

Crypto For Everyone: Chase Chapman's Views On Diversity, Inclusivity and Accessibility

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SPEAKER

Chase Chapman

Chase 00:00

You need a pretty solid chunk of money to have fun on chain. You know, I think it's really, really important in a space as complex and as much of a dark forest as crypto is to have someone who can show you the ropes and help you understand how things work, how not to get rugged, like all of these things.

Salimi 00:41

Hi everyone. Welcome to this episode of new farm. I am super honored to have Chase Chapman join me today. Chase is a contributor extraordinaire, contributing at metropolis, previously a contributor at far front and at index coupe. Chase is also investing at the crowdfund, and she also has her podcast called on the other side, talking to people, particularly in the DAO space. In this episode, we'll be speaking with Chase about her background and journey in the crypto world, as well as her insights on the emerging technologies like blockchain that are shaped in the digital age. We'll also discuss how we can enhance and maintain user experience and accessibility in web three and whether daos and digital communities can play a role in preserving human centeredness and coordination in these decentralized systems. Hey, Chase. Super excited, super honored to have you on this episode of new farm.

Chase 01:36

I am so excited to be here.

Salimi 01:39

I guess we can begin with, like how they dissolve. I mean, you don't even need any introduction. You're Chase Chapman. That's enough. And I'm sure people are curious to know

introduction. You're Chase Chapman. That's enough. And I'm sure people are curious to know

how you go into the space, and just how did it all begin for you?

Chase 01:55

Yes, I love starting there. So I guess at a really, like, high level. I've told how I got into the space a bunch of times, and it always changes, you know, like you always meet people at conferences, or you have podcasts and you talk about it. And recently, I've actually been starting, weirdly, at the 2016 election. That's kind of been my starting point. So I live in the US. I grew up in the US, and I am pretty young. I'm Gen Z, and so I sort of have always grown up online. You know, in middle school, I had an Instagram, and everybody in like, fourth or fifth grade was on Facebook. And so, of course, I think for me, a lot of my crypto journey starts in just like being digitally native, and then in 2016 seeing the ways that digital spaces, with the presidential election in the United States, can actually really influence the way that we live our lives. And so I sort of trace back why I'm excited about crypto there, and we can talk a little bit more about that and how it intersects with daos and all that stuff. But in 2016 I was in high school, ended up graduating and going to university where I started diving really deep into crypto, because I was working in data analytics and sort of like marketing and crypto was actually this, like very interesting, or, I guess the blockchain was really this very interesting solution to a problem that we had around data provenance. And immediately I got excited about use cases, outside of what we were thinking about, and so fell down the rabbit hole. From there, ended up having a mentor who I started a company with, which was a developer tooling company, graduated and stepped away from that, and then went full into the DAO ecosystem, contributing to daos, writing on and thinking about daos, and now I'm at metropolis, where we build infrastructure for daos, and I also get to work with a ton of amazing decentralized organizations and daos. And so that's kind of my journey. There's, there's some random little bits and pieces there. We can, we can pull on as strings, but that's where I like to start.

Salimi 03:58

Yeah, I'm ready to pull on some strings. So I know that you, you know you mentioned a bit about your your mentor, and you know you co founded decent decentology, and I'm I watched, I think it was an interview of you, and you spoke so highly of your mentor, and also about, like, your passion for for the work you're doing through decentology. So now I know you're no longer there. Like, I'm just curious, how did that shift happen? And, yeah, like, where are you now? In that sense, totally,

Chase 04:32

yeah. So when I originally matched up with Nick, my co founder and my mentor's time, and still, in many ways, someone who I look up to. But when I originally matched up with him, we were both really excited about this idea of accessibility in the space. How do we make crypto something that, you know, my grandma could use, that was always my big thing. And what we ended up realizing after building. Quite a few fun and different products, was just that, you know, the developer tooling was really, really tricky, and made it hard to build amazing experiences. And so we felt like that was a part of the space that needed a lot of help, and that's where we focused. I think that made so much sense. But ultimately, for me, I'm not

technical, I'm not a developer. I learned so much in that process, and I'm so grateful to my co founder and for that experience. But I also recognized that when I graduated, I think I had this moment of being like, okay, am I going to keep doubling down on the developer experience, or are there other things that are pulling me, and the DAO ecosystem was really bubbling up, and was something that I was feeling really drawn to. And of course, like I mentioned, I was graduating, so there was just sort of this weird life transition thing. And that's when I really went, like, head first into daos, which was interesting, because I came from the side of the ecosystem that was much more like infrastructure heavy, and thinking about the developer experience. And daos are definitely like a layer above that where, you know, seed club just put out an article a few weeks ago about like, daos are consumer products and and they are sort of the, I wouldn't call them accessible, but they are the experiences that I was hoping one day crypto is able to provide. And so I sort of fell down that rabbit hole and haven't really looked up since.

