

00:00:00	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
00:00:02	Jesse Thorn	Host	Welcome to the <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast. I'm Bailiff Jesse Thorn. This week, "Kanga and Roo Court"! Joan brings the case against her younger sister, Barbara. When Joan was eight, their Aunt Jane gave her a present: a framed print of Winnie the Pooh. Joan hung it in the bedroom she shared with Barbara. But she left it behind when she got her own room. Now, it's 50 years later and Barbara says the Pooh print belongs to her. Joan wants it back. Who's right? Who's wrong? Only one can decide.
			<i>[The squeak of chairs followed by heavy footsteps and a door closing.]</i>
00:00:43	John Hodgman	Host	Please rise as Judge John Hodgman enters the courtroom and presents an obscure cultural reference. Pooh in particular stands out in this regard, as while he was a silly, old bear that misinterpreted words and thought simply, he did take the time to think when faced with problems, leading to some surprisingly philosophical conversation and reasoning. Meanwhile, this version of Pooh is a killer who can't grasp that a child who left didn't mean to abandon them. Bailiff Jesse Thorn, please swear them in.
00:01:10	Jesse	Host	<i>[Chuckles.]</i> You messed up my joke that I was about to make.
00:01:13	John	Host	Oh no!
00:01:14	Jesse	Host	Please rise and raise your right hands.
			<i>[Chairs squeak.]</i>
			Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God or whatever?
			<i>[They confirm.]</i>
			Do you swear to abide by Judge John Hodgman's ruling, despite the fact that his favorite Winnie the Pooh character is Gopher?
			<i>[They agree with laughter.]</i>
00:01:38	John	Host	Judge Hodgman, you may proceed. Gopher, of course, being the character on <i>The Love Boat</i> played by Fred Grandy—later a republican member of the United States congress who also happened to be the father of my friend from college, Mariah Grandy, who listens to the show and is still belting out those beautiful showtunes in Chicago, Illinois. Hi, Mariah Grandy. I hope you're doing really well.
			Meanwhile, Joan and Barbara, you may be seated for an immediate summary judgement in one of yours favors.
			<i>[Chairs squeak.]</i>
00:02:13	Barbara	Guest	Can either of you name the piece of culture that I referenced when I entered the court room? I'm gonna give you a hint. You know what, I've changed my mind. I'm not gonna give you a hint. Joan? Oh, come on!

00:02:15	Joan	Guest	<i>[They laugh.]</i> I don't know.
00:02:16	John	Host	Alright, alright, alright. Fair enough. Fair is fair. So, the quote was from a website. The quote was from a website, but it was about a piece of culture. Any guess, Joan? What's your guess?
00:02:27	Joan	Guest	No, none. I can't imagine Winnie the Pooh as a monster.
00:02:30	John	Host	You can't imagine Winnie the Pooh as a monster. So, guess something else. How about <i>Goodnight, Moon</i> ?
			<i>[They chuckle.]</i>
00:02:39	Joan	Guest	Do you mind if I suggest a guess?
00:02:40	John	Host	<i>[Laughing.]</i> Please do.
00:02:45	Barbara	Guest	It's related. It's related. And what about you, Barbara? What's your guess?
00:02:49	John	Host	Okay, so <i>Goodnight, Moon</i> you said is related?
00:02:51	Barbara	Guest	Yes, it is. But that one is taken. Joan guessed that one.
00:02:58	John	Host	Oh. Okay. Um, I am also at a loss. Okay. I'm gonna suggest two things. You pick which one you wanna guess.
			<i>[They confirm.]</i>
00:03:09	Barbara	Guest	<i>The Runaway Bunny</i> or <i>The Murder of Roger Ackroyd</i> .
00:03:12	John	Host	I'm going with <i>The Runaway Bunny</i> for two. <i>The Runaway Bunny</i> . Both books by Margaret Wise Brown, author of the book <i>The Wonderful House</i> , which is—of course—the source of the quote. All guesses are wrong.
			<i>[They laugh.]</i>
			You're both wrong. <i>Goodnight, Moon</i> is wrong. <i>Runaway Bunny</i> is wrong. Even <i>The Murder of Roger Ackroyd</i> is wrong. What all of those books have in common, however, is that they all have recently come into the public domain. Specifically, <i>The Murder of Roger Ackroyd</i> came into the public domain last year. Both of the Margaret Wise Brown books come into the public domain this year, 2023. What book also came into the public domain in January of 2022. Joan, you're making a gesture that suggests that you know what I'm talking about. Joan, what is the answer?
00:03:56	Joan	Guest	That would be <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> by A. A. Milne.
00:03:59	John	Host	That is absolutely correct, but it does not win you the case, unfortunately.
00:04:03	Joan	Guest	Not yet!
			<i>[Barbara chuckles.]</i>
00:04:05	John	Host	And what happened when <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> came into the public domain?
00:04:09	Jesse	Host	Well, John, it led to <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> 's most famous adaptation: the film <i>Winnie the Pooh: Blood and Honey</i> .
00:04:16	John	Host	<i>[Laughing.]</i> That is correct.
00:04:18	Jesse	Host	Which I went to see in a movie theater last week.
00:04:20	John	Host	Oh no! You didn't, did you?!
00:04:22	Jesse	Host	I was obliged to by a member of my family.
00:04:25	John	Host	Oh no!

00:04:26	Jesse	Host	Yeah, it is a horror film based on <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> in which Winnie the Pooh and Piglet conspire to murder a bunch of people because they're upset that they were abandoned by Christopher Robin.
00:04:39	John	Host	I want to be very, very clear. I watched the trailer for this movie out of perverse curiosity. I was disturbed by it and not amused in any way. And may I—may I guess that the movie is bad and not worth seeing?
00:04:53	Jesse	Host	I think whether it is worth seeing depends on your taste. It is not to my taste. I was impressed at how not bad it is.
00:05:02	John	Host	Really?!
00:05:03	Jesse	Host	It is very brutal and unrelentingly dark. It is a very grim film. It is not goofy or <i>Evil Dead-y</i> or fun. But it is very competently made, good-looking, and well-acted for a tiny budget horror film.
00:05:25	John	Host	So, yes. There's a guy in England who, the moment that Winnie the Pooh came into the public domain, decided to do a—to make a <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> movie in which Winnie the Pooh and Piglet are murderers. And that is called <i>Winnie the Pooh: Blood and Honey</i> . Absolutely correct.
			So, that gives us license to do whatever we want on this podcast. And listeners, if you have ideas for an edgy, gritty remake of <i>Goodnight, Moon</i> or <i>The Runaway Bunny</i> or <i>The Murder of Roger Ackroyd</i> , now's your chance. Let us know what you're working on. I won't steal your IP. If you come up with a good idea and send it in, I might read it, but I won't steal it. It'll be copyright you. But meanwhile, let's get to the case.
00:06:12	Joan	Guest	Who seeks justice before me in this court?
00:06:13	John	Host	I do. That would be Joan. And Joan, you are the elder sister to Barbara. Is that correct?
			<i>[Joan confirms.]</i>
			Okay. And so, I actually am looking at you here on my teleconferencing. I'll move your screen to the top of the pile so that you are above Barbara, because she is your younger sister.
			<i>[Barbara gasps "what?!".]</i>
00:06:30	Joan	Guest	Thank you.
00:06:31	John	Host	Sorry about that.
00:06:32	Joan	Guest	That is completely appropriate.
00:06:34	John	Host	Completely appropriate is what I was thinking too. Joan, what is the nature of your dispute with Barbara?
00:06:39	Joan	Guest	It's not that we shared a bedroom as children, but we did from—uh, up until about the age of ten, we shared a bedroom. And I had—we had an aunt. She's since passed. And she wasn't the nicest person in the world.
00:06:54	John	Host	This would be your Aunt Jane. Not to be confused with my Aunt Jane, who is nice.
00:06:59	Joan	Guest	Do you have one as well?
00:07:00	John	Host	I do. And she is the nicest person in the world. But not, I have to say, Aunt Jane—not my favorite aunt. I love all my aunts equally. Beth. Jane. Judy. Janice. Susan. I love you all equally. Aunt Jane's been out there peddling the story that she was always my favorite aunt. And I'm just—I'm just here to say, officially for the record, I

00:07:27 Joan Guest don't play favorites. Alright. Sorry, your Aunt Jane though was a jerk.
Well, she wasn't the nicest person, and she only ever gave me one thing—which was this print of Christopher Robin and Winnie the Pooh standing at a bridge. And she hand-colored it with colored pencils and she gave it to me in a frame, and it hung in our shared room.

00:07:44 John Host What a creep she was to do this.

[They chuckle.]

To only give you this one piece of loving—lovingly—well, I mean, in many ways she's the same as the guy who made *Blood and Honey*. She took this original IP and then put her own twist on it.

[Joan confirms.]

00:08:01 Joan Guest With colored pencils.
But naturalistic hues.

00:08:04 John Host Naturalistic hues. So, she did this nice thing for you.

[Joan confirms.]

And you hung it in the room that you shared with your younger sister, Barbara.

[Joan confirms.]

00:08:15 Joan Guest And so, what's the—what's the issue? I mean, this is—
Well, I got my own room eventually. And poor Barbara, her room was—it should've been a hallway, because the two bedrooms on that floor, we walk through that bedroom to get to the stairs. It's a very, very old house. So, I left it when I got my own room. I left it behind, because it didn't go with the décor of my hip, new—you know—only room.

00:08:41 John Host How old were you when you moved to your new room?

00:08:43 Joan Guest So, this would've been—I would've been ten. Because it—yeah.

00:08:46 John Host Ten years old. So, it was time to put—

00:08:48 Joan Guest Yeah, ten years old.

