

## MBMBaM Feed Drop: Minority Korner

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**Griffin:** Hey everybody, this is Griffin. Uh, and I'm gonna try and keep this brief. As you probably guessed from the title of this episode, we don't have a new MBMBaM for you today.

Instead, we are doing a feed drop of another show on the Maximum Fun Network called *Minority Korner*, which is all about discussing culture and news through an intersectional lens. Uh, it's a great show, and we are really appreciative that James has allowed us to run the most recent episode from last Friday, uh, here on our feed.

Um, after talking it over, after the events of the past weekend where we all witnessed a horrific escalation of police violence against protesters and black folks across the country, the thing that made the most sense for us to do is, uh, try and amplify black creators and voices rather than, you know, try and seize the podium ourselves. Um, which I hope this introduction does not cross over into me actually doing.

Right now, we just—we feel like it's our place to shut up and try and educate ourselves, and really try and listen to the voices of those who have been oppressed, because there's no amount of education that's gonna allow, you know, the three of us to really understand what that is truly like.

So, uh, we wholeheartedly encourage you to listen to and subscribe to *Minority Korner*, and really just seek out and support black creators and artists, while you also find ways to support protesters on the ground, whether that is through bail funds or by directly donating to front line protesters who are in desperate need of supplies right now, or providing any other services you can. There's no shortage of ways to help right now, so, um, just try and find one.

And here is *Minority Korner*. Thank you all very much, and stay safe.

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[theme music plays]

**James:** Welcome to *Minority Korner*, where we take an introspective look at the world through an intersectional lens.

I'm James, he/him/his. I'm a queer, political, actor, activist, comedian, Cancerian, self-proclaimed sexy blerd – that's a, uh, black nerd – and each week, I'm joined in the Korner by another fabulous minority, where we tackle the news, pop culture, politics, media, history, and more, all with a little self-care and self-love sprinkled throughout.

This week, I'm joined by...

**Emerald:** Hello! My name is Emerald Kashmere with a "K" Wright-Collie. I was born and raised in Miami. I consider myself to be an animation connoisseur based here in New York City. Love things from ukulele, to animation, to improv, and everything in between. And, my pronouns are she/her.

**James:** Well, we go from Karen, to a Karen, to a Karen this week! So, have you heard of social media chef, Alison Roman? Well, she seems to be dragging Chrissy Teigen and Marie Kondo, while other Karen, Lana Del Rey, seems to be dragging a lot of POC women and Ariana Grande. What is going on, white women?

A lot to unpack there. So, Joe Biden might not be a white woman, but that hasn't stopped him and his whiteness from steppin' in it, so we also unpack the gaffe heard around the social media waves, or the... 48 hour news cycle?

And then we talk about why some might be outraged, and some of us are just kinda shrugging our shoulders. Have you met Joe Biden?

Have you ever heard of the little rich black girl oil tycoon? Well, I hadn't either, until one of our listeners pointed me into the direction of Sarah Rector, and her essentially slavery-to-riches story.

And then finally, stick around to the very end as I unpack the two latest incidents showcasing America's racism. Uh, had two very different outcomes

involving black men, but rooted in the same racism. The one involving Christian Cooper, and the other, George Floyd. And my call to action about what you can do, what we all can do about it.

So, this is a jam-packed episode. I'm so excited to share this with you. Let's get into it. Alright! We're gonna learn, laugh, and play, right here.

[music plays]

**James:** A-five, a-six—

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** —a-five, six, seven, eight! [scatting]

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** You know Emerald's here when we start singin' to kick off the show. I feel like that's traditional.

**Emerald:** It really is. There is no other way to kick off the show. Is there? I don't think so.

**James:** Nope! I am excited to see you. No pressure, but I'm excited to see—

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** —what jams we come up with this go around. Last time we had the hit club banger "Bad BAPS," so we'll—and then before that, we did a remake of "Little Shop of Horrors."

**Emerald:** Yes.

**James:** [through laughter] So, let's see what happens!

**Emerald:** I was thinking about that "Little Shop" remake, like, as—in preparing for this, and I was like, "It was just gold. It was just gold."

**James:** Golden! It was golden. Okay. There's been some feuds going down that I would love to address with you.

**Emerald:** Yes, oh my goodness.

**James:** Not like it's a feud between you and me, so let me just—I feel like that came out wrong. [laughs]

**Emerald:** But there—but there *is* a feud between you and I. We are fighting.

**James:** Oh, it's—it's brewing. Rawr! It's, like, levels—

**Emerald:** [simultaneously] It's—[laughs] the tension!

**James:** —it is—it is levels. So, there's this woman who—I didn't know who she was until she came for Chrissy Teigen and Alison Roman. Um, her name is Alison Roman—oh, wait, no, I'm sorry. So, [through laughter] this woman—so, she came for Chrissy Teigen and Marie Kondo. Her name is Alison Roman.

She's some sort of, like, social media, like, DIY sort of, you know... "I cook and make things" sort of person.

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** And in a recent interview, profiled by The New Consumer, um, she pretty much slammed—she pretty slammed, uh, Chrissy Teigen and Marie Kondo, saying that, like, um... that they're—pretty much calling out their, um—that they're not authentic.

She said, um, "Like what Chrissy Teigen had done is so crazy to me. She had a successful cookbook and then it was like, 'Boom. Line at Target. Boom. Now she has an Instagram page that has over a million followers.' Where it's just, like, people running a content farm for her. That horrifies me, and it's not something I ever want to do. I don't aspire to do that but, like, [laughs] who's laughing now? Because she's making a ton of fucking money."

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness. Insane, bananas, for her to come for the most wholesome people... in the game.

**James:** You picked the wrong targets. Like, yeah. It's weird that you came for Mar—the people that you just want to hug. Marie Kondo, who literally is just one of the sweetest people in the entire world.

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** Um, and Chrissy Teigen, who just is wonderful and just trolls Trump, and we love her for that. Like, you know.

**Emerald:** I know! And they're both, like, two women who provide—who are just, like, amazing characters alone, regardless of their craft, right?

Like, Chrissy Teigen is just super wholesome. Marie Kondo is, like, super wholesome. And then they do awesome things that they're being recognized for in a very, like, true way.

Like, they are both authentic people. Chrissy Teigen has always been that way, you know? It's just like—like, heightening her strength and her personality, and for this woman to kind of, like—

**James:** And making amazing facial reactions when people do crazy things at award shows!

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Like, the Chrissy Teigen face—

**Emerald:** Exactly!

**James:** —is classic! It should be its own emoji, of, like—there *is* an emoji designed off of that! It's that yellow one with the, like, 'eeeugh.'

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Just the teeth. That's the Chrissy Teigen! [laughs]

**Emerald:** [laughs] It's so true! It's so true. She just really chose the wrong corner.

**James:** While Chrissy Teigen was—she—well, I mean, you could af—go after, like, one of the—go after Kylie Jenner or something.

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** Like, go after a Kardashian. Like, that would've been a safer bet. We would've been like, "Okay, whatever."

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Just went for, like, the sweetest—and also two, like, women of color, and Chrissy Teigen was hurt about it. She goes, "This is a huge bummer and hit me hard. I have made her recipes for years now—"

**Emerald:** Oh no!

**James:** "—bought the cookbooks, supported her on social media, and praised her in interviews!"

**Emerald:** Ugh, I didn't know that!

**James:** And then Chrissy goes on to say, "I even signed on to executive produce the very show she talks about doing in this article!" [laughs]

**Emerald:** [gasps]

**James:** Why are you biting the hand that feeds you?!

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness! I did not know that aspect of it. That's bananas. I cannot believe that. She just... essentially dug herself in the deepest hole ever. Like, why would she say something like that, [through laughter] after somebody supported her for so long?

It just speaks to her wholesomeness and sweetness that she's like, "Oh my God, love this woman, she's doing great things. Let me buy her cookbook, let me cook her recipes!" Insane.

**James:** Yes. Well, the drama unfolds. So then, Alison Roman, she—her first apology was not an apology, and it was terrible. Crash and burn.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** She tweets, "When women bully other women for being honest about money and how much they do or do not make, well, that's amore!" And then she goes on to say, "Just wishing someone—just wishing I had someone to hold my hand during baby's first internet backlash!"

**Emerald:** She said that?!

**James:** Mm-hmm, yeah.

**Emerald:** Alison Roman? Who *is* this woman?

**James:** Yeah, I—and she also goes on, like, you know, uh, "Being a woman who takes down other women is absolutely not my thing, but I don't think it's yours either. I hope we can meet one day. I think we'd probably get along."

**Emerald:** [incredulously] What?

**James:** So she's just crashing and burning.

**Emerald:** No...

**James:** And, like, Chrissy Teigen didn't try to take you down at all. And she did eventually—like, I think she finally hired a publicist, because she then tweeted out and wrote, like, a really long letter of saying—essentially saying that, like, she's owned every aspect of her shit.

She's like, "I was wrong. Um, I—um, need to really educate myself. It was also really wrong for me to also target two, um, POC women who have a

different struggle and journey from me." She messed up, she said that she's learning. Um, she heard what everyone was saying, and is working on being a better listener.

So she then wrote, like, a much better detailed one. That just goes to show, like, yeah girl, you need a publicist. Like...

**Emerald:** Yeah. [laughs] If you're gonna come at basic angels of the game, you need a whole army. Like, a publicist, everything. Don't come for them! That is just too insane!

