

# ATP 2208 transcript

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

pumpkin, professor, movie, professors, beth, mara, stephen, halloween, laughs, questions, thought, people, heather, talking, jamie lee curtis, candy corn, jack o' lantern, costume, dave, frankenstein


## SPEAKERS

Beth Oljar, Stephen Manning, Mara Livezey, Dan Maggio, Michael Jayson, Matt Mio, Dave Chow, Heather Hill


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- M** Matt Mio 00:02  
The University tower chimes ring in another session of Ask the Professor, the show in which you match wits with University of Detroit Mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host Matt Mio, and let me introduce to you our majority female panel for today. It's a rarity at Ask The Professor, so I'm going to revel in it. All the way in the upper left, our token male, it's professor Dave Chow.
- D** Dave Chow 00:26  
Pleasure to be here, as always, I'm okay with it. I'm secure in my masculinity.
- M** Matt Mio 00:30  
Oh, geez.
- D** Dave Chow 00:30  
They're much more intelligent than I am. I have no problem with that.
- M** Matt Mio 00:33  
So, what's been going on in your life lately, Dave? Any cool TV shows?
- D** Dave Chow 00:37  
Nothing. Just doing more kids books, couple bids, couple quotes. You know, nothing too crazy yet. haven't pulled too many all nighters this week.

 Matt Mio 00:45  
Oh, nice.

 Dave Chow 00:45  
So no complaints.


 Matt Mio 00:47  
I was actually gonna ask you, Dave, how your new garage was doing, with the fact that it hasn't stopped raining for the last seven months?


 00:55  
Not a problem. We had it graded properly. So I mean, everything's going good. I don't know if I told you, we were actually going to have the three-season room built before the garage. But the builder said build the garage first. Set that grade and then build a three season room. So -


 Matt Mio 01:09  
Wise advice.

 Dave Chow 01:11  
My construction's not ending anytime soon? So -

 Matt Mio 01:13  
Excellent.

 Dave Chow 01:14  
Oh!

 Matt Mio 01:15  
We could talk even more about home improvement, But I'm afraid if we talked to Professor MarA Livezey, from Chemistry and Biochemistry that the object of insects might come into play.



M Mara Livezey 01:25

Oh, yes. Nothing like spending your Monday of fall break killing some wasps in the back of our house.

B Beth Oljar 01:32

Eeeh!

M Matt Mio 01:33

Gross.

M Mara Livezey 01:34

Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 01:34

And scary, cuz Ouch.

M Mara Livezey 01:37

Yeah, I only got stung once. So - Hashtag blessed.

D Dave Chow 01:42

Non allegic

M Mara Livezey 01:43

Just the whole like flooring in the back of our house where they were coming in making a hive. And somehow they were sneaking into the house. So -

D Dave Chow 01:52

Oh!

M Mara Livezey 01:53

They're dead now, though.

M Matt Mio 01:57  
(Laughs) Big smile.

D Dave Chow 01:59  
The ruthless side of Mara we've never known. I mean, jeez.

M Matt Mio 02:03  
Oh, I believe that I caught Professor Livesey totally by accident basically in the middle of that, and there was nothing that wished these organisms life left in her at that point. So, yeah.

D Dave Chow 02:16  
The blood-curdling side of Mara here.

B Beth Oljar 02:18  
I mean, I'd have to go to an emergency room if I got stung by a wasp, so I'm glad that you only got stung once and apparently are surviving it without too many ill effects, so -

M Matt Mio 02:31  
No like crazy effects Mara?

M Mara Livezey 02:34  
I mean, it hurt. That's about it. I'm not allergic to those kinds of stings. So -

M Matt Mio 02:39  
Okay.

B Beth Oljar 02:40  
Lucky you.

M Matt Mio 02:41  
That's a good thing. Someone apparently who is - is of course, Professor Beth Oljar from Philosophy.

B

Beth Oljar 02:46

That's me. Yeah, I used to end up getting something or other on every family vacation that we took growing up. I - you know,

M

Matt Mio 02:51

Oh, geez.

B

Beth Oljar 02:55

Yeah. This is why I don't camp, is because I don't - you know - yeah, bugs love me too much. So, as much as I like being outdoors - in the summer when it's not too hot - I tend to try to avoid the mosquitoes.

M

Matt Mio 03:09

Yes. And this more recent spate of rain that we've had. I'm just thinking of having done some work for my dad at his property up near Port Huron. We couldn't be outside for about five seconds, Beth, without being just completely eaten alive. It was - made it just terrible. Absolutely terrible. I'm like, give me a stiff breeze to take care of these guys. You know what I mean.

