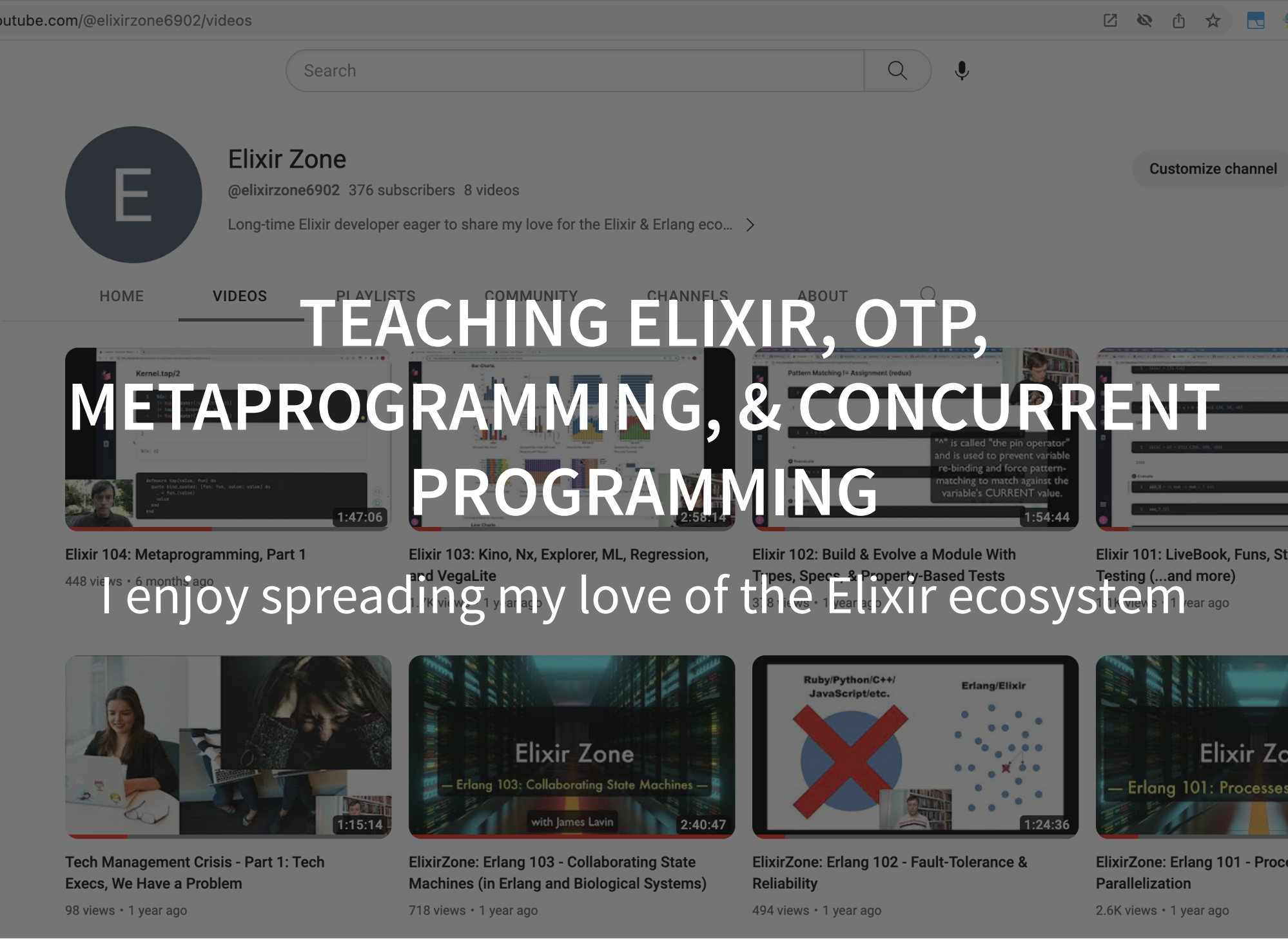
JAMES LAVIN: MY SKILLS

Photo by Felipe Giacometti on Unsplash

PROGRAMMING ELIXIR, PHOENIX, OTP, MACROS, ETC.

