

Deadair Dennis ([00:00](#)):

Thank you so much for downloading this episode of So What Do You Really Do? The podcast where I speak to artists and entertainers about their day jobs and on the podcast today is from The Daily Show, comedian, satirist, actor, playwright and really nice guy, Lewis Black. He may not seem it because he's angry and rants, but he could not have been nicer in our interview. This is another interview that came up about because of my work with DigBoston. His people reached out to me cuz they wanted to help promote his show March 11th at the Emerson Colonial Theater, pick up tickets at EmersonColonialTheater.com. Real quick, before we get into the episode, though, we do have a sponsor and today's sponsor is Word of the Day with Comedians, a brand new podcast that I have. It's my own podcast. I'm sponsoring my own podcast with my other podcast.

Deadair Dennis ([00:50](#)):

Anyway, Word of the Day with Comedians is a daily weekday podcast where me and another comedian get together. We pick a word, we define it, we make fun of it, and then we try to create the most absurd funniest sentence using that word in context. I guarantee you, it is the funniest way to expand your vocabulary. You can check it out on YouTube, iTunes and Spotify. By searching for Word of the Day with Comedians, the, "with comedians" part is very important to the search engine optimization. So word of the day with comedians, or you can go to deadairdennis.com and click on Word of the Day with Comedians.

Deadair Dennis ([01:31](#)):

And of course, if you're listening to this podcast for the first time, or if you're gonna listen to Word of the Day with Comedians for the first time, I would really appreciate it if you would like, subscribe, comment, do all those things. If you're having a good if you enjoyed my conversation with Lewis Black, please tell people about it. The best way to help me and to help the people that come on this podcast is just to tell other people about it. You do that in the comment section of your favorite podcast app or in person to somebody's face, preferably while wearing a mask. If you still need to do that. Anyway, about the podcast, Lewis and I, we, we talked on the phone and all my technology worked this time. If you listen to the Jim Jefferies' episode a few weeks ago, you will know that I had a tech error that I was not happy about.

Deadair Dennis ([02:15](#)):

And I appreciate everyone who's listened to the podcast and sent me messages saying, look, it sounds fine, stop worrying. If I could stop worrying, then I wouldn't be in the situation that I'm in most of the time. Telling me to stop worrying is like telling the sun not to rise. That's just one of those things that I do. But anyway, it was very nice of... I enjoyed all the private messages from people about it. And I'm glad everyone enjoyed that conversation and all my previous conversations. And if you're here for the first time, I'm glad that you're here and that you're gonna enjoy my conversation, comedian and actor and playwright Lewis, black.

Lewis Black ([02:55](#)):

Hello,

Deadair Dennis ([02:56](#)):

Good afternoon, Mr. Black. This is Dennis from DigBoston in the podcaster. What do you really do? How are you today?

Lewis Black ([03:03](#)):

Oh, just delightful. Really? Like like the winter to keep going. I'd like there to be more problems behind the problems. I'd like to, I'd like to know what's stacked up next. I'm behind. I really it's just beyond belief. It's just, it's really beyond belief.

Deadair Dennis ([03:27](#)):

Oh, okay. Well well you got a lot of these interviews,

Lewis Black ([03:31](#)):

But otherwise, otherwise I'm great. I'm just great.

Deadair Dennis ([03:34](#)):

Other than, you know, impending dread and doom, everything's fine. Just living the nightmare.

Lewis Black ([03:40](#)):

Everything's just great.

Deadair Dennis ([03:42](#)):

Do you have a lot of these interviews to do today?

Lewis Black ([03:45](#)):

No. There was just one this morning and then I saw my shrink. So I'm really prepared to talk to you.

Deadair Dennis ([03:51](#)):

Perfect. Excellent. And by the way, I with... Let's talk about this, let's open up with this cuz it a super current, but also I feel like you have a interest perspective on it because if I remember correctly, you're a descendant of Jewish Russians. So the situation going in Ukraine right now as both a political satirist and somebody whose heritage is from there, how is that going for you?

Lewis Black ([04:17](#)):

Well, we left didn't we?

