# 🎙️ AI-Powered Podcast Summary

## 🎧 Suggested Episode Titles

- 1. "Is Major League Baseball Hiding a Dark Secret?

- 2. "From Japan to the Wild West: The Bourbon Adventure

- 3. "Minor League Baseball: Billion-Dollar Industry or Exploitation?

- 4. "The Ultimate Bourbon Quest: Pat's Japanese Whiskey Hunt

- 5. "Bartov, Bourbon, and Baseball: What's the Real Score?

## 🎬 Selected Podcast Clips (with Score Breakdown)

[26:14 - 27:06] I think I get what you're saying, but I think my, my thought process is, but if I'm a player, why, why sit out in that moment? If I'm, if, if I'm not looking to have a new contract signed, why wouldn't I just say we'll sign this contract next year? I'm not saying you're not trying to have it signed, but I'm not going to sign basically the market value contract at that point. It doesn't make sense for me. What do you think, what do you think they say? What do you think they say? What Ethan is saying, but what I'm saying is, but if you're sitting there and you're the Cincinnati Bengals, if you go and even are aggressive in that moment, and let's say you offer 36, 37, 38 million dollars a year at that moment, you have now outpaced Justin Jefferson by three and a half million dollars a year, who was the highest paid player in on quarterback at that point.

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| Metric | Score | Description |
| Final Score | 60.03 | Aggregated ranking |
| SEO Similarity | 13.92 | Boosts visibility |
| NLP Relevance | 9.28 | Measures topic alignment |
| Sentiment Score | 0.10 | Higher = more engaging |
| Keyword Score | 13.0 | Measures key phrase density |
| Stats & Figures | 12 | Mentions of numbers/data |
| Quote Score | 0 | Detects direct speech |
| Emotion Score | 0 | Exciting/emotional language |
| Rhetorical Score | 5 | Uses rhetorical questions |
| Length Bonus | 3.36 | Longer clips rank better |

📢 Hashtags: #TKB, #TheKnowledgeBar, #NFLFreeAgency, #TradeWar, #MinorLeagueBaseball, #ContractNegotiations, #SportsTalk, #BreakingNews, #TrendingPodcast, #EngagingDiscussion

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[32:49 - 33:34] We just don't know yet. And I do think the stuff about like Jesse Bates, the $12 million law, that's all garbage, like let it go. But the thing that I that I kind of wanted to get to, and I just want to ask you all one more question though, because the reason I got so frustrated about the Bengals is because there's like historic spending happening right now at the beginning of this free agency, like it's incredible how much money people are spending for kind of a shitty free agent for for a crummy free agent class. And question for you guys is this, do you do you two think that this is like a reaction or an overreaction to the Eagles model? Or do you think this is just where we live now? Because it feels like the Eagles a little bit like the Eagles the last couple of years have really gone all out and they've just said, we are going to spend the money. That's that's not true.

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| Metric | Score | Description |
| Final Score | 57.26 | Aggregated ranking |
| SEO Similarity | 13.85 | Boosts visibility |
| NLP Relevance | 9.23 | Measures topic alignment |
| Sentiment Score | 2.22 | Higher = more engaging |
| Keyword Score | 15.0 | Measures key phrase density |
| Stats & Figures | 0 | Mentions of numbers/data |
| Quote Score | 0 | Detects direct speech |
| Emotion Score | 5 | Exciting/emotional language |
| Rhetorical Score | 5 | Uses rhetorical questions |
| Length Bonus | 3.48 | Longer clips rank better |

📢 Hashtags: #TKB, #TheKnowledgeBar, #NFLFreeAgency, #tradeWar, #minorleaguebaseball, #sportsnews, #breakingnews, #podcastdiscussion, #engagement

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[46:16 - 47:05] So, you know, like, look, what's the upshot? Okay. If you're in the market for a car, you need to buy one like, like don't get a 25 model. That's for sure. That's the thing that I think is so crazy is that like I get people don't get it. Like the economics of this is pretty, if you don't really pay attention to it, it's pretty hard to grasp. But I think even at a really simplistic level, how are we not drawing the connection to the fact that things are going to get more expensive? Right. For you, we voted out a guy who is like a halfway okay president because shit was too expensive. And now she's going to get too expensive. It's going to get so expensive. And this boob stands up there.

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| Metric | Score | Description |
| Final Score | 55.45 | Aggregated ranking |
| SEO Similarity | 13.86 | Boosts visibility |
| NLP Relevance | 9.24 | Measures topic alignment |
| Sentiment Score | 0.38 | Higher = more engaging |
| Keyword Score | 12.5 | Measures key phrase density |
| Stats & Figures | 4 | Mentions of numbers/data |
| Quote Score | 0 | Detects direct speech |
| Emotion Score | 5 | Exciting/emotional language |
| Rhetorical Score | 5 | Uses rhetorical questions |
| Length Bonus | 2.74 | Longer clips rank better |

📢 Hashtags: #TKB, #TheKnowledgeBar, #NFLFreeAgency, #TradeWar, #MinorLeagueBaseball, #EconomicInsights, #BreakingNews, #CarShoppingTips, #PriceIncreaseAlert, #SocialMediaEngagement

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[14:34 - 15:42] Well, I know that, but I'm saying like, for example, the Dayton Dragons don't necessarily have to be the Reds minor league team. The Reds could say like, we don't want a team in Dayton anymore. We don't want to keep doing this. And the Tigers could come along and say, we want the Dayton team. Okay. So then my question would be like, are they independent organizations or are they not? I mean, they're independent organizations, but I'm talking about paying your players. They're the people that are going to eventually fill your roster. So yeah, maybe the team is not necessarily affiliated, like, and not incentivized to financially support that organization necessarily, but they are certainly incentivized to support the players that are trying to make it the players signed minor league contracts with the major league club. So I got that. I'm just trying to understand organization. And the point that you make is good. Like those are my players. They're just playing on your team. But I could also see where that resistance would come from from a big league club about being like, Oh, so what, wait a minute, what happens then if they decide they don't want that team anymore, do they take all the players?

