

# ADVENTURES IN NODE



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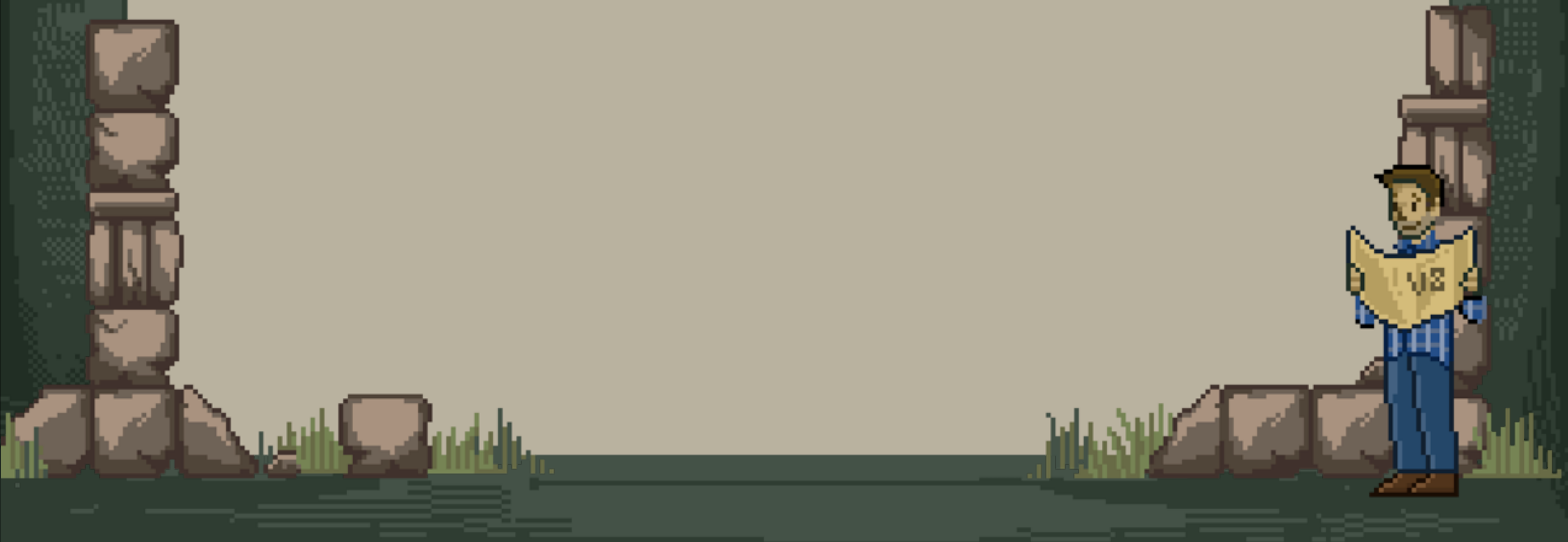
# Who am I?

- Node.js Eng @ Dynamatik - Node.js & UI/UX Consulting
- Node.js Developer for 2 years
- Android / iOS developer
- Blogs at [www.FaisalAbid.com](http://www.FaisalAbid.com)
- Tweets at @FaisalAbid
- More recently Dart lover.



