

The Editor wars

(tl;dr this is a story about how 48 years ago there existed two command line based editors)

to all the programmers out there, just a fun fact, so you stay in touch with our history and past, i've discovered it recently and i think it is funny

okay, so back then, when we didn't have a smart little rat (**this was a reference to computer mouse**) on our desks, we couldnt code the normal way, you know, like opening your VS Code and asking copilot to do what you wanted, and could not really place our cursor where we wanted to, click on save icons etc etc.

there were text-based editors (im talking 47 years ago, just so you know) one of them was **VI** [NOT TO BE CONFUSED BY VODAPHONE-IDEA], (most of you know it by Vim now, which stands for VI-improved so VIm) [NOT TO BE CONFUSED BY VIM DISHWASH LIQUID] its the primary editor in some unix distros, its trash in my opinion, controlled completely by keyboard (and you cant really exit it on a MacBook Pro). for the modern programmers that use visual studio, remember how easy it is to press a period (.) and create an html class. or do this (!) and create the html boilerplate, VI was not like that, it was just, plain, simple text editor.

but amongst the problem, a hero (or a solution in this case) emerged, a guy named guy (Guy L Steele Jr) at MIT, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Boston (all software is created there apparently), created Emacs. the saviour in the world of editors. although it was still a keyboard based editor, this thing came with a **DEBUGGER!!** and **A FILE MANAGER!** many even regard it as the first **iDE** (but experts suggest, its not **THAT** powerful)

it was released 9 years after Vi, and had 10 thousand commands that can be made into commands (remember the vs code boilerplate i was talking about), it also featured **SYNTAX HIGHLIGHTING (LIKE HOW WONDERFUL IS THAT)** but okay, every thing comes with its own problems and drawbacks, emacs was slow.

it had been 9 years, and 9 years is enough to form a cult, a cult had formed, the cult of Vi was evolving, with more clone Vi editors coming into existence, but to counter the cult, a church was formed, The Church of Emacs was formed (look, i know it sounds very humorous, but trust me, it is real) by none other than the creator of the GNU Project himself, the man, the myth, the legend, Richard Stallman. (for those who are not aware of GNU, its just the largest collection of free software assembled into an operating system, all of which is open source).

After both these factions were formed, the Editor Wars had finally started.