



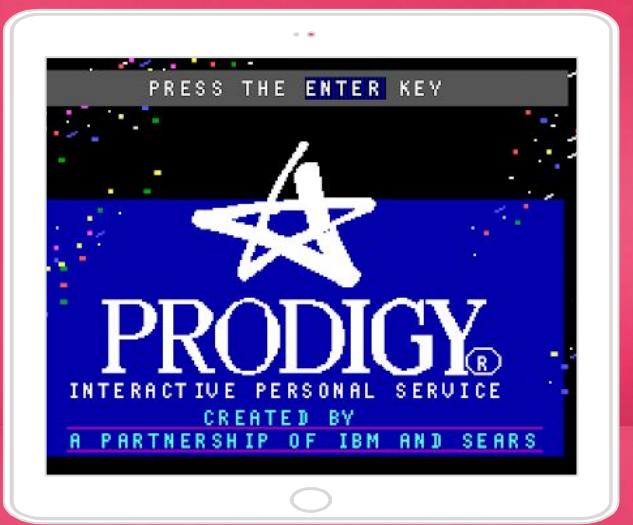
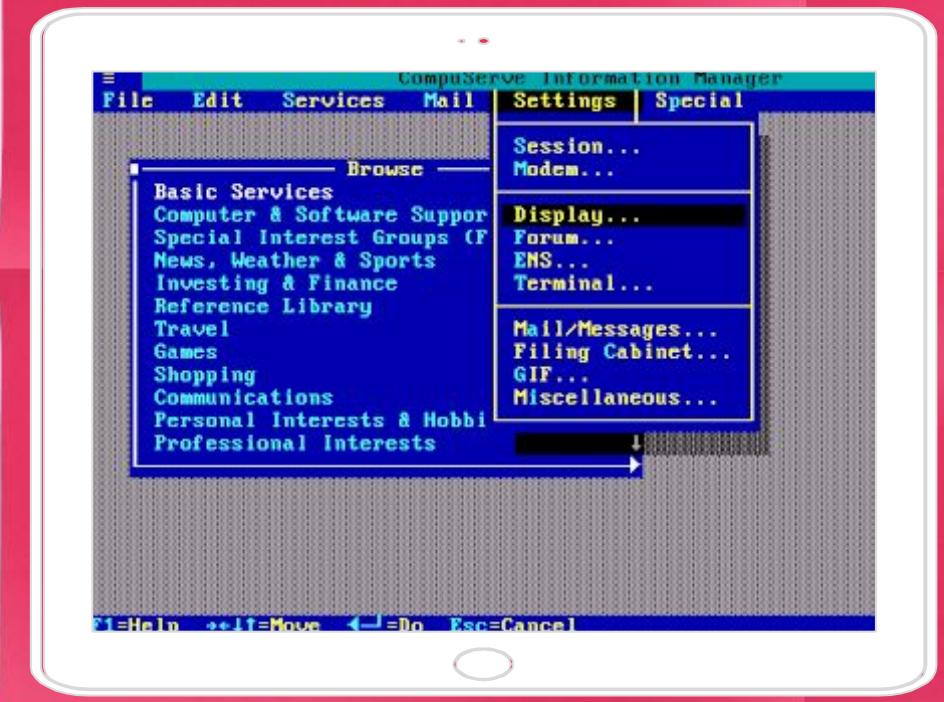
@LeonAdato

It's time to drop a..



TRUTH

# WHAT Choice?!?



Whyyyyy ????



# S.N.A.F.U.

---

- 1999 - Y2K bug avoidance
- 2000 - Everyone in I.T. takes a nap
- 2001 - Dot-com bubble bursts
- 2002 - Amazon launches AWS
- 2003 - WiFi deployed to >6,000 hotels
- 2004 - Gmail debuts
- Google indexes >8 million pages
- 2005 - YouTube uses more bandwidth in 1 year than the entire internet did in 2000
- 2006 - Y Combinator kicks off investment frenzy
- Amazon launches ECC
- 2007 - iPhone (and later, Android) debut
- 2008 - Stack overflow, Github, Twilio debut
- 2009 - Iomega Rev drive debuts
- 2010 - iPad debuts
- 4.7 billion mobile phone subscriptions
- 2011 - >600,000 iPhone/iPad apps
- >400,000 Android apps.
- >800 million FB users
- Revolution in the middle east enabled by mobile phone use
- 2012 - Tablet computers become the fastest adopted hardware in history.
- 2015 - Windows 10
- 2020 - Pandemic causes global WFH overnight
- 2021 - SolarWinds hack
- something something blockchain
- 2023 - the rise of LLM and generative AI.





