

TylerAdultingOnTheSpectrum

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people, asperger, autistic, autism, diagnosed, parents, diagnosis, eileen, french, favorite, arabic, touches, duolingo, spanish, class, seatbelt, spectrum, learn, question, guess

SPEAKERS

Eileen Lamb, Tyler McMichael, Andrew M. Komarow

- A** Andrew M. Komarow 08:27:19
Welcome to "Adulting on the Spectrum." I'm Andrew Komarow, I co-host "Adulting on the Spectrum," with Eileen Lam. Hey, Eileen.
- E** Eileen Lamb 08:27:26
Hey everyone. I'm Eileen Lamb. I am an autistic author and photographer. And in this podcast we want to highlight the real voices of autistic adults. So not just inspirational stories, but people like us talking about their day to day life, what they like, what they love what they don't like. Basically, we want to give a voice to a variety of autistic people.
- A** Andrew M. Komarow 08:27:46
Today, our guest is Tyler McMichael. Tyler lives in Dallas Fort Worth area, graduated from University of North Texas. He was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome now ASD at the age of four. His favorite music genre is metal. And he loves learning new languages, which he calls his obsession. He can speak Spanish, French, Arabic and Portuguese. He is also a Ticket P1 and listen to The Ticket every day, you're gonna have to explain to me what that is later.
- E** Eileen Lamb 08:28:18
Hi, Tyler, thanks so much for for joining us today on this podcast. We're excited to have you.
- T** Tyler McMichael 08:28:25
Eileen. Andrew, thanks. It's a pleasure. Great to be here.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:28:29

So Tyler, we always ask our guests what they like to identify as as far as autism is concerned. So that means on the spectrum, Asperger's, autistic, or if you have no preference, that's fine. But we'd like to ask.

T

Tyler McMichael 08:28:45

Thanks for asking. Yeah, I really don't have any preference. I'm autistic as what I've heard my whole life and I just go with autistic. That's what I put on LinkedIn. I'm autistic. So that's fine.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:28:56

Cool.

A

Andrew M. Komarow 08:28:57

So you were diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome at age four? When did your parents tell you about your diagnosis? Do you wish you had known sooner or later?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:29:06

Well, great question. So when I was about three years old, my parents noticed that I said at least was different than a lot of other kids, my parents would get a lot of, you know, complaints at school, like, hey, just letting you know, like your son, you know, may need to get tested for autism, because you know, he he's like yelling a lot. You know, trying to block out noises and stuff, we think he may be autistic. And so, my parents took me I think, at age four, got diagnosed at age four, don't really remember being diagnosed to tell you the truth. And I don't honestly remember them saying, you have Asperger's. I just remember going to therapy at age like eight or nine, or I think seven and being in groups with other kids that had Asperger's or now Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). And it really helped a lot.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:30:02

Do you know what therapy that was? Like? What type of therapy?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:30:06

Yeah, so it was a type of therapy where you, I guess it's behavioral therapy, where you meet with people that are exactly, that autism as well, or Asperger's. And they would put us in groups together. And basically, it was just free roam, like we could play together. And the idea,

I guess, was is some of us would get frustrated with one another. And, you know, the psychologists would say, you know, Hey, guys, what's the way we can compromise here and things like that. And it really got us all to learn how to basically work in groups together.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:30:36

It was like social skills training.

T

Tyler McMichael 08:30:39

Yes, exactly.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:30:40

Yeah.

T

Tyler McMichael 08:30:41

And I remember as a kid to going to occupational therapy, getting used to light touches, I would get brushed, like, 10 times on each arm and everything like that for several years, until I finally got used to them.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:30:50

Do you like it now?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:30:54

Um, yeah, it's just when I'm sitting next to someone on a plane, I guess it's normal. It's like someone touches your arms like, whoa, like, kind of thing. But, yeah.

