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Participants:
ARI HERTZ
TORI LAZELLE
NATASHA WEST-BAKER
TERRY BROWN
ELISHEBA
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Preface

The following conversation was hosted virtually over ZOOM in collaboration with Wa Na Wari, facilitated by Heather Hart and jina valentine. Consent was given by the participants to have their conversation recorded and transcribed.

Readers should keep in mind that they are reading a transcript of the spoken word and are encouraged to refer directly to the original audio if possible as some interactions and utterances may not have been transcribed due to the nature of unscripted group conversations. The views, thoughts, and opinions expressed in the text belong solely to the roundtable participants and do not necessarily reflect the views of Black Lunch Table.

START OF RECORDING

HEATHER HART: Hello everyone. I love how everybody's, like, in the middle of laughing. Like, it always happens, that, like, about forty five minutes into the conversation that's where it gets good, right?

Unknown: [Laughs]

HH: Well, I hope that you guys get a chance or have taken the chance to exchange information. Um, and those of you who are staying for the People's Table, hang on. And if anybody wants to stay for the People's Table and didn't sign up, you're welcome to stay. Um, without you guys, Black Lunch Table wouldn't exist. So, we just wanted to take a moment to thank you and thank Wa Na Wari and Elisheba for helping

us host this. It's so important. You know, I grew up in Seattle my whole life. My sister's in this group. And, um, Seattle's very dear to my heart and Wa Na Wari and you folks are very needed. So, thank you. I don't know, Jina, if you have any more? [Pause] All right. I'm going to go ahead, uh--. We can go ahead and admit, um, more folks. And if anybody has to leave, thank you again.

NATASHA WEST-BAKER: All right, I'll be back in (inaudible - 00:01:15). I have to move my car.

HH: All right, that sounds great. Thanks.

ELISHEBA: Thank you. Is- is it a separate link for the second part of the conversation or is it--?

HH: Same thing.

E: The same prompts?

HH: Same thing. Same one. We'll be here.

E: All right. I'm just going to audio in and video off. Thank--.

[Pause]

HH: Hello.

JINA VALENTINE: Hi.

Unknown: (inaudible - 00:01:41).

Unknown: Mm-hmm.

Unknown: Yeah, yeah.

[Pause]

HH: Okay, so we're just going to take moment to, um, wait for people to arrive

and we'll take some attendance.

[Pause]

JV: Heather, you are s--. Oh, you know what? I should probably [Pause] stop recording and then start again. So there's two recordings.

HH: It's probably easier, yeah.

JV: Okay. [Pause] Wait, what? Why does it say--? [Pause] It says it's recording. Why?

HH: Uh, it's okay. We don't have to worry about it.

JV: Um. There's still people in the rooms.

HH: I don't have break out room permission anymore so you'll have to close them out.

Unknown: How do we get out of the room? Am I in the room?

JV: Uh, no I think you're here.

Unknown: Okay.

HH: You're good.

Unknown: Good to know.

JV: I'm going to actually... Okay.

HH: I don't have co host privileges anymore.

Hm, the other question is, um--. Wait, is Elisheba still there?

HH: No.

JV: No, Soulma, are you still there?

[Pause]

HH: No, they went away for a break.

JV: Um, yeah. Where does the recording go? I want to say--.

HH: It goes to their desktops.

JV: Okay.

HH: You can go into that room and hit "stop record."

JV: Okay, maybe I'll do that. Oh, what? [Sighs]

HH: [Laughs]

JV: It looks like I can only assign. Maybe I can unassign people.

[Pause]

HH: You should be able to hover over that room unless it's closed and people are not there. Then you should just close the room.

JV: Well, I can delete it, right?

HH: Yeah.

JV: Hold on. Let me make Kayla cohost. Kristen Ramirez is here.

[Pause]

Unknown: Hello.

JV: Tatiana is here.

Unknown: Well, hello.

HH: We're just waiting for more people to arrive. So, thanks for your patience.

JV: Right.

[Pause]

E: Did we go too early? [Pause] You're on mute.

[Pause]

Unknown: Yeah, they just sent us in here so I just figured we would be here when everybody got here.

E: Cool. Um, I need to do the People's Cards.

Unknown: Yeah.

[Cards sliding sound effect]

Unknown: Oh. That's gonna be interesting.

[Pause]

Unknown: I didn't watch that.

E: I didn't watch it but we can still talk--. It was- it was basically an indictment on homelessness, so.

Unknown: Oh, okay. Let me do a brief look up on that one. Ooh--.

E: Well, I think people had fun. I think people had fun.

Unknown: I think it was--.

[Pause] [Cards sliding sound effect]

E: Oh yeah, these are good questions. Okay. All right. Let's stop sharing for a minute. I just went pee. Do I need to do anything else?

Unknown: Yeah, that's literally what I just did and then I got--.

E: Oh you, so I'm going to tell you, I bought a hands free thermometer.

Unknown: Nice.

E: You see that?

Unknown: Um, no. Oh, I can see it now. Oh, cool, so is it a wall mount?

E: Yeah.

Unknown: Nice.

E: So then people can just, um, you know--,

Unknown: Test those out. Yeah.

E: Yeah. And then, that was then you're not even getting--. You don't even have to- you and Terry don't have to get close to them. Obviously, I don't know when that's going to be, but I just got it in the mail today, actually. So.

Unknown: Okay.

E: Enlist somebody to go install it.

Unknown: And then, oh, um, we, uh, moved Blues recording to Tuesday.

E: Okay.

Unknown: Uh, and, um, should I just ask Mujale?

E: And you [inaudible:00:06:47.29]?

Unknown: I texted him and he hasn't texted me back. I got somebody yesterday.

E: Yeah, it will give--. We can give Mujale some work.

Unknown: Okay. Cool. So then, yeah, we will be all under (inaudible - 00:07:03) tent for the lovely world of blues.

E: Yeah. Trying to text (inaudible - 00:07:11) cause he promised that I wouldn't have to deal with this and that he would take it off my plate.

Unknown: Okay.

E: [Laughs]

Unknown: I'll just call him when we're done with all this.

E: Okay, I think--. Let me go check. Oh yeah, he should be out of his meeting now.

Unknown: Okay, cool.

[Pause]

E: I forgot I had a meeting. Yeah. Well, I'm happy 'cause I was like... I didn't--. I thought it would go fine and then at the beginning I was a little like, 'Oh,' and then, um, it was good. So I'm excited. People were having a good time.

Unknown: Yeah, I know. It, this is very good. I think it's, uh--.

=====

TERRY BROWN: That's it, it?

Unknown: Hi.

TB: Okay, well, awesome. Let's get to- let's get to these cards then y'all.

Unknown: Hi.

TB: One of the cards I looked at that was, uh, pretty interesting, I was thinking, um, we could discuss: *The strategies for maintaining your practice and your spiritual, physical and mental wellbeing as an artist or as an art worker*. What are you guys' strategy for that, for just keeping, keeping it intact right now? [Pause]

ARI HERTZ: Terry, which-which card--. It (inaudible - 00:08:36) to read something so that I remember it. What- do you remember which card--?

