

00:00:00	Music	Transition	Gentle, trilling music with a steady drumbeat plays under the dialogue.
00:00:01	Promo	Promo	Speaker: <i>Bullseye with Jesse Thorn</i> is a production of MaximumFun.org and is distributed by NPR.
00:00:13	Music	Transition	<i>[Music fades out.]</i> “Huddle Formation” from the album <i>Thunder, Lightning, Strike</i> by The Go! Team. A fast, upbeat, peppy song. Music plays as Jesse speaks, then fades out.
00:00:21	Jesse Thorn	Host	It’s <i>Bullseye</i> . I’m Jesse Thorn. Bobby Moynihan was just a kid when he first tried out for <i>Saturday Night Live</i> . And by that, I mean he had his mom go get the camcorder. She did her best Don Pardo impression as a very young Bobby opened the door for the bathroom in a fancy suit. That video did not get him the job. In fact, they didn’t even submit it to Lorne and the team. They probably just showed it to some aunts and uncles. And also, you know, teenage Eddie Murphy aside, <i>Saturday Night Live</i> , not really a show for kids.
			But as you probably know, Bobby Moynihan eventually did get on <i>Saturday Night Live</i> . He starred on the show for nearly a decade. He did some impressions, but his strength was portraying off-beat characters—ones not necessarily rooted in the headlines of the day. Just loveable doofuses that only Moynihan could play. Like maybe his most popular drunk uncle.
00:01:19	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:01:20	Clip	Clip	<i>[The audience laughs regularly.]</i>
			Drunk Uncle (Saturday Night Live): <i>[Slurring.]</i> When I was a kid, \$5, you could get—you could get hotdog, milk, bread, cigarettes, television. Nowadays, it’s just, “Is this gluten free?”
00:01:35	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:01:36	Jesse	Host	Moynihan left the show in 2017. He did some voice acting. He’s appeared on shows like <i>Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt</i> and in movies like <i>The Secret Life of Pets</i> . Recently, he played Jayden Kwapis on the sitcom <i>Mr. Mayor</i> . He’s also started writing. There’s <i>Loafy</i> , a series of shorts about a cartoon, drug-dealing manatee. <i>Lightning Wolves</i> , which launched earlier this year on Comedy Central’s YouTube. It’s an adult sendup of late 20 th century animated shows like <i>Captain Planet</i> and <i>Transformers</i> .
00:02:08	Sound Effect	Transition	Music swells and fades.
00:02:09	Clip	Clip	Music: Exciting rock music.
			Speaker (Lightning Wolves): The omniverse has called on me—uh, us—for protection for our home planet of Selltoyz! Lightning Bolts, combine!
00:02:20	Sound Effect	Transition	All: Wheeeee! Music swells and fades.
00:02:21	Jesse	Host	And now, Bobby Moynihan has a picture book. <i>Not All Sheep Are Boring</i> is about sheep and how sheep actually live rich, interesting lives, with hobbies like drinking coffee or metal detecting or pasta

eating. Well, I mean, maybe not all sheep lead rich, interesting lives. Some sheep are just sheep. We'll talk more about it later.

[Music fades in.]

I'm really thrilled to get to talk with Bobby Moynihan for the show. Let's get into it.

00:02:49	Music	Transition	Jazzy synth interspersed with cheering.
00:02:53	Jesse	Host	Bobby Moynihan, welcome to <i>Bullseye</i> . It's nice to have you on the show.
00:02:56	Bobby Moynihan	Guest	Thank you for having me!
00:02:57	Jesse	Host	Why did you wanna write a children's book?
00:02:59	Bobby	Guest	Why not? You know?
00:03:00	Jesse	Host	Yeah, sure. <i>[Laughs.]</i> I think there's probably children's—
00:03:03	Bobby	Guest	<i>[Pleasantly.]</i> Alright! I'll see you later!

[They laugh.]

00:03:04	Jesse	Host	—children's book authors right now who are listening and they're like, "It's my life!"
00:03:07	Bobby	Guest	Like, "You son of a <i>[censored]</i> ." <i>[Laughs.]</i> No, I wanted to—I wanted to write a story. I had a story in my head, and I wrote it down. And I want my daughter to read it someday.
00:03:20	Jesse	Host	How old's your daughter?
00:03:21	Bobby	Guest	Five.
00:03:22	Jesse	Host	When I read kid's books with my kids—the youngest of whom is now five—I found myself getting really mad at children's books for being bad.

[Bobby chuckles.]