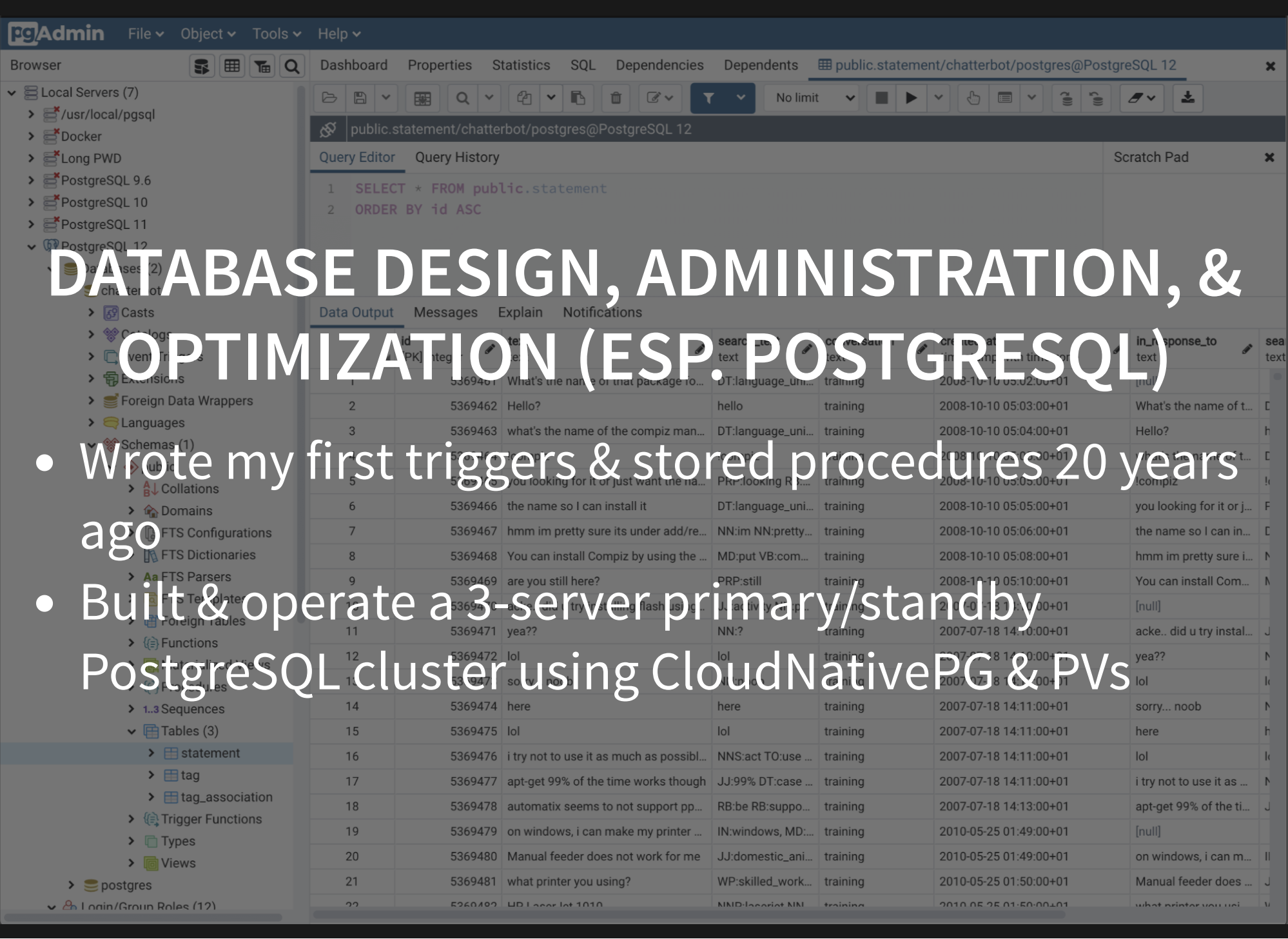
```
def handle_event("save", %{"book" => params}, socket) do
  case Library.create_book(params) do
    {:ok, book} ->
      {:noreply,
       socket
       |> put_flash(:info, "created a new book")
       |> redirect(to: ~p"/books/#{book}")}

    {:error, %Ecto.Changeset{} = changeset} ->
      {:noreply, assign(socket, form: to_form(changeset))}
  end
end
```