00:08:49 John Host It was time to put aside childish things.

00:08:51 Joan Guest Well, not put them aside altogether, but leave them in the child's room. So—

00:08:55 John Host Leave them with the child, Barbara.

00:08:57 Joan Guest That's right. So, I passed it by every single day. So, it was still mine, because there it was, right by the stairs. And I saw it every day. I went to college after that. And I assumed that the print would have stayed where it was in our childhood room. But years and years later, I went to a party at my sister's house. And it was—

00:09:24 John Host How many years later, would you say?

00:09:26 Joan Guest *[Thoughtfully.]* 25?

00:09:27 John Host 20? Decades later, let's just say.

00:09:29 Joan Guest Ish? Decades later. We were adults.

00:09:31 John Host You were adults at the time.

00:09:34 Joan Guest We were drinking, in fact.

[John laughs.]

00:09:37 John Host And I found the print. She was having a party—
00:09:40 Joan Guest There's nothing like a Joan and Barbara party, then.
That's right. There's nothing like a drunk Barbara, honestly.

[John laughs with surprise.]

00:09:55 John Host So, we—I found the print at her house, and probably just started
yelling right away. We had a dispute. And—
At this point, you were adults. She had moved into her own home.
And you're both in Maryland, now. Maryland is a state in the
eastern United States.

00:10:03 Joan Guest We've always been in Maryland. We've never been anywhere else
but Maryland.

00:10:06 John Host You've always been a couple of mid-Atlantic gals.
00:10:08 Joan Guest That's us! Mid-Atlantica. And so, when I found the print in her
house, I yelled at her. I told her that it was mine. So, she thought we
should resolve this dispute as quickly as possible. So, she picked
up the phone and she called my parents. It was 1:30 in the morning.
So, my—

[John laughs.]

My dad answered the phone, assuming that someone was—you
know—dead. And the look on my sister's face is one of my favorite
memories of all time, when my father answered the phone. So, we
got my mother on the phone and Barbara asked her the question,
“Did Aunt Jane give this print to Joan?” And my mother said yes. At
which point, my sister—in typical little sister fashion—went, “Nuh-
uh!”

00:11:06 John Host And then, my mother said—my mother said, “Well, maybe not.
Maybe—maybe it was to both of you.” At which point, she took that
as affirmation and rubbed it in my face. But it's lies! It's—
Let the record show the deployment of a very powerful legal
argument of “nuh-uh”.

[Barbara laughs.]

00:11:14 Jesse Host I mean, it's really—
00:11:15 Joan Guest Sustained!
00:11:22 John Host That's a go—it's a go-to in the legalese of the Webber family.
And so, you got a muddled decision from your mother.

[Joan confirms.]

00:11:30 Joan Guest Because she was cowed by Barbara's “nuh-uh”.
00:11:35 John Host Often continues to be cowed by Barbara's “nuh-uh”.
Right. And so, now you've turned to me as a final authority to
decide.

00:11:39 Joan Guest I think that makes sense, ultimately. The next time I saw it was she
then had a child, a little girl. My only niece. And I found it at her
house. And I started the argument again. At which point, she
deployed the second most popular legal argument of baby sisters,
which is, “How could you do that to my daughter? It's her most

00:12:19	John	Host	favorite thing in the world. She's just a baby. You can't take it from her." And I... buckled at that point. And now, she is 21 years old.
00:12:20	Joan	Guest	The niece is.
00:12:30	John	Host	The niece is. And I believe that it is time for Winnie the Pooh to come home to where he is most loved: with me. Now, you say most loved.

[Joan confirms.]

And Barbara, I will hear your case in a moment. I saw you leaning in. You are ready to go.

[Barbara laughs.]

You are almost literally loaded for bear.

[They laugh.]

I have taken a screenshot of both sisters, including Barbara who is wearing what looks like the skin of Winnie the Pooh. It's some kind of Winnie the Pooh like costume or outfit, but it looks like you—it looks like—oh, it's like a hoodie. Okay, it's a Winnie the Pooh hoodie.

00:13:01	Barbara	Guest	It's a onesie.
00:13:02	John	Host	Where the—a onesie, no less! But the hood is a Winnie the Pooh face. So, you look like—you look like an old bear trapper of old timey times who skinned Winnie the Pooh and are wearing the bearskin on your head.
00:13:17	Jesse	Host	Yeah, John, this is—goes far beyond what you're describing. Certainly, she looks in the frame of our view like an old-time bear hunter who is wearing a bear head on top of his head. But again, this is a onesie. She looks like she has completely flayed Winnie the Pooh, removed his flesh, and donned his skin head-to-toe.

[They laugh.]

00:13:48	Barbara	Guest	My husband told me not to wear it. Now I know why.
00:13:52	John	Host	It's like a—like the cozy goth of Grizzly Adams wear.

[Jesse laughs.]

00:13:55	Joan	Guest	It's like A. A. Milne meets <i>Braveheart</i> .
00:13:59	John	Host	Frankly, it's more terrifying than <i>Blood and Honey</i> , the Winnie the Pooh movie.
00:14:04	Barbara	Guest	It's really hot, too.
00:14:06	John	Host	Well, you should feel free to take it off, 'cause it's definitely scaring me. I mean, you can pull the hood down. Although, wearing a Winnie the Pooh cowl or blankie over your head while recording is, of course, industry standard how you record voiceover auditions. So.
00:14:23	Barbara	Guest	That's what I'm saying.
00:14:24	John	Host	Pretty good. It was good for acoustics, but not good for your comfort. But I just want to contend for a moment, Barbara, before you get to speak your piece with Joan, here. You say that this is a beloved childhood artifact and that should be returned to the house in Maryland where it is most loved, which is your house in Maryland. And yet, you left it behind decades ago.

[Joan confirms.]

Much like Christopher Robin left Pooh and Piglet behind in the movie *Blood and Honey*. And then, they got so mad that they turned into murderers.

00:14:59 Jesse Host

Sadistic murderers, specifically.

[John confirms.]

00:15:03 Joan Guest

Well, I do have an answer for that. And it is the childhood home. I actually—

00:15:09 John Host

Oh, you inherited the childhood home.

00:15:12 Joan Guest

Well, we all live at the childhood home in a way. The property was about 20-some acres, and part of it was divided off. And Barbara's house is on that property. And then, the old house—the family house—as my parents got older, my husband and I added onto that house, making it a duplex. So, we all do live on this weird, little commune.

00:15:38 John Host

This is getting more frightening by the moment.

[They chuckle.]

00:15:43 Joan Guest

We should've sent you a picture. It's very beautiful.

00:15:47 John Host

I'm sure that it is. But let me clarify: the house that you currently occupy is the house where your original childhood bedroom was, where this thing was hung.

00:15:57 Joan Guest

It's attached to that house.

00:15:59 John Host

It's attached. You're closer to it than Barbara is.

00:16:03 Joan Guest

I am all of about 200 yards closer to it than Barbara is, because her house is up the hill.

00:16:11 John Host

You know what, Joan? You really painted a lot of word-picture there, describing the property in Maryland, the nature of the compound, the nature of the extensions. I mean, I'm surprised you didn't bring up easements and borderlines and having the land surveyed.

00:16:27 Joan Guest

I could!

00:16:29 John Host

I bet you could.

00:16:30 Joan Guest

I could, yes.

00:16:31 John Host

But do you know what I have to say to that? Nuh-uh.

[They both "nuh-uh" back.]

Nuh-uh that matters. You left it behind, and you know it. Stop it.

[Barbara agrees.]

Stop—Barbara, you talk now. Joan left the print behind, and you with it.

[Joan cackles.]

00:16:45 Barbara Guest

Yeah. Exactly! She left me with my crazy parents. Just kidding. Um, for the record, I don't have a good memory of when she showed up to that party. I was a little bit buzzed.

[They chuckle.]

And this Winnie the Pooh has been in—was in my bedroom my whole childhood. So, I really did assume it was mine. So, Joan went

off to college, didn't take it with her. I went off to college, and I will say I didn't take it—just like she said; it wouldn't have been cool in my college dorm. Although, I did decorate with Snoopy, so I probably could've. But then when I moved to my kind of grownup house, that's when I took it. Now, Joan did live in a grownup house before I did. So, she could've easily at any point come and gotten it from our house. But I took it, because in my mind, it was mine. And my mom didn't say that I couldn't take it. So. Mom didn't say!

[John laughs.]

So, I took it. So, then—you know, when I'm in my 20s, she says it's hers. And I am shocked, 'cause I'm like what are you talking about? Like, in my brain, it's always been mine. So, fast-forward. I forgot about this whole night. She's also talking about when she talked to me about my daughter and my daughter had it in her room. I also don't remember that conversation. *[Chuckling.]* I don't know why! I don't! I really, honestly don't remember that at all. So, when she contacted me about this podcast, in my mind I still thought that this was mine—the Winne the Pooh print was mine.

00:18:31 John Host

Have you ever considered a career in politics?

[They laugh.]

Because I think that you could probably withstand any congressional hearing simply by saying “nuh-uh”.

[Barbara “nuh-uh”s.]

00:18:44 Barbara Guest

Or “I don't remember”.
“I was drunk.”

[They laugh.]

00:18:48 John Host
00:18:51 Joan Guest

And also, “Mom didn't say it was wrong. So.”
I would say that I have actually written her name into—as a write-in candidate for schoolboard.

[They chuckle.]

00:18:59 John Host
00:19:03 Barbara Guest
00:19:05 John Host

I think that would be good. What do you do for a living instead, if I may ask, Barbara?
I'm a children's librarian.
A children's librarian! So, indeed, you work with children's books, like *Winnie the Pooh*.

[Barbara confirms.]

