

00:00:00 Stuart Host On this episode we discuss *Slenderman*! Don't worry—the plot is a little... thin?! [*Giggles.*]

00:00:10 Music Music Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments. Plays for several moments, then ends.

00:00:37 Dan McCoy Host Hey, everyone, and welcome to *The Flop House*! I'm Dan McCoy.
00:00:39 Stuart Host Hey, I'm Stuart Wellington!

00:00:41 Elliott Kalan Host And over here, it's Elliott Kalan! And I can see my cohosts right in front of me, in person! What's this all about?

00:00:46 Dan Host And what's the improved sound quality about? What's that all about?

00:00:49 Elliott Host Yeah! It's almost like we're in an actual recording studio! Stuart, are we in an actual recording studio?

00:00:54 Stuart Host Elliott, yes, we are! Dan, where are we?

00:00:57 Dan Host [*Dan laughs.*]
[*Through laughter*] We're in Max Fun HQ. This is, uh, recorded right after—the day after our LA show?

00:01:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Which, uh, you'll hear—years from now. Okay.

00:01:08 Elliott Host **Stuart:** I mean, normally when you're—sorry to interrupt, but normally when you—sorry to interrupt, but normally when you, uh—
There's suddenly more interruptions somehow, even though we're all in the same room!

00:01:10 Crosstalk Crosstalk [*Dan laughs.*]
Dan: Seems like—

00:01:12 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Sorry, uh—
Sorry to interrupt, but, uh, when you're playing a game of hot potato, Dan you gotta keep moving that hot potato.

00:01:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** I pass it to you so—it's fine. Now, let's get to business.
Dan: Okay. Okay, uh, well I was—okay—

00:01:20 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Dan, I'll just say it.
Max H—Max Fun HQ—our Max Head-Krum, as it's also known—

00:01:24 Dan Host [*Dan laughs.*]
Uh—[*through laughter*] I forget what I was gonna sa—oh, you know. We just thought, why not do it—

00:01:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —right for once.

00:01:31 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Okay, so—we—we were—
—recording a show in Los Angeles—

[*Stuart laughs; Dan assents.*]

—we did a live show last night, and so now we're recording it at MaxFun headquarters 'cause we're all in the same city.

[*Stuart and Dan assent.*]

Here in the beautiful American cement building right next to beautiful McArthur Park, where yesterday, we saw a pair of ducks—

[Stuart laughs.]

—eating a baby! Or whatever Jesse says at the end of *Bullseye*.

[Dan and Stuart both laugh.]

00:01:48 Dan Host Yup. *[Laughs.]*
00:01:49 Elliott Host Remember—every radio star has a signature start-off or whatever.
00:01:52 Dan Host Nope. *[Laughs.]*
00:01:53 Elliott Host It's the opposite of what he says, I guess.
00:01:55 Dan Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]* Okay. Well... I guess... that—that's good for the Venn diagram of people who listen to us and *Bullseye*, but not the rest of the audience.
00:02:03 Elliott Host You're right, Dan. We're usually pretty good about making jokes only—

[Stuart laughs.]

—the general populace and *[through laughter]* who—

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:02:09 Stuart Host —who will not feel excluded from.
00:02:09 Stuart Host Yeah, yeah, yeah. Only, uh, you know, only the broadest of comedy.
00:02:13 Dan Host Guys, what month is it?
00:02:15 Stuart Host *[Sighs, then speaks in an annoyed tone.]* I don't know, Dan. What month is it?
00:02:18 Elliott Host It's so month!

[Stuart laughs.]

00:02:21 Dan Host In a way that—is that what you're going for?
00:02:21 Dan Host It's Shocktoberrrrr!
00:02:22 Stuart Host Oh, okay. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott and Dan laugh.]

00:02:24 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Where we—watch horror movies.
00:02:25 Stuart Host Yeah?
00:02:27 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** For this podcast that we do.

00:02:29 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Well, 'cause what do we do on this podcast, Dan?
00:02:29 Elliott Host I feel like you went to chapter three and—when you skipped chapter two!
00:02:32 Stuart Host Well, you gotta make sure the book's good, dude! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:02:35 Dan Host I think somehow the professionalism of our environment is bringing our *[through laughter]* professionalism down.
00:02:41 Elliott Host I think so. Yeah, we keep waiting for the real hosts to come in.

[Dan assents.]

Speaking of hosts, on this show, that's us—what do we do on this show as the hosts?

[Dan chuckles, then coughs.]

00:02:50 Dan Host *[Stuart and Elliott both break into wild laughter.]*
Perfect! *[Clears throat.]* You threw it to me right when a cough came on.

00:02:53 Elliott Host Jordan, do not cut that out!

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

Please, keep that in. So Dan—take four, I think—what do we do on this podcast?

00:03:01 Dan Host We watch a bad movie and then we talk about it.

00:03:03 Elliott Host And what month is it?

00:03:04 Dan Host It's Shocktober, when we watch horror movies in honor of the *[spooky voice]* spooookiest *[regular voice]* month of the year.

00:03:09 Elliott Host Now, what makes October so spooky?

00:03:12 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:03:12 Dan Host Um...

00:03:12 Stuart Host Uh, I think it's 'cause, uh, you just start going back to school and you got this mountain of homework—

[Dan assents.]

—and you also have to—also have to manage that with your, uh, your extracurriculars?

00:03:22 Dan Host There are all those leaves you have to rake?

[Elliott assents.]

And they're dead and so you have ghost leaves all around you?

00:03:27 Elliott Host Yeah. The ghost leaves are hanging on the trees.

[Dan and Stuart agree.]

Yeah, of course. That makes sense. Also, you gotta wear a jacket. And what's scarier than that? Having to wear a lightweight jacket?

00:03:36 Stuart Host That is—that was my favorite thing about Trick-or-Treating in the Midwest. Was, uh—*[through laughter]* was no matter what, I was a—I had to, like, prepare for *[through laughter]* co—cold weather.

00:03:45 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:03:46 Dan Host So you were a ghost wearing a jacket, is what you're saying.

00:03:48 Stuart Host Yeah. I think I stole that from somebody on Twitter. I'm sorry.

00:03:50 Elliott Host Yeah, but the person on Twitter was doing—uh—I hope un—unwittingly, a Jerry Seinfeld joke from about 15 years ago. So.

00:03:57 Stuart Host Okay. So, yeah! Like—I—uh, you know, I stole from somebody. Um—

00:04:01 Elliott Host Look, we're all stealing from somebody.

[Stuart assents.]

We—man stole fire from the gods!

[Dan laughs wildly.]

When Prometheus gave it to us—

00:04:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** I mean, when you're—you're blaming—

Dan: I'm stealing from my local bank! *[Laughs.]* What? *[Laughs.]*

00:04:11 Elliott Host
00:04:13 Stuart Host
Elliott: What? *[Laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Hold on.
Wait. So wait. Did—

[Dan giggles.]

—was Prometheus involved with your bank, too?
00:04:16 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, he—he banks with Prometheus Bank.
00:04:18 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Oh, wow.
00:04:19 Elliott Host Where he takes gold from Zeus and gives it to customers!
00:04:22 Dan Host Uh... Stuart's been staring at his notes for *[through laughter]* a while. I think he's raring to go.
00:04:27 Stuart Host Oh, no. I'm—uh, I'm just scrolling through Instagram right now. Oh, okay. Another post from Dan, huh. Cool.
00:04:32 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* Re—while he's hosting the show. Amazing.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:04:35 Dan Host What?
00:04:35 Elliott Host Okay, so.
00:04:36 Stuart Host So tonight, if you, uh—
00:04:38 Dan Host Tonight? *[Laughs.]*
00:04:39 Stuart Host Toni—I—I've—figured I'd set the mood 'cause it's a spooky show.
00:04:43 Elliott Host Yeah, it's less scary if people know that it's 1:45 PM where we are right now.

[Dan chuckles.]

00:04:48 Stuart Host Uh, so tonight we're gonna be talking about a little movie called *Slenderman*.
00:04:53 Elliott Host A very little movie.
00:04:54 Stuart Host Um... very... skinny. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott and Dan laugh appreciatively.]

Okay, just kidding. It's a normal movie. Uh, but it—

[Elliott bursts out laughing.]

—y'know, does feel kind of slim.
00:05:05 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* It's a normal movie.

[Dan and Elliott laugh.]

00:05:07 Stuart Host So—
00:05:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Such as you might find at your local Redbox.

Elliott: It—

00:05:09 Elliott Host It's not like those scenes in, uh... what's that show with Julia Roberts where it's about the returning veterans?
00:05:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Where some of the scenes—

Stuart: *Homecoming?*
00:05:16 Elliott Host *Homecoming*, where some of the scenes are shot with a—in a narrow aspect ratio. It's not like that.
00:05:23 Stuart Host Uh... wait, what?

00:05:25 Elliott Host *[Dan giggles.]*
 Forget it. Never mind.

00:05:26 Stuart Host Okay. So—

00:05:26 Elliott Host Not worth it.

00:05:27 Stuart Host Um—*[laughs.]* So, just to let everybody know, uh, up front that I watched this movie on a MacBook Slim. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott giggles.]

00:05:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Through laughter]* In honor of the movie. *[Laughs.]*
Stuart: Oh, man.

Elliott: *[Through laughter]* And it was—you were liter—and—

Dan: *[Through laughter]* Was it that, or was it because you were on a plane watching it?

00:05:41 Stuart Host I was on a plane.

00:05:41 Elliott Host And you were on that plane with Fatboy Slim. *[Laughs.]*

[Stuart bursts into laughter; Dan chuckles.]

00:05:44 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah.

00:05:45 Elliott Host Former recording star.

00:05:46 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* I thought he was fucking in heaven?

00:05:47 Elliott Host Uh, yeah! On a plane!

00:05:48 Dan Host Okay.

00:05:49 Stuart Host Okay. So. The movie opens and we are introduced to a group of teen girls in Small Town, USA. I am not sure if it's mentioned later, but is it—are we in, like, New Jersey? Did they say Clifton a couple times?

00:06:04 Elliott Host I—guys, I couldn't keep track of where the movie took place. I couldn't keep track of who the characters were or what their names were.

00:06:10 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** The characters were pretty damn interchangeable.

Stuart: Okay, well there's—their names are—

00:06:14 Stuart Host Hallie, Chloe, Wren—like the bird—and Katie—like the person. *[Laughs.]*

00:06:19 Elliott Host Not—it's not "Wren" like the cartoon dog.

00:06:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** The only—

Stuart: Not like Wren the cartoon dog. Unless the subtitles were incorrect on my version of the movie.

Elliott: They weren't—they weren't, like, guys, we gotta—

00:06:27 Elliott Host No, I think—'cause it—I don't remember any scenes where they're like, we should call up Slenderman. And he's like, *[sinister voice]* nooo, why would you do that?

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:06:33 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* Oh, wow.

00:06:33 Dan Host I sort of—uh—

[Stuart and Elliott laugh.]

00:06:35 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* You been working on that one in—in advance of the podcast?

00:06:37 Elliott Host Uh, not really.

00:06:38 Dan Host I actually—I told them apart by being, like, okay, there’s the one that’s a little punkier than the others. Then there’s the one who is played by one of the girls from *Bunheads*, starring Sutton Foster.

00:06:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I haven’t seen *Bunheads*.

00:06:50 Elliott Host **Dan:** And then there are the two others!
Okay. I—I spent so much time be—there’d be, like, we gotta find Hallie! Where’s Kelly? I was like, wait, I thought that was Kelly.

[Stuart laughs.]

00:07:01 Stuart Host Hold on a second! Which one is Wren? I just couldn’t—I could—it took me a long time to get their names straight.
Yep. That’s when the nightmare is completely engulfed you. So, uh, we see our, uh, our friends walking through school—

[Elliott laughs.]
[Through laughter] They’re our friends? *[Laughs.]*

00:07:10 Elliott Host

00:07:11 Stuart Host *[Stuart and Dan laugh.]*
Yeah, they’re our friends, immediately! They’re great! So they’re walking through school and they’re having that conversation that, like, all teen kids have in this kind of movie when you know they’re doomed, where *[through laughter]* they’re like, “We’re gonna live forever!” I think their—the game is, if you could be any age forever, what age would you be? And of course, they’re like, I would be 21! Or I’d be 30! *[Through laughter]* And then one—one of them says—I’d be the age we are right now. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:07:40 Elliott Host That allows you to assume what—uh—age they’re talking about.
Um—

00:07:44 Stuart Host And then Bruce Springsteen pops in and plays “Glory Days”?
They bump into a group of a group of teen boys that are kinda like the Omega to their Alpha?

[Elliott laughs.]

00:07:51 Dan Host They’re the exact pairings of each of them. Um—
And... they—unless I’m wrong, basically do not reappear in the movie. Like, they—

00:07:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —pop in, like—

Elliott: One of them does.

Stuart: Well, Tom shows back up.

00:07:58 Elliott Host **Dan:** Yeah.
Tom—Tom—play—is as rich a secondary character as exists in this film.

00:08:03 Dan Host Mm-hm. Yeah.

00:08:03 Stuart Host Yeah! I’m such a fan, I joined the Tom Tom Club! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:08:06 Dan Host Okay, well. You’re a genius of love!

00:08:08 Elliott Host And how do you—how do you join—
[Dan laughs.]

00:08:12 Dan Host —how do you become a member of the Tom Tom Club?
[Through laughter] Well—well, you gotta collect a whole bunch of box tops and Marlboro miles and you send ‘em in. *[Laughs.]*

00:08:16 Elliott Host It helps if you have a pretty bitter relationship with David Byrne.
[Dan laughs.]

00:08:20 Stuart Host So, these teen boys, uh, we get a little bit of, like, you know, friendly verbal sparring. Uh—

00:08:26 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** I think our—

00:08:27 Elliott Host **Elliott:** It’s basically—
 —a non-singing version of the, uh, Top That! scene in *Teen Witch*.
[Laughs.]

00:08:30 Stuart Host Exactly. And—and—Hallie, our heroine, uh, is asking Tom about what they’re gonna be doing later and he’s like, it’s a secret.
[Dan laughs.]

And if I told you this secret, I could tell it to you but I’d have to kill you. And I’m like, that’s a weird thing to say when you consider this is a movie about people seeing a secret thing and getting killed.
 Uh—

00:08:48 Elliott Host I don’t know the characters know that at this point, though.

00:08:50 Stuart Host Uh, I mean, it’s similar—it’s that kind of irony where, like—or it’s like when the narrative—the metaphor of the narrative kind of bleeds into the story itself? Like, in the opening, uh, opening chapter of *Ulysses*, where Buck Mulligan is holding this, like, silver cigarette case, and there’s an emerald in the middle of it and it’s a symbol of, like, uh, this English man holding Ireland in the palm of his hand. You know. You know what I’m talking about.

00:09:13 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah, yeah. Exactly. Sure. Dan, I have never read *Ulysses*.
[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:09:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** So—

Dan: Why would you?

[Stuart and Dan laugh.]

00:09:17 Elliott Host I don’t know. I heard it’s pretty goo—it’s—Stuart sounded—I heard there’s a guy in it who has a cigarette case—

00:09:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** That sounds pretty int—

Stuart: I think his name’s—
 —*[through laughter]* Buck Mulligan *[inaudible]*.

00:09:23 Stuart Host Yeah, so he’s, like, a porn star, probably?

00:09:25 Elliott Host *[Dan and Stuart laugh.]*

00:09:29 Stuart Host Probably, or a famous golfer. *[Laughs.]*
 I mean, he—I think he begins, like, wearing a bathrobe. Like, he opens the—eh, whatever. Okay.

00:09:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** So, uh—

00:09:34 Elliott Host Elliott: Okay. Dan, you know—
—I love stories about people who wear bathrobes.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

It's why—I've never been a reader of *Playboy*, but I followed Hugh Hefner's exploits, 'cause I admire that he always wore a bathrobe all the time.

00:09:43 Stuart Host Uh—so—
00:09:44 Dan Host Comfort first!

[Elliott laughs.]

00:09:44 Stuart Host We get some scenes of home life. Uh... Hallie's parents are concerned about—we get some, like, concerns about teen pregnancy or teen—teen partying?

00:09:53 Elliott Host Like in many movies, their dining room table is extremely dimly lit, and they only have one light that's on above the table. The kitchen—that I assume is next to the dining room area—completely dark.

[Someone laughs.]

As if they have everything they need on the table, and they will not need to get up and get anything from the kitchen. Which—I don't know about you guys—is a very unrealistic depiction of dinner.

00:10:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk Elliott: In my vie—in my book.

00:10:15 Stuart Host Stuart: *[Through laughter]* Yeah, yeah, yeah.
Like, I feel like any moment, like, a naked Axl Rose could wander in—

[Elliott laughs.]

—off of the set of—what was that—“Don't Cry”? *[Laughs.]* Um, okay. So. We're also introduced to Hallie's younger sister, Lizzie, who clearly wants to join in with the older girls who only seem slightly older than she is. Uh, the t—

00:10:33 Elliott Host I actually thought they were the same age for a little bit.
00:10:35 Dan Host And Wren's the one who kinda like encourages a little bit? I mean, like, it's not—

00:10:39 Stuart Host Yeah!
00:10:39 Dan Host —her sister, but she's like... yeah, you're a—y'know, she wants to be the cool, like, older friend.

