Something I Learned Today:

5/28/2025 – I don’t recall where/why I first looked into this.

'Lorem ipsum...' isn't actually nonsense, it's slightly fragmented latin. It comes from a passage about hedonism by Roman philosopher Cicero. Some report that its use goes as far back as the 1500s, but there seems to be a lack of any actual evidence of that. The actual earliest evidence of its use seems to be somewhere in the 60s-70s. However, there doesn’t seem to be any reports connecting Lorem ipsum to Cicero’s passage until 1993 in a letter to the editor of the magazine ‘Before & After’, written by Richard McClintlock who holds a PhD in “Classics, Latin, Rhetorical theory” and was the director of Hampden-Sydney College Publications Office.

Here's the first sentence of the standard Lorem ipsum passage:

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.

This is the original passage from “*On the Extremes of Good and Evil”*:

Nemo enim ipsam voluptatem, quia voluptas sit, aspernatur aut odit aut fugit, sed quia consequuntur magni dolores eos, qui ratione voluptatem sequi nesciunt, neque porro quisquam est, qui dolorem ipsum, quia dolor sit amet consectetur adipisci[ng] velit, sed quia non numquam [do] eius modi tempora inci[di]dunt, ut labore et dolore magnam aliquam quaerat voluptatem.

And this is how Google Translate translates that passage:   
For no one despises or hates or flees pleasure itself because it is pleasure, but because great pains follow those who do not know how to pursue pleasure with reason. Nor is there anyone who wishes to attain pain itself because pain is a pleasure, but because not infrequently such times occur that one seeks some great pleasure through toil and pain.

Main sources:

Philippe Cibois (June 3, 2012). Lorem ipsum: new state of the question. World intelligence . Consulted on May 28, 2025 at <https://doi.org/10.58079/ptrd>

5/27/2025 – [Planet Money Podcast](https://www.npr.org/transcripts/1253043758)

Klarna, the “buy now, pay later” company, lost $99 million in the first 3 months of 2025 (double what they lost at the same time in 2024) due to people buying now but not paying later. Also, ¼ of customers of Klarna use it to buy groceries.

5/27/2025 – Neuroeconomics (2014)

Besides economics, I learned 3 words:

Profundity – Synonym to profoundness;

Askance – With an attitude or look of suspicion or disapproval;

Byzantine – (of a system or situation) excessively complicated, and typically involving a great deal of administrative detail.