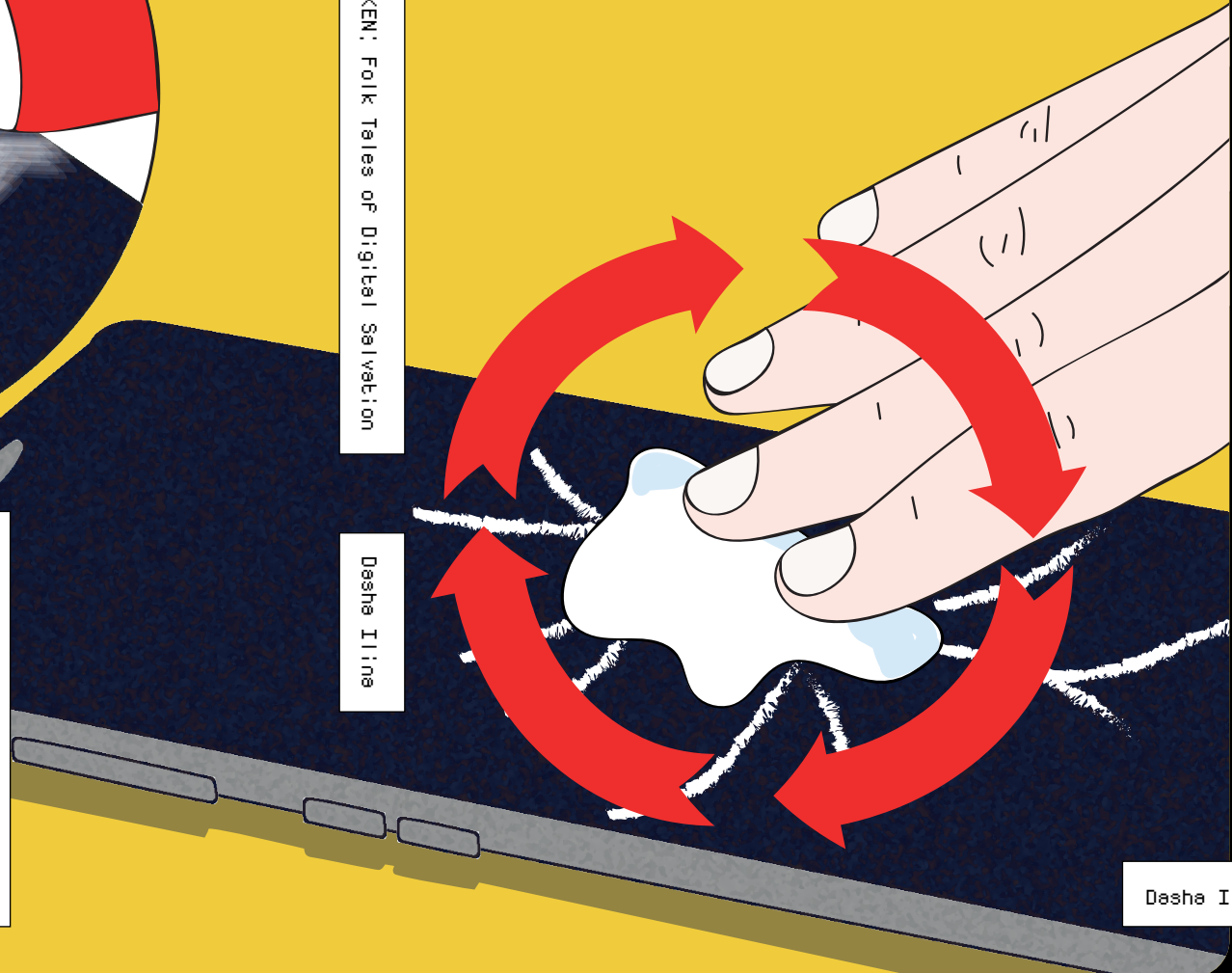
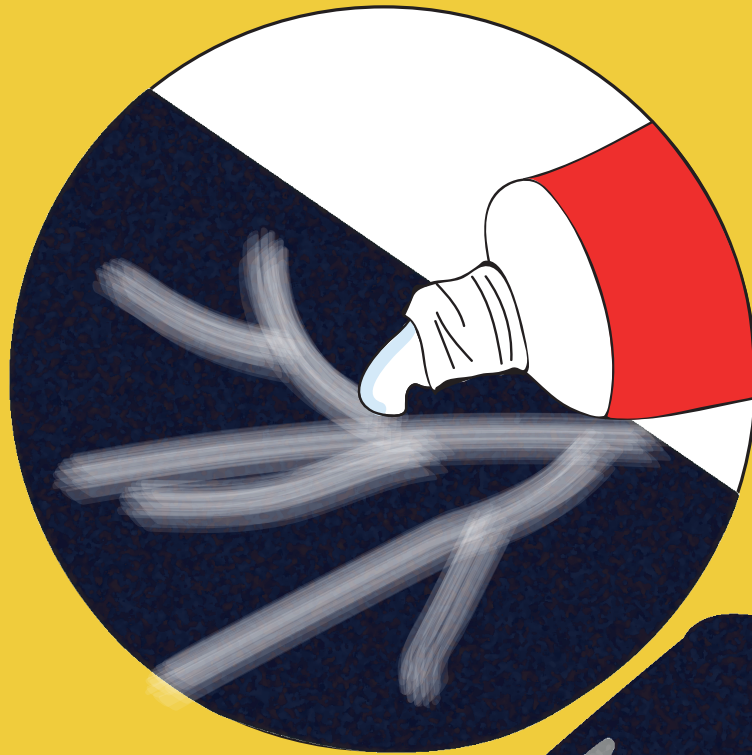


ADVICE WELL TAKEN: Folk Tales of Digital Salvation

Dashe Iline

Dashe Iline

ADVICE WELL TAKEN comprises a publication and a video in which Dashe Iline documents what she calls techlore — Folk knowledge on the complex and opaque functionalities of the modern technologies that surround us. The artist touches on issues affecting our data and privacy, the shortcuts we use to fix our devices and the explanations we find for technological mysteries. For this project, Iline collected folk tales of digital salvation: everyday stories of anthropomorphisation, hacking and corner-cutting. They show how ordinary people are doing what they can to assert control over technology. ADVICE WELL TAKEN was developed during an EMAP residency at IMPAKT in May and June 2023, in collaboration with Supisara Burapachaisri.



ADVICE WELL TAKEN:
Folk Tales of Digital Salvation

Acknowledgements

This publication would not have been possible without the many hours of design work by Supisara Burapachaisri, the financial support of the European Media Arts Platform, and the feedback and support of the entire IMPAKT team, especially Arjon Dunnewind, Daniela Tenenbaum, Bram Koning, and Esther van Zoelen. Special thanks to Teresa Dillon and Geert Lovink for their texts that enriched and contextualized this publication. And many thanks to Kris Madden, Amanda Lewis, and Morgan Kim for their quality control of the illustrations and feedback on how to improve them.

The Advice Well Taken project would not have been possible without the contributions of the interviewees: Sofia, Cenk, Monica, Milena and Sergei, Gema, Patrick, Jeroen, Taisiya, Jolyn, Martha, Dewi, Radhi, Bianca, Lide, Roos, Daniel, Mathieu, Jan Albert, Rani, Kristina and L Zomer.

Last but not least, I am incredibly grateful to Niklas Ayris for his help throughout the entire process. His contributions were so numerous that I cannot list them all here.

This publication was designed with the Authentic Sans, jgs7, and Redaction fonts.

This work was realised within the framework of a European Media Art Platform residency program at IMPAKT [Centre for Media Culture] with support from the Creative Europe Culture Programme of the European Union.



Co-funded by
the European Union

dashailina.com
impakt.nl
emare.eu

Contents

INTRODUCTION

01	Introduction to ADVICE WELL TAKEN: Folk Tales of Digital Salvation Dasha Ilina	00:10 – 00:13
02	Working the Break Point v.2: Maintenance, Repair and Failure in Art. Teresa Dillon	00:14 – 00:19
03	Smart Phone Mythologies Geert Lovink	00:20 – 00:31

TECHLORES

01	Phone signal Sofia	00:32 – 00:33
02	Covering the webcam Sofia	00:34 – 00:35
03	Blowing into ports Sofia	00:36 – 00:37
04	How to listen to music in the shower Sofia	00:38 – 00:39
05	VPN blocking the Wi-Fi Sofia	00:40 – 00:41
06	Filter face tracking Sofia	00:42 – 00:43
07	Dark powers Cenk	00:44 – 00:45
08	Phones read minds Cenk	00:46 – 00:47
09	Licking battery Monica	00:48 – 00:49
10	Power confusion Monica	00:50 – 00:51
11	Electromagnetic waves Sergei & Milena	00:52 – 00:53

12	Wireless headphones Sergei & Milena	00:54 – 00:55
13	New oil Sergei & Milena	00:56 – 00:57
14	5G, microwaves, TVs Sergei & Milena	00:58 – 00:59
15	iTunes disappeared Sergei & Milena	01:00 – 01:01
16	Facebook reads messages Gema	01:02 – 01:03
17	Cut off finger Gema	01:04 – 01:05
18	VR brain waves Gema	01:06 – 01:07
19	WiFi Electricity VS Radiation Patrick 1	01:08 – 01:09
20	Bread crumb below the touch screen Patrick 1	01:10 – 01:11
21	Nothing is free Patrick 1	01:12 – 01:13
22	If Boris Johnson likes 4G Patrick 1	01:14 – 01:15
23	Blowing in cartridges Jeroen	01:16 – 01:17
24	The Pokemon under the truck Jeroen	01:18 – 01:19
25	Slap your computer Jeroen	01:20 – 01:21
26	Real tech wizard Jeroen	01:22 – 01:23
27	Phones affecting internal energy Taisiya	01:24 – 01:25
28	Feeling cleaner without a phone Taisiya	01:26 – 01:27

29	The iPhone battery conspiracy Taisiya	01:28 – 01:29
30	The toothpaste tip Taisiya	01:30 – 01:31
31	Slave to Face ID Taisiya	01:32 – 01:33
32	The Google Assistant is not connected Taisiya	01:34 – 01:35
33	Computer in rice Jolyn	01:36 – 01:37
34	Waste of a walk Jolyn	01:38 – 01:39
35	Sister's Face ID Jolyn	01:40 – 01:41
36	Don't dab a wet computer Martha	01:42 – 01:43
37	Getting waves in my brain Martha	01:44 – 01:45
38	Package you haven't ordered yet Martha	01:46 – 01:47
39	Never touching my library again Dewi	01:48 – 01:49
40	Doom scenarios Dewi	01:50 – 01:51
41	How to bias Instagram Radhi	01:52 – 01:53
42	No magic recipe Radhi	01:54 – 01:55
43	Face ID and physical integrity Radhi	01:56 – 01:57
44	My digital avatar Radhi	01:58 – 01:59
45	Gas station explosion Bianca	02:00 – 02:01

46	Phone in a sock Bianca	02:02 – 02:03
47	The visual autotune Lide	02:04 – 02:05
48	Running into a bit of hope Lide	02:06 – 02:07
49	Square eyes Roos	02:08 – 02:09
50	Rice phone Roos	02:10 – 02:11
51	Future enemy Roos	02:12 – 02:13
52	The battery charging myth Roos	02:14 – 02:15
53	Toe shoes Roos	02:16 – 02:17
54	Hopeless printers Daniel	02:18 – 02:19
55	Nonsense data Daniel	02:20 – 02:21
56	Data makes you nervous Mathieu	02:22 – 02:23
57	Apple already has your biometric data Mathieu	02:24 – 02:25
58	Google listens Mathieu	02:26 – 02:27
59	Is planned obsolescence real? Jan Albert	02:28 – 02:29
60	We are easily traceable Jan Albert	02:30 – 02:31
61	My health is none of your business Jan Albert	02:32 – 02:33
62	Finger ID is safe Jan Albert	02:34 – 02:35

63	Rejecting cookies breaks a website Jan Albert	02:36 – 02:37
64	Phone under your pillow Jan Albert	02:38 – 02:39
65	Sticky keyboard Rani	02:40 – 02:41
66	Technology prevents me from sleeping Rani	02:42 – 02:43
67	Cool kids color in their phones Rani	02:44 – 02:45
68	Price manipulation Patrick 2	02:46 – 02:47
69	Big tech can hack cameras Patrick 2	02:48 – 02:49
70	Virus software creates viruses Patrick 2	02:50 – 02:51
71	Computer reads everything Patrick 2	02:52 – 02:53
72	Forced into consumerism Patrick 2	02:54 – 02:55
73	The myth of the Spotify algorithm Patrick 2	02:56 – 02:57
74	Fear of pressing a button Kristina	02:58 – 02:59
75	Be on guard with technology L Zomer	03:00 – 03:01

01

Introduction to ADVICE WELL TAKEN: Folk Tales of Digital Salvation

Dasha Ilina

The underlying idea for this publication grew out of research into the origins of the Internet, which was followed by a two-month residency at IMPAKT [Center for Media Culture] in Utrecht — itself part of the larger network of media art residencies of the European Media Art Platform (EMAP).

In the summer of 2022, I was invited to develop a lecture series on digital culture to be given at an art school in the north of France. However, since I am neither a writer by profession nor theoretically minded by nature, I came to the conclusion that my history of digital culture would have to be presented through my own lens — that is, examined through artworks, both my own and those of other artists whose works speak to me personally. I dedicated the first lecture to the origins of the Internet. In particular, I focused on the intricate links between the counterculture communities in California and the early pioneers of both the early web and digital technology. With the students, I discussed the early promises of the Internet, the belief held by many people that this new space — cyberspace — would lead to emancipation and alternative forms of governance, and would serve as a means of finally severing the tie between the state and the people to allow for digitally assisted self-governance. A key figure in

this particular moment, best known for creating a publication called the Whole Earth Catalog, is Stewart Brand. Having long been part of the various counterculture communities, Brand realized that they needed a way to communicate and disseminate the information central to these communities, ideas pertaining to self-sufficiency, ecology, alternative education, DIY practices, and holism. This is what the Whole Earth Catalog set out to do. The catalog quickly became a huge hit, selling two million copies at its peak, and going on to influence the way people share information to such an extent that some consider it to be the precursor to the Internet. It is perhaps no surprise, then, that one of the first cyber-communities to emerge when the fledgling Internet was born was the digital embodiment of the Whole Earth Catalog — the Whole Earth 'Lectronic Link' (or 'WELL'). The WELL was essentially a proto-forum, an early example of the potential for interpersonal connection through the Internet, created by none other than Stewart Brand.

Inspired by the slogan 'Access to Tools', my exploration of the Whole Earth Catalog made me wonder what such a publication would look like today; what tools and information we would deem worth sharing. At the time, I wrote this down in my notebook and happily went about my day. The question didn't cross my mind again until I decided to apply for the EMAP residency, at which point I picked up my notebook and began to think about how I would create such a publication myself and what it would look like. The publication you hold in your hands is the result of engaging in an ethnographic process, documenting 'modern day folklore' — stories about technology misbehaving, breaking down, acting in ways outside of our comprehension, or at least immediate explanation. Centuries ago, we told folktales about natural phenomena, imagining that gods with emotions close to our own expressed themselves through rain, wind, and thunder. Nowadays, we more or less understand changes in the weather, but a set of new, mysterious phenomena we are unable to grasp have taken their place — technological devices — tools that we use every day, whose underlying functions have been so obscured that we don't know what they do or how they do it. So we tell stories as a way of making sense and as a way of regaining agency, particularly in moments when they break down, leaving us feeling powerless to fix them.

Has anyone told you that Instagram listens to your conversations in order to send you targeted ads? Or have you heard about what to do if you spill liquid on your phone? Maybe you've heard a mysterious story of someone's computer shutting down, restarting, and acting in ways explicable only by way of external or supernatural influence — 'possession', 'magic', 'hacking'. All these stories pertain to what I've been calling *techlore*. Since early 2023, I have been collecting and compiling these stories as a means of illustrating how little control and explicit understanding we actually have over the devices we rely more and more on and spend an increasing amount of time with. There are other terms that could be used to describe these stories — 'conspiracies' or 'urban legends', and many of them contain phrases such as "I don't know if it's true" or "someone once told me". Yet these are ultimately, to some degree, believed to contain some kernel of truth. Additionally, attempts to determine the actual truthfulness of these claims often come up against a brick wall in the form of the totally opaque nature of their subjects. This is why I reference the term *lore* in *techlore*, and why I've ultimately decided not to attempt to separate the true from the false — the fact is that this lore is believed regardless of whether or not it's true.

The basis for this publication included over 20 interviews, most of which were video recorded. These now take the shape of a DVD with a collection of 75 video clips which viewers can watch in a row, one by one, or as a complete 'Director's Cut' — a selection of the best clips from the 22 video interviews. This publication accompanies the DVD with additional resources, such as links to techlores shared online, and can also be used as a guide to learning which clips would be most interesting for each viewer, as the publication allows for much faster browsing and searching by keywords.

The publication was beautifully designed by Supisara Burapachaisri, a Rotterdam-based artist with former training in communication, digital marketing, and graphic design. Her practice is informed by 'misusing' tools, looking for 'cracks' in software and hardware, and repurposing them as opportunities to learn, intervene, and explore alternatives that are accessible, relatable, and playful. I feel that her personal interests are reflected in this publication, which draws on the Whole Earth Catalog as a starting point for its design, as well as many other technical visual elements

present in the research underlying this project — including the progress bars that emulate the UX design of video software or streaming sites such as YouTube, and the Q&A format prevalent in forums such as WikiHow. Overall, she borrowed visual elements from a variety of online resources we used during the project to bring the final publication to life.

In addition to the stories extracted from the interviews, I also reached out to artist and researcher Teresa Dillon, as well as media theorist and founding director of the Institute of Network Cultures Geert Lovink, asking each of them to contribute their own texts to the publication. The text that follows this introduction is by Dillon, whose work has for some time centered around research and documentation of various repair practices around the world. She is also the initiator of the artist-led research program exploring cultures of repair, care, maintenance, and healing called Repair Acts. Therefore, I could think of no one better to contextualize this project in terms of repair culture and the values associated with it, especially within emerging discourses concerning the breakdown of technology and its maintenance.

I also had the pleasure of working with Geert Lovink, whose text concludes the introductory section of the publication. Having followed Lovink's work with the Institute of Network Cultures, particularly on online image culture, net criticism, and developments in the digital economy, and having read his 2019 book *Sad by Design*, I connected with his writing style and felt that he communicated complex ideas in a way that was both novel and quite accessible, a quality I often appreciate in art. Lovink's contribution draws on quotes from the interviews as colorful examples of techlore, to which he has subsequently provided theoretical context, illustrating how some of the ideas, beliefs, and practices uncovered during the project can be situated within a broader context of philosophy, sociology, and media studies.

To conclude, through the months of sharing myths around technological failures and mishaps, I have learned not only that everyone has a techlore story to tell (whether first- or second-hand, conscious or implicit), but also that once you start telling these stories, it can often be really hard to stop.

02

Working the Break Point v.2: Maintenance, Repair and Failure in Art.

Teresa Dillon

Dasha Ilina's 2023 work "ADVICE WELL TAKEN" takes the form of a series of personal autobiographical accounts, tales of technological mishap, salvation, and preservation. From tips on collecting the shards of a broken phone screen, to the removal of WIFI enabled devices from bedrooms to sleep better, to unexplained messages and phone behaviours.

The ether quivers.

Speaking to our everyday encounters with digital technologies, Ilina carried out a series of quasi-formal interviews with friends, colleagues, acquaintances, and strangers. These straight to camera interviews formally frame their subjects, as their technological exchanges reveal intimate moments. Verbal accounts of glitch.

Such accounts contain and constrain both the seriousness and the mundaneness of daily life. Black humour on display. The effect triggers. Memories. The first crash. Saving files back then was routine. Part of the process. For the crash meant loss. If you were lucky, something partially was retrieved, returned. Split, diced. Don't force a reboot. Keep it plugged in.

Post-crash lore. I know this guy. Were they always guys?

Crashes returned. Bundled in small black external drives that fit snugly in the hand. Cold.

Back up. Back up. Back up. Remember the doc, image, thread, email. It happens once and you aim to avoid the situation, sweating, swearing. This will never happen again.

What lies behind such personal accounts? To access Ilina's diary style video chapters, effort is required. Mediated through the aesthetics of a DVD and its associated scroll function, each chapter requires time and presence. Tangible encounters, via a format where the physical sense of touch grounds and modulates one's interaction.

Decisions between form and content that connect the work to wider contemporary theoretical media scholarship. From my own position, there is much resonance that links a way of making work to teaching and writing from the emerging field of repair studies, as well as to feminist approaches to materiality and digital folklore. The following sections briefly touch on such joins, creating a bridge to "ADVICE WELL TAKEN", which is also rooted in several years of a co-working relation with Ilina through NØ School Nevers, which she co-runs with Benjamin Gaulon aka Recyclism.

There are two basic systems, according to the artist Mierle Laderman Ukeles **MANIFESTO! MAINTENANCE ART**, dated 1969:

"Development and maintenance. The sourball of every revolution: after the revolution who's going to pick up the garbage on Monday morning?

Development: pure individual, creation; the new; change; progress, advance, excitement, flight or fleeing.

Maintenance: keep the dust off the pure individual creation; preserve the new; sustain the change; protect progress; defend and prolong the advance; renew the excitement; repeat the flight".

Repeat the flight. Keep the dust off the pure individual creation. There is much to unpack in relation to development and maintenance dualisms. Today, historic fears of loss are circumnavigated by autosave. While documents written in a browser track collective edits. Permeance off the record. Multiple versions, multiple shares, multiple edits. Counter points to configuration changes, system corruptions, malware attacks, accidental deletion. Rubbish bins, regulated to background functionality and toolbars. Reinforcing the impossibilities of erasure. Boundary myths. Poetry in the words of the black writer Audre Lord is not a luxury.

Nothing digital dies, not even when you press delete. Limping back into existence, zombie digital artefacts, holding in their body, codes, suggestions. Evidence. Hardware that never rots. Someone potentially is always listening.

It is no surprise that from within such cultures, as is evident in “ADVICE WELL TAKEN”, divergent storylines and techno-folklores emerge to address the registers, the fractures, and unexplainable fissures. Band-aids are required to deliver us salvation from harm, ruin, and loss. Temporary holds that weave, bend, and forge. Provide grips until stabilisation occurs and a familiar normality returns. Our sense of agency, fundamental to interpreting the revelations that are shared via “ADVICE WELL TAKEN”.

Maintenance as salvation, as preservation. Deliverance from and for control, polish, shine, and distribution. Maintenance and preservation defend an approach; they hold on to a model and a mode of living. Maintenance values tradition, ways of making, relationships with land and the material. It can conserve and lead to conservatism. Or re-enact ways of doing, invoking forms that were side-lined and intentionally by-passed in favour of the optimised.

The title of this response, “Working the Break Point” v.2, creates a vector to “ADVICE WELL TAKEN”. Based on a piece of writing first published online in 2017 as part of the Screen City Biennale, from now on it will be known as v.1. v.1 drew attention to several artists and their practices whose conscious efforts have explored the edge positions of what is deemed broken, failed, or

eroded, and the associated care, attention, maintenance, reuse, and repair that is required to bring an object back to life.

Back to the here and now. To be present. To be in relation.

When working the breaking point, we work at the coalface, revealing what it means to not only make something in the first place, but what interlocking systems, affective relations and behavioural feedback loops keep that ‘thing’ - object, image, audio clip, TikTok video share, rose walled garden - going.

As artists working at the breaking point, we are engaging in a mode of thought that science technology scholar Steve J. Jackson refers to as broken world thinking. Broken world thinking takes erosion, breakdown, and decay “as our starting points in thinking through the nature, use and effects of information technology and new media”. As a mode of thought, it requires, in the same way that Laderman Ukeles manifesto and art works require, an appreciation of the care and attention that is necessary to keep stuff going. Effort again is foregrounded.

Effort seeps from “ADVICE WELL TAKEN”. The effort required to keep connected with our devices is fused with practicalities, labours, lore, myths, and skills. Rationalised through the body, crafted in the lived experience. As the Dutch philosopher Peter-Paul Verbeek notes, things, when they break down, “disclose a world” that demands our attention. Our relationship to them stutters. Ruptures occur, opening a myriad of interconnected nodes that constitute the lively chatter of “ADVICE WELL TAKEN”.

From stories of blowing onto floppy disks or a headphone jack to keep the dust away, to duct tape manoeuvres while mending a broken mobile phone screen. Such handy play links to what the philosopher and theoretical physicist Karen Barad would describe as intra-actions, where differential patterns of understanding and making matter are always evolving. Materially discursive positions that philosophically reimagine relationships. Tethers between people and things.

These materially discursive positions can also be interpreted as instances of

techno or digital folklores. The notion of folklore stems from the mid-1800s, when the British writer William Thomas coined the word as a signifier for speaking to traditional elements of culture (customs, rites, superstitions, ballads, tales, legends, songs, and proverbs). Works of folklore form part of our ongoing cultural heritage, shared by a particular group of people; they can be specific to a place, state, or nation, and function to maintain and pass on information about ways of living. Safeguarding our things from all visible and invisible forces.

Digital folklore, as sociologist Gabriele de Seta writes, has evolved with human-computer interaction. Evidence of this ranges from typographical emoticons to ASCII compositions, to video mashups and Internet memes. Vernacular forms of creativity and identity making, they typify the folk art of new media. Expressions that intentionally sit outside the professional and commercial.

Sharing their fascination of amateur digital culture, Olia Lialina and Dragon Espenschied defined digital folklore as “encompassing the customs, traditions and elements of visual, textual, and audio culture that emerged from users’ engagement with personal computer applications during the last decade of the 20th and the first decade of the 21st century”.

Viewed from the perspective of digital folklore, “ADVICE WELL TAKEN” is an oral account of vernacular habits of digital maintenance, care, salvation, and repair that move beyond the personal computer and into the realm of hyper mobile, context and location aware devices, and content. Anecdotal accounts that, as a collection, slip between first and second worlds. Responses that signify what it means to deal with such crossings. As small acts of everyday tech-erosion, breakdown, decay, maintenance, and restoration, they can be viewed as contemporary evidence of such material intra-actions and traversals.

