



# Embracing Joy: Space, Place, and Queer World-Building in *Schitt's Creek*

Candice Roberts  
@popmediaprof

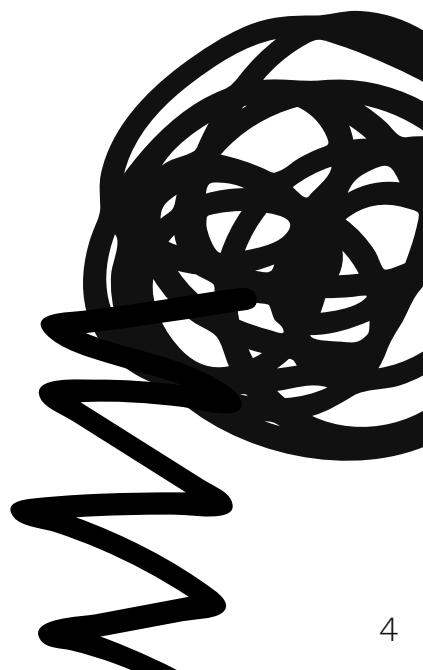


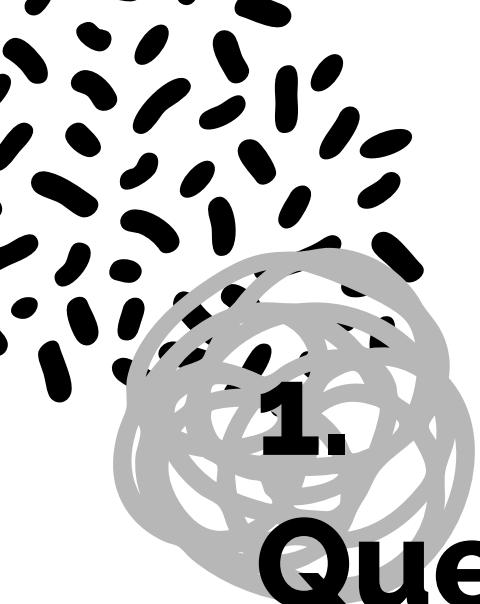




“

“I have no patience for homophobia,” [Levy] explained. “As a result, it’s been amazing to take that into the show. We show love and tolerance. If you put something like that out of the equation, you’re saying that doesn’t exist and shouldn’t exist.”

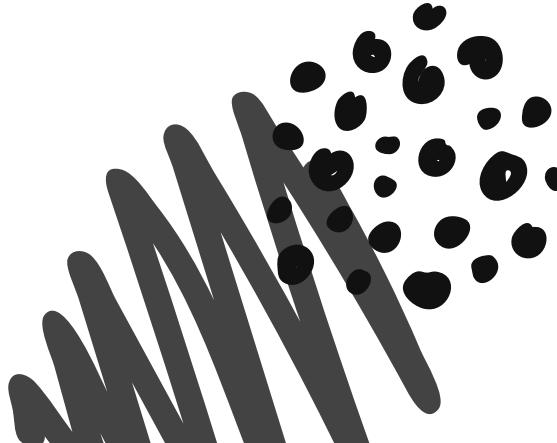




1.

# Queer Potentialities

Theoretical Framework



# Ideology & Media Representation

Althusser's ideology & the state:

- ✗ interpellates individuals as subjects
- ✗ **real** conditions of existence
- ✗ material connections
- ✗ ascribed within practices and apparatuses

# The Tragedy of Queer Representation

Goltz (2009):

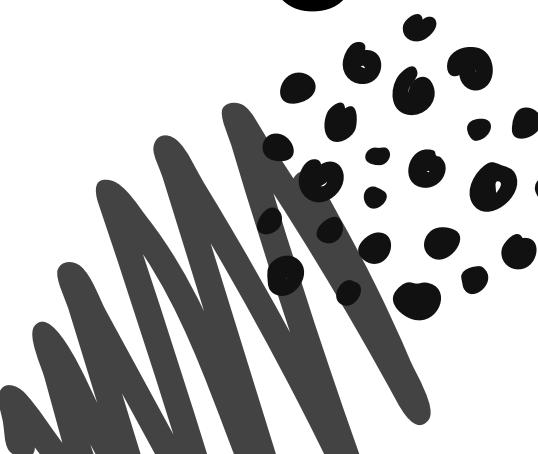
- ✗ gay representation as sadness and despair
- ✗ “negative mythologies”
- ✗ tragedy as normativity



2.

