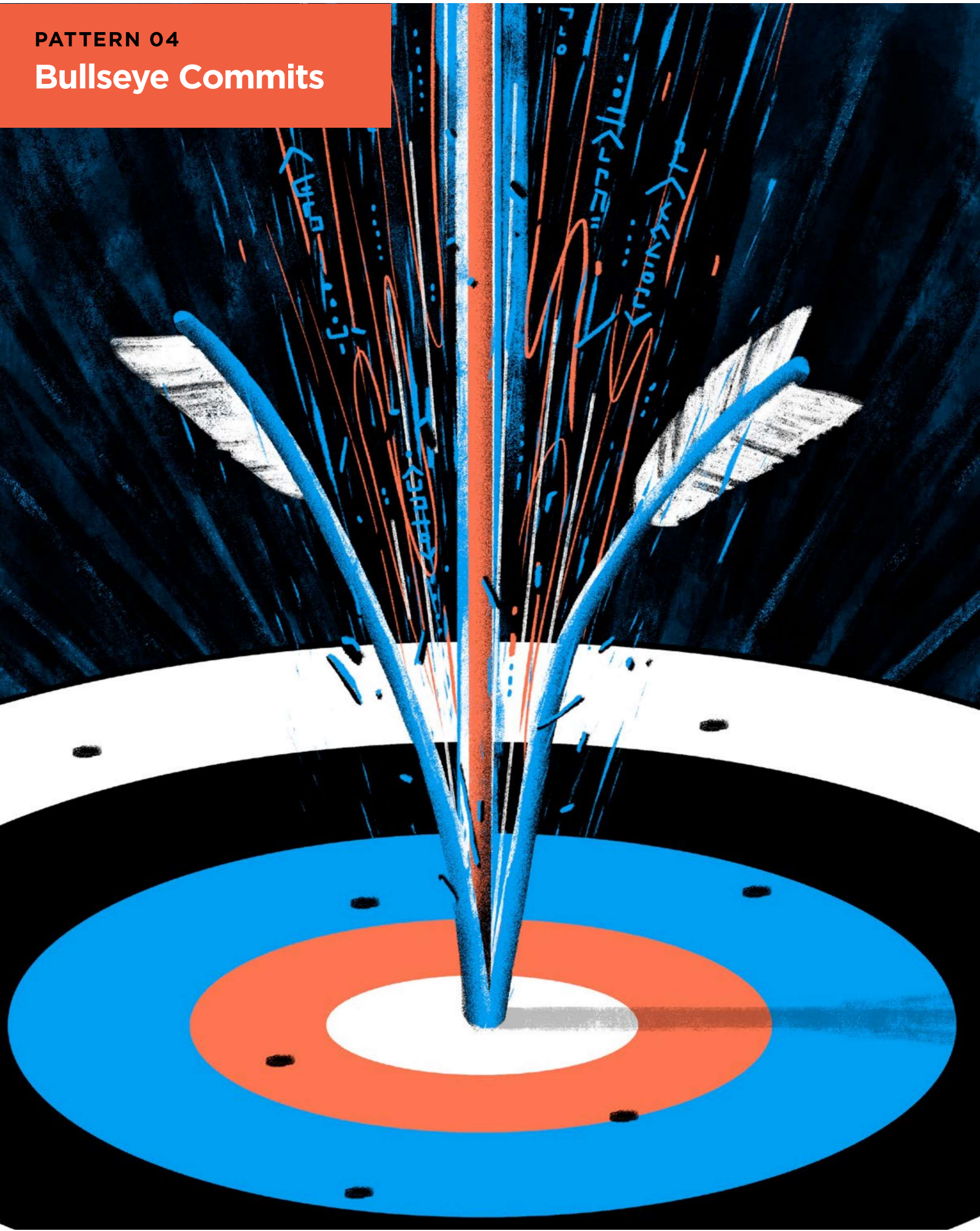# 4. Bullseye Commits

This pattern is relatively common in most teams, but it often goes unrecognized: an engineer understands a problem, breaks down the project into smaller tasks, and submits code that has little room for improvement.

Most likely, not all of the commits that make up the project will be Bullseyes. But the ones that are, generally have a small to modest impact and were thoroughly reviewed and approved on the first try. Celebrate them!

Eng 1 — PR Opened
Eng 2 — Review and Comment
Eng 3 — Review and Comment
Eng 1 — Responds
Eng 2 — PR Merged

How to recognize it

In practice, Bullseye Commits can be identified by when they were submitted in regard to the deadline, their impact, and how they were treated in the review process. Generally, the code was started and completed in advance of the deadline, with negligible churn. The commit's Impact was small to modest in size and was then thoroughly reviewed. It was approved on the first try (see Review Workflow).

It's the level of thoroughness in the review that distinguishes Bullseye Commits from Rubber Stamping (Pattern #15). In Bullseye Commits, code reviews are substantive.

What to do

Recognize a clean bullseye in a stand-up, or a simple note: "I saw that check-in, nice job!" Whether it's public or private, showing that you noticed and that you care will only reinforce this pattern.

If there's an engineer who regularly makes Bullseye Commits, it may be helpful for others to understand how they approach projects. Ask the engineer to do a lunch and learn, or consider asking them to provide feedback on another engineer's work in the review process.