

The Profile: The leader of a fallen empire & Beyoncé's personal bodyguard

Good morning, friends.

It's a really exciting day because I convinced one of the hardest-working, most badass women I know to do an AMA in [The Profile Telegram channel](#) today.

Meet **Jennifer Flanz**, the executive producer & co-showrunner of "The Daily Show with Trevor Noah." She started out as a production assistant and worked her way up to executive producer 15 years later.

Jen was there during Jon Stewart's era, but she was involved in helping choose Stewart's successor, Trevor Noah. "I saw him a few years ago doing stand-up, and I was like, 'That guy's amazing—we have to get him on *The Daily Show*,'" [she said](#). "He won't be Jon; he'll be different. But he's going to be great."

She's got some exciting new projects in the works, so [join the Profile channel here](#) & ask her questions throughout the day.

- [The leader of a fallen empire](#) **[**HIGHLY RECOMMEND**]**
- [Beyoncé's personal bodyguard](#)
- [China's cyber queen](#)
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PEOPLE TO KNOW.

[The leader of a fallen empire](#): New Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi has spent his first seven months on the job apologizing. A lot. He issued an open apology to the entire city of London, he apologized to the public after revealing that Uber hadn't disclosed a 2016 hack, and more broadly, he apologized for his predecessor's missteps. In this story, we learn just how difficult it is to turn around a company mired in accusations of misconduct and internal turmoil. [Tweet this.](#)

"Management is about a contract, which is, you manage me because you're higher up on the level and you pay me and do my review," he said. "Leadership is about the heart."

[Beyoncé's personal bodyguard](#): This is *such* a good profile of an actress you've probably never heard of. Tiffany Haddish had a breakout role in the film *Girls Trip*, and she's absolutely hilarious. In this feature, she goes whale watching with my favorite profile writer Caity Weaver and opens up about her childhood trauma, her sudden rise to fame, and of course, how she

almost beat up an actress who bit Beyoncé in the face. This one is well worth your time, I promise. [Tweet this.](#)

"There's people out here biting Beyoncé!" she says, incredulous.

[China's cyber queen:](#) Naomi Wu is the face of China's cyberpunk city. Wu, who goes by "SexyCyborg," is a hacker who has built a vodka-pouring BarBot, a makeup kit that doubles as a Linux-based hacking device, and 3D-printed wearables. As one of the most controversial figures on the Internet, she's been criticized for her clothing, body, race, and gender. Some have called her a "whore," "bimbo," and "prostitute." Others claim a man has masterminded her career. Take a peek inside the dark underbelly of the hacker movement. [Tweet this.](#)

"I do ALL of my builds myself and keep cameras running from beginning to end to prove it," Wu wrote. "There is no proof I can offer that will be accepted and the harder I work, the more evidence I offer, the more I study and try, the angrier they get."

COMPANIES TO WATCH.

[The robotic surgeon:](#) Fred Moll started a \$50 billion robotics company called Intuitive Surgical Inc. Now, he has FDA approval for a device a doctor sends into the lungs to detect cancer. His ultimate goal: Have the robot control itself. [Tweet this.](#)

"It's not science fiction," he says. "It's sort of like self-driving cars. People used to wonder if it was going to be five or 10 years. No, no, no: It's going to be 18 months."

[The old boys' club:](#) Nike built its global empire through marketing that made competitiveness cool. But now, interviews with current and former employees say culture problems have persisted at the company for years. A leadership shake-up came about after employees shared concerns around pay and culture at the company. What's next for the world's most admired brand? [Note: This one might require a WSJ subscription.] [Tweet this.](#)

"When we discover issues, we take action."