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| Metric | Score | Description |
| Final Score | 55.43 | Aggregated ranking |
| SEO Similarity | 14.01 | Boosts visibility |
| NLP Relevance | 9.34 | Measures topic alignment |
| Sentiment Score | 1.10 | Higher = more engaging |
| Keyword Score | 17.5 | Measures key phrase density |
| Stats & Figures | 0 | Mentions of numbers/data |
| Quote Score | 0 | Detects direct speech |
| Emotion Score | 0 | Exciting/emotional language |
| Rhetorical Score | 5 | Uses rhetorical questions |
| Length Bonus | 4.24 | Longer clips rank better |

📢 Hashtags: #TKB, #TheKnowledgeBar, #MinorLeagueBaseball, #NFLFreeAgency, #TradeWar, #SportsInsights, #PlayerDevelopment, #BaseballTalk, #EngagementDiscussion, #TrendingSportsNews

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[34:09 - 34:41] But it kind of is because like I told you the only real free agent they brought in last year was SACON. And that's because the Giants totally shit the bed. Like SACON, Markley at 12 or 10 million a year, whatever it was that they signed him for is nuts. Like everybody was trying to get like the Bears were trying to get in on SACON on that, right? How we just made it made it happen. But like when's the last time the Eagles went out into free agency and said, I'm going to spend 20 a year over four for an edge.

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| Metric | Score | Description |
| Final Score | 55.08 | Aggregated ranking |
| SEO Similarity | 13.66 | Boosts visibility |
| NLP Relevance | 9.11 | Measures topic alignment |
| Sentiment Score | 2.11 | Higher = more engaging |
| Keyword Score | 9.0 | Measures key phrase density |
| Stats & Figures | 12 | Mentions of numbers/data |
| Quote Score | 0 | Detects direct speech |
| Emotion Score | 0 | Exciting/emotional language |
| Rhetorical Score | 5 | Uses rhetorical questions |
| Length Bonus | 2.10 | Longer clips rank better |

📢 Hashtags: #TKB, #TheKnowledgeBar, #NFLFreeAgency, #TradeWar, #MinorLeagueBaseball, #SportsTalk, #BreakingNews, #PodcastDiscussion, #EngagementBuzz

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## 🔍 SEO-Friendly Tags

podcast, interviews, storytelling, trending, discussions, expert insights, minor league baseball, NFL free agency, trade war, sports, podcast, Robert De Niro, Huckleberry Finn, James, Mickey 17, Marvel, Daredevil Born Again, TV series, recommendations, book review, movie review, podcast discussions, sports industry, tariffs, international trade, entertainment industry, adaptation, fantasy, television adaptation, character-driven stories, action-packed movies, popular actors.

## 📜 Full Podcast Transcript

This week on the Knowledge Bar, we dive into what the hell is going on with minor league baseball. The excitement or lack thereof surrounding the start of the NFL free agency. And then yours truly brings us back to reality with quite the dumbest trade war ever. No Pat this week because he's in Japan, but guess what? We barely noticed. Stay tuned. Welcome to the Knowledge Bar. I'm Alex. I'm Ethan. And I'm Chris. Sorry, I didn't say the tag line. That was... We're elevating Bartov. And we are bringing it up, y'all. You know what? Next time we'll make sure we say it. But for now, we're elevating Bartov. We appreciate you all joining us for another episode of the Knowledge Bar. We do want to remind you before we get started, please remember to subscribe, rate, drop us a five-star review, leave us a comment, let us know how it's going, and you can always find additional content at the Knowledge Bar. And if you have questions, comments, or you want to send in a topic that you want us to go over here on the pod, you can always email us at podcast@theknowledgebar. We're gonna get started with another fun episode here, fellows. But while we're jumping in, let's make sure everybody's got a drink in front of them. Let's do a quick, what are we drinking tonight? Chris, what's in the glass?  
  
Drinking a little Four Roses Single Barrel Barrel Proof. Pretty good. I love it. That's like one of my favorite bottles, to be honest.  
  
Yeah, and I got this bad boy added on a deal in Chicago for 99 bucks.  
  
99 bucks? Not bad in the wild.  
  
Yeah, in the wild. I remember when I got my first bottle of it at the distillery, and it was one of those, like, I asked the guy at the front, this was at the beginning before it really got crazy, and I was like, "Should I get it now or will it be there after the tour?" And he was like, "Get it now. Carry it with you, not a game."  
  
Ethan, what are you drinking?  
  
I have a Starman Pale Ale from Black Rocks Brewery, a little brewery up in Marquette, Michigan. Pretty solid. I've had a couple of beers from them now, took a couple camping with us on one of our trips last year. I remember and really liked them. So pick that up today and really enjoy it for sure. Sawed little brewery.  
  
And I am having a cocktail called Cut the Chase. This is a cocktail that I actually had at a bar and I'm trying to recreate it, but it's a milk-washed bourbon, ginger syrup, lemon juice, amaretto, and Peychaud's Bitters, and it is pretty fantastic. I haven't mastered it yet, I'm not a copycat at all the way, but I'm...  
  
Everyone's got a drink in front of them. We'll get ourselves started with "What's got you? Let's just jump right in. Ethan, why don't you kick us off this week, man?"  
  
So I also, for those wondering, Pat is in Japan right now. I couldn't even tell, totally just ignore it. We're gonna tell them. Wow, Pat, if you're listening, I'm your best friend. These are like the first thing you said when Chris was gone. You're like, "Hey everybody, calm down Chris, Chris is gone, but it's fine. Don't worry, we went right to the first segment." No mention of Pat. People are gonna realize quick, pretty quick, Pat's not here, when it's just anti-intellectualism from here on out. But yeah, everybody, Pat is not with us this week. It's just you get the three of us. Sorry, you're stuck with us. Or next week, next week, 'cause Patrick is on an adventure all the way around the world. He's in Japan for two weeks. He is posting, you probably saw on our Instagram, if you follow us, that he is over there just drinking all the bourbon that you can't find reasonably in the United States, and he's drinking all of it in Japan.  
  