A

Andrew M. Komarow 08:31:03

So, so, So as somebody who also doesn't like light touch at all. I mean, to me, that seems like we're moving a bit away from that type of therapy, like almost like an exposure therapy, right? Like, that didn't like make you better. And it bothered you. Do you wish you think that helped you? Or do you wish there was no value to that therapy? Right, and I think we've come a long way with autism, so maybe we're not doing that as much anymore? I don't know. Do you have any thoughts?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:31:34

So just trying to understand the question. You're asking if what? Like if the brushing works basically?

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:31:40

Yeah. What your thought was like, well, looking back. Yeah.

T Tyler McMichael 08:31:46

Oh, yeah, I definitely. Definitely think it helped for sure. Because the occupational therapy really, really helped me with getting used to light touches because it used to be and I remember this for sure. Like if I if anything, were touching me, like in a car or anything I would I would freak out like the seatbelt. If the seatbelt was touching me a little bit weird. I would, you know, freak out start yelling things like that.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:32:07

No, so like, just enough to be safe. So like not wearing wearing a seatbelt. Obviously very important to be safe, right?

T Tyler McMichael 08:32:15

But yes.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:32:16

Okay.

E Eileen Lamb 08:32:18

Yeah. So, so it's not like to make you someone you're not. It's really just because it was impacted your life in so many ways that anything that touched you, you couldn't stand it basically.

T Tyler McMichael 08:32:30

Yes. But now that you mentioned that maybe maybe back then it wasn't really as known to people come out and say, Hey, I am autistic, it was kind of, you know, mental health was you kept it kind of to yourself, you know, so I guess maybe it was kind of a thing to acclumate into society. And but I don't really think it, it stopped me from hating touches, just because I still don't really like them. So never thought of it like that.

A

Andrew M. Komarow 08:32:52

So, So if it didn't stop you from hating them, and kind of what was the point? Right, I guess, keep you safe from the seatbelt example. But I think short of that, I think there's a reason, you know, didn't cure you right, it didn't help No, bothered you, again, minus the seatbelt example. Right. I think that's valid, you know, wearing a seatbelt is important. Yeah, for sure.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:33:14

So, so Tyler, what do you think about the change in the DSM? Because before you were diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, but now it's not, it doesn't exist anymore? It's lump into autism. Do you like that changed? Or do you think it shouldn't be it should have stayed the same?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:33:34

That's a great question. I honestly was very surprised when I was taking a psychology class in college, and I realized that autism or sorry, Asperger's was not a thing anymore. I said, Wait, what? And so I did research. And you're right, it's not. And it really surprised me, just because my whole life I heard Asperger's, Asperger's Asperger's. And I guess, I don't really understand why they changed it. Because I'm not in any way shape, or form, like a medical professional, or why things are called the way they are. But it definitely was a shocker to me that, you know, soon someday, you know, 50 100 years down the line, no one will know what it is. Like, it'll be Yeah, so it kind of definitely shocked me for sure.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:34:21

Yeah, and, I mean, personally, I liked Asperger's better, which also wouldn't be my diagnosis today, if it still existed, because, you know, some people on the spectrum have such high needs. And it just seems like, it's a different diagnosis to me like Asperger's, and like, level three autism, like the most severe side of the spectrum. So I really liked having that distinction. So like, you know, if I tell someone I have Asperger's, I feel like it gives them a lot more information about me than if I say, I have autism, because like, you know, it's such a broad spectrum. So I kind of wish they had kept it separate.

T

Tyler McMichael 08:35:06

Yeah.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:35:07

So on that note, diagnosis and stuff. What, what do you think about self diagnosis?



T Tyler McMichael 08:35:13

Glad you asked. I really, I despise self diagnosis for the lot of reasons. But the main reason is because you need an a licensed healthcare professional to diagnose you with any type of thing. It's not going online, looking at a horoscope and saying, Oh, I'm by Oh, I fit Aquarius, okay, I'm Aquarius or I'm Capricorn or whatever. Or, Oh, I'm bipolar, because I looked it up. And I fit this some symptoms of bipolar. I, there's a lot of people on social media now that are trying to tell people hey, it's okay to self diagnose, and all that. But I really don't think it's good because you really need a mental health professional to diagnose you. You can't just say you're something because you read something online.

