

Trends Like These 233: Courtney and Brent LIFE UPDATES, Boris Johnson's Bad Brexit Week, Scarlett Johansson Steps in it AGAIN, Jeremy Renner App Gone Too Soon, Trump Update, Chanel Miller Steps Forward

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[theme music plays]

Brent: This week: Brexit extension passed, a big ol' tid blast, and Jeremy Renner's app, gone too fast.

Courtney: I'm Courtney Enlow.

Brent: I'm Brent Black.

Courtney: And I'm Disney prince, Travis McElroy!

Brent: With Trends Like These.

[theme music plays]

Courtney: Hello, Brent!

Brent: Hello, Courtney, and thank you for saying hello, Brent! Is that a first? Is that the first time you've said the first one?

Courtney: This is the first time I've ever been first!

Brent: Well, that's... the fact that it's the first time is, itself, kind of dumb. I mean, I guess we have a Travis-going-first tradition, but uh... but anyway. I'm glad it happened.

Courtney: The thing about this podcast is that it's deeply misogynist.

Brent: [laughs] Clearly.

Courtney: And... [laughs] Y'know, like, if I can just smash the glass ceiling of this podcast intro... and I think you just smashed the glass of your glass.

Brent: I did. Uh, so, welcome to Not All Men's Like These. It is a weekly roundup of MRA topics.

Courtney: Mm-hmm.

Brent: And uh... that's not true. If you haven't listened—

Courtney: Our first topic: Women. Why?

Brent: [laughs] Uh, we are Trends Like These. Travis, our third co-host, is not on the show this week. He is taking a well-deserved vacation after being a human ping pong ball all over this great nation with live shows and whatnot. So it's me, and it's Courtney Enlow. By the way, me is Brent Black, and we do this show where we are real life friends, talking internet trends.

We take the trending stories that you read on Twitter and other social media sites that go viral, and we try to, uh, explain them, go beyond them, talk about how a lot of them are click bait and bullshit, and tell you what really happened. So... there you go. Now you know.

Courtney: If you don't know, now you know.

Brent: If you don't know, now you know. Um, yeah, that's what you were referencing. It was necessary for me to do that rhythmically.

Courtney: Because misogyny.

Brent: That's right.

Courtney: Because you couldn't just let me have this, could you, Brent?

Brent: Nope! In fact...

Courtney: Nope!

Brent: Let me go against that and let you have this. How you doin'?

Courtney: [gasp] Wow.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: Wow. Wow. Would you ask a man that?! I—I'm fine, thank you.
[laughs]

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: [laughing] How are you, honey-boo?

Brent: Well, gosh. First off, I'd like to point out for the jury, I did ask. I did ask. Okay, anyway. I'm fine. I'm opening my, uh, Star Trek musical, which is called Khaaan!!! The Musical!!! Next week in the Philadelphia Fringe Festival. Because we couldn't find a Captain Kirk, I am playing Captain Kirk in a show I wrote and composed for, that I'm directing. And producing. It's a lot. I'm kind of the Tommy Wiseau of this Fringe Festival.

Courtney: [snorts] Brent is sounding pretty cool and chill and calm right now. But just so everyone knows, Brent is actually like, four tornadoes stacked on top of each other, wearing a trench coat, and has been for several weeks now. And I'm very proud of him that he is managing to even like, exist right now.

Brent: Well, y'know what? I'm taking a page out of your book and Travis' book. If you can do what you do while having kids – and let's be real, going through a divorce. Like, y'know, that's some heavy shit. You got a lot of stuff to do. Travis has, I don't know, 97 podcasts. A kid. Another one on the way. Like, yeah. I launched a new podcast. I updated Use Your Words. I'm doing a Star Trek musical, trying to do Trends Like These. Also kind of like, maybe dating someone new. Oh, that's dropping a bomb. Fuck it! We're already doing it!

Courtney: Ooh, wow.

Brent: Yeah. That's been—

Courtney: Drop that. Droppin' bombs.

Brent: Yeah, that's... that situation is many months old, I just haven't said anything about it. Welcome. Welcome to Trends Like These, the new... the next generation? The new class? I don't know. Um...

Courtney: Yes, I am—you're the Screech who has been—

Brent: [laughing] Ohh, boo!!

Courtney: --on Trends Like These since the beginning. And I am the... I don't remember any of the characters names from Saved By the Bell: The New Class. Except for one of them is Beyonce's sister in law. Or step-sister.

Brent: Oh, yeah. The only person I remember from the New Class is Mr. Belding. Oh, wait, wait, and Screech was like, weirdly the—

Courtney: Screech was his like, assistant principal. And Screech became like... Screech got like a case of the Eric Matthews, but not funny, where they like, just made him stupid and crazy.

Brent: Yeah, it feels like there's a weird connection between adult Screech and adult Urkle. Like, y'know, the later seasons of Family Matters, there's just this grown-ass man being like, "Yeah, I uh, I can drink, I can vote... Did I do that?" Like, just still trying to squeeze it out. I guess I would, too, in his shoes.

Uh, what are you drinking?

Courtney: Well, y'know what? I am so glad you asked. I am really, really glad that you asked, because I am drinking wine.

Brent: A-ha. And would you like to expound on anything else about it?

Courtney: Y'know what's funny is that like, every week, y'all expect me to.

Brent: But sometimes you do!

Courtney: Sometimes I'm full of zigs and zaggle. Um, this is actually—it's CS... and I don't know what the CS stands for, but it looks like a periodic table element.

Brent: Mm-hmm.

Courtney: And it's a cabernet sauvignon, but that's not what the CS is for. Maybe Charles Shaw? Is that too—

Brent: Maybe?

