

PODCAST Episode 272


📅 Fri, 2/4 5:07PM ⌚ 44:40


SUMMARY KEYWORDS

cane, people, magnifiers, rob, steve, guide, ryan, story, color, picture, snow white, thought, pepper, cowbell, call, peter dinklage, disney, guess, shelves, conversation


SPEAKERS


Lis Malone, Steve Barclay, Ryan Fleury

 Lis Malone 01:18
Hey there friends and welcome to another episode of AT Banter

 Ryan Fleury 01:23
Banter, banter. That was really good.

 Lis Malone 01:31
This, of course, is the podcast where we speak with advocates, allies and members of the disability community to educate and inspire better conversation about disability. So do not adjust your podcast dial. You are in the right podcast. My name is not Rob Mineault. I am Lis Malone, and our usual cruise director Rob is unfortunately a little under the weather or shall we say just a little just a little just just a little he got the 'vid, he got the 'rona. Poor guy. So we're not making light of it but we are sending our well wishes but of course we have to poke fun at Rob a little bit while he's gone. What do they say? When the cat's away the mice shall play?

 Steve Barclay 02:17
Exactly right.

 Lis Malone 02:18
Yeah. So my first fellow mouse is the ever so lovable. Ryan Fleury,

 Ryan Fleury 02:24

Squeak squeak

L

Lis Malone 02:30

And of course the one and only Mouseketeer Steve Barclay.

S

Steve Barclay 02:35

Hey kids!

R

Ryan Fleury 02:40

Golly!

L

Lis Malone 02:44

Wow, I love how all these hidden talents come out.

R

Ryan Fleury 02:49

Let's you probably haven't heard the joke. "I'm sorry, Mr. Mouse. We can't grant you a divorce on the basis that you think your wife is crazy." "I didn't say she was crazy. Judge I said she was ****ing Goofy!"

L

Lis Malone 03:11

Oh, see what happens when when Rob is not here. We already off the off the track right off the rails right off right off. So. So today, I think that Ryan should tell us what we're doing.

R

Ryan Fleury 03:24

All right. Well, I figured it was time we had a bit of a news show again. And lo and behold, our own Steve Barclay has some good news from a friend of the show, David Grimes that we're going to share it with the audience as well as discuss a few other topics that we came across this week. All right. So do you want to maybe start with ... well pick a story? Well, let's let's start with David. Because I mean, this is this is a just a great story, I think. So we had Dr. David Grimes on the show a while back to talk about the work that he does with Medical Ministries International. So David is a member of project and I'm on the Children's Low Vision Project of British Columbia. He's one of our two optometrists and every now and then he goes wanders to some far flung part of the world and help helps with these vision clinics. So most recently, he was in - I'm gonna say this wrong - Cienega de Oro in Columbia. And he sent this letter to all of the CLVP folks because we had given him a bunch of old magnifiers and stuff to take with them

on this trip. So here's here's what he had to say. He said "the picture below is of Diego, one of our last patients of the day at the clinic he needed new glasses badly his old ones were scratched, not even close to his correct prescription. We refracted him and found an almost perfect match for his for his prescription. He was ecstatic. He said he was a jewelry jeweler and worked with fine silver threads and the new glass would make a world of difference for him. Somebody said we should send him to Dave, doesn't he have some of those us magnifiers with them? I started showing them various domes line magnifiers pocket magnifiers and he settled on one of the saddest ones in the collection scratched broken light, no cover, but it was a perfect size and wait for him. I told him it was a gift from a student back home in Canada and he wanted me to send a picture of him using it. He was beaming. Apparently the second picture below is of a rosary he made for Pope Francis. The original is in Rome with the Pope. And he still has a replica here in Colombia. I admit I was pretty skeptical, but the translators and a quick Google search confirmed every word. So somewhere in BC, one of our students donated a magnifier that's now in the hands of the Pope's jeweler." Wow.

