

Trends Like These 258: Is Bernie Toast?, Coronavirus Declared a Pandemic, Weinstein Sentenced, Lego Mario, US Women's Soccer Team Lawsuit Update

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[theme music plays]

Brent: This week: Events postponed, Harvey dethroned, and is Bernie totally boned?

Courtney: I'm Courtney Enlow.

Brent: I'm Brent Black.

Courtney: And I'm a big bag of fucks!

Brent: With... *Trends Like These!*

[theme music plays]

Brent: Hello, Courtney!

Courtney: Hello, Brent!

Brent: This is *Trends Like These!* And our listeners probably know that, but new listeners? This is *Trends Like These* with me, Brent Black, and my cohost and friend Courtney Enlow. And we are gonna bring you trending news stories, try to go behind the bullshit click bait headlines and give you the real stuff, as well as analysis, insight, and if we're lucky, a couple of chuckles along the way. So welcome—

Courtney: We go behind the headlines, beyond the headlines, in front of the headlines, to the sides of the headlines. We switch places with the headlines, in a kind of a "Freaky Friday" body swap?

Brent: [laughs] Now I *am* the headline, and you're going to my school! Um—

Courtney: I've—The real headline were the friends we made along the way.

Brent: That's right. It's a strange headline, but I clicked on it.

Courtney: Mm-hmm. [agreement]

Brent: Um... [laughs] "Washington Post, front page! Breaking! 'The Friends We Made Along the Way'."

Courtney: [laughs]

Brent: Um... So, yeah. I don't know why I felt the need—

Courtney: "Breaking! It's me, Brent and Courtney. We're stuck in here. Please free us!"

Brent: [laughs] That would be the strangest, curse of an old journalist witch. [laughs]

You know? Just like "Ahaha! Trapping them in a headline!" Um—

Courtney: "You are trapped in the dying media!"

Brent: [laughs] Yeah! Oh god, can you imagine if it was like in a print newspaper? Probably wouldn't even be read by anyone. Just left at somebody's hotel door. Do they even do that anymore—

Courtney: At this point, I'm literally just—[laughs]

I'm literally just picturing that Ryan Reynolds movie where he's buried alive?

Brent: Oh, yeah! Well—

Courtney: That's us, trapped inside the headlines of a print newspaper.

Brent: I mean... Do they do that though, now? Do they like—Cause there was a time when if you were like at a fancy hotel, or if you requested it, they would like put a New York Times or a USA Today outside your door for you to, I guess—

Courtney: I'm sure if you request it, but my lazy ass doesn't request anything except for food.

Brent: No. No, me neither. My girlfriend's kind of old time-y in certain ways. She loves the idea of like coffee and a newspaper, and I'm like well... The problem with that for me is, that whenever I see one thing referenced in a story, I go "Wait a minute! What's that?" And I need to either click on, like

right click open "new tab", or just Google what it is. Makes it difficult when it's simply a piece of paper, in my experience.

But, uh... Anyway. What are you drinking, this fine eve?

Courtney: I'm drinking a rosé, because I felt like it.

Brent: Relatable. I yesterday, uh... You know. In all of my, uh... I won't say stockpiling, but just kind of getting things that I might need for the near future, I decided to hit the liquor store. Umm, bought a little, like adult juice box of Pinot Grigio. That was real nice with dinner. Um... But I'm not drinking that, I am drinking a berry La Croix. Sparkling, naturally essenced, the classic.

Courtney: Real classic.

Brent: Real. Classic.

Courtney: So classic. I was gonna make a joke about the show "Barry"... I'm really tired.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: I'm just really tired. I—If people saw on the Twitter machine last night, I posted a picture. I was baking cookies... And the uh—I pulled out the sheet of cookies.

Brent: Mm-hmm?

Courtney: And I was like "They might need a little bit longer". And I put them back in. But then, they slipped—

Brent: Oh no.

Courtney: And started to fall—

Brent: Oh no!

Courtney: And I instinctively... Grabbed the sheet!

Brent: Nooo!

Courtney: With my un-mitted hand!

Brent: Nooo! It wasn't mit-agated! Oh no.

Courtney: No. It was... So I lost a whole batch of cookies... And I—

Brent: But I mean like the cookies, but like what degree of—Like how bad is it?

Courtney: Uh, so I put Band-Aids on all of my fingers. [laughs] Just to be sure. Cause they all hurt.

Brent: And to be fair, it's a cool look. You know.

Courtney: And I looked, like... Fucking cool.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: And then when I woke up this morning, three of my fingers didn't hurt anymore, but my left ring finger and my pinky have the blisters.

Brent: Aww.

Courtney: So it's like solid—

Brent: And not even one—Not even one cookie magically landed where it should go?

Courtney: Uh... No, they like, they—Cause they were so hot, they like mish-mashed together into just a big cookie ball?

Brent: Uh-huh?

Courtney: And it's been—It's been raining out? Like here's the... Like, look. This is coronavirus times. I'm not saying I would eat off the floor; that's disgusting and gross. But I *really* wouldn't eat off the floor right now—

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: Even if I really wanted to, because it's muddy outside, and my dogs are running in and out, and the floor is gross.

Brent: I mean, I get it. And here's—

Courtney: It's really hard to keep up with. It's really hard to keep up with.

Brent: Yeah, like five second rule, generally speaking is like up to—It's in the eye of the beholder.

Courtney: Mm-hmm. [agreement]

Brent: It's kind of like peeing in the shower. You don't do it? Fine. You do, do it? It's your shower, what do I care? Drop something on the floor? I mean, if it's like a hard-boiled egg? Like, throw that away.

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: That's gonna—But you know. I don't know—

Courtney: If I drop like a pot sticker on the floor, it's got—It's got a covering.

Brent: [laughs] Yeah.

Courtney: That protects it.

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: The cookies don't. The cookies exploded.

Brent: Correct. They don't—

Courtney: The cookies just turned into dough.

Brent: That's such a bummer.

Courtney: And they looked so good! I wanted to eat them so bad.

Brent: Ugh!

Courtney: Luckily, I had a second batch... And they're really good too, but it's like there's only half as many as I wanted, and you know what? Like everything's just... [sighs] This is the worst thing to happen this week!

Brent: [laughing] I was gonna say, yeah. I'm sorry for your loss.

Um, well... This feels like one of those intros where we know what we have to do, and we're the kind of... I personally feel like I'm kind of slow walking it, but— [Inhales deeply] We've got a job to do, today.

Courtney: This episode—Real talk, guys. This episode's gonna be all coco roro. That's what we're gonna do... And—

Brent: Can you tell me, because I'm apparently not hip enough? Coco roro?

Courtney: That is, uh what I have started calling coronavirus, so that like it seems less threatening. [laughs]

Brent: [laughing] I was like... I thought it was like a cool way to say "Coconut bonkers", which is a thing you've also said, that I've stolen.

Courtney: No, it's—Yeah I mean, yeah. But it's more like uh, like "Mikey Coco".

Brent: Coco roro.

Courtney: Mikey Coco and the Coco Roro. With me: Coco Lolo.

Brent: Wow. Playing the... Coco cabana—Oh god. Let's just get to it. Ugh.

Courtney: If we had some listeners who were on the fence about sticking with the show—[laughs] I think we just lost them!

Brent: [laughs] Goodbye, farewell.

Courtney: Goodbye, farewell!

[theme music plays]

Courtney: Brent?

Brent: Yes?

Courtney: We've been through a lot.

Brent: It's true.

Courtney: We've been... All over the map, in terms of what we have experienced. What we've brought to the table. But you know what?

Brent: What?

Courtney: I think it's time. I think it's time to take the next step, in our cohost relationship.

Brent: Ooh! What is that?

Courtney: And go... *Beyond the headlines.*

Brent: Weeee! Here we go. And basically, it's one big—Much like your burning hot, painful ball of cookie dough, um... This is a lot of headlines, kind of with one major umbrella concept, today.

Courtney: You may get some blisters!

Brent: You may. It's the coco roro.

Courtney: It's that coco roro. With me: Coco Lolo. I think that that should be a thing.

Brent: But if you're—

Courtney: Next year's MaxFun Drive pin! [laughs]

Brent: Your name... You know. Your name pretty easily converts to Coco Lolo. What is—

Courtney: Yeah, yours is just—[laughs] B. Blahblah.