TEACHING ELIXIR, OTP, METAPROGRAMMING, & CONCURRENT PROGRAMMING

I enjoy spreading my love of the Elixir ecosystem

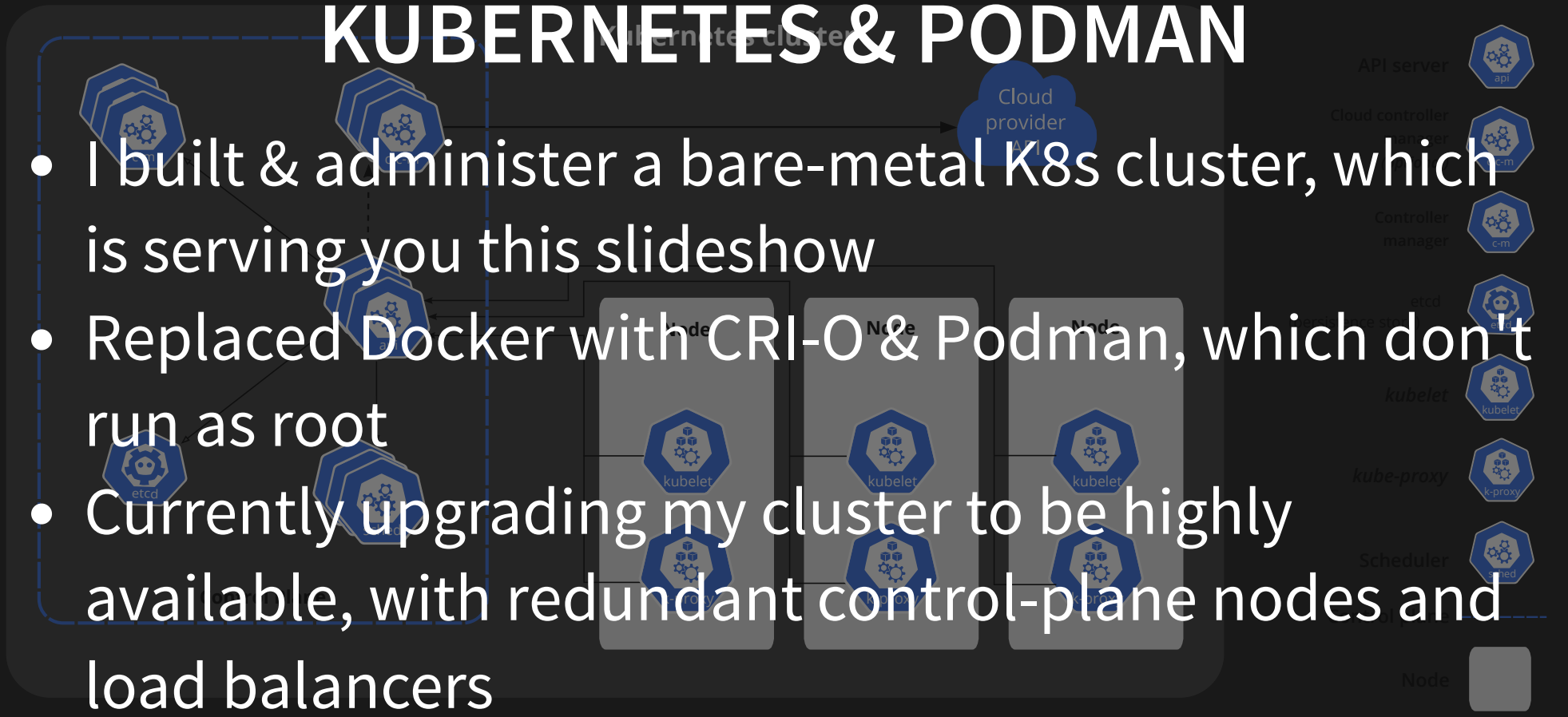


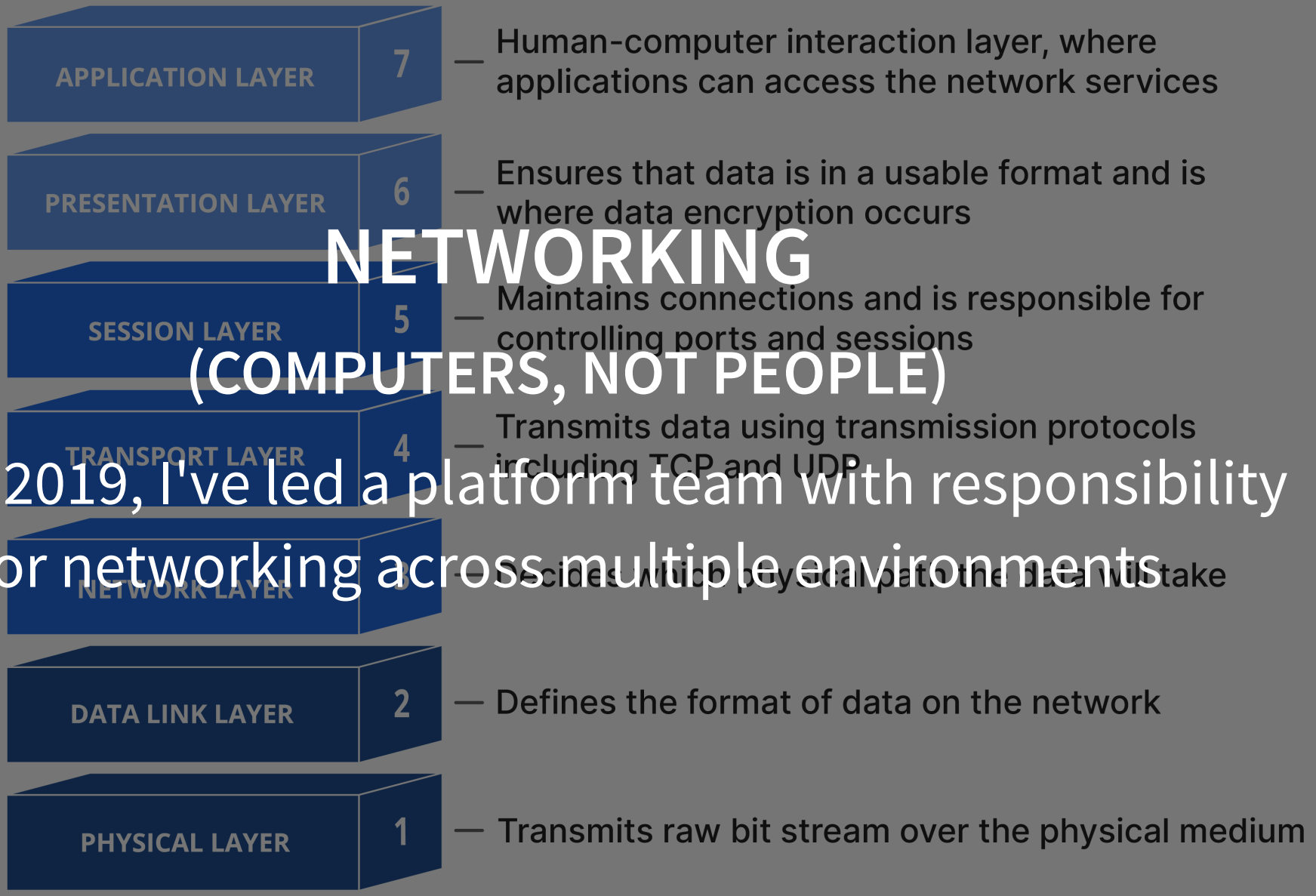
DATABASE DESIGN, ADMINISTRATION, & OPTIMIZATION (ESP. POSTGRESQL)

- Wrote my first triggers & stored procedures 20 years ago
- Built & operate a 3-server primary/standby PostgreSQL cluster using CloudNativePG & PVs

KUBERNETES & PODMAN

- I built & administer a bare-metal K8s cluster, which is serving you this slideshow
- Replaced Docker with CRI-O & Podman, which don't run as root
- Currently upgrading my cluster to be highly available, with redundant control-plane nodes and load balancers