00:19:21 Joan Guest
00:19:23 Jesse Host
00:19:24 John Host
00:19:25 Joan Guest
00:19:28 John Host
00:19:30 Joan Guest
00:19:31 John Host
00:19:34 Joan Guest

Hmmm. Joan, do you have a job that connects you to children's literature in the same way?
I'm an English teacher.
Wow!
A what level, if I may ask?
At the upper school level and the college level.
You can say high school level.
I can, yeah. We call it an upper school.
You're gonna try to trick me with your word salad!
It's private school talk. I teach at a private high school.

00:19:38	Jesse	Host	She's trying to convey that her students wear those little blue, wool shorts.
			<i>[Joan confirms.]</i>
00:19:42	John	Host	Just like Christopher Robin, for example.
00:19:44	Joan	Guest	Just like Christopher Robin.
00:19:46	John	Host	Mm. I see. Okay. Well, you both—thank you for the—for the work that you both do in those honorable professions.
00:19:52	Barbara	Guest	You're welcome.
00:19:55	John	Host	Let me ask you a question, just to clarify this for a second. I just wanna get this timeline down. Joan, you moved out, went to college. You left your younger sister, Barbara, behind.
			<i>[Joan confirms.]</i>
00:20:09	Joan	Guest	There's, what? Two or three years between you, would you say?
00:20:10	John	Host	Three.
			Three years between you. Okay. And then, Barbara, you still slept in that childhood room with that print of Winnie the Pooh and Piglet and Christopher Robin. Of course, we will be featuring that on our show page at MaximumFun.org as well as on Instagram, @JudgeJohnHodgman on Instagram, 'cause the IP is free now. We'll do whatever we want with it.
00:20:31	Jesse	Host	IP freely.
			<i>[They chuckle.]</i>
00:20:32	John	Host	That's exactly right. Then, did you—? What did you do? Did you move out to go to college or something after that, Barbara?
			<i>[Barbara confirms.]</i>
00:20:44	Barbara	Guest	Did you take it with you, or did you leave it behind?
00:20:47	John	Host	So, I left it behind, because—you know, I had—
00:20:48	Barbara	Guest	You also left it behind.
			Well, I will say that we had—you know—concrete walls or whatever in college. And we had very strict orders that we couldn't—you know—put nails in the wall. You had to use to tape. You know, that sticky tape and I would not have been able to hang that in my dorm. And I knew that, I think.
00:21:08	John	Host	'Cause it was framed.
00:21:09	Barbara	Guest	'Cause it was framed and it's heavy. Oh, I knew.
00:21:13	John	Host	Right. And you went to college at the college of survival bunker construction in southeast Maryland?
			<i>[Barbara confirms.]</i>
00:21:25	Barbara	Guest	Alright. So, you left it behind. When did you reclaim it?
			I reclaimed it when I was 22 and moved in with my friends and got my own room.
00:21:36	John	Host	So, you were like okay, I'm in my own room now. I'm 22. I'm starting my life. I got some drywall. I've got a stud finder. I know how to hang a picture now. I'm a grownup. I'm gonna go back to that house and grab that thing.
			<i>[Barbara confirms.]</i>

00:21:59 Joan Guest Grab that print. And Joan, at this point you were 24/25. Had you given a thought to this thing?
 00:22:03 John Host Yeah, it was always at home. It was part of home.
 00:22:07 Joan Guest But did you ever think to yourself—I mean, did you make your home for yourself at this point, after college?
 00:22:12 John Host Oh, I did, yes. I was in Baltimore at this point.
 Charm city, the city that reads.

[Joan confirms.]

And at any point when you were setting up house in Baltimore, did you think to yourself or say to anyone or write in a letter that you then sealed and mailed to yourself to establish evidence, “I can’t wait to hang the Winnie the Pooh print in my new home, here in Charm City, Baltimore.”

00:22:31 Joan Guest No. No, because to me it belonged—
 00:22:34 John Host Did you ever have any intention of reclaiming it?
 00:22:37 Joan Guest To me, it belonged at home. It was from the childhood bedroom, and it should be there any time I went up the stairs from then on, Winnie the Pooh and Christopher Robin should be there.
 00:22:49 John Host And why should it be there?
 00:22:51 Joan Guest Well, because it’s part of your childhood history and you—and you leave that at home.
 00:22:56 John Host My childhood history?
 00:22:58 Joan Guest You—one’s childhood history.
 00:22:59 John Host I believe you’re mistaking that Winnie the Pooh print with a poster for *Casablanca* and then another poster of the cover for *Amphigorey*, the Edward Gorey collection.
 00:23:09 Joan Guest We have the Gorey in common, but we definitely had different childhood bedrooms.
 00:23:13 John Host I don’t know why I had that *Casablanca* print.
 00:23:15 Joan Guest That was—that was weird.

[John agrees.]

But for me, it was—you know, you turn your childhood into a little bit of a shrine, and Winnie the Pooh belonged there, because it was in that room that our mother read us every single Winnie the Pooh story and read us every single poem. And in high school, when I did oral interpretation, I did Winnie the Pooh stories. When I was in college and I was finding myself, I found *The Tao of Pooh*. I mean, Winnie the Pooh is constant in my life. He’s my favorite childhood character. And so, for me, it was part of the childhood home. And then, she tore apart the shrine.

00:24:05 John Host You just felt better feeling that it was there, even though you were not there to look at it.

[Joan confirms.]

Right. And of course, the other thing is that it is the sole piece of Winnie the Pooh merchandise available on Earth. It is the only way to remind yourself of Winnie the Pooh and feel a connection to it.

00:24:24 Joan Guest *[Laughs.]* It was the moment in my life that this aunt was nice to me around something that was really culturally important to me. I mean, Winnie the Pooh is my guy.

00:24:36	Jesse	Host	Let's take a quick recess and hear about this week's <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> sponsor. We'll be back in just a moment on the <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast!
00:24:43	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
00:24:46	John	Host	Hello! I'm your Judge John Hodgman. The <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast is brought to you every week by you! Our members, of course. Thank you so much for your support of this podcast and all of your favorite podcasts at MaximumFun.org —and they are all your favorites. If you want to join the many member supporters of this podcast and this network, boy, oh boy, that would be fantastic. Just go to MaximumFun.org/join .
00:25:15	Jesse	Host	The <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast is also brought to you this week by Wildgrain!
00:25:21	John	Host	Pasta [<i>with an Italian flourish</i>] primavera!
00:25:23	Jesse	Host	That's the pasta of spring, John!
00:25:25	John	Host	Pasta of springtime, and it's springtime. But where are you gonna get the pasta? How about Wildgrain? They don't just send you that incredible baked from frozen sourdough bread and artisanal pastries. They also have fresh pastas delivered right to your door. And you don't have to get all covered in flour. That's my concern about making pasta is that it would be that thing where there's like clouds of flour floating around while I try and run it through some kind of cranking machine. I don't know where pasta comes from! And I don't have to, because I have Wildgrain.
00:25:40	Jesse	Host	Yeah. And there's a guy in your kitchen playing the accordion going [<i>sings a tune</i>]. Come on. Keep it down, buddy.
00:26:03	Jesse	Host	Give me a break. I want free croissants, also.
00:26:06	John	Host	Well, good news for you, because for a limited time you can get \$30 off the first box of Wildgrain, plus free croissants in every box when you go to Wildgrain.com/jjho to start your subscription. You heard me! Free [<i>with a French flourish</i>] croissant! In every box. And \$30 off your first box when you go to Wildgrain.com/jjho .
00:26:28	Jesse	Host	That's Wildgrain.com/jjho or you can use the promo code JJHO at checkout.
			The <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast is also brought to you this week by Brooklinen.
00:26:41	John	Host	Jesse, you know what this week?
00:26:42	Jesse	Host	I give up.
00:26:43	John	Host	Sleep week! And you know what sleep week means in New York City: all the sailors come off the ships. They go into Manhattan, and they find a nice place to nap.
			[<i>Jesse wheezes a laugh.</i>]
			Sleep week. No, it's truly—it's true. It's national sleep awareness week, and you need to be aware of your sleep. You can celebrate your sleep and make sure you're sleeping great by going to Brooklinen. They're offering 20% off for sleep week!
00:27:06	Jesse	Host	If you don't know what to get for the sale—well, of course, you can go take a look! But why not consider a bundle? You can bundle sheets with towels. You can bundle blankets with sheets. There's all kinds of bundles and bundling means you save more money every single time.

