Rebooting a Project

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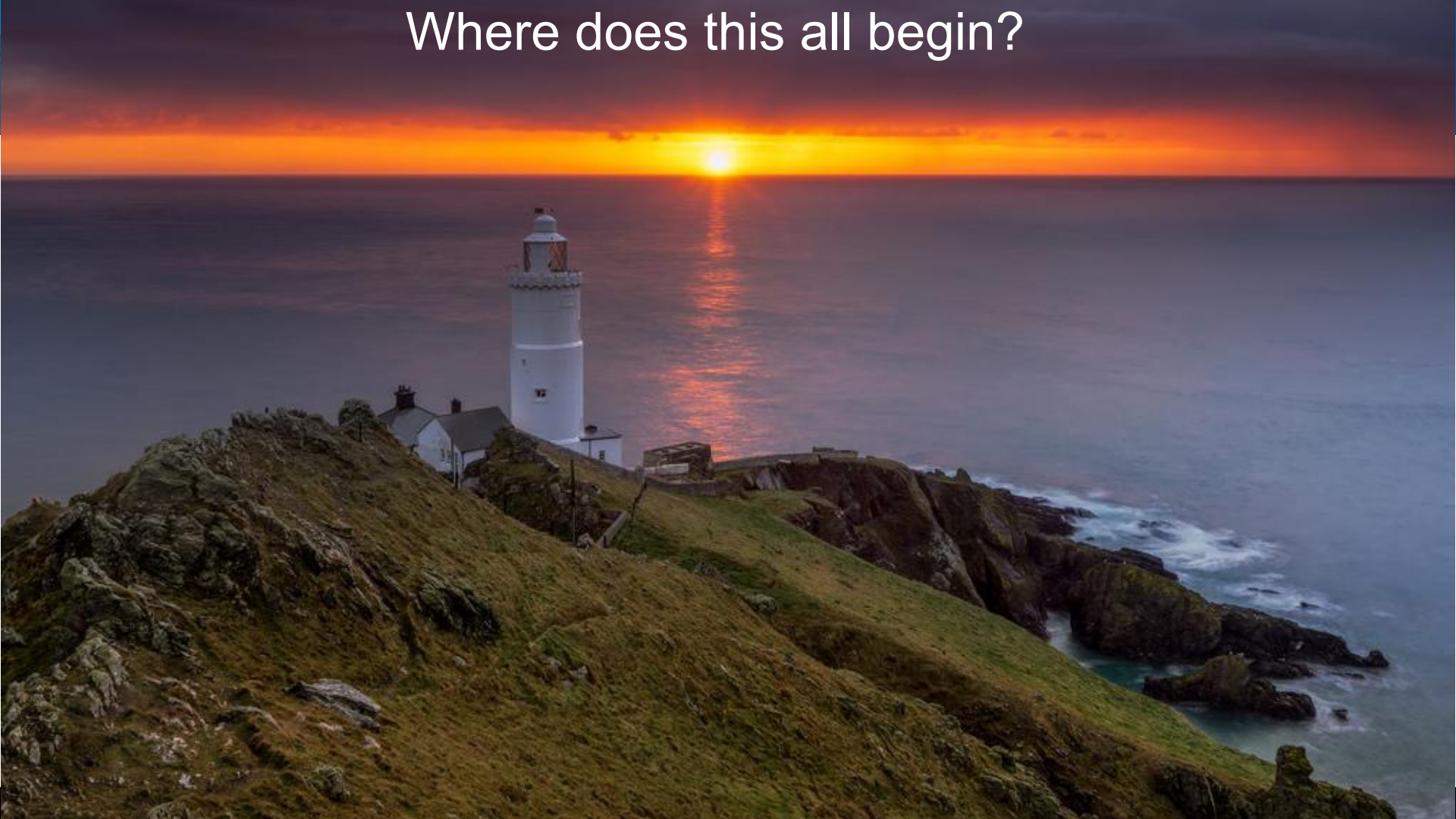
Where does this all begin?