He runs like a random liquor store and saw like ten allocated bottles. I was like, "Yeah, this is nuts." I know, well, he was really texting me about the Wild Turkey 12 that they only sell in Japan. That's what drove my absolute. You gotta bring this stuff back, and I gotta say, Pat normally, good track record here. Like when Pat was in Ireland, he went to Pat's a great traveler, he went to the Jameson place and he brought me a bottle of Jameson that you can't buy in the States, that they only sell at the distillery. So that's pretty tight, man. Yeah, wait, Pat, if you are listening, I want a bottle of Wild Turkey 12 year two, dude, like hook me up. You know, I like Turkey. Sorry, probably only room for one Ethan. What's got you?  
  
So I hate to bring back-to-back screw-ups that have gotten me pretty worked up in back-to-back weeks, but this has been something that I have been aware of in the past, and then it was kind of brought back to my attention this week, and it's the fact that Major League Baseball has a revenue of around $9 billion, billion with a B. That's a B. Seems low somehow. Doesn't that seem kind of low for a major sport? Like all 30 teams, the total revenues are $9 billion. Well, if you go check out episode 14, I believe we'll let you know how baseball is dying. It does look like that was for, but I mean, it's 12.1 billion. Now it looks like in 2024. So even more, of the point, okay, they do not pay their minor leaguers a living wage. Oh, yeah, I think I knew that though. How is this possible? These are people that are not given representation at negotiations. And then we have seen since about 1975, MLB salaries have increased by about 400%. Minor league salaries have increased just 75%. The lowest levels of the minors, if you were to work it out based on their typical 60-hour workweek, they make around $4 an hour to be baseball players for the end. This is they have to get part-time jobs. They have to do all these other things. They have to use their signing bonuses. They have to go deep into credit card debt to try and chase this impossible dream that they are on the cusp of. And we see that basically all it would cost to pay every single player in your farm system a living wage would be $4 million, which is basically the average contract for an average major league player. And you could pay every single person in your organization a living wage fraction of a percent. Yeah, it's ridiculous that this is even an issue. And it would contribute to a better quality product on the field. These guys who are one adjustment away, or who are just on the cusp of making it, but don't have any money could make it. And we would be better for it. These owners would be making more money and have more success. It's absolutely mind-boggling to me. And that's why it's not like a hot-button issue right now. But I can't figure out why because it seems like the most obvious thing in the world to do and they could do it with a snap of their fingers. Ethan, I just want to go back. Are you saying $4 an hour on a 60-hour workweek? That's the estimate of what I read that they make. So they're making only $240 a week. It's something like that. They make around $1,100 a month and then they get like $45 a game at one of the lower levels I remember seeing. Good God. Yeah, this, I don't know. And I don't know how it's not a bigger issue. I'm just telling you because I dropped the links in here for any, is that factoring in when the top prospects get paid out big bonuses on draft night? No, I don't think that is included. It's just the base minimum salary. So this is minimum salary because I was going to ask, does it vary by player like in the minor leagues, as it is in the big leagues where there are nice bonuses? But what I know from MLB the show and when I draft players, I'm like, hey, come be on my team. And it's like, no, you have to negotiate with them. Now I'm like, come on, man, I drafted you. Yeah, I think they get signing bonuses. And then there are I don't exactly know how it works as far as when you finally make it to the majors because there are things that have to do with service time and stuff like that. So I'm not exactly sure how that works. But this is basically what the vast majority of people at those levels are making. Is there a minor league players union? There is not. They are represented by the players' union but they are not given representation in that union and has never been a big push from the main players union to make this a bigger issue. I feel really ignorant but I have very little interaction with minor league baseball other than I watched Dragons games and saw Bull Durham. But like, I guess the question is like, what percentage of players actually get from the minors to the majors? In other words, how many of these players are like your Bull Durham minor league lifers? I'm just curious how often that happens. I'm not sure. Maybe you could pick that out. I mean, it's got to be a tiny percent of players that make it to the show. Because I'm just thinking about like you were talking about like these people who have this dream and they want to make it and I'm wondering what percentage of minor league baseball is lifetime minor league baseball players as opposed to what is the fraction of these players who actually have an opportunity to make it to the majors because they actually have the chops to do it. Well, I think the edge of it is players that are just filling out the league. Only about 10% of minor league baseball players ever make it to the major leagues. So 90% don't. But I imagine though that like most players, there's probably a shelf life, right? Like you can't pitch forever. So how long is the average minor-league player's career? League career? That's what I'm wondering. Yeah. Could it be? If you're only making $1,100 a month, at some point, it's like, well, if I'm not in the top 10%, I got to figure out something else to do. And not only is it not financially sustainable, but how long do you mess around in the minors at this kind of wage? At least guys on the practice squad in the NFL are making real wages, giving them a reason to keep playing the sport. The minor league seems to suggest that if the first couple of years don't look good, it might be best to cut bait and leave baseball. We're likely losing a lot of talent through that filter, which could otherwise enhance the on-field product, leading to a more diverse and better game with more feel-good stories. Investing more in the farm system could make the team and the overall league better, generating revenues exceeding $10 million annually. The Dayton Dragons, a Cincinnati Reds farm team, offers great fan experiences despite challenges in revenue generation, possibly due to not supporting higher-paying players. Minor league baseball teams are not inherently connected to a specific major league club and could potentially switch affiliations. However, it's crucial for major league clubs to support the players signed to minor league contracts, as they are the ones who will eventually fill the roster. I don't want that team anymore. Do they take all the players? Yeah, that's basically what they're fighting for, the players to fill out the roster. Owning a minor league baseball team sounds like it's tough, but there's a built-in safety net where it's hard to establish a team. So if the Reds want a minor league affiliate, they can call someone up within a couple of hours and send people back and forth. There might be competition from a team in Northern Kentucky, but they're incentivized to keep a regional affiliate. On the high single level, the Tigers have two or three different teams just in the state of Michigan, not to mention the players sent to California leagues. The Mud Hens are a Triple-A team. The differences in minor league baseball are unclear to me. I feel like this has become a lesson for me in minor league baseball. If you think about it, there's no incentive for major league reps to advocate for minor league players as the pot of money is finite. They need their own union or representation in the players' union to negotiate for them because it doesn't seem like anyone is. The minor league players are effectively not in the union, so they don't have specific representation to negotiate for their benefits. It's pretty messed up if you think about it. Baseball loses its romanticism when you pay people non-livable wages. It's rough, but thanks for the insight. Baseball is great, though. Moving on to sports, my mind has been consumed by the NFL free agency tracker since Monday.   
  
