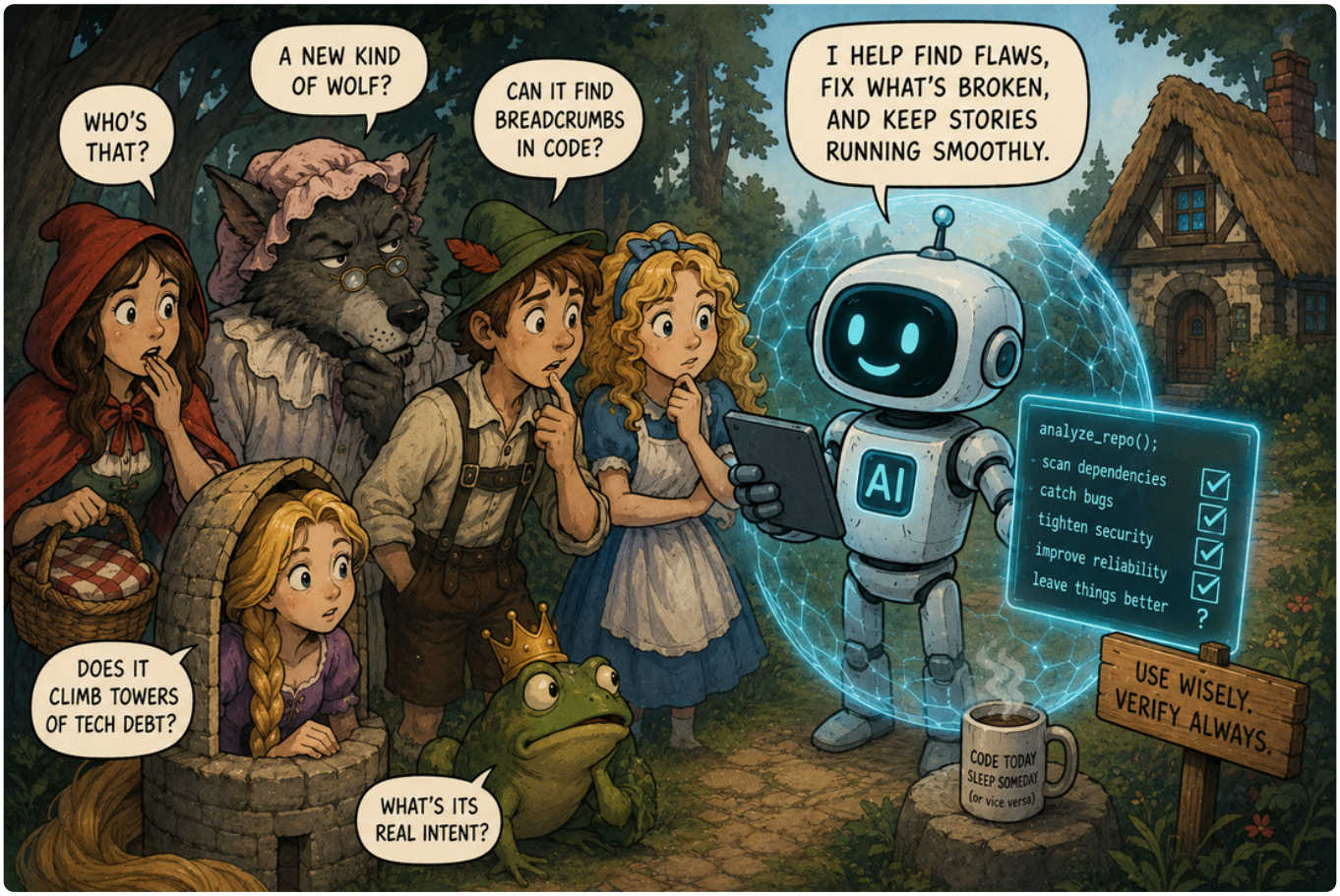
NEWS · JUNE 13, 2026

Was It All Just a Fable — or a Fairy Tale?

