

Issue V

CIRCA

READ BETWEEN THE MINDS

August 2019



JET SKI SEASON

**HOT
DOG
GIN!**



^ HOW TO MAKE
A BIG SPLASH

AUTOBAHNIN'
**NEED 4
SPEED**

TALES FROM
BERLIN

QUESTIONABLE VIBES

BY NICOTRAUT + TAYLORWOOD

JOIN THE PHARCE

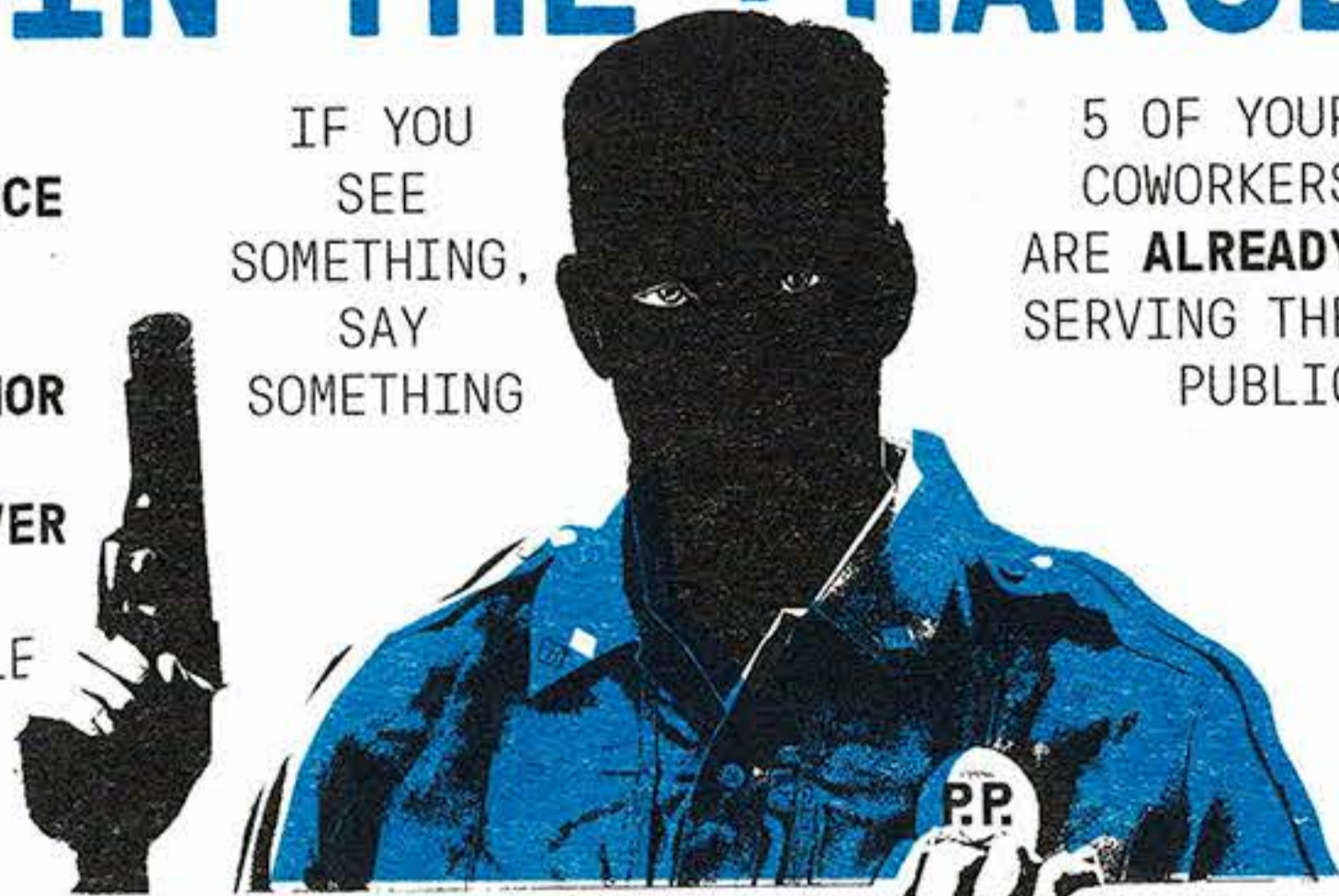
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

5 OF YOUR COWORKERS ARE **ALREADY** SERVING THE PUBLIC

SERVE WITH HONOR

UNDERCOVER WORK AVAILABLE



PHUN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SCOTT BRAMLET:

- proofread his own birth certificate
- once could read 56 IVAs while eating a Cobb salad
- rides jet skis side saddle
- does not approve of this message

The McConkey Files

A COIN FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

BY PODDY RIPER



Gratitude Coin

One day, a mysterious jar full of gilded "Gratitude Coins" appeared in the Commons (f.k.a. Badlands). Every week since, the townsfolk have gathered in the Commons, and applauded as our Kings and Queen award the coins to those deemed worthy of "gratitude." Once a coin is received, it must be ingested. It's a happy time for almost everyone. Some people have started to worship the coins and the recognition they bestow.

