

Trim Healthy Podcast with Serene and Pearl <u>Episode #316</u> – Erin's Story ~ A Child That Nobody Wanted

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Counting calories is out. All the food groups are in. Becoming trim and healthy doesn't have to be difficult or painstaking anymore. After trying almost every fad diet out there... sisters Serene Allison and Pearl Barrett, authors of the bestselling Trim Healthy Mama book series, took matters into their own hands and the Food Freedom Movement was born. This podcast offers a deeper dive into the world of THM. Listen in as the girls (and their sidekick Danny) tackle a variety of food, fitness, and lifestyle topics with the same quirky attitude and style that has endeared them to an ever-growing audience of women who are changing their lives and the lives of their families. **Welcome to the PODdy!**

 $P = Pearl \cdot D = Danny \cdot E = Erin$

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S	This is the PODdy with Serene.
Р	And Pearl.
S	Get it right, P-O-D-D-Y.
D	It's the Trim Healthy Podcast with Pearl, Erin and Danny. Obviously, Serene's not here and we have a special guest, not so much filling in, but we wanted you either way. Erin, tell us your last name.
Е	Harrison.
D	Harrison.
Е	Got that little mic close.
D	I had Harrison in my head, and you know how it is when you second guess yourself and then you just dare not?
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Е	You dare not.
D	You dare not
Р	May I introduce her though? Because she's related to me.

- D Yes. Tell us about Erin.
- P Not by blood, but by grandchild.
- E We are co-grandmothers.
- P Yes, we are.
- E Co-grandparenting.

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- P We are. So, my son, Noble, married her daughter Megan, and they had a baby, little Isla. And she is in between us. We're the wild grandmothers. We have fun.
- E She has my looks.
- P Yes, she looks exactly, nothing in me.
- E Just me but bald.
- P And she has her personality, Erin's personality. Which is cray-cray. But we...
- E Love her. We love her, so cute.
- P But anyway, yes so you said obviously Serene's not here. Well, there's a reason. She's stuck in Mexico.
- D Oh, she's stuck?
- P Yes, we all went to Mexico for a trip, and then her family was there so they all decided to do this longer Mexico trip, the whole family. And then they were supposed to be back two days ago but the ice storms. So still, the planes are being canceled on them. So, she was supposed to be sitting here. And at one point Serene and I talked about, let's get Erin. Since Serene's not here, let's get Erin then.
- D Hold on, though, can we say stuck? We're in an ice storm, she's in Mexico.
- P I know, but guess what?

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- D Are we stuck?
- P She's running out of moisturizer. They've run out of pesos.
- D What?
- P The BnB that they've rented, they had to get out. So, when I say they're stuck in Mexico, they are stuck in Mexico.
- D But you said something that's not a real problem. She ran out of moisturizer.
- P That's a big problem. She had this grass-fed butter and she's been putting it on her face. She told me this morning.



- P It's critical, Danny.
- D Once you're trapped in Mexico?
- P I mean, listen. If there was one thing I would take out of a burning house, it would be...

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D	It's your moisturizer.
Р	It's my Orange Silk or my Fountain.
D	So if somebody says to you, you're stranded on a desert island.
Р	Oh God.
D	You get to bring two things. One of them is moisturizer?
Р	Absolutely. What about you, Erin? Or are you not
E	I am a moisturizer.
Р	You have to.
Е	I am so a moisturizer.
Р	Or else you go around all day, and your face feels dry and
D	Does mine look dry?
Ρ	No, it looks very supple and Spanish.
D	I've never put on a drop of moisturizer.
Р	Probably why.
D	Okay, this is for white folk.
00:02:32	
Р	No, you racist. If you ask
D	I'm the ethnic.
Р	I know, but if you asked any woman
Е	I'm ethnic.
Р	She is.
D	You're not ethnic.
Ρ	She actually mostly



E	Yes, I am.
Р	She is.
Е	I am a Native American.
Р	Look at her, okay.
00:02:47	
D	I was going to say.
E	I have the papers. Look at those.
Р	Look at her hair
E	Look at those.
Р	And imagine it was dark, black. Now, look at her face.
Е	Look at my cheek bones.
D	I'm seeing it a little bit.
Р	She's totally native Indian. How much a native Indian are you?
Е	One sixteenth.
Р	One sixteenth.
D	I'd say with the boots, she's 100%.
Е	But, listen. With these boots on, I'm telling you that I have the papers.
Р	She has papers.
E	I am the third-line descendant of the Mohican tribe. So, I virtually am the last of the Mohicans.
00:03:14	
D	Wow. Daniel Day-Lewis.
Р	Yes, you are, and you're wearing your special little yellow dress.
Е	This is a special Mohican
Ρ	This represents Erin so much. You're going to get to know her. We're not just here to chat. There's an amazing story we're going to pull out of Erin that I think is going to be so inspiring for all of you guys. But just may we chat a bit longer.
Е	Yes.
Р	Because look at her in her yellow dress with her boots.
Е	Look at all this.



- P Now this is so Erin.
- E Farm boots.
- P Now just look. She has tulle underneath her dress.
- E And pantyhose.

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- P Erin's life is just one party, and that's how she dresses, how she lives.
- D Party on, Wayne.
- E Party on, Wayne.
- P But I wanted you guys to get to know her story a little bit, and we share a grandchild and all of that and so you and I have become close friends. But you, Erin, have inspired me in so many ways. Like, when I look at your life, I think of fun, yes joy, but I do think of sacrifice that has turned into joy. Or sacrifice as joy. I'm not sure the way I would term it. But certainly, you have given your life away and you have found joy. And I look at your life and I think, wow, how does she do it? But, whenever I talk to you, see you, hang out with you, you're one of the most joyful, happiest people I know. So, just to shed some background. So, you raised five children like me, we have that in common. And I'll just leave it there and you can start from there.
- E Yes, raised five children, and then in the midst of it, I was homeschooling your children.
- P Yes. That's right.
- E You moved here to the sticks, and let's just backup to that story because that's pretty funny. So, we have this guy that comes to the church occasionally, and he's always got all these guns on him and everything.
- P We're talking about Hilltop Church here, my dad's church.

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- E Yes, so he has all these guns and stuff. And we used to have these long, laborious, overkill stories about conspiracies and stuff at our home. And my husband and I, we just were so thankful that these people wanted to hang out with us, and they would come and have these church services. And they kept telling me to come to this church here in Primm Springs called Above Rubies Church.
- E And then we were like, it's got to be a cult.
- P Yes.
- E We were so scared.
- P Especially because this guy's a guns guy.



E We were like, oh no what are we getting involved with, and we refused to go. I thought, there's no way. And then his wife kept saying, Erin, you would so love them because there's two women there and they write books, just like you. And I thought, really, they write books? Wow, this is getting really interesting. So I went online to look up pictures about this, Above Rubies, and I saw Vange.