Salimi 06:29

obviously, when I think about daos, I think about like inclusion, you know. And I wanted to know from visibility perspective and talking about inclusion in the space. Would you say we need more platforms or programs like she 256, with their kind of support structure? And what are other avenues to bring more diversity into the space? Because you talked a bit about how, you know, meeting your mentors through the program really helped you, almost like a handheld, into the space, and that was great for your journey, you know, in the beginning. So yeah, if you have any thoughts on that, do we need more of that? And do we even have more of that?

Chase 07:08

Yeah, I mean, I think without a doubt, if I didn't have a mentor, I would not be where I am now, and if I didn't have Nick as my mentor at the time, I wouldn't be where I am now. And I'm forever grateful for that. You know, I think it's really, really important in a space as complex and as much of a dark forest as crypto is to have someone who can show you the ropes and help you understand how things work, how not to get rugged, like all of these things. And so to me, I think mentorship programs are deeply important. And I think the other piece here that I always try to keep in mind is like, you know, of course, when I think about diversity and inclusion in the space more broadly and what needs to happen be a success, like, I'm speaking from a very privileged perspective of living in the United States, I have a ton of different identities that that give me a lot of privilege when I move through the space. And so I think there are definitely, like several layers to this, and I think there are a ton of people who have probably better perspectives on how we can bring in more diversity and inclusion, more broadly. But the one thing that I will say, which is not a solution, but it is a point that I really like to like, make sure I'm clear on when I talk about any of these things. In crypto, there was a period of time, and I think a lot of people still hold the belief that anonymity, effectively protects people from discrimination, right? So this idea that, like, oh, well, if someone doesn't know that you're a person of color or someone who's not a cis white man, or like, all these things, then, like, in theory, people shouldn't be able to discriminate against you. Couldn't be more incorrect. I really don't like when people use that logic. And the main reason is just that, like being part of a group that is marginalized in crypto, just because we're building a new system doesn't mean that we're not sort of what's the right word, absorbing a lot of the the existing structures that keep people from being able to engage blah, blah, blah. So, like, an

example of this that I love to use is, like, air drops, right? Amazing thing. Love it the problem, and I'm not saying it's problem with air drops. I'm just saying this happens is that, like, if you don't have a bunch of money getting AirDrop, something that's like five grand worth of a token. You it doesn't make sense for you to keep that token. You're going to sell it. And so there are these really weird structures where, I think, in in crypto, a lot of people design systems and forget that, like there are existing structures that. Um, stop people from being able to either keep an airdrop or spend 10 hours a week contributing to a Dao that they're not getting paid for, or even these, like, simple nuances of like, weird microaggressions, or what it means to have to, like, really stand up for yourself in terms of compensation. Different groups are going to respond differently to that based on how they're socialized. So I think we need a ton of structures that help uplift people who are women, people of color, like all of these different groups, people in geographic areas that are not the US and Europe. But I think a lot of that is going to need to come from things like mentorship groups and other structures that do work on like uplifting as opposed to sort of saying anonymity saves all, because that's very obviously not true.

Salimi 10:49

Is web three accessible?

Chase 10:57

That's such a good question. I mean, I guess the obvious answer has to be no. And I'm not even saying it from a perspective of I'm saying that it'd been such a broad strokes perspective. I mean, like the usability in the space is definitely not there. We're working on it, but I think we have a long way to go. So there are a ton of things that I think that I think that make, make that statement not true, and I guess I would say, like the top one, which I don't see enough people talking about. And I think we like to tell ourselves in a bear market that this isn't true, but I think it's true still, is just that, like, you need a pretty solid chunk of money to have fun on chain doesn't mean like, you can't engage in crypto Twitter. Of course you can do that, but like, crypto doesn't really become fun until you have a few grand to play around with, and that's not accessible by any means. And and, I guess the alternative of that is like, maybe it's fun to try to get to a couple grand, but still that's not, that's not appealing and accessible to everyone. So I guess I would say, No, do you think it's accessible?

