

AT Banter Podcast Episode 290 - Chad Bouton

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SPEAKERS

Rob Mineault, Lis Malone, Chad Bouton, Ryan Fleury

- R** Rob Mineault 01:06

Hey and welcome to a another episode of AT Banter. This is of course the podcast where we talk with advocates and members of the disability community to educate and inspire better conversation about disability. Hey, my name is Rob Mineault. Joining me today Mr. Ryan Fleury.
- R** Ryan Fleury 01:43

Hello everyone.
- R** Rob Mineault 01:45

And no Steve Barclay hence the big empty space at that banter banter. But hey look who it is. Lis Malone.
- L** Lis Malone 01:54

Who is drinking beer instead of seltzer this week.
- R** Rob Mineault 01:58

Ah Really? Walking on the wild side.
- L** Lis Malone 02:04

Broadening my sponsorship horizons my friend.

R Rob Mineault 02:08
Maybe we should re-name this podcast? "What's Lis drinking today?" Could be can be a better name. I mean we are looking to rebrand. So how are you two people today?

R Ryan Fleury 02:23
Ladies first.

L Lis Malone 02:25
I'm sweating my little biscuits off.

R Rob Mineault 02:30
You got a heat wave or something?

L Lis Malone 02:32
Yeah we got a little heat wave going on the southern parts.

R Ryan Fleury 02:39
Southern parts.

L Lis Malone 02:45
Triple digits

R Ryan Fleury 02:48
She said Southern parts. I'm derailed.

R Rob Mineault 03:01
Yeah, I hate to have to be the adult in the room. Do you have like an air conditioner or anything or no?

L Lis Malone 03:17

Everything in the south everything is central air. Oh god yeah, those window ACs don't do don't do squat in this kind of heat.

R

Rob Mineault 03:26

Oh, is that right? Wow. I don't even have that. I think I think I need to get one for the summer because I don't know we're probably gonna get hot. We should just prepare to just live in the world of Mad Max apparently because gas is like super expensive and rare. You're gonna see started seeing roving bands of marauders on the highway stealing each other's gas during a heatwave.

R

Ryan Fleury 03:52

Fun times.

R

Rob Mineault 03:53

Yeah. All right. Well, now that that's over with ...

R

Ryan Fleury 03:57

I'm fine, too. Thanks.

R

Rob Mineault 04:00

Oh, yeah, that's right. Okay. All right, sir.

R

Ryan Fleury 04:04

Life is fantastic.

R

Rob Mineault 04:07

Stop. We're gonna we're gonna go there. Hey, Ryan.

R

Ryan Fleury 04:10

Yeah, Rob.

R

Rob Mineault 04:11

Yeah, what about you?

R

Ryan Fleury 04:12

What about me? Well, you know, living the life here I am week after week podcasting in my mancave Life couldn't be any better. While I couldn't wait for warmer weather, but maybe let's just give us I know I sent some we're still waiting for summer here.

R

Rob Mineault 04:29

Now. What are we doing today?

R

Ryan Fleury 04:41

Today we have a special guest in our virtual studio with us. Today we have Chad Bouton, who is a journalist and fellow podcaster who reached out to us saying hey, I just found out about your show and listening to some episodes and here he is on our show. So welcome, Chad.

C

Chad Bouton 04:58

Hey, thank you so much. for having me on, I'm happy to meet you all personally. But yeah, I just found out the podcast, maybe like a month ago and just been listened to the content, just love your dynamics. So, oh, it's funny, you know, I asked you guys to be on mine, but here I am on yours. So thank you so much for having me on. It's a pleasure.

R

Rob Mineault 05:20

Podcasting is such an interesting thing these days, because, you know, it's become a lot more popular, it's really exploded in popularity, especially since recording equipment has really decreased in price and availability. Now, now it's no problem you go to Best Buy and plop down 50 bucks on a half decent microphone, you download a free piece of software on your computer, and boom, away you go you're a podcaster. So, which I think is great, because I think it is a really great platform to be able to do a lot of good, especially if, if you have a lot of things to say. So given that I'm really curious to hear a little bit about your story about how you came to to put together your podcast, but before we do that, maybe just give us a little bit of a like sort of a screenshot of of you and who you are and and how the podcast came into being.

C

Chad Bouton 06:23

So, first has said there was no plan for the podcast. It's something that kind of just came about, out of just circumstances, but definitely I'll get into those just a bit. But yeah, so my name is Chad Bouton, I'm the host of Hindsight is 20/20. I've been doing the podcast for about four months. So March of this year is when we launched the first episode. I am 29 years old, and I've

been losing my vision since I was 11 years old because of Autosomal Recessive Retinitis Pigmentosa, basically, what vision I have now is just what's directly in front of me, I don't have any working peripheral vision. So the easiest way I can explain my vision to people is basically it's like I'm looking through a straw all day. So it's, it's very, very narrow. And yeah, I've just been losing my vision, since I was a very young kid. You know, pretty much the only thing I've known in my entire life is the fact that I'm gonna keep losing my vision. And that I'm gonna, you know, continue to experience issues with my independence and my confidence, which I've definitely battled with throughout my many years here on Earth, and, but you know, just navigate it the best I can. And in terms of like my professional background, I was in Philanthropy for about five years before the pandemic hit, working with Southeastern Guide Dogs out of Palmetto, Florida, which is an amazing organization that trains Guide Dogs for the visually impaired and service dogs for veterans that have served in the US military. So that's what I did prior to the COVID pandemic. And pretty much the pandemic is the reason that I started the podcast, there probably would be no podcast had I not lost my job due to the ongoing pandemic.