Before we dive into free agency, let's recap the weekend. Miles Garrett said he wouldn't play for his team for any amount of money, shutting down extension talks. LeBron James was rumored to have requested a meeting with ownership, only to be brushed off and told to talk to the GM. Less than 48 hours later, he was offered $40 million a year. The defensive end market seemed to top out at $35 million, with Max Crosby signing for that amount. It was a frenzied weekend with surprising developments. Market. And then immediately, the Browns were like, "Ha ha, no," says I. How about we clear it by five million dollars a year. And in a capped league, what are they? They have to, they have to pay 21 other players. It's incredible. I don't know how they're managing. And they have a hundred million dollars a year racked up into Deshaun Watson. I don't know how this works. It's baked in. They can't get out of it. It's baked in. They've already paid him. So in that weekend though, we got Myles Garrett. We got Max Crosby. So we got these two massive end contracts that I don't know that any of us really thought that we were in the mid-thirties with ends yet. Like, I think we were like, we're probably getting there, but not yet. So we got both those. Then we get the trade that sends DK to the Steelers. That sucks. I hate that. Which is now the most violent receiver core in the NFL. I don't know if it's the best, but it's certainly the most violent. They will lead the league in personal fouls easily. It's not even going to be close. There are two straight crazy people. They are nuts. They're crazy. Have you ever watched DK just go ape? You just lose his mind mid-game. He just loses his mind mid-game decides, "Oh, I'm not gonna play football anymore. I'm gonna fight you." And somehow, his new teammate is even crazier. Like George Pickens is a lunatic. The main where it was like Step Brothers and then got to meet each other. That was so perfect. "You have to call me dragon." "You have to call me." And I mean, DK is the crazy thing is that you would be like, "Man, DK is so much better for the field and the locker room than George Pickens is." And you know what they're saying? They traded for him and then they extended him at 33 million dollars per year. And they do not have a quarterback on the roster. They don't. Justin Fields is in New York. Russell Wilson is a free agent. Who is the quarterback? It's incredible. I've heard Aaron Rodgers. That's what the rumor is. But we're not going to know for two months because he wants to play games. I'm pissed DK's there, but please God, please sign your name. Please. That would be so awesome. My dreams come true. Do you two, and I think I know what to eat, that things do either of you think that Aaron Rodgers has any more juice? No, or do you just think it's clear? Because he does not. He had a worse year than Zach Wilson did last year. Did you see Zach Wilson sign another contract? Yeah. Good for him. Where'd he sign? Dolphins. Who cares? It's Zach Wilson. It does not matter. But this brings us into so all of this happens, right? And then free agency opens and historic amounts of money start being spent. The New England Patriots spent $280 million on the first day of free agency. They got everybody. And then I will tell you all what's really got me, which is we'll get to everybody else. But I have to sit here while historic spending is occurring with this sad-ass, poverty-ass, broke-ass franchise that is the Cincinnati Bengals. I don't understand. They don't think they signed anybody. What are they doing? We signed a few. Every single moment, everything gets more expensive. Everything becomes more expensive because now Trey's gonna want 35 at least. Trey wants 35 now. T ain't taking a dime less than 32 million dollars. Jamar's gonna want 40. He wants 40. What are you doing? Like, how many times do you have to let the waiting game kick you? And they could have had. I got to have. Do not agree with this line of thinking. Like, you guys could have had. Jamar said the rumors out of his camp were that Jamar Chase wanted 35 a year last year before he went and balled out of control. And then the Bengals said after the season, "I said, 'All right, we're ready for 35 a year.' And Jamar was like, 'Uh-huh.' And again, those were rumors. If you were Jamar Chase, what would be your incentive to sign that contract? Why would you sign it before the season started this year? Well, wasn't this his fourth year? They were trying to get a contract done. They wanted to sign an extension. But why would you sign that 35 million a year if all you see are record contracts going up, the market being reset again and again? Why would I sign my contract before I basically have to? You could get hurt. But that would all make sense. He sat out practices because he wasn't getting a new contract. So what would lead to negotiation contract? Contact. I understand it's a negotiation contract. But if I'm... darn it. It's a contract. It's a contract. You're negotiating a contract before the playing contract. I think I get what you're saying, but I think my thought process is if I'm... A player, why sit out in that moment? If I'm not looking to have a new contract signed, why wouldn't I just say we'll sign this contract next year? I'm not saying you're not trying to have it signed, but I'm not going to sign a contract at below market value at that point. It doesn't make sense for me. What do you think Ethan is saying, but what I'm saying is if you're sitting there and you're the Cincinnati Bengals, if you are aggressive in that moment and offer $36, $37, $38 million a year, you have now outpaced Justin Jefferson by three and a half million dollars a year, who was the highest-paid player in quarterback at that point. Now you're sitting here at $42 million a year, $5 million a year. You just cost yourself. You don't know that. That is a hypothetical situation. You do not know how those negotiations went. We always have rumors until we figured out that he was being offered $32 million. It was a very reasonable number. So who's the exactly? But that's what I'm saying. We don't know. So how can we say bingles, you dumb dipshits, you should have signed them before. We don't know that the player would have signed that contract because the player has the leverage there. Unless what you're telling me is why would he hold out if what Alex is getting at is he held out because he wanted a new contract? And if he was getting that offer, why would he hold out? I think what Alex is getting at, he held out because he said he wanted a new contract. And if he was getting that offer, why would he hold out holding out for it? I'm going to them and saying, basically, I want $45 million a year. You put me at $45 million a year. I'll sign it right now. If not, I'm going to sit out and not get hurt. Come on. Would call it $40 million, but call it whatever you want. Call it whatever the market is right now. Say that that's what his agent and his people projected as a market reset being. Why would I sign it then? So I get your point, but I think what I'm asking is, are you recommending or suggesting that Jamar is going to behave unlike any other player that's ever done this and that he's unlike any other? No, because you're suggesting that Jamar would not be willing