

"Spilling Tea with Boomers" with Grace and George
Live Stream from @disorganized.religion, 2023
Video available at: <https://youtu.be/zdcAH9syV-w>
Transcript prepared with support from otter.ai

Sarah

Okay, so today we're doing something very special that we have not...thank you...that we have not done before, called Spilling Tea with Boomers. Alright! So in this game, I'm interviewing two of our "elders." The idea's for you to get to know them, but also for them to get to know you, because I think ya'll are one of the best audiences in the world, and I think it would be great for them to get to know you.

They also happen to be members at the church, and we're going to have a chance to ask them questions about their generations in a minute. But first, I have 20 questions. And here are the rules. Number one, you can pass on anything, all right? (I don't recommend it) There are no wrong answers. The audience can jump in anytime in the comments. I will be looking at the comments. But if you're rude, I'm gonna kick you out. I'm just gonna block you. Yes, I am. Just like that. Just like that. I want them to have a fantastic time!

Our guest today is Grace aka @thepaganinquestion on TikTok.

Grace

The pagan in question.

Sarah

Yeah, and George is relatively new to TikTok. George--what is your name on there? Do you want to share it?

George

I don't really have one.

Sarah

He doesn't really have one.

George

Or if I do or can't remember.

Sarah

He cannot remember. That sounds right on brand. <laughter>

George. Any questions?

George

I'm good.

Sarah

All right. Let's do this. Here we go. All right. Grace. Best sandwich.

Grace
Pass.

Sarah
George? Best. Okay, best sandwich.

George
Okay. It would be a medium rare burger with cheddar or American cheese, lightly toasted bun. Maybe...maybe, with, on occasion, thousand island dressing.

<cut/transition>

Sarah
George, what's something you own that you should really throw away?

George
All righty. I'll think about that for a second. I don't know if throw away is the right word. Or maybe give away. But I have a tux that I bought maybe 30 or 35 years ago? And probably 25 or 30 pounds ago.

Sarah
Are you saving it for a special occasion?

George
I hope not. <laughter>

<cut / transition>

Sarah
All right, George. What's the scariest animal?

George
A rattlesnake.

Grace
Any snake.

Sarah
All right

Grace
Or a worm... or a hose.

George
So you won't be coming into my house.

Sarah

Oh, hi, Roger. Roger, I gotta have you on one of these days. We're doing Spilling Tea with Boomers, which is where I interview older people and hear their wisdom and also some of just their hilarity and today we actually have a unique opportunity to talk to someone from Gen X as well.

So they've already answered questions about their favorite sandwich and what's something they throw away and their scariest animal, which seems to be a consensus that it's a snake.

<cut / transition>

Sarah

Where do you think Jesus would go first if he came back tomorrow?

Grace

I think he would show up somewhere where our leaders are to say, "What the hell are you people doing?"

Sarah

Yeah! And somebody with the username "notification" said Florida.

Grace

Yes!

Sarah

Oh, and Jack said that they'd have a beer with Jesus.

George

Corrales.

Sarah

He'd go to Corrales?

George

Ex Novo Brewery in Corrales

Sarah

Yeah, there's a shout out. That'd be great, people. Yeah. I was thinking the International District.

George

Depends on your point of view.

Sarah

Yeah, you're right about that. Jesus does walk on water, but we don't have a whole lot of that in New Mexico. Yeah, he'd have to walk on sand. I think mostly here.

Grace

I think he'd clean house a little bit before the beer.

Sarah

So George is going to have the beer first. Sounds like Grace is like he's going to go into Florida. He's going to clean house. Oh, Roger thinks he'll talk some sense into Putin. Jesus has an ambitious agenda already.

<transition / cut>

Sarah

Okay. George, have you ever asked somebody for their autograph?

George

Yes, actually, I have. And this is a long time ago, but I was at a NASCAR race in Joliet, Illinois—I think when the track first opened there, once again probably 30 years ago, and on behalf of my son. I ran down a driver by the name of Mark Martin and asked for his autograph and he begrudgingly gave it to me. And he kind of gave me one of those numbers and said, Goodbye. That's yours.

Sarah

Oh, wow.

George

You know my wife worked for one of the race teams when she worked for McDonald's. She worked for Bill Elliott's NASCAR team and she also did work for the teams at this—at the time drag racing teams.

Sarah

That is so good. I had no idea she did that. Yeah, I used to go to car races when I dated a racecar driver for a short time. Yeah, another time, we'll share those stories. All right, Grace. How about you? Have you ever asked for an autograph?

Grace

Not an autograph. But one time I was in the co-op and Diego Nightmare Sanchez, the UFC fighter, was behind me and I was not going to approach him because I didn't want to, you know, bug him but my sunglasses had fallen off and he picked him up for me and, and I was like, Hey, man, you know, good luck on the next fight. And he's like, oh, you know who I am. And so we chatted for a minute and I asked for a selfie with him. And he was really super awesome.

Sarah

Do you still watch UFC?

Grace

I am not willing to pay that much money for it.

Sarah

Yeah.

<transition / cut>

Sarah

Apples or oranges?

George

Probably oranges