

THE LATE SHOW WITH STEPHEN COLBERT SUBMISSION
2020

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MONOLOGUE SAMPLE

(STEPHEN)

WELCOME TO A LATE SHOW, I'M YOUR HOST STEPHEN COLBERT.

WE'RE HALFWAY THROUGH JULY AND BOY HAS IT BEEN A LONG SEVEN DECADES. I MISS THE SIMPLE DAYS OF EARLY JANUARY, WHEN HUGGING WASN'T BANNED BY THE CDC; YOU COULD GO TO A RESTAURANT AND ORDER FOOD TO STAY; AND YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO STAB THINGS TO PROVE THEY'RE NOT CAKE.

[TAKE:SOT: Someone cuts into a bag of Doritos; but wait, it's cake]

(ON CAM)

IS THIS CAMERA RECORDING OR IS IT CAKE? AM I CAKE? OKAY, RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU'RE CAKE.

I'D LOVE TO STAB MY CAKE AND EAT IT TOO BUT THERE'S A LOT TO TALK ABOUT AND UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE TO START WITH THE STATE THAT MADE BATH SALTS FAMOUS: FLORIDA.

"FLORIDA HEALTH OFFICIALS REPORTED A RECORD 15,300 NEW CORONAVIRUS CASES, THE MOST BY ANY STATE IN A SINGLE DAY. (WAPO)"

FLORIDA: COME FOR THE BEACHES, STAY FOR THE ICU!

[TAKE L3 CHYRON: MOCKUP: WELCOME TO FLORIDA SIGN]

THE SUNSHINE STATE'S CURRENT DISASTER IS ALL THANKS TO THE RECKLESS INACTION OF REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR AND BROOKS BROTHER MANNEQUIN THAT CAME TO LIFE, RON DESANTIS.

[TAKE: FF: HEADSHOT OF RON DESANTIS]

DESANTIS REFUSED TO ISSUE A STATEWIDE MASK ORDER BECAUSE:

"HE DOES NOT BELIEVE REQUIRING MASKS WOULD WORK. (TAMPA BAY TIMES)"

OH REALLY? IF MASKS DON'T WORK THEN EXPLAIN AMERICA'S OBSESSION WITH THE MASKED SINGER?

[TAKE: SOT: The Masked Singer final reveal; crowd chants "TAKE IT OFF"]

(ON CAM)

NO!! LEAVE IT ON! THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT! OH GOD, IS NIGHT ANGEL MIKE PENCE!

RON DENIAL INSISTS EVERYTHING IS FINE BUT:

"IF FLORIDA WERE A COUNTRY, IT WOULD RANK FOURTH IN THE WORLD FOR THE MOST NEW CASES A DAY BEHIND THE UNITED STATES, BRAZIL AND INDIA,"
(REUTERS)"

FOURTH?! THE ONLY TIME FLORIDA IS RANKED THAT HIGH IS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER. IF FLORIDA WERE A COUNTRY IT'S TOP EXPORTS WOULD BE COVID-19 AND CREEPY LOOKING BALD DUDES:

[TAKE: FF: SIDE-BY-SIDE HEADSHOTS OF PITBULL AND RICK SCOTT]

DESPITE DESANTIS' RUSH TO RE-OPEN IN THE FACE OF MOUNTING CASES, THERE IS A SILVER LINING FOR THE PEOPLE OF FLORIDA: DISNEY WORLD IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!

[TAKE: SOT: Disney theme song intro dubbed with heavy coughing, sneezing, a heart monitor redlining, and Cardi B screaming coronavirus!]

AFTER SHUTTING DOWN FOR 4 MONTHS DUE TO COVID-19, THE MOST MAGICAL PLACE ON EARTH IS EXCITED TO BECOME THE MOST CONTAGIOUS TOO.

[TAKE: SOT: GMA 7/9/20 "We have a first look now, taking you inside disney world as they get set to reopen this saturday. The park is undergoing some major changes for the safety of the guests and employees." T=:015]

IN THEIR DEFENSE, THE ONLY WAY CASES WILL DROP IS IF THEY RIDE THE TOWER OF TERROR.

"ON TUESDAY, DISNEY REVEALED THAT THE TOTAL LOSS FROM CLOSED THEME PARKS WAS OVER \$1 BILLION. (CBSNEWS)"

I'M NOT SAYING DISNEY IS STRAPPED FOR CASH, BUT IT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY MINNIE MOUSE STARTED AN ONLYFANS ACCOUNT.

[TAKE: FF: MOCKUP: MINNIE'S HEAVILY BLURRED ONLYFANS PROFILE]

PERFECT IF YOU'RE INTO THE MOUSY TYPE.