Because kids will just accept that, 'cause they haven't read any other books. But then I also had the feeling—like, when I would read a good one, I would be like, "This is the greatest thing in history."

00:03:53	Bobby	Guest	Yeah! It's that, too. It's knowing that you'll be a part of something really—I mean, like I think we all have—hopefully, we all have like—I remember my mom reading me Richard Scarry's bedtime books. And the last line of the book was, "Wait a minute! I gotta go get a glass of water!" I remember. You know, it was like a thing that like I did with my mom before we went to bed, and it's something I hold dear. And like, the fact that you could create something that could make another family do that is nuts. It's a fun, interesting thing.
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[Laughs.]

00:04:25	Jesse	Host	Did you read it to kids when you were writing it?
00:04:29	Bobby	Guest	No! It's funny. I'm realizing now, I don't think I've read it to a child, yet. Out loud.
00:04:36	Jesse	Host	<i>[Giggles.]</i> That's chutzpah!

[Bobby agrees with a laugh.]

Do you think, prospectively, that the gags will work?

00:04:43	Bobby	Guest	Yeah! I hope, yeah! I mean, like they—yeah. Yeah! <i>[Laughs.]</i> I hope they do.
00:04:48	Jesse	Host	Who doesn't love a <i>Caps For Sale</i> parody.
00:04:51	Bobby	Guest	<i>[Confused.]</i> Yeah! I'm not even sure what that is. Caps for sale?

00:04:54 Jesse Host There's a page in your book that is a parody of the book *Caps For Sale*. You know, "Caps for sale! Caps for sale! 50 cents a cap!" And then the monkey steals caps, and then he shakes his fist at them, and they shake their fist at him. And—it's the tree from *Caps*—one of the sheep in your book loves hats.

00:05:12 Bobby Guest Yeah, no, I don't know the reference! But yeah, just a sheep that loves hats.

[Jesse laughs.]

Just the whole joke is that all sheeps are—I'm saying that all—I mean, the whole joke, to me, was not all sheep are boring, but I'm saying they kind of are. Like, you start off going like, "Oh, this one's interesting!" And then as the book goes on, the sheep get more boring. *[Laughs.]* And then the frog falls asleep!

00:05:36 Jesse Host Did you have like a file in your phone that was types of sheep you had thought of?

00:05:43 Bobby Guest No! I had the—I had the idea. I thought it was funny—of people count sheep to fall asleep and why is that? And I just thought, you know, sheep are boring. And I thought it would be funny to start explaining that, you know, not all sheep are boring. And then to realize at the end that they were, and I was wrong, and I fell—well, the toad who is the narrator falls asleep, because he's wrong. And he puts himself to sleep, 'cause sheep are so boring.

00:06:11 Jesse Host *[Laughs.]* Do you have a favorite sheep that you created for the book?

00:06:14 Bobby Guest Uh... sure! Pierre is—I just like the idea of—there's one named Pierre who we don't talk about. He's hiding behind a tree. He has some secrets.

00:06:27 Jesse Host *[Laughs.]* I did like the one with secrets.

00:06:28 Bobby Guest We don't know a lot about Pierre. I didn't realize that you had seen it! So, I had no idea! I didn't know anyone had seen it. Also, by the way, it's crazy—I'm realizing now, all I do is silly improv podcasts, so I came in very under prepared. I was like ready to be insane.

[Jesse laughs.]

And it feels like it's—I forget that there's—this is like a real interview show.

00:06:51 Jesse Host I'm known as the Scott Aukerman of public radio.

[They laugh and Bobby playfully congratulates him.]

Like, I expected you to come in here and do a character while I'm vaguely hostile to it.

00:07:01 Bobby Guest I think what I—*[breaks into a laugh]*. I think what I—I think what I'm realizing is that's all I do! That's all I do is show up and say, "Hi, I'm Batman."

[They laugh.]

And then be crazy for an hour. I very rarely go like, "Oh! You read a book that I wrote? Oh no! I wrote the book in my bathroom one day?!" Like, that's what I did over the pandemic! It was fun. It was—I tried to write all day and ended up in a bathroom writing.

00:07:27 Jesse Host I feel like Aukerman's "yes, and" is more of like a, "Neh. Mmm. No."

00:07:33 Bobby Guest *[Laughs.]* That's—I—yeah! But that's the whole fun of that show is it's just insane. Like, it's my favorite place to go, 'cause you can just be very silly. Silly wins at *Comedy Bang Bang*. At least in my experience.

