

# My bitcoin journey

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2024

Giacomo called me...

*After Adam Back...*

# AI fails



Figure 1: Two people talking over the phone

# Anno domini - 5-0 BS

- Computer Science Engineer
- Uninterested in finance
- No political affiliation
- Various job, consultancy in DW for insurance company

# Anno domini - 2-5 AS

- Break up
- Quit smoking
- Start looking for stocks & co.
- Discover bitcoin
- Quit a job and startup (sigh)

# Geobit - 5 AS



Figure 2: Geobit

- Fatal flaw
- Jippy<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup><https://bitcoinmagazine.com/culture/jippi-is-pok%C3%A9mon-go-for-bitcoin->

# Amsterdam - 5 AS



Figure 3: Italian team

# Amsterdam - 5 AS



Figure 4: Was my idol at the time

# Next Startup

**Brooke @bitcoinmom · 10 lug 2014**  
Awww, my husband sent me a love note through the blockchain. For posterity.  
[blockchain.info/address/16wMx1...](https://blockchain.info/address/16wMx1...)

**Riccardo Casatta @RCasatta · 11 lug 2014**  
@bitcoinmom really nice :) but that annotation is saved on [blockchain.info](https://blockchain.info) site, not in the blockchain

**Brooke @bitcoinmom · 11 lug 2014**  
@RCasatta good point :)

PREFERITO  
1

12:46 - 11 lug 2014 · Dettagli

Nascondi

Figure 5: Tweet bitcoin mom

# Next Startup

Brooke @bitcoinmom · 27 mag  
OP\_RETURN, the little field in Bitcoin's code that can do mighty things.  
Conveying love notes or NASDAQ trade info.

Network Propagation (Click to view)  
North Korea  
South Korea  
China

OPPORTUNITIES MOVE FAST.  
DON'T LET US HOLD  
YOU BACK.

BITQUICK  
BITCOINS IN AS LITTLE AS 3 HOURS.  
BUY NOW

Input Scripts

Output Scripts

OP\_DUP OP\_HASH160 1F2B9E939092A9D9544D7713026A4 DF\_2E0300  
OP\_RETURN  
OP\_DUP OP\_HASH160 1F2B9E939092A9D9544D7713026A4 DF\_2E0300  
OP\_DUP OP\_EQUALVERIFY OP\_DCHECK

14    23    ...

Brooke @bitcoinmom · 27 mag  
thanks to @RCasatta who generously helped me encode my message.  
1 smile @ChangeTip  
Visualizza traduzione

PREFERITI  
3

20:28 - 26 mag 2015 · Dettagli

Nascondi

Bitcoin Mom loves Willb20c

Figure 6: Helping bitcoin mom

# Eternity Wall - 6 AS

The screenshot shows the Eternity Wall homepage. At the top left is the logo, which consists of a stylized blue 'E' and 'W' intertwined. To its right is the text "Eternity Wall". Below the logo is a sub-headline "Messages lasting forever ▾". A paragraph explains that messages are embedded in the blockchain, creating a public registry underneath Bitcoin. It notes that there are over 5 thousand copies of the ledger around the world and that the site is guaranteed to persist for generations. Three categories are listed with icons: a heart for "Love", a checkmark for "In memory", and a speech bubble for "For fun". Below these are descriptions: "Publicly declare your love for someone", "Memorialize an event or a person", and "Just say hello to the entire world". A large blue button labeled "Write" with a pen icon is positioned on the left. In the center is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar are two small square icons: one with a lightning bolt and another with a cloud, followed by the word "Worldcloud". Below the search area, a message indicates "one message in queue ..". Three messages are displayed in boxes: 1. December 9, 2015 6:40 AM GMT: "http://eternitywall.it is the way!" 2. December 9, 2015 4:37 AM GMT: "Miami is 'power city' – junseth said it first." 3. December 8, 2015 10:31 PM GMT: "bitcoin sopra 500\$ per fine gennaio"

Figure 7: Eternity Wall Homepage

# Eternity Wall

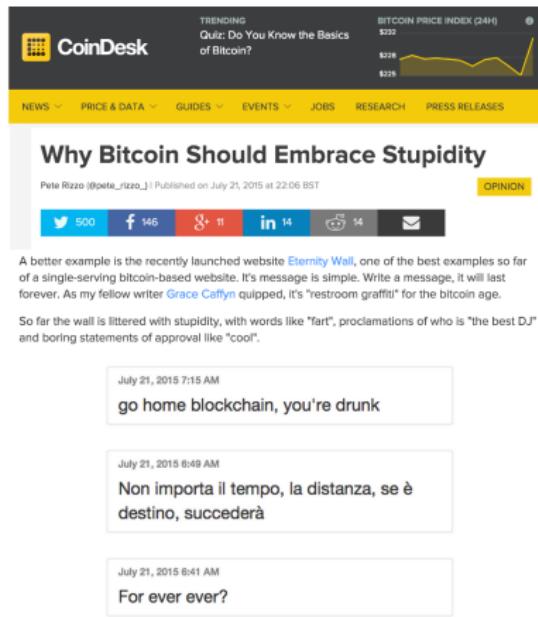


Figure 8: In the news

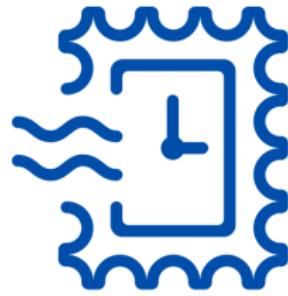
# Eternity Wall problems

- Where is the Business Model?
  - pay to write
  - pay to like
  - pay to answer
- Is this spam?

