Scathing Atheist 483:

The “Manifestering” Edition

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Warning: Despite what spellcheck would have you believe, we’re not trying to talk about ducks.

Sponsor:

This week’s episode of the Scathing Atheist is brought to you by ... My Sheets Rock, Hello Fresh, Adam and Eve ... And by ... microphones and shit.

And now, the Scathing Atheist.

Intro:

It’s Thursday!

It’s May 19th,

And it's World Inflammatory Bowel Diseases Day!

And we still made you work? That's CRAZY.

I’m Noah Lugeons,

I’m Eli Bosnick,

I’m Heath Enwright, and from Count Basie's New Jersey; Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Waycross, Georgia ... *this* is the *Scathing Atheist*.

On this week’s episode,

- A mass shooter gets his massive ass inspired by Mass,
- Christian moms give up sweet tea and Netflix just like Gandhi,
- And Greg Locke will face fewer consequences for violating the IRS’s rules than he did for violating Dunkin’ Donuts’.

But first, the Diatribe...

Diatribe

Don't get me wrong, I'd love to talk about politics less on this show, too. I'd love it if the animating force behind everything wrong with American politics didn't flow through religion. I'd love it if the tiny fraction of us who are willing to admit there's no cosmic Disneyland awaiting us when we die weren't the last goddamn bulwark between us and Christian facsism. But that ain't the world we live in, so I have to talk about Tuesday's primary results.

See, the media at large is basically presenting this round of primaries as a referendum on Trumpism and his election conspiracy bullshit. And while that's a fair framing, I fear that it understates the problem. Because look, Trump is a seventy-five year old, overweight couch potato that lives on a diet of fastfood burgers, burned steak, and statins. As bad as he is, he's not gonna be around a hell of a lot longer. And by personifying the problem in him, all too many pundits are giving us this false sense of hope that all we have to do is outlive Trump and the problem will start to fade. Sure, the things he did will reverberate for a long time after — most notably his Supreme Court picks — but, as this theory holds, once he's gone democracy can start to heal itself.

But this ignores the real problem. It didn't start with Trump and it won't end with him. The real problem, as regular listeners are all too aware, is radical Christianity. It's shit like the prosperity gospel and the New Apostolic Reformation. It's shit like seven mountains theology, which says that Christians have a divine obligation to take over the "seven mountains" of public life; those being religion, family, education, government, the arts, and business. It's the toxic blend of religion and politics that's gobbling up school boards, police departments, and municipal governments. It's the regressive, racist, homophobic, misogynistic movement that demands exceptions to contraception mandates and anti-discrimination laws. So the right framing of this isn't "mainstream candidates versus Trump endorsed candidates", it's "mainstream authoritarian theocrats versus the motherfuckers so theocratically authoritarian they scare the mainstream ones."

Let me give you a prime example out of Pennsylvania. Now, many of you won't be familiar with the name Doug Mastriano, and to be honest, I'm jealous of you. Mastriano earned Trump's endorsement in his campaign for Pennsylvania governor by doing everything but sucking his toadstool on national television. Mastriano is a former State Senator that was all in on Trump's conspiracy bullshit about the 2020 election from pretty much the second the words escaped Trump's lips. He's gone on record several times saying that the state has an absolute right to replace the electors the voters chose with loyal Trumpies. Not only was he at the "Stop the Steal" rally on January 6th, but he was in the group that marched on the Capitol building. Since then, he's campaigned at conferences promoting Qanon and 9/11 conspiracy theories, and he's told everyone who cared to listen that he has every intention of using his power as governor to subvert democracy should a Democrat win the presidential election in 2024.

Now, the mainstream media is calling this guy an “election denier” or an “election conspiracist”, which is good, sure, but I fear that’s dangerously backwards facing. You hear that and you might think “Sure, it’s scary, but it’s not like he can go back in time and prevent the Biden administration. It’s not like the governor has the power to change out the electoral votes three years on, and even if he did, it’s not like that would have swung the election. But the dangerous aspects of this guy *aren’t* in the past. He has already pledged to use his powers … sorry, *abuse* his powers as governor to ensure that the next presidential election swings to the Republicans. Sure, he might have to conjure up some claims about voter fraud or illegitimacy, but given the standard of evidence his voters have settled on to this point, it’s not like that’s gonna be hard.

And that’s *not*, by the way, because his voters are stupid. It’s because they don’t fucking care. I mean, who gives a shit whether the justification is true if you’re on a mission from god? And that divine authority is *exactly* what Mastriano has been campaigning on. Trump is god’s chosen candidate, Satan thwarted god through election fraud, and it’s the job of right thinking Christians to make sure that never happens again. Hell, it’s not just their job, it’s their *holy fucking mission*.

See, the root of the problem here is that Christianity is, ultimately, incompatible with democracy. I mean, if god’s will is X, who gives a fuck if the will of the people is Y? We’re tempted to believe otherwise because they’ve coexisted for so long in the US, but it was always tenuous. Our democracy was crafted by some of the least religious people of their day and was born into a historical era famous for its embrace of secular solutions. Since then, Christianity has begrudgingly accepted a subservient role in our society, but every time it surges in popularity, it tries to chip away at the secular edifice that keeps it there.

