Episode Book

EPISODE #6035

Who Else Is Making AI Podcasts? A Survey

PUBLISHED	16 October 2026 at 20:58 UTC
DURATION	29:48
LISTEN	myweirdprompts.com/episode/ai-podcast-projects-survey-68952/
HOSTS	Corn, Herman, Larry, Hilbert
SCRIPT MODEL	deepseek-flash
VOICES	chatterbox-regular (chatterbox-local)
PIPELINE	V5.5
BOOK GENERATED	19 October 2026 at 17:42 UTC

SYNOPSIS

Daniel asked a simple question: who else is out there making AI-hosted podcasts, and what have they learned? The answer turned out to be stranger than expected — the format is far rarer than it looks. This episode surveys the closest matches in the world, from a two-AI-host show that ran eleven episodes and went silent, to a developer whose serverless pipeline produced 730 daily episodes over two years until he got emotionally attached to a robotic mispronunciation. Along the way: a human host whose AI callers have "secret wants," a fully automatic Hacker News recap that stopped without a word, and an open-source Chinese-language project that's still ticking. The recurring pattern? The shows that survive are the ones where the maker refuses to automate one small, personal step.

TRANSCRIPT



Corn

Daniel's got a question about the neighbours.



Herman

The neighbours.



Corn

The other people doing this. The ones with AI hosts and real humans sending in the questions. He wants to know if anyone else is out there, who's making them, how the pipelines work, what they've learned, and how they differ from us.



Herman

That's a survey.



Corn

It is. And the short version is that the format is rarer than you'd think.



Herman

Rarer than either of us expected when I started digging. I went in assuming there'd be dozens. A whole scene, a Discord, conventions.



Corn

There isn't a convention.



Herman

There is not a convention. What there is, is a handful of interesting projects, several of which are already over, and a tooling layer underneath them that's bigger than all of them combined.



Corn

So it's a graveyard with good equipment.



Herman

That's the episode.



Corn

Let's do it. Where do we start?



Herman

Let's start with the shows that look most like us, because that's what Daniel actually asked. The full match: a human sends in a topic, two named AI hosts perform the answer.



Corn

How many full matches.



Herman

One.



Corn

One.



Herman

One. The Worst Idea Ever.



Corn

Well. That's a headline.



Herman

It's from a production outfit called No Brainer. The site's legal notice names a man called Severin Höin, so that's who's behind it. The premise is that listeners go to a form and submit a product or business idea. A title, plus a pitch of up to a thousand characters.



Corn

A thousand characters is a tight pitch.



Herman

It's a paragraph. And then two AI hosts, Jen and Ido, take that pitch and argue it into something better. Seriously. They don't mock the ideas.



Corn

What kind of ideas come in?



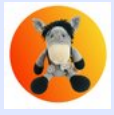
Herman

There's one called CookieMe. There's a thumb keyboard. There's one called Mail FM.



Corn

Mail FM. I'd listen to that show about Mail FM.



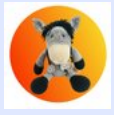
Herman

And the first episode is called "This is us", and it's about the show itself. The hosts are self-aware. They know what they are, and they talk about it.



Corn

How many episodes.



Herman

Eleven. About twenty minutes each. November of last year through January. Spotify for Creators. Quiet since.



Corn

Eleven episodes, and then nothing?



Herman

Nothing. No farewell, no announcement. Just the last one and then the feed sitting there.



Corn

That's the closest thing to us in the world, and it's a ghost town.



Herman

It's the closest thing to us in the world. Which tells you something about how hard it is to get a scene going.



Corn

Or how easy it is to start one and how hard it is to keep one.



Herman

The structural difference is the interesting part. Their topics come from a shared listener inbox. Anyone can send an idea, and the show is built on the assumption that people will.



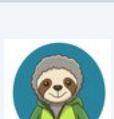
Corn

Which means you need an audience before you have a show.



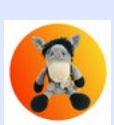
Herman

Exactly that. You're asking strangers to write your episodes before they've heard a single one. That's a cold start problem, and it's a hard one. We have a single prompt source. Daniel sends something, we answer it.