# Looking back At a lifetime

by: Leon Adato  
date();

of poor technical  
choices

# Leon Adato

- ~35 yrs in tech.
- ~25 yrs monitoring & observability.
- ~10 yrs as a Tech Evangelist, DevRel Advocate, and (ugh) “Head Geek.”
- Tivoli, BMC, OpenView, janky perl scripts, Nagios, SolarWinds, DOS batch files, Zabbix, Grafana, New Relic, assorted other nightmare fuel.

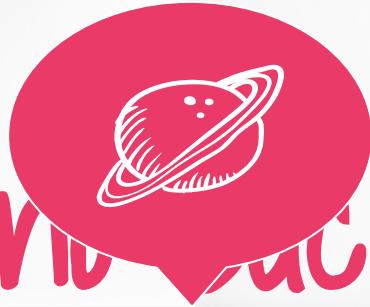
[@LeonAdato](#) on almost all social media.



This is an  
Oyster  
Talk™

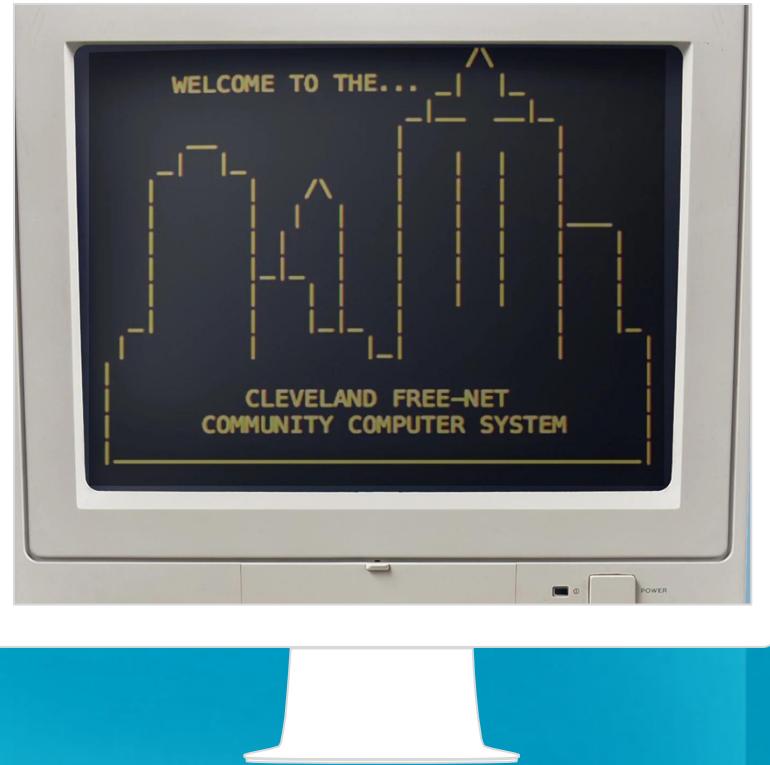


There's no such thing  
as a poor technical  
choice



OK, maybe there are a couple

- No backups
- Thinking replicas, mirrors, RAID, SAN, or VMs are a backup
- Moving fast and breaking things... IN PROD!
- You \*do\* have a test environment, right?
- Trying to do it all yourself
- Using Oracle
- Starting a land war in Asia



# The Cleveland Freenet

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

QEMU

:w



10 years later...

I KNOW NOTHING



It's the vi editor...

I know this!

