

Caroline Zaelke 0:00

Yeah,

it says recording now I think does it show it for you too?

Rhythm 0:04

Yeah, that's perfect. And I think that it saves, like a voice recording and a video recording suite.

Caroline Zaelke 0:10

Yeah, cuz I think we just have to upload it to like a Dropbox.

Rhythm 0:13

Yeah. Are they gonna listen to all of it? I'm kind of worried.

Caroline Zaelke 0:16

I don't know, I don't know. But like documentation purposes, you're on the, like documenting team, right?

Rhythm 0:24

Like the archiving team, which I have never, I don't know why he put me on that. But you'd be really good at it. And I was like, cool. I'm like you knew a lot about archiving when he did. I know I was like, I don't know anything about archiving. So we'll see what happens but it'll be fine. I just like, what are you doing this summer? Are you just like doing the oral history thing?

Caroline Zaelke 0:46

Yeah, I'm doing right now. I'm doing summer school something to classes and I'm doing like one of the part time internships and then I have this

Rhythm 0:53

damn thing. But what about you? I'm like, I'm working on your with Emma Hein,

I don't know her. Yeah. Aaron, Emma Heinz and beta. Yeah,

yeah. So she and I are working with CC. And we're all working on a mural right now. And then I started an internship in New Mexico so I'm like, I have to fly back next week. So I started like two weeks and then yeah, and then I'm doing this like oral history and then like I'm working for a startup I'm doing like freelancing like logo stuff.

Caroline Zaelke 1:27

Yeah, exactly.

Rhythm 1:29

That'll be fun but um yeah, it's been it's been nicely busy. I like just moved into my new house in Ewing so it's like,

Caroline Zaelke 1:36

oh my gosh, I know I was debating living off campus or on campus, but all my friends are living off. And because everything got cut short, I was like, I just want to live one more on second. It's like, stay with me on campus. Are you living on campus? I think we're gonna stay in mag. I don't know. I like had an apartment and count jokes with like, all the other betas and then I was like, I gotta just want to like hang out with like, my friends from Christmas. So that's really

Rhythm 2:01

cool. That's nice. Yeah, that's fun. Are you planning on going back to summer? Or are you at all or no? I

Caroline Zaelke 2:09

like I live in California. So it's just really far. Yeah. A lot of money.

Rhythm 2:13

Yeah, makes a ton of sense. So how do we want to go about doing this? Do we just want to like ask? Yeah,

Caroline Zaelke 2:22

like, I where do we find the questions? Do they send them out?

Rhythm 2:26

Yeah, he sent them in the email where I just read them. But um, yeah, he just sent them in the email where he was like, this is a recap of Oh, God. So talk about

Caroline Zaelke 2:37

Yeah, I just say like, you can ask me or I can ask you questions first, but like, Yeah, all of them and then we'll switch.

Rhythm 2:44

Perfect. Okay, cool. I added like a few. They aren't anything special. I literally found them online. So I did not come up with them. But they, they were cool. Okay, cool. So when was the first time that you realized COVID was gonna affect your life.

Caroline Zaelke 3:02

So I really just, I was definitely the person that was like, This isn't gonna happen to me kind of thing. And I was on spring break with all my friends in the Bahamas. And we got the text of the school like saying they're shutting down. Well, all the other schools are saying they're shutting down and I was like, Oh, it's Winston Salem, like, they're not going to shut it down. And then school got shut down. And then we were saying there's like, all inclusive resort. And everything became like, like, isolated, like, you weren't allowed to, like, eat around people. And they were like sending people like home from the resort. And so I got to the airport. And it was like that moment, I was like, everything's changing because everyone was wearing masks. Like, wiping everything down. It just went It was crazy to like go from like, leaving school with like, no change to like coming back to the United States and it being like completely different. Yeah, like I came back to like a different world. Did you get to go back and like get your stuff or is it all still in the dorms? I used like the storage scholar thing. to pack it up for me, but I did my boyfriend lives in Minnesota and we were both in the Bahamas together. So we both went back to school for like a day to like, just see a couple people and grab some clothes really fast and then flew back to our homes. So

Rhythm 4:15

have you gotten to visit him at all? Are you just like, yeah, it

Caroline Zaelke 4:18

kind of sucks. It's been like four months, but we're planning in July to see each other. So that'll be nice.

Rhythm 4:24

Nice. So you don't get to go abroad. Now. Were you planning on going abroad? Or no?

