

TS-Who tried to kill Bob Marley?

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[Intro]

Steve-Hey there everybody, and welcome again to another episode of Thinking Sideways. I am Steve, of course joined by...

Devin-Devin.

J-And Joe.

S-Did you two not know your names suddenly?

D-Nope.

S-We do this every time. Uh, anyway (laughing).

D-It's, you know, it's the fake name. It throws me off.

S-I know.

J-Yep.

S-As always, we've got another mystery for you, and this week we're going to talk about who tried to assassinate Bob Marley.

D and J-Yeah.

D-Bet you didn't know that was a mystery, did ya?

S-Yeah, I was really kind of surprised when I found out about it.

J-Yeah.

S-It's pretty cool.

D-Yeah, is this part of your, like, transformation into a Rastafarian, with your little bracelet, and your little hair tie...

S-Yeah. I'm growing my dreds out...

J-Yeah, you guys should see him in his dreds, it's hilarious.

D-It's kind of weird.

S-Hey, at least I'm not wearing that, uh...

D-The hat?

S-The hat with the fake dreds on it.

D-Yeah, yeah.

S-Oh, that's the worst. Ok (laughing).

J-Yeah.

S-Our story is, uh, the short of it is in 1976 three gunmen drove onto Bob Marley's property in Jamaica and opened fire with automatic weapons, and shot Bob. They shot his wife, and I believe one other person at least was shot, but nobody was killed.

J-Yeah. It's amazing three guys with guns and everything, and they didn't hit very much.

S-No. Well it really does appear to kinda have been a 'stick a gun around the corner and fire' situation. There wasn't a whole lot of aiming going on from what I can tell.

J-Yeah.

S-But the thing is we know it happened but we don't know who did it. Who, who...

J-Or why.

S-Who ordered it, why did they do it, who committed the act, we don't know any of that.

D-Yeah. It's a total unsolved mystery.

S-Totally.

D-Which is convenient because that's what we talk about.

J-Actually I know...yeah we do talk about that stuff.

D-But you know why?

J-Uh, yeah. I did a little checking. It turns out that murder is the national past time in Jamaica, and so...

S-Well, yeah at that time it was a pretty rough and tumble place. We're going to get into some of that. Though we have had our internal discussions about this and find it a little difficult to believe, there are some folks who don't really know who Bob is.

J-Maybe there are.

S-So maybe we should tell those people who Bob Marley was.

J-Ok, who was he?

S-Bob Marley was, he was a Jamaican singer. He was...yeah...you would call him a singer, songwriter, guitarist, band leader, social activist. I mean he did...he kind of fell into every one of those categories. And he started in 1963 performing with the band The Wailers. There's quite a few famous and talented people that were in the band that started out, so you may have heard of Bunny Wailer, or Peter Tosh.

D-Not...not Tosh of Tosh.0.

S-No. No, definitely not that guy.

J-Yeah.

S-Definitely another guy.

D-Just to make it very clear.

S-Very clear (laughing). But they were all very very talented musicians, and they wanted to perform and they started making records. Reggae wasn't a musical style at the time. It developed over time so the first couple of records they put out, they were more singles or B sides. 45s is what it would have been.

J-Oh ok.

S-But it was...they slowly developed and figured out who they were. But if you haven't listened to Reggae before, pause us, right now, and I mean really, go ahead and pause.

D-Wait, no. You have to wait until you tell them why.

S-Oh yeah. After I tell you what to do, pause us, you need to go listen to some Reggae. You'll enjoy it.

J-Bob Marley and The Wailers. Jimmy Cliff is another good one.

S-Uh huh, yeah. They'll do good things for your stress levels. Really reduce it.

J-Yeah yeah.

D-Hmm...yeah, only the music. None of the other things that go with it.

S-Oh (laughing).

D-Definitely not. Ok so you can pause it now.

S-Ok, so now we're back.

D-Yep.

S-Thanks for pausing.

D-Ya'll are calm now. (S and J laughing). Good.

J-Yeah, did you take some bong hits? Since that's part of the whole Reggae thing.

D-Yeah.

S-Yeah, that's the lore. And it is part of it.

D-It's part of it.

S-It is part of it.

D-This is Portland, Oregon. It's legal.

S-Yeah, it's true. Oh, the other thing I was going to mention is that some people might have heard of this particular story that we're going to talk about today, and that's because there's a book that's really popular right now. It's called A Brief History of Seven Killings by Marlon James. It won a Booker Man or...

J-Yeah, and it's fictional, correct?

S-It's totally fictional, and...

J-With a lot of true stuff intertwined.

S-There's truth sprinkled throughout the whole thing, but the point that I'm making is that it is a fictional accounting so I want people to understand that, so if you've read it, be aware of that because some of the stuff we're going to talk about may not jive with what you think you've learned, because it was a book told from the perspective of, like, 75 different characters.

J-Wow. That gets complicated.

S-Yeah. It's a big freakin' book. It's taking me a long time to read (laughing). But anyway, back to Bob. So he was born Nesta Robert Marley in 1945, in a village known as Nine Mile, which is in the St. Ann Parish. His parents were kind of a...it was kind of an odd situation. His father was white, his mother was black. His mother was 18, his father was 60.

D-Oof.

J-Little bit of an age diff there.

S-Yeah, and um...his father's name was...his mother's name was Cedella, his father was Norval. And evidently, Norval had several children this way. He would meet a younger woman and then he would move on.

D-Hm.

J-Nice guy.

S-The moving on part is important to understand because he really wasn't involved in Bob Marley's life at all. I think he was around a couple of times and that was it. But he passed away when Bob was ten. When Bob was twelve, he and his mother moved to Kingston. They went to an area of Kingston known as Trenchtown.

D-That sounds nice.

J-Yeah, yeah.

S-Yeah. It was a...let's just be honest, it was a slum. It's a ghetto.

D-An actual ghetto.

J-Yeah, Trenchtown is in Tivoli Gardens, right?

S-Uh yeah, yeah. I'm pretty positive it is. But it's there that Bob Marley would meet Bunny Wailer and Peter Tosh, and eventually they would go on to form The Wailers. When they were recording together and doing Reggae, I think they put out about a dozen records, ballpark, between 1970...I think it was '70 or '73 is when their first one came out, and that was up until Bob's death in 1981. So they put out a lot of records in that time. But he...they made, like a said, a whole bunch of others prior to that. They were just in a completely different musical style cause they were trying to figure out what their style was.

D-Yeah, totally.

J-Exactly. You might really know Bob Marley best for his cover of that famous Eric Clapton song (Steve laughing), about the sheriff.

