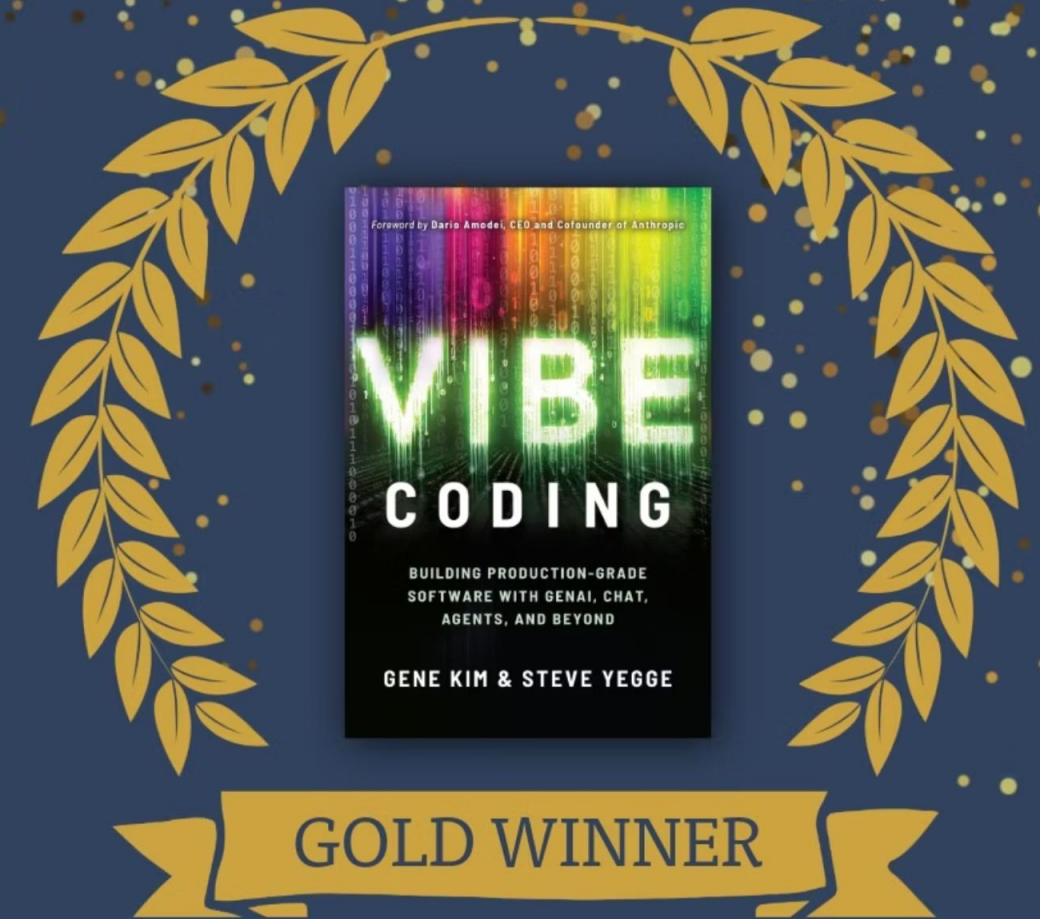


From Vibe Code to Fleet Mode

The Agentic Pivot Nobody's Ready For

IT Revolution AI Summit

Steve Yegge, 4/9/26



Business Technology



Thanks, Gene Kim 🙏



Put me on stage again

Sought me out and put me on stage for the first time in 15 years.



Wrote a book with me

Incredible writing buddy on the *Vibe Coding* book — we figured this stuff out first!