00:10:45 Elliott Host Yeah.
00:10:45 Stuart Host Um, and, uh... Wren and all the—all—all of our, uh, all of our friends—I spent the whole time trying to remember what other things that I've seen these young women in. And they've all been in a number of other shows.

00:10:57 Elliott Host Oh, yeah.
00:10:57 Dan Host I wanted to say, uh, in this early going, um—I mean, there are few things I liked about this movie? To spoil it, like... which—which are surrounded by, like, some of the most, sort of, generic horror-movie filmmaking, but—

00:11:09 Elliott Host I mean, this movie does feel like it is the horror movie demo that comes with your DVD player?

[Dan laughs.]

Where it's like, does your TV work for horror—hurr-horror?

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:11:26	Dan	Host	Does it work for horror also? Does it work for horror? 'Cause it—well, let's try it out with this—with this disk. I, yeah, I guess it meets the minimum national requirements for horror.
00:11:45	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	But uh, in these early scenes, I kinda liked—despite the fact that the movie's very bad at differentiating this characters, like we've said—I did feel like the movie had this kind of weird... [long pause] semi-verite mumblecore thing going on where, like, it was shot in a slightly different way, like, following— Dan: —these kids than a generic... teen...
00:11:47	Elliott	Host	Elliott: It's a very—it's a very quiet, subdued—
00:11:50	Dan	Host	It's like, if eighth grade was a horror movie at times?
00:11:50	Elliott	Host	Yeah.
00:11:58	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Like, a quiet, subdued—as opposed to like, [determined voice] <u>guys</u> . We've gotta do this thing! Come on, Hallie! That would be <u>crazy!</u> Elliott: Like, it's not—
00:11:58	Dan	Host	Dan: Yeah. It's— —not super glossy and fake. Like, it seems like maybe some of the—
00:12:01	Elliott	Host	[High-pitched note indicating dissent] It feels pretty fake.
00:12:02	Dan	Host	Well, but it seems like some of the dialogue might be, like, semi-improvised and, like, they have, like a good rapport with e—I don't know. I'm—I'm looking for gems in the—in the—in the chaff, but—or but—but—
00:12:13	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Dan: I feel like— [Coughs.] Elliott: Gems in it—what—who threw those gems in the chaff?
00:12:17	Dan	Host	[Dan and Stuart laugh boisterously.]
00:12:18	Elliott	Host	[Through laughter] But—I'm just saying that— [Through laughter] Dan, you're working on some sort of farming mine?
00:12:20	Dan	Host	[Stuart laughs.] If the script had been better—
00:12:22	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Dan: —the style— Stuart: Well, he's stolen the—he's stolen the gems from the Duke's men.
00:12:28	Stuart	Host	[All three laugh.] He's gonna return for them later.
00:12:29	Dan	Host	I'm just saying, if the script had been better, this style of doing a horror movie would've been interesting. It's something that I haven't really seen for this kind of teen horror movie.

00:12:36 Elliott Host Yeah. Like a teen mumblecore horror movie. Yeah. Whereas, it— but there’s just not—there’s nothing really going on. So at times it— so what should have been, like, a kind of endearing subtlety?

00:12:45 Dan Host Yeah.

00:12:45 Elliott Host Becomes, like—uhhh, so is this a movie?

00:12:48 Stuart Host What—what—what happens next? I’m not sure!

00:12:50 Elliott Host It’s—it’s like the boyhood of horror movies. Where you’re like, uh, am I—so is this a scene, or—

[Dan chuckles.]

00:12:57 Dan Host —like, I don’t understand.

00:13:04 Elliott Host Yeah. I agree with you about boyhood, but we are not endearing ourselves to, like, the larger, uh... audience right now.

00:13:04 Elliott Host Hey. I don’t—I don’t wanna be popular, I just wanna be me. But I also wanna be popular. Guys, do I feel like boyhood, to be liked?

[Dan and Stuart chuckle.]

00:13:10 Stuart Host It’s great! I love it, I guess!

00:13:12 Elliott Host I don’t... think so...

00:13:12 Elliott Host No, no, everybody’s talking about it all the time, according to Dan.

[Dan chuckles.]

00:13:14 Stuart Host People are big fans of stunt casting and Ethan Hawke performed?

00:13:20 Elliott Host Well, I mean, I guess I am a fan of Ethan Hawke performances. Ethan Hawke and his stuntman! Whoever—

[Stuart laughs.]

00:13:24 Stuart Host —they cast in that part. Yeah!

00:13:25 Elliott Host Uh... so—the—

00:13:25 Crosstalk Host So what are they gonna do—

00:13:25 Crosstalk **Elliott:** —when they hang out?

00:13:26 Stuart Host **Stuart:** So—so our teens—
—are all hanging out. They’re, of course, drinking. Uh... they’re staying at Katie’s house. Katie’s dad is passed out drunk upstairs. They’re, uh, goofing around, looking at stuff on the old internet. They decide to be like that group of boys, ‘cause they heard a rumor those boys are going out into the woods and they’re summoning a guy named “Slenderman.” *[Laughs.]*

00:13:45 Elliott Host Mm-hm. And this is not Hiram Slenderman

00:13:48 Stuart Host Nope.

[All three laugh.]

00:13:50 Elliott Host Who I assume is a tailor.

00:13:51 Stuart Host Yep. So they—

00:13:52 Elliott Host Actually, his name would be, like, Chaim Slenderman. Not Hiram.

00:13:54 Stuart Host So they, uh, they—*[laughs]*—they go to a website and they—

[Dan laughs.]

00:13:58 Elliott Host They just google Slenderman, right?

00:14:00 Stuart Host I do kind—yeah, and I kinda like that the website looks... like, kinda crappy, like an actual website. It’s not, like, I dunno, what, *Swordfish*, where—*[laughs]*—

[Elliott and Dan laugh.]

00:14:10 Crosstalk Crosstalk —you're like, let me—let me get onto the internet—
Stuart: And then the lights are flashing across their—

00:14:12 Stuart Host **Dan:** You're saying—yeah.
—Chrome faces. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliot and Dan laugh.]

Uh, so they, uh, yeah. They don't have, like, four, like, digital avatars that are floating—

[Elliott and Dan laugh.]

00:14:24 Dan Host —through the cyberspace. *[Laughs.]*
00:14:26 Elliott Host A bunch of cubes they have to connect to do something.
You've gotta collect the 14 digital keys to unlock the Sle—
[giggles]—Slenderman portal!

00:14:31 Stuart Host So they—yeah. So they're looking at this thing and, y'know, they see a couple people on this forum mentioning it, and then there's just a link that says "Summon Him," so they're, like, fuck it, let's click—

[Dan laughs.]

—click this link! And it leads them to a video, which I'm assuming was *[through laughter]* uploaded by Slenderman.

[Dan and Elliot laugh.]

Uh, and they watch a video that gives them some instructions. They have to listen for bells, they have to close their eyes. Uh, your usual urban legend crap. And the, uh—and then when they open their eyes, their eyeballs are bombarded with a series of, y'know, kinda cliched flashing images.

00:15:03 Elliott Host *Ringu*-type stuff, yeah.

00:15:05 Dan Host Now should—I'm sorry should we take a—should we pause for a moment—

00:15:07 Elliott Host Let's go on a tangent about Slenderman.

00:15:09 Dan Host Yeah. That's what I was gonna say. Let's talk about this Slenderman fellow.

00:15:12 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** The Slenderman is a slender reed on which—

00:15:15 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Not an original creation for this, uh...

00:15:16 Dan Host For this movie.

[Laughs.] He—well—it—in it—an original creation of the internet. A new urban legend, a new—

00:15:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** It's a—

Stuart: Like a flying spaghetti monster? Type thing?

Dan: Yeah.

00:15:27 Elliott Host Yeah. Say—it's a digital urban legend. Whi—it feels like someone was going out of their way to create a... Jersey Devil or, um, uh, what's the—

00:15:35 Stuart Host Micah—

00:15:36 Elliott Host The one that movie just came out about. Uh, about the—that's a Latin American evil spirit.

00:15:41 Stuart Host Curse of Lla—uh—La Llarona?

00:15:42 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah, yeah. Like, that—they wanted to—they're like, much—the internet—let's just face it.

00:15:46 Stuart Host Or like a Mothman, or—uh—

00:15:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Yeah, like—

Stuart: It's—

00:15:49 Stuart Host Does it fall under the subheading "Creepypasta?"

00:15:52 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Uh—yeah, let's say that.

Dan: Yeah, it does.

00:15:53 Elliott Host It does. It's—the internet thinks it—it can do anything better than real life does. And so they're like, why should we make do with all these analog cryptids? And analog urban legends that suck? When we can have Slenderman—an all-original, digital, 21st-century urban legend, who is a very thin guy in a business suit—

[Dan chuckles.]

—which is frankly what loses it for me.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

The idea that he's a monster from another dimension or whatever but he wears a suit is stupid. That it's like... oh, he's a—look, he's gotta look real cool. So that, like, a hipster can dress up like him, in a skinny suit. He has no face, and at times he seems to have a tree body or a tarantula body—but anyway, he's just like a tall thin guy in a—he's basically David Bowie.

00:16:33 Stuart Host And—

00:16:33 Elliott Host He's a tall thin guy in a suit who steals children.

00:16:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** And what's—

[Stuart laughs. Dan joins in.]

Elliott: He's David Bowie.

00:16:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** *[Through heavy laughter]* What are you saying it's just like David Bowie.

Elliott: If David Bowie didn't have a face, he'd be Slenderman. Just like David—ah, let's just say, though, that the movie doesn't seem to quite figure out what Slenderman is? And I think that that is partly kind of a symptom of... the internet Slenderman? Which is this crowdsourced story. So, like, everyone out there has kind of a—who has written a Slenderman thing, kind of does a different thing with Slenderman.

00:16:39 Stuart Host

00:16:59 Elliott Host Well—it—they're trying to—they're trying to create—immediately—what usually takes decades or centuries. Which is li—suddenly you have a character like the Jersey Devil—doesn't exist, I'm from New Jersey—the only real Jersey Devil is, of course, Bruce Springsteen.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:17:14 Dan Host Sorry, guys.
00:17:14 Elliott Host Oh, wow.
He's—he's driven many to their—to their doom with his powerful music and his promises. *[Laughs.]*

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:17:21 Stuart Host Of riches. Beyond the Garden State.
Yeah. The—the promise that you can be a sad guy in a bar and everybody else will still think you're pretty cool.
00:17:27 Elliott Host Exactly. When in reality, they don't. Uh—so—the Jersey Devil's this creature that has existed in legend for a very long time. Probably not as long as the legend is said to be? But it has accreted over many years both a solidity in terms of the land—the landscape? The mental landscape of the state? But also, like, lots of weird details and lots of regional dif—differences and things like that. But they kind of arose semi-organically from people hearing the story and then—
00:17:52 Dan Host Yeah.
00:17:53 Stuart Host —remembering it wrong or whatever, telling their children about it. Where with Slenderman, they're kind of like... let's do all that, but really fast.
00:17:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah. So—
00:18:00 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Let's like—
—let's li—let's fake it. And so, yeah, it comes off as kind of a mushy character.
00:18:03 Stuart Host And his thing, like, I mean, like—
00:18:05 Elliott Host There is a textbook about him! In the movie!
00:18:08 Dan Host Yeah.
00:18:08 Elliott Host About—about bioelectricity and what—we'll get to that, I guess.

[Stuart laughs.]

00:18:11 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I mean—insomuch as anyone—

00:18:13 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah, we're gonna get—
—to a textbook about bioelectricity.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:18:15 Dan Host In—insomuch as anyone agrees about Slenderman, the kind of basic parameters is he mostly targets children; he sort of—he either spirits them away or drives them mad. And... his motives are deliberately left vague.

00:18:31 Elliott Host So in the movie, it's similar. They know that he either takes you, drives you mad, or kills you. Why? *[Dramatic intonation]* Bum bum bum. Because these are *[singing to tune of David Bowie's "Young Americans"]* young Americans! Young Americans!^

[Stuart laughs.]

00:18:44 Dan Host It's David Bowie, guys. *[Laughs.]*
00:18:46 None Guest And I, just, like—very quickly I wanna touch on something—
And—and—I'll say this—he does this to *[singing]* Young Americans!

[Stu chuckles.]

00:18:50 Stuart Host 'Cause he's afraid of Americans!
00:18:52 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Oh, yeah. Yep.
00:18:53 Elliott Host Uh—I—I wanted to touch—
[Singing to the tune of David Bowie's "Space Oddity"] Ground control to Slenderman!
00:18:56 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Oh, yeah, I love it.
00:18:56 Elliott Host *[Singing]* You're taking all the kids.
00:18:59 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Uh-huh. Yep.
00:18:59 Elliott Host *[Singing]* But why do you wear a necktie if you're a monster?
00:19:05 Dan Host Uh—
00:19:05 Elliott Host How do you—

[Dan laughs.]

00:19:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —tie that necktie—
Dan: Hot dammit.
00:19:07 Elliott Host *[Singing]* With those fingers? *[Laughs.]*
00:19:11 Dan Host Um—
00:19:11 Stuart Host I mean, I figure it'd be extra good at it 'cause he's got these super-long—
00:19:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Stuart—
Stuart: —supple fing—
00:19:14 Elliott Host But he can't see in the mirror. He doesn't have eyes.
00:19:16 Dan Host I can't see the, um... the window. How is our engineer Jordan reacting to Elliott's singing?

[Everyone laughs.]

00:19:22 Elliott Host Just loving it, I think.
00:19:23 Stuart Host Oh, wow, she's filling out her last will and testament.

[All three laugh.]

00:19:26 Elliott Host That says give everything to Elliott. *[Laughs.]*

[Stuart laughs.]

00:19:28 Dan Host Though I wanted to say, too, I just—quickly want to touch on this as quickly as possible and move on. Uh, content warning. Like, so there was a stabbing related to—to Slenderman where, uh, one young girl stabbed another young girl several times. They had been sort of obsessed with this character, and this movie came out four years after that?

And a lot of people were kind of, like, upset that this movie came out? Because of this real-life violence, uh, stabbing. And um... and I—and I—I did a little reading on the production of this movie, and this movie was sort of cut down to get a PG-13 rating, but reading between the lines it seemed like a lot of stuff was maybe cut out, too, so as not to like—

00:20:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Be too close to that case?

Dan: —evoke that too much.

00:20:10 Dan Host And so that is also part of why this movie feels so weirdly disjointed and things don't seem to follow other things.

00:20:15 Elliott Host So you're saying it would be tasteless of me to now do my "Slenderman Who Sold The World" parody?

00:20:21 Dan Host *[Stuart and Dan laugh.]*
Yeah.

00:20:22 Stuart Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
W—wow, yeah. That's a lot of work to get Elliott to stop singing.
00:20:25 Dan Host Yeah.
00:20:26 Stuart Host Um—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:20:28 Dan Host Okay, yeah. Yeah. I mean, that's—
00:20:29 Stuart Host That's obviously fucked up.
00:20:30 Elliott Host Yeah.
00:20:35 Dan Host So they—so—yeah. It's—and it's tasteless of the filmmakers to—to—maybe—if—if they intended to exploit that.
00:20:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk I didn't wanna dwell on it, but I feel like it's worth just mentioning briefly.
Elliott: But then again—

00:20:39 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Again, that kind of—
—Fyodor Dostoyevsky wrote a novel that was inspired by a real murder. Is he exploitative?
00:20:44 Stuart Host Uh—probably! *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]
00:20:45 Elliott Host Okay. Yeah. Maybe.
00:20:47 Stuart Host Um—the—
00:20:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I mean, he got his just desserts.
Stuart: —just 'cause—just 'cause it-
00:20:49 Dan Host He's dead now.

[Everyone laughs.]
00:20:50 Stuart Host Yep. I mean—
00:20:51 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* The curse of that—
00:20:52 Stuart Host Just c—just 'cause it happened a long time ago doesn't mean it's not bad. *[Laughs.]*
00:20:56 Elliott Host Yeah. Good point. Good point.
00:20:57 Stuart Host Um—well, that actually sheds a little bit of light on to the most likely tacked-on monologue at the end of the movie. But we'll get to that. So they watch this video and then they're like, oh, that was weird! Or whatever. Uh, let's watch a movie!

[Dan laughs.]

And I'm like, yeah! Let's watch a movie!

[Elliott and Dan chuckle appreciatively.]

00:21:12 Crosstalk Crosstalk But nope, we don't—
Stuart: —get to put on—
Dan: They've seen *Slenderman*. *[Laughs.]*

00:21:13 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs enthusiastically.]*
In—in—instead we—*[laughs]*—instead we get a time jump. Uh, one week later. Uh, all the girls have been having, uh, nightmares. Uh, they're all kind of like... their nightmare fantasies are kinda starting to bleed into their real life. Uh, they go on a school trip to a historic cemetery—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:21:32 Elliott Host —in Clifton?
Because it's Shocktober for school, I guess!

00:21:37 Dan Host *[Dan and Stuart laugh, agree.]*
00:21:40 Elliott Host *[Coughs.]* My ghou-friend was watching this and she was like—
I can't believe that she lets you call her your ghou-friend.

00:21:42 Dan Host *[Dan laughs.]*
She encouraged it. Um—she's like, what kind of—*[laughs.]* Like—
[coughs]—what kind of, uh, yeah. School trip is just to a—a—
cinemat—cemetary? Like—like, she was like, asking me what
school trips I took. I'm like, um, mostly the science museum?

