

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

20:45:34 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 the podcast, which is, it is complicated.

20:45:45 Episode Number 50 kind of.

20:45:48 Hello everybody, it's Episode 50, sort of, because it's complicated.

20:45:52 Well, it's 50 if you count the episodes that we've counted as episodes, it's 51 if you include the specials and it's 52. If you click the specials and the little trailer we think we did when we were having a really bad time but we will be back soon.

20:46:07 Promise. So, depending on how you count because we can't keep anything and complicated, it's either Episode 50 episodes 51 or 52.

20:46:17 Nonetheless, we've decided to take the occasion to celebrate ourselves little by saying, whoo. We've reached our half century. Hello Dr J, and who are you on this episode 5051 or 52.

20:46:28 I am amalgam of many things but one of the things is I am somebody who gets to define themselves so I get to write my own job title thanks to working at thought works, which is harbinger of change, which is wonderfully fluid and allows me to go in and
20:46:43 do all sorts of things because I'm a service design a business analyst and I do some productive stuff so I spend my days hand-waving and trying to get people to get behind ideas.

20:46:52 I got to define my agenda thanks to the New Zealand government, I wrote a statutory declaration and so my official agenda is transgressive non binary gender queer, and I would like to state that upon your forms, thank you very much indeed and things to
20:47:03 New Zealand. In the next year or so, I will be able to actually go and change my birth certificate to have that as my official birth certificate recorded, gender, which I think is absolutely fucking awesome, and they've made it easy to change your birth

20:47:21 records and what they are doing is and now consulting with the trends and non binary community to understand the easiest way for us to do that, that is fucking awesome.

20:47:32 I'm a troublemaker, and a hashtags queer nuisance because branding and I went to one queer lecture once and picked up one thing, and I figure that's about all the queer theory I ever needed.

20:47:44 So just feed. What I I'm an academic artist, I used to like to make a spectacle of myself, upon the stage, and now much more fun I like to draw pictures of queries and post them on the internet.

20:47:58 I am also a lecturer at the University of Uppsala game design department, and I'm also a PhD student at the University of Vienna, Austria. Now, that's because I am not an uncomplicated creature.

20:48:12 Rather, I like to think of myself as a fan of international history, because it sounds great. You are a mystery to many of us.

20:48:25 Of course I'm I'm I'm an enigma wrapped in a mystery wrapped in a burrito.

20:48:30 I do.

20:48:31 Hi, So, I thought to celebrate our 50, it might be fun to talk about. I was gonna say what's changed although we're still in lockdown or stuck in our rooms or whatever so what's been the things that we've done, what's the things that we wished we're done.

20:48:47 What's the things that we would have liked to have done but couldn't do. I really liked this idea of reflecting on our 50 episodes, reflecting on the time that it's been since we began, and realizing that so many things have changed, and at the same time.

20:49:03 So many things have seemed to come full circle to exactly where we were the episode that we first started and one of those things is that not to be too depressing, that we are staring down the barrel of yet another lockdown.

20:49:17 dissimilar situations, than we were when we literally started this job because we started this, in part because we were isolated. Also, in part because chain I've known each other for many years.

20:49:30 And I think one of the things that we do. Well, is connected over projects over things that we like to do so many of the things we like to do some of the things that we enjoy doing, become things that we are able to share and that's a tremendous privilege,

20:49:44 and I am very honored that anybody would want to listen to our ramblings that we would do. Anyway, but it was also a wonderful opportunity to reach out and connect and the time when we were only with each other, but with you all as listeners, at a time

20:49:59 when people were having so many difficulties, connecting with people, because of the pandemic. And especially as queer people, I noticed a lot of people I knew were particularly isolated, not just by the literal physicality of it but by the social aspects

20:50:16 of it. And so this was one of the ways in which we engage with that on a personal level it's been a tremendous support from me. In many ways to be doing this with you, Jay.

20:50:28 It's been wonderful to have this to focus on but also the conversations we've had have been incredibly enlightening to me on a personal level it's changed my mind on certain subjects which is fun.

20:50:37 Oh my god I changed your mind. You did well we didn't have to remember if.

20:50:53 Yeah, I would say that I think that's the reason we did an episode if you remember on passing and reading and reading, and I was very much convinced by your argument during that episode in real time.

20:50:59 Dear listener if you go back and listen to it, you'll hear me, being completely turned around, not that I had a difference of opinion, I just hadn't heard that concept put in that way before.

