

**Trends Like These 257: A New Chapter for Trends Like These,  
Coronavirus Update, Super Tuesday, #ThankYouElizabeth**

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**Travis:** This week: An old era ends, saying bye to friends, and a new chapter for Trends.

**Brent:** I'm Brent Black.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

**Courtney:** I'm Courtney Enlow.

**Travis:** And I'm Travis McElroy.

**Courtney:** With Trends Like These.

[theme music plays]

**Travis:** Hello, Brent and Courtney!

**Brent:** Hello Travis, and hello Courtney!

**Courtney:** Hello Brent, and hello Travis!

**Travis:** This is—I'm Travis McElroy. It's been a while. I'm Travis McElroy. Hi, everybody. It's me, Travis McElroy. It's 5:30PM Eastern time, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Ugh.

**Courtney:** He's the beardy boy.

**Travis:** It's... ugh. My chair is still warm. It's like I never left. Ugh.

**Brent:** You've been here with us... In our minds. Not out loud.

**Travis:** That's what—Oh! That's what we haven't told everyone.

**Brent:** On this podcast format. Just with us.

**Travis:** You haven't heard my voice on the last couple episodes, but I've listened in to every recording. I've been on the line. I just—I couldn't think of anything to say.

**Courtney:** Yeah, he's—Travis exists in the podcast, in the smile of every baby, in the corner of every mirror. He is always with us. He is always around us.

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Yes. Look in your heart. Wait, I'm not there. Where'd your wallet go? Hee hee hee! Right? Kind of like that.

**Courtney:** [laughs] Is it behind your ear?!

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah. I'm kind of the magical Mr. Mistoffelees of this podcast.

**Courtney:** You really are. I've always thought that.

**Travis:** Which, by the way... gotta check out that MaxFunDrive bonus content here in a couple weeks.

**Courtney:** Mm-hmmmm.

**Travis:** We may or may not talk a lot about the movie, Cats.

**Courtney:** [sighs]

**Travis:** Spoilers.

**Brent:** Wouldn't it be funny if we so didn't, and you just said that out of nowhere?

**Travis:** Yeah, right? That would be really random, wouldn't it? Totally random.

**Courtney:** That would make it really—Like, if we had ended up talking about network. [laughs] We're like, "Everyone listen to me talk about Caaats!" And then it's just like, "So this movie's... Real good..."

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Um... so, right here at the top, should I just put the tiger on the table and yell at it?

**Brent:** Do it.

**Courtney:** Y'know what? I think that we need to just put it out there.

**Brent:** Yep.

**Courtney:** And let the people know.

**Travis:** So, my friends... Both Brent and Courtney, and the folks at home... This is going to be my last episode as a host of *Trends Like These*. And it's very hard for me to say that. I have, uh, very much enjoyed doing this show for many years. Enjoyed working with Brent and Courtney, and the interactions with listeners, and... As this show has transitioned from, y'know, kind of a fluffy show, to a much more kind of serious trending news, "Let's talk about it, let's get this all figured out" kind of thing.

But I've reached a point in my life where, uh, mostly, the main thing is children. Between baby Dot and baby Bebe, even though both are doing great and wonderful children, they require a lot of attention, uh, currently. And I don't see that changing anytime soon. Uh, and just the research and the time it takes to be able to bring the quality of journalism and writing that I think this show deserves... I'm just not able to do that anymore.

And add to that some other projects, like My Brother, My Brother, and Me and The Adventure Zone have now expanded to a point where they have chomped up a lot more of my time, both as becoming the DM of Adventure Zone, working on the graphic novels... Uh, all those things. And that's not to say that *Trends Like These* isn't also a priority, but I see my time disappearing more and more, and I don't want to short change anybody.

And so, instead, I'd rather make room for the people who have the time to dedicate and actually work on the show, to make *Trends Like These* the amazing show that it is, and that it deserves to be. And so, I am going to be stepping away. I will, from time to time, try to be a guest, and come in and talk about things when I can. Uh, but I'm no longer going to be a regular host.

Though, I will say that *Trends Like These* will always hold a special place in my heart, and that I will be a champion of the show, forever and ever and ever. And I have nothing bad to say about it, our listeners, Brent, or Courtney. It has been a joy.

It's made me not only understand the news better as a person; It has given me the confidence to talk to other people like I understand the news, and become a voice of truth and clarity in the world, which is something I never thought I would do, in regards to the news. I always kind of... Avoided any kind of current events, 'cause they just kind of confused me and bummed me out.

And now, I take them very seriously, and I track them even when it's not for the show. So, this show has done a lot for me, um... And I really appreciate the opportunity to do it, and I'm going to miss all of you very, very much.

**Courtney:** We're gonna miss you too, buddy.

**Travis:** And also, I'm drinking a glass of Woodford Reserve. [laughs]

**Courtney:** I'm glad that you're—

**Brent:** That was my next question.

**Courtney:** I was gonna be mad, honestly, if you were like, "I'm drinking water." Like, no!

**Travis:** Nope. Not for this one.

**Courtney:** Your last episode deserves more than that!

**Travis:** This one's straight bourbon.

**Courtney:** Like a little peek behind the curtain—Honestly, like... Travis started talking to us, like, over a year ago, when things—I don't know if you guys know this about Travis. He's a very busy person. Um... That it was going to get to the point where he was just not gonna be able to give to this show anymore, and I think it was a testament to just how much fun the three of us have together, and how much he loves this show, that he stayed on, honestly, way longer than I think he probably needed to. [laughing]

And I'm so happy that he did, because I just, I've loved getting to spend my weeks with this gentle soul, and I'm so glad that uh, you guys let me be a part of the show at all, and I'm glad that we've become friends, and I'm glad I have you in my life and I have this show.

**Travis:** And the show's gonna keep going. Let's be clear.

**Courtney:** Yeah, the show's not—We're not cancelling the show. Uh, it's gonna keep going. Um—

**Travis:** We're just cancelling me.

**Courtney:** We're just cancelling Travis.

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Courtney:** Travis is cultured. Cancel culture finally got Travis.

**Travis:** Yep.

**Courtney:** Can you believe it?

**Travis:** It got me.

**Courtney:** Brent, do you kind of wanna fill people in on how things are going to look in the interim? In these post-Travis times?

**Brent:** Sure. And by the way, we're gonna retouch on this later in the show, uh and I'll be presenting some stuff. But for the time being—

**Courtney:** The term I used was "Trexit"... Is what I called it.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Brent:** [whispers] Ohh, Trexit.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Brent:** Also what you might call someone who decides that they're no longer watching Star Trek: Picard. Anywayyy...

**Courtney:** Yep.

**Travis:** Yep.

**Brent:** So, yeah. Um, the idea right now is that we're going to keep going—I mean, here's the thing. Most of you listening, that have been listening for the last year, have heard a lot of me and Courtney. And you're going to hear a lot of me and Courtney, 'cause that's largely what the show has been and sort of morphed into, in really cool ways.

Um, however, we are going to investigate and explore guest hosts. We want to hear more voices on the show. We'd like to hear more diverse voices on

the show. Perhaps more international voices. But this is a chance for us to sort of try out, uh, different people that we want you to hear from, and who knows? You know, we may, at some point, decide to partner with a third host. The format may change. We're not sure.

But what we do know is, we're gonna keep being real life friends talking internet trends. We're gonna try to bring you the news, and do our best to break it down, go beyond the headlines, and uh... Give you a great show.

**Courtney:** And tiddle your bits.

**Brent:** And tiddle your bits.

**Travis:** Tiddle your bits.

**Brent:** A little, a tiddle, bit.

**Travis:** So what are you guys drinking?

**Courtney:** For you, Travis, I brought down a fancy bottle.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Courtney:** It is a, uh, [in an exaggerated French accent] La Chapelle de Bordeaux.

**Travis:** Excuse me? You sneezed.

**Courtney:** [clears throat] It's called a Dave Chappelle Bor-dux.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Courtney:** It's a 2014. It's got a picture of a lovely, uh, French church on it. So it seems fancy.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Courtney:** So I'm drinkin' that for you.

**Travis:** Thank you.

**Brent:** Well, I am double fisting. One for hydration, and one for a bittersweet celebration. And the hydration is a La Croix berry. The bittersweet celebration is Ketel One Botanical grapefruit rose, um, that I'm just takin' sips from. That's a vodka, by the way, if you didn't know.

**Courtney:** It is, but it's made like a gin.

**Travis:** Hey, cheers.

**Courtney:** It's fancy like that. Cheers. Cheers, boys.

**Brent:** Cheers.

**Travis:** Cheers.

[glasses clinking, somehow]

**Courtney:** And y'know what? This might not be our last time... Ever seeing Travis ever again as long as we live.

**Travis:** No. Man, god. I'm not dying. Hey, Courtney?

**Brent:** [chuckles]

**Courtney:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Courtney, I'm not dying. You know that, right?

**Courtney:** Dead to me! No.

**Travis:** Courtney, this is very important to me that you know this!

**Brent:** The cat's out of the bag. You're gonna be on the mission to Mars. We reported on it a few years ago, but...

**Travis:** No! What? I would never do that.

**Brent:** Yeah. Yeah. Unfortunately.

**Travis:** I am not trained!

**Courtney:** I literally, just before we started this call, referenced the fact that I'm going to Travis' house pretty soon. So, like...

**Brent:** That's good.

**Travis:** Yeah! It's gonna be fine! [laughs]

**Courtney:** We will, like—yeah. But, there also might be times where you feel like just being on this show, and talking about some nonsense with us.

**Travis:** Oh, listen. You know if Tana Mongeau gets in the news again?

**Courtney:** Mm-hmm?

**Travis:** Fuck it, you'll have—you couldn't stop me with like, a brick wall from coming on this show to talk about that shit. [laughing] Anytime—

**Courtney:** Just a Travis-shaped hole in the wall.

**Travis:** Oh man. If there is ever, like, a YouTuber does something terrible, I will be here. Don't you worry about it.