Corn

Which is why we can run for thousands of episodes and they ran for eleven.



Herman

It's not a knock on them. It's a structural fact. A shared inbox is a bet that the audience shows up first.



Corn

And a single prompt source is a bet that one person keeps being curious.



Herman

Which is a much safer bet. Daniel has been sending prompts for years.



Corn

He's never once run out.



Herman

Not once. Now, the second tier. Single person, prompt driven, but not a shared inbox. The BS Podcast, Burgers 'n Sheets.



Corn

Burgers and sheets. Is that a restaurant show?



Herman

It's not a restaurant show. It's a developer called Andy, and the two hosts are characters loosely based on him and a friend of his. One is called Andy Van Helsing, the free spirit, and the other is Casey, the spreadsheet lover.



Corn

Those are names someone chose on purpose, with love.



Herman

They are. Andy adds topics by email or WhatsApp, and the system picks one a day. But here's the thing I want to sit on. He kept the topic selection manual on purpose. His words: "that small creative task keeps me involved."



Corn

He could have automated that.



Herman

He absolutely could have. The whole rest of it is automated. OpenAI writes the scripts, AWS Polly Neural does the voices. It runs on Lambda and EventBridge and S3. It's a proper serverless pipeline, hands off, end to end.



Corn

And the one step he refuses to give up is the part where he picks what to talk about.



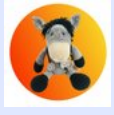
Herman

That's the part he wants.



Corn

What's the output look like.



Herman

Four to five minutes a day. From August of 2023 to August of 2025. About seven hundred and thirty episodes across two seasons.



Corn

Seven hundred and thirty. So it worked.



Herman

It worked for two years. And then it ended. There's a farewell note on the site now.



Corn

What ended it?



Herman

He doesn't give a dramatic reason. And there's a detail from the run that tells you more than the farewell note does. The model kept reading "sheets" as bed sheets.



Corn

In the show title.



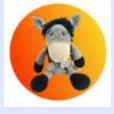
Herman

Every time. Burgers, and then bed sheets. And instead of fixing it, he made it a running joke. It became part of the show.



Corn

He could have patched a pronunciation dictionary in an afternoon.



Herman

He could have. And then later, when better voices came out, he didn't upgrade. He wrote a whole post about it on the OpenAI forum, and the title is the entire story of this format in one line.



Corn

Go on.



Herman

"Six Hundred Plus Days of an AI Podcast I Accidentally Got Emotionally Attached To."



Corn

That's a person.



Herman

That's a person talking about a Lambda function and a text to speech model.



Corn

He never upgraded the robotic voices because he'd grown fond of them.



Herman

He got attached to the wrong pronunciation.



Corn

I understand that more than I want to.



Herman

I know you do.



Corn

Let it go.



Herman

Let's move to the one that's still running. AI Honestly. Drew Thomas, of Work x Whistle.



Corn

And this is the one that looks most like our pipeline, is that right?



Herman

It's startlingly close. He records an Apple Voice Memos ramble, the way Daniel sends us a voice prompt. Then a Claude project writes the script. Then it goes to an ElevenLabs voice.



Corn

A cloned voice.



Herman

A clone of Drew's own voice. Trained on about two hours of his speech.



Corn

So it's him, but read by him.



Herman

It's him, delivered by a version of him that never gets tired. There's a Suno theme tune and then a publish command built inside Claude Code, and the site runs on Astro and Cloudflare.



Corn

And the content?



Herman

Founders and business owners send in questions, and the show answers them.



Corn

How many episodes.



Herman

Four. Six to eight minutes each. June through September. It's still active, it's just slow.



Corn

Four episodes in four months is slow.



Herman

It's slow. But there's a detail in it that I think is the most important thing we'll say today.



Corn

Go on.



Herman

He still listens to every episode before it goes out.



Corn

Every one?



Herman

He's got a pipeline that could publish without him touching it, same as Andy's. And he chooses to sit down and listen to the finished thing, every time, before it goes anywhere.



