

Great Moments In Weed History Ep 05 Jesus Hands

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BEAN: This podcast is for adults 21 years of age and over. We talk about cannabis history and advertise cannabis products. If you're not 21 please come back when you are

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ABDULLAH: Greetings folks. It's Abdullah

BEAN: And Bean

ABDULLAH: And welcome back for another episode of great moments in weed history on this show. Being an I who are both cannabis journalists and media makers go through one of the more fascinating points in the very, very long history of cannabis. I have no prior knowledge of the story we're about to hear, been as written and researched it and he's going to tell it to me and you and we're going to sit around and get high and have some tasty beverages and generally have a great time. So join us being, what do you got for us today?

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BEAN: Well, it's a little bit different today.

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ABDULLAH: Oh yeah, I noticed there's a third chair in the room

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BEAN: And who says that smoking weed kills your power of observation?

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ABDULLAH: Seriously, I'm telling you the first thing I noticed when I walked in here. Third chair.

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BEAN: Yes, indeed. We have a very, very special guest today who has come to tell us about an incredibly great moment. And we'd history, it's one that happened right here in the city of angels where we're recording and it's one that not only happened in our lifetimes, but that we both experienced.

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ABDULLAH: Wow. Oh my God. So my mind is racing through some of the Los Angeles great moments that I've personally experienced. Uh, I can't think of one yet that this might be. Let's bring in our special guests.

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BEAN: Well, I think first you've got to do a little work. You gotta roll something up. Oh, you have a guest coming

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ABDULLAH: In all my excitement. I just left these nuggets on ground right in front of me. I'm going to mitigate this right now.

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BEAN: Well, I think while you're working on that, I can go grab our very special guest and then I think we're ready for another

ABDULLAH AND BEAN: Great moment in weed history

AUDIO BUMPER: Spoke Media.

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ABDULLAH: So this is certainly a familiar phase of fixture in the Los Angeles cannabis and our communities. My man, Jesus hands.

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BEAN: So you guys doing? Yeah, I thought you guys might have intersected at some point.

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ABDULLAH: We have, of course, Jesus' hands is an LA staple and we've run into each other at weed parties. And we even filmed together a little bit in the past, but I don't know all the details

about the very, very important, great moment. And we'd history that Jesus' hands himself executed right here in LA. Uh, why did you tell us more about it?

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BEAN: There's a pretty iconic sign here in Los Angeles and it says, uh, mostly Hollywood for the vast majority of its life. And I gotta say, I was just talking about this the other day. Like, I, I've lived in Los Angeles. I'm here a lot to work. Every time I see that sign, it does something to me, never more so for me. Then on a certain morning when I woke up, I'm living in Los Angeles at the time and, uh, had a Gander at it and it seemed to have been altered in some way. What, what, what did it say?

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JESUS HANDS: You know what? It was changed to say Hollyweed.

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ABDULLAH: That's right. So thanks to Jesus Hands on New Year's day, 2017, all Angelenos within view of the Hollywood sign read it and it said Hollyweed. That's right. Holy shit man. Just that simple little change, those two little letters to shout from the rooftops truly and tell the people that a new era is on its way an era of weed here in Los Angeles and here in California. Thank you so much for doing that. It was a huge moment. It made the news, it was fucking everywhere and people were really excited. A lot of people were wondering how the fuck you manage the single handedly alter two letters on this gigantic sign. So yeah, that's nuts man. What inspired you to do this in the first place?

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JESUS HANDS: So a few things come to mind. Uh, 2016 it's crazy year for me personally, I think for a lot of people. But you know, there's a lot leading up to that year in my life that brought me to doing that with whether it was working in the cannabis industry or working in, in the space of arts. Um, it was really taking that and combining both of them and all my experiences and failures and learning experiences and being able to project it into something to scale.

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BEAN: And I think just to put it in perspective, that was the first day that cannabis was fully legal in the state of California. We voted on it in November, 2016 but the law didn't take effect until New Year's day. And then I think a lot of people needed a little cheering up right around that

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ABDULLAH: Seriously, man. Now a lot of people don't remember this because it was also the day that Donald Trump was elected president. And you know, obviously that that's what, uh, you know, took over all the headlines, but a bunch of places legalized cannabis in various forms on that day as well. There was a number of ballot initiatives voted on. And in California we voted in recreational legal adult use cannabis. And since then I, in terms of reactions throughout the cannabis community, it's been a little bit of a mixed bag. At the time. It was a real momentous occasion and we were all like, Holy shit, what's the world going to look like? What better way to bring in that new year than a Hollyweed sign? And this is what kind of fun for us. First time we've had it

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BEAN: Guests in the studio. It's kind of the most recent by far the most recent story. We've done a lot of stories like from the 70s um, and so it is redefining what we'd history even is really the moment you did. It was this, uh, pivotal transformative moment in certainly California. We'd history, but I think for the world. And you said like, Oh, if you saw the sign that morning, but people didn't have to live in Los Angeles or specific parts of Los Angeles, cause that shit, my, I don't even know. I'm on Instagram like once a month and my Instagram was just a hundred thousand pictures.