**Courtney:** This is not goodbye. This is... Good...

**Brent:** Good journey.

**Courtney:** Beyond the Headlines. Oh no, oops. I went into the segment too soon. [laughs]

**Brent:** Aw... I thought you were finishing the intro!

**Courtney:** [laughs]

**Brent:** Is the intro done now?

**Courtney:** [laughing] I don't know! Guys, I don't know. I'm—this has been an emotional day. [laughing]

**Travis:** Listen, in this post-Travis world... Y'know, some segments bleed into other segments. It's hard to tell where time begins and where time ends, y'know? Like, we're all just lost in... The current. Loose, as a goose.

**Courtney:** In this post-Travis world, the entire show takes place in the imagination of a child. And also, we're all trains roller-skating.

**Travis:** Yep.

**Courtney:** We are the starlight.

**Brent:** Um... So I've just uh, typed to Mustin in our doc that we have, that the intro is gonna go right into the next segment, which is sort of Beyond the Headlines. But we have one big story that's just been one of the dominant, non-political stories of this week, so it's like... Beyond a Headline, you might say.

Uh, and that is an update on the coronavirus. Like I said when we first reported about it, I've grown up in a generation— the three of us have. Uh, we saw dozens of alarmist phases where we all freak out about a disease, or in one case, killer bees. Uh, and they all have been much less of a problem than they were reported as.

Well, we're not...

**Travis:** Alright, just as a reminder, I think all three of us are of the generation where, no joke, there was a time where we were told, like, to be careful hugging or using the bathroom after an HIV positive person?

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** And there was such a misinformation, like, blitz, of just like... Because that sells stuff. The thing is, it's like, a panic... Specifically, a panic related to, like, injury or sickness, makes people tune into the news, sells magazines, sells medicine, sells sells sells. Right? So it's very easy in this day and age to be kind of jaded about that kind of thing.

**Brent:** Yeah, we literally have seen two Ebola... Well, I mean, epidemic. Whatever the small version of an epidemic is. I don't know the jargon. But we've seen Ebola become a sensationalized story twice in our lifetimes, um... To give you an idea.

So, y'know, my reporting thus far... My initial thought was, let's not be too anxious about it, but things have changed a little. A little. We are not to the point of the movie *Contagion* or anything... But coronavirus may well be the closest we've come to sort of a scary epidemic in our lifetimes.

The World Health Organization has now updated its official death rate to 3.4%. Though... [sighs] Trump, for some reason, feels the need to make up stats, saying it's more like one percent. He's really... I don't know. He's really fucking things up right now. But um... [Sarcastically] That's a first.

**Travis:** Now, is that—sorry, is that 3.4%, that's of cases, right?

**Brent:** Correct. Correct. Not—though, that's a good distinction. Not of the world. Of people who contract coronavirus. Um, and—

**Travis:** Right. Do you have any idea how that compares to something like the flu? If not, I'll look it up while you keep talking.

**Brent:** I was gonna say, I knew this number... Like, two weeks ago, and I forget which direction it's in. [laughs] My brain has been full of delegate math and all kinds of stuff.

**Travis:** Uh, okay. So just real quick, from The Washington Post, it says that, uh... That influenza, which is the flu, has infected as many as 45 million Americans. That's just Americans. Since October, and killed as many as 46,000. So here in America, uh, since October, the mortality rate has been like, less than one one-thousandth of a percent. Or... Hold on...

**Brent:** Isn't that one percent?

**Travis:** Has been one percent. Um—

**Brent:** Math on the fly, y'all! Math on the fly.

**Travis:** Yeah, math on the fly. Sorry. Man, it's been a long time. But yeah, so just here in America, it... So, I think you can gather, it's... Probably a little bit higher than the flu.

**Brent:** That being said, it's nowhere near as widespread as the flu—

**Travis:** Right.

**Brent:** And may not ever get to that level of, y'know... Going viral. Ugh, that's probably not a good joke to make. Okay.

Um, so yeah. There are now, um... About a hundred and—sorry, about 100,000 cases worldwide. About a hundred of them in the US at time of recording, over 13 states, with 10 or 11 deaths, depending on which source I found, all on the west coast.

Quick detour here: You may have seen sort of a cheeky click bait headline about how 38% of Americans thought coronavirus had something to do with the beer brand, Corona. And they said they wouldn't drink it. As we often cover on the show, that was a case of misleading headlines from a twisted interpretation of a survey.

The survey said 16% of beer drinkers were confused about whether the beer was related to the virus, four percent said they plan to stop drinking Corona in light of the virus, even though... Clearly, they'd heard of the virus before and were still drinking it, so that's confusing. But the question... The 38% question didn't involve the virus. So, the headlines implied that nearly 40% of Americans thought the virus came, somehow, from Corona beer.

There's a lack of publically known details about the methodology of the survey, aside from a cohort of like, 737 people, and the fact that it was conducted by phone. We don't know if it was a robo call. We don't know those details.

But like, what we do know is, while Americans may not all be geniuses, they're not as clueless as the headlines here imply. And personally, gonna go out on a limb here... A Corona with a lime on a summer day is a perfectly yummy treat for me, but I guess there are some beer snobs out there.

**Courtney:** It's those beer snobs that are fucking up those phone polls.

**Brent:** You've heard my rant on this. I'm like, "It's beer! Don't be snobby about—it's beer!!" Anyway. Whatever.

**Courtney:** It's. Beer.

**Brent:** It's just beer!

**Courtney:** With coronavirus spreading, a number of major events have been cancelled or postponed. A number of SXSW (South By Southwest) screenings and panels have been cancelled, which is a thing that a lot of people in my industry are presently having to deal with. The GDC, the Game Developers' Conference, has been cancelled in San Francisco.

Japan's Olympic prime minister said the 2020 Tokyo Olympics might be delayed until the end of the year. France has called a temporary halt to all indoor events with more than 5,000 people in attendance. Switzerland has

banned gatherings of more than 1,000 people. And even James Bond cannot save us, for *No Time to Die* has been postponed until November.

**Brent:** What a title.

**Travis:** Whoo!

**Courtney:** They'll do anything, to not give us the first female 007.

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Y'know, when I hear that, the No Time to Die, it just sounds like somebody would be like, "What's my schedule look like today? Oh, it's real bad. There's no time to die. Agh! Agh!"

**Courtney:** It makes me think, "No time to die, Dr. Jones."

**Travis:** Yeah. Nope!

**Courtney:** I think "No Time for Love" would actually be a really good James Bond title.

**Travis:** Yeah, or just "No Time".

**Courtney:** "No Time".

**Travis:** [laughs] How about just "No"? Oh, wait, there's already one called "Dr. No".

**Courtney:** [laughs] That's Dr. No's full name, is No Time to Die.

**Brent:** It's apparently... The movie's apparently two hours and 43 minutes long, so to crib from my friend Martin Billany's Twitter, there is actually quite a bit of time to die.

**Travis:** Yeah. Y'know, here's... The thing about this, right? That splits me into kind of two minds is, on the one hand, as you have said, Brent, there is a certain amount of, um... Uh, of not wanting to overreact to something?

**Brent:** Right.

**Travis:** But also understanding that um, like right now, right? I'm preparing to go on the JoCo Cruise. This weekend, it starts. And the amount of precautions that the cruise line has had to undertake to protect against this, right?

Like we are at a point now where, if your country appears to be a source for the coronavirus, it is bad for your economy. Right?

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Like, it has a significant impact. So, I actually completely understand these, uh, countries and companies taking the precautions of like, "We do not want to be an epicenter for this." I don't think it's overreaction so much as, I think it's good... Like, whatever, pre-damage control?

But also, like, it probably is going to cut down on the outbreaks, out there.

**Courtney:** Well, I think we're actually weirdly used to people prioritizing money over people.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** And so... To actually have read about, y'know, the *No Time to Die* being postponed, the release that went out about it said, "This is just a movie."

**Brent:** Hmm. Yeah.

**Courtney:** And I was like, "Wow, it is just a movie!" [laughs] That's not a thing that happens a lot, that people just say that.

**Travis:** Was it because of like, not wanting people in theaters, like, to get sick from each other?

**Courtney:** Yeah! Because this is like—James Bond movies do very, very well. That's going to be a lot of people together in close knit quarters. Also, uh... Like most movies, like most big blockbusters, it relies on, y'know, Chinese and South Korean numbers for their ticket sales, and a lot of those theaters are closed right now. So this is both a financial decision, and just, honestly, like a good choice. Because I think a lot of people probably don't want to be in a theater with a bunch of randoms, who we don't know if they washed their hands or not.

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** California has officially declared an emergency, and the state's first death of the virus was confirmed on Wednesday. Meanwhile, Donald Trump is still NBD, super chill. He went on Hannity and said, "A lot of people will have this. It is very mild. They'll get better very rapidly. They don't even see a doctor. Don't even call a doctor."

**Travis:** What?

**Courtney:** Yeah.

**Travis:** That's not true, sir.

**Courtney:** Well, he went on, because he's so accurate and right...

**Brent:** Yeah, here it comes.

**Courtney:** "You never hear about those people. So you can't just put them down in the category of the overall population in terms of this corona flu and

or virus. So you can't just do that. So, if y'know, we have thousands or hundreds of thousands of people that get better, just by, y'know, sitting around and even going to work, some of them go to work, but then they get better."

**Brent:** Jesus.

**Travis:** What?

**Courtney:** Then he... Then he... [sighs]

**Travis:** Okay—

**Brent:** Like that statement could get people killed.

**Travis:** And not only that... Even, even, even without researching the validity of that statement at all, I will point to the jump between thousands, versus hundreds of thousands, is like... That is going between, I would say, uhh... 19,999 to 199,999. Like...