# Queer World-Making

Critical Methodology





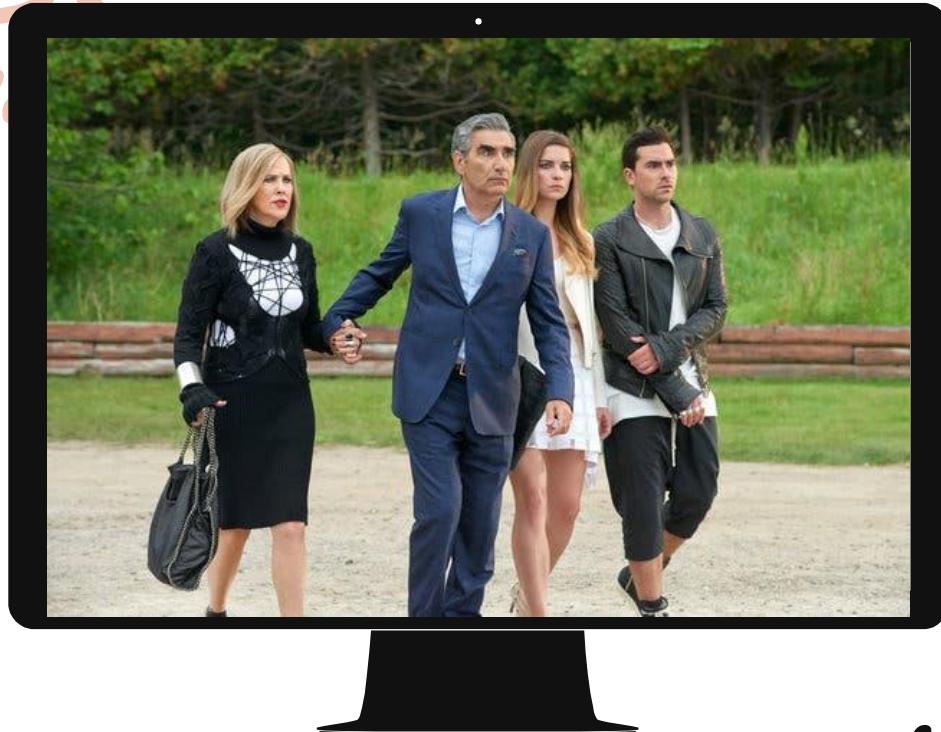
# **“The queer world**

is a space of entrances, exits,  
unsystematized lines of acquaintance,  
projected horizons, typifying examples,  
alternate routes...” (Berlant & Warner)



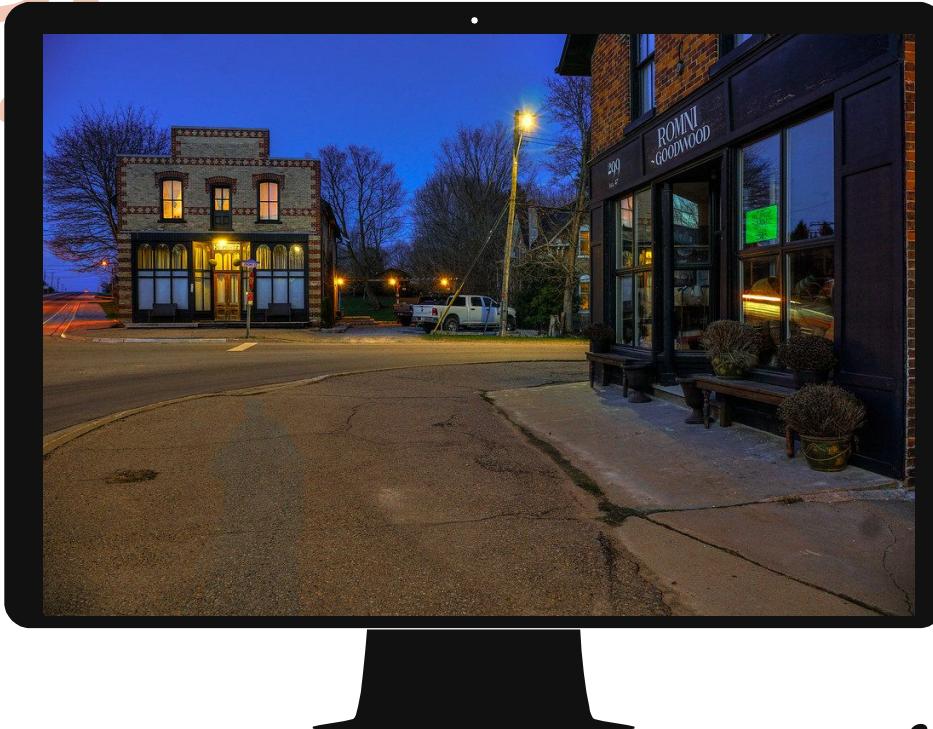
# **3. Space, Place & Queer Possibility**

