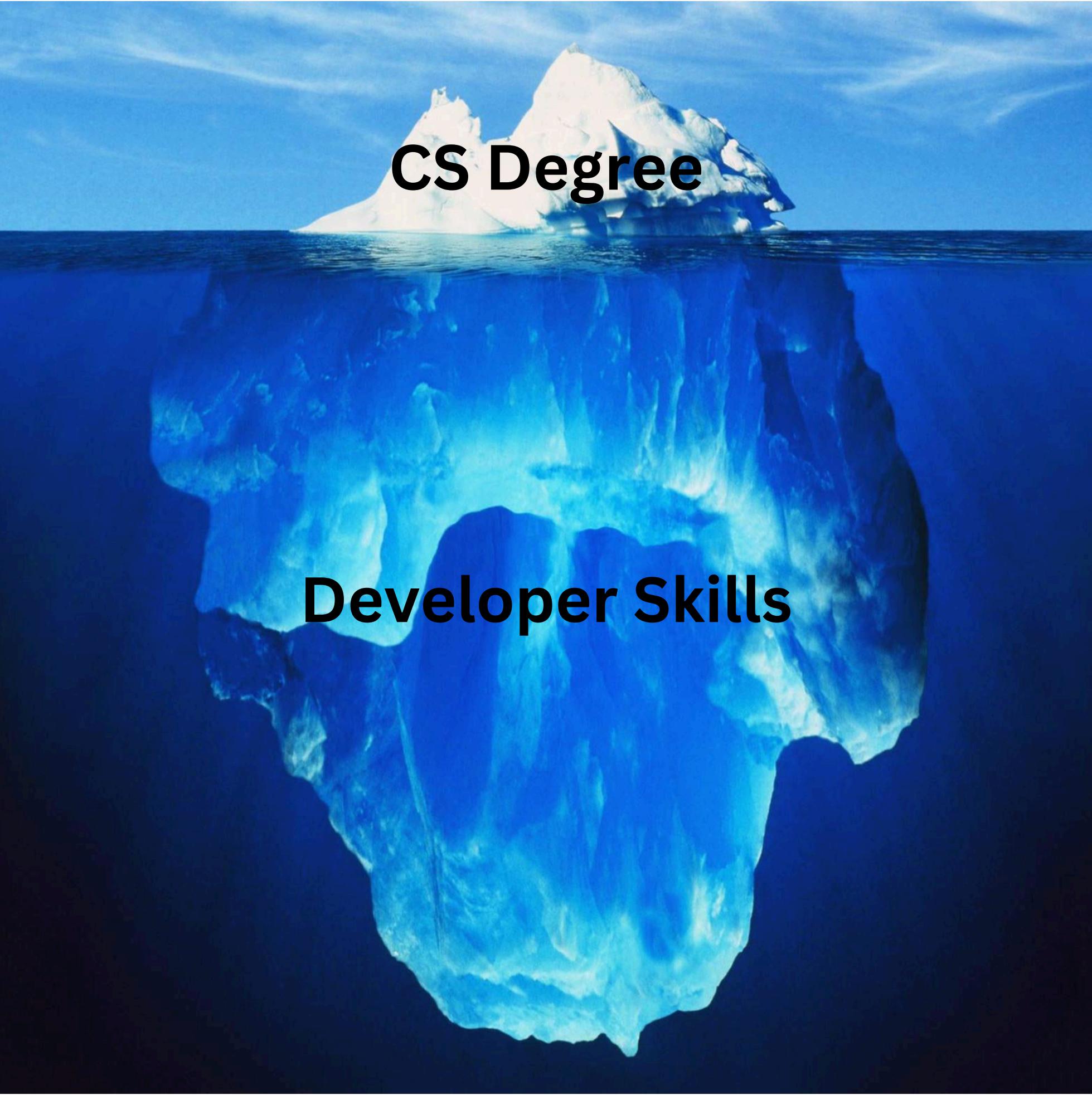


# **How Do You Learn Things?**

**A guide to picking up the skills they don't teach you in class.**

**James Hurd**

A photograph of a large iceberg floating in the ocean. The visible portion above the water's surface is small compared to the massive amount submerged below, illustrating the concept of hidden complexity.