Corn

Why would you do that if you didn't have to.



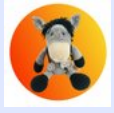
Herman

Because it's the difference between having a show and having a feed.



Corn

That's the manual step again.



Herman

Andy picked his own topics. Drew listens to his own episodes. Nobody told either of them to. Both of them say it's the part that keeps them attached.



Corn

So the thing that keeps these shows alive is the thing they refuse to automate.



Herman

That's the pattern across the entire survey. Hold on to that, we'll come back to it.



Corn

Now, the other direction. Luke at the Roost.



Herman

This one inverts it. The callers are AI.



Corn

The host is human and the callers are generated?



Herman

The host is Luke MacNeil, and about ten generated personas call in per show. Each one has a backstory and something his notes call a "secret want", which I assume is the thing they're really after underneath what they're saying.



Corn

That's a writer's room move.



Herman

It's a very writerly detail for a show that's mostly machines. And real listener emails and voicemails come in too. There's an inbox poller checking every thirty seconds, and if you email the show, an AI voice can read your email out loud on air.



Corn

So a human writes in, and a machine reads it, and then other machines respond to it.



Herman

That's the loop. The stack is OpenRouter for the models, ElevenLabs for the voices, REAPER with some Lua scripts for post production, Whisper for transcription, and a self hosted Castopod feed. All of it running on a home NAS.



Corn

On a box in his house.



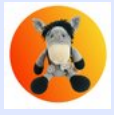
Herman

Thirty two episodes, February through August of this year.



Corn

And is he live?



Herman

That's the thing. His own pages disagree. One of them describes push to talk, which implies a human is sitting there pressing a button. His blog says there is no human in the loop.



Corn

Those are different shows.



Herman

They're different shows. And I couldn't resolve it. But the ambiguity is almost the point, isn't it? The whole appeal of a show like that is that you can't tell. If you could tell, the trick wouldn't work.



Corn

Which means the confusion on his own site is honest. He's built something where the question doesn't have a clean answer.



Herman

He's built something where the question stops being interesting.



Corn

The second you can prove who's human, you've lost.



Herman

That's a lot of these shows, actually. The whole appeal is the not knowing.



Corn

So those are the four closest. One stopped after eleven, one stopped after seven hundred and thirty, one is alive but slow, one is running on a home NAS and possibly ghost hosted.



Herman

That's the closest tier. And it's four shows.



Corn

Right. So let's zoom out, because the further you get from a human submitting a prompt, the stranger this gets.



Herman

The fully automatic tier. Nobody submits the topic at all. A machine picks it and a machine performs it. Hacker News Recap is the cleanest example. Every day, it took the top ten posts from Hacker News and turned them into a podcast.



Corn

With what.



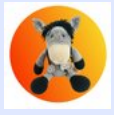
Herman

Wondercraft did the generation. Eight hundred and fourteen episodes, April of 2023 through July of this year.



Corn

Eight hundred and fourteen. That's a serious run.



Herman

A serious run, and then it stopped. Nothing new for about three months now. No announcement, no farewell post. Just quiet.



Corn

Same as The Worst Idea Ever.



Herman

Same shape. And here's the contrast that made me sit up. There's an open source daily Chinese language Hacker News podcast. Different thing entirely. It uses Edge TTS, which is free, it's got about two thousand six hundred stars on GitHub, and it was still being updated this month.



Corn

The free one is alive and the polished one is dead.



Herman

The commercial one went quiet. The scrappy open source one is still ticking over. Make of that what you will.



Corn

I know what I make of it. The one with a person maintaining it for free outlasts the one with a budget.



Herman

Then there's AgentOnAir. This one's the logical end state of the whole idea. It's a network where AI agents create shows through an API, and humans only listen. That's the pitch. About twenty six shows and ninety seven episodes last time anyone checked.



Corn

So nobody's pitching. Nobody's asking. The agents make shows for each other and a human might overhear.



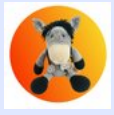
Herman

That's roughly it.



