

TRIVIA NIGHT

"The Topsy Pilot"

by

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INT. THE TIPSYPILOT - NIGHT

If you're looking for a city where Southern hospitality meets Midwestern nice, it's hard to do better than Louisville, Kentucky.

Like the city itself, The Tipsy Pilot straddles two worlds. Inside this bar, you're never quite sure whether it's night or day. If the drinks are good for a dive bar, or bad for a bourbon bar. If you've found your home, or this is just the place you always end up.

But whatever it is, one thing is certain: it's trivia night.

A buzzer goes off.

You'd expect that to be par for the course at trivia night, but for some reason, the entire bar gasps.

BARTENDER JIM, a sort of Jim-looking man who bartends, hovers over a FRANTIC team, waiting for their answer.

The team: TRIVIAL PANTSUITS. Everyone on this team wears a sky blue pantsuit with a monogrammed "TP" on the front.

DUNCAN (35), a second fiddle of a man, freaks out.

DUNCAN

You buzzed in! You actually pressed the buzzer! Now they're looking at us like we're about to give an answer!

Though REGINA (60s) is on a trivia team, the only thing competing inside her are her medications.

REGINA

(spacey)

Are we about to give an answer?  
That'd be new...

With the soft won confidence every hot young gay man possesses, TONYO (25) pipes in with his usual understated read on things.

TONYO

You've killed us all.

The woman with the smoking buzzer in her hand is EDDI (40s), the clear captain. If she's frightened right now, she's doing an incredible job of hiding it - something she's done her whole life.

EDDI

Trivial Pantsuits, we've got this!  
(MORE)

EDDI (CONT'D)  
 This is what we've been training  
 for! This is our big moment to  
 show this bar and the greater  
 Louisville area just what we've  
 got!

Her team looks on excited as she turns to BARTENDER JIM to  
 deliver their answer.

EDDI  
 (politely)  
 Time out, please.

Her team groans.

BARTENDER JIM  
 There are no time outs in trivia.  
 Twenty seconds left.

Eddi points to an ANALOG WALL CLOCK that is so clearly not the  
 game clock.

EDDI  
 But there's like 12 hours left on  
 that clock!

BARTENDER JIM  
 Nice try, but even you must know  
 that's the wall clock. Eighteen  
 seconds.

DUNCAN  
 (angry)  
 You buzzed us in without knowing  
 the answer?

EDDI  
 (captain-like)  
 No. We buzzed us in without  
 knowing the answer.

Regina perks up, a light bulb.

REGINA  
 (astonished)  
 I...I think I know this one...

As she sticks her finger up, the others lean in.

BARTENDER JIM  
 Twelve seconds...

Regina rubs her temples, trying to jog her memory.

REGINA  
 I can see her face right now...  
 Yes, yes. She's that singer. The  
 one who sings that song...

Tonyo perks up, a light bulb.

TONYO  
 Oh my god, you're so right. The  
 one on the radio?

REGINA  
 And various streaming services,  
 yes!

Now Eddi perks up.

EDDI  
 I know exactly who you're talking  
 about. Didn't she perform that  
 song at that place?

REGINA  
 On stage, exactly. *What* is her  
 name?

There's some sort of magic - maybe? - going on among the three  
 of them. Duncan doesn't want to be left out.

DUNCAN  
 (faking it)  
 Totally! And doesn't she have  
 that...hair?

They all groan.

REGINA  
 (almost offended)  
 Lots of singers have hair, Duncan.  
 But only *she* has those perfect ten  
 fingers.

And suddenly, they've all got it. In unison:

ALL  
 Shakira!

They burst with excitement at having solved it...

EDDI  
 Shakira! Final answer.

...as the crowd erupts into LAUGHTER.

BARTENDER JIM  
Shakira.

Bartender Jim expresses shock, playing it up for the crowd.

BARTENDER JIM  
Ladies and gentlemen, after years of showing up and sitting there silently, game after game, TP has finally graced us with a taste of what they're thinking: Shakira!

As the laughter continues, our team realizes they've made a huge mistake.

BARTENDER JIM  
Your answer to the question of "What are the names of Christopher Columbus' three ships?" are the Nina, the Pinta, and the Shakira?

