Blah Blah,

Four not-so-easy steps to implementing a data-driven security program.

Becoming Data Driven

We wanted to wrap up the book with a handful of things you should focus on as you head back to work. Becoming Data-driven doesn’t just mean firing up R or python, it’s a shift in perspective.

It begins with asking questions that can be answered by data, and then having data to answer them.

The first two present a chicken and egg problem. We want to ask questions that we have data for and we only want to gather data that help answer questions.

**Ask questions that have objective answers.** This sounds a lot easier than it is.

just enough to answer the question and seek comparisons

**Figure out what data you have (and get it).** Pursuing a data driven security program is not a grass roots effort. Getting access to data, especially the helpful data may require you to hop across many silos in the organization. If you are a leader in your organization, make it happen, if you are a practioner, find a leader.

this will

**Think of failure as another way to not proceed. failure is unavoidable towards success. Failure isn’t just an option, it’s a way of life.** Try everything. Discovery Do not attempt to build a data-driven security program as a structured waterfall project (^1 - A waterfall project is when each stage is set up to follow the one preceeding it and it flow from beginning to end).

You will be sailing a ship into uncharted territory and you will encounter failure. Just remember that as things start to click, they will *really click*. Do not expect to stand up an analytics platform and all your worries will melt away, this will

I used to be an expert before I started with data.

**Find Statistics.** We debated on putting this at the top of the list. There are two options here: Hire someone with a background in statistics or start sending enhancing current employees with training and education.

**Visualize Everything, describe all data.**