**CS Degree**

**Developer Skills**

**Your degree teaches you the theory.  
The practice is up to you.**

# YouTube



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**How do you find these blogs? 😎**

# Special Spotlight: HackerNews!

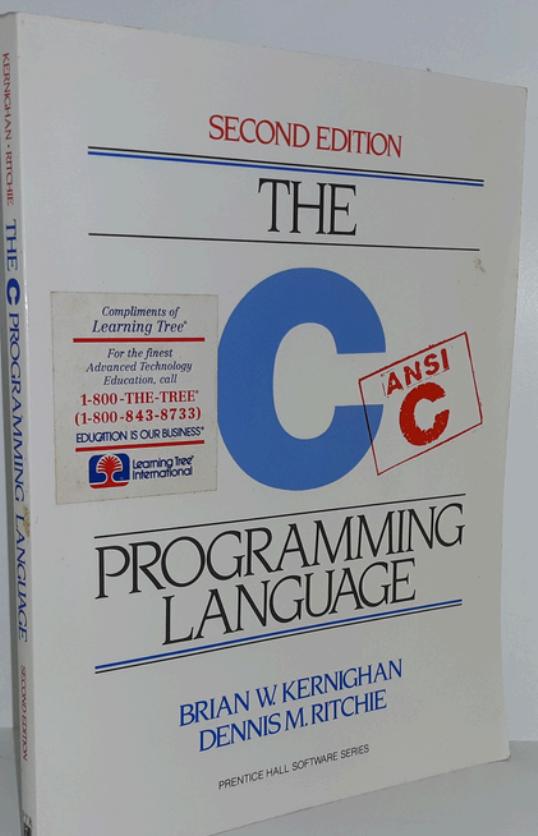
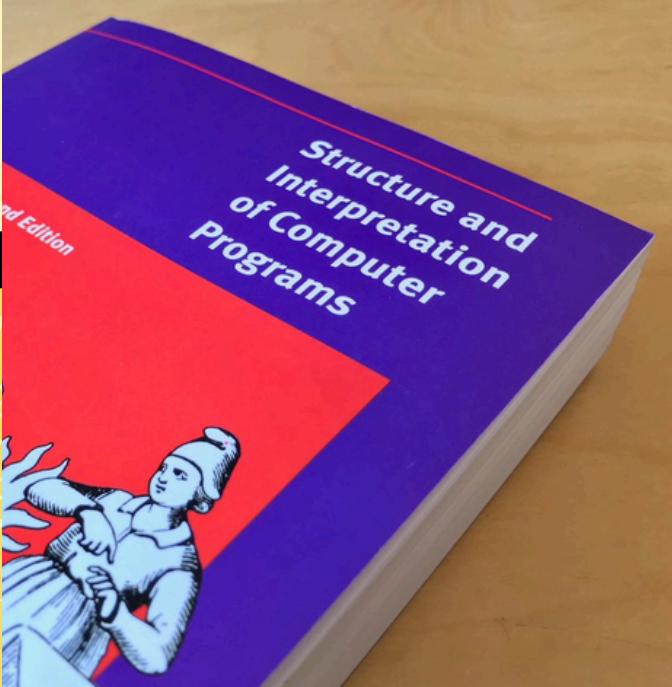