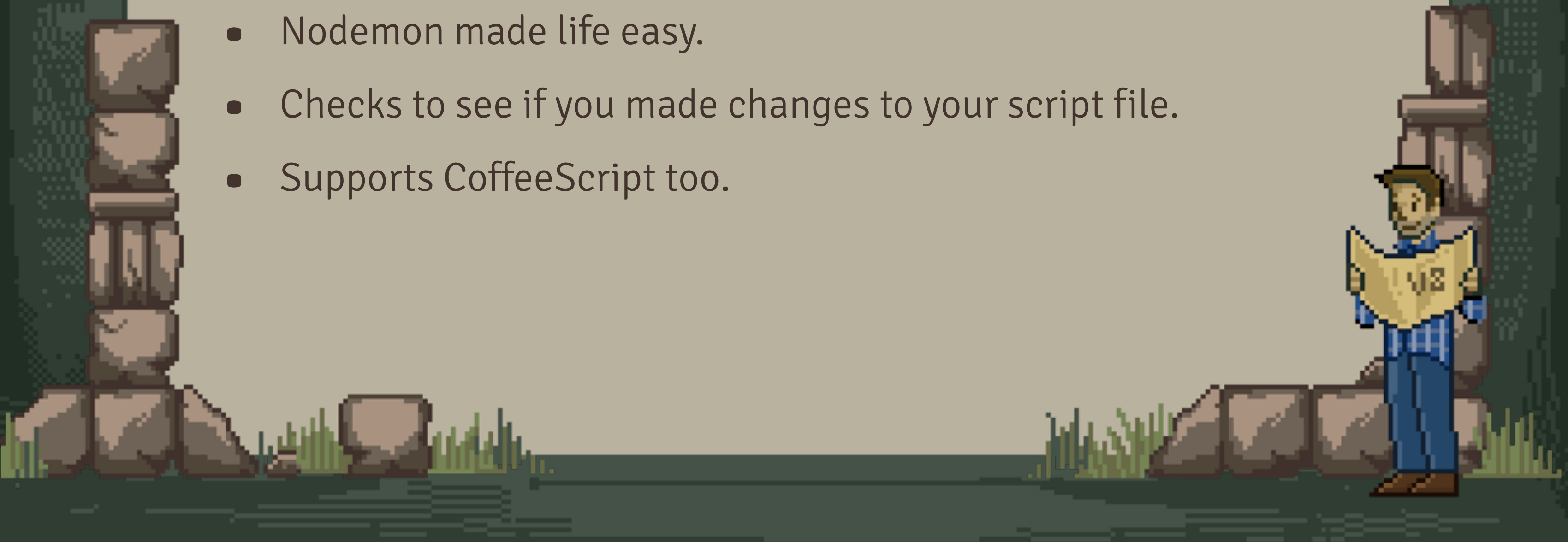
# Adventures in Node.js - 7 tips

- These are things I wished I knew when I got started with Node



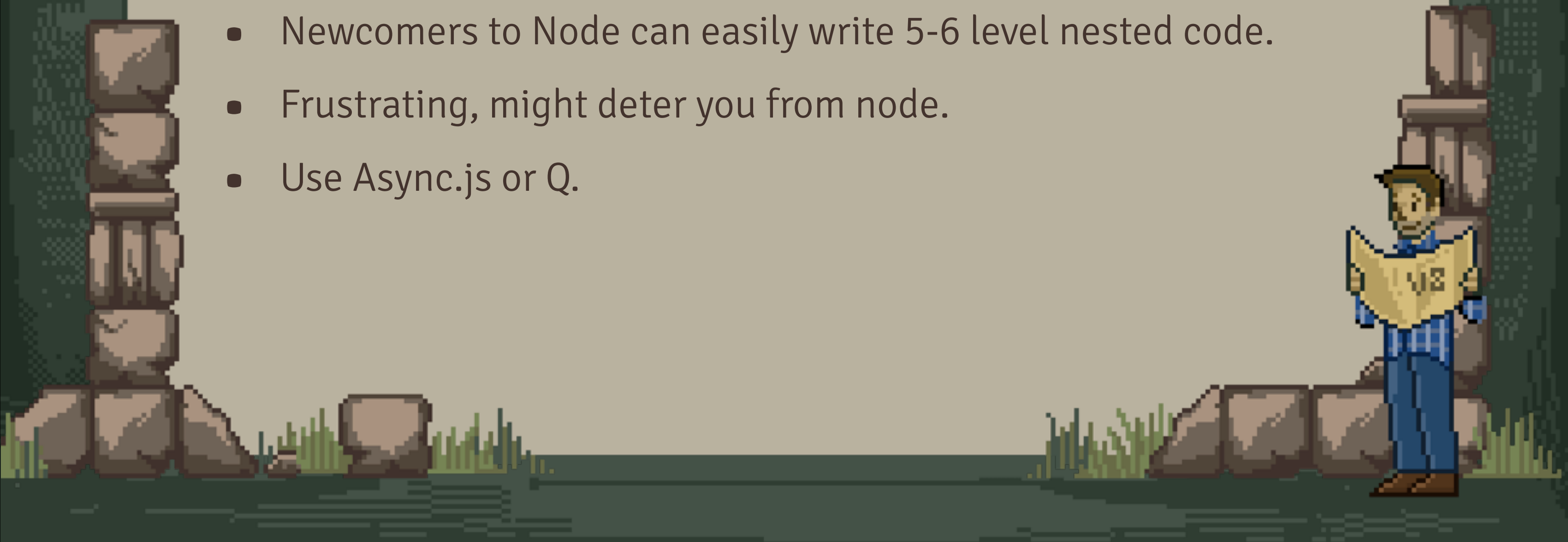
# Tip 1: Use Nodemon

- Restarting Node over and over again is painful.
- Nodemon made life easy.
- Checks to see if you made changes to your script file.
- Supports CoffeeScript too.