Caroline Zaelke 4:28

Yeah, I was supposed to go to Vienna with like, all of my friends. I was so excited. And because we were I guess they just sent out the email like a couple weeks ago saying that it's canceled. So I know that two other programs have been canceled yet, but like you're pretty confident they're gonna get canceled. Yeah, it is what it is like the world's kind of changed and

Rhythm 4:49

yeah, positive outlook. It's true. I mean, like and you can always go in the spring but it kind of sucks to like miss the semester awake and like you already kind of missed one. Exactly.

Caroline Zaelke 5:00

So in like everyone talks about, like close to get to people like abroad and stuff, so I'm sad. I'm missing out on that, but everyone else is in the same position.

Rhythm 5:07

Yeah. Like,

Caroline Zaelke 5:09

I was able to go abroad freshman year for the summer. So like, it's not like I never got a chance to travel. But

Rhythm 5:15

where'd you go?

Caroline Zaelke 5:16

I went to Italy. I say Ireland. I went to Italy.

Yeah, it was only like, a month and a half, I think. But it was so fun. It was pretty.

Rhythm 5:25

Yeah, I bet for fun. Um, okay, so besides toilet paper, what items do you wish you had like stocked up on?

Caroline Zaelke 5:35

Oh, my gosh, I don't know. Um, there's like things now. I feel like it's not hard to get that many things. Now, it's not that hard. But um, I wish I brought my clothes home. I wish I miss my clothes. Like I came home during like when it was cold. And so I only brought like pants Oh, and like jackets. And now it's like 180 degrees outside and like I left all my bathing suits at school.

Rhythm 5:58

So that's it. Back there though. Yeah,

Caroline Zaelke 6:02

yeah, my dogs. We just got a puppy and so she's out here like playing. But Uh huh. Yeah, it's just really hot and I wish I brought my clothes but that's not stocking up on anything. So yeah,

Rhythm 6:12

I mean that that like is exactly the same with me I I went home for like spring break so I didn't bring any of my shit either. So

Caroline Zaelke 6:21

just ya, Did you just stay home?

Rhythm 6:23

Or I just like yeah, it was kind of yeah so I like I was with my um I was my friend we decided to go to like the Grand Canyon because a ton of our like spring break plans fell through and right before I left, my art teachers were like, hey, just a heads up like we've been told that you should bring your stuff home, just in case. And so I kind of had it in my head. I was like, oh, what are the odds that they canceled school? Yeah, and I really meet my friend and I were like making bets. And when we were at the Grand Canyon, we got like the email and I was like, Damn, and my parents like you're staying here you're not flying back and I want Uh, I had a house out here. So the argument was my family like we had a huge fight over it because I was like, I want to go back. I'm a little my friends. Yeah. No, you made a lot of the juniors. They were right. Because like, it was nice to save my family but not.

But if you live,

Caroline Zaelke 7:17

you said the Grand Canyon. So like Arizona.

Rhythm 7:19

I live in New Mexico. Oh, cool. Right next to it. It was like it's like four hours away. But yeah, nice to be home. I like I wish I'd gotten to live in my house though, because I had the best house like I'm downgraded for my senior year. And so our house was so nice. And I only got to live there for like, a month, two months. Yeah, I know. Um, so what is your new normal? Like, what parts of quarantine life do you want to like keep in place and stuff?

Caroline Zaelke 7:49

Um, honestly, right now, none of it like California is known for like being pretty bad because and I live in Los Angeles. So I'm like, The quarantine rules are like pretty strict. And I have some like older parents, so we just want to be like careful and everything. So I honestly haven't really like left the house except for like, maybe maybe like once a week, at most.

Rhythm 8:18

What are you seen any of your friends are? No,

Caroline Zaelke 8:21

um, I've been able to see like a couple like we've had like a few hangouts with like five or six people.

But it's just like,

I don't know, like, I've haven't gotten on my side my house like not wearing a mask and not wearing gloves and stuff. So I really hope a lot of that doesn't stick. So my new normal hasn't really hit yet because I haven't even gotten like the normal part. It's all just like, Yeah, but uh, well, I guess I'll ask you what if we switch back but like, or we can switch back and forth like as we're talking? It might be easier to just like, okay, yeah, well, I feel like pas questions back then.