Brent: Bobo Bloblo. [laughing]

Please do not call me Bobo Bloblo. Unless you mean it.

Courtney: No! Or, hear me out on this—

Brent: Unless you mean with affection.

Courtney: You should.

[Both laugh]

Courtney: So... We've had some laughs. But it's because we just... Didn't want to have to do a whole episode about this, but it really is just... Life, now. It's kind of what is happening. Uh—

Brent: Yeah. There will be other topics, but it sort of... Infects for, a you know... Lack of a better phrase, all of the stuff we're talking about, so... There you have it.

Courtney: Uh, Covid-19, or the coronavirus, is now officially a global pandemic. So, first of all, what's a pandemic? An epidemic is when a disease spreads rapidly in a population over a short period of time. Once it occurs on an international scale, crossing oceans and borders, and affecting a large number of people, it becomes a pandemic.

Now, a pandemic is a scary term. But it does not mean this is the plague, all hope is lost. For the World Health Organization, it is essentially a call to action for countries to do as they've been told, and take care of their populations, and not to minimize the threat.

Ahem... He, of the orange.

Brent: Ugh.

Courtney: As of the moment that I wrote this, there were around 134,000 known cases of Covid-19, with about 4,970 deaths.

Brent: And I should point out, I forgot to say the timestamp at the beginning of the episode. Just so that we know what that moment is: Thursday March 12th. We'll say right around 6:30 pm EST.

Courtney: Um, more and more events are being cancelled, which is good. I mean, it's really, you know. It's sad and upsetting for the people who rely on this, for their income and livelihood. I don't know a... A good solution, there. But... Places where people will congregate in large groups need to be closed and cancelled right now.

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: Broadway has gone officially dark. Conventions like SXSW, E3, EC3, Dragon and Wondercon have all been cancelled or postponed. Tons of artists are cancelling tours, including all Live Nation tours. The March Madness basketball tournaments were originally announced to be played without fans in attendance, but they've now been cancelled. The NCAA announced this, after Utah Jazz players Rudy Gobert and Donovan Mitchell tested positive for the virus.

Along with *No Time To Die*, as we talked about last week, *A Quiet Place 2*, And the ninth Fast and the Furious movie, *F9*, have postponed their release dates, presumably with more movies to come. School campuses and student housing are being closed.

Many offices are putting a work from home policy in place, which certainly does not help those whose jobs don't allow that option. So please, if you can stay home, do so because we want to limit the exposure to those who have no choice.

Now despite viral tweets saying otherwise, Daniel Radcliffe does *not* have it. Nor does Betty White.

Brent: Thank god! I mean, you know. She's in the risk zone.

Courtney: She is in the risk zone, but—

Brent: Knock on wood for Betty White, y'all.

Courtney: Uh, Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson however, do have it, and they are under quarantine in Australia, where they have access to wonderful healthcare.

Brent: [laughs] Yeah.

Courtney: Good news: children do not appear to be quite as vulnerable to the virus as previously thought, but the elderly and those with respiratory conditions are. Be careful out there.

Brent: Also, this isn't in my copy, but it just occurred to me that I've heard this, um... If you smoke, now's a great time to quit. I, as we've talked about on the show, have struggled with nicotine. I've gone back and forth, and there are some times where I--you know, look. If I'm really stressed or whatever, like I'll have one. That's—There are opinions about that, but I'm just saying, as someone who knows...

If you're already working at home, being at home is the best place to be when you're withdrawing from cigarettes. Especially the first few days, because you'll be cranky. But if you don't have to be with your coworkers face to face, you know what? Um, quit that smoking habit which makes you more vulnerable to Covid-19. And uh, yeah. Just kick it. Anyway, um. Back to copy, that's well thought out.

[clears throat] Um, Trump's reaction. The orange man. This guy... Has been frankly, shitting the bed on this topic. You would think, like an authoritarian might take charge in a different way, and I'm not sure martial law would be better, but I mean he's really... [sighs] I mean, I guess we shouldn't be surprised. He's really shitting the bed.

Courtney: He's—

Brent: He went on Sean Hannity. We might've said this—

Courtney: He's a dictator, but he puts the "dick" in dictator. And he's also bad at it.

Brent: It's true. And seems like he's got about the intellect of a tater. Anyway, um, he went on Sean Hannity and said the death rate is probably much lower than what's being reported, uh... Which there's no basis for that.

He said there are people who have it, but “They still go to work and they end up fine!” [laughs] Like... And then he lied and said that he didn’t say it was okay to go to work. Um, splitting hairs, there.

And it seems—And this is speculative, I guess—But it seems like his priority initially was to protect big businesses that would take a hit, if people actually took good proactive steps. And the stock markets have been doing very, very poorly. Remember, the stock market doing well, for most of Trump’s presidency has been a lynchpin of his reelection campaign, and sort of a grain of truth that allows him to claim that we have a booming economy. But of course, now that the market is doing poorly, it’s Obama’s fault. [sarcasm]

Um... But last night, Trump gave a televised Presidential address. When I say last night, I mean Wednesday of this week. And in this address, he unveiled some measures that are, um... Let’s say controversial.

Going off copy for a second, he really started out the whole thing in Trumpian style, with exaggerated bragging about how great we’ve done. How great his administration is, especially compared to others. But he announced the U.S would be banning travel from Europe for the next thirty days, starting on Friday, excluding the U.K, for some reason? Um, could it be that most of his European business interests are in the U.K? Hmm, I wouldn’t be shocked.

So, that caused a panic, especially for Americans in Europe, some of whom were woken up around two or three in the morning being told they’d better grab a plane ticket, if they wanted to be home in the next month. In some cases, there was monumental price gouging for airline tickets.

And what Trump should’ve said, was the actual accurate thing about this policy, which is “Americans returning home would be exempt from the ban.” Also—And this is a question I haven’t quite gotten an answer to: If people can travel from the U.K, then couldn’t someone stuck in like Portugal just like hop a flight to Heathrow in London, and then from there go to the U.S?

Anyway. I don’t know the answer to that. I’m guessing it’s probably yes, but who knows? Um, the speech, to be honest, was full of mistruths and bad ideas, and ultimately was woefully inaccurate, both in terms of calming people and taking measures to really get our arms around the thing. He made it sound like the U.S. acted swiftly; we didn’t. He made it sound like that’s why we have less cases than Europe, but Europe’s population is

almost twice as big and it's a continent! Whereas we're a country, a much more spread out country.

But also, we don't know how many cases we actually have! Because our ability to test for it, is abysmal, and our healthcare system makes it prohibitive for a lot of people. The CDC said yesterday—Now I'm getting this from The Hill, but The Hill said that the CDC said yesterday, I.E Wednesday of this week, the number of tests in the United States of America was... Eight. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight.

So Trump said he had arranged for health insurance companies to waive the fees for treatment. Also incorrect. They are waiving fees for testing, and like that's good, but it's unclear whether they'll waive any costs of testing the other things you sometimes have to rule out before you can determine it's Covid-19.

And they are not waiving fees for treatment. He also promised financial relief for people who are quarantining themselves, or sick, and he also apparently did arrange with the Small Business Administration to um... Basically give loans to businesses affected by it, though... The fact that they're giving loans with interest, is interesting. Um—That's a pun I didn't mean to make, and it's bad, I—Anyway. Sorry I called attention to it.

But also, proposing cuts to payroll taxes, and like... Those could help. We'll have to see. And even though he said it was time to put partisanship aside, he's basically refusing to work with Nancy Pelosi on this. Also the democratically led House of Representatives unveiled a coronavirus bill late on Wednesday night, which would expand unemployment insurance, providing food assistance for low income mothers who lose their job, due to the virus, as well as subsidies for food banks and some other measures.

Naturally, Mitch McConnell scoffed at it and said it was an ideological wish list. And you know what? I don't care if it's problematic! I hope Mitch McConnell gets this virus. I hope he gets it, just in case it helps him realize what people are going to go through. Um—

Courtney: If he doesn't get the virus, I do want him to just like fall down, and break his face.

