



Like Flex in JS

Simeon Bateman
simeon@pnwrain.com
[@simBateman](https://twitter.com/simBateman)

Simeon Bateman

Developer/Consultant
Flex and AIR Trainer
Java/Ruby/Node Developer
Spoon Board Member



In the beginning there was HTML and it was good.
But there were many browsers and HTML was not
consistently implemented

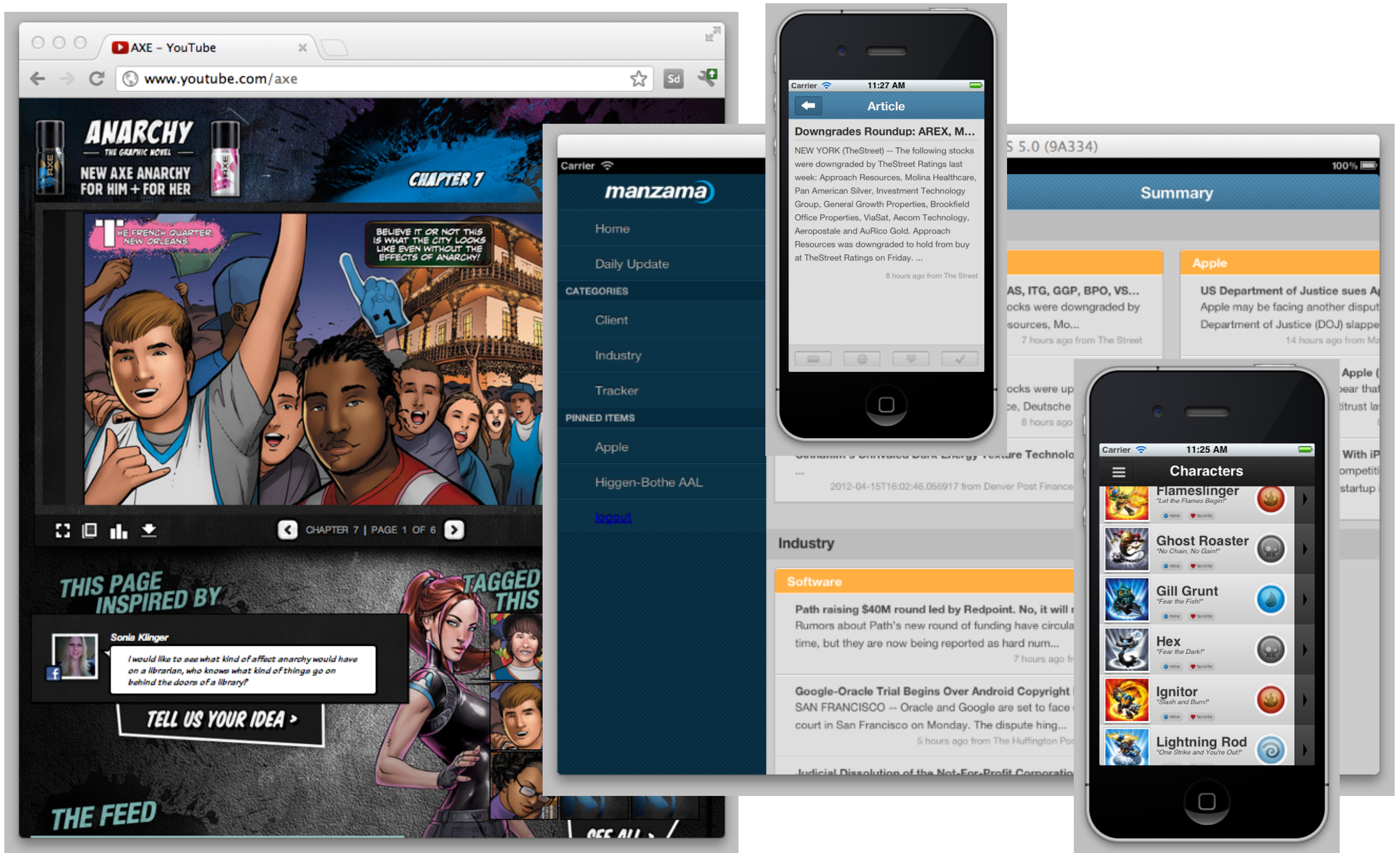
Flash was a plugin with great reach and penetration. It ran everywhere and it was said that it was good.

But then came the day when the prophet Steve said that he was not happy with Flash. And he cried out that it would not run on his tablets.

