

E4: Autumn Vagle

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SPEAKERS

Sophie Warrick, Music/Sound Design, Autumn Vagle



Music/Sound Design 00:24
[Audio collage fades in and out]



Sophie Warrick 00:39

Hello amazing people! Welcome to Queer Backroads, a podcast that focuses on queerness in rural Minnesota. I'm your host Sophie Warrick and my pronouns are she/her/hers. I'm a fat queer, curious creative currently located in the Twin Cities, but I grew up in Bemidji, a small town in northern Minnesota. My art practice focuses on a lot of different topics and mediums but most importantly, it focuses on love and asking questions. According to the Movement Advancement Project, an estimated 2.9 to 3.8 million queer people live in rural communities across the United States. This podcast aims to tell their stories. There is some explicit language in this podcast so consider this your warning, you may visit my link tree at linktr.ee/SophieWarrick to learn more about this podcast project, find organizations to uplift and show notes and transcripts of each episode. That's L-I-N-K-T-R DOT E-E SLASH S-O-P-H-I-E-W-A-R-R-I-C-K. My guest today is someone that's always the life of the party, isn't afraid of sharing her emotions and always makes everyone feel welcome. She's an incredible musician and is going to get famous sometime pretty soon. Without further introduction, I'm going to pass this to a conversation between Autumn Vagle and myself.



Autumn Vagle 02:07

So my name is Autumn Vagle. Um, she/her pronouns. I am...who am I? Wow. Um, I'd say I'm a very fun loving, energetic person with a high energy personality. What I'm doing right now is I am a full time worker in the communications marketing field. But I definitely would not say that defines who I am. I'm also a musician and a creative I'd say that is where my passion lies. And would say that is better aligned with who I am. I'm a singer. And I'm a lover. (Both laugh)



Sophie Warrick 02:57

One of the first things I've been asking everyone is what are three things that I should know about you?



Autumn Vagle 03:01

Oh my gosh, I was thinking about this one. Um, first, I think my astrological signs are important to know. I'm a Gemini sun and Aries moon in a Virgo rising. And so how I define that within, or how I like see that in myself is I'm a little bit crazy. I I have such like a high energy personality that I think honestly, it puts off people sometimes like the first time I meet people, but it genuinely genuinely comes from like, a place of just like being excited, excited and like outgoing. Like, that's those that's a huge core part of my personality is like it comes comes from a Gemini sun or vice versa. And the Aries Moon is a big part of me I am extremely passionate and driven. Um, I am entirely goal oriented where I get a little bit like blinded I see see what I want and will do anything to get it, kind of kind of. My Virgo rising is like I am actually like even for being so crazy and shit, I am super anal and organized in my and yeah, totally kind of, like analytical in ways that I think I've like grown into and that I didn't used to be and I think that surprises a lot of people. It's like, oh, like I am super like, yeah, super organized, at least in my thinking and stuff. Yeah, so that's kind of like three things in many things. In all in astrology.



Sophie Warrick 04:56

I love it. (Voiceover) The 36 Questions That Lead to Love are a set of questions developed in the 1990s by psychologists and other researchers to see if two strangers can develop an intimate connection just from asking each other a series of increasingly personal questions. To be honest, I really don't understand the science behind it. But I really do love the idea of asking someone intimate questions in order to get to know them quickly. I'll ask a few questions to each guest every episode.

 Music/Sound Design 04:59
[Ambient birds fade in] [Ambient birds fade out]

 Sophie Warrick 05:31
Would you like to be famous? And in what way?

 Autumn Vagle 05:35
Yes. All right. I have...I'm definitely a person who has like, wanted to be famous my whole life. And I know, I like lately, I've really just been like thinking about how it's not like, the fame is scary. And I don't know if I necessarily want fame, but it's like, I want recognition. And I really want, um, I don't know, like, I just always, you know, I love doing shit. And I'm super passionate about the stuff I do I care so deeply about it to the point that I want, I want everyone else to care about it, too, you know. And so in what way? Like, it's like, anything? Everything? But I think because my most passion and like the most of myself that I put into, like, one thing is like my music. So that definitely and the most like energy I put in and like just the most like time and just focus is in music. And so I definitely want that to be recognized. And like my music just brings me so much like, joy and release that I like, for others to also feel that way it would be like the most gratifying thing that I can like, think of right now, you know, and and so I think, yeah. Music, for sure.