Rhythm 8:55

Like, go across the same ones. But yeah, that I think Me I was like, I just learned to kind of be more like going with the flow I think cuz I wanted to like make I had a plan set because I was gonna have an internship and like, I was gonna have this absence from the summer. It's somewhere else like not New Mexico and I had like all these plans and then they all fell through. And so it just kind of was like, okay, that's, that's all right, like living with my family was a lot more. You know, Wake can be really stressful. I feel and like, it's super high. Some of my friends at least are super high strong and like it's super stressed out down when I was home. I was like, when finals came around. I was like, I'm not stressed at all. Like I'm in my house with my dogs like, I'm happy. So it was good. I mean, I don't know what my new normal is exactly either. I think that once like this new semester comes along which we'll see what happens. I hope we have in person classes it will stink.

Caroline Zaelke 9:58

It really helps. I heard that we are going to though from an inside source so

yeah, I think we are it's just they're gonna do what the other schools have done of like starting earlier. And like

Rhythm 10:11

Yeah, yeah, I've heard that they might not start earlier but they might end like after we go home for Thanksgiving they just would stop school like you would take finals online doesn't really make sense to me but

Caroline Zaelke 10:22

I don't know. I did not like taking files online because like I did accounting online and it just not like there's certain things I feel like you do better in person than any computer because you're able to like write it out and stuff like math. And yeah, it just wasn't my thing.

Rhythm 10:39

Are you a business major?

Caroline Zaelke 10:40
I am and English, so

Rhythm 10:42
Oh, cool. Yeah, without or major.

I'm um, I'm a studio art and econ major.

Caroline Zaelke 10:49
Oh, cool.

Like around the same like balance of like math and like art and like fun.

Rhythm 10:54
Yeah, in the art. I like wanted to go into art but my dad was like, I'm not paying for you to go wait for us to get are degrees so okay

okay, what's next? Um How did you transition into the new normal? Like what factors of your life like socioeconomic status distance from home? How did that affect process?

Caroline Zaelke 11:18
I think that having my life like like all my life is that way like all my friends are there I haven't really talked like I'm friends with my friends from high school but I haven't gone home and like didn't plan on coming home cuz I'm so connected to like all my friends at Wake so it was hard to transition from having a life in like a whole nother state across the country to back in like California. I think that was hard and also like, living with a family again, like you're so used to like living with your friends and stuff. Exactly like Do whatever you want, like be very social. When I feel like now I'm lucky by like see a couple people like every other weekend. Stuff like that. I think it's just a transition for me from it was hard to transition from like a high social atmosphere into a place where like, everything is virtual, like, I hate it. Frankly,

Rhythm 12:13
I don't like the virtual aspect either at all, like I zooms I always like talk over people because I can't tell if they're talking or not. And then Yeah, mine was kind of the same, like, I just am super close to my friends and I was like, I have built like a little home. Like, this is my home kind of now or like, I've established a little home here. And so like leaving my old home, or like my new my actual home in Mexico is like, my, my room, my sister moved into my room that I used to live in. So now I have like the guest room, which I hate and like, it just doesn't feel like a home anymore. So I don't have any of my stuff like my friends aren't there. So it was kind of like I was with my family and that was great. But my like support system wasn't really I mean, that's porcelain was there. My friends port system wasn't Yeah, it was kind of hard. But yeah, the social aspects like going from socializing to not socializing was hard. And now I'm worried that like, I'm gonna go from not socializing to like, high socialize, like, you can only be super awkward. So

Caroline Zaelke 13:16
exactly how is it like, is your sister younger than you like in high school?

Rhythm 13:20
Yeah, she's, um, she's four years younger. She's going to be a senior next year. She's actually thinking about like, dropping out of high school. I don't know. She's like, I don't want to take a virtual classes and she goes to a private school. So she's like, I don't want to pay to take online classes in their schools already confirmed like online.

Caroline Zaelke 13:39
Oh, wow.

Rhythm 13:41
So she's like, I'm not doing that. And she's just taking her GED and working this next semester. But

yeah, I know. She says

a lot of things and it doesn't follow through. So we'll see what happens.

But do you have any siblings?

Caroline Zaelke 13:53

Yeah, I have an older brother, a twin brother and older sister. But we're just kind of like my older brother came home. He was He lives in works in Boston. So his apartment really tiny and he came home just like work because it's easier to work here. And my twin Tom, he was supposed to be studying, I think in New Mexico or something. He's a geology major. So

Rhythm 14:16

we have a great geology program. So that's funny. Yeah, I'm sorry. Go ahead. No, no, go ahead. I was,

Caroline Zaelke 14:23

uh, well, my oldest sister's in Colorado and she's I'm working on like the local business portion of this. So she owns a local business and Colorado like a dance studio. It's just really it's hard to see like, she just started it and my brother in law also just started like a chiropractic business. So they're just getting off the ground and then all this hit and it's like, really hard to see that but

Rhythm 14:44

are they doing okay though?