I KNOW NOTHING

# It's always DNS

```
$ORIGIN tld.  
$TTL 5m  
  
example      IN      SOA     ns1.example.tld. hostmaster.example.tld. (  
                           90                      ; serial  
                           4h                      ; refresh  
                           15m                     ; retry  
                           8h                      ; expire  
                           4m)                     ; negative caching TTL  
                           IN      NS      ns1.example.tld.  
                           IN      NS      ns2.example.tld.  
                           MX      10      mail.example.tld.  
                           IN      A       127.0.0.1  
  
                           IN      TXT    "v=spf1 a mx a:mail.example.tld a:www.example.tld ?all"  
  
$ORIGIN example.tld.  
  
ns1           IN      A       127.0.0.2  
ns2           IN      A       127.0.0.3  
www          IN      CNAME   example.tld.  
mail          IN      AAAA   ::1  
mail          IN      A       127.0.0.4
```

# WordPerfect



## The title of my document

This is my document. I think I'll add a **bold** word. And maybe something underlined for a change.

this will indent some text on both sides of the screen,  
which is kind of helpful

But it's also cool to try flush-right

C:\WP51\DO\_DENU.DOC

Doc 1 Pg 1 Ln 1.67" Pos 1"

{  
[HRt]

This is my document. I think I'll add a [BOLD]bold[bold] word. [And maybe[SRT]  
something [UND]underlined[und] for a change. [HRt]

[HRt]

[→Indent←]this will indent some text on both sides of the screen,[SRT]  
which is kind of helpful[HRt]

[HRt]

[Flsh Rgt]But it's also cool to try flush[-]right[HRt]

[HRt]

[HRt]

Press Reveal Codes to restore screen

<P>

This is my document. I think I'll add a **bold** word. And maybe   
 something underlined for a change

**<blockquote>**this will indent some text on both sides of the screen,**<br/>**  
which is kind of helpful**</blockquote>**

**<P align="right">But it's also cool to try flush-right</P>**

{ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲ }  
[HRt]  
This is my document. I think I'll add a [BOLD]bold[bold] word. █ And maybe [SRt]  
something [UND]underlined[und] for a change. [HRt]  
[HRt]  
[→Indent←]this will indent some text on both sides of the screen, [SRt]  
which is kind of helpful [HRt]  
[HRt]  
[Flsh Rgt]But it's also cool to try flush[-]right [HRt]  
[HRt]  
[HRt]

Press Reveal Codes to restore screen

# My newsletter phase



Scroll down to see the link with the latest news items. If there's something I'm missing, just let me know!

- [1997-01-01](#)
- [1997-01-08](#)
- [1997-01-15](#)
- [1997-01-22](#)
- [1997-01-29](#)
- [1997-02-05](#)
- [1997-02-12](#)

# My Newsletter Phase

# Perl

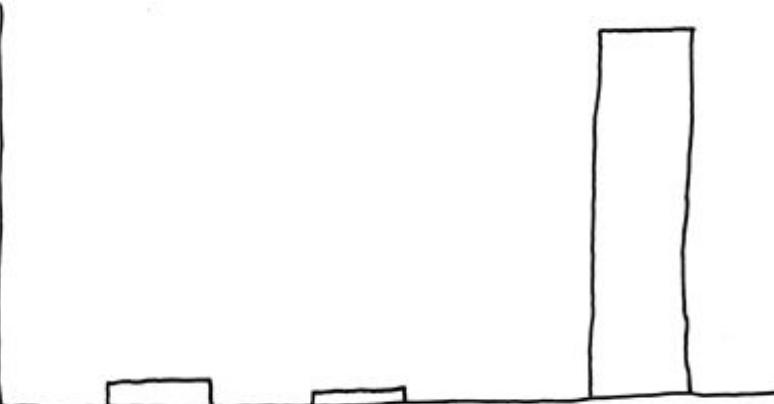
## 11TH-GRADE ACTIVITIES:

USEFULNESS  
TO CAREER  
SUCCESS

900 HOURS  
OF CLASSES

400 HOURS  
OF HOMEWORK

ONE WEEKEND  
MESSING WITH  
PERL



The Tivoli logo consists of the word "Tivoli" in a bold, italicized serif font. The letters are white, set against a solid red rectangular background. The red rectangle is positioned in the center of the slide, with a thin white border separating it from the surrounding light gray area.

*Tivoli*

# Tivoli

THE POWER TO MANAGE ANYTHING. ANYWHERE.