00:27:26	John	Host	I'm going to tell you right now, I just upgraded my sleep with some new pillowcases from Brooklinen—or as I like to call it, Brook Line N. And my sleep is better! It's just, you know—it's a simple thing. Update your sheets and your pillowcases, your comforter, whatever it is from time to time. Or check out their silky sleek masks or their soft throws—anything to make yourself a little bit cozy. Make sure that you focus a little bit on your sleep. So, visit Brooklinen.com to shop the sleep week sale now for 20% off.
00:27:55	Jesse	Host	Did you miss the sale? You can still \$20 off your purchase of \$100 with the code Hodgman.
00:28:02	John	Host	That's B-R-O-O-K-L-I-N-E-N dot com and use offer code Hodgman, H-O-D-G-M-A-N, for \$20 off your purchase today.
00:28:13	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
00:28:15	John	Host	Barbara, you mentioned that when you went to college, you decorated your bunker—your concrete bunker with Snoopy. Snoopy themed. You had moved on.
00:28:24	Barbara	Guest	I knew this was gonna come back. <i>[Chuckles.]</i> Yes.
00:28:27	John	Host	What are we talking about?
00:28:28	Barbara	Guest	Well—
00:28:29	Joan	Guest	Tell him. Tell him! Tell him.
00:28:31	Barbara	Guest	Okay. I had a Snoopy bedspread and curtains and a Snoopy—stuffed Snoopy.
00:28:41	Joan	Guest	You still have a stuffed Snoopy on your bed. The same stuffed Snoopy that I sewed the mouth back on because a dog had ripped it off. It's the same Snoopy. You still have it in your bed.
00:28:56	Barbara	Guest	I don't have it in my <u>bed</u> ! But I do have it in my bedroom. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
00:29:03	John	Host	Joan, you mentioned that when you left for college, you did not take the print with you—the Winnie the Pooh print with you. Instead, you probably decorated your college dorm room with other things. What were your posters?
00:29:15	Joan	Guest	I had no decorations on my walls. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
00:29:20	John	Host	"Take On Me" by A-ha?
00:29:22	Joan	Guest	I had a roommate who was in charge of all decorations, and she was really classy. So, we had fuzzy rugs and grass mats and, you know, important art on the walls.
00:29:35	John	Host	Fuzzy rugs and grass mats!
			<i>[Joan confirms.]</i>
00:29:41	Joan	Guest	What were you, glamping through college?!
00:29:43	John	Host	It was the 1980s. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:29:48	Joan	Guest	Do you remember one poster that you had in your dorm room, whether or not you chose it?
00:29:51	John	Host	I had a poster of Baryshnikov.
			Baryshnikov. That's a good dorm room poster.
			<i>[Joan agrees.]</i>
00:29:57	Jesse	Host	Jesse Thorn, do you have a really good dorm room poster?
00:30:07	John	Host	At one point, I had our entire dorm room door covered in 1987 Donruss baseball cards.
00:30:08	Jesse	Host	That's pretty good.
			On April Fools, someone moved them all to my neighbor's door, and I never found out who.

00:30:15	John	Host	Woooah! College prank!
00:30:17	Jesse	Host	In fact, it was the door of our friend Dan Grayson, who made the presentation for our live tour recently.
00:30:24	John	Host	For our frontier justice presentation?
			<i>[Jesse confirms.]</i>
			That's fantastic. Huh! Someday, we'll solve that mystery. By the way, the Hardy Boys are in the public domain now. So. Get them on the case. First three Hardy Boys.
			<i>[Jesse "wow"s.]</i>
00:30:40	Valerie Moffatt	Producer	Valerie Moffatt, ever—did you ever have a cool dorm room poster? Something like that?
			No, I—so, I never lived in a dorm in college. But my childhood bedroom at the time, which I was still living in—this was before I had escaped the male lifestyle, as it were—was pretty much plastered top to bottom with Led Zeppelin posters. So, it was pretty cool.
			<i>[They laugh.]</i>
00:31:00	John	Host	That's pretty cool. That's pretty cool.
00:31:02	Jesse	Host	Wait, Valerie— <i>[laughing]</i> when—when your gender was affirmed, did you like switch to Indigo Girls posters or something?
00:31:11	Valerie	Producer	<i>[Laughs.]</i> Uh, no, Kate Bush.
00:31:13	Jesse	Host	Got it.
00:31:14	John	Host	Also, very cool. I already outed myself with my <i>Casablanca</i> poster. Barbara, did Aunt Jane—tell me about Aunt Jane. Did Aunt Jane ever give anything to you?
00:31:23	Barbara	Guest	She never gave anything to me. She had a son my age, so I was at her house a lot. And so, I—
00:31:32	John	Host	So, she had every opportunity to show generosity to you, but she did not.
			<i>[Barbara confirms.]</i>
			Did she have a special relationship with Joan, i.e., she played favorites?
00:31:42	Barbara	Guest	I don't think so. I don't know what happened the day she gave that to Joan. I always thought it was mine, so I know—I don't know the backstory to whether she gave it to her for a birthday or when she was born. I don't know.
00:31:59	John	Host	Do you agree that Aunt Jane was not the nicest person? To use your terminology.
00:32:02	Barbara	Guest	100%, I agree.
00:32:04	John	Host	Can you give me an example of how she was not particularly nice?
00:32:07	Barbara	Guest	So, she would refer to her daughter's boyfriend as Puke. That's what she called him.
			<i>[John "wow"s.]</i>
00:32:20	John	Host	So, that's just one of the many things I remember about her. What was she like? Was she harsh? Was she cruel? Was she mean? Was she like the aunts in <i>James and the Giant Peach</i> ?

00:32:28 Barbara Guest Not to that extent. She just—she wasn't very nice. She wasn't like a nurturing—you know, it's not a milk and cookies kind of aunt who knits little things for you. She had a very good with, though, and she was very sarcastic. And when you're young, you don't understand sarcasm. So, you know, I guess she thought she was funny sometimes, but...

00:32:55 John Host Like a funny joke to give something to one sister but not give anything to the other sister.

[Barbara agrees.]

00:32:59 Joan Guest That sounds right.

00:33:00 John Host That kind of fun joke.

00:33:01 Joan Guest There's a daughter who's close to my age. So, we have—you know, the two of us—Elizabeth is only literally a couple of weeks younger than I am. And then, Jonathan is about a month older than Barbara. But Elizabeth was never allowed to spend the night at our house, because we were—she called us ragamuffins. We were too—we were too sort of farm kids. We were—we liked to play outside and get dirty. And she preferred cutoffs to be hemmed. So, I think that gives you a sense of who she was.

00:33:37 John Host Do you remember when she gave the print to you, Joan?

[Joan confirms.]

00:33:43 Joan Guest Tell me about what happened.

00:33:52 John Host Well, it was kind of—I don't wanna say that it was a moment where she and I bonded and we expressed our love for one another and she said, "I want you to have this."

00:34:00 Joan Guest I don't need—I don't need you to tell me the aboutness. That's my job is to figure that out. Just tell me the details of what happened. Just the facts, ma'am, as they say.

00:34:11 John Host It was a very matter of fact moment. They came to the house for Thanksgiving, and she just gave it to me. That was—that was it. There was no—

00:34:13 Joan Guest Do you remember her saying something to you?

00:34:16 John Host No. She wouldn't have. She would've just given it to me.

00:34:18 Joan Guest Was it wrapped?

00:34:20 John Host Oh, no. Not at all. It was just there. Handed to you.

[Joan confirms.]

Did she say, "This is for you. Make sure your sister never gets her dirty farmhand paws on it?"

[Barbara chuckles.]

00:34:27 Joan Guest You know, now that you mention it, I believe that she might have said that. Let me... yes!

[John laughs.]

00:34:35 Jesse Host No, she didn't.

00:34:38 Joan Guest You're under oath!

00:34:41 John Host *[Stammering.]* She didn't say that. I doubt that she said it. I object to myself for leading the witness, and I sustain my own objection.

[They chuckle.]

00:34:51 Joan Guest Did she say, "This is for you." I'll remind you, you're under oath. Yeah, I don't remember her saying anything. I remember her giving me the print with the frame. And honestly, that was—it was a big deal, because I had never had—like, I'm a little kid. I never had a framed print before. And I knew that she had hand—I don't know how I knew that she had hand colored it, but I did. And it was—it was really a moment where I thought she did care. *[Chuckles.]* And then, nah. But in that moment, I do remember it, because she had never given me anything before, and she would never give me anything again after that.

00:35:28 John Host What room were you in?

00:35:30 Joan Guest We were in the hallway. So, the door is on the side—

00:35:34 John Host I don't need to see blueprints, Joan.

[They chuckle.]

00:35:37 Joan Guest I'm an—an imagist. *[Laughs.]*

00:35:40 John Host Okay. I respect that. I understand. Go ahead. Zillow it up for me. Let me hear the whole landscape of the house.

00:35:47 Joan Guest Well, no, that would take too long. 'Cause I'd have to go into the construction that happened on that side of the house to create a door. There's a lot to it. But we were in the entrance hallway, between the front door and the kitchen.

00:36:00 John Host And was there anyone else there?

00:36:02 Joan Guest Actually, I don't remember that. There must have been, because Thanksgiving at the Webber household is just dozens of people. So, there had to have been other people there.

00:36:12 John Host But in your memory, it was a private moment between Jane and you.

[Joan confirms.]

And I just ask, is it possible that she—*[chuckling]* she might have confused you for someone else? Like her own daughter, another cousin. I know you have an older sibling, too.

00:36:30 Joan Guest We do, yeah. It's definitely not him.

00:36:32 John Host Do you think that this was a gift for you or for the child who happened to be standing there?

00:36:38 Joan Guest No, so now you're breaking my heart, John Hodgman.

[Barbara laughs.]

00:36:42 John Host Because I—

00:36:43 Joan Guest That's what I'm here to do!
I believe—so, there's a lot of psychological stuff with this, because as a child, you don't expect grownups to not like you. It's just a really kind of surprising thing. So, she would say these terrible things to me—you know, sort of all the time. Commenting on my appearance. You know, she called my hair a rat's nest, because I had just been outside playing. So, this—

[John apologizes.]

This was one of those moments where it was like, *[excitedly]* “She—she likes me! You know? She actually likes me.” And then, it was gone. So, you know, the—that moment does ring true in my head, but it was—like it’s—that’s why is because I thought something had changed. I thought that now—you know—she would be nice to me. But no.

00:37:33 John Host And had something changed?

00:37:35 Joan Guest No. I think if I were to guess what happened is that she just made two and like, “Oh, you can have it, girl. You’re close to Elizabeth’s age. You—here. Here you go.” I don’t think she—

00:37:50 John Host Oh, she may have made one for—you know, done two. Made one for her own daughter, and then cast this one off to you.

[Joan confirms.]

It may—so, you’re acknowledging it may not have meant to her what it meant to you in that moment.