Introduced me to people

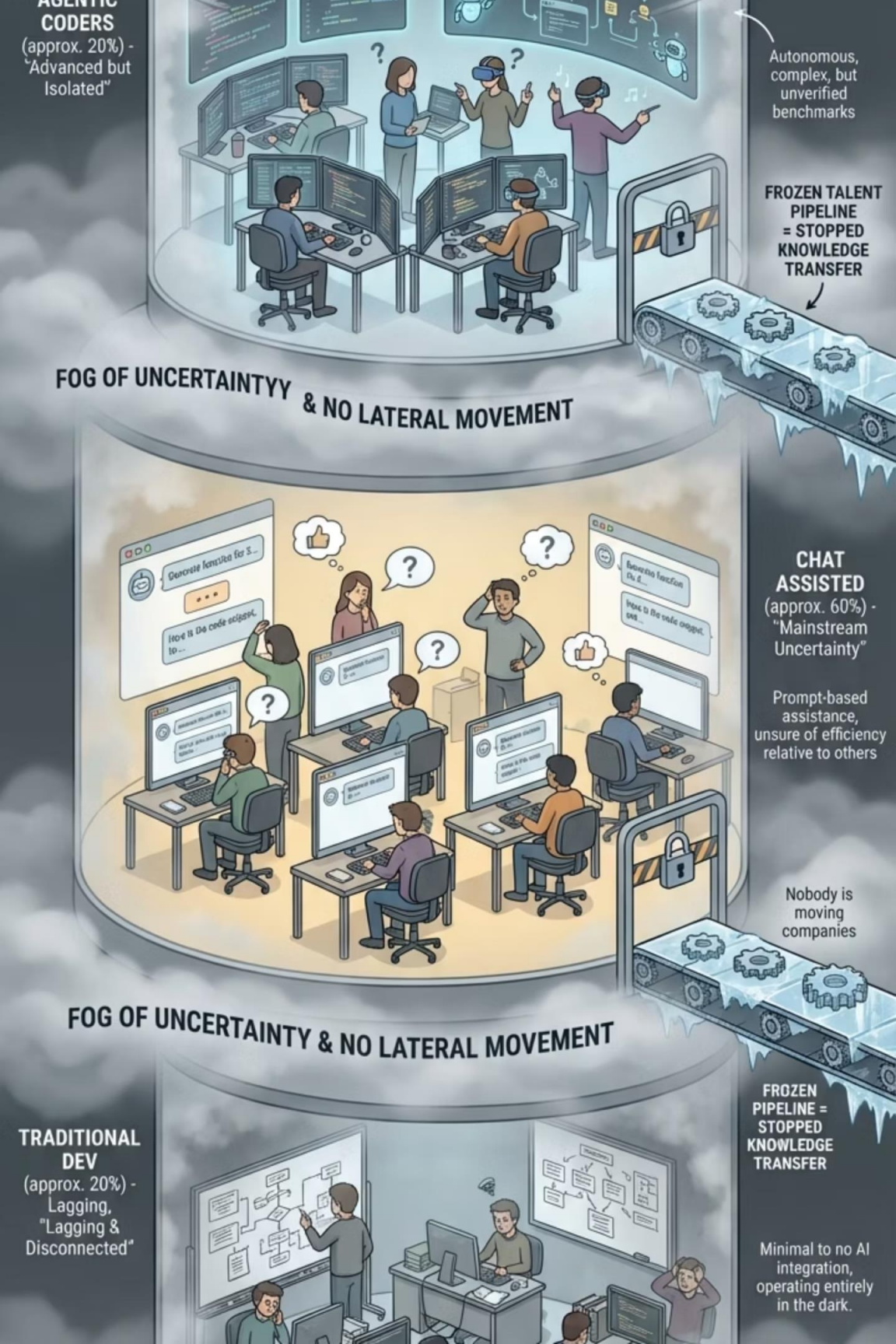
Introduced me to amazing people. Gene knows absolutely everyone.



Always smiling

Gene's enthusiasm is contagious!





The Great Siloing

An industry-wide hiring freeze has stalled the flow of knowledge. Companies have **no idea how their peers are doing** — what's "normal" for AI adoption, or where they stand. The benchmark data, however, is clear.

20%

Developers actively using **agentic coding workflows**

60%

Still on **chat-based tools** — Cursor, Copilot, and similar

20%

Not using AI at all — zero adoption across the board

This distribution holds from FAANG companies to tractor manufacturers.

