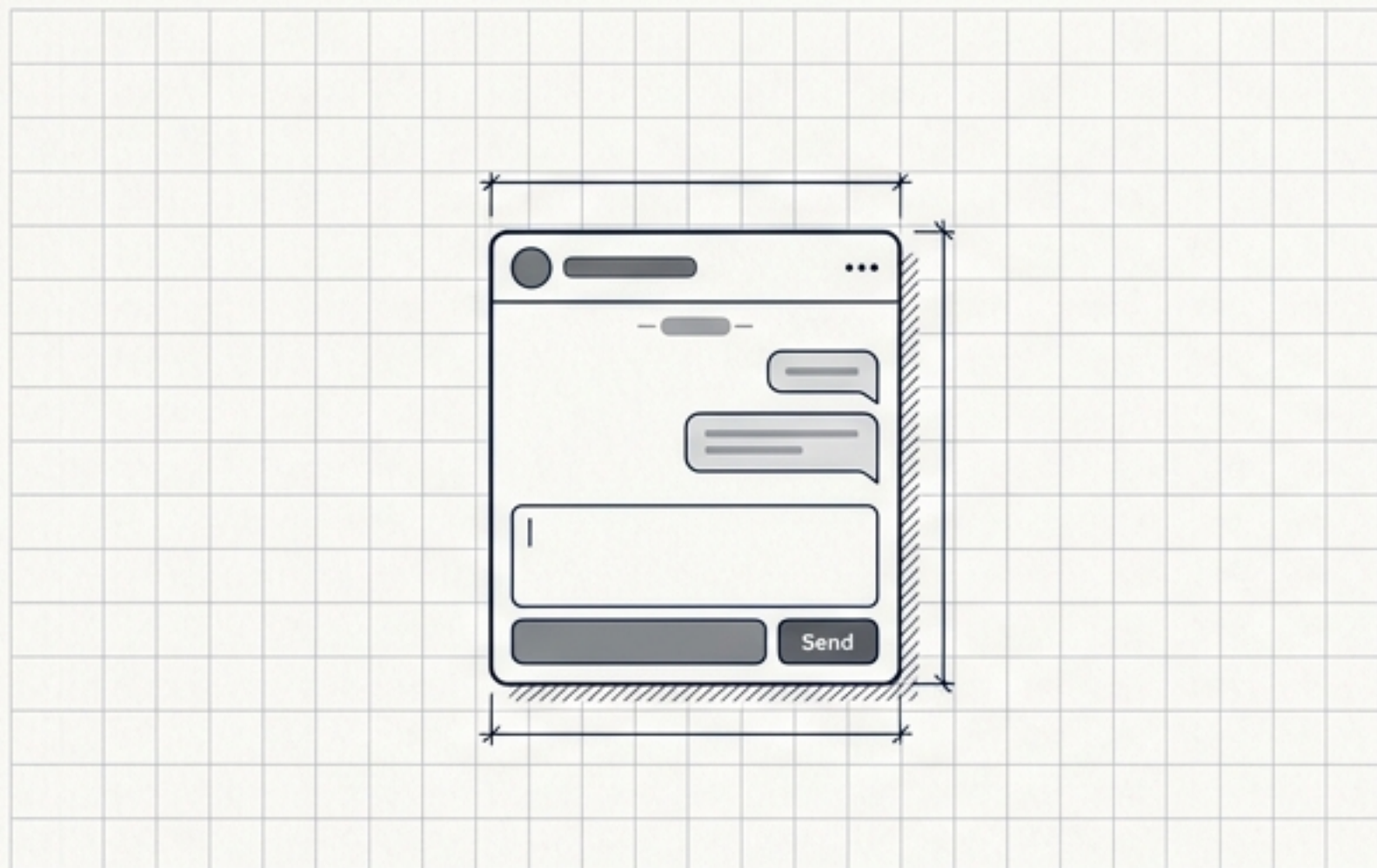


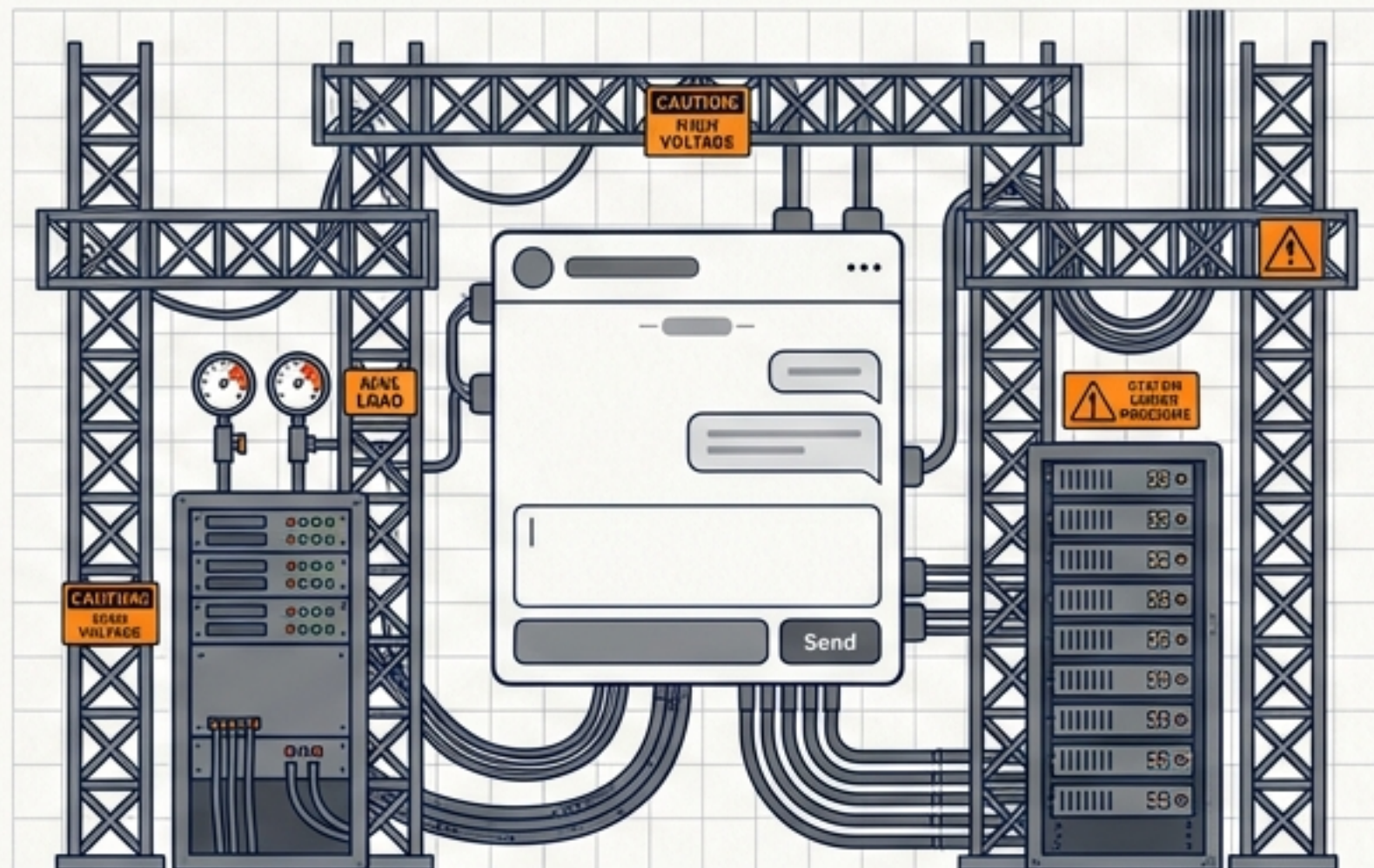
A Working Demo is Not a Product

v0.0.2: The House Party



Felt alive. It could see, hear, and remember. The talent is there.

v0.0.3: The Concert Stage



The stage is ruthless. Unpredictable user inputs. 3 AM traffic spikes. Silent server restarts.

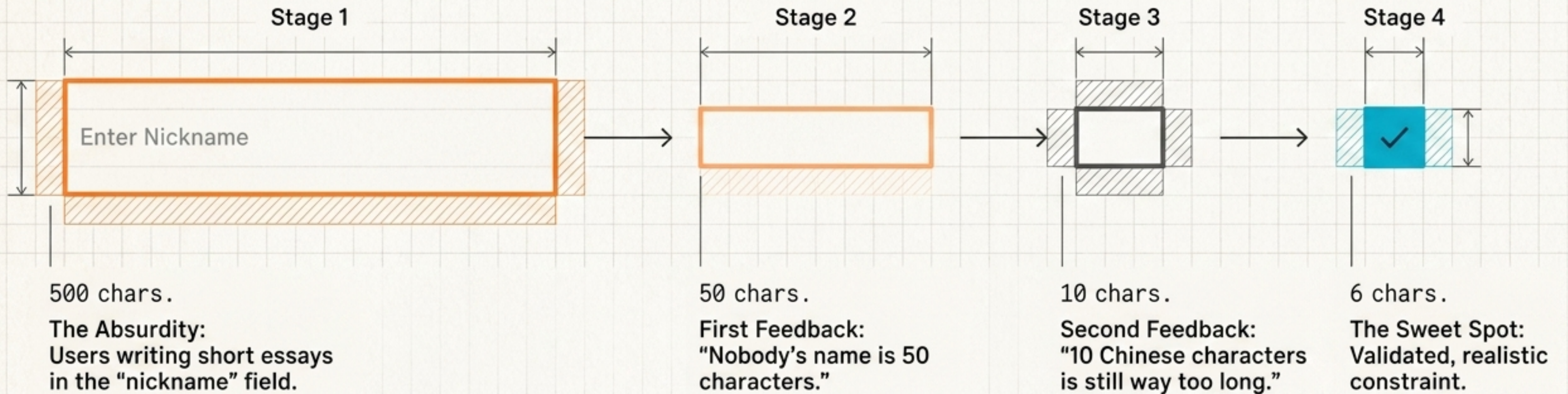
v0.0.3 is not a feature release. It is a 'patch every crack before someone falls through' release.

The Demo vs. Product Diagnostic

Moving from “doing it fast” to “doing it right.”

