

Chapter 14

In a flash, she leapt to the table, now brandishing the empty Korbel bottle. A dowager gasped. A pale child fainted. The Queen was no longer drunk on alcohol, but instead intoxicated on pure, inbred rage. She tossed the bottle across to her other hand, then back again the way a pirate would bandy a knife when cornered by multiple mutineers.

"Your Majesty, please! We must remain civil!" the Duke implored. "The French approach in haste and they remember details!"

The Queen reared back and bellowed, "You stay away, the lot of you. I tell you I'm wearing the cowboy hat and by God, anybody who gets near me with that diamond tiara better be ready for some new holes in their belly!"

The Prince nodded toward Hennisley, the Scottish Master at Arms, who quickly loaded the tranquilizer dart into the rifle. The Prince would wait as long as possible before giving the command as it would have irrevocable ripple effects. Despite her bloodshot eyes and snarled lips, he hoped logic and reason would still persevere.

"Mother, please, get down," the Prince implored. "The children are frightened. You can wear the hat tomorrow, I promise. But for now, let's put on the tiara."

"Make me, you prat," the Queen hissed.

The Prince looked to the old Scotsman on his right, and nodded. The dart whistled across the ballroom straight and true.

[An excerpt from Sean McGrath's steamy British thriller The Last Jubilee, a novel presumably on many best seller lists by now.]



Hello. My name is Sean McGrath

I am a NYC-based writer, director, editor, semi-retired actor, and recommender of quality delis.

Ten years spent as a writer and performer for Live Wire Radio! with Luke Burbank! (Public Radio International), I am also a founding member of Sweat Sketch Comedy, Cinema Syndicate, head writer of Soap Street Theater, and the creator of Bath Night Comedy.

When I'm not writing for stage and screens, I work as a copywriter and voice over guy.

My work has appeared in The Oregonian, "Planet Money" on NPR, McSweeney's, French Kiss Records TV, Oregon Ballet Theater, the Cannes Film Festival, San Francisco Sketch Fest, Chicago Sketch Fest, and a bevy of online publications.

There's more to say, but this is enough.

Feel free to contact me at heyseanmcgrath@gmail.com.



A three year collaboration with the Portland Timbers of Major League Soccer produced ten spots.

Client wanted to adjust their marketing by not doing conventional commercials, and instead aimed to broaden their fan base with irreverent, satirical branded content.

Here are a few.

The LA Galaxy

Good-natured ribbing of the team's rival, in the style of a late 70's educational filmstrip most of us slept thru.

<https://vimeo.com/283340338>



Support

Inspirational glory from the POV of a chair.

<https://vimeo.com/664070442>



Timber Joey

Do lumberjacks hibernate in the offseason? Yes, yes they do.

<https://vimeo.com/310911685>





Provided copy for nearly a hundred brew pubs and bars for Pub Pass, the “Beer Lover’s Passport.”



ONE FREE BEER*AT

FINKEL & GARF BREWING CO

5455 Spine Rd, Boulder, CO 80301

FINKELANDGARF.COM

Finkel & Garf is a name that sounds like they produce the best European record players on the market, but instead, they happen to be a brewery lacking any such pretension. Family owned and operated, they've been holding court in Boulder since 2014 and have developed quite the fan base. In fact, much of their brews show up across Colorado bars. But to get right to the source, you'll have to head to their awesome taproom. We lucked out with a couple of limited releases, the sweet and tart Cherry and Black Currant Wheat and the Bourbon Barrel Aged Imperial Stout.



*No cash value. Certain beers may be excluded. Limit one per customer.
Valid until 12/31/22. Void if stamped, signed or detached from PubPass book.



ONE FREE BEER*AT

DANNY'S PUB

328 W Gorham St, Madison, WI 53703

DANNYSPUBMADISON.COM

Taking a hard lean towards the pubs and taverns of Ireland, Danny's is every bit a 180 degree turn from the bars that seem to have drifted towards the feel of a family fun center. Make no mistake, Danny's is a pub, with darts, and cool bartenders, and live DJ dance nights. They cater as well to the Joe Public sports fan by tossing the game du jour up on the flatscreen. However, it's the little touches like darker than dark wood interior, a heavily-represented Irish draft list, and "newspaper" liners for their baskets of food that earned from us the silent "tip o' the cap" respect.



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Valid until 12/31/22. Void if stamped, signed or detached from PubPass book.

The Fender logo, featuring the word "Fender" in a white, stylized script font with a registered trademark symbol (®) at the top right, set against a black rectangular background.

This campaign featured a series of “testimonials” highlighting Fender’s new guitar learning app.

Six separate :30s in total.



