

00:00:00	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
00:00:02	John Hodgman	Host	Welcome to the <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast. I'm your judge, John Hodgman. This episode was recorded live at the Neptune Theater in Seattle, Washington. It was the second stop on our frontier justice tour of the west. So, let's go to the stage at the Neptune Theater.
00:00:23	Jesse Thorn	Host	<i>[Audience cheers and applauds.]</i> Seattle, you've come to us desperate for justice, and we're here at the Neptune Theater to deliver it. Let's bring out our first set of litigants. Please welcome to the stage: Sam and Angela! <i>[Cheers.]</i> Tonight's cause: "PAUSE-ABLE DENIABILITY". Sam brings the case against his girlfriend, Angela. Angela and Sam used to watch a popular food reaction video series together. One day, Sam discovered Angela watching a new episode without him. <i>[Gasps and murmurs from the audience.]</i> He says they had an unspoken agreement to always wait to watch new episodes together, but Angela says she did nothing wrong. Who's right? Who's wrong? Only one can decide. Please welcome Judge John Hodgman as he enters the courtroom and delivers an obscure cultural reference. <i>[Cheers and applause.]</i>
00:01:25	John	Host	<i>[Stage whispering.]</i> It's a mouthful of spiders!
00:01:33	Jesse	Host	Bailiff Jesse Thorn, please swear them in! Sam, Angela, please rise and raise your right hands. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God or Whatever?
00:01:41	Sam	Guest	We do.
00:01:42	Angela	Guest	We do.
00:01:43	Jesse	Host	Do you—thank you for speaking for each other. <i>[Laughter.]</i> Do you swear to abide by Judge John Hodgman's ruling, despite the fact that when we were in Port Townsend last night, we made a local reference to the spoonman from the song "Spoonman" by Soundgarden, and he was not familiar with the song "Spoonman" by Soundgarden? <i>[Laughter. They confirm.]</i>
00:02:12	John	Host	Judge Hodgman, you may proceed. I know, I know. But I certainly know what Detlef Schrempf is. That's a small car in Holland.
00:02:18	Jesse	Host	<i>[Chuckling.]</i> Yeah. 100%, that's a joke <u>he</u> pitched.
00:02:23	John	Host	Angela and Sam, you may be seated for an immediate summary judgement in one of yours favors. Can you name the piece of

culture that I quoted as I entered this courtroom? I'll repeat it for you, 'cause it was a little short. "I have a surprise for you! It's a mouthful of spiders."

00:02:39 Sam Guest
00:02:41 John Host

Sam? What's your guess?
It sounds like *The Goonies*.
Sounds like *The Goonies*. How dare you, Sam?

[Laughter.]

Make a reference to CANNON BEACH! In Washington State!

[Applause and cheers.]

[Shouting over the crowd.] You're all out of order! *[Bangs the gavel.]*
You're all out of order!

00:03:06 Angela Guest

I do my best. Angela, I do my best to gather all these local references. I do my best. Angela, what's your guess?
Well, I was gonna go even further, because I thought it sounded very whimsical, like something by Roald Dahl?

[John echoes the name.]

00:03:16 John Host
00:03:18 Jesse Host

No connection to Washing State I could think of, whatsoever.
No, and—
What could be more whimsical than *[laughing]* a mouthful of spiders?

00:03:24 John Host

[Laughter.]
I'll give you another hint. Here's another quote from the same person. "I like Necco wafers, because it reminds me of chewing on bones."

[Scattered laughter.]

00:03:37 Angela Guest

Any last guesses? Yes? No? Maybe so?
Is this one of Washington State's famous serial killers?!

00:03:45 Jesse Host
00:03:46 John Host

[Laughter.]
That's possible.
I didn't think—I didn't think it could get more problematic than Roald Dahl!

[Laughter.]

00:03:56 Jesse Host
00:03:57 John Host
00:03:58 Jesse Host
00:04:01 John Host

But not far off, in a certain way!
I've got a hint for them.
Please.
This is a very close friend of mine, daddies.
[Beat.] All guesses are wrong! Let the record show they are out of guesses and out of words. Of course, this case revolves around a YouTube channel that you like to watch. Not long ago—it's actually about five weeks ago, I had the flu and then pneumonia and then gout and then covid. And then, I had my wisdom teeth taken out. And during this time, I too took refuge in YouTube—the comfort of a

show called *Good Mythical Morning*—which I did not know at the time featured our friend and yours, Jordan Morris, as the benign cotton candy—cotton candy-bearded demon known as Cotton Candy Randy.

00:04:46 Jesse Host He really lives in a liminal space between benign and malign.
00:04:50 John Host Yeah. *[Chuckles.]* When I saw Jordan Morris wearing a cotton candy beard with cotton candy eyebrows saying that he was a demon from Hell, I thought it was a fever dream. Turns out to be true! So, since you could not guess that reference, let's go onto the case.

00:05:10 Sam Guest Who, among the two of you, comes here seeking justice?
00:05:12 John Host I am seeking justice, your honor.
00:05:13 Sam Guest And you would be Sam?
00:05:14 John Host I would be Sam.
00:05:17 Sam Guest And what is the justice that you seek?
00:05:26 John Host So, your honor, Angela and I like a specific YouTuber. His name is Tim the Tat Man. He streams—
How much did he pay you?

00:05:30 Sam Guest *[Laughter.]*
Not enough.

00:05:34 John Host *[Laughter.]*
He didn't pay you to buzz market his—? Multimillion dollar-making YouTube channel? On our podcast.

00:05:35 Sam Guest He did not. He did not. It's all—it's all passion.
00:05:43 John Host You just love—you just love Tim the Tat Man.
00:05:46 Sam Guest Love his content.
00:05:47 Jesse Host Sam, we know you're an influencer influencer.

00:05:51 Sam Guest *[Laughter.]*
And he has a video series where he streams on YouTube, and he reacts to food TikToks. And it's very funny. It's—I don't have TikTok, but it's just as crazy as you can imagine. You know. Deep frying bacon twinkies and just the craziest things.

00:06:13 John Host Tim the Tat Man does this?
00:06:15 Sam Guest He watches—yes.
00:06:16 Jesse Host No, he watches them. It's as crazy as you can imagine.

[Laughter.]

00:06:21 Sam Guest A guy watching TikToks.
So, naturally—*[a beat as the laughter continues]* so, naturally, while we're eating dinner, we watch another person react to other people cooking.

00:06:35 John Host Right. And I presume you video yourself reacting to Tim the Tat Man reacting.

00:06:40 Sam Guest *[Laughs.]* That's the next step.
00:06:41 John Host I mean, how do you even know that you're alive if you don't?
00:06:44 Sam Guest And so, we watched maybe 20/25 episodes together consistently. Every—

00:06:52 John Host Okay. Over 25 nights or one night?
00:06:55 Sam Guest Over probably about a month and a half.
00:06:58 John Host Okay, so it was like a dinner date.

[Sam confirms.]

00:07:04 Sam Guest Okay. And then what happened? One day, you came home.
00:07:05 John Host Your honor, it was—
00:07:06 Sam Guest You're welcome.
It was a tough day for me.

[Laughter.]

00:07:13 John Host I finished work a little later than normal. And—
Can I just say that you're America's greatest storyteller?

[Laughter.]

00:07:17 Sam Guest I appreciate it.
00:07:18 John Host I'm really—I'm really on the edge of your—I'm hanging on every
word.
00:07:22 Sam Guest So, finished work a little late. Angela's already kindly cooking
dinner. And I say, "Ange, there's a new video! I'm so excited to
watch with you."
00:07:32 John Host I'm feeling the excitement too!
00:07:34 Jesse Host You know what? I'm swept up right now in the power of love.
00:07:38 Sam Guest Yeah. All love! And we—she looks at me, and she goes, "Oh, I'm so
sorry, I actually watched it earlier this afternoon."
00:07:50 John Host Devastating. Devastating.
00:07:55 Jesse Host You got—you got cucked by the Tat Man!

[Laughter.]

00:08:01 Sam Guest And I was in complete disbelief. My reaction at the time was I
looked at her and just said, "There's no way!"
00:08:11 John Host How would I know that was—how would I know that was your
reaction if it was not filmed for me to watch later?
00:08:18 Sam Guest [Laughs.] And you know, it was just—I guess you could say a
miscommunication?
00:08:24 John Host Well, let me ask Angela. You were watching this thing together with
Sam. Why did you—why did you watch Tim the Tat Man out of
turn?
00:08:35 Angela Guest Because we had already kind of set a precedent for me watching
things out of turn, because we also watch *Great British Bakeoff*,
which I think is much more—much more serialized, and he is
completely fine with me—
00:08:47 John Host Mm-hm. More narrative. Mm-hm.
00:08:49 Angela Guest Yeah! And you know, every week, someone else goes off, so
there's actual spoilers.
00:08:53 John Host Hang on, let me ask the master storyteller. Would you say that it's
more narrative than—?

[Laughter.]

