Brendan Winter

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Software engineer with 16 years of experience building and maintaining reliable systems for both startups and enterprise SaaS — scaling a consumer app from launch to millions in monthly ticket sales, and ensuring uptime for large cloud platforms. I take a test-driven, observability-first approach so teammates catch and fix issues before they impact users. I value teams where clarity and kindness make it safe to learn, share, and solve problems together.

Remote · Dec 2024–Present

Data Engineer · Consultant

- Built SQL models for large datasets (Athena/CDN logs, MSSQL/aged receivables) enabling clear attribution and financial reporting via Metabase dashboards shared across multiple business units.
- Refactored legacy SQL running on datasets with tens of millions of rows, adding caching and optimizing queries improving performance and simplifying maintenance.
- Used ChatGPT to help with data analysis and SQL prototyping, including building a custom GPT to maintain persistent project context, speeding up design and debugging.

 $San\ Francisco \rightarrow Seattle \rightarrow Remote \cdot 2017-2023$

Senior Software Reliability Engineer · Pivotal → VMware (2020) → Broadcom (2023)

- This role spanned three companies over the course of multiple acquisitions.
- Worked across multiple products, on both infra and dev teams, contributing to platform reliability by improving tooling and observability standards.
- Supported Pivotal's enterprise Cloud Foundry platform across two teams: a Rails-based billing and account management team, and as an SRE for Pivotal Web Services (PWS).
- Worked in a fully paired, test-driven environment that emphasized close collaboration
 — including regular cross-team rotations that turned engineers into users, and users into
 contributors.
- Facilitated Cloud Foundry onboarding a structured, hands-on curriculum that helped new hires use the platform, experience its pain points, and see where their work fit into the broader system.
- Ran Team Health Assessments (based on Spotify's model and Google's Project Aristotle) to foster psychological safety the foundation of a high-performing team.
- Led the sunsetting of the billing platform during the VMware acquisition, ensuring internal continuity and clear stakeholder handoff.
- Moved into observability-focused SRE work on the Tanzu SaaS Platform following VM-ware's acquisition, maintaining IaC and tooling for consistent SLOs and alerting.
- Standardized error handling and SLO patterns across Wavefront and Tanzu, building Terraform modules to give both teams a shared alerting and reliability foundation.

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San Francisco · 2013-2017

Founding Engineer, Gametime

- Functioned as de facto CTO during early fundraising, helping prove product viability through platform stability and scalability.
- Founding engineer scaling Gametime's backend into a stable platform supporting millions in monthly ticket sales.
- Led backend development for core systems: real-time inventory syncing, transaction processing, and third-party ticket vendor integrations many without public APIs.
- Designed a Ruby-based system architecture using MongoDB, AWS, and message queues to ensure reliable ticket purchases under high demand.
- Built resilient purchase flows that handled flaky vendor APIs and unexpected failure modes, minimizing false alarms and keeping on-call sustainable.
- Mentored early engineers and helped shape engineering practices as the team scaled; participated in hiring both ICs and engineering leadership.

Seattle, WA 2006-2008 | www.washington.edu

Bachelors of Science, University of Washington

Computer Science & Applied Mathematics

Languages

Go, Ruby, SQL, Python, Bash

Infrastructure & Observability

Terraform, AWS, Kubernetes, Metabase, Wavefront, Cloud Foundry

Databases

MongoDB, PostgreSQL, MSSQL, Athena/Iceberg

Engineering Practices

SRE principles, SLOs/SLIs, TDD, CI/CD, Agile, Pair Programming

Collaboration & Tooling

Git, JIRA