E Eileen Lamb 08:36:00

Oh, yeah. I couldn't agree more.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:36:03

But I do think that there's something where so in our "Adulthood on the Spectrum," Facebook group, you know, we let people in and I like the term suspecting diagnosis, because I do think that there are a lot of people who may see symptoms and learn of things, but those symptoms could be many, many other things, right? We don't allow people so I do like that term. And also it's, you know, why, why are you requesting a diagnosis? What are your what are you looking for? What are you looking to get out of it? So

T Tyler McMichael 08:36:38

Yeah, and I, it was in it's honestly, it's, it's kind of in, in insulting to like when you hear like, I was on LinkedIn the other day, and I don't know who it was, it was just a post by someone. And they said, you know, the new show out, up, that's "Wednesday", you know, "The Addams Family," spin off thing, and they're like, oh, you know, Wednesday, fits the traits of autism and all that, you know, but the writer didn't say that, and then you know, it and then everyone on there, read the comments and was saying, uh, yeah, oh, you know, if it wasn't for Wednesday, I wouldn't have self diagnosed with you know, because I relate to her and all that and I'm just like, what, what are people doing? It's like, they're trying so hard to like, want to be different. And it's just I don't understand.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:37:21

Yeah. And I also think, too, I mean, I don't think Wednesday is I think, you know, you could be socially awkward, right? Or a few other things. And, you know, I mean, you can I can you can relate to a character without, you know, I'm also being, you know, autistic, sometimes there are TV shows where they don't say they are. But I, I would say, I don't believe that's one of them. So, but hey, it's good. You can relate to a character. That's not a bad thing.

T Tyler McMichael 08:37:53

But yeah, for sure.

E Eileen Lamb 08:37:55

Well, I mean, you know, it's happening a lot with many TV shows. And the thing is, people are not seeking professional diagnosis, because there is that hive mind online, where people just, you know, they feed one on one on one another, right? So they, they kind of like seek validation, I keep that person is autistic and says they have these traits, and I have them and they're autistic. And it's just like, spreading and everyone's saying that, because you're you're quirky, and they don't like touching, you know, light touch. Now, people because of your MPs are gonna think that because they don't like light touch, they have autism. See? I mean, it's gonna be so yeah, it's, it's tricky. What? What do you think about social media? Do you think it's a good thing? Because more people are talking about autism? Or that it's a bad thing? Because, you know, a lot of misinformation is spreading?

T Tyler McMichael 08:38:54

Honestly, I think it's good and bad. Right. So you talked about misinformation. That's definitely something that definitely is bad and needs to be addressed. For sure. But also, I think social media, there are good things about it. And the main one is getting mental health aware, like you see hashtag mental health awareness. You know, that's, it's great. You know, because back when our parents were kids, like, you just did not talk about mental health issues, like, public, you know, like, if you were, you know, like, like, oh, you know, this guy has some something wrong, his mental health, like, he's he's weaker than people that don't have mental health issues. You know, so it definitely, that's not what I think I'm just saying like that, that's that's definitely helped people understand, like, hey, you know, suicide is definitely something that's, that's needs to be addressed. You know, and I definitely think social media definitely helps make people more aware about it. But the bad side is, is, like I was saying before, you know, I was on social media, and I saw people saying, yeah, oh, self diagnosis is good. And then when people see that, they just think, Oh, I'm going to do that, too. And then it's you. You really, yeah.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:40:04

So what do you say to the people who say, you know, diagnosis is a privilege, and it is true, that it can be very hard to get diagnosis and adult?