B

Beth Oljar 03:30

And I don't get little delicate bites. They're like huge welts.

D

Dave Chow 03:35

lupine bug bites, kind of?

M

Matt Mio 03:38

Right,

B

Beth Oljar 03:38

Exactly.

M

Matt Mio 03:42

I don't know whether I'm about to get in trouble or not, but I am going to try to introduce Professor Heather Hill, who's been very, very patient with multiple people today. How's it going, Heather?

H Heather Hill 03:53  
Okay. How are you?

M Matt Mio 03:56  
Heather - and also shoulder, uh, there's shoulder of a person in the background?

D Dave Chow 04:01  
I don't know what's going on. We're trying. We're trying to get Stephen in.

D Dave Chow 04:05  
Well, can we just nudge him in in or -

H Heather Hill 04:08  
Yeah, I'm willing to share my square with him, but -

M Matt Mio 04:11  
Sure. Yeah.

H Heather Hill 04:11  
He wants his own square.

D Dave Chow 04:14  
It's gonna be like Waylon and Madame on Hollywood Squares, that's all.

D Dave Chow 04:17  
Oh, my gosh.

H Heather Hill 04:18  
All right. So um,

M Matt Mio 04:20  
How was your week Heather? How was the Film class on Monday?

H Heather Hill 04:23  
It was good. Dr. Koukal came, and then Professor Prasad Venugopal is coming on Monday. So -

B Beth Oljar 04:30  
What film is he talking about?

M Matt Mio 04:32  
Yeah,

H Heather Hill 04:33  
He is talking about Unforgiven.

M Matt Mio 04:36  
Oh, okay.

B Beth Oljar 04:37  
The Clint Eastwood one?

H Heather Hill 04:39  
Yes, absolutely.

B Beth Oljar 04:41  
That movie is so depressing. Really.

M Matt Mio 04:41  
That's pretty cool.

M Matt Mio 04:45  
It's true.

B Beth Oljar 04:46  
Okay. Of course, my movie kind of is too. So, you know, there you have it.

M Matt Mio 04:52  
I think we heard last week Beth, but remind us - your movie.

B Beth Oljar 04:56  
Oh, it's about a college student in Nazi Germany. Named Sophie Scholl and a anti Nazi leafleting campaign that she and her brother and some other students set up. And of course they got caught.

H Heather Hill 05:08  
Oh no. No, no, no. I thought you were doing Clueless --- (laughs)

B Beth Oljar 05:12  
No, I decided to do something that I actually have something to say about.

B Beth Oljar 05:16  
I'm just kidding.

M Matt Mio 05:18  
This is - These are just from your description , Beth, on very different sides of the spectrum.

D Dave Chow 05:25  
Matt, I think I'm tag teaming with you for - we're doing Back to the Future?

M Matt Mio 05:29  
Yeah, that's sounds good to me.



D Dave Chow 05:31  
You ready for this - I've got storyboards from that movie too. So I can talk from that end.

M Matt Mio 05:35  
Awesome.

H Heather Hill 05:36  
That's so great. They'll love it. They'll just love it.

D Dave Chow 05:39  
And if you want, I could draw on the spot.

B Beth Oljar 05:41  
I'm doing something depressing. You guys are doing - Well, okay. You guys are doing something fun.

H Heather Hill 05:46  
And Stephen's gonna come in and talk about The Lion King.

M Matt Mio 05:49  
Oh, yeah.

H Heather Hill 05:50  
Past and recent versions in terms of political science. So -

M Matt Mio 05:53  
That's right.

D Dave Chow 05:53  
Is he gonna show up in costume? Oh!

H Heather Hill 05:56  
I don't know. But maybe I could get him to bring the dog. The dog is almost as large as a lion. So -

D Dave Chow 06:01  
There you go.

H Heather Hill 06:02  
Here's Stephen.

M Matt Mio 06:04  
We still have a majority female panel. But we've finally been joined by Professor Stephen Manning.

S Stephen Manning 06:11  
I don't have my picture up here but I'm not intentionally doing a Jeffe Boats.

B Beth Oljar 06:16  
You just did have your picture up.

S Stephen Manning 06:18  
I did?

D Dave Chow 06:19  
Yes.

M Matt Mio 06:20  
It was there for a split second. And I love your characterization of not being there as a Jeffe Boats. That's - that's actually pretty amusing.

H Heather Hill 06:28  
I'll fix Stephen's picture. Please proceed.

D Dave Chow 06:30  
Jefe Boats is now a noun, right?