It's just so insane to me that, like, because you—it clearly came from envy, I feel like. Like, she potentially was like, "Wow. I am trying to navigate this, like, specific corner of the market, and trying to get ads, and trying to get sponsorships." And she probably one day was just, like, walkin' through Target, trying to buy some candles—

**James:** [laughs]

**Emerald:** —and saw Chrissy Teigen's amazing face on a pan, or a—a cast iron skillet, and it's the only way that she knew how to react. And in that case, you need to look inside of yourself, because it's—

**James:** Ooh, yeah!

**Emerald:** —it's like—you know?

**James:** Mm-hmm.

**Emerald:** Like, that is just what you could aspire to be, you know? That's how you're supposed to look at that.

**James:** Well, and I think that there's just, like—I think she got really too big for her britches. She—I mean, this was, like, a really big interview for her. She has, I think—she has this new TV show that's coming out. Um, and I think she just got just a little too loose-lipped, you know?

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.



**James:** Like, she just was just shootin' the shit and thought—but I think it speaks to something you were saying, that is intrinsically something deep inside of her, and speaks to the jealousy and sort of insecurity that she had to knock these other women down.

And again, like people were pointing out, knocking these women of color down who are going to have to work twice as hard to even get, like, where she is and what she has, um... and I appreciate that she acknowledges that, but it's like, that was deep inside of her. That was an ugly that was, like, ready to come out.

**Emerald:** Absolutely.

**James:** The minute someone was, like, listening. And it just—yeah. And I appreciate, like, her—like, eventually coming around to apologies. And I always want to give people, like, space and grace to apologize. 'Cause, like, we, the pitchfork nation—you know, everyone's ready to be angry. Everyone's looking for a reason to be outraged these days. [laughs] And, I also want to make sure I give the space for, like, "They need to change and apologize!"

And so, she has. But, you know, statistically it takes five positive things to outbalance the negative.

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** And when I first read her—the last, latest apology I was like, "Okay, alright, I'm willing to give it grace."

But honestly, every time I see her name still, I still cringe. So she still has, like, at least four more positive things that I need to see before I can... I mean, I wasn't gonna buy her stuff before, 'cause it's—I don't really—it's not my lane. But I definitely am not now! [laughs]

**Emerald:** Mm-mm, mm-mm. She could be selling a cast iron skillet made from the Gods, and I wouldn't give her a coin.

**James:** I wouldn't care.

**Emerald:** A quarter. No.

**James:** I wouldn't care. I'd be like, "I'm sorry, what is Chrissy Teigen making? Thank you. What is she... "

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Oh! Speaking of women who are taking other women down... [laughs] Let's just move from one Karen to the next. Um, Lana Del Rey also got into the game—

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** —of, like, trying to take down other women. Um, so Lana Del Rey essentially, like, came after Cardi B, Nicki Minaj—

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** —Beyoncé, Doja Cat, Camila... uh, all these, like, women of color, and plus Ariana Grande. Um, I had to separate Ariana Grande, 'cause we forget that, like... she's just Italian. She's just an Italian girl, so...

**Emerald:** Yeah. [laughs]

**James:** Don't let that Spanish last name fool you. Or I guess it's Italian! Uh, I was fooled.

**Emerald:** I was as well, yeah.

**James:** Um, anyway she—see? Yeah. So, she essentially was, like, slamming these women who—like, saying, like, "Oh, they're not feminist. Women who look and act like me, the kind of women who says 'no' but men hear 'yes.' Uh, the—the kind of women who are slated mercilessly for being their authentic delicate selves."

Um, she goes on—she's like—you've pretty much seen—talks about how they, you know, are being so sexual to sell their music, and that's just, like, you know, not her style and what she's doing, and...

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** So obviously, like, everyone came after her for that. But I just want to understand this continued—I don't know. Like, I feel like the media always already does such a thing of pitting women against other women that, like... and she also just recently made a song with Ariana Grande for the *Charlie's Angels* soundtrack, so it's like, that's weird.

**Emerald:** Lana Del Rey? Ooh, I didn't know that.

**James:** Yes! It was her, Miley Cyrus, and, um... I mean, she seemed out of place, but—[laughs]

**Emerald:** Yeah.

**James:** It was the three of them. Miley, Ariana, and Lana Del Rey.

**Emerald:** That's so fascinating. Um, but also, like, yeah. This kind of trend of... it seems like in every corner, like, Alison and Lana coming for women of color is just like—

**James:** Yes! Right!

**Emerald:** —it's—it's kind of insane, because—and I can also speak from experience, saying that, like, at the end of each day, no matter what you're doing or what you're pursuing or what your career is, in any market, in any industry, I can assure you that, like, at the end of my day, I'm returning home maybe five times more mentally exhausted because of the hoops that you have to jump through, and the things that you have to navigate, right?

And even becoming, like, recognized in any one given industry or field. So I think that the outrage is—is the backlash, right? And the, like, grouping together of Lana and Alison is correct, because it's—it's, like, just actually

don't? Just before you do it, stop. Look in the mirror, breathe, *recognize*, and then just stop. Don't even do it.

**James:** Right. And, you know, she also made a—I mean, the people that she pointed out, aside from, you know, Ariana Grande... [through laughter] Which again, is weird that she—

**Emerald:** [laughs] I know, I know!

**James:** —lumped Ariana Grande into this. Because she literally was just naming, you know, black women, and Camila Ca—from, uh, Fifth Harmony. Um, and, like, you know, she specifically—it seems like attacking R&B and hip hop, you know, urban styles of music. Didn't mention, like, a Katy Perry, a Gaga, a Taylor Swift.

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** Like, any of these—a Selena Gomez, like, a Miley Cyrus. Like, these women who have been overtly sort of sexual. It seems like she's—so it just... I think that again, it speaks to something that there's an inherent bias inside of these—inside of these women.

**Emerald:** Yeah, there absolutely is. And it's just extremely sad and disappointing that, like—I mean, again, kind of same conversation with Alison. Um, the same rules apply with Lana where it's like, yeah, you're in this field and in this industry, and, like, don't sexualize black women or, like... frame them or blame them for being sexual, right? Like, don't do that.

**James:** Yeah.

**Emerald:** Because that's the narrative that they, I'm sure, have had to fight in their own respects. And whether they choose to express that in their art or not is up to them, and how they wanna express their art, right?

**James:** Yeah.

**Emerald:** But, like, that is not... that is not a dig or a negative, you know? It's nothing to be blasting. It's really weird.

**James:** And there's been—there's, like, black women have this double dichotomy where they're either over sexualized or desexualized, so you either have, like, the mammy or the Jezebel.

And even going back to, like, you know, the Venus Hottentot. Like, just women—like, "Ooh, their big butts, and their big, you know—ooh, they're so—" And so that's already sort of a thing. And she just, you know, played into it.

**Emerald:** Yeah.

**James:** So, I look forward to her non-apology—

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** —and then hopefully her publicist will help her, like, draft a better letter. [laughs quietly]

**Emerald:** Hopefully, hopefully. Um, and then speaking of black women being sexualized, um, we can look forward to—there's a—on TikTok, there's a lot of that. Um, so—

**James:** What's goin' on on TikTok? I don't TikTok.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** I... am gonna be late to the party. I just can't! Like, it took me forever to even get on to the Instagram, and I just—I... I was an early adopter into Facebook, and that was, like, the only one.

I think I've just been burned so hard by, like, Friendster and LiveJournal and MySpace, and I just—it gets exhausting. [laughs]

**Emerald:** Um, yeah. You're so right. It was definitely—so, I actually didn't come on to the Tik—I didn't pull up to the TikTok feed—

**James:** [wheezes]

**Emerald:** —until COVID-19 happened. And that—

**James:** You're like, "I need shit to do." [laughs]

**Emerald:** Right. It's just like—it's the last resort. Um, and it's really fasc—it is fascinating kind of, like, the disconnect with TikTok, um, with the current generation and millennials, who—millennials are like, "Mm, I don't know. That's just, like, whatever. That's your corner. You can do whatever you're doing." And, uh—

**James:** Yeah, totally.

**Emerald:** —um, the current generation is just like, "Okay, cool! This is us! Let's do it!" And it—there's actually some gold on there! There's actually some really fun stuff.

Um, and we were just talking about kind of like the sexualization of black women, right? And you made such a good point, where you were like, yeah, there's both ends of it. There's, like, oversexualizing, and then there's also, like, the, um, other aspects. Like, that falls under the mammy umbrella, right? Like, you—we can't see you as a sexual figure. It's essentially—

**James:** [laughs] Yeah, you just take care of us. You're Oprah! [laughs]

**Emerald:** Right. Exactly! You're just Oprah. That's who you are. Um, and so—but on TikTok, fascinatingly enough, this narrative has been, like, reborn in a way that black TikTokers, young black women, will get on TikTok—and TikTok is essentially used for a lot of different things, but one really popular trend is dances, right? TikTok dances.

They're easy to learn, you practice it for, like—I don't know, a few hours in a day. By the end of the day, you master it, you make a video of it, it goes up. It's just cool. And a lot of these dances are choreographed and made up from young black women, and then it takes flight. It starts to trend, and white women—

**James:** Ugh.

**Emerald:** —start doing the dances—

**James:** [pained tone] Mm-hmm?

**Emerald:** —and in their own little way—

**James:** And just blows up. [laughs]

**Emerald:** —and it blows up. TikTok has this interesting feature where you can track down the original sound, and a lot of the trending dances that are on TikTok, when you track down the original sound, are from those creators, right? From the black creators, and they have less likes, less visibility.

And then it goes even further, because sometimes, black TikTokers who are expressing themselves and dancing will get blocked or, like, filtered—

**James:** [gasps]

**Emerald:** —through the TikTok app.

**James:** What?!

**Emerald:** So, like, editors are going through and being like, "Mmm, too sexual." But it's, like—

**James:** Oh my gosh!

**Emerald:** —it's proven—it's proven. And this is—

**James:** Whoa!

**Emerald:** —it's such a fascinating intersection, right? Because this generation has figured out algorithms. They know this. We learned about it, you know, eventually.

