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Hello there,

I spent the first 15 years of my professional life as an independent contractor and consultant, with a focus on design and problem solving. I was never interested in working on staff for a company because my experience as a contractor had shown me that large organizations were often more about departmental feuds and corporate politics than they were about building things. For many projects I worked on, the internal departments already had a mostly complete solution in hand. The problem was they needed an outside party to illustrate those solutions in a way that decoupled them from the dynamics mentioned above.

One day a friend of mine reached out to me to join his team. He was working on a complex project building out an underwriting platform for a large company. He needed to build an agile, zero-fat team, and he wanted a whole design department stuffed into one person. My experience as a contractor and consultant made me a good fit for the role, and the project was one of the few times in my professional life that I felt fully utilized.

After we finished that project, I stayed on at OneMain Financial (OMF). I had grown attached to the company and the people who worked there. In an industry like personal lending, I had expected a culture similar to the other fintech firms I had consulted for. Exclusively driven by “new money” often at the expense of its customers, and employees. They failed to understand that your customers and employees ARE your company. The people at OneMain understood their customers, and the company put their employees in a good position to perform.

I may have stayed on too long at OMF, or gotten too comfortable. I failed to take on more of a leadership role as I grew in experience over the 9 years I worked there. I was so attached to being a “boots on the ground” asset, that I overlooked the growth that can come from taking on the different aspects of a professional life. When my position was eliminated earlier this year it came as a bit of a shock. I was told I had done nothing wrong, and that it was a financial decision. However, in retrospect while my salary had grown over time, the value I felt I provided to the company had remained fairly static. I was just a contributor, when I could have been crafting a path forward for the company and my colleagues. I may not have done anything wrong in their eyes, but a truly valuable employee seldom needs to make a case for their position and salary.

To that end, my goal moving forward is to find a company that has an esprit de corps similar to OMF, with complex challenges I feel I could make a significant contribution to. I have the tools for leadership I believe, and if you ask anyone I worked with at OMF I feel they would agree. The task before me is to find a place to apply those tools where they would have the most impact, and to build a culture and product that I can feel proud of.

I am looking for a company best suited to make a second start. Be it from a domain / acumen aspect, a cultural one, or both. If you are reading this, your company was on my list. I am taking a different path with these companies and approaching them directly, my apologies for the unorthodox approach.

I have some examples of work on my website, but the real illustrations of my abilities are items I prefer to not share publicly. The particulars of my skill sets are outlined in my CV as well as my references. If you read the above and think I might be a potential asset for your company, or you just have questions, please feel free to reach out as I am always open to discussion.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
Curt Fitzpatrick