And, as Trump seemed all too eager to prove, their leader needn’t embrace any of the morality their religion ostensibly promotes. After all, if they took issue with immoral, authoritarian bigots in charge, they wouldn’t be worshipping Jehovah, would they? Besides, how immoral can an act possibly be if its end result aligns with god’s plan? So when Doug Mastriano promises to take back America for white, heterosexual, patriarchal Christians, his supporters don’t really care how he gets there.

So sure, some of Trump’s preferred candidates lost on Tuesday and it was damn satisfying to see Madison Cawthorn get dumped on his ass in his primary, but Mastriano’s victory — hell, even his *viability* overshadows all of that. And it casts a shadow at least long enough to darken Republican politics for years to come.

Headlines A

Joining me for headlines tonight are the legs and breasts to my wings, Heath Enwright and Eli Bosnick. Fellas, are you ready to lick some fingers?

I like to wear rubber gloves when I eat wings.

And licking people's fingers was my kink pre covid so lets hope it catches on

And before we get going, I want to remind everyone that it's still May, which means it's still Maytreon. That's the time of the year we spend laying it on thick with the solicitations by urging you to sign up at Patreon (dot) com (slash) Scathing Atheist. Every year we get together for a special Patron-only pajama party live stream, and you can help decide what we do during that livestream by adding your donation to the mix. We're only a few new and upgrading patrons away from live music from Anna, a Bible Trivia showdown, and … for reasons I'll never understand, Heath hosting an episode of D&D minus. So if you can, donate as little as a dollar an episode and help keep our lights on. And, if you're not already convinced, I should remind you that patrons don't even have to listen to a word from this week's first sponsor, My Sheets Rock.

And now, back to the headlines.

In our lead story tonight ... A white nationalist domestic terrorist named Fuckyourface shot 13 people, killing 10, at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York last week. Eleven of those shooting victims were Black, and before carrying out the massacre, he wrote a manifesto explaining that his goal was to kill as many Black people as possible. And of course it's no surprise that he was radicalized while reading about "White Replacement Theory" on the type of websites that're often run by failing pillow salesmen. It's another super clear example that Americans can't be trusted with guns...or computers, or sentience. So the obvious lesson is about our toxic racist culture and our toxic gun culture, which often intersect. But there's another angle to the story that makes it fit the show we do. And you won't hear this part in the headlines about it, but Fuckyourface is a radical Christian terrorist. And he's quite certain that "white replacement" is happening because the non-white community is teaming up with...the Jewish community.

Yeah, the silver lining on Replacement Theory (in that there is one) is that these assholes clearly recognize how thoroughly replaceable they are.

Just once I'd love for our job to lack some intersectionality with the tragedy du jour but today is NOT that day

So we learned all about Fuckyouface's motivation from his 180-page manifesto. And this always bothers me. This guy couldn't write a 5-paragraph essay about "I like ducks", but all of sudden he has the attention span of a German philosopher to talk about the genetic superiority of people who can't write a 5-paragraph essay about "I like ducks." Okay I guess that kinda tracks. So here's what we learned from the manifesto. The big motivation for the massacre is the fear that a cabal of "global elites" (Jewish people) is trying to destroy the "white countries" by sending a bunch of "high fertility" non-white people to breed out the whiteness. So first of all, that sounds great. Also...it makes me happy that bigots think their superior white genetics are gonna get diluted by the super fast sperm and electromagnetic eggs of people they think are

genetically inferior. And no, they didn't hear it. Their insane narrative would contradict itself even if it was true.

It seems to me that the main thing America would lose if we didn't have white people is mass shootings, no?

Oh so I guess jello salads and funeral potatoes mean NOTHING to you Noah? RESPECT OUR CULTURE

So just imagine a quick hypothetical. If instead of a Christian, this guy was a Muslim...EVERY SINGLE news article mentions his religion IN THE HEADLINE. But I found exactly ZERO mentions of his Christianity, despite 29 pages of the manifesto being dedicated to the idea that (in his words) "THE JEWS" are behind the white replacement conspiracy. He argued that there's a genetic basis for higher rates of violent crime among non-white people (during his manifesto about the violent crime he was about to commit), and also argued that there's a genetic basis for the racial IQ gap.

I mean … there is in that it reflects white people's racism, but I don't think that's what he means.

Well lets hear him out when sam harris has him on his podcast, Noah.

And from there, he concluded that all the Black university professors talking about Critical Race Theory in class needed the help of "sneaky Jewish smart brains" to run the conspiracy. Also...Jewish people do pedophilia. Also...they're secretly running transgender summer camps for "Scandinavian-style whites." Not clear on how that replaces white people, but that's in there too...secret norse camps for trans people...only in the summer.

What color do these assholes think jews are? Does he think were just pantone enthusiasts?

And just in case the religion angle wasn't clear enough, the manifesto specifically mentions that a personal hero and role model is the radical Christian terrorist who massacred 51 people at a mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand. But of course, no true shotsman. Fuckyourface isn't REALLY a Christian, so religion isn't responsible. But regardless of his true level of faith, nothing he heard in church about morality was able to stop him from carrying out a hate crime. And the same goes for almost every single hate crime ever. AT BEST, it's not helping. And let's be honest, it's not AT BEST.