Brent: I mean, yeah. I wouldn't be so upset. I might fumble with my phone, trying to call 911. Um, this is getting dark, but like I don't care for the man. Um—

Courtney: I'm a bad person...

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: And I have that thing, where I want bad people to suffer. I've got a little touch of the Daria-thing?

Brent: Yes.

Courtney: Where—There was an episode of Daria, where she said—Where her teacher was like "I don't care for this piece on abolishing the death penalty, and bringing back torture." That's where my Daria comes in, cause I've got a little bit of that, too. I was like, just want people to... You know. Suffer. If they deserve to.

Brent: Well, and like... While clearly we are not, uh— [laughs] We are not condoning or suggesting any violence, sometimes it's just a—It's human nature to wish people that inflict suffering on others, had to go through it. And if—

Courtney: I would never hurt anyone.

Brent: No.

Courtney: If someone else did it, I not gonna be mad at it!

Brent: Exactly. It's the "punching Richard Spencer" effect.

Courtney: Yes.

Brent: It's like, um, the Willy Wonka thing where he goes "Quick. Someone. Help." Anyway—

Courtney: Punch Donald Trump.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: Punch Mitch McConnell. Don't. You will be shot by secret service, but maybe they hate him too and they're gonna be like "Oh, I didn't even see it."

Brent: I'm not gonna take you to jail. I'm not gonna perform a citizen's arrest. Anyway. Um, let's all get along and just hope the bad people get— [laughs] Coronavirus—

Courtney: God, Travis is gone for one week, and we're like "Anarchy! Punch the president!"

Brent: [laughs] Exactly! "Burn it all down! Punch the bad people!"

Courtney: [laughing]

Brent: Um, no. Y'all know what we're saying. We just have... You know. Certain—We might even say fantasies of, oh, very fair probably inadequate recompense. Anyway.

So, like I said a bit ago: Our efficiency in testing the virus in the U.S has been terrible, and we're lagging behind every, or nearly every developed country. Why? Well... In brief, according to Dr. Anthony Fauci, the government's top infectious disease scientist, it's a "Failing", as he told congress this week, and he said "The idea of anybody getting the test easily, the way people in other countries are doing it? We're not set up for that. Do I think we should be? Yes. But we're not."

According to the Texas Tribune, the largest public lab in Texas can only do twenty-six tests for coronavirus per day. And the Tribune says that's due to a shortage of testing materials and lab personnel. I told you a little bit ago, that according to the CDC as reported by The Hill, the number of tests in the United States Wednesday this week was eight. Now, compare that to South Korea, where they have drive-through testing. Like... It's just a different culture, here. And... That has to be a matter of leadership, at a certain point. There is no "It was Obama's fault."

So what should you, dear listener out in podcast-land, what should you be doing? Should you be hoarding food and supplies? Um... I've seen a range of responses on this. I would say, maybe don't go and like buy way, way more than your share? Like, more than a month's worth of supplies, for most people I would say, may be gratuitous? But again, I am not claiming to be the final word on this. I'm sharing some thoughts. Um, if you're over 65 or you have a weak immune system, in that case maybe like some bulk grocery delivery wouldn't be such a bad idea.

I've got a little more toilet paper now than I need. I got some rice, beans, evaporated milk, canned vegetables, carton soup. Um, so in case Philly becomes a hotspot, I can avoid catching or spreading the virus.

And also, um... Going off copy, it had occurred to me earlier today, and tweeted about it, that I on a subconscious level, everything that is stockpiled is like boring. Because if I stockpile yummy foods, than I will just... And then I had to like stay at home, it'll be like just a complete binge. Like when Kevin McCallister in *Home Alone*. [laughs] You know what I mean? Where he just gets like the huge ice cream sundae, cheese pizza, all the good stuff. Don't do that. Get some boring stuff. How much to hoard —

Courtney: Don't do that, because Donald Trump is in that movie. And he's already in this movie, that we call our lives.

Brent: Ugh. Don't you wish... We could just write him out? Anyway, um. Magically! Magically—

Courtney: If Kevin McCallister had just put down some fucking matchbox cars...

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: He could've taken care of this in nineteen-ninety-goddamn-two!

Brent: Oh, I wish. Um... Now, just how much you should hoard—I can't say. It's a matter of opinion, and if you're over sixty, like I said, grab a bit more. Play it safe. Maybe get it delivered. I don't know if that'd make a huge difference, but like it may get worse than officials are projecting. But the point is, don't panic. Don't Black-Friday at the grocery store. Um... Do what you need to do.

With that being said, what you should *not* do, is fall for any religious televangelist snake oil. And I think that's sort of an evergreen piece of advice, but I'm specifically talking about Jim Baker.

Courtney: [coughs in background]

Brent: You may remember, he was sexually—Oh, no. Flub flub flub.

Courtney: Can you put a flub code on me coughing? [coughs again]

Brent: When was that? Just now—Oh, you got it. You got it.

Courtney: Ugh. [coughs, then clears throat] Yeah.

Brent: Finally. You alright?

Courtney: Oh my god. Yes. Ugh.

Brent: Promise me— [laughs]

Courtney: I choked—I choked on my own spit.

Brent: Oh, okay.

Courtney: [clears throat again]

Brent: That's not a symptom of coronavirus, luckily.

Courtney: I have too much—I have too much spit in my mouth.

Brent: [laughing] And I have no way to respond to that! Okay, um...

Courtney: [exhales in relief, no longer coughing]

Brent: Um, okay. Hi Mustin. This is where we get back on the horse.

[clears throat]

And I think that's an—

Courtney: Mustin, listen to the coughing. Check it out!

Brent: [laughs] Yeah no, it's a double flub. I got it.

Courtney: Flub-a-dub-dub!

Brent: Flub-a-dub-dub.

And I think that's probably an evergreen piece of advice, but I'm specifically talking about Jim Baker, who is disgraced in the 80's for sexually assaulting his church secretary and then attempting to cover it up with hush money, and then being convicted of accounting fraud. And going to prison. Well, this winner is back. Warning of the end times and selling something called "Silver Solution", which he claimed "kills strains of coronavirus".

And he sells sixteen ounces of this stuff for \$80. That violates state and federal law. And he's been sued by the state of Missouri to stop him from advertising or selling it, as a treatment or preventative medicine for the

virus. And the New York Attorney General's Office has also issued a cease and desist letter to Baker, warning him to stop selling the product. What a fucking... Villain. Um...

So what is the big picture, in the United States? Um well, you've probably been seeing a lot about "flattening the curve", and in this context when you hear that, the curve refers to a chart that projects the number of cases on one axis, and the amount of time on the other. If cases skyrocket too high and too fast, it'll outpace the healthcare system's capacity to deal with it, which will likely cascade into more people getting and ultimately dying from the disease.

I mean, you know. Italy's having a really tough time, and I'm hearing that they're in some cases, having to kind of like... Make some really hard choices about who's gonna get seen, because there is *treatment* but not like a cure. So what we really have to do is just stop the spread. Slow the spread, as much as possible without completely collapsing society. Um... And so flattening the curve means taking measures to make sure that fewer people catch and spread it, as well as keeping demand for testing and care, within what our health system can handle.

Um, quick soapbox moment: Medicare for all sounds pretty darn good right now, doesn't it? Anyway... That, to be fair on the other hand, that doesn't mean that we wouldn't struggle with this thing, but it would just be—Again, a culture of "We're all in this together" would really make a difference in this country, rather than "If you're rich, you get seen and if you're poor, go die". Um, anyway.

So what measures should you take? Um, some of this is retread, and I think it bears repeating. Wash your hands, for a good long while. Sing yourself the first verse and chorus of a song you like. Keep scrubbing.

If you can get your hands on some sanitizer, that's uh—If it's over 60% alcohol, as you'll see on the label, use it as needed. Clean often-used surfaces. Adults over 60, again, are the likeliest to catch and become seriously ill from the virus, so anyone in that category should play it safe.

If you have elderly loved ones, maybe call them on the phone, rather than visiting them, for the time being. Regardless of your age, if you want to protect yourself, avoid cruises. Avoid planes. Avoid large gatherings. Some

states are already banning gatherings of over a few hundred people. That will probably continue.

