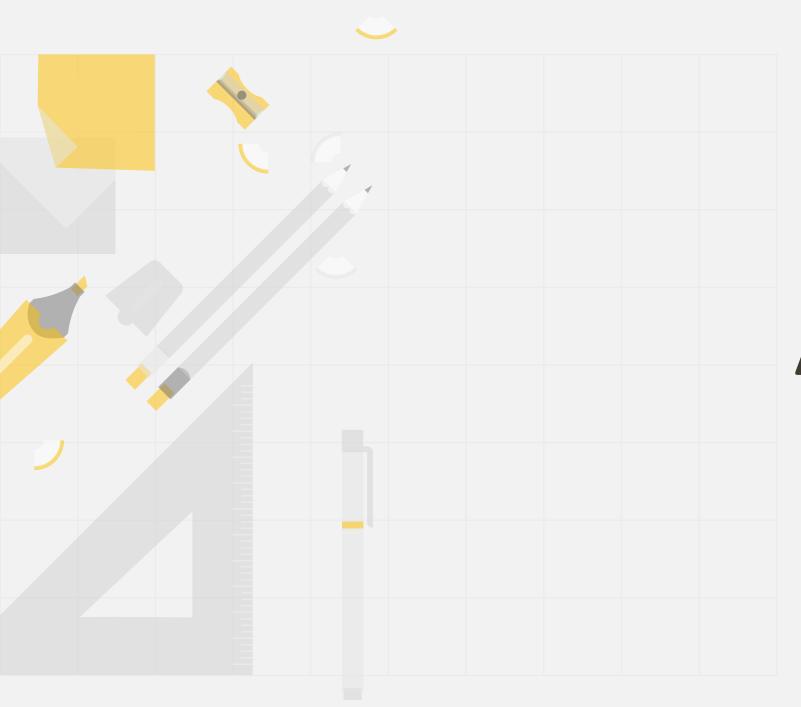


## John Paz Señor Content Design



## Content Design Portfolio

Updated March 2021



# **About Me**

## **About Me**



## Specialize in technical content

I have a passion for simplifying complex information experiences.



## 15 years of experience

UI copy reviews, user research, and strategic design thinking.



## **Great in Agile teams** on the product triad

I love getting involved early in the dev lifecycle (I'm also a Scrum Master).



## Powerful storyteller and public speaker

I rely on my diverse work/life experiences and storytelling ability to advocate for users.



# Work Examples



- Google Docs
- Figma
- Snag-It
- Pendo



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **UX Writing Example**

Menlo Connect Installer

## **Project Overview**

**My contribution:** I reviewed this screen (and the others in the flow) for clarity, and I insisted on changing the name of a new enhancement for better accuracy and clarity.

### **Project Goals**

Add the Tamper Proofing/Uninstall Protection feature to the Menlo Connect installer and update documentation.

### Review the interface to improve copy and flow

**Review the design mockups.** Before the installer was ready to test, review the designs in Figma and provide feedback.

**Suggest improvements to nomenclature.** What components are referred to felt problematic, make it better.

**Rewrite field labels and descriptions.** Once installer is ready for testing, propose changes to the interface.

1 Support Engineer

#### Team



Product Managers

4 ៊ Engineers (contractors)

## Project Duration

21 days

- Google Docs
- Figma
- Snaq-It
- Pendo



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **UX Writing Example**

Menlo Connect Installer

### **Problem statement**

The Menlo Connect installer previously did not have an interface for setting a password to prevent users from uninstalling the program.

The team did not have a writer on staff to review the screens during initial iterations. Some of the names for features and fields had potential to mislead users or cause unnecessary support burden.

### **Outcomes**

### Changed Tamper-proofing to Uninstall protection

- The name felt misleading; the device could still be tampered with in other ways.
- "Uninstall Protection" is more descriptive and easier to understand.

#### Rewrite field labels and descriptions

- Kept the focus of this screen in mind helping admins set an uninstall password and made suggestions accordingly.
- Warned users about the consequences of losing the password (but don't scare them), link to details about password recovery.