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- P Our sister, Vange.
- E And she was wearing this scandalous looking dress with her arm all hanging out and I thought, oh at least it's not a cult. Because, if it was a cult, there's no way she'd be...
- D She'd be buttoned up.
- E Yes, she would be buttoned up, for sure.
- D Yes.
- P Actually, if anyone sees Vange, they'd think, opposite of cult.
- D Yes.
- E And then she was with Steve.
- P Oh, yes.
- E Your brother Steve and I thought they were husband and wife or something, I don't know. And then I come the first time and, mind you, Adam was there, and he was in his Muslim gown.
- P Oh, yes.
- E So then, that was a great impression.

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- D Back to cult.
- P Back to cult. You've got all sorts that come. No, Danny used to come to our church.
- E Oh, man, yes.
- P He knows what it's like.
- D Yes, it's a riot.
- E So we come there and Vange, her whole family thought I was one of Mark's children and he was a widow and it all worked up in their brain...
- P I thought you, yes.
- E That I was the special needs daughter.
- P You came...



Е	Because they kept going
00:07:19	
Ρ	Wait, and you came with your two teenage daughters.
E	Yes.
Ρ	And I thought you were one of the daughters too. You looked young.
E	But then I kept going to Vange like
E	And then, so
D	I almost got beat up there once.
E	You almost got beat up?
Ρ	Lots of interesting things happen at the Hilltop Church.
D	Yes, I was being unruly with her brother and sister as usual. And
Р	In the middle of church.
D	In the middle of Yes, because it's just a riot there. You just talk and interrupt, and stuff. And then this older fella didn't like it and he gave me a talking to afterwards. End of story.
Р	End of story.
E	Wow.
Ρ	But we do need to get to the meat of the story, Erin, so.
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Е	Yes, so, then I homeschooled your children.
Р	Yes.
Е	We moved up here.
Р	You moved, you realized we weren't a cult.
E	After your house burned down.
Р	That's right.
E	Where we were going to move in.
Р	And my son and your daughter were little 14-year-olds.
E	Yes.
Р	Fell in love.

E They fell in love.



00:08:15	
Р	We were like, what do we do with this nonsense?
E	But then we were just
Р	They're 14. But they fell in love.
E	They did, and I was the ultimate chaperone because I was teaching them every day.
Р	Yes.
E	So that was just brilliant, wasn't it?
D	That's a title of a movie, they're 14, but they fell in love.
Р	Yes. Hey look
D	She said 14.
Р	They got married and had a baby.
E	Yes, I know. And it was just amazing.
D	Someone just dropped milk on their counter. 14. You all just moved past it quickly, I just wanted to camp for a minute.
Е	And I was just
Р	They did.
Е	They did.
00:08:43	
Р	They literally fell in love and we were like, they're too young. But we let it happen.
E	But I was with your mom on that, I was like, let's just get them married now.
D	How?
Р	You did and we were like, no, let's wait.
D	Question, because I have children that age.
Р	Yes?
Е	Okay?
D	And I can't imagine
Р	Yes.
D	What I would say if one of my children at that age was like, I'm in love.
Ρ	Yes, and it wasn't just like, crush. It was like, they literally



00:09:13

E	They were like old people having fights, like retired people.
Р	And they went to school together all those years.
E	Remember all the little old people squabblings they had.
Р	They grew up together.
E	Like, did you leave the toilet seat up. Like, when I'm teaching them, I'm like, what?
D	So how do you advise Because obviously there's supervision involved
Р	Yes.
D	How did you advise a 14-year-old considering marriage?
Р	Well, they weren't considering marriage back then when they were
Е	Oh, they were.
Р	Well, probably were.
E	Oh, they were.
Р	But not for that time. They knew they'd have to wait.
Е	Oh, she wanted to wait way longer.
D	But you saw maturity?
Р	Yes.
Е	Noble wanted to get married much quicker than she did.
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Р	Yes.
Е	Right on the dot of 18, he wanted to be married.
Р	Yes, he did. Yes.
D	Is this podcast going to get DHS sent out?
Р	Probably.
D	Yes.
Р	Yes, but anyway, no, we just said to them, because 14 is pretty young.
Е	Yes.
Р	And it wasn't just, oh I like her, I like him. They felt like they'd found the ones.
Е	Oh, yes.



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D	Yes.
Ρ	And we saidRemember that first year we said, well okay great, you're just special friends, so how about not a lot of alone time? Didn't we say that?
Е	Right, but they never really did.
Р	No, it was always with…
Е	And Noble was too afraid to even bring her out on a date.
Р	Yes.
Е	Remember that? He was afraid of my husband.
Р	So, they kind of loved Good reason.
Е	Because Mark is so tall and big.
Р	Yes.
Е	And he looks very
Р	So, they kind of loved each other but they were friends at the same time.
D	Yes.
Ρ	And then, probably the second year, they were allowed alone time, but not a lot of alone time. But they could
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Е	Not really, I don't think they ever were alone.
D	You know, I almost called you this morning, Pearl.
Р	Yes?
D	Because Lisa and I were talking about
Р	They went for a walk, or something.
Е	Oh, for a walk, yes, a walk.
Р	Yes.
D	Let them do a walk. You can't get
Е	And Junior would follow close behind on his bicycle.
Р	Yes, their bother.
D	Yes.
Р	Exactly.
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D	Yes, I like to send my younger son off with my older when he's
Е	Yes.
Р	Because a lot of crazy things can happen with 14-year-olds, right?
Е	Yes.
D	Yes.
Е	That's what we were thinking, anyways.
Р	So we were thinking that they had really good
D	Because they're kind of mindless.
Ρ	Yes, but they kept good heads on their shoulders too, I don't know how we lucked out.
Е	They were just so good.
D	Well some people are just super mature for their age.
Ρ	But what were you going to ask?
D	Yes.
Р	Because then we've got to get to the story of why we're here.
D	Well, I just wanted to ask about your boundaries with teenagers.
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Р	Yes.
D	And then I thought, oh maybe I'll ask on the podcast.
Р	This is a good time.
D	So this is the right time because
Е	Perfect timing.
D	l've got a 17-year-old.
Р	Yes.
D	Who always likes to be gone. Like, if he can, he will not enter the home. He wants to spend the night out.
Р	Yes.
D	He'll come in and do his laundry. He wants to get… He's very social. And we totally support that, we try to…



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- P Yes, because he's a chip off the old block.
- D Yes, so we try to let him, we try to say yes as much as we can. But, did you, with your teen, because you've had teens that have gone on and moved out, but when they were in that transition where they were ready to move out, they could live on their own.
- P Yes.
- D They've got bank accounts but they're still living with you, did you put any guidelines around how many days a week you could be gone? If you could be alone with a girl?
- P Oh.
- D How hovering... How much did you hover? And do you have kids that have...
- E I have a 17-year-old right now, Danny.
- D So, I would love to hear from you both.
- P Yes.
- E A male.
- D He's a male.
- E He's a boy. A male.
- D He's a male, okay.