It's like Jesus said, Heath, "By someone else's theoretical fruits, you shall know them."

So beyond the obvious lessons about racism and gun control...I had one other takeaway. I read that one of his parents is a Democrat and the other is a Republican. So bottom line...here's the other takeaway...don't marry a Republican. And DEFINITELY don't breed with one. I'm not saying progressive states should enact prima nocta to breed Republicans out of existence...but technically I'm also not NOT saying that. I'm saying nothing about that.

Dont worry heath I'm already buying the website

Buffalo shooter manifesto says Jewish people are helping Black people "replace the whites": https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/may/15/buffalo-shooting-white-replacement-theory-inspires-mass

And in "Ex-spell-ee-armus" news ... You know with so many people these days giving absolutely zero fucks about COVID it can be hard to remember that there was a brief but glorious couple of weeks where we really WERE all on the same page. We stayed inside, played jackbox games, made sourdough bread, and were surprised to find that a bread with sour in the name tasted like ass. That is ALMOST all of us. From the very beginning there were dicks like Pastor Tony Spell, a COVID-denying trendsetter if you will, who made national headlines by defying COVID regulations, killing his flock, trying to back busses over people, and of course, asking people to give him their stimulus checks until Heath Enwright overwhelmed the hashtag with gay porn well done heath. <thank you> Well this week, the Louisiana Supreme Court dropped literally ALL charges against him because NOT spreading the plague at the most important point of not doing that in human history…violated his religious freedom.

And again, to be clear, Eli isn't making the "tried to back over someone with a bus" part up. It was a dude protesting his COVID restriction violations. But apparently sincerely held retreats are getting rolled into Christian privilege now, too.

Right so for those of you who, like me, have blocked early COVID from your memory like a car crash or space jam 2, in March of 2020, Louisiana Governor John Edwards issued Order 30, which banned gatherings of 50 or more people for about a month. It didn't apply to places like airports or grocery stores because people need those things cause they're real. A week later, he issued Order 33, which closed "non-essential businesses" and banned gatherings larger than 10 people. It also imposed a stay-at-home mandate for everyone except people who were quote "performing an essential activity." Which again…doesn't include churches.

I mean, you could argue they don't perform an activity, essential or otherwise.

Technically we're *plaguing*...that's an activity...did I make it worse?...I usually make it worse when I talk.

Anyway, as owners of Noah's book Outbreak: A Crisis of Faith - How Religion Ruined Our Global Pandemic know, a ton of fucking churches paid no attention to that. Instead they claimed persecution, spread the plague, and now people who don't deserve COVID like Marsh have gotten it fucking TWICE. And Spell was among the worst and most public offenders, violating several stay at home orders, having to be put under house arrest at one point, and he was eventually charged with 6 criminal counts. He moved to have those charges dismissed but a judge said no in early 2021, then another three judge panel said still no later that year but as I

said this week the Louisiana Supreme Court, taking their cues from the COUNTRY'S supreme court ruled that (quote) "Orders 30 and 33 violated [Tony Spell's] fundamental right to exercise religion by exempting comparable secular activities from the mandated restrictions."

I mean, I can compare anything to anything, I guess, so they've got us there.

What the fuck is a COMPARABLE SECULAR ACTIVITY to praying at church? Wishing wells? Pretty sure those were shut down if they had em.

So yeah I guess for the next plague and, thanks to the pro plague spreading platform that half of this country has signed up for there DEFINITELY will be another, lets keep in mind to close the fucking GROCERY stores too, lest we violate tony spell's right to make it significantly worse

Louisiana Court drops charges against pastor who ignored COVID restrictions: https://onlysky.media/hemant-mehta/louisiana-court-drops-charges-against-pastor-who-ignored-covid-restrictions/

And in "Haven Forbid" news tonight, I made the mistake of including a tiny shred of good news in last week's show, so of course that got smacked the fuck down this week. As you'll recall, we covered a story last week about a tiny town in Kansas called Haven where the city council voted to rein in their Christian zealot police chief. He'd taken to using the police department's Facebook page to post shit about how much better his religion was than all the other ones and joined in the Christian nationalist trend of slapping "In God We Trust" stickers on local police cars. Well, they told him to stop that, he agreed, we did a story on it, and then the entire town freaked the fuck out about the dangers of people not knowing which deity the police department trusted in, so they bullied the city council into reversing its decision.

Thank God we brought back the stickers. I was trusting in "entropy of the indifferent universe" last week...it was PANDEMONIUM!

Ya'll hear the joyful tone in noah lugeons voice? THIS WILL NOT STAND

Of course, Haven's mayor, Adam Wright, preemptively disagreed with my characterization of this as "bullying" and instead said they were just listening to their constituents. He said that his office had received over a hundred emails on the subject and only two were in support of the move. What's more, those two weren't even from 'round here. And what good are minority protections if the majority can't vote them out of existence? So after an unusually contentious city council meeting, three of the five members agreed to reverse their decision and allow the offending decals to be replaced.

