

MINOR INCONVENIENCES COOKBOOK

BY RANDOMBOO

Knowledge is a currency, and like all currencies it is hoarded by the wrong people.

This book is no exception - it should not exist, yet here you are, holding a collection of methods not to kill a man, but to fracture him in subtler, crueller ways: one inconvenience at a time.

Every office, every kitchen, every shared space breeds confrontation. The thief who pilfers your yoghurt, the colleague whose chewing sounds are a form of terrorism, the neighbour who believes midnight is a fine time to vacuum. They thrive because most are too timid to retaliate. But retaliation does not always require fists or fire. Sometimes all it takes is the quiet shift of two keyboard keys, the sly exchange of sugar with salt, the kind of domestic treachery that gnaws not at the body but at the mind.

What follows is a ledger of vengeance dressed in the ordinary. A manual of disruptions. A study in minor chaos. It will not land you in prison, but it will haunt your enemies in the quiet hours, when their tea tastes wrong, when their computer behaves strange, when reality itself feels misaligned by a single cruel hand they cannot quite trace.

Keep it secret. Pass it quietly. Deny everything.

Mix a very small amount of salt into the sugar bowl. The goal is not to overwhelm but to create just enough alteration that drinks taste slightly wrong without being immediately identifiable as sabotaged. If too much salt is used, the drinker will notice at once, discard the sugar, and the trick will be exposed. If used sparingly, each spoonful of sugar taken will carry only a trace of salt, causing drinks like tea or coffee to taste consistently unpleasant but never in a way that is obvious. This leads the drinker to question their milk, their mug, or even their own sense of taste rather than suspecting the sugar.



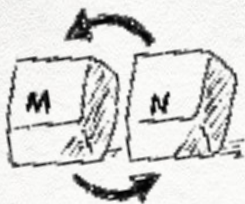


Mix sugar into the salt shaker so that it still looks like salt but is slightly corrupted. The key is not to replace all the salt with sugar, as this would be obvious too quickly, but to stir in just enough sugar that the taste of food is thrown off without being immediately suspected.

When someone seasons their meal, the first bite delivers an odd, misplaced sweetness that doesn't belong, causing confusion rather than instant recognition of sabotage. Because the salt is still present, the victim continues eating, unsure of what is wrong, until the sweetness returns with each bite and confirms the tampering. Unlike with drinks, food already seasoned cannot be discarded as easily, so the person often endures several mouthfuls before giving up, leaving the meal spoiled and their trust in the salt shaker shaken.

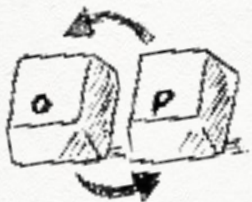
Carefully swap two keys on a keyboard so that it looks normal but behaves differently. Most modern keys can be removed by gently prying them up with a flat tool or even another key until they pop off. Underneath, the plastic fitting allows the keys to be pressed back into place easily. The trick is to switch only two keys, preferably ones close together, so the change is subtle and not immediately visible. When the victim types, their muscle memory produces mistakes they can't explain, as their eyes see the correct letters but the output on screen is wrong. This creates ongoing confusion as shortcuts fail and words appear jumbled, leaving them doubting the keyboard they trusted.

Suggested exchanges for the patient saboteur:



Why it works: Both are used often, especially in common words. Adjacent on QWERTY keyboards and look similar.

Impact: High - especially for people typing words like "man," "name," "minimum."



Why it works: Visually similar, right next to each other, and used frequently in words and programming.

Impact: Moderate to high - especially for coders or writers.



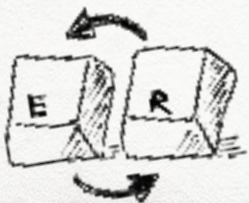
Why it works: These are right next to each other and heavily used for shortcuts.

Impact: Very high - this will mess with productivity in a subtle way.



Why it works: Adjacent keys, and used in many common words.

