# Conference season = Your career do-over

9 networking strategies that actually work for introverts

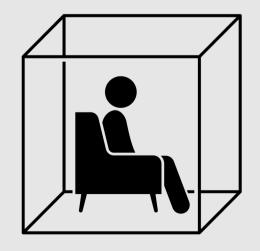


## l've already wasted two do-overs

1) College 2) Business school

I didn't know how to be an introvert in places designed for extroverts.

The isolation cost me decades of career connections.





## Here's what I've learned the hard way...



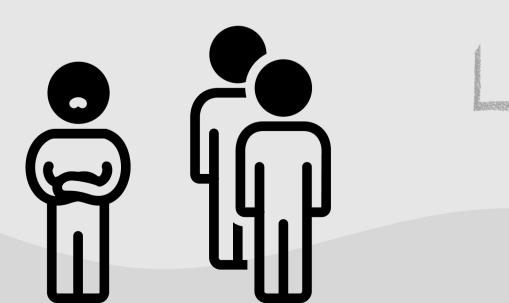


#### Find the other introverts

Find the other person standing alone.

They'll be relieved...

...and may just turn into your new conference wingwoman.





#### Confidence isn't required

Don't wait to feel "ready" to reach out.

Try: "I'm new to this space. Mind if I ask you a question?"

Awkward beats absent.







#### Ask about their problems

Introverts are natural listeners.

Ask: "What's keeping you up at night this quarter?"

This is your superpower.





#### Skip the elevator pitch completely

Much better:

"I'm trying to figure out vendor management. Ever deal with that nightmare?"



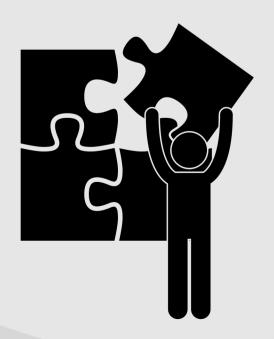


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#### Make their job easier

Don't ask someone to be your sponsor. Cultivate them by solving problems.

They'll advocate for the person who makes their life better.





#### Connect when you don't need anything

Remove transactional pressure.

Make one connection monthly.

Keep a running list and stay in touch.





#### Show up during the difficult times

Few check in during disasters.

"Saw the news about the layoffs. How are you doing?"







#### Don't let connections fade

Calendar follow-up right away.

"Checking in on that project we discussed" or "How was the wedding weekend?"







### Be generous with connections and credit

Connect people without being asked.

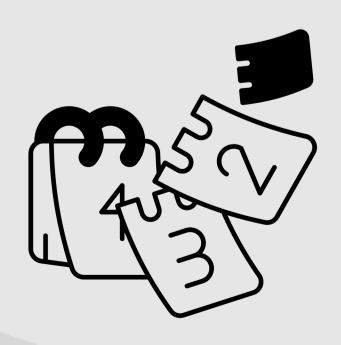
Give credit when things go well.





## The strongest connections may start at conferences

But they're forged in the weeks and months between.



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Founder & CEO

