Paul Murphy was born on the 18th of October 1989 in the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead London. His Mother was Mary Murtagh, born in 1956 in Kilkenny and his Father was born in Birmingham to Irish parents and moved back to Caven as a child where he grew up. Paul was their first born and when he was a year old the family moved to Dublin, where he grew up and went to school. In 1992, (on tom's birthday) Pauls brother Tom was born and on the 24th of September 1999, his sister Emer was born(That's me). His secondary school was Scoil Caitriona. His favourite subject in school was Physics and he hoped to study Theoretical Physics in college. Theoretical Physics was his first choice on his CAO and Computer Science was his fourth but he was only interested in Physics. He had only put Computer Science on his CAO because he didn't know what to put down and his Mother had worked for a short time in the field before and she encouraged him to put it down as default. He was devastated with his results and the course he got was Computer Science in Trinity College Dublin, which was 350 points that year. The day before starting he told his parents that he hated computers. He didn't realise that so much of Computer Science is Logic and Maths. He had no interest in computers and thought the course was not for him. However, once he started it, within a couple of weeks he really liked the course. He was amazed by the machine code and how so much of the technology that we use everyday boils down to bits and bytes. The more he studied Computer Science the more his enthusiasm grew for the course particularly when he realised all the opportunities that he would have when he left college. His first job was with Murex. In Murex he was a Project Leader and Senior Developer. Paul was working on the provision of trading and risk management technology, to coordinate the worldwide development, sales and support of its cutting edge risk management technology. Paul contributed to software that is used by the world's leading

investment banks, asset managers, hedge funds, commodity houses and corporations to price, analyse and manage their derivative exposures for foreign exchange, interest rate, equity, commodity, inflation and credit derivatives. He then worked in the startup Teckro where he worked on clinical trial software that connects all study stakeholders via a digital engagement platform. Global pharmaceuticals and emerging biotechnology companies alike rely on this software for all trial phases and therapeutic areas. Paul is extremely passionate about AI and so when he was working at Teckro he built a QA system using neural networks which was able to answer questions it had never seen before. In 2021, Paul started work with a start up called Get Dad, it's a sustainable plant based meal delivery app. All the meals are delivered in compostable boxes by bicycle. He is one of the only two software developers working for the company. Paul and the other developer built the entire app. At the moment Get Dad only delivers in London but they are planning to expand.

Even though he hasn't contributed as much to Software Engineering as Ida Lovelace, the reason I decided to write this essay about Paul is because I wouldn't be studying Computer Science without him, (and writing this Essay). As a woman in technology I don't have many role models. In school I loved maths, science, sport, the environment, equality, food and art. I was never interested in video games or "nerdy" things, the things associated with the stereotypically Computer Science student. I was really inspired by Paul because I saw someone that had similar interests and a similar personality to me really love the subject Computer Science, even though initially he didn't want to study Computer Science, I could relate to that. Paul is 10 years older than me so I saw him go through college, I saw him love the

course and then I saw how excited he was about the opportunities he had. Computer Science gave him a lot of freedom, he could travel with his job and if he wanted to change jobs he had so many options with very good salaries. I could see someone that I related to enjoy the course and so I knew that I could. In first year, I didn't love the course, I felt overwhelmed by all the different modules and just installing all the different softwares onto my laptop was difficult. However, in second year my confidence grew and I started to appreciate how powerful Software Engineering can be and everyone can enjoy Computer Science. Technology is so important in nearly every industry nowadays so if I want I can go into Sport, Science, Business or Food. Not only have I learnt so many things about coding and hardware, I have also learnt the importance of role models for younger women not only in the tech industry but in sport, business and politics etc. However, it is essential that there are more women in tech. Technology is so influential in today's society and if there is only one type of gender making decisions there will be an inherent byes. Gender equality is important for everyone, "No industry or country can reach its full potential until women reach their full potential. This is especially true of science and technology, where women with a surplus of talent still face a deficit of opportunity". (I need to cite womenintech .co.uk). Last summer, Paul encouraged me to do an internship with Get Dad. I'm passionate about the environment and plant based food so this was a lot of fun for me. I learned so much about the different components involved in developing an app. It was difficult but I learned a lot.