to reset the market and that he would just, yes, you are because. What Ethan has said is I know what you're saying. You're saying, why wouldn't he know how we know he didn't demand $42? He knew that $42. No, no, wait, what he knew is he's going to reset the market before this year starts. No matter what, he knows I'm resetting the market. Right? He knew that. That's basically what he is holding out for. Right? So why would I sign it ahead of time before I have a slew of contracts that are going to reset the market for me? What incentive do I have to do that? No, the injury. Yeah, that's the incentive. Injury. Because you're not when the triple crown and I tear my ACL. Sure. That's why you sit out practice. That's why players sign the contracts. The logic and then the amount of betting on himself that would be is asinine. That's ridiculous to say. So if he got hurt last year, he's going to just sign what a $30-35 million contract and he's not going to be like, Oh, Jamar Chase isn't a wide receiver anymore. It's the NFL. Like what happened to Brandon and I, like, I understand. And look what happened. I mean, Chris, I have no problem. And again, we don't know. This is all hypothetical. I'm just saying that the flat out assumption that the bingles are wrong. I can be completely wrong. Again, I don't know the answer, but I do not think that it's fair for us and I don't think people should get so worked up and say, well, the bingles could have had Jesse Bates for $12 million. No, they couldn't have because he was going to hold out and sign for more. It's not true. So that's where I think that there is more leverage on the player side that they're not being given credit for. And it's painting the bingles in a bad light. Again, I can be completely wrong. And the bingles could be a poverty franchise. Here's the deal. Here's the news. Based on Trey's offer, I think I lean a little bit more that they're being pretty reasonable. Well, here's the thing. If Jamar is willing to disregard the very real risk of injury, I mean, next year is the fifth year option, right? I'm not lying, right? Like, this is the last year without. Well, I mean, if he gets to free agency, it might be $46 million a year. Well, yeah, I don't think he's going to get to that. Like, I think that he knows he's going to reset the market here. So I think it's reasonable for him to. Be like, I'm going to bet on myself, and I'm going to wait until that market resets before I'm not going to be the market resetter. I just think I'm hearing you. I just, I think that's why I'm coming in like this whole disregard the injury, bet on himself to that level. Like, I think that's where I was coming from when I said, I think that is suggesting that this player is doing something that players have not done. It's just not how players have behaved. And the question that I would push on the Bengals is, and the reason I get mad at the Bengals is, how come everybody else gets it done? How come not the guaranteed money? I don't give a shit. He has billions of dollars. He owns an NFL franchise. Stick that up your ass. If you don't want to play at this level, sell the team and let somebody else do it. True. I don't have time for that bullshit. But my question, and like I said, that's why my push is like, I hear you. I'm not suggesting that the players don't have enough or don't have a lot of leverage. I am impressed by the offer they made to Trey. How come everybody else gets it done? And not them. I don't know that everybody else gets it done, but I do think that they don't get it done at the level that they have not done well in free agency. Oh, they had one good offseason in free agency that we're really hit on. And we took that to the Super Bowl. But I agree, they could do better. I just think that the blanket statement that people have been coming out with among the Bengals fan base is super reactionary. And I don't think, again, it could have gone either way. But I don't think it's fair to just be like, Troy, Katie, F\*\*k you, you guys suck. You guys aren't good at your jobs. We just don't know yet. And I do think the stuff about Jesse Bates, the $12 million law, that's all garbage, let it go. But the thing that I kind of wanted to get to, and I just want to ask you all one more question though, because the reason I got so frustrated about the Bengals is because there's historic spending happening right now at the beginning of this free agency. Like it's incredible how much money people are spending for kind of a crappy free agent class. And the question for you guys is this, do you two think that this is like a reaction or an overreaction to the Eagles model? Or do you think this is just where we live now? Because it feels like the Eagles a little bit. Like the Eagles the last couple of years have really gone all out and they've just said, we are going to spend the money. That's not true. And then we will either make the cuts or restructure deals we need. Yes, they had some. True. That's not true. The Eagles are not a big player this year in free agency. They only made one splat splash. That was Saquon. And that was at $10 million a year. Like that was a sweetheart deal. But last year, they resigned their guys. They signed AJ Brown last year. When you say Jaylen, you mean, you don't mean Jaylen Carter. Hurts. Oh, well, okay. But what, like they, what the Eagles model is, is draft and resign your own. But it's kind of not. But it kind of is because like I told you, the only real free agent they brought in last year was Saquon. And that's because the Giants totally messed up. Like Saquon Barkley at 10 million a year, whatever it was that they signed him for is nuts. Like everybody was trying to get in on Saquon on that, right? Howie just made it happen. But like when's the last time the Eagles went out into free agency and said, I'm going to spend $20 a year over four for an edge rusher? Who's a question? Who on that D line isn't an Eagles draft pick? Hey, I could be misperceiving you. Dude, this is what and this is the problem. I think that happens around here is everyone is so impatient with Brad Holmes because he plays it conservatively to say, Oh, we need to be like the Eagles. Howie's been the GM of the Eagles since 2010. They don't make, he has they do not make splashes. He recently, the biggest defensive addition they made last year was CJ Gardner-Johnson for like one year. He's not even on the team anymore. So like that's just not how they build. What Howie does is he stockpiles draft picks, spent them on the D-line and on the defensive side of the ball in general, lets the guys walk, the ones that he doesn't care about like Josh Sweat, and then he's going to get another third-round pick because of the Josh Sweat signing to Arizona, which he's going to spend on another D-lineman. He's drafting into the second and third string so he can let guys walk and recoup the comp picks. He doesn't trade his first-round picks almost ever. He's only traded one first-round pick in the last 10 years, and that was. For AJ Brown and that was the year when they had another first-round pick, Jordan Davis. What do you think? Same question. Do you think the overspending is a reaction, or do you think this is just where we're at now? I think it's where we're at because I think that NFL teams have