References

- Barad, K., (2007). *Meeting the Universe Halfway, Quantum Physics and the Entanglement of Matter and Meaning*. Duke University Press.
- de Seta, G., (2020) Digital folklore. In J. Hunsinger, L. Klasttrup, & M. M. Allen (Eds.), *Second international handbook of internet research* (pp. 167-180). Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer.
- Dillon, T., (2017). Working the Break Point: Maintenance, Repair and Failure in Art (v.1), *Screen City Biennale Journal*, Available at: <https://journal.screencitybiennial.org/2017/10/26/teresa-dillon-article/>. Last accessed 24th July 2023. Last accessed 24th July 2023.
- Jackson, S.J., (2014) “Rethinking Repair”, in Gillespie, T. Boczkowski, P.J., Foot, K.A. (ed.) *Media Technologies: Essays on Communication, Materiality, and Society*, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 2014, 221–240.
- Lialina, O., and Espenschied, D., (Eds). (2009). *Digital Folklore* (p.9-10). Merz & Solitude, Merz Akademie.
- Lord, A., (2018), Poetry Is Not a Luxury, *The Master’s Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master’s House*, Penguin Modern: 23. Penguin Books Limited.
- Thomas, W., (1846). Folk Lore, *The Athenaeum*, 983: 866-7.
- Verbeek, P.P., (2005). *What Things Do. Philosophical reflections on technology, agency, and design*, (p.79). Pennsylvania State University Press.
- Ukeles Laderman, M., *Manifesto for Maintenance Art, 1969*/Proposal for an Exhibition “Care, 1969 At: Ronald Feldman Gallery, <https://feldmangallery.com/exhibition/manifesto-for-maintenance-art-1969>. Last accessed 24th July 2023.

Smart Phone Mythologies

Geert Lovink

Dasha Ilin's video work *ADVICE WELL TAKEN* uses the 'techlore' concept to find out what 'urban legends' are in the age of smartphones. Tech is supposed to be scientific, neutral, transparent, objective--anything but a myth. After an initial phase of curiosity and excitement, systems crash, hacks and glitches take over and we enter a stage of frictionless 24/7 connectivity. Things look normal, but somehow nothing seems real. Technology does indeed break down and starts to act in strange ways, but still, you start to wonder. The screen just died. Did an animal interfere? Am I right that a ghost just appeared as a chatbot? Did someone pour water on my laptop? Neighbours must be stealing the signal. Can ancestors gain access to files? Why have I been unaware of invisible radiation and electromagnetic waves? Who told me to think of unicorns and dragons all the time?

Over the past decades, mobile phones have not been considered part of popular culture. In the late 1970s, British 'cultural studies' unleashed an entire school of research into the appropriation of mass media products such as pop music, radio, film, television series, and street fashion by its declining yet still confident working class. Forty years later, there is not

much appropriation to be found among the 7.33 billion users of mobile/smart phones (data from mid-2023). Piracy no longer makes headlines, and cultural analysis of the smartphone seems to be at an all-time low. Not much counter-hegemony out there. Roland Barthes would have no doubt included the smartphone if he had written his *Mythologies* (1957) today. What's myth creation in the age of fake news, social media dependency, and deskilling under the influence of automation and machine learning? Is myth-making still centred around the relation between language and power, as in Barthes' days? Have people lost their ability to remember and recollect stories in a comprehensive way? What is a myth anyway in an age when, due to the rise of technology, the power of speech is destined to decline, as Hannah Arendt already indicated in *The Human Condition* (1958)?

Let's start the *Arbeit am Mythos* and dive into the stories Dasha collected.

Roos: "Until recently I thought the square eye story was a universal myth, but apparently it's very Dutch. People my age, but also the generation above me, that sat in front of the TV, were told by their parents that if they watch too much television (or the computer screen), they will get square eyes. I don't really know where this myth comes from. There isn't any hard evidence, apart from the correlation that children can get near-sighted. If you look at a screen for a long time, you do feel an eye strain. When I was a child, it felt like my eyes were slowly forming into square shapes, because you feel this strain on the corners of your eyes."

The more users are online, the more start to become suspicious. With technical computer literacy on the way out, we instead experience the democratization of general uncertainty. All we do is manage our busy lives on multiple channels. What just happened on Stumble Guys? Let's do this quick edit of the TikTok video with CapCut right away. Time to play Subway Surfers. Weirdness levels are on the rise. That the world is a boredom-killing theatre is fine. Ordinary procedures in a deeply chaotic world cannot be anything more than a lie. What's left is entertainment and WhatsApp. The real existing catastrophe is inside the machine—mine. With so much popular eye candy and disbelief on display, negative dialectics will have to be on the

rise. Adorno, where are you, now that we need you?

Taisiya: “I remember there were these waves, but not like electromagnetic waves from a phone. These were negative waves that affected your chakras. You had to keep your phone away from your body because it disturbed your internal energy. The waves became embedded and interrupted the waves that originated inside you. For me it always felt strange, like an intimate physical contact. I didn’t take it as a myth or the truth, but some part of me really believed that these waves do have an effect on your physiology.”

The website Make Tech Easier lists ten smartphone myths you should not believe: that cell phones start fires at gas stations, charging overnight would damage the phone’s battery, that your phone could cook an egg, will demagnetize your credit cards, that you have to drain the battery completely before charging it, keeping the screen dim is better for your eyes, closing background apps would make your phone faster, using your phone when it’s charging will drain the battery, or that using a private browser would protect your privacy. All of this is not ‘true’, yet users believe en masse. Dasha Ilina is using the term ‘techlore’, defined as the everyday knowledge manifesting to us as information about how to use, fix, or hack technology. This type of information can be spread informally, whether online or in person, that we collectively use to improve our experiences with technology. Through techlore, we create a sense of regained agency over digital tools whose workings we ultimately don’t understand. Techlore blends genres, from pop folklore in the digital age to the anthropology of technology. Think of urban legends such as the 999 phone charging story which claims that calling an emergency telephone number and then promptly hanging up will charge phone batteries.

“Dasha: Do you use Face ID or sometimes there’s fingerprint ID on iPhones?

Jolyn: Yeah, well I did it. I have it on my phone, the fingerprint, but the funniest thing is - I can open the telephone of my sister with my face.

Dasha: Because you look so similar?

Jolyn: Yeah!

Dasha: But you’re not twins?

Jolyn: No.

Dasha: Wow, that’s crazy! I’ve never heard that before.”

In Dutch these are called ‘monkey sandwich’ stories or ‘broodje aap’, a reference to the title of Ethel Portnoy’s 1978 collection of ‘folklore stories from the post-industrial age’. While most of them have a not-all-that-hidden sexual connotation, making them ideal materials for a psychoanalytic reading of popular culture, the stories collected for Advice Well Taken often lack the polymorph-perverse dimension that dominated the 1970s. There is a widespread awareness of the existence of dark forces inside the black box, but our approach seems to be a statistic one. The conspiracies exist, they are true and operational, but why should they exactly bother me? There is no destiny here, only probability. Contingency rulez. Better deal with it straight away, before an accident starts to attract more accidents. But what risks can we prevent when our life depends on code we can neither access nor read?

Monica: “My computer stopped working and then someone told me that the motherboard had just died. So I tried to recover it. Then I heard that if you change power voltage when you travel to another country that has 120V while yours has 220V, sometimes the computer dies for a bit but then recovers. I spent some time trying to fix it that way, by charging it and then un-charging it while pressing hundreds of combinations, but it didn’t work. I don’t really know if it’s true that computers have this charger power confusion. They simply stop working. I know someone who had the same problem and it worked out for him. But mine didn’t come back to life.”

Compared to the Monkey Sandwich era, humor is lacking here (sorry, Freud). Malfunctioning tech is annoying, not funny. Most of us get angry at the gadgets, which can make others laugh... Folk stories from past decades, that often circled around the danger of sex, have been replaced by warnings for the hidden, dark side of virtual exchanges. What’s moving about contemporary stories is the clumsy, do-it-yourself approach. YouTube instructional videos are hegemonic. Amidst so much dysfunctionality,

planned obsolescence, and lack of self-evidence, the 'right to repair' is widely felt, but what's to be done when this or that app or device actually refuses to work?

The common element with the mythological stories from fifty years ago is the prominence of fear and paranoia. In her introduction, Ethel Portnoy emphasizes the presence of a half-way processed or rather a wrong understanding of science. Kali is dead and no religion will help us out. This is also the common belief of Christian atheists. Nietzsche's insights are taken for granted by the online multitudes. What we have to deal with are tiny, invisible forces, coded Trojan horses, that take aim at us. The Lord may judge his people (Hebrews 10:30), but who will deal with software compliance?

There's a lot of local truth inside that phone—our ultimate mythological device. A friend called Sofia inspired Dasha Ilna to start ADVICE WELL TAKEN. Over the past decade, Sofia told Dasha many 'urban legends' that seemed incredible. One day, Dasha invited her over to her Paris apartment and recorded the conversation. This first one also turned out to be the longest recording. There are six clips with Sofia, each consisting of one story. The very first clip dealt with the myth of covering your web camera on your laptop so that nobody can hack it and watch you through it. Sofia was adamant: "Cover up your camera or the perverts will get you!" Sofia has been covering up her camera ever since she was in high school, even without knowing how getting hacked, technically speaking, could be done. "I'm not taking any chances that somebody is going to see me, you know, dancing naked in my apartment." Sofia also referred to elements in television and film where the camera is activated remotely and the main character is being blackmailed with compromising content. Sofia: "I was also told that if you do cover your web camera and then you close your laptop with a little bit too much force, it'll shatter your laptop screen."

If the function of myth was once to naturalize concepts, what's being promoted in the collected cases presented here? We often find people and their tech stories moving. We feel for them. Users are neither stupid nor ill-informed. We do not feel ignorant, but rather clumsy. Everything can and

will be explained in a how-to YouTube video... but that's not the point. Our busy lives are collapsing under the weight of complexity, and we have to make up stories about how we're somehow dealing with the dysfunctionality of the world. Thus techno-myths are condensed stories that travel through time and space, and bear witness to our dealings with the nasty interplay of promised perfection and real existing breakdown. Confronted with automated processes, layer over layer, we search for vital signs that the machines will reveal to us.

Sofia prefers to go to the real people online forum of the quasi-professional how-to sites over professional advice: "I really love using Quora or Yahoo Answers! I have obviously, like everybody, never contributed to the canonical texts of Quora and Yahoo Answers, but some user 9 years ago will have had the specific answer to the problem that you have. Often the first thing that comes up is an article written apparently addressing your problem or sort of promising to answer your problem, which may fall into like a series of problems related to the same thing, and then frequently I feel that I don't find the answer that I'm looking for and that the article is just full of, how would you call it - search bait terms? You know, things that make the article come up on Google more often because it hits certain keywords which is not super helpful, and then you scroll down and there's the Yahoo response being like 'Hey man ;-) I went through this problem very recently' and it'll give an in-depth explanation of exactly what happened and how to do it and then that's it. You know what I mean? There'll be one response, but it'll be the one. It feels a lot more human, I think, than the keyword-focused articles."

Sofia also came up with a pet conspiracy theory about Instagram filters. The reason why these apps ask you to open your mouth or eyes, turn your head, nod yes or no, is to gather this data to create large databases of how human faces move. "I felt for a long time, that Instagram filters are creepy and not something I feel comfortable with using, because they're a palatable way of advancing facial recognition technology. If you're trying to identify a criminal through a picture caught on a security camera, it's very difficult to do. But if you could have an interpretation of the way somebody's face moves and not just use a flat two-dimensional image, that movement is as unique as a fingerprint - the way somebody's eyes and mouth move when they speak,

recorded from different angles, like up and down, because often I think that can be very difficult - identifying somebody from their side profile or from an angle that isn't head on. And it feels like a cutesy, palatable way of making that happen from an enormous data set of people who use this technology. That's always made me a little bit uncomfortable." Then Dasha asked: "Do you use Instagram Filter nowadays?" Sofia answered: "Sometimes because then... fuck, I'm like a slave in the same way that everybody else is, like I really go out of my way not to like... I always, always hit 'reject all' when asked about cookies, but sometimes I am a slave to convenience."

In the absence of a Big Signifier, be it God or the Communist Party, 21st-century tech myths seem deeply secular, unspectacular, half-baked or, at best, mundane. No trace of eroticism or mysticism. Where are the miracles? The heroes? Is Barbie all there is? What we're left with is the hippie-manqué ideology of Bay area Big Tech. Badness in the absence of Evil. Unlike the 20th-century fights over the role of avant-garde movements about the Big Party, large-scale controversies that end fragile coalitions and cut up into friendships utterly fail. While family ties and friendships could break up over (social) media fabricated issues such as wokeness, abortion, climate change, COVID-19 vaccines, or lockdown measures, this is not the case with tech issues such as the wide use of extractivist platforms and AI. For George Bataille, 'the absence of myth' had become the myth of the modern age—and this is where we stand today. The night is also a sun. The world has lost its secrets, and thus its cohesion. L'Expérience interieure is an empty folder. All we're left with are small tech inconveniences—that drive us nuts.

Let's switch to Patrick. He told Dasha: "Nowadays, there are energy coaches because of the soaring energy prices. Someone comes by and listens to your story, inspects your house and the insulation, and then gives advice about energy use. They have free aluminium foil to put behind radiators, etc. I told them I had a new Wi-Fi router installed in December last year and it's working all through the house. I was talking to the person who installed it that I would love to switch it off at night because it's warm and it has a little light, so it uses energy, and I said it to the energy coach and she said, "Yeah, well, it uses very little energy, but it gives off this radiation." So she also switches off the Wi-Fi at night, not because of the energy, but because of

the radiation. And I was thinking, "What? What radiation?" We're surrounded by radiation, every radio picks up radiation, that's why it's called a radio. And in the background, there was what we call 'broodje aap', pseudo-scientific stories of someone who posted on the internet about a plant they put in front of the Wi-Fi station and it died after two weeks. And then they put the plant somewhere else and it didn't die... But that's not scientific, that's just bullshit."

While great stories such as the Greek myths may lead us through the journey of life, giving meaning to becoming and loss, the absence of myth may not even be the greatest tragedy. What's lacking is the ability to collectively express the shock. Faced with the absence of all ideas and poetic revolt, the world shrinks to the coldest, purest proportions. What happens when automatic writing turns out long strings of emojis? Can we still call in psychoanalysis for help? Does a universe without myth turn that universe into a ruin, as Bataille stated in 1947?

Next is a conversation Dasha had with her parents:

"Milena: We don't really believe in conspiracy theories about phones spying on us, but of course, I think there's some truth to it.

Sergei: There is some truth in this, maybe someone is not following, but...

Milena: Listening.

Sergei: Yes, not listening, but anyway...

Milena: Well, artificial intelligence is probably there.

Sergei: ...objectively there is some kind of database, well the accumulation of some kind of database, right? About users and customers. Nobody really hides that. It's the new oil, right? So nobody argues about it anymore and you probably can't even call it tech-techno, you can't call it techlore, it's already an established fact.

Dasha: Even if something is a fact, I still call it techlore.

Sergei: Okay, yes, okay. It's, it's a fact."

Can only what's dead be fully understood? Apparently not. The Zizekian Law of False Consciousness has migrated to the next level: a second-

order Zizekian ideology in which all subjects have fully understood Zizek's teachings. They fully admit that they're living within the algorithmic confinement of the Big Tech cave, and have deconstructed its workings—yet still obey and are even eager to confess this as a 'fact' of life. We live inside the tech ideology, and Zizek is precisely Europe's most popular philosopher because he helps the YouTube generation reconcile with this 'fact', admitting the sins of capitalist sublime seduction, while calling it by its name. This is everyday dialectics by the online billions, a deep dialectic culture on a scale that Hegel and Marx could never have anticipated.

Milena: When I go to bed, I make sure I put my phone in the other room. I don't know why, but I put it there. I have the idea that it gives off some kind of radiation so that it doesn't interfere with my sleep.

Sergei: And Milena also turns off the Wi-Fi at night.

Milena: I also don't know why, maybe because it also gives off some kind of radiation. From the modem.

Sergei: Yes, yes, that's the reason why.

Milena: I also rarely put the phone close to my ear. Even if I'm talking somewhere and I can't put it on speakerphone, I'll keep it at a distance, because someone once told me that if I put it right up to my ear, I will get problems with my brain.

Sergei: I do the same thing voluntarily or involuntarily, because we live together, right? All habits are replicated quickly, they spread fast, it's the same here, willingly or unwillingly. We don't have a TV at home and we don't have a microwave, so we're really immersed.

Milena: We don't even have an induction stove, which is supposed to be really fast, because there might be some kind of radiation from it. We don't know what kind.

Sergei: Not to say that because we don't use these things we suffer. Anyway, we're sufficiently modern and live in a modern society, but there are certain things. Yes, there are such moments.

Milena: Well, probably because our life doesn't really depend on these things. Why would you need a TV when you have a computer?

Sergei: Right.

Dasha: So, there's no radiation from the computer, but you can get it from a TV?

Milena: No, from a computer there cannot be radiation, because we use it.

Sergei: Yeah, and there's a 25th frame on the TV. Everyone knows this, it's a known fact, the 25th frame, turning people into zombies. This is all really well-known. A well-known fact."

In his 2023 essay *Krise der Narration*, German philosopher Byung-Chul Han blames modernity for the destruction of telling stories in favour of 'storyselling'. He maps out humankind's march from story to information. The inflationary emphasis of commerce on 'storytelling' merely hides the fact that stories have lost their magic. Their 'inner truth moment' has vanished, says Han. The destruction of distance has made it impossible to tell stories about unknown exotic outposts. The post-colonial gender attack on 'his' story does the rest. Social media timelines have replaced the 'narrated life'. Only the moment counts. The time of the digital regime is one without inner life. People can only speak in half sentences and phrases and are no longer able to tell coherent stories to each other. Users merely exchange condensed references to online info particles they read or heard 'somewhere'.

Dasha: Do you want to talk about the 5G conspiracies that you've heard and what people think?

Martha: Something about how it's bad for your health. Some people do not want to have their phones in their bedrooms because they fear it acts like a microwave and is going to affect your brain or your heart. Definitely that 5G can cause all sorts of things.

Dasha: Do you do that? Do you leave your phone in another room?

Martha: No, I sleep with it, I have it like under my pillow.

Dasha: Really?

Martha: Probably, I just really want to get it in my brain, don't I?"

While there's pleasure to be found in the consumption of German contemporary pessimism, we also need to move on and not dwell on some lost human capacities. Nonetheless, there's so much Han truth per page in there, neatly packaged, ideal for delayed train journeys, ready to be printed on t-shirts, caps and coffee mugs. We seem ready to advertise our spiritual defeat. Live or Post. "Die Intelligenz rechnet und zählt. Der Geist aber

erzählt.” (“Intelligence calculates and counts, yet the spirit narrates.”) A gay science perspective on all the too human character traits would, on the other hand, emphasize the lively speed of exchanging references to compressed fragments, a ping-pong chat that seeks irony, not depth. That’s our Kultur. We’ve gone from why to just because. The enchantment of the world is a closed chapter and, is something the postmodern multitudes simply cannot reverse. Stories may create social cohesion, but we’re too weak to get rid of our phones. Instead, we play summary games, exercising the art of rapping narrative debris, packed with today’s news items, memes, popular sayings and one-liners from lyrics or a Netflix series, interrupting the other with even more half-baked myths and third-hand information someone heard on the socials.

Let’s also end with Roos and her Instagram advertising story. “A lot of people that use Instagram have the feeling they’re being watched, as personalized advertising gets very specific at times. A lot of people think they are being listened to through their phone’s microphone. The myth is very strong, but Meta, Instagram’s owner, denies it vehemently. There’s also that little dot showing up on your screen whenever your microphone or camera is being used. They reassure you that your microphone is not used, yet the feeling doesn’t go away. The thing became so big that the biggest Dutch news media platform NOS did an entire research and bought a completely new phone, putting it next to a speaker that was saying words like baby products, diapers, and baby bottles to see if the Instagram profile would gear towards baby products, but in end it didn’t work. Yet the feeling is still there. So I turned everything off on my phone, do not track, etc. Then this week I was sitting on the train and at the next stop a guy came in. He was wearing crazy shoes I have never seen them before where the toes are separated in the shoe. And I was looking at the shoes like ‘wow, that’s a choice, that’s interesting!’ I was mesmerized, but I only thought of the shoes. I didn’t talk about the shoes with anyone, I didn’t look them up on the internet. The next day Instagram showed me an advertisement with these exact same shoes. That freaked me out.”

01

Phone signal

KEYWORDS:

MYTH

PHONE

SIGNAL

Sofia



This one I've not seen people do in a very long time. But I remember when I was in high school, in the girls' locker room, if you couldn't get service, they would be like, "*Oh, you have to hold your phone like, hold the bottom end up*". And that was the idea. I don't know, the signal sensor was, I guess, in the bottom of the phone, or I guess that was the idea behind it? To get it closer, literally two inches closer to wherever the source of the signal was. Now, I still kind of instinctively do it if I can't get a signal. Or the stupid little things we do, like shaking your phone if it isn't working, you know, why? I don't know... Or turning it off and turning it back on again and that's horrible because that one actually works like all the time. I think everyone's done that before.

01

HOLDING IPHONE UPSIDE DOWN
= BETTER RECEPTION

www.Forums.whirlpool.net.au/archive/1248850



Covering the webcam

KEYWORDS:

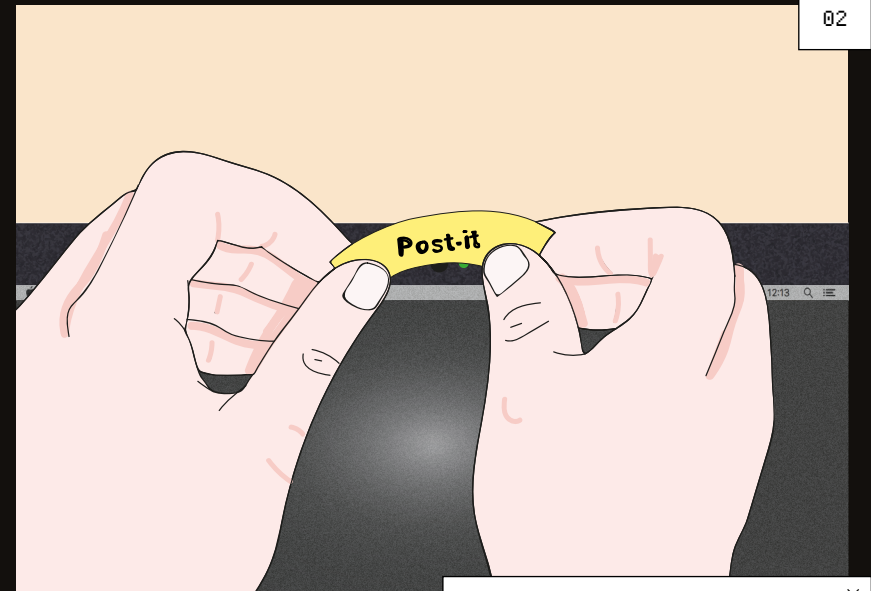
GETTING HACKED | PRIVACY | WEBCAM

MYTH | SURVEILLANCE

Sofia



The first techlore that would come to mind would be the idea of covering your computer camera screen so that people can't watch you through your camera. Yeah, that would be the first thing that I think of when I think of sort of tech mythology, it's like a boogeyman story almost, you know what I mean? *"Oh, cover up your camera or the perverts will get you!"* And I don't remember the first time I heard that, I've been covering my computer camera since I was in high school, which is at least 10 years ago now, and I've been doing that for as long as I can remember, always with like a little piece of tape or sort of anything that I could find.



PSA: DON'T CLOSE YOUR MACBOOK WITH A WEBCAM COVER ON

www.popularmechanics.com/technology/security/a33299465/apple-macbook-webcam-cover/

Sofia



Oh yeah, I've heard people say that too, pushing back against the covering of your web camera to say that if you do cover your web camera and then you close your computer or your laptop with a little bit too much force, it'll shatter your laptop screen, which is also nothing I've faced, I can't really imagine how a piece of paper tape would cause that kind of problem, but who knows?

Blowing into ports

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS | ADVICE | PHONE | MEDIA ARCHAEOLOGY

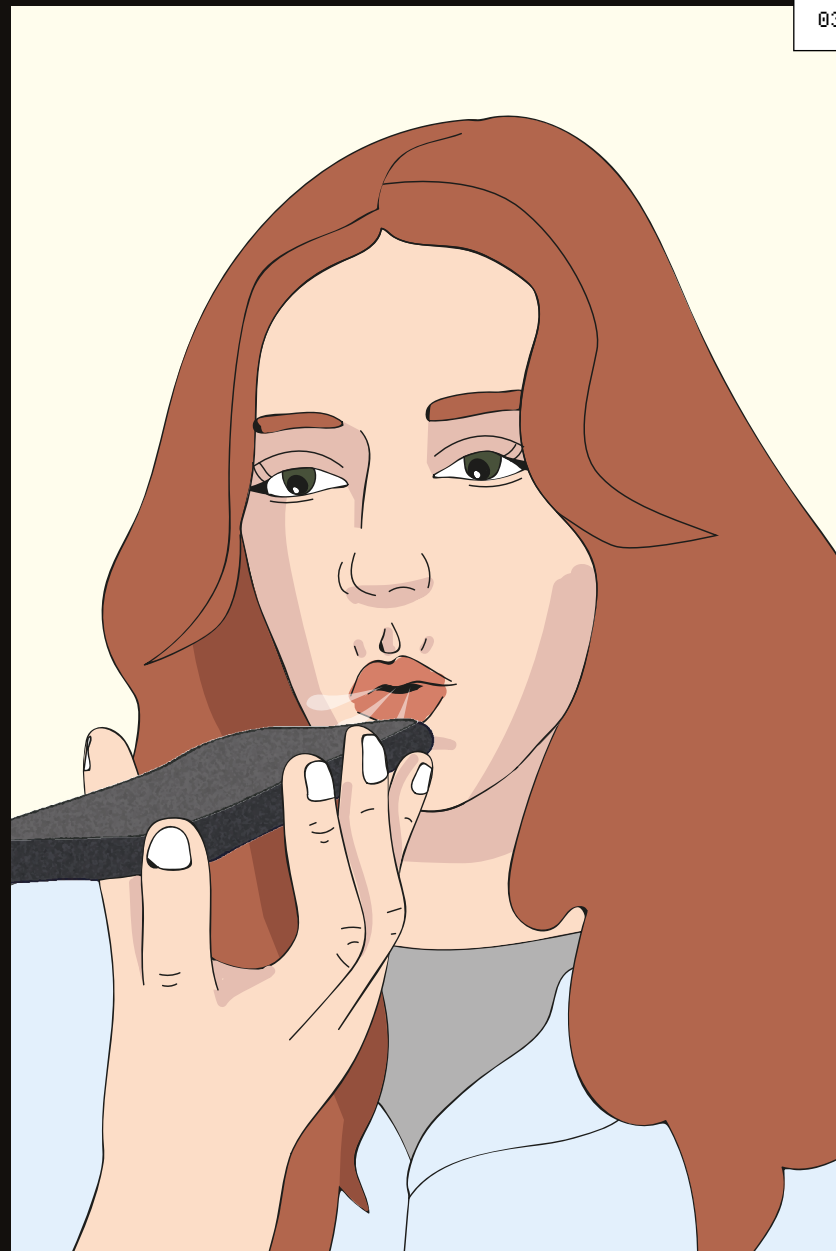
Sofia



I have heard about blowing into the charger port or back when there used to be a headphone jack, I can't believe that's like a *"back when there used to be a headphone jack"*, doing that same thing, but that's old fashioned, I think, that's old school, because didn't they used to do that for your floppy disk? You know, if it doesn't go in, you blow on it? Or if it doesn't work, you blow on it and then try again. So I think that's one that's been around for a long time. It's one that has evolved with the times, you know, which is funny, it's outlived the floppy disk, it's outlived the headphone jack port, who knows what will be the next step in the evolution of that piece of advice.

