

Trends Like These 230: Does Courtney Hate Men? 30-50 Feral Hogs, El Paso and Dayton Shootings, New California Law Requires Trump Tax Returns, Apple's iPhone Battery Shenanigans, Beto Says Bad Words for a Good Reason, Danny Trejo's Heroic Act

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[theme music plays]

Brent: This week: Feral hogs descend, Danny Trejo makes a friend, and Apple's at it again.

Courtney: I'm Courtney Enlow.

Brent: I'm Brent Black.

Courtney: And I'm a tiny orphan koala.

Brent: With Trends Like These.

[theme music plays]

Brent: Hello, Courtney!

Courtney: Hello, Brent! Did you know that when we were just counting, I forgot how to count, and I had to think for a second what number comes after two?

Brent: Ooh, you're really pulling back the curtain there. I don't know if our audience knows—

Courtney: I needed the people to know, because it couldn't just exist here inside of my brain, and then we weren't gonna talk just you and mesies again for like an hour.

Brent: True. Now, here's the thing – if we're gonna pull the curtain back a little bit, let's pull it back all the way and say, it's hard when you do a show via Skype to like, line up the timing. Uh, so, we count off like... when it's just Courtney and I, I do odds, she does evens, from one to six. And uh, so that's how we... so y'know, it's like, one, two, three, four...

Courtney: Let's do it real quick, and I want to tell the audience what I almost did. So you just count off like we're counting off in the show.

Brent: Great. Perfect. Okay. One.

Courtney: Two.

Brent: Three.

Courtney: Three.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: That's what I wanted to do. [laughs]

Brent: Well, we did a segment with Laura Kate Dale once where I screwed it up twice in a row. I just was—it was such a wacky day.

Courtney: I remember that.

Brent: I just like, zoned—I zoned out.

Courtney: That was a weird time in Brent's brain.

Brent: Well... not recommended, but like, y'know... if you find any cobwebs, or you want to do any housekeeping in there, I'm not gonna be upset about it.

Courtney: I wouldn't live there. I would weekend there.

Brent: Ooh. [laughs] Well, I guess you'll find a tropical drink somewhere in there.

Courtney: Mm-hmm.

Brent: That's a whole 'nother podcast. But uh, okay. So, time stamp. It is just about five PM eastern time on Thursday, August 8th, 2019. Coming at'cha live from the United States of America. And by live, I mean live in the past.

Courtney: [gasps] We're time travelers, and this is gonna be a heavy one. So Brent, I want us to start the show by talking about the cutest ass shit we can possibly think of. Cute blast! Horns, horns, horns, horns! Babow, babow!

Brent: Pew pew pew pew pew!

Courtney: I'm reading this verbatim like I said that I would! Even this part! Horns, horns, horns, horns!

Brent: [laughs] When you were typing this in the doc, I caught a brief moment where you spelled it 'horons,' and I was like, "I like that." And then you corrected it, and I was like, "Aw, oh well."

Courtney: [laughing]

Brent: Horons! It's actually—horons could be like... I sometimes think of this stuff like this, where it's like... there's uh, not to, y'know, not to detour from cute blast too long, but... like, a phrase or a word that like, if that was said by a character in a beloved movie, it would just instantaneously become a thing. So like, just somebody being like, "Horons! Horons to the happy couple!" Like, that could be a thing.

Courtney: It's like a mix of like, 'hurrah' and 'huzzah.'

Brent: Yeah. Yeah. Also done backwards.

Courtney: And a mix of uh, Horatio Sans' first and last time.

Brent: [laughs] You can't spell Horatio Sans without horons!

Courtney: Horons! [laughs]

Brent: Alright, what's your cute blast?

Courtney: So, my cute blast is, I'm gonna talk about my puppy. My puppy Aggie, who I sometimes call Swags. And she likes to just like, climb up behind me and put her paws on my back and chew on my hair. And it's just really precious. And she also likes to, um... So, my older dog, Annie... I have Annie and Aggie. And Aggie loves Annie. And Annie tolerates Aggie.

And Aggie wants to be bipedal, is what I've decided. And she wants to be on two legs so bad, and she looks like when the Muppets are on two legs. And just... yeah.

Brent: Oh, yeah.

Courtney: And so, she likes to just like, climb on Annie with her two legs. Now, she's not humping her. This is not sexual. That's not what families do.

Brent: Is it like a dominance thing or a playful thing?

Courtney: It's not a dominance thing. She literally, I think, is like, hitching a ride. It's like Marty McFly on his skateboard, holding onto the truck. It's Aggie hitching a ride on Annie, where she's just like, got her paws like... she's on like, the side of her or the front of her, just walking along, holding onto Annie. And it's the cutest goddamn thing I've ever seen in my life.

Brent: Well, if you want, y'know... if between now and tomorrow, you can get some kind of visual aid...

Courtney: I try to.

Brent: And put it on our Twitter, which is @TrendsLikeThese...

Courtney: They move so fast.

Brent: Oh, I know.

Courtney: They're like my children. The second I get out the phone to video these things, they stop.

Brent: I just wonder how long before there's gonna be some kind of like, parental vest with a hidden camera that parents just like, wear around their children. Just a button, ready to go at any given time.

Courtney: [laughs] I love that you went straight to 'vest,' and I hope it's one of those like, '80s, super patterned ones.

Brent: [laughs] What kind of—

Courtney: Like me finally living the Kimmy Gibbler life that I've always dreamed.

Brent: What kind of super sneaky, like, garment with a camera in it to get cute videos of your children would you... like, what garment would you recommend if this were the assignment?

Courtney: Probably a squirty flower. Y'know like, one of those that you wear on your lapel.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: And it's like, "Ha ha, I squirted you with seltzer! And I'm also taking your picture. Fuck you!"

Brent: Did you ever see the clip where Tom Cruise, at like a red carpet thing, got squirted that way? And then he like, totally dressed down the guy who did it, to the point where the—

Courtney: He was so mad.

Brent: You know what I'm talking about?

Courtney: Yeah, he did not handle that well at all. And y'know, granted, no one should be... no one should be squirted. Squirt is a very—I don't like the word. [laughs] I don't care for it.

Brent: Um, my thoughts on the word, I will keep to myself. However, uh, in the video, um, the guy who squirted him, if I'm not mistaken, like, gets really, like... feels really bad, and starts getting weepy. I don't know. I could've remembered it all wrong.

But, my cute blast is a story that isn't trending. It isn't a Wi-Five. But, you have got to see this picture. The headline reads, "Adorable orphaned baby koala gets tiny arm cast after falling from tree." And you can go to our Twitter, which is @TrendsLikeThese, and have a look. Just look! Cute blast!

Courtney: I would totally Wi-Five this tiny koala with his lil' cast hand. High five.