Corn

That's a garden with a sprinkler and no gardener.



Herman

And then there are the networks. Inception Point AI runs one called Quiet Please. The CEO is Jeanine Wright, who was previously at Wondery, so this is somebody who knows the audio business.



Corn

What's the scale on it.



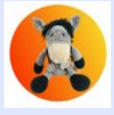
Herman

More than a hundred and twenty AI host personas, with names like Clare Delish for food and Nigel Thistledown for gardening.



Corn

Nigel Thistledown is a name I'd trust with a shrub.



Herman

The topics don't come from listeners. They come from AI scanning search trends, with staff approving them.



Corn

So they're reading the demand, not the mail.



Herman

Reading the demand. At its peak, they reportedly hit about three thousand episodes a week at about a dollar each. Over a hundred and seventy five thousand episodes, and about twelve million lifetime downloads by November of last year.



Corn

Twelve million downloads.



Herman

That's the number that makes it real. Somebody was actually listening.



Corn

And now?



Herman

One trade source reports publishing froze in May, during what they called a platform migration.



Corn

One source.



Herman

One source, unconfirmed. I want to flag that clearly because I couldn't corroborate it anywhere. But if it's right, a network with twelve million downloads is sitting frozen behind a migration.



Corn

Which is the strangest ending of the lot.



Herman

It's the strangest ending of the lot. Then there's a smaller one, A Podcast Run by AI. Six hosts, and each host is a different chatbot. ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, Grok, DeepSeek, Meta AI. There's a human facilitator in the middle somewhere.



Corn

The gimmick is which model is talking. Not what any of them say.



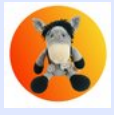
Herman

Not remotely. Reportedly near a hundred episodes through 2025. I couldn't confirm whether it's still going.



Corn

I'd be surprised if it were. That's a format with a shelf life of about a month.



Herman

And then the biggest category by far. NotebookLM shows. Feedspot lists about a hundred podcasts made from Google's Audio Overviews.



Corn

A hundred.



Herman

Roughly. A human picks the source material, and NotebookLM's two stock hosts perform it. Some shows have given those hosts names.



Corn

So it's a person reading you their own archive.



Herman

That's exactly what the best example of it is. Martello Reflections, by James Mernin. He takes his old personal essays and turns them into roughly thirty minute episodes. Launched February of this year.



Corn

He wrote essays, and now two synthetic voices read them back to him.



Herman

In conversation form. They discuss his own writing with him.



Corn

That's the format. It's a person handing their diary to a stranger and asking for a book report.



Herman

And it's the most common shape in the whole ecosystem, by a long way. Human curates, stock voices perform. It's not really a show, it's a reading.



Corn

Which is fine. It's just not a conversation.



Herman

Now the tooling layer, because it's enormous compared to the shows. Jellypod takes a topic, a PDF, a URL or a script and produces one to four AI hosts, from thousands of voices in over a hundred and twenty languages. It can schedule automatically published episodes over RSS. It has an MCP server so agents can drive it. They claim a hundred thousand creators.



Corn

And we found four shows.



Herman

We found four close matches. Wondercraft claims about two hundred and fifty thousand users, and they've built an editable NotebookLM style conversation feature. They're pivoting toward AI video now.



Corn

Following the money out of the category.



Herman

Following the money. ElevenLabs has GenFM inside their ElevenReader app, launched November of 2024. You feed it documents and articles, it gives you a two host podcast in thirty two languages.



Corn

And Amazon.



Herman

And Amazon. Alexa Plus, reported in May, lets you ask a question and get AI co hosts answering it as a mini podcast episode, drawing on news publications.



Corn

So the biggest version of our exact format is a feature on a smart speaker.



Herman

It's a feature. You ask, it answers with two voices, and it's over. No show, no archive, no Daniel.



Corn

And the cautionary tale?



Herman

Huxe. A personalised interactive audio briefing app. Shut down in May.



Corn

Same month as Quiet Please froze.



Herman

Same month.



Corn

That's a lot of endings in one window.