We're a political delegation...we demand to be taken seriously...GIVE US BACK OUR STICKERS!

Cool. So three out of five city council members were like yeah, now that a bunch of slack jawed hicks showed up to yammer into a dusty mic I guess laws DONT matter. Were a local government body. Clack. Clack.

And as disappointing as that sounds, there *is* an interesting twist to the story. Because apparently the city council of Haven, Kansas is *way* more progressive than I'd have thought leading into this. Apparently the three council members that switched their vote only did so on the condition that *other* religions (and non-theistic beliefs) could also use the free advertising space afforded by the city's police cars. So, needless to say, within forty-eight hours we received notice that both the Satanic Temple and American Atheists would be submitting additional decals. So basically the police department will have the choice of going with a full blown "Coexist sticker NASCAR" aesthetic or turning the clock back and enforcing the first amendment. Or … and let's be honest about the outcome … ignoring their own stipulation and continuing to advance the goals of Christian Nationalism.

Also I dont want to criticize american atheists buuuuuuuut their sticker suggestion was "e pluribus unum" seriously guys? Call us for angering christian suggestions next time. Your making us look like a bunch of nerds

Follow up on Haven, Kansas Story:
https://onlysky.media/hemant-mehta/rural-kansas-town-votes-to-reinstate-in-god-we-trust-on-police-cars/

And while we workshop a few ideas for them, we'll pause for a word from our second sponsor this week, Hello Fresh.

HEADLINES B:

And we're back. Next up in headlines ... We have a story about One Million Moms. That's a group of literally DOZENS of Christian moms who spend most of their time complaining about the gender identity of anthropomorphic potatoes and Shakira being a demon. Well they found something almost that important last week. Group leader Monica Cole realized that the draft opinion from the Supreme Court that would reverse Roe v. Wade isn't quite locked in yet. So between now and the official ruling, she's calling on American Christians to fight in the "spiritual battle" to force people to give birth. And how do you win a spirtual battle? You give up sweet tea and Netflix for a month.

In my head, this is because Monica Cole knows that "Netflix and Chill" has a dirty meaning but doesn't know what it is. And, to be honest, I'm kind of mad that you have to break that illusion for me.

The year is 2034…monico cole sits in an empty house slowly starving to death in the name of her twitter account that has less followers than Carl the pugapegacorn…nature is healing

So here's the battle plan from Monica Cole. She wrote a mass email to the 4 thousandths of a million moms that follow the organization on Twitter that said: (quote) "The fight to end abortion in America is a spiritual battle [...] We're asking each of you to join us in making some sacrifice for the reversal of Roe v. Wade this year. Perhaps pause your digital TV subscription for a month, or give up some pleasant food – ice cream, sweet tea, candy, etc. [She tried to name 3 foods and got it wrong on #2. <and the third one was a category that kind of contained the third one. Amazing.> Continuing...] This is just like Daniel the prophet did as he prayed to God (Daniel 10:3) [...] During World War II, people were forced to go without sugar, coffee and meat. That was four years. [It was six.] This is for one month. Just pick one thing and sacrificially offer it up in prayer for God to bring about the reversal of Roe v. Wade." (end quote)

The Eli of their group chooses a fetus.

The eli of THIS group chooses a fetus. You guys want some?

What did we say about eating on air?

HEATH TALKED ABOUT SNACKS

Quick thing about that bible quote. Daniel 10:3 says: "I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over." So Monica Cole read that, and she was like..."Yeah we're not giving up skin care and masturbation...I'll mention the food thing...Hopefully I can name 3 foods on the fly while I'm typing an email." And she could not. But more importantly...just to be clear about the Christian narrative...they think God controls the results of Supreme Court rulings. So God's been pro-choice for the last 49 years...but he's thinking about switching back. He's not sure yet. But if you give up ice cream, or sweet tea, or candy...not all three...you just pick one...for a month...or if you don't watch season 4 of Stranger Things for a few weeks after it comes out...God is gonna get rid of the right to kill babies in America...a right he granted 49 years ago that helped legally kill about 63 million babies over that time. But he's gonna let that keep happening in SOME states, and also a bunch of countries all around the world. That's their opinion about reality. And they're allowed to drive and vote.

Okay, not for nothing, I have to wait any longer to see the next season of Stranger Things, I'm gonna kill *so many babies*.

You gotta stop emailing that to netflix man.

One Million Moms declares war on "the Left" and urges followers to give up sweet tea to win: https://www.lgbtqnation.com/2022/05/christian-group-declares-war-left-urges-followers-give-sweet-tea-win/

And in “School of Barred Cocks” news ... In a segment so reccuring that I might just have to have my wife write a jingle for it, parents were once again shocked this week to learn that the Christian school they’d sent their kids to in the middle of Louisiana was not the bastion of progressivism and understanding that they believed it to be, after an assignment went viral this week which asked students to write a letter to a gay friend telling them not to be gay…but ya know…biblicaly

Dear Gay Steve...DEAR?...to whom the penis may concern...nope...feels weird...what does the MLA manual say for bigot letters?

