

Hi - We're trying an auto transcript of the finished episode - and then editing - this below is the auto transcript - and while it's close, it's not perfect - Dr J

19:03:02 Hello and welcome once again to it is complicated the podcast where we answer every single question with it is complicated including the title of this podcast, which is, it is complicated.

19:03:12 Hello Dr J, hello just fine. How are you in time period that we are experiencing at the moment.

19:03:22 I was explaining this yesterday someone podcast came up. And I said, you know, one of the foolish things that Jay and I did was that we insisted on starting the podcast every week with.

19:03:33 And how are you doing, which is of course a question that is ludicrous the false because Jay and I've just been speaking for 20 minutes about how we're doing.

19:03:40 So we know that for your benefit. We do this sort of lovely social routine. And unfortunately I no longer have enough generic, but also Funny enough, so all I do now is make noise, because that's the only way I can express I am.

19:03:58 Today I am

19:04:00 actually I'm all right. Thank you for asking, How are you,

19:04:05 I'm good. Seeing that I spent two hours driving today in a car with the air conditioning works. however the coolant to the air conditioner died, a while back.

19:04:17 So it basically takes the air from the outside.

19:04:24 And

19:04:25 if you have the windows shut. So I had to drive the hallway with the windows open so I had the air from the outside, blowing a gale in my face and I wasn't too sure which was the least unpleasant of those two options, but you're bombing down the three.

19:04:40 That's kind of how I'm feeling.

19:04:42 That's a mood. It's a mood, also known as absolute dehydration, that can emerge. Have you been hydrating now.

19:04:48 I am drinking vast amounts of liquids, individually my body will go that sufficient Thank you. You've had enough liquid.

19:04:58 You can now go off to bed.

19:05:05 So shall we introduce ourselves to the lovely listeners Josephine, could you say that again because I love to the middle of it. And I know that I think should be upset.

19:05:14 So shall we introduce ourselves to the lovely people Josephine, what a good and spontaneous idea Jay yes let's do

19:05:24 magic.

19:05:27 The magic of show business.

19:05:28 Who are you, hey, Ji you say as a pronoun, I represent the self defining future. I got to give myself the job title harbinger of change, because the software consultancy that I work at called for works allows people to do things like that.

19:05:45 And I got to give myself the agenda transcripts of non binary gender queer, because the country that I was born in allows people to do things like that.

19:05:52 Officially as well. What else about me, I'm a troublemaker, as if any of the last few minutes has been that you know that, and a hashtag Queen nuisance because, well, it's a good hashtag and I can define it.

19:06:03 I thought it was branding to.

19:06:05 It is branding but I mean, I'm painting so many hashtags at the moment.

19:06:11 Did you just say pony. You can hang out for type players I could tell you the news. Did you know I'm painting the tariffs. All right then, you can do that.

19:06:23 I consider that to be winning.

19:06:26 I told them I told them hard to decode.

19:06:31 You must. This is why I'm not allowed to talk in the vernacular.

19:06:35 Let's stop there.

19:06:39 Hi, my name is Josephine, I am academic and the artist is to be a true told the board so to speak.

19:06:46 These days I tried to make a spectacle of myself my funny career people and putting them on the funny internets. You can find them on my Instagrams amongst other places.

19:06:56 I also a lecturer in the subject of game design at the University of Arizona department of game design. I like to think of myself as a fan of international history, because it sounds fabulous, and I strive for that.

19:07:11 That is who you're listening to welcome.

19:07:16 And we decided to talk about something. One of the other listeners, because there are more than one of you has asked for today. Yes, listener request, and listen to request our first listen to request.

19:07:31 My lovely friend Tito asked if we would do a take on a working from home. That wasn't from assist white middle class male perspective because there doesn't seem to be a lot of voices around people who aren't within that normative section, and I thought

19:07:48 between the two of us we cover quite a lot of those non normative cities and could talk about this notion of working from home. And this notion of what we like about him what we don't like about it, what we would change if we foresee this as being the

19:08:03 new thing that it's going to be, and how would this an impact on society, and I think we've done some of this already without talks around coming out of lockdown is complicated and things like that, but I thought it might be interesting just to kind of

19:08:16 of tackle that notion of physically working from an environment where everyone you interact with for your working life is not physically present, they're all kind of virtual presences.