Here's what I did:

- got thrown into the deep end with a security issue
- spent a good 8 months getting to know the community through resolving that issue and other historical infrastructure issues
- finally felt like I had a good outline of the community and its challenges and strengths about a year in

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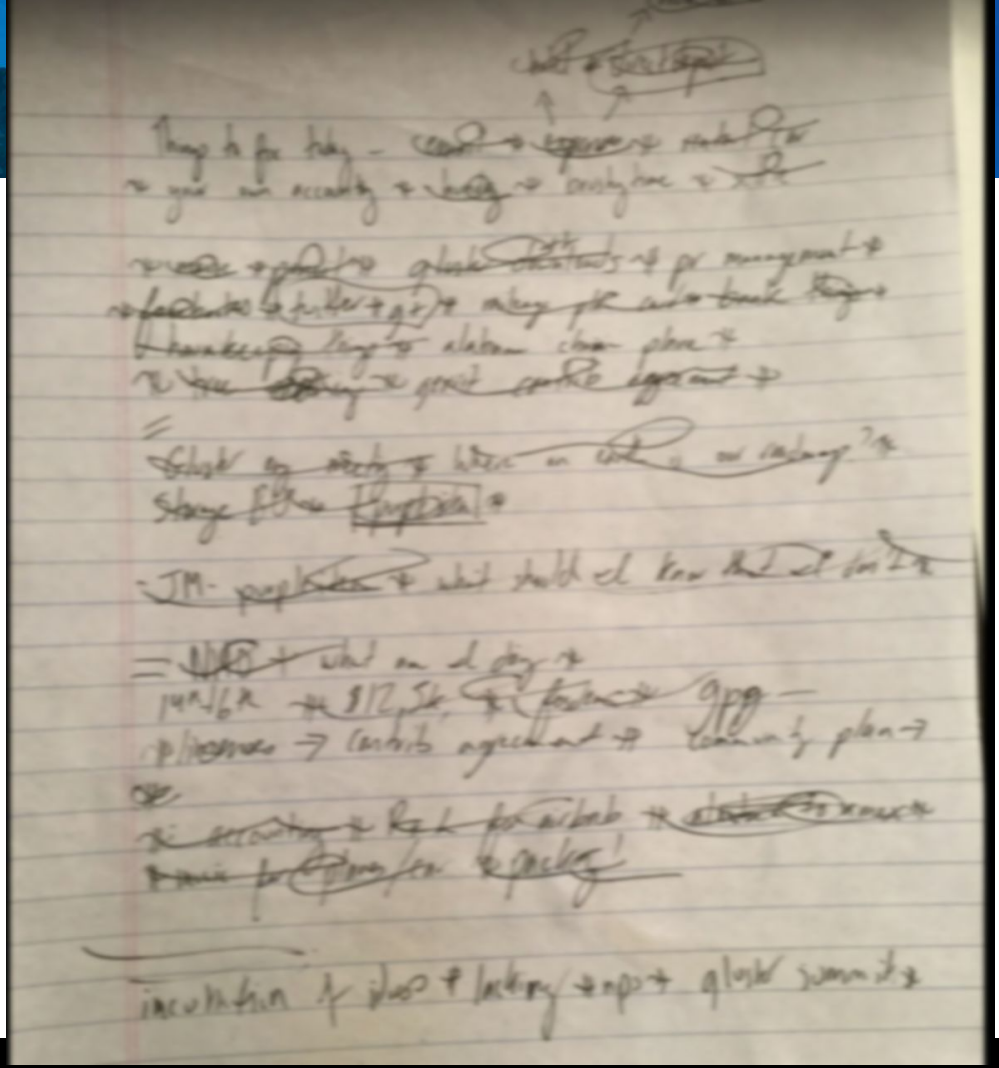

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Here's what I'd do now:

Ask yourself this question:

What do I know about this community?

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Three Sheets of Paper

On a sheet of paper, take five minutes and time yourself and write the list of everything you think you know about your project.

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Insert sheet of paper here with bad handwriting on it

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Storage ** testing ** community ** internal + external divides **
leadership ** growing markets, not contributor growth ** sysadmin outreach looks different
important for container landscape ** growth for internal contributors ** lack of ladders **
external consumption ** licensing unclear ** lack of onramps into contrib **
user surveys aren't ** valued ** asking the wrong questions! ** infrastructure woes ** contrib **
large possible partners but weird NDAs ** need stronger guidelines for docs ** effective testing

Three Sheets of Paper

- Take a sheet of paper.
- Draw two axis lines on it, so that you have 4 quadrants on it.
- Write down 'technical', 'political' on one axis.
- 'Internal', 'external' on the other axis.

