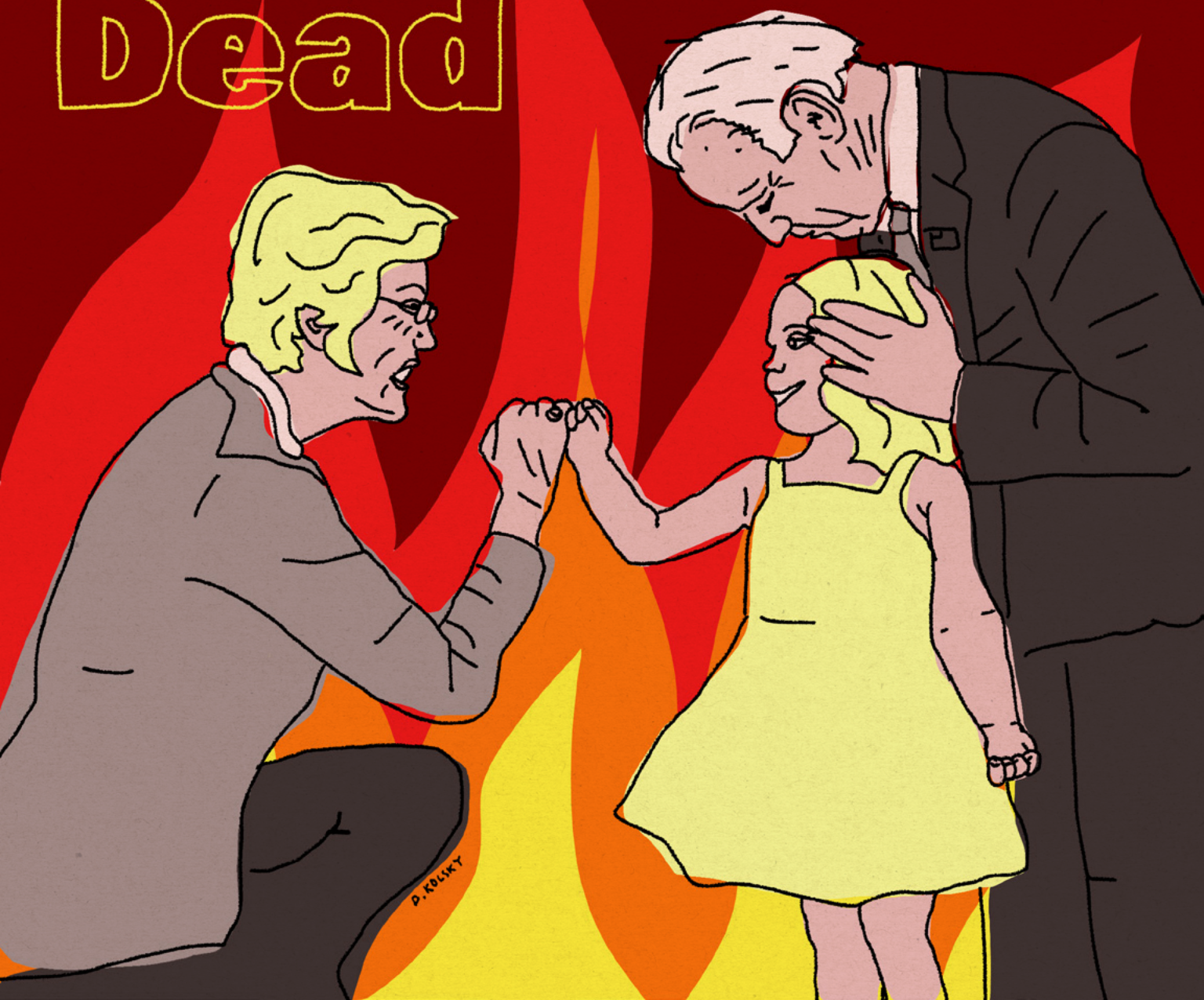


Functionally Dead

MAY 4, 2020//VOL. 1, ISSUE 3



D. KOLSKY

Oh, hey.

QUACK

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UH, OH!

**A TROTSKYIST DUCK HAS BEEN
LET INTO THE ZINE. WATCH OUT!
DON'T GIVE IT YOUR EMAIL!**

TROTSKYIST DUCK BY TIM MAHONEY//DUCK ART BY MAX KNOBLAUCH



WHY I LEFT NEW YORK CITY DURING A PANDEMIC

I'm A Huge Fucking Asshole

//MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN

“DO WE WANT TO BE *THOSE* PEOPLE?”
my daughter Elantra asked.

She meant, “Do we want to be the rich white people who leave the besieged city because they can?”

“Yes,” I said. “We absolutely do.”

“But what about the quarantine?” Elantra asked.

“We are wealthy,” I explained. “Those rules are for poors.”

“What should I take, Mommy?” my five year old son Prius asked.

“Everything,” I responded. “We shall be deprived of nothing.”

**

We left our penthouse and got into the elevator, our gloved hands full of assorted vases, fountain heads, and statuettes worth more than most people’s homes. “Don’t touch the elevator buttons!” I shouted. “They could be covered in Covid.”

“But we’re wearing gloves,” Elantra said.

“Wipe it down,” I said. “Before and after you press them. Also, during.”

**

As we were leaving our building, our doorman, a black man whose name I could never remember, looked at us with concern.

“Getting out of the city?” he asked. “A lot of people in the building are heading for greener pastures.”

“We’re going to our second summer home in the Hamptons,” Prius replied.

“Don’t talk to him!” I scolded Prius. “He could be infected!”

“Ma’am, I feel fine,” the doorman answered.

“Asymptomatic!” I screamed, as I began wiping him down with Clorox wipes.

“Oww!” he screamed. “You got bleach in my eye!” He knocked my hand away and started rubbing his eye.

“Don’t touch your face!” I screamed, grabbing him and shaking him with all my might. “Don’t you understand what’s going on?!”>>

>> “Mom, stop,” Elantra said.