## Tip 2: Async or Q

- Callback hell is “hell”.
- Newcomers to Node can easily write 5-6 level nested code.
- Frustrating, might deter you from node.
- Use Async.js or Q.





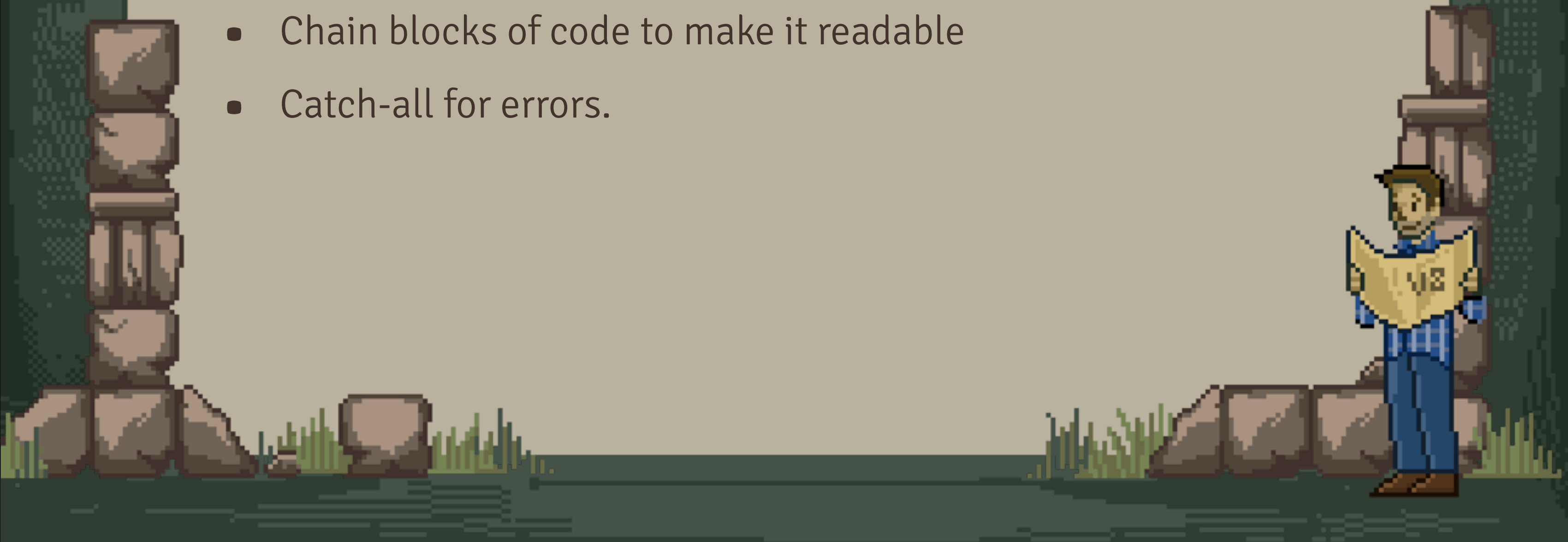
## Async.js

```
async.parallel([  
  function(){ ... },  
  function(){ ... }  
], callback);
```

```
async.series([  
  function(){ ... },  
  function(){ ... }  
]);
```