00:38:04 Joan Guest Oh, more than acknowledging. It’s one of those moments in life that you have to accept that it did mean more to me.

[John apologizes.]

Oh no, it’s okay.

00:38:11 John Host I’m very sorry that that’s an ambiguity that you have to live with. I under—but I don’t! So.

[Joan laughs.]

It sounds genuinely painful. I mean, I’m sorry that Aunt Jane was a jerk.

00:38:20 Joan Guest Oh, we can’t say that. We can’t say she was a jerk, because we have to understand her life. But that’s another story, John Hodgman, that you don’t need.

00:38:28 John Host Absolutely! I’m very sorry that Aunt Jane left you wondering how you felt about her.

[Joan thanks him.]

Which is a jerky thing to do.

[Barbara laughs and they agree.]

And that’s what I will say, more neutrally.

00:38:42 Joan Guest Yeah. That is—that is true.

00:38:45 John Host *[Stammering.]* This isn’t to suggest that there isn’t an Aunt Jane point of view to this whole thing. Obviously, there’s context that I’ll never get because Aunt Jane is no longer with us, I presume. Right?

[Joan confirms.]

Or else we could’ve resolved this. And just to be clear, none of your cousins wants this piece of art. Right?

[Joan confirms.]

00:39:05 Joan Guest It's just between you and Barbara at this point.
00:39:09 John Host Yeah. Our brother isn't interested in it either. He doesn't care.
He doesn't care. Fine. He would be here if he cared.

[Barbara agrees.]

00:39:14 Joan Guest What's his name?
00:39:15 John Host David.
Typical David.

[They agree.]

00:39:17 Jesse Host Classic David.
00:39:18 Barbara Guest We call him Prince David.
00:39:21 John Host Oooh!

[Joan confirms.]

00:39:22 Jesse Host Rough.
I was just thinking this is a total Prince David move.

[They agree.]

00:39:27 Joan Guest I actually called him Jesus Christ when we were in high school. I
was a...

[They chuckle.]

00:39:36 John Host He was so perfect! *[Laughs.]*
So, Barbara, you have a daughter. Is that correct?

[She confirms.]

00:39:45 Barbara Guest She grew up with this print?
00:39:50 John Host From the time she was born, it was in her childhood room.
Right. 'Cause you had taken it, showed it off at this party. Joan tried
to reclaim it. You said, "Nuh-uh." Joan didn't get it back then.

[She confirms.]

You kept it, went on, had a child, and it was now part of her
childhood room.

[Barbara confirms.]

00:40:10 Barbara Guest What does she feel about it?
00:40:13 Joan Guest I don't know if I can speak for her, but—
00:40:15 Barbara Guest Nice try.
I would love to say she would be devastated if it wasn't in her room,
but honestly I can't speak for her.

00:40:22 John Host Have you asked her?
00:40:23 Barbara Guest I haven't. I should've. But maybe I didn't wanna know? I don't know.
I will say—go ahead.

00:40:29 John Host Uh-huh. Let me ask you—let me ask you this question. Do you
have her telephone number?

[Barbara confirms.]

Do you have the ability to text her right now?

[She confirms.]

Alright. Would you please text her and ask her how she would feel if her Aunt Joan were to take the Pooh print away.

00:40:49 Barbara Guest

Alright. I will text her. As Joan knows, she doesn't often answer her texts, but I will try.

00:40:57 Joan Guest

She's in college.

00:40:58 John Host

No, no, completely. I understand about college aged children forgetting that you exist and refusing to answer even the most simple questions by text until you feel completely erased and despairing. But I would say—but I will say, you should add to your message, before you—have you sent the first one?

[She confirms.]

Send one more quick message. And this message should be: "If you do not reply in the next ten minutes, I will presume the answer is 'I don't care'." I'm setting a timer.

00:41:33 Barbara Guest

Sent.

00:41:35 John Host

Alright, timer is going. Is your daughter your only child?

00:41:38 Barbara Guest

No. So, I have a son who is two years younger than my daughter.

00:41:44 John Host

Do you anticipate that he feels a connection to this Pooh print?

00:41:48 Barbara Guest

I definitely do. So, I could—I feel pretty strongly if I were to ask him this question that he would not be happy about it leaving the house.

00:42:00 John Host

Follow up question. Do you find the term Pooh print as disgusting as I do?

[Barbara agrees with a laugh.]

Alright. Pretty amazing that A. A. Milne got away with calling a character a poo. You know what I mean? It was 1926. I know that that was a long time ago, but surely Pooh meant a poo, even then. Had to have, right?

00:42:21 Barbara Guest

I think so.

00:42:22 John Host

Whatever the case. So, you're saying you think your son would be upset too?

00:42:26 Barbara Guest

Yeah. So, he nightly listens—

00:42:28 John Host

Do you have any evidence—have any evidence that he has a particular connection to this print?

00:42:33 Barbara Guest

I have evidence that he has a connection to Winnie the Pooh, A. A. Milne. And so, therefore I assume he has a connection to this print, because we also played Pooh sticks all the time when they were little, which is what's—

00:42:45 John Host

I didn't think it could get grosser than Pooh print.

[They laugh.]

And you bring Pooh sticks into the conversation. Jesse Thorn?

00:42:54 Jesse Host

Judge Hodgman.

00:42:55 John Host

I think this is gonna be one of the top-rated episodes among Oscar Thorn fans.

[Jesse laughs.]

00:43:10	Barbara	Guest	Among the audience of Oscar Thorns and his ilk. So, you also played Pooh sticks, which is a game—a Winnie the Pooh game. Right, and that’s what’s depicted in the print. It’s Christopher Robin and Winnie the Pooh and Piglet playing Pooh sticks on a bridge.
00:43:18	John	Host	You’re on a bridge. You drop a twig into moving water below you, and then what happens?
00:43:22	Barbara	Guest	And then you run over to the other side of the bridge to see whose stick is in the lead.
00:43:29	John	Host	I see. So, it’s not like the game pick up sticks.

[Barbara confirms.]

			No. It’s not like you’re trying to pick up sticks or—I’ll put it this way—grasping at straws the way you are right now, trying to make an argument.
00:43:41	Barbara	Guest	<i>[Laughs and then gasps.]</i> Whaaat!?
00:43:43	John	Host	Well, everyone loves Winnie the Pooh. That doesn’t mean you have evidence that he’s particularly connected to this thing. And it wasn’t in his childhood bedroom, correct?
00:43:51	Barbara	Guest	That is correct. Um, she—okay. I have an answer. Okay.
00:43:55	John	Host	Wait, wait. Don’t—don’t—don’t—don’t give me the answer yet. Don’t give me the answer yet. Let’s take an emergency break. You won’t get to hear what Isabella says until I tell you to watch <i>Up Here</i> on Hulu! March 24 th !

[Barbara chuckles.]

Make sure to watch *Up Here*, starring Mae Whitman, Carlos Valdes, and featuring various other actors who are very, very skilled, and then also me! Rounding out the cast. *Up Here* on Hulu, March 24th. But hold now for that answer still, ‘cause I wanna ask Joan a question.

00:44:30	Joan	Guest	Joan, this is a personal question. I hope you don’t mind if I ask.
00:44:31	John	Host	I don’t mind.
00:44:32	Joan	Guest	Do you have children?
00:44:33	John	Host	I have one daughter, yes.
00:44:36	Joan	Guest	You have one daughter. And what is her age? Or ballpark it for me.
00:44:38	John	Host	She’s 24.
			She’s 24. Also an adult at this point. Does she have a connection to this particular print?
00:44:43	Joan	Guest	No.
00:44:44	John	Host	Nope. No connection. I appreciate your answering honestly, swiftly, without making up a connection to try to win the case, and without resorting to, uh, descriptions of foundations and where the well is on your property or whatever.
00:45:02	Joan	Guest	I could! <i>[Laughs.]</i>
00:45:03	John	Host	I know. I appreciate your fairness. I appreciate your honesty. This is the—this is the thing I wanna ask you, Joan. And this—we don’t know Isabella’s answer just yet. You are an aunt to Isabella. How would you have felt if some years—maybe <i>[chuckling]</i> decades after Aunt Jane gave you this print, she came to your home and said, “Actually, I want that back. I want that back. I meant to give it to someone else or I decided I just want it back.” How would you have felt if you had grown up with this in your bedroom? How would you have felt about your aunt if Aunt Jane had done that to you?

