

00:00:00	Dan McCoy	Host	On this episode we discuss— <i>Mortal Engines!</i>
00:00:05	Elliott Kalan	Host	The movie that will make you realize—cities that roll around on tank treads and harpoon other cities and then <u>eat</u> those cities? Are kinda boring.
00:00:13	Music	Music	Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments.
00:00:40	Dan	Host	Hey, everyone, and welcome to <i>The Flop House!</i> I'm Dan McCoy.
00:00:43	Stuart	Host	Oh, hey there, Dan McCoy! I'm Stuart Wellington!
00:00:46	Elliott	Host	Hey there, Dan McCoy and Stuart Wellington! It's me—Elliott Kalan! And I'm joined today by a very special guest: Brendan, say hi!
00:00:53	Brendan Hay	Guest	Hi! I'm Brendan Hay!
00:00:53	Elliott	Host	This is Brendan Hay. Uh, he's the showrunner of the Netflix Animated Series <i>Harvey Girls Forever</i> . Third season is out now?
00:00:59	Brendan	Guest	Uh, yes!
00:01:01	Elliott	Host	And he is also, y'know, a great friend of ours!
00:01:03	Brendan	Guest	Aww!
00:01:04	Elliott	Host	He's been a long-time friend of mine, uh, he was one of my groomsmen, and he has a boatload of stories from when he was the head writer of <i>Star Wars: Detours</i> , a <i>Star Wars</i> animated cartoon that never aired.
00:01:15	Brendan	Guest	<i>[Dan laughs.]</i> And never will!
00:01:16	Elliott	Host	We're not here to talk about that, are we?
00:01:18	Brendan	Guest	I mean, we can, but I think <i>Mortal Engines</i> is far more fascinating.
00:01:21	Elliott	Host	Yeah. So, Brendan, what brought you to—
00:01:23	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: — <i>The Flop House</i> today?
			Stuart: Yeah, it's—it's more fascinating than <i>Star Wars</i> . <i>[Laughs.]</i>
			<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
			<i>[Brendan laughs.]</i>
00:01:27	Brendan	Guest	Hey, look, guys—I think the success of <i>Mortal Engines</i> proves, uh, the world is hungry for cities that eat cities, and <u>not</u> for anything <i>Star Wars</i> -related content!
00:01:35	Elliott	Host	Yeah.
00:01:36	Brendan	Guest	Yeah.
00:01:37	Elliott	Host	<i>Star Wars</i> —it's too bad that it's kinda hit a downsurge.
00:01:39	Brendan	Guest	It really has.
00:01:40	Elliott	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> People aren't as into it anymore.
00:01:42	Brendan	Guest	It's about time! You know? It's—everything has its phase, and <i>Star Wars</i> is done!
00:01:44	Elliott	Host	You know, I was at Engine's Edge, at Disneyland?
00:01:46	Brendan	Guest	Oh, yeah, yeah!
00:01:47	Elliott	Host	And the <i>Mortal Engines</i> themed theme park?
			<i>[Brendan laughs.]</i>
			And—I was just having so much fun, riding around in the bumper cars that are shaped like cities on tanks.
00:01:54	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: Mm-hm.
			Brendan: Yeah.

00:01:54 Brendan Guest And Disney+ is going to be huge, because now they have the engineer—that spinoff of the—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:01:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Mortal Engines—**
Brendan: franchise!

00:02:00 Brendan Guest **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* The Enginorian! Yeah! *[Laughs.]*
00:02:02 Stuart Host Yeah, the Enginorian! It’s gonna be huge!
00:02:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —on this podcast?

00:02:04 Dan Host **Brendan:** Um—
Uh, wait, is Brendan done being introduced? I thought Elliott was about to say something.

00:02:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Nope.

Brendan: Oh, how I know you—or, yeah.

00:02:10 Elliott Host **Dan:** Okay.
I mean, I’m always about to say something—dudes, you gotta interrupt me! Once you—

00:02:12 Brendan Guest Yeah.
00:02:12 Elliott Host Once you—once I pop, I can’t stop. So I just—
00:02:14 Brendan Guest I will throw out the reason I know Elliott is because I used to have a *X-Force* Doop, uh screensaver? And when he was an intern and I was a writer’s assistant at *The Daily Show*, he was probably the only person ever on staff to be, like, hey, is that a Doop screensaver? And we talked for about a half-hour and there you go.

00:02:29 Elliott Host And we were—have been friends ever since!
00:02:31 Brendan Guest Yeah.
00:02:31 Elliott Host Uh—I mean, I was cooler than that. I was like, *[casual voice]* “Hey, sweet Doop.”

00:02:34 Stuart Host Mm-hm. Mm-hm.
00:02:34 Brendan Guest Yeah. That actually is more—more accurate.
00:02:36 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah. Exactly.
00:02:37 Brendan Guest You were the cool dude in the situation.
00:02:39 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah. I was the cool dude in my black jeans and tucked-in black Frankenstein t-shirt.

00:02:42 Brendan Guest *[Dan laughs.]*
[Brendan laughs.] I was gonna say, yeah. Might’ve been the Boris Karloff, uh—yeah.

00:02:46 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Yeah, you were, uh... you’re smoking cigarettes and staring at the ceiling wistfully. *[Laughs.]*

00:02:51 Elliott Host *[Brendan laughs.]*
Am I Sidney Carton in the trial scene in *A Tale of Two Cities*?
00:02:55 Stuart Host Possibly! Uh, I mean, I was kind of mashing up, like, a traditional French cool guy with Jordan Catalano. *[Laughs.]*

00:03:03 Elliott Host *[Brendan laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Okay. The coolest of teenagers, yeah.

00:03:05 Stuart Host Yeah.
00:03:06 Elliott Host Uh, so, Dan, what do we do on this podcast?
00:03:07 Dan Host Uh, this is a podcast where we watch a bad movie and then we talk about it! And today we're discussing *Mortal Engines*, which was, uh, produced by Peter Jackson and—

00:03:17 Stuart Host Now you guys keep saying that we watch *Mortal Engines*—
00:03:19 Dan Host Sure, interrupt me.
00:03:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** That's fine.

00:03:21 Stuart Host **Stuart:** But I'm pretty sure—
00:03:26 Crosstalk Crosstalk —I watched *Mortal Instruments: City of Bones*.
Elliott: Oh no! That's a different movie! Nooo! But it stars the same person!

Dan: Oh no!

Brendan: No!

00:03:30 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Now, the movie—the movie I watched—
—was, yeah. My—the movie I watched was a YA, uh, based on like a YA property.
00:03:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah? Well, that's—

Elliott: Oh, no, no, this one is, too. Okay, sure.

00:03:37 Stuart Host **Brendan:** That—that—that'd be correct, yep.
00:03:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk And there's, uh, the bad guy's last name is Valentine.
Elliott: *[Through laughter]* Okay, yep. You got us.

Brendan: Uh-huh. Yep. All check out so far.

00:03:43 Stuart Host **Stuart:** And it stars that guy—
00:03:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk —that was in that terrible *Umbrella Academy* TV show, uh...
Brendan: Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

00:03:48 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Okay. Have—haven't *Umbrella Academy*—
00:03:50 Stuart Host —but yeah, same guy. Yeah.
00:03:53 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* So... how—I watched the right movie, right? Um...

[Brendan and Elliott laugh.]
00:03:55 Elliott Host Most of the way! Let—well, why don't—
00:03:57 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —I talk about what happens in this movie.

00:04:00 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Robert Sheehan. Okay.
00:04:01 Elliott Host That was his name.
And you—why don't we—I'll talk about the movie and we can figure out how much it—it, uh, lines up or doesn't line up. The two "Mortal" movies that also star the same guy and have a bad guy *[through laughter]* whose last name is Valentine! *[Laughs.]*

00:04:11 Stuart Host 'Cause the only mortal—
00:04:12 Elliott Host And are based on YA novels.
00:04:13 Stuart Host —the only *Mortal Engines*—
00:04:13 Brendan Guest Prominently featuring cities.
00:04:15 Stuart Host No—don't worry about it. Let's just move on. *[Laughs.]*
00:04:16 Dan Host Okay.

00:04:18 Elliott Host No, no, what were you gonna say? What were you gonna say, Stuart? What were you gonna say? I dare ya! I double-dog dare ya.

00:04:21 Stuart Host Um, I'm—I'm checking my phone.

00:04:25 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Okay. *Mortal Engines*. So, guys, let's talk about the movie. The movie opens with a voiceover. Over the production credits, of all things? Uh, not over footage, but just over the names of production companies. About how in the future, society collapsed, and resources were scarce, so the age of the predator cities began.

Long story short: this is doled out to us in—not so much clues, but varied info dumps, so I'll just tell ya—the movie takes place years after the 60-Minute War, when a doomsday quantum weapon called “Medusa” destroyed the world's big cities, and now the only cities that are left are enormous vehicles on tank treads.

Something that—I never—was never really explained how the way for a city to survive was to become a tank tread city? Guys, did I miss—

00:05:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —the explanation for that?

00:05:07 Dan Host **Dan:** No, this was—like—uh—
—in a movie that I had a lot of problems with, this was my major problem, which is the entire premise—

00:05:13 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** The basic premise? Okay.

00:05:14 Dan Host **Dan:** —of the movie, the basic thing—
—in the movie, is that these cities roam around and—there's no explanation as to why, after the apocalypse, that is a better model of—

[All laugh.]

00:05:24 Stuart Host —living.
I'm gonna—I'm gonna—I'm gonna tell you right up top: it's so that you don't get blasted by somebody's Medusa laser.

00:05:29 Dan Host What?

00:05:29 Stuart Host If you're driving around—

00:05:30 Brendan Guest Ahh!

00:05:31 Stuart Host —if you're like, hotdogging around Europe, they can't—

00:05:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —blast you with a Medusa!

00:05:34 Dan Host **Dan:** Well I thought they didn't—
—have Medusa lasers anymore! That was the whole point—

00:05:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —that they—okay—

Stuart: Now the other thing that—why do they call it—

00:05:38 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Why do they call it a Medusa when a Medusa, traditionally, turns a normal thing into stone, and the laser turns stone into rubble?

00:05:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan laughs.]*
Elliott: *[Laughs.]* That's a—you got—

00:05:49 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Excellent point!
You got your bit! That's your tight five on the Medusa right there!
[Laughs.]

[Someone laughs.]

Uh, I have to assume they named it after their favorite parody of *Madonna: Truth or Dare*.

[Brendan laughs.]

The Julie Brown movie *Medusa: Truth or Scare*, is it called?

00:06:01 Brendan Guest *[Dan laughs.]*
00:06:02 Elliott Host I think that sounds correct. Yeah.
00:06:02 Dan Host Okay.
00:06:04 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Wow.
Uh—

00:06:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Brendan laughs.]*
Dan: It's—it's rare that you mention something, Elliott, that I have never, ever heard of.

Brendan: I remember that parody poster in a video store.

Elliott: Yeah.

Dan: But you did it!

Elliott: Really? Okay!

00:06:11 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Oh, wow!
Someone didn't have HBO growing up! Uh—

[Stuart laughs.]

The only place where you could reliably find—at any time of day—one of Julie Brown's two movies. That, or *Earth Girls are Easy*. Okay! So. Uh, we're open up, and there's this little steampunk city with a—a multiethnic cast. They all love each other. They're great. They're having a peaceful time. There's a girl who has a red bandanna over her face who lives there, but—uh-oh! London is coming!

And the city splits up into little tank cities with lots of smokestacks and levers—everything steampunk—and it gets chased around by London, which is this huge predator city that's riding around Europe looking for resources. Again, this is the best way for a city to exist in the after times—

00:06:42 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:06:44 Elliott Host Is for it to literally need more gasoline to run itself than if it just sat in one place and sent people out on horses, I guess. But uh, London, we soon learn, is piloted by—he's gonna be the villain! How do you know? He's played by Hugo Weaving!—

[Stuart laughs.]

—his name? Thaddeus Valentine.

[Dan laughs.]

00:07:04 Brendan Guest Who's a sort of—what's his job? He's like, an archaeologist-inventor-administrator-pilot? Like, what— *[Laughs.]* Like— Well—yeah. Which gets a little bit to, also, this does seem to be instead of the road warrior, it's the road bureaucrat? So instead of the—it's like, oh, here's a badass warrior with like, tons of fighters and flaming guitars! It's like, no! Here's an... architect? With a room full of, uh, navigators and some historians!

00:07:21 Elliott Host Yeah. He's got a good beard, though.

00:07:22 Brendan Guest He does have a good beard!

00:07:24 Elliott Host Now, Stuart, you know Hugo Weaving best, of course, from your favorite three-film series of films—

00:07:28 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

00:07:29 Elliott Host —the *Matrix* movies!

00:07:30 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* Yup!

[Dan laughs.]

00:07:30 Elliott Host So, uh— *[Laughs.]*

00:07:31 Stuart Host Yup! He said, uh... he was always, uh, chasing that Mr. Anderson, right?

00:07:37 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]

00:07:46 Stuart Host Uh, so here's where—so I—I was like—and this is around the point where I was like—so is it that the world is, like, too radioactive for the cities to stay in one place? I don't think so.

00:07:59 Elliott Host Nope! I mean, I don't think the—I don't think that specific weapon—I feel like part of what makes that—the blaster thing, the Medusa—is that it—it's not rad—it's not radiation. It just, like... fucks everything up.

00:08:00 Crosstalk Crosstalk Yeah, it's some kind of quantum energy.

Elliott: Which this movie needs, for—it doesn't need science.

00:08:02 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I wasn't—I wasn't paying attention to the, uh—
—exposition of the movie, so I can't remember exactly how they explain how it fucks it up?

[Elliott laughs.]

00:08:07 Brendan Guest But it fucks it up.

Sure! You were just too distracted by the production logos! Of course!

[Dan laughs.]

00:08:10 Elliott Host I mean, that—that would be an amazing scene, if it was like—in the 60-Second War, the Medusa weapon was unleashed. The Medusa—what does it do? It really fucks things up.

[All laugh.]

Like, it hits a city and it really fucks that city up. Like, that city is in deep shit. After the Medusa hits it. And the—and, uh, Peter Jackson's reading the script and he's like, yes, Fran, perfect dialogue. I love it.

[Someone laughs.]

Uh, so London catches one of these little cities. It hits it with harpoons and ingests it and starts taking in all the people and taking apart the machines and the old tech, and at that point—the cool part of the movie is effectively over.

00:08:42 Dan Host

Yeah.

[Brendan laughs.]

00:08:43 Elliott Host

We are about 10 minutes in at that point.

00:08:45 Stuart Host

Yeah, and I mean, at that point, that's also when you—we get—we finally get the title. Like, before the title, we see a lot of characters running around with a variety of wigs and variety of, like—

[All laugh.]

Ye Olde Victorian London-style outfits that are slightly post-apocalyptic? But not really.

00:09:02 Dan Host

[Everyone agrees.]

Yeah. I mean—you say that the cool part of the movie is over, but—I really had big problems with this, uh, opening action sequence. Not only is it incomprehen—

00:09:10 Elliott Host

Well, tell me about it!

00:09:11 Dan Host

Not only is it incomprehensible in the way it's shot, but like—it expects you to care right away about what's happening? When you're all—you're—you're baffled by these cities.

00:09:20 Stuart Host

Mm-hm.

00:09:20 Dan Host

Like—I feel like—we already mentioned *The Matrix*—like, *The Matrix* starts out with a big action sequence where you, like don't really understand what's going on. But you understand enough, in that, it's like... okay, this woman needs to get away from these—these people, and like—and then when weird stuff starts happening, like, you have these cops around who are like, what the fuck?! Like, acknowledging that it's weird?

00:09:38 Stuart Host

Yeah.

00:09:39 Dan Host

Like, here it's like—I don't care about these people right off the bat; I don't know what's going on with these fucking cities. Why do you assume I'm gonna be thrilled by this action sequence?

00:09:46 Elliott Host

Hey! All you know is the little city's being eaten by a big city!

[Stuart agrees.]

It's the circle of life. What are you gonna do?

00:09:50 Stuart Host

You're—you're like—why does this remind me so much of *The Pirates of Dark Water*? *[Laughs.]*

[Dan chuckles; Elliott laughs; Brendan joins in.]

00:09:56 Elliott Host

[Laughs.] And—as we've all known, we learned what the *Mortal Engines* are.

00:09:58 Stuart Host

Yep! The—

00:09:59 Elliott Host Which are?
00:10:00 Stuart Host The god-machines of the Adeptus Titanicus.

[Dan laughs.]
00:10:03 Elliott Host Yeah. [Laughs.] Well this— [Laughs again.]

[Brendan laughs.]

The—the Mortal Engine, we realize now, is our own heart, which will eventually stop beating and we're wasting its time watching this movie.

[Dan laughs, agrees.]

Now. Uh—so—we—good—you're—you're in luck, Dan, 'cause we're about to meet the hero of the movie—and I know you're gonna love him!—he works at the British museum. He's a clumsy eccentric who's very handsome. I would call him, like, a blander Eddie Redmayne?

00:10:22 Dan Host Yes. [Laughs.]
00:10:23 Elliott Host His name's Tom Natsworthy. [Laughs.] And he has a collection of dangerous old tech that he keeps hidden so nobody can use it.

00:10:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Instead of—

00:10:31 Elliott Host **Brendan:** And also Minions!
And he also—they have—there's a— there's a hilarious joke where, uh, there's some Minions statues and they uh—people think that they are deities from the old worlds. So here's what I don't understand—they have video of the 60-Second War. Of the 60-Minute War.

00:10:42 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
00:10:44 Elliott Host They... wear the same clothes; they have the old tech; why do they think the Minions were gods, when they should have a copy of—at the very least—*Despicable Me 3* on hand?

[Brendan laughs.]
00:10:54 Dan Host Yeah. I will go you one better—you talked about how everything was like, is—is steampunk in this world? And it does not make any sense to me. It's like, after the apocalypse, why isn't everything just, like, cobbled together from various shit instead of, like, you've got airships in the bot—in the—at the end of the movie there's like, okay, I guess Leonardo DaVinci designed this. [Laughs.]