 Sophie Warrick 07:16
I love that. Thank you. One day, you will get there. I am positive of it. You're already halfway there like, god damn. (Autumn laughs) And then the last question that I wanted to ask you related to the questions that lead to love are, what do you wish the world had more of?

 Autumn Vagle 07:34
Hmm. Ah, man. So much. But I think and this ties back to like my values too, but, like, hope and positivity right now. It's just dark and dismal. Dark out there. And, and like, there's so much going on, there's like a, you know, a surge of knowledge, which does give me hope in a way that, like, seeing that seeing the flaws being pointed out, means that, uh, hopefully means that, you know, things will like eventually change. I think that it's important but also in all of the, you know, the coming to knowledge or just like, whatever we're going through as a society right now, where things are coming out, like, it is super heavy and dark. And I think it can, it can be easy to get lost of like, oh, like things will never get better,

even though it's important that we are continually pushing to be better. I also like important to know like, we will always have you know, things that we love. Like we will all we can always have like community and like each other and like the hope that the hope that you will always like have that and you will always like have yourself and like that the love there and yeah, like you'll always have the sun you know, like, things like that. Like, although it's so dark. I just hope that we all you know can have a hope for...yeah.



Sophie Warrick 09:24

I love that, especially the part about will always have the sun, like I 100% agree no matter how shitty and fucked up everything is.



Music/Sound Design 09:41

[Ambient birds and mandolin fade in and out]



Sophie Warrick 09:48

Do you mind telling me just where you currently live and maybe where you were born and raised? Yeah. So I currently live in midway St. Paul and our house where we go...there's three of us three people, one cat, my cat Pantsy. Um, we're all just we're actually super close roommates. I've known one of my roommates for a long time. They're actually from where I'm from. And, but I'm moving soon I'm going to be moving to uptown or uptown Minneapolis, probably in or in May, somewhere in southern Minneapolis to be a little bit closer to my work. And I'll be moving by myself and my cat with my cat. But I am from this funky little place called the Iron Range in northern Minnesota. It's like, my home is three and a half hours north of here, like north west a little bit. Yeah, it's like north west of Duluth, it's like an hour and a half northwest of Duluth for for reference. And I was born in Virginia, Minnesota, the same hospital as Chris Pratt. So that's fun! He's got family there. Um, but I was raised, and my folks still have a home on Lake Vermilion, which is like, about a half an hour away from Virginia, five minutes away from a town called Tower Minnesota. So far, cuz the Range is just like that. Like everyone's spread out. And even though it's a big area, like everyone knows each other and their mom. So it's like, it's hard to say my hometown is Tower because like, even though I went to elementary school there and like, I'm technically right by there. I'm like, loyal, like, I went to high school in Virginia. And like, all my friends were in Virginia and like, but at the same time, I live on Lake Vermilion. So it's kind of like it's a funky area. Um, yeah, that's where I'm, that's where I'm from. And have you lived there your whole life, like, besides moving to St. Paul?



Autumn Vagle 12:08

Well, that is always on the Range. Yes, when I was born, I was born in Virginia, but we lived outside of Biwabik, Minnesota. Um, if you or anyone listening knows or like is a fan of downhill skiing Giants Ridge is like a really popular Ski Hill area. And that's right near Biwabik right near that area too. Aurora, whatever if you're familiar. And then so I went to Gilbert elementary school for like pre k, kindergarten and first grade and then moved to Tower elementary school. And that's when we moved to Lake Vermilion, which is where we still live now. And I went to Tower elementary school until sixth grade, but then they closed down the high school and demolished it because it was not a good school. Like, I had like 11 kids in my sixth grade class. And that was including some of the smarter fifth graders that would like sit in math class and stuff like that. It was like, like, the school like the love is there. But the, like, the quality in teaching was just so different. Like I remember going in then I went to Virginia High School starting seventh grade. And I remember like going into that school and like they, my parents didn't think that I could go into like, like, for example, like honors math, because they thought the curriculum was like so far behind in Tower elementary school. I was bumped up to honors math, because I was really good at math but...



Sophie Warrick 13:44

Quick flex, quick flex.



Autumn Vagle 13:47

But just like for reference, yeah, it's it's a weird area. So two different houses, three different schools. And then I moved to St. Paul.



Sophie Warrick 13:58

Nice. And then how would you describe like, what it's like to live on the Range? Like, you know, maybe compared to St. Paul, where there's houses everywhere. There is multiple colleges within what, like five miles of each other? Yeah, how would you describe the Range?