20:51:04 And the other thing was this notion of being Miss gendered or miss pronoun, that really opened my mind to something, because yeah, there were many occasions when I've had people miss pronoun me and didn't mean it and then you add way and having that as

20:51:34 I can only use for some experience that I've had, but also to refer other people to because I've had many conversations with people who are very nervous about like oh

goodness, I've Miss pronoun some or they would say I miss gendered someone and I've

20:51:37 upset them, or I fear, I might upset someone if I do this and say, it's a lovely way to talk about it with only other people but also myself. So I've incorporated that into my own work and, day to day conversations and so yeah this podcast has done a

20:51:49 lot for in the last, what is a year and a half, I suppose. Yeah, because when we started it. I think I was on fellow or is about to be followed. So I didn't have anything much on, I was locked in my flat.

20:52:03 And that sense of fear of the outside world. That was super pervasive, which is actually I was going to say something that I think I gained quite quickly a fear of strangeness or worry, all the time that even meeting somebody could kill me.

20:52:18 There was just that constant, constant fear that we were living under, and just having someone to talk to, who was in the same situation of having to be fearful of not having that daily structure in quite the same way that you used to have it.

20:52:38 So now we're both working we've got days that are totally structured you turn up at this time you do the thing you then do the 27 meetings you then do the other thing you do some stuff and then it finishes, and you get to go have some dinner and your

20:52:52 days of structure, and even though they blend into each other a little bit that structure, actually helps you notice that days past and days different, whereas for a while there You and I were in this greatness of every single day felt the same, you could

20:53:07 get up, play some scarring, have some food, play some more sky room. Go to bed at that could have been any day in about three months. And one of the things was reconnect re allowing ourselves to fall back into that conversation that would always had.

20:53:23 and I think it was that we were just in spaces where we could reach out and we had the time to spend just talking and listening to each other, and throwing around topics in the way that we always have.

20:53:35 It's kind of like, let's take something and talk about it and show it over is a that I get to do it with you is amazing, be that people seem to enjoy as well flick on about this is amazing, but also that people find something that they can use out of

20:53:51 this waffling as amazing as well, my professional life is constantly spent simplifying, finding the edges chewing on it and going, Oh, what if we do find that like this and just doing that with the stuff that we're talking about lead to things like well

20:54:06 there's a difference between somebody accidentally using the wrong pronoun and somebody deliberately Miss gendering. So let's call them by slightly different things, even though they both feel pretty distinct one feels much more stinker than the other,

20:54:18 and this notion of reading and passing it came from. In the episode I remember where I say where I first heard it, and it was either SP Bergman or Kate Bornstein, but it was just such a different way of seeing how that interaction between the person and

20:54:34 the person who was looking at the person, interact and what pressures better puts on because I like talking about somebody has been raised as something.

20:54:43 I'm often read as masculine, which is hilarious to me, and so many ways, but also useful in so many ways, and I play around with it, I occasionally get readers quite feminine, but it's much more can be feminine than film, and there's differences there,

20:55:00 and you can play around with those and I really like the notion of just talking through and exploring those ideas, I'm a talk to thinker. And I think this has been one of the biggest delights of this for me is that this is somewhere where I can talk about

20:55:14 the stuff which allows me to think about it, which allows me to consider it, and which is why often you'll hear stuff that almost sounds like it's being worked out in real time because surprise, it is because that's the way that my brain works I'm somebody

20:55:27 who you give me a problem you give me something, I will always need someone to talk it through with, and the five done that, I can generally find all the edges but if you asked me to sit down by myself with it I just get lost in it because I can't find

20:55:38 the right words to explain stuff. And, yeah, the fact that people actually listen to this, just shocks me endlessly delight in my own work at the moment, I should do listener, I just had a article published recently in the International Journal of role

20:55:55 playing, they wrote an article about why role playing games could be really useful for trans people to explore Express and embody ourselves. And one of the things that it occurred to me was really useful and that kind of environment was having your experiences

20:56:13 reflected back at you by other people and relating that to certain, you know Ministry of obvious psychology reports that say, having your identity acknowledged reflected back to you is a way in order for people to feel good about who they are, right,

20:56:27 clearly an obvious thing, but there are studies that show that and that's very useful because then I as an academic get to write down Oh look, this person said it so it must be true, but also, it sounds obvious but it is also profoundly important and

20:56:40 true that, to be able to speak and be heard and be reflected back on, is one of the ways in which we recognize ourselves, we understand ourselves we understand our ideas, it's how we recognize experienced that similar tone and I genuinely think that's

20:56:55 why people do this and I am very grateful for that very honored throughout my career is someone who's spoken in front of people are performed in front of people I've always been tremendously proud of those times when people who've come back and said that

20:57:07 they recognize something and what we've been saying. And I do believe that when you and I talk about our struggles with structures that one of the worst things of those structures is they tend to make you feel like you're the only one who's having that

20:57:18 experience when the truth is, that's not the case that actually our own experiences are not dissimilar to many people's, so when you and I have talked about or what it feels like to be isolated as queer people during the pandemic.