Caroline Zaelke 14:47

They don't pretty good. She's like, found ways around and so is he, and she just had a baby. He's gonna turn like my nephew is gonna turn into gear in a couple months. He's gonna turn a year old. Like next month, so they've had like a lot of time to spend with him. Which is nice.

Rhythm 15:00

That's awesome. Yeah.

Have you gotten a lot closer with your family? Like, since you've been home?

Caroline Zaelke 15:06

I would say so like, I'm definitely the person when I'm at school like I didn't I wouldn't talk to my parents like ever or my siblings ever. And so now it's it's kind of nice to like, I feel like when I left for college I was like, This is the last time I'm going to be like staying in my house. It's like actually my house and it kind of like press rewind for a little bit to like be living with my brothers again and stuff like that. Which is

Rhythm 15:27

kind of true. Yeah, my mom was like, This is the last time it's probably less than for you to like the last time we'll ever live in our because I yeah, I thought the same thing when I was leaving for high school. I was like, I will never live in this house again for like longer than two weeks. Exactly. Here we are now and how is that transition been for you like living with parents again and stuff when you're so defended at college? I was I went crazy at first like, I was so unhappy. At first I was so unhappy just because I really wanted to move back but I kind of came to a I Love New Mexico and then I love my family. So it was nice to be with them. We definitely had a little bit of some problems in the beginning we get some fights, but we kind of started to get used to each other. My sister has a boyfriend and that was like a huge fight because my parents were like, you can't come over for socialization distancing, and she was like, sneak out and get caught. And bla bla, so it's kind of fun, but I think we definitely all got like closer. They're really excited me I'm going back in, like next week and so they're really excited for me to like, family. I didn't get to see my grandparents at all though, which kind of sucks. I mean, did you get to see any of your grandparents are you trying to stay away? I think we're all just trying to stay away like my grandma the pretty far.

Caroline Zaelke 16:47

But I also like my boyfriend he like goes to his grandma's house like every day. So I guess it's just like how I guess you see it with your family and everything. Yeah,

Rhythm 16:55

that's true. Oh, yeah. How so? How do you think that like education went like your virtual education?

Caroline Zaelke 17:05

I absolutely hated it. Um, I think like, I just think like college isn't an environment where like you want like if you don't take virtual classes, it's like for a reason. And it was really hard for me like I was taking all these English classes that were like definitely primarily discussion base and I really liked the environment of that and having to switch those onto like online and I was taking a dance class and that just kind of like just cut off completely. Yeah. I just don't think I understand was like really sudden changed. I don't think it's the school's fault. I think they did like a good job with like, the circumstances, but I think that if like virtual classes, like continue, I probably would take like, gap semester because Wow, yeah, I just, I like being at college and I like the in person. thing of everything. So yeah, yeah.

Rhythm 17:57

That's what it's supposed to be like why takeaway from the college experience. So it makes sense.

Caroline Zaelke 18:01

Exactly. And I just don't study well online. Like it's hard for me to learn things. Now doing summer school, it's just having completely virtual classes. It's hard to like, meet people like make study groups, it's just seems like very isolating. Like

Rhythm 18:18

which classes are you taking right now?

Caroline Zaelke 18:20

I'm taking computer science, which I absolutely hate. So not going to take and then I'm also taking the marketing class my business major, which is pretty fun, but that's all like group discussions. It's weird being in like group discussions over zoom and stuff like that. So

Rhythm 18:36

we're all of your classes on zoom are just a lot of them just like I heard some classes did like discussion boards or something like that. I don't even know anymore.

Caroline Zaelke 18:45

I had two classes that just completely stopped like meeting they're just like, turn a couple papers and then you're done. Yeah, um, I didn't really like that. But I guess it was nice because it wasn't a lot of work. Yeah. What about you How was transitioning into Virtual Education Everything.

Rhythm 19:01

I kind of I this was like the first. I loved my teachers this year. It was like I loved all my classes. So it really sucked, like leaving, especially his studio. Like, you can't really take art classes. I mean, like your dance class, no default doing I mean. So I was in a painting class and they just had to kind of stop doing that they tried to do some like color exercises. And we met every once in a while. And they did a pretty good job. And then my other art class, like, we just kind of stopped doing it. And then I only had really one class that met regularly all the other classes were optional to like show up to which doesn't make sense to me. So I just didn't show up.