#### Establish password recovery procedures

- Made support aware of the changes to the screens and addition of feature.
- · Helped document the internal password recovery knowledge base article.

- Google Docs
- Figma
- Snag-It
- Pendo



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

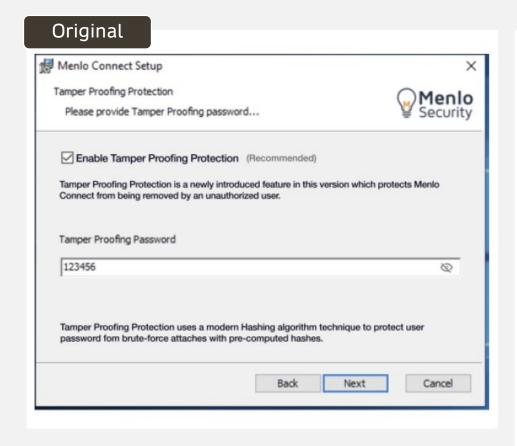
**DESIGN THINKING** 

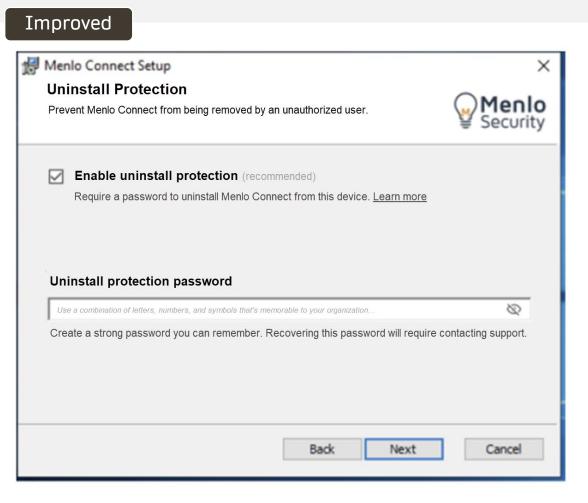
**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **UX Writing Example**

Menlo Connect Installer

#### **Outcomes**





- Google Docs
- Figma
- Snag-It
- Pendo



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **UX Writing Example**

Menlo Connect Installer

### **Process**

Scope

Iterate

Review

Revise

#### 1. Go where the work is.

The dev teams don't always know what kind of support writers provide, so it's important to listen.

#### 2. Know the schedule.

I booked a meeting with the Director of Product Management to better understand the event and audience.

#### 3. Get access.

Access to the tools isn't always possible, so I made sure I knew which design documents and mockups to use.

#### 1. Templates first.

The teams insist on using Google Docs, but none were used for copy review before. I made templates.

#### 2. Heavy on detail.

I had to go into more details than was typical to make sure the names of components was clear. Dev team were in another time zone.

#### 3. Check in early and often.

With a wobbly source of truth, I had to check in early and often to make sure I had the latest and my suggestions were valid.

#### 1. KIT with POCs.

With so many actors with crisscrossing time zones involved, knowing who to ask, and when, was vital.

#### 2. Test when you're able.

Later in the release cycle, an RC build will become available, and I would use it to validate my suggestions were correct; proved invaluable.

#### 3. Meetings when in doubt.

As time became scarce it became necessary to schedule face-to-face reviews with devs to speed up reviews.

#### 1. Know what's important.

Because I was involved late in the process note everything got done; some went to backlogs.

### 2. Get support involved.

Get Support involved. They can provide reviews and add vital context for tricky situations. They also help identify lagging problem indicators.

#### 3. Keep the doc updated.

The UI changes meant some of the doc was now outdated. I ensured the work was addressed or put in a backlog.



#### FORMAT/TOOLS

- Mural
- Confluence pages
- Jira issues
- Bitbucket Pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

DOCUMENTATION

## UX Writing/User Research Example

Bitbucket Cloud CoreX Content Audit

## **Project Overview**

**My contribution**: I identified over 200 usability bugs and improvements, scoped the amount of effort and value for each, then aggregated and scoped the work for a team of part-time contract engineers to work on for two quarters.