00:09:03 Angela Guest More serialized or more narrative, would you say? Is there a
difference?
It—you know, when you see the four contestants leave the tent, it's
tough. So. You wouldn't—you wouldn't want that spoiled. You
know?
00:09:13 John Host That's the only reality show where they actually came to make
friends. That's so sad!

00:09:20 Angela Guest *[Laughter.]*
So, like, there's actual spoilers in that, and he's perfectly fine with me watching that ahead of time. And I assumed it would be very similar, cause we already—I already had like his express permission to watch that.

00:09:32 John Host You felt that you had tacit permission to go ahead and—right and watch it.

00:09:35 Angela Guest Yeah. Because something that I would be more bothered by watching ahead of, he was completely fine with me doing.

00:09:43 Jesse Host Angela. Angela, I didn't hear—in—earlier, on the moth, I didn't hear you—

[Laughter.]

00:10:05 Angela Guest I didn't hear you say, "I'm excited to watch it with you. No spoilers." I heard the man of 1000 voices characterize you that way. How would you characterize what you said?

00:10:23 John Host "Oh, I've already seen that! I'm cool to watch it with you again." I was like, "Oh! I've seen that, but yeah, let's watch it together." I didn't—I did not think that—one, I didn't think that it was like the most recent one, because when I was—you know. Timeline—! Let's go back—!

00:10:25 Angela Guest Let's go back to like—

00:10:26 John Host In dismay.

00:10:27 Angela Guest Let's go back to when I was watching it. I was on my lunch break, and I was just—

00:10:31 John Host Before we go back, if I may, Angela. I'm sorry to interrupt you. I'd like to get a sense of what this Tim the Tat Man is all about. So, I believe we have a clip of Tim the Tat Man.

[Laughter and scattered applause.]

Before we play it, how many of you are familiar with Tim the Tat Man?

[One enthusiastic audience member claps and cheers.]

Okay.

00:10:50 Sam Guest *[Laughter.]*
Tough crowd. Tough crowd.

00:10:53 Jesse Host By the way, thank you to Tim the Tat Man for coming to the show tonight. *[Laughs.]*

00:11:04 John Host Let's take a look at Tim the Tat Man and, in the style of *Family Feud*, show me Tim the Tat Man!

00:11:11 Clip Clip **Speaker:** Let's do some cooking.

[The rest of the video is punctuated with rhythmic cooking noises, like stirring, sizzling, and chopping.]

Tim: I like this guy, 'cause he always makes a beat out of the sounds. Is that butter?

Oh.

Is this a crepe?! Orange? What is that? WOAH!

I don't know about that. I don't really like orange flavor that much.
Sir, that's on fire. Okay, that presentation was lit.
[Laughter.]

00:11:59 John Host

00:12:10 Jesse Host Wow. So, just so—just so that I can clarify...
00:12:11 John Host We're dinosaurs.
00:12:12 Jesse Host There are two—
We're done.

[Laughter and applause.]

00:12:23 John Host The real money is in identifying ingredients.
For the audience at home, you will be able to see this clip and I
guess you will now all be ardent subscribers. Go and smash that
like button over at Tim the Tat Man if you—

00:12:35 Jesse Host What I saw were—
Wait, hold on.

[John agrees.]

00:12:42 John Host We wish Tim the Tat Man all the best, as we do all the tat men.
What I saw were two people—two guys in different windows. One of
them was making some crepes that looked very delicious and had
edited the video so that it had a certain kind of rhythm to it as he
was cooking, which took work. And then, the other guy...

[Laughter.]

00:13:05 Angela Guest Is just talking about it.
00:13:09 John Host The other guy was going, "Woow!" Which one of those two is Tim
the Tat Man.
00:13:18 Angela Guest The wow guy.
00:13:19 John Host The wow guy! And Angela—Angela—
00:13:22 Jesse Host Can I just say—? Can I just say—?
00:13:23 John Host *[Emphatically.]* Excuse me! Excuse me, Bailiff Thorn!
00:13:24 Jesse Host Woow!

[Laughter.]

00:13:29 John Host Excuse me. You're right, there is an art to it. There is an art to it.
Angela, I have here a piece of paper that I've printed from the
internet reporting that Tim the Tat Man is estimated to make
\$10,000,000 a year. Can you verify this?

00:13:48 Angela Guest I believe that's true, yeah. I believe.
00:13:49 John Host You believe that is true. You will verify that?
00:13:52 Angela Guest Yeah. I could—I know he has a—
00:13:55 John Host Well, goodnight.

[Laughter.]

00:14:07 Jesse Host I guess, woow?
00:14:11 John Host I just wanted to announce that this is the last episode of *Judge John
Hodgman*.

[Laughter.]

00:14:37 Sam Guest
00:14:40 John Host

And from now—from now, our show is simply going to be me reacting to Jesse eating food. It will be fully mic'd, and it will be called *Miso-JJHO-Phonia*. Smash that subscribe and like button. Wow.
I could see, though, why you would be willing to watch that again. I mean, it bears repeated viewings.

[Laughter.]

00:15:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk

You learn more and more each viewing. It's sort of like a puzzle that you're unpacking. But hey, people like what they like. And you like this. I bet it's a lot of fun to watch, 'cause I bet you feel like Tim the Tat Man's a lot of fun and he's your friend. Right? He feels like your friend? Okay. You can say yes.

Angela: Yeah—

00:15:03 Angela Guest

Sam: Yes.
I mean, what we really enjoy doing is being like—you know, are we reacting in the same way as he is? Or is he being really picky about something that we're not? So, it all then comes under this conversation that we both have about food and our likes and dislikes and how did he not know that that was a crepe? Or like—yeah.

00:15:21 John Host

So, you have—you have—you have disputes with Tim the Tat Man sometimes.

[Angela confirms.]

Could you bring him on this show so that—?

[Laughter.]

00:15:54 Sam Guest
00:15:56 John Host

Can you get to him? I want to do good. Okay, so, you watched this episode and you offered to watch it again, 'cause you thought it was no big deal. And you thought it was no big deal because you had already been watching the *British Bakeoff—Great British Baking Show*, whatever continent you're in. And so, what was your reaction to that?

00:16:01 Sam Guest
00:16:02 John Host

The *British Bakeoff* or—?
No, the whole thing. You just felt crushed. You didn't watch it again with her, did you?

00:16:04 Sam Guest
00:16:07 John Host

I did not.
When did you first submit this case?

About a year ago.
A year ago. I have it here, on a piece of paper, printed that you submitted this case December 13th, 2021. I also have it written here you've not watched any more Tim the Tat Man since then.

[Surprised laughter from the audience.]

00:16:18 Angela Guest
00:16:20 John Host
00:16:25 Sam Guest

That is correct.
Why have you not watched more Tim the Tat Man?
I would like to respond to that first, your honor. Um.

[Laughter.]

So—

00:16:30	John	Host	Usually, they do.
00:16:32	Sam	Guest	So, I have maintained this entire time that if the defendant were to apologize and say, "Hey, I made a mistake. You know, we were in this routine. It was our thing. We were watching it together. I'm sorry. I shouldn't have watched it," I would forgive her completely, and move on like it never happened. However—
00:16:55	John	Host	Because that would be a—that would be a caring and mature thing to do.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
			And since she did not offer you that care and that maturity, you've refused to watch your special show ever since.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:17:09	Sam	Guest	Out of <i>[inaudible]</i> .
00:17:12	Jesse	Host	Well, she— John, you say that like you've never emotionally blackmailed your partner over a TikTok reaction.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:17:19	Sam	Guest	She responded, though, and said, "I do not think I did anything wrong. But I'm sorry about the situation."
00:17:28	John	Host	Oooh! Ooooooh!
00:17:31	Angela	Guest	<i>[Sheepishly, laughing.]</i> That's not exactly what I said!
00:17:33	John	Host	Well, I mean, I kind of feel like it's interesting language. I mean—no, I mean, I think that that's—I'm not against that formulation, necessarily. What did you—what's your recollection what you actually said?
00:17:47	Angela	Guest	I was like, "I apologize. I had no idea that this was going to bother you so much. I, going forward, will not do this again. It's not a big deal to me to have someone, you know, watch something ahead of me. But I understand that that is—you know, that is something that bothers you. So, I'm sorry. I don't exactly feel the same way, so if you wanna watch things ahead of me, you have—you know—every choice and liberty to do so. But um, yeah. I'm sorry."
00:18:14	Jesse	Host	Sam, have you ever watched something ahead of Angela?
00:18:17	Sam	Guest	I have not.
00:18:19	Jesse	Host	<i>[Snorts.]</i> Is that true?
00:18:20	Angela	Guest	I can't think—
00:18:21	John	Host	Let the record show that the litigant is extremely proud of himself.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:18:28	Angela	Guest	Yeah, besides things that he's showing me for the first time that he wants me to see or listen to, no. I can't think of anything where he has watched ahead of me. Which is why I communicated if you ever want to, it's not something that I—it's not something that bothers me, and it's not something I'm offended by.
00:18:46	John	Host	Angela's recounting of the way that she dealt with it sounded like a pretty good apology to me. Do you say that she is misrepresenting what she said?
00:18:58	Sam	Guest	You know, with the live audience onstage, um, she's giving it a little more sincerity.
00:19:06	John	Host	She finessed it?
00:19:07	Sam	Guest	A little bit.

