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This episode is brought to you by Thorne and I have some incredible news for any of you

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00:00:03,820 --> 00:00:07,960

that are in the military, first responder or medical professions.

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the Super EPA and then most recently, Cynaquil.

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00:01:36,240 --> 00:01:42,040

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00:01:42,040 --> 00:01:45,640

Titro and Wes Barnett.

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00:01:45,640 --> 00:01:46,680

Welcome to the Behind the Shield podcast.

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00:01:46,680 --> 00:01:50,600

As always, my name is James Gearing and this week it is my absolute honor to welcome on

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00:01:50,600 --> 00:01:56,600

the show one of the founding members of the Broken Lizard Troupe, star of Super Troopers,

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00:01:56,600 --> 00:02:03,520

Beer Fest, Tacoma FD and so many more Firehouse favorites, Kevin Heffernan.

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00:02:03,520 --> 00:02:08,580

So in this conversation we discuss a host of topics from his early life, his journey

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00:02:08,580 --> 00:02:16,360

into the world of lore, the story how he met Steve Lemmy, the formation of Broken Lizard,

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00:02:16,360 --> 00:02:22,840

Super Troopers, Beer Fest, how they brought Quasi to the streaming services, how his cousin

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00:02:22,840 --> 00:02:30,200

was a big influence on the creation of Tacoma FD, overcoming censorship and so much more.

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00:02:30,200 --> 00:02:34,800

Before we get to this incredible conversation, as I say every week, please just take a moment,

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00:02:34,800 --> 00:02:39,760

go to whichever app you listen to this on, subscribe to the show, leave feedback and

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00:02:39,760 --> 00:02:41,600

leave a rating.

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00:02:41,600 --> 00:02:46,660

Every single 5 star rating truly does elevate this podcast, therefore making it easier for

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00:02:46,660 --> 00:02:48,160

others to find.

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00:02:48,160 --> 00:02:53,040

And this is a free library of almost 900 episodes now.

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So all I ask in return is that you help share these incredible men and women stories so

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00:02:58,600 --> 00:03:04,200

I can get them to every single person on planet earth who needs to hear them.

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00:03:04,200 --> 00:03:08,840

So with that being said, I introduce to you, Kevin Heffernan.

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00:03:08,840 --> 00:03:09,840

Enjoy.

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00:03:09,840 --> 00:03:35,120

Well, Kevin, I want to start by saying firstly, thank you to Eric Stolhansky, I'll just start

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00:03:35,120 --> 00:03:39,960

on his name then, for connecting us and to welcome you onto the Behind the Shield podcast

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00:03:39,960 --> 00:03:40,960

today.

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00:03:40,960 --> 00:03:43,200

Yeah, he's a fellow Floridian to you, isn't he?

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00:03:43,200 --> 00:03:44,200

He is, yes.

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00:03:44,200 --> 00:03:48,000

And yeah, no, he put us together, which is great, which is great.

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00:03:48,000 --> 00:03:49,000

Absolutely.

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00:03:49,000 --> 00:03:50,000

Thanks for having me.

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00:03:50,000 --> 00:03:51,000

Yeah, well, thank you.

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00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:52,000

I mean, obviously the timing is perfect.

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00:03:52,000 --> 00:03:56,320

You know, we were going to be connected a little while ago, but now with Tacoma FD just

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00:03:56,320 --> 00:04:00,680

being on Netflix as well, there couldn't be a better time, I think, for this conversation.

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00:04:00,680 --> 00:04:04,320

So I always tell people it's not if it's when and, you know, when the time is right, it

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00:04:04,320 --> 00:04:05,320

will happen.

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00:04:05,320 --> 00:04:06,320

So here we are.

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00:04:06,320 --> 00:04:07,680

Yeah, no, I know.

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00:04:07,680 --> 00:04:08,680

It's been a good couple of weeks.

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00:04:08,680 --> 00:04:11,960

We've been on the show has been on Netflix for a couple of weeks now and a lot of people

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00:04:11,960 --> 00:04:12,960

are finding it.

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00:04:12,960 --> 00:04:13,960

So this is a nice.

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00:04:13,960 --> 00:04:14,960

This is a good time to talk, man.

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00:04:14,960 --> 00:04:15,960

100 percent.

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00:04:15,960 --> 00:04:16,960

All right.

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00:04:16,960 --> 00:04:17,960

Well, very first question.

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00:04:17,960 --> 00:04:18,960

Where on planet Earth are we finding you today?

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00:04:18,960 --> 00:04:19,960

I'm in Los Angeles.

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00:04:19,960 --> 00:04:23,080

I live in Los Angeles.

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00:04:23,080 --> 00:04:27,240

So I was just on the East Coast for the holidays and I got out of there right ahead of the

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00:04:27,240 --> 00:04:28,320

blizzards.

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00:04:28,320 --> 00:04:30,080

So I made it back to sunny Los Angeles.

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00:04:30,080 --> 00:04:31,080

Thank goodness.

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00:04:31,080 --> 00:04:33,040

So where about in LA are you living?

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00:04:33,040 --> 00:04:34,280

I live out in the Valley.

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00:04:34,280 --> 00:04:39,040

I live kind of I don't know about half an hour out of town.

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00:04:39,040 --> 00:04:43,840

And it's nice because we we shot our show out here.

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00:04:43,840 --> 00:04:47,920

So it ended up being a good place for me to live near near the near the location of our

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00:04:47,920 --> 00:04:48,920

show.

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00:04:48,920 --> 00:04:49,920

So beautiful.

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00:04:49,920 --> 00:04:54,320

I lived in Burbank for a while and then Huntington Beach when I worked for Anaheim Fire.

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00:04:54,320 --> 00:04:58,320

OK, yeah, I'm on the other side in the Thousand Oaks area.

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00:04:58,320 --> 00:04:59,320

OK, gotcha.

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00:04:59,320 --> 00:05:00,320

Yeah.

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00:05:00,320 --> 00:05:01,320

Yeah.

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00:05:01,320 --> 00:05:02,320

Beautiful.

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00:05:02,320 --> 00:05:04,880

So we're going to start with the very beginning of your timeline so we can learn a little

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00:05:04,880 --> 00:05:06,120

bit about your backstory.

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00:05:06,120 --> 00:05:09,800

So tell me where you were born and tell me a little bit about your family dynamic, what

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00:05:09,800 --> 00:05:12,080

your parents did, how many siblings?

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00:05:12,080 --> 00:05:17,600

OK, I grew up in Connecticut, West Haven, Connecticut, which is just west of New Haven,

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00:05:17,600 --> 00:05:18,600

Connecticut.

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00:05:18,600 --> 00:05:25,760

And I have two brothers and a sister and my parents.

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00:05:25,760 --> 00:05:28,280

My dad was a kind of a local lawyer.

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00:05:28,280 --> 00:05:32,560

He was a lawyer for many years and a judge, actually.

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00:05:32,560 --> 00:05:38,400

And so he was a judge for about 30 years in my hometown, 28 years.

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00:05:38,400 --> 00:05:41,680

And so, yeah, so I just grew up in Connecticut, pretty normal childhood.

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00:05:41,680 --> 00:05:47,000

And I ended up going to Colgate University in upstate New York.

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00:05:47,000 --> 00:05:52,840

And that's where I met all the other fellas that we made these broken lizard movies with

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00:05:52,840 --> 00:05:58,400

the Super Troopers and Beer Fest, and we started doing comedy there.

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00:05:58,400 --> 00:06:03,640

And from there, we moved to New York City and just started making comedy.

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00:06:03,640 --> 00:06:07,520

And at the time, I wasn't sure if it was all going to work out.

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00:06:07,520 --> 00:06:11,980

So I ended up going to law school at the same time.

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00:06:11,980 --> 00:06:18,960

And I became a lawyer in New York City for a while and then luckily was able to shift

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00:06:18,960 --> 00:06:20,960

gears into the comedy world.

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00:06:20,960 --> 00:06:23,240

So I don't know.

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00:06:23,240 --> 00:06:27,320

That's the grand scheme of covering about 40 years right there for you.

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00:06:27,320 --> 00:06:29,480

Well, I'm going to go back.

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00:06:29,480 --> 00:06:32,400

So let's talk about growing up with a dad in law.

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00:06:32,400 --> 00:06:35,320

Firstly, what area of law was he practicing?

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00:06:35,320 --> 00:06:36,920

He was kind of a general practice guy.

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00:06:36,920 --> 00:06:42,560

He was the kind of small town lawyer that people would hire if they had some sort of

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00:06:42,560 --> 00:06:46,120

injury or workplace problem or whatever.

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00:06:46,120 --> 00:06:50,360

And he also kind of specialized in estates, very dry stuff.

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00:06:50,360 --> 00:06:58,920

And it led him to be a judge for 28 years in that area of estates and that kind of thing.

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00:06:58,920 --> 00:07:01,560

And so yeah, I mean, we had grown about that.

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00:07:01,560 --> 00:07:06,920

And I grew up, you know, and I think that's probably what I aspired to, to follow my dad's

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00:07:06,920 --> 00:07:09,000

footsteps, you know.

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00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:12,920

And so I kind of was on that track for a long time.

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00:07:12,920 --> 00:07:18,280

Did having someone in law as a parent factor into you being more careful when you were

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00:07:18,280 --> 00:07:21,400

a teenager, not getting into too much trouble?

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00:07:21,400 --> 00:07:26,000

It's funny, we would hear stories and I'll talk about my older cousin, this guy named

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00:07:26,000 --> 00:07:31,000

cousin Bill, who's a firefighter, was a firefighter for 30 years in my hometown.

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00:07:31,000 --> 00:07:32,600

And he was much more of a troublemaker.

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00:07:32,600 --> 00:07:36,960

And we'd hear stories about my dad going down and bailing him out of jail.

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00:07:36,960 --> 00:07:41,240

And it made me think that maybe I should keep myself in order.

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00:07:41,240 --> 00:07:46,960

So yeah, I mean, we tried to let that be a thing that kept us in line.

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00:07:46,960 --> 00:07:51,120

And sometimes it didn't work out, but you know, we tried to stay on the stage straight

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00:07:51,120 --> 00:07:52,120

and narrow.

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00:07:52,120 --> 00:07:53,120

Now, what about sports?

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00:07:53,120 --> 00:07:55,080

What were you playing when you were a school age?

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00:07:55,080 --> 00:08:02,040

I don't know, we kind of did it all, you know, we played hockey and baseball, I played football,

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00:08:02,040 --> 00:08:06,400

played basketball and, you know, kind of the big four or whatever.

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00:08:06,400 --> 00:08:12,240

And so, you know, we played in those leagues as kids and little league and pop Warner football

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00:08:12,240 --> 00:08:14,160

and, you know, all that kind of stuff.

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00:08:14,160 --> 00:08:15,600

And we do that all the way up through high school.

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00:08:15,600 --> 00:08:18,800

So it was kind of very, you know, straightforward.

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00:08:18,800 --> 00:08:22,200

I was never that great at any of them.

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00:08:22,200 --> 00:08:25,640

You know, I was, you know, moderately okay.

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00:08:25,640 --> 00:08:30,160

And but, you know, it was that was the kind of way that you engage with other people and

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00:08:30,160 --> 00:08:32,560

have fun with your friends and that kind of thing.

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00:08:32,560 --> 00:08:41,400

When I was little, I was very small, had a blonde Afro, buck teeth, dry skin, and spoke

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00:08:41,400 --> 00:08:44,120

differently than a lot of the kids because I went to a private junior school and then

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00:08:44,120 --> 00:08:48,360

at like a state school, you know, the public senior school.

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00:08:48,360 --> 00:08:53,520

And so was constantly having to be a bit of a chameleon and definitely became a bit of

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00:08:53,520 --> 00:08:56,680

a sniper when it came to saying funny shit.

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00:08:56,680 --> 00:09:01,840

I wasn't the class clown or anything, but comedy became kind of an armor for me, I think,

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00:09:01,840 --> 00:09:02,840

when I look back.

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00:09:02,840 --> 00:09:08,640

And a lot of the people that I've had on the show that ended up in comedy, there was, you

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00:09:08,640 --> 00:09:12,680

know, more often than not an element of bullying or low self-esteem when they were younger

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00:09:12,680 --> 00:09:14,920

and that comedy kind of came out of that.

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00:09:14,920 --> 00:09:18,920

When you look back now, is there any of that genesis on your story?

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00:09:18,920 --> 00:09:19,920

I don't know.

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00:09:19,920 --> 00:09:21,040

I think there probably was a little bit.

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00:09:21,040 --> 00:09:25,800

I was always a heavy kid, you know, so I was always a little fat kid who's the, you know,

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00:09:25,800 --> 00:09:29,320

the kid who's always tends to be the jokester.

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00:09:29,320 --> 00:09:31,520

But I don't, yeah, I don't think like you, I don't think I was necessarily the class

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00:09:31,520 --> 00:09:32,520

clown.

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00:09:32,520 --> 00:09:35,680

You know, it was.

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00:09:35,680 --> 00:09:40,200

But you know, I definitely gravitated towards like the funny stuff and the wisecracking

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00:09:40,200 --> 00:09:43,840

and you know, I always enjoyed, you know, watching comedy and that kind of stuff as

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00:09:43,840 --> 00:09:44,840

a kid.

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00:09:44,840 --> 00:09:52,680

I don't think that I fill the role of like tortured artists or bullied kid that turned

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00:09:52,680 --> 00:09:53,680

to comedy.

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00:09:53,680 --> 00:09:54,880

I don't, I don't really fit that role.

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00:09:54,880 --> 00:10:00,080

I don't think I think I was just, you know, you know, Steve Lammy, my partner in crime

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00:10:00,080 --> 00:10:04,800

in Tacoma, you know, we always talked about the traditional funny fat guy and I was like

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00:10:04,800 --> 00:10:05,800

the little funny fat kid.

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00:10:05,800 --> 00:10:10,240

Well, what about career aspirations?

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00:10:10,240 --> 00:10:11,240

I know you ended up in law.

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00:10:11,240 --> 00:10:13,840

Was that what you were dreaming of becoming when you were in school or is there something

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00:10:13,840 --> 00:10:14,840

else?

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00:10:14,840 --> 00:10:15,840

I think so.

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00:10:15,840 --> 00:10:19,880

I mean, I think I was always on the track, you know, I worked in a few different law

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00:10:19,880 --> 00:10:21,040

firms and things like that.

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00:10:21,040 --> 00:10:25,480

It sounds very, it's very unsexy, but I, you know, I think I was definitely on track for

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00:10:25,480 --> 00:10:26,760

that.

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00:10:26,760 --> 00:10:31,360

And and but in the back of my mind, you know, I always enjoyed, you know, performing and

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00:10:31,360 --> 00:10:37,120

you know, I'd done plays and stuff like that and you know, and when I got into college,

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00:10:37,120 --> 00:10:40,960

you know, we started doing some comedy shows and that that really kind of clicked for me.

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00:10:40,960 --> 00:10:46,960

And so I think by the time we got to college, I don't know that we ever realized it would

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00:10:46,960 --> 00:10:47,960

go where it did.

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00:10:47,960 --> 00:10:52,200

But by the time we got into college, I think, you know, you're hoping that that's the direction

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00:10:52,200 --> 00:10:56,600

you could go in, you know, and, you know, so I did dual paths, you know, I when we were

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00:10:56,600 --> 00:11:00,920

in New York City as a as a young comedy group and doing shows, you know, by day, I would

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00:11:00,920 --> 00:11:05,940

go to law school and by night we would do comedy shows and just, you know, see which

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00:11:05,940 --> 00:11:06,940

track won.

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00:11:06,940 --> 00:11:12,720

You know, I was watching an interview, I think it was a ABC, one of one of the TV stations

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00:11:12,720 --> 00:11:13,840

anyway.

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00:11:13,840 --> 00:11:19,440

And you were on with Steve, I think it was promoting Tacoma, if I'm not mistaken, but

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00:11:19,440 --> 00:11:23,500

the origin story of how you met that involved a party in an overcoat.

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00:11:23,500 --> 00:11:27,240

So I'd love to hear that story if you're able to recall it.

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00:11:27,240 --> 00:11:35,480

Well, Steve Lemmy is kind of a rake, you know, he's always kind of an impish kind of guy.

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00:11:35,480 --> 00:11:39,600

And he was a year younger than I was at school.

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00:11:39,600 --> 00:11:46,080

And so, you know, I was a member of this fraternity house and he was a freshman below us who was

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00:11:46,080 --> 00:11:47,960

trying to get into the fraternity house.

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00:11:47,960 --> 00:11:51,400

And, you know, we would have this and I had never met the kid before.

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00:11:51,400 --> 00:11:54,120

And we would have these parties at this fraternity house.

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00:11:54,120 --> 00:11:56,240

And it was an upstate New York, it was very cold.

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00:11:56,240 --> 00:11:58,680

Everyone would show up in their winter coat, everyone take their winter coat off and throw

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00:11:58,680 --> 00:12:00,200

it in the middle of the floor.

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00:12:00,200 --> 00:12:02,240

And then they go party or whatever, you know.

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00:12:02,240 --> 00:12:07,320

And so one night there's a party and I went to the pile to grab my coat to go.

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00:12:07,320 --> 00:12:11,140

And my coat was gone, it was missing, somebody stole it, you know, which happened occasionally,

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00:12:11,140 --> 00:12:13,400

but I was pissed off because it was freezing out.

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00:12:13,400 --> 00:12:15,320

And, you know, I lost it.

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00:12:15,320 --> 00:12:20,160

And so I went a couple of weeks without my coat and then there was another party.

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00:12:20,160 --> 00:12:24,800

And I saw my coat in that pile, you know, I was like, holy shit, there's my coat.

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00:12:24,800 --> 00:12:30,640

And I went, I grabbed it and I reached inside of it and the guy apparently who was the thief

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00:12:30,640 --> 00:12:36,200

who stole my coat had left his college ID in the pocket of the coat.

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00:12:36,200 --> 00:12:38,920

I pulled it out and it says Stephen Carlos Lemmy.

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00:12:38,920 --> 00:12:40,760

And I was like, who is this guy?

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00:12:40,760 --> 00:12:44,680

And somebody said, oh, he's a freshman, he's trying to get into the fraternity and whatever.

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00:12:44,680 --> 00:12:48,140

And he's in the other room dancing, you know, and I was like, oh boy.

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00:12:48,140 --> 00:12:53,000

So I went up to him and I said, hey, buddy, you stole my coat.

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00:12:53,000 --> 00:12:54,000

He said, no, I didn't.

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00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:56,680

He said, yeah, I found your ID inside the coat.

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00:12:56,680 --> 00:13:01,000

And he went, oh my God, the same guy that stole your coat must have been the guy who

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00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:03,080

stole my ID.

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00:13:03,080 --> 00:13:08,120

And I thought that's a great response.

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00:13:08,120 --> 00:13:12,200

And from then, from that point, that was the first time we kind of met.

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00:13:12,200 --> 00:13:16,040

And then ultimately we were thrown into this comedy group together and we just kind of

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00:13:16,040 --> 00:13:17,800

hit it off and started writing stuff together.

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00:13:17,800 --> 00:13:22,440

But it was not an auspicious beginning to our career because I hated him.

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00:13:22,440 --> 00:13:27,760

I didn't like the guy, you know, and, you know, I've come to like him a little bit over

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00:13:27,760 --> 00:13:28,760

the years.

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00:13:28,760 --> 00:13:30,040

So how did you get over that, though?