[Elliott laughs.]
00:11:12 Stuart Host Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Why—why is basically everyone in this movie British?

00:11:16 Dan Host Yeah. [Laughs.]
00:11:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Like, did they not—did they not—

00:11:18 Stuart Host **Elliott:** Well, that too. They—
00:11:20 Elliott Host —get blasted by the Medusas?
That's one of the weird things is—London is—they're in Europe and they're like, we never should've come to—to Europe. But everyone they meet is British? For the most part? But uh—or—at the very end they meet a—a Chinese person!

00:11:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan and Brendan:** Yeah.

00:11:32 Elliott Host So there's that. Uh, but Dan, I think you're forgetting that after the apocalypse? I'll tell you one thing the Medusa can't destroy: humanity's innate need for style.

00:11:40 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* Okay.

00:11:41 Elliott Host So why should I be in some crappy old airship when I can be in one that looks to the past, but at the same time also looks to the future? I call it—the DaVinci 5000!

00:11:50 Dan Host Yeah.

00:11:50 Elliott Host It's retro. Real retro. You might even call it a Renaissance in airline design.

[Dan laughs. Stuart agrees frequently as Elliott continues.]

Let me take you aboard. The DaVinci 5000 has the latest state-of-the-art old stuff that we found in the remnants of the old cities and put together in some big heap of junk. But at the same time, it's got modern-day amenities. Now, modern-day is after the apocalypse, so those amenities include Twinkies—which, we'll see later, have survived—and also Minions statues. So the great thing about the DaVinci 5000 or 6000—I can't remember what number I gave this model number—is that it comes with Minions statues. Dan, how do you feel about the Minions?

00:12:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Stuart: Now—I-I—

00:12:21 Stuart Host

Dan: Uh— *[Laughs.]*

00:12:27 Elliott Host

I wanna jump in here. Before I purchase this, you know, before I put cash on the barrelhead—or “quirks,” as they call it—

00:12:29 Stuart Host

Okay, we got a customer! I love it! Yeah.

Uh, as—as our currency is called “quirks,” which is appropriate since this movie is filled with them. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

Uh—oh man. Uh—so before I do that, I—I'm in possession of a cassette tape that my mom made me—it's a mix—it's filled with '70s rock'n'roll.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:12:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk

She gave it to me before she died from alien cancer.

Stuart: Is there any way that—

00:12:50 Stuart Host

Elliott: Oh, yeah, yeah?

00:12:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk

—I could play this—

Elliott: Classic story.

00:12:55 Elliott Host

Stuart: —in the DaVinci 6000 or whatever you call it?

00:12:56 Stuart Host

You are in luck!

00:12:57 Elliott Host

[Through laughter] Oh, really!

Because we actually have—not—

[Stuart laughs.]

Yes! We have a tape player. It doesn't work, but it looks cool. And if you find the parts that would make it work, I'm sure you could install

00:13:12 Stuart Host them, too. And then you can bop around to your mom's favorite '70s
00:13:13 Elliott Host hits—let's call it, like, "70s Awesome Mix Volume 1—"
[Through laughter] Oh wow, wow.
Volume 2, of course, you'll save for the sequel. Uh—and—
[Brendan laughs.]

—when you meet up with your alien buddies, or perhaps when you read your dad's book about how love came from the stars in the form of Darth Vader or something, then, uh... y'know. It'll all be—you'll enjoy it really much!

So how much can I ask you to pay me?

00:13:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan laughs.]*
Elliott: We live in a world without a market for me.

Dan: "How much can I ask—"

Stuart: Wait, there's no—there's no—

00:13:32 Dan Host **Dan:** You can ask him to pay anything!
You have the power.

00:13:35 Elliott Host *[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]*
00:13:35 Brendan Guest I know.
00:13:36 Elliott Host Remember, he's paying you in quirks.
Oh, and you're paying me in quirks, so that's—one quirk is worth, what, like a—like a piece of turkey?

[Dan laughs.]

00:13:40 Brendan Guest I don't understand.
Well it's one eccentricity, so he could start wearing a bowler hat everywhere he goes?

00:13:44 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* Okay.

00:13:45 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Oh, wow!
That's true—so, yeah, you're gonna have to pay me by looking like a character from another movie who's been ported into this movie, as we'll see later on. Okay. So. We meet this—this guy, Tom Natsworthy—he's talking to Kate, a pretty woman who is looking for information on the 60-Minute War. I don't know that we ever find out why.

[Brendan laughs.]

It's basically just so that she can meet Tom, and Tom tells her—as he tells everybody—he always wanted to be an aviator, but he couldn't for some reason that is never fully defined as far as I can remember. And so now he's an apprentice historian.

00:14:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk So Tom and Kate, or—sorry—Tim and Kate—no, Tom.
Dan: Plus eight.

Elliott: Is it Tom or Tim?

00:14:17 Brendan Guest Tom.
00:14:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Right?

00:14:19 Elliott Host **Dan:** I said, “plus eight.” Is— *[Laughs.]*
00:14:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk Yeah. *[Through laughter]* Tim and Kate plus eight.
Stuart: I—I think it’s Tom. Right?

Elliott: They go to where a—

Brendan: Tom. Yeah.

00:14:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Is it Tom? Okay.
Brendan: Tom—Newsworthy or something.

Elliott: I wrote down “Natsworthy.”

Stuart: Tom Noseworthy.

00:14:27 Elliott Host **Brendan:** There we go. *[Laughs.]*
Or Noseworthy! It could be. Look, he’s more worthy of a nose than a nat. Let’s just say that. *[Laughs.]*

00:14:31 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Oh, wow! High praise!

00:14:33 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
00:14:35 Elliott Host Like the old saying goes— *[Laughs.]*
Like the old saying goes, “Better a nose than a nat. Better a nat than a cat. Better a cat than a hat. Better a hat than a nose. The circle of life continues.” *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]

Uh—Tom goes to where they’re processing the city that just got eaten stuff, and he impresses Thaddeus Valentine by identifying an old toaster!

[Someone giggles.]

And we learn that Thaddeus Valentine is Kate’s dad. Her name is Kate Valentine. We also meet Tom’s friend Bevis, who’s kind of a frost-tipped maintenance dude, and he’s kinda the Stuart Wellington of the—

00:15:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —movie, I think.

00:15:02 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah, he’s—he’s pretty cool—
—and kind of always underfoot. Y’know?

00:15:05 Elliott Host *[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]*
Yeah! He’s always there when you least expect it, and then he disappears for most of the end of the movie! Uh, so in that way he’s kind of like the Dan, too.

[Dan laughs.]

Ohhh! Anyway, so.

00:15:14 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Oh, wow.
00:15:16 Stuart Host Fair enough.
00:15:17 Elliott Host Uh, they've—and they find in all this old tech a dangerous fusion inverter cell. And Valentine is like, I'll take that so it can be destroyed and not misused. And you're like—uh, guys, don't give that dangerous tech to Hugo Weaving! He's obviously the bad guy!

[Brendan laughs.]

The only thing that would be worse is if his boss, Max von Sydow, showed up and took it from him.

[All laugh.]

00:15:32 Dan Host Yeah, yeah, yeah.
00:15:34 Elliott Host Okay. So the red bandanna lady from earlier? She finally makes her appearance. She jumps out and she stabs Hugo Weaving and she goes, "This is for Pandora Shaw!" That's right! We're learning the name of a character-

[Someone laughs.]

—we haven't met yet before the names of characters we have met!

[Dan laughs.]

Thanks, *Mortal Engines*! Uh, and Tom chases her around, and uh... they run through the giant chainsaw factory that's breaking up the city—

00:15:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —that got eaten, and she gets t—

00:15:55 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I'm glad that he, like—
I'm glad that he takes the initiative on this one. That he's like—he's like, fuck it, there's trained professionals here; there's guards whose only job is to prevent people from causing any violence—

[Brendan laughs.]

—instead, I'm gonna chase after *[though laughter]* this person.

00:16:08 Elliott Host Like, most of my job is to polish an old Minion statue, but no—it's time for me to take down this would-be assassin.

00:16:12 Stuart Host And he—
00:16:13 Brendan Guest Jump among the chainsaws.
00:16:14 Elliott Host Yeah. And jump through the chainsa—like, just like the old, uh, the old Metallica song, "Jump Into the Chainsaws."

[Brendan laughs.]

[Laughs.] Now, uh, Dan, Stu—how did you guys feel about this giant chainsaw level? Did you think it was just there for the *Mortal Engines* videogame that I assume was being developed that I don't know if it was ever released?

00:16:28 Stuart Host Yeah, yeah, yeah. It's—you gotta duck, you gotta jump—jump to the left.

00:16:31 Dan Host I mean, all I know is like, for a—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:16:33 Brendan Guest It's the, uh, controller tutorial!
 00:16:34 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah!
 00:16:35 Dan Host For a postapocalyptic world, they are doing pretty well. 'Cause they have figured out how to put entire cities on treads and move 'em around and they've got giant chainsaw rooms. I mean... like, for someone that—

00:16:45 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
 00:16:46 Dan Host —someplace that's supposed to be low on resources, they *[though laughter]* have done some crazy shit. *[Laughs.]*

00:16:51 Elliott Host They are wasting a lot of resources. It's a—it's a system that makes no sense.

00:16:54 Brendan Guest Yeah.
 00:16:55 Elliott Host Uh, but—good thing! It's also boring.

[Stuart laughs.]

So—so don't worry! Uh, you won't have time to answer those questions, because—or ask them—she—because—this woman, this mystery woman, gives Tom a cryptic warning, then jumps down into what is essentially the city's anus?

00:17:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk **All:** Mm-hm.
 00:17:08 Elliott Host And—
 00:17:10 Dan Host Yeah.
 00:17:10 Elliott Host Where all the waste material goes? And it's kind of implied that she... has—is in danger by doing that. And then Thaddeus shows up and Tom's like, oh, this woman said that you're a bad dude. And Thaddeus is like, yep! And he shoves Tom into the same city anus. And he falls to—we assume—maybe his death. But guess who saw the whole thing? That's right! Bevis!

00:17:30 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Oh, yeah!

Dan: Mm-hm.

00:17:31 Elliott Host And he's gonna go home to his friend Bett-head, and tell him all about it while they watch '90s MTV music videos!

[Dan and Stuart giggle.]

00:17:38 Stuart Host Y'know... *[long pause]*. That's it. That's all I got. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh enthusiastically.]

00:17:44 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* That's all you got? Now, Stuart—

00:17:45 Brendan Guest That's all the movie deserves.

00:17:46 Elliott Host I called Bevis the Stuart Wellington of the movie. What would you have done in this situation? You just saw a friend of yours get pushed—to maybe his death—at—into the city's butt by the man who runs the city.

00:17:56 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:17:56 Elliott Host Who is conveniently not surrounded by anybody, even though he was just stabbed. Uh, so—what would you do with that information?

00:18:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** What—what—what would you do?

Stuart: O—obviously—

00:18:03 Stuart Host —what I would've done is I would've pulled out my, uh, my hoverboard, and surfed down into that butt to catch—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:18:14 Elliott Host —to help my friend because I don't wanna be stuck in this boring city anymore. *[Laughs.]*
 Alright.

[Brendan laughs.]

00:18:16 Brendan Guest And Brendan, what would you have done in that situation?
 Um... I think the '90s music videos actually sounds like a pretty good option. Just to go back there and just—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:18:26 Stuart Host —y'know, uh, numb the pain of watching my best friend having been murdered—
 Mm-hm.

00:18:27 Brendan Guest Uh, with a little bit of, uh, Metallica's "One."

00:18:29 Elliott Host Okay. Sure. Yeah. Alright. And—and—Dan, let's—you do it, too.
 What would you have done in a situation. You just saw your best friend get—I assume—or maybe. I actually don't know how good of friends they are. They just bump into each other. Like, there are plenty of people where—if I was with a girl and I bumped into them, I'd introduce them, but it's not like they're my bestie or something.

00:18:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk Uh, Dan, what would you have done in this situation? Actually, let's say—you're Thaddeus Valentine. 'Cause you have a beard, too, just like him.
Stuart: Uh-huh. Yep.

00:18:52 Elliott Host **Dan:** Uh-huh.
 What would you have done in the situation? Would you kill this nice boy? Just to keep your secret that you're maybe evil?

00:18:57 Dan Host Sure, man. What do I have to lose? I've just been stabbed by this lady, like, no one else is around.

00:19:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** And Tom—Tom Nanceworthy's pretty boring.

00:19:05 Dan Host **Dan:** Come on. I gotta—
 I want to, like—

[Brendan laughs.]

—zap the world with my Medusa ray—spoiler alert—so I don't think that this one kid is gonna— *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]

00:19:13 Elliott Host —get in my way.
 Okay. Fair point. I mean, he does later—spoiler alert, we'll—as we'll see—blow up an entire prison full of people.

00:19:17 Brendan Guest Mm-hm. Yeah.

00:19:18 Elliott Host To release one zombie mechano-assassin. But okay! Thaddeus, uh, Valentine, he's like, the traction cities can't live in peace with the static cities!

[Stuart laughs.]

00:19:26 Dan Host Yep!

00:19:27 Elliott Host Especially this big Eastern city called Shan Guo, which has a big wall around it.

00:19:31 Brendan Guest I thought Shan Guo was the person.
00:19:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Who ran that.

00:19:34 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Shan Guo—
Uh, maybe—might be the same? *[Laughs.]*
[Brendan laughs.]

00:19:36 Brendan Guest Might be!
00:19:36 Elliott Host Okay. Fair enough!
It might be, the same way that, like, in Star Wars, sometimes a per—a name applies to both a race and a planet—

00:19:40 Brendan Guest Oh sure!
00:19:40 Elliott Host —and a person?
00:19:41 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah.

00:19:42 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Yeah.
00:19:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk Uh—I think he’s the mayor of Shan Guo.
Brendan: Okay.

00:19:44 Dan Host **Dan:** This is yet—
—another thing that’s not explained? Like, why, like, mobile cities and stationary cities hate each other and, like, what side we’re, like, really supposed to be on—

00:19:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Probably—probably jealousy.

00:19:55 Dan Host **Dan:** —whether—like—take Hugo Weaving—
—out of the equation. Like, why—why they hate each other and, like, why one is better than the other or more evil.

00:20:01 Brendan Guest Yeah.
00:20:02 Stuart Host It’s—I mean, it is—it’s—it’s very weird. It’s weird that, like, people are super-conc—like, Hugo Weaving’s nervous that it’s gonna get out that he murdered somebody who we don’t even know yet?

00:20:12 Dan Host Yeah.
00:20:13 Stuart Host Because like... this city just ate another city! *[Laughs.]*
00:20:16 Dan Host Uh-huh! *[Laughs.]*
00:20:17 Stuart Host Like—
[All laugh.]

00:20:21 Dan Host —I feel like these people wouldn’t give that much of a shit!
00:20:22 Brendan Guest Yeah. I mean—and also—
00:20:22 Stuart Host Yeah.
He could just be like... oh, yeah. Well, the person I murdered lived in a static city, so of course, uh, duh, she had to die.
[Brendan laughs.]

00:20:29 Elliott Host And they’d be like, ohhh! Yeah! Yeah!
00:20:30 Dan Host Maybe the fact that we don’t know why they hate each other is meant as some sort of, like, allegory against the meaningless of war? Because right now, it really feels like a Star-Belly/Non-Star-Belly Sneetch situation? Where it’s like—

00:20:41 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:20:42 Dan Host —I guess one’s better than the other ‘cause they think it is.

00:20:45 Elliott Host Yeah. And then—well—as we see later on, uh, Morgan Spurlock has them do a 90-day swap where they—

[Brendan laughs.]

—change lives for 90 days—

00:20:50 Stuart Host Oh, wow.

00:20:51 Elliott Host —and they realize they’re not so different after all.

00:20:52 Brendan Guest Aww.

00:20:52 Elliott Host It’s a very surprising ending to this act-belt-blockbuster-science-fiction-adventure movie!

[Brendan laughs.]

That a hologram of Morgan Spurlock—

[Dan laughs.]

—has them switch places— *[Laughs.]* And also then he supersizes himself and becomes a giant—

00:21:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —eats the planet, so. *[Laughs.]*

Stuart: Oh, wow!

Dan: yeah.

Brendan: Wow.

Elliott: Yeah.

00:21:07 Dan Host **Dan:** And everyone there is like—
—aren’t you problematic for some reason that I forget but kind of remember reading about?

00:21:11 Elliott Host And Morgan is like—

[Brendan laughs.]

—it’s because I unknowingly sexually harassed my assistant! And we’re like, oh, of course!

[Brendan and Dan agree.]

00:21:17 Brendan Guest That’s why it is. Uh—
But only for 30 days!

00:21:18 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah. They go—Spur-lock’em up and Spur-throw-away the Spur-key.

[Dan laughs.]

00:21:23 Stuart Host Mm-hm. Yep. Wait, who said that? The—the police?

[Dan laughs.]

00:21:26 Elliott Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]

Yeah, uh, The Police.

00:21:27 Stuart Host *[inaudible]*
00:21:28 Elliott Host Uh, ju—just Sting. Just Sting, solo, said it. Not the whole Police. Uh, so—

[Someone laughs.]

Uh, don't worry, Dan. You'll find out why they hate each other. Because they hate each other 'cause it's a movie.

00:21:37 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Mm-hm.

00:21:38 Elliott Host **Dan:** Okay.
Uh, so Kate, his daughter, disagrees! We can live in peace! And, uh, he gets a phone call from the Lord Mayor of London who's like, "Thaddeus! Your big energy plan isn't done yet! Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah." And uh, pretty soon Kate and Bevis are suspicious about Hugo Weaving's true intentions, because why wouldn't you be? He's *[though laughter]* Hugo Weaving! Anyway.