00:21:57 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
00:21:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk I mean, if—if there—if it's a historic cemetery and like the town—
Elliott: —founders—

00:22:00 Elliott Host **Dan:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
00:22:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk —are buried there—
Dan: Yeah.

00:22:01 Stuart Host **Elliott:** Or like—
00:22:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk Yeah, if they take you to a cemetery and—
Stuart: —they're like, this is—this is the cemetery—

Dan: Jim Morrison's buried.

00:22:04 Stuart Host **Elliott:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
—that they shot *Return of the Living Dead* at.

[Elliott and Dan laugh.]

I'd be like, awesome! Thanks, Teach!

00:22:09 Dan Host *[Elliott chortles.]*
[Through laughter] Otherwise I'd have to learn about *Return of the Living Dead* on the streets!

00:22:11 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs enthusiastically, continues laughing as Stuart talks.]*
Yeah. Then—then me and my buddy Chainsaw would go back to summer school. Um, okay. So, uh... uh, Katie, uh, one of the—one of our friends, uh... goes missing? Suddenly? It's a kind of interesting edit, because all of a sudden, like, she's looking off into the woods, and then all of a sudden we flash forward to later in the day with, like, the police looking for this missing girl. Um—

00:22:36 Elliott Host It's very confusing. It's like there's a little touch of *Picnic at Hanging Rock* there. Not enough to make it impressive, but it's like—for a moment, you're like, wait, what happened?

00:22:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Like, what? If she's—

Dan: Mm-hm.

Stuart: I mean—
On some level I appreciate—
Yeah.

00:22:45 Stuart Host
00:22:46 Elliott Host
00:22:46 Stuart Host —um—it—it, y'know, kept me on *[through laughter]* my toes. So good on ya, movie! Um—

00:22:50 Elliott Host Your slender toes.
00:22:51 Dan Host Mm-hm.
00:22:52 Stuart Host So, uh, shortly afterwards, her drunk father, uh... we—scares Hallie by breaking into her home at night? Uh, while she and her sister Lizzie are alone. She, uh, he breaks into her home while very drunk and blames Hallie for involving hi—his daughter in the occult? It's a kind of a weird scene to see this, like, drunk grownup assaulting these two young women? *[Laughs.]*

00:23:17 Dan Host But I was also like—how does he know that that happened?
00:23:19 Elliott Host Well, because when they eventually go to her room, it's full of occult stuff.

00:23:23 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Oh, okay.

Stuart: Uh-huh.
It's full of the evidence.
It's an evidence bedroom.

00:23:24 Stuart Host
00:23:24 Elliott Host
00:23:25 Dan Host Hey, guys, I just realized! Uh—we're sort of involving Hallie in Shocktober.

00:23:31 Elliott Host By having a character named Hallie?
00:23:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** *[Through laughter]* By having a character named Hallie.

Elliott: In the movie?
I—I just wanted to say—like, uh—
And I get—and so she finally saw *Ghost!* Good on ya, Hallie!

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:23:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk The Slenderman! Does Slenderman count as a ghost? I don't know.
Dan: I know that a lot of listeners are probably—

Stuart: I mean, it's—it's ghost-adjacent.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:23:43 Dan Host A lot—a lotta listeners are probably miss—missing Hallie? Uh, she was very busy for a while, uh, being in charge of Wyatt's show. And then, uh, I think it's fine to say—she had a kid! So she's very busy now. But I hope—

00:23:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** We hope to have her back. Yep.

Elliott: I mean, she—she was—pregnant and gave birth.
It's not like a kid was—it's not a *Baby Boom*-type situation.
Stuart: No, a stork brought it— *[Laughs.]*

Dan: *[Through laughter]* Right.

00:24:02 Dan Host **Elliott:** Where it just got dropped in her lap. *[Laughs.]*
Yeah. But like—I just—I—y’know. We—we hope to have her back,
but it’s—it’s harder than in the past.

00:24:08 Stuart Host So, uh, mm—thanks for that digression.
00:24:11 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** No, that’s good that—that—

Dan: Well, I mean—

00:24:12 Elliott Host **Stuart:** No, I’m joking.
It’s good that pe—that our listeners know that the Hallie in the
movie is not the Hallie who has been on this show.

00:24:16 Dan Host Yeah.
00:24:16 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
00:24:16 Elliott Host Nor is it Halle Berry.
00:24:17 Stuart Host No.
00:24:18 Elliott Host Who has also been mentioned on this show a few times.
00:24:20 Stuart Host Um...
00:24:21 Elliott Host Nor is it Halley’s Comet, which is not a person. But instead a big
ball of ice that flies through space.

[Long pause.]

00:24:26 Dan Host Hm.
00:24:27 Stuart Host Okay.
00:24:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Let me adjust my notes—*[laughs.]*

00:24:30 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Nor—nor is it Les Halles—the, uh—
—the former restaurant home of the late Anthony Bourdain.
00:24:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Uh—uh—do you have a chart—

Stuart: Let me—
—*[laughs.]*
—that explains this? I feel like—*[laughs.]*

00:24:34 Dan Host I do. Let me pull it out here. Now, these are the halls of medicine.
00:24:35 Elliott Host They’re not actual halls. *[Laughs.]*

00:24:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** The halls of medicine?

Stuart: Let me—
Stuart: Let me delete all—let me delete the, uh—

00:24:44 Elliott Host **Dan:** Now are the halls of medicine the cough drops?
00:24:47 Dan Host Yes, that’s exactly. Uh, it’s a misuse of the word “halls.”
[Chuckles.] Okay. *[Laughs.]*

00:24:48 Elliott Host *[Dan interrupts frequently to agree with Elliott.]*
Now here’s Arsenio Hall, famous late night host. Interviewed Jason
once. It didn’t go that good. *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

00:24:55 Stuart Host I, uh....
00:24:56 Elliott Host Now here’s Arch Hall Sr. and Jr., the director and star of the movie
Eegah.

[Dan laughs at length.]

00:25:01 Stuart Host Yeah, I guess under...

00:25:02 Elliott Host And of course, there's Anthony Michael Hall, who is, of course, the son of Anthony Hall, I assume. I don't know how names work.
[Laughs.]

00:25:09 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Under, uh... under "goofs," I guess I should just remove the "Halley's Comet isn't a teenager."

00:25:18 Dan Host *[All three laugh.]*
Incorrectly regarded as a goof.
00:25:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* No, no, incorrectly, yeah.

00:25:21 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Yeah. *[Inaudible.]*
No, uh, there—an unfiled prologue explains—
[Stuart laughs.]
—that she began life as a comet.
[Dan laughs.]

00:25:27 Crosstalk Crosstalk And took human form—
Elliott: —to learn what life is like. *[Laughs.]*

00:25:29 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Splashed down to earth, yeah.
So, uh... after—after this scary moment with, uh, their friend's drunken father, uh, our remaining teens decide to become amateur detectives—
[Dan laughs.]
—and they, uh—
[Elliott laughs.]
—trick her father into, uh, being distracted? Like, he's asleep on the couch, and they wake him up to distract him so they can break in. It's, like... why'd they have to wake him up? They coulda just broken in. So they break in and sneak into their friend's room and they're like, "Oh, the—where's her laptop? The police must have taken it for evidence!" And instead there's a whole bunch of drawings of Slenderman strewn about? And then they just find her laptop hidden.

00:26:03 Elliott Host Yeah.
00:26:04 Stuart Host So it appears like the police took nothing for evidence. *[Laughs.]*
00:26:08 Elliott Host And also that the movie is wasting our time.
[Dan laughs.]

00:26:11 Stuart Host Yeah. Uh—
00:26:12 Elliott Host Unless it's supposed—
00:26:13 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —to be that she—

00:26:14 Elliott Host **Dan:** I mean—
—hid her computer from everybody else, but it's—it's just a waste.
00:26:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** And it is—

00:26:16 Dan Host **Dan:** And I'd argue—
[Through laughter]—that the entire length of the movie is wasting our time.

00:26:19 Elliott Host Now, Dan. You're skipping to final judgments.

00:26:22 Dan Host *[Dan laughs.]*
[Through laughter] I mean—it's not wasting our time because we've made sort of a business out of this—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:26:27 Elliott Host —but other listeners. *[Laughs.]*
 Listeners, if you are not watching this movie in order to record a podcast that you make a little bit of money from—

00:26:31 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah.

00:26:32 Elliott Host —I would say, maybe don't bother watching it.

00:26:34 Dan Host Yeah.

00:26:35 Elliott Host But! That's for final judgments. Maybe Slenderman will change our minds.

00:26:38 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
 Now, one thing I do like about Slenderman is that—

00:26:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan and Elliott laugh boisterously.]*
Elliott: The movie, or the man?

Dan: *[Through laughter]* He's a—he's a generous lover.

00:26:45 Stuart Host **Stuart:** The man. *[Laughs.]* Yeah.
 I mean, we're gonna go into the pros column now.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:26:49 Dan Host Uh, we'll say—there's some obvious cons. We'll get to those.
 Mm-hm.

00:26:50 Stuart Host But under pros, I like—when somebody's kinda been bitten by the Slenderman bug—they immediate—they immediately develop a little taste for some artwork. *[Laughs.]*

00:26:57 Elliott Host Oh, yeah!

00:26:59 Stuart Host And they begin, uh... scritch and scratching like mad.

00:27:02 Dan Host They discover a previously unknown talent!

00:27:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh-huh.

00:27:04 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Well, they should've—
 —called this movie *Slendermuse*.

00:27:06 Stuart Host And it feels kinda weird because you would think—with this, like, modern, uh, tech—techno-savvy type bad guy—they would be—
[laughs]—they would be making all these pictures of, uh, of him in what—CAD and like—

00:27:17 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah, with a—made out of emojis and stuff?

00:27:20 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah.

00:27:21 Elliott Host No, but it's good old-fashioned pen on paper. Now, Dan—

00:27:23 Dan Host Uh-huh.

00:27:23 Elliott Host Let's—okay. Let's—how would you pitch the movie? It's *Titanic*—

00:27:26 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yep.

00:27:27 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Mm-hm.
00:27:28 Dan Host —but instead of Kate Winslet, it's *Slenderman*.
00:27:30 Elliott Host Uh-huh.
00:27:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk And he inspires Leonardo DiCaprio to draw him like one of his French girls.
Stuart: *[Laughs.]* Mm-hm.

00:27:33 Elliott Host **Dan:** Yeah.
00:27:36 Stuart Host But Slenderman I don't think can take his suit off!
It's kind of hard, also, I think—well, I mean, I was gonna say it's hard to, uh, draw Slenderman? 'Cause he's got that sort of faceless quality—
Dan: —that makes-

00:27:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** It's very easy to draw—
00:27:44 Stuart Host Easy to draw, yeah.
00:27:45 Elliott Host Yeah. The hardest thing to draw is the human face.
00:27:47 Stuart Host Well, the hands. If you've tried to draw hands.
00:27:49 Elliott Host Mm, the feet. I think feet are—
00:27:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —even harder to draw than hands.

00:27:52 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Feet are—yeah, make it—
00:27:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk —uh, look like they're actually standing on something is—
Stuart: —pretty—

00:27:55 Elliott Host **Elliott:** And the penis—
—is hard to draw without it looking goofy.

[Dan laughs.]

00:27:58 Dan Host But just let's just say the hardest thing to draw is the human penis.
00:28:00 Crosstalk Crosstalk You know, I was doing, uh—
Elliott: —'cause it's naturally goofy.

00:28:01 Elliott Host **Dan:** —life drawing for a while?
00:28:01 Dan Host Okay.
00:28:04 Stuart Host And I showed my progress to, like, friends and they're like—
00:28:05 Dan Host Yeah?
[Through laughter] Wow, you really emphasized the female nipples and the male penis on these drawings. I'm like—I—not intentionally!

00:28:12 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I just—

Stuart: Yeah! I mean—

00:28:14 Elliott Host **Elliott:** No, no. You happened to have life drawing models—
00:28:15 Dan Host —with very pronounced nipples and penis!
00:28:16 Stuart Host Yeah.
Yeah! I mean, you wanna show respect to your muse. *[Laughs.]*

[Dan and Elliott laugh.]

00:28:20 Dan Host They're baring it all, I might as well, y'know.
00:28:22 Stuart Host Yeah. Uh...
00:28:23 Elliott Host Also, do the same! And that's why you were kicked out of that life drawing class, for drawing in the nude. *[Laughs.]*

[Stuart laughs.]

00:28:29 Stuart Host To this day, one of my favorite life drawing moments was when—
because we went to—

00:28:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —a small school, uh—

00:28:35 Stuart Host **Dan:** Oh, come on, Stuart. *[Laughs.]*
Oh—oh—oh—oh—

00:28:36 Dan Host I know where this is headed. But you can go.

00:28:37 Stuart Host No. Uh, it's fine, Dan. *[Laughs.]* Uh, I won't have a digression. Uh, I'll just stick to the plot!

00:28:42 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Like you always tell me to do.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:28:44 Dan Host **Dan:** I feel like it's—
—insulting to me. That's the reason I'm...

00:28:45 Stuart Host No. It was a story about—

00:28:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —how, like...

00:28:48 Stuart Host **Dan:** Okay.
Every, uh... 'cause we knew everybody in our class.

00:28:51 Dan Host Yeah, that's right.

00:28:52 Stuart Host And—uh—*[laughs]*—um, my roommate, uh, like showed up from, uh, showed up to class one morning very hungover, and a friend of ours—who—or, at least a—an acquaintance of ours who was the model—

00:29:04 Dan Host Mm-hm.

00:29:06 Stuart Host Uh, started posing for gestures, and his first pose was this, like, crazy one? *[Laughs.]* With it, like, end up spreading his butt?
[Laughs.]

00:29:13 Dan Host Mm-hm.

00:29:13 Stuart Host And my buddy's just like—ugh. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

[Through laughter] He left for the rest of the morning.

00:29:18 Dan Host Oh, boy.

00:29:19 Elliott Host Now here's something—I've never been in a real-life drawing class. So is it like in TV, where they walk out wearing the flimsiest of robes—

00:29:24 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:29:25 Dan Host Yeah.

00:29:26 Elliott Host Just like, a—the thinnest of kimonos?

00:29:27 Dan Host Well, not—well, yeah! A lot of them, yeah.

00:29:30 Elliott Host It seems like it doesn't give you a lot of coverage.

00:29:32 Dan Host Well, I mean, you're gonna be nude in a second.

00:29:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I don't know—

00:29:35 Dan Host **Elliott:** Yeah, but you wanna make it a big reveal.
[Laughs.] I don't—I don't think you understand what the model's job is.

00:29:38 Elliott Host I would come out in kind of, like, a Mysterio-style cape.

[Dan laughs.]

00:29:43 Dan Host That covered my whole body, and then I'd fling it back!
[Laughs.] What if—what if you had a couple smoke machines?

00:29:44 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** You'd—yeah!

Elliott: Yeah!

00:29:46 Dan Host
00:29:47 Elliott Host
00:29:48 Stuart Host

Dan: And you started playing—
—y'all ready for this? *[Laughs.]* And—
Yeah, yeah. Then I play that.
You'd—you'd fling it back and you'd be wearing a sweatsuit underneath. And underneath you'd be wearing a full-body, uh, like, Green Man suit.

00:29:55 Elliott Host
I'd keep taking those things off and each time I'd be like, okay, now you'll get to see it. And I—

[Someone giggles.]

—and then I'd be wearing clothes underneath and I'd be all, "Uh-uh!"

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:30:01 Dan Host
00:30:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk

And then the teacher's like, class is over.
Dan: It took too long.

Elliott: *[Laughs.]* Then I'd be like, "\$50, please!"

[Stuart laughs.]

00:30:04 Dan Host
00:30:05 Stuart Host

Yeah.
Okay. So. Uh... we—oh man. So they—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:30:10 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Elliott: So they found his lap—

Stuart: —start to follow up—
They found her laptop.

00:30:11 Elliott Host
00:30:13 Stuart Host

They start following up on her internet history. They find a website that her—uh, that Katie was visiting. Uh, there's—they find a whole bunch of pretty well-edited and shot little Slenderman videos, right?

00:30:22 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Dan: Mm-hm.

Elliott: Yeah, yeah.
They literally look like a good—good piece of work of professional people trying to make amateur Slenderman videos.

00:30:24 Elliott Host
00:30:30 Stuart Host

They're—*[laughs]*—uh, they're reading all the comments on there, and one of the—one of the girls says, "It's like they're comparing experiences!"

[Elliott laughs faintly.]

It's like, yeah, no shit. That's exactly what they're doing.

[Elliott laughs.]

Um—so they get, uh... they end up, uh, interacting with an online pal of Katie's, uh, who goes by the handle "AlleyCat."

00:30:48 Dan Host
00:30:48 Stuart Host

Mm-hm.
Um, and AlleyCat kind of tries to, like, sketch out, uh, when they—when they suggest that their friend Katie has been taken, AlleyCat

sugg—sketches out some of what they might have to do in order to get their friend back. Which, I believe they interpret as you have to give up or give him something they love.

00:31:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Right?

00:31:06 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Yeah.
Something that they cherish, they're gonna have to give up in exchange for the friend—wait, was it Kelly or Hallie?

00:31:12 Stuart Host Uh, who—that—

00:31:13 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Who disappeared.