00:19:10 John Host *[Laughter.]*
She sweetened it up a little bit?

00:19:11 Sam Guest It was probably somewhere in the middle.

00:19:13 John Host We'll never know exactly what she said, because memory is a sieve, and it's just a narrative of its own, if you will. If I may say so, master storyteller.

[Laughter.]

And also—and I apologize, children—you didn't *[censored]* record your reactions to each other so that we would know! We would know, now! I hope you learned something. Let me ask instead, since we won't know for sure, how did what she said make you feel?

00:19:49 Sam Guest It was nice, but not as genuine as I was hoping for.

00:19:55 John Host Genuine! That's a strong word, 'cause that would suggest that she's being insincere. Is that really what you're saying? You're known as a person who chooses his words very carefully.

[Laughter.]

00:20:07 Sam Guest I would say I think over time, she has softened a bit. But at the time, she was like, "I didn't do anything wrong. So, I think you are maybe being too upset. You're overreacting."

00:20:24 John Host Did you say that same was overreacting?

00:20:28 Angela Guest Yeah. I was like—

[Laughter.]

This doesn't—! Like—! *[Laughing.]* I did say, "This is an overreaction. But if you feel really strongly about it, I won't do it again." Like—

00:20:41 John Host And how did being told you were overreacting make you feel, Sam?

00:20:46 Sam Guest Uh, not great.

00:20:47 John Host Mm-hm. What would be your ideal ruling if I were to rule in your favor, Sam?

00:20:55 Sam Guest My ideal ruling would be that the defendant apologize for watching that episode and that I cannot wait to watch more episodes together with her in the future.

[The audience "aw"s.]

00:21:12 John Host Sentiment will play no part in this.

[Laughter.]

00:21:17 Jesse Host We are justice bots!

00:21:20 John Host Moments ago, you were yelling at me about Oregon coastal geography.

[Laughter.]

I don't think I'm going to listen to you. Angela, what would you have me rule if I were to rule in your favor?

00:21:33 Angela Guest That we can watch them together again, 'cause I really enjoyed it!

[“Aw”s.]

00:21:39	John	Host	Honestly! It was so much fun.
00:21:43	Angela	Guest	Without saying anything further? I don't know. I just wanna know if I was truly in the wrong for how I reacted and what I can do better next time, 'cause I did not think it was that big of a deal, but clearly it was. And I don't want to hurt his feelings like that anymore! But—
00:21:56	John	Host	Would you say that Sam is still overreacting?
00:22:01	Angela	Guest	<i>[The audience goes wild.]</i> I mean... he was very clearly hurt! <i>[Laughing.]</i> I just don't wanna like—everyone is different, and everyone has different things that—you know—different weird lines in the sand that they don't want other people to cross. And part of what I've learned living with him for the last two and a half years is where those lines are. This happened a year ago, and I think I was a little less aware of where those lines are. And now, I know this is a line not to cross!
00:22:37	John	Host	<i>[Chuckles.]</i> And I crossed that line! Like— You know what? You're right. She is insincere!
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:22:52	Jesse	Host	I believe I've heard everything I need to in order to form my verdict. I'm going to step off the stage for a moment. I'll be back in a moment with my decision. Please rise as Judge John Hodgman exits the courtroom.
			<i>[Cheers and applause.]</i>
00:23:08	Angela	Guest	This is a—this is a very rich vein. Angela, how are you feeling right now about your chances? <i>[Laughing.]</i> I don't know! Maybe... maybe I ask people to be a little tougher than they actually are? And that's not a good thing? <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:23:21	Jesse	Host	<i>[A cheer from the audience.]</i> How are you feeling, master monologist Spalding Gray?
00:23:27	Sam	Guest	<i>[Laughter.]</i> I'm thinking it's a tossup. 50/50.
00:23:31	Jesse	Host	Yeah. Either she was a little mean to you, and you were right to destroy the thing you love...
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
			Out of spite.
			<i>[Beat.]</i> Well, we'll see what the judge has to say about this.
00:23:52	Sound Effect	Transition	<i>[Laughter.]</i> Three gavel bangs.
00:23:55	Jesse	Host	You're listening to <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> . I'm Bailiff Jesse Thorn. Of course, the <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast, always brought to you by you: the members of MaximumFun.org . Thanks to everybody who's gone to MaximumFun.org/join . And you can join them by going to MaximumFun.org/join .

The *Judge John Hodgman* podcast is also brought to you this week by Wild Grain. Now, I had this experience the other day.

00:24:26 John Host I love to hear about an experience from you, because you're my friend and I care about you. And usually, they're pretty interesting. And there's often a lesson behind them.

00:24:35 Jesse Host I had an in-law at my house.

00:24:37 John Host Here we go.

00:24:38 Jesse Host Of course, I have three children and a wife—who is her own human being, not just a person who's judged in relation to me. My in-laws, not their own human beings. They're only defined by—yeah.

00:24:49 John Host They're only judged by—they asked for it!

00:24:51 Jesse Host And I was making dinner. I had a nice vegetable. I had a nice protein. And I felt like I needed something else. And that's when I remembered that in my freezer, I had a gorgeous loaf of sourdough bread from the good folks at Wild Grain. I preheated that countertop oven, tossed it in there. 20 minutes later, I had the perfect third piece of my meal. Everyone thought I was very fancy when, in fact, I'm just a podcast host who gets frozen bread in the mail sometimes.

00:25:24 John Host It's that part of February where we're starting to dream of spring. And all the glorious culinary bounty that springtime brings us, including delicious sourdough bread, fresh pasta, artisanal pastries. Wild Grain is sending them right to your door. It's the first ever baked and frozen subscription box for breads, fresh pastas, artisanal pastries. And you'll never run the risk of getting bored. They're always—you know? You know how you get bored sometimes, Jesse?

[Jesse confirms.]

Not with Wild Grain! You're not gonna be bored, 'cause they're always adding new, seasonal and limited time special items to try. And every item bakes from frozen in 25 minutes or less. You're gonna look like a fancy person to your in-laws. Plus, for every new member, Wild Grain donates six—count 'em, six—meals to the Greater Boston Food Bank. So, you can eat good and do good all in the same lunch.

00:26:16 Jesse Host Plus, for a limited time, you can get \$30 off the first box, plus free croissants in every box when you go to WildGrain.com/jjho to start your subscription.

00:26:27 John Host You heard him! Fresh *[with a French accent]* croissants in every box! And \$30 dollars off your first box when you go to WildGrain.com/jjho.

00:26:38 Jesse Host That's WildGrain.com/jjho or you can use the promo code JJHO at checkout.

The *Judge John Hodgman* podcast is also brought to you this week by Babble!

00:26:50 John Host I got it, Jesse. I got the bug. I got the travel bug.

00:26:53 Jesse Host I know. We went on tour, and now all I wanna do is leave the house.

00:26:58 John Host Aaaaall I wanna do is leave the house! You know. If you are with me, of a mind to travel as safely as possible to some of the places that you haven't been for a long time or have never been before—like Mexico City. Jesse gets to go with his mom. I'm very, very jealous.

Or maybe, Venice, Italy, if you're lucky enough to get over there. Or maybe, you're a Yale football player who's been banking up all this Indonesian language lessons, finally you wanna go use them. You're gonna go play some recreational football in Indonesia. I don't know where you wanna go. Maybe you're not gonna go anywhere. Maybe you just wanna talk to your neighbors who have a—who speak a different language than you do or just to do something fun with your brain that isn't the spelling bee.

00:27:45	Jesse	Host	You can do it all with Babble. With Babble, you only need ten minutes to complete a lesson. So, you can start having real-life conversations in a new language in as little as three weeks. We all have little chunks of time in our day that we're probably filling by worrying about something or shooting fruit into a puzzle of some kind. I don't know how that game works. We're frittering it away. We're frittering it away.
00:28:06	John	Host	Frittering away our noontimes, suppertimes, chore times too!
00:28:09	Jesse	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> It's just that thing from <i>The Music Man</i> . The point is that Babble is not only a productive way to use that time, it's a fun and satisfying way to use that time. Look, if you wanna sit down and Babble for 90 minutes, you're gonna have a great time too. But when you got 10-minute lessons, they're easy to fit in, and all of the sudden you'll realize that your language skills have grown exponentially.
00:28:38	John	Host	Right now, get up to 55% off your subscription when you go to Babble.com/Hodgman . That's Babble.com/Hodgman for up to 55% off your subscription. Babble, language for life.
00:28:52	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
00:28:55	Jesse	Host	Please rise as Judge John Hodgman reenters the courtroom and delivers his verdict.
00:29:08	John	Host	<i>[Cheers and applause.]</i> Note to the audience, you don't have to stand up. <i>[Laughter. Someone in the audience yells, "Yes, we do!"]</i> <i>[Chuckles.]</i> I worry about your knees, honestly. But thank you. As I said earlier and should have saved for now: we'll never know exactly what Angela said. But I think that it's obvious that Sam felt hurt and, more importantly, Sam felt that his feelings were not valid, because you said, "You're overreacting." <i>[Softly.]</i> Which he was. <i>[Laughter.]</i> But! The truth is people like what they like. And I know, from being up at two o'clock, three o'clock in the morning with 101 fever and/or debilitating chills that I <u>really</u> needed to see Cotton Candy Randy. I <u>really</u> needed to see Cotton Candy Randy drive Rett and Link crazy. Let me say that a different way. I really needed to see Cotton Candy Randy whisper sweet nothings into Rett's ear and then insult Link. This means something to me. <i>[Laughs.]</i> I know what I'm talking about, and millions of others do. <i>[Chuckles.]</i> That feeling that you have when you are watching something like a YouTube video or a Twitch stream or listening to a podcast—it's an intimate

relationship. You feel like you're visiting with a friend. *[Forcefully.]*
And it's healthy!