**James:** Yeah.

**Emerald:** Maybe, like, halfway through our Facebook lifetime. But they already know this, so they start—

**James:** [laughs] Right. Born into it.

**Emerald:** —playing with it. Mm-hmm. And they're like, "Wow, this algorithm is really only putting forth white women dancing. Let's see what happens when *I*, as a black woman, get on here and dance. Nope, it doesn't come up on people's feeds, I got blocked."

**James:** Shut the face!

**Emerald:** Yeah.

**James:** Oh my god.

**Emerald:** It's kind of insane.

**James:** Wow.

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** Ugh. And I—you know, we... oh, man. I guess, you know, the—I don't know who is to blame. Is it us for—they're perpetuating the same things. Like, I think—everyone's always like, "Oh, this generation, the next generation, they're so far ahead!"

This is a great example of, like, nope. They still—there's still work. Like, each generation's gonna have some work to do as well.

**Emerald:** Absolutely. Absolutely. They sure do.

**James:** But that's the thing, is that these biases are just so intrinsically there! This is infuriating, and even more of a reason why I am not going on TikTok.

**Emerald:** [laughs]



**James:** Thank you for... persuading me that I am right! And, yeah.

**Emerald:** The people who are on TikTok, though, there was a #Blackout2020—

**James:** Ooh.

**Emerald:** —that was created by, um, the—

**James:** Britney Spears for her album, Blackout? [laughs] No.

**Emerald:** Basically. She's burning down gyms *and* biases. [laughs]

**James:** Oh my God! Thank you for bringing that up! Listen, I—[laughs] I am part of the Britney army. Like, she captured my—like, whatever the artist is that captured your heart at the age of 13, they can do no wrong. You will love them forever. And she got me, and I don't know—I—I'm just biased. Like, I have Britney blinders. Like, but—

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** I have to, like—following her on Instagram has been so painful. 'Cause sometimes I'm like, "I wanna see what's going on in her life!" And it's better for me not to. Just hold on to the nostalgia.

**Emerald:** It's like my Chrissy Teigen face, uh-huh.

**James:** She—I'm literally using my Chrissy Teigen face watching her video. Like, ooh... like, you know, completely unfiltered. I am concerned about her wellbeing. She burned down her home gym and posted about it. 'Cause she likes to work out with can—like, with candles nearby. And I'm just concerned! I am so concerned.

**Emerald:** Britney Spears...

**James:** Because there was, like, this thing that, like, she had maybe had another mental breakdown, and then that's why she had canceled her Vegas tour. It was this #FreeBritney thing. And they had said that her dad was sick,

and that's why she disappeared, but there were rumors of otherwise. Like, she's still on a conservatorship. Anyways, sorry to digress. That's—[laughs]

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** I am concerned. [through laughter] I am concerned.

**Emerald:** I'm concerned as well! I am so with you. I am a hardcore Britney person. I had her CDs as a kid, and would just constantly... like, listen to it on repeat. I would rewind the whole thing...

**James:** Yes!

**Emerald:** Like, everything. And... yeah! I'm following her now. I'm like, "Oh, Britney!" [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] Euuuh! You just—you—it's literally just Chrissy Teigen face! You're like, "Ugh!" Because you—you don't want—like, your heart can't get—like, you can't admit, like, maybe what's happening. You're just like, "Oh, Britney... maybe—girl, put down the camera!" It's just a lot of—

**Emerald:** I know!

**James:** —her, like, twirling in a dress, or, like, she kind of looks a little sometimes—

**Emerald:** Yes! Have you seen her man?

**James:** Oh, her man is, like, hot. So, like... hmm. I'm following him on Instagram too. [laughs]

**Emerald:** Oh, you do? That's so funny!

**James:** Yeah.

**Emerald:** Her man's so hot! And yes, she's just constantly, like, twirling around. Like, "Got this new piece!" And I'm like, "Ooh... " [laughs]

**James:** [wheeze-laughs]

**Emerald:** Spinning—she just spins so many circles so fast! I'm like, "[through laughter] Are you okay?"

**James:** And sometimes—like, I mean, I—you know, I just feel... my heart goes out. 'Cause I just sometimes—she... I don't know. Something doesn't seem right, and I just wanna give her a hug and just—'cause there was a psychologist who said that someone who had the mental breakdown that she had should not be in the line of work that she is in.

And, you know, you have all these people who are just trying to, like, you know, make money off of her. And I'm sure she loves to, like, dance and perform, so—but it's like... she just...

**Emerald:** Yeah...

**James:** ... needs to... I love her, so I can't say anything bad about her. So... [laughs] Anyways.

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** Back to Alison or Lana.

**Emerald:** [laughs] I know!

**James:** Oh! Have you—okay, so you're living in—so have you been using, like, you know—we're in the age of corona. Are you, like, ordering out a lot? 'Cause I might have a recommendation if you like pizza.

**Emerald:** [gasps] Yes, please! Yeah, I like pizza.

**James:** Would you like to order from, uh, Pa—Pasqually's Pizza and Wings?

**Emerald:** That sounds delicious.

**James:** [laughs] Great. So, um, I'll send you the link. And when you start eating it, it might remind you of like, "Oh my God, this actually tastes like Chuck E. Cheese pizza!"

Um, that's because it is. [laughs]

**Emerald:** [gasps]

**James:** So... if you have been—

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** Yes. If you have been, um... [laughs] If you've been ordering on GrubHub, um, or things like that, and have—like, "Oh, look at this—I wanna support local businesses!" And you order from Pasqually's Pizza and Wings, it's just gonna be Chuck E. Cheese feet-tasting pizza. Like—

**Emerald:** Oh no!

**James:** They have been putting on a fake name. [through laughter] And I think Applebee's has been doing this as well, and then they got caught!

**Emerald:** [through laughter] Oh my goodness!

**James:** The scam! [laughs]

**Emerald:** What?!

**James:** Yes.

**Emerald:** Is that's what's going on with Chuck E. Cheese and Pasqually's? They're the same thing?

**James:** That is exactly what is happening. That is what's happening! Um—

**Emerald:** That is truly awful.

**James:** And that—[laughs] And then I forget. I was reading somewhere where they were trying to spin it as like, "Well, you know, the origin behind Chuck E. Cheese... well, the creator, he never had a birthday party. He was an orphan, and he never had a birthday party, so he wanted to be able to create a space where children could have their birthday parties."

And then it was discovered that that's just the bio of, like... Chuck E. Cheese.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Whose middle name is "Entertainment."

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** It was literally the plot of, like, *Ratatouille*. He was, like, never—  
[laughs] He was an orphaned mouse.

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** Was hangin' out at Pasqually—uh, Pasqually's restaurant. Uh, and, like, he could, like, dance and sing, and—[laughing]

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness!

**James:** So then they were like, "Let's create a restaurant for you!" And then he got too nervous to perform, but then he saw these kids, like—it was their birthday and he got, like, the strength.

So someone, like, caught up and, like, that was there. Like, "Wait a minute. That's just the bio of Chuck E. Cheese!"

**Emerald:** [laughs] "Hang on a second! I've seen this—"

**James:** 'Cause they tried to get you—the heartstrings with, like—[laughs]

**Emerald:** "—I've seen this bio-doc before! [through laughter] While I was in the ball pit, it was playing on the screen! That's Chuck E.! You're not foolin' me."

**James:** Yeah! 'Cause even my heart was like, "Aw, okay. Well, they have got a cute origin story. Wait a minute!"

**Emerald:** [laughs] So I *won't* be ordering from Pasqually's Pizza and Wings.

**James:** No need to.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Okay. So... not to bring it down a notch, but we're gonna bring it down a notch. So, let's go into our Election 2020 Korner!

**Emerald:** Yeah!

**James:** [singing] Votin' for tomorrow to save your life!

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Alright. So, the presumptive nominee, Joseph... Gordon-Levitt Biden—and that's—

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness. [laughs]

**James:** But we'll go with that. [laughs]

**Emerald:** That's his middle name.

**James:** Give him some edge. So, I feel like—like, it's—[sighs] Okay. So, Joe Biden – this will surprise no one – made a gaffe recently, and stepped in it. So, he put his foot in his mouth.

So, he was at an interview with, I believe, Charlemagne from *The Breakfast Club*. and he's, you know, makin' the rounds, doin' his thing. And at the very tail end he's in a rush, trying to get off, because the lovely Dr. Jill Biden, who—just pause in the moment to just think that we could have first lady Dr. Jill Biden. Like, doesn't that just...

**Emerald:** Mmm.

**James:** [sighs] She probably will still be teaching—like, she's a professor at, like, a community college. She'll probably still go do that. Like—

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** —just so refreshing, you know?

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** Um, anyways, she needed to do an interview. He's trying to—he needs to wrap up, and he—at the very end, he makes what was a joke. He's like, "Well—" essentially he says, you know, "If—uh, if you're having questions about who to vote for, like, you know, you're not black." Or, like, "If you vote for Trump, like, you're not black."

So, that's what he says. And then, like, I think his, like, you know, uh, black campaign staffer was like, "[quickly] Okay, we gotta go!" [laughs] And then he cut off.

**Emerald:** [laughs] How outrageous of him. Ridiculous.

**James:** So now the social media's up in a tirade. So, your thoughts about it?

**Emerald:** I... am fully floored, but it also doesn't surprise me that he would say something like that, because he's just him.