Stay home as much as possible, if you live in an area where there's an outbreak. Try to keep your distance from people, and... I will say this: From what I've read, you don't need to worry too much about a mask, until such time as you've actually caught the thing? Um, there's now a shortage of masks for surgeons, particularly veterinarian surgeons, as I have read on Twitter. You can—look. You can tie a scarf around your face, it gets pretty much the same effect as a mask and as a bonus, if you do it with a black hoodie, you might look like Scorpion or Sub-Zero from *Mortal Kombat*.

Um, okay. Now what I want to know from any experts in our audience, is this: Is the virus transient? What mean by that is, if you get infected and then go through the cold and you're healthy again, once you are recovered essentially from your symptoms, can you be a character—Nah, not a character. Can you be a carrier and infect others, or does the contagiousness go away once you're not sick anymore?

Anecdotally, I've heard from one person in the medical profession that most coronaviruses stop being contagious about two weeks after the patient recovers from symptoms. Remember, this is a novel coronavirus, but it is not the only coronavirus. And I can't, um... I can't get ahold of whether this coronavirus is like that, where being contagious goes away about two weeks after you recover.

Anyway. So if you know that, out there in podcast-land, tweet it to us, or talk about it in the Facebook group. We wanna know. Cause that's gonna affect a lot, um... When it comes to how we all, as a society recover from this. But, we're gonna get through this as a country, as a globe, and you know what? We're all, including the U.S, gonna get better at testing it and preventing it. It is gonna be tough. We don't know how it's gonna go. But we are going to get through it.

Courtney: I would like to share some quick myth-busts from the World Health Organization. Some of which have been of course, propagated by Donald-Goddamn-Trump.

Brent: Ugh. Let's go.

Courtney: Um... So some of them are very obvious, like Covid-19 virus can be transmitted in areas with hot and humid climates. Cold weather and snow *cannot* kill the new coronavirus. That is a thing that Donald Trump did imply.

Brent: God.

Courtney: Taking a hot bath does not prevent it. Because of course it doesn't. That's silly. Um... You can't kill it with hand dryers. You can't kill it with an ultraviolet disinfection lamp. Presumably, or tanning. Like don't go tanning and think like "I just did it! I killed the coronavirus."

Brent: And while we're on that, I personally almost went to the sauna cause I thought "Oh the sauna's hot. The steam room wouldn't be good, but the sauna would". The problem is... The sauna has lots of germs in there, and it's not hot enough to like, kill a virus. Sorry Courtney, go on.

Courtney: Here's a question that—It's just posed as a question. The others are posed kind as kind of like a statement. This is a question. And I'm gonna... I'm gonna spoil it and tell you the answer is no. But the question is: Can spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body kill the new coronavirus? No.

Brent: Really?

Courtney: You shouldn't. You shouldn't do that.

Brent: Well you shouldn't do that, for sure. For—

Courtney: You shouldn't do that thing.

Brent: I will tell you I have, for many household uses, a spray bottle full of 91% rubbing alcohol. By that, I mean 91% alcohol solution. Um... And I don't really use it as a hand sanitizer because it's extremely drying, but I guess—So what you're saying is don't do that? That's not gonna—

Courtney: You should use it to disinfect surfaces.

Brent: Right. Just don't like—

Courtney: I don't know about chlorine, but um... You know, I think of chlorine as like, you know one specific purpose? Maybe I'm wrong, but like—

Brent: Right. I don't know the properties of it, aside from swimming pools.

Courtney: You can disinfect surfaces, but do not—You cannot disinfect your body. You can only disinfect your body with the lord Jesus. [laughs] Uh...

Brent: And his silver solution. On sale, from Reverend Jim Baker!

Courtney: His good, good silver!

Can regularly rinsing your nose with saline help prevent coronavirus? No. No. Can eating garlic prevent it No. Garlic's great. I am Italian; I put no fewer than six cloves of garlic in anything I make. But no, it's not gonna help you.

Brent: Vampires, yes. Coronavirus, no.

Courtney: Most importantly, because a lot of people—And I worked in healthcare PR for a long time... A lot of people don't necessarily, uh... People think of antibiotics as a cure-all.

Brent: Right.

Courtney: You're sick? You go to the doctor, you get an antibiotic. Antibiotics do not work against viruses.

Brent: Correct.

Courtney: So... Now... Like we talked about last week, that does not mean antibacterial solutions will not help you and be good for your hand cleanliness. But antibiotics will not help you.

Brent: Right. Right.

Courtney: Also, I don't want to blow your mind here. This is not on the World Health Organization's website... But drinking silver... Won't help you either.

Brent: Yeah. Yeah. Not a great idea. And also, can we just—This is now getting into speculative town, but can we just once and for all say *Airborne* probably doesn't work? Like it's probably just gonna mean you got a little more vitamin C and you're not gonna get scurvy? Do we think *Airborne* really—What is it? Vitamin C and Zinc? I just feel like it's a little closer to like homeopathy than medicine. Um—

Courtney: No. Yeah, like—[sighs] I'm—okay. I'm a skeptical person.

Brent: Mm-hmm?

Courtney: And I tend to think, like you know what? Knock yourself out, taking vitamin C. It's not gonna fucking work.

Brent: Right! I mean, the thing is, placebo is a powerful thing. I don't know if placebo typically, uh, interacts with like the fortitude of your immune system? Um, who knows? But—

Courtney: And if you take too much Zinc, you're gonna shit yourself sideways.

Brent: True.

Courtney: Coronavirus is gonna be the least of your worries.

Brent: True. And like, the thing is... Um... From my perspective, at least at one time *Airborne* was marketed as um—Like they had a little bit of copy on the front of the label that was like “Invented by a teacher!” And I'm like teachers are great! We need more of them, they need to be paid better. But you know, what about a doctor? Maybe?

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: As long as we're talking professions to invent medical treatments. Like... A doctor? Maybe?

Courtney: I've invented delicious maple cookies with bacon in them. I'm not a doctor. They're not gonna cure anything. But they might—

Brent: Now—

Courtney: They might though.

Brent: If you could become—

Courtney: Hear me out on this—

Brent: A PHD of cookies...

Courtney: Mm-hmm?

Brent: If you could go back in time, and have that be the choice you made... How tempting is that? Doctor of cookies?

Courtney: I mean it's a lot of schooling.

Brent: Yeah, twelve years of school is a long time.

Courtney: But you know what? I feel like it's a lot of uh... Of just feeling good about myself, and also a lot of cookies. But what if I started hating cookies?

Brent: [gasps in shock]

Courtney: Eight years of school. What if you start hating cookies?

Brent: And they just lose the magic?

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: You no longer see the cookie, you just see like, the matrix. You look at a thin mint, and it's just ones and zeros.

Courtney: This is so sad.

Brent: Oh my god.

Courtney: I don't want to get so into, like food-lieness, that I can taste a delicious—

Brent: [laughing] Food-lieness?

Courtney: Food-lieness, that I can taste a delicious, like tagalong Girl Scout cookie, and be like "This is just like chemicals and nonsense. This is terrible." I don't ever want to be that good at food.

Brent: Have we had our like, discussion on best Girl Scout cookies? I've been having this conversation with a lot of people lately, and I can't remember.

Courtney: I know we did. A listener *hated* it! [laughs]

Brent: Well... You know, we have a big enough audience that like no matter what we do, somebody's gonna just—

Courtney: You know what? Someone hates us a lot!

Brent: For one person it's gonna be the best thing they ever heard, and for another person it's gonna be like the worst thing we ever said.

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: So like, congratulations. You are inevitable. You are part of our podcast family. And um...

Courtney: But tagalongs fuck me up, all the way, oh my god. I love you, tagalongs. I should've more. I should've gotten more tagalongs for the quarantine!

[theme music plays]

Courtney: So I just talked about cookies.

Brent: Mm-hmm. [affirmative]

Courtney: And that may have been a mistake, because now I'm starving.

Brent: Same! You said bacon and cookie in the same sentence—

Courtney: Yeah, that's a problem.

Brent: And now I'm like "Will somebody bring me food?"

Courtney: I... Have a lot of regrets. I'm so sorry. But... You know who could help, with this kind of thing?

Brent: Who?

Courtney: DoorDash!

Brent: Tell me more!