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00:13:30,040 --> 00:13:32,880

Because I mean, at one point, you know, this or the only thing you know about this guy

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00:13:32,880 --> 00:13:34,320

is that he's a thief.

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00:13:34,320 --> 00:13:37,000

And now you put in this group together.

229

00:13:37,000 --> 00:13:39,880

It's funny because we because we had started this comedy group in college.

230

00:13:39,880 --> 00:13:44,080

J. Chenner Sekar was one of the guys was the guy I started with.

231

00:13:44,080 --> 00:13:47,720

And ultimately, you know, he went on to direct Super Troopers and we did our group together.

232

00:13:47,720 --> 00:13:49,180

We still have our group.

233

00:13:49,180 --> 00:13:52,800

So Jane, I kind of started that group, that comedy group at school.

234

00:13:52,800 --> 00:13:56,240

And Jay really wanted to have Steve be a part of it.

235

00:13:56,240 --> 00:13:58,680

And I was like, I'm not putting that guy in this thing.

236

00:13:58,680 --> 00:13:59,680

You know, the guy's a thief.

237

00:13:59,680 --> 00:14:02,080

You know, I don't like him.

238

00:14:02,080 --> 00:14:04,560

You know, he's got long hair and earrings.

239

00:14:04,560 --> 00:14:05,560

I don't like that.

240

00:14:05,560 --> 00:14:07,040

You know, all that kind of stuff.

241

00:14:07,040 --> 00:14:10,120

And he's like, oh, you know what?

242

00:14:10,120 --> 00:14:11,260

We'll get him in there.

243

00:14:11,260 --> 00:14:13,000

He can play like the scumbag roles.

244

00:14:13,000 --> 00:14:17,880

You know, he can play like the the, you know, the the guys who were, you know, you don't

245

00:14:17,880 --> 00:14:18,880

really like that much.

246

00:14:18,880 --> 00:14:19,880

And I was like, OK.

247

00:14:19,880 --> 00:14:22,120

And so I let him, you know, I said, that's OK.

248

00:14:22,120 --> 00:14:23,120

He can come in.

249

00:14:23,120 --> 00:14:24,120

And so he joined.

250

00:14:24,120 --> 00:14:28,720

And then from there, though, you know, we actually are have a very similar sense of

251

00:14:28,720 --> 00:14:30,400

humors and things that we like.

252

00:14:30,400 --> 00:14:33,860

We became, you know, great friends at that point because we were kind of thrown in this

253

00:14:33,860 --> 00:14:34,960
thing together.

254

00:14:34,960 --> 00:14:39,960
And and from then on, we just kind of, you know, had a great time writing things together.

255

00:14:39,960 --> 00:14:44,080
We would write sketches together for the two of us to star in and act in or whatever.

256

00:14:44,080 --> 00:14:47,200
And it kind of just ended up growing from there.

257

00:14:47,200 --> 00:14:48,200
What about Eric?

258

00:14:48,200 --> 00:14:50,560
When did you first come on your radar?

259

00:14:50,560 --> 00:14:55,040
Eric was Eric was also a year below us.

260

00:14:55,040 --> 00:14:57,280
And and I didn't even know him that way.

261

00:14:57,280 --> 00:15:00,040
He came into our comedy group the second year.

262

00:15:00,040 --> 00:15:02,800
And but he was also a member of our fraternity.

263

00:15:02,800 --> 00:15:09,080
And and he he I knew him as a member of the attorney before I knew him as like a performer.

264

00:15:09,080 --> 00:15:11,160
But he was kind of a theater guy.

265
00:15:11,160 --> 00:15:17,000
And you know, he came into the group and he used to do this like funny, like ridiculous,

266
00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:18,800
like lizard character or something.

267
00:15:18,800 --> 00:15:23,640
And you know, we would we made like we would shoot videos of it and stuff.

268
00:15:23,640 --> 00:15:26,800
And so, you know, he joined us the second year.

269
00:15:26,800 --> 00:15:31,240
And then when we moved to New York City, he has another year of school.

270
00:15:31,240 --> 00:15:35,120
And after that, he came and joined us in New York City and and lived with lived on our

271
00:15:35,120 --> 00:15:38,680
couch or whatever.

272
00:15:38,680 --> 00:15:43,240
But yeah, I mean, that was, you know, that was in the in the early 90s.

273
00:15:43,240 --> 00:15:45,760
So you know, we've been together for a long time.

274
00:15:45,760 --> 00:15:49,360
Do you get angry again now that long hair and earrings are back in fashion?

275

00:15:49,360 --> 00:15:50,360

No, no.

276

00:15:50,360 --> 00:15:56,760

I say, you know, I love, you know, my kids got long hair and I, you know, I don't I love

277

00:15:56,760 --> 00:15:57,760

that.

278

00:15:57,760 --> 00:15:58,760

I like Lemmy's long hair.

279

00:15:58,760 --> 00:16:03,800

I just like to give him shit about it because he had a very New York look.

280

00:16:03,800 --> 00:16:07,840

You know, he had a he had, you know, long hair and like multiple earrings.

281

00:16:07,840 --> 00:16:13,320

And he would wear like this suede coat with tassels on it that he would walk around town

282

00:16:13,320 --> 00:16:16,120

on and you're like, are you kidding me, pal?

283

00:16:16,120 --> 00:16:20,600

But on the inside, I actually really liked his look.

284

00:16:20,600 --> 00:16:26,920

So what about the the kind of genesis of the style of comedy that you guys ended up creating?

285

00:16:26,920 --> 00:16:30,680

Because I mean, you know, I'm obviously growing up with Monty Python and some of these other

286

00:16:30,680 --> 00:16:32,520

more obscure comedians.

287

00:16:32,520 --> 00:16:34,880

And that's embedded in British culture.

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00:16:34,880 --> 00:16:38,960

But when it comes to the fire service, Super Troopers, Beer Fest, some of these films that

289

00:16:38,960 --> 00:16:41,760

you ended up making were absolute firehouse favorites.

290

00:16:41,760 --> 00:16:44,280

And I'm sure you heard that many, many times.

291

00:16:44,280 --> 00:16:51,400

So when you're surrounded by the spectrum of comedy from the super cheesy sexes like

292

00:16:51,400 --> 00:16:56,200

baseball stand up comedian all the way through to the obscure, how did you guys find the

293

00:16:56,200 --> 00:16:58,000

area that you created?

294

00:16:58,000 --> 00:17:04,720

You know, I think part of it was just this group dynamic that we had in that, like, you

295

00:17:04,720 --> 00:17:09,160

know, a lot of the goals at the time was to make each other laugh and what it was to make

296

00:17:09,160 --> 00:17:10,160

each other laugh.

297

00:17:10,160 --> 00:17:12,760

I think everyone drew on whatever they came from.

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00:17:12,760 --> 00:17:17,600

You know, I mean, I think, you know, at the time, you know, you know, certainly, you know,

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00:17:17,600 --> 00:17:23,360

we grew up on, you know, early SNL and we grew up on, you know, the John Landis movies,

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00:17:23,360 --> 00:17:30,280

you know, like the Blues Brothers or, you know, or those Lampoon movies or, you know,

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00:17:30,280 --> 00:17:31,920

you know, Animal House and stuff like that.

302

00:17:31,920 --> 00:17:35,160

I think those were kind of the things that informed us.

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00:17:35,160 --> 00:17:41,080

And a lot of it was like a group of people, a group of usually guys together, you know,

304

00:17:41,080 --> 00:17:43,520

having a good time, making each other laugh.

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00:17:43,520 --> 00:17:47,600

And that was always something that we kind of focused on, I feel like.

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00:17:47,600 --> 00:17:51,840

I mean, another kind of thing I think that we always kind of focused on in that vein

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00:17:51,840 --> 00:17:59,820

was that idea of creating worlds where or situations where the people who are watching

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00:17:59,820 --> 00:18:03,240

the audience felt like they were a part of something or that they wanted to belong to

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00:18:03,240 --> 00:18:09,320

something and, you know, it was never we were never a mean spirited group.

310

00:18:09,320 --> 00:18:12,720

We were never, you know, targeting people or whatever it was.

311

00:18:12,720 --> 00:18:16,440

It was more of like, let's create this environment where we're all going to have some laughs

312

00:18:16,440 --> 00:18:18,760

together because that's what we're doing anyway.

313

00:18:18,760 --> 00:18:19,760

Right.

314

00:18:19,760 --> 00:18:21,600

We're that group of college guys who are like, you guys are funny.

315

00:18:21,600 --> 00:18:22,600

You should make a movie.

316

00:18:22,600 --> 00:18:24,600

And then we actually did make a movie, you know.

317

00:18:24,600 --> 00:18:30,520

And so, I don't know, I think it was that kind of like good natured camaraderie.

318

00:18:30,520 --> 00:18:32,920

And those are the kind of comedies we liked.

319

00:18:32,920 --> 00:18:35,960

And that's the common comedy we decided to make.

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00:18:35,960 --> 00:18:36,960

What about naysayers?

321

00:18:36,960 --> 00:18:41,520

There's a lot of people that are very successful now and they had to navigate so many people

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00:18:41,520 --> 00:18:45,760

saying, oh, you'll never because, you know, what was the resistance that you were getting

323

00:18:45,760 --> 00:18:47,880

from some of the other people in your arena?

324

00:18:47,880 --> 00:18:52,760

Well, I mean, I think you certainly get that from, you know, to a certain extent from parents

325

00:18:52,760 --> 00:18:57,520

and things like that who think, you know, maybe it's a little bit of folly, you know,

326

00:18:57,520 --> 00:18:59,720

that you're heading down this road.

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00:18:59,720 --> 00:19:02,360

And also, it's just, you know, it's a hard nut to crack.

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00:19:02,360 --> 00:19:05,080

You know, it's a hard business to get into.

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00:19:05,080 --> 00:19:08,760

And once you get into it, it's a hard business to sustain and make a living at.

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00:19:08,760 --> 00:19:13,960

So I think those were the big, the kind of big naysayers were like, ah, you guys will

331

00:19:13,960 --> 00:19:15,960

never get anywhere.

332

00:19:15,960 --> 00:19:20,600

And you know, I think it was weird because like even from our younger states, we had

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00:19:20,600 --> 00:19:28,040

just enough success each time to keep us going to the next step and to keep us kind of persevering.

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00:19:28,040 --> 00:19:34,720

And you know, I think that helped us overcome the naysayers and that we had, you know, a

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00:19:34,720 --> 00:19:38,520

certain level of success, whether it was, hey, we got into this film festival or hey,

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00:19:38,520 --> 00:19:42,760

we sold this movie or we sold this TV idea and we just kept rolling, you know.

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00:19:42,760 --> 00:19:48,280

So I think, you know, we ran into the normal obstacles that everyone had.

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00:19:48,280 --> 00:19:52,780

But you know, I think I don't know if it was dumb or just persevering.

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00:19:52,780 --> 00:19:54,960

We just kind of pushed our way through it all, you know.

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00:19:54,960 --> 00:19:57,880

I got a feeling that when you're told, oh, you'll never do that, you're probably on

341

00:19:57,880 --> 00:19:58,880

the right track.

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00:19:58,880 --> 00:20:02,600

That means you're further enough out of the comfort zone to challenge the way people think.

343

00:20:02,600 --> 00:20:03,600

Absolutely.

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00:20:03,600 --> 00:20:05,360

You're like, oh yeah, okay, fine.

345

00:20:05,360 --> 00:20:06,360

You know.

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00:20:06,360 --> 00:20:11,640

And again, you know, it's also, you know, we were so lucky to have a support group.

347

00:20:11,640 --> 00:20:12,640

You know what I mean?

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00:20:12,640 --> 00:20:15,520

It's like so many people try to jump into this business and they're alone or whatever

349

00:20:15,520 --> 00:20:16,520

it is.

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00:20:16,520 --> 00:20:19,480

We walked into this business with, you know, four of our best friends that we've known

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00:20:19,480 --> 00:20:20,980

for many, many years.

352

00:20:20,980 --> 00:20:24,320

And you always had that support group.

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00:20:24,320 --> 00:20:28,760

And you know, if you couldn't get into someone's movie or you couldn't get into someone's

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00:20:28,760 --> 00:20:32,360

whatever, you just made your own with the guys that you had.

355

00:20:32,360 --> 00:20:35,040

And that was always the mentality.

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00:20:35,040 --> 00:20:39,120

So what about the origin story for your first film being about troopers?

357

00:20:39,120 --> 00:20:40,120

Yeah.

358

00:20:40,120 --> 00:20:42,600

Well, I mean, that was kind of weird.

359

00:20:42,600 --> 00:20:44,560

We had made a film before that.

360

00:20:44,560 --> 00:20:47,800

It was called Puddle Cruiser and we had sold it.

361

00:20:47,800 --> 00:20:49,200

We brought it to the Sundance Film Festival.

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00:20:49,200 --> 00:20:53,480

It was a movie we made for about 200,000 bucks and we shot it at our old college and it was

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00:20:53,480 --> 00:20:56,380

kind of a college romantic comedy.

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00:20:56,380 --> 00:20:57,860

And that was a little bit of the calling card.

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00:20:57,860 --> 00:21:04,400

So we brought that to a few festivals, went to the Sundance Film Festival back in 97 or

366

00:21:04,400 --> 00:21:05,520

98.

367

00:21:05,520 --> 00:21:11,240

And it ended up, you know, giving us a foothold.

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00:21:11,240 --> 00:21:15,320

You know, we met a lot of people and so it made us feel like, hey, we could do this.

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00:21:15,320 --> 00:21:21,160

And so let's make a big movie or not a big movie, but like a real movie.

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00:21:21,160 --> 00:21:24,080

And so we had been batting around a couple of ideas.

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00:21:24,080 --> 00:21:29,000

And at the same time, it was kind of, we were at that age where you're like, you know, like

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00:21:29,000 --> 00:21:32,280

you're in your like your thirties or your late twenties and like all your buddies get

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00:21:32,280 --> 00:21:35,240

married and you're going all these weddings and stuff like that.

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00:21:35,240 --> 00:21:37,880

Like I haven't been to a wedding in a long time, but there was a time where you hit like

375

00:21:37,880 --> 00:21:40,160

five in a summer, you know.

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00:21:40,160 --> 00:21:44,000

And I remember we would jump into Jay's car and we would drive around, you know, five

377

00:21:44,000 --> 00:21:46,120

or six of us and go to these weddings.

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00:21:46,120 --> 00:21:50,100

And you know, and occasionally we would get pulled over by the cops.

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00:21:50,100 --> 00:21:54,680

And we always thought it was hysterical where, you know, these five kind of false bravado

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00:21:54,680 --> 00:21:59,000

guys ride around in a car, you know, cracking jokes and whatever.

381

00:21:59,000 --> 00:22:03,000

And then the moment that cop walks up to the car, it's yes sir, no sir.

382

00:22:03,000 --> 00:22:04,440

Your tail is between your legs, you know.

383

00:22:04,440 --> 00:22:07,440

And we always thought that dynamic was really funny.

384

00:22:07,440 --> 00:22:12,160

And so we just started riffing and riffing on scenarios where that would be the case

385

00:22:12,160 --> 00:22:17,000

where, you know, if you're on the cop side of it, what power did you have?

386

00:22:17,000 --> 00:22:20,640

What ability do you have to fuck around with the guys on the other side?

387

00:22:20,640 --> 00:22:25,000

And you know, I think we just started writing almost like sketches, you know, like what

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00:22:25,000 --> 00:22:26,000

if they did this?

389

00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:27,160

What if they did this repeater game?

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00:22:27,160 --> 00:22:30,640

And what if, you know, the cops were trying to say meow all the time, you know, whatever,

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00:22:30,640 --> 00:22:34,760

we had all these ideas and we just kind of started writing these scenes.

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00:22:34,760 --> 00:22:38,640

And then we started stringing them together, you know, with a plot.

393

00:22:38,640 --> 00:22:43,660

And you know, I don't think any of us ever expected the success that would have or how

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00:22:43,660 --> 00:22:49,480

it would resonate with people, but you know, it was basically a series of cop sketches.

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00:22:49,480 --> 00:22:54,240

And I think the kind of the unique thing was we were on the side of the cops, you know,

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00:22:54,240 --> 00:22:57,680

and that and cops loved that.

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00:22:57,680 --> 00:23:01,240

I mean, the whole kind of law enforcement, the guys in uniform loved that, you know,

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00:23:01,240 --> 00:23:06,360

the military guys, everybody that you were showing that these guys were human and that

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00:23:06,360 --> 00:23:10,520

they, you know, they liked to have fun and they were good natured people and that kind

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00:23:10,520 --> 00:23:11,520

of stuff.

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00:23:11,520 --> 00:23:14,000

You know, that was probably the thing that resonated.

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00:23:14,000 --> 00:23:16,800

And then it just kind of slowly took off.

403

00:23:16,800 --> 00:23:18,080

You know, we made that movie.

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00:23:18,080 --> 00:23:21,280

We didn't necessarily know what we were doing.

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00:23:21,280 --> 00:23:25,400

We brought that to the Sundance Film Festival and then we sold that there and it was put

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00:23:25,400 --> 00:23:29,920

in theaters, which to us was like, holy crap.

407

00:23:29,920 --> 00:23:31,920

And it just kind of took off from there.

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00:23:31,920 --> 00:23:36,360

It was a little of a slow burn in the sense that, you know, a lot of people didn't go

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00:23:36,360 --> 00:23:37,680

to the theater and watch that movie.

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00:23:37,680 --> 00:23:41,680

You know, you watch that in your DVD and you watch that in your dorm room and you watch

411

00:23:41,680 --> 00:23:45,240

that with your buddies or you watch the guy, you know, in the barracks or you watch in

412

00:23:45,240 --> 00:23:48,360

the, you know, in the fire station or whatever it was.

413

00:23:48,360 --> 00:23:52,040

And then it just kind of grew from there.

414

00:23:52,040 --> 00:23:54,160

You know, what about technical advisors?

415

00:23:54,160 --> 00:23:58,520

I had Dale Dye on, he's actually coming back on again, cause they've just made a sequel

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00:23:58,520 --> 00:24:00,520

to Band of Brothers and amazing.

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00:24:00,520 --> 00:24:01,520

I worked with him.

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00:24:01,520 --> 00:24:02,780

I did stunts for a long time.

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00:24:02,780 --> 00:24:07,260

So I worked with him doing like a little prep bootcamp for a stunt show that I did years

420

00:24:07,260 --> 00:24:09,520

ago in Japan.

421

00:24:09,520 --> 00:24:14,600

But he obviously prepares these actors for serious drama roles, you know, dramatic roles

422

00:24:14,600 --> 00:24:17,960

and playing the soldier properly.

423

00:24:17,960 --> 00:24:22,240

How much technical advising did you have for super troopers?

424

00:24:22,240 --> 00:24:26,160

Did you kind of inquire in that community or did you do it more blind?

425

00:24:26,160 --> 00:24:30,040

No, I mean, like I remember like a funny moment.

426

00:24:30,040 --> 00:24:34,640

It's like, you know, like I said, we just kind of wrote these sketches and we didn't

427

00:24:34,640 --> 00:24:40,880

have a whole lot of technical, like Tacoma, we really kind of like, you know, crossed

428

00:24:40,880 --> 00:24:42,880

our T's and dotted our I's with technical stuff.

429

00:24:42,880 --> 00:24:45,280

But I think then we didn't know.