**James:** Yeah.

**Emerald:** Um, and he's—

**James:** He's Joe Biden! I've also, like—is this the first time people are meeting Joe Biden? Like, okay. I—

**Emerald:** I know!

**James:** I already mentally prepared myself when he became the presumptive nominee. I was like, "Okay, there's gonna be a lot of gaffes. He's gonna put his foot in his mouth a lot. Like, this has been par for the course."

**Emerald:** Exactly. It's—it's your typical case—yeah. One, first and foremost, it did not shock me. Two—

**James:** [wheeze-laughs]

**Emerald:** I think it's your—it's your—it's your typical case of, "[fake laughter] That's hilarious! My friend's black! I'm not racist!"

That is just that coming out of the inside of him. Um, and I think that—yeah, it just doesn't shock me! I think that we can look forward to a lot more of those, because he's like, "Hey, Obama! [fake laughter] You got my back, right?"

**James:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Emerald:** Meanwhile Obama's like, Chrissy Teigen face. [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] Euuugh.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** "Okay, Joe. We need to talk." Here's—you know what? I think the thing that has bothered me about this is just, like, the extreme outrage that I have seen.

And mostly for, like—if there's a black person who's upset about it, I will totally, like—let's have a conversation and sit and talk to you about it. But, like, I'm seeing, like, white people upset about it. And, like, where's your outrage for, like—Flint, Michigan still doesn't have, you know, good drinking water. Like, you know—all of, like, the unarmed shootings that we've been seeing. I have not seen the outrage from it.



Like, I feel like I'm mostly seeing people who are still... like, not accepting that this is the presumptive nominee. At the end of the day, Trump or Biden are going to be the President of the United States. That's it. There's no amount of magical thinking that's going to be able to make it happen otherwise.

Like, there's no—this is it. Like, you're—there's nothing—we're in the middle of a pandemic. That's nothing else that's gonna—you know, there's no way. There's just—it's not gonna happen.

I love hope and dreams as much as the next person, but there's so much on the line that we just, you know, don't have time. And I guess, like, I just have—like—[sighs] It's exhausting, 'cause it's, like, we need to come together, and I know it doesn't make it easier when Joe Biden does this sort of thing.

But at the same time, it's like... I have to say, um, he actually is right. Like, any queer person or black person who votes for Trump, we need to have a conversation, because your card is about to be revoked.

What he said, I would say, is true. Is he the right person to be able to say it? Not at all.

**Emerald:** [through laughter] No, he's not!

**James:** Should he say that? No. And I feel like it's something that maybe one of his staffers—

**Emerald:** [simultaneously] He should've flipped it—

**James:** —had, like, maybe mentioned or said and joked around about, and he got too comfortable, and repeated a joke that was for at the cookout only. [laughs]

**Emerald:** Exactly. He should've, like, very subtly slipped it over to Charlemagne and said, "Hey, would you say this—you know, say this at the end of the—"

**James:** [wheeze-laughs]

**Emerald:** "—at the end of the session if you don't mind?" You know?

**James:** Yeah! [laughs]

**Emerald:** And then, maybe. Like, okay, cool, Charlemagne. I guess you have a point. But...

**James:** Right.

**Emerald:** For it to come out of *his* mouth is, like, just uncalled for.

**James:** It was not the right—yeah.

**Emerald:** Not the right move.

**James:** And I think—here's the—and I think—I will give Joe Biden this. Like, he does step in it, but he does—like, he will learn as he goes. Like, I have been really impressed with, like, the campaign that he is creating. Like, there has been a seat at the table for everybody. Like, him and Bernie Sanders have been collaborating on making policies. Um... [laughs] I almost said Ariana Huffington. I'm sure she's up, too.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** But I meant Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. She is on the climate change task force. Like, he's collaborating with Elizabeth Warren. You know, Kamala Harris has been doing stuff. Like, everyone—he's really creating this Avengers-style dream team.

And I think—like, I think people—I hope that they move past their own hurt feelings and ego of having their specific candidate win, 'cause if you're really about the movement, it's not about a specific person, it's about the policies and the movement. And mainly, first and foremost, stopping Drumpf from having another term that we might never ever recover from, you know?

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** So... and it just also made me think, too. It's like... y'all don't think that, like, Martin Luther King Jr. had to, like, roll his eyes a few times when Lyndon B. Johnson—

**Emerald:** Yes, absolutely.

**James:** —from *Texas* probably dropped—was a little too vigorous, a little too, you know, uh, free with the n-word. I'm sure.

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm, absolutely.

**James:** And he still had to, like, roll his eyes, shake his hand, and work with this white man, because at the end of the day, Goldwater would've been ten times worse and had folks back on a plantation. So I—black people are very thick-skinned. Like, we have been through a lot worse.

This is not a sit-in. This is not the Montgomery Bridge, you know, massacre. This is not us being hosed. Like—and I've just been seeing a lot of white people essentially be like, "Well, there goes the black vote!" Like, okay...

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.

**James:** You don't... they—you don't—

**Emerald:** Yeah.

**James:** And that's what made me uncomfortable, is white people having all this outrage and speaking out for it. Where it's like, I appreciate your allyship, but I think on this one, just—we'll have the conversation. Like, you—

**Emerald:** Yeah. Just let us kind of sift through it and figure out—

**James:** [laughs]

**Emerald:** —you know, and reflect. 'Cause it's really not—it really doesn't have anything to do with you. [laughs]

**James:** Nope, not at all.

**Emerald:** And I feel like that's the constant kind of thing with these things, where it's like, "[breathlessly] Oh! And it's our turn to speak, too! Because if you didn't hear them, this is what they said!"

And it's like, "I actually don't need you to do that, and you can kind of have a seat."

**James:** Yep. Um, I am processing it on my own. I am talking amongst my own community. Like, you're just—remember, being an ally means being the intern. You're just there to listen and get the coffee.

**Emerald:** Yes.

**James:** Like, work differently. So—

**Emerald:** Listen and get the coffee! I love that analogy. It's so very true.

**James:** [laughs] Uh, so that's that. Like, yep. Joe Biden stepped in it, and today is a day that ends in "Y." Like, you're—yes. That's what happened. And I think that he'll hopefully, you know, move forward and step away from those jokes.

I think—oh! Here's what really upsets me. The interview was actually really amazing, and once again, we're not talking about the substance of what he talked about. He talked about criminal justice reform. He talked about, you know, prisoner re-entry programs, like, when folks leave the prison, there's not a system to help them out. Um, decriminalizing marijuana.

Like, these list of things that disproportionately affect black people, he addresses. Like, Charlemagne asked him about his vote on the crime bill, and he addressed that.

And at the same time, like—in the '90s, everyone and their mom was for the crime bill. Like, even my mom was for the crime bill. Because it was a scary time! We were trying to figure out what was happening, not looking at, like,

that, you know, government practices had created this crime amongst—that was happening, you know, in the black community that was there then vilified and jailed for it.

But it was a really, really good, substantive conversation and debate, and here we are, talking about this little thing that happened at the last ten seconds, a learning and growing moment and mistake by Joe Biden, human being who's an old white man who's doin' his best.

And we're not talking about the substantive issues. And so just, like, it frustrates me, because we, as American participants, have to do better. I, like, saw that—I read the—I read what the gaffe was. I was like, "Oh no." And then I watched the full interview and I was like, "Oh! Wait a minute!" Like, we need to do our job, you know?

**Emerald:** Yeah. This is very true. This is true. I'm gonna go and listen to it, because obviously, my biggest takeaway is that headline. Like, my biggest takeaway is his mic drop!

**James:** Right, yeah!

**Emerald:** And it's—and it—you're right. It's so unfortunate, because what he did in that moment—you're right. We do need to do better. But also, like, what he did in that moment was kind of threw that all in the trash. Because, like—

**James:** Yeah! Yeah.

**Emerald:** —who—who's gonna then go, like, "Yeah. And, like, let me just do my due diligence and, like, look into the whole interview." Nobody.

**James:** Right.

**Emerald:** I will, because you—

**James:** Well, we need the—

**Emerald:** —let me know that he's actually talking about important things, but yeah.

**James:** Yeah. [through laughter] He didn't just go on there and be like, "Hey Charlemagne, you know what?"

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** "[through laughter] You and all those black people better vote for me, 'cause otherwise you ain't black!" And then he left. Like, it wasn't— [laughs]

**Emerald:** "Or else your card's revoooked! Mic drop!"

**James:** He did not go on and, like, say that. It was just that last thing. And I think the media needs to do a better job. What frustrates me, Emerald, is, like, have we learned nothing from 2016?

**Emerald:** Mmm.

**James:** This is—I don't want another "But her emails," Benghazi. And, like, it's frustrating.

**Emerald:** Yeah, that's true.

**James:** 'Cause it's like, the same attention's not being played onto—I forget—the some sort of equation of, like—just the—the Trump administration's failure in terms of coronavirus is the equivalent to, like—I don't have the exact number in front of me, but I did the math.

But it's something to the equivalent of, like, 220,000 Benghazis or something. The amount of people that have died. You know? Like, and we're not—like, will there be a trial for the Trump administration and all those people? And, like, there's not—

**Emerald:** Yeah, exactly.

**James:** —I just—sometimes, in the media's effort to try to be fair and balanced, they just focus on, like, the wrong things. So, I don't wanna play into that trap. It only benefits Russia and the Republicans, so...

