

# SAM MARKHAM

## SOFTWARE ENGINEER

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Full stack software engineer with experience in Ruby and Javascript, including Rails and React frameworks. Developing further skills in PostgreSQL. My previous adventures include a decade of solving problems through writing, editing, critique and collaboration across many fields, from fiction and a published sociology paper to graphic novels and press releases. My blend of skills in collaboration, communication, analysis and creativity supplement my hard skills in coding. I enjoy putting my mind to a blank page and crafting something tangible and useful.

## Skills

### TECHNOLOGIES

Ruby  
Rails  
SQL  
Postgres  
JavaScript  
React  
Redux  
HTML  
CSS  
Node  
Nokogiri  
Git  
Regex (Ruby, JS)  
Adobe  
Photoshop  
InDesign

## Education

Flatiron School  
June 2019 to May 2020  
Full Stack Software Engineering, Ruby on Rails and JavaScript program

University of British Columbia  
Sept. 2009 to May 2015  
BFA Creative Writing & Sociology 2015

## Projects

### Novel Tracker

Apr. 2020 to Present

Github FrontEnd | Github BackEnd | Demo Video | Deployed Demo

An app for writers to keep track of their writing progress in a yearly novel writing contest (*Created for Codex Writers' Group, an online community of active speculative fiction writers*)

- Developed a Rails API backend with endpoints for users, novels, badges, and badge types
- Backed the API with a Postgres database to facilitate smooth deployment to Heroku
- Implemented user interface using React and Redux with reactstrap for styling
- Implemented forgot/reset password functionality to prepare for live use
- Deployed backend server to Heroku and frontend to Netlify

### PokéTeam Builder

Feb. 2020 to Present

Github | Demo Video

A tactile way for Pokémon fans to quickly visualize the official heights of their favourite Pokémon

- Scraped PokéAPI to populate Rails backend with information on over 300 Pokémon
- Implemented simple user interface using JavaScript click events to allow users to drag images around
- Utilized asynchronous functions to keep the API updated with changes to image position
- Styled frontend using Bootstrap to enhance user experience

### Collab Writing App

Dec. 2019 to Dec. 2019

Github | Demo Video

A content management system for writers to keep track of group novel projects

- Utilized OAuth to allow users to sign up with Google
- Implemented has\_many\_through relationships in Rails to allow users to be collaborators on many novels, and also to allow novels to each have many collaborators
- Used a role-based authorization system and helper methods to whitelist actions to specific user roles
- Utilized Action Text to enable rich text editing for novel text

## Employment

### Harbour Publishing | Douglas & McIntyre

Madeira Park, BC | Vancouver, BC

Book Publicist

Sept. 2014 to Dec. 2017, Mar. 2019 to Mar. 2020

- Utilized writing skills creating and editing a wide variety of marketing materials for 30+ books as lead publicist, including writing and designing press releases, event releases and posters
- Honed coordination and problem-solving skills by designing, setting up, and when necessary, troubleshooting author tours for over 20 authors across Canada and the US
- Mentored new hires and university co-op students
- Wrote a weekly newsletter for sales reps in HTML
- Gained extensive experience working remotely after relocation to Vancouver in Fall 2015

### Marketing Assistant

Madeira Park, BC  
May 2014 to Aug. 2014

### Freelance

Developmental Editor

2008 to Present

- Employed critique skills and ability to work to deadlines giving professional constructive critique and detailing both grammatical and content edits on written works, including the works of 5+ professionally published authors

### Vancouver Symphony Orchestra

Vancouver, BC

Lotteries Assistant

Sept. 2013 to Dec. 2013

- Managed a large pool of volunteers and processed lottery tickets using the Tessitura database management system

### Vancouver Chamber Choir

Vancouver, BC

Marketing Assistant

June 2012 to Aug. 2012

- Coordinated the production and distribution of five brochures for the choir's educational programs
- Utilized copy-editing skills proofing the Choir's website and 2012-2013 season brochure

### UBC Faculty of Applied Science

Vancouver, BC

Communications Assistant

May 2011 to Apr. 2012

- Developed professional writing skills by writing articles and press releases for the Faculty's blogs and print media
- Represented the Faculty in phone and in-person interviews with faculty, students and alumni

## Publications & Conferences

Featured fiction reader, UBC Graduate Conference in Children's Literature (2012 & 2016)

Featured fiction reader, Read Out Loud, Sunshine Coast Pride's queer literary salon (2015)

Interview with Kendare Blake, author of the award-winning *Anna Dressed in Blood*, published in *Nineteen Questions* magazine (2014)

Research paper, "Bill C-389: What is the media really saying about transgender rights?" published in *Sojourners: Undergraduate Journal of Sociology* (2011/2012)