Yeah, and like the finals were optional. So I was like, why am I taking

so I had to turn in like a big paper and both of those classes and then I was kind of done. I definitely ended up doing a lot better in this semester than I Wouldn't have if I had been in person, but I had, I would have learned more if I had,

like, stayed. So

Caroline Zaelke 20:06

I think it's really interesting how like our school did it because I know my brother goes to Hamilton, which is a really small school in New York. And they decided just because everyone has like different socio economic levels and access to things that like, they just made all their classes pass fail because they felt some students had like better, like more access to things and some students.

Rhythm 20:26

That's smart. That's actually very true.

Caroline Zaelke 20:28

Yeah, because that's what I'm wondering like, about I think we have like a good amount of people like on financial aid and like, what if you don't have like access to Wi Fi all the time, or there's a lot of people like on the Northeast that are like being hit by hurricanes and stuff like that.

Rhythm 20:45

I didn't even think about that. And like the back end, some people have to work like if they don't, if they're not their families laid off or they don't have any income like a lot of people aren't working classic bosses.

Caroline Zaelke 20:56

My friend couldn't take any because he he like worked up. pharmacy, like as soon as he got home because his family needed some money. And so he couldn't do any in person classes, which didn't give him like virtual, like classes or learn anything. He just took all the tests just kind of sucked for him.

Rhythm 21:12

Ah, yeah. I don't think Virtual Education is the move,

Caroline Zaelke 21:18

but I think it's a little option right now. But yeah,

Rhythm 21:22

I mean, I'm hoping that they can go back at least half like I feel like they might do like every other day you come in or something like that, but exactly, that makes sense.

Caroline Zaelke 21:31

I think there's like ways to definitely deal with it and like, make the campus safer. Yeah.

Rhythm 21:38

I'm, so what effect Do you think COVID has had on your values? Kind of a deep question.

Caroline Zaelke 21:47

Um,

I think that it's definitely you've kind of said this, but I think it's made me a more go with the flow person. I'm, I'm a very nostalgic person. So I like love to planned things out like in the future and like I value like relationships and experiences, I think and like, especially when it comes to college. And having like, that kind of just like taken away and made me value choice, I guess like the choice to get to go in, like go to these things and the choice to like, be with my friends. But at the same time, it's definitely given me perspective of like, you don't have control over some things and like, except the things you can't change and like, take advantage of the situation.

Like my dog passed away right before we

like came home. So we were like, Oh, we never thought we'd get another dog after her. But we're all home again.

Rhythm 22:38

So what's your puppy's name going,

Caroline Zaelke 22:44

Ruby.

She's very energetic, she's psychotic, but like, all my life, my dog was like 17 when she passed away, so like my entire life, she was always like an old like, dog. Yeah, it's nice to kind of have an opportunity to like, get to run around. With a dog and I don't know, I just think I have a deeper appreciation for like, smaller things in life, I guess. Yeah, that's very true.

Rhythm 23:09

What typw dog is your puppy?

Caroline Zaelke 23:12

She's a Viezla. So she kind of looks like a red lab.

Yeah, but like we're really skinny. And they're like hunting dogs, which is like in California, but she loves to swim. We like put it down the slide and yeah,

Rhythm 23:26

so like, you are so cute. I wanted it. My friend got a puppy when I was back in Albuquerque, and I would go over there all the time. Laughter like corn, the corn team and kind of like, slow down. I went over there every single day and I was just playing with the puppy. So

my friend want a cat. I feel like everyone's getting

Caroline Zaelke 23:44

pets. I know when this first happened, I didn't think we were at home for that long. So I was like, I need like emotional support. And so literally, I was on the plane home from the Bahamas, and I was like super depressed and so Find like an adoption place near my house and I adopted like a hamster online. And after I got home, I went and picked him up. And he's like, he's all he is asleep, because he's already a year old but like, no one wants to adopt a hamster because he's all old.

But I enjoy him.

Rhythm 24:14

Whats his name.

Caroline Zaelke 24:16

Zeno. you know after Martin.

Rhythm 24:18

Oh, that's funny.

Caroline Zaelke 24:19

Yeah, he's still alive. So I think he's gonna be with me next semester at week but we'll see.

Rhythm 24:27

I kind of fun you can put them in a little hamster ball if he doesn't mind but I guess it's not really helpful.