20:57:30 And one of the things that's really, really useful is to speak about it, record it and put it out there. We know that that's useful because other people have told us that is the case, and also I as a queer person who's isolated have sought out crew of

20:57:43 talking on the internet that I could listen to talk about their experiences, because that's really important to me right now because I don't have the community and the connections that I need in order to not feel like I'm the only one.

20:57:55 There's an academic paper that I want to recommend to you and hopefully I will get to read eventually, which was about how quiz on Tick Tock have carved out spaces to be able to see and be seen, and that's one of the hugest things that I've really enjoyed

20:58:11 getting into during lockdown the creativity that a lot of the young people being able to express themselves, it's seeing this vibrancy that's coming through in terms of expressing gender and sexuality and these notions and ideas that just start to blow

20:58:30 your mind, that there's no debate as to whether non binary is a valid term to use because it's in opposition to a binary so why would you define yourself in opposition to something, and I'm just like, you're going so far beyond where I thought we could

20:58:44 even be within my lifetime, it's blowing my mind I am literally waiting for somebody to turn around and go okay so my agenda is just my sexuality is just my this is my this is us, and just blending it all together and Gen Z, they sit me on fire.

20:58:58 They make me so alive, watching what they're doing and the creativity and the making of space, and the way that they do it just makes me so pleased I'm around, I feel like I could never produce in that way because that's not a medium that I'm comfortable

20:59:15 in, but this kind of medium I can do similar things. And again we're taking up space we're playing around with those notions but I can't do a 92nd, or a 32nd or however long they are video thing because that's not a medium I can work in, but I can work

20:59:32 in this medium and make space in this kind of space, and it's not even seeing your own reflections, it's seeing what a past you would have just so adored.

20:59:44 I think of the 1516 year old me just struggling so hard if something like this has been around. Oh my God, what a difference, my life would have taken, and that's not saying I regret, where I am now but just looking back as like, wow, I want to make more

21:00:00 space for these kids I want to make more space for people to get involved and do this stuff, I want to encourage people to get involved into, not just produce it but consume it.

21:00:10 Don't think that Tech Talk is just full of crap that's Twitter, but find that LGBT Tick Tock find the QTI Tick tock, find those commentators who are weird who edgy, who are playing around with notions of gender and sexuality and so many different ways,

21:00:28 and some of them aren't doing it perfectly. Nobody is, but they're all doing it, they're all reflecting this memorable of identities back at each other and the more light that's being shared around the brighter stuff is getting, and the more things that

21:00:42 are being lit. Yeah, it blows my mind. That's why I think weirdness happens in conversation, we talk often about the difficulty of being able to establish a certain sense of queer identity or career subjectivity is why I use the word subjectivity over

21:00:55 identity, although I think identity is useful a concept of subjectivity, but the reason I talk about it in terms of subjectivity is because it's very hard to nail down what is our identity, for example as jG said, non binary is a notion that is indirect

21:01:10 opposite to binary why would you want to reference something in the negative in order to identify yourself, that's a really interesting conversation and there's a queer conversation.

21:01:24 That is where queer subjectivity exists in communication it happens in dialogue in discourse interconnectedness, whether that's in relation to yourself if you're discussing this internally, but especially if you're discussing it externally, with a potential

21:01:34 audience who might be able to benefit from that in any way because I know I, as an audience have benefited tremendously from people having these kinds of discourses, or even talking about this as a discourse of talking about clearness as happening in

21:01:47 the liminal space between us as people talking about clearness is happening in that notion of discussion and communication, and that's what's so exciting to me and to be able to be part of the discussion.

21:02:00 So in ju say, some people are producing this on tik tok, I know queer people and trans people who I've known through Twitter even the Twitter is a cesspool nightmare of awful, they were beautiful spots there were there were conversations happening that

21:02:13 that I would never have come across in any other walk of life, but to be able to see those moments, even in dark spots like that is tremendously valuable, but to always know the cleaners can happen in communication like that is tremendously valuable to

21:02:26 me and to be part of that conversation, not suggesting that with the end of any conversation, but perhaps to be part of that conversation or maybe even if we're really lucky to be the inspiration of some conversation.

21:02:39 It means a lot to me. And so, I love that idea and I think, for me, looking back on this year and a half with the podcast and looking forward what we might do with in the future is, I want to continue having these kinds of conversations and knowing that

21:02:52 will change our minds on things that things might change and our situations have changed. This is something we haven't talked about a bit but you know when I started this out I didn't have a job.

21:03:01 Another reason we started this was because Jews Wheaton was thoroughly unemployed, and they had plenty of time on their hands in this tiny room What I am in right now.