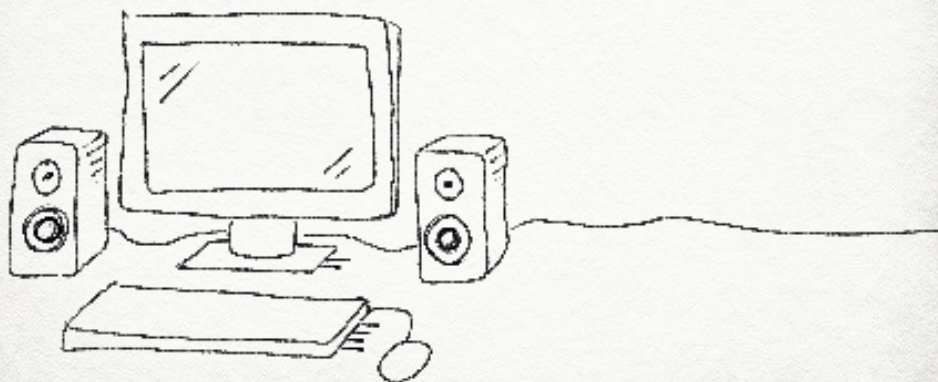
Impact: Moderate - especially for fast typists.



Why it works: Both are in the home row and used frequently.

Impact: High - especially for touch typists.

Secretly reroute a victim's desktop speakers to your own computer. First, unplug the speaker cable from their tower and plug it into yours, leaving the speakers in their usual position so nothing appears altered. When the victim uses their machine, you can then play music from yours, which will come through their speakers. The effectiveness depends on the choice of music. Embarrassing or absurd tracks are best, as they cause confusion rather than immediate suspicion. When the sound begins, the victim will search their system for the source, lowering volume controls, closing programs, and checking settings, but none of it will stop the noise. Eventually, they will likely resort to shutting down their computer, at which point you stop the playback so they believe the shutdown resolved it.



A Few Recommended Tracks

"I'm Too Sexy" - **Right Said Fred**

"My Heart Will Go On" - **Celine Dion**

"Achy Breaky Heart" - **Billy Ray Cyrus**

"Baby Shark" - **Pinkfong**

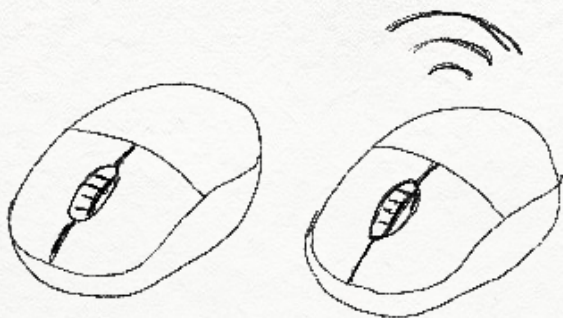
"Friday" - **Rebecca Black**

"My Hump" - **Black Eyed Peas**

"J*** In My Pants" - **The Lonely Island**

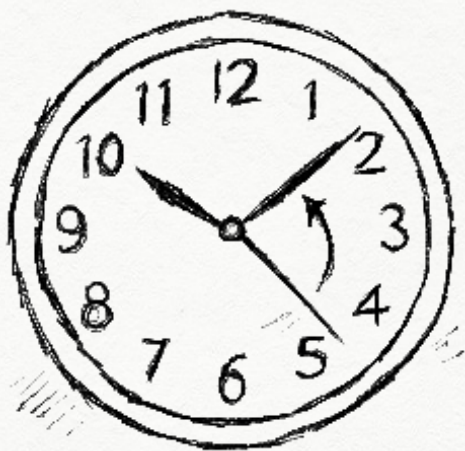
"Never Gonna Give You Up" - **Rick Astley**