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Three Sheets of Paper

Now take the list.

Where does this exist in the quadrant?

This is your discovery template for your project.

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Insert sheet of paper here with bad handwriting on it and barely straight lines

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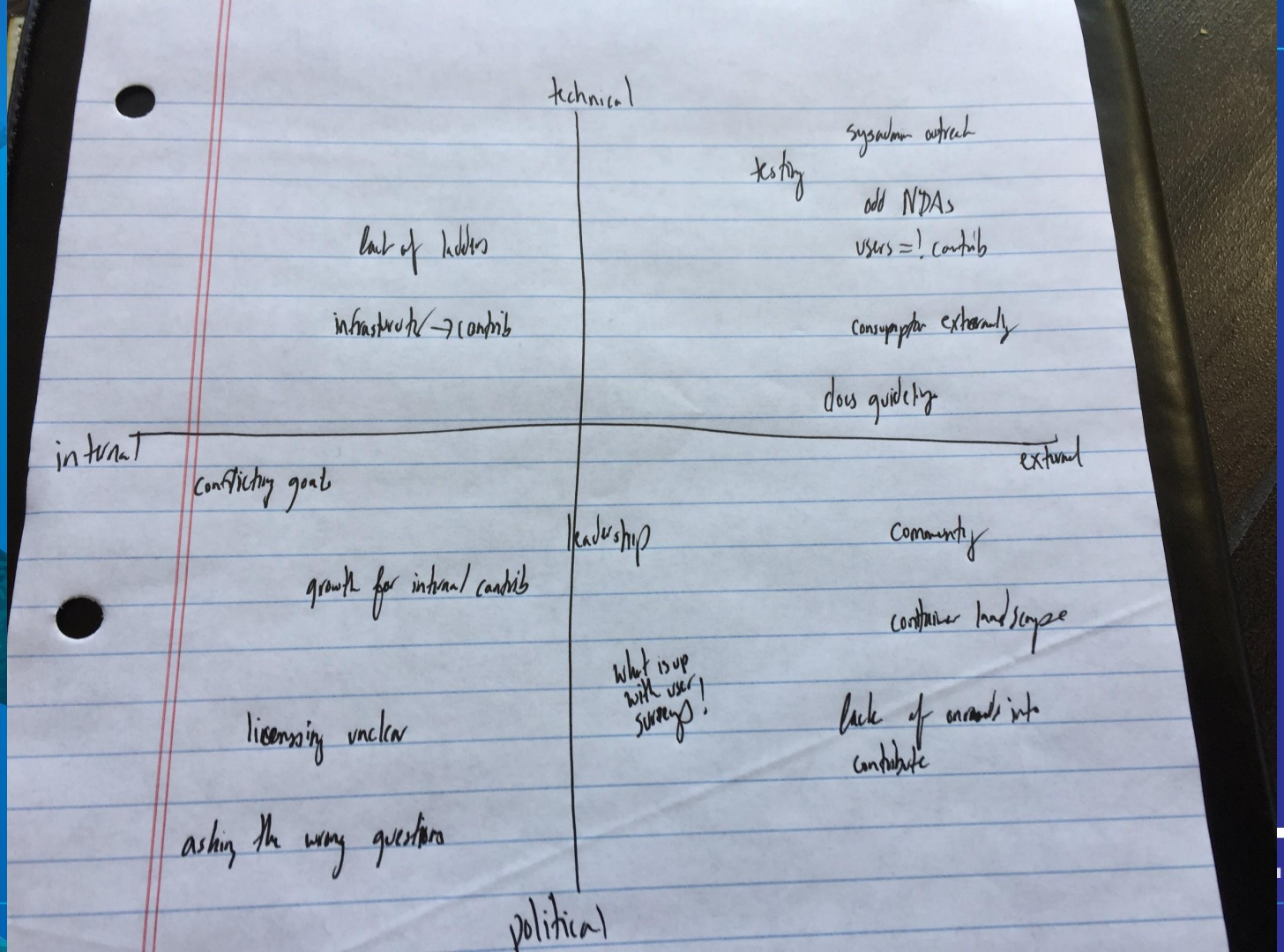
technical
political
internal
external
testing
sysadmin outreach
add NDAs
users =! contrib
lack of leaders
infrastruct → contrib
consumption externally
docs quickly
conflicting goals
leadership
community
growth for internal contrib
container landscape
what is up with user surveys!
licensing unclear
lack of onramps into contribute
asking the wrong questions

Three Sheets of Paper

Now, let's build a timeline.