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ABDULLAH: Oh yeah. It hit the airwaves hard and fast for sure. I mean it was all over. Instagram was all over social media. It was all over the news

NEWS MONTAGE: In Hollywood, a shocking sight overnight. The iconic 45 foot tall Hollywood sign altered to read Hollyweed. The Hollyweed sign. I'm sorry, the Hollywood sign. By the way, this story caught fire over the weekend. On New Year's Day, California woke up to find one of its most iconic landmarks defiled by Propati pranksters. It was funny,

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BEAN: you know in Big Lebowski when he says that thought had not occurred to us. Dude, when did the idea to change the Hollywood sign first occur to you? Dude,

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JESUS HANDS: The thought to change the Hollywood sign came to me about two months before I changed it. So it would have been like October. I had the thought to change the sign to say love and

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ABDULLAH: You were thinking you would like cover the entire sign with another sign that said love or somehow

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JESUS HANDS: Yeah, block it out too. So love. And I was like trying to figure it out and I was like, nah, it's not going to work. I know. I was just going through my head of different combinations of things that I could say and Hollyweed was not one of them. Mind you, a week later on the porch again, chillin. Fucking on my Instagram and I don't know what the fucking algorithm was already fucking dialed at this point or what, but they fucking tuned into my brain cell and all my friends look in feed of fucking showed Hollyweed and then went the fuck. No, no fucking way. Hollyweed I'm like, that's my fucking sign. That's what I'm going to fucking do. That's it right there. That's it. I'm fucking doing it.

ABDULLAH: And what was that? What was that photo from?

JESUS HANDS: Is from Danny find good in 1976

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MONTAGE: the dark of night, some marijuana fanciers snuck up to the fable Hollywood sign high in the Hills above Tinseltown and strung sheets to make it read. Hollyweed

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ABDULLAH: The original guy who years ago, decades ago did the Hollyweed thing. So your project was kind of an homage to this.

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JESUS HANDS: That's right. Exactly. And it was just like the synchronicity. It was just to see that and then, and to have that show up, I was like, okay, that's a sign. And I had no idea that anybody had even fucked with the Hollywood sign ever. And then, and then I looked and I saw somebody like change it to like Kesha would. And I was like, Oh, get the fuck out of here. No, right.

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JESUS HANDS: Not as cool, not cool. And so I was like, nah, nah, nah.

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JESUS HANDS: And you know, just because something happens once doesn't mean it can't happen again. And history. And I think that's the beautiful part about history is, is you learn from the past. And so, and so that's what I did. And, you know, I attempted to recruit people to help me, but everybody thought I was crazy and they're like, they couldn't comprehend that that had happened. And I was like, nah, it's happened guys. Listen to me. Here's, and here's why. He did it for an art project and he did it for the, to sign the decriminalization from a felony to a misdemeanor. And so I was like, Whoa, it's going to be going from a fucking misdemeanor to fucking legal. I'm like, Whoa, this is a whole other level. It's history. Starting to repeat.

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BEAN: Okay. Yeah, I did a little, I did a little research on, on, uh, Danny Finegood. Very, very much a friend of the podcast, unfortunately he passed away a few years ago, but I'm going to read a bit from his obituary in the LA times just so we, we bring in his story. So he, he grew up in Los Angeles and he lived near the sign and it was like imprinted on him. You know, you can just imagine he lived, he grew up somewhere where he could see the sign every time he walked out the door. And the sign itself was built in 1923 do either of you guys of the, do you know why it was built?

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ABDULLAH: No, I don't. I know originally from a movie called the rocket tear, I learned this a, that it said Hollywood land and then also from the rockets here, I learned that the rockets here crashed into the land part and that's why it says Hollywood.

BEAN: Okay, so you're up on the,

ABDULLAH: Yes, I have all the facts. So what is the story?

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BEAN: It was, I was Hollywood land and it was a promotional campaign for like a housing development. They were just, it was housing development called Hollywood land. That was like, you know, this was a very new idea in 1923 to like build a whole development and they're trying to sell it. Um, and people just

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ABDULLAH:: huge sign to build that same letters too. It's just like, but yeah. So, so what happens,

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BEAN: so this is now, this is from the Los Angeles times. Oh bet. The first time Danny Finegood. Played a word game with the Hollywood sign. He hung curtains to make it read. Hollyweed that was January 1st, 1976 the day the States relaxed marijuana law took effect as, as you said, going from a felony to a misdemeanor. [inaudible] so yeah, he also, at various times later he changed it to say Holywood cause the Pope was coming and just blacking out one hour and one time he had it say Ollywood to protest against Oliver North during the Iran Contra Scandal.