**Emerald:** It's true. It's very true.

**James:** Yes. Wow! I feel like we hammered that out. Should we, uh, jump into our first Korner?

**Emerald:** Yes, let's do it!

[music plays]

--

**Janet:** Hey. I'm Janet Varney, host of *The JV Club* podcast.

[bell ringing]

**Janet:** Ah, high school. Was it a time of adventure, romance, and discovery?

**Speaker One:** Class of '95! We did it!

[rain sounds play in the background]

**Janet:** Or... a time of angst, disappointment, and confusion?

**Speaker Two:** We're all tied together by four years of trauma at this place, but enjoy adulthood, I guess!

[booing]

**Janet:** The truth is, it was both! So, join me on *The JV Club* podcast where I invite some great friends like Kristen Bell, Angela Kinsey, Oscar Nunez, Neil Patrick Harris, and Keegan Michael Key, to talk about high school. The good, the bad, and everything in between.

**Speaker Two:** My teenage mood swings [voice suddenly deepens] are gettin' harder to manage!

**Janet:** *The JV Club*. Find it on Maximum Fun.

--

[music plays]

**James:** Okay. [singing] History Korner, *Minority Korner*! History time!

**Emerald:** [humming]

**James:** Emerald, let's get into our time machine and go back in time.

**Emerald:** "[singing] Way back, do you remember? That one—[humming]"

**James:** "[singing] The time when there was a little rich black girl?"

No, I don't, and that's why we're here.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] I want to give a special shout out to *Minority Korner* listener @gen5sayamon. Because they, uh, put this into my lap, and I had to go research full on of who this person was. [holding back laughter] Not the *Minority Korner* listener—

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** —but the person that they tweeted at me about to be like, "Hey, did you know about Sarah Rector, who was this little—" Essentially just dubbed 'the little rich black girl!'

**Emerald:** Oh—oh my goodness.

**James:** [through laughter] Of the early 20th century.



**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** So I was like, "Wait, what? Who dis?" So—also, too, just to show that *Minority Korner*, it takes a village, you know? You all give us the leads, and we go further investigate and report on.

So, she was a multimillionaire oil baron at just 12 years old.

**Emerald:** What?

**James:** Yeah.

**Emerald:** That's so young!

**James:** And you're—I know in—in your mind you're thinking, like, "What have I done with my life?" [laughs]

**Emerald:** I know! [laughs]

**James:** Ugh, yes. So—and again, too, this is like—this happens a lot on *Minority Korner*, so expect—I'm gonna put this—I'm gonna put this up to the universe now. Get ready for either a Netflix series or a movie to be made about this girl, because this happens every time on *Minority Korner* when we talk about, like, someone, then a series or movie comes out. This happened about, like, the ladies of *Hidden Figures*, *Madam C.J. Walker*, so... get ready for her story. And in your mind, I want—

**Emerald:** We're ready for your film, little rich black girl. [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] In your mind, I want you to go ahead and start, like, stunt casting who you would put this as. So she was born to Joseph and Rose Rector on March 3rd, 1902, which is a time period I would not like to go to ever.

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** So, I'll make this fast. I know we're right now we're time traveling, so we'll get in, we'll get out. [laughs] This sounds like a terrible time. Which

also, too, just to sort of talk about—like, I just... ugh. I feel like sometimes, like—sorry to go back to the Joe Biden thing but I'm just like, some of us would not have made it during civil rights. Or, like, you know, slavery. Of, like, *this* is what's breaking our vote for Joe Biden?

**Emerald:** Yes, yes.

**James:** Then, like, we would not have made it. [laughs]

**Emerald:** No, we would've been way too sensitive and soft. [laughs]

**James:** Oh my God! Sometimes I think that we just are! We've got, like, our—you know, this pandemic is going a lot better than the last one! Like, at least you have Netflix!

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Good gosh. And even in that one, a disproportional amount of black people died in that one, so everything old is new again.

Okay. Sarah Rector. She—so, Joseph—uh, Joseph and Rose... lovely names, too. Joseph and Rose had their children, and they were enslaved—their ancestors were part of the enslaved Creek, which was a tribe.

I don't know exactly fully what this means. The—[laughs] In the research, I didn't get to dig too deep. This was a very just sort of, like, quick, surface-level research. But I think this means that—well, it definitely means that they were enslaved, but it might've been that they were enslaved to a tribe, which, if that's true... what?

**Emerald:** Yeah.

**James:** Okay? [laughs] Uh, that's terrible. But both of their fathers fought for the Union Army, and her family—they were, um, African members of the Muscogee Creek Nation. So they, uh, were also part of that. And they lived in a modest cabin in a black town called Taft, Oklahoma.

So, all this is gonna be taking place in Oklahoma, which I think is so fascinating. Oklahoma has such a rich history of black wealth, 'cause if you think back to, like, the Tulsa—um, Tulsa, which was known as black Wall Street, where the Tulsa massacre happened, where they—you know, white people came in and murdered the entire town of, like, rich black people. So when people are like, "How come black people don't have any money except for Beyoncé and Oprah?"

It's like, because every time we get it, y'all...

**Emerald:** You burn it down.

**James:** ... murder us, or steal our ideas! [laughs] And run away with them! We can't get a patent, or a TikTok, *Alison*. Sorry, all the stress. [laughs]

**Emerald:** [laughs] *Lana*.

**James:** [laughs] Yes, Lana! So, at the time, um, this was—Oklahoma was an Indian Territory, and after the Civil War, the parents of formerly enslaved Creek Tribe members were entitled to a land allotment under the Dawes Allotment Act in 1887.

I love this, because, like, you're—you know, many of us did not get our 40 acres and a mule, but it looks like in some parts of the area, like, folks were given their land. Which is, like, oh! That's dope! And look—and we're about to see what happens when people were able to—were given their land to be able to catch up, because they were kidnapped and enslaved and made to work for free. And then people were like, "Alright. Go figure it out." Like, why—what? [laughs]

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** "I'm not hearin'—" So, they divided the Creek lands amongst the Creeks and their former slaves, with a termination date of 1906. This is still so weird to me, because this is really sounding like the Creek tribe was enslaving black people. [laughs] And, like...

**Emerald:** Right, yeah.

**James:** Side-eyeing this Creek Tribe. Like, what?! We just get enslaved by everybody?!

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Could we—did we get to enslave anybody? Like, I mean, slavery is bad, but, like... you know.

**Emerald:** I know, exactly.

**James:** Did we get any? [laughs quietly]

**Emerald:** No, we'll never get our day in the sun. It's fine. [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] We'll never get our turn to be the slave masters.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Dammit! [laughs]

**Emerald:** Man!

**James:** So, hundreds of, um—hundreds of black children, uh, who were the Creek Freedmen Minors, were granted 160 acres of land, um, in Indian Territory. Which is, like, that's a lot of fucking land. That sounds like more than 40 acres and a mule. That was a lot.

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** And—so yeah. They were granted 160 acres to land as Indian Territory, and quote, unquote "integrate," and was integrated into Oklahoma Territory. And I feel like that kind of reads into, like, Indian Territory was just, like, taken over. [laughs] "Integrated" is a nice way of, like—white people were like, "Mine!"

**Emerald:** "Mine!" Right, yeah. "Oh, it's integrated! [fake laughter]"

**James:** [laughs] "We took and probably murdered some people." So this happened in 1907, and so, um, her parents, herself, and her brother, Joe Jr, and sister Rebecca, they all got land. And usually, when lands were given to black folks – this probably won't surprise you – it was shitty land. Usually they were like, "Oh yeah, you can take that, uh—you can take that, uh— [wheezes] swamp over there." [laughs]

**Emerald:** [laughs] "It has, uh—has a couple feral cats, and, a alligator problem, but—" [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] "You see—you see that dumpster fire? Oh yeah, that's you!"

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** "[holding back laughter] That's—that's you. See the area where it rains acid rain? Yeah, you can that over there. I'm not usin' that."

**Emerald:** "You see that, uhh—" [laughs]

**James:** [laughs]

**Emerald:** "—that was a Chuck E. Cheese Pizza." [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] "You see that Pasqually's Pizza?"

**Emerald:** Pasqually's—[laughs]

**James:** "You can have that." Like, "Oh, ain't nobody want your Pasqually's Pizza!"

Uh, so the land was usually rocky and infertile. But, uh, the Creek Indian Nation was located in the middle of just the best land possible, because it was rich and ripe with oil. It was in the middle of the Glenn Pool oil field. And so, little Sarah's land would go for a whopping, at that time—a whopping \$556.50, which at the time was, like, you know, a lot of money.

**Emerald:** Yeah. Ballin'.

**James:** And her father was broke at the time, and so he was like, "Ugh, I gotta make some money." [through laughter] So he leased Sarah's land, 'cause she was a little girl. He was like, "You're not usin' this."

And he leased her little parcel of her land, um, to a major oil company, and that was the Devonian Oil Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Um, he leased that in February, 1911.

And good thing—I mean, he was literally—he was kind of like a Lohan or, you know, Macaulay Colton—Macaulay—uh, Macaulay Culkin's parents, who, like, you know, were just using their children's resources.

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** But this turned out to be for the better. Like, he invested it, 'cause they were leasing it out. Which is, like, what—you know, Macaulay Culkin's parents should've done. Like, invested their children's money. If they're gonna steal from their children, like, put it in the stock market! But—

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** —what do I know? I'm not a parent. But, um, this is what I would do. With my children's riches, I'd invest in it.

**Emerald:** Yes. Put it away.

**James:** So he—so essentially he was doing this because he couldn't pay the annual \$30 property tax. So he was like, "Ugh. I gotta make some money."

But two years later, after leasing it, uh, just, it—like, another oil driller, BB Jones—

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** —got a gusher. Like, a fu—[laughs] You like these names? "[through laughter] "Oh, BB Jones!"