430

00:24:45,280 --> 00:24:50,600

And I remember one like funny incident where, I think it was like the first or second day

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00:24:50,600 --> 00:24:56,760

we were shooting and we were on this highway and we shut down the highway and to shoot

432

00:24:56,760 --> 00:24:59,600

and to do that, you had to have, you know, local police officers come and do that for

433

00:24:59,600 --> 00:25:01,200

you and some stay.

434

00:25:01,200 --> 00:25:07,240

And so we had, you know, some state troopers there and some local police officers and they

435

00:25:07,240 --> 00:25:11,920

started kind of arguing over who, you know, was going to be in charge of this, you know,

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00:25:11,920 --> 00:25:15,080

the highway and closing it down and opening it up and whatever.

437

00:25:15,080 --> 00:25:16,680

And we thought that was great.

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00:25:16,680 --> 00:25:20,760

And we started talking to those guys and we started asking them questions.

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00:25:20,760 --> 00:25:25,480

And you know, really we started filling stuff in on the fly, you know, from the guys who

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00:25:25,480 --> 00:25:28,240

were on our set just to shut down traffic.

441

00:25:28,240 --> 00:25:29,600

And we're like, what about this?

442

00:25:29,600 --> 00:25:30,600

And how does this happen?

443

00:25:30,600 --> 00:25:31,600

What do you do with the?

444

00:25:31,600 --> 00:25:35,000

And then, you know, once it's the same way with the firefighters, once you start them

445

00:25:35,000 --> 00:25:39,400

talking, you know, they have a hundred stories, you know, they have a story about the rookie

446

00:25:39,400 --> 00:25:43,600

and what they did to this guy and the prank they pull on that guy.

447

00:25:43,600 --> 00:25:47,920

And so that was a really kind of on the fly technical advisor stuff where we were talking

448

00:25:47,920 --> 00:25:49,640

to the cops who were on the set.

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00:25:49,640 --> 00:25:52,040

Because we didn't, I mean, we didn't know any better at that point.

450

00:25:52,040 --> 00:25:56,320

You know, we put together a certain, you know, shoestring budget and just went there with

451

00:25:56,320 --> 00:25:58,680

some cameras and started shooting that movie.

452

00:25:58,680 --> 00:26:02,400

I mean, luckily, I think, you know, I mean, there's plenty of stuff in there that doesn't

453

00:26:02,400 --> 00:26:06,440

fly, but I think, you know, luckily the cops didn't actually call bullshit on us because

454

00:26:06,440 --> 00:26:09,040

they, they enjoyed the movie so much.

455

00:26:09,040 --> 00:26:10,040

It wasn't the documentary.

456

00:26:10,040 --> 00:26:18,240

Oh, we try very hard to not let people call bullshit on us or to avoid that at least.

457

00:26:18,240 --> 00:26:19,240

Absolutely.

458

00:26:19,240 --> 00:26:20,760

Well, what about Beerfest?

459

00:26:20,760 --> 00:26:22,360

Your last name is Heffernan.

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00:26:22,360 --> 00:26:24,160

Do you have German ancestry?

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00:26:24,160 --> 00:26:26,160

Was that somewhat of an inspiration for it?

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00:26:26,160 --> 00:26:27,160

Was it completely detached?

463

00:26:27,160 --> 00:26:28,160

No.

464

00:26:28,160 --> 00:26:31,720

No, it's all Irish for me, you know.

465

00:26:31,720 --> 00:26:38,000

Yeah, no, Beerfest was, it was, you know, we came out, we made a movie called Club Dread

466

00:26:38,000 --> 00:26:43,080

after Super Troopers and it was a bomb, you know, and I love that movie, but it failed,

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00:26:43,080 --> 00:26:48,320

it flopped, you know, and we were criticized, you know, we were criticized for being sophomoric

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00:26:48,320 --> 00:26:52,640

and you know, you know, like fart jokes and whatever it is, you know, that kind of stuff

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00:26:52,640 --> 00:26:56,760

where you get, you get knocked for, you know, maybe low, low, low brow humor or whatever

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00:26:56,760 --> 00:27:01,920

it was and so Beerfest was a reaction to that.

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00:27:01,920 --> 00:27:05,120

It was kind of like, oh, you think that we're sophomoric?

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00:27:05,120 --> 00:27:08,320

You think we're, you know, whatever, frat boys or whatever.

473

00:27:08,320 --> 00:27:14,960

Let's make a movie called Beerfest, you know, and we had gone on a tour to Australia for

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00:27:14,960 --> 00:27:22,040

Super Troopers, the original Super Troopers and, you know, a tour in Australia is very

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00:27:22,040 --> 00:27:24,960

different than a tour in here, you know.

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00:27:24,960 --> 00:27:33,280

It's a much, you know, kind of more raw and, you know, raucous movie tour, you know, so

477

00:27:33,280 --> 00:27:38,880

we would go to a lot of beer gardens and we would go to a lot of bars and, you know, whatever,

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00:27:38,880 --> 00:27:41,400

show up there in uniform, whatever it was.

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00:27:41,400 --> 00:27:47,920

And I remember we were at a beer garden and what they decided the promotion would be is

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00:27:47,920 --> 00:27:53,920

that we would get up on stage, the five of us, and we chug beers against five local Australian

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00:27:53,920 --> 00:27:55,440

guys.

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00:27:55,440 --> 00:27:58,680

And so, we're like, all right, let's do it, whatever.

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00:27:58,680 --> 00:28:02,960

So they call us up on stage and there were these five guys who were like at a bachelor

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00:28:02,960 --> 00:28:07,520

party at this beer garden and this big crowd outside this outside garden and they pull

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00:28:07,520 --> 00:28:11,560

these five guys up on stage and they said, all right, you know, we're gonna do a line

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00:28:11,560 --> 00:28:14,840

chug against these guys and it's gonna be a boat race, you know, it's gonna be a race,

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00:28:14,840 --> 00:28:15,840

you know.

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00:28:15,840 --> 00:28:21,520

And so we started the race and the crowd went crazy.

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00:28:21,520 --> 00:28:29,760

Like it was like yelling anti-American shit, you know, whenever it was like this fervent,

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00:28:29,760 --> 00:28:37,120

like people were rooting for their guys so hard that ultimately they had to take us off

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00:28:37,120 --> 00:28:40,560

after the thing and we lost and they took us off the stage and they put us in a van

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00:28:40,560 --> 00:28:44,000

and had to get us out of there because it was this raucous thing.

493

00:28:44,000 --> 00:28:47,200

And we thought that was one of the funniest things we'd seen and one of the coolest things

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00:28:47,200 --> 00:28:49,880

we've seen and that was the genesis for that beer fest that day.

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00:28:49,880 --> 00:28:55,840

It was like, oh my God, what if we made this nationalistic Olympic competition of beer

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00:28:55,840 --> 00:28:58,960

drinking and the fans are drunk and everyone's crazy and whatever.

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00:28:58,960 --> 00:29:04,320

So that was the kind of this Australian trip was the genesis for that idea.

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00:29:04,320 --> 00:29:10,600

And then in response to, you know, us being criticized for being sophomoric, we decided

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00:29:10,600 --> 00:29:12,040

let's make this movie.

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00:29:12,040 --> 00:29:15,400

And you know, it had kicked around a little bit.

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00:29:15,400 --> 00:29:24,040

We tried a couple of different places and then ultimately Jay Chandrasekhar had directed

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00:29:24,040 --> 00:29:29,720

the remake of the Dukes of Hazard and he did that for Warner Brothers and it was a success

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00:29:29,720 --> 00:29:30,720

for them.

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00:29:30,720 --> 00:29:35,780

And in response, they said, well, you guys can go make beer fest.

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00:29:35,780 --> 00:29:39,700

And so we made that on a shoestring budget and that was, you know, one of the most fun,

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00:29:39,700 --> 00:29:41,560

you know, movies that we ever made.

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00:29:41,560 --> 00:29:47,560

You know, we had those German bad guys and we got, you know, some real kind of bodybuilder

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00:29:47,560 --> 00:29:51,880

guys and we got some great comic guys like Will Forte and that faction, Eric Christian

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00:29:51,880 --> 00:29:54,400

Olsen and they played the bad guys.

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00:29:54,400 --> 00:29:59,120

We got, you know, guys like Donald Sutherland in there and, you know, it was just a really

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00:29:59,120 --> 00:30:01,080

fun movie to make.

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00:30:01,080 --> 00:30:04,640

And, you know, I think that resonated with a whole nother group of people.

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00:30:04,640 --> 00:30:08,480

You know, it's like you meet people and it depends on what their age is.

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00:30:08,480 --> 00:30:12,880

But you know, some people are Supertruth fans, some people are beer fest fans.

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00:30:12,880 --> 00:30:16,600

But that was a great, it was a great experience to make that movie.

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00:30:16,600 --> 00:30:21,660

Again, that was a movie that did not succeed at the time in the box office, but since has

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00:30:21,660 --> 00:30:26,400

had this huge life kind of afterwards that people connect with.

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00:30:26,400 --> 00:30:31,120

I wrote a book three years ago and when you release the book, you're like, oh, it needs

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00:30:31,120 --> 00:30:32,860

to be a success now.

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00:30:32,860 --> 00:30:35,560

And then you have a realization that you made it.

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00:30:35,560 --> 00:30:39,400

It doesn't matter when it takes off, as long as it's out there.

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00:30:39,400 --> 00:30:45,920

And listen to the story about Band of Brothers again, they released it in 2001 and then 9-11

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00:30:45,920 --> 00:30:46,920

happened.

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00:30:46,920 --> 00:30:50,760

So it didn't really have that, you know, the old eyes on it at that point.

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00:30:50,760 --> 00:30:54,600

And it was actually the 10 year anniversary when most of us really learned about Band

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00:30:54,600 --> 00:30:57,320

of Brothers and it really took off and that was 10 years later.

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00:30:57,320 --> 00:30:58,320

Yeah.

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00:30:58,320 --> 00:30:59,320

Yeah.

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00:30:59,320 --> 00:31:03,280

It just takes, you know, the time and the problem is there's so much fervor and so much

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00:31:03,280 --> 00:31:08,400

weight placed on the release time of things, whether it's a TV show or a book or a movie

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00:31:08,400 --> 00:31:09,660

or a song or whatever it is.

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00:31:09,660 --> 00:31:13,600

And then you forget that you're still putting that thing out into the world and people are,

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00:31:13,600 --> 00:31:14,840

you know, people are going to discover it.

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00:31:14,840 --> 00:31:18,920

And that's been the case with every one of our projects, every one of them.

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00:31:18,920 --> 00:31:24,320

You know, Super Troopers was like, you know, three years after the movie came out, we're

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00:31:24,320 --> 00:31:29,240

walking down the street in New York City and some guy comes running out of a bar and he's

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00:31:29,240 --> 00:31:30,640

like, you're the Super Troopers guys.

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00:31:30,640 --> 00:31:34,440

And we're like, yeah, come on, let me buy you some beers.

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00:31:34,440 --> 00:31:38,920

You know, and that was that kind of stuff didn't happen until years after Super Troopers

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00:31:38,920 --> 00:31:40,240

came out, you know.

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00:31:40,240 --> 00:31:45,520

And it's the same thing with Beer Fest, the same thing with we just made a movie called

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00:31:45,520 --> 00:31:47,520

Quasi which came out on Hulu last year.

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00:31:47,520 --> 00:31:55,640

And we wrote that movie 20 years ago and it just takes a while.

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00:31:55,640 --> 00:31:59,000

But ultimately if it's good or if you know, you have a fan base or whatever, they'll discover

545

00:31:59,000 --> 00:32:00,000

it.

546

00:32:00,000 --> 00:32:04,760

So what was your experience going from the regular movies to the streaming service?

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00:32:04,760 --> 00:32:08,280

I think when Eric came on, it was literally right before Quasi and it was funny.

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00:32:08,280 --> 00:32:12,960

I was literally walking with my wife a few days ago and we were laughing about the rack

549

00:32:12,960 --> 00:32:16,160

scene, how every scene he gets taller and taller and taller.

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00:32:16,160 --> 00:32:20,360

You know, there's that sense that, you know, people on the rack before they get ripped

551

00:32:20,360 --> 00:32:23,120

apart, they probably feel really fucking good, right?

552

00:32:23,120 --> 00:32:26,480

You know, a little decompression before I die.

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00:32:26,480 --> 00:32:31,640

So what was that experience like because some people have had on the show, obviously there's

554

00:32:31,640 --> 00:32:35,640

a negative side to the streaming and the royalties and that kind of thing.

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00:32:35,640 --> 00:32:39,480

But what made you guys make the leap to that and what has been your experience so far?

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00:32:39,480 --> 00:32:45,560

Well, I think it was really a function of, it was a result of the circumstances, you

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00:32:45,560 --> 00:32:46,560

know.

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00:32:46,560 --> 00:32:51,280

It's like, obviously that was coming down the line, you know.

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00:32:51,280 --> 00:32:58,840

It's so expensive to put movies in movie theaters now and to kind of crack into that market.

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00:32:58,840 --> 00:33:00,880

And I think that, you know, the companies are realizing that.

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00:33:00,880 --> 00:33:06,440

And it was the pandemic, I think, that really brought that to fruition, you know, where

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00:33:06,440 --> 00:33:09,680

nobody was going to the movies and they, you know, they realized, God, we better get these

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00:33:09,680 --> 00:33:15,160

services farther along and, you know, that they realized that maybe there was more of

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00:33:15,160 --> 00:33:20,000

a life with people sitting on their couch, you know.

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00:33:20,000 --> 00:33:24,000

And I get it, you know, maybe, you know, there are certain elements of in the film world

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00:33:24,000 --> 00:33:28,440

where it's not considered as prestigious or it's more of an event to go out to the movie

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00:33:28,440 --> 00:33:29,440

theater.

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00:33:29,440 --> 00:33:30,440

And I understand that.

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00:33:30,440 --> 00:33:35,560

I mean, from our circumstances was we made that quasi deal to be in the movie theaters.

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00:33:35,560 --> 00:33:39,800

And then when the pandemic hit, there were no movie theaters, you know.

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00:33:39,800 --> 00:33:42,600

They were closing them down and they didn't know what the future of it was either, you

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00:33:42,600 --> 00:33:43,600

know.

573

00:33:43,600 --> 00:33:45,080

They didn't even know if they were going to come back.

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00:33:45,080 --> 00:33:47,440

And so you didn't really have a choice at that point, you know.

575

00:33:47,440 --> 00:33:51,600

And the company said that came to a searchlight and they said, you know, look, we have this

576

00:33:51,600 --> 00:33:52,600

deal with Hulu.

577

00:33:52,600 --> 00:33:54,560

There are no movies and movie theaters right now.

578

00:33:54,560 --> 00:33:58,480

Do you guys want to convert your deal and we'll make it a streaming deal and you guys

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00:33:58,480 --> 00:33:59,480

can make the movie.

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00:33:59,480 --> 00:34:03,120

And at the time we were kind of like, hey, look, however it works, you know, however

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00:34:03,120 --> 00:34:06,360

we can get this seen by people were great with it.

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00:34:06,360 --> 00:34:11,960

And so, you know, I think we were, you know, we had to make that decision at that point

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00:34:11,960 --> 00:34:12,960

time.

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00:34:12,960 --> 00:34:18,560

And now it's the T it's the Tacoma stuff to me that's made me realize that, you know,

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00:34:18,560 --> 00:34:22,880

the most important thing for me, you know, we tell funny stories and the most important

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00:34:22,880 --> 00:34:27,560

thing is for as many people to laugh at that as you can or just spread it.

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00:34:27,560 --> 00:34:30,480

And, you know, the streaming has become the way to do that.

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00:34:30,480 --> 00:34:35,080

And we're finding that with Tacoma is that it's a way to reach more people, you know.

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00:34:35,080 --> 00:34:42,380

And, you know, we don't make superhero movies and we don't make huge blockbuster movies.

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00:34:42,380 --> 00:34:46,240

And so that seems to be the way to reach the people these days.

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00:34:46,240 --> 00:34:48,480

So I'm totally fine with it.

592

00:34:48,480 --> 00:34:49,480

You know, however they watch it.

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00:34:49,480 --> 00:34:51,760

I love that people are watching Tacoma on Netflix right now.

594

00:34:51,760 --> 00:34:53,560

I think it's great.

595

00:34:53,560 --> 00:34:57,960

And and, you know, you hear from people and fans, people discovering it.

596

00:34:57,960 --> 00:35:04,800

So yeah, I mean, it was a weird experience for quasi because you were used to the build

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00:35:04,800 --> 00:35:07,080

up to opening weekend, right?

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00:35:07,080 --> 00:35:08,080

Everything's about opening weekend.

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00:35:08,080 --> 00:35:17,000

And then Monday morning, whether it's, you know, a failure or a success, the balloon,

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00:35:17,000 --> 00:35:18,640

the air is out of the balloon on Monday morning.

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00:35:18,640 --> 00:35:19,640

You know what I mean?

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00:35:19,640 --> 00:35:22,160

It's like there's two to three days and then you're done.

603

00:35:22,160 --> 00:35:23,480

The streaming stuff not like that.

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00:35:23,480 --> 00:35:27,160

You know, it's it's you know, it has a life.

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00:35:27,160 --> 00:35:28,960

And I really like that about Tacoma.

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00:35:28,960 --> 00:35:30,240

I liked about quasi to me.

607

00:35:30,240 --> 00:35:35,220

Quasi had a nice run for like three, four months on Hulu.

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00:35:35,220 --> 00:35:37,680

And it did quite well, you know.

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00:35:37,680 --> 00:35:41,520

I think that's the better side of the streaming thing.

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00:35:41,520 --> 00:35:44,320

But you know, it's also just just the future.

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00:35:44,320 --> 00:35:46,040

You know, it's not streaming.

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00:35:46,040 --> 00:35:49,440

I don't know that it's going to go away, you know, and I don't think that theatrical movies

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00:35:49,440 --> 00:35:50,440

are going to go away.

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00:35:50,440 --> 00:35:54,080

You just have to figure out how to make them cost effective, you know?

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00:35:54,080 --> 00:35:55,080

Yeah, absolutely.

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00:35:55,080 --> 00:35:59,040

Yeah, it's funny when you when you publish a book on Amazon, which is what I did.

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00:35:59,040 --> 00:36:02,880

I think everyone is the number one bestseller for like a day.

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00:36:02,880 --> 00:36:06,700

No matter what you've written and how many people buy it, you're a number one seller.

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00:36:06,700 --> 00:36:10,880

And then all of a sudden, you're actually, you know, book number twenty seven thousand,

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00:36:10,880 --> 00:36:11,880

whatever.

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00:36:11,880 --> 00:36:12,880

And it is.

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00:36:12,880 --> 00:36:15,680

But then you just kind of reframe it and go, you know, it's out there now.

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00:36:15,680 --> 00:36:19,080

And I think that's what's good about streaming is I can watch it today or I can watch it

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00:36:19,080 --> 00:36:21,400

a year or five years from now.

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00:36:21,400 --> 00:36:23,840

But there's two points in life.

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00:36:23,840 --> 00:36:25,800

You haven't seen it and then you've seen it.

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00:36:25,800 --> 00:36:28,080

So does it have to be the day it come out?

628

00:36:28,080 --> 00:36:29,640

Or is it 10 years from now?

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00:36:29,640 --> 00:36:35,040

When as an artist, as long as that person hopefully sees your work or reads your book

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00:36:35,040 --> 00:36:38,480

or whatever it is, when is kind of irrelevant?

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00:36:38,480 --> 00:36:42,520

Yeah, I mean, two years from now, someone's going to read your book for the first time,

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00:36:42,520 --> 00:36:44,480

you know, because I love it.

