

Vijay Kharwar

Technical Lead Engineer

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Skills

Technical Skills

- Proficient: Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, REST, Git, RSpec, TDD, *Debugging*
- Intermediate: MongoDB, Redis, Python
- Hacker: Golang, VueJS, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, C, AWS, Kubernetes, CI/CD, x86-64 Assembly

Soft Skills

- Leadership, Adaptability, Mentoring, Project Ownership, Blogging, *Firefighting*

Professional Experience

Senior Software Engineer - Clark, DE

April 2021 to December 2022 (remote via *Toptal*)

Technical responsibilities and achievements:

- Designed, developed, and maintained robust and efficient APIs for both new and existing customer onboarding journeys using Ruby on Rails. This effort enhanced the **user experience** and increased customer retention.
- Accelerated feature releases by upto 3 days at Clark by revamping the **A/B experiments** framework, eliminating developer intervention, and enabling product managers to make direct changes, all while maintaining **backwards compatibility**.
- Fixed a critical bug in **Master Watcher**, a **Golang** script that imports GitHub commits to a Google sheet, aiding the **QA** team in prioritizing flaky tests.

Ownership and Collaboration:

- Served as a member of the **core group** in the team. Regularly discussed **team priorities**, participated in deciding **team OKRs**, and tracked the progress of ongoing user stories.
- Took **ownership** of multiple features and bugs, ensuring their completion. This involved proper **task breakdown**, making **reasonable trade-offs**, planning upcoming maintenance, and **collaborating** with product managers and other development teams.
- Strategised the transition of the live chat service "Hermes" from NodeJS to Golang, while also taking **ownership of its post-migration maintenance**. Collaborated with the infrastructure team to manage services using **Kubernetes** and the sales team for optimal timing of migration. Ensured a seamless and **invisible migration** for customers who were online during the transition.
- Oversaw the removal of Facebook login from the application based on a **cost-benefit analysis**. This process involved making modifications to our **EmberJS frontend** and a rigorous testing of the **password reset flow** to ensure a smooth transition for existing users.

Software Engineer - Escalate Solutions

July 2018 to July 2020

Technical responsibilities and achievements:

- Sole backend developer on overall 5+ projects like **Manscore** (gamified social network) & **Scriptdoor** (media streaming). Tasks included **high/low-level designs**, **database modeling**, **RESTful APIs**, **deployment** & maintaining client products for stability & performance.
- Devised a unique **wallet-based payment system** for Scriptdoor using **SQL window functions**. It mimicked real-world cash denominations but with unlimited possibilities, enabling secure, **trackable** and flexible transactions.

Leadership and Mentoring:

- **Mentored a junior developer**, guiding him in mastering **Ruby on Rails**, leading to significant progress in his technical skills.
 - **Led a team** of 10+ developers, conducting daily scrum meetings, performing code reviews, overseeing project onboarding, and managing resources.
 - Acted as the **primary point of contact** for clients, providing technical insights to facilitate optimal product development and mutual profitability.
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Co-Founder - Farad Books

February 2016 to February 2018

Technical responsibilities and achievements:

- Worked as the sole **backend developer** and was responsible for the **design, development, deployment and maintenance** of the full stack application using **Ruby on Rails**, **PostgreSQL**, **HTML**, **CSS**, **Javascript**, **CoffeeScript**, etc.
- Implemented a real-time, relevance-based **search suggestion** feature using **Redis**, **jQuery**, and **custom middleware**, enhancing **user experience** and boosting **site usability**.
- Developed "Oye", an **in-house analytics tool** integrated within the Farad Books monorepo, to track user behavior, optimize user experience, and aid in **inventory management** by understanding user preferences.
- Streamlined daily **inventory management** by integrating distributor email attachments (Excel files) into our system, resulting in a time savings of 20+ minutes per day and guaranteeing access to the latest data.

Marketing Responsibilities:

- Conceptualized and implemented the "**Keep A Book**" feature based on customer behavior analysis, enabling customers to purchase borrowed books. This initiative led to a **revenue increase of ~150%** and a **reduction in dead inventory by around ~40%**.
- Engaged in **strategic partnerships** with book clubs and upcoming publishers for mutual publicity, conducted online ads, distributed promotional materials, and initiated offline marketing campaigns to boost brand visibility and customer acquisition.

Education

2011-2015

Bachelor of Technology, Electrical Engineering - Delhi Technological University, Delhi

Passed with First Class - 72.77%

Reference

Krishna Swarup,

Engineering

Manager,

Clark DE

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- *Phone number can be provided on request*