T Tyler McMichael 08:40:14

You know, I'm glad you asked that, Andrew, I, I would say this that I went to, I was in class with, basically people that were autistic and things like that. It's called the public preschool for children with disabilities when I was in, you know, three or four years old. And it was, it was of all all races were in there. It wasn't just, you know, whit, like, it wasn't like, there was a ton of people say the same as me and my group, you know, my therapy group, it was all races. And I just, I think, definitely that, that we definitely need to have better mental health care treatment in the United States, for sure. And people definitely refuse to get treated, because they don't,

they can't afford to go get treated. But also at the same time, you can't self diagnose. And it's unfortunate that a lot of people can't afford treatment. But you still can't self diagnose, because with that logic, we might as well just not go get diagnosed at all. We don't need doctors to diagnose anymore. I like I said, beginning I can just look up on the internet and say, Oh, I have bipolar, but I'm not going to be diagnosed like you just can't do that. It's not safe. So yep, have some yes, someone in my family, my Yes, is a licensed professional counselor. And she says that, you know, some people, you know, come to her, and she also reads it on social media. And you know, say like, Oh, I think I'm this because of this, which is great. But then there's some that are saying no, I am this because I read it on social media. And it's and, you know, I was like, hey, you know what you think about this? And she's like, I agree, I think it is, you know, people shouldn't be self diagnosing.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:41:54

What can we do to make, diagnosis more accessible? So people don't self diagnose?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:42:04

Exactly. That's what I was saying before. We definitely need to have, you know, better access to mental health treatment in our country because, you know, you can't just take off of work like you can in a lot of other countries and just say, hey, I, a lot of countries are guaranteed like, you know, at least 20. Some countries, I think Australia has 20 days paid leave stuff like that. We don't have here the time to take time for ourselves and you know, figure out like, Hey, what is what is wrong with me? What What can I do to get help? Things like that very big advocate for mental health treatment?

A

Andrew M. Komarow 08:42:39

And speaking of work, what what do you do for work?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:42:43

I am a travel agent. And on the side, I make websites for people, front end developer using JavaScript, HTML, CSS, and all that. But right now, my main job is a travel, travel manager.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:42:57

Does your autism help you in any way? Or in your job?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:43:01

Um, yeah, because I have to remember a lot of airline rules and stuff like that. And it's just, I guess I got the good memory from autism, I guess. And it's good, because because now that I'm remote, I don't have to be in an office setting. And that was the hardest before. A lot of

companies allowed remote work is because everyone expects that person, everyone to be smiling in the meetings, and the person always talking, but I'm just I'm the guy that, you know, is not really talking that much. I'm in the back doing my own thing, but still do my job. Right. And I think that the this role definitely is, is great for someone with autism, it requires very little, you know, talking all the time to clients, things like that. It's just you're, you're by yourself, making sure that all the airline rules are being followed. And you're just kind of a lone wolf. And I like that.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:43:51

Yeah, I think that's the best thing that came out of the pandemic, for me, being able to work from home. I had never had a job before the pandemic, because it required going to an office and I just, it's not something I can do. So, to me, it's been really, really amazing. To be able to work remotely and to have so many companies allowing that. So I totally get that. I know that you said in your bio, you love languages, too. And you speak French, Arabic and all of that. How do you even learn that? Like, do you use the, what is in Duolingo app or something?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:44:33

No, so great question. So what I did is, I really wanted to honestly learn German first, and my dad told me no, you you you live in Texas, you really should benefit learning Spanish, since you know you'll speak it so much. And vice versa. Like no, I want to learn German because a Rammstein man, which is a German industrial band, and but he was right it did, I started speaking, learning Spanish in class, there's a guy there named David David And he didn't speak any English at all. And he was in the, in the class, because he needed a teacher that spoke Spanish to like, help him through school and stuff like that get around. And, you know, I go up to him. And I, the night before, I wanted to just put together a list of questions to ask him in Spanish. And he said, my pronunciation was really, really good. And he started responding to me in Spanish, when at the time, I didn't understand any Spanish at all. And I said, I don't know what you're saying. He's like, really, I thought you spoke, you're like, native or something. And I was like, what? So then, so then I really started to actually try in Spanish class and learn a lot more and more and more. And then I started making friends that spoke Spanish started talking about social media, one of the good benefits is I started adding people that from other countries that wanted to learn English, too. And so we would speak in Spanish, you know, in English, you know, side by side. And, and then in college, I did, I did French as well. And I basically just took one semester of French and that that one semester just gave you all of the textbook that you needed. It gave you all the grammar rules and everything and so basically just learned Spanish, like I learned, or sorry, I learned French like I learned Spanish and so I just got my old French vocab or Spanish vocab and then just try to just basically learn that way pretended I was in the classroom again. And with Arabic, I went to University of Texas and there's a lot of Arabs in that community. And so, I took an Arabic class to but also just immerse myself with them, and I became really, really good at it.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:46:43

