Participant 15 – Part 2, Female, 24, Hackney

R: Considered that, changing to Android but I don't wanna learn Androids, because I feel once you have an iPhone, that you sort of get used to that, everything is about iPhone.

I: Yeah I know. Thank you. OK, can we talk about what you put first?

R: Um.. In both, I put the reservoir but in the socially connected one I also put the balcony. So, socially connected, the reservoir because, it's just a really nice place. So we have like, when myself and my sister wanted to talk something, and we don't want to do it in the House, we will go there. Or, me and my friends said, me and anyone that just wants to have like a chit chat and sit and taken a view sort of thing, because it's really pretty, we'll go there, we'll talk, it's nice, it's got like a play park and stuff like this. Yeah, you could be sociable there and the balcony also so not just outside, like, oh yeah, just outside there, because it's where your neighbors are, so that just stand there and talk and you can see everything that's going on and that, this is the house that I was born into. So I've known people that have lived in this area always, and so you sort of know that next door is this person downstairs is that person or they have a history attached to them. So, my, mine and my sister's first ever babysit, lives on the other block directly across from us. Um, there's two little girls whose hair I usually do downstairs and stuff like this, but their big brother was in the same year group as my little sister at the same time, so, yeah, I don’t know, it's just, yeah, I feel socially connect to it like that way. Um… Yeah. I dont know. Because everything has a bit of a story.

I: You know thats great. And please can you tell me more about the first one you put, I can't pronounce the reservoir.

R: Reservior.

I: What is that?

R: So, just across and back there is like Thames water, water, if I speak properly and they, I don't know, clean the water? So, that's what comes through our taps. But recently with the sort of new builds that they've done, they've made it look really nice, because they're sort of in this area, they did quite a few little plots of like what I call gentrification bits, so they're just changing up the bit, so people are moving out but new people are moving in that can afford all of these new places, but where it's really nice. But it has to be really nice for them to make so much offer for them. Going into that area that and just sit in, like is, I don't know how to explain, it's just water. So you just sit there and you can see just water and like the city centre light in the distance, so you can see that Canary Wharf and stuff like that. Which you can see from our balcony up there as well, which is also why I like our balcony, but I don't know, it's just a lot more going on in the reservoir. So, you've got the community centre, which used to be across there, so from our balcony you can see that the old Redmond centre and that is also nice in terms of community, because that too has like memories of things that we've done in the community but now we have the new one. You've got both things like: workshops and libraries and stuff that us as a community can go over a day or… I don’t know, like say um. Just be, like Yeah, I dont know.

I: What does it make you feel when you at resevior?

R: See, that’s why is an half and half. Which is why it's also my lonely place because it's my thinking spot or part of it is my thinking spot because it's quite a little lengthy bit, you go from the park and then go up and there's like a little pathway, we have benches and stuff on it. So, maybe this went train of thought. Yeah. Why is also my lonely spot is because like, when I do need to, say from the other task when I do get into the points of like anxious or overthinking or like feeling lost or something. I go there as well. And so it's sort of like a, it's sort of like a limbo, where you're in-between place where you can figure things out or sort of leave them there and leave them unsolved if they just if you realize they're unnecessary like thoughts or something. Yeah. I've done quite a bit of thinking there. It's, but it's like the spot at different times of the day as well, so it becomes like my… But it is the both at the different times of the day and so on. So yeah the day is very much community based, so you see everyone kids, everyone parents, the elderly walking, and stuff like that. But then at nighttime, it's really silent and so, when you going there to think it's easier because there's not all of that noise. There's not the buzz of the dual carriageway of 7th systems right sort of thing but then when you go there like say with other people. So, when me and my sister go there it's the sorting out of the noise of whatever's going on around us, sort of thing. So, we can talk about what's gone on during our day today or what's annoyed us between ourselves because obviously sisters are sisters, so we can let, figure ourselves out or talk how… Like, just life. I don't know how to explain it. It's just a place that to sort yourself out.

I: It said it's a lonely place because when you're there, thoughts in your head.

R: Yeah. But I go there to intentionally be lonely. Or intentionally be alone, which is slightly different. But some like, I don't think loneliness is always a negative. So, you might feel deep loneliness where you are craving to be around other people. And so, that loneliness is like I'm alone but I don’t want to be. And then sometimes you seek out loneliness because being around other people doesn't allow yourself to figure out everything you need to figure out. And so you take yourself away from business. And that's the positive loneliness sort of thing. Yeah. So when I go there and it is like, it is to intentionally be lonely it's to have that peace to figure out everything that's going on. Within, like is that some people can like put on YouTube and be vegetation or you can stay outside will do the same thing that guided or not guided, it's just two different versions of the same thing. Yeah.