Uh, meanwhile, Tom and the red bandana lady, they're walking around in this wasteland of the future, inside the giant—train tracks or—tank treads of, uh, of the cities. And we learn that she's Hester Shaw, daughter of Pandora Shaw, because in the future, there are people who have dumb first names and people who have regular first names.

00:22:14 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:22:14 Elliott Host And the T—the Toms and Kates, and the Pandoras and Hesters, are in civil war with each other. And she teaches city-boy Tom how to drink mud and eat Twinkies! Which are *[though laughter]* kinda the same thing in a way!

[Dan laughs.]

00:22:28 Dan Host Guys, that's a real hot take. How do you respond to that?
00:22:29 Brendan Guest Uh...

We need to—I wanna say that we as a culture need to come up with a new shorthand for food that will survive the apocalypse beyond Twinkies?

00:22:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** I feel like we've been coasting—

00:22:37 Brendan Guest **Elliott:** Uh, why is that?
—on that for a very long time? Like—except—maybe it's just 'cause I re-watched *Zombieland* recently, but I'm like, they have the Twinkies jokes there. I feel like, everybody, it's like, cockroaches and Twinkies.

00:22:45 Elliott Host I mean, you could also—'cause you could say other Hostess products—

00:22:47 Brendan Guest Yeah!
00:22:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —are probably gonna last just as long.

00:22:49 Brendan Guest **Brendan:** I mean, that would be great.
And also, like, I see the stuff my children eat? There's a lot of that that will survive forever. So just—Hollywood!

00:22:55 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Come on! Be Holly-bread for once and pick a different item! *[Laughs.]*

Dan: Now, Bren—now, Brendan—

00:22:57 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
I don't wanna, y'know, as a non-parent I don't wanna talk about your parenting, but it seems like you're—

[Brendan laughs.]

00:23:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk —in control of what your children eat. To some degree.
Brendan: *[Through laughter]* I wish that were—I wish that were true.

Elliott: Uh—you—you—surprised.

00:23:08 Brendan Guest **Dan:** Yeah.
If, uh, Halloween week has taught me nothing else, I am a mere pawn in all of this.

00:23:12 Elliott Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Yeah.

00:23:13 Brendan Guest They have long cons and wheels within wheels going on all around me on how to get sugar.

00:23:17 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Yeah, yeah. It's—it's truly, uh— *[Laughs.]* It's truly, uh, cream candy rules everything around me?

[Dan laughs.]

00:23:22 Stuart Host Yeah.
[Brendan laughs.]

00:23:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk I also—I also find that, with children's hands being so close to the ground, they have a tendency to just scoop up stuff and toss 'em in their little mouths.
Dan: Yeah, like Twinkies. Yeah, ground Twinkies.

Stuart: Kinda like those—kinda like the city of London!

Elliott: Oh.

00:23:33 Elliott Host *[Brendan laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Yeah. Yeah. My—my—my baby boy, who's 15 months today, he is very much a miniature city of London, just walking around scooping things off the ground, throwing it in his gullet. I have to reach in and pull it out, and often it's like—best-case scenario—it's an old Cheerio. Worst-case scenario—it's a nail?

[Stuart laughs.]

00:23:50 Brendan Guest Why is this on the ground?
Well, it's from the mining colony he ate. Sure.

00:23:52 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah! Maybe that's it. Yeah. And inside his belly you're saying there's a little Hugo Weaving who's holding up—

[Stuart laughs.]

—little old-fashioned toasters?
00:23:59 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
00:23:59 Elliott Host And occasionally pushing little Tom Noseworthys at my son’s butt.
00:24:03 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah. Yeah. Yup.

[Brendan laughs.]
00:24:05 Elliott Host And then I open up his diaper and there’s just a little, like, faux Eddie Redmayne in there going, “Hey! I gotta get back to London!” And I squish him ‘cause I’m so scared.

[All laugh.]
00:24:14 Dan Host Much better movie. Much better movie.
00:24:16 Elliott Host Yeah. And then he radios back to earth and goes, “It’s a planet of giants!”
00:24:20 Brendan Guest *The Mortal Engines*, meet *Dave*.
00:24:22 Elliott Host Yeah. Oh, y’know—is it the *Mortal Engines* meet—Meet Dave?
00:24:25 Brendan Guest Oh, yeah. Meet *Meet Dave*.
00:24:26 Elliott Host ‘Cause it’s—if you—where *Mortal Engines* meet *Dave*, that would be the movie where Thaddeus Valentine is sick and a fake Thaddeus Valentine takes his place—

[Someone laughs.]

00:24:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk And he’s kind of a good guy and kind of a goofball?
Stuart: Uh-huh.

Dan: Yeah.
00:24:35 Elliott Host And suddenly he’s, like, making friends with Shan Guo? And everybody’s like, we like Thaddeus Valentine a lot!

00:24:39 Brendan Guest Yep.
00:24:41 Elliott Host So Dan got up and left because he doesn’t like it when I badmouth the movies *Dave* or *Meet Dave*.
00:24:46 Stuart Host Yep. Uh—we—we’re just talking about your opinions on the movie *Meet Dave*, Dan.
00:24:51 Dan Host Uh—
00:24:52 Stuart Host Now, the—it’s an ironic name because in that movie, *Dave* is like, a—is like a robot piloted by tiny guys. So he isn’t actually made out of meat.
00:25:00 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah.

[Brendan laughs.]
00:25:01 Elliott Host I think we might’ve made that joke about 150 episodes ago.
[Through laughter] On this—on this very show.
00:25:05 Stuart Host Let me... go back and listen. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]
00:25:08 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Oh boy.
00:25:10 Elliott Host Okay.
00:25:11 Dan Host It’s gonna be a long episode.
00:25:11 Elliott Host Episode 1—*Stealth*—okay.

[Dan and Brendan chuckle.]

So they get kid—so anyway, Tom and Pandora—and Hester, I’m sorry, Pandora’s her mom. Tom and Hester are walking around and

00:25:26 Stuart Host they get kidnapped by a kind of vehicle with fake ground on it? And
00:25:27 Elliott Host inside they get served tea and cookies because of course this is
continental Europe and everybody is British—
Mm-hm.
And Hester—

[Brendan laughs.]

00:25:44 Stuart Host —explains, eventually, that her mom was an archaeologist who
00:25:45 Elliott Host found something Hugo wanted—a piece of old tech—and Hugo
killed her for it. And left Hester with a bunch of scars. And Hester
was just roaming the wasteland as a kid. Hester obviously knows
too much, so Thaddeus Valentine, he goes to this big ocean prison
on spider legs out in the middle of the ocean—

Uh-huh.
—to release Shrike, a leftover zombie automaton killer from the
Lazarus Brigade, who's obsessed with killing Hester for some
reason. Stuart? Was this when you went, "Awesome!"

00:25:56 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* I—
00:25:56 Elliott Host And had to like—

[Brendan laughs.]

00:25:59 Stuart Host —hide your boner from the movie?
[Through laughter] Yeah. *[Laughs.]* I was like, I don't want the
movie to see it or else the Shrike'll take it off!

[All laugh.]

He—I mean, this was one of those great scenes where, like... it's—
you're starting to wonder if every—every, like, domicile or whatever
in this—every building in this world, is built in the most easily-to-be-
destroyed manner possible.

[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]

00:26:19 Elliott Host You mean, it's a prison that's on spindly—
00:26:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** — spider legs for some reason? *[Laughs.]*

00:26:23 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Uh-huh! And I would think like—
—like, taking a city and just slapping it on some treads and having it
fucking dune buggy around, like—that's gonna blow up. Like, that's
gonna... that's gonna fuck up. Like, there's no way that's gonna
survive. And then, of course, later on there's like, a pirate colony
that lives in the air and like, one Shrike gets there and then it's all
fucked up.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:26:41 Elliott Host There goes the neighborhood!

[Brendan laughs.]

00:26:45 Stuart Host So what you're saying is, in the future people don't think ahead.
00:26:46 Dan Host I guess not!
Yeah. I will say that there are, like, two characters in this movie that
I found interesting at all. One—

00:26:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Dennis?

00:26:52	Dan	Host	Stuart: Go on.
00:26:54	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	—was Hugo— <i>[Laughs.]</i> One was Hugo Weaving’s—
			Dan: —character. Valentine.
			Elliott: Bevis and Kate. Okay.
00:26:56	Dan	Host	Stuart: Yeah.
00:26:57	Elliott	Host	Just because—
00:26:58	Dan	Host	Thaddeus Valentine.
			Just because Hugo Weaving is charismatic, not because of any way that the—the part is written. And then Shrike, here.
00:27:04	Stuart	Host	Uh-huh.
00:27:04	Dan	Host	Who is—
00:27:05	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Dan: —like <i>Alien</i> .
00:27:06	Stuart	Host	Stuart: Played by—
00:27:09	Dan	Host	Played by the—the cable of my heart, Steven Lang?
00:27:09	Brendan	Guest	But he’s—
00:27:10	Dan	Host	Yeah.
			Like, he actually has the most of—like—he—his story carries the most emotional weight over the course of the movie? Like, the thing about this film is like, I have no idea who any of these characters are or why I’m supposed to care about them. And—
00:27:23	Elliott	Host	Yeah! I think—you’ve—you’ve pinpointed the main issue with this movie, is they did a lot of worldbuilding and they didn’t do a lot of character-building.
00:27:29	Dan	Host	Yeah.
00:27:29	Brendan	Guest	Yeah. And Shrike has the only immediately understandable character goal. <i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah. Of like, oh! I raised this girl; I want to get her back.
00:27:36	Elliott	Host	Yeah.
00:27:36	Brendan	Guest	Yeah.
00:27:37	Elliott	Host	And—and—of course, Dan, you were so excited ‘cause you’re like, “Shrike?! This a crossover with Dan Simmons’ <i>Hyperion</i> novels?”
00:27:42	Dan	Host	<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
00:27:43	Elliott	Host	<i>[Through laughter]</i> Yeah, yeah.
			And you must’ve been so disappointed when you found out it was a <u>different</u> unstoppable killer Shrike.
00:27:47	Stuart	Host	<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
			And you’re—and you’re a big fan of Dan Simmons’ <i>Hyperion</i> novels because, of course, his name is Dan and your name’s Dan.
00:27:52	Dan	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:27:53	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	<i>[Through laughter]</i> Uh, I mean I have—
			Dan: —read them.
00:27:55	Stuart	Host	Stuart: You also—
00:27:56	Dan	Host	—are not a fan of resolution. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
			Yeah. I have read a bunch of Dan Simmons—
			<i>[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]</i>
			—novels, but... not that one. Not those ones. <i>[Laughs.]</i>

00:28:01 Elliott Host That's why your favorite skins are Danskins.

00:28:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Brendan laughs.]*
Dan: Uh-huh. And I like dan-dan noodles.
Elliott: Yeah.

00:28:06 Elliott Host **Brendan:** And your favorite yogurt is Dannon. Dannon! Yeah, Dannon yogurt. Uh, Dan, what other Dan thing—oh yeah, your favorite play is those—is called *Damn Yankees* but you thought it was called *Dan Yankees*—
[Dan laughs.]
— for a long time.
00:28:14 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, yeah, yeah, and his favorite, uh, Disney animated movie that was later turned into a live action movie is *Alad-dan!*
00:28:20 Dan Host Now you would think—
[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]
— you would think that I love *Dan in Real Life*, but I was very angry at it 'cause there weren't a lot of pancakes in that movie. *[Laughs.]* I feel like it was—
00:28:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —terrible false advertising.
Elliott: Yeah. You're right. You thought it was—
Brendan: Fair.
00:28:31 Elliott Host —you thought it was the life story biopic of the inventor of the pancake pillow.
00:28:34 Dan Host Yeah.
00:28:35 Elliott Host The pillow you can eat!
[Dan and Brendan laugh.]
Why get out of bed? Have breakfast in bed with the pancake pillow!
[Brendan laughs.]
But no, you were wrong. But your favorite Scorsese movie is *Kun-dan*, right?
[Dan laughs. Brendan joins in.]
The story of the Danlai Lama?
00:28:43 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Yep. Goddammit.
[Stuart, Elliott, and Brendan chuckle.]
00:28:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** No, god-dan-it! *[Laughs.]*
Brendan: God-dan-it! Yeah. *[Laughs.]*
00:28:49 Elliott Host So, uh, anyway, so Thaddeus, he got—wants to free the Shrike from this prison so—but he can't do it with anyone finding out he's involved. So he just gets in his helicopter and fires missiles at it until it blows up—

[All laugh.]

And the Shrike is—this is after Valentine goes to the prison, shows up, introduces himself, and goes to see the Shrike in person. So everyone—it just doesn't make sense. Why would he do all that? Hester and Tom, they're at—out in the wildlands, they're getting—in the wild ways, they're getting put up for a slave auction. But they're freed by—you guessed it—Anna Fang!

00:29:20 Stuart Host
00:29:21 Elliott Host

Yup.

A *Matrix*-style freedom five—freedom fighter with little narrow sunglasses, and she's got a gun and a sword, and she has one of those big fights where all the bad guys try to attack her one by one, and she never runs out of bullets from her weird little pirate rifle shotgun—

00:29:34 Stuart Host

Yeah, she has, like, a—she kind of has, like, a Vash the Stampede type thing going on from *Trigun*.

00:29:38 Elliott Host

Yeah.

00:29:39 Stuart Host

Like, she's—and she's—in—I mean, this is—

00:29:42 Elliott Host

In that she wears a coat that looks like it's made out of plastic?

00:29:44 Stuart Host

Yeah, like a bright red high-collared coat. She's got giant hair. And she's, like, spinning guns and stuff! And some—

00:29:50 Brendan Guest

And her name's out of a *They Might Be Giants* album.

00:29:52 Stuart Host

Exactly. [Laughs.]

00:29:53 Elliott Host

Oh, yeah. And so, uh, Dan, this was your—obviously, your favorite character. Right? Anna Fang?

00:29:58 Dan Host

Uh... you know, like... again, there's not really a lot of—of... energy put into making this person interesting? Like, the—

00:30:09 Stuart Host

She looks pretty cool, though.

00:30:10 Dan Host

Yeah, but the idea was just—I think she's one of these people where—

00:30:13 Elliott Host

She's got those little sunglasses!

00:30:15 Stuart Host

Yup!

00:30:16 Dan Host

Yes. But I think the idea of—

00:30:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Dan: —this character—

00:30:18 Stuart Host

Stuart: And everybody else is super—

00:30:23 Dan Host

—like, dirty, and covered in dirt. But she's, like bright and fresh.

00:30:23 Elliott Host

Mm-hm.

And they—Dan, they did do the job of casting an Asian woman in the part, which this movie takes as a character.

[Brendan laughs.]

00:30:33 Dan Host

Like... well, we know who her character is! She's Asian!

No, but what I was gonna say was—like, it's one of these characters where they think it's cool just to make her steely all the time?

00:30:40 Elliott Host

Yeah, like Steely Dan, your favorite band!

[Dan laughs.]

00:30:43 Dan Host

'Cause it's got "Dan" in the name!

00:30:45 Stuart Host

Yeah, and I'm a 41-year-old man. [Laughs.]

Yeah.

00:30:47 Brendan Guest *[Brendan and Elliott laugh.]*
00:30:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk Look, the Venn diagram fits. It all overlaps.
Dan: Yeah.

00:30:50 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah.
00:30:52 Dan Host You're either gonna listen to Steely Dan or Dan Folgo—Fogelberg.
Mm-hm.

00:30:54 Dan Host *[Brendan laughs.]*
00:30:56 Elliott Host Uh... that's all I have to say about that.
00:30:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk Uh, wait, no, you didn't even finish. *[Laughs.]*
Elliott: That was a half a sentence then we *[though laughter]* lost you.

00:31:01 Dan Host **Stuart:** Dan—Dan's texting someone. *[Laughs.]*
00:31:03 Elliott Host Well, I just thought—I mean, like—I got interrupted so much—
No, Dan, that's cool, 'cause—no, I mean, you're—you're—you only have a limited amount of time to text so we're going to be recording all day.

00:31:07 Dan Host I—I— *[Laughs.]*
00:31:09 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* So.
00:31:09 Dan Host I only—well, I mean, if the fifth time I'm interrupted I feel like—when I'm set—I'm trying to say is not actually valued by the group, so I gave up.

00:31:17 Elliott Host Well, of course it's not! But we—
00:31:18 Brendan Guest It's valued by me, Dan.
00:31:19 Elliott Host Nuh—oh, that's why Bren-dan is here!

[Brendan laughs.]

00:31:24 Dan Host Because he—he values it and he's your favorite cohost right now 'cause his name has Dan in it!
No, it's just what I—what I'm saying before, is like, the characters are not developed. They're given one thing. Her thing is emotionless, which is the least interesting thing. *[Laughs.]* So...
00:31:33 Stuart Host But she's, like, good at fighting and stuff!
00:31:35 Dan Host Yeah. I want—
00:31:36 Elliott Host Uh, Dan—I think you're gonna like her a lot more, 'cause she's about to take them on her airship to—Airhaven! The floating pirate city staffed by young, attractive, multie—multiethnic freedom fighters with goggles on their heads!

00:31:48 Dan Host Dan: Yeah.

00:31:49 Elliott Host Stuart: Mm-hm.
Now, this is when we first start to see people who are not British in the movie.

00:31:52 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah. I was ho—I was really hoping, like—

00:31:54 Stuart Host **Elliott:** And I was like—
Porco Rosso was gonna show up. Or—

00:31:58 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
00:32:00 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Through laughter]* I mean, that would've been ama—I mean—
Brendan: Such a better movie! *[Laughs.]*

Elliott: —this movie—

00:32:01 Elliott Host At this point, this movie should just become *Ready, Player One* and just be pulling in characters from other movies since that what they want so badly.

00:32:05 Brendan Guest We'll just send Shrike and Porco Rosso off on an adventure together and we're set!

00:32:09 Elliott Host That would be fantastic.