EDDI  
(sheepish)  
Featuring Wyclef Jean?

BARTENDER JIM  
You have it to hand it to them, don't you folks? It takes a lot of skill to out-lose your high score of zero, but here they've done it. But we love ya, TP, don't we?

He holds the mic to the crowd, which shouts:

*TP! TP! TP!*

CHAD #1 (40s), wearing a letterman jacket with his face on it where the letter should be, leads the chant.

A bunch of other CHADS - their actual names - laugh from the table next over, each in their official jacket. Their collars a little whiter, their J. Crew sneakers a little whiter, their faces...a little whiter.

CHAD #1  
Yes, and we certainly know why they call them *that*.

CHAD #2  
Yeah, because they're shitty!

EDDI  
It actually stands for Trivial Pantsuits!  
(MORE)

EDDI (CONT'D)  
The T is for Trivial and the P is  
for Pantsuits.

Duncan appeals to The Chads.

DUNCAN  
I told them we shouldn't have  
buzzed in. There were several  
signs I spotted that signaled the  
answer might not have been Shakira  
after all.

CHAD #1  
Is that man in a pantsuit trying  
to talk to us?

DUNCAN  
It's actually just called a suit  
when it's a man in it. A men's  
suit.

CHAD #2  
If that's the case, why don't you  
put this *men's* wallet in your *men's*  
suit pant pocket?

Chad holds up an OVERSTUFFED WALLET.

Duncan attempts to shove it in...

DUNCAN  
See?

But like Cinderella's ugly step sister, it just doesn't fit. It  
falls to the ground with a plop that makes them all laugh.

Tonyo recoils from second hand embarrassment.

BARTENDER JIM  
Now, the winner of tonight's game:  
ChadGPT!

The Chads start chanting:

*"Chads! Chads! Chads!"*

Chad #1 takes the mic.

CHAD #1  
This win wouldn't be possible  
without our corporate sponsors,  
Halliburton and Werther's  
Originals!  
(MORE)

CHAD #1 (CONT'D)

And our winning streak, just like  
American tanks or butterscotch  
against your teeth, is  
unbreakable!

The Chads celebrate around a dejected Trivial Pantsuits.

DUNCAN

I can't believe you made us say  
Shakira.

REGINA

Don't blame this on me, *she's* the  
one who buzzed in.

EDDI

We're never going to win a game if  
we don't buzz in.

DUNCAN

If we don't buzz in, we're never  
going to get roasted. Now I'm a  
laughing stock in front of my best  
friends, The Chads.

TONYO

Yeah, why *did* you buzz in Eddi?

EDDI

I figured that maybe the missing  
ingredient to our success was  
pressure.

REGINA

Turns out it was knowing the  
answer...

Duncan stands up.

DUNCAN

I quit.

The rest of the team stops bickering, stunned.

DUNCAN

I wish I could say it was nice  
playing with you. But I don't see  
myself saying those words in that  
order ever again.

EDDI

What? You can't quit!

Duncan heads for the exit.

EDDI  
Nice going, guys.

Eddi rushes to catch Duncan.

TONYO  
(calling out)  
Go get your husband!

EDDI  
Ew, he is *not* my husband!

TONYO  
Oh. I haven't really been paying attention.

Tonyo gay sips his drink.

EXT. THE TIPSYPY PILOT - NIGHT

Eddi rushes out to stop Duncan.

EDDI  
C'mon, Duncan. You can't quit over one wrong answer.

DUNCAN  
We've been coming here every Friday night for two years straight and we haven't won a single game yet.

EDDI  
You're forgetting about March twelfth! We got second!

DUNCAN  
There were two teams playing. They gave us a medal from the lost and found.

Regina and Tonyo emerge to watch the fight.

DUNCAN  
Give it up, Eddi. You're a forty-year-old part time bathroom attendant who smells like a forty-year-old full time bathroom attendant, and you can't figure out why you're unmarried.

TONYO  
He's right, Eddi. You do work in a bathroom.



DUNCAN

And you, Tonyo. You graduated from Yale Law but you're barely making a Yale Drama paycheck.

Regina's PURSE starts barking.