Autumn Vagle 14:16

Oh, man, this was a really, like, awesome question to be able to, like, reflect on because I like I just, you know, I never talked about it and like anyone who knows the Range, like you don't have to talk about like, what it's like because you just like feel the residual effects of

like, the area so um, yeah, like Virginia is a small, smallish town I want to say there's like I don't even know actually, I was gonna say 10,000 people but I have no clue of that. I'm so bad at like guessing populations. Tower has like less than 500 people. And it's just a it's one like, important thing to know about the Iron Range is that, um, it's like, funded or it survives off mining. So up in Eveleth, Minnesota we have the largest open mine pit in the entire world is in Minnesota. And they primarily like mine iron ore, and steel. Or maybe they make steel out of iron ore. I don't know how that works, but everyone, parents works at the mine, including my dad. So mining, mining put me through college and it's crazy to see but like, every yeah, everyone up there is connected through the mines. So like, everyone knows each other. And it's even though it's there's like four, like, there's the Quad Cities. So there's Eveleth, Virginia, Mountain Iron, and Gilbert. And there's even more like cities that have schools up there like Cotton and or in Babbitt, and there's only school like high schools up there, because the area was so wealthy at one point because the mining that they just put schools everywhere, and all these like towns are like 30 minutes from each turn with less than that. And that's just kind of to describe, like the areas and now and now it's becoming a really, like, there's a big what's the word there's a big break, there's a big gap, there's a big gap just discrepancy or whatever, disparity disparitiy is the word between people who like make a lot of money, like on the on the mine. And then people who really like there's a lot of people living in poverty, and I looked it up in Virginia is six on the top 10 most dangerous cities to live in and Minnesota. And we've got crazy drug, like really bad drug problems going on right now. And I'm talking myself in a circle right now. But basically, there's people like everyone who's there has been there for like generations, like, no one really leaves. So like, their whole family is rooted there. And a lot of people like, don't don't get the opportunity to, like receive greater education, or, you know, to experience other ways of living. And it's, there's very much like a certain type of people that live up there, and they're very much leaning right and conservative, they're really outdoorsy, but not in a way where they love the environment. Let's, let's see what what outdoor toys we can use to rip out rip trees. It's the culture and it's, it's wild to like have grown up there. Um, honestly, cuz you get you see you I just like have like a different perspective on those people not not like necessarily an understanding because I still don't understand them. But like, maybe a little bit of like, knowing like, where they can come from.



Sophie Warrick 18:35

So much of what you just said resonated with me that I had never really thought about before, if that makes sense. Like I, the part you said about a lot of folks on the Range in these rural communities being outdoorsy, but in a way that they don't care about the environment. Which is like so fucked up if you think about it, because it's like almost a paradox. But it's 100% true. And I can think of countless people that I grew up with an

Bemidji that are the exact same way. And then also to the point of understanding folks, and not to the point where you get what they're like, you don't agree with what they're saying. But you understand just how it's so difficult to describe because in a way, like a way that I've tried to describe it before is well, like, I don't agree with like, I remember there was this one girl I grew up with her name was I guess I can't really say her name on the podcast. But anyway, this girl I grew up with, um, we went to the same kindergarten which same church went to the same high school and same elementary school all these things, right? And so we got all of the same fundamental teaching and we learned the same things. And so I understand her in some ways, but we disagree in so many other ways. That it's like how it's just so you it's difficult to describe but...

A

Autumn Vagle 20:02

Yeah, no, totally. Yeah. And, and also, it's like, people who stay there, you know, like that so like to be like frank it's a completely like whitewashed area, not even whitewashed because it was never not, you know, it was has always been the same, people are the same, you know, same generations of families up there. And like, like, I can count on my hand, like the diverse families that live there, which feels so weird to say, well, that's how it was to is, you know, like, if you weren't like that, or if you didn't think like them or look like them, you were just immediately outcasted and I know it's like that so many places. And it's, it's just interesting, like, because they have always lived there. And because those families have have never seen anything else. It makes sense of why, like, how will they think they do you know, it doesn't make sense. But like, right. Like, they've never seen it any other way or like have have had anyone to tell them any other way.



Sophie Warrick 21:14

And at the same time, right? Like I can sit here and be like, that's so fucked up. But when you don't know any other way of living like why would you ever challenge what the way that you like, you know what I mean?