00:07:49 Jesse Host I mean, I think that there are a lot of your characters—not just on the silly comedy podcast, *Comedy Bang Bang*, but also on *Saturday Night Live*, that are basically excuses for you to be goofy and silly. Like—

[Bobby agrees and laughs.]

There are some with more—like, some have more concept than others. Some have more sort of specific jokes than others. But mostly, it's just a setup for you to go like, “Do-dodo-dodo” in some ridiculous way.

00:08:20 Bobby Guest I think I just like playing people who are having a good time, even if they maybe shouldn't be. Or they're just—they're happy. I like playing people who are living their life.

[They laugh.]

00:08:37 Jesse Host Is that aspirational for you? Or representational? Like, do you think that's what you're like in real life?

00:08:41 Bobby Guest Yeah! I mean, like—yeah. I think so. I feel like—yeah, I feel like—I feel like Seth Meyers said to me once like—and I just remember thinking like that was a real piece of advice that I should remember in this moment was he was just like, “Whenever you, personally, are having like a blast, people love it.” And I was just like—I feel like that, to me, was something that I went—I had never—no one had ever really said that to me. And I went like, “Yeah!” Like, I feel like that's when I'm at my best too is like when I would be having a blast with him, doing Drunk Uncle. And like, I got to improvise a little. Which like, you're not allowed to do. But it was like—because you did it with Seth, Daddy said it's okay. *[Laughs.]*

00:09:37 Jesse Host So, like that. Him saying that offhanded sentence to me one night behind the Update desk during a rehearsal, and I just went like, “Oh! Okay. Maybe if I do that.” *[Laughs.]*

I mean, there is something about *Saturday Night Live* that carries that really well, because it's so—you know, the reason the show is live is because it—you know, it reinforces that fresh connection between the audience and the performers, that like everyone is in this crazy thing that the cast is trying to do. Which is do 7000 sketches in a row over 90 minutes, live on television, that they've prepared over the course of six days. And like, there's a certain amount to which just having the audience rooting for you and having a nice time with you is essential.

00:10:16 Bobby Guest It was also currency. And like, you also needed it there. I mean, like it was a place where like that—when that was happening, when you were killing, that's—you were contributing.

00:10:31 Jesse Host Now you sound scared.

00:10:33 Bobby Guest *[Laughs.]* 'Cause I—it's funny, I don't talk about *SNL* that much anymore, and I've been away from it for so long now—five years, and like I have a daughter, and it's so different that it's—and I've had a lot of therapy. So, like it's very—yeah, I'm in a very different place with it. So, it's—when I start to think about it, I think about it a lot differently.

00:10:54	Jesse	Host	In what way?
00:10:58	Bobby	Guest	It meant everything. At the time, it was everything. I had wanted it my whole life, and then I was there, and I was in it, and it was hard to process, and everything was going on, and I was in love and getting married, and a lot of other stuff. And then, the second it ended, it was like life kicked in. And I got married. I had a kid. And like all that. So, to look back now at five years and go like, "Oh! It was—like it was a job!" Like, it was a job that I had. And like, to now just look at it in a completely different light is crazy. I don't know if crazy's the right word. It's so much less crazy now than it was then, to me.
			But it's also a billion percent more crazy, because it—I saw a video recently of a guy—you see a guy... I'm not sure where it is, but it's like a real foggy day, and he's going across one of those like—it's like a glass bridge or like a suspension bridge that has like wood planks and it's just rope and it's super, super, super high up. And he's got a harness. It's like one of these things you do where you put a harness on and you—like a tourist—
00:12:00	Jesse	Host	I don't do those things, but I understand what you're—yeah.
00:12:01	Bobby	Guest	Well, a tourist thing. Like you know, where you like run across this bridge, and it's like—it's super, super high up. And he does it. But right as he gets to the other end, he realizes he's not clipped in. So, his safety harness was never clipped in, and he just ran across it without even thinking. And he makes it across! But then he's not clipped in, and he's kind of like, "Oh! I made it!" And like, that's how I—I saw that, and I was like, "That's how I feel!" <i>[Laughs.]</i> I was like—I look back— <i>[clears his throat]</i> . Excuse me. I look back now, and I just—like, I—if I see anything with it now, I see a little kid who was just running full speed through his Toys-R-Us shopping spree that he won. And now, I think back, and I go like, "That was crazy!" <i>[Laughs.]</i> Like, I can't believe I made it out okay.
00:12:49	Jesse	Host	Even more still to come with Bobby Moynihan. When we come back from a quick break, we will talk about what life is like after the pressure cooker of <i>Saturday Night Live</i> . It's <i>Bullseye</i> , from MaximumFun.org and NPR.
00:13:02	Music	Transition	Thumpy rock music.
00:13:07	Jesse	Host	Welcome back to <i>Bullseye</i> . I'm Jesse Thorn. If you're just joining us, I'm talking with Bobby Moynihan. Bobby is, of course, a veteran of <i>Saturday Night Live</i> . He starred on that show between 2008 and 2017. He's also been on shows like <i>Mr. Mayor</i> , <i>Ducktales</i> , and <i>Nature Cat</i> . He just published his first ever picture book. It's called <i>Not All Sheep Are Boring</i> . It's out now. Let's get back into our conversation.
			Most folks that I know who are doing sketch and improv as—you know—20-year-olds and 28-year-olds, it's because their life is built around the dream of what if I got on <i>Saturday Night Live</i> . You got on <i>Saturday Night Live</i> , and then you have to figure out—and <i>Saturday Night Live</i> is all-consuming. And then you have to figure out like—
00:13:57	Bobby	Guest	Navigating the rest of your life after that
00:13:58	Jesse	Host	Yeah, like who am I?
00:13:59	Bobby	Guest	Which was the insane hard part, yeah.
00:14:01	Jesse	Host	"If I'm not just ambition and then being in a maelstrom of having achieved this dream—?"