### Project Goals

Identify usability issues to address quickly, focusing on content improvements within the in-app copy, which will:

#### Reduce new user churn

**Create style guides and patterns.** Establish consistency among content elements and components.

**Harden the core user experience.** UI inconsistencies contributed to customer dissatisfaction and churn.

**Create a visual journey map.** Identify the highest priority screens and dialogs every user encounters.

### Reduce complexity perceptions

**Triage feedback and support cases.** Things were hard to find, start-up tasks opaque, and hard to find help.

**Keep accessibility in mind.** Included concerns for screen readers and visually impaired users.

**Scope, chunk, and plan dev work.** Identified quick wins, design the solution, review the changes.

#### Team

Writers (Me + another)

1 🖶 Product Manager

. 🌑 Designer

3 Engineers (contractors)

## **Project Duration**

9 months

#### FORMAT/TOOLS

- Mural
- Confluence pages
- Jira issues
- Bitbucket Pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

DOCUMENTATION

## **UX Writing/User Research Example**

Bitbucket Cloud CoreX Content Audit

### **Problem statement**

Bitbucket's perceived complexity stems from issues with the content and identifying and improving content challenges could positively impact the core experience using Bitbucket. Content is inconsistent, and users are leaving Bitbucket because of usability issues, and we deduced the inconsistent copy plays a role in that.

There were reports that things were hard to find, it was difficult to complete tasks, and it was difficult to predict where to find help. Evidence of this was repeat support cases from new users, negative sentiment reports on documentation feedback forms, and new customer churn.

#### **Outcomes**

#### Directly addressed user-reported pain points

- We aggregated backlogs of user feedback (including bugs), NPS scores, and web analytics to identify patterns of user pain.
- Some of the problems reported were years old, and lots of feedback on some of the most visited pages of all Atlassian doc.

### Created a healthy, holistic UX design precedence

- The analysis of the audit findings helped guide decision making and goal setting on the Bitbucket design team.
- This project helped to support a renewed emphasis on Bitbucket UX design by establishing patterns and creating style guides.

#### Maximize the impact and value of audit findings

- Created clearly defined chunks of work; approximately 10 weeks worth of work, grouped into sprints.
- Components that had improvements already committed in the product roadmap were added to feature team backlogs.

#### **FORMAT/TOOLS**

- Mural
- Confluence pages
- Jira issues
- Bitbucket Pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## UX Writing/User Research Example

Bitbucket Cloud CoreX Content Audit

**Outcomes** 

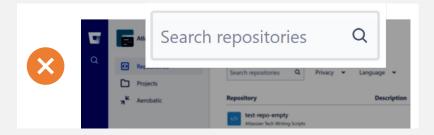
Recommendations

**Recommendations for improvement were grouped according to themes.** Chunking the work in this way helps to identify problematic patterns or general inconsistencies within Bitbucket Cloud's interface.

#### Mismatched expectations for 'Filter' and 'Search'

- In some parts of the UI we refer to looking for an object as "search," (code search) when the behavior is actually filtering.
- Defined the behavior and updated copy to be consistent in alerts, field labels, empty states, and error states.





#### Inconsistent use of menus, icons, and tooltips

- "More actions" menus are like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. Need to establish some patterns.
- This project helped to support a renewed emphasis on Bitbucket UX design by establishing patterns and creating style guides.





#### **FORMAT/TOOLS**

- Mural
- Confluence pages
- Jira issues
- Bitbucket Pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

DOCUMENTATION

## **UX Writing/User Research Example**

Bitbucket Cloud CoreX Content Audit

#### **Research Process**

Scope Iterate Review Measure

#### 1. Define the problem.

Audits can encompass anything, so it was important to understand intended outcomes.

#### 2. Find the time.

This project was done in addition to my other responsibilities. I had to carve out time to work on this.

#### 3. Gather resources.

We probed backlogs of user feedback and feature requests to inform our work (and not reinvent the wheel).

#### 1. Weekly meetings.

The designer and I met weekly during the journey map creation process, which was very helpful.

#### 2. Cataloging severity.

I never had continuous time for this project, so leaving detailed notes helped keep important tasks top of mind.