AI Dev Evolution



Figure 2



Figure 3

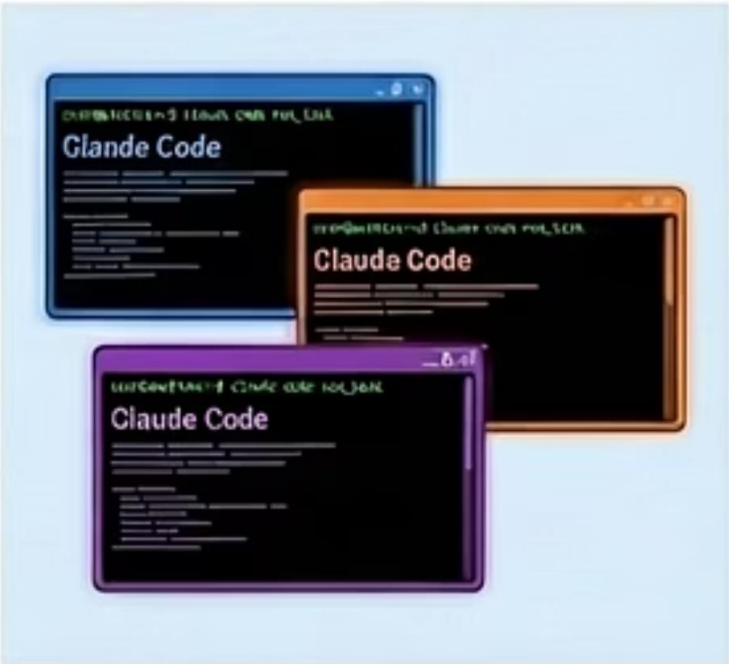


Figure 6



Figure 7

The Story of Gas Town

Year 1

1

Spent the year making Claude run Claude. Started with quality, ended focused on swarming.

2

December

Built most of Gas Town in just **17 days**. Formula: identity (mail) + memory (Beads) = Agent Village. Added Mayor and supervisor roles.