Salimi 12:12

No, no. I think that what makes it inaccessible, in a way. I mean, you touched on really amazing points, right? But I think that there's so much like the language that we use in the space, in itself is not very accessible, and you need to have some understanding of the ins and outs and in order to be able to do something. And most of the artists, or people, let's say, from the emerging market, might not have that, yeah, might not have that access, so that, in itself, causes that inaccessibility.

Chase 12:48

Yeah, that's a really good point. Tina from station, I think, I think it was a tweet, but it might

Yeah, that's a really good point. Tina from station, I think, I think it was a tweet, but it might have been an article. I don't know where she said it. Maybe she, maybe she said it on the podcast interview with me. I can't remember, but she had this really good line about like, if you look at, if you look at different niches, they all have their own language. And one of the things that that serves is essentially creating in groups and out groups, where, if you don't know, you know what rugging means, or you don't know that, that's a very simple one, but if you don't know, like, all these weird, complex if you don't know what a liquid staking derivative is, which is people call LSDs, like you're not in the in group. And it kind of reminds me of the whole like energy that was around, like bored apes and the bull market and all that stuff, where it was just like, if you're in, you're in, and if you're out, whatever. So, yeah, I think, I think even at the level of something like crypto Twitter, that's really interesting. And then, of course, when we think about what that means for people to come into the space and actually participate, to your point that's like a non starter when you can't even understand what people are talking about. It's just you're never going to get anywhere.

Salimi 14:09

Totally. And I want to know your thoughts on because, you know, we're talking a bit about, like, inclusivity, diversity. And I think one of the beauties, or the beauty of daos, is how it enables, I guess, like, coexisting, collaboration, innovation, with a diverse group of people, right? And Irene, like, I can't imagine, like, you've been a contributor within several daos, and I can't imagine how it's like coordinating a room full of very diverse people, you know, and like, when it comes to this decision making, and, you know, voting and like, how, how does this any thoughts and like, how is that? How does that go down? Does it affect execution? Does does anything get done? Like, what is the current state of that?

Chase 14:57

Yeah, that's really interesting. Um. Whether or not anything gets done in a Dao, and the failure to get things done, I think, is usually more result of not being able to coordinate and organize around some democratic system, more so than it is people who are not able to see from each other's point of view. Though, there are definitely some interesting elements. I mean, index had a pretty wide range of geographic contributors within a ton of different areas across the globe. That was fascinating to watch. And they actually had a group that was supporting, I forget exactly what region it was but, but it was, like it was a very specific group aimed at making sure that contributing to index was accessible for people, I believe, specifically in Asia and like Pacific Island, sort of like, I can't remember what it's called. I'm trying to remember. But anyway, that was fascinating to see where you actually had this sort of like coalition of people who were saying, Hey, we're contributors. We are part of index and like meetings are at really inaccessible times and all these different things. And so I think structures like that helped to sort of make sure that people weren't just being sort of like, left behind, because, again, defaulting to, like, American and European Time Zones was a really big challenge. I don't know. I don't know if this is really a I don't know if this is a something that I've experienced too deeply, which I guess speaks to also, like, maybe we don't have the most diverse group of contributors in daos. But anyway, I feel like I've definitely had some experience with it, but I would say I'm, I'm by no means a, an expert on it, and B, I don't know if I've had enough data to know what, what works and what doesn't, and and how that's gone.

Salimi 16:59

I mean, it's, it's good to hear your perspective. You know because you are this is what you do, you know on a daily basis. And I would love to also talk about the the human side of web three. Would you say that daos like encompasses that? And I know like, there's a quote that you like by Brian Flynn, and it says, In Web three, does empathy exist more or less than web web two, and so I'm just curious, like, does the decentralized and community driven nature of web three lead to more empathetic experiences, or do the technical complexities and distance between Users like hinder empathy in this new paradigm? Ooh, this is