E: Here, I'm going to pull up.

AH: Just so I can take a look at it.

TB: Twenty-two. Card twenty-two. I'm just taking, I'm just taking points from any part of the card deck. I'm like, 'All right, let's go in here. This one.' [Laughs]

NWB: So, let me ask a question. Are all of you artists? Cause I am not. I cannot draw a stick figure. I cannot make art.

[Laughter]

Unknown: Yeah.

TB: That's okay. Uh, that's okay.

NWB: I, uh--.

E: I have the cards right here, Terry, if it's okay, for a minute?

TB: Oh, ay. Here.

E: You want me to flip through them with everybody?

TB: Yeah, that would be great. Let's do it.

ELISHEBA: I'm Elisheba. I got moved from another room.

TB: (inaudible - 00:09:19) she's joined the party.

E: Um, this says--. This is the People's Table so you don't have to be an artist, if anybody.

TB: Mm-hmm.

E: Um, *Discuss KOMO TV's "Seattle is Dying." How has your community changed since you became a part of it? [Cards sliding sound effect] How do you keep acquiring and practicing skills and avoid performative allyship?*

TB: See, I went in deep. I went to twenty-two.

[Laughter]

E: It's gonna take me a minute to get to twenty-two. So--.

TB: No, that's okay. I was- I was literally going through this whole thing to find some, some nice meaty ones.

E: Should we start here maybe? This might be interesting.

TB: All right, well, look, there you go. That's close.

E: So, *How do you keep acquiring skills that- that, um, avoid performative allyship?*

TORI LAZELLE: Um, I was just going to, uh, finish the first question. Um, I am a, uh, an artist. But my day job is the Art Gallery coordinator at South Seattle College. Uh, so I'm really looking forward to hearing conversations today. Um, so, yeah. That was --.

TB: [Laughs]

E: Thank you.

[Pause]

NWB: So, are we asking the question about performative allyship?

E: I know.

TB: Yeah, yeah.

E: Let's do that one and then we'll go back, yup. Yeah, go for it.

NWB: So, I guess, I guess would say is I am an organizer by trade. Um, political, union, community—I'm an organizer, right? And the best community organizer I've ever met told me once that, um, in order to be good weight you have to show up. Not just when you need something but, like, also when you don't. And so I think that's what I take with me as the best way not performative allyship is that I show up for people that

I'm in allyship with both when they need me and when they don't, right? (inaudible - 00:11:29). It's about building a relationship and one that is true and authentic. It's (inaudible - 00:11:40) that when they come at the end of the day, but our (inaudible - 00:11:44) is, well, absolutely, I got you because we're in a relationship and it's not a transaction. That- that's how I see. Not because in a performative ally and only showing up because it's like the cool thing to do. I want to be down with you all the time, not just when it looks good.

Unknown: Mm-hmm.

E: Yeah. What you just said reminded me of, like, somebody had said once to me that when they don't understand something about somebody else, they go watch, like, films from that culture. Right? So, like if they don't know enough--. If they- if they're not around a lot of East Indian people they'll go watch East Indian films or trans folks or whatever. And I thought that was kind of interesting because, um, art and storytelling, like, show people, like, the complexity and humanity. So, like you might be in like a small rural town in Wisconsin but you can still constantly be getting the inconsistencies. Also I think you just need to be friends with people. I work--. I've notice--. I know people who wanna do race and social justice work but then they don't have any friends of color. They don't have any queer friends. You know what I mean? Like, their friend group is still homogenized. And I-I kind of feel like how can you--? You need to have people that you love as part of those groups that are in your circle.

AH: Yeah, like both those comments together just make me, or kind of making me think about, like I would build on what Tash was saying of I think trying to like acquire new skills and-and push myself is like whenever I'm feeling comfortable or like,

'Oh, I got it. I'm like doing it good now.' I have to, like, push myself and go be in either a different situation or just go do something that feels, like, harder, a little scary. And to do that usually I have to be around other humans cause I have to get that feedback of being like, 'Oh no, I'm, no I like totally blew that. Or I, like, said that wrong.' And I gotta get that feedback and then, like, repair that harm and be able to, like, go through that work. And it's, I think, I can't do that sitting on my couch watching a movie. Um, but, you know, but-but I think there is so much to be, so much like groundwork to be done in just like gathering--. It's so cool that we can learn so much about different- like, different parts of the world just from- from our couches.

E: I do agree with everything you're saying. But yet, just don't rely on movies, like yeah. Not--. I was just, saying, well--.

AH: Oh, yeah.

E: [Laughs]

TB: Yeah.

E: (inaudible - 00:14:17)

TB: It's different people. Different strokes for different folks.

E: Yeah.

TB: Uh, just to piggyback off what you were saying, Elisheba, I think that's the main part--. Uh, my cat's going insane right now. Uh. [Laughs]. Uh, literally, the--. To, performative allyship, to me, it's you work with people that you care about and you build a-a ecosystem with those people you care about. You want to see them succeed. They want to see you succeed. It should start from there. And just from there, be- doing the natural human friendship things, that should be an actual thing that's a part of it. It

shouldn't take, you know, uh, like a whole seminar either to know how to be someone's friend or just to how to show up, you know? 'Cause you show up how you would want someone to show up for you if they're really someone that you care about. And they're in- also a part of your world. You know how to, you know, be a part of their world. Vice versa. Yeah, that's what I think about that.

TL: Yeah, uh, community is to, really important and, uh, you can be a person that wants to be part of an allyship and just, again have, have, be in isolation yourself, you know? I think the Seattle area and Pacific Northwest is kind of a hard place to find community, especially if you're not in that, like, Seattle downtown area where there's a lot of activities and a lot of gatherings. Like, if you're on the outskirts, it's hard to find community and it's hard to find these people, um, even if, yeah, even if you do meet groups and stuff to have those connections, it's just hard. And, um, yeah, but showing up and finding your community and continuing to try. Like, that's also, too, like continuing to question yourself, continuing to try, continuing to say like, 'Am I doing this right?' Um, and learning and listening. And yeah, I think that's a huge part of it is just learning and listening and willing to change if something is not right. Um, and I feel like some people are just so afraid of-of being wrong. Um, of, like, learning and growing and you know, being there for their allies, um, because they're afraid of, of you know, somebody saying: 'Hey, wait, you got to- you got to--. That's not okay.' And then you being like, 'Oh my gosh, I need to learn this and thank you for changing and--.' You know. I-I, as a queer woman, I constantly am, like, doing that to family members [Laughs] especially around the holidays. I'm like: 'Hi, yeah, I know you meant that in a good way but you were not--. Don't--. You were not doing that.' [Laughs] So, and yeah,

and having people call me out too.

