

HOW TO LIVE ACCORDING TO QUEER TIME

1. Learn the cycles of the moon. While you're at it, look up your rising sign so you can judge other people. Forget that there are 24 hours in a day, and instead imagine there are 57. Always make it to the second location; i.e. the party after the party after the show.
2. Admit that you will never work a 9 to 5. Some days you will only be able to accomplish a single task or make a single appointment. Forgive yourself for all these times and don't look back.
3. When you find yourself walking from one location to another, you will want to purchase a little coffee to accompany you on your route. Give in every time.
4. When you are in love, several years may blur together into a month or two at most. But when you feel the world compressing around you, it can be difficult to live even a single day.
5. Talk to new people when you can; spend hours dredging up old humor and secrets and private anecdotes. Always run the joke into the ground.
6. One day you will find yourself at your parents' house, and you will sleep in until noon, within the confines of your purple bedroom. You will stare at the posters of pop stars you used to love and wonder how you didn't know. You will drive past your middle school and everything will feel very small, on a cosmic level.
7. The principle of simultaneity still holds true, even for you. Success is relative, and it depends on the observer. In one reference frame you may be drowning, but in another you are extraordinary. In yet another, they are erecting plaques with your name.
8. There is a universe in which you are perfectly happy. Ask yourself if you have found it yet. If the answer is no, ask again tomorrow.
9. Write as frequently as you can. Open up old diaries and laugh at how stupid you were, how naive. Write for the sake of writing, for the sake of some little faggot in the future opening up your novel and melting to the floor.
10. You are never the same person three weeks in a row. Some days you are so small and fragile, on the verge of breaking. Other days you look in the mirror and think you are God. There are a million cosmic threads, and tugging on one could mean a complete rearrangement of yourself. But you are so curious. Who are you when you aren't being observed?
11. Some afternoon in the future, you will find yourself at the kitchen table, writing down the grocery list. Eggs. Oat milk. Some radishes. You will pause for a moment to take in the shape of the skyline, and how the sun hits the windowsill at an angle. And you will admit to yourself that you have so much beautiful time.