Chase 17:43

such a juicy question. I'm going to attack this from a weird angle. I think that what we're starting to see, and what my hope is for web three, more broadly, is that we start to create more democratic spaces online. So when I think about why it matters that I grew up on the internet, and why the 2016 election matters, and why all of these and by that I really mean like Cambridge Analytica and everything that happened with them, using data with Facebook and all that. What that really like feels like to me is that it's become clear that you basically have to be on Instagram, and you know Facebook, I mean Facebook to a lesser degree, but like Tiktok and all these things in order to be a member of society, that's like, understanding what's going on in the culture and all this stuff. Like, I went on a hinge date a few weeks ago, and before we went on the date, the person was like, what's your Instagram? I want to make sure you're not a serial killer like that, which is totally normal behavior, right? Like, hence, we have no choice but to be in digital spaces. And so the way that I approach things, and the way that I think web three fits into all this, is that we don't have a choice to whether or not we want to be on these platforms. We should at least have a say in how they're governed. And so to me, that's where like web three and this sort of like democratic digital space thesis comes into play. What's interesting is that at a platform level, it's like, pretty unclear how Tiktok is going to become more democratic, right? Like when Instagram changed their logo a few years ago, everyone was so mad. I don't think a DAO would have voted yes to that, and it was probably a good move on their part. So there's, like, a there's an interesting tension there. So I'm not sure how this gonna work at a huge platform level, but when we think about how this works out in digital spaces that we exist in that are a little bit more like local, quote, unquote, I think what this is ultimately going to end up looking like is like these smaller demo. Democratic systems. And so I think when you when I can't remember what the exact number is, but I think the optimal like, democracy is between like eight and 15 million people, or something like that. It's like, not huge. So say all of that to say that I think if we're going to start to see the localization of these spaces, because we acknowledge the democracy at like, a massive scale is probably not what we want. What I think is going to end up happening with these smaller democracies. And the reason that I think smaller democracies work so well is because instead of having, like, representatives that are responsible for the voices of 5 million people, you instead have many representatives who are potentially tasked with or trusted by their constituents to advocate for their unique perspectives. And so all of that comes back to empathy in the context where I think what's so hard about scaling huge democratic systems, partially is that that empathy is just like lost like me, to any politician in the United States that's sitting in the Senate, not understanding how that how we're empathizing with each other, like In theory, yes, but in practice, I think it's actually much harder. And so I think there's a hope for me, and this might be kind of a convoluted way of moving around this, but there's a hope for me that in localizing these spaces and giving people a voice, you actually do start to build capacity for more empathy, partially just because you're reducing the distance between you and the people that

are like either representing you or the people on the other side of of you, know, A specific debate or or whatever it might be. And so I guess from that perspective, I think my hope would be that we actually do have more empathy and we're able to practice that. I don't know if that would work out in practice. Of course, it's hard to say, but I think there's an interesting element there. I

Salimi 21:57

mean, I love the passion. You know, as you went down there. It was just helping. And I this is really important, very important to talk about this, because, like, empathy is so important, and we just cannot afford to lose that. I know you spoke about like these democratic, like small, like local communities. And I'm like, curious to know how that connects to daos. And would you say that, like, have you come across any, maybe, like a perfect human centric DAO model that reflects this in any way?

Chase 22:32

Yeah, so I guess on the perspective of these, like smaller groups, I think to me, the label DAO is mostly just helpful for describing how people organize. Like, it's really hard to talk about what I was describing in the terms that I was describing. Like, the amount of setup that I just had to give to describe it is a perfect example of that. But to me, all of those smaller localized groups are daos. They're like distributed or decentralized. They are like an organization of people. There's some group autonomous. I'm still the jury's out to me on what that really means in practice, but I think that those things are daos, well, in in the question around the perfect DAO, I think anything with humans is going to be pretty messy. And I actually think that, like I think that there are lots of mechanisms that are interesting and working within daos and outside of daos. But I think, like, part of what is so fascinating about daos is actually that there is never going to be a perfect structure or a perfect organization. There is just a least problematic, least friction, full experience. Because whenever you involve humans in anything like it's going to get messy and chaotic and there's going to be tension. And so to me, I think a lot more of what matters is figuring out, how do we learn from and constantly evolve within these like iterations of the structures that we've created, such that you know when, when that tension does rise, or when there is some friction, we're able to take a step back and say, Okay, I'm feeling this way. How can we work through that? And I guess, to me, like that's also the ultimate empathy. Version of empathy, right? Is like being able to look across the, I guess computer screen at someone else, who you're, you know, beefing in the forums with and say, okay, clearly, something's something's happening here, like, how can we work through this together?

Salimi 24:53

Yes, and, I mean, I would say you are such a great example of that, because we first. Communicated like I never seen you, you, you'd never seen me. And we were texting via Twitter, and I could feel so much like empathy and just so much kindness. And I didn't know I could get that from, you know? It was, like, really amazing. And, yeah, I, first of all, I thank you for that, you know. So yeah, and I guess my I love that my follow on question with Yemi, we've touched a little bit on that. But how can like daos lead to greater socioeconomic benefits, and what are some of the strategies that can be employed to achieve this goal?