DUNCAN

And Regina...You're actually doing okay but we all know you're sneaking your dog into the bar inside your purse.

REGINA

(defiant)

My purse is barking for unrelated reasons.

The purse whimpers.

DUNCAN

You're all a bunch of weirdos and losers. And I'm the biggest loser of us all for continuing to hang out with you week after week.

EDDI

Just because we come in last, doesn't meant mean we're losers. Right, everyone?

REGINA

I must admit, Tonyo and I have been talking about leaving for awhile...

Tonyo pats Eddi on the shoulder.

TONYO

Don't cry because it's over. Cry because it happened.

Duncan, Tonyo and Regina start walking away.

EDDI

(pleading)

Wait, I have an idea!

She digs into her pocket and finds a COIN.

EDDI

The universe will tell us what to do...

With a deep breath, she tosses it in the air...

EDDI  
 ...Heads we quit. Tails we-

She's HIT BY A CAR.

A title card flashes: TRIVIA NIGHT

JACKSON (O.S.)  
 What is vehicular manslaughter?

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

On an outdated television: MAYIM BIALIK hosts Jeopardy.

CONTESTANT (ON TV)  
 What is vehicular manslaughter?

MAYIM BIALIK (ON TV)  
 That is correct.

CONTESTANT (ON TV)  
 Deus ex machina, for a thousand...

Eddi watches from a hospital bed. Both of her ARMS are suspended in casts.

JACKSON (18)

lies in the other hospital bed. When Icarus fell from the sky, he probably looked a lot like Jackson does now.

Both of his LEGS are suspended in casts, the mirror image of Eddi's arm injuries. There's multiple FOOTBALLS around him, along with a HELMET with signatures, and WAY more flowers than on Eddi's side of the room (which has none).

JACKSON  
 Why don't you take the next one? I feel like I'm mansplaining all the manswers.

EDDI  
 I don't *need* your *help* to get one right.

JACKSON  
 Think of it more as me quarterbacking you to a touchdown.

EDDI  
 You want quarterback me? Gross, you're like fifteen.

JACKSON  
Eighteen, with a great fake ID.

They turn back to the show, which has moved onto the next question.

CONTESTANT (ON TV)  
"Iconic Movie Soundtracks" for two thousand.

MAYIM BIALIK (ON TV)  
The name of the Haddaway song that is the theme to *Saturday Night Live's* Night at the Roxbury.

EDDI  
What Is Love?

CONTESTANT (ON TV)  
What Is Love?

EDDI  
Ha! See!

Jackson mimes zipping his lips in response.

MAYIM BIALIK (ON TV)  
(after pause)  
No, we can't accept that. What we're looking for is-

JACKSON  
(at the same time)  
What is What Is Love?

Jackson smiles, gloating.

Frustrated, Eddi shuts off the TV. She pretends to be trying to turn it on with the remote, but we can see clearly that her thumb - the only digit free from her cast - is not connecting with the power button.

EDDI  
Oh no, the TV and the remote broke at the exact same time!

JACKSON  
You're not bad, this just wasn't your night.  
(smiling)  
And for the seventeenth night in a row, it was mine. But hey, maybe you like losing as much as I like winning.

A light bulb goes off in Eddi's head.

EDDI

Wait a minute. I don't have a team anymore, you don't have a team anymore. This is it. This is the sign.

JACKSON

(suddenly angry)  
What do you mean?

EDDI

Outside the bar. I asked God for a sign. And *she* hit me with *her* car and put me right next to you, boy genius. *This* is the sign.

JACKSON

What do you mean I don't have a team anymore?

EDDI

Don't you see? We're the same, you and me. I had a disagreement with my friends. And your legs are broken so badly you'll never play football again. Important question: What size pantsuit are you?

JACKSON

I've heard you get a lot of things wrong tonight. You thought a hypotenuse was an African Savannah mammal.

EDDI

They sound the same, they're hipponyms!

JACKSON

But you've never been more wrong than you are right now. The doctor says I'm getting discharged in five days. And when I do, I'm sure I'll be back on the field in no time. But even if I weren't, what makes you think I'd get caught within five hundreds yards of some loser trivia team?

Sensing his anger, Eddi abruptly turns the TV back on.