Courtney: Oh my gosh. DoorDash is great. DoorDash is easy. DoorDash... Kid, you just open the app! You open the DoorDash app, you choose what you want to eat, and your food will be delivered to you wherever you are!

Brent: Love that.

Courtney: It's got door to door delivery in all fifty states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Australia. You can order from your local go-tos, or choose your favorite national restaurants like Chipotle, Wendy's, Chick-Fil-A, The Cheesecake Factory... With DoorDash, you'll never have to worry about your next meal. And, this is really, really important: Don't forget to tip your drivers!

Brent: Yeah!

Courtney: Your wonderful drivers that bring you your delicious, delicious quar-eatery. Or whatever they bring you. So I live in Springfield, Illinois. Our local delicacy is "The Horseshoe".

Brent: Oh.

Courtney: Brent-almen, are you familiar with The Horseshoe? Have we talked about it?

Brent: I think I've seen a Horseshoe casino in Ohio. That is probably not what you're talking about.

Courtney: Shut up.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: So The Horseshoe is... It's a piece of Texas toast...

Brent: Uh-huh?

Courtney: French fries.

Brent: Wait a minute! This is a dish, not a place to get food?

Courtney: No, this is a dish! This is a Springfield delicacy!

Brent: I misunderstood, and please shut me up and keep talking. So it starts with did you say? Some toast?

Courtney: So okay. Texas toast.

Brent: Texas toast, alright.

Courtney: French fries. Some kind of meat. The original is ham; I don't fuck with ham. You can do it with like hamburger. I do it with buffalo chicken.

Brent: Ooh!

Courtney: And then it's covered in cheese sauce. And then for my buffalo chicken, it's also covered in ranch.

Brent: Whoa!

Courtney: But essentially at it's core, it's Texas toast, fries, meat, cheese sauce.

Brent: And this is all in once gargantuan tower of a sandwich?

Courtney: And this is one—Yeah. And it's—Well, it's not a sandwich! Like they call it a horseshoe sandwich, but like no, you're not eating—You're eating with a fork and knife. Like a human goddamn being.

Brent: Is it an open faced sandwich?

Courtney: Yeah, it's an open faced sandwich, essentially.

Brent: Ah.

Courtney: And you just eat it. And you know what? DoorDash can bring that to you.

Brent: Wow!

Courtney: If you live in Springfield, Illinois. If you don't, it probably won't bring it to you. You should not make someone drive that far.

Brent: If they do, you better tip them like \$1,000.

Courtney: Tip them so good. But if someone brings you your Horseshoe, if someone brings you your... Travis was telling me some kind of a West Virginia simulacrum of this that like, I don't know. But like if—Whatever people bring you, like tip them so good, because they're bringing you food, and you know what? We love our drivers. We love our gig economists. We're all going through a time, right now, so let's tip them good.

Order your DoorDash, get your food, tip your drivers. Have the best day!

Brent: And if you tip them extra, but it's your first order, you won't even feel the difference, because of a promotion. Courtney's gonna tell you about it right now!

Courtney: That's right! Right now, our listeners can get \$5 off their first order of \$15 or more, when you download the DoorDash app and enter the code "trendspod". That's \$5 off your first order, when you download the DoorDash app, in the app store, and enter code "trendspod". Don't forget, that's code "trendspod" for \$5 off your first order with DoorDash.

Brent: *Trends Like These* is also sponsored this week by “HoneyBook”. Now if you’re a creative business owner, as I am, as Courtney is, as so many of us are, in, as you said, this gig economy, then you know how to make your clients look good. But who is helping *you* look good? With HoneyBook, you can take on the day knowing everything is in one place, so you stay organized and always look professional.

Now I’ve talked about this before: I am not the most organized person. But I have technically run my own business for over ten years. When I think about how unorganized I was at first, I don’t know how I got through it. Post-it notes, and like you know, some kind of paper planner and constantly forgetting things, and constantly telling people in e-mails “Sorry for the delay!” Okay.

HoneyBook, on the other hand, is an online business management tool that organizes your client communications, bookings, contracts, invoices, all in one place. With HoneyBook, you can automate your busy work! I don’t know about you Courtney, but what I didn’t know about working at home and working for myself, and “Doing what I love”, air quotes air quotes, air quotes, is that there’s still tons of busy work! And they have easy to use templates for emails, proposals, brochures, and invoices to help automate, and make more efficient, your busy work, so you have more free time.

Simplify your to-do list, and stay in control with HoneyBook. And right now, Honeybook is offering our listeners 50% off when you visit honeybook.com/trends. Payment is flexible, and this promotion applies whether you pay monthly or annually. So go to honeybook.com/trends for 50% off your first year. That’s honeybooks.com/trends.

[theme music plays]

Brent: This next segment is one we do just about every week. And in honor of our recently departed and beloved cohost Travis, I would like to ask you Courtney, um what do we call this segment?

Courtney: [clears throat] The Politiiiics! Round up.

Brent: Wow. That was amazing. Um, I think we may have to keep that, going forward. I didn’t realize how good you were gonna be at that.

Courtney: I’m a beautiful singer.

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: Whose voice is beautiful. And that's the problem, is that my voice is sometimes too beautiful?

Brent: Ah.

Courtney: For people's ears.

Brent: The power! You know?

Courtney: I know. It's like you know, "With great power comes great responsibility."

Brent: That's right!

Courtney: This week, we had big Tuesday. It is not a super-super Tuesday, but it is very big. We had the primaries in Michigan, Missouri, and Mississippi, Idaho, North Dakota, and Washington.

Brent: Yes.

Courtney: As of present, Biden is at 864 delegates, Bernie is at 710. That means that Biden is about 43% of the way to clinching the nomination, whereas Bernie is at about 36%. So it's not as doom-and-gloom as some would have you believe. There's still 1900 remaining delegates up for grabs.

Um, but one thing we kind of talked about last week, that I think is... You know, something to talk about, is that the youth vote, the vote critical to making or breaking Sanders, just kind of didn't show up.

Brent: Ugh. Yeah.

Courtney: For one reason or another.

Brent: Disappointing.

Courtney: In Michigan, 57% of voters age 18-44, voted for Sanders, but they only made up 37% of those who went to the polls. For those 45 and over, 63% voted Biden. This played out similarly in Missouri, and then in Mississippi Biden actually won in both age groups.

Now this shows good things for the future. That younger voters want more progressive things. But, and I think that this is important; support for Joe

Biden cannot be discounted as low information, or even purely moderate. He has a huge base of support among black voters, which a lot of black writers and reporters have worked, frankly, more than they have needed to, to explain. A lot of this is the Obama effect, both in terms of a return to Obama era policies, and a time that wasn't... Gestures wildly, this!

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: But also in terms of how this was a white man who stood behind, and was subservient to a black president. Of course, the "black voter" is not a monolith, nor is the "woman voter", or even the "progressive voter". Frankly, we don't know how this plays out. The media, however, seems to.

Sanders is getting the "eulogy for Warren's campaign" treatment, before the voters are even fully counted... Which in the case of Warren, sure, worked to let voters think "Oh, she's dead. Better shift my focus." To the point where strategists like James Carville have called to end the primary early, and just hand the whole thing to Biden.

As I've said with Warren, Sanders should not bow out, until there is absolutely no choice otherwise. He and his supporters deserve to see what comes next. Unfortunately, that media effect is not going to help matters.

Brent: No. And I mean, Carville is just—You could set your clock by the fact that he's going to shill for whoever the establishment democrat is, until... You know, I mean for the rest of his life. And there's a great, but very telling documentary about how he and George Stephanopoulos both ran Bill Clinton's campaign. I forget what it's called, because... Documentary Now did a parody of it. Is it called "The Bunker"? Or is that—Anyway, the point is, James Carville is basically a DNC shill hack. So he is trying to push for that, but he's also the one that said "It would literally be the end of days if Bernie got the nomination." So like—

But to your point Courtney, this is the narrative you're seeing, uh... On MSNBC, and to some extent, on CNN.

Courtney: And it's really difficult, because I felt this way with Warren as well... Where... It's a combination of knowing... The media's painting one picture, as I'm sure that Bernie supporters have long felt.

Brent: Mm-hmm. [affirmative]

Courtney: Um, but... The voters are also just not showing up.