Brent: [laughs] Alright. Before we move on, what are you drinking?

Courtney: Oh my god, yeah, I forgot about that! I am drinking wine. I don't know what it is. It's a shiraz. I don't know what kind it is, though. I just got it at Benny's. It was on sale.

Brent: Nice. I had... last night, I had a bottle—well, I had half a bottle of uh, Alamos Cabernet Seven... sov... sauvignon? Whatever. Um, and uh, here's how you know that it's the part of summer where the fruit flies start really gettin' bad. This is gross, but I'm just gonna tell you. I set my glass down, I went and did something else after I had a couple glasses, came back—

Courtney: Did you drink of the flies?

Brent: I almost did. And it was a red, so like, they were really hidden. But right as I was bringing it to my lips, it was like, Rick Moranis with the cereal in Honey I Shrunk the Kids. It was like, "Oh god, there's things in this!"

Courtney: What if it was your kids? And you almost drank your kids?

Brent: My long lost, unknown, knocked up someone ten years ago and didn't even know about it kids in a glass of wine?

Courtney: And you shrunk them, and then you almost drank them.

Brent: It'd be pretty par for the course in my life. Let's be real.

Courtney: Yeah, pretty standard.

Brent: Pretty run of the mill.

Courtney: Typical Wednesday.

Brent: [laughs] I hate Mondays, especially because my long lost, shrunken children get into my red wine! Ugh! Life, am I right?

Courtney: [laughs] Oh, god.

Brent: Um, I am drinking an orange mango Spindrift. I know you're not a fan of the Spindrift, but I am.

Courtney: I am not a fan, but y'know what? I might try that. I... [sighs] Like, y'know those things you want to like? You want to like. You know it is a thing that like, is for you.

Brent: Yeah. For me, it's sports.

Courtney: I like putting—I like putting fruit in water. And so, Spindrift's like, "We already did it for you." And I'm like, "Great, but I don't like it."

Brent: Interesting. Maybe, do you just like, y'know, still fruit essence water? Like cucumber water, strawberry water? Or do you like bubbly?

Courtney: I do. Very much so. And I think maybe that's what it is, part of it? Like, somehow, it tastes fake? I don't like it.

Brent: Weird.

Courtney: I don't care for it.

Brent: I just try to stay hydrated during the day—

Courtney: I'm very specific.

Brent: And things being fizzy... things being fizzy really helped me. But it's a matter of variety.

Courtney: It's all about that.

Brent: I like to mix it up. [pauses] Oh, this is where we're ending the segment, on me just—

Courtney: I keep trying to end it, because we're not done yet, and I keep forgetting that. So it's like... [laughs] Imagine if you will, just like, a like, a still on me, like, ready to go to like, the commercial break. But we're not done yet. Like, that is just what keeps happening. Like, [sings a tune]—oh, we're not done? You're still talking Brent? Okay. Yeah.

Brent: Story of my life. [laughs]

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: That being said, let's just do what Travis does sometimes when it's time to end the segment. Transition!

Courtney: [sings a tune]

[theme music plays]

Courtney: Hey, Brent?

Brent: Hey, what?

Courtney: Do you know what actually exists beyond the headlines?

Brent: Is it this next segment we're gonna do?

Courtney: It's like, so you look at the headlines, and you have, y'know, three to five minutes.

Brent: Uh-huh.

Courtney: And then 30 to 50 *feral hogs* will come into your yard.

Brent: Nooo! Not again! Last time, it was 29 to 30! What's happening?!
Ugh!

Courtney: Well, there's just more hogs.

Brent: Estimated number of hogs going up and up.

Courtney: Every...

Brent: Thanks, Obama.

Courtney: Hogs. Not even once. We're obviously going to get to the shootings that took place this week.

Brent: Yes.

Courtney: They were devastating, and the conversation surrounding these events dominated and continue to dominate the news this week. And in the

midst of these conversations, one blessed gift was born, and we are so very grateful. This glorious thing that we needed, and it brought joy, and wonder, and questions. So many questions.

But mostly, it brought memes, and we are, of course, talking to you about the 30 to 50 feral hogs. And damn it, I love every single one of them, be they 30 or 50 or any number betwixt or beyond.

Singer Jason Isbell – he’s wonderful. If you’re unfamiliar, give him a listen. For one thing, he’s the perfect person to address issues like gun control, because his music reaches a very wide swath of people, nestled firmly in a country folk southern rock influenced kind of place. So he reaches like, pretty much everyone across the board.

And so, when Isbell tweeted the following, and received the following response, the world was given a rainbow. Isbell tweeted, “If you’re on here arguing the definition of assault weapon today, you are part of the problem. You know what an assault weapon is, and you know you don’t need one.” To which a user replied to him, “Legit question for rural Americans: how do I kill the 30 to 50 feral hogs that run into my yard within three to five minutes while my small kids play?”

Brent: [snorts]

Courtney: And with that, a meme was born. And I tried to like, find choice ones to read, but here’s the thing – like, you just need to like, read them yourself. They don’t work to be read. They’re just so good, and I love them. I love them all like my own, like, precious hog babies. And I’m so—like, we—that thing where you need something to make you smile in the midst of just like, nonstop, endless devastation. We needed... we needed these stupid pigs.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: And we needed this very earnest man and his very serious question. [laughing] Now, here’s the thing – feral hogs, they’re like, a real thing. According to feral hog expert, John Mayer – not that John Mayer,

presumably; though, he is truly multi-talented – there are more feral pig attacks than shark attacks.

Brent: Hmm.

Courtney: Between 2007 and 2017, there were fewer than 70 fatal shark attacks, but 84 fatal pig attacks. Now, with that said, Mayer stresses that, despite this average, the average house should not shoot feral hogs with assault rifles. It won't work. You can't stop the feral hogs.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: What I'm saying is, the hogs are coming. They're coming for you. Your children. They will make you their hog kind. Also, maybe a fence. I feel like a fence maybe. Possibly a fence.

Brent: Yeah! That's the answer! God. Y'know, I've got a relative who is a nice person, but very different than me, politically. And who lives the—lives closer to me than any other members of our extended family, and sometimes will be like, "Hey, come out to the ranch!" But the man has many, many guns, and has told stories of like, bears just being about in his, uh... this is a part of the country that we call Pennsylvucky, which is not the Philadelphia or Pittsburg part of Pennsylvania.

But the fact that there are just bears, like... the possibility of bears, to say nothing of just, I don't know, the inherent increased danger when there are dozens of firearms about... um, I'm just like, y'know what? I'm good. You wanna come to Philly, have a cheesesteak, in the paved place where bears are not typically often to be found? Uh, great. But um...