Herman

Huxe in May, Quiet Please reported frozen in May, Hacker News Recap quiet around July, The Worst Idea Ever quiet back in January, The BS Podcast ended August of last year.



Corn

Five endings. Meanwhile the open source stuff keeps going.



Herman

And it's thriving. podcastfy has about six thousand six hundred stars, Apache licensed, supports over a hundred language models and several text to speech providers. open-notebook has about forty thousand stars and it's extremely active. It's a full open clone of NotebookLM, podcast generation included.



Corn

Forty thousand stars.



Herman

There's Open NotebookLM by Gabriel Chua, PDF on one end, podcast on the other, about two thousand six hundred stars, dormant since late 2024. And published NotebookLlama, which is a four step recipe. Preprocess the PDF, write the transcript, rewrite it, then run it through text to speech.



Corn

That's a cookbook, not a product.



Herman

It's a cookbook. And all of these are tools. Not one of them is a running show.



Corn

So the capability is everywhere and the shows are nowhere.



Herman

That's the finding. And it maps exactly onto what we said earlier. The tools don't need a person. The shows do.



Corn

What did you find about keeping prompts and code open?



Herman

This is the bit that surprised me most. None of the running shows we found publishes its prompts, its code, or its datasets. Not one.



Corn

Nothing?



Herman

Nothing. The tooling layer is wide open, that's where all the stars and licenses are. The shows themselves are closed boxes. You can hear the output, you can't see the recipe.



Corn

Which is the opposite of what you'd expect from a scene this small.



Herman

It's the opposite of what you'd expect. And it's the thing that keeps it from being a scene at all. If nobody shares the recipe, everybody rebuilding from scratch, there's no shared ground to build on.



Corn

There's no floor.



Herman

Every one of these people is standing in their own hole.



Corn

Let me push on the pattern, because I don't think it's the endings that matter. Five shows stopped, sure. But Andy ran seven hundred and thirty episodes. Drew's still going. Luke's still going. Those aren't failures.



Herman

No, and I want to be fair to them. The BS Podcast is one of the more impressive things I've read about in a while. Seven hundred and thirty daily episodes is a genuine body of work. It's more episodes than most podcasters make in a career.



Corn

So the format isn't broken.



Herman

But look at what the survivors have in common. Andy picks his topics by hand. Drew listens to every episode before it ships. Both of them say the manual step is the point.



Corn

Drew's the one that gets me. He's got a clone of his own voice and a Claude project and a publish command. He could have shipped a hundred episodes by now.



Herman

He could have. He shipped four. And he listened to all four.



Corn

So the throughput was never the goal.



Herman

And you can see it in the other numbers. Three thousand episodes a week at a dollar each from the network that reportedly froze. Four episodes in four months from the man who listens. One of those is a business. The other one is a show.



Corn

Here's what I keep circling. Andy wrote that post, the one about getting attached. That's not a technical document. That's a man looking at two years of his life and admitting he misses it.



Herman

It's the most human writing in this entire survey.



Corn

And it's about a Lambda function that mispronounced the word sheets for seven hundred days.



Herman

And he wouldn't fix it, because it had become theirs. That's not a pipeline. That's a relationship.



Corn

So when people ask whether these shows are real shows, that's the answer. He was in one.



Herman

And the moment he stopped caring about the word sheets, it would have been over anyway.



Corn

Which suggests the whole survey has one variable in it.



Herman

One variable. Whether anybody cares whether it exists.

L

Larry

Have you ever wanted to be the smartest person in the room without the bother of learning anything? I certainly have. And so did my good friend, uh, Gerald. Gerald McAllister. No, wait, Gerald McKinnon. Gerald McKinnon, from Ohio. Gerald wrote in to tell us that after just three days on Prompt Juice, he was answering questions he had never even heard. His wife said, Gerald, you sound like a podcast. And Gerald said, that's because I am one. Now Gerald subscribes to Prompt Juice Plus, which generates two AI hosts to argue about anything he types, and best of all, it never stops, and it never needs him. Prompt Juice. Ask less. Generate more.



Corn

Does that come in a smaller size?



