**Introduction**

This book is a phenomenal achievement, and it’s been really exciting to have been along for the ride from the beginning.

Shahed talked to me after finishing his previous epic blog series in 2018, complete with a hidden Easter egg Happy New Year message in the post titles, about what he was planning next: an A-Z post series on ASP.NET Core. He put a lot of thought into each week’s topic, including planning things to coincide with major conferences like Build 2019. And each week, he’s delivered. Not just a blog post on the topic he planned, but a thorough exploration of the topic, complete with samples, edge cases, and references.

Each week, I spend a few hours reviewing the top ASP.NET posts for the ASP.NET Community Standup, and each week, Shahed’s A-Z series post has consistently been top notch. I’ve been thrilled to share his posts repeatedly on the show, because I know the quality and effort that goes into these. It’s really some of the best information about ASP.NET Core on the internet today.

I’ve written a few books, most of them about ASP.NET, and this felt like a book to me. So, I was really happy to hear it when Shahed told me he was going to be releasing this as an eBook! This is an incredible resource, and I encourage you to do three things with it:

1. Read it! Reading this book is one of the best ways to get up to speed on ASP.NET Core, from fundamentals to the latest updates.
2. Say thanks! Shahed’s done all of this on his own time, despite travel, sick days, all the things that come up each week. Send him a tweet, add a blog comment, buy him a burger, give him a high five!
3. Get inspired! Take a look at what Shahed has done here through consistent weekly effort, and maybe make some crazy plans of your own. What if you spent your lunch break every Friday writing a blog post, or contributing to the docs (open source, so you can make an update in a few minutes), or contributing to an open source project? Did you know that some of the biggest performance improvements to ASP.NET Core came from a community member who just got excited after watching an ASP.NET Community Standup and went for it… rocketing ASP.NET Core performance from bottom 10% to the top 1% on the TechEmpower benchmarks? What’s one small thing that you could do every week… which turns out to be pretty big after you do it for a few months?

Okay, with that… enjoy this eBook! Have fun learning ASP.NET Core! I’m a bit biased, but I think it’s one of the most fun tech stacks out there today.

Jon Galloway

Executive Director

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