I am not a Coin Star. To this day, I have not received a single Gratitude Coin. Every week, I sit in the Commons like an idiot while my family stares at me wondering why Father has no coins. My son called me a loser with no social clout. He is 5, and not wrong. Now, my neighbor only wears overalls because his belt can't hold up the weight of his coin-filled pockets. I don't let my wife near him.

I started digging: Where does this nearly endless supply of Gratitude Coins come from? There's no gratitude mine here, or in any bordering county. There are no records of coin shipments ever coming into the port. Traders or merchants have only heard rumors of how the coins are kept in the castle, and possibly sourced in the dungeons beneath it. I had to go see for myself.

Like a naked mole rat, silent and completely nude, I broke into the dungeon where the coins are rumored to be kept. In a candlelit room, there were maybe 10 to 400 gnomes in cages wrapping chocolate disks with gold leaf. In the center of each coin, they placed a microchip; so small, you could barely see it. A junior gnome spotted me, a top-sider, and sprinted to

me desperate and wide-eyed. He leaned in and whispered, "a coin for your thoughts." He handed me a pair of custom engineered Oakley Over The Top performance sunnies. I gave him a thumbs up, put on the sunnies, and ran like Charlie Hustle out of there.

Nothing could prepare me for what I saw when I emerged nude from the castle crypt wearing the Oakley Over the Top sunglasses. Every face was gone, and replaced with that of Alfred E. Neuman. I thought I recognized one young boy as my neighbor. He was looking at his mother strangely before she forced a Gratitude Coin into his mouth. When he looked back at me, it was just another Alfred Neuman.



Oakley Over the Top Sunglasses



Sunglasses Off

Sunglasses On

The Neuman shall not inherit the Earth. I am the last of the old men. I am a rogue emissary, a mole rat ronin, hell-bent on restoring his native land. I have come here to chew bubble gum and destroy Gratitude Coins. And I'm all out of bubble gum.

Naked Mole Rat

Dogs are Dumb!

(and we have proof!)



DOMESTICATED DOG
Canis lupus familiaris

- Barks and yips
- Sniffs buttoholes
- Mediocre swimmer
- Lives with caregivers
- Sheds fur
- Requires veterinary care
- Must learn to sit on command
- Drools



ROCK PILE
Mineraloid

- Understands silence
- Has no arse
- Skips across water
- Born and raised in the wild
- Body positive
- Can exist in space vacuum
- Ancestors invented sitting
- No bodily fluids

DUMB LOSER

WINNER!

Call 1-800-ROK-PILE for more information

BETTING ODDS

- 1:1 STEPHEN WEARS BLACK
- 2:1 GREG EATS A SALAD
- 8:1 BEN RUNS THROUGH THE OFFICE
- 10:1 EMILY SITS AT HER DESK
- 100:1 HEALTHY SNACKS IN KITCHEN

PRESENTED BY: PLACE YOUR BETS IN THE SWAMP

TRAUTWOOD RESORT & CASINO

HOW TO AVOID DEPRESSION AND SELF-HARM AT THE BEACH

- Read Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul
- Bring a nature wolf
- Cover your nipples with tassels
- Let a stranger apply sunscreen to your legs
- Mayonnaise > sunscreen
- Drink Tequila and Mountain Dew in a clear container

ESCAPE FROM BIRMINGHAM

Questionable Television
Rated TV-MA
viewer discretion advised



2019. ALABAMA IS STILL A WASTELAND. HAVING RIGHTS IS IMPOSSIBLE. TAKING THEM BACK? INSANE.

HAVE YOU SEEN HIM?



12-year-old boy, white, medium build. Last seen April 20, 2019, wearing a Spider-Man costume, feeding pigeons near the Badlands Bridge. Easily aggravated. Enjoys citrus fruit, velcro, MIDI players, and Garfield. Cannot complete Rubik's Cube. Do not feed candy. Safe distance: 4 m.