R

Rob Mineault 08:18

That's really interesting. Actually, I wonder, I do wonder how many podcasts were actually born out of the, the pandemic, because it seems to me that's probably not an unusual story.

C

Chad Bouton 08:28

Basically, I was in charge of raising money for the organization. It is because as a nonprofit, it relies on contributions from the public and vast partners. So it could be, you know, just an individual or you know, like an entire organization like Progressive Insurance. So, you know, basically what I was doing was, I was working in public events. So I was putting on what they call Walkathon ads, which is basically like this big, in-person event where it combines kind of like a 2k walk with, like a festival. So people go there to do the walk, but they also have vendors out there. And this is kind of their time to promote their services and products to the public. It's kind of all centered around the idea of where raising awareness for vision loss, of course, so that was what I was doing. So basically, I was managing portfolios of 50 plus people, you know, basically making sure that everything from the tables and chairs were there to tents, making sure that there was like live entertainment, food and refreshment. And then, of course, you know, raising money. You know, we were able to raise some incredible money while I was there, like the first year that I worked on the events by myself, I raised about \$40,000 for the organization. So, you know, it was it was great work and I was very happy to contribute, what I could do to the organization so that I could continue to offer its training and it's you know, services to the public because the great thing about Southeastern is that they can offer all these dogs to the public for free, as well as have every student and stays on the campus to train with one of their dogs to form a partnership. And they can keep them on campus for up to three weeks, depending on the program, but three weeks and, you know, provide them a room as well as food while they're there. So, you know that fundraising was instrumental to the organization's continued success. So it was a lot of fun work, I had a lot of fun doing it.

R

Rob Mineault 10:32

And so the pandemic hit, and you know, you are along with, you know, a ton of other people I'm

sure, found themselves either laid off or unemployed. So were you you were just kind of sitting around and you thought, You know what, what I need to do I need to start a podcast?

C

Chad Bouton 10:50

Well, well, first it was, I need to pay bills immediately. So I'm gonna go work as a janitor at a reemployment office, which I mean, nothing against janitors but I absolutely hated that work. And I frame it from, you know, I go from something very self fulfilling, you know, I am actually as a legally blind person, helping to raise money to give a guide dog to a visually impaired person. So that's a lot more self fulfilling than cleaning up a mess, or making sure that computers and chairs are clean. It's just, it wasn't the same sort of fulfillment that I was getting from my previous jobs. So I did that, I paid my bills, it was great. But I was very unhappy with the work that I was doing. And I was trying to work with like, Lighthouse is the Blind Division of Blind Services, even the reemployment office I was working for, and I just didn't really get the help that I needed to find a job that could really suit my background. Um, you know, it was kind of very low entry positions that I felt, you know, not to be, you know, egotistical, but I thought I was always better than because I just felt that, you know, a lot of these jobs, they weren't something really, for me, so I didn't see a need to go into them. And I just felt there was a lot of misunderstandings, you know, of what I could do and what I couldn't do. So, literally, like you said, I was kind of somewhat sitting around, just playing video games, again, because I still love to play video games. I know, for people who aren't visually impaired, that kind of seems weird for someone to say, but I love video games. So my sister who also has retinitis pigmentosa, she said, you know, you should really try and find a publication that will let you share your experiences as a visually impaired gamer. So I thought that was really cool idea. So I sent like 50 emails out to all these different publications, got 49 'no's basically. But then there was a company out of the UK called Nintendo Life that was like, we want you to publish an article on the Nintendo Switch, and six of its games and discuss that from accessibility. So that was like my first kind of taste of being an advocate and having my voice heard on an international level. And then that led to the Royal National Institute of Blind People, their Connect Radio, which is out of the UK, they contacted me because they found my article and liked it. And then they had me come on and talk on their podcasts. And that kind of sort of watched my interest into broadcasting. And also at this time, Sam, Seavy of The Blind Life had released his OrCam video. And I just really, like fell in love with that content of his and just all these things together really kind of motivated me to be, you know, not only an advocate, but to do stuff on a platform where people could go and hear me talk about things and see me talking about things. So that's kind of where my inspiration for the podcast started. So I started putting things together, I had a really good friend who is a professional photographer who knew things about cameras and a little bit about audio equipment. So he helped me find the stuff that wasn't like \$1,000, the stuff that I could afford, and yeah, I put that together, and then slowly but surely, I moved away from journalism. And then I just went full into the broadcasting of the podcasts. And since March of this year, it's just been nothing but the podcast.

