Elizabeth Zagroba: Leader, Questioner, Tester

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I do these everyday in my current role; I routinely coach others in these skills.

- Figure out when Cucumber Java Selenium tests can be written to point to the API endpoints instead
- Uncover and deliver relevant, timely, risk-based information about the system by reading the code and documentation that's already there, exploratory testing, active listening, and modeling
- Communicate unwelcome messages about required changes in ways that connect with people
- Break down investments in process, quality, and career development into this-week-sized chunks
- Follow through on problems annoying enough that people don't even want to talk to you about them
- Find ways to speed up or eliminate specific tasks so teams entrenched in toil can escape

I did these in the past, I don't typically do them in my current role.

- Build things using Python, OpenAPI, Yaml, Markdown, Playwright, HTML, CSS, Javascript, JQL
- Onboard new joiners, teach them how to help themselves without overwhelming them at the start
- Describe and capture the decisions I'm making, the things I'm noticing, and the directions I'm going while reviewing code, facilitating agile ceremonies, interviewing, exploring in a pair or ensemble
- Feel my way through maintaining a side project Python script for gitlab pipeline deployments
- Write bugs that capture the problem clearly enough for them to be picked up in my absence

I jumped into these roles to fill a void because I am a generalist who wants work to flow.

- Developer: pair with a developer, review code, create an architecture diagram, write release notes
- Leader: keep conversations on track, follow up to unblock work, create environments for contribution
- Token white woman: ignore instead of getting distracted by useless men; amplify and build skills of other women; strengthen the integrity of your panel, conference, or team; advocate for real diversity

I worked as a tester and leader with increasing levels of responsibility at these places.

- Mendix [low-code software platform] {Excellence and Impact awards} (May 2018 - present)
- Medidata [clinical trial software platform] (Nov. 2016 - Apr. 2018)
- Huge [digital agency] {Collaboration award} (Apr. 2015 - Oct. 2016)
- New York Public Radio [news & classical music] (Aug. 2009 - Mar. 2015)

I was chosen to speak or facilitate workshops on these topics.

- Testing: live exploratory testing, exploratory testing charters, test reporting, API testing
- Not exactly testing: architecture, code review, ensembling/mobbing, pipelines, shadow IT

I actively participated in trainings on these topics under the guidance of these experts.

- Problem Solving Leadership - Esther Derby & Don Gray
- Black Box Software Testing - Foundations, Bug Advocacy, and Test Design
- Test Leadership & Advanced Test Strategy Workshops - Fiona Charles

I was selected for my professional expertise to help make these events successful.

- Friends of Good Software conf organizers, Agile Testing Days & HUSTEF program committees

I graduated Summa Cum Laude from: Colby College, BA in Mathematics (2005-2009)