Deadair Dennis ([04:20](#)):

There's a reason for it. I'm sure. Okay.

Lewis Black ([04:22](#)):

I mean a long time ago because they were coming after us. So there was a thing called pogroms and we got outta there in the early 1900S. But my grandparents fled, so really you know, never really rooted for the team.

Deadair Dennis ([04:45](#)):

Oh yeah. See, I did not, I forgot about the math because you're 72. Right? And your mother's a hundred. So I didn't do the math of early, early 1900S. I was thinking like,

Lewis Black [\(04:56\)](#):

Oh yeah. They came over way, way early.

Deadair Dennis [\(04:58\)](#):

Yeah, I was just in my head thinking like Ellis Island days, or something like that, but I forgot that your family goes, your family heritage just goes a lot farther back right now.

Lewis Black [\(05:06\)](#):

Well, it's not, it, it really is the early 1900s where they kind of rolled in, you know, after wandering about a bit.

Deadair Dennis [\(05:13\)](#):

And talking about current subjects and stuff like that, is it, do you find it difficult to keep up with a fast paced new cycle that we're at? Like things we just blow through so quickly? What different stories are going on? Do you feel it it's difficult to keep up with and stay current?

Lewis Black [\(05:30\)](#):

I don't really, you know, I mean, it's like I work on my, I kinda work on my act, which is at this point is my only my is my act, which is not, which is only somewhat, I do some current things and I do this thing called the rant is due, which takes place afterwards where in front of the audience. So when I'm in Boston, we've done it before. That's a live feed that goes throughout the world and the, and folks from the Boston, who are in the audience earn, you know, if you're coming that night, it's you know, you write in a write in a rant, I'll read it. If, if it works you know, I read a lot of the stuff that comes in from the folks in Boston and then the folks in Massachusetts or somebody who was, who lived in Boston has got something to say, or if it's something that like somebody from, you know that was recently somebody in Canada was yelling about the truckers.

Lewis Black [\(06:29\)](#):

So it was somebody who had some, I thought some interesting information. So I read what they had to say. They were yelling about the, the guys on the border there. So you know, it so that's really where the, a lot of the current stuff comes out at this point and I comment on it. But the fast pace of it is but in, in the sense it's, it's fast pace, but it's the same, nothing's changed. Now, we're in the Ukraine. Okay? What were we in before that we were literally in there's COVID there's no, COVID, there's COVID there's no, COVID there's mask don't wear mask mask. Maybe should wear mask. Don't wear a mask. Now there's a, you know, then there was a voting stuff, vote, note, vote, people should vote, you know, I mean, it's, it's always, I mean, literally I do these, I do the intro to the rant cast and it's like literally the same three things that are happening. There's variations on a theme. This one is big and new. This one is huge and horrifying.

Deadair Dennis [\(07:30\)](#):

Have you found, like, I love that your, your shows are becoming yet you're adapting and making your shows interactive. That is an interesting thing to do because some people kind of get bogged down on one thing.

Lewis Black [\(07:41\)](#):

Well, it's been, you know, here's, what's really interesting. It's six years I've been doing it and it really doesn't seem to have pierced in certain ways. Really what, what, we're, what we're doing. I mean, it goes around the world. I mean, people are not this, we were just in California and it was people in Australia who were watching. It were you know, folks in who were waking up in Scotland. I mean that, you know, and we've been doing it for six years.

Deadair Dennis ([08:10](#)):

Well, speaking on the that's a huge technological advancement in comedy that you're streaming it out to everybody across the country, during the pandemic, when a lot of things switched to being online and zoom comedy and so distanced, you know, remote podcast, interviews, TV, segments, and stuff like that. Did you find it difficult to try and keep up with that level of technology?

Lewis Black ([08:34](#)):

I wasn't doing that. I not, I didn't no, no zoom, no zoom comedy. No, no know to me it was never comedy to me. It's psych, to me, it's the road to really a road to some form of psychosis. I'm not gonna sit there in front of a bunch of squares, you know, with people inside 'em and well, no, I would do Q and A's with kids and stuff like that, but I'm not doing stand up sitting in my desk. You know?