seen the cap go up consistently. So players have seen the cap go up. Yeah. And the agents know for sure. So I think that's why we're living in this, and there's no indication that this train is slowing down at all right now. Yeah, the absolute best way and look like the Patriots are spending this kind of money because they have this kind of right like they had by far the most available cap in the NFL. It wasn't even close, right? It wasn't super. They have like 100 million on the cap. They were probably in danger of not reaching the cap floor. But like in this kind of moment with the cap going up every year but the rookie scale not necessarily adjusting at the same rate, you're actually incentivized to draft as much as possible because those are cost-controlled players for at least four years so that you have enough room in the budget for when you need to go out and pitch to like a unicorn free agent that is happening like players don't like say quite a bit. We just shouldn't reach free agency but like Joe Shane doesn't know what the heck he's doing. Did you see that he signed Darius Slayton, the receiver, for the same quantity as they gave him to Saquon when he gave it to who they’ve been trying to trade for the last four years or something like that. I feel terrible being a Bengals fan. If I was a New York Giants fan, if I was college basketball or something. Yeah, I just would watch football. If I grew up in Jersey, I would like I don't watch football. I guess I'm a Syracuse fan now. You know, I would jump off a bill. You made a face. New England had 17 million dollars more cap space than the next team, and they have and that's the Colt Davis project. They got Carlton Davis. They were a Carlton Davis contract more cap space than everybody else in the NFL that you just get that for free and then start to go. Yeah. The reason I asked the question is because like them, the Bears, there’s been a couple of teams like I think there were four teams north of like 200 million dollars in commitment. So on the first day of free agency, it was incredible. Yeah, the Bears spent a lot of money on the trenches too. They trade. They also made two trades. They traded for Joanna Jackson and Joe Tonny and then signed all in free agency. So the whole interior, their online is completely rebuilt. The Lions are really making the NFC North react to my dude. Yeah, stop the run. Well, anyway, NFL free agency has got all of my attention. I hate the Bengals and I'm pretty fascinated by all the money that's going around, but that's what's got me. Chris, bring us home today, man. What's got you? What's got me? I'm messed up about this like the, is it the dumbest trade war ever? Is it the dumbest trade war ever? Ramping up tariffs on Canada to 50% because Donald Trump doesn't like the trade deal that he negotiated five years ago? This is, it's bizarre. I've been doing my intentional best to not pay as much attention to this. What are the SparkNotes on what's going on right now? The SparkNotes are Donald Trump has got in his head that tariffs are good for the economy. And so he's levied 25% tariffs across the board on stuff coming in from Canada and Mexico. Those got put on pause temporarily because Canada said, hey, we'll do what we committed to doing last year. It was really weird. They didn't actually move, but then those tariffs kicked in. So Canada, in response, has levied tariffs against the United States. They've been pulling bourbon off the shelves. That's the only good thing that's happened here. The bourbon's coming up. The province, one of the Doug Ford, the guy who is like the head guy that the chief executive in Ontario, Canada supplies electricity to some states, including Michigan, Minnesota, New York, a lot of electricity. Do you have a place like New York and in the Northeast? He's increasing. He's like, I'm going to increase the price by like 25%. And I’m going to shut it off if you really push me, right? Now he since temporarily said, oh, I'll come to the negotiation table. But like, why would he bid against yourself? Like, no, nothing has changed since last year. So the reason why I'm ultimately messed up isn't because this is dumb. I mean, it is dumb. But like, I'm kind of messed up about what might happen in this particular region. The through line here behind the tariffs is basically, yes, we know it's expensive for companies to bring things over the border. So they'll be incentivized to keep things in the United States. So they'll take that money, invest in American companies and American suppliers, and make more of the car or the house or whatever, building manufacturing in the United States. But okay, so here's why that's dumb. Here's why that doesn't work. If there were a lower-cost option to build the car in the United States, American automotive would be building the car in the United States. The supply chains between American auto, Canada, and Mexico are hyper-efficient because it's an economy of scale, right? Every penny is like millions of dollars in profit. So everything has been hammered out, hammered out, hammered out. And so they've been building and optimizing the supply lines through Canada and Mexico for decades. What happens is some of these parts that cross these borders multiple times. For example, Ford is the major brand and a subsidiary brand is Lincoln. A lot of the parts in a Lincoln car are also parts that are in a Ford car. So, for example, we drive a Lincoln Corsair. It's just a gussied-up Ford Edge, right? It's just that I'm bougie and I wanted nice features, but like I could have saved some money and bought a Ford Edge; it's the same car. They don't make parts unique to Lincoln cars. Certainly, maybe some of the panels on the front, but internally, it's the same engine, the same leather, the same consoles, all the basic stuff that you don't see, the same windows, the same frame. What the automotive industry does is say, "Okay, I'm going to build this part using Canadian steel here. I'll bring it into the United States, add some more stuff here. And then, let's say it's a part for a sedan, maybe like a wire harness that's going to go in a sedan. Well, I'll ship some of these parts to Mexico where they can assemble the sedan for cheap. I need them to assemble the sedan for cheap because I can't sell the sedan for much money. If the only thing you do is bring all these jobs to the United States and American automakers were like, "Okay, we get the point. We're going to invest in American supply lines, buy American steel instead of Canadian steel, do all this stuff." The only thing you've done is made every single car in the United States more expensive. And the only thing you've really done is put American auto at a competitive disadvantage because for other car companies in Japan and Europe, they don't deal with this problem. For American auto, the thing that kind of worries me is how many factories are just going to halt production because we can't build certain lines of cars that can no longer compete in a segment. How many shifts have to stop? How many people get laid off because we can no longer compete in a hyper-competitive market? So that's the thing that kind of has me messed up, and people just don't get it. Certainly, GM understands it, but they're not out here explaining it to people. The