00:30:44 Jesse Host *[Laughter.]*
MaximumFun.org/join.

00:30:50 John Host *[Laughter.]*
If you have a problem with parasocial podcast addiction, please call.

[Laughter.]

The truth is, I actually think that there might be a qualitative difference between someone watching ahead in *The Great British Baking Off* where you get attached to the characters who are not looking at you, versus the person you spend time with who sometimes looks directly at you through the camera and talks directly to you, and then sometimes looks at a video of someone else doing something and goes, "AUGH!" You know, you had dinner with this guy many a time! And I could almost imagine a situation in which—well, this goes too far, but it's like the three of you used to have dinner, and then one day Sam came home and you're like, "I had a great dinner with Tim the Tat Man myself."

[Laughter.]

Is it overreacting? Sure. But the important thing is that it's understand—you can understand why Sam felt hurt and to say to someone, "You're overreacting," in validates their feelings. And I think you appreciate that now. I think you probably appreciated it more than six months ago, probably didn't need a year to figure this out. Now, I will not order you to apologize to Sam's liking, because that is weird.

[Applause.]

I think you have spoken very eloquently about how much you've come to understand Sam over the years that you've been together—indeed, this year of Tim the Tat Man-less existence, where you've actually had to have dinner with each other!

[Laughter.]

And I think that you apologized very sincerely and genuinely! I would remind you, Sam, that it is not appropriate to guess at the sincerity of someone else. All they can give you is their words, and I think the words were very meaningful. When I said that you were obviously insincere, that was a joke and I apologize. I hope you understand that. So! I am going to rule in Angela's favor, because she has already provided the apology that you want. But you also win as a result.

00:32:56 John Host Now, because of this sick withholding of Tim the Tat Man from your relationship for a year, I have to punish you both.

[Laughter.]

You may start watching Tim the Tat Man again. However, you may not go into the back catalogue and watch what you missed.

[The audience reacts with shock, scattered booing, and slow applause.]

00:33:40 Jesse Host
It's not a story! It's not a story! There's no point in it! *[Laughing.]*
There's nothing to catch up on! Tim the Tat Man saw a person barbeque an elk or something. It happened. It's over!
Also, don't listen from the beginning. The early episodes are kind of problematic.

[Laughter.]

00:33:47 John Host
Sorry. Apologies.
I also order for when you watch Tim the Tat Man next that you have to video yourselves watching him.

[Cheers and applause. Angela cackles.]

So that we can post it on our YouTube channel. And we'll split the money with you. It's gonna be \$5,000,000 each. I promise you.

[They laugh.]

This is the sound of a gavel. *[Three gavel bangs.]* Judge John Hodgman rules. That is all.

[Cheers and applause.]

00:34:10 Jesse Host
00:34:16 Sound Transition
Effect
00:34:18 Promo Clip

Sam and Angela!
Three gavel bangs.

Music: Dramatic synth.

Andrew Reich: *[Dramatically.]* Since the dawn of time, man has dreamed of bringing life back from the dead. From Orpheus and Eurydice to Frankenstein's monster, resurrection has long been merely the stuff of myth, fiction, and fairytale. Until now!

[Record scratch.]

Actually, we still can't bring people back from the dead.

[The music turns upbeat and brassy.]

[Chuckling.] That would be crazy! But *The Dead Pilots Society* podcast has found a way to resurrect great dead comedy podcasts from Hollywood's finest writers. Every month, *Dead Pilots Society* brings you a reading of a comedy pilot that was sold and developed, but never produced, performed by the funniest actors from film and television. How does *Dead Pilots Society* achieve this miracle? The answer can only be found at MaximumFun.org.

00:35:01 Promo Clip
[Music fades out.]
Music: Folksy acoustic guitar.

Evelyn Denton: Hello dreamers, this is Evelyn Denton, CEO of the only world class, fully immersive theme resort: Steeplechase. You know, I've been seeing more and more reports on the blogs that our beloved park simply isn't safe anymore.

Emerich Dreadway: *[Stuttering.]* M-murdered them?

Beef Punchley: I'm gonna wreck it!

Evelyn: They say they got mugged by brigands in the fantasy kingdom of Ephemera, or highjacked by space pirates in Infinitem.

Montrose Pretty: I mean, I could have a knife.

Speaker: My papa said that I needed to do a crime!

Evelyn: Friends, I'm here to reassure you that it's all part of the show! These criminals were really just overzealous staff trying to make things a little more magical for our guests. We're just as safe as we've always been. This isn't a county fair, dreamers. This is Steeplechase!

Justin McElroy: *[As himself.]* *The Adventure Zone*, every Thursday at MaximumFun.org.

[Music ends.]

00:35:47	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
00:35:49	John	Host	Moving on now to a segment that we call Swift Justice, we have some more justice to dispense, but we also—Jesse—have a very special guest to help us dispense that justice. Who is that person?
00:36:01	Jesse	Host	Please welcome to the stage—
00:36:02	John	Host	Hang on. In this case, you <u>should</u> rise. Please rise.
00:36:06	Jesse	Host	Please rise and welcome to the stage a real justice of the Washington State supreme court, Raquel Montoya-Lewis!
			<i>[Cheers and applause.]</i>
00:36:27	John	Host	Well, thank you very much. I mean, it's truly an honor to have you here. And will you help us dispense some justice in this Swift Justice segment?
00:36:34	Raquel Montoya-Lewis	Guest	Absolutely, I will.
00:36:36	John	Host	Thank you very much.
			<i>[Applause.]</i>
00:36:38	Jesse	Host	Judge Hodgman, despite the efforts of the Washington State supreme court, there is still a lot of injustice here in this state. But we've only got about 15 minutes for this segment. Do you think we can knock out three cases in 15 minutes?
00:36:52	John	Host	With the help of Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis? Yes, I think we can. Thank you.
			<i>[Cheers.]</i>
00:36:56	Jesse	Host	Please welcome Chelsea and Roger!

00:37:00 John Host *[Cheers and applause.]*
Chelsea and Roger, welcome to the court of Judge John Hodgman. Which of you seeks justice before this court?

00:37:08 Chelsea Guest
00:37:09 John Host I do, your honor.
And would you be Chelsea?

[She confirms.]

00:37:13 Chelsea Guest
What is the nature of the justice that you seek?
So, I love to go to the movies, and I like to go to the movies with Roger. He really only likes to see MCU movies. But! *[Chuckles.]*
He—

00:37:22 Roger Guest
00:37:23 John Host I make no apologies for who I am.
Roger?

[Cheers.]

I stand with you.

[Laughter.]

It's a hard—it's hard. I mean, there was a time when it was easy to be a fan of MCU movies. Now, it's getting more difficult.

[Laughter.]

00:37:36 Roger Guest
There was a time in which you couldn't be a fan of comic books at all.

00:37:39 John Host
Well, that's what I'm talking about, Roger! What's your favorite?
What's your favorite MCU movie, would you say?

00:37:45 Roger Guest
Oh, *Captain America: Winter Soldier*.

[Chelsea agrees.]

00:37:47 John Host
Okay! Alright, alright. Same. Okay. Okay. Alright. I like that—I like that one quite a bit. I'm gonna see *Quantumania* on Monday.

[Laughter.]

00:37:56 Chelsea Guest
Your decision in this will help us decide where we are going to see that movie.

00:38:00 John Host
Oh really? Fantastic.

00:38:02 Roger Guest
00:38:04 John Host There will be an immediate ruling and usage of this.
[Chuckles.] Okay. So, I apologize. I interrupted. You love to see the movies. Roger loves MCU movies.

00:38:10 Chelsea Guest
But he will only go to the movies at a premium IPIC theater. It's much more expensive. They have really expensive alcohol and food that is kind of mediocre. And it's further away. I am an AMC Stubs subscriber.

[Scattered but enthusiastic cheers from the audience.]

A List. It's amazing.

[John "wow"s.]

00:38:28 Jesse Host
Any other stubs in the house?!

[Laughter.]

00:38:31 John Host
Thank god for stubs!