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- P Yes, so...
- E Very masculine.
- P I mean, I don't know. Yes, once our children were 18 we said, hey you make your own decisions now but we'll still advise if you want our input.
- D And they still live there.
- P Yes, but once...
- D But you decide your day, your schedule.
- P Yes, we're not making rules for them then.
- D Okay.
 - However, if they want to live at our home, well the home has some rules.



Ρ

D Okay.

P But when they're still 17, 16, we're still in charge. So, to us, if you're like our son Noble, and you're with a girl, oh my goodness she is precious and you better do the right thing.

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D Okay.

- P And you better not be alone with her if her parents don't want that. And you better abide by every stinking rule they ever come up with.
- D Okay. But you don't guarantee it? Once he drives out of the driveway...
- P No.
- D You're not like, hey make sure there's another person in the room, you can't be alone. Like, how much?
- P We weren't that much, were we?
- D Okay.
- P We weren't even...
- D Because I think I'm too much.
- E You and I parent very similar.
- P Yes.
- E We were just like, let them... Mark and I have always, our parenting strategy was always to let them know that you trust them.

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Р	Yes.
D	Yes.
Е	Because if they feel that they have your trust, they don't want to let you down.
Р	But we also didn't want to do stupid trust.
Е	So they have their own conscience.
D	Okay.
Р	Yes.

- E So we try to let them have enough freedom to make dumb choices a little bit so that there still is an insulated environment.
- D Are they allowed to kiss?
- P The first year they weren't, certainly. I don't know if they did. But certainly when they were getting...

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- E There's talk.
- P Yes.
- E But we don't know, for certain.
- P Well, I do think they... Okay, we're talking to a lot of Christians on our podcast here. Some are not. So, some of this might sound really cray cray. There's certain Christians that don't even like kissing until the wedding day.
- D The wedding day is the first kiss, yes.
- P The wedding day, and that's fine for them. We haven't been like that.
- E I think it was after they were engaged, maybe.
- P Yes.
- E But it wasn't anything big time or anything.
- P We actually weren't there...
- D Big time.
- E Make out session and stuff like that.
- P I don't know if there were make out sessions. That's not for me to know. But all I'm saying is, I don't know. It was a beautiful thing to watch, I think, their relationship.

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- E It was a beautiful thing. I think they handled themselves wonderfully.
- P Oh man. Amazingly.
- E Way better than I ever did.
- P Way.
- E Let's not go there.
- D Really leaned in.
- P Okay, hey. So let's get to the story.



- E Okay, so what happened was, this is so critical to tell that story.
- P Yes.
- E Because...
- P Hey, we're 15 minutes in.
- E That was why I got into foster care. Because they were all becoming independent and growing up and I worked myself out of the job, they're all getting careers already. Our children worked at an earlier age, some of them for your company.

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- P Yes, that's right.
- E So, they were earning a living. They were working, coming home doing all their own stuff, cooking their own food and everything. So, I didn't feel so needed so I thought, well, you know what? I should just go adopt a couple of kids. So...
- P Who thinks that?
- D Just on a Wednesday.
- E Yes, so, I signed up for foster care and the first call I got they said there was this little four-year-old boy that needed to be adopted. His name was Alex. And I said, oh, just bring him on over, we'll adopt him. No problem. They said, oh, but here's the catch, you've got to go meet somebody in a hospital parking lot. I said, oh, that sounds a little fishy.
- D A little sketch.
- E A little sketchy. When I got there, I'm thinking it's going to be this beautiful little boy that's just running around, going to run into my arms and say, oh, thank you for wanting to adopt me.
- P Yes.
- E And then it was this little boy where his head was almost exactly...

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- P Well, you went to the hospital, right?
- E To the parking lot.
- P Oh, they brought him out?
- E In a dark parking lot.
- P Hold on, how did they bring him out?
- E They took him out of the back of the car. This was a different person, I didn't know.
- P Oh, okay.

- E They pulled him out from the back of this car seat, and I could see his head was bigger than my head.
- P Yes.
- E And it was almost as big as...
- P And his little body was about the size of the head, yes.
- 00:16:43
- E Yes, and I was like, woah, what's going on. There was this thing coming out of his throat and he had this trach thing coming out of here and you could hear him making these grunting noise through this thing coming out of his neck and I was like, oh my goodness, what isn the world's going on here. And he's like this top-level special needs child. I had no idea when they called me that that was what we were getting into. So, of course we go up there and we're in a hospital room and they're hooking up all these machines that are sucking out mucus out of his neck and I'm like, woah. And you can't get near the child. He's just so frustrated he grabbed my hair and he pulled a big clump of hair right out of my head. And he punched me in the eye and scratched me in the throat and I was like, oh my goodness, what is going on here? And he has this tube feeding him and his belly was out like an Ethiopian-type belly like way distended. And they were feeding him through this tube and I was like, oh my goodness. So, I come home, I ask Vange, I ask her parents, I ask my parents, get some wisdom on this matter. Should I take this kid or not?
- P They said to you, he will never walk, never talk, never...
- E Speak or eat.
- P Eat. Never eat.

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- E Nothing.
- P He will be like this...
- E For the rest of his life.
- P If you take him, for the rest of his life.
- D Well because, when you adopt a child without special needs, it's this epic commitment. People just go, wow I'm so overwhelmed at the thought of it. But, to adopt someone with that level of special needs, this is now your life. You don't, you're not...
- P Everything.
- D I'm putting myself in your shoes and I'm going, wow all the things I was going to do.
- P Yes.



- D My plans, my everything is totally given up.
- E Gone.
- P Yes, it's not just your days, it's your nights. 24-hour care, this child. 24-hour.

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- E And he came with 24-hour healthcare nurses. They were going to be living in our home with us.
- P But I need to ask you this. I haven't asked you this. So you went home, it was just you at the hospital, or was it Mark?
- E No, it was Mark and I.
- P Okay, so when you went home after this big shock and talked about it. What did you...
- E We came home to the party. They were having this big dance, and we came there and we asked everybody. And everybody was saying to me, there's no way that you could take that child.
- P I know, I remember thinking you would be not... You can't.
- E That was just like, no, you're going to regret this. This is just the worst thing.
- P I was thinking, you can't. How could you?
- E You cannot do this. This is your whole life.
- P But what did you and Mark say to one another? Because you obviously made the...

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- E Well I mean, Mark said, if we don't, who will? And then that night I had a dream. I feel like it was a prophetic dream of some prophetic nature from the Lord. Because I was in Bible times and I was seeing all these people in gowns and they were on the ground, just very... They were invalids. And I just did what I naturally would do because I didn't know I was in a dream, and I just went to go grab and help one of these people crying out in pain. And then the Lord Jesus' hands, his nail-pierced hands, came through my hands and picked them up. And then I thought, you know what, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. And if God be with me, who can be against me? So, I basically had to fight against all the doctors and the specialists and the therapists and everybody because they had such a minimal view of what his progress would be. And they were making a half a million, he was like a cash cow. They kept him, I could tell by the look in that little child's eyes, I could tell that he had a whole life to live and that they were holding him back. And so, I just kept fighting battle after battle after battle.
- P So they wanted...