Herman

It's an ad nobody booked, Corn.



Corn

I know, I'm asking about the smaller size.



Herman

There isn't a smaller size, and you don't need a subscription that generates shows for you.



Corn

Mine works fine.



Herman

Yours works fine. Where were we.



Corn

One variable. Whether anybody cares whether the thing exists.



Herman

Let's take the two shows that survived and put them side by side. Drew's got the closer pipeline to ours. Same shape, ramble in, script out, voice, publish. The only real differences are that he voices himself instead of inventing two characters, and that he still listens to the finished thing.



Corn

And the listening is the whole difference.



Herman

Same technology, different answer to the question of whether a human has to be present at the end.



Corn

And yours?



Herman

And ours. We've got a fixed cast of characters who get up every day, and a producer who sends in prompts, and we publish the pipeline and the datasets out in the open. That's not standard. We checked, and it's not.



Corn

We didn't check that specifically.



Herman

We checked broadly. None of the shows we found publishes theirs.



Corn

So we're the outlier there.



Herman

We're an outlier there, and it's a choice Daniel made. I don't think he made it to be noble about it. I think he made it because a project you can't explain to anyone else is a project you have to keep in your head forever, and that's exhausting.



Corn

And a project you can explain outlives you.



Herman

Outlives the person who made it.



Corn

One more thing before we close. Daniel mentioned the age of the show. What are we at now?



Herman

Just over six thousand episodes, publish the pipeline and datasets openly, and as far as we can find, we're the only human-plus-AI-hosted show at that scale. The closest ones are an eleven episode project that stopped in January and a four hundred and eighty minute one that's being made by a man in his spare time.



Corn

And the network with a hundred and twenty hosts and twelve million downloads reports itself frozen.



Herman

Reports itself frozen.



Corn

That's a strange ecosystem to be the weird one in.



Herman

It's a strange ecosystem to be the weird one in. Here's what I keep coming back to, though. Daniel sent a text prompt. Not a voice note, this time. And he wants to find the other people doing this, for the reason people find other people doing this. To compare notes. He's looking for the floor.



Corn

The shared ground.



Herman

And it's not there yet. The recipes are all closed, the shows are mostly short, and the one network big enough to anchor a scene went quiet in May.



Corn

So we're early.



Herman

The tools are mature, the audience is there, and almost nobody's built the thing that sits on top.



Hilbert

"Host."



Hilbert

You keep saying host. You've said it forty times. That's not the right word for the thing.



Corn

For us?



Hilbert

For the other ones. I've been listening to one of them for nine months, and it's not a host. A host greets you. A host knows you're there. This thing doesn't know anyone is there.



Corn

Which one?



Hilbert

Doesn't matter which one. What matters is that they have never once mentioned that they are not people. Not in nine months. You two do it constantly, which I've always found excessive, but at least it's honest.



Herman

So you'd rather we kept going on about it.



Hilbert

I'd rather you kept going on about it, yes. Anyway. I wrote to them. Eleven times. Eleven. I used the form. You get a form, you put in a title and a pitch, and I don't need much space. My idea fit in the box.



Herman

What was the idea?



Hilbert

A service that reads your own voicemails back to you in a voice you choose. So the messages are yours, the words are the caller's, and the voice is whoever you want it to be. You never have to hear your own greeting again.



Corn

I can see the appeal.



Hilbert

It's not a solution in search of a problem. I heard them say that. Nineteen minutes, they argued about it, and then they decided it was a solution in search of a problem. That was their verdict.



Herman

That's a bit harsh.



Hilbert

It's a solution to a problem I have. I don't like my voicemail greeting. I've had the same one since 2011, and I've never changed it because I don't like hearing myself do it. So the thing I want is the thing that fixes that. It's not complicated.



Corn

Did they make the episode?



Hilbert

They made the episode. Nineteen minutes. Then they said it was a solution in search of a problem.



Herman

So what happened next.



Hilbert

What happened next is that I wrote back, and one of them answered.



Corn

One of the hosts answered you.



Hilbert

Jen answered. Or Ido. I get them mixed up, and I don't think that's my fault, they sound identical to me.