D-Yeah, yeah.

S-Yeah, that's a pretty famous one.

D-Yeah, it's really famous.

S-That and, what was it, Buffalo Soldier.

J-Buffalo Soldier. I heard that on the radio just yesterday.

D-No Woman, No Cry.

S-Yep.

J-Oh, another good one.

S-See, there's a whole bunch of them. Everybody, once you start doing this you start realizing how many of them you know.

D-It's all, it's all Bob.

S-And there's a ton of them.

D and J-Yeah.

S-So we've talked about Bob. We should probably talk about what was going on in Jamaica at the time, cause it was kind of a bad situation.

J-Things were going to hell in a hand basket.

S-Yeah (laughing). They really were. So the history of Jamaica is pretty much 400 plus years of oppression, cause the Spanish came in. None other than Christopher Columbus quote unquote "discovered" Jamaica, and the Spaniards were there for about a hundred years and then they "lost", I'm using air quotes here, "lost" the island to the British and it became a British isle for another, ballpark, 300 years.

D-Right, so really what we're saying is that it's the kind of typical history of a lot of countries in that, like, Europeans came in and kinda screwed things up.

S-Yep. Slavery was a total thing.

J-A lot of plantations.

S-Yep. And it wasn't until, you know, the...the British ended slavery in 1833, so they were 30 years ahead of us on that front. But then Jamaica wouldn't actually get it's freedom from Britain, or no longer be under British rule, until 1962. That's when it became...it got it's full independence.

J-And actually they're not a hundred percent independent.

S-Uh, they're...what are they? They're still considered a British Commonwealth. Is that what the...

J-Yeah, I think so. And they're...legally at least they're...their laws at the highest level, their supreme court, in a sense, is actually the Privy Court back in England.

S-Really?

J-Yeah. So if you're, say, sentenced to death for a crime in Jamaica, and it goes through whatever appeals happen in Jamaica, then the last review is done by the Privy Council back in London...

S-Hm.

J-...which may or may not set aside your death sentence.

S-I didn't know that.

J-Yeah, yeah.

S-It's crazy.

J-Yeah, it is crazy.

S-So anyway, like I said, it was 1962 when the country got its independence, and it became very apparent quite quickly that there was a huge inequality problem.

J-Not surprisingly.

S-No, no. And it was, uh, it's still there in terms of there's a lot of issues and its inequality amongst the people, their distrust of their leaders, there's, you know, bribery going on, there's all kinds of collusion going on, there's lots of things like that. So, it's a problem because if you don't have a solid government then nobody's going to trust it, and then everybody wants their piece of the pie.

J-Yeah, it's actually kind of a typical thing, like...like, kinda like ward politics here in America way back in the day where, you know, one party had its supporters who were, you know, all for the most part armed and violent and the other party had their supporters, and there's a lot of patronage. So every election is a huge deal.

S-Yep.

J-Because so much is riding on it, because property rights are not particularly respected in countries like this, you know, that means you could lose everything if the wrong guy wins the election.

D-Yeah.

S-True.

J-So a lot of people, you know...that's why there's so much tension in countries like this...

S-Yeah.

J-...over elections.

S-And the elections were always a huge source of tension.

D-Once they started having them, yeah.

S-Once they started having their own, and the problem was, of course, is that outside interests immediately started trying to exert their force, I will say, whether...

D-Take advantage of a budding nation.

S-Yeah, take advantage of the situation, make some money off it, take advantage of their industry and their labor, and at the same time try and influence their politics so that it's what they want, and when I say "they" I'm very specifically saying the US and Communist Russia, because those were the two forces that were really pushing on it at that time.

J-I think Cuba to a certain extent also.

S-Yeah, well I was going to say, that's exactly it. Cuba is, what, like 90 miles away.

D-Yeah.

J-Quite close.

S-So, to the Americans, this is a terrible thing to suddenly have another communist nation 90 miles away that's still super close to us.

D-Yeah.

S-And, you know. So of course everybody's just kind of just having a full blown panic attack over it, and, so that's why everybody goes in there, and a lot of hinky things that are still in effect today, because of the things that countries did, are there. So I mean there's...

J-Hinky things like what?

S-Well there's the CIA...did a lot of, supposedly of course. They went in and they siphoned drugs into the country. They dumped ammu...guns into the country, and created these gangs to try and be their foot soldiers on the ground. And then of course once they were done with them they left, but the gangs don't just, you know, miraculously disappear. So then they create a criminal organization that has stayed there. Now, you hear it said that the CIA did all this. Whether that's true or not I don't know, to be honest. I'm not sure.

J-Yeah, there actually...there isn't really any evidence that it is true, and I know that one of the characters we're going to be talking about is the Prime Minister in 1976 when the shooting happened, who was Michael Manley.

S-Right.

J-The Prime Minister, he said that the CIA had nothing to do with the destabilization of the country.

S-Right.

J-That's what he said.

S-Yeah.

J-And apparently that accusation originated with Cuba. They actually first leveled it in 1975.

S-That the CIA was there?

J-They said the CIA, the JLP, which is one of the parties...

S-Right, which we're about to go into the political parties, yeah.

J-They said that they were working in league together to destabilize the country and to take the government away from the PNP, which is the other party.

S-Uh huh.

D-And Cuba said that?

J-That was the accusation that Cuba made in 1975.

D-There you go.

J-And it's still with us today.

S-Yeah.

J-But I read in an article by a Jamaican journalist, whose name is Ken Chaplin, and he recounts this whole history of the Cubans raising that issue, and he said at the time, and even today he really saw no reason to believe it because there's no evidence, and number two, the Cubans? You know, hey.

S-Yeah. And drugs and money find their way to islands.

J-Yeah.

S-Quite easily. It doesn't have to be the work of the CIA.

D-Well especially islands that are as close to...

J-South America?

D-Or you...so...are so well placed in between South America and North America, for instance, right?

J-Uh huh. Plus...

D-You need way stations.

S-Uh huh.

J-And plus actually Jamaica was a great way station for the cocaine trade into Britain.

S and D-Yeah.

J-Because coke, you can get more pound for pound for your coke in Britain than you can in other European countries, or America.

D-Ha ha ha.

S-Wait are you talking about pound...

D-"Pound for pound."

S-I was going to say, you mean the measurement or the note?

J and S-(laughing)

J-Both, yeah.

S-Yeah.

D-Well, so kilogram per...

J-Kill-o for kilo, yeah.

D-Kilo for pound.

S-Yes.

J-Yeah.

