## **Personal Statement**

I believe Software Engineers are not 0 and 1 stalkers but influential artists, shading and blending the universe together with time. Teasing the canvas, a blank slate waiting for a painter to interfere with every opportunity to change the world. It's my playground, glazing the paintbrush to code every picture that resonates.

As a kid I always needed colour. I used the internet to learn how to use my paint, how to use different colours in different shades... how to use different libraries, different programming languages... I googled it. All of it. Because I was determined. And it wasn't the teachers at school or college because they would never understand, no one around me really has and It is difficult for me, except for Open Source.

I have met and worked with many people on GitHub and the internet in general. It's great to see someone understand what I write in a terminal, or for someone else to critique my code to see what needs improving. I love working with people on projects together, I met very loyal friends in the open source community that weren't just colleagues acting to be *friends*.

I don't use dangerous, privacy evading services like Windows, Facebook, Google Chrome, Spotify, Google and to swap to open source alternatives, like Linux, Mastodon, Signal, Firefox, Clementine, duckduckgo to help with my mental health, finance and generally to support the use of Open Source and to avoid proprietary software and services from dangerous companies.

In general, I don't like society, I never have really fit in. I have had a rough life with my family, this town, friends, so I decide to stay quite introverted. I still have friends through.

I go to the skate-park while listening to rock, punk, metal music. Just like programming, it takes time to master, but I try and look at structures, cracks in the pavement to ask "How can I skate this?". Skating has really changed the way I used to look at a staircase, how I used to look at a bench, to anyone else, it's just a staircase, or a bench, but to me? It's something much deeper then that. I like the skate community because for those who are talented are also incredibly creative, patient and nice people to get along with and for anyone who is going through a rough time, we have each others backs. We cherish and worship anyone at any skill level.

That's the most important part you should take away from my personal statement, our aurora that shines from our hearts, my professions and my ambitions.

Thank you for reading, Reece Scott