Laurel Schwulst, My Website is a Shifting House …

The way Laurel talks about the fluidity of what a website can be is very cool! I like that we started the semester with this reading, showing us that there is no specific way a website HAS to look. "The web is what we make it" is the title of one of the paragraphs. I really like that statement in general. It doesn't have to be some specific right answer, it can be fluid and up to interpretation.

Ursula K. Le Guin, A Rant on Technology

I enjoy how the stereotypical idea of technology is broken down and reformed in this paper. I like how Ursula explains technology as the "active human interface with the material world." and not just lightbulbs or computers. Everything we use, do and touch is technology. It also rewrites the idea of hi-tech vs low-tech, because while starting a fire by hand is technically low-tech compared to using a lighter or torch, it is very difficult and not so simple. Technology of all sorts are shortcuts to ease our lives.

J.R. Carpenters Handmade Web

It was exciting to read something that was supporting the individual's design and rejecting corporate design for websites. I think it really shows the style of the time and more raw experimentation. It is more organic feeling and less of an attempt to fit into a box of functionality. I like the passion behind what J.R. is saying. I like the quote "**I evoke the term 'handmade web' in order to draw attention to the physical body.**" because it almost seems ironic to have the human body relate to a website, but we humans created the ability to make websites. Seeing websites like this is refreshing in the world of rule-following and almost sterile websites.

Taeyoon Choi, Hello World!

I like the combination of handmade, handwritten art with the computer design. The *Tablet computer* acrylic on canvas is so cool. Explaining where the term computer came from is great, because it is true, humans were the first computers! There is a lot of speculative language and theory. I mainly like this piece of text for its aesthetic.

Becca Abbe The Internet's Back-to-the-Land Movement

This reading is shocking in the sense that a group of people in the 1970s predicted our resources would soon run out, close to our current present day. We are constantly dealing with climate problems so it seems that what they predicted will come to fruition. The idea of moving off the mainstream digital grid is interesting. When I normally hear "off the grid" it typically refers to completely going off the grid. Living in the woods, minimal electricity, no connection to the outside world, and fully self sustaining off the land. But this sense of off the grid is much different, because it just means off the main grid. I like the message that websites don't have to serve the entire internet.

Frank Chimero The Good Room

Starting off the writing with "what can we do to hold on the the benefits while removing the damage?" is a very strong beginning point. Showing the beauty of what Penn Station used to be compared to what it is now, is depressing. Relating this to screen use and the digital world is cool. I like the idea of the digital environment being designed as nourishing and purposeful. "This reasoning should be enough to encourage you to leave the optional digital places that you don't enjoy." This is a great quote! Because it is true, we leave physical spaces if we don't like them, so we should be able to leave digital ones too.