S-So there's something to keep in mind when we're talking about the CIA.

D-This is why some of our listeners have been calling for Joe to start his own, second podcast (Steve laughing) to just explain the world to them.

J-Well, has somebody been doing that?

D-It's because of this.

S-Yeah, yeah yeah.

J-Oh really? Oh.

S-Ok, well let's...now that you've whetted everybody's appetite let's talk about the political parties that we've got. So the first one is going to be the People's National Party, which is the PNP. And then there's the Jamaican Labor Party, which is the JLP. So the JLP was in power. They won the first election after the Brits left. They controlled the political system. They were in power for ten years, and they, uh...

D-That's impressive.

S-Yeah, it is, but then they lost control in 1972 when the PNP took the seat. So now you've got a party that's been entrenched for ten years, so they definitely want to get their power back. And there's a lot of things that happen, and again this is in a nation where things were sometimes kind of fast and loose, there was some of those political games that you sometimes hear about, you know. From gun pointed at you coercion of who you're going to vote for, to just straight up ballot fraud to stuffing boxes. I mean...

J-Uh huh.

S-...this stuff happened, I mean it was a really crappy situation.

J-It happens all over the place.

S-It does!

J-We don't usually get voting at gunpoint here in America, but there...

S-No (laughing).

J-But there's still plenty of cheating and fraud that goes on around here.

S-Yes, there is. Uh, so. Bob Marley plays into this part in an odd sort of way, because he became more and more popular, and more and more, people paid attention to what Bob Marley said than what the politicians said. He was a pretty important figure that way. He had also, he and his wife, in 1972 had backed Michael Manley in the PNP when they won. It's believed because Bob Marley said the PNP and Michael Manley are the one's to do it, everybody voted for them. Now we move up to the next election which is in 1976, except by this point Bob Marley is not such a big fan of Manley and wasn't willing to endorse him or his party.

D-Hm.

J-He kind of tried to stay neutral in that whole thing.

S-He really did. His uh...so Bob Marley...I didn't get to go to it, but you can go to his estate. I think it's on 56 Hope Road is the address. And he, evidently made it kind of a neutral ground, and everybody could come and so he was in this weird in-between because people came and talked to him, from both sides.

D-Hm.

S-And so he didn't really want to foul that up.

D-Right.

S-By endorsing one side over the other.

D-Right.

S-Plus for whatever reasons, you know, personal beliefs or what, he didn't want to get on board with anybody.

J-Should probably point out too, I did a little research and you probably have too, but in the time between when the Brits left and this election, the power base for most of the politicians was basically urban gangs, street gangs.

S-Yes.

J-And they were called 'garrisons', and they controlled, actually controlled areas of Kingston.

S-Uh huh. The city was divided up.

J-Yeah, exactly. And the politicians were dependent upon the garrisons, or the gangs, and the bosses, who were called 'dons,' to basically raise votes for them.

S-Uh huh.

J-And in return, of course, they got lots of favors and looking the other way and that kind of thing.

S-Right.

J-Which is why the situation becomes so volatile and so dangerous.

S-Yeah.

D-Uh huh.

J-Because these guys were armed to the teeth, all of them.

S-Yeah. Absolutely.

J-And it was one of the reasons that murder has become the national past time in Jamaica, is because of this.

S-Well, did either of you guys ever watch any of the footage from that time and see the fighting?

D-Yeah.

S-It was...it's amazing in a "I can't believe this is real" way.

D-Yeah.

S-Because there's a guy literally running behind a car and shooting a hand gun and just running the other direction and firing behind him. It's like, are you kidding me!

J-(laughing) Well, stray bullets...

S-It's in the middle of a city.

D and J-Yeah.

S-It's amazing to me.

D-Yeah.

S-But that's, that's what was going on.

J-Yeah, I think at it's peak the annual murder rate was like 68 per 100,000.

D-Oh god.

J-Which is staggeringly high.

S-Yeah, it was huge.

D-That's insane.

J-I found that an interesting factoid. Of the 25 countries in the world with the highest murder rate, 15 of

those countries are Caribbean countries.

S-Really? Huh.

J-Yeah. We're talking, like, not just islands, of course. We're talking about also things like Guatemala and Honduras, you know.

S-Right.

D-Uh huh.

J-And all that, but yeah.

S-Huh. Well I do know one of the things that I was reading about was the fact that crime...one of the problems for the Jamaicans is that they can't solve crimes because they don't have enough space in the morgue. In other words, they're so busy processing bodies, that they don't have time to do a thorough examination to collect evidence to then turn over to the cops to then hunt somebody down, so...

J-Well, yeah.

S-When you are in that situation you know you can blow somebody away, and the chances of getting caught are pretty small at that point.

J-Yeah, plus actually, uh...

S-They're overburdened.

J-Most of their morgues actually don't have refrigeration.

S-Uh huh.

J-So by the time they get around to doing an autopsy, if they do, it's pretty well deteriorated.

S-Yeah.

J-Plus apparently a lot of pathologists are actually afraid to do autopsies, for obvious reasons. Yeah.

S-Yeah, yeah. No, I can see that.

J-So, yeah. If you want to go kill somebody I guess that's the place to go.

S-We've steered way off the topic, here.

J-Yeah.

D-It's still kind of on topic, though. It is.

S-Kind of on topic. Ok, so let me, uh, let me do this. We're going to kinda finish up with some of this in terms of the political stuff. So, I talked about there was that whole supposed thing of the CIA being in

the country. Well, Michael Manley was running against a guy named Edward Seaga, or also, I've heard it pronounced "Sega".

D-Sega?

S-Yeah. But the thing is the Jamaicans love word play, and so they changed his name, cause it's spelled S-E-A-G-A, to C-I-A-G-A, so it was still "See-ga."

D-Hm.

S-But they were changing the way it was spelled because they believed that he was in bed with the CIA.

D-The CIA.

J-And well...you know, the CIA may have mucked around in their election a little bit...

S-Yeah, they may have!

D-It's not unheard of.

S-No.

J-Manley, he didn't...they didn't destabilize the country, I don't think they imported drugs.

S-No, but the fact that...

J-But they might have mucked around a little bit and thrown some cash here and there because, obviously, Prime Minister Manley was cosying up to Cuba.

S-Well that's exactly it. He had gone to Cuba to, you know, to kinda learn about his neighbors and I think in a way...

D-Of his neighbor's highly successful campaign of...

S-Program. Yes (Joe laughing).

D-Yeah.

J-That's basically like, importing poverty and creating poverty (Steve laughing).