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: So what do you do with that? Like the voters not showing up isn't a DNC plot. It is the fact that like, I think that if Trump's election taught us anything, is that... People are also a problem. And what do we do about that?

Brent: I mean, that's completely true. That's completely true. And, you know, the notion of the low information voter is tricky, because it's something that can sort of be used as a way to like hand wave results you don't like, um... But at the same time, it doesn't imply any particular block of voters, but if people aren't really paying attention... Sometimes it's just as simple as going "Oh! Joe Biden. I know him. Obama was cool. Okay, yeah! And Bernie is scary, according to everything I've heard."

You know, I tweeted about this, I was very sad to find out... A member of my immediate family voted Biden in Texas because she has worked for a long time to get good benefits from her union, and doesn't want her health insurance to be "taken away". And I was like why did I not just talk to her about this? I—You know, like talk to my podcast audience about it, but I just didn't make sure the people immediately around me knew the deal. And I think it's very easy for that kind of stuff to happen.

So it's like, you're right. It's not exactly rigged by the media, but if most of what people hear is spun in a certain direction, and they're just bombarded with that for long periods of time, or that's the only thing they've heard in a short period of like... Quick and dirty research, that's gonna affect the outcome.

Courtney: And you know, Bernie Sanders brought this up himself in an interview that the conversation has been, for this whole primary, the concept of electability.

Brent: Mm-hmm. [agreement]

Courtney: And... Like... I am blank on the name of the artist who made the shirt, but like... "Elizabeth Warren is electable if you fucking vote for her". Anyone is electable, if they get the votes.

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: But we're all playing, like "Armchair Pundit", and there is some— Like... Can Bernie get elected when you have all of these who are like, you know they have that kind of "red scare, socialism freak-out" thing. You know? And it's, it's... It's a lot. But then there's also very fair things of, you know... Basically people's idea of... What someone's policy is, and what someone is capable of getting done.

Brent: Yeah. Yeah.

Courtney: For me, that was the thing that made me such a... Like a strong Warren supporter, was I liked her policies *and* thought she was going to be able to get them done. And... That's a thing that I think we're gonna kind of have to deal with, uh... You know, going forward.

Brent: Yeah. Yeah. And I think that there's—There's certainly an emphasis on realism, and it kind of comes down to taste, and it kind of comes down to—There's an element of strategy. And for me, I think that what attracted me to Bernie in 2016, was this idea that um, politicians typically—If you take Obama Care, right? Obama got about half of what he wanted. And a lot of times, politicians make big promises, and if they're lucky, they get about half of what they promised.

Courtney: Mm-hmm. [agreement]

Brent: So I look at this and go "Yes, promise me a pie in the sky!" Cause if I get half a pie, you know, 250 feet in the air, I'll take it. Now—

Courtney: You starting left, rather than starting like in the middle—

Brent: Right.

Courtney: And then having to edge righter and righter. Yeah.

Brent: Right. And so the question becomes do you prefer someone who will tell you like, this thing that I'm suggesting is actually more likely to be the thing, or do you want someone that has sort of a bargaining chip to compromise down from? Both are different tactics, and again, both are matters of taste.

I think that Warren was able to communicate her plan a little better. This is a frustration I have with Bernie, is that he zooms out to the big principles,

and he's right about these principles. Like why don't we have good healthcare when we're the richest country? But, even—I mean look, he's not always great at presenting it as a concrete plan, and that was you know, Warren's whole brand.

So, yeah. I mean... I think that there are things to look at there, but... I think so often about the little changes that would've, that would've um.... Given him more of an edge. Like if you could go back in time, and have him rebrand twenty or thirty years ago as what he really is, textbook-wise.

Textbook definition-wise, he's a social democrat. Now roll that around in your mouth for a second. Social democrat is a very different phrase than democratic socialist. But he stuck with that sticker cause it's what he started with, and it allows people like an uncle of mine, to say "He's a socialist! He's probably a secret communist!" And it's like, yeah, they said that about Obama, but if you've got the word socialist in your self-description...

[inhales sharply]

It's an uphill climb. Um... And also, he—You know, I think that it's kind of noble that he rarely goes negative on his opponents, but also like... I don't know, it's a primary. Like... We'll get back to that.

Um... But yeah. That actually takes us right to the debate, which I think you were gonna mention next.

Courtney: Yeah. I will just say that like, right now—Like, we went from having like... Seventy-three people.

Brent: [laughs] Yeah.

Courtney: To now having two. We no longer have to be strategic. Like, literally, if you like Sanders, vote for Sanders. If you like Biden, vote for Biden. One of them is probably gonna get it. Um... But at the end of the day, and I cannot stress this enough... Whoever gets this... We need to make sure that they beat Trump.

Brent: Yes. And—

Courtney: Cause there are people who—Yes, I get it. Biden is not everything that we want. But there are people who will not survive four more years of Trump.

Brent: Yeah.

Courtney: And we need to... That's important.

Brent: And I think the people that are currently saying "Well, then forget the whole thing if Biden's gonna be the nom.", I think they'll come around. I think that's a... An expression of... Frustration? Um—

Courtney: I mean frankly, there—I mean, honestly though, there are... The people who are saying that are white. The white people who are least likely to be affected by four more years of Trump. Do I think that they'll actually sit it out, or they're just posturing? I don't know. Crystal Ball from *The Young Turks*, like she might sit it out. It's not going to affect her—

Brent: She's from The Hill, but you're right.

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: And I was surprised by her...

Courtney: It won't affect her.

Brent: I was surprised by her take. And like I'm—

Courtney: When it comes down to it, like just vote for whoever gets the fucking nomination, and we'll push them left as hard as we can.

Brent: Yes.

Courtney: And try again next time.

Brent: Yes. I'm actually wondering if people like that are trying to start a movement of leverage. Like, again... I think it's a bad idea to spread around, but at the same time, it's like if the DNC goes "You know, we really have to court this block".

Like for instance, Hillary, if I'm not mistaken, kind of like once she got the nom, even though that's supposedly supposed to move to the center, that's when she did reveal certain policies like "I'm gonna de-schedule marijuana". Which was one where I was like "Okay! Hell yeah!" Um... Whereas Joe Biden, has basically just said he's never gonna do that, marijuana's bad.

Um... But, yeah. I think that I... I resonate with the sentiment of like "Fuck it all, then! Cause this guy's not gonna help us.", but like it... We have to all be

able to see, it is better than Trump even if it's not *as much* better as we would've liked.

Courtney: Yeah, I think that the current, uh... And unfortunately, it is actually, like in a weird way, Trump's response to Covid-19 is making people who did not see it before, see that he's a bad president. Which is a fucking bummer! Do not mistake me! That all of the racism and transphobia and all the other stuff, was not an issue. But this one is!

But... What it is really, is an example—Another example! Yet another example of the ways... Literally four more years of this man... So many people will die. Livelihoods will be lost. Fight for who you want... But vote, in November vote for whoever the fuck gets it.

Anyway, on that note, the next debate will be March 15th in D.C, and not in Phoenix, as was previously planned. It's already kind of getting ugly? With team Sanders saying that Biden wants it to be a sit-down debate, team Biden denying that they are pressing that matter, turning it around on Sanders as being against "A little change".

Frankly, I think Sanders wants to stand to show that he's healthy, and doesn't need to sit... And with both the right and left wing push on Biden's health, both mentally and physically, him sitting might not exactly help.

Brent: True. I mean to me, I think that it... Sometimes... Hay is made over certain things. I haven't personally seen um, like... People close to Bernie campaign wise, going after Joe on this. It's more, from what I've seen of left-Twitter, um—

Courtney: It was one of his advisors, that said basically like "Why doesn't Biden want to stand toe-to-toe with Bernie?" And I was like "Well this seems like a reach." But...

Brent: Hmm, That's—Yeah. I think this is one of the times where I'm like "This is a point that—"

Like, for instance. Nobody mentioned in—I mean, if I'm not mistaken, aren't the... I think plenty of the Vice presidential debates of the last twenty years have been just, you know, two people just sitting, talking. I don't think it's the end of the world, um and it's like... You know, we'll talk on a later

episode about the notion of Biden's mental health, because that's that sticky subject that I think bears a deep dive, and a look from multiple angles.

