

Guest Speaker Summary: Azalea Vo

In an enlightening talk delivered by Ms. Azalea Vo, a Senior Software Development Engineer at Amazon, a profound perspective on the world of computer science and software development was unveiled. With over a decade of experience at Amazon, Azalea's insights shed light on the multifaceted and ever-evolving realm of software engineering. As a student with aspirations in this field, her words resonated deeply with me, offering valuable lessons that I can carry forward into my academic journey and beyond.

One of the pivotal takeaways from Azalea's discourse was the notion of embracing the unknown. In the vast universe of coding and problem-solving, there is always an uncharted territory waiting to be explored. This resonated with me as a student because it emphasizes the importance of continuous learning. It reminds us that our quest for knowledge is a never-ending journey, and each new challenge is an opportunity for growth.

Azalea's reminder that there is always another problem to solve was both inspiring and humbling. It underscores the dynamic nature of the tech industry, where innovation thrives on the ceaseless pursuit of solutions. As a student, it serves as a motivation to remain curious and persistent, always seeking new challenges to tackle and problems to solve.

Her emphasis on having a unique perspective struck a chord with me. In the world of software development, diversity of thought is invaluable. As a student, I aspire to bring my own unique perspective to the table, contributing fresh ideas and approaches to problem-solving. Azalea's words reinforced the idea that our individuality is an asset in this field.

Azalea's passion for her work, evident in her mention of the dopamine hit she gets from fixing bugs and solving problems, was truly infectious. It serves as a reminder that genuine enthusiasm can be a driving force in one's career. As a student aspiring to make a mark in the software industry, her enthusiasm inspires me to approach every challenge with fervor and determination.

The importance of documenting code was another valuable lesson from Azalea. It highlighted the significance of maintaining clarity and transparency in our work. As a student, this

underscores the importance of not only writing efficient code but also ensuring it is comprehensible to others.

Azalea's impressive tenure of 10 years at Amazon is a testament to her expertise and dedication. Her journey within the company serves as a reminder of the endless opportunities for growth and advancement within the tech industry. It motivates me to aspire to similar heights in my own career.

What I liked most about Azalea's talk was her authenticity. Her insights were not just professional advice but also a glimpse into her personal journey and passion for her craft. It made the talk relatable and engaging, fostering a connection with the audience.

In conclusion, Azalea Vo's talk was a profound exploration of the world of software development. Her words resonated with me as a student, offering insights that extend far beyond the boundaries of a lecture hall. Embracing the unknown, maintaining a unique perspective, and finding passion in problem-solving are principles that I will carry with me throughout my academic journey and into a future in graduate studies and beyond. Azalea's talk was a beacon of inspiration, illuminating the path to success in the ever-evolving realm of computer science.