R

Rob Mineault 14:34

It's interesting that you say that because one of the first things that me and Ryan talked about when we when we looked you up is that you you look at your your podcast page, and it's hard to believe that you've only been doing this for three months because the sheer volume of

content that you've pumped out for that three months is really amazing. You know, we we often think that we're crazy coming up with a weekly podcast but you are coming out with, what, three episodes a week? How do you do that?

C

Chad Bouton 15:11

So this probably will make you even go like, "what the hell are you thinking"? But um, there's been like, a couple of weeks where I literally recorded probably eight episodes in a week. So basically, I've doubled up and done two recordings on a day, I've even had a day where I recorded four episodes in one day. And of course, that's absolutely insane to think about now, because I'm actually trying to regulate my schedule. I guess that my my, the thing behind that was, I wanted to put out as much content as I could, because I felt, if I really worked in terms of putting out a lot of content, getting my voice around this amazing community that has been super kind to me, as I've started this journey of mine, I just have always had this mentality of, well, I might be new to this podcasting thing. And you know, this amazing community of the visually impaired to the disabled, but I'm going to work harder than them, or at least I feel I'm going to work harder than them. I'm the type of person where I can get up at six in the morning and stay up till 3am in the morning, doing work. And that's just been my mentality for a very long time. Because where I grew up here in the US, as kind of like I was, I had to do that. Like, if I didn't work that hard, then I was going to be left behind, and no one was going to help me. So I felt that I always had to outwork my competition or my peers. So that's just something that's kind of wired in my head. So yeah, Season One will be wrapping up soon. 50 episodes in the first season. But you know, I can't maintain that pace forever. So yeah, Season Two, I'm going to start cutting back, you know, only two episodes a week, but still do at least six episodes a month. And then, you know, keep the seasons to probably about three months, and then take a month long break in between every season. So definitely now that I've started to finally, you know, get those emails for people like, "oh, yeah, I've listened to an episode" or "yeah, I think a friend of mine told me about your podcast". I feel like you know, I've put the work in to where I can say maybe now at least a little bit I've made a name for myself. So it's just more about regulating and making sure that I can sustain this because I feel like I put the foundation in there for the most part.

R

Ryan Fleury 17:41

Chad, I have to say that you've had guests on your show that have never responded to me that I've never had on my show. Or sorry, guys, our show. Oh, yeah. Our seventh year now, right, so well.

R

Rob Mineault 17:55

And so I'm, I'm sort of curious, when you first started the podcast and you started that schedule, that insane schedule that you're having, was that was that part of sort of your strategy, you know, feeling like, well, if I can get like a lot of content loaded in, then it's going to be a little bit easier getting people as guests, because I know for us when we're first starting the first year, I mean, you really don't have, you don't really have a strong leg to stand on, in terms of when you're going to people and saying, "Hey, we're a podcast, you can go and check

us out". And when you only have like 12 or 13 episodes, they might sort of go, "meh". And so is that kind of your strategy early on? I need to pump out a lot of content so then it sort of legitimizes the podcast?

C

Chad Bouton 18:43

Yeah. So when I started the podcast, I had reached out to someone and I was like, Hey, will you be like one of my first guests, and they came back saying, you know, we'd love to, but you know, our motto, our model here at the company, is we need to see at least like three to five episodes from you in terms of content, and then judge if that content, you know, coincides with our own, you know, mission goals here. So, that made me realize, okay, so I need to make sure that I have a bunch of content, if I want to reach out to some people, because there are going to be people who are going to come back and say, well send me some of your episodes. And there's definitely been times when I've reached out to a guest. And they said, Well, can I see two, three of your episodes and, you know, having a lot in the bank whether, you know, it might not be guests that are known on an international level. They're known at least within this, you know, industry. So, you know, whether it's like a teacher of visually impaired, you know, Dr. Conrad, who's worked with a number of guide dog organizations, or, you know, Shane, of Super Sense, you know, that was stuff that I had brought over from my journalism career. Are, which was very, very brief. But I took some of the contents that I had gotten from that. Just contacted them. And some of them were really, really nice and just jumped on in the beginning. But then I, like I said, I did have to establish at least a little bit of kind of vault of my content to them bring to some of those conversations, because I have had a number of people saying, "Well, how long have you been doing your podcast? What's your demographic? How many people are listening to you? You know, do you have episodes you can share?" And I have had to do that. And that's where I feel like it was good for me to do that, like crazy cake, crazy schedule of basically, getting as much guests as I can possible, even if they're, you know, just state or local.

R

Ryan Fleury 20:50

Well, it's good to have some in the bank like you're talking about, because as we've mentioned, guests will say no, so if you're going to at least have a weekly podcast schedule, you've got to have content to post.