00:32:10 Dan Host Also, can I say that, like, every air city since Cloud City in *Empire Strikes Back* has had to have these kind of, like, uh, like basically electronic stalagmites on the bottom of them? Like, antennae coming down the bottom? And like, that's great. That's a great design, but wh—why have we decided that's the thing? You—y'know, Come on.

00:32:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Do a different thing.

00:32:32 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah, why didn't you—

00:32:34 Dan Host —carry over the Ugnaughts?
Yeah! *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]

00:32:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** More Ugnaughts, please!

00:32:36 Stuart Host **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* Yeah. If you're gonna do it! *[Laughs.]*
Which is... kinda like Porco Rosso, basically. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

00:32:39 Elliott Host Yeah, I mean, yes, it is—they are—

00:32:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** They are the Porco Rossos of the Star Wars universe.

00:32:42 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Yet again, yeah! Yeah!

00:32:43 Brendan Guest Let me—a true story!

00:32:43 Elliott Host Oh, man.
Uh, we—I was showing Sammy *Empire Strikes Back*, and he could not wait for the Ugnaughts to be on.

[Dan and Brendan laugh.]

And—I think he was disappointed that they have relatively little screen time.

00:32:51 Stuart Host Uh-huh! And— *[Laughs.]*

00:32:52 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** And then the—when they're there, they're unpleasant. *[Laughs.]*

Elliott: But not as disappointed as he was—

[Dan laughs.]

00:32:55 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* And—they're also very—they're very unpleasant! And they're—they're basically, like, if you met an Oompa-Loompa in real life you'd be like, whoa!

[Dan laughs.]

[Through laughter] This is—a little—this is weird. This guy is not cool. And do you think the Ugnaughts are singing in their own language?

00:33:08 Brendan Guest They are. So to pull back the curtain on *Detours*, weirdly enough, uh... we—yes. The Ugnights very much are singing in their own language.

00:33:15 Elliott Host Okay.

00:33:16 Brendan Guest Um, we did an entire episode where it was—the Ugnights are basically the most obnoxious species, according to George Lucas—

00:33:21 Elliott Host Uh-huh. *[Laughs.]*

00:33:22 Brendan Guest They were intended to be aggressive and obnoxious, so we did an episode about how they're really shitty roommates, and, uh, what they're actually trying to talk about is their SKA band. This is—I am not kidding you, this is actually—it's an episode of TV that'll never air.

00:33:32 Elliott Host *[Varied expressions of disappointment]*

00:33:33 Elliott Host Oh, man, I wanna see it so badly! Uh, guys? We're gonna have to break into the Lucasfilm vault.

00:33:38 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

00:33:39 Elliott Host And steal that stuff, along with the original Salacious Crumb puppet—

00:33:41 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —for my own personal amusement.

Brendan: Naturally! The original Howard the Duck is in there, too.

Stuart: So Dan—

Dan: I mean, is it literally in the Disney vault now that, uh—it's all been bought by Disney?

00:33:48 Brendan Guest Oh, no, no. It's all up in San Rafael, uh, in Northern California.

00:33:50 Stuart Host So Dan, I think it's finally—

00:33:52 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —time for you to—

Brendan: Pretty easy!

00:33:53 Stuart Host —break out that pair of, uh, stretchy pants you bought from the *Entrapment*, uh— *[Laughs.]* Set? *[Laughs.]*

00:33:57 Dan Host Okay.

[All laugh.]

00:33:59 Stuart Host Uh, costume and set sale?

00:34:00 Elliott Host When they—

00:34:00 Dan Host Yeah.

00:34:01 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* When they—when they were auctioning off all the props and costumes from *Entrapment*? And Dan was like—if they can make Catherine Zeta-Jones's butt look that good, they'll do wonders on my butt. And it's like, Dan—her butt is always—already looks great!

[Dan laughs.]

I don't understand—you don't know how butts work?

[Brendan laughs.]

00:34:13 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** You think it's just the pants?

Stuart: He's like, I thought—

00:34:15 Stuart Host —it was the lasers that did that! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:34:18 Elliott Host That was. We've talked about it many years ago on the podcast, how amazing it is that that movie was essentially sold on one shot—

[Stuart laughs.]

—of the main actress's butt.

[All laugh.]

I think that was the shot in the—in—I'm surprised it wasn't the poster.

[Dan laughs.]

Was just her—her butt under a laser beam. But. Uh, which brings me to a movie pitch, guys!

00:34:35 Brendan Guest Oh yeah.

00:34:36 Elliott Host It's called *Laser Butt*.

[All laugh.]

Now, you'd think it's about someone who can fart lasers, and you'd be right.

00:34:41 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Mm-hm.

00:34:41 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Mm.
Now, who—who should we cast in this movie? It's not a comedy, keep in mind.

[Someone laughs.]

It's a tense political thriller.

[Someone laughs.]

00:34:47 Brendan Guest Catherine Zeta-Jones is age-appropriate now to be the mentor figure.

00:34:50 Elliott Host Okay.

00:34:50 Brendan Guest Who trains the younger, chosen Laser Butt.

00:34:52 Elliott Host Okay, but who would be the young Laser Butt? Dan, you're a perv!

00:34:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Who would you cast?

00:34:55 Dan Host **Dan:** Well, uh—
I don't have answer for this, but as long as we're talking about butts, I do wanna say... uh, like—spoiler alert! At the end of this movie, uh, Hugo Weaving gets crushed by his own city? And, uh, my girlfriend turned to me and was like, "So if you had an ironic death"— *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

"What would it be?" And I'm like, uh, probably crushed by a giant butt?

00:35:14 Stuart Host Mm-hm. Yep.

[All laugh.]

00:35:16 Elliott Host Uh, ironic death, or the death you chose?

00:35:18 Dan Host *[All laugh.]*
Well—uh, y’know, a little from column a, a little from column b.
[Laughs.]

00:35:23 Elliott Host *[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]*
Yeah. So anyway, we’re gonna learn—now they’re in Airhaven and we learn the story of how Shrike found Hesper as a girl, raised her, and she promised that one day he could make her into a robot like him, and then she decided—I don’t wanna be a robot! And she left and he got mad. Shrike attacks Airhaven. You know it’s gonna happen.

00:35:51 Dan Host There’s a big fight, and it ends when Shrike sees that Hester loves Tom and forgives her. And gives her a locket from her mom and shuts down while remembering his memories of her as a child. And this all happens just in time for it to be too late, because Airhaven is crashing and on fire.

00:35:57 Crosstalk Crosstalk Yeah, it’s like—why don’t you have this realization that you’re gonna turn good before you destroy this whole city?
Dan: And by—no, go on. Sorry.

00:36:00 Elliott Host *[Brendan laughs.]*
Elliott: Yeah. And also, it’s one of those things—
No, no. It just—that—that he—he notices that they’re in love in the way of, like, similar to the principal noticing that that girl is in real trouble in *The Book of Henry*?

00:36:07 Brendan Guest Mm-hm. *[Laughs.]*

00:36:08 Elliott Host Where he just kind of looks into her eyes and, like, sees her emotions? Straight through?

00:36:11 Dan Host Well, and this was another thing that made me really angry while watching the movie, where I’m just like—what have we been given to show these two being in love? Other than the fact that they are the male and female leads of a movie. Like... she...

00:36:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Hmm... Let’s see.

00:36:27 Dan Host **Dan:** —kind of warms to him in that she—
—doesn’t let him die over the course of the film—
[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]
—but there’s—there’s nothing that shows that they have, like some sort of connection.

00:36:33 Stuart Host Well, she could—yeah, she could’ve cut him loose when he was hanging from a rope, but instead she threw the knife to him.

00:36:38 Dan Host Yeah, I guess that’s love, guys.

00:36:39 Stuart Host And the power of love allowed him to catch it.

00:36:41 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah.

00:36:43 Elliott Host Yeah. *[Elliott laughs.]*
[Brendan laughs.]

00:36:44 Stuart Host Now, don’t you think she would suffer some kind of consequences from these air pirates for... like, knowing that this Shrike dude was

chasing her and she led him right to Airhaven and then Airhaven was exploded?

00:36:56 Elliott Host Uh, you'd think so. But they don't even have time to talk about that, because—uh-oh!—Thaddeus found Tom's cache of old tech and he's used it to rebuild the Medusa!

00:37:04 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

00:37:05 Elliott Host And it turns out when he killed Hester's mom—the tech she found? Was the Medusa—

[Someone gasps.]

—control system! Oh nooo! He's got it working, kills the Lord Mayor of London with just an Uzi—

00:37:14 Dan Host Yeah.

00:37:15 Elliott Host —in the—uh—and he doesn't even have a cool—he doesn't even have a cool catchphrase line, right?

00:37:18 Dan Host No.

00:37:19 Brendan Guest It's actually shockingly graphic and direct, that execution. *[Laughs.]*

00:37:22 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:37:22 Brendan Guest Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

00:37:23 Elliott Host Uh—especially—well, it is *Mortal Engines*.

00:37:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Mm-hm.

Dan: Yeah.

Brendan: That's certainly—

00:37:24 Brendan Guest You know what? That's true!

00:37:26 Elliott Host And the movie's got “mortal” in the title.

00:37:27 Brendan Guest Mm-hm.

00:37:27 Elliott Host You know there's probably going to be combat.

00:37:28 Stuart Host Mm-hm. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

00:37:30 Elliott Host And it's gonna be spelled with a “k”—

00:37:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** And that ‘k’ stands for home run. A strike out?

Brendan: But that's why I assumed he was gonna—I assumed he was—

00:37:33 Brendan Guest —gonna freeze the room. *[Laughs.]* Not shoves him.

00:37:35 Elliott Host Oh yeah, that's right. So guys—what *Mortal Kombat* characters would you wish were in the movie? Maybe instead of Strike? Or Shrike, I should say.

00:37:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Uh... I was more of a—

Elliott: Strike is a—not a—

00:37:42 Elliott Host —is not a character in the movie.

00:37:43 Dan Host I was more of a Street Fighter guy, so I actually don't know the—

00:37:45 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —*Mortal Kombat* characters that well.

[Elliott sighs deeply.]

Stuart: Mm. Cool. Yeah.

00:37:47 Stuart Host You're—you're more into like, uh, like spacing and—

00:37:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —poking and all that sort of stuff. Y'know.

Dan: Why are you sighing? I like—

00:37:51 Dan Host It's just a—a true fact about me! I'm just saying!
00:37:54 Elliott Host No, no, it is—it is the mo—it is the most Dan moment for me to be like—

[Brendan laughs.]

00:38:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk “Hey, what’s a character from a video game you’d like, as a goof” and you’re like, “Um, no—and—”
Elliott: “—I don’t know that video game.”

[Brendan laughs.]

Dan: But I don’t know the characters! What am I supposed to do?

00:38:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** *[Laughs.]* I mean, dude—
Elliott: So—so—name a—name a street fighter!

00:38:08 Dan Host **Stuart:** There’s a guy named Raiden in it!
Alright, I’ll make up one! Uh…

[Elliott laughs.]

Strike-knife is my favorite! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:38:13 Stuart Host That—well—I mean—
00:38:14 Elliott Host Now what is—
00:38:15 Stuart Host There is a guy named Striker.
00:38:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** *[Laughs.]* There’s—

Dan: Oh, okay.

Stuart: Maybe that’s who Dan’s talking about.

Brendan: And there is Scorpion, who throws a strike knife.

Stuart: That—that’s actually true, yeah.

Elliott: Yeah, so.

Stuart: Now, that’s—

Dan: Wait, is—is—is Ice—Ice Subzero? Okay. Subzero.

Stuart: Subzero, yep, that’s a character. Yep. He’s one of the originals.

00:38:26 Elliott Host His name—yeah. Okay. He’s one of the OGs of MK.
00:38:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** *[Laughs.]* Yeah.

00:38:30 Brendan Guest **Stuart:** *[Laughs.]* Yeah.
00:38:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk Uh, I’ll go with Gor—what is it, Goro is the—
Elliott: Goro? Yeah, with four arms?

Stuart: Uh-huh.

Brendan: Goro?

00:38:33 Brendan Guest Because everything should have four arms. It's just more fun that way. So yeah.

00:38:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** *[Through laughter]* Yeah, that's—that's his—that's his tagline. *[Laughs.]*

00:38:39 Dan Host **Elliott:** Yeah. And I'm gonna with uh, Noob Saibot. *[Laughs.]* I mean, I do ha—I do have four arms. I don't know what you're talking about.

00:38:43 Elliott Host Everything's more fun with four arms! Oh yeah, Dan, you have forearms, that's true. On your arms.

00:38:47 Dan Host Yeah. Anyway.

00:38:49 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:38:49 Dan Host That's a pun, guys!

00:38:51 Elliott Host So—

[Dan laughs. Brendan joins in.]

00:39:04 Stuart Host Yeah. So anyway, he's got the Medusa working and now he's going to attack Shan Guo! Shan Guo turns out to be kind of this vaguely pan-Asian kind of *TaleSpin*, *Only Angels Have Wings*, 1930s *Temple of Doom* early scenes type place?

00:39:05 Elliott Host Uh-huh.

And uh, the mayor of Shan Guo is like, a, a wise old man in robes with a—some kind of magic amulet that I kept assuming was gonna shoot lasers but it wa—maybe it was just he won it in the Olympics? I dunno.

[Brendan laughs.]

In the last Olympics before the 60-Minute War? There's a big fight between London and the Shan Guo air fleet, which is made up of—as Dan said—a lot of, like, crazy old DaVinci helicopters and '30s seaplanes and things like that, and this scene—it should be really cool, right, guys?

00:39:29 Stuart Host Uh.... Well, I mean, it's—it's just them blasting the walls with a giant laser, right?

00:39:36 Elliott Host Uh-huh.

00:39:37 Stuart Host I mean it's—it's basically just, like, the opening of, uh, of *Empire Strikes Back*. Right?

00:39:44 Dan Host Yeah.

00:39:44 Elliott Host Oh! Well, we're gonna get to see the closing of both—

[Brendan laughs.]

Empire Strikes Back and *Return of the Jedi* later, so it makes sense. Uh, so—it—we—Hester realizes: mom's locket! It has the shutdown key for the Medusa system in it!

00:39:55 Stuart Host How has she not found this before now?

00:39:58 Elliott Host Well, Shrike had the amulet for a while, I think.

00:40:00 Stuart Host Oh, okay. Right. That makes sense.

00:40:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** But also, like—what the—

Elliott: But it does take her—

00:40:03 Elliott Host —a long time to open it. Up 'til that point.

00:40:04 Dan Guest What the fuck—like, why does—like—just—why does she have a fucking locket with this *[though laughter]* in it? Like, why—why?

00:40:13 Elliott Host To keep it out of the hands of Thaddeus Valentine!
00:40:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** The villain!

00:40:16 Brendan Guest **Dan:** Yeah, but like—
I give all of my weapons keys to my children in jewelry.

[Elliott laughs.]
00:40:19 Dan Host So like...
00:40:20 Brendan Guest It is a very time-tested parenting method.
00:40:22 Elliott Host Yeah.
00:40:22 Dan Host So like—
00:40:23 Elliott Host You'll understand when you have kids, Dan!
00:40:24 Dan Host 20 to 30 years ago, Hugo Weaving was like, "Oh, someday I wanna use a Medusa thing and I realize that this could shut it down, so I gotta get it away from this woman and I'll like burn the house down and injure her daughter in the course of getting it back."

00:40:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** "Because I need it for some—"

00:40:40 Elliott Host **Elliott:** I don't think he knows that—
00:40:44 Dan Host I don't think—I don't think he knows that the shutdown key exists.
00:40:45 Elliott Host Okay, like—
It's more like she—"I gotta keep this away from Hugo Weaving; I better give it to a child, because out of the mouths of babes..."

00:40:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Mm-hm.

Dan: But why—why does she know it's—

Elliott: "...comes mostly vomit."
—a thing that needs to be kept from Hugo Weaving? Why does Hugo Weaving want—like, what is going on?
'Cause he's—he's Hugo Weaving, Dan!

[Laughs.] Okay.
[Laughs.] She's like, weren't you the Red Skull? And he's like, yes, but they didn't give me much to do with the character—

[Brendan laughs.]
00:41:04 Dan Host So I didn't come back. They got a—they got a lookalike for later on. It sounded like.
00:41:09 Stuart Host But man, he does that accent so well in that movie. Oh man, it's like a weird Austrian-specific thing. That's great. Um—
00:41:15 Elliott Host So—so—Thaddeus—oh, what were you going to say, Stuart?
00:41:17 Stuart Host Uh, yeah! The—I mean, I'm gonna jump ahead to one of the later reveals, of course, that he—Tha—uh, that Thaddeus Valentine is Hester Shaw's father. Which should surprise no one. Um—

[All laugh.]

Especially her! She should be like, oh yeah! Of course. That makes sense. Um, but it seems—then looking back, it's like—wow, they jump to murders—like, murdering each other—super fast!

00:41:40 Dan Host Yeah.
00:41:40 Stuart Host In the scene where they're—
00:41:42 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —remembering—

Elliott: Yeah, well that's the—

00:41:43 Stuart Host —her—them finding the Medusa control box? And then they immediately start, like, setting stuff on fire and blasting each other in the face?

00:41:50 Elliott Host Yeah. I mean, that's the special relationship that dads and daughter have.

00:41:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Okay.

00:41:54 Elliott Host **Dan:** Mm-hm.
And Brendan?

00:41:54 Brendan Guest Yeah.

00:41:55 Elliott Host As a father-daughter, someday you'll have that. Where you're both trying to kill each other, uh, Clouseau and Cato style?

00:42:00 Brendan Guest That—I won't—it's not a someday. I believe I currently have that with my twin daughters.

00:42:04 Elliott Host Oh, wow. I mean, it starts, yeah, with them leaving out little toys for you—

00:42:06 Brendan Guest Mm-hm.

00:42:07 Elliott Host —to trip on.

00:42:07 Brendan Guest Exactly. Uh, surprising me by jumping on me to wake me up in the middle of the night? Sure!

