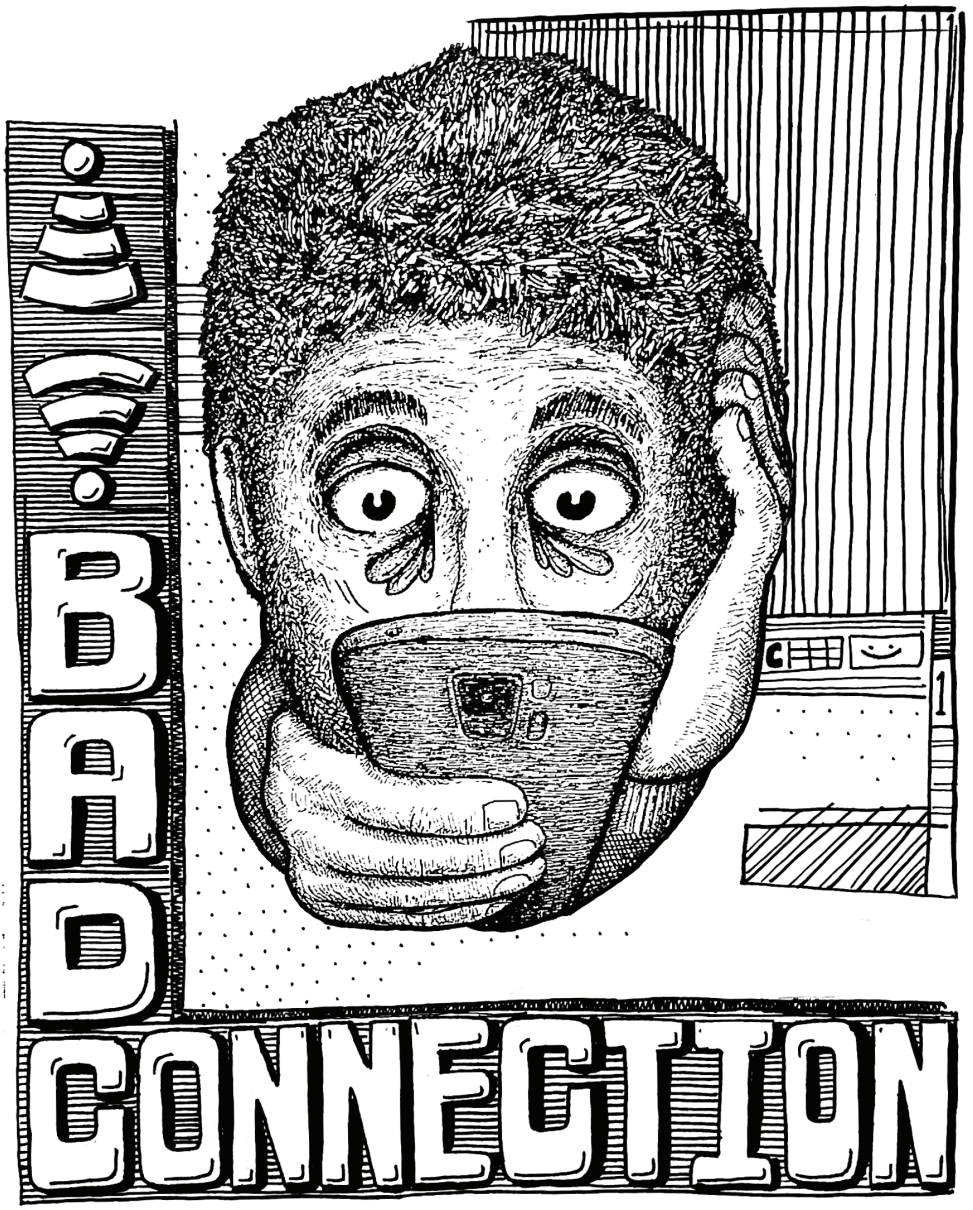

BAD
CONNECTION

This is a work in a series about the internet, social media usage and our relationship to it. Many of the poems and pieces are meta, in that they are almost unaltered. Lines were lifted from headlines or directly quoted from other people's social media. This is to symbolize the act of being on the internet. Occasionally there is a reflection on the status of one's being on the net. All poems by Ben Champagne (ben@ccdiy.org) and illustrations by Matt Grimmer (@grimstarable) and layout by Thor Rasumussen (thorthought.com). Hit us up if you like the internet. Or if you hate it.