00:45:50	Joan	Guest	So, I need to do some clarification and some contextualization. Isabella—
00:45:55	John	Host	I mean, as someone who grew up with a jerky aunt.
00:45:59	Joan	Guest	Isabella did not grow up with a jerky aunt. Isabella grew up with an aunt who adores her. So, my point would be that Isabella also comes down to the family home, and she would be able to visit it there as often as she wished!
00:46:16	John	Host	So, you're saying that you are so unlike Aunt Jane that the comparison I'm making is inapt.
00:46:23	Joan	Guest	I have to say that it threw me. I'm finding it very difficult to compare myself to Aunt Jane. I think that if you had asked Aunt Jane a single thing about my life, she would not have been able to answer it. But I can tell you an awful lot about Isabella, because we're actually pretty tight.
00:46:40	John	Host	Barbara, will you affirm, or do you deny that Aunt Joan is not Aunt Jane, even though those names almost sound very much alike?
00:46:49	Barbara	Guest	I know! It's confusing, but I will affirm that Aunt Joan is nothing like Aunt Jane.
00:46:57	John	Host	She doesn't have a history of doing jerky things?
00:47:00	Barbara	Guest	No. It's hard to say that, but no. No. <i>[Chuckles.]</i>
			<i>[Joan makes a kiss sound.]</i>
00:47:06	John	Host	Before I consider my verdict, we will have to hear from Isabella, but before that let me ask: Joan, what would you have me rule if I were to rule in your favor?
00:47:15	Joan	Guest	I would have you rule that the print goes back where it was in our childhood bedroom.
00:47:20	John	Host	Back to the original room. Who sleeps there now?
00:47:24	Joan	Guest	Nobody.
00:47:25	John	Host	Oh. Barbara, what would you have me rule if I were to rule in your favor?
00:47:28	Barbara	Guest	I would have you rule that it stays in the house of the person who has thought it belonged to her for her whole life.
00:47:38	John	Host	Thinking is 9/10ths of possession, is what you're saying.
00:47:40	Barbara	Guest	9/10ths of the law.
00:47:43	John	Host	Thinking I own it is 9/10ths of the law.
			<i>[Barbara confirms.]</i>
00:47:46	Jesse	Host	She's using a legal corollary of Harold Hill's think system.
			<i>[She agrees.]</i>
			Well established already in the field of music. This is an extension.
00:47:56	John	Host	Is there trouble right here? Right here, in Maryland city?
00:47:59	Jesse	Host	So it appears.
			<i>[They chuckle.]</i>
			With a capital T, that rhymes with P—
00:48:03	Crosstalk	Crosstalk	John & Jesse: <i>[In unison.]</i> And that stands for Pooh.
00:48:07	John	Host	That stands for Pooh!
00:48:08	Joan	Guest	Aw, it does.
00:48:09	John	Host	Gross. Alright, I do have to hear this evidence before I make my verdict. Would you please read me the text that Isabella wrote back to you, Barbara.

[She agrees.]

00:48:21 Barbara Guest And you swear that this is true.
I swear that it's true. Do you want me to read what I wrote to her, so you know I didn't try to sway her?
00:48:29 John Host Yes. Read me the messages you wrote to her and then read her response, please. Oh, but before you do—*Up Here* premieres on Hulu March 24th. Please check it out. It's a really, really fun romantic comedy musical set in 1999, starring the incredible Mae Whitman and Carlos Valdes. Alright, here we go.
00:48:47 Barbara Guest Okay, so I said, "How would you feel if Aunt Joan gets the Winnie the Pooh print? If you do not respond in the next 10 minutes, I'll assume you're okay if she takes it."

She responded, "Ha-ha. Oh gosh. Would be sad but would understand. Why so urgent?"

[They laugh.]

00:49:13 John Host My order to you, Barbara, is leave Isabella on read. Let her tolerate some ambiguity for a little while.
00:49:19 Barbara Guest *[Laughing.]* Yes! Love it.
00:49:22 John Host That's, uh—*[laughs]* and I'll be back in a moment with my decision.
00:49:27 Jesse Host Please rise as Judge John Hodgman exits the courtroom.

[The squeak of chairs followed by heavy footsteps and a door closing.]

00:49:37 Joan Guest Joan, how did it feel to hear that text?
It sounds exactly like what Isabella would say. It sounds exactly right. "It would make me sad, but if that's what needs to happen, then that's what should happen."
00:49:46 Jesse Host Barbara, what was it like for you?
00:49:48 Barbara Guest Yep. I—that—I was not at all surprised. She's very diplomatic.
00:49:53 Jesse Host Joan, why so urgent?
00:49:54 Joan Guest Well, it clearly is not urgent.

[They chuckle.]

00:50:11 Jesse Host It has been a longstanding thing, but I feel as though it's time for me to give up ancient grudges through the act of justice.
00:50:15 Barbara Guest Barbara, do you feel ready to release these grudges?
I didn't really have grudges about this. I mean, because for whatever reason, I must be burying it and it's all new every time she brings it up again.
00:50:30 Jesse Host I mean, we know what's going on here. *[Laughing.]* You're drinking to excess.

[Barbara laughs and agrees.]

00:50:38 Joan Guest She has a wonderful dissociative quality where she doesn't remember a lot of bad things that happened. She doesn't remember us fighting as children, and she doesn't remember these kinds of things. So, it's a—it's an interesting talent! *[Laughs.]*
00:50:56 Barbara Guest It's all new, every time! It's just like Henry Fonda. You know?
00:51:00 Jesse Host Joan, Barbara, this is material for that couple's therapy podcast where the—

[They laugh.]

Where the immoral therapist puts couples therapy onto a podcast. Okay, well, we'll see what Judge Hodgman has to say about this when we come back in just a moment. Three gavel bangs.

00:51:16 Sound Effect Transition

00:51:18 Promo Clip

[The sounds of a busy kitchen.]

Speaker: Two *Oh No, Ross and Carrie's*, three *Beef & Dairy* all day.

Waiter: Max Fun Drive! Hey, chef, we got another one!

Chef: Another Max Fun Drive!

[Ding!]

People know it's the best time to support the shows they love. You tell 'em all meet up day is back?

Waiter: Sure did. They wanted to know about the livestreams, though.

Chef: Those are finishing up right now. We can even send one out on the first night, March 20th.

Cook 1: March 20th! Chef!

Waiter: I'll give them a heads up. They also wanted the limited time thank you gifts for new and upgrading members.

Chef: Yup. And we got some fresh episodes ready to go, too.

Cook 2: Hot stuff coming through! Order up!

Waiter: Alright! We got exciting livestreams, meet up day, fresh episodes, limited time gifts. Oh, and BOCO!

Cook 1: *[Frustratedly.]* Hands—hands!

Chef: Yeah. Um, okay, let them know that Max Fun Drive 2023 will be ready on, um... so, March 20th. And it'll only be two weeks.

Cook 2: Two weeks, chef!

Waiter: Max Fun Drive starts on March 20th for just two weeks. No problem.

Cook 1: Order up!

Waiter: Shoot, I forgot their water!

[Glasses clinking.]

00:52:11 Promo Clip

Music: "Money Won't Pay," by bo en (feat. Augustus). Upbeat, cheerful music.

Griffin McElroy: And now, a live reading from Rachel's Poetry Corner.

Rachel McElroy: Elephants, theremins, Clifton. Neopets, pore strips, Jepsen. Heinz smell, jellybeans, goalie goals. Skittles, squirrels, and mole. Celery, chopsticks, pumpernickel. *A Case of You*, by Joni Mitchell. Lullabies, tie-dye, the more you know. All of these things on our *Wonderful* show.

Griffin: All these things and more wait for you on *Wonderful*. Every Wednesday, on MaximumFun.org or wherever you download podcasts.

00:52:46	Sound Effect	Transition	<i>[Music fades out.]</i> Three gavel bangs.
00:52:48	Jesse	Host	Judge Hodgman, we're taking a quick break and I wanna open by mentioning that people will have the chance to watch you on their televisions on Hulu. March 24 th , on the hit television program <i>Up Here</i> . I just got my reviewer copies. I'm excited to watch them. I got them in my email inbox today.
00:53:07	John	Host	You did?!
			<i>[Jesse confirms.]</i>
00:53:09	Jesse	Host	That's terrific. I'll watch anything— <u>anything</u> —that involves my good friend Bobby Lopez and his wife, Kristen Anderson-Lopez. Your stuff, I'm ambivalent about, but Bobby and Kristen, I'm in.
00:53:23	John	Host	Yeah, no. You have—Bobby and Kristen are—you've heard them on the podcast. They're two of the sweetest people, two of the smartest people, and obviously two of the finest composers of show music in this world that we live on. They've assembled a cast and crew of Broadway greats to film for you a really, really wonderful romantic comedy musical starring Mae Whitman and Carlos Valdes. It's called <i>Up Here</i> . I may have mentioned it before. I'll say it one more time. <i>Up Here</i> . U-P space H-E-R-E. It's on your Hulus March 24 th . I do hope you check it out. But Jesse, when I think about the week that begins March the 20 th , I don't just think about <i>Up Here</i> . 'Cause something fun is coming up. What is it?
00:54:08	Jesse	Host	The Max Fun Drive, John! We've got—
00:54:10	John	Host	The Max Fun Drive John! You're right!
00:54:13	Jesse	Host	Special episodes and all kinds of cool activities and meetup day and all kinds of neat stuff planned for March 20 th through two weeks after that. It's gonna be a great time. And it's also essential to the operations of this organization. We're gonna have—we're gonna have a cool announcement to share, as well, about this organization. That's all I can say. But we're really proud of the Max Fun Drive. We're really proud to work for you, the audience—the people who are listening. You, right now. And we hope that you will join us during that time. And you'll get cool stuff and everything, but...
00:54:54	John	Host	Yeah! You'll be hearing about all the—all the cool premiums and bonus content and little stickers and fun items and good feelings that you have by becoming a member of Maximum Fun if you're not

one already or upgrading your membership if you have the means to do it. You'll hear all about it as we get close to the Max Fun Drive. But for now, just circle those dates that Jesse mentioned: March 20th through two weeks from then, so I guess that's the March 34th? Whatever it is.

[Jesse agrees.]

It's gonna—it's gonna be a lot of fun. And it truly is—you know, it's not only the best time of the year to support the network if you can, but it's also just one of the funnest times. For me, it's a great time to reconnect with other Max Fun hosts, to see what else is out there on the network, to feel a kinship with all of you, the listeners, to play around with you online and to feel good. There's fun in the word for a reason. Max Fun Drive, beginning March 20th. Make sure your calendar knows it.

00:55:56 Jesse Host Let's get back to the show.

00:55:57 Sound Transition Three gavel bangs.
Effect

00:55:59 Jesse Host Please rise as Judge John Hodgman reenters the courtroom and presents his verdict.

[The squeak of chairs followed by heavy footsteps and a door closing.]

