

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

You know, I'm here because we're recording a new SmartLess.
And what you can't see is that every time I say SmartLess, I'm just going off mic on the L into the ESS, so I go to SmartLess.
Because it can make you, you can try it at home.
Sometimes that L into the S, you can get a little click into it, right?
If you say the word models, you want to just, you just go off, or you don't want to explode on your P, you don't want to have the plosions.
So if you, if you're going to say, that's perfect, what you can't, I just go perfect just off to the side of the mic, so I don't go perfect.
Anyway, we're a little into the weeds, we're a little inside baseball in the VO world, but I tell you what, we are not, we are not afraid to give you an all new SmartLess.
Hey SmartLess listeners, before we get into the good stuff, how about a little great stuff from Shawnee Hayes?
Go Shawnee.
Hey SmartLess listeners, this episode is brought to you in part by our friends at Verizon. If you're wishing for the new iPhone 15 Pro with titanium, you don't need to find a genius bottle or, I don't know, steal an unsuspecting kid's birthday wish.
I get it.
Verizon is making it easy to get Apple's latest and greatest with an amazing trade-in offer. Even if your current iPhone has seen better days, Shawnee, my phone is pristine, but you know some of us just aren't as careful.
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Offerance October 18th, 2023 and is only available in the United States.
Now on to the show.
So listener, you're a part of a double reboot episode.
Yeah, we had two reboots.
Both Will and I had to reboot this morning, which you are the reboot champ of our trio. For some reason, my computer is always the one that's a little, you know, it's a Dell.
I love her.
Great musician, bad computers.
I want to speak to a great musician, great singer.
Can I just say that within just recently, we lost a great friend, the great Jimmy Buffett. And it was just such a huge loss and loved the guy and very close friend to yours.
Close friend of the whole family.
Yeah.
I knew Jimmy a long time.
I mean, we weren't best friends, but he was definitely good friends and good family friends and the kids and everybody in my, you know, obviously my heart goes out to Delaney and Savannah and Cameron and my dear friend Jimmy's wife, Jane.

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Love them all.

I'll second that.

Yeah.

Yeah.

You guys know Jane, just one of the all time greats.

She's great.

Yeah.

Yeah.

Super sad.

Super sad.

Yeah.

Sorry about that.

Sorry.

And a huge loss.

What an awesome guy.

Apart from being an incredible singer, songwriter, just a big hearted guy.

Yeah.

How many friends he had?

You're just like, oh my God, everybody knew him.

Everybody loved him.

Yeah.

He was, he was the most generous kind dude and I have so many memories of him being really generous and kind, not just to me, but to my kids, especially the big kids got to spend a lot of time with us.

Yeah.

And just a great example of a person that I'm sure that, you know, since this was tragically not sudden, he had time to review, I'm sure, of how he's used his years and talk about, you know, we're all going, we're all leaving.

So like, what do you do while you're here and how do you help people and help your family and utilize your uniqueness, you know, there's only one of everybody.

So he seemed to really be a poster child for that.

One of the all time greats.

And so we love you, Jimmy, and we miss you already, but you are not forgotten, my friend.

I love that.

Yeah.

So right before we get to our guests, Sean, quickly, how are you finding your first week back from the Tabasco theater?

I mean, are you enjoying being home in LA, revisiting with your sheets, your pillows?

Yes.

Oh my God.

It's so nice.

My body still thinks I need to be somewhere and perform, but I'm almost over it.

Yeah.

They call me because I know they wanted to do more.

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They call me and they said, listen, and they said, you know, Sean's leaving, but would you ever consider?

And I said, and I said, you mean come in to do Oscar de la Ville?

And they said, now forget it.

We got the wrong number.

It sounds just like Oscar de la Ville.

No, I'm good.

I'm happy.

You mean Mario, Mario Brothers.

You don't take a lot of adjusting to get back into kind of just doing nothing.

I do actually.

I'm pretty tired.

I'm going to have energy.

You got to the house where your slippers happy to see you.

They greeted me with open arms.

I put them right on.

How's Ricky?

How's Ricky doing?

Good.

Everything's good.

It is weird.

That's the dog, Tracy.

What's that?

I was just telling Tracy that that's a dog.

But Tracy knows his dog's name.

Tracy knows his dog.

If there's one thing she...

Yeah.

She's the ant.

Yeah.

No, I'm excited.

Everything's good.

Everything's good.

Everything's back to normal.

It's like I was gone in two days.

Jason's getting ready for his intro.

He's still doing some copy and pasting.

Yeah.

No, I'm doing...

I'm in a deep sweat here trying to fight, you know, because of the reboot listener.

We talked about the reboot.

I lost my notes during the reboot, but I just pulled them up out of the bin.

Great.

Guest, you're safe.

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Okay, guest.

Guest.

Here we go.

Here we go.

We got a real superhero this morning, guys.

Our guest today is, without dispute, one of the best athletes the world has ever seen.

This is my department.

And his sport of football, he might be the best we'll ever see.

Wow.

He is the NFL's only five-time most valuable player.

What?

He's a 14-time Pro Bowl selection.

It's Peyton Manning.

He's the first to win a Super Bowl with two different teams.

Yeah, Peyton Manning.

He's been inducted to the Hall of Fame, and he has more individual records than we got time to mention.

It's Eli's brother.

It's Jared's brother.

Will.

His charitable and philanthropic efforts are equally impressive with his own foundation and scholarship fund.

Having mastered playing football, he now dominates television while also finding time to maintain a 23-year marriage.

This is embarrassing.

He's a father to 13-year-old twins, and he's able to grade papers as a professor at his alma mater.

Please welcome Will.

Peyton Manning.

I mean, come on.

The sheriff is here.

Hi, Peyton.

You said five-time.

You said five-time.

Yeah, there's nobody left.

Wow.

Oh, did you have it, guest?

Sean.

I did.

Sean had it.

Quite the intro.

Peyton, first of all, I've said this a lot over the years.