00:14:08 Bobby Guest It's funny, Seth Meyers—another thing I remember him saying—which was the night—my last—well, I don't know if you wanna call it that. But like the—I did Ask Cat right before like the week—the Sunday before my first *SNL*. And he just offhandedly was just like, "Oh, welcome now to just—the rest of your life, just slights for the rest of your—tiny slights for the rest of your life, and just always being *Saturday Night Live's* 'blank'." And he was just like, "That's it. For the rest of your life, you are *Saturday Night Live's* Bobby Moynihan. That's—no matter what you do, that's how you'll be introduced for the rest of your life." And like, he said that, and I was like he's absolutely right. No matter what—I'm here to promote a book. I'll talk about *SNL* the whole time.

00:15:10 Jesse Host And that's all I wanna talk about! Well, all I wanted to talk about when I was a kid. Now, it's funny to be at a point now—even when I was on *SNL*, that's all I wanted to talk about. And it's crazy to be at a point where I'm like, "I'm okay not talking about it so much."
00:15:12 Bobby Guest *[Laughs.]* But like at the same time, it just changes. It changes. Was it your life's dream?

Yeah! I mean, yeah! Yeah. I have videos of me as a little kid, dressed up in a suit, hiding in the bathroom. And my mom going, "Bobby Moynihan!" And me like coming out of the bathroom and like pretending to like *SNL* opens. I told Lorne that, and he was like, *[in an aging, dismissive voice]* "I don't care."

[They laugh.]

00:15:55 Jesse Host He was like, "Weird." But like yeah. Yeah! Like, I would listen to it on the bus. Like, I had the—I would tape the audio of the 25th anniversary and just listen to like that audio tape on the bus. I think I was just a comedy fan or just like weird fan. Liked weird more than anything.

I wanna play one *Saturday Night Live* sketch. I didn't wanna just do Bobby Moynihan's *Saturday Night Live* greatest hits, but this is one that I really loved, which is—*[chuckling]* it's this—it's this guy whose name is—I did not know—I had forgotten his real name. His full name. Which is Kirby J. Buttercream. *[Laughs.]* But he's a spaceman on a spaceship. And all he talks about is missing his cat. Yeah. The J stands for jellicle.

00:16:28 Bobby Guest *[Struggling not to laugh.]* So, this is—this is them trying to land a spaceship I think on Mars.

00:16:31 Jesse Host Music swells and fades.

00:16:36 Sound Effect Transition

00:16:37 Clip Clip *[The audience laughs regularly.]*

Captain: Kirby, O2 levels?

Kirby J. Buttercream: I miss my little kitty cat.

[The audience "aw"s.]

Sometimes, I'll put a little hat on him and pretend he's a little man! My little businessman. And then I give him a little kiss. *[Kiss sound.]* A little business kiss!

Captain: Kirby, I need you to get your head in the game! Okay, son? We got a lot of prep before we set down on that big, red rock. And I need you to focus.