21:03:09 And as we've gone along, I started on a project and then I got a job, a job that's been incredibly special to me but also very very challenging. I'm writing and designing games, and all of the conversations that Jay and I have had, as well as the thoughts

21:03:23 that has provoked in the conversations that have followed on from the conversation to you and I've had. Have fun part of that work. So the writing I'm doing now is important impacted by the conversations we've had the game design will be part of that

21:03:36 the work I'm doing in different areas will be part of that the teaching I'm doing, I've mentioned Dr J in lectures I've talked about doing this podcast in meetings because people ask me what I'm doing I'm like why co host this podcast with Dr J, and so

21:03:49 our conversation impacts so many different aspects of my life, and I kind of love that I also now have a record that I can listen back to and this is purely personal, the listener this may not be your experience but my experiences, I can listen back in

21:04:03 here that history through the year and a half of 50 some episodes, one day also tell them, listen to us talk about all these things again, it'll be really interesting to hear the genesis of ideas to reflect on the impact that it's had on other work going

21:04:18 forward. I have two thoughts. The first one is the set Noam Chomsky notion that you can't have the thought without the language, and that's one of the things that I love about our discussions is sometimes, I can struggle for a concept and you will provide

21:04:32 the language or vice versa, we will come up with a concept or a language to talk about it and once we've got that notion like the mispronouncing, we could then start talking about it and discuss it discuss with the interest where and where the it just

21:04:45 went because we had a thing to discuss and it's that once you get the language and and this is why I'm so excited by this whole creativity around what genders are the difference between a romantic and a sexual, all of those things are really really important

21:05:00 and really fascinating discussions and I have so much admiration for the people who can figure out what these things should be called or how to describe them in ways that make sense, and how to describe all of these different ways of seeing the world.

21:05:17 And the other thing that I was gonna say is going back and listening to stuff. I've had a hard. Couple of weeks, just live shit, and I've had a couple of really really rough nights where not only could I not sleep I was getting very tense and wound up,

21:05:33 and this is gonna sound so fucking weird, but I actually found listening to our podcast. One of the best things that I could do, because I had the lovely voice Josephine, talking to me, and calming me down, even if it was the past me.

21:05:48 And even if there's a me there and I'm like, Oh, I feel a bit like that but then Josephine would say something and I'd be like, Oh, yeah, yeah. It just calmed me down and soothes me, which sounds so weird because when we talked about voices, we know that

21:06:02 I don't like my voice. I have a problem with it I don't like hearing it, but yet again, there's a complication there that I do actually like listening to our podcast, in some ways, because there are times where it has saved me especially when I was incredibly

21:06:17 raging was something that happened, and transphobia was just, I won't say it was killing me but was doing a pretty good attempt there. And it really really got me upset and angry, and just listening to that episode where we talked about being hurt and

21:06:33 angry as complicated and hearing a hurt and angry me being come down, or being taught to, and not in a calm down love It's nothing. in a yes you're right to be angry.

21:06:44 Yes, that's your kindness that's that makes you this angry, there is something about you that makes you, this person. And that's an amazing person and yes that person gets angry because of the stuff that's happening and it's okay to be angry, just let

21:07:00 it go through you and process it, that just helped me through that really dark tea time of the soul, and a reference to Josephine favorite author or second favorite author I'm not sure first or second Neil Gaiman's number one and the temperature might

21:07:15 be second and third items.

21:07:19 Okay in the top five, what I've just finished top five authors. One of the things of this for me has been going back and listening to an angry may have a conversation and coming out of it still angry still upset.

21:07:35 But, feeling heard and seen and the anger and upset and just reflecting that back to the angry hurt me mean, it's like, oh, yeah, it's okay it's gonna be okay.

21:07:43 You'll get through tonight. You'll be fine. You'll come down. I did processed it would get through and talk to the person involved and yes all sorts of now, and I also know that they listen to this so it's kind of like one of those things, but it was

21:07:58 a huge thing, and it was really upsetting. I don't think it's weird, I would never use that word I'm actually quite honored to have a conversation and have that impact for you, Jay.

21:08:18 I'm so happy that our conversations might have an impact on someone who isn't you and BJ would have an impact on us is deeply special to me. I love thinking about these things.

21:08:26 Intellectually but the passion and the reason the need comes from an emotional space that often doesn't have words to be able to share and express difficult emotions that we don't necessarily have language for because we're not given language for the

21:08:40 complicated feelings that come from being different in this society doesn't have a language because it's not allowed to be spoken to have an opportunity to find those words to discuss those feelings and to share a space is very important to me.

21:08:56 And we you and I would be able to be in such a position to share that with other people, even more so. So I don't think it's weird. I just think it's magical that that has a impact on you and I'm really pleased.