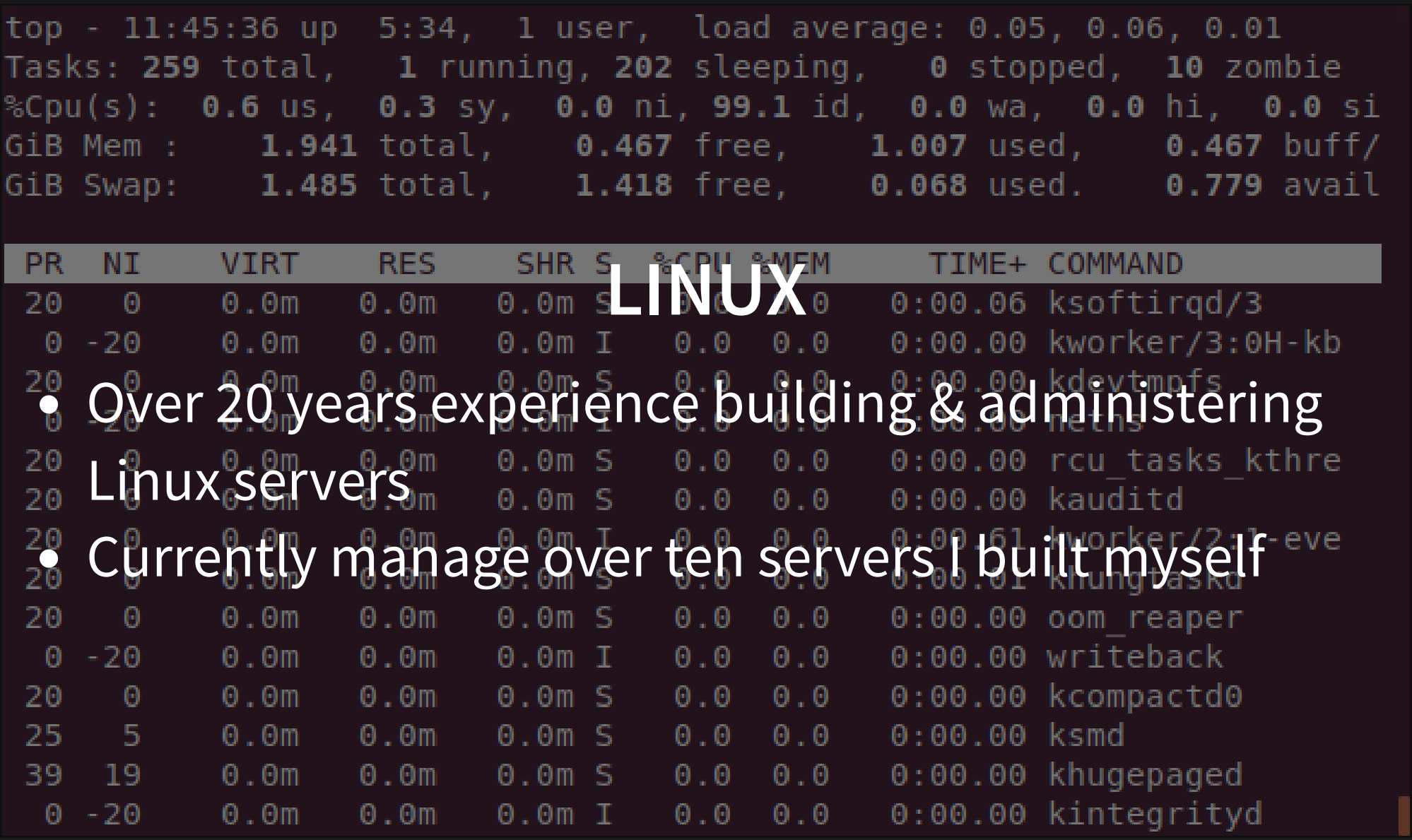




NETWORKING

(COMPUTERS, NOT PEOPLE)

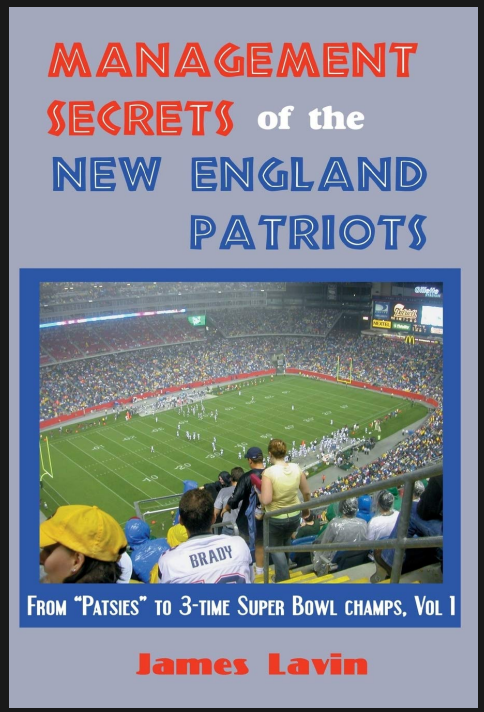
Since 2019, I've led a platform team with responsibility for networking across multiple environments