**Emerald:** Yeah, right? [through laughter] BB Jones' Barbecue! [laughs]

**James:** BB Jones Barbecue and Oil Drillin'! They are—they're a lot of the businesses. Anyway, they struck fucking oil. It was—it was dubbed as a *gusher*. Not just a '90s, you know, fruit snack, but—

**Emerald:** Fruit snack. [laughs]

**James:** —also oil field. So it was gushing so much oil. Like, it was just, you know, jizzin' everywhere. So it had, like, 2,500 barrels, or 105,000 gallons a day.

**Emerald:** Wow.

**James:** Those are a lot of numbers that sound like a lot. Like, I'm not in the oil business, so I don't know, but that sounds like a lot.

**Emerald:** Yeah. That does. Oh my goodness.

**James:** So little Sarah, she—I almost called her little BB. I wish her name—now I wish her name was little BB. Wouldn't that be cute?

**Emerald:** Little BB. [laughs]

**James:** Little BB! [laughs]

**Emerald:** BB!

**James:** But her name is Sarah.

**Emerald:** Rich BB.

**James:** She got \$300—so, she was getting \$300 a *day*.

**Emerald:** Oh my God.

**James:** And, like, even—that's in 1913. Like, even now I'm like, "I would—\$300 a day? That's a lot of money!"

**Emerald:** Yeah, that is!

**James:** But that is equivalent, to today's standards, \$7,000 to \$8,000—

**Emerald:** [gasps]

**James:** —a *day*.

**Emerald:** A day?! Oh my goodness.

**James:** Yes. And there was even one day where she made the equivalent of \$11,567 in one day.

**Emerald:** [through laughter] Oh my God! She was rolling in it!

**James:** Roll-ling.

**Emerald:** At 12!

**James:** She had multiple wells, and she became a star. Obviously, like, this little, like, 11, 12-year-old black girl who's makin' all this money! She became a star. So, there were headlines written about her. Uh, I'll read you a few. [laughs] So, the Kansas City Star—remember what time period it is. [laughs quietly]

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** So the Kansas City Star—"Extra, extra! Read all about it! Millions to a Negro girl, [laughs quietly] Sarah Rector—

**Emerald:** [gasps]

**James:** —10-year-old, has income of \$300 a day from oil!" Long headline.

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness.



**James:** So, January 14th, *another* newspaper wrote, "Extra, extra! Read all about. Oil maid pickaninny rich Oklahoma girl [holding back laughter] with \$1,500 a month gets many proposals! Four white men in Germany want to marry the Negro child—"

**Emerald:** Ah!

**James:** "—that they might share her fortune!" [laughs]

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness!

**James:** All these—she's 12. [laughs]

**Emerald:** I know!

**James:** The Savannah Tribune wrote, "Oil well produces neat— [stammers]—oil well produces neat income! Negro girl's \$112,000 a year!"

It's like, we get it, she's black. Like—[laughs]

**Emerald:** I know! So, only one of those didn't mention that she's black, which is funny.

**James:** Um, so she was dubbed the richest Negro in the world.

**Emerald:** Wow.

**James:** Everyone was hittin' her up for money, obviously. Like, you know, when you hit the lottery, all of a sudden—she's got all these cousins, she's got all these people—[laughs]

**Emerald:** All the cousins, all the family members. Aunts, uncles...

**James:** It kinda reminds me—did you ever watch that movie *Blank Check*?

**Emerald:** No, I didn't.

**James:** On Disney? Yeah! Oh, well this is—this is in the Disney—Disney+. Definitely take a look. Um, this kid gets a blank check. It was one of my favorite movies growing up. He gets a blank check and he gets to just do whatever he wants. And, like, he—it's wild. But it just kind of reminds of, like, you know, children with this amount of money—like, this is dangerous. [laughs] So...

**Emerald:** [through laughter] I know! I'm so curious as to what she was doing with that money! Like, especially in these times, you know? Like, what was she doing?

**James:** Mm-hmm. And she's in, like, Oklahoma. Like, this is a little nerve-racking. Luckily, though, this is probably, I think—I gotta check the dates. Yeah, I feel like this is around the time with Tulsa, so there is a lot of other, like, black rich stuff going on as well.

**Emerald:** Okay, yeah, yeah.

**James:** So... but at the time... uh-oh, here comes the plot twist! We knew this was coming. We knew.

**Emerald:** Oh no...

**James:** Rich black girl with money, something bad is gonna happen.

**Emerald:** Right?

**James:** Here we are. Second act. At the time, a law required Native Americans or black adults and children who were citizens of Indian Territory with significant property, um, that their money was to be assigned to well-respected white guardians.

**Emerald:** [gasps] Oh my goodness!

**James:** Yes. They were essentially put into, like, what, you know—just to use a relevant, you know, equation, like, they're put in a conservatorship. So they're, like, the Britney Spears of their times. Like, they're an adult. They

should be able to run their lives, but their Dad is in charge of them. But this time, *white* daddy comin' in.

**Emerald:** White guys, comin' in. Managing the money that she earned.

**James:** Right! And you know—and it's just so f—I mean... you know, obviously, white people made this rule.

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** Because, like, they're like, "Oh, if you got all that money, we gotta—we gotta watch over it!"

**Emerald:** "We gotta do something about it." Right, yeah! "You don't know what to do with all that money. You live next to a Pasqually's!" [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] Oh my God. So, her guardianship went from her black parents to a white man by the name of T.J. Porter.

**Emerald:** Ugh! Gosh.

**James:** Yeah. So obviously, uh, you know, folks like Booker T. Washington and W. Dubois were very concerned about her welfare. The NAACP, um, had came out to fight for her. And they wrote in 1914, the Chicago Defender published an article claiming that her estate was being mismanaged by grafters. And, um, her quote, unquote "ignorant parents," and that she was uneducated, dressed in rags, and lived in an unsanitary shanty.

Like, this girl was rich. This is not what she should be livin' in. So the national African-American leaders, um—like, I said, like Booker T. Washington and W. Dubois, they became—they were concerned, and they were, you know, fighting for her. Um, and Rector and her siblings went to school in—[stammers] But I guess, like, none of the allegations were true. I don't know what that means. But anyways, there were rumors about her wellbeing and what was going on with her.

And her siblings went to a school in Taft, which was an all-black town. And they lived in a modern five room cottage, and they owned an automobile.

**Emerald:** Ooh!

**James:** And that same year, Rector enrolled—yeah, ooh! But they're, like, millionaires! What's going on?

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** Um, but then Sarah—she went to, um, a boarding school for teenagers at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. I want to see her Netflix series. Like, this sounds incredible.

**Emerald:** I know, it does.

**James:** You've got so many seasons you can do. 'Cause then you get, like—

**Emerald:** So many!

**James:** —she goes to school... yeah.

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm. And the climax, which you're not expecting, is like, "Oh yeah, wow! This series is ending so early and so happy!"

And then it's like, "No, people were put in charge of her money. Never mind!" You know?

**James:** Yep. Whoops!

**Emerald:** She's, like, living in a hole. [unintelligible 55:54]

**James:** Yeah! Ugh. So—but at least she has boarding school to, like, you know, save her. But by the time she was 18, she was worth an estimated one million dollars, which is about 11 million—

**Emerald:** Oh my gosh.

**James:** That's already a lot of money by then standards. But today, that's, like, 11 million dollars.

**Emerald:** Yeah, that's bananas. Crazy.

**James:** Yeah. She had stocks and bonds. Um, I think she owned a boarding house as well? A bakery, she owned the Busy Bee Cafe, a restaurant.

**Emerald:** Aww...

**James:** I love that she went to boarding school and was like, "I want one! I'mma run one! I own that!"

**Emerald:** Yeah. [laughs]

**James:** She had the audacity of a rich white man. Like, go—go, girl!

**Emerald:** Exactly.

**James:** Who, like, didn't—

**Emerald:** She's really a trailblazer.

**James:** Yeah! Like, oh, man. It just reminds me—I'm like, oh, this happens to white people all the time. Where they just, like, have money fall onto them. And they, you know. [laughs]

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness. And it's, like, news when it happens to someone black. It's like, "Oh my God! Hey, black person! Black person got some money!" [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] "Extra, extra! There was a black person who has money!"

**Emerald:** [laughs] "There's a little black girl runnin' around here with bags of money!" [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] So she had about 2,000 ac—2,000 acres of land, uh, which was prime river bottomland. Uh, she was a millionaire—

**Emerald:** Wowww.

**James:** —yeah.

**Emerald:** She said, "Fuck the 40 acres *and* your mule."

**James:** [laughs]

**Emerald:** "I'm gonna be by the river." [laughs] "Lakefront property."  
[laughs]

**James:** Yes. And then she eventually moved to Kansas City, Missouri. Uh, she bought a home that is still in existence today. It's called the Rector mansion of you're in KC. That's a cool place to, like, go to.

**Emerald:** Absolutely.

**James:** And then, she finds love in season—I guess it's, like, season three, season four. In 1922, she married Kenneth Campbell, who was the second African-American to own a car dealership. So they were like—she was goin' with, like, the—you know, bougie black people, which was where she should be.

**Emerald:** Right, exactly.

**James:** They had three sons. They were known as, like, local royalty, drove expensive cars...

**Emerald:** Ooh!

**James:** They would entertain the likes of Duke Ellington, Joe Louis—

**Emerald:** Oh, wow!

**James:** —Count Bassey... And then sadly they divorced in 1930. But she was not, like, about to just roll over and be like, "Woe is me." She got remarried in 1934.