Deadair Dennis ([09:05](#)):

It's like, you're talking to the brain about gen

Lewis Black ([09:08](#)):

Yeah. Or the where you're also, you know, it's Hollywood squares without Paul Lynde.

Deadair Dennis ([09:15](#)):

You know what that's what zoom comedy needed, a good Charles Nelson Reilly.

Lewis Black ([09:19](#)):

Exactly. So I never, you know, there were people who did it and were, you know, enjoyed it. It was not something I enjoyed. I need to work in front of an audience live, cuz that's where I write. That's really I'm. So is like, you know, it was having you know, it was like I was being cut off. Cause I could not, I would, I would do these started the rant cast. That's what I did. When, when, when I was kind of when I couldn't get out on the road and the, the thing was is that I could stay in touch with my with my sense of comedy because what, I'm, what I was really good at, where I knew how to, where I, because I'd spent all that time on The Daily Show and on my own, as a, as a performer, I knew how to do a rant. I knew how to read somebody's rant. I knew how to make that funny. And knew how to comment on it. But, and so that was really where, what, what was my lifeline and what was amazing before the shutdown was how well written the stuff was. And what's really amazing about it is it, it's a, it's like an old time TV show in which it's me standing in front of a microphone and it's written by the people in the city I'm in,

Deadair Dennis ([10:41](#)):

That's interesting that you are a on stage writer, me as a comedian myself, I also feel like I'm a stage writer. Like I feel that fight or flight moment when I'm talking about a subject that fight or flight moment to come up with a punchline in the moment works better with my process. And then I go back and I hone things down and I go through a writing process. Do you think your ability to write on stage and

write in the moment in front of people comes from your earlier days as a playwright when you're literally having to write for people in the room in front of you?

Lewis Black ([11:11](#)):

Yeah. I think it had a lot to do with the, I think the playwriting certainly fed into it, you know? And in a lot of ways it was tougher. Playwriting is to me tougher in a lot of ways than, than stand up. I'm sure there people who disagree with that, but but you're, but you're, you know, you, the thing is, is you're you know, you're this group of characters to create a reality and then you have to have the audience buy into the creation that's that's, you know, and so it's tough, but, but that was really, you know, it was, you know, it was, you know, the writing a dialogue and that was, you know, so and then it was kind of like, so I basically became the character.

Deadair Dennis ([12:02](#)):

And when it comes to writing your standup, as opposed to writing for segments for The Daily Show, is there a different process, like on The Daily Show, do you have a group of people to bounce ideas off of? Are they both still kind of improvised?

Lewis Black ([12:15](#)):

The difference is, is that I originally wrote all of the stuff, then then they brought in, then we started showing those clips. So they brought in people who work with me. I never was a great punchline person without an audience. So I, you know, I was doing it once a week or once every two weeks you know, and I would come in and these guys were really good at it and I kind of would throw stuff in. And we would watch these things and what I would kind of do is take what they had put it together, then they'd take it, do they'd hone it down, then I would hone it and then they would finish it off. And then and that went on for a while. And then there were a couple of producers who came in, who didn't who didn't think I was funny.

Lewis Black ([13:10](#)):

And then I didn't write enough really. Yeah. And didn't, and didn't felt that my attitude, they didn't quite get that what was funny was my attitude. I mean, that seemed to escape them. So they started cutting lines that I wrote and writers that I work with went, you know, he's been doing this line on stage for 10 years. He gets a huge laugh and they would say, literally, I quote, "we can, we can do better than that." So so, so this is when I was kind of at the, you know, doing, you know, was, had a, a, you know, just broken through and had a, started a performing in theaters and had a, you know, and had, had these had a special on HBO, really. So, okay. So so then I, they, I just realized I'm gonna, okay. You, you know, I could fight him on this, but it was ridiculous.