## Tip 2: or Q

- Q is promise based.
- Chain blocks of code to make it readable
- Catch-all for errors.





Q

```
um.checkApiTokenForUser(userid, apikey)
  .then(function() {
    return um.checkPurchaseVerifcation(productId, productToken);
  }).then(function() {
    return um.addFundsToBank(userid, productId, productToken);
  }).then(function() {
    return um.checkApiTokenForUser(userid, apikey);
  }).then(function(user) {
    return res.send(user);
  }).fail(function(err) {
    return res.send(400, "error");
  });
```



## Tip 3: Nodetime

- Hard to find memory consumption of Node app.
- Easy to be misled by Node.js's low footprint.
- Nodetime is a great service to dig deeper into memory usage
- New Relic does the same, a bit more \$
- Nodefly - now Strongloop does the same.



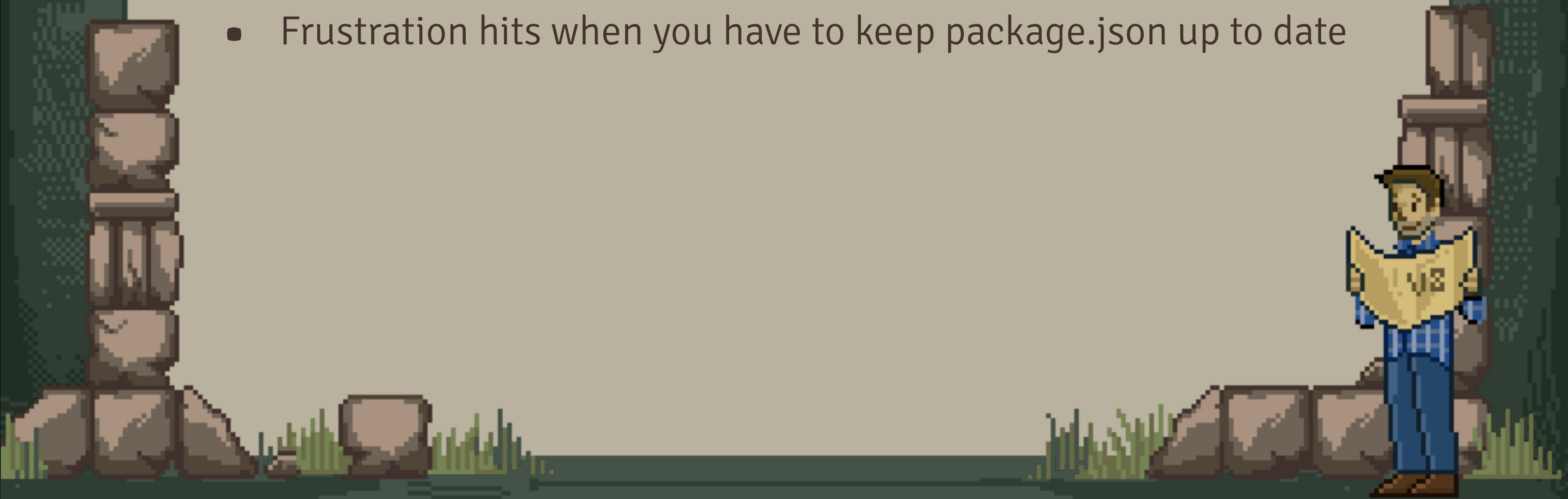
## Tip 4: Debugging Node.js Apps

- Tutorials all point to Sublime or lightweight editors.
- Webstorm has great debugging hooks to node's debugger.
- A free solution other than node debug is node-inspector
- Chrome web inspector debugging Node.js app's
- Very cool.