Caroline Zaelke 24:32

Like a little baby carrier like carry him around it like,

Rhythm 24:34

like out about so fun. Yeah,

Caroline Zaelke 24:38

but what about you? How is your values changed and perspective on everything?

Rhythm 24:42

And yeah, I really think it's mostly kind of what you said like I'm just appreciating like outside even like I've spent a lot of time outside because I didn't have a lot to do. So my sister and I would go on hikes and just I spend a lot of times with a lot of time with Dogs and like my family and just kind of like taking the time to be with those people, I guess, instead of focusing on schoolwork as much, I don't know, I kind of had an opportunity to just relax. And yeah, that realization that you can't control anything, and just being and that everyone is in the same boat. Like that was kind of something that was a little bit reassuring is that I'm not the only one that is losing something because of this. Scared me, okay, I'm back. But, I mean, like, so many people are in such a worse position. So it's like, you know, exactly like, I listened to this one podcast about COVID. And it's just like how we're in this process of we're in this process right now of like grief in this way where it's like you're grieving, what the world used to be. And like now the world will forever change because of COVID because COVID changed the way that like Just things will run like an airport is never going to be the same, not that it's going to be completely changed. But it's kind of like you're grieving that old world. And now we're trying to accept the new one. So I feel like I've now accepted it or like, I'm beginning to accept it. I'm ready to accept it, I guess is what it is over the greeting, but

Caroline Zaelke 26:22

How did it affect your relationship? like you said, its brotten you closer. Like you spent more time with your sister now that you're everything.

Rhythm 26:30

My sister and I've always been, like, extremely close. But um, I think that it it kind of just like, brought my family together in the sense that we're just in the same place like I don't really have the same sort of thing. Like I don't call my family all that often. And that week. I mean, my dad even like, he is always asking me like what I'm doing in school, and he's always so fascinating. He's like, I read your papers and like, finally, I was home. And he's getting to read my papers. And he was like, so excited. And so I mean, I think it was just like fun from, I think mostly. I loved it. And it was great to be there. I think it was like my family. We just really enjoyed having you there. And I think my parents are lonely also because my sister's, you know, a high schooler and she has a boyfriend and she has nothing to do with my parents. And so they're like, we can I can hang out with them. And yeah, so Yeah, exactly. I'm the buffer. But I think I brought us all closer. I wish I had gotten. I'm excited to go back and spend some time with my grandparents. Hopefully. After I get I'm trying to get a test when I go back because like, I don't want to Yeah, visit. Yeah. That's a week like no one is no one is social distancing.

Caroline Zaelke 27:49

Yeah, exactly. So you're going back to Wake so

Rhythm 27:52

I know. I'm actually. And I'm here right now. And there's like, I mean, there's parties every night. Yeah.

Don't go I haven't gone yet. I was maybe even go tonight, but we'll see.

But yeah, a lot and no one is social distancing. Kind of like I have to be careful when I go back to give

Caroline Zaelke 28:13

Yeah, I have some friends that just moved into their houses over on like the compound I think. And they seem to like maybe seem to be having a great time.

Rhythm 28:22

Yeah, I bet what else are they are they living in a beta house our?

Caroline Zaelke 28:27

No, the guys they're living in like the lambda houses. Right like the top of the compound. Okay.

Rhythm 28:34

Lambda little sister or no? Oh,

Caroline Zaelke 28:37

just like all of my friends are in it.

Rhythm 28:39

So I just thought you were

Caroline Zaelke 28:41

but I just got too much time there. It's like one of those girls unfortunately.

Rhythm 28:48

No, I I feel that I spend. Yeah, I spent a lot of time I have some chi psi friends. I spend a lot of time with them. They're cute. They live like right across the street. But

yeah, thanks.

Caroline Zaelke 29:00

Have, I think it's nice to have guy friends because they have like a different perspective. They like, not really care, just chill, like,

Rhythm 29:07

freak out about everything that I'll go over to my guy friends over the guys, what do you think about this? And they'll be like, Oh, just let it go. And I'm like, right, you're right, I should just go. Um, what do you want to remember about this time? Like, what is something that you don't want to forget? I think

Caroline Zaelke 29:25

I really am valuing the time that I'm spending with my family right now. I think that's nice. And like, I also just want to remember like the feeling of all this, like, I'm not going to do I feel like after this, I was facetimeing with all my friends every day. And they're like, after this, we're going to every party, like we're never saying no to anything again. And like I I kind of have that mentality like, you only live once and like, I feel like after this, it's really made me value. I know all the opportunities you've had. And I just want to take every chance and opportunity that's offered after this. And I really want to remember that feeling of like Looking forward to things.