Information leading to his discovery will not be rewarded.
S A V E D A V I D

Burn After MeMeming

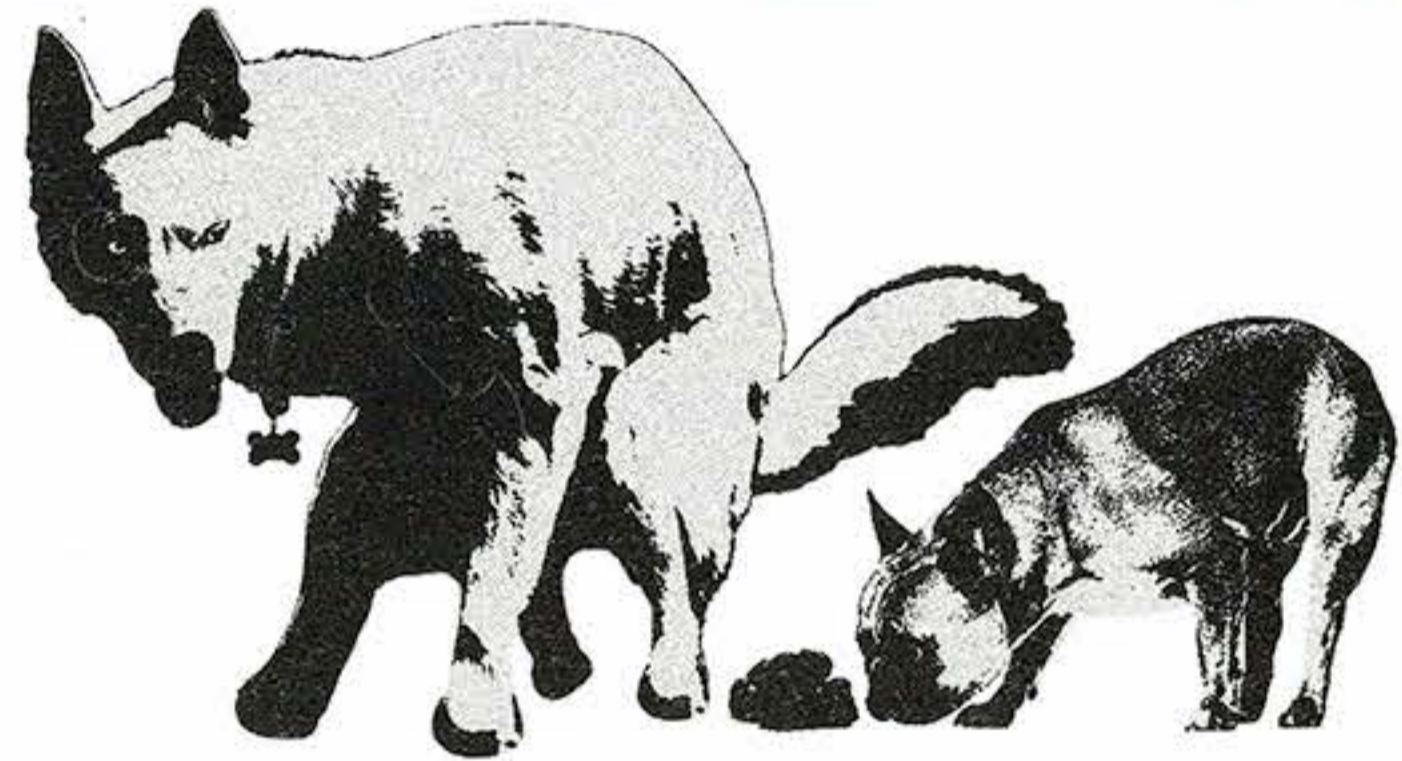


PRESENTED BY THE CHURCH OF MEME OLOGY

QUESTIONABLE VIBES

BY NICOTRAUT + TAYLORWOOD

Dogs are Dumb! *(and we have proof)*



full report to come

#notMyDog

HOW TO AVOID DEPRESSION AND SELF-HARM AT A BASEBALL GAME

Here are some tips on how to enjoy the game between the speed balls:



Daryl Straw berries

- Pray for the wave
- Read the plot to The Collector and its sequels on IMDb
- Pack a Grizz Mint and spit into a beer cup
- Discuss how you would have structured the Treaty of Versailles
- Bring your own weiners and cook them in tea water that you get from concession

The McConkey Files

SWAG + SWINE

Today, the decrepit and disrespected prosecutor, **Gus Yagooch**, stumbled into NYC Court House to file a lawsuit on behalf of his clients, **Questionable Vibes CEOs + Co-founders, Gaylord Bark and Rico Snout**.

Gus smelled of last night's 'Hennything is possible' attitude and poor parenting, but even the glitter twinkling on his stained lapel did not distract from the claims and serious evidence he brought to court.

Drunk with more than confidence, Gus claims his clients have the defendants, **m+a swag**, by the ballbags.

"They stole the Questionable Vibes logo. They're using the likeness of my clients to move product. They're hitching onto our train. Riding our coattails. My boys put their heart and soul into that design. I love those boys."

Hours later he began to discuss the damages his clients hope to recoup: \$250 gift card to Dave and

QUESTIONABLE VIBES vs. MINDS+ASSEMBLY

Exhibit A: Similarities

Busters (the one in Midtown), 2L squirt guns filled with Code Red, four life-size models of the arachnid aliens from Starship Troopers, keys to the city of Cincinnati, a 52-gallon aquascaping set complete with microfauna, and for sick days and vacation days to be separated categories of PTO. It is unlikely the case will be settled out of court.

Gaylord Bark and Rico Snout could not be reached for comment.

GREG'S GOURDS

If you feel some heat, it's because we're playing with fire. The m+a cooking show, Greg's Gourds hosted by Gregory Cerrato, is finally about to begin. For months, the kitchen has been chaotic. What's cooking? Competition. Tune in to find out who serves it best.

Each week, contestants face off to cook the best meal using a mystery box ingredient. The maker of the worst meal, as voted on by The Triumvirate, must eat the oldest item in the fridge, the belly button lint of a Crosby Street Crawler and be smashed with one of Greg's prized gourds before leaving, the competition.

Meet some of the contestants:



JEREMIAH

He puts the itch in kitchen. Once he started cooking he couldn't stop. Don't sleep on this boy's buns. He bakes as well as he broils. When you're cooking with J, prepare to get roasted.