M Matt Mio 06:33  
It is.

D Dave Chow 06:33  
Or is it a verb? I mean -

M Matt Mio 06:34  
You're gonna Boats your way out of it.

D Dave Chow 06:36  
(Laughs)

S Stephen Manning 06:37  
I was just reading a short story that used the acronym NRP, Not Real People.

M Matt Mio 06:42  
Oh, yeah, sure.

S Stephen Manning 06:43  
That appears to be what I am. Because I can't -

D Dave Chow 06:47  
We don't need real people. We just need real answers. That's all.

M Matt Mio 06:49  
Just a disembodied voice.

H Heather Hill 06:50  
We'll share a square.

M Matt Mio 06:51  
Folks, this is a program where you can send us questions regarding anything. If you stump the panel, you win one of our prizes. And if you don't stump the panel, you can win a prize that way too. You can send us questions in a number of ways. You can email us at ATP at UDMercy dot edu. Find us on Facebook or Instagram, or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play Ask The Professor at University of Detroit Mercy. Not too poor timing for this set of questions that came into my inbox just the other day. "Dear Matt, and professors. Thanks for letting my lack of attendance and participation slide. I know you do themed questions from time to time, seeing how it's coming up on Halloween, I thought I'd send along some Halloween-pumpkin-fall- monster themed questions to the show. Below are of course 13 questions I hope to be challenging. Thanks again for the enlightened entertainment and laughs. With deep appreciation, (our friend) Amber Hubley from San Diego, California. Thanks for sending these in Amber. Very, very cool. Let's see what we can do. You know, a lot of these are similar to questions we've had in the long past. So it's also sort of a memory test. Now there's only certain number of ways you can ask questions about pumpkins, but it's always good to bring the listenership into a new world here. In what state would you find the city of Morton, the pumpkin capital of the world?"

H Heather Hill 08:21  
Nebraska,


M Mara Livezey 08:23  
Iowa

S Stephen Manning 08:25  
Is it a city or a state?

M Matt Mio 08:27  
In what state would you find the city of Morton, the pumpkin capital of the world? For the record -


H Heather Hill 08:32  
Indiana?


M Matt Mio 08:33  
It's not Indiana.


 Dave Chow 08:33  
Wisconsin


 Stephen Manning 08:35  
Iowa.


 Matt Mio 08:36  
Nope.

 Heather Hill 08:36  
Michigan?


 Matt Mio 08:38  
Nope. All however, maybe we have to let you know -

 Dave Chow 08:40  
Is it Midwest?

 Matt Mio 08:41  
Michigan is the number two pumpkin provider.

 Beth Oljar 08:44  
Ohio?

 Matt Mio 08:45  
Nope.

 Heather Hill 08:46  
South Dakota.

M Matt Mio 08:47  
Mara. Where did you and I go to grad school?

M Mara Livezey 08:50  
Illinois.

H Heather Hill 08:52  
We were circling. We were circling.

M Matt Mio 08:55  
You were.

B Beth Oljar 08:55  
Oh, you guys both went to UI, uh -

M Matt Mio 08:57  
UIUC. Just about a generation apart. You know what's in Morton - is the Libby pumpkin packing plant - so, it's the pumpkin capital of the world. Why was the annual Punkin Chunkin Festival canceled in the year 2017?

H Heather Hill 09:20  
Not enough pumpkins

M Matt Mio 09:22  
That's a good guess.

D Dave Chow 09:23  
Did somebody get hurt? I'm trying remember. Those things are always super dangerous.

M Matt Mio 09:27  
Yeah, I'm gonna give you partial credit. We used to watch it. I liked it better when people were designing catapults and dervishes.

D Dave Chow 09:35  
Yeah, uh-huh.

M Matt Mio 09:36  
They got into the world of air cannons and two exploding air cannons actually injured two onlookers, so they canceled in the following year. so Yeah, You gotta be careful. It's all for fun, you know.

H Heather Hill 09:48  
Oh, wait a minute. Wait, so no. Oh, Pumpkin Chunkin. Oh, you chunk -

M Matt Mio 09:52  
You shoot the pumpkin. Yeah.

H Heather Hill 09:55  
Chuck a pumpkin.

D Dave Chow 09:56  
Yeah, and who was it Kari Byron, Tory Belleci used to host it. It was on Discovery for the longest time.

H Heather Hill 10:03  
I have never seen this.

D Dave Chow 10:04  
Good fun times.

B Beth Oljar 10:07  
It's like that scene in Braveheart where they're throwing the big -

M Matt Mio 10:10  
yeah

B Beth Oljar 10:10  
stones. Yeah.