From the first time I saw you on a sketch program, of which I'm not going to mention, throughout all the number of commercials you've done and things you've done, I have said, I don't want to embarrass you, Peyton.

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I think you're the best actor athlete of all time.

Of all time.

Of all time.

I have a question about Hall of Fame.

Hall of Fame.

Awesome timing.

And that's not a thin category.

It's not.

It's a big category.

And I say this not to embarrass you.

Talk us through a little bit how the Manning cast started, because I love that you guys ended up doing it and that you're on TV every week, you and your brother.

Yeah, he's awesome.

How did that come about?

What was the thing that you guys were like, oh, shit, did somebody come to you?

Or were you like, Eli, we should be, we should be sporting our junk on TV every week.

Well, yeah, it's funny because you hate to say anything good came out of the pandemic, but obviously there was a lot of things being done remotely during the pandemic, including broadcasting, certainly.

And so I've been in talks, Will, with the, the doing the traditional broadcasting, right?

Which I don't think people understand what that really entails, right?

The Chris Collins words, the late John Madden who really created it, it is go to the town where the game is on Friday, watch practice, interview the home team Saturday, visit with the visiting team coming in, and then sit around all day, Sunday or Sunday night or even Monday to do the game.

And then when you get back home, you're really not home because you better be studying where the left guard went to high school and what his 40 time is.

I mean, I mean, you have to know more than a quarterback would quarterback just has to know the defense, right?

A broadcaster, you got to know special teams, you got to know the depth chart.

And so anyway, that's the, so that's what I did not want to do because young kids playing sports wanted to be there on the weekends.

My dad was at my youth basketball games, you know, Pee Wee football games, those kinds of things.

So that was the priority.

And then so I kind of approached ESPN.

I was like, you know, I saw the remote thing.

Is that going to continue?

I could get my brother.

He's unemployed.

I could get him, you know, kind of into the mix.

I mean, literally he lied.

I mean, he literally thought they were joking.

He's like, wait a minute, they're going to pay me to watch football with my brother from

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my own house in New Jersey.

He's like, yes, I know I went to Ole Miss, but I'm still smart.

Let's know that's a good deal.

I will do that.

That's how it, yeah, the whole family will.

That's amazing.

That's how it came about.

So look, we, we feel like we are at a bar or on the couch watching the game together, which we would be doing anyway.

And the viewer is sitting there with us and our guest, they have to love football.

Will, that's the number one criteria.

You got to love football.

And what's cool to me called in, right?

Like I'm supposed to call in.

Yeah, we'd love to have, we'd love to have all of it.

I mean, now that Sean's an expert, you know, get a picker on the spread.

But also, but Peyton, I used to play football when I was a kid, which is critical, which is critical to being wanted.

You have to have played flag as a third grader to get on.

No, no, I was tackle football.

Oh, really?

Tell us about that, Sean.

Sean, you're dead.

Your dad watched your games.

I heard it through the rear view mirror, right?

As he was driving away.

A lot of stuff through the rear view.

As he was driving away.

Sean's family, Sean's dad famously left his family.

But Peyton.

Top speed.

You know, what's funny is we started, we started a smart list during the, during the pandemic as well.

And we can't believe that anybody would want to sit around and listen to us just shoot the shit.

It seems ridiculous.

Even today.

Right.

It's shocking.

It's just, no, it's different.

And I think people, like I said, I think when the game's good, we're talking about the game and the game's not so good.

Nobody wants to hear about the third in one run play and what defense they were playing when it was a one yard game.

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Like who cares?

Let's talk to, you know, Condoleezza Rice about why she likes football.

So I think the cool thing about it, Will, is that there's so many people from different backgrounds.

I mean, we had President Obama last year.

Condoleezza Rice Snoop Dogg is a huge football thing.

He's been a youth football coach in LA for years.

Sean, do you know what Snoop Dogg is?

Yes, I do.

I do know what Snoop Dogg is.

But, you know, I mean, so it's like, it just brings people together, which I think, which is cool thing about football and it doesn't matter.

Yeah.

Kind of what your background is or where you came from.

I love football.

Liverpool is my favorite team.

Oh boy.

Yeah.

I watch every Saturday.

And this timed out perfectly, right?

Peyton, because staying at home, your kids are, your kids, are your kids 13?

Yeah, they're 12, seventh grade.

And yeah, I mean, like literally Monday on my daughter has a volleyball game at four o'clock mountain time that I'll go to.

And then at five, I'll drive over to my buddy Scott's garage, which is where I film it and do the show at six 15 and I'm home at nine 30.

So how did Scott, wait, how did Scott, how did Scott's house turn into the studio?

Great quick story.

You know, Scott owed me a favor.

When you went a football game as a quarterback, you have about 50 texts after a game.

When you lose, you have three.

Your wife says she loves you.

Your dad who played says, Hey, tough night.

I'm proud of you.

Hang in there.

Your other brother was a quarterback.

Eli, Hey, you know, some tough conditions, you know, get them next week.

What you don't do when a quarterback loses is replay the game in the text.

Like you don't say, Hey, really sorry about those four interceptions.

Yes.

Thank you.

I remember I was there.

It was 20 minutes ago.

My friend, you know, we've all done this.

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Have you ever texted someone accidentally?

You're talking about them and you text the person that you're talking about.

Yes.

I threw four interceptions against the bingles one night.

I come in.

I got four texts.

My dad, my brother, my wife, I have a fourth from Scott who texts says, Hey, do you think Peyton has money on this game?

Okay.

I mean, we've all been there, right?

Do I respond?

No.

Do I know it's an accident?

Yes.

Does Scott call me on Thursday to say, Hey, my 10 year old was playing with my phone.

If you got a weird text.

I'm like, All right, Scott.

The fact that you blamed your 10 year old son.

Now I have a problem with it.

So 10 years later, I said, Scott, I need your garage.

Okay.

You owe me.

That was mental trauma.

So I'm using your garage.

And that's how it came about.

No.

