

PRESENTED BY PINK HAIR JEN

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AWKWARD NETWORKING

THE SEQUEL
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GET YOUR *AWKWARD*
FREEBIE GUIDE
(NEW FOR 2025)



**PLEASE YELL
IF YOU ARE
PAYING ATTENTION**

SHOUT-OUT TO BLUE MAN GROUP CHICAGO AND NEW YORK THEATERS.

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INTRO: **AWKWARD, WEIRD AND** **LOVABLE...**

Pink Hair Jen as Weird Barbie making these waves of Awkwardness, Uniqueness and being Lovable MAINSTREAM.

- Photographer for 18 Years
- Artist for my entire life
- Blue Man Group fan
- 3 cats
- New Voice in the Industry
- Loves travel.
- Wife & Mom

We are on this journey together...so let's get started!



OVERVIEW...KIN

DA...

Defining "Awkward" and "Networking"

Navigating Pre-Networking Overwhelm

Navigating the Overwhelm right outside the door

Navigating the Overwhelm INSIDE the room

Visual Connection

Have a Conversation

Following Up

Parting Exercise

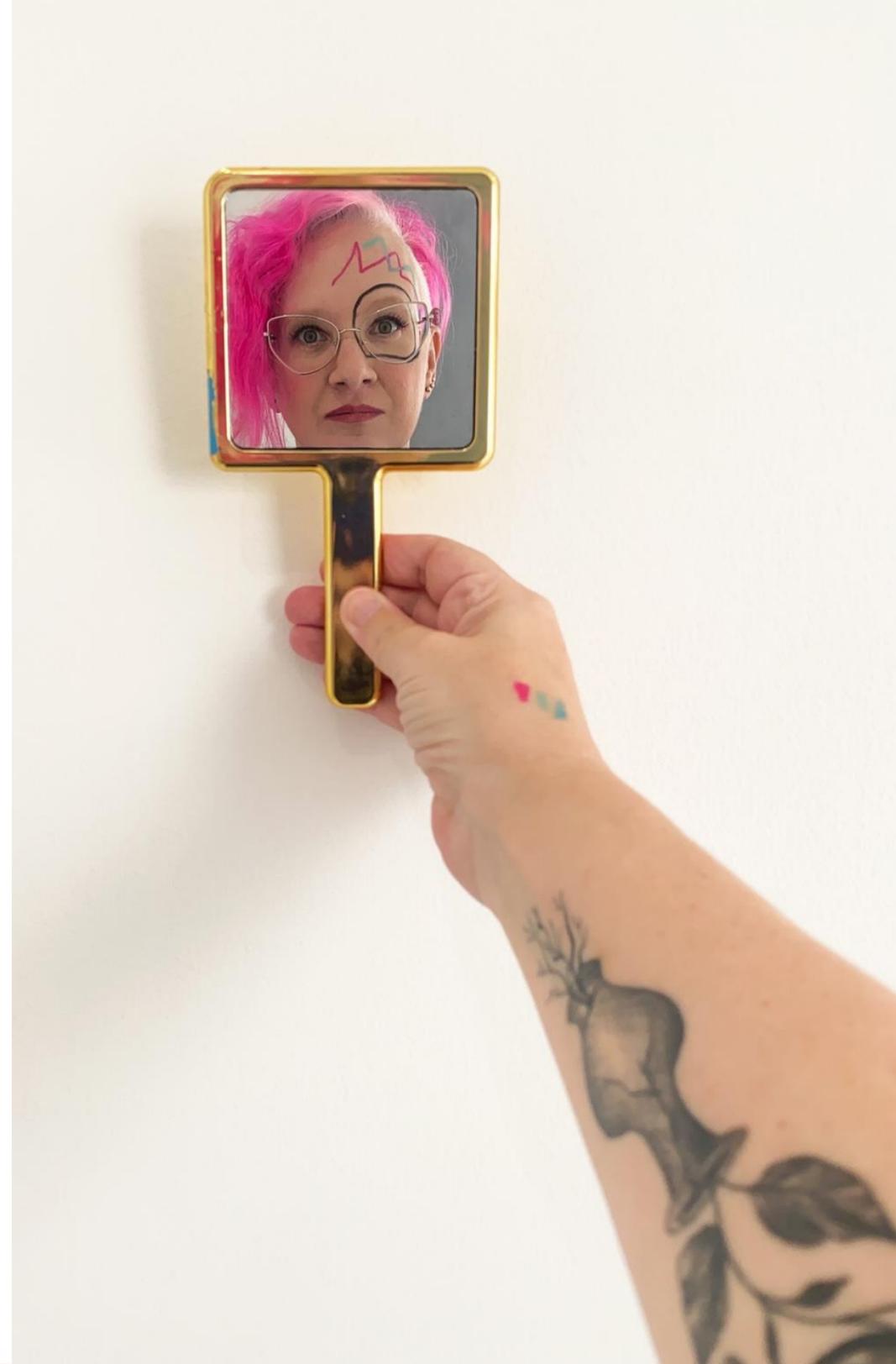
Open Discussion Time!