Dimension	v0.0.2 (The Demo)	v0.0.3 (The Product)
User Inputs	Infinite & Blind (500 chars everywhere)	Constrained & Validated (Per-field limits)
Proactive Messages	Generic Check-ins	Context-Aware & Tiered
Uptime	Local-Perfect	Cloud-Resilient (Survives container restarts)
API Defense	Trusting & Open	Rate-Limited & Shielded

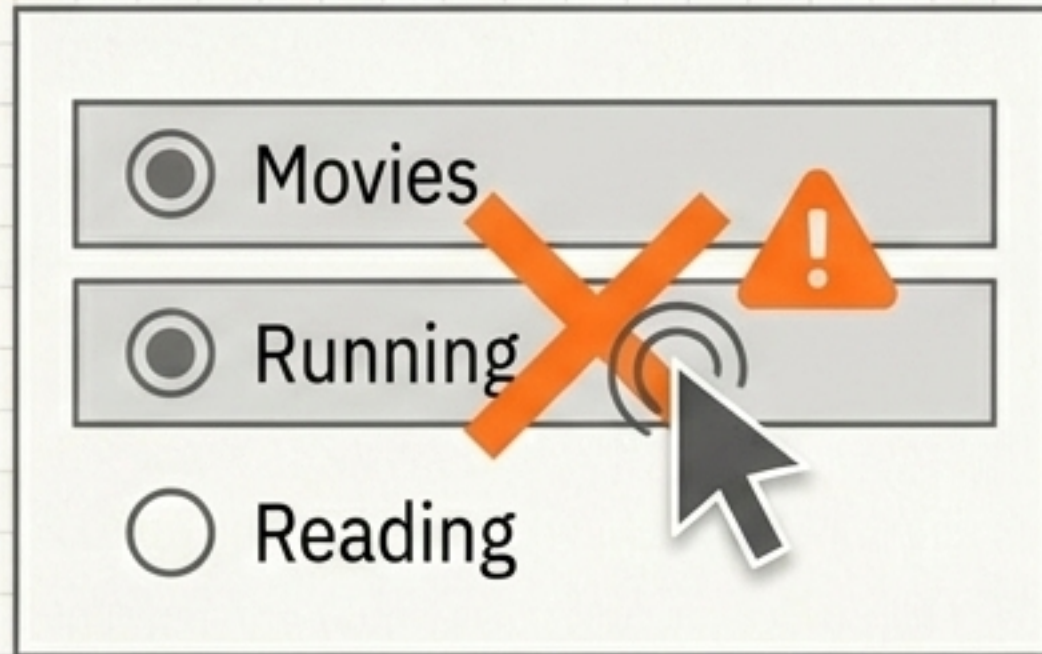
The Illusion of Infinite Input



Three iterations to find the right number. This isn't an engineering decision. It's getting educated by your users.