Now, Peyton, do you just not have the space in your studio apartment that you live in?

Yes.

It's tight quarters in there.

The equipment, I didn't know this stays there all year.

I thought it was like we're going to pop in and we'll pop out when we come back in a couple of weeks.

We only, we only do 10 games.

By the way, we don't do all 17.

I don't want to see Eli 17 weeks in a row via zoom.

And so that equipment staying there year round didn't excite Ashley.

We were doing a little house construction.

So that's why I called Scott's garage.

Eli does it from his back house in New Jersey.

Scott's got an extra man cave.

Right.

He does.

He does, which is not a, not a cool word to use on TV.

So we say garage.

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Yeah, it's not a, yeah, exactly.

Jason, how dare you?

There must be some good tax implications for Scott too.

I imagine.

I don't really know what, what he gets out of it.

Um, he wants to come like before the game.

I don't let him come, let him come like twice, two out of the 10 games.

He gets to come by.

He needs to vacate his home.

Does he have children or pets?

He doesn't, he doesn't live there.

Uh, you know, uh, at least that I know he's, it's, it's, you know, he's a car collector, but, uh, that's where it is.

But yeah, I think two games is plenty.

It's, you know, it's good.

You got to get him on the, you got to get him on.

Oh God, but he liked that.

He would like that so much.

Uh, he obviously likes football because he was watching that bingles game in the fourth quarter after I'd already thrown foreign reception.

So it's clear that he's a fan.

That is so good.

We'll be right back.

SmartLiz is sponsored by better help.

Okay.

Um, you know, there have been times, um, where I knew that stuff was going on.

And even though my sort of, uh, you know, intellectually I could understand that I was going through something, it was still tough for me to reconcile things.

Like I just like dwell on like some, some part of my life that wasn't amazing.

And it would threaten to kind of upset the whole, uh, uh, apple cart if you will.

And it's like that idea of like,

do you ever feel like your brain is getting in its own way?

And for me, I do.

And therapy was the thing that eliminated that or helped me move through that.

You know, it's like that thing of like what, you know what you should do, what's good for you, but you just can't do it.

And I don't know,

therapy helps you figure out what's holding you back so you can work for yourself instead of against yourself.

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Thanks to Viori clothing for supporting the show.

You know, Viori makes premium performance apparel inspired by the act of coastal California lifestyle.

And, you know, it's an integration of fitness and surf and sport and art and all this stuff, you know, designed to work out in, but doesn't feel or look like it, which I get.

And they do a really good job of that.

But what they don't mention is and all those things they're not like also made for podcasting.

Viori's clothes are really good for podcasting.

Okay, you want to sit in, in a stuffy studio and you want to wear a pair of shorts that are going to feel, you know, like crap, you know,

they got your fucking nuts all, you know, twisted up.

Or do you want to be in a core short?

What if you're comfortable in a short that moves the way that you move and that, you know, as soon as you get out of this podcast,

you're going to, you're going to go and you're going to hit the streets.

You're going to work out.

You're going to be doing unorthodox stuff, you know, railway ties in waist deep snow and bags of sand, you know, working out.

I'm not like one of these California workout guys in some flimsy gym.

I'm doing real guy stuff.

I'm street fighting.

Okay.

I'm climbing trees.

Okay.

I'm chasing bears.

They're not chasing me.

We've been fans of Viori for a long time.

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Hold up.

It's everything you love about the core short.

The same moisture wicking stretch woven fabric and interior box brief liner for the ultimate and go anywhere comfort.

But it's all of that stuff now on a jogger.

You lucky sons of guns.

Viori is an investment in your happiness.

For our listener, they're offering 20% off your first purchase.

Yeah.

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And I would like to bet on some of the things that I would like.

I would like, first of all, I wish we could have bet on Sean when he was on Broadway.

I wanted to bet on him like tripping and falling.

Bet on him going up on one of his pieces of dialogue.

Bet on him playing the wrong note when he was on the piano.

That would have been fun.

But anyway, if you are a fan of doing all these things that I talked about, FanDuel is the place to do it.

So visit [FanDuel.com slash smartless](http://FanDuel.com/smartless) and kick off the NFL season.

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See show notes for full disclaimer.

All right, back to the show.

So Peyton, when you went, I was curious to what Will was saying before about going from football to acting

or just kind of all around personality.

What was it like to go, what was it like your first time when someone was like,

hey, we want you to do this commercial or this thing or whatever it was, whatever your first thing and how awkward it must have been not being an actor to kind of look at the camera.

Like this is bizarre.

I don't know if I want this like, or was it something you wanted and you're like, I can do this.

What do I do?

You know, what was the feeling like?

Yeah, it's never really something that I, I guess wanted or thought that I was going to be able to do.

You know, you play quarterback and all of a sudden you start getting asked to do a few different things.

They want you to come speak to a school, right?

And certainly do interviews.

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Now, I will say my dad, having played great archman for 14 years, Sean, that helped me, right? I mean, I think my dad helped me as much with things off the field that come with being in a quarterback as opposed to just on the field.

I mean, he always said, do your interviews after you lose.

Sign autographs.

Yeah.

And is that something you have to hone being able to interview and stuff like that?

Yeah, I think so.

Yeah.

I mean, you try to, I still say, uh, and you know too much and he's always still to this day.

My dad texts me and Eli at halftime with like a full, you know, grade of the film.

Like Peyton, you know, quit saying, uh, quit saying, you know, I mean, it's like literally it's feel like we're back in kids.

So, uh, the commercials, look, um, you know, I remember Will, you know, saying that to me, people told me, hey, well, you have good timing.

I'm like, yeah, I try to throw the ball on time, try to hit the receiver out of the break.

They're like, no in commercials.

And so I don't really know what that means, but I know that I like to laugh.

I know that my brother's made fun of me a lot and I laughed at that and I would dish it back.

I know that in an NFL locker room, Sean, you better have thick skin.

You better be able to take it.

And so for a football player to take their helmet off and show that they don't take themselves too seriously, I guess that's kind of what I think about.