21:09:09 I have listened to us as well. On occasion, not just because I'm the editor, but because I you know when the episodes done and I find it really satisfying to, it's really nice day listener I find, I'm reluctant to watch or listen to things I'm in, I'm

21:09:24 Dear listener I find, I'm reluctant to watch or listen to things I'm in, I'm one of those people, I had to delight weirdly enough. This week, one of my favorite things I've ever received in the mail which was completely a surprise was a card that arrived

21:09:37 in the post, there is a person I have played a role playing game, who we got to talking about the film Day card that I'm in. And I ended up sending a copy to this person and this person told me that really enjoyed it, and then I got a card suddenly in

21:09:51 the post a couple weeks later, and I don't really know how to describe it I'm not the best way to describe it, but I'll try. It's a winter scene, a forest with snow coming down, everything's covered in snow, and there is a sled being pulled by two very

21:10:05 happy looking dogs, full of packages and the person who's leading the sled is a delightful fam. In spectacular red and white underwear with flowing hair and big black boots and inside the card says wishing your glamorous Christmas which I wish everyone

21:10:21 a glamorous holiday no matter how you celebrate or what you celebrate, but inside is a series of not just one message but several messages from a film club called the scope and the scale is given diehard several fabulous reviews including.

21:10:37 Here's one. No scenery left and chewed another which is this film was like having a third puberty. So there you go.

21:10:47 I don't like watching die card of scared of watching it because I see myself on screen and feel very self conscious, but I watched it anyway. And I've recently been asked to screen it for some other people, and I'm scared and nervous to watch it.

21:11:00 Even though I know it's had good reactions, our podcast. I find easier to listen to. And I don't think that's a question of value, I just maybe just means a different thing to me.

21:11:11 I don't know what I'm saying anymore I've kind of lost.

21:11:14 No, I heard of this but I think it's also, and it's gonna sound weird, because I know how much work you do. You clean us up and make us our best selves.

21:11:23 So we're not just listening to ourselves but listening to our business selves, without stuttering and stumbling in nine minutes and things like that, our arguments sound logical because you take out the moments where we go fuck What was I talking about.

21:11:39 Thank you edit the podcast.

21:11:43 In order for things to sound more cohesive to sound good sound well, but one of the funny things with editing and this is true for writing and anything else is that you need to be able to retain the voice of the person speaking, and that it's been kind

21:11:54 of lovely to try to present your voice as best I can, my own voice has posed as well, in a way that I know retains the essence of what we're saying without making it saccharin or I've listened to other podcasts to try and learn how to edit.

21:12:11 That's something I didn't know how to do to listener at the beginning of this was how to edit sound and so for this podcast I wanted to do it, and I continued to pick up ideas.

21:12:21 As I listened to a lot of podcasts and listen to a few things to try to find out how to do it and there are podcasts that are very very edited and I understand the impulse, but I still wanted to retain something of our voice, and I think it's been working,

21:12:34 It's kind of a lovely way to reflect on our conversations as well, I suppose, is to try and present something that isn't full of and weird aside, that does non Secretary goes nowhere, which, if you were in a conversation with us dear listener you might

21:12:50 find, you'd be more surprised by the number of weird decides and random quotations and thoughts, appear in our conversations but perhaps that's for another edition of at some point that's, that's really we do a live recording we should, possibly, I don't

21:13:06 know, I feel like 99.9% of the podcasts that I listened to always have a like a, come join us live at our recording and I'm like, I think we, I think we agreed we never do that.

21:13:19 Yeah, yeah, cuz I'm like, because I'm like, for us it would be the worst thing because most of our recording as as chatting to each other about our lives.

21:13:29 And then, occasionally conversation breaks out that's coherent in the middle of that, I can't speak for the audience TV was they'd like to hear all that but I'm reluctant to find.

21:13:38 And one of the things that I was going to say is, I've also been listening to a lot of podcasts, because who hasn't number one and look down. Number one activity listen to podcast number two activity, create a podcast, but I'm also very aware of the power

21:14:02 notions of knowing somebody intensely from listening to them talk in your ears, and reflecting it in your head, and then you meet them. And even if you know them. There's an intimacy that you've developed with them and their voice, but they haven't developed with

21:14:07 with you. And that is very very weird, and very interesting to experience. I know you and I know your voice, and I have a relationship with it and a relationship with who you are or who I think you are, but I'm not quite sure that's who you are, but you

21:14:23 make the same noisy sounds.

21:14:31 My life never changes.

21:14:36 I mean it's it's someone who you haven't been able to meet you have something in common.

21:14:41 And then realizing, when you meet that person we have that dynamic no distinctions there are but what remains. The thing to Jay and I think I could speak for both of us, that we do is you put a lot of ourselves in our work.

21:14:54 I know artists to try to keep a significant distance and I entirely understand the impulse, but in our case, it is very much a see where you get kind of thing.