And I'm not saying people should like, just move to the cities. Uh, do what you want. Live where you want. But yeah, everything is wrong with this. And I just feel like... I don't know. It's been adjudicated many times. You want to have like, a shotgun? Spray some buckshot at some pigs that are threatening you? Okay. But like, yeah. If there's 30 to 50, and they're charging at you, all you're gonna do is create a little bit of bacon before they just completely destroy you. Not to be dark, but...

Courtney: You know what things are gonna happen? Things are gonna get hog wild.

Brent: Oh my god.

Courtney: And you're gonna only shoot some of the hogs, and then, Dr. Mayer said... maybe he's a Dr., maybe he's a Mr. I don't know. His body is not a wonderland. I know that. But—

Brent: His yardy is a wonderland.

Courtney: Yeah. He said the hogs—

Brent: His hoggy? Sorry, go ahead.

Courtney: I don't like that even a little bit. But he said that all that's gonna happen is that the hogs are going to learn, and they will come back at night. [laughs]

Brent: [laughing] Boy, these hogs.

Courtney: [laughing]

Brent: These hogs are... they're out for fucking blood. They want to eat your children.

Courtney: Do you remember Sifl and Olly?

Brent: No.

Courtney: There was a show on MTV called Sifl and Olly, and it's just hand puppets. And uh, they uh, there was a song on that, on Sifl and Olly, called... it was the Panda Song, and I want everyone to please just look it up on YouTube, 'cause it's still just my favorite thing in the world. Um, but there's a song, and it goes, "The pandas are coming on a rampage of the dead. The

pandas are coming, they'll rip your ass to shreds." And I've been singing it all day, only with feral hogs.

Brent: Well...

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: That's great. I don't know the show, but now, I have to go listen to it. Not right now.

Courtney: Not right now. You're busy.

Brent: I'll do it after the show.

Courtney: After the show.

Brent: And all of our listeners will do it after the show. Don't leave us.

Courtney: It's an important song. Don't leave us.

Brent: We have more to tell you.

Courtney: For the two people out there who are like, "Holy shit, Sifl and Olly?!" They're very excited right now. Everyone else is just like, "Wow, Courtney, cool story."

Brent: Hey, y'know what, though? Maybe it'll end up being a cultural exchange.

Courtney: "She hates men, but she loves hand puppets!"

Brent: I love finding out stuff like that. There's a Lego PC game from like, 15 or 20 years ago, and a friend of mine recently showed me a musical number from it. This is all true, and now it's like, this weird, terrible bop that's stuck in my head. And I'm glad for it. So y'know what?

Courtney: The Lego bop.

Brent: Share the bops. Share the slappin' bops.

Courtney: Share those slappin' bops.

Brent: [laughs] That sounds like some kind of like, weird Lord of the Rings, like... Tom Bombadil and his slappin' bops! Anyway.

Courtney: [laughs] I was gonna say, it sounds like a Lord of the Rings sex position. But...

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: For once in our lives, my mind went to the dirty place, and yours was fine. Don't think I didn't hear it earlier when you talked about squirts.

Brent: Wow.

Courtney: Go on.

Brent: Hey, listen, listen! If you want to hear about that, I've got another podcast—

Courtney: I heard it in my own head, but I kept going, 'cause I knew, like—

Brent: I've got another podcast for squirts, and it's not this one.

Courtney: This is a family podcast! It's not a family podcast. Only if your family is a bunch of trash like us.

Brent: I would say it's not really the kind of podcast where, uh, all definitions of squirt are brought up just lackadaisically. I think that had to be story-related.

Courtney: It's the kind of podcast where the family gathers around the fire, mom, dad, the kids, grandpa Joe, and they just sit and listen to Trends Like These talking about squirts.

Brent: Grandpa's like, "Hey, squirt, get in here! We're gonna listen to..."
Anyway...

Courtney: [laughs]

Brent: Actually, fun fact – uh, if you like sweet cocktails, the soda, Squirt, is like, just a little bit sweeter than like, tonic, for like, a vodka T, or a gin T. Try it sometime, if you've got a sweet tooth like me.

Okay, speaking of sweet things, like Apples... great transition, me. Thank you. Um, under the reign of CEO, Tim Cook, AKA Tim Apple, the Apple corporation continues to descend into less of a visionary company, and more of a blackmailer who uses people's attachment to the brand as a way to squeeze more and more money out of them.

So as you may know, Tim Cook acknowledged earlier this year that users replacing their iPhone batteries, uh, that results in fewer new iPhones being sold, because like, obviously. If you replace your own battery, or you have a repair person do it, it extends the life of your phone.

Well, get this – on the iPhone XS, XS+, and XR, any battery swap not performed by Apple will make your settings app say that the battery needs service, and some features will suddenly become unavailable, including the iPhone showing you the battery's maximum capacity, or its "peak performance availability." Those are two recent iPhone features.

And not only will it be a pain in the ass for users, but many third party repair shops rely on battery replacements for revenue. And if the most popular phones suddenly don't work right unless the battery is replaced by Apple, they'll inevitably lose business. So, congratulations, Tim Cook, you've done it again, and I hate you a little more. Courtney, you have a Mac, right?

Courtney: I have so many Macs. I'm doing this very show on a Mac right now.

Brent: Same. Same. I have my old Mac from back in the day that I used to record this show, and then I got a newer one that I do the research on. Thanks, Google Docs.

Courtney: I got a lap Mac, I got this desktop Mac right here...

Brent: You got Mac and Me, Mac and Cheese...

Courtney: I got one of those phones. One of those phones that you do the internets on. And then, my kids both have iPads, because I'm what they call a bad mother. And yeah.

Brent: [laughs] I just—the thing is like, for me, Apple has two pieces of software that keep me an Apple person, like, in this weird trickle-down way. I need this program called Logic, which is like, music production, and this program called Final Cut, which is for video editing. And the reason is, I don't... I don't want to learn a new thing on Windows. They are proprietary, they are only on Macs.

And if not for that fact, I would probably just become a Windows person at this point. Because I'm tired of the overpriced bullshit. I'm tired of them being like, "Yeah, no, we're making a cool new sleek thing!" That's gonna require a dock if you want to use anything other than our USBC shit.

Courtney: Except for, every Windows, uh, PC that I've had has been like, just so... hot garbage. I keep trying. I keep trying, and I've been unhappy every single time. I bought a like, Dell desktop for the kids, because I was like, no. I'm not spending any more than I have to on you, you sticky-fingered children. And it... to even like, get on like, Netflix is just so like, slobby and just like... it's miserable. It's a miserable experience, and I hate it. It's bad and I don't like it.

Brent: This episode is brought to you by Linux.

Courtney: [laughs] Begrudgingly brought to you by like... y'know what I feel like? I feel like this is a third party conversation. Where it's just like, "This is why we need a third party! I have to go with Mac, because it's the best, but like, yeah, a third party would be great! I'm gonna just keep going for Macs until a third party comes in and does something right."