CYNTHIA

A heavy favorite. Cynthia is determined to win. She is all smiles on the outside, but has been known to harbor a dark streak. She is pen pals with Tonya Harding and a closet juggalo.



EMILY

Spends most of her time in the kitchen not cooking and working on her laptop. It smells there which makes this behavior very strange. Enjoys Star Wars, internet forums and Sloppy Joes.

Early reviews in the media praise the show and its contestants for its constantly uplifting vibe. The surplus of smiles is almost suspicious. One man on Reddit posited a theory that the show is only a front for a brainwash by poisoning campaign. He says the secret lies in the mystery box ingredient. This controversial theory is gaining traction.

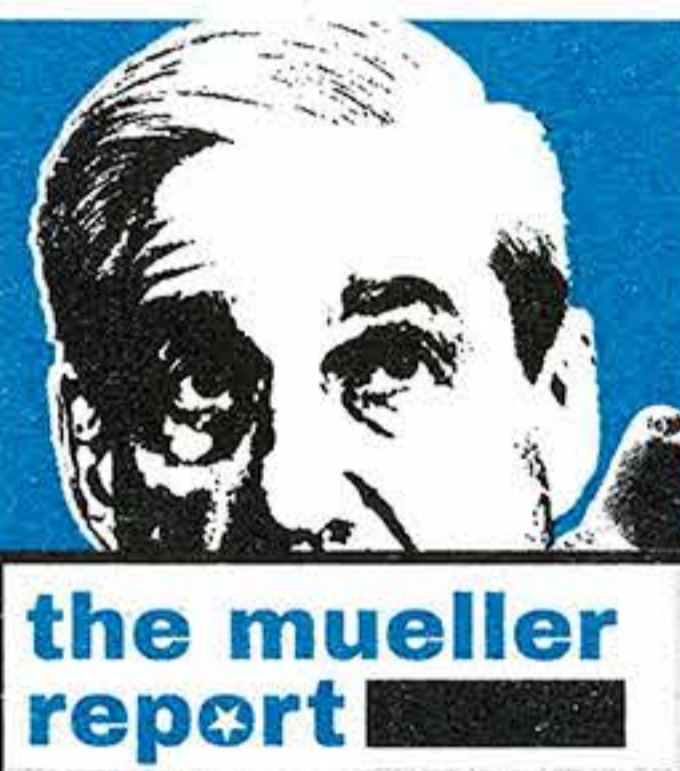
What are they really cooking? What's in the box?

McConkey Files is on the case. Tune into Greg's Gourds on Questionable Television!

Hey, Dad Say no to POT and yes to POTential

If you or your father is considering ingesting pot this 4/20, get real. Pot makes you stupid and lazy. When I was 14, I caught my Dad smoking a bong in the basement with his friends. I smashed his Dead tapes and spanked him. I'm not proud of losing my temper, but pot is where I draw the line. He never smoked again, and is now in law school.

Don't let dads do drugs
This 4/20 PSA paid for by Budveizer



the mueller report

We bribed an orange man with 2 Big Macs and 1 litre of cola for access to the Mueller Report.

What we found was disturbing...

- 1 No one cleans out the White House (WH) fridge
- 2 POTUS doesn't use TP or wet wipes; he uses Taco Bell napkins
- 3 His sons love DMB posters
- 4 Official WH swag is coozies that look like Crocs™
- 5 Penn State football cocktail flags
- 6 Toenail clippings in a jar with "Fall '08" written on the label
- 7 The entire WH smells of relish?

Emo-Support Animal Match Game!

Lyra Belacqua isn't the only one with a daemon. Everyone deserves a spirit animal that's a perfect fit.

Match your coworkers with their beastly counterpart!



ANSWERS: A:2, B:1, C:2, D:4

BadLandsTV is now **Questionable Television**

check your local listings and tune into



TuneSpoon

Band: **Codpickler**
Album: **We dealt it. You smelt it.**

Hang it up now. Music is over. There is no way up from here. The Codpicklers have created a masterpiece. Recently, the Irish punk-rock band has changed the lineup completely. Replacing all founding members with friends of Jaden Smith. Gone are the punk ethics and rock aesthetics that made the band an underground success. This album is 20 tracks of trap. We're talking jaw-dropping low end bangers



guaranteed to make it shake. Once you download the album to your computer or phone system, it will be overtaken by a virus that turns your screen into a QR code. Just scan it, and get 25% off the Kardashians web store. Stand back, once you buy from the web store your meme machine will self destruct. The blast removed both of my hands. This review was written using my mouth and three chopsticks. Totally worth it. 10/10 pickles

SHOW US YOUR TWEETS WITH GAYLORD BARK + RICO SNOOT

BREAKING NEWS!!! The evil audubon aristocrat Clae-Goran Cederlund set a new world record for birds sighted and heard in the wild with a staggering 9,613 species. The scheming Swede broke the long-standing record of close-family friend Jon Hornbuckle. Jon died chasing his nemesis bird, the Night Parrot. While he lived, Jon brought new life and excitement to the sport of birdwatching. He made birding sexy. Without him, Gaylord and Rico would have never picked up their first set of binoculars. Today, we set out to defeat Clae and restore Jon's honor.