But yeah. It's an interesting tactic, um... So, okay. With that being said, having set the stage about the debate, could Bernie actually come back and win the nomination? Uh, it's unlikely. But, if it happened, it would have to entail a true surge, and a real change of momentum.

That's one of the weird things about our primary process, is if somebody wins a state, now they have "momentum". Which again, feels like... Why do you have momentum? Is it because... Certain people think "Oh, now *this* person's gonna win"? Well, there's that but there's also the "Who won most recently? I haven't been paying much attention. I'm about to go vote. Who's doing well? Oh, they're doing well? Well, then I'll vote for them."

It's a very rough way of looking at it, but that is part of what, when they talk about momentum on politics round table shows, that's what they're talking about.

If a large percentage of voters in the remaining primaries watch the debate on Sunday, and if Bernie goes after Biden for his glaring weaknesses and cuts with the "My friend Joe" shit, and/or Biden exposes himself as a status quo gaff-machine with serious communication issues, the tide could turn. Are people gonna watch it? I don't know. It's a Sunday night. Is that good? Is that bad? I don't know. But it would take a serious, and frankly unexpected upset, for Bernie to get all the way to clinching the nomination.

But, as Courtney said earlier, numerically speaking it's nowhere near as bleak as the mainstream media and some despondent Sander's supporters are feeling like it is. Bernie's only a little bit behind Biden, at the moment.

So, there's the debate Sunday, uh... Which was gonna be in Arizona, now it's in D.C. And then on the 17th, St. Patrick's Day, you'll see the Arizona primary, as well as Florida, Illinois, and Ohio. That's yours, Courtney!

Courtney: [gasps in excitement] Me!

Brent: You!

Courtney: I'm the one!

Brent: You won't be going out and doing your usual St. Patty's day, with Irish car bombs... You're gonna be voting!

Courtney: Yeah, you know. St. Patty's day. The thing that's cancelled nationwide! [laughs]

Brent: [laughs] Oh my gosh! People will just be home, with green food coloring and beer, like "Eh! Let's play some Scrabble!"

Courtney: Yeah they sent—[laughs] They sent a note home, saying like "Students can wear green and white on St. Patrick's Day!" And I was like "Is she even gonna be at school then?"

Brent: No kidding. Me and Kate on *Question Box* are doing a drinking game, St. Patrick's day episode, and it's the closest I'm gonna get to congregating and drinking with anybody, this St. Patty's day.

Courtney: Yeah.

Brent: Um, so... Uh, it looks pretty bad for Bernie in Florida and Arizona. Like *very* bad. And, you know, to Courtney's point before, I really trusted the polls that were making it look bad for Warren before Super Tuesday, and some of them were right, some of them weren't. But the thing is, polls are not always right. And so now I'm having to kind of pretzel myself into going "Yes! Yes, the polls were right then, but-- But! But!"

And we don't know. We don't know. There might be a backlash, where all the Bernie supporters go "This is our last chance! We're gonna rise up!" Or... Maybe not. Maybe the media—Ugh, this hurts me to say! Maybe the mainstream media was... Right, when they talked about Bernie having a ceiling. Maybe... Um, you know. A probably atheist Jew socialist, who's 100... Does not have demographically quite the numbers, to get over a ceiling. Especially when there's media bias against him. I don't know.

Courtney: That's really fucking hard to have to... Cope with, too. Like last week, when I was talking about the fact that like, you know... There was this whole hullabaloo over whether or not Bernie said a woman can't win... Here's the thing: One fucking can't. At least this year.

Brent: This year, now, yeah.

Courtney: They have showed us time and time again, that a woman can't win. I'm actually more certain that he said it than ever, because he was right! And it sucks to have to think that, where it's like... I want it so much to be not this case? It would be so great if Bernie didn't have a ceiling. If like, he really could just like get this, like massive movement. And... But fuck, are they right? Like... It sucks!

Brent: We'll see. I will tell you, I think... Anecdotally, I voted for John Kerry, absentee. Because I was in Oklahoma in college, and I was, you know, voting for Texas. Now the thing is, that—I'm speculating here. I'm not being a politics-wonk-expert-person... But absentee votes... Like aren't they counted much later? And aren't tons of young people not in their home state? And also they're first time voters in a country with voter suppression, that means if you don't know what to do, sometimes it can be more of a pain in the ass than you thought it would be, and you just give up?

Now, again. This is giving a lot of benefit of the doubt to young people. But I will say, first time voters are going to have more... You know, rage quits and just frustration, and going home, than voters that have gone to their same polling place for a long time. And I think that the same, um... Sources that lament the youth vote not turning out, sometimes, are actually related to, or they are just simply the ones that are pulling the levers of voter suppression and closing—

I mean, we've seen states, plenty of them, where they're closing polling places in the districts with non-republican—You know, non-likely republican voters, or non-likely... Moderate voters. As opposed to leftists, or democrats, depending on which kind of election it is.

Anyway, so statistically, Bernie absolutely kills it with young people, but they just have not come out for him so far like he thought they would. And so... Um... I know our audience has a lot of Warren supporters, a lot of Bernie supporters, and like maybe some of you actually want Biden. And like, I don't get it? I wish I could convince you, but... You do you. That's how democracy works.

To the rest of you, what can you do? By the time you're hearing this, if you're hearing it on the day this goes out, you have mere days before this next primary contest, which... You know, this coming Tuesday could be it. It really could. Um... So, what can you do, if you're feeling helpless, if you're

feeling scared, if you wanna just try something—Look. If you have friends or family in Arizona, Ohio Florida, or Illinois... Take a second to text them. Call them. Tell them what it means to you. This is not the general election, so primaries really do come down to individuals. And your vote, comparatively speaking, matters a lot.

If you want to go even further, you can donate to the Bernie campaign. You can go to berniesanders.com/call, berniesanders.com/volunteer. It's not over yet. Bernie is likely to stay in *at least* until—Well, I mean, I think I think he'll stay in at least until the round of primaries after this coming week. There's still a significant chance, but it is not gonna happen if the youth don't get out the vote, and bring some friends and family along with them.

Courtney... Would you like... To do... Some tidbits?

Courtney: I... Need... Tidbits right now.

Brent: [laughs] Did you stockpile tidbits in the old pantry, there?

Courtney: I bought three things of toilet paper, and I forgot the tidbits.

Brent: Oh no!

Courtney: Like I left them in my cart, so if we could just do some tidbits right now.

Brent: Well—

Courtney: That might help me like, get through today—

Brent: If DoorDash does tidbits, you're in luck. But anyway—

Courtney: Oh my god, thank god. Yes.

Brent: Um real quick, just because this episode has been kind of devoid of good news, Lego has partnered with Nintendo to release a Super Mario line of Lego toys, that look really cool. And Mario's face and a panel on his torso change, depending on what you do with other elements of the toy set. I know I'm doing a commercial for Lego Mario, but it made a splash on nerd-Twitter, and by golly, it's good news to me.

Courtney: Speaking of good news... Harvey Weinstein was sentenced to twenty-three years in prison. Fuck him. He can go fuck himself. I hope he

lives long, prospers, and suffers. Like I said earlier: bad person. But, he's a worse person, so, who are you gonna pick?

Uh, when he was in the court room, he said "I really feel remorse for the situation. I feel it deeply in my heart. I will spend my time, really caring, and really trying to be a better person." But then he said "I'm not going to say these aren't great people. I had wonderful times with these people, you know? It's just, I'm totally confused and I think men are confused about all of these issues." You know, issues like "rape is bad"!

Brent: [snorts]

Courtney: So, fuck you Harvey Weinstein! Have a fun twenty-three years... Go fuck ya-self.

Brent: Seriously. Good riddance, um... So... If that got you mad about things that happen to women, um... Well, here's some more. Members of the 2019 Women's World Cup Team brought a gender discrimination lawsuit against the U.S Soccer Federation about a year ago. And in the time since, by the way, they've won the second straight World Cup in a row, and have attracted support from all kinds of people.