00:31:13 Stuart Host **Stuart:** —disappeared?
Katie.

00:31:14 Elliott Host Katie.

00:31:15 Stuart Host It's—Hallie is—

00:31:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —is our lead. Kelly plus Hallie equals Katie.

Dan: You combined 'em both. *[Laughs.]*

00:31:20 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Okay. Um—I'm just thinking maybe—
—their names shouldn't have been, like, Katie, Hallie, Mikey, Jenny, Jimmy, Tony—

00:31:27 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Jeffy—from *Family Circus*.

Elliott: Jeffy—yeah, Little Jeffy. Uh—

00:31:30 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Mm-hm.
—Babe—Baby Sinclair. *[Laughs.]*

00:31:32 Dan Host *[Dan laughs.]*
[Through heavy laughter] I'm getting a Babe: Pig in the City.
[Laughs.]

00:31:35 Elliott Host Babe: Pig in the *[enunciating exaggeratedly]* Cit-ty. *[Laughs.]*

00:31:37 Stuart Host Ohh-kay. Uh—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:31:51 Elliott Host So, um... so they end up going out in the woods and they... uh... they are, like, give up things they love, which involves, like, breaking pottery and ripping up, uh, photos.
It's basically their plan is like they gotta go into the woods—*[singing, to the tune of "Into the Woods" from Into the Woods]* into the woods to get our friend! Into—

00:31:55 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** No.

00:31:57 Elliott Host **Elliott:** *[Still singing]* —the woods to help the Slenderman!
[Singing] Into the woods! And home before dark!

00:32:00 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Okay. S—

Dan: I love it!

00:32:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Elliott laughs.] [Dan laughs.]*
Stuart: So they all—

00:32:03 Elliott Host **Elliott:** I'm finally—
—on Dan's wavelength! *[Laughs.]*

00:32:05 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
They all put on their blindfolds, uh, the sounds of the forest go away, and then sounds of Slenderman come up! And of course—

00:32:13 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* That—that was his album? *Sounds of Slenderman?*

00:32:16 Stuart Host *[All three laugh.]*
And the rule is that they—

00:32:17 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Slenderman and Garfunkel.

00:32:19 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs enthusiastically.]*
The rule is that, like, Slenderman’s gonna show up and they couldn’t look at him, or else they’ll go crazy.

00:32:23 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:32:24 Stuart Host So, like—very quickly, Chloe’s like, “Uh, what’s going on? We shouldn’t be doing this!” And then takes her blindfold off, sees the Slenderman, runs away, freaks out.

00:32:34 Elliott Host They’ve been—and she was waiting for maybe 15 seconds.

00:32:36 Stuart Host Yeah. She—she—she gave up pretty quickly.

00:32:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** These millennials, amiright?

00:32:40 Stuart Host **Stuart:** It’s—
But what’s strange is, like, this is the kind of scene that a horror filmmaker would be so excited to be, like, great! This is the first real encounter with Slenderman; I can take my time and build up the tension here. I can build up the isolation and build up that fear of, like, not being able to do anything while this, like, otherworldly force might be closing in on our heroes. But instead he’s like, nope! We’re done! Let’s move on. Uh—

00:33:07 Elliott Host I wanna see his version—this—I’m assuming the director’s a him; maybe it’s not—that—this director’s version of *House of the Devil*? Where, uh, Tom Noonan leaves the babysitter behind? And the babysitter is immediately, like, “Who else is in the house? Come on!” And then the bad guys come back and they’re like, “We’re here too.”

00:33:21 Dan Host It is a him. I looked him up. He was—he also directed that movie, uh, *The Losers*?

00:33:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** And *Stomp the Yard*.

00:33:27 Dan Host **Dan:** With a younger Chris Evans—
—and, uh... what’s his face, the guy who looks like Javier Bardem but isn’t?

00:33:31 Elliott Host Oh, Javier Bardem Jr.?

00:33:32 Dan Host The American *[through laughter]* Javier Bardem. He was in—

00:33:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Watch—*Watchmen*.

00:33:36 Dan Host **Elliott:** Faux-vier Bardem?
I don’t know. Uh, but—

00:33:38 Stuart Host Jeffrey Dean Morgan?

00:33:39 Dan Host Yeah, that’s it. Uh—it’s an okay little action movie.

00:33:43 Elliott Host Mm-hm.

00:33:42 Dan Host It’s not great, but fun.

00:33:43 Stuart Host Uh, wasn’t Jeffrey Dean Morgan one of the Mc—Mc-something’s in, uh, *Grey’s Anatomy*?

00:33:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yes.

Stuart: And he's like—Mc—McSt—

00:33:52 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Elliott: Oh, was he McSteamy?
Stuart: Yeah, he might be. Or Dreamy or Smoky.

Dan: I don't think that was...

00:33:54 Dan Host
00:33:55 Elliott Host
Elliott: No, McDreamy is Patrick Dempsey. Yeah.
Who is one of the characters in this movie, since his name ends in "ey."

00:33:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Dan: Now who's McCreamy? *[Laughs.]*

[Stuart laughs.]

00:34:01 Dan Host
00:34:02 Elliott Host
Elliott: There's a Katie, Hallie, Dempsey—McCreamy?
[Through laughter] Yeah.
Uh, that's Dr. Twinkie.

[Stuart and Dan laugh.]

00:34:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Stuart: So—

[Dan laughs.]

00:34:07 Elliott Host
Elliott: That doctor, they're like—
"Dr. Twinkie, you'll be—you'll lose your license for this!" And he's like, "I'll outlast all of you! I'm full of preservatives!"

[Dan chuckles.]

00:34:13 Stuart Host
00:34:15 Elliott Host
00:34:16 Stuart Host
00:34:19 Elliott Host
So Wren and Hallie find—
Stimpey.
[Through laughter]—find their friend Chloe—
Stimpey.

[Dan laughs.]

00:34:19 Stuart Host
Uh, shaken in the woods. Uh, injured from smashing into a tree while stumbling—

00:34:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Stuart: —about in the dark.

Elliott: Stim-tree.

[Dan laughs.]

00:34:26 Stuart Host
And they, uh—and then, like, life kinda moves on. We see a little bit of Chloe, uh, Chloe has a—uh, as I said, she's shaken by her experiences with Slenderman, and then she—he visits her in her home, and like... he calls her on the phone and she like, it's this—

00:34:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Stuart: —kinda weird scene, yeah.

Elliott: It's a spooky video call, yeah.
And then, uh...

00:34:45 Stuart Host
00:34:46 Elliott Host
He's choking her, and then she looks in the mirror—she's choking herself!

00:34:48 Stuart Host
00:34:49 Elliott Host
Uh-huh.
Screams! Which she should not be able to do if she's choking herself well.

00:34:52 Stuart Host
Uh-huh.

00:34:53 Elliott Host Because the choking should stop air from entering her windpipe. She needs that air to scream. But she's not—she doesn't really kill herself. She's just giving herself a good old Slenderman spook.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:35:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk Just a good old scare-'em-up!
Dan: An old-fashioned Slenderman spook.

00:35:06 Stuart Host **Stuart:** So they—
Uh, so Hallie and Wren are trying to survive, or kind of figure out their situation. Uh, Wren starts doing some research at—

00:35:13 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —the library—

00:35:14 Stuart Host **Elliott:** Wren-search.
—on bioelectric systems.

00:35:16 Elliott Host What I love here is it is such an old-fashioned thing, that she would go to the library to use their computers? When it's clear all the kids have their own computers? And she looks up this book that's, like, *Bioelec*—the book is called, like *Bioelectric Pheno—Bioelectricity and Supernatural Phenomena*. Does her normal, small-town library have a copy of it? *[Through laughter]* You know they do! *[Laughs.]*

00:35:34 Stuart Host And their small-town library that's like... super gothic and scary?

00:35:38 Elliott Host Oh yeah, it's a scary library.

00:35:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh, and—

00:35:40 Stuart Host **Elliott:** It's like Arkham's library.
And I like when they're doing research, like—the internet research is kinda believably dumb. Like, they're just doing, like, simple Google searches? It's the sort of thing that like... like, if—you were like Stuart, you gotta find out some stuff about Slenderman real quick to record a podcast, you'd be like, okay, let me start Googling.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:36:07 Elliott Host Uh... and then there's all these, like, Photoshops. These, like, historical Slenderman photos that are like—this is some of the laziest Photoshop I've ever seen. *[Laughs.]*
I wish that they had gone all the way and had, like, paintings of like the Revolutionary War and there's a Slenderman—

[Dan laughs enthusiastically.]

00:36:13 Dan Host —in the back? *[Through laughter]* That's encircled?
I also feel like this was a mistake that the movie makes where it's like, okay, Slenderman is an internet thing. So the movie also needs to, like, tie into the internet a lot. Whereas, like—

00:36:23 Elliott Host They keep talking about it as like, an invasive idea?

00:36:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Like a meme? An evil meme? Meme-vil.

00:36:26 Stuart Host **Dan:** Yeah, and I don't—I mean—
Yeah, I would've loved to have seen, like, uh, a Peter Paul Rubens where he's, like—

[Elliott laughs.]

—[silly voice] “I’m gonna make a beefy Slenderman”

00:36:33 Elliott Host
[Stuart and Elliott laugh.]
There’s a *Mona Lisa* Slenderman.
[Dan laughs.]
It’s like, it’s not smiling. It has no face.
[Stuart laughs.]
The—now—here’s—I just wanna say one thing about this textbook she finds in the library.
00:36:41 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:36:41 Elliott Host So it’s called, like, yeah. *Bioelectricity and Supernatural Phenomena* or something like that, and it is—very much a niche text. My wife, she’s a librarian.
00:36:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Uh-huh.
00:36:51 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Mm-hm.
She’s talked to me many times. My mom is a librarian. They both talk to me about the need to cull a library’s collection.
00:36:55 Dan Host Yep.
00:36:56 Elliott Host If a book is one—out of date; if it has incorrect scientific information, you gotta cull that thing. That book seems to fall under that heading? Number two—if a book hasn’t been taken out in years? You’re probably gonna lose it. Y’know what? It’s just not being used at all.
I have fin—a hard time believing that that book has been in such good circulation—
[Dan laughs.]
—‘cause—
00:37:12 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —that it continues to be—
Dan: It’s—a lotta Slenderman—
—in this neighborhood.
00:37:14 Dan Host And it’s not just still in the collection—it’s on the stack!
00:37:15 Elliott Host **Elliott:** It’s, like, in—it’s in the stacks—
00:37:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** And it’s dogeared! [Laughs.]
—on the shelf! And it’s dogeared!
00:37:18 Elliott Host Yeah.
00:37:19 Dan Host Like, this is a well-circulated, traveled book!
00:37:20 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Yeah, and she’s, like—
00:37:23 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** And also—
—deep in the stacks and tries to get a phone call, and all of a sudden it fuzzes out because I’m assuming libraries have scramblers?
[Dan chuckles.]

00:37:31 Elliott Host To prevent kids from using their cell phones?
It's to stop old homeless men from watching pornography on the computers.

00:37:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Oh, okay. That makes sense.

00:37:35 Dan Host **Dan:** So—and also—
—I don't think she—explains the stuff now that she finds in the book? I think that comes a little later. But like—

00:37:40 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:37:39 Dan Host —the stuff in it is such, like, weird, like, *Ghostbusters*, like, the gibberish that they throw around—

00:37:45 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —I'm not trying to make it science-y—

Elliott: Oh, it's like, supernatural tech mumbo-jumbo. Yeah.

Stuart: Yeah.

00:37:48 Dan Host **Dan:** And it's like—
—why are you trying to, like, Midichlorian this horror movie? Right now?

00:37:51 Stuart Host Well—um, and I kinda also like that she relies entirely on a single textbook that she found. Which is kind of funny, because a textbook is like, old media? *[Laughs.]* Slenderman was created through new media?

[Elliott laughs.]

But, uh—she, like, completely believes in this, uh, this one textbook she finds, and of course—spoiler alert—it provides no assistance for them—

[Dan laughs.]

—over the course—

00:38:11 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —of the movie.

00:38:12 Elliott Host **Elliott:** It is a—
—huge waste of everyone's time.

00:38:14 Stuart Host Including ours! Uh... so of course, she's deep in the stacks. Uh, she gets attacked by Slenderman. She kinda gets sucked into this weird, like, semi-, uh, like subdimension? Caught in the library. Slenderman—multiple Slendermans are coming after her. He eventually, uh, tracks her down and, like, pins her against the wall, and we get the, like, Slenderman version of the *Alien 3* Alien and Ripley, like, almost-kiss scene?

00:38:38 Dan Host Mm-hm.

00:38:39 Stuart Host Where he leans in and he's like, *[deep voice]* "Have you listened to my podcast?" *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:38:44 Elliott Host And then she loses her own face, right?

00:38:45 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah.

Stuart: Yeah. She loses—

00:38:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —loses her own face for a moment. Of course it's just a trickeroony. What?

00:38:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** And I wanted to say—yeah.
Dan: About the—the faceless—

00:38:51 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Trickerony?
Was that Andy Rooney’s rap name?

00:38:53 Stuart Host *[Stuart and Dan laugh.]*
[Through laughter] Yeah, Trickerony!

00:38:53 Elliott Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Trickerony? *[Laughs.]*

00:38:54 Dan Host Uh, the faceless Slenderman—you know, like the faceless creature is kind of, you know, creepy from a distance, but when we see Slenderman’s face up close? It just kinda looks like Styrofoam.

00:39:04 Elliott Host It’s what uh, in *Clueless* they would call a Matisse.

00:39:07 Dan Host Yeah.

00:39:07 Stuart Host Uh—

00:39:09 Elliott Host It does look like—well, it’s like *Smiley*, that way.

00:39:10 Dan Host Yeah.

00:39:11 Elliott Host Where it was like, oh, this is kind of a scary idea but when you see it actually on a person it just looks like a big fat man’s belly—

[Dan laughs.]

00:39:20 Stuart Host —with a— *[Through laughter]* —with a smiley face on it? *[but his ear^]* just looks like a belly.
There’s a—I mean, there’s a lot of points where... in general, any time they try to show the Slenderman, they’re like—we need to defi—like, make this character more definite. Like, we need to make this, like, a physical presence in the world. And I feel like what would make Slenderman scarier is for it to be vaguer and harder to see.

00:39:38 Elliott Host Yes.

00:39:38 Stuart Host But, y’know.

00:39:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Whatever.

00:39:40 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Like it exists—
—just outside of the realm of perception almost.

00:39:41 Stuart Host Exactly. Or that—yeah. That it’s almost, like, something that would be believable and not like, a guy that’s like a giant tarantula man.

00:39:49 Elliott Host It just—it always looks like a guy in a suit hooping up to tarantula man. And it’s—it’s—the—it’s the, uh—

00:39:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Or was a tree—

00:39:55 Stuart Host **Elliott:** While watching this—
—and then becomes a man that becomes a man with a tarantula body.

00:39:57 Elliott Host I mean, I’ve—that’s one way to look at evolution, sure.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:40:02 Dan Host From tree to man to tarantu-man? Sure!

00:40:04 Elliott Host Hey, I—I didn’t come from no tree!
Okay, Dan, we’ve talked to you about your—

[Stuart laughs.]

—evangelizing. Please, this Shocktober has gotten very invasive—

[Dan chuckles.]

—and—but, uh, I had the same experience watching this movie that I used to have when I used to watch the show *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* On Nickelodeon when I was a kid? Which is like, well it's not scary, but if it was happening to me it would be scary!

[Stuart laughs.]

Like, it's objectively a scary situation to be in, but to watch it is not scary.

00:40:24 Dan Host

Yeah.

00:40:24 Stuart Host

So at this point, uh... Wren has decided to go deeper into the conspiracy. Uh, Chloe has been driven mad. Her friends can't e—like—just don't wanna talk to her at all.

00:40:34 Dan Host

Which basically just means like, she looks like a zombie. [Laughs.]

00:40:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Dan: She's got, like, sunken eyes.

Stuart: Yeah, she looks—she's a—yeah. She's a vacant zombie.

Elliott: Yeah.

00:40:39 Elliott Host

She hasn't slept in a number of days, yeah.

00:40:40 Stuart Host

And uh—and—

00:40:40 Elliott Host

She looks like a young parent.

00:40:42 Stuart Host

And— [Laughs.] And Hallie is just trying to ignore it. She's like, it'll go away.

00:40:46 Dan Host

Mm-hm.

00:40:46 Stuart Host

So of course, she schedules a date with Tom.

00:40:49 Elliott Host

Mm-hm.

00:40:50 Stuart Host

Uh... how late the date is, I can't tell.

[Elliott laughs.]

The scene where she's like, "I don't have time for this, Wren! I'm going on a date!" It already looks—it's, like, full dark outside.

[Laughs.]

[Elliott laughs.]

00:40:59 Elliott Host

Now, maybe 'cause it's fall-ish? It's like—gets dark early? But it does seem like the date it as like 1 AM?

00:41:05 Stuart Host

Yeah.

00:41:05 Elliott Host

And Tom's like, oh yeah, my parents are out for the night.

00:41:08 Stuart Host

Yeah. The—it—yeah, it kinda feels like—I mean—

00:41:11 Elliott Host

There's something very *Ice Storm*-y about it.

00:41:12 Stuart Host

Yeah, it also is very much—well, it feels very much like the—

[Laughs.]—the the director was like, "This whole movie is gonna be like *The Ring*, where everything is dripping with menace and darkness—"

00:41:21 Elliott Host

Yeah.