## Tip 5: Module management with NPM.

- Easy for a beginner to try lots of modules.
- Frustration hits when you have to keep package.json up to date



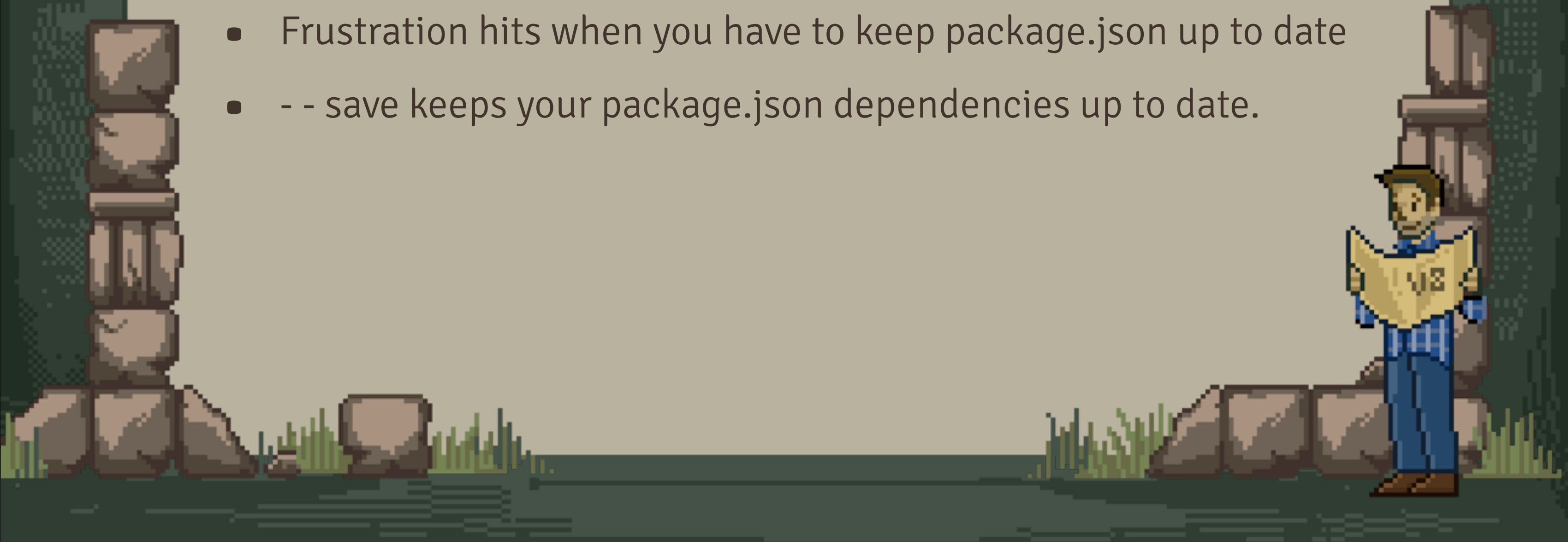


Keep package.json up to date

```
npm install -save moduleName
```

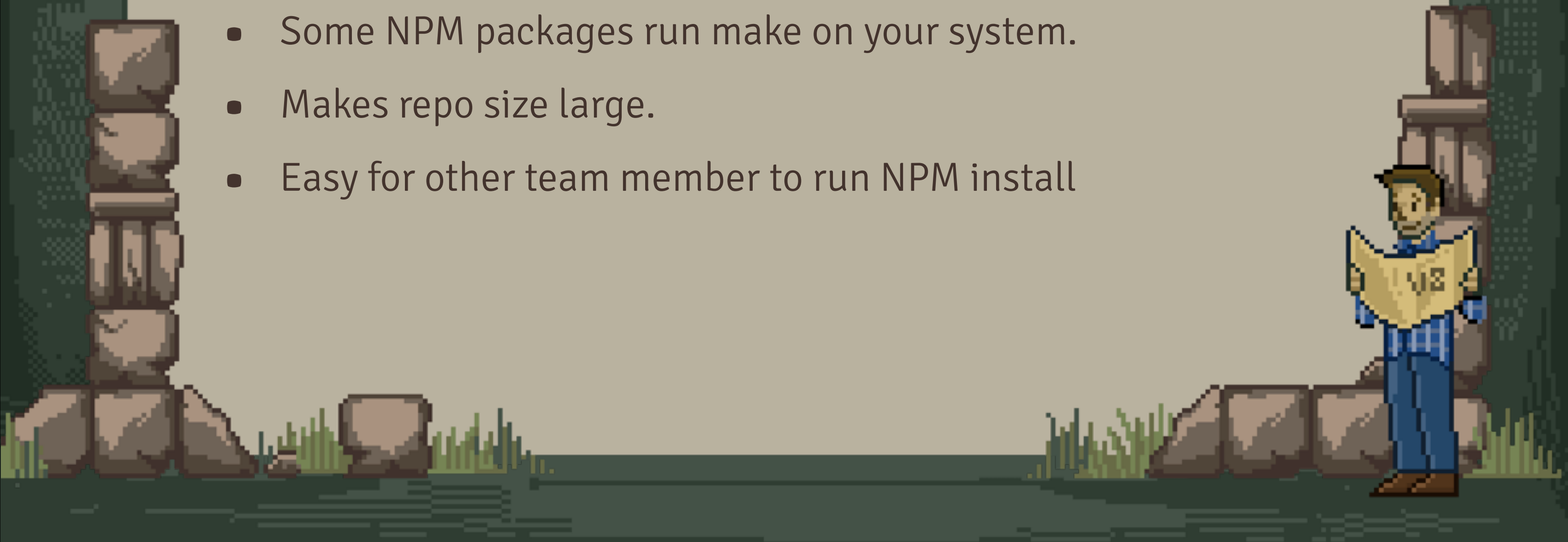
## Tip 5: Module management with NPM.

- Easy for a beginner to try lots of modules.
- Frustration hits when you have to keep package.json up to date
- - - save keeps your package.json dependencies up to date.



