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[Intro]

Devin-Hey guys. Welcome to another episode of Thinking Sideways, the podcast. I'm Devin, joined as always by...

Joe-Joe.

D-And...

S-Steve.

D-We're going to not even come close to solve a mystery. We're just going to talk about a mystery tonight.

S-Yeah. That's probably right.

J-We'll solve it. Don't worry.

D-No, we're not going to solve it. We're going to talk about it. The topic tonight is the death of Kurt Cobain. I'm not going to go any further than this before I stop and say, if you suggested this as a listener, you're not going to hear your name read because there are too dang many of you.

S-Yeah, this one's a pretty popular request.

D-Yeah. Like, a lot of people all the time. Like, literally since we started the podcast actually, we've been getting requests for this, so we finally decided to tackle it. And actually it was because I recently took a trip to Seattle. We went to the Experience Music Project Museum, which is up in Seattle.

S-What is that again?

D-It's a museum that's dedicated to music and pop culture.

S-Oh, ok. I hadn't heard of it before, so that's why...

D-It's frickin' awesome. We used to go there when I was a kid and, like, you can, like, play on instruments and all that stuff. And along with the Hello Kitty exhibit that I tweeted some pictures of (D and S laughing) while we were there...

J-There is one, really?

D-Yeah, there was one, yeah.

J-Seriously? Wow.

D-There was also, I didn't know, but there was also an exhibit, not exhibition, exhibit about Nirvana,

and they had all of the, they had a bunch of Cobain's clothes and some memorabilia and, like, letters that he wrote and Polaroids and all that stuff.

J-No wax replica?

D-No wax replicas, no. It was very tastefully done. And I guess I just started to think about that whole...you know, you don't think about people as people a lot, right? Celebrities, you don't really think about that so much. But I started thinking about it and then I started thinking about his death and then I just decided we should do an episode on it.

J-Cool.

D-So that's the long preamble.

J-You know, one thing in doing a little research on this, is I'm amazing at how long it's been since he died. It doesn't seem that...22 years.

D-'94. Yeah.

J-Yeah.

S-It seems like a long time cause I remember it.

D-Yeah.

J-Yeah, I remember it too. But it just doesn't seem like it was that long ago.

D-Yeah, cause it wasn't. I mean, I mean (laughing).

S-Joe.

J-Yeah?

S-That's cause we're old.

D-You guys are old, yeah.

J-Oh, is that what it is? Oh, ok. Time does fly.

D-I don't remember it cause I was too young to remember it. But I was alive, at least. So there's that. And then, as an additional preamble to this, this is a huge, huge case. Like, huge. Lots of research has been done on it.

S-Uh huh.

J-Oh yeah.

D-And that's not to say the rest of the cases we do are not huge, but this one is extra huge. And I just want to remind anybody or let people know if they don't know, our podcast is intended as a primer

course, or an overview, of cases. So there are going to be things that we are going to gloss over or we're going to omit, or that we won't include in the episode, and that's just how it is. I'm sorry.

J-We'll get the important stuff in there, don't worry.

D-I think we do usually get the important stuff, but if your only point of context for this is, like, the "Soaked In Bleach" documentary on Netflix or it's only "Kurt and Courtney" also on Netflix, or it's only...or you've never heard of it, I encourage you to do more research, because this is not, this isn't everything. It's just not.

S-There's a ton of content.

D-There's a ton out there.

S-I mean, it's a celebrity, so therefore the story is on the scale of, reflective of the scale of that celebrity, and so that's why there's so much out there.

D-Yeah.

J-Uh huh.

D-Yeah. So I just wanted to remind people before we get into it, we're going to miss things. Sorry, but we're going to miss things.

J-I don't think we've missed any of the important things.

D-I don't think so either, but I'm sure that, I mean, everybody has their favorite detail.

S-Uh huh.

D-So we might miss it, and I'm sorry if we do, but we probably know that we did, ok?

J-Ok.

D-Cool.

S-Sweet.

D-Belabored that point long enough.

J-You did.

D-All right. So first off, like we did with Bob Marley, I'd like to assume that everybody knows who Kurt Cobain is, but I guess I probably can't. You guys remember the '90s?

S-Oh yeah.

J-Yeah, vaguely.

D-I remember some of the '90s, and there was, especially in the Pacific Northwest, the '90s grunge era was taking effect.

S-Oh yeah.

D-And a large part of that was in thanks to a band called Nirvana.

S-I'm wearing plaid.

D-You are.

S-Green plaid.

D-You are. I'm impressed.

J-Yeah.

D-I'm not actually impressed. You wear plaid frequently, but...

S-Thanks.

D-You're welcome. Yeah.

S-Damn it.

D-But you guys know Nirvana. You know Nirvana.

J-Oh yeah.

D-You just, you do.

S-Oh yeah.

J-Of course.

D-If you think you don't know who Nirvana is, just pause this episode and go look up Nirvana and, like, just listen to any song that comes up and you will recognize Nirvana.

S-I was really surprised, though, when I was doing the research, I didn't realize they only put out three albums.

D-Yeah.

S-For as big as they were, for some reason in my mind I figured it was a half dozen.

D-Well, that's the interesting part, right? They became so ubiquitous so fast.

S-Uh huh.

D-It was just really, it was insane. I mean, as soon as the radio picked up “Smells Like Teen Spirit,” they just became huge.

S-They were in.

D-And almost every song off of their albums were hits.

S-Uh huh.

D-You know, it was like one of those albums you pick up now where you recognize one song. It was just all of them are popular songs. So, Kurt Cobain was the frontman for Nirvana. And there's a ton of history in the band, and I won't go into it, but you should probably look it up because bands and music are interesting and awesome. Cobain was, I'm not making this up, this is an actual quote, he was called, quote, “The spokesman of a generation.”

J-Which generation?

S-Gen X.

D-Gen X.

J-Ok.

D-Generation...thank you.

S-Gen X, yeah.

J-Yeah.

D-Yeah. He and Nirvana rose quickly in popularity as we were mentioning, and Nirvana to this day is regarded as one of the most influential and important rock bands of the modern era. That's, I mean, I know that sounds like a bold statement, but it's true.

J-Nah, they're pretty influential, yeah.

D-Yeah. It's possible that you also know of Dave Grohl, or at the very least the Foo Fighters. Again, yeah you do! Go look it up (D and S laughing).

J-Yeah.

D-Grohl was the drummer for Nirvana.

S-I totally had spaced that out when I was doing the reading. “Why is his name all over this stuff? Oh yeah. Whoops.”

D-Yeah, yeah. So, yeah. Cobain, huge influence on music. Pretty much everything that is modern rock. I said it. Deal with it (Steve laughing).

J-Yeah. We're going to get a lot of emails.

D-Yeah. Sorry.

S-Thanks. We're getting a lot of emails regardless.

D-Regardless, yeah. And actually, I guess, before we go too far into the mystery, the mystery is that Kurt Cobain committed suicide on April 5, 1994 at the age of 27, arguably at the height of his career.

J-Just beginning, really.

D-I mean, he could have, yeah, he could have...

S-It put him into the "27 Club."

D-Yeah. He was part of the "27 Club." But a lot of people think that he was not actually, he was actually murdered. He didn't actually kill himself. So that's our mystery, did Kurt Cobain commit suicide or not. And, if I really have to say it, it's a suicide story, so if that's a thing that bothers you, stop now.

S-Yeah.

D-Ok?

J-Suicide bothers me, so I'm going to go.

D-Ok.

J-See ya.

D-Bye. Steve, you ready?

S-Yeah.

D-Great. Let's go back to important characters. Let's start with that, right? In January of 1990, Kurt met Portland local and frontwoman for the band, I think it's safe to say most people actually haven't heard of, called Hole. And her name was Courtney Love.

S-Did Hole really form in '90? I thought they formed later.

D-No, no, no. Hole was, I'm sorry, I'm just saying Hole, like that's where you would know Courtney Love from.

S-Oh, ok. Not that the band formed in '90.

D-I think they might have been.

J-I think, you know, I think it was later on that they were starting to get bigger, maybe.

S-Ok. That might be where I'm...

J-I think they had been around since 1990 or maybe even earlier than that.

S-Ok.

D-Also, it's unfair to say that nobody's heard of Hole. You've probably heard of Hole songs, you just don't know it. It was a joke, I'm sorry. I'm also, it's also not a 100 percent sure that that's where they met, but it doesn't really matter. They probably met in Portland.

J-I know he played a lot of gigs in Portland, back in the day.

D-Yeah.

S-Well, they were from Seattle, yeah.

J-Yeah.

D-Yeah. Courtney Love is probably, like, one of the most ridiculed celebrities of all times ever, I would say.

S-Yeah.

D-She has habitually abused drugs and alcohol. She has had lots of legal trouble as well. A few months after Cobain's death, Love actually punched someone at Lollapalooza, which started a string of arrests, and she was banned from a lot of places, including Virgin Airlines. Like, the entire airline.

J-Uh huh.

D-She was no longer allowed to fly with them (Steve laughing).

J-How'd she manage to do that?

D-She assaulted a stewardess.

J-Oh, ok.

D-Yeah.

S-In a typical Courtney Love fashion.

D-Kind of, yeah. Yeah. I will say this, that despite her substance abuse problems, prior to Cobain's death it seems that her problems...

J-Her legal problems?

D-Her legal problems, at least, were really spurred by his death. She didn't really have many legal problems before he died. Any that, you know, she wasn't arrested or anything like that. They seemed like a pretty normal couple. You know, as normal as you can be in the famous '90s grunge era. They got married in February of '92. Love wore a lace and satin wedding dress and Cobain wore green pajamas.

J-Nice touch.

D-Yeah. And Love was pregnant at the time they were married, and she gave birth to their only child, whose name is Frances Bean, in August of 1992.

S-Did either of you guys look at pictures of Frances?

D-I think she's beautiful.

S-She, I was really surprised at how much she looked like her mom.

D-Yeah.

S-For some reason, this is dumb, but I expected her to look more like her father, and it was shocking to see a sober version, or clean version of Courtney.

D-Yeah. She has Kurt's eyes, though.

S-Yeah, I would say, yeah.

D-Really, really piercing blue eyes.

J-Yeah, what's old Frances up to these days, anyway?

D-She's an artist.

J-Oh.

D-She's getting a divorce.

J-Oh really?

D-She is. She's getting a divorce.

S-Got it.

D-Tom Grant is another important player in this whole thing. Most of the time you'll hear Grant referred to as an 'exemplary man,' at least definitely in his own documentaries (S and J laughing). He was a detective in L.A., and then he retired and became a private detective. Definitely been the loudest proponent of the Cobain murder theory.

S-Uh huh.

D-He was hired by Love on April 3, 1994 after Cobain escaped from a rehab facility in L.A. on March 31, and we're going to talk about the whole series of events in a minute, so just wait a second.

S-Yeah, this is our cast of characters you're going through.

D-Yeah, pretty much, yeah. The important people so that when we're going through I don't have to

pause to say all that stuff.

S-Yep.

D-Grant almost immediately started recording almost literally every conversation and event that happened around this case. He's, I mean he's, thousands of hours of recordings. And many of the conversations that he taped were with a woman by the name of Rosemary Carroll, who is slash was the entertainment lawyer for Courtney and Kurt both. The interesting thing about Rosemary Carroll is that in recordings she very clearly agrees with Grant about most of his theories, but refuses to go on the record of any kind to say those things. In fact in one of the recordings you can hear her agreeing with Grant and then she goes, "Wait, are you recording?" And he says, "I record everything." And she goes, "You can't do that! Stop!" And he stops the recording. She says a couple of other words that I, that we don't say on our podcast.

S-Oh, when she discovers that she's being recorded?

D-She's being recorded.

S-Yes, she does say a few choice words.

D-Uh huh, a few other things, yeah. This might confuse people, her refusal to go on the record, but it really doesn't confuse me that much. Courtney Love is still her client.

S-She's a lawyer.

D-She's a lawyer, and her firm represents people like Jay-Z, for instance. It's a big firm of big talent, and you can't go around accusing your clients of murder in the public if you want to retain any of your clients (Steve laughing).

J-Uh huh.

S-Or to have any in the future.

D-Yeah. So it makes sense to me.

J-Yeah, who knows. Maybe you can even be disbarred for saying stuff like that.

D-It seems like you probably could.

J-Yeah.

D-I don't really know. Anyway...

S-It's slander.

D-So you'll hear that tossed around a lot, but I just was to go on the record as saying it doesn't really bother me that much that she won't go on the record. Ok, those are the big ones. Big three, with a few extra thrown in there.

J-Well, there's a few other guys in there, like Dylan, you know.

D-But we'll talk about those, yeah. Talk about those when we get there. Time line? Let's talk about time line.

J and S-All right.