So yeah, that's really true. Yeah. What about you

Rhythm 30:07

think it's kind of like, I think it's for me, maybe just remembering that like,

having a plan doesn't work. Like I don't know, I feel like before I COVID I was just so like, I have to get an internship this summer and it has to be a great internship and then I have to do well, next semester, and then I have to get a job. And then I have to work my way up and, like, just planning out my life. And this kind of just me, I think it disrupted everyone's lives, right? And it disrupted it. And I was like, wow, I made me think about like, okay, I don't need to plan my life, because there's no point in planning it out because it's gonna change no matter what. And, and it kind of made me really focus on some of the things like I got to make a lot of artwork just because I didn't ever have time to like, make it for myself. So if I can be like, Hey, what do I want to do with my life, kind of So cool. All this stuff, we'll see if any of it happens. But yeah, so I want to remember that and I'm gonna start keeping a diary like I would my parents are always like, write this down, because you're gonna want. I mean, your kids are gonna ask you like, what was it like

during college? I

Caroline Zaelke 31:18

wonder what if this is like, like generations, like born after this, like, how they're going to see it and like, I know everything like that, like, I want to talk to my kids about, like, the time that I was alive during COVID. Like, that's crazy

Rhythm 31:30

that's crazy. I know. I think it's gonna be like a huge I think it's gonna be a joke for a long time, though. Like,

Caroline Zaelke 31:36

yeah, you're just saying, I mean, once it passes, it's a big deal right now. So yeah, I still think like people. people still think it's a joke, kind of, I think you think it's a joke until it like, immediately impacted. It's awful to say. But I think it's just how people's mind works. And so I'm present.

Rhythm 31:52

I mean, I don't know anyone who has it. So or who's gotten it? I mean, you're in California. So but you know, some people

Caroline Zaelke 31:58

yeah. My brother my boyfriend's grandfather passed away because of it he was already sick but um which is hard for him I felt really bad but I know there's a freshman in beta that got it my friend's little but she was okay she was she was like really young and everything she just said it was it felt like an awful flu kind of

Rhythm 32:21

yeah.

Caroline Zaelke 32:22

I heard Yeah, I had bronchitis beginning this and I was like so like right when I came back from the Bahamas, I had bronchitis for about like a month ish. And I was so worried I was like, I'm coughing all the time. I have Corona. And it wasn't but you know, my family just didn't like want me leaving brisket. I like called the doctor and I was like I'm coughing up stuff, which is really gross. And I feel awful. And they're like, it sounds like bronchitis we'll just give you the meds and hope it sticks.

Rhythm 32:51

So, honey now every time someone coughs It was like freaking out every time I call I'm like, oh my god I have it.

Caroline Zaelke 32:57

It's okay. In like, I think there's like a Like new, I don't even know what but like if someone, like I judge people for doing things like if I coughed on someone, I feel like everyone was judging me or like 100% like I cost on a zoom meeting and like, everyone was staring at me. Like, you can't tell, but it felt like everyone was staring at me. Yeah, crazy.

Rhythm 33:17

That's how it was. I went to the grocery store the other day, and like, I feel so judged and stressed out when I go to the grocery store. I always wear a mask, but a lot of people don't. And they like, I've had I had someone yell at me for running outside without a mask. That's weird.

Caroline Zaelke 33:32

Because like running, like you're not next to someone.

Rhythm 33:34

I know. I was like, I'm not even running near you. Like how was My I don't know, it was dumb. But um, I was at the

grocery store. And like, I always, I always taught you know, how you touch apples or something like that to make sure that they're right, or like, flowers and things. So I usually do that. But I'm like, I can't do that anymore. And I was like, catch myself. Like, I can't touch things anymore. Yeah, will judge me so

Caroline Zaelke 34:00

Like, like I went out like I said, I never go out anymore but my friend I went out to get boba

like last week and and like I was in line and they like like it was ready and there are other people like ordering so I just went up and grabbed it.

Rhythm 34:16

Oh by um, and

Caroline Zaelke 34:19

like the person like glared at me because I went up next to him to get my boba because I wasn't six feet away from him and I felt so bad I was like oh my god I just like I felt like I killed him I was I felt

like God like ran away. But

Rhythm 34:33

is he craziness I hopefully it all goes back to normal eventually. I think it will.

Caroline Zaelke 34:37

Yeah, you too because like, I hate to see everything like virtual like I know our world is like already very like online. Yeah.