I: How does it feel when you there?

R: So peaceful. Yeah, because you can do more. And there's not… As not the leads the... I'll go back to that the last thing in the boxes, in Box 1 and I was talking about the character and the actress sort of thing. When you're in that spot, you don't have to be either. You could just be. And that's why I said it's like a limbo, because yourself and the area of the in-between. I don't know it's like being in a church and looking for sanctuary. That, is that peace that you're looking for, you're not looking for… It’s like a get in the way.

I: So, you're saying that you're there. You don't have to act up. Or, you have to be somebody or, you can just be...

R: Me.

I: . Tell me more, tell me more about that.

R: I don't know. You don't have to be anything. And that's what I mean. Like it's a space where that has no fixed intention for it, not for the space, say like we're in the living room, or in the living room you do things like sit and talk to your family or we have our dining table in it, so that you dinner and stuff like this. But out there, it could be anything. So I I'll give you examples, I went there when my cousin passed and I went there to study lions for auditions and I've been there to just talk to friends or like, get away from the feeling of being anxious. So, you just sit there and breathe through that. It can be a place where anything can happen and it doesn't have like a… There, obviously there's a play park, so that has the intention of children playing or there's benches, so you sit that sort of thing or you lay down. You know what, like anything. But it's not, It's not I have to. You don't have to sit there and play in the park. You don't have to sit on the bench. You can walk. You can look at it. It could be anything and so. If it could be anything it can be everything, that makes any kind of sense.

I: Does make it. Is there anything else you want to say? Mentioned the patio that you bump into people that you know, you grew up there, you do some girl's hair downstairs.

R: Yeah.

I: You know a lot of people. Tell me more about that.

R: It is like… By the council is described as the Camuno area. And so it kind of does just that, like it brings the community sort of together in that area. So, just standing there. You can, I don’t know, you become a part of the community. So I can stand up my doorway and see my neighbor who I said was my babysitter when I was little, her mom still lives there. So I'll see her mother every day when she walks out and we could just wave at each other and say hello or downstairs of the actual like, in the actual car park. That's where all of us as kids used to play. So, we play football or ride our bikes and stuff like that. And everyone around would know whose kid was whose and sort of thing. So, you’d always have soemone watching out for you, they'd always be like, I don't know, aunties and uncles that aren't your actual aunties and uncles, or grab words that aren't your actual grandmothers, granddads, they are not the actual grandmas and granddads. So that we had the granddad that everyone called granddad. He was no one's granddad but he'd always come down and fix our backs. That, I don't know. So, you just sort of become, I don't know, more community, become family. So everyone, not everyone knows your, what's going on in your lives or anything like that. But everyone sets out to sort of have your back. I don't know. Yeah I remember explaining it to someone that was younger than me. So, at one point my auntie moved into this block. She's moved out now. But she lived on the first floor. And my cousin and the girl across, how does… She have a son. So, they were friends and they got into a fight and myself and the girl across. She was the sister of my old babysitter, so I got together and explained to both of them that is no point you fighting each other, because in our community, where we'd always have to have each other's backs. So even if your mom wasn't around, you'd be able to knock on my door and say oh I need xxx. Or, like can you help me with or can I, I've locked myself out, can I stay in your living room until my mom gets home sort of thing. So we, I don't know, it was children being children, but we explained to them that it is a community it is a family and so everyone is there for you. And it sort it feels like when you are just out on the balcony you can just talk to everyone or see someone who knows you from when he was little or anything like that. Or even, or even like the labor around the corner. He stopped me the other day and was like “Oh! Casey, how are you? xxxx. Ah, you've grown up so much.” Because obviously I went to UNI. I'm OK but he's like “Oh you've grown up so much.” I was like “yeah I'm in my 20s now.” sort of things that are people remembers you when you were this small. And for someone to be able to say that to you, like I don't know. Not that it… I don't know, it's a sort of warming that oh you've known me since I was that small sort of thing. Not that many people can say that to me but people in this community can. Yeah I don't know. It's just nice.

I: Thank you. Good thank you. Is there anything else you want to say.

R: No.

I: OK.