Lewis Black ([14:04](#)):

I said, okay, you wanna pay me to do this, write whatever you want. And then I'll just, and that was really where I got, I said, I'm acting so I can read whatever you give me and make it in my voice, and that was what I did. And then and then he kind of came back to me again when those guys left and became more and more back in toward me. And then when Trevor came on you know, there's been you know, some, some, some more of my involvement in it. And and he, he occasionally lets me, you know, because of you know, this, this kind of social media stuff, we've got, you know, if I, I would flip out in front of an audience and just start yelling stuff, and then they would cut that and put it online, which is great. And that didn't occur with before. So, so for me, I've been through 25 years. It's not unbelievable. And I don't

really know. I don't, I mean, I'm doing it just before I come up there. I'll be doing the The Daily Show. Hopefully if all goes, well, it'll be, it'll be on a week from Wednesday or Thursday.

Deadair Dennis ([15:17](#)):

That's interesting to hear the back, you know, the behind the scenes, things like that, especially someone who's been like, you've been with it so long outta curiosity, the producers who didn't trust you was that during the Craig Kilborn days or the Jon Stewart days?

Lewis Black ([15:29](#)):

Oh no, that was in Kilborn. That was when I was writing it on my own cause and then I, okay. At first I wrote it, I mean, I didn't even write it on my own, but the first five that I did, I improv,

Deadair Dennis ([15:42](#)):

Oh, I remember the watching the first episode when I was a kid watching the first episode and you just smoking away while ranting. I'm like, oh, this is everything I wanna be when I grew up right there.

Lewis Black ([15:53](#)):

So that was really where it started. And then and it was with Jon Stewart that these these guys came in and you could actually, you know, there's this The Daily Show oral history. And that was, I found out about some of it was what they had talked about.

Deadair Dennis ([16:11](#)):

Speaking of your lengthy history in both comedy and The Daily Show and just being a writer. Do you ever have concerns that sometimes your material may not have aged so well? I remember an old bit of yours and the reason I remember this specifically is cuz Drew Carey also had one that was very similar. They're both different jokes, but they're in the same topic of global warming where you're both talking about spring, a warm, a spraying, you know, spray paint or, or hairspray just because it's so cold out. Are you concerned with this data where we're, there's such an outcry about global warming stuff? Do you feel that something like that or in general, your comedy has not a may not age well?

Lewis Black ([16:49](#)):

I, I can't worry about that. God, I I'm hoping to get the first

Deadair Dennis ([16:57](#)):

That's the perfect answer. Thank you.

Lewis Black ([16:58](#)):

Kidding me. Worry about, worry about that. No, I mean no, I don't. I mean, I don't really, and some of it, you know, people will say, boy, that still really applies and I'm amazed. So who knows?

Deadair Dennis ([17:12](#)):

Excellent. and I will, I'll tell you this I graduated high school in 1999 and right after high school, my friend joined the Marine Corps and two years later he got drafted right into Afghanistan, and everything's fine and whatnot, but after his first return home after basic training we, yeah, we talked about a lot of things and I was really getting into comedy then. And then a few years he came back and was talking about,

first time I seen him since he left. Or since that first bootcamp return. And he talked about you, he saw you on a USO tour and just talked about you for, for the entire time. He really, really enjoyed it. He never, he never watched a The Daily Show. He never knew anything about you until he saw you on that USO tour. And what I'm wondering is because a lot of people in the military seem to be very conservative, whereas you seem to be, I would say it's comfortable to say very much liberal and you're politics. Do you sometimes worry about the people you're performing and for on like a USO tour or in general, don't share your same views on politics and may become disingenuous?

Lewis Black ([18:15](#)):

Well, I didn't really do politics in, I didn't do politics there. And the thing that we do agree on is, is that one, one thing that you can pretty much count on in the services, those, those people don't like authority either.

Lewis Black ([18:29](#)):

So I didn't really you know, I didn't do much in terms of poilitics there. I had a lot of stuff that I could talk about and be around the edges of it, cuz basically you know, until this, until the madness, which is what we're in, we're in just total madness and denial. And where's a really a fight by people, a lot of people who seem to be my age and somewhat younger to get back to 1956, that seems to be the target date. You know, they really, they ever since color TVs were invented, they've seemed to have had a breakdown. So, and all look, get those people are a different color. So the the, the I've always been an it's been equal opportunity. You know, cuz where I, you know, cuz I basically kind of go, you know, I'm, you know, and, and a lot of what I've said is, is during the course of it is, is I may be a you know, I've, I've said this from time to time, I'm a socialist, but basically the only way stuff gets done in this country, you know, I, my job is to say, let's go here.