INFAMOUS

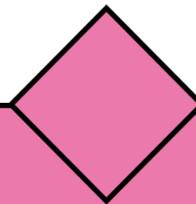
QUOTE: "I know you can be overwhelmed, and you can be underwhelmed, but can you ever just be *whelmed*?"

From "10 Things I Hate About You"



DEFINITION

AWKWARD



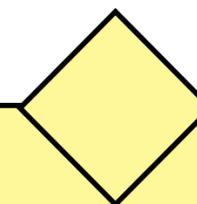
lacking grace or ease in movement, lacking social graces or manners, not well planned or designed for easy or effective use...and so on.

NETWORKING

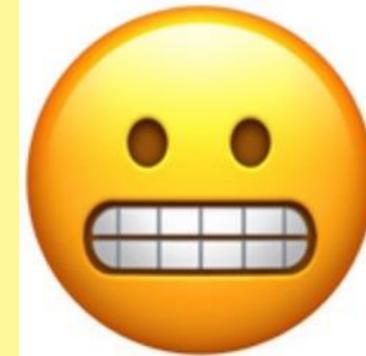


a supportive system of sharing information and services among individuals and groups having a common interest

?



WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN.



definitions pulled from: dictionary.com



WHAT IS *YOUR* DEFINITION?

I like to think ***Awkward*** meaning: I don't have all the answers, I'm not perfect and I certainly sometimes don't have a clue about connecting with others. I FEEL awkward when I don't know what to say or do in a large (or small) group gathering.

Networking? I think a giant web of connection with others, be it some are the inside and some are further out in the rings of acquaintances, friendship and community.



NAVIGATING YOUR AWKWARD

NETWORKING....

- Before you go to your event
- While you are outside in the parking lot
- When you enter the room
- Leaving.



PHOTOS BY: TARA ARSEVEN PHOTOGRAPHY AND KIM WINEY PHOTOGRAPHY





BEFORE YOUR EVENT...

MONTHS and WEEKS and DAYS before your event:

- Prepare yourself mentally
- Navigate and KNOW your personal strengths.
- Your Job is NOT your identity, let people KNOW YOU.
- Take a GOOD look in the mirror
- ASK the tough internal questions

“You are not your khakis”... Tyler Durden, Fight Club



YOU MADE IT TO THE PARKING LOT....

TIPS FOR NERVOUSNESS + ANXIETY **NOW WHAT?**

- Listen to your FAVORITE song!
- Read affirmations out loud.
- Let your frustration OUT! (whatever it is)
- Journal
- Take a brisk walk before going in!
- Remember, YOU MATTER.

DISCLAIMER: THIS IS NOT MEDICAL ADVICE FOR DIAGNOSED CONDITIONS, JUST GENERAL LIFE MOMENTS WHERE YOU CAN MANAGE EXPECTATIONS, EMOTIONS AND STILL CONNECT WITH OTHERS.



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*“You and a mutual acquaintance start dancing to the elevator music, share a glance and smile. “ *insert awkward grin here*”*

DURING YOUR EVENT

HAVE A SMALL PLAN IN PLACE FOR MEETING SOMEONE!

- Introduce yourself to ONE new person.
- Find a commonality or a complementary profession
- It is OK to just say nothing and be present.
- If you take a business card, write how you met them.
- Take breaks if you are over-stimulated.



LEAVING....

NO NEED TO MAKE A GRAND EXIT IF ITS NOT YOUR PERSONALITY....

- You can say goodbye however YOU want.
- Know Your Limits.
- Excuse yourself AND say Thank You(s)!
- Do your own reflections after your leave.
- Write something you are thankful for.
- Make a note to follow-up immediately with someone you connected with!
- Do NOT go into a list of things you could have done better right away, ***CELEBRATE YOUR WINS.***

“When you say bye to someone and then walk away in the same direction.”



K- BYYEEEE!



CONVERSATION / CONNECTION

"You respond mid-thought verbally and the other person is confused on what you just said...In your head the whole conversation happened!" (lol)



KEEP IT INTERESTS SIMPLE.

VISUAL CONNECTIONS

- Smile
- Tattoos
- Pink Hair (LOL)
- Style
- Things you are drawn to!
- Joy

- Pets
- Secret Ice Breaker Q's
- Movies/Pop Culture
- Profession/Career
- Admiring their Work!
- Music

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WE ALL HAVE MORE IN
COMMON THAN WE THINK!



AWKWARDNESS IS
AUTHENTIC.
AND A SUPERPOWER...



HOW DO YOU MAKE IT COUNT?



BE YOU.

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HELLO, IT
MEEEEEE

PARTING

EXERCISE:

TODAY...go to any of your socials, and post something UNIQUE about yourself. RE-Introduce yourself to your audience and TAG ME!

@weirdweddings @pinkhairjen



LET'S HAVE A CONVERSATION!

Q&A



+COMMENT

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MY LITTLE GIFT



awkward networking

/aa·kwrđ/ • adjective

THE WORKSHEET

Using your Superpower of
Awkwardness to connect!

YOU CAN GET YOUR OWN DOWNLOAD/COPY!



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THANK YOU
VERY MUCH

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