“You’re hurting him,” Prius said.

“By even coming to work, you’re putting my family at risk,” I screamed at whatshisface, ignoring every voice but my own. “And why aren’t you wearing a mask?!” I was yelling so loudly that flecks of my spittle were landing inside of his mouth. I grabbed a spare Hermès scarf and tied it tightly (for safety) around his face.

“You’re fucking crazy!” he said, shoving me off of him, fuming with gratitude. I could tell there was a lot more he wanted to say but couldn’t because he’d be unable to contain his appreciation.

“I can forgive you for that,” I said, making sure to put both my hands on his cheeks to show him how sorry I was, “since we’re in the middle of an unprecedented crisis. But I’m going to need your help carrying some stuff down. I still live here, so you work for me. And I don’t think you can afford to lose your job during a pandemic.”

Our doorman kindly helped us load the SUV up with our essentials: my hand bags, shoes, crystals, juicers, Pelotons, and boxes of unsold copies of my Robert Mueller spy novel *White Russian*. Every time the doorman would pick something up, I would tsk loudly. “Wash your hands!” And each time, he would grit his teeth respectfully and trudge back inside to the bathroom to wash his hands.

“Twenty seconds!” I shouted. “It helps if you sing a song.” When I wouldn’t hear singing, I’d march into the bathroom and sing for him. “THE WHEELS ON THE BUS GO ROUND AND ROUND. ROUND AND ROUND. ROUND AND ROUND,” I’d belt out, making sure to enunciate each syllable loudly and clearly inches from his face.

♦♦

It was almost eleven when the car was fully loaded.



I'm listening.

“Elantra, we don’t have room for that,” I said.

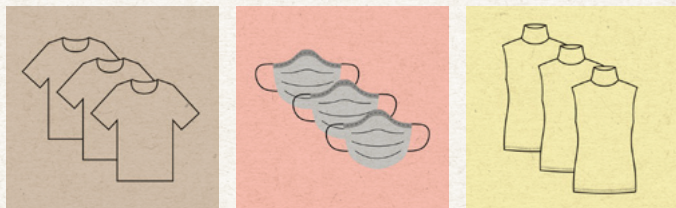
“But it’s my diary, Mom.”

“Elantra, we’re in the middle of a pandemic,” I reminded her. “A little selflessness, please.”

I threw her diary in the sewer, and my eldest daughter seethed with admiration. We drove all night to the Hamptons, stopping only at a hospital to buy N95 masks off a dope-sick EMT. A part of me felt guilty—was I taking a mask meant for an essential worker? But then I realized that despite the fact that I was literally doing just that, I was in the right. There is no more essential worker than me. As the owner of a boutique wine shop and the ex-wife of a hedge fund manager, I am a job creator. Without me, the economy screeches to a halt. Knowing it was for the best, I strapped a ventilator to the roof of my car and drove off. “Goodbye, New York!” I coughed. “You’ll be a worse place for having lost me and my wine store!” 💀

A MESSAGE FROM EVERLANE TO ALL OF YOU

//BRADY O'CALLAHAN



In this terrifying new world, where the most vulnerable among us are in the crosshairs, we need each other more than ever. It can be scary to admit that while we are told to “self-isolate” and “socially distance” from each other, we feel totally alone. This isn’t the 2020 we envisioned. You may feel like you’re going crazy and your experience is uniquely dispiriting. But it’s normal. It’s universal. It’s human.

THAT’S WHY EVERLANE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER
YOU 20% OFF NEW ARRIVALS.

After all, what’s more of a New Arrival than our current situation? The world as we know it is on pause. It’s become clearer as time goes on that no one was prepared for the devastation COVID-19 would enact on Earth’s population. We’re worried about our families. Our friends. Our loved ones.

WE SHOULDN’T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT OUR CLOSETS.

We here at Everlane made a commitment to provide you with an amazing line of ethically sourced, elevated basics, and we know how important it is to you that we follow through on that promise—even now, as coronavirus poses an incredible threat. We hope you can find comfort in The Weekend Tee Dress, as you stay in for a cozy first date over video chat.

We know you’ll love feeling the breeze through your open windows as spring provides the perfect opportunity to get to know The Pima Micro Rib Funnel Neck Tank.

Of course, we’re still here for you if you want to refresh your drawers (if you’re tired of doing so much laundry in your bathtub like us!) with a handful of the always iconic Organic Cotton Box-Cut Tees, now available in Vibrant Tulip!

People are dying.

AND WE’RE DYING TO SHARE THESE GREAT
NEW STYLES WITH YOU.

Every single day, essential workers put their lives on the line to care for the sick, provide tests for the symptomatic, and find and manufacture a vaccine for this destructive virus. However, we know how important it is for us to carry on as normal. We wish we could do more to stand with the heroes working in medical and research fields, but we can’t. But you can! Because we’re extending 20% off to sale items. Buy any tee, cut it up, and use the fabric to make masks to mail to under-funded hospitals. We can all be heroes if we look out for each other.

SO WE HOPE YOU’LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR OFFER
FOR 20% OFF OUR BOLD NEW ARRIVALS AND SALE ITEMS
BY USING THE CODE “UNIONBUST” AT CHECKOUT.

We’ll be honest: we’re not sure how long COVID-19 will last. It could be like this for a very long time.

Our sale ended yesterday at midnight. 🐼



**HUMOR IS THE ANTIREVOLUTIONARY
STRATEGY OF THE STATE AND ITS BRAINLESS
DOGS! “ALT-COMEDY?” MORE LIKE
“ARISTOCRATIC, DESPOTIC, ARROGANT,
AND CONTEMPTUOUS FASCIST PIG,
TORCH-BEARER OF CAPITAL!” QUACK**



An Open Thank You Note to NYC FROM A C-TOWN GROCERY CLERK

//DIANA KOLSKY

Dear Big Apple,

They say if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere. Well, I hope I make it (not financially—I'm lucky to still have a job). I simply hope to stay alive to keep serving.