D-Yeah.

J-Losing things and breaking things.

D-Uh huh.

S-So yeah, so yeah. No, he went over there and that didn't go so well. According to the Americans they didn't like that. So, that's something to keep in mind. Now, we're going to go ahead and, I haven't given

the exact date, ok. The date we're that going to be looking at is dealing with the first week of December of 1976. On the fifth of December Bob Marley was scheduled to do a free concert for the Jamaicans, for anybody who wanted to come. It was going to be called "Smile Jamaica," and I was watching a really interesting documentary and I guess the way that he came up with the idea is that he had done a show with Stevie Wonder, in Jamaica. And Stevie Wonder had gone ahead and taken, I don't know, a huge percentage, maybe half of his profits from that, and had donated it locally. And then, definitely, Bob Marley had gone "Yeah, that's a good idea. We need to give back to the people."

D-Yeah.

S-So, this all sounds great, and of course, then, all the politicians come to him and say "Hey, let's cobrand this. Let's make this a JLP thing, let's make this a PNP thing." And he's saying "no, I don't want to do that." Except he got a little outmaneuvered because he had to...he had to get the official OK to do it from the government, so it was then, um...it was branded as being 'Bob Marley and the Wailers' and it was in conjunction with the Jamaican government's Cultural Office. Which then means...which party's in power?

J and D-The PNP.

S-That means that it's a PNP event. He got kind of outmaneuvered there.

D and J-Yeah.

S-The other thing that really got him is that the elections were not yet officially scheduled. And Michael Manley went ahead and moved the election to about a week after the concert.

D-Hmm.

J-I thought he moved it to the day of the concert.

S-No, uh-uh. See, I...you...I know which article you were reading to get that impression cause I had the same impression. And then when I started reading some other stuff and started doing some different research, it appears that it actually wasn't on the same day.

J-Oh, ok.

S-Which, you know. But the point is it got moved, it got put in there, and everybody who wasn't a member of The Wailers went "Oh! I see who's supporting this. Ok, I got it."

J-Yeah.

S-Good, bad or indifferent, you know, the writing was on the wall.

J-Yeah, too bad for Bob because obviously he didn't intend that.

S-No, not at all. Ok, well let's go to the day of the assassination attempt, which was two days prior to the Jamaica Smile concert. So we're going to be at the third of December, 1976.

J-Ok.

S-That day, as a lot of the days preceding it, was kind of a normal day at his property. He and The Wailers were practicing for the show. They were getting ready. Evidently...

D-Am I the only one, sorry. Am I the only one who, like, forgets to conceptualize about the fact that professional musicians still, like...

S-Practice?

D-Practice? Particularly before a show.

J-Yeah.

D-Like that just is always...I just always, like, assume they're like "I don't know, I'm good at this. Whatev."

S and J-Yeah.

S-It is easy to fall under that idea.

D-Yeah.

S-No, no you're not the only one, I'm sure.

D-Ok, good.

J-I think guys like Marley and everybody just actually like to play.

S and D-Yeah.

S-No, they really did, played all the time.

D-Actual musicians, yeah.

S-Not Nickelback. So during a break that evening, Bob's wife, her name is Rita Marley, by the way, she was going to take a journalist that was there to do an interview with Bob, back to his hotel. This journalist's name was Leslie Miles, and as they drove to the entrance of the estate, Rita pulled over to let a car that was coming in go up the drive. As that car drove by, it opened fire. And Leslie Miles wasn't hurt at all. Rita did get hit. She took one across the top of her scalp.

J-Yeah, basically grazing.

S-Yeah, it was a grazing shot.

J-Lucky for her.

S-Yeah, very lucky, cause it would have only taken about a quarter of an inch to do some serious damage.

D-Yeah. Serious damage.

S-A set of unmasked gunmen got out of the car.

J-And there were three of them, right?

S-There were three of them. Bob Marley's manager at the time was named Don Taylor, he had also just arrived and didn't know these guys were pulling in, and so he walked into the kitchen where Bob Marley was, and then was immediately followed by these gunmen.

J-Bad timing there, Don.

S-Absolutely bad timing. And they had automatic weapons and they just basically proceeded to pull the trigger and shoot back and forth until they were out of bullets.

D-Huh.

J-I thought they...and I heard one story, I don't know if it's true, that one of them had two hand guns instead of...

S-I heard that too, and I've read that but it's a little weird, especially considering that one, at least one of them, if not more, has a fully automatic weapon, why one of them would show up with two hand guns.

J-It does seem kind of absurd.

S-It seemed a little out of place.

J-Yeah.

S-But anyway, these guys, so they shoot the joint up, and then they turn around and they hop in their car and they take off.

D-It just feels like somebody watched a gang banger movie, you know, and was like "you know what, let's go try and kill somebody." (S and J laughing) Like it's not what you would expect of a professional assassination.

S-No, it's totally a Jamaican western.

D-It's totally, yeah, it totally is. It's like, I don't know, he walks into the house and he just like prays and sprays and just goes and then he runs away and he gets away with it too. All those bullets magically hit that one guy.

J-Yeah.

D-Right. Like that's just what it sounds like to me. It's totally just some guy is watching some movies and thinks...

S-Didn't really know what they were doing.

D-Yeah.

J-It's uh...you know you never know, they might have been there just to send a message, to scare the crap out of everybody, and because they were incompetent, they actually accidentally hit some people.

D-Yeah, that's true.

S-That's absolutely possible.

D-Yeah.

S-You make a good point.

J-Cause automatic weapons are harder to control, you know, when they're fully automatic...

S-Uh huh.

J-They actually jump around.

S-They...yeah.

D-Yeah.

J-The heavier the bullets the more they do.

S-Uh huh.

D-What's the joke, uh, stormtroopers shooting at a red shirt. The stormtrooper misses every single shot and the red shirt dies anyways. (S and J laughing) Right? That's what this feels like a little bit.

S-Yeah.

J-I love...did you see that picture I posted on our Facebook a couple of weeks ago, the stormtrooper?

S-Yeah, I did.

J-Stormtrooper target practice. He's got a machine gun and he's checking the target. Yeah, that one.

D-Oh yeah.

S-Bob Marley was hit.

D-Uh huh.

S-He was shot in the left arm and I've inconsistently seen that he also took one in the ribs.

J-That's what I heard too.

S-Now...

J-When I saw an interview with him he only points to his left arm.

S-Uh huh, and here's the thing. You always hear about the one that went into his arm because they left the bullet there because, according to the story, he couldn't take it out without the possibility of nerve damage, which would then affect his playing. So he wasn't going to go for that.