average person just walking around like, "Well, don't worry, the job will come here. It's 3 percent unemployment. Who's really out here looking for work? It's pretty good right now." That's going to be a bit of a transition period that we're going to have to deal with here as we make America rich again. We're making America wealthy. The whole thing is kind of dumb; I don't know. It's got me messed up. I have family in Canada, and it's just stupid. The whole Canada 51st state thing is just like, come on, serious. So I don't know; it's just another one of those flooding the zone with stuff. Dealing with it on a day-to-day basis is difficult, especially something like this where the things that have been done, it feels like it's difficult to know what to do. But something like this, like how do I make an impact on tariffs? I guess call my senator. It's the executives' choice of what they want to do here; they have plenary power over the border. So, you know, what's the upshot? If you're in the market for a car, you need to buy one; don't get a 25 model, that's for sure. The thing that I think is so crazy is that people don't get it. The economics of this is pretty hard to grasp if you don't pay attention to it. But I think even at a really simplistic level, how are we not drawing the connection to the fact that things are going to get more expensive? We voted out. A guy who is like a halfway decent president because stuff was too expensive. And now it's going to get even more expensive. It's going to get so expensive. And this fellow stands up there, and the only thing he has to say to you is there's going to be a period of transition. Bro, dude, it's going to get a lot worse. Have you looked at your 401k or 403b recently? No, I don't even want to open it. Don't look at it. It's brutal. I mean, look, I'm not retiring anytime soon. But my God, if you were planning on retiring, that's the other thing. Forget it. Peter Doocy. Peter Doocy. Who's that? That's about as automatic as a person like him named Doocy. That's how much of an asshole he is. Peter Doocy was on Fox News and literally said, "Yeah, they want more people to retire, to shrink the federal workforce. But when the Dow has fallen 1500 points over the last three days, it's kind of hard to get people to retire. It's messed up. Yeah, it's crazy. I mean, we are plunging headfirst into a recession. And I'm like, when do I buy the dip? Like, where's the bottom here?" It can't be too much further down, right? No, it totally could. You do find yourself wondering that though. Is it really Amazon trading at 119? I started thinking the other day about how during the recession in 2008, we were pretty much clueless. We were 17 years old, clueless about what's going on. I don't have any money, but I'm thinking about it. And I'm like, man, this is what adults were doing in 2007, 2008. They were just looking for liquidity. Maybe I just get in here real quick, you know? Yeah. Like, what happens? Oh, you just look like you had a thought, man. Like you had something to say. Yeah, I don't know. No answers. I don't know, man. I'm just keeping an eye on some stuff, but these tariffs are so stupid. It's unbelievably stupid. Can we sue them, Chris, my attorney? Can we sue them? No, you're not my attorney. Even if I was, my advice to you is we cannot sue them. I mean, you could. You could let me think about it. This is not a legal podcast. If you wanted to be a real jerk and didn't mind spending some money to get your backside kicked in court and found an attorney willing to maybe suspend their ethics, you could file a frivolous lawsuit. I don't recommend you do that. Judges do not like that. So I'm not going to do that, but like, you could. All right, my attorney has said that we can't sue anybody. So I guess we're just going to have to deal with these tariffs. All right, fellas, well, live, get your maple syrup right now. That's crazy. I actually met somebody who makes maple syrup in their backyard. Oh, bro, if you want the hookup, Chelsea is one of her best friends. They make maple syrup, like, tap the tree. Tap it, like, yeah, like, out of a tree. And I just learned from this person that right now is the time. You go, find a tree right now, hammer it, tap in that sap, and collect its sweet. Apparently, when it's below freezing at night and then warm in the day, this is when the trees are ready for tapping. I don't like that idea at all. Well, lively conversation today, guys. But hey, nipples, can you milk me? Great movie. They don't make movies like that anymore. Kids don't know about it. Parents, the kids don't know. They don't. Even the second one wasn't that bad. It was pretty good. I liked the Fockers. Yeah, that was pretty good. Well, the third one was terrible. I don't even remember much about it. Little Fockers, right? Yeah. Do they have kids? Yeah, they have kids, and the movie is terrible because of the little Fockers. Hi, Jinx ensue. That was the style of making movies around that time. Hey, guys, check this out. I have an idea. Ben Stiller, Robert De Niro. Hi, Jinx ensue. Do you remember when Robert De Niro was only doing comedies? They were all terrible, like Bad Grandpa and stuff. Little Fockers was the beginning of that phase. And thankfully, that phase is over. Someone told Robert De Niro, "Hey, man, this is tarnishing your legacy." It was kind of funny how he's not a comedy actor, and then he was in 12 comedies, and people were like, "It's not that funny." It evolved, right? Because it started with Me to Parents. Like Me to Parents was the moment we were all like, is Robert De Niro funny? Yeah. Because he was just young. Like he was just Vito Corleone as a dad. Well, that's who he was, right? Young Vito. But then it kind of stopped working. The family comedy stopped and all those old guys got into doing the family comedy for that. Like Eddie Murphy was doing it and Robin Williams was doing it. And like it just wasn't going well. And then Robert De Niro was like, I'm going to kick it up a notch and do "Dirty Grandpa." And everybody was like, okay, maybe that's the line that we found. That's the line. I never saw it. I never saw it. It didn't do well. I've seen it. It has moments that are actually pretty hard. But it's all just based on the fact that Robert De Niro is just saying absurd things. Like, wow, Robert De Niro said that. Yeah, like Robert, you can't believe Robert De Niro said such a thing. Anywho, enough about Robert De Niro. We have to wrap up and let's get on our way. But before we do, we have time for just one more fellas. Let's leave everybody with a recommendation and Ethan, kick us off. This is my just one more. It's been a pretty popular book over the past year. A lot of people have been recommending it. I will throw my hat in the ring as well. It is "James" by Percival Everett. I didn't remember if it had been recommended because he was talking about it with me. I couldn't... I went to look through the notes to see if it had been recommended, but I didn't see it yet. So I did want to... If it has, again, a lot of people have been recommending this book, and I really, really enjoyed it. If you're not familiar with it, it is a retelling of the adventures of Huckleberry Finn through the point of view of Jim. James, the titular character, and it is excellent. It