What's your own 30-60-90 task list?

What do you need to do in the next 30 days?

The next 60?

The next 90?

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Three column 30 - 60 - 90 heading paper with

lots of writing*

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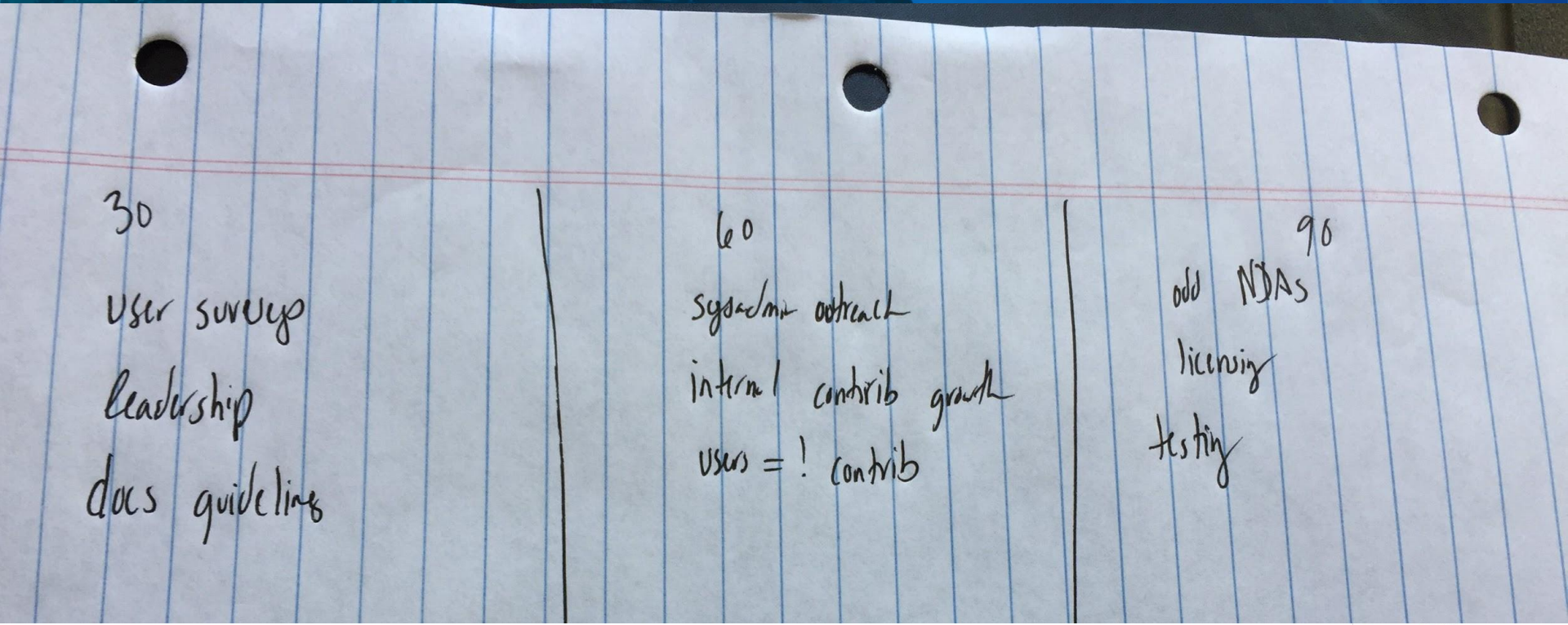
30 days - 60 days - 90 days



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Three Sheets of Paper

What can you afford to drop?

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Extra Credit

What pieces are missing?

Another sheet of paper. Take 5 minutes, write down everything you can think of about that too.