00:38:33 Chelsea Guest And I can go see three movies a week for free. So, whenever we go to this, not only is it more expensive, I also am paying a fee that I wouldn't normally have to pay to go see a movie.

00:38:42 John Host Are you an AMC Stubs A List member?

[Chelsea confirms.]

What does that mean? 'Cause I just read it.

[Laughter.]

00:38:51 Chelsea Guest For \$21 a month, you can see up to three movies a week for free.

00:38:56 John Host And are you an employee of AMC?

00:38:58 Chelsea Guest I am not an employee of AMC; I just love going to their theaters.

00:39:03 John Host You just love going to their theaters. Why don't you like the IPIC? Now, you mentioned that they serve food there. So, obviously you don't enjoy going to see movies where servers are walking back and fourth in front of you all the time and dropping tater tots on your nose?

00:39:15 Chelsea Guest That's totally it. It's not dark enough in there, because they keep the lights up slightly so that you can still see so they don't drop tater tots on you. It's very distracting when they come in and out. And I also don't love *[sighs]*—the IPIC has these little pods.

[John "wow"s.]

00:39:37 John Host So, it's fine when it's just the two of us—
[Stammering.] Are you seeing movies in like first class in Emirates Air or something like that?!

00:39:42 Chelsea Guest It's basically first class, yeah.

00:39:44 Roger Guest And I don't fly coach!

[Laughter.]

00:39:51 Jesse Host Like I said, I don't apologize for who I am.

00:39:56 Chelsea Guest No hot nuts, no movie!
But when there's three people—'cause sometimes—Roger's my cousin. Sometimes, his wife will join us. And then, that means that two people are sitting in one pod and then the other person is sort of not seeing the movie with the other two people.

00:40:09 John Host You got shunted to the stranger pod?!

00:40:10 Chelsea Guest I got shunted to the stranger pod.

00:40:12 John Host So, there's someone else in the pod with you? Someone you don't even know?!

00:40:15 Chelsea Guest No, it was empty. It was just me.

00:40:17 John Host It was just—it was just a solo pod.

[Chelsea confirms.]

00:40:25 Roger Guest Why do you—why do you like these pods so much? What's the food that you get there? What's so good about it? What do you like? Well, first off, it's a pod.

[John "uh-huh"s with a laugh.]

So, instead—it's like we have stadium seating here. Imagine just being able to sit with the person you came with and no one else.

00:40:35	Chelsea	Guest	Including the other person that you came with.
00:40:47	Roger	Guest	<i>[Laughter and applause.]</i> I was not prepared for that response. <i>[Laughter.]</i> I also would be fine sitting in the solo pod by myself, 'cause I would really stretch out. Like, I have no problem manspreading in a pod. They bring you alcohol and they bring you a pillow and you have a blanket and there are no children allowed in this theater—which, if you've ever gone to a theater with children, that's not a pleasant experience. Sorry, children.
00:41:08	Jesse	Host	<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:41:13	Roger	Guest	Also, your honor, if you'd like to ask Chelsea where her favorite theater's located, it's on a street that people in Seattle are very familiar with.
00:41:21	John	Host	Wwwell, uh, this seems fairly explosive, but I'll allow it. <i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:41:30	Chelsea	Guest	What—what street is your favorite AMC theater located on? It's the Oaktree on Aurora. <i>[Cheers.]</i>
00:41:37	John	Host	But there are two other options. One of which is around the corner! Let the record show that even the children are standing up and applauding. Uh, child, why do you like that street so much? <i>[Laughter. An audience member responds inaudibly.]</i>
00:41:58	Jesse	Host	It's not too trafficky? Wait, what are you? A 40-year-old Angelino?!
00:42:07	John	Host	<i>[Laughter.]</i> What is—what is your name, young person? Mimi? Thank you for your contribution. You're very—you seem very smart and capable. Unfortunately, Roger wants you to leave. <i>[Laughter.]</i> All children must leave so Roger feels safe in his pod. How do you want me to solve this problem? First of all, Justice Raquel, do you go to the movies? <i>[She confirms.]</i>
00:42:44	Raquel	Guest	Do you know of either of these movie theaters or this incredible non-trafficky street? Can you offer any local insight that will help me and you judge this case? I'm familiar with the movie theater on Aurora. I'm not familiar with this newer, modern invention that he's describing.
00:42:51	John	Host	Do you share my suspicion that this might just be Roger's house?

00:42:58 Roger Guest *[She agrees. Laughter.]*
 I would be so much happier if it were my own house!
 00:43:03 John Host What would you have me rule if I were to rule in your favor, Chelsea?
 00:43:07 Chelsea Guest I asked that you make Roger come to an AMC movie with me at least half of the time and that when we go to the IPIC, that he pay for that.

[Murmuring from the audience.]

And that we declare that the AMC theater is better.

00:43:27 John Host *[Laughter.]*
 Roger, if I were to rule in your favor, what would you have me rule?
 00:43:30 Roger Guest We would rule that we would a) acknowledge the IPIC is the superior—
 00:43:33 Jesse Host *[Interrupting.]* Wait, who's the "we" here? You and Judge Hodgman?!
 00:43:36 Roger Guest They! They would rule! Your honors.
 00:43:37 John Host The Roger We.
 00:43:38 Roger Guest The Roger—the royal we.
 00:43:40 John Host The Rog-orial We.
 00:43:41 Roger Guest I would say we would acknowledge that IPIC is better. I will concede to paying for her ticket when we go to the IPIC, and we acknowledge that I never have to go to an AMC theater as long as I live.

00:43:55 John Host *[John "ooh"s and Jesse "wow"s.]*
 What do you think?
 00:43:56 Jesse Host I'm gonna text Nicole Kidman real quick, and she's gonna be real pissed.

00:44:03 John Host *[Laughter.]*
 What do you think, Justice Raquel?
 00:44:05 Raquel Guest It seems like if we take AMC off the table entirely, that gets rid of a whole host of movies, and that seems too limiting.
 00:44:12 Chelsea Guest That's correct!

00:44:15 Roger Guest *[Laughter.]*
 Not of the movies that I watch!
 00:44:17 John Host Roger, there are other humans in the world.

[Laughter.]

I know you make no apologies for who you are. Other humans also exist with full brains! Likes, dislikes. And they also deserve to not apologize for who they are! I will say this: you're very generous and appropriately gracious to offer to pay to take Chelsea to this weird BS you go to.

[Laughter.]

I like going to these movies that have these big, old comfy chairs and they bring you food and drink and so forth, but it is not the—necessarily the ideal place to watch a movie if you are just trying to

completely go into a nothing box, as it were, and become one with the story. People like what they like. I'm gonna rule in Chelsea's favor.

[Applause.]

With—waaaait a minute! That child was clapping. I thought you left!

[Laughter.]

50% of the time—it's too much. Just negotiate it case by case. If you wanna *[inaudible]* go to your thing, he has to pay. If you go to AMC, then you don't—then—yeah.

[Laughter.]

You know what I'm saying! I'm not gonna—I'm not gonna rule that one is better than the other. 'Cause people are different. They like what they like. I make no apologies for who I am. But if you—if he wants you to go to this other movie, he absolutely has to pay. And you have the right to say, "No, I'm not gonna be stuck in the junk pod. I'm gonna go see the movie where I wanna see it." By the way, going into a dark room and watching a movie by yourself? It's the greatest feeling in the world.

00:46:00 Chelsea Guest

Oh, I do it all the time.

00:46:01 John Host

You don't need to go with Roger.

00:46:02 Chelsea Guest

I do it aaall the time.

00:46:03 John Host

Yeah, if you do it all the time—look, you're A List! *[Laughs.]* You're A List Stubs, the famous detective. Going to movies all the time! You can put up with Roger's IPIC from time to time, but you gotta pay. This is the sound of a gavel. *[Three gavel bangs.]* Chelsea and Roger!

00:46:22 Jesse Host

[Applause.]

Judge Hodgman, I have to ask the justice a related question here. Thank you, Chelsea and Roger.

00:46:30 John Host

Thank you very much, Chelsea and Roger.

00:46:31 Jesse Host

So, Justice, my paternal grandfather was a vice president of the Fox theater corporation. And as such, he got a real, metal card for Lee E. Thorn Jr. and family, in perpetuity, to get free admission to Fox theaters, now Loews theaters. Now, when I took this card to a Loews theater, they brought out a binder of different cards that they no longer honor and sent me away. That's not legal, right?! That's baloney!

00:47:05 Raquel Guest

I would ask you to seek legal counsel for that one.

[Laughter.]

00:47:08 Jesse Host

Thank you. Thank you.

00:47:14 John Host

Please welcome to the stage Liz and Dan.
Liz and Dan!

[Applause.]

Who seeks justice in this fake court of law? Would that be Liz?