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ABDULLAH: Ah, interesting. Wow. That's that convenient. You know what I mean? That sign can be used, express so many

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ABDULLAH: different things. You know what? We should blacking out at some points where it just says woo. [inaudible]

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BEAN: You say that one time he, during the Persian Gulf war, he made it say oil war. Wow. That one they took down very fast.

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ABDULLAH: That's clever. Yeah,

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JESUS HANDS: That's a statement.

BEAN: And so find good, considered these alterations to be pranks but also works of environmental sculpture. So the Hollyweed sign, the first one, and that was the first time he changed the sign. It was originally conceived as a class project when he was an art major at Cal State Northridge. He started by making a scale model of the Hollywood sign and then he spent about \$50 on black curtains. But this was, you know, in the 70s. So that would be almost \$200 in today's dollars,

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ABDULLAH: Damn, have you seen how expensive goddamn curtains are.

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BEAN: Shit man. So, uh, just continuing with this obit, I find good. And his three accomplices use stones and ropes to hang the sheets and I'm, I'm dying to hear how you did it, but we'll, we'll get there. We're going to need, and they base their methods on how you raise sales on a ship. And according to his wife, Daniel's parents were up early that morning to catch the sign. They were very proud of him that he had thought this up and this daring act earned him an A on the class project. And it's also how he actually started dating. His wife thought it was pretty cool.

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ABDULLAH: Wow. Amazing. So for you it was like, you know, it was at the end of a marriage and for him it was at the beginning of them.

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JESUS HANDS: May I add something about something that I found out after? Correct me if I'm wrong. Cause his birthday, it's March 21st mine is March 22nd.

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JESUS HANDS: Whoa. Isn't that weird?

ABDULLAH: That's crazy. It's one day later.

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BEAN: Okay. I'm going to do something we've never done before. Um, great moments and we had history. We're going to set up a speculative ghost microphone. Yeah. And if the spirit moves him and, and Daniel wants to chime in. I think the portal is open at this point. We're almost through with this joint, but there's just enough left Daniel the weed in 2019

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ABDULLAH: it's really good. It worked buddy. It works. The weed is really good now.

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BEAN: Also, if you could bring us a little of that old school, like a Maui Wowie shit that was around LA in the 70s yeah, we'll have a nice session just to round out his story and they will get into the meat of this. He also tipped off, there was no social media, so he called some reporters and people in the media and said, this is going to happen. You're going to want to get a really good picture of it and that made any of the image go around the world. It took a lot longer for the image to go around the world, but it did. And the Los Angeles times in their account of this refer to him as a vandal and he wrote them a letter and he said, "we broke no laws and did no damage to the sign and artist's thoughts throughout history has been to create representations of the culture they exist in by hanging for relatively small pieces of fabric on the landmark. We were able to change people's perceptions".

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ABDULLAH: Yeah, man, that's the best kind of public art or street art or whatever you want to call it, that actually doesn't do any permanent damage, is not an inconvenience to anyone. Right. Uh, but, but it still says something and is a strong image. And I mean, the clever thing about this one is that it's visible from everywhere. You know what I mean? It's a, it's pretty brilliant on all levels.

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BEAN: Alright. I think we're gonna take our little break, get, get paid to smoke some weed and when we come back, we're going to go from your inspiration to your actions.

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JESUS HANDS: Awesome.

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AUDIO BUMPER: Smoke Weedia,

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ABDULLAH: And we're back. We're about to find out exactly how my man, Jesus hands turn the Hollywood sign into the Hollyweed sign for one very special day. The beginning of 2017

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BEAN: Yeah. And I know we, we just had a joint and we're smoking a joint, but the Epic scale of this story, I think yup. Requires a second. You're going to have to start rolling at two. Right? And so yeah. When did it go from inspiration to action mode?

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JESUS HANDS: I started to think very simple. I've never been up to the sign. So about two weeks before I decided to hike up, so I got up early in the morning and mobbed up.

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BEAN: Uh, I'm, I'm not that cool mobbed up.

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JESUS HANDS: Mobbed up.

BEAN: So where I grew up, mobbed up meant one thing. I don't think that you got three guys all named Tony in the car with you. Well there's Anthony, Antony and Tony.

ABDULLAH: Tony jr.

BEAN: Oh no. Tony juniors. I, we'll talk about it. I got tone. I'm talking about Tony two. So what's mobbed up?,

JESUS HANDS: So then I took an Uber. That's me mobbing up.

BEAN: Um, so where, where do you get dropped off? What's it like there? And then what's the height?

JESUS HANDS: So when you go up a Beechwood, it's a neighborhood and at the end of the street there's a gate that the neighbors or the people on the street, the residents fought to get in and put in place because people would be going up to the Hollywood sign and back in the Hills, past the sunset and causing a big stir. So I think the gate was there for about two years prior to me doing this.