00:17:13	Sound Effect	Transition	Kirby: Copy that, Captain! <i>[Sighs.]</i> I just miss my little kitty cat. Music swells and fades.
00:17:14	Jesse	Host	<i>[Struggling through laughter.]</i> So dumb! I just—I was watching it, imaging you like at a table read, having to sell it to a bunch of just like—with that—like, you desperately wanted to just say, “And then I’ll act dumb.” But actually, you have to do it!
00:17:37	Bobby	Guest	Yeah, no I did it on TV! <i>[Laughs.]</i> Live television!
00:17:40	Jesse	Host	Doing it on TV somehow seems easier to me!
00:17:44	Bobby	Guest	Oh, you’re 100% right. It’s much easier to do the show than table read. But yeah, no, I like doing weird stuff like that.
00:17:54	Jesse	Host	<i>[Still laughing.]</i> I love that <u>so</u> much.
00:18:15	Bobby	Guest	You said that you only realize now what you learned on <i>Saturday Night Live</i> that you can use in your career now. What were those things? What’s one of those things that you realized you learned? Um... I learned that I’m a much more like professional actor than I thought. I think I always have said like, “Oh, I’m just a silly idiot. And like, that—I think I like did that, but like now I’m starting to realize I’m not. I’m an adult who went through this business and did a lot of crazy things and came out on the other end. And that’s—I have more confidence in myself as a professional, you know—it’s not show up—I can’t just show up and half-ass it. You know? A lot of times, I’m at a job, and I have to remind myself. I’m like, “You’re not at <i>SNL</i> . You were there ten years. This is not those people.” You know? Like you can’t act the way you maybe acted there, sometimes. You know?
00:19:28	Jesse	Host	Like, it’s like—it got very easy to work at a place. You got very comfortable. But yeah! I think now, it’s like—it’s funny to just like show up to your job and go home. And like, feel confident about it. And like, you know, just—I don’t know. I learned—it’s hard to say it out loud. I think I learned like, “Oh! I’m better than I thought!” Meaning like—or I learned a lot more than I thought. I’m a more professional actor than I thought I was.
00:20:23	Bobby	Guest	One of the things that I imagine—you can tell me if I’m wrong—is that when you’re on <i>Saturday Night Live</i> , it is so compressed, so intense to make an entire show in a week, that you are just constantly having to step out onstage with really high stakes and do—you know, do a dumb voice and talk about your kitty cat and hope that people like it. Right? You have to do that over and over. And one of the big things about showing up to a job where you’re gonna work three days and you don’t know anybody or whatever, is every time you do that—if you’re gonna be successful at it—you have to have that same conviction. Like, you have to go for it or it’s not gonna work.
			Yeah! <i>SNL</i> is one of those places where you just like—it’s that very simple question of like, “All we’re asking you is to be completely, undeniably great. You know?” <i>[Laughs.]</i> And it’s just like, oh, okay! Got it! Like, you know? I saw a clip recently of—I don’t even know what it was for, but it was Jack Nicholson winning some award, and I think he had something in him or something. Like a couple in him

or something. He just didn't have it. And we was like, "Robin!" Who had also been nominated but lost to Jack Nicholson. He was like, "Robin," to Robin Williams. He was like, "Get up here. You're better at this."

And then, Robin Williams just gets up and destroys for six minutes straight. But it was like a sad moment where I was just like—a more powerful person pointed at Robin and said, "You—dance, monkey!" And he was like, "Got it!" And he was so undeniably prepared. But then they couldn't stop him! And then they're trying to go on, and he's still going. And it's like watching—like, it's like well, you brought the lion in! Now, you want the lion to calm down? *[Laughs.]* Like, it was a fascinating thing to see as an adult. Like, see Robin Williams—I don't know. It just hit me as like a woah! That was nuts! They just went like—Jack Nicholson went like, *[gruffly]* "Get up here and dance!" And it was weird. I don't know. Just it felt a lot like *SNL*. *[Laughs.]*

00:21:47	Jesse	Host	Was there anything—when you were working on those last two sitcoms—that you wanted to ask John Larroquette or Ted Danson?
00:21:55	Bobby	Guest	Yeah! But I got to ask them all of it, because they're the best. They're the greatest.
00:21:58	Jesse	Host	What were they? What did you wanna ask them?
00:22:00	Bobby	Guest	Well, I asked—well, John Larroquette, I didn't have to ask anything, because he just told great stories. In the short time that I had with him, he was very wonderful to me and just had—he was the kind of guy who you would just be like, "What'd you do this week—" He'd be like, <i>[lowly]</i> "What'd you do this weekend?" And I'd be like I went to the magic castle! And he'd be like, "Oh, I once saw someone strangle Natalie Wood at the magic castle."