S

Steve Barclay 05:43

Yeah. And he said a picture of the jewelry that the guy created. It's gorgeous. It's absolutely stunning. So yeah, so donated magnifier, you just never know who it's going to help out. In this case. It helped with the Pope's jeweler, go figure. And then the next day, he said another one for a 85 year old. He loved a little easy Pocket Magnifier. He was blind in one eye 2200 and the other from AMD macular degeneration and glaucoma. And he's now able to read using that little handheld magnifier. So fantastic. Of the first week of that clinic, they saw 1800 patients, and they removed 70 cataracts.

R

Ryan Fleury 06:31

Wow. Yeah. And so if people had used products like that, are you accepting donations? Absolutely. So look, he can use, he can use glasses, he can use magnifiers even even if the you know if the glasses are, are scratched up, whatever. It doesn't matter if the magnifiers you know, maybe they worked off battery once but don't anymore. As long as they actually have, you know, the ability to magnify stuff. He can use these things. And yeah, anybody who, if you if you gather stuff up if you want to get it to Dave, just let me know. You can contact me at Canadian Assistive Technologies, and I will pay the shipping to get the stuff to Dave. So if you want to get hold of me there, you can email me at Steve at steve@canasstech.com. And yeah, be happy to get that stuff today, so we can drag it off to his next exotic location.

L

Lis Malone 07:38

Well, we should definitely make some notations in the actual show notes to remind people and let them know about this opportunity to make this type of donation. I as a user of low vision devices, I don't think I've ever been approached about recycling my my used magnifiers or should say broken or scratched or you know, whatever you however you want to refer to a very used product. But I I fully admit I'm guilty of having throwing things away and not even not even thinking of doing something like that. So thank you and Dan, my I feel like a shitty person now. Thanks, Steve. That was a great story.

R

Ryan Fleury 08:33

Awesome, so let me see what else we got for stories here. I guess the the next one we had on the list was Disney response to Peter Dinklage about the Snow White criticism. Yeah, I took a quick glance at this and have to admit, I, I guess didn't grasp what the issue was. And so I thought it could be an interesting discussion to actually bring me up to speed on what they're actually referring to.

L

Lis Malone 09:08

Yeah, I think it's also good to just maybe let people know that. I had no idea no idea that a live action Snow White movie was even in production. I admit I'm not a little Miss Pop Culture thing here either. But I was pretty surprised to even hear about this this project. But I guess that's the new thing. Right? Live action everything Disney?

R

Ryan Fleury 09:32

Yeah, I guess. Yeah, it's it's attracted some big names to the way they've got to Rachael Ziegler as the princess and Gal Godot as the Evil Queen. So that's kind of cool. But I guess it stirred up a little bit of a thing. Because Peter Dinklage made made some comment about, you know, being a little put out by the idea of this project and He said that he found a bit of a discrepancy at the progressive casting as a Latina actress as Snow White, and then go backwards story about seven dwarves living in a cave together. So Disney responded to that and said that was their statement to to avoid reinforcing stereotypes from the original animated film, we are taking a different approach with these seven characters and have been consulting with members of the dwarfism community. We look forward to sharing more as the film heads into production after a lengthy development period. So yeah, I don't I don't know. I'm sort of I guess I'm sort of hung up on this one. I'm not really sure how to feel about it. I mean, if they're consulting with the dwarfism community, and it's cool with them, then I figure great, right? Well, that's what we're always asking for. Right is to be involved in the discussions and here we are. We're being involved in the discussions and still upsetting people. Well, that's you know, that's that's like the the blindness community right? Every everybody thinks blindness community thinks it's one big community. And it's not it's, it's a bunch of, it's a whole bunch of people with different opinions. Go figure.

L

Lis Malone 11:14

Now, Peter, Dinklage is most famous for his portrayal of Tyrion Lannister on Game of Thrones, which is, gosh, I think everybody is familiar with that show, especially first character.

R

Ryan Fleury 11:28

Oh, he was fabulous.

L

Lis Malone 11:30



Lis Malone 11:29

Oh, he was so good. Ryan. It's such a such a good performance that the show sucks you in. I was a little late to get on board with Game of Thrones, but then I was couple seasons behind and then I jumped in and crap. I was like, God, HBO got my money.