R

Rob Mineault 21:02

Yeah, and you do find that like some some guests, that is a real concern for them, you know, they are they are they want to know, your demographics. They want to know how far reaching your your audience's because, you know, for them, it's, it's, it's a time investment. And so it's understandable. I mean, I think that our sort of, I don't know, the sort of the way that we approach it is that, you know, it doesn't hurt to ask, and, you know, if they are more concerned with sort of a rate of return for them, that's okay. That's understandable. And it's no hard feelings. But really, for the most part, and we discovered this early on, I remember saying in the first few years of the podcast of being really amazed at how easy it was to get guests, because yeah, you're just say, Hey, do you want to come on this podcast, and nine times out of 10 they were just thrilled to death to come on and talk.

C Chad Bouton 21:54

Yeah, 100%. I mean, it's been crazy, because I thought, especially when I've was first starting out, like the first month, I was like, alright, I'm gonna ask these guests. You know, I, I really only connect with people that I'm truly interested at some way, you know, it doesn't have to be just their product, it can just be them as the person themselves. So you know, if I want to work with someone, or reach out to so I definitely have taken an interest in what they're doing and believe in it in some way. So when I had all these guests, I'm just like, well, hopefully, some of them are going to say yes. Or I don't know what I'm going to do. Because you know, I don't have a co host. It's just me. I've always felt I'm not that interesting of a person. So yeah, it was really surprising to get people say yes. And I'm just like, Oh my God, thank you. I don't know what I would have done if you said no.

R Ryan Fleury 22:51

You flip through the Rolodex and move on to the next one.

C Chad Bouton 22:54

Yeah, definitely. You do that. And you know, I, you know, I reached out to a lot of people and, you know, I get no and I get yes, but I would say honestly, I've been very fortunate to say that I've gotten more yes. I guess I'm just lucky, I really, I don't know what to attribute it to. But I just feel very blessed so far.

R Rob Mineault 23:17

That's what we've kind of found as well. I think that in general, we get a lot more yeses than we do know is I mean, yes, we we do get rejections. And as you can tell, Ryan takes it very personally. So it does happen. But generally, it's usually the bigger companies. It's those companies that are a little bit concerned about, you know, time invested and all of that. But in general, especially when you when you're dealing with sort of other advocates or organizations, they're, they're thrilled to come on, because they understand that it's giving them a platform to help spread whatever it is their message or their issue or to come talk about their organization. And usually, you know, they love it. Or if you're talking to individuals about their stories and stuff they're they're completely thrilled to come on and have some airtime.

C Chad Bouton 24:15

Yeah, and I like to think that I probably have grabbed a couple of guests that may have never before been asked to be on a podcast or never had any inkling of doing a podcast, you know, I just feel like some people just feel like they're not like big enough for they don't think that they're like, important enough. But I just I hope that people that have felt that way when I before I've asked them just realize that all their stories matter in some way to the larger universe. So yeah, I mean, I like to think that I grabbed some people that I'm hopefully, you know, were grateful that they had their stories shared. So that's also something that I, I think about too sometimes.

L

Lis Malone 25:06

Chad, I was wondering if maybe for any of our listeners who are not members of the low vision community, if you could explain the significance of the 20/200, in your name Hindsight is 20/200.

C

Chad Bouton 25:17

Yeah, so I love that when I was thinking of a name for the podcast I was trying to think of, well, well, it'd be kind of a cool name for me. I wanted to originally go with never walk alone, because as a guide dog user, I don't walk alone. And as long as I have the harness in my hands, I never walk alone. So I always have that person with me, though, you know, that close bond that's protecting me. But I know, there's a lot of "never walk alones" out there. So I wanted something kind of original. So I don't know what it was about Hindsight is 20/200. It's something that I've always have joked around and said, in my life with my dad. And he's always like, hindsight, is 20/20. And if you're a visually impaired person, it's more like 20/200. So my whole thing was I wanted something about, you know, something to do with like visual impairment, and it'll be some way that was funny to me. So, of course, hindsight, is 20/200. The whole thing behind that is by if you had perfect vision, and you were able to see things as they were going to happen, that you probably would never make a mistake, because you'd have perfect vision no matter what. So 20/200, that is kind of the benchmark for people that have some in some way a visual impairment. So my whole joke is that for me, it doesn't matter how clear my future my present or my past is, because I have 20/200. But truth truly, I'm worse than that. My Hindsight is never going to be perfect. So for me, hindsight, is 20/200 is basically me telling people that, yeah, my vision is never going to be perfect. I'm never going to be able to look back and see things in a clearer picture. But um, I'll do the best that I can with what I have. And hopefully that'll be enough. And that's where the 20/200 with hindsight comes from.

L

Lis Malone 27:08

Now in Canada, is it the same as in the US because like, here in the US, for for Rob and Ryan? Because like, here, you know, everyone has gone to the, you know, the doctor at some point, you read from the chart with the letters, right, and so, yeah, so, so here in the US, if you hit if you if you are 20/200, or worse, uncorrected, can't be corrected, then you are considered legally blind. So is that is that the same in Canada?

R

Ryan Fleury 27:39

Honestly, I don't know the answer. Steve probably does. He's not here.