00:47:23	Liz	Guest	It would be Liz.
00:47:24	John	Host	Liz, what is the justice that you seek?
00:47:27	Liz	Guest	Dan and I just got married.
00:47:28	Jesse	Host	Congratulations!
00:47:31	John	Host	<i>[Applause.]</i> Congratulations.
<i>[She thanks him.]</i>			
Yes! You're both wearing rings. You both raised your rings to the listening ears of the podcast audience.			
<i>[She laughs.]</i>			
00:47:40	Dan	Guest	Haven't lost it yet!
00:47:42	Liz	Guest	For like three months, right? And so, I moved into Dan's house. And this is not up for dispute—Dan's tub is <i>[softly]</i> gross. It's gross! It's gross.
00:47:52	John	Host	Dan's tub is gross.
00:47:55	Liz	Guest	Yeah, and he has agreed that—
00:47:56	John	Host	So ordered.
00:47:57	Liz	Guest	Yeah, thank you. See? I told you. <i>[Laughs.]</i> And he's—
00:48:03	John	Host	Is it gross?
00:48:04	Dan	Guest	Your honor!
00:48:06	John	Host	Is it gross— I'll allow it. Is it gross because it is not cleaned properly? Or is it gross because it is out of date?
00:48:14	Liz	Guest	Uh, your honor, I object to your impugning my cleaning.
00:48:17	John	Host	You may not.
00:48:18	Liz	Guest	Okay. I'm sorry. <i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah, no, it's just—it's a house that hasn't been really updated since the '50s. And it's—well, it's yellow. And it has—
00:48:30	John	Host	Oh, the bathtub is yellow?
00:48:31	Liz	Guest	Yeah! I mean, I don't—
00:48:32	John	Host	Was it always yellow?
<i>[They laugh.]</i>			
00:48:36	Jesse	Host	Or did the Cat in the Hat visit? The yellow Cat in the Hat.
00:48:43	Liz	Guest	<i>[Laughs.]</i> I did present our cat as evidence. But anyway, no, it's just—like, it's ugly and it's gross and it has these stickers that I can't get off, and it has a door.
00:48:53	John	Host	What stickers?
00:48:54	Liz	Guest	The little ones that keep you from skidding. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:48:56	John	Host	Oh, I see. I thought it was like—
00:48:58	Dan	Guest	So you don't slip and die.
00:48:59	John	Host	—port stickers and travel stickers like you put on a suitcase. Okay.
00:49:03	Liz	Guest	Yeah. <i>[Chuckles.]</i> So, he's agreed that we can rip out the tub and put in something like more soaked-y for me.
00:49:10	John	Host	Oh, terrific. Problem solved. Thank you very much for being here.
<i>[Laughter.]</i>			
00:49:13	Dan	Guest	We're gonna remodel. Yeah.
00:49:15	Liz	Guest	It's funny that I'm a professional editor and it takes me <u>forever</u> to tell a story. So, but the dispute is that I want to just have a shower curtain so that I can like rest my arm while I'm soaking in the tub but can have a glass of wine or whatever. And Dan does not—he wants

00:49:36	John	Host	a door! And I think doors are disgusting! They're like where the little red mold that we get in Seattle grows, and soap scum, and— What kind of door do you want? You want a tub with a sliding door like my grandparents used to have?
00:49:40	Dan	Guest	<i>[Talking over him.]</i> Well, we currently have a sliding door—yeah.
00:49:43	Liz	Guest	Yeah! Grandparents, that's a good word.
00:49:44	Dan	Guest	Well, yeah. I haven't been to your grandparents.
			<i>[Liz laughs.]</i>
			No, an opening door would be fine. It's not gross, by the way. I'll just throw that in there.
00:49:53	Liz	Guest	It's groooss.
00:49:55	Dan	Guest	I've been in there with—
00:49:56	John	Host	You currently have a sliding door.
			<i>[Dan confirms.]</i>
			And a yellow tub.
			<i>[Dan confirms.]</i>
			With stickers in the bottom that keep you from falling. And it's in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, where my grandparents—you bought my grandparents' house.
00:50:07	Dan	Guest	We had it sent in, yeah.
00:50:09	Jesse	Host	Dan, we heard that Liz is an editor. You may have some expertise in this area. What is your profession?
00:50:16	Dan	Guest	Well, I'm a plumber!
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:50:24	John	Host	So! That means I'm in and out of people's tubs all day long. I—
00:50:26	Dan	Guest	Sounds sexy, Dan. I know a good tub when—you know! We do need to update the tub. I'll admit that. But there's lots of fine glass doors—sliding, opening. I don't know. I think some of them go up and down maybe. We can research that.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:50:41	Liz	Guest	<i>[Laughing.]</i> What?! I thought you worked—
00:50:43	Jesse	Host	Probably! Why not? That's a direction!
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:50:46	Dan	Guest	As far as shower curtains go, they get moldy—black mold and—
00:50:50	John	Host	What I want is one of those gullwing tubs, like a DeLorean.
			<i>[Scattered applause.]</i>
00:50:57	Dan	Guest	You know what I mean? More like a sensory deprivation tank. I will set you up with that.
00:50:58	Liz	Guest	You're talking about a shower curtain. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:51:02	John	Host	Justice Raquel, do you have any thoughts so far on how this case is shaping up?
00:51:08	Raquel	Guest	I think they should get a tub that fits two.
00:51:11	John	Host	A two-person tub!

00:51:13	Jesse	Host	A horny tub!
			<i>[Laughter and applause.]</i>
00:51:17	Liz	Guest	We're done here. I agree.
00:51:18	Dan	Guest	That would be a hot tub, yeah.
00:51:21	Liz	Guest	A very hot tub. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:51:24	Jesse	Host	Let the record reflect that Liz and Dan are horny older people.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:51:30	Liz	Guest	Right there, baby! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:51:31	John	Host	Liz—let the record reflect they high fived each other at that particular <i>[inaudible]</i> .
00:51:39	Jesse	Host	Love is great.
00:51:41	Dan	Guest	So, with a shower curtain—
00:51:42	John	Host	If it happens that you're staying at the hotel I am tonight, just—I'll pretend that I didn't see it.
00:51:49	Dan	Guest	Would that be the Graduate, by chance?
00:51:50	Liz	Guest	Well, you don't have to say! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:51:52	John	Host	What?
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:51:55	Dan	Guest	The Graduate hotel is across from here.
00:51:57	John	Host	I mean, he clearly was sending me a message.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:52:04	Dan	Guest	Your honor!
00:52:07	John	Host	I'm gonna have my lifelong dream of having a threesome in my grandparent's tub.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:52:24	Jesse	Host	I'm glad we made those children leave. Children, that's— <i>[chuckles]</i> . A threesome is when two people love each other very much, and an entertainer is passing through town.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:52:49	John	Host	Just for the sake of sheer adorableness, how did you meet?
00:52:54	Liz	Guest	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Online!
00:52:55	John	Host	Online.
			<i>[Liz confirms.]</i>
			And you moved into Dan's house, correct?
			<i>[Liz confirms.]</i>
00:53:04	Liz	Guest	What was your house like? Perfect? Uh... yes.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
00:53:08	Dan	Guest	<i>[Shouting playfully.]</i> Your honor, that woman is <u>LYING!</u>
00:53:10	John	Host	Overruled.
00:53:11	Liz	Guest	However, it was 710 square feet. So—
00:53:14	John	Host	You lived in a very small place.
			<i>[Liz confirms.]</i>

So, here is your opportunity to enjoy your life in a larger space.
What's the square footage over at Dan's house?

00:53:21 Liz Guest Too many?
00:53:22 Dan Guest Several thousand. I don't—
00:53:24 John Host What—? Several thousand.
00:53:25 Liz Guest No, it's like—
00:53:27 Dan Guest A little over a thousand. *[Laughs.]*

[Liz agrees.]

00:53:29 John Host How many bathrooms do you have?
00:53:31 Dan Guest We have a toilet in the basement?

[Laughter.]

As well as the upstairs full bathroom!

00:53:37 John Host You have one bathroom and a toilet in the basement.
00:53:41 Dan Guest Yes. Yes. It's a very handy toilet, though.
00:53:45 Jesse Host Sir, are you describing a jug you found?

[Laughter.]

00:53:54 Dan Guest I don't—I—that's uncalled for.
00:53:57 John Host Uh, *[laughs]*—this is suddenly turning into a horror movie. I met this couple at a hotel. We hit it off. They invited me back to their house. Dan wanted me to see the toilet in the basement. All of the sudden, it's a whole barbarian situation.

You only have one bathroom.

[they confirm.]

Is there the possibility of adding a second bathroom, sir? Yes or no.

00:54:27 Dan Guest Yes, there is.
00:54:28 Liz Guest But it's gonna take a long time. Like—
00:54:32 John Host I know. You would need to know a plumber in order to get it done quickly.

[Laughter.]

00:54:36 Jesse Host John, we've all waited for the plumber to come.
00:54:40 John Host Is it not within your budget or your timeframe? What is the—? You can't do the second—? Why? You can't do it.
00:54:44 Liz Guest Yeah, it's like it's kind of either or.
00:54:46 John Host I'm not gonna ask you why. You're just telling me you can't add a second bathroom?

[Liz confirms.]

Because of the curse.

[Liz confirms.]

I see. Okay.

