

## EPISODE 74: Kate Middleton Backlash...Do Criminals Have Internal Monologues + Feds Respond to Alex Murdaugh Co-Conspirator

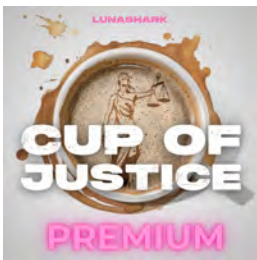
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**Mandy Matney** 00:06

Hello and Happy Tuesday. Well, I didn't expect to start this week out with a fresh reminder of how angry I am at Becky Hill, but here we are. On Sunday, Colleton County Clerk of Court, Becky Hill announced that she would hold a press conference on Monday. And boy, Murdaugh Twitter lit up with questions wondering what it could be about. On Monday, she announced her resignation in front of a pack of reporters. It was a press conference that should have been a press release. And that was it. Hill did not apologize for the chaos she has caused. She did not apologize to those who stood up for her when Dick and Jim flung their jury tampering accusations. She didn't even merely recognize her long list of mistakes in the past year, or say anything about how her careless actions made our state look bad. No, she just said that she was resigning because of her quote unquote, grandchildren, and nothing to do with the ongoing criminal investigation hanging over her head. Also interesting, Becky Hill's co author Neil Gordon said on the Surviving the Survivor podcast this weekend that he was questioned by SLED about Hill in the book that they wrote together on Friday. But according to Becky and her attorney Justin Bamberg, none of that has to do with her resignation. Anywho the press conference was wildly disappointing because I was reminded of how little shame some people have when they mess up. Becky seemed proud to be quitting on Monday morning, and her smug shameless demeanor just made me angry at her all over again. And speaking of shame. In this episode, we talk about what we learned from the Kate Middleton issue. And yes, I feel awful. And to those who reached out saying that they were disappointed in last week's conversation, I hear you and we are going to address that head on. Plus, we talked about another favorite topic of mine lately, the idea that a recent study showed 30% to 50% of people have an internal

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dialogue in their brains. I was really shocked to learn this because honestly, I thought that everyone had the same types of voices in their heads that I do. But many just don't. Even though that statistic shocked me at first, the more I think about it, and the more I think about the past three years, it actually makes a lot of sense. And the idea of Alex Murdaugh or Becky Hill having an internal monologue is hilarious. Premium Members will get to hear our full discussions on both topics, including a second conversation that we had about how Eric's internal monologue was still talking to him about what we had just learned about internal monologues. Also, on today's show, we talked about the judge's denial barring Bland Richter from getting a share of Alex Murdaugh's assets and what that means for his clients. We talked about the victims rally that Eric and I attended in Columbia last Thursday in the powerful speech by Carl Smalls Sr. Plus we talk about the sticky situation with Russell Laffitte's appeal. Let's get into it.

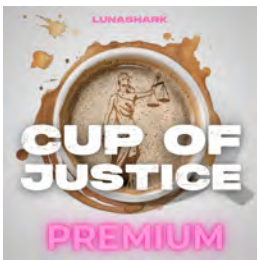
**Liz Farrell** 03:35

Cups up, kids. How are you? You surviving the Kate Middleton backlash?

**Eric Bland** 03:43

I guess I'm getting it. I haven't really been reading about it. I talked to Mandy about it when I saw it Thursday at the victims rally. I guess I'm more pro Kate. So I think probably Mandy's getting a little bit more backlash because she was a little critical of the institution but I'm sure both of us are getting it. But we certainly I mean, Mandy was 100% Right? In all candor, she said that she thought that there was going to be a serious illness wrong with Kate. So she called it 100%.

**Mandy Matney** 04:12



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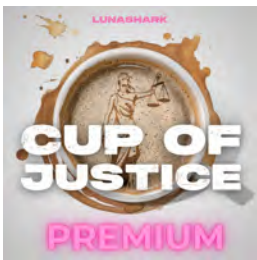
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I mean, kind of. I will be the first to admit and I said this that I do feel bad and I was wrong to an extent and my Catholic guilt is and I'll talk about this in a minute. The voices in my head are like Mandy, you should have done better and blah, blah, blah. I mean, I've been getting constant messages all week from people saying I'm disappointed in you, Mandy. People saying I've been following you for years and come on. I believed in you before this and now I no longer believe in you. And those are I know they're just it's just hard things to hear about yourself. And I just want to say a couple things. I think this situation is different. This is kind of the first first time that I've had a real opinion on something that I haven't been completely involved in, like, with the Murdaugh case, I can talk about it, I can have opinions on it. I'm completely comfortable with it, because I know it from the bottom of my heart, Stephen Smith, etc. But the Kate Middleton situation is like I don't have sources. I do have, we got a lot of fans in England. And, hey, if anybody has insider knowledge, I would love to hear it. We will apply all principles that I did with the Murdaugh case in this scenario, but I don't have insider sources, in the the castles in the palaces. And I think because of that, it's hard for me to base an opinion off of things. So I think that I was very, very critical of other people coming into the Murdaugh case, just treating it like everything else. And just from my experience, blah, blah, blah, because I would sit there and say, this makes me so mad, because in the trenches of Low Country, it is way different here. But all of that said, I, you know, it's been a learning experience, we still don't actually know the bottom of the truth. And I think that that's what I want to stress to people, I hope that we will get to the bottom.

**Eric Bland** 06:27

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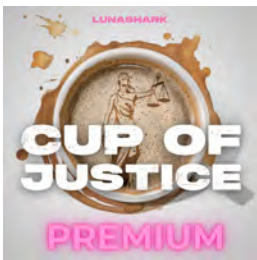
Well, are we entitled to the truth? Let me ask you this, I have an opinion on that. I think she can have a platform, a real good platform about cancer and not to fear and she could do a lot of educating with, you know, the particular type of cancer she has similar when people have breast cancer, God forbid colon cancer. But are we really entitled to that truth? Or is it her truth?

### **Mandy Matney** 06:54

It's really hard. And this is something else I've thought about in the last couple of weeks, especially in the last few days, because people have said like, Mandy, you've said so many things about how women get just the crap beat out of them on social media, and they have no privacy. And here you were demanding that this woman, like reveal her her health issues, and that's not the problem is that her position is a public official where she engages with the public, and that's where she gets money from. And so it's I think it's an outdated position as what I'm trying to say and that we're all in this weird position, because we feel like she does owe the public something to some extent, because that's her job. And that's what she's supposed to be doing. There isn't also like, a lot of people to compare this to like, for instance, the President of the United States had cancer the public had would have the right to know that.

### **Eric Bland** 07:58

Look, look what happened a couple of weeks ago with the Defense Secretary Lloyd asked exactly, he didn't report to the President that he was going into the hospital for prostate surgery, he had cancer. And so we went without an Acting Secretary of Defense for three days. So if it's a public position, I agree that you should say that you are sick. So her



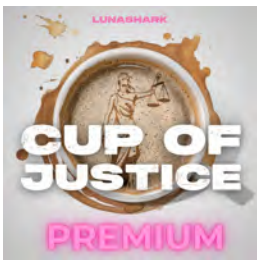
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saying that she had surgery at the end of January, and that she was going to be out till Easter. Was that enough? Or is the public lives entitled to know that in addition to surgery, she is also battling cancer? That's really did she disclose enough? Or does she have to disclose more?

**Liz Farrell** 08:41

So first of all, I just want to say that I feel no guilt about my opinion. My inside voices are telling me that I'm on the right side of history here. Because I look like it is and I love our English listeners like this. I made scones today in honor of you guys. But I have to say this like, Don't come at me when your country is flooded with these very aggressive and salacious tabloids, like the tabloid culture there is really over the top. I mean, I actually enjoy Daily Mail I do just because it's so over the top, but it all has a point of view right? I mean, you can see like when you compare the Meghan stories versus the Kate stories, you can see the difference in how those two women are treated. You can see how women are pitted against each other how a woman in a bikini is considered a headline how, you know sort of the liberal point of view is mocked and blown out of proportion. So that is the culture there that I mean, but why so why this one person is untouchable, especially when this one person like you guys said is on the public dole. I mean, she, her kids are gonna get to go to the finest schools her kids are gonna have to find his life. That's all because of the tax money. I mean, that's just that's that's the job. If that's what it is, that's what you get in exchange. So I think at some point when the public starts to say, we don't we want more from you, we want to hear more information about this. And their response to that is to give a photo that was completely doctored and made up in what we saw what she looked like in the video, right? She



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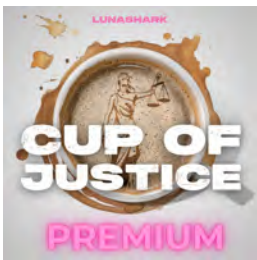
looks fine. Are we entitled to it? No, but they're the ones who put the photo out in the first place. So they wanted to project a certain sort of image image. Yeah, this, they wanted her to look a certain way. They wanted this to look a certain way. So you fed us a lie. And now you're mad at us for demanding the truth? You don't get my guilt on that you do not get it you do not get for one second, am I going to feel any sort of way other than standing in my ground on that one? Because I, I love these. I was just going through them before I got on this. Looking at some of the comments that were sent to me. Just you know, again, so disappointed in you. And it's like, I'm not disappointed in me. I'm very proud of myself.

### **Eric Bland** 11:01

Would she have? Would she have come out on the park bench? Made her statement? If the public didn't catch all the mistakes in that one photo? Let's say that photo came out. And no one knew was photoshopped. Would she have come out and disclosed that she had cancer? The answer is probably not right?