21:15:02 And I sometimes think that's because the talent, it takes to be so very distant from yourself, your art is beyond me. Also it's just I'm that exhausted or.

21:15:14 I'm going to rather than option but I think we have the talent to do that, we just cannot be fact we do not have a fact to give. Yeah, I mean I found that the way to survive for me, this is a true for everybody, for me, is I've been privileged enough

21:15:29 lucky enough to have been able to be open, as a trans person I've out as a trans person so no one can find out I'm trends. But I mean, a lot of people have to hide that because scarier are dangerous to be out and trans I've been lucky enough to be on
21:15:43 trends.

21:15:44 And that means I've been able to be open about my experience and, you know, for me being able to share in an artistic environment, sometimes been a place where I've been able to have very difficult conversations I wasn't even necessarily prepared to have
21:15:59 without an audience.

21:16:02 Yeah that's reading. I tend to get it. It's why I put vulnerability is one of my superpowers, because you can't out to me as being non binary because I'm out as being the boundary, you can out in the US having bed mental health, I'm else is having bed

21:16:22 you can help me is coming from working class background, because I'm Alex has been a working class background. You come through some major thought works because thought works know exactly what I do. We talked about it, I did a TED talk that four weeks helped me prepare called

21:16:31 me prepare called inclusive teams deliver some In short, I guess this is an opportunity for us to continue to be vulnerable and to share our experiences, not only with each other but with you, the listener and one of the big changes for me from a year

21:16:43 and a half ago when we started in Episode One is that we have an audience that we have people who listen to this on a regular basis, and I don't really know what to say about that.

21:16:53 That is the most wonderful special delightful feeling and is a huge, huge change to an audience like this and I'm really really grateful for you, dear listener thank you for joining us.

21:17:06 Every time we do one of these. And we will continue our plan is to carry on, I guess to do another 50 millions, if I could.

21:17:15 Well I guess life will continue to be complicated so controversial rather.

21:17:21 Speaking of topics. Oh, that's one thing that did massively change, I can't remember which number it changed it, which was, we moved from talking about a particular author and how well she was talking about a particular actor and how breathtaking he is.

21:17:35 And that has totally changed our business and our anger and our delight at the world is Victor listener, and they said that they very much appreciated the difference.

21:17:47 And I think there's something about creating the overall dynamic of a space, even if it's an online space like this, Jay and I are used to creating clubs faces performance basis and one of my big things is when you start making a space decided the very

21:18:01 beginning what kind of culture you want to create because if you start at the beginning to try and then create that culture, you'll have a much better chance of being able to facilitate that and inspire that in the people who might join you.

21:18:12 Weirdly enough, yes we were very angry with that author and she continues to give reasons to be very angry about her, but I like the idea of shifting our dynamic by focusing on something really really positive, and this week for our 50th episode of this

21:18:26 now. I don't mean to cut shorter reminiscence, but I really enjoyed every time we do one of these, the opportunity to ask you about this particular actor, we both agreed Fred thinking whether or not.

21:18:38 Next time we will discuss said breathtaking actor this episode, I really wanted to set aside some time to talk about how breathtaking this actor is to actually do it.

21:18:48 Now don't get me wrong. Next time I would ask if we can speak about it again, we shall continue the jape, don't worry, dear listener able to take many episodes to discuss exactly how breathtaking the sector, it's just time Jay I really would like to spend

21:19:10 And I would like to take some time on this very special forces episode to speak about very special instance of how breathtaking calories is would you mind doing that.

21:19:18 Do you want to spell out exactly who the actor is what movie and which scene we're talking about, okay, yes. Okay, the actor is calories, because can reuse is breathtaking.

21:19:30 We've discussed this on a number of occasions. The movie is the matrix resurrections spoilers for those of you who haven't watched it yet, we're going to discuss the matrix, resurrections, and other things related to the matrix and we're going to spoil

21:19:45 the crap out of it, or if you don't care to be spoiled on those things, and please listen on. But that's that's what we're up to do.

21:19:53 And the scene and particularly talking about is all of all of the secrets is one.

21:20:00 Every single one that he's enter even the ones that he Isn't he the one disease and and because the movie is breathtaking.

21:20:08 The autistic kids can reason to be because it was created by trans people, because it's trans allegory because it's Queer as all get out. I've oh my god it is it is more fucking queer than a queer thing I'm just looking at it going, The fact that they

21:20:24 code. The hit for normative love interest as a queer relationship. I'm just watching it, and there's that moment where they both have shaved heads, and this is going to be one of my things, where they both wake up from the things, and they both got the

21:20:38 shaved heads and they look so fucking similar on I'm just like, oh my god, it does just play off all of the trends reflected selves and everything like that but also it's two people who are aging in the way that we all age, both the actors involved their

21:20:57 faces show that they're in their 40s and 50s, and they both look stunning for it, and breathtaking for it because they are naturally allowed to be themselves, they are not attempting to hide who they are, they are not attempting to be something that they're

21:21:15 not and I think that is one of the reasons why he really is so breathtaking is that he doesn't seem to have a lot of artifice his acting style really hasn't changed a lot since he was a surfer dude.