M Matt Mio 10:12  
Similar, but with pumpkins.

D Dave Chow 10:14  
The one thing I've always wondered is like, who's the judge that has to stand in the middle of field and wait for these projectiles to hit?

M Matt Mio 10:21  
How about, according to the National Retail Federation, in 2018, how much money did Americans spend on Halloween costumes exclusively for their pets?

B Beth Oljar 10:34  
Oh, this is some outrageously high amount of money.

M Matt Mio 10:37  
(Laughs) I'm gonna give partial credit for that answer.

H Heather Hill 10:40  
Two million.

M Mara Livezey 10:40  
A billion dollars.

M Matt Mio 10:42  
It wasn't a billion. There still is good economic sense in this world. However -

B Beth Oljar 10:48



B Beth Oljar 10:48  
10's of millions,

D Dave Chow 10:51  
20 million.

M Matt Mio 10:51  
How about - hundreds of millions.

M Mara Livezey 10:54  
What?!

D Dave Chow 10:54  
Wait a minute. Okay, that being said, there are four households here with animals.

H Heather Hill 10:59  
Is this just the United States?

B Beth Oljar 11:02  
\$300 million.

M Matt Mio 11:04  
I think that it's just the US, and I feel like giving it to Beth. It's basically half a billion. It's \$480 million dollars.

H Heather Hill 11:11  
That's ridiculous. I am ashamed.

M Mara Livezey 11:13  
Dressing up animals is weird.

B Beth Oljar 11:17

Dan has basically forbidden me from dressing up the cat. He's like, don't dress up your pets.

D Dave Chow 11:23

Yeah.

D Dave Chow 11:24

You know, clear that he has strong feelings about this that I'm willing to respect, although I wish I could get the little antler that Max wears in -

D Dan Maggio 11:34

Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 11:34

Can you imagine that on top of Fiji's head?

D Dave Chow 11:37

Well, I was also thinking like, how big of a costume would Stephen have to get for the dog? I mean that -

M Matt Mio 11:44

Oh, that would be a human size.

D Dave Chow 11:46

That'd be like, hundreds of dollars of material just there alone, right.

B Beth Oljar 11:50

They have them at Petco.

S Stephen Manning 11:52

They're not going as Scooby Doo, I guess.

M Matt Mio 11:54



12:18

Yeah, there you go. I have to shave him a little bit. There's a really cute dog costume that's making the rounds. I don't think it's too old. Maybe it's a couple years old. It's a miniature dachshund, who's wearing something on their front that makes it look like they are a human carrying the dog's head on a little platter. And it's really, really cute. I gotta say this dog is just really happy and everything. But it's got this sort of morbid,uh -



Beth Oljar 12:21

Sounds like something Dave would have designed.



Matt Mio 12:23

Yes



Beth Oljar 12:24

Me? No, the one that I've always loved. Have you seen the ones? You know, now mind you, Marcy's cousin's got a farm in Wisconsin. And they've got chickens. But have you seen the ones - the two little boxing arms?



Dave Chow 12:35

Yeah. That you can put on top of the chicken, and the chicken looks like it's boxing with you all the time. They're hilarious.



Matt Mio 12:43

Professors: according to a poll that turned into this question, 19% of Americans, when given a choice, would prefer to eat apple pie amongst many pie choices. What percentage of Americans prefer pumpkin pie?



Heather Hill 13:00

3%



Stephen Manning 13:02

8%



Beth Oljar 13:03

It's gotta be higher than that.



13:05

**D** Dave Chow 13:05  
Yeah, it's gotta be right behind, I would say. Now, is this just for Halloween? Or just for the holidays? Or is it -

**M** Matt Mio 13:11  
I think it's just in general, you know.

**H** Heather Hill 13:14  
9%

**M** Matt Mio 13:16  
Um, I feel like I need to give it to a combination of Dave and Beth because it was - because both - it's got to be higher than the single digits that we've heard and maybe right behind. That's fair to say 1% prefer apple pie. 13% prefer pumpkin pie when given the choice so -

**D** Dave Chow 13:32  
Yeah.

**M** Matt Mio 13:33  
And what percentage of those want that like wagon-wheel sized Costco pumpkin pie that is just absolutely delicious?


**D** Dave Chow 13:40  
And what percentage of us Canadians would want a slice of each?


**M** Matt Mio 13:43  
Also true.

**B** Beth Oljar 13:44  
I'm not a pumpkin - Well, I'm well I'm not a huge pie person, but definitely not pumpkin. It's more of a texture thing.