v1.0.0

3

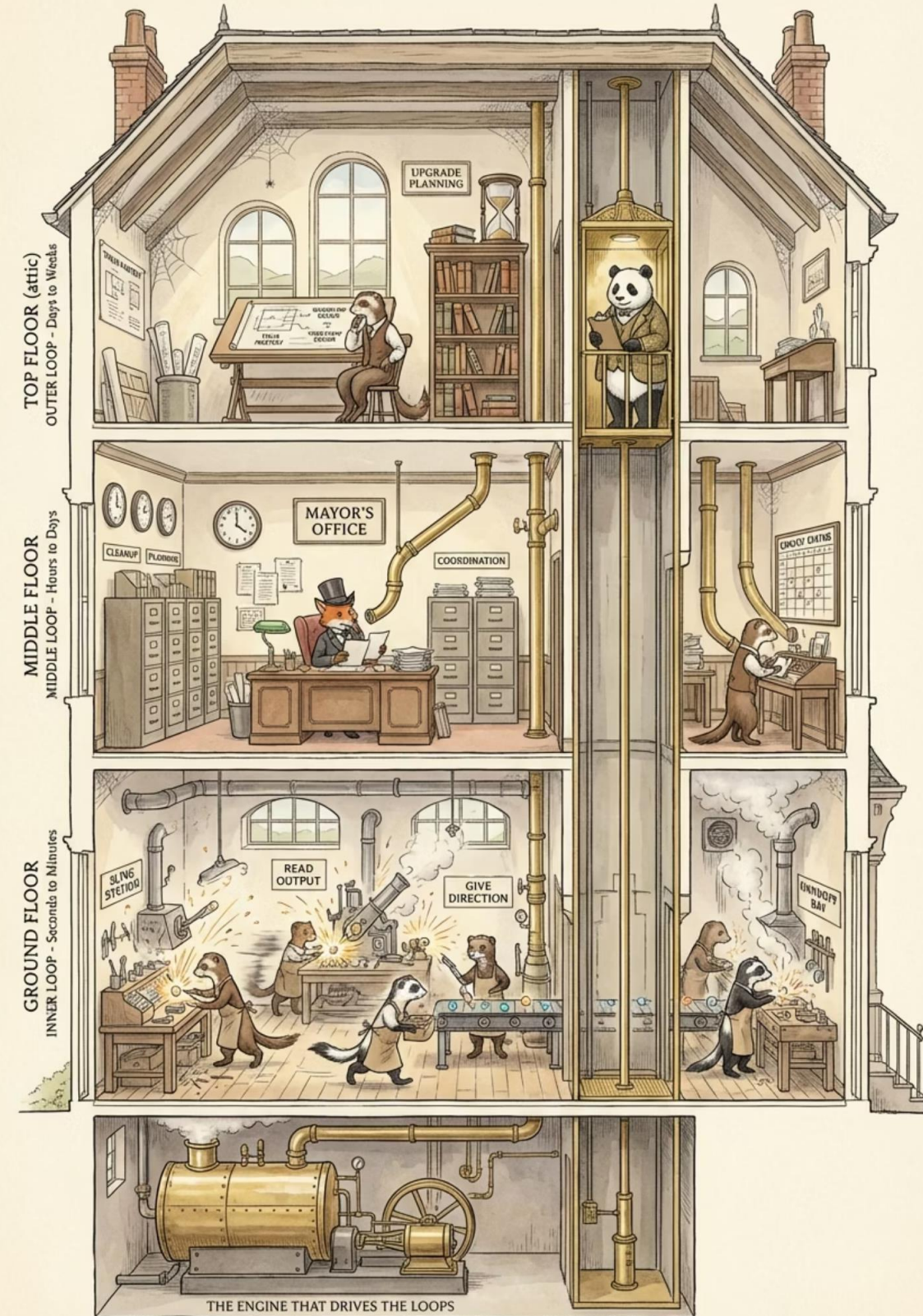
Reached v1.0 in 3 months. **2,000+ Discord users** now armed with their own Gas Towns.

4

The Wasteland

Federating Gas Towns together to build larger systems — the next frontier.

THE LOOP HOUSE — THREE RHYTHMS OF WORK



Ignoring the First Two Rules

Gas Town was designed for development workflows. But users had other ideas.

Tim Bradley is now **controlling his entire house** with Gas Town — an unplanned but entirely fitting use case. The architecture is flexible enough to bend to almost any agentic need.

When your tool gets used in ways you never anticipated, you've built something real.



Screenshot placeholder — Tim Bradley's LinkedIn post

This is what happens when you give developers (and curious tinkerers) a composable agent framework with no artificial guardrails on use case.



Gas City — The Declarative Future

Gas City takes every Gas Town primitive and makes them **fully mix-and-match, declaratively defined**. Gas Town itself becomes just a "pack" inside Gas City — same behavior, infinite composability.



Identity & Messaging

Identity, messaging, mail — the connective tissue of every agent.



Intelligence Layer

Priming, prompting, skills, and sandboxing — how agents think and act.



Protocols & Tracking

Hooks, GUPP, MEOW, NDI, seances — plus cost and context tracking.

Declare packs of any shape, for any purpose. The architecture adapts to you.

Beads & Dolt — The Memory Layer

MEOW: Molecular Expression of Work

Gas Town and Gas City are built on MEOW. **Beads** breaks all work into small, trackable chunks — issue reports that form a knowledge graph, chained from design through implementation with a full audit trail.

- Dual Git and SQL interfaces
- Originally SQLite + JSONL + Git
- Migrated to **Dolt** for versioned database support

Why Versioning Matters

Agents make mistakes. Every action must be recorded. Versioning enables:

- Fine-grained rollback
- Higher-fidelity forensics
- Trustworthy audit trails

Beads is now actively used to build systems well beyond Gas Town and Gas City.