Things have been rough down at the store: longer hours for sanitizing and ensuring only a limited number of customers shop at once, no masks or gloves yet (to be fair, Paula made some masks out of her dead sister's sweatpants, but they're not hospital-grade), and I've already used up my twelve hours of accrued sick leave for the year... but today made it all worth it!

This morning we were informed that the military will be flying eight U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and seven U.S. Navy Blue Angels over Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Staten Island to honor essential workers. I work tomorrow and we're in the Bronx, but I might be able to hear them.

That's FIFTEEN PLANES! And these are *military-grade aircrafts*. This must have cost the city A FORTUNE. I mean, when they started cheering for us essential workers every night at 7PM, the symbolic act of gratitude and support made me emotional. And now, symbolic gestures from the Government too?! My cup floweth over. It's a little different, I guess, since my neighbor, Dot, can only wheel herself to the fire escape... and the government could, ya know, give me and Dot a monthly basic income and healthcare overnight if they chose to... but wow, fighter jets?! It truly moves me to tears to think about the sacrifice the Government is making for us.

Sure, Governor Cuomo unhouses tens of thousands of homeless folks every year, cuts Medicaid and hospital funding for sport, exploits prison labor, cancels Democratic Primaries, and prioritizes corporate interests above the vast majority of New Yorkers, but that's just how things work in Albany. Look, if you think you could do better, then how come YOU weren't appointed by YOUR father!? The man does a daily press conference and then tweets about it, for crying out loud! Some weeks he even finds time to do scripted schtick with his little brother on national news! And that mask mural he recently unveiled—made up solely of much-needed medical PPE—was a pitch-perfect symbol of these United States. It truly moves me to tears to think about the sacrifice he is making for us.

Tomorrow, when those jets fly high, bursting at the seams with the Earth-boiling fossil fuels we stole from Iraq with some help from the Saudis, I am going to use my fifteen minute lunch break to go into the parking lot and salute the true-blue American sky.

God bless,

Tomm



//JAMES DWYER





DR. FAUCI, GOVERNOR CUOMO, AND SENATOR SCHUMER ABSOLUTELY TEAR MY BLUE ASS APART

//PATRICK KEENE

It was the thrill of my life to get invited to the White House. Being a hardcore member of the #Resistance, there wasn't anywhere I wanted to be less than around that liar, 45, but after receiving a DM on my Twitter account with a private invitation from the nation's leading science expert, I knew I had to go. Dr. Anthony Fauci was the kind of man you dreamed about: a 79-year-old somewhat-in-shape public servant and key member of this administration's Coronavirus Task Force.

I was not-so-patiently waiting when Dr. Fauci returned to his office after yet another press conference with the Cheeto-in-Chief. It must have been hard standing behind that insane, anti-science blowhard, but Dr. Fauci did it with such raw masculine energy. It was no wonder everyone's eyes were drawn to his meek 5'7" frame.

"So you're @NeverthelessKeenePersisted. I've seen a lot of your tweets about me," Fauci shouted across his cluttered desk at me in his rough Brooklyn accent. Instantly, I felt myself stiffen. "Did you really sign that petition to name me *People Magazine's* 'Sexiest Man Alive'?"

"Of course," I answered demurely. "The way you use facts and talk like the only freakin' adult in the room makes you extremely fuckable. When I saw you hold your head in disgust while standing next to... that overgrown Agent Orange, I knew you were the one. You made him look like a fool! You are a literal sex god to me."

"I'm glad you came today." He leapt slowly over the small desk. "The country is failing in its response to the virus. I'd like to test you now. I'll take your rectal temperature and see if you still have a sense of taste." He pulled my gray trousers down and stuck two fingers inside of me. "Intubate me," I said, falling to my knees, and he stuffed his Cornell University Medical College cock down my throat.

"We canceled the primary, Anthony," uttered a gruff Queens-accented voice from the doorway. In stepped Andrew Cuomo, the rugged New York Governor daddy who I jerk off to daily during his powerpoint presentations. He makes me feel safe.

"Good," the Brooklynite doctor boomed back, "this disease is not worth the risk, and we're certainly not capable of sending out mail-in ballots to everyone!" Cuomo took one look at Dr. Fauci face-fucking me and started loosening his tie.

"Today is Saturday," the Governor groaned as he tweaked his left nipple ring. As a true-blue Cuomosexual with a doctor's >>

>> cock in my mouth, I was stunned. This was the man who made Tiny Hands (small penis!) McPeeTape look like a blundering idiot as he led New York through the pandemic like a fuck boss. Wow, two of the hottest men on Earth, who both speak truth to power and fire off logic and reason to the monster running this country every day, were now going to fire off their ejaculate... onto me!

Just then, Senator Chuck Schumer walked in. "We aren't going to let Benedict Donald sign one more stimulus check!" He bellowed in his slightly different Brooklyn accent from Dr. Fauci. "Oh my God," I yelled in ecstasy, "that will drive that fascist Fuckface Von Clownstick insane!" My cock instantly erupted, spraying all three heroes down like the world's most pleasurable firehose.

"I'll have to collect this to test for antibodies," Dr. Fauci said as he licked my cum off of Governor Cuomo's chest. *God, these are men!* I screamed in my Dem-stanning mind. *Reasonable, sexual men!* The doctor, governor, and senator then took turns plowing me as I thought with glee how absolutely crazy they probably drove that tweeting madman in the oval office—how consumed Trumpy Dumbty undoubtedly was with thoughts of these men being men, acting like leaders, and tearing up my anal lining.

As I came again, I could hear in the distance the clapping hands of Speaker Pelosi (my queen, but I don't fuck women). 🍷



SURELY SOME ALLEGED ATTEMPT AT HUMOR. YOU KNOW WHAT'S REALLY FUNNY? QUACK YOUR COMPLICITY IN THE CONTINUAL REINVENTION OF THE IDEOLOGICAL STATE APPARATUS, YOU FASCIST PIG!