[Elliott laughs.]

00:42:11 Elliott Host Yeah!

00:42:12 Brendan Guest *[Through laughter]* That's terrible.

00:42:18 Dan Host Yeah, yeah, yeah.

00:42:18 Brendan Guest I mean, it tracks.

00:42:20 Elliott Host Yeah. That's—I mean, that—

00:42:21 Brendan Guest It's the airtight plotting in this movie!

00:42:22 Elliott Host I think that's all in, uh, in, uh—Paul Reiser's book about being a parent?

[All laugh.]

00:42:27 Brendan Guest Exactly. Yeah.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:42:29 Elliott Host *Mortal... Fatherhood!*
[Through laughter] *Mortal—Mortal Fatherhood!* Uh, so anyway. The—that—the Shan Guo fleet—it's too late; Medusa blows up the wall. So many CGI buildings destroyed. Uh, the air pilots take Hester to shut down Medusa—well, Tom takes a ridiculously long time to change his jacket into an aviator's jacket?

[Brendan laughs.]

00:42:45 Dan Host Yeah.

00:42:45 Elliott Host And it's like—they're getting on the plane to leave, and he's still slowly reaching out to take this jacket. Uh, he will, of course, live his dream of being an aviator even though I think he has no experience flying?

00:42:55 Brendan Guest Yeah, which I was gonna say, by the way, just as a quick digression bump me—that's—that was ridiculous, that all the characters treated this as like, you finally get to be the aviator, Tom! I'm like,

no! This was a childhood interest, I took it as, of like, I want—like, I wanted to be a vet! I shouldn't perform surgery on a cat!

[All laugh.]

00:43:13 Elliott Host Like, that was a terrible, terrible thing!
Sometimes, we get to live our childhood dreams. When I was a kid, I wanted to leave my house.
00:43:18 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
00:43:19 Elliott Host And I did, eventually!
00:43:20 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Wow, alright. Fair enough. Yeah.

00:43:21 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Yeah, so.
I wanted to run away and the way I ran away was I grew up.

[Stuart laughs.]

Y'know, isn't growing up a little bit—kind of running away from your past?

[Someone laughs.]

00:43:29 Dan Host Dan, have you ever ran away from something?
00:43:31 Elliott Host Uh....
'Cause there's a tiger right behind you!

[Everyone yells in faux panic.]

[Dan and Elliott chuckle.]

00:43:38 Dan Host It's okay! It's Tony the Tiger. He just wants to serve you some
00:43:40 Elliott Host Frosted Flakes.
Oh, okay. Phew!
But right behind him is a cheetah!

[Dan laughs, makes fake scared noise.]

00:43:46 Dan Host Oh, it's okay. It's Chester Cheetah. He just wants to give you some
00:43:51 Elliott Host delicious Cheetos. But right behind him is a lion!
00:43:53 Dan Host Oh, um. I don't know how to feel about it after those last two ones.
00:43:54 Stuart Host This is a—it's a fucking real lion, Dan.
00:43:54 Elliott Host Okay.
00:43:54 Elliott Host Uh-huh.
00:43:54 Dan Host You gotta run.
00:43:55 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Alright, I will.
No! Just kidding! He just wants to tell you about the MGMUA
Library of film titles!

[Various chuckles.]

00:44:04 Dan Host And that ours gratis artists, uh, but watch out—behind him there's
00:44:07 Stuart Host an alligator!
Okay. Well—I'm just sort of tired of it.
Think of possible alligators it can be.

[Brendan laughs.]

00:44:09 Dan Host Uh... let's see. Uh, is it, uh, Albert Alligator? From *Pogo*?
00:44:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** That's a weird one, but okay. *[Laughs.]*

00:44:16 Elliott Host **Elliott:** It is.
It was Albert Alligator. You're right. He's smoking a little cigar stub and he's got a little hat on sometimes, and he's talking in a dialect that I'm not sure if it's offensive now or not? But I certainly feel weird when I'm reading it out loud to my children.

00:44:26 Dan Host Yeah. I don't think—

[Someone laughs.]

—it's meant to be, like, an ethnic thing. I think it's just, y'know. Dialect.

00:44:31 Brendan Guest Just men.
00:44:33 Dan Host Like, Pogo dialect. I think that's all it is.
00:44:36 Elliott Host Okay. Well, I'll tell people that when they get mad at me about it. Okay, so!

[Stuart laughs.]

Tom changes jacket. There's a big air fight. All these pilots we just met get killed. It's kinda like the end of *Star Wars* that way, where they're like, hey, remember all those characters you've been watching this whole movie? Forget about 'em.

[Brendan laughs.]

It's time for—it's time for Porkins and Biggs and—and Red Five to take—

[Dan laughs.]

—center stage! Uh, Anna Fang has a hand-to-hand pi—battle with Thaddeus Valentine, which ends with her dead. Uh-oh! Looks like the Fang... got bitten. Hester? She plugs in the kill drive and stops the machine before it can fire again, and the people who lived outside the wall of Shan Guo are like, too little too late, Hester, but thanks! Appreciate it.

And Kate shows up and she's mad at her dad. And her dad has now reached that level of movie villainhood where he no longer cares if he lives or dies? He wants—just wants to destroy his enemies? So he's like, I'm gonna smash London right into the wall to keep destroying it! And it's like, that's crazy. Why would you do that?

[Brendan laughs.]

Like, I don't understand. Uh, Thaddeus runs away. Hector—Hester catches up to him and there's the reveal, as Stuart mentioned, that he's here dad. Meanwhile, Tom—Tim—Natsworthy, he flies a plane into London's guts to blow up the gears to stop it, and then flies out, followed by flame. That's right—they stole the endings of *Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi*. As I mentioned, they put 'em

into one movie! So this movie must be twice as good as either of those movies!

00:45:47 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:45:48 Elliott Host Guys, do you agree? With that movie math?

00:45:50 Brendan Guest I mean, it checks out.

00:45:51 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:45:52 Brendan Guest Yeah. There is a remainder, but—it mostly works.

[All laugh.]

00:45:56 Elliott Host Uh, how many—how many *Empire Strikes Backs* do you think *Mortal Engines* is worth? Dan?

00:46:00 Dan Host Uh, 1/18th of one.

00:46:04 Stuart Host Wow.

00:46:05 Elliott Host Okay.

00:46:05 Stuart Host I'm gonna have to—I'm gonna have to check the worldwide box office before I can, uh—

[Dan laughs.]

—tell you that one, Elliott.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:46:11 Elliott Host I mean, then it's actually like probably like 1/1000th, but uh—

[Brendan and Stuart chuckle.]

—yeah, what about *Return of the Jedi*, Dan?

00:46:15 Dan Host Uh... 1/13th.

00:46:18 Elliott Host Okay. What about the *Star Wars Holiday Special*?

00:46:19 Dan Host [Laughs.] Oh, boy. They're about par.

00:46:21 Stuart Host Wow.

[All laugh.]

00:46:23 Elliott Host Okay. Wow. Okay. Uh—uh—her—Hester's dad is like—Thaddeus is like—so let's just kill each other! That's what we're supposed to do, right? And Hester goes, no, I choose life! And she jumps onto the rope ladder to Tim's airship or whatever, and Hugo Weaving gets in a—his ship. Tim shoots down Hugo Weaving's ship, which crasses—crashes. Hugo's okay.

00:46:41 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Tim immediately gets fucking—

00:46:43 Stuart Host **Elliott:** Then he gets crushed—
—bloodthirsty there. He's like, [Schwarzenegger accent] "You're fired!" And then he shoots a missile at him.

[All laugh.]

00:46:49 Elliott Host [Through laughter] Oh. And—

00:46:49 Stuart Host I'm like, wow! You know, it's—it takes a lot to kill a man, and he can like look him right in the eyes from where he's shooting that missile. That's crazy. He's cold-blooded.

[Someone laughs.]

00:46:57 Elliott Host Yeah. And it's espec—especially after—a—weird after his girlfriend of a day is like, no, I won't kill you. And he's like, hey babe, I'll take care of this one! I—

00:47:06 Brendan Guest Was she maybe like, "No, no, no! He's my dad! He's my—okay."

00:47:08 Elliott Host Oh, boy. This is gonna be awkward. Uh, and then, uh, as mentioned, Hugo Weaving is crushed under London's tank's treads. So ironic.

00:47:16 Brendan Guest *[Under his breath]* London crawling.

00:47:18 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
[Through laughter] Did you say London crawling?

00:47:20 Brendan Guest *[Through laughter]* I did!

00:47:21 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
What I like is you said it so quiet, 'cause you were both proud of it and ashamed of it.

00:47:25 Brendan Guest *[Dan laughs.]*
And you were like, if they don't—
00:47:26 Elliott Host I wasn't really sure I wanted to commit to it.
If they don't like this, I can pretend that I didn't say it. If they do like it, then I'm like, cool for saying *[though laughter]* so little. Uh—yeah. I guess London crawl—was crawling to the faraway town—Shan Guo!

00:47:39 Brendan Guest *[Stuart laughs.]*
00:47:40 Elliott Host 'Cause war is declared and the Medusa rains down!
Ooh!
Yeah. Calling to the underworld, which I assume would be—

00:47:44 Brendan Guest —uh—the people who live in the tank treads?
00:47:45 Elliott Host Mm-hm. Mm-hm.
00:47:47 Crosstalk Host Uh, get out of the cupboard, two boys and girls?
Brendan: Oh, then—

00:47:47 Elliott Host **Elliott:** The cupboards—
—of course, being Airhaven. Yeah.
00:47:48 Brendan Guest Yeah, yeah.
00:47:49 Elliott Host Or is it covers?
00:47:50 Brendan Guest Get out of the cov—get under the covers—
00:47:51 Elliott Host Get under the covers? Oh, boy.
00:47:53 Brendan Guest I think—
00:47:54 Elliott Host Turns out I don't know the lyrics—
00:47:54 Crosstalk **Elliott:** —to “London Calling” as well as I thought.

00:47:55 Elliott Host **Brendan:** I don't know. You—*[inaudible]* far.
Guys—
00:47:56 Brendan Guest The point is, Joe Strummer is trying to warn us.
00:47:57 Elliott Host Yes. About *Mortal Engines*. Uh, guys, Shan Guo? The mayor is super cool. He's like, people of London, come and join us. And Tim and Hester, they kiss finally and fly off planning to travel the world together, and we're left with some questions: will the world of *Mortal Engines* be okay? Will someone else find the Medusa Drive? Will their two-day-old relationship survive being on a small plane with no bathrooms—

[Dan laughs; Stuart joins in.]

—for I assume weeks on end? I guess we'll find out in *Mortal Engines 2: Summer Vacation*.

[Brendan laughs.]

00:48:25	Dan	Host	[Laughs.] Okay. Uh—let's just speed on to final judgments on this.
00:48:30	Stuart	Host	Yeah.
00:48:30	Dan	Host	Whether it's a good, bad—
00:48:31	Elliott	Host	Let's drive our city tanks over to final judgments.
00:48:33	Dan	Host	Is it a good-bad movie, a bad-bad movie, or a movie you kinda like? I-I wanna say, uh, I'll—I'll start off. Uh—I feel like, actually, my girlfriend made the most salient, uh, critique of this while we were watching? And—
00:48:44	Stuart	Host	Uh-huh.
00:48:45	Dan	Host	Y'know, I—I—I mention her a lot, but we watch the movies together, so I—if she makes a good point I wanna pass it on. And um, it's—
00:48:53	Elliott	Host	[Laughs.] This is a—this is an awful lot of backstory and explanation for—
00:48:56	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: —what she's about to say.
			Dan: Yeah, well. Uh—
00:48:58	Stuart	Host	Stuart: Mm-hm. Yeah, what is this— —the opening 20 minutes of <i>Mortal Engines</i> ?
00:49:02	Dan	Host	[Dan laughs. Elliott and Brendan join in.] Well, she made the point that, like, y'know, this movie is obviously trying to be this big fantasy epic <u>like</u> a <i>Star Wars</i> or something like that, but what it doesn't realize? Is—those movies don't actually have a <u>ton</u> of action overall? Like, a lot of it is the <u>anticipation</u> of action? Like... as the—as—
00:49:23	Elliott	Host	You're saying they're edging us. The <i>Star Wars</i> movies are edging us a lot of the time.
00:49:26	Dan	Host	Well, like, they have less than kind of like you imagine. Like, as they go along? Uh, I think, like, each progressive sequel does have more action in it? But that's because you've already learned the world. You've learned the characters. So there's more room to just skip to that stuff?
			But like, a lot of it is the anticipation of action. This has no anticipation of action.
00:49:46	Stuart	Host	Uh-huh.
00:49:46	Dan	Host	It, like, thinks that you want shit thrown at you every single second, which <u>doesn't</u> leave time to learn about characters <u>or</u> their motivations! [Laughs.] And I sort of assumed, while watching it, that this was... a... um—as we've said, this is based on a series of young adult novels, and I sort of assumed it had so much plot I was like, okay, they probably took multiple novels and boiled it down.
00:50:11	Stuart	Host	Uh-huh.
00:50:11	Dan	Host	And I looked on Wikipedia; I was reading summaries of the novels. It was like, no, this is basically the first book. They made a lot of changes in the second half, but it's basically the first book, and... uh—it's written by Fran Walsh and Philippa Boyens, and I think maybe Peter Jackson himself, I'm not sure. But like—
00:50:27	Elliott	Host	The script is—

00:50:28	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: Not the book.
00:50:30	Brendan	Guest	Dan: The script! And—
00:50:30	Dan	Host	Yeah. You know, obviously they are the team who did <i>Lord of the Rings</i> and <i>The Hobbit</i> , and... people criti—criticized <i>The Hobbit</i> for taking a fairly simple book and expanding it into three movies?
00:50:41	Stuart	Host	Uh-huh.
00:50:41	Dan	Host	This is one case where I wish they had taken <u>one</u> book and expanded it [<i>though laughter</i>] into three movies. Like, I actually wish they'd done the same <i>Hobbit</i> thing here, 'cause there's so much shit going on, I think it would've worked better if it had more time to breathe.
00:50:53	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: [<i>Thoughtfully</i>] Yeah—
00:50:55	Stuart	Host	Dan: Bad-bad, is what I'm saying. Yeah. When I was watching it, I was—I was—like, knowing that this is the first book in a series, and knowing it was made by—it was, y'know, made by the people who made the <i>Lord of the Rings</i> trilogy, it made me think about, like, what makes—what—some of the things that made <i>Fellowship of the Ring</i> work so well as a first movie, and parts of it are, like—aside from the opening, you don't have any other big battles!
			Like, you have some f—like you have action sequences, but, like, it doesn't end with like a big, like, armies facing off against each other blasting lasers at each other. Um, and you—it does take the time to build the, like, develop these characters. Um—also, part of the problem with this movie is so much of the just <u>why</u> . Like, <u>why</u> should I care about any of it or anybody? Like... what are their beliefs? What—why—should I <u>care</u> about the people of London? Should I hate them? Should I <u>care</u> about Hester Shaw? I mean, her only motivation is <u>revenge</u> , and that's... a relatively thin motivation!
00:51:57	Dan	Host	And she... I don't know.
00:51:58	Stuart	Host	No, you're right!
00:51:59	Elliott	Host	Yeah. [<i>Laughs.</i>] Like, it's—
00:51:59	Dan	Host	No, yeah, no.
00:52:00	Elliott	Host	It's all true. Yeah. There's it's—it's—there's a lack of character and a lack of reason to like it. I'll mention—Dan, uh, my wife was watching with me and Brendan and she made an interesting comment which was: [<i>Snores.</i>]
			[<i>Dan laughs.</i>]
00:52:11	Dan	Host	'Cause she fell asleep about 30 minutes in. [<i>Laughs.</i>] Well, I—I have to say it—for once I watched this in two parts? Because we <u>were</u> watching it; I started falling asleep, and she was like, "Honey, we can watch this, uh, the second half tomorrow [<i>though laughter</i>] if you gotta take a nap."
00:52:24	Brendan	Guest	[<i>All laugh.</i>] Very wise.
00:52:25	Elliott	Host	You—you were just so worn out from all the excitement.
00:52:26	Dan	Host	Yeah.

00:52:27 Elliott Host Uh, so I'm gonna say—that it's also bad-bad. There's a lot of neat-looking stuff in it! But... it's... they—it's like they—yeah. They—they forgot to give us characters or a plot that we would care about. Brendan?

00:52:38 Brendan Guest Yeah.

00:52:39 Elliott Host I know you're gonna say something different!

00:52:41 Brendan Guest I'm gonna go out on a ledge here—uh, no. It's bad-bad. It's super boring. Um, but the—my main hope or takeaway after it is, I wish a different Peter Jackson had shown up? I wish it was...

00:52:50 Elliott Host Some other guy with the same name?

00:52:51 Brendan Guest *[Through laughter]* Yeah! *[Laughs.]* Absolutely. Give that guy a chance!

[Elliott laughs.]

Um, no, but like the Peter Jackson of, like, *Dead Alive*, of, like... *Frighteners*, or *Meet the Feebles*, even. Basically, who would take a crazy concept and make it fun?

00:53:03 Elliott Host Mm-hm.

00:53:03 Brendan Guest Because all of the other problems wouldn't have also mattered to me as much? Like, if I couldn't explain it but it was at least fun? It was so somber and serious. There was no joy to be had in a movie that is about cities on tank treads eating other cities.

00:53:16 Stuart Host Which I'm sure is the reason he bought the rights to make that book into a movie. Right? Like... and—and the thing about—the thing about Peter—like, I've been thinking about this a lot, 'cause there is that, like, dream that Peter Jackson's just gonna make another fun, like, low-budget movie. But I feel like he's become... I'm—he's become such a, like, industry now that like... if he were to make a small movie, he—like—he would not be able to hire as many of the people that rely on him! *[Laughs.]*

00:53:44 Elliott Host Yeah. Thousands—thousands of people would be out of work if he decided to make *Bad Taste 2*.