00:41:22 Stuart Host

—and, yeah, it's 2 AM all the time. Um, okay. So, uh—

00:41:26 Elliott Host

Do you know who your kid—it's 2 AM. Do you know where your kids are?

00:41:28 Stuart Host Yeah, over at Tom's house!
00:41:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** They're at Tom's house.

Stuart: Yeah.
00:41:30 Stuart Host Uh, so—
00:41:31 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* They're—they're—they're at Tom's house, being cock-blocked by the Slenderman.

[Stuart laughs.]
00:41:34 Stuart Host Yeah, so. So at—Hallie and Tom's date goes, uh, goes as well as you'd expect. Tom shows off his dad's cool vinyl collection, then they start making out. And then— *[Laughs.]*

00:41:43 Elliott Host This was what—he plays this, like, sexy guitar jazz?
00:41:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I guess?

Stuart: Yeah, yeah, yeah.
00:41:46 Elliott Host And it's like—
00:41:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Would you describe it as—

Elliott: Ohhh.
00:41:49 Stuart Host —smooth?
00:41:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** It—extremely! It goes down real smooth!

[Stuart laughs.]

Dan: Oh yeah, I forgot about that part.
00:41:52 Dan Host It's like—yeah, he puts on this CD that's like, are—
00:41:55 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** No—uh, CD, Daniel?

Dan: —these just—
00:41:56 Dan Host Uh-okay.
00:41:57 Elliott Host It is a—it is a vinyl album.
00:41:57 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Okay. He puts on this—

Stuart: Yeah! He—
00:41:59 Stuart Host —it's so much warmer than a CD would be! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]
00:42:01 Dan Host Sorry. He puts on this album that you're just like, is this just all guitar solos? *[Laughs.]*

00:42:06 Elliott Host It is. It starts with it, and it's like—but it—it feels like the background music of like a love scene in like a *Beverly Hills 90210*—

[Dan laughs.]

—or a *Melrose Place*? And I'm like, oh, when I was a teen, I shouldn't ha—and I had a girl over—I shouldn't have put on music I liked. I should've put on cliché sexy music.

[Dan laughs.]
00:42:21 Stuart Host So yeah, they—
00:42:23 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —so they—

Elliott: Just, like, the saxophone from *Baker Street*—
00:42:24 Elliott Host —over and over again.

00:42:25 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
So of course, they start making out. And then, like—it sounds like the vinyl is, uh, jumping around or skipping? Which is horrifying in and of itself.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:42:33 Elliott Host And then, uh—
00:42:34 Stuart Host Yeah, for a real audiohead like you. *[Laughs.]*
She—she—like, looks up and, uh, Tom is having this, like—
[Laughs.]— crazy freakout that is the most cartoonish thing.
[Laughs.]

00:42:42 Elliott Host It's like they hired Tim and Eric to produce this freakout. Like—
00:42:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah.

Dan: Mm-hm.
—which, actually, I liked. It was like—
00:42:47 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Yeah, it's great.
00:42:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk

00:42:49 Elliott Host **Elliott:** There were a couple—
There're a couple moments in the movie where they feel like they're using... the kind of, like, weirdo video effects that you can do now digitally?

00:42:55 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:42:55 Elliott Host In a way that I don't often—I see a lot of horror movies seem to be doing the same effects you could get with film?

00:43:00 Dan Host Yeah.
00:43:00 Elliott Host But this, they're doing like, uh, like—art video stuff? And I liked that a little bit.

00:43:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah, I want—

00:43:05 Elliott Host **Elliott:** But it does look—
00:43:06 Dan Host But it also seems really goofy. *[Laughs.]*
I wanted—I wanted to get into that, uh, too. Like, at the climax when there's like, a lot of like really crazy effects? Like, Slenderman effects? Like, I like the look of some of the weird horror shit that happens in this movie.

00:43:20 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:43:21 Dan Host The—the problem is, it all looks... pretty fake-y?
00:43:25 Elliott Host Yes.
00:43:26 Dan Host Like it's—it's cool-looking and really weird, but it also—because the rest of the movie is shot very realistically? It doesn't fit in. Whereas if, like, this movie was *Hausu* or something—

00:43:37 Stuart Host Yeah.
00:43:37 Dan Host —like, it would be neat.
00:43:39 Stuart Host So... after her freakout, Hallie comes clean to Tom about her—
[Laughs.]—Slenderman situation. Uh—

[Dan laughs.]

—and she, and Tom's like—

[Dan laughs.]

—“Wait, is this the video?” And he finds the video immediately on his phone. She's like, “You can't watch that.” He's like, *[deep voice]*

“Okay.” She’s like, “Promise me you won’t watch it.” Next day in class, Tom shows up super freaked out. It feels like everybody but Hallie goes through their stages of Slenderman exposure so much faster. *[Laughs.]*

00:44:04 Elliott Host Yeah.
00:44:05 Stuart Host So, y’know, she’s not gonna get much help there. Um, and then—of course, her little sister, Lizzie, goes into shock. She must’ve watched that video. She goes to some spooky hospital, uh, where people—

00:44:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —with impossibly—

00:44:20 Stuart Host **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* Yes.
—long hair are getting their hair combed, or, like people with no faces are hanging out.

00:44:25 Elliott Host It’s St. Halloween’s—

[Stuart laughs.]

00:44:28 Stuart Host —Memorial Hospital.
Yeah. Uh... she realizes that Wre—that her sister has fallen into a coma, and she realizes that, uh, Wren is the one who exposed Lizzie to the Slenderman. So she goes to track down her friend Wren.

00:44:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** She finds—

00:44:44 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Now, was it—
—to get Wre—was—did Wren do it to get... Hallie? No. To get—who was the one who disappeared? Kelly?

00:44:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart and Elliott:** Katie.
00:44:50 Elliott Host Did she do it to get Katie back, or is she just—not, like, was there some other rea—‘cause—it’s kinda—it’s—I mean, you—you—you say what happens next.

00:44:57 Stuart Host I mean, I would say—I—I thi—from what I can tell, she did it because of the whole idea that you have to sacrifice something you love.

00:45:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Uh-huh. And she’s always—

00:45:04 Elliott Host **Stuart:** So she’s thinking—
00:45:05 Stuart Host —had a close relationship with Lizzie.

00:45:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk Yeah. And maybe, by giving up Lizzie, they’ll get their friend Katie back. Or—
Elliott: Save themselves. Oh, okay

00:45:11 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Slenderman’ll stop. Yeah.
So... she goes to Wren’s house where Wren, of course, has her little evidence, uh, bedroom. That’s filled with more amazing Slenderman art.

00:45:19 Elliott Host Mm-hm.
00:45:20 Stuart Host Uh, and Wren is hanging outside—like, she’s, like, standing—
00:45:24 Elliott Host Now, Slenderman—now that I think about it, he’s basically just the Operation Ivy logo. Right?

00:45:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah.

00:45:28 Elliott Host **Elliott:** But—
But without the hat.

00:45:30 Stuart Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
Yeah, yeah, yeah. Uh... and—and Slenderman probably likes SKA.
[Laughs.]

00:45:36 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
You have to—you have to assume! He wears that skinny suit all the time, yeah!

00:45:39 Stuart Host So they— *[Laughs.]*—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:45:42 Elliott Host Uh—
He’s—he steals people and then he just takes them to his house to listen to Madness and Mustard Plug and stuff all the time.

00:45:46 Stuart Host Yeah, so she, like, while she’s there, uh, she’s like, going through Wren’s computer. I think at this point she finds evidence that the... person they were talking to on the internet—AlleyCat—was somebody who was driven mad by Slenderman. So I guess we closed the loop on that plot thread.

00:46:14 Elliott Host Uh, and they find Wren—she’s, uh, standing on the edge of her, uh, her bedroom window. She’s going to jump. She’s trying to kill herself. Uh, Hallie pulls—

00:46:15 Stuart Host I mean, as Aerosmith would say, she’s livin’ on the edge.

00:46:16 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:46:18 Stuart Host She can’t keep herself from falling.

00:46:19 Crosstalk Host Hallie pulls her in—

00:46:20 Stuart Host **Stuart:** —to save her—

00:46:21 Elliott Host **Dan:** Aerosmith would say that.
—and then—

00:46:22 Stuart Host In fact, they did! *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

00:46:28 Elliott Host And then, of course, so they pull her in and save her, and then almost immediately Slenderman yanks her out the window.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:46:35 Stuart Host She’s gone.

00:46:37 Crosstalk Host *[Elliott laughs.]* It’s one of those moments where you’re like, if Slenderman could do that, why didn’t he do it a hundred times before now?

00:46:37 Crosstalk Host Yeah. Yeah. I mean, it’s—

00:46:41 Elliott Host **Dan:** Look, if we could fathom the mind of slither—Slenderman. Slitherman! *[Laughs.]*

00:46:41 Dan Host **Elliott:** What is Slenderman’s schedule? Or Slitherman! *[Laughs.]*

00:46:42 Elliott Host Who I assume is a snake man?

[Through laughter] Yeah.

[Dan laughs.]

The snake man from *Jonah Hex*, perhaps?

It’s kinda like how in *It*, It is both insanely powerful and also can be scared away if you yell too loud at it?

00:46:50 Stuart Host Yeah.
00:46:51 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah.
00:46:52 Stuart Host Yeah. The... so—Hallie at this point decides to, y’know, she’s like, comes up with some kind of a plan. She goes marching off into the woods. I think she’s going—she—her plan is confront Slenderman. She finds him. He’s standing there. And then he, like, sprouts big tarantula things. She immediately loses her cool, and she runs away, and he chases her, uh...

Kinda like the giant, uh, robot arachnid in, uh, *Wild Wild West*. And she runs away and then—

[Dan laughs.]
00:47:20 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** She like—

Elliott: I think that—
00:47:21 Elliott Host —was the inspiration for the scene.
00:47:22 Stuart Host Then she backs up against a tree. Of course that tree is a Slenderman tree. Uh, because Slenderman has turned into a tree, and then he turns her into a tree, and then...

00:47:30 Elliott Host Which is the epi—it’s the end of the children’s book *The Slender Tree?*

00:47:33 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:47:34 Elliott Host By Shel Slenderman.

[Stuart and Dan laugh appreciatively.]

[Through laughter] Shel Slenderstein.
00:47:36 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
00:47:37 Elliott Host Where the kid—the tree keeps giving and giving and giving until eventually it absorbs the child into its—into its bark.

00:47:42 Dan Host And the tree was happy. *[Laughs.]*
00:47:42 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah. *[Laughs.]*
00:47:43 Dan Host ‘Cause it ate a child. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]
00:47:46 Stuart Host Uh, with—with her sacrifice—
00:47:48 Dan Host Only God could be this child.

[Elliott laughs.]
00:47:49 Stuart Host Her little—
00:47:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* I think that I shall never see—

Stuart: Her little sister, uh—

[Dan laughs.]
00:47:52 Elliott Host —a poem as lovely as a Slenderman. *[Laughs.]*

[Stuart laughs.]
00:47:55 Elliott Host You know, *Slenderman Grows in Brooklyn* is one of my—

[Stuart^ laughs.]

[Through laughter] —favorite coming-of-age stories!
00:47:59 Stuart Host Uh, Lizzie—Lizzie wakes up, her sister having sacrificed herself. Uh, and then she seems to have been—her—her time in her coma

seems to have explained all the secrets in the universe, as she then lays out some nonsense about how we all—I believe it goes something like, “We all click on links, share stories, Photoshop images—all serving his word. Some people seek him out and do messed-up stuff.”

[Elliott laughs.]

And like, now knowing the actual, like, story behind some of this stuff, that’s, like, a super fucked-up way to end the movie.

00:48:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Elliott: Yeah.

00:48:34 Dan Host

Dan: I got a—
—but also, like... I have to say that this is... if handled differently, this is, like... I know that this is sort of a cliched idea, but it’s also handled differently this is a frightening idea and maybe the first frightening idea in the movie and it comes at the very end of the movie because it sort of suggests, like... this movie itself may just be furthering Slenderman’s—

00:48:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Dan: —y’know, agenda?

00:48:57 Elliott Host

Elliott: Yeah! It was done—

00:48:59 Dan Host

—much better in the movie *In the Mouth of Madness*.

00:49:00 Elliott Host

Right.

Where the—the implication is that by watching the movie, you have weakened the wall between our world and the world of these horrible things?

00:49:06 Dan Host

Yeah.

00:49:06 Elliott Host

Uh—and, so yeah! But it’s the idea that, uh... I mean like, I—I feel like that’s part of the—this thrill you’re supposed to get from *The Ring*? Is like, oh, maybe there’s something real about it that I shouldn’t have watched this and it—now it’s gonna come after me!

00:49:19 Dan Host

Yeah.

00:49:19 Elliott Host

The tingler! It’s in the theatre, everyone!

[Stuart and Dan laugh.]

Run for your lives!

[Dan laughs at length.]

00:49:22 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Elliott: Run for your lives! The tingler’s around!

00:49:25 Stuart Host

Stuart: Yeah, I mean—

00:49:33 Elliott Host

In a lot of ways it feels like somebody was like... okay, so, why don’t we just do... uh... a *Ring* version, uh, with Slenderman.

Yeah.

[Dan coughs.]

00:49:35 Elliott Host

And it’s—and—if handled—yeah! If handled—it’s—there’s kind of a, uh, I think it’s like in one of those Ur, uh, ideas of horror is that, like, by—by observing it you have made it more real?

00:49:45 Dan Host

Mm-hm.

00:49:45 Elliott Host

And there is a good way to do it, and they’re like, reaching for it with their—with their wooden tarantula hands in this, but it’s—

00:49:51 Stuart Host Kinda like, uh... like Alan Moore's *Providence* comic. Which is, like—how the way Lovecraft's, uh, work spread out and did all that kind of crap.

00:49:58 Elliott Host But—but it's like, uh... does—do you think—so do you think, Dan, that they had more substance in this movie and they just kind of had to cut it because it was totally tasteless?

00:50:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I don't know—I mean, like... *[Sighs.]*

Elliott: 'Cause it was 101 Totally Tasteless Jokes for Adults?

00:50:11 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan and Stuart laugh.]*
Dan: *[Through laughter]* Oh, boy. What'd they trim it down to? Like—

Stuart: Remember the '90s? 90? Or 70?

[Elliott laughs.]

[Dan laughs.]

00:50:17 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* They cut it down to—I think they just burned the book.

00:50:19 Stuart Host Oh wow! That's, uh, I mean that's a rough editing job!

[Elliott laughs.]

00:50:22 Crosstalk Crosstalk But... harsh, but fair!
Stuart: That's what I'd say.

00:50:23 Dan Host **Dan:** I don't know, 'cause—
—it feels like if they were really, like, up—like, trying to respect the real-life tragedy, they just *[Through laughter]* wouldn't have done it!
[Laughs.]

00:50:31 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:50:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Uh, but—

00:50:34 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah, but like— *[Laughs.]*
Like, they—they put money into a movie, that movie's gotta make money.

00:50:37 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. But instead they just were like—let's just make it disjointed!

00:50:40 Elliott Host I mean, unless this was a nonprofit from the Slenderman Awareness Association.

00:50:44 Dan Host Yeah.

00:50:45 Elliott Host Or SMAA.

00:50:46 Stuart Host I mean—

00:50:48 Dan Host *[Dan breaks into laughter.]*
[Through laughter] I don't know why that made me laugh. It's just simply you—

00:50:51 Stuart Host SMAA?

00:50:52 Dan Host *[Through laughter]*—putting the letters together.

00:50:53 Elliott Host Yeah!

00:50:54 Stuart Host I mean, if you—if—if a studio is going to prevent the release of a movie like *The Hunt*, and instead, uh... release, uh...

00:51:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** *Slenderman.*

00:51:04 Dan Host **Dan:** Red [*inaudible*^].
00:51:04 Elliott Host Like— [*Laughs.*]
00:51:06 Stuart Host Well it's not the same studio, I don't think. [*Laughs.*]
No, I know. But it's the same sort of like mentality of, like, not releasing a movie because it's vaguely connected to a tragedy and... one of them seems only the slightest—has the slightest connection, whereas *Slenderman* seems to be great—closely connected to an actual tragedy.

00:51:21 Elliott Host Now would it be—now would it be, uh... worse or better than if it was more connected, like, say *The Haunting of Sharon Tate*? Which is an incredibly exploitative movie in which they're basically saying if Sharon Tate and her friends had tried a little harder—
00:51:35 Stuart Host Yeah.
00:51:35 Elliott Host —they'd still be alive today.
00:51:36 Stuart Host Yeah. And not—what—ghosts? Are they ghosts?
00:51:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** At the end I think they're ghosts but they're happy ghosts?

Stuart: Like, the movie suggests that they're ghosts—yeah.

Dan: Mm-hm.

Elliott: Yeah.
00:51:42 Elliott Host 'Cause gho—you can't spell "ghost" without "h" for "happy."
00:51:43 Stuart Host Uh-huh. [*Laughs.*]
00:51:44 Elliott Host Get happy, or stop... terrifying strangers. [*Laughs.*] "GHOSTS."
00:51:49 Stuart Host [*Through laughter*] Oh yeah. Yeah. Ghosts. Yeah. [*Laughs.*]
00:51:52 Stuart Host Wow. Cool.
00:51:53 Elliott Host [*Through laughter*] That's what "ghosts" stands for.
00:51:54 Stuart Host Thanks.
00:51:54 Dan Host Okay. Um, well—uh, let's do our final judgments. Is this, uh... totally terrifying? Wait, was that it? Wait—
00:52:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** You're the keeper of its—of the—of the B.S., Dan!

