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I'M A TURN SIGNAL, AND, I, TOO, AM PART OF THE PATRIARCHY

September 26, 2022

Liz Lydic

Host: Thank you all for joining us in our 10th Annual Career Pathways Symposium. This event is an incredible opportunity to learn from experts who have found success in their industries or trajectories. To kick things off, I'm here with a Turn Signal, who has graciously taken time out of his busy schedule to share his unique perspective.

Welcome, Turn Signal, and thank you for being with us today. I'm looking forward to this conversation with you.

Turn Signal: Thank you. Me too. Oops, can I say that? Kidding. Anyway, this is great. This is a great event. Thank you for having me.

Host: Let's just jump right in. My first question is, how do you best define your identity as a turn signal? In other words, what does it mean to you to say "I am a turn signal"?





make is the mirroring left. Other drivers, they have to wait on me. That's just one example.

Host: Can you offer a historical perspective of your role in our current society?

Turn Signal: Sure. First and foremost, safety. Protection. That's my predominant role. Turn signals provide moral authority in the driving experience, as well as total control. Technically speaking, we were created with this in mind, allowing drivers to go faster and take more chances. You're welcome.

Host: I read somewhere that the mechanical turn signal was invented by a woman.

Turn Signal: I don't know about that.

Host: How do you respond to naysayers who believe that the relevance of the turn signal is dwindling?

Turn Signal: Listen, I get it that we're making progress, and that's great, it really is. What I'm concerned about is...I think younger people are of this mindset that they are entitled to a life that works best for them, less concerned about the well-being of anyone else. To be honest, what I'm seeing is a generation fixated on others doing things for them - particularly technology. Like, just sitting back and doing jack squat because their device is doing it for them. If a millennial is sitting there waiting for Siri to tell them to exit the highway, they are gonna wait until the last minute to flip me on, which makes me look like an ass. I'm only as good as the brain of my user. It's time to bring me back into the forefront of the driving experience.

Host: What's the best career advice you've ever received?





communicating – through command, not request – your intention to take an action. Be that power, and never back away from it.' I still think of that, every day.

Host: If audience members here today could take away only one thing from this conversation, what would it be?

Turn Signal: The turn signal is the sign that I'm going to do something, and then gives me the chance to just do it. Other people have to see me, and respect me. They have to see what I'm putting out there and then respond. Just by being on, I'm doing enough.

Host: Thank you so very much for your time, Turn Signal. This has been a great conversation, and we are honored to have had you with us here today.

Turn Signal: Yes.

About the author: Liz Lydic's work has appeared in McSweeney's, Typishly, Rougarou, Little Old Lady Comedy, The Belladonna Comedy, Pine Cone Review, Ruminant Magazine, The Offing, Robot Butt, Moss Piglet, and is forthcoming in Farside Review, Eggplant Emoji, and Defenestration. Liz is a mom, writer, and an admin for a city in the Los Angeles area. She also does theatre stuff. lizlydic.com

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