Agent Crews: The Ninth Box

After orchestrators comes something new: **crews** — teams of bespoke, dedicated agents built to watch, validate, and check each other.

01

Set Up a Queue Agent

An agent responds to hooks and events, processes data, and takes actions on a work queue.

03

Define Watcher Agents

Other agents whose sole job is to monitor your main agent. Together, they form the Crew.

02

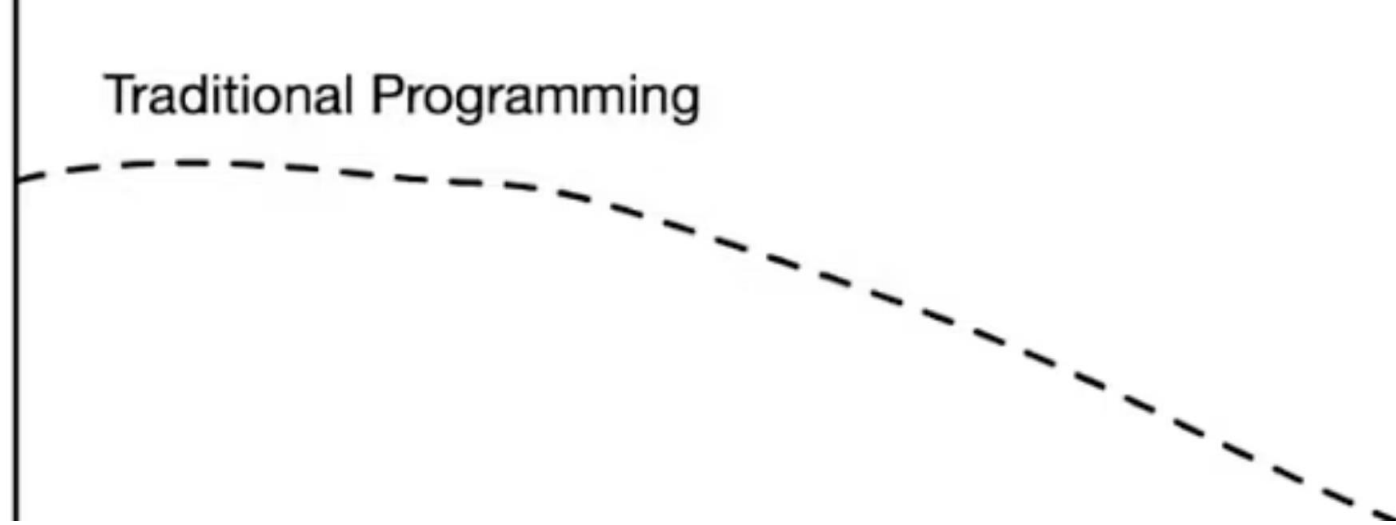
Apply Multi-Agent Consensus

Your primary guardrail. The correct approach for resilience against the Bitter Lesson.

04

Declare in Gas City

Packs are like Docker images. Crews are like runtime containers. Define them declaratively.