Dan: Wait, hold—hold on. This is— [*Laughs.*]
00:52:05 Dan Host "Totally scare-ifying?"
00:52:06 Elliott Host Totally scare-ifying—
00:52:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —totally snore-ifying. Or frighteningly funny.

Dan: Totally snore-ifying or frighteningly funny. Yeah.
00:52:10 Dan Host Uh, I'm gonna say it's pretty snore-ifying. I think that... the thing about it is, like... what's scary about Slenderman on the internet is kind of your personal connection to Slenderman? Like, you're going down that same—
00:52:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —rabbit hole—

Elliott: Well he's like—
00:52:26 Elliott Host —Charles Barkley. He's friends with so many people you would never would have guessed. [*Laughs.*]
00:52:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Oh god. I'm just— [*sighs.*]

Stuart: Yeah.

Elliott: Just—just—
00:52:30 Elliott Host —ordinary folks whose lives are touched in a beautiful way by Slenderman.

00:52:32 Dan Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
I'm just saying that, like, I could see how it's scary at home, where you're, like, sitting alone in front of the computer going down this, like, rabbit hole of, like, here's this Slenderman story that leads to this other—other Slenderman story, and maybe I am giving him more power? Maybe he's like, gonna come into my—like, you have that personal experience of, like, relating to this thing?

Whereas in the movie, we're watching other people get on the internet and *[Through laughter]* learn about Slenderman and it just doesn't have the same... zazz. I don't know.

00:52:58 Stuart Host Not enough zazz. Yeah. I mean it—

[Dan laughs.] [Elliott laughs.]

00:53:01 Elliott Host Like—
This—if I was giving notes, I'd be like, “terminal lack of zazz.”
[Laughs.]

00:53:05 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
I feel like we could, uh, like... let's—let's ignore the obvious relationship, uh, the metaphor here, between Slenderman and vaping. Right?

00:53:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan and Elliott laugh.]*
Elliott: I mean, it's kinda—it's kinda right out there! It's hard to ignore it, I guess!

00:53:18 Stuart Host **Dan:** *[Through laughter]* Um. Okay. It's—so— *[Laughs.]*
I just—I feel like—I feel like—I'm going out on a limb here, but I feel like we should take a stand against, uh... instead of having so many firearms on our street and less being worried about Slendermans on our street.

00:53:30 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Okay. *[Laughs.]*

00:53:30 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Wow. And so are you running for office, I guess?

00:53:32 Stuart Host Uh—

00:53:34 Elliott Host I mean, more people have been killed by vaping than by Slenderman, so.

00:53:36 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* That's true! So part of it is the... like, it—this movie feels so padded out. Uh... there's like, so many dream sequences and there's so many dream sequences that are, like, nested on each other? I did like the—the one bit where—where Hallie is in the bathroom and then she looks down and she's got a big old belly?

00:53:54 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:53:54 Stuart Host And then all of a sudden, like, a baby Slenderman comes out? And I'm like “Son of Slenderman” already? *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:54:00 Elliott Host The sequel's in the movie?

00:54:01 Stuart Host Yeah. The—but, no. It—like, it's— *[sighs.]* It's—I mean, it feels inevitable, and I guess in a way, like, the—that's the whole point, but... there's just so little there and it's hard to get scared at a

00:54:19	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	movie that doesn't seem to... like—it—not only does it know its own <u>rules</u> , it doesn't seem to <u>care</u> . Elliott: It's a—it's a horror movie—
00:54:20	Elliott	Host	Stuart: Yeah. —that doesn't seem to be that interested in scaring you? Or having, really, much of a response from you? And like the thing—there's—there are two styles fighting against each other? Especially as the movie goes on and they're trying to scare it up by having more intense dream sequences? There's this style that is very removed and very... there's almost, like, a haze between you and the film. And that can work if you lean all the way into it. Like, I mentioned <i>Picnic at Hanging Rock</i> before. That's that movie. That movie is—there's like a weird scrim between you and the film, and it adds to this mystic feel—like, kind of ambiguity around the movie. <u>Or</u> you make it totally in-your-face, y'know, scary-intense. But it—you can't quite <u>mesh</u> the two or at least they haven't done it here. And so I'm gonna have to say snore-ifying too, although there are things that—yeah, Dan if, they'd been handled better—if it had been made better, it might've been a better movie. [Through laughter] Wow. I'm gonna go with Dan McCoy's Law, which is— [Through laughter] if it was a better movie, it would've been better. Yep. [Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments.] Music: Quiet rock.
00:55:05	Dan	Host	
00:55:05	Elliott	Host	
00:55:09	Dan	Host	
00:55:10	Music	Music	
00:55:14	Promo	Clip	

Aimee Mann: Hello, this is Aimee Mann.

Ted Leo: And I'm Ted Leo.

Aimee: And we have a podcast called *The Art of Process*.

Ted: We've been lucky enough over the past year to talk to some of our friends and acquaintances from across the creative spectrum to find out how they actually work.

Speaker 1: And so I have to write material that makes sense and makes people laugh. I also have to think about what I'm saying to people.

Speaker 2: If I kick your ass, I'll make you famous.

Speaker 3: The fight to get LGBTQ representation in the show.

Ted & Aimee: Mm-hm.

Speaker 4: We weirdly don't know as many musicians as you would expect.

Speaker 5: I really just became a political speech writer by accident.

Speaker 6: I'm realizing that I have accidentally, uh, pulled my pants down.

[Someone starts to laugh.]

Ted: Listen and subscribe at MaximumFun.org or wherever you get your podcasts.

Speaker 7: It's like if the guinea pig was complicit in helping the scientist.

[Music ends.]

00:56:00 Promo Clip

[Radio interference followed by laidback music with a snare drum beat. A phone rings as the DJ speaks.]

Radio DJ: Welcome back to *Fireside Chat* on KMAX. With me in-studio to take your calls is the dopest duo on the West Coast, Oliver Wang and Morgan Rhodes.

[Click.]

Go ahead, caller.

Caller: Hey. Uh, I'm looking for a music podcast that's insightful and thoughtful, but like, also helps me discover artists and albums that I've never heard of.

Morgan Rhodes: Yeah, man. Sounds like you need to listen to *Heat Rocks*. Every week, myself—and I'm Morgan Rhodes—and my co-host here, Oliver Wang, talk to influential guests about a canonical album that has changed their lives.

Oliver Wang: Guests like Moby, Open Mike Eagle, talk about albums by Prince, Joni Mitchell, and so much more.

Caller: Yooo! What's that show called again?

Morgan: *Heat Rocks*. Deep dives into hot records.

Oliver: Every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

00:56:48 Dan Promo

[Music suddenly gives way to static and a dial tone.]

The Flop House is brought to you in part by Casper. Casper's new hybrid mattresses combo—combine—

00:56:55 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Dan: What—what do they— *[breaks off, laughing.]*

Elliott: Yep. They can "bline" anything.

00:56:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk

[Stuart laughs.]

Dan: *[Through laughter]* Yeah, that's our guarantee to you!

Stuart: That's why you gotta—that's why you gotta wear shades.

00:57:02 Elliott Host

[All three laugh.]

Your bed—your bedtime's so bright, you have to wear shades!

[Dan laughs.]

00:57:07 Dan Promo Please, protective eyewear when necessary.
[Through laughter] They—the hybrid mattresses combine the pressure relief of their award-winning foam with durable, yet gentle, springs.

00:57:15 Elliott Host They took cutting-edge mattress technology and where the DNA gaps were not accessible, they put frog DNA.

[Stuart laughs.]

[Laughs.] It's created a hybrid that certainly could never get loose and destroy the park.

[Dan laughs.]

00:57:26 Dan Promo This new innovation offers the best of both worlds: luxurious comfort, and resilient support. Even with springs, these mattresses still come magically in a box that simply arrives on your doorstep.

00:57:40 Stuart Host Guys, without you, and your resilient support—

00:57:44 Elliott Host Oh.

00:57:44 Stuart Host —I don't think I could get through this.

00:57:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Oh, thanks.

Elliott: And yet—

00:57:46 Elliott Host —we come in a box that arrives on your doorstep.

[Dan and Stuart giggle.]

00:57:49 Dan Host Uh— *[Laughs.]* The copy makes it sound like the magical thing is that the box arrives on your doorstep, and you—you know, people do get packages. I think the magical thing is a—

00:57:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —whole mattress—fits in a box.

Stuart: I don't know. You're always complaining about not getting packages. *[Laughs.]*

Dan: That's true. *[Laughs.]*

Elliott: Yeah, I've read—

00:57:59 Elliott Host —your Twitter feed. You're constantly like, "It takes magic to get a package in this world!"

00:58:03 Dan Host That's fair.

00:58:03 Elliott Host I think it's funny also—

00:58:04 Stuart Host "Dear Gandalf—"

[Elliott laughs.]

[Dan and Stuart chuckle.]

00:58:07 Elliott Host "Dear Mercury, the messenger God..."

00:58:10 Dan Promo Uh, you can be sure of your purchase with Casper's 100-Night, Risk-Free, Sleep On It trial. So get \$50 toward select mattresses by visiting Casper.com/flophouse and using "FLOPHOUSE" at checkout. That's Casper.com/flophouse and using "FLOPHOUSE" at checkout. Terms and conditions apply.

00:58:32 Elliott Host That's Casper! The ghost-iest of the mattresses!

00:58:35 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

00:58:36	Dan	Host	Um...
00:58:37	Elliott	Host	'Cause it's named after Kaspar Hauser.
			<i>[Stuart laughs.]</i>
00:58:39	Dan	Host	So, uh, no other... corporate sponsors, but we have a couple of Jumbotrons.
00:58:44	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: You know it! That's the biggest tron they make!
			Dan: He goes <i>[deep voice]</i> "Jumbotronnn!"
00:58:48	Stuart	Host	Uh, Elliott, I believe you have the <u>longer</u> of the two, so... perhaps you should go first.
00:58:51	Elliott	Host	Sure! This is a message for Karen and John, soon-to-be-name-withheld, and this message is from Gabe, Fletch, and Nick. And the message goes a-like-a this:
			"Dear Karen and John,
			Congratulations on your marriage! And there is no better way to celebrate but by paying The Original Peaches to yell it from the pod-top! Whether it's Elliott singing a song, Stu cracking open a beer, or Dan doing his best Mr. Burns 'Excellent,' as Karen's butt becomes a wife's butt, we are so happy to see you two together. Forever."
			Mazel tov! That's great news! Congratulations!
00:59:21	Stuart	Host	Yeah! Uh, and I <u>also</u> have a Jumbotron.
00:59:25	Dan	Host	<i>[Faux surprised voice]</i> What?!
00:59:26	Stuart	Host	<i>[Speaking slowly]</i> This message—
			<i>[Elliott laughs.]</i>
			—is for Kyle. The message is from Johanna.
			"Kyle, I miss you. We need to update the crayon list. You're a good dino boy. Love, Jo."
00:59:44	Dan	Host	It's true. The crayon list does need to be updated.
00:59:47	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: Dan, don't—
			Stuart: Mm-hm.
00:59:48	Elliott	Host	—pretend you know what they're talking about.
			<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
00:59:50	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Dan: <i>[Through laughter]</i> If I said it once—
			Elliott: This is their—
00:59:51	Elliott	Host	—this is a very intimate message—
00:59:52	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: —between two people. You—you don't—
			Dan: —I've said it a thousand times.
00:59:54	Elliott	Host	Do <u>not</u> try to horn in on their—on their lives.
			<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
00:59:57	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: I'm—
			Elliott: It's a real—
00:59:57	Elliott	Host	— <i>You, Me, and Dupree</i> type scenario—

[Stuart laughs.]

01:00:00 Stuart Host —going on right now.
I simply allow the spirit of the message to enter me.

[Dan laughs.]

01:00:05 Elliott Host And come out of my mouth. *[Laughs.]*
[Laughs.] You're—every time Stuart finishes Jumbotron, he then goes, "Huh? Wha—where am I? What happened?"

01:00:10 Stuart Host *[Dan and Stuart laugh.]*
Has—Hey olis, poured forth from my mouth!

01:00:14 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
[Through laughter] I simply allow the words on the page to enter my eyes.

01:00:18 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

01:00:18 Dan Host And come out... through my voice. So we don't have any more shows. We did our last show—

01:00:24 Elliott Host The, uh—live shows.

[Stuart and Dan laugh.]

01:00:28 Dan Host This is not the last episode of *The Flop House*. We have—
We don't have any more live shows—

01:00:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —for this year.

Elliott: Last night in L.A. was our—

Stuart: *[High-pitched voice]* What if it was? *[Laughs.]*

01:00:32 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
You know what, guys? We're done. So close. Almost made it to 300. Well, we uh—we're—yeah. That was our last live show. We have none more scheduled—as of yet! We will schedule more... someday.

01:00:42 Dan Host Yeah. So, I don't know if you guys have other things—

01:00:44 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Singing to the tune of "Somewhere" from West Side Story]*
There's a show for us.

Dan: —to play, but.

01:00:49 Elliott Host *[Singing]* Somewhere a show—

01:00:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** A lotta musicals this—

Elliott: *[Still singing]* —for us!

Stuart: Yeah, yeah.

Dan: —episode.

01:00:53 Elliott Host *[Singing]* And the show is in a city... most likely...

01:00:58 Dan Host *[Singing to the tune of "76 Trombones" from The Music Man]* 76 more shows over the next several years. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

01:01:01 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Wow, that's—really upping our—our number!
01:01:04 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Yep. That's a pretty big commitment. *[Laughs.]*

01:01:06 Elliott Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Uh, as always, Dan, I'd love to roll my children's book, *Horse Meets Dog*.

01:01:09 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
01:01:09 Elliott Host I have another children book coming out next year. I'll tell you more about it as we get closer to it. And—get ready, podcast listeners—because at some point, John Hodgman and I will begin releasing the episodes of—oh, Max Fun will begin releasing—John and I are not doing the work of the actual releasing. That'll be Jordan who's doing the work of that. Uh... they—uh, Jordan Kawling, that is!

01:01:30 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Who's listening to this right now, so I better say nice things or else technical difficulties will kill all of us! *[Laughs.]*
Dan: I mean—

01:01:31 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Oh, she's tearing—
01:01:33 Stuart^ Host —a framed photo of you in half! She's—
Frame and all!

01:01:34 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
01:01:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Through laughter]* Tore the frame?! But—John—
Elliott: —Hodgman—

01:01:37 Dan Host **Dan:** She's listening to us—
01:01:39 Elliott Host —every episode, Elliott. Not just the ones where we're—
01:01:39 Dan Host *[Feigning surprise]* What?! *[Laughs.]*
[Through laughter] —at HQ.

01:01:40 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
Uh, but Hodgman and I are doing a—have—we'll have a podcast coming up soon called *I, Podius*. We are watching the series *I, Claudius*. This is a touchstone series of John Hodgman's life; I have never seen it before. I'm familiar with the books but not the show, and uh, we're hoping to interview some of the actors who are—
01:01:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —in the show!

Stuart: Oh, that's really cool. And—

01:01:56 Stuart Host **Dan:** Yeah, Elliott, is this—
01:01:57 Elliott Host —that's part of the bonus content, right?
01:01:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk I think it's actually gonna be public release.
Stuart and Dan: Wowwww!
01:02:00 Elliott Host Everyone can hear it. Everyone!
01:02:02 Stuart Host But for bonus fans, we should have another episode up of our *Flop Tales* that we're moving through. Uh... Episode 3 should be dropping soon—

[Dan laughs.]

01:02:18 Dan Host —and that is where I make Dan, Elliott, and Juben play a roleplaying game with me, and, uh... you know.
And after a long hiatus, we will—we'll be recording the final episode of this series.

01:02:23	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: I like that—
			Dan: Soon.
01:02:24	Dan	Host	And I will desperately try to remember what <i>[Through laughter]</i> happened in the last three episodes.
01:02:27	Elliott	Host	Stuart is li—we’re gonna ha—I guess we’ll have to listen. Stuart’s always like, you guys aren’t picking up on the clues! And I’m like, I don’t remember what my character is, where we are—
01:02:33	Dan	Host	Yeah. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:02:33	Elliott	Host	—what’s going on.
			<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
01:02:34	Dan	Host	The problem is, Juben as well had a child, so it—you know.
01:02:37	Stuart	Host	I mean, I don’t think that’s a-
01:02:38	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: No, that’s a great thing.
			Stuart: —problem, that’s a <u>blessing</u> .
			Dan: A problem for <u>us</u> .
01:02:41	Elliott	Host	Dan’s like, “It’s a problem”—
01:02:42	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: Scheduling.
			Elliott: —the earth can—
01:02:43	Elliott	Host	—barely sustain the number of humans—
			<i>[Stuart laughs.]</i>
			—it has on it right now.
01:02:44	Dan	Host	I mean, I kinda believe that, but, uh... you know, he can do whatever he wants. Um...
01:02:49	Elliott	Host	Alright, Miley Cyrus over here.
01:02:50	Stuart	Host	And I’m also gonna plug, uh, my bar, Hinterlands, and my wife’s bars, Minnie’s Bar and Charlene’s Bar. Minnie’s Bar just started doing, uh, they just started doing karaoke on Saturday nights! Where I’m assuming Dan McCoy will ramble in every once in a while and sing such party favorites as “The Monster Mash”—
01:03:08	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Dan: Yup, I did sing that.
			Stuart: —and some song—
01:03:09	Stuart	Host	—by REM.
01:03:10	Dan	Host	I did sing “Monster Mash” at the first— <i>[Laughs.]</i> Night.
01:03:13	Dan^	Host	To, um—
01:03:14	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: I would say actually, you—
			Dan: —acceptance. General acceptance. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:03:17	Stuart	Host	—you had a <u>much</u> better reaction than I was—would expect.
			<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
01:03:21	Dan	Host	Well, ‘tis the season. Anyway. <i>[Laughs.]</i> Let’s move on to letters. From listeners like you. This first letter is from Emily, last name withheld.
01:03:29	Stuart	Host	Mm-hm.
01:03:30	Dan	Host	And Emily writes:
			“Hi, Floppers! I’m hoping you can settle an argument.”
01:03:33	Elliott	Host	Yes!