D Wow.

P The foster care, or the adoption care, wanted to have him adopted. But he was living in a hospital, obviously, had from birth, right? At one point you found out he was a twin.

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- E Yes.
- P And you are in wonderful contact with the mother now. But she just couldn't look after him. She kept the other twin, right? Yes.
- E And the DCS told her that he had died. Because she was so heartbroken, she lived in the projects in Nashville.
- P Yes.
- E And she didn't have any money, and both of her parents were murdered and the guy ran off from her so he didn't take any responsibility. And here she was with two little twin boys that were born at 27-weeks gestation. And one of which was Alex and the other one, interestingly enough, his name was Aaron.
- P Oh, really?
- E And that's my name. So, it was unbelievable.
- P So they wanted him adopted out but then the hospital was not willing to let him go, was not happy to let him go, right?
- E Well, he was there for a year and a half, and she couldn't physically or financially care for this child.
- P Okay, so...
- E And she had him until he was a year and a half.
- P Oh, I did not know that.

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- E Yes.P She had him at home?
- E Yes, no.
- P No, in the hospital, yes.
- E She just would come frequent to the hospital.
- P So, she thought he died?
- E Well, she was always bothering them about how he was doing, she wanted to see pictures of him, and they just got sick of it.



- E They had him in four different foster homes before us.
- P Okay, all right.

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- E And so they just told her that he was dead.
- P Really?
- E Yes.
- P So, you took Alex home and I remember because it came with 24-hour nurses. So, nurses had to come to your home and be around the clock to help you. Because he could die at any time, right?
- E Yes, and it was a really interesting story because all three of the nurses that worked around the clock, they were all in cahoots with each other, and they had called the CPS on the three former foster homes. So, I knew that, I was smart enough to know that we would be next. And we were. They called CPS on us and they came to pick up Alex, and they just lied. I was smart enough, because I'm kind of a conspiracy theorist, so that's another thing I am, so I put cameras up around the whole house. So, I knew that it was coming down the pipeline.
- P Yes.
- E And so when they tried to take him away, I just showed them all the evidence that they lied about everything. And then they got all fired.
- P Yes, well I remember that you had help at first because he can't breathe on his own, eat on his own, do anything on his own.

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- E Right.
- P So, any time during the night he could... So, there has to be someone always up, right, with him? Always on board.
- E They had to have eyes on him at all times.
- P I remember all the nurses went and it was just you, and just Mark, with such high special needs. But you always told me, Pearl... And me of little faith, now I'm such a faith person, but back then I was just coming into my faith, I was such a baby faith girl, you know? And she would tell me, Pearl, oh he will walk. Oh, he will speak, he will eat. And I'll be thinking in my head, well, I'm not sure about that, Erin.
- E Everybody thought that way.
- P But now I'm with you, right.
- E Because he does.



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- P He does, but I believe in bigger things then. But I remember...
- D So, he walks?
- E Oh, he runs.
- P He runs.
- P Hey, you're listening to the PODDY with Serene and Pearl. And I'm Pearl, and who are you?
- S Serene.
- P Hey, did you know that only 9% of plastic actually gets recycled? No matter how much we put in our recycling bin. I know, that is kind of depressing. I've heard it before and I'm just... I don't know what to do about it, but Grove does. At Grove Collaborative, they believe it's time to ditch single-use plastics for good.
- S Grove carries hundreds of products aimed at replacing single-use plastics across your home and personal care routine. And by 2025, Grove will be 100% plastic-free.
- P Like Grove, companies concentrated cleaners and refillable glass bottles, they're friendlier to the planet and twice as effective as the leading natural brands. So, switch to sustainable products for every room in your home, from laundry care to hand soaps and more. Grove Co has you covered with safe formulas and refillable packaging that never compromise on performance.

00:24:49

- S I'm all about the health, really. That's my number one requirement for when I use a product in my kitchen, in my bathroom. Because I don't want toxins, I don't want chemicals leaching into my skin or the skin of my family members. But that all aside, Grove has that covered. What I love is the smell it brings to my home, the citrus scents. When you use these products from Grove Collaborative, your house not only smells clean, it smells beautiful. And it's all done naturally.
- P So, join over two million households already shopping sustainably at Grove. Go to grove.com/trimhealthy today to get a free gift set worth up to \$50 with your first order. Plus shipping is fast and it's free. Get started right now at grove.com/trimhealthy. Grove.com/trimhealthy.
- S This is the PODdy with Serene.
- P And Pearl.
- S Get it right, it's P-O-D D-Y.
- P We've got to tell the story of how this all happened. So, then you were there and everyone said, the doctor said, well you can't do it on your own. There's no way you could it on your own. And then you just said, well just watch me, right?



00:26:01

- E Yes.
 P So, pick it up.
 D By the way, do you have any medical experience, before this?
 E No.
 D You had no training in caring for someone like this?
- E No.
- D Okay.
- E But I thought it was easy because I did care for, my daughter Molly is a Type 1 Diabetic, so I had some sort of, taking care of her needs was, I felt like it was a lot harder. Because it was a lot of unpredictable type stuff with the food and taking the shots. So, with Alex, it was just really cut and dry. It was like, oh okay, just check this. You suck the throat out and then you have to...
- P Yes, but I've seen you do this and it's not easy. It's not.
- E Couple of scary moments here and there.
- P Do you remember once you asked me to watch him?
- E Yes, I did it for a joke.

00:26:50

D	Pearl.
Р	And I said, no I can't do that. That's just
Е	I said, oh it's so easy. All you do is just put this tube down the neck and then you suck it out.
Р	Yes.
Е	And then she's like, what?
D	Pearl's had all these kids, but somehow there's this part of Pearl that's like the single girls from Malibu.
Е	Yes.
D	There's just this whole side to her that's just like, ew.
Е	She's not going to be sucking out necks.
D	Yes, sucking necks out.
Р	I said to Vange, I texted Vange, why's she asked me? Of all people, me? But anyway.