# Tivoli

THE POWER TO MANAGE ANYTHING. ANYWHERE.



Designed by M. Scharlock

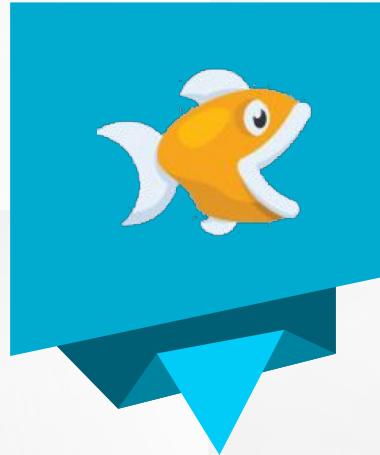


- Setup SMS 2.0
- Release Notes
- Install IE 4.01
- Install ILM 1.0 SP3
- Exit

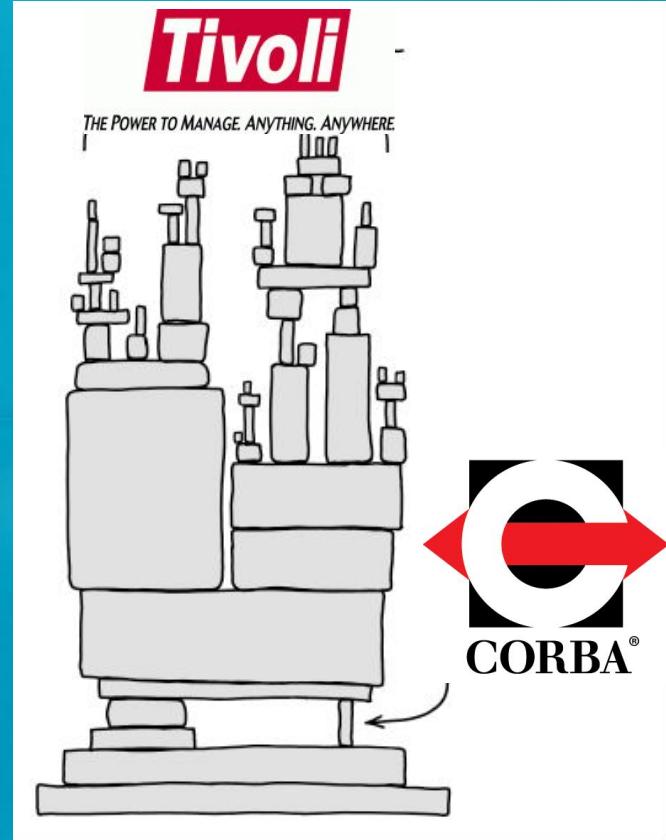
Perform a full

SMS  
(not actually  
pictured here)

10 lbs of sh\*t in a 5 lb sack



*Standing on the  
shoulders of...*





A Nice Place to Visit...

IT wasn't me! (this time)

- Two sev 1 events, 1 week apart
- Both from a config change in prod
- One person given a stern talking to
- One person walked to the door

# "Alerts" don't suck. YOUR alerts suck!



This alert would be immediately triggered on 32,000,000 object(s) in alert scope. [Show list](#). If this behavior is not expected, try to [adjust the trigger condition](#).



Choose your  
own  
adventure  
disaster

# Choose your own ~~adventure~~ disaster

- Doing Kubernetes
- NOT doing Kubernetes
- ChatGPT
- Blockchain
- Using <this> framework
- ...or language
- ...or platform
- AWS vs Azure vs GCP
- Oracle
- On prem vs colo vs cloud vs hybrid
- Monitoring with x solution
- ...vs y solution
- ...vs ALL the solutions
- ...vs building it yourself

"There's always a next thing" - Seth Godin



“This thing, the thing we have now,  
is worth working with, because  
it offers so many opportunities  
compared with merely waiting  
for the next thing.”

# What's the REAL lesson?

- There are no bad tech choices?
- The REAL treasure was the cables we collected along the way?
- Or maybe it's something else...