You Assholes Let Me Name My Newborn "Karen" AND NO ONE SAID SHIT

//CATHRYN MUDON

I DIDN'T EVEN PLAY THAT COY LITTLE "THE NAME'S A SECRET until she's born" game when I was pregnant, either! You all *knew for months* Karen was on my short list, and no one said SHIT! (And by "short list," I mean TWO names: the one I let Steve add to humor him and Karen.) You knew how distinctive I thought Karen sounded with Brady... Little Karen Brady. "Elegant," you all said when I made us do that thing at Starbucks so I could hear it said out loud in public. ELEGANT!

Oh yeah? Ok. And how would I HAVE POSSIBLY KNOWN, Lucia? You're well aware the lengths I go to to curate my social media to be an *apolitical* space! When I'm online, it's to follow Royal Family drama, get cupcake inspos, or take the occasional dip into 4Chan. That is IT.

What do you mean, you "thought it was ironic," Helene? Did my Instagram of the sonogram captioned "baby Karen's the size of a pear today!" seem in any way **IRONIC TO YOU??**

Ohhhh bullshit, Nicolette, you did not "assume it must have been a family name and didn't want to offend me." You met both mine and Steve's extended families at the shower. It was overflowing with privileged suburbanites, yes, but no one *literally named Karen!* THERE WERE NAME TAGS and you know it.

Oh, really, Gabriella, really? You "figured it was a cultural thing and questioning it could be insensitive." You know what's insensitive?? Letting my first-born daughter walk through life with "Can I See Your Manager" tattooed across her **FUCKING FOREHEAD.**

NO, using her middle name is not an option. Because against my better judgement, I LET STEVE PICK IT, AND I'M NOT CALLING MY DAUGHTER TOM BRADY. 🙄

A SCIENCE EXPERIMENT

//MALIN VON EULER-HOGAN

Functionally
Dead Kidz Korner

with the Mayor of Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS MAYOR CAROLYN GOODMAN RECENTLY TOLD ANDERSON COOPER that she'd offered up the residents of her city as a "control group" for what would happen if a city re-opened its economy amid the coronavirus pandemic. Though her fellow city officials rejected this approach, we here at FUNctionally Dead Kidz Korner thought this would be a fun opportunity for kids to learn all about the scientific method! Follow along as we walk through Mayor Goodman's exciting experiment.

MAKE AN OBSERVATION



My city's economy's not open, and it's costing me and my casino- and hotel-owning friends money. :(Not very many people are even dying.

ASK A QUESTION

What if, contrary to all scientific and medical advice, I opened up all the casinos, hotels, and restaurants anyway? Wouldn't everything be okay? That is to say, wouldn't I, Carolyn Goodman, survive unscathed?

MAKE A HYPOTHESIS



If Las Vegas's economy opens back up, then things will be fine for me personally!

CONDUCT THE EXPERIMENT

First, I lift all restrictions on the city and send Las Vegas residents back to work. "Control group" and "placebo" are both scientific terms, so I'm also mentioning those here. As for me? I will stay home. Science can actually be pretty fun when it only involves working people's lives!

Right away I notice that the Fountains of Bellagio aren't on twenty-four hours a day, so I send an abusive email about getting that fixed. I find out days later that the person who managed that email account has already died, but everyone on my staff agrees that's no excuse. I ask Michael, my driver, to take me to see the Fountains. I don't leave the car, nor do I allow Michael to look at me. I observe that the Fountains appear to be on break! I send another email and berate Michael all the way home just to blow off steam. I'm paying him so I'm allowed. I receive reports of the following over the next twelve months but only skim them:

- > The casino, hotel, and restaurant employees are their only occupants.
- > No one is patronizing them because the visitors we would otherwise be getting are still sheltering at home in their respective states.
- > A blackjack dealer named Julia has a bad cough. Soon, several other employees in her casino do too. This is just one example—this exact scenario is playing out in nearly every establishment up and down the Strip.
- > The virus spreads from Mandalay Bay to Caesars Palace.
- > Las Vegas COVID-19 cases increase exponentially. Local hospitals and healthcare workers are overwhelmed in every sense.
- > Hundreds of people die, then thousands.
- > Ultimately, 60,000 people die.



Back to my fountain issue. I make a phone call to a different employee, and he's able to schedule the water show like I asked. He apparently also dies or something; I'm not sure.

I'm still sheltering in place at home because that is my choice. I'm not watching the news because they never report the good stuff. So negative all the time (yes you, Anderson)!

DRAW CONCLUSIONS

Hypothesis supported! The data shows that 3% of Las Vegas residents did, in fact, die from COVID-19. This figure aligns with that of other places who failed to implement shelter in place measures. However, I, Carolyn Goodman, am alive! And I'm still very, very rich. It is safe to say the experiment has been a resounding success.

REPORT THE RESULTS

Elect women and trust whatever "science" means to you! 🧐

WHAT'S IN MY REFRIGERATOR?

with *Nancy Pelosi*



**A CLOSER
LOOK...**



1. Ice, for my sore hands!
2. Key to Jeffrey Epstein's island
3. Fig Newtons (in case Joe Biden stops by)
4. A smaller refrigerator
5. Extra kidney
6. Necco Wafers (in case Ronald Reagan stops by)
7. The finch who landed on Bernie's podium :)
8. A lock of AOC's hair
9. Celery—we're super healthy around here
10. Semen d'Mueller
11. My spine LOL
12. Paper for ripping
13. Teeth drawer
14. Extra face
15. A barrel of oil
16. Bat blood—oops!
17. Reusable water bottles
18. Stem cells
19. Hugo clones VII-IX
20. And, of course, Jeni's <3

SHOULD TRUMP VOTERS JUST FUCKING DIE ACCORDING TO DEMS ONLINE: A TIMELINE

//BRADY O'CALLAHAN



January 21

Millions Worldwide Join Women's March

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should just fucking die. Little thought given so far as to what went wrong in the 2016 election.