19:08:31 I think it's a really good topic, it's something we sort of touched on, on a number of occasions because of course this podcast itself was a product of working from old, and trying to find some way to do some of the creative things that you and I do is

19:08:44 also important to alleviate some of the stress and anxiety mental health.

19:08:50 Developing because of being in isolation, particularly because of needing to be in isolation and being different, is a particular set of experiences that are somewhat literally different.

19:09:03 The other part is, we both also work on a production from home with queer house party work is not just defined as the day job, but it's also defined as some of the work that we do as producers as people who work on cruise for parties on the backstage

19:09:24 and things like that, as people who would put on performances as somebody whose job is to give talks I've given so many talks online, and it's kind of all of those other notions of work come into this as well.

19:09:38 And how did those notions of work, play around with this whole. This is the way that companies seem to be pushing a certain percentage of people seek a complicated set of fascinating right because I hadn't thought of that.

19:09:51 I mean what jobs was I doing before even this happened really before the pandemic and, you know, the jobs that I was doing were already non traditional, they were in different places in different spaces but they were generally in person, but weirdly enough

19:10:06 being kind of queer and doing your own thing and doing things that are non normative. You do a lot of work from home anyway so for example if I was doing the sort of queer productions, I would do a ton of the writing here at home.

19:10:19 If we were promoting our events for example, even if they were in person, you do it all through Facebook and you do it all at home, because so much of what we were doing was out of the norm and therefore not in an office.

19:10:30 Anyway, so weirdly enough there was a certain amount of this. The, I was, I guess prepared to manage kind of quickly I suppose, or you know there's also flexibility, if you're going to be someone who needs to maneuver around systems to maneuver around

19:10:46 those kinds of structures that are built for you. You're a little bit more used to being flexible I like going well okay I'll work around this way of working around that way.

19:10:54 And if you're used to doing that, then you're going to have an easier time adjusting to such a monumental shift like this in a quicker space. Having said that, even the monumental shift that no one was really prepared for when it was being adjusted to,

19:11:10 it was being adjusted to for a mainstream experience. So, it's that thing of like, Oh well, everybody has to work from home now. Well, we'll use zoom, and that presupposes that you can create a room in your home immediately.

19:11:26 That will appear to a professional standard enough for whatever it is you're doing so that you can do your job, professionally and on zoom, for example, without having to like navigate your whole private environment around that.

19:11:40 So I think in a previous episode ju talked about someone living in a one room, having to readjust they retire, living environment, just to create the illusion that you live in a space that would allow for whole room to do your work from in London as live

19:11:57 in lots of places because that's what London's like and if you're a career in London, you definitely live in like a new place every six months, usually, and it's almost always like a room in our shared house a collective building or whatever the hell

19:12:14 can get but it's usually small and it's probably one room by yourself, if you're lucky. And if I was trying to do this at that time in my life. That's how it would be. So, the room I'm currently sitting in doing this podcast with Jay is a de facto office

19:12:26 that's separate from the rest of our living environment because we're lucky enough to have more rooms, but there were definitely times in my life in London when because of the circumstances I was in, I was living in a room the size.

19:12:38 So, having a bed, and a desk, and then adjusting the room so that I could create the TV illusion of sitting in a semi professional environment. You know the breakdown of private and public well if you're an academic theorists such as I would have already

19:12:56 broken that down and the post structuralist way and so public or private or never entirely separate but in this particular instance, the breakdown is particularly obvious.