Lewis Black ([19:40](#)):

And then the job of the, the the other side is to go, no, we can't do that. So that's the deal. That's how you negotiate. That's it's all about being in the middle. You fucking idiots.

Deadair Dennis ([19:54](#)):

Excellent.

Lewis Black ([19:55](#)):

It really is. I mean, that's really the bottom line of it. So I mean, I said that and that was really another revelation was when I kind of went, wow. It's it's, they've, they've driven me so nuts now that I'm in the middle. They've driven me to the middle

Deadair Dennis ([20:12](#)):

Outta curiosity, since you said you know, your politcs are socialists are you, are you a Bernie supporter? Because I love his views and stuff, but I also find him to be so hilariously cartoonish that I can't take him seriously.

Lewis Black ([20:23](#)):

Well, I mean, I like a lot of what he says, you know, of course, I mean, you know, look, he that's who I got. So, you know, and and they say, you know, AOC is, is, but I, don't not, I don't know if really, if she's a

bonafide. No, I don't know. And I certainly don't, I'm not at a, you know, they think like, oh boy, like I got a club somewhere. There's like a socialist club. Go back, you know, 75 years. You that's when people were really, there was, there was a party. There was a real socialist party. That was a really a kind of a, you know, seen as a kind of a threat much the, you know, at times. Bernie is like, that's my, you know, he's, you know, that's it, I got one picture. We don't have eight other players. Okay? What's the threat. And for the Republicans and for the Democrats to be completely incompetent when it comes to getting across the message that they're not socialists is beyond belie. I mean, it, how stupid are you were in, you really are incompetent. The Democrats don't seem to know how to tell you what the it is that they wanna do. And the Republicans don't seem to wanna, don't seem to know how to tell you what they're not gonna do.

Deadair Dennis ([21:42](#)):

It's kind of a what's that Buffalo Springfield lyric? If you can't be with the one you love, love the one you're with.

Lewis Black ([21:46](#)):

Yeah. That's yeah. It's Steven Stills, I think.

Lewis Black ([21:50](#)):

Or actually it's what's his name, David. Fuck. God damn it. Wasn't...

Deadair Dennis ([21:57](#)):

Steven Stills, the lead singer at Buffalo Springfield?

Lewis Black ([21:58](#)):

Yeah, but he was also Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young, but that was, I don't think it was with that. I'm not sure it was that, well... Fuck, what do you want? My brain is shot.

Deadair Dennis ([22:08](#)):

We'll move on from, from guess that song lyric.

Lewis Black ([22:11](#)):

Yeah, really, you know, name that tune.

Deadair Dennis ([22:15](#)):

And I, I'm always curious at what point, cause I always feel as I stand up myself, I've always said that stage persona, like for me on stage is the real me. Off stage I'm I, I have to hold back a little bit to be more palatable to people. I get very energetic. I'm very boisterous. I'm very animated on stage. And I feel like in life around people to be palatable, I have to quell it down, but I've always said standup comedians are their, the best at least are themselves on stage only amplified. And I'm curious with someone like you who is very boisterous and differently energetic at what point does the Lewis Black onstage character shift into the reality of who Lewis Black is?

Lewis Black ([23:01](#)):



If I was, that was my character, I'd be dead. If that was who I was all the time. I could be good for three days and then they he'd say, well, we're gonna have to, we may, you know, he's gonna have to go to the hospital. His, I think his heart burst. No, I think it was I think that basically it's a big blown up version of myself. And what it allowed me to do was to kinda be more myself off stage, really. So I was able to get rid of a lot of it.