Do you ever practice French, parle francais?

T Tyler McMichael 08:46:48
Oui, Je parle Francis. Et tou?

E Eileen Lamb 08:46:54
Still, that's impressive.

T Tyler McMichael 08:46:58
Yeah, I love French it is. It is harder because you know in Texas you know we have a lot more Spanish speakers so I have to like go on apps like one Hello Talk where you in pairs with people that are learning languages like if pairs people that whose native language is French and your native language is their native, your native language is English and then you talk to each other. So I have to do that too. Keep up the pronunciation and the rules and all that. And same with Arabic too. Since I don't really talk to a lot of my friends anymore from college since I graduated, who mostly were Arabs.

E Eileen Lamb 08:47:28
That's pretty cool.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:47:29
Is that what you would recommend to somebody, look, what would you recommend to somebody looking to learn a new language?

T Tyler McMichael 08:47:36
Great question, what I would recommend doing is, don't really download Duolingo first, always go always take the class first. And this is not like a \$2,000 class at a, you know, top tier university, you can go to your local junior college, even just take one class, there are a couple classes there, you'll get the textbook already. You basically just need the grammar rules. And the vocab. And that's it. And the rest is just you can learn on your own

E Eileen Lamb 08:48:04
You make it sound so easy.

T Tyler McMichael 08:48:08
And then, and then yeah, and then after that, then you can use Duolingo. And then apps that pair you with people that speak languages. I would highly recommend download an app Hello

pair you with people that speak languages, I would highly recommend download an app Hello Talk. It's great.

E Eileen Lamb 08:48:18

Okay, I want to learn Italian. I think it's so It's great. It is pretty, I speak French, but Italian. It's just I don't know, I love it. I love it.

T Tyler McMichael 08:48:28

The grammar is very close to French. So you would you can translate like, you know how a lot of times when a lot of times you find yourself translating in your head to the language exactly. And it doesn't make sense in the other language. Well Italian you can translate in your head exactly and it will come out the same in Italian like as you would. So it's it's like requires a lot less sentence redoing and all that. So it's cool.

E Eileen Lamb 08:48:54

You're making me want to take a class at university. And I hate university. Maybe I will actually.

T Tyler McMichael 08:48:57

You should.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:49:02

What language do you want to learn next?

T Tyler McMichael 08:49:05

I am trying to learn Mandarin right now. And it's really hard. Because what's sorry, it's not hard. It's just It requires a lot of time because you have to learn the the pinyin which is the basically the quote unquote, English letters, right? And then you have to memorize the picture of it. So you have to memorize the picture. You can't just sound out the symbol you have you have to memorize the what the picture is. So it's really, really hard. It's with work right now and everything. And all I'm doing it's it's taken a lot of time and I can't learn it as fast as I did Arabic.

E Eileen Lamb 08:49:44

Yeah. And all of these different alphabets. So it's like, incredibly difficult. I mean, I can Oh, yes. I mean and Arabic don't you read it from left? Right to left too?

T Tyler McMichael 08:49:56
Yes, you read it from right to left? Yes, that is correct.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:49:58
It says in your bio, that your a Ticket P1. What is that?

