



Letting Go of
Control

Didier Verna

Letting Go of Control

Part 2/2 Season Finale

Didier Verna



Previously in: “Letting go of control” . . .

Letting Go of
Control

Didier Verna

- Our software was *out of control*
- This was only going to get *worse*
- We were *afraid*
- We were *ashamed*



But today, everything's going to be fine

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- Our software behave like biological realms
- Biological organisms are autonomous



But today, everything's going to be fine

- Our software behave like biological realms
- Biological organisms are autonomous

Our software needs to be autonomous!

- We should not control it
- We should give it the means to control itself instead



What you don't know about GC

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The recursive definition of differentiation made no provision for erasure of abandoned list structure. No solution was apparent at the time, but the idea of complicating the elegant definition of differentiation with explicit erasure was unattractive.

– John McCarthy (1978)



The rules of good parenthood

Letting Go of
Control

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- 1 Don't be too possessive**
Don't control everything
- 2 Let the teenage crisis pass**
Bugs and errors are good!
- 3 Help your software grow an adult**
Give it free will
- 4 Use Lisp**



The rules of good parenthood

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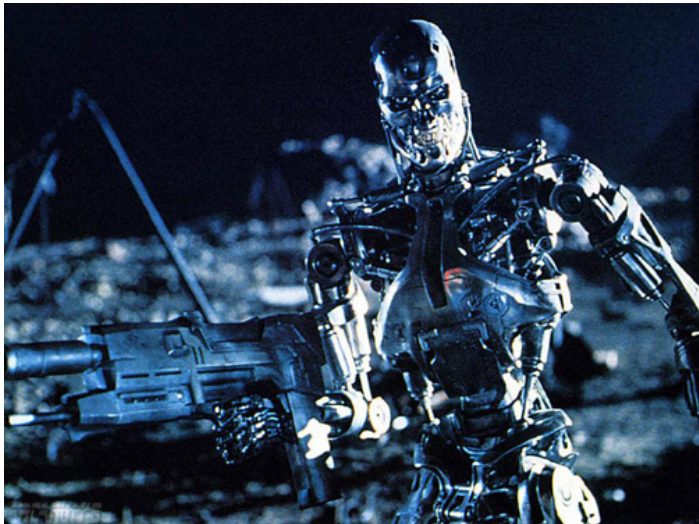
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We would not be *afraid* anymore...

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We would not be *ashamed* anymore. . .

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We could be *proud* . . .

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