### **Liz Farrell** 11:19

I don't know. And also, do we hate to say this? And I know, Eric, you're gonna scold me in a second here. But no, I'm not. I am because I'm considering my source. I'm sorry. I like It's like going back to what you said maybe like when the reporters descended on the low country for the Murdaugh story. It was so frustrating for both of us to read these things stated as fact, when you're like God, you don't see the like, you don't know the history. So you don't know the player, you don't know that you cannot trust this person as a source. You cannot trust what they're saying as fact. And I'm sorry, like, I hope like I do wish all the



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health I wanted to recover from whatever it is. But at the end of the day, there's still some weirdness there. There's still some things that don't add up. There's statements that she made that don't really jive with what one would think would be the truth of that. I don't care though. I don't care like to go ahead and tell lies. Like, I'm just I don't, it doesn't affect me. But you wanted to project this image? You wanted to look a certain way. We called you out on it. And now you're answering it. And now we're supposed to feel bad about that. And I don't I don't think so.

### **Mandy Matney** 12:23

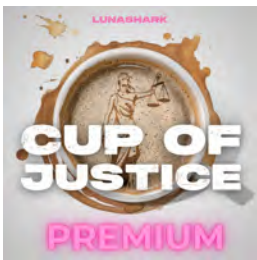
Well, and I do think the palace bungled this beyond belief. And I think that that is something that not enough people, including myself, are talking about, because when cancer comes out, you have to eat, everybody has to take a huge step back. There's no yelling at cancer, there's no like, demanding more answers with cancer.

### **Liz Farrell** 12:55

We all as a culture, hear the word cancer, and we're going to shut up and back off of certain people, feel sorry for certain people. And that's what they want for her. I think that there's a lot of other people that don't get that courtesy, right?

### **Mandy Matney** 13:03

I'm just saying this, but like, I've had skin cancer before, had a lot of struggles with skin cancer in my life, had it, had it removed, etc, etc. But every time that I've had, I've been very transparent about exactly what the diagnosis was, it was non melanoma, for instance, which was non life threatening. And the more information that you give people, even though it's like, of course, it's not their business, but I always figured,



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spread awareness about it. Because I don't want other people that I don't want other 25 year olds to have their forehead removed like I did, right, that wasn't fun. And if I knew that, that was a thing, I probably wouldn't have been attaining votes earlier in life, you can learn from it, etc, etc. With this, we have just a very vague diagnosis. And I I understand that some people are private and some people are almost shameful when it comes to cancer and their health and like, but I don't like that attitude. I just, I would appreciate her being. I mean, again, we have no idea what she's going through, we have no idea what's going on.

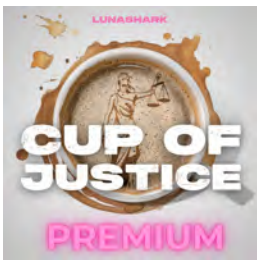
**Eric Bland** 14:14

It's just all very well, I think it's for her children. What about her children the concept that they're at school, and there's too many questions, and how did the kids answer? Do they start to feel self conscious? Having children I do understand that and I empathize with her with that. I think on her level, she doesn't have as much grace or leeway. But regarding the children, what are your thoughts on that, Liz?

**Liz Farrell** 14:38

I think that you are the royal family and your protocol is going to look different than that or what and that is not. I think that was look I was a little offended by something that she said I just feel like bringing the children and making it about like, Well, we had to find a way to tell our children, obviously, obviously you did. That's that's I'm not taking that from you. But To throw it out there like it's on like to make us like supposed to feel the shame and even questioning them and bringing the children into it as an element. I didn't personally appreciate it, I think obviously, they're going to have to have some sort of way of telling





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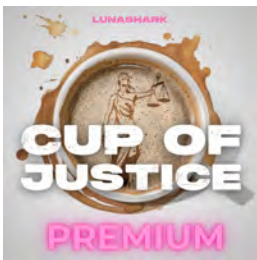
their children, but they're on a different level than we are. They're on a completely in a completely different world with a completely different set of rules, right? Part of that set of rules isn't included in that is the fact that they're all public figures, you chose to have children, because they're heirs to the throne. They are public figures as well. And that sucks. But it's the it's the fact. And that's what Harry and that's what we all grew up with. And I'm not saying it's right, it's just the fact.

### **Mandy Matney** 15:37

Right, and it just does not fit in with modern times. And I was reading an article earlier about Camilla, and she was wearing a \$10 million brooch. And they were saying it was an honor of Kate or whatever. Like that's how different these people are from your brooch is worth like 10 families combined greatest fortune ever. Like I got to work my entire life and not get that much money, whatever. But and that's in a brooch in and that's just something that you got from like your inheritance of jewels, and that's just one little subcommittee of all of the money you have. It's crazy. But again, they're on a an entire different level. And I think that we can not compare ourselves and our family matters and our the way that we communicate with our family, and the way that we tell people, our public issues, a our private issues and make them public, it's just an extremely different scenario. And the palace bungled this one.

### **Eric Bland** 16:49

They did, but I think there's a chance you know, I'm hopeless, romantic in a way, when it comes to the Royals and you know, stuff with my wife, I think this is an opportunity that the king can bring Harry and Megan back in the fold. Because if the king is really suffering with cancer and



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the treatments and obviously Kate is it only leaves Camilla and William, essentially to do the duties of the crown, because Prince Andrew has been basically exiled. So, you know, William did come back and see the king after his diagnosis. But then I was shocked. They said, Oh, the king welcomed him back, it was a 45 minute visit. And then he was done. And he hopped back on the plane and went home. But I think there's an opportunity to try to bring, you know, Harry and Megan back in the fold, so that they can help out. And I believe Megan is a tremendous asset to the crown, based on her background diversity of America and everything is a real opportunity. So maybe there'll be some kind of good that comes from this. That's my Pollyanna view.

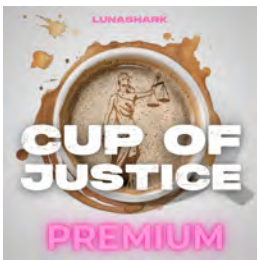
### **Mandy Matney** 17:53

Yeah. And I also think the other thing is that maybe that they all learned communications matter and PR and crisis communications really matter. It was very disturbed saying that they were hiring a Communications Assistant in the palace for 25,000 pounds a year, which is probably 30,000. I think it's not a lot and for 3737 hours a week, you're not gonna get somebody with experience and x and knowledge and they are in a hole right now. And they need to get out with somebody who actually has experience in the sport and crisis communications and things not you're gonna get a 25 year old who's out of school and is just that. Yeah, if that's true, like that's it. Can you get that was a that was a bad salary. Like that's was my salary when I started.

### **Liz Farrell** 18:56

You can't live in London on \$30,000.

### **Eric Bland** 19:01



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That was very astute what you said because you know, when you're in a hole, just digging can only get you deeper, it doesn't necessarily dig your way out of the hole. So the question is, how did they get out of the hole? Is it with total sunlight? Is it with, you know, a little bit of sunlight? No sunlight. I think, you know, half of the Royal watchers are just gonna let it go and say Look, she's entitled to her privacy. But there's another half that say, look what is happening to the crown? Is the king really sick? Because Camilla wasn't the first queen, you know, she was made the Queen consort. So, you know, is it going to be a monarchy of Camilla the next year? I mean, those are the things that we have to know.

**Liz Farrell** 19:43

That just makes me think a saltburn for sure. I want to read to you guys the quote that Secretary Lloyd Austin said after it came out that he had cancer and he had not disclosed it to the president. He said I want to be crystal clear. We did not handle this right. And I did not handle this right. I should have told the President about my cancer diagnosis. I should have also told my team and the American public, and I take full responsibility. I apologize to my teammates and to the American people. That's pretty simple. I mean, and that's,

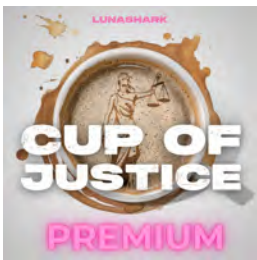
**Mandy Matney** 20:14

That's right. That's so much better.

**Eric Bland** 20:16

You can't you can't fight.

**Liz Farrell** 20:17



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That's a 30,000 pounds statement right there.

**Mandy Matney** 20:21

Right, I would pay somebody that gets you out of the hole.

**Eric Bland** 20:24

He went in the hospital the following week. And he immediately said, I'm going back to the hospital, I'm having a little bit of a difficulty. And everybody said, fine.

**Liz Farrell** 20:31

Right. Yeah, it's That's right. So that's what sunlight does.

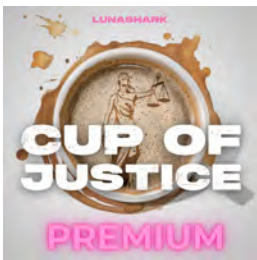
**Mandy Matney** 20:35

Right. And I wish that William would have been by her side or said something. And I just wish that there would have been a little bit of them admitting not Kate, I don't think he did anything wrong. I do not believe she had anything to do with that Photoshop thing. I think that I think that she's eight steps removed from her own social media. I think she's eight steps removed from all of this. And I just don't think that she had anything to do with that. But I would like to see her husband saying we mess this up.

**Eric Bland** 21:10

David would be by your side, right? Renee would be by my side. And Liz, you know, your significant other would be there.

**Liz Farrell** 21:17



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My dog, my ex husband. He'd be there for me.

**Mandy Matney** 21:21

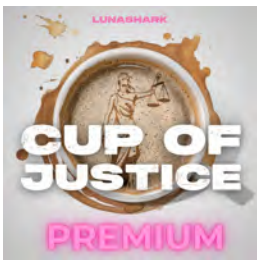
Newberry would be there.

**Eric Bland** 21:23

No, but our spouses would be by our side, I think it was, you know, putting her alone on a park bench was really, this was hard, hard to watch. It was hard to watch.