<https://vimeo.com/683018941>

BARACK OBAMA'S FAVORITE SWEDISH DEATH METAL — of 2020 —

BLEED OUT THE SHAME

Winter Sun

HATE FUEL

Necrosoul

SMILE OF THE TOOTHLESS

Pry

NO MORE DAWNS

Sacrilege Throne

SLUTWAR

Chaos Hand

PURGE ALL WEAKNESS

Fratricide

WHEN THE FINAL BONE SNAPS

Wound Maker

SUFFERING ECHOES

Demon Harvest

THE PLAGUE'S RETURN

Sadysm

CONDEMNED ORPHANAGE

Made of Bile

NIGHTMARE PROPHECIES

Förstöra

COMMUNAL BLINDING

Wobegon

ALMS FOR THE DAMNED

Storm Stain

THE SILENCE OF GOD'S SCREAM

Cauterize

COINS FOR CHARON

Wither & Decay

ABSENCE OF MERCY

Bloody Rust

DESICCATED GRAVES OF OUR ANCESTORS

Last Stand

HANGMAN'S LAMENT

Viscera

LAST HEAD OF THE HYDRA

Corrosion

THE MISERIES OF LIVING

Fleshpound

CARNAGE NEVER CEASES

Görb

WRETCHED FIRE

Fuckreich

By Sean McGrath for McSweeney's

“Them Philadelphia Streets”

Episodic series in which acclaimed pop rock duo Hall and Oates moonlight as crime scene investigators. CBS has called the script “too risky” and HBO is worried about alienating audiences in Eastern Pennsylvania, but the show will find a home somewhere before too long. Here are the first three pages of the pilot.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT.

The area has been blocked off with yellow police tape. A body lies under a tarp. Nearby the chatter of police radios. A siren in the distance. Probably yet another murder...

Detective WILLIS (M. 50s, grizzled) is standing above the tarp with a note pad. Detective PERKINS (M. late 30s, clean-shaven) is scanning the ground with his flashlight.

WILLIS
Perkins, anything?

PERKINS
Vic has knife wounds on the leg and stomach. I don't see a weapon so perp must have taken it with him.

WILLIS
So much blood...

PERKINS
Happened quick. No defensive wounds either so he probably was stabbed before he knew what was happening. I dusted for prints too. Nothing.

WILLIS
Damn.

PERKINS
Very little to go on here. Gonna be a long night, Detective...

WILLIS
Maybe. Maybe not.

PERKINS
Detective?

WILLIS
I called in a favor with the bureau on the way over.

PERKINS
What do you mean?

WILLIS
Here they are now.

A white Trans Am pulls up at that moment. Getting out of the car is legendary duo DARYL HALL and JOHN OATES. They look like they just got out of an album photoshoot in 1981.

2.

PERKINS
Holy shit, that's Hall and Oates.

WILLIS
Yeah it's Hall and Oates, but they also happen to be two of the best crime scene analysts in the whole country.

PERKINS
Wait, Hall and Oates are cops?

WILLIS
No. Not cops. They're federal special investigators. Off the books. And they do things their own way. Let's hope to God they can give us something.

Hall and Oates walk to the crime scene, Willis extends his hand.

WILLIS (CONT'D)
Hall, I'm Detective Jack Willis, Philly PD. I was on the Solstice Murder case. This here is Officer Perkins.

HALL
Daryl Hall. That there is Oates.
Oates nods.

HALL (CONT'D)
The Solstice case. Still keeps me up sometimes. What're we got here?
Willis removes the tarp, revealing a bloodied body.

WILLIS
Vic is a James David Mueller, 45, insurance salesman. According to his driver's license, he lives in Clarke Summit.

HALL
Clarke Summit? That's 130 miles away. What's he doing down in the big city?

WILLIS
No idea. He's also got almost 400 in cash in his wallet so it's not a mugging gone bad.

3.

HALL
No, no....I can't go for that. No can do.

PERKINS
Hey! Like your song!

HALL
What'd you say?

WILLIS
Nothing. He didn't say anything.
Willis gruffly pulls aside his junior detective.

WILLIS (CONT'D)
You listen and you listen good. They don't like talking about their music. In fact, I think they even resent it. So do wise to keep your trap shut about all of that.

PERKINS
But I'm a huge fan, Detective. I mean "Voices" was the seminal album of 1980. It went platinum for crying out loud

WILLIS
That may be. But if we want their help on this case, we keep the chatter to the business at hand, got it?

PERKINS
Yeah, I got it.

WILLIS
Good.

Hall and Oates have been assessing the scene. The two detectives walk back over.

HALL
Next of kin?

WILLIS
Wife. Hanna Mueller. She'll meet us at Coroner's to ID the body.

HALL
She a rich girl?

Recent Client List

Fender

Alaska Airlines

Mountain Dew

KEEN Footwear

AutoDesk

HP

New Belgium Brewing Company

3M

Portland Timbers

Live Wire Radio

Flying Embers Hard Kombucha