D-We're just going to do a series of events, here. And we're actually going to start a little earlier than April. We're going to start in early March of 1994. In Germany, sorry. Nirvana was on tour in Europe, I should say. And in Germany Cobain was diagnosed with bronchitis and severe laryngitis.

J-Makes it kind of tough to sing.

D-It does, yeah. So...

S-Even when, you know, sometimes his singing was more screaming, but it's still tough to do.

D-Still, like, you just can't do it. I mean, you have to be able to produce noise.

S-Yes.

D-It doesn't really work if you've got laryngitis or bronchitis.

S-That's why you just whack the mic on things. Makes noise (Devin laughing).

D-It does.

J-Yes.

D-I don't think it's really Nirvana's style, but maybe.

S-Yeah, you got a point.

D-Yeah. It was more the guitar smashing that anything.

S-Bingo!

D-Yeah. As you can imagine, Kurt decided to get treatment for said bronchitis and laryngitis, so he flew to Rome for treatment because why not? If you have a lot of money you may as well go to Rome for treatment instead of staying in Germany, I don't know.

J-I suppose.

S-Probably much nicer.

D-Well, and actually it turns out that Courtney Love, I'm going to try to refer to people by their last names, but I might forget. But Love really, really likes Roman history, so I suspect there might have been something there that he thought, "Oh, well maybe she'll come with me if I go hang out in Rome" or something like that.

J-Yeah. You know when I heard that about her, I thought, that kind of surprised me.

D-Yeah.

S-It really, it was surprising to me too. You're not the only one, Joe.

D-Yeah.

S-I did not imagine that.

J-There is a side to Courtney Love that we didn't know about (Steve laughing).

D-Well, Courtney Love did join him in Rome, in fact. And, on March 3rd. Cobain had, according to Love, gone all out. He'd gotten her flowers. He had champagne ready. He was basically, like, super cute excited and romantic. He even apparently got her a piece of the Colosseum, because apparently, you know, she loves Roman history.

J-So he went down to the Colosseum with his hammer and chisel (laughing). You know, got a little chunk.

D-Yeah, I know.

S-They sell that stuff, man (laughing).

D-They do.

J-Oh, I know. And it probably isn't actually from the Colosseum.

S-Shh.

D-Shh shh.

J-Ok, sorry.

D-When she arrived, Love says they opened the champagne and she popped a Valium because stress, I guess. And they made out a little bit and then she fell asleep.

S-What a horrible date (laughing).

D-Yeah. And I think, you know, that would upset me (laughing).

J-Well, it would, but didn't she fly in from the States?

D-Yeah?

J-Wouldn't she have, like, horrible jet lag in addition to taking the Valium?

D-It depends on when she, oh you mean, so she, that she would have fallen asleep anyway cause she would have been really, really tired.

J-Yeah. That's the idea.

D-Yeah. It depends on when she flew, but yeah. I mean, Valium will knock you out.

J-It will.

D-And so I don't know what, why she did that. I would be annoyed if my wife, husband, showed up in Rome and I hadn't seen them for a long time and, you know, I was being really romantic and then he was just like "Ok, I'm going to sleep."

J-(Snores) Yeah (laughing).

D-I'd be annoyed. I can see that. Yeah. So around four am, she woke up from her Valium induced coma apparently, to find Cobain passed out on the floor, and he was rushed to the hospital. He had apparently overdosed on Rohypnol, which you probably know as roofies. Which, they aren't actually intended for, like, date rape stuff. They're actually just sleep aids.

S-Uh huh.

D-And it was Love's prescription that he had taken, he had taken some of her pills. And she very famously says that there were like, that he had taken like 50 pills.

S-I want to know why the heck she had 50 of them on her.

D-Well, I mean, why not? I mean, what do you usually get as a prescription of something? 25, 50?

J-You know, 30, yeah.

S-Yeah. I think that 50 is an excessive number, is just what I'm saying.

J-Well...

D-Also, she was a drug addict, so...

J-She had good drug connections.

S-She did have good connections.

J-She probably bought everything in quantity.

D-Yeah. But the overdose was so bad that Cobain was actually in a coma, and I can't tell from the reporting on this if he was in a coma for five days, or if he was actually just in the hospital for five days. I also can't tell if he was actually in a coma or he was just unconscious, but that's neither here nor there.

S-A short duration in a coma and then was awake.

D-Uh huh. He was definitely in the hospital for five days.

S-Yeah.

D-No matter what was happening in the hospital, he was there. You'll hear this referred to as Cobain's first suicide attempt, but it's really important to delineate here that no one at the time, doctors included, thought that it was a suicide attempt. Everybody classified it as a totally accidental overdose, and nobody thought it was a suicide attempt.

J-No, it wasn't until she reclassified it.

D-It wasn't until Cobain died that it started being referred to as a suicide attempt.

S-Yeah.

D-That's important.

S-Yeah.

D-Yeah. There's also some speculation that the reason Cobain had so many roofies in his system is that Love put a bunch of pills in his champagne and so he was unknowingly drinking roofies as well as taking roofies.

J-That doesn't really...

D-I don't know if I believe that or not, especially since I don't know how much he had in his body.

S-I was going to say, we don't know any dosages.

D-No.

J-Well, it also doesn't make any sense. If she wanted to kill him, then why would she, why would she rush him to the hospital?

D-Exactly.

J-Yeah.

D-Exactly. Yeah. That's my other big thing with saying, "Oh, she was trying to kill him."

S-That was her first try.

D-It was like, no, because she would not have called an ambulance. She would have waited...

S-She would have taken another Valium and gone back to bed.

D-She would have waited, yeah. And then she could have come to and been like, "Oh my God, I woke up at, like, nine o'clock this morning and he was dead."

J-Exactly.

D-Ugh. Anyway, I don't believe that this was a murder or a suicide attempt. I believe it was totally just an accidental overdose. But, um, that's just, like, my opinion, man.

J-Yeah.

D-Cobain and Love returned to Seattle after he spent five days in the hospital in Rome, which I'm just now realizing I never said is where they lived. They lived in Seattle, Washington. They had a house there.

J-They had a nice house there.

D-It was a nice little house, yeah.

J-It wasn't little.

D-No.

S-No, it's...

D-I'm sorry, I didn't mean, you know, actually little.

J-Yeah.

D-It's a big house.

J-Actually, for as wealthy as they were, though, it was actually more modest than a lot of rock stars would live in, and you know, but still, a pretty big house.

S-Seattle is not known for, unlike places like L.A., for having that many huge, lavish homes, at that time.

J and D-Yeah.

S-Now, that's not to say that's the case now. But at that time, there weren't as many giant, sprawling, gold-encrusted homes.

J-Yeah.

D-Yeah. Yeah. On March 18, Love called the police claiming Cobain was suicidal and had locked himself in a room with a gun. The police came. They confiscated the guns and some pills. But when they asked Cobain why he was behaving that way, he said he wasn't suicidal at all, but he was hiding from Courtney (S and J laughing). And this is actually in the literal police report. I don't know if you guys saw that one that I posted.

J-Oh yeah.

S-Oh yeah.

D-But it literally says that in the police report, that he was scared of Courtney and he was hiding from

her with a gun in the room.

S-I, I have heard the stuff that has come out of that woman's mouth before, and I would've hid in the bathroom too, cause she's a little cuckoo for Cocoa Puffs at times.

D-Well, he was a little cuckoo for Cocoa Puffs too at some times.

S-Yeah.

D-I mean, there are some recordings of him threatening...

S-Oh yeah. No, no, no, I'm not saying that he was stable.

D-Yeah.

S-I'm saying she is definitely unstable.

D-Definitely unstable, yeah. So again, you'll hear that also referred to as a suicide attempt. Obviously it was not, given that the police report proves that it was not. Or, I mean, at the very least, that he was aware enough to say no, it's not. I don't really know. Again, I don't think he was trying to kill himself at that moment either, but there you go. On March 25, Love staged an intervention with ten of Cobain's friends and some record executives, which I think is pretty funny.

J-Yeah, did we, we did mention that he was a heroin addict, right?

D-Oh, probably not.

S-No, we haven't actually mentioned that specific yet.

D-No, you're right. Thank you for pointing that out. This is one of those instances where you get so caught up in the case that you forget to say things that seem really obvious to you...

S-That are so basic, yeah.

D-...that are totally...

S-Yeah, totally important.

D-Yeah. Both Courtney and Kurt were really, really heavy heroin users throughout the entire duration of their relationship.

S-And prior to.

D-And prior to.

J-In fact, I think it was Courtney who said it was drugs that brought them together.

D-I think, yeah.

J-That was their major shared interest.

D-Uh huh, yeah. So, yeah, he was a heavy, heavy, heavy, heavy heroin user. So was she. They both used a lot of drugs.

J-Yeah.

D-They, and in fact, there's a lot of stuff out there talking about how Cobain embraced his identity as a drug addict. That was, like, attractive to him, that he was doing drugs.

J-Hm.

D-So, take that as you will.

J-Ok.

D-For those of you familiar with the case, Dylan Carlson was at the intervention. I am consciously omitting a lot of stuff that you will see about Dylan around on the internet about this case.

S-Ok.

D-Because I just think they're not even a little suspicious, the way he was acting, and I think it adds a lot of fluff to the case, to discuss Dylan as some nefarious character.

J-Yeah, I don't think he was all that nefarious.

D-Yeah.

J-And by the way, for those of you who aren't aware of the case, Dylan Carlson was a childhood friend of Kurt Cobain's. They were best friends.

D-Uh huh.

S-And also, they did drugs together.

D-Did drugs together, oh yeah.

J-Yeah.

S-He was totally a heroin user.

D-Yeah.

S-And I was going to say, that's, that is the only reason I'm not opposed to bringing him up every ten seconds, like some of the places you'll read about this story does, is because he was also a junkie, and his behavior is very, very typical. The things that he says and the way that he acts, so it's, there's, I can't see putting a lot of faith into the guy.

D-Yeah. I don't think it's suspicious. If you want to know what we're kind of talking about, again we're

kind of talking about “Soaked In Bleach” and the way that they portray Dylan Carlson, as well as Tom Grant, the way that he portrays Carlson as kind of a seedy, nefarious guy.

J-Uh huh.

D-And this whole thing.

S-He was colluding with them.

D-Yeah. So I'm not going to bring him up every ten seconds like a lot of people do when they talk about this case, and I just wanted to bring that up now. I'll bring him up when it's important, like again in a couple of minutes, but it's not important now.

J-Ok (Steve laughing).

D-Ok. So, after a rough start, likely Cobain laughing in Courtney's face, right? (Laughing).

S-Probably (laughing).

D-Cause I can't imagine that she was sober during this whole thing. Saying, “You need to go to rehab and I'm going to go with you but I'm not going to do the inpatient thing. I'm going to stay in a hotel, and you go be in that other...” Obviously she probably wasn't saying that.

S-Pot calling the kettle black.

D-Yeah.

J-Yeah. But it was her idea, right?

D-It was her idea for the intervention. And after a rough start, as I said, they eventually did convince Cobain that he should go to rehab.

J-Yeah. You've got a daughter now, right dude?

D-Yeah. And you know...

J-You've got responsibilities.

D-Yeah. Yeah, yeah, exactly.

J-But what I want to know is why did they have to go all the way to L.A. for rehab?

D-I think it's probably one of the best. It probably also caters to celebrities.

S-I was going to say, it's their status.

J-Good point.

S-You don't go to the local...

D-To the methadone clinic down the street.

S-Yeah.

J-Yeah.

D-Or Method One as the case may be (laughing). Sorry. Joking. Ok, so Love and Cobain agreed to go to this one in L.A., right? And as I vaguely mentioned, Cobain was going to stay, it was a facility you were supposed to stay in. It was supposed to be an inpatient detox, which makes sense for heavy drug users. You would monitor literally everything they do.

J-Yeah, kind of lock them up for a few days, yeah.

D-Yeah.

S-Yeah.

D-But apparently, Courtney was staying in a hotel, maybe even with her drug dealer at, for her quote unquote, "treatment."

J-Uh huh.

S-Yeah, she never seemed to take...

D-She didn't seem to take it seriously.

S-...cleaning up seriously.

D-Yeah.

S-I mean, she did eventually clean up, and she's fallen off the wagon quite a few times. Some of them very famously, but this is one of those times where I don't think she was taking it seriously at all.

D-Yeah. I would agree with that.

J-These days, I know, you guys have probably noticed that she's really tried to clean up her image also. Her whole style has changed.

D-She's trying very hard.

J-Yeah.

S-Yeah, but unfortunately she's not always gone about it so well. Did you see that roast she was on a couple of years ago?

J-No.

D-No.

S-Oh, she was on some celebrity roast, and she's like, "I am so clean and I haven't done anything in so long." And it is so obvious that she is blasted and, like, a week and a half later she went into another program because the entire internet was like, "You're lying."

D-Yeah, yeah (Joe laughing).