R

Rob Mineault 27:46

Yeah, no, in Canada. I think what they do, Lis is they line up penguins on an ice floe. A certain number of penguins and then they ask you how many penguins can you can you make out?

C Chad Bouton 28:00
That sounds like a lot more fun exam.

L Lis Malone 28:15
And then, did they give me some goggles? A or B? Or C? Better?

C Chad Bouton 28:21
Are they white with black feathers? Or Black with white?

L Lis Malone 28:27
Eating a fish or a poop? I mean, I don't know. Well, penguins eat the fish. Right? Fish. Okay, yeah, I don't I don't know.

R Ryan Fleury 28:41
Well, I'm sure people can email us.

L Lis Malone 28:45
They will believe me, they still haven't told me why Toronto plays that stupid Hall & Oates song. Okay, but I'm sure they'll tell me all the things that penguins eat. Can't wait.

R Rob Mineault 28:58
There you go. I love it. So the now the other thing that I'm incredibly curious about is when you sat down to sort of formulate the podcast and what most of the content would be? Did you kind of have a bit of a vision? Because I know that our show, you know, we kind of evolved and to be quite honest with you, we feel like it's still evolving, even after six years. So, you know, what was there always a plan in terms of like, who what kind of guests I'm going to have? And what kind of the overarching message on the show is going to be who it's going to be for? Did you sit down and think about that? Or did you just start like just calling people and trying to get guests?

C Chad Bouton 29:43
So it was kind of a mix of both? If I was to really be honest, it's like I always knew that I wanted the podcast to be educational. Because at least from my experience in life, I've always grown up with people who don't have a good understanding of social inequities or disabilities. So I

up with people who don't have a good understanding of visual impairments or disability. So I grew up in a very rural town that literally my sister and I were the only two people that were losing our vision, at least at the time that we were growing up. And then our town has no idea of how to actually handle or just treat visually impaired people like normal people that we are. So I've always felt that education was something big for me as just someone who had a voice and was willing to use it. So I always knew I wanted it to be educational, I always knew I wanted it to expose people to at least visual impairment. So early on, I had this thing where it was only going to be visually impaired, it was that was going to be the focus, like I even had in the description, you know, like blind journalist talks to get to create a better blind, new world. And then, after about the first month of the podcast, I felt that was too limiting, because I found myself wanting to talk to other disability communities, I wanted to talk to motor neural, I wanted to talk to cognitive, sensory, even to auditory, you know, I wanted to talk to all these different guests with all these different walks of life. So I felt to me, it would be a disservice to keep it as a visually impaired podcast. So I changed it very early on to basically, you know, like I say, like, whether you're a disabled gamer, engineer creating a device or a service for disabled people. You know, this is the podcast for you, I'm basically changing it from just being about visual impairments to now just being about disability as a whole. So that's something that I changed very quickly because I felt I needed to because I wanted it to be more about just disability in general. But I always knew I wanted to be educational. And I wanted to be mostly interview. Because I feel like, that's where I myself learn the most, because there's been a number of times I've had these amazing guests on it. And I've learned as much as my guests have met my guests, but my audience has. So definitely I knew that. And then in terms of guests, I always had a couple of, you know, dream guests that I wanted on. And I thought I definitely want to get them this soon. But I mean, I guess you know, I'm blessed to half of them already. But I always knew I wanted Sam Seavy at The Blind life, because he was an inspiration for me just become an advocate. I always wanted Two Blind Brothers because I love what they do and how everything that they earn goes back to research finding blindness. I always wanted Be My Eyes, because I've known about that app and I've used it myself personally and benefited from it. So I've had a number of these guests that I wanted on but thought you know, it's never going to happen until like three, five years down the road. And I don't know how I did it, I guess it's just me being persistent, because I literally will just continue to reach out, you know, like, I'll email someone in a week, maybe not hear back from them in two, three weeks, email them again. And then you know, maybe even after a month, email them again, to just keep up. You know, I just you know, unless I hear a yes or no from you, I won't stop emailing you. So I'm very persistent. And I think that persistence has definitely paid off. When it comes to some of my guests. I feel it was me making sure that they told me yes or no, that really made it to where they eventually said yes.

R

Ryan Fleury 33:25

Well, and timing is everything too. You know, we've spoken to Sam as well. And, you know, some people's personalities really come into play too, right? And Sam seems quite humble and willing to talk to anybody anytime he's free, right? So you will come across a lot of people like that.

C

Chad Bouton 33:42

And then I thought I had to pay him I was like thinking he's gonna want some type of money, because he's this big, super awesome, well known Youtuber with all these companies wanting his content on their devices. And then just like, the same goes to reaching out to people of course.

his opinion on these devices. And I'm just like, I'm gonna have to pay him a bunch of money that I don't have. And then he just comes back saying, what do you want to do? And I'm just like, holy crap, this is happening.

R

Ryan Fleury 34:05

It's awesome. Yeah.

