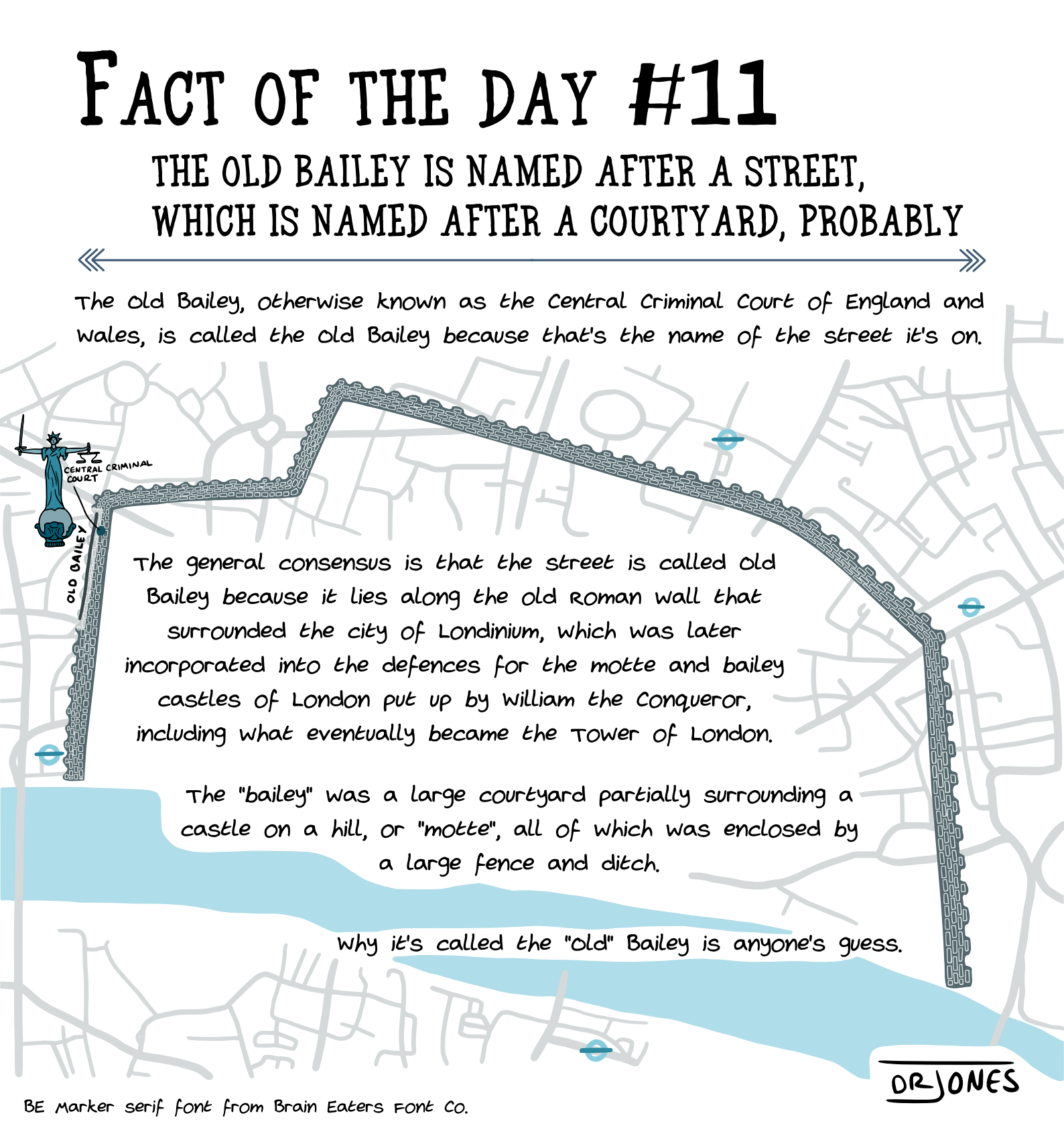


FACT OF THE DAY #11

THE OLD BAILEY IS NAMED AFTER A STREET,
WHICH IS NAMED AFTER A COURTYARD, PROBABLY

The old Bailey, otherwise known as the central criminal court of England and Wales, is called the old Bailey because that's the name of the street it's on.



The general consensus is that the street is called Old Bailey because it lies along the old Roman wall that surrounded the city of Londinium, which was later incorporated into the defences for the motte and bailey castles of London put up by William the Conqueror, including what eventually became the Tower of London.

The "bailey" was a large courtyard partially surrounding a castle on a hill, or "motte", all of which was enclosed by a large fence and ditch.

Why it's called the "old" Bailey is anyone's guess.

ORJONES