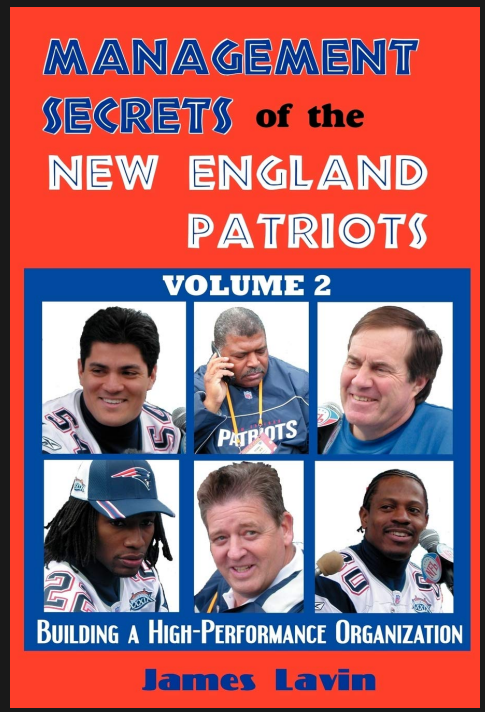


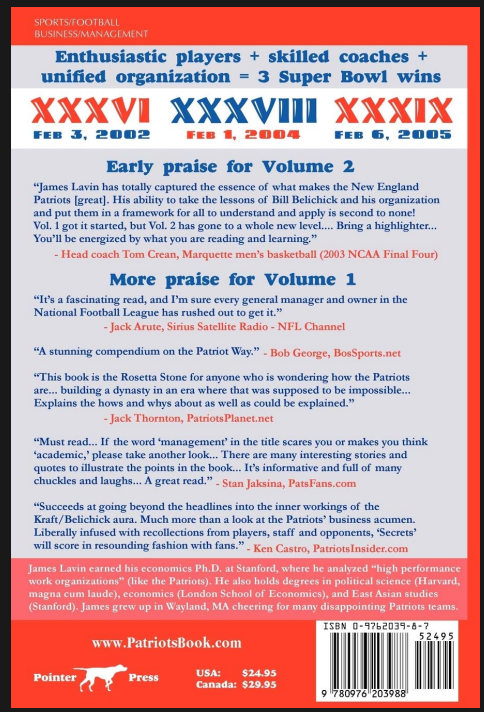
LINUX

- Over 20 years experience building & administering Linux servers
- Currently manage over ten servers I built myself

WROTE TWO BOOKS ON LEADERSHIP







FOSTERING COLLABORATION

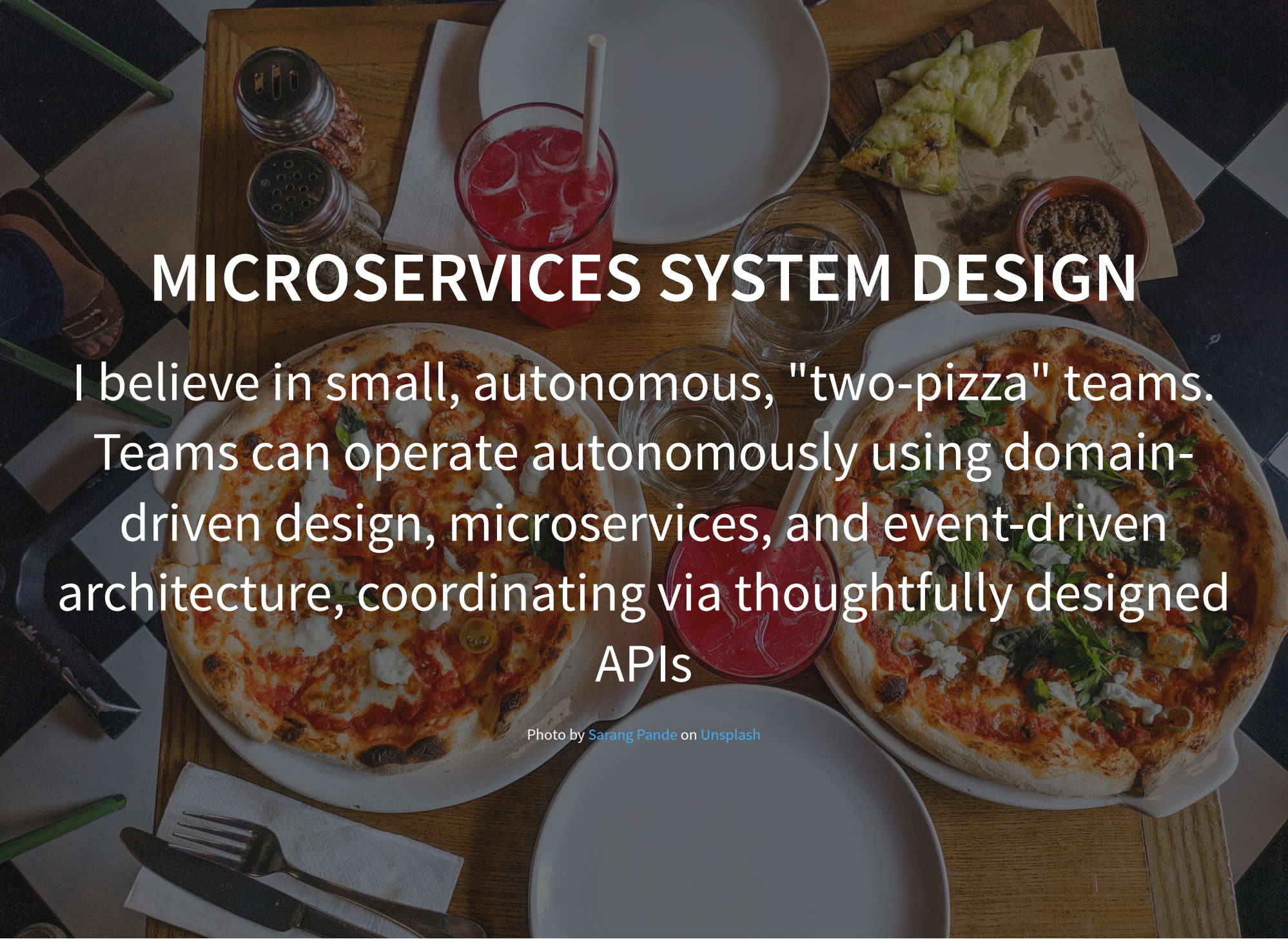
Since becoming a team lead in 2019, I've focused on fostering collaboration & true teamwork