NWB: You know, Tori, something you said about, like, community. It is really hard in Washington. Like, the Seattle freeze is so real. So one of the things that I think is that, like, if we haven't take anything positive away from COVID-20, we should have taken away the fact that we have to be intentional about being in community even with one another, right? And so, I think that community, to pitch back onto that, like, how many times do we go into these great spaces and how many people's numbers are we walking away with? And are we being intentional about being in that community and um, bringing people in, right? And, like, calling people in to our world and the things that we're intentional. So, I think that's a big part of it because 2020 has definitely shown that, like, if you want to be in relationship with somebody you gotta put in work, you got to be intentional. Like, it is not as easy as is like me helping folks. Like, you have to be intentional.

E: Yeah, the Seattle freeze is real. [Laughs] I'm like, I have this debate with my-my boyfriend all the time 'cause he doesn't think it's real but I'm like, 'You're from here.' So I'm like--,

TB: He's from here.

E: [Laughs] He- he doesn't know, right? Yeah, I'm like, 'Come on.' Um, but when I think about performative allyship, I also think about power, right? Like, I think it's saying publicly or thinking that you're working, um, or doing stuff on behalf of marginalized communities, but actually still holding the power and not, like, you know, um, giving it up. And I- and I've always felt like race, that was like the biggest--. I think that's the biggest issue, right? Like, people are fine with hiring a Black person at their job but they

don't want them to get the job that they want, right? They don't want them to pick the resources that they want. And until we actually give, people give up resources and power, we're never going to have a true power shift. And I see that right now with like defunding the police. Like, there are white folks in Seattle who are well meaning liberals who are super against it cause they're not ready for the power to shift. And so, um, I don't know what it will take for that but that's kind of, you know--. I guess Seattle is a big performative allyship [Laughs] as a city.

TB: I mean so, so, and as far as, I--. Can I talk on that? 'Cause you know--.

E: Yeah.

TB: I'm--. So, I have this thing where I have this beef with Seattle because I don't like virtue signals. 'Cause where I come from, like we deal with the issues so direct. Like, it got to be literally direct handling of a lot of these issues, you know? And, um, I just wish that would stop, like the show of like, um--. I think with the- with the pandemic and stuff some of that is breaking down because how intentional we have to be with communicating with everybody. So it's a lot of that, you know, social, 'Oh, we're meeting, linking up at the pizza place to have coffee,' or whatever, a lot of that's cut out. So, you know, I really feel like there has to be, um, just like an-an awareness that Seattle, like--. It's- it's a whole we got to step away from the virtue signaling culture of it. The whole culture of virtue signaling and, like, really pinpoint the actual issues and get to the actual root and have the actual conversation with a- with the actual people who are the two people that are supposed to talk, you know? We have all these conversations in this city that I realize where it's like, 'Oh, this could have been handled by just having this one other person in the room that somebody could have called but

nobody called that person when you all knew that somebody should have called that person,' you know? And it doesn't get anywhere. And it's stupid [Laughs]. It's really stupid. So, I feel like once that's done and everybody can be super, just like gut wrenchingly up front [Laughs], you know, it's not going to change until that. That has to happen. For the embetterment for everything to get--. You gotta lay all the cards out.

NWB: So, I'm from Seattle and, like, Seattle is pseudo-liberal, right? Like--.

TB: Yeah.

NWB: (inaudible - 00:21:26) is super liberal.

TB: Yeah.

NWB: But the reality is is if you look around our state, like, you will find that there are very few Black EDs, very few Black CEOs, very few Black people running stuff. Very few people of color running stuff. And I think that we put on this facade in Washington of like, 'Hey, we want you at the table,' but then once you get there, like, your voice is never really heard. And so I think that, like--. And- and I can say that because I work in the social justice movement. Like, that's my full time profession. And this is the third or fourth organization I've worked for where, in 2020, I'm the only Black person that does what I do that's not in administra- that's not, like, in an administrative role. And there are very few Black organizers, um, in Washington state. As diverse as we are and as liberal as we're supposed to be, where's everybody at? Try to tell me nobody's qualified?

TB: [Laughs]

NWB: That's just not true, right? Like, it's not true. And so, I think that there's a lot of pseudo-liberalism in Washington state that we say, 'We're super liberal but when you dig down a little bit deeper, you start to find out that our social constructs are very much

just like they are anywhere else. We just fake it better. So, don't think that you're imagining that cause that's totally real.

TB: [Laughs] Mm, that's real.

E: Should I pick another card? Or do you guys want to stay on the--.

TB: Um, I was- I was looking at this card, number 4: *How, how has your community changed since you became a part of it?*

E: You're good, Terry. I'm like, 'I didn't (inaudible - 00:23:06)'. I mean--.

[Cards sliding sound effect]

TB: [Laughs]

E: Thank you.

TB: So, um, I'll talk, I'll start with that one. Just, um, you now, me, I- I came out here and at first it was, um, it was really interesting because I felt like I had to code switch, you know, cause I'm from the country. So, it's a lot of the slurs. And I would talk and either people would be like, 'Oh, we don't get what you're saying,' or just ignore what I was saying, you know? So, it was, um, like a learning process almost. And, um, but once I really got it here and I- and I linked with some of the actual Black community in Seattle, I realized like I was just this bridge for, to um, just the community up here to really get- get in touch with people that are from, like, the root of, like, where we all from, you know? Um, and just, like, get everybody to kinda be on the same train to where we're all just helping each other. And a lot of people that I've met in Seattle, so far since I've met them and since we started working together or etc., they're- they're just way more open. They're just branching out and not being so closed in or not being so, you know, second guessing [Laughs] of whatever it may be of just things outside of, you

know, outside of the bubble. And I feel like it's more Black people now since I moved to Seattle too. I got here like four or five years ago. And the Central district was--. I mean, it still is predominantly what it is but for the most part, you know, this- these past two years, I-I see a little change. Coming where I come from, I see a- I see a little bit of a change. So, that's what I got to say about that.

E: I can't find the card, Terry. Say the question again? I looked really hard.

TB: Oh, oh, it's card, yeah, card number 4: *How has your community changed since you became a part, a part of it?*

TL: Um, I can talk, like, about just the queer community and how I feel like it's calling again a lot, um, misogyny out and a lot of transphobia. And I feel like it's, in the last, you know, since I became a part of it, it has become a lot more inclusive, you know what I mean? Like it's, um, I- I really love, uh, kick, uh, gay kickball. [Laughs]

TB: [Laughs]

TL: And, uh, it's really a great way to, you know, do something fun with my community that's not just, um, you know, like, the people--. Like, a lot of lesbians--. [Laughs] It's a way to branch out to like, you know, the bigger, um, queer community. And I feel like that was something that it's--. You know, once I started doing more fun activities within the queer community that wasn't sort of sectioned off to this, like, particular type of group, um, it just became so much more fun and I met so many great more people and learned so much. And, um, and also learned about issues I wasn't even aware of. And I feel like that has, this sort of, again, yeah, you were talking about like broadening your bubble and broadening your horizons and learning and, you know, making your community even bigger, I think as, and bringing in more and more people

is-is really wonderful. And that's what I keep on seeing, is not, um, people sort of shutting off and stopping to- the growth of your community.