EDDI  
 Look at that, the TV and the  
 remote started working at the  
 exact same time!

From the TV: *"Coming up next, Wheel of Fortune!"*

EDDI  
 Oh God, no!

JACKSON  
 Turn it off!

Eddi furiously presses the remote to no avail.

EDDI  
 It's broken for real this time!

JACKSON  
 Nurse!

EDDI  
 Nurse!

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

An ADMIN managing reception helps Eddi check out.

ADMIN  
 We still haven't gotten your  
 insurance info. Without it, you're  
 going to have to pay all of this  
 out of pocket. That'd be a lot of  
 Jeopardy games for you!

Eddi looks at the BILL. The full charge is \$75,688.

EDDI  
 (playing along)  
 I knew I should have made it a  
 true Daily Double!

She fake laughs with the Admin.

EDDI  
 So do you like, know where I live?  
 Or how does that work?

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - DAY

EDDI'S BROTHER wheels Eddi to his car, annoyed to find himself here again.

EDDI'S BROTHER

I really thought those surprise midnight calls would stop coming when you hit forty.

EDDI

I think it's nice we keep in touch.

EDDI'S BROTHER

If Mom and Dad could see their little favorite now.

EDDI

I'm not doing so bad, Bud. I didn't ask to get hit by a car. Well, I didn't ask specifically to get hit by a car.

EDDI'S BROTHER

Good. I was worried you were going to ask me for another loan to pay this off. But you're not doing so bad, so I guess you've got it covered.

EDDI

Yes, like everyone who is no longer in the hospital, I am doing just fine.

INT. HOTEL BATHROOM - DAY

Eddi holds her arms STRAIGHT OUT (because she has no other choice). Draped over her casts are TOWELS, as if she's a human towel rack. After a customer finishes washing his hands, he hesitates before grabbing a towel from Eddi's arm.

A young HOTEL MANAGER enters.

HOTEL MANAGER

Eddi, people are complaining. We need to talk.

EDDI

Are you firing me?

HOTEL MANAGER

"Firing" is such a strong word. Think of it as a promotion. To customer.

EDDI

But with these things, I've been moving more towels than ever!

Another customer grabs one off her arm.

HOTEL MANAGER

That's what made us realize: why pay a human towel rack, when we can just get ourselves a plastic Eddi?

(calling out)

Bring her in, boys!

Two WORKERS bring in a FEMALE MANNEQUIN with its arms extended.

EDDI

Can we at least talk about severance?

HOTEL MANAGER

Eddi you're a part-time towel rack. I didn't know you could even talk at all.

The workers begin taking the towels from Eddi and draping them over the mannequin.

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

Eddi steps out of the hotel.

EDDI

A seventy-five-thousand dollar hospital bill and no job. Guess it's up to the universe. God, give me a sign-

She gets HIT...

...in the face with a FLYER. She reads it:

*Need CASH?*

*Donate an eye to science!*

Beneath that, an image of a jolly pirate wearing an eye patch. A dialogue bubble comes out of his mouth: "You only need one!".

EDDI

God, give me a second, better sign-

She gets hit with ANOTHER FLYER:

*CASH TRIVIA at The Tippy Pilot*  
*Bring your team and win up to \$2,000*  
*Every Saturday night*

INT. THE TIPPY PILOT - DAY

Eddi slams the flyer down in front of Bartender Jim.

EDDI  
Cash games? You never told me you  
do cash games.

BARTENDER JIM  
Because they're for real players.

EDDI  
Excuse me, I'm a real trivia  
player.

Bartender Jim pulls an OLD-TIMEY PHOTO from the wall. Jim  
stands in the center of a DRUNK GROUP holding a BIG CHECK.

BARTENDER JIM  
This. This right here is what a  
team of real players looks like.

EDDI  
You also didn't tell me you used  
to have a hairline.

BARTENDER JIM  
We called ourselves "Just the  
Tip", on account of we were all  
bartenders. Except Craig, but he  
was uncircumcised so it still  
worked. We played every night for  
three years straight. We were  
winning every cash game in town...

He lets it linger dramatically.

EDDI  
That sounds great. What's with the  
dramatic linger?

BARTENDER JIM  
Then we tried to take it to state.