Chase 25:38

Yeah. I mean, I think the over arching, like argument that my brain immediately goes to is the idea that ownership is, of course, very powerful, and for the most part, in digital spaces, in particular, the people who create the value on these platforms are not the ones who are deriving the most, at least economic benefit, and I would say in a lot of cases, probably social benefit as well, depending on your relationship with platforms, right? Like there are times where I feel like I'm getting a ton of benefit from Twitter, and other times where I feel like Twitter is sucking so much life out of me and I need to get off of the platform. So I think, from an economic perspective, the hope around daos would be that by empowering people to be owners, we're at least able to take a shot at minimizing the amount of value that's being extracted from participants on platforms. I think something that. And I'll actually, I'll go into the Sofiane social side, and then I want to come back to that, because there's something interesting there on the social side. I think when you do that and when you do distribute ownership, there's a hope that in a perfect world, by giving participants on a platform the opportunity to govern that platform, you actually start to, again, minimize the amount of extraction that's coming from these platforms. If I had to say, Tiktok, would have a hard ban, like, because you can, you can not, not a ban. Sorry, I'm using the wrong terminology, a hard limit on the amount of time that you can spend a day on it. So like right now you can say, I only want to spend 20 minutes on the app, but once you spend 20 minutes on the app, they say, enter your code. I don't want them to do that. I want them to just completely stop me. But they don't do that, of course, because that doesn't make sense for their for their model. And so I think, like in theory, you might have users choosing better better practices and things like that. In practice, we'll see how that actually works out. So more broadly, I think that's where we're going to start to see a better balance of both economic and social benefits of these platforms. The one thing that I will say on the ownership piece, circling back to this the economic side, David Phelps published an amazing piece called bail out Brink a couple weeks ago about the way that money impacts us as people, and has this like, real impact on our lives that I think, you know, We like to call like, imagine, like, money is imaginary to some degree, right? But like, it also has this very real impact in our lives. And it's just an amazing piece. And anyone who hasn't read it like, immediately that's what you should do. But he had this great line and a piece which was like, I'm totally paraphrasing it incorrectly, but it was basically like, maybe the point of crypto is not to make everyone a bunch of money. And so I've been thinking about that a lot because it's easy to say, like, when everyone becomes owners, economic benefits will be distributed. And I think to some degree, that's true, but I also think if people continue to make a bunch of money in crypto, and we still aren't seeing that type of distribution, or maybe even if we are seeing the distribution of ownership, but we still have these weird aspects where people could just get like, crazy rich off of really dumb shit. Like, maybe we haven't been doing our jobs this whole time, and maybe instead, ownership doesn't need to have a price tag on it. And, like, the way that we think about, you know, the economics around ownership needs to change. I know that's a very broad and kind of random side note, but I think there's something really interesting about like, crypto is not like a get rich quick for everyone. Instead, it's like a small group of individuals shouldn't be able to get rich quick off of everyone's backs basically,

Salimi 29:39

no, that's great Chase. I think you are gonna get people listening to you think, and I think that's why we have these conversations, because we need to, we need to be challenged. You know, we need to get out of our comfort zone and zones and think and then, you know, innovate

better, because you said something about what. Whatever, wherever humans are. You know, there's always some complexity. So if we don't touch on these topics, then how do we think about you know, how do we fix it? We have it starts with the conversation. I'd love to hear, what would you say? What's the difference between collective intelligence and social sensitivity? So I think