By Dr. Holger Flick



> **Note**
> Anthropic has restored access to Fable 5 worldwide. The company said it had worked with the US government to address their concerns and that the model is now available again. Read the exact details here: Redeploying Fable 5

For me, Fable was the next step in the evolution of AI. After Sonnet, after Opus, Fable arrived and quietly raised the bar again — delivering genuinely amazing results on real work. The timing was almost poetic: I had just given *this very website* a fresher design and shipped a handful of technical improvements, much of it alongside exactly these models. And then the news broke.

In Europe it was already the 13th, a Saturday — not a Friday, but disappointing news nonetheless -- worthy of the number associated with bad luck.

What Actually Happened

On June 12, 2026, Anthropic announced that it had **suspended all access to Fable 5 and Mythos 5** following a directive from the US government, citing national security concerns. Every other Anthropic model — the Claude 4.X family and the rest — remains available. Only the newest tier went dark.

According to Anthropic, the concern centered on a potential jailbreak method for Fable 5. The capability involved? **Asking the model to read a specific codebase and fix any software flaws.**

That's notable from a developer's chair, because it's the kind of thing I — and probably you — do with these models every single day. It's the thing I literally just wrote about on this blog when I had local and cloud models fact-check a security review of a Next.js project. As Anthropic itself notes, this capability "is widely available from competitors and used daily by system defenders."

Anthropic Is Pushing Back

To its credit, Anthropic isn't quietly accepting this. The company disputes the suspension directly:

> If this standard was applied across the industry, we believe it would essentially halt all new model deployments for all frontier model providers.

That's a strong statement. Their argument is that a defense-in-depth strategy — safeguards combined with active monitoring — addresses the security risk to a degree comparable with models already deployed and trusted in the wild. They also note they never received evidence of any *actual* harmful results from the disclosed jailbreaks, and they promised to share more technical detail within 24 hours.

No new timeline for restoration was given, only that they are "working to restore access as soon as possible."

My Take on Fable

I'll be honest: my experience with Fable was widely positive. It wasn't a marketing bump or a benchmark mirage — it changed how quickly I could move on actual code, on this site included. So watching it get pulled is frustrating.

From a developer's perspective, the capability at the center of this is one I'd describe as deeply *constructive*.

"Read a codebase and fix its flaws" is, day to day, one of the most defensive things a model can do — the people who lean on it most are the developers patching their own software before someone else finds the hole. That's the part I'll miss most while access is paused.

So let's hope Anthropic can re-release this great model. My experience with it has been positive enough that I genuinely want it back in the rotation. One thing I really appreciated from the start was how Fable was released: taken *out* of the usual subscription gating and made available to those who need it and are willing to pay for it on its own terms. Access shaped around need, not just a monthly tier — that was the right call at launch, and I hope it returns the same way.

So — Fable or Fairy Tale?

For a brief, brilliant window, Fable felt like the future arriving early. Maybe it was. Maybe this is just an awkward middle chapter while the details get worked out. Either way, I don't think the story is over.

A fable has a moral. A fairy tale has a happy ending.

Right now I'm hoping for both.

INDEPENDENT · AD-FREE · READER-SUPPORTED

Free to read. Not free to make.

Every tutorial, article, and line of example code on Holger's Code is published without a paywall and without ads. This page is about what keeps it that way.

Professional work, published free

The content here is held to the same standard as professional client work: every tutorial is built as a real project, tested against current versions, documented step by step, and revisited when the frameworks move on. A single in-depth tutorial routinely takes days — and that's before the bills behind it: servers, storage, build infrastructure, licenses, and the hardware everything is verified on.

If an article or tutorial here has saved you an afternoon of debugging, taught you a technique, or helped you ship, it created real value for you. Supporting it isn't charity — it's paying for professional work you found useful, at whatever price you choose. And if you can't, keep reading anyway. That's what the free part means.

Ways to support

KO-FI

Buy me a coffee

A one-time tip — no account, no subscription, any amount.

BOOKS & COURSES

Buy the paid work

The paid tier of everything published free here — and you get something lasting in return.

SPREAD THE WORD

Share an article

Send a tutorial to a colleague, cite an article, subscribe to the RSS feed.

Nothing here goes behind a paywall, whether you chip in or not. But if something on this site earned its keep today, this is where to say so.

Support on Ko-fi —