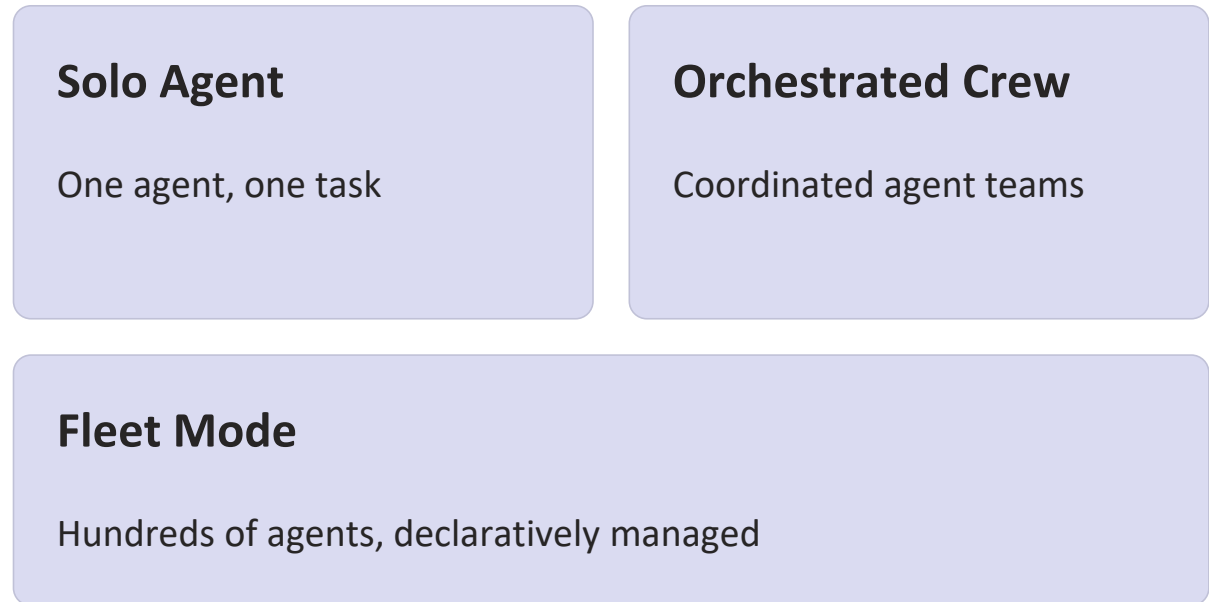
Revenge of the Junior Developer

Predicted over a year ago: developers would move from individual agents → **clusters** → **fleets**. That moment is now.

Claude Managed Agents launched yesterday — with fleets. Gas City officially supports this model. The ship has set sail.

The New Control Plane

- **Gas Town:** k8s-like shape, proven for dozens to low hundreds of agents
- **Gas City:** control plane will evolve into something far richer



SaaS Is Lava

From the Top: Everything Looks Fine

Incumbents appear stable. Dashboards are green. Business continues as usual.