00:56:07 John Host Soooo, *[sighs]* the law on this is pretty clear. Pooh-session, as many people wrote in on the—on the subreddit in suggesting a name for this case. And thank you to all of the folks on the Maximum Fun subreddit who suggested names for the cases. Quite a few did suggest “Pooh-session is 9/10ths of the Law” which is, um—I think tied with Pooh print as being gross. But Pooh sticks is still the grossest. This is clearly a case of abandoned property. I mean, Joan, much like Christopher Robin in the horror movie, *Blood and Honey*, you abandoned Winnie the Pooh to go to college and forge a new, adult life. Now, obviously, you kept a connection with the works of A. A. Milne, in particular—as you mentioned—and a fondness for Winnie the Pooh and a lifelong love of learning and literature! And other L words that led you—another L word—to a career in pedagogy. That's a P word, like Pooh.

I have no doubt of your love for the character Winnie the Pooh. For this print, I have doubt. You have a memory that you told very movingly, about receiving this print from Aunt Jane, not the nicest person. But you left this thing behind for decades. And not only that: when you saw it in Barbara's home and got into some kind of drunken throwdown or whatever it was and got your mom involved and Barbara pulled one of the most Prince Barbara things Barbara's ever done, which was get an answer from your mom like, “Yeah, it belongs to your sister,” and then be like *[petulantly]* nooo! And then bullying your mom into muddying the waters—you, at that point, should have gone, “Double nuh-uh to you! You can't do that to my mom! Give me that thing.” You could've walked out of there with it. Easily.

00:58:08 Barbara Guest

00:58:10 John Host You easily could've walked out of there with it, but you didn't.

[Joan agrees.]

Now, I'm not saying that what Barbara did was fair, but I am saying that you had the opportunity to reclaim it, to push your claim—even if not that night. Maybe the next day, in a sober state. But you left it behind again! For more years! A child grew up with it in her bedroom! This print, she grew up with it in her bedroom. You lived with it in your bedroom for three years until you could get out of there into your own, new bedroom, leaving Barbara and it behind. What did you decorate your new bedroom with?

00:58:55 Joan Guest
00:58:56 John Host

Sexy dancers.

Sexy dancers! And quite right! *[Chuckles.]* And quite right. And now, you come to this court 50 years later and try to get it back. And on top of that, you Snoopy-shame Barbara?!

00:59:13 Barbara Guest
00:59:14 Joan Guest
00:59:19 John Host

Yeah!

I—I fixed Snoopy. I fixed him. He was dying and I saved him.

I know! *[Beat.]* I know, Joan! I understand that. You're not Aunt Jane.

00:59:27 Joan Guest

[Laughing.] I'm not—I'm not Aunt Jane!

[Barbara laughs.]

00:59:34 John Host

[Dramatically.] Thank you! That's the only verdict I need! *[Cackles.]* You're not Aunt Jane, nor are you Sister Jane.

[They laugh.]

You're a good sister who sewed on a new mouth for Snoopy. But you did insinuate that somehow Barbara was—it was inappropriate that Barbara still had Snoopy in her bedroom.

00:59:52 Joan Guest
00:59:53 John Host

No—

You were like, "Tell them. Tell them!" No, I was there. No, no, no, no, no. Don't misdirect me with real estate details, Joan. I was here. I heard what you said.

[They chuckle. Joan tries to speak but John cuts her off.]

I don't need the playback. This is what you said. You said, "Tell them. Tell them." I said what about Snoopy and you were like, "Go ahead. Tell 'em. Tell them about how much you loooove Snoopy, then and now."

01:00:16 Joan Guest
01:00:18 John Host

Snoopy is more important to her, is my point.

Oh, I thought you were just saying you—you know, that it was a childish affectation to continue to have a love for Snoopy.

01:00:26 Joan Guest

Oh, no. No, no, no. I think it's actually one of her greatest qualities. I think it's why she's a children's librarian is because she's never lost that.

01:00:34 John Host

Yeah. I will say this. Now that I understand what you're trying to say—and thank you for helping me understand it—you are coccoo for Snoopy, Barbara. It's true.

01:00:45 Barbara Guest
01:00:46 John Host

And Pooh.

Cocoo for Pooh and Snoo?!

[She confirms.]

The two?

[She confirms.]

			Ooh!
01:00:53	Jesse	Host	Charlie Brown is better.
01:00:55	John	Host	Charlie Brown is better than Snoopy. We can all agree. We can all agree. Not everyone.
01:01:00	Jesse	Host	All right-thinking Americans.
01:01:02	John	Host	All the same, you could've kitted out your life with a bunch of Winnie the Pooh stuff.
01:01:07	Barbara	Guest	Yes. My mother bought the Snoopy stuff. So, if she bought me Winnie the Pooh stuff, that's probably what I would've taken.
01:01:14	John	Host	Alright. Here's the thing, though. Joan, you have no legal leg to stand on here. And yet, this court is moved by your telling of the story of Aunt Jane giving you this print. Now, this court is—remains unconvinced that Aunt Jane knew who she was giving the print to, that she necessarily was giving it to you as a gesture of personal connection. But you took it that way, and it was meaningful. If there were a child who had grown connected to this print and still wanted it in their room, there's no way you'd be getting this thing back. No way. But I'm gonna let you have it. Yeah, Barbara. That's right. And the reason is this—
01:02:08	Joan	Guest	<i>[Emotionally.]</i> I'm gonna cry!
01:02:10	John	Host	Barbara, you've gotten to enjoy this thing for almost five decades. You believed that it was yours—and fair enough! It was abandoned by your older sister, who abandoned it and you. You let it be part of your home and your children's upbringing. While it was inappropriate for Joan to leave behind childish things at the age of ten, now it is totally appropriate at the age of <u>redacted</u> that Joan should want to recapture childish things. I believe that the provenance of this print is that Aunt Jane gave it to Joan. But effectively, it was shared between the two of you once it was in your shared bedroom. Joan left it behind. Whatever her motive for doing so was, you got to enjoy it solo in that bedroom for however many years you lived there as an adult, solo, in your house. And then, you got to share it with your children for however many years.
			And if there were—if there were one of these children who had a deep, deep connection to it that rivaled either yours or Joan's connection to it, then I might feel differently. But Isabella—I'm sorry to say, Barbara—led the way to my verdict, which is I think the humane way to approach this. You've enjoyed it and your family's enjoyed it for decades. If it is meaningful for Joan to have it, why not let her have it? And I think you should. And indeed, that is my order. But my order has another order coming with it. Joan? I don't wanna hear about how many additions to the house or how many bedrooms you have and half baths or anything else. May I presume you have a bedroom?
			<i>[Joan confirms.]</i>
			You will hang it in your bedroom. Not where it used to be.
			<i>[She agrees.]</i>
			If you're not willing to hang it in your own bedroom, then leave it behind.
01:04:07	Joan	Guest	I swear it will—it will be done.

01:04:11	John	Host	Alright. And then, in another 50 years Barbara gets it back. This is the sound of a gavel.
01:04:20	Clip	Clip	Music: Whimsical wind instruments.
01:04:22	John	Host	Pooh (Winnie the Pooh): Oh, <u>bother</u> .
01:04:23	Jesse	Host	Judge John Hodgman rules. That is all. Please rise as Judge John Hodgman exits the courtroom.
			<i>[The scrape of chairs followed by heavy footsteps and a door closing.]</i>
01:04:34	Barbara	Guest	Barbara, how are you feeling? Um, not very happy. This possession is 9/10ths of the law obviously was thrown out of the window. I actually would've been okay if it went in our childhood bedroom. But now that it's going in her bedroom, which I am not allowed in her bedroom, I am very sad.
			<i>[A door opens.]</i>
01:05:01	John	Host	Wait, wait, wait, wait. I'm sorry. I was listening through the wall of my chambers. You're not allowed in her bedroom?
01:05:07	Barbara	Guest	Well—
01:05:08	Joan	Guest	<i>[Dismissively.]</i> Nonsense.
01:05:09	Barbara	Guest	Maybe I am. But I don't go there.
			<i>[John laughs.]</i>
01:05:11	Jesse	Host	Let the record reflect that Joan shook her head contemptuously, as if to say, "Nuh-uh!"
			<i>[They laugh.]</i>
01:05:21	John	Host	Alright. Then, I take it back. Joan, you have to display it in a place where Barbara will see it.
01:05:25	Joan	Guest	It will be done.
01:05:27	John	Host	Your original idea is fine then, I take it.
01:05:29	Joan	Guest	I will do that.
01:05:30	John	Host	Does that make you feel any better, Barbara?
01:05:32	Barbara	Guest	<i>[Stammering.]</i> A tad. A tad better. Yes.
01:05:34	John	Host	<i>[Mumbling.]</i> A tad. That's not my job to make people feel good. What am I doing? Trying to please people in this world?!
01:05:39	Barbara	Guest	Baby Barbara strikes again. <i>[Laughs.]</i>
			<i>[Door closes.]</i>
01:05:43	Jesse	Host	Joan, how do you feel? Triumphant?
01:05:46	Joan	Guest	I feel—I feel at peace, actually. I feel as though the world has been righted. That it took 50 years and sometimes the world moves that slowly, but justice has been served.
01:05:58	Jesse	Host	The Dow of Pooh, so to speak.
01:06:00	Joan	Guest	Indeed. Just wait.
01:06:02	Jesse	Host	Well, Joan, Barbara, thanks for joining us on the <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast.
			<i>[They thank him.]</i>
01:06:07	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
01:06:09	Jesse	Host	Another <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> case is in the books. In a moment, we'll have Swift Justice. First, our thanks to redditor BadArtistGoodListener for naming this week's episode. Join the

conversation on the Maximum Fun reddit, that's [MaximumFun.Reddit.com](https://www.reddit.com/r/MaximumFun). Always a nice conversation over there at [MaximumFun.Reddit.com](https://www.reddit.com/r/MaximumFun).