**Mandy Matney** 21:35

It was. It was very weird and cold. And again, it's like, they wanted the public to feel like we've all put this woman by herself through so much shame. And it's like, no, we are yelling at the palace, we are yelling at the institution. It is not her fault that she has to sit on this bench and this all come to this. And it is also not the people's fault for demanding some answers here. They bungled this entire thing from day one. And again, instead of the I keep going back to if they wouldn't have put out that weird photo I wouldn't. Even my little curious ears wouldn't have even been anywhere near this because I wouldn't have cared. But I popped in because I was like AP and a kill order. That's really weird. And what else is going on there? Huh? If they would have just said on Mother's Day, hey, she needs more time, her health condition is a lot more serious. And we thought that it was I think the world would have just backed off and said, Okay, more time, that's fine. But instead, they just got weirder. And again, we don't know, I'm still don't believe that. That was the market video from last week looping around getting her breads in her nuts. Like no, she wasn't doing that. And that wasn't that also, whatever. I think bottom line is that all of us, hopefully we learned a



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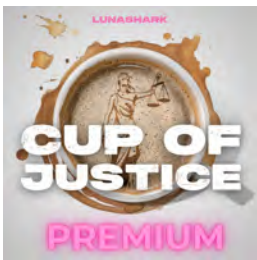
lesson about it is still a good thing to have a healthy amount of skepticism toward powerful institutions. And it is that is never something that anybody should shame anybody else for. We should still ask questions when they put out a story that just doesn't make sense and does not add up. And even when cancer is on the table, we should still be able to have a healthy amount of criticism and skepticism when it comes to the things that they're saying and if they're telling us the truth or not.

**Eric Bland** 23:35

Well, like the way they flip houses and trade houses like you know, I used to trade baseball cards, you know, and put them into spokes on my bicep my Schwinn bicycle. You know, one gets to Frogmore cottage the other gets the the estate out in the you know, the suburbs, which is you know, 100 room mansion, Prince Andrew gets to stay in his place King wanted a map but he said no, I'm not gonna get out you're gonna have to evict me. And Prince Andrew's Palace is issues. It's humongous. It's what it's white. It's got like 50 bedrooms. I mean, these castles in the property that the Queen has are now the king. It's extraordinary. They have stayed inside this family. You know, we have the rule against perpetuity. So it's a little longer to give you guys which is in the United States, you can only keep property for a measuring life plus 21 years and it can be the youngest person in your family that you choose. But it's that person's life is full numerical or short her numerical life plus 21 years, because we cannot keep property over and over and over and over again. In a family it doesn't. That's what we sacrifice when we fought the Revolutionary War. And they have property. The Queens property list was unbelievable. Unbelievable. And they get free taxes they get you know free medical care, which is Fine, you know, they have

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to do duties and all. But free taxes and a budget for clothes and your budget for your press. It's a it's a lot for ceremonial position, right?

### **Mandy Matney** 25:11

It's a different position and is a different way of life than everybody else in the world is used to. So because of that, the criticism is obviously going to be hired the skepticism about whether or not they're telling the truth should be higher, because that's a lot of money. And again, I've argued with a few people about this on Twitter, and then I've given it up. He goes, I just get tired of arguing. But, uh, you can't tell me that they do not take public dollars, because they do and they have for a very long time. And those properties. I have realized they go back for a very long time, but like, right, right. But yeah, all of that said, I think they they just live a different life than us. And it's a whole different scenario. And that's why we had 1776. And I'm very happy that we did. Yeah, that said, I'm sorry, I would make anybody mad. But let's move on.

### **Eric Bland** 26:10

Tell me what you thought of the victims rally on Thursday. I thought it was spectacular. I really enjoyed hearing the small speak. I thought Sarah Ford did a great job. I thought it was well put on what were your thoughts about it, Mandy?

### **Mandy Matney** 26:25

It was really great. I could not believe what an amazing speaker Carl smile senior was. I mean, that guy could run for office and I would vote for him any day. He was like, Yes, I haven't been that moved by somebody's speech in a long time. He just had a phenomenal way of words, the things that he said. And he was calling out everything as it



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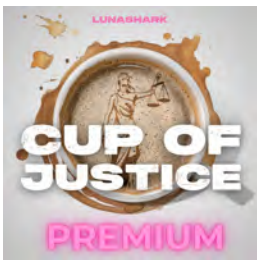
was I liked that. He said how offended he has been. And a lot of victims are seeing things written about them that like they are they're becoming political props for different things. And he said, like you try putting your kid in the casket and see how you feel.

### **Eric Bland** 27:12

Yeah and hearing a song, hearing a song 20 years later that still reminds you of your son and you have to pull over on the side of the road and cry. And he said that we're all part of a family that nobody wants to be a member of. I thought that was so powerful. And he talked about how hurt he was that what Chief Justice Beatty may have said in oral arguments even gave the reference and was like the 30 minute mark where he said that Chief Justice Beatty said, you know that they were not entitled to notice. And he said how you know, how dare somebody tell me I'm not entitled to notice when my son's killer is going to be released from prison earlier than the sentence of the state said he would be. He was a very powerful speaker. And that's the kind of politician I think we need and and I hope the people in the statehouse heard and what I really learned was the funding that's trying to be cut for victims advocates. Hearing Attorney General Wilson speak was surprising. And I think he said that he would meet with Sandy Smith, if I'm not mistaken. And we are going to hold his feet to the fire to meet with Sandy Smith. And you Mandy and you Liz to talk about what's going on because obviously I had my connection with Chief Keel. But if we could get that connection with Alan Wilson, maybe we will see some progress being made.

### **Mandy Matney** 28:34





## EPISODE 74: Kate Middleton Backlash...Do Criminals Have Internal Monologues + Feds Respond to Alex Murdaugh Co-Conspirator

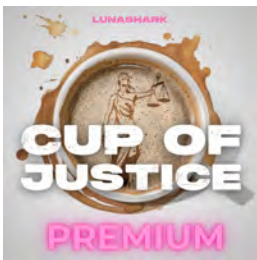
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Yeah, I was very encouraged by the people in his office who were there. I met two of them. And Sandy met them as Sandy briefly met with Alan Wilson, but it was like he was literally about to go up on stage show. He just kind of hugged her and took a picture and there was really no time for the talk. But the people in his office were like he is very victim centered. He would love to meet with you like let's figure that out. Let's get this on the calendar. Let's do this. And I was extremely encouraged by that. And I again, just want to see it. Oh, yeah, yeah, the entire thing was just another thing. It's really sad to get to know these people and their stories. And there's a lot of heaviness at those events because like, just pretty much everyone you meet has something huge that they're carrying with them and like something just horrible that happened to them. And that's the reason why they're there. But at the same time, it's just beautiful to see them all come together and realize a common cause. And we're getting further with getting the JMSC and move moving along with judicial reform. And I think that as we were standing there, I was like, Yeah, we're actually we're making progress here. This isn't the same thing every year and we're just yelling about it. There's actually things being done inside the statehouse and they are hearing us in there. So that's encouragement to keep going. And I also really loved one thing that I want to say. I love, love, love that Carl Smalls just called out names and he said the unlawful firm of Gibson, Rutherford and Manning.

**Eric Bland** 30:22

Yeah, he put them together. It was powerful, you know, to see Judge Manning, meaning he made a law firm of Byron Gibson, the solicitor and the judge, it was extremely powerful.

**Liz Farrell** 30:34



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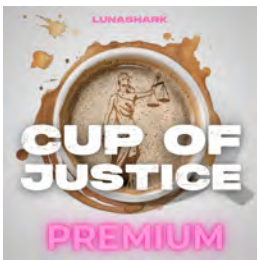
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And one thing that disturbed me, when Carl Smalls was talking was how he talked about like, you were saying that people the accusation was that his family is being used, like as political props. And he called it the Get Over It Crowd people who are telling his family to like, move on, because, you know, Jeroid Price got his time, he served his time, blah, blah, blah. And what made me think about that, I started to wonder did, did you guys get the feeling? Was there sort of a backlash from the Todd Rutherford crowd, the Byron Gibson crowd, the Casey Manning crowd, to counter what the Smalls were saying publicly? Because who I think is saying these things to that family? Is it just social media comments that they happen to see? Or is there actually like seeds put into the community of Don't listen to him? He's just, you know, just being used right now. And they just need to get over it and what have you, because I think it's such a setback. And I think it kind of speaks to what greed does to people because there is no other reason to have done what they did. What Casey Manning, Todd Rutherford and Byron Gibson did then for whether its financial or power gain, so it was their personal greed that got us to this position. And I just I don't know how we counter that. How do we counter somebody's? Because that's what I think we're sitting on with with the legislature, I hope that we are making progress. But I can't look past the personal greed that I think is still holding us back in Columbia. So that's just what I wanted to say. I didn't like the move on crowd, do not like it when people turn on victims, and I specifically don't like it when state legislators and judges and solicitors create some sort of a culture of backlash against victims. It doesn't serve them. It definitely doesn't serve the community. Not a good look.

**Eric Bland** 32:27

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And also David Pascoe said, if you think that Jeroid Price was an anomaly, you're wrong. It happens. So frequently, you would be shocked and I, that stuck with me, I want to know, How frequently does it happen? And how who did it happen for? You know, we only heard about your price this is that this thing happened like once a week, once a month, do these secret deals just happen all the time?

**Liz Farrell** 32:54

Yeah. What's the point of ours? Like, what is the point of the whole process, then if all you have to do later down the road is get together some cash, however you want to deliver in a suitcase and a bag and check form whatever, you you just get together that money and then you're you're done? Like you can buy your way out of the system? That's disgusting.

**Eric Bland** 33:11

With a lawyer. I'm not saying that don't say, I don't think Judge Manning was bought with cash. I'm not. I don't think we're saying that. I'm saying a lawyer may be bought with it.