# Timestamping

- Timestamping is more interesting than messages
- Timestamping is incredibly scalable
- Eternity Wall introduced timestamping

## OpenTimestamps<sup>1</sup> - 7 AS



- Scalable
- Trust minimized
- Reliable
- Free

Figure 9: OpenTimestamps Logo

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<sup>1</sup><https://opentimestamps.org>

# OpenTimestamps - Scalable

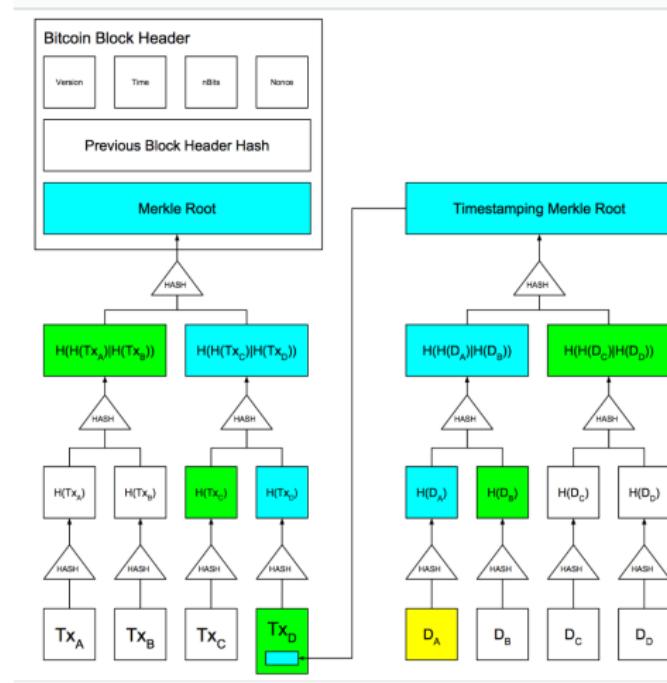


Figure 10: OTS proof path

# OpenTimestamps - Trust minimized

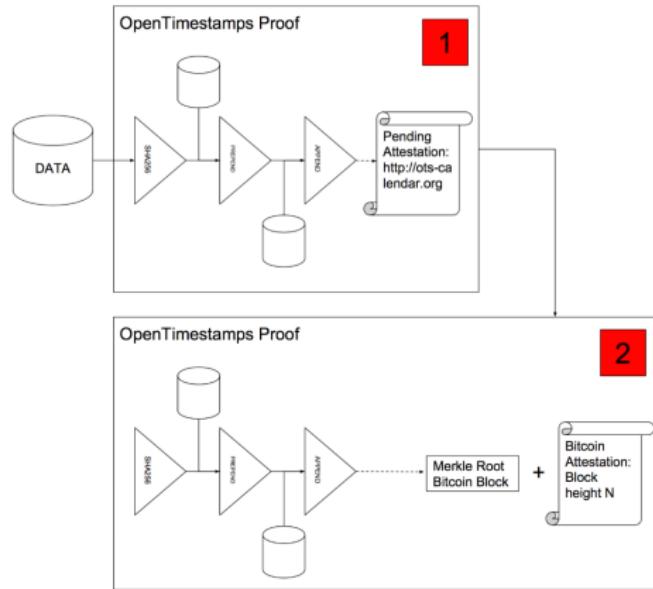


Figure 11: OTS proof update

# OpenTimestamps - Trust minimized and reliable

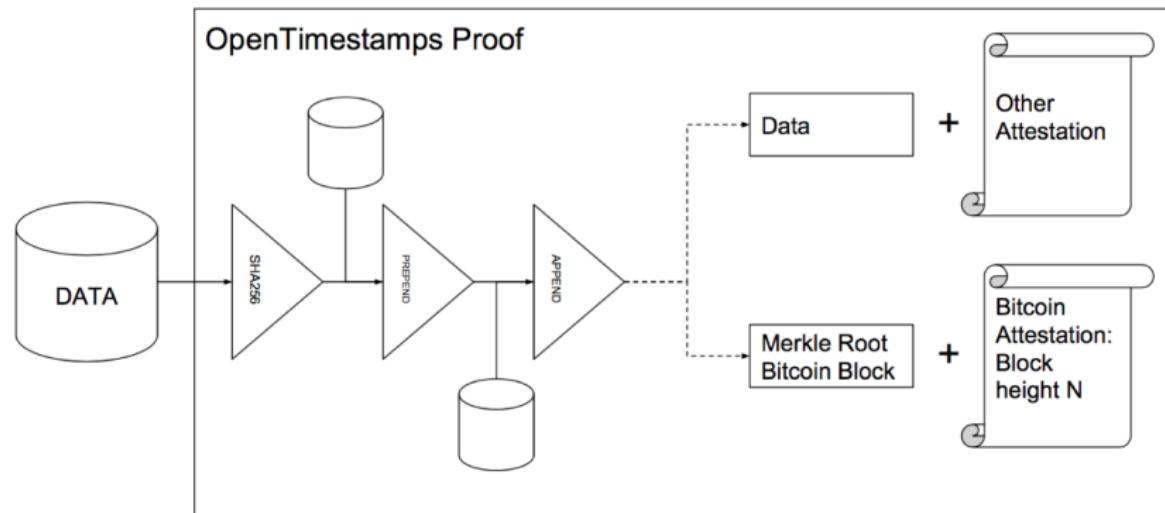


Figure 12: OTS proof branch

## OpenTimestamps - Successes

- Timestamped the internet\*
- Used in Guatemala elections
- Millions of stamps

# Scaling Bitcoin - 7 AS



Figure 13: Scaling Bitcoin Milano 2016

# Rich?



Figure 14: Rich

## ... Not really

EternityWall was making consultancy

Business making money:

- Exchanges
- Stablecoin issuers
- Mining
- Hardware wallet
- Owning bitcoins + finance product (Microstrategy)
- Payment processors?
- Scam (altcoins, nfts. . . )
- Be smarter than me

Employee:

- Today more choice (github presence)

## Blockstream - 9 AS

- EW Team (4) joined BS
