MINNESOTA STATE
IT Center of Excellence

38 of the 100 Truths About Information Security

Evan Francen, CEO of FRSecure and SecurityStudio

About Me

Evan Francen, CEO & Founder of FRSecure and SecurityStudio

I do **a lot of security** stuff…

- Co-inventor of SecurityStudio®, FISASCORE®, myFISASCORE® and VEN**DEFENSE**®
- 25+ years of “practical” information security experience (started as a Cisco Engineer in the early 90s)
- Worked as CISO and vCISO for hundreds of companies.
- **Developed the FRSecure Mentor Program; six students in 2010/500+ in 2018**
- Advised legal counsel in very public breaches (Target, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, etc.)

About Me

Evan Francen, CEO & Founder of FRSecure and SecurityStudio

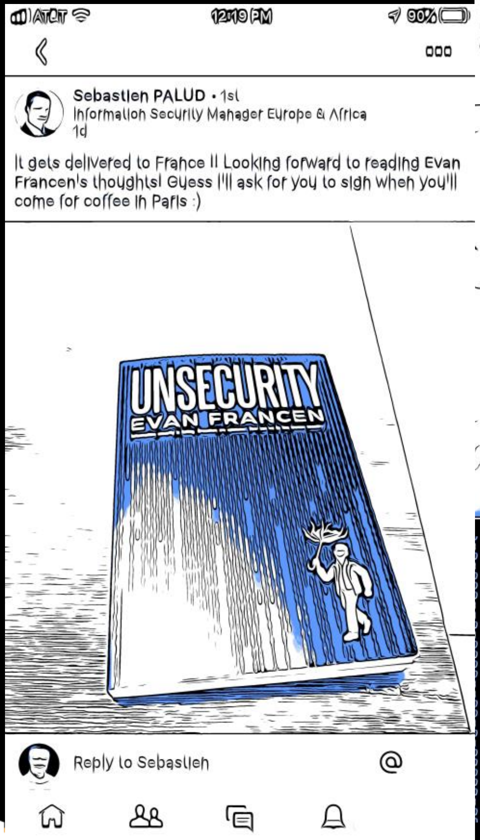
I look better as a cartoon.

If you want to know more about me, here’s where you can find me:

- **Twitter** (@evanfrancen) – https://twitter.com/evanfrancen
- **LinkedIn** – https://www.linkedin.com/in/evanfrancen/
- **Blog** - https://evanfrancen.com
- **Podcast** (The Unsecurity Podcast)

About Me

UNSECURITY: Information Security Is Failing. Breaches Are Epidemic. How Can We Fix This Broken Industry?



AT&T 12:19 PM 90%

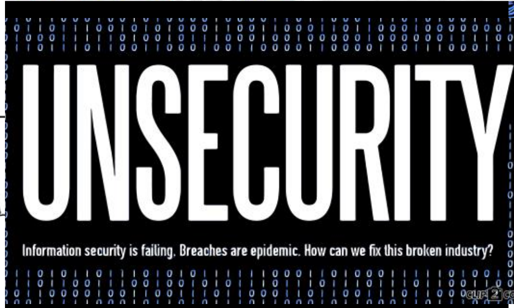
Sebastien PALUD • 1st
Information Security Manager Europe & Africa
1d

It gets delivered to France !! Looking forward to reading Evan Francen's thoughts! Guess I'll ask for you to sign when you'll come for coffee in Paris :)

Reply to Sebastien

Rich Eckstein • 2nd
Partner at BerganKDV
2h

Great surprise coming home last night and getting a book from Evan Francen
I have a good 60 pages read this morning and strongly recommend it to any one (not just the info sec professionals)! Great read and thanks Evan.



UNSECURITY
Information security is failing. Breaches are epidemic. How can we fix this broken industry?
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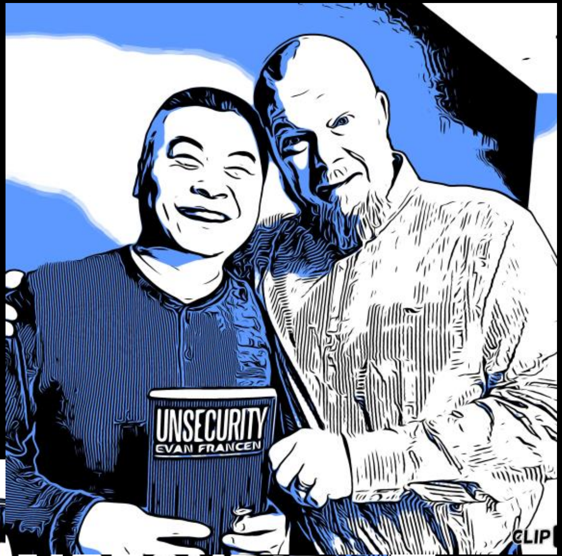