Courtney: Is that Two Buck Chuck? This is not Two Buck Chuck. I don't know. It looks like a periodic table. I just—like, I buy wine because it's... it's pretty, and it's \$14. That is my only criteria for buying wine. It's like, the categories of wine that I like, and it's \$14.99.

Brent: [laughs] I once bought a bottle of wine because the brand name was Josh. And I was like...

Courtney: I—okay, y'know what? My—my boyfriend, Dan... we're just talkin' up our special people this week.

Brent: Uh-huh. Our new squeezes.

Courtney: Because I don't believe that I have named Dan. But my special boy, his name is Dan. And he... he has sung the praises of Josh wine. He has said that he really likes Josh wine. And I just think it's very funny, because its name is Josh, but it is actually pretty decent wine.

Brent: I got introduced to it when I saw it in Target, and I took a picture with the caption, "For when you run out of Jeff." Um, but uh, it's not bad.

Alamos. Just, y'know, they're not sponsoring us, but Alamos, to me... it's an Argentinian wine. It's like, the best red, y'know, for your bang for your buck, IMO.

But I am drinking, uh... full disclosure, I am drinking the beverage of one of our sponsors this episode. It's called Cirkul, C-I-R-K-U-L. And it's basically... I'll say this more eloquently in the ad segment, but it's sort of like a filter that goes onto a bottle you put regular water in. But then when you drink water out of the bottle, the filter puts flavor into it. And you can choose how much flavor or not.

We were not required to integrate into Bevs Like These, but like I've been saying for yours, will a bev just sponsor us?! And now they have. So I am drinking, uh, coconut pineapple flavor at a five out of ten flavor level. And y'know what? It's pretty good.

Courtney: They sent us each a couple of different flavors, and some uh, some bottles to try. They sent us two bottles each, one of our chosen favorite color. I picked purple, 'cause it's my favorite color.

Brent: I picked green!

Courtney: So one is clear, and then one is a color. And uh, I... [laughs] was trying to put the clear one inside of the purple one.

Brent: I was confused, too.

Courtney: Not realizing, they just sent us two bottles. [laughs] I was like, "That's very nice of the good Cirkul people, and I am stupid."

Brent: Can we—no you're not. But can we talk about the cool sound it makes? Like, I follow Juniper Fox or whatever this fox is called on Instagram, and foxes make, uh, interesting, non-dog-like noises. And there's a little air hole in the filter. I'm gonna get real close to the mic and see if you can hear this noise. [small squeaks]

Courtney: Yes! I noticed that! It does that!

Brent: Yeah. I don't know if you can hear that at home, and I don't know if that was a really nasty kind of sound, because... I mean, sorry for the ASMR.

Courtney: I mean, you did just share your air hole with everyone.

Brent: Well... it's literally my money maker. That's my job.

Courtney: Classic Brent, showing off his air hole.

Brent: Check out this air hole. It's what I—it's what I do. Anyway, we'll talk more about Cirkul later in the show. But this coconut pineapple flavor with chilled water and ice cubes in the bottle is pretty good. Um, do we have anything else to discuss before... oh, I guess I should just put a bow on what I said earlier and not be mysterious.

Um, Molly and I broke up in early April. It was amicable. We're, uh... I mean, as friendly as people that don't talk much to each other can be. You should still go to AdoptATribble.com and buy her cool Star Trek crafts, but yeah.

Courtney: She's... y'know what? I got Molly in the break up, because Molly and I have actually stayed very dear friends, and she's wonderful, and she's still a very good friend of the show. Please support her Etsy store. She does wonderful things. Pockets Against the Patriarchy. So she does really great products, so like, y'know... we're all adults here. No one's like, y'know...

Brent: Yeah. She's a great person. It just doesn't always work out, and that's the situ—I didn't want to talk about it right after it happened, so like, y'know. That's the situation. And as much as we are people and personalities on this show and not just deliverers of the news.

Courtney: Well, I think that's a thing, too. 'Cause y'know, we like... I've been very open about like, the fact that I've been going through a divorce. But y'know, my ex-husband and I, like, our divorce is officially official now. But like, we are... the reason we stayed married as long as we did is because we were at our core, like, best friends. That's like, what kept us going when

we frankly should probably have not been married anymore. And we still get along very well.

I think people kind of expect that, y'know, when a relationship ends, it must be like, contentious and painful and bitter. And it's like, no, sometimes... y'know, good relationships don't end. There's a reason that some relationships need to be over, and it's for the best for everyone. So, everyone wins, and now we have cool new people.

Brent: I am for it.

Courtney: Yeah, people.

[theme music plays]

Courtney: Y'know, usually, this time around these here parts, we go Beyond the Headlines. But this week... look. One of us is in Disney World. One of us is in Star Trek Land. One of us is me. She's got her own shit goin' on. She's a disaster. I know it. I've heard about her.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: So we decided, this week...

Brent: Cites a source familiar with the person. Uh-huh. Go on.

Courtney: I have talked to people very close to the girl one, and let me tell you – she's a shitshow. But we decided this week to just fully embrace the chaos, and go full on... wait for it... tid blast!!

Brent: Tid blast!! Yeah.

Courtney: Pow pow pow pow! Pew pew!

Brent: Not just Tid Bits, but we're gonna blast you with our tids, and our bits.

Courtney: We're gonna blast you right in the tids. Aw, man.

Brent: Ka-pow!

Courtney: Pew pew pew! Um... to really kick us off, like... I'm sorry to start on such a sad note. But this week, we lost something really important and beautiful, and frankly, too pure for this cruel, cruel world. To say goodbye doesn't do it justice, so I would like to play it off with a song.

[tinny music plays]

Courtney: Yeah. Uh. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. That was the dulcet tones of Mr. Jeremy Renner. Um, after two blessed years... yes, it existed *two whole years*... Jeremy Renner's app has been shut down. This app was—

Brent: Sad day. Moment of silence.