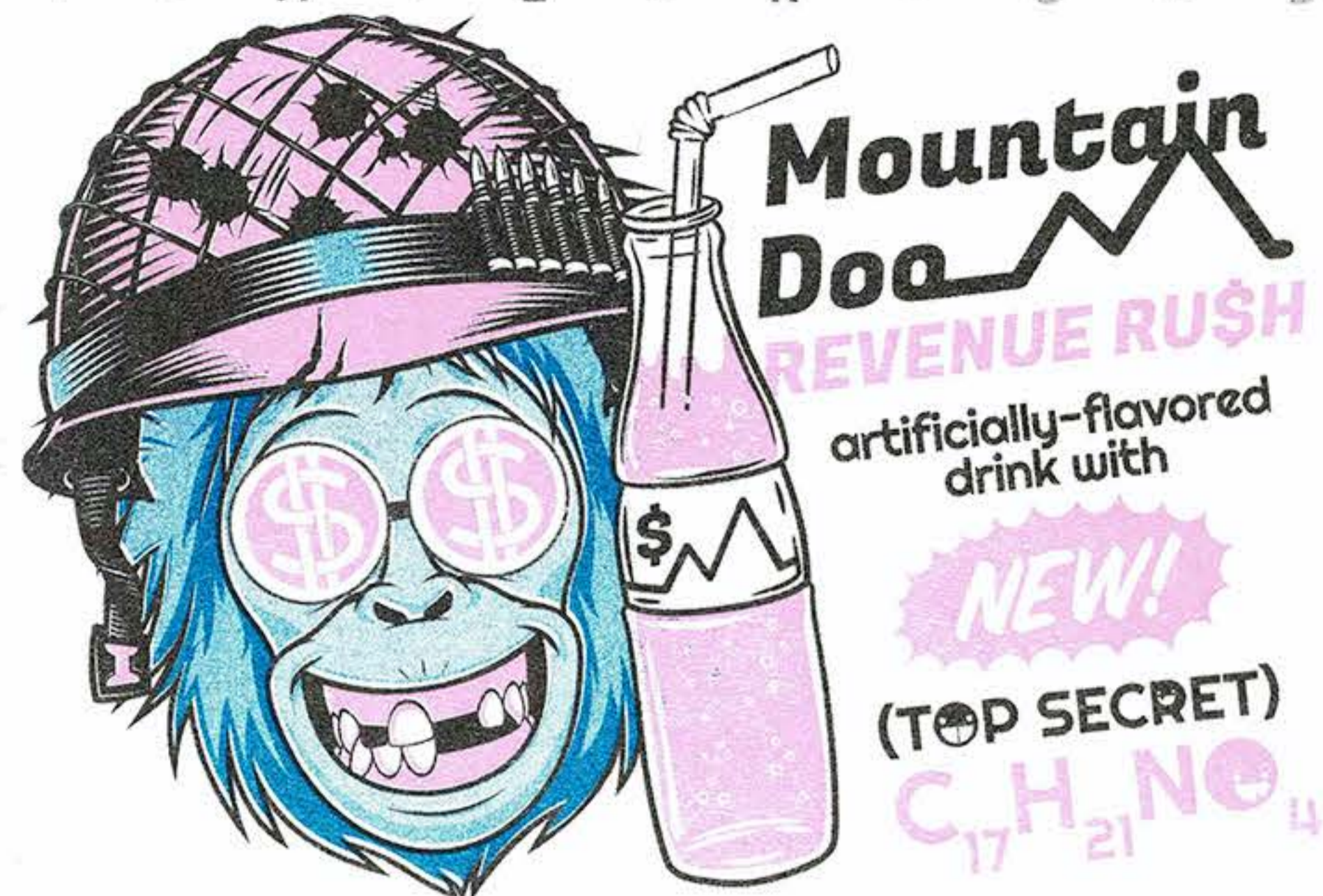


QUESTIONABLE VIBES

B Y N I C O T R A U T + T A Y L O R W O O D

If you had to kidnap any animal's baby, which animal would you choose?

V: Go p0d0r do go Hibbobatswure-Pex



NOW WE'RE DOOING BU\$INESS, BABY!

The McConkey Files

BREAKING BADLANDS

Gentrification

In the 1930s, Robert Moses built a tunnel to expand park access for Upper West Side residents. Unfortunately, a parkway nearby blocked access to the river. The tunnel was then used by freight trains until the 1980s when other railyards became more favorable. These tunnels did not stay empty long.

By 1994, nearly 100 homeless flourished in the Freedom Tunnel. In a shanty micropolis, these undesirables created a community of mole people who cared for each other. The kinship they shared reflected the deep love for their new land. They transformed what they inherited into something wholly new and infinitely better. They soon learned good things aren't meant to last.

Amtrak reopened the tunnel. The self-built home of the homeless was torn down. Chains pulled tight across tunnel entries. At the very end, there were roughly 14 ruffians left. They marched forward in pursuit of a new place to call home. In 2018 they found one. The Badlands at 164 Crosby.