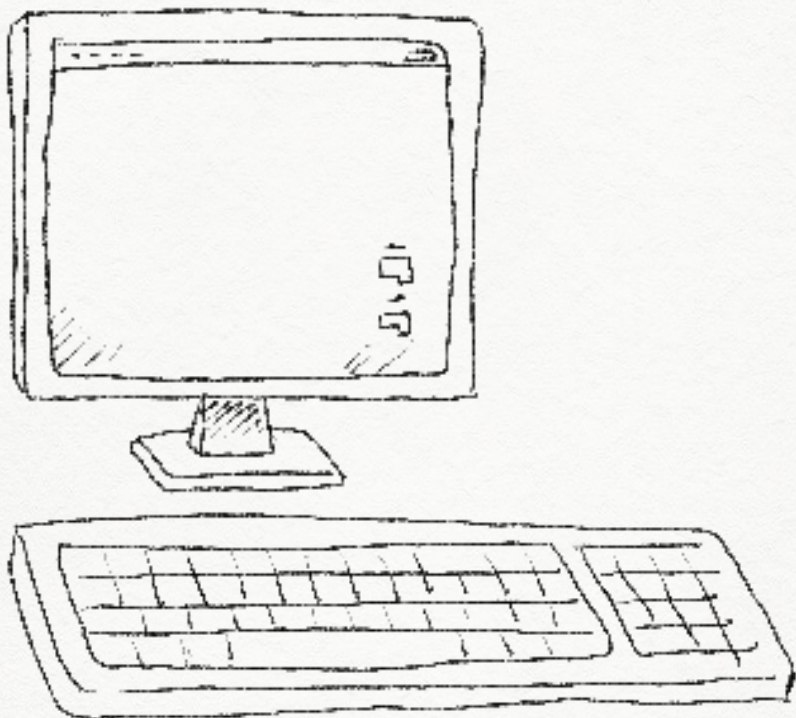


Two identical wireless mice. You replace the victim's mouse with one that looks the same but is unresponsive because you control the receiver with its twin. While the victim tries to use their mouse, you control their cursor from a distance. The trick is not to create obvious chaos but to mimic their actions closely, moving when they move and clicking when they click, but always slightly off so that the pointer misses targets, windows close by mistake, or selections go wrong. This creates the impression of a mouse that almost works but never quite does, leading the victim to suspect low batteries, dust, or surface issues. Because the mouse continues to respond inconsistently, they cannot dismiss it as broken, and the subtle interference causes growing frustration and confusion.

Adjust a clock forward by seven minutes. The number is important, small enough not to be obvious, but large enough to disrupt routines. Moving it by five or ten minutes risks drawing suspicion, while seven feels irregular and believable. Once changed, the victim continues to trust the clock without question. They begin arriving to meetings slightly early, feeling rushed at lunch, and believing deadlines are tighter than before. Because the shift is subtle, they do not suspect the clock but instead blame themselves for being slow or disorganised. Over time, this creates stress and doubt as they struggle to keep up with a schedule that has been artificially shortened. This is effective because it is nearly invisible and leaves no clear sign of tampering, making the victim think the fault lies entirely with them.

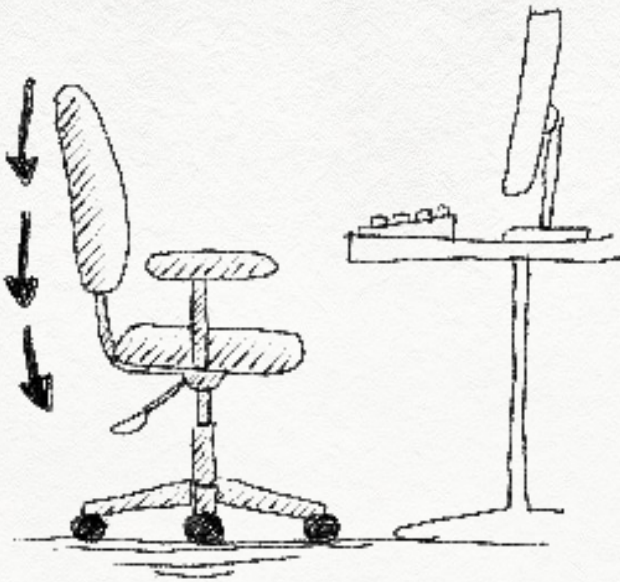


There is a Windows shortcut Ctrl + Alt + Arrow, which rotates the display. By pressing this combination on the victim's computer, their screen will flip sideways or upside down, making the desktop appear disoriented. Most people unfamiliar with the shortcut will not know how to undo it, leading them to believe the computer has malfunctioned. They may try restarting, adjusting monitor cables, or even physically rotating the screen to compensate, but the display will remain rotated until the same key combination is used to return it to normal. The trick is effective because it is quick to perform, simple to reset, and confusing to anyone who has never encountered it before.