A

Autumn Vagle 21:27

Exaclty, yeah. Oh.



Sophie Warrick 21:30

Wild. Anyway, let's move on. (Both laugh) I was just wondering where you feel most at home? And I've been asking folks this because a lot of people have been saying they don't

think of one physical place as home. But other folks have been and so I'm curious if that means homes, a little house, a coffee shop? A feeling a person what that means to you?

A

Autumn Vagle 21:55

I think it definitely leans more to a feeling of comfy cozy, you know, when when I like first heard this question, like when I think of home, I do think of my home up north with my family, my parents and my sister. Because we are like, I'm so lucky to have like, such a loving like understanding family as them like my parents are so, they have just like always been so supportive and like literally have just pour like, too much love into me. Like, oh, man, and we, it's nice now like I can go home and like I'm honestly not friends with anyone that I was friends with in high school anymore. Like, I have a couple friends and one of them's Kiki, who's my roommate here. So like we don't hang out when I go home. But like a home it's nice now because I can like separate my home from the area. And like A. because we literally live like in the middle of nowhere. So like I can easily like not see anyone if I don't want to when it's like so nice and cozy at home with my family.



Sophie Warrick 23:13

It's almost like you're camping out in a way.

A

Autumn Vagle 23:15

Yeah, no. Yeah. It's like my escape now from like, if I'm stressed down here in the cities, I can go up there and just like, won't see any cars or like any, and not hear anything. Um, but at the same time, I do feel very at home, like here in the cities like with my friends with my roommates with my partner. Like, I think it is just a feeling of feeling like safe and cozy.

M

Music/Sound Design 23:45

[Ambient birds fade in]



Sophie Warrick 23:49

(Voiceover) Both the challenges and blessings of being a real queer is increased visibility. The lower population of rural areas means that anyone who's different can be more noticeable. And that when someone is different, more people know it, particularly in these tight knit communities. If a queer person is in a rural community and is open about their

identity, in even one part of their life, such as work, it's likely that many community members including outside of work will know that they're queer.

 Music/Sound Design 24:21
[Ambient birds fade out]

 Sophie Warrick 24:23
Have you ever considered moving back to the Range at all?

 Autumn Vagle 24:28
Well, every summer, I'm like, damn, I wish I was living at my house of North now. Just because, like the, excuse me the beauty of the area and like I am just like, because of where I was raised and just you know, things I love. I just love the outdoors and like I feel so at peace outside, on the heals me and so every summer I'm like, oh, I wish I was up there. Life is slower and simpler and more beautiful. But realistically, me and who I am and like, what my job even like what I want to do, and like, as a musician, I wouldn't be able to live that I the life I wanted to live up there, there's just not the opportunities. And there's not the people that I would need to feel like I have a community

 Sophie Warrick 25:22
Could you speak more about that, like, what you need to feel like you have your community?

 Autumn Vagle 25:27
Yeah. I mean, like, like minded individuals, like even as like a gay person, like I wouldn't like me and my partner can go home, and feel safe because my parents make it feel so, like comfy and safe for us. But we can, you know, go home and then say, oh, let's go out to a restaurant like that couldn't even that, like, we could never do that like and feel safe in that area. I just think like, in order to be somewhere and like, live comfortably, like I need, I need to at least know that there is a community that would back me if I needed it. You know what I mean? If I faced harassment or sound or like, whatever is gonna happen...



Sophie Warrick 26:20

Yeah, yeah. Did you ever know any queer folks growing up at all? Or, like, could you find your time where like, you met the first queer person in your life or anything like that?



Autumn Vagle 26:33

Dude, I like from oh, and yes. I remember so vividly. In my elementary school, there are these two girls who were in high school, because Tower high school wasn't closed at the time or not closed yet. And they were like, super close. And like, I was so interested and like, intrigued and that, like, I remember, like, just being so, you know, interested in like, what, like how that works. And like, oh, like, what that's really like, just being intrigued. And I remember like, in high school, like, we had a few, like, I knew of a few gay people. I'm never like, really had a role model of like, a, like a gay woman or, like, gay person. It was always like, gay men in my school, which I think is just kind of telling of also just like the stigma around, you know, being a girl who's gay. But yeah, like, there's so many. Like, I had a crush on my friend in high school and never never thought of it, like never processed it. Or like, I never questioned my sexuality, like, ever in my school. No, I was very much like, interested in my friends and like, watching like, you know, very interested in movies and shows and like porn that was like, gay oriented. Like, I never because no, it's because of like, they were treated us so much the other you know, or, like, they were so poorly that I never, I wouldn't put myself I wasn't that, you know, like, allow myself to even like for a second think like that. I was that because I was so like, scared of like, no, like, I know, for a fact, like, I was friends with so many homophobic people in like, 10th, like before, like 11th grade. Because realize, like, Oh, this is what like, like homophobia to the point where like, their parents would like just constantly like, say homophobic stuff, if we were like, eating dinner together now. Like, just like about like, the world in general. And so I know for a fact, like, if I were ever to be like, oh, guys, like, I don't know, whatever. I would be ostracized from my then group of friends, and probably just like, the whole school. Oh, sorry, that was like a tangent.