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JESUS HANDS: You know, it's really just a deterrent.

BEAN: Well, had you done other things like this before? Had you changed signs? Had you gone places you weren't necessarily supposed to go

JESUS HANDS: In the term of like being a rebel? Yes, I wasn't doing any large scale. Like I'd done smaller things around Los Angeles, like in like the river bed. And so that was really my exposure to, to like art, unlike a large scale.

BEAN: Cool. And so you're at the gate, back to the gate. Let's go to the gate. So what's that? What's the gate look like? This.

JESUS HANDS: So the gate is just like, it's a green gate, maybe like 12 feet tall. I don't know if it's green. Maybe beige, I don't know remember colors now

BEAN: We all smoke weed here. Then the color of a gate from three years ago. You're off the hook reveal detail.

JESUS HANDS: There's a little rust on there.

BEAN: He didn't do it. That gate. His shark truce. It's full of shit.

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JESUS HANDS: Anyways, back to the Hill. So I'm, I'm, I'm coming up Beachwood. I go, I pass through the gate. There's a security guard there in the morning chilling. I'm like, alright, cool. There's a guard here, check and there's a hiking trail that you can go up. So I hike up the trail, I get to the top of mountain Lee and it's about seven in the morning as I get up there, there's like three other hikers and,

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ABDULLAH: And you, you've got like all your gear on you right now. So you've got what? Like what do you have with you?

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JESUS HANDS: Oh, I don't have anything with me at this point. I'm just hiking in the morning.

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ABDULLAH: Okay. This is you scouting all these guys from the joint.

BEAN: I'm casing the joint as Tony jr would say,

ABDULLAH: we don't talk about Tony jr

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JESUS HANDS: So, so I get to the top and two, two of the people up there, one of them has an American flag and he's has his dog with him and he's putting up an American flag on top of mountain Lee. When I get up there in the morning and I'm like, Whoa, this is weird. I'm like, check like, Nope. I look around and there's a bunch of trash everywhere and then I'm like, this place is dirty. I'm like, and I'm looking and there's a bunch of cameras everywhere. And I'm like okay, you gotta have a grip of cameras but you have a bunch of trash. Like nobody's really watching what's going on and see cigarette butts everywhere. Like nobody really cares. But people are pretty halfway responsible. But I see the guy putting up the flag and I'm like yo, that is a fucking sign. He's fucking expressing himself in the way of, you know, embracing America for what it is or was at the moment on that day. And

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ABDULLAH: Yeah, he was like, I'm taking this Hill for America finally. Yeah. This Hill is going to be claimed by its right. So anyways, so you see this, I mean that is definitely a pretty crazy man. There's been a number of omens already. There's a lot of like synchronicity going on. So, so what happens next?

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JESUS HANDS: Then he starts chatting it up with the lady up there and then I start, you know, and I, I walked down closer to the road and then you can look over at the back of the sign and you're looking out towards the city now and I'm trying to see cameras and their locations. I walked back and I hiked back down the mountain and then I'd just get right to work and like grind mode of like, okay, what needs to happen, what do I need to do? And, and I didn't know like the, like from what you read, like they don't give you like the dimensions or any of that stuff, you know, I, I just had to wing it. Like I knew I had to do it. I just knew I had to be done. The risk is not that big two weeks later and it's like New Year's Eve and I'm bucking down to the wire that day. I'm still going out to grab the rest of the fabric because I couldn't find sheets big enough. We had to fucking sewn together and make a massive one.

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ABDULLAH: And you just got bedsheets from like the front door from the dollar store, whatever from a thrift store.

BEAN: And you had a, you have a little crew that you're working with at this point.

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JESUS HANDS: The funny thing is it was my ex wife, so she helped. So the fabric together for me, I fucking came up with the dimensions by looking at the ladder on the side of the fucking letter and then looking up the dimensions on what regulation has for the city for ladders on, on billboards and signs I sweat and said, then I took those measurements and I went off the photo and I and I measured across and then added like four feet on each one and it was just enough.

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ABDULLAH: Oh no kidding. It was a guesstimate. [inaudible] you nailed it. Because I mean, when you look at images of the sign, it's pretty dead on. I mean like, you know, it looks perfect.

BEAN: And did you have any like little OB one type moment where Daniel was like 32 feet?

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JESUS HANDS: Yeah, like that came later. Like I swear it later in the story. Like there's a real thing to that.

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ABDULLAH: We'd love to hear it

BEAN: If you're cool with talking about it a little bit. How, how did your ex get back into the mix of this project?

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JESUS HANDS: I just asked her if she could help me. So in the past we'd always worked creatively and the work ethic was perfect. Like it was a good match. It was just perfect. I mean, if it wasn't her, I was gonna be somebody else. I mean, but she did a great job and honestly, I wouldn't have asked for anybody else to do it.