IS YOUR HEADPHONE JACK NOT WORKING? ×
TRY THESE FIXES

www.androidauthority.com/headphone-jack-not-working-783743/



04

How to listen to music in the shower

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS

PRIVACY

GETTING HACKED

PHONE



04

PUTTING A SMART PHONE IN A ZIPLOC BAG MAKES IT SHOWER/BATH-SAFE

www.reddit.com/r/LifeProTips/comments/171lau/putting_a_smart_phone_in_a_ziploc_bag_makes_it/?rdt=37621

Sofia



I don't know if putting a phone in a ziplock bag so you can listen to it in the shower is *techlore* or just *Sofia-lore*, but it's something I've done for years because my mother would always yell at me that if I got water damage on my phone from listening to it in the shower, she would not pay for it and I was like you know what, I'll be damned if I can't listen to my music in the shower. So that's what I would do, I would go down to the kitchen and get a zip lock bag and put my phone in it. But then equally I'd get scared that somebody could hack into my phone camera and watch me in the shower, so I would lean my phone against a shampoo bottle and place it in the corner so that nobody could see through my camera during my music listening times. It was a very elaborate process to just get a little bit of music in the shower, and now I just have a bluetooth speaker that works in the shower, so the process has been much more streamlined now.

05

VPN blocking the Wi-Fi

KEYWORDS:

DARK POWERS

MYSTERY

DIY HACKS

WI-FI



Sofia



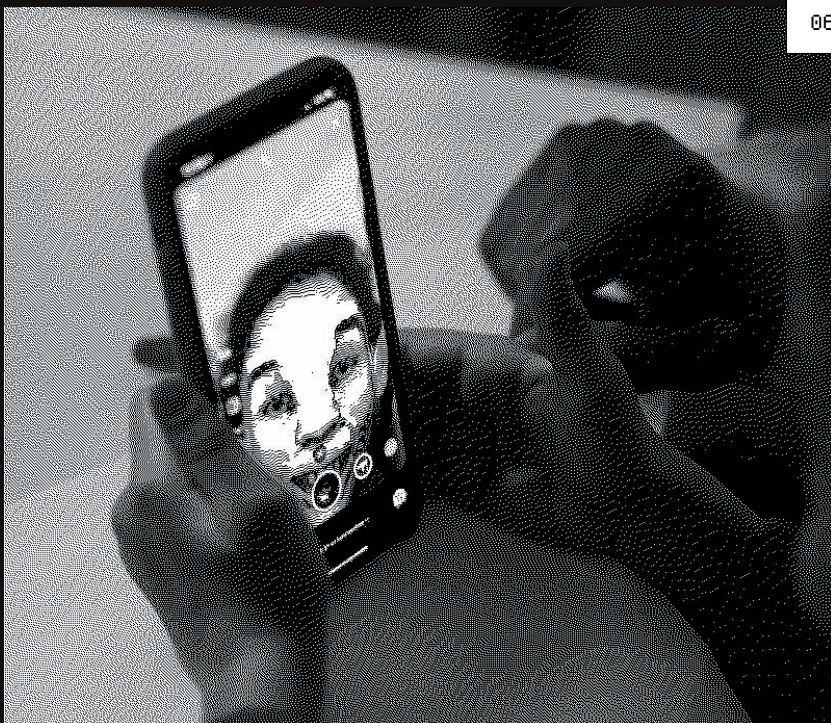
Sometimes when I open my computer after not using it for a little bit, my internet won't load, you know, I can refresh Safari or Google Chrome or something like that and there'll just be no, you know: *"This webpage cannot be loaded"*. And it would drive me crazy because I would check my WiFi connection over and over again and it was fine and my WiFi connection would work perfectly fine on my phone and so I just started force-quitting out of everything on my computer and then I would try it again and finally my internet would work again and I had to sort of go through one-by-one to see what was causing the problem and weirdly it's a VPN that I don't use anymore that I do not have the account information for, that I have never paid for in my life and I haven't used in over a year, I just haven't de-installed it from my computer, but for some reason, I guess, it like reactivates sometimes and I have to force quit, remove it from the dock, and then my internet will work again.

06

Filter face tracking

KEYWORDS:

CONSPIRACY FACIAL RECOGNITION INSTAGRAM



06

Sofia



I think that Instagram filters are a very cute and fun way to acquire a larger data set of human faces in motion, which I think is a real problem as we start looking at the evolution of facial recognition stuff, which is that, you know, identifying somebody from straight on is something that humans and computers find pretty easy to do. But, that becomes doubly or triply difficult when a face is moving and changing, you can change your expressions, you can move up and down and so it can be really, really difficult for a face to be understood in all of its complexities and the way that it moves and shifts and expresses itself and I think that a great way to evolve that technology is getting an enormous amount of people to use filters that are meant to be used with your face moving. Yeah, it kind of freaks me out and I've seen Minority Report, he has to stab his eyes out and get replacement eyes because the eye recognition system gets so good and I just don't want to do that at any point in my life.

INSTAGRAM FILTERS DISABLED IN TEXAS DURING FACIAL-RECOGNITION LAWSUIT

[www.reddit.com/r/LifeProTips/
comments/17118u/putting_a_smart_phone
in_a_ziploc_bag_makes_it/?rdt=37621](http://www.reddit.com/r/LifeProTips/comments/17118u/putting_a_smart_phone_in_a_ziploc_bag_makes_it/?rdt=37621)

07

Dark powers

KEYWORDS:

DARK POWERS MYSTERY GETTING HACKED
PHONE FORUMS WI-FI



07

Cenk



This relationship that I have with my phone is somehow altering, maybe it's getting old, maybe it's taking its own autonomy, yeah? And maybe it's being controlled by dark powers, which I think it is the case, but so what started happening is that now if I would be at the office, at the studio, all of a sudden this phone decides to shut down. And first I thought it was a battery issue or some kind of, I don't know, software update or whatever, it didn't turn on for a day, then I started checking the forums and it said in the Apple documentation to do some gesture tricks so that you can force a restart and I did that and it switched on.

And then, I came back to the office the next day, again my phone switches off. And I don't know why again, because it's so weird, that it just switched off again at the office, and after a week, it happened like every time I entered the office, it just switches off.

WHY IS MY IPHONE "FREAKING OUT", OR ACTING POSSESSED? IT CLICKS THINGS BY ITSELF, TEXTS PEOPLE, AND MORE. ALL BY ITSELF. WHY?

www.quora.com/Why-is-my-iPhone-Freaking-out-or-acting-possessed-It-clicks-things-by-itself-texts-people-and-more-All-by-itself-Why

08

Phones read minds

KEYWORDS:

CONSPIRACY | BRAIN WAVES | ADVERTISEMENT | MAGIC

Cenk



I think it's a common sense now that we get these personalized ads immediately. What is mostly weird is that like before you talk about the thing that you are interested in, at a table, in a conversation, normally this is the case, right? That you say something, you talk about your cat and then you immediately get the cat ads. But sometimes, and this is only sometimes, you think about something and that shows up there. So I think, and this is very instinctual thinking, like it's very personal, I cannot talk about anyone else, but I think that it captures some kind of like thoughts, not necessarily verbal, like speech and so on, it can capture some kind of thoughts, so there's kind of like this link.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

You think the phones capture brain waves, basically.

AWT

Cenk



Yeah.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Okay.

AWT

Cenk



I think so.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Okay!

AWT

Cenk



I mean it.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

No, I believe you.

AWT

DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOUR
PHONE READS YOUR MIND?

[www.quora.com/Do-you-
feel-like-your-phone-
reads-your-mind](https://www.quora.com/Do-you-feel-like-your-phone-reads-your-mind)

Licking battery

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS

PHONE

BATTERY

MYTH

Monica



Well, I remember back in the day when you could open the phones and you could extract the lithium battery, I remember seeing a friend once that he was licking the battery and I'm like, *"What are you doing that for?"* And he thought it would make the battery last longer, which made complete sense to me back in the day. I don't recall, but I wouldn't be 100% sure that I didn't try that, so maybe I did try it and I just don't remember, but yeah. But now you cannot open your phone, so you cannot do it.

ELI5 WHY DOES LICKING "DEAD" BATTERIES MAKE THEM WORK AGAIN? ×

www.reddit.com/r/explainlikeimfive/comments/xkuv8t/eli5_why_does_licking_dead_batteries_make_them/

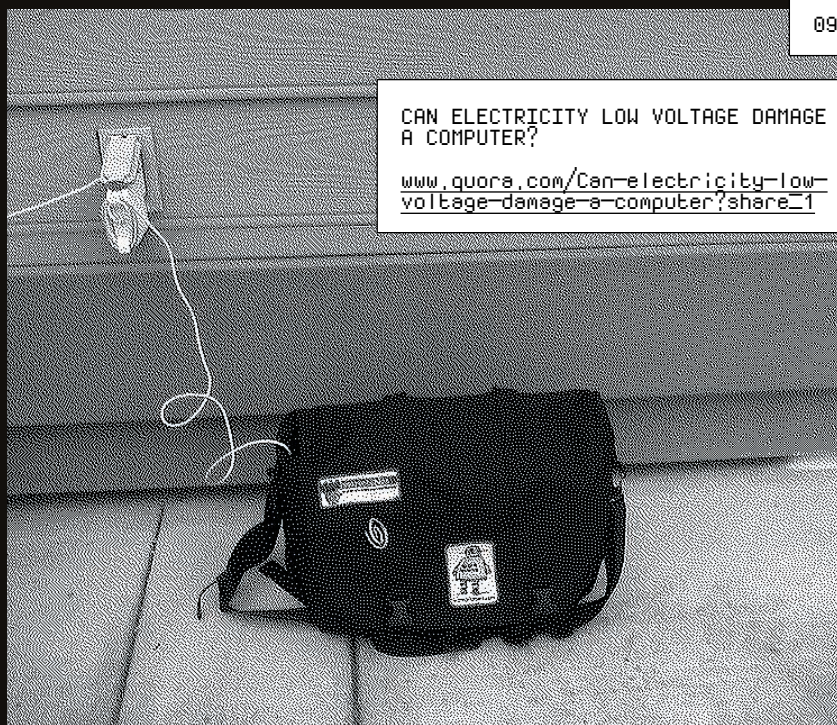


10

Power confusion

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS COMPUTER BATTERY CHARGER



09

CAN ELECTRICITY LOW VOLTAGE DAMAGE
A COMPUTER?

www.quora.com/Can-electricity-low-voltage-damage-a-computer?share_1

Monica



My computer stopped working, and I remember someone telling me that it was a matter of... Well, actually the motherboard just died, but I was trying to recover it and have it again. So someone told me that if you change the power... So sometimes when you change the power, so I mean you go to another country that has 120V and you have 220V, sometimes the computer dies for a bit and then they recover, so I spent some time trying to fix it that way, by charging it and then un-charging it and pressing all these 100 combinations, I have a Mac computer, so a lot of combinations and it didn't work out... But I know someone that it worked out for, so I don't really know if that's true that computers have this charger power confusion so they stop working. But I know someone that it worked for him, so I tried but mine didn't come back, no.

PC DIED OVERNIGHT; NO POWER IN THE MOTHERBOARD.

www.Forums.tomshardware.com/threads/pc-died-overnight-no-power-in-the-motherboard.3665945/

HOW TO REVIVE A DEAD LAPTOP BATTERY

www.wikihow.com/Revive-a-Dead-Laptop-Battery

11

Electromagnetic waves

KEYWORDS:

WAVES PHONE SLEEP MYTH WI-FI RADIATION

Milena



When I go to bed, I make sure I put my phone in the other room. I don't know why, but I put it there. I have this idea that it gives off some kind of radiation so that it doesn't interfere with my sleep.

Sergei



And Milena also turns off the WiFi at night.

Milena



Yes, the WiFi. I don't know why either, maybe because it can also give off some kind of radiation.

Sergei



Yes, but,

Milena



From the modem.

Sergei



Yeah, yeah, yeah, that's why.

Milena



I also very rarely hold the phone to my ear like this. Even if I'm talking somewhere and I can't put it on speakerphone, I keep it at a distance, because someone once told me that if I put it right up to my ear, I would have problems with my brain over time.

Sergei



So of course I do all the same things voluntarily or involuntarily because we live together, right? And all habits are replicated very quickly, they spread, so it's the same here, willingly or unwillingly.

12

Wireless headphones

KEYWORDS:

WAVES PHONE HEADPHONES MYTH RADIATION

Milena



I also remembered that I also have these headphones and I'm really worried that they will eventually stop making these.

Sergei



Wired headphones. Milena doesn't trust the wireless ones.

Milena



I never use the wireless ones, because there's also some radiation from them, and then you get headaches over time if you have wireless headphones on all the time, because they're like receivers, aren't they?



10

FACT CHECK-NO ESTABLISHED EVIDENCE THAT APPLE AIRPODS HARM YOUR HEALTH

www.reuters.com/article/factcheck-health-airpods-idUSL2N20D040

Sergei



Our heads still hurt, but probably...

Milena



From something else.

Sergei



...for a different reason, yes.

13

New oil

KEYWORDS:

CONSPIRACY PHONE SURVEILLANCE
AI DATA CAPTURE TRUTH

Milena



We don't really believe in conspiracy theories about phones spying on us, but of course I think there's some truth to it.

Sergei



There is some truth to it. Maybe somebody isn't listening, but anyway...

Milena



Well, artificial intelligence is probably there.

Sergei



...objectively there is some kind of database, well the accumulation of some kind of database, right? About users and customers. Nobody really hides that. It's the new oil, right? So nobody argues about it anymore and you probably can't even call it tech-techno, you can't call it *techlore*, it's already an established fact.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Even if something is a fact, I still call it *techlore*.

AWT

Sergei



Okay, okay, yeah, okay. It's, it's a fact.

THE WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE IS NO LONGER OIL, BUT DATA

www.economist.com/leaders/2017/05/06/the-worlds-most-valuable-resource-is-no-longer-oil-but-data

14

5G, microwaves, TVs

KEYWORDS:

MYTH CONSPIRACY 5G WAVES CONVENIENCE RADIATION

Milena



I haven't decided yet how 5G affects us, so I don't know how — on the one hand of course there's this wave and it's all very harmful, on the other hand it's fast and very convenient — and we all really want progress, and in reality nobody really wants to go back to those times and live in dugouts and pick up roots, so we will probably have to put up with it all somehow and go forward with progress.

MY NEIGHBOR IS PREGNANT. SHE BELIEVES WI-FI HAS SOME KIND OF RADIATION AND WILL HARM THE CHILD. SO SHE ASKED ME TO TURN OFF MY WI-FI. HOW SHOULD I RESPOND TO HER?

www.quora.com/My-neighbor-is-pregnant-She-believes-Wi-Fi-has-some-kind-of-radiation-and-will-harm-the-child-So-she-asked-me-to-turn-off-my-Wi-Fi-How-should-I-respond-to-her

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

AWT

Do you remember when you first heard that your cell phone was bad for your brain or the microwave...

Milena



Yes, we don't use a microwave, we never had a microwave in our lives.

Sergei



We don't have a TV at home and we don't have a microwave, so we're really immersed...

Milena



We don't even have an induction stove, right, which is supposed to be really fast, because there might be, might be some kind of radiation from it. We don't know what kind...

Sergei



Not to say that we're suffering because we don't use these things, I think we're modern enough anyway, and we live in a modern society, but there are such, yes, there are such moments.

15

iTunes disappeared

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS ITUNES PHONE MYSTERY

Milena



Recently my iTunes disappeared from my iPhone, the iTunes disappeared.

Sergei



Vanished.

Milena



And I read, I googled, I performed a bunch of actions — nothing helped, so I wasted a week, I guess. Then we went to an IT guy that we know, and he was also messing around with this phone. He even took everything to a backup to erase my phone completely, but again we changed the card.

Sergei



The SIM card?

Milena



No, the bank card. And it turns out that the problem was in the sanctions, because the bank...

Sergei



The card that was attached to it was Russian.

Milena



Yeah, we tried, yeah, to change the Russian one to the Serbian one and at some point it was almost like a glitch and when we tried to change it back to the Serbian one, it all worked! Yeah, it worked again — I got iTunes back.

ITUNES APP MISSING FROM IPHONE
www.discussions.apple.com/thread/2167270

Facebook reads messages

KEYWORDS:

FACEBOOK

MYTH

SURVEILLANCE

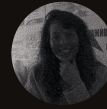
DATA CAPTURE

TRUTH



11

Gema



Also, when I checked how the algorithms were created and also that the private messages of Facebook, it's everything except private, and I read that they were doing some kind of research with the messages that you start and you don't finish. I thought it was an urban thing, by the way, an urban legend, but then I checked it and there really is a research about it, so I started doing things. I started: *"Hey! Don't use my information"*. And I delete it. So someone can use this, so I try to think, *"Okay, if someone is reading this kind of things, how I could communicate directly with that person"*. So I started looking at some of the tricks that the Internet has to try to at least... I don't think that the other person realizes, *"Hey, this is a person, it's not a number"*, but at least doing some kind of a funny thing.

YES, FACEBOOK IS READING THE MESSAGES
YOU SEND THROUGH MESSENGER

[www.digitaltrends.com/social-media/
Facebook-reads-messenger-messages/](http://www.digitaltrends.com/social-media/facebook-reads-messenger-messages/)

17

Cut off finger

KEYWORDS:

BIOMETRIC DATA FINGERPRINT ID GETTING HACKED

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you ever use FacelD or Fingerprint ID?

AWT

Gema

Never, never. I just think that fingerprints can only be for corruption. Imagine that you have your fingerprint and you are a super super billionaire, someone can just cut your finger...

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

To hack your bank account.

AWT

Gema

Exactly, well this is also already in a lot of sci-fi movies.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Yeah exactly, I was thinking, *"I feel like I've seen this in a movie somewhere"*. Or like taking someone's eye out to scan it.

AWT

Gema

Totally. I don't think... Really, really, I hope also we don't go there.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Yeah, me too.

AWT

CAN A SEVERED FINGER UNLOCK A PHONE?
ANSWERS TO YOUR SECURITY QUESTIONS.

www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2023/01/17/easy-digital-security-tips/

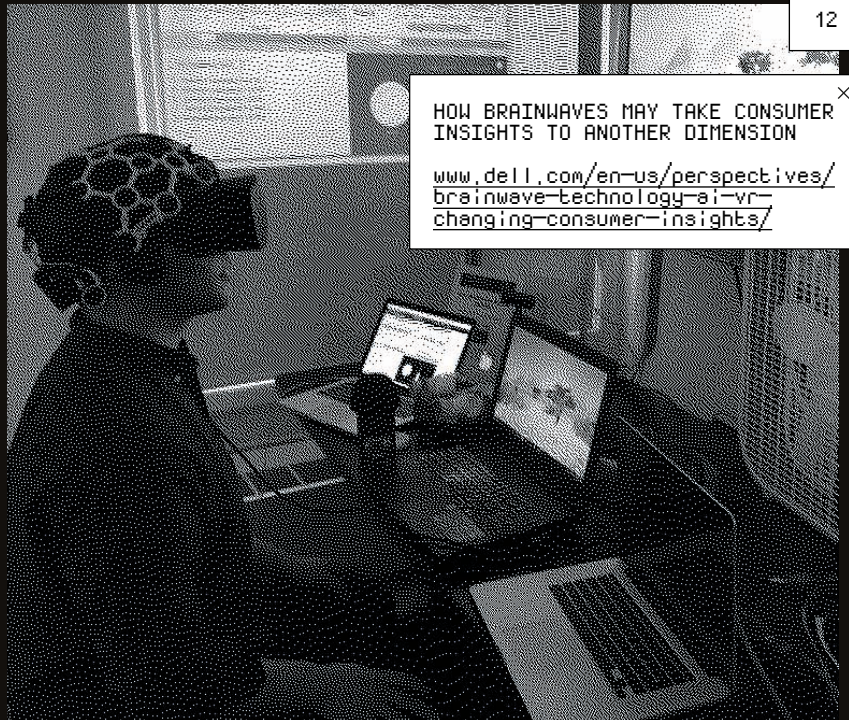
IF KIDNAPPERS CHOP OFF ONE OF YOUR FINGERS, HERE'S WHICH FINGER YOU SHOULD SACRIFICE

www.businessinsider.com/if-kidnappers-chop-off-one-of-your-fingers-heres-which-finger-you-should-sacrifice-2013-9?international=true&r_US&IR=T

VR brain waves

KEYWORDS:

BIOMETRIC DATA | BRAIN WAVES | DATA CAPTURE | VR



12

Gema



I really thought that the aim of the Metaverse from a capitalistic point of view was to collect the data with the glasses. Because there are already some devices that we can read really few, it's the same with the tracking thing, some kind of alpha/gamma some waves, brain waves. I study a little bit the wave, so I was studying in my personal research attention and brain waves, so I'm doing a study on how different it is like, for example, when you're reading something that you like and when you're reading something that you don't like. I studied that with a student. And we realized it was different, so I was like, *"Oh! This could be, from a Silicon Valley point of view, this is a business!"* Because if they can check something that you are giving attention to because you like it — they could send more things about that. And how they can sell things that you don't really like. The thing is, I think that everything is now based on what we do to track, to sell something. It's so easy to put just a little thing to measure the waves.

MIND CONTROL COMES TO VR, LETTING ME EXPLODE ALIEN HEADS WITH A THOUGHT

www.cnet.com/tech/computing/controlling-vr-with-my-mind-nextminds-dev-kit-shows-me-a-strange-new-world/

WiFi Electricity VS Radiation

KEYWORDS:

WI-FI WAVES MYTH ENERGY RADIATION



13

Patrick 1



In Utrecht we have an energy coach because of the soaring energy prices and someone comes by and looks at your house and the insulation and energy use and they give tips. And we were talking about how I had a new Wi-Fi installed and I was talking to the person who installed it that I would love to switch it off at night because it's warm and it has a little light so it uses energy. And I said it to the energy coach and she said, *"Yeah, well, it uses very little energy, but it gives off this radiation"*. And she also switches off the Wi-Fi at night, but not because of the energy, but because of the radiation. And I was thinking, *"What radiation?"* We're surrounded by radiation, every radio picks up radiation, that's why it's called a radio. And in the background there was this, in the Netherlands we call it *"broodje aap"*, pseudo-scientific stories of someone who had put a plant in front of the Wi-Fi station and it died after two weeks, and they put a plant somewhere else and it didn't die. But that's not scientific, that's just bullshit.

WI-FI DANGEROUS? PLANTS NEAR ROUTERS ARE DYING X

www.pocket-lint.com/smart-home/news/125892-wi-fi-dangerous-plants-near-routers-are-dying/

Bread crumb below the touch screen

KEYWORDS:

MYSTERY IPAD REPAIR DIY HACKS

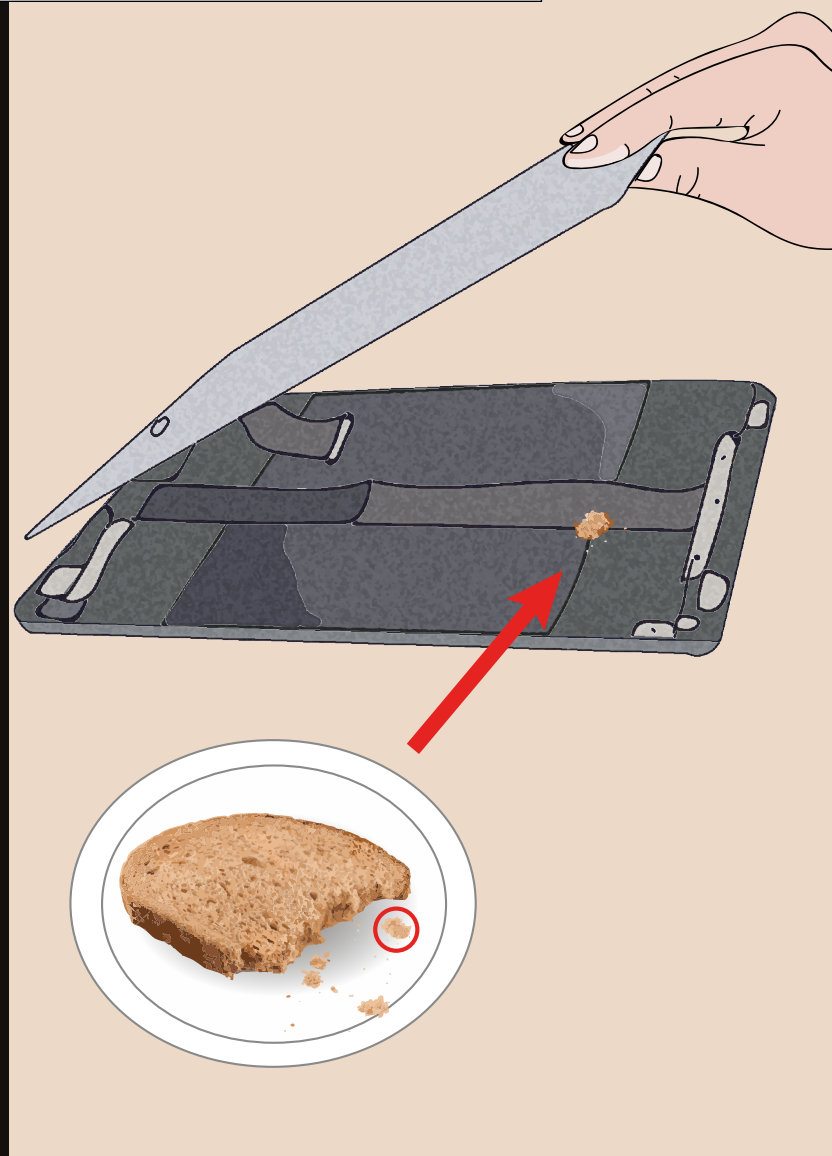
Patrick 1



We had a, a few years back, we had a very old iPad and at one point the home button was damaged and I had it replaced, but to do that the technician had to replace the whole front of the iPad and I think it almost cost me as much as a new iPad, but I'm not like that, I want to repair things. And he did it very carefully and there's no critique anywhere, but after a while the iPad just started doing things by itself. It started pushing buttons and, you know, clicking apps, and I was really, *"What's going on?"* You know the *"bzz, bzz, bzz"* and it was really annoying and we just couldn't use it anymore. And then I took the time to take a very close look and I saw that there was a tiny little bread crumb under the touch screen. It somehow, I think that was the reason, it somehow interfered with the touch screen.