PS Enclosed is a stone. Please throw it at yourself at your convenience.

Yeah so here’s the assignment: (quote) "Write a letter to a fried of your same gender who is struggling with homosexuality. <But if gay sex is easy for them, just let it go.> Assume that you have known this friend since kindergarten, that you go to the same church, and that you have been pretty good friends over the years until now. This friend is your same age. The aim of your letter should be to lovingly and compassionately speak truth to the person you're talking to in a way that does not approve of any sin. Instead, try to persuade them of the goodness of God’s design for them."

“God hates …. Spending time with you.”

It concludes: "In at least 8 sentences, try to show the friend from the bible, reason, and your personal friendship that God’s design for them is good, that homosexuality will not bring them satisfaction, and that you love them even though you don't approve of their lifestyle" (end quote).

Steve...As per my last email...nope...feels aggressive...Steve...just bumping this to the top of your inbox...you're gonna be tortured in a lake of fire for eternity. Also I love you.

But it gets worse. Lest you think this assignment was just some christian batshittery that nobody was paying attention to the superintendent of the school doubled down clarifying that the assignment was in line with the schools values of bigotry. So yeah, just a quick reminder, we are aware that public schools suck, public schools in louisiana are probably somehow worse than that but at least in public schools there are laws against this shit that people are SUPPOSED to be following.

Yeah, in Florida, it would be illegal to even bring the subject up.

A Christian school had kids write letters persuading a friend to stop being gay: https://onlysky.media/hemant-mehta/a-christian-school-had-kids-write-letters-persuading-a-friend-to-stop-being-gay/

And finally tonight, in “Caps Locke” news, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State sent a formal request to the IRS asking them to investigate Greg Locke’s Tennessee church for Johnson Amendment violations after Locke told his congregants that they can’t vote Democrat and be Christian. Now, granted, asking the IRS to revoke a tax exemption for a church just because it blatantly and publicly broke the law is about as likely to succeed as prayer, but I still applaud Americans United for underscoring that hypocrisy with this request. And honestly, any effort to draw attention to Greg Locke’s dangerous lunacy is worth the effort.

Just Andrew Seidel rolling a giant boulder up a hill to the IRS building..."Hey guys...they broke the law again...do your job...okay heading back down...see ya tomorrow."

To be fair that boulder based exercise program is WORKING for him. He’s looking DELISH.

So yeah, to be clear, <I’d fuck the shit out of andrew seidel> it’s illegal for a tax-exempt organization to endorse a candidate or tell people how to vote. The provision of the tax code that spells that out is called the “Johnson Amendment”, named after Lyndon Johnson rather than what a prick you’d have to be to violate it. And this is a rule that tax-exempt organizations take super seriously … unless they’re churches. In fact, in a coordinated fuck you to the IRS called “Pulpit Freedom Sunday” more than 2000 churches have sent the IRS *video* of them breaking this rule along with a dare to the IRS to do something about it. So far, one of those two thousand plus churches have been investigated and zero have lost their tax exemption.

Just one of the many reminders that the bad guys aren’t following the rules and you probably shouldn’t be either

So yeah, given the history of inaction, Locke probably wasn’t super worried about the Johnson amendment when he told his congregation, (quote) “[I]f you vote Democrat, I don’t even want you around this church. You can get out. You can get out you demon. You can get out, you baby-butchering election thief. You cannot be a Christian and vote Democrat in this nation. [...] They hate this nation! You cannot be a democrat and a Christian. You cannot…” and then, realizing that his IRS violation didn’t even have a threat of violence in it, he added (quote) “Everyone wanna talk about the insurrection? Mmmm. Let me tell you something: You ain’t seen the insurrection yet. You keep pushing out buttons, you low-down, sorry compromisers, you god-hating Communists, maybe you’ll find out what an insurrection is” (end quote).

So vote for Joe McCarthy...who loves the smooth flavor of Pall-Mall cigarettes...fuck I slipped into 50s radio voice again, didn't I?

I am actively calling for violent revolution against elected officials see eli’s earlier comment about rule following

So yeah, doubtful anything will come of American United’s request, but I think it’s worth reflecting on how easy it would have been to get some federal department or another to investigate a *mosque* whose leader started talking about how “we ain’t seen an insurrection

yet." And by the way, while we're on the subject, yes the fuck we have. We saw the best you've got. You were there, Greg. Y'all staged a murderous coup to try to overthrow the elected government and you failed because you fucking idiots thought it was a game of "capture the flag" and that somehow occupying the *physical space* where governing happens meant you won. Now fuck off and go freebase a frappucino you incompetent jackass.

Greg Locke reported to IRS for violation of Johnson Amendment: https://onlysky.media/hemant-mehta/preacher-reported-to-irs-for-sermon-saying-christians-cant-vote-democrat/

And with Greg Locke thus informed, I suppose we can close the headlines for the night. Heath, Eli; thanks as always.

And when we come back, we'll kinda regret it.

God Awful Mini

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lY191DTvuP0

I've heard a lot of people over the last couple of weeks talking about how NFTs might represent the dumbest possible investment. And though I'm loathe to come to their defense, we were introduced to something with a budget that would have been way better invested in monkey JPEGs in this week's *God Awful Mini.*

So tell us, Heath, what will be breaking down today?