Photo by Desola Lanre-Ologun on Unsplash

COACHING & MENTORING

I've long enjoyed sharing knowledge with others and am proud of those I've mentored who have thrived

Photo by John Schnobrich on Unsplash



MICROSERVICES SYSTEM DESIGN

I believe in small, autonomous, "two-pizza" teams. Teams can operate autonomously using domain-driven design, microservices, and event-driven architecture, coordinating via thoughtfully designed APIs

Photo by Sarang Pande on Unsplash

https://github.com/JamesLavin/my_tech_resources/blob/master/Books.markdown

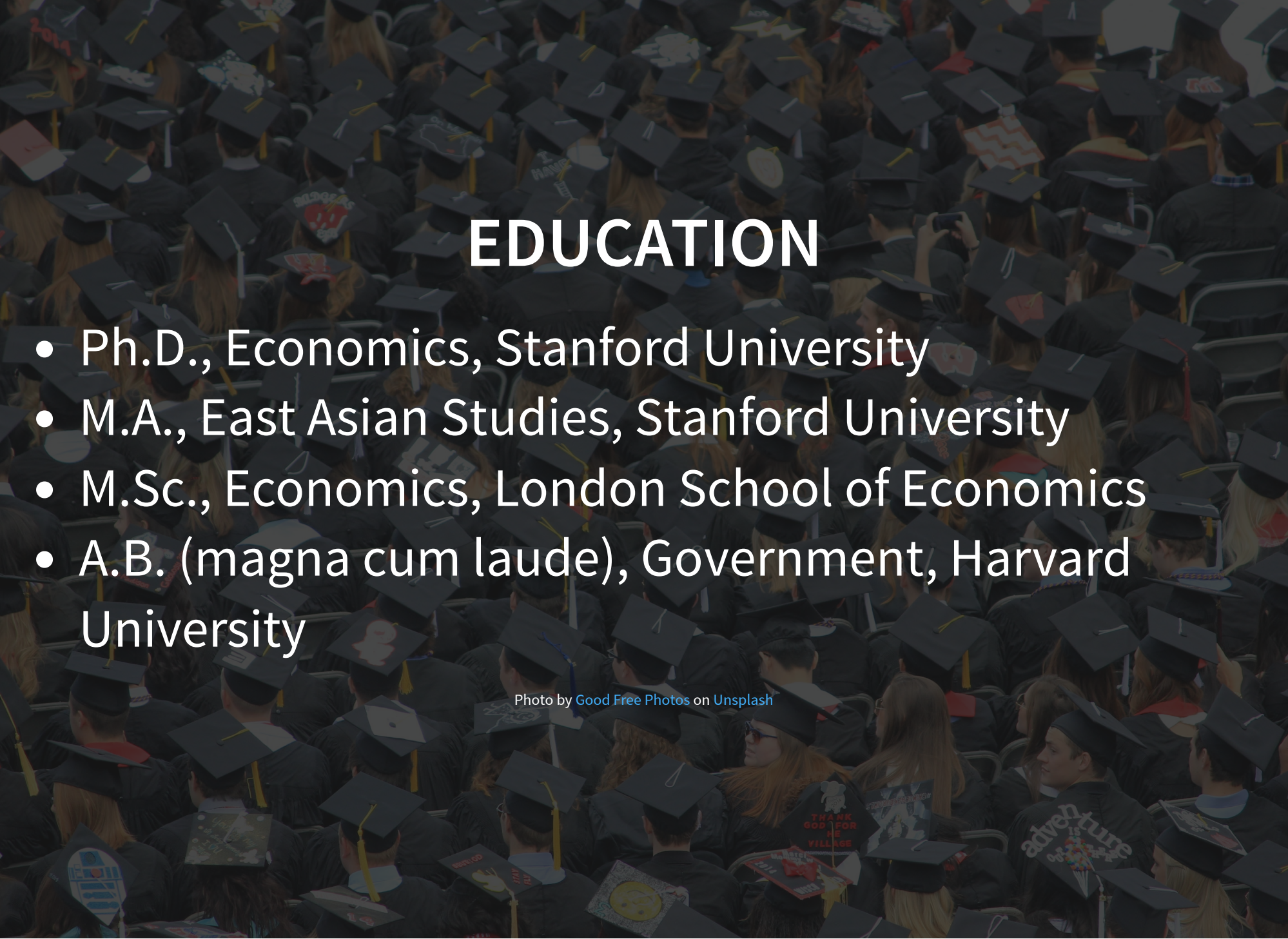
276 lines (262 sloc) | 25.3 KB

Raw Blame

Completed 2022

- Brad Stone, **The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon**
- Michelle Obama, **Becoming**
- Jeremy DeSilva, **First Steps: How Upright Walking Made Us Human**
- Lawrence Ingrassia, **Billion Dollar Brand Club: How Dollar Shave Club, Warby Parker, and Other Disruptors Are Remaking What We Buy**
- Todd Herman, **The Alter Ego Effect**
- Stacy Perman, **In-N-Out Burger** (didn't enjoy this as much as I had expected to)
- Daniel E. Lieberman, **Exercised: Why Something We Never Evolved to Do Is Healthy and Rewarding**
- Nathan Furr, **Nail It Then Scale It: The Entrepreneur's Guide to Creating and Managing Breakthrough Innovation**
- Jeff Lawson, **Ask Your Developer: How to Harness the Power of Software Developers and Win in the 21st Century**
- Mark Manson, **Everything Is F-cked: A Book About Hope**
- Reed Hastings, **No Rules Rules: Netflix and the Culture of Reinvention**
- Mike Michalowicz, **Fix This Next: Make the Vital Change That Will Level Up Your Business**
- Bill Russell, **Go Up For Glory** (autobiography by Boston Celtics legend)
- Leander Kahney, **Jony Ive: The Genius Behind Apple's Greatest Products**
- Allen Gannett, **The Creative Curve: How to Develop the Right Idea at the Right Time**
- Shirish Nadkarni, **From Startup to Exit: An Insider's Guide to Launching and Scaling Your Tech Business**
- Leigh Gallagher, **The Airbnb Story: How Three Ordinary Guys Disrupted an Industry, Made Billions...and Created Plenty of Controversy**