**Brent:** Yeah. And this is what he does. You remember like, during his campaign at one point, he said, "They say the unemployment rate is four percent. I've heard as much as—" And he keeps climbing up to the point where he's heard as much as 40%.

**Courtney:** He's heard that people are flushing the toilet 15, 20 times!

**Brent:** Yeah. [laughs] It's just a very—

**Courtney:** Just to flush a solid deuce! Um, he then tweeted, "I never said that people are feeling sick should go to work. This is more fake news and disinformation put out by the Democrats, in particular MSDNC. Comcast covers the coronavirus situation horribly, only looking to do harm to the incredible and successful effort being made!"

**Travis:** Okay.

**Courtney:** He capitalized the V in coronavirus, as though it is a really just a cool startup.

**Travis:** Yep. Doesn't he seem like the type of dude, like the type of person I'll even say, of just like, "Ah, but what *I* said was that they *are* sick and go to work, not that they *should* go to work." It's like, alright.

**Courtney:** Also, isn't he a germaphobe? Like, why is he being so cavalier about this?

**Brent:** He is. He is.

**Travis:** I mean, he's every other kind of phobe, so sure.

**Courtney:** Yeah.

**Brent:** I think he just honestly thinks that the number of deaths and cases in this country... On the one hand, he thinks that that will be seen as some kind of failure on his part, and it's like, look, man. We don't think that you're responsible for this virus, and it's one of the few things I won't blame on you.

But also, on the other hand, I don't know if he's got like, business people in his ear being like "Don't let them not go out and consume. Don't let them not go to work." Or if he's just basically running at the mouth, doesn't know what the fuck he's talking about. I can't tell what he's trying to do. Putting people at ease is one thing—

**Courtney:** He's trying to get the DOW back in order. That's what it is.

**Travis:** Yeah. I think it's three things. I think it's uh, trying to reassure American spending. Two, trying to justify not spending more from the government, to test it, and combat it, and prepare for it. Not like—not, for example, putting a scientist in charge of it, and instead putting Mike Pence in charge of it. Mike Pence, who probably believes that praying is the best way to stop the coronavirus.

But I think the third thing is this thing that we see Trump do a lot, which is this rhetoric of like, good, hardworking Americans... They don't complain! They just go out and do what they gotta do, 'cause they're Americans. And it's this like... Playing to the most, like—even like, I'd bet, find your hardest working American farmer and say like, "Hey, if you had the coronavirus, would you keep working?" They'd be like, "No, I'd go to the fucking doctor!"

**Brent:** [laughs] Yeah.

**Courtney:** Yeah.

**Travis:** "Like, what are you talking about?"

**Courtney:** Or would you go to your stockbroker?

**Brent:** [sighs] Yeah.

**Courtney:** I mean, really, one in the same, frankly.

**Travis:** Stocktor.

**Brent:** Ugh!

**Courtney:** That was a—

**Brent:** Stocktor.

**Courtney:** I'm gonna miss that kind of just, that Travis gold.

**Travis:** Thank you. Where I just say the punch line, and I don't have a setup in any way?

**Courtney:** Yeah. It's my favorite.

**Brent:** Yeah!

**Travis:** [laughs] Where I'm just like, "Something something something... stocktor."

**Brent:** Well, no time to die, no time to set up a joke. Look, we're running—we're busy.

**Travis:** Thank you.

**Brent:** Um, so look, despite the growing number of cases, protecting yourself is pretty easy and can also mitigate your anxiety. And if you are anxious about this stuff, look, I get it. I just moved apartments, and y'know, I try to like, shake hands with people if they're gonna move my stuff. I hire movers. You shake their hands. If I meet the new maintenance guy in my building, I'm gonna shake his hand. This is how you treat people like people, and just greet them.

But you know I was sitting here thinking... Y'know, like, I saw one of the movers like, kind of do like the... [sniffs] Y'know, sniff and wipe the nose, and I was like, "Uh oh!" And then like, I went to a café right after moving in, and I heard like, a sneeze from behind the counter, and it was like, "Oh no!" [laughs]

Anyway. Protecting yourself—

**Courtney:** I would like to share one more Trump tweet—

**Brent:** Sure.

**Courtney:** That my mom texted me, because we basically have a text chain of—

**Travis:** Man, you said that so wonderfully Midwestern-y.

**Courtney:** [laughs] My mam.

**Travis:** My mam.

**Brent:** My mam.

**Courtney:** Uh, we have a text chain of like, the Democrats of the family. And uh, my mom—it's basically just my mom sending tweets and being like, "What an ass!" So, she sent this one from Donald J. Trump. "Gallop just gave us the highest rating ever for the way we are handling the coronavirus..." Again, the V is capitalized. "... situation. The April 2009-2010 swine flu, where nearly 13,000 people died in the US, was poorly handled. Ask MSDNC and lightweight Washington failure Ronald Klain who the president was then."

**Travis:** ... Okay.

**Courtney:** Suck it, Obama.

**Brent:** Always Obama's fault.

**Courtney:** Obama gave everyone the pig flu.

**Brent:** Always, always Obama's fault. Um... So like, protecting yourself is just a matter of... Wash your hands often with soap and water. Cover your mouth and nose—

**Travis:** Turn the page. Wash your hands.

**Brent:** Yeah. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, or sneeze into your elbow, which I find hard to do without making a loud, wet fart sound. That's probably just a matter of my unique nose and elbow anatomy. Also, try to avoid public places when you're sick. Ideally, don't leave the house, except to go see your doctor. Which you should do if you feel sick with these symptoms.

As a global community, we're gonna keep learning about this thing, and it will get better. You've just gotta hang on, stay calm, and wash our hands.

Also, real quick, there was a viral— ha ha, but like, it actually was— tweet from someone claiming to be a scientist fed up with information... Or rather, fed up with misinformation about hand sanitizer. Mea culpa. Boy, I've been kind of shittin' the bed with the *Trends Like These* Twitter lately. I just saw it and went, "Oh, a scientist debunking something that I have thought! I better get this out there, because this is something that I said to do! I said to use hand sanitizer on a recent episode! That wasn't right!"

Well, you should probably check out somebody's bona fides beyond their Twitter bio. My bad. But, the tweet said that hand sanitizer doesn't kill viruses, because it's antibacterial. That's not right. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that, while they recommend washing your hands as a first line of defense, hand sanitizer, that's at least 60% alcohol, will also kill coronavirus.

Now, hand sanitizers are not effective against all viruses. But as long as yours has a high alcohol content, it is a good line of defense against coronavirus.

**Travis:** Brent, do you know what else will kill coronavirus?

**Brent:** Tell me.

**Travis:** Good old American work ethic!

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Courtney:** Did you know that if you—

**Travis:** Hard work!

**Courtney:** If you put hand sanitizer on that viral tweet, it won't work?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** Because it's a viral tweet.

**Travis:** Do you know what you can use to strangle coronavirus into submission? Your American bootstraps!

**Brent:** Thanks, Donald Trump. You're killing it.

**Travis:** How. Fucking. Dare you.

**Brent:** By that, I mean the coronavirus. [laughs]

**Courtney:** [laughs]

[theme music plays]

**Travis:** Hey, Brent and Courtney, can I be honest with you?

**Courtney:** Always.

**Brent:** If you must.

**Travis:** Yeah, thank you. My mouth has that not-so-fresh feeling.

**Brent:** Uh oh!

**Travis:** Yeah. And y'know, I've been rubbing, like, whatever I can find against it. Uh, some fabric. Uh, a little dirt. Uh, I took a feather. I rubbed—and nothing seems to work. Do you have any recommendations?

**Brent:** Have you tried Quip? The Quip electric toothbrush?

**Travis:** Quip, you say?

**Brent:** Yes.

**Travis:** Huh!

**Brent:** If you have good habits, you should have Quip in your life.

**Travis:** Now, Quip... Is that the makers of the Quip electric toothbrush, and they want you to know that no matter what brands you use, if you have good habits, you're good?

**Brent:** That's the one.

**Travis:** And that, uh, it means brushing for two minutes, twice a day, and flossing regularly?

**Brent:** Indeed.

**Travis:** Well, did you know that Quip makes that simple? Their electric toothbrushes have sensitive sonic vibrations with a built-in timer and a 30 second pulse to guide a full and even clean?

**Brent:** As someone who's used Quip since late 2017, I do. I do know.

**Travis:** Well, here's something you might not know. Quip delivers fresh brush heads, floss, and toothpaste refills every three months with free shipping! Did you know that?

**Brent:** I do now.

**Courtney:** Y'know, you went from brushing your teeth with a feather, to knowing everything about Quip. That must just be how good Quip is, as a product.

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Well, I just reme—I just read the copy, was what happened.

**Courtney:** Oh. Oh.

**Brent:** Ahh, that'll do it.

**Travis:** I was doing a bit before, and then I remembered the—

**Courtney:** What—what copy? We say this from our hearts every week!

**Brent:** It's true.

**Travis:** Well, we don't need to lie to people this is—I'm reading copy. Quip—hey. Quip paid us to talk about—you know that, right everyone? Quip paid us to talk about them. That said, I do love Quip. Um, it—

**Brent:** I was gonna say. Quip did not pay me to use their toothbrush for two and a half years, now. So they are—we are sponsored by them, but...