**M** Matt Mio 13:53  
Yeah, it's a custard.

 Dave Chow 13:54  
But sweet potato's also good too. And just - Ohh!


 Beth Oljar 13:58  
I don't like sweet potatoes.


 Matt Mio 13:59  
How many species of pumpkins are there in the world?


 Beth Oljar 14:04  
250


 Matt Mio 14:06  
250 is a little high.

 14:07

 Heather Hill 14:07  
193

 Stephen Manning 14:10  
36

 Matt Mio 14:12  
I think I'm going more of a Stephen route on this one. You've at least got the order of magnitude correct. It's it's 73 varieties of pumpkin. This is a pretty high number.

 Dave Chow 14:21  
Yeah

M Matt Mio 14:21  
It's a pretty high number.

H Heather Hill 14:22  
How? What is - Wait a minute. What did Stephen say? 36?

M Matt Mio 14:26  
I'm just doubling it.

B Beth Oljar 14:28  
It beame the process probably.

M Matt Mio 14:32  
but somebody said 400

S Stephen Manning 14:34  
Heather said 420

H Heather Hill 14:36  
I didn't say 420.

B Beth Oljar 14:38  
I said 250. So -

H Heather Hill 14:40  
I said 195.

D Dave Chow 14:41  
We were just channeling Kendra again, weren't we?



H Heather Hill 14:44  
I'm sorry. I'm just being uppity.

D Dave Chow 14:47  
Again.

H Heather Hill 14:49  
Uh - oh.

B Beth Oljar 14:50  
She's being a spinning woman.

M Mara Livezey 14:53  
Careful. You might get a pumpkin chunked at you.

H Heather Hill 14:58  
I hit it right back

D Dave Chow 15:00  
Mind you, December 5, I still gotta show up. Someone to tag for you.

M Matt Mio 15:07  
Professors: the Headless Horseman is famous for wielding a Jack O' Lantern as a missile as a substitute for their head. But how did the Headless Horseman lose his head, According to the story?

M Mara Livezey 15:23  
It was stolen by a witch.

M Matt Mio 15:28  
That's a good guess.

H Heather Hill 15:29  
He called some woman uppity

D Dave Chow 15:33  
again.

M Matt Mio 15:36  
Um, Mara, you're pretty close to the way we sort of learned about it in the Tim Burton live action movie, but I'm actually referring to the Washington Irving original story.

B Beth Oljar 15:47  
that was the Hessian in the Tim Burton movie who - it was Christopher Walken, right?

H Heather Hill 15:53  
Did he lose it in a war or -

M Matt Mio 15:54  
That's right, Heather.

B Beth Oljar 15:55  
The Revolutionary War.

M Matt Mio 15:57  
Yeah, the Headless Horseman would have been a Hessian soldier hired as a mercenary by the British, who lost his head to some errant cannon ball in a nameless battle of the revolution. Yes.

B Beth Oljar 16:10  
Well, we opened up a can of whooposs at 'em - at Yorktown. So

M Matt Mio 16:14  
Yep, you got it. You've got it. It's a favorite of the MIO family this time of year when my brother was in full, you know, stereotypical starving actor mode, before he found his calling to education, he did voiceovers. And he actually read a



number of stories that were published on CD ROM, so that you can listen to someone tell the story and the one that we listen to pretty much every year is The Legend of Sleepy Hollow. So -

B

Beth Oljar 16:43

Cool. So you've got a recording of your brother doing -

M

Matt Mio 16:47

Exactly.

B

Beth Oljar 16:47

Great.

M

Matt Mio 16:49

Yeah. Can you encapsulate the famous Irish story as to the origin of the Jack O' Lantern?

B

Beth Oljar 16:56

It has something to do with keeping away evil spirits, I'm guessing.

D

Dave Chow 17:01

Yeah. Wasn't he left wandering? Like one of those wandering souls or something like that - to roam the earth forever? Kind of with what the jack o' lantern trying to find something?

M

Matt Mio 17:13

Yep. I mean, the Irish were kind of obsessed even to this day. You know, what, who was it - Sinead O'Connor, her famous quote is "the most childlike trusting race of people on planet Earth". That's the way she refers to the Irish.

B

Beth Oljar 17:27

But also most morbid. So -

M

Matt Mio 17:29

Also true, very much true. Jack is basically a raging jerk. And he's giving the devil a run for his money and actually etches a cross into a tree while the devil is going to jump out and attack him making it so the devil can't fall down. And, you know, says "You'll never take me to hell. And then I'll scratch this cross out." So what happens is basically

Jack becomes 1000 times worse than Satan himself, and dies. And of course, St. Peter doesn't want him, and the devils like, "This is this one time, I'm not going to try to break my own oath." So Jack is going to roam the earth forever, as someone not welcome in neither heaven or hell.

