

Jason Kohlbrenner

Hi T,

I'm not sure what to say. You are the one who always asks questions. You're good at getting people to talk. The ease with which you could strike up a conversation always amazes me. Especially when you have a camera trained on someone. That alone is an uncomfortable situation. Sitting with someone you have just met or barely know and have an open and honest conversation with. And your questions, they aren't always the easiest to answer. They are straightforward. Genuine. Which, one would think, would result in a direct answer. But no, there is no way to simply answer one of your questions. No matter how straightforward, when you think about the question, you see its complexity. Somewhere the answer has to come out of emotion. And to ask someone to answer such a question is to ask them to be vulnerable. That is not an easy thing, for someone to open themselves up to. Especially to a stranger. But you, T, you make it easy for us to open up. Easy for us to speak with emotion. To be vulnerable. That's because you are coming from a pure place of inquiry. You are answering the same questions yourself. And that's what we see during this conversation. You are just as vulnerable. We want to answer your questions, genuinely. Seeking out answers together.

I guess I want to say Thank You. Thanks for showing me a way to be a better listener, friend, and human.

Love,

J



Jason Kohlbrenner is Supervisor of Production Operations at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. He is an adjunct instructor and trainer in software and post-production at Newhouse. He is a coordinator of Syracuse's annual One Take Super-8 Festival. Jason served as a post-production and editing consultant and technician for two of Thea's films, and has been a key member of the current effort to archive and preserve her work.