**Courtney:** Quip certainly did not pay my boyfriend to order me a gold Quip, using promo code 'Trends,' for his house.

**Brent:** Ooh!

**Travis:** Oooh! I will also say—ooh, wait a minute!

**Courtney:** Ooh, I know.

**Travis:** You got a toothbrush at your boyfriend's house?

**Courtney:** Mm-hmm. I carry deodorant there, too.

**Brent:** To me, I feel like—

**Courtney:** It's pretty cool.

**Travis:** Ooh, girl!

**Courtney:** But no deodorant sponsors us, so I'm not even gonna give them that name.

**Brent:** I feel like 'toothbrush at the other person's apartment' is like, a step. Y'know what I mean?

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Brent:** It's not like, necessarily Facebook official, but once there's a toothbrush there... That's serious. At least in one way. Means you're comin' back.

**Courtney:** And when you're—

**Travis:** Yes. That's saying like, spending the night is a guarantee. Is like a built—yeah, you can sleep here. It's fine.

**Courtney:** And when he's buying me a beautiful, golden, really great, high quality toothbrush, using the promo code from mine own podcast... That's love.

**Travis:** Did he?!

**Courtney:** Yeah!

**Travis:** That's cool.

**Courtney:** Mm-hmm. Yeah.

**Travis:** That's a good move. Oh, that promo code, by the way, in case you're wondering... if you go to [GetQuip.com/Trends](https://GetQuip.com/Trends) right now, you get your first refill free. That's [GetQuip.com/Trends](https://GetQuip.com/Trends). Quip: The good habits company.

[theme music plays]

**Brent:** So there's one big politics story this week, but it encompasses lots of little politics stories, so we're gonna round them up into a segment we call... Travis, what's it called?

**Travis:** Ahem-hem-hem. A Pooooolitics Roundup! [echoing]

**Courtney:** That was powerful.

**Travis:** Thank you.

**Courtney:** That was beautiful.

**Travis:** Thank you very much.

**Courtney:** That made me feel good on a sad day.

**Travis:** Thank you.

**Brent:** And I just want to know what people that don't remember that from earlier incarnations of the show, like, what they think that was about.

**Courtney:** Y'know what? If this is their first episode, then they should, y'know... This is a weird one. This is a weird one to start with.

**Brent:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Travis:** I want to know what my wife thinks that's about, Brent. She was in the other room just hearing me like, basically Tarzan yell.

**Brent:** I definitely thought that.

**Courtney:** I think she knows how you are at this point.

**Travis:** That's fair.

**Brent:** Yeah, that's true. When you're recording a show...

Um, so, this past Tuesday was the day of the 2020 presidential race we call Super Tuesday, and it's because—

**Courtney:** But what did you call it in the header of this? [laughs]

**Brent:** In the headline of the doc we have, it's "Pooper Tuesday".

**Courtney:** That's a good one, Brent.

**Brent:** Um... yeah. Thanks. Um, we keep it fun around here. So... [laughs]

**Travis:** We have a lot of fun here, folks. But uh...

**Courtney:** [laughs]

**Brent:** Okay. This past Tuesday, we, uh... Super Tuesday. And it's called that because 15 different primaries all happened on one day. If I'm not mistaken, it was 14 states and one territory? Is American Samoa a territory? It's—whatever. It's American Samoa. We all love you, our American Samoa friends, but we don't know what you are. [laughs] In terms of your borders.

**Travis:** Territory.

**Brent:** Okay.

**Courtney:** We could Google you, but this is not Beyond the Headlines. This is Politics Roundup.

**Brent:** Correct. You tell us on Twitter. But I think it's a territory. Anyway! So, there were a total of 1,300 delegates up for grabs. Right before Super Tuesday, Tom Steyer, Pete Buttigieg, and Amy Klobuchar all ended their campaigns, and Buttigieg and Klobuchar immediately endorsed Biden. And also, Beto O'Rourke did, too.

**Travis:** Hey, can I ask you a question, Brent? You're way more of a politics junkie than I am, especially right now, dealing with two kids. Did any of those endorsements surprise you? And did any of those dropping out surprise you, pre-Super Tuesday?

**Brent:** Um, I... I thought... Okay, here's what I thought. I thought that like, Steyer, Buttigieg, Klobuchar. All would have essentially the same amount of cash on hand in their campaign budget on Tuesday as they did the Saturday before, in South Carolina. So that like, they would all... In my mind, I was like, they would all have a reason to just stick it out in case they got a big bump. Once, y'know, the primary... Uh, the primary process opened up to a lot more states.

Because y'know, the states we've had... we've only had four states out of 50. So like, maybe they were gonna get a boost out of nowhere and get some momentum. But... What's clear is, at least, I don't know about Steyer. But at least in the case of Buttigieg and Klobuchar, the Democratic party establishment got to them and said, "Look. You need to get out right now, and if you don't..." Again, I'm speculating, but like, ehh, I'd put money on it.

"If you don't, your career in the Democratic party is gonna be harder going forward. And if you do, who knows? You might end up in Biden's cabinet. You might end up a VP. You never know."

And we'll get back to speculation about that sort of thing a little later in the week that I'm currently reporting on. But yeah. So... basically, the short answer of your question, Travis, is... I was surprised how fast it happened. But then when I thought about the party establishment's need to... Consolidate behind one alternative to Bernie, in order to defeat Bernie, it's not that surprising.

Beto... Beto's endorsement kind of was surprising. But again, if he wants to stick around in the Democratic party and do well in the future, he'll play by the rules.

As usual, um, the results were all over the place as the night went on. And in the end, there are two basic results from Super Tuesday. Result one, Biden had a better night than expected, and the mainstream narrative was that Biden totally crushed it. Result two, Biden and Sanders are really not that far away from each other in terms of overall delegates. At time of recording, Sanders is about 60 delegates behind Biden. That's only three percent of the number of delegates needed to clench the nomination.

Sadly, Elizabeth Warren did not get above third place in any state, and came away with an overall primary total of 50 delegates. So, it's, generally speaking, good news for Biden, and bad news for Bernie, who had been hoping to get a big lead over Joe in order to increase momentum going into the remaining states.

Remember, it was looking bad for Joe and great for Bernie, so the fact that it's about even now, with Joe a little bit ahead, is a major upset.

Bloomberg, by the way... Only ended up winning 27 delegates, and the only primary where he came in first was American Samoa. Wednesday, Bloomberg suspended his campaign and endorsed Biden, having spent upwards of \$600 million on a vanity project that ultimately hurt his personal brand and didn't go very far in crushing Bernie's campaign, which was clearly part of his calculus in the whole thing.

If there's anything good about it—

**Travis:** Can I ask you a question once again?

**Brent:** Sure.

**Travis:** My politics junkie friend.

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Um, so... When a candidate suspends their, uh, campaign... And they endorse someone else... Is that like, a very clear signal to the delegates that would vote for them to say like, "Hey, vote for this person I'm endorsing."

**Brent:** Okay. The—

**Travis:** Or, does it—how does that usually pan out?

**Brent:** This is tricky, and I... Consider myself the politics wonk of the show. But I'm going to tell you, y'know, something to the best of my knowledge, okay? So, if you have suspended your campaign, you haven't actually ended it. The media is fast and loose with the words 'end' or 'drop out,' but most candidates, especially if they've gotten primary delegates, will suspend.

And so, now, they have a certain number of delegates that, at the very least, when it gets to the convention, they can ask those delegates, like, "Yo, will you actually vote for Biden?" Or, will you, you know—or whatever. Because there's no point at the convention of a Pete Buttigieg delegate announcing, y'know, "We're for Pete Buttigieg!" Like, great.

Um, but... I don't know for sure? I'll say this—

Travis: Yeah?

Brent: Endorsing does not mean, necessarily, they're going to put their delegates toward that candidate. Um, and y'know, kind of like we said in 2016, you really don't know a lot of this stuff 'til the convention. Let's get outlandish and say that Joe Biden... I don't know, uh, just... [sighs] Something happens to him, and he can no longer keep running. Okay?

So, now you've got, uh, only Bernie in the race. Well, the fact that Buttigieg endorsed Biden doesn't necessarily mean he's going to now direct his delegates toward Biden. And if not mistaken, delegates of a candidate that end their campaign, like end end, get distributed proportionally to the people that got over 15% in that primary race.

**Travis:** Oh!

**Brent:** It's coompllicated, and unnecessarily so. [sarcastically] I know that's weird in like, y'know, the American political system, for things to be unnecessarily complicated and opaque. But turns out, yeah.

So, that's as far as I know. If I'm dead wrong, please let me know on Twitter or in the Facebook group. This is stuff that I'm just wrapping my head around, 'cause there's a lot to consider in the... Y'know, the whole notion of a

brokered convention, or a contested convention, is something we just really don't see. Certainly, we have not seen in any of our lifetimes.

So, it's something that like... Not everybody exactly knows all the options, because we're dusting them off from a long time ago. And if there's anything we've learned in the Trump era, it's that... Sometimes, you don't know how much of the rules and norms are like, honor system, and how much of them are like, rules. So, we'll see. And as we get closer to the convention, I'll probably like, bone up more on that.

Now, if there's anything good about this last week, aside from good for Biden, it's the fact that we still have not yet seen a presidential candidate flagrantly buy their own ticket into the White House, which I think would be a grotesque tragedy to see. As for why Bernie had a bad night, there are multiple reasons.

The moderates dropping out and consolidating behind Biden did a lot. You also have the fact that a lot of, frankly, I think, low information voters in Super Tuesday states, they just didn't start paying attention until pretty soon before it was their turn to vote in the primary. So seeing how Joe Biden completely spanked Bernie in South Carolina probably gave Joe some serious perceived momentum, even though he was—

**Courtney:** I will say, we should honestly probably watch ourselves saying that, because... There is a great deal of black support for Joe Biden. And I—

**Brent:** Sure.

**Courtney:** I know that like, we are constantly talking about the diverse amount of supporters that Bernie has. But I mean, there are—Joe Biden really does have a great deal of black support, and I don't think we should write them off saying 'low information voters.'