00:54:53 Liz Guest *[Laughing.]* I didn't know you knew about that.
00:54:55 Dan Guest We will add a shower in the basement, stretching out the toilet area.
00:54:59 John Host Oh, that's a great idea! For your new bride, create a beautiful shower in the basement.

00:55:05 Dan Guest Well, no, that's just for me. *[Chuckles.]* She can have the bathtub all to herself. That's fine.

00:55:11 John Host You want the shower curtain so that you can pull it back and have a glass of wine and rest your arm on it, and you can't do that with a glass panel or a door or whatever.

00:55:17 Liz Guest Right, and they don't fit in the washing machine either. Like, I wanna take the shower curtain down and wash it when it gets dirty, instead of having to—

00:55:23 John Host Yeah, 'cause I'll tell you what's gross: shower curtains. They're disgusting.

00:55:27 Liz Guest Yes, but shower doors don't fit in the washer.

00:55:30 John Host Yeah, but you wipe them down!

00:55:31 Liz Guest They—*[stammering]* I. I wipe them down. *[Laughs.]*

00:55:35 John Host Ooooooh!

00:55:37 Dan Guest I would do it if it got bad enough. You know.

[Laughter.]

00:55:43 John Host Dan, you're not making it easy for me.

00:55:45 Dan Guest She keeps throwing away my sponges. It's—she's got a problem with my sponges.

00:55:49 Liz Guest Don't start with this!

[They laugh.]

00:55:50 John Host Here's—here—*[chuckles]* here's what I'm gonna say.

00:55:55 Dan Guest Oh, can I add one thing?

00:55:57 John Host I guess so.

00:55:58 Dan Guest Now, shower curtains—

[Laughter.]

When you have shower curtains, you get water all over the floor. Right? 'Cause—

[Growing disagreement from the crowd.]

00:56:11 John Host I mean, that's been my experience, at times. He's only a plumber.

[Laughter.]

00:56:13 Jesse Host I mean, he would wipe up the water if it got bad enough.

00:56:19 Dan Guest That's very true.

00:56:23 John Host Here is what I'm going to say. Dan, I think shower curtains are gross.

[Liz gasps.]

I used to have them, got tired of them. When we remodeled our bathroom, I put in a glass—I didn't put in—I didn't do anything! I went away. I couldn't—I wasn't allowed to live in my house for two years. When I came back, they'd put in a glass panel between the tub and the ceiling. And you just walked into it, and there was a place to put your arm. There are beautiful—I think—and tasteful contemporary ways of having a bath and shower without a curtain. I'm not convinced you know what you're talking about, because you said some of them go up and down.

[Laughter.]

I mean, you can—you can work the drains good, but I think if you want to make your case, you're gonna need to consult a professional bathroom designer or look at a magazine.

[Laughter.]

Start creating a look book so that you can show Liz, to make your case overtime. I think that you will be able to do it, because I think what you have in mind is better than a disgusting, moldy shower curtain.

[Scattered applause.]

I think they're horrible! Do you wanna have some kind of novelty world map on the shower curtain or what?

00:57:47 Liz Guest

No, but I wanna hang the vintage shower curtain that my grandmother made for my mother.

["Aw"s from the audience.]

00:57:59 Jesse Host

It has—
Was your grandmother some kind of vinyl artist?

00:58:04 Liz Guest

[Laughter.]
You get the vinyl liner, and then you can wash that. And then, the pretty teal and robin's egg birds—

00:58:11 John Host

I hadn't realized that there was an heirloom component.

00:58:14 Dan Guest

This is new information to me too! Yeah.

00:58:18 John Host

[Laughter.]
I have to be very clear. Touching as it is that you want to use your grandmother's shower curtain—

00:58:29 Liz Guest

[Laughter.]
[Laughing.] It's really pretty!

00:58:30 Jesse Host

Which, by the way, she asked to be buried with!

00:58:36 John Host

[Laughter.]
This is increasingly... Justice Raquel, I have to say, this is increasingly starting to sound like a murder house.

00:58:45 Raquel Guest

I agree.

00:58:47 Dan Guest

That was my other point.

00:58:49 Dan Guest

[Liz can't stop laughing.]
If a psycho killer—*[laughs]* if a psycho killer is out to get you, glass door is what you want. Am I right? Am I right?

00:58:59 John Host

[Laughter.]
No! What you want is a aluminum gullwing door, like on a DeLorean. That you can lock! If that's your concern, sleep in—

00:59:14 Liz Guest

A pod!

00:59:15 John Host

Get one of the pods from the IPIC.

[Laughter.]

00:59:19	Dan	Guest	You're a wise man, Judge Hodgman.
00:59:23	John	Host	Dan, you haven't made your case yet—either to me or to your bride. You have to go and do some work and some research, go get some interior design magazines, make a vision board online. I don't know, talk to a property broker. Figure it out. Make your—I am confident that there will come a time when you can show a picture to her—to Liz—that she will appreciate. It's not there yet.
00:59:51	Dan	Guest	You're so right. It's true.
00:59:52	John	Host	Until then, you can put in a tasteful new tub and a— <i>[shudders]</i> tension rod, and you can hang grandma's—grandma's death curtain.
			<i>[Laughter.]</i>
01:00:07	Jesse	Host	Your heirloom shroud.
01:00:12	John	Host	And Liz—so, I am finding in Liz's favor, but this is incentive for you to go out and find the look that will convince her otherwise. This is the sound of a gavel.
01:00:23	Dan	Guest	Oh boy.
			<i>[Three gavel bangs.]</i>
01:00:24	Jesse	Host	Liz and Dan!
			<i>[Applause.]</i>
01:00:34	John	Host	Please welcome to the stage, Cheryl and Gabe!
01:00:38	Cheryl	Guest	Cheryl and Gabe. Oh, it's Cheryl! It's you!
01:00:39	John	Host	It's you! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
			Cheryl, it's nice to see you. Cheryl, of course, is a listener. Gabe, I don't know who you are. But Cheryl I know because Cheryl is the person who posted a video of herself singing about one of our sponsors, Sun Basket, to the tune of "I Wear My Sunglasses at Night".
01:00:55	Cheryl	Guest	Yeah! This homage right here.
01:00:57	John	Host	Right. And the word you changed was "I make my Sun Basket at night." Is that correct?
01:01:02	Cheryl	Guest	Yes, I do! Yeah.
01:01:04	John	Host	It was very adorable. Thank you for being here. Are you a Seattle person?
01:01:07	Cheryl	Guest	Yeah! I'm from Mercer Island, which is right across the lake. Yeah.
01:01:09	John	Host	Fantastic! Well, welcome. What is the nature of your dispute?
01:01:14	Cheryl	Guest	So, I am married to an engineer, named Gabe, who has—
01:01:18	John	Host	I'm sorry.
01:01:19	Gabe	Guest	Not her cousin.
01:01:21	Cheryl	Guest	Yeah. He has a system, which I really normally am a fan of systems. I like that he's a good problem solver and he develops helpful systems in our home. However, this current system involves using paper towels as a positive alternative to traditional plates, bowls—
01:01:44	John	Host	Shower curtains? Oh, sorry. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
01:01:49	Cheryl	Guest	Yeah, he likes to put all sorts of things on a paper towel as—in his opinion—it is a superior alternative to plates or bowls! Which I don't mind if it's—
01:02:00	John	Host	Sure. Certainly, it's better for the Earth.

[Laughter.]

01:02:05	Cheryl	Guest	We do compost. But so—however, we do go through a lot of Costco sized paper towels. Oh, fun fact, Kirkland’s Signature from Costco? That’s here, in the east side of Seattle. Anyway! Okay! So— <i>[Laughter and cheers.]</i>
01:02:23	John	Host	You knew that, right? Raquel? Yeah!
01:02:24	Cheryl	Guest	What’s the dispute? Okay! <i>[Laughter.]</i>
01:02:28	John	Host	I would—I need—I need help to—
01:02:30	Cheryl	Guest	Cheryl, you know I love you. What’s the dispute. Yeah. So, what he has—he—his idea for what is appropriate to put in a paper towel includes things like pickles or cutting up like an apple or salsa. <i>[Laughter.]</i>
01:02:50	Gabe	Guest	Which it—it—
01:02:52	John	Host	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Wait, wait, wait, wait! Wait, wait, wait! <i>[Chuckles.]</i> Gabe! Am I—am I to believe that you cup a paper towel in your hand and put a glop of salsa in there?
01:02:59	Gabe	Guest	Exactly. That’s right.
01:03:01	John	Host	And walk around?
01:03:04	Gabe	Guest	So, here—
01:03:05	John	Host	<i>[Interrupting urgently.]</i> And are you married?!
01:03:09	Gabe	Guest	I have to say, I developed this habit while a grad student, living by myself. And I didn’t wanna do dishes.
01:03:17	John	Host	You are who you are, and you don’t apologize for it. <i>[Laughter.]</i>
01:03:20	Gabe	Guest	Uh-huh. That’s right! And uh, yeah. So, for the most part—you know, if I’m—instead of taking a plate, I have the paper towel. It serves multiple functions. If you have the paper towel, there’s no evidence that you snacked throughout the day. <i>[Laughter.]</i>
01:04:00	John	Host	No extra dishes that can be counted one by one in the sink. You know. But then, at the end of the day, the portion of the paper towel that is not moist—such as the center part from the pickle—can be used to dry the area of the counter that became moist. It’s an impervious surface.
01:04:03	Gabe	Guest	Well, some people do use vinegar to clean their—that’s right.
01:04:04	John	Host	That’s true! That’s a very good point. Yeah.
01:04:06	Gabe	Guest	So, why not just pour pickle juice all over the place.
01:04:09	John	Host	Exactly! Yeah. Yeah. I like the idea that you don’t wanna leave evidence around. <i>[Chuckles.]</i> What—
01:04:15	Gabe	Guest	The Justice over there—I don’t know. Yeah. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
01:04:17	John	Host	What—what—when you were—

[Laughter.]