### 3. Chunking.

Once themes began to emerge, grouping similar types of changes helped with velocity of the impact of changes.

#### 1. Present findings.

Stakeholder buy-in to get approval for developer time, so making findings clear was important.

#### 2. Internal blog post.

Since this was a long-running project, a narrative-style blog post helped convey the work involved and how to contribute.

#### 3. Coordinate with product.

Lots of the changes we proposed coordinated with planned feature development for greater efficiency.

#### 1. Coordinate with dev.

All the hard work would amount to little without contract engineers making the changes.

### 2. Put metrics in place.

We had to always be asking the devs, "How do we know that worked?" to put in place ways to measure user interaction.

#### 3. Team reports.

My Jira work paid off in the form of reports on how much work went into this project, recognizing everyone's effort.

#### **FORMAT/TOOLS**

- Mural
- Confluence pages
- Jira issues
- Bitbucket Pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

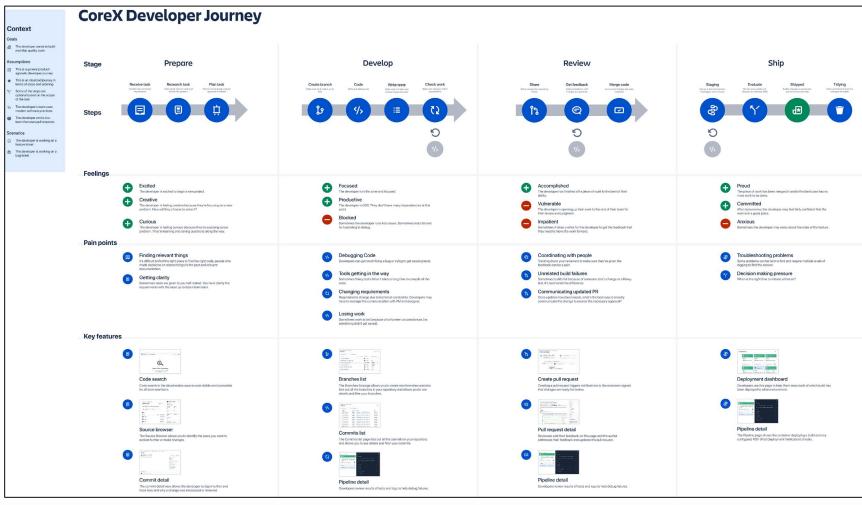
## **UX Writing/User Research Example**

Bitbucket Cloud CoreX Content Audit

#### **Outcomes**

User Journey Map

- · Outlines the core experiences all Bitbucket Cloud users go through.
- I collaborated with a designer to help create this infographic. We met one a week to discuss and iterate on the document.
- We used Mural to create the document: collaborating asynchronously online, it became a living document we could depend on.



#### FORMAT/TOOLS

- Mural
- Confluence pages
- Jira issues
- Bitbucket Pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

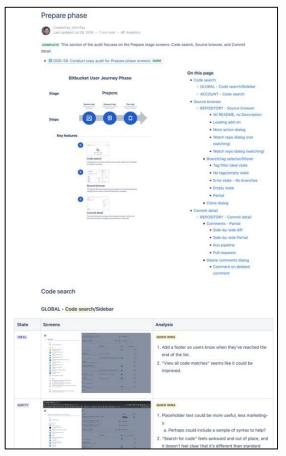
## UX Writing/User Research Example

Bitbucket Cloud CoreX Content Audit

Outcomes

**Audit Findings** 

**Tracked the audit with Confluence.** I worked my way through the interface taking screenshots and evaluating areas for improvement.





## Scoped Dev Work

Tracked requirements for dev in Jira. I made mockups and provided the changes to make as requirements within the issues.