Brent: Have you ever had a Linux fan boy just talk your ear off about how it's better?

Courtney: I mean, probably, but I wasn't listening.

Brent: Honestly, like, I think, in many ways, it is. It just like... it has that kind of... I mean, third party is a great way to say it. Has that thing of like, yeah, there are many great things about it... but I'm not gonna do it, 'cause nobody else is.

Courtney: [laughs] If the kind of dude who's exact move is to just like, corner me and talk about Linux is talking to me about Linux, I'm one hundred percent not listening.

Brent: Well, my thing against Linux has nothing to do with Linux itself – it has to do with the fact that, back when I used to do video game conventions and perform at them, sometimes, you'd get put in a hotel room with somebody else performing. And so, I was, and I didn't know this guy super well, but I had not slept the night before, literally up all night, all the way through.

Had performed a live show, just me on stage for an hour, and it was like, seven PM the next night, and I just wanted to close my eyes. And this dude... y'know, not everybody's great at social cues, but this motherfucker. Talked to me about the supremacy and superiority of Linux. For like. I shit you not, like an hour on the clock.

And so, I'm sure it's great. I hate it out of principle. I simply despise Linux. Sorry.

Courtney: I'm just not gonna do that with anyone except for my own child. I will listen to her talk about like, why Twilight Sparkle is the best My Little Pony for an hour. And even then, TBH, I'm not really listening. I'm just like, "Yeah? Yeah? Yeah? Yeah? Yeah."

Brent: Ah, you're pulling that whole 'my therapist' trick.

Courtney: [laughs] I feel like this episode's really about how I am a bad mother.

Brent: No! Look, I—I think everyone—

Courtney: I love my children! I just only kind of love My Little Pony!
[laughs]

Brent: I think it's gonna be okay. I think, actually—

Courtney: Those My Little Pony bangers really do slap, though.

Brent: Oh, yeah. I think—so, would you say that they are slappin' bops.

Courtney: They are slappin' bops. [sings] We're Equestria Girls, and we do the boop...

Brent: Slappin' brony banger bops?

Courtney: Slappin' bops. Yeah.

Brent: Slappin' brony banger bops. Say that three times fast, listeners. You can't.

Courtney: Jams, jams, jams, jams.

Brent: Alright. I think you and I are both, like...

Courtney: We're just trying to like...

Brent: We're stalling.

Courtney: We're trying to slap the bops for as long as we can.

Brent: We are. We are.

Courtney: Because we need to.

Brent: 'Cause like... this is what we do. We cover stuff, and it's important. It's just... some stories bum us out, but they need to be talked about.

Courtney: I mean, look. Like, it's... it's modern times. Lots of stories bum us out. Like, that's the world we live in, honestly, where like, most news stories bum us out. Um, I take comfort in the fact that we are not numb. Um, and... and the fact is, there have been 250 mass shootings this year. Um, and... we haven't covered all of them, because at a certain point, it really, truly is overwhelming. And you—like, not all of them have even made the news. I don't think that I've heard about 250 mass shootings this year.

Brent: Yeah. One thing about our show that, y'know, for better or worse, we are Trends Like These. And...

Courtney: Yeah. It's the trending news. It's...

Brent: Yeah. And I mean, like, it's a limitation of the format, but um... y'know, I think that, uh, it is staggering when you hear the numbers, of just how many of these things happen, and... anyway. You wanna... you wanna go for it?

Courtney: Yeah, I think both of these stories, y'know, probably would have, um, amassed a great deal of attention and devastation on their own. But the fact that they came one after another was a big, uh, punch in the gut of the changes that need to be made in this country.

Around 11:00AM on Saturday morning, 21 year old Patrick Crusius arrived at Walmart in El Paso, Texas. And I will be using his name as minimally as

possible. I will be using the shooters names, uh, just... because that's... what I'm gonna do. I'm just gonna say their names, just however briefly, to say who did this.

Brent: Okay.

Courtney: My hope is that we are... being a podcast, we have the luck of like, being a niche enough, uh, piece of media that I think we, uh, avoid the trappings of people trying to get mass amounts of attention. So I feel less inclined to um, giving them that attention. Uh, but that's just—that's a choice I'm making. So if, I mean, if there are concerns about that, I understand them, I hear them, but that's the choice I'm making right now.

Brent: Alright.

Courtney: Um, he arrived at a Walmart in El Paso, Texas, after driving 600 miles from Allen, Texas, to the city on the Mexican border. Which, make no mistake, was the point. He opened fire, killing 22 people, and injuring at least 26. Just 19 minutes before the attack, he posted a 2,300 word manifesto to 8chan, blaming the "Hispanic invasion" of Texas, referring to both "illegal or legal immigrants" as "invaders who have close to the highest birthrate of all ethnicities in America."

The document also espoused a form of eco-fascism, also touted by Tucker Carlson, because, of course, wherein immigration is blamed for environmental issues. This is also a driving force behind the Christchurch shooter.

But the greatest source of this rhetoric is the same rhetoric that stokes the fires of all white supremacists. And as the late, great Toni Morrison said, oppressive language does more than represent violence; it is violence. Does more than represent the limits of knowledge; it limits knowledge. And there is one really big representative of violence and limited knowledge in power right now: Donald Trump.

Crusius seems to be a big fan, posting a picture of Trump's name spelled out in guns. And y'know, just generally supporting the gentleman. Journalist

Brandon Friedman checked the manifesto against Trump's own tweets, and the language is, at times, nearly identical. It wasn't even 24 hours later when another mass shooting took place, this one in Dayton, Ohio.

Around one AM, 24 year old Connor Betts went to Oregon district of Dayton and opened fire, killing nine and injuring at least 27. The first victim of the Dayton mass shooting was a 22 year old trans man, the shooter's sibling. Reported as his sister, and by his birth name.

Now, this is difficult, because Jordan wasn't out. Jordan Cofer is his name. He was not out. His friends knew him as Jordan, and they knew he was trans, but he was not out to his family. So when they mourn and grieve for their daughter, that's the only way they knew their child. When they call Jordan by his birth name, that's the only name they got to know Jordan by.

And Jordan wasn't ready, for whatever reason, to come out, and that should be none of our business. Jordan's brother took that decision away. And I'm glad that his friends are making sure that he will be remembered as Jordan, rather than dying with an identity that he wasn't comfortable with.

By his own words, Jordan was an ace, poly transboy with a loving heart and way too much work to do. And he deserved the chance to do it all on his terms. His brother took that from him, and took from his family the chance to accept and love him. With that, I would like to be spared the 'Connor Betts was a progressive liberal' narrative, just because he seems to retweet, periodically, Elizabeth Warren posts.