S-So, I mean, she's trying. She's not always succeeding, but she's trying.

D-Yeah. Well, and here's what I'll say, when I was doing research on this, and we'll talk about some of the experts or people I talked to when we start talking about theories, but I did talk to some people who are ex-addicts who are listeners of our show.

S-Uh huh.

D-And they said, you know, by and large, opiate addiction, heroin addiction is the hardest thing to kick. It's the thing you miss the most. That high is just, like, it's almost impossible to kick for your entire life, and if you're around people who are doing it, you're probably going to start doing it again.

S-And that's, that's Courtney's problem.

D-Yeah.

S-Is that she's surrounded by the wrong people.

D-Right, yeah.

S-Whether that's intentional or not.

D-Yeah. So, she didn't really take this whole detox thing seriously, it sounds like.

J-Neither did Kurt I guess.

D-Neither did Kurt, yeah. And reports say that the facility in L.A. had, quote, "No knowledge of his history of depression or previous suicide attempts." Unquote. Which is funny, again, because as far as I can tell, he didn't have any suicide attempts. But maybe he did, I don't know.

J-He did have some history of depression, didn't he?

D-Yeah, but I mean, let's be fair...

S-He had some medical issues that kind of drug him down and gave him an excuse for a lot of things.

D-Yeah. Although there's some discussion...

S-Some speculation about that.

D-...about, yeah, there's some speculation there. But I mean, like really, who doesn't have a history of depression? Who doesn't have, who doesn't feel depressed when they're a teenager, you know? And it's not as though Kurt, I mean, he was 27, but if you're living in a world where you're making music about

feeling angry and mad and sad, and doing a lot of drugs, that's probably just going to continue.

S-Uh huh.

J-Hm.

D-Yeah. On March 30...

S-This is five days after the intervention.

D-Yes. Cobain goes with Dylan Carlson to buy a shotgun before leaving for rehab. You'll remember that the police confiscated all of his guns. All of Cobain's guns.

J-Yeah, was he under some sort of restraining order? Cause I got the impression that Dylan Carlson bought the gun for him.

D-He did. He wasn't under a restraining order. He told Dylan that he didn't want to buy a gun because he thought the police would find out and confiscate that one too.

J-Oh, I got you.

D-Given that it was registered under his name.

S-After they had just seized all of his weapons, yeah.

D-All of his guns, yeah. So he asked Dylan to buy it for him because he actually, he thought that...it's unclear, reports are either that he thought somebody was, like, breaking into his house, or that a decision that he was about to make, which I'll tell you about in a second, he thought that people would be really angry and come attack him because he was going to cost people a lot of money.

S-Retaliatio.

D-Retaliatio, yeah.

J-Uh huh. And then, I understand this is a 20 gauge shotgun, right?

D-It's a 20 gauge shotgun with a barrel break at the end.

J-Yeah, a muzzle break.

D-A muzzle break, yeah.

S-It's a 20 gauge Remington semi-auto.

D-Uh huh.

J-Yeah. But...

D-Semi-auto is important.

J-But that was the funny thing, too, is apparently he, I heard it, he said he bought a 20 gauge because he thought he could shoot somebody with the 20 gauge and it wouldn't kill them.

D-Uh huh.

J-You know, as opposed to a 12 gauge.

D-Well...

J-And...

S-And that's an interesting point in itself.

J-Yeah, that's kind of funny, dude (laughing).

D-Yeah. But isn't, I thought I read somewhere, and you can correct me if I'm wrong, cause I may be, that 20 gauges are popular for home protection because they won't go through a wall.

J-Well...

D-You can shoot somebody, and it won't go through a wall and hit somebody through a wall.

J-Well, it depends on the, what kind of load you've got in it.

D-Uh huh.

J-If you've got a slug in it, it might punch its way through a wall.

D-Uh huh. But...

S-But if it's bird shot, probably not.

J-Bird shot no, yeah. That's why people, you know, for home defense, use smaller pellets that won't go through a wall.

D-Right. So that was my understanding, was that it was optimal, you know, likely, they went into the gun store. He said, "what are you looking for?" He said, "well, I'm looking to defend my home." And they said, "oh, this is an excellent option for that."

J-Uh huh.

D-"Here."

J-Oh definitely.

S-You know what's even better than, than bird pellet?

D-Hm?

S-Just use rock salt. That doesn't kill anybody and it hurts like hell.

D-Yeah, that's true.

S-But they don't sell that.

D-No, they don't.

J-You got to make your own.

S-You got to make your own. That's the one problem with it (laughing).

D-Yeah.

J-I wonder what it would be like to be shot with rock salt?

S-I don't want to know. I have been told that it is extremely painful.

J-I'll bet.

S-And I don't want to ever find out.

D-Yeah. So Dylan bought him, bought Cobain this gun. I mentioned, briefly, that he thought maybe there would be some retaliation. It's because apparently Cobain had decided that Nirvana was not going to play Lollapalooza. Lollapalooza, which we'll talk about in a little bit. Lollapalooza is a huge music festival.

S-It's a giant music festival.

D-Yeah. And it was happening in Washington that year.

J-And they were going to make, supposedly...

D-They were going to make 9.2 million dollars. In 1994.

S-That's a lot of money.

J-That would have made his fan base rather angry.

D-And it sounds like he not only didn't want to play Lollapalooza, but in fact wanted to disband Nirvana and quit the music business entirely. So he seemed to be a bit nervous about that. He was scared of retaliation and so those are the two reasons that are given as to why he felt like he needed a gun. But, either way, he took the gun back to his house in Seattle. He left it there, and then he got on a plane to L.A., and checked into the detox facility down in L.A.

S-Exodus.

D-Exodus. Yeah, Exodus Detox Facility. He spent the day, apparently, talking to counselors about his drug use, his life in general. He played with Frances, his daughter.

J-Was she in rehab too?

D-She was not (laughing). No. She came to visit him, and I think with the nanny. And I believe that they had a new nanny down in L.A. Cause they did have this one live-in nanny named Cali.

S-Yeah.

J-He was still back up in Seattle, right?

D-He was still in Seattle, yeah. And they had apparently just, they had had a nanny leave them, like, a month before.

S-They went through nannies like toilet paper.

D-They did. They really did. But I think that this nanny's name was Elizabeth.

S-Ok.

D-That's my guess given some other stuff, but I can't actually corroborate that, so sorry guys if I'm wrong. Also, of note, none of the counselors seemed concerned that he was a risk for self-harm or anything like that, which seems like the sort of thing you might be able to tell if somebody was really suicidal, and you talk to them for a day.

S-I would imagine the counselors would be good at picking that up pretty quick, yeah.

D-Seems like it, but maybe I'm just ignorant.

J-Well, you're not getting your fix of heroin and all that. And their life probably sucks.

D-Yeah.

J-So he might have seemed depressed.

D-He didn't...

J-But probably most of the guys they bring in there are kind of down.

D-Well it didn't...

S-You meet them on one of their worst days.

J-Yeah.

D-Yeah. It didn't actually seem like, it seemed like he was ok. I mean, obviously, he was suffering from heroin withdrawal because, you know, it was, since he was a huge addict that was a big deal. Obviously it wasn't going to be easy for him.

J-It would be hard.

D-But it sounds like the counselors thought he was dealing with it pretty well, all things considered. I mean, he was playing with his daughter and stuff, he wasn't, like, he hadn't self-confined himself to his room or anything like that. It's, he seemed to be out, kind of doing this whole stuff.

S-Here's a question...

D-Yeah.

S-I don't know the answer to this, and I don't know that I've ever read it anywhere, so five days prior to this the intervention takes place. Five or six days.

J-Uh huh.

S-Do we know, was he still using prior to arriving at the facility?

D-I would, you know, I would guess that he probably shot up, like, right before he got on the plane (laughing).

J-I would think so to (laughing).

S-Well, ok.

J-Maybe he shot up on the plane.

D-Maybe, yeah.

S-I'm in the same boat here, thinking that's probably the situation, but I've never seen anything...

D-Yeah, so I guess it's possible, I think I see where you're going with this, I guess it's possible that he was still high. I mean, that he wasn't actually suffering from withdrawal yet.

S-Right.

D-Yeah. So yeah, that's possible, yeah. But still, you would think that people who are trained professionals in talking to people, like counselors, would at least have an inkling, like, "Oh yeah, he did seem a little upset about something."

S-"A little out there." Yeah.

D-Yeah. I don't know. Call me crazy.

S-I have.

D-I know. Constantly.

S-Ok Crazy, what's next?

D-April 1st, reports are that 13 calls are made from Love's hotel room to the facility that Cobain was in. It's my understanding that he didn't actually speak to her. It was to the, like, public phone, basically.

S-The pay phone?

D-Yeah, the pay phone.

S-The hallway phone or whatever it would be.

D-That was available for all of the patients. They didn't actually speak. He may have spoke to her once, but that would be it, and I'm unclear if he actually spoke to her once or if they're referring to the fact that he called the hotel and left a message for her. The message he left was, he left it with the front counter, the front counter? Yeah, the front counter.

S and J-Front desk.

D-Front desk, thank you. I don't know why it was the counter all of a sudden.

S-Cause she was staying at a convenience store I guess. I don't know.

D-Maybe (laughing). Yeah. So at the front desk. And he said, "Elizabeth's phone number is..." this. Sorry, there would be a phone number there, where "this" was. That was his message.

S-He gave her the phone number of the nanny.

D-He gave her the phone number, yeah. And he said it was Elizabeth's phone number. So I think it's the nanny, but I, I don't know. It, nobody ever says who Elizabeth happens to be. I'm just assuming it's the nanny.

J-Yeah.

D-Yeah.

J-We don't care.

D-Yeah. Sometime during the 1st, Kurt jokes that it would be a really, really dumb thing to try to jump that six foot wall back in the back of the facility, and then he does that. Jump the wall in the back (laughing).

J-Yeah.

D-He was out for a cigarette break and just jumped the wall. He caught a cab, went to LAX, and gets on a flight to Seattle, back home.

J-That's funny they didn't confiscate his credit cards or anything, huh?

D-Yeah, they didn't.

S-It said...this was not a forced facility.

D-Yeah, it was voluntary.

S-This was a self, it was voluntary.

D and J-Yeah.

S-Which is why I find it so weird that he took the time to jump the wall. If they're letting you hang on to your wallet and your smokes and all of that, then why wouldn't you just say, "Eh, I'm going to go out the front door."

J-Yeah.

S-"I'm done."

D-I guess my, my guess would be that he was trying to hide it from people. I presume that if you check yourself out of rehab, they're probably going to call some people and say, "Hey, just so you know, Kurt checked himself out."

J-And then those people are going to call the airport and maybe, like, you know, run over to the airport and intercept you before you can get on that plane to Seattle.

D-Or, yeah...

J-And so it's more hassle free if you slip off over the back wall instead of, you know, telling everybody about it and telegraphing.

D-Just jump the...yeah. I don't know, it's a theory. It's not a very good theory, but it's a theory.

J-I've only been in rehab a few times and (Devin laughing).

D-It just so happens that Kurt is sitting next to Duff McKagan, who you may know as the bassist of Guns N' Roses.

J-Hm.

D-Cobain and Axl Rose, of Guns N' Roses, apparently had, like, a pretty big beef involving Courtney Love, surprising no one.

J-Was it...

S-Didn't Axl have a beef with everybody?

D-Kind of, yeah. There's like twelve of them or something, yeah.

S-Ok.

D-Yeah. McKagan apparently reported that Cobain seemed really happy to see him. He later remarked that from, quote, "All my instincts that something was wrong." Unquote. One of the things I...

J-How well did he know Cobain?

D-They didn't really know each other that well.

J-Yeah.

D-I mean, you know, their bands weren't, they didn't interact that much. And you know, the other thing I really struggle with on this one is McKagan was interviewed for a book in 2001, so that's one of those things, you know...

S-Many, many years later.

D-Really, many years later and you look back and you see one thing a tiny little bit wrong and you say "Oh, I should have known!" I don't know. It's hard to tell if he actually felt that way at that time, and I'm not saying that he was, like, intentionally lying about that. I just mean that you do that, like, every human does that.

J-You go back and reinterpret things that you probably didn't...yeah.

S-Oh yeah. People modify their memories unintentionally all the time.

J-Oh yeah.

D-April 2nd and 3rd, Cobain is quote, "spotted," unquote, around Seattle a number of times. I don't know what that means. It's literally never elaborated on.

S-It's just like when Bigfoot is spotted.

D-It kind of might be, yeah.

S-Somebody saw him and they got blurry footage.

D-Yeah. Yeah.

S-And that's it.