Key	Т	Summary
BUS-294	•	Pipelines filters panel: fix filters panel position, fix the user's avatar (instead of the user's photo, we get an avatar with initials)
BUS-281		Pipelines filters panel: replace router Link with a custom component (AFP)
BUS-298		Fix spacing between "recent repositories" and repo cards
BUS-209		Global PR page - workspace tab: there is a random dropdown behind the table, and cannot switch filters
BUS-203	•	On the repo sidebar, the "Pipelines" and "Deployments" icons do not become blue when selected.
BUS-248		On file viewer, file row fill is not consistent when then viewport is taller than # rows
BUS-258		Code search in repo UI updates
BUS-215		"Code search in this repository" ends up in an error state, not an empty state
BUS-212		Repo/Source filter bar UI fix
BUS-266		Update disabled state in code search in source browser
BUS-220		Code Search - fix responsive behaviour
BUS-223		Source annotate - various fixes
BUS-267		The background page scrolls when there is a Jira issue bento overlay
BUS-268		Jira issue summary does not truncate in Your Work dashboard and Jira issues tab
BUS-229		Pull requests: Selected lines do not maintain highlighted state when refreshing or opening URL in a new tab
BUS-280		Increase width of "SSH/HTTPS" dropdown select to 96px
BUS-238		Source: clicking on files after clicking on search filter does not work.
BUS-296		Updated create repository page (this page is under FF): field labels aren't aligned with corresponded fields
BUS-42	•	Same diff multiple draft comments & browser warning for unsaved comments.



#### FORMAT/TOOLS

- Jekyll static site generator
- Postman
- Confluence pages
- Visual Studio
- Markdown
- Bitbucket pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **Developer Documentation Example**

Bitbucket Cloud API Proxy Module

## **Project Overview**

Bitbucket Cloud's API proxy module was a planned change as a reaction to GDPR and would impact all platform add-on developers. It changed Bitbucket's inherent object model, and how developers authenticate calls.

### Project Goals

Describe how to use the API proxy module to optimize integrations and adhere to new GDPR requirements.

Software Architect

### Document the API module

**Add new sections**: The developer doc was out of date. Needed to update the page tree to add content.

**Uncover missed dependencies**: Started as internal tool, it was not ready for production yet.

**Learn to contribute to dev docs**: This was my first role working on dev docs. Learn new authoring environment.

## Address documentation gaps

**Catalog and track gaps**: These changes cascaded to other parts of using the API, which required updating other docs.

**Schedule dev work**: Some gaps required changes to codebase, required coordination with product management.

**Draft the missing docs**: Drafted outlines and rough drafts of the missing docs to be reviewed and implemented later.

#### Team



Product Manager

3 Engineers

### Project Duration

4 months

#### FORMAT/TOOLS

- Jekyll static site
- Postman
- Confluence pages
- Visual Studio
- Markdown
- Bitbucket pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **Developer Documentation Example**

Bitbucket Cloud API Proxy Module

### **Problem statement**

- The change was reactionary to GDPR, and there were some architecture requirements that were originally unknown, and the project took much longer than expected.
- One piece of doc wasn't going to be enough, as this new functionality didn't just add a single module, it added several other complimentary, but entirely separate, features that had to be explained.
- This was my first time contributing to developer documentation.

### **Outcomes**

#### New module included lots of code examples

- Like most developer content, it needed to include lots of examples that required me to pair with a developer to create and test.
- Paired with a developer to describe set of examples that will demonstrate all the vital functionality without confusing people.

#### Documentation gaps were addressed or indexed

- Added several other complimentary, but entirely separate, pieces of doc for features that had yet to be explained.
- Ended with a tight, comprehensive, piece of content that helped devs get the most from their integration with Bitbucket.

#### Great-looking graphics

- Insisted on the graphics to help portray the information flow.
- Architect drew out a crude line diagram I iterated into a polished into a production ready publishable graphic.