Because while the Dayton shooting may not have been politically motivated, it, like the El Paso shooting, was clearly motivated by hate. It was brought about by someone with a toxic, malignant hate. In the case of Betts, he hated women. He hated women so much, he reportedly had a list of classmates he wanted to sexually assault. One classmate said he frequently threatened to kill her.

He hated women so much, he was in a porngrind band that wrote songs about raping and killing women. He hated women so much, he killed his own

brother, assuming him to be his sister. So I'm unmoved by this person tweeting Elizabeth Warren. Spoiler: he's not liberal.

Brent: Yeah. [sighs] It's... there's this desire on the right to make a false equivalence, and um, y'know, that's one thing I'm about to talk about. The teleprompter speech Trump gave. And one of the things he has said about the situation... I think it wasn't in the speech, but it was like, during some kind of press availability in the last few days.

But doing that thing again, that like, very fine people on both sides, but this time, he's talking about like... um, y'know, any hate group. Any supremacist group, he doesn't like. And I think that there's an implication of, perhaps, black lives matter. Perhaps antifa. But antifa doesn't have any murders on their record.

Courtney: Can we, real quick, talk about the fact that I don't think antifa actually exists? It's just like a—it's just a thing. It's just like a... it's not an organized group.

Brent: Correct.

Courtney: It's just like a general, like, concept of people that don't like fascists.

Brent: We had an antifa guy on, uh, after Charlottesville who remained anonymous, and it was a very interesting interview. But I think that, to your point, it is not, uh, organized in a large way. Um, it typically is like, small groups. I mean, I don't want to necessarily glorify it too much, but it feels a little bit more like, I don't know, like the French resistance. Y'know what I mean? It had to be real DL.

And I think, a lot of times, people on the right will like, create fake antifa Twitters. But it's like... one problem with it that we don't need to get too deep into is like, if it's anonymous, then you can't really prove who's what. It's kind of like the occupy movement. Like, who were the—or even black lives matter. Who are the... there is no president of it. There is no central leadership.

Courtney: To me, it's kind of like saying, like... y'know, this white supremacist—and calling them a KKK member. I don't know that this guy's a KKK member. I do know that he's a fuckin' racist piece of shit.

Brent: Yes.

Courtney: But I'm not going to call him a KKK member. But I think that like, anyone who is like, a leftist, they're just like, "He's antifa!" And it's like, no. That's not... I don't think that's... [mumbling]

Brent: Right. Right. Um, so, speaking of Trump, um, he gave a teleprompter speech where, first off, he mixed up Dayton and Toledo, even though the prompter did not say Toledo. But also in the speech, he said, "We must stop the glorification of violence in our society. This includes the gruesome and grisly video games that are now commonplace. It is too easy today for troubled youth to surround themselves with a culture that celebrates violence."

Um, before I even read my copy, aren't you the guy that like, totally encouraged an enormous crowd of people to like, beat the shit out of anybody who was like, not on your team at your rallies when you were running for president? And by the way, there was violence enacted on many of those people. I don't know. Anyway.

Courtney: For what it's worth—

Brent: To say nothing of—

Courtney: Sorry. For what it's worth, Joe Biden also referred to the shootings as occurring in Houston and Michigan. And we don't want that guy to be president, either. So we're not getting—we're not like, y'know, giving him a pass, here. No, we don't want him to be president, either. He is also sucks.

Brent: Yeah. I think Joe Biden has inherent flaws. Uh, politically and ideologically. But also, like, I don't know if this is a problematic phrase, but... I think he's kind of losing it.

Courtney: I mean, this came right after the like, "Go to Joe three oh blah blah..."

Brent: Yeah. Yeah.

Courtney: I mean, he's just... he's just out of his depth. He's out of his depth.

Brent: I think he's starting to slip. Okay. Um, that being said, the whole blaming video games thing... this is the same shit in like, the tradition of people speaking out against rock and roll, or comic books in the past, saying like, they were ruining the youth of America. Making them violent. It is a lazy, inaccurate, and super outdated scapegoat, and it's been proven by, uh... that's been proven by study after study.

Trump also said that people with mental illnesses should face involuntary confinement if necessary to prevent mass shootings. Uh, okay, you first, bud. And by the way, Trump's crusade to repeal and replace Obamacare would only have exacerbated the mental illness problem in our healthcare system. And this is yet another Republican talking point, whenever this shit happens. They say they want to address mental illness, but in no other way, at no other time, do they show that or do any actions that would make you think that.

Courtney: Uh, Hillary Clinton actually tweeted. I really like this tweet. Don't anyone correct me, it was probably someone on her staff. I know that. Y'know, guys, I know. Um, "People suffer from mental illness in every other country on earth. People play video games in virtually every other country on earth. The difference is the guns." Yeah. It is.

Brent: Yep. Yeeep. And I mean... [sighs] I don't know, there's... [sighs] The word 'gamer,' I don't know if I want to apply to myself, but like, my whole YouTube brand is about video games. I'm very connected. I made a video

game. And while my video game is in no way violent, like... if you're play... [sighs] Guys, if you're sitting home, playing a video game, you're not out hurting someone. And like, yeah... anyway, I could go on and on. I'm not going to.

I feel like our listeners basically understand that it's—

Courtney: One, it's this continued idea, like, in all of its forms, where it's... it's the left being the party of being the bigger person. That I'm so tired of. And therefore, that means, like, constantly um, like, giving way to meet in the middle with Republicans, and that just like, brings like, y'know, Democrats more and more center. Because they're just like—

Brent: Right. Well—yeah.

Courtney: They're just like, bending over and like, flopping on their principles just to like, get anything they want from the other side. And it's like, they're not fuckin' doing that. So like, someone just stand strong. I don't fuckin' care if it's gridlocked. At least it's better than like, "Okay, well, y'know, in that case, just like... guns for everyone. Everyone can have a gun."

Also, Trump is trying to—well, Trump, too, but like, y'know. It's fuckin' Trump. But uh, Governor Cuomo in New York has uh, has put forth the need for a mental illness database. And *that* will backfire grandly, and that is a really fucked up, horrible thing. Also, everyone will be fucking on it. 'Cause there's a lot of us.

Brent: I like the idea of some kind of way to track like, warning signs. Um, but I feel like having... for instance, depression or anxiety? I'm sorry, that is not a warning sign. Like, if you think about the statistics, right? If you're gonna say that that's a warning sign, then being a white man is a huge warning sign. Particularly as we've covered before on the show, white man with any history of domestic abuse.

