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Dear Website Visitor,

Before we get started, I know I don't have the typical background of a Software Engineer but I believe my work and class experience makes me a great fit and addition to your Engineering team. Hopefully this will help add context to how I got here.

From an early age, I've held an interest in computers, technology and business. In high school I built my own computer and enjoyed the thrill of upgrading my machine with a new part that always seemed to take forever to save up for. Despite this initial interest, I decided to pursue business and finance at Towson University. After graduating, I worked for an insurance company until landing a job at the investment bank, Morgan Stanley. There I learned how to communicate with highly stressed brokers, meet urgent deadlines and facilitate multi-million dollar transactions. While this role certainly presented rewarding challenges, I believed that many operational tasks our company performed could be completed by a program.

My curiosity lead me to start programming through Codecademy and eventually land a job with Exponential, an advertising technology company. This was an exhilarating change that exposed me to HTML, JavaScript, SQL and Java. I continued to learn more through Codecademy and took several undergraduate Computer Science classes in order to gain acceptance into Georgia Tech's Online Master's in CS program. Over the last two years, I've achieved a 3.86 weighted average GPA in my accredited undergraduate courses including flat A's in Adv Programming (Java), Discrete Math, Calculus 1 and Calculus 2, while also taking unaccredited courses through Udacity and Coursera.

This growing interest inspired plans to leave Baltimore in search of a full-time software engineering role in Silicon Valley. Before the move, I wanted to save as much as possible so I converted my house into an Airbnb that is averaging over $1k/month in net profit. Because I wanted to gain more experience, I began working as a contract developer for Analytix Bar, helping them with back end development for their website and front end work for their clients. I continued to excel at my position at Exponential, where I was promoted and received regular pay increases, despite revenue declining for the company. Exponential relied on me to lead team projects, manage our largest publisher relationships, interview candidates for various teams and work directly with management for our team initiatives.

I might not have a full-time engineering role on my resume but I have built up my knowledge base while juggling multiple responsibilities. I've now moved here to immerse myself in the Silicon Valley culture and fully dedicate myself to being a software engineer. Thank you very much for your consideration for a Software Engineer at your company and hope you have a great day.

Sincerely,

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