



Breaking Into Tech: Journey and Insights - Stats on Stats Podcast, Episode 1

Guest(s)

Jordyn Short, Consulting Engineer [[LinkedIn](#)]

Tiffany Bryant, Information Security Analyst

Resources & Recommendations

Projects

A Quick RSS Cybersecurity News Feed [[Github](#) | [Blog](#)]

As former SOC analysts, we find ourselves drawn to the security use cases. We are always looking for ways to leverage the [Elastic Stack](#) to add value to the Elastic and cybersecurity community. We are constantly researching — sifting through news articles, white papers, databases, etc. We realized that we were spending a lot of time visiting the same sites and needed to consolidate the feeds (duh!). In this project, we break down how we used RSS feeds, Logstash, Elasticsearch, and Kibana to ingest, consolidate, aggregate, visualize, and search cybersecurity content of interest — and how you can do the same.

Groups

BlackGirlsHack [[Website](#)]

BlackGirlsHack Foundation (BGH Foundation) is a registered non-profit organization in the state of Virginia with a 501(c)(3) designation. We are a training-focused organization that was created to help increase diversity in cybersecurity by helping to bridge the gap between what is taught in educational institutions and what is necessary for careers in cybersecurity.



Books

Tribe of Hackers [[Amazon](#)]

In his book, Ferriss asked his impressive network eleven questions, and then the magic just happened. For me, this immediately sparked the idea that there should be a cybersecurity version of the book. So, I compiled the most common questions people ask me about cybersecurity and narrowed it down to 14 questions. The questions initially start with views of cybersecurity at-large and then become more personal. I noticed that when I have conversations at conferences, this is the normal flow. We call these types of conversations “hallway-con,” because some of the best learning happens between the scheduled talks and events. After compiling the questions, I started reaching out to my network of friends and colleagues in the industry and asked them to be a part of this book. I was humbled by the response. In total, we ended up with 70 inspiring interviews with notable hackers.

Threat Hunting with the Elastic Stack [[Packt](#)]

Threat Hunting with Elastic Stack will show you how to make the best use of Elastic Security to provide optimal protection against cyber threats. With this book, security practitioners working with Kibana will be able to put their knowledge to work and detect malicious adversary activity within their contested network. You'll take a hands-on approach to learning the implementation and methodologies that will have you up and running in no time. Starting with the foundational parts of the Elastic Stack, you'll explore analytical models and how they support security response and finally leverage Elastic technology to perform defensive cyber operations.

Defensive Security Handbook: Best Practices for Securing Infrastructure [[Amazon](#)]

Each chapter in this book provides step-by-step instructions for dealing with a specific issue, including breaches and disasters, compliance, network infrastructure and password management, vulnerability scanning, and penetration testing, among others. Network engineers, system administrators, and security professionals will learn tools and techniques to help improve security in sensible, manageable chunks.

Blue Team Handbook: SOC, SIEM, and Threat Hunting (V1.02): A Condensed Guide for the Security Operations Team and Threat Hunter [[Amazon](#)]

The author shares his fifteen years of experience with SIEMs and security operations after implementing five major platforms, integrating over one hundred data sources into various platforms, and running a MSSP practice. This book covers the topics below using a “zero fluff” approach as if you hired him as a security consultant and were sitting across the table with him (or her).

Blue Team Field Manual (BTFM) (RTFM) [[Amazon](#)]

Blue Team Field Manual (BTFM) is a Cyber Security Incident Response Guide that aligns with the NIST Cybersecurity Framework consisting of the five core functions of Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond, and Recover by providing the tactical steps to follow and commands to use when preparing for, working through and recovering from a Cyber Security Incident.

11 Strategies of a World-Class Cybersecurity Operations Center [[Website](#)]



This book presents an overview of how to organize and consider the many functions in cybersecurity operations centers (SOCs). It describes strategies that can be applied to SOCs of all sizes, from two people to large, multi-national centers with hundreds of people. It is intended for all cybersecurity operations center personnel, from new professionals just starting in a SOC to managers considering capability expansion of the SOC. Starting with a Fundamentals section table which summarizes functional categories and areas, the book guides cyber professionals through applying mission context to 11 strategies of a world class SOC.

Training

TCM Security Academy [[Website](#)]

Want to learn how to hack things without breaking the bank? We've got you covered. Subscribe Now.

Cybrary [[Website](#)]

Cybrary is a growing community where people, companies and training come together to give everyone the ability to collaborate in an open source way that is revolutionizing the cyber security educational experience.

Hack-the-Box [[Website](#)]

Hack The Box gives individuals, businesses and universities the tools they need to continuously improve their cybersecurity capabilities — all in one place.

Over the Wire [[Website](#)]

The wargames offered by the OverTheWire community can help you to learn and practice security concepts in the form of fun-filled games.

ACloudGuru [[Website](#)]

Accelerate cloud success with hands-on learning at scale. Upskill 10 or 10,000 with the most comprehensive and up-to-date learning library.

- **Network Security Monitoring (NSM) with Security Onion** [[Website](#)]

LinkedIn Learning [[Website](#)]

With LinkedIn Learning, individuals & organizations can develop the most in-demand skills with the latest courses & deeply personalized career coaching.