- Ted Gioia, **How to Listen to Jazz**
- Ash Maurya, **Running Lean: Iterate from Plan A to a Plan That Works (3rd ed)**
- Seth Godin, **This Is Marketing: You Can't Be Seen Until You Learn to See**
- Morgan Housel, **The Psychology of Money: Timeless Lessons on Wealth, Greed, and Happiness**
- Sheera Frenkel and Cecilia Kang, **An Ugly Truth: Inside Facebook's Battle for Domination**

AVID NONFICTION READER



EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Economics, Stanford University
- M.A., East Asian Studies, Stanford University
- M.Sc., Economics, London School of Economics
- A.B. (magna cum laude), Government, Harvard University

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LIKES

- Prioritization & getting stuff done
- Meetings with clear objectives
- Collaboration & teamwork
- Brainstorming & exploring options before plunging into projects
- Leaders who speak last, not first
- Diversity, which improves decision-making
- Cross-functional, autonomous teams with responsibility for & authority over their domain
- Modern DevOps tooling & practices

MORE LIKES

- Teams that care for one another & provide psychological safety
- Modifying code in small increments, keeping it constantly releasable
- Honesty & forthrightness
- Thoughtful tactics guided by long-term vision & mindset
- Humility & constant desire to learn and improve
- Wikis & other docs that communicate business intent across time & space

DISLIKES

- Unfocused, rambling meetings
- Heavy process (e.g., fullblown SCRUM)
- Artificial deadlines
- Separate departments for databases, QA, Ops, planning, coding, etc.
- Execs micromanaging non-strategic matters
- Metrics purporting to capture individual developer "productivity"
- Meetings to point JIRA cards & schedule long-term work
- Treating devs as "resources" rather than people

WORK I ENJOY

- Senior/Principal Elixir Developer
- Elixir Team Lead/Manager
- DevOps Team Lead/Manager

CONTACT ME

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