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ABDULLAH: So you've checked it out, you got everything you need at this point to actually pull off this caper. How'd you actually do it?

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JESUS HANDS: How did I do it? Man? That's the fucking 99% of it was fucking mental. The physical aspect of it was planning. And what I wore that night was camouflage. You know, I live in the United States, I'm going to fucking do it like an American and fucking wear cat fucking camera and like, you know, like use a use what's there, use what's available. And I had this jacket that I thrifted like fucking two years prior and I wore it on the ranch every day. Well not every day, but I load up clamps on both sides of this jacket and the clamps or what, I used to attach the sheets to the sign. So my right side was one. Oh my left side was another, Oh, the top pockets were where the white was, the the white middle. And then the bottom was the block side. So I had it all just like coordinated because I didn't have much room for error, you know? And once you're up there like that's it, you're committed and you're all over the fucking fence, you're committed, you know.

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BEAN: Is there anything else that you need?

ABDULLAH: Did you need climbing equipment, ropes or, Oh, you're wearing a ski mask. Boots.

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JESUS HANDS: Yeah. So I had, I had a Timberlands on, there were steel toe, had some jeans. I had thermals because it, it was scheduled to rain. So I was prepping for fucking rain that night. Oh boy. Yeah, I was ready for like, yeah. And I had like fucking hand warmers in case I had to hide in the fucking bushes. And then I started getting like a little bit on the paranoid side of like, fuck man. Like there's been a lot of fucking shootings from like law enforcement. Like I started to thinking like, man, I'm going up there with a fucking jacket and a backpack and a bag. Fucking duffle bag. I look like a fucking terrorist or somebody that is going to hurt

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ABDULLAH: Should you open your jacket? It's nothing but claim. Yeah, right, right. Yeah, yeah.

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JESUS HANDS: Seems a little [inaudible]. Right. [inaudible]

BEAN: And the actual story seems quite sus as well.

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ABDULLAH: The planning and everything. Yeah.

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JESUS HANDS: So the clock is fucking ticking. It's coming up to fucking midnight and I'm like, okay shit. My plan was to be there up on the sign by like three and have all my shit. I have the fucking sheets rolled up, folded all fucking proper in each bag. So when I grabbed him I knew that they would unroll a certain way and fucking fall and then I could just pull them up. There was no confusion for any of this shit. It had to be down. I still ran into fucking problems. I modeled the fucking mountain and, but when I mean mob, I mean me and fucking Tony jr.

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BEAN: Okay, so what's the path up the mountain? Like is it like paved or,

JESUS HANDS: Oh, it's muddy and I wasn't really accounting for like the weight of the mud on my shoes and stuff like that. Or to be like a fuck, I'm going to slip while I'm up trying to climb.

BEAN: And this is your first time being up there at night and they alone. So that's a new factor. And you're coming up, you're saying behind the sign

JESUS HANDS: Behind the sign. That's right. I was fortunate to, when I was dropped off at the gate, the security guard wasn't there, but as booth was, he looking dipped out for the night. I was like, yes. Fucking scores.

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ABDULLAH: So I mean New Year's Eve, boy, did he have a rough morning? Yeah, I hope he at least smokes weed. Like new year's morning. You're like 19 missed calls work.

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ABDULLAH: Uh, now, now you're in there. You're, your boots are just covered in mud

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JESUS HANDS: Covered in mud. So I get up to the back and there's a fucking gang of light and I'm fucking starting to freak a little bit. This is the only time I got hesitant. The only time I had doubt was right as I'm turning the corner, I remember feeling like, man, all eyes on me all of a sudden because the fucking light.

BEAN: It's also like the spotlight for you, I guess so in a very, very Hollywood way.

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ABDULLAH: Yeah. I wonder if [inaudible] Hollywood where? Yeah. I wonder if there's anyone actually looking at this sign in these next few moments and being like, Oh my God, somebody changes though. And they probably, you know what? They probably assumed that they saw it. Oh, it's probably like a sanctioned ad campaign or something. But yeah. So now what was the, what happens next?

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JESUS HANDS: I just started to walk down below the front of the sign, walked in front of the agent and the O and I looked and I can hear the static like two way radio and I'm like, Oh shit. Like this shit's fucking hot. I don't know. I'm like, fuck, somebody could just fucking talk to me right now and be like, leave. You know what I mean now shall not pass. You know what I mean? Like some crazy shit and nobody did. And I was like, all right, cool. And there's a, there's like two cameras and two sensors on every letter at the bottom and I think there's one at the top of each letter, there's a bunch of cameras on that fucking sign. I don't even know. I think there's like 22 total on the top of mountain view. One is a direct line back to LAPD.

