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## Ashton ‘Astra’ Blondell

**Austin, TX**

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### Summary

A results-oriented Systems Engineer with a unique blend of expertise in high-performance C/Zig programming, hands-on hardware diagnostics, and robust systems administration. Proven ability to thrive in fast-paced, challenging environments, delivering optimized solutions from low-level code to complex system architecture.

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### Core Competencies

- **Languages:** C, Zig, Python, Lua
  - **Technologies:** Linux, Networking, OpenGL, AI/LLMs, Docker, Micro-controllers
  - **Hardware:** Hardware Debug & Diagnostics, Software-Hardware Integration, Low-Voltage Diagnostics, PCB/IC Testing, Cisco/Juniper Networking
  - **Core Skills:** Systems Architecture, Performance Optimization, Automation & Scripting, Manufacturing Processes, Secure Data Handling
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### Work Experience

#### Systems Engineer

*Freelance | 2021 - Present*

- Achieved a 6x performance increase by optimizing critical low-level code in C and Zig.
- Engineered and implemented robust automation scripts and services, reducing manual intervention by over 90%.
- Identified and resolved critical bugs through in-depth debugging and reverse engineering, improving system stability and reliability.

- Designed and executed comprehensive software-hardware integration tests for complex systems.

### **Workstation Trainer**

*Tesla Motors / Gigafactory - Austin, TX / 2022 - 2023*

- Collaborated with engineering teams to identify and resolve production bottlenecks, contributing to a %15 increase in line efficiency.
- Trained over 300 employees on complex production tasks and tooling, ensuring adherence to safety and quality standards.
- Maintained strict operational and IP security protocols in a high-stakes manufacturing environment.

### **Lead Computer Hardware Technician**

*R3Ewaste / Austin, TX / 2021 - 2022*

- Authored and implemented new operational procedures for data destruction and hardware testing, improving team efficiency and ensuring 100% compliance with security standards.
- Designed and deployed local server infrastructure for internal applications, improving data access and workflow for the team.
- Developed internal tooling and applications to automate repetitive tasks, saving an estimated 8 hours per week.
- Diagnosed and repaired a wide range of enterprise-level hardware, including servers, networking equipment, and PCBs, increasing the value of refurbished assets.

### **Dock Lead / Electronics Technician**

*Total Reclaim / Seattle, WA / 2020 - 2021*

- Managed warehouse operations and logistics, including organizing and processing incoming semi-trailers of electronic equipment.
- Performed secure data and hardware destruction in compliance with industry regulations.

### **Combat Medic**

*Army National Guard / Springfield, OR / 2017 - 2020*

- Trained to emergency medical care in high-pressure situations as an infantry medic.
- Operated and maintained various weapon platforms.
- Demonstrated exceptional discipline, teamwork, and leadership skills.

## Interests

- Computer Science and Engineering
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Space and Astrodynamics
  - Fishing and Hunting
  - Artificial Intelligence Systems
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## Education

**Highschool Diploma:** Renton Technical School (Renton, Washington)

### Certificates:

- Meta Fullstack Web Developer (Meta inc.)
- SWOCC Business Certificate (South Western Community College)