19:13:05 I have carefully curated a space in my living room. That is for work that I can push away and have used the space for not work. Should I want to that I've also curated what's behind me I've curated what people can see of my life, but I've also curated

19:13:24 what I can look at and what I can see and what I can continue to be inspired by, but that has been a real privilege because I've got the space, and the resources to have a small desk and a chair and some computer equipment that I can just put away there

19:13:44 was so many people who I know, even some of the people I still work with are sitting in the same room that they were 18 months ago with the same desk that they had 18 months ago, and it's now a matter of convincing some of them that look, we might not
19:14:01 be going back into the offices for a while. What else can we get you How can we change your setup and I know that my technology setup has changed over these 18 months, the headsets become a little bit more used, I now know exactly what technology I need
19:14:18 to have where I've got a good setup I occasionally play around and move things around and tweak things but for the most part it's staying stable. I'm aware of the advantages that I've had of being able to do this one of those privileges being is that
19:14:32 my job is a job that I can do remotely not doing a physical task like hairdressing or shop work or retail hospitality, anything like that which requires those in person services.
19:14:49 All of my work, generally exists online, and even my outside of work work, the talks and running warehouse party also has been able to be reimaged online.
19:15:04 And when I say running queer house party. I'm running the tech I'm not running the running. What's so interesting is that it's complicated in the sense that there was positives and negatives.
19:15:13 So for example, one of the things that I'm really aware of is that you can do it all from your own home, via the computer right that's interesting isn't it because before this you weren't doing it all from home computer.
19:15:26 Now, took me me wrong, I'm sure there are plenty of in person meetings, that would be more advantageous to have in person.
19:15:33 But the funny thing is, there were so many jobs, and so many opportunities that I know my disabled friends, for example, who would say to their workplaces to their bosses two jobs they were looking for.
19:15:46 Hey, can I do this from home, because your offices and accessible or the journey towards the offices and accessible, it would be much better for me to be doing this for a moment and they were just flat out told no no no.
19:16:11 to cannot be made accessible. And then of course all of a sudden it was proved to be complete Nutter bullshit because you absolutely could be doing it from him, and it would be just as effective, if not more so effective.
19:16:16 so there's that aspect right that's suddenly that this has been proven to be the case. But what I'm really wondering, is after things shift again.
19:16:24 How quickly are employers going to try and drive employees back into offices. And will there be an opportunity for example for people with certain access needs or people just don't want to go into office and they feel like they're more productive at home
19:16:39 to remain there, because I'm hoping I really am at the beginning of all this I was saying, I really hope that this is a moment where we will actually see people understand and have an understanding shift that this is possible.
19:16:53 This is desirable this may be a really good opportunity for some people to be able to do this.
19:16:59 And then on the other hand, of course there are the people who really don't want to be at home all the time. So I'm thinking here of horrifically tragic stories that I was saying, at the beginning of the lockdown of like LGBT people are suddenly having
19:17:16 to move back in with family were really really homophobic, people who were literally having to go back into the closet to go home. And it was just painful to watch people who are going to suddenly be in domestic environments where the.

19:17:35 They couldn't get anything done right, because they were the ones who presumed to do all of these domestic work and suddenly there was so much more of it because every zone.

19:17:44 When you mentioned this topic today. One of the things that immediately sprang to mind was piece of research that I read not that long ago. Because academics they do love to research and one of the things in the research is themselves.

19:17:57 And so what they researched was academic research production during the pandemic.

19:18:03 And I'm sure you will not be surprised at all. To find that one of the statistics was academic publishing actually increased from men.

19:18:15 Of course, and decreased from women and underrepresented minorities. This, of course, right. So that's almost like not surprising in the slightest. It isn't is it.

19:18:40 And then this is tix from domestic violence, organizations, and it's such a stark contrast between the experiences of some people and other people. And don't get me wrong, the stark contrast isn't as clear as one might say for example, as I've said, there

19:18:47 have been friends who I know who are disabled who've been able to work in a way that they never could have.

19:18:58 Otherwise, and then of course there are other disabled people who've lost their jobs, who cannot find work, and other way, because the online world isn't accessible as well to certain people.

19:19:05 So it's not as easy as all that but having said that, there is a very clear trend of this kind of adjustment being adjusted for the normative, and also a little bit of a trend of wanting to get back to the normative once this is all over, because there's

19:19:22 always that talk about what will happen when this is done and. Where will we go and how will we be.

19:19:28 So, it's been interesting because thinking about where we go where I take the team that I work with, do we stay online only do we think about being in the office at particular times I'm all for.