Chase 30:20

there's actually a very interesting dynamic here, which is that they're, they're people from the ready, which is like this sort of consulting organization that helps, typically, companies become more self organizing. But they are also dabbling in, like the DAO ecosystem, and I really, really respect them. So Aaron Dignan and Rodney Evans are sort of, I don't want to say at the head, because they're not hierarchical, but they're the public Voices and Faces of it. And I've had lots of conversations with them. And one of the things that they have always said, and this is something that I've talked with Rodney about is that when you are in a self managing organization, which is kind of like a doubt, it's like decentralized. It's just that you don't have, like, a boss and stuff like that. Pretty much everyone needs to have a therapist, because you in environments like that, are going to get a ton of feedback because you don't have a boss to sort of protect you from or tell you that you need to do certain things. Your work isn't up to par whatever everyone's telling you that you're getting all this data from everyone or from the different people that you work with. And the reason that that that matters to have a therapist is because if you actually want to, like, take those inputs and transform yourself with them and leverage them to create something better. You need to have both, I think, like a deep sense of empathy for yourself and for other people. But you also can't be so destabilized by that feedback that like you know your identity is in shambles and you don't know who you are and your work sucks and all these things. And so I think that when I think about what it means to amplify collective intelligence and have this element of like social like sense, ability to sense yourself and other people and all this stuff, what I think it really looks like is a very interesting dance between understanding where someone comes from when they're giving you a piece of feedback, challenging your beliefs, whatever, having empathy for them and for yourself, and also not making it mean something about who you are as a person. And I think that that is the only way to actually amplify collective intelligence, because collective intelligence, quote, unquote, is truly it comes out of you and I having a conversation, sharing thoughts, challenging each other. Because if we're just like agreeing with each other, nothing collectively comes out of, like, a homogenous, agreeable conversation, other than if you're like challenging each other a little bit or stepping up, you know, something where you're you're you have some like tension that you're playing with? And so, yeah, I think from that angle, it's a super interesting question, and I think it very much comes down to this idea of like, being both understanding for other people and yourself, and saying, I'm not going to let this like, I'm not going to let my ego come in and make this something about me and my worth and my value. Now

Salimi 33:21

that's really important, especially, you know, working most of the time, like working remotely. And I'm telling you, I've probably not met some of my teammates, you know, and you know, you get to, like, just communicate online and just text. And I think it's very important what you're touching. And I wanted to ask, I had a question about mental health, and leave that to

the end. My next question is about a quote, actually, Steph from seed club. You touched a bit about about them, and she tweeted that daos are not a feature of work your social networks and consumer experiences. What do you think

Chase 33:58

I love Steph, and I love seed club. I think this is a fascinating take, and seed club also published that piece that I mentioned earlier called I think DAOs are consumer products. I think is what it's called. I think I'm in a 50% agree and 50% disagree, but I'm not disagreeing with the point that's being made there. I think the doubt, well, that's not even true necessarily. I think the daos are probably potentially also the future of work like I do. Think that that's very feasible. I think that daos is consumer applications, though, is a much more interesting, exciting and expansive way to think about them. And so when I talk about something like, Hey, our digital spaces should be, you know, collectively governed and more democratic at the end of the day, that's a consumer experience to. Agree that like the American government is a consumer experience. You know, like it there, I get on the subway every day, and I consume it, and to some degree, like that is provided by the American government. So I think that there's a there's definitely an interplay there. I think more of what they're speaking to is things like FW B and the Fw B app, which I think is absolutely phenomenal. I think it's a lot easier to get people to wrap their head around more democratic spaces when they are digital, especially because, like, it's really hard to understand what that means for work and all these things. Of course, work is now digitally native in a lot of ways, but I think it's a little bit more complex. But, yeah, I think it's a very good take. And I also do think that daos are probably the future of work, because it's hard to imagine a world in which, like most of our consumer experiences, shift towards this more democratic Dao, like model, and somehow work doesn't end up there?

Salimi 36:04

No, yeah, that's, I think that makes sense. I think it's gonna probably be like a 5050, situation and like, just depending on the context. Because for me, I see that daos, it's like the future of digital communities, because digital communities have always existed, right? But daos add this element to it, and so I can definitely see, see it being like elements of it being adopted, and in a way, in the future of work. And I also want to ask you, you had posted there was a tweet of yours that said it was very technical. It was, it was a very technical space, but there were all these promises that crypto were going to change how human exists in digital spaces. And I want to know, like, what, what, like, what was going through your mind? I'm sure probably you don't remember maybe when you you posted this, but, like, I have quite a few of your tweets, your quotes, so I wonder what was like going through your mind. And yeah, yeah,