633

00:36:44,480 --> 00:36:49,280

Oh, you know, it's not going to matter that it came out on April 13th or whatever.

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00:36:49,280 --> 00:36:50,280

Yeah.

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00:36:50,280 --> 00:36:53,240

I mean, yeah, when it was the number one bestseller, by the way.

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00:36:53,240 --> 00:36:54,240

Yeah.

637

00:36:54,240 --> 00:36:59,260

And that's what I think that's what TV has taught me because movies become so precious

638

00:36:59,260 --> 00:37:02,280

about building to a date and all that kind of business.

639

00:37:02,280 --> 00:37:04,200

And if you don't build that day, it's like somebody died.

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00:37:04,200 --> 00:37:08,920

You know, I remember getting calls, you know, Monday morning after like Club Dread came

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00:37:08,920 --> 00:37:09,920

out or whatever.

642

00:37:09,920 --> 00:37:11,920

And they're like, we're so, so sorry.

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00:37:11,920 --> 00:37:14,280

You know, like what, what does we do?

644

00:37:14,280 --> 00:37:15,720

We made this or whatever.

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00:37:15,720 --> 00:37:21,400

And it's like, oh, and it was like, you know, it was like, you know, somebody in your family

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00:37:21,400 --> 00:37:27,320

had died, you know, like, well, now they're going to be able to discover that thing, you

647

00:37:27,320 --> 00:37:28,760

know, and then we'll watch it.

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00:37:28,760 --> 00:37:32,600

And, you know, the movie begets movies, you know, so people who are Broken Lizard fans

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00:37:32,600 --> 00:37:36,000

watch Tacoma and people who are Tacoma fans go back and watch the Broken Lizard movies

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00:37:36,000 --> 00:37:41,080

now and, you know, I think it all works out for the best for us.

651

00:37:41,080 --> 00:37:42,080

I mean, I don't know.

652

00:37:42,080 --> 00:37:45,120

Well, you made some very unique films.

653

00:37:45,120 --> 00:37:47,600

I think we're about the same age, roughly.

654

00:37:47,600 --> 00:37:51,360

I'm at a point now where I yearn for new stories.

655

00:37:51,360 --> 00:37:53,200

They've rehashed so many stories.

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00:37:53,200 --> 00:37:57,200

They've remade, you know, the films from our childhood, The Karate Kids and all these things

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00:37:57,200 --> 00:37:59,720

over and over and over again.

658

00:37:59,720 --> 00:38:03,440

What is your kind of perspective on the audience these days?

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00:38:03,440 --> 00:38:08,880

I can't help but feel like people are yearning either for more, you know, true stories or,

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00:38:08,880 --> 00:38:12,560

I mean, obviously, the reflection of real people like Tacoma, you know, in the real

661

00:38:12,560 --> 00:38:19,800

profession or, you know, brand brand new stories or, you know, more raw stories.

662

00:38:19,800 --> 00:38:20,800

I think that's another thing.

663

00:38:20,800 --> 00:38:24,600

I think that, as you said, the superhero has just been milked to death now.

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00:38:24,600 --> 00:38:27,760

Marvel and DC have squeezed every single penny out of those stories.

665

00:38:27,760 --> 00:38:29,360

Star Wars franchise.

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00:38:29,360 --> 00:38:37,320

So to me, a film has to be worthy of someone taking their children, spending 80, 100 dollars,

667

00:38:37,320 --> 00:38:39,240

you know, on sitting in a movie theater.

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00:38:39,240 --> 00:38:40,240

So I don't know.

669

00:38:40,240 --> 00:38:42,720

I don't even know if there's any question in there.

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00:38:42,720 --> 00:38:46,760

But what is your perception now on what the audience wants in 2023?

671

00:38:46,760 --> 00:38:52,400

That's why the world is so, you know, the industry is so weird now, you know, because

672

00:38:52,400 --> 00:38:58,120

it's like you do have to justify and you have to justify up your corporate ladder, you know,

673

00:38:58,120 --> 00:39:02,000

why someone's going to go to that movie theater or why someone's going to watch your material.

674

00:39:02,000 --> 00:39:05,200

And you know, that's why, you know, we're in this stage right now.

675

00:39:05,200 --> 00:39:07,040

It'll shift, I think, but they're in this stage now.

676

00:39:07,040 --> 00:39:10,680

It's that there has to be and they told us this when we put, you know, Super Troopers

677

00:39:10,680 --> 00:39:15,920

2 out in the movie theaters, it was like going to the movie theater has to be an event now.

678

00:39:15,920 --> 00:39:17,400

It has to be an event, right?

679

00:39:17,400 --> 00:39:20,800

It has to be, hey, it's not just, hey, let's go catch this little film.

680

00:39:20,800 --> 00:39:24,360

It's like we got to go see the new this and we got to go see the movie that this person's

681

00:39:24,360 --> 00:39:25,360
in.

682

00:39:25,360 --> 00:39:30,000

And whether that's what America or the viewing public wants or whatever it is, that's just

683

00:39:30,000 --> 00:39:32,240

the way the corporate mentality of it is, right?

684

00:39:32,240 --> 00:39:35,120

So you have to overcome that.

685

00:39:35,120 --> 00:39:37,080

And sometimes you can, sometimes you can't.

686

00:39:37,080 --> 00:39:41,120

You know, when we made Quasi, our feeling was, you know, this is a kind of a different

687

00:39:41,120 --> 00:39:42,760

weird movie for us.

688

00:39:42,760 --> 00:39:46,600

You know, it's not something that people have seen us in or whatever.

689

00:39:46,600 --> 00:39:50,640

And we're not going to get anyone to bite on putting this, taking a chance to put this

690

00:39:50,640 --> 00:39:53,200

in the movie theaters, right?

691

00:39:53,200 --> 00:39:59,400

Maybe our best chance is to get some streamer to put some money up on it and do it.

692

00:39:59,400 --> 00:40:09,360

And I guess my feeling is that I still go back to that thing that I said that I think

693

00:40:09,360 --> 00:40:12,280

people want to be a part of something.

694

00:40:12,280 --> 00:40:20,360

I think people want to watch something and connect with it and be like, hey, that's like

695

00:40:20,360 --> 00:40:25,200

me or that's, you know, that character is like, I've been through that, you know, to

696

00:40:25,200 --> 00:40:28,920

me, I still think that's the best driver of entertainment.

697

00:40:28,920 --> 00:40:33,120

And I think, you know, when we make Tacoma, we keep that in our mind where it's like we

698

00:40:33,120 --> 00:40:36,040

pull real life stories of, hey, that happened to me.

699

00:40:36,040 --> 00:40:38,560

And you know, I hate moisturizer or whatever it is.

700

00:40:38,560 --> 00:40:39,560

I like mayonnaise.

701

00:40:39,560 --> 00:40:42,320

Get in there and people, you know, connect with that.

702

00:40:42,320 --> 00:40:45,360

I think that's what, you know, make people want to watch it.

703

00:40:45,360 --> 00:40:47,840
I still believe that that's the driver.

704
00:40:47,840 --> 00:40:49,120
And so that's kind of where we go.

705
00:40:49,120 --> 00:40:50,800
But I don't know if the industry believes that.

706
00:40:50,800 --> 00:40:56,680
And I, you know, yes, it's easier to put Aquaman on a poster and, you know, get people to come

707
00:40:56,680 --> 00:41:01,840
out to watch it than to put, you know, when we made super troopers, the poster for super

708
00:41:01,840 --> 00:41:07,480
troopers, they put us upside down on the poster because we were completely nobody who we were.

709
00:41:07,480 --> 00:41:10,480
And they didn't want you to think that they were nobodies in a movie.

710
00:41:10,480 --> 00:41:11,480
So they put us upside down.

711
00:41:11,480 --> 00:41:14,480
So you couldn't recognize who's on the poster, you know.

712
00:41:14,480 --> 00:41:16,920
And I think that still exists kind of today.

713
00:41:16,920 --> 00:41:24,840
But, you know, I don't know, it's it's cyclical, I think, you know, like it'll come back to

714

00:41:24,840 --> 00:41:26,640

people are like in this kind of a movie.

715

00:41:26,640 --> 00:41:29,680

And then, you know, there'll be another surge of superhero movies and then there'll be another

716

00:41:29,680 --> 00:41:34,560

surge of whatever and zombie movies.

717

00:41:34,560 --> 00:41:35,560

But it's hard.

718

00:41:35,560 --> 00:41:39,440

You know, I just kind of stick with the fact that I think I think people want to connect

719

00:41:39,440 --> 00:41:40,600

personally with things.

720

00:41:40,600 --> 00:41:45,040

So however that happens, you know, we do it through.

721

00:41:45,040 --> 00:41:49,000

100%, which is how you connect in the fire service to, you know, I mean, we see horrible

722

00:41:49,000 --> 00:41:51,840

stuff and laughter is the way that we connect and decompress.

723

00:41:51,840 --> 00:41:52,840

Absolutely.

724

00:41:52,840 --> 00:41:53,840

Absolutely.

725

00:41:53,840 --> 00:41:55,760

And, you know, we've talked to a lot of guys about that.

726

00:41:55,760 --> 00:41:58,080

And they're like, hey, you should do a story about this.

727

00:41:58,080 --> 00:42:00,240

We can't do a story about that in this show.

728

00:42:00,240 --> 00:42:03,240

It's a little dark.

729

00:42:03,240 --> 00:42:04,240

You know, whatever.

730

00:42:04,240 --> 00:42:08,360

But, you know, we can take this and make a spin on it.

731

00:42:08,360 --> 00:42:13,000

Well, speaking of that, then, so you mentioned cousin Bill, walk me through, you know, your

732

00:42:13,000 --> 00:42:16,960

experience with him when you were young and your perception of the fire service, however

733

00:42:16,960 --> 00:42:21,640

that was, and then how that factored into the creation of Tacoma FD.

734

00:42:21,640 --> 00:42:26,440

Yeah, I mean, you know, in my hometown, it was always kind of like a family business,

735

00:42:26,440 --> 00:42:31,720

you know, and my cousin was there and there were always like families, you know, that

736

00:42:31,720 --> 00:42:32,720

had people in the fire.

737

00:42:32,720 --> 00:42:36,800

It was fathers and brothers and cousins and they were on the local fire department.

738

00:42:36,800 --> 00:42:41,040

And if your, you know, kid had something stuck in their throat, you'd walk them down to the

739

00:42:41,040 --> 00:42:44,160

fire department in the corner and they'd get the thing out of his throat or whatever it

740

00:42:44,160 --> 00:42:50,460

was, you know, it was a very kind of like community oriented, you know, operation.

741

00:42:50,460 --> 00:42:52,160

And that was something that we always loved.

742

00:42:52,160 --> 00:42:55,400

And as we were trying to make the show, it goes back to kind of what I was saying about

743

00:42:55,400 --> 00:43:00,280

what you connect with is that we pitched this show as a family show because a fire house

744

00:43:00,280 --> 00:43:01,280

is a family.

745

00:43:01,280 --> 00:43:03,760

You're there 24 hours a day with the guys on your shift.

746

00:43:03,760 --> 00:43:04,760

You sleep with them.

747

00:43:04,760 --> 00:43:06,740

You eat with them.

748

00:43:06,740 --> 00:43:09,880

And then at the same time, there are families within where there's cousins and brothers

749

00:43:09,880 --> 00:43:13,640

and fathers and daughters and whatever in the service together.

750

00:43:13,640 --> 00:43:19,680

And that was a big attraction to the idea for us because that's, I think that again,

751

00:43:19,680 --> 00:43:22,360

like I said, that's how people connect with it.

752

00:43:22,360 --> 00:43:28,320

And so, you know, we were batting around these ideas, Lemmy and I, and, you know, my cousin

753

00:43:28,320 --> 00:43:33,600

Bill always been a fan of our stuff and he would always say to us, hey, you think cops

754

00:43:33,600 --> 00:43:38,200

are funny, come talk to me when you want to do a firefighter thing because firefighters

755

00:43:38,200 --> 00:43:41,480

are way more funny than cops are.

756

00:43:41,480 --> 00:43:42,920

Okay.

757

00:43:42,920 --> 00:43:48,220

And so, you know, Lemmy and I were kicking around this idea and part of it was self-serving

758

00:43:48,220 --> 00:43:54,100

in the sense that, you know, we wanted to, we'd spent many years, you know, writing different

759

00:43:54,100 --> 00:43:55,760

TV shows and trying to get TV shows in the air.

760

00:43:55,760 --> 00:43:58,960

It's a tough nut to crack and we've tried to do it for a long time.

761

00:43:58,960 --> 00:44:03,960

And we've constantly come up with ideas about, you know, what we can capitalize and what

762

00:44:03,960 --> 00:44:05,280

people like of us and whatever.

763

00:44:05,280 --> 00:44:09,880

And it's like, hey, people like our mustaches and people like us being in uniforms and let's

764

00:44:09,880 --> 00:44:11,880

talk about a firefighter show.

765

00:44:11,880 --> 00:44:18,560

And we were actually, we were in Tacoma at the comedy club doing a comedy show one weekend,

766

00:44:18,560 --> 00:44:21,560

just Lemmy and I, and it was raining out and whatever.

767

00:44:21,560 --> 00:44:26,960

And we were like, you know, we have pretty funny firefighter show premises that you put

768

00:44:26,960 --> 00:44:32,800

the show in the rainiest city in the country and then you can create the idea that like

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00:44:32,800 --> 00:44:35,720

super troopers where there's not a lot of traffic so you can have some fun.

770

00:44:35,720 --> 00:44:40,280

There's not a lot of fires in the rainiest city, so you can probably have a lot of fun.

771

00:44:40,280 --> 00:44:44,760

And so we were kind of batting that idea around and we went to cousin Bill and we were like,

772

00:44:44,760 --> 00:44:47,000

hey, we're thinking about it because that's a great idea.

773

00:44:47,000 --> 00:44:52,160

You know, I got, you know, these stories and we just started kind of talking to him and

774

00:44:52,160 --> 00:44:57,120

kind of building the world out a little bit and trying to make this family feel, you know,

775

00:44:57,120 --> 00:44:59,400

you know, of the show and guys who like to have fun.

776

00:44:59,400 --> 00:45:08,200

And, you know, it was funny because it was an inauspicious beginning with the real Tacoma

777

00:45:08,200 --> 00:45:10,960

Fire Department.

778

00:45:10,960 --> 00:45:16,520

You know, we were, we had announced at the show, we were going to make the show and we

779

00:45:16,520 --> 00:45:22,440

were, we were in Seattle and we were doing, Lemmy and I were doing comedy shows in Seattle

780

00:45:22,440 --> 00:45:27,400

and the owner of the club came back.

781

00:45:27,400 --> 00:45:35,760

The owner of the club came to the backstage and he said, hey, there are a bunch of Tacoma

782

00:45:35,760 --> 00:45:38,040

firefighters out there and they want to talk to you.

783

00:45:38,040 --> 00:45:42,600

And we're like, oh shit.

784

00:45:42,600 --> 00:45:45,840

And so after the show, we went out and we met with these guys.

785

00:45:45,840 --> 00:45:50,600

There's like, you know, seven or eight guys and, and they're like, hey, we heard you,

786

00:45:50,600 --> 00:45:52,600

we hear you want to make a show about the Tacoma Fire Department.

787

00:45:52,600 --> 00:45:54,200

And we're like, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

788

00:45:54,200 --> 00:45:56,040

We were going to make that show.

789

00:45:56,040 --> 00:45:59,960

Like, and what the joke is that it's always rainy so we don't work.

790

00:45:59,960 --> 00:46:02,720

We were like, no, no, no.

791

00:46:02,720 --> 00:46:05,000

It's like, listen, we work very hard.

792

00:46:05,000 --> 00:46:06,400

It's hard as any fire department.

793

00:46:06,400 --> 00:46:10,160

Like we, I know we know.

794

00:46:10,160 --> 00:46:13,560

And so we kind of, we talked to them and we said, we're not going to, you know, we're

795

00:46:13,560 --> 00:46:14,560

going to make you look bad.

796

00:46:14,560 --> 00:46:15,560

We're going to make you look good.

797

00:46:15,560 --> 00:46:18,480

And, you know, look at super troopers, you know, that's what we're going for.

798

00:46:18,480 --> 00:46:22,120

And they finally at the end, this guy, you know, one guy said, okay, all right, fine.

799

00:46:22,120 --> 00:46:25,960

And then the guy reached into his pocket and he pulled out a business card and he said,

800

00:46:25,960 --> 00:46:30,960

if you need a technical consultant, I'm willing to help you out.

801

00:46:30,960 --> 00:46:32,280

Thank you very much.

802

00:46:32,280 --> 00:46:38,080

And we ultimately, you know, ended up making, you know, obviously make the show and ended

803

00:46:38,080 --> 00:46:40,880

up having a very good relationship with those guys.

804

00:46:40,880 --> 00:46:44,720

But you know, in the beginning, I think fire, you know, the firefighters were a little nervous

805

00:46:44,720 --> 00:46:49,280

that we were going to make them bumbling idiots, you know, and that was never our intention.

806

00:46:49,280 --> 00:46:54,760

It was always like, Hey, let's make a world, you know, very similar super troopers where

807

00:46:54,760 --> 00:46:56,640

you want to hang out with those guys.

808

00:46:56,640 --> 00:47:01,800

They're good at their jobs, but when they're, they have downtime as firefighters have, you

809

00:47:01,800 --> 00:47:06,520

know, they're having fun, having a good time and giving each other shit.

810

00:47:06,520 --> 00:47:09,240

So cousin Bill was also a fire historian.

811

00:47:09,240 --> 00:47:10,240

Have I got that right?

812

00:47:10,240 --> 00:47:13,880

Yeah, he's he was kind of like the local fire.

813

00:47:13,880 --> 00:47:17,760

He retired last year and so he's kind of taken that on.

814

00:47:17,760 --> 00:47:18,760

That's one of his jobs.

815

00:47:18,760 --> 00:47:24,320

He's taken on now where he's he's kind of the official historian of the local fire department.

816

00:47:24,320 --> 00:47:27,800

And you know, he's got all kinds of great stuff.

817

00:47:27,800 --> 00:47:34,120

And you know, he's the kind of guy who amasses funny stories in his head, you know, firefighter

818

00:47:34,120 --> 00:47:37,880

stories, which is what makes him a wealth of information for us.

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00:47:37,880 --> 00:47:44,760

And he also is a guy who was very much a stickler for, you know, authenticity.

820

00:47:44,760 --> 00:47:49,160

You know, like he was always kind of like, if I'm going to be on the show, my name is

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00:47:49,160 --> 00:47:51,840

on the show as a technical consultant.

822

00:47:51,840 --> 00:47:54,520

This stuff's going to you know, the guys who are sitting in the fire department on Thursday

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00:47:54,520 --> 00:47:57,440

night watching this thing together are not going to call bullshit on us.

824

00:47:57,440 --> 00:48:01,240

You know, we're going to make it, you know, and whatever you have to you have to do that.

825

00:48:01,240 --> 00:48:03,720

Sometimes you have to shade things, you know, sometimes.

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00:48:03,720 --> 00:48:08,280

But for the most part, you know, he was very aggressive about making sure that we, you

827

00:48:08,280 --> 00:48:10,560

know, we wore our equipment properly.

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00:48:10,560 --> 00:48:15,360

We had the proper equipment and, you know, you know, and he'd make fun of us.