#### **FORMAT/TOOLS**

- Jekyll static site generator
- Postman
- Confluence pages
- Visual Studio
- Markdown
- Bitbucket pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **Developer Documentation Example**

Bitbucket Cloud API Proxy Module

#### **Outcomes**

CLIENT

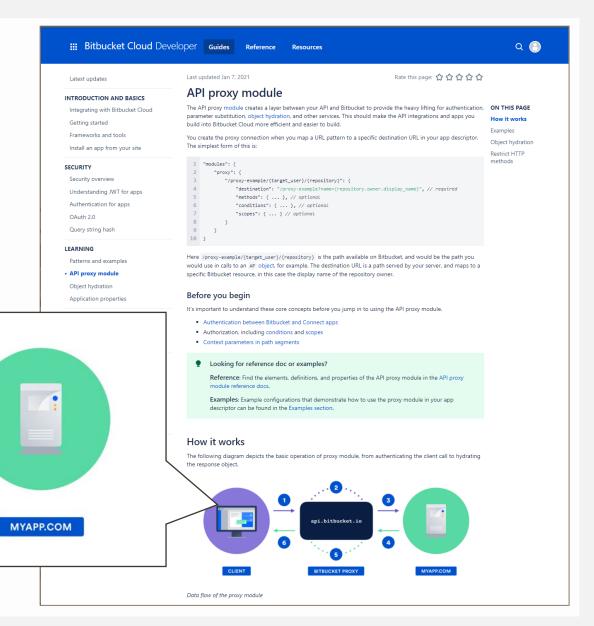
Proxy Module Doc

api.bitbucket.io

**BITBUCKET PROXY** 

You can see this piece of documentation at:

developer.atlassian.com/cloud/bitbucket/proxy-module/



#### FORMAT/TOOLS

- Jekyll static site generator
- Postman
- Confluence pages
- Visual Studio
- Markdown
- Bitbucket pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **Developer Documentation Example**

Bitbucket Cloud API Proxy Module

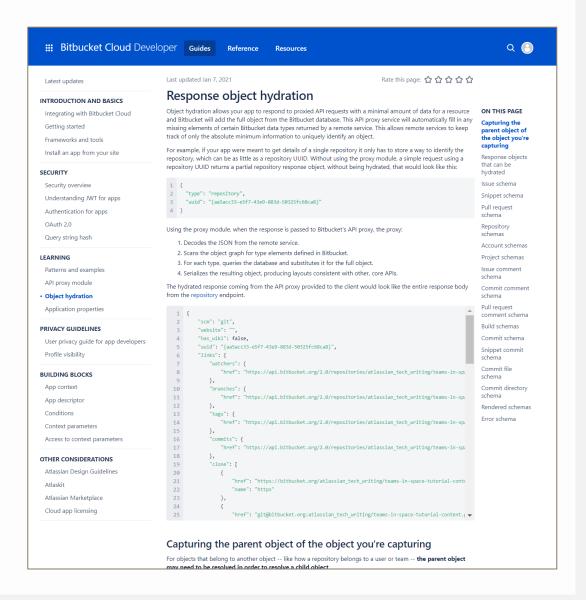
#### **Outcomes**

## Obj Hydration Doc

- Originally part of the proxy module doc: This entire document was meant to be part of the API proxy module documentation; it's actually longer!
- Required extensive paring with a dev: Over several meetings we established requirements for the ideal set of examples to demonstrate all the vital functionality without confusing people.

You can see this piece of documentation at:

developer.atlassian.com/cloud/bitbucket/proxy-object-hydration/



#### FORMAT/TOOLS

- Jekyll static site generator
- Postman
- Confluence pages
- Visual Studio
- Markdown
- Bitbucket pull requests



**UX WRITING** 

**USER RESEARCH** 

**DESIGN THINKING** 

**DOCUMENTATION** 

## **Developer Documentation Example**

Bitbucket Cloud API Proxy Module

### **Documentation Process**

Scope

Iterate

Review

Measure

1. Listen, ask questions:

The original project was daunting, so I had to listen and do a lot of background reading.

- 2. Create an outline: This project had a lot of interdependent and interweaving parts, an outline helped stay organized.
- 3. Shared understanding:
  Resist the urge to 'figure it out later' when the initial assignment only consists of 'document this' for requirements.