AMERICA, WE'RE IN A PANDEMIC; THIS IS THE WORST TIME TO GO TO DISNEY WORLD. CATCHING COVID-19 FROM A BUNCH OF CARTOON CHARACTERS ISN'T MAGICAL; THAT'S A TRUMP RALLY.

[TAKE:FF: MOCKUP PICTURE OF SOMEONE WITH A SHIRT THAT READS: I WENT TO THE TRUMP RALLY AND ALL I GOT WAS THIS LOUSY T-SHIRT AND COVID-19.]

PIUS, DISNEY WORLD WILL BE WAY MORE DANGEROUS BECAUSE PEOPLE WILL ACTUALLY SHOW UP.

UNLIKE A TRUMP RALLY, DISNEY INTRODUCED SEVERAL NEW SAFETY MEASURES.

[TAKE: SOT: CNN 7/11/20 "It's a whole new world of temperature checks, parties separated on rides, touchless payments and entry, and required face masks that must loop around human ears." T=:10]

(ON CAM)

SEE? SOCIAL DISTANCING CAN STILL BE FUN! JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU TAKE A RIDE ON LOTS-OF-SPACE MOUNTAIN.

[TAKE: FF: MOCKUP: PHOTO OF ONE PERSON SCREAMING ON "LOTS OF SPACE" MOUNTAIN]

(ON CAM)

AND COME EXPERIENCE THE THRILLS AND BODY CHILLS OF OUR NEWEST RIDE, CORONACOASTER. IT GOES UP...DOWN...BUT MAINLY UP. IT'LL TAKE YOUR BREATH AWAY.

[TAKE: FF: MOCKUP: THE CORONACOASTER TRAJECTORY MIMICS COVID CASES GRAPH FOR THE UNITED STATES.]

AND HEAD OVER TO THE HALL OF PRESIDENTS FOR A HISTORY LESSON FROM AMERICA'S GREATEST PUBLIC SERVANTS:

[TAKE: SOT: ANIMATRONIC TRUMP STATUE: "It's disgraceful what these protestors are doing to our big, BEAUTIFUL statues. Trust me, the Song of the South will RISE again! Keep Splash Mountain GREAT!"]

(ON CAM)

(AS TRUMP)

WALT DISNEY HAD SOME WONDERFUL IDEAS DIDN'T HE, FOLKS? MICKEY MOUSE, GOOFY, THE THING HE SAID ABOUT THE JEWS...DONALD DUCK, FANTASTIC NAME BY THE WAY...

TO QUOTE DISNEY'S CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, "*WE HAVE REIMAGINED THE DISNEY EXPERIENCE SO THAT WE CAN ALL ENJOY THE MAGIC RESPONSIBLY. (NPR)*" EXACTLY! IT'S THE SAME MAGICAL EXPERIENCE ONLY THIS TIME, THE FAST-PASS SENDS YOU STRAIGHT TO THE HOSPITAL.

AND JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT 2020 COULDN'T GET ANY WORSE, THIS HAPPENS:

[TAKE: SOT: ABC NEWS, "The Chinese based social media app Tik Tok is back in the headlines. President Trump confirms that the U.S. is considering banning the app."]

(ON CAM)

OH COME ON! WE CAN'T EVEN GO TO EUROPE, AT LEAST LET US HAVE THIS! IF THEY GET RID OF TIK TOK, COVID-19 WILL BE THE ONLY VIRAL TREND LEFT! HOW WILL MY FANS KNOW THAT I'M A SAVAGE?! CLASSY, BOUGIE, RATCHET!

[TAKE:CART: "SAVAGE" BY MEG THEE STALLION]

(STEPHEN DOES THE DANCE CHALLENGE)

OVERSEEING THE POTENTIAL BAN IS SECRETARY OF STATE AND GUY HOLDING IN A VICIOUS GOYA BEAN FART, MIKE POMPEO.

[TAKE: FF: GRAPHIC: MIKE POMPEO]

POMPEO SAID MONDAY, "*THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION WAS CONSIDERING A BAN BECAUSE OF CONCERNS ABOUT PRIVACY AND SECURITY. (ABCNEWS)*"

IF CHINA SUCCESSFULLY STEALS AMERICANS' INFO, THEY'LL DISCOVER OUR BIGGEST WEAKNESS: OUR INABILITY TO TELL WHICH OBJECTS ARE CAKES!