829

00:48:15,360 --> 00:48:21,000

But you know, we'd get figure out how to get the SEBAs on and, you know.

830

00:48:21,000 --> 00:48:23,000

So what is your technical training look like?

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00:48:23,000 --> 00:48:25,560

And did you use that guy who gave you the business card in the end?

832

00:48:25,560 --> 00:48:26,960

No, we didn't use that guy.

833

00:48:26,960 --> 00:48:33,240

Although we became friends with a lot of those guys and I think they were very happy.

834

00:48:33,240 --> 00:48:38,480

We actually had a couple episodes where they came down, a bunch of the guys from the real

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00:48:38,480 --> 00:48:39,960

Tacoma firemen came down.

836

00:48:39,960 --> 00:48:44,440

We had a firefighter ball episode and they were at the ball and they were extras and

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00:48:44,440 --> 00:48:47,320

they, we hung out with them for a few days there and that was fun.

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00:48:47,320 --> 00:48:51,400

And, you know, we've done some earlier in the seasons, we would do some promotional

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00:48:51,400 --> 00:48:56,000

stuff up there, which is who we've got a great, they would send us stuff to put on the walls

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00:48:56,000 --> 00:48:57,560

and things like that, like real to call it.

841

00:48:57,560 --> 00:49:00,680

Here's an axe and here's a whatever, you know.

842

00:49:00,680 --> 00:49:02,080

And so we would, we would do that.

843

00:49:02,080 --> 00:49:06,520

So our relationship ended up being, you know, really, really great with them.

844

00:49:06,520 --> 00:49:10,760

But the, you know, the technical consultant stuff that we do with Bill, you know, Bill

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00:49:10,760 --> 00:49:13,200

ended up being a guy who was always on the set with us.

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00:49:13,200 --> 00:49:18,720

And you know, our show, partly because it was low budget and partly because that was

847

00:49:18,720 --> 00:49:21,840

the premise, it was like, we don't really fight fires.

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00:49:21,840 --> 00:49:26,640

You know, we don't, we do like one fire a season because that's all we can afford really.

849

00:49:26,640 --> 00:49:29,400

And so it's more about hanging out at the station, you know.

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00:49:29,400 --> 00:49:37,240

So when we did have those big, you know, shoots where we gear up and, and, and, you know,

851

00:49:37,240 --> 00:49:40,480

we'd fight a fire or whatever it was, you know, Bill was very adamant being there.

852

00:49:40,480 --> 00:49:41,480

Here's how you do it.

853

00:49:41,480 --> 00:49:42,480

Here's how you enter the building.

854

00:49:42,480 --> 00:49:44,440

You know, here's how you do this.

855

00:49:44,440 --> 00:49:47,480

And, you know, we would spend a lot of time on that.

856

00:49:47,480 --> 00:49:52,840

But a lot of it was just like, you know, for Bill, it'd be like, hey, you know, we're on

857

00:49:52,840 --> 00:49:53,840

the apparatus floor.

858

00:49:53,840 --> 00:49:56,400

You know, what's on the wall?

859

00:49:56,400 --> 00:50:00,160

You know, or, you know, we're driving the engine.

860

00:50:00,160 --> 00:50:01,160

What's inside the engine?

861

00:50:01,160 --> 00:50:05,680

Or, you know, it was, it was kind of a lot of, you know, how is the hose, you know, packed

862

00:50:05,680 --> 00:50:09,480

and, you know, a lot of stuff like that.

863

00:50:09,480 --> 00:50:12,400

And then it was terminology, you know, like he would get very, very, very, very, very

864

00:50:12,400 --> 00:50:16,600

angry with us when we would say garage, you know, it had to be the app floor or the apparatus

865

00:50:16,600 --> 00:50:17,600

floor.

866

00:50:17,600 --> 00:50:23,120

You know, he'd get, he'd get angry at us when we would call superiors by their first names,

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00:50:23,120 --> 00:50:26,480

you know, as opposed to captain and chief and whatever.

868

00:50:26,480 --> 00:50:31,640

So that was always kind of a fun, you know, and he was, you know, not afraid to jump in

869

00:50:31,640 --> 00:50:35,200

and say that, you know, and he, he'd get in a fight with the prop guy and it's like, that's

870

00:50:35,200 --> 00:50:38,240

not the proper ladder that you would have in this situation, you know, that kind of

871

00:50:38,240 --> 00:50:39,240

stuff.

872

00:50:39,240 --> 00:50:42,880

So yeah, we always got like a lot of enjoyment out of that, but in the, at the same time,

873

00:50:42,880 --> 00:50:46,440

you know, we meet a lot of firefighters now and say, Hey, you know what, you know, I think

874

00:50:46,440 --> 00:50:49,880

that is, you know, a very authentic feeling show to us.

875

00:50:49,880 --> 00:50:54,480

And I think it's a credit to cousin Bill for all the years he's spent in the department

876

00:50:54,480 --> 00:50:58,080

and helping us create that sense.

877

00:50:58,080 --> 00:51:01,960

It is really jarring when you work and I can't imagine being a cop, how many times people

878

00:51:01,960 --> 00:51:04,760

get it wrong with the FBI or something like that.

879

00:51:04,760 --> 00:51:10,160

But I worked on the world trade center film with Nicolas Cage and got a few directed

880

00:51:10,160 --> 00:51:14,040

it now, Oliver Stone, but I was just simply a glorified extra.

881

00:51:14,040 --> 00:51:18,760

That's all I was, but I'd been in, in acting, I became a stunt man in the end, but I, we

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00:51:18,760 --> 00:51:23,540

got this, this gig and I got a whole bunch of my Anaheim firefighters onto the film,

883

00:51:23,540 --> 00:51:24,640

but it was the other side.

884

00:51:24,640 --> 00:51:30,940

Like we had FDNY gear down to the point, but when it was the final cut, we were just like

885

00:51:30,940 --> 00:51:32,360

shadows in the background.

886

00:51:32,360 --> 00:51:35,840

So the, you know, attention to detail on that point, you know, it was obviously wasted on

887

00:51:35,840 --> 00:51:41,720

a lot of these shots, but when you see average firefighters in a scene, oh my God, it's just,

888

00:51:41,720 --> 00:51:45,080

it's awful because they've got everything is wrong.

889

00:51:45,080 --> 00:51:46,080

Everything is wrong.

890

00:51:46,080 --> 00:51:50,760

Even I hate to call them out this film out because one of the guys from the film is on

891

00:51:50,760 --> 00:51:55,600

the show, but there's a film, Paramedic came out recently and this woman is doing compressions

892

00:51:55,600 --> 00:52:00,160

on a guy with a, with a Kevlar vest still on, you know, and it's like, did you not ask

893

00:52:00,160 --> 00:52:01,160

anyone?

894

00:52:01,160 --> 00:52:03,880

Did you even just watch a CPR video?

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00:52:03,880 --> 00:52:06,080

American Heart Association for something.

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00:52:06,080 --> 00:52:10,800

But yeah, so even though it's, you know, it's a comedy show by making sure all those things

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00:52:10,800 --> 00:52:14,160

were right, it keeps us, which is, I'm sure there's a lot of firefighters watch the show.

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00:52:14,160 --> 00:52:18,800

It keeps us engaged with the jokes rather than what the fuck is that on his back?

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00:52:18,800 --> 00:52:19,800

Yeah.

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00:52:19,800 --> 00:52:24,320

No, uh, you know, we had a bunch of that kind of stuff and, uh, who's the guy that does

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00:52:24,320 --> 00:52:31,680

like the green screen, um, um, who does the green screen gags where they take the scenes

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00:52:31,680 --> 00:52:34,880

from firefighter fire department chronicles, Jason.

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00:52:34,880 --> 00:52:35,880

Yeah.

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00:52:35,880 --> 00:52:36,880

Jason.

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00:52:36,880 --> 00:52:37,880

Right.

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00:52:37,880 --> 00:52:38,880

We use his coffee.

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00:52:38,880 --> 00:52:40,680

We have his coffee as a, you know, I think, but Jason, yeah.

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00:52:40,680 --> 00:52:45,400

So, um, um, but Bill was always cousin Bill was always like, I don't want to be in that

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00:52:45,400 --> 00:52:46,400

green screen thing.

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00:52:46,400 --> 00:52:47,400

Okay.

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00:52:47,400 --> 00:52:48,480

So we're going to make sure.

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00:52:48,480 --> 00:52:51,240

And then we would start making jokes about it because, you know, there'd be, there was

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00:52:51,240 --> 00:52:56,160

one firefighter show where I can't remember what it was, but like, you know, a guy gets

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00:52:56,160 --> 00:53:01,600

hit by a meteor and, uh, and they're, they're trying to revive them.

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00:53:01,600 --> 00:53:04,920

And you know, the, the joke, you get hit by a meteor, you're dead.

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00:53:04,920 --> 00:53:08,700

You know, the thing's going to go through you or whatever it is, you know?

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00:53:08,700 --> 00:53:16,360

And so, um, you know, we, we opened our, uh, our, our, uh, last season scene with a guy

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00:53:16,360 --> 00:53:20,600

getting, with a guy getting hit by a meter, but you'd find out it's a fake, you know,

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00:53:20,600 --> 00:53:22,800

a fake TV show, a firefighter TV show.

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00:53:22,800 --> 00:53:28,240

But we, we started to joke about what, you know, the firefighter shows would do and,

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00:53:28,240 --> 00:53:30,920

um, and, and then try to kind of capture that in the thing.

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00:53:30,920 --> 00:53:36,240

But you know, luckily we don't, like I said, we don't have to get super technical because

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00:53:36,240 --> 00:53:39,600

we don't do a lot of, you know, calls and fires and that kind of stuff.

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00:53:39,600 --> 00:53:43,720

You know, it's just, you know, what, what feels authentic around the station, you know,

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00:53:43,720 --> 00:53:48,160

the way we talk to each other and the, and you know, uh, what, you know, populates our

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00:53:48,160 --> 00:53:49,840

world kind of a thing, you know?

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00:53:49,840 --> 00:53:55,880

And um, but the firefighters I talked to, they're like, that is, you know, they, they

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00:53:55,880 --> 00:53:58,600

love it because that is how they feel their station is, you know?

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00:53:58,600 --> 00:54:01,840

And I mean, they're like, you know, whatever it's, it's a heightened sense of com comic,

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00:54:01,840 --> 00:54:02,840

you know, whatever.

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00:54:02,840 --> 00:54:06,040

And you know, there are some episodes of ours that are just getting, you know, very silly,

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00:54:06,040 --> 00:54:10,680

but, but for the most part, it's that sitting around, you know, having your coffee and

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00:54:10,680 --> 00:54:13,840

bragging on another guy, you know, which is what a lot of it is, you know?

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00:54:13,840 --> 00:54:14,840

Absolutely.

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00:54:14,840 --> 00:54:18,400

Well, it shows, you know, the Probie jokes, uh, the calendar episode was brilliant.

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00:54:18,400 --> 00:54:21,960

The testicle popping episode was hilarious.

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00:54:21,960 --> 00:54:24,360

So yeah, but it's, it is all, all the things that we do.

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00:54:24,360 --> 00:54:29,280

And again, the real dark side of what we do and there's, there's a huge amount of that

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00:54:29,280 --> 00:54:33,360

firehouse, you know, dark humor, um, to gallows humor.

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00:54:33,360 --> 00:54:34,360

Yeah.

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00:54:34,360 --> 00:54:35,360

That is how we offload.

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00:54:35,360 --> 00:54:39,320

And I think that's why films like yours are so popular in the fire service is just because

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00:54:39,320 --> 00:54:43,040

it allows us to just, you know, laugh and not think about anything.

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00:54:43,040 --> 00:54:47,200

Cause if you look at the psychology of laughter, it down regulates the nervous system.

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00:54:47,200 --> 00:54:49,920

That's why we laugh, even if it's a dark joke.

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00:54:49,920 --> 00:54:50,920

Yeah.

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00:54:50,920 --> 00:54:55,000

And I, and I, it's funny cause we, you know, we would try to every once in a while, you

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00:54:55,000 --> 00:54:57,880

know, like, like bill or somebody will come up with an idea where we were like, that's

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00:54:57,880 --> 00:55:02,400

a little dark, you know, like, but you try to find what the funny part of is, or at least

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00:55:02,400 --> 00:55:07,040

what the, you know, the important part of it, you know, like we did an episode on kind

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00:55:07,040 --> 00:55:13,240

of the PS, the PTSD kind of, um, thing where, you know, you know, um, you know, bill would

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00:55:13,240 --> 00:55:17,960

always talk about how when he started on the fire department, it was like, suck it up,

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00:55:17,960 --> 00:55:20,480

you know, you're a pussy, don't, you know, whatever.

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00:55:20,480 --> 00:55:25,360

And then realizing that you, that the firefighters see so much shit that you have to release,

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00:55:25,360 --> 00:55:29,380

you know, and that, um, you know, talking to people or whether it's, you know, therapy

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00:55:29,380 --> 00:55:33,640

sessions or whatever it is becomes an important part in keeping, you know, mental health for

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00:55:33,640 --> 00:55:34,640

the firefighters.

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00:55:34,640 --> 00:55:38,880

And he said, that's, you know, as I became a, you know, higher up the ranks, that became

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00:55:38,880 --> 00:55:43,320

a very important part of our lives and dealing with that issue.

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00:55:43,320 --> 00:55:46,160

And we were like, well, it's hard for us to deal with that issue because then you have

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00:55:46,160 --> 00:55:48,880

to deal with what inspires that issue.

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00:55:48,880 --> 00:55:51,560

And you know, and then you don't want to get into situations, you're making fun of it,

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00:55:51,560 --> 00:55:52,560

you know?

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00:55:52,560 --> 00:55:59,440

And, and so the trick is, Hey, how do you do the group therapy session episode without,

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00:55:59,440 --> 00:56:06,360

uh, well, delivering a positive message, um, and not getting too dark, you know, and cause

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00:56:06,360 --> 00:56:11,920

firefighters see so much dark stuff, you know, and, and, um, the other kind of great thing

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00:56:11,920 --> 00:56:18,480

about this is as the show has become more successful or more people see it, firefighters

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00:56:18,480 --> 00:56:23,600

reach out to us with stories, you know, and, um, you know, some of them are like, well,

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00:56:23,600 --> 00:56:27,080

we find this dead guy behind a dumpster and you're like, well, we can't do that.

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00:56:27,080 --> 00:56:29,040

I'm still waiting to find the joke.

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00:56:29,040 --> 00:56:30,040

Where's the joke?

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00:56:30,040 --> 00:56:31,040

And to us is hilarious.

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00:56:31,040 --> 00:56:33,040

He's traveled around his ankles.

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00:56:33,040 --> 00:56:34,040

Yeah.

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00:56:34,040 --> 00:56:37,960

And so, you know, there are all those things and you're like, um, and you, you know, this,

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00:56:37,960 --> 00:56:40,440

we found this guy, he was covered in shit and we had to do this.

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00:56:40,440 --> 00:56:42,840

And you're like, okay, we can't necessarily do that.

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00:56:42,840 --> 00:56:46,920

You know, and the funny thing is trying to figure out how to do something like that,

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00:56:46,920 --> 00:56:51,480

but not, you know, so, you know, I either there's so many dark things that firefighters

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00:56:51,480 --> 00:56:56,120

see, we just can't really tackle that world because we're trying to keep it light and

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00:56:56,120 --> 00:56:57,760

fun for people.

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00:56:57,760 --> 00:57:04,480

So speaking of that, just as a tangent for a moment, it's been bizarre the last few years

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00:57:04,480 --> 00:57:10,160

seeing the politically correct element start to put into the point where it almost squashes

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00:57:10,160 --> 00:57:11,400

out everything.

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00:57:11,400 --> 00:57:15,520

It's like the person who develops allergies and all they can end up drinking is water.

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00:57:15,520 --> 00:57:16,520

You know what I mean?

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00:57:16,520 --> 00:57:17,520

It's, it's like that.

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00:57:17,520 --> 00:57:21,880

So in the world of comedy, obviously that the parameters are exactly where you're exploring,

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00:57:21,880 --> 00:57:25,920

you know, the South parks and Daniel Tosh and some of these, you know, which I think

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00:57:25,920 --> 00:57:30,320

South Park is hilarious because the fact that they haven't been canceled when they are,

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00:57:30,320 --> 00:57:34,600

you know, literally putting pushing the balls from all areas, I think maybe that's the key.

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00:57:34,600 --> 00:57:36,600

They push all the walls.

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00:57:36,600 --> 00:57:38,680

Yeah, amazing.

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00:57:38,680 --> 00:57:39,800

But so what about that?

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00:57:39,800 --> 00:57:45,880

I mean, between the shows and the films and also your live comedy, have, yeah, has there

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00:57:45,880 --> 00:57:46,920

been a resistance?

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00:57:46,920 --> 00:57:50,800

Have you found the environment changing or have you just stayed doing what you've done

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00:57:50,800 --> 00:57:52,400

and it just keeps working?

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00:57:52,400 --> 00:57:55,760

Yeah, I think mostly we say stay where we are.

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00:57:55,760 --> 00:57:56,760

I get it.

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00:57:56,760 --> 00:58:03,520

I get it that people maybe feel that the room is shrinking a little bit or whatever.

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00:58:03,520 --> 00:58:04,520

I don't know.

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00:58:04,520 --> 00:58:10,440

I've always in the guys that we work with here in Tacoma, it's always interesting to

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00:58:10,440 --> 00:58:13,160

find how to get around those problems.

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00:58:13,160 --> 00:58:15,080

I always find that to be the fun challenge.

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00:58:15,080 --> 00:58:22,600

You know, it's like, I think, you know, there's definitely this feeling that, you know, that

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00:58:22,600 --> 00:58:26,680

maybe people maybe are over sensitive or whatever, but I feel like we've been able to navigate

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00:58:26,680 --> 00:58:29,160

that and still find all the funny things.

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00:58:29,160 --> 00:58:32,480

I think there's still plenty of funny out there and I think there's still plenty of

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00:58:32,480 --> 00:58:35,360

things that you can do.

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00:58:35,360 --> 00:58:39,640

And so, you know, I know there are a lot of writers and comics and we're kind of wring

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00:58:39,640 --> 00:58:43,680

their hands about, you know, you know, I'm being kind of restrained from doing what I

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00:58:43,680 --> 00:58:44,680

want to do.

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00:58:44,680 --> 00:58:48,680

And I guess I just never have felt that necessarily.

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00:58:48,680 --> 00:58:55,240

And you know, maybe it is another thing I think about it is that if you are generally

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00:58:55,240 --> 00:58:58,760

a good natured person, you can get away with more.

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00:58:58,760 --> 00:58:59,760

You know what I mean?

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00:58:59,760 --> 00:59:05,240

Like if you are a firebrand or and you are known for, you know, throwing those bombs

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00:59:05,240 --> 00:59:07,600

and whatever, people are going to focus on you.

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00:59:07,600 --> 00:59:10,520

And when you do it, they're going to attack you.

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00:59:10,520 --> 00:59:15,600

But like I said, our angle has always been, hey, we're nice guys and we're good guys.

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00:59:15,600 --> 00:59:22,960

And if every once in a while you throw something out there that maybe is questionable in, you

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00:59:22,960 --> 00:59:28,800

know, whether, you know, whatever it is, I think people give you some leeway or at least

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00:59:28,800 --> 00:59:30,440

that's what I found for us.

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00:59:30,440 --> 00:59:35,960

You know, I mean, there are definitely some jokes that we have made, you know, in stand

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00:59:35,960 --> 00:59:38,880

up or whatever, like, oh, boy, there's there's where we're getting canceled.