C

Chad Bouton 34:07

So it's just great. You know, he really, you know, he's such a humble person. And, you know, it's just great to be able to know that there's people out there because, for me, I'm just I have so many self confidence issues just because of my traumatic and my trauma from growing up with vision loss. And I always feel like I'm never good enough to ask for someone to come on my podcast. I always just feel weird, especially when it's does people that I know are big and have that following. But, I mean, they've said yes, so I guess I'm doing something right.

R

Ryan Fleury 34:40

Well, we've talked about that. There's a process right, you know, I'm totally blind. I lost it in the car accident. Lis is partially sighted as well. So, you know, you're not alone in this community. And yeah, people people are willing to talk. People aren't willing to share their stories. All you have to do is ask.

R

Rob Mineault 34:59

Yeah, that's right. I mean, back to your point, when you when you talked about how much you learn on the podcast, that's really one of the the amazing things that I love about doing this show is the amount of learning that you do when you have all these different people and all these different organizations on and constantly learning and hearing other people's stories. And honestly, like this, this podcast is an incredibly rewarding thing to be doing. And I'm sure that, you know, you find the same thing, and you will find the same thing, the more people that you talk to, it is a really, really amazing experience.

C

Chad Bouton 35:39

Yeah, it's really been just self rewarding. You know, for me, it's just like, even if I don't ever really make money off of podcasting, because I didn't want this to eventually become like, a full time job, like, I'm very, what's the word optimistic, maybe even, you know, idealistic about where I can take this. I really do want this to eventually become a small business, I'd love this to become like a radio network where I can pull in other amazing advocates, from all different walks of life and disabilities, and have them contribute to that. So have like our own disability radio show and stuff like that. But for me, it's already been self rewarding. And I already count the podcast success, because I've already learned so much. And I've had people, you know, be introduced to all these amazing organizations and individuals with their stories and what

they're doing. And I feel at least in some way, I've started to move the needle even further when it comes to universal accessibility. And that's honestly all I want at the end of the day is to know that I exposed people who otherwise would have never been exposed, had I not talk to them and had those conversations on the podcast.

R

Ryan Fleury 36:55

Well, you did that in your last episode before the show started today. Lis and I were talking about Vtubers. And I'm like, What is a Vtuber I know nothing about Vtubers. So I listened to part of your episode. And I still don't know what Vtubers are, maybe I'm just too old. It's not my demographics. Just get off my lawn.

C

Chad Bouton 37:16

So, you know, I, I've always been a nerd. I mean, I love I'll joke and say I've had a Gameboy Color since I was in my mother's stomach, you know. I have been a nerd since the day I popped out the womb. But you know, I've always loved animation. So anime as in Japanese animation, which that's what it is. And cartoons I've, I've always been in love with that I've been so fascinated and just gung ho about my love for that. And Vtubing is kind of an extension of that, because it takes you know, that love of animation and then it allows basically, you to inhabit that role. And for a lot of people that do this, they are in some way trying to express a artistic side of them that they otherwise feel that they can't do in their actual normal lives. So for them, it's that outlet of they can be the singer, the artists, the entertainer that they feel otherwise, that they can't do and kind of the standard foundation that we have, you know, in the real world, right? For some other reason or not. And I've loved it, I think it's fascinating, you really can see, especially when you watch these Vtubers stream, their love and how they inhabit these roles. And for them, it's almost like an extension of who they really are. And it really is, you know, that's, that is them. It's just in this character, so that it's more accepting and appealing to you, the audience, but that is still them. So I love that and I feel that's just another thing that I can bring to the table. As you know, I'm only 29 So I've grown up to where, you know, video games and animation and have taken on these weird new kinds of forms. And I, you know, have never closed my mind to the possibility of what these things can become and inhabit in the market. So I try and stay hip, I guess is what I'm trying to say. It just kind of bringing these things where otherwise people are just going to be like, Well, I don't know what that is. So I guess I'll never learn about it. So hopefully I can just you know, have someone come on and tell you what it is and then you can always understand it a little bit.

R

Ryan Fleury 39:35

Absolutely. Like I said, I've never heard of it before your show.

L

Lis Malone 39:37

So yeah, Ryan your your Vtube avatar would have a six pack and -

R Ryan Fleury 39:44
No see my Vtube avatar is gonna be just the same as my avatar on tik tok. It's going to have the pink tutu with the hula hoop. Maybe some assless chaps.

L Lis Malone 39:56
While playing the trombone.

C Chad Bouton 39:58
All that can be your intro as you're warming up the stream.

R Ryan Fleury 40:04
That's right.

R Rob Mineault 40:11
I'm here taking notes. It's going to happen. We will find money in the budget.

L Lis Malone 40:28
Don't worry, I'm going to get so much sponsorship money from my drinking that we're going to be set. Don't worry.