Deadair Dennis ([23:36](#)):

Yeah. I've talked to a lot of comedians who said that being on stage helped them in their come out and be more extroverted because they were able to, to learn how to be exuberant on stage. And they were able, it helped them a lot more in their life. And the last question I'm gonna ask you is a question I ask almost every single community. I never quite get the right answer. So if you it's I always, because everyone thinks there's a, a, a, a right or wrong with it and there's not, I just think it's, it's, it's a question that's very, only to us as comedians. And that is, do you think of yourself as a writer or a performer? As in you perform because you have the need to write or you write because you have the need to perform?

Lewis Black ([24:27](#)):

I performed because

Deadair Dennis ([24:28](#)):

You can't say both.

Lewis Black ([24:29](#)):

Huh? Well, I can say it is. I

Deadair Dennis ([24:31](#)):

Can't say both.

Lewis Black ([24:32](#)):

Of course I can say that, you know, I, I performed because I couldn't find anybody else who wanted to do this shit. So I got stuck with it.

Deadair Dennis ([24:45](#)):

I like that answer. I like that answer. Yeah. I'm a very throughout my, my career of everything I do, I've, I'm behind the scenes guy. I'm an in front of the mic guy in front of the camera, behind the camera. I do all things as, you know, quote unquote Renaissance man, almost because growing up, if I wanted to do these things, there was nobody else who knew how to work at camera. There was nobody else who knew how to edit audio. So I had to do all of that and I really empathize with you saying that.

Lewis Black ([25:12](#)):

Well, it's also, you know, I mean, the other thing is, is everything you do because they always say, which do you like best? I said, they all feed into each other, everything you do feeds into everything else. So you're doing exactly what you should be doing if you wanna, you know, it all, it all helps everything, everything feeds on everything else, everything allows for that. Again, it's, there's nothing it allows for your evolution as a performer or as a writer or as a, a director or any of those things that you enter into allows the other things you want to be to become better.

Deadair Dennis ([25:54](#)):

Excellent. And then the, the, the schlocky plug question for this is what can people in Boston at the Emerson Colonial Theater expect from the new Off the Rails tour on March 11th?

Lewis Black ([26:07](#)):

Their lives will be changed for the better,

Lewis Black ([26:12](#)):

And if they go home in the next three days, if, if they don't come to the show, this won't happen. But if they come to the show within three days, there will be a massive check in the mail. I don't know where it comes from. And they'll either win a lottery or there'd be something from some sort of absolute mess up in PPE money. But that's the kind of thing that happens after my shows. It's really unbelievable. What they can expect is the, the you know, is really the second half. I did the, the Thanks for Risking Your Life, which was a special that I really kind of an intimate special that I did the last day, it was the last performance that I did. And I think the last recorded performance by a comic in the country before the shutdown, and this really is the, the, what I'm doing now is the next special, and that's what they're gonna see, which is the the fastest I've ever written anything in front or anywhere. And that it's you know, it needs some tweaking here and there, but it's basically you know, from, you know, that was the, the shutdown. And then this is what happened while I was in the shutdown.

Deadair Dennis ([27:37](#)):

Excellent. And

Lewis Black ([27:38](#)):

The other thing people should know about is that that if they're Indianapolis, I'm I opened a be for, for, for at least this year, the chairman of the board of the Kurt Vonnegut museum and library. It's an extraordinary museum and that devoted to Vonnegut in the things that were importance to him. And they do some really great work with the community and throughout the country and are growing and expanding and really keeping his work alive. And so I work with them and that's well worth people's time. And then they also should try to get, if you like comedy, the really you have to go to the to Jamestown, New York and see the national comedy center,

Deadair Dennis ([28:35](#)):

Excellent

Lewis Black ([28:35](#)):

, is an unbelievable it's just unbelievable. It's interactive. And it's, there's an, it was, it was built literally with 10 that's to go on the clock in terms of preserving a lot of what before things got lost. So like the Smother's Brothers had two trailers filled with stuff and they were just gonna, they didn't know what to do with it. And so this, this place is really exceptional in that sense. And I'm, I'm proud to be a part of that.