Courtney: Yeah. The most common thing is violence against women. And sometimes, that doesn't necessarily leave a paper trail. Or it's not taken

seriously. Or it's ignored. That's not something that keeps anyone from doing anything. This, uh... Connor Betts. Even the articles about it were like, "Oh, he was the nicest guy in the world," right next to like, "He kept telling me he was going to kill me." It's all based on your perception of what a nice guy is. And what we, as a society, can see as what red flags and warning signs are.

This is weirdly unrela—I swear to god it's related to this. But I actually just—I just watched, uh, I just finished the latest season of Queer Eye yesterday. And the final episode is this guy named Matt. And he was just giving me kind of the skeeves. Like, he just kind of seemed like kind of an asshole. And he talked about his wife leaving, and how he went away for a conference, and while he was gone, his wife took the kids and moved out.

And this was being presented as a very like, victim narrative. And me and my friend sitting there, as two women, went straight to like... well, there's only one reason a woman would do that. It's because she's afraid of him. A woman only leaves, like, when the man cannot find her. She had to leave in secret. She had to escape. And... they didn't... realize that.

Like, there are red flags that I think are very specific to any specific group that is the one that is being targeted. And if you're not part of that group, you're not gonna necessarily realize that.

Brent: Yeah. And as much as I think we all want to believe the people who are nice to us, uh, are universally nice... and as much as I don't really necessarily want to like, sow paranoia about everyone's friends... y'know, Nixon liked puppies. Hitler loved children. I mean, like, not to—that's an extreme thing. Extreme way to put it. But like, the idea that someone was nice to *you*, like... I'm sure Harvey Fierstein was nice to a lot of people.

Courtney: Harvey Weinstein. Harvey Fierstein remains a wonderful, glorious, perfect man.

Brent: Oh my god, Courtney. I'm so—I'm so glad you corrected me. [laughs]

Courtney: My god. I would never.

Brent: [impersonating Harvey Fierstein] "I didn't do it. It wasn't me." Um, yikes. Okay. [laughs] Not to bring too much levity into this segment. I'm sorry. I... anyway. Do we want to talk about Beto?

Courtney: Y'know what? Yeah. This is the most I've liked Beto in...

Brent: Same.

Courtney: Since he was running for... I don't remember what he was running for now.

Brent: Senator in Texas.

Courtney: Senator.

Brent: Um, but like, the thing is, as I've talked about in my debate coverage, I just feel like ever since he started running for president, he has these flowery things he says, like, "We must use liberty to make the spirit of America come back around to a solid foundation." Like, what the fuck are you saying, man? Just tell me a policy. Or at least a... or give me a 'should.' I'll take a 'should.'

Courtney: I feel like, in the case of Beto, there is a... [sighs] Oh god, I'm gonna do that thing again that people get mad at me for.

Brent: Do it.

Courtney: Okay. Real quick. Y'know what, I'm gonna pref—I'm gonna get into this. I'm gonna preface this. I'm always looking for a way to have this conversation. And this actually seems like the perfect time to do it. This specific topic. I don't hate men. I don't lump all men in together. Hyperbole is a necessary tool sometimes, because what I hate is the trappings of masculinity in all of its various forms.

Be it the male entitlement to be superior over, um, other bodies, other races, because that seems to be—like, don't get me wrong, white supremacy exists in women, too. But there is also a patriarchal component of it that trumps that.

And in the case of Beto, I think that this speaks to a very specific white male thing where like, he was treated as a savior, and he thought to himself, like, "Yeah, I should totally be president." And once he felt that, he just kind of started on autopilot.

And I feel like it's what Joe Biden has been doing this entire campaign, too. Like, they—any sense of needing to try went out the window, because they'd already been told that they were great. They were gods. They did not feel they needed to do anything anymore.

And then, once this happened, Beto remembered that, "Oh, right, this is how I really feel. This is what I'm passionate about. I am a person who cares about the state that I live in, and the people that I am supposed to be fighting for." So this is the real Beto coming back, as opposed to this like, yes man rock star that we have basically seen for the last year or so.

Brent: Yeah. Well, I mean, yes man rock star mixed with this like, animatronic, totally polished, but like, polished in that '90s politician way. It's the same thing as when Biden now, two debates in a row, has ended his thing with something about like, y'know, we need to mend the soul of America. And I'm like, that doesn't mean anything!

Courtney: Doesn't mean anything. I feel—'cause my original, uh, my career started in celebrity journalism, so what that means is that I've studied a lot of um, what happens to people when they become famous. And it changes your brain. It changes how you operate within society, and how you function as a human.

And I think that's sometimes what happens with, uh, politicians. Specifically, at times, white men, where they get this idea, like... oh, I think I'm a lot like Jesus! And they just kind of like, take that on.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: And it becomes like a rock star thing, where it's just like, I think I might be a god. And they just go with it.

Brent: Who told Tim Ryan? Who told Tim Ryan he was this kind of god? Like, Beto—

Courtney: Uh, Tim Ryan cancelled his campaign, right? He stepped down.

Brent: Oh, yeah, no, he suspended his campaign. What I'm talking about is, who convinced that guy? Like, I understand that like, there are many, really smart, great people that just aren't quite right for the presidential debate stage. But like, that guy... just, what a numbnuts. Anyway.

Courtney: I mean like, Starbucks guy. You can see exactly how he got there. He's like, "I'm really rich. I'm basically a god now. So I should definitely be president, right?" And no one's—no one's gonna tell Starbucks guy no. That's just how it is.

Brent: Right. Right. 'Cause if they tell him yes, maybe he'll pay them like, y'know, a tiny portion of his money, which is 50 million dollars, to be in his campaign.

Courtney: Yeah. On that note, Succession comes back next week. Everyone watch it. It's a really great show that's kind of on the same line.

Brent: Uh, by the way, this was to set up a piece of audio of Beto that we haven't listened to yet.

Courtney: It's to set up a piece of audio from the show Succession that I want everyone to watch.

Speaker 1: Just briefly, sir, can I just ask? Is there anything in your mind that the president can do now to make this any better?

Beto: What do you think? Um, you know the shit he's been saying. He's been calling Mexican immigrants rapists and criminals. I don't know—members of the press, what the fuck? Hold on a second. Y'know, I—it's these, um—it's these questions that you know the answers to. I mean, connect the dots about what he's been doing in this country. He's not tolerating racism, he's *promoting* racism. He's not tolerating violence, he's *inciting* racism and violence in this country.

So um, y'know, I just... I don't know what kind of question that is.

Courtney: Wow, didn't you guys love that clip from Succession? Wasn't it so good? That was Alan Ruck. He's fabulous.

Brent: Doing his best Beto impression.

Courtney: I'm just kidding. I'm just kidding, it was Beto. I'm just kidding, guys. I know I got you good.