**Emerald:** Oh, wow!

**James:** So I'm sure you're wondering, "Where are they now?" Well...

**Emerald:** Mm-hmm.

**James:** She's dead.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** She died at 65—[wheezes] She's dead. Which, I mean... [laughs] She died at 65, so kinda young, on July 22nd, 1967. She lost most of her wealth in the Great Depression, so—

**Emerald:** [gasps]

**James:** Sad, I know.

**Emerald:** That's so sad!

**James:** Yeah. But she did have working—

**Emerald:** Season finale.

**James:** —she did have—[laughs] She did have working oil wells and a real estate holding, so it wasn't she was, like, broke out on the street. She just wasn't as, like, rich as she was before.

**Emerald:** Mmm, yeah. Wow. That is bananas.

**James:** And that's—that's—that's the story of Sarah Rector! So, you—  
[laughs]

**Emerald:** Sarah Rector. Our own, like, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

**James:** I know!

**Emerald:** She got a golden ticket and she ran with it.

**James:** She did, she did.

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** She came over—she had adversity, but she powered through.

**Emerald:** Right. Can you imagine? I just feel like when you're that age, you could buy... so much.

**James:** Oh my God.

**Emerald:** So much. She was dreaming big.

**James:** Well, and she couldn't even get at her money until she was, like, later. Like, she didn't really do anything fun with it until she was, like, an adult. Like, and then she made some reasonable choices. So maybe it was good that, like—

**Emerald:** The bakery and stuff.

**James:** Yeah. Like, she's made—she had stocks and bonds. Like, she did really well with her money, so really, snaps to Sarah too, because I think that's also just kind of pause and look at that. Like, sometimes when you... you know, that's why people who win the lottery, sometimes they, like, lose that money so fast, 'cause they're not used to having that money, and they don't know how to, you know, use it responsibly.

Um, and so to go from, like, a family, a descendant of slaves who grew up—like, she was born in a little, like, shack, to being this business-minded—like, she—props to her, 'cause she, um... did really well with her money. Um, you know, the Great Depression? Not her fault! So—[laughs quietly]

**Emerald:** Exactly. That is a phenomenal story. That is so phenomenal. I love that she was just kind of like, "I'm an entrepreneur! Oh, you're gonna hold my money? That's cool." She was probably making plans for it while they were holding her money.

**James:** Oh, yeah, totally! She was like, "Okay, that's fine."



**Emerald:** She probably, like, had a little list written with a little crayon, 'cause she's only 12. [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] "I'm gonna invest—"

**Emerald:** Makin' plans.

**James:** "—I'm gonna invest in... pudding!" I don't know what was around in that time—

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** —but I feel like that's the kind of thing *I* would've invested in

**Emerald:** Right.

**James:** [laughs]

**Emerald:** In custard—custard pies. [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] "I'mma invest in hush puppies."

**Emerald:** [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] Now I know that was a thing of the time, because I remember reading the back of one of those American Girl books, um, that the black girl—I forget. She was, like, obviously fresh off a plantation, and she knew how to make hush puppies, so...

**Emerald:** Oh!

**James:** Yeah.

**Emerald:** Wow.

**James:** Did you ever read those American Girl books?

**Emerald:** No, I didn't.

**James:** Do you know the ones that was like—it was—there was a doll, and then a book that went along with them, and they were all, like, American girls from, like, different parts in history. And there was, like—the little black one was, like—[laughs]—freshly released from slavery or something.

**Emerald:** Oh my goodness!

**James:** They all kinda took place in, like, those times, and it was a way to, like, learn about history, you know?

**Emerald:** Yeah.

**James:** Like, but that was... that was the black one.

**Emerald:** If she knew anything, she knew how to make hush puppies.  
[laughs quietly]

**James:** Ye—[laughs] "If there was one thing that Sarah Beth knew, it was to make hush puppies."

**Emerald:** And knows how to make 'em damn good. [laughs]

**James:** [laughs] She'd burn.

[music plays]

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[gavel banging]

**Speaker One:** *Judge John Hodgman* won a Webby in the comedy podcast category. After ten years of production, *Judge John Hodgman* has finally won. The Susan Lucci of the Webbys. What is *Judge John Hodgman*?

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[gavel banging]

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[music plays]

**James:** Hey, y'all. Just me here. So, we finished the episode on Sunday when our biggest concern was what Joe Biden said. And fast forward to today, it's May 28th, 29th, riding on the cusp there. And you—you're awake, you're alive, you know what's happening, and you can quickly see why, you know, for many of us, we couldn't really give two shits about what Joe Biden said. The bad joke, the gaffe—you know, honestly, for black folks, that's the least of our fucking worries.

So I want to talk to you about... there were two incidents involving black men highlighting the systemic racism in this country, one resulting in the murder of, once again, an unarmed black man, and the other.. well, at least he's alive.

So... you know, we started off the episode talking about two high profile Karens. Meanwhile, another Karen out in Central Park, she called the police

on a black man, Christopher Cooper, who, let me just remind y'all, if you haven't seen it, he's very handsome.

Very handsome Christian Cooper, who—you know, his backstory has—he's been a gay rights activist. Uh, he's been on the board of directors of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, for GLAAD. He was an editor at Marvel. Uh, he brought—he brought us, uh, Marvel's first superhero who came out of the closet. He was a creator of Marvel's first lesbian central character, and he also created *Queer Nation*, the online gay comic.

He has also been an activist for marriage equality in New York, pounding the pavement, being a part of initiatives. He's also a Harvard graduate. And... he was just simply out bird watching in Central Park, in the Bramble.

So this is, like, bird watching while black, another thing that we can't do.

So he was out in the Bramble, uh, where avid birdwatchers go. That's where they be. And it's an area that has signs that say, "Dogs must be on leashes."

And he's there, minding his own handsome-ass business, bird watching, 'cause that's how he do, when this white woman was out there with her unleashed dog. Remember, you're not allowed to have unleashed dogs there. Just lettin' that dog run amok.

And he's an avid birdwatcher, as we said, and he cares so much about the leashing laws. He's also an activist. And her dog was just running around, and it could destroy the habitats of the birds.

And he says, you know, if the habitat is destroyed, we won't be able to go there to see the birds, to enjoy—to enjoy!

She refuses to leash her dog. He just tells her to leash it—or even go to one of the other fucking areas! She could just go somewhere else! It's a—Central Park is big!

No. It's too much of a bother for *her*. So, he said that he recorded the incident because he was worried about the possible violence against him. And that, like... it's a thing that these birdwatchers have been doing, that

they will film people who are breaking the law, essentially, to try to bring attention and justice to, you know, this area being destroyed.

This white woman did not like that. She worked herself into hysteria, and calls 911. Then she threatens to call the police. She's like, "[breathlessly] I'm gonna—I'm gonna tell them—" She—hysterical. "[breathlessly] I'm gonna tell them there's an African-American man threatening my life!"

That's what she says to him. And Christian Cooper didn't advance towards her or anything. He appears nonthreatening, as you can see in the video, and knowing he has the whole—like, he know—he was just filming her. He's like, "Hey, go ahead, tell them."

She does. She gets on the phone. She literally works herself into a frenzy! You can watch her do this! Hyperventilating and just putting on a fucking performance.

And this frustrates me, because... it just does a disservice to anybody, regardless of race or gender, who ever really is attacked. And she pulls this bullshit.

So she calls them, and she's like, "There's a—there's a black—there's an African-American man—" I guess she was polite enough to say "African-American man." Uh, then she's—"He's—he's attacking me! Send the police! I'm in Central Park!"

That's what she does. And... you know, when I read this story, uh, it was—it was maddening. And I look at his bio, and I thought, "Holy fuck. This could've been me."

I'm a blerd, like this guy. You know, I was just living in New York. I mean, these things can happen to any of us. Because of the color of our skin, it can literally happen to anyone.

This woman? Liberal voter, donated to Obama. She knew what she was doing so, you know... racism has no bounds. It happens all over this country, in every single political party.

She knew that her privilege as a white woman, who are the most protected class of people in this country since the dawn of *Birth of a Nation*, she knew that she could do and say that to get what she wanted. And this has been happening to black men for centuries, going back to Emmett Till.

And it's a miracle that, you know... it wasn't just the wrong NYPD officer didn't show up and decide that, "You know what? This guy is a menace, because he's black, and there's a white woman. White woman in distress!"

And having lived in NYC, and I've been on the other hand of the—of the NYPD a few times, like, it's a miracle that this man is still alive. This could've ended up very differently. This could've been me. It's Emmett Till all over again. This shit is still happening.

And then we cut over to Minneapolis. Like, these two stories, in the same fucking day! Where you have George Floyd, black man, who was allegedly being arrested for forgery, and there's things coming out about this story about how these cops actually knew him. There's a lot of information coming out. This is fucked up.

And he—and also, like, being arrested for forgery—like, he's just sitting in his car, writing a bad check? I don't understand.

So he's not resisting arrest. He gets pinned to the ground by an officer. There's camera footage, there's someone who's filming as well. The officer puts his knee into his neck... for, like, eight minutes? Along with two or three other officers who also have their knees on his back, on his body. He is pinned down.

And George repeatedly says, "I can't breathe. I can't breathe."

Sound familiar? Because just like Eric Garner before him, those would be his last words.

And I guess thankfully someone filmed this, because, you know, now action can be taken. And there's a huge debate right now with people who, you know—about, you know, reposting these videos and things like that. And on the one end... this is a whole other conversation. I do understand how

traumatizing this is, for black people specifically. Like, this is—it's really hard to see.

You know, they don't allow beheadings on—uh, a white guy gets beheaded, you know, by a terrorist organization or something, they take those off the internet, but then these are allowed to circulate.

And on the one end, you know, action was taken after Emmett Till's open casket. It was on the cover of Jet Magazine. It woke people up. And I guess we're still needing to be wo—wo—like, we still need to wake up. But... you know, are people getting desensitized by this?