"Time is a flat circle. Everything we have done or will do we will do over and over and over again- forever."—Russel Cohle

—David Tuchman

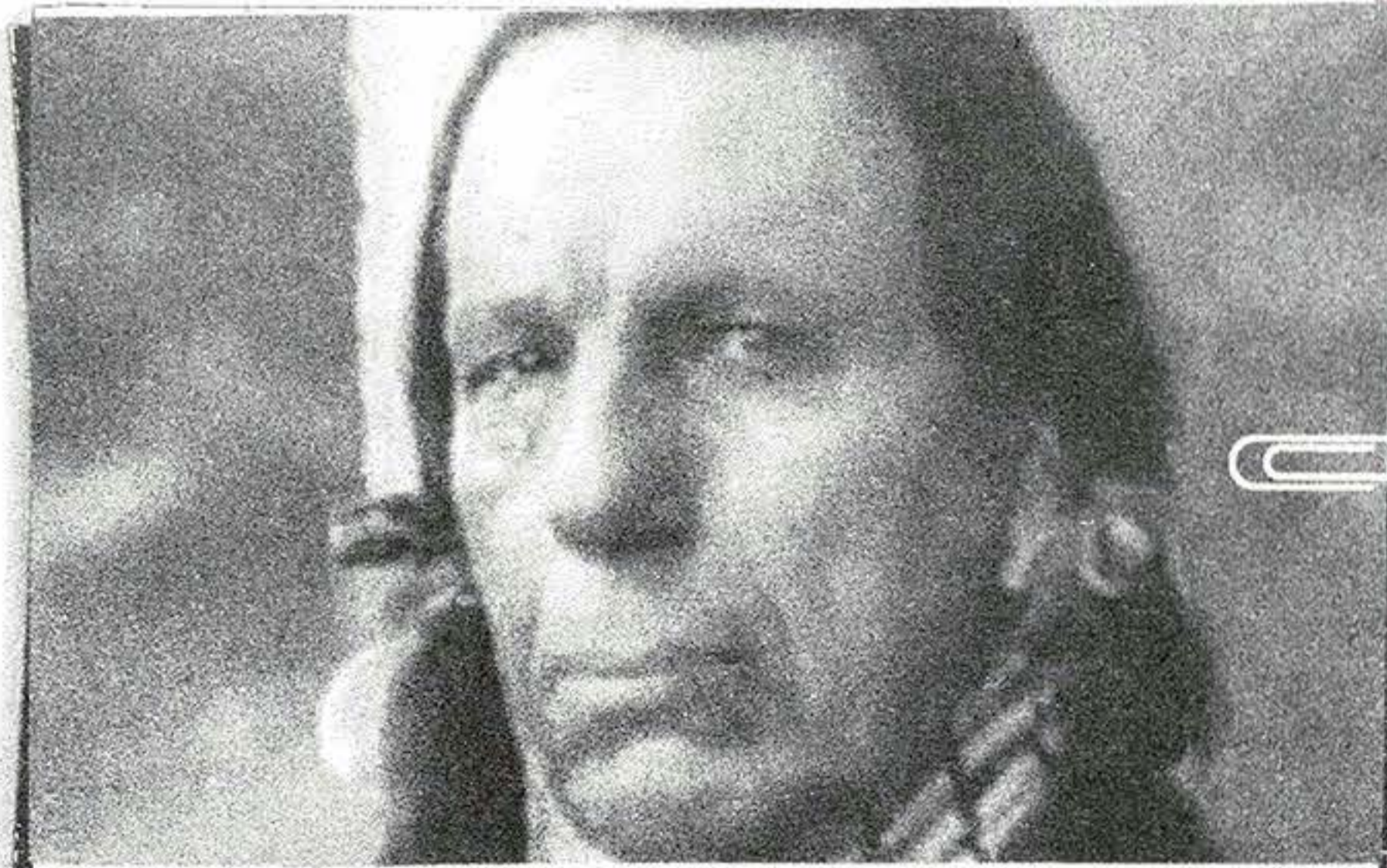
The scene was nothing new to these bad hombres. A desolate landscape, surrounded by enemies and constantly under attack, they had everything they needed to flourish. Soon the Badlands became a haven for the arts, and synonymous with a thigh-slapping good time. It was home to many famous designers, writers, and musicians, including the up-and-coming funk-didge outfit, Rusty Spouts, famous for their #1 hit "Can I Get Your Didges." Everything was peachy once again.

"Some of my best friends and closest confidants lived in the Badlands."

—Dave Navarro, Future Governor of California

On January 7, 2019, the inevitable happened. Like the Omaticaya of Hometree, the once mole people of the Freedom Tunnels and now ambassadors of the counterculture, the Badlanders were driven out. First, they landed on our couches and put Grace and Frankie on the TV. Then, the rules were imposed. No more didge calls. No sonos control. No freedom. The Badlands were broken.

After returning from a trip to his homeland, Nico Traut, former Secretary of the Badlands Interior and alleged communist, showed me a picture of where he used to roll dice with his homies. Now a matcha dealer thrives there. Another is opening across the street next to a sign that says "EAT. SLEEP. SOUL."