June 1

United States Withdraws From Paris Climate Agreement

The working class and communities of color will be most affected by climate change, and effective messaging, outreach, and support could showcase a readiness to protect and serve. Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should just fucking die.



March 9

Donald Trump Agrees to Discuss Denuclearization with North Korea Leader Kim Jong-un

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should just fucking die. Despite this, South Korea was relieved to have its first diplomatic visit to North Korea since the Korean War.



October 6

United States Confirms Brett Kavanaugh as Supreme Court Judge

Accusations of sexual assault do nothing to stop Kavanaugh's confirmation. Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should just fucking die, because Kavanaugh is a conservative.



February 29

Joe Biden Wins South Carolina Democratic Primary

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should not just fucking die, because they could end up voting for Joe Biden in the general despite having not voted for a Democrat in the general since 1976.



April 8

Joe Biden Secures Democratic Nomination

Accusations of sexual assault do nothing to stop Biden's nomination. Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should not just fucking die, because Biden is a conservative they might vote for.



November 3

The General Election

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should not just fucking die. They will certainly vote for Joe Biden just because he is not Donald Trump. Little thought given so far as to what went wrong in the 2016 general election.

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1
7

May 17

Robert Mueller Takes Over Russian Interference Investigation as Special Counsel

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should not just fucking die, as they will call for the impeachment and removal of Donald Trump upon the completion of an impartial investigation from a lifelong, honorable Republican.



October 1

58 People Die in Mass Shooting at Las Vegas Country Music Festival

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should not just fucking die. Many 2016 Trump voters likely did fucking die.



August 7

United States Imposes Sanctions on Iran

The sanctions disproportionately hurt innocent civilian populations who hold no political power to change US/Iran relations. Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should not just fucking die. They do not really care about this.



April 26

Marvel Releases Avengers: Endgame

The movie shatters box office records. Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should not just fucking die, because the billionaires in Hollywood who definitely vote for him make good movies with characters onto which they can project their favorite politicians.



April 7

Joe Biden Wins Wisconsin Democratic Primary

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should just fucking die, but, in a rare act of solidarity, Democrats can also just fucking die from the COVID-19 they were exposed to at polling sites, as long as Biden secures the nomination.



April 17

Media Gives Enormous Coverage to Small Numbers of Staged "LIBERATE" Protests

Dems online think 2016 Trump voters should just fucking die, because they are stupid and putting others at risk. Trump thinks 2016 Trump voters should just fucking die, because they are not rich enough to matter. Dems online and Trump are essentially aligned.



November 4

The Morning After the General Election

Dems online think 2020 Trump voters should just fucking die.



WHOLE FOODS UNION HEAT MAP DATA REVEALED

//MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN



A recent report by *Business Insider* has uncovered that Whole Foods has been tracking stores via a heat map to see which locations are most at risk for unionizing.

The heat map is powered by an elaborate scoring system, which assigns a rating to each of Whole Foods' 510 stores based on the likelihood that their employees might form or join a union.

The stores' individual risk scores are calculated from more than two dozen metrics, including employee "loyalty," turnover, and racial diversity; "tipline" calls to human resources; proximity to a union office; and violations recorded by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Functionally Dead has obtained a copy of Whole Foods' analytics.

LOCATION: Juneau, AK

WAGES: Low

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

Daryl, a real tough guy

PROXIMITY TO NEAREST UNION

OFFICE: 1.2 Iditarods

EMPLOYEE LOYALTY: Daryl is loyal

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS:

Temperature of frozen food freezer
actually warmer than weather outside

TIPLINE CALLS TO HUMAN

RESOURCES: They know better than to
go behind Daryl's back

TACTICS TO PREVENT UNION:

Daryl will cull the uprising

LOCATION: Burbank, CA

RACIAL DIVERSITY: Bad, but we are
committed to starting the conversation

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES WHO BOOK:
100%

PRICE OF REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES

WE SELL NEAR THE COUNTER: We're
thinking of making them 40 goddamn
dollars if you can fucking believe it

TURNOVER: Kaitlen booked a non-union
game show on Quibi and has to leave
immediately

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS:

Employee's improv team practiced for six
months in the meat dept (but UCB died so
should be fine going forward)

TO KEEP WAGES DOWN: Insist Whole
Foods counts as "New Media" under SAG >>

LOCATION: New York City, NY

RACIAL DIVERSITY: Sal in Deli is 100% Italian, bay-bee!

NUMBER OF GUYS WALKING HERE: Many

WAGES: Rent is insanely high here, so... low

PROXIMITY TO NEAREST UNION OFFICE: Ten minutes if Cuomo would fix the fucking trains

LOYALTY: You kiddin' me?! I grew up in this fuggin town, bay-bee!

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS: A-C-E line runs directly through canned food aisle

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS, CONT: 17 rats: 1 person

NUMBER OF TIMES THE IMPRACTICAL JOKERS FILMED HERE: 6

IS MURR A COOL GUY IN REAL LIFE: For sure

TACTICS TO PREVENT UNION: Let them unionize, but all union meetings must take place somewhere incredibly inconvenient, like Flushing

LOCATION: Washington, DC

WAGES: Not nearly as high as these clowns in Congress

MANAGER: Whoever it is, they're doing a better job than some of these clowns in Congress

PROXIMITY TO NEAREST UNION OFFICE: Not as far away as these clowns in Congress would like

TIPLINE CALLS TO HUMAN RESOURCES: I got a "tip" for ya—these clowns in Congress are up to no good

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS: None, unless you count dealing with these clowns in Congress

PRICE OF REUSABLE WATER BOTTLES WE SELL NEAR THE COUNTER: Pretty reasonable, before you add in sales tax (thanks for that one, clowns in Congress!)