But, uh, by no means don't insult acting by saying, I'm an actor, right?

I'm an ex-joc that can read a script and can say the line in the way I would normally say it.

I think that kind of helps.

Yeah, but you've got, you've got a, you've got an infectious comfort with your, with your own skin.

Yeah.

That doesn't seem like it's something that's new.

But Jamie, I think, I think that is, and Payton, you said it.

I think it is that you, you get the sense that you don't take yourself too seriously, which is great.

Yeah.

And having that ability to be able to laugh at yourself is key to it.

Especially obviously in comedy, not that I'm an expert on comedy, but I think that that is a big part of it.

Also, you're not unused to pressure situations.

You've been in a few.

Right.

Right.

So when they go action, you're like, okay, I mean, I'm shooting a commercial or I'm doing a thing.

That's, yeah, I was in the fucking super, I went to Super Bowls.

Like that's a lot of pressure.

I mean, the one thing, and like I said, that, you know, football is live and you mentioned a certain show that, you know, that it's also live.

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And I wasn't necessarily that nervous when I did that because I screwed up live so many times. I mean, I do six interceptions against the chargers one night would have thrown seven easily. Thank God we ran out of time.

And so I just texted you about that.

You did.

You remember that game?

Yeah.

Yeah.

Thanks for bringing up all my highlights on this show.

And so, you know, I guess when you're used to doing live and screwing up live, that when you know you can read a line and have a chance to do it again in a commercial, if it doesn't go well, I guess that certainly makes it a little less stressful for me.

But I'm pretty coachable.

I will say when the guy says, here's what I want you to say, you know, my Tennessee education goes as far as least being able to follow those instructions.

Right.

Right.

I remember that because I remember when you did that show and I remember my ex, my ex-wife Amy, we talked about, we were like, man, I didn't talk to you.

I wasn't famous yet then.

So nobody wanted to talk.

None of the guests want to talk to me yet.

None of the hosts.

But I remember us talking about it at the time and being like, man, he was so good and relaxed. That was what it was.

You were really relaxed.

Yeah.

That was easy.

Look, that was easy to be relaxed because I was around some incredibly talented people. I think the favorite part about that particular show was being, I got to go in the huddle with, you know, in a football game, Will, you don't get to have a 12th guy in the huddle, right?

You don't get to have a shadow for the day.

I'm like, hey, you're in the way.

Get out of the, you know, running backs path.

And so, and that deal, I love going behind the ropes in a different field.

And so that's kind of what's been fascinating to me in some of the different things I've gotten to do.

Yeah.

But you definitely needed to find a confidence and a sense of peace with being the center of something and being comfortable with basically having the ball.

You asked for the ball.

Yes.

So for the people who don't play football, can you put it at the risk of asking a heavy question early on?

What is like the most important thing that your average person should reach down and grab when

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they're asked to be, to go to show their excellence?

What is that part of you that you tap into where you're comfortable in a leadership position, that you have the confidence to execute?

Did that start really young?

Is it something that you learned?

Yeah.

That's a good question because I think, look, for me, it goes back to kind of preparation.

I mean, you know, in football, I couldn't throw it, you know, 80 yards down the field like some of these guys can now.

I mean, I think Josh Allen and my homes can literally throw it 80 yards on their back foot.

Couldn't outrun anybody.

If you ever watch me play, Sean, you should know that, right?

Yeah.

I had a coach tell me once that I couldn't run out of sight in a week.

Right.

That was nice.

Took me a lot of thinking with that, but I think it means I'm not fast.

And so I was like, I got to help prepare them.

I got to study more film than them.

I got to know my place.

My receivers and I got to be on the same page more than anybody.

And so I think that preparation is served me in these other capacities.

Like I am not afraid to ask questions and go, hey, Amy, like, tell me how you want me to say this, you know, tell me what you want me to do.

Hey, director, what do I do?

My dad used to give me quotes as a kid and there was a great quote when he gave me when I was in high school, Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Chuck Noll once said,

Pressure is something that you feel only when you don't know what the hell you're doing.

And man, that just stuck with me at the time in school, but it applied to football.

Nervous.

You bet.

I got nervous before every game.

Matter of fact, I think it's good to get nervous.

That means you care about what happened to pressure.

That's different.

That means you really haven't done your homework, right?

That's a bad feeling.

So I think that's kind of what would always serve me well.

And it kind of helps me in these other ventures that I'm doing in the second chapter.

Yeah.

Because as a quarterback, I mean, the games I watch, it's like they're always like Jason just said, you're always the leader.

Like you have to have that DNA, that build in order not just to be a great player, but to lead and by example, right?

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It takes a certain intelligence too.
And I'm sure it's rare.
That's why there's so many heart.
It's hard to find somebody.
I'm biased.
It's a hard position.
Yeah.
I mean, when you play, I think you got to sign up for all of it.
You got to accept the blame when you don't win.
When you win, you got to share the credit with others and there's no question it's not for everybody.
Can I ask a question about a certain play?
Sorry, Jay.
No, go.
Because I really do love football.
I've talked to the guys about this.
What does hot, hot, hot mean?
No, go ahead.
And then ask him about Omaha.
And why numbers?
23, 46, hike.
No, but I am fascinated by the science of it.
I'm fascinated by the talent and the science of you in your brain figuring out how hard and fast to throw the ball to reach at a certain distance, a short distance or a long distance or whatever.
That fascinates me.
But dumb, dumb question, just as a stupid spectator.
Additional dumb, dumb question.
They're all dumb questions.
I'm always so curious when there's a play where all of the players are like, you know, stuck together, like the most dense amount of players.
You always throw it to that corner when there's all these defense people around them.
And then you look from on TV, you're like, there's eight other guys wide up.
Like, why did you throw it to the crowded part of the field?
Are you talking about in general?
Are you actually saying that debate?
No, like in general, in general, in general, do you know what I mean?
On TV, it always seems like, why don't they just throw it to the 17 players that around the one open guy receiver instead of the.
So like the offensive linemen, the big guys, they aren't eligible to catch a pass.
So that eliminates those five.
Right.
And so, you know, the left tackle might open.
Well, he looks open, right?
Because nobody's guarding him because he's not allowed.
I call him.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

I can see him.

