

The Entry-Level Door Closed. Another One Opened.

Two conversations, same market: two hundred applications and three replies, or a solo-built product with paying users.

SWIPE →

Four things worth holding at once

- 01** The squeeze is real — and it's not only AI
 - 02** The apprenticeship model lost its training ground
 - 03** Nobody has ten years with a two-year-old tool
 - 04** You don't have to choose: job-hunt or build
-

5.7%

**Unemployment for recent graduates, vs.
4.2–4.3% for the workforce overall.**

Computer science graduates are worse off still, at 6.1%. Entry-level software engineering postings are down roughly 30% year over year.

-16%

Relative employment fall for early-career workers in AI-exposed roles.

Customer service and software development among them, relative to more experienced peers. A London School of Economics study found remote work predicts the decline even better than AI does.

40 → 29

The median age of founders behind AI unicorns, per research firm Antler — 2021 versus 2024. Most are coming straight out of university, not a decade of corporate seasoning.



The tools are new enough that no one has seniority in them yet. That includes you.

THE CENTRAL ARGUMENT

What AI took, and what's still yours

AI TOOK OVER

The ticket queue

Repetitive drafting and debugging

Routine coordination

STILL YOURS TO BUILD

Judgment: which problem is worth solving

Reading a room

Owning a decision when it's wrong

Thirty Million Dollars. Age Nineteen.

Zach Yadegari built Cal AI, a calorie-tracking app, to more than \$30M in annual revenue by nineteen, and sold it to MyFitnessPal. He didn't out-experience anyone — he shipped faster than people twice his age who were still waiting for permission.

What Would You Ship in Two Weeks?

One person can now do in a few weeks what used to take a small team two months. Ship something narrow, put it in front of real users, and walk into your next interview knowing more than most people on the other side of the table.

Full piece:

terencekok.com/blog/entry-level-job-market-broke-opening-it-left-behind

Nobody Older Than You Has a Head Start.

Not because the tools are easy. Because for the first time in a long time, seniority in them doesn't exist yet.



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