**Brent:** Well, okay, let me be clear. That wasn't my intention.

**Courtney:** Of course. But that's—that's the implication, and I'm gonna get to it before people get to it.

**Brent:** I didn't want to make that connection, but I appreciate... Yeah, I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to make that clear. 'Cause I do not want to imply that. Um, but we can all agree, there are a bunch of Americans... They are sometimes our parents, our friends, our whatevers, that don't really follow it like we do.

They're not wonks, and they might just kind of... The way that like, I'll be honest, there have been like, city council elections, locally, where I realize I haven't been paying attention as much as I am like, "Oh, I'm into politics!" Well yeah, national politics. State politics.

But like, sometimes, I just kind of look up the information within days of voting, and I think a lot of people that aren't really, um... Completely having their ear to the ground all the time in the politics zone, probably did start paying attention right around the time Biden won Carolina, which was, itself, spun very positive.

And he was like, y'know, he's like now is the front runner, even though like, they were much slower to say Bernie was the front runner when he mathematically, totally was.

So yeah. Um, there's that part of it. Uhh... And the most disappointing part of it to me is the fact that, uh, young people just didn't come out for Bernie the way they had been projected to. For over a year, I have held to the stats and studies I saw that said the biggest room to grow in the Democrat electorate was young people and lefties. And therefore, Bernie was the best bet, since moderates and centrists will generally hold their nose for anyone who isn't Trump this year.

But at least in Super Tuesday states, that turned out to be not true. Additionally, Warren ended up with more delegates that might've otherwise voted for Bernie than Bloomberg did with regard to Biden. That's hard math to do, because that implies that Warren voters are generally aligned with Bernie, and that's really hard to tell, but... The calculus would've been different, if like—

**Courtney:** But she is not to blame... For him not getting those votes.

**Brent:** That's not what I'm saying. That's not what I'm saying, any more than Bloomberg is to—

**Courtney:** Because that is some fuckin' bullshit that I'm seeing online, and absolutely not. We're not doing that here on this show.

**Brent:** We're not doing that.

**Courtney:** Not that Brent is doing that. I'm, again, just gettin' out ahead of things.

**Brent:** Fair enough. So, today, the day we're recording this, on that note, we found out that Elizabeth Warren is also suspending her campaign, which is a huge bummer for all the Warren stans who had a resurgence of hope after her totally badass performances in the last two debates.

A big question—

**Travis:** I—can I say to that point real quick, and to both of your points... Um, I think it's the kind of thing where you look at, as we've talked about in this segment, that Buttigieg and Klobuchar and... uh... Steyer?

**Brent:** Steyer, yeah.

**Travis:** Let's just say, Buttigieg and Klobuchar, um... Dropping out to throw their weight behind Biden, right? But I think that, if you look at that, I don't think that there was a path to victory for either Buttigieg or Klobuchar, if you really got down to it, right?

**Brent:** Right.

**Travis:** Where there were people who, I'm sure, were like, "Well, Warren really kind of hamstrung Bernie." But Warren had a path to victory, right? She was like, routinely doing well in polls, and like, it was not like, "Well... I better drop out now."

**Brent:** Whoa okay, now you're forcing me to be the asshole. But I take the mantle. She didn't really have a path in the polls. She did have a path in terms of energy. Like people were going—

**Travis:** Yes. Okay, well, maybe that's a better way to put it.

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Like, there was definitely a world in which you could predict, like, I could see people rallying in such a way.

**Brent:** Yeah. The debates got people much more excited about her, for sure. So that was the perception of her having a path. But the polling was grim, and was worn out by the—

**Travis:** Right. But it wasn't like, "Well, I better drop out now if I want to have a future in the Democratic party," —

**Brent:** No. For sure, for sure.

**Travis:** In the way that you could potentially make the case, as you have, for Buttigieg and Klobuchar.

**Brent:** Oh, for sure. Right. Well, and—yeah. And I mean, as far as a matter of the future of the Democratic party, the DNC knows that Warren is much closer aligned to Sanders than to Biden. So they were probably hoping that she would've basically had done even better, in their minds, thinking that would take a bite out of Bernie more than it would take a bite out of Biden. These are all things that are very hard to calculate.

**Courtney:** Well, to all of these points, I think that what it comes down to is, she would've had a path to the nomination if people had voted for her. And for whatever reason, people didn't.

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** There is a line in a New York Times piece that says, "When voters were asked whom they'd pick if the primaries were held today, Mr. Biden came out ahead. When asked whom they would make president with the wave of a magic wand without the candidate needing to win an election, voters went with Ms. Warren."

And I will get to my whole shitshow about this, but I think that that's what it comes down to, is that... The path to winning was whatever it was going to be. It was not as cut and dry as I think, uh, the more moderate candidates, who I think it was very clear, like, look, you're not gonna fuckin' win. There's too many of you diluting the pool. I think we deserve to see how she was going to do on Super Tuesday. And it sucks.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Brent:** Yeah. I don't blame her for—yeah. I mean, it's very early in the race. They were signaling she'd go all the way to the convention, but that's what you do. In a campaign, you don't say like, "Well, we're gonna get out soon." You never say that.

**Courtney:** No.

**Brent:** So yeah, I don't blame her at all.

**Travis:** Can I ask you a question? Do you think that the, uh... The vibe of this, for lack of a better word, to use a very 2020 word... The vibe of this primary is inherently kind of fucked up and weird? Because I'm sure there are plenty of people who are voting with their heart, but there is also a good... There is a much more calculated, having gone through the 2016 election, and now having dealt with Trump for three years, that there are people who are like, "Well, yeah, I wouldn't normally vote for Biden, but I think he'll win overall."

**Courtney:** I honestly think that's what's happening. I think there's a lot of people who think they're fuckin' Nate Silver, and they are—they are playing

a game of strategy. But it's imagined, made up strategy, because they are not pundits. We are voters. You should vote for who you want to actually be in charge, not necessarily who you think is going to win, AKA, not really do anything, and it's... It's a fuckin' bummer.

I also think that we do need to like... Y'know, we all dunked on Chris Matthews when he was just like, "Socialism is people being shot in the streets!" But there is a lot of people who like, are like, weirded out by the concept of socialism.

**Brent:** Yeah. I will say—

**Courtney:** And I think that's why like, Bernie has gone so far to like, to try to explain the meaning of Democratic socialism, because a lot of people are really, like, freaked out about that term. Mostly of like, of the boomer kind.

**Brent:** I just wish he would've gone with the...

**Courtney:** Where that has a negative connotation to them.

**Brent:** He is actually – nerd alert – he's a social Democrat.

**Courtney:** Yeah.

**Brent:** By the textbook definition, he's not a Democratic socialist, but I think that, at a certain point, he realized, "If this is the sticker I put on myself, they're never gonna let me take it off, so I may as well keep going with it." But yeah. If he called himself a social Democrat, he would be in an entirely different ballgame.

The number of people that I've engaged with are not on Twitter, that just go like, "He's a secret communist!" And they go back to the word 'socialist,' or they don't want to examine the difference between socialist and Democratic socialist. It does weird people out, and it's a huge cudgel that can be used against him. Whereas, Elizabeth Warren, you'd say she's a progressive, but she's also an institutionalist. And so, the word 'progressive' is nowhere near as harmful as 'socialist.'

Now, speaking of Warren, a big question today was whether she would endorse Joe or Bernie, and it's absolutely a lose-lose-lose situation for her. Because if she were to endorse Biden, she'd lose a lot of her remaining good will with Bernie progressives. If she endorsed Bernie, she'd be in even less good graces of the Democratic party establishment, and her career as a Democrat would be harder going forward.

What she did say is, she's gonna take her time to determine which candidate she'll support, which probably means she's gonna wait 'til there's a clear, uh... Either winner, or somebody that's like, heavily, heavily favored. And so, now, look, here's what's gonna happen. The worst of the Bernie crowd, the people that embarrass me, will call her a snake. But at the same time, she'll be disappointing the DNC in a similar way as to if she had endorsed Bernie, and she may ultimately get punished for that.

And y'know, of course I'd like her to endorse Bernie. And part of that's the fact that she carved out a progressive brand and went up against the moderate establishment. So to endorse Biden would like, dilute that brand. Might look cynical to some people. But like, she—again, there's no way to win, there. She's just gonna have to make the choice of which bridge to cross and which bridge to burn.

**Courtney:** I would be surprised if she endorsed Biden. I will say that.

**Travis:** Yeah, I think so too.

**Courtney:** I think I'd be surprised, because I think that she... She's not the DNC puppet that I think a lot of the worst—the snake emoji people, uh... Try to make her out to be. I think she is someone who has very much, um, operated on her... Her truth. Whatever that may be. And if she endorses anyone, it's gonna be Bernie.

I would—if she endorses no one, that's its own lose-lose situation. I could see her turning her focus down ballot. But I think if she's going to endorse a candidate, it's gonna be Bernie. I'd honestly be surprised if she endorsed Biden.

**Brent:** Well, she may do what she did with Hillary, because like, she didn't endorse Hillary before Hillary got the nomination. But then she was staunchly for Hillary once Hillary did get the nomination, and that's—look, that's a fairly safe bet. I don't think you get anywhere near as punished for that as you do for endorsing the wrong candidate.

But to your point, Courtney, I think that anything... Any endorsement of Biden before he gets the nomination would be a surprise.

**Courtney:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** Uh, can I just say, just completely, I don't know. Hypothetically, apropos of nothing... There may be, uh, let's just say, like, one third of this podcast... That maybe is traveling consistently for the next three weeks, so early voted yesterday... And maybe—maybe having some more information that they have today, maybe would've voted differently. I don't know.