00:27:18	
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D	I would not call Pearl to babysit my kids.
Р	Hey, I'm babysitting three grandchildren tonight.
Е	You're babysitting our grandchildren tonight.
Р	I am.
Е	Ours.
Р	And two others, but hey, so, anyway. But, talk to us
Е	Okay, so he had hip dysplasia. He had about fifty different diagnoses.
Р	Yes.
E	Okay, so it was always the challenge of getting all those things knocked off because I knew that he really didn't have epilepsy. Because I saw right in his records, right after he got vaccinated he got these seizures. And, of course they didn't want to admit that it would be the vaccines, of course, because that would just be so bizarre to put two and two together like that.
Р	Yes.
E	So instead, oh, let's put him on a psychotropic drug. Let's just dope him up so all he can do is go like this.
Р	And then sometimes he'd be violent too, right? Yes.
00:28:08	
Е	Oh yes, because the drugs made him violent.
Р	Yes.
Е	So, my first job was… I had a list, a checklist.
Р	Yes.
E	Okay, he's going to walk, he's going to talk. And, in the meanwhile, I get another child, while
Р	Yes, but we'll get to that.
Е	While I'm doing that.
Р	We'll get to that.
Е	So, he needed his hip fixed. Well first off, his diet. Let's go back to the diet.
Ρ	Yes.
Е	So, his belly was out to here.



00:28:32	
Р	Yes.
E	And of course they don't realize that maybe it's the food they're feeding him. The tube feed.
Р	Yes.
Е	And look at the main ingredient, canola oil.
Р	Right.
Е	First ingredient.
D	Oh, they're pumping him with canola oil?
Е	Canola oil, and then, beyond that
Р	And he was constantly sick, too.
Е	Oh.
Р	Not only did he have his limitations
Е	He couldn't even poop on his own.
Р	Yes, he had nothing
Е	I had to take my finger and shove a suppository up him and it was a really strong medicine.
Р	This is why I'm not babysitting, you can understand now, right?
00:29:00	
Е	I told her too, all you do is just put the blue glove on.
Ρ	And she says this is easy. She says this is easy
Е	Just put the glove on, Pearl.
Ρ	But this is her life now. You've gone from like We were both in the stage together where our children are growing, we're doing business things. You were doing your business things and then suddenly, you were 24-hours with gloves and pulling stuff out of a throat and poop and
E	Yes, well then I thought, oh, if I know he's going to poop anyways, I might as well potty train him. So, I got this little tiny toilet and every time I'd put the thing in, I would sit him on there and put a movie on for him to watch so he'd relax. And then he learned how to poop on the toilet and since then he's never pooped in his pants.
D	I fall apart when I have to put a Band-Aid on my daughter's boo-boo.
Р	Yes.

Cwaywithwords

00:29:47	
Р	You wouldn't be babysitting either.
D	Fall apart.
Р	But talk about the food because that was huge. It changed him so much.
E	Okay, so the food. So, of course I'm really into health and wellness.
Р	Yes.
Е	That's another thing we have in common. So, there was a lot of years that Mark and I were homesteading big time. Where we were so poor, we dared never to go on food stamps. We just took every penny we had and we bought everything in bulk. And we bought all these animals and we did this whole homesteading thing. So, we grew all of our food that we ate.
Р	Yes.
Е	Everything.
Р	Yes.
Е	So then I look at labels.
Ρ	Right.
Е	I study stuff like that. I don't want GMO stuff. I don't want any of that crap. So, what I did was…
Р	Christian cuss word there, yes.
00:30:31	
E	Christian cuss
D	Very edgy.
Е	Very punchy.
D	Sorry kids.
E	Sorry kids. Anyway, the label on there, I'm like, oh my goodness I know all of what this is. DHEA, the food colorings and, oh my goodness, and sugar was in it. High fructose corn syrup was in this stuff.
Р	Yes, that's what, his only food too.
Е	That was it.
Ρ	Because they inject it into their stomach, right?
Е	Yes.



00:30:59

Р	That's all he got.	
E	Right into the stomach with the tube.	
Р	Canola oil, high fructose corn syrup.	
E	Yes.	
D	What are these people smoking?	
Ρ	And his stomach was literally	
E	Red lake and yellow lake too.	
Ρ	And his stomach was literally	
E	Like this. And I could tell	
Р	And hard and	
E	And he was in pain. So, what I did was	
D	What is the reasoning behind that?	
E	They wouldn't even listen to me.	
D	Better to put him on water.	
Ρ	It's hospital food.	
E	They said, no he's doing good on this, and I said, I pulled up his shirt and I said, he's doing good on this? You call this good?	
00:31:30		
D	Because he's so bloated.	
Е	Yes, I said, this poor child. So, what I did was I ended up getting another opinion from another doctor and I got him on this beautiful organic Nourish food. So, that was step one. Then he was having regular bowel movements. We didn't need the medicine anymore. Hallelujah, right?	
D	Yes, wow.	
E	A big win. A big win right there. Just nutrition, and his color of his skin, wasn't gray anymore.	
Р	Oh, I remember. Yes, he got this beautiful	
E	His skin was gray.	
Р	He's a beautiful black skin.	
Е	He's got this golden, beautiful	



00:31:59	
Р	No, brown skin, I would say.
Е	Yes, but he looks like just the most beautiful golden brown. Beautiful!!
Р	At first he was ash. He was ash and now it's just Oh, his skin.
E	And it's soft like butter and he used to have to take all these creams for eczema and psoriasis and all this stuff.
D	Yes.
Е	He doesn't have anything. He just has the most beautiful skin because of his diet.
Р	Yes.
E	So that was the one first win. Second on the list was to walk. So, he had hip dysplasia from birth. His hipbone as all the way up by his ribs.
Р	And his little legs were about as
E	And they weren't going to fix it. They weren't going to fix it. They said, he'll never walk anyway.
Р	His leg is about two fingers, my two fingers.
Е	Oh yes, because he never used them.
00:32:41	
Ρ	They were very atrophied. Little tiny little toothpick legs. His first steps were at my house.
Е	I know, it was so fun, wasn't it?
Р	One of the best days of my life.
Е	l know.
Ρ	I want to cry. So, she just kept saying, he will walk, he will walk. He got his surgery, right.
Е	He got his surgery.
Р	But they still said he wouldn't walk.
Е	They still said he wouldn't walk. So, it was a whole year. I had to set
Р	Yes.
E	I made obstacle courses all over my house and things all over the wall that he would have to stand up and sit down and stand up and walk up some steps and this and that.



00:33:15	
Р	And you would just stand
E	To strengthen his legs just from standing, and it just, it was so much blood, sweat and tears but I fought hard.
Р	But you would just stand behind him.
E	Yes.
Р	Walking and walking behind him, walking, keep moving his legs.
E	Yes. I would just keep doing it. I'd be on my hand and knees and I just wouldn't give up on him. And this kid is running now.
Р	Yes.
Е	Running.
Ρ	Running. I remember the first day. We were over at my house, Vange, you, and I, and the kids, and at that point he was standing. And then
Е	He took a step.
Р	He took a step, and then he took another step.
Е	And we were screaming.
00:33:44	
Р	We were screaming at the top of our lungs.
Е	We were like, ah.
Ρ	We saw a miracle in real life. I felt like I was one of the people watching the red sea. You know, the sea pass?
Е	Yes.
Ρ	It was that huge. This child that they said would never do any of those things and there he did it and he was defying the words spoken over him. And I have to say that was because of love and because of belief, and because you poured your life out. And I know that there has been days that are super hard on you.
E	Oh, yes.
Ρ	You're one of the happiest people I know, but I know. I mean, I know that it has been hard.
Е	Oh, yes.
Р	So, how do you get through the hard?
E	I don't know, sometimes I just put a movie on and let him watch a movie. Let him



watch a movie. So, my husband...