IPAD DOING RANDOM THINGS ON ITS OWN...
www.discussions.apple.com/thread/2678736

14

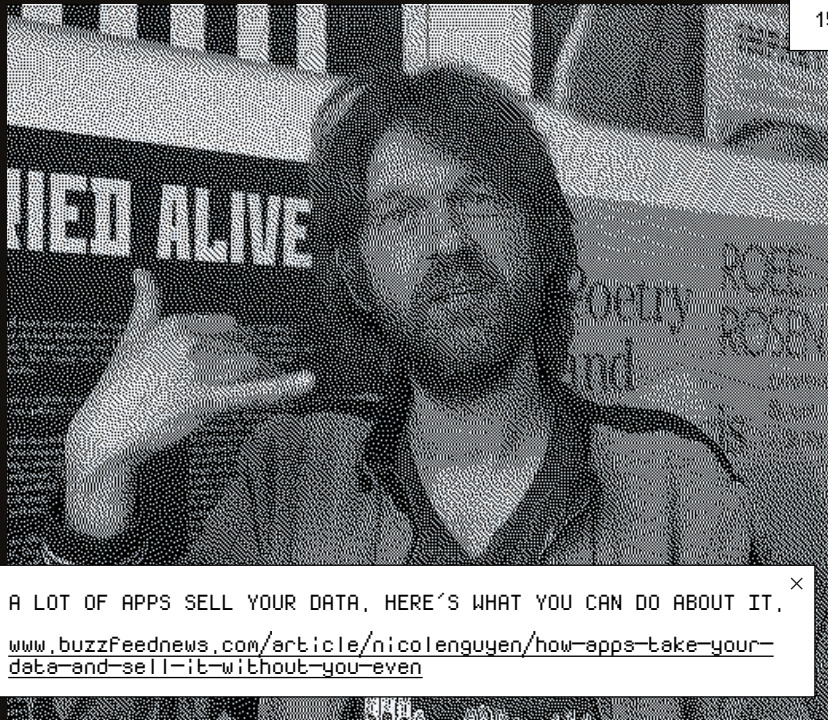


21

Nothing is free

KEYWORDS:

DATA CAPTURE TRACKING PRIVACY APPS



15

A LOT OF APPS SELL YOUR DATA, HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT.

www.buzzfeednews.com/article/nicolenguyen/how-apps-take-your-data-and-sell-it-without-you-even

Patrick 1



I really believe that there's no free app, there's no free, nothing is free. They use the information they get, and you have these apps where they can change an image into somebody, the same person but looking 50 years older, and they use that app, they use that information, I'm absolutely sure they use that information for something completely different that I didn't ask for and I didn't give permission for. And that's what I don't like about these things. I don't want to give away information. There were some people, there are some people that say, "Have nothing to hide, so why not?" But I, well I think I wouldn't show my passport to someone I don't know, I'm not giving off any information and these big companies, they had to spend millions on these, what is it called, you call up people with a call center, you call people and you ask them questions and you get answers and then you get a definition or you get information and now they don't have to do anything, they just get the information for free by making the app. I don't like it.

WHICH SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITES COLLECTS INFORMATION FROM USERS TO SELL THEM?

www.quora.com/Which-social-media-websites-collects-information-from-users-to-sell-them

22

If Boris Johnson likes 4G

KEYWORDS:

WAVES RADIATION 4G CONSPIRACY

16

CORONAVIRUS: 5G MAST SET ON FIRE AFTER 'BASELESS' CONSPIRACY THEORY LINK TO PANDEMIC

www.news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-5g-mast-set-on-fire-after-baseless-conspiracy-theory-link-to-pandemic-11968217



Patrick 1

On the one hand, there's very much interest in getting 3G and 4G and making the wireless connection faster and faster and faster, and on the other hand, there's this, well, maybe for people like me, but why make it faster? It's fast enough for me already. But also people in the Netherlands and in Germany that were setting fire to these masts where these antennas were on, I think "What?" I just don't know where to position myself in this, but I really don't believe the conspiracy theories about radiation, and I think too much radiation is bad, but I don't think it's happening from these masts, or I don't think it's really that influential. But on the other hand, when Boris Johnson is saying let's go for 4G, then I'm absolutely sure there's something definitely wrong there. That's big money trying to make even more money. And so I'm really against it.

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ON BORIS JOHNSON ALLOWING HUAWEI TO BUILD PART OF THE 5G NETWORK, DESPITE THE US WARNING IT WOULD COMPROMISE INTELLIGENCE SHARING, AND A MASSIVE TORY BACKBENCH REVOLT?

www.quora.com/Whats-your-opinion-on-Boris-Johnson-allowing-Huawei-to-build-part-of-the-5G-network-despite-the-US-warning-it-would-compromise-intelligence-sharing-and-a-massive-Tory-backbench-revolt

23

Blowing in cartridges

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS

REPAIR

MYTH

MEDIA ARCHAEOLOGY

GAMES

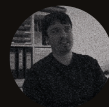
17

MYTH DEBUNKED: BLOWING IN YOUR NINTENDO GAMES NEVER ACTUALLY FIXED ANYTHING

www.geekwire.com/2014/blow-nintendo-games/



Jeroen



When I was younger we played a lot of, of course, old video games and I've always been kind of fascinated but how much lore existed around you know the folklore around like video games and video game related stuff / tech stuff before you had all the internet to figure out everything, you know? Before the YouTubes were there to prove the things that didn't work or were wrong, like there's always this very famous example of people trying to fix their non-working or badly working cartridges by blowing into them, which has been proven to be very, very damaging actually for cartridges.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

I didn't know that!

AWT

Jeroen



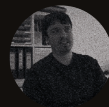
Yeah, it is, people did research into this. You actually damage your cartridge by blowing into it.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Is it the saliva? Or what damages it?

AWT

Jeroen



Yes, I think it's like, yeah, the stuff you... You're not supposed to blow into it, at least.

The Pokemon under the truck

KEYWORDS:

MYTH

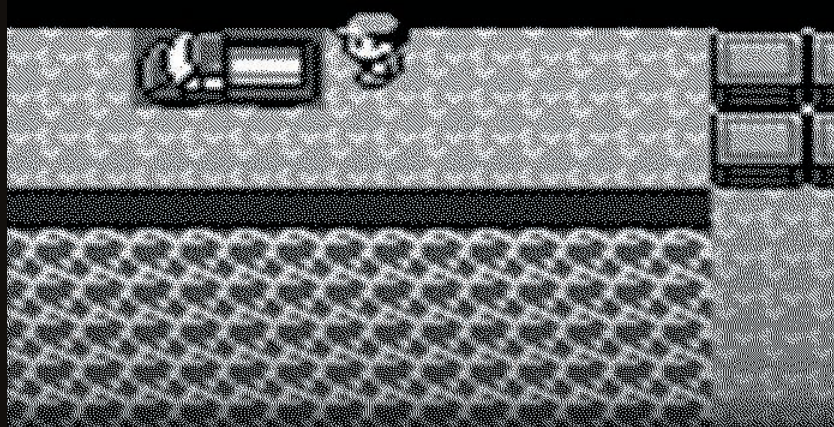
MEDIA ARCHAEOLOGY

GAMES

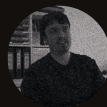
18

THAT TIME SOME PLAYERS THOUGHT MEW WAS UNDER A TRUCK IN POKÉMON

www.kotaku.com/that-time-some-players-thought-mew-was-under-a-truck-in-1792716938



Jeroen



But one thing that always fascinated me as well, is I used to play a lot of Pokemon when I was younger, and in the very first Pokemon game, the red one, there was this one final Pokemon, the most rare one that was kind of there was in the game, but nobody knew exactly how to get it. There were all these wild stories like, *"Oh, if you walk there and you do this for 20 minutes and then go there and do that and at exactly this time of day, then, you know, it will show up"*. And I think, one of the ones was like, *"If you do things in this specific order, then you stand near a truck, and then you do (truck in the game), and then you do a certain thing, then the truck will move, and the Pokemon is underneath that"*. And this very specific thing, I think, it turned out to be true — it was wild! The Internet has destroyed a lot of this, of course, because, well, now if there's a myth, you just look up, somebody somewhere has video footage of it.

MEW UNDER THE TRUCK

www.gaming-urban-legends.fandom.com/wiki/Mew_Under_the_Truck

25

Slap your computer

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS REPAIR MYTH COMPUTER

Jeroen



This is the classic one, you know? You give your computer a good smack and suddenly it starts working again, sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't. It's the classic thing, you know, you give a good slap to your computer, my old computer sometimes made a very loud noise and I would just kick the side of the computer to stop it making the noise. Did it fix anything? Probably not, but, you know.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

But did the noise stop?

AWT

Jeroen

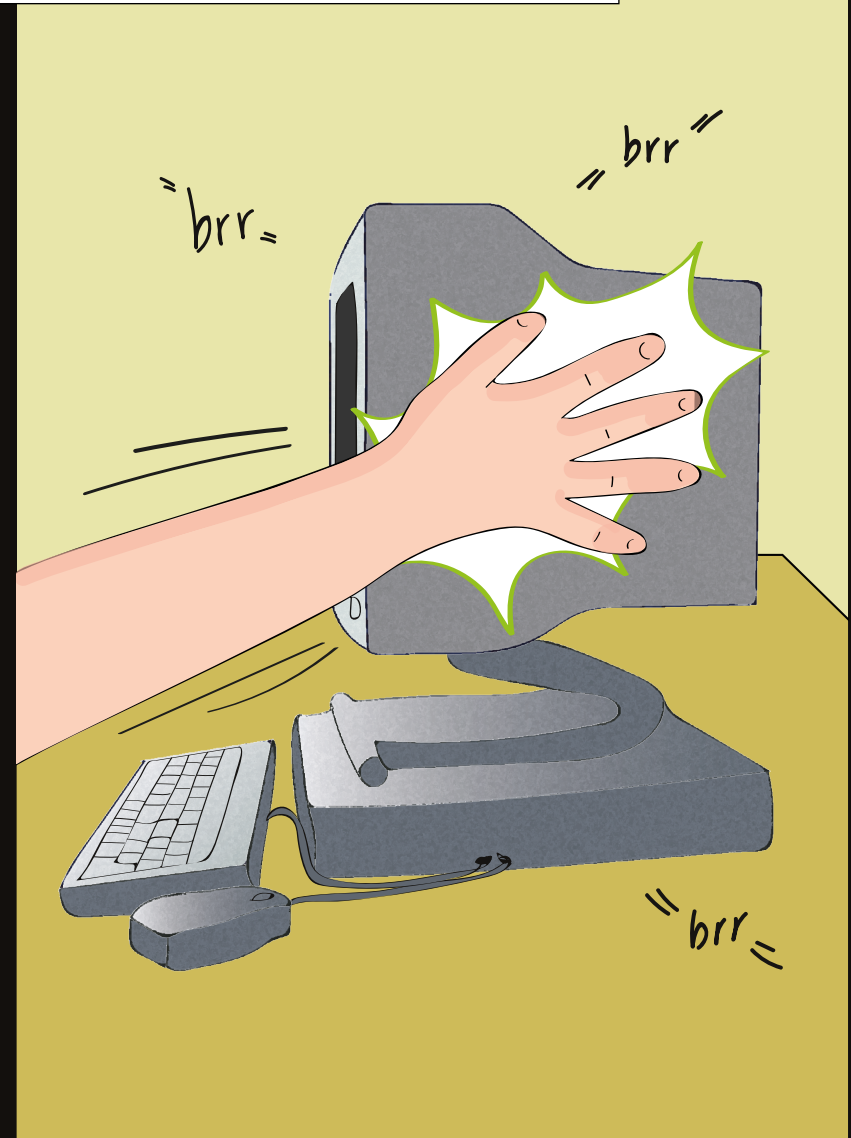


Yeah. Until it started again, then I kicked it again.

ALRIGHT, MY PC BUZZES BUT STOPS WHEN I HIT IT. X

www.forums.tomshardware.com/threads/alright-my-pc-buzzes-but-stops-when-i-hit-it,298380/

19



26

Real tech wizard

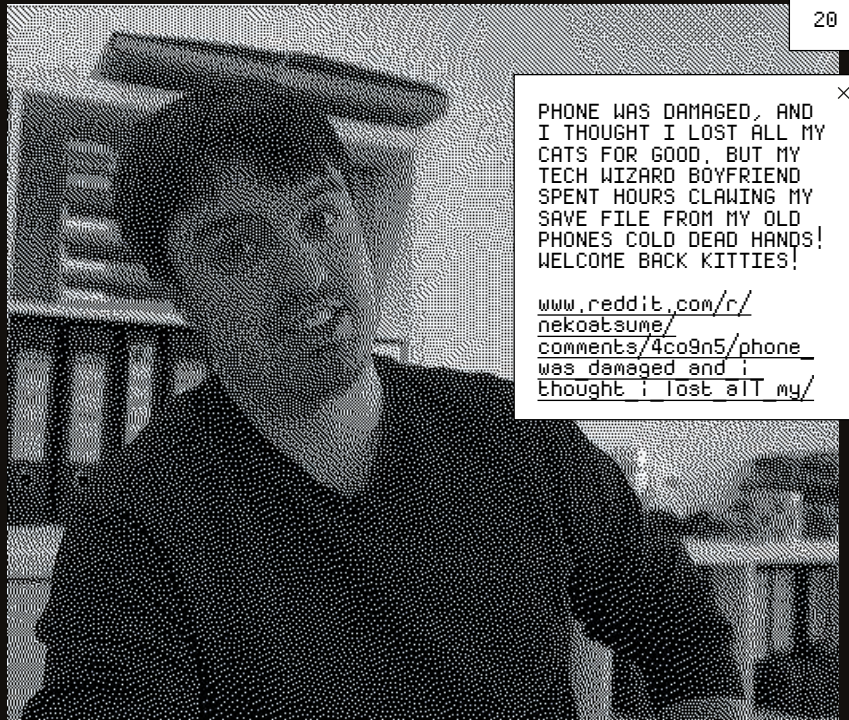
KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS

FILE TRANSFER

MAGIC

REPAIR



20

PHONE WAS DAMAGED, AND I THOUGHT I LOST ALL MY CATS FOR GOOD, BUT MY TECH WIZARD BOYFRIEND SPENT HOURS CLAWING MY SAVE FILE FROM MY OLD PHONES COLD DEAD HANDS! WELCOME BACK KITTIES!

www.reddit.com/r/nekoatsume/comments/4co9n5/phone_was_damaged_and_i_thought_i_lost_all_my/

Jeroen



A couple of years ago, my entire computer just broke down. A year ago, a year and a half ago. And it just wouldn't work at all, like I couldn't get anywhere. I would start it up — it would immediately crash. Because I had done something. Well, I thought I had done an update, but for some reason there was a fault in my motherboard, and actually the update broke my entire computer. It was not okay, but I had this, I found this hack which I couldn't believe worked, but I had to do some computer magic, with which I could get on... like because the computer itself wasn't broken, like the hard disk wasn't broken, it's just the motherboard, so there was just no way I could start it up. And I used some developer loopholes I found on the internet which brought me to like a very base version of my files, and I managed to copy like most of my files still somewhere, and I felt like a real tech wizard after that. I can tell you, I felt like I did some magic.

DON'T FREAK OUT: HOW TO SAVE DATA FROM A PC THAT WON'T BOOT

www.pcmag.com/how-to/how-to-save-data-from-a-pc-that-wont-bootmy-pc-buzzes-but-stops-when-i-hit-it,298380/

Phones affecting internal energy

KEYWORDS:

CHAKRAS

RADIATION

WAVES

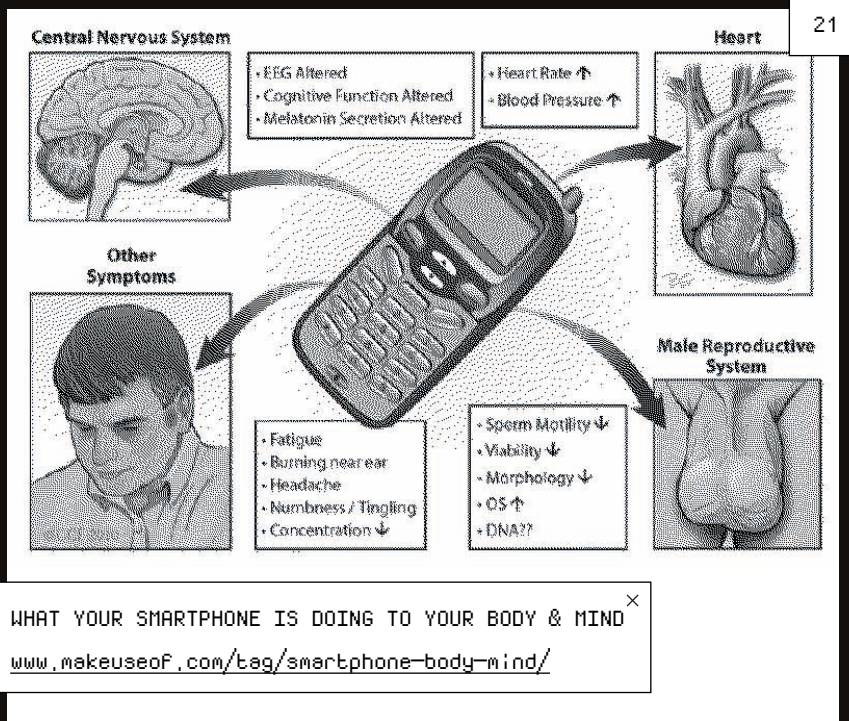
PHONE

MYTH



Taisiya

I remember a whole period of time when it came up a lot in my digital space that there were these kind of waves, but it wasn't really electromagnetic waves from a phone or something, but that there were these negative waves that were affecting your chakras. And I remember there was this thing about keeping your phone away from you because these waves were interrupting some of the waves that are coming from you. I even remember there was some kind of meme with all these energy centers and how they are disrupted by these waves. The whole story is more about the contact of your body with technology and that's probably more what I was worried about because it always felt really strange to me, like a very intimate physical contact. I think from that moment on I became more aware of how close the phone is to me and started to really distance myself from it. For me, it's more like I don't take it as a myth or as a truth, but part of me really believes that it does have some effect on your physiology, even on your own perception of your own wholeness.



PHYSICS OF SEVEN CHAKRAS AND HOW TO
BALANCE 7 CHAKRAS CORRECTLY

www.lifescritdoctor.com/seven-chakras/

28

Feeling cleaner without a phone

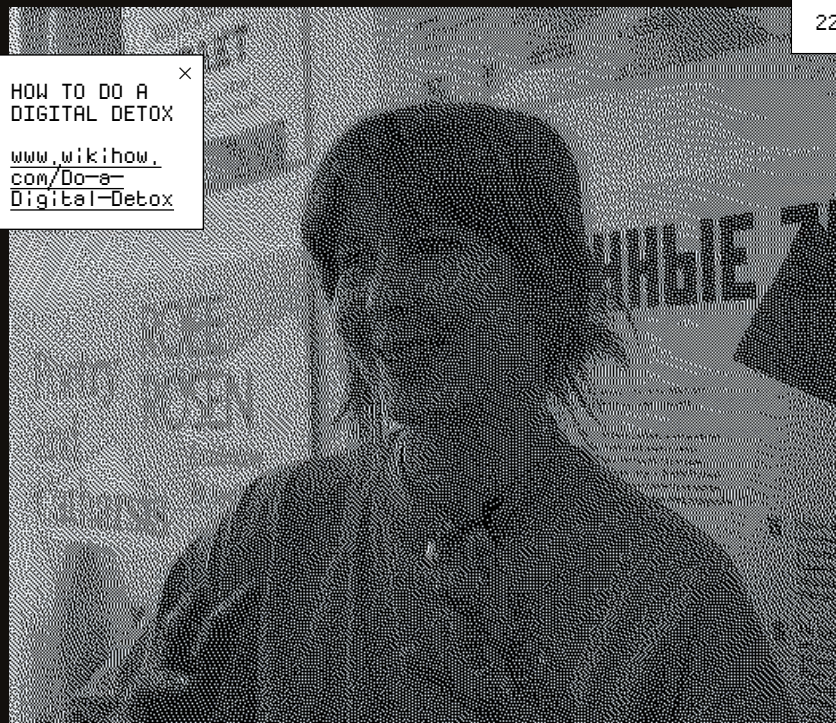
KEYWORDS:

CHAKRAS RADIATION WAVES PHONE CLEANLINESS REPAIR

22

HOW TO DO A
DIGITAL DETOX

www.wikihow.com/Do-a-Digital-Detox



Taisiya



I remember that I always went to the repair shop, but I remember those really almost holy days when I had no means of communication. Usually I would give my phone and it would disappear from my constant use for a week.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

And when you got the phone back from the repair shop, did you want to detach yourself even more from the phone because you spent a week without it?

AWT

Taisiya



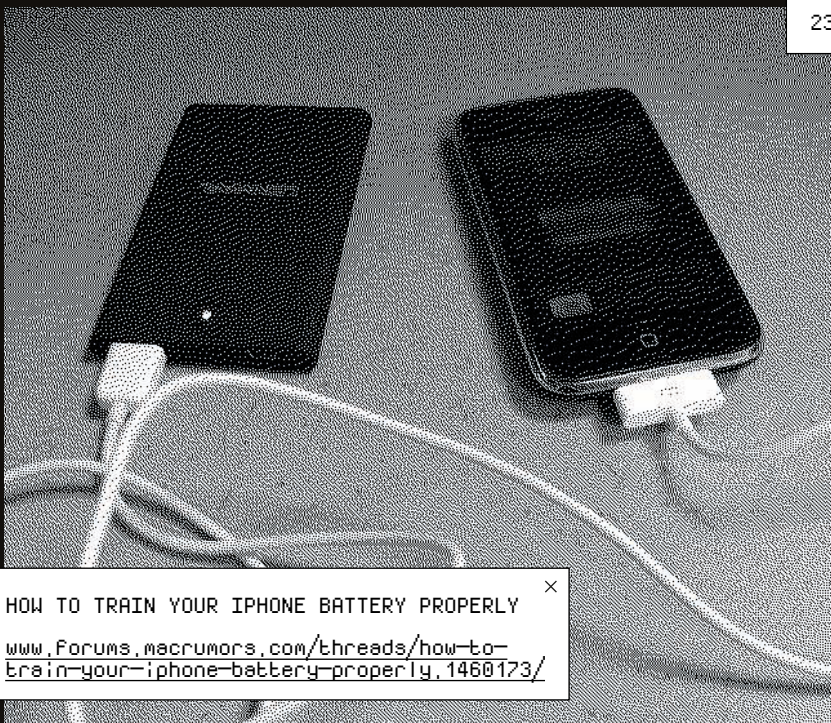
Yes, it actually intensified it. It felt like my life was so much better and cleaner without it. And the aspect of cleanliness is also important because in general it somehow connects well with the chakras, like a kind of bodily sanctity and there's really a sense of not being cluttered by it, you want to distance yourself from it but it's really like you get sucked in quickly and because of that you also want to distance yourself because it's like some kind of unexplained abyss. So it's constantly as if this force is somehow more powerful than you, and so you resist and resist, it pulls at you, and this constant confrontation prompts you to resist the proximity of the phone to yourself.

29

The iPhone battery conspiracy

KEYWORDS:

IPHONE PHONE BATTERY CONSPIRACY FORUMS



23

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR IPHONE BATTERY PROPERLY

www.Forums.macrumors.com/threads/how-to-train-your-iphone-battery-properly.1460173/

Taisiya



I still don't know if it's a legend or not, about the battery — that Apple specifically made it so that your battery would kind of decrease in efficiency. I don't even remember what year it was, but I think people got super annoyed that like your battery efficiency was declining a lot. I mean, you buy a new iPhone, you use it for about a year, and then the efficiency of your phone goes down drastically and the battery dies super fast. Maybe I read it in the forums, but there was this discussion that like *"Apple revealed"* that the iPhone is actually programmed so that the battery efficiency drops on purpose in order to maintain the efficiency of the product, something like that. But I also remember reading about all these schemes like *"How to configure your battery to work well"* and I was given advice and this could also be like an urban legend by the way that you should first completely drain your phone then charge it to 50% then completely drain it again and then your battery will work longer and more efficiently which, it's hard to imagine that to be true but there it was.

HOW TO CALIBRATE AN IPHONE BATTERY IN 6 EASY STEPS

www.makeuseof.com/tag/calibrate-iphone-battery/

30

The toothpaste tip

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS SCREEN PHONE ADVICE

Taisiya



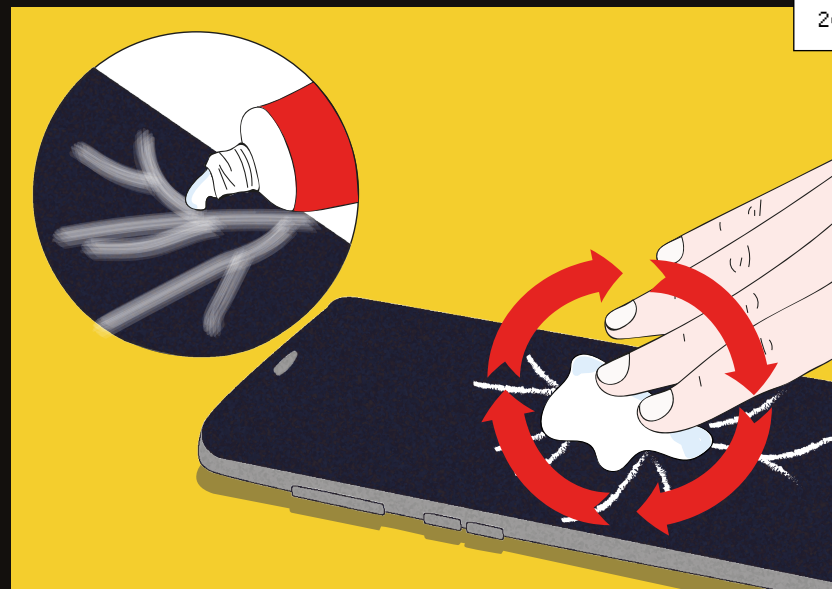
And also I think the toothpaste tip and this, I think this is something that might be interesting. Toothpaste, applying toothpaste on the screen to kind of fill in some scratches.

HOW TO FIX A CRACKED PHONE SCREEN USING TOOTHPASTE?

www.esetoothbrush.com/how-to-fix-a-cracked-phone-screen-using-toothpaste/

HOW TO FIX A CRACKED SCREEN WITH TOOTHPASTE; TOOTHPASTE HACKS

www.everydayflash.com/how-to-fix-a-cracked-screen-with-toothpaste/



24

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

What?