Courtney: This app was a thing. It was a thing. I still don't really know. I think it was basically Instagram, but just for Jeremy Renner fans? And they paid money to be the biggest fans? But like, a sense—it wasn't hurting anyone. It was just a like—this innocuous, if totally weird thing. But as with all good things, the trolls found it, and the trolls killed it.

What started with light trolling with the word 'porno' and joke pics, turned into people pretending to be Casey Anthony and Jeffrey Epstein, and now Jeremy Renner the app is dead. Long live Jeremy Renner the person! Play us out, Jeremy Renner!

[more tinny Jeremy Renner music plays]

Courtney: I was head banging. You couldn't see it.

Brent: Well, y'know, you brought up Jeffrey Epstein, who is not in one of our tids or our bits, but I just happen, just as a little bonus... hundreds of people could be implicated if court documents in a 2015 defamation case

between Epstein accuser, Virginia Giuffre and Ghislaine Maxwell, his alleged madam, are unsealed.

And honestly, like we've said on the show – I want that to happen! Fuck 'em all! Bill Clinton? Fuck you! Santa Claus? Fuck you! I don't care who it is, I want to know! Bring 'em all down! Bernie Sanders? Fuck you! And I'm serious. I don't think it's him, though. I don't think he actually is a sexual being. I think he's more of a pixie. More of a wood nymph. But anyway.

Courtney: That's the—every time people are like, “How would libs feel if it took down Bill Cli—” Like, fine? Fine? I—hot take, I'm against all child rapists.

Brent: Yeah. Yeah. Turns out.

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: And that just shows you that some conservatives—

Courtney: Is that snowflakey of me?

Brent: It shows you some conservatives – not all of them – are so much into the team sports aspect. And I think the left, by and large, is less like that. There are certainly some Democrats that are just like, “I'll vote blue! Blue or nothing!” And I'm like, that's a good way to vote for somebody bad. But um... I think in general, yeah, the left side of politics is more like... who cares? If we have principles, then we really shouldn't root for somebody that has done these things, regardless.

Anyway, that was not even a tidbit. That was a... that was a bonus, off the cuff, no copy bit that happened to be tid-like.

Courtney: That was a tiderruption.

Brent: Wha—[scoffs] Yeah. Yeah it was.

Courtney: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Well, in fair—Brent did his best. Brent rallied and wrote a whole bunch of copy very quickly. But there was like, some just like, random bits in our doc here that like... it's just like, random... [laughs] Joker trailer. What's up with it?

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: No copy next to it. [laughs]

Brent: Sometimes—sometimes I will like, put a little bit of sass. A little bit of spaghetti on the headlines, just to kind of steer what I think the conversation is. But yeah, it literally says, "Joker trailer: What's up with it?"

Courtney: What's up with that?

Brent: Did you have any like, shoot from the hip thoughts about it?

Courtney: Uh... [laughs]

Brent: I didn't watch it myself.

Courtney: I, uh... [sighs] I... [sighs more dramatically]

Brent: We don't have to do this if you don't want to.

Courtney: I don't... I don't... uhh... My feelings about the Joker movie can best be summed up by Harley Quinn in the new Birds of Prey teaser, where she says, "I am so fuckin' sick of clowns." Same. Same, Harles. Same.

Brent: [laughs] Yeah. I don't know. I haven't seen it, and I don't want to be that Greg Gutfeld douchebag that's like, "Well, having not seen it and only seen one or two headlines and tweets, I've got an opinion." So, I don't have an opinion. The end.

Courtney: I'm just... I'm really done with movies... about damaged men.

Brent: Hmm.

Courtney: Who are so damaged. [laughs]

Brent: This—this niche—

Courtney: That they must go out—

Brent: That niche genre.

Courtney: And do something... do something dark with their damage. Like, we fucking get it. We fucking get it. Jesus fuckin' Christ.

You probably don't know the name Chanel Miller. And that's by design. Because since 2016, we've only known her as Emily Doe, the survivor of Brock Turner. Or as she says in her new book, *Know My Name*, "In newspapers, my name was 'unconscious, intoxicated woman.' Ten syllables, and nothing more than that. For a while, I believed that was all I was. I had to force myself to relearn my real name, my identity. To relearn that this is not all that I am."

Chanel Miller's book will be out on September 24th. It will be a memoir about her experience as she tries to piece together what happened to her that night, based purely on court documents and transcripts, because she was... she was passed out. She was violated by this odious fucking monster, and had to find out, essentially, later what happened to her.

And if you read her victim statement, it was absolutely incredible and powerful, and her book, I think, will probably be the exact same, and I will personally be ordering a copy.

Brent: Word. Alright, well... [clears throat] Now going across the ocean, uh, I was tipped off about this next story by the one and only Dave Bulmer, our Trends Like These UK correspondent. And also, uh, the first guest on my new podcast, Question Box. But anyway, uhh, there is new news about Brexit.

Courtney: I like that you said you were tipped off, as though it's an exclusive. [laughs]

Brent: Well, here's the thing... Dave like, knows that when—he knows that like, when there's little bitty, like, incremental Brexit news, I'm not gonna cover it. But like, he's a listener of Trends Like These, and he just... I got this novel on my Twitter DMs where he's like, "Hey, there's Brexit stuff going on!" [laughs]

And like... So I had to mention him, because even though, y'know, I saw Brexit headlines, he kind of tipped me off that this is not just the same old, like, "Oh, they couldn't get a deal through. Ohh, one of the MPs was mean today." Y'know. So thanks, Dave.

Um, as of now, the deadline for the British version of congress to work out a plan for Brexit, or what they call a 'deal' for how they would leave the European union, is October 31st. Halloween.