He pulls the photo away, triggered by the thought.

When he looks at her, he recognizes the yearning in her eyes.



BARTENDER JIM  
Oh, no. I know what you're  
thinking...

EDDI  
That my elbow eczema isn't the  
only itch I can't scratch?

BARTENDER JIM  
Exactly. And I'm here to say pinch  
your finches. Cash games are  
serious business. And you don't  
even have a team.

EDDI  
Correction. I don't even have any  
*friends*. But when it comes to a  
team, I don't have that either.  
(over the top)  
Not yet at least!

She slams her drinks down.

EDDI  
This one's on the house!

She sprints out of the bar.

BACK OF THE BAR

We see a man lower a NEWSPAPER to reveal his face: Chad #2.  
He's witnessed everything.

CHAD #2  
(in the singsong of a  
dramatic "dun dun dun")  
Chad, Chad, Chaaaaaaaad.

INT. FACTORY LOFT - EVENING

Wearing a KIMONO, Tonyo holds up his phone which displays a  
GRINDR PROFILE.

TONYO  
(annoyed)  
You're Hungnail4Cutiecle?

Behind Tonyo, shirtless men dart around a huge, modern loft  
that has been professionally decorated.

Eddi stares back at him.

EDDI

Sorry for being, how do you say, "catfish boots"? But I want to get the gang back together on Friday for one more trivia night. What do you say?

TONYO

Seeing you get hit by that car made me realize the only thing worse than wasting the best years of my life clinging to a buzzer that I'll never buzz, is if the buzzer actually does go off. Now if you'll excuse me, this demon twink has to get back to *her* Amy Klobuchar fundraiser.

As Tonyo tries to slam shut the door-

EDDI

These random gay guys may come for your headless torso, but do they stay for your headless heart?

TONYO

No, and that's what I love about them. Speaking of which...

He starts to shove Eddi out.

EDDI

Just one more game, with the people who always come back for more of you. One more game. That's all I'm asking.

Tonyo shuts the door on her.

He looks back at his apartment. The nice furniture, the shirtless men prancing around, the giant papier maché Amy Klobuchar.

He sighs.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Regina, in a USPS uniform, delivers mail to a front door.

Eddi opens the door to the home, aiming to shock her.

EDDI  
Bet you didn't expect to see me,  
here, did ya!

Regina isn't fazed.

REGINA  
Well this is your address, so if I  
saw you in any other house I...  
(really thinking)  
I don't know what I'd do. I guess  
I'd scream, and I'd cry, and  
I'd... I'd press any three numbers  
on my phone hoping it was 9-1-1...

She snaps out of her thought.

She LAUGHS as she puts a STAMP on Eddi's forehead.

REGINA  
Now you're the mail!

EDDI  
I want to get the Trivial  
Pantsuits back for one more game.

REGINA  
Say no more.  
(cheerfully)  
The answer's no!

She rips the stamp off Eddi's forehead.

REGINA  
And these are supposed to be used  
on official mail only.

EDDI  
But you love trivia night.

REGINA  
Yes, and then I did some research.  
Did you know you're allowed to be  
at a bar for non-trivia reasons?

EDDI  
Yes...

REGINA  
That might be better for you,  
Eddi. Now GET OUT of my house!

Silence.

REGINA  
 (realizing)  
 Oh, right. Have a nice day!

She walks back to her mail truck. She opens the trunk: The heaping piles of mail, the stacks of boxes, the giant papier maché Amy Klobuchar with a "Return to Sender" sticker on it.

She sighs.

INT. DUNCAN'S HOUSE - EVENING

A living room full of furniture from Goodwill. Duncan pours his MOTHER tea as she uses WHITE-OUT to cover a word in *The New York Times* crossword.

DUNCAN  
 You know, you can do that in pencil.

DUNCAN'S MOTHER  
 We didn't sail to this country to do the crossword in pencil.

DUNCAN  
 You're from Nantucket.

DUNCAN'S MOTHER  
 There's a boat.

Duncan looks over to an ENTRYWAY CLOSET, sensing something.

ENTRYWAY

He opens the closet door and KICKS-

EDDI doubles over, emerging out from a pile of coats.