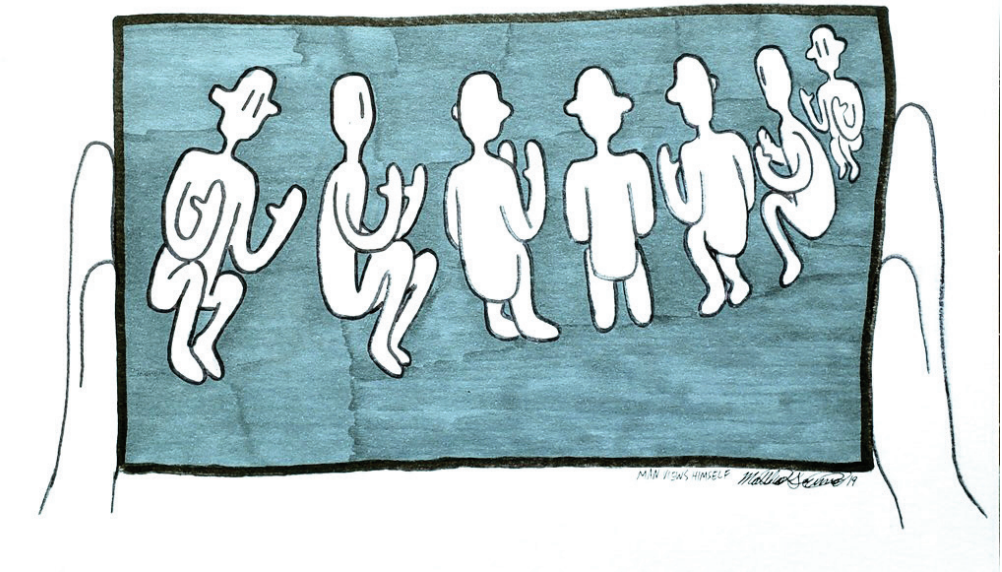
Clickbait

Top 10 best places to travel on a budget
16 ways your ex lead you to the actual love of your life
12 ways your best friend is actually your lover
3 hacks to get you through college
8 ways to suicide
5 ways the president speaks to influence media
5 songs that were written from the perspective of white males
33 pictures that will terrify you
13 times i ignored advice
6 things i did in jail to avoid boredom
9 best toppings on a pizza
14 ways to write a sonnet
1 way shakespeare changed the world
4 times your parents were right
Top 10 seasons that happen in remote places (yes, 10 seasons!)
7 porn actresses say they have no regrets
300 school shootings since the last school shooting
6 people talking loudly outside your window
3 ways to make your sleep darker
9 names you haven't heard since high school
20 potential things you could've said instead of nothing

Average Everyday Modern Person Prayer

Our google, who art in internet
Case sensitive be thy name
Thy kingdom help me when i'm dumb
Nothing ever gets done
While i search and search for the answers to my question
Give me today just what i want
And forgive my misspelled query
As i correct people's grammar on social media
And deliver me from advertisements

For thine is the system
You only get louder
And the google forever
Amen



Suggested Friends

Friends
based on algorithm.

Friends will be on a subscription service

Just like Uber.
Just like spotify.
iFriends
Recommendations based on previous dates and adventures.

Go with Matt! (picture of him with a golden retriever)
He likes rock climbing

Cars will come at the push of a button.
Full of friends.

Likes Kathy Acker
Swipe right
Likes Donald Barthelme
Swipe right
Likes Frederick Barthelme
Swipe left

Big data.
Everyone knows everything.
We're all transparent

How can you be cutting edge?
I play in a sex noise band.