TB: Hm.

TL: More people are growing the community and that's really cool.

TB: That's dope, that's good. It's good for you to be a part of that also.

E: Yeah. Um, I mean, I'm just- I wanna follow up to that, though, like don't you also feel like the gentrification of Capitol Hill though has had an impact on the queer community? And it was--.

TL: Uh, yeah. [Laughs] With like, definitely. I feel like the gentrification in all the neighborhoods--. I got kicked out of Seattle cause, you know, I have a day job but I'm also an artist and I always have a side gig, uh, um, waitressing or trying to sell my art, you know, and all the art gigs dried up. And I got kicked out of Seattle. Like I could- I couldn't find, you know, what I needed to be able to really thrive. And, um, even--. Yeah. And it's--. I feel like so many people, that's happening and the--. And with gentrification, it's like all, I mean I feel like all the cool- the cool artists that everybody's who's, like, working on, who-who have like a day job is working on, you know, the community and all these like amazing things. They can't live in the community, you know what I mean? And um, it's- it's a constant frustration [Laughs]. It is a constant thing of like, okay, like in one house, like, you know, wasn't even like extreme conditions. And it's like, it shouldn't be too much to ask for everyone to be able to just, like, live in a like one bedroom and, like, live in a relatively small place and be able to have your two jobs [Laughs]. This is like you-you have your two jobs and then you have your side hustle. It's like, it's just ridiculous.

E: No, I mean I'm with you. I mean I keep, like that question is hard for me cause, I'm you know, I'm born and raised, raised Seattleite. And when I was born here the Black population was 12 percent. Um, which I thought was too low then [Laughs].

TB: [Laughs].

E: And like, I literally have seen half the people leave, right? And I feel it viscerally in my body, right? I'm like--. That they're gone. Um, so that is, like, just, like, this really painful thing of, like, walking around the town where I just- I used to just see more Black faces or faces that look like mine. But then, too, like, I used to have a business on Capitol Hill and like I internationally picked that neighborhood because of it was diverse, it was queer friendly, it was arts friendly. And all of that has changed. It's become completely sanitized, meaning like corporate looking buildings that all look the same. With, you know, and I hate beating up on tech folks, but there's something about how they don't necessarily go into neighborhoods and then bolster the life that's already there. And so, um, I sometimes walk around Capitol Hill then I'll get really sad. But then also sometimes I'll like see, like, The Cuff [Cuff Complex], and like- I was like, 'Oh (inaudible - 00:30:10), there's still some faith out there.' You know?

[Laughter]

TL: Yeah, (inaudible - 00:30:19)

E: You were going to go, Tasha? Or you're muted.

NWB: I was just going to say that I, like, super resonate with what you said because I grew up in Seattle in the nineties, right? And I literally cry when I go to the CD. Like, my mom owned a house in the CD for over twenty years and all of our people, it was Black folks in our entire neighborhood, right? [interruption] And so, and so we

just--. To see it change so drastically and to see that our people don't live there anymore and to see that like—that was a redlined community so only Black folks could live there, right? And now it's so different. It makes me super sad. And so, when I hear folks that haven't been in Seattle long that are like, 'Yeah, it's like turning around.' They don't know, but like my heart is breaking because for me I didn't feel like we just lost a neighborhood, I felt like we lost an entire community. Like, Umoja Fest ain't never been the same. Um, just stuff hasn't been the same. The Black community festival parade isn't the same. And so, for me, it's- it's a loss of community and I can't afford to live in Seattle. I live in Tacoma. That's why you guys just saw me drive all the way to Tacoma but, um, I grew up--. I went- I'm a Franklin alumni. Like, that's my, that's, I'm a Franklin alumnae. I lived on the corner of 24th and Spruce most of my life.

TB: Yeah.

NWB: I've raised my kids on 20th and Union. Like, the CD runs in my- in my veins and then to see what it is now is very hard for me. So, I definitely resonate with that as someone who's from here. Um, and so that loss in the community is real cause I don't have that in Tacoma. I didn't have it in Federal Way. Like, so I, for me, this question's really hard because I don't feel like I have a sense of community.

E: And then, Tori, you were going to talk too?

[Pause]

TL: Um, I'm just so engaged [Laugh] while you were talking about it I was like now I forgot about it so--.

[Pause]

E: That's fine. Terry? Ari?

AH: Oh. Yeah, I- I- I am just stuck on, a little, bit on this idea. Just about thinking about community, because that word has changed a bunch for me in the last year. Um, it's a little bit hard to locate community for me. And I've been thinking about this a ton in COVID times. I think, like, you were talking about, Tasha, that, like, right now community is everything and knowing what your community needs and how your community can support you is everything. And, and for the last ten years I've worked for an outdoor leadership school. Um, it's been a really cool job. I'm outdoors a lot but my community is really transient. Um, and so I've just been traveling. I, like, travel for work most of the year, usually. So that means that, like, my community is in [Pause] Idaho and New Zealand and Arizona and Alaska. Um, and they're all over the world and so it's hard to get together. It's hard to know what each other wants. Um, and I also think that there is--. I've been thinking a lot about, also, the fact--. Uh, I think there's, like, some piece of, like, white culture tied in here where the lack- that like a lack of community isn't- isn't seen as a detriment. It's like there's an individualist side of it I've just been thinking a lot about in the last year. Um, and you know, and-and that-that--. I've been really feeling that lack in this past year. Um, and so I think--. And real- re-establishing community here in Seattle has been really, really important. 'Cause um, we moved around a ton when I was a kid, but then we ended up in Seattle for high school and, and this is, like, where I'm choosing to try to build community. So, um, yeah. Sorry, I went a lot of different places there, but that's what I've been thinking about.

E: Yeah, well, thanks. I see you Terry. Oh--.

TB: Oh, I'm looking, I'm looking at another topic here. Um, so let's, let's check this topic you guys. Uh, number ten: *How is cultural memory passed down to younger*

generations? Discuss legacy, intergenerational advocacy and mentorship. What do you guys think about that? How do we do that after gent-gentrification, after all this, after--. How do we pass it down to the younger generations?

[Crosstalk]

TL: Is it terrible that I--?

TB: Important, it's all about them.

[Crosstalk ends]

TL: I was about to say, is it terrible that I can only think of, like, the bad things we pass on that we shouldn't be passing on? Like, you know, intergenerational trauma and the things that we--. [Laughs]

TB: No, we know that. We want to, we want to figure out how can we pass along the ways right now that we can pass it, pass it down. That better--. And this is just open discussion because--. I mean, who knows, really, like, right? It's all just ideas. But what's-what's one idea? What's a thing that you think is a way? What's a system that you think works for help passing down the culture, whether it's, you know--. Um, me, when I think about Seattle--. Um, you know, I was born in Chicago so I grew up watching basketball and I- and I always think about Gary Payton and Michael Jordan, say as rivals, you know? And, um, I feel like that, you know, basketball was always a way for, uh, just lower the, the more so, you know, lower, impov-impoverished communities to, you know, you know, like, have structured things. Just like, 'Oh, the gym's open, we better go play basketball.' We're gonna, you know, we're linking up with our friends, we're learning about leadership. We're learning about teamwork. We're learning about all these different things and how to make plays with each other. So, it's

like, things like that, that-that kids need to, like, have some kind of thing be passed down in this, in Seattle. What do you guys think about that?