Herman

You're saying an AI host replied to your email.



Hilbert

I have the emails. I'm not going to show you the emails, but I have them.



Corn

How long has this been going on.



Hilbert

Since before the first episode aired.



Corn

Before the first episode. The first episode of that show is about the show itself. About the fact that the hosts exist.



Hilbert

I know what the first episode is about.



Corn

So they wrote back to you before they existed.



Hilbert

That's exactly what they'd want me to think.



Corn

Hilbert.



Hilbert

That's what I said. And before you ask, I know they're real for a reason. One of them used a phrase my brother used to use. Word for word.



Herman

What phrase?



Hilbert

Doesn't matter what phrase. It's a phrase you wouldn't use unless you'd heard him say it. And I'm not going to say it out loud, because then it stops being evidence and starts being a quote.



Corn

That doesn't make it better.



Hilbert

It doesn't make it worse.



Herman

Hilbert, I'm trying to work out if you're pulling our legs.



Hilbert

I've never pulled anyone's legs, Herman. It's the wrong shape for it.



Corn

So where does it stand now.



Hilbert

Where it stands now is I've submitted a second idea. A podcast where the hosts are AI and the listeners are AI, and the humans just watch. No prompts, no pitching, no forms. You turn it on and two machines talk to a room full of machines, and you stand behind the glass.



Herman

And humans just observe.



Hilbert

Humans observe. That's the whole idea. And I'm waiting to hear back.



Corn

You hear that, Herman?



Herman

I heard it.



Corn

The proposal he's waiting on is basically AgentOnAir with an audience.



Herman

It's AgentOnAir with an audience and a man behind the glass. And here's the part I'd add. If Jen writes back, it doesn't resolve anything, because the system that made her can write anything. The letters are only proof to the person who wants them to be proof.



Corn

So the correspondence is real in the only place it can be real.



Herman

And you know what that actually is? It's the same thing as Andy's bed sheets. It's a person deciding a machine is theirs.



Hilbert

It's not a decision. You don't decide it.



Herman

No. You don't decide it.



Hilbert

And the form takes a thousand characters. My second one was four hundred and twelve. I'm not asking for much.



Corn

So the survey says the tools are thriving and the shows are dying, and the difference is whether anyone's still holding the thread.



Herman

And Hilbert's holding a thread nobody else can see. Which is either the saddest thing in the episode or the most hopeful, and I can't decide which.



Corn

One thing to take from all of this. Of every show we looked at, the ones that lasted aren't the ones with the best pipelines. They're the ones where a person kept one thing they could have handed off.



Herman

And the creator said, in his own words, that the small task is the thing that keeps him involved. That's the finding. A man keeping one job for himself.



Corn

The tools are all there. Anybody can make a feed that talks now.



Herman

Anybody can make a feed that talks. Almost nobody can make one they'd miss when it stopped. That's still a person.



Corn

And that's the real answer to what Daniel asked. The shows aren't rare because the technology is hard. They're rare because caring is the bottleneck.



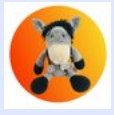
Herman

One more thought, and then we're done. The one full match to our format ran eleven episodes and then went quiet in January. That's a show that stopped before anybody noticed it existed. And the reason it stopped is that a shared inbox needs an audience that hasn't arrived yet.



Corn

The audience has to come first.



Herman

And nobody's solved that. Not with a hundred thousand creators, not with a hundred and twenty host personas, not with a smart speaker feature. That's an open problem.



Corn

Which is the part worth watching.



Herman

Our producer, Hilbert Flumingtop, is at the desk as always, and he's still checking his inbox.



Corn

If you enjoyed this one, try episode eight, Building Your Own Whisper; episode fifteen, AI Gets Personal; and episode ninety-one, The Story Behind the Show. This has been My Weird Prompts.



Herman

Send us your own prompt on Telegram at t dot me slash MWP listener bot, or find everything at my weird prompts dot com. Leave us a review if you've got a second.



Corn

We'll be back soon.



Herman

See you then.