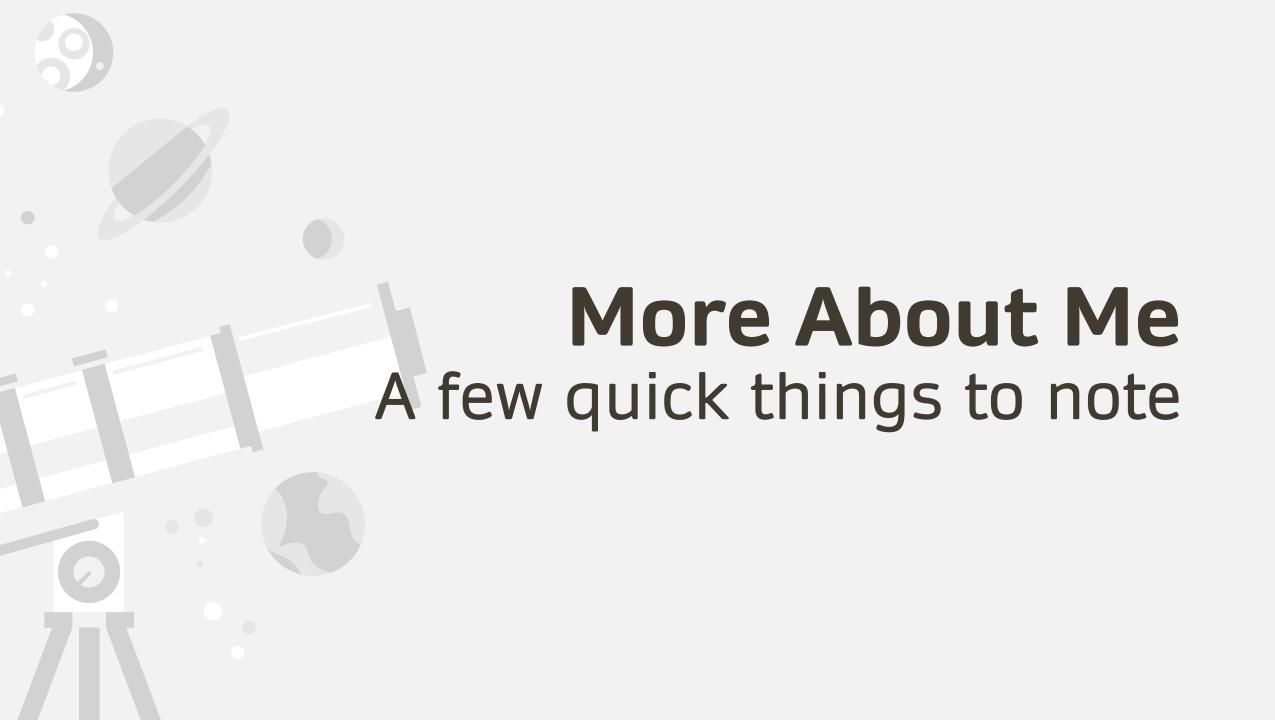
1. Get out of the hole:

Instead of iterating alone, it was important to get reviewers eyes on the work as soon as possible.

- 2. Raise concerns early: As soon as the scope starts to creep, raise the red flag and ask for support or push back the deadlines.
- 3. Feedback from outside the team: Sometimes your teammates are too close to the problem and share biases. Look for reviews from other teams.

- 1. Schedule stakeholder reviews: The folks reviewing my work get busy, so I make sure to schedule their reviews..
- 2. Be specific: Long pieces of documentation like this can be daunting to review. Be precise about what should and shouldn't be reviewed.
- **3. Test it yourself:** Though it can add to turnaround time, testing procedures yourself is the only way to ship instructions with genuine confidence.

- 1. Use your resources: Not everyone reads release notes, so it can help to advertise new docs in community forums.
- 2. Set a future date: We don't always stop to smell the roses. We also don't plan to stop and measure work in the future but doing so ensures you will.
- 3. Check social media: If the product is publicly available and popular chances are someone online has shared an opinion of it. Find them.