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JESUS HANDS: So then I start passing these fucking sensors and they start going off and turning red, like they're activating the cameras to record. And I'm like, ah shit. And I notice the fucking ladder does not come all the way down the bottom of the ladder to climb up. The side of the sign is like 15 feet on the first toe. And, and so, so to get to that, I had to shimmy between the mountain that was cut out around the beam and then the other side of the beam and just go between the two until I got to the bottom of the fucking thing and then pull myself up and then climb. And each letter is like around like 50 feet in height.

ABDULLAH: Holy crap.

JESUS HANDS: Yeah,

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BEAN: And so the task at hand is in the wood part, you have to change to O's T E that's right. And you're between these two owes using them to shimmy yourself up the side high enough to drop the drapes basically.

ABDULLAH: Is there like a ledge up there or like

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JESUS HANDS: No. So, so in order to get across from one side of the letter to the other, there's like, you know, there's like six or eight uh, steel beams that go between the letters for structural strength. I was able to go between two, two of those on the first letter I used like a tie down for a truck like my harness as my harness around one of those things. And then I shimmied up across, had to, I had to think outside the box because I didn't calculate for the width of the sign of the letter to bring the sheet around.

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BEAN: This happens to me every time I try to put a fitted sheet on a bed. I have never once gotten it right on the first try.

JESUS HANDS: Yeah, exactly. Yeah. That's a perfect, perfect one dude.

BEAN: Oh, okay. I just mean harder meaning you had to, like, you didn't know if you were doing it the right way, if it was supposed to be 90 degrees rotated essentially in order to rotate it the 90 degrees up. Oh yeah. Right. So you didn't account for that. .

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JESUS HANDS: Yeah so what I had to do was, I had to take off that fucking harness.

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BEAN: And this is five stories up 50 feet in the air.

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JESUS HANDS: Yeah. And the thing, and it's, it's slightly windy, so the fucking letters like Swain.

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BEAN: So it's raised more than reasonable to say you're risking your life at this point to some extent. Yeah. And was that something that uh, you would have taken that bargain going in or it just as adventures do the stakes raise and raise? It's

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JESUS HANDS: Almost, yeah, as they raise, it's like, it's okay. I guess that is what I signed up for because it's like the challenge and being able to like solve that problem on the spot and that's I think innate in me and like I just, I really liked that, like to be able to solve problems and like a solution based person for, for all. So like I guess that was just part of it and it looking back

like, fuck man, if I was told that that was gonna happen, I would've been like obviously prepared, but like it would have freaked me out. It fucking give me a bunch of anxiety. Like, Oh man, you're going to do that. If I was to sit and watch the happen of myself, I'd fucking be freaking out. Like, dude, what are you doing? No, no, no, you're fucked. You know, I would have talked myself out of it for sure. But all the only thing that fucking clicked in my head was, fuck, I did it. Cool. Yeah. Like that's it. And I was like, all right, cool. I'm outta here. I should probably run. And so I started running. I like for no fucking reason, like just scared myself and I'm like, why am I running like I'm done? Who gives a fuck? Like

30:38

ABDULLAH: Yeah, now you're not carrying all the shit that you can carry. 30:41

JESUS HANDS: Exactly. So I have it all like packed away. I'm cruising. I got back to the, to the point of entry and it started to run a little bit like I was sprinting like, and as I was running there was like a little pothole and I, and I rolled my ankle in these boots, bro come on, Tim's, you did me dirty.

31:00

JESUS HANDS: Like, so I, at that point I was like, yo, just chill bro. I'm like, you gotta join it as Jack courier. I just lit up joint and music was playing so I had it on shuffle. This is another omen bro added on shuffle and artist by the name of Jim James. There's a song called the world smiling now and it came on and like, I couldn't believe what I was seeing because in the distance I was able to see fireworks going off because it was new years to have that song come on and be like, like the world's smiling. And the best part about it is like, I never really got to see the sign completed. I left, I went home and I didn't see it until the next day or that morning, a few hours later on media.

31:46

ABDULLAH: And then so were you expecting it to blow up the way that it actually did?

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JESUS HANDS: You know, honestly, you know, while I was up there on the sign, like I said, we got windy and started swaying. Like I was nervous that things were going to fucking blow off bro. I was like, listen to my fucking blow off. Like, I don't know, like I don't know if I'm gonna be strong enough to clams, like just to have it done. I felt like mission completed. Like that was, uh, the fact that it blew up the way it did. Like I fucking deflated. When I got home, I went right to bed. I felt like all my powers.

32:15

JESUS HANDS: Do you know what I mean? Like, yeah, she was gone, bro.