19:19:44 Let's meet up in the offices, but it will be for specific things, and it will be to do specific work. One of the most interesting things is I've been doing public consultations for my client, and we've been able to have, sometimes even 60 people in a

19:20:01 meeting that we wouldn't have been able to have that sort of presence and directions. If we will try to do this face to face, because all of those people will need to travel to somewhere, you'd need to organize it that to our meeting but actually take

19:20:15 a day and a half out of people's lives. All of this stuff, whereas just running these to our meetings online and I'm like, even if there is a back to the office, whatever.

19:20:28 I still want to run these consultations in this way, because it's become a very proven way of being able to get people's attention to talk through a problem to talk through a problem in a productive way And to me, that's been a real winner and a real

19:20:42 advantage of going online, thinking of advantages. There is a really big digital divide coming up to do the stuff to work from home. You don't just require the space.

19:20:55 And that's why housing prices have gone. Weird as fucking London, because essentially everyone's leaving the inner city and moving out to the suburbs were originally all of the quiz with because I couldn't afford to live in the inner city and everyone

19:21:10 is almost doing a switch around, and more and more and more people are moving to the outskirts of London, and planning around commutes that are, I will be in the office one or two days a week, maximum not I will be in the office five days a week so I

19:21:25 can afford to live further out. I will be spending more time at home so it will take on a bigger house or rent a bigger place because I want that spare bedroom, or I want that room I can turn into an office, or I want to be just not in the same room all

19:21:39 day. And that's been really really fascinating as well. But there's also a digital divide in terms of the job.

19:21:48 And the job. If you don't have access to good internet.

19:21:52 Good. Power good computing. All of the technology that you and I have so many peripherals that make this happen. And you can no longer do the stuff from just a dodgy laptop, one of the weirdest things is, I work harder, or more constant than I do when

19:22:13 I'm physically in an office. I don't get those breaks I get days of calls from 830 in the morning till seven o'clock at night, if I'm lucky if I've managed to put in a two hour block that says lunch.

19:22:28 I'll end up with half an hour within that time, that will hopefully nobody has managed to book a meeting with me that I can go and actually grab some food, you know again.

19:22:38 On the plus side, it could be for example with all the work remain the same. For many people, they could probably get through the work that was supposed to do in a day in a shorter period of time because there's fewer distractions.

19:22:49 And of course again the plus side could be for people who have environments where, if you're different and you go into work environment where people are not so great.

19:22:57 You might have a more positive experience at home.

19:23:00 But of course, the problem with that is that, like I just said at the beginning was that the private public thing has been eroded even more, so much so that you feel like you are always on to some degree.

19:23:12 And that's what's really difficult to manage. Because we're not used to doing that. And so, there's so much to this, that I think is a universal experience of people who've had to try to do this.

19:23:28 But of course, as always, the people who have experiences that are different, those issues are going to be exacerbated to some degree, we're going to be able to navigate some of it because of our experience of being different, in all sorts of structures

19:23:39 so we're going to have some advantage now.

19:23:42 And then of course the disadvantage of not being able to do all the things that people have got more mainstream experience that people have got more prevalent experience, are going to be used to.

19:23:54 So for example, this notion of having a second room. Take away and have as an office. That also presupposes that, for example childcare is taken care of.

19:24:18 Not here by the way, Sweden, but it's that thing of like well the kids are home, and the pets need feeding and, you know, you're trying to hold a meeting and do that at the same time.

19:24:23 Is there someone in your life doing that doesn't happen to be a partner who's the agenda that's more marginalized, are they more likely to be imposed on to do that sort of thing.

19:24:29 Therefore, it's all of that all of these sort of like cultural experiences all the social cultural discourse is just plays out in the work environment which becomes our environment which becomes the work environment.

19:24:41 And so, yeah, I think it's a really really interesting topic on a personal level, the strangest thing was the, the job I managed to get during the pandemic.

19:24:50 And I'm absolutely thrilled I got it. I've never met any of the people I've worked with for the last well It'll soon be a year. I've never met any of them.

19:25:01 I have no idea. I used to spend a bit of time joking about this because I was like, you know, I'm in this 116 by nine box on your screen.

19:25:10 You don't know I exist I could be just a really interesting AI. You know I could just be an illusion I'm a simulation that sort of thing. It's fun, but it's true.