So there is a—a caution and an awareness. We need to figure out a way of how we get this information out and get these stories out. 'Cause it does make an impact. And maybe, you know, people do need to be a little traumatized. Not necessarily saying for black folks, but...

Anyways, um, the Mayor of Minneapolis, who's a white man—he came out and he said, you know—he spoke the truth, and he was like, "Listen. You know if this guy was white, he'd still be alive."

You know who's still alive? Dylan Roof, who shot up a church of black folks. And allegedly, on his way home after being arrested, or on his way to—to jail, um, they stopped by Burger King because he was hungry.

So if you're looking for something to get mad about, here you go. Not Joe Biden's gaffe, to which—you know what? He apologized for. And Joe Biden has made several statements about—about what happened to George Floyd. You know, demanding a full investigations by the FBI. He's spoken to the hurt and the pain, and that this has opened up—it's this wound that is here in America that he's trying to heal.

The systemic racism that's just been here in our nation, that has led to the protests, which, as I speak, have erupted into—I don't want to use the word "looted," because it's just such a weighted word, used by, you know, conservative news sources against black people when we protest.

Like, again, look at what's happening for when black folks are protesting, because they're *killing us in our country*, and when white folks go out there and protest with their fuckin' guns... so they can, what? Go to their job and kill people by getting infected with this virus? When they should be protesting that their country is doing the right thing and protecting them?

So, yeah. You know, I mean, I guess they—these, you know, folks who were out there protesting, they acted out against a Target, and took a bunch of stuff. But you know what? I also look at this—like, this is the result of.. centuries long, not providing 40 acres and a mule.

People are upset, right? Because they consistently are being kicked and dragged and murdered by this fucking system. People are upset. So, let's not look at the cause of what's happened. Let's look at the symptom. That's what we need to heal.

And they've burnt down a police station. And... I—it's scary. I'm scared for them, I'm scared for folks. I know the backlash that this potentially could create. And meanwhile, Drumpf in a tweet tweeted out that these folks—that these—he literally described these folks as being "thugs." And essentially saying that he would send the National Guard down there, and adding that "When the looting starts, the shooting starts."

That's what the President of the United States said against his own citizens. His own black citizens. This was targeted. This was deliberate. Damn near an act of inflating Civil War.

I mean, it's treasonous! I mean, nothing new, Trump committing treason. I mean, the same guy who retweeted a New Mexico politician's video in which the man had said that the only good Democrat is a dead Democrat.

Those are half your constituents, if not more, sir! So, come November 3rd, either Joe Biden or Donald Trump will be President. Everything you do from here on out until the election will either be to help Drumpf get reelected, or to ensure that we maintain what is left of our very fragile and broken democracy, in an effort to begin to rebuild it. Either Joe Biden will be president, or Donald Trump. That is it. That is where we are.



So, if you're having trouble getting there, I'm gonna tell you. Acceptance is gonna be your friend. From a place of acceptance, you can then move into helpful action, and you'll probably feel better about life, and you'll feel more empowered. So it's like, take—if you're struggling, take back your power and get in the fight! And—and please stop getting in the way of those of us who are doing the work, because we don't wanna see him get elected. Those are our only two options!

And we can't wait around for someone to inspire us. You gotta inspire yourself. You gotta look out the window and see what's happening to your brothers and your sisters and your fellow Americans and say, "This is not okay."

That should be enough. There are a myriad of reasons and causes to get involved in the most important election in a lifetime. What you do or don't do, it matters.

So find a cause. Pick a Senate race. You can adopt a state. I just adopted—I'll link it in the show notes. You can adopt a state. Uh, organizing together, and Vote Save America are making it so you can organize, you can volunteer, straight from your couch, and volunteer in a swing state.

They're gonna train you up. There are things you can do. So what are you actively going to do to make sure that that man is not reelected? Either get on the bus or get out of the way. I just—me personally, I don't have the bandwidth or the energy... [sighs] to fight this thing from all different angles, between other Democrats and Republicans and Russians and Republicans. It's exhausting, all while just trying to live my black, gay life.

Bugs. That's how he sees black people. His citizens. So if you're looking for something to do, we have an opportunity to make a massive change in this country on November 3rd. And while that might not magically fix everything, one candidate will continue to hurt marginalized people, and the other acknowledges it and has the opportunity, and will work to let the healing begin. To put in legislation, stand—stand up to white supremacists, and put in an Attorney General that will actually try these murderers with badges.

You have such passion and talent, and we can be using that to put our voices toward the Joe Biden campaign, pushing him further to the left, which is already going there. We can be putting our energy into who we want to see as Attorney General, who we want to see in his cabinet, the kind of legislation that we want to see having done.

That's helpful! That is power! You have that power. We have that power to shape where this country is going to go.

We get one shot at this. What you say matters, what you post matters. Everything you do or don't do has an effect, and will either let this white supremacy stand under Donald Trump... or to help ensure that he is removed from office, and we can work to restore black folks the right to a dignified life in America.

There is now a line in the sand. You are either on the true movement, or you're not. It's time to put our small differences aside and see the big picture. Cooperative collaboration is the key to life! It is what adults do. We negotiate, we collaborate, we work together. You don't always get what you want. But fuck it, that's what being a minority is! Like, we don't—we're on the minority! We don't always get what we want, but we're able to—to use whoever, whatever, to leverage power, to leverage change, until we're able to get our actual champion in the arena.

To move that needle forward towards a future that we might not ever see. Just as those who came before us did for us.

So, it's time to come together, y'all. Stronger together. It's not about you, it's about us, and who stands the most to lose.

It's time to be an adult. It's like Beyoncé said, we need to get in formation, y'all! Because I'll tell you this. They keep killing us, and every time I forget I am a second class citizen in this country, I am swiftly reminded.

I get so numb to these, time and time after again, and this one—I'll tell you, this—this one broke me. It was hard to get out of bed. The two coming at it—you had two very... you had two black men, and they had two different outcomes, but they could've been the same, and that could've been me.

I honestly haven't cried this much since Eric Garner. This one fucking hurts. And so, we have to come together.

So, in the meantime, if you are looking for immediate action, like I said, you, uh—adopt a state. Adopt a state. Adopt a state. There are swing states that we need to adopt.

Find what it is that you are going to do in the next six months, now. Pick it now. People's lives are in the balance. And I know that you might feel powerless, or you don't know what you can do. You have power. Own your power. Take it back.

And in the meantime, if you're looking for something you do, you know these murderers are—are, I believe at this point, not... in jail. You can text "Floyd" to 55156 to demand that the officers that killed him are arrested.

Um, you can also email—I'll link this in the show notes. Um, but you can email, uh, Hennepin County DA Office at [citizeninfo@hennepin.us](mailto:citizeninfo@hennepin.us). Demand the officers are arrested.

You can donate to the Floyd Family, or the MN Freedom fund. That's @MNFreedomFund. Um, they'll be collecting funds to bail people—uh, the protesters out of jail.

This one was from Shaun King. You can go to [justiceforbigfloyd.com](http://justiceforbigfloyd.com), click on the link, and then you can fill out the super petition there.

Um, and that's just some of those things. And also, um, figure out what you're doin' for the election, because... there's something right there. And I'll just tell you this, Joe Biden is right. Listen, if you ain't—if you ain't sure who to vote for, you ain't an ally.

You know what's bad for business? Bad policing, 'cause this is what happens. Shit's gonna get burned down. And sometimes, I might misspeak or we might misspeak, but the system is broken.

But Dr. Adrian King tweeted out, "Just a reminder: the system in what is currently known as the US isn't broken. It was down by male white supremacist slave owners on stole Indigenous land to protect their interests. It's working as it was designed."

That doesn't work for me, and it shouldn't work for you, either. Let's get in the arena. Let's change this. Let's make sure that the next generation does not have to deal with this, because we still have to.

This is our mission, is to end this. Once and for all.

[music plays]

**James:** Alright! Well, that is the show! Ah-ha, there we are. That is the show. Um, no fact check today, 'cause it looks like we're running a little bit long. Everything I said was perfect and wonderful! Uh, right.

It was so great to have Emerald here. I hope wherever you are, that you are safe and that you are healthy, and that, um, you are loved, and that you're taking care of yourself.

There's a lot that's happening here. There is so much that's happening here, and I am grateful for you. I'm grateful for you, the listener, that has been here over the past four years. Maybe this was your first episode. It doesn't matter. I'm just grateful that you are here, and that you are part of the conversation. You're part of the community, and we are here to support you.

So let me know how you're feeling about things. You can tweet at us @minoritykorner, with a "K."

If there's something that we need to know, as you can see. Our main Korner topic came from one of our listeners today, so definitely tweet at us. Uh, it definitely takes a village here at *Minority Korner*. Let us know what we should be talking about here on the show!

You can also email [minoritykorner@gmail.com](mailto:minoritykorner@gmail.com). We're also on the Instagram.

And, there you have it. Also, who would you fan cast in... the story of the little rich oil girl? The little rich black oil girl? Who would you cast in that? I wanna know. That's the question. Uh, tweet at us.

And also, let us know if there are different ways that we can be out there in the community, actively helping. You can also join the Facebook group, the *Minority Korner Kids'* Playground, a really great group with great discussions that are happening there, a safe space for us to engage.

So, I know there's a lot. There's a lot happening in this episode, but there's a lot that's happening in the world, and it's all stuff that we can handle. That's what we're here to do. We're on a mission.

So, I love you all so much! Have a great, fabulous, wonderful week, and thank you all listening to *Minority Korner*, because together, we're the majority.

[music plays]

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