* What is your style?

I am an introvert, but despite that, I really do enjoy spending time with other people. I find people fascinating. In fact, a good portion of my day is spent watching people. I try to look for context clues to see how they are feeling. I do this so that I will know how I am supposed to feel in a social environment, and so that I will know if I can help them in any way. I spend much of my time looking for ways to help people out, I want to make their day a little bit better. I feel like working with other people is important or even necessary for a company to function at its best. That being said, I recharge my social batteries through alone time. At the end of every day, I absolutely rely on personal space to gather my thoughts so that I can have the time I need to cope with the crippling existential thoughts that haunt my every waking moment. I find other people distracting at times, I like buckling down and working until everything on my personal plate is complete. Once I am done with my own stuff, I can focus on bringing new ideas and my own efforts to help those around me. I am good at working in a team, but most of the time I am perfectly happy to work on my task alone. I am effective both in a group, and by myself.

* When do you like people to approach you and how?

Above all else, I want people to approach me with respect and genuinity. I do all that I can to be respectful to others. I try to be selflessly orientated in all that I do. I believe that honesty in who you are and what your motivation is are both essential to relationships, and when I detect any trace of bad intentions or any form of ingenuity I may unconsciously cut myself off from that person. I want people to approach me with the understanding that even though I may seem distant or mysterious, that is not my intention. I am just perfectly happy to be alone at times.

* What do you value?

I value morality above all else. I believe in trying to make the world a better place through small actions. I think that everyone should have this mindset, continually striving to do good and to improve oneself. I also value relationships. Everyone needs at least one positive influence in their lives, myself included. Even though I tell myself I wish I lived alone sometimes, it itsn’t true. I need other people just as much as anyone else.

* How do you like people to communicate with you?

I would like people to be completely transparent with me. I don’t want to have to wonder what other people are thinking, if they tell me where they are coming from it goes a long way with me. Any correction given to me should be approached with carefully since I tend to take it very hard. I am good at changing, but if I need to make a change, I also need to hear what I am doing right so I don’t spiral into negativity.

* How do you make decisions?

I approach most decisions with my feelings. If it is an ethical or morally correct thing to do, I will most likely do that. Logic, although it typically comes second with my decisions, isn’t completely thrown out. I try to balance logic and emotion. I feel emotions are important, but in many situations we need to view things strictly from a systematic approach.

* How can people help you?

Be patient with me. Chances are that since I am so self-aware, I already know what I need to work on and am doing my best to fix it. If you take notice of the good that I am trying to do, it makes a huge difference for me. I don’t do what I do for credit or applause, but the knowledge that I am making an impact, even if it is small, makes me much less stressed and worried.

* What will you not tolerate in others?

I will not tolerate actions which are morally skewed in the wrong direction. I don’t tolerate a lack of respect towards others, and I really struggle with understanding laziness in others.

* Take 5-10 minutes and define Health, Work, Play, and Love.

Health is how you measure how you are doing physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

Work is when you exert either physical or mental energy for a task that is productive in some way.

Play is when you exert either physical or mental energy strictly for the sake of personal enjoyment.

Love is putting someone else’s needs or desires above your own and supporting them with all your heart no matter what.

* Using a dashboard scale of 0, ¼, ½, ¾, full, rate yourself.

Health ¾ full

Work full

Play ½ full

Love full

* Ask yourself if there’s a design problem you’d like to tackle in any of these areas.

I think that play has an inherent issue because a lot of time in society it is frowned upon. If you aren’t being productive there is a good chance that people will see you as lazy or uncommitted.

* Now ask yourself if the ”problem” is a gravity problem, or is in your circle of influence.

I think the real problem stems from caring too much about what others think. The reason why I don’t play as often as I should is because I am worried about how my personal image will be interpreted. I think that if I simply choose to ignore those other people and play when I need to that my life will be much better.

* Write a short reflection about your Workview. (100-250 words)

I think work is important because in many ways it can give humanity a purpose. If we did not work, we wouldn’t really have much meaning. Work isn’t necessarily limited to an environment of commerce or economy. It can be experienced anywhere in life. I think that when we work, we have an increased opportunity to learn and to grow. Money can be a part of it, in fact, for most it is the biggest motivation to do so. Even so, you can learn in many different areas when you put forth effort to accomplish a task. When you work for others, it helps to bring a deeper purpose behind it.