Sophie Warrick 29:27

Oh, no, I, we welcome tangents here. I love them. And right, like, just to, I don't know, the tangents are what are important in all of this, because I don't know about you, but it's something that I haven't really talked about until I started making this podcast. And I feel like there are all these similar stories where everyone's unique, and also everyone has the same lived experience almost across the board. At least from the folks I've talked to so far. And I think it's worth talking about. And it's worth just realizing the differences, but also the similarities and everyone's stories. And we learn that through these tangents,

right. And so I just really appreciate you saying everything that you're sharing right now. So thank you.



Autumn Vagle 30:19

Thank you. And I thank you for, like, giving me space to talk about it, you know, because I have never, like I've talked about it in minimal, you know, never like this grandiose of like actually diving into it. So it feels like honestly, it feels like a release.



Sophie Warrick 30:34

Good, I'm glad I'm so happy to hear that, that makes me so happy. And then you mentioned a little bit, but I'm wondering if there's anything else that you wish you had growing up, or people that you could look up to things like that? Yeah.



Autumn Vagle 30:52

It's so weird, because I, like I have to say, like, I had a great high school experience. And that's so weird. Because it's like, and it's an it's, there's a lot of factors to that, like, me being like, who I am, like, having parents who could, like buy me the clothes, I needed to, like fit in like stuff like that, that were to the point where I was very able to like disseminate into, you know, the culture there and do well. And like I was a go getter. So I was involved with everything and made like, had like, a lot of friends through that. But it's weird. Now, like saying that and thinking like about that? Because I yeah, I had such a great time, but I wasn't my full self, you know, like, I wasn't able to. And maybe at the time I was, you know, because maybe I I didn't, but I wasn't able to explore that other part of me. Or like, so many parts of me like even just like my beliefs, my like, liberal beliefs like that didn't like I wasn't able to, like get into that because so many people like that was the minority, you know, was liberal the beliefs like I remember my senior year. Oh, yeah, I was like one of the only people who like hate despise Trump, to the point where people would like walk by me in the hallway and be like, Trump. Haha, Trump, because they made me upset. And now it's just like, I had no idea like moving that like, oh my god, like, duh everyone hates Trump. No idea that like that was that I have been living in like such a twisted reality.



Music/Sound Design 32:46

[Ambient birds fade in]



Sophie Warrick 32:46

(Voiceover) Family, faith and community comprise the core of how many people living in rural places create, nurture, and sustain emotional and social connections to one another. They also provide valuable opportunities that impact other areas of life, including employment options, access to knowledge and resources and more. So when family faith and community organizations are not welcoming, or worse, are intentionally exclusionary, the lack of alternatives can result in emotional, spiritual and economic isolation for queer people, that has substantial impacts for overall well being and success.



Music/Sound Design 33:28

[Ambient birds fade out]



Sophie Warrick 33:29

No, I totally hear that because I remember, like, I'm, how old was that? Like? I would have been a senior when Trump was elected, I think. And then I came to college the year after and I was like, ooo, I wonder if I can be like, fuck Trump. And then I remember saying it and everyone was like Soph, that's not an original thought. You're not like, hot shit, but it's like but there I was! And and so it's just such a weird like, contrast between the two.



Autumn Vagle 34:01

Oh, totally. No, it's it's it's just crazy because you don't realize it when you're there. And like, I mean, you do like I did, you know especially like my later years like senior year I knew and that's when I stopped like being friends with everyone because I was like, oh, like you guys suck you don't have the values I do you claim to like, they were super like Christian. And that's another thing too is like I was raised very Christian. And I still like, my mom is like the best Christian. Like I was raised super like, Christian but like, in a way where you truly like love everyone like it was all about, like helping those in need. And my mom is just my mom's an extremely caring and giving person. Like I was super involved with church and like, went to church camp for like, 10 years, was like a counselor. And love that shit. And it was like, actually...