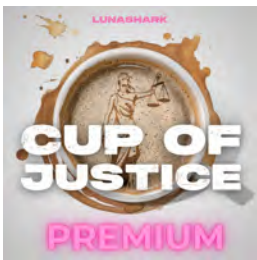
**Liz Farrell** 33:18

I wasn't saying that. Right. Yeah, sometimes. But I mean, what would meaning if you didn't get anything out of that? Whether it's personal favor or not. I mean, that was a dumb deal.

**Eric Bland** 33:29

Then on his part, that was stupid. He killed his legacy killed his legacy.

**Mandy Matney** 33:32



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Right? Because why sacrifice your reputation? Let's talk about that in a minute. And we'll be right back.

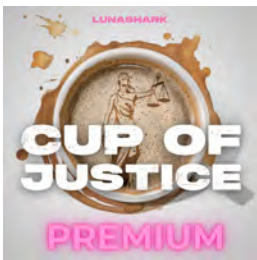
### **Liz Farrell** 33:52

So as I was watching Fargo, Season Five yesterday, just finished with Season Four. Awesome, man. It's so good, isn't it? Yeah. And Eric, there was a there was a line in there that I shared with Mandy from Season Four when it was all about like the mafia. And I think it was Kansas City actually made Kansas City right. Yeah. And the sort of Italian son, the Jason Schwartzman character says, America loves a good crime story, because America itself is a crime story. And I just like that's been sitting with me, since I heard that there's so many good lines. It's a really well written show. But as I was watching the show, Mandy sends me a link to a story that blew my mind. And it was that apparently, only 30 to 50% of the population has what's called an internal voice. And I'm gonna give you an example of what an internal voice is. As I mentioned before, I was making scones today. And at one point, I noticed a hair in part of the batter. So I pull out the batter now mind you, I'm like, having this sort of like, you know, conversation in my head. That hair too. turns into, you know, disgusting. I'm disgusted by it right? So I'm like, oh, then it becomes a conversation like you're discussing you shove your hair up. What are you doing? If you get married and your husband looks at your eat your food, and it has to pull the hair out of his mouth? What happens? Do you have to wear a hairnet, then after that? And if you were the hair net? Would he then think that you gave into his power? Like how do you casually deal with the hair situation? Like if you got yelled at.

### **Eric Bland** 35:26

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Jesus? Did you unravel this?

**Liz Farrell** 35:28

That's what happens on every minute of every day, Eric in my head. That's where it goes.

**Mandy Matney** 35:34

Yeah, I have that too. Eric, do you have and do you have an inner monologue?

**Eric Bland** 35:38

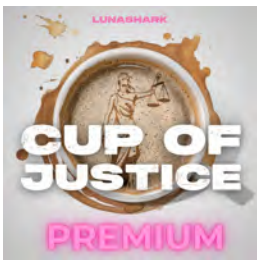
I do? I do. It's my father. And it's, you know, it's a conscience for me. But yeah, it's guilt. It's Jewish guilt for me, but yes, yes, I do. I spin out of control, like you just did.

**Liz Farrell** 35:49

Oh, yeah.

**Mandy Matney** 35:50

I was telling David like, I have a whole city council going on, in my head. Before I make decisions and they are arguing and they are in it becomes really hard to speak sometimes. Because there are so many different voices coming at me in so many different opinions of like, you're being really great. Now. This is awful. Yeah. Shame, shame, feel the guilt. Don't feel the guilt. This is depression. Is this not depression? It's wild. And then so this, this came out the other night, we were at dinner with our good friends, the Bannons. They're two lawyers. And Meredith was saying that she's got the inner monologue. And Jim was



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like, I don't have what are you talking about? He's like, so he's like, my inner monologue would be like, boop. Are you getting some tacos?

**Liz Farrell** 36:51

So jealous of that.

**Mandy Matney** 36:52

I know. And I was like, That would be amazing. And then David, same thing, David's like, I mean, I think about the task at hand. Like, I when I'm watching TV, I think about the TV show that I'm watching. And I don't really and I'm like, so you're not thinking about like, Do I really exist? And am I good enough in this life? And you're not like, in with your thoughts?

**Eric Bland** 37:19

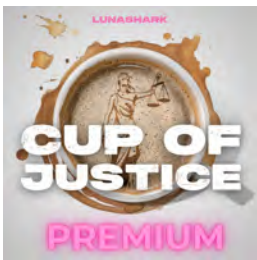
I replay every conversation I have with somebody.

**Liz Farrell** 37:21

Yeah. Yeah. But that's only 100%.

**Mandy Matney** 37:25

Replay every conversation how wild is that? But it's only 30 to 50% of the population, though that has that going on. And then that makes more sense to me because I'm like, maybe that's how people are able to, like, be crappy to other people and steal and cheat and lie. And they don't have that inner monologue just yelling at them all the time and having fights while they they can spin off and they can move on.



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### **Eric Bland** 37:48

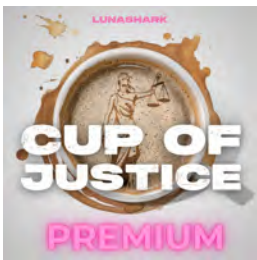
I can't move on saying I have a difficulty to move on. I play it over and over even though I can't change history, even though I can't I try to replay it in my mind instead of saying, Look, today's gone. Whether you did good or you did bad, you better focus on tomorrow. I'm still replaying today, tomorrow, yesterday, a week ago. And it's exhausting. It is a very tiring way to live. But it forces me to think better. To never make the same mistake twice. At least try not to. But it's exhausting.

### **Mandy Matney** 38:24

Yeah, it's exhausting. And you just sometimes want a break from it. And but I do like Liz was saying like, I kind of like the people up in my head. Like they they've helped me in a lot of ways they've got me some good times.

### **Liz Farrell** 38:39

I couldn't write without them. I need the voices in my head because my anxiety helps my writing. It just it does. And I think that's what's given me like a, maybe a more distinctive writers voice then, you know, people search for their writers voice for years and years. And I think mine is was established at birth because the voice is I can remember sitting at my window in my Brookline apartment when I was like six years old, five years old, something like that. And just sitting and watching. The T would go by the back of my house and just watching the people in the tea, wondering if they could see me and if I could you know if I can see them. Can they see me and then thinking about like I'd see some of them conversing sometimes the T would get stuck and I would go into...



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**Eric Bland** 39:24

The train. The train.

**Liz Farrell** 39:27

I'm sorry, I should have said that.

**Mandy Matney** 39:29

I thought we were talking about tea like sipping tea.

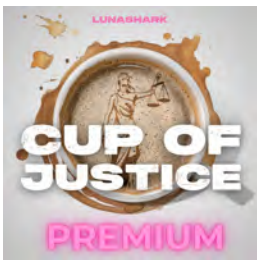
**Liz Farrell** 39:36

No, so we live so the subway would go the above ground, I guess. So in Boston, we call it like the L and train Chicago. Yeah, exactly. Exactly. And so at night you could see in because the lights were on in the train and so you could see and it'd be packed full of people and I could I just remember sitting there night after night just watching them sort of you know before dinner around dinner, and wondering how to have a calm conversation I would watch people a lot. I didn't know how to have a conversation. So I would practice conversations in my head at that age. So I think that's sort of like when that forms, right. So I go to become a writer and it's like, already there for me this thing that that writers search for all the time, so I would be very sad if my if my inside voice is left, but they don't tell me to murder. That's good. They don't they don't create conflict. And there's no demonic voice out there. They're all very good people.

**Mandy Matney** 40:29

Yeah, in fact, my mom might tell me not to tell me. You can't do that. Manny, you need to take a step back and chill out. Things are hard, but you can get through this. Yeah, I mean, it would be very nice to be like





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Jim and sit there and I love Jim Bannon is a very smart lawyer. But Jim is just able to focus on he's a criminal defense attorney and he's able to just sit down focus on the the crime at hand, the task at hand, whatever. And then he can get up and leave and really not think about it. Like it doesn't linger with him as much.

**Eric Bland** 41:09

You guys just described Alex Murdaugh. No, no, no, I'm saying Jim, Jim's a good guy.

**Mandy Matney** 41:17

Alex Murdaugh has no voice in his head. No voices in his head.

**Eric Bland** 41:21

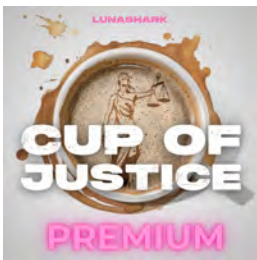
There's no governor. There's no maybe you shouldn't do this. No board of directors. Hey, he doesn't need any moves on. He's his own board of directors.

**Mandy Matney** 41:29

Exactly.

**Liz Farrell** 41:30

Can you imagine if we recast the Murdaugh murder story with Alex with like conscience, a Jewish voice inside them like no, but like the Jewish guilt of like having that burden on his soul that he has to do? Oh, what have I done?



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**Mandy Matney** 41:49

No, I can't even should I steal millions from Gloria's family? Or maybe just give them a few dollars?

**Eric Bland** 41:54

Or do I take some of the money and give it to charity? And that way, it'll make me feel a little bit better. It's not?

**Mandy Matney** 42:01

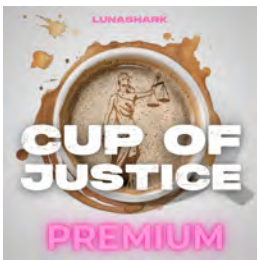
What if I participate in the PMPED Santa giveaway? That will make things better.

**Liz Farrell** 42:08

But not even just like him planning his crimes and like considering whether they're moral or not just like him spinning out of control? I really love that just like having a moment of just like people are gonna think of me as murderer now, but how not really a murderer? Like, I can just like him having that sort of dialogue. How does he play? Yeah, I think that would be kind of funny. I think that would be actually a good stage production, right.