LOCATION: Pittsburgh, PA

WAGES: Low

MANAGER: Daryl's cousin, Daryl

PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYEES WHO THINK COACH TOMLIN BETTER DRAFT A QB THIS YEAR BECAUSE I TELL YOU WHAT BIG BEN'S BEST DAYS ARE BEHIND HIM: 95

HOT FOOD BAR: Piping

TURNOVER: Oh, come on, yinz is gonna turn the ball over when we're tied in the fourth quarter after Ben's thrown three INT's on the day! We need a new QB, Tomlin!

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS: What did the safety do this time? Jesus Christ, that's why we're 5 and 7 this year—we need Troy Polamalu back

TACTICS TO PREVENT UNION: There's nothing you can do about the Players' Union. Big Ben's getting paid the big bucks to sit on his ass

LOCATION: Tampa, FL

HOT FOOD BAR: Tepid

MANAGER: None (this location is part of our "Operation: Chaos" program)

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES THAT GOT MARRIED AND THREW A WEDDING RECEPTION INSIDE THE STORE WHILE IT WAS OPEN BY PRETENDING THE GUESTS WERE CUSTOMERS AND TREATING THE LIQUOR AISLE LIKE AN OPEN BAR: Less than we thought

WHEN WE CLOSE THE STORE, DO THE ARTISANAL CHEESES COME TO LIFE AND HAVE THEIR OWN ADVENTURES: No (we checked)

TIPLINE CALLS TO HUMAN RESOURCES: A handful, but they were mostly just bomb threats

PROXIMITY TO NEAREST UNION OFFICE: Just get on your Harley Davidson and ride. If you were meant to get there, you'll get there

HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS: To cut costs, filled the key lime pies with horse meat

TACTICS TO PREVENT UNION: Lie and say there is already a union and they are all in it (this will buy us maybe 24 hours) 🍷



TOP OF THE DOME COVID-19 ADVICE FROM A NON- SCIENTIST

//ANDY BUSTILLOS

- Swallow a pot scrubber w/ dish detergent on it, maybe it'll scrub corona off on way out
- Rub hand sanitizer on inside of eyelids, nose, and lips—if it works on hands, it should work on the gooey parts of the face
- Stand outside on windy day, maybe it blows away
- Order Buffalo Wild Wings—always cleans me out
- Go outside and get hit by car, maybe that rattles it loose and you shit it out
- Eat a bowl of soap, whichever brand smells best
- Grab a spoon and scoop it out of all body holes, sanitize first OBVIOUSLY
- Pray you have a wet dream—or as I like to call it, a blowjob from God and then God has it. This is how STDs work, trust me
- Take a too hot shower
- Smile, maybe it's in your head
- Go back to work—you're probably sick cuz you're poor
- Be white 🤖



Taurus

(April 20-May 20)
Discomfort Zone

USUALLY A PRUDENTIAL ROCK OF stability, you've gone from homebody to nobody. Your routine is shot and your Zoom birthday party sucked. Time to take those mushrooms in the freezer—you lit have NOTHING to lose.



Gemini

(May 21-June 20)
Social Suicide

Vacillating wildly betwixt saving the world and slipping into Stage 5 alcoholism has kept you busy. But Mercury's in retrograde, so hang tight in Stage 4.



Cancer

(June 21-July 22)
Rent Freeze

You're deep. You're emotional. You're manipulating... your landlord's hot son on TikTok. It's working, but best to review local Squatters' Rights (in case lowering your last two Mollies down to him from the fire escape doesn't seal the deal.)



Leo

(July 23-Aug. 21)
Pied Piper

You're stoned, Lionheart, and you can't help but wonder: where are my followers now? Like fellow Leo, Obama, you're drawing blueprints and building cages for the future. Hopefully enough people survive the plague to fill them.



Virgo

(Aug. 22-Sept. 22)
Sugar High

Type A? Try Type 2... diabetes. Seriously, stop eating sour bears and start washing your underpants in the sink. You smell weird and UPS is coming by with more sour bears.



Libra

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Read a Room

You're hard to pin down, but relax—you're physically pinned down beneath a bookshelf you tried to climb after butt-chugging expired Codeine. No one can hurt you now (your circulation's been cut off and you can no longer feel pain).



Scorpio

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Purchasing Power

Still waters run deep, and so does your debt. Stop buying shit online. NOW. You can get the same rush from taking six Benadryls and trying to stay awake.



Sagittarius

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Health Is Wealth

Pinch yourself, cuz this ain't a dream—you're fuckin' alive! So pop another Adderall and start sewing those masks for your stepmom's church trip to Costco. A good deal waits for no one.



Capricorn

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
White (Powder) Lies

Ya ever snorted a gator tail a' yip and watched that Taylor Swift-screaming goat on repeat? Neither have I. (That's a lie! See how easy?) Richard Nixon isn't the only Crooked Capricorn. Quarantine makes practicing your art difficult, so lie to yourself.



Aquarius

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Bon Voyage

You have a wealth of ideas, Water Baby. Here's some advice: take 'ludes. Take so many your brain stops for a few days. You're worth it.



Pisces

(Feb. 19-March 19)
Empath to Nowhere

You cried when you found out the tiger at the Oregon Zoo has COVID-19. Save some of those tears for yourself, Fishtits. And a couple Xanny bars—the river of romance has dried TF up, and there's no drama in sight.



Aries

(March 20 -April 19)
Mama's Li'l Helper

Passion! Fire! Hot, hot farts from eating expired beans! Botulism? Sure! You'll take your kicks where you can get 'em. Enjoy. 💩

HOROSCOPES BY DIANA KOISKY//SIGN ART BY MAX KNOBLAUCH

RULING-CLASS PSEUDO-SCIENCE! QUACK LOOKING TO THE STARS FROM
THE INDEPENDENT PARASITIC BODY OF EXTREME VIOLENCE!!
BLOODTHIRSTY COPS! YOU WILL STOP AT NOTHING.