R Rob Mineault 40:35
So talk to me a little bit about then your editing process? Do you go through a pretty, you know, thorough editing process in post? Or do you just record the show live, and then just release it,

C Chad Bouton 40:50
I honestly do the best that I can. You know, I'm no master when it comes to editing or mixing. So I definitely do the best I can on my own. So again, I always, you know, edit stuff that I because the way I do it is I kind of have my intro and my outro so if a lot of times, I'll be talking to my guests before I do my actual intro because I always do a lead countdown 3...2...1. And then I start, you know, my regurgitation of the, you know, the, the plugging and the introducing. So I edit all that out anything that might be caught up at the end, because, you know, a lot of times I do stay on my guests talk to them, you know, just let them know, like, hey, thank you so much. You were awesome. Because a lot of times my guests like they they're extremely nervous, like coming on, because they've never really done a podcast before. So I

just always like to reassure them afterwards, like you were great. You were phenomenal. And then like, sometimes I will have those like where I need to go through the actual episode. And take things out or say like, the episode was Sam actually was two parts into one. So I had to basically he had a meeting he had to go to in the middle of the episode. So basically, we stopped it. And then he came back on. And then he basically I had to take two episodes, you know, cut out the stuff from that one episode merged with the other. And then there's been times where I've had an episode where like, I had to take out parts of where someone's phone alarm went on, because they had to go walk their guide dog, so I have to take that out. But it's like just like our conversation unless there's like something really egregious, like, you know, like a food order comes in the middle of the episode or a fire alarm comes off. I don't do a lot of editing with voice tracks because I just try and keep them as natural as they can be. But definitely I go through and I scrub up as much as I can. And a lot of times, so I'll have my friend, Caden who, who's a lot better editor than I am. It has a lot better software than I do. And he'll help me a lot too. So I definitely have someone that's behind me to help me if I need it. I do as much as I can. But of course, I am in no ways a amazing editor.

R

Rob Mineault 43:15

Well, and I mean, I have to I have to give you kudos. I think it's a lot harder to do stuff live with no editing than it is to edit. Just because you know we're really good at f***ing up. Which I just created a work for myself.

R

Ryan Fleury 43:35

You've left them in before times.

L

Lis Malone 43:38

Sometimes there are a couple that snuck through. Some made it past the goalie. Yeah,

R

Ryan Fleury 43:43

We got we got emails about an F bomb.

R

Rob Mineault 43:54

And that's really the only time I ever leave them in is when I do it and I'm just like, okay, I'm okay with like letting this one sneak by because I figured because I'm not gonna you know, throw you guys under the bus. Yeah, but then people are just like wow, that Rob guy is a potty mouth.

C

Chad Bouton 44:22

I mostly stay clean. That's for the most part, but I do have episodes where I definitely curse. I

just always warn my audience that those episodes and listen, if you don't like explicit language, especially constant because some of my guests you know, they get on their passionate soapbox is speak from the heart. Who am I to cut that out from them? So I definitely be like, always when I'm like posting the link like fair warning. If you do not like the F word. This is not the episode for you because we both use it.

R

Rob Mineault 44:58

That's it's interesting that you To say that because there is a little bit of a method to my madness, when I do do that, because it's usually either for comedic purposes, or it is a sort of, it's a passion thing. Sometimes, you know what the F bomb deserves to be thrown down when you're talking about something. And so sometimes they get left in.

C

Chad Bouton 45:22

You can't please everybody though, that's that's also something that is very apparent, and I've known for a very long time. You're gonna get constructive criticism, and I have, and at least what I've done, when I've gotten it is said, I'll look into it. And I have looked into the every piece that I've gotten. And sometimes I can't do anything about it. And I'm very honest with them saying that this is something that I can't, I can't control. So I'm very sorry, but I don't know what I'm supposed to do here. And then other times I do and I can, but I just hope people know that I can only control what I can control. And sometimes constructive criticism can't be implemented because sometimes the platforms that we are using, they themselves haven't even thought of some of that constructive criticism. So what I've done in those instances now is just so we pass it along to the companies and see what they can do with it.

R

Rob Mineault 46:15

We've talked about Universal Design ad nauseam. Literally. It made my cat puke on my microphone cable.

L

Lis Malone 46:29

We're gonna have to put a disclaimer at the front. This podcast does talk aboutcat puke, puking cats. Great. You guys brought up assless chaps so don't even talk to me about my cat's puke.

C

Chad Bouton 46:43

This podcast may trigger you to vomit.

R

Rob Mineault 46:46

For variety of reasons.

L Lis Malone 46:48
Feline regurgitate regurgitation is very offensive. So if you've ever if you've ever seen it, trust me.

R Rob Mineault 46:55
Whatever. Tell that to your farting dog.

L Lis Malone 47:03
My girl is gassy.

R Ryan Fleury 47:04
Yeah, there you go. We need you guys need to become Vtubers will have an avatar of a cat and an avatar of a dog doing some live stream gassy dog and puking cat.

L Lis Malone 47:18
Oh my God, that's a cartoon.

C Chad Bouton 47:21
Adult Swim cartoon ready for the taking.

L Lis Malone 47:27
Copyright. We've had to copyright a lot of stuff today. That's gonna be like chapter four of 50 Shades of gravy.

C Chad Bouton 47:38
Farting dog and the puking cat? They're gonna be wondering, well, why is that gravy making their dogs fart and their cats puke?