19:25:18 I've never physically been in the same place I've ever met them, most of them live on a piece of land that is literally detached from the desert land what I live on.

19:25:28 Some of them are in flat out different countries, different time zones.

19:25:33 My students.

19:25:34 I taught in the most fabulous way I taught people were literally off the road away. And that's kind of cool and at the same time I've never met them. Some of the students that I watched graduate and taught classes for.

19:25:49 I never met. I've seen them on the screen, it's something I'm in a similar situation I have met some of my teammates, not others. Some of the teammates, and I have been able to meet outside of work, my clients and I have never met the people I've been

19:26:07 working for since October. We've never been in the same office, they've never seen me. They have no idea how tall I am, anything like that. He was one of the advantages when I started all this was that I have spent some time being a performer.

19:26:23 And also, performing on camera.

19:26:26 So the second I knew that I was going to have to look for a job, and then hopefully work at a job, somewhat literally on camera, all the time.

19:26:36 The first thing I did was like right okay, how do I set up this room so I changed this room entirely so that I'm facing the window so that all the natural light comes in through the window.

19:26:45 The camera that the listener can't see is pitched upwards so that it's always looking slightly down on my face because that casts a better shadow with a direct line for those times I don't have a direct light, the first thing I bought.

19:26:57 When the panoramic It was a ring light.

19:27:00 I actually have and you can't see this of course to you. Listeners certainly caught in the corner of the room I have a giant sleeper bag full of green screen equipment, which I bought at the end of this pandemic because I thought right.

19:27:14 There's a very real possibility that if I'm going to be doing anything online. I really want to have a really good green screen with really good lighting setup, and just do this work that way so it was like no I know what to do, but I'm also used to being

19:27:26 a performers on stage, a lot, as in the sense of like doing a performance for a long time on stage and not necessarily being the focus so for example, I was in a play, where I was on states all time, but I would do my lines and then withdraw, but also

19:27:44 always be on the stage so I know in that position, the one thing you can't really do is stop scratching your ass right because you're constantly being viewed.

19:27:52 So those skills are really handy, especially the first month when people are just getting used to this idea that they are being constantly stared at through this camera, so they could use their skills and I think a lot of people who are used to being

19:28:06 looked at one way or another doesn't necessarily mean like as a performer or through screen.

19:28:12 We're better at managing that, and realizing how to cope with that.

19:28:17 Whereas again of course those people who had the privilege of being able to walk through life without needing to worry about being stolen all the time, just carried on behaving the way they do, and still do.

19:28:29 I think that's really an interesting thing with the glossary cockroach style of cleaners has kind of given us a little advantage there. I mean I can feel the advantage in that I'm not a great film editor by any stretch of the imagination, but I do understand

19:28:45 some of the notions of putting together a 32nd film for promotion of something, or how to do pacing and things like that. And one of the interesting things that I've started doing is switching between gallery views and spotlights and learning how to hide,

19:29:02 seeing myself on screen, so that you don't end up with that self consciousness coming up, but occasionally, pulling it up so that I can monitor that I'm still in frame that I haven't moved out of shot that I haven't been the camera.

19:29:15 I'm there. I'm waving my hands in the right kind of way. One of the weird things is, I've almost gotten used to the sound of my voice, which sounds very weird, but the sound of my voice repeat it back to me because of all of the recordings and having

19:29:30 to the stuff, but also doing lots of talks. I often have to sit there and watch the talk, that's been pre recorded, and then do the q amp a afterwards so you end up hearing yourself talk and watching yourself talk, which was previously prior to this would

19:29:48 have put me into just severe anxiety and self consciousness over my voice over the way that I look at that and that's what I look like on screen that's what I look like every day when I do a call.

19:30:02 It's now enough thing to sit down and do a talk or record something and talk to somebody, but that again is an advantage because I've had to do it over and over and over and just seeing those how many tapes it took to get some of those first talks done

19:30:17 and now I'm not quite a one taker but I'm very close to one taker. I think it brings up some really interesting notions of privilege, or advantages that people have.

19:30:29 I don't have any childcare responsibilities so that I know that I'm generally not going to be interrupted.

19:30:34 I do have a child at home who requires childcare actually being at home.