I got it.

That's a good idea.

And plus Sean wants to know, well, he's the largest guy.

So why wouldn't you throw it to him?

He seems like he'd do well with the ball.

I would text my homes after this and say, hey, the left guard, I got a feeling he's going to be open tonight.

He gets the lions.

That's what I'm saying.

That's why you need me.

Yeah, I like that.

You know, Sean, I don't know how it works.

I mean, not as well, but like that thing of like, you know, when players come on, they have to like literally declare their eligibility, right?

Like who's on the field?

I didn't know that.

I didn't know that.

At risk of boring everybody.

But, you know, the ins and outs have the rules.

Yeah, I mean, there's five linemen, there's a quarterback.

So there's, that's six.

There's only five other players that are eligible to catch the pass.

There are certain formations that you can line up in where an offensive lineman is eligible, but he has to tell everybody.

Number 75 is eligible.

So the defense hears that and they go, hmm, maybe we should just run it.

Just run it.

Just run it.

Just run it.

Old school football.

I love that.

I love that.

Hey, Peyton.

So obviously football was, you know, a passion of yours and in your dad, Archie, who shares a great name with my son or my son shares with him.

But did you name Archie after Archie Manning?

I did not.

Did you name Archie after the cartoon?

Sure did it.

So did you name them after all in the family?

No, man.

I named them after a Scottish Woodcrafter.

That's a true story.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

A guy we used to know, a Scotsman.

His name was Archie.

Woodcrafter.

I forget what I was going to say.

Shut the hell up.

Can I answer your question?

Ask my question, which was, so, you know, football has just dominated your life.

It's been, or not dominated, but it's such a big part of your life.

But I imagine that you're a fan of other sports and I joked about football, about soccer, that the rest of the world calls football.

I love American football.

I'm a massive soccer fan.

I'm a massive hockey fan because I'm Canadian.

What's your-

F1.

You're at F1.

Of course.

F1 we did.

So we did a, I don't know if you guys know, but I did an association with Omaha.

We did the first one, and we slated to do two more of these Formula One sort of, what did we call them?

They're sort of like Manicast.

Alternate broadcast.

Yeah, alternate broadcast.

Yeah.

Yeah.

For Formula One races?

Yeah.

Oh, nice.

Yeah, with me and Danny Ricardo.

And then he went and took a seat.

He had such a great experience doing it with Will.

He went back into racing a week later, which I thought was very telling.

He changed him back into out of retirement.

And then he broke his hand.

Poor Danny.

I actually got to take some back.

But what other sport other than Formula One, what are you, do you have a sport that you're passionate about other than football?

Golf.

I mean, I play golf, you know, certainly, but look, I love sports.

I love, you know, I live in Denver.

So I mean, the Nuggets, you know, the Avalanche.

So keep up with all of my local sports, grew up playing baseball.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

But golf would be my one, you know, kind of passion.
Me and Bateman are looking for a game.
He's kind of giving me the run around on a tee time.
No.
So is that true?
It's been tough.
It's been tough.
Listen, come, we'll play.
I'll play with you.
I'm much freer than Jason is.
Now, Peyton, don't you see golf more as a game as opposed to a sport?
Do you draw a distinction there between a game and a sport?
Yeah.
Like baseball, I consider a game not a sport.
Football, I think, is a sport.
Basketball, I think, is a sport.
Baseball, more of a game.
Golf, more of a game.
Tennis, more of a game.
I've never thought about it that way.
I mean, the stuff, the stuff that's a little bit slower,
that's a little bit more sort of, you got to deal a little bit more
in a long-term strategy as opposed to quick turnaround on plays,
scoring opportunities.
Tennis is a sport.
Yeah.
I think I don't want to play with Jason now after hearing that.
Oh, dude.
Can I get out of this?
Dude, he's so intense.
We're after this one.
Sounds like a long pre-shot routines when it sounds like a lot of waggles.
Oh, dude.
Dude, you have no idea.
Hey, why'd you do it?
You know what it's called?
He even admits it's called the process.
Oh.
It's so...
The process of a pre-shot.
Let's put it this way.
I walk ahead of the group so I can start my process
and not suck up any extra time.
You've never seen anybody stand over a ball longer

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

before they actually hit and you think,
and as a sportsman, you're going to say,
how the fuck can you even make...
He plays very well, by the way.
It's gotten better.
Has it not gotten better?
It's gotten better.
It has gotten better.
I think I'd rather watch football with Sean
and complain about them not throwing to the linemen
than play golf in the basement.
That's insane.
I need a shot clock in golf.
I think I do well with that.
Sounds like it.
You have gotten much better, though.
I will say that.
You have gotten much better.
I hear, Peyton, if you're a four-handicap,
you have four swing thoughts.
If you're a 20-handicap, you've got 20 swing thoughts.
I think I've become a little bit better in golf,
and so my checklist is smaller.
Jason, what are you playing at right now, Jay?
My handicap?
Yeah.
I'm like, what am I, an 11 from the Blues at our place?
It's like a seven index.
25 words or less.
What's the handicap?
Thank you, guys.
It's unbelievable, isn't it?
It's unbelievable.
Jason, you know how he was saying sport in a game?
Jason's questions are a game.
I know.
Not a sport.
I just love the sound of my voice so much, you guys.
And now, a word from our sponsor.
This episode of SmartLess is brought to you in part by FrameBridge,
the easy and affordable way to custom frame just about anything,
and we have.
Well, Sean has.
And I'm about to.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

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[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

