

THE PERFECT MIX
TAP THE SEGUE #2



BRUTAL HONEST TEA

Ohio

This past March I was at a bar show. It's something I don't subject myself to that often. I generally find the atmosphere to be stifling and not contributing well to conversation.

At this particular bar show I respected the performers and the concept that night - DIY. I had come by myself which is something that I do more and more often as I get older. I now feel socially confident enough that I go places on my own and I'm left with my thoughts. It gets lonely sometimes, especially when I want to bounce my thoughts off of someone else, but for the most part it works..

In reality by constantly working to accomplish these goals I either forgot how to be happy or just never had the time..

I had been arrogant for so long; sure that there was only one "good" path in life, only to find out years later that there are many different options and what is right for one person is not right for everyone..

I dropped out of college about four years ago now. I began to travel the country and work on creating stronger bonds and friendships with people that were leading non-traditional life choices like mine.. I developed a much greater sense of self assuredness by finding other people who were doing similar things and discovering what they were choosing to do with their time and experience; people learning naturally from their environment not from a sterile college classroom..

But despite four years of complete, relative freedom I never did a lot of the things I wanted to. I was constantly traveling, but I never went to Europe. In fact I never even went outside of North America at all. There's no challenge in doing the same, comfortable things over and over again. I think I was attempting to convince myself that I was living "dangerously" by doing the same things over and over.

Sure, there's regional differences in parts of our country and it's more educational to see it in real life than to read a book about it, but I feel like my time could have been spent better.

I spent some time learning more about carpentry (after learning the basics by building forts as a kid with Dan) but I never built a house or worked on other projects that would really challenge my skills or develop them.

I want to write a book about government involvement in domestic espionage programs but I'm not much of a writer. I just enjoy reading books on those topics. Is it even proper to write a book when my best writing is spent explaining to customers why their order is so late?