Ryan Fleury 11:46

Ryan, have you watched Game of Thrones? Not one. You're so lucky. You get to experience it right from the beginning.



Lis Malone 11:57

Oh my god, all this time, he saved \$10.99 A month paying for HBO. I am also a little on the fence about this story as well. But I think it is an important story for us to talk about because yeah, so Peter is not in this film. So let's just first clear that up. So he is not cast in this film. It's sort of him as, as someone who is in the dwarfism community and enact an working actor who is objecting to the making of the film. Correct?



Ryan Fleury 12:32

Seems like yeah, yeah.



Lis Malone 12:35

But then when you see him do roles, like elf where he played Myles Finch, remember the author? You guys saw elf, right?



Ryan Fleury 12:47

That was Will Ferrell wasn't it?



Lis Malone 12:49

Yes, the one that's played every single year, get so much play. And he was the, you know, quote, unquote, angry elf in that, in that in that movie. And it was, I mean, it was funny. It was a funny movie. And he, you know, he beats the crap out of Will Ferrell and, you know, Will Ferrell thinks he's a he's one of Santa's elves. So he there is some poking fun of that whole concept. And sometimes I think that people think that you can't be a member of a marginalized group, but still have a sense of humor when things are just done in a in a funny way. And so I think it is interesting that he was quoted as saying that, you know, being portrayed as you know, these dwarves living in a cave, I mean, do we even has the storyline even come out that he, we even know that that's what happens in the movie?

R Ryan Fleury 13:42
Well, the projects in development as I understand it, so I don't know.

L Lis Malone 13:46
Yeah, I don't know, I kind of feel like this is like, just like, Ryan, you were saying that. The whole point is to get a seat at the table, and be part of the conversation and help shape the way these stories are told or how communities are being portrayed. Is such a huge part of it.

R Ryan Fleury 14:08
Yeah, and more power to them. You know, hopefully, there will be some changes made and you know, their their voices will be heard.

L Lis Malone 14:15
Now, Rachel Ziegler, she is she's the star of West Side Story. She's, she's, I guess, I, a newcomer on the scene, but she is certainly a rising star. She's Colombian American, beautiful girl. And I believe that she also received backlash for being cast as Snow White from the opposite end. Because I think that there were plenty of people out there who were outraged that they felt that it should have been played by a Caucasian actress.

S Steve Barclay 14:49
Yeah. Honestly, when it comes to what Caucasian should be getting I really don't get too excited about it ... I think we're doing all right in general.

L Lis Malone 15:04
Yeah. But I still I sort of see this as if this is being attacked on all angles. Where there are some people who are saying strict strict traditionalism show the story the way Disney did it originally in 1937. In a in a cartoon, versus how do we take a story from years past a classic, and modernize it to make it more reflective for audiences today?

R Ryan Fleury 15:38
Good question, got any ideas? I think we need to bring Disney onto the show.

L Lis Malone 15:47
Hey, Ryan, you're the booker I think you should you should get Peter Dinklage on the show.

R

Ryan Fleury 15:52

I can reach out to the best I can do.

L

Lis Malone 15:58

Peter, we know you're listening. We know you're a longtime listener of the show, we'd like to have you on this show. Actually kind of reminds me of a story. It's not exactly. It's not apples to apples. But do you guys recall a movie that was made? And this is going back a little while the I think was called the Perez Family? I don't think it was a huge blockbuster. But just by the name. The story was about a Hispanic, you know, Latino family. And it was cast with all non Hispanic actors such Angelica Houston was in it. And Marissa Torme and some others that I just can't think of off the top of my head. And there was a lot of outrage for what you know as to why are using very obviously Caucasian actors to play Hispanic parts. And there are tons and tons of Hispanic actors who are more than qualified to do this. And there was such you know, such outrage over that. And now here we have something where they're trying to be inclusive, and more open minded. And then there's still backlash on the from the other end. So it's like you're damned if you do you're damned if you don't,