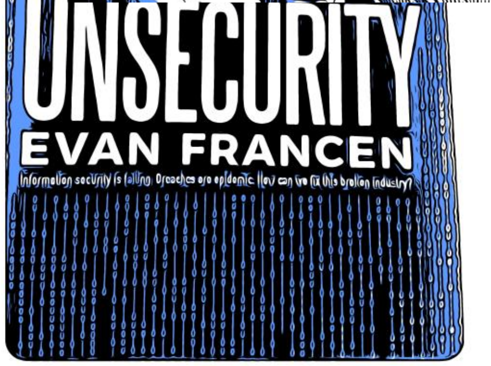

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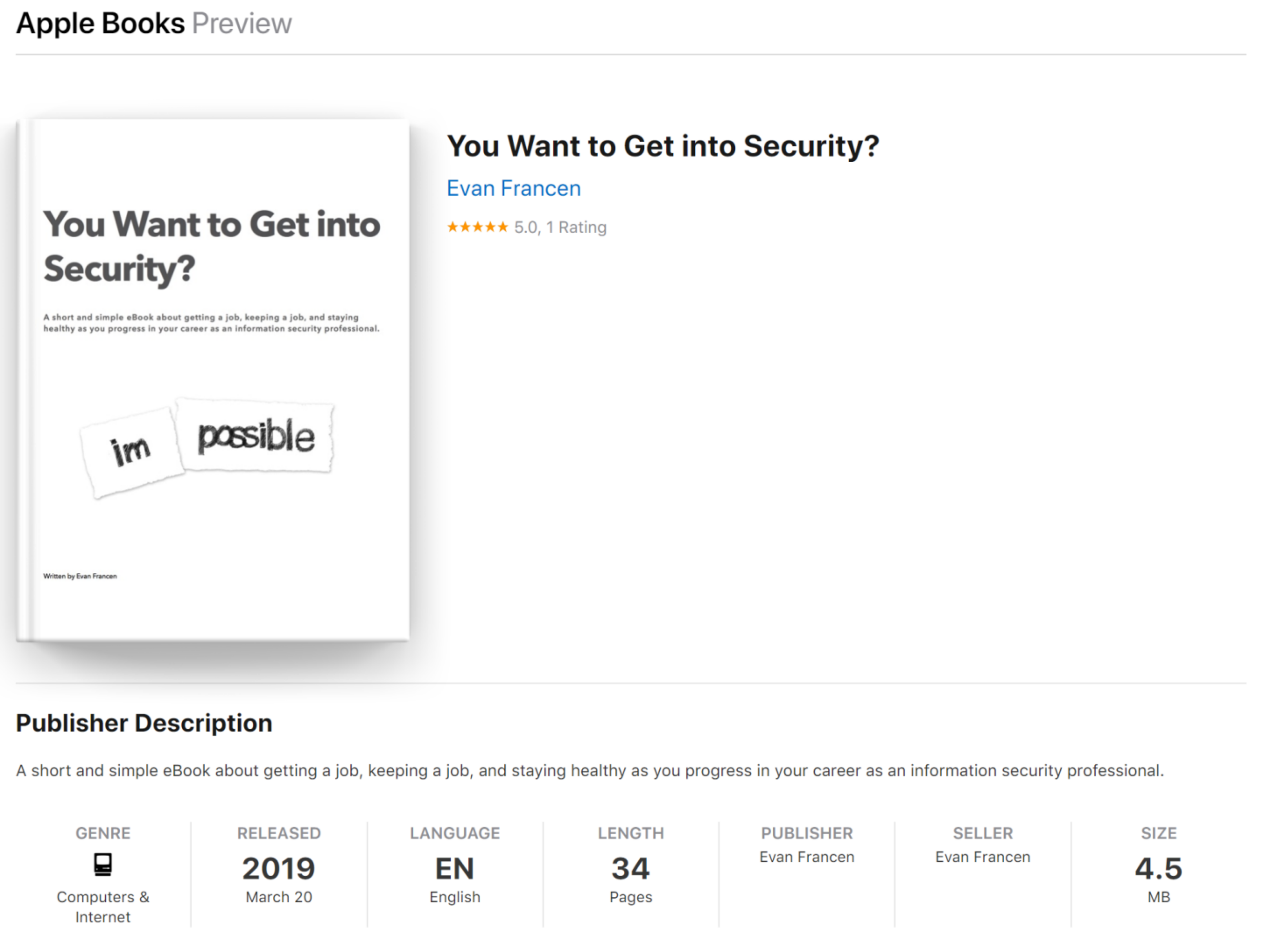
EVAN FRANCEN
Information security is failing. Breaches are epidemic. How can we fix this broken industry?