How can you be cutting edge?
I fucked every member of the sex noise band and never had an orgasm to prove that I
Don't give a fuck about the ideals of the new populace

How can you be in a sex noise band?
Cambridge analytica

Cambridge analytica?
That has nothing to do with this.

I talked to a woman named Milliscent in the hall and she was lovely. Tricked by Cambridge Analytica
That has nothing to do with this

******Are you from Michigan and like sexy asian women?******
That has nothing to do with this

5 most original films according to cinefix
That has nothing do with this
Swipe right
Login
Have access to friends list
Net Neutrality Repealed
Slower friends
Fast friends
Suggested

I know them, you know them.
You do what I do?
What am i missing out on?
Who do I present as?
Is this a job interview?
Why can't i concentrate?

Press the button.
Click
Press the button
Click
Make friends
Click
Follow the suggestions
Click

Swipe left.
Connect my credit card.
Enter Search.
Who is the admin?
That has nothing to do with this



Another Poem about the Internet

Everything is on the internet.
Whole films
Specific scenes from bizarre films
Reviews about that scene
Interpretations of reviews.
Satires of reviews.
The web is reality.
I cannot believe it is anything but

Reality is in your mind and the mind is manifest in the web
What a time to live.
I can share the final scene from Simon of the Desert
And feel cool
I googled that. I know that. I have learned things, I will share with you.
What do you know?

I sit on the computer all day now.
I don't read books.
I try to write a poem
I eat chicken nibblers that cost $2 for the whole bag
I don't know what is in them.
I wired my own oven. We watched a youtube video.
I own a camera. I never use it.

I I I

Florida Man

Florida man allegedly had sex with miniature horse 4 times
Florida man arrested after asking cops to test his illegal drugs
Florida man doesn't know what it's going to take
Drunk Florida man wakes up in parking lot tells police his name is Fuck you asshole
Florida man who allegedly threatened family with Coldplay lyrics ends standoff after SWAT promises him pizza
Florida man doesn't understand a vast and changing world
Florida man wanted to prove independence to his mom so he tried to rob gas station, police say
Florida man arrested for attempted striptease at restaurant
Florida man arrested after punching ATM for 'giving him too much money'
Florida man tries to pay for fast food with bag of weed
Florida man can't cope with the consequences of his own behavior
Florida man claims he killed, dismembered roommate because he was possibly 'next mass killer'
Florida man denies syringes found inside rectum are his
Florida man breaks into restaurant, strips naked, eats noodles, plays bongos
Naked Florida man with crossbow who claimed aliens were after him shot by deputy
Florida man is considering alternative perspectives
Florida man under extreme stress forgets how to walk
GPD: man robs florida restaurant at finger point
Florida man sentenced to year in jail after jumping in crocodile exhibit
Deputy: Florida man chugged can of beer during DUI stop
Florida man spotted riding jet ski on Florida road...yes road
Florida man googles self help books
Florida man loses focus
Half nude, Florida man wearing underwear marked 'Breathalyzer, Blow Here' arrested for DUI
Judge says Florida man can no longer order pizza
Florida man says it's too hard to keep up and there's nothing wrong
Florida man tried to steal vending machine from apartment complex police say
Florida man caught on camera licking doorbell

Cheap Laptop in the Clouds

"Combines stylish design with heavy-duty durability. Added to that it's got up-to-date high performance components that increase the speed of both your networking and Internet, and also provide high-speed data transmission. One Year Warranty"
11.6in Display with Active Matrix TFT Color LCD & IPS (1366 x 768)
Intel Celeron N2840 2.16GhZ Dual Core Processor
2GB RAM, 16GB Flash, No Optical Disk Drive
1 USB 2.0, 1 USB 3.0, HDMI
2.43 lbs - AMAZON REVIEW
Black and/or silver
Backlit under the keys
For typing in the dark
Conjuring in empty space
Microchips like little cities
Cloud formations
Once, when I was in jail, I laid on a picnic table and I could see only the sky.
Freedom