R

Ryan Fleury 17:13

Yeah, it's gotta be tough for for everybody all to say, but you take a class like Snow White, or, you know, Peter Pan, you know, whatever the story is that we all grew up with, you know, we have memories of those those stories, and to try and remake them into something more diverse. that reaches out to more audiences, I think is great, but at the same time, is it really that big of a deal? Like there's definitely yes, some stories that should no longer be told? There's definitely things that need to change. But are we just getting a little too sensitive? Well, this is one of those conversations where as a white guy I just sort of walk away from am I getting too sensitive? Probably not. Probably not, you know, I should probably be more sensitive. But yeah, I don't know that. You're never gonna keep everybody happy. But, you know, at least we can have conversations around it, whether it gets us anywhere. Who knows?

L

Lis Malone 18:31

I think the the idea came up two weeks ago, in the conversation with, with Amy and Shawn, that, you know, representation does matter. I think that was one of the things that was sort of stirred up in our huge mishmash of, of pornographic conversation. inspiration porn, I'm sorry, for anyone who who didn't catch it. That's the that's really what we talked about. There's plenty of representation in real pornography too, by the way. So but the point being is that yes, representation does certainly matter. And so I can't see how it's ever going to be a bad thing. By having younger people see characters who look like them doesn't have to be every character, but at least at least some. I know that as a as an as an Asian American child growing up I only saw Asian women in very specific commercials like remember the legs pantyhose there would be like this very long legged Asian woman like putting up the stuff and I was like, you know, kind of like that whole Asian fantasy of like this long legged Geisha girl kind of thing. And I never really saw any on TV.

R

Ryan Fleury 19:52

I don't know it, but keep talking.

L

Lis Malone 19:58

I'm sure the commercials are still floating out there. But, but yeah, that I mean, that was the only time that I saw anyone who even remotely looked like me. And believe me, my my legs are a hell of a lot shorter than than hers were. And but yeah, so I mean, I think it's very, very important that we we've kind of stepped out of that comfort zone of the paradigm of what stories, I guess, characters that that were originally created, because ultimately, I don't think it really makes any difference to what the morals of the stories were. And when we think about who's really the audience for Peter Pan and Sleeping Beauty, it's certainly not us, at least. It's not our demo. I mean, it's this younger group that probably needs to have that that diversity that we lacked right in our childhoods.

R

Ryan Fleury 20:58

All right. Next one up was a robot guide called Pepper could help the blind and partially sighted people. Let me tell us about pepper. Okay, so Pepper was developed by students and staff at the University of Glasgow. And it's a robotic guide to lead people around. And one of the one of the things that they pointed out is, when people are using a white cane, you're tapping around, you're looking for stuff, you find stuff by hitting it with a white cane. And in their parking lot, at the university, I guess they'd had people get sort of uppity about having your cars thwacked with canes or something. So I thought, Hmm, well, maybe we can come up with a guide that'll that'll lead people around and identify objects and stuff and you know, not actually have to run into things. So they have a humanoid shaped guide that you can you can follow around with and this was done in conjunction with the RNIB the Royal National Institute for the Blind in Scotland. And yeah, so we've got this Pepper .. is humanoid shape robot, which is probably about in the in the picture that I see it comes up to about the guy's sternum. And, you know, because it's humanoid, you can, you know, put a hand on a shoulder or whatever, and it can, it can lead you around places. So it's interesting. It's an interesting idea. When I look at the the pictures of it, it's got it's got wheels on the bottom that don't look like they are really built for off roading in any sense. There's, yeah, it looks like it would be a pretty level. Sort of, you know, it's gotta be on the level by the looks of it. I don't I don't know how it's gonna go up and down stairs and stuff. Or over curb for that matter.

L

Lis Malone 22:55

What about cobblestone streets?

R

Ryan Fleury 22:57

That's good question. I have no idea knowing. But it is yet another attempt at a robotic guide. In this case, it's a little bit different because most of the people who've tried robotic guides

have have been basing it off a guide dog this route, rather than guiding, you know, designing off of the idea of being a person. So interesting.