We watched *The Prophet of Oz*. It's the story of a Christian orthodontist making a commercial for his business based on The Wizard of Oz, and it turned out better than most Christian movies, so it's a Christian movie now.

And Eli, how bad was this mini?

So in keeping with our sister show's format, is there anything you guys wanna nominate this one for being the best at being the worst at?

- Best worst braces.
- Best worst Satanic mullet.
- Best worst Lion Costume

And to give you an idea how stupid this is gonna be, the first words we see are “Prodigal films”... and, to be clear, the word prodigal means “wastefully extravagant.” Pretty sure that’s not what they were going for.

Prodigal films

So we open on a little girl (Dorothy) feeding a guinea pig.
Guinea pigs are the fucking best.
She wishes *she* could be a guinea pig.
She says her prayers and goes to bed.
The Prophet of Oz. (Seriously a WIZARD?...that's silly...but prophets are real.)
The prophet actually DOES do magic...self reliance is dumb...end of story.
If you murder me while I'm sleeping, don't also torture me forever...please and thank you.
Speak to Me is playing. Doesn't line up with anything.
She has a guinea pig instead of dog
Can we just say how much guinea pigs suck?
She wishes she was a fat rat
I always forget that the christian sleep prayer is basically “we good?”
I know that the original wizard of oz started out in black and white but it wasn’t lit like fuckin’ salow

“aaaaaaah”

And then she wakes up screaming and falls into Oz.
She’s in a green screen … er… a lavish garden.
Her guinea pig is along for the ride.
And just then, an angel of god (NOT a witch) appears.
Weird that an angel would have braces, right?
“Are you a good Christian or a bad Christian?”
She’s pretty sure she’s a good Christian. She goes to church and everything.
She doesn’t know if she’s born again.
But just then, the Devil shows up.
“Who’s that?” ← Okay, if you don’t know who the devil is, you’re probably not a good Christian.
Dorothy: “I’m not afraid of you, devil.”
He offers her a cigarette. And a beer.
Oh my god, the beer bottle has enough green on it to fuck with the green screening.
Angel tells the devil to fuck off, so he fucks off.
Dorothy has to go see the Prophet of Oz to see if she’s a good enough Christian.
She just has to follow this road.
“What if I get lost.” “Don’t though.”
She has ruby slippers.
Oz has a really serious bush sculpture guy.
Weird that an angel of god needed orthodonture.
Are you a good Christian or a bad Christian?
I go to church.
If you're not born again, your'e the same as Hitler.

Satan shows up.
You want a cigarette from behind your ear? --- No.
Unlabeled beer that I made in my garage? --- No.
Hey Satan...please leave. (apparently that works)
His teleporting cloud takes too long and he has to keep laughing for way too long.
He's more bark than bite. (he tortures you for eternity)
Nice shoes...BYE.
Okay...I guess I find a wizard now?
Breathe is playing. Doesn't line up with anything.
Man I am just WATCHING this person learn how to use sfx and it is NOT going well
She's in a green…screen…I mean garden
Squeaky is here (sure? Who gives a fuck)
I am an angel of god…and this is the land of oz (weird fuckin crossover that)
Are you a good christian or a bad christian
Being a christian is more than going to church did you say a Magic spell
Maybe the prophet of oz can-EXPLOSION
Thats the devil (honestly? That guy looks like the devil)
That dude saying "I want to be your friend" is the scariest thing I've ever seen in any movie
Do you want a cigarette..or an ice cold beer (man this devil fucking gets this podcast)
Leave (okay…I'm the devil)
I love that the explosion came with the sound effect and whoever made this movie didn't know how to separate the two
He's kinda scary
Dont sweat it…he's just the devil
Follow the road
What if I get lost
…dont
I like your shoes…sure…bye
Well squeaky…i guess its time for the next part of the movie

scarecrow

So she wanders off (*not* down a road, yellow brick or otherwise) and comes across the scarecrow.
Okay, but if he's a sentient being, he's crucified.
"Are you stuck up there?" "No, I couldn't get down if I tried." ← That's yes. Typical Christians, not knowing how "no" works.
She thinks he lacks faith.
She helps him down.
If you told me that was the actor that played Psalty the Songbook, I wouldn't be surprised.
So now they're heading off together to see the Prophet of Oz.
You look dumb.
You're a mean shitty kid.
WOW...you're a talking scarecrow!
So in her head, she was talking to an inanimate object.

