

I emailed the White House. They replied in *minutes*.

Then Wall Street CEOs and the Governor of the Bank of England — **over 150 times, it worked**. Not by breaking software, but by borrowing trust that already existed. The talk is that story told honestly: how it happened, how it actually felt, and the very human reasons it kept working.



THE TALK

“No polished hero’s tale. That’s the point.”

A first-person journey from office prankster to fooling some of the most powerful inboxes on earth — honest about the thrill, the panic, and the psychology that made it work. Part storytelling, part live demonstration. Fair warning: it’s a little rustic. That’s rather the point.

01 The story

How someone with no security background ended up in the inboxes of CEOs, bankers and the White House — and the moment it stopped feeling like a game.

02 The honest bit

The thrill, the panic, the paranoia that followed — and what the way my own brain works had to do with why any of it worked.

03 The live teardown

The actual emails — Goldman Sachs, Citibank, the White House — pulled apart on screen, and what AI changes from here.

AT A GLANCE

FORMATS

Conference keynote · internal all-staff · executive / board briefing **CONFIRM**

RUNNING TIME

45 minutes + 15 minutes Q&A, adaptable 30–60 **CONFIRM**

AUDIENCE

Executives, technical teams or all-staff. No security knowledge assumed.

DELIVERY

In person or virtual **CONFIRM**

BASED IN

United Kingdom, travelling internationally **CONFIRM**

WHAT I NEED

Screen with HDMI, lapel or handheld mic, presenter clicker **CONFIRM**

ENQUIRIES

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SPOKEN AT & WORKED WITH

Uber · Siemens · Mercedes-Benz · US Secret Service · UK NCSC

AS FEATURED BY

BuzzFeed News · CNN · Jimmy Kimmel

THE FRAMEWORKS BEHIND THE TALK

Ask&Do · BattlePhish · Inbox Arena · Between Ask & Do

A model for the gap between what is asked and what gets done, a team competition, a five-minute solo drill, and the essay explaining why believable lures feel true. All playable at james-linton.com.