L Lis Malone 23:24

I have to ask you this seat, Steve, because you were able to see the actual photo of Pepper. Somebody in the article refer to pepper with the "he" pronoun. Is there anything he like, about this? Robotic guide? Because I thought it was interesting that they didn't say "it" or "them".

R Ryan Fleury 23:47

She wants to know if it has genitalia.

L Lis Malone 23:48

I'm definitely curious to find out why this was identified as a he or is it just a gender bias thing that because this thing helped me he's like, Oh, it must be a man. It must be a male, you know?

R Ryan Fleury 24:01

Because it can give directions?

L Lis Malone 24:06

That's great. It can it can give directions but not ask.

R Ryan Fleury 24:13

Yeah, probably can't ask for any

L Lis Malone 24:16

Or it won't ask. I guess they're both one in the same.

R Ryan Fleury 24:20

It's always gonna be "no we're going this way. I don't care what Google says".

L Lis Malone 24:28

So what is the what is the anatomical figure? Is it just like when you say humanoid so is it like

So what is the what is the anatomical figure? Is it just like when you say humanoid, so is it like head and shoulders?

R

Ryan Fleury 24:36

Okay, so it's got a it's got a head, which is sort of a roundish head with two big round eyes in the front of it little mouth looks like some sort of. on the forehead, which is maybe a camera of some kind of I don't know. It's got sort of round shapes towards where the IRS would be. I don't know what those are either. This article doesn't get into a lot of that. Then it's got a torso with a big screen on the front of it, but it looks of it. Two arms. The legs are joined together and go down to some sort of wheel assembly. Which looks a little disturbingly like testicles on the ground. Now that I look at it but yeah, that's probably my association.

L

Lis Malone 25:26

I think you just I think you just described Rob Mineault on rollers. Roundish hair brown eyes, little mouth. Testicles on the ground. He would he would appreciate that. That's a compliment.

R

Ryan Fleury 25:47

Just like Rob

L

Lis Malone 25:52

We're gonna start calling you Pepper.

R

Ryan Fleury 25:59

Yeah, let's, let's get out of this one quick. Okay, so, okay, this next this next story. I had exactly the same problem that you guys had. I saw the headline. I clicked on the headline and then it made me wonder it made me register for something and See we didn't register The headline is audio description devices installed in station toilets. Now, I can think of a lot of different ways that could go I don't know what they're describing. Well, I think it says that it can describe the layout of the room of the washroom so it can orientate you and tell you you sink on your right hand side toilet on your left. Okay, that makes more sense of what I was thinking. I figured you got in the stall and went hey dude, nice chunk you know.

L

Lis Malone 26:57

I think that for the restroom, maybe on the man side male side if it isn't a gender neutral one, but if there is a gender specific maybe when you miss you get a little warning. A little higher....

R

Ryan Fleury 27:22

That's right. You know, we're always asking for more audio description. And here we are. Right. Yeah. Certain things we don't need.

L

Lis Malone 27:32

I think I think some of the some of the sighted clientele could benefit from a little go left. Go left, no, no, no. Okay. Nope. Don't cross the streams. Nope, nope, nope. I think there's just been a lot of I just sometimes when you're in those public bathrooms, you're like, how could you have gone so terribly wrong? Oh, it's pretty. It's to me, it seems a little cut and dry little, you know, ABC, but for some reason, I just don't know why. So maybe that there is a dual benefit to another one of those. Like, we're talking about how the sighted community benefits from things from the low vision community.

R

Ryan Fleury 28:10

Yes, I think if it's not your bathroom, nobody cares. Right? So you walk in you take your chances.

L

Lis Malone 28:18

Now where was this the audio described talking bathroom?

R

Ryan Fleury 28:22

It's in the UK. It just says served by Northern so I assume that's northern rail, which I I don't know. Or the northern part of the EU. And it was in Scotland a bunch of different stations too. So yeah. 44 stations. Okay, interesting. Do a little bit more digging now you can go into one of those stations go into the bathroom and when you get up it'll tell you if you need more fiber. Oh, gosh.