And thus Simeon was cast out of the promised land to search for a new tool to build apps for all clients and platforms.

The journey began ~ 2 years ago...

How can I build solutions for all of this with one technology



What features of Flex development do we want?

- Components
- Layout
- Classes/OOP
- Events
- MVC
- Skinning
- Tooling

What Alternatives are there to replace the whole #!

- Sencha
 - Desktop and Mobile
 - Great Components
- Cappuccino
 - Objective-J
- Sproutcore
 - Desktop
 - Sproutcore 2.0 name Ember

Sencha Provides the Gold Standard Experience



The image shows three mobile devices displaying Sencha Touch 2 applications. A tablet in the background shows a 'WATCH' app with a 'Chronicle' section. A smartphone in the foreground shows a 'JOG WITH FRIENDS' app. Another smartphone shows a 'List' app with a list of names: Damien Derville, Damien Schreier, Dona Claude, Dona Tatman, Elinor Rockholder, and Esmeralda Kutzer.

The Best Framework Just Got Better

Build HTML5 mobile apps for iPhone, Android, and BlackBerry.

With over 50 built-in components, state management, and a built-in MVC system, Sencha Touch 2 provides everything you need to create immersive mobile apps.

[View Examples](#)



Watch Video

But the learning curve is rough and the development model is non-standard to HTML developers

If your clients need a vendor to blame when things go wrong. Choose Sencha ;)

The out of the box frameworks did not provide the flexibility I was looking for.

And post Adobe November '11, I am leery to put all my eggs in one vendors basket.

What is a guy to do?

Javascript



- Scoping
- “Classes”
- Inheritance

```
var Person = (function() {  
    var name;  
  
    Person.name = 'Person';  
  
    name = "Not Set";  
  
    function Person(name) {  
        this.name = name;  
    }  
  
    Person.prototype.getName = function() {  
        return this.name;  
    };  
  
    return Person;  
  
})();  
  
var sim = new Person("Sim");  
alert(sim.getName());
```

jQuery



- Not an application Framework
- Utility library for:
 - DOM Manipulation
 - Animation
 - Effects
 - AJAX
 - Deferreds

```
document.getElementById("content");

$("#content") //id selector

//update contents of id="content"
$("#content").html("updated html");
//alert contents of id="content"
alert( $("#content").html() );

//Grab the value of id="my-input"
$("#my-input").val()

$(".some_class") //class selector

//make id="content" disappear with fade animation
$("#content").fadeOut();

//remove the id="#content" element
$("#content").remove();

$.get('http://api.twitter.com/status')
.done(function(data){
    //do something with data
}).fail(function(e,r,q){
    // something went wrong
});
```



Components

- HTML 5
- jQuery UI
- Jo
- Kendo
- A gazillion more...



Layout and Skinning

- CSS provides great control over the visual styling of your controls
- CSS Box Model
- Relative/Absolute Positioning
- Animation (GPU acceleration)

MVC

ember

Spine



Knockout.

<angular/>



Backbone JS - <http://backbonejs.org/>

- Built on Underscore JS
- Leverages jQuery API libraries
- MV-R
 - Model Views and Router
- REST API Access
- Active Developer Community
- Lots of Extensions

Backbone JS Extensions

- <http://walmartlabs.github.com/thorax/>
- <https://github.com/moviepilot/chaplin>
- <http://derickbailey.github.com/backbone.marionette/>



Backbone.Marionette

CoffeeScript - <http://coffeescript.org/>

- DSL that compiles to Javascript

```
class Person
  name= "Not Set"
  constructor: (name) ->
    @name = name
```

- Writing good JS code is rigorous

```
  getName: ->
    @name
```

- Little Book on CoffeeScript
<http://arcturo.github.com/library/coffeescript/>

```
class Captain extends Person
  boat: "SS Big Ship"
```

```
sim = new Captain("Sim")
alert( sim.getName() )
alert( sim.boat )
```

Tooling

Brunch

TextMate

Capt

Eclipse

Live Reload



Sublime Text 2

IntelliJ

Aptana

Guard

Brunch - <http://brunch.io/>

- Toolset for
 - Creating Projects
 - Building/Compiling Code
 - Web Server
 - Stitching Files/RequireJS
- Runs on Node.js
 - CoffeeScript, Stylus, Eco, Jade, Handlebars and more!

Show Me The Code!

Q & A

- Simeon Bateman
- simeon@pnwrain.com
- <http://simb.net>
- @simBateman
- Contact me for help with your next project



Cuter Than Bunnies!