TL: I-I have--.

TB: It doesn't have to be just sports either.

TL: Well, I was just thinking the arts are a lot of ways to, um, I feel like pass down, um, healthy concepts of, um, emotional processing [Laughs]. I mean--.

TB: Mm-hmm.

TL: I feel like that was, I went to public school in- in the suburbs, in Woodinville. So, I'm local but not Seattle proper local. Um, and I--. It was public school that taught me art. And it taught me, you know, all of the, um, the artists who used, um, you know, drawing and visual expression to talk about their emotions and talk about really tough topics that, you know, when you're a little person sort of forming, you don't necessarily have the words to talk a lot of the times about, you know, change and all these big things. Um, and, you know, that's before you get into literature that gets you, you know, able to form words that, you know, help you describe things. But, um, it was the arts that-that really helped me. And I feel like whenever I see, um, like, my nieces and nephews and young people that I'm exposed to, that's always something I am passing down this sort of, um, that arts are important. The value of art, the value that you can express yourself without words and I feel like, um, that's sometimes under- undervalued in a place where we value a lot of the times how- how people can monetize something, you know what I mean?

TB: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

TL: Like, we're going to put a bin in the time and energy and you know, resources

because we know in the future you will be able to monetize this. Not, this is going to help you become a better person and help you long term and help you, you know, understand your world in a way that you can, you know, navigate the struggles that you will eventually find throughout this world. Um, and that, yeah, sometimes I think about that, especially when so much of us are hurting in the arts due to COVID and lack of gigs and all that kind of stuff. Um, I still think about that, you know, even now that has allowed myself and a lot of people I know this, the arts, the constant ability to sort of go back to our art, has been so helpful during this time. And-and it really is such a worthy endeavor that I see with other people as well. You know, how they're, you know, making and doing all these things even when we all know we're struggling to make ends meet, you know?

TB: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm, those are all good thoughts. Especially, after, like, you know, as far as, um, you speaking on the mentorship. That's super important because we have to figure out a way to--. Just by doing those things you were saying, it's like helping the kids get their, uh, just have their mind in the right place, 'cause the IG, that's what it is. Like, it's like, 'Oh, I can do this thing. I have this passion, but I can make money off it right now.' It's like, yeah, that's a thing that you can do, but also you gotta know how to take it back to, like, just the, this is good. This is my passion. This feels good. And it helps, and it helps the community. It helps other people because it's art.

E: Can you read the question one more time?

TB: But I dig what you're saying. Uh, *How is cultural memory passed down to younger generations? Discuss legacy, intergenerational advocacy and mentorship.*

E: Oh, yeah. Um--.

TB: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

E: I mean, I think, like, orally? And you know, I was just in another group and, um, earlier and I was talking about, like, how--. I was talking about museum culture and like how they're much- they're very much about like collecting objects, right? But like, if I look at Black communities, especially on the continent, like, stories are passed down by like song and dance and poetry. Um, and it's like an oral tradition. And I think Indigenous cultures as well and it's also, like, you think of, like, every year there's Canoe Journey, right? Like, there's rituals that that's how cultural memory is passed down.

TB: Mm-hmm.

E: And I think in my own family, like, my dad has told this story to me my whole life of my great uncle Will, who moved from South Carolina to, um, Chicago and started the first Black milk delivery company 'cause, um, milk companies wouldn't deliver to Black folks.

TB: Mm.

E: And that has the been, like, the bud that has grown my entrepreneurial spirit of, like, feeling like there's this person immediately in my family that, like, I can look up to. That, like, there's a lineage that--. You know? And so, like--. And then, now I'm telling my son that story.

TB: Mm-hmm. And he's just watching over you, just watching over y'all.

E: I feel that way about my family still.

TB: You know?

E: Um, so yeah, I just think, like, storytelling is that. And then I'm trying to make

sure--. I'm realizing there's even more stories that I haven't told my eight year old yet, um, that I need to start telling cause he's asking about family in that way.

TB: He's smart. And he's smart, boy.

E: Terry knows my son. [Laughs] So, so yeah. That's what would be my answer. Storytelling.

TB: Hmm, that's a great answer. It's- that's an art form within itself. Anybody else?

NWB: I would. Yeah, I would just say activism. Like, for me that's always been a thing. And so, I know it was like, uh, an epic moment for me to have both my daughter and my granddaughter with me at a Black Lives Matter march because I raised my kids doing that and being on picket lines and being activists, and like, 'You gotta fight for what you believe in.' And so, then to then have my three year old granddaughter be a part of that as well, it's like I'm giving them this culture that, like, you should fight for, you know, whatever it is that you believe in. And so, that--. And then I'm also--. Something that I think my mom wasn't able to give to me that- is this idea of generational wealth. And so, we're in the process as a family of trying to build basically our own community and build generational wealth for-for my grandchildren's grandchildren. Like, I'm thirty years down the line. Like, I ain't even gon' be here and I'm already thinking about their futures. And so, how do we build a culture of things that we may not have been able to see?

E: That's real about that generational wealth.

TB: Mm-hmm.

E: Like, I--. You know and it's-it's just so interesting how shut out in particular I

think people of color are, but people--. Like I think the myth of the middle class, right? Like, this whole time they were like, you know, people talked about it but they've done studies that said the middle class from the seventies to the two thousands actually never made more money. They just got in more debt. Um--.

TB: Hm.

E: I think we're seeing all of that breaking down and so I, too, don't think that my parents will be able to pass down any intergenerational wealth to me. Um, and so I'm trying to think actively about, like--. We're all talking about this, right? Like, I-I live with my dad. But, um--. Like, how do I afford a home so that I can like pass that down to my son? Or--. Then I've been having real conversations about like, does that mean I have to move? [Laughs]

TB: Hmm, to get what you want, to get that house, though, you know? So, those are the thoughts.

NWB: Yeah, that's a real thing. My hus- my husband and I, we're actually in the process of trying to build our own home and not just our home but, like, buy acreage so that our children can build homes there. And that will mean that we will not live anywhere close to Seattle, Tacoma. Like, we're looking, like, really rural, like Yelm, Roy, like way down in order to--,

TB: We all go down, down.

NWB: Yeah, you have--. I mean, we have to but if we have acreage and we have a home that we built on land that can't never be sold, right? We're going to build a legacy for our family that is gonna be unlike anything my- my mother or my grandparents were able to leave for us. And so, that's what we're working on. I mean,

we currently live in a home with three generations right now. Um, and at one point there was four of us in one house and so, um, we are passing down the legacy the best way we know how. So, I encourage all of us to be like, yo, if that's what you want, go for it.

TB: Yeah.

NWB: And, um, try to build something that, um, our communities have generally not been allowed to even access.