BEAN: Yeah. I always sleep really well after something like that. [inaudible] yeah. So, alright, so you got a joint of Jack Hurt and as I'm sure you know, not only a legendary weed strain, but a legendary person in the weed movement who pushed for this legalization moment his entire

32:40

BEAN: life and got to see a lot of progress but didn't get to see it all. So I think that's a really beautiful [inaudible]

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ABDULLAH: Oh, very appropriate. Yeah. Yeah. That's amazing. All right. So you get home, you fucking collapse on the couch, right? Uh, and the world finds out about Hollyweed once again, uh, your shit blows up. You go viral for a day. How'd you find out?

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JESUS HANDS: Um, I found out by my ex wife.

33:12

JESUS HANDS: Busting down the door to the bedroom and being like Zack

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JESUS HANDS: It's everywhere. And I was like coming to and, like what? Like what I remember seeing up in the bed and how I remember it so clear in her, like almost like this with like the door open, you know, like, like a fucking sitcom, you know? And, and being like, what is everywhere? What are you fucking talking about? I hadn't like no memory. I was like fucking amnesia or something. I swear. I was like, I took me a second to come to and be like, what the fuck is she talking about? And maybe in like a span of five seconds, but it didn't, you know, and then it hit me and I was like, and, and she was like, come downstairs. And I went downstairs and it was on TV and I was like, Whoa. Like,

34:01

ABDULLAH: and on TV, like on the news?

34:02

BEAN: Yeah. Like every time you see something like that in the movies where they happen to turn on the TV and then it happens and you're like, Oh my God,

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ABDULLAH: Was so, were you worried about getting arrested for doing what you did?

34:21

JESUS HANDS: No. What came into play for me was literally doing my due diligence and looking to the law and being like, what is trespassing mean in California? Like what does it say? I'm going to read that shit. I read what the definition of a vandalism was as well

34:36

BEAN: I think that comes out of being a weed person is like if you are constantly under the threat of some law and it changes depending on where you are and what you doing and that hundreds plant is a lot different than the 99th plant and this County is a lot different. And I know you went through all of that in that gray market area.

34:56

JESUS HANDS: Yep. Calculate it, add it up, make sure it's a line. Right.

34:59

ABDULLAH: Did you ever have any repercussion, like what was the backlash, if any, that you got over the sign thing?

35:06

JESUS HANDS: So the police, LAPD like reached out pretty quick.

35:10

ABDULLAH: They knew it was you, they'd seen you on the camera.

35:13

JESUS HANDS: Yeah. Well well they just knew it was like a single individual. They couldn't identify who it was, but they knew it was a male individuals, what they said and gave like the description chief of police fucking reading it off. And I was like, eh, like waving, you know, like the wave of the fucking camera. And I put my Instagram handle on there as well as a tribute to mr. fine. Good on the sheets.

35:33

ABDULLAH: Oh, okay. So it had your hand on. So that was, but it was traceable to you and I, and I posted a

35:38

JESUS HANDS: photo, you know, it's all like, in my eyes it's hearsay, you know, anybody can just say they fucking did it. And people did that. They took credit for it. Oh yeah, I am spark [inaudible] wait, sorry.

35:52

BEAN: I am Spartacus.

ABDULLAH: Yeah. So other than that, but the, the cops didn't do any. Okay. So, so the cops show up, they get in touch.

35:58

JESUS HANDS: So, so they get in touch first with my ex wife leaving her a message saying that they need her to come down to the station, talk to her or myself about the incident. My attorney, I got an attorney on deck that came through for me and he was in touch with LAPD and they wanted me to turn myself in on like a Friday. And he was like, no, bro. He's like, definitely don't go with them.

36:19

BEAN: Yeah, you'll be in there until Monday. Exactly three day. Weekends are great and all. But

36:27

JESUS HANDS: He's like, if I were you, I was like, I would just lay low. He's like, he's like, but they did say they're going to try to find you in Joshua tree on the central coast. Like they're just

based on my Instagram posts. They're like trying to throw threats and I'm like, Oh man. All right. So I was on hideout mode for, uh, a bunch of like press media. Yeah. Like that was going on at the time and it was a little bit of like duck and roll, you know? Um,

36:54

BEAN: That's when we met, you came up to the office. You were still in this InBetween period where you'd done the deed, but you had not been held to account for anything in any way. And it was a some cool shit. [inaudible] that's fucked the outlaw day is, you know, I like to tell people, I, the 15 years at high times, I started with, I'll get in the trunk of your car and go out and see your grow. And now it's like, Oh, I'm the CEO of Obama. And I'm like,

ABDULLAH: Seriously?

BEAN: That was cool. But so then when does, when, when does, uh, your intersection with law enforcement happen?

37:33

JESUS HANDS: So that happened on the first happened on, I went into the station, turned myself in catch and release. They charged me with trespassing, which I already knew by my research is like one of the hardest, if not the hardest things to prosecute in California. And there has to be some sort of offense that's tied to it, like vandalism, which obviously there wasn't because I didn't, you know, damage the sign and whatnot. So.

BEAN: So how did doing this change your life?