00:34:38

- P Yes, but I don't mean that because we all do that, right? But I mean, your brain space. Have you ever thought, and I've asked you this before, have you ever thought, did I make the right decision? Should I have done this? What did I do? I can't undo it now, but what did I do? Because it's taken my everything. It's been hard, it's been hard but you've loved it.
- E It's been the best thing I've ever done, I would say.
- P Yes.
- E It really has.
- P So, you've never, and I think I asked you that once and you said, I've never had that thought.
- E No.
- D See, that's so interesting to me because I feel like you've got the scale and when you choose to do things like this, in a selfish sense, but in a sense your dreams are over. Whatever you had planned for your life is over. So, I need more from you. I'm with Pearl. I feel like we're trying to hack this mentality. I want this for me too. Because I have said no to easy stuff I should have said yes to just because I want to make my dreams come true. Or I want to live my life, I want to do what I had planned to do. I want to go on that trip to see my friend in California or whatever. And to take on certain responsibilities would mean that's not happening. And so, I'm in awe but I'm also like, how? What is the secret? How do you get through... How do you make that decision? You knew when you took on adopting children like this that, or did you? Did you think of it that way? What's your mindset?
- E I don't know, I just thought of it day by day. Every day was a new day. I didn't think of... because I was disabled myself for about six years. I couldn't walk, I was in a wheelchair.
- D Okay.
- E And I had intense pains. So, for me, I learned through that experience to... I learned that life was a gift and that every day was just... I couldn't think about tomorrow because thinking about being in chronic pain for another day was just overwhelming to me. So, I got into this mindset of just, every day, just taking it minute by minute some days. And I just started that habit and it is how I live my life.
- P I have to say, Erin is... Danny you actually have lived parallel lives with Erin in a way because she is totally the what if you could woman. You grow up, Memphis in the hood, and you are a father now, four children.

00:37:24



Ρ	We know your parents, they are beautiful parents, but you grew up with some hard stuff, Erin. You share it in your book. And there was major abuse, there was many things, many crazy stuff that happened to you.
E	Even being abducted in a foreign country.
Р	Yes.
E	And I was trafficked for my organs. Put in a cage.
Ρ	Yes. There's stuff that's happened to this little lovely Christian lady in this little yellow dress. But you are one of the most people that I know that carries a mindset of, like you said, I can do all things through Christ.
E	Yes.
Р	That's what you wear as your identity, and that
Е	I believe every word of the Bible.
Р	Yes.
E	I don't take it figuratively or spiritually. I take it word for word as if it was written right to me.
Ρ	Yes.
00:38:09	
D	Did you say you were trafficked for your organs?
Е	Yes.
D	Which organ?
Е	All of them.
Р	Well, you were in Peru at that time.
Е	When I was in Peru.
D	Oh, it didn't actually happen. They didn't actually
Е	No.
Р	She got out.
E	Well, because I had to escape. I had to break out.
D	Because it would have killed you.
Е	Oh, yes.
D	They were going to
	words

00:38:25

- E I had to actually, physically, strategically break out of a cage and run for my life. Yes.
- D This is why I don't travel.
- P But that's a whole... We have to have you back for that one. But we need to get to two things, because we are at 36 minutes.
- D I know. We need hours.
- P We could do a series, right?
- E But, now we have to talk about the fact that he is feeding himself now.
- P I know.
- E He eats his food all by himself now, which...
- P With a spoon.
- E Oh my goodness. And the feeding therapist kept...
- P You don't know how big that is.
- D My body can't even take this podcast. I need to run.
- E The feeding therapist kept telling me, you're doing it all wrong. He's not ready to eat like that. And I said, he is too. And I just had to fire all of them. I had three different feeding therapists and everyone...

00:39:14

- P This is not to say we don't love doctors and therapists, right, because you've actually had some good friends...
- E But I had to because they said, no this never works. And I asked her, I said, give me the case study. Tell me, when did you see this not work, what I'm doing. Okay, I know why, because you don't have any case studies. Because guess why, nobody else would do this insanity as I'm doing. No one. I know that I'm unique.
- P Yes, so...
- E Nobody else would. I literally had... Remember when I wore the cast on my arms because my arms literally almost broke from all the stress of trying to feed this child with the spoon. I'd go like this and his hands would push against my hand like this.
- P And he, yes.
- E And he's very strong. And I would keep going like, eat. And then he would put the food in his mouth and then he would hold onto my hands and I had to literally pry his fingers off of my hand.
 - But did he not want to eat, or he didn't know how?



Ρ

00	:40):1	5
00			0

E	No, he did. He just had these impulses.
Р	He did? Because you kept saying to me, he wants to eat. And they all said he doesn't, it's aversion. It didn't look like it.
Е	It didn't look like. He had food aversions because of his trach.
Р	Yes, but
Е	The whole throat was repaired.
Р	Yes.
Е	Totally rebuilt. He breathes on his own.
Р	So, this is what I want to ask you. Two things we need to cover before the end.
Е	But now he loves to eat.
Р	Yes, I know.
Е	He begs to eat. He even says the word, eat.
Ρ	So, here's the thing. Two things. I want to talk about Catherine, who you adopted, who will be with you for the rest of your life too because she's also special needs. So, both Alex and Catherine will be with you and Mark, forever. Yes.
00:40:53	
00.40.00	
E	Yes.
	Yes. So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said your arms. You've been through a lot of physical challenges with Alex and Catherine.
Е	So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said
E P	So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said your arms. You've been through a lot of physical challenges with Alex and Catherine.
E P E	So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said your arms. You've been through a lot of physical challenges with Alex and Catherine. Yes. And just the endurance of raising these children you have had to be so strong because of course you had to carry him before he couldn't walk. And even now he needs extra.
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E P P E P	So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said your arms. You've been through a lot of physical challenges with Alex and Catherine. Yes. And just the endurance of raising these children you have had to be so strong because of course you had to carry him before he couldn't walk. And even now he needs extra. So, you had to get strong. Well, normally people have a newborn. Yes.
E P E P E	So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said your arms. You've been through a lot of physical challenges with Alex and Catherine. Yes. And just the endurance of raising these children you have had to be so strong because of course you had to carry him before he couldn't walk. And even now he needs extra. So, you had to get strong. Well, normally people have a newborn. Yes. And how much do newborns weigh, Danny?
E P E P E P	So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said your arms. You've been through a lot of physical challenges with Alex and Catherine. Yes. And just the endurance of raising these children you have had to be so strong because of course you had to carry him before he couldn't walk. And even now he needs extra. So, you had to get strong. Well, normally people have a newborn. Yes. And how much do newborns weigh, Danny? Yes.
E P E P E P D	So, we will need to talk about that. But I want to go to, really quick, because you said your arms. You've been through a lot of physical challenges with Alex and Catherine. Yes. And just the endurance of raising these children you have had to be so strong because of course you had to carry him before he couldn't walk. And even now he needs extra. So, you had to get strong. Well, normally people have a newborn. Yes. And how much do newborns weigh, Danny? Yes. 8lbs. 10 oz.



