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Objective: Tech lead or engineering manager

Summary:

I'm a Javascript / product specialist, with 8 years of experience delivering great web applications (Urbit, Twitch, Metromile). I'm well-versed in several product domains, including UX design, API implementation, and devops duties, but specialize in developing highly interactive web applications. My recent tool stack includes React/Redux for JS, Figma for design, and good old HTML/CSS for UI. No tool stack beats a healthy understanding of the fundamentals; HTML, HTTP, rigorous testing, thorough processes, code standardization, et cetera.

I'm passionate about growing teams of developers, and working with executives to evolve an engineering organization. I've had the opportunity to excel at formal management positions; I've worked with multiple executives to deliver solid OKRs and product roadmaps, and maintaining relationships and morale is a reflex for me. I still also love writing code, and I think the best leaders have some expertise in the team's technology stack and domain, so I'm never afraid to get my hands dirty with doing plain software development.

Experience:

- **Ronin**   **2020 - 2021**
    - Worked at a local Kansas City company called Simplifyy. Helped them transition from a patched-together Firebase prototype application into a longer-term GraphQL + postgres store, and worked on various features and bugfixes for their multifamily investment product.
    - Spent a couple of months writing drafts of a book on civics and macroeconomics. Some incomplete chapters are featured here:
        - http://cjohnson.io/civics
        - http://clutchofthedeadhand.us/macro/debt
    - Worked with some local non-profit leaders (Connecting for Good, https://cfg.pcsforpeople.org/) to put together a computer refurbishing and support service for those in need of digital access during the Covid crisis. Organized a warehouse of used computers, and set up processes for repair, sale, and distribution.
    - Did some executive coaching for a startup called Sourcetable. Guided the CEO through the loss of a CTO, and coached him on managing developers and triaging team morale, as well as developing a project management process, hiring strategy, and giving feedback on design and product strategy.
- **Tlon - Software Manager, Interface**   **2017-2019**
    - I led the Interface department at Tlon, a decentralized computing startup backed by a16z. I managed four direct reports in a standard Scrum process, with emphasis on regular 1:1s and robust team feedback. Worked with the CEO to develop the product roadmap, improve the design/product process, and delivered successful OKRs for high-level directives.
    - Developed the flagship application, Landscape, on top of their revolutionary, decentralized computing system (Urbit), which is still in use today with several thousand users.
    - Built a design styleguide, coding standards, product/release process, and initial application from the ground up.

- **Twitch – Lead Front-End Engineer**   **2016-2017**
    - o   Lead the development process for a sweeping redesign of Twitch's highest-trafficked view, the channel page (eg, twitch.tv/lirik), which touches 15 million daily active users. Worked with a team of 8 people and saw the development process through front-to-finish.
    - o   Mentored a new intern, who delivered a spectacular feature (miniature video overlay) which significantly increased Twitch's core product metric (Minutes Watched)
    - o   Did some core architecture work in helping move Twitch from an Ember.js-based architecture to a React-based one, working with the Ember squad to adapt several teams and departments to the new framework.
    - o   As an engineer for the Web Player team, I was responsible for rendering the video UI element for all streams / videos (including ads, video controls, playback, etc.)
- **Metromile – Senior Front-End Engineer**   **2015**
    - o   As an engineer, I developed and maintained half a dozen applications (quote & enrollment application, admin tool, customer dashboard), interviewed and helped manage the front-end team, and coordinated with PMs, designers, marketing, the backend team, and accounting to design and manage various projects.
    - o   **Key accomplishment:** Leading development efforts for a full application redesign for the quote & enroll process, completed on schedule (~2 months)
- **Gain Fitness, Inc. – Software Consultant**   **Fall 2014**
    - o   Provided guidance for and helped implement Gain's web marketing presence from the ground up. Built several landing pages, in-depth user surveys, and worked with Gain's marketing team to implement a marketing campaign from scratch. In addition, I designed and implemented the core Angular services used for conversion and onboarding.
    - o   **See also:** http://trainer.gainfitness.com
    - o   **Technologies used:** Javascript (Angular 1), HTML, CSS, Rails
- **LocBox, Inc.**   **2013**
    - o   Position: Full-stack engineer
    - o   Summary: As a startup of 12 employees, Locbox required me to fill many different roles with zero training or experience. While I spent most of my time as a front-end engineer, I wore several hats including product designer, project manager, backend engineer, and devops specialist.
    - o   Tasks:
        - ▪   Converted most of our application from a Rails, form-based application to an EmberJS-powered client-driven app
        - ▪   Re-wrote the marketing site (www.locbox.com) to be fully responsive and communicate our message more clearly
        - ▪   Re-wrote the internal analytics system using MongoDB to an event-based analytics system
        - ▪   Re-factored a large codebase of CSS, JS, and HTML into a robust, well-architected codebase
        - ▪   Inherited 2 years of front-end code written by contractors, past employees, and the CEO
        - ▪   Re-wrote all front-end code (html, css, and js) to serve landing pages for our marketing campaigns (Locbox's bread-and-butter)
        - ▪   Required substantial attention to performance, accessibility, and cross-browser compatibility (IE8)
        - ▪   Responsive across all major devices and browsers
        - ▪   Substantially contributed to product design and management
        - ▪   Originated several new features based off of feedback from sales, support, and executive departments
        - ▪   Spec'd, designed, iterated, managed, fought for, and implemented these features.
    - o   **See also:** http://locbox.com/
    - o   **Technologies used:** Javascript (Ember), Ruby on Rails, Sinatra, Node.js, HTML/CSS, SASS