Sophie Warrick 35:02

We live the same life. 100%.



Autumn Vagle 35:06

But like, and then and then I noticed, like there's people from my high school that were like, oh, they went to the Catholic elementary school and then moved here. And that's what I was friends with, like a group of girls that were from the Catholic elementary school. And they claimed to be just high Christians with their high Christian morals, but they were so hateful to like, like, everyone and like, especially like, I remember, it's so stupid that I remember when like the, like the Vote No stuff was going on. Like they made it like, a whole like, deal. Like it was so weird. And this was just at the time where I was just starting to learn like, of like about homophobia. And like, my friends were the ones teaching me like, what homophobia was because they were it. And it was so crazy. Like, I was like, why don't you guys like, I just remember them being like, oh, I can't. Like it was right when Obama was being elected to the like, oh my god. We can't... And I was like wait, why don't you guys like, if I remember asking them like just just dumbfounded me like, why don't you guys? Why do you, why can't like two guys get married? Of course. It was two guys. Because, you know, we didn't even realize that I went both ways. And they're like, oh, because like in our church, we don't allow that. So now we would have to, like get it, we would have to change the rules or something. I'm like, what did...? I just remember? Like, from the start like it not making any sense? And so many of my friends were just hateful people.



Sophie Warrick 36:55

Oh, it's just I just want to just like hug you right now, Autumn. Because this is we have such a similar experience growing up. And, like, I remember having incredibly similar conversations to people in my church, and being like, why don't y'all get it? Like, where am I? What am I not getting?



Autumn Vagle 37:16

Exactly it is like, should I be? Should I think it's bad? Like I remember being like, oh, like, Uh huh. But not, because well...



Sophie Warrick 37:28

And also, I, looking back on the Vote No campaign, I remember I went door knocking like with my mom and like, I, my mom and her like co workers daughter or something like that. I don't remember. But I it's such like a core memory, almost of like, I feel like that was the first time I ever like advocated for like queer rights and like, queer autonomy and all of these and it's just like, I remember wearing like, my Vote Bo t-shirt to a gym class. And

someone calling me the f slur and me being like, what is it? Like not even knowing what the f slur was? And being like, huh? Or like, I remember one, how old was I and like, the second grade or something like that. Um, I had gone to an Elton John concert, and I wore like, the Elton John tour t-shirt. And someone was like, well, you know that Elton John, is the f slur. And I was like, why would you say that? Why on earth like, he's great. Have you listened to his music, like, what's up? And I remember, this kid just bullied me the whole way home and I got off the bus and I went to my mom, and I'm just sobbing, not because like, my feelings are hurt personally. But just because I don't understand how someone could be like that rude, you know? It's just like, what a core memory of being like, how did I not even think that I was queer at that age, you know? When you're that upset, it's just so it's so I don't even know what the word is to look back and just think about it in that way. But I guess related to all of that, I'm wondering why you think it's important to talk about queerness?

A

Autumn Vagle 39:25

Oh, wow. Because...hmm. I just think like, there's still like, I mean, like, every day, there's more and more people are learning more and more I feel like it's becoming more and more in their faces and like out there of like, you know, queer people exist and they will always use and they have always existed whether you recognize them as valid people or not, they've like always existed. And so I think like, for me, it's important because I just want to like I I just want everyone to who is queer don't just like, say it so that people can see the diverse, like, people that are queer. You know, they don't look one certain way, they don't act one certain way. Like, it's it's everyone, not everyone, you know what I mean? Like, you know, it's not like, I think the more that, like we talked about it, the more people can understand and like for me, like, I think like when this is posted, are you going to be posting this?



Sophie Warrick 40:33

Yeah, it's gonna be on Spotify, Apple Music, everything.

A

Autumn Vagle 40:35

Awesome. I think when you post it, I'm gonna like, share it on my Facebook and like, virtually come out on Facebook, because I haven't. And I want to just be like, look like for anyone on the Range, like I for so long, had to like hide this part of myself. And I want you to know that like, I just think on the Range, they have just still such a negative connotation around like gay people. And I want you to know that, like, this is what they can look like,

you know, you you like me, like, I'm pretty liked on the Range still, even though you don't agree on my views like hey, you like me, hey, I'm a successful person. Like, this is what this is what gay people are, this is what they can achieve. You know, like, I want to just kind of like shout it out. Like, hey, bitches, like, I'm gay, like, you tried to stop me while I was living there. But what's up, whatever man!