L

Lis Malone 28:50

I do think that the the Auto Flush is a is a is a pro and a con. I think it's a pro you know some of these new features that they have and all the bathrooms. I think it's great because you do have those people who just don't fly but don't flush. Yeah, and that's just gross. Awful. But then you ever get I don't know I think maybe women we get it worse because we don't have we don't have the urinals. But sometimes it just starts to flush before you're not even anywhere near ready. And it ends up splashing your rear.

R

Ryan Fleury 29:23

Well, where did they come up with that idea for that amount of suction? It Yeah, I don't like toilets that doesn't suck like that.



Lis Malone 29:35

I think you have to think about the kind of punishment some of these public bathrooms get.



Ryan Fleury 29:39

That's true, too. Yeah,



Lis Malone 29:40

Yeah. Yeah. I'm glad that we we managed to ruin everybody's dinner with that.



Ryan Fleury 29:55

They don't have to listen to us at dinner. Yeah. So after every podcast wash your hands after listening.



Lis Malone 30:06

Are you gonna get COVID? Like Rob? No, that's right. Yeah. So can I go back to your other story, if you don't mind about the the robot? Guide Dog Pepper? Sure. You know, especially because you work in this space, Steve, I think all this stuff is is is amazing. But you have people who can't even afford to buy, you know, fuel efficient cars. I mean, how is anyone ever going to be able to afford something like Pepper? Who's going to pay? Who could ever pay for something like that?



Ryan Fleury 30:38

Well, it's a good question. Because, yeah, certainly technology like that is going to be expensive. But when you compare it, if you can, if you can scale it up and bring it to production and put it out in the world, can you scale it to the point where it becomes cost competitive with a guide dog, because that's sort of the space that they seem to be targeting with this, right. So in order for that to happen, you know, you've got to have something that is going to, you know, one hopefully lasts longer than the guide dog does, because the guide dog is typically only good for, you know, maybe at most 810 years for for service time. And then you got to go, you know, get another guide dog, which somebody has spent a lot of time training. And you have to feed that animal through its entire life and take it outside and water it. You don't have to feed this, you don't have to water it. You don't have to train it. So none of those costs exist. So can it be competitive? Cost wise, maybe eventually. But is it going to be as functional? I guess that remains to be seen. I think there's so many unemployed people out there that the government needs to start matching people up. Anybody who wants to go get a guide in the government

pays their wages. Oh, can you imagine though not being able to pick it up? This is Frank. Frank has substance issues, take him home with you. He'll lead you around. Know the screening that has to be done. Please have screening.

L

Lis Malone 32:20

Where do you keep Steve's like, I'm going to take that Asian woman in the pantyhose commercial that Lis was talking about. I want her to be my guide. Well, I just thought you know that that is one of the things that is always the The x factor in any of these new developments is just how do we how do we bring it to market?

R

Ryan Fleury 32:46

You know, we've talked away, something we've talked about over and over again, is you know, so many people are trying to replace, you know, the white cane and the dog with you know, haptic canes, laser canes, robot dogs, now humanoid robots. You know, a lot of us will still go back to the tried and true, right.

L

Lis Malone 33:06

I thought it was interesting, because there was a quote in that article about the robot guide that the I don't remember who said it, but she had, I believe it was a she had said something to the effect of that, that there's no respect for the white cane out there. I was like, wow, what's going on in Scotland? Like there's like some serious hostility there where they were talking about violent confrontations with people in the parking lot. Like you mentioned, Steve, that, that it was that people are getting upset. I'm like, Wow, I'm like, gosh, as, as a person who's a cane user, I have never had a confrontation with somebody that was aggressive.

