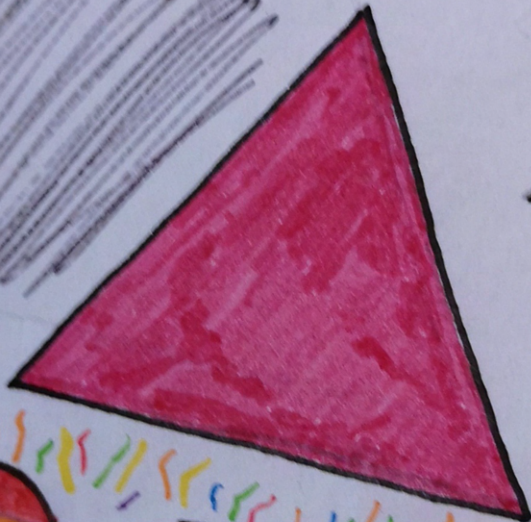


4

Networking

is



GAY

Kyle
Rubini



How can networks support creative people?
To answer this question, I need to destroy my understanding of networking as a very narrow activity. I've always thought of it as a superficial business thing that white cishet men can't get enough of. My friends and I still joke about the guy we met at a bar who wanted to add everyone on LinkedIn.
It looks like this is an outdated view of networking. The more I think about it, I realize that networking is already a huge part of our lives in many informal ways.
From dating to sports, we rely on each other to connect to the right people.



Have you met my handsome friend Ben?

Dr. Swiss is still taking on students!



Ali's also looking for a roommate!

Dr. Peck is the best therapist I've ever had!



Jo needs new players on her volleyball team!





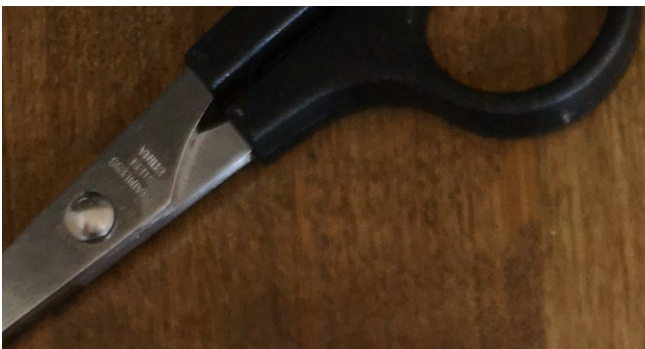
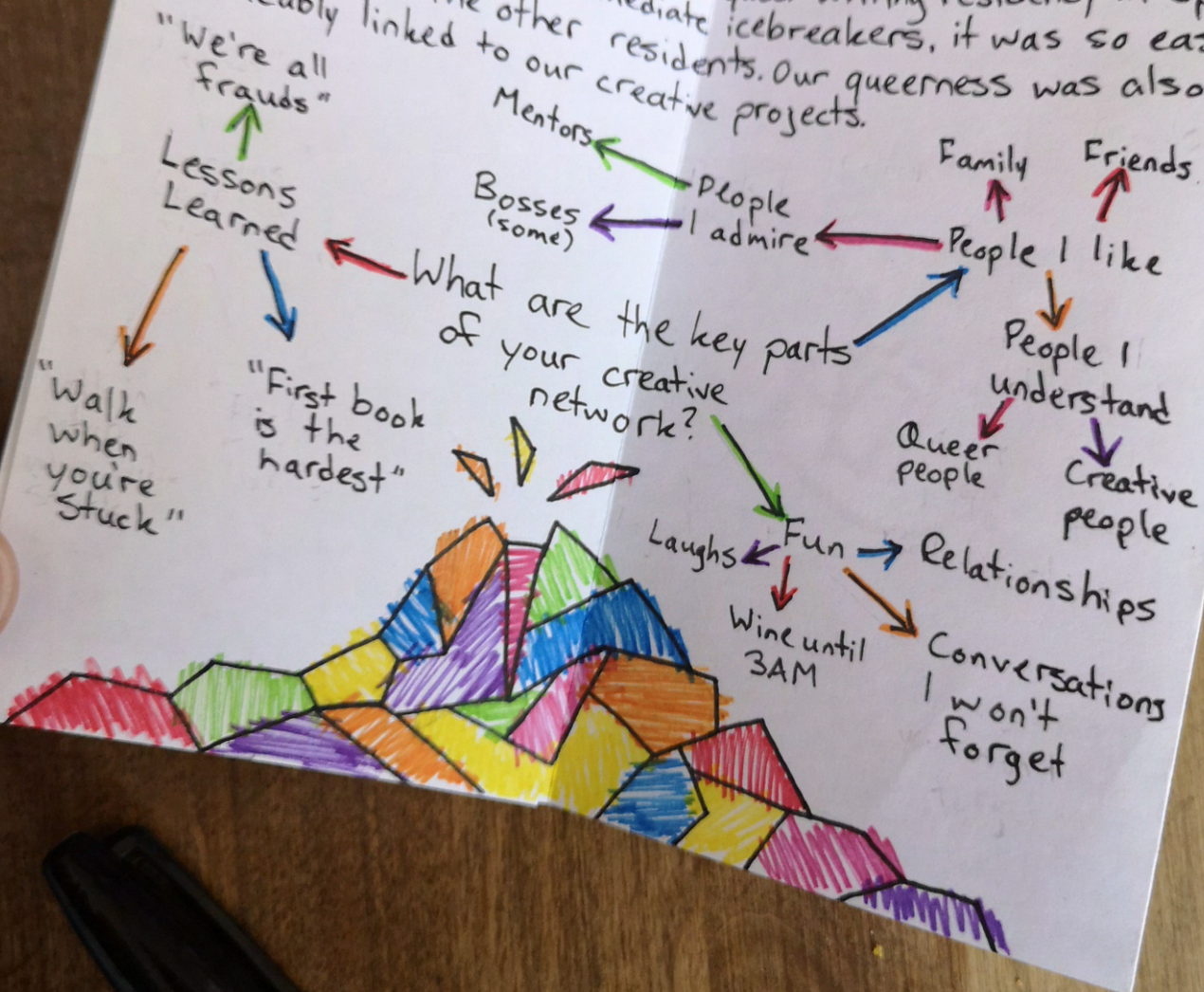
④

- already experts on using "networking" apps to connect deeply + quickly
- used to learning new jargon to fit in
- already have to seek out specific types of people
- always looking for excuses to dress up
- great at small talk from all those branches

Turns out marginalized people are already primed to be great at networking.
So... let's look at queer men as an example.
Here's a list of ways we're built to network.



This time last year I was at a queer writing residency in Spain. Our queer identities were immediate icebreakers, it was so easy to connect with the other residents. Our queerness was also inextricably linked to our creative projects.



Dedicated to the one
and only. the

QUEER
VAKTUAL

I found your work in an
Amsterdam bathroom.
Please add me on LinkedIn.