00:53:48 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:53:49 Elliott Host Yeah, or something like that. Although, uh, I wonder if—now that you mention it, him buying the rights to the book, I wonder if he was like, "Get me that YA book! The *Mortal* something!"

[Someone laughs.]

And he wanted *Mortal Instruments: City of Bones*? And they brought him this one and he was like, "This wasn't the—" Like, when you're—when you tell your grandma, like, "Oh, get me that *Avengers* movie!" And she comes back with the boot—with the, uh, with the generic, like, uh, like *The Avengers*!

[Brendan laughs.]

00:54:10 Brendan Guest Like, the ripoff? And you're like, grandma!!!

00:54:12 Elliott Host I'm sure this is just as good.

00:54:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk In fact, I think that's what happened. Peter Jackson sent his grandma out to go buy the rights—
Stuart: Mm-hm.

00:54:16 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Oh, man.
And she got the wrong rights. Oh, Grammy Jackson!

00:54:19 Stuart Host Grandma doesn't know.

[Scattered laughter.]

00:54:21 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:54:21 Music Music *[Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments.]*

00:54:26 Promo Clip **Music:** Chill, down-tempo music plays in the background.

Jesse Thorn: Going into a *Bullseye* interview, I know it's somebody who does amazing work? But it's an actual conversation! I don't know where it's headed.

Speaker 1: The—absolutely! I—you're absolutely right! You said it, actually, better than I did, so I have to think about what that means. *[Laughs.]*

[Deep laughter.]

Speaker 2: Hey, these are the—this—this—this—this is the straight talk that—that you're gonna get on this show.

Jesse: *Bullseye*. Creators you know, creators you need to know. Find it at MaximumFun.org or wherever you get podcasts.

00:54:56 Promo Clip **Music:** Cheerful banjo music plays in the background.

Biz Ellis: Hi! I'm Biz.

Theresa Thorn: And I'm Theresa.

Biz: And we host *One Bad Mother*, a comedy podcast about parenting.

Theresa: Whether you are a parent or just know kids exist in the world, join us each week as we honestly share what it's like to be a parent.

Biz: These are really hard questions!

Theresa: They are really hard questions!

Biz: *[Voice getting louder and more agitated]* I don't have any answers for that!

Theresa: I don't either!

Biz: *[Yelling]* Sack of garbage!

Theresa: I know!

Biz: *[Yelling in frustration]* Ahhhh! Ughhh! *[Laughs wildly.]* Ahhhh! The end of the show will just be five minutes of Biz—

[Theresa giggles.]

Biz: —and Theresa crying and screaming until the outro is played. So join us each week as we judge less, laugh more, and remind you that you are doing a great job.

Theresa: Find us on MaximumFun.org, on Apple Podcasts, or wherever you get your podcasts!

00:55:40 Dan Host Alright. Let's move along to, uh... a few, uh, sponsors?

00:55:44 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

00:55:45 Elliott Host Uh—before we talk about our regular sponsors, I was wondering if we could let Brendan talk a little bit about the new season of *Harvey Girls Forever!* on Netflix now!

00:55:53 Brendan Guest Thank you very much! Yeah. Uh, starting November 12th and any time thereafter, uh, season three of *Harvey Girls Forever!* will be streaming on Netflix. Um, it's the third season about our show which is about, uh, Audrey, Lotta, and Dot, three classic *Harvey* comics character reimagined for, uh, modern audiences and... their goal is just to make it—make their block the best place to ever have a childhood! It's trying to keep the feeling of... that time between when you left school and before you went home for dinner alive forever.

Uh—we try to keep it relatable for all kids and adults and a lot of jokes for people of all ages, uh, especially the episodes written by Elliott here?

00:56:30 Elliott Host Oh yeah! There's two! Written by me!

00:56:32 Brendan Guest Yeah. One of them does feature a Judas Priest-style song about a—uh, trove of deadly toys that were pulled from the market?

00:56:38 Elliott Host Mm-hm.

00:56:39 Brendan Guest Um... but yeah! Season three has just premiered, where we add Richie Rich, uh, far and away the biggest name out of the *Harvey* comics characters? Uh, he joins our cast for this season, uh, voiced by Jack Quaid from *The Boys*, uh, he's super hilarious and really fun and we reimagined him also so now he's a self-made child billionaire and, uh, y'know. Just—I think—a pretty fun character and, uh, yeah. We have some good comedy folk always in there. There's Lauren Lapkus is our star, and got Danny Pudi and this season we got Kristin Chenoweth and Anna Camp and a whole lot of really funny people coming by and, uh, having a good time with us!

00:57:10 Elliott Host It's a really fun show, and I like it a lot, and my children like it a lot, and I think you'll like it a lot, too. And uh, if enough people watch, maybe you'll finally get that season where you can bring Baby Huey in!

00:57:19 Brendan Guest That has been our dream the entire time.

[Elliott laughs.]

I think, actually, oh—you know what? I don't want to spoil but I'll say, uh, astute watchers, uh, to season 3—perhaps there is some Baby Huey Easter eggs in there!

[Elliott laughs.]

00:57:31 Elliott Host Which would be huge eggs!

00:57:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** It's ginormous eggs!

00:57:33 Elliott Host **Elliott:** It's just he's—
—an enormous bird!

[Stuart laughs.]

00:57:34 Stuart Host Now, I apologize for not actually previously being, uh, familiar with the show, But um... I have to ask—so, it's based on these *Harvey* comics characters. Have you expanded uh—have you expanded the character of Dot? Because if I recall—

[Brendan laughs.]

00:57:53 Brendan Guest —her whole thing was just that she liked polka dots.
Yes. Uh... no. That was absolutely our—Audrey, thankfully—Audrey, actually, pretty much worked as-is. Dot we expanded to be, um, she is very, very precise and exacting about everything? So to her, it was like, “The dot is the most perfect thing ever ‘cause it’s a perfect circle!” So it’s something she always strives for and loves, but it’s more of just a—

00:58:10 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:58:10 Brendan Guest —exacting character?

00:58:12 Stuart Host And then she starts seeing dots everywhere, and then those dots become spirals, and then her body—

[All laugh.]

—starts growing into a spiral

[Dan laughs.]

00:58:19 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah, yeah. It’s called—it’s called *Uzumaki Girls Forever*. Yeah!

00:58:23 Brendan Guest Yep. And then she ends—then she meets Spiral and goes to the Mojoverse, and yeah!

00:58:26 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Whoaaa!

00:58:27 Brendan Guest **Stuart:** What?!

00:58:29 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* It’s a pretty cool crossover. Spiral is one of those X-Men characters that I love and I don’t know why, ‘cause I’ve never read a story where she’s been any—really good in it?

00:58:34 Brendan Guest She’s a cool design!

00:58:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Yeah, except she got—

00:58:36 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Uh—

00:58:37 Crosstalk Crosstalk —that weird Samurai helmet and—
Brendan: And six arms? Yeah! Um— Yeah. Mm-hm. Yeah.

Elliott: —all those arms, yeah. And those furry boots? Boots with the fur? Apple bottom jeans?

[Dan and Brendan laugh.]

00:58:42 Elliott Host Spiral gets low, low, low!

[Brendan laughs.]

00:58:45 Brendan Guest Um, and then, yeah, uh, Lotta—we took—basically Lotta as-is, but made it her—she has an appetite for life! And for love and for passion, and took out the fact that every comic basically just had jokes about her eating giant sandwiches.

00:58:57 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan and Stuart:** Mm-hm.

00:58:58 Stuart Host Save that for *Dagwood*.

00:58:59 Dan Host *[Dan laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Yup!

00:59:01 Brendan Guest *[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]*
00:59:03 Dan Host Look, it's hit bit! I don't wanna steal it!
00:59:06 Brendan Guest Uh, okay! Alright, well, thank you for that! Uh, but—
00:59:08 Dan Promo Yeah, thank you guys!
I'm moving on to sponsors. Um, I do want to say, I don't feel like we acknowledge this enough outside of the Max Fun tribe, but, uh, *The Flop House* is supported overwhelmingly by listeners like you who choose to donate at MaximumFun.org, but we also have some corporate sponsors. This week, *The Flop House* is sponsored in part—in part by Squarespace.

A dream is just a great idea that doesn't have a website yet. Make it a reality with Squarespace! Create a beautiful website to showcase your work, blog, or publish content, sell products and services of all kinds, and more—whatever your heart desires for a website. Squarespace helps by doing y—by giving you—by doing you—

[Though laughter] —by giving you—*[breaks off, laughing.]*

00:59:54 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
I mean, some websites are about doing you—

[Dan laughs.]

00:59:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk —but that's—
Brendan: And they help!
Elliott: But that's—

00:59:57 Elliott Host **Dan:** Not Squarespace.
01:00:00 Dan Promo And they—they help in a way, yeah. They help one thing. Squarespace has a beautiful, customizable, mobile-optimized templates to—created by world-class designers. A—a built-in search engine optimization and analytics to help you grow, and 24/7, award-winning customer support. Check out Squarespace.com/flop for a free trial, and when you're ready to launch, use the offer code "FLOP" to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

01:00:28 Elliott Host Uh, guys, I had an idea for a website and I was wondering if it—if, uh, Squarespace might be able to help. It was inspired by this movie that we're talking about—

01:00:35 Stuart Host Uh-huh!
01:00:35 Elliott Host Uh, and it's—so—we're all worried that at some point, a city's just gonna come along and eat us. Right?

01:00:40 Stuart Host Yeah!
01:00:41 Elliott Host We saw it in the movie. It's pretty scary. Like, what if Pittsburgh just comes—I've—we've heard of the fish that ate Pittsburgh!
And the car that ate Paris!

01:00:46 Brendan Guest Mm-hm.
01:00:47 Stuart Host Oh, boy! Well, what if Paris was eating cars, and Pittsburg was eating fishes?
01:00:47 Elliott Host **Stuart:** And Paris was burning?

01:00:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk

01:00:51 Elliott Host Elliott: Was it a fish that—
—saved—yeah—

[Brendan laughs.]

Well, I mean Paris— *[Laughs.]* I mean, Paris is burning in—in the dance floors all of—of—of the world, but the uh, no—the—what if—there was a way—

01:01:00 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

01:01:01 Elliott Host —to track these cities and to know where they’re coming from? That’s why I’ve got citytracker.com—that’s the idea—it tells you where every city is located whenever you check, just in case they might’ve moved. And you could put a tracker on any city in the world and it’ll tell you if that city has moved and gotten closer to you, so you know to get out its way.

01:01:17 Brendan Guest Now what if you are in one of the cities?

01:01:20 Elliott Host Uh, the—your com—phone would explode.

01:01:22 Brendan Guest Okay. *[Laughs.]* Fair enough.

01:01:24 Stuart Host So your—your parsh—

01:01:25 Elliott Host If you’re using it on your phone. If it’s not on your laptop, your laptop would explode.

01:01:27 Stuart Host So you’re partially subsidized by a venture capitalist firm who, uh, who makes money off of people having to buy new phones.

[Laughs.]

01:01:34 Elliott Host Yes!

[Brendan laughs.]

It’s called “Apple.”

01:01:35 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Oh wow!

01:01:36 Elliott Host And— *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]

And so hope—maybe Squarespace will help me get this so that it can scale to all different types of explodable, uh, media?

01:01:42 Brendan Guest Yeah!

01:01:42 Elliott Host Or platforms? Uh, so anyway, that’s citytracker.com—look out for it, so you’ll always know where cities are!

01:01:48 Brendan Guest Mm. I have been looking for some cities lately, so thank you!

01:01:51 Elliott Host Yeah. No problem. Uh, Dan? What’s next after Squarespace?

01:01:55 Dan Host Uh, I believe I sent you a couple of Jumbotrons!

01:01:57 Stuart Host Uh-oh!

01:01:59 Stuart Host J-J-J-Jumbotrons! That’s right!

01:02:01 Elliott Host I’ve certainly got one!

01:02:02 Stuart Host This message is for Rusty! This message is from Hailey.

“Happy 40th Birthday! I hope this message finds you sometime around November 7th, but if not— *[Laughs.]* oh well! You’re still getting a shoutout on one of the greatest podcasts of all time.”

01:02:20 Dan Host Mm.

01:02:21 Stuart Host “You’ll always be the bikini to my carwash; the castle to my freak; and you make every day feel like Cage-mas. Dottie and I love you so much.”

Now, I’m staring down the barrel of the big 4-0 myself, guys, so.

01:02:37	Dan	Host	Mm.
01:02:38	Stuart	Host	I <u>wish</u> somebody would have, uh, get such a nice message for <u>me</u> on one of <u>my</u> favorite podcasts! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:02:45	Elliott	Host	Alright, Stuart, I'll get you a Jumbotron on uh, <i>[though laughter]</i> on some kind of, uh, small figure painting podcast.
			<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
01:02:51	Stuart	Host	Thank you.
01:02:52	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: I don't—I don't know of any, but I'll look
			Brendan: Or <i>Car Talk</i> ?
01:02:54	Elliott	Host	What?
01:02:54	Brendan	Guest	<i>Car Talk</i> ?
01:02:55	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: Or <i>Car Talk</i> , yeah. I mean—
			Dan: Mm-hm. I mean—
01:02:56	Elliott	Host	—it's hard to get Jumbotrons run on <i>Car Talk</i> since they just run re-runs—
01:02:59	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Elliott: —since one of them is dead. Still. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
			Dan: And also, uh—
01:03:01	Dan	Host	—Jumbotrons is kind of a specific-to-Max-Fun thing, so—
01:03:04	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart: <i>Car Talk's</i> not on Max Fun? <i>[Laughs.]</i>
			Dan: —only a few—
			<i>[Dan laughs.]</i>
01:03:07	Elliott	Host	I mean, it should be! To be honest, if you told me there—that <i>Car Talk</i> —it—before—if I didn't know it was a public radio show, if you told me it was on Max Fun, I'd be like, oh yeah! Like two crazy guys who are brothers and they talk about cars, but really they kinda talk about whatever and they tell a lotta corny jokes—yeah, that—
01:03:21	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Dan: That's true.
			Elliott: —fits on Max Fun! Sure!
01:03:22	Elliott	Host	Jesse, get on it! Get—get the <i>Car Talk</i> license! Okay. I've got a Jumbotron, too. This message is for Ollie, and it's from Emily. And it's—reads:
			“Happy Anniversary to my sexy science nerd. Thank you for the best year of my life. You are the most caring, loving, fun person I could've found.” Parenthesis. “(And that ass, tho!)”
			<i>[Someone laughs.]</i>
01:03:40	Dan	Host	Wow!
01:03:41	Elliott	Host	End parenthesis. “I'm so glad that you accidentally accepted my friend request. I'd rather be in a long-distance relationship with you than a short-distance relationship with anyone else.” That's for Ollie, from Emily. A couple o'sweet messages.
01:03:51	Stuart	Host	Oh yeah. That's adorable.
01:03:54	Dan	Host	Uh—are there any other plugs? We've done our, uh, touring for 2019.
01:03:59	Stuart	Host	Mm-hm.
01:03:59	Dan	Host	We're in talks for 2020, figuring out where to go.
01:04:01	Elliott	Host	We passed—we passed the Turing Test.
01:04:03	Dan	Host	Yeah, that's true.

01:04:03 Elliott Host That's when people—we do a show and people tell us if it's a computer or—

01:04:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —[inaudible]. Yeah.

[Dan laughs.]

01:04:09 Dan Host **Stuart:** Yeah, if it's robot or not, basically.
Um... yeah. We've plugged Brendan. Uh, do you guys have anything?

01:04:13 Brendan Guest Mm-hm. Thank you.

01:04:13 Dan Host Uh—

01:04:14 Elliott Host Uh, well—

[Stuart laughs.]

01:04:16 Dan Host At all? Anything?

01:04:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Anything going on in your life?

01:04:18 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Well we could also remind people that there is—
—there's—there— [Laughs.] I mean, yes! I—there's lots of stuff!
There's, uh, *Flop House* merchandise available online; uh, Stuart is looking into some new possible things for future shows; uh—

01:04:27 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah, I got my fingers in a lot of pies!

01:04:29 Dan Host **Elliott:** Yeah, we'll be able to sell—
Merchandise, specifically.

[Someone laughs.]

01:04:31 Elliott Host Yeah, merchandise specifically, uh, and... we just, uh, I don't know!
I—you can always go pick up a copy of *Horse Meets Dog*, but we could also move on to the next part of the podcast!

01:04:39 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

01:04:39 Dan Host Sure! I just didn't, y'know, I just wouldn't wanna... blow over you guys!

01:04:42 Stuart Host Yeah, yeah, yeah! Give us a chance to, y'know, uh, strut around like the peacocks that we are?

01:04:47 Dan Host Mm-hm.

01:04:48 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah. Actually, Dan, blow over me for a second!

01:04:50 Dan Host [Laughs.]

01:04:51 Elliott Host Ooh! That feels nice.

01:04:51 Dan Host [Laughs.] Okay.

01:04:52 Elliott Host Oh. Oh that feels very nice.

01:04:54 Dan Host Don't like this bit.

01:04:55 Elliott Host There—oh—D—

01:04:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Oh, yes!

01:04:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** It's a *40 Days and 40 Nights* thing.
Elliott: Yeah, yeah! [Laughs.] Just like Stuart—

Stuart: Never talk about that movie!

[Stuart laughs.]

01:05:02 Dan Host Alright. Uh, this first letter is from Julie, last name withheld. It's—

01:05:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —a follow-up—

01:05:07 Dan Host **Stuart:** Mm-hm. Taymor.
—to a previous letter. Uh, Julie writes:

“Please accept my apologies for the confusing email about coming-of-age movies. To clarify, what movies can I show my son once he becomes a 13-year-old man that he would not have seen as a mere 12-year-old boy. Our secret theme to his Bar Mitzvah is Werewolf Bar Mitzvah, so maybe *Ginger Snaps* works? Love always, Julie.”