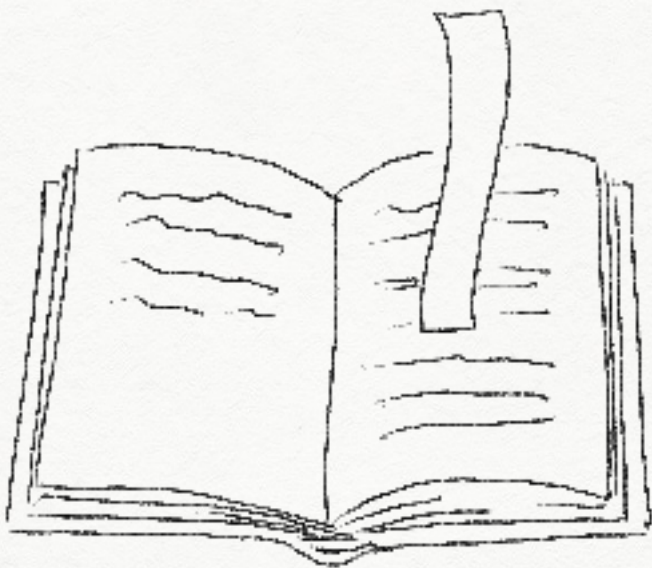
Take a screenshot of the victim's desktop and set it as their wallpaper. After doing this, you hide all the real desktop icons so that only the screenshot remains. The result is a screen that looks perfectly normal but cannot be interacted with. When the victim tries to open folders or programs, nothing responds because they are only clicking on the image. The taskbar and other shortcuts still function, which adds to the confusion, but the desktop itself appears broken. Restarting does not fix the issue since the wallpaper remains in place, making this seem like a deeper system failure until the hidden icons are restored.

Place a small strip of transparent tape on the underside of a frequently used key, such as the space bar or enter key. The tape creates slight resistance when the key is pressed, so it still functions but feels heavier and less responsive than normal. The victim continues typing as usual, but the altered key disrupts their rhythm and makes every press feel wrong. They may assume dust or debris is the cause and attempt to clean the keyboard, yet the problem remains. Because the key still works, the issue is hard to identify, leading to ongoing frustration as typing becomes awkward and slow. This is effective because it interferes with muscle memory without leaving visible evidence.

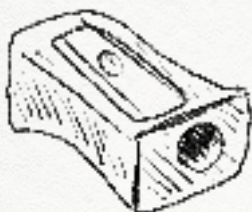
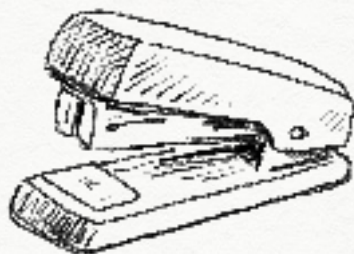


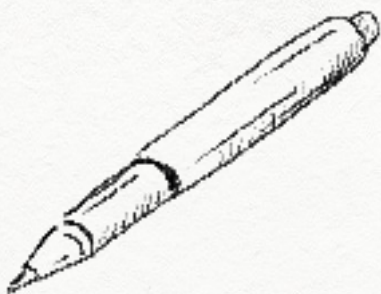
Lower someone's office chair a little at a time so the change goes unnoticed at first. Each day you press the height adjustment lever just enough that the seat drops slightly, keeping the shift small so it feels natural rather than suspicious. Over time, the victim finds themselves sitting lower and lower, legs bent awkwardly and arms raised higher than usual to reach the keyboard. Because the adjustment happens gradually, they assume it is their own posture or imagination causing the problem. Eventually they realise the chair has dropped far below normal, but by then they cannot tell when it started or how long it has been happening. This works because it erodes comfort slowly, creating confusion rather than immediate discovery.

Move someone's bookmark forward by a single page, the change is small enough that it does not look suspicious, but it disrupts the reader's flow when they return to the book. They open it expecting to continue where they left off, only to find dialogue or events they don't remember, creating the sense that they have missed something. As they flip back through pages, they doubt themselves rather than the bookmark, believing they were careless or distracted during their last reading session. When they eventually encounter the skipped section later, the overlap creates déjà vu and reinforces their self-doubt. The trick works because it is simple, invisible, and shifts the frustration onto the reader's own memory rather than the book itself.