JESUS HANDS: Changing the sign changed my life really. Some people like will judge me for the way I look right away or, you know what I mean? And have like a judgment about who I am. But the second that they understand like something that I did, like their mood and everything changes. It's just weird to see that people get fucking punked and real. You see, you see a real realness and people that like you don't normally get to see. So I feel like for me that's something new to, to like experience because you get to see like authenticity in life. Like for me personally, it's just been more work, which I love. So it's like I was ready for this. Like this is what I want.

ABDULLAH: I bet that you got a lot of free weed after this happened.

JESUS HANDS: Yeah,

ABDULLAH: Tell us about that.

38:35

ABDULLAH: What was the, what was the weed gifting like after this?

38:38

JESUS HANDS: Oh bro, so many levels of like I had to like stop answering direct messages and shit like I or emails. I just couldn't answer all of them. And like, but yeah, just a bunch of love. Tommy Chong fucking hooked me up with some stuff. Oh Dell. Nice. So he loved it. Yeah, he loved it. He really embraced the whole thing and like really gave me a lot of love. I felt like fucking King man, like boss, you know?

39:02

ABDULLAH: That's amazing. So how did that happen? Like he got in touch with you and you guys hung out?

39:06

JESUS HANDS: Yeah. Yeah, he had his, his team like contacted me through Instagram, bro. So weird. Just like the see like that play, you know what I mean? They're like, nah, that's not real. And then I fucking got on the phone. I was like, all right, it's real. Like, you know what I mean? And we set up a time to meet and like kind of take me around. We went to a bunch of shops.

BEAN: I imagine they rolled out the green carpet that most dispensaries and Tommy Chang shit. Did he talk at all about the original? Uh, because I know like 1973 [inaudible]. Yeah, he did. He did remember it and he talked about it.

JESUS HANDS: He's like, yeah, I remember when it happened in 76 and like, wow. Like his team was telling me they've never seen Tommy so happy. Like wow. Yeah. Swear. Like I was just,

39:52

ABDULLAH: That's so cool, man. Wow. Like it was like really touched me. Oh, you did that, man. That's amazing.

39:58

JESUS HANDS: It's really weird. I think out of everything that fucking humbled me honestly, like I've been in and out of like growing and and art and growing and art and growing in art and like finally was able to merge the two and I felt like fuck. And then being able to build off of that as a whole other fucking spectrum of life that I'm now experiencing, so I'm, I feel really blessed. You know what I mean?

40:17

ABDULLAH: For real man. Well, you put yourself in the weed history books for the rest of time. People will always remember, this is Weed Country.

40:28

BEAN: There are curtains in our hearts [inaudible] blocking those owes, I've been trying to get those back. If anybody can help me, if I can dial those was looking good on them. And you, you got your own weed thing going now, right? Yeah. I do. Able to launch at hall of flowers and expo up in Santa Rosa. Amazing event with Hollyweed was decided to brand my art and be able to carry on a torch of light and love through cannabis.

40:54

ABDULLAH: So you've got an actual cannabis company. Now you're your packaging. You're called to being packaging. We, Ooh, we brought a gift. It is a gift bag. Ah. Oh my God. So dude, honestly, this tote bag alone is so fucking awesome. It's just a black tote bag with the Hollyweed sign on it. That's incredible and peace and love. That's so tight. Ooh, awesome shit in here.

41:17

BEAN: Should we a spark one of these bureaus up as we take her home?

41:21

ABDULLAH: Yeah, let's light one of these up man. So, uh, look forward in your local dispensary. Hollyweed by our good friend Jesus.

41:29

BEAN: That's right. Who is not only in the weed history but in the weed history podcast.

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ABDULLAH: Yeah, that's right. Right. And that's for everybody in the post apocalypse. Shit. Well they you so much for coming my man Zack, Jesus' hands. What's your Instagram? Alright, Jesus. Hands that simple enough. Check out our boys. Zack at Jesus' hands on social media and thank you so much for hanging out with us and learning about a very recent piece of weed history that is so important and so relevant and that we'll remember for a long, long, long, long time. Thank you for doing what you did my man and thanks for hanging out with us. We'll see you next time on great moments and weed history,

42:16

BEAN: Great Moments in Weed History is a Spoke Media production. It's hosted by me, David Beatenstock, AKA bean and Abdullah Saed. We're produced by Brigham Mosley and Cody Hoffmocker with help from Reyes Mendoza and Kendall Lake. Special thanks to Gold Digger Studio. This episode was mixed by Jonathan Villa-Lobos. Our executive producers are Alia Tavakolian and Keith Reynolds. You can find us on Twitter and Instagram at G M I W H podcast. Check out our show notes where you'll find more information about things we discussed today and links to our sponsor. And if you really love the show, honestly the best thing you could do for us is to simply tell your friends about it at the next smoke sesh.