(TAKES OUT KITCHEN KNIFE, BRANDISHES IT)

[TAKE: PROP: KITCHEN KNIFE]

PROVE YOU'RE NOT CAKE OR I WILL START STABBING. DID THE CHINESE SEND YOU?!

POMPEO EMPHASIZED THE SECURITY FEARS DURING AN INTERVIEW WITH FOX NEWS ANCHOR AND FINAL BOSS YOU MUST FACE AFTER DEFEATING ALL OTHER KARENS: LAURA INGRAHAM.

[TAKE: SOT: FOX NEWS 7/7/20 "Would you recommend that people download that app on their phones? Only if they want their private information in the hands of the Chinese Communist Party." T=:10]

EXACTLY! YOU DON'T WANT YOUR PRIVATE INFORMATION TO FALL INTO COMMUNIST HANDS! IT'S MUCH SAFER IN AMERICAN HANDS LIKE THESE:

[TAKE: SOT: VIDEO OF TRUMP STRUGGLING TO HOLD A GLASS OF WATER]

IT'S NO SURPRISE THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO BAN TIK TOK. BACK IN JUNE, TIK TOK USERS AND KPOP FANS TROLLED TRUMP CAMPAIGN MANAGER AND GUY IN THE MOVIE WHO TRIES TO HIDE HIS ZOMBIE BITE, BRAD PARSCALE.

[TAKE: FF: HEADSHOT OF BRAD PARSCALE]

THEY RESERVED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TICKETS TO TRUMP'S TULSA RALLY WITH NO INTENTION OF GOING. AN IRISH EXIT IS WHEN YOU LEAVE WITHOUT SAYING GOODBYE; A TIK TOK EXIT IS WHEN YOU DON'T EVEN SHOW UP.

THEN, TIK TOK USERS SABOTAGED HIS CAMPAIGN'S ONLINE STORE USING A TACTIC CALLED, "SHOPPING CART ABANDONMENT," WHERE THEY WOULD:

"ADD THE ENTIRE SUPPLY OF ITEMS LIKE TRUMP BASEBALLS AND "BABY LIVES MATTER" ONESIES TO THEIR CART, AND THEN LEAVE THEM THERE INDEFINITELY, MAKING THEM UNAVAILABLE TO OTHER CUSTOMERS. (THE VERGE)"

THAT'S NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH THE SHOPPING CART ABANDONMENT TRUMP TRIED WITH ERIC.

(AS TRUMP)

STAY IN THE CART AARON, I'LL BE BACK AFTER I RELEASE MY TAXES. STOP CRYING, IT WON'T CHANGE MY MIND.

EVEN IN THE FACE OF A GOVERNMENT BAN TIK TOKERS JUST WON'T QUIT.

THIS WEEK USERS FLOODED THE OFFICIAL TRUMP CAMPAIGN APP WITH OVER 100,000 NEGATIVE REVIEWS, DRAGGING THE APP DOWN TO 1.2 STARS.

[TAKE: FF: SCREENSHOT OF THE 1.2 STAR RATING ON THE APP STORE]

YIKES, THAT'S THE KIND OF RATING THAT MAKES UBER DRIVERS HOP THE CURB AND HIT YOU.

BUT HEY, IT'S LIKE THEY SAY: HELL HATH NO FURY LIKE A TEENAGER WITH WIFI.

JOE NEEDS YOU!

INT. SUBURBAN KITCHEN - DAY

The sun is shining and birds are chirping. Claire (CECILY STRONG) and David (ADAM DRIVER) sip coffee at their kitchen table. Cecily smiles as she types away on her laptop.

ADAM

Biden's up double digits in the polls. Can't get complacent though, everyone needs to do their part and vote.

(playfully)

What are you smiling about over there?

CECILY

(satisfied)

Oh, just doing my part. I made a \$50 donation to the Biden campaign. Joe 2020, go Joe go!

ADAM

(frozen with fear)

You did what?

CECILY

Oh David stop, it was only \$50--

V.O. (BECK BENNETT)

SO YOU DECIDED TO DONATE TO JOE BIDEN FOR PRESIDENT?! GET READY FOR A BLUE WAVE -- OF EMAILS THAT IS!

CECILY

What's happening?

ADAM

(gravely)

It's too late; it's begun.

BECK V.O.

THE 2020 ELECTION IS SET TO BE THE MOST CONSEQUENTIAL IN A GENERATION. IT'S NOT JUST BIDEN VS. TRUMP - IT'S A FIGHT FOR THE SOUL OF OUR NATION, BUUUUT THAT WON'T STOP US FROM SPAMMING THE HELL OUT OF YOUR INBOX! GO JOE GO!

