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GIRI: I'm Giri Nathan.

SAMER: I'm Samer Kalaf.

GN: So we want to do a podcast about names but we don't know what to call it.

GN: I hope that listeners can understand the huge range and variety of ways that our names affect how we move through the world. And I hope that that allows us to explore all kinds of points of view whether that's an immigrant experience or sharing a name with a very unfortunate person from history, what it's like to pick a name after transitioning.

SK: I would be interested in speaking to an adoptee and seeing how they chose their name.

GN: What is it like to have the name Jeremy?

GN: Namedropping with Giri and Samer?

SK: What about Namedropping with Samer and Giri?

GN: What's my name again?

SK: Can you spell it?

GN: How do you say it?

SK: How about Nothing but Your Name?

GN: To Name a Few?

SK: We're just looking for something that is easy to remember, accurate in representing us, and something we feel proud of.

GN: I don't need to feel proud about it. I'm willing to be ashamed of it if it works.

SK: The thing is like with a name, it's very rare that you're going to be able to choose it. And I don't know, I think it kind of sets a framework for how you live your life afterward, positively or negatively. Obviously it's definitely the person than a podcast.

GN: Although maybe our podcast will feel differently someday and looking up at us and having regrets.

GN: When a show has a bad name, I can usually look past it but there's a little inkling in the back of my head that's a little bit embarrassed, kind of paints me into a corner in defending my interest and values.

SK: A bad podcast name kind of sets you back with like a handicap at the beginning because you just basically have to have a conversation so good that it overcomes it — or just have such success that people are willingly saying Chapo Traphouse all the time basically.

GN: So after we landed on our top two names, we floated it for our staff and kind of expected just a simple vote, but as usual, it devolved into a larger debate. Lauren says “Name Pending sounds like you haven't figured out the name of your podcast yet,” which I think is kind of the bit. But if it's not hitting, then it's not hitting.

GN: Drew suggested Named Dragging that we're really in the business of lifting up names, not dragging them, Barry suggested Call Her Daddy or Her Name, Whichever She Prefers. Albert suggested titling it, Exclusive New Surprise Beyonce Album Available Nowhere Else.

SK: Yeah, that would've won the SEO game pretty handily.

SK: I think eventually we found a clear majority on which name is better.

GN: This is Namedropping.

SK: Subscribe wherever you're hearing this and check out defector comm for more info.

ALEX: Let me be you and you be a white person. Hi, my name is Giri.

GN: Gideon. How do you spell that?

AL: G-I-R-I

GN: Gear D?

AL: Just pretend. Pretend it's a D.

GN: Okay. Like giddy like, giddy up. That's easy. You should have just said that in the beginning.