A no-deal Brexit is what would happen if Britain just... like, instead of unlocking the handcuffs they're in with the EU and pulling their hand out, a no-deal Brexit is like if they just ripped their arm out of the handcuff, y'know, like, devil may care, just to get it out of there. And all the damage that would happen would be similar to what would happen to your arm if you did that. Sorry if you're eating or whatever, or just not into that kind of stuff. My bad.

Um, so recent documents, secret government documents in the UK leaked, detailing what would happen if they went through with a no-deal Brexit, and it is bad. Like, bad to the tune of, shortages of food, shortages of medicine. Even the government stocking up on *body bags*, because they may not have enough for the number of *people who will die*.

One MP who was basically... y'know, MPs are basically like house representatives, or senators. And one of them is Joe Johnson, the brother of prime minister, Boris Johnson. Joe Johnson quit this week, saying basically, he didn't want to have to choose between politics and family. Well... Boris Johnson, his brother, is now the first prime minister since the year 1894 to

lose his first vote in the House of Commons. And then he lost two more in a row. But he's still vowing by hook or by crook that Britain will leave the EU by or on October 31st.

Well, the House of Commons did pass a Brexit delay bill, meaning that if they can't agree on a deal by Halloween, Johnson will have a chance for an extension, but he'll have to go back to the European Union and beg for one. To be clear, that hasn't passed in both chambers of Parliament, just one.

But, so... like, we'll see on that one. And remember – none of this would've happened if more of the people that wanted to remain part of the EU had just gone out and voted. 72% of the UK voted, which is a lot more of the 61% of eligible American voters who voted in the 2016 election. But the side voting to leave the EU won by only four percentage points, so that could've been swayed if the remainers had turned out more.

So next time there's a national referendum... an election – big, small, federal, local – get out there and vote. It matters who the comptroller is. It probably matters who the dog catcher is. So uh, special thanks to Dave for filling me in on most of that.

Courtney: So, Scarlett Johansen, for whom saying dumb shit has got to be a fetish at this point, did an interview with the Hollywood Reporter wherein she was asked about Woody Allen. As a proud activist and members of Time's Up, she stood on the side of survivors and spoke out against him... just kidding!

She said, "I love Woody. I believe him, and I would work with him anytime. I see Woody whenever I can, and I have had a lot of conversations with him about it. I have been very direct with him, and he's very direct with me. He maintains his innocence, and I believe him." When she was asked if this position on Woody Allen feels like, not great. Not great at this current climate. Uh, she said, "It's hard. Because it's a time where people are very fired up, and understandably. Things need to be stirred up, and so people have a lot of passion and a lot of strong feelings and are angry, and rightfully so. It's an intense time."

That's... that's a lot of nothing. That sure is a lot of nothing.

Brent: Yeah. Yeah. And like... I don't know.

Courtney: People sure do have feelings. They sure do.

Brent: I mean, I know I'm missing the point, but it's like, you could've just said, "I don't really want to talk about that." Y'know?

Courtney: Yeah. I feel like that's an ongoing issue for her. What she should've said was nothing.

Brent: Yeah. At least. That would've been...

Courtney: At the very fuckin' least.

Brent: Yeah. Yeah.

Courtney: Uh, Dylan Farrow, who Woody Allen... assaulted. I mean, legally, allegedly. But like, I believe victims. I believe survivors. Call me crazy. Uh, she tweeted, "Because if we've learned anything from the past two years, it's that you should definitely believe male predators who maintain their innocence without question. Scarlett has a long way to go in understanding the issues she claims to champion."

Scarj, if you want to believe Woody, neat. But here are actual, indisputable facts. Dylan's pediatrician reported Allen to the authorities when Dylan was seven years old. At that point, Allen had already been in therapy for alleged inappropriate behavior towards Dylan, and babysitters had been instructed that he could not be left alone with her.

Three adults delivered sworn accounts on the day of the assault, one of which involves Allen's head in Dylan's lap, facing her body, while Dylan sat "staring vacantly in the direction of a television set." The, uh—one of the babysitters says that she was found not wearing underwear that day. Allen also changed his story about the attic where the assault was said to have occurred, and another babysitter said that the two had disappeared for

about 20 minutes. Meaning that was probably the window that the assault took place.

The judge in the case ruled Allen's behavior was "grossly inappropriate," and that measures must be taken to protect her. The state's attorney said there was probable cause to press charges, but didn't want to put Dylan through a trial, and therefore could not prosecute Allen. Believe that, tree girl.

[theme music plays]

Brent: Trends Like These is sponsored this week by Cirkul, which we mentioned during the Bevs Like These bit of the intro. We all know we should be drinking more water. We all know we should be hydrating. Some people think, "Oh, I'm drinking coffee. There's water in that." Yeah, but it's a diuretic. That's why you're dry. That's why you're scratchy. That's why lots of things.

Cirkul, C-I-R-K-U-L, makes drinking water convenient, fun, and delicious. Like I was saying earlier, it's a convenient water bottle and flavored cartridge system. The bottle has a flavor dial that allows you to customize the amount of flavor in your water. And there's 30 all—sorry, there's over 30 all-natural flavors, including fruit blends, iced coffee varieties... and one sugar free, zero calorie Cirkul flavor cartridge can give you more than six water bottles of your new favorite drink.

Now, as you were saying earlier, Cirkul sent us their product. They sent us quite a bit of it, actually. Very generous. We both got two bottles. I got one in green, and a clear one. Courtney, your colored one is purple?

Courtney: It is purple! And I got some, uh, really cool flavors, like mango grapefruit, and peach tea, and a bunch of different cool stuff.