For instance, the song you stream over and over again
while you're in your 13th hour of gaming
at four in the morning with all the lights off
trying not to wake up your roommates,
or the recommendations that you share with your friends
on the Top 6 Comedy Podcast
that are the best to listen to on your way to the gym and back,
or even your new haircut,
which may or may not be an epic bowl cut from the 90s,
and hopefully is.
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people who can do the job that you need to have done,
and you don't want to spend a lot of time
worrying about people doing the job that you hired them to do.
You want to get the right people.
For us, we have a whole team behind SmartLess,
and part of our team, we need people to have the ability
to laugh at yourselves or as a podcaster,
we have a loose approach with the guests
and being honest with each other and really getting each other.
So, we make it seem easy,
but building an amazing team is actually pretty challenging.
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ZipRecruiter uses smart technology

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

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Zip Recruiter, the smartest way to hire.
And now, back to the show.
I would love being a quarterback
just so I could yell and everyone in the stadium is listening to me.
Speaking of which, I bet you've answered this question a million times.
One of the relevance of Omaha as your audible call.
And then also, I want to hear what just an average play sounds like in the huddle.
Just tell me what that sounds like
and then tell me what it all means.
Let's go with the huddle call first.
Perfect. All right, here we go.
Let's go explode to gun double right flip zebra,
scat left, wide drag, f-hook, f-trail,
alert, 52 sprint, yaw easy on two on two.
Ready? Break.
God dammit.
All right, we're going to explode.
It means we're going to start in a kind of a tight formation.
We're going to explode out to the different formation, right?
We're going to make the defense react, right?
Before the snap.
Before the snap, right?
We're going to shift, right?
Gun, shotgun, right?
Double means we are going to be in a two guys on each side formation.
Double, right?
Trips would be trips to one side, double.
We're going to go double, right?
Which means the tight ends going to be on the right,
but we're going to flip it.
And we're going to put the guy who should be on the right with the tight end.
He's going to flip to the other side,
which is actually going to form a little bunch on the left.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

We're going to go zebra.
He's going to go on motion.
Zebra is going to tell him to go on motion.
Zebra is going to tell the Z to go in and back out.
There's zebra motion, right?
A little eye candy for the defense, right?
Scat left is the password.
And that'll show you what the defense is based on how they react to the motion.
That's exactly right.
If the cornerback runs with the motion that tells you it's man to man.
If they just kind of bump over, that tells you it's zone.
It's called a pre-snap indicator.
Scat left is the pass protection.
Let's see.
Y drag is telling the wider run of five yard drag across the field.
X hook, 12 yard hook by the X.
F trail is the F's going to run a little angle right out of the back field.
It's a full back.
Yeah, the running back, the guy in the back field.
And then alert 52 sprint jaw easy is if the defense is playing soft zone and you don't like it,
you go alert, alert, alert.
You've seen Tom Brady.
He always says alert, alert, alert points to his head.
You're going to go to the second play.
You're going to run this, this draw play to the right to take advantage of the defense on two.
It's going to be not all one and not on two.
It's not all one.
It's going to be on two and then you ready break.
And so that's when the snap comes in.
And then what if you call it and then what if you yell Omaha at the line that,
that says an audible and how do they know what that new place is exactly.
So Omaha was really the word that meant we had changed the play.
When you audible, Jason, it's usually with like six seconds left, right?
Because the defense is disguising.
They're showing blitz.
They're not going to blitz.
All of a sudden you're like, ah, they're not blitzing.
Okay.
I want to go to that second place.
So I'm going to say alert, alert, alert.
I don't have time to go through a rhythmic cadence, which Sean alluded to earlier with the colors,
right?
Blue 20, blue 20.
Hut hut is a normal cadence.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

You don't have time to say that with six seconds left.
So you go alert, alert, alert Omaha said hut, right?
It tells everybody, oh, he's gone to that second play and it's just a few seconds and now we're going to snap the ball.
That's fascinating.
And you called the second play in that huddle as well.
We called the second play in that huddle and we did.
That's all we did.
So I was saying Omaha every single play.
So that's how it kind of got connected with me.
The microphones got turned up louder and you start a production company, you know, out of that because of an audible.
So it was a chain reaction about yelling Ozark.
I think that that would have, that would have popped through a little bit better.
It's funny.
It's funny you say that because it's a good way to get your, you know, your show, your business viral marketing.
If you can get it into a quarterback snap cap, three syllables is kind of what it needs.
To be, it's rhythmic, right?
Ozark would be jerky, right?
And somebody might flinch.
It is.
Well, it was filled with jerks.
It was filled with jerks.
You know, Will Arnett has got a good little, you know, flow too.
What about an Audi e-tron?
Audi e-tron.
Audi e-tron.
I don't know if that sounds so forced.
GMC.
Professional grade.
We are professional grade.
We are professional grade.
You know the other thing you could just say JK and JK, like just kidding about the first.
JK, JK, JK.
Wait, I would kill, first of all, I would kill to write the new lingo for the, for the huddle.
I would kill to write those words.
Hey, do you hear about Sean's new gig?
We'll start with, okay, ready?
You guys hear about Sean's new gig?
Yeah, I write, I write lingo for the huddle.
It'd also be, it'd start with, okay, guess what?
Or here goes.
Here goes.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

We've got two jobs in a cuff on the side with a lemon twist.
And instead of hot, hot, hot, it would be five, six, seven, eight.
Seven, eight.
And then they would snap it.
Okay, so wait.
Page, that blows my mind all that stuff.
Jin, Jin, Jin, Jin, Jin, Jin.
Jin, Jin's a Chinese restaurant that, that Sean has basically drained.
He's got a charge, charge card at.
I got a, I got a free gift card in there for you guys want to go.
So wait.
I haven't asked one question yet.
Go ahead, Sean.
I know.
So, so I think that's all fascinating to me.
Is it, it obviously different teams have different lingo, right?
They don't use similar.
Different languages, different.
That's why in quarterbacks change teams.
It's hard to learn the new vocabulary.
Aaron Rogers is going to the Jets this year,
but he's the guy that's calling the plays came from Green Bay.
So Aaron knows the language.
He knows the verbiage.
So he's going to be able to play fast and play well.
Learning a new system is hard.
It takes time.
Yeah.
And so that's a huge advantage for, for the Jets this year.
What would you do if another quarterback started yelling Omaha as their,
as their audible barking?
I sent him my address.
I'd expect to check, you know, like a letter from a lawyer,
a little bit of passing on that.
Yes.
Exactly.
Payton, I've always wondered about this because,
because we do it a little bit.
We're, we're, we're kind of carnies doing what we do and that we move around a
bunch and, and you know, sometimes it sort of coincides with the school year
or whatever and kids and all that stuff.
You start out, you're a single young man right out of college.
You go pro.
You have a very successful career.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

Then you get married and then you have kids.