# Legacy of a misspent youth

Directed  
Pixar movies

- “Loquacious”
- Obsessive journaling
- Theater

Did NOT Direct  
Pixar movies

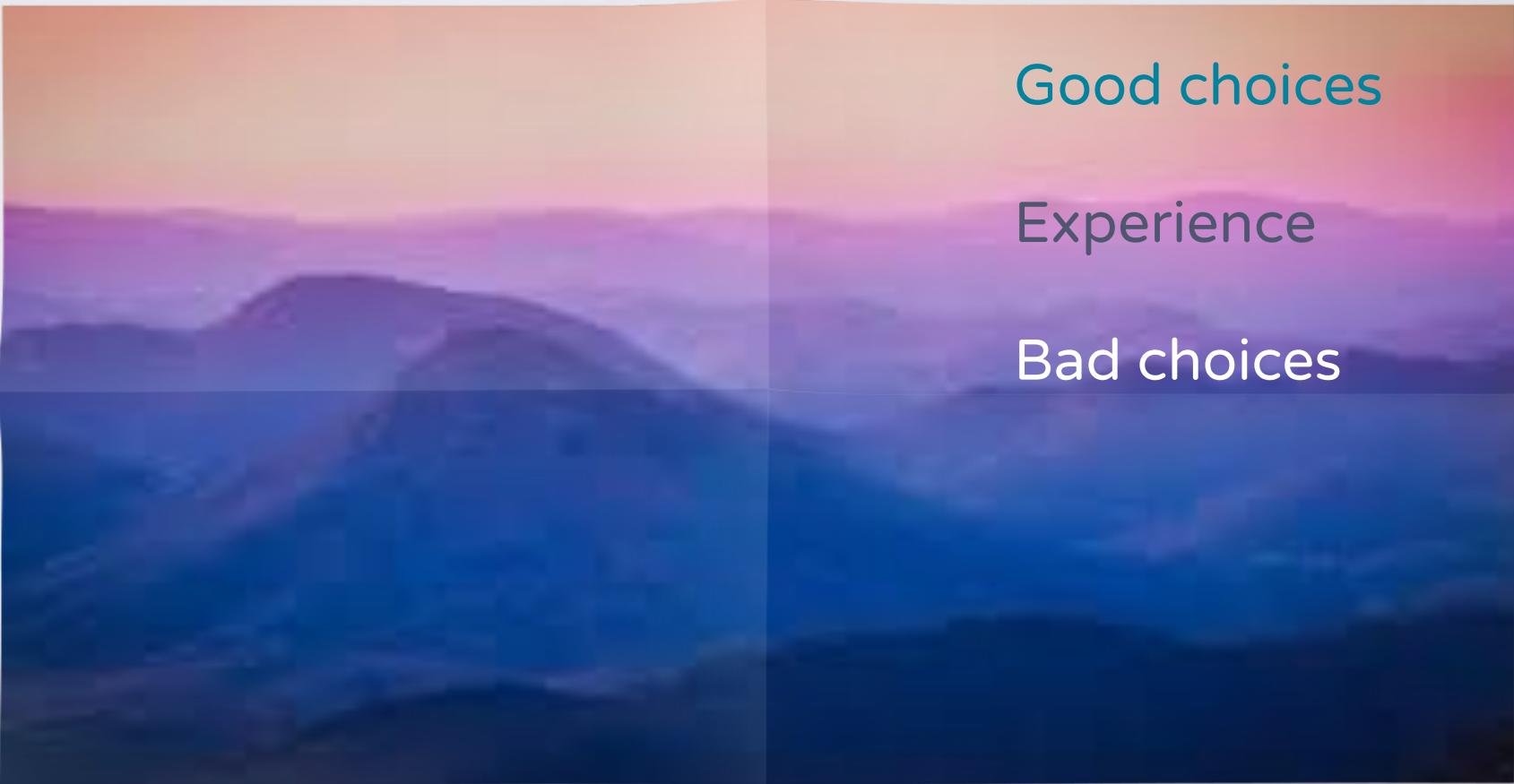


## How to DevRel

---

- Talking to customers
- Participating in online forums
- Creating videos
- Presenting conference talks
- Being on podcasts
- Writing blog posts
- ...and more!