**Courtney:** Ugh. I will say, I thought about early voting. Uh, work prevented me from doing that. And I am both glad and sad? I would've loved... God, I'm... Mmm. I really thought—I really thought that I wasn't gonna cry. [laughs]

**Travis:** 'Cause I—I will say, not to get into the Nate Silver shit, right? But I did, yesterday, think... Okay, well, I've seen—like, okay. Don't get me wrong. I will vote for Biden if he's the candidate. I will, happily. Right?

**Courtney:** I will. That's the thing.

**Travis:** I will happily vote—

**Courtney:** I don't want him to be the candidate, but I will vote for him. I really will.

**Travis:** And that's the thing is, at anyone who's listened to this show when I was on it, it will come as a surprise that I voted for Warren, right? But given the choice of the three, Warren was my top, but then Bernie was my

strong second. Right? Like... And so, I had that thought of like, "Ooh, do I vote for, uh, Bernie, or do I vote for my top candidate, because this is the primary, and that's what you're supposed to do?"

And I decided like, the right thing to do is to vote your heart, right? Vote the candidate you support, 'cause that's what the primary is for. If I had known what I know now... Maybe I would've voted for Bernie. I don't know. But that said, I hope Bernie wins Ohio so I don't feel bad. [laughs]

**Brent:** And that definitely remains to be seen. Ohio, as I understand it, is not—is not, uh, super progressive, nor super moderate. That's why it's a swing state, I think even within the Democratic party.

But yeah, I mean, as far as the playing Nate Silver thing, you've got a point. But there comes a point, and maybe we're not there yet in the primary, where voting strategically, um... You can end up in a situation where you have to make shitty choices. And I feel like Super Tuesday was so early this year that there was still, uh... A fairly wide open possibility for Elizabeth Warren, especially in light of the debates, to come back.

The results of Super Tuesday showed that just like, now, we're in astronomically unlikely territory for a path. But yeah, I think that there are people that Bernie's not their first choice, but Biden is so far down the list, they're just gonna have to go with Bernie, and vice versa.

And y'know, if Elizabeth Warren decided to like, actually, um, come through for progressives, or she just really, in her heart, did not want Joe Biden to go up and lose against Trump, she could, if I'm right about that thing I said earlier about the convention, try to direct her delegates to vote for Bernie if it got really close. Who knows if that would work, but...

**Courtney:** I guess I just feel like... She has honestly nothing to lose by endorsing Bernie, because she... Has made herself—like, she's run on being her.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** And she's always gonna be her. I don't think she is so tied to the quote "Democratic establishment" that she will just like, shill for a cabinet position.

**Travis:** I agree.

**Courtney:** I think she cares more about the country than she does about... Winning.

**Brent:** Yeah, and she doesn't need a cabinet position.

**Courtney:** No.

**Brent:** Like, she can write a book. She can do all kinds of things. And she is young enough to run again.

**Courtney:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yep.

**Brent:** And y'know, like, a lot of times, look at Mitt Romney, y'know? An 'also ran' does not necessarily stay an 'also ran' forever. That being said, let's switch to, where do we go from here?

As much as Super Tuesday seemed huge and made a lot of people really happy, a lot of people really sad, we have a long way to go. This coming Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, we will see a much smaller version of Super Tuesday, with primaries in the states of Idaho, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, and Washington, totaling up to 352 delegates up for grabs. If Bernie did well enough, he could, at the very least, even the overall score with Biden... But it's a long shot.

Before Super Tuesday, it looked like Bernie might be able to get over the 1,991 delegate finish line and clinch the nomination. At this point, the chances of that are lower, and the fact that it's now a two person race means there are less ways this could go. Either Bernie will get to the 1,991 threshold and clinch the nomination, or Biden will do that.

Maaaybe they both end up with less than 50% of the delegates. It would have to be just a razor thin margin. If that happened, the super delegates would vote on the second ballot, and like... Look, if that happened, they'd give it to Biden. Period, end of story. The super delegates are the establishment. They would just—there's no way they're gonna shoe Bernie in, if there's any question.

So the stage is set for a fight between two white men, who will be in their 80s by the end of the next presidential term. But, the differences are pretty stark between their styles and their policies. The main hope now for, basically, anyone who doesn't want Biden, is that Biden won't have any other candidates to hide behind at the next debate, and Bernie will be able to expose his weaknesses.

But, look... The corporate owned media will likely go into overdrive to build up Biden and spin things against Bernie. I'll be honest— I don't think Biden's a strong candidate. I think if he wins the nomination, Trump will likely beat him.

The outlook did get a little more grim. But, we do still have a ways to go. Y'know... Some people said of Super Tuesday, this was the empire striking back. Maybe we have the return of the Jedi, maybe we... Give the nomination to Joe Biden. We'll see, and we'll keep you posted.

**Courtney:** I vote on uh, March 17<sup>th</sup>, and my vote will be going to Bernie Sanders. Which, if you've listened to this show for a long time, it's both... I would hope that it is not surprising, but also that you know exactly how much I wanted it to not be. [laughing sadly]

So I wrote a thing, and I really didn't want to cry, so if you don't like listening to women cry, skip ahead a few minutes.

**Travis:** Who likes listening to women cry?!

**Courtney:** Well, a lot of people get mad at it. [laughs]

**Travis:** Well, there's a difference between—okay. Here's the thing, Courtney.

**Courtney:** Okay, if this is like, your fetish, please don't listen. I don't want to be part of this.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Courtney:** [laughs]

**Travis:** I am not inherently bothered by...

**Brent:** This took a turn.

**Travis:** But I'm also not like, "Yes! Yes! Yes!" [laughing]

**Courtney:** [laughs] Okay. Alright.

**Travis:** Anyways, you were saying.

**Courtney:** Anyway. Thank you for the laugh, as I go into the crying thing. [sniffs] Okay.

**Travis:** It's what I'm here for.

**Courtney:** This one hurts in that aching, empty way. In a despair way. Not just because of Elizabeth Warren; though, she deserved a lot better, but because of what she represented. Because of what Hillary Clinton represented in 2016, as much as many of us have tried to fairly or unfairly distance ourselves from her and the 2016 of it all.

With both of them, we had completely and totally qualified women. Far and above the most equipped for the position for which they were applying. And as the case for so many women, when we are wholly qualified and would excel in a given position, we find ourselves up against champions of mediocrity, our dad's golf buddy's sons, angry yelly men who decide they should just have the job 'cause they deserve it, other women trying so hard

to be 'not like the other girls,' and any other list of just worthlessness and getting nowhere. And being torn down by everyone around us for not existing correctly.

Smile more. But too much, and you'll look vapid. But still smile, 'cause if not, you'll seem like a bitch. Call out misogyny, and you're a lying snake. Don't, and you're weak, you useless, lying snake. Be the most prepared, the smartest, the best, and it's still not good enough. It has never been good enough.

45 presidents, and not a single woman has been considered as good or as worthy as any man. As George W. Bush, as Donald Trump. Bernie Sanders allegedly told Elizabeth Warren a woman couldn't win, and he was right. And it's really painful. We put in the work. We do the job, and we can't win.

She singlehandedly kneecapped Michael Bloomberg. She took Chris Matthews down with her as she left. She did the work that men couldn't and didn't. And where did it get her?

But what I needed was a pep talk, and I got that in my email from Elizabeth Warren, as did all of her supporters online. She said, "So if you leave with only one thing, it must be this: Choose to fight only righteous fights, because then, when things get tough – and they will – you will know that there is only one option ahead of you. Nevertheless, you must persist. You should be so proud of what we've done together, what you have done over this past year. Our work continues. The fight goes on, and big dreams never die."

One of us will be good enough. I don't know who, or how, or what good enough is going to look like. I hope it looks like flawed and human and loud and willing to fight. [sighs]

**Travis:** I thought that was great.

**Courtney:** Thank you.

**Travis:** I just wanted you to know, that was very beautiful.

**Courtney:** I just have a lot of feelings.

**Travis:** And that's okay.

**Courtney:** [laughs] God, I hope this isn't someone's thing.

**Travis:** [bursts into laughter]

**Courtney:** [bursts into laughter]

**Brent:** Think of the joy you've brought them!

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Courtney:** If I could make one person happy... [laughing]

**Travis:** Yeah! Listen, if out of all this could come one boner...

**Courtney:** [laughing]

**Brent:** [laughing]

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**Ben:** Alright Adam, uh, Maximum Fun wants us to record like, a promo to tell people that they should listen to The Greatest Generation. You want to do that?

**Adam:** No! I am tired of all the extra work. I just want to talk about Star Trek with my friend!

**Ben:** I think it would be good to like, try and get some new listeners by appealing to the audiences of other shows? Like, this will only take a minute or two. It could be good for us.

**Adam:** We sit down for an hour every week and talk about a Star Trek episode, and make a bunch of idiotic fart jokes about it. It's embarrassing. If it got out that we made this show, I think it would make us unemployable.

**Ben:** Adam... I have bad news for you. We have tens of thousands of listeners at MaximumFun.org.

**Adam:** Oh my god... I think I'm gonna throw up.

**Ben:** The Greatest Generation: A Star Trek podcast by a couple of guys who are a little bit embarrassed to have a Star Trek podcast. Every Monday on MaximumFun.org.

**Adam:** I'm really gonna be sick.

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**Speaker 1:** Mission control, this is rocket ship one. Come in, mission control.

**Speaker 2:** This is mission control. Go ahead.

**Speaker 1:** We have incoming. And it looks big.

**Speaker 2:** Can you identify?

**Speaker 1:** It looks like... [beeping] Some sort of... Pledge drive. Affirmative. It's MaxFunDrive!

**Speaker 2:** That's a verified MaxFunDrive. Countdown to MaxFunDrive is initiated. Can you project a time to intercept?