01:06:30 John Host Always a nice conversation.

01:06:32 Jesse Host Yeah. Don't say something rude about the people who are on the show, personally. Just have a nice conversation! Usually, it's people having a nice conversation.

01:06:40 John Host I understand. You can get a little feisty in the chat. I understand that. But you know, also remember the people who are on this podcast—

01:06:48 Jesse Host They're nice people!

01:06:49 John Host They're not public figures!

01:06:50 Jesse Host They're nice people who came on to entertain you.

01:06:51 John Host They're private people who are letting us into their homes. So, if you've got an unkind thing to say, say it to—

01:06:57 Jesse Host Your pet.

01:06:58 John Host Say it to Dorothy Parker, who's sitting next to you at the table.

01:07:00 Jesse Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]* [MaximumFun.Reddit.com](https://www.reddit.com/r/MaximumFun). Everybody's—almost everybody's got a great attitude there. It's really a nice place. That's also where we are asking for these title suggestions these days. So, go join the Max Fun reddit. It's always fun to see everybody's dumb jokes and goofy puns. It's a—it's a delight.

[John agrees.]

Evidence and photos from our show are posted at [Instagram.com/JudgeJohnHodgman](https://www.instagram.com/JudgeJohnHodgman). If you're not on Instagram, you can just find them at [MaximumFun.org](https://www.MaximumFun.org) on the *Judge John Hodgman* page for this episode. *Judge John Hodgman* was created by Jesse Thorn and John Hodgman. Our producer is Valerie Moffatt.

Now, Swift Justice, where we answer your small disputes with quick judgement. Melissa says, "I understand there are different types of kitchen towels. Terry, flat weave, flour sack, etc., and that they have different abilities and purposes. My boyfriend thinks bathroom towels are fine to use in the kitchen. Please rule that all towels that are kept in the kitchen drawer should be of the kitchen or dish towel variety only."

01:08:13 John Host Uh, alright. First of all: boyfriend, wrong. That one's easy.

01:08:16 Jesse Host Wow! That's one of the easy—that is bananas!

[John laughs.]

Look, I'm pro let your dog lick your plate and then put it in the dishwasher, and even I know that it's bonkers to use bathroom towels in the kitchen.

01:08:30 John Host To be clear, I'm pro let your dog lick your plate and put it in the dishwasher. I'm just anti let your dog lick your plate and then hand wash it and hand dry it. That's a different story.

01:08:40 Jesse Host The other day, my dog tried to steal my pizza, and I stole it back and ate it.

01:08:45 John Host That's fair!

01:08:46 Jesse Host I didn't care. I was hungry, and I had stuff to do. There was only one piece of pizza. I had to do what I had to do.

01:08:52	John	Host	That's absolutely fair, and also something I wish I could've seen happen in person.
01:08:58	Jesse	Host	Yeah, it was a lot of fun.
01:08:59	John	Host	But what I'm really interested in is a book by Melissa on kitchen towel types.
<i>[Jesse laughs.]</i>			
<p>Maybe not a book. Maybe a pamphlet. You know? Just like here are the kinds of kitchen towel, like—or a children's book! <i>The Kitchen Towels We Use</i>. Terry, flatweave, flour sack—there've gotta be more! Melissa put "etc." there for a reason.</p>			
01:09:22	Jesse	Host	Have you ever, John, read the book <i>Home Comforts: The Art and Science of Keeping House</i> , by Cheryl Mendelson?
01:09:27	John	Host	Uh, no. I'm familiar with it, but I have not read it.
01:09:29	Jesse	Host	Oh! It is wonderful. What a wonderful book. It's essentially—in book form—a list of kitchen towel types written so pleasantly and engagingly. Yeah, I can't recommend it enough. Go—it's \$14. I'm looking at it on the internet, here. \$14. Go buy that wonderful book.
01:09:48	John	Host	Melissa, if you wanna—if you wanna do a catalogue, a very—a quick catalogue of the different types of kitchen towels, and just a little couple of sentence description of each kind and their usage and share it with me. First of all, I'd love it. Second of all, I would protect your IP. Everyone's IP is safe with me. I'm never gonna steal your IP. But I'd be very curious to see it. And then, you know, if you have an illustrator friend, have them illustrate it. You could probably sell a million of those books, Melissa. That's my advice. Meanwhile: boyfriend wrong.
<p>Hey, one of the things that we're looking for are disputes. We need disputes to do the show. You may have noticed, it's something of the backbone of the show.</p>			
<i>[Jesse agrees.]</i>			
<p>And you can tell from this episode, disputes about anything are welcome. You may—you may think this dispute's too small or too big or too medium. That's not true! Send them in.</p>			
01:10:39	Jesse	Host	MaximumFun.org/ijho!
01:10:41	John	Host	Yeah, that's where you send them in! MaximumFun.org/ijho . You know what they say in writing rooms? "Is this something?!" You can say that. Is this something? You know, I need this Winnie the Pooh print back from my sister. I'm like, yeah, you're gonna win—if you send that in, you may not realize it, but you're gonna win a podcast Oscar for that. This is a—I'm self-nominating this particular episode for the podcast Oscars, Jesse. I think we're gonna win. But sometimes we need specific disputes. And this time, we do.
<p>We need them about—you guessed it—cheese. Why? Well, a little something called the Max Fun Drive is coming up.</p>			
01:11:18	Jesse	Host	Around the corner.
01:11:19	John	Host	Mark your calendars. It's coming up this month in March. Starting March, the 20 th , if I'm not mistaken. Am I mistaken, Jesse?
01:11:26	Jesse	Host	Not at all. Not in the slightest.
01:11:28	John	Host	I'm on the money when it comes to Max Fun Drive. Starting on March the 20 th . And as you know, every year when we do Max Fun

Drive—if we reach a certain benchmark of new and upgrading members of MaximumFun.org—your friend and mine and Jesse’s co-podcast host and one of his oldest friends, Jordan Morris, he and I get together and record our annual podcast called *Shootin’ The Bries*. It’s not about conversation, though. It is a fun conversation. I’m talking about shooting the B-R-I-E-S.

Jesse Thorn, you came up with this idea some years ago. Tell them about what *Shootin’ The Bries* is all about.

01:12:04 Jesse Host

It just so happened that my two podcasting partners and close friends of decades—John Hodgman and Jordan Morris; John being the host of this program, Jordan being the host of *Jordan, Jesse, Go!*—had backgrounds in cheesemongering. It’s something that they shared in addition to podcasting that really blew my mind.

[John laughs.]

And I thought, “Well, this sounds like a podcast for whatever reason!” And we’ve made it a podcast. You guys have made—how many *Shootin’ The Bries* have you made at this point?

01:12:39 John Host

Well, I believe we’ve done it for two years. So, we’ve made two episodes. And fingers crossed, this’ll be our third year of *Shootin’ The Bries* when we hit that new and upgrading membership benchmark—which you’re gonna hear about during the Max Fun Drive. I have a feeling we’re gonna make that benchmark, ‘cause the *Judge John Hodgman* listeners, they’re top podcast listeners. So, I have a feeling we’re gonna meet this benchmark. So, I wanna be pre-loaded with some cheese-based disputes that Jordan and I can adjudicate and talk about, prompts for our discussion.

What’s your favorite cheese? What’s a bad experience you had with cheese? Etorki, the sheep’s milk of the Bask region, I used to call the king of cheeses. Where in the royal family of cheeses does it stand for you? Jesse, is there a cheese that is a migraine trigger for you?

01:13:34 Jesse Host

You know, I’m supposed to avoid aged cheeses, but the truth is that that Trader Joe’s thousand-day gouda is too good to avoid.

01:13:47 John Host

Too good to avoid. Uh, thousand-day gouda! *[Chuckles.]* I gotta get over to Trader Joe’s! They’re doing some fun stuff over there!

01:13:55 Jesse Host

Look, I’m not here to buzz market Trader Joe’s, but I will say that their cheese selection is really extraordinary and dramatically better than the regular supermarket.

01:14:06 John Host

What are your top five ranked Trader Joe’s available cheese—es? There’s a plural. That’s how you say—that’s how you say cheese plural. Have you been a cheesemonger? Have you worked in cheese? Have you made cheese? Just let us know, won’t you? MaximumFun.org/ijho. Send in your disputes about cheese or your opinions about cheese, especially if they’re provocative opinions about cheese! Jordan Morris and I will probably talk about it on *Shootin’ The Bries* if we meet that benchmark during the Max Fun Drive, which starts March the 20th.

So, mark your calendars and get your cheeses ready. And you can interpret cheese in different ways. What is the best song by Richard Cheese?

[Jesse “ooh”s.]

What is the best performance by Alison Brie? Or Brie Larson? Who are other people named cheese? Tell you what? You tell me.

MaximumFun.org/ijho. And that is, of course—as Jesse mentioned—the place where you should submit all of your disputes, whether or not they have to do with cheese. If you’ve got beef with your brother, your uncle, your sister, your best friend, your former best friend, your spouse, even! That’s still a thing! Write in, MaximumFun.org/ijho. We need your disputes in order to live.

01:15:24	Jesse	Host	We’ll talk to you next time on the <i>Judge John Hodgman</i> podcast.
01:15:27	Sound Effect	Transition	Three gavel bangs.
01:15:30	Sound Effect	Transition	Cheerful ukulele chord.
01:15:31	Speaker 1	Guest	MaximumFun.org .
01:15:33	Speaker 2	Guest	Comedy and culture.
01:15:34	Speaker 3	Guest	Artist owned—
01:15:35	Speaker 4	Guest	—audience supported.