D-Yeah. On April 3rd, Love hired Tom Grant to quote, unquote, "find" Cobain. Who knows. I don't know if she knew where he was or anything like that. That's a big question mark in this whole case, but she hired him anyway. On April 4th, a police report is filed with Seattle Police by, air quotes, "Cobain's mother," unquote, stating he was missing and suicidal. In actuality, Tom Grant does have recordings of Love admitting that she actually filed the report and said it was, that she was Cobain's mom because, I don't know, she thought that people would pay more attention to it? I don't really know.

J-Who knows.

D-Question mark why she did that, but she did. On April 7th, Nirvana officially pulls out of Lollapalooza. As I said, they were slated to make a buttload of money. I'm sorry, I had the wrong number. It's 9.5, not 9.2 million dollars.

J-That's a lot of money.

D-Uh huh.

S-I'll take the change.

D-Yeah, me too. Yeah. Love claims that Hole had originally been offered that spot but turned it down so that Cobain could perform.

J-That seems unlikely.

D-It sounds like bunk to me. I'm sure that there would be a way to look that up to corroborate it, but frankly I don't care enough. I don't think it matters enough to this case.

S-Yeah.

D-So I didn't really waste any time on doing that. If you happen to know off the top of your head, please send us an email and I will rerecord this entire episode for you.

J-Exactly.

D-Probably not. Sorry.

S-For the change we will.

D-Yeah.

S-The point three million change.

D-Yeah, for the point three million change, yeah. For the third of a million dollars, yeah absolutely (Steve laughing). On April 8th, an electrician named Gary Smith, maybe? That might not actually be his real name. Was dispatched to the house to install, sorry, to Cobain and Love's house in Seattle, to install a security system. And here's a question I never see asked, is why?

S-I, I had the very same question.

D-Why then?

S-What the deuce was he doing there?

D-Yeah. You know, did somebody call in the order for installation a couple weeks prior? Like, did Cobain call before he left for rehab expecting it to be done when he came back? Or did somebody call them on April 8th or April 7th and say, "Hey, I need a thing installed. Can you come do that?"

S-Actually, you know what? I bet you somebody did this well in advance. I was just thinking about the fact that, you two know this, I recently had some electrical work done on my house.

D-Uh huh, yeah.

S-And it was several weeks out, and this is in the tiny section of town, and my local electrician still was weeks away.

D-Uh huh.

S-I'm suddenly, as you're talking, I'm like, oh wait, you know what. It makes total sense. "Ok, we'll be there on the 8th."

D-It's definitely possible that, you know, he, that Cobain, you know, apparently reportedly he was worried about his safety in his home, that he called as soon as he started being worried about safety in his home and said, "Actually, yes, I would like a security system installed."

J-Yeah, it might have been actually right about when the police confiscated all of his guns.

D-Could have been.

S-It could have been Cali that called, too. It could have been anybody that made the call requesting the service.

D-Yeah. But again, it's kind of one of those, like, why aren't people asking that question?

J-Well, the question in my mind is why this guy shows up without calling ahead first to make sure there's going to be somebody there with keys to let him in to places and stuff like that.

D-Uh huh.

J-He just shows up.

D-Yeah.

J-You know? That was a little strange.

D-Yeah.

J-Of course, maybe he made the appointment and he assumed there was going to be somebody there. He gets there, there's nobody there. He starts, you know, nosing around. Maybe he was knocking...

S-He can't, well I mean...

J-Maybe he was knocking on the door to see if there was somebody home. I don't know.

S-Worst case scenario, you show up, nobody's there, you spend five minutes there, and electricians bill by the hour, so I just billed an hour worth of work.

D-It's hard, I mean, again, it's...the other question I guess is, like, why was he poking around this greenhouse area?

J-Well, he might have gone to the house first and gotten no response, and then...

D-I guess.

J-And then he goes, he spots what looks like a mother-in-law apartment over the garage.

D-Yeah.

J-And thinks, "I'll go up there and have a look see."

S-Yeah, we should probably...

D-Yeah, so anyway (laughing). Smith walks around to what they call the greenhouse, which is, it does look kind of like a mother-in-law apartment above the garage, which is separate from the house.

J-Yeah, so it's not a greenhouse.

D-I think there's a wall, no I think there's a door from the house into the greenhouse, from a defunct room. I don't know that it matters very much, but it's a separate building from the house, basically. He looks through a window, cause it is a greenhouse, so it's all windows. He looks through a windowed door...

S-It's not a greenhouse.

J-It's not a greenhouse.

S-It is...

D-No, I'm sorry. It looks like a greenhouse.

S-Because it's painted green on the outside. A bluish green.

D-No, no, no. There's windows, there's lots of skylights.

S-There's windows all over, but don't call it a greenhouse, cause it's not actually a greenhouse. It's part of the garage that happens to have a ton of windows in it.

D-Ok, that's fair, yeah.

J-Yeah, ok.

S-It's an apartment for, for lack of a better term.

D-Kind of, yeah. It's just one big room though, so. Anyway, it doesn't really matter. Either way, it's this, they call it the greenhouse, so I'm going to keep calling it a greenhouse.

S-Yes, which is fine. I just want to make sure that we understand it's not an actual greenhouse sitting on top of their garage.

D-So he sees a body lying in the greenhouse with a small amount of blood near him. This is how he describes it. He apparently initially thought Cobain was asleep, but he saw the gunshot and like a little bit of blood, or not the gunshot...

J-The shotgun.

D-Sorry, the shotgun and a little bit of blood. So he called his boss?

S-Understandable.

D-And his boss called a radio station? (laughing).

S-Weird.

J-I don't know if that's true.

D-I don't know if that's true either. Either way the cops did get called, and they came out. The police, they came out. They arrived. They found the door was locked, the door to the greenhouse was locked, so they broke one of the, it was, you know, like french doors...

S-Panels of glass.

D-So it was all paneled glass. So they broke one of the windows next to the knob and unlocked it. It was one of those knob locks, that you just twist the, the little lock on the knob.

J-Uh huh.

D-There was no bolt or anything.

J-So after you commit murder, you just twist to lock it and just pull the door shut behind you.

D-Twist to lock it and just pull it shut behind you, yeah.

J-Yeah.

D-And that is another important...

S-The locked room mystery.

D-Another important key to this whole thing is, in fact, the door was that way, and it, there, you will also see that there was a stool, you know, wedged up against the door, but that's also not true. There's a stool sitting kind of in front of a door.

S-A door.

D-A door, not this door. A different door in to the room. So again, important little details. The officer that responded also showed up with a paramedic because of course you would. And they reported a relatively small amount of blood, but the paramedic did say that it was clear that Cobain was dead so they didn't try to do any kind of resuscitation or anything like that.

J-Well, and the guy shot half of his face off with a shotgun, you know (laughing).

D-Sounds like, yeah. Although I don't know that is true. I mean, I've never seen a coroner's report and I've never seen any pictures so I don't know for a hundred percent that half his face was missing, but yeah, it sounds like he was missing...

J-He probably didn't look so good...

D-Yeah.

J-...because the Seattle PD still won't release any of those photographs.

S-Probably for good reason.

D-Specifically because they don't think that anybody should see it.

J-Yeah.

D-Cobain's wallet was sitting next to him and the officer pulled his I.D. out to identify him, and they took a picture. So that's another clue, is they said they couldn't identify him, they had to use his fingerprints to officially identify him, but they used his I.D. to identify who the body was. His coat was on his left side. A brown paper bag with shotgun shells was by his left foot. A cigar box with all of his heroin paraphernalia and his wallet were on his right side, kind of a little farther away from him. Not just like right next to the body. And there were cigarette butts on the right side kind of above his head. A root beer can on his left side by his head. And then in the dirt by his left side was a note stuck in the dirt with a red pen that had...

J-Uh, in the dirt in the flower pot.

D-The dirt in a flower, it's a flower bed. A little flower bed next to him. Sorry.

S-Yeah. A little box.

D-Yeah. So presumably with the pen he had written the note in was stuck in the dirt.

J-Yeah.

D-Through the paper in the dirt. We're going to talk about details in a minute, but I want to finish the time line in five hours (laughing). For some reason, despite all odds, the police declared his death an undeniable suicide at the scene and released Cobain's body to Love, like, within a couple days. She had him cremated shortly afterwards. On April 10th there was a public memorial that was held for Cobain, which featured Courtney Love reading Cobain's suicide note.

J-So she read the entire thing?

D-Apparently. She arrived later and gave away some of Cobain's clothes. So there's a really quick overview of the time line of this whole thing. And I guess we have a few more things to talk about before we talk about theories (S and D laughing). I'm so sorry. You guys say you like long episodes, so there you are.

S-Woo hoo.

J-All right. You know, if you don't like the long episodes, just put us on pause and come back tomorrow.

D-Did you pause it? Welcome back.

S-We're serialized.

D-Yeah. So, bullet points. While people close to Cobain differ greatly in opinion on whether it was a suicide or not, I do think they agree he was unhappy with his life.

J-Yeah, you can tell that from his suicide note. There's a lot of self-loathing in there.

D-Yeah. And we'll talk about the suicide note in a minute, but he was happier once he had some health issues resolved and with the birth of his daughter. He seemed to really, really love her. But in general it's agreed that Cobain was not happy with being part of a huge band like Nirvana.

S-Fame was not what he wanted.

D-He did not want fame. He wanted to just kind of be able to create. There's actually a quote from Courtney. After they got married he canceled a couple of tours and she said all he wanted to do was do drugs and, like, paint. Like that's all he wanted to do. And that sounds very true to me. In the interviews I've seen with Cobain, he just seemed like he was a guy who just wanted to create and he, like, hated, for instance, *hated* "Smells Like Teen Spirit." Hated it. Loathed it.

J-Really?

D-Yeah. But of course he had to do it, they had to do it at every single performance because it was one of their biggest hits.

J-Sounds like to me like there could be worse problems to have.

S-He could have had to sing "Free Bird" at every concert.

D-That's true, he could have. Luckily he didn't write "Free Bird," so.

S-Luckily.

D-Yeah. In that, the other documentary, one of the other many documentaries, but the other big one, "Kurt and Courtney," Kurt's aunt, who I frankly find to be one of the most credible character witnesses of this whole entire thing.

J-Yeah, she knew him well.

D-Yeah. She says that she has no doubt that he just hated the world that he was living in. She thought that he felt it was really fake and he hated it.

S-I actually, I attribute her, his aunt's statements, to Nicholas Broomfield, is that the documentary?

D-Broomfield, uh huh.

S-That guy, I recognized as soon as I started watching it, recognized the style. He's got a very distinct style, and I've watched his other stuff before.

D-Yeah, you have actually. For this show even.

S-Yeah. But he has a really good way of interviewing people, and he tends to draw out a lot of little bits of information that nobody else does. I mean, everybody's after the big, glamorous interview, and he's like, "I'll talk to anybody."

D-Uh huh.

S-And it usually is for the better for him.

D-Yeah.

S-Because he gets information that most people wouldn't. So I personally, I attribute all of her information to his diligence.

D-Absolutely. Yeah.

S-Cause you never hear about her anywhere else.

D-No, you don't. And I think, I mean, you hear about his cousin who I think is full of crap. And you hear about his parents a little bit, but not very much. But his aunt, they seem to be very close and I really think that she has the most insight to what Cobain was really like. So there's that. Nirvana was probably breaking up either way, because it sounded like Kort [sic], or Kurt really didn't want to do it anymore.

S-He was done.

D-He was done.

J-That's too bad, you know? Damn it.

D-Yeah. Almost everyone close to this case says that they are scared of Courtney Love, which is fair. She's scary.

J-Uh huh.

D-It sounds like Kurt Cobain and Courtney Love were probably getting a divorce, and Love was probably being written out of Cobain's will. I obviously, there's no way to corroborate that, but it sounds like...

S-There's been statements.

D-Statements from Rosemary Carroll, who's the lawyer.

S-The lawyer, yeah.

D-Who, again, she won't go on record to say this, but Tom Grant does have a recording of her saying this, so, sounds like Love was being written out of Cobain's will. I've seen reports that Cobain's credit card was being used after his death, or they were missing.

S-Huh?

D-And I don't, I haven't been able to find this information from anywhere but Tom Grant. So take it with a grain of salt. It also appears that Courtney canceled all of Cobain's cards, believing that it would cut him off and cause him to contact her. Again, that's all from Tom Grant. I don't know, there's no other way to corroborate it.

S-Well, as you said, that's not necessarily from Tom Grant as much as that's from Courtney Love.

D-Yeah.

S-Because she's the one who said she did it.

D-Yeah. She said that she canceled them. I don't know...

S-Whether she did or didn't.

D-Yeah. So I don't know, again, I can't corroborate it, but I thought I'd mention it. And then we talked about Cali a little bit. He was the only person that I was going to...he apparently was actually living in the house in Washington, in Seattle, the entire time.

S-Basically as a caretaker, live-in roommate kind of situation.

D-Yeah, but like, Kurt was dead in the house for, like, three days, four days, before his body was discovered, so.