**Mandy Matney** 42:32

But I think it's been like mind blowing to me to be like, That's how we're different like, that just doesn't exist in it. I think his mind is just in prison and as mine is just like I'm gonna do a Super Bowl bet today are blah, blah, blah. He's a narcissist, right?



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**Eric Bland** 42:49

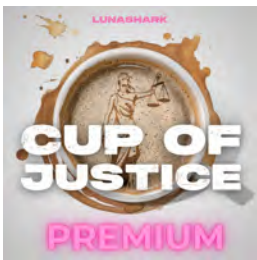
And people who are narcissists don't have voices that tell them don't.

**Mandy Matney** 42:53

Who I can manipulate today. It but it's not. It's not sitting there being like, what is Maggie's family thinking of me right now. And I and I'd be mortified, right and just shame I would have died of shame by now if I'm just there's no way I could have survived. Because recently I've had and I was telling David, again, explaining this whole inner inner dialogue thing. And when I have anxiety attacks, which I've had more in the past couple years, it's the my inner dialogue is just screaming and there's so much noise and it becomes hard to breathe, it becomes hard to like, it turns from your your brain is on fire to like your your body is out of control, and you don't have control over your body anymore. And it's a really, really beyond weird feeling. And all that said, it's like yeah, I mean, there was in these are things I get like that sometimes when I am just thinking of worst case scenarios, in the worst case scenario is shouting in my head like, this is what's going to happen, this could happen, blah, blah, blah. And then then it gets so bad that I can't breathe. I could never survive. I would not be able to breathe if I did what Alex Murdaugh did to other human beings because like I would just die of of a panic attack immediately. Because I would feel so much shame.

**Eric Bland** 44:25

Would you stay with your in-laws for a month after you killed their daughter and their grandson? And it's eat at the table and look at them and talk about, you know, God, I miss her so much, you know, and you killed her. I mean, what kind of animal could do that?



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**Mandy Matney** 44:41

Speaking of, I think this is a good transition. That's another big thing that Michael Colucci has in common with Alex Murdaugh. He stayed with the family. Did you know that Liz and have we talked about that?

**Liz Farrell** 44:55

I haven't gotten to that part in the testimony yet, but yeah, we talked about that about the came out in testimony.

**Mandy Matney** 45:01

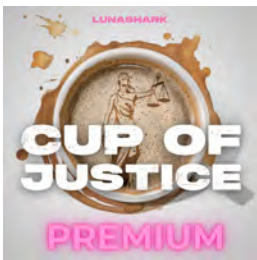
Right after his wife was killed or he killed his wife. We'll find out. He stayed with his in-laws family. And I just think that that is so bizarre. I mean, if he did kill her, and Alex definitely did it. Yeah, to look them in the eye every morning to eat breakfast with them and say, we're going to find him it's going to be okay. Like, that is psychotic, narcissistic, awful. It's just the worst of humanity.

**Eric Bland** 45:34

Or is it smart? To be close to your enemy? You know, Michael Corleone said or keep your enemies close to your friends, close your enemies closer? Do you get close to the family to you want to hear what they're thinking that they're not going to turn on you? Was that a strategic way that he did that strategy?

**Liz Farrell** 45:53

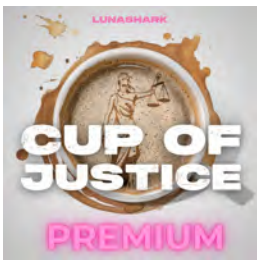
Yeah, I mean, it's not just strategy. It's trademarked by them, the Murdaugh family that is their strategy is they go right to the nexus to the they go right to the center of where the punch point might be for them. They did that during the boat crash, they put themselves front



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and center because sort of the same way. And I don't mean to compare, I'm not comparing the Murdaugh family to this just to be clear. But in this, I'm just saying that this sort of like the same essence of this, but you know, when you see like a domestic violence survivor, or in the act of it, and the husband enters the room, he wants to be present there. So that if her family asked her a question, she can't answer it, honestly. Right. She can't be forthcoming because he's standing right there. So I think it's harder. We certainly know that Marian knew something about their marriage, be very difficult to answer those questions. In a very unflinching raw way, when you're grieving brother in law is staying in your same house. Because you know that law enforcement views the husband as a potential suspect from the get go. So it would alter your your way of dealing with law enforcement, you would want to keep that privacy because I think maybe in the Colucci trial, we saw the neighbor testify. This was Sara Lynn and Michael's neighbor. And, you know, she testified about a fight that she had heard. But she had originally in her written statement to police, I believe, didn't point that out to them or said, you know, she hadn't really heard you know, anything. And when she tried to explain on the stand, why she said what she said to the police versus what, you know, she was testifying to now, it's one of those moments that's like, amazing for a defense attorney. Right, Eric, because you get that and you can start punching away at that. But I understood completely like, can you imagine being asked about a neighbor that you consider to friend and you don't want to air their dirty laundry? And you certainly don't want the husband who you couldn't imagine doing anything awful to the wife. But then there's that little part of your brain where you're like, Well, now it's put in context. Now these fights that I heard, I kind of, you know, is it important? Is it not? Do I say something because once I say something, they're gonna



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go down that road, but now that now that they've, you know, identified him as a suspect now I can say something, but it's completely rendered useless because the defense attorney can jump all over that so yeah, that's why that's why bad people put themselves in in places like that, right? It's sort of I just can't imagine what the Murdaugh family or the Marion's family felt. I can't imagine that there's the idea that this like demonic presence, was there keeping an eye on them? Yeah.

**Eric Bland** 48:26

Do you think the inner voice is positive? Or is it some? Is it healthy or unhealthy? is basically what I'm trying to ask.

**Liz Farrell** 48:35

Are you talking about our inner voices that we...are you worried? Did we make you worried?

**Eric Bland** 48:39

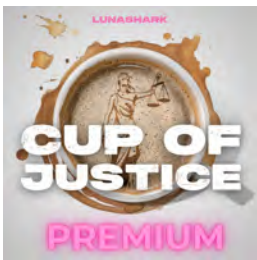
Yeah, he did. He did.

**Liz Farrell** 48:42

So is it good? Is it because 30% of the people haven't? Is it good? Yeah, it's creative creative people tend to have inner voices I read.

**Mandy Matney** 48:50

Yeah, but it can get dangerous because when you're in our thoughts get to negative especially about yourself when you are too and there's been a couple of studies of like 80% of your inner monologue is some is negative for some people and then so that obviously leads to you know, depression and other increased anxiety etc, etc. I think it's one of those



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things in life where it's a push and pull it's a bonus and a negative at the same time. You probably are more creative you probably have a little more exciting life like Liz and I are saying like no moment is really boring in our lives like I got all these people talking up in my head and they keep me company they tell jokes sometimes they never stick me.

**Liz Farrell** 49:42

In an airport I mean, I like I watch people.

**Mandy Matney** 49:45

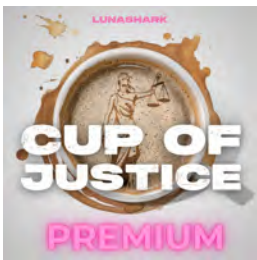
Same Yeah, I crack jokes say things that are funny, whatever. But at the same but then if it's ruminating, I think is the terminology when you just get stuck on one thought and keep going and the thought just gets darker and darker. So that all that said, I think it can be positive and negative.

**Eric Bland** 50:08

I talk sometimes I'm going to just, I'm just going to come out and say, so sometimes I talk by myself, like, and Renee will come in the room and say, Who are you talking to? Or what are you saying? Like, you don't have a conversation, it could be fun or laughing back and forth. Or you know what I'm saying? I all the time. Do you ever talk to yourself out loud? I do.

**Mandy Matney** 50:29

David does that. I do not. Okay. Okay. We'll catch, I will catch David and full on he prepares for meetings. And he's like, they're gonna say this. And then I'm gonna say that bah, bah, bah, blah, blah. Like, he's like, getting ready. He's like, you know, put in a shaving his face and he's like,



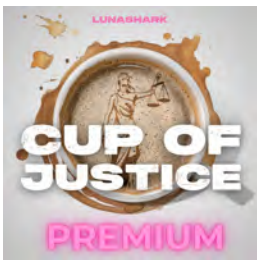
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then then they're gonna say this, blah, blah, blah. I don't do that. I think it's because talking is just more work for me. Versus like him. It just kind of flows like lava out of his mouth, and Verona and he's able to sort things out that way. But Liz, you talk to yourself.

**Liz Farrell** 51:08

Oh my gosh. So I used to one of my I guess it was my first newspaper job. I had like a 45-minute commute. So it was like late at night. So it'd be like a two three in the morning. It's early in the morning to three in the morning. I'd be driving home. I rather than listening to like repeats of Dr. Laura and Rush Limbaugh, I would interview myself. And I know that sounds crazy. But like I because I wanted to formulate my thoughts. I wanted to be able to like have almost like talking points, Eric, you know, like, right. So I would pretend that I was being interviewed and any like, literally like I could have like a ham radio on and like a topic would come up and I'd switch it off. And then I would say like what my thoughts are. It's just like, it reminds me during Hurricane Gloria, my dad, we rent we didn't have electricity, it went out. And my dad made made us pretend to be the press corps. And he pretended to be Ronald Reagan. And we had to ask him. That's awesome. That's fine. I think. I think that's just where it comes from. But as far as quotidian, like talking to yourself, everyday talking to yourself. Yeah, I do. And sometimes I don't realize like, I don't want to be the person who's talking to herself in a grocery store. I really don't. But it has happened. It's a very, like, I forget that my like, I'm laughing at something that I thought about somebody in an aisle before. And I'm saying I'm saying it out loud. Like, maybe you should have taken a shower, like, even just stupid stuff.