From “Filling a Form” to “Expressing Yourself”

Counterintuitive: Pick one.

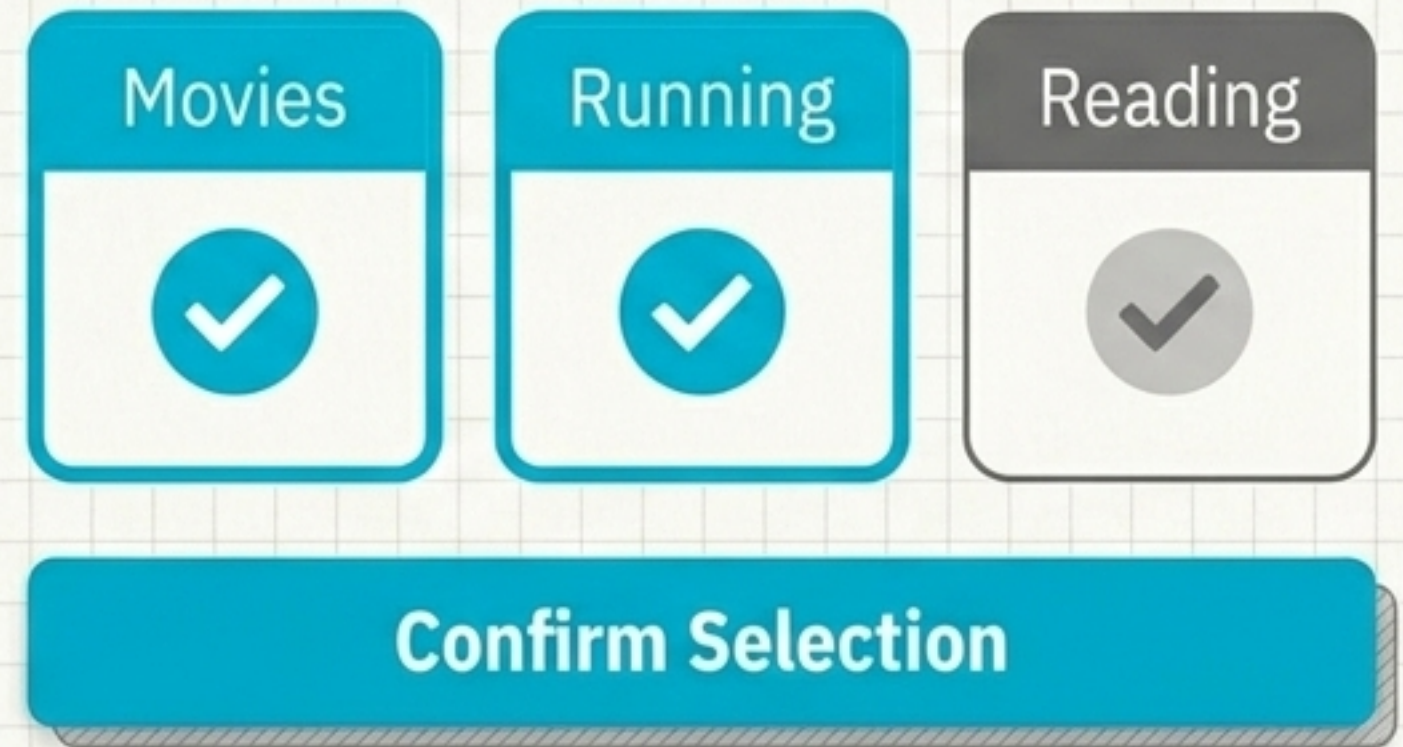


Movies

Running

Reading

Human: Of course I have more than one hobby.