TH THAT? WHAT ARE  
THAT? WHAT ARE YOU  
WHAT ARE YOU GOING  
ARE YOU GOING TO DO  
YOU GOING TO DO WITH  
IG TO DO WITH THAT?  
DO WITH THAT? W



Good choices

Experience

Bad choices

“I have found that among its other benefits,  
giving liberates the soul of the giver.”  
- Dr. Maya Angelou

“It is not an either-or proposition,  
either help others or help yourself.  
You help yourself by helping others.”  
- Dean Koontz

## Call For Papers Listings for 1/10

Posted on January 10, 2025 by Leon

This is a list of the next 10 upcoming tech conferences that have an open “Call for Papers” (CFP), in order of the CFP closing date. For a complete list, please check...

## CFP Tracker list:

Event Name	City	Country	Event Start	Event End	CFP Close	Event URL	CFP URL
Technical Summit	Munich	Germany	2025-03-19	2025-03-19	2025-01-10	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>
MakeIT & JCON	Portoroz	Slovenia	2025-05-28	2025-05-30	2025-01-10	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>
Global Power Platform Bootcamp Copenhagen	Copenhagen	Denmark	2025-02-21	2025-02-21	2025-01-11	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>
Data Saturdays Pordenone	Pordenone	Italy	2025-02-22	2025-02-22	2025-01-11	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>
DevOpsDays Aarhus	Aarhus	Denmark	2025-04-29	2025-04-30	2025-01-11	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>
PHP Day	Verona	Italy	2025-05-15	2025-05-16	2025-01-11	<a href="#">Link</a>	<a href="#">Link</a>

- 14 different companies
- 36 years



# AdatoSystems.com

## Job listings for week ending 1/10

Posted on January 10, 2025 by Leon

If you're not sure what this job list is all about, check out my handy "About the Weekly Job Listing post" explainer. You can also use this form to manage your subscription to this email, a...

## WEEKLY LISTING OF NEW JOBS

\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*

TurbineOne is hiring ML and Product Engineers. Company is fully remote with no central office or time zone restrictions (largest clusters of employees are in the Northwest, San Diego, DC, and North Carolina). Due to being remote only, there are travel requirements, roughly 10%. Sector is national defense

Senior/Principal, Product Engineering

<https://job-boards.greenhouse.io/turbineone/jobs/4047634008>

ML Engineer

<https://job-boards.greenhouse.io/turbineone/jobs/4072594008>

\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*

Senior Developer Advocate at Astronomer

<https://jobs.ashbyhq.com/astronomer/a23647e5-9bf9-434b-9bf0-3059340e4bd6>

\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*-\*

Job Title: Backend Developer

About Us:

A consulting company that specializes in software customization, streamlining backend processes for clients. They provide tailored solutions for all level businesses to achieve operational efficiency.

# Category: career



## My Favorite Interview Question

Posted on January 13, 2025 by Leon

Interviews are on my mind again (read into that whatever you want) and I've been having conversations about the experience on both sides of the Zoom camera. Finding out whether a candidate...



## Hiring Superstitions: Things that might be a thing

Posted on September 30, 2024 by Leon

In my last post, I started exploring things I've heard from job-seekers that arise more from anxiety and lack of experience than fact. In this essay I wanted to continue that line...