19:30:40 And we've navigated things to such a degree that we were able to make it not become very obvious that that was the case or if it happened, he would almost always happen because the meeting ran long or something was out of the ordinary because we hadn't

19:30:55 been able to pre plan, but we've had to work pretty hard to make sure that that's the case partly because I don't want our child to feel like they can't come in to talk to me during time at home because it's hard child home.

19:31:11 And so, it's not a workspace, having a kid pop up. I have that with a couple of people on my calls. Everyone's now used to those levels of interruptions, or the better places are, because this is not a workspace, even though work is happening within it.

19:31:25 And this becomes one of those interesting luminous spaces of between this of between two states, because it is not a binary is a space where I'm sitting talking to Josephine by workspace, or a place where I work with in my home.

19:31:41 And does that make my home, my workplace depends entirely on how you define things. Because if for example, you think of say housework his work, and I'm thinking here now have the calculations of the feminists in the 70s and 80s but prior to that as well

19:31:59 as like calculating what is the worth of housework and who's doing that work for how many hours a day. Right. But then isn't the homework space already just depends on who you are.

19:32:09 And who's presuppose to do that work. So the idea of like, well, you can work this many hours during the day because you have someone to take care of your child who happens to be there as well.

19:32:20 That gives you that opportunity. And who is doing that and who's pre supposed to doing that. that's the issue, and that's the thing about when you said that our listeners just this I was like No, this is a really good topic because it brings up all these

19:32:33 these things that we think of as normalized and therefore invisible that's the thing about these issues is that they become so normal we as human beings are so good at forgetting things that are normal because that's how our, our psychology works that's

19:32:46 how our brain works. If something is normal and constant, you stop seeing it doesn't exist anymore. It's a psychological thing it's even physiological, but the funny thing about changes that are this Stark, where everybody suddenly has to change your

19:32:59 behavior is that it pushes into sharp relief those things that we think of as normal. So all of a sudden we have to consider like, hey, do all of our jobs have to happen at the office.

19:33:09 Could they happen at home, could they be more accessible could we make our work happen in a different more accessible way that broke that norm right suddenly we're aware of certain things, but we're still willing, I think culturally to be completely.

19:33:38 ignorant of so many other things, and we're desperate to get back to the normative in other ways as well as the statistic about academic publishing, saying, Well yeah, of course, because it's a perfect metric for this. I think one of the things that I saw there was

19:33:40 saw there was a lot of reaction to various companies, and CEOs saying we should work from home what we shouldn't work from home or get a demand different come back in the office, and most of the people kicking back at that were sis white straight men

19:33:55 who would set themselves up for working from home, who had bought the bigger house or set up the second room and done all of this, and some of the narrative is like, I enjoy being able to spend time with my family and it's like, that's great.

19:34:09 What were you doing before. And I think it's also bought into quite interesting highlight the things people were giving up for some of this office work, the things people were giving up those 6070 hour weeks, don't feel so good.

19:34:26 When you can't go out drinking at the end of them don't feel so good when you finish it, and you're stuck at home.

19:34:33 And you realize you could have been spending four hours in the other room doing stuff with the kids are doing stuff for somebody else. And not just sitting there working and that I think is potentially also going to change people's attitude as well as

19:34:50 to how much work.

19:34:52 My employer gets from me for the salary, what is the expectation of him the hours that I work, because that's why I use the word liminal space because there becomes a blurring of a line between work and home life that's constantly there.

19:35:11 Because, like I popped on. Now to do this call, but I've also popped off three email messages and sorted a few things out while I was waiting for Josephine, and I'm like, it's late on Sunday.

19:35:24 I should not be doing that. I should have only been diving into talks Josephine, and this becomes that Blair of like, it's not work time Why am I working.

19:35:33 I'm actually rather looking forward to an update of the OS that I'm working on that will allow me to go. I'm in work mode and I'm in non work mode and hide a pile of stuff from my machine which will force me not to do some of the stuff that I do, and

19:35:50 kind of give me a bit of separation, because workaholics with working from home, you've not got that pull of I need to go home you're already home.

19:35:59 And it's just 10 minutes worth of work. It's nothing, three, four hours later, you realize what you've been doing with a radical enough shift you can see what's not usual.