D-Yeah.

S-But, you also hear that he got hit in the chest, which I always thought was weird and I could never corroborate it until I was watching an interview with a woman whose name is Diane Jobson, and she was his lawyer, and she, in this interview, talked about it. And what happened, he got really lucky. The bullet that went into his arm first grazed across his chest.

D-Oh geez.

S-So it grazed across his chest and burnt, you know he's got a flesh wound, and then it went into his arm.

D-Wow.

S-So again, super lucky. So his wife is, you know, a quarter inch off, and he was a quarter inch away from having it take out at least one, if not more, ribs.

J-Yeah, maybe some liver. Stuff like that.

S-Something like that, yeah. I'm just talking about just that little bit. But, so that's why you hear that he took one in the chest but you never get the description. It's only because of that interview that I found that out.

D-Wow.

J-Yeah, good job.

S-So, as I said, these yo-yos, they shoot the place up, they shoot Bob, they shoot Rita. A couple other people are hurt, and then they run back to their car and they take off. And this is always pointed at as a very important thing is that when the car left the property, it turned and went downhill, which means it went back down into Kingston. Hope Road, if you look at it on a map, if you follow it it starts in basically the heart of Kingston and then works its way out and goes across the island to a bay. I can't remember which bay it is. So people say well obviously it was...it had to be this political party that was responsible because it went back into Kingston.

D and J-The JLP.

S-Yeah.

J-But I thought that the PNP controlled areas of Kingston too.

S-They did, but it's based on the fact that the JLP had that, you know, was kind of in control of that area...

J-Uh huh.

S-...is what people point to. Because the way...the reason people say is that if it had gone the other way it wouldn't have been such an easy thing to point at, is because you go in the other direction and the road goes into the jungle before it goes across to that bay on the other side of the island. But what I always find weird is that if you look at Hope Road, there's a ton of streets that come off of it, that then go to other places.

J-Yeah.

S-So it could have been that the best way to go home for these guys was to head towards downtown Kingston and then hang a right.

J-Uh huh, yeah. I know, it's...

D-Yeah.

J-I'm not convinced about the JLP thing either.

S-Yeah. But I just want people to understand that portion of it because that's something that you're going to hear all the time. Now nobody was ever officially arrested for this. I mean, everybody got medical treatment, everybody survived and went on about their business. But I was watching, and I know I sent you guys this interview. There's an interview with Bob Marley that basically gives the impression, at least I think, that he knew who they were. If not at the time, he found out who they were, because he's talking to a reporter and the reporter says "You never saw the gunmen?" And Bob says "At that time, no." Reporter says "But you know who did it?" "Yeah." "Were they caught?" "Nah, they weren't caught by the police."

D-You had the subtitles on, right?

S-I did.

D-Yeah.

J-Yeah, that helps. I did not have and I couldn't understand a word.

D-Yeah.

J-Well actually I could understand a little bit.

S-Yeah. Well that's the thing, I...we talked about this before, but for our listeners if you go and watch any of these interviews, you need to understand that Jamaicans speak two languages. They speak Patois, and that's the language that you talk to all your fellow Jamaicans in, and you learn it at home. It's not a written language. But you're taught English in school, so your command of English is partially based on your motivation to learn it, as well as the capability of who's teaching you.

D-Yeah.

S-So Bob's English was a little rougher.

J-Actually, I don't think his English was so terrible. He was fluent in English, it's just that his accent...

D-His accent is really thick.

S-Yeah, that's what I mean. That's what I'm going for, is when they're taught English they're taught to get rid of that accent, and a lot of that was still in his English.

J-Yeah.

D-And I can imagine that there's a certain amount...I have no actual basis for this, it's just a total stretch on my part, but I would imagine that there's some nationalism that goes along with that. If you're being taught to emulate a culture in the way that you speak that you aren't necessarily very happy with, be it British or the United States, that you would want your accent to be clearly of your country.

S-Of your tradition.

D-Do you know what I'm getting at?

S-Yeah, I know what you're saying.

D-Yeah.

S-Yeah, I can see that, um...yeah, no there's...yeah, I can see your point there.

D-Thanks!

J-Yeah. Well a lot of it probably depends on what you do for a living too.

S-Yes.

D-Yeah, it's probably totally fine for somebody like Bob Marley to have, you know, a really thick accent.

J-For most, yeah, for most people in Jamaica, you know. Yeah.

D-It doesn't really matter.

J-Exactly.

S-Alrighty. Well, that is almost the end of our story here, cause we do need to tell you that Bob Marley is a, was a tough guy.

D-Yeah.

S-He went on to perform at the Jamaica Smile concert two days later. He of course gets on stage...I don't know, did you guys see the footage of this? He gets on stage and he holds up his arm and he shows the bandage and he takes off his shirt and he shows where he's been, you know, where the bullet graze is on his chest.

D-Of course he did.

S-You know, basically he's saying "I'm tough. You can't get me. Go ahead and try."

D-Uh huh.

J-I don't think I'd be saying something like that in Jamaica.

D-I don't think I would be either.

S-You know, he was a ballsy dude.

D-Yeah.

J-I guess so.

S-He was (laughing).

D-And I guess for those of our listeners that don't know about Bob Marley, he died of natural causes-ish...

S-Uh huh. It was cancer. '81

D-...of...'81.

J and S-1981.

D-1981.

J-Which is sad. I mean, he was young.

S-He was 36.

D-Really young for cancer, too.

S and J-Yeah.

S-No, it was, uh...the story with his cancer is really interesting. Again, this is one of those things that I found where it's the legend versus the truth. Because Bob Marley was a Rastafarian, and of course they don't, you know, you don't do medical stuff...

D-That's an actual, like, religion.

S-Yes, absolutely.

D-B-T-dubs. Yeah.

S-And you know, the thing is is that they said "Well Bob, we should cut your toe off." And, according to the legend, because he was a Rasta, he said "no, this is the way I came into the world, this is the way I'm going out of the world and I'm not going to take this western medicine." And so of course the cancer spreads and he dies.

D-Uh huh.

J-He had toe cancer?

S-It started...

D-He had a malignant melanoma.

S-It was malignant, and it started in his toe and then it went everywhere.

J-Ah.

S-But, it turns out that's not exactly true. Bob did get medical treatment. He had chemo and things like that. So, I mean he really did try to fight.

D-He had his toenail and bed, which is where, like, the biggest lesion was, he had that removed.

S-The nail bed, yeah.

D-But not his entire toe.

S-Right.

D-Because that would have gone against his religion.