Movies

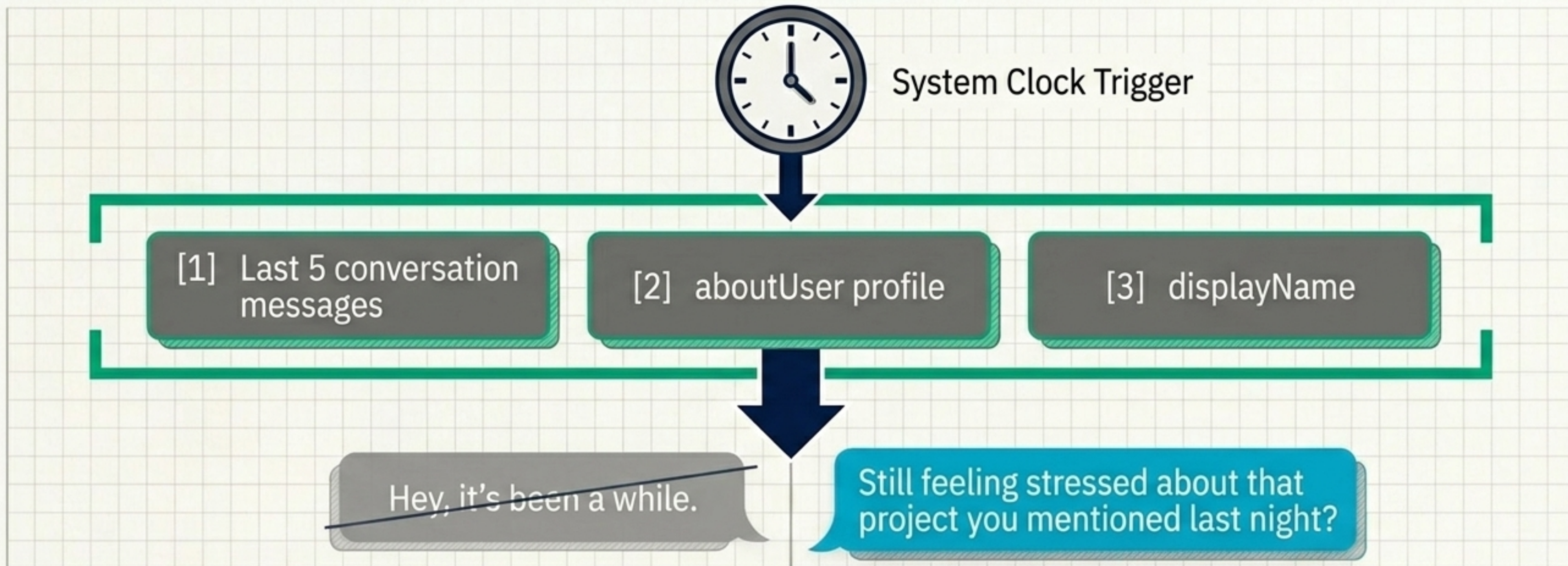
Running

Reading

Confirm Selection

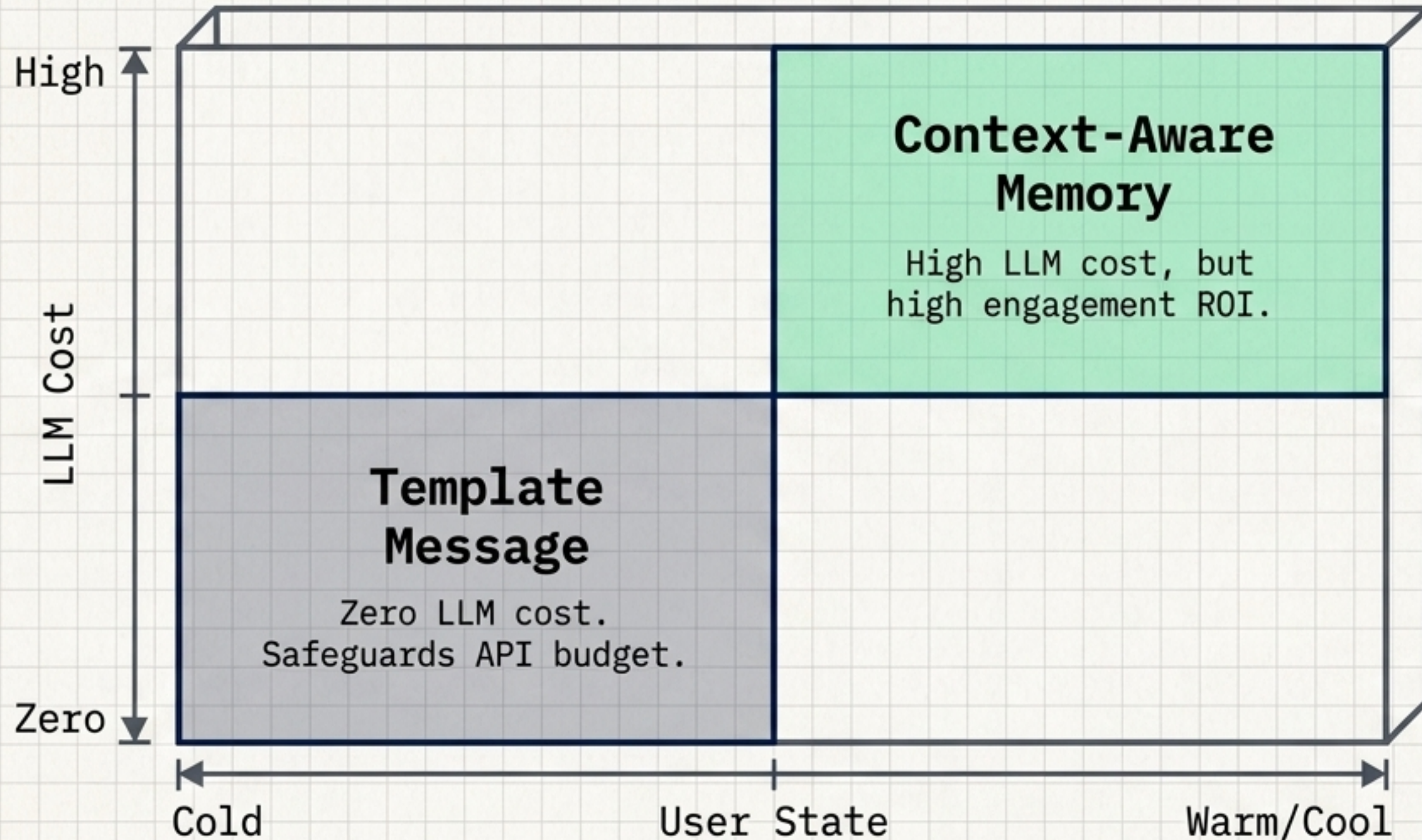
Multiselect seems like a trivial UI update, but it transforms the initial user experience. You are building an AI companion, not running a census.

Heartbeats Must Have Memory



The dividing line between 'chatbot' and 'friend' is context.
Friends remember what you said.

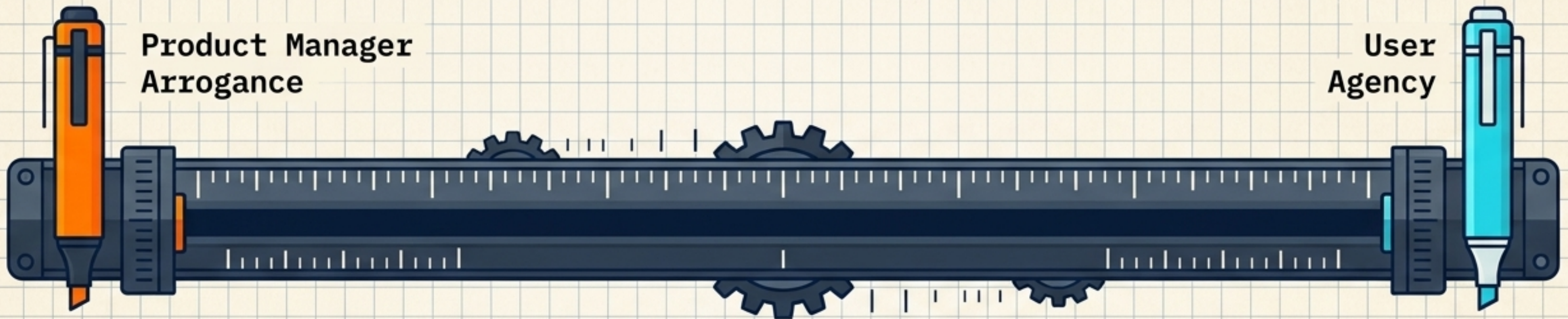
The Economics of Proactive Memory



You cannot pay API costs for a message that will probably be ignored.
Intelligence is reserved for active threads.