AWT

Taisiya

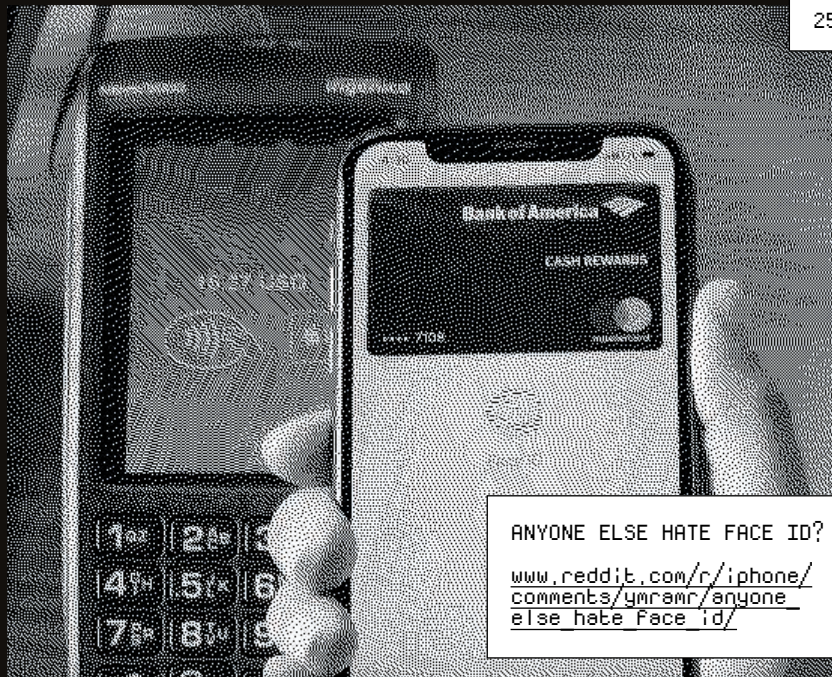


Honestly, I'm just worried now that I'm making this up, but I think I was really doing that. You know, you kind of apply the toothpaste and you take a cotton pad and you kind of rub it in and you fill in some micro-cracks on the screen.

Slave to Face ID

KEYWORDS:

FACE ID BIOMETRIC DATA TRACKING DATA CAPTURE
 PRIVACY CONVENIENCE



25

ANYONE ELSE HATE FACE ID? ^x

[www.reddit.com/r/iphone/
 comments/ymramr/anyone
 else_hate_face_id/](http://www.reddit.com/r/iphone/comments/ymramr/anyone_else_hate_face_id/)

Taisiya



I use Face ID. And I say this with guilt because I, before I got my new phone, I told myself I would never use Face ID because it's terrible and it really scares me. Touch ID was still okay for me because with Touch ID you still have some sense of control, you just take your finger, it's your finger, and you put it there. What's the difference between entering a password or putting your finger on it, you leave fingerprints on the screen anyway, really. And with Face ID for me it's just that in general, well I'm really worried about our kind of recognition that's already everywhere, in the subway when you walk in you're read, all the cameras read you, everything reads you, constantly trying to analyze everything. But yeah, when I got my new phone, I realized that some things are just comfortable for me with Face ID, and every time I'm like, "*Well, yeah.*" And that's kind of it, I became a slave to Face ID. Now when I pay, I click twice, I just put it like this and I pay, and I feel really stupid every time, but it's convenient.

FACE ID SUCKS. TOUCH ID WAS BETTER ^x
 IN ALMOST EVERY SINGLE WAY.

[www.reddit.com/r/iphone/
 comments/anx216/Face_id_sucks_touch_id_was
 better_in_almost_every/](http://www.reddit.com/r/iphone/comments/anx216/Face_id_sucks_touch_id_was_better_in_almost_every/)

32

The Google Assistant is not connected

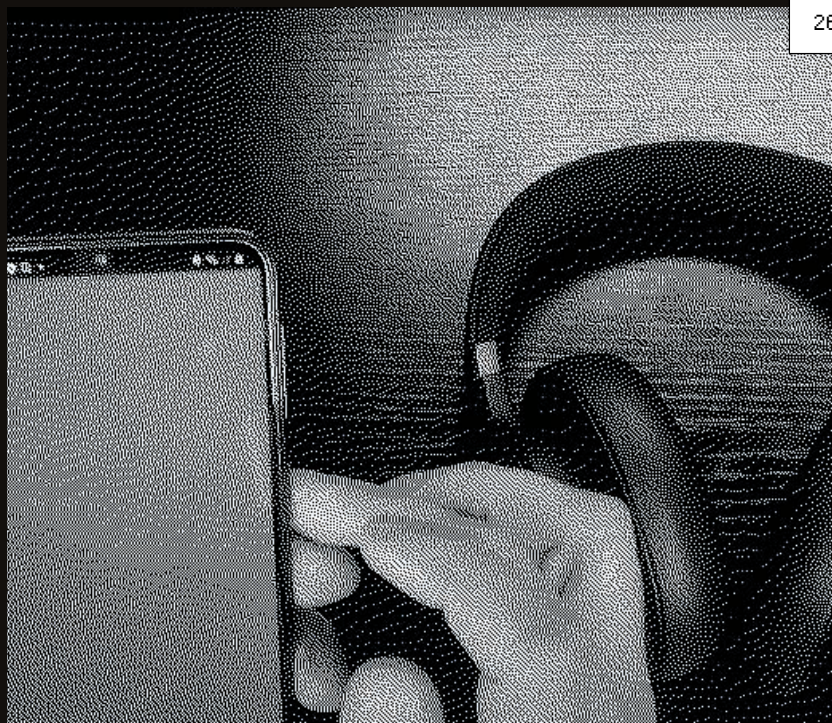
KEYWORDS:

DARK POWERS

MYSTERY

GOOGLE ASSISTANT

HEADPHONES



26

Taisiya



My recent paranoia. I have wireless JBL headphones. I've been using them for at least a year and a half. And only recently, every time I put them on, they started announcing to me, *"The Google Assistant is not connected"*. And this has never happened before! And this started literally around a month and a half ago. And I got very anxious, because I have now pressed on all the buttons that these headphones have to check — what if all of a sudden I started putting them on in a different way, and I'm now pressing a button that tells me that? But I've pressed everything, that function doesn't exist! But for some reason, every, every, every time I put the headphones on for the last month and a half, it tells me, *"The Google Assistant is not connected"*. And with a different voice, too, not the voice that's in these JBL headphones. And seriously, every time when I put these headphones on, I get really worried because I'm like: *"Where did this come from? How did it even get in my headphones? How did Google get in my left headphone (it only happens in the left headphone)?"*

JBL CLUB950NC "THE GOOGLE ASSISTANT IS NOT CONNECTED!" HOW DO I FIX THIS PURPOSEFULLY DEALBREAKING FEATURE?

www.reddit.com/r/JBL/comments/p1rlai/jbl_club950nc_the_google_assistant_is_not/

33

Computer in rice

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS | ADVICE | COMPUTER | REPAIR

Jolyn



Once I put my MacBook in rice, because I threw a beer over it, which I heard is really bad because then there is also sugar and water. But I think it helps with the rice.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Did it help your computer?

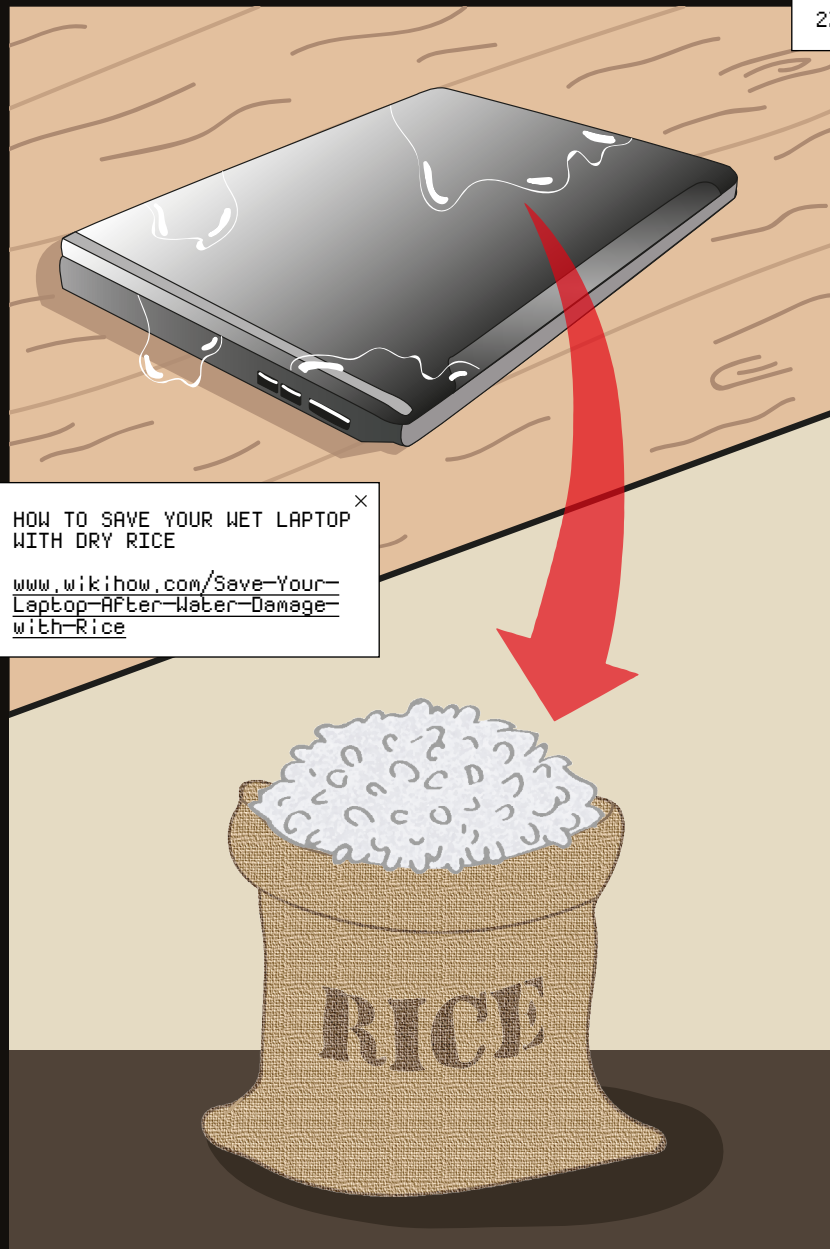
AWT

Jolyn



Yeah, well, parts of it.

27



Waste of a walk

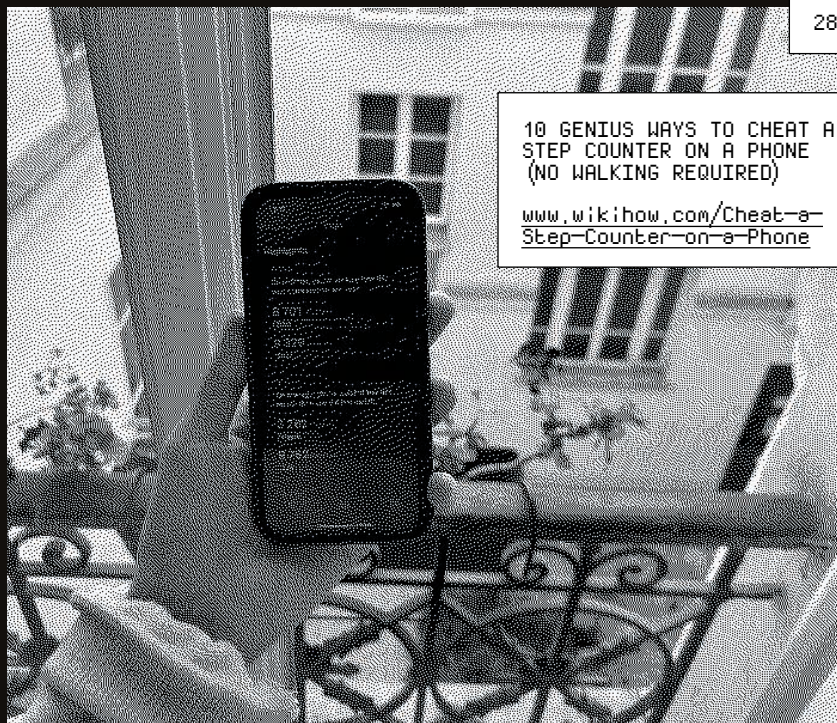
KEYWORDS:

BIOMETRIC DATA

HEALTH TRACKING

DATA CAPTURE

IPHONE



ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you use any kind of apps that track your health?

AWT

Jolyn

Yeah, I track my steps. I like them to be around 5,000 to 10,000 a day. So I'm really working on that. Yeah, I really look at it every day. It's already on my iPhone.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you feel like you're actually using the information and you feel like it's helpful?

AWT

Jolyn

Yeah, and it also pushes me to make an extra round of walking. The stupid thing, I think, is when I forgot my phone on the walk — I really don't like it because then it's not counting my steps and then I feel like, *"Oh shit, it's not real!"*

35

Sister's Face ID

KEYWORDS:

BIOMETRIC DATA | FACE ID | DATA CAPTURE | IPHONE | MYSTERY

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you use Face ID or sometimes there's like fingerprint ID on iPhones?

AWT

Jolyn

Yeah, well I did. I have it on my phone the fingerprint, but the funniest thing is — I can open my sister's phone with my face.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Because you look so similar?

AWT

Jolyn

Yeah!

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

But you're not twins?

AWT

Jolyn

No. It's crazy because I don't think it should work like that because we don't even that much alike, but yeah.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Wow, that's really interesting, I've never heard that before.

AWT

Jolyn

It was really funny, it was like, *"How do I open your phone? Oh, it's already happening! Oh!"*

WHY CAN MY SISTER UNLOCK MY PHONE WITH FACE RECOGNITION? (WE'RE NOT IDENTICAL IN ANY WAY)

www.wikihow.com/Cheat-a-Step-Counter-on-a-Phone

Don't dab a wet computer

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS | ADVICE | COMPUTER | REPAIR | SPILLAGE

Martha



Once I was at a house party, I think someone was DJing from my computer, and then yeah “*pssht*” champagne all over it — that’s the end of the party, everyone’s like, “*Ah, yeah, time to go home*”. So I tried to dry it out by leaving it upside down and then the next day the screen was just like all multi-colored and broken. I think there might have been one section of the screen that worked but basically no.

ASK IFIXIT: I SPILLED LIQUID
ON MY LAPTOP NOW WHAT?

[www.ifixit.com/News/41383/
ask-ifixit-i-spilled-liquid-
on-my-laptop-now-what](http://www.ifixit.com/News/41383/ask-ifixit-i-spilled-liquid-on-my-laptop-now-what)

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SPILLED BEER ON
A LAPTOP (CLEANING GUIDE)

[www.learningtohomebrew.com/what-
to-do-if-you-spilled-beer-on-a-
laptop-cleaning-guide/](http://www.learningtohomebrew.com/what-to-do-if-you-spilled-beer-on-a-laptop-cleaning-guide/)



37

Getting waves in my brain

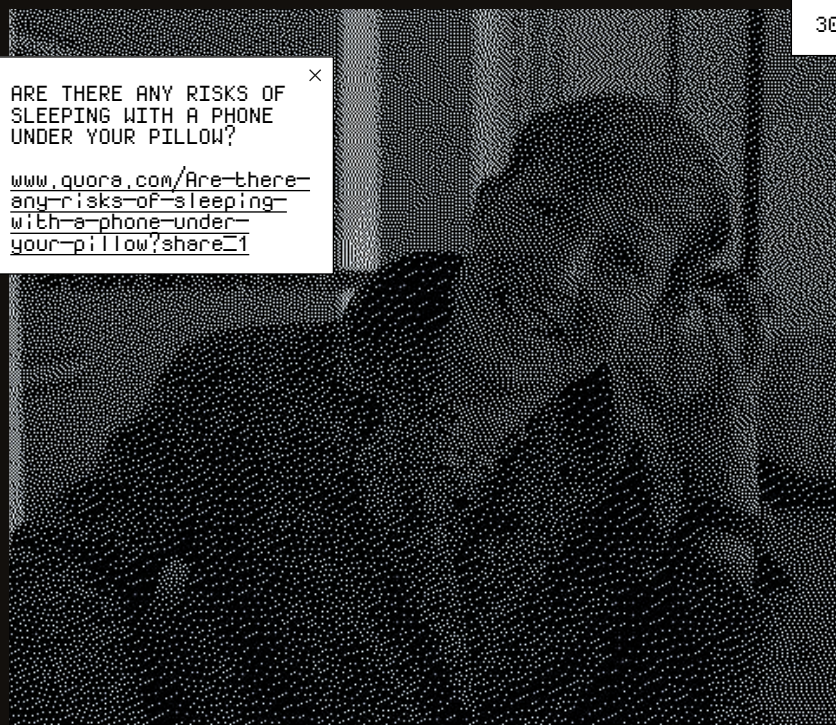
KEYWORDS:

5G CONSPIRACY WAVES RADIATION PHONE SLEEP

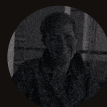
30

ARE THERE ANY RISKS OF SLEEPING WITH A PHONE UNDER YOUR PILLOW?

www.quora.com/Are-there-any-risks-of-sleeping-with-a-phone-under-your-pillow?share=1



Martha



I feel like I can only think of like the general, like it's going to be bad for your health, like even also things about some people not wanting to have their phones in their bedrooms or something like it's bad for you, a bit like the fear around like microwaves, like you know it's gonna affect your brain or it's going to affect your health or your heart rate or something like that, so you need to put the technologies farther away, but yeah definitely that 5G can cause all sorts of things, you know?

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you do that? Do you leave your phone in another room?

AWT

Martha



No, I sleep with it, I have it like under my pillow.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Really?

AWT

Martha



Which I probably just really want to get it into my brain, don't I?

38

Package you haven't ordered yet

KEYWORDS:

AMAZON DELIVERY MYTH ALGORITHM

Martha



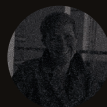
The other thing I was thinking about with like Amazon — how they say that, you know, sometimes they know what you're going to order next, so like it's literally like at the front of the shelf, so sometimes you then order the thing and it comes really fast. It's as if they knew that you were going to order it, which I'm never quite sure if there's truth in that or not.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Yeah, but that's a good one, I think I remember hearing there was a patent for that, sort of like it's some kind of a delivery, where the objects are already in circulation before you even order them.

AWT

Martha



Right, okay, wow.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Yeah.

AWT

Martha



Yeah, and then you can imagine a world where, you know, someone knocks, they knock on the door with the package you didn't even know you hadn't even ordered yet, you know?

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Yeah.

AWT

AMAZON WANTS TO USE
PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS TO
OFFER ANTICIPATORY SHIPPING

www.smartdatacollective.com/amazon-wants-predictive-analytics-offer-anticipatory-shipping/

39

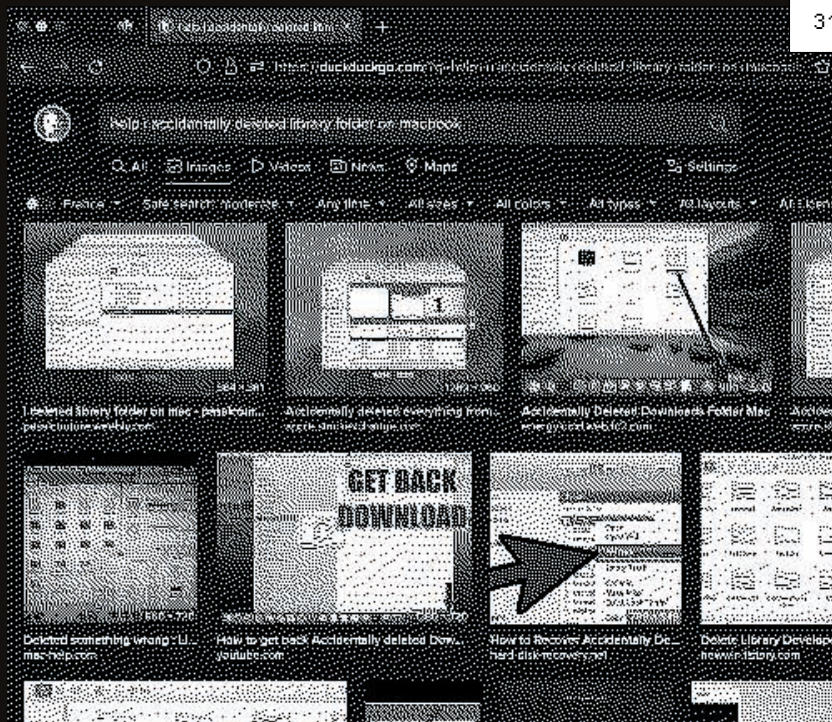
Never touching my library again

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS

MISTAKE

MYSTERY



Dewi



My laptop doesn't have the amount of space that I would like. So I was like okay I have an external hard drive but it's not always a solution for all the things I want to do. So I thought I could delete things from my library for some reason — that was not a good idea. That's something I found out the hard way, so I had to reset my whole laptop after that. But it was fine, everything worked, I just lost a few files, but yeah. Other than that, I guess that's the most prominent one that stayed with me. Never touching my library again.

ACCIDENTALLY DELETED SYSTEM/LIBRARY/EXTENSIONS, WHAT SHOULD I DO TO GET IT BACK?

www.discussions.apple.com/thread/5062704

ACCIDENTALLY DELETED FILES IN LIBRARY, NOW ICLOUD DRIVE FILES ARE GONE

www.discussions.apple.com/thread/254728452

Doom scenarios

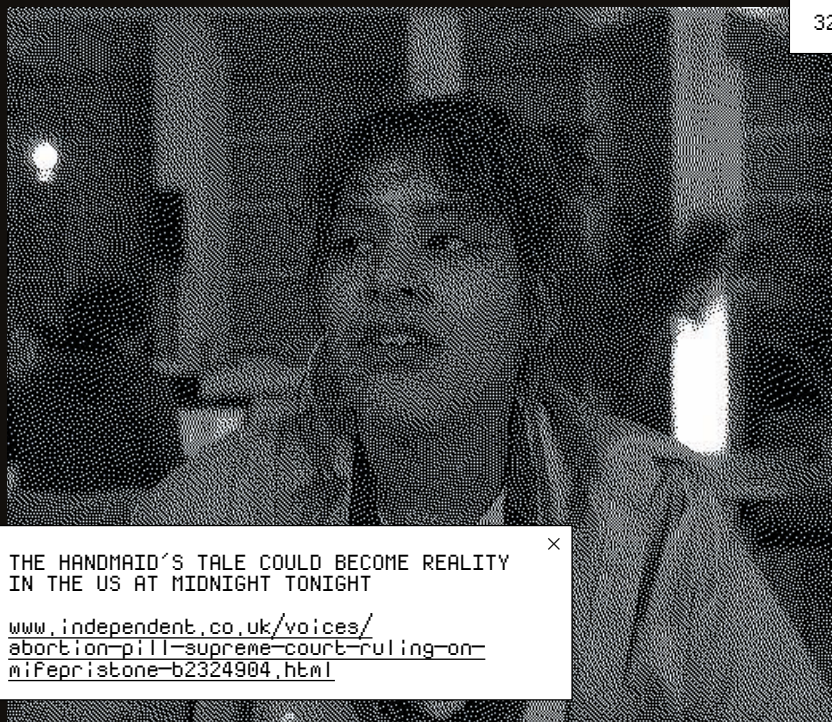
KEYWORDS:

DATA CAPTURE

TRACKING

PRIVACY

32



THE HANDMAID'S TALE COULD BECOME REALITY
IN THE US AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT

[www.independent.co.uk/voices/
abortion-pill-supreme-court-ruling-on-
mifepristone-b2324904.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/abortion-pill-supreme-court-ruling-on-mifepristone-b2324904.html)

With the menstrual cycle application, do you ever have any questions about the privacy of the data or what it could be used for?

AWT

Dewi



Definitely. Sometimes you have these doom scenarios going through your head like, “*Oh, what if The Handmaid’s Tale became a thing? And they want to know when your fertile window is?*” Or yeah, just like the dystopian kind of things you see on TV sometimes sneak into your head. There’s probably a lot of ways that people can use this for profit, but then again, I want to know and this is convenient for me. So I guess I’m choosing convenience over privacy, even though it shouldn’t have to be a choice. I just prefer not to think about it every now and then and that helps. In a way that ignorance is bliss and I also feel like they already know so much about me. You know I was a teenager when I got my first smartphone, and as a kid you don’t think about all of that — you just go, “*Oh, this is cool. Oh, this is easy,*” and before you know it, they have so much information about you.

COULD HANDMAIDS TALE BECOME REALITY? ×

[www.reddit.com/r/antinfatistism/
comments/8mq1fw/could_handmaids_tale_
become_reality/](https://www.reddit.com/r/antinfatistism/comments/8mq1fw/could_handmaids_tale_become_reality/)

How to bias Instagram

KEYWORDS:

ALGORITHM

INSTAGRAM

MYTH

33



HOW TO DISPLAY ONLY THE CONTENT YOU WANT ON YOUR INSTAGRAM TIMELINE

www.simplehelp.net/2022/02/11/how-to-display-only-the-content-you-want-on-your-instagram-timeline/

Radhi



Knowing that the Instagram algorithm looks at what you like and what you want to see, I thought, I'm going to hack it from the beginning. I'm going to deliberately bias the algorithm to show me things that are more artistic. And that's precisely when you start to see a little bit how the algorithm works, so I wanted to have an axis of — *"algorithm, suggest me artistic things"*. But as soon as you look at something on Instagram that's a little more mainstream — immediately, the algorithm is trying to steer you towards a certain kind of content. Typically it's mostly girls, it probably knows I'm a guy because it's linked to my Facebook account. So I've managed to make it biased to my profile, but at some point you always get caught up in things. We're still products, in the sense that I went there knowing that there are algorithms that will want to sell you things, and the ads are strangely well designed for you. While I'm trying to filter it out, saying to myself, *"I'm not here for that, I'm not here to watch ads"*. But you're still like, *"Ah, well, this is interesting though"*.

