

I Honestly didn't think I would be making a statement about this for multiple reasons:

Considering the gravity of the situation and what Amwe went through, I wanted her to fully get the support she needed first.

I was still processing the whole thing myself and quite frankly, I still am.

Swim has some private info about me; full name, picture, address etc... and the thought of doing something that might provoke him to use that info against me was scary; But I've seen how awesome and supportive the whole community has been, so it's not as big of a concern anymore.

My way of dealing with big problems or traumatic events (and I've had quite a fair amount of them) has always been pushing stuff to the back of my brain until it's somewhat fully forgotten. I'm only making this statement because I'm hoping to help other people get through this and also potentially help myself heal faster.

How I met Swim:

I knew about Swim and watched him since the start of Gwent, however we never interacted back then. I had only lurked in his streams and on his youtube. Fast forward to Runeterra; I remember him, Scarzig and only a couple other people who streamed before the game came out. They were only discussion streams, since the game hadn't released yet, but I participated there a lot. We didn't start talking on discord until a podcast we did together. He dm'd me afterwards and told me that he liked my takes. He didn't say anything weird or predatory during that period.

We started talking more and more until it became an everyday thing. After his stream we would stay awake for hours talking and building decks. Sometimes he would call me during his walks and we'd talk about runeterra and life. During these walks, Swim would tell me what I had to do better/change about myself and the reasons why. Some things made sense and I learned a lot, but I feel like he was less interested in me, and more interested in moulding me into what he thought was the "ideal Kuvira".

We became really close when he was struggling with some personal issues. I tried to be there for him through all of them. Everytime LoR would be in a bad state (fizz tf meta, go hard, irelia azir etc...) I'd motivate him to push through it until the next expansion. During these bad metas he would lose motivation, less motivation meant less work, less work meant more free time, more free time meant more thinking, and more thinking meant more intrusive thoughts. I would call him everyday and we would play games together even though I still had to edit videos + write articles.

What's surprising to me is that the conversations were never really about me. We've known each other for almost 3 years now and he still doesn't know much about me because he never asked.

I eventually started managing his website, Swimstrim.com, by updating decks, making comments, etc... I also began helping him with every tournament. This included the Fight Nights, Duels of Runeterra and Twitch Rivals stuff; at this point without getting paid. It was a great experience since I loved making lineups and prepping for tournaments, but I had to stop playing myself in most of those since it was too time consuming to prep for two people.

At some point my sleep schedule became so fucked up that I was sleeping at 10am and waking up around 7pm and I was missing classes. Since he was winning tournaments with my help, he offered me to work for him and encouraged me to drop out of university and basically be his tournament manager. I didn't officially drop out, but I stopped going to most of my classes. At this time he was continuing to do great and offered me more work. I became his YouTube editor(edited around 250+ YouTube videos total) and started handling the website fully. I was also helping with video ideas, articles, and helping with meta analysis for Mobalytics and other things I don't think I'm legally allowed to talk about.

It was a lot of work since I had to learn how to edit videos from scratch and do many things I've never done before. I wasn't the happiest, but I was doing something related to LoR, which was my passion, and I learned tons of stuff everyday so it turned out okay.

This increased workload caused me to miss more classes, and eventually resulted in me losing my scholarship. At the time, I thought this was okay because I was working full time for Swim which felt very reassuring. What I later realised is that this power dynamic would cause me to feel trapped, and made it difficult for me to speak up when Swim's behaviour began to escalate into something I wasn't comfortable with.

A year later, he would spontaneously drop me, resulting in me losing my only source of income. Because I had stopped taking classes to edit full time for him, I wasn't able to get my scholarship back for the rest of the year; even if I started taking classes full time again. Swim knew this, and made this decision anyway.

After this, we still remained close friends, played video games, hung out on stream etc as if nothing happened because I felt I wanted to separate our friendship with the work part of our relationship.

I'm not gonna deny the fact that we had a good dynamic on stream/youtube and it's been very fun interacting with chat and seeing people wanting me to be there. I really don't care about fame or attention, in fact it's quite the opposite, but I feel like all the positive comments helped me feel better about myself and be more confident overall, which is something I'm very thankful for.