- Work on the Green Wallet
- After a couple of years some disagreement...

# Square/Spiral - 11 AS

- BDK - Bitcoin Development Kit
- Fee estimation<sup>2</sup> with machine learning

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<sup>2</sup><https://bitcoindevkit.org/blog/2021/01/fee-estimation-for-light-clients-part-1/>

# Back in Blockstream

- Thank you sabbatical, I kept my options
- better situation on different project like LWK<sup>3</sup>
- Almost no speech, family

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<sup>3</sup><https://github.com/blockstream/lwk>

## Active side projects

- General purpose offline signer<sup>4</sup> (3rd rewrite...)
- FBBE<sup>5</sup>
- OpenTimestamps calendar finney<sup>6</sup>
- Bitcoin rust libraries
  - rust-bitcoin maintainer
  - Blocks iterator (opreturn.org, eternitywall.it)
  - bitcoin slices
  - rust crate bitcoind/electrsd/elementsd series

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<sup>4</sup><https://github.com/RCasatta/firma2>

<sup>5</sup><https://fbbe.org>

<sup>6</sup><https://finney.calendar.eternitywall.com/>

# My bitcoin journey

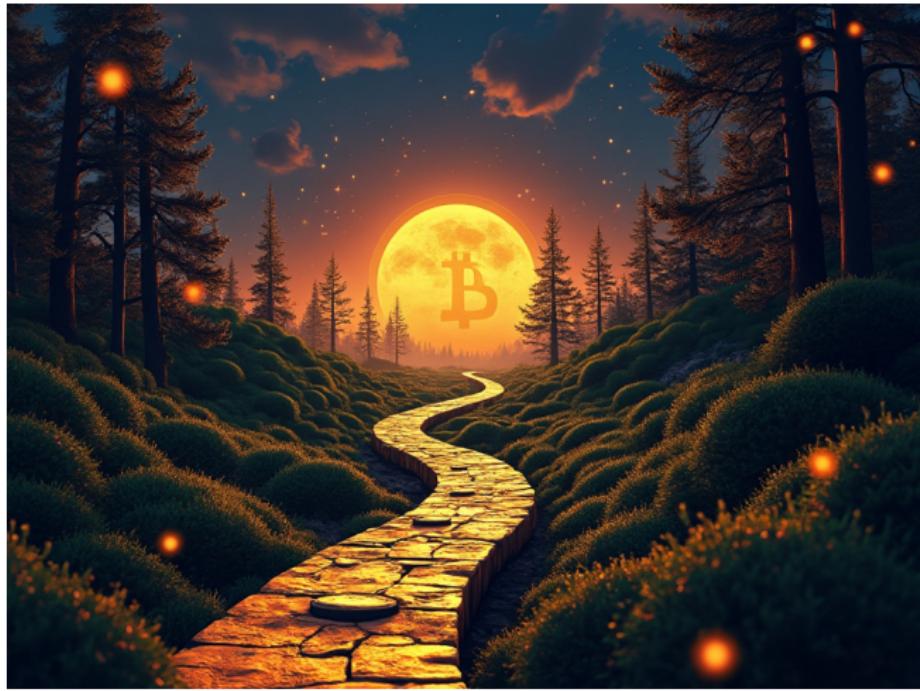


Figure 15: My bitcoin journey, for now...