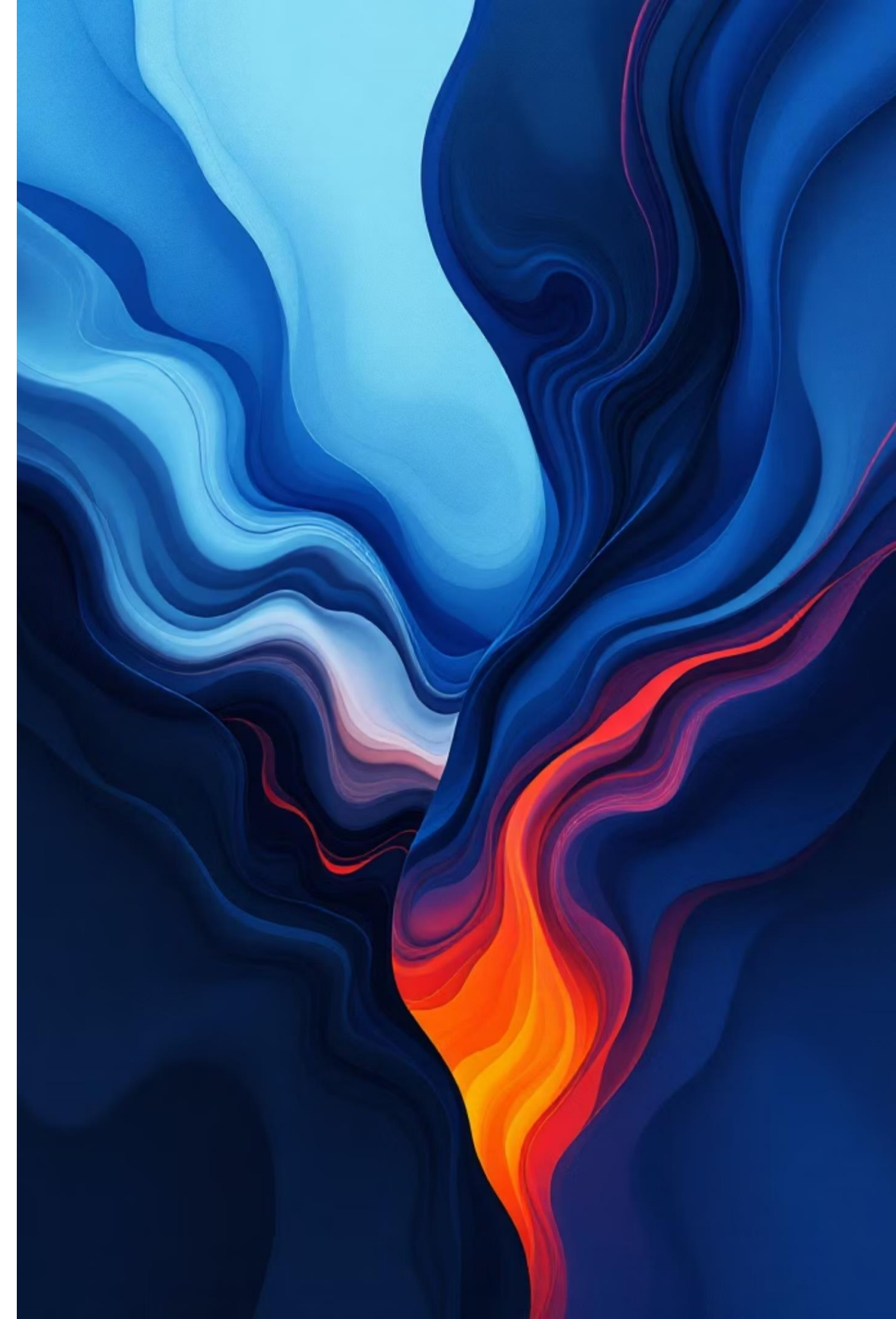
From the Bottom: The World Is on Fire

Reid Hoffman's take: **SaaS will fundamentally change shape.** A lot of SaaS is in danger and will go away — especially thin-value-add tools.

The Nuance

For medium and large platforms, no suitable AI-native alternatives exist *yet*. The transition will be uneven.

📄 **Example:** Chatwoot — the open-source ZenDesk/Intercom alternative — currently has **no AI in it**. The gap is real and the window is closing.



Forward-Looking Companies

A small group of organizations is moving aggressively — and the decisions are striking.

Killing the IDE

One massive company cancelled IntelliJ for **1,000 developers**.
Even Cursor now positions the IDE as a "backup" for the agent — not the primary interface.

The Real Hurdles

Cost (token spend estimation), **enablement** (right tools for devs), **adoption** (pushback and apathy), **training** (prompting skills), **bottlenecks** (business can't keep up), **strategy** (product integration), and **guardrails** (doing it safely).

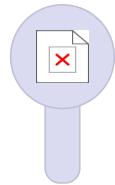
What Companies Have to Do

Every org will have a **different AI footprint**. AI doesn't enter at one point — it enters everywhere simultaneously.



Developers

Writing code, tests, and automating reviews, deployments, and monitoring across the SDLC.



Non-Developers

Vibe coding internal tools — sometimes replacing SaaS outright.