Sophie Warrick 41:34

Cuz that's like, what it takes sometimes. And what I've been hearing a lot from folks and something that I feel very similar to, is like, y'all made my life hell, but like, we're fucking here, though. You know, like...



A Autumn Vagle 41:48

And for real! Like, I just know that there's so many like closeted people up there. Like looking back. Even just like from my grade. I'm like, oh, my god. Like, there's so many people who like, like, there's this other girl that came out that I just had no, no idea. And she was like a popular girl. Like, she played hockey, which I guess...(Autumn laughs) just kidding. But like, she came out and I just want want to be like, bro, like, solidarity man, like, we went through that, you know. And so I kind of want to use this as like, if anyone was like, too scared to come out in high school, or if anyone any of my younger, like people seeing this, like this, like, no, that's, it's gonna get better. And like, you don't have to be there forever. If you don't want to, and let you yeah, you always have yourself like, and you can find you can find people who will accept you like, even if they're not in that area right now. Like, that's where you can get out of there. And you can find people who accept you for who you are.



Sophie Warrick 43:00

I have all the warm and fuzzies right now.



A Autumn Vagle 43:03

Yeah, me too man!



Sophie Warrick 43:08

Thank you Autumn, for all of that for real.



Autumn Vagle 43:11

Oh, thank you, Sophie!



Sophie Warrick 43:13

Because I just I know that like, someone somewhere is going to resonate with your story and like hell, I have, you know, and you're literally you literally have the ability to change someone's life with the story that you've just told me and like that you've like talked with yourself and giving yourself the space. And like giving me the time of day to share your stories and things like that. It just makes all of this worth it. And I don't know, I just really love it a lot. So I love you. So thank you.



Music/Sound Design 43:48

[Ambient birds and mandolin fade in and out]



Sophie Warrick 44:02

I just wanted to give you any space to promote or shout out any new work or projects that you have any events you'd like to promote. I just want to give you the space to do that here if you like. Sure, yeah.



Autumn Vagle 44:14

Um, so I'm in a band called Keep for Cheap. Plug of course, um, and we are really excited to start recording an album, which we're starting in April, in April. So hopefully around the time that this comes out, we'll then maybe have announced it at some point or maybe a single will be out or something from it. Who knows! What, yeah, I just have to promote Keep for Cheap because we're doing a lot of cool things. Um, I think in the spring, we'll we'll be trying to do a virtual gig. So, I think just check us out on Instagram @KeepForCheap or Facebook. It's Keep for Cheap as in inexpensive, or...yeah, like your frugal. Cheap cheap! And yeah check us out if you like indie rock, kind of like folky singer songwriter vibes, kind of some punk vibes in there. Yeah! Love it. Love it, big fan! I can't wait until we get to go see another show of y'all's. I literally cannot wait. Oh my god, like oh, I'm so excited. And then the last thing I just wanted to ask you is if any folks are interested in reaching out to where might they be able to do that? Oh, totally. Um, you know, like fine you can you can reach me through Keep for Cheap if you like want for those purposes, or you can just find me Autumn Vagle my Instagram is @Autumn_618 I post some cute pics. Give me a follow if you want my DMs are totally open. Or like yeah, if

you just want to talk to me I'm like super open person love talking to new people.



Music/Sound Design 46:19

[Ambient birds and mandolin fade in]



Sophie Warrick 46:21

You just listened to a conversation between Autumn Vagle and myself, Sophie Warrick. Thank you so much that Autumn for joining me on Queer Backroads. I'm so thankful for your music, your energy and everything that you bring to the world. To all my rural queers. I know you're out there. I hope that you're listening and I hope that you're finding your community. If you're interested in show notes and transcriptions of each episode, you can visit my link tree at linktr.ee/SophieWarrick. You can also learn more about this podcast project and various ways to contact me if you're interested. I hope your day is filled with light and love and I challenge you to try something new today. At the end of each episode, I ask a question for you to ponder for as long as you like. What makes you feel creative? What rules do you like to break? Thanks for listening.



Music/Sound Design 47:20

[Ambient birds and mandolin fade out]