T Tyler McMichael 08:50:04
Okay, so all the P1 listening right now we're gonna get a laugh. That's awesome. So, so basically, the ticket is a sports radio station here in Dallas, Texas. 96 796, seven FM 13 10am. Or you can just download the sports they talk about and listen to their or I Heart Radio. Basically, it's a it's a, it's a sports radio station. But also they have super funny segments on there. It's great. One of the reasons I wanted to mention on here is because, you know, I, I recently have, under doctor's supervision, I've come off my, you know, my anti-anxiety medication because I wanted to try to cope with it naturally. And I listen to him every morning. And it's, it's it's definitely the best form of coping with anxiety because they're just they're so funny. They're so great. It's on 5:30am until 7pm every day Monday through Friday, and they're just great people, big community they have they have events in the area and everything and they're just they're really good radio station. And a P1 means you're just a fan of the radio station.

E Eileen Lamb 08:51:19
That's so funny. And you said you're into metal, the music?

T Tyler McMichael 08:51:25
Yes, exactly.

E Eileen Lamb 08:51:28
How did that happen? I mean, as someone who's autistic and like, very sensitive to noise seems like the opposite of what I would to

T Tyler McMichael 08:51:37
See, that's I asked myself that question every day and I joke with with my friends a lot. I'm like, man, come on on now or my wife. I'm like, come on. I'm autistic one, I should you should be the one sensitive to noise, you know, just like as a joke, and it's just honestly, I have no idea how that happened. Because as a kid, I was the epitome of like, just autistic noise like hey, like I would get on the ground. I would bang my head I would. I would want to be out of there

completely. Even when I would go to church. I would not like it because of just all the noise in the church, you know, anywhere with noise, but I guess over time, I just got use to noise. I know that loud noises don't really bother anymore. Now constant noise of like rattling and stuff that bothers me. Like rattling constant rain dropping on the roof at night. That's that's really annoying to me rattling in the car, loose bolts, things like that, but really, really loud noise anymore doesn't bother me at all it hasn't for years.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:52:39

That's good. Do you have any tips? Do you know what happened? Or does it just happen over time and no reason?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:52:45

Honestly, it I guess it was because I just really wanted to immerse myself in and really make a lot of friends and be better socially. So I don't know if that has anything to do with it. But I just I just started going to metal shows and really liked it. I didn't really when I went in there. I didn't feel anything weird about it. Noise wise or anything. Maybe because I wear earplugs. That's why. But yeah.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:53:18

Cool. Well, I'm going to ask you some quickfire questions. It's basically five very simple question. And you just tell me the first answer that comes to your mind. Okay.

T

Tyler McMichael 08:53:32

Okay.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:53:33

Do you have a favorite quotes? And if so, what is it?

T

Tyler McMichael 08:53:38

Do I have a favorite quote? And if so, what is it? Live life to the fullest.

E

Eileen Lamb 08:53:48

What's your favorite,



T Tyler McMichael 08:53:49
Generic right?

E Eileen Lamb 08:53:51
Yeah, but that works, you know? What's your favorite autism representation in a movie or TV show? Book?

T Tyler McMichael 08:54:01
Oh, *The Curious Incident of the Dog at Nighttime*. You all ever read that?

E Eileen Lamb 08:54:07
No

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:54:08
I have not. But I know it exists.

T Tyler McMichael 08:54:11
It's a great book. It's basically a book about it. It's written by British author. And I want to say it's a true story. But I'm not sure I read it when I was a little kid like 11 or 12. And the reason why it speaks to me is because it really shows what parents have to go through raising an autistic child, you know, and then that there are frustrations, raising someone that is autistic, you know, and it really shined a light and it's like, wow, some some parents may get, you know, frustrated about it. And, but, but in the book, you could tell and I hate saying this term like, like, quote unquote, normal. It's like, oh, like, you seem normal for an autistic person or whatever, less on the spectrum than this person. But, but in the book, I could tell that the stuff that the that the protagonist will that guess there's no antagonists in the book, but, you know, the main character was a lot more severe, quote, unquote, than I was, but it really opened my eyes to seeing different types of autism, and what other people with autism have to go through on a daily basis.