[Jesse laughs.]

00:22:37	Jesse	Host	And you're like what?! <i>[Laughs.]</i> He just has fascinating stories. And Ted Danson was the opposite, where it was just like Dad. I felt like he was TV dad. Like, he was just like—he was great, and— You just feel like he—I interviewed him like a year ago, and I was just like I guess he's just really got Ted Danson figured out. Like, he feels so there and centered and calm.
00:22:49	Bobby	Guest	Yeah! I learned that. I learned how to—I learned that like it's much better off. I think <i>SNL</i> —I had a very chaotic energy. I realize my energy—there's sometimes like I see people who I haven't seen since I was on <i>SNL</i> , and they're like, "Well, you're so much slower now." <i>[Laughs.]</i> And I'm like yeah! Yeah, I know! It was a chaotic time. But Ted Danson—no, Ted Danson's the guy that taught me like just every two hours, just have like some turkey and an apple.

[They laugh.]

00:23:22	Jesse	Host	And I've said that in every interview. That's the best thing I've learned from Ted Danson. I mean, it's not something you could not do after Ted Danson tells you to! Right?
00:23:26	Bobby	Guest	Yeah! Also, it worked. It's fantastic. I'm great now.
00:23:29	Jesse	Host	I mean, you look gorgeous, just like Danson.
00:23:30	Bobby	Guest	Thanks! Thank you. I'm much taller.
00:23:33	Jesse	Host	Yeah! You look like you're getting a lot of fiber and some protein.

00:23:36 Bobby Guest I look like every single person from *Cheers* smashed together.

[*Jesse bursts into belly laughter.*]

00:23:46 Jesse Host That is not far off, I don't think.

00:23:48 Bobby Guest I was just sitting here thinking you had a Rhea Perlman quality.
I can play every single person on *Cheers* except for Ted Danson's part.

00:23:56 Jesse Host [*Laughs.*] You'd make a great Coach, now that I think of it.

00:23:59 Bobby Guest Coach—yeah? Soon, yeah, I can't wait.

00:24:00 Jesse Host Do you think you could do—?

00:24:02 Bobby Guest Norm? Cliff?

00:24:03 Jesse Host Harry Anderson? Do you think you could be Harry Anderson?

00:24:05 Bobby Guest Yeah. I'm—yes. I know I have a lot of magic and Mel Tormé facts.
Harry Anderson, was he on—?

00:24:10 Jesse Host Wade Boggs? Do you think you could do Wade—yeah! He was on—he was recurring on *Cheers*.

00:24:15 Bobby Guest As? The judge from *Night Court*? Was it a crossover?

00:24:18 Jesse Host As a magician who would wander into the bar and do magic tricks.

00:24:21 Bobby Guest But it wasn't the same—he didn't then become a judge.

00:24:23 Jesse Host No, I don't think it's an expansion of that character.

00:24:25 Bobby Guest I'm just wanting that to happen so bad.

00:24:26 Jesse Host I think he had a whole life outside of *Night Court*. In general.

00:24:29 Bobby Guest I doubt it. Doubt it.

00:24:30 Jesse Host Both in terms of his work and his—just his regular life. I don't think he just—I think the Mel Tormé thing was something they created for *Night Court*. I don't think—

00:24:38 Bobby Guest I disagree. I think it was a real thing and Harry's a real judge.

00:24:40 Jesse Host [*Playfully.*] Really?

00:24:42 Bobby Guest And everything from my childhood is real.

00:24:44 Jesse Host Okay. He was very funny, and *Night Court* was very funny.

[*Bobby agrees.*]

00:24:50 Bobby Guest It'd be very funny if that was a real judge.

00:24:52 Jesse Host Roz, everybody was great.

00:24:57 Bobby Guest I mean, I don't know that—it seems like it would be inappropriate if he was a real judge.
Not at night. It's *Night Court*, man. Anything goes. That was the whole point of the show.

00:25:01 Jesse Host Just 'cause it's like a crazy version of a regular court.

00:25:04 Bobby Guest Yeah, it's night! Can't [*inaudible*] day court. You get crazy at night.

00:25:07 Jesse Host I've only ever been to day court.

00:25:09 Bobby Guest Yeah, exactly. See?

00:25:10 Jesse Host So, I guess I didn't know.

00:25:11 Bobby Guest You ever go night bowling or like disco bowling?