J-Not in the main house, though. In the greenhouse.

D-Not in the main house, that's true, but he had to have been at the house at some point.

S-Well, and Cali's gone on record as saying that he saw Kurt once.

D-He saw him, yeah. Yeah.

S-That he showed up once, I think it was the 2nd.

D-Yeah.

S-Or the 3rd.

D-He, he said he came to visit Cali and his girlfriend.

S-Uh huh.

D-In bed (laughing). So there you go. Ok.

S-Awkward, but yeah.

D-We're, you know, an hour in and done with the overview (Steve laughing). You're welcome.

S-Thanks Devin.

D-You're welcome. So theories.

S-Yep.

D-We're there, finally.

S-Uh, yeah.

J-Uh huh.

D-After ten hours.

J-Yeah.

D-It's going to keep getting longer. And I will just once again remind people that we are doing an overview of the case so if you want to know more...

S-Cause there's so much.

D-There are so many theories. There's so much information here I, like, literally can't, I don't have the physical capability. My voice is already starting to go. Ok. So let's uh, basically there's two theories, right, cause this is a Devin episode. The two theories are he was murdered or it was suicide.

J-Well, actually, it could have been an accident too. Maybe he just bought a shotgun and he was...

S-And he tripped and fell backwards with it?

J-No, he was actually, I think he was standing there, like, like looking down the barrel just to see if there were any obstructions in it or anything like that.

D-Yeah, I don't think that happened.

J-Yeah, I doubt it too.

D-No, I don't think so. All right, so, let's talk about murder first.

J-Yeah.

S-Ok, we can do that.

D-We're just going to bullet point real quick here some of the things people bring up. Why do people think it's murder? One of the questions people ask is, "Why would a rich man kill himself?" Well, that's a dumb question.

J-Yeah, it happens.

D-It happens a lot.

S-Often.

D-Yeah. The divorce, that he would rather kill himself than divorce. He actually said that in a note somewhere at some point.

S-Was it a note or an interview?

D-He, actually I think he said it in a note to Courtney in Rome.

S-Ok.

D-Nirvana was breaking up, so he was keeping people from money. He was scared of retaliation, right? And so somebody could have killed him because they were...

S-Ok.

J-He's going to cost them a lot of money.

D-Which is silly because if you're going to kill him, then he's, you're going to lose all that money anyway, but that's fine, whatever.

J-You don't get the money anyway.

D-There were no fingerprints on the shells slash gun slash pen slash insert thing here.

S-We're going to talk about that.

D-Yeah we're going to talk about some of these.

S-Ok, before I lost my mind.

D-Yeah, no. People say he wasn't quote, unquote, "he wasn't suicidal." There was a lot of heroin in his body, along with some other stuff. And people also say the note wasn't a suicide note, or it was faked and there is, like, a handwriting sample thing that we're going to talk about in a minute.

J-Hm, yeah.

D-So those are all the reasons people say it was murder. Next theory. Just kidding (Steve laughing). We're going to talk about some of these things in detail but not all of them, so here we go. The gun...

S-We talked about this a little bit already.

D-A little bit, yeah. It's the 20 gauge shotgun which Dylan bought for Kurt. The gun was a long barrel gun, but I don't think the barrel was so long that Cobain could have, um, not reasonably pulled the trigger himself. I think it would have, he would have been able to totally do that.

J-Yeah.

S-It's got to be a really big gun to not be able to pull the trigger yourself.

D-Uh huh. Yeah, that doesn't concern me. The issue people, they have a few issues with the gun, and I, some of them, I, yeah, ok. First of all, the shell casing, the spent shell casing was on the opposite side of Cobain's body from where it would have ejected from the gun.

J-Uh huh.

D-It was a semi-auto so it is reasonable...

S-It automatically ejects the empty...

D-Automatically ejects, yeah.

J-Yeah.

S-The empty shell.

J-Yeah. And he was holding the gun upside down.

D-He was holding it upside down.

J-And therefore, so the ejection port would have been on his right.

D-Right.

J-But the casing was on his left.

D-Left. Yes.

J-Yeah. That makes people suspicious, yes.

D-That makes people suspicious. I guess I agree. I think it's reasonable to say it could have bounced off his arm.

J-It could have bounced off his arm, it could have, if he'd been holding it at, like, even a little bit of an angle, it could have ejected somewhat upwards, bounced off the, because that was a fairly skinny little room that he was in.

D-I don't think it was that skinny.

J-According to the diagram I saw, it didn't look that big.

S-It's, it's...

D-It's not huge, but it's not, I don't think it's big enough...

S-It couldn't have hit the wall on the opposite side and bounced back, Joe. That's way too far.

D-I don't think, I think that's too far.

J-You think so, really?

D-I do.

S-No, well...

J-Those things get flung out with a lot of force.

S-They do, but they're also super light and so they burn up their inertia quite quickly.

J-Uh huh.

S-I mean, shotgun shells don't fly more than four or five feet at best on their own without a wind.

J-I've seen them fly farther than that.

S-Well but I'm making a generality here. What I'm saying is there's no way it could have hit the wall and bounced, traveled all the way back from where, to where it had originated, and then continued on. The room is too big for that to have happened.

J-Yeah.

D-I, I feel the same way.

J-Yeah, but there's other things too. He could have, maybe he wasn't holding the gun upside down when he actually pulled the trigger. Maybe he was, maybe he was holding it sort of flat against his body and it went up in the air. Maybe he was standing up when he shot himself.

S-He, well I will agree with Joe. So I know you're going to talk about a little bit of how we know the gun was upside down.

D-Uh huh.

S-But Joe makes a very good point of if he was standing upright, and the gun was not upside down. And by upside down, I think we should explain this to folks. That means the trigger is pointing up in the air instead of down at the floor like you would normally hold a gun.

J-Yeah.

D-Uh huh.

S-But if he did have it so it wasn't at a 180 degrees away from where it would be traditionally held, but say only 90 degrees, then the casing would go down to the floor and could ricochet anywhere. Or if he is sitting, if he had done that, it could have bounced off...

J-Or if he is standing.

S-Well, yeah, that's if he's standing. Or if he's sitting when he uses it, it can ricochet off his arm or his leg...

J-Uh huh.

S-...to end up on the opposite side.

J-Yeah, because...

S-So it's completely plausible is the only thing I'm getting at.

J-Yeah, because if...

S-There's a whole bunch of vectors that it could have taken.

J-Yeah, if he had been reaching down, then his arm definitely would have been right in the way of the ejection port.

D-Uh huh.

S-Yeah.

D-Yeah. And I guess, you know, for me it's just a question of how fast does that happen? And, you know, the gun would have had to have been at a slight angle because for it to bounce off and then bounce over instead of bounce just right, like, back at the gun. You know, it wouldn't have ejected right to bounce off his arm then. But, I guess I don't, I don't really have a problem with that. It's interesting because people say that this is proof that there was someone else in the room, because it had to have bounced off someone else. But I don't think that's true, particularly because it means that Cobain, he had what is called a 'death grip' on the barrel.

S-In layman's terms.

D-In layman's terms, yeah. And that happens, surprisingly, just moments after death (laughing). Your hand just, like, freezes up. It seizes.

S-Muscle spasms.

D-Yeah.

J-Yeah. I think right at death.

D-Yeah, basically right at death, so there would have been no time for somebody to stage that, so he was holding the gun, and his hand was tight enough on the barrel that it, they think that it didn't spin around. That it was, the position the gun was found in was where the position was when the bullet...

J-Probably did not.

D-Yeah. So I guess the thing I always have a problem with is people say, "Well, it means somebody else was in the room." But well, no it doesn't. I mean, he was holding the barrel in his mouth either way.

S-Ok, now I can play devil's advocate on that entirely. If somebody else is in the room and they are

trying to get him, and there's some kind of struggle and he grabs the gun and other said person somehow accidentally pulls the trigger and it goes off, that just means that his hand was on the barrel. That's all it means.

D-Yeah. That's fair.

S-It doesn't mean that there's no way somebody else couldn't have been there.

D-Yeah.

J-Well, somebody could have been there. I don't think there was.

S-I don't think there was.

D-I don't think there was either. But...

S-Based on everything I've read, but I'm just saying it's entirely possible that there could have been a quote, unquote, "struggle for the weapon."

D-Uh huh.

S-And it went off while he happened to have been holding the barrel and therefore, as this murder theory loves to point out, everything was then staged.

D-Yeah. Yeah. Ok. That's a good point. I guess I hadn't really thought of that.

J-So I guess we won't get in to that, but if they were trying to murder him, then, are people also saying that somebody else also forced him to take three times as much heroin as he should have taken?

D-Uh, yes, but we will get in to that in just a second.

J-Oh.

D-I want to, there is a couple more things about the gun that I want to talk about first, and then we're going to talk about drugs. Cause this is a fun episode, drugs and guns and stuff like that.

S-Makes for the best parties.

D-It really does. The gun is, I will mention, still in police custody. If you follow this case at all, you will know that just very recently, in fact, the Seattle Police Department released pictures of one of their officers holding the gun that Kurt Cobain died from a gunshot wound from. And they still have it. You will hear people say, "Uh yeah, they released it into the custody of Courtney Love and she melted it down to hide evidence."

J-Uh huh.

D-That didn't happen. The police still have it, it's still in evidence.

J-Yeah.

D-Ok.

J-Melting it down to hide evidence, I love that one.

D-Yeah. Me too. Yeah. Another issue with the gun is reportedly they didn't find fingerprints on the gun or shells. Which, it happens, but also it's inaccurate information. What really happened is the report states, again, I looked at the actual police report, and it says that there are no prints of, quote, "comparative value." Which just means that they were all smudgy.

S-They couldn't make any kind of match out of.

D-Which makes sense because they would be probably.

J-Yeah, absolutely.

D-Yeah.

J-And, uh...

D-The real issue here, though, is that the gun wasn't even inspected for prints until, like, three years after. Like, literally they didn't submit these fingerprint results for analyzation, analyzation? Analysis...

S-Analysis.

D-Thank you, until 1997, which is three years after Kurt Cobain was dead.

S-That's a failing on the part of the police department...

D-It's a huge issue.

S-...based on their reasoning of the cause of death.

D-Yeah. It's a huge issue.

S-Evidently they had this thing about not processing anything on suicides.

D-They didn't even develop the film for years.

S-Yeah. There was a cost savings.

D-Yeah. Yeah.

S-Really weird cost savings.

D-Yeah. Bad, bad practices all around. So, and we'll talk a little bit more about that in a minute, but that's my issue with the fingerprints, not that they couldn't find anything, because, like, of course, like, fingerprints are mostly smudgy. It's rare that you find a good one. Ok, now we can talk about drugs. You want to talk about drugs?

J-Drugs, yeah!

D-So Cobain, it was reported, had three times the lethal dose of heroin in his body when he died. There's some debate, only around this case, this is the only time I've ever seen this debate, ever. But, uh...

S-What the lethal dose is?

D-What the, well, if there's a ceiling or not for heroin. In this case, it's the only time I've ever seen anybody say, "Oh yeah, no. No, no, the lethal dose is a lethal dose for heroin. People can take only a certain amount before they become incapacitated." Literally every other case I've ever heard with heroin, and we've corroborated this with some experts...

S-Uh huh.

D-There is no ceiling for heroin. You can pretty much keep taking it. I mean...

J-And you take increasing doses.

D-You take increasing doses, more and more...

S-This is over time. You build up a tolerance.

D-Over time, obviously. Yeah, you build up a tolerance, and once you have a high enough tolerance, I mean, you actually need more to feel the same high, and you do develop that tolerance. And you will still be totally capable of moving around and doing things, where if somebody, like if I injected that amount of heroin it would definitely kill me.

S-Oh yeah.

D-But if I'd been doing heroin for ten years in an increasing, incrementally increasing amount, I would probably, you just don't hit a ceiling.

S-It's that way with any drug.

D-Not any drug, but heroin...

S-Well, a lot of drugs.

D-Opiates, specifically, that is the case. And actually, there are interviews where Cobain says that he, at one point in his life, he was doing \$400 worth of heroin a day.

J-Wow.

D-Which is *a lot* of heroin.

J-Holy crap.

S-I think that's from the, oh, go ahead. I'm sorry.

J-No, I was going to say, Tom Grant, the private investigator, he continually has made the point that he would have been totally incapacitated immediately.

D-He would have, yeah, absolutely.

J-He would have had, like, no time to, you know, pick up the shotgun..

D-Oh. Oh, sorry, sorry, sorry. Tom Grant would have been incapacitated (laughing).

J-Yeah, he would have been.

D-Cobain, I don't think he would have.

J-No, no. He's a long time user.

D-He had, 1.5 milligrams per liter of heroin was reported to be in his body.

S-And it's important...

D-And I actually asked...

S-It's important, though, for everybody to understand, he's injecting.