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00:59:38,880 --> 00:59:40,780

You know, it doesn't happen.

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00:59:40,780 --> 00:59:45,440

And I think part of it is because, you know, we're not mean-spirited guys, you know, so

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00:59:45,440 --> 00:59:47,040

maybe that's maybe that's a good thing.

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00:59:47,040 --> 00:59:48,040

I don't know.

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00:59:48,040 --> 00:59:49,040

Maybe that's a lesson.

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00:59:49,040 --> 00:59:50,040

Absolutely.

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00:59:50,040 --> 00:59:57,400

I did the film, like I said, I did a TV show as well, two TV shows on a history channel

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00:59:57,400 --> 01:00:02,600

portraying a pirate that looked like Brian May from Queen.

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01:00:02,600 --> 01:00:06,800

And it was such a bizarre experience because, you know, it's so steep.

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01:00:06,800 --> 01:00:09,760

Yeah, and terrible.

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01:00:09,760 --> 01:00:15,320

And add to the fact that I'm the world's worst actor as well, which is why I got in the stunts.

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01:00:15,320 --> 01:00:17,120

But but then you do the live show.

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01:00:17,120 --> 01:00:21,280

That's what I did most of the stunts with was live shows in Orlando and L.A., you know,

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01:00:21,280 --> 01:00:22,280

Bueno Park and all these areas.

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01:00:22,280 --> 01:00:23,280

Right.

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01:00:23,280 --> 01:00:25,920

We had a bunch of guys that we did that we knew who did this stuff.

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01:00:25,920 --> 01:00:26,920

Yeah.

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01:00:26,920 --> 01:00:29,240

I mean, it's a great on ramp for for a lot of things.

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01:00:29,240 --> 01:00:34,880

But there was no comparison when you do a live stunt show, a pirate show, you know,

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01:00:34,880 --> 01:00:39,520

a show in Universal, whatever it is, you immediately get that audience reaction.

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01:00:39,520 --> 01:00:44,280

But then when you're on a set, you know, especially a huge production, you know, you you do it

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01:00:44,280 --> 01:00:46,600

and then it takes an hour to reset and you do it again.

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01:00:46,600 --> 01:00:47,600

And there's no real feedback.

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01:00:47,600 --> 01:00:52,360

And I've heard a lot of people, you know, high level actors say they have no idea how

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01:00:52,360 --> 01:00:55,560

the film is going to turn out because they're not in charge of editing or anything.

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01:00:55,560 --> 01:00:56,920

So, you know, it could be amazing.

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01:00:56,920 --> 01:00:57,920

It could be terrible.

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01:00:57,920 --> 01:01:01,400

And they put the exact same performance on.

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01:01:01,400 --> 01:01:06,840

What is it that you love about the live stand up compared to what you're putting on screen?

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01:01:06,840 --> 01:01:11,440

Well, I think that's the truth is that, you know, the immediate reaction, you know, I

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01:01:11,440 --> 01:01:13,680

mean, there's nothing like that.

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01:01:13,680 --> 01:01:20,520

You know, and and it's like also the experimental kind of atmosphere to fix things.

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01:01:20,520 --> 01:01:26,400

So like if I have five shows in a weekend, I'll try a joke out the first night.

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01:01:26,400 --> 01:01:27,620

Doesn't quite work.

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01:01:27,620 --> 01:01:33,160

I can change it, see if it works, you know, eight hours later, 12 hours later.

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01:01:33,160 --> 01:01:34,560

If it doesn't work, I can change it.

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01:01:34,560 --> 01:01:38,760

I can, you know, there are great things about being able to work that you can't do that

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01:01:38,760 --> 01:01:39,760

in the TV show.

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01:01:39,760 --> 01:01:42,320

You have to do that through editing or in the movie.

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01:01:42,320 --> 01:01:48,640

You do this through editing, but the ability to do that live and to know, you know, there

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01:01:48,640 --> 01:01:49,640

are jokes that people laugh at.

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01:01:49,640 --> 01:01:50,640

You have no reason why they're laughing.

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01:01:50,640 --> 01:01:52,760

You have no understanding as to why they're laughing.

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01:01:52,760 --> 01:01:54,920

It's like, did they laugh at that joke?

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01:01:54,920 --> 01:01:55,920

OK.

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01:01:55,920 --> 01:01:58,720

And then you find those jokes that always work like that.

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01:01:58,720 --> 01:02:02,160

And those are the great things about stand up is like when you hit those moments and

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01:02:02,160 --> 01:02:07,160

you know that you have automatic reaction that you're going to get, you know, it's

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01:02:07,160 --> 01:02:11,560

much more of a much more of a crapshoot in TVs and worse in movies like TV.

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01:02:11,560 --> 01:02:16,000

At least you can you can throw a shitload of jokes at the wall.

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01:02:16,000 --> 01:02:18,080

You know, it's like we've done this all the time.

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01:02:18,080 --> 01:02:19,080

It's like, well, you know what?

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01:02:19,080 --> 01:02:22,240

If that one doesn't hit, the next one will, you know, and, you know, if that doesn't hit,

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01:02:22,240 --> 01:02:26,520

then episode two, three, four, five, whatever for a movie, it becomes very precious.

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01:02:26,520 --> 01:02:30,640

And that's why you end up, you know, test screening things and reediting them and stuff

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01:02:30,640 --> 01:02:32,240

like that.

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01:02:32,240 --> 01:02:35,560

That's the beauty of live comedy is that you don't have to have that, you know, and that's

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01:02:35,560 --> 01:02:42,560

all you can be much more topical or much more, you know, you can make fun of something that

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01:02:42,560 --> 01:02:43,560

happened yesterday.

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01:02:43,560 --> 01:02:49,880

You know, you know, a show like Tacoma will put like a topical joke in it and then the

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01:02:49,880 --> 01:02:51,560

world will not see it for a year.

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01:02:51,560 --> 01:02:53,880

And then that joke's bullshit.

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01:02:53,880 --> 01:02:56,760

You know, it doesn't it doesn't mean anything.

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01:02:56,760 --> 01:03:02,840

And you can't, you know, live comedy is so much better than that.

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01:03:02,840 --> 01:03:06,840

And so, you know, I love live comedy, but I do definitely I love make part of it.

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01:03:06,840 --> 01:03:11,680

Why I love making the TV shows and the movies is because I am in all the steps.

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01:03:11,680 --> 01:03:16,240

You know, it's like you make a TV show, an actor, you shoot it a year ago and then you

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01:03:16,240 --> 01:03:17,240

never see it.

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01:03:17,240 --> 01:03:19,440

But for me, I it's my life every day.

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01:03:19,440 --> 01:03:20,440

Right.

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01:03:20,440 --> 01:03:23,600

So I'm in the edit room every day and I'm doing this, this and this.

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01:03:23,600 --> 01:03:28,920

And yeah, as the actor, you haven't thought about it in a year, but I have been with it

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01:03:28,920 --> 01:03:32,440

the whole time and I'm crafting it and figuring out how to make it work.

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01:03:32,440 --> 01:03:36,520

And so that's still very satisfying to me, you know.

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01:03:36,520 --> 01:03:40,920

But I get it why, you know, actors and comics and stuff love love the live comedy.

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01:03:40,920 --> 01:03:41,920

And I like it, too.

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01:03:41,920 --> 01:03:44,920

I just like traveling around.

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01:03:44,920 --> 01:03:49,320

Traveling around was the biggest pain in the ass to me of doing live comedy.

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01:03:49,320 --> 01:03:52,040

And let me know I did it for 10 years, you know.

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01:03:52,040 --> 01:04:00,240

But you know, I guess I if I have my druthers, I would stick with making TV shows.

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01:04:00,240 --> 01:04:04,000

You know, I love that part of it.

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01:04:04,000 --> 01:04:08,100

You mentioned about a lot of the stories you just couldn't make into an episode just because

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01:04:08,100 --> 01:04:09,200

of the darkness or whatever.

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01:04:09,200 --> 01:04:13,520

Is there one story that you've heard either from your cousin or some other firefighter

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01:04:13,520 --> 01:04:18,480

that you wish you could but you couldn't but you can tell it here?

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01:04:18,480 --> 01:04:24,720

You know, I don't know all the ins and outs of this, but cousin Bill had a he always had

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01:04:24,720 --> 01:04:30,320

he wanted us to make a an episode about I guess an incident.

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01:04:30,320 --> 01:04:31,600

I can't remember what parade it was.

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01:04:31,600 --> 01:04:35,920

It might have been the St. Patrick's Day parade in Boston about guys going there and getting

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01:04:35,920 --> 01:04:42,600

you know, just wasted and ended up in the back of a of a police van, you know.

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01:04:42,600 --> 01:04:46,120

And he always wanted us to make like a parade episode where guys get drunk.

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01:04:46,120 --> 01:04:49,280

And part of it was like, dude, we can't make a parade episode because we can't pay for

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01:04:49,280 --> 01:04:50,280

it.

1120

01:04:50,280 --> 01:04:51,280

Like we can't.

1121

01:04:51,280 --> 01:04:52,680

You know, we don't we don't.

1122

01:04:52,680 --> 01:04:55,480

It's too big, you know.

1123

01:04:55,480 --> 01:04:57,320

But you know, there was there was that thing.

1124

01:04:57,320 --> 01:05:01,840

There were those kind of things, those kind of debaucherous kind of things, which we tried

1125

01:05:01,840 --> 01:05:06,520

to kind of keep a little of a lid on.

1126

01:05:06,520 --> 01:05:12,320

And then, yeah, I think the other stories were just the kind of much more traumatic

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01:05:12,320 --> 01:05:13,320

stories, you know.

1128

01:05:13,320 --> 01:05:18,560

And it was like, you know, the people that you found or the people you deal with or,

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01:05:18,560 --> 01:05:24,320

you know, a lot of their stories were about drug dependency or people, you know, that

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01:05:24,320 --> 01:05:27,280

kind of stuff or people were strung out on this or whatever.

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01:05:27,280 --> 01:05:33,640

And it just, you know, it just didn't fit in the in the world that we were trying to

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01:05:33,640 --> 01:05:36,640

create, you know.

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01:05:36,640 --> 01:05:38,440

So it was more of that kind of stuff.

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01:05:38,440 --> 01:05:42,240

But then there were just, you know, there were, you know, great stories that we heard

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01:05:42,240 --> 01:05:46,080

that we would put in, you know, it's like I remember we were at a firefighter event in

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01:05:46,080 --> 01:05:51,040

Austin and we were meeting with a bunch of guys, having a great time talking to guys

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01:05:51,040 --> 01:05:53,960

and hearing stories.

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01:05:53,960 --> 01:05:57,080

And one guy told us a story about when he was a rookie.

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01:05:57,080 --> 01:06:00,800

And we've talked about the story before, so you may have heard it.

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01:06:00,800 --> 01:06:08,900

And he was he was a proby and he joined the shift and all the guys had these tattoos.

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01:06:08,900 --> 01:06:10,160

And this is the guy telling us his true story.

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01:06:10,160 --> 01:06:13,960

And all these guys had these tattoos, these goofy tattoos that were representative of their

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01:06:13,960 --> 01:06:17,560

shift like, I know, the unicorn or that was, I don't know.

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01:06:17,560 --> 01:06:19,480

And they told the guy, hey, these are our shift tattoos.

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01:06:19,480 --> 01:06:22,200

You have to go get this tattoo.

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01:06:22,200 --> 01:06:26,520

And he was like, OK, so he goes and he gets the tattoo and he comes back and shows him

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01:06:26,520 --> 01:06:32,160

the tattoo and all the other guys wipe theirs off because they were temp tattoos.

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01:06:32,160 --> 01:06:37,280

And they go get this real stupid tattoo on his arm.

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01:06:37,280 --> 01:06:40,280

And we were like, oh, my God, that's a hell of a prank.

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01:06:40,280 --> 01:06:41,380

You know, that's a thing.

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01:06:41,380 --> 01:06:48,560

And so, boom, we wrote that episode and had a great kind of a runner thing about that.

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01:06:48,560 --> 01:06:54,400

And but those are kind of those real stories which you get from these guys that are perfect.

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01:06:54,400 --> 01:06:58,960

You know, it fits fits so well, you know, and cousin Bill would tell us that these stories,

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01:06:58,960 --> 01:07:03,160

you know, it's like I think we put it in either the first or maybe the third.

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01:07:03,160 --> 01:07:06,800

I can't remember which episode we put it in, maybe the third episode.

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01:07:06,800 --> 01:07:15,200

You know, the the story about how, you know, a guy had to give mouth to mouth to a cat.

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01:07:15,200 --> 01:07:19,320

It's like they rescued a cat from a they rescued a bunch of people and the cat from a burning

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01:07:19,320 --> 01:07:24,000

building and the firefighters walk out and they're doing CPR on someone and they get

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01:07:24,000 --> 01:07:28,520

a little closer and they realize the guy's trying to revive a cat.

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01:07:28,520 --> 01:07:30,800

And we thought that was the greatest thing in the world.

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01:07:30,800 --> 01:07:33,160

We put that in that episode.

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01:07:33,160 --> 01:07:37,120

And you know, the more you talk to the firefighters, every one of them has got 100 stories, you

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01:07:37,120 --> 01:07:39,040

know, that are just hysterical.

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01:07:39,040 --> 01:07:41,280

I'm sure you have a million funny stories.

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01:07:41,280 --> 01:07:43,480

I'm a terrible storyteller, but they're in there.

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01:07:43,480 --> 01:07:46,440

I just need someone else to tell them for me.

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01:07:46,440 --> 01:07:48,600

That's what you need.

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01:07:48,600 --> 01:07:51,200

And so, you know, what we were finding is like, hey, can you make a TV show?

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01:07:51,200 --> 01:07:52,680

Yeah, yeah, we got millions.

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01:07:52,680 --> 01:07:54,280

We got a wealth of stories.

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01:07:54,280 --> 01:07:58,480

And, you know, we still have a, you know, a document that's like, you know, 40 pages

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01:07:58,480 --> 01:08:02,920

long of stories that just so funny to us, you know.

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01:08:02,920 --> 01:08:05,320

And every episode has one in them.

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01:08:05,320 --> 01:08:11,240

Well you talked about discovering this other side of our profession, you know, the, I guess

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01:08:11,240 --> 01:08:15,360

you could say the price of service.

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01:08:15,360 --> 01:08:20,000

Were you aware of that through having your cousin being in that world or was that something

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01:08:20,000 --> 01:08:23,760

that started to kind of unfold as you started talking to more and more of our profession?

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01:08:23,760 --> 01:08:30,640

Oh, it's definitely after the fact, after they unfold, you know, I mean, I think I didn't

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01:08:30,640 --> 01:08:36,840

realize, you know, how prevalent and important it was to the community now in terms of, you

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01:08:36,840 --> 01:08:43,640

know, you know, people's mental health and making sure that people are okay on the job

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01:08:43,640 --> 01:08:44,640

and that kind of stuff, you know.

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01:08:44,640 --> 01:08:49,720

It's like, you know, my cousin would tell stories about guys who committed suicide or

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01:08:49,720 --> 01:08:53,840

guys who, you know, just end up couldn't deal with it anymore.

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01:08:53,840 --> 01:08:57,240

And, you know, I don't think growing up, you heard those stories, you know, I don't think

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01:08:57,240 --> 01:09:02,480

you heard that that was the case, but I think now in a good way, I think that those stories

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01:09:02,480 --> 01:09:09,480

are out there now so that people can, you know, I mean, we're just actors, you know,

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01:09:09,480 --> 01:09:13,160

it's amazing to think that, you know, day in and day out, these guys see these things

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01:09:13,160 --> 01:09:17,480

and they see kind of the worst things and whether it's, you know, mangled bodies in

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01:09:17,480 --> 01:09:22,840

a car accident or whatever it is, you know, it's like they see the worst underbelly of

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01:09:22,840 --> 01:09:26,080

our world.

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01:09:26,080 --> 01:09:32,840

And it's going to mess with your head, you know, and I think, you know, I didn't definitely

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01:09:32,840 --> 01:09:36,640

did not appreciate that until, you know, cousin Bill kind of would bring things to light for

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01:09:36,640 --> 01:09:38,080

us and say, oh, here's what we do.

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01:09:38,080 --> 01:09:39,720

And, you know, here's how we deal with that.

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01:09:39,720 --> 01:09:40,880

And we're trying to deal with that.

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01:09:40,880 --> 01:09:49,320

And we're trying to counter the old school idea or suck it up and, you know, and, you

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01:09:49,320 --> 01:09:54,240

know, deal with it, you know, that they're trying to counter that kind of mentality now,

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01:09:54,240 --> 01:09:55,240

which I think is a great thing.

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01:09:55,240 --> 01:09:57,400

I think that's seems to me what's important.

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01:09:57,400 --> 01:09:59,920

So, you know, toss it was like, let's not make fun of that.

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01:09:59,920 --> 01:10:08,000

Let's not, you know, let's support that and, you know, maybe put like a kind of a fun or

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01:10:08,000 --> 01:10:12,960

if you can put a fun spin on something like that, then that's what you try to do, I guess.

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01:10:12,960 --> 01:10:13,960

Yeah.

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01:10:13,960 --> 01:10:17,280

But I don't know, do you find me like, do you find that that's changed in your career?

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01:10:17,280 --> 01:10:21,480

Like over the, you know, over the course of your career that the perception of that kind

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01:10:21,480 --> 01:10:22,480

of stuff has changed?

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01:10:22,480 --> 01:10:24,480

Yeah, no, it's literally.

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01:10:24,480 --> 01:10:27,880

I would say only.

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01:10:27,880 --> 01:10:31,720

I don't know if it's even nine years ago that we really started talking about it.

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01:10:31,720 --> 01:10:35,400

This is one of the reasons why I started the podcast, you know, after seeing a lot of the

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01:10:35,400 --> 01:10:40,240

dark side going to the funerals, you know, and realizing that we were just doing the

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01:10:40,240 --> 01:10:41,680

same thing over and over again.

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01:10:41,680 --> 01:10:46,240

And what's what's strange about the American Fire Service is we're so siloed, you know,

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01:10:46,240 --> 01:10:49,880

you got a city and they won't talk, which you, you know, you kind of illustrate in the

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01:10:49,880 --> 01:10:53,080

show, you know, police and fire don't like each other, city and county don't like each

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01:10:53,080 --> 01:10:54,080

other.

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01:10:54,080 --> 01:10:55,960

So there's no knowledge exchange.

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01:10:55,960 --> 01:10:58,440

So everyone's kind of keeping themselves to themselves.

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01:10:58,440 --> 01:11:01,080

Everyone's reinventing the wheel.

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01:11:01,080 --> 01:11:05,720

But what I had was unusual is I had a very gypsy view to the fire service.

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01:11:05,720 --> 01:11:07,120

I started in the Miami area.

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01:11:07,120 --> 01:11:13,080

I trained in Orlando, worked in Miami, then California for a few years, then Orange County,

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01:11:13,080 --> 01:11:17,240

which is the county that Orlando is in, and then Reedy Creek, which protects Disney World

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01:11:17,240 --> 01:11:18,240

the last five.

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01:11:18,240 --> 01:11:22,740

So it's a very, you know, 10,000 foot view on everything.

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01:11:22,740 --> 01:11:27,840

But so, you know, when my generation went in and generations before, it was all about

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01:11:27,840 --> 01:11:31,860

service and sacrifice, courage and fitness and all the things.