HEY, THOMAS FRIEDMAN: HERE'S A REAL UNITY CABINET

//JAMES DWYER

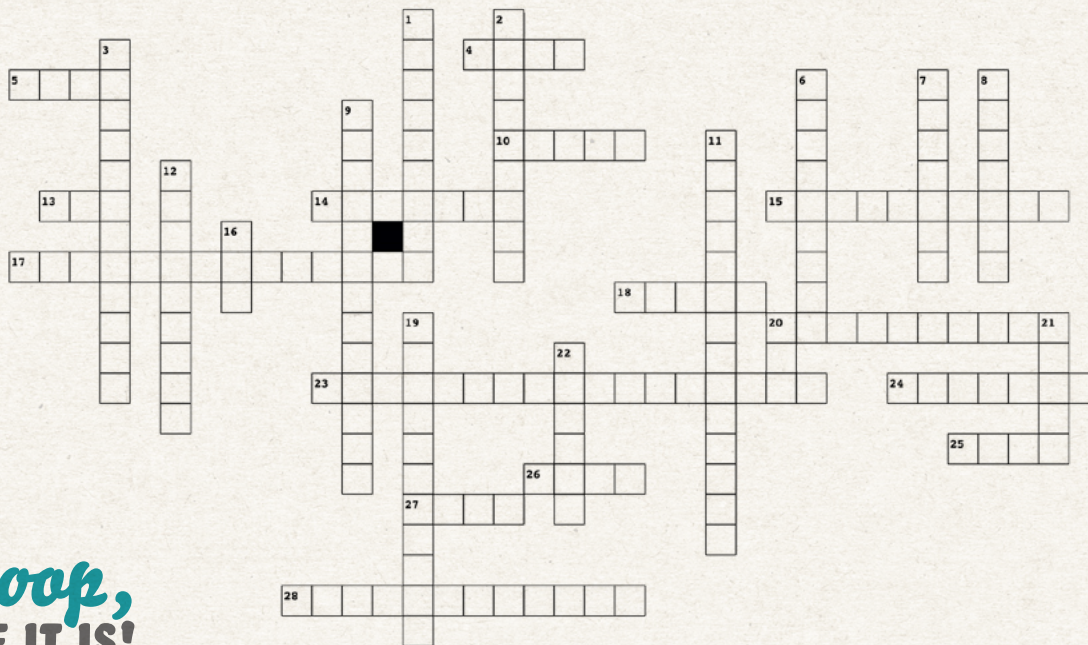
Thomas Friedman,

I read your “Biden Unity Cabinet” piece in the *New York Times* assuming I would loathe it, but instead, I quickly realized you're onto something important here. The way to unify the electorate in these divided times isn't through popular policy, as some would lead us to believe. We can only come together if we fill Biden's cabinet with a chaotic array of people from every possible political ideology, thereby distracting us from the formaldehyde leaking from his eyes. Tom, you played it too safe by only aiming for Centrists and Neoliberals. You completely forgot Leftists, MAGA-flies, Anarcho-Terrorists, Climate Change Suppliers, Key Party Chaplains, Anti-Vaxx Vaccine Manufacturers, Gun-Chugging Gas Guzzlers, a few British people... I think you get the picture. So I present to you...

The REAL Biden Unity Cabinet:

VICE PRESIDENT - Nina Turner, Oprah, & Candace Owens piled into a single trench coat
SECRETARY OF STATE - Hillary Clinton's personal server (a true unifier)
SECRETARY OF FRACKING THE INTERIOR (new position) - RuPaul
DEFENSE SECRETARY - “The Big Tuna” Bill Parcells
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY - Dr. Ken Jeong (he's a real doctor, if you didn't know)
GATHERER OF THE VIBES (new position) - The Insane Clown Posse
ATTORNEY GENERAL - Kamala Harris after being transformed by Raytheon into a Robocop
U.N. AMBASSADOR - The KONY 2012 Guy (real name unknown)
CORONA WRANGLER (new position) - Bear Grylls (British)
TREASURY SECRETARY - Dr. Cornel West
LABOR SECRETARY - Joe the Plumber (he's a real plumber, if you didn't know)
SECRETARY OF PRISON LABOR (new position) - Andrew Cuomo
EPA ADMINISTRATOR - ASIMO, The Humanoid Robot created by Honda
OMB DIRECTOR - Antifa
EDUCATION SECRETARY - Betsy DeVos (now a lifetime appointment)
HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY - star of *Homeland*, Claire Danes
OFFICIAL SLOGAN (new position) - “Baba Booe!”
HUD SECRETARY - Former Host of *The Weakest Link*, Anne Robinson (British)
COMMERCE SECRETARY - Every man who has sincerely said, “I've been getting really into craft beer lately”
ENERGY SECRETARY - Hunter Biden

If Joe is serious about winning, this is his path forward. Assemble the unity cabinet. Release the list on Twitter with a GIF of Adam Sandler's character from *Uncut Gems* saying “I'm gonna cum”. Defeat Trump in November.



Whoop, THERE IT IS!

ACROSS

- 4.** A life-threatening condition for which Whoopi Goldberg has contributed to many charities to fight. Also, a disqualifying characteristic for immigration to the United States, according to a 1987 Joe Biden vote to amend HR 1827
- 5.** Number of millions Whoopi Goldberg earns per season of *The View* (2019 low estimate) to share her sociopolitical opinions with America
- 10.** Whoopi's birth first name, which could not be more perfect
- 13.** Women of the cloth in the Catholic tradition, and homophone for the number of supporters Joe Biden has who are under 35 years old
- 14.** *The View* and all network media's supreme objective, increased by pre-scripted conflict and provocative sound-bites
- 15.** The one coherent belief that unites all co-hosts of *The View*
- 17.** 1985 Spielberg film, and defining feature of a gassed-up liberal's face when you demand that they hold their own candidates to the same standards they have for Republicans
- 18.** Goldberg voiced this type of animal in *The Lion King*
- 20.** "[two words] was here and it made perfect sense to me. He said, 'Do you realize if Amazon and Facebook and all these gigantic corporations paid any tax, we could find some relief for regular Americans. Do you agree with that [that corporations should pay their fair share of taxes]?...I've never heard you say anything like that before.'" —Whoopi Goldberg to Bernie Sanders on Sept. 4, 2019