What is that life like as you're sort of the latter half of your career and your kids are growing up and you're on the road and stuff at the risk of getting too personal?

Just what was that dynamic like and being an athlete and you've got to take care of yourself.

You got to manage your sleep.

You got to manage your diet.

How does that fit in with the, the home life?

Yeah, it's funny.

You know, football is pretty good on travel, right?

I think people completely different than basketball or baseball football.

You travel Saturday eight times a year, right?

Just eight road games and you're back home Sunday after the game, you know, baseball, you're spending four nights in the town, basketball, you know, you're on the road.

So football is actually, is pretty good from that standpoint.

We didn't have kids until basically we got the Denver toward the last half of my career.

But yeah, I do think it's a challenge to look quarterback this.

They say, you know, some people say I can't take it home with me.

I think they're paying you to take it home with you.

I think you got to really, you know, organize your time and your schedule.

Hey, I'm on Tuesdays, my off day, I'm going to, you know, you know, plan these things with my, with my young kids or do some charity work.

But I think kind of writing out your schedule kind of helps quarterbacks, right?

But certainly a lot of film study, a lot of things on your own, but from a family standpoint, you know, playing in the NFL is actually, actually pretty good.

Yeah.

Interesting.

So like when you, and you're used to it because obviously again, your dad played for 14 years in the NFL.

So you kind of, you've seen it from both sides.

Yeah.

Yeah.

And my dad was a great, included us, you know, me and my brother, Cooper got to go to the practices on Saturdays, you know, got to go down the locker room after games.

And so, you know, I think you see more quarterbacks, including their young kids and people in their lives, right?

Kirk Cousins, in this quarterback show we did, you know, had his kids in the locker room.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

So I can relate to that.

And, you know, I love including my kids and some of the cool things.

Yeah.

Oh, that I get to do.

Yeah.

What was the tension like when you were getting close to saying yes to Tennessee and not going to Ole Miss?

Did you try for Ole Miss?

Yeah.

You know, because Peyton's dad went to Ole Miss.

It was a big deal there.

Yeah.

And then you were no slouch coming up.

So what was that decision process going?

Was Ole Miss interested?

Yeah.

They were interested.

I was interested.

That's kind of where I wanted to go.

Jason's where I always thought I would go.

It's where I only college I ever thought existed for the majority of my life.

And then you start getting recruited and you realize, oh, there are some other schools and I got to give props to my dad.

My dad said, son, you're 17 years old.

You can make your own decision here.

Right.

You decide where you want to go and you go there and I'll have your back.

And he said, you're going to Ole Miss.

That's where I went.

That's what we're doing.

End of the discussion.

And he actually took some flack for from people that he knew for not making for not steering you to his alma mater, which, which was tough.

But what happened with the first, the first time you played Ole Miss?

That was awkward for my, for my, for my parents.

It's funny when the coach for Tennessee came to recruit me.

That was my mom's number one question.

Do y'all play Ole Miss in the next four years?

And he says, no, we don't.

And it was an absolute lie.

We played them twice in those four years.

Right.

Back then, like before the internet, you couldn't really check the future schedules.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

How'd you do in those games?

Well, we won both, which is probably helpful.

But yeah, I mean, it was tough.

My dad kind of sat on his hands and, you know, wore neutral clothes and, you know, Eli went to Ole Miss.

Everybody was happy.

Everybody's at peace now.

But like watching, you know, watching your dad play football when you were growing up, obviously, the question is, would you have gone into football?

Like, do you just think that's, well, that's what my dad did?

That's what I'm going to do?

That's a great question.

I think people think my dad, like, raised quarterbacks.

That was his master plan.

Right.

It was actually the complete opposite.

He, like, just raised kids.

Like, do you think you would have been drawn to it anyway?

There's no doubt that I had a real passion for it because I got to grow up around it, right?

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

He was my hero, my dad, favorite quarterback, all of that.

But it was never a plan.

It was never like, hey, Peyton, we're going to go run two miles this morning.

Like, you know, people used to say my dad had me watching film as a fifth grader.

Like, that is total bullshit.

Like, completely made up.

And they, you know, I mean, he tried to raise normal kids and maybe that's why I ended up happening because it wasn't some master plan.

Right.

And it wasn't forced upon you.

Yeah.

Absolutely not.

And dumb question.

Worst injury ever.

I've had neck problems, you know, during my time with the Colts and, and several surgeries that,

Oh really?

That must have been scary.

Yeah.

Because the neck takes everything.

Right.

I remember that.