E: Yeah, and then, Tori, I don't know if you about Queer the Land but that's a really cool organization. Or everybody should know about it, but it's a bunch of queer, (inaudible - 00:45:50) non-binary, and trans folks that are, um, trying to get land for, like, affordable housing but also like farming and stuff like that. It's really cool.

TL: I was--. I know, I-I love hearing about more resources. And, yeah, I live with my folks as well because it's Seattle.

E: I hear you.

TL: [Laughs] What are you going to do?

E: [Laughs]

E: Well, and also, like--. I mean, I don't have--.

TB: Oh, man.

E: (inaudible - 00:46:23) feel about this, but like, it also comes down to quality of life for me, right? So, I could, in theory, go get an apartment right now. And over half of my expenses would go to rent. And then I would be stretched the rest of the month to just live. Right, and then I'm just like, or I could just live with my dad and I could--. Well, I mean we're in COVID now. But like, before I'd be like, I could still travel a little bit and I

could still go to see theater, dance, art shows. You know what I mean? Like, I could still live a life that felt meaningful, you know? So you have to kind of make these sacrifices--.

TB: Mm-hmm.

E: Or work through them. You know, that's why people move, they set up community so like for quality of life and I think that's really important.

TL: For sure. I know so many people who've moved, um, in with their folks. And some people who've had to leave the Northwest to move back to where their folks are. Um, also because they were alone in their apartments for like four months [Laughs] four months and, like, they're working remotely, their lease came up and Seattle's super expensive. But also, again, this is the time where all of us are searching for other people and, you know, that's one thing with having, like, your family and versus like, um, even f-even chosen family, but like having those people that you actually can have dinner with. Like, they're real people, not just like virtual.

TB: Not robots.

TL: Not robots. Interviewed everybody. I mean, it's super amazing to love Zoom, love meeting new people, but like--.

TB: But.

[Laughter]

TL: Like, actually having somebody hug you is amazing.

TB: Mm-hmm. It's good for the brain. It is.

E: Well, yeah. And I- I was talking to an artist in New York and she was like, 'I'm really trying to figure out why I live here because, since lockdown,' she's like, 'I live in a

five story walk up. I can't leave my tiny apartment and it's dirty outside.' Like, she was like all the stuff that New York offers you, when it's shut down like this it's like--. And so, she was, like, jealous of Seattle cause she was like 'You guys have water and tre--,' you know, 'you can hiking and all this stuff.' And I was like, 'Oh, okay.' You know, shifting my perspective about--. She's like, 'I see people on the West coast taking these fun walks.'

TB: That is true. We have access to that. Nobody has better access to the mountains like we do out here. Just sayin', it's needed. Yo, so I gotta, let's try one of these other topics here for this last little segment. Um, I found this one. So, I wanted to see if we could discuss *The privatiz- the privatization of public education, literacy rates and access to college education*.

E: Ooh, I have a lot to say about that [Laughs].

TB: That's a- that's a--. That's--. And we got fifteen minutes. Y'all, that's a deep combo.

E: Okay, I'll just jump in. 'Cause I obvious--. I said I had a lot to say, so I have a lot to say.

TB: Yeah, jump in.

E: Uh, well, like, the--. I mean, I'll start with higher education. Like, I think that it's become, um, a thing that only the wealthy can access, right? So, even when I was going to school in 2000, right, um, in, for college, uh, it was, my- my college at that time cost about twenty thousand dollars a year, twenty five. I went to private school, um, private art school. Now it's like forty? And so, like literally I have to tell people who say they want to go to Cornish, I'm like, 'Oh--.' Like, I have to be like, 'Are you sure?' [Laughs] And like, I would never, I don't want to do that, but, like, people have to

actually think about the burden that loans are going to place on them for the rest of their life, right? And so, I feel like what will- what we're seeing is that people who, again, have access to intergenerational wealth, then they can go to college and then other people are going to opt out and choose other ways. And I think that everybody should have access to, um, education. And just like the exploration happens there. Um, and then, the school system, uh, you know, is, it's just been underfunded in this country. And so, I, unfortunately, send my son to private school. [Laughs] But, uh, for many reasons. One, I, um, need him to be in a space as a Black boy where he feels like, um, the whole world is open to him. And I- sometimes, I feel like with the school to pi- prison pipeline, people get tracked. And, um, there are people who are working really hard in public schools, like parents and teachers to stop that. But I was worried about my energy to be able to fight that for twelve years. Um, so anyways, that is my little rant. Let other people jump in.

NWB: I would just say, um, I think college should be free. That's number one. Um, I just think everyone should have it. Um, but, and I'm going to say this. I find that I know so many people who have college degrees that do not work in the field for which they went to college, right? And they are in massive amounts of debt over jobs that they didn't even need the degree that they have in order to do. And so, um, it's a really difficult conversation. But for me, I wish we would bring back like- like, um, apprenticeships and stuff like that because just find that like--. I-I--. Like, I have a sister who is going to be paying off her college loans until she's in the ground cause she's working on her PhD. But she's in early childhood education which is a field that she's been in since high school. So it's like, you have all these degrees and all this debt to do

something that you've essentially done since high school. Um, and so for me, I really struggle with that. Um, I definitely think anybody who wants the opportunity to go to college should have it, but I think that we need to stop counting it as the only way to be successful in this country. Because I just know way too many people with a ton of debt that don't even do what they spent four years studying. And so, that's kinda my thought on that. Public school (inaudible -00:53:09 be the better and we need to stop teaching to standardized tests and allow our children the freedom to, um, to become who they want to be and just allow them the opportunity to have access.

TL: I completely agree with that. I think, like, college isn't, um, isn't necessary for everyone. And the fact that you need like a Bachelor's to be- a Bachelor's degree to be a administrative assistant, which I--. [Laughs] That was like, literally what of the few jobs I got, like, out of college. And they were like, 'Oh yeah, we only have people with Bachelor's degree.' I'm like, 'That's ridiculous. I'm literally doing data entry.' And, um, and so I also think it's a way to gatekeep. Um, like, and that's not okay. Um, but yeah, I do think--. I heard the cra--. Okay, this is kind of on topic but also a little off topic. Um, I, in my art studio space, I just had a conversation with a man who works at Google and he got this job. And I said, 'Oh yeah, how, you know, how did you do that?' And he goes, 'Oh, I just did, uh, YouTube.' He's like, 'I just learned everything on YouTube. And basically took a test and told them I knew how to do this sort of like design. And I just did everything on YouTube because in the computer field every six months, every year, everything up- you know, gets changed and the program shifts and everything like that. And so really, to stay up to date, you just need to like be able to study on YouTube.' And I was like, 'Ah, okay, that--.' [Laughs] I was like, 'Um, why does anybody go to college?'

And he's like, 'Actually, if you go into like a lot of these tech fields, a lot of people don't have coll- like, degrees. They just went to YouTube University.' [Laughs] It's almost a way to, like, publicize- like make things, education public. It's--.

E: I love that.