01:03:34 Dan Host "When my—" *[Laughs.]* Okay.
01:03:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Well— *[Laughs.]*

Elliott: We did it!
01:03:37 Dan Host Asked and answered! Uh, "When my partner and I first got together, we had a lot of DVDs."
01:03:41 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
01:03:43 Dan Host "A couple of years into our relationship, we decided to pull the trigger and *[dramatic voice]* merge collections!"
01:03:48 Stuart Host Wow.
01:03:50 Dan Host "Since then, our DVD collection has sat, gathering dust in the corner of our living room, on a number of rickety IKEA shelves. 99—"
01:03:58 Elliott Host Wait, wait, I just want to stop and praise Dan for the way he pronounced "rickety."

[Stuart laughs.]
01:04:01 Dan Host Well, thanks? I mean, this happens so rarely that I'm gonna take just a moment to enjoy it, but uh...
01:04:07 Elliott Host Hey, look. Infinite number of monkeys—

[Dan laughs.]

—an infinite number of typewriters, eventually you're gonna pronounce something right.
01:04:12 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* Okay. Well, uh... "99% of the time we stream movies. In the rare case we want to watch a movie from our collection, we usually remember it's a plain old DVD and not a Blu-Ray copy. So we download/rent a Blu-way—Blu-Ray copy."
01:04:27 Elliott Host I spoke too soon!

[Stuart laughs.]
01:04:28 Dan Host "And stream it to the TV."
01:04:29 Elliott Host "Rickety" was fine, but "Blu-Ray" apparently didn't—
01:04:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —make it past—

Dan: I mean— *[Laughs.]*
01:04:32 Elliott Host —the velvet rope. *[Laughs.]*
01:04:33 Stuart Host I mean, "Blu-ray" is actually a very strange thing to say. Shouldn't the movie be called a "Blu-way"? Because that's the way you're watching it! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]
01:04:42 Elliott Host What, blue?

[Dan laughs.]
01:04:43 Elliott Host I mean, I don't even know why it's called Blu-ray, to be honest.
01:04:45 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* It's—that's the kind of laser beam it shoots at your fucking disk!

[Dan laughs.]
01:04:48 Elliott Host A blue ray?
01:04:48 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, it's a blue ray!
01:04:49 Elliott Host And blue is spelled "Blu"?

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

01:04:52 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I—I just wanna say—

01:04:53 Stuart Host **Stuart:** That’s actually—
—a good point. Maybe it’s an acronym for “Blazing Laser Under Your Disk.” *[Laughs.]*

01:05:00 Elliott Host *[Elliott and Dan laugh.]*
[Through laughter] Wait, so where’s your disk come in?

01:05:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** It’s all part—it’s all mushed together!

01:05:05 Dan Host **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* It’s your— *[Laughs.]*
I—I just wanted to say that I mispronounce a word now does not take away the proper pronunciation of a different word—

01:05:12 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Stuart giggles.]*
Elliott: They cancel each other out.

01:05:14 Elliott Host **Dan:** — in the past.
Like matter and anti-matter. Pasta and anti-pasto.

01:05:16 Dan Host Uh— *[breaks off, laughing.]*

01:05:18 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
Newly and Antony Newly.

01:05:21 Dan Host Okay. Well, uh, Emily continues to write—or—or I continue to read Emily’s words, rather— *[Laughs.]*

01:05:27 Elliott Host Oh, thanks for clearing that up.

01:05:29 Stuart Host *[Dan and Stuart laugh.]*
It’s cooking along this letter!

01:05:31 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Well, you guys are the—okay. “I have suggested that we donate or—or sell off our DVD collections—”

01:05:37 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

01:05:37 Dan Host “—holding on to a few good favorites. I think it would be nice to free up some space in the living room.”

01:05:44 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

01:05:45 Dan Host “But no doing. My partner is convinced that the fall of the internet is nigh, and at least we’ll still have our precious DVDs to sell on the postapocalyptic streets at a profit.”

01:05:55 Stuart Host Yeah.

01:05:56 Dan Host “My question to you is: which side are you on? The Marie Kondo purge, or hoarding for the apocalypse?” That’s Emily, last name withheld.

01:06:04 Elliott Host Guys, if I can jump in ‘cause I actually been thinking about this a lot lately.

01:06:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh-huh!

01:06:07 Elliott Host **Dan:** Mm-hm.
When I moved from New York to LA, I went through a big VHS videotape purge. I said, I haven’t watched any of these tapes for at least five years. I don’t even own a machine that plays them. I don’t need ‘em anymore.

So I gave them all away. The movies I taped off television, I threw away. The factory-produced, manufactured videos I gave away.

And... I don't regret that. But. Lately, I've been regretting how much I rely on streaming rather than buying DVDs, because I've had a number of experiences where I wanna watch a movie, and I cannot get access to it readily.

01:06:36 Dan Host
01:06:37 Elliott Host

Yeah.
And, luck—sometimes I own it on DVD and that's great and it's wonderful, and even if it's not a Blu-ray, come on. Don't be a snob. It's still the movie. I—you—I used to watch stuff on VHS tape where the best you could get was that it looked crappy. So—but—now I'm realizing a lot of movies are not making it to streaming, especially older movies, because there is not a huge amount of profit in that.

So companies don't wanna waste the space on it. And I think there will come a time when... it dawns on people? Oh, I don't own anything. And I have to pay... every time I watch a thing. The same way that, like, I don't own a lot of music and I wish that I did. And at any moment, Apple could just take away all the albums that I have.

So I am actually on the other side of it now, and I am pro-physical media, though I wasn't before. But, here's the thing! Are those DVDs in their boxes still? Throw those fucking boxes away! Put 'em—

01:07:22 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —into DVD books.

01:07:22 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.
You don't need those boxes! Those are wastes—wastes of space! What, does it look nice on your—on your shelf? No. Put some books in there, look classy, and then put the DVDs disks—'cause you can keep the booklets—

01:07:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —if you want.

01:07:33 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Especially if—
01:07:36 Elliott Host —those were those, uh, those fucking cardboard, uh, DVD cases?
01:07:36 Stuart Host Yeah!
01:07:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk With the little, like, plastic snap on the side?
Elliott: Yeah, it looks like garbage!

01:07:41 Elliott Host **Stuart:** It's fucking garbage! Yeah.
Take—slide out the—the—the insert cover. Recycle that. Throw the rest away, and just take the disk and put it in, like, a—in the disk book, put it in a closet! You don't need to look at it.

01:07:48 Dan Host
01:07:50 Elliott Host
01:07:52 Stuart Host

Yeah.
But you'll have it for when you wanna watch it.
Yeah. I mean, I feel bad that I got rid of, uh, got rid of my LaserDisc collection, 'cause—

[Dan laughs.]

—now I have nothing to chop up and snort cocaine off of. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

01:08:00 Dan Host
01:08:01 Stuart Host
01:08:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk

[Through laughter] Wait, how do you have to chop it up?
Yeah, you gotta, like—
Elliott: The cocaine.

Stuart: —chop it up in a line!

01:08:03 Stuart Host Yeah. It's cocaine.
01:08:04 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Oh, the cocaine is being chopped up. *[Laughs.]*
01:08:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan laughs.]*

Stuart: Not the LaserDisc! That's insane!

Elliott: You wouldn't— *[Laughs.]*

Dan: *[Through laughter]* The LaserDisc! That's my T2 LaserDisc!

01:08:08 Stuart Host

01:08:10 Elliott Host *[All three laugh.]*
But even then, they—there are people who got rid of the LaserDiscs and there are things on those LaserDiscs often that are not available anymore. Like there's—

01:08:15 Dan Host Yeah.
01:08:17 Elliott Host —either documentary features or things like that, or better versions of movies, or.

01:08:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** No, I—I mean—

01:08:21 Elliott Host **Elliott:** The old versions—
01:08:22 Stuart Host —of the *Star Wars* movies.
I really—I really feel that with movies. And there's definitely stuff that I'm glad I have that I can watch whenever I want, any time I'm hankering for some *Riki-Oh: Story of Ricky*, and if... for some reason, it doesn't make—it's not profitable for a streaming service to carry it, I can just watch it. Uh, I've—just have to have a thing to play my DVD.

01:08:47 Elliott Host Uh, with music it's a little different though! I—I find that I've been,
01:08:48 Stuart Host uh, I—I buy a lot of my stuff off of Bandcamp?
Uh-huh.

01:08:55 Elliott Host And obviously I'd be nervous if Bandcamp would go away. But that
01:08:56 Stuart Host lets you download the actual audio files, so it's a little different than just, like, iTunes.
That's different.

But it's all, like—it's mainly modern stuff. 'Cause I'm kinda young and hip and I support—

[Elliott laughs.]

01:09:03 Dan Host —modern artists? So, yeah.
Yeah. I don't—I don't—I don't have a whole lot to add to what's been said. I agree with Elliott for the reasons that he cites, and also—

01:09:10 Stuart Host Stuart about the LaserDisc thing.
01:09:12 Dan Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

And also, y'know, even if a... movie is available to stream on a service that's either free or you're already paying for, y'know, the way that licensing works, they usually just license those movies for a certain amount of time, and it's here today and gone tomorrow. So, like... yeah. I like having it around, although... with streaming, I have curtailed my DVD collecting a little bit.

01:09:35 Elliott Host I don't buy as much as I used to, but I'm starting to buy more 'cause I realized, like, I wanted to watch *The Thin Man* the other night—

01:09:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Mm-hm.

01:09:41 Elliott Host **Dan:** Mm-hm.
I own it on DVD—

01:09:42 Stuart Host Uh—*Slenderman*, you mean? [Laughs.]

01:09:43 Elliott Host Yeah, yes. [Laughs.] [Through laughter] Sle—*The Thin Man*, the original *Slenderman*!

[Stuart laughs.]

And—'cause it's one of my favorite movies—*Thin Man*, not *Slenderman*—and, like, it felt really good—

[Dan laughs.]

—that I could just take—

01:09:52 Stuart Host I would love to see the, like, DVD box for *Slenderman*, where they edit [Through laughter] that—that—"one of my favorite movies ... *Slenderman*." [Laughs.]

[Elliott laughs boisterously; Dan laughs.]

01:10:00 Elliott Host And it felt good to be able to, like, okay, I can just pull it out of the DVD booklet and stick it in the machine and I don't have to, like, find it; I don't have to hope that the internet connection's gonna stay up or something like that, you know. I like—I'm—I'm coming around to liking physical media. I never moved from physical books to digital books?

01:10:17 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

01:10:17 Elliott Host And I'm glad, 'cause I like—I think physical books I'd—I'd be worried more about losing books and things like that.

01:10:21 Dan Host Uh, sorry, I have—about to sneeze, maybe.

01:10:24 Elliott Host Dan's suddenly acting like there's an invisible bee that's—

01:10:26 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —flying around his head.

Stuart: Yeah, I—

[Dan laughs.]

01:10:28 Stuart Host I—I do a lot of digital books, to be honest with you, but I keep like my favorites. Especially with, like, graphic novels.

01:10:32 Elliott Host Yeah.

01:10:33 Stuart Host Like, my favorites.

01:10:34 Elliott Host Oh—do gra—comics is different. Now I'm all—I'm all—almost all digital on that.

01:10:38 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

01:10:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** I wanna see—I wanna see—

Dan: This is fascinating.

01:10:40 Stuart Host —you get a—y'know, the—the—anniversary cube of the *Akira* collection, which of course you can't get that on digital. That's—that's silly!

01:10:46 Elliott Host The thing is, I wanna get it but I already have all those books.

01:10:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I've [inaudible]—when—

Stuart: Yeah, I bought ‘em—this is like, the fourth or fifth printing I have—okay. Go on.

Dan: Okay. This is just...great. Great audio.

Elliott: Look, I have so many different printings of, like, *Hellboy*. How many different printings can I get?

01:10:54 Stuart Host
01:10:57 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Stuart: Yeah, but there’s the—
—there’s the great supplementary materials that are all about—
Stuart: —like, unused—

01:10:58 Stuart Host
01:10:58 Elliott Host
01:10:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Dan: Moving on!
—art for the—
But didn’t they publish it—
Dan: Oh, god.

01:11:01 Elliott Host
01:11:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Elliott: —with the Japanese sound effects?
I can’t read Japanese! I don’t know what that’s saying!
Dan: Leo—

01:11:04 Elliott Host
01:11:07 Dan Host
01:11:07 Elliott Host
01:11:10 Dan Host
Elliott: How do I know—
—if it says “Karang!” or “Kabash!”
Leo, last name—
Uncle Leo?! *[Laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Leo, last name withheld, writes this:

“Dear Peaches,

My girlfriend and I need help. So I’m throwing myself at the feet of your sage and august tribunal.” A lotta relationship, uh, help we’re handing out today.

01:11:23 Elliott Host
What is this, *Savage Love*?!

01:11:25 Dan Host
[Stuart laughs.]
“Last month, Stephanie and I had to make a somewhat long drive for apple-picking purposes.”

[Elliott and Stuart laugh.]

01:11:38 Elliott Host
01:11:39 Dan Host
01:11:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk
[Through laughter] “Nearly two hours one way. And we knew that the only entertainment worthy of our mission was *The Flop House*.”
You got that right!
The official podcast—
Dan: —of apple picking! *[Laughs.]*

01:11:41 Dan Host
Elliott: You know you love us, baby! *[Laughs.]*
“I have been talking up the glories of Frank DeAngelo and Neil Bream, so we planned to listen to the *No Deposit* and *Fateful Findings* episodes—both Smallvember classics. Now for a long time, I’ve politely have insisted that the name of the month is Smallvember—”

01:11:55 Elliott Host
01:11:56 Dan Host
Thank you. Mm-hm.
“—and she politely rejects my logic on its face. Claiming that it is Small-tember.”

01:12:00 Elliott Host
Nope!

01:12:01 Dan Host “The round trip for apples was apparently the last straw, because we could hardly contain our laughter while arguing about the matter in Target a few days later. That is what it’s come to—public displays of animosity over the made-up name of our favorite movie podcast, small-production-themed, September episodes.

Please, Peaches—how can we resolve this difference between us? Perhaps you’d favor us with a vote? There are three of you!

01:12:30 Stuart Host Sincerely, Leo, last name withheld.”
Wow. Leo has really painted a picture—

[Elliott laughs.]

—of apple picking podcasting and product purchasing at Target!
[Laughs.]

01:12:37 Dan Host Were you thinking of that while I was reading, or?
01:12:40 Stuart Host Yeah— *[through laughter]* you can see—you can see the steam coming out of my ears?

[Dan and Elliott laugh.]

01:12:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk As the gears—
Stuart: —are working? *[Laughs.]*

01:12:47 Dan Host **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* As he flipped through a dictionary?
01:12:50 Elliott Host Now, if I recall cl—correctly, I... uh...
Oh, and you could also call “collect-ly,” as you were about to say!

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

01:12:55 Dan Host The other person takes the charges. *[Laughs.]*
01:12:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk Yeah. Uh... yeah. We—we—
Stuart: I wish I could—uh, I wish I could do that. *[Laughs.]*

Dan: —had a baby. It’s a boy.

[Elliott laughs.]

01:13:00 Dan Host No, um— *[Laughs.]* No, if I recall correctly—
01:13:05 Stuart Host Yup.
01:13:06 Dan Host —I coined the name for that month, but I misspoke the first time around, saying “Small-vember,” thinking that that was the pun that made sense. *[Laughs.]* Then realizing that the month was September—

01:13:20 Elliott Host And not Sep-vember.
01:13:21 Dan Host Yeah. So... Small...-tember?
01:13:26 Elliott Host Honestly, the origin of it is lost to history.
01:13:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah.

Stuart: Uh-huh.
01:13:29 Elliott Host I think it’s funnier to call it “Small-vember,” when it’s in Sep-tember, and I like the sound of it more.
01:13:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh-huh. I’m—

Dan: And I’m—
01:13:35 Dan Host —a stickler for logic, so I say Small-tember.