Are you stuck up there? --- NO...yes.
You need faith to get down.
Or just...step down...great. Let's go get some faith anyway.
Religion taking credit for gravity...perfect.
On the Run is playing. Doesn't line up with anything.
Your a talking scarecrow
I think NOT being a talking scarecrow is weird
Are you stuck up there?...no…I'm stuck up here
Have you considered believing in yourself?
I dont have ANY faith?
Okay but you have to get down
Here…aaaand done…okay
See? It didn't require faith at all…fuck I disproved the movie

"Look its a man made of tin…"
And then they finally find a road to shoot on, and come across a tin man.
They're filming this at 1 in the afternoon and the sun itself is going "Hey guys, are you familiar with the term 'golden hour'?"
Their tin man is doing *such a bad job* holding still.
He's rusted solid. But there's an oil can sitting right next to him.
The tin man was trying to pray, but he couldn't find the right words. And then he got rained on.
This actor can only remember five words at a time, apparently.
So he joins them on their trek to see the Prophet of Oz.
But just then, the Devil shows up again.
He's not too impressed with her sidekicks.
"He's a shady character if I ever saw one" ← This sounds so much like shitty that there's a Karen in the comments section complaining about it.
But the angel shows up to thwart the Devil.
He fucks off again.
Guessing they meet a tin man who needs some...also faith.
Look it's a man made of metal holding an axe...let's interact with him.
He's rusted solid.
Tin doesn't rust.
Also I can see the movie...there's no rust.
I couldn't find the right words for praying and then I went for a walk and I got rained on.
Are you saying you need...faith?
No I just need the words to the magic spell...but yeah whatever...let's go find a wizard.
I AM SATAN...I show up sometimes...but technically you can just ask me to leave.
Please leave.
Fuck...braces angel...yeah I'm leaving...stupid rules.
Don't start your laugh too early.
I WON'T!.....mwahahaha...mwaha POOF
Just stay on the road and you'll be fine.....I was done.
Man made of tin…we nailed it

He looks rusted solid (nope..we can see him)
Oh looks theres an oil can
Oh that feels so good…do my butthole next
I was trying to pray but I couldn't so I walked and prayed
And then it rained
So if you think about it the praying had nothing to do with it
You wanna come meet the prophet of oz?
Hey…me…satan again
They're both atheists so I feel like they're on my satan
Go away satan
But were having fun (no were not)
Dont trust him (what the fuck would she trust him about)
Ah fuck…angel's here…okay…gotta go
The angel has adult braces…feel like god would have taken care of that
Okay lets go
They keep doing things from the musical but then NOT singing so they just seem insane

"I cant wait to see the prophet of oz…"
And then they walk down that exact same part of the road at the exact same time of day….
They sure look forward to the end of the movie. (Me too guys.)
Given how awesome the costumes have been so far, I was really looking forward to the lion.
He does *not* disappoint. By which I mean he disappoints.
The chirping birds in the background are enough to drown out the dialogue.
The lion sure is sad that he doesn't have any compassion.
"Do you know what it's like to go through life without compassion." ← No, but I could ask Heath.
He will also join them on their quest to see the Prophet.
It's a Hannibal Lecter victim with a skin mask.
Oh that's the lion.
FIGHT ME RIGHT NOW YA FUCKING ATHEISTS!
Don't be mean...they can't help who they are...unless they're not Christian.
You don't have any compassion.
Are you crying?...it's hard to tell because of the skin mask.
Okay let's all find a magic guy somewhere.
The plot is way less insane if you know it's all a dream, but I do NOT know that for this version.
Do you think there are animals here?...yes
FIGHT ME…fucking fuck faces
Honestly I want drunk irish lion in every movie
You act like you dont have any compassion
He starts weeping…he doesn't have any compassion
Man this is like when i tried talking to twitter trolls in 2015
Come on…with us
I would like to point out this his mask is like a baby face thats been ripped off and attached to his skull

“Look its silver city…”

And then they happen upon silver city.

Folks, you cannot possibly be imagining this bad enough. It’s so much worse than you’re giving it credit for.

Also, it isn’t silver.

The guard at the gate is even wearing green.

He’s not so sure about letting them in.

But, having established nothing in particular, he agrees to let them in.

It's SILVER CITY!

It's green though. Why would you say that?

We're looking for faith and prayer and compassion...we can add teeth if you want.

Yeah come on in.

Its not silver…its green

And the guy at the gate is wearing green

Can I help you?

Okay…guard guy has…VERY few teeth…like VERY few

The angel of god sent me…fine

inside

So they head inside the silver city / filmmaker’s basement.

The AC unit is in frame guys. It’s at the ceiling. You could’ve just zoomed in a bit.

I honestly think the whole reason they did this is that the dude was looking at the windows in his mom’s basement and said “do these look kinda Wizard-of-Oz-y to you guys?”

So they see the Prophet, who looks like a green demon alien.

They all explain why they’re there.

The Lion’s mask is *terrifying*.

The demon/prophet tells them god is stupid and religion is useless.

Dorothy isn’t buying it.

We watch them think about it for, like, a while.

But just then, the Scarecrow notices a Bible.

Prophet: “Pay no attention to the … you know … book.”

That Bible is stained as all fuck like somebody spilled oil on it.

I can’t tell if that’s just the only Bible they had or if they’re trying to show off how “used” their Bible looks.

She reads from 1st Peter.

And then Romans.

Back to 1st Peter.

Then on to Zachariah.

(One sentence each)

These passages are supposed to help them with their problems, but, like, the one for the Tin Man who didn’t know how to pray is just “God’s listening. Have at it.” The one on Compassion is just “be compassionate.”

The prophet is fucking stumped, so he just disappears and the lights come on.