* Write a short reflection about your Lifeview (100-250 words)

In my opinion, life is all about learning and establishing and growing relationships. The things that matter most are found within the threshold of morality. It is important to always strive to be a good citizen, family member, employee, and friend. Life can be summarized with the idea that we need to do our best in all the different areas. If we don’t do this, life is meaningless. People should help each other along the way. Life is much harder to go through alone. Even helping one person out can make all the difference in the world. Evil is anything that goes against morality, and good is the opposite. I believe in God, I believe he put us here so that we can learn to become like Him one day. I think work and life complement each other because in both experiences, we will not be perfect, but by doing our best and relying on others

Keep a Good Time Journal

**Activities that engage me or provide me energy:**

Structured activities engage me a lot, such as homework. I found more often than not that I actually gained energy from working instead of the opposite.

Activities where I can be creative provide me lots of energy. Piano especially helps me with this. Imaginative activities like reading also help me a lot too.

My bedroom is a safe haven, spending time alone helps me to deal with stress and I am better able to engage in a task there.

Exercise is always a good one. I am much happier when I consistently make effort to work out, eat healthy, and sleep when needed.

Spending time with loved ones. I didn’t have much time for this last week but I think it would have helped me.

Programming brings me in the flow

**Activities that don’t:**

Wasting time on my phone.

Unstructured activities, I need a plan beforehand or I will stress out.

Fighting with roommates

Staying up late

Eating junk food

Watching tv

**Mind Map**

Programming--typing--math--colors--video games--languages

Video game designer

Piano--music--emotion--creation--freedom--production--writing

Music Producer

Exercise--Swimming--Soccer--Weightlifting--good foods--carrots--protein--drink water--run

Personal

**Odyssey Plan**

* Create three alternative five-year plans.
* Three plans

**The Realistic Programmer**

Questions that arise from this plan:

Where do I want to end up? How do I even start?

Years:

0 Try new things, learn more about what kind of development I want to do, backend, front-end, etc.

1 Focus on trying to get an internship. In the meantime keep learning and try to save some money doing customer support with Johnny.

2 Same as the line above, if an internship is done by this point try to get another job.

3 Finish college.

4 Try to get a “real” job as a programmer, hopefully at Wal-Mart or with the church.

5 Take night classes to get a master’s degree.

This plan seems feasible and realistic for me. It is something I feel good and excited about. I could see this becoming how things turn out to be in the long run. I think it makes sense, and follows my work/life views. I would love to teach programming at a school someday.

**The Optimistic Author**

Questions that arise from this plan: Is this something that I would enjoy more than programming? Is it realistic for supporting a family like I would hope for?

Years:

0 If I decide after this semester that I don’t actually like programming and if my plans fall through, switch to an English major before it’s too late.

1 I can start writing while taking classes in school, using my free time to outline ideas for a novel. I could also create children’s books with Emily, either one would work.

2 Get a job and start making money just in case the author thing doesn’t pick up right away (which is likely.) If I have free time in the meantime it will be important to continue to write.

3 Keep doing the same thing here, write, work, school, repeat. Read for enjoyment to avoid burnout.

4 Graduate college. Get a job that can pay for rent and food but gives me enough hours to write like I need to. Focus on my novel.

5 Hopefully by this point I will have my first draft ready to be looked at by publishers. If not, keep working on it until it is finished. If it looks like things aren’t going well, try to work for Jeff at his company.

I’m not quite as big a fan of this plan. I am excited about the idea of being an author, but not what I would need to do to actually get there. I think while I am fully capable of doing it, it is probably not the most realistic idea for me. If I do end up wanting to do this it would work, but I can’t see myself doing it as much as programming.

**The Carefree Pianist**

Questions that arise from this plan: Is there any way this could actually be realistic? What would I want to do specifically with this?

Years:

0 If for whatever reason the other two plans don’t work out, focus on music. I know enough to produce it and to perform it. Start out with a job at a retail store and do a youtube channel for music on the side.

1 Create a good portfolio with music, work on fiver and ultimately try to produce music for indie video games.

2 Throughout all of this try to be accepted into BYUI’s music program. Above all else that should have priority, because it will be really important to have those credentials once I am looking for a job.

3 By year three I should be in the music program by then. I will look for opportunities to continue developing my musical ability and talent. This will be a good place to figure out where I want to end up career-wise.

4 Keep going to school, try to graduate ASAP. In the meantime, keep working however I can to pay for the rent and food. Keep trying to find opportunities to make money through music, like on fiver or by producing music for indie games.

5 Work with Bethany since she will be back from her trip on a youtube channel together. Put as much time and energy as possible into creating an album together. Keep working to graduate and to get a sustainable job in the music industry as soon as possible.

This plan is honestly not super realistic. Again, it is possible, but there is no way to judge if this is actually what would go down. I would love to do music, but there are probably better things that I could do. This is why this plan is #3 on my list right now. Although it is my dream, it is very difficult to get into the industry and even more difficult to do well once there.