D-Yeah, he's injecting.

S-It's interavenous [sic] use.

D-Yes.

J-Intravenous.

S-Intravenous, yes. Thank you. I still can't say that word. Or shooting up.

D-I actually checked, I checked with a fair, a couple of our experts, and they all agree, they're all in medical professions, they all have seen cases of heavy heroin use, and they all agreed that it's totally reasonable to expect that somebody with a high tolerance would be totally capable of moving around and doing things with that amount of heroin in their body. And I should also mention, that it's not like we're saying, "Oh, and then Cobain got up and ran a marathon." (S and J laughing). We're talking about could he have rolled down his sleeve, put his paraphernalia away, and pulled the trigger, right?

J-Yeah. It wouldn't have taken much time.

D-Absolutely. Like, yeah, you can crawl while you're doing that, right? It's small movements.

S-Well, and that would indicate the weirdo writing that is on the note that everybody looks at.

D-It would. It would also help explain that, yeah. But you'll see in "Soaked In Bleach," the team maintains that there was a study that was done, quote, unquote, "a study that was done," where there's a picture of a guy whose standing on one leg and, you know, doctors say, "Well, he took, you know, the

equivalent of methadone tabs that Cobain had in his body and look, he's standing on one foot. He's totally fine." And the "Soaked In Bleach" team says, "But no, he, it's methadone, so it's less and it's tabs."

S-He took it as a pill.

D-"He took it as a pill, he didn't inject it, so that's not admissible." But I think anecdotal evidence from the health people that we talked to who are all named Stephanie, Corey, and Lisa, they all agreed absolutely yeah, no question. Somebody with that amount of heroin in their body could totally move around.

S-And that's the, that's the reason I was asking earlier, though, about his, if we knew if he had used before, during that week after the intervention, and then if he had used just before he got to the rehab clinic.

D-Uh huh.

S-And we also don't know if he was using while he was in Seattle before he did that.

D-Oh, I'm confident...

J-I'm sure he did.

S-Ok.

D-...that after April 1st, he was on a bender.

S-I'm not disagreeing with that at all, but it does make you wonder, cause we've all seen those cases of where somebody who did something to excess took a certain amount of time off, their tolerance dropped a little bit, and then they went right back to their old ways, and that's what put them in the ground.

J-But I don't know that, yeah, I know what you're talking about, but I don't know how long you have to be off of it before the tolerance goes away. I don't think two days off of heroin would...

D-I don't think so either.

S-Well, that's why I was wondering about the, if he had stopped after the intervention forward.

J-Uh huh.

S-So then that would be a week, week and a half-ish, which again, I don't think is a whole lot, but your body does slowly heal itself from the damage that you intentionally do to it.

J-Sure.

D-Yeah. And he also had Valium in his bloodstream.

J-He did, yeah.

S-Dizapam [sic].

D-Dizapam [sic], which is...

J-Diazepam.

S-Yeah.

D-Which is Valium.

J-Yeah, same thing.

D-Yeah.

S-And I don't know where he got that.

D-Uh, Courtney Love's prescription probably.

J-Yeah, she took a Valium, remember?

S-Well, I don't know if he got that from the clinic or if he got it from his drug dealer or where he got it.

D-Yeah, I don't know either, but...

J-I think he probably got it from the medicine cabinet in the bathroom.

D-Probably.

S-Probably.

D-That'd be my guess, yeah.

S-Probably.

D-Yeah.

S-You know, the other fun fact, I guess not a fun fact, but the other interesting fact about him, is that if you notice, I don't know if either of you noticed this in the photos? He's wearing a Tom Peterson watch.

J-Is he? You mean the death scene photos?

S-Yeah. Yeah, it's Tom, you know, Tom Peterson.

J-Oh yeah, Tom Peterson.

S-Tom Peterson and Gloria too.

J-Tom Peterson, yeah.

D-Ohh. Aww.

S-Yeah. He's wearing a Tom Peterson watch. For anybody who doesn't know, Tom Peterson had a chain of stores in the Pacific Northwest...

J-Furniture stores.

S-And, yeah, well then he tried to get into electronics, but it's, it's, his head is always shown at these gigantic proportions. It's this weird black and white photo style. Really recognizable.

D-That's a bummer.

S-But it was, he had, you see in one of the photos that they released, he's wearing a Tom Peterson watch.

D-I didn't notice that.

J-Yeah.

D-I'm going to have to go back and look.

J-Yeah. If you want to see Tom Peterson, rent "Drug Store Cowboy." (Steve laughing). Seriously, he's in "Drug Store Cowboy."

S-I know, he got into a couple of movies.

J-And then he also, he also was in "My Own Private Idaho." He's got a bit part as, I think, the chief of police.

S-Oh.

J-And I don't think he even says any words, but...

S-He just stands there.

J-Have you seen "My Own Private Idaho?"

S-It's been a million years.

J-Yeah. Yeah, so...

S-Just like the length of this episode.

J-Exactly. But if you watch "My Own Private Idaho," he plays the chief of police.

D-Ok, there you go.

J-All right, that's Tom Peterson.

D-And Gloria, too (Joe laughing). The other thing I want to talk about is the note, and I really don't want to talk about it for very long, but the suicide note was addressed to Cobain's imaginary friend, Boddah. Did you guys watch "Kurt and Courtney?"

S and J-Oh yeah.

D-I like, legitimately cried when his aunt played the recordings of him as, like, a two year old talking to Boddah, cause that's so sad. Like, I can't imagine going through something like that.

J-I didn't cry, but it does make you feel just a twinge of sadness.

D-Yeah.

J-It's just here's this guy who's dead so young, and here he is as a little kid, you know, with his whole life ahead of him and all that.

D-Yeah. He's talking about Boddah, his imaginary friend Boddah. We're not going to read the letter.

S-No.

D-It's long, and it's very easy to find. I just wanted to say that I do agree that the note looks odd, but I think there are a lot of ways to explain that. I will agree also that the bulk of the note sounds like Cobain was just writing to his fans. He used to do that. I don't know if either of you guys have ever seen this, but he used to write letters to the fan club. Like literally write handwritten notes and then photocopy them and send them to all of the fans of Nirvana.

S-I didn't know that.

D-And he would do, like, newsletters. He was running, I mean he was basically running his own fan club.

S-He made a 'zine.

D-Yeah, kind of. I mean, not really a 'zine. It was literally just, like, notes, but he called them newsletters. But that was the sort of thing he would do in the beginning, and I think he probably didn't do it as much, I don't know, frankly, if he did it in the middle times. But to me, the bulk of the note, the main body of it, does sound like, it reads exactly like the way he wrote to his fans. It sounds like he is writing to his fans saying, like, "Listen, Nirvana is no more," basically. Or "I'm not going to be in music anymore." And then it's true that it's not really until the last couple lines that it sounds like, to me, a suicide note.

J-It suddenly changes in tone a little bit.

D-It definitely does. Yeah. It's just like this letter that sounds like he's writing to his fans, and then suddenly it's like, "I love you. Keep going."

J-"You're better off without me. Goodbye cruel world."

D-And it's in, you know, different, slightly different looking handwriting...

J-It's larger letters.

D-Although it still looks like his handwriting.

J-But you know, I've seen other things that, that Cobain wrote.

D-Uh huh.

J-And it's very similar, you know.

D-Yeah.

J-I've seen other ones where he, it's you know, 90% kind of tiny, and then at the bottom it gets real big, and I don't know if that's the heroin kicking in or...

D-Yeah, I have no idea.

J-Or if it's just larger letters for emphasis.

D-Yeah.

J-Or, I don't know.

D-Rosemary Carroll, who you will remember is the lawyer, claims to have found a handwriting sample in a bag that Courtney Love left at her house.

J-What was she doing rooting around in the bag?

D-She, like, left it there for weeks apparently. So she, like, went through it. I don't know. Again, it's hard to tell. But it looked like they could have traced...

S-It's a practice sheet.

D-It looks like a practice sheet.

S-For anybody who doesn't know what that is, it's where you copy somebody else's letters and then practice writing them to look like it's in their handwriting.

D-But, frankly...

S-That's what a practice sheet is.

D-Yes.

S-Whether this is or is not, that's what it's called, so that is what a practice sheet is.

D-Yeah, and I don't, I've never seen a picture of this alleged practice sheet, so I don't know...

J-I saw a picture of it somewhere, I can't remember where.

S-"Soaked In Bleach." There's an image of it...

D-No, you saw a recreation of it in "Soaked In Bleach."

S-Maybe that's it, ok.

J-Oh, is that what it is? Ok.

D-I don't know. I can't find it online anywhere. It seems like that's the sort of thing that you would, like, post everywhere if you were Tom Grant.

S-Well, Tom Grant has it, though.

D-Yeah, but he, I don't know if he does, actually, or not.

S-Ok, well I was under the impression that Tom Grant had it, and if Tom Grant has it, there is no way under God's green Earth he is going to let that thing out on the internet because then he can't, you know, that's, this is his cash cow (laughing).

D-Yeah, that's true.

J-True that, yeah.

D-That's true.

J-But as far as, if Courtney was learning to imitate his writing, it could have been for other reasons, other than forging a suicide note.

S-Which she forged some stuff in his name before.

D-Uh huh.

J-Yeah, exactly, so.

D-Yeah.

J-It doesn't necessarily mean the suicide note was a forgery.

D-Yeah, I agree with that. And then I do want to point out that when Grant tells people that, quote, unquote, "handwriting experts have said that the last bit looks different," what he really means is that the quality of the scan that he, in his own words, tricked Love out of having, is too low quality for anybody to be able to actually accurately analyze it.

S-He used a fax machine, didn't he?

D-He did.

S-Yeah.

J-Bad.

D-He told Courtney that he was going to just look at it with his glasses on, and then stole it from her, which is kind of shady in it's own right, I agree. Both of them were not...

J-It's shady, but I don't blame him. I would have done the same thing (laughing).

D-Yeah, I don't either.

S-I'm sorry, but if, you know, I don't, I don't call foul on that at all.

D-No, I don't really call foul either.

S-She was being very strange.

D-It's just, like, a little shady. But, like I said, both of them acting, eh, not the best. But the copy that he has, which is the only copy that, you know, really exists right now. Courtney, obviously, isn't about to release the original. Anybody who looks at it can't actually analyze it. So, worth mentioning, ok?

S-Ok.

J-But Courtney does have the original, right?

D-She reportedly, yeah.

J-The police didn't take it?

S-No, she got it back.

D-She has it, yeah.

J-Hm.

S-Cause, I mean, that's how Grant got a copy of it.

D-Yeah.

J-Oh, ok.

D-So, if he was murdered, who did it? Well, obviously, like, Courtney would have ordered it, right?

J-I think she would have over powered him.

D-That's the, well, I mean, the theory is, is like Courtney paid somebody to kill Kurt.

S-Rather than doing it as a, through the sheer force of her own will?

D-Yeah.

J-Yeah, well plus Courtney was still in L.A. right?

D-Yeah. So, here's some answer to who might have killed Kurt Cobain. One is a guy by the name of Allen Wrench.

S-Great name (laughing).

D-This theory you will probably know more by a guy named El Duce.

J-Is it "El Du-chay" or "El Doose?"

S-It's "El Du-chay."

D-El Duce.

J-El Duce.

S-Which is a total gag. I mean, it's not his real name.

D-No, his real name...

S-But it's also a made up play on another word that is a hygiene product.

J-Uh huh.

S-I mean, it's, it's, this guy's band did some really weird stuff, and I know that that's where that name came from.

D-Yeah, we're going to talk about his band actually in a second.

J-Yeah, this guy is super skeezy.

S-Yeah.

D-So the way that we know about this guy, whose real name is Eldon Hoke, was because this film maker we were talking about earlier, Nick Broomfield, who did the documentary "Kurt and Courtney," he found this guy through, like, a really shady weird...he was, like, talking to two dudes, one of whom refused to show his face on camera...

S-Oh yeah! The...

D-And they were, like, going to help him break into where Courtney was recording so they could get an interview.

S-Yeah (laughing).

D-And like, it was really, really, like, weird stuff.

J-Yeah, they were paparazzi types, yeah.

S-Yeah.

D-And then they said, “Oh, actually we know this guy who says that Courtney offered to pay him money. So, like, let's go down there and just see him.”

J-Offer to pay him money to kill...

D-To kill Cobain, yeah.

J-Cobain, yeah.

D-And his name was El Duce. Again, not his real name. He was the lead singer of a band called The Mentors, and he was also totally a drunk. When Broomfield interviewed him at his property in California, he was super drunk.

S-Oh, he was so loaded.

D-He was so loaded, in fact, that he offered to provide more information if they got him some more beer. That's how drunk he was (all laughing). But he, like, nonchalantly mentions that Love offered him \$50,000 to kill Cobain. He said he turned it down but that his friend, quote, “Allen had done it.” I've done some digging, and the guy he's talking about is apparently a guy called Allen Wrench, which probably is not this guy's real name.