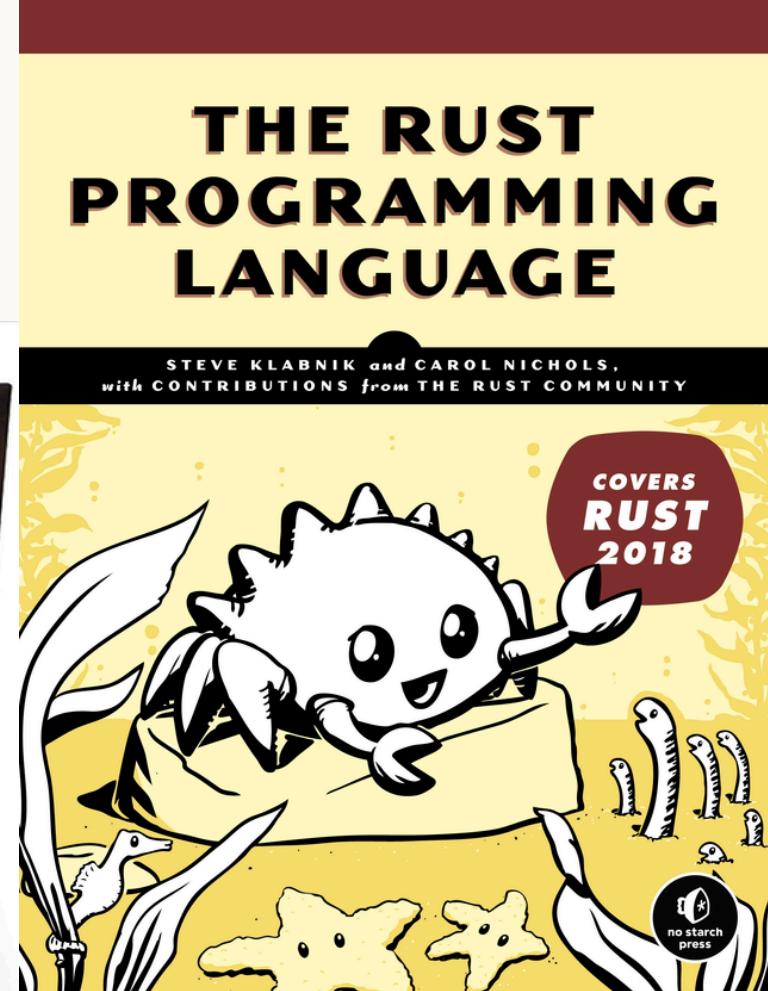
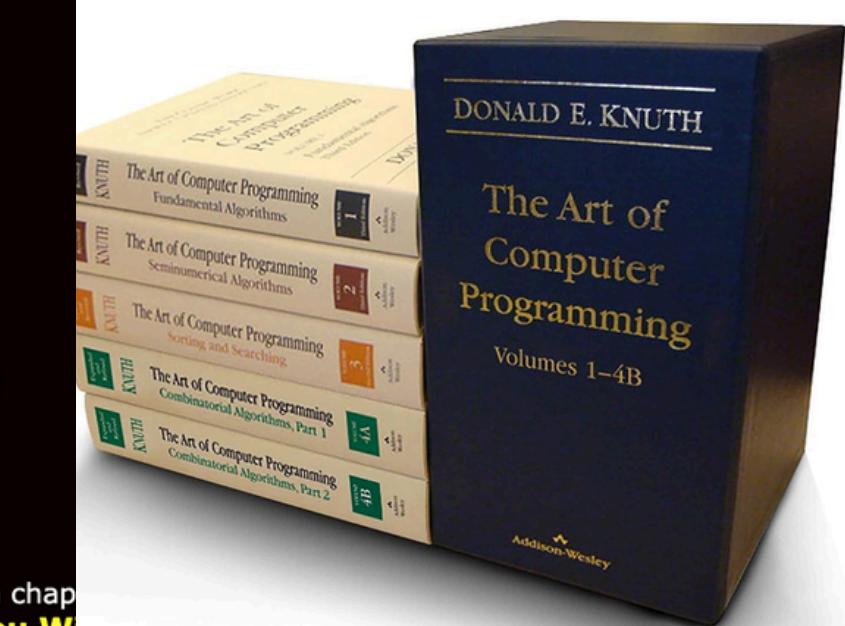
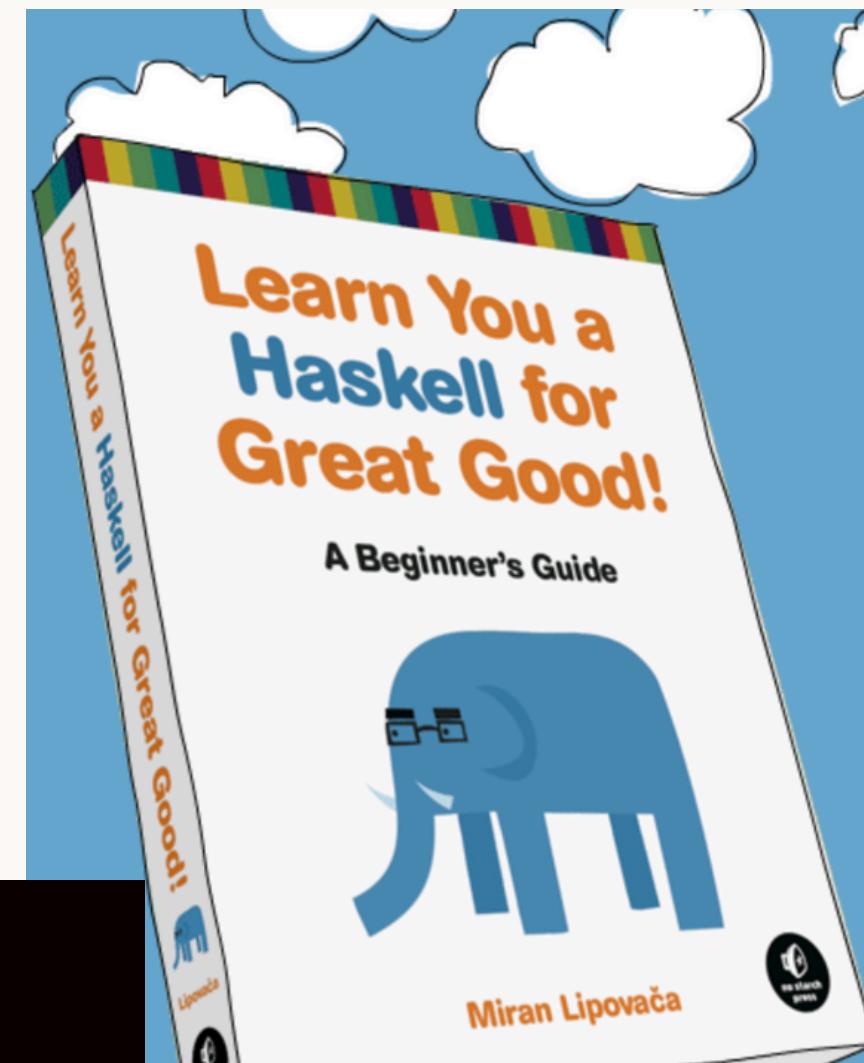
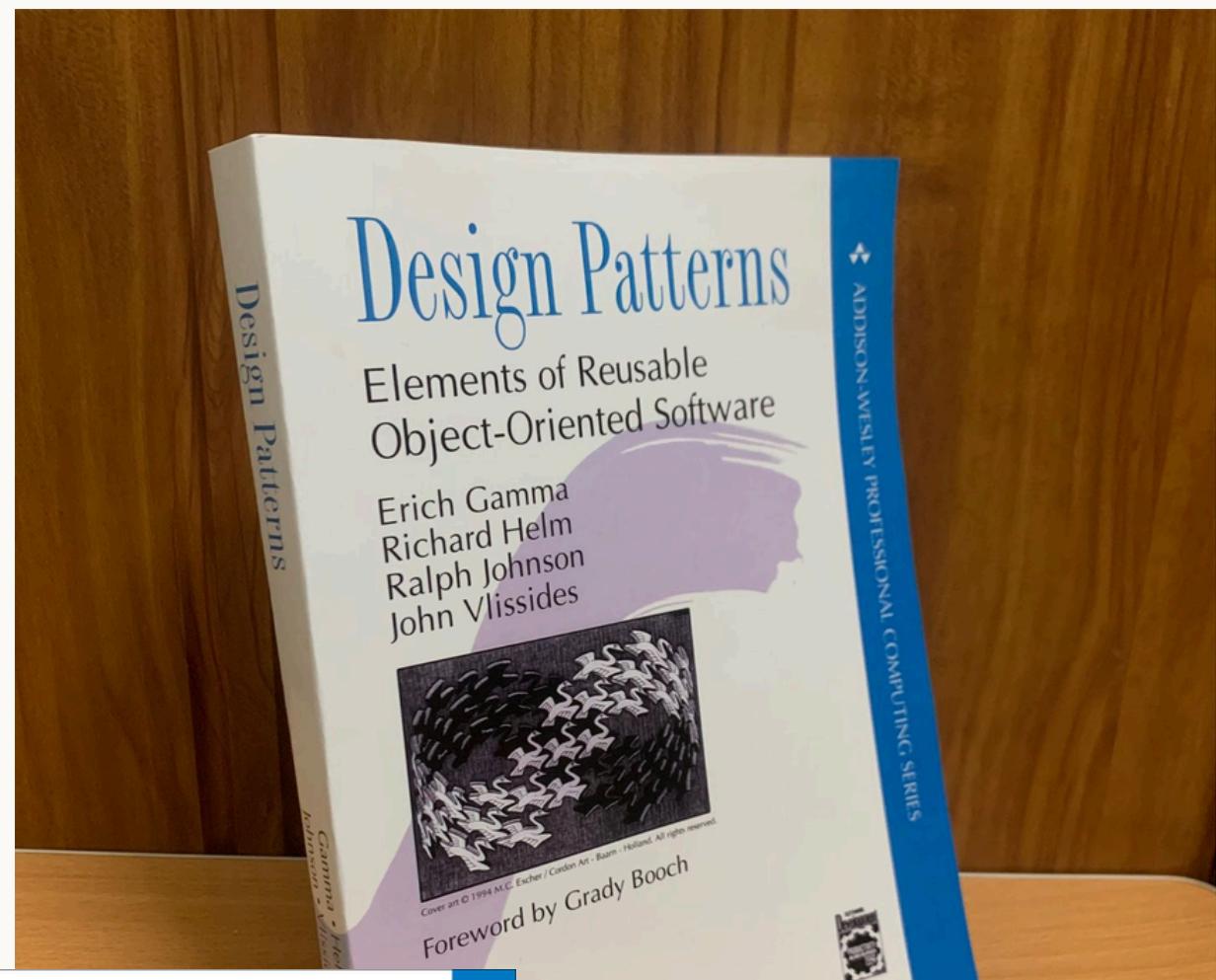