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01:11:31,860 --> 01:11:36,920

But then as you get into this point and they're like, wow, you know, people aren't doing well,

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01:11:36,920 --> 01:11:40,600

you know, we're so we're so beat down and tired that a lot of times it's hard for us

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01:11:40,600 --> 01:11:43,920

to even have that realization because all we're thinking about is the next call, the

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01:11:43,920 --> 01:11:47,600

next shift, you know, my kid's birthday party, whatever it is.

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01:11:47,600 --> 01:11:52,600

So really, when I transitioned out five years ago, just to do this, to really try and be

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01:11:52,600 --> 01:11:58,000

the voice for this profession and networking with people from all over the world, you realize

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01:11:58,000 --> 01:11:59,720

this is a this is a global issue.

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01:11:59,720 --> 01:12:03,080

You know, the Australian firefighters, the British firefighters, they're all going through

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01:12:03,080 --> 01:12:04,080

a lot of these.

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01:12:04,080 --> 01:12:09,040

And so now it's like now that we're talking about it, now we actually have to act and

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01:12:09,040 --> 01:12:11,120

not trying to be doom and gloom on this conversation.

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01:12:11,120 --> 01:12:13,080

But at the moment, there's a hiring crisis, too.

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01:12:13,080 --> 01:12:18,720

And I think it's because of this people are now understanding the whole picture.

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01:12:18,720 --> 01:12:23,320

And unless we change it, we aren't going to have people lining up to do this job anymore,

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01:12:23,320 --> 01:12:27,400

because even though it's the most incredible profession, which is why I advocate years

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01:12:27,400 --> 01:12:33,200

after taking the uniform off, there are some things that are really detrimental to the

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01:12:33,200 --> 01:12:37,880

the human and that person's family as well that we have to address to put it back to

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01:12:37,880 --> 01:12:41,440

this incredible profession that we all adore.

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01:12:41,440 --> 01:12:42,760

Yeah.

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01:12:42,760 --> 01:12:50,960

And it feels like it's also, you know, yeah, trying to overcome the the mindset of the

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01:12:50,960 --> 01:12:57,200

old school is a big, huge part of it.

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01:12:57,200 --> 01:13:02,960

And you know, I think, you know, just in talking to Bill and when he was a rookie, yeah, like

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01:13:02,960 --> 01:13:05,720

you said, it's in the last 10 years, you know.

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01:13:05,720 --> 01:13:12,600

And then in his thing, like from an administrative point of view, it's those issues that

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01:13:12,600 --> 01:13:20,640

dominated his last few years because the perception were changing and things were coming out much

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01:13:20,640 --> 01:13:23,560

more about how to deal with this stuff.

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01:13:23,560 --> 01:13:27,520

And I found it fascinating.

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01:13:27,520 --> 01:13:30,040

And that's kind of why we want to make an episode about it, but realize that it was

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01:13:30,040 --> 01:13:35,560

difficult to navigate for us in terms of trying to keep it light and fun and that kind of

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01:13:35,560 --> 01:13:36,560

thing.

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01:13:36,560 --> 01:13:41,240

But I don't know, hopefully we can just provide some sort of enjoyment for the firefighters

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01:13:41,240 --> 01:13:47,200

anyway, just kind of a light release for the guys.

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01:13:47,200 --> 01:13:51,720

Well question for you, I want to round off, but just one last kind of lens from you, because

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01:13:51,720 --> 01:13:55,140

you do sit in a unique place at the moment.

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01:13:55,140 --> 01:13:59,080

We have done a terrible job of storytelling what we do in this profession.

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01:13:59,080 --> 01:14:03,200

I would say only the brave, you know, obviously back draft, ladder 49 and probably about the

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01:14:03,200 --> 01:14:06,000

only ones out there that really reflect what we do.

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01:14:06,000 --> 01:14:10,360

And even someone pointed out recently, which was a very good point, even the reality television

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01:14:10,360 --> 01:14:14,840

shows that feature fire, the cardiac arrest always survives.

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01:14:14,840 --> 01:14:17,080

You know, they always get the person out the car, you know.

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01:14:17,080 --> 01:14:22,960

So again, it's kind of showing our successes only.

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01:14:22,960 --> 01:14:28,560

How do we as a profession do a better job of branding ourselves, of educating the public

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01:14:28,560 --> 01:14:31,640

on what we actually do?

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01:14:31,640 --> 01:14:35,160

Well yeah, I mean, I think, you know, and I can only speak from the kind of this, this

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01:14:35,160 --> 01:14:40,680

kind of like, I guess, lighter perspective of it.

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01:14:40,680 --> 01:14:42,440

But it kind of goes back to what I was saying earlier.

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01:14:42,440 --> 01:14:48,440

It's like, part of the nice thing about Tacoma, the TV show is showing these firefighters

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01:14:48,440 --> 01:14:55,040

as real people, you know, it's showing them not, you know, doing the call or fighting

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01:14:55,040 --> 01:14:56,040

the fire.

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01:14:56,040 --> 01:15:02,840

It's them in their lives and how they're real people who have fun and have friends and family

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01:15:02,840 --> 01:15:03,840

and that kind of stuff.

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01:15:03,840 --> 01:15:12,320

I mean, you know, I feel like, you know, that helps the perception of firefighters in general.

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01:15:12,320 --> 01:15:16,440

It's like, you know, the more we puncture the sense of like, these guys are invincible

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01:15:16,440 --> 01:15:19,360

heroes and more that they are real people.

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01:15:19,360 --> 01:15:21,120

I think it helps everybody.

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01:15:21,120 --> 01:15:27,620

And I think, you know, we try to do that in our very kind of light, you know, non-messagey

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01:15:27,620 --> 01:15:28,840

kind of way, you know.

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01:15:28,840 --> 01:15:36,040

But I think that helps the greater message in the sense that, you know, if people can

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01:15:36,040 --> 01:15:41,640

connect with firefighters as humans, you know, I think that helps everyone's perceptions

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01:15:41,640 --> 01:15:42,640

more.

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01:15:42,640 --> 01:15:45,440

It helps push the world forward, you know.

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01:15:45,440 --> 01:15:46,440

Absolutely.

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01:15:46,440 --> 01:15:47,440

I don't know.

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01:15:47,440 --> 01:15:49,800

That's just kind of my perspective, I guess.

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01:15:49,800 --> 01:15:50,800

Yeah.

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01:15:50,800 --> 01:15:51,800

Well, I mean, I appreciate everyone's perspective.

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01:15:51,800 --> 01:15:55,160

I have people that are in literally branding and business and, you know, people entertainment.

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01:15:55,160 --> 01:15:56,160

It doesn't matter.

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01:15:56,160 --> 01:15:58,960

Obviously, the way we've been doing it isn't working very well.

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01:15:58,960 --> 01:16:03,640

So I'm open to all suggestions, you know, people that might experience it.

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01:16:03,640 --> 01:16:06,760

Don't you think it's like, it is progressing, don't you think?

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01:16:06,760 --> 01:16:10,200

I mean, it's getting, it's better than it was, don't you think?

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01:16:10,200 --> 01:16:11,200

We're starting to.

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01:16:11,200 --> 01:16:12,760

The thing is, I live in an echo chamber.

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01:16:12,760 --> 01:16:14,320

So I look around and go, oh, everyone gets it.

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01:16:14,320 --> 01:16:15,320

And I forget.

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01:16:15,320 --> 01:16:20,200

That's because in the show, everyone's coming on because they've brought solutions.

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01:16:20,200 --> 01:16:23,880

But I think as long as you start, it's the same as to parallel.

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01:16:23,880 --> 01:16:28,720

It's the same with the division that we've seen forced upon the US from both sides the

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01:16:28,720 --> 01:16:31,360
last eight years.

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01:16:31,360 --> 01:16:37,560
It's the more that we can pull people back into, you know, the middle, you know, the

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01:16:37,560 --> 01:16:40,060
more of the paradigm shift that you can create.

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01:16:40,060 --> 01:16:42,600
So you're not trying to fix everyone straight away.

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01:16:42,600 --> 01:16:48,680
But if you can just grab one more department, one more firefighter and keep pushing the

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01:16:48,680 --> 01:16:52,680
improvements, then eventually there will be a tidal wave and it'll sweep over the whole

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01:16:52,680 --> 01:16:54,760
country and everyone will benefit.

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01:16:54,760 --> 01:17:02,760
No, I think that's totally true is that the more you bring people who disagree or have

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01:17:02,760 --> 01:17:09,080
opposing opinions or whatever together for, you know, the communal good.

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01:17:09,080 --> 01:17:10,560
And you know, I think that's a good thing.

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01:17:10,560 --> 01:17:14,960
It's like, you know, we've always joked about for us, even our comedy is very purple in

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01:17:14,960 --> 01:17:21,080

the sense that, you know, we have, you know, our red state fans and we have our blue state

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01:17:21,080 --> 01:17:25,240

fans, you know, and it's, you know, we have guys in uniform and we have stoners and we

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01:17:25,240 --> 01:17:28,320

put them in the same room together and everyone has a big laugh.

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01:17:28,320 --> 01:17:34,240

And I think that's a helpful thing, you know, and I think it's probably the same thing for

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01:17:34,240 --> 01:17:35,240

Tacoma.

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01:17:35,240 --> 01:17:39,960

We have, you know, fans on all spectrum of the political view, but they all can watch

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01:17:39,960 --> 01:17:43,020

the show and have a good laugh at it.

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01:17:43,020 --> 01:17:50,640

And to me, it's that those things that remind us that we can get past the divisiveness and

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01:17:50,640 --> 01:17:52,720

enjoy each other despite our differences.

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01:17:52,720 --> 01:17:53,720

Yeah.

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01:17:53,720 --> 01:17:54,720

100%.

1329

01:17:54,720 --> 01:17:55,720

We got way more in common than we have difference.

1330

01:17:55,720 --> 01:17:59,120

And the most of the differences you can celebrate anyway, because they're unique.

1331

01:17:59,120 --> 01:18:00,120

Yeah.

1332

01:18:00,120 --> 01:18:01,560

Everyone can laugh at a fart joke.

1333

01:18:01,560 --> 01:18:02,560

100%.

1334

01:18:02,560 --> 01:18:03,560

100%.

1335

01:18:03,560 --> 01:18:04,560

Yeah.

1336

01:18:04,560 --> 01:18:06,920

And even a laughing baby, how can you not smile when a baby starts laughing?

1337

01:18:06,920 --> 01:18:07,920

You know what I mean?

1338

01:18:07,920 --> 01:18:08,920

That's contagious.

1339

01:18:08,920 --> 01:18:16,920

So you've got four seasons on Netflix now, was True TV now all streaming on Netflix.

1340

01:18:16,920 --> 01:18:20,520

I'm assuming you're probably going to be creating more seasons of that.

1341

01:18:20,520 --> 01:18:24,680

Talk to me about what's coming as far as Tacoma and if you have anything else in the pipeline

1342

01:18:24,680 --> 01:18:26,800

for Broken Lizard.

1343

01:18:26,800 --> 01:18:27,800

I hope so.

1344

01:18:27,800 --> 01:18:29,440

I mean, I hope we get to make more.

1345

01:18:29,440 --> 01:18:34,200

You know, we made these four seasons and I think, you know, whatever, not to get in the

1346

01:18:34,200 --> 01:18:40,040

weeds of the industry, the company that we've worked for has been taken over four times

1347

01:18:40,040 --> 01:18:42,320

and we've had four hierarchy shifts.

1348

01:18:42,320 --> 01:18:47,600

And each time, I think, I don't know, the new person cares a little bit less about us.

1349

01:18:47,600 --> 01:18:51,840

So we've been kind of overcoming that, but luckily we've been doing the seasons.

1350

01:18:51,840 --> 01:18:54,620

And then this Netflix thing gives us a lot of good exposure.

1351

01:18:54,620 --> 01:18:58,000

So hopefully all that will lead to us making more Tacomas.

1352

01:18:58,000 --> 01:19:03,320

Because like I said, we got to stack more of firefighter stories that we want to tell.

1353

01:19:03,320 --> 01:19:07,600

And hopefully we'll get that opportunity.

1354

01:19:07,600 --> 01:19:09,280

We'll see how this Netflix thing shakes out.

1355

01:19:09,280 --> 01:19:22,440

And then at the same time right now, we're riding SuperTubers 3 and we hopefully, I would

1356

01:19:22,440 --> 01:19:25,500

imagine maybe later this year, we'll try to shoot that.

1357

01:19:25,500 --> 01:19:28,680

It's weird because, you know, for those who don't know, we're coming out of these strikes.

1358

01:19:28,680 --> 01:19:34,840

You know, the industry has been kind of, had legs chopped out by these strikes that happened

1359

01:19:34,840 --> 01:19:37,560

last year and we're just coming out of it in a few months.

1360

01:19:37,560 --> 01:19:41,560

So it's a weird landscape where people are trying to figure out what's still alive, what's

1361

01:19:41,560 --> 01:19:46,480

dead, what can happen, how we can move forward, how the world has changed.

1362

01:19:46,480 --> 01:19:49,280

But SuperTubers 3 seems to be on track for us to be able to do that.

1363

01:19:49,280 --> 01:19:52,520

That's kind of the next big broken lizard project.

1364

01:19:52,520 --> 01:19:55,680

And then, yeah, Steve and I are selling some other shows.

1365

01:19:55,680 --> 01:19:58,640

You know, we've been working on a couple of things.

1366

01:19:58,640 --> 01:20:02,760

We've been working on a military show actually, Steve and I, based on a lot of stories and

1367

01:20:02,760 --> 01:20:07,360

a lot of friends we've made in the military, based on, you know, guys who like our stuff.

1368

01:20:07,360 --> 01:20:13,600

And so we've been working on that and we've been doing this podcast, we've been doing

1369

01:20:13,600 --> 01:20:15,480

this companion podcast, Talkoma.

1370

01:20:15,480 --> 01:20:19,920

It's a video podcast we've been doing, which is on YouTube.

1371

01:20:19,920 --> 01:20:23,120

And I don't know, we're trying to stay busy.

1372

01:20:23,120 --> 01:20:25,120

You know, I'd love to make more Tacomas.

1373

01:20:25,120 --> 01:20:27,400

That's kind of the big thing.

1374

01:20:27,400 --> 01:20:32,640

Now the podcast, Talkoma, you advise people watch an episode, then listen to the podcast?

1375

01:20:32,640 --> 01:20:34,080

Yeah, I think so.

1376

01:20:34,080 --> 01:20:35,080

Yeah.

1377

01:20:35,080 --> 01:20:40,160

So what happened was a couple years ago after we did season two, it was COVID, it was the

1378

01:20:40,160 --> 01:20:42,680

pandemic and everything shut down.

1379

01:20:42,680 --> 01:20:48,960

And our network, True TV and TBS, they had a lot of sports that they lost.

1380

01:20:48,960 --> 01:20:52,720

They had basketball and, you know, they had March Madness, they had baseball and all these

1381

01:20:52,720 --> 01:20:54,960

things got lost.

1382

01:20:54,960 --> 01:20:58,720

And so, you know, we were in some meeting with some executives and they were kind of

1383

01:20:58,720 --> 01:21:00,560

lamenting the fact they had nothing to put on the air.

1384

01:21:00,560 --> 01:21:06,120

And we said, well, you know, we've been thinking about this companion show called Talkoma,

1385

01:21:06,120 --> 01:21:09,240

where we talk about the episode, you know, and they kind of laughed at us like it was

1386

01:21:09,240 --> 01:21:10,600

the dumbest thing in the world.

1387

01:21:10,600 --> 01:21:14,120

And then about half an hour later, they called us up and said, were you guys serious about

1388

01:21:14,120 --> 01:21:15,120

that?

1389

01:21:15,120 --> 01:21:16,120

And we said, yeah, we were very serious.

1390

01:21:16,120 --> 01:21:18,140

And they said, okay, let's do it.

1391

01:21:18,140 --> 01:21:24,280

And so after season two, we did a companion piece, you know, like they do for like Walking

1392

01:21:24,280 --> 01:21:26,000

Dead or whatever.

1393

01:21:26,000 --> 01:21:30,120

And we put it right on after the episodes and people loved it because it was like, we

1394

01:21:30,120 --> 01:21:31,240

would tell real stories.

1395

01:21:31,240 --> 01:21:35,440

We would have, you know, cousin Bill on, we would have, you know, guests on and they would

1396

01:21:35,440 --> 01:21:37,960

talk about the firefighter stuff.

1397

01:21:37,960 --> 01:21:45,640

We had we found out one of our fans was Stipe Miosic, the UFC champion, who's a firefighter

1398

01:21:45,640 --> 01:21:47,280

in Ohio.

1399

01:21:47,280 --> 01:21:50,360

We had him on and it was a fun thing.

1400

01:21:50,360 --> 01:21:52,480

And so we decided we would do it again at the end of the season.

1401

01:21:52,480 --> 01:21:55,440

And then it got a little bit derailed by the strike.

1402

01:21:55,440 --> 01:21:58,680

And so now we've got to back up and running again.

1403

01:21:58,680 --> 01:22:02,600

So it's a thing that people kind of liked in the past and we brought it back.

1404

01:22:02,600 --> 01:22:05,440

So it's a video podcast that people can find on YouTube.

1405

01:22:05,440 --> 01:22:06,920

And it's a lot of fun.

1406

01:22:06,920 --> 01:22:11,240

We have guests and it's a lot of me and Lemmy making fun of each other.

1407

01:22:11,240 --> 01:22:15,160

But yeah, so we got that.

1408

01:22:15,160 --> 01:22:18,560

And then, yeah, we got our movie Quasi, which is still on Hulu too.

1409

01:22:18,560 --> 01:22:20,320

That's still kicking around on Hulu.

1410

01:22:20,320 --> 01:22:22,520

If people haven't seen that, check that out.

1411

01:22:22,520 --> 01:22:24,280

That's a little bit of a departure.

1412

01:22:24,280 --> 01:22:26,680

It's a medieval period piece.

1413

01:22:26,680 --> 01:22:30,840

With a chiropractic twist to it.

1414

01:22:30,840 --> 01:22:31,840

That's right.

1415

01:22:31,840 --> 01:22:34,680

So yeah, I mean, we got a lot of stuff in the hopper.

1416

01:22:34,680 --> 01:22:36,120

We're trying to stay busy.

1417

01:22:36,120 --> 01:22:37,120
Brilliant.

1418
01:22:37,120 --> 01:22:41,040
Well, I want to throw some quick closing questions at you before I let you go, if that's okay.

1419
01:22:41,040 --> 01:22:42,040
Yeah.

1420
01:22:42,040 --> 01:22:43,040
Okay.

1421
01:22:43,040 --> 01:22:44,040
All right.

1422
01:22:44,040 --> 01:22:45,440
First one, is there a book or are there books that you love to recommend?

1423
01:22:45,440 --> 01:22:50,280
It can be related to our discussion today or completely unrelated.

1424
01:22:50,280 --> 01:22:52,680
Books that I love to recommend.

1425
01:22:52,680 --> 01:22:55,560
Oh my gosh.

1426
01:22:55,560 --> 01:22:56,560
I'm terrible.

1427
01:22:56,560 --> 01:22:57,560
I'm terrible at reading.

1428

01:22:57,560 --> 01:23:02,360

My daughters keep giving me books to read and I've been trying to do a good job at that.

1429

01:23:02,360 --> 01:23:05,240

They read all these fantasy books now.

1430

01:23:05,240 --> 01:23:07,840

But I try to get them to read the Stephen King books.