Brent: Yeah, y'know, I recently on Twitter... I was like... I mean, 'cause look. Let's be real. You know that we on this show are capable of staying hydrated. But, it's not always easy to balance the amount of caffeinated beverages you're having with actual water-water. And I tweeted like, "Why is it so hard for people to hydrate?"

And people were, in large part, saying, "Well, I'm used to flavor in my liquids." Which is a very American thing, but like, I get it. You want to get hydrated. You want to have a lot of water in your body, 'cause bad things happen when you don't. But it's nice if it tastes good. And this is a way, y'know, a calorie-free, sugar-free way to be able to hydrate.

You can take it wherever you want to go. You can switch it out and be like, "Okay, I've been doing my pineapple coconut," which is what I'm currently having, "But maybe I want to do grape. Maybe I want to do this other flavor. Maybe I want it to actually be iced coffee." It is very flexible in that way. And the convenience of not having to carry bottles and cans home from the store is awesome.

And so, now that I've had this for a little while, I feel like the sugary drinks that I might otherwise drink, I don't need. I don't need to be like, "Ohh, I want something sweet. I'll splurge and get a Coke." No. Because it's this sweet alternative that you can take with you wherever you go. All you gotta do is put more water in it, and you still have more of that drink. Very convenient, very cool.

And right now, you can get your own Cirkul bottle plus two flavor cartridges for just five bucks by going to DrinkCirkul.com/Trends, and using codes 'Trends.' Or, in fact, *code* 'Trends.' There's not two codes. Just one. And again, that's spelled C-I-R-K-U-L. That's how Cirkul is spelled. So, DrinkCirkul.com/Trends, code 'Trends' to get your Cirkul bottle and two drink cartridges for just five bucks.

And Trends Like These is also supported in part this week by Dashlane. Alright, let's talk about passwords. Computer passwords, password management... it's not fun. It's complicated, and you go, "Well, I don't want to remember all these things. I don't want—" They always tell you, "Oh, you gotta have a different password for every different thing."

And it's like, really? Can't I just have one? Well, you're not supposed to. Identity theft. Fraud. It's happened to me, it's probably happened to a lot of you. We've reported on this show about countless data breaches where, if

people get your data from one website, and you use the same password on the other websites, they can suddenly be buying stuff with your credit card before you even know it.

Well, Dashlane is a password management app that keeps all your online information safe, secure, encrypted, and easy to access. Dashlane remembers all your passwords so you don't have to. It seamlessly auto fills all your login information, syncing automatically across all of your devices, and it even stores payment details. So you can go ahead and get weird with your passwords, or let Dashlane generate a real stumper for you, like ;ax0E\$carrot&nbv, which may or may not be my password to my Bank of America—I'm just kidding. Um, no.

Courtney: Wow, you're not supposed—you're not supposed to use, like, your pet's name or anything obvious like that, though, Brent. Like, what are you doing?

Brent: [laughs] My pet's—that is my pet's name. It's unpronounceable, but y'know what? It's unique. Um, anyway... I wish I had a dog. That's a different story. We're doing Dashlane. Hi, Dashlane.

Courtney: [laughs]

Brent: The point is, they'll keep your passwords safely stored in a password vault that only you can unlock. Just like my heart. So check out www.Dashlane.com/Trends to get Dashlane free on your first device. As a special offer for Trends Like These listeners, they're even offering a 30-day free trial of Dashlane premium, including VPN, dark web monitoring, and more. If you like it, use codes 'Trends' at check out to save 10% on your premium subscription.

Courtney: Y'know, hiring isn't as simple as putting an ad in the paper or posting to a job board. When Brent and Travis hired me, it's because I just kept showing up. But that's not a sustainable way to hire most of your employees. In fact, it's probably a matter for the police. Luckily, they did not call the police on me.

But when you're juggling hiring with everything it takes to grow your business, it's important that you reach the right candidates at the right time. And that's where LinkedIn comes in. Over 600 million members visit LinkedIn to make connections, learn and grow as professionals, and discover new job opportunities. They make sure your job post gets in front of people with the right hard skills and soft skills to meet your role requirements.

It's no wonder a new hire is made every eight seconds using LinkedIn. With LinkedIn jobs, you can pay what you want, and the first \$50 is on them. Post a job today at [LinkedIn.com/Trends](https://www.linkedin.com/jobs). That's [LinkedIn.com/Trends](https://www.linkedin.com/jobs). Terms and conditions apply.

[theme music plays]

Brent: For this part two of... [clears throat] Tid Blast!! Uh, I'm gonna do a tidbit that is a three part mini Trumpdate, in Tidbit form. Oh my god. Can we do it? Yes we can. Here we go.

Number one! Trump wants his border wall, and he'll try to get it at all costs, I guess so that he can... campaign on and it and say, "See? See? There's a mile and a half of border wall! I did it!" Um, allegedly, he even recently promised to pardon aides who he asked to go around the rules in order to get funding for the wall. Uhh, side note – a judiciary panel has issued a subpoena into looking into whether he broke the law in doing that.

If you remember, Trump declared a national emergency about half a year ago in order to get the wall built, which is a real shithead thing to do. That was around the time that they were all talking about the uh, "Oh, the caravan!" That like, was a big deal before the election, and then suddenly wasn't. Anyway. Fuck this guy.

Uh, the point is, they've now begun the process of cancelling all these military projects in order to—like, okay. So, when he declared the emergency, basically, he did that to get eight billion dollars he wanted to use to build the wall. \$3.6 billion of that was slated to come out of military construction funds. And they've now begun the process of cancelling the projects that that money was supposed to go toward.