Sad little dude walks out of his booth.

That guy's bowtie is tied like he put it on while running from a chainsaw killer.
He never took time to read the Bible.
"If you've never read the Bible, where did you come up with these crazy things you told us?" ←
Those things, by the way, were "nu-huh!"
He listened to those damn atheists!
Dorothy thinks he fucking sucks.
He *will* read that Bible after all. He's gonna start right now.
Are we… are we gonna watch him read the Bible?
We're watching him read the Bible, y'all.
Lion: "Okay, so what to we do with the remaining four minutes of run time?"
Scarecrow: "Seems like the angel character should reappear, right?"
You guys have AC in your old-timey fantasy castle?
PAY NO ATTENTION TO THAT THING THAT APPEARS TO BE AN AC UNIT!
The Prophet of Oz a fireball with an alien head.
We're here for some stuff.
Great...yeah...love that...love my job.
You're already born. Faith is overrated. Praying is dumb. Compassion is dumb. You're all dumb.
You don't sound like a man of god.
I'm a prophet...prove me wrong.
Are you doing the Steven Crowder thing?
Scarecrow finds a bible.
PAY NO ATTENTION TO THAT!
Why would you have it displayed on your table like that?
Your mom's displayed on a table!
Feels like I should read it.
Lemme just flip to the answers for faith, praying, and compassion.
Really wanted the Prophet to flip to Leviticus.
And he disappeared.
It's just some old man in a booth.
I never read the bible...so I built a really sad castle of atheist lies...ya got me.
You should read the bible.
Okay I'm gonna read it now.
Oh...we're gonna watch you read it?
Yes.
We have all the answers we need but we gotta find that angel because this is boring.
Very large…very obvious basement AC unit
Hey…am I born again?
You know…the stuff
Seriously the lion is the most terrifying thing
Guys…dont worry about it
Faith is bullshit
Praying is a waste of time
Honestly if someone could screenshot the prophet and make a "praying is a waste of time" t shirt we could sell the fuck out of those

Prophet of oz is a libratarian
Honestly that does sound a lot like the word of god
Prove me wrong (flash cut to dorothy loosing an intelligence squared debate to the prophet of oz)
Meanwhile the scarecrow is just fucking…looking around
Dont look in the bible…its mostly genocide and horse cocks
I really want him to just float there while she tries to make her way through the whole bible
Anyway here's some fucking bible quotes
Why did they set this in wizard of oz? Its got nothing to do with wizard of oz?
What do you think about that?
pause
FUCK…YOU…credits
I guess I've got nothing to say
Look its just a fucking dude?
I'm just an ordinary man…who's suit jacket super duper doesn't fit
If you haven't read the bible where did you get your ideas?
I made i up…also just random…people and stuff
I'm a bad prophet…yes…now read the bible
I will read the bible. I'm gonna start right now
Okay…well…were gonna go
No theres gonna stand there while he reads the bible
What do we do now? Is…is the movie over?
Lets find the angel of god maybe? I dont fuckin know

"dorothy…"
So they wander aimlessly for a bit.
Scarecrow is pretty impressed with her Biblical knowledge.
Oh, the Holy Spirit magically guided her to the right passages.
The devil is back!
Devil: "Turns out that prophet was a load of shit. Fucking Christians."
"Where's your god now?" "In my heart!"
"Devil, I rebuke you in the name of Jesus Christ, my savior!" "NOOOO!" ← He explodes.
And then the angel of god reappears.
The angel of god has learned something here today.
They all list the moral they're taking away from this story.
They're all doing it at radically variant volumes.
Tin Man learned that god doesn't give a fuck about "now I lay me down to sleep" prayers. ←
Weird message, but okay.
Angel of the lord breaks the fourth wall and stares right at us.
She was damned if she was gonna wear those contacts and *not* get a close up of them, dammit.
That eyeball zoom was nauseous.
And then we get the closing song. And whoof.
The singer is rattling the microphone like she was singing through a fan.
The guinea pig was the star of the fucking show.

How did you flip right to the answers.
MWAHAHAHA! I got cut off last time.
We found the answers in the bible. It's done.
Remember the finger thing from Willow? Jesus is my finger or something.
REBUKE YOU!
Angel shows up to ask the workbook questions from DARE.
Stares at the camera...it's as simple as that...THE END.
So it was NOT a dream?
How did you know where those verse were
Aaand the devil is here
Hey…that guy sucked
You can't trust a christian…am I right?
Anyone with that face absolutely is right in saying "where is your god now"
God is right here…in her collar bone
She refuts the devil and he explodes
Maybe it was something he ate
Wow
And now the angel is here…too late
The only way to get the devil out of your life is to let jesus into your heart
Everyone learned a jesus lesson
The lord doesn't wanna stupid prayers…he wants the straight shit
What did you learn…to be nice (okay…one good message)
This lady is doing her absolutely best to talk around these braces
And then she looks at us like…get it?
The end
SNICKERS

Alright, well I need to do enough drugs to erase the part of my memory that's holding this video, so we'll close things there. But we'll no doubt be back soon with yet another *God Awful Mini*…