And, uh, I just wanna point out, I correctly interpreted this email. Elliott foolishly thought it was about coming-of-age movies. So put it on the scoreboard, Stuart!

01:05:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Stuart: Uh—okay. Let me—

Elliott: You’re right. I guess you’re Danny, Champion of the World!

01:05:43 Elliott Host

[Dan laughs.]
Okay. And I’m—

[All laugh.]

01:05:46 Stuart Host

And I’m Elliott the big—biggest loser! *[Laughs.]*
So it looks like, uh, Dan’s got a point, and Elliott’s got—

[Brendan laughs.]

300 points!

01:05:53 Elliott Host

[Dan laughs. Elliott and Stuart join in.]
Neck and neck! You’re getting closer! I can feel you nipping at my heels, Dan!

01:05:56 Dan Host

Just wanted to get on the board!

01:05:58 Stuart Host

Yeah. Uh—

[Brendan laughs.]

So, of course, it depend—this obviously depends on, uh, when, uh, when he turned 13, but I would say—I dunno. Maybe, like—*Star Wars: Rise of Skywalker?* *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs loudly; the others join in.]

‘Cause he wouldn’t have been able to see it when he was a little guy.

01:06:14 Dan Host

Yeah. That’s true.

01:06:16 Elliott Host

Yeah, yeah. It’s— it’s— it’s— *[though laughter]* it’s been so hard for him to see *Parasite* before he turned 13.

[Brendan laughs.]

Uh, I rec—y’know, there’s a couple—but the kinds of movies I started to watch when I was 13 was like, that’s when I became a real serious cineist.

01:06:28 Stuart Host

Uh-huh.

01:06:29 Elliott Host

And so I would recommend, maybe, like, Hitchcock’s movies?

01:06:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Stuart: Uh-huh.

Dan: Mm-hm.

01:06:32 Elliott Host Are good ones to start watching when you're like 13? But also, the ones I plan to show my son when he turns 13: *RoboCop*, *Alien*, *Taking of Pelham 123*—the violent and swear-filled movies that I can't show him now, but when he turns 13, God says he's a man. So I guess it's time for him to watch movies where people's head explodes.

01:06:48 Dan Host Yeah.

01:06:49 Stuart Host I just watched—I just watched a movie that my mom made me watch when I was a little kid 'cause she thought I'd love it. Uh, I watched *Creep Show 2* again, and uh—

01:06:56 Brendan Guest *[Elliott laughs.]*
Ah.

01:06:57 Stuart Host Yeah! I don't—

01:06:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** My mom's pretty—

01:06:59 Dan Host **Dan:** The rap segment—

01:07:00 Stuart Host —is pretty good, otherwise it's not that great.
I mean, it's—I mean it's all pretty good, but it also, like, as a kid, like, I couldn't swim in a lake ever?

01:07:06 Dan Host Yeah.

01:07:07 Brendan Guest *[Brendan laughs.]*
Uh—it is funny. My exact pitch on that was gonna be horror anthologies actually? 'Cause that was kind of my gateway to horror was around 13 and it was, like, I mean, partially it was the TV show, like *Tales from the Dark Side* or *Tales From the Crypt*, but it was also, like, the *Tales from the Dark Side* movie, or also then loving the two *Creep Show* movies, so.

01:07:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** I—I also watched *Tales from the Dark Side: The Movie*—

01:07:27 Stuart Host **Brendan:** Yeah. It's a good entryway.
— this week *[though laughter]* and uh—

[Brendan laughs.]

Wow. What a—I just love that they're—the college students are Christian Slater, Steve Buscemi, and Julianne Moore.

01:07:35 Dan Host *[Dan laughs. Brendan and Elliott join in.]*
Um—yeah, if we're talking about movies that, uh, that we, uh, watched when we were 13—

01:07:43 Elliott Host Dan, you—you answered—Dan, you answered this question the right way last time! You don't need to worry about an answer this time—

01:07:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Inaudible.]*

01:07:48 Dan Host **Dan:** No, no, no! I—
I was gonna say, uh, so if you wanna do it, uh, Dan McCoy style, what you gotta do is you have to, uh, you should, uh, purchase some premium cable channels—preferably, at this point in time, uh, Showtime—just have 'em around, so your son can sneak out late at night—

[Brendan laughs.]

01:08:09 Stuart Host —and watch whatever erotic programming is available!
 Like episodes of *Shameless*?
 01:08:10 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah, yeah! *[Laughs.]* That's what I'm saying.

Stuart: That's on Showtime, right?

[Brendan laughs.]

01:08:13 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Yeah. Showtime—
 —so showing him, like, *Nurse Jackie*?
 01:08:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh—yeah, Ray Donovan.

Brendan: Ray Donovan gets pretty hot.
 Or, y'know, like, have it scrambled and then like have him hear like
 an urban legend that if you like run it through your VCR it
 descrambles it a little bit?
 01:08:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Oh, cool!

Elliott: Or if you—

Brendan: Oh, yeah.
 —if you flip back and forth between the channels really fast—
 01:08:25 Elliott Host
 01:08:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah.

Brendan: Yeah, you get a few—
 —seconds of clarity before it goes out?
 01:08:29 Brendan Guest
 01:08:31 Dan Host Yeah.
 01:08:32 Elliott Host See, Dan, I would've thought you'd say Cinemax, the show—the
 channel that—after a certain point, was just like, this is what we do!
 01:08:37 Dan Host Yeah, Cinemax is good, too. HBO has cleared all that stuff off, like
 it's trying to pretend it never happened, but uh.

01:08:43 Brendan Guest Mm-hm.
 01:08:43 Elliott Host I was talking to somebody about the show *Dream On* recently, and
 they did not know it had ever existed.

01:08:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah.

Stuart: Uh-huh.
 01:08:48 Elliott Host And I was like, this was HBO's bread-and-butter for a while! It was
 like, a dumb sitcom where ladies took their shirts off!

01:08:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah.

Stuart: Uh-huh.
 01:08:53 Elliott Host Like, that's all they had for a while!
 01:08:54 Stuart Host I—uh, you know, I just got done watching the first season of *The
 Righteous Gemstones*, and I feel like they kept the nudity, but it's all
[though laughter] dude's wieners.

[Stuart laughs.]

It's all wieners, all over.

[All laugh.]

01:09:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk It's all, like, guys with big old bellies with wieners hanging out.
Stuart: Yeah, good stuff.

01:09:08 Elliott Host **Dan:** It's great.
 01:09:09 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
 01:09:10 Elliott Host Um...
 01:09:11 Dan Host That's HBO! Home Ball Office. *[Laughs.]*
 Uh—the second and—for this episode, the final letter is from Hannah, last name withheld. Hannah writes:

 “Dear Dan, Stu, and Elliott”—and, I guess, uh, of course Brendan, our guest—
 01:09:24 Brendan Guest Aw, thanks!
 01:09:24 Elliott Host She wrote that? How did she know?
 01:09:26 Dan Host Uh, y'know. We gotta ask Hannah. Uh,

 “I wanna start by saying I love your podcast—”
 01:09:30 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Uh, Dan, she's a child assassin.

Dan: “—here's my question—”
 01:09:32 Elliott Host I don't wanna get on her bad side. *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]
 01:09:33 Dan Host Uh, “Here's my question. I did a cool mental exercise recently where I figured out what interests me in a character. I thought it might be cool for you guys to give it a shot, too. So think of, like, three to five favorite characters, uh, from different pieces of media or canons if you like. I did 10, but you don't have time for that. Um, once you have them all lined up see—lined up, see what they have in common! Some of mine were Han Solo, Luke from *The Adventure Zone*, Hawkeye from Marvel comics, uh—not MCU—” she's very clear about that, “And—”
 01:10:07 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Wow.
 01:10:08 Dan Host “And Sherlock Holmes!”
 01:10:09 Elliott Host Take that, Jeremy Renner!
 01:10:10 Brendan Guest Yeah, no. She's right.
 01:10:11 Dan Host Uh—

[Someone laughs.]

 “Using them, and some others, I found the thing that I look for are characters who are self-determining, self—” sorry, “—self-determining, self-actualizing. They decide what they're going to be, slash going to do, and they become it or do it, good or bad. They make their own paths rather than following. Maybe this is too complex a question, but I'm really curious as to what draws the Floppers to characters. Keep on Flopping! Hannah, last name withheld.”

 Um... yeah. If you don't have anything off the bat, I—I thought about mine. I picked, um... Sherlock Holmes, of course.
 01:10:47 Stuart Host Sure.
 01:10:48 Dan Host Like Hannah did. Uh—Scrooge—
 01:10:50 Elliott Host Because the thing you like is characters who are addicted to cocaine.
 01:10:52 Dan Host Scrooge Mc—Scrooge McDuck.
 01:10:54 Stuart Host Mm-hm. Yep.
 01:10:55 Elliott Host Yes. Yep. Okay.

[Brendan laughs.]

01:10:57	Dan	Host	Cocaine still.
01:10:58	Stuart	Host	And [though laughter] Indiana Jones.
01:10:59	Dan	Host	Okay.
			And—

[Elliott laughs.]

And the things I came up with for those are, um... they're kind of, like, these characters that have this... this comfortable, normal life, uh, from the day-to-day? But they cannot be happy unless they're out on adventures? Um... and also, they're all... sort of... throwback characters in a way? I mean, obviously, like, Sherlock Holmes is not throwback; he's just old. But... uh... y'know, uh... Scrooge McDuck is in that tradition of globetrotting adventurer and Indiana Jones is a self-consciously, uh, old-fashioned, uh, story.

Also, my—my girlfriend, like, immediately when I told her these characters, she's like, "Oh. They're all grumpy people who are secretly nice underneath it." And I— [though laughter]—

[Elliott laughs.]

And I'm like, oh I didn't notice that!

[All laugh.]

[Through laughter] It took some—it takes someone who spends a lot of time with me to see what I might have in common with these characters that would draw me to them.

01:11:54	Stuart	Host	Yeah. Yeah.
01:11:55	Dan	Host	But also, um... a couple of other characters, like, uh... I really—like, despite Chris Pratt's, um, weirdness in real life, uh, and the fact that he was—his character was not particularly written well outside of the <i>Guardians</i> films, I think—I don't like how he was treated in the <i>Avengers</i> movies as much—I like Starw—Starlord a lot, and I like Han Solo, obviously, a lot, and both of those are kind of the same, uh... guy who's secretly very capable but is also kind of a doofus? Uh... and I find that very appealing.
01:12:28	Elliott	Host	I don't know about "secretly." They're always talking about how great they are.
01:12:30	Dan	Host	Okay. Not secretly. But the—like—well, secretly <u>in</u> that, like, beneath their bragging they actually are <u>good</u> at what they do, but they're also, like, just dorks. Uh—
01:12:40	Brendan	Guest	Yeah.
01:12:40	Stuart	Host	Yeah, let's see. Uh... so... I'm gonna pick three. Let's see. Uh, obviously, Jack Burton from <i>Big Trouble in Little China</i> .
01:12:47	Dan	Host	Ooh, good one.
01:12:47	Stuart	Host	Uh... Alexis Rose from <i>Schitt's Creek</i> . And, uh—

[Someone laughs.]

I guess Ted Sushimo from *Akira*! So let's see—what do they have in common?

01:12:57 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[All laugh.]*
Dan: *[Through laughter]* What do they have in common?
Elliott: Interesting. Alright.

01:12:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Brendan laughs.]*
Elliott: Interesting. *[Inaudible.]*
Dan: Jesus Christ!

01:13:01 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Uh—well, they—
01:13:03 Dan Host I mean, they all have an impeccable sense of style. Uh—
01:13:04 Stuart Host Okay.
01:13:07 Elliott Host They have great—great hair. I mean, hair is a big deal. Um—
01:13:09 Stuart Host Oh, yeah. Tetsuo has fantastic hair.
Uh, I think they're, y'know, a little mysterious backgrounds. Uh, but they're also—yeah, I think they're—they're capable. Uh... let's see. Uh, they're—they're uh... y'know, the—they're products of the—the hostile environment in which they exist, that they uh, have to—they have to deal—they have to overcome their adversity and they do it kind of, y'know, uh—and they're all—they're all—they have magic powers. And yeah.

01:13:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** It's all great.
Dan: *[Through laughter]* Wait, they all have magic powers?
Elliott: Wait— *[Laughs.]*

01:13:36 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
01:13:39 Stuart Host Al—wait—*Schitt's Creek*? They have—they do? *[Laughs.]*
01:13:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah, you haven't been watching *Schitt's Creek*? It's crazy!
Stuart: It gets crazy!

01:13:41 Elliott Host **Brendan:** Later seasons.
I guess I have—I haven't gotten past the first season yet. I guess it—I guess it gets a little different.
01:13:44 Stuart Host Yeah, yeah, yeah. Well you gotta catch up.
01:13:48 Elliott Host Uh, I picked four characters. One of them is a kind of a—grandfathered in. I don't feel the same way about them, but I did for such a long time. Those characters: Spiderman, Nick Charles, Bugs Bunny, and Hall of Famer: Boba Fett! And I guess, thinking about 'em, they all have kind of like, uh... a certain amount of real competence, but also confidence in themselves. Except for Spiderman.

And they've all got—Stuart mentioned style—they've all got their signature look. You can identify them by a silhouette. Uh, if the silhouette shows you Nick Charles' mustache and also he's holding a whiskey tumbler in his hand. Uh, and—except for Boba Fett, they're all real talkers and jokesters!

01:14:21 Stuart Host Hmm.
01:14:21 Elliott Host So—who woulda thunk it? Now, Boba Fett, of course, I've talked on the podcast previously about how I liked him when I was a kid because of the fantasy of being so cool that, uh, people were just always in awe of you and also you had—wore a mask so no one could see your true face?

01:14:34 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
01:14:34 Elliott Host But—you know what? He’s kind of a doof when it comes down to it. Since—as we’ve seen in the *Star Wars* movies—he’s not very good at his job!

01:14:41 Dan Host Yeah.
01:14:41 Elliott Host Everyone thinks he’s great, but it turns out he just has a good press agent.

01:14:44 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
01:14:45 Dan Host Yeah. And a cool helmet!
01:14:47 Elliott Host Yeah. I have to assume there’s, like, there’s some kind of Fox News type thing in the *Star Wars* universe that’s always spinning Boba Fett’s failures as huge victories? *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan laughs.]

And they’re like, “Boba Fett showed those rebels! Got knocked into the Sarlaac!”

[Dan laughs.]

“They fell for his trap! Oh boy! He’s playing three-dimensional chess here.” Although that’s a *Star Trek* thing.

01:15:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Although that’s a *Star Trek* thing. But anyway.

01:15:07 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. And he’s the guy—he’s like the, uh—He’s like that character “King” in *One Punch Man*, who everybody thinks is the strongest man—

[Elliott laughs.]

01:15:14 Elliott Host But he’s actually just a guy who looks scary. *[Laughs.]*
[Laughs.] Yeah.

[Brendan laughs.]

01:15:17 Brendan Guest So Brendan, who do you choose?
Um, alright. So obviously it was Rorschach, John Galt and Zack Snyder’s Superman—

[Elliott laughs.]

01:15:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* Um—

Brendan: *[Through laughter]* I don’t think that says anything about me.

[All laugh enthusiastically. Someone claps.]

01:15:22 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Oh, no! Oh, yikes!
01:15:27 Brendan Guest *[Through laughter]* Um—
01:15:27 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Oh boy. *[Laughs.]*
01:15:28 Brendan Guest Um, no, my uh—my three, uh, I went with, uh, Raylan Givens, uh, the Elmore Leonard character from the books in *Justified*—

01:15:33 Stuart Host Oh, nice!
01:15:35 Brendan Guest Uh, Martin Blank, from *Grosse Pointe Blank*, and Yorick Brown from *Why the Last Man*.

01:15:39 Elliott Host Okay.

01:15:39 Brendan Guest Um, and basically is all—would-be smartest men in the room type who cover their emotions in humor? Is what I kinda realized? And ultimately, most—at least two of those three are ultimately pretty damaged underneath? But all three are slowly trying to, uh, be a little more self-aware and better?

01:15:55 Elliott Host And one of them has a pet monkey!

01:15:56 Brendan Guest And one of them does have a pet monkey. And honestly, that's—I mean, Raylan would've been even cooler. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

[Through laughter] With a pet monkey.

[Elliott laughs.]

01:16:01 Elliott Host And the monkey has a gun, too, and little sunglasses—

01:16:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** And the hat! Yeah! He's gotta have a hat!

Dan: Yeah.

Elliott: —on his head, and a hat.

01:16:05 Elliott Host You know what? And then they—that—they could do another season 'cause it'd be about the monkey!

01:16:08 Brendan Guest Oh my god, yeah!

01:16:09 Elliott Host Yeah!

01:16:10 Brendan Guest The monkey's traumotic—traumatic past! And uh, yeah! Exactly!

01:16:12 Elliott Host Oh, boy.

01:16:13 Brendan Guest Yeah.

01:16:14 Elliott Host Every monkey that you see that it is a pet has a traumatic past. *[Laughs.]*

01:16:16 Stuart Host Oh, mm-hm.

01:16:16 Elliott Host There—nobody—like, recruited that monkey at a college and the monkey was like, yeah, this sounds great.

[Brendan laughs.]

I'd love to be your pet.

01:16:21 Stuart Host Oh, man. You're—you're putting, uh, *Friends* into stark relief right now. *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan and Elliott laugh.]

01:16:27 Elliott Host Well, I mean, it's—it's clear now that—that Ross in *Friends* is a bad person. Right?

01:16:30 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Yeah. I think society has come around to that, yeah.

Elliott: That he's a bad dude. That—there's no—

Stuart: *[Exaggerated surprise]* Whaaaat?!

[Stuart laughs.]

01:16:32 Elliott Host There's no—there's no monkey who is hanging out in the jungle and is like, I really wish I lived in an apartment in New York and someone else—who was not even my species—controlled when I ate and where I shat. I would love that. It just doesn't exist.

01:16:45 Dan Host Yeah.