kind of splits off from Huckleberry Finn a little bit, which I wasn't expecting, but the way that they handle everything and it kind of addresses one of the big issues that I personally had, and I'm sure that has been a big issue with Huckleberry Finn, that's the way that Jim talks. And I think that is addressed in such an intelligent way. It is portrayed so well throughout the novel. It was very interesting to see all the different ways that... and there's a huge twist that kind of gets dropped in there as well. "Chill, chill, just telling yours twist." There's a huge twist that gets thrown in there. I mean, can't tell people there's a twist. That's... then you've ruined it. Now we know there's a twist. I'm gonna let you in on a little secret. Every story, there's a twist. There we go. But like I said, a bunch of people... this is a hugely popular novel, so I'm not necessarily saying anything different. But if you haven't heard of it and you haven't thought to give it a chance, highly recommend it. I also recommend "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." I thought it was an excellent, kind of fun adventure novel, very, very different than James, obviously. A lot more inward in that one. So much more. Aggressive. Yeah. I'm reading it as we speak and I looked at Ethan the other day and I was like, "When does it get good?" Like, you know, let's tell Ethan. I was like, "Maybe it's just because I suck and I'm not perceptive." I'm reading this book and we haven't started down the river yet. Dude, we are down the river. Like, we are down the river. I thought it was such a fun adventure about spoilers because the statute limitations went off and it's gone for spoilers. We already ditched the bad guys. Like, we're... I'm not getting it. I mean, maybe it's not for everybody. I absolutely loved it. I had a lot of fun with it. A little more inward in Huckleberry Finn than there is in a freaking straight out of Compton, bro. And I will say you do not need to read Huckleberry Finn before you read James to kind of get it and enjoy it. I do think it kind of adds to it, and it's fun to see where it kind of branches off and what they do with it, but it's definitely not required reading. James stands on its own really well. But I will say, even though I'm not like... in Huckleberry Finn, I'm on the 13-week waitlist at the library to get my copy of James so I can read it. It's a quick read. I reserved my copy the first or second week of January. Oh, I saw a copy of it at the bookstore, and I was like, "That's the perfect library book size because it's not super thick. Like, you can get through it. I got through it in a couple of days of decent reading, but it definitely is a quick history. It's probably about Huckleberry Finn size. It's a little less." All right. All right. Thanks, Ethan. Well, Chris, I'm going to recommend a movie. Chelsea and I had a little date night recently last weekend, and we saw "Mickey 17" with Robert Pattinson. Man, that was a good movie, man. So exciting. It's a good movie, especially I think it's particularly timely given the moment that we're in right now. So for those that don't know, \*Mickey 17\* is about a kind of a post-apocalyptic future where a very rich and charismatic politician convinces a bunch of people to get on a spaceship and travel to a new planet. And one guy who's struggling decides he's going to apply for a job to be expendable, which means that he's going to do. Stop telling me too much. You're getting mad at him. You're giving me your critical point. I mean, it's in the trailer. So I'll watch trailers. Oh, well, okay. Just shut up then. For those who don't know, Robert Pattinson plays the titular character \*Mickey 17\*. And basically does jobs that are dangerous because they can reprint him. Really good movie, really good commentary on politics and how we treat people, honestly. So had a good time. Funny story. I suggested it to Chelsea knowing that she doesn't really like sci-fi, and this is aggressively sci-fi. Chelsea saw the trailer and she said, "Yeah, let's go see that." I'm fairly certain, about 85% certain, the only reason she agreed to see it is because she still kind of had a Twilight man crush on Robert Pattinson. I think she's still team Edward. But thankfully it got her in the building and she had a good time. She liked it. That's how good the movie is that my wife, who doesn't really mess with sci-fi, likes this movie. I love it. And it's not because Robert Pattinson is sexy in it. In fact, she said, "Wow, this makes me just totally rethink all the sex appeal that I had about Robert Pattinson. Like, he's not sexy at all anymore to me." Still liked the movie. That's good. I'm looking forward to seeing it. I'm pretty excited. But for my just one more this week, I am going to tell everybody that I started watching \*Daredevil: Born Again\*. Did you start this? No, not yet. It's good. Let's go. We're back. Maybe we're so back. I don't know that we're so back. I've heard that a lot from Marvel and it's not been going super, but I will say that I am enjoying it. I'm through the first two episodes and I do think that Marvel has these characters and pieces of this storyline that they're just doing really well. It's good to see them go back to something that was a little bit incomplete, but really just pick up right where it was. It's got that same greatness that the Netflix version had. I mean, they're bringing back the Punisher too. Charlie Cox could not be a more perfect person to play this. Get out of here, Ben Affleck. Did they bring back Foggy and Deborah Ann Woll? They did. They bring back Foggy and Karen Page. Karen Page. And they bring back Wilson Fisk. Through the first two episodes, they're very clearly setting up this one-to-one conflict. And I'm digging it so far. I'm really enjoying it. If you're like me, hesitant to get back into Marvel stuff because it hasn't been good lately, I'm really enjoying this and recommend that you watch it. Well, that's everything for us today, y'all. We appreciate you joining us for yet another episode of The Knowledge Bar. We can't wait to talk to you next week about the NFL Draft and all the crazy storylines this year. Did we decide we're doing the NFL Draft? Yeah, well, we want to talk about it. So we're going to do it without. No, but can't we do the draft preview? Oh, well, do we know when we're getting the beast? I don't remember when it comes. No, we have to get through all the pro days. All right, everybody out there. We're probably not doing the NFL Draft next week, but don't worry. It's coming up. So we're going to have something. We have to fulfill Chris's need to have a full nerd episode about the NFL Draft. We can't wait. But we will be back next week to talk about more fun stuff. Until then, please don't forget to subscribe, rate, comment, drop us a five-star review. Let us know how it's going. You can always email us if you have questions or if there's something that you want to talk about at podcast@theknowledge.bar. All of our recommendations and cocktail recipes and everything can be found in our show notes. We want to send a special shoutout to Ethan for producing and editing all of our podcast content. And until next time, y'all, we hope that you talk to your friends and have a good one. Cheers. Cheers.