- 23.** The only way you could possibly enjoy *The View* is if you were ____ (three words)
- 24.** Whoopi's birth surname, which her mother felt "did not sound Jewish enough" for her daughter to become a star (no relation to Boris, probably)
- 25.** Prestigious four-award winning status
- 26.** Father of three down, if you didn't know
- 27.** TV show *Star* _____. Also, the distance you have to walk to a polling location in disenfranchised communities
- 28.** What Whoopi flagrantly revealed herself to be in her April 1, 2020 interview with Bernie Sanders (two words)

DOWN

- 1.** Goldberg's estimated net worth is ____ million dollars. Also, liberals' most unlucky number
- 2.** Whoopi Goldberg still defended this serial rapist as "innocent til proven guilty" until 2015, amid dozens of victims' accounts and his own guilty plea to drugging multiple women with Quaaludes (two words)
- 3.** The only way Whoopi Goldberg looks progressive in any capacity is in comparison to this fellow "star" of *The View*
- 6.** *The Good Place* star and 1993 black-face revivalist (two words)
- 7.** A competitive struggle for power or wealth, an exhausting routine, or a Buttigieg Family Sack Sprint
- 8.** Whoopee ____, a prank device. Also, how Whoopi got her name... from farting on-stage a lot

- 9.** "I know it wasn't rape-rape. It was something else but I don't believe it was rape-rape." —Whoopi Goldberg on this convicted child rapist (two words)
- 11.** A return to form, as in the DNC's relationship to presidential primary interference. Also, *Sister Act 2* subtitle (four words)
- 12.** "I'm hoping [two words] becomes the Surgeon General... She's a hell of a doctor. She's an amazing doctor." —Whoopi Goldberg on this PhD educator
- 16.** Gun lobbyist organization of which Goldberg is a member (seriously, look it up)
- 19.** *The View* is currently in its ____ season, if you can believe it. Also, the date of the June Presidential primary before Cuomo and the NY BOE cancelled democracy
- 20.** *The View* network
- 21.** Elizabeth Warren's twitter once instructed her followers to "dump the guy who ____ed you," which doesn't make a ton of sense
- 22.** Last name of the *Apocalypto* director of whom Whoopi said "I know he's not a racist" despite several recent recordings of anti-semitic and racist rants that had surfaced

Click on crossword for the
interactive experience
(Answers on p. 18)

I READ THIS ZINE, AND THE FUTURE SEEMS BLEAK.

What do I do now?

//DAN LOPRETO

Even as the Democratic Party attempts to quash any semblance of democracy in New York State, here are some down-ballot candidates across the country to check out:

[Zohran Kwame Mamdani](#) (NYC 36th Assembly)

Zohran is a housing counselor and an Indian-Ugandan New Yorker who doesn't accept money from the real estate industry, corporate donors, or dark money PACs.

[Jackie Fielder](#) (CA State Senate)

Jackie is a Native American, Mexicana, and queer educator with a radical plan to address California's housing crisis.

[Mckayla Wilkes](#) (MD 5th Congressional District)

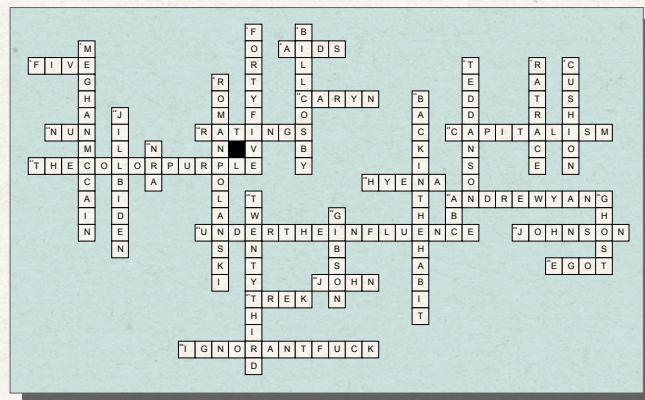
Mckayla supports a Medicare For All program, abolishing ICE, and creating a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

[Shahid Buttar](#) (CA 12th Congressional District)

Shahid is a constitutional lawyer, a democratic socialist, and the first left-wing challenger for Nancy Pelosi's seat in over 30 years. He supports the Green New Deal and Medicare For All.

[Nithya Raman](#) (Los Angeles City Council 4th District)

Nithya is in a tight run-off election this November. She is a democratic socialist and anti-capitalist, committed to helping Los Angeles's houseless population, fighting for tenants' rights, and representing the communities of CD-4 against big real estate interests.



Get out your telescope! Answers to "Whoop, There It Is!"

I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT "DAN LOPRETO" IS AN OPPORTUNIST, SOFT-SKULLED MOUTHPIECE FOR THE OXYMORONIC LIBERAL VANGUARD PARTY. IF YOU REALLY WANT TO DO SOMETHING QUACK READ OUR NEWSPAPER.



Submit your thoughts to functionallydead@gmail.com

IN THE NEXT ISSUE: THE "E" FROM THE JOE BIDEN LOGO KILLS ITSELF



No, you relax, you're the dead guy!

FOLKS TO BLOCK:

//ANDY BUSTILLOS//MATTHEW BRIAN COHEN//JAMES DWYER//PATRICK KEENE//MAX KNOBLAUCH//DIANA KOLSKY//DAN LOPRETO//
//TIM MAHONEY//CATHRYN MUDON//BRADY O'CALLAHAN//SEAN O'REILLY//MALIN VON EULER-HOGAN//ROSIE WHALEN//