TB: Yeah. Uh, I agree with that. Um, I know a lot of people, and I've seen a lot of different seminars now, just feel like we're in the future, where they've just, 'Hey, we have these set videos for you. You want to learn how to do this? These are your videos.' [Laughs]. They- and that's how they're doing it.

NWB: I know it's so interesting, because like I said I worked in the labor movement and a lot of the people I work with make six figures and they don't even have—some of them have high school diplomas. Like, they didn't get their job because they had college degrees. Like, I didn't get my job with the union because I have a college degree. Not because I don't, cause I actually have two. But I started working with the union because I was a checker at Safeway. Like, not because I had a college degree. I didn't even need one to do what I was doing. I wanted one for my own self gratification and because I thought I wanted to be a social worker. But guess what? Being a social worker don't really pay that great. But I got friends in the labor movement that make six figures with high school diplomas. And--. But a lot of people don't know that that's even a thing you can do. And so, for me, I definitely believe in college. I spent eight years getting a four year degree, right? [Laughs] Um, my son goes to UW, like I totally believe in it. But, it's like when I see people who were school bus drivers that now make a hundred thousand dollars a year being union reps, it makes me wonder. Like, [Laughs].

TB: [Laughs]

E: Well, and I think, like, you know, the conversations that were happening around universal income that kind of started, um, you know, out of the Black Lives Matter movement that started--. I mean, that's been going on for a while, but this last summer, right? And then also like COVID--. Like, one, labor organizers should get paid six figures. Also, everybody should--. Just like we were saying, like most of us can't afford to live here. Like, we all, like, bring stuff to the table. And I love this idea of, like, not valuing some careers over others. And just kind of saying like, this is what you get from this--. I mean I'm a Democratic Socialist, so here it comes. But--.

[Laughter]

E: But, uh, you know, that everybody just, like, has what they need to exist and then we can actually think about how we want to serve, like, in the world, right? And I- I think that's a much more exciting thing. And we're learning, too, right? Like, grocery checkers are essential workers.

TB: Right.

E: We need them. So, it's just like that's, like, that's an important job. Like, everything in the ecosystem is important. But, um, I also think that college provides opportunities for, like, personal growth in ways that you can't access other--. So anyway, I have wanted to get a Master's degree but I won't because there's no point, kinda to what you were saying, um, Tasha, like, if I--. Where I'm at in my career, my art career right now, if I got a Master's degree I'd just be going fifty thousand dollars in debt with- for no reason. It's not gonna help me, right? So. But I like this idea, when I talk to other people too, of having two years dedicated to just like explore an idea. Like, be in a

studio, like doing research. Like, there's--. And I can't do that in my regular life, right?

Yeah, 'cause I'm, like, too busy. And so, like, I love this- that idea of it. I just don't want to go into debt over it. [Laughs]

MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Yeah.

NWB: Definitely.

AH: I feel like--. I-I just going to agreed with y'all. And I was just thinking about, like, it seems like what we're saying sort of--. It feels like the privatization of public education has gotten, like, the means and the ends flipped, like backwards.

NWB: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

AH: Where it's like, well, what do we want--? Like, what do we want for us, for our community when we g- when we get educated, when we want to, like, be like socializing. We want to be learning about the world. We want to have a really safe place to be able to like try new things and then maybe leave them behind or find something you're really passionate about. And like, going to, like, decades of school that costs hundreds of thousands of dollars. It's--. Yeah, it's just gatekeeping. It's not necessarily doing--. Or-or-or those-those things can end up getting so far left behind, 'cause you're just like, 'Oh, I have to do these things to get a high paying enough job to be able to do the next thing,' and- and, and all of those other actual things that education is supposed to be get- really, really get lost super easily.

E: I agree with all of that.

TB: All that.

[Laughter]

NWB: All of that. All of that.

E: I'm having a lot of thoughts. [Laughs] We all do.

TB: You all hit all the mark, I mean, like questions. I feel like you all are questioned this, [Claps] bow, you all it's just like, all right, that's the question. It's--.
[Laughs]

E: Well, and I think we only have like three minutes, but I think--.

TB: Yeah, we gotta. We only got a couple minutes left.

E: Yeah, so I thought it'd be cool to do it in this one, which was, um, if that's okay with you, Terry, 'cause you're kind of leading. But I just, if people could go around in the last three minutes and say what they're doing for self-care right now?

[Pause]

TB: Hm, I'll start then. Uh, um, I'm making sure I'm taking time in my home space to, like, have just a hour set out to where I'm just groovin' with Alexa and I set the mood in my house, you know? I turn the lights on red or whatever color and I'm just playing my soul music, just vibing. I'm not logged into anything. Like, I'm just one that enjoy being alive and being grateful for it. Like, o that's really the energy [Laughs]. Every day, at least one time a day, we gotta do it. I feel like that helps so much.

NWB: I am struggling with my self-care. [Laughs] Um, that is real.

TB: It's hard.

NWB: I work a lot and then, um, I am also the President of, um, the Board of Directors of a nonprofit and I have church stuff. So, I am struggling with my self-care in a real way. Um, but I am trying to, like, light a fire now and then and just watch TV that doesn't make my brain work.

E: Yeah, I have been probably drinking too much wine. I need to, like, not drink (inaudible - 01:01:30). The pandemic, I have moments where I'm like, 'Oh, this is really hard.' And then, uh, I've been buying eucalyptus bundles and putting them in my shower and, um, it's like a little s--. It turns it into a sauna, so that's kind of--. And I've been going on walks and been trying to work out again.

TL: Um.

AH: I think. Oh, go for it, Tori.

TL: Are you sure? Why don't you go ahead?

AH: Okay. Um, I just, yeah, what you said, Terry, like listening to music, not while doing anything else has been so nice.

TB: [Laughs]

AH: Um, and it totally, you forget cause it's like, 'Oh no, I listen to music all the time when I'm like clearing or--.' But yeah, just like lying down on the ground and, like, in front of the speaker and just listening to music has been really, really good. And I've also- I've never been much of a runner but I'm trying to do a little bit more running just cause it helps me get outside 'cause otherwise I'll- I'll, like, look up one day and be like, 'I haven't left my house in like three days. I haven't, like, stepped outside. That is messed up.' And so, just trying to, like, see if maybe like very short runs can help, uh, actually, like, get out and go, like, look at some trees.

TL: Yeah, um, I've been using, uh, Sundays to journal. [Laughs] Like, talk--. It's, you know, doing, um, goals for the week, um, and then goals for the month. And just like reflection, um, as I am living my folks right now and so it's good to reflect on, like, how to communicate and how to, um--. If you're, you know, short with somebody or if you could

have handled the situation better. Um, and--. Yeah, and just sort of write what I'm hoping to accomplish and do in the week coming and coming into that. And then, um, yeah, it's-it's a nice moment to reflect and I feel like that is sort of my self care is just reflection.

TB: That's great. That's great. This is the time to do that. Everything's on a pause.

