Television can now be a two-way communication. Instead of observing the stories, we participate in creating the direction of the stories.

The culture of engineering is to be a company man. I used to be all for being a company man. I was willing to do whatever it took to get a job done – stay up all night, work weekends, go to stressful meetings. But then I found out what kind of a job the company wanted to get done. Everything was in the name of wasting taxpayer’s money and brownnosing incompetent people. And I couldn’t force myself to be a company man anymore.

It would be easier to pretend it never happened and move on. I can’t in good conscience tell girls how great engineering is, we save the world, whatever. Because if we do, we’ll continue to attract the wrong kind of woman to the profession. The kind who expect everybody to be nice and sing Kumbaya. The kind who will sit passively and take whatever bad treatment they get until they can’t take it any more and leave the profession to go have babies. We need young women who are going to be activists. Not corporate mouthpieces who are too afraid to speak out, who will perpetuate this culture and sit idly by while the men treat them like toys.

As women, we're taught to go around telling everyone how great it is to be an engineer, we need more women engineers. Well, the second part is true. We do need more women engineers. If only so the women engineers we have now can avoid being treated like an object without alienating the whole office. And to create a culture where what seems normal is being a woman engineer.

Some people ask me if this company is for children. Doesn’t it sound so sweet. Role models. Well, for every role model protagonist, there’s a more powerful antagonist. If there weren’t, would the role model really be a role model? They must be working against something to make life better. If they’re not working against something, they’re probably not doing their job.

The video is mightier than the pen.

They want me and all the other coworkers to think I was the bad one because I repeated their jokes. But I won't let them control my mind.

It may have been mostly an attempt to send a message to the government workers who couldn't be fired: Don't do anything in your spare time that management might not like or else you'll be punished. Of course, nobody knows what it is that management may or may not like, so the result is everyone walking on eggshells. Fear. Everyone feels like they have to sneak around. Avoid managers. Nothing productive gets done in that kind of environment.

Every time I applied myself to working at a "normal" job, I saw I was wasting my time and taxpayer money on work that was going nowhere for bosses who were going nowhere.

I can’t define myself by whether I’m bowing down to the management structure someone else defined.

I hear about how important it is to have more engineers in this country, that we need engineers so badly. But where are these important jobs? All I’ve seen is a big corporate waste of time. I’m sure those important jobs are out there, but why doesn’t anybody talk about who’s doing those jobs?

Perhaps some women never seek success for fear of stalkers. That the attention will draw unwanted physical danger.

Our business leaders are no longer leading us. They’re taking from us.

Today’s employees have to go along with management’s foibles, pretend they approve of management and how management treats them, otherwise they’re targeted and blamed as the problem.

When the bosses don't want any results, they want certain behaviors. It really is rule by fear. The staff have to walk around on eggshells because they don't know what behavior the management does and doesn't want. Some people get rewarded for making funny jokes, others get punished.

Mid-level management expects brownnosing from the highest levels of the contracting companies. And they get it. Because the contractors don't know what else the government wants.

And the contractors think the mid-level government managers are their customers. Because they're the ones who decide who gets money. But who gives them the money? Congress. And who decides who gets to be in Congress? You do. You are the customers. I tried to figure out what work was useful to the taxpayers. And if you don't like what the government is providing for your money, you get to fire whomever in Congress is responsible.

Whichever contractor makes them feel more important gets more money.

It's all about who you can have control over. When there aren't many control options left, the control becomes physical over the women.

Women engineers are taught not to complain about the issues with being in a male environment. We want to feel empowered, not complain like victims. But when we don’t talk about the issues, they don’t get solved. We don’t know what the issues really are, we haven’t defined them, we’ve swept them under the rug because we don’t deal with them. We need a balance between complaining like victims and ignoring the problem. Between feeling empowered and admitting there are problems.

I don’t believe in women’s intuition.

Since I had been fired, I had the freedom to tell it as nonfiction because I didn’t have to worry about being fired.

It’s not OK to tell meeting jokes, but it’s OK to feel me up?