01:16:46 Elliott Host Okay, Dan—counterpoint. Argue why monkeys wanna be pets.

01:16:50 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Uh—um, they like grinding organs? Or dancing to organs that are ground?

[Someone laughs.]

How does that work?

[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]

01:16:58 Dan Host What—what are you with all those ground-up *[though laughter]* organs?

01:17:00 Elliott Host Now is—now is that a pet? Is—or is that a coworker? *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

01:17:04 Dan Host Um— *[though laughter]* Okay. Well, let's move on to recommendations. Movies that you should watch definitely instead of *Mortal Engines*, which was a big waste of everyone's time. Um—

01:17:19 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* Editorializing. I'll—I'll go first. I—I—I wanna do—
No, no, Dan, Dan—I appreciate you going out on a limb after this podcast.

[Someone laughs.]

01:17:24 Dan Host We were pretty ambivalent about whether we didn't like it or not. Uh, I'm gonna—uh—run... through actually a bunch of movies and do it very quickly. Because—

01:17:31 Stuart Host Wow.

01:17:31 Dan Host —this—think of this as my Shocktober, like, a cap to the Shocktober season?

01:17:35 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

01:17:36 Dan Host I saw, like, literally... 11 or 12, uh, horror movies over the past couple, uh, of weeks? And I just wanna highlight a few of them. Um... I saw the movie *Pieces*, which I think is a Spanish film? Am I right in that?

01:17:52 Stuart Host I think so, yeah.

01:17:53 Dan Host It's a—a slasher—it's, uh, it's not a good movie, it's a very silly movie? Uh, it's a slasher movie with all that implies; if you are not, uh, into a mo—

01:18:04 Elliott Host It's like slash fiction.

01:18:05 Dan Host No, I'm just—it—

[Elliott laughs.]

If you are not into a movie that has a fair amount of female nudity and violence against women, I understand. But that's, like, a big component of what slashers are. Uh, if you want to see a dong, though, there is one in that movie! So, there ya go!

01:18:18 Stuart Host Dong alert!

01:18:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart and Dan:** Dong alert!

01:18:19 Elliott Host Nowhere— *[Laughs.]* Nowhere else to see 'em!

[Dan laughs.]

01:18:21 Dan Host Yeah. But it's a— it's a—

01:18:22 Elliott Host Run to *Pieces*! *[Laughs.]*

01:18:23 Dan Host It's a very, very goofy horror movie. I—I—I showed it in my house if you want a movie that a lot of people are gonna have a lot—a ball laughing at?

01:18:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** It's a good one.

01:18:34 Dan Host **Stuart:** So come to Dan's house!
Um, yeah. Come to my house!

[All laugh.]

01:18:57 Elliott Host Uh, I saw at The Alamo, uh, marathon, I saw *Centipede Horror?* From 1982. It's a Hong Kong horror movie. Um, and it has kind of, like, a Hong Kong Kung-Fu vibe? Even though it's a horror movie? It's about, like... uh, people getting cursed with, like, centipede curses? *[Laughs.]* Like, a family being cursed. And I realized that—

01:19:01 Dan Host So how does that—how does that manifest? What d—you said that like we know what “centipede curses” are.

01:19:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk Well, uh, basically like centipedes are attracted to these people and then they're like these highly poisonous centipedes that...
Elliott: Ohhhh.

Dan: —cause them to die. But um—

01:19:09 Dan Host **Stuart:** Oh, gross.
I realized—

01:19:10 Stuart Host Luck—luck—luckily they only have, uh, a million legs. Right?

01:19:14 Dan Host Yeah.

[Brendan and Stuart laugh.]

I realized that—

[Elliott laughs.]

There's a—

[Elliott laughs.]

There's a lot of the supernatural in, uh, Western horror? But there's not a lot of, uh, straight-up magic in Western horror compared to Eastern horror? Like, this is a movie that literally has two wizards' duels in it? So if that appeals to you—

[Elliott laughs.]

—try and find *Centipede Horror*. It was very entertaining. Uh, I watched the movie *Bones*, with Snoop Dogg?

01:19:36 Dan Host Which I—had heard—

01:19:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Oh, yeah!

01:19:40 Dan Host **Stuart:** Yeah.
—was not good? Uh, I think because... on it—in addition to horror movies—

01:19:43 Stuart Host And you're here to set the record straight?

01:19:45 Dan Host Well—*[sighs impatiently.]* Look. Just let me say my thing.

01:19:47 Stuart Host Okay.

01:19:47 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* In addition to horror movies-

01:19:49 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* Wow.

01:19:51 Dan Host There's no need to interrupt. In addition to horror movies, uh, not being a critical favorite genre, I think that, uh, black-themed movies are often not, uh, given their due? And I will take my licks in that area, too. Like, I am not going out and watching as many, uh, black-themed movies as I could as a white dude.

01:20:09 Elliott Host I—I remember you—I—I think you said it on the podcast. You referred to *Selma* as “Snorefest 2017.”

01:20:15 Dan Host Uh— *[Laughs.]* Please do not spread that around! As a thing that happened!

[Elliott laughs.]

01:20:21 Elliott Host Uh—your lies. Uh—
I thi—I believe—I believe that the—the quote was “Get over it!”

[Dan laughs.]

“Said Dan McCoy.”

[All laugh.]

01:20:26 Dan Host Uh, but *Bones* is a lot of fun. It's directed by Ernest Dickerson, who was Spike Lee's cinematographer for a long time, and then a, uh, director in his own right. He did *Tales From the Crypt: Demon Knight*, another horror movie that's—

01:20:36 Stuart Host It's great.

01:20:37 Dan Host —better than you would think. Uh, and *Bones* is fun. It's kinda starts out like a socially-conscious horror movie and then turns Snoop Dogg into Freddie by the end of it? Uh, it's fun, and then last—

01:20:46 Elliott Host So he gets fingered.

01:20:47 Dan Host Yeah. And last night I watched, uh, *Crawl*, the movie by Alexandre Aja, who did, uh... *Piranha 3D*, that Elliott and Brendan and I all watched on Elliott's, uh, wedding day? And uh—

[Brendan, Dan, and Elliott laugh.]

—it's a movie about a woman trapped in a flooding house during a hurricane, trying to save her dad, as alligators swim all around. And it's a lot of fun.

01:21:08 Stuart Host And Berry Pepper plays her swim coach dad!

01:21:11 Dan Host Yeah. That's it.

01:21:13 Elliott Host Oh. *[Laughs.]* What a lot of movies! Uh... I'm gonna recommend a movie called *Ashes and Embers*. Uh, this is an independent film from 1982 that—until recently, was really only seen much on festival circuits, but Ava Duvernay's, uh, company has arranged a limited release for it. And I saw it on the Turner Classic Movies app so it may still be available in other streaming areas.

Uh, it's directed by, uh, Haile Gerima? Uh, and stars this actor John Anderson. And it's the story of a black Vietnam veteran who is having trouble reintegrating into main society, and it does such a good job of, like, getting you inside of his head? It's a very independent film; it's like, a very like, y'know, rough production-wise movie. In some p—in some parts. But it's like—and it leans a lot on, uh, Vietnam stock footage at times?

In a way that is sometimes removing and sometimes it's like, yeah, yeah, I've seen that footage. But uh, it's—it does such a good job of putting you inside the mind of this character. And it's a story that a lot of other movies have told about Vietnam veterans having trouble getting back to mainstream America? But it's rare that I've seen it in this way, also about someone who is dealing with the fact that they are black in America, and that is not easy.

And it touches on the kind of multigenerational aspects of that? What it means to the people around him and how he interacts differently with the people that he has different relationships with, and it's just a really, like, deep, rich movie. And it's structured almost more like a novel than like a straightforward plot? And so I found the whole thing very, like, hypnotic by the end. Very moving. And there's a couple of really great speeches in it. So if you can find it—and I hope you can—it's called *Ashes and Embers*. Brendan, what have you got?

01:22:50 Brendan Guest Um, I got one and I checked *The Flop House* wiki and I don't think you guys have recommended—uh, *Ready or Not?* The recent horror comedy?

01:22:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Oh, yeah. Yeah, I saw it. It was good.

Elliott: I don't think so. Oh, Dan.

01:23:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** No? Safe? Alright. Um—yeah!

Elliott: But he didn't—but he didn't recommend it. Right?

01:23:04 Brendan Guest **Dan:** I don't think so, no.

Okay. Cool. Um, but yeah! *Ready or Not*, uh, super fun horror comedy. Very—it reminded me of *You're Next*, uh, while playing a little bit with class warfare. Not very subtly, but in a really fun, entertaining way. Um... yeah! Stars Samira Wiley, who is also in the other super fun horror movie, um, *Mayhem*. It's just—it really is just a kind of case of—a bride learns on her wedding night that the family she has married into has a crazy, um, tradition? That could potentially lead to the family trying to kill her and, in this case, does. And madness and hijinks ensure! It's, um, it's gory and funny and... uh, worth checking!

01:23:41 Elliott Host Oh, wait. They wait until she's ready, right?

01:23:43 Brendan Guest Uh, well I mean, they give her a standard count and they do, I believe, let her know, uh, they are coming.

01:23:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Oh, okay.

01:23:50 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Mm-hm. Yeah.

So, uh... I'm gonna recommend a movie that kinda keeps with the theme of a young woman who is wronged and seeking revenge. Uh, I'm recommending, uh, the laugh-a-minute, uh, fun rollercoaster of a movie called *The Nightingale*. Uh, and I'm being totally sarcastic. It is not fun at all.

[All laugh.]

Uh, this is a very difficult movie to get through. Um, it is the latest movie from Jennifer Kent? The writer-director of the *Babadook* and this is the movie that she, uh, felt very passionately, uh, she wanted to do—follow—following that? Um, it's about a, uh, it's a period

piece. It's a young woman in, uh, young woman who is like—I guess getting out of indentured servitude, or trying to, in, uh, Colonial Tasmania.

And she suffers, uh, so—a horrible abuse at the hands of, uh, the—the man—the English officer running the outpost. And, uh, it's very difficult to watch and then the story kind of pulls back and you get to see, uh, kind of the situation all through, uh, Tasmania at that time and the horrors that are being, uh, uh, put upon the indigenous peoples there. And, it's uh... yeah! It's a really difficult watch. Um, but it's also very good! So, if you are ready to watch something that is not going to be easy to sit through and you might have to walk away a couple times, uh, yeah! Check it out. *The Nightingale*.

01:25:23 Elliott Host

Uh, and if people want something that's easy to watch, they should watch the old cartoon *Tasmania*? Where it's—

[Someone laughs.]

01:25:29 Stuart Host

—Taz and his family?

[Laughs.] Oh, man. Uh—they actually edited new scenes into that. I don't think they're—

[Brendan laughs.]

01:25:35 Dan Host

—gonna wanna watch it. It's pretty rough.

01:25:36 Elliott Host

Yeah.

01:25:37 Dan Host

Oh, no! *[Through laughter]* Oh, no!

If people want something that's really easy to watch, uh, they could look at the wall! Which is, like, right there. Unless you're outside, and then.... It's kinda hard to watch 'cause you have to go back inside.

[Stuart laughs.]

01:25:46 Stuart Host

That's true.

[Elliott and Brendan laugh.]

01:25:49 Dan Host

Um...

01:25:49 Stuart Host

Yeah. Can't—can't watch it on your phone, you know?

01:25:51 Dan Host

[Through laughter] No!

01:25:51 Stuart Host

Yeah. Chris—Christopher Nolan loves it. *[Laughs.]*

[Brendan and Elliott laugh.]

01:25:56 Dan Host

Uh, so guys, what—

01:25:57 Elliott Host

I—I mean, he's li—he's like—he's like, *[British accent]* "Every movie is projected on a wall! The most basic movie is that wall. What if we—we don't have to worry about film stock, because there is no film. It's just the wall." And they're like, "Take him away, boys!"

[All laugh.]

01:26:13 Dan Host

"He's gone insane!"

01:26:14 Elliott Host

Uh—

"It wasn't me that did it! It was the wall! The wall killed them! The wall!"

[Brendan laughs.]

“Whatever you say, Director Nolan!”

01:26:21 Dan Host
01:26:26 Stuart Host
01:26:27 Dan Host

[Brendan and Dan laugh.]
Very respectful. Uh— *[Laughs.]* Uh, hey, before we go? Uh—
Yup.
Just wanna say thank you to Maximum Fun, our network. Thank you for J—to Jordan for editing the show. Uh... go over to Max—
MaximumFun.org, check out all the other podcasts on the network. Some of them, uh, like us, are about film. Some of ‘em, like, us, are comedy.
Mm-hm. Some—
Some have neither of those things!
Mm-hm! Some of them are just culture!
Yeah.
Yes. Some of them don’t like us.

01:26:44 Stuart Host
01:26:44 Dan Host
01:26:46 Stuart Host
01:26:47 Dan Host
01:26:48 Elliott Host

[Brendan laughs.]
Yeah. Some of them—do—hate us.
I—I get that. *[Laughs.]*
Uh— *[Laughs.]*
Yeah.
So—
We’re jerks!
Who do have the food—feud against?
Uh, well, we—uh—what feud should we start right now that doesn’t actually exist—
Elliott: —but we’ll—

01:26:50 Dan Host
01:26:51 Stuart Host
01:26:52 Dan Host
01:26:53 Elliott Host
01:26:54 Dan Host
01:26:54 Elliott Host
01:26:55 Brendan Guest
01:26:56 Elliott Host

01:26:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk

[Brendan laughs.]
Stuart: I mean, we have that—we have that existing feud with Hodgman, right?
Dan: We have a fake feud with—yeah.
Elliott: Oh, oh, actually, yeah!

01:27:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk

01:27:04 Elliott Host
01:27:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Brendan: Oh, oh yeah.
He do—actually doesn’t like us. Yeah, okay, so yeah! Hodgman.
Elliott: That’s—that *[inaudible]*. Yeah.
Dan: Umm—

01:27:09 Dan Host
01:27:14 Elliott Host

Brendan: There ya go.
Elliott, you usually say some stuff around this time about promoting ourselves. What do ya got?
Well, uh, if you liked this podcast—and I hope you did—then please leave us a review on iTunes. Please make it a good review—five stars, perhaps?—and say something nice about us. Why don’t you tell people about the podcast? Tweet about us. Instagram about us. TikTok about us. Uh, YouTube about us. Whatever you wanna do. Blog about us. Splog about us. Maybe jump in a bog about us!

[All laugh.]
Uh— but please, wear, like, wading pants if you do that.

01:27:35 Dan Host Yeah.
01:27:35 Elliott Host I don't want you to ruin your good slacks—

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

01:27:39 Stuart Host —because you've got a Bar Mitzvah to go to.
Yeah. So—so go to your, uh, local Dick's Sporting Goods and ask for some bo—bog wading pants.

01:27:44 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Guys!
01:27:45 Elliott Host Get some bog-trotters—
01:27:46 Dan Host Guys! *[Laughs.]*
01:27:47 Elliott Host —and, uh, go on out there! And spread the word about *The Flop House!* Uh, once again, we—as Dan mentioned—we rely on listeners like you to support us throughout the year, uh, from the Max Fun Drive and we really appreciate it. It keeps the lights on and it keeps the beat.

01:28:01 Stuart Host Yeah. And—and—thanks for being our guest, Brendan!
01:28:04 Dan Host Yeah. Thank you!
01:28:04 Brendan Guest Thank you guys so much for having me on! I really appreciate it! And as a fan? It was quite nice to be on this side of it!

01:28:09 Elliott Host Thanks for being here and now you see how the sausage is made.
01:28:11 Brendan Guest Yeah.
01:28:12 Elliott Host It's hideous.

[Brendan laughs.]

01:28:13 Brendan Guest I'm—my stomach has been churned this entire time.
01:28:15 Elliott Host And, uh, *Harvey Street Ki*—uh, *Harvey*—
01:28:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —*Girls Forever!* Now—

Brendan: *Harvey Girls Forever!* Formerly *Harvey Street Kids*. It's not crazy.

01:28:20 Elliott Host Now *Harvey Girls Forever!* It's, uh, on Netflix now and it's really good. But, uh, go watch it! Leave a good review for that!

01:28:24 Brendan Guest Yeah!
01:28:25 Elliott Host And then leave a good review for *The Flop House*. And until then, I remain Stuart Wellingtone.

01:28:29 Stuart Host *[Exaggeratedly deep voice]* I've been Dan McCoy!
01:28:30 Dan Host I guess I'm Elliott Kalan.
01:28:33 Brendan Guest I guess I'm just me.
01:28:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Brendan:** Brendan Hay!

Elliott: Oh, wow. We didn't let Brendan play. Do you wanna make up a name that you could do?

01:28:37 Brendan Guest **Dan:** *[Laughs.]* Aw. Alright. Yeah.
I am... John Galt.

[Stuart laughs.]

01:28:40 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Noo!
01:28:41 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Noo-ho-ho!
01:28:42 Dan Host See ya next time!
01:28:42 Elliott Host And he disappeared. *[Laughs.]*
01:28:43 Music Music *[Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments.]*
01:28:55 Stuart Host I think William Shakespeare said—
01:28:57 Dan Host Uh-huh. *[Laughs.]*
01:28:59 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* Uh...

01:28:59	Elliott	Host	“Love the one you’re with?”
			<i>[Brendan laughs.]</i>
01:29:01	Stuart	Host	Wait, I gotta look it up.
01:29:01	Brendan	Guest	“Just chill, bro.”
01:29:02	Stuart	Host	Okay.
01:29:02	Elliott	Host	Yeah, I think sh—I think William Shakespeare said, “Just chill bro.”
01:29:04	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	Stuart and Elliott: Yeah.
			<i>[Music ends.]</i>
01:29:11	Speaker 1	Guest	MaximumFun.org .
01:29:13	Speaker 2	Guest	Comedy and culture.
01:29:15	Speaker 3	Guest	Artist owned—
01:29:16	Speaker 4	Guest	—Audience supported.