21:21:30 I mean, we've discussed this with Dangerous Liaisons. This is on fire via virus viruses.

21:21:38 We've yet to discuss his particular appearance and Dracula

21:21:43 Dracula, at some point, but it's just literally watching somebody who is just so inhabiting themselves both of them, and to have a woman on screen, acting as a strong woman, acting as a woman who rides motorbikes, I was watching it and there was all this

21:22:07 meta stuff going on in the back of my head of like, apart from the other matrix film is this the only film, we're fucking woman is riding a motorbike and the mentors on the back, because then every other movie it's always the reverse that it's always

21:22:19 biker guy and the little girly on the back, and there's always that notion of the woman being the lesser of the partnership and then this woman is equal if not more, if not greater, I mean, that final scene.

21:22:33 She is the stronger one of the two, and has always been so she is the one naughty. When I first watched the matrix, the first one that I watched it in the cinema dear listener, when it came out, and then I watched it many times it was I think the first

21:22:46 film that I went to the cinema more than once for. And when I first watched the very first time, there's a scene where Neo is holding onto this rope from a helicopter that's descending and then Trinity grabs the rope and jumps out the helicopter and smashes
21:23:03 that image and knows it is a cutaway to Morpheus, and I thought the line was, she is the one I heard that and I went.

21:23:11 That's amazing. Of course Trinity is the one she's always been the one. And it wasn't it was heard it, but honestly for me the movies have always been the Trinity is the one that Trinity has always been the one.

21:23:24 And, I mean, of course, this whole presumes that we read new as male.

21:23:32 So there's that much of course, I don't.

21:23:36 Cuz that's ever since watching Sophia from Mars, and they do with someone else I'll try to find their names they do wonderful YouTube video, basically saying the matrix sequels are better than you think or something like that that's the title of it and

21:23:47 they do this amazing breakdown of exactly why Neo and Trinity, are actually a lesbian couple just in terms of the imagery the ways in which has been created through all the movies but also just flat out the pictures from the like posters and so forth

21:24:02 but yes, to me, Trinity always was the one, and in this she has this amazing line right in the middle where they're having a conversation over coffee and she says something like, oh I had kids.

21:24:13 And why did I choose to have children. Was it because that's what seemed of a woman, and it was kind of like almost not throwaway line but it was not focused on in the way that you know text is often focused on my thoughts that that's so important, because
21:24:25 what they're talking about is this idea of doing what's expected fitting into the mold. Following the trajectory of the thing that you and I have talked about such as these ideas of these trajectories the normative trajectories and what it means to break

21:24:38 means to break away from that and just through codification just through presenting characters in certain ways, especially fucking with the meta and the way that that movie does which is so oh my god.

21:24:51 I was just squealing with the light, it's so many moments, so many moments I was like, you mister mister mister mister mister mister Mister fact that one.

21:25:00 So good but to have in the middle, just this little line of like gender is real, because that's the other thing maybe you could, and people do this often the conversations in media theory and game series always like, how do you present a marginalized

21:25:13 gendered person as a strong character well we take away everything that is marginalized about their gender represent them as just as strong as the boys right that's how you present a strong character right now, you demonstrate how they relate to who they

21:25:27 are in the society they are in and how they've been managed to me it will come back through certain actions communities and behaviors and working against those normative structures, that's what you do, and that's what they do at Trinity and Trinity has

21:25:43 this amazing arc of doing that, and then an email to me was this sort of like struggle of disempowerment and one of the most amazing things about this particular film, I'm often looking for really good representations of PTSD, as someone who's had PTSD

21:25:57 myself, seeing a representation of what PTSD is like, and how its treated and how it's mistreated sometimes, it's very rare to see in mainstream cinema.

21:26:07 This has some of the most poignant, and personal representations of the almost like I was a little hard to watch, but it was really really good and the beginning, especially in those scenes where Neo is trying to decide what's real and what's not, in

21:26:22 terms of his own experience, and how he's related to and how he's not presented as this character just muscling his way through it was just really really gratifying to me, and to see how he's trying to help himself, and how he's being sabotaged by

21:26:38 the structures is in, and then yeah the meta of having supposedly written the matrix himself as a cultural artifact as a game, and then being asked to produce the heck sequel of it, and not be the beginning of the sequel to the trilogy was just stunning

21:26:56 and to watch him grapple with that and again that notion of Nativity and everything to fit a mold and trying to break them up, and then being known as an innovator, and then having that innovation being stolen and taken away from you so like you know

21:27:07 know the ways in which the red pill has been stolen by Ilan musk and Trump daughter and whatever else and then, you know, having to respond to that by going Hey, don't you for Chris my agenda.