1431

01:23:07,840 --> 01:23:10,640

I was always a big fan of those when I was a kid.

1432

01:23:10,640 --> 01:23:12,480

And then we compare notes.

1433

01:23:12,480 --> 01:23:16,280

They think all the books that I have read were outdated.

1434

01:23:16,280 --> 01:23:17,280

There's better stuff these days.

1435

01:23:17,280 --> 01:23:18,280

But I don't know.

1436

01:23:18,280 --> 01:23:24,400

I used to read a lot of scripts, man.

1437

01:23:24,400 --> 01:23:28,120

Have you read his book on writing because I read that right before I started my second

1438

01:23:28,120 --> 01:23:29,120

one.

1439

01:23:29,120 --> 01:23:30,120
I read it long ago.

1440
01:23:30,120 --> 01:23:31,120
Yeah, I read it long ago.

1441
01:23:31,120 --> 01:23:32,120
Yeah.

1442
01:23:32,120 --> 01:23:37,720
But like that guy wakes up at like 5 a.m. and he writes like for six or seven hours or whatever

1443
01:23:37,720 --> 01:23:38,720
every single day.

1444
01:23:38,720 --> 01:23:41,600
And I'm like, oh my God, God, if I could do that.

1445
01:23:41,600 --> 01:23:42,600
Yeah, I can't.

1446
01:23:42,600 --> 01:23:43,600
I would have a hundred books published.

1447
01:23:43,600 --> 01:23:44,600
You know?

1448
01:23:44,600 --> 01:23:45,600
Yeah.

1449
01:23:45,600 --> 01:23:48,800
It took me, I don't know, a long like two years to write my first one.

1450

01:23:48,800 --> 01:23:52,080

And I think about the year and a half mark of writing my second.

1451

01:23:52,080 --> 01:23:55,240

So clearly not even King.

1452

01:23:55,240 --> 01:23:56,920

I end up reading just biographies.

1453

01:23:56,920 --> 01:23:58,360

My kids can't understand it.

1454

01:23:58,360 --> 01:23:59,840

Like I just read biographies of people.

1455

01:23:59,840 --> 01:24:05,480

Like I just finished a biography of John Bonham, you know, the drummer for Led Zeppelin called

1456

01:24:05,480 --> 01:24:08,080

Beast, which was awesome.

1457

01:24:08,080 --> 01:24:10,680

That's an amazing story.

1458

01:24:10,680 --> 01:24:11,680

Yeah.

1459

01:24:11,680 --> 01:24:14,000

And my kids are like, what do you read biographies for?

1460

01:24:14,000 --> 01:24:15,000

I don't know.

1461

01:24:15,000 --> 01:24:16,000
Maybe because I'm old.

1462
01:24:16,000 --> 01:24:17,000
I don't know.

1463
01:24:17,000 --> 01:24:20,520
How they say truth is stranger than fiction a lot of times.

1464
01:24:20,520 --> 01:24:21,760
That's why I love this format.

1465
01:24:21,760 --> 01:24:24,120
You know, people's real lives are incredible.

1466
01:24:24,120 --> 01:24:25,560
You know, I know.

1467
01:24:25,560 --> 01:24:26,560
That's what we say.

1468
01:24:26,560 --> 01:24:30,120
It's like the stories that we get for firefighters, we couldn't possibly make them up.

1469
01:24:30,120 --> 01:24:31,120
You know what I mean?

1470
01:24:31,120 --> 01:24:34,320
The real things are just you couldn't possibly make them up.

1471
01:24:34,320 --> 01:24:35,320
Absolutely.

1472

01:24:35,320 --> 01:24:38,560

Well, we've talked about, obviously, all the films that you guys have made.

1473

01:24:38,560 --> 01:24:42,160

Are there films or documentaries that you love to recommend?

1474

01:24:42,160 --> 01:24:43,160

Yeah.

1475

01:24:43,160 --> 01:24:49,520

I mean, you know, I love I love a good comedy movie.

1476

01:24:49,520 --> 01:24:51,440

I love a good action movie, though.

1477

01:24:51,440 --> 01:24:53,000

I'm always a good action movie guy.

1478

01:24:53,000 --> 01:25:00,840

Like, let me I will joke about that, you know, you know, and you run through like the Schwarzenegger

1479

01:25:00,840 --> 01:25:04,240

and the Schwarzenegger resume.

1480

01:25:04,240 --> 01:25:05,920

We like to have a good laugh about that.

1481

01:25:05,920 --> 01:25:09,840

But I went to see look, you know, I don't claim to be very sophisticated, but I went

1482

01:25:09,840 --> 01:25:13,840

and saw Die Hard in the movie theater two weeks ago again.

1483

01:25:13,840 --> 01:25:17,880

And God damn, I love that movie.

1484

01:25:17,880 --> 01:25:19,200

So I'm a simple pleasure guy.

1485

01:25:19,200 --> 01:25:22,160

You know, I like I like a good action movie.

1486

01:25:22,160 --> 01:25:23,280

Brilliant.

1487

01:25:23,280 --> 01:25:24,520

What about guests?

1488

01:25:24,520 --> 01:25:29,160

Is there a person that you recommend to come on this show to speak to the first responders,

1489

01:25:29,160 --> 01:25:31,360

military and associate professionals of the world?

1490

01:25:31,360 --> 01:25:34,640

Yeah, I mean, well, whatever.

1491

01:25:34,640 --> 01:25:39,720

I know I've been talking about a lot, but cousin Bill is a guy who is a great guy to

1492

01:25:39,720 --> 01:25:40,720

chat with.

1493

01:25:40,720 --> 01:25:43,120

I mean, he has a zillion stories.

1494

01:25:43,120 --> 01:25:48,520

He's got, you know, a wealth of background in this world.

1495

01:25:48,520 --> 01:25:55,620

I think, you know, he's well versed in the issues, you know, that that the firefighters

1496

01:25:55,620 --> 01:25:57,480

face these days.

1497

01:25:57,480 --> 01:25:59,000

He's also running for office right now.

1498

01:25:59,000 --> 01:26:01,400

He's running for state representative in my mind.

1499

01:26:01,400 --> 01:26:02,400

Really?

1500

01:26:02,400 --> 01:26:03,400

Yeah.

1501

01:26:03,400 --> 01:26:04,400

Yeah.

1502

01:26:04,400 --> 01:26:06,320

So he's going to get a bigger voice.

1503

01:26:06,320 --> 01:26:10,620

But he's a great guy, you know, to to chat with about these things, I think.

1504

01:26:10,620 --> 01:26:12,000

And then, you know, we had Stipe on.

1505

01:26:12,000 --> 01:26:17,200

I don't know if you've ever met Stipe before, but he's such an amazing story.

1506

01:26:17,200 --> 01:26:20,440

You know, we had him on our podcast.

1507

01:26:20,440 --> 01:26:25,800

And here's a guy who's the UFC heavyweight champion of the world.

1508

01:26:25,800 --> 01:26:35,400

And yet he's, you know, scrubbing toilets as a probie, you know, and in the fire department.

1509

01:26:35,400 --> 01:26:39,120

And you know, he has great stories about, you know, they made him wear his heavyweight

1510

01:26:39,120 --> 01:26:44,880

belt while he scrubbed toilets.

1511

01:26:44,880 --> 01:26:49,520

And I don't know, I just the marrying of those two worlds was just great.

1512

01:26:49,520 --> 01:26:55,240

And it inspired us to write an episode where Stipe comes to visit our station.

1513

01:26:55,240 --> 01:27:00,840

And we shot that in the second season and or the third season.

1514

01:27:00,840 --> 01:27:03,200

And that was a blast.

1515

01:27:03,200 --> 01:27:06,080

He's a great guy to have on as a guest.

1516

01:27:06,080 --> 01:27:08,080

Yeah, I've tried, sadly.

1517

01:27:08,080 --> 01:27:13,320

Yeah, a lot of these people, there's the person between you and them.

1518

01:27:13,320 --> 01:27:15,000

I haven't had very much, I'm just gonna leave it there.

1519

01:27:15,000 --> 01:27:16,000

I haven't had very much.

1520

01:27:16,000 --> 01:27:19,840

And it was like over a three year period this happened.

1521

01:27:19,840 --> 01:27:24,760

So Stipe, if you're listening, if you yourself want to come on, the invitation is there.

1522

01:27:24,760 --> 01:27:27,720

But sadly, I tried and tried and tried.

1523

01:27:27,720 --> 01:27:31,240

But yeah, I mean, I love I'm a martial artist myself.

1524

01:27:31,240 --> 01:27:33,960

So I watched him, you know, go all the way at the ladder.

1525

01:27:33,960 --> 01:27:34,960

And he's amazing.

1526

01:27:34,960 --> 01:27:41,480

And I can see the video of him scrubbing the toilets and the humility it takes to be at

1527

01:27:41,480 --> 01:27:45,720

an absolute pinnacle on one thing and have the humility to be a pro be in another area

1528

01:27:45,720 --> 01:27:48,280

where you're actually, you know, service.

1529

01:27:48,280 --> 01:27:49,640

I think he's phenomenal.

1530

01:27:49,640 --> 01:27:54,160

So yeah, maybe one day he was just a charming nice fellow.

1531

01:27:54,160 --> 01:28:02,320

We had a one instant where he we were shooting a scene where he punches Gabe Hogan who plays

1532

01:28:02,320 --> 01:28:05,840

the firefighter I crystal and he punches him.

1533

01:28:05,840 --> 01:28:09,040

And whatever we had set it up so he wouldn't really punch him, you know, the fake punch

1534

01:28:09,040 --> 01:28:10,620

and whatever.

1535

01:28:10,620 --> 01:28:20,120

And we're shooting the scene and he goes to swing at Gabe and he caught him and Gabe goes

1536

01:28:20,120 --> 01:28:24,000

down, you know, because Stipe's hands are like the size of my head.

1537

01:28:24,000 --> 01:28:28,200

Like when you see them, you know, and he just caught him with a finger like across the face

1538

01:28:28,200 --> 01:28:29,200

or whatever.

1539

01:28:29,200 --> 01:28:32,560

And and Gabe went down like a ton of bricks and Steve was like, oh, my God, and we have

1540

01:28:32,560 --> 01:28:33,560

it on camera.

1541

01:28:33,560 --> 01:28:34,560

Oh, my God.

1542

01:28:34,560 --> 01:28:35,560

I hit him.

1543

01:28:35,560 --> 01:28:36,560

I'm so sorry.

1544

01:28:36,560 --> 01:28:37,560

I hit him.

1545

01:28:37,560 --> 01:28:38,560

And he felt so terrible.

1546

01:28:38,560 --> 01:28:43,280

It was fine, but it was like this moment of like, oh, my God, his life flashed in for

1547

01:28:43,280 --> 01:28:50,200

him in front of his eyes as Stipe's fist is coming at him and grazes his face.

1548

01:28:50,200 --> 01:28:51,200

That was great.

1549

01:28:51,200 --> 01:28:52,200

That was a great moment.

1550

01:28:52,200 --> 01:28:53,200

It was fun.

1551

01:28:53,200 --> 01:28:54,200

It's fun to have Stipe.

1552

01:28:54,200 --> 01:28:55,200

I'll see.

1553

01:28:55,200 --> 01:28:56,640

I mean, I got, you know, I don't know.

1554

01:28:56,640 --> 01:28:58,920

I don't know what kind of ends I had with Stipe anymore.

1555

01:28:58,920 --> 01:29:00,400

I'll put in a good word for him.

1556

01:29:00,400 --> 01:29:01,400

That'd be great.

1557

01:29:01,400 --> 01:29:03,760

Like I said, the invitation has been there for a long time.

1558

01:29:03,760 --> 01:29:09,340

But yeah, I know, I know the initial time he was working with someone doing who they

1559

01:29:09,340 --> 01:29:10,760

were doing all this professional stuff.

1560

01:29:10,760 --> 01:29:13,920

And I know they parted ways and there was an issue with lack of communication.

1561

01:29:13,920 --> 01:29:17,660

So he may never have heard the invitation himself.

1562

01:29:17,660 --> 01:29:20,440

So yes, that would be phenomenal if you were able to help.

1563

01:29:20,440 --> 01:29:21,440

Thank you.

1564

01:29:21,440 --> 01:29:22,440

OK, OK.

1565

01:29:22,440 --> 01:29:23,440

See what I can do.

1566

01:29:23,440 --> 01:29:24,440

Brilliant.

1567

01:29:24,440 --> 01:29:25,440

All right.

1568

01:29:25,440 --> 01:29:29,200

Well, then the last question before we make sure everyone knows where to find you.

1569

01:29:29,200 --> 01:29:33,680

What do you do to decompress when you're not on stage and doing all these films and shows?

1570

01:29:33,680 --> 01:29:34,680

It's funny.

1571

01:29:34,680 --> 01:29:38,120

I've just had this argument with my kids.

1572

01:29:38,120 --> 01:29:45,080

My kids are they they range from like age 15 to 20 right now.

1573

01:29:45,080 --> 01:29:49,640

And they've asked me that question because they because I don't know.

1574

01:29:49,640 --> 01:29:54,160

I just work, you know, like over the last few days, I go work like we went to the East

1575

01:29:54,160 --> 01:29:57,300

Coast for for the holidays and they went skiing and stuff.

1576

01:29:57,300 --> 01:30:02,280

And while they went skiing, I would sit in the lounge or whatever at home and I would

1577

01:30:02,280 --> 01:30:04,280

just be working and editing and whatever.

1578

01:30:04,280 --> 01:30:06,840

So but I don't know.

1579

01:30:06,840 --> 01:30:08,800

I just I like to hang out with my family.

1580

01:30:08,800 --> 01:30:10,900

You know, that's probably the biggest thing.

1581

01:30:10,900 --> 01:30:15,120

You know, we watch movies or we go, you know, whatever, hiking and that kind of stuff.

1582

01:30:15,120 --> 01:30:20,120

You know, it's like, you know, whatever time I could spend with the family, that's really

1583

01:30:20,120 --> 01:30:22,520

my decompression time.

1584

01:30:22,520 --> 01:30:26,800

You know, I love to watch movies and TV, but then sometimes I feel like I'm doing it because

1585

01:30:26,800 --> 01:30:27,800

of work.

1586

01:30:27,800 --> 01:30:30,440

You know, like I feel like I'm researching or whatever it is.

1587

01:30:30,440 --> 01:30:32,840

And so, you know, sometimes it doesn't quite work out.

1588

01:30:32,840 --> 01:30:37,360

But yeah, just hanging out with the family is really my decompression time.

1589

01:30:37,360 --> 01:30:38,360

Beautiful.

1590

01:30:38,360 --> 01:30:43,060

Well, the entire, you know, four series now are in Netflix.

1591

01:30:43,060 --> 01:30:45,760

So that's where they can find Tacoma FD.

1592

01:30:45,760 --> 01:30:49,920

Where are the best places for people to find all your other work and reach out to you,

1593

01:30:49,920 --> 01:30:52,240

whether it's social media or anywhere near the area?

1594

01:30:52,240 --> 01:30:56,720

Yeah, I mean, yeah, Netflix, you can just stream like crazy if you want.

1595

01:30:56,720 --> 01:30:57,720

That's great.

1596

01:30:57,720 --> 01:31:00,280

And then, yeah, our latest movies on Hulu, Quasi.

1597

01:31:00,280 --> 01:31:06,640

That's a broken lizard movie about Quasimodo.

1598

01:31:06,640 --> 01:31:09,840

And then I think all the other ones are, you know, on the on the basic streamers and stuff,

1599

01:31:09,840 --> 01:31:11,800

Super Troopers and Beer Fest and Club Dread.

1600

01:31:11,800 --> 01:31:13,640

And people can check that stuff out.

1601

01:31:13,640 --> 01:31:17,160

Slammin' Salmon, another movie we made.

1602

01:31:17,160 --> 01:31:19,880

And then for me, I'm at Heffernan Rules.

1603

01:31:19,880 --> 01:31:22,480

I think on pretty much everything.

1604

01:31:22,480 --> 01:31:26,600

Heffernan Rules on Twitter, Heffernan Rules on Instagram.

1605

01:31:26,600 --> 01:31:31,560

You know, we have Lemmy Heffernan as our YouTube page.

1606

01:31:31,560 --> 01:31:35,240

But I think those are, you know, those are the handles that people can hit me on.

1607

01:31:35,240 --> 01:31:36,640

I'm not a great social media guy.

1608

01:31:36,640 --> 01:31:38,040

Are you a good social media guy?

1609

01:31:38,040 --> 01:31:43,680

I repost a lot of videos of either first responder stuff or kindness and compassion.

1610

01:31:43,680 --> 01:31:45,920

I try and put a lot of the good stuff out there.

1611

01:31:45,920 --> 01:31:50,460

Me personally, I don't look at social media apart from to find those videos.

1612

01:31:50,460 --> 01:31:55,560

So I would say, you know, outwardly, yes, but inwardly, no, because I'm fully aware

1613

01:31:55,560 --> 01:31:57,320

of how those things could just suck you in.

1614

01:31:57,320 --> 01:32:01,040

So I try and leave my phone as far away from me as I can.

1615

01:32:01,040 --> 01:32:04,320

I feel like I could be better at whatever.

1616

01:32:04,320 --> 01:32:08,840

But sometimes we get some people to help us out with that shit.

1617

01:32:08,840 --> 01:32:10,480

Some young kid who knows what he's doing.

1618

01:32:10,480 --> 01:32:11,480

Yeah, exactly.

1619

01:32:11,480 --> 01:32:14,360

He understands the algorithms and content and all those other words that I have no idea

1620

01:32:14,360 --> 01:32:15,360

what they mean.

1621

01:32:15,360 --> 01:32:19,100

Well, Kevin, I want to thank you so much, firstly, for, you know, just just coming on

1622

01:32:19,100 --> 01:32:20,100

full stop.

1623

01:32:20,100 --> 01:32:23,680

But secondly, again, for this unique perspective that you have.

1624

01:32:23,680 --> 01:32:28,720

I mean, to do the comedy film when it came to law enforcement and now you're doing the

1625

01:32:28,720 --> 01:32:33,140

show coming from the firefighter perspective.

1626

01:32:33,140 --> 01:32:35,560

These are all, as I said, firehouse favorites hands down.

1627

01:32:35,560 --> 01:32:37,080

I'm sure it's the same with law enforcement.

1628

01:32:37,080 --> 01:32:42,840

But they are, as you said, also humanizing the men and women in uniform because we do

1629

01:32:42,840 --> 01:32:47,940

get we do become a little two dimensional only to the public, but to ourselves as well.

1630

01:32:47,940 --> 01:32:51,500

So I want to thank you so much not only for your work and what you've done for our professions,

1631

01:32:51,500 --> 01:32:54,160

but also for coming on the Behind the Shield podcast today.

1632

01:32:54,160 --> 01:32:55,160

Thanks, Ben.

1633

01:32:55,160 --> 01:32:56,880

I mean, that's great.

1634

01:32:56,880 --> 01:33:00,960

And congratulations on getting that message out.

1635

01:33:00,960 --> 01:33:03,520

You know, I think that's an important message that you're doing there.

1636

01:33:03,520 --> 01:33:04,520

So but thank you.

1637

01:33:04,520 --> 01:33:07,540

I mean, you know, we like to think of ourselves as court jesters.

1638

01:33:07,540 --> 01:33:10,920

So you know, we just kind of try to make people laugh.

1639

01:33:10,920 --> 01:33:22,920

You know, so thanks for having me on.