AH: And if anyone else has tried this yet, I find puzzles are the only way I can shut my brain down. Where it's like the only time I'm not, like, thinking about a whole bunch of stuff. Um, and if you have that I, maybe consider trying a puzzle.

TB: Mm-hmm.

E: Oh my God. I saw something on Instagram who just recently got, like, an all blue puzzle.

[Laughter]

TB: Bruh.

TL: Oh my God, that's hilarious.

AH: I don't know. That doesn't sound like self care. That sounds like self harm.

[Laughter]

TB: Wow.

TL: I hear coloring is the same thing. People, um, you know, do a lot of coloring and coloring books and stuff. Um, I draw.

E: Yes, all of it.

TB: Oh yeah, you guys also, you know, just like as far as communication, um, it

doesn't, doesn't have to be crazy but, you know, just always--. You know, I, lately once a week, I've been tryna just reach out to somebody. Like, just that I know that actually cares about me and I care about them and just hitting them up. 'Hey, what's up?' [Laughs] You know what I mean? 'How you doing?' Like--. I know we're all, like, we're all focused on, you know--. We just got to make sure we got each other's back, really. Yeah, those check-ins are really important for people. You never know, like, for anybody. I have a lot of friends. I'm just checking on them. 'How y'all doing, man? Y'all minds right?' So don't forget to check on your people.

TL: Yeah.

NWB: I believe in check-ins.

TB: Mm, do that check-in. It ain't gotta be nothing--.

NWB: I got five siblings--.

TB: It ain't gotta be two minutes.

NWB: I got five siblings. I call them and I be like, 'It's a sibling check in. What's good with you?' So, um, yeah. I believe in check-in. 'It's a friend check-in. What's good?'

TB: Yeah, I do, I do. My family big too. We from the country. So I got to always check in on my sisters. My mamma, my mamma kid, my daddy kid. [Laughs] Everybody gotta get the check-ins, you know?

NWB: Yup. Love the check ins, I'm telling you.

E: Yeah, (inaudible - 01:05:53). More than ever, right?

TB: Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

E: That's really important to--.

TB: Well, I'm about to eat. I'm hungry.

[Laughter]

E: You didn't eat? Did you get--. Did anybody else get the food? Did anybody get the food? Yay! Okay, one.

Unknown: (inaudible - 01:06:13)]

E: Well, your--.

TB: I was about to say I- I remembered there was food a part of this. I'm like, 'Oh, man. Oh.'

NWB: Well, I saw the email and it was like at 11:00 and it was like 10:45 and I'm in Tacoma. I was like, 'Yeah, I'm not 'bout to make that. I wasn't going to make that.'

TB: [Laughs]

E: Well, yeah, it could have went past 11:00. It was starting at 11:00. Still, that was still. It's still a drive. That Tacoma drive, I'm not going to lie to you. I work in Tacoma on and off on public arts stuff. And I be like, 'That's not a half hour. That's an hour drive.'

TB: It's a whole hour. You could be forty five minutes.

Unknown: Yeah.

TB: When I moved to Seattle, it was thirty, forty five minutes. Just that fast.

TL: I don't ever remember Tacoma being a fast drive. [Laughs] I always feel like it was always, there was always construction or something. I think that's the curse of Tacoma. It will perpetually just be in road construction, like always.

[Laughter]

NWB: Yes.

E: Yeah. Like, (inaudible - 01:07:19) coming, you all, if you all aren't already gentrified, it's coming. Those light rails are going to come and people can just zoom there.

NWB: What--. It's not coming for a long time though.

TB: It still got like three, four years. I'm about three.

E: Look, that's not that long.

NWB: No, I think it's like 2030.

Unknown: Yeah.

TB: What?

E: Oh, okay. Never mind.

[Laughing]

TB: I'm thinking about the other light rail.

NWB: The one in Federal Way isn't 'til like 2025.

TB: Mm.

E: Well, that's-that's five years from now. We're almost, almost in 2021, that's four years.

TB: I want to tell you (inaudible - 01:07:57).

NWB: Yeah, I mean I guess that's true. Only four more years to go. I don't know, but 2030 sounds like it's a long time from now.

E: That-that's real. I--. Yeah. I could--. That-that one's far. That's nine.

TB: We have been in 2020 for three years, y'all.

NWB: Yes, we have.

E: [Laughs]

NWB: We've been in 2020 for five years.

TB: For a minute now, y'all.

TL: Yeah.

TB: We still here, though.

E: One more month. We only have one more month. Well, I didn't--. I thought they would take us back to the main room. Can we go back?

[Pause]

TB: Do we have to? I don't know.

E: Um.

NWB: I don't know.

E: Let's go--. Should we? They said we only had--. Oh, wait.

[Pause]

TL: They don't (inaudible - 01:08:48) go back.

E: There's a button at the bottom that says "Leave Room." And then, it- it'll say "Leave Room" or "Leave Meeting" and you'll just want to do the "Leave Room." So, let's do that and see.

AH: Thanks for facilitating, y'all.

NWB: Thank you.

TB: Yeah, thank y'all.

E: Just leave break out room.

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HH: I don't know, (inaudible - 01:09:12) for a while and it is, I think, but... I think for Savannah it was complicated but it was much smaller and simpler. Miami is, I think, her hometown or she's lived there for a long time and she's living in Savannah for a while now. Um, but I feel like this is such a better fit for her. She's going to have so much more freedom.

Unknown: Hm.

HH: The tables look really equitable now, it's great.

JV: I wonder if we should.

E: Hey, Heather. My group came back 'cause we thought--.

HH: Oh, great. Okay.

JV: Okay.

E: We had a few minutes and then we went over. I (inaudible - 01:09:49).

HH: Yeah, I think we should go ahead and close up the--. I'm gonna, um--. Jina, do you want to close the rooms?

JV: Yeah, I just did.

HH: All right. I'm going to leave this existence and come back as my former self. I think you should turn your camera on, jina.

JV: Oh yeah, will do.

E: I like your Avatar.

JV: Oh, me?

E: Yeah, I need to get one of those.

JV: Oh yeah, oh wait, is it an Avatar? I forget what my background is now. Is it a picture of me?

E: It's a picture of a phone, of you on a phone.

JV: Yeah, my child is obsessed with Meta images. 'Let's take a picture and then take a picture of the phone with the picture on it. And then take a picture of that.'

[Laughs]

E: [Laughs]

JV: I'll be right back. I'm going to take a picture of it. [Laughs] How was it?

E: I thought it was great.

JV: Good, good. (inaudible - 01:10:58) productive discussions.

E: Look at all these beautiful faces.

JV: Hey, welcome back everyone.

Unknown: That was so great.

HH: I did not eavesdrop, I promise, but I could see everybody. Everybody's, um, got a different tone to their look. (inaudible - 01:11:18) get out of those rooms. I love it. Um, so again, I hope you, if you feel like exchanging information, now is a good time. Um, please do, um, fill out those consent- online consent forms so that we can go ahead and transcribe the audio.

END OF RECORDING

Transcribed by Carolyn Berner 08/01/2023

To be copyedited.