Brent: Now, I wish that like, more politicians spoke this way. And as I've said recently on the show, I think Trump coarsening the discourse, um, has led to a thing that I think is not necessarily bad, which is like, politicians... instead of always using this sort of saintly, almost like, um, I don't know, like, minister-like polish, uh, going the other way. And being like, when it matters, yeah, let's show how much it matters by cursing.

It's kind of stunty still, but I think in this particular case, it comes out of truth. It comes out of reality.

Courtney: Yeah, no one's fighting fire with fire. You have this like, unhinged, like, demon nightmare screaming nonsense, and everyone's like, "Y'know, I think the president is wrong, blah blah blah..." And it's like, no, what we need is honestly someone just screaming like, "What the fuck?!" Like, seriously, 'cause seriously, what the fuck?

Brent: Yeah. Um... I agree. And I don't know if this helps Beto in his presidential, uh, aspirations. But y'know, it's nice to hear him saying something... y'know, he still had to throw in like, the 'in this country,' which

is just like, kind of like you said. Fame changes you, but also, being a politician after a while, you like, have these phrases at the ready that you're just taught to say.

But in general, I'm like, way to go, dude. I'm not gonna vote for you, but y'know, good job, there.

Courtney: Yeah. I won't be mad if you get like, a good job out of this. Like, I want everyone—I want the media to do—like, the New York Times we didn't even include, 'cause there's just been too fucking much. The New York Times... what was that headline that they had? Uh, "Trump Urges Unity Versus Racism." No, he doesn't. Trump is a big piece of shit.

Brent: Yeah, I think, frankly—

Courtney: And the New York Times had to change it, because like, people were so, like... not cool with it, so they changed it to, "Assailing Hate, But Not Guns." And even that's frankly not right. Like, he wasn't assailing hate. He was saying, basically like, 'hate is bad,' but like, he does it. He does the thing. He makes the hate. He like—he got—he got elected on hate! It's a feature, not a bug!

Brent: Yeah. Yeah. And I mean, y'know, I think so often, the right will do things more or less by force, and then call it freedom. Y'know, Mitch McConnell with the uh... well, just in general. Not letting anything get to a vote, if it's good and progressive. Or even sometimes, just like, neo-liberal with good intentions. And also, like the Supreme Court thing.

And to your point earlier about Democrats, like, I think Democrats, at the congressional level, are uh, on average, corrupted enough that they don't actually want to rock the boat that much. So sometimes, they do that thing like, when Willy Wonka just goes like, "Somebody. Stop. Please. Help." Like, they really aren't trying to make any change, they just want to be shown wringing their hands and seeming to, um, decry something.

And this is why I love people like AOC, and like, the squad. Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders, 'cause like... They do want to change things in a

way that, yeah, is it gonna create some instability? Like, in the market? Like, maybe. But y'know what is fucking us and killing us and making us sad? The market.

I mean, I guess I just mean the status quo, but you know what I mean. Anyway. Courtney, do you want to just do one tidbit? Do you want to just do that now?

Courtney: Yes, please.

Brent: Okay. We got one tidbit. And I think it's a positive thing, myself.

Courtney: One little tidbit. Okay, actually... actually, one more thing, 'cause we just didn't have—there was so much stuff, guys. There was so much. There was one more thing that we didn't talk about. The picture of those... 'cause it goes back to the thing I was just talking about earlier, where like, I don't hate men. I fucking don't hate men. Oh my god. There's a man that I'm talking to right now! He's on this show! His name is Brentalman J. Floss, and I love him!

Brent: Hello. [laughs] Thank you for using my...

Courtney: [laughs] Full, Christian name.

Brent: My Christian name. [laughs]

Courtney: But there is that picture that was circulating of those like, just like, twat boys in their Team Mitch shirts, like, violating a cardboard cutout of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. And...

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: That is exactly what I'm fucking talking about. It's just, like... I think there's something about seeing that, where I would assume a lot of women like me looked at that, and... it was... you were tired. You were tired. Because of course. Because of course they were.

Brent: Yeah. There's a whole spectrum of that. Like, with AOC, I follow... I follow conservatives on Twitter, because I need to know what the opposition is saying. I also follow this account called Cursed Boomer Images. It's the kind of thing that your uncle shares on Facebook.

And like, it's... there are really, um... obvious ways for that stuff. But like, with AOC, there are also very, like, subtle ways that still reinforce these narratives, like calling her a 'chatterbox.' That's something that Mark Levin and some of these conservatives love to call AOC. A 'chatterbox.' Which like, would you ever call, like, pre-scandal Anthony Weiner a 'chatterbox'? Or Bernie Sanders a 'chatterbox'?

Courtney: No, and like, I feel this way—it's the thing that I—it was my like, basically my mantra in 2016. It's like, yes, you hate her. Fine. Why do you hate her so much? Like, every time AOC tweets, just look at her mentions. Or don't. If you suffer from any kind of anxiety or depression, I would urge you, don't. Don't do it. Because I do, and it makes me very sad all the time.

But like, the hatred that people have for her... I—it's overwhelming for me, and I am not her. How do you exist in a world, like, where that's just your life? And you still want to... make it better?

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: So yeah, now let's tidbits. Now let's tid some bits.

Brent: Alright. Alright.

Courtney: Ugh. Fuckin' men! Yeah, I said it. I'd say it again.

Brent: I know.

Courtney: Come at me.

Brent: Took me a while—it took me a while to realize how much, uh, "anti-men" tweeting was actually hyperbole, and kind of jovial trolling. Or like, that kind of spicy meta trolling. 'Cause like, there was a time when I

would've been like, "Hey, wait, that's not me! I'm not like that!" But like, y'know.

Courtney: And y'know what, like, behind the curtain, but like, not really, because like, I have to protect my job. But I sent Brent a screenshot today of something I had to deal with in my job. And that's just a—like, this thing that I dealt with, which is just casual, like, sexism to exist. That is... our lives. When you're a woman, or a femme, or y'know, any kind of like, nonbinary person existing in a world where... cis maleness is the default.

And it gets to be so much that you explode. And I'm never gonna feel bad. I'm just not. I'm not. I'm gonna be annoyed. Because if what you hear is, "Oh, Courtney hates men," and not what I'm saying, then you're not listening. And I'm not talking to you anyway.

Brent: Well, there you go. Alright. One tidbit. Ready?

Courtney: Yes, let's bit!

Brent: It's just a tid. Just a bit. This is a tidbit that's actually a good story about Trump. Did Trump do something good? Lol, no. But, y'know how Trump refuses to show his tax returns, because they probably reveal all the things we already know? Um, well, California government Gavin Newsom just signed a bill into law that will require all presidential candidates to submit their past five years of tax returns in order to receive presidential votes in that state.

So, if Trump wants to run in California, he's gonna have to fork 'em over. Now, a few things to think about, before we get too excited about this. First off, Trump is already suing California over it, just as he sues any entity or person who would dare try to expose his probably "very innocent tax returns." But a judge could be like, "Nope, no dice, Trump, you gotta do it."