**D** Dave Chow 18:13  
So he's in limbo, pretty much.

**M** Matt Mio 18:15  
Basically in limbo. And so I think that the original Will-o'-the-wisp was the the marsh gas that escaped the bogs, and it would ignite. We know it is Ignis fatuus, like the fake fire, and these little wisps of fire would appear in the bog in Ireland and they would see them from a distance and go, "Oh, that's Stingy Jack wandering the earth", and they used to use turnips as lanterns. We didn't find a lot of turnips when the Irish emigrated to the United States - well, North America. They found pumpkins, so that's why we have pumpkins used for that to this day.

**D** Dave Chow 18:51  
Okay.

**M** Matt Mio 18:52  
Souling, the process of making and sharing goods, for which is the origin of 'trick or treating' is mentioned actually in one of Shakespeare's plays. What play is that?

**B** Beth Oljar 19:05  
Macbeth?

**H** Heather Hill 19:06  
Macbeth? Yeah

**M** Matt Mio 19:07  
That's not what it says here?

**H** Heather Hill 19:09  
Um,

D Dave Chow 19:10  
Souling?

H Heather Hill 19:11  
Double double boil and trouble. Um, King Lear? Hamlet?

S Stephen Manning 19:17  
A Mid-summer's Night Dream.

M Matt Mio 19:19  
No, no,

D Dave Chow 19:20  
not Romeo and Juliet.

B Beth Oljar 19:21  
Tragedy or comedy? Give us a hint.

M Matt Mio 19:23  
That's a good question, because I've never seen this one or read it. So I will -

D Dave Chow 19:27  
Is there a William Shakespeare rom com? I mean,

B Beth Oljar 19:31  
The Taming of The Shrew? Yeah, he's got a lot of them, actually. As You Like It. 12th Night.

M Matt Mio 19:37  
Yeah, I don't want to lead you down the primrose path too far, because I almost gave a hint that I know is wrong; because souling actually makes a connection between Samhain (Halloween) and Christmas for the transition from the Celts from their pagan roots to their Christian modernity. And if I said it had something to do with Christmas, you

might pick 12th Night, but it's Two Gentlemen of Verona that mentions souling. Souling is like - poor people get to go door to door and beg for things - which basically becomes Trick or Treating in the modern sense.

H

Heather Hill 20:12

We're not sure that he actually wrote that one.

M

Matt Mio 20:14

Oh, and I was gonna ask that. I was gonna ask that. That's a good point.

H

Heather Hill 20:19

We're not sure if he ever wrote any of them.

M

Matt Mio 20:20

How about that?

B

Beth Oljar 20:23

Do you really think that - that he didn't write any of them?

H

Heather Hill 20:27

No, I do think he wrote quite a few of them. Yes. But I also think that quite a few of them are joint efforts.

B

Beth Oljar 20:33

Ah, Okay.

H

Heather Hill 20:35

In the sense that it's not so much that the text creates the performance as the performance may have created the text.

M

Matt Mio 20:43

Right, right.

H

H Heather Hill 20:44  
Do you understand what I'm saying?

M Matt Mio 20:45  
That's cool.

H Heather Hill 20:46  
Yeah.

M Matt Mio 20:46  
That's cool.

H Heather Hill 20:47  
Yeah. So there's a particularly good version of it that was put on one time, and then that's what -

B Beth Oljar 20:52  
That's what he wrote down.

H Heather Hill 20:54  
Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 20:55  
That makes sense.

M Matt Mio 20:57  
What is the significance, professors, if you see a spider on Halloween day?

B Beth Oljar 21:05  
kill it?

D Devin Chew 21:07



Dave Chow 21:07

Man, we are a blood-thirsty bunch.



Beth Oljar 21:10

That's what one does with spiders.



Dave Chow 21:12

No!



Heather Hill 21:12

Um, It's good luck.



Dave Chow 21:15

You'll get married within a year or something like that?



Matt Mio 21:19

One of those old old tales. It's actually the manifested spirit of a loved one who can only pass through the veil between the living and the nonliving on that day, saying "hi" to you, if you see a spider on Halloween, yeah.