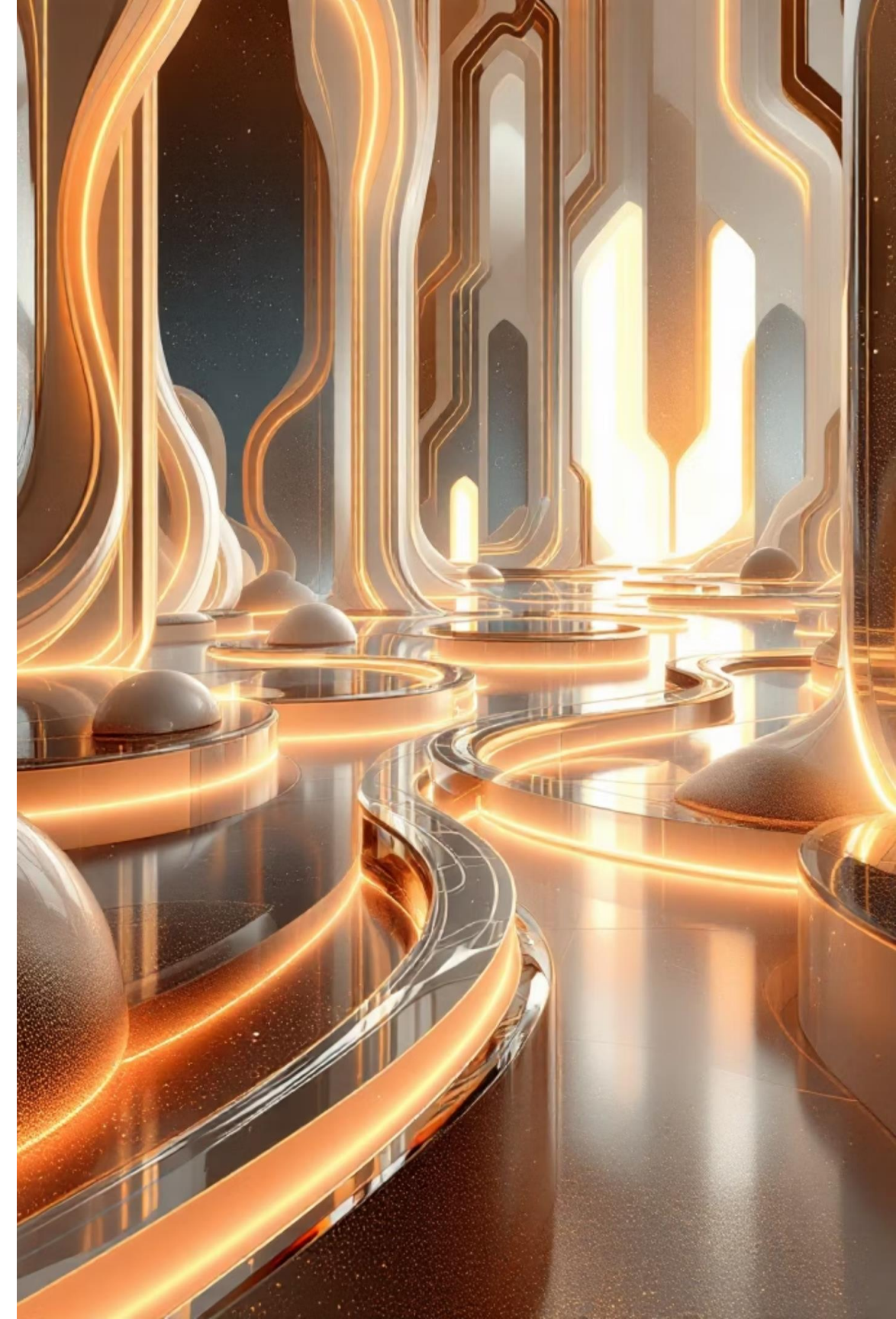
Business Owners

Automating data pipelines, ETLs, and ticket queues without engineering involvement.



The Holy Grail

Integrating AI directly into user-facing products — the highest-value frontier.



What to Do Right Now



Ditch Copilot

Sunk cost fallacy. Burn it. Move on.



Get Claude Code

Adopt it immediately. Don't wait for a roadmap.



2-Pizza Teams

Bezos model. One company is spinning up a hundred 2-person teams right now.



Hackathons

Run workshops and internal hackathons. Create momentum from the ground up.



Outside Expertise

Bring in people who've done this. Kickstart adoption — don't reinvent the wheel.

📌 The window to lead is open now. Companies that move in the next 90 days will define the new baseline. Everyone else will be catching up.