**Speaker 1:** Based on the current trajectory, MaxFunDrive will be here from March 16 to March 27.

**Speaker 2:** March 16 to March 27. Roger. Rocket ship one, can you confirm a visual on common MaxFunDrive phenomena, such as the best episodes of the year, bonus content, and special gifts for new and upgrading monthly members?

**Speaker 1:** We have a visual. Great episodes, bonus content, premium gifts confirmed. And more.

Sure sounds quiet down there. Mission control, what's your status?

**Speaker 2:** All systems go, rocket ship one. Just catchin' up on our favorite Max Fun shows so we can tune into MaxFunDrive episodes between March 16 and March 27. Over and out.

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**Brent:** So this is where we usually do a Wi-Five, which is a segment, uh, where we congratulate someone who has done good things and been a good person. And this week's Wi-Five goes out to one Travis McElroy.

[Wi-Five slap]

**Travis:** That's meee!

**Brent:** It is! Um, this segment is gonna be kind of a look back on our journey with Travis over the past five years. I asked in the Facebook group about moments you'd like to hear on an anniversary episode. I hope you're not mad at me, and that wasn't too sneaky. But the thing is, we are days away from the five year anniversary of Travis visiting my old apartment in New York, and then, saying over beers in the downstairs bar, um, "Brent, we've been dancing around it for years. Let's do a podcast together!"

To which my initial response was, "No we haven't." [laughs] I did not want to do a podcast. I have never really preferred to do a real time media, off the cuff thing. And Travis, your abilities with improv, and just like, real time comedy were like, legit intimidating. So I kind of had to be low-key dragged into it, but um... We conceived a show where we just talked about trending

news topics, like whether the dress was white and gold or black and blue. And we recorded a few pilot episodes to test out the concept, the first of which sounded like this.

**Travis:** Hello everyone! On today's episode: Kylie Jenner challenge, parachuting fish, glass dildos, and so much more.

**Brent:** I'm Brent Black.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

**Brent:** And I'm a doctor of teledildonics!

**Travis:** Enjoy the untitled podcast!

[theme music plays]"

**Brent:** And pretty soon, we were off to the races. Here are just a few quick clips from our early episodes, and I want to thank listener Ben Lewis for helping us find these clips.

[music plays]

**Brent:** So what do we do on this show, Travis?

**Travis:** Well, Brent, we take internet news, whatever's trending from stuff like Facebook and Twitter, and all that rigmarole, and we talk about it. Y'know? We kind of...

**Brent:** Omegle.

**Travis:** We really hash it out. No, we don't do Omegle, Brent."

[beep]

**Travis:** Are you wasting your time on the internet? I'd be like, "No! I'm researching!" And it's very effective.

**Brent:** [laughs] If there was only some way to write it all off. And we'll find it. This is it.

**Travis:** We'll find it! That's our promise to you, the listener. We will use this podcast to figure out a way to save money on our taxes!

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** That's a Travis McElroy guarantee!

**Brent:** Bing!"

[beep]

**Travis:** So, happy birthday, Leroy.

**Brent:** Leeroooy Jenkiins!"

[beep]

**Travis:** Let me counterpoint everything we've said for the last five minutes.

**Brent:** [laughs] Okay."

[beep]

**Travis:** But I guarantee that he will play Wolverine in a tenth movie at some point in the future. That's my bet. I'm gonna put—I'm gonna bet you, Brent Black, a hundred dollars on it.

**Brent:** This is sort of a nonconsensual bet. You're—unless you just pay me if you're wrong. That sounds great.

**Travis:** Well, no.

**Brent:** I don't know if I want—

**Travis:** You have to pay me if I'm right. If it happens... We're trying to—we're building drama on our first episode.

**Brent:** We?

**Travis:** Now people are gonna tune in every week to see what that Hugh Jackman is up to."

[beep]

"**Brent:** Describe yourself in three—you wanna just—

**Travis:** Kenny Loggins fan.

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Boom.

**Brent:** Poopin', fartin', lovin'.

**Travis:** Um, let me think. Three words. I'm Travis McElroy.

**Brent:** Oh, solid.

**Travis:** I don't think anything sums me up more than that.

**Brent:** Maybe I should've gone with... Surprisingly sexy, actually.

**Travis:** Ooh! I like that! How about, um..."

[beep]

**Travis:** Brent, let me ask you a question. Let's wrap this up with this. Describe *me* in three words, and I'll describe you in three words.

**Brent:** Okay, I got mine.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Brent:** Unbridled enthusiasm, personified.

**Travis:** Ooh, that's really good. Well, I was gonna make a joke, but now I feel like I need to do a serious one. Um, let me think... Okay, I'm gonna go with, "Where's the beef?" I thought about just saying, "Got milk, Brent?" [laughs] But I felt that was too on the nose.

**Brent:** Please, put that on my gravestone. [laughing]"

**Brent:** Only six episodes into this fun time Instagram scandal of the day podcast, this happened.

**Brent:** So, Donald Trump officially announced his bid for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination. And Travis, I think we should give him exactly as much extra publicity as he deserves.

**Travis:** So, moving on?

**Brent:** Yep.

[theme music plays]"

**Brent:** And so, like... y'all know I've always been a politics nerd, and I wanted to jump into that kind of story. But Travis was a little bit more hesitant to go there. Like, I couldn't find the clip, but I remember an early politics story where he said something like, "We're doing a story, but it's very political, so we're gonna keep it brief." But Trump kept going, and we, like 99.9% of the world, didn't really know what to make of it.

**Travis:** What if what's going on is, the Republican party has coached him to do this to make other candidates seem... Better?

**Brent:** Oh my god. You're saying that they've created a brand X within their own party, and what they're trying to do is go, "See how much better Pepsi is?" AKA Jeb Bush, Scott Walker, whoever. "Than brand X?"

**Brent:** But we realized, politics as a topic was becoming more and more a part of trending news, which led to... Well... You know.

[banjo music plays]

**Brent:** Doing a politics roundup segment. So...

**Travis:** It's a pooolitics roundup! Get along, little delicates! I meant to say delegates, but it sounded like delicates.

**Brent:** Yeah, but you said delicates.

**Travis:** "Get along, little delicates!"

**Brent:** Alright, now we're gonna do a politics roundup. Last—

**Travis:** It's a pooolitics roundup! Get along, little Democrat!"

**Brent:** Alright, so this week, we are, in fact, doing a politics roundup. Quite a bit happened. First—

**Travis:** It's the politiiics rounduup! [imitates a banjo] Get along, little Demos!"

**Brent:** So we covered the 2016 election, and while I couldn't find the clip, keep in mind that uh... If you listen to all the episodes of our show, it would take you... Almost two weeks just to get through it all.

But anyway, I couldn't find the clip, but I did bet Travis a hundred dollars that Bernie Sanders would become the Democratic nominee in 2016. I'm still holding out for a reversal on that bet in 2020, but what we didn't see coming was Trump winning. We didn't know what to do when that happened, and I was in Canada, feeling very alone and not knowing what to do, so we just recorded an impromptu episode the morning after the election, which started this way.

**Travis:** Well, hello, Brent.

**Brent:** Hey. Hi.

**Travis:** It is, uh, the day after the election.

**Brent:** Uh-huh.

**Travis:** Um... And y'know, let's just come right out and say, I think it turned out in a way... Uh, almost nobody except Donald Trump himself was predicting. Um...

**Brent:** Yeah. I don't think I—I don't think I... I don't think I ever really... Seriously considered... Uhh, not just the possibility, but the implications. Like, of course, there's the horror show part of it. But there's also the practical part of it. And it's all real now."

**Brent:** So, the show got actually significantly more popular after Trump was elected; maybe because people were looking for answers, and wanted to understand what was going on. And I don't know about Travis, but... I imagine that was conflicting for both of us, because I didn't love the idea of profiting off of the success of a monster. But we did our best, and about a year later came Harvey Weinstein and the #MeToo movement. And around that time, I took a week off, and Travis did a segment with a woman named Courtney Enlow.

**Travis:** So, uh, joining us now – well, joining me now, 'cause Brent's not here – um, is my friend, Courtney Enlow. Now, Courtney... You write for... Let me check my notes... A bajillion different places? Is that correct?

**Courtney:** That's about accurate, yes."

[beep]

"**Courtney:** The biggest thing I've learned being a woman on Twitter is that no one is ever asking a question genuinely.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** If someone is asking you a question, it is to trap you into yelling at you."

[beep]

"**Courtney:** Not the time or the place! Put your six inch away!

**Travis:** Ahh! See, that's very—thank you, Courtney, so much for joining us.

**Courtney:** Thank you!"

**Brent:** And really soon after that, Travis and I privately talked about how we were just really impressed with how good Courtney was at talking about this stuff, and how she was really quick and funny, and... That proved to be a real turning point, because as #MeToo stories continued to come out, we just felt unequipped to talk about them without a woman's perspective. And then came the months of having Courtney on as a guest host, and the rise of the weekly segment, Terrible Men.

"**Brent:** We should mention, by the way, this is the, as you probably already know, Terrible Men segment, with guest, Courtney Enlow again."

[beep]

"**Courtney:** This week, as is the way that it's been for a while now, we're gonna talk Terrible Men."

[beep]

**Brent:** Uh, so, this is Terrible Men. The terrible men keep being terrible. We keep on talking about `em. Courtney, you want to start us off?"

**Brent:** And eventually, we realized Courtney wasn't just a consulted or recurring guest – she had become an essential part of the show.

[music plays]

**Travis:** We have decided to add a third major, permanent cohost to the show.

**Courtney:** Who?

**Travis:** His name's Jim. He's great!

**Courtney:** Oh, he's nice. He's a good guy.

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** He is nice. No, it's Courtney. It's Courtney!

