

## Introduction

What must you do?  
You must submit an application  
and enclose a Curriculum Vitae.

Regardless of how long your life is,  
the Curriculum Vitae should be short.

Be concise, select facts.  
Change landscapes into addresses  
and vague memories into fixed dates.

Of all your loves, mention only the marital,  
and of the children, only those who were born.

It's more important who knows you  
than whom you know.  
Travels – only if abroad.  
Affiliations – to what, not why.  
Awards – but not for what.

Write as if you never talked with yourself,  
as if you looked at yourself from afar.

Omit dogs, cats, and birds,  
mementos, friends, dreams.

State price rather than value,  
title rather than content.  
Shoe size, not where one is going,  
the one you are supposed to be.

Enclose a photo with one ear showing.  
What counts is its shape, not what it hears.

What does it hear?  
The clatter of machinery that shreds paper.

Writing Curriculum Vitae / Włslawa Szymborska (1923–2012)

# Almog Kurtser

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## Curriculum Vitae

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### Recent deeds/follies following Klarna TLV shutdown

05/2018–10/2019 **Thru-hiker**, PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, INT, HRP.  
Hiking 2,653 miles (4,270 km) from the U.S.–Mexico Border into Canada in an unbroken-continuous-footpath.  
This hike took me through the states of California, Oregon, and Washington.  
By the end, I've climbed well over 489,418 feet in elevation through 25 National Forests and 7 National Parks.

Shortly after that, I hiked the 683 mile long (1,100 km) Israel's National Trail. Last but not least I took on a semi-winter conditions traverse of the 500+ mile long Haute Randonnée Pyrénéenne (HRP), an unmarked high-route, stretching from the Atlantic to the Mediterranean. To the best of my knowledge, I've being the last person to have successfully started (and completed it) for the 2019 hiking season in an unbroken-continuous-footpath despite abrupt winter conditions.

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### Professional experience

11/2011–04/2018 **Software Developer**, KLARNA, Tel Aviv.  
Developed, delivered, operated and maintained high quality software, used by millions of consumers and every merchant using Klarna:

- Built a (near) real-time distributed data-enrichment service that matches partial textual transaction to categories and product images, processing 1M data enrichment requests per day while handling wildly varying throughput with minimal latency. Enabled by KAFKA + NODE.JS, JENKINS CI/CD pipeline, monitoring with GRAFANA + PROMETHEUS, deployed with DOCKER on AWS.
- Developed Klarna's largest consumer facing system - started as classic RoR and evolved into a REACT Single Page App + RAILS backed API, serving and aggregating content from dozens of microservices.
- Designed and developed Klarna's merchant facing order management system, improving the everyday lives of many thousands of merchants. Based on RAILS, ANGULARJS, SINATRA (for API + OAuth 2) and SOLR to enable searching up to 3 years of data.
- Took part in developing Klarna's first non-manual merchants onboarding system, allowing salesperson to focus on sales rather than paperwork.

2007–2009 **Software Developer**, KALTURA, Ramat Gan.  
Joined as the 3rd developer, built a video editing, management and streaming platform using Flex/Actionscript as well as PYTHON for automation.

- 2006–2007 **Software Developer**, ZONE4PLAY, Tel Aviv.  
Refactored an existing gaming system by migrating its front-end from http polling to work against a Java EE backend using TCP sockets, enabling code reuse and making efficient use of network resources that resulted in 50% decrease in overall backend resources usage which led to reduced operational cost.
- 2003–2006 **Criminal Investigator & Computer Forensics Analyst**, *The Central Unit for Special Investigations*, IDF (mandatory regular service).  
Leading and teaming on dozens of investigations ranging from frauds (few of which costed millions to the taxpayer), weapons theft, drug trade and violence.

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## Recently used languages/technologies

Control plane PYTHON, RUBY, (MODERN) JS/NODE, BASH,  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , DOCKER, JENKINS  
Data plane POSTGRESQL, REDIS, KAFKA

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## Technologies I lack experience with but would love to use on my next job:

- Rust
- Haskell
- TLA+
- CRDTs

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## Areas of interest

- Distributed systems
- Competitive programming
- Long distance hiking
- Trail running
- Fantasy & Sci-Fi
- Woodworking
- Using sourdough to make friends and enemies alike
- Seamstering (mostly under the pretext of manufacturing hiking gear)

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## Volunteering

2014–2017 **Herzelia Loves Animals**.  
Rescuing, fostering and finding new homes for stray dogs

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## Languages

English Native or bilingual proficiency  
Hebrew Native or bilingual proficiency

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## Education

2009–2010 **Earned partial credit toward a B.Sc in Computer Science and Mathematics**, *The Open University of Israel*.