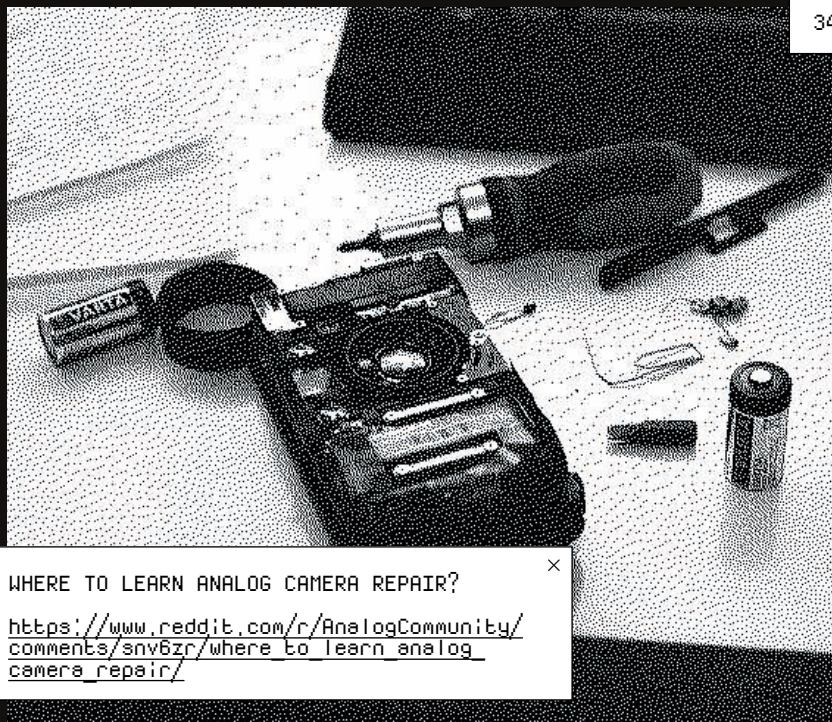
HOW TO SEE MORE OF WHAT YOU WANT ON INSTAGRAM

www.about.instagram.com/blog/tips-and-tricks/control-your-instagram-feed

No magic recipe

KEYWORDS:

REPAIR | DIY HACKS | ADVICE | MEDIA ARCHAEOLOGY | FORUMS



34

WHERE TO LEARN ANALOG CAMERA REPAIR?

https://www.reddit.com/r/AnalogCommunity/comments/sn6zr/where_to_learn_analog_camera_repair/

Radhi



I have a camera that is very important to me. It's an analog camera. I've dropped it many times. And then one day it falls, but not from very high up, so I pick it up and think, *"It'll be fine, it's been through worse,"* and then it doesn't work anymore. And I'm devastated, because it was really the extension of a practice, it's not the object itself. But what's really cool is that we're still talking about generations of objects that have manuals, that can be taken apart and repaired. So I tried to fix it, I bought the little screwdrivers, but I couldn't do anything — it was far too complicated.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

So you never managed to repair it?

AWT

Radhi



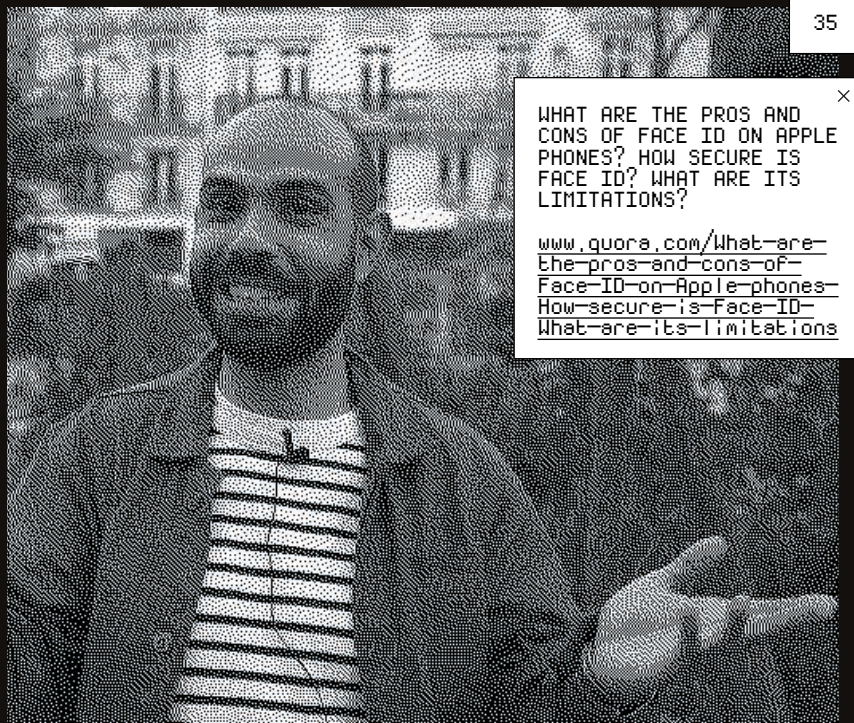
No, I've tried the forums, it's very practical. I think the first instinct is to say to yourself, *"Surely there's someone on the Internet talking about this"*. I think that's the promise, or at least the promise of the Internet that I've internalized, to tell myself that everything is out there and that if you look hard enough — you're sure to find it. But no, life is a little different actually.

43

Face ID and physical integrity

KEYWORDS:

FACE ID | BIOMETRIC DATA | DATA CAPTURE | PRIVACY | CONVENIENCE



35

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you use FaceID or fingerprint identification?

AWT

Radhi



FaceID for sure.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

And you're not worried about the security?

AWT

Radhi

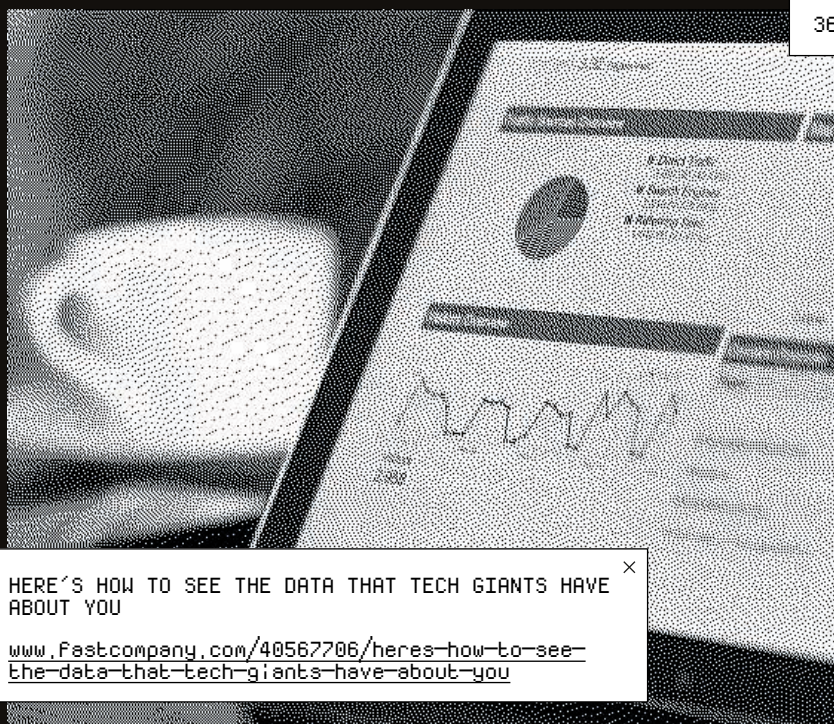


Yeah, a little bit, especially in the beginning I think. That's what's so disturbing about digital practices as they become established. That's why I was a little reluctant at first, because once you adopt it — that's it, you don't question it anymore, and that's really what happened with FaceID. At first I was very resistant, *"They'll never get my thing!"* Like the bank scan thing, *"I'll never put my card number on my computer!"* Clearly it's just a matter of perception — I didn't have any more information to tell me — it's reliable. It's just because everybody's done it, I say, *"Well, apparently it's okay, I can go for it"*. And so it's the same thing, bank card on your computer, then on your phone, then you pay contactless, and then FaceID, you say, *"Ah shit, it's still biometrics and stuff"*. It's a different level. So you say, *"No, no, no,"* and then you say, *"Well, it's still practical!"* The practical side is far too important for the fundamental questions that need to be asked.

My digital avatar

KEYWORDS:

DATA CAPTURE | PRIVACY | TRACKING | SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM



36

HERE'S HOW TO SEE THE DATA THAT TECH GIANTS HAVE ABOUT YOU

www.Fastcompany.com/40567706/heres-how-to-see-the-data-that-tech-giants-have-about-you

Radhi



I get angry every time... I click everywhere, I just want to avoid this question, so yes, I accept cookies. I accept cookies and it's terrible, that's what we were saying earlier, you know I'm very curious to meet my digital avatar. We all have a digital avatar at Google, Facebook — I'd like to see what I look like digitally, what are the markers, is there a slider on political tendency, I'd be curious to see. But yeah, I've totally accepted that part of the information that I would never give to anybody else has almost completely gone into the public domain, I think that's what's kind of terrible with the Internet. Just the fact that we have AI today, clearly AI like this would never have been born without the consent of people like me saying, *"Yeah, go ahead, it's okay, you can have my face and you can have everything you want about my life, yeah, here we go"*.

BIG TECH COMPANIES HAVE PROFILES ON YOU — HERE'S HOW TO SEE THEM

www.komando.com/security-privacy/what-big-tech-knows-about-you/803990/

45

Gas station explosion

KEYWORDS:

MYTH PHONE RADIATION WAVES



37

Bianca



When I was a kid maybe like preschool up to like early grade school, for some reason I believed that if I were to use my phone at a gas station like play snake or send a text message especially, that could potentially cause an explosion in the gas station.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you remember where you could've heard this from? Did somebody, like maybe...

AWT

Bianca



I have no clue, I'm pretty sure I got it for my parents, but I have no idea why they would tell me that. It's either they believed it themselves or they had some other motive to make me believe it, so that I would not use my phone at a gas station. I just can't really imagine what the problem was. It's not like I was using my phone at church, now that would make sense! They should have told me if you use your phone at church, then the whole church will explode, that would make more sense. Like at a gas station, you're just like sitting in the car waiting for gas.

ELI5: WHY IS THERE A -NO MOBILE PHONE- SIGN AT GAS STATIONS?

www.reddit.com/r/explainlikeimfive/comments/unlecc/eli5_why_is_there_a_no_mobile_phone_sign_at_gas/

Phone in a sock

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS | ADVICE | PHONE | BATTERY

Bianca



I do keep my phone in a sock when I bike around in the cold because it drains out the battery when it's getting really cold, so I just keep it in a sock. I put the sock in my bag because I usually travel with a really tiny bag because I don't like to carry a lot around with me and so I just kind of put it in a thick sock. I mean I could probably get like a proper furry iPhone case for it or something just to insulate it a bit because it gets really cold really fast, but then I put it in a sock or like one of my gloves.

KEEPING MY IPHONE ALIVE IN THE COLD ×

www.reddit.com/r/ski/comments/1d0acs/keeping_my_iphone_alive_in_the_cold/

HOW TO KEEP YOUR PHONE WARM IN COLD WEATHER: 6 EASY TIPS ×

www.adventure.com/how-to/phone-cold-weather



The visual autotune

KEYWORDS:

COMPUTER

GLITCH

DARK POWERS

MYSTERY

VIRUS

39

WHY DOES MY COMPUTER CRASH OR SHOW WEIRD LINES ON THE SCREEN

www.answers.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/Forum/all/why-does-my-computer-crash-or-show-weird-lines-on-f8aa4fc7-8895-4843-84a6-e68588cec654



Lide

It kind of started a long time ago with a laptop, the charger broke and I had to order a new one, but then when I received the new charger all of a sudden the laptop started showing glitches and crashing sometimes. Mostly when I was working with bigger software like video editing or music. And then at some point it was so broken I couldn't use it anymore, it would keep crashing and enter this boot mode where it wouldn't start up anymore. So I had to get a new laptop, but the funny thing was, I put all my projects on the new laptop, and I opened them, and right away it started glitching again, showing the same glitch. So the screen glitch still stayed and I ordered a new laptop, I returned this one and I installed the software again and opening the old projects the screen glitch still occurred on this laptop that I use now but now I just don't open those projects anymore and there's no problem. So it feels like some glitch or virus, maybe it was because I used some cracked plugins, I was thinking maybe it was the autotune I used at the time.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

It's funny because for me at least, autotune — the way that it sounds — that's kind of how I would represent it visually.

AWT

COMPUTER SUDDENLY DIES; SCREEN DISPLAYS WEIRD FLICKERING LINES, THEN RESTARTS

www.superuser.com/questions/569751/computer-suddenly-dies-screen-displays-weird-flickering-lines-then-restarts

48

Running into a bit of hope

KEYWORDS:

REPAIR DIY HACKS ADVICE FORUMS



40

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Did you ever use any other like online forums to ask for questions or to look for solutions?

AWT

Lide



Yeah, yeah, and like a lot of Reddit, I think, and I would just Google it, but maybe that's not really the best way as well because you end up with the first suggestions of course. But I did watch a lot of YouTube videos about the boot mode problem I kept running into. And every time you would run into a bit of hope like, "*Oh, maybe this is it!*" But it wasn't, so, yeah.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Aww, that's too bad.

AWT

Lide



Or maybe, yeah, now I'm not sure, maybe I should start using my old laptop again.

49

Square eyes

KEYWORDS:

MYTH

TV

SCREEN

Roos

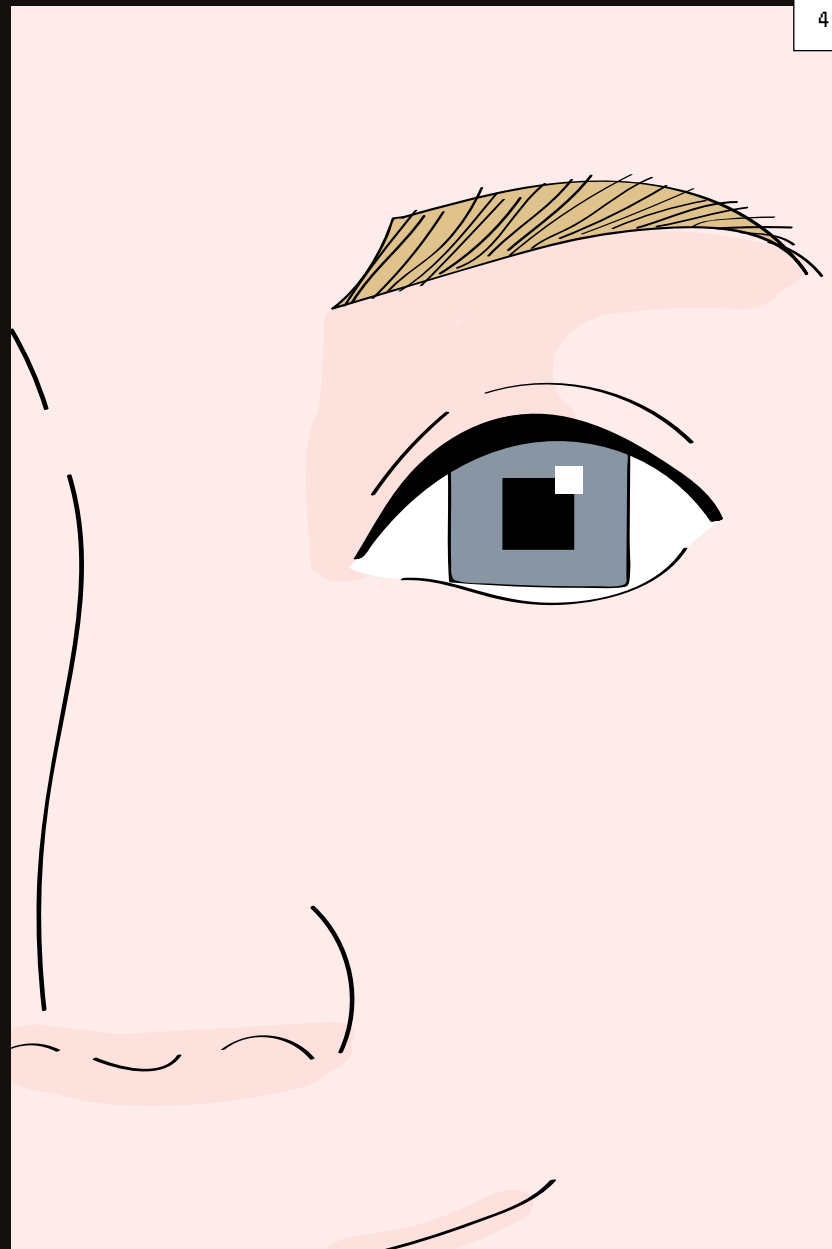


All the children my age and also a generation above me in the Netherlands were all told by their parents that if they watch too much television or they are on the computer for too long that they will eventually get square eyes. And I don't really know where it comes from, but there's also some talk I know going on about how screen use or long screen use is bad for children and for eye development. But yeah, I mean, if you look at a screen for very long, you do feel some sort of eye strain. So when I was a child, it really felt like my eyes were slowly forming into square shapes because you feel like kind of like this strain on the corners of your eyes. We would watch a lot of television as kids, you know, a lot of cartoons, and then my mom would say, *"No, no, you will get square eyes if you watch it for too long"*

CAN WE GET SQUARE EYES FROM GAMING? ^x

www.chillopedia.com/can-we-get-square-eyes-from-gaming/

41



50

Rice phone

KEYWORDS:

MYTH

PHONE

DIY HACKS

SPILLAGE



42

Roos



Oh, one time it was horrible. I went to a friend, and I brought a bottle of wine, and I had it in this little bag next to me, and also my phone was in that bag. And then when I got off my bike, I dropped the bag, the wine bottle broke, everything was wet, including my phone, so it was filled with wine. And I was frantically trying to like see if it was still working, but I already saw it shutting off, and then I knocked on my friend's door, she was like, "*Oh, we have to put it in rice*". So we put it in rice, but I'm a very impatient person, so after one hour I was already checking like, "*Is it working? Is it working?*" But I think then that was the moment that I broke it indefinitely, because then probably some sort of short circuit happened. And I went to the repair shop two days later and then they said that they could see, apparently you can see the water damage inside of the connections and it was, yeah, total loss, yeah.

FACT OR FICTION: PUTTING YOUR PHONE IN UNCOOKED RICE CAN SAVE IT FROM WATER DAMAGE

www.verizon.com/about/news/vzw/2014/12/Fact-or-fiction-putting-your-phone-in-uncooked-rice-can-save-it-from-water-damage

PHONE WET AND WON'T TURN ON? HERE'S WHAT TO DO WITH WATER DAMAGE (HINT: PUTTING IT IN RICE WON'T WORK)

www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/apr/14/phone-wet-and-wont-turn-on-heres-what-to-do-with-water-damage-hint-putting-it-in-rice-wont-work

Future enemy

KEYWORDS:

DYSTOPIA HEALTH TRACKING BIOMETRIC DATA DATA CAPTURE



43

Roos

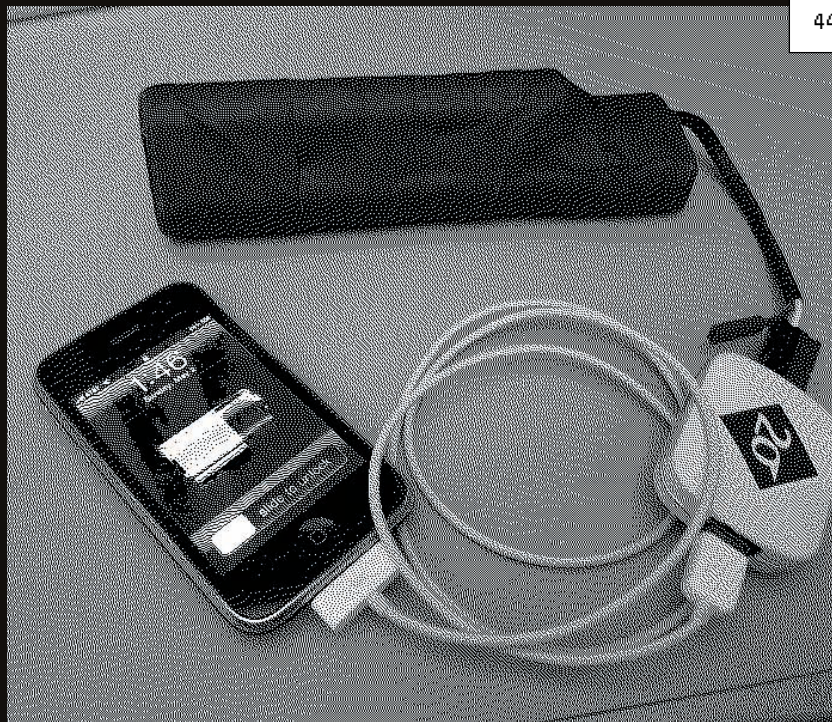


I'm very much against quantifying yourself. I really don't like the idea of all these third party apps that all want to have a piece of you that they can use for something else because they never tell you about the other project that they're doing with this data. And I think this idea was also cemented for me when the abortion laws were happening last year in the United States, and when finally the choice was made to make abortion illegal again in the United States, the first thing that people told each other was like: *"Immediately delete your menstruation tracking app on your phone because it will be used against you at some point in the future"*. And to me, this idea was so wild that a technology that you considered your friend, you know, like a very personal part of your life, something that you could trust with your health, with your biometric data, in one day becomes your enemy. So I like to keep my sharing to a minimum, where I can, I do not want other parties to track me because at any moment in your life it could suddenly be your enemy.

The battery charging myth

KEYWORDS:

MYTH PHONE BATTERY ADVICE



44

Roos



Yes, I had that with an older phone. I remember it was drained in like three hours, so I was always bringing a power bank with me, and then you kind of develop this new lifestyle of having a phone taped to a battery pack. So it kind of becomes part of your life and I deleted all the apps. Then you really look up online, *"What can I do to get my battery usage to a minimum?"* But then your battery is just old, I think it goes through cycles, then at some point it's just done. And then you also have these myths I know about when you have to charge your phone. When you first buy your phone, you have to let it die completely and then you're allowed to charge your phone. Some sort of idea that when you buy a new phone, you have to use it completely until it dies and then you should charge your phone so that the battery gets a memory of what 0% means and then you can charge it back up to 100% so that it uses the cycle in a healthier way and I have never believed that.

HOW BEST TO CHARGE YOUR PHONE, EXPLAINED BY AN EXPERT

www.gearpatrol.com/tech/a624169/smartphone-lithium-ion-charging-tips/

HOW TO CHARGE THE BATTERY OF A NEW MOBILE FOR THE FIRST TIME

www.itigic.com/charge-battery-new-mobile-for-first-time/

53

Toe shoes

KEYWORDS:

MYTH

INSTAGRAM

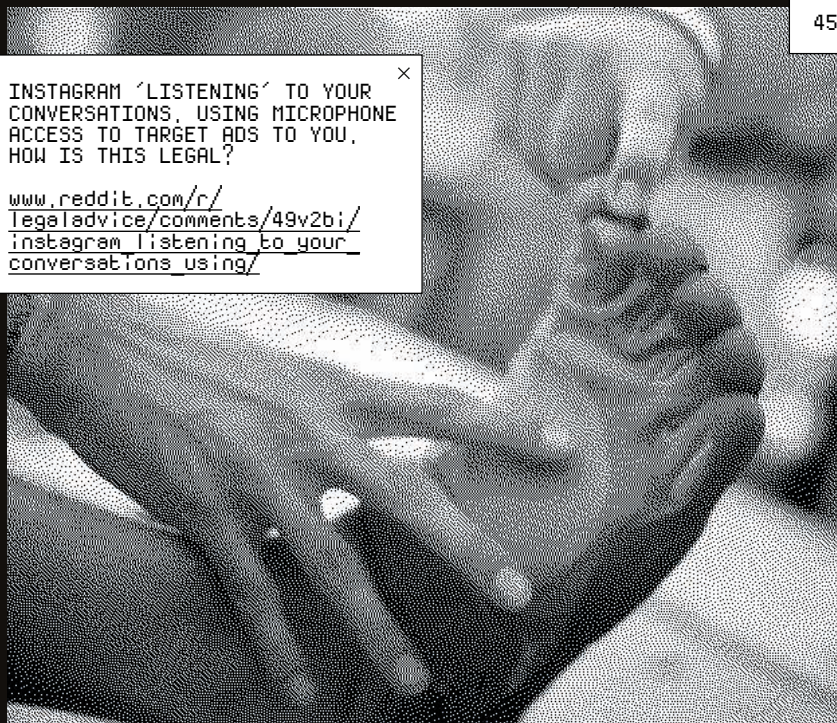
ALGORITHM

PHONE

45

INSTAGRAM 'LISTENING' TO YOUR CONVERSATIONS, USING MICROPHONE ACCESS TO TARGET ADS TO YOU. HOW IS THIS LEGAL?

www.reddit.com/r/legaladvice/comments/49v2bi/instagram_listening_to_your_conversations_using/



Roos



I think a lot of people who use Instagram feel like they're being watched, because the advertising gets very specific sometimes. And a lot of people think they are listening to you by using your phone's microphone. And the myth about that is very strong. The NOS, which is the biggest Dutch news media platform, did an entire research on that, by buying a completely new phone and putting it next to a speaker that was just saying words like baby products, diapers, baby bottles, to see if the Instagram profile that was installed on this phone would gear towards baby products, but in the end it didn't work. So I turned everything off on my phone, the do not track and everything. And then recently I was sitting in the train and then at a stop a guy comes in, he was wearing these crazy shoes where the toes are separated in the shoe. I was mesmerized by the shoes, but I only thought of the shoes, I didn't talk about the shoes, I didn't look them up on the internet... Yet, Instagram showed me an advertisement about these shoes the very next day, and that freaked me out.

IS INSTAGRAM LISTENING TO YOUR CONVERSATIONS? APPARENTLY NOT.

www.pandasecurity.com/en/mediacenter/privacy/is-instagram-listening-conversations/

54

Hopeless printers

KEYWORDS:

REPAIR

PRINTERS

DIY HACKS



46

Daniel



Printers are a delight in life. They're hopeless. I mean they are also made to throw away. And to last two years or three years and then it's done. And I think they make the printers as cheap as possible and the money they really make is with the cartridges. So they are very expensive. So you buy a cheap printer and you think, "Well, that's a bargain!" And then you have to buy very expensive cartridges. And because the printer is so, so cheap things break down and, you know, you have these little rubbers that wind the paper inside the printer and somehow they dry up or they become a bit waxy or, I don't know really what happens but there's always some mechanical trouble in the printer. And after a certain amount of printing, the paper just doesn't go through the machine anymore. And then you have to fix it with sandpapering the rubbers to make it a bit more rough and then it grabs the paper better, you know. And I don't find these answers on the Internet actually. But I'm also very old-fashioned.

WHY DO PRINTERS BREAK SO EASILY?
WE'VE BEEN USING THEM FOR DECADES AND
YET THEY CONSTANTLY BREAK THEMSELVES
FOR NO DISCERNIBLE REASON

[www.reddit.com/r/NoStupidQuestions/
comments/ezi1iv/why_do_printers
break_so_easily_weve_been_using/](http://www.reddit.com/r/NoStupidQuestions/comments/ezi1iv/why_do_printers_break_so_easily_weve_been_using/)

55

Nonsense data

KEYWORDS:

DATA CAPTURE

HEALTH TRACKING

BIOMETRIC DATA

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

You have a smart watch.

AWT

Daniel

I have a smart watch, I'm a sporty guy. I bicycle a lot and I run and I do pilates and all kinds of stuff. Because I have strange knees, but that's another story. So I have these apps. I think it's a Garmin? Yeah, it's a Garmin app. But I also had this, it's pretty new — on the iPhone I have this Health app and it says great you made 10,000 steps today or something. And it's complete nonsense.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

The data is nonsense?

AWT

Daniel

The data is nonsense, so I compared the Garmin data and the iPhone data — it's nonsense.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Okay.