00:25:14 Jesse Host Right, and there's all the lights and the—

00:25:15 Bobby Guest Same thing.

00:25:16 Jesse Host Okay. And they play the music.

00:25:19 Bobby Guest Yup.

00:25:21 Jesse Host Yeah, I guess. 'Cause when I was at regular court, the bailiffs were—

00:25:27 Bobby Guest All the bailiffs at *Night Court* are nine feet tall and bald and hilarious.

00:25:31 Jesse Host Yeah, regular sized bailiffs at day court.

[*Bobby laughs.*]

			In full hair.
00:25:35	Bobby	Guest	Yeah. They start off as old ladies, I think. And then—
00:25:37	Jesse	Host	Not sassy at all.
00:25:38	Bobby	Guest	And then, all of the sudden become a giant man without any explanation.
00:25:41	Jesse	Host	Uh-huh. Um.
			<i>[They chuckle.]</i>
			Every time you have brought up <i>Saturday Night Live</i> , you have laced the story with—you have told it avuncularly. You have told it fondly. And you have dropped in terror about not being great all the time.
00:26:07	Bobby	Guest	Yeah! That sounds about right. I'll take that.
00:26:11	Jesse	Host	What's it like to live without that?
00:26:14	Bobby	Guest	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Without what?
00:26:16	Jesse	Host	Without the edge of—
00:26:18	Bobby	Guest	Oh, it's fantastic! But it's also like—I think like even—even now—like when you were saying that earlier. Okay, it's that too. It's—I'm on a podcast. I don't do—I don't love talking about myself. When I was saying earlier like I would much rather come in here and say I'm Batman and do something stupid than go in here and be like, "Mmm, my book that's coming out is about sheep that—" You know, and like it feels weird! And different! That feels more vulnerable, I guess, to come do that. But especially when I talk about <i>SNL</i> and stuff, like it's all so personal and strange. But then it's also like the second I mention somebody else's name, it's like, "Oh god, did I—now, is that gonna be a problem!?" Or you know, it's all that that comes with it.
			But also, I'm at a point now where I go like, "No, I loved <i>SNL</i> ! But it was—I realize now that like my—the reason why I was there for nine and a half years is because I was someone who could take a beating really well. <i>[Laughs.]</i> Like, an emotional beating really well, and keep moving on and keep doing it.
00:27:28	Jesse	Host	You mean IRL or onscreen?
00:27:32	Bobby	Guest	Somebody who could just—I think one of my strong—I think it's less about comedy at that place and just surviving. Surviving—mentally surviving what the hell is happening. Like, one day you're in a comedy club dreaming of something, and then you're on a mechanical bull with Tom Hanks, and you're like, "Huh!?" <i>[Laughs.]</i> Like, what happened?! Like, there's... I realize now that I had—I was somebody that was conditioned to do that, to be able to go, "Hey, Jason can't make this. Get on live TV right now. Put on his suit and just go read those words." And you go got it! And then, afterwards, you panic. And like, that I was good at. I was good at just going and being funny 'cause I didn't know any better.
00:28:23	Jesse	Host	Do you feel proud about it?
00:28:24	Bobby	Guest	Yeah! Super proud!
00:28:27	Jesse	Host	Stick around! More <i>Bullseye</i> around the corner, from MaximumFun.org and NPR.
00:28:34	Promo	Clip	Music: Fun synth.

Dave Holmes: Oh my gosh, hi! I'm Dave Holmes, host of the pop culture trivia podcast, *Troubled Waters*. On *Troubled Waters*, we

play games like Motivational Speeches. And it goes a little like this. Riley, give us an improvised motivational speech on why people should listen and subscribe to *Troubled Waters*.

Riley Silverman: I look around this ad, and I see a lot of potential to listen to comedians such as Jackie Johnson and Josh Gondelman, and they need you to get out there and listen to them attempt to figure out sound rebus clues or determine if something is a *Game of Thrones* character or a city in Wales!

Dave: I have chills. I'm gonna give you 15 points.

[Ding!]

All that and so much more on *Troubled Waters*. Find it on MaximumFun.org or wherever you choose to listen to podcasts. Thumpy rock music.