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**Eric Bland** 52:42

I was in my car about two weeks ago, and I had a chord argument that I was preparing for. And I was talking and I started to get really animated and pounding the steering wheel. And I looked to the left and there was a lady who was parked next to me, just staring at me. And you could tell she was staring at me like Is this guy a nutcase? You know, who knows? I mean, look, we all have our hang ups. I mean, look, I used to have insomnia. And I used to listen that guy, I think it was on am radio, his name was art something. And he talked about chemtrails in the sky, and all these truckers calling in saying I just saw a chemtrail and UFOs. And there's a whole subculture of people that like from 11 o'clock to six in the morning when we're sleeping. They're doing their thought process, you know what I mean?

**Mandy Matney** 53:29

But now that we're all very, a lot more honest and open with each other. I think most people have those things going on, and it's best to just talk about them. As long as you're not mean to anybody. I don't care, right, as long as you're not hurting anybody. That's fine, right?

**Eric Bland** 53:44

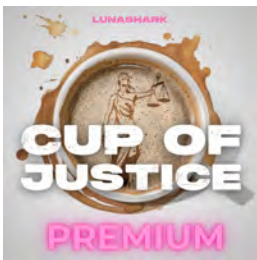
As long as your voice isn't saying grab a knife and go stab somebody, right?

**Mandy Matney** 53:48

Oh, that's a bad voice.

**Eric Bland** 53:50

Yeah, that's a bad voice.



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**Liz Farrell** 53:51

I just don't want to cause somebody to fear. You know, you hear somebody like laughing to themselves and like the cereal aisle. I you know, not that people would hear it but like, I just never want it. I think for like legitimizing something here for people that we probably shouldn't be in the sense of like, we're not we sound we probably sound like over the top right now. But I think like you said, it's important to say this stuff.

**Mandy Matney** 54:11

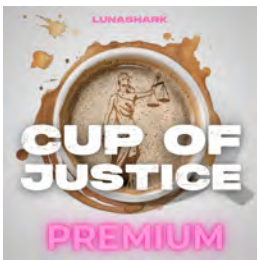
And the other thing the Council of Mandy's is talking to me about right now like the trolls are going to say they're going to take little clips of this and be like Mandy's got a budget voices in her head and blah, blah, blah, and everything makes sense.

**Eric Bland** 54:25

No, it all makes sense. Now, it all makes sense. Now, that's all fit into a nice little package.

**Mandy Matney** 54:31

I think like Liz said, I really like learning. What are we human design, like how human brains work? And the more that you learn about those types of things, the more that you're able to forgive yourself and give yourself a lot more grace versus sometimes you just get stuck like, for me, my thing is like ADHD, I have a really, really hard time focusing sometimes, and especially when I'm in an environment where there's a lot of people talking. One of my worst things in the world is I cannot for the life of me sometimes focus on either the task at hand or listening to somebody who's speaking to me, because there's so many different



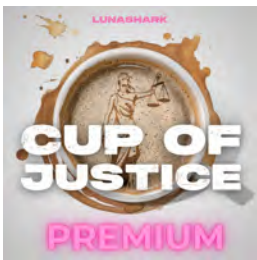
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things going on and, and I have the voices in my head on top of that saying, Mandy, you look bad Mandy, probably Linda buck up, you should be happier bla bla bla. So all of that said is that a wit with figuring this stuff out? I realized like, okay, my brains a little different than, like, if I'm in a room of 100 people, then at least half of them don't have this going on. So that's why I should just be a little bit more forgiving of myself and realized that it can be a superpower. In some ways. If you lean into it and understand it.

**Eric Bland** 55:41

It is a superpower. It is a superpower. And with that said, we'll be right back. So Liz, I told you guys that the special referee in the Beach case had an order where he denied the Satterfield's motion to reconsider. You recall that he made an award and did not give the Satterfield and apply lose any money. And so we made a motion to reconsider and then he demanded that we file with the court a statement setting forth the exact amounts and the Satterfield as I always said, you know, because of the agreements that we got more than seven, 8 million, I had to disclose that we actually got \$9.32 million for them. From a multitude of sources, none from Alex Murdaugh. And then for the Plyler sisters, we got \$150,000. And so we made a motion to reconsider, because to me, it seemed inconceivable that there wouldn't be any money from Alex Murdaugh awarded to the Satterfield the Plyler's, because they were true victims of his and that, yes, they were very fortunate and a lot of grace to get money from other sources, but it's, it's, you know, symbolic that he, they should have gotten something, and it was denied. And so I sent out a tweet saying, you know, I was tremendously disappointed for for my clients, and it's gonna take a while to get over and a lot of people responded back, they got enough



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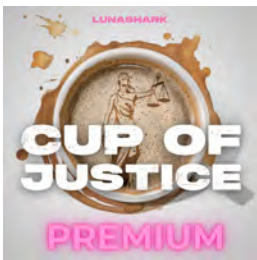
money, and they may have, and, you know, there's some people that didn't get any money. And that's true, too. But I still can feel bad for my clients. So that is what happened on Friday. And, you know, I do feel bad. I feel like that Alex got away by not having to give some money to this added fields and apply layers.

### **Liz Farrell** 57:43

Well, I think to make the point clear here is that other people cleaned up Alex mess. They had liability in the matter, of course, right? The bank, the law firm, what have you. But Alex is the one who created this mess in the first place. And he is heavily depending on the fact that mean, you guys were the first out of the gate. So you got the lion's share of the insurance money from these agencies, I would imagine. Because at that point, they didn't know the the scope of his crimes. And they might have known they just didn't know the scope of the people that would want their money back, if you know what I'm saying. So I think, I think, yeah, I can see why I can see why you feel that way. And I think that people who are criticizing are missing the point, which is not necessarily like, okay, look, let's look at what each person got. And certainly there has to be a factor, right? That just does. But I totally from that angle, I totally get what you're saying, Eric?

### **Mandy Matney** 58:43

Well, it's accountability. And I think it is extremely frustrating. Like we were talking about last week, if Alex is placing \$5,000 bets in prison, there's money somewhere, like he has access to money somewhere. And he is one of the few in this entire scenario, who has managed to squeeze his way out really without paying anybody like I don't. He's just said from day one. I don't have any money. And that's how we got with



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the whole. That's how this whole mess became a mess is the beach case. And he didn't want to pay for that. And he still, money still matters to him. Money is still helping him in way in certain ways in prison, and we know there are people feeding him money in prison, and I don't like that he can get extra beef sticks. When he can get extra be six at one point and then give \$0 to the pilers or the Satterfield.

**Eric Bland** 59:49

And I don't believe that he just had \$1.7 million that was recovered by the receivers and that's the you know, the extent of his bounty I believe that just didn't even scratch the surface.

**Liz Farrell** 1:00:00

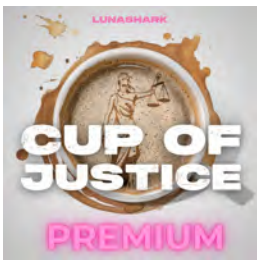
Meaning that they didn't they were only able to find what they were able to find and not right. You can't find which can't find. Right. Right. And I do think that there is some hope there. I do think that there is an investigation that's still going on into where the money is. So I hope that that ends up with something. I think there's more incentive. Now, Eric, I mean, I don't know what part you can play in that and making sure that you hold investigators.

**Eric Bland** 1:00:27

Yeah, I got a 10 year judgment. Right. So I mean, that's yeah, we have a 10 year judgment.

**Liz Farrell** 1:00:32

Maybe worth a meeting with the FBI to talk about where you know, where, what they're up to and where they're at with their investigation. So another thing that we need to mention the the one of the grossest



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things that we've seen in a long time, I mean, is Johnny Parker getting back some of the money that he loaned and I almost like more than the PMPED. Getting their money, some of their money back. I'm more offended by the Johnny Parker bid, because this is a man who gave Alex hundreds of thousands of dollars with no collateral in a personal loan.

**Eric Bland** 1:01:02

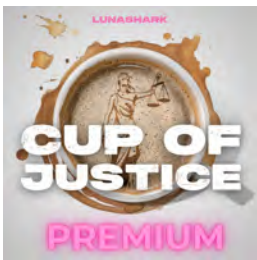
Knowing that he was hurting for cash, knowing that he was needing cash, right?

**Liz Farrell** 1:01:07

Well, I would also presume that he knew that the law firm suspected him of taking almost \$800,000 without being missing so. And we also know that there was a history there of Alex doing some, you know, rascally things with six figure amounts of money. So I think with all of that knowledge, Johnny Parker made a bad deal. He took a bad risk, and he lost on it. And I don't think I when it comes down to the victims, I shouldn't have to lose out on that. And I don't know how the judge is okay with that. I don't know. That's the one decision that really does not sit well with me. Is Johnny Parker getting money?

**Eric Bland** 1:01:46

I'll see you there. That's what we based it on. Yes. So now let's talk about our favorite federal inmate. At this time, we only have we have to we have Cory Fleming. But our I think more favorite, my more favorite is Russell Laffitte because I still am fascinated by the Russell TV that he did before his trial. I'm fascinated by the way he's going through lawyers and not paying lawyers this, I just, we're gonna get the chance to



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depose him. And we're going to Florida to do it. I can't wait to depose him because I just to get inside this guy's mind will be, you know, I'll pay for it.

**Liz Farrell** 1:02:21

So I think it's going to be very disappointing.

**Mandy Matney** 1:02:24

I don't think there's a lot there. It's not a council of Russell's. There's no Council of Russell's.

**Eric Bland** 1:02:31

Oh, he's not having a city council. He doesn't have one, Mandy?