DUNCAN  
 They told me you'd be breaking in,  
 I just had to figure out where.

Eddi struggles to catch her breath.

EDDI  
 What kind of man kicks a woman?

DUNCAN  
 A feminist.

DUNCAN'S MOTHER (O.S.)  
 Is that the nectarman again?

DUNCAN

Yes, Mom...

He starts to push Eddi towards the door.

DUNCAN

...And I'm just showing *him* to the door.

He pushes Eddi out of the house.

EDDI

I can't sell you on found family, can I...

DUNCAN

Don't need to. Already heard from Regina and Tonyo. I'm in.

EDDI

Wait, they're in? Wait, you're in?

DUNCAN

I just realized you were right. We may not always be winners, or ever be winners, but that doesn't mean we're losers.

EDDI

Why'd you have to kick me, then?

DUNCAN

Oh, I didn't. See you Friday!

INT. THE TIPSYPY PILOT - NIGHT

Bartender Jim clinks a spoon against a glass.

BARTENDER JIM

Now they won't let me shoot my starter pistol anymore, on account of finches keep dying, but make no mistake: Trivia Night has begun!

The bar erupts in cheers.

BARTENDER JIM

Now let's get the rules straight for the newbs in the back over there...

Bartender Jim points to a group of suspiciously young men in the back.

Among them: Jackson, the football player from the hospital. Jackson hangs onto CRUTCHES holding him up, both of his legs still in CASTS.

BARTENDER JIM

...we've got three rounds tonight.  
First round, general questions.  
Second round, questions that could  
be about anything. Third round,  
questions so broad the men in this  
bar will try to get their number.

As he explains, we see freeze frames of the trivia teams, chyrons underneath:

- QUIZTEAM BARANSKI: A sassy group of gay twinkles.
- MOMS AGAINST DRIVING: A middle-aged group of women cyclists.
- THE AUDACITY OF HOPS: Smug hipsters of both genders straight out of The Warby Parker catalog.
- TREBECKY WITH THE GOOD HAIR: A sassy group of gay twinkles.
- CHADGPT: The Chads, all in their official jackets.

BARTENDER JIM

...Alright, folks! Round one...

Duncan leans into the group, uncharacteristically serene.

DUNCAN

Let's just try to enjoy ourselves.  
We don't have to buzz in a single  
time to enjoy ourselves. Right,  
Eddi?

EDDI

That's...exactly right.

DUNCAN

So you agree. You're not going to  
buzz in once?

EDDI

Don't worry, I'm not going to buzz  
in once.  
(then)  
I'm going to buzz in every time.

The team is shocked. A MONOCLE falls from Regina's face and shatters on the table.

REGINA

Now where did I get a monocle...

TONYO

Oh my God!  
(MORE)

TONYO (CONT'D)

Eddi you know how much I hate  
drama, but just in case I love it:  
why?

EDDI

We may get a lot of questions  
wrong. We may finish with a  
negative score. But tonight we're  
going to show this bar why we're  
real players.

Duncan appears nervous, but he's trying to hide it.

BARTENDER JIM

...Question one: You're about to  
hear a song from a specific music  
style. Name the country that it  
originated in.

A Bossa Nova song plays, and within five seconds-

EDDI reaches for the buzzer, but DUNCAN stops her.

CHAD #1 buzzes in, instead.

CHAD #1

(with too much accent)  
Brázíl!

BARTENDER JIM

Point, ChadGPT!

CHAD #1

(painfully American)  
Obrigado.

The Chads cheer.

Duncan releases Eddi's arm.

DUNCAN

Sorry, instinct.

EDDI

I actually knew that one. But  
that's okay, we're having fun,  
right?

TONYO

Actually, yeah.

(then)

Long shot, but does anyone have  
any poppers?

Regina hands him a bottle of RUSH.

REGINA

Your videotapes can never be too clean.

BARTENDER JIM

Question two: Named after her native country, this element was discovered by Marie Curie in eighteen ninety eight-

Eddi buzzes in.

She pauses for a moment, hostage to a brain fart.

EDDI

Earth, Wind and Fire!

The room erupts into laughter.

Regina, Tonyo and Duncan all put their heads down in shame.