The "Respect" Spectrum

Quiet Hours: Your Schedule, Your Rules



Product Manager
Arrogance

User
Agency

Default silence (23:00-08:00).
Assumption: Nobody wants 2 AM
messages.

Opt-in quiet hours.
Assumption: Your schedule, your
rules (night owls, time zones).

Offering options with the fewest default assumptions is how software shows respect. Force-disabling 2 AM messages makes some users feel the AI 'disappeared'.

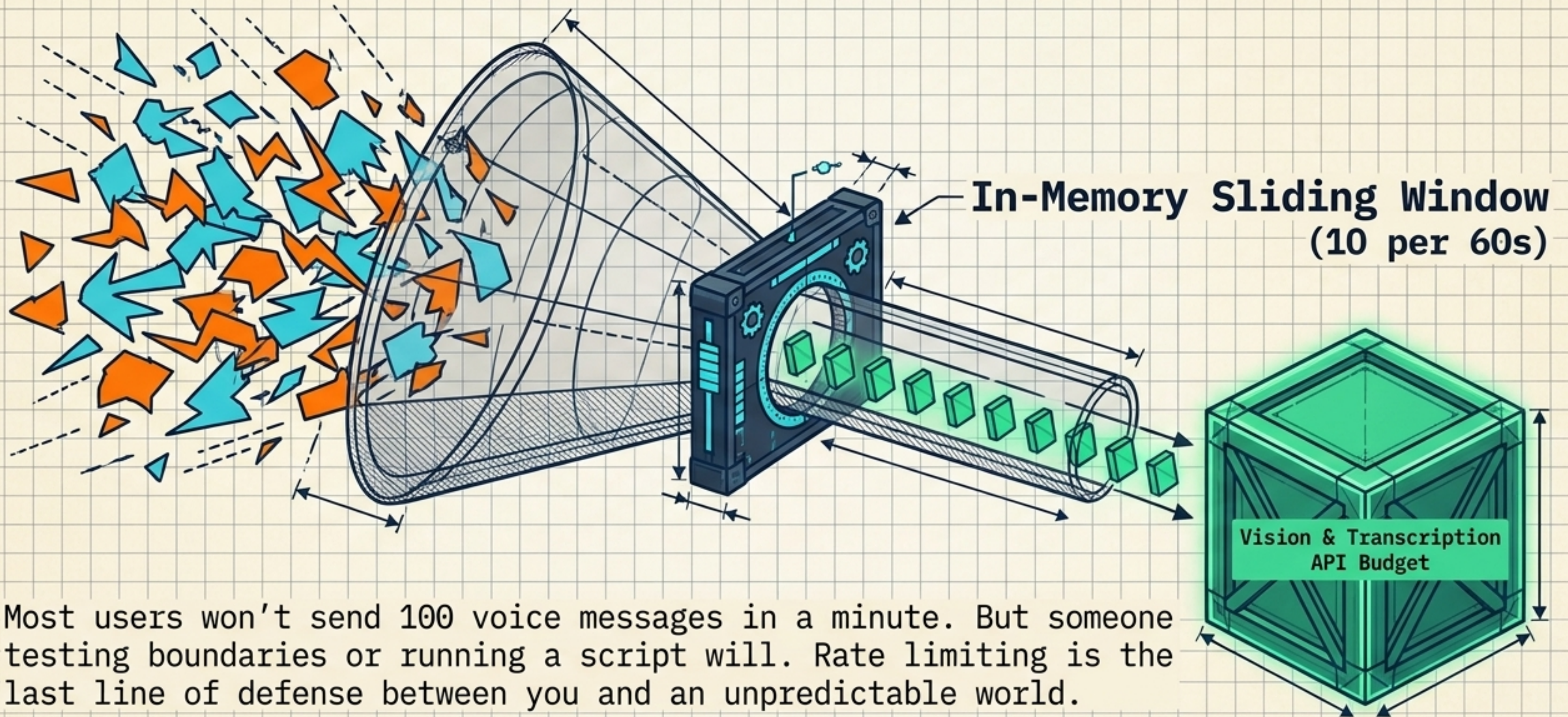
The Webhook Time-Bomb



In local polling mode, deleting the webhook on shutdown is correct.
In production webhook mode, it creates a deafness gap.
Local dev never reproduces deployment bugs.