Now, let's be clear – I'm not crying any tears for our military. Our military budget is bloated. It is, I think something like 55% of our discretionary spending, when we have people in poverty and all kinds of shit. Like, \$3.6 billion could do a lot of good with education, healthcare, all kinds of stuff. But no, it's going from a military who doesn't really need it, to a border wall that nobody really needs, so that Trump can keep telling his base that he hasn't gotten any complaints about his dick.

Second thing. Um, while speaking about Hurricane Dorian, Trump said, "I'm not sure that I've even ever heard of a category five. I knew it existed." Now, first off, um... you... did that thing where you contradicted yourself in one breath. But also, fun fact: in 2017, he said this of Hurricane Irma, "I never even knew a category five existed." Is he losing his mind? Is he just not very smart? Is he a big fat liar who doesn't even realize how big of a liar he is? I don't know. Can he just fall into a hole into the center of the earth, please?

Okay, and finally... remember how Trump has been talking about a new branch of the military called the Space Force? Well, somebody wake up Buzz Lightyear, because we now officially, per president Trump, have initiated the process of forming that new branch, which is currently being called the Space Command, or SpaceCom. In the official announcement that Trump gave in the White House rose garden, he said, "SpaceCom will defend America's vital interests in space, the next war fighting domain, and I think that's pretty obvious to everybody. It's all about space."

Now... now, look. It is not obvious to anybody that space is the next war fighting domain. What—what are our vital interests in space? Like, I get that like, there are satellites. Sure. But like... if China's not trying to bomb us or invade us or shoot us, you think they're gonna be like, "Yeah, but we'll go up against the world's biggest military and blow up one of their satellites for funsies." Like, this thing is estimated—this Space Command is estimated by the government to cost about five billion dollars per year. But you know the US military. It'll be more than that.

I wish we were trying to figure out ways to fight *less* wars, rather than beefing up the military for... space battles. Or I don't know, colonizing the

moon? It's very silly, and I'm starting to wonder if our president is a bit of a silly man.

Courtney: I'm gonna kick your ass in space, though.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: I just wanted you to know that.

Brent: Thank you.

Courtney: I'm against it, but like... if I get the opportunity... I mean, who wouldn't?

Brent: Uh, answer: me. I've seen gravity. Fuck that. The ground is fine. Sometimes the water, mostly the ground. Fine with it.

Courtney: Space is the—space is the—space is the real war.

Brent: You say that. I think the fact that I've been, every night, rehearsing a Star Trek musical, is like, not really making me want to think about going to space.

Courtney: No, space is a terrible—I feel the same way about space as, honestly, I do the ocean. Where it's like, it doesn't want us there.

Brent: No. No.

Courtney: Like, we should just stay here.

Brent: No. And I love the people that want to talk about, uh, how the universe must be designed because we're in the exact right spot of the solar system for life to be on our planet. And I'm like, well, yeah, but like, 70% of the planet's covered in water. Plenty of it is unlivable without ridiculously advanced human technology. Anyway, this is a soapbox that has nothing to do with the Space Command.

Courtney: And we're only making it more so.

Brent: It's true.

Courtney: [sighs]

Brent: Speaking of the Star Trek show in space, and that stuff, I don't know if anybody listening has noticed this, but... so I'm playing James T. Kirk in the show, and so, for hours every night, I'm... [doing a Captain Kirk impression] Talking like this, and I'm doing the voice. And we're going to space, and the captain's chair, meh.

And the thing is that, after I do that, and during, like, when we take a five in between, or like, for an hour after, and kind of in general lately, I'm talking more like Kirk. So if you notice that, you're correct. That's... that's a thing I'm doing. Mm-hmm.

Courtney: Kirkin' it up.

[music plays]

Jo: Hi, I'm Jo Firestone.

Manolo: And I'm Manolo Moreno.

Jo: And we're the hosts of Dr. Gameshow, which is a podcast where we play games submitted by listeners, regardless of quality or content, with in-studio guests and callers from all over the world.

Manolo: And you could win a custom magnet.

Jo: A custom magnet.

Manolo: Subscribe now to make sure you get our next episode.

Jo: What's an example of a game, Manolo?

Manolo: Pokémon or Medication.

Jo: How do you play that?

Manolo: You have to guess if something is a Pokémon name, or a medication. First time listener, if you want to listen to episode highlights and also know how to participate, follow Dr. Gameshow on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Jo: We'd love to hear from you.

Manolo: Yeah, it's really fun.

Jo: For the whole family. We'll be every other Wednesday, starting March 13th, and we're coming to Max Fun!

Manolo: Snorlax.

Jo: Pokémon?

Manolo: Yes.

Jo: Nice.

[applause]

Speaker 1: Macho Man to the top rope. The flying elbow! The cover! We've got a new champion!

[music plays]

Speaker 2: We're here with Macho Man, Randy Savage, after his big win to become the new world champion. What are you gonna do now, Mach?

Speaker 3: I'm gonna go listen to the newest episode of the Tights and Fights podcast! Oh yeahhh!

Speaker 2: Tell us more about this podcast!

Speaker 3: It's the podcast of power! Too sweet to be sour! Funky like a monkey! Woke discussions, man! And jokes about wrestlers' fashion choices, myself *excluded*. Yeahhh.

Speaker 2: I can't wait to listen!

Speaker 3: Neither can I! You can find it Thursdays on Maximum Fun! Oh yeahhh, dig it!

Brent: Now it's time for our Wi-Five of the week... or is it? Today, I thought I'd do something different. It's a bit darker, but I thought it would be fun to mix it up. Y'know, we're always pulling back the curtain. And we've never pulled back the curtain this far on the Wi-Five.

I just... y'know, we cover the news. And one of the hardest things to find in trending news is uplifting stories that are truly about... what do we say? We say examples of folks doing good things and being good people. Right? So I have a few sources I go to for "uplifting stories," and if I'm lucky, like, one out of 50 of them is actually Wi-Five material.