19:36:09 You know what we call normal suddenly becomes clearer.

19:36:13 Getting that perspective, right. It's a psychological thing of like, this is how you survive trauma.

19:36:22 But it is true. This is psychology of trauma, is that, if you're in a horrific situation for long enough, you will start to see it as normal, because that's just how we work because that's how you survive it's a function.

19:36:33 And so, if one were to say that say, culturally, there are certain problematic discourses say around work and what is required of you and what is expected of you, that becomes normal to throughout the world.

19:36:47 And then when you make a radical enough shift like, oh, everybody has to go home, you start to suddenly reflect on that. And we'd have done culturally, but only to a certain degree.

19:36:57 And there's plenty of cognitive dissonance where people like well but i i that normal was really conferencing even though I know it wasn't very good for me.

19:37:05 And then of course all the other problems that come along with that, like, for example, depending on your access to certain things, your work. Technology is now probably the same technology that you were using.

19:37:19 Prior to this, as your wave, relaxing. So, the computer that you would come home to to play a video game, or to check social media or to do whatever you were doing is now also the computer that you work at unless you happen to be privileged enough to

19:37:34 have to, or to have technology that doesn't have to suddenly be repurposed to work for example your phone. Now suddenly for a lot of people, has become the thing that they now also run their work zoom calls from or whatever so that liminal space has become

19:37:50 even more blurred. And so there's a lot to unpick here. And you're right, the things that I read in the news are definitely a specific narrative of how this has affected a specific group of people, namely, usually the most normative.

19:38:07 And so for those people who are different, who have different needs. Yes, this has been positive and negative. But of course, as always, it's just filled with the same discourse.

19:38:21 Now, does it give us certain opportunities to be more hopeful, I think so. For example, I haven't been to a queer club in quite many years prior to the pandemic.

19:38:46 The pandemic introduced me to queer House Party, which is an online queer nightclub, and performance space.

19:38:44 And I adore it, and I adore itself I started working for it is very good I felt like I was an advert for a minute. But this is an event that happens online specifically because of this community was meeting in places like bars and party spaces because

19:39:00 those were our cultural hubs because that's where we could meet. If you were not being able to be out at work or at home you could go to a club and be out there that was really important so when the pandemic hit queer house party was the response to that

19:39:14 like hey we still need this space and a lot of people are home and they're stuck and they're not able to express themselves. They need this, we need this.

19:39:23 And suddenly there was this online event, and Jay introduced me to it, and the first night I went I went as an attendee, and I was like oh my god I'm able to attend something in this virtual space in a way where I can be at home.

19:39:36 So whatever access needs I have can be mitigated to some degree because I don't need to go out and they don't need to have a physical environment like there isn't one year at the moment that I can attend.

19:39:45 So, wow, and then there are all these amazing queers who I'm suddenly meeting, who I would never have physically met never once I would never have met the organizers, we just simply aren't in the same city, we would not have been able to cross paths otherwise
19:40:00 maybe through some sort of Facebook contact or Twitter thing or something maybe, but truth is probably not.

19:40:07 And now I have this online space. And what's really great about warehouse parties, they've realized that that online space is important even after all this.

19:40:33 And I really really like that. So, there is that ability to reactive with difficult opportunities that ability to create new things from what seems like an impossible space data set queer glittery cockroach. I mean I'm super proud of the fact that we're

19:40:36 staying IRL and URL and we're talking about it in those terms of like in IRL in real life, here are the things that you're going to be able to get your I online, here are the things that you're going to be able to get and those two things are also blended,

19:40:51 the URL experience is not seen a secondary it's seen as entrepreneurial, which to me is really, really important. It's not. Oh, we've got a live stream of this event and it's one camera and a quarter and it keeps cutting out.

19:41:06 It's the event online is used to provide some of the access for in real life. So the two things are completely blended our BSL interpreters the same DSL interpreter.

19:41:21 Our captions show up in both places. One is not seen a secondary to the other. They actually inform each other and the impotent. Yes. So, your son interpreter Max, who lives in Notting.

19:41:33 He does not live in London is able to do their job from their home with a camera and be in London, and everywhere else, because we have this online component.