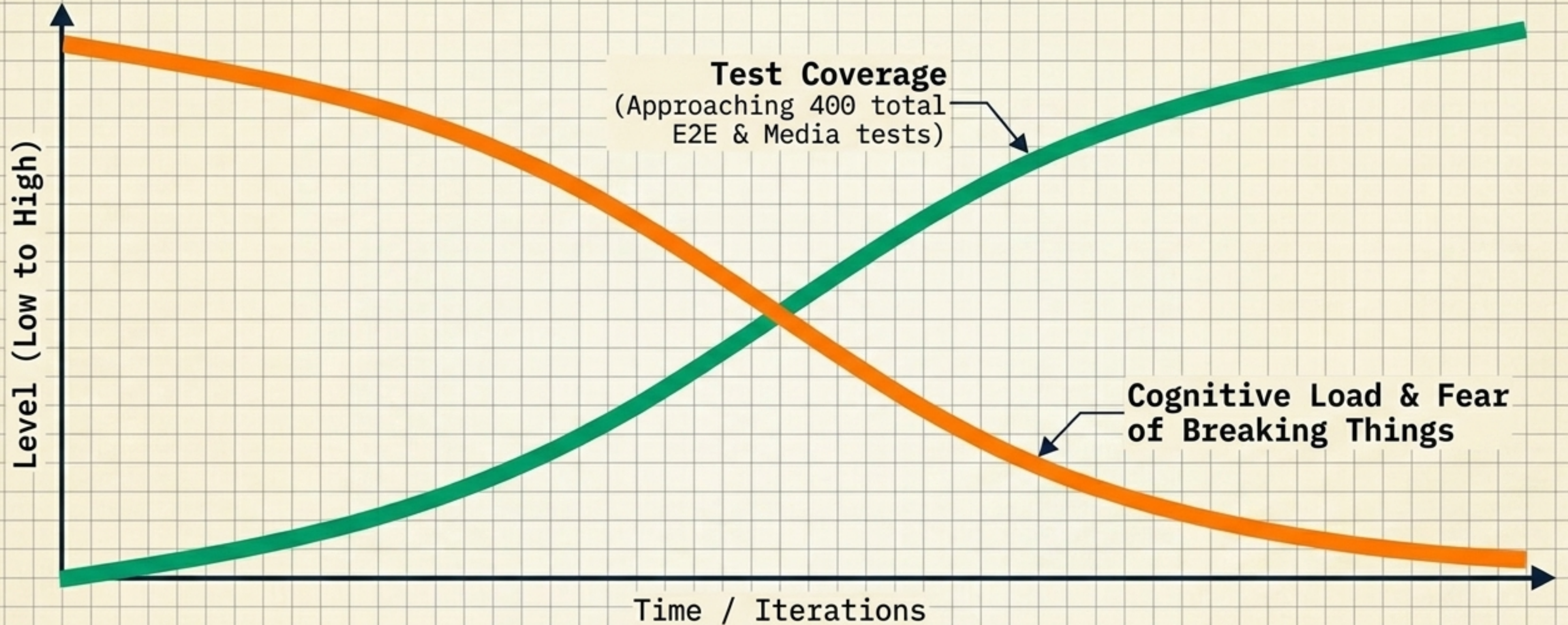
The Media Shield

Defending the API Budget



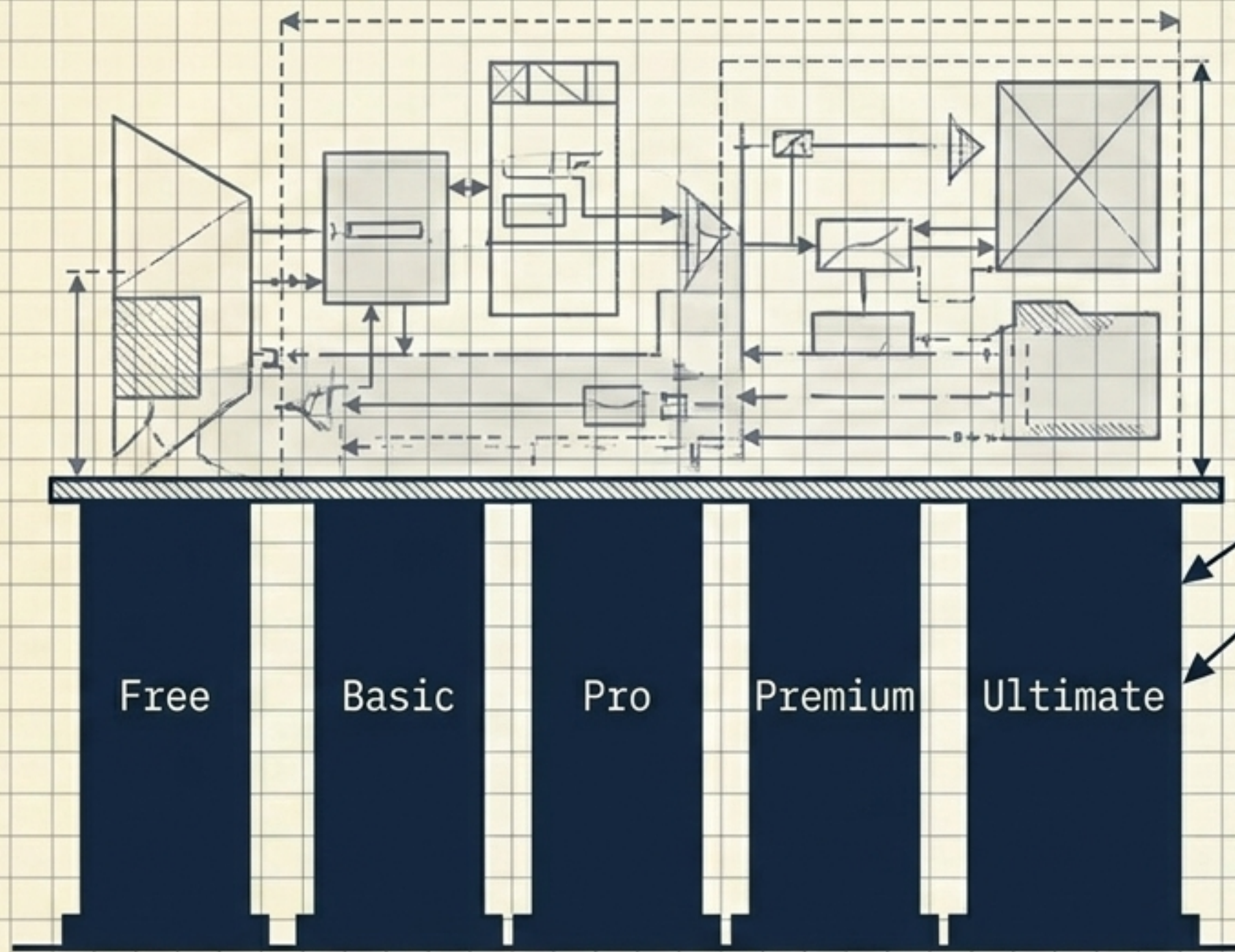
Most users won't send 100 voice messages in a minute. But someone testing boundaries or running a script will. Rate limiting is the last line of defense between you and an unpredictable world.