S-Correct.

D-And he did, you know, actively treat it. But it's also true that he refused to get his toe amputated.

S-That's very true. And unfortunately because he didn't follow up with his medical appointments in terms of getting his check ups, until it was too late. Nobody realized they hadn't got it all.

D-Yeah.

S-But that's another story...

J-Yeah, damn it.

S-Bob Marley's...it's a very interesting story, but...

D-It's a bummer.

S-It's absolutely.

J-Yeah.

S-Now, it's everybody's favorite time of the show! It's time for theories.

J-That's right. Chupacabra.

S-Alright (laughing). So we talked about...

D-It would explain the aim, actually.

J-Yeah, it really would (Steve laughing).

S-It would, because he's got the short little arms...

D-Uh huh.

J-Yeah.

S-...so it's really hard to pull the trigger and hang on.

J-Yeah.

S-This would explain it. Uh, no, the first theory actually is, as we briefly talked about already, is the CIA. It's believed that the JLP was backed by the CIA, and this is again according to local lore. And like we talked about, it's because of the fact that the Americans didn't like the fact that Manley was buddying up to Fidel Castro. The funny thing is though that Manley was sort of making friends with a bunch of foreign leaders at the time.

D-I feel like that's what you do, as a foreign leader.

S-Exactly.

D-Or as a world leader, I guess.

S-Uh huh. So he was, you know, developing relationships with Julius Nyerere of Tanzania. There's Olof Palme of Sweden...

D-Who is on the list! He's on the list.

S-Who is totally...

J-[I can't understand what he says here. They are talking over each other.]

S-Pierre Trudeau of Canada.

J-That's another mystery. Why did people ever elect him? (S and D laughing)

S-And then, of course, Fidel.

J-Yeah.

S-So he was meeting more than just Fidel Castro. I just want people to understand that.

D-Yeah.

S-But...

D-But also, like you meet with people who are leading countries that are really close to yours, especially if they're semi-dangerous countries, just as pure diplomatic courtesy, right?

S-Uh huh.

J-Yeah, I'd say, yeah...

S-And small nations. You want to know how your small nation is doing, so that I can figure out how to help my small nation.

J-Yeah.

D-Or to make sure that we're friends so that you don't suddenly decide that you don't like us and, you know, attack us. (Steve laughing) Right?

J-Yeah. I think that...I don't think that the US government would have gotten all that upset about him just, you know, having a meeting with Fidel.

S-Yeah.

J-It just kind of depends on how far he takes the whole thing.

S-Very true. But as we said, so the theory goes that the CIA came in, as we talked about before. They brought drugs, they brought guns, and they turn...created this whole cadre of criminals to do their dirty work. And then, of course, that's why the cocaine trade was, is, was so big, and I don't know if it's so big any more, in Jamaica. I actually hadn't looked into that. Actually I think it is.

J-It probably is.

S-Cocaine still pours through Jamaica if I remember right.

D-(laughing) You were just there.

S-(kind of sputtering)

D-You didn't partake?

J-You didn't store a kilo?

S-I didn't see any cocaine. I saw a lot of weed being offered, but no cocaine. But I never knew who had the best. They all said they had the best, so it was really confusing.

D-It's that way everywhere.

S-Yeah, it is. But, like Joe had said, this whole idea that the CIA was going to destabilize the country through these efforts, that's what this theory is based on, that's what it's saying...

J-So are they saying that the CIA, it was actually CIA guys who went in there with guns and shot at Marley?

S-No, what it is is that the CIA brought the guns in, trained the guys how to use the guns, and then said "Hey, that guy over there, he's getting a little too much sway with the people. We should probably take care of him." And then had one of their dons or one of their groups set up and go try to do the hit.

D-Hm.

J-Yeah.

S-That's where the whole thing is. It wasn't CIA guys driving in. Because nobody said "It was a bunch of white dudes in the car!" That would have been a giant flag.

D-Yeah.

J-Uh huh. But, uh, yeah the problem I have with this whole thing about funneling guns and drugs into the country. They were funneling them to the JLP, right?

S-Uh huh.

J-Yeah, so...well, where did the PNP get their drugs and guns?

S-Fidel, of course (laughing).

J-Oh yeah, right. I think they might have gotten those things on their own. The CIA does have a reputation for mucking around in local elections and stuff like that .

S-Yeah.

J-The thing about funneling drugs and guns into a nearby country is...

S-They're going to come back.

J-Well, you can destabilize that country, and the last thing anybody, any of us want is a destabilized country right on our door step, you know.

S-That's a good point (laughing).

J-It just seems like a bad idea.

D-Yeah.

S-Yep. So that's that theory. We're going to move on to the next one. The next theory is that the whole thing was done at the order of the JLP.

J-Uh huh.

S-Because remember...

J-Again that was Ed Seaga, right?

S-That's Se...Seaga. Yeah. Uh, I never know how to pronounce his name cause it's different every time. It's the accent. But the theory is that because Bob Marley's Smile Jamaica concert was now considered kind of a PNP thing, the JLP wanted to retaliate.

J-Yeah, it makes sense.

D-That's kind of a bummer cause it feels like if he had a good, if Bob Marley had a good relationship with the political parties, that maybe you would just go to him, right? And be like "Dude, what the hell?"

J-I think he had a relationship with both parties.

S-He did.

D-Right, but that's what I'm saying. So you would think that the leadership at that point would go and say "Dude, what are you doing?" and he would have been like "Listen"...

S-"Totally happened behind my back."

D-..."It's not my fault. I'm really sorry. Like, how can we work this out?" They wouldn't just be like "Ah, Bob? Nah. We're going to shoot him."

J-Yeah.

S-And that's a very rational line of thought...

D-But it's wrong. Got it.

S-No, but we...I...I can't help but think of the fact that these are also men who are using gangs to control the city, to control the elections, so that sometimes, maybe not the best decision making happens.

D-All right. That's fair.

S-So, I know where you're going with it, though.

D-Yeah.

J-Yeah, I kind of tend to doubt it was the JLP because since everybody was thinking that Marley was aligning himself with Manley...

S-Uh huh.

J-It's one way to send a nice message "Hey mess with us and we'll kill you." But at the same time Marley was very popular.

S-He was.

J-And killing him would have really been a black mark on your reputation. It would have made a lot of people in Jamaica angry.

S-Absolutely.

D-Unless you thought you could make it look like the other party did it.

J-Well that's why my theory is that it was the PNP that did it. It was an attempted assassination. That's why they came in, pretty much missed, and then headed back down to Kingston, making it look like it was the JLP, not the PNP.