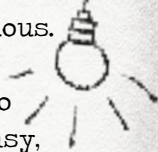


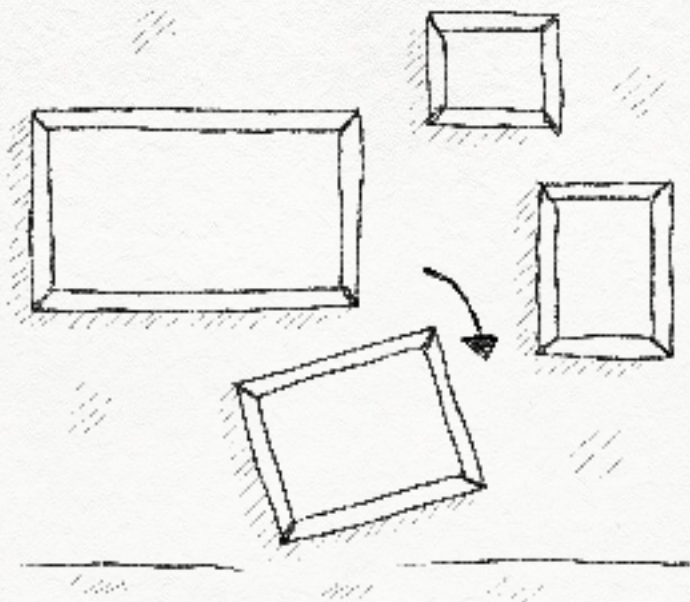
Subtly sabotaging everyday stationery so that it appears normal but fails in use. With pens, you remove the ink cartridge and place the empty shell back in the pot so it looks intact but writes nothing. For staplers, you take out the staples, close the mechanism, and return it so the tool seems ready but produces no results when pressed. With pencil sharpeners, you unscrew the blade, flip it around, and reassemble it so that when someone tries to sharpen a pencil, the wood splinters and the lead breaks instead of forming a point. Each item appears untouched, but when used, it frustrates and confuses the victim, wearing away their patience through repeated small failures.





Subtly alter the environment so the victim feels uncomfortable without being able to explain why. Start with the lighting by replacing bulbs with slightly different colour temperatures, creating a shift in tone that is barely noticeable at first but makes the room feel increasingly strange or unpleasant. Then adjust the thermostat by just one or two degrees, enough to cause restlessness without making the change obvious. The key is moderation. Alterations must be small enough to avoid suspicion but consistent enough to undermine comfort. Over time, the victim grows uneasy, sensing something wrong with the room while never finding clear evidence of what has changed. This is effective because it erodes comfort gradually and invisibly, making the space itself feel untrustworthy.





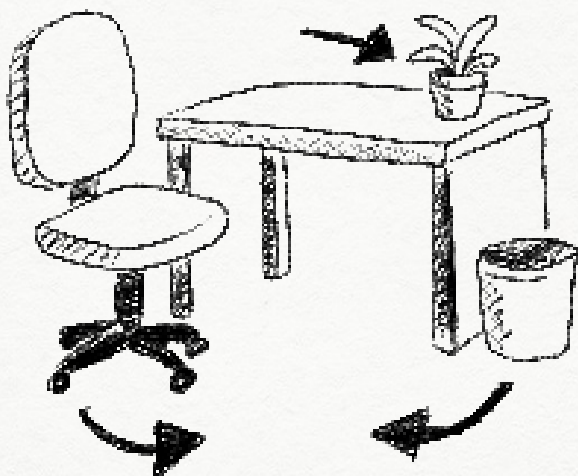
Tilt a picture frame so that it appears almost straight but not quite. First, make sure every other frame in the room is aligned perfectly to create an environment of order. Then, adjust one frame by only a few degrees—enough for the eye to notice in passing but not so much that it looks deliberate. The victim will instinctively try to straighten it, assuming it was loose or hung unevenly.

After they leave, tilt it again to the same slight angle. Repeating this cycle makes them question their memory or the stability of the wall, since the imperfection keeps returning despite their corrections. This is effective because it relies on subtle asymmetry in an otherwise orderly setting, ensuring the single crooked frame stands out and becomes an ongoing source of irritation.