L Lis Malone 47:49
Like this, this book is it's a lot of satire.

R

Rob Mineault 47:51

We will workshop these ideas. This is just brainstorming. Listen, Chad, it has been an absolute pleasure. Thank you so much for coming on. Where the heck can people find your podcast if they so desire?

C

Chad Bouton 48:09

Yeah, absolutely. So Hindsight is 20/200. It's on Anchor, it is on Spotify, and is on Apple podcast. And anywhere will also like to follow me on social media. I have a Facebook page Hindsight is 20/200. And then on Twitter, I am at 20/200 hindsight that is at 20/200 hindsight. So that's where you can find me at.

R

Rob Mineault 48:42

And I have to say I recommend everybody going and checking it out. There's already a ton of amazing content there after three months. But listen, you know, I really do feel like your podcasts and our podcasts, we're very much kindred spirits, because I think it was born out of the same sentiment. A lot of our content really lines up really well. So so I definitely recommend any regular listeners of AT Banter, go over. And and check out hindsight. You're gonna love it as well.

C

Chad Bouton 48:52

In my opinion. Yeah, and absolutely, we'd love to have all of you whether it's individual episodes two at a time. I love to have you guys over on hindsight.

R

Rob Mineault 49:32

We'd be thrilled.

C

Chad Bouton 49:33

I feel we aligned very, very well. So I would love to have you on the podcast as well.

L

Lis Malone 49:37

All right. Well, listen, Ryan's the schedule person. Yeah, thanks again.

C

Chad Bouton 49:44

Thank you guys. It's been a pleasure. I've had a lot of fun.

R Rob Mineault 49:46
Awesome. Have a great day. We'll take care. Bye. Bye. Bye. Well, look at that man, that work ethic. I still can't get over that schedule, three a week.

R Ryan Fleury 49:58
Well, and that's just what he's posting.

L Lis Malone 50:01
Yeah, he's recording more.

R Rob Mineault 50:02
Exactly. Yeah. It's crazy. It's just crazy.

R Ryan Fleury 50:05
Yeah. Yeah. So as you need to step it up a little bit.

R Rob Mineault 50:09
The problem is scheduling.

R Ryan Fleury 50:11
Yeah, there's four of us. I need help.

R Rob Mineault 50:16
We could not but no, it does also, like in all honesty, and in our defense, it does make it a lot easier to schedule when you're an army of one. Trying to schedule a guest plus four hosts wouldn't be an absolute frickin nightmare, as Ryan can attest to.

R Ryan Fleury 50:36
Well, that's why you're basically we're at the point now, whoever can make it makes it right. So yeah, sure. Because we'll never always have all four of us here.

R Rob Mineault 50:44
You know, it can be really challenging for sure. Especially, you know, when it's, it's a side gig.

R Ryan Fleury 50:50
Maybe I'll have to start booking guests in the evening or something after hours.

R Rob Mineault 50:53
Yeah, but then a lot of people can't make that either. So you know, you gotta is really, you know, it's tricky. So but I mean, the flip side of that, though, is that it's, it's hard to do a podcast when it's just you, when you don't have other people that you can sort of banter with and bounce things around. It's challenging and, you know, having that interview that is relying completely on you, that's a lot of pressure. I love seeing other podcasts springing up that that are advocating like, yeah, like this. And yeah, the more the better.

L Lis Malone 51:27
Well, you know, and you know what I like when you hear about these new podcasts that are that are springing up it really keeps the medium relevant. It's becoming just as big as any other medium out there. That you know, just want to put their voices out there and, and reach all audiences.

R Rob Mineault 51:52
Anyways. Anyways, we're going late. Alright. dinnertime. Hey, Ryan.

R Ryan Fleury 52:00
Yes, hey?

R Rob Mineault 52:02
Nothing. Nothing for you. Okay, anyways, moving on. Hey, Lis?

L Lis Malone 53:11
Yeah, what's up Rob? Where can people find us? We can be found on the web www.atbanter.com

R Ryan Fleury 53:21
Wait you know what else?

L Lis Malone 53:24
Oh my god this at an hour and a half.

R Ryan Fleury 53:26
Can also find us www.atbanter.ca

L Lis Malone 53:31
Yeah. Well, there you go. All right. If that one extra letter is just too much for you. And yes, you can find us a bit quicker at atbanter.ca. Save yourself one letter of typing.

R Ryan Fleury 53:50
you if you've got daddy issues reaching that out might be tricky.

R Rob Mineault 55:16
They can also drop us an email if they so desire at cowbell@atbanter.com or ca

R Ryan Fleury 55:29
They can also find us on Facebook, Instagram and wherever you listen to your podcasts

L Lis Malone 55:36
And Twitter. Don't forget Twitter. That's right start up a new social media platform called want one.

R Ryan Fleury 55:51
All right. That is gonna do it for us this week. Thanks, everybody for listening in. Big thanks to Chad, of course for joining us, and we will see everybody next week.