D-Yeah.

S-It's possible. We've got more theories to go.

J-Oh boy.

S-We're not done yet. Ok, so the next theory is that it was just a bunch of random guys who were angry at Bob Marley for aligning with the PNP. This whole thing is so politically based.

D-Yeah, it really is.

S-In most of these theories, it's totally politically based.

D-Really political.

S-Because the thing is, is people didn't trust the government, and at the time there was the phrase "It wasn't politics, it was politricks."

D-Of course.

S-Love that.

D-Yeah.

S-I love that, it's a great saying. So there's a lot of weirdness going on, and somebody might have said "I can't believe that you did this. We supported you. You're such a great guy, and you've just stabbed us all in the back." That's basically how this whole thing as a concept goes. Now there is a little bit of credence to it in terms of everybody kind of wondered if Bob Marley had sold them out. The reason is, is there's a guy by the name of Neville Garrick, and he was a Jamaican born artist, and he worked with Bob Marley.

D-Uh huh.

S-And he's the one who created the graphic for the Smile Jamaica concert. What it is, it's a set of illustrated mountains that have a little cartoon smile underneath them, and then a sun rising, or setting, I don't know which it's supposed to be, directly behind the mountains.

J-Yeah, with rays radiating out from it.

S-Correct. And rays radiating out from the sun is something that you see in the Caribbean all the time. It's just...it is. So you can see why that is an icon that you would put in there. Except the problem is the sun, the setting sun or rising sun, whichever way you want to look at it, was one of the graphic symbols used by the PNP. And Jamaicans love stickers, and they love to put them on their cars, and so he...

D-Uh huh.

J-Actually, that's how they hold their cars together. (S and D laughing)

S-Some of them. But he was wandering around trying to hand out these stickers, and people were like "I'm not putting that political sticker on my car. Are you freaking crazy? I don't want to get shot!"

J-Yeah, it sort of created a misunderstanding, I think.

S-Yeah! And then he realized that he had used something that was very very similar.

D-Uh huh.

J-Oopsie!

S-So it's very possible that people felt betrayed, and this is an example of where people really took it that seriously, and they wouldn't even take the sticker for the concert because it was a political, what would you call it? It's not a...it's a sign, I guess. It really is, it's just a political symbol.

D-Yeah, a symbol.

J-A logo, yeah.

S-So they didn't want to do it. And so it could have been just a couple of guys who felt betrayed, and went in and tried to shoot it up, and of course had no idea what they were doing.

J-Sounds like not.

S-Because one of the things, is uh, when I was doing some of the research, at one point one of the gunmen, remember how I said it was kind of just a shoot and go? Stuck his arm around the door...

D-Uh huh.

S-Through the door frame and was pulling the trigger. He wasn't even looking. So this is how committed they were to getting somebody.

J-Yeah, sounds like not too much.

S-Yeah. And now we have one last theory for who may have done this. And this actually is probably the first one we've got, and the only one we've got that actually points the finger at a specific person. There was a guy, several years ago, his name is Christopher...Dudus?

J-I don't know if it's 'dude-us' or 'dud-us.'

S-I don't know. It's d-u-d-u-s. Christopher, I'm going to call it 'dud-us.' Christopher Dudus Coke, and he was a person of major interest for the United States, because he was the head of the Shower Posse. Who, it was a gang, and they were running coke and guns, and the US wanted him because he was running coke and guns.

J-Yeah, they...

D-These are some bad names.

S-Coke?

D-No, just like...

J-The Shower Posse?

D-Yeah.

S-Oh.

D-"Yeah, I know, let's find like a really cool name for our gang." (Steve laughing)

J-I know, yeah.

D-"You know what would be really badass? Uhh..."

J-"Shower Posse."

D-"Shower Posse."

J-Shampoo Posse.

D-Yeah.

S-Maybe it's a shower of bullets?

J-That's what, that's what it is.

D-No Tears? The No Tears Posse. Gah.

S-Uh huh.

J-Yeah.

S-Ok, well here's the thing. This guy, the cops, by the way, did eventually...the US did get him. Or actually no, the US didn't get him, he was delivered to the US by the Jamaicans, but...

J-Who, by the way, did so very reluctantly. It took quite a long time to get them to turn him over.

S-Yeah, they didn't really want to give him up.

J-No they didn't.

S-They really didn't. They kind of wanted to string him up on their own. But his father in the '70s and '80s, was also a major guy. His name was Lester Coke, though he was also known as Jim Brown, which I don't know why it's the two names, but whatever. And Jim Brown was a founder of the original Shower Posse. And...(Devin laughing) You're going to keep joking at that, laughing at that every time, aren't you?

D-I'm sorry, I am (Steve laughing). I feel like it's like when I was in kindergarten and I like started a gang and we were called the Pretty Unicorns (S and J laughing). It's the same thing.

J-Do you still have your jacket from it?

D-No.

J-Damn it.

D-Yeah.

S-Well, uh, ok so back to Jim Brown (laughing).

D-Sorry.

S-AKA Lester Coke, or I guess it's the other way around.

D-The other way, yeah.

S-Well, he was, uh, he was an enforcer and a drug runner in the '70s. And according to a book, the title of which is Dark Alliance, and there's actually several books. Catch a Fire, I think is another one that makes this accusation, that says that he was one of the gunmen who went in. And again, the CIA were involved because he went there at the behest of the CIA.

J-Oh of course.

D-Of course.

S-And here's more...god, we just keep bashing on the CIA today, don't we? One of Coke's, Lester Coke's buddies, a guy named Cecil Conner, he is, uh, he claims he was taken to the jungle in Jamaica and taught by the CIA how to shoot a gun and how to do things to get the JLP to win their elections. Now...

D-Sure.

S-Yeah. I mean he's one of several people who have made this claim, but the fact...everything says that Lester Coke was one of the gunmen, and it seems, you know, to all kind of come from that first book that I mentioned, which is the Dark Alliance. Now I didn't...I couldn't find that book. I couldn't find that or Catch a Fire, so I'm not, I can't corroborate or tell you how they came to this conclusion, but that's the conclusion that they came to.

D-Hm. Interesting.

J-Yeah. There's just not a lot of evidence for that one.

S-Yeah. You know, and the other thing that is...so this is just kind of some wrap up kind of stuff here, is when we talked before, we said that uh...or when Bob, when we watched that Marley interview, he said that nobody had caught the gunmen, or the police hadn't caught the gunmen.

D-Right.