Rhythm 34:47

Yeah, it's weird protests really intense in LA

Caroline Zaelke 34:52

for a while like I hate to say like they died down but like pretty much like I know, like we were on we had curfews Every night for like a week, and we don't have curfews anymore I know people like to still, like none of my friends have been hanging out or even all bringing out like out of respect kind of. Yeah, but yeah, the like breaking and stuff was pretty bad like looting like my friend owns a store down in Beverly Hills and he like lost everything Yeah, well he liked he is you know Tyler the Creator. Yeah, it's like his store like his clothing brand, which is like, like high end clothes and he like lost all of it which is a lot of money.

I guess like it's gotten a little bit better now but

Rhythm 35:37

it's made a good change so hopefully Yeah.

Yeah, once I say look pretty like

chill with it. Honestly, like there's been protests every day but like the police have been really like accepting of it. So I was gonna ask

I saw that there was like they helped

Caroline Zaelke 35:58

because the company I'm working for it. As a nonprofit, and they were talking about how like the police helped guide like a caravan of cars or something for a protest or something in Winston Salem,

Rhythm 36:07

they've just been really helpful and like clearing the strings, which is nice.

Caroline Zaelke 36:12

Yeah. Like that's how it should be instead of everything you see on the news of like, people getting hurt and pepper sprayed and everything. And

I think though, like, this wouldn't have all I don't think people would have been, like this aware of everything without being like locked down in quarantine

Rhythm 36:33

and suffering because everyone's on social media.

Caroline Zaelke 36:36

Exactly. Which I guess turned out to be the best like spread awareness. So

Rhythm 36:40

that's true social medias chain. It's been intense, but it is intense. But yeah, I think that's all the questions that I have.

Caroline Zaelke 36:50

I don't know if you have any. I know that we kind of stopped we started like going back and forth like getting so I'll just ask you the first couple ones. But when was the first time Realize like everything was going to change and about COVID and everything.

Rhythm 37:04

I mean, I think it was after I got back from the Grand Canyon, because I was planning on going back to Winston and just like living there and my parents, the day before I left, I was just to leave my parents were like, We really don't want to go like, please don't go, like it'll break. They told me they're like, it'll break our hearts. How can you say that? Like, okay, fine. I'll say then, as I stayed, and then I was there, like, just stay a week, like, well wait a week, and see if there's more information. Because you know, at first there was no information, no idea what was going on. So just wait a week. And so I waited a week, and I was like, okay, so it's been a week, can I go home next week? And they were just like, just wait one more week. And so I waited another week. And then I come to them and I'm like, Okay, now it's been two weeks, can I go home? Or go back to Winston? And they're like, Can you just wait like a little bit longer? And that's when I realized I was like, okay, there's There's no way I'm going home. Like I'm going back to. So, and that was good it ended up being like I really accepted it and it ended up being really good. And then I got to come back to Winston and like see my friends. So it all kind of worked out for the best.

Caroline Zaelke 38:15

Exactly. You got to meet your parents wishes Well, still. Exactly.

So what's your new normal especially like Winston Salem, you said a lot of people aren't. Is it weird being back awake in comparison to being at home?

Rhythm 38:30

Yeah, at home it was. I was my normal was like,

very lax, I started cooking, which was really fun and started to like, take up that and kind of had a routine where like, Eric, I just kind of took care of my health, which I don't do a very good job of that at Wake. So it was nice to kind of have that be my normal at home and then I came to wake and my health kind of went down a little bit more. So I have Hey, it's more just,

it's very similar at week, I guess, as it was before

I hang out with like my friends. At first I really tried to social distance because I'm super scared and my parents had, like, ingrained in me and then I got here and everyone's passing around drinks and I don't know, just like, hard. Yeah.

And so it's hard to kind of like, be the one over in the corner with a mask. So I mean, I didn't do that. But,

um, yeah, so I guess it my normal years

hasn't really changed. I'm kind of just waiting now to like, go back to New Mexico and get another routine kind of going. I really don't want to work at this. I have this internship with this insurance company that I don't want to do. It'll be fine. It'll be good. I'm trying to

Caroline Zaelke 39:49

is it long it I hope it's like a month or is it gonna be long?

Rhythm 39:53

It's like a month and it was supposed to be two months, but it's paid and that's the only reason why I'm taking it I don't want to work in an insurance company at all, but if they're gonna pay me, it's gone. I want some money. I spent all my money abroad. So I'd like to run.

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