01:13:37	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: Let's see...
01:13:39	Elliott	Host	Elliott: And I like—I'm—I'm more— —like a go by my gut kind of like, hey, whatever feels right! Do what your body wants!
01:13:42	Stuart	Host	I'm kinda—I'm kinda caught between two warring houses here.
01:13:47	Dan	Host	Mm-hm.
01:13:48	Stuart	Host	On <u>one</u> hand, I could side with <u>Dan</u> , or I could side with the <u>correct</u> one— <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> —which is Elliott. <i>[All three laugh.]</i>
01:13:57	Dan	Host	Well, you're not gonna change <u>my</u> behavior. <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i>
01:14:00	Elliott	Host	Oh, so many have tried. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:14:02	Dan	Host	<i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> So I hope that helps. Uh, there's one last letter. Amanda, last name withheld, writes: "Peaches— This evening, I drove by a Popeyes, and it made me wonder—is Elliott—"
01:14:12	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: <i>[Through laughter]</i> A lot of "P" sounds in this one! Stuart: <i>[Inaudible]</i> [^] <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i>
01:14:15	Stuart	Host	
01:14:16	Dan	Host	For apple-picking! I'm glad that with all our plosives we're in a—a—professional studio today.
01:14:21	Elliott	Host	Professional!
01:14:22	Dan	Host	Uh, "this evening—"
01:14:23	Elliott	Host	Spudio!
01:14:24	Dan	Host	<i>[Through laughter]</i> "—I drove by a Popeyes, and it made me wonder—is Elliott still eating, uh, chicken when watching movies for <i>The Flop House</i> ? I would hate to hear that this control variable—" <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> "—has been lost now that he can't grab it on the way to Dan's! And speaking of the long-distance podcasting, do you all attempt to watch the movies at the <u>same</u> time? Or if not, do you agree to watch them in a—at a certain time period before the recording so that it's still <u>fresh</u> , possibly?"
01:14:52	Elliott	Host	We—
01:14:52	Dan	Host	"Yours floppily, Amanda, last name withheld."
01:14:55	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: So—

01:14:56 Elliott Host **Elliott:** We synchronize it—
01:14:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk —which is hard to do with the time zone difference.
Stuart: I'm assuming Elliott is—

01:14:59 Stuart Host **Dan:** I mean—
01:15:01 Elliott Host —eating, what, kale and avocado toast?
Yeah. Kale, avocado toast, sundried tomatoes—or as your wife referred to them yesterday, uh, tomato raisins—

01:15:06 Stuart Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
01:15:07 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah.
Uh, I—the—I—the sad thing—I hate to break it to you—I—I still eat Popeyes and there's one in my new neighborhood, which is great—but I no longer can eat it while I'm watching the movie because I'm usually doing the dishes while I watch the movie.

01:15:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Mm-hm.

01:15:18 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Hmmm.
01:15:21 Stuart Host Most of the movies are watched in three or four chunklets by me—
01:15:22 Elliott Host I mean—
01:15:23 Stuart Host —as I would do the dishes.
Based on the way that you, uh, clean your plate of Popeyes chicken, I would say—that's also kind of like doing the dishes, 'cause you could serve food on those things.

01:15:33 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
And—to answer the second question about when we watch the movies—uh, Stuart often busts my balls about—

01:15:38 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
01:15:39 Dan Host —watching the movies, uh, several days before recording.
01:15:41 Elliott Host Only because you forget everything!
01:15:44 Dan Host Uh— *[Laughs.]* Without—

[Everyone laughs.]

01:15:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk Let's be clear. My, uh, my—
Dan: —memory—

Stuart: That's his character!

01:15:50 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
My memory is a sieve and if I'd watched it the day before *[Through laughter]* I would remember exactly as much about the movie.

01:15:56 Elliott Host Hm. Alright.
01:15:57 Dan Host Yeah. But uh—
01:15:58 Stuart Host That's—that's actually probably the best pro-watch-the-movie-four-days-in-advance argument you've ever made, Dan.
01:16:03 Dan Host Yeah. Well, I—we just, y'know.
01:16:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** We—we fit it into our busy schedules.

01:16:07 Elliott Host **Elliott:** But we all—
01:16:10 Crosstalk Crosstalk As long as we get it done before we record.
Elliott: That's all that really counts.

01:16:12 Dan Host **Dan:** We try and do it—
—within, say, the five days before recording.

01:16:14 Elliott Host Yeah.
01:16:15 Stuart Host What I—my favorite way to do it is, because we've been recording normally at like noon on a Sunday; noon, uh, Eastern Time—uh, in case you were wondering—um, I— *[Laughs.]* I'll wake up early on Sunday mornings—usually pretty hungover—and my wife will go to the gym and I'll, uh, sit on the couch and watch the movie.

Uh, and then run right over to Dan's so that we can record. So it's as fresh as possible in my brain.

01:16:38 Elliott Host Now, when we do a live show we still watch the movie together that day.

01:16:42 Stuart Host Yeah!
01:16:42 Elliott Host Before the show.
01:16:43 Stuart Host Usually on... some kind of small screen so that we can get the whole picture of *X-Men: Dark Phoenix*—

[Elliott laughs.]

—or *X-Men: Godzilla: King of the Monsters*. Or *X-Men: Alita: Battle Angel*.

01:16:55 Elliott Host *X-Men: Alita: Battle Angel*.
01:16:57 Stuart Host Yeah.
01:16:58 Dan Host So let's move on to—
01:16:59 Stuart Host Doing some texting, Dan?
01:17:00 Dan Host Uh, my ghoul-friend has forgotten Elliott's, uh, address. She is—
01:17:04 Elliott Host Do not say it on the podcast, please!
01:17:05 Dan Host No, I'm not going to.

[Stuart laughs.]

01:17:09 Stuart Host How—why did you think that was forthcoming, Elliott?
Not gonna happen again!

[Dan laughs.] [Elliott laughs at length.]

01:17:12 Dan Host Um, so. Let's, uh, do some recommendations of movies you should watch instead of *Slenderman*!

01:17:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Oh, wow, okay!

Elliott: You got it!
Instead of the original *Thin Man*.

01:17:19 Stuart Host No! That's a great movie! I'll tell everyone—look, if you haven't seen *The Thin Man* before—that's not my recommendation for today, although it should be—it's one of my favorite movies—you gotta keep watching until Nick and Nora get introduced. The first ten minutes or so of the movie is setting up the suspects and the mystery, and I like that part, but it's not quite—it's not at the snappy wit that you're expecting?

But then William Powell and Myrna Loy come in and it's just non-stop bubble delight from that point on. Speaking of—you know what else is a delight? *Bubble!* From Max Fun! Written by Jordan Morris. Guys, uh, you're on your phones looking at things, so I'll recommend my movie—

01:17:53 Dan Host I'm sorry. There's—
01:17:53 Elliott Host So I'm gonna recommend the movie *Boy*. That's, uh, one of Taika Waititi's earlier films, uh, and it's about a boy growing up in New

Zealand in the 1980s, and he comes—he's in a—he's got a lower-class background; he's got a lot of problems in his family but he's the oldest kid in the family, he's 11 or so, so he's taking care of his younger siblings. And I think maybe cousins?

And his ne'er-do-well father comes back, and... at first it seems like this is his chance to connect with a man he has been kind of... making a legend of in his mind? Because he has, uh, so little to kind of look up to? And slowly it dawns on him, after, uh, experience with his dad, the reality of the situation. And it's—there—it's a funny movie and a touching movie.

There's a little—it wears its Wes Anderson influence on its sleeve? A little heavily?

01:18:38 Stuart Host

Yeah.

01:18:39 Elliott Host

In a way that, uh, Taika Waititi, uh, is kind of sloughing off with each movie he makes? I haven't seen the new one, but. But, uh, I really liked it a lot! So I'll recommend *Boy!*

01:18:49 Stuart Host

I'm gonna recommend a movie called *Three Tears on Bloodstained Flesh*.

01:18:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Dan: Mmm.

01:18:55 Stuart Host

Elliott: It's kind of the same movie. *[Laughs.]*

Yeah, it's kind of the same movie. Rolls right off the tongue. It's a, uh... tiny-budget, uh, Giallo homage. Or I guess—it's just a Giallo, uh, set and shot entirely in Southern Indiana using a cast of actors entirely from that area. Uh, if you were to ask me—should that movie be 2-1/2 hours long? I would normally say no, but I've also watched it twice in the last week. *[Laughs.]*

Uh, it's—I don't know! It's this movie that is clearly made, uh, for very little money. It—it looks cheap, uh, the—you know, the script is, like, fun and gross, uh, but it all, like—for whatever reason it—it's still—it's—it's—it's a great movie! Like, I c—I couldn't explain it. Like, every—I would watch and I'd be like—when I first started watching it, I'm like—oh man, this doesn't look that great. I'm—I don't think I'm enjoy this. But every scene managed to include, like, little nuggets that made—made me keep pressing on until the movie's over before I know it.

Uh, the—all the acting has a little bit of the, like, we're putting on a play for our parents vibe? But kind of in a good way? Uh... The special effects are limited, but they're fun. Uh, there's definitely a villain that looks kinda like the Nemesis from *Resident Evil*, but he's wearing a tiny little top hat?

01:20:15 Stuart Host

[Elliott laughs.]

[Through laughter] And that's really awesome. Uh... yeah! It's just—man. I don't know. Uh, it's—it's on Amazon Prime. Uh... so you can watch it there. Uh... yeah! It's great and weird. Check it out.

01:20:26 Dan Host

Uh, I'm gonna recommend a movie that—as of right now—I'm not quite sure how you can find it? But I am recommending it on faith that it will be streaming somewhere soon, and that, uh, you will remember that I recommended it and you'll maybe come across it and say—

01:20:44 Elliott Host

'Cause you want the credit.

01:20:45 Dan Host Well, no. I mean—it—I—I will get into it in a second. This is not something that necessarily you would look at and be, like, “Oh, this is gonna be good!” But let me tell you—it’s gonna be good. I went to see this at Alamo Drafthouse. They had a special screening of it. I think it was like a fundraiser screening for something.

Our buddy Matt Carmen who, uh... does a lot of the tech stuff for our live shows, said, “You wanna go see this?” And I’m like, “Yeah! I like hanging out with friends and seeing movies!” And so it’s a documentary called *Who Let the Dogs Out*. And it is about the song “Who Let the Dogs Out?”

01:21:21 Elliott Host That sounds like exactly the movie Matt Carmen would wanna see.
01:21:25 Dan Host Yeah.
01:21:25 Elliott Host All the time. *[Laughs.]*
01:21:26 Dan Host And it’s a trim 61 minutes, but it is delightful, and it is about the surprisingly tangled history of... who deserves the credit for writing the song “Who Let the Dogs Out?” and, you know, a lot of people said, oh, *Three Identical Strangers*—the documentary *Three Identical Strangers*, there are so many surprises along the way! So many twists and turns!

01:21:50 Stuart Host Yeah.
01:21:51 Dan Host I was more amazed by the number of twists and turns there are in the story of who wrote “Who Let the Dogs Out?” and... you know, whether someone heard earlier versions; whether they’re borrowing; whether it was something psychically in the air—over the course of the 60 minutes, it sort of becomes a documentary about... the way all artists borrow and... it’s hard to know, y’know—where something comes from and why a certain version of something becomes popular?

01:22:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Versus another—

Stuart: It’s like that moment—

01:22:19 Stuart Host —that moment when, like, Hollywood was convinced that the name “Chuck” was hilarious?

01:22:23 Dan Host Mm-hm.
01:22:24 Stuart Host And that they would find a way to fit it into everything?
01:22:26 Dan Host It’s exactly like that. And it sort of becomes a story, too, about like... the weird obsession that this guy who is unraveling this gets to— with—with such a silly thing and also, kind of, in a larger sense it becomes about how... any stupid thing has an interesting story attached to it if you work hard enough to discover it, or if you tell it in the right way.

So, um, *Who Let The Dogs Out*/
01:22:53 Stuart Host That’s just what it’s called? *Who Let the Dogs Out*?
01:22:55 Dan Host It’s just called *Who Let the Dogs Out*.
01:22:56 Elliott Host Some people might think it’s a film adaptation of the song.
01:22:59 Dan Host Yeah.
01:22:59 Elliott Host And it’s a whodunit.

[Dan laughs.]
01:23:01 Elliott Host About letting the dogs out.
01:23:02 Stuart Host Is the song a whodunit? *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

01:23:04 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* I have to assume so! I don't know the lyrics, but I have to assume it's—it's about a detective—

01:23:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —who's picking up clues—

Stuart: I can only imagine it—I imagine it—yeah.

Dan: It's about a party where dogs get let out.
And it—it probably asks more questions than it answers.

01:23:13 Stuart Host
01:23:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Guys, it's—

01:23:18 Elliott Host **Elliott:** I've been looking at the—
—Looking at the lyrics right now: "Who let the dogs out? Woof, woof, woof, woof, woof. Who let the dogs out? Woof, woof, woof, woof, woof. Who let the dogs out? Woof, woof, woof, woof, woof; who let the dogs out?" Sounds like a whodunit to me.

01:23:30 Dan Host *[Stuart^ laughs.]*
Okay. Well—let's just wrap it up! *[Laughs.]* That's been another Shocktober. 20—Shocktober 2019! Hope you had fun. *[Laughs.]*

01:23:37 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
Uh—we—we lay it to rest in its crypt and we lower the coffin down into the floor.

01:23:43 Dan Host Mm-hm.
01:23:43 Elliott Host Cover it with the dirt of its home country.
01:23:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh-huh! And possibly—

Elliott: Which is Flop-sylvania.

01:23:47 Stuart Host **Dan:** Mm-hm.
01:23:49 Dan Host —and a—a grieving Italian grandma.
01:23:50 Elliott Host Yeah.
Oh, of course! *[Elliott's approximation of an Italian grandma]* "Why?! You were such a good boy!" *[Laughs.]*

01:23:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** But Shockto—

01:23:53 Elliott Host **Elliott:** "You were such a good month!"
"A good theme month!"

01:23:54 Dan Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
But it is not consecrated ground, and Shocktober is an unquiet soul, so it will rise again.

01:23:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** When? No one will know!

01:24:01 Elliott Host **Dan:** Next year.
01:24:01 Dan Host Oh, next year?
01:24:01 Elliott Host Yeah.
01:24:03 Dan Host Well, no one knows when next year!
01:24:03 Stuart Host Yeah. Impossible to tell.
Maybe they're—maybe somebody'll make another horror movie before then that we can review.

01:24:09 Dan Host Yeah. It could be.
01:24:10 Elliott Host Could be. I mean, we don't have any theme months between now and the end of the year, right?

01:24:12 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** We—might watch the movie—

01:24:14 Dan Host **Stuart:** Don't we have—
—that we originally wanted to watch. *[Laughs.]* Well, but I won't spoil that.

01:24:16 Elliott Host Uh, and also—of course there's Cage-mas coming up. So.

01:24:19 Dan Host Yeah.

01:24:19 Stuart Host Don't we have Sandal-vember coming up?

01:24:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** That is a made-up thing.

01:24:23 Stuart Host **Elliott:** Oh, right! Sandal-vember! *[Laughs.]*
Or is it Sand-uary?

01:24:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Sand—no, Sandal—I—

01:24:26 Elliott Host **Dan:** Okay. Guys—
—I still want to do, uh, well we'll talk about—it was either Mom-uary or Mom—Mom-bruary.

01:24:30 Dan Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
I was just talking about how we need to wrap it up. So, uh—

01:24:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Okay.

Dan: For *The Flop House*—

01:24:36 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Cool.

01:24:37 Dan Host Dan McCoy is me.

01:24:38 Stuart Host Hey, I'm Stuart Wellington! And I'd also think you should check out other shows on the Maximum Fun podcast network!

01:24:43 Dan Host Mm-hm.

01:24:44 Stuart Host Uh, that's the network that we're on, and... there's a lotta great, cool, content on there. So check it out!

01:24:49 Elliott Host And I'm Elliott Kalan, saying—why don't you tell people about us, leave us a positive review on iTunes, tweet about us, Instagram about us, TikTok about us—

01:24:55 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

01:24:55 Elliott Host Snapchat about us—whatever your social media platform of your choice—they're all equally evil—please talk about *The Flop House* on 'em. I've been Elliott Kalan!

01:25:05 Stuart Host Byeeeee!

01:25:06 Music Music *[Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments plays in background.]*

01:25:12 Elliott Host *[Imitating Hank Hill from King of the Hill]* That boy ain't right.

01:25:13 Stuart Host *[Also imitating Hank]* That's—that's good quality propane!

01:25:18 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
[Still imitating Hank] Today's top story:

[Dan laughs.]

The boy ain't right. Propane remains the best heating gas!

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

And grill fuel!

[Stuart laughs.]

In other news, local neighbor Kahn Souphanousinphone—*[breaks off, laughing.]*

[Stuart and Dan giggle.]

—furious at his neighbor, Hank Hill. *[Laughs.]*

[Stuart laughs.]

We now turn to Boomhauer.

[All three laugh at length.]

For the weather.

[Elliott's regular voice, through laughter] Did they ever do weather on *[inaudible]* Report? I don't think so!

01:25:47	Crosstalk	Crosstalk
01:25:49	Stuart	Host
01:25:52	Elliott	Host
01:25:54	Speaker 1	Guest
01:25:56	Speaker 2	Guest
01:25:58	Speaker 3	Guest
01:25:59	Speaker 4	Guest

[Stuart and Dan both speak inaudibly through heavy laughter.]

[Through laughter] You see nightly news? The national—
The national weather?

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