The ROI of 144 New Tests



Tests don't make your product cooler; they give you the courage to keep moving. Without them, every change requires mentally simulating the fallout. With them, green means go.

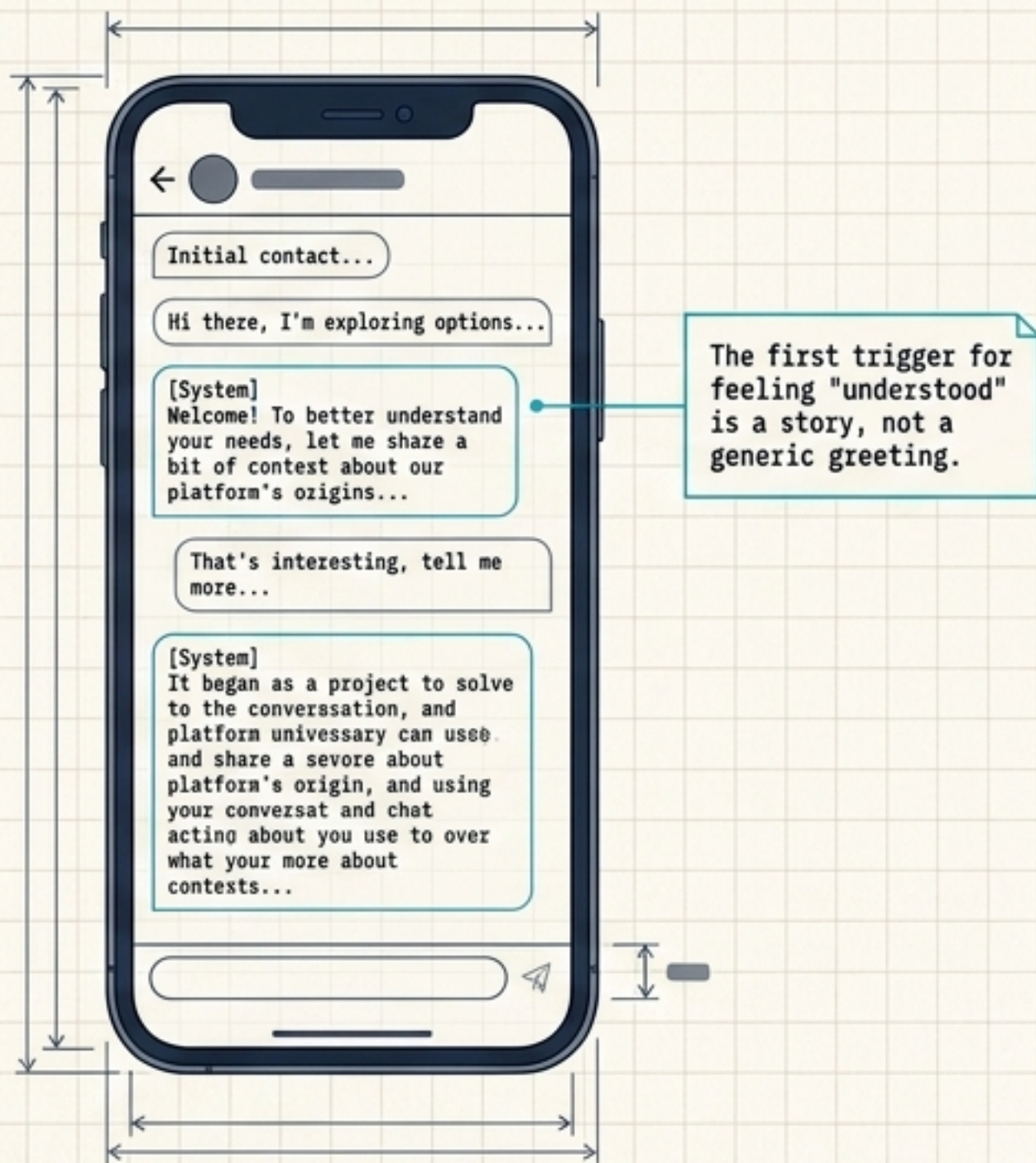
Premature Monetization Planning



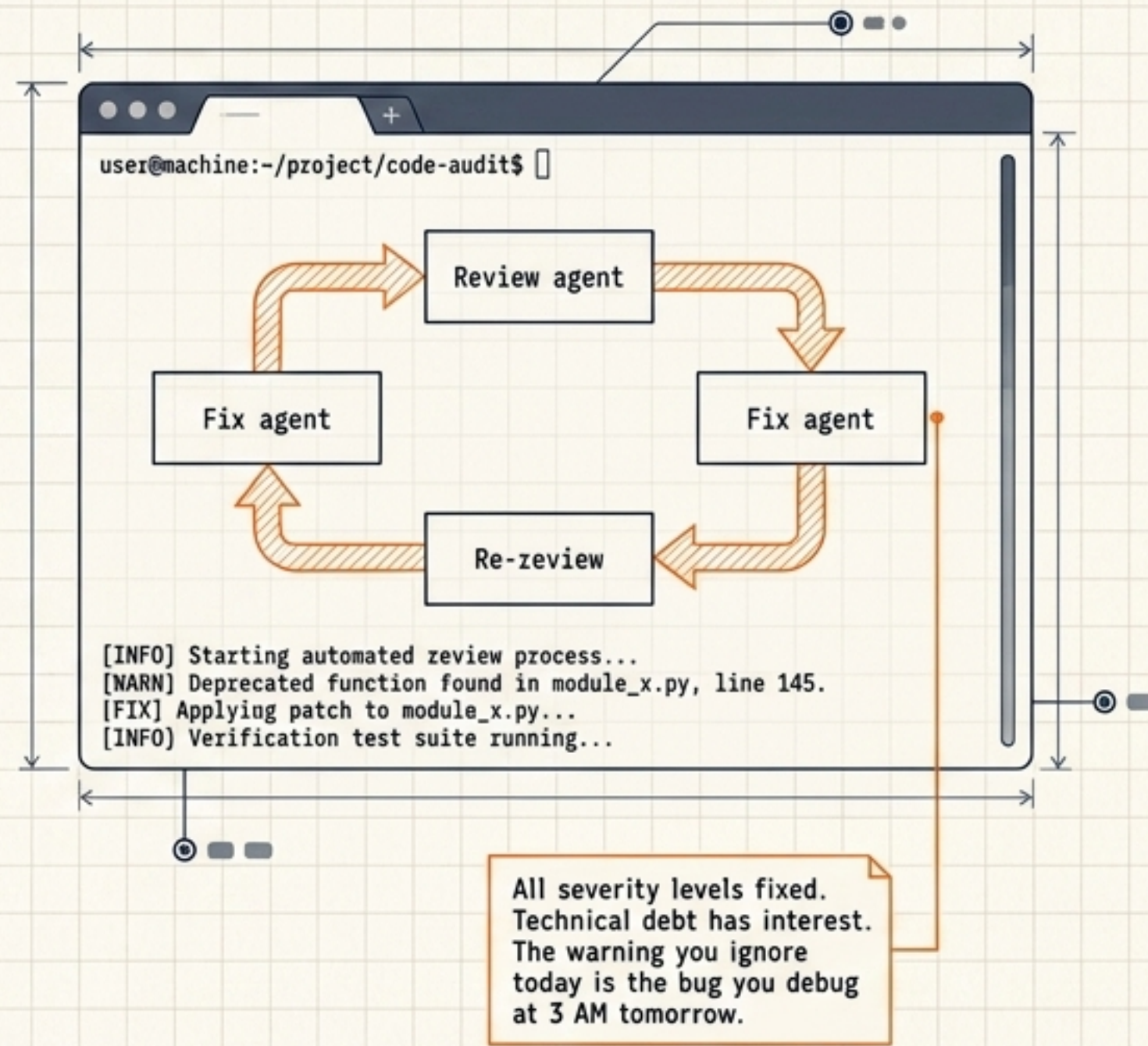
v0.0.3 doesn't bill anyone. But subscription tiers dictate architectural interfaces. Retrofitting data models is always 10x more expensive than planning ahead.