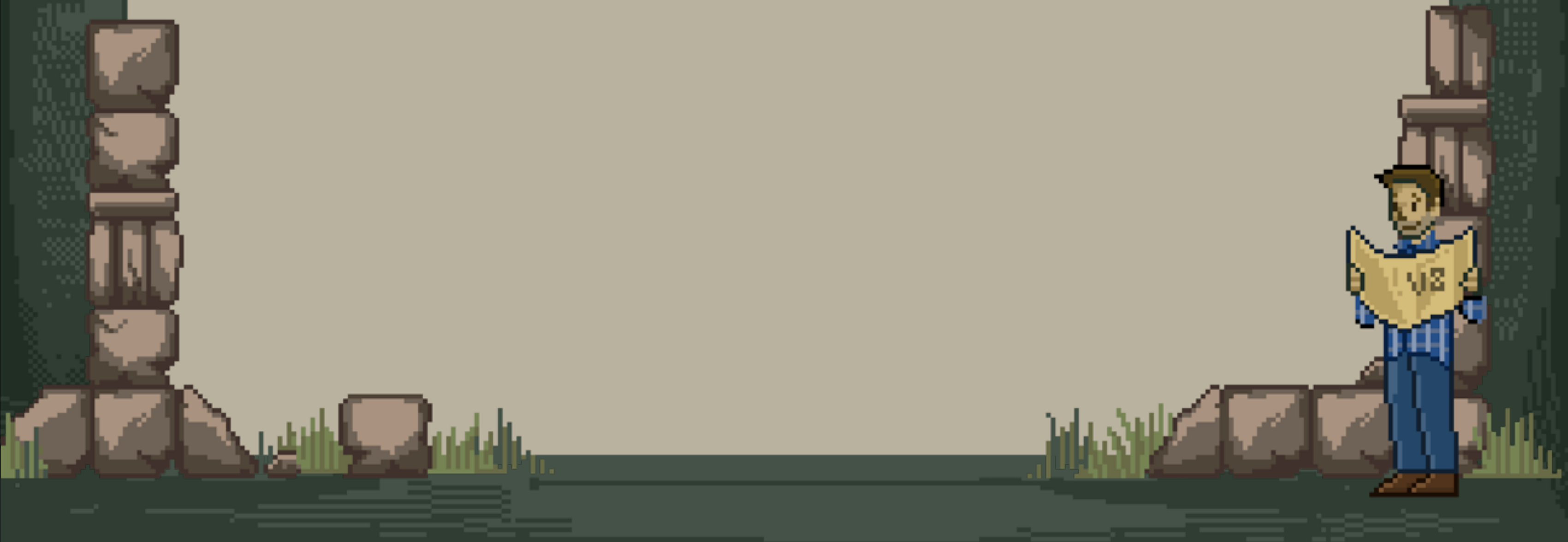
## Tip 6: `.gitignore node_modules`

- Don't check in your `node_modules` folder.
- Some NPM packages run make on your system.
- Makes repo size large.
- Easy for other team member to run NPM install