19:41:45 And so, like anything else, the cultural discourse, that is prevalent at the time will always go into any social space that's created, whether that be online, or not.

19:41:56 But those social spaces can provide opportunities.

19:42:00 And so like anywhere you always look for the cracks. If you're looking for the differences for the people who are different. You look for the cracks in the system the system that they sort of which their way through a wedge open or change or maneuver

19:42:11 around. It shouldn't have to be that way. And it makes me angry.

19:42:14 It makes me sad it makes me tired so yeah when I read, you know, statistics about the normative experience of being able to work at home and people go, well I'm so used to now and I've made this office and I bought this big new house so why should I go

19:42:27 go to work, I go fuck you.

19:42:30 But that I also think of my disabled friend who can now do their job because they're at home, and they think, Okay, and then I think of like yeah but ok now we have this technological issue in the breakdown of the private public and that's a nightmare

19:42:44 but then I think of like, hold on, I would never been able to do my job.

19:42:47 The way I have been if this hadn't been the way it is. And the colleagues that I've met, which is this lovely group of people who I work with on this project that we're trying to do, which is actually all about trying to make academia, more sustainable,

19:43:02 to avoid the kinds of burnout that often happen from working as intensely as one does in this environment, I get to meet them because we're online, we would never be able to me.

19:43:14 If and for this. So, it's not one thing, doing it this way.

19:43:17 But the marginal experience is always marginal but that does not mean it cannot be creative and different, and does not mean it cannot function to the advantage that we have, of being as flexible around it but of course we're always going to have to navigate.

19:43:32 Sadly the inequities of coming at this from a much less experience. I think that summed it up, maybe Mic drop.

19:43:45 I'm not going to drop this mic day it's quite expensive.

19:43:48 At the beginning of the funder and mines attached to my headset so of course I can't. Did I tell you that I watch speed the other day Have we done that.

19:43:57 You did not tell me that you'd watch speed the other day How was it was it breath. Hi.

19:44:02 I enjoyed it a lot. It was breathtaking.

19:44:05 Is that the first one that he really got into stance for, because I know that Egypt Point Break before it. I don't know how much of his students he didn't break which again is also on my watch list.

19:44:16 You haven't seen Point Break.

19:44:19 Possibly saw it once in a million years.

19:44:22 So lucky you get to watch point great for the first time.

19:44:26 I know, I know Scott Patrick Swayze. Yes. And as well. It's.

19:44:32 It is so bad. And it's so good. It's so bad, but it's so good.

19:44:40 Isn't it just to keep it moving now not to diss him or his brief taking this or anything about his choices of movies, but he is so bad spectacularly good, and particularly bad, all in the same breath.

19:44:56 He's clearly acting. I am acting. Now, I'm getting my butt off, you know like, I'm just gonna act at you.

19:45:07 So fucking bad.

19:45:13 No, I can't wait for you to watch it. What we should watch together, so we should do anyway. Okay, so let's not sorry, dear listener we have actually genuinely got stuck.

19:45:24 Normally, this is something of a jape, but actually I think it's becoming more and more serious we may have to into an offshoot podcast that I do happen to know at least from one listening I spoke to recently they very much enjoy our discussions of canneries.

19:45:35 Well, he is breathtaking in speed, I can admit, shall we call it there should stop this podcast, but we've been going 50 miles per hour might blow up anyway.

19:45:46 Moving on to listening to this heavily edited by now podcast, because that's what it's going to need.

19:45:52 It's been an absolute delight as always thank you for listening, please do join us next time. In the meantime, if you are interested please to consider checking out our Patreon [patreon.com slash](https://www.patreon.com/slash), it is complicated one word.

19:46:03 If you'd be interested in supporting the podcast the money that we gather there goes to getting some guests on which I'm hoping we could do again soon.

19:46:11 If you debating joining it, you're getting sneak previews of the little side project I'm working on making a scene out of the first 10 episodes of it as complicated so you'll get some sneak previews of what some of the zenith looks like and some of the

19:46:32 drafts, if that makes you at all vaguely excited. That makes sense to me sounds lovely. So check that out and if you can't or don't want to feel free to join us.