

What it Takes To Be An OpenSource Developer

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Open Source Developer's School



ΕΠΙΛΕΙΣ ΠΡΑΚΤΟΡ
ΕΙΝΑΙ ΣΙΩΠΗΛΟΣ+

Η ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΗ
ΥΠΕΡΑΝΘ
ΟΛΩΝ

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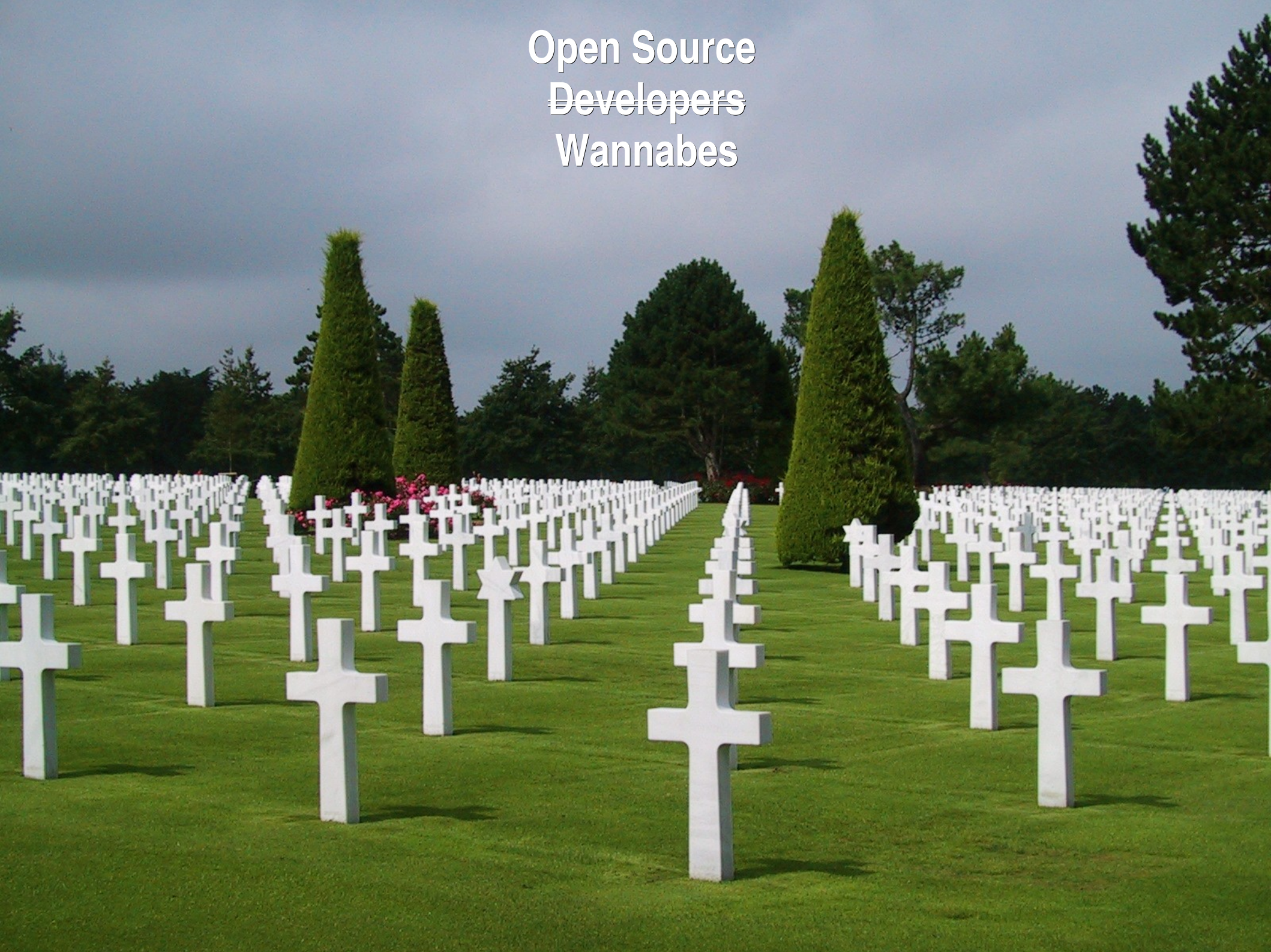
OpenSource Developer's Curriculum

- Programming Skills
 - Algorithms
 - Programming Languages
 - Libraries/Frameworks
 - Build tools
 - IDEs
 - Version control
 - Continuous Testing
 - Issue/Bug tracking
 - Profilers/Debuggers
- Communication Skills
 - Etiquette
 - Project web site
 - Mailing lists
 - Forums
 - IRC
 - Wikis
 - Blogs
 - Podcasts
 - Marketing

OpenSource Developer's Plan

- Find an interesting project
- Become an active member
- Establish yourself in the community
- Climb up the ladder (User, Contributor, Committer, Lead)
- Present the Project at conferences

Open Source
~~Developers~~
Wannabes



Grand Master of Open Source



OpenSource Developer's Mantra

#1 Vision

Vision – I want to ...

- What exactly you have in mind?
 - Write a new transaction engine for MySQL
 - Code for JBoss Application Server
 - Become a Linux kernel developer
- Solve real-world problems
 - Where is the added value?
 - What can be extended?
 - What's missing?
- Think Globally!

#2 Focus

Focus – like a lazer

- To become an expert
 - Gurus know few things really well
- To be one step ahead
 - What is the next big thing?
 - What is the state of the art?
 - What are the latest standards?

#3 Hard Work

Hard Work – want to be a Champion?

- There is no magic bullet
 - You need to work really hard
 - In you spare time, too
- But there are only 24h in a day
 - Make it part of your work
 - Make it part of your studies
- Persistence is the key
 - It's a Marathon, with short sprints
 - Don't give up!

#4 Experience

Experience – may the Source be with you

- A developer needs 5-8 years of coding experience
 - i.e. Senior level and higher
 - How many 10k LOC projects have you coded?
- Source code is the absolute truth
 - Study other people's code
 - The best training you can get
- Code as much as you can
 - In different languages and environments
 - Using a variety of tools and frameworks

#5 Initiative

Initiative – take charge!

- One of the biggest differentiator between closed-source & open-source developers
- Freedom has it's price
 - Nobody will tell you what to do
 - You need to find out

#6 People

People – make all the difference

- Find mentors/bosses/leaders/teams that inspire you
 - Seek to work with the best
 - Prepare to feel intimidated
 - There will always be a bigger Geek than You
- Communicate effectively
 - English is the Lingua Franca of OpenSource
 - Be tolerant to incoming traffic
 - Be conservative with outgoing traffic

#7 Luck

Luck – the unpredictable nature of life

- Expect the unexpected
 - Positive and negative surprises
- But think positive
 - No venture, no gain
- Prepare the field
 - And good things will come

- When things don't work out at all
 - Move on!

Recap

Recap – OpenSource Developer's Mantra

- Vision
- Focus
- Hard Work
- Experience
- Initiative
- People
- Luck

Grand Master of Open Source





Believe in Yourself

The End



GR-JBUG – Greek JBoss User Group

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