21:27:19 It's not yours. Right. It's going to take several more viewings to watch. Oh yeah, to truly appreciate it how breathtaking not only the movie is, but yes how breathtaking calories is and how breathtaking.

21:27:30 Carry on muscles. I also really enjoyed the notion of otherness, the fact that otherness became a beyond physical. So, there were others who were completely different physicality complete history, who were accepted because of the way that they acted,

21:27:50 not for how they looked, and that came through multiple times and I was like this is really taking that notion of what it means to be somebody what it means to be working against a societal structure, because it also reflected that the societal structure

21:28:07 is poisonous, not just to the people who are fighting it us, but also just people who are trapped within it, the number of men who have spent the day reading about the impact of owing money on people's mental health, and most of the stories that I've

21:28:25 been reading have been about young or middle aged men and their ways of coping or not coping and it's all because they're trapped within a societal structure that doesn't allow them to have that fear to have those feelings to fail.

21:28:39 If everything in your life is built on success failing is not an option and because it's not an option. It's making this toxic structure where if you're under so much pressure you might fail, people fail harder.

21:28:54 And don't have that support when they fail, don't know that it's okay to fail and stand back up again it's okay to feel all of these feelings and get help because the structures don't allow for it, but and I think there was some of that notion, especially

21:29:08 around pianos character around Neo, and how much he was failing or not able to express it or told that he shouldn't express it. And being put into structures where that was limited, but you shouldn't be doing this because you're this big successful guy

21:29:24 and it's like, No, I'm sitting here barely able to hold my head together today. Why are you calling me successful, almost, but then that's as queer PTSD surviving mental health open people watching it I think it's going to be really interesting to see

21:29:40 how other people read it, and if other people are able to get those same messages from it, or whether all they see is the action which and I have to say, Oh my god, you talked about the notion of turning things and flipping edges and I just have to say,

21:29:54 some of the new ways that they played around with space, and the liminal spaces and how spaces and to connect. Oh my god, that was so fucking genius, I could talk about this phone forever I wanted to talk about the actors who played Morpheus and bugs.

21:30:11 Bugs Who are your described as someone again, who was previewing the movie was like oh I'm excited because there's a character who has blue hair and clearly has

pronouns called bugs and things like that, you know, who knows because their genders never

21:30:24 never clearly said I don't believe they're ever referred in any way. And they seem very clearly codified as queer as many other characters are. And, yeah, it was wonderful to see this.

21:30:35 Oh my god, that happened every time I was just like, ah, I don't know whether I want him or want to be him I feel in that little Netflix moment of, I want to thank the people I envy.

21:30:52 Wasn't it interesting to see the different energies. Yeah, we could go on and on, ya know, cuz to me he's quick.

21:31:10 anyone there was just a beauty and a confidence there in his change from one thing to another and I'm just like, again, I want to thank the people I envy or indeed people in fact, I literally don't know, I'm like, I

21:31:19 want.

21:31:23 I almost want to leave it there on that noise to leave a zero net noise, I think that sound was our review, we could do a officer podcast. The Matrix resurrections discussion podcast and 50 episodes of that, because there's so much here.

21:31:38 It's not, but but let's continue discussing this at the end of podcasts, because caddy Reese breathtaking this will constantly be referred to, and we can always go backwards and forwards between different movies.

21:31:49 Absolutely, it's a universal that everything else is complicated and everything else changes in our world through this they're the one constant is that canneries is breathtaking that La Rochelle ski is breathtaking that the matrix resurrections is breathtaking

21:32:03 people in it, and the themes being discussed within it are so complicated and breathtaking that we might have to return to that, I just want to add there is a truth universally acknowledged that Keanu Reeves is breathtaking.

21:32:15 Just to mess up Keanu and Jade Austin two of my favorites.

21:32:20 Thank you again for joining us this time, please try this again. When we return, for more Conversations killer is is breathtaking and other things in our 51st 52nd or third episode.

21:32:31 Next time, if you are enjoying what you're hearing and you'd like to support us please go to patreon.com slash is complicated all one word, any of the money that we collect goes to interviewing people and bringing those guests and otherwise please continue

21:32:44 continue listening, either way. Oh, you can also follow us on Twitter at, it is complicated without the E. And wherever good podcasts are sold that.

21:32:55 That's such a pleasure thank you for 50.

21:32:57 Thank you, thank you for doing this 50 times or 51 or 52 times with me so complicated. It is complicated, how can we just not be able to count.

21:33:08 It's complicated.