I remember that.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

The surgeries that I went to, I basically like challenged them to tell me, like, hey, tell me I can't play anymore.
And that's the end of it.
Like I will walk away today.
I'm not going to, I want to be healthy for the rest of my life.
And I mean, they just wouldn't say it.
They said, Hey, your neck actually is secure.
You have nerve damage in your right arm.
So I had weakness.
That was kind of my issue.
But, you know, I remember the doctor that I trusted most is like Peyton, if you were my own son, I'd tell you, you were cleared to play.
If you get your strength back, you know, you're good to go.
And so that's, that's kind of what it was for me.
By the way, by the way, it should be noted.
Sorry.
Just stay on the neck thing.
I'm not kidding.
Chappy Mark Chappell, who's my, my, my buddy and writing partner in England is a friend of the show.
He literally texted me during 10 minutes ago out of the blue.
I love you.
He says, in the end, I decided, in the end, I decided to have surgery on my problematic muscle in my neck.
Oh wow.
Dot, dot, dot.
I never looked back.
Very nice.
That's a joke.
Thank you, Chappy.
Out of the blue.
So with you and Eli kind of boldly going into a lane that your father had already been incredibly successful in, it's just, I think it's really incredible that, that you guys had the courage to do that, knowing that you're probably going to be unfairly judged.
And then had incredible results.
Can you talk a little bit about what that process was, making that, that calculation and, and then what it felt like when you guys did so well.
Yeah.
I mean, we didn't know how it was going to turn out because there was no kind of baseline for what we were doing.
And I knew doing it with Eli, Jason was, was the only way to do it, right?
You talk about chemistry amongst broadcast partners.
Like, I know Eli very well.
He makes fun of me very well, often a lot.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

I mean, the forehead jokes, they get a little old.
I'm like, get some new material.
I think, I think that gave us a chance kind of coming out of the blocks that we see football the same way.
Eli and I used to have these conversations on the bus after a Colts or Giants game.
And we could just talk about the play from one of our games and I could see it.
Like, I didn't have to write it down.
He didn't have to screenshot a picture of the defense.
I'm like, I got it.
And so we still kind of can see it that same way.
But look, I love talking football with people who love football as much as I do.
And Snoop Dogg loves football.
There's a little more smoke coming out of Snoop's Zoom than there is kind of least.
But he loves football.
So it's all good.
So, yeah, look, it's not for everybody.
You know, I think people go back and forth between the main broadcast and the B team, which, you know, I think ESPN just wants you watching one of their channels.
But I think the one thing is clear that Eli and I are having fun doing it.
And so I think if they see us having fun, maybe the viewer has fun as well.
So maybe that's why it's worked.
But it's, you know, it's, it's a fun way to stay close to the game.
And he and I like celebrating the positive accomplished.
We're not looking to rip anybody.
We'd rather say great play by the defensive back as opposed to what a horrible throw by the, by the quarterback, because we've been there, right?
We've thrown all those interceptions.
So, you know, that's kind of what you guys are amazing at it.
No, no, I appreciate it.
It's infectious, man.
Yeah, it's really good.
Keep it up. Keep going.
Thank you for your time today.
Thanks, Peyton.
Good to see you again.
And maybe we'll see you down the road.
You can, you can, you can watch my process up close and my incredible waggles.
I can't wait.
I can't wait.
Thanks for having me, guys.
All right, Peyton.
Thanks for coming.
Very kind of you.
All right.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

Bye, buddy.

Bye.

How great is Peyton Manning?

I mean, that guy.

JB, great one.

Great cast.

I mean, listen, it's, this is, this is, this is the greatest thing about this podcast.

You get to sit there and you get to talk to these, these, these heroes.

He's like, I mean, I fan out on everybody we have on this show.

I consider myself your hero.

Well, but Be Pressing Company definitely excluded.

Oh.

It's, you know, you get, when are we going to have a chance to talk to Peyton Manning and be like a little, little, little boy, asking him all these questions.

Yeah.

Now that I'm older, I'm actually a fan.

Yeah.

I was, I was always, always a fan of his, always, always.

I just, I love the way he did.

A, I thought he was really funny, but B, I love the way he played football.

And then C, when he did get injured and came back from it and won a Super Bowl, that was fucking rad.

Was that the neck?

Well, the neck injury?

Yeah.

Oh, wow.

And people were worried, he talked about it.

I mean, kind of downplayed it.

People were worried about whether he'd be able to throw that well again and stuff.

And he really gets hit.

Is that, is that it?

And it just, Sean, it kind of goes to what you were talking about, like having that, whatever that thing is of being a leader.

Yeah.

Like he's got so much confidence in his own ability to bounce back and not to just walk around, but to bounce back and win a Super Bowl.

Yeah.

Yeah.

You know.

I know exactly how that feels.

Yeah.

I guess you do.

Hey, you know the song, I like short shorts.

Does it apply to, I guess, do you like short shorts?

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

Well, is that underwear?
Is that what we're wearing today?
These are my little golf shorts.
My little gray ones.
You know, so Will and I,
Want me to wear darker ones today?
Yes.
Shades good.
Or just longer ones.
Will and I hosted a couple of friends of ours that are members at another golf course here in Los Angeles.
One of whom is a big friend of the show has done two episodes, a live episode in the studio.
And so Will had the idea yesterday that we should show up and intimidate them by wearing matching outfits.
And so we did.
We did, really?
Yeah.
A pair of pants and a white shirt, white shoes, white hat.
Can you say who it is or no?
Unimportant.
But now we're going to their course today.
Their course allows shorts.
Okay.
Yes.
That guy.
So we're going to wear some shorts today.
It looks like Will.
Yes.
We haven't discussed our...
So these are the light gray.
I also have a bit of a darker gray short.
Do you have any that are your size?
No, they all came in a boy's medium.
Yeah.
So why don't we rethink this?
No, sit back down.
We got it.
Yep.
There it is.
And the granimals is that you match the top.
Yeah.
I tell you what, Sean, we're going to go.
We're going to play.

[Transcript] SmartLess / "Peyton Manning"

And don't worry.

Afterwards, I'm going to give you the full play.

Bye.

Bye.

Play.

Well done.

Bye.

With an assist to Rob Armjörv.

Rob Armjörv.

Smart.

Nice.

Smart.

Smart.

Nice.

Smart.

Nice.

SmartLess is 100% organic and artisanly handcrafted by Michael Grant Terry, Rob Armjörv and Bennett

Barbedro.

Smart.

Nice.

Smart.

Nice.

Our next episode will be out in a week, wherever you listen to podcasts or you can listen do it right now, early on Amazon Music, or early and add free by subscribing to Wondry Plus in Apple Podcasts or the Wondry App.