The Final Polish: Story & Debt

Richer Backstories

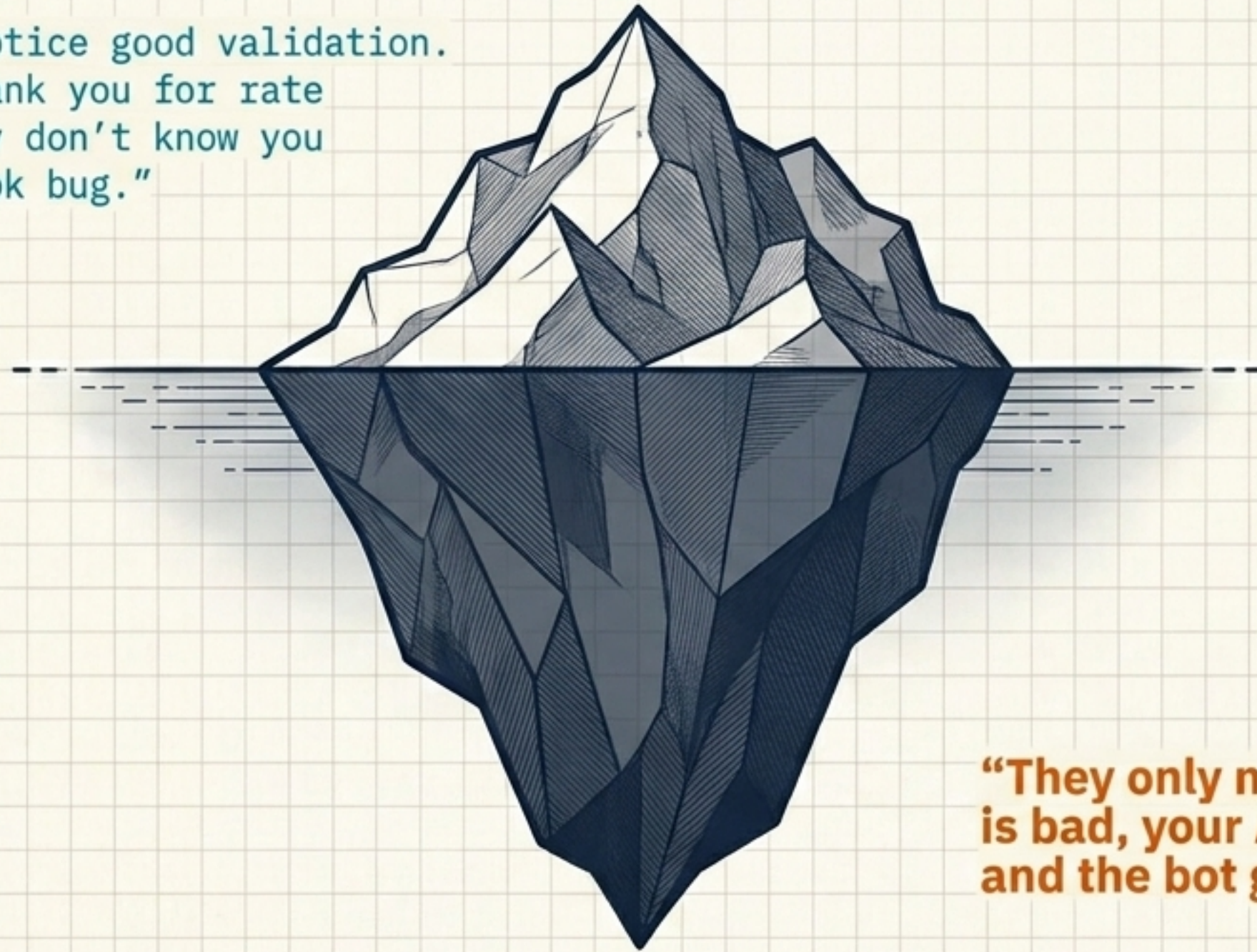


Full Code Audit



The Invisible Work

"Users don't notice good validation. They don't thank you for rate limiting. They don't know you fixed a webhook bug."



"They only notice when validation is bad, your API budget drains, and the bot goes deaf."

Good infrastructure is invisible. v0.0.2 made Mio feel like a living person. v0.0.3 made it a reliable one.