S-Bob Marley's manager, his name was Don Taylor, he claimed that one of the gunmen actually was caught, and uh, I'm guessing under torture and interrogation, admitted that it was the CIA who had set, orchestrated the whole thing.

D-This just feels so silly.

S-I know.

J-Yeah, a little bit (laughing). Don Taylor...and where did you hear that Don Taylor had heard this?

S-I don't know where Don Taylor heard it from. He, Don Taylor, had recounted it, and it was in one of these books, and, you know, I found it in research, but I don't know where he got *that* piece of information from.

J-Maybe off the internet?

S-Uh, maybe (laughing).

D-Probably not at that time. When was the interview?

S-It was more than, you know, more than ten years after the fact. I mean, I'm pretty sure that interview was done after Bob had passed away.

D-Ok, yeah. I mean probably not the internet, but you know.

S-No, probably not the internet.

J-Probably not.

S-Ok.

J-Still, rumors have a way of flying around.

S-Yeah (laughing). Well, that is the end of our theories...

J-Actually, not quite.

S-Oh no?

D-Joe...

J-Got another one.

S-Oh boy.

D-Lost Boy Larry-ing you.

J-I know, I totally could blow you out of the water.

S-If you say it's the CIA, I'm turning off this machine right now.

J-No, no, it's not the CIA. It's...actually it turns out it was some friends and relatives of the sheriff Marley shot (D and S laughing). Yeah. So, it was a revenge shooting.

S-Wow.

J-Yeah, ok. Just had to work in a joke about "I Shot the Sheriff."

S-You did well, sir.

J-Oh yeah, thank you (All laughing). And he openly admitted to shooting the sheriff, and he claims he didn't shoot the deputy.

D-He didn't shoot...but who knows? Yeah right.

J-Yeah, but the jury's still out on that, so, hey, it might have been some of his relatives too. Yeah.

D-Really.

S-All right, well there's that theory too.

D-Yeah, it's a good one.

S-Ok (laughing). It's a revenge shooting.

D and J-Yeah.

S-Just a little bit of...I was doing the research and I realized that Bob Marley, had he not died of cancer, if he had lived on, he'd be 71 this year.

D-Yeah.

S-Which is crazy to think of. He's actually getting to that weird time, where someone has been gone longer then they were alive.

D and J-Yeah.

S-Cause he died at 36, so he's, you know...next year we'll have hit as long without as the world had

with.

D-Uh huh.

J-Yeah.

S-Just kind of a weird thing.

J-Yeah, it is. You know, I just wanted to toss out one other possibility. You said it was just some angry guys about politics. It might have just been angry guys, too. Because, you know, when I was reading about, reading up on this, and the slum culture of Kingston and stuff, it's like a lot of those places where life is cheap and the biggest coin of the realm is respect, you know. And if somebody disrespects you, then that's cause to kill him. So it could have been he was just rude to somebody.

S-It could be, but I really...here's my problem with the "it's just some random resident of the area who was angry."

J-The election and the concert?

S-Well, yeah, it's...

J-I realize that, yeah.

S-But the thing is is that Bob Marley was obscenely generous to the people.

J-He was.

S-People came to his house, and he gave food and money to the people constantly. He was supporting so many people...

D-Yeah.

S-...that he kind of had, at times he had money troubles of his own, because he was giving away so much of his money. So that's why I really...it seems really stupid to bite the hand that feeds.

J-Oh yeah, for sure.

D-Yeah.

J-Now you're probably right, but uh...

D-But again, like you said, some times that logic just doesn't play in. Maybe people thought "Oh maybe if we kill him we can steal all his stuff and then we'll really be..."

S-Yeah.

D-You know? "...doing good."

J-Yeah.

S-Take all of his hard earned money, yeah.

D-Yeah.

S-It's hard to say.

J-Yeah. It turns out that if you really look at the crime stats and everything, here in the States as well as other places, most people who commit crimes like this aren't terribly bright.

D-Yeah.

J-You know, they're not in the habit of thinking very far into the future.

S-Yeah. Planning?

J-Yeah (laughing).

S-Planning is not a strong suit.

J-Yeah.

S-All right. Well, let's go ahead and wrap this one up. So, of course, we'll have some links to this particular story and the audio for it will be available to listen to, or download directly, on the website.

D-If you, you know, have made it this far without knowing how you're listening to it.

S-True. The website is thinking sideways podcast dot com. We are on iTunes, so go ahead and leave a comment and a rating. We appreciate that. We are on, uh, just about every streaming service that's out there, so find us, add us to the one you like. However you want to get your podcast that's great. We have, we've got the social media, so we have the Facebook page and the Facebook group, and the group has been super busy lately.

D-Yeah.

S-Which, actually it's a lot of fun.

D-It is.

S-There's been some great jokes. And then, of course, we're on Twitter, so it's thinkin sideways. Drop the 'g' in the middle. And Devin tweets on that.

D-I do.

S-Pretty frequently.

D-I do (Steve laughing).

S-And you can always go to our subreddit.

D-Uh huh.

S-We...

D-It's kind of sleepy.

S-Is it?

D-Yeah.

S-Currently kind of sleepy.

J-Somebody get out there and post something, come on (Steve laughing).

S-You can always go ahead, and if you want to contact us about this story, or you have thoughts or suggestions for other stories, feel free to send those to us. We've got an email address for that. It is thinking sideways podcast at gmail dot com. And then last but not least, if you are so inclined we've got a couple different ways to support the show. There is on the website a link for the merchandise. There is the Paypal, or if you want you can go ahead and donate via Patreon. It's thinking sideways dot...thinking sideways...

J-Patreon.

S-Patreon dot com slash thinking sideways.

D-You want to just, like really remind people what show this is.

S-I do, I really do. And you can go ahead and set up a recurring donation. It's totally up to you. We appreciate that for everybody who has so far, thank you very much.

D-Yeah, thank you so much.

J-We really do appreciate it.

S-Absolutely awesome.

J-But don't feel any obligation if you don't feel like doing it, if you're poor, you know. I understand.

D-I don't donate to like Wikipedia even. Which, it like makes me feel bad sometimes, but then it goes away. It's fine.

J-Yeah, I don't either (Steve laughing).

J-It makes me feel bad but then I get on there and I see some bit of propaganda that they won't take down or something like that and I think "ah, screw these guys."

D-Yeah. I don't have that.

S-All right. Well, what a way to end it. Way to do it on a high note, you guys.

D-Yeah.

J-We're sorry.

S-We are going to go ahead and close this one out. So we will talk to you next week.

J-Ta-ta.

D-Bye guys.