Deadair Dennis ([29:09](#)):

Oh, that sounds like a very innovative and fun, different thing for, for someone like of your talents and experience to do. So. I'm glad that that's something that is going to be fun for you and something that you are a part of.

Lewis Black ([29:21](#)):

Yeah, no, it's been huge. I mean, it was really, it, it gave me it working in, at a theater that during those summers and that kind of fell apart, due to they hired an asshole. So it was really, it came at this right time where I kind of, I knew Kelly Carlin and she had just given her stuff to George, her fathers gave her his stuff to them. And she said, you really take a look at this and see what you think. And I just, I was all in and haven't regretted it and think what they've done is astonishing and people who love comedy really should get up there. You it's it's well worth it. It's it's a beautiful part of the country. You've got a casino there. You've got, you've got the, you've got the it's also the ancestral home of Lucille Ball.

Lewis Black ([30:13](#)):

So that there's a, there's a whole bunch of her stuff there. The, you look online under national comedy center or, or look under Lucille Ball Jamestown. It's, they, they, they've got a lot of her memorabilia and ton of stuff. And really kind of an interesting the telling of her history and the history of Desi Lou. And and then if you want, you go an hour and a half to Cleveland and go to the rock and roll hall of fame, or we're ahead, and then you can head up to also to complete the triangle. You can go to the Niagara falls. It's, it's kind of extraordinary. So the whole thing is well worth everybody's time, I think.

Deadair Dennis ([30:59](#)):

Excellent. And you're not, I growing up huge fan of Lucille Ball and, and Desi Arnez, I think the more and more I look into their relationship and the things that the innovativeness of, of their, their pairing together and things they, they put together is very reminiscent in my mind of the early, the predecessor to like Harold Ramis and Bill Murray, you know, Desi was Desi Arnez was the person that could take all her comedy and talent and Bill and wrangle it into something on, on TV in front of people. Same thing with Harold and Bill, where Harold was the only person that could wrangle Bill in and get him to do what he needed to do. To be, you know, the, the shining star that he was in front of people. Yep. So that's a good good. I'm gonna have to make that Pilgrim out there. And I hope our listeners can as well.

Lewis Black ([31:45](#)):

You really should see it, it's I mean, I went in and I mean, and I'd kind of been through it and kind of been through, you know, I'd never really been able to spend time. And then finally I had that opportunity and I was and I was always impressed. And I put up in, you know, I know this stuff I don't really need to. And then I was, once I had time, I was overwhelmed. So that's what I gotta say.

Deadair Dennis ([32:08](#)):

Excellent. And I, I really wanna appreciate and say, thank you for your time today. It is big, huge thing for me as a, as a kid who grew up in Baltimore, I live in Boston now, but I grew up in Baltimore. And you're from DC. Like, we're, I feel like growing up we're, we're neighbors to DC. And so somebody who came there and has done all the great, wonderful, talented things that you've been a part of was very inspiring for me to grow up, to see like, Hey, here's somebody from similar neighborhoods, similar towns, similar place as me, and if he can do it, I can also do it as well. I'm not, but I'm trying,

Lewis Black ([32:39](#)):

You will. And, and take it easy. I mean, it took me fuck forever. So don't sweat it and and have a good time. And then I really appreciate it because it's the hardest thing right now is actually getting people to realize that you're coming to town. I'll walk into Boston and I can guarantee walking to the theater, you know, or around the theatre there'll be 10 people going, "what are you doing here?" It's really something. But so thank you.

Deadair Dennis ([33:04](#)):

Or three days later, you'll get that tweet was like, "Hey, when are you coming to town?" You're like, I was just there!

Lewis Black ([33:09](#)):

Exactly. Oh boy. That's way too much. You're true. So I appreciate it. Thank you very much.

Deadair Dennis ([33:15](#)):

You have a great day and try not to exert yourself too much.

Lewis Black ([33:19](#)):

Don't worry. Not gonna happen. Okay. Bye.

Deadair Dennis ([33:27](#)):

I love when everyone is so nice. He is great, and he didn't get mad that I did an impression of him in front of him. And all the technology worked today. Yay!