Valid Palindrome

⊙ Difficulty	Easy
⊙ Category	Two Pointers
🔗 Question	https://leetcode.com/problems/valid-palindrome/
🔗 Solution	https://youtu.be/jJXJ16kPFWg
⋰ Status	Done

Question

> A phrase is a **palindrome** if, after converting all uppercase letters into lowercase letters and removing all non-alphanumeric characters, it reads the same forward and backward. Alphanumeric characters include letters and numbers.
>
> Given a string `s`, return `true` *if it is a **palindrome**, or* `false` *otherwise*.

Example

Example 1:

```
Input: s = "A man, a plan, a canal: Panama"
Output: true
Explanation: "amanaplanacanalpanama" is a palindrome.
```

Example 2:

```
Input: s = "race a car"
Output: false
```

```
Explanation: "raceacar" is not a palindrome.
```

Example 3:

```
Input: s = " "
Output: true
Explanation: s is an empty string "" after removing non-alphanumeric characters.
Since an empty string reads the same forward and backward, it is a palindrome.
```

Idea

💡 Left and right to see match, left++ and right— sync

Solution

```
# Convert the string to lowercase and remove non-alphanumeric characters
    cleaned_str = ''.join(c.lower() for c in s if c.isalnum())

    # Check if the cleaned string is equal to its reverse
    return cleaned_str == cleaned_str[::-1]
```