At birth the cloud was simple.
Always a place for the imagination
I have stored my secrets in the clouds.
But not just my secrets. Ideas. Thirst. I have communed with electricity.
Broke bread with ASDFJKL;

All the things in life,
Are controlled by not-things
The generation of energy from algorithms
Do it for me, press the button

At the stove, the steam rises
Stir with patience
Fog on my face
But the microwave saves me time
I get to the meeting quicker
I save time, so I can use time

The cloud account
7 billion people under weather patterns
A deposit of imagination
Circuits,
Black and silver.
Connections

We wait for binary rain
The information age to cool



Favorite Appliances

a.
Amazon echo
Lava lamp
Air fryer
Electric blanket
Phantom power
Micro wave
Hot pot
Teardrop humidifier
De-Humidifier
VHS rewinder
Bread baker
Ice Cream maker
Jacuzzi bathtub
Chip clip

b.
The chip clip is a tool of only recent advent. In the past potato chips were most likely not clipped and before that potato chips didn't even exist. Many people had to wander around with their hands full of potatoes, not really knowing what to do with them. Technology has advanced to make our lives easier and the freshness of our potato chips is one of the priorites

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KIPhyzse5w

I haven't left my house for groceries ever since they started bringing it to my door. It is most often delivered by middle aged women who want to make some extra scratch. When they get out of the car Fleetwood Mac isblaring . We all know who Stevie Nicks is. All 400 million of us in America. on ur birth certificate they check a box that says *Not Stevie Nicks* only one person has their box unchecked.

Electric Blanket Knitting Club Facebook Group

Lava Lamps and other useful appliances like my amazon echo are beginning to talk to us. They are the mind we are after. The human mind is so flawed, so we want to map data in algorithms and link it to our brain. They haven't installed it yet, but I just listen to the echo. They print it in all lowercase letters on the box

Baby's First Lava Lamp Learning Tool

They add a bunch of junk to new york city every day. They keep it out on the sidewalks. There isn't any room anywhere. You have to be absolutely rich to do anything in this world. Poor people can live out in nature with the savages. Rich people build concrete shells and yell from atop into their echos. Not the amazon ones, but the ones in which their employees say yessir. Yessir. Yessir.

Amazon Dot. Apple TV

The potato chip clip helps seal in freshness. But not like the vacuum sealer. I have broken one vacuum per year my entire life until recently I have

broken two except I have not broken them ever it was always someone using my vacuum and breaking my vacuum but me having to deal with the consequences and now i have a very dirty floor because I have not had a vacuum for quite some time but I do have a potato chip clip and my chips mostly stay fresh but that is really because I eat them quickly because I cannot maintain a diet

Vacuum Cleaner Finger Print Scanner

I have not logged into my fitness app. I really would like it to monitor my eating without me having to log anything in. Somewhere they are working on that. Give myfitnesspal access to my camera so it knows everything I eat. It can tell just like virtual measuring stick, how many ounces that chicken is. If there was mustard or mayo on it. It will talk out loud to me? "I saw you prepare that kale in that tupperware! Why are you eating pizza?"

Keto Diet Survellience Camera

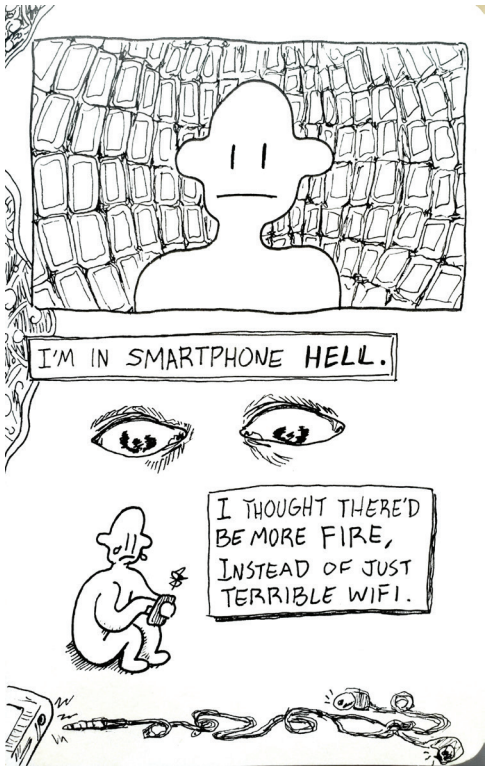
I'm putting the tv on so that I can have sex. Because a little background noise helps the whole situation.