E Eileen Lamb 08:55:20
I think it's really cool. You like, you know, you're autistic, but you still, you don't think it's bad that parents, you know, frustration, because that's, you know, a narrative we hear on social media so much, like, you know, all parents are making it about themselves. And, you know, they're martyr moms. And, and, yeah, I really love that some people, autistic people can see that, you know, yeah, it's, it's hard for the parents too, not just the autistic person.

T Tyler McMichael 08:55:55

It's really hard. And, you know, my, my parents never, never, my parents always said like it, it made them like, just like, stronger individuals, you know, because it made them like really understand, like, about mental health, you know, and things like that. And, and they helped me so much, you know, they, they, they I my parents so much. And they, they're, they're definitely the reason why I am here today, not, you know, like, in normal classes, things like that, because they did, they didn't want me to be just, you know, in special classes my whole life, not having relationships, not able to form relationships. So, they, they really wanted me to, like if I were to do something, like in public that was, you know, quote, unquote, not right, you know, like, screaming and stuff like that. Like, of course, when I was older, like six, seven, they would say, hey, like, you know, don't do that. And so it got to the point where I wouldn't do that anymore in public, because I knew, hey, this is wrong, you know, kind of thing.

E Eileen Lamb 08:56:58

That's, that's great. I love hearing this. Thank you for for sharing. What's your favorite animal?

T Tyler McMichael 08:57:09

Oh, that's a good one. Oh, I don't know. I've actually never thought about that. Let's see. My favorite animal would probably have to be, I don't know. Probably a cheetah just because they run so fast and they can just get out of anything really fast and just escape. I like it. What's your favorite movie? My favorite movie is Oh, okay. Oh, that's a good one. I like Inception just because I walked out of the, I base favorite movies quote, unquote, based on like, how I feel when I walk out of the movie, like, was it just like, Whoa, I have never seen this before. In my life. No director has ever done anything like this. And Inception definitely is my favorite for sure.

E Eileen Lamb 08:58:03

Do you like it? Andrew?

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:58:05

I like his logic for why he likes a favorite movie. And yeah, Inception was a good movie, but I like his. I like his reasoning.

E Eileen Lamb 08:58:16

Okay, final question. So very important. Is glow in the dark a color?

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:58:24

Like, my dark. Yeah, like, is the glow in the dark that you see, like in the light, like right here?

T Tyler McMichael 08:58:32

Well, honestly, I'm actually colorblind. So no, no, no, no, I can see that in color. It's just I have trouble with red with blue in green. So I don't know. Is it a color?

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:58:46

I don't know.

T Tyler McMichael 08:58:47

I mean, now I'm just going to see yes, just because it's not black or white. If I understand those aren't colors, right? So I'm going to say it is a color.

E Eileen Lamb 08:58:58

It could be a property, like, you know, like, like an adjective like in glows in the dark, but it's actually a color. You know? Oh,

T Tyler McMichael 08:59:07

That's such a good one. I've never been asked that before. That's a mystery. I'm going to look that up. Because that's going to be what I'm research today.

A Andrew M. Komarow 08:59:16

Yes. So you mentioned LinkedIn, my favorite social media network. Not Eileen's But can you tell us where we can find you on social media?

T Tyler McMichael 08:59:24

Yeah, yeah, of course. So I am on Instagram. I don't really get on the live. I just follow friends and family stuff, but you're more than welcome to add me. It's Tyler underscore JavaScript, like the programming language. And on Snapchat, it's Tarik T AR IQ 308956 It's just my Arab friends used to call me Tarik. You know, because they wanted to give me like a Arab name. And so I just stuck with that. I thought it was funny side. I added that name every since.

E Eileen Lamb 09:00:05

Awesome. Well, thank you so much for joining us today. Tyler. It was so great talking with you. I

really want to learn Italian though. So thank you for that.

T Tyler McMichael 09:00:14

Yeah, it was it was great. Great talking to you all. I really appreciate you having me, Andrew and Eileen and everyone listening. I hope it hope hope y'all enjoyed it.

E Eileen Lamb 09:00:24

We did. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.