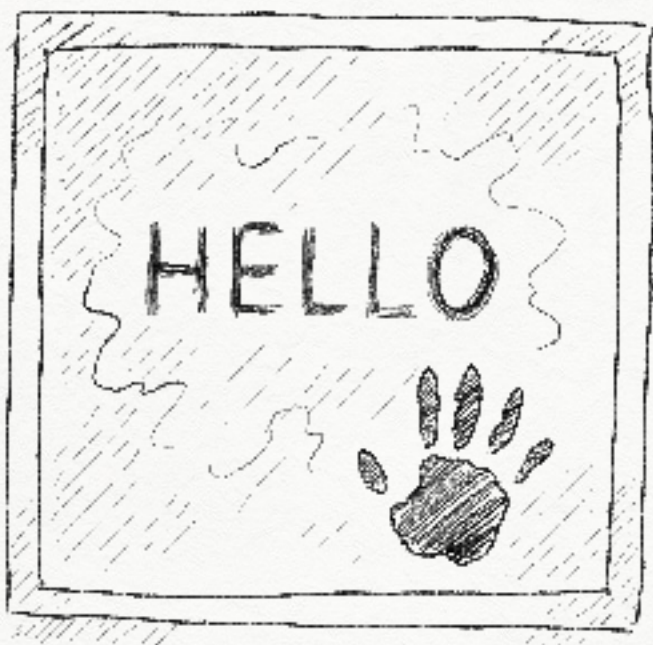
Move objects in someone's workspace by very small amounts over time. Each day, shift one item slightly, - a chair pushed a little to the side, a bin moved forward, or an ornament angled differently.

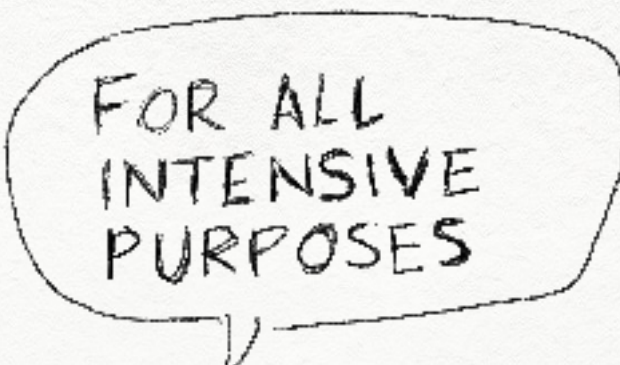
The changes must be subtle enough that they are not obvious, but noticeable enough to create a sense of unease. At first, the victim dismisses it as their imagination or carelessness, but as the adjustments continue, they begin to doubt their memory and perception.

Because the movements are gradual and never caught in the act, the victim cannot identify the cause, only that their environment feels slightly wrong. The effectiveness comes from repetition and patience, turning familiar surroundings into a source of ongoing discomfort and uncertainty.



Write a short message on a bathroom mirror with a fingertip coated in a small amount of oil, such as from skin or cooking oil. Once it dries, the mirror appears clean and unchanged, but when the surface fogs with steam from a shower, the hidden words reappear in the condensation. The message should be brief and random, something that could almost be mistaken for a natural occurrence. After the steam fades, the writing vanishes again, leaving no visible trace. The victim is left confused and uneasy, questioning if someone wrote it, or some thing wrote it.





FOR ALL
INTENSIVE
PURPOSES

Deliberately misusing common words and phrases while speaking with complete confidence. The mistakes must be subtle and plausible, not so absurd that they are instantly dismissed. For example, use "penultimate" to mean "the best," or say "for all intensive purposes" instead of "for all intents and purposes." Drop phrases like "it's a doggy dog world" or "pass mustard" in casual conversation. The delivery is key: speak calmly, as though nothing is wrong. If questioned, repeat the phrase naturally so that the doubt shifts onto the listener. Over time, the repetition makes them second-guess their own knowledge, often checking dictionaries or references in private. The trick can escalate by misusing technical terms, collective nouns, or idioms in ways that sound authoritative but wrong, such as calling a spreadsheet a "database array" or saying "escape goat" instead of "scapegoat." The effectiveness lies in leaving no proof of sabotage, only the lingering sense that the listener's certainty in language may be flawed.

Repeat anonymous phone calls that end the moment they are answered. Withhold the number so the victim cannot trace the source. Call once, let the phone ring, and hang up as soon as they pick up. Wait until they settle back into their work before calling again. Each time, the result is the same: the phone rings, they answer, and are met with silence. The effectiveness comes from timing and repetition-the interruptions arrive just as they relax, forcing them into a cycle of constant disruption. Over time, they become jumpy and frustrated, their greetings sharper, their patience thinner, while colleagues notice the pattern and the victim feels singled out. This works because it turns the phone from a tool of connection into an instrument of unease.