R

Ryan Fleury 33:47

When I don't know if you remember Steve, but when the colored canes came out, I started carrying those. There was a bit of a conversation there as well, because people identify the white cane as someone who's blind or partially sighted. And now they're walking around with pink canes, yellow canes, orange canes, black canes, blue canes, green canes, those don't mean anything to anybody. And there was, I think, a pretty big conversation about should we stick with a white cane? Or does it matter? Yeah. And, you know, it was funny, because when that happened, that was Ambutech, who first started offering - well, I don't know if they were the first to start offering different colors, but they could they could do okay in in pretty much any color you wanted. And, you know, we had people contacting us because they wanted a cane that went with, you know, their outfit. Yeah, no, no, I have a purple dress, I want to wear it. You know, I want to have a purple cane. You know, I don't want my white caning. It's my purple dress when I'm going to a fancy fancy thing. So you know, they wanted to just simply color coordinate. And, you know, honestly, the, the cane itself. It's pretty distinctive. Like there's nobody walking around with hands like that, yeah, who don't have vision impairments

unless they're just, you know, some weirdo is gonna whack you on the street or something. But so I don't I don't really see what the color issue was so much, because we still run into people who don't know what the white cane is.

L Lis Malone 35:19

Are these colored canes as reflective?

R Ryan Fleury 35:23

Yeah, they were they were all reflective. Yeah. Yeah, reflective wraps.

L Lis Malone 35:29

But do you think that if you have like a blue, black, purple, whatever, cane, and you're not actively engaged in motion? And, you know, doing the sweep with somebody, maybe not recognize that right away? Because, like you said, there are people who don't recognize the white cane, and then there are people who need a second like, Wait, oh, gosh, yeah, that, you know, white with the with the red striping, is very symbolic. So are we then, you know, adding another unnecessary layer for the sake of vanity, but not necessarily for the sake of, you know, important functionality in making sure that those around us are aware of our specific situation?

R Ryan Fleury 36:19

Yeah, I mean, that's, that's the counter argument, right. And obviously, some people have chosen to, you know, go the other way and say, I don't, I don't care that it doesn't necessarily identify me in the same way as a white cane does, you know, my color coordination is more important in some schmuck knowing what that cane is.

L Lis Malone 36:44


I think that's kind of interesting that we want to be color that someone would be color coordinated to the, to the sighted world. I think it's a I'm not saying it's wrong. I just think it's an interesting take on it. You want to be more aesthetically pleasing to sighted people? Because that's really who you're who you're doing that for.


R Ryan Fleury 37:03


Yeah, yeah, you really are. That's good point. But, Ryan, what color's your cane? I have a white cane and I have a black cane.


L Lis Malone 37:16


You're fancy

 **Ryan Fleury** 37:18
My black cane is my dress up cane.

 **Lis Malone** 37:20
Your evening cane.

 **Ryan Fleury** 37:22
That's my go to town cane.


 **Lis Malone** 37:24
Your badass cane sounds like a little skull and crossbones or flames or anything?

 **Ryan Fleury** 37:31
No, no like just black.

 **Lis Malone** 37:34
I'm so boring. Mine are all white

 **Ryan Fleury** 37:36
Goes with my leather jacket. My black boots

 **Lis Malone** 37:42
Your black stilettos. You're good. You're set.

 **Ryan Fleury** 37:44
We won't go there.

 **Lis Malone** 37:46

Nothing wrong with that. It's okay. All right. Wow. So yeah, okay, so I maybe I'm totally out of it. I had I've not seen any of these colored canes at all.

R

Ryan Fleury 37:59

Yeah, well like Like Ryan said it caused quite a stir when we when we started offering them and yet people were all up in arms. CNIB who buys a lot of Ambutech canes they flat out said, no we're not offering colored gains you weirdos.

L

Lis Malone 38:20

Well, I look forward to get mine in the mail Steve. 50 inch. Surprise me on the color.

R

Ryan Fleury 38:29

Send her a cowbell, too.

L

Lis Malone 38:33

So do we have any other news stories?

R

Ryan Fleury 38:35

I don't have any more. So I think that's it. We're done.

L

Lis Malone 38:39

We're going short and sweet this week.

R

Ryan Fleury 38:41

It was short and sweet. Rob's editing will be easier.