00:41:24	
E	Okay, so I'm from not carrying anything to having a 32-pound child to pick up that was like a newborn baby.
Р	Yes.
Е	Can you imagine a newborn weighing 32 lbs.?
D	Why was the newborn weighing 32 lbs.?
Р	Well, because it was Alex. Because he couldn't do anything, so he's 32 lbs.
D	Oh.
E	So, my arms couldn't Normal four-year-olds, they can do some things by themselves. You don't have to carry them around like you do a newborn.
D	I see, yes.
Е	But, with Alex, I had to carry him around like a newborn baby.
D	Because he was just getting started, yes.
Р	Yes.
E	Yes, because he was never taken out of the crib. He was always in a crib and I didn't want him to live that kind of life.
Р	Yes.
00:42:05	
D	No.
Р	At the hospital, he had lived in that crib. No one had taken him out.
Е	He had lived in a crib for the first four and a half years of his life.
D	Wow.
Ρ	So, I've watched you then undertake this transformation of getting yourself strong. Because you had to.
Е	Oh yes, because now he's about 50 lbs.now.
Р	Yes.
E	He's gained so much weight. Because I puree all this super healthy food like kefir, I put in his food.
Р	Yes.
Е	And I put berries, and I put the Nourish food too.
Р	Yes.

00:42:33

- E But I also put the collagen powder.
- P Yes.
- E And the protein powder that you offer.
- P Yes.
- E I put all that, and baobab.
- P Yes.
- E And raw honey, and all that good stuff.
- P So he still can't chew steak.
- E Avocados and everything, no, he cannot. But I have to make the food a certain consistency and it's high caloric value with good fats and everything. So, it's about 800 calories in one cup of food.
- P Yes.
- E Which sounds like a lot, but for a little guy like that, he needs every bit he can get. And he's beefing up, he almost looks a little chunky now.
- P It's so cute.
- D What tips do you have for the world to get over ourselves.

00:43:12

- E I think the biggest cure for depression is to pour into something or somebody else other than yourself, because you don't have time to feel sorry for yourself anymore. And who wants to just sit around and do that all the time, it's pretty boring.
- D Erin, you're one of the legends on planet Earth. And I mean that, I've interviewed world famous celebrities and all they've done is made us laugh. I mean, this is what fame looks like.
- E Oh.
- P Yes, I agree. And that's why I dragged her in September, tried to get her... We took a cruise.
- E Yes.
- P And so, her whole life is these children. We've got to talk about Catherine. She adopted a Down syndrome little girl and she's just the sweetest. So, Alex and Catherine together, there's two of them now.



E But, strangely enough you think, oh Alex is so hard to take care of, ah, he's the easiest child in the world. He's just the most beautiful, well-mannered little boy. He's just the sweetest little boy. It's almost like when I'm with him, I feel like I'm just with Jesus because he's got the sweetness and purity of Jesus. There's not one ounce or one bone of guile in his body.

00:44:34

- P It's amazing, especially when I see Mark with him too, your husband...
- E Oh, yes.
- P And I've always said to you, what does Mark think. was this all you pushing this on?
- E Oh, he loves it.
- P But your husband Mark just loves these children.
- E Oh, yes.
- P It's like God just gave you this love, this fierce love. I dragged you away because I felt like your every waking hour was with these children. We went on a cruise, but you were just happy to go back to your life too.
- E Yes.
- P I mean, you loved it.
- E Of course.
- P But I just kept thinking is she dreading going back to all that work, and all that? But you weren't.
- E No. The minute I walked in the door...

00:45:07

- P Yes.
- E We turned on Super Simple Songs on YouTube and we had a dance party.
- P Yes. She's always dancing with them.
- E And Alex, that's what he wants. He wants nothing other than to just dance with me. He loves to dance. He's a party animal.
- P And it's a miracle in itself because every time you're dancing with him you're defying curses that were put on him.
- E Yes.
- D Yes.

Ρ

And she just spoke them off, Danny. If no one believes in miracles, I'm sorry. I mean, if someone says they don't believe in miracles, I'm just sorry. Just, you're wrong. I've



seen it. I have seen it. It's right here. It's in her life. It's in this child. I've seen it, too much.

00:45:46

- P Hey, you're listening to the PODdy with Serene and Pearl. And I'm Pearl, and who are you?
- S Serene.
- P Get incredible deals on premium cuts of meat from Butcher Box. Deals this good are hard to come by at the grocery store. Listen, I love some really good grass-fed meat. But, if you go to the grocery store, you're not going to get fully grass-fed. You're not going to get grass-finished. It's going to say grass-fed, but at the end, typically, they are fed with grain and the prices on it are even more expensive than what you can get at Butcher Box and then you get fully grass-fed and grass-finished, high-quality beef and other meats, and then seafood that you can trust.
- S Butcher Box takes the guesswork out of you finding high quality meat. 100% grassfed and grass-finished beef, as I mentioned. Free range organic chicken, pork raised crate free and wild caught seafood.
- P I am in love with their wild caught salmon. I find our frozen salmon hard to deal with, it gives a bit of a frozen taste, right? You can taste that difference. But there's something about this wild caught salmon from Butcher Box. It bakes up incredibly, for me.
- S Humanely raised, no antibiotics, no added hormones. Get just what you want delivered right to your doorstep. Free shipping for the continental US and no surprise fees. Choose from a variety of box plan options from curated to customized and change your plan whenever you want.

00:47:20

- P You can enjoy our range of high-quality cuts that are hard to come by at the grocery store at an amazing value. And that's what Butcher Box is all about. Giving you quality, healthy meats, but not taking all your bucks. Get in on the exclusive member deals so you can save big on your favorite cuts.
- S Butcher Box has a special offer running for our THM listeners. Use code trimhealthy to get \$20 off your first box. Sign up at butcherbox.com/trimhealthy and use code trimhealthyto get \$20 off.
- S This is the PODdy with Serene.
- P And Pearl.
- S Get it right, it's P-O-D-D-Y.
- D This is what success looks like. Success looks like we're a day away from food stamps, and we're saying yes. Because if we're not, then who's going to?



- E Who's going to? I know.
- P And no one would have. I don't think anyone would have, but you did it.