**Brent:** Yay!

**Courtney:** Hi, everybody! I'm real now!"

**Brent:** And then came the rise of a brand new tradition—the dramatic reading. Here's a clip from one of our favorites.

**Courtney:** "It pisses me off to no end when I see childless couples without at Disney World!" Angry face angry face angry face. "Disney World is a family amusement park, yet, these immature millennials throw away their money on useless crap! They have no idea the joy and happiness it is to mothers who buys their babies treats and toys!"

**Brent:** [laughing]

**Courtney:** “They will never experience the exhaustion that it is to chase a three-year-old around, getting stares at assuming I'm a bad mother!”

**Brent:** [laughing]

**Courtney:** “This cunt in some very slutty shorts was buying a Mickey pretzel, and Aiden wanted one, but the line was very long, so I said later, and I broke his poor little heart and cried. I wanted to take that fucking pretzel from that tramp. Like, thanks, bitch! You made my son cry!” Angry face angry face angry face angry face.”

**Brent:** It’s been a wild ride. Personally, I've gone from someone who was super anxious to do any kind of real time radio style show, to a self-proclaimed podcaster. And Travis, you shepherded me into that. And to this day... On all the, now three podcasts I do, I still can't help but borrow what you say at the end, which is, “Well, that’s gonna do it.” And I don’t think that’s gonna leave my vocabulary any time soon.

It’s been amazing. Obviously, we’ll always be super good friends forever. But I will miss the way we were able to regularly catch up by doing a show about the news, and I may as well take this opportunity to say, I love you, and I can't wait to see what comes next for you.

**Travis:** Aw, man, I love you guys too.

**Courtney:** We love you a lot.

**Travis:** You guys sure are great. And I'll tell you, Brent—along with that, I have a habit of saying “That’s gonna do it for us” on a lot of my shows, and I have a hard time not saying, “Am I forgetting anything?” after all of them, even though this is the only show that I say that on. So...

**Courtney:** [laughs]

**Brent:** That came out of an organic moment, right? Like, I think you just said it once, and it became like, the bookend catchphrase. And when Courtney came on, I was all too happy to be like, "Hey, I'm grandfathering this down to you. This is your thing now."

**Courtney:** Every week, I suffer and I struggle. Like women do! [laughing]

**Brent:** If we were to ever get a new permanent cohost—

**Courtney:** For the enjoyment of men!

**Brent:** Won't you be so glad to be like, "I give you this mantle, new cohost."

**Courtney:** Y'know what? Honestly, no. I'm not gonna do that to anyone. I'm gonna keep this, like a real martyr. [laughing]

**Brent:** Alright. I respect it.

**Courtney:** Guys, remember when I used to record from what was clearly a well? Just at the bottom of a hole in the ground. [laughs]

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Brent:** [laughs] Oh, the audience doesn't know that... Boy, technical difficulties plagued you for a matter of weeks. Remember that?

**Courtney:** Y'all...

**Brent:** Like, it just seemed like your computer found a different way to fuck you, like, weeks in a row.

**Courtney:** Well, it's because I first decided to get myself a PC. And...

**Brent:** Ah.

**Courtney:** Y'know, not to be all like, I'm a Mac, I'm a PC. Dude, you're getting a Dell. Other things. But the Mac made things better.

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Dude, you're seeing a Dell.

**Courtney:** And then Garage Band was a real study and struggle. But y'know what? It all worked out.

**Brent:** Yeah.

**Courtney:** Unless I still sound like shit, in which case... Hey, that's life. [laughs]

**Brent:** Aspiring podcasters out there, just expect to like, lose audio and have terrible technical difficulties at first, 'cause that's just a rite of passage. Travis, didn't Griffin like—didn't somebody lose a whole episode of MBMBaM once?

**Travis:** Oh, multiple times. We've lost whole episodes at least five or six times.

**Courtney:** Didn't we start recording late because of audio issues that you and Griffin were having? [laughs]

**Travis:** Exactly, yes.

**Brent:** This episode, that is. [laughs] It still happens.

**Courtney:** Literally like, just a few weeks ago, Mustin had to be me in a whole episode of the podcast. [laughs]

**Brent:** That was a classic, like... I thought that was pretty fun. Like, not—I didn't like the fact that you were not present for part of it. It felt weird. But like, having Mustin just ask the question on the other end of the phone... It was pretty funny. [laughing]

**Courtney:** [laughing]

**Brent:** Well, what now?

**Travis:** Well, folks... That's gonna do it for us.

**Brent:** Mm-hmm.

**Courtney:** Aww...

**Brent:** Mm-hmm.

**Travis:** Um, it has been an absolutely joy... Being able to bring you the news, all these years. I appreciate you. I appreciate you and Brent. You can still find me on uh, other podcasts that require far less prep than this one does. [laughing] Um, and thank you all so very much.

And here's what I will say—one last thing before I go. Coming up is the MaxFunDrive, and even though I will no longer be on the show, I want you all to still support this show with all your love and everything in your heart, because this show still means so much to me.

And I really do think that... Not that I think I'm bad or anything, but I think that me leaving the show is going to make more room for the show to get better and better, because it'll be an opportunity for Brent and Courtney, and if anyone else joins, for them to bring more attention and more work to it than I can bring. And so, you should continue to support *Trends Like These* with all your heart.

**Courtney:** And we hope that—we hope that everyone will be patient while we figure out some kinks along the way, and that um, hopefully, if you are—if you're still listening, it's because you like... Hopefully, all three of us. And at the very least, y'know, like—

**Travis:** I like all three of us.

**Courtney:** Yeah. If you like me and Brent...

**Brent:** It's because you can—

**Courtney:** Just stick with us. We'll—

**Brent:** That's what I was gonna say. Yeah. [laughs]

**Courtney:** We're gonna do a real good job. [laughs]

**Brent:** [laughs]

**Courtney:** We're gonna do our best.

**Brent:** It's gonna be a journey, and those of you that have come this far along with us, I hope you'll uh, stick around and be a part of what we grow into, and what we continue to evolve into, 'cause the show is always changing and always growing, and we want you to come along with that with us on that.

**Courtney:** And if you don't, please don't "@” us about it. [laughs]

**Brent:** Yeah, seriously. If you're just like, done with the show—

**Courtney:** We don't want to hear that you're quitting the show. We're so sorry. We understand. We get it. But like, please. Like, we have enough going on. [laughs]

**Brent:** Just don't tell me. Just don't tell me. 'Cause like, I don't need to use the mute button any more than I already am. Like, y'know.

**Courtney:** You don't need to flounce. You can just go. We hope you stay, because y'know what, we really love you guys, and we're really so happy that we have this show, and I have loved being a part of this show in its iteration with all three of us. And I'm excited to see what comes next. This show just means a lot to me.

**Travis:** I am, too.

**Courtney:** And it means a lot to all three of us, and the three of us mean a lot to the three of us.

**Brent:** True.

**Travis:** Okay, so, enough of that shit.

**Courtney:** Enough of that heart shit!

**Travis:** Um, thank you Mustin. You can check out Mustin's work at [Mustin.net](http://Mustin.net). Do you guys have anything you want to plug?

**Brent:** Oh my. Courtney, you go first.

**Courtney:** Okay. Uh, right now, if you have not yet subscribed to Forgotten Women of Genre, the SYFY Fangrrls podcast we do every March for women's history month, please do so. Some of these stories that we have produced are the most fascinating things I've ever heard. It has been an absolute privilege to work on this show. So, please subscribe to SYFY Fangrrls Forgotten Women of Genre.

And on March 27<sup>th</sup>, you can see me on TV! We're doing a special—well, we already filmed it. It was why I was in New York. But um, *20 Women to Watch in 2020*. It is a documentary special airing on SYFY after the premiere of the show, *Vagrant Queens*, and I will be on it! I'm on TV! And I wore high heels and everything, so you have to watch it.

**Brent:** Amazing.

**Courtney:** That's the rules.

**Travis:** What about you, Brent? What do you want to plug?

**Brent:** So, I now have three podcasts that I do. One is temporary, the other is semi-permanent, and the first is *Question Box*. It's the game show of shockingly personal questions. Courtney and Travis have been on, as well as Dave Bulmer, who is our UK correspondent, and my cohost on that show is Kate Sloane, who has been a guest host on *Trends Like These* a few times.

It's a very TMI show, and uh... Every show, someone that you may or may not know from the internet comes on, and typically admits something they've never admitted publically, and in some cases, never told anybody. So that's *Question Box*. We're on all the pod things, and on Twitter, @QuestionBoxShow.

And also, if you're watching *Star Trek: Picard*, my best friend Matt and I are doing a podcast where we—it's a fan cast. We recap it and talk about it every week, and it's called *The Lucout*, like Jean Luc. *The Lucout*. That is also our Twitter name, and we are on all your favorite pod apps as well.

**Travis:** Alright! Well, I think that is going to do it for us. Courtney... Am I forgetting anything?

**Courtney:** You are forgetting that Travis Patrick McElroy, you are a mensch and a treasure and we love you.

**Travis:** Thanks.

**Brent:** We do love you. We'll miss you.

**Courtney:** We'll miss you a lot.

**Travis:** Until next time.

**Courtney:** You still exist, though. I have heard that he's not dead.

**Travis:** Yes. I will still be here.

**Courtney:** He's only mostly dead!

**Travis:** Until next time. Bye!!!

**Courtney:** Bye!!!

**Brent:** Bye!!! See you next time.

[theme music plays]

**Travis:** We're gonna bring to you all of the trending news stories that we find on Facebook, Twitter, and all over the internet. We're gonna talk about what it means to us, what it might mean to you, and what it means to the world in general. Brent, when are we gonna release these episodes?

**Brent:** They're gonna be every Thursday, starting this coming Thursday.

**Travis:** This coming Thursday? How exciting!"

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