Suspenseful music plays as cecily looks down at her Gmail. An email pops up from Joe Biden.

Seconds later another appears, this time from Team Joe. Then another. Then, hundreds in rapid-fire succession.

CECILY

Oh god, David, how do I stop it?

ADAM peers through the blinds before closing them. He rushes over and locks their front door.

ADAM

You can't.

CECILY

No it's fine, I'll just unsubscribe.

She opens an email and hits unsubscribe. Beat.

CECILY (CONT'D)

There. See? That wasn't too--

BECK V.O.

(suddenly distorted)

HAHAHAHHAA GOOD TRY! Who do you think we are, f*cking LuluLemon? Your donation was greatly appreciated, but our appetite is bottomless. We need more!

Cecily quickly closes her laptop. Beat. Her phone starts vibrating nonstop. The camera punches in to reveal texts from Joe Biden flooding in. The house phone they haven't used in over a decade starts ringing.

CECILY

HOW DID THEY GET THE NUMBER TO THE HOUSE?

ADAM

(scrambling)

Start packing. I'll grab the kids from school.

Cecily slams the rest of her hot coffee and scurries upstairs. ADAM grabs the car keys and jump into the family's Honda Odyssey. Upstairs Cecily is throwing clothes into a suitcase.

BECK V.O.

GO JOE GO! TEAM JOE NEEDS YOUR HELP AND IT WON'T STOP UNTIL WE DEFEAT DONALD TRUMP. BRACE YOURSELF FOR EMAILS WITH SUBJECT LINES LIKE:

I HATE ASKING FOR YOUR MONEY, BUT HERE I AM!

We see ADAM peel out of the driveway, knocking over garbage cans.

I'M ASKING YOU, INSERT NAME HERE!

Cecily frantically punches the code to the safe hidden in their closet. She grabs passports, money, and jewelry.

MORE MONEY YOU STUPID BITCH! GO JOE GO!

ADAM speeds towards the school, running light after light. His mounted iPhone buzzes nonstop with emails from Joe Biden. He chucks his phone out the window.

ADAM

You've already got our vote!
Please, just leave us alone!

BECK V.O.

DO YOU WANT FOUR MORE YEARS OF
DONALD TRUMP?

ADAM

HELL NO, but--

BECK V.O.

THEN DONATE NOW!

Adam lays on the horn and screams. Back at home, Cecily is on the phone crying.

OPERATOR

911, what's your emergency?

CECILY

Joe Biden won't stop emailing me!
I'm voting for him no matter what
because Trump is a psychopath, but
I can't take these emails!

OPERATOR

Ma'am slow down. Take a deep
breath. How much did you donate?

CECILY

What...? Umm, I...I donated \$50. Why
is that imp--

OPERATOR (BECK BENNETT)

\$50?! YOU CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT!
JOE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Cecily shrieks and launches her phone across the room. She slides to the floor, weeping.

BECK V.O.

AND IT'S NOT JUST JOE, THE ENTIRE
DEMOCRATIC COALITION IS COMING
TOGETHER ASKING FOR YOUR HELP
SPECIFICALLY!

A crazed ADAM busts into his children's elementary classroom. The kids scream in fear. He quickly rounds up his two kids and rushes them to the car.

CHILD 1

Dad, my backpack!-

ADAM

LEAVE IT!

BECK V.O.

YOU'LL GET EMAILS FROM YOUR
FAVORITE DEMOCRATS LIKE: PETE
BUTTIGEG, ELIZABETH WARREN, KAMALA
HARRIS, JULIAN CASTRO, AND OF
COURSE, OUR ACE-IN-THE-HOLE, BARACK
OBAMA! HOW NEAT IS THAT?!

ADAM pulls up to the family's home and barely stops as Cecily throws their luggage into the back and climbs in.

INT. DECREPIT SHACK ON A CRAGGY ISLAND - NIGHT

Cecily crouches in the corner, her two children cowering in her arms. A thunderstorm rages outside.

CECILY

David!? Honey is that you?!

A match strikes. David appears holding an oil lamp. In the other hand he carries a rifle.

ADAM

Babe, I'm right here! It's okay.
We're going to be okay. Here, I
found some bread in the cupboard.
Eat.

The kids take the bread.

CECILY

David, I'm so sorry. I just wanted
to do my part...We can't give Trump
4 more years.

ADAM

Claire, it's okay. It's not your
fault. Besides, there's no Wi-Fi
here. We're safe.

They hug. Beat. Just then- the front door flies off it's
hinges. Hillary Clinton (KATE MCKINNON) emerges.

KATE

JOE BIDEN NEEDS YOU!

They scream.

END