

Kai Siren

Platform engineer - accelerating engineers as their work goes agentic

◆ coilsiren@gmail.com · ◆ San Lorenzo, CA (East Bay) · US Citizen

[linkedin.com/in/coilsiren](https://www.linkedin.com/in/coilsiren) · github.com/coilsiren · coilsiren.me



I'm **Kai Siren** (preferred name), AKA **Lynn Conway** (legal name). I'm a platform engineer, ten-plus years in. I build the tools that make engineering teams faster. The current edge of that work is agentic dev tooling and observability designed for LLM consumers.

The bet I'm making: an LLM that's even slightly faster than a human at finding bugs wins, because it doesn't get bored and it improves each model release. The asymmetry compounds. So I design observability for that consumer - raw event streams accessible via MCP, not prettier human dashboards.

I work across Python, Go, and JavaScript primarily, with hands-on time across AWS, GCP, and Azure. The throughline across stacks isn't a specific technology, it's meeting engineers where they are and removing the friction between intent and ship.

My career arc has been mostly IC with a stretch managing a small DevOps team at EnergyHub. The work has consistently been platform work - the layer other engineers build on. Language-ecosystem dev tooling at Ruby Together, multi-cloud platforms at Textio, government infrastructure at Nava, and now developer leverage and agent ergonomics at Kapwing.

Outside work, I enjoy gaming, game development, gardening, and crafts. I also run a homelab and a public game server. Both serve as testbeds for the observability work I do professionally.

◆ Skills

Languages	Python · Golang · NodeJS · Ruby · Java · PHP
Public Clouds	AWS · GCP · Azure · Digital Ocean
Compute	Kubernetes · Serverless · EC2 · ECS · Batch · Docker · Linux
CI/CD	Jenkins · CircleCI · TravisCI · GitHub Actions
IaC	Terraform · CloudFormation · Ansible · Packer · Pulumi · K8S
Observability	Datadog · Prometheus · Grafana · Sentry · Cloudwatch · New Relic
Infosec	ISO 27001 · SOC 2 · GDPR · NIST 800-53

◆ Experience

Kapwing · Senior Software Engineer — San Francisco · 2025 - Present

Python, NodeJS, K8S, Terraform, GCP, New Relic, OpenAI Codex

- ◆ Improve dockerized python startup time performance by ~2x
- ◆ Build out video processing functionality with ffmpeg and puppeteer
- ◆ Design agentic workflows that leverage o11y tooling to fix bugs

Nava · Principal Infrastructure Engineer — Remote · 2023 - 2025

Python, Java, Terraform, AWS, NIST 800-53, New Relic

- ◆ Deploy a government website for the US Department of Health and Human Services
- ◆ Improve upon backend applications written in Python and Java
- ◆ Remediate security vulnerabilities to maintain NIST 800-53 compliance
- ◆ Deploy a Metabase BI dashboard for data analytics and reporting

Textio · Staff Infrastructure Engineer — Remote · 2022 - 2023

Python, Golang, Typescript, Datadog, Airflow, AWS, Azure, Azure OpenAI, SOC 2

- ◆ Deploy Airflow with a SQLMesh orchestration layer for data science workflows
- ◆ Deploy Azure OpenAI (i.e., ChatGPT) with a multi-cloud BGP VPN to AWS
- ◆ Migrate monitoring systems to a customized Datadog and Fluent-bit setup
- ◆ Build Python data pipelines for customer data reporting systems

EnergyHub · DevOps Engineering Manager — Brooklyn, NY · 2021 - 2022

Engineering Manager / Tech Lead of a team of 2 ~ 4 people

- ◆ Hire a DevOps team and craft the role to operate distinctly from product engineers
- ◆ Manage security policy and practice for day-to-day workflows and significant incidents

EnergyHub · Senior DevOps Engineer — Brooklyn, NY · 2021

Python, Java, Ansible, Terraform, Datadog, MongoDB, AWS, AWS EC2, SOC 2

- ◆ Stabilize Ansible deployment tooling and upgrade it to industry standards
- ◆ Upgrade internal systems to production-grade variants (ex. MongoDB Atlas)
- ◆ Perform SOC 2 control remediations and deploy tooling around them

Bluelink · Senior Backend Engineer — Seattle, WA · 2020 - 2021

Python, Java, GCP, Kubernetes

- ◆ Build Java and Python backends on K8s / GCP for flowing data between partner APIs
- ◆ Ship data flow products purpose-built for Democratic candidates and progressives

Textio · Senior Infrastructure Engineer — Seattle, WA · 2018 - 2020

Python, Golang, NodeJS, GitHub, CircleCI, Docker, AWS ECS, GDPR, ISO 27001

- ◆ Build automation between 3rd party services to improve engineering velocity
- ◆ Design and socialize best practices in using day-to-day dev tooling
- ◆ Build maintainable and stable dev tooling customized to internal use cases

Callisto · Senior Software Engineer — San Francisco, CA · 2016 - 2018

Python, NodeJS, Django, Heroku, TravisCI

- ◆ Build and upgrade security application logic on the campus product
- ◆ Build security products in Python / NodeJS designed for client-side encryption
- ◆ Pair with cryptographers to prove out algorithms for novel cryptographic methods

Ruby Together · Open Source Software Engineer — 2016 *Ruby, RubyGems, Bundler, GitHub*

Harlot Media · Software Engineer — 2015 - 2016 *JavaScript, PHP, Bash, Digital Ocean*

Quirell · Software Engineer — 2014 - 2015 *Python, Flask, Neo4j, Heroku*

NASA · Engineering Student Ambassador — 2012 - 2013 *Climate Science Education*

◆ **Community & Open Source Leadership**

Write/Speak/Code · Seattle Chapter Organizer — 2019 - 2020 *501(c)(3) nonprofit promoting visibility and leadership for technologists*

urfave/cli · Maintainer — 2020 - 2021 *Go CLI framework with broad downstream adoption across the Go ecosystem*