J-I would guess not.

D-Who used to play for a band called Road Whore, which basically didn't exist or at least, I literally can't find any bit of it on line. Either way, I've read a few things about this, mostly on Reddit, so take it with a grain of salt please, where somebody on Reddit claims to have been friends with both El Duce and Allen, and this user claims El Duce would never hurt anybody for money, but that Allen was a jerk and would totally kill somebody.

S-Well there we go. Concrete evidence.

J-Yeah.

D-Well, ok so the reason...

S-It was Allen Wrench who was sent by Ikea because he was the wrong size for the piece of furniture that somebody bought.

J-There you go.

D-Well, so here's the thing. Nobody would give this guy even, like, a moment's thought, except that two days after El Duce gave his interview to Broomfield, he ended up dead by getting hit by a train.

J-Looks like the Courtney Love killing machine strikes again (S and D laughing).

D-So, I mean, that's kind of the, the big question mark. His death was ruled accidental by police, and apparently El Duce did have a track record of people needing to babysit him when he was dumb, when

he was drunk because he would do stupid things. But the train he was hit by was kind of near his house so, you know, it makes sense. But, in this Reddit thread, again, take it with a grain of salt, this guy says that El Duce was hanging out with a friend and other member of The Mentors...

S-Which is, by the way, their band.

D-Yeah, the band, called Sickie Wifebeater, which, really?

S-They have great names.

D-White trash, all of them, I'm pretty sure.

J-Yeah, skeezy guy.

D-Actually, white trash, that's not fair to white trash.

J-Yeah.

S-Actually, did you, did you ever read any of the lyrics to some of their music?

D-No, I did not because I didn't want to subject myself to it.

S-Holy hell...

D-Yeah, no. Not interested.

S-...it's terrible.

D-Yeah, so apparently Allen shows up when El Duce is hanging with Sickie Wifebeater, and he was angry that El Duce had said some stuff on the movie. How he...

J-Uh, two days after the interview?

D-Two days after he gave an interview. How he found out that El Duce had, like, said those things, who knows? It doesn't really matter.

S-Dude, that's easy. That's the grapevine.

D-Yeah.

S-Have you ever, have you...

D-(Singing) I heard it through the grapevine...

S-I've spent enough time with drunks and folks of that ilk that the grapevine, people just sit around and they *love* to tell what other people did. And I can just see that getting back to, if this really happened, I'm not saying this is really happening...

D-Uh huh.

S-But I can see it very easily getting back to the guy lightning fast and he coming over the next day and confronting him.

D-Yeah. So that's, I mean, the story goes that Allen shows up. He's annoyed. They leave together...

S-To go get beer.

D-...and then the next morning...

S-To continue the interview.

D-Yeah. And the next morning El Duce winds up hit by a train.

J-You know, I gotta tell you, I, uh, if I was going to murder somebody, getting them run over by a train without getting myself run over too, it just seems like a tough way to do it. It seems like there's easier ways.

D-Not if they're drunk.

S-I was, yeah, I was going to say, "Oh, the train track. Let's walk this way. Hey, come on Drunky McGee, look, there's Trainy McTrainface going by right now." And shove (Joe laughing).

D-"Oh, you're getting sleepy? This is a great place for a nap."

J and S-Yeah (laughing).

D-I mean, it's not nice. I don't really believe it, although I will say it is, I guess, like, you know, it's one of those things where it's, like, it is a little weird...

J-It's a little, yeah.

D-...that two days after he said he totally knew who killed Kurt Cobain and made it look like an accident, or a, or a suicide, uh, he shows up dead by a mysterious getting hit by a train accident, but...

S-That is the internet's favorite kind of coincidence.

D-It is, yeah. And it's one of mine too, actually (Steve laughing).

J-It's actually pretty cool...

D-Yeah.

J-...but I, you know, you think that Allen Wrench would have gone and paid a visit to Nick Broomfield and his camera man too.

D-You would think, yeah.

S-Except Broom...he didn't know how to get a hold of him.

D-Yeah.

J-Well, it could, well maybe.

S-Broomfield was up and down the west coast.

D-Yeah, I don't know.

J-Yeah.

D-So, one of the other people who could have done it was the nanny, Cali.

S-Oh, we're on our next suspect?

D-Yeah. I don't think Cali probably did it, but I guess there's something to be said of, like, maybe they were getting high together. I don't really...

S-I, yeah ok, I was going to say this, again, I was actually surprised that he is not as much of a suspect as he is. I really expected people to be like, "I could totally see those two in the greenhouse using, and then something happening, and then Cali being like 'I've got to go. Oh crap!'"

D-Uh huh. Yeah.

J-Uh huh.

S-I mean, I can see this very easily being the case.

D-Yeah. But I just don't, I don't know...

J-I, yeah. I can't see it myself.

D-I can't either, but I don't know anything about Cali, so.

S-Well, I don't know anything about Cali either, but I mean, I just know that I think Cali and, what was he, the guy who bought the...Dylan.

D-Uh huh.

S-Both of them, I think, they lived off of the Cobain money for a long time after Kurt was gone through Courtney.

D-Yeah.

S-I mean, she supported them.

J-Uh huh.

S-So I'm sure that if something happened and it was an accident, I could see him going, "Oh God, I just did this. Oh God, I am so screwed because I can't afford this much heroin and I had this great gig going

on, and I'm just going to walk out of the room.”

D and J-Uh huh.

S-”And I wasn't here.”

D-Yeah, totally.

J-So he was, well yeah, so he was playing with the shotgun and he blew Kurt's head off...

S-Or they were screwing around, or arguing, or whatever, I mean, cause there is the letter that was left on the stairs that...

D-Yeah.

S-...Grant, Tom Grant...

J-From Cali.

S-Yeah, from Cali that Tom Grant says was a forgery of some kind. There's all kinds of, uh, machinations about it. But the point is, he wrote a letter, and it wasn't all that positive to Kurt, and he could have done that after the fact going, “I was there. Let's do this thing to direct suspicion away from me.”

D-I guess I, the only, uh...

S-Again, I'm playing devil's advocate, I'm playing both sides of the coin here.

D-Yeah, yeah, I know. Totally, absolutely. But I think like the problem I have with that is that it's totally reasonable for Cali to have found the body, you know? Like if you, if that happened, you, like, wait a day and then you call the cops and you say, “Oh my God, I just found my employer's body.”

S-That implies logical, rational, clean, sober thinking.

D-Yeah, I guess that's true. Sober thinking. You're right, that's true.

S-When you are doing, using a lot...

J-Well, we don't know that Cali was using at all, right?

D-Oh yeah, no, he was.

S-Yeah, no...

J-He was?

D-Yeah.

S-Cali was totally in, on the team.

D-Uh huh.

J-How, how is it that you hire a nanny for your daughter who's a junkie?

S-Because it's your friend who you want to help.

D-He is a friend of Cobain's, or of Love, Courtney Love. Courtney Love's friend, yeah.

J-Oh.

S-Yeah. And you want to help your friends, so you help your friend out.

J-Oh ok.

S-And you just say no using while you're watching the kid. Your girlfriend can get high, but you can't...

D-Yeah.

S-I mean, people do this kind of weird stuff all the time.

J-Ah.

D-Yep.

S-So that's why I say that it's completely plausible.

D-Yeah.

J-Oh, ok.

D-Ok, uh, here's just one more interesting thing before we start talking about maybe it was suicide. Courtney Love alleged that Kurt Cobain was having an affair. Specifically that he was having an affair with the bassist of Love's band, Hole, whose name was Kristen Pfaff. And at the very least, Pfaff and Cobain were very good friends. I don't know if they were having an affair or not, but I don't think we'll ever know. She, like almost everybody else in this entire story, had a pretty strong heroin addiction. She'd gone to detox in February of 1994, and she was reportedly clean, but took Cobain's death really, really hard, as you can imagine. A close friend or, potentially lover, who knows, dies in kind of a brutal, violent way. She quit Hole and decided to move back to Minneapolis where she was originally from. She was living in Seattle at the time.

S-Well, that's where the grunge scene was.

D-Yeah.

S-Yeah.

J-That's where the heroin was.

D-Yeah. Well, that's where Hole was.

S-Yeah.

D-Hole all lived together.

S-Seattle is a hole (Devin laughing). Maybe, that's where Hole was, in Seattle.

D-Yeah. On June 16, 1994, however, she was found dead of a heroin overdose in her apartment in Seattle.

J-So the Courtney Love killing machine strikes again.

S-Again (laughing).

D-Well, I mean, a lot of people do think this death was pretty suspicious. Even Pfaff's family feels that her death wasn't a suicide or an accidental overdose. They think there was some foul play involved. And...

J-Yeah, every time I hear about some junkie turning up dead of an overdose, yeah.

D-Yeah. She had reportedly been, like, successfully clean for those months. And again, you know, it's like she was in Seattle, she was with her friends, she's probably using again, but...

S-Well again, that's the same thing that I talked about before, though, is that if you're off of it for a while and you're like, "Hey, I can take three cc's, no problem."

D-Yeah, no, and it doesn't work.

J-Uh huh.

S-And then that's what puts you in the ground.

D-I thought one website very eloquently put it that both Pfaff and Cobain were in the process of leaving Love (Steve laughing).

J-Yeah.

S-It's true.

D-I mean it's true.

S-Yeah, no. That's, that's very true.

D-They were both leaving her and standing in her way of a lot of success and money, basically. But that's you know, just one, one person's theory. Next up, let's talk a little bit about...

S-This is theory number two.

D-This is theory number two, suicide.

S-Theory header number two.

D-Theory header number two, suicide.

S-In this 18 hour episode.

D-Uh huh. In an interview, one of Cobain's friends, I've got to be honest, I do not recall which one, said that if Courtney Love didn't kill or have Cobain killed, that she drove him to it. And I think, I don't really like Courtney Love very much...

J-Yeah.

D-It may not be coming across, but I don't really like her very much. I think that she wanted a lot of things that Cobain did not want. I think she was really worried about the money in their relationship, the fame in the relationship. I think she wanted a lot of things and was trying to push him to do a lot of things that he didn't necessarily want to do. I mean, you know, case in point, she really did not approve of him canceling Lollapalooza.

J-Yeah.

D-She really did not...

J-That's a bunch of money there.

D-That's a lot of money. She really did not approve of him, like, not having Nirvana be a thing anymore.

S-Yeah, I think that she was very controlling. I mean, I've heard her referred to as a harpy before, which I will not disagree to a point. Seems to be an accurate description of her behavior at the time.

D-Uh huh.

S-And I'm not saying that's her or the drugs or what, but you know what? I mean, it's easy to point the finger after the fact. It's the same thing as the, "He was suicidal in Rome."

D-Yeah.

S-It's easy to say after the fact, "Look at how controlling she was and all these things she did that drove him to do..."

J-Uh huh.

D-Yeah.

S-I mean, it's turn the coin which way you want it.

D-Well, I guess, you know, one of the things I'll point out is that she hired a private detective to find Kurt...

S-And then played games.

D-Well, she stayed in L.A. She knew Cobain was in Seattle, but she stayed in L.A. cause she said she had business to take care of down there. If you really thought that your husband was, like, suicidal and, like, on a bender, if you knew what city he was in, would you just be like, "You know what? I'm just going to stay here, though. I'm not going to go up there and see if I can find him."

J-Oh yeah.

S-Again, rational, sober thinking.

D-Yeah.

J-But also, you know, she did hire a private detective. I mean, that's a certain amount of expense to go to to try to track down your potentially suicidal husband.

D-She did. That's true. Yeah.

J-Yeah.

D-So, I mean, again it's flip of the coin either way. I think it's likely that she wanted a lot from her life that Cobain didn't and it does sound like they were in the process of, they were at least in a rough patch.

S-Didn't she try to get into movies after she cleaned up?

D-She was in movies.

J-She did, she did at least one movie.

D-She did a couple.

S-I thought she did one or two movies after she cleaned up.

D-Yeah.

S-I mean, she really was striving for that...

D-Fame and fortune.

S-...music, Hollywood fame model.

D-And it sounds like...

S-Obviously she had the aspirations for that.

D-Yeah, and it sounds like Cobain really did not like that at all.

S-Oh no, he...

D-He wanted to live a totally different life. And so, who can say what causes somebody to kill themselves, but I'm not saying she helped the situation at all...

S-But I'm not saying she's responsible either.

D-But I'm not saying she's responsible either, yeah. Cobain, so here is some, we're just kind of listing off, sorry, like reasons that he might have killed himself. Cobain had been apparently trying to get clean for a while. He's gone to rehab and detox a number of times and it had never stuck, so it's possible that he just hit a point where he was like, "This is never going to work. I'm going to live my life as an addict and that's just dumb and I don't want to do it." And I'm not saying that as like that's what I think people should be feeling. I'm saying that as that's something that I've read from people talking about they've hit their...