**Liz Farrell** 1:02:34

I don't think he does.

**Mandy Matney** 1:02:36

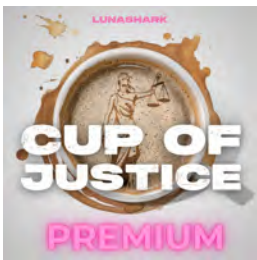
No, it does not. There's no board of directors meeting and Russell's had that's for sure. I'm gonna do it. This is that. Let me buy a straw hat today. Boop, boop, boop boop. But I am interested to see for you to see what his federal prison is like.

**Eric Bland** 1:02:53

We'll have it video the depositions.

**Mandy Matney** 1:02:57

And I know that you've been inside as CDC visiting prison places. And I would love to see the comparison. Because, again, he is fighting this so



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hard tooth and nail with these very, very lengthy responses and taking up a ton of resources fighting his case. And where as I would just think as him if you're looking at federal time or state time, you just kind of deal with federal and keep your head down. But no, no, no, I mean, he is fighting this tooth and nail. And if it would come to the point of him, getting his conviction vacated. For some reason. He's still facing down a lot of state charges. And he has just some just as much evidence against him in state court, as he did in federal court.

**Eric Bland** 1:03:57

But it's not vacated, it would be reversed and remanded for a new trial. So he would have a new federal trial and where does he get off? Thinking that he would be held not guilty? I mean, I get it that we're homers, I get it that we're a little slanted. But we heard that trial. And for me, that wasn't even close. It wasn't a close call. Was that a close call for you guys? You listen to the trial?

**Liz Farrell** 1:04:23

Not for us but for the jury. Unfortunately, that's what worries me is that with the jury issues that exists?

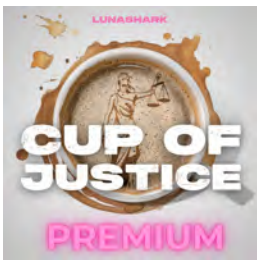
**Mandy Matney** 1:04:31

One lady. Yeah, they just had jury problems.

**Eric Bland** 1:04:35

Right. I got it but I'm saying in a normal situation to Is it close is it it wasn't click? Yeah, no.





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**Mandy Matney** 1:04:41

And that's what I was thinking about when I saw that the federal government was gonna have like 100 page response to his appeal. It just makes me so freakin angry because we sat there day in and day out. And not only did they have stacks of evidence, but they had witnesses to cooperate the stacks of evidence. I mean, it was pretty clear cut each charge. And the federal government did know what they were doing when they were prosecuting that case. I mean, it was like, here's, here's what he did here. Here's the proof of that. It was, I mean, Russell's team didn't have a lot to argue off of besides like...

**Liz Farrell** 1:05:21

He's a nice guy.

**Mandy Matney** 1:05:24

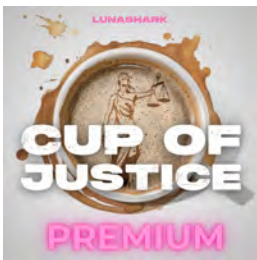
He's a nice guy.

**Eric Bland** 1:05:26

You know that the family had the votes to do this, and that he had the support of his father and his sister, and they didn't have to go to the board of directors, and he may criticize his business judgment. But he made a decision, a banking decision to keep loaning Alex money may have been wrong, but it's not criminal. That was basically their defense. Right?

**Liz Farrell** 1:05:45

Russell Can't Admit Defeat Laffitte strikes again, right? I mean, it's, I really want to forget this person, like, I don't want to talk about him anymore. I think of all that, like, if we have a collector's card edition of



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the criminals in this, he is the least interesting to me. But yet them one kicking and screaming. And then on top of which, I do worry that the claims that you know, the argument, I shouldn't say the claims the argument that his team is making for a new trial. It worries me because of how that all went down. I think Judge gurgle is obviously a really smart man. And I think he did a lot to preserve his own record there. But I do think that there's sort of when I hear the arguments about how that should have gone down. I can kind of understand where the defense is coming from on that. So I do worry about that. But I wanted to ask you, Eric. So let's just say that it gets remanded to a new trial, let's just say that his conviction gets overturned. Would he then have the ability to strike a plea deal with the government knowing how badly it went for him? how poorly it went the first time around? Yes. Really? Yes.

**Eric Bland** 1:06:59

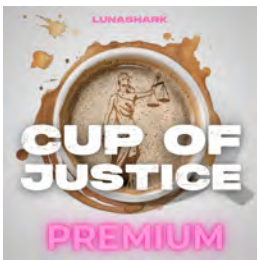
Yes. If they the federal government wants to offer a reasonable play. Now he was offered a very reasonable play, remember, and he turned it down against it, supposedly, against the advice of Matt Austin and Bart Daniel, he turned it down.

**Liz Farrell** 1:07:19

The question is, what is that? I don't remember that. Is that Yeah, I think there was a sudden now that he was offered a deal.

**Eric Bland** 1:07:24

Some deal and it wasn't acceptable. Would he be offered? Probably something, you know, he's, he's going to serve. He's served a year, maybe there would be a sentence of five years or four years. But again, like Mandy said, he's facing state court charges and Craig waters and



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now Wilson aren't going to do him any favors. And now that we know that Creighton Waters can really put together a trial. I'm very comforted. If it goes to a state court trial, Creighton Waters is going to light them up. Todd Rutherford versus Creighton Waters. That's not a that's not a fair fight.

**Liz Farrell** 1:08:00

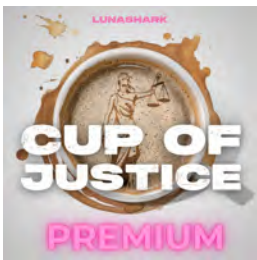
No, it really isn't. But also, I mean, it's just going back to I think, when we're talking about like the spectrum of crimes here, you can look at Russell's as maybe the least, I guess, I don't want to say that like the least horrifying, but I mean, there was no murder involved. What have you. But we're also we're talking about a new...

**Eric Bland** 1:08:19

He took money from the Plyler's.

**Liz Farrell** 1:08:23

What what what, no, no, no, but let me finish my thought first. Yeah, let me finish my thought, though. Because what I'm saying is like, there's a spectrum, I'm sorry, murder is worse than stealing money. It just is. Right. The loss of life. Okay. So I agree. I agree. That said, it goes back to I mean, like, we have the big sign behind Mandy's had blood on their hands. It's if you don't hold the people who allowed these things to happen in the first place. Because if you look at the trail of what led to Maggie and Paul's murders, Russell Laffitte is on that trail, and he's walking right beside. He's rocking right beside Alex helping him whether or not he wants to admit that to himself. So I think you can even if we want to just even if you gave him the benefit of the doubt, and said that he did not know the extent of what Alex was up to. He



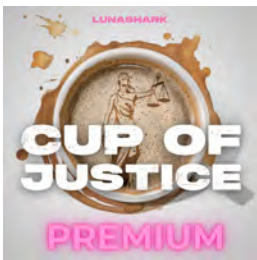
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knew something was up, he knew that he was breaking the law, he knew that it was breaking the rules. And he knew that he was granting this person greatly way above all other. So those are things that he did have in his little knowledge bag that he was holding as he was walking with Alex. So I think it's important that we did have that backstop with the state government. So I am glad for that. But I am worried that there could be a plea deal that allows him to have time served and call it a day.

**Eric Bland** 1:09:32

I don't think it'd be time served, but it could be less time than if he's convicted. You guys expressed to me some of your fears on the April 1 Federal sentencing that your concern that there's a possibility that it could go it could go away in a way that we're going to be disappointed that possibly he could get a concurrent sentence that Judge gerbil could give him a lot of time, but he could make it run concurrently with his State courts ends where we always thought that well the backstop was he do his state court 23 years. And if he could live to be 78 years old, he gets out of the state prison, and he has to go walk to federal prison. But you raise a good point. Could it be a concurrent sentence? And then you said, Could it? Is there a possibility that somehow he could yank him from state prison and make him serve his time in federal prison? The answer on the first one is that is a possibility. The answer on the second is no, the state had primacy the state convicted him first. So Alex will have to do that 23 years. But what fears do you guys have with with this sentencing? Is it going to be everything we want? Or it could be a little bit of something, but not a lot of everything?



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**Mandy Matney** 1:10:47

I have little concerns or fears about this? Because I just have I have full faith in the state locking up Alex Murdaugh for the rest of his life. And that is the beginning and end of it. I don't I just don't think that it matters a whole lot what happens in federal court and and I also think that it's going to be a Dick's gonna somehow spin it and do them getting a victory in some way, shape or form, but it's not going to matter. Like, I just think I mean, if it was concurrent, then I guess that that would be a problem.

**Eric Bland** 1:11:33

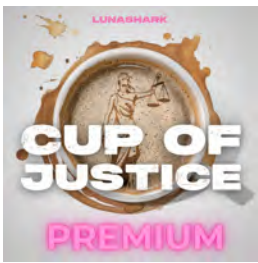
But again, like, is Alex alive at 78? The answer is probably not. Right?

**Mandy Matney** 1:11:37

And, and and when he does, is he just going to Walter, I mean, are we going to care at that point that he's in federal court? I mean, I hope I'm not caring at that point. I hope that the the name Alex Murdaugh is way out of my vocabulary at that point. But I am just, I'm honestly debating about going to Charleston or not, because I'm like, What is the point of this? What do you think, Liz?