CHAD #3

(for the crowd)

I thought ugly women were supposed to be smart!

The Chads laugh.

ACROSS THE ROOM

JACKSON clocks the insult, but his fellow football players join in laughter.

BARTENDER JIM

Minus one for Trivial Pantsuits!

EDDI

(to her team)

At least we're in the game, huh?

The Chads buzz in.

CHAD #1

Polonium, after Poland of course.

BARTENDER JIM

Point for ChadGPT! Question three: Which band performed the soundtrack for the nineteen seventy five flop film "That's The Way of The World"?

Regina, Tonyo and Duncan block Eddi from buzzing in.



A HIPSTER from The Audacity of Hops:

HOPSTER  
What is Earth, Wind and Fire?

BARTENDER JIM  
Point for the correct answer, but  
we're not going to count it.  
Because why, folks?

The crowd chants with him: *"This. Isn't. Jeopardy!"*

Eddi stands up, fuming.

EDDI  
I knew that one! That would have  
been our second point!

REGINA  
We were worried you'd say  
Polonium.  
(then)  
I wonder how it got that name...

Eddi recognizes Jackson at the bar.

A lightbulb.

EDDI  
Someone else hold the buzzer...

Duncan snatches it from her.

THE BAR

Eddi taps Jackson's shoulder.

EDDI  
Careful. You're within five  
hundred yards of a loser trivia  
team.

JACKSON  
Not my fault you lose at trivia at  
the only bar in town with two-for-  
one Man-garitos.

EDDI  
As long as you're here, I think  
you should join us.

LEAD JOCK (O.S.)  
Hey, Fudge Cripple! Quit flirting  
and bring us our drinks!

Jackson looks over Eddi's shoulder, nervous.

Eddi turns to see the group of football players, all laughing.

EDDI

What did they call you?

JACKSON

I have to get back to my friends.

Jackson moves past Eddi with the tray of drinks.

Concerned, Eddi follows after him. As she approaches, they're roughhousing him - but it's on the sus side of "friendly".

EDDI

(interjecting)

Excuse me. My son, who I gave birth to, C-section I'm fine, was just in the hospital from an injury he got taking your team to victory. And I just have to say that if this is how you treat your quarterbacks, I'd hate to see how you treat your...Nickelbacks.

JACKSON

(to Eddi)

Are you crazy?

The LEAD JOCK stands up, aggressively defensive.

LEAD JOCK

You think we're being bullies? No, no. We're being inclusive. We didn't kick him off the team just because he's Fudge Cripple. In fact, we gave him a job. He's our Drink Fetcher. And he's been doing a *stand-up* job at getting us Man-garitos all night.

The Lead Jock SLAPS Jackson on the back so hard that he spills the tray of drinks, loses his crutches and falls to the ground.

From the ground, Jackson sees Eddi push the Lead Jock.

EDDI

If you think I'm too sad to fight just because my hot husband's dead in the ground, think again.

She starts waving her CASTS in his direction.

JACKSON  
Stop, stop!

As he's helped up by another player, Jackson pushes apart Eddi and the Lead Jock.

JACKSON  
I don't need your help, Eddi!

He turns to the Lead Jock.

JACKSON  
And...and I'm not your Drink Fetcher. I'm the first string quarterback. And the only reason you have that title, for now, is because I was so good the other team had to break my legs to stop me. Lucky for you, you won't have that problem.

LEAD JOCK  
And here I thought we were being nice, letting you still hang out with us.  
(to his team)  
Come on, we were just headed to Arby's anyway.

The rest of the team follows the Lead Jock in leaving.

Jackson looks at Eddi with gratitude.

JACKSON  
Hot husband's son, huh?

EDDI  
You don't take after him.

ACROSS THE BAR

CHAD #3  
(calling out loudly)  
Hey TP, where's your captain?  
We're here to laugh, aren't we?

The Chads laugh.

THE BAR

Jackson looks at Eddi knowingly.

EDDI  
I don't *need* your help.

JACKSON  
Yes you do.

EDDI  
Yeah, I really do.

CUT TO:

Questions from Bartender Jim in quick succession:

BARTENDER JIM  
What natural disaster is measured  
with a Richt-

Jackson buzzes.

