HILLBILLY STORYTIME:

Fails, Fumbles, and Finding a/My Way in InfoSec

What is InfoSec

Information Security (InfoSec) is about protecting data from unauthorized access, misuse, or damage.

Covers everything from securing networks and systems to protecting personal information.

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Why a career in InfoSec?

High demand for
InfoSec professionals

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Excellent Salary Potential

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Major Roles within InfoSec

Penetration Testing/Pentesting

Red Teaming

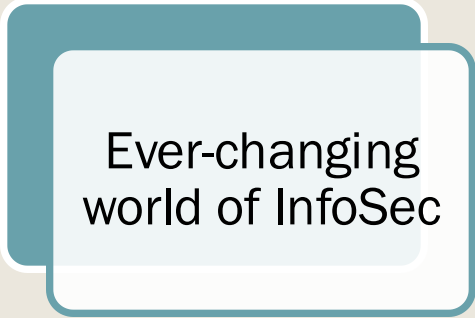Incident Response

Defensive Security/Blue Teaming

Research/Development

"You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone. Close the door on the past. You don't try to forget the mistakes, but you don't dwell on it. You don't let it have any of your energy, or any of your time, or any of your space."

- Johnny Cash

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Challenges Along the Road

Ever-changing world of InfoSec

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Diversifying / Focusing your skill set

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Challenges Along the Road

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Learning balance and finding a happy medium

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"I thank God for my failures. Maybe not at the time but after some reflection. I never feel like a failure just because something I tried has failed."

- Dolly Parton

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Lessons Learned

It's OK to make mistakes: Everyone does; the key is to learn from them.

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Communication is key: Whether it's with clients, colleagues, or leadership—make sure you're clear.

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Lessons Learned

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Communication is key: Whether it's with clients, colleagues, or leadership—make sure you're clear.

Never stop learning: The landscape is always evolving, and staying up-to-date is essential.

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How to get into InfoSec:

- Hone your skills via CTF, training, HtB, etc...
    - *Get some certifications (not always necessary)*
- Go to conferences (local ones are fine)
    - *Present at conferences*
- Contribute to open source projects
    - *Create a new open source project*
- Find a mentor
- Apply to jobs
    - *Do not get discouraged*

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"Oh , yes. The past can hurt. But the way I see it, you can either run from it or learn from it."

- Rafiki

Final Thoughts

01

Fail Fast, Learn Faster:

Mistakes are natural, but the quicker you learn from them, the better.

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02

Be Kind to Yourself:

The work is tough, and no one is perfect.

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Final Thoughts

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02
Be Kind to Yourself:

The work is tough, and no one is perfect.

03
Find your niche:

With so many areas in InfoSec, it's important to discover where your passions and strengths are

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Q&A / Thank You

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