Heather Hill 21:33

and they wave with one of their -



Beth Oljar 21:34

You know, when my older sister got married, the person officiating the ceremony started talking about Indian burial grounds, which went over really well with my very Catholic grandmother. So now I'm thinking about my grandmother Oljar, saying hello to me in the form of a spider. And I'm creeped out by that. I'm sure that she always used to do or say "Are any of you heathens going to mass with me?" That was that was a fairly frequent question - because we were all "shacking up", right, with our significant others as she used to call it. "Are you still shacking up with so-and-so?"



Dave Chow 22:12

You were conserving heat. That's all.



M Matt Mio 22:15

So hilarious.

M Mara Livezey 22:16

We called it living in sin.

B Beth Oljar 22:20

Which, of course, is what she thought, you know,

M Matt Mio 22:22

Quite to the point.

B Beth Oljar 22:24

Right.

M Matt Mio 22:26

Professors: I am talking and boy, is it confusing? If you ever want to do the chronologically confused game, feel free to start trying to keep track of the Halloween movies, as in the ones that were originally written and directed by John Carpenter, because there are movies that involve Jamie Lee Curtis that are on the main canon timeline and movies with Jamie Lee Curtis that are not on the main canon timeline. It is incredible. But if we just talk about 1978, The name of the movie was Halloween.

D Dave Chow 22:56

Okay.

M Matt Mio 22:56

How many people were killed in that cornerstone slasher flick?

D Dave Chow 23:05

I don't recall there was that many. Was it?

M Matt Mio 23:07

It wasn't that many.

it wasn't that many.

**D** Dave Chow 23:08  
12?

**B** Beth Oljar 23:09  
Five?

**M** Matt Mio 23:09  
Heather -

**H** Heather Hill 23:10  
Seven?

**M** Matt Mio 23:12  
I mean, Beth just got it, but I was gonna give it to you, too. It's only five people. Unfortunately, a dog was involved as well, if you remember the original movie, but only five people are slashed to bits in the original. And now you can't have one of those movies without a solid like 20 - 30 - 50 person, you know -

**D** Dave Chow 23:32  
Blood count. Yeah.

**B** Beth Oljar 23:34  
I'm looking forward to Halloween kills. I'm very excited,

**D** Dave Chow 23:37  
By the way, Beth, did you see the picture of Jamie Lee Curtis stepping out for that movie? She's dressed as Janet Lee.

**M** Matt Mio 23:44  
Oh, interesting.

**D** Dave Chow 23:44



D Dave Chow 23:46  
She looks pretty darn good.

B Beth Oljar 23:48  
Well, Janet Lee is her mother.

D Dave Chow 23:50  
Oh, yeah. No, but she she had a costume. I think she wore the costume from Psycho or something like that for it. She showed up in the premiere in costume.

B Beth Oljar 23:58  
You know, she and - Jamie Lee and Janet. Were both in The Fog.

M Matt Mio 24:03  
Oh, yeah.

D Dave Chow 24:03  
Oh that's right. Yeah.

D Dave Chow 24:04  
Another one of her better - the whole - that whole period of time where Jamie Lee Curtis was like in every single horror movie, like, portraying one of my personal favorites that everybody else thinks sucks, but I love it.

D Dave Chow 24:17  
And True Lies got me through puberty. So I mean, it's like oh, good lord.

B Beth Oljar 24:21  
True Lies is a great movie.

M Matt Mio 24:23  
It's a great movie. Just a couple more here before we have to wrap up, professors. Now let's see if we can do this in an orderly fashion. Starting with the tip, what are the three colors in a candy corn - in order?

D Dave Chow 24:38  
Yellow

B Beth Oljar 24:38  
Yellow - orange - white.

D Dave Chow 24:40  
Yeah.

M Matt Mio 24:40  
"White", Mara said.

M Mara Livezey 24:41  
White.

D Dave Chow 24:42  
Orange. But the center's white.

M Mara Livezey 24:44  
But the center's white.

D Dave Chow 24:45  
No, the center's orange.

M Mara Livezey 24:46  
Orange yellow.

B Beth Oljar 24:47  
I thought it was yellow, orange, white. (Matt and Mara laugh)

H Heather Hill 24:52  
White,

M Mara Livezey 24:54  
white, orange, yellow was my guess.

M Matt Mio 24:55  
So the tip is white.

D Dave Chow 24:57  
The body is orange.

M Matt Mio 25:00  
The middle is yellow.

D Dave Chow 25:01  
It is?

M Matt Mio 25:02  
And the bottom is orange.

M Mara Livezey 25:03  
Orange.

M Matt Mio 25:05  
And by the way, I seriously think we heard every possible permutation of the three colors. I think it's fascinating. I think it's fascinating.

D Dave Chow 25:13  
Wow.