AWT

Daniel

Complete nonsense!

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

That's interesting!

AWT

Daniel

And I'm a drummer... *"Great! You made 15,000 steps!"* No, I was drumming, you can see that I'm not moving, use your brains!

Data makes you nervous

KEYWORDS:

DATA CAPTURE

HEALTH TRACKING

BIOMETRIC DATA

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you use health tracking applications?

AWT

Mathieu

No, no.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Is there a reason for it?

AWT

Mathieu

Yeah. Because all this data and insights also can make you nervous. You know, you start to see correlations between everything. Like, *"Oh, I don't feel so well. Oh yeah, I just ate a sandwich with peanut butter"*. And then it starts like, *"Ah, maybe I shouldn't do that,"* and it's like that, or *"I didn't sleep well tonight"*. And you see, *"Oh, my heartbeat was about this amount, oh, maybe that's the problem, I shouldn't eat too much sugar at night,"* or something like that. Maybe that one is true, but I mean, you get messed up in your head because of it. I like insights, you know, for websites or stuff like that or data, but somehow for my personal health — I'm not sure.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Does it ever feel creepy?

AWT

Mathieu

No, no it doesn't feel creepy, but it's for your own mind. You start to check all your data all the time and you get, I think you get like nervous because of it.

ARE SMARTWATCHES AND FITNESS TRACKERS MAKING US MORE ANXIOUS?

www.digitaltrends.com/features/smartwatch-anxiety-medical-patients-report/

57

Apple already has your biometric data

KEYWORDS:

DATA CAPTURE HEALTH TRACKING BIOMETRIC DATA
FINGERPRINT TRACKING FACE ID

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you use FaceID?

AWT

Mathieu

No, no, it's an older iPhone. It doesn't have it, but would I use it if I did? Yeah, probably. Maybe because it's convenient, you know, but I'm used to the regular way with the fingerprints. It's also similar, it's also like bionic, how do you say? Bio-

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Biometric data.

AWT

Mathieu

Exactly yeah, so it's already in the database of Apple.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you ever wonder about how this data could be used in a malicious way?

AWT

Mathieu

No, of course I understand the risks, but I'm an optimistic guy. So, yeah, I believe it won't come that far, but you never know. But it's also really easy to only think about doom scenarios. You know, so then you shouldn't come out of your house anymore if you're really scared about all this stuff. You know, there's cameras everywhere, the telecom providers know exactly where you are because of the triangulation of the cell phone signal. Yeah, but come on, it's unavoidable, I suppose. This kind of stuff.

COURT RULES APPLE POSSESSES USERS' BIOMETRIC DATA, PRIVACY SUIT GOES AHEAD

www.biometricupdate.com/202107/court-rules-apple-possesses-users-biometric-data-privacy-suit-goes-ahead

APPLE WANTS TO BUILD A CUSTOM HEALTH CHIP FOR PROCESSING BIOMETRIC DATA

www.theverge.com/2018/8/14/17689716/apple-watch-iphone-custom-health-chip-biometric-data

Google listens

KEYWORDS:

MYTH

MICROPHONE

DATA CAPTURE

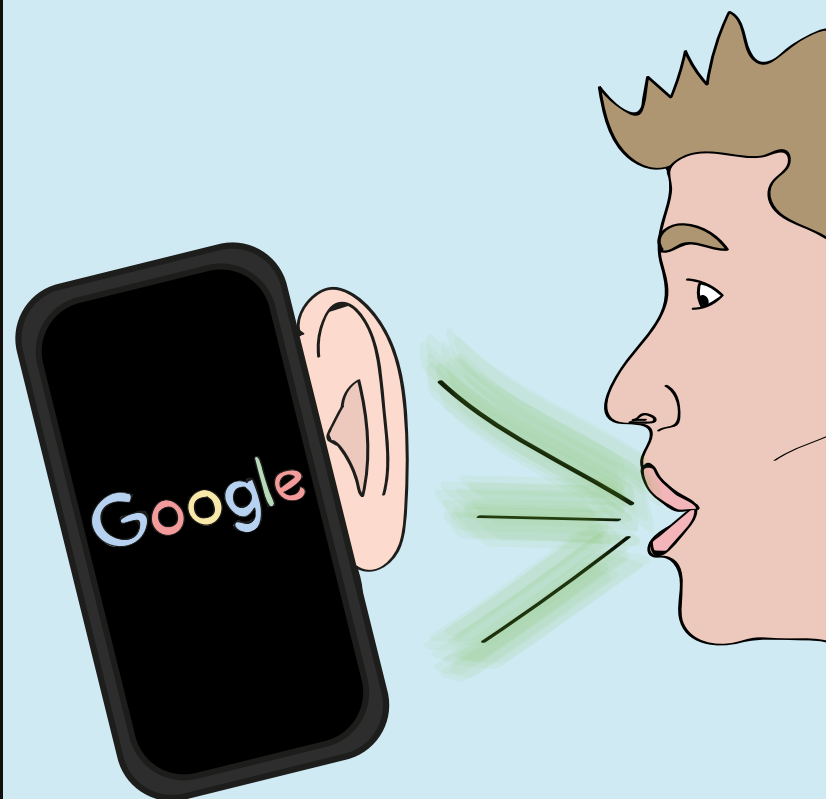
Mathieu



I've seen this episode of some guy who thought he noticed that he spoke about some subject and then Google started showing advertisements relating to that subject. And then he started to try to test it out with stuff he never mentioned before in his life and then apparently Google started showing stuff related to that. And, yeah, it's just the only thing, I didn't look it up further, but it looked legit. I doubt if I notice similar effects but I'm not sure, sometimes I have the idea that Google listens or somehow knows what I need. Sometimes it's completely random and I'm like, *"Why do you show this to me?"*

GOOGLE IS ABSOLUTELY LISTENING TO YOUR CONVERSATIONS, AND IT CONFIRMS WHY PEOPLE DON'T TRUST BIG TECH

www.inc.com/jason-aten/google-is-absolutely-listening-to-your-conversations-it-just-confirms-why-people-dont-trust-big-tech.html



59

Is planned obsolescence real?

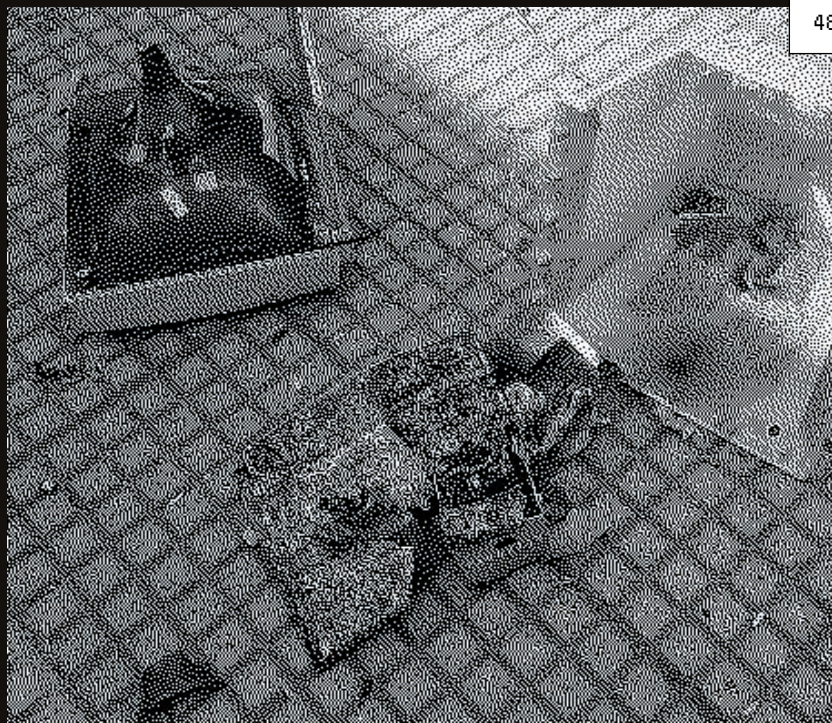
KEYWORDS:

MEDIA ARCHAEOLOGY

PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE

MYTH

MYSTERY



48

Jan Albert



No, I don't think I believe it. But I think it's not planned obsolescence, it might be that they say, *"Well, look, you know, this machine, we only build it to last for five years,"* it might come down to the same thing, but planned obsolescence, it's got something premeditative about it. You know, like they do it on purpose, but I don't think that... They're not that bad, they might just be people who want to make money, but it sounds a bit too, nah, I don't think... But I mean, on the other hand, that they build stuff that is not supposed to last very long, I believe that. I think to keep production costs down, the ease of production, the ease of transporting it is all more important than longevity for the customer. I do believe in that, yes.

BUILT TO FAIL: IS PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE REALLY HAPPENING?

www.consumersinternational.org/news-resources/blog/posts/built-to-fail-is-planned-obsolescence-really-happening/

IS PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE REAL?

www.quora.com/Is-planned-obsolescence-real?share=1

60

We are easily traceable

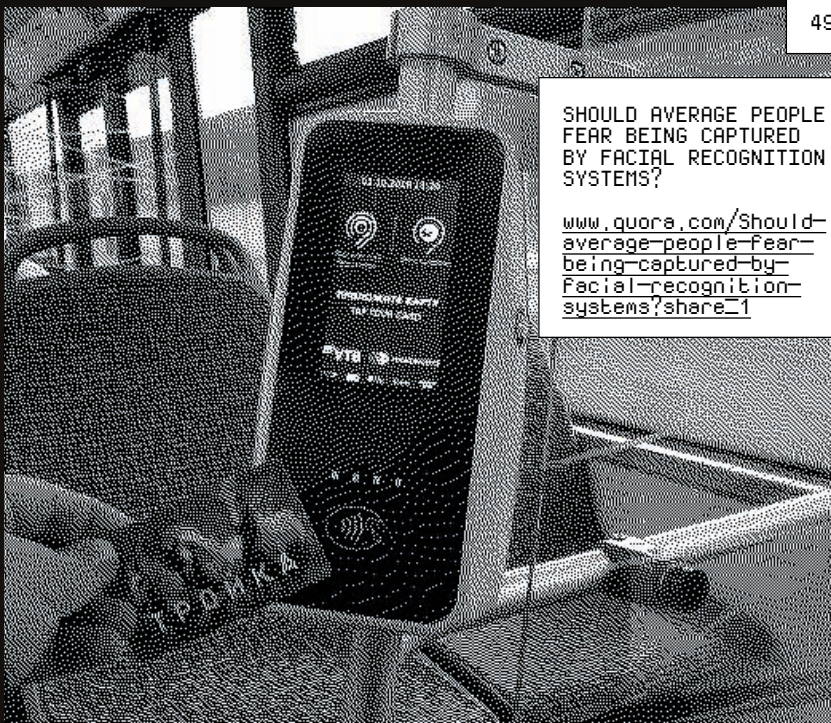
KEYWORDS:

TRACKING

DATA CAPTURE

PRIVACY

SURVEILLANCE



SHOULD AVERAGE PEOPLE
FEAR BEING CAPTURED
BY FACIAL RECOGNITION
SYSTEMS?

www.quora.com/Should-average-people-fear-being-captured-by-facial-recognition-systems/share_1

Jan Albert



The other day I was thinking, can you go anywhere in this country without being trackable, traceable? I don't think you can. Even if you go on your bike, you know, I mean — the surveillance cameras, so, go by car — there's registration number cameras, go by public transport — there's your OV card. It gets very difficult I think to... not to mention face recognition, so it's I think it's virtually impossible to move around if you want to... We were talking earlier on about that everybody's phone is tapped — that I don't believe, but that everybody is traceable if necessary — I think that the police or even the security people, that if push comes to shove, they'll be able to go into these systems, I think. The thing is, well, when is the situation bad enough for them to want to do that, to be allowed to do that, that's a big question, and as you say, your whole world, your whole existence is in that telephone.

CBP SAYS IT'S UNREALISTIC
FOR AMERICANS TO AVOID ITS
LICENSE PLATE SURVEILLANCE

www.techcrunch.com/2020/07/10/cbp-license-plate-surveillance/

61

My health is none of your business

KEYWORDS:

BIOMETRIC DATA HEALTH TRACKING ONLINE BANKING
 PRIVACY SURVEILLANCE DATA CAPTURE

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Do you use health tracking applications?

AWT

Jan Albert

Health tracking? No.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Is there a reason for it?

AWT

Jan Albert

Yes. That's what I think — they assemble all this information. I sometimes check how many steps I did in a day, but nothing more than that. I think that's because all this information is being collected, yeah? And if they know where I live, what my name is, what my email address is, and even what kind of car I drive, I mean all that kind of stuff — that doesn't bother me terribly much. But my health is one issue that I think that's none of your business. That's what I keep out of. And banking, you want banking just to be secure and safe. And no online questionnaires.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

You don't fill out the surveys?

AWT

Jan Albert

No, well, only of organizations that I know, but not just any shop or anything like answer these ten questions and we'll suggest what's best for you to do. Because I think they always have a reason for collecting this stuff and the reason is not in your interest, it's in their interest.

SHOULD YOU WORRY ABOUT YOUR HEALTH DATA NOW THAT GOOGLE OWNS FITBIT?

www.makeuseof.com/google-owns-fitbit-health-data/

62

Finger ID is safe

KEYWORDS:

BIOMETRIC DATA FINGERPRINT ID TRACKING CONVENIENT

Jan Albert



What I like about finger tracking or finger identification is that it's so handy. It's safe, it's handy. And also, I mean, you have so many passwords, especially if you use a different password for everything you do, like...

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Like how you're supposed to.

AWT

IS TOUCH ID SAFE? ANY DRAWBACKS?

www.reddit.com/r/apple/comments/3s8klc/is_touch_id_safe_any_drawbacks/

Jan Albert



Yeah and I actually do, but so and this is all I have an app "last pass" and a password so long that I can't remember, and so that's where I store all my passwords, but sometimes in your phone of course you can store passwords as well and then you can access them by fingerprint identification and that is quite handy.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

And how do you know that it's safe?

AWT

Jan Albert



Well, I'm not quite sure, but I mean it's just because it's behind my fingerprint, so to speak. It's just as safe as accessing your phone, you know, I think that therefore if it's safe enough for opening your phone, it's safe enough I think for passwords. But, I mean, it's not the password of my bank account, some passwords they ask you *"Do you want to remember the password?"* and the answer with me is usually *"Never"*.

TOUCH ID AND FACE ID DON'T MAKE YOU MORE SECURE

www.howtogeek.com/368114/touch-id-and-face-id-dont-make-you-more-secure/

63

Rejecting cookies breaks a website

KEYWORDS:

COOKIES WEBSITES MALFUNCTION MYTH

Jan Albert



I usually, every now and then, I wipe all the internet, which is all the Internet data of my phone. I think, if I'm not mistaken, that kind of erases the cookies as well.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

So do you accept cookies?

AWT

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I REJECT THE COOKIES CONSENT OF A WEBPAGE?

[www.quora.com/
What-will-happen-
if-I-reject-the-
cookies-consent-of-a-
webpage?share=1](http://www.quora.com/What-will-happen-if-I-reject-the-cookies-consent-of-a-webpage?share=1)

Jan Albert



Accept cookies, yeah, yeah. I must say I was thinking the other day like, you know, I always thought that the website wouldn't work if you didn't accept the cookies, and that apparently is not so anymore, so I think from now on I'll just refuse them.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

How did you find out that rejecting cookies won't break the website?

AWT

Jan Albert



Well, cause sometimes you think: *"Well, no, I don't want to, I'll just try 'no' and see what happens".*

Phone under your pillow

KEYWORDS:

BATTERY MYTH TRUTH PHONE SLEEP

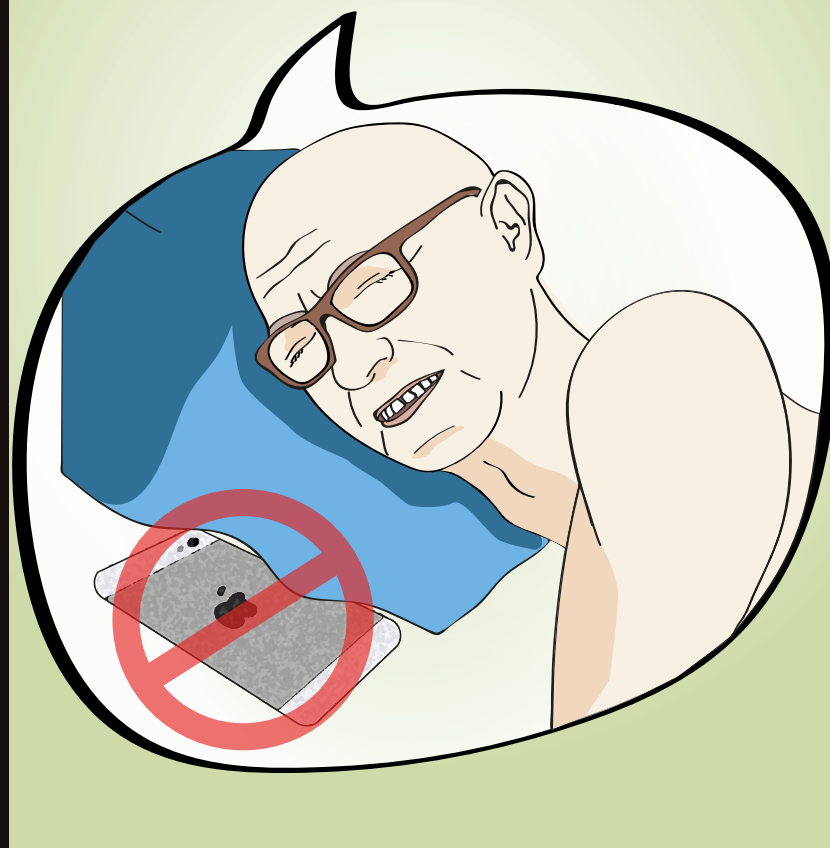
Jan Albert



But the other day, you know, they said you better not sleep with your telephone under your pillow because there had been a few instances of kind of spontaneous combustion of the battery and have been one or two fires in Rotterdam — house fires. And nobody had been wounded or died yet, but that was only a matter of time before that would happen. So better not sleep with your telephone under your pillow. Now, I think about ten million people in this country sleep with their telephone under the pillow — I do. But then you think if this is true — it's quite a serious thing, but it can't be true, otherwise you would have known, you know? But they presented — it was an item on the radio — they presented this as if there's a great big danger that we all expose ourselves to and then they ask you to do something that nobody will do, you know, nobody will leave them outside at night, where do you put it? So I think that that's just... it's just not true.

BUSTING THE MYTH: YES, CELL PHONES CAN EXPLODE

www.androidauthority.com/busting-the-myth-yes-cell-phones-can-explode-42582/



65

Sticky keyboard

KEYWORDS:

DIY HACKS MALFUNCTION SPILLAGE COMPUTER

Rani



I spilled some soda over my laptop and the keys kept getting stuck because it was really sticky. So what I did was first I panicked and then I turned the computer upside down, slapped it a few times, tried to wash it but then I realized that alcohol, rubbing alcohol, things like that might damage the computer. But I still felt like I should rinse it out. I turned it upside down and put a little water over it and then I went to the store and they found out about it, so.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

So your immediate assumption was to wash it out because the liquid was sticky, I guess?

AWT

Rani



Yes.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Okay, but did you think that maybe putting water in it would damage it further? Or in the moment you're just kind of panicking and...

AWT

Rani



I worked at a lab before, and there I would always have to sanitize everything, including my phone. So I used a lot of alcohol to clean it but that damaged the material so I didn't know what to do. But yeah, I'm kind of used to using water when something sticky spilled, so that was weird.

HELP! SPILLED SODA ON MY COMPUTER AND DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

www.reddit.com/r/buildapc/comments/oFr52h/help_spilled_soda_on_my_computer_and_dont_know/

I ACCIDENTALLY SPILLED COKE ON MY LAPTOP. DO I NEED TO GET A REPLACEMENT?

www.quora.com/I-accidentally-spilled-Coke-on-my-laptop-Do-I-need-to-get-a-replacement?share=1

66

Technology prevents me from sleeping

KEYWORDS:

HEADACHE PHONE ELECTRICITY 5G WAVES

Rani



Basically I've been getting headaches lately. And it started when I got my phone and I also don't want to charge my phone near my head. It's also the noise of electricity is kind of loud to me sometimes when it's an old device. I can hear the constant zooming, so that's not great. I'm not sure whether it has an effect on the way my brain works, but yeah, thinking about it, it's pretty messed up.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

You can hear the electricity going through old devices?

AWT

Rani



Yes.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

Is it kind of like this high-pitched noise or what does it sound like?

AWT

Rani



It depends on the device really, if it's like a big fridge you can hear like a low kind of zooming noise but some electric devices also have this more high-pitched noise which I think is just the electricity running through maybe? Yeah, and at night of course if you're trying to sleep and you're in a student sleeping place where everything is just one room, then you'll hear it from many places, so it's kind of distracting.

I'M HYPER-SENSITIVE TO THE "BUZZING" NOISE OF HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

www.reddit.com/r/adhdwomen/comments/wlgzop/im_hypersensitive_to_the_buzzing_noise_of/

67

Cool kids color in their phones

KEYWORDS:

TREND

IPHONE

SCREEN

CRACK

DIY HACKS

Rani



People constantly drop their phone, but the iPhone screen was also known for like breaking easily, so what the popular people in school did was that they dropped the phone and then they would color it in with markers and they would have these lines in color so blue and green.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

The cracks on the screen?

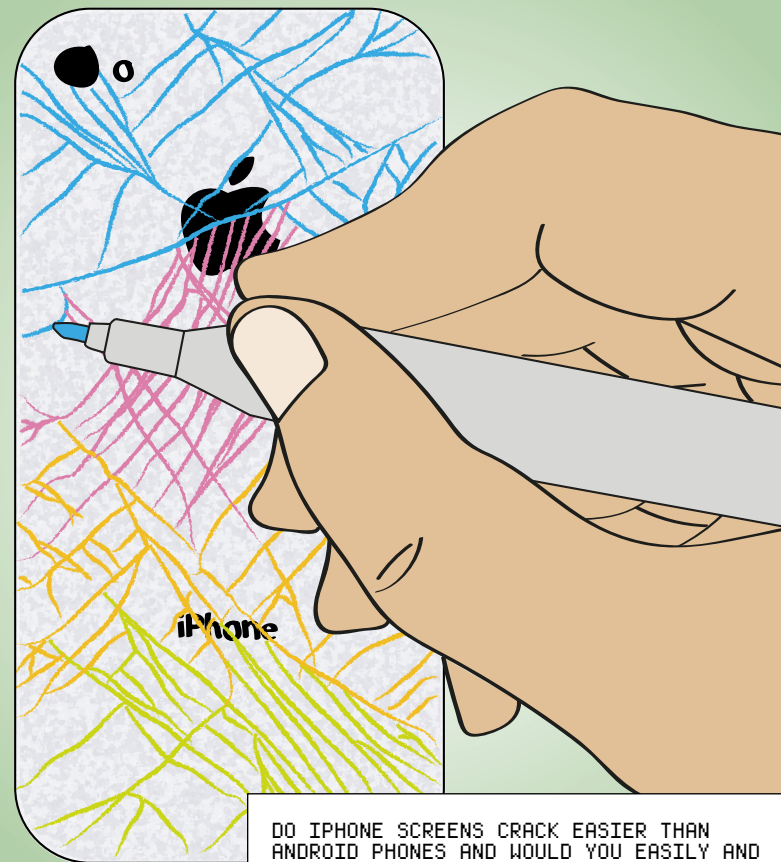
AWT

Rani



Yeah, they would fill with color. I'm not sure if that was temporary or permanent. I believe it was temporary and they just did that every day, but yeah that was really interesting.

51



DO IPHONE SCREENS CRACK EASIER THAN ANDROID PHONES AND WOULD YOU EASILY AND DEFINITELY NOTICE IT IF THERE WERE ANY CRACKS ON AN IPHONE SCREEN?

www.quora.com/Do-iPhone-screens-crack-easier-than-Android-phones-and-would-you-easily-and-definitely-notice-it-if-there-were-any-cracks-on-an-iPhone-screen

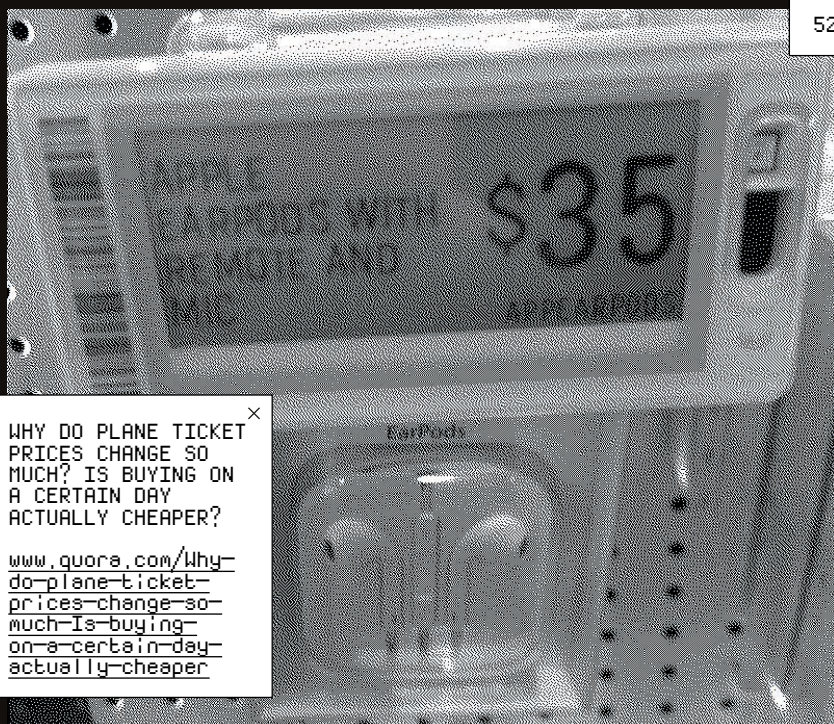
68

Price manipulation

KEYWORDS:

MYTH SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM CONVENIENCE DATA CAPTURE

52



Patrick 2



In the supermarket I recently realized that they now have digital price tags on the products. And an argument could be, “*Well, that’s a lot less printing paper, so they don’t have to change the tag*” but if you just think about it — they know what product is sold the most at what time, they can easily raise the price of like breakfast cereal at 7:00 because they know that that people are most likely to buy it around 7:00.

ADVICE WELL TAKEN

It’s kind of the same theory that people have about booking flights online, I think?