## Tip 7: Don't forget return.

- Calling a callback does not equal return.



## Don't forget return

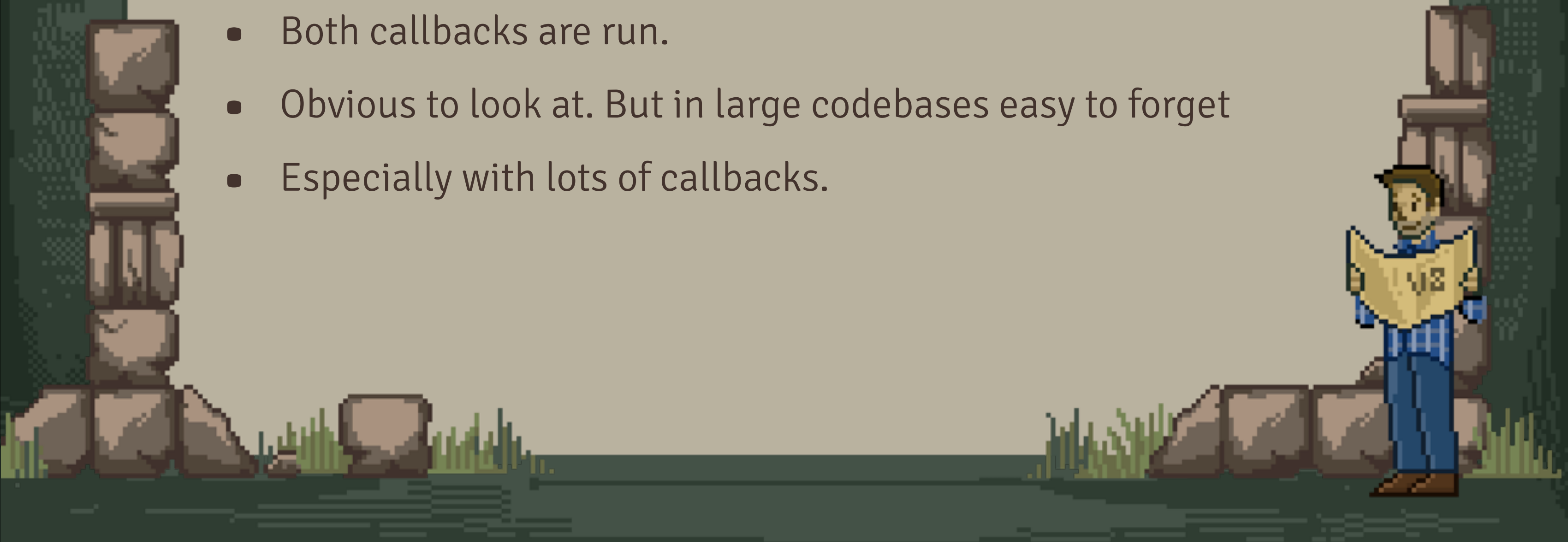
```
var um = function(run, callback){  
  if(run){  
    callback(null, value);  
  }  
  callback(error, null);  
}
```