**B** Beth Oljar 25:13  
Logically speaking, it's not like there are a ton of permutations. Right?

**D** Dave Chow 25:18  
There's only three colors. I don't remember seeing purple ones. I mean -

**B** Beth Oljar 25:21  
Right.

**M** Matt Mio 25:21  
Actually, I've seen purple ones and you know they do different colored ones, Brach's does, for different holidays. So you can get like, horrific like red and green for Christmas and stuff like that. It's like, leave the candy corn where it is. I'm just gonna come out, I have no problem, I'm totally confident. I'm a big candy corn lover. I can live without it. But it's like, I really like it. I know it just grosses other people out. So -

**B** Beth Oljar 25:43  
Oh, it's good. I like it.

**M** Mara Livezey 25:45  
It's the most disgusting candy. (Matt and Mara laugh)

**D** Dave Chow 25:48  
Makes your eyes wince. That's all. Yeah.

**M** Matt Mio 25:52  
What was that, Heather?

**H** Heather Hill 25:53  
It's so sweet.

**M** Matt Mio 25:54

Matt Mio 25:51  
It's very sweet.

H Heather Hill 25:56  
I like it. But you can't eat too much of it.

D Dave Chow 25:58  
Yeah.

H Heather Hill 25:59  
I always used to eat the white part first, then the yellow.

D Dave Chow 26:04  
What would Dan Maggio say? "This would make your teeth itch", or something like that. Right?

H Heather Hill 26:07  
Victor

M Matt Mio 26:07  
Exactly. One more for today, professors, and it gets lumped in. We're talking gothic horror. It's not necessarily about Halloween, but a lot of people do lump it in. There are several allusions, direct and indirect in ways, in the novel Frankenstein, that the monster either was bestowed a name or gave himself a name. Do you know what that name was?

M Matt Mio 26:12  
That's a good guess, but it wasn't Victor.

D Dave Chow 26:38  
That was the professor. I'm trying to remember. I keep on going back Young Frankenstein.

M Matt Mio 26:44  
I knew you were gonna go there.

**B** Beth Oljar 26:45  
I know. I was just thinking about that.

**D** Dave Chow 26:47  
I had to.

**B** Beth Oljar 26:47  
Madeline Kahn is so funny in that movie. Um, so is Teri Garr.

**M** Matt Mio 26:51  
Everybody's funny in that movie. Here's your hint - He fancied himself a first

**H** Heather Hill 27:01  
Primus.

**M** Matt Mio 27:03  
That's a good guess.

**B** Beth Oljar 27:04  
Optimus Prime, (Laughs). Was he foreshadowing -

**M** Matt Mio 27:09  
No, no, he he actually wanted to name himself, Adam.

**D** Dave Chow 27:14  
Oh, okay. Like the first man kind of. Okay.

**M** Matt Mio 27:17  
The first synthetic. If my wife were here, she does a very nice summary of a paper she wrote in undergrad where it was very, very clear that this was Shelley's treatise on being pregnant for the first time. That's literally where Frankenstein comes from. And feel free to look more into it. because she had a lot of thinas - that actually came out

Frankenstein comes from and returns to look more into it, because she had a lot of things that actually came out very well in the movie. Was it Robert De Niro as the monster. And Kenneth Branagh as Frankenstein. Do you remember that from a few -?

**D** Dave Chow 27:46  
Vaguely. Yeah, uh-huh.

**M** Matt Mio 27:48  
He was actually put together in like a birthing bag, and they were following more the very strict, not the universal stereotype of the Frankenstein monster and everything, so- Professors, we've done a really good job with these questions. And of course, Amber and I wish you all a very, very happy Halloween, but the time has come to say goodbye. Let's start with Stephen.

**S** Stephen Manning 28:12  
Bye

**M** Matt Mio 28:13  
Heather

**H** Heather Hill 28:14  
Bye, bye.

**M** Matt Mio 28:15  
Beth.

**B** Beth Oljar 28:16  
Bye.

**M** Matt Mio 28:17  
Mara.

**M** Mara Livezey 28:19  
Boo!

M Matt Mio 28:20  
and Dave.

D Dave Chow 28:21  
See ya.

M Matt Mio 28:22  
Now these words

M Michael Jayson 28:23  
You can email ask the professor at ATP at [UDMercy.edu](mailto:ATP@UDMercy.edu) or visit the [Ask the Professor Facebook page](#)

M Matt Mio 28:32  
Ask The Professor is produced and directed by Michael Jayson and Brian Maisonville. And our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Until next week, I'm your host, Matt Mio.