Additional Thoughts

Embrace the journey



The speaker shares their personal journey in the tech and cyber security field, highlighting the ups and downs they experienced along the way. It's important to embrace the journey and learn from both successes and mistakes.

Genuine networking

The speaker emphasizes the value of genuine networking, building connections with like-minded individuals, and leveraging those connections for personal and professional growth.

Be ready to learn

In the constantly evolving field of technology, it's crucial to maintain a learning mindset. Always be ready to learn new skills, stay updated with industry trends, and adapt to changes.

Prioritize knowledge over certifications

While certifications can be valuable, it's important not to chase them blindly. Focus on gaining knowledge and expertise in your field, as that will ultimately make you more valuable and employable.

Find a job you enjoy

The speaker emphasizes the importance of finding a job that you enjoy, as it will not only make the work more fulfilling but also contribute to your success and growth in the field.

Be prepared for transitions

The speaker highlights the importance of being prepared for transitions and unexpected changes in your career path. Their transition from the military to cyber security was not something they anticipated, but they were able to successfully navigate it with the right mindset and support.

Stats on Stats Podcast Information & Resources

About Us [[Website](#)]

Stats on Stats is a unique collaborative initiative founded by a group of passionate cybersecurity, IT, and technology enthusiasts. What initially began as a fun project to explore and experiment with various data engineering concepts quickly transformed into a thriving collective. At Stats on Stats, our primary objective is to create an environment that encourages collaboration, promotes skill development, and fosters inspiration for technical projects. We aim to provide a platform where like-minded individuals can come together, exchange knowledge, and collectively dive into exciting technological ventures.

We strive to empower our members to stay at the forefront of emerging technologies and industry trends. Stats on Stats serves as a hub for inspiration and innovation. We believe that by combining the diverse perspectives and expertise of our members, we can push the boundaries of what is possible in the fields of cybersecurity, IT, and technology. What sets Stats on Stats apart is our emphasis on maintaining a relaxed and supportive environment. We understand that creativity and productivity flourish when



individuals feel comfortable and at ease. Through fostering a chill and inclusive atmosphere, we encourage open dialogue, collaboration, and the nurturing of new ideas. Whether you are a seasoned professional, an aspiring technologist, or simply someone with a genuine interest in the world of cybersecurity, IT, and technology, Stats on Stats welcomes you. Join our community today and embark on an exciting journey of knowledge sharing, skill development, and collaborative innovation.

Collaborators

Jordyn, Co-Lead Collaborator [LinkedIn | [Email](#)]

Tiffany, Co-Lead Collaborator [LinkedIn | [Email](#)]

Anthony, Stats on Stats Podcast Producer [[Email](#)]

Leo, Social Media Manager [[Email](#)]

Podcast [[Streaming Platforms](#)]

The Stats on Stats podcast is an engaging and informative platform that originated from the desire to support aspiring IT, cybersecurity, and technology professionals in their journey towards success. Originally intended as an initiative to provide practical guidance and valuable tips, the podcast has grown and developed organically into something much more.

The Stats on Stats podcast serves as a platform for dialogues and exchanges between accomplished professionals in the industry. It offers a unique opportunity for guests to share their personal journeys, shedding light on the challenges they encountered, the strategies they employed, and the milestones they reached on their path to success.

Listeners of the podcast will benefit greatly from the deep insights and experiences shared by these industry professionals. With each episode, they will gain valuable firsthand knowledge, enabling them to navigate their own careers in IT, cybersecurity, and technology more effectively. Beyond the personal stories and learning experiences, the podcast also offers a wealth of resources that can aid in professional development. Through engaging discussions, guests share valuable resources such as books, online courses, websites, and tools that have played a pivotal role in their own success. Whether you are starting your journey in the IT, cybersecurity, or technology field or seeking inspiration and guidance to propel your career forward, the Stats on Stats podcast is a must-listen. Tune in to gain valuable insights and access a treasure trove of resources to support your professional growth in these dynamic industries.

[Stats on Stats Community Slack](#)

Requires Access Request Form. Contact info@statsonstats.io for more information.



Welcome to the Stats on Stats Podcast Slack community! Here, we provide a platform for our listeners and enthusiasts to connect and collaborate with us on all things related to IT, Cybersecurity and Technology.

Our goal is to create a space where you can actively participate in shaping the content of our podcast. By joining this Slack community, you can engage in meaningful discussions, share your insights, ask questions, and suggest topics or guests for future episodes.

Collaboration is at the heart of what we do here. We believe that by working together, we can foster a dynamic environment where knowledge is shared, new ideas are explored, and IT, Cybersecurity and Technology concepts are demystified. This community is designed to be a supportive and inclusive space, where everyone's perspectives and contributions are valued.

Use this Slack workspace as a tool to connect with other like-minded individuals who are passionate about IT, Cybersecurity, and Technology. Share your experiences, seek advice, or simply engage in friendly conversations. This is your platform to learn from others, help one another, and grow together in your statistical journey.

So, get involved, be proactive, and let's build a thriving community together. We look forward to your active participation and contributions as we strive to make Stats on Stats Podcast a valuable resource for anyone interested in the IT, Cybersecurity and Technology space.

Thank you for joining the Stats on Stats Podcast Slack community, and let the collaborative journey begin!