Through Semiotic Analysis



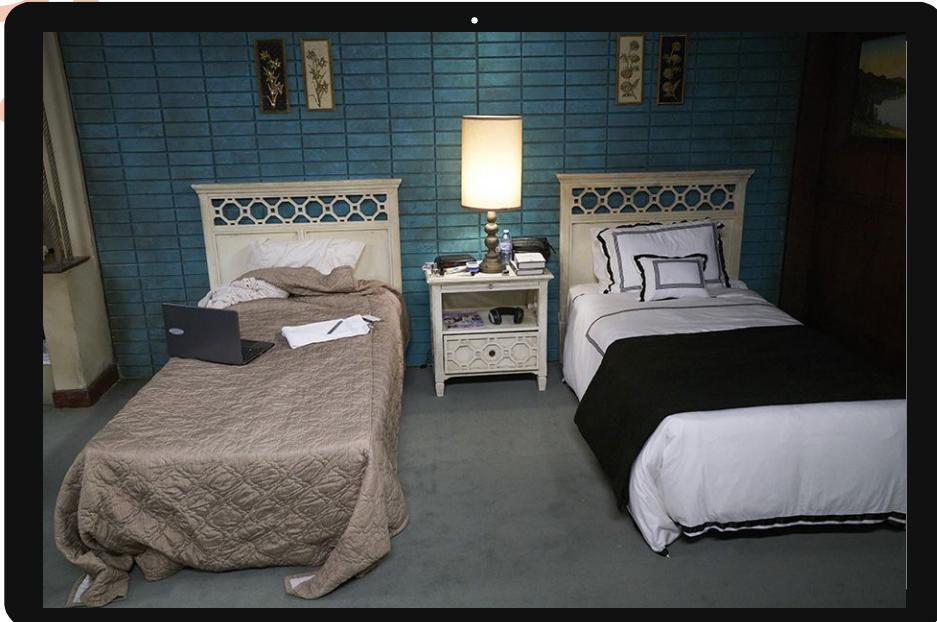
## *Schitt's Creek* as Queer World

- ★ immediate entrance/exit
- ★ “incommensurate geographies”



## *The Real and the rural*

- ★ subverting rurality as a place of heteronormativity



## ***Motel as Symbolic site***

- ★ the politics of privacy
- ★ intimacy as heteronormative space
- ★ public world of “belonging and transformation”



## *The Imaginary Apothecary*



- ★ subversion of gay (male) intimacy as criminal
- ★ affective life “slops over onto” work space
- ★ property ownership as signifying practice of autonomy from the state

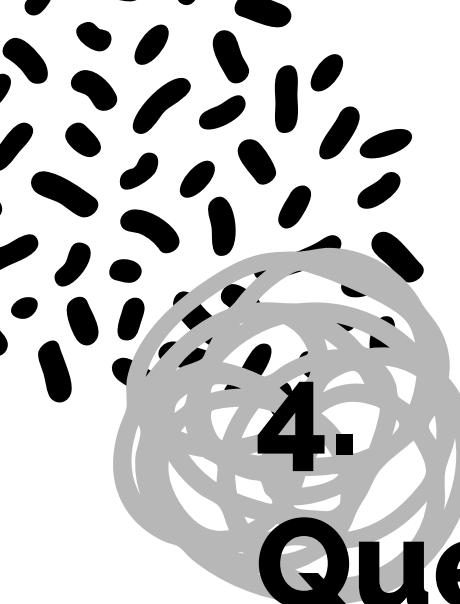


The Roses' didn't queer *Schitt's Creek*; if anything, it's the other way around in that they are now engaged in a grand queer world-making project that already was.



We are David— all cynical queers— waiting for the next bad thing to happen. To Goltz’s “tragedy as normativity”: it is actually quite radical to not “deal with” queerness as tragedy but to embrace joy.





4.

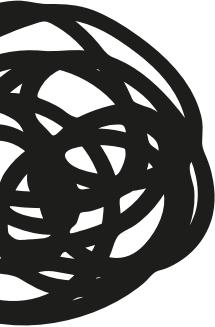
# Queer Possibility

Temporalities & Future Directions



# Mapping queer potentiality





candice roberts

twitter: **@popmediaprof**

email: robertsc@stjohns.edu