Chase 37:09

I think a lot of I think this was in some thread about my evolution in crypto or or something reflecting on what crypto has promised and where it's actually delivered. I think that crypto has really led with infrastructure, like we have built Ethereum and Bitcoin and these like core infrastructure layers, which are required to build any experiences on top of them. But that does definitely lead to pretty technical conversations. You know, I've even noticed, like in the bear market, there are a lot more people talking about the infrastructure than the applications on

top. And I think with that, when you dream about what could be built on infrastructure, you make tons of promises about what's possible and what could happen and all this stuff. And that's great and exciting, and it's necessary to build those things. However, crypto hasn't fully fulfilled those promises yet, partially because we just haven't had the time to experiment. We haven't necessarily had all of the tools required for experimenting, like a lot of this stuff is really interconnected, where, you know, you can build an amazing application, but if the wallet problem is not solved. Do you have this cold start problem no matter what? And so I think for me, a lot of this comes back to the idea that as an ecosystem, we have a long way to go when it comes to experimenting with more of these, like consumer applications. But again, like back to this idea around daos or consumer experiences, daos or social experiences, I think that's a really exciting model for how we can think about this stuff. And I think the more that we can build experiences that are interweaving this idea of ownership and like social experiences, the better, because we start to create value outside of economic, you know, number go up type of mechanisms. And instead, we were able to focus more and center more of these, like unique human experiences, like connection, like sharing. You know, your life, like the Fw B app, is so fascinating for this reason, because it is just people posting their lives, and it feels really like a cozy little community. And it's just like, it's fascinating. You said,

Salimi 39:33

people like posting your lives. I just thought about like content creation. And you know, like in our digital age where like content creation is often driven by the need for external validation and engagement, how can creators find balance and create content that serves their own mental health and well being? And how can we prioritize the personal value of creation, of its value as a commodity? For others. And maybe, would you say chats GTP is, you know, like to some extent, it's kind of impacting people's writing skills and appreciation for writing. I

Chase 40:10

tweeted about this yesterday because I was thinking about how chat GPT really makes me appreciate why I write, especially in a world like you're talking about, where there's all this pressure to create content for other people to consume. Chat. GPT makes it so easy that it reminds me that, like, oh, I write for myself. You know, I write for my own sanity, not because I want to create for other people, and if other people find that interesting or helpful or they hate what I have to say, like, that's all fine, because I create for my own my own meaning and fulfillment and sanity and all that stuff. And so I think there's like a really, and I wouldn't call myself like a creator to the extent that so many other people are. So I would be very curious how other people who like really are deep in this world think about it. But my initial thought on a lot of this stuff is that I think that the advent of and the ease of just like creating anything with AI, whether that's art or writing or video or whatever, or podcasts for that matter. I think really does bring us back to like, why are we doing this? And for the last you know, I would say 2010, to 20, I guess, 10 years, mostly with social media. I think the reason that we create has been so like obfuscated through these layers of addiction loops with social media and all of all of these things and monetization of your content as a creator and all that. And I think we're finally getting back to the point where we're going, Okay, if any, any AI can generate pretty much any of this stuff, why am I still doing it? And it's funny because I stopped tweeting for a while. And the the thing that I realized was that forcing myself to come up with one thought per day, even if it was stupid, and a meme or whatever, was so helpful in not only me feeling

fulfilled in my work, but also in feeling inspired to continue the work that I do. And so I came back to Twitter, and I was like, oh my god, I forgot that. Formulating a thought every day is just deeply valuable for my soul. So anyway, I say all that to say I think that a lot of this stuff, at least in my experience, has the potential to bring us back to the reason that we create in the first place, which really is never for the consumption of anyone other than, you know, our own brain. And even then, I don't think it's for our own consumption. I think it's a totally different thing.

Salimi 43:04

Yeah, great points. And on the, on the topic of, like, AI content creation, I'd love to hear more about your your your podcast, on the, on the other side, and what's inspired it like, you know, what's the vision, what's the mission with that. Yes,