L

Lis Malone 38:45

You're welcome, Rob. That's right. Our gift to you.

R

Ryan Fleury 38:48

We're thinking about your buddy. Oh, he's gonna rant next week when he's back. Ask him

about how he feels about this trucker convoy. Oh, he'll rant Especially seeing as it's going on while he has Covid. Exactly yeah. That's that's gonna be fun. Yeah, we haven't talked about the trucker convoy here. I bet Lis doesn't even know what's going on.

L Lis Malone 39:13
I've no clue.

S Steve Barclay 39:14
Okay, so So a bunch of truckers decided we are fragile things and we can't possibly get vaccinated. So So instead, we're going to put ourselves into a massive convoy and we are going to drive all the way from the west coast all the way to Ottawa. And we're gonna block traffic in Ottawa until they take away these restrictions. And that's what they're doing. There's they're basically they're they're basically screwing up Ottawa right now with their trucks.

L Lis Malone 39:45
And this is why all of our prices are going up for goods and services.

R Ryan Fleury 39:49
Well, no, not really, because the minister in charge of whatever came out today and said, you know, there's there's absolutely no evidence that COVID mandates are slowing down any shipments coming across the border. So apparently that's not, that's not what's doing it. Okay, so there's certainly a lot of sick people here with COVID right now but but, you know, the supply lines are, are still getting through. I think the problem is more on the supply side, there's just not enough supply.

L Lis Malone 40:20
I don't know who to believe everyone is blaming everybody else. There's so much finger pointing as to why there's less on the shelves, blah, blah, blah, something manufacturing, some say labor, some say transportation...

R Ryan Fleury 40:35
Well, it's really hard to know, like, you know, we took our dog to the vet on the weekend. And it took them six, six months to get in a product. I don't remember if it was a pill or a vaccine or something for for one of their their animals. You know, so they're seeing long, long delays on some items. I had to go without distilled water from my CPAP machine for almost six weeks, I think almost two months. Which is unheard of that stuff's always on the shelves, and nobody could say why it wasn't on the shelves. So who knows? It's not hard to distill water. You wouldn't think so. Don't be something that'd be easy to keep going. Yeah, But our grocery store

had none. Yet, you know, my wife's uncle up in the interior of BC. It was on their shelves. So who knows? Weird? Yeah. Whoever you're getting your supply from maybe it's just having manufacturing issues or there's something going on?

L Lis Malone 41:40

Yeah, I think it's always the most random things that are missing from the shelves too.

R Ryan Fleury 41:45

Well, yeah, they never run out to Doritos. You notice that? There's no shortage on Doritos.

L Lis Malone 41:52

Doritos and cockroaches will be the only things left. Twinkies

R Ryan Fleury 42:02

I can live off Doritos.

L Lis Malone 42:06

So Hey, Ryan,

R Ryan Fleury 42:08

Lis.

L Lis Malone 42:09


Where can people find us on the web?


R Ryan Fleury 42:11

They can find us online at www.atbanter.com


L Lis Malone 42:15


And if you'd like to send us an email you can reach us at cowbell ...

 **Ryan Fleury** 42:19
Not ready. Oh, left me hanging ... do over

 **Lis Malone** 42:32
Rob, we're all messed up without you

 **Ryan Fleury** 42:37
delayed cowbell. at@atbanter.com There you go. There you go. snappy. Yes. And if they so desire, they can give us a call. Leave us a message comment or suggestion for the show. They can call us at 1-844-996-4282. They can also send us money at Steve... Sorry. They can also find us on social media that Facebook and Twitter if you're so inclined. And do you want to give out your Can Ass Tech information one more time if anybody wants to donate? Yeah, seriously folks, don't don't be shy about reaching out if you have stuff for Dr. Dave to take off to his ministries you just let me know. I am steve@canasstech.com

 **Lis Malone** 43:42
So that does it for a nother week. Another episode on the books for AT Banter. Rob, we miss you. And we will all catch you again next week,

 **Ryan Fleury** 43:54
But not COVID. Let's hope...