# Public Speaking

### **Public Speaking**

- Telling stories is my favorite pastime. I may be a Technical Writer/Content Design by day, but I'm a creative writer. I bring my passion for telling stories from the page to the stage. My experiences working in tech are usually at the center of my talks.
- It all started with a 'Pipeline.'
   My signature talk started with a simple Tweet about what being Black in tech looks like. All these years later and that experience is still driving people to my talks online, and to invite me to give the talk all over the world.
- Talks for all stages, big and small. I didn't start by giving talks to big audiences, and I still love to give more intimate presentations to smaller audiences about a wide range of topics, including: Agile, innovation, Tech Writing, Content Design, UX Writing, job hunting, and diversity.

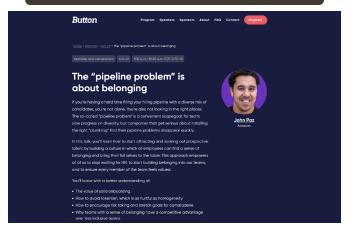
## More About Me

### Atlassian Design Week 2019



paz.tips/john-presentation-building-belonging

## Button (2020) keynote speaker

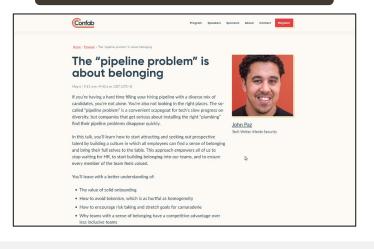


#### Atlassian Summit 2019



paz.tips/pipeline-problem-summit-2019

## Confab (2021) keynote speaker



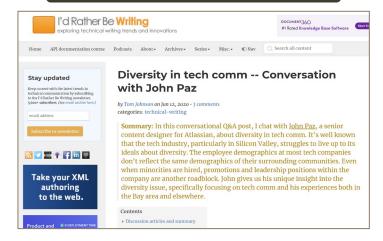
# Diversity in Tech Advocate

### **Diversity Advocate**

- I make a conscious effort to expand my influence to increase my impact. The messages from my presentations generate other opportunities for industry blogs and podcasts.
- My unique perspective. My
   personal identity consists of a few
   underrepresented groups, so I get
   requests for interviews from lots
   of tech-related or tech-comm related blogs. I love to be
   interviewed! I am honored to act
   as a spokesperson for diverse
   voices working in tech, and it puts
   me in direct contact with people in
   my field I highly respect.
- Emphasizing the benefits of mentorship to improve diversity and equity in tech. I make a conscious effort to drive the conversations within tech companies to think deeply about how to be more equitable and increase representation of underrepresented people working in tech.

## More About Me

## I'd Rather Be Writing (2020)



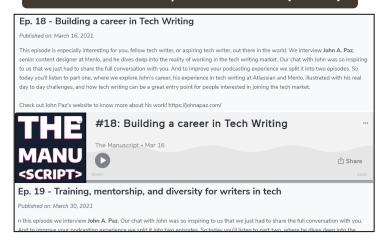
paz.tips/john-interview-idratherbewriting2020

## People of Color in Tech (2019)



paz.tips/john-interview-pocit2019

### The Manu<Script> Podcast (2021)



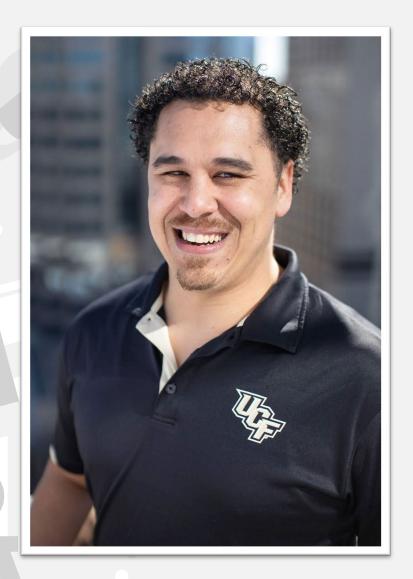
paz.tips/john-interview-themanuscript2021

### The Not-Boring Tech Writer (2019)



paz.tips/john-interview-thenotboringtechwriter2019





# Get in touch

Look for more of my work online



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paz.tips/johns-online-portfolio



paz.tips/twitter-srcontentdesign

Content Design Portfolio

Updated April 2021