Chase 43:21

it was originally inspired because I hated Twitter for a while. This was before I ever started tweeting. I was like, you know, I'd been in crypto for a while, but I just kind of ignored Twitter. And Brian, Flynn, who you quoted earlier around empathy, is a friend of mine, and he was like, Chase, you got to start making something you can't keep thinking about crypto all the time and not tweeting, but you like talking, so you should start a podcast. And I was like, maybe. And so I kind of like mulled it over for a while, and and ended up launching the podcast. And I always am grateful, and give him credit for pushing me to do that. And the main reason that I started it was just because it felt like people weren't talking about the human experience around Web. Three some people definitely were, and there was a lot of really valuable discussion happening, but it felt like a lot of like the me, when I look back at, you know, how we got to where we are with web two, I think a lot of it is just like, not considering really critically how the systems we were creating could impact us. And so when I think about, like, the interruption of the like button, like obviously had a massive impact, and that probably wasn't even something that they intended or anticipated. And I think the same goes for having like, liquidity of everything, like, there are just these weird things in web free that we're creating that are patterns that I'm not sure we're gonna be super happy with. And so a lot of my goal around the podcast was to kind of create space for, like, what does, what does this? World look like on the other side of web three, adoption is in that means, like, The Good, the Bad, the Ugly, the amazing, all of that. And that's kind of where the podcast started and where I think it still stands today. It's gone through some fun, I think, transitions and definitely diving into, like, the DAO ecosystem, because that's what I think about and work on a lot, but, but I think at the end of the day, it's very much intended to be like a human centric way of thinking about a lot of these things, because I think we just tend to ignore that other than sci fi books. I guess I'm not into sci fi books, but I feel like sci fi books give us an idea of what could happen if everything goes wrong, but there's, like, there's a disconnect between that and practice.

Salimi 45:44

You're totally right, and I think that's one of the things that we are also super focused on with new farm Chase. Before I let you go, I would love to know, how do you what do you do, in terms of, like, mental health, like you are so busy you are doing so much, so how do you manage your

mental health? And then I think the last part of it would be, what keeps you going? And with three, why haven't you quit?

Chase 46:11

I love these last two questions on the mental health front. I've always been a big morning person. I have my morning routines. So I recently got into breath work, which I would 11 out of 10 recommend. If anyone wants to get into it, there's an app called other ship. So like other and then ship, very good. And then I do my little journaling. And I'm also, this is empty, because I just got a notepad, big To Do List person, that's my big thing. And then what it and also limiting Twitter consumption, been really working on that one. I go back and forth on, like, pendulum swing, so that I would say it's my, my mental health thing. And surprisingly, tweeting every day actually very helpful in the mental health realm. Weird. But like I mentioned before, it feels I don't know, like it keeps, keeps me inspired, and then what keeps me going in web three, I really think it's this vision for, like, a better version of the internet. I've always felt deeply involved with and sort of like the internet was always an important part of my life, and also kind of trapped in the internet. And I think if I felt that way. I can't even imagine what kids now feel. And so for me, a lot of it is just about like, how do we build systems that acknowledge that that's probably inevitable? Like, we can't just undo that, but create a system that is better and that does give people more of a say in in the spaces that have become such an important part of our lives.

Salimi 47:41

Wow, I love that. I don't know what else to say after that, but that's super important. Because, I mean, does that say you, if you can't beat them, you join them and the living online, you didn't know where it's like, it's happening. And so it's important. He said, like the infrastructure ethic, the ethical side of things, safety, security, privacy, someone told me, If you want to protect your privacy, just don't go online, you know, just like, go off the grid completely, because there's no way, like, no rest, you know, once you're online. But maybe that's true. Maybe, uh, Chase, you're gonna inspire how this can be solved. But yeah, really. Thank you so much for your time today. I've been absolutely looking forward to talking to you, so this was such an honor. And I love your insights and everything. And so yeah, before you go, if you have any last thoughts, and then maybe you can tell our listeners and community where they can find you on your social platforms, Twitter, for sure, but maybe somewhere else.

Chase 48:42

Yes, boy. I don't know if I have any last thoughts. I think, I guess just one closing thing. And I don't know, you know when people who are listening to this got into the crypto space, or if people are starting to get in whatever part of like your journey you are in. And I think we're at a really interesting time in the space where things are calming down a little bit. And I think this is where finding your like reason for being here, whether it's like some of what I was talking about, or something totally different, everyone has, I think, a really unique and special reason for being here. And even if that doesn't feel clear like I think everyone's drawn to the space for a reason, and so even if you aren't able to articulate it, I think there's something really, really

fascinating about like nurturing that seed, and then where you can find me on Twitter. I'm at Chase R Chapman. I have my podcast on the other side, which you can find at Otherside.xyz, yeah, I think that's that's most of where I exist. Amazing.

Salimi 49:50

Thank you so much, Jason. We will have all the links in the description below. Thank you all for listening to us today. And if you want to get more involved in our community, make sure to. Follow us on our social platforms, Twitter, it's newforum_nco, and we will have all our other links, including our Discord link, in the description. And yeah, thank you all and take a moment. Don't forget to like, share and subscribe to our channel, and I will see you in the next episode. Thank you so much. Chase. This was amazing.

Chase 50:18

Thank you. This was so wonderful.