**Liz Farrell** 1:12:03

My fear is that I'm going to be disappointed again by the federal government, just because I think they allowed themselves to be a pawn in this, too. I think they allowed themselves to get manipulated to a certain extent, but not only just manipulated, I feel like they were brought in as like the, you know, sort of like the man or managers when you don't you take over a company and you don't really like the set of managers that they have, you bring in another set, right to manage



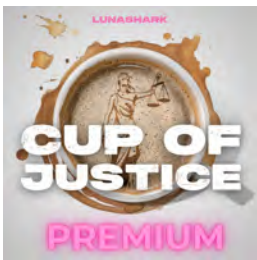
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those managers out. And I feel like that's what the federal government did. To some extent, they were brought in as like the more senior managers and this and what they were able to do is manage some people out of getting in trouble. And I don't like that at all. And we go back to Russell Laffitte, like his family. And we look at some of the people, perhaps, you know, even associated with PMPED. I feel like even from some of the things that we know that were brought to the attention of the federal prosecutors, the fact that there is we have seen no, nothing come of that is a disappointment. So what bothers me is that on April 1, I think that Gergle, I think if I'm Gergle and I have void, let's just say haven't gurgles voices in his head. I'm thinking about Russell Laffitte's case, and whether, you know, I bungled that, and is that going to hold? Is it going to stick? And what's the conversation like? So I'm going to know that on April 1, I'm going to need to come out with some sort of personality, some sort of point of view that that is sticking with the public when it comes to Alex Jones and things so he will he use that as a way to admonish Alex in a meaningful way? Or will this be another love fest for Phil Barber and Dick Harpootlian? I don't know. That's those are the only things that I fear. It's just sort of like, how is the federal government going to comport itself? Yeah.

### **Mandy Matney** 1:13:50

And I just to add to that, like, I think at the end of the day, it is their fault that we do not know where the money is. I think that there could have been a they could have pushed a lot harder. They could have charged a lot more people, they could have asked a lot more people a lot more questions and something stopped, like they they seem to have held back on a lot. And they seem to have been protecting people in their



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quest to find where the money was. And I want to say that it's just it's a large disappointment and a failure on their behalf.

### **Eric Bland** 1:14:30

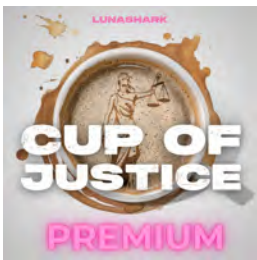
Sure thing that you said, Liz, that and Mandy, that you believe that there could have been other possible charges with people affiliated with the bank, and that there could have been other possible charges with Alex's fellow lawyers.

### **Mandy Matney** 1:14:45

Yeah, I mean, I remember during the Laffitte trial, there were several days where I would be texting Justin or you Eric or Liz and saying like they just admitted to a crime on the stand, what's gonna happen here? I mean, that happened many times. And that's the most disappointing thing about all of this. And that's the hardest dirt to swallow with the entire Murdaugh story. And when people want to say like, aren't you so proud of the work that you've done, blah, blah, blah? Yeah, I'm proud that like some people got charged. And I'm proud that some people were held accountable, but not the entire system. And not every person who propped this evil person up for a very long time and contributed to these crimes and enabled these crimes, most of them have gone have walked out of this guilt free, dirt free, etc. And that makes me very angry.

### **Eric Bland** 1:15:45

I was totally wrong. About a year and a half ago, I said to one of my closest friends who was a lawyer, I bet him I said, the only people that are going down aren't just Russell, Alex and Cory. There, there is going to be other people charged. And I believe there'll be a judge or two, that



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may have to step down because of all this. And I beginning to think now I am wrong. I was wrong. I think it could just be this three. That's it.

**Liz Farrell** 1:16:12

The Trinity you're just thinking about or you have sources have told you that?

**Eric Bland** 1:16:15

No sources now just think I'm thinking that I was wrong.

**Liz Farrell** 1:16:18

Because we, I mean, we've had sources in law enforcement, and people who are close to these cases tell us that it was a foreshore that some of these people would be getting charged because there's no can on see it right. And so, you know, the fact that we were told this stuff, we know what it is we know, we know who said it, we know, you know, what was what was shared with whom and that so we sit here from a really weird spot, because it's like, I want to have faith. I really do. And I just sadly, I don't know if I do either, Eric, I don't. It has to I mean, honestly, Ella can't be he's not the only one here.

**Eric Bland** 1:16:57

So what do you think, Mandy? Do you think it's the three? That's it? Mandy, these three? That's it?

**Mandy Matney** 1:17:01

Yeah. And I think, again, I think that we have to keep pushing and keep encouraging the public to ask questions of their government and keep asking questions about like, what, what about Carmen Mullen? And I





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think those things still do matter. And I think that there's no, I don't think we're past the point of it's just water under the bridge everybody's moved on. I think that there still is time and they could. But my gut is telling me that they went through the they did the first layer of Alex Cory and Russell in there somebody in the second layer that they are protecting are multiple people in the second layer that they do not want to cut into. And once you cut into that, it's game over, can't stop and I it's an order. It's an artery. And the second layer is an artery and it is a system changing situation.

**Eric Bland** 1:18:08

And that was an onomatopoeia. What do you have coming up Mandy?

**Mandy Matney** 1:18:13

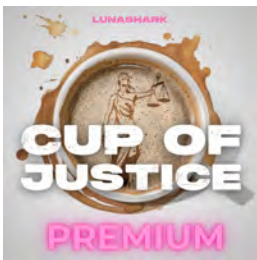
I'm going to Wichita Hall on April 11. And then the west coast at the end of the month. I'm excited about that.

**Eric Bland** 1:18:20

I'm happy I finished my book. Anything But Bland. Nice. Earlier last week, I talked to you about it. It was harder than I thought takes a lot of time. My website [www.theericbland](http://www.theericbland) is up. So my personal websites. I'm pretty cool about that. And how about you, Liz, tell us what's going on with you? It's springtime up there in Maryland. What's it like where you are near the Naval Academy?

**Liz Farrell** 1:18:42

It's chilly. I do want to tell you guys a quick little story. So there was a stabbing here a few weeks ago. And there's not a whole lot of information that's given to the public from the police agencies up here



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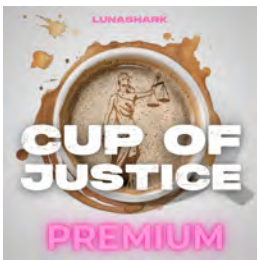
that I've noticed and there just seems to be I mean, it's I never thought I would say like Buford county seems like it's so sophisticated compared to where I live now. Even though it's outside or like I'm in a major metropolitan area. So I called them out on Twitter. And people who follow me on Twitter might have seen that the PIO of the Bellaire Police Department came back at me pretty obnoxiously because I had said like, there was no public information about this. So what we have to go by is this, you know, non authorized, like, blog that people follow here that was just like a single sentence. And the problem is, is that there's a lot of development up here and people are locked in this argument of like, here comes Baltimore, you know what I mean? Like, there's just sort of fear that people have that, like it's crimes getting worse and and it's like, well, this is probably targeted crime. And it turned out it was right. So if the PIO had just said like, this was a targeted crime that two people were arrested, you're not there's no one's in danger. Like that's all they have to say. But anyway, the other day someone drove there like F 150 into our bagel shop here. And it is like really good bagel shop, actually. And it was I understand why this was a big deal.

**Eric Bland** 1:20:12

But no one hurt. Drove it through the window right into it right?

**Liz Farrell** 1:20:14

Because in the parking lot the guy went the wrong direction like he was supposed to back out. He went forward, right? So drives right into the building and the Beller Police Department put out like worn piece style press release on this thing. Like they had information like they were on it. Like the bagel shop got driven into there on it. We knew there were no injuries. We knew that the driver sat down after hitting the building,



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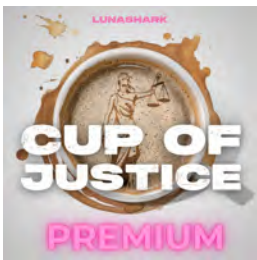
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and was shaken and had a pumper. No. And he apologized, they put that he apologized. And I'm like, this is a lot of detail here. And then they went to like the zoning department and found out like, how, what, what the process was gonna be to get this bagel shop back. Like, it had, like, chapters. And it's like, there's part of me that was like, Is this me? Did I do this? Did I like that? Maybe like outrage and now they're just doing it? Like they're doing it now. You know, like, their, their press releases are just like, gonna be like, extra, you know, but no, I'm pretty sure it was low hanging fruit or low hanging bagels, that they were able to like, this is a fun one too, right? This is a one that like, no one's hurt. No one, you know, there was a crime committed or what have you, but I just got a kick out of that. It's like, we as the public need information on the crimes that are committed, not just so that we know what you know, our safety with this quality of life thing, right? We need to know our quality of life. But at the end of the day, we also want to know that like, the rumors aren't true. Like there's not a band of you know, stabbers out there going house to house. So, you know, like, maybe put the bagel, maybe make the bagel effort thing that you do every day when it comes to the crimes. We shouldn't hide crimes. We need sunlight on the crimes just as much as we need sunlight on the bagels. But anyway, I thought that was a fun story. So if people are, like hoping that their police agencies will give them more information, you might just get what you're asked for.

**Eric Bland** 1:22:06

Harpootlian certainly didn't like it when they said that the public wasn't at risk. The next morning after the Maggie and Paul murders he felt it shouldn't have been said right.

**Liz Farrell** 1:22:18



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So yeah, with that said, that got exploited too. And I'll tell you Yeah, I'll tell you that was I thought that PIO did a good job.

**Eric Bland** 1:22:24

Yeah, I do too. Great show guys. Cups down.

**Mandy Matney** 1:22:28

Cups down. Great show everybody. Cup of Justice is a Luna shark production created by me Mandy Matney and co-hosted by journalist Liz Farrell and attorney Eric Bland. Learn more about our mission and membership and [lunasharkmedia.com](https://lunasharkmedia.com). Interruptions provided by Luna and Joe Pesky.

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