Background Noise Wall Plug In's



Best Of

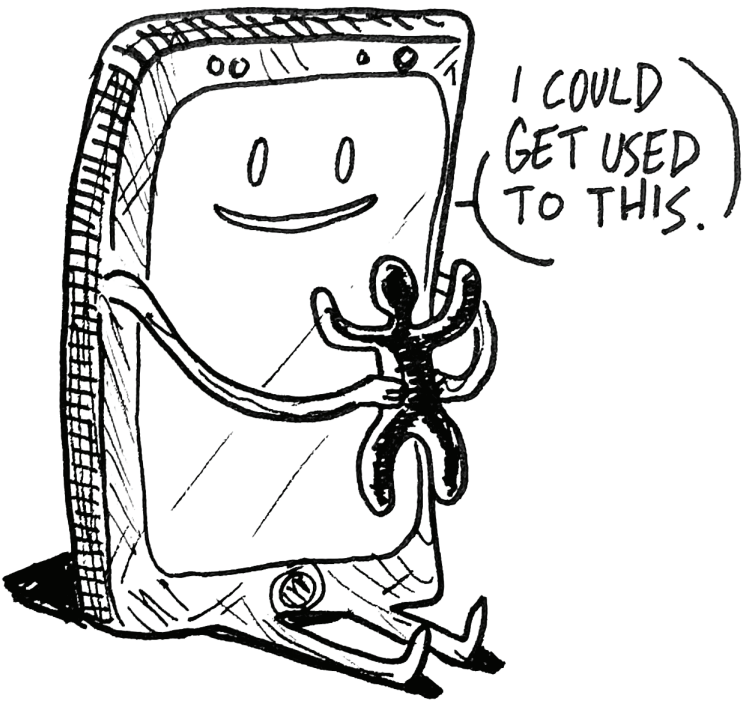
Best of me sitting at a computer
Best of me ignoring emails
Best of me putting off responsibilities
Best of the steamed hams joke
Best of vaporwave
Best of the chinese restaurants scattered around town
Best of my mom giving up on something.
Best of me scrolling infinitely trying to figure out what i'm doing
Best of me deciding not to go somewhere
Best of me wearing a polo shirt
Best of band t shirts
Best of blooper reels
Best of chinese cartons sitting on my desk
Best of ipuprofen
Best of multi vitamin
Best of ranititide
Best of flonase
Best of brooklyn
Best of saginaw
Best of me listening to my poems out loud while i write them



All Lines Grabbed from Social Media

I turned down my chance
Touched everything twice.
Hate to set up the walls
Please stop framing
Everyone watch out
Does anyone want what I am purging?
We were fortunate enough
I would talk and explain his impact
That moment you realize
Get at me
As if it were something to be ashamed of
It won't work, senator
Letting me into your group
There is always a shit hipster at a meat buffet telling you what to do
What makes a man start fires?
Mexico is free at last
Y'all so geeked up about a cry baby
Some days will be good days and others may be bad days...and that's totally okay
It's kinda funny how some things work out
What do we do with all the memories we accumulate?

It's a shallow pool I've drank from
When it is empty I will live from the dust
You and I are special in that nobody cares.
I have received all my haircuts in the dark.
Trained myself to believe in you.
Trained myself to return to truth.
70s film and grainy and my fingers run thru it.
I've had someones banjo in my possession
For longer than necessary to return it to them
The calendar I work from is loaded
With history
Of dissent. And ascent.


I COULD GET USED TO THIS.