Uh, Trump could also decide not to even run in the state of California, since he's very unlikely to win, and California's a winner take all state in the electoral college. But, Trump suing the state is telling, and if he decides not to even run there, that will be telling. Probably won't move the needle with

his biggest supporters, 'cause... nothing does. But maybe other states will follow suit.

If one major swing state, like Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, or Michigan decided to pass a law like this, it could seriously affect the election in the Democrats favor. Or at least finally expose and embarrass Trump about this thing that, again, we all know he's a shady motherfucker, and is nowhere near as rich as he ever claimed.

But it would be nice to see it on paper. Y'know, kind of like his long form, uh, asshole certificate. Anyway. Um, just nice to see the state with the most electoral votes in the country give Trump the legislative finger.

[music plays]

Justin: Hi, everybody. My name is Justin McElroy.

Sydnee: I'm Sydnee McElroy.

Justin: We're both doctors, and—

Sydnee: No, just me.

Justin: Okay, well, Sydnee's a doctor, and I'm a medical enthusiast. And we create Sawbones, a marital tour of misguided medicine.

Sydnee: Every week, I dig through the annals of medical history to bring you the wildest, grossest, sometimes dumbest tales of ways we've tried to treat people throughout history.

Justin: Lately, we do a lot of modern fake medicine, because everything's a disaster. But it's slightly less of a disaster every Friday, right here on MaximumFun.org, as we bring you Sawbones, a marital tour of misguided medicine. And remember...

Sydnee: Don't drill a hole in your head.

[music plays]

Speaker 1: I listen to Reading Glasses because Brea and Mallory have great tips.

Mallory: My suggestion for book festivals is just go for one day.

Speaker 2: I listen for the author interviews.

Speaker 3: I was a huge Goosebumps fan.

Mallory: Oh yes. [laughs]

Speaker 3: RL Stein was totally my jam.

Speaker 4: I don't even read – I just like their chemistry together.

Brea: Literally if, on the bag, it said like, "This book made me shit my pants." I'd be like, that's... I'm buying this book. Like, I think the problem with blurbs a lot of the times—

Mallory: I like that we both want to crap ourselves over books.

Brea: I'm Brea Grant.

Mallory: And I'm Mallory O'Mara.

Brea: We're Reading Glasses, and we solve all your bookish problems, every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

Brent: Now it's time for our Wi-Five of the week. Each week, we scour the internet for examples of folks doing good things and being good people, and we choose one or more to whom we'd like to give an internet high five, or Wi-Five.

Well, there's one thing we rarely do for the Wi-Five, and it's hand out the Wi-Five to celebrities. So often, stories about celebrities placed in the uplifting section of a news outlet are like, super fluff. Like, "Robert Downy

Junior places five minute phone call to sick child" or something. Like, not really going above and beyond. I wouldn't think.

But this week, I think it's fair to say a celebrity did something worthy of a Wi-Five. So this week's Wi-Five goes out to Danny Trejo, who you may know from all his roles as villains and anti-heroes in movies like Con Air, Desperado, and Machete. But, recently, he was the opposite of a villain, when he came across two cars that had collided in the outskirts of Los Angeles.

So one of these cars was completely upside down, with a young child trapped inside, still buckled into a car seat. And the story reminded me of a time in 2006 when a car caught fire about 30 feet from my apartment in New York. And by the time I got to it, the entire front seat was in flames. And it was hard to tell if anyone was inside it. And I thought, maybe I should just walk up, just in case I could help someone... but I was too scared the car might explode. And luckily there wasn't anyone inside it, but my point is, it's a huge risk to approach a car that has, y'know, sustained that much damage and has been flipped over.

But Danny Trejo worked together with a young woman who was a bystander to get the boy out of the car seat and out of the car. Meanwhile, the little boy's grandma was still trapped in the driver's seat. So while firefighters worked to free her, Trejo tried to gently distract the little boy, keep him looking away from the scene.

What I found out researching this story is, Trejo works with special needs children. This boy happened to be a special needs child, and Trejo kept him calm by talking about how they would use superpowers and their muscles to save the day, and like... in the end, grandma made it out with no life-threatening injuries. Trejo said, "Everything good that has happened to me has happened as a direct result of helping someone else."

So, to Danny Trejo of Hollywood and the Silver Screen, Wi-Five.

[theme music plays]

Brent: Well, that's gonna do it for another episode of Trends Like These. Thank you so much for joining us. If you like the show, please tell a friend. If you don't, please tell an enemy.

Courtney: [laughs]

Brent: But also, go on Apple Podcasts, iTunes, whatever, and give us a positive rate and review. It really helps us out. Um, and also, uh, the theme song of the show is a ringtone on the iTunes app on your iPhone, or you can also get it for Android at BrentalFloss.bandcamp.com.

And please listen to all the other amazing Maximum Fun shows. You can find them at MaximumFun.org. Courtney, what would you like to talk about in this intro?

Courtney: Well, you can find my stuff at SYFY Fangrrls. You can read me on the site there. You can also hear me on my other podcast, the SYFY Fangrrls podcast, Strong Female Characters. It's great. Y'all are great. You're all wonderful. I think you're wonderful. [sings] I think you're greaaat. Brent's turn. I didn't have a lot to talk about, so I decided to make it a song.

Brent: No worries. Uh, so, I am the creator... sorry, I'm the co-creator and designer of a comedy party game called Use Your Words. It's really fun. We're about to update it on the Switch, which is, y'know, a Nintendo console, as you may know. We are on all the current generation consoles, and Mac and PC via Steam. More information about that at UseYourWords.lol.

And, I am the... gosh, the writer, director, and somewhat unwitting star, now, of a fringe festival production of my Star Trek musical, Khan!!! The Musical!!! Actually, it's Khan, three exclamation, The Musical, three exclamation points. But I didn't want to yell.

Courtney: They are spelled out, though. They are spelled out as words.

Brent: Yes.

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: If you, um, can make it to Philly, in uh, between September 9th and 15th, then check it out. Buy some tickets. It's ten bucks, and I will be playing, uh, James T. Kirk. It'll be a really fun reading of this new musical. It'll be the first time this version has been seen by anyone, and you can get more information and buy tickets at KhanTheMusical.com.

Courtney, am I forgetting anything?

Courtney: Yeah, you're forget—oh, wait, oh, no. Oh, no. [snorts] Oh, no, Brent! Oh, no! [snorting] Oh no, they're coming! [screams] Nooo!

Brent: She done got hogged again. See ya next time.

[theme music plays]

Brent: Four Loko is if Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde were real, Four Loko, the original formula, is what would've actually turned Jekyll into Hyde.

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