AWT

Patrick 2



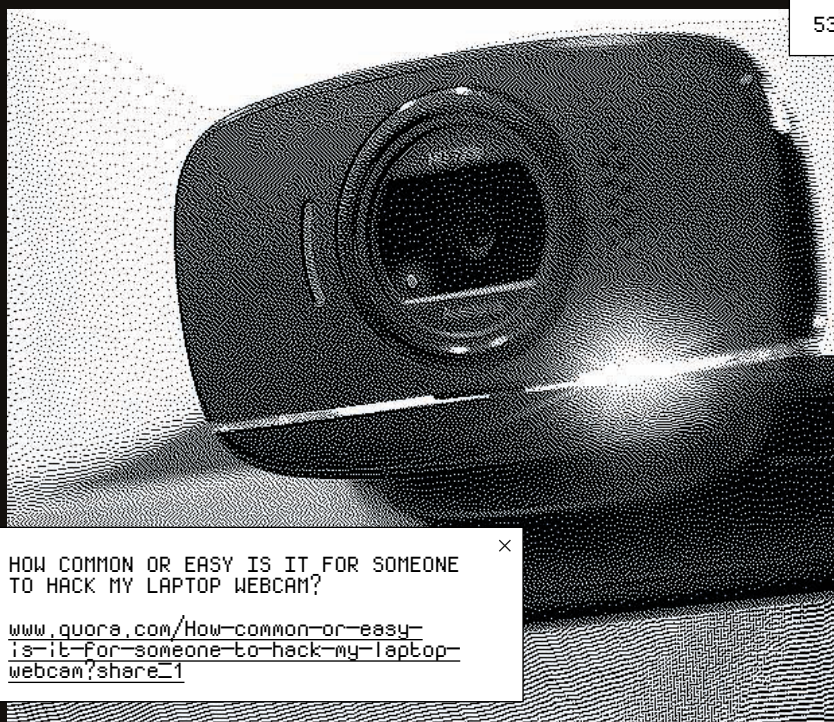
Well my wife is German and we travel to Germany at least twice a year and she always books the tickets for the train and at one point she was trying to and it failed and 10 minutes later she tried again and the tickets were more expensive. And I’m just getting increasingly paranoid about these things, because for what reason would it be more expensive 10 minutes later? Is it because they sold a hundred tickets within 10 minutes or is it because I clicked on it before and now the computer realizes I’m more likely to buy it.

69

Big tech can hack cameras

KEYWORDS:

SURVEILLANCE | BIG TECH | WEBCAM | GETTING HACKED



53

HOW COMMON OR EASY IS IT FOR SOMEONE
TO HACK MY LAPTOP WEBCAM?

www.quora.com/How-common-or-easy-is-it-for-someone-to-hack-my-laptop-webcam?share=1

Patrick 2



I'm absolutely sure that big tech companies are able to hack a camera even without you noticing it. It was in the news this week or last week that Amazon had this doorbell with a camera and it was hacked to spy on women, and not just one or two, but I think maybe 70 people or something. And, well, my idea is, what would I need a doorbell with a camera for? And why on earth would I buy it on Amazon? And what would I need it to be online for, or on the network? But we're forced into going online more and everything is getting digital and it's all said to be perfectly safe, but it just isn't.

FBI CAN HACK INTO COMPUTER
WEBCAMS WITHOUT YOU KNOWING
THEY'RE RECORDING

www.mirror.co.uk/news/technology-science/technology/fbi-can-hack-computer-webcams-2910385

Virus software creates viruses

KEYWORDS:

VIRUS COMPUTER GETTING HACKED MYTH



Patrick 2



When I was in art school we used the first second generation of Apple Macintosh computers. And at that time, the DOS computers and the Windows computers had viruses going on all of the time, but Apple was safe because not many people used Apple anyway, and there was hardly ever a virus on it. And if there was a virus, we had the magic Dr. Norton disk repair, and Dr. Norton also started producing anti-virus software. So if you had a virus, you could enter the floppy disk and run Dr. Norton and he would clean your computer. And even back then, friends of mine and I started wondering — what if you just start producing a virus just to make your own software necessary? That would be a very bad thing to do, but what if? And I don't know for what reason, but I heard 5 years ago or something that this person, I think his name is McAfee, the boss of the company that made the Norton software, was arrested. And I have to look it up, but I keep thinking that we were right that they were just making viruses to keep that company going.

TRUTH OR MYTH: DO ANTIVIRUS COMPANIES
CREATE VIRUSES?

www.techunwrapped.com/truth-or-myth-do-antivirus-companies-create-viruses/

Computer reads everything

KEYWORDS:

MALFUNCTION

COMPUTER

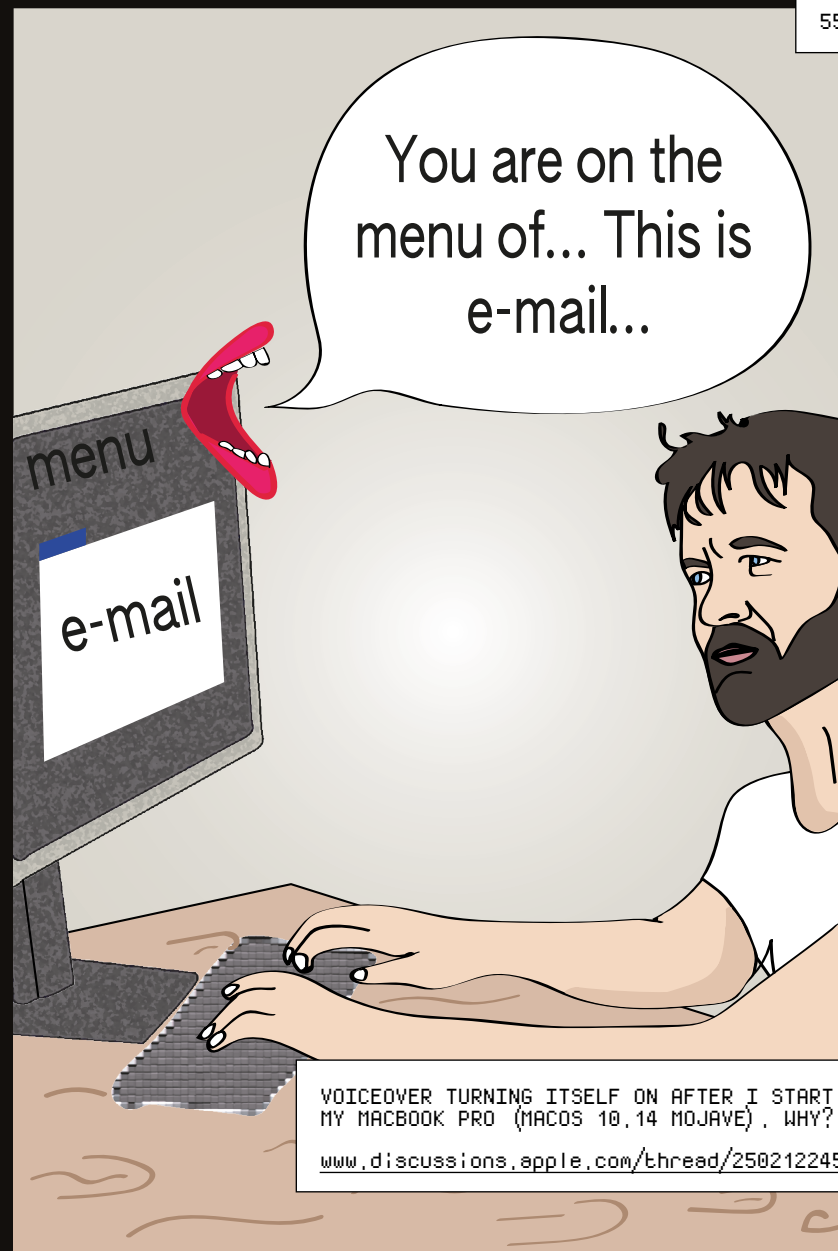
VOICEOVER

MYSTERY

Patrick 2



My wife is an illustrator and designer as well, and she bought a new iMac about 4 years ago. Ever since she bought it, and the system was installed the correct way, when the computer starts up, the voice-over starts up. And the voice-over starts reading all the menus on the screen in this almost Stephen Hawking computer voice, HAL-9000. And it's extremely disturbing and annoying, and we've had two different technicians, Apple specialists, with her computer to try and switch it off, and I myself have almost 30 years of experience with Apple computers, and we couldn't figure it out how to switch it off. And so it's still there and every time you turn it on, it says, *"Jij bent op het menu van... dit is e-mail..."* (You are on the menu of... This is e-mail...) and it keeps on reading everything that's on the screen.



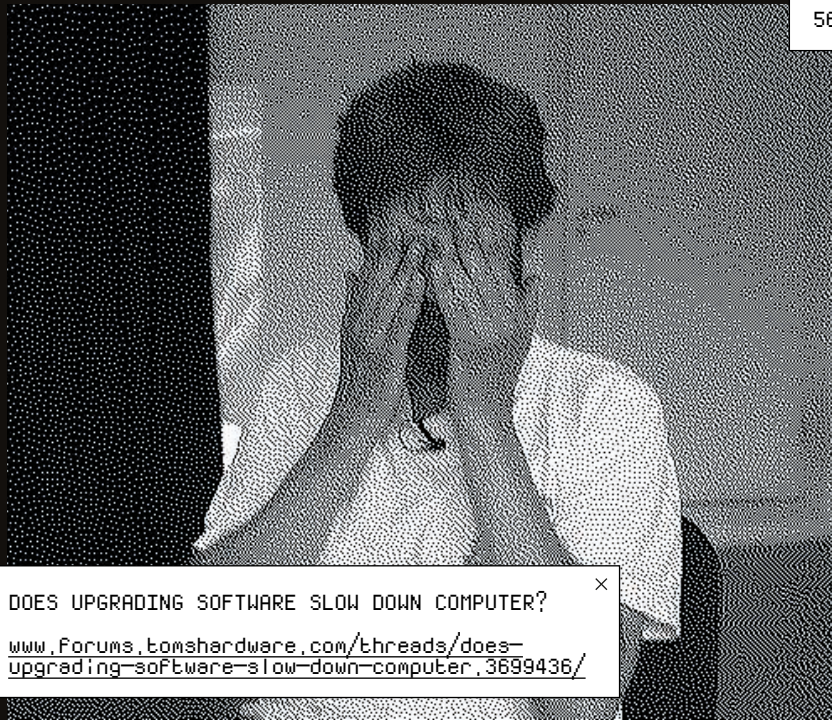
Forced into consumerism

KEYWORDS:

SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM

IPAD

UPDATES



56

DOES UPGRADING SOFTWARE SLOW DOWN COMPUTER? X

www.Forums.tomshardware.com/threads/does-upgrading-software-slow-down-computer.3699436/

Patrick 2



My old iPad broke down, I thought I had some money to spare, so I bought a new iPad. And my kids were watching a series on Disney+, so I also thought, *"Well, okay we'll prolong the subscription for Disney+ for another year"*. And at the same time, it turned out that our network in our home was getting very slow, so I had to update that as well. And in March, the Disney+ app said it had to be updated. So you're 3 months into a new subscription on a new iPad and you're forced to update... And ever since that update, the Disney+ app is so slow that my kids can't even access the translation anymore because it takes 4 minutes to do that and I have to start the movie over again three times. And what's even worse, yeah? I used to stream it from the iPad to the Apple TV, and the connection keeps breaking down, and it just doesn't work, and every new system update makes the machine slower, so every two, three years you have to buy new hardware. You're forced into some kind of consumerism that I think is criminal.

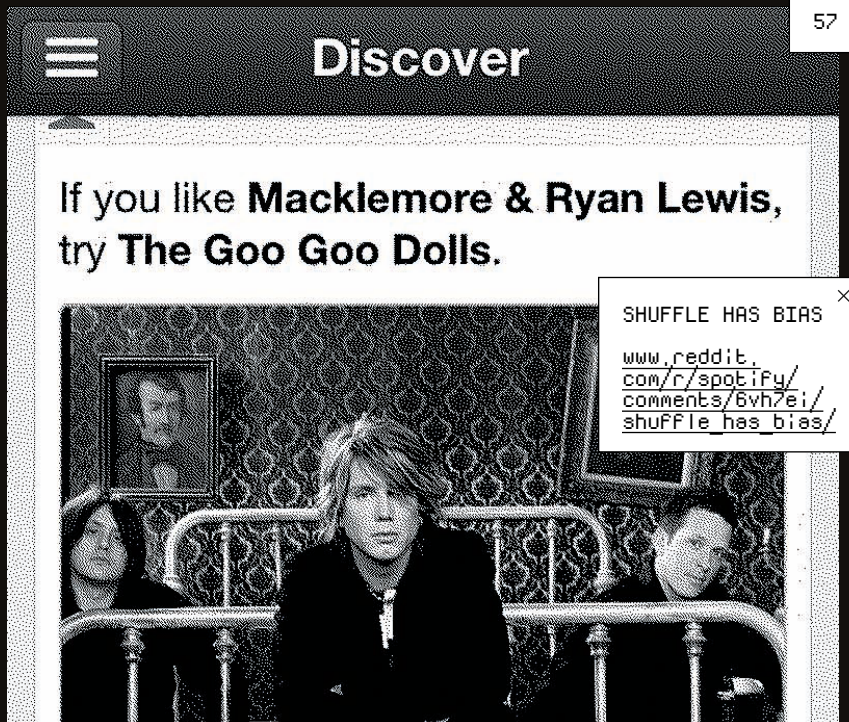
I'VE HAD MY IPAD FOR 1 YEAR AND A BIT. I HAVEN'T UPDATED TO IOS 13 BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO. MY IPAD IS SLOWING DOWN AND GLITCHING. IS IT BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE THE UPDATE? X

www.quora.com/Ive-had-my-iPad-for-1-year-and-a-bit-I-havent-updated-to-ios-13-because-I-dont-want-to-My-iPad-is-slowing-down-and-glitching-is-it-because-I-dont-have-the-update

The myth of the Spotify algorithm

KEYWORDS:

MYTH ALGORITHM SPOTIFY SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM



57

Patrick 2



I absolutely hate the shuffle function for CDs because albums are made this way in a sequence and the artists have thought about it. But in Spotify, when you make a playlist, the shuffle function still works with the algorithm. Because it plays the songs that you are supposed to like according to your profile, earlier than the songs you're not supposed to like according to your profile. And it plays the songs that have big record companies behind it more often than the songs that don't have a big promotion budget, you know? Someone I know comes from the south of the Netherlands and we always say that below the rivers in the Netherlands they celebrate Carnival. But we have specific Dutch music for Carnival. I really hate it, but anyway. He was born below the rivers, and he has been living half his life above the rivers, but his Spotify profile, when he switches on the songs you may also like, he keeps getting this Carnival music in it because his profile says he was born below the rivers. I think that's deeply disturbing.

SHUFFLE FOR ARTIST IS EXTREMELY BIASED (WITH DATA TO PROVE IT)

www.reddit.com/r/spotify/comments/5d1evk/shuffle_for_artist_is_extremely_biased_with_data/

74

Fear of pressing a button

KEYWORDS:

FEAR

BUTTON

COMPUTER



58

Kristina



Sometimes I'm afraid to press a button. And then my husband always says nothing will happen, nothing will explode or anything, the whole computer, you just have to do it. I still have a bit of a fear of that.

THE FEAR OF PRESSING BUTTON:
HOW UX DESIGN CAN HELP

[www.bootcamp.uxdesign.cc/
the-fear-of-pressing-button-
how-ux-design-can-help-
b0a9FeFa61c2?gi_Fa3c51b660ac](http://www.bootcamp.uxdesign.cc/the-fear-of-pressing-button-how-ux-design-can-help-b0a9FeFa61c2?gi_Fa3c51b660ac)

HOW DO YOU MOVE PAST THE FEAR OF
PRESSING THE PUBLISH BUTTON?

[www.trainingauthors.com/the-fear-
of-pressing-the-publish-button/](http://www.trainingauthors.com/the-fear-of-pressing-the-publish-button/)

75

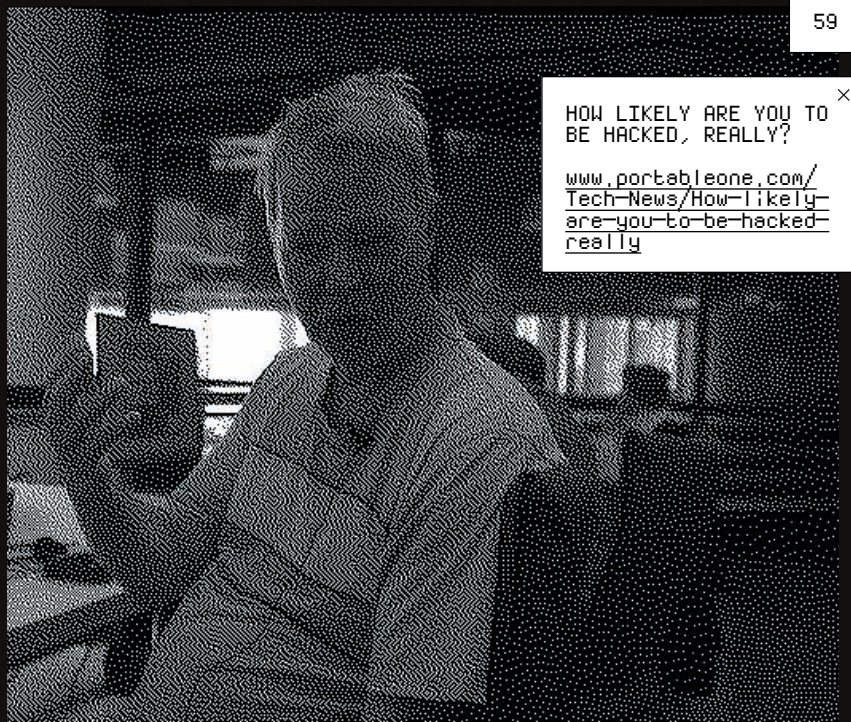
Be on guard with technology

KEYWORDS:

FEAR

GETTING HACKED

COMPUTER



59

HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO
BE HACKED, REALLY?

[www.portableone.com/
Tech-News/How-likely-
are-you-to-be-hacked-
really](http://www.portableone.com/Tech-News/How-likely-are-you-to-be-hacked-really)

L Zomer



The computer stuff, it's getting more and more elaborate. The possibilities are getting more extensive. But the more possibilities there are, the more likely it is that it will also be hacked somewhere... that it will go wrong. That's how I see it. You always have to be on guard against that. And for certain things I will say that's not necessary for me. It's the same with a car. You press a button, then the window opens, you press the button, and then it closes again. Well, I might as well turn that thing manually. Because if I press that little button and there's a lot of dust in it, I can't feel that if there's a lot of dust in it and then the fuse will blow. But if I'm turning it and it's very difficult, then I think, *"Oh, now I shouldn't turn it any further because then I'll turn it to shit"*.

WHY I AM SCARED AND
FEELING ANXIOUS TO
BE HACKED OR SPYED
BY SOMEONE THROUGH
PC AND PHONE?

[www.quora.com/Why-
I-am-scared-and-
feeling-anxious-to-
be-hacked-or-spyed-
by-someone-through-
PC-and-phone](http://www.quora.com/Why-I-am-scared-and-feeling-anxious-to-be-hacked-or-spyed-by-someone-through-PC-and-phone)

Index: Keyword – Techlore

ADVERTISEMENT	8
ADVICE	3, 30, 33, 36, 42, 46, 48, 52
AI	13
ALGORITHM	38, 41, 53, 73
AMAZON	38
APPS	21
BATTERY	9, 10, 29, 46, 52, 64
BIG TECH	69
BIOMETRIC DATA	17, 18, 31, 34, 35, 43, 51, 55, 56, 57, 61, 62
BRAIN WAVES	8, 18
BUTTON	74
CHAKRAS	27, 28
CHARGER	10
CLEANLINESS	28
COMPUTER	10, 25, 33, 36, 47, 65, 70, 71, 74, 75
CONSPIRACY	6, 8, 13, 14, 22, 29, 37
CONVENIENCE	14, 31, 43, 62, 68
COOKIES	63
CRACK	67
DARK POWERS	5, 7, 32, 47
DATA CAPTURE	13, 16, 18, 21, 31, 34, 35, 40, 43, 44, 51, 55, 56, 57, 58, 60, 61, 68
DELIVERY	38
DIY HACKS	3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 15, 20, 23, 25, 26, 30, 33, 36, 39, 42, 46, 48, 50, 54, 65, 67
DYSTOPIA	51
ELECTRICITY	66
ENERGY	19
FACE ID	31, 35, 43, 57
FACEBOOK	16
FACIAL RECOGNITION	6
FEAR	74, 75
FILE TRANSFER	26
FINGERPRINT ID	17, 57, 62
FORUMS	7, 29, 42, 48
GAMES	23, 24
GETTING HACKED	2, 4, 7, 17, 69, 70, 75
GLITCH	47
GOOGLE ASSISTANT	32
HEADACHE	66
HEADPHONES	12, 32
HEALTH TRACKING	34, 51, 55, 56, 57, 61

INSTAGRAM	6, 41, 53
IPAD	20, 72
IPHONE	29, 34, 35, 67
ITUNES	15
MAGIC	8, 26
MALFUNCTION	63, 65, 71
MEDIA ARCHAEOLOGY	3, 23, 24, 42, 59
MICROPHONE	58
MISTAKE	39
MYSTERY	5, 7, 15, 20, 32, 35, 39, 47, 59, 71
MYTH	1, 2, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 19, 23, 24, 25, 27, 38, 41, 45, 49, 50, 52, 53, 58, 59, 63, 64, 68, 70, 73
ONLINE BANKING	61
PHONE	1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 27, 28, 29, 30, 37, 45, 46, 50, 52, 53, 64, 66
PLANNED OBSOLESCENCE	59
PRINTERS	54
PRIVACY	2, 4, 21, 31, 40, 43, 44, 60, 61
RADIATION	11, 12, 14, 19, 22, 27, 28, 37, 45
REPAIR	20, 23, 25, 26, 28, 33, 36, 42, 48, 54
SCREEN	30, 49, 67
SIGNAL	1
SLEEP	11, 37, 64
SPILLAGE	36, 50, 65
SPOTIFY	73
SURVEILLANCE	2, 13, 16, 60, 61, 69
SURVEILLANCE CAPITALISM	44, 68, 72, 73
TRACKING	21, 31, 40, 44, 60, 62
TREND	67
TRUTH	13, 16, 64
TV	49
UPDATES	72
VIRUS	47, 70
VOICEOVER	71
VR	18
WAVES	11, 12, 14, 19, 22, 27, 28, 37, 45, 66
WEBCAM	2, 69
WEBSITES	63
WIFI	5, 7, 11, 19
4G	22
5G	14, 37, 66

Image credits

- 01 © Dasha Iline
- 02 © Dasha Iline
- 03 © Dasha Iline
- 04 © GottaBeMobile; www.youtube.com/watch?v_L9xLeAUc_00
- 05 © Dasha Iline
- 06 © cottonbro studio; www.pexels.com/photo/person-holding-and-taking-selfie-using-a-smartphone-6140203/
- 07 © Dasha Iline
- 08 © Dasha Iline
- 09 © Justin Hall; www.openverse.org/image/25107172-491e-4586-a855-530c5c706941?q=computer%20charging
- 10 © Dasha Iline
- 11 © Dasha Iline
- 12 © Sean Seunghwan Kim, Baris Sinikseran; www.web.archive.org/web/20230331033403/www.makerfaire.com/maker/entry/63407/
- 13 © Heba SoFfar; www.online-sciences.com/health/wi-fi-health-dangers-and-the-radiation-health-effects-of-routers/
- 14 © Dasha Iline
- 15 © Dasha Iline
- 16 © Ansh Srivastava; www.infinityexplorers.com/citizens-are-burning-5g-antennas-around-the-world/
- 17 © solidsnake4545; www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/29-photos-from-the-90s-that-kids-today-will-never-understand/85367473/
- 18 © Shaun; www.8bitpickle.com/video-games/6-more-video-game-rumors-from-the-90s/
- 19 © Dasha Iline
- 20 © Dasha Iline
- 21 © CCF2010; Ashok Agarwal, Aspinder Singh, Alaa Hamada, Kavindra Kesari; www.researchgate.net/figure/Effects-of-Cellular-Phone-Usage-on-the-Human-Body-Usage-of-cellular-phones-is-Fig1-51615995
- 22 © Dasha Iline
- 23 © dmuth; www.openverse.org/image/bdb42a0f-4fe3-44bb-992b-3d50d206643a?q=iphone%20battery
- 24 © Dasha Iline
- 25 © Lace; www.joyofapple.com/blog/category/Face-id-on-apple-pay/
- 26 © MegaSaFetyFirst; www.youtube.com/watch?v_aQMdeUVoMnY
- 27 © Dasha Iline
- 28 © Dasha Iline
- 29 © Dasha Iline
- 30 © Dasha Iline
- 31 Screenshot of browser by Dasha Iline
- 32 © Dasha Iline
- 33 © Solen Feyissa; www.pixabay.com/photos/mobile-phone-screen-instagram-app-5700048/
- 34 © Darius VI; www.openverse.org/image/3965c441-5689-4065-8b3c-cf90244d3628?q=repair%20analog%20camera
- 35 © Dasha Iline
- 36 © PhotoMIX-Company; www.pixabay.com/photos/digital-marketing-technology-1433427/
- 37 © adminas24; www.digiplatz.net/why-turn-off-phone-at-gas-station-not-use-cell-phone/
- 38 © Dasha Iline
- 39 © Dasha Iline
- 40 © Dasha Iline
- 41 © Dasha Iline
- 42 © Renae Chiovaro; www.howtohaveitall.net/save-cell-phone-wet/
- 43 © Dasha Iline
- 44 © Dave Clausen; www.commonswiki.org/wiki/File:Powerpole_IMG_1947.jpg
- 45 © Regan Walsh From Barrie, ON, Canada; [www.commonswiki.org/wiki/File:Tudor%27s_toe_shoes_\(2989824738\).jpg](http://www.commonswiki.org/wiki/File:Tudor%27s_toe_shoes_(2989824738).jpg)
- 46 © Wounds and Cracks; www.pixabay.com/photos/printers-old-abandoned-recycling-344016/
- 47 © Dasha Iline
- 48 © Dolapeart; www.commonswiki.org/wiki/File:Basura_electr%C3%B3nica.jpg
- 49 © Svetlov Artem; www.commonswiki.org/wiki/File:Mosgortrans_ticket_validator_2019-10.jpg
- 50 © Dasha Iline
- 51 © Dasha Iline
- 52 © www.free-images.com/display/electronic_price_tag_by.html
- 53 © European Commission; www.commonswiki.org/wiki/File:P059054-749243.jpg
- 54 © miguelphotobooth; www.openverse.org/image/258e97a2-212d-447f-b7e1-c905ec39eead?q=computer%20virus
- 55 © Dasha Iline
- 56 © Dasha Iline
- 57 © iantrevor; www.openverse.org/image/604acfa2-28a2-4585-adc5-3f1a28b746f6?q=spotify%20algorithm
- 58 © Dasha Iline
- 59 © Dasha Iline