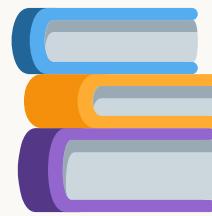
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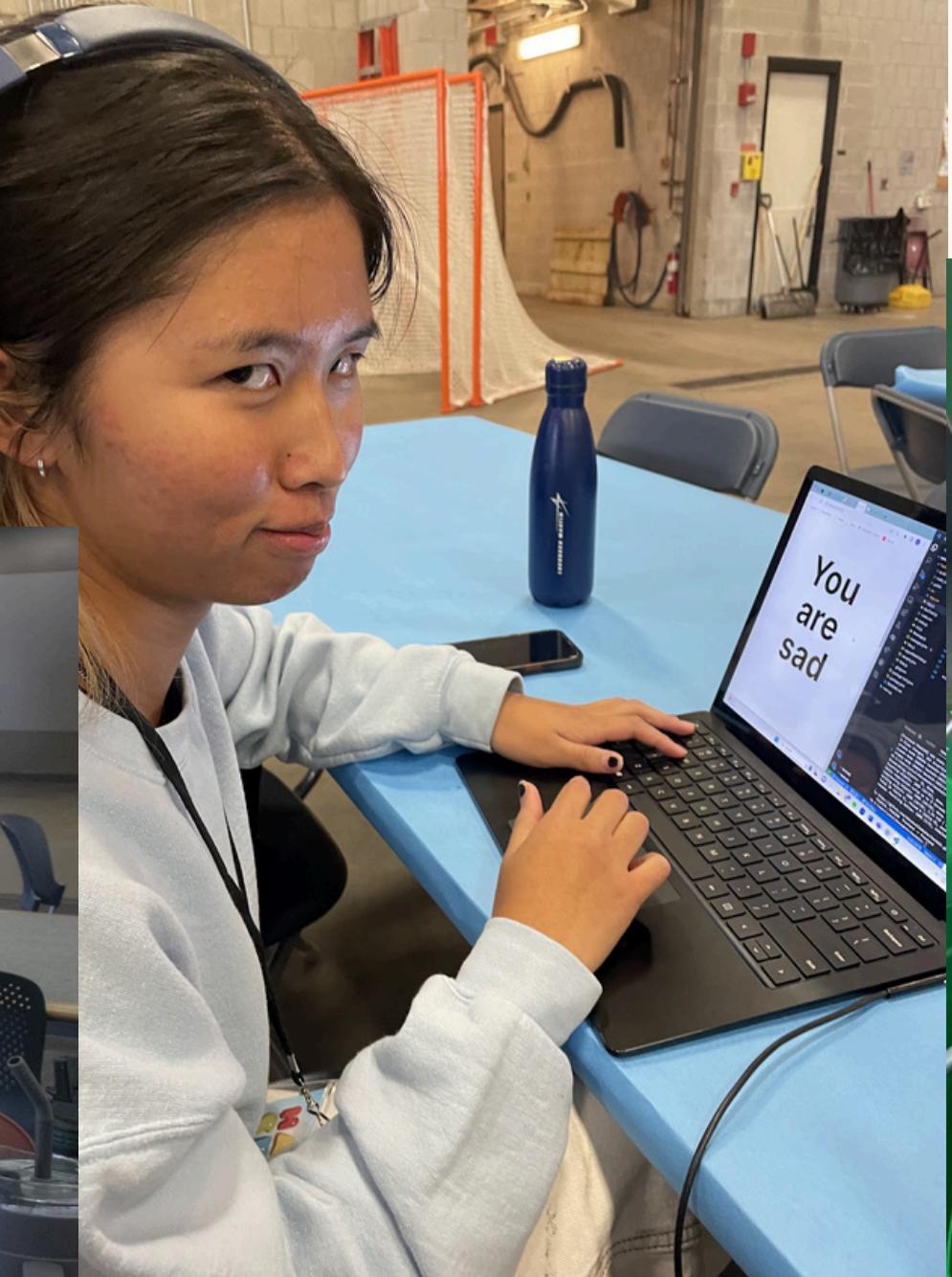