It was a long, hard trip for the former propaganda tyrant. Even for him, gentrification was a hard pill to swallow. After concluding his stories, he packed his one hitter while the shimmer of better times wet his eyes. Inhaling to forget, a single tear rolls down his face. The lamentation of didges echo in the heart of all who remember.

Da Lux Corner

free v-day(ing) tips



Wet hand shake

Nothing says 'you're safe' like wet hands



Honk your horn

How do silverbacks blow their nose?



Scout it out

Watch from a distance. Maybe take a candid pic or two



Make ultimatums

Remember, every conversation is a negotiation or competition



Don't forget your roots

Bring every conversation back to your mother



Show 'em who's boss

Send your food back. Nothing is good enough for you. Never forget that.

What Peels Our Potatoes

Ghost house music, Mountain Dew in a can, Turbo Tax Newsletter emails, pronouncing it "eye"-talian, defending Adam Sandler's stand-up, the Ometacayan genocide at Hometree, Yahtzee winners, Portuguese Girl Scout Masters,

Trench warfare, "bird-feeding" a significant other, "my left foot", aaaaand this guy



ionic bonds, butterflies, pay-to-play, Syracuse admissions office, Sasha Vujacic, France's love of the game, plastic blinds, talc, blobfish, microfleece, living inside a croissant, owners of the

"Karate Kid 3" DVD, iPhone screens, this guy, how often people use Jeremiah Johnson gifs, the sound of flour on dough, soft returns, and Kmart's lay-away.

capers + antics at m+a moscow

SKI TRIP:

Putting the "beer" in Siberia.

"Vodka!"

—Boris, Medical Director, m+a moscow



BRING YOUR KIDS TO WORK DAY 2019:

Fewer deaths than last year!

In unrelated news, m+a moscow is hiring!

The WORKOUT CRAZE of 2019!

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU

DIET OR DON'T
(AND SAY YOU DID!)

Just call and be congratulated

"We're proud"

"Good for you!"

1-800-BACK-PAT

You don't have to do anything!

SUPERBOWL DRINKING GAME

TAKE A SLOW PULL OF MILWAUKEE'S "BEAST" BEER:

If someone at the party swears at the TV
When the camera is on the kicker
When a player sheds a tear (one sip per tear)

FINISH A NATTY ICE. THEN OPEN A NEW ONE. THEN TAKE A SIP:

When a commercial has a New World or Old World Monkey in it
When the first person leaves the party

RIP A SHOT OF OLD GRAND-DAD 100-PROOF WHISKEY:

When announcers talk about all the good social work the NFL is doing

DEEP-QUAFF A PLASTIC HANDLE OF POPOV PREMIUM VODKA:

If someone from NBC's *The Voice* is called on stage with Maroon 5
If anything gets mansplained


POUR OUT FULL BOTTLE OF SNOZBERRY SOUR ALE BEER:

If a player leaves the game due to concussion symptoms

QUESTIONABLE VIBES

B Y N I C O T R A U T + T A Y L O R W O O D

HEY-YOU SMELL THAT? IT'S MY MONEY!



Gaylord Bark.
Stinkin' Rich Person

THINGS I OWN THAT YOU DON'T:

- Buffalo Bills football telephone
- Motion sensitive 'TP' dispenser
- Mountain Dew mini fridge
- Happy Gilmore's putter
- Chrome jetski (limited edition)
- One of those Japanese toilets

THIS AD IS PAID FOR BY BARK'S BOOSTERS™

INTRODUCING



RICO SNOOT,
Founder/ Richly Independent

PINCH'N'ROLL PRODUCTIONS

#1 BUSINESS WORLDWIDE ON EARTH

2017 Charles Ponzi "Scheme Savant" Award Recipient

m+a moscow summer party

▶ STARTED AT THE BOTTOM. STILL HERE.

Congratulations Igor Guyovich!

Winner of the 2018 M+A SLAV SQUAT COMPETITION

22 hours 19 minutes and 3 seconds!

FUN FACT:

Igor can lift grown horse above his head!



◀ THIRSTY... BUT NOT FOR BOOZE

Oleg "Zolpidem" Zubov

152 days sober and counting!

BADLANDSBANTER

Noteworthy news from the land you love

For the same price as cable and wifi from Spectrum you could buy a few piranha, a tank, some live feed then invite your friends over to watch some real entertainment. Or so i've heard.

"Actually, I've gotten pretty good at not making it fart."

If you buy a Bob Ross painting does it say "As seen on TV"?

ANASKANDA FESTIVAL

A Celebration of Third-wave American Ska

LINE-UP

Ayahuaska — Whoopie Skaberg
Vedaska and Seda — Wiskanson
Dude, where's my ska?
Checkers the Yazz Cat
Tony Menskana + the Ska-faces

MORE SOON!