Let me ask you a question. You developed this system when you were a grad student?

[Gabe confirms.]

When you were a grad student, I presume you had to live economically.

[Gabe confirms.]

So, were you living in someone else's home in their walls? And sneaking out at night and eating their food? And needing to hide your presence?

01:04:38 Gabe Guest
01:04:40 John Host
01:04:41 Gabe Guest

I did live in somebody's basement. And they—
Did they know you were there?!
They did!

[Laughter.]

01:04:44 John Host

How was the toilet down there?

[Applause.]

01:04:48 Gabe Guest
01:04:52 John Host

Pretty good. *[Chuckles.]* I just had one toilet. Yeah.
Just one toilet. Yeah, okay. Uh, I also believe that you use paper towels as a cutting board?

01:04:58 Gabe Guest

I do, yeah. And sometimes, you have to fold it—you know—a couple of times to give enough surface, but... a sharp knife helps.
[Chuckles.]

01:05:10 Jesse Host
01:05:11 John Host

Not sharp for long!
Yeah, that's very—until you use it on that paper towel over and over again.

01:05:15 Gabe Guest
01:05:17 John Host
01:05:20 Gabe Guest

That's true. You gotta keep moving the position, yeah.
I see.
Like I said, I've developed a system.

[Laughter.]

01:05:24 John Host
01:05:25 Cheryl Guest
01:05:26 John Host
01:05:27 Cheryl Guest

It's clear you've thought it through.
Yeah, and—
What—sorry, go ahead.
Oh, yeah. Though, it doesn't bother me if there's no residue leftover. It's the liquid element. We need assistance in determining which food items are paper towel appropriate and which food items are not. And we help with a judge! We need judges.

01:05:44 Gabe Guest
01:05:49 John Host
01:05:54 Cheryl Guest

And I'm a paper towel absolutist. So. *[Chuckles.]*
If there's residue, then isn't the system not working?
Yeah, it could simply be a matter of him just complying with—you know—cleaning up afterwards. 'Cause that is one of the things. I don't like—

01:06:01 John Host

I'm sorry, Cheryl, wait a minute. Why didn't anyone answer me about the salsa?!

01:06:05 Cheryl Guest
01:06:07 John Host
01:06:09 Gabe Guest
01:06:12 John Host

Oh yeah! Yeah, okay. Go back. Yeah.
How do you use the paper towel with the salsa?!
So, like you said, you basically have your hand in a kind of a—
[Interrupting.] I was making a joke!

01:06:15 Gabe Guest *[Laughter.]*
Well, I mean, it really depends upon the type of salsa. Certain salsas are thicker.

01:06:21 John Host No, it does not, sir!

01:06:27 Gabe Guest *[Laughter.]*
Guacamole, potentially. I haven't tried that one.

01:06:28 John Host Nooo! Try again!

01:06:35 Gabe Guest I'm saving—

01:06:36 John Host Clam chowder?!

01:06:38 Gabe Guest So, I—yeah, I haven't tried soup yet. But thick soups would be a good place to start.

01:06:42 John Host That would be a great place to start and stop!

[Gabe agrees with a laugh.]

I thought that there would be a dispute—

01:06:57 Cheryl Guest *[Laughter.]*
Well, okay, in his defense, I have started doing this with certain things.

01:07:02 Gabe Guest She's arguing both sides, yeah.

01:07:03 Cheryl Guest I have started doing this with things—like for example, when I'm making my son's lunch and I'm like cutting up strawberries, I'm like, "Wait a minute! I could just do this on paper towels, and then I could just scoop it up at the end." So, it's kind of rubbed off on me. But yeah, I draw the line—I think the pickle is kind of the midpoint of, you know, things that are potentially too liquidy, like pickles—starts with pickles and then pretty soon it's salsa!

01:07:26 John Host Let me explain something.

[Laughter.]

01:07:30 Cheryl Guest How long have you been married?
Ten years in May! Yeah.

01:07:31 Gabe Guest Ten years. Yeah.

01:07:32 John Host You're obviously very happy together.

[They confirm.]

01:07:45 Jesse Host So, when you live alone in someone's basement, you can come up with all kinds of theories on how to live. No one knows what—
Wait, Judge Hodgman, I have a question for the Justice here, before we get into that. Um, Justice Montoya-Lewis, as a justice of the Washington State supreme court, off of what do you eat?

01:08:06 Raquel Guest *[Laughter.]*
I usually use plates. I have been known to use a paper towel once in—

01:08:10 Gabe Guest *[Cheering.]* Alriiiiight! Alright!

01:08:13 Raquel Guest But! I don't understand how this is a system. This is my question.

[Laughter.]

01:08:22 Gabe Guest There's a thing called—

01:08:23 John Host Where do you draw the line in terms of paper towel eating?

01:08:27	Raquel	Guest	I think the messiest you could get is maybe a—maybe a piece of toast? But beyond that, that seems crazy to me!
01:08:37	John	Host	I think that that's a fair—
01:08:40	Gabe	Guest	Pretty reasonable.
01:08:41	John	Host	Cheryl. Gabe. When you live in a basement with only a toilet for company, you can convince yourself that a lot of things are normal.

[Gabe agrees.]

There's no one there to tell you, "Mm. No! This is not how these things happen." And what I realize now, Cheryl, is that lots of times when people get married or cohabitate and live together and join their lives, there's a lot of like eye-opening about—on both sides—about like, "Oh, I thought it was normal to eat peanut butter out of the jar with my whole hand! My mommy always said it was fine!"

And the other person has to say, "Your mommy's not here now. I'm not your mommy. Stop it. That's not typical." Right? There is no normal. There's more typical. I'm a little concerned that you're getting—that you're getting swept up into a world where you're starting to think that this is typical. It's not typical! Now, simply because it's not typical doesn't mean it's bad! Obviously. However, it is.

[Laughter.]

In this case. It's wasteful. It's dirty. It's not—we have things for all these things! And it's not good for your knives either, when you're cutting them on paper towels. Like, you need to—they have dishes and bowls—

[A singular audience member applauds.]

Thank you for the—I think that was Tim the Tat Man applauding over there. I was going to have to—I was going to like settle this by asking if Cheryl would be willing to sing "I Make My Sun Baskets at Night" and therefore win the case, but you've already won the case. But will you sing the song anyway?

01:10:30	Cheryl	Guest
01:10:32	John	Host
01:10:35	Music	Music

Oh, suuure!
 Alright! Matthew Barnhart, hit it!
 "Sunglasses at Night" by Corey Hart as a karaoke track.

Cheryl: *[Speaking.]* That was his idea.

*I make my Sun Basket at night
 So I can, so I can make yummy food
 From Jesse's friend from college*

*[Volume fades out.]
 [Cheers and applause.]*

01:11:06	John	Host
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I find in Cheryl's favor!

[Four gavel bangs.]

Thank you Cheryl and Gabe!

01:11:15	Jesse	Host	Let's hear it for Cheryl and Gabe! Most of all, let's hear it for Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis. Thank you so much, Justice Lewis.
			<i>[Cheers and applause.]</i>
01:11:23	John	Host	Thank you so much.
01:11:24	Jesse	Host	What an incredible honor!
01:11:28	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
01:11:30	John	Host	That is all for this week's episode. This is Judge John Hodgman, filling in for Bailiff Jesse Thorn, giving you the credits! Thank you to all of the litigants who joined us onstage at The Neptune Theater in Seattle. Evidence and photos from the show are posted on our Instagram account, at Instagram.com/judgejohnhodgman . Make sure to follow us and join the conversation about this week's episode on the Maximum Fun subreddit, over at MaximumFun.Reddit.com .
			<i>Judge John Hodgman</i> was created by Jesse Thorn and me, John Hodgman. This episode was recorded by Matthew Barnhart and produced by Valerie Moffatt, Richard Robey, and Jennifer Marmor. We'll talk to you next time on the <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast.
01:12:12	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
01:12:15	Sound Effect	Transition	Cheerful ukulele chord.
01:12:16	Speaker 1	Guest	MaximumFun.org .
01:12:18	Speaker 2	Guest	Comedy and culture.
01:12:19	Speaker 3	Guest	Artist owned—
01:12:20	Speaker 4	Guest	—audience supported.