S-Their interpretation of his thoughts.

D-No, no, no. I mean, like, people who are actual, in recovery, saying, "I hit a point in my life where I thought this isn't worth living. I can't do this. I can't ever get clean and it's not worth living if I can't get clean." And then trying to kill themselves and obviously being unsuccessful and eventually being successful in recovering. But, that's a fairly common thought with, like, very heavy addicts of certain things.

J-Uh huh. I could see that. You realize the necessity to get clean, but you realize at the same time it's like your life as a non-high person is, like, just kind of like hell.

D-Well, it's that or...

J-It's...

D-I mean, it's that or that you will never, like, if you've tried to get clean a number of times and it keeps not working, you may just think, "It's never going to happen. I'm always going to be addicted to heroin. I may as well just kill myself." You know?

J-Uh huh. Yeah.

S-Yeah. There's a, yeah, heroin's not the only addiction that people have that.

D-Oh God, no.

S-I mean, addiction in general causes that reaction, or thought process.

D-Yeah. And I guess another thing to bring up, I know I, you know, have been harping on the "he wasn't suicidal, he wasn't suicidal, they weren't suicide attempts," but you know what? Maybe he was.

J-Maybe...

D-Maybe he actually did try to kill himself in Rome. Maybe he actually did try to kill himself in his house in Seattle on March 18, but they were trying to cover it up.

J-Could be.

D-Because you don't...

S-He did have a lot of handlers.

D-I mean, it's totally possible that he was suicidal, and that at every turn, every attempt, there was just a PR push to say, "No, no, no. No, he's not suicidal. These are all accidents." Because you don't, who...what publicist in this world is like, "Yeah, it's totally fine to tell everybody that my client is suicidal." And, like, that's not good.

S-Yeah.

J-That's not good.

D-No. So it's certainly possible. The police report did say he wasn't suicidal, but, like, maybe he realized that it, like, you don't tell a police officer "I'm suicidal." You know? (S and D laughing).

J-Yeah.

D-They will take you to jail. They'll lock you up. They'll put you under...

J-They'll take you to a mental health place.

D-Yeah, they will.

J-Well, here's why I'm sure Courtney Love did not murder him or have him murdered, and that...

S-Well A, she doesn't have the hand strength.

J-Well, yeah, yeah. I don't believe El Duce, who, you know, about the \$50,000 offer or anything like that, and the thing about it is Courtney is the one who initiated the intervention to try to get him cleaned up.

D-Yeah.

J-And I got to tell you, if you're planning on murdering your husband, if you want him dead, why would you want to get him off heroin?

D-Yeah.

J-That'd be the last thing in the world you would do.

D-Yeah, absolutely. Yeah.

J-Yeah. I mean, if I had been...and she's obviously, she was a druggie. She had good connections. Street heroin is, like, what, fifty, sixty percent pure maybe, at the most.

D-Probably, I don't know.

J-And she probably had the connections to get some really super pure stuff. She could just, and maybe

that's why he had so much in his veins. Maybe she did try to kill him. Maybe she got some super pure stuff, swapped it in with his, and that's how he wound up with so much heroin in his system. But I think more likely, he was planning on killing himself, and he thought he's just going out floating on the greatest high ever.

D-Yeah.

J-Is what I think he did.

D-Yeah.

S-But, see, uh, my problem is if he intended to do himself in, and he was going to get high ahead of time, and it is very common knowledge that people can easily OD on heroin, then why bring the gun in? Why not just go, "You know what, I'm just going to keep pushing the plunger down until I don't wake up again. Can I still move my hand? Then I'm going to keep going." I mean, that just seems...

J-Well...

D-Cause it's not certain.

J-And it's also not dramatic. I mean, he probably said to himself, "Do I want to be known as this tormented artist who killed himself, or as a junkie who screwed up and OD'd? What do I want to be known as?"

D-I, yeah. And actually, it's interesting...

S-I don't think that there's any better...I don't think that one is any better than the other, but that's my personal opinion.

J-Yeah.

D-Well, there's a, there's a quote from one of his friends that says, you know, it was a really violent death, like it's, which is true, I mean, you shoot yourself in the face with a shotgun...

S-Which men traditionally have committed violent suicides.

D-Yeah. But it's interesting because in this quote, the, you know his friend was saying, "That wasn't Kurt. It's weird. There was no violence in Kurt, and it's weird that he chose to go out that way." Which I think is a fair thing to say, but I also, I mean, you pass out before you die from heroin. I mean, you just do, right? And so if you're trying to kill yourself, like, by ODing, there's no, it's not certain that you're going to die. You might just wake up and be living in hell, right? As opposed to if you stick a shotgun in your mouth and pull the trigger, you're probably going to die.

J-It's pretty definitive.

D-Especially if you've taken a bunch of heroin. I mean, it's just, it's certainty, you know? It's that back up plan.

S-I, uh...

D-But I hear you.

S-I again, I again, if I, I don't want to belabor this, it's just that I think if the guy wanted to get high before he did it, then why not just get so high that you go out? And you don't have to lift a finger.

D-He could have been close, frankly (laughing).

J-Yeah.

D-I mean, we don't know what his tolerance was, so he could have been really close...

S-Yeah.

D-...to being that high, yeah. I don't know.

J-Yeah, I don't...but I do think that it's pretty definitive that he was not murdered.

D-Well, I think...

J-I mean, I can't...

D-I think either way...

S-I can see the arguments on both sides. That's my problem with this case. That's why I didn't throw up the red flag of why are we doing this? Because I can see the arguments whether I am behind them or not.

J-Well, it's not...but the only person who had a motive to murder him was Courtney Love as far as I know.

D-Yeah.

S-What about Dave Grohl?!

D-No.

J-Yeah, there you go. Courtney, again, Courtney would not have sent him to rehab if she wanted him dead. She, what she would have done is she would have waited until he was off somewhere in the greenhouse getting, you know, shooting up. She would have waited until he was kind of like just laid back and just like "ahh" and then she just would have stepped into the room with a hypodermic and shot a whole bunch more heroin into his arm and killed him that way. There's no need to use a shotgun.

D-She would have let him die in Rome.

J-Yeah, she would have let him die in Rome for that matter. I mean, it simply makes no sense that Courtney was a murderer. Absolutely not.

S-I'm, I said it before and I'll say it again, that implies rational thinking.

J-Uh huh.

S-I've known enough people who were so irrational that I just, they're hot and cold.

J-Uh huh.

D-I think for me the biggest thing about this case is that it was such a huge failure on the part of the Seattle Police.

J-Yeah, they did screw it up, yeah.

D-They found the body, declared the...

S-Instantly it was a suicide.

D-Instantly it was a suicide, and they claimed that because the beat cop that responded to the call said it kind of looked like a suicide.

S-Yeah.

D-And that's, like, from the mouth of the guy who was the police chief at the time. He said, "Well, if the guy who responds says it looks like a suicide, and the paramedics say yeah, ok, then it's a suicide."

J and S-Yeah.

D-They didn't get a tox screen back. They didn't get fingerprints back. They didn't process the, you know, the photos...

S-Oh yeah, they did the least amount of work

D-They did nothing, and that I think is probably why this is even a case right now.

J-Uh huh. I would, yeah...

S-They didn't know who he was.

J-Well I know...

D-They did know who he was.

J-I think...

S-I think that when they made their decision of what it was, they didn't know who he was, to realize they had to do their due diligence before they got their asses handed to them.

D-I guess the thing that, like, annoys me about that statement is that, like, it shouldn't matter who he was.

S-I don't disagree with that at all.

D-That was, they found heroin paraphernalia like two feet away from him. He obviously would have had track marks. He, yes, ok, so there was a shotgun, you know, on him, so it looked like a suicide. But you at least wait for a tox screen. If you found drugs in the room, you've got to wait for a tox screen before you, you just can't declare at the scene, and I think for me that's the biggest frustration with this case. Whether, you know, I don't think Courtney Love is a particularly good human being, whether I think, you know, anything, the fact that the Seattle Police did such a crap job on this is just frustrating as hell.

J-Well, you know, it happens.

S-I think the other reason this has gone on so long is that there's been so many, there's been so many things that were thrown into the mix that really, they're weird, and it's because it's I'm famous slash Hollywood slash big rocker guy weird, like the whole he had stomach issues thing...

D-Which we're not sure even if he did.

S-No. Well, you know, I remember, I remember when the news came out on MTV News, cause I was at some trip, a high school trip with a bunch of friends and it came out, and I remember one buddy turning going, "You know that he's totally had stomach issues for years and, like, he could barely eat and move and I'm sure that that's totally what did it." Like, those are the kinds of things that you hear, and that's stuck with me for decades.

J-Well, he's uh...

D-You know what stomach pains are a really good sign of?

S-A stomach problem.

D-Withdrawal (Steve laughing).

J-That's a good point. But I think we're going on too long. I think we've already solved the mystery. He wasn't murdered, he committed suicide.

D-Yeah, I mean, I think that's probably true too.

J-I, yeah, it was suicide.

D-I think there's a lot of hinky stuff going on with the case, but.

J-Well, the Seattle, the Seattle PD did not do their due diligence. They really should have, you know, been a little more...I, you know, I'm sure they looked into it a bit, and then they went back to that police report, you know, he was locked in the bedroom and was suicidal. And then Courtney says, "Oh yeah, he tried to commit suicide in Italy," and so that was probably all they needed.

D-I don't think they even did that much, to be honest with you.

J-Yeah, it might not be, but you know, that's just the way it is, you know, with those guys, you know, we all cut corners, right?

S-True.

D-Yeah.

S-It happens.

J-Yeah. Except with the podcast.

S-Of course.

D-No, not on here. No.

J-Yeah, yeah, yeah. But everybody cuts corners, so they were just like, you know, and then there's always just group think and you just sort of get into that whole, like, you know, "Oh, everybody thinks it's suicide. I guess it's suicide." So.

S and D-Yeah.

J-But in this case I think it was.

S-Yeah, I agree.

J-Yeah.

S-Everything seems to point that way.

D-Yeah. It's just, you know, frustrating.

S-Yeah.

J-Yeah, it is.

D-It's just frustrating. So, uh, yeah.

J-Well, anyway, I've got more theories, but I need to go to the bathroom, so should we wrap this up?

S-Yeah (laughing).

D-Yeah. Let's wrap this up.

J-Yeah, yeah.

S-Cause our listeners probably have to go to the bathroom too.

D-Probably. They're like, circling the block.

J-Really. They've been holding it...yeah, with their legs crossed (laughing).

D-Waiting, waiting to go to work. You can, if you want to see some of the research we did, we'll post

some of those links, not all of them. We might post a couple extra links this week, Steve.

J-Maybe "Soaked In Bleach" and...

D-No, not those.

J-Not "Soaked In Bleach?"

D-But you can find that on our website, which is thinking sideways podcast dot com. You can leave comments on this episode if you want. You can also stream us straight from the website if you so choose. I know we have just a few people who do that. Also on the website there are links for, like, merch and donations and stuff like that.

S-We've updated the merch.

D-We've updated the merch. You can get stickers and stuff now which is pretty cool.

J-Woo hoo. Yeah, we sold, like, six of those yesterday, I think (Steve laughing).

D-Six whole stickers, it's true. Yeah.

S and J-Yeah.

D-Yeah. So if you want to buy merch, if you want to do a one time donation through Paypal or if you want to become one of our sustaining donors through Patreon, links are on the website for that as well. You are probably listening to us on iTunes. If you are, leave a comment and a rating if you haven't already. That's how people find us and you make us rise through the ranks like nobody's business.

J-Yeah. We want that.

D-Yeah. Don't, if you have feedback, please, I mean, like if you want to have a conversation with us, don't do it there because we can't get in contact with you (laughing).

S-Yeah (laughing).

D-If you're streaming and you can leave a comment and a rating, do that there as well. You can find us on Facebook. We have the group and the page. Like the page, follow the group. Lots of really good stuff going on there. We have a Twitter, which is thinkin sideways, which is fun most of the time (S and J laughing). We also have a subreddit, which is thinkingsideways, r/thinkingsideways. There's some stuff going on there a little bit. The more that you join, the more that will have happening. You can email us if you have suggestions, comments, you want to talk about things, you just want to express your undying love for us (Steve laughing).

J-Yeah, we like those.

S-Joe loves those a lot.

D-He really does, yeah.

J-Yeah.

D-That web, no not website. That email address...

S-It is an email address.

D-It is an email address, is thinking sideways podcast at gmail dot com.

J-Cool.

D-I think that's all of them. That having all been said, we're going to get out of here. We'll talk to you guys next week. So bye.

J-Ta-ta.

S-What's that smell?

D-Oh, oh, my Teen Spirit?