# Podcast Reflection: Developer Tea

**Episode: "Traits of a Great Developer - Grit of a Scientist"**

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# The podcast title perfectly summarizes the content. There were no hidden surprises or secrets. Jonathan explains that grit is a necessary ingredient and a driving force behind being a great developer...He does a good job. He is clear, concise, humble and encouraging. He makes the process sound clear and simple (but not necessarily easy). During this podcast and the minutes after, I felt inspired - I have made the right decision. This is my path and no doubt I am heading in the right direction....Shortly after, reality and fear set in. I felt slightly less inspired by this podcast, and even mildly irritated.

Of course one needs grit and critical thinking skills to learn anything-- and school is really "learning how to learn" but I think it takes a lot more than grit and interest to learn to program and to code. Maybe all Jonathan needed was grit... and for someone to be a great developer, they probably have specific innate skills and specific types of intelligence. When things come easily to people, those people assume comes easy to everyone.

As I reflect on some of the code I've learned (html and CSS) it often is frustrating how long it took me - and once I understood something, it seemed ridiculous it took me so long to learn it in the first place. However, JavaScript is more complicated than CSS and HTML. I feel like I'm currently in a rut... concepts make complete sense and then 15 minutes later they seem to float away like a cloud. I find myself thinking, "Did I actually just understand what happened? Did that actually make sense or was it my imagination? Am I tricking myself? Am I an idiot? Will I one day feel the same way about the basic JavaScript concepts I'm learning now?"

Maybe Jonathan and other great developers only needed grit because everything else came so easily. Maybe, for them, it was only a matter of sitting down and getting things done. But for me is it different? I suppose I will only find out if I keep on keepin on....