JACKSON  
Earthquakes!

BARTENDER JIM  
Name the three films that won the  
five major Oscars: Picture,  
Director, Screenplay-

Jackson buzzes.

JACKSON  
In chronological order: It  
Happened One Night, One Flew Over  
the Cuckoo's Nest and Silence of  
the Lambs.

BARTENDER JIM  
Who was the first woman to ever  
appear on a U.S. postage stamp?

They're waiting for him, but Jackson blanks.

Regina buzzes.

REGINA  
Queen Isabella!

Our team looks at her, shocked.

REGINA  
What? It's the mail.

BARTENDER JIM  
Ladies and gentleman, another  
point Trivial Pantsuits!  
(MORE)

BARTENDER JIM (CONT'D)

And with that answer, and the absolute rule violation of adding a new team member in the middle of your game, they pull into a stunning but disqualified fifth place! Out of six. Now five.

Our team erupts into cheers.

BARTENDER JIM

And the winner of tonight's game is of course: ChadGPT!

In the background, Chad #1 walks up to make a victory speech.

Still, our team is punch drunk in their own little world of victory (and alcohol).

EDDI

See? I said I'd get us back together for one more game to show you that we're a team of real players. And look at us now. We did it.

TONYO

Yeah, "we" really did it.

Tonyo dramatically air quotes over the "we".

JACKSON

Yeah, we really "did" it.

Jackson air quotes over the "did".

REGINA

"Yeah", "we", "really", "did", "it".

Regina air quotes over every word.

DUNCAN

All thanks to you, kid. I mean, drinking-age adult.

Jackson takes a moment to really notice his new teammates, who are all genuinely excited.

JACKSON

That was actually kind of fun.

EDDI  
 (dramatic)  
 If you thought that was fun, I've got a surprise for you: the real reason I wanted you all to come tonight. It's not just for one more game. It's for a lot more one more games. Starting tomorrow, at this very bar-

Duncan gets up from the table.

EDDI  
 Duncan, where are you going? I'm in the middle of my motivating speech.

DUNCAN  
 My mom is calling. She's confused again, I'll be quick.

EDDI  
 I'll start over. If you thought this was fun, I've got a surprise for you...

EXT. THE TIPSYPILOT BACK ALLEY - NIGHT

Duncan huddles with Chad #2 and Chad #3.

CHAD #2  
 We said no surprises. We want everything to return to status quo.

DUNCAN  
 How about I just start buzzing in with the wrong answers?

CHAD #2  
 Too obvious. Status quo. Can you handle it?

DUNCAN  
 Of course I can handle it. I'm DuncanGPT, right?

CHAD #3  
 Cringe.

Duncan mistakes it for a command and cringes.

DUNCAN  
 Was that good?

CHAD #2  
Just handle it.

INT. THE TIPSYPY PILOT - NIGHT

Back to our team, in a heated discussion.

TONYO  
You registered us for a cash game?  
Don't those cost money?

EDDI  
Don't worry about that, I got us  
for the first one. We're going to  
win. And we use the money we win  
from that one for the next one.  
Until we hit the nationals in  
Sacramento. Two hundred thousand  
big ones.

Tonyo gasps, excited.

EDDI  
Big ones means dollars, Tonyo.

Tonyo frowns.

EDDI  
Who's in?

REGINA  
I could use the money for my  
Amazon addiction. I just love  
those rainforests.

TONYO  
Modern kimono maintenance does  
cost quite a bit...

They look to Jackson.

JACKSON  
I guess I'd just say...you all are  
like the family I've never had.  
Except that I have a really happy  
home life. My parents are so proud  
of me and we have three bathrooms.  
(then)  
But yeah, my Friday nights are  
free anyway now, so. I'm in.

Duncan's standing over the table with a big smile.

DUNCAN  
I'm in too.

TONYO  
But you didn't even hear what  
we're talking about.

Tonyo is ignored in the excitement.

EDDI  
(overly eager)  
"Trivial Pantsuits forever" on  
three! Come on, underdogs, let me  
hear! you! bark!

She puts her HAND in for a cheer.

Everyone groans in unison.

EDDI  
Yeah, no. It was too much.

Regina's purse barks.

THE END