“Like Reddit but good 😎” ~ Sandy Urazayev

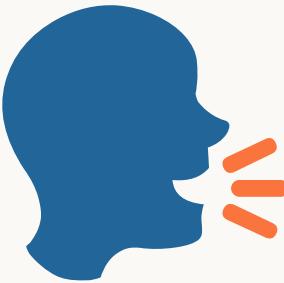
# Books!



# Hackathons!



**Talk to people!**



**Where do I even start? 😳**

**“Everyone who I’ve ever met who can program well learned it all in the same way. They had something they wanted to do, and they tried to do it.”**

**~ George Hotz**

**Unravel the Thread!** 

**“We should forget about small efficiencies, say about 97% of the time: premature optimization is the root of all evil.”**

**~ Donald E. Knuth**

# The Cult of Done Manifesto

There are three states of being.

**Not knowing, action and completion**

Accept that everything is a draft. It helps to get it done

**There is no editing stage**

Pretending you know what you're doing is almost the same as knowing what you are doing, so just accept that you know what you're doing even if you don't and do it

**Banish procrastination**

If you wait more than a week to get an idea done, abandon it

The point of being done is not to finish but to get other things done

Once you're done you can throw it away

**Laugh at perfection. It's boring  
and keeps you from being done**

People without dirty hands are wrong

Doing something makes you right

Failure counts as done. So do mistakes

Destruction is a variant of done

If you have an idea and publish it on the internet, that counts as a ghost of done

**Done is the engine  
of more**

**Above all else...**

**Have fun!**



**Don't take this stuff too seriously. 😊**

# Thank you! ❤



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[jameshurd.net/talks/learn-things](http://jameshurd.net/talks/learn-things)