## Tip 7: Don't forget return.

- Calling a callback does not equal return.
- Both callbacks are run.
- Obvious to look at. But in large codebases easy to forget
- Especially with lots of callbacks.



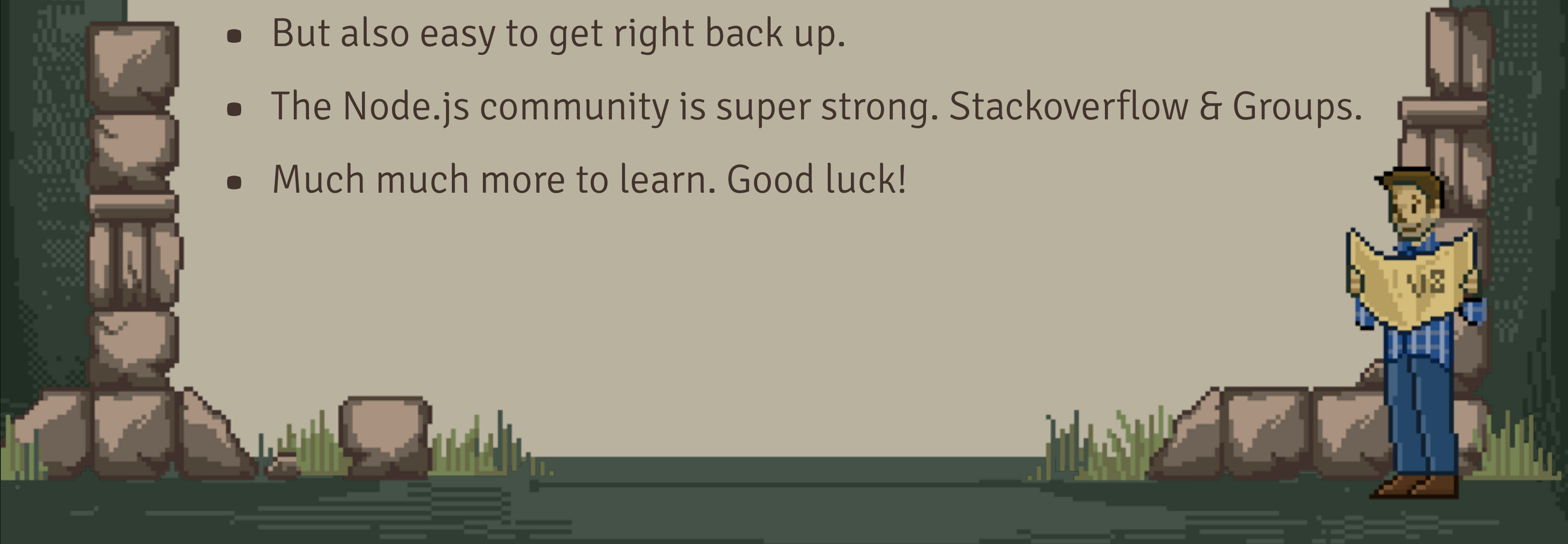
## Don't forget return

```
var um = function(run, callback){  
  if(run){  
    return callback(null, value);  
  }  
  return callback(error, null);  
}
```



## In conclusion

- Sometimes easy to trip in Node.
- But also easy to get right back up.
- The Node.js community is super strong. Stackoverflow & Groups.
- Much much more to learn. Good luck!



# Thank you!

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