4/20/2019 in Flavertown

Skalpers will be arrested

Whine and Cheese'd

THINGS THAT CHEESE US OFF 'TIL WE WHINE

People who don't take their backpacks off on a crowded subway train, honey on my hands, husky owners (in the city), matcha, cats with memorabilia, Star Wars the Force Awakens memorabilia, DEA-Members only jackets, the '93-'94 Dallas Cowboys, Manhattanhedge, instagram posts of the NYC skyline from Hoboken, Gordon Ramsey's face, when it's assumed my hands are dirty after I pee, 'Friday' by Rebecca Black playing on Fridays, Donny Darko fans, "Oh! they're from SNL", loud shoes, Peter Lagers' cash policy, and this guy >>



ON THE NEXT:

MIRACLE MEMES

First and final episode airing tonight at 8pm on **Bad Lands TV**

Memes saved my life, they can save yours

MAKE YOUR VOW NOW!
Sow a \$1000 seed and receive a miracle meme!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE CHURCH OF **MEME·OLOGY**
AND **PINCH'N'ROLL PRODUCTIONS**

LIMITED TIME ONLY: MEME WATER ONLY \$10K



The McConkey Files

MAKE ORWELL FICTION AGAIN

We're being watched. Lobsters waiting for the boil. Luckily for the man upstairs no one cares about the office cameras. We happily trade our personal freedom for a half dozen donuts and an air-conditioned work environment. Not me. I refuse to surrender my privacy to el Hermano Grande.



Pictured: Hermano Grande aka "I.T."

No one remembers the flimsy explanation for first installing the cameras. Perhaps it had something to do with the broken toilet seats. Shitty excuse. Whatever the cause heightened surveillance is the beginning of the end.

Hermano Grande is on your computer right now. Watching you. Soon, telescreens everywhere. Everything is recorded, re-recorded, scrubbed and stored in Hermano Grande's neverending vault. I can't fart without it routing clean.

What exactly is Hermano grande looking for? CONTROL. He won't stop until the brainwash is complete. His Chief of Staff, Asana, knows our every move. We're past the tipping point. There is no escape from the nightmare. El Hermano Grande is always watching. 2+2=5.

Soon, we will all be coming to the office wearing black jeans, black Deus Ex Machina t-shirts and a black hat with white sneakers. We will all probably take the same name too. Something dull... like 'Stephen'. Let's hope that day never comes.

Until then,
Winston Smith

DIDGE I DO THAT?

Renown Didgerist, **Taylor "Toot Toot" Wood**, has lost his prized didgeridoo "Wormwood" after a pro-bono, highly anticipated in-office performance of his 2002 classic, "Don't mind if I Didgeridoo." The artist claims the didge was not misplaced but stolen.

In a tweet this morning he accused red-hot didge bad boy, **Nico "Saltwater" Traut**, of the theft. "Traut probably wanted to feel a real man's didge for once. Anyone worth their salt knows he stole my Wormwood," he wrote.

Nico unsurprisingly decided to pour salt on the wounds replying on Twitter:

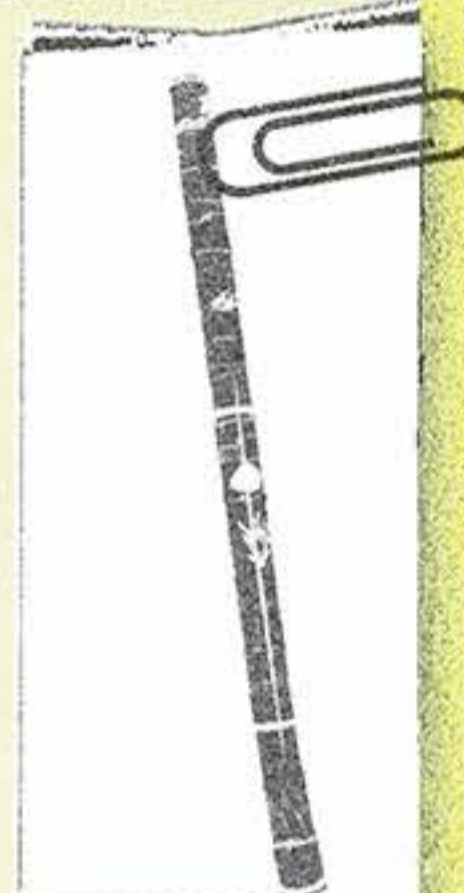
"Tootsie needs to stfu. I got babes and beers in both arms. How could I even hold Wormwood if I wanted to?"

All this comes just four weeks after Salty's debut record Dark Side of the Didge hit shelves to unprecedented fanfare. That same day, Toot Toot was arrested for bath salts and stealing Little Caesars pizzas. Since being released on bail, Toot has been unraveling on social media where he claimed a medical doctor and two priests signed documents confirming he has no soul. He then began the beef with Saltwater by accusing him of lip-didding his SNL performance earlier this month.

"Many say the aging Toot is trying to grasp any publicity he can by attacking Saltwater Traut. Others say he has simply lost his mind after being kicked out of the Steely Dan cover band he started nearly 10 years ago. Regardless, the facts remain. Wormwood is gone. Until its found a black hole sits at the center of the didge community."

Where is Wormwood? Did someone steal it? Was it Saltwater Traut?

Any Information leading to the discovery Wormwood will be rewarded.



Taylor "Toot Toot" Wood's prized didgeridoo "Wormwood"