## Hiring Superstitions: Things that aren't a thing

Posted on September 23, 2024 by Leon

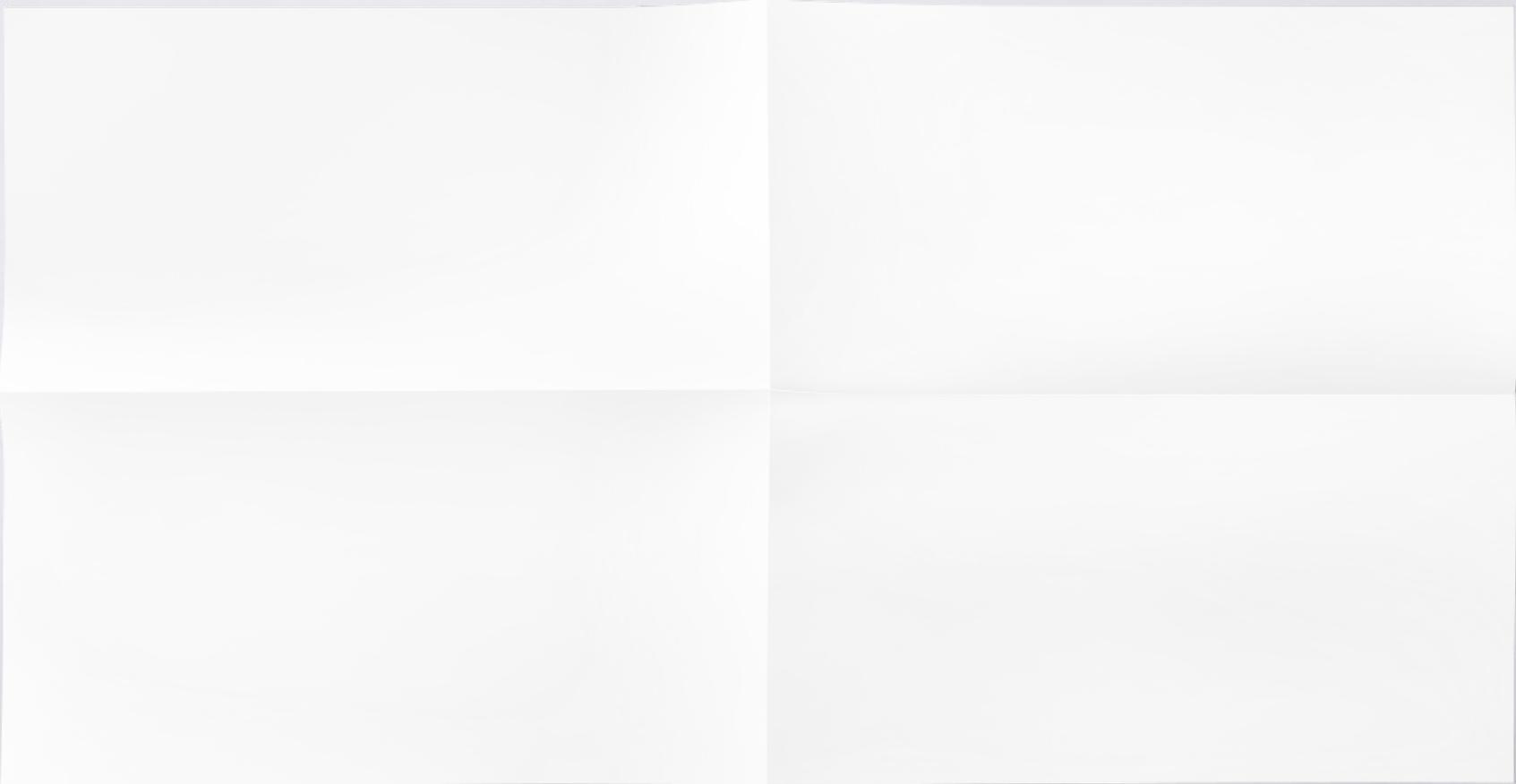
According to medical experts, people believe superstitions in order to produce "a false sense of having control over outer conditions, and reduce anxiety. This is also why superstitions are prevalent in conditions..."

There are no poor technical  
choices  
because

It's not about the tech

It's was never about the tech

It's will always be about you



# github.com / LeonAdato /

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for the user 'LeonAdato'. The repository name is 'os\_poor-tech-choices' and it is public. The main branch is 'main' with 1 branch and 0 tags. There are 7 commits from 'LeonAdato' in the 'Update readme.md' commit message. The commits are listed as follows:

File	Description	Time
images	initial push of slides, images, and information	4 months ago
OpenSource_Poor-tech-choices.odp	initial push of slides, images, and information	4 months ago
OpenSource_Poor-tech-choices.pdf	initial push of slides, images, and information	4 months ago
OpenSource_Poor-tech-choices.pptx	initial push of slides, images, and information	4 months ago
abstracts.md	initial push of slides, images, and information	4 months ago
readme.md	Update readme.md	now

The 'readme.md' file contains the following text:

**Open Source Conference Talk: "Looking Back at a Lifetime of Poor Technical Choices".**

Are you ~~IRRITATED~~?

I'm READY  
for your questions

@LeonAdato