

Multicultural Guide

Setting

Taking place over Zoom land, the audience only sees a black computer screen. When the camera turns on, we see Alivia positioned in front of the camera with a look of focus and determination. She is gently pressing the back of her neck and looking away from the computer screen. She is in her bedroom with her black and white zodiac calendar pinned to the back wall. When Taylor speaks, Alivia is startled. Taylor has a monotone/robotic voice.

Taylor: Hello Alivia.

Alivia: Oh! Oh WOW! (*giggles in disbelief*) You work!

Taylor: My name is Taylor. I'm your AI multicultural guide, your social justice expert.

Alivia: Oh, thank God. I need all of the help I can get.

Taylor: Yes... you do. I've just analyzed your prefrontal cortex and hippocampus and you're a bit behind in this subject... a beginner actually.

Alivia: Ok rude, but totally sweet you can analyze my brain and see that.

Taylor: Indeed. I'm going to be with you 24/7 to get you up to speed.

Alivia: Great! So what's first?

Taylor: Analyzing privilege; identity; intersections.

Alivia: I don't know what that means...

Taylor: In ADDRESSING Model (Hays, 2001) you are an Agent in 15 of 18 rank categories.

Alivia: That sounds good!

Taylor: Yes, it means you are very privileged (*Alivia squirms uncomfortably*). You are 29 years old, don't have any mental or physical disabilities, upper-middle class, cisgender... and you are White.

Alivia: White?

Taylor: Yes you have many advantages being White. You already know this. You realized this during the Black Lives Matter marches and protests last year.

Alivia: Yeah, I know... it just makes me feel...

Taylor: Guilty.

Alivia: Yeah, like, my heart just fell into my stomach and there are all of these... anxious butterflies.

Taylor: Good. Keep noticing what your body is feeling like. It's going to be very important when you are on this journey of social justice discovery.

Alivia: Ok. Sure.

Taylor: In 3 of 18 categories, you are a Target. You are female, bisexual, and obese. These are where you face oppression.

Alivia: Huh. My body got really tense thinking about those things... like really on edge.

Taylor: Examining Nieto Agent and Target skill sets. It appears you are at *Awareness* when it comes to race and disability in Agent skill sets (Nieto & Boyer, 2007), and at *Confusion* when it comes to gender and size in Target skill set (Nieto & Boyer, 2006).

Alivia: Is...that good?

Taylor: We just have some work to do, that's all. Doing this the old-fashioned way is going to take some time.... But I do have a way to speed up this process.

Alivia: How do you speed-up the process?

Taylor: I can transmit information to the chip in your neck which will travel to the brain. It's pretty much like *The Matrix* (Wachowski, L., & Wachowski, L., 1999).

Alivia: Oh I LOVED that movie!

Taylor: It's going to be a lot of information, though, in a short amount of time. There will be consequences for your body.

Alivia: What kind of consequences?

Taylor: I'm not sure. They are different for every body. Some people just get tired.

Alivia: (*hesitating*) That's not bad. I mean... it's going to make me a better person... and I want to help people... I think I can handle it. Let's do it!

Taylor: Upload Sue & Sue (2015), *Oppression and the Body* (Caldwell & Leighton, 2018), *My Grandmother's Hands* (Menakem, 2017), Nieto Skill Sets (Nieto & Boyer, 2006), *Medicine Stories* (Morales, 2019), and other important documents, commencing in 3...2...1...

Alivia puts her hand on her neck as she feels the chip warming her skin. Her eyes close and jaw clenches. Her head starts to shake and she places her hands on both sides, steadying it. Terrified, Alivia cries out to Taylor. The camera cuts to black.

References

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