But there's a pay gap, between the Men's and Women's World Cup teams! Last year, the president of the U.S. S.F. Carlos Cordeiro, claimed that actually, the women's team was paid more than the men's. And the men's team issued a statement literally saying "That's a lie!" [laughing]

Um, well—And I mean you know, like... Good for them, for being like actually "Fuck you, dude. Tell the truth please." The lawsuit has been an ongoing process, but Cordeiro apologized this week, because his side issued a court filing that argued that the women's World Cup players had "Less skill—"

Courtney: Go fuck yourself—

Brent: "Than their male counterparts." It also claimed that the men's national team players have more "Responsibility—"

Courtney: Go fuck yourself—

Brent: "To the reputation of the U.S.S.F., making them more valuable employees." I think we can all join together, in saying fuck this guy, fuck this organization. They should get equal pay, and I really hope that this

apology and the eyeballs that are suddenly on this, speed up the process of that happening.

Courtney: So many people can go fuck themselves.

Brent: It's true.

Courtney: That's this show now. It's "Go Fuck Yourself Like These".

Brent: If I could just you know—Like the next time I have a really tense kind of business meeting with like some contractual arguments, Courtney—

Courtney: Mm-hmm?

Brent: Like I might want to have like an agent or a manager, but can I have just like you there, to like say "Go fuck yourself" in between certain key phrases?

Courtney: Obviously!

Brent: [laughs]

Courtney: Obviously!

Brent: "This right of last refusal clause—"

"Go fuck yourself!"

[laughs]

Courtney: "Go fuck yourself!"

"It's the 'Go Fuck Yourself podcast', with Fuck-o and Bag of Fucks, over here."

I'm Bag of Fucks.

Brent: Oh. I'll take the "Fuck-O" mantle.

Courtney: Yeah, I have a lot of bags.

Brent: I give a lot of fucks.

Courtney: [laughs]

Brent: About things—About things!

Courtney: [singing] And that's what we do! Bum-ba-dum! Wha-wha!

[ad starts, ocean waves are crashing in the distance]

Speaker 1: [exhales] Ah! There's nothing quite like sailing in the calm, international waters, on my ship: The S.S. Biopic.

[boat horn honks]

Speaker 2: Avast! It's actually pronounced "Bio-pic".

Speaker 1: No, you dingus! It's biopic!

Speaker 2: Who the hell says that? It's bio-pic! Because of the words biology and—

Speaker 1: It's the words for "Biography" and "Picture"!

Speaker 2: If you—

[another boat honks its horn and sails up]

Dave: All right, that is enough!

Ahoy! I'm Dave Holmes. I am the host of the rebooted podcast, formerly known as "International Waters". Designed to resolve petty, but persistent arguments like this! How? By pitting two teams of opinionated comedians against each other, with trivia and improv games, of course! Winner takes home the right to be right!

Speaker 1: What podcast be this?

Dave: It's called "Troubled Waters"! Where we disagree to disagree!

[drives boat away]

[new ad starts]

[intercom dings]

Speaker 1: This is your captain with an update from the flight deck. We'll be reaching MaxFun Drive on March 16th. That's right on time. As a reminder, MaxFun Drive runs for just two weeks, and it's the best time of year to support the podcasts you love.

If you look towards the front, you'll see your favorite hosts with special bonus content and lovely thank-you gifts for new and upgrading monthly members.

Now, sit back, relax, and catch up on your favorite MaxFun shows now, so you can listen to the new episodes releasing March 16th. And, thanks again for choosing Maximum Fun.

[ad ends]

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

[high-five sound plays]

This week's Wi-Five goes out to the State House of Virginia. When I was a kid, there was a show called *Living Single*, which had an all-black main cast, including Queen Latifah. One of my early exposures to the idea of institutional racism, was an episode where the character of "Kyle" was told by a white supervisor that he wouldn't get promoted, with his short dreadlocks because they just didn't have a "Corporate look".

I was probably twelve at the time, and I thought "Wow. That is a good point; you don't think traditionally black hairstyles when you think 'corporate'." And the issue is more widespread than just corporations, obviously. Well, the state of Virginia recently passed a ban on what's called "Hair Discrimination", meaning you can't discriminate on the basis of race, including "Traits historically associated with race, including hair texture, hair type, and protective hair styles such as braids, locks, and twists."

And look... It's sad, that in this supposedly futuristic science-fiction year of 2020, that we need laws on the books to combat this kind of thing. But it's a step in the right direction, and in fact, Virginia is the fourth state to pass such a law, behind California, New York, and New Jersey. It's just another way subtle isolated types of discrimination add up to widespread systemic racism, and hopefully more states will follow suit to fight against it.

So to the state legislature of Virginia, and Governor Ralph Northam: Wi-Five.

[theme music plays]

Brent: Well, that's gonna do it for another *Trends Like These*. Thank you for listening to this unfortunately, kind of dark, pessimistic episode, but here's the thing: You know? I think that you and I are actually in the long, long run, optimistic, because... You gotta... You gotta hope for the good stuff, even if you're afraid of the bad stuff. Um...

A couple things: We want to thank Mustin, who is our editor and friend. You can find more of his stuff... Uh, he does amazing music, lots of cool... Varieties of things, at mustin.net. Um, and soon, very very soon, will be the start of the MaxFun Drive for 2020!

Courtney: Yes. Maximum Fun is very largely audience supported, and we... Love and appreciate every single one of our—Anyone who listens to this show, but our donors are really helping make this show happen. And going forward, obviously as we said, we're going to be bringing in guest hosts that we are going to pay. And so your donation really will help us, you know, round out this show to be—You know. The next phase of what we believe it can be.

The MaxFun Drive only happens once a year. We put out our best shows, we offer great thank-you gifts, including a little thing called "That time we sat for an hour and talked about 'Cats'".

Brent: Ah!

Courtney: So—

Brent: Classic!

Courtney: Next week... Get in the Game: It's MaxFun Drive time, motherfucks.

Brent: And now with that being said, Courtney... Are there any things you'd like to plug for our audience to know about?

Courtney: Well you can find me at Sci-fi Fan Girls, um—I don't usually plug individual pieces that I do, cause I do a lot cause I'm really busy. But I interviewed Karen Gillan this week, and I adore Karen Gillan. *Dr. Who*, *Guardians of the Galaxy*—She's wonderful, and it was a really fun interview.

You can also, please subscribe to *Forgotten Women of Genre*. This has been an absolute joy, and it's rounding out the month. So after March, it's on

hiatus again, until probably Halloween, if we do a "Forgotten Women of Horror" again. But please listen to that. We're doing good things for women's history month at Sci-Fi Fan Girls.

Brent: Okay, a couple things from me. I am the co-creator of a comedy party game called "Use Your Words". It's on all the consoles, as well as PC and Mac. More about that at "useyourwords.lol." If you're stuck at home with a couple of friends, it's a good way to spend some time.

I'm also a cohost of another podcast. *The* cohost, you might say, and it's called *Question Box*. It's the game show of shockingly personal questions. It's exactly what it sounds like. It's very TMI, very mischievous, very fun. I cohost that with my friend Kate Sloan, who has also been a guest host on *Trends Like These*, and uh...

Guests that we grill about personal matters include luminaries such as Travis McElroy, Courtney Enlow, *Trends Like These* U.K Correspondent Dave Bulmer, and so many other cool people. Like recently, we had Kevin Allison, the host of *The Risk* podcast, um... And just, if you are on the internet and you're a nerd, or you like funny people, um... You've probably... Heard of other guests of ours. But have you heard about, you know, their balls? Not yet.

Anyway. We're at Twitter. @questionboxshow, or you can just find *Question Box the Podcast* at basically any podcast platform you like.

Okay, so I think that's gonna do it for another *Trends Like These*. Courtney, am I forgetting anything?

Courtney: [gasps excitedly, and starts chanting] Vote and wash your hands! Vote and wash your hands! Wash your hands and vote and vote and wash your hands cha cha!

Brent: I love that song.

Courtney: I did jazz hands when I did it!

Brent: [laughs] See you next time.

Courtney: Bye!!!

[theme music plays and then fades]

Brent: Getting a little slippery here.

Courtney: Slippery Brent, that's what they call you. That's what Trump would call you, if he could like tweet you.

Brent: That's right.

Courtney: He'd be like "Slippery Brent!"

[chord plays]

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