00:29:18	Music	Transition	
00:29:22	Jesse	Host	This is <i>Bullseye</i> . I'm Jesse Thorn. I'm here with Bobby Moynihan of <i>Saturday Night Live</i> , <i>Ducktales</i> , and more. He's also the author of a new children's book, <i>Not All Sheep Are Boring</i> . Let's get back into our conversation.
00:29:41	Bobby	Guest	If you had chaos energy when you were on <i>Saturday Night Live</i> , do you feel peaceful now? I'm—in like... I just said this to my wife, recently—which is like <i>SNL</i> —like, there's that terrifying moment where you have to push the boat away from the shore, and you're not sure if the boat's gonna break. And I feel like I'm at—like at the—like right about to get to the other side of that lake, and I—but I didn't realize I was that close. Like, as far as like <i>SNL</i> goes, where like instead of like, "Oh my god, what am I gonna write this week? Oh my god, you know, [babbles] what do they think of this?" And like, now I wake up and just go like, "We did it!" Like, my kid's five. This is great. I got a house. I'm gonna go do this job. Like, this ain't so bad! This is nice. I'm enjoying this now! [Laughs.] Instead of just panicking all the time.
00:30:32	Jesse	Host	When you have a child, you kind of have to learn how to—especially as a small child. You have to learn how to be present in a way that you just can't keep running.
00:30:40	Bobby	Guest	Since the moment my daughter was born, any problem I had at <i>SNL</i> seems extremely silly. And every problem at that time felt monumental and... important. And now, it's like, "Oh, I made it! I made it through that to get to here." I guess.
00:31:03	Jesse	Host	Are you at peace with the part of show business which is that you—
00:31:06	Bobby	Guest	[Laughs.] This is getting so deep! And I—am I at peace with show business?!
00:31:11	Jesse	Host	I mean, if you wanna do Batman, we can do that after.
00:31:13	Bobby	Guest	I wrote a book about dumb sheep. [Laughs.] Sheep that are so boring, they can't even keep a frog awake. And now—wait, I'm sorry. Ask me your question again.
00:31:25	Jesse	Host	Are you at peace with the part of show business where you don't know if you're gonna have a job tomorrow?
00:31:31	Bobby	Guest	Um, that's funny that you say that. I mean, like I was on <i>Mr. Mayor</i> , and that got canceled. And that was a very unexpected thing for me. Not necessarily—maybe unexpected—yes. It was very unexpected. I was also very bummed. I loved working with those

people. But it's the first time—you know—since *SNL*, like I had a very long run where—you know—you have that main job, but then you—it's the first time where I can go—I've been able to go, "You're on other cartoons and you're on all this stuff," but there is definitely a time—it's not guaranteed. And that's a good reminder to have, because it was a fantasy. It was an *SNL* fantasy camp. It was space camp for ten years. And now it's family and life and reality.

00:32:18 Jesse Host But you'll always have your *Nature Cat* money.
00:32:20 Bobby Guest Always! 'Til the day I die. I kept it all—I keep it right next to Jay Leno's *Tonight Show* money.

00:32:27 Jesse Host *[Laughing.]* I was about to make the same—!
00:32:31 Bobby Guest I bought the bank box next to his.
00:32:33 Jesse Host Never touch your *Nature Cat* money, just live off the sitcom money. Well, Bobby Moynihan, thank you so much for taking all this time to talk to me. I've loved your work for so long; it's really nice to get to meet you and talk to you.

00:32:48 Bobby Guest Thanks! Same here!
00:32:51 Jesse Host Bobby Moynihan. Thanks to Bobby for coming in and sharing so much with us. His new book is called *Not All Sheep Are Boring*. You can get it now from your local bookstore.

00:33:00 Music Transition Thumpy synth with light vocalizations.
00:33:03 Jesse Host That's the end of another episode of *Bullseye*. *Bullseye* is created from the homes me and the staff of Maximum Fun, in and around greater Los Angeles, California. We had a tropical storm in Los Angeles the other day. As if there *[chuckling]* wasn't enough evidence here that God is mad at us. Anyway. It turned out to be not that bad.

The show is produced by speaking into microphones. Our senior producer is Kevin Ferguson. Our producers are Jesus Ambrosio and Richard Robey. Our production fellow at Maximum Fun is Tabatha Myers. We get booking help from Mara Davis. Our interstitial music is by DJW, also known as Dan Wally. Our theme song is called "Huddle Formation". It's by The Go! Team. Thanks to The Go! Team and to Memphis Industries, their label. Go! Team, great band. Go check out their records.

Bullseye is also on YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook. Find us in all of those places. We share our interviews there. You can share them

00:34:12 Promo Promo Just remember: all great radio hosts have a signature signoff.
Speaker: *Bullseye with Jesse Thorn* is a production of MaximumFun.org and is distributed by NPR.

[Music fades out.]