If the Wi-Five segment draws upon the angel on my left shoulder, um, this time, you're gonna hear from the little asshole with the horns on my right shoulder. So... [clears throat] Here it goes. This is what it feels like to go through these stories.

Uh, number one. "Passenger steps in to fly plane after easy jet airline begs him to help out." Okay, that's a nice thing, but like, the guy is a trained commercial airline pilot. Don't make it sound like Jerry the plumber in seat 24B heroically flew a 747. Next.

"Maid of honor wears T-Rex costume to wedding after being told she could wear anything." Okay, a cute headline. Funny picture. Is this uplifting?

Where is the picture of the very angry mother of the bride? I want to know. I just don't know if it counts as uplifting. Alright, next.

"Maurice the rooster wins court battle over noise with neighbors." Excuse me? I get mad when the construction workers outside my apartment start making noise at seven AM. We're happy for a rooster who is taking years off somebody's life, waking them up at sunrise? Next!

"Tyler Perry delivering hurricane relief to devastated Bahamans." Uh, or Bahamanians. Show me a regular person leaving their day job, taking unpaid days off, to go help the Bahamas. This dude's a millionaire. It's bullshit if he doesn't help. Next.

"Boy who was scared of police buys them donuts." What? Next.

"Child born to brain-dead Czech mother." This is uplifting?! Next!

"Boy born blind paints picture of American flag for President Trump." Okay, you had me in the first half, not gonna lie. Next.

Courtney: No, fuck that!

Brent: Like I said, fuck that. "Bird watchers claim first sighting of brown booby in UK." Fuck you! You ran this story because of the word 'booby'! Next!

"He's a hero: Missouri teen shields elderly woman from pouring rain with his jacket." Okay, that's real nice. That's a nice thing. I think the bar for 'hero' is getting a little low, news media. Next.

"KFC's new plant-based chicken substitute sold out in five hours." Fuck you! Next!

"Police called to shut down kid's lemonade stand buy drinks instead." How low has the bar gotten? Fuck you, next.

"Jefferson County no longer prosecuting most marijuana possession cases."
Wait. Way too many of my Wi-Fives are about how drugs are cool. Fuck.
Next!

"Fourth grader invents device so parents won't forget their baby in the car."
Oh. Hm. Y'know, okay. I like that. It's going above and beyond. It's a girl,
not just another story about some boy genius. It's a device that—oh,
goddamn it, her mother actually made it. Fuck everything! Next!

Courtney: Well... everything's terrible. Even Wi-Five.

Brent: Why, five? Why?

Courtney: [laughs] Okay, can we end on something good?

Brent: Sure, yeah. Go ahead.

Courtney: I don't have anything prepared. [laughs]

Brent: [laughs] Ugh. Yeah. Do you want to just... do you... what are you saying?

Courtney: Uh, let's... I don't know! I don't know, let's like... let's like...
Brent, what made you happy this week?

Brent: What made me happy this week?

Courtney: Yeah!

Brent: Well, I don't... [sighs] I mean, look. What made me happy this week is, okay, this is not news, but fuck it. 'Cause let's be positive. Um, my Star Trek show has a curse where, two shows in a row, we have lost the actor playing Spock. Not lost to death, but like, the actor dropped part way through rehearsal.

And the other day, not to... okay, I'm not gonna tell tales out of school. We'll just say one of the actors who we were really counting on, uh, dropped.

And... he recommended his friend. We opened on that day. What I'm trying to say is, on that day, we were six days from opening, at time of recording. Which, by the way, is Thursday, September 5th. We started around 6:15PM Eastern time.

But on the day that actor dropped, we had six days 'til we opened. And by that night, the replacement, who was his friend, was in rehearsal, learning songs. He's a gem. He's kind of a dreamboat. And he's very game to do the thing. So even though this is in no way trending news, it is, uh... boy, are we lucky.

What about you? What made you happy this week?

Courtney: Y'know what made me happy this week? Lots of things. Just good things. Um, uh... well, I mean, happy's a weird—happy's a weird word. I uh... I like my—I really like, um, all my murders. All my murder shows. All my murder podcasts. [laughs] I don't know why I like them, but they're comforting in a weird way. I just like to be prepared!

Brent: I think that's a prerequisite of being—

Courtney: For all my murders!

Brent: I think that's a prerequisite of being an American white woman. You have to have some kind of true crime in your media diet. Otherwise, you're just not... you're just no true American white woman.

Courtney: I don't like pumpkin spice lattes. I just like murder.

Brent: [laughs] Understandable.

Courtney: It's my—it's my pumpkin spice latte.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: My boyfriend is a lovely angel. I like him a lot. He's meeting my kids this weekend.

Brent: Oh wow, that's big!

Courtney: And Jules is very excited. She's been telling my parents that she's really excited about meeting mommy's friend Dan, and that we're gonna have pizza, and I said, "What if we had Dan over, and we all made pizzas?" And Jules was just like, "Um, you can just order that."

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: So that got taken care of. And I met, um... my ex-husband's new girlfriend, and she's wonderful and lovely, and we ended up hanging out for like, three hours, and she's really awesome.

Brent: Now, here's my question. I can see where that made you happy. That is wonderful. Um, 'cause how lucky for both of you that it's working out like this, holy crap. 'Cause, y'know. But... did—like, did you get a sense that like, was she totally game? Was she totally like, "Yeah, we're in this!" Or did you get a sense that she was like, "This could be weird." Y'know what I mean? Was there like, tension there?

Courtney: Oh, no. She was—she was awesome. She was very much like, "Y'know what, you're the mother of these children. I want to make everything on your terms. I want you to be comfortable, because I'm entering these kids' lives, and I want—I'm not—" Y'know, she was very—like, making me as comfortable as she possibly could, and I felt very comfortable. I was immediately like, I trust my children with this person. I trust, like, that like, this is a really good fit for the person I consider my friend. I just—it was a lovely week.