Good way to spend a Sunday!

About Me

You Want to Get into Security?



Apple Books Preview

You Want to Get into Security?

A short and simple eBook about getting a job, keeping a job, and staying healthy as you progress in your career as an information security professional.

Written by Evan Francen

You Want to Get into Security?

Evan Francen

★★★★★ 5.0, 1 Rating

Publisher Description

A short and simple eBook about getting a job, keeping a job, and staying healthy as you progress in your career as an information security professional.

GENRE	RELEASED	LANGUAGE	LENGTH	PUBLISHER	SELLER	SIZE
Computers & Internet	2019 March 20	EN English	34 Pages	Evan Francen	Evan Francen	4.5 MB

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Truth #1

Information security isn’t about information or security as much as it is about people.

Truth #2

Information security is a business issue, it’s NOT an IT issue.

Truth #3

Data breaches are inevitable, no matter how good you are.

Truth #4

One of the best tells of a novice (or poor) security professional is their inability to put risk into context.

Truth #5

You don’t need a degree to be awesome at information security.

Truth #6

Cybersecurity and information security are different things.

Truth #7

There’s a lot of snake oil for sale in the information security industry.

Truth #8

A good CEO is a chamption for information security.

Truth #9

Somebody’s got to do the dirty work, and there’s a lot of it to do.

Truth #10

If you’re responsible for information security and you don’t know what the dirty work is, you might want to start over.

Truth #11

The board of directors knows more about information security than you think, but less than they think.

Truth #12

One bit, either a 1 or a 0, like black or white. It only takes two bits to make gray area.

Truth #13

Everyone has something that somebody else wants.

Truth #14

We can’t effectively secure the things we can’t control.

Truth #15

While the “prudent man” drives the herd, the wolves devour the sheep.

Truth #16

If you think you know that motivation of your likely attacker, you're probably wrong.

Truth #17

People are the greatest risk.
This includes you.

Truth #18

There's very little (if any) return in chasing down the last 5-10% of information security risk.

Truth #19

Complexity is the enemy of information security.

Truth #20

Compliance and information security aren’t even close to the same thing.

Truth #21

It’s your job to protect yourself and your family, don’t expect others to do it for you.

Truth #22

If information security isn’t fun, you might not be doing it right.

Truth #23

You can’t effectively protect the things you don’t know you have.

Truth #24

Crunchy shell, gooey center security architectures are (nearly) useless.

Truth #25

An arrogant CISO assumes that he/she knows what other people think (without asking them).

Truth #26

Most big companies don’t care about your privacy. Actually, maybe none of them do.

Truth #27

Everybody dislikes passwords, even the security guy/gal who makes your password life a living hell.

Truth #28

Nobody cares about your information security as much as you should.

Truth #29

Ignorance is probably not defensible.

Truth #30

People will want to work with you more if you're a business enabler.

Truth #31

There isn’t a good excuse for not using MFA on all externally-accessible information resources.

Truth #32

If you can brief the board in five minutes (or less), you'll get invited to meetings more often.

Truth #33

Network segmentation is different than network isolation.

Truth #34

Employees won’t read your information security policies; they’re not supposed to.

Truth #35

Vulnerability management and patch management are different things.

Truth #36

Information security risk is just one of many risks that the board must consider. It’s not THE risk.

Truth #37

Information security doesn’t have to be a cost center.

Truth #38

There’s no common sense in information security.

The #100DaysofTruth Continues…

That's it for now. The other 62 come one day at a time.

Follow me on Twitter (@evanfrancen), LinkedIn (Evan Francen), my site (https://evanfrancen.com), or on the UNSECURTY Podcast.

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The #100DaysofTruth Continues…

THANK YOU!

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