00:48:22

- E And when he graduated from complex care which is this big part of Vanderbilt University, they have complex care where they take care of the sickest children. And he was one of the sickest children that they took care of. And she cried when she discharged him. And they had a little bit of a party up there because they're like, you don't understand. She says, we don't ever discharge a complex kid.
- P Yes, because you'd had to take him back the whole time for treatment.
- E Well yes, she said we don't discharge them. But this child does not need us anymore.
- P Yes, he's discharged.
- E But this never happens. She says, the only time we discharge them is to the grave, sadly.
- P Oh.
- E They just die because they're so fragile. He's not...He's so healthy.
- P No, he's so robust. But I do want to...
- E And he's not on any medication now, I must add.
- P I know, it's just incredible, but, I want to go to this part, because I'm...
- E He's not on any medication.

00:49:17

- P I want to bring it round to the Trim and Healthy part. You had to get strong, you had no other choice.
- E Yes.
- P So, tell us what you did because you're so strong now. And when we're on our cruise, every day, I would get out the top, I would wake up, our special place was on the Serenity Deck, right?
- E Oh, yes.
- P And I would get up in the morning and there would be Erin, and she's got her bands. And she's like doing all these tricks.
- E I don't care what anybody thinks.
- P She's training in front of everybody with her little dress and her little things underneath.
- E And the cat cows.



- P Yes, but you've had to, right?
- E Oh, yes, because my back was always going out and my neck and I was in severe pain trying to lift these children and hoist them and turn and pick them up. So, she's 36 lbs. and he's 50 lbs. So, you can imagine, there's a lot of lifting that goes on.

00:50:07

00.00.01	
Р	Yes, there is.
E	And she's a little stinker. And Down Syndrome people do the plop.
Р	Yes.
Е	And she does this plop thing where she melts her whole body into the ground and I have to try to pull her up. She's still oozing down while I pick up.
Р	She is
Е	So, I've had to strengthen my arms just like the Bible says, the virtuous woman, she strengtheneth her arms.
Р	But you feel better now from being strong than you would have.
Е	Oh, I am so strong now.
Р	Yes. And you just
Е	I just was organizing Catherine's room and I just picked up, there was a big garbage bag full of heavy stuff in there, I just grabbed it up like this.
Р	And that's from what? It's just
Е	And that's usually like what my husband would do, he'd just go
Р	Hey, it's just a little routine that you designed yourself with these exercise bands, right?
00:50:48	
Е	Yes, and I'm getting such results.
Р	Yes, that's incredible.
Е	Feel my arm.
Р	Oh I know, babe. You're so strong, mate.
E	Mike, he's like, mom, you're ripped. She's got a six pack. I actually have
Р	Yes.
D	Can we see a bicep?
Р	Yes, she just showed



D	Okay.	
E	But if you feel it, that's where it is. If you feel it, it's really solid.	
00:51:12		
D	I'll take your word for it.	
Р	Will you	
Е	I'm picking up these 50-pound children and I just curl them.	
D	Yes.	
Ρ	I think it's really amazing because you wouldn't be able to do this unless you took care of yourself so you can take care of others. You eat	
E	But I didn't do it to look good.	
Р	l know.	
E	I didn't do it for looks.	
Р	No.	
Е	I did it so I don't injure myself.	
Р	Yes.	
Е	Because injuring is like this I can't take a day off. You understand that, right?	
Р	Yes, I do understand that.	
Е	Who's going to take care of these two children, you going to come over, Danny?	
00:51:39		
D	No ma'am.	
Р	No.	
Е	Okay. Are you going to?	
Р	She already tried me. She already tried me, it didn't work.	
D	No.	
Е	She's not coming.	
Ρ	I took you on a cruise instead.	
D	Pearl and I are for show only.	
Е	There's no help. There's no help on the way. So, Erin has to take care of herself. Erin has to be strong so I don't get injured. So that's what we do.	
Р	And so that's why you do your kefir daily, right, for your gut.	
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Е	Yes, always.
Р	What else do you do?
00:52:00	
Е	Collagen.
Р	Yes.
Е	And I take a lot of supplements, too.
Р	Yes.
Е	I do. I'm constantly trying to work on my gut and juicing.
Р	And you do sourdough bread.
Е	l juice every day.
Р	Yes.
Е	l juice, l take
Р	But you have to.
Е	Yes, I have to do all of it.
Р	Yes.
Е	Because without my health, how can I take care of their health?
Ρ	Let's talk about Catherine because we've got to go, because she's a precious one. Yes.
Е	But she's like taking care of ten Alex's.
00:52:27	
Р	Yes.
D	Really?
Е	Yes.
D	Just because she's a little woman?
Е	Because she is a diva.
Р	Yes.
D	Yes.
E	She really is. We brought her to the specialist because she just had her tonsil and adenoids surgery because she was choking on food. So, the specialist wants to look



at her ear and she goes like this.

- P Yes, she's always doing that.
- E Like this.

00:52:52

- D Glamour.
- P Yes.
- E She's got this luscious, beautiful, black, long hair.
- P Oh, she's gorgeous. She's absolutely beautiful.
- E She actually is really beautiful. But she's the dickens. She's got a very strong spirit. Which is good because she's very high functioning, when I first got her, she was like a little blob, and she couldn't really do anything. She was only a year old. And then, I just worked with her all the time and talked with her all the time and just treated her like she was a normal child and she is rising up. She helps me load and unload the dishwasher. And she does it better than most adults do it, I'm not even kidding you. She'll get with the cup and she'll go like this and put it in the dishwasher perfectly and slide it over. And she'll put all the dishes away properly and she organizes silverware in the right compartments. And...
- P So, would you say that your life then has been enriched?
- E Absolutely. 1000%.

00:53:49

- P Yes.
- E Yes.
- P It's amazing.
- E I looked forward to, I'm dancing all day long with these children. They're my biggest fans. I don't need any other fans, I really don't, because they're just so happy to see me twirl and dance.
- P But I'm just going to say, if you're...
- E I do all my ballet in front of them and they're just like this every time. They clap for me. And then I sing opera for Alex because that's his favorite thing, is opera music. He likes fine dining. He likes me to light the candles. And he likes to have classical music playing while he's feeding himself his food. And then I sing, and then he always claps every time.
- P But you know what, thinking about it, we think of the vagus nerve and all that and it's our healthy nerve in our body, turns on our immune system. Think about what it's stimulated by. Laughing, by dancing, by giving love.



P Actually, givingout love stimulates our vagus nerve. So, your vagus nerve is pretty much stimulated all day.

00:54:44

E	All day.
Р	That's probably why you're so happy.
E	That's probably what it is. See, that's what everybody needs to do. There's 450,000 children that are waiting to be adopted in this country alone.
Р	Yes.
Е	But who's going to do it?
D	My life's been changed.
Ρ	Yes. Well, this is Erin. This is my co-grandma and I wanted you guys to meet her. So, hey, we might have you back, Erin.
Е	Aw.
Р	See you.
D	Bye, kids.
00:55:22	