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Insert gap analysis paper sheet here

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Extra Extra Credit

Make a list of your top 10-15 priorities.

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Circle your top 5.

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Everything else on that list becomes your ‘avoid at all costs’ list.

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What should you avoid at all costs?

Three Sheets of Paper

Between the pieces you know on that quadrant paper, the list of things that you know you need to do, the 30-60-90 and your list of things that's missing, you pretty much have your marching orders to calibrate your project.

Extra credit is extra credit, after all.

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Three Sheets of Paper

Your initial list is your discovery work.

Your quadrant paper is your survey paper.

Your 30-60-90 is your priorities put into action.

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david_drei

Infrastructure as a means to community health

Infrastructure as community health

How can any of your contributors trust what they're adding to the project if your project review system goes down all the time?

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crisis management as a function of
community leadership

A Little Historical Knowledge Is Good For You

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What does this project know that I am not currently solving for?

Write those down.

Everything that confuses you.

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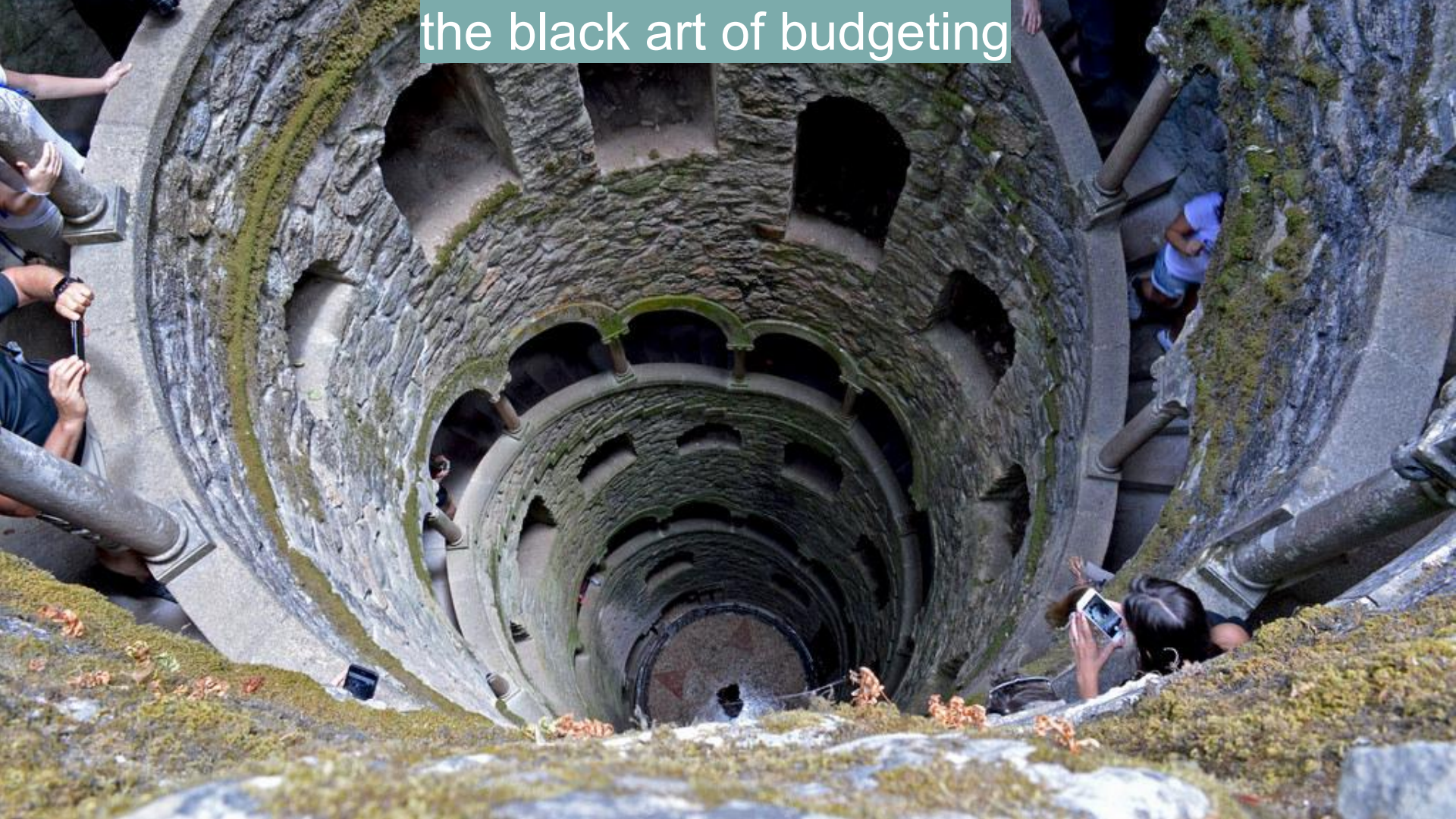
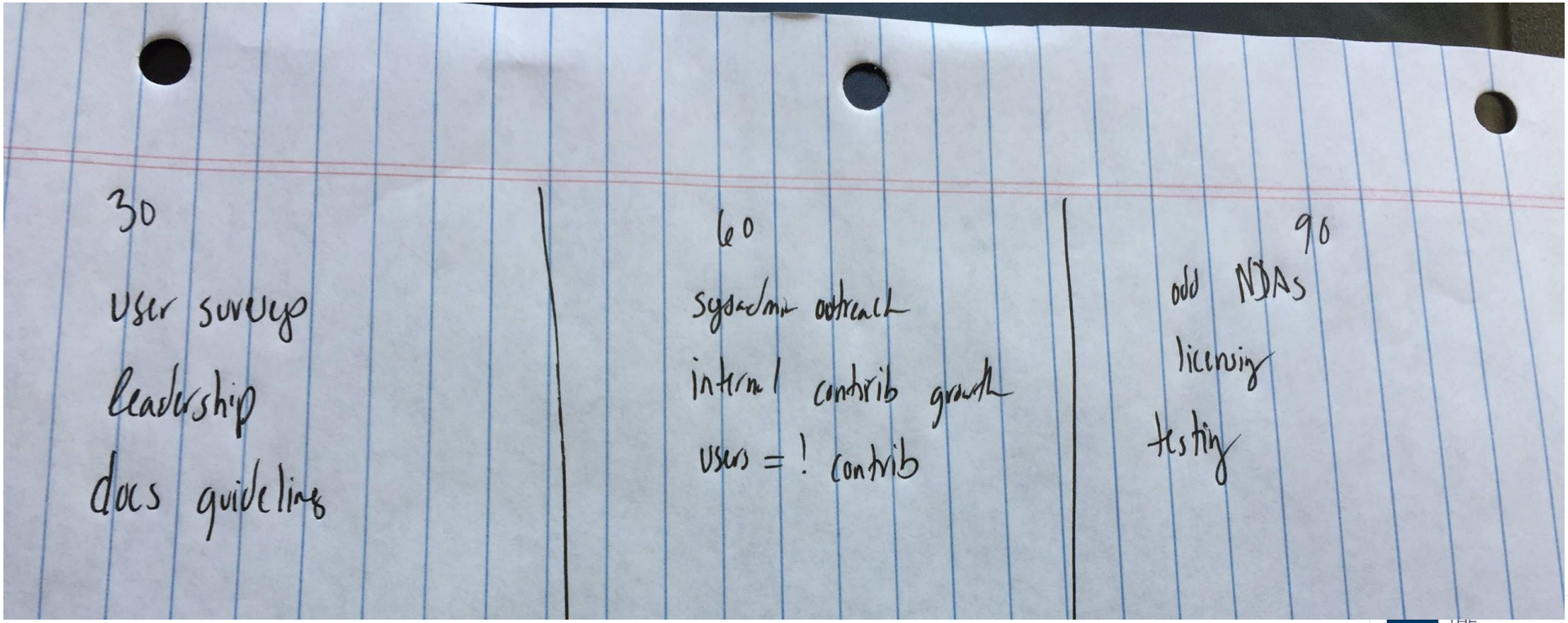
the black art of budgeting



Priorities



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cactusmelba

Make the Signal Go Further

forkcandles

Meaningful Feedback Loops

Daryl

Governance

Even More Governance

Defining Your Own Success:

Managing competing interests while making a community successful

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Using your community here

We’re all in this together.

What do you wish your project could tell you?

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What does it all mean?

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