I don't think I've suffered as much as other people from his negative actions, however I feel the fact that my sex as male played a big role in this. I've also lived through all sorts of sexual abuse in the past, so I feel like my instincts helped me diverge the conversation when it was heading towards creepy sexual stuff. It never crossed my mind that what he was doing was wrong. I felt like I was to blame whenever sex was the subject because my brand was "horny/sex". I mean I am flirty in general and people know this, but I always respected consent and people's boundaries, and I expected people to do the same when interacting with me as well. I also have never flirted with Swim in a non-sarcastic way. Sometimes we

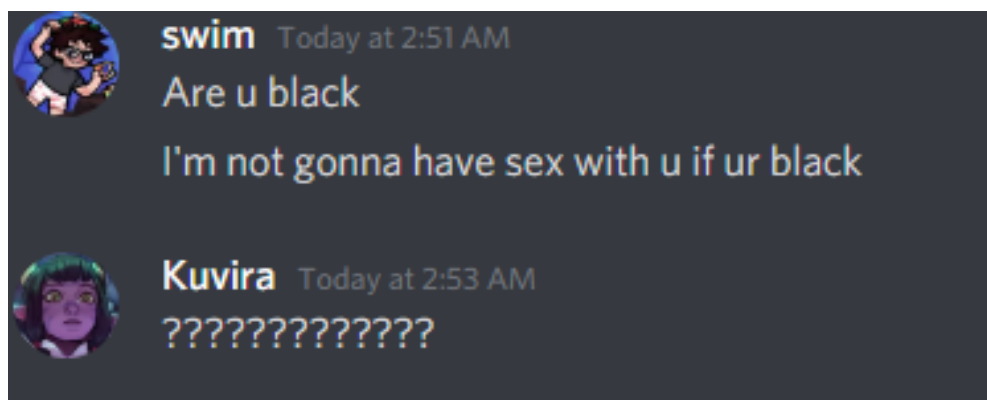
would “flirt” on stream, however this was purely for entertainment, and was never meant to be taken seriously by him, and he knew this.

Swim would cross boundaries with me in ways similar to what Amwe described in her statement while knowing my history of sexual abuse.

One of these instances caused me to have nightmares for weeks on end. This experience was very traumatic for me. It was difficult to speak to him about this, because again, at this point working for him was my only source of income.

I am not ready to discuss more details about this, but I feel like I have touched the main points.

Additionally, during my interactions with Swim, there were instances where he would make “little” racist comments here and there; both about me, and what I later found out, about other people as well. I feel like this should not be dismissed.



Amwe's Situation:

I became friends with Amwe a long time ago, we clicked right away and started talking from time to time on discord. This was my first interaction with her in October 2020.



Me: Hey!! I didn't know you were french owo cool stuff

Amwe: oooooh! Hello !
Yes haha :) since you stream in english I followed the vibe hihi

I've known about Swim's and Amwe's relationship and I've been there since the start of it, but I never suspected that anything was wrong. Whenever I asked them about their relationship, they told me that everything was going fine, so I truly didn't notice that anything was wrong. Swim never really shared any details about what they did, but it wasn't unusual for him to be a little secretive, so it never raised any flags for me.

Reading what Amwe had written really helped me notice the same patterns of manipulative behaviour that I experienced from him as well. I'm totally shocked that I did not notice these patterns before.

There are many things that I feel guilty about. I feel like I should've noticed something was wrong with Amwe, or that Swim was being weird, but for some reason I never did. I also feel guilty for not being able to be there for Swim in the future, since I truly believe he needs professional mental help and support from people around him.

People redeem themselves from stuff like this, but it's not easy. I personally am not stable enough at the moment to be there for him for the first steps he needs to take. I did talk with some close friends of his, and they're going to try to meet with him irl, talk to him, and watch over him.

I truly hope that he's able to get the professional help that he needs, and that he is able to move his life in a positive direction.

In many ways my content was directly related to Swim's. **Going forward, I am planning to dissociate myself and my brand from Swim's completely.** I want to be there for people who have suffered from this and be there for people in the community who have had, or are having similar experiences.

I also wanted to thank everyone for the kind and supportive messages I've received on discord/twitter. It means a lot to me...

Hopefully it doesn't sound too cliché, but I've always supported women, people of color, queer people in the community, and will continue to do so even if that means losing my closest friends in the process.