Brent: That is so great. 'Cause like really, potentially, she's joining the team. Y'know?

Courtney: Yeah. And actually, John and Dan went and got lunch yesterday.

Brent: What? Amazing!

Courtney: So everyone's all just getting along. It was—John had that deal early on. Like, when we had someone that was like, this is serious, this is like, for real, like, we had to meet the person before we could introduce them to the kids.

Brent: That's absolutely fair, and honestly... I mean, I don't want to—I think that's just part of good parenting. So good on ya. That's great. There's your uplifting stories, America.

Courtney: Yeah. Hey, y'know what? Wi-Five to me!

[Wi-Five slap sound effect]

Brent: I'll sign off on that.

Courtney: And the others, too, but y'know, I'm on the show.

[theme music plays]

Brent: Well, that's gonna do it for us for another Trends Like These. This was a strange one. It was a bit petite. It was a bit, uh, unusual. A little bit nebulous in its form. But y'know what? We're glad you joined us. You got a little bit of news about the world. You got a little bit of news about me and Courtney, and a tiny bit about Travis. He's at Disney World. If you're there, um... I would say leave him alone, 'cause he does get recognized in public.

Courtney: Yeah, leave him alone. Please don't bother him. [laughs]

Brent: [laughs] When I visit him in Cincinnati—

Courtney: He's with his child and his very pregnant wife. Leave him alone.

Brent: Yes. Yes, please. They are not actually Disney characters on the lot. They are uh, people. But um, though, if there's any friend of mine I can think of that would be adaptable into a Disney character, Travis is right up there.

Um... but yeah, so, Courtney. Would you please tell our listeners stuff about what you're doing, where they can find you? Pretty much whatever comes to mind, really. Let it fly. Let your info flag fly.

Courtney: You can find my stuff at SYFY Fangrrls. We are celebrating 'back to cool month', and we are doing, um... basically celebrating nostalgia that is like, cool now. So like, Cary Elwes was in a fuckton of movies in the '80s and '90s, but now he's back! He's doing Stranger Things. He's gonna be in Black Christmas. Stuff like that.

And um, I did a thirsty, thirsty retrospective today that you can read. Um, but we're also doing live tweets most nights of different movies. I believe it's Cary Elwes this week, next week is Nic Cage, and then it's, uh... Will Smith, and then Jamie Lee Curtis. I know that I'm doing Mandy next week. So join me for that at the SYFY Fangrrls Twitter account.

And yeah, that's pretty much what I—oh, and you can listen to my other podcast, Strong Female Characters, with my friend Preeti Chhibber, who was just announced as authoring, in addition to the Spider Man tie in novel that came out this summer that I told y'all about, she is now writing a, uh, a young adult Avengers novel. So look forward to that. I'm so proud of my blessed angel.

Brent: Nice! So, that being said, I have stuff to tell y'all. I am, in fact, starring in, writing, directing, and producing the staged reading of Khaaan!!! The Musical!!! If you're a Trekkie, or even you're not, it's written, um... it's written with non-Trekkies in mind. It's not some big inside joke fest. It's meant to be very accessible for all the people that get dragged along to the show by their Trekkie friends.

Um, the point is, if you live in Philly, you can see it live by going to KhanTheMusical.com. Tickets are only ten bucks. But, most of you don't live in Philly. You can still watch it, 'cause I'm, uh, paying a lot of money to have a high quality video of the performance made with good audio so you can hear it, you can see it, it'll probably have subtitles optional.

And uh, all you gotta do if you want to watch that is uh, support the Indiegogo that's helping me offset the show, and that is at tiny.cc/khanthemusical. And that [khanthemusical](http://khanthemusical.com) is all lowercase. Tiny.cc/khanthemusical. A ten dollar donation. The perk is that you get access to the video. So uh, please do that.

And also, um, I have a new podcast called Question Box. Courtney's gonna be a guest, and we now have a date set for next week to record it. It is—

Courtney: Hell yeah! I'm probably gonna talk about my butt!

Brent: I mean, honestly, yeah. We're... Kate, my co-host, is the one that curates the questions, but uh, they're anonymously sourced, and like, I don't know, I'm tempted to be like, "Ask her this." That's not in the rules of the show.

But the point is, it's the game show podcast of shockingly personal questions. There's already been an episode with Travis. There's already been an episode with Dave Bulmer, our UK correspondent, as well as some other cool people like YouTube's Proton John, Mega Ran, uh, Bex from Bex Talks Sex, and uh, if I forget the other one, that's not nice. Merritt K, who is the editor of Fanbyte.

Anyway, QuestionBoxShow.com, or you can just get Question Box on pretty much any podcast platform, and we're adding more all the time. I think that's gonna do it for us for another Trends Like These. Courtney, am I forgetting anything?

Courtney: Yes, you forgot...

[tinny Jeremy Renner music plays]

Courtney: Yeah. We gotta jam to Jeremy Renner. That's the only way I'm closing the show out. Uh. Uh. [sings along] Yeah.

Brent: Alright. And now the music for our outro comes in, thanks to Mustin, and we will see you... next time.

Courtney: But it's our special Jeremy Renner outro, so...

[some horrendous mash up of the theme music and Jeremy Renner plays]

Brent: Okay. We're flubbin'. We're flubbin' the flubs. Okay.

Courtney: [sings] Flubbin', yes indeed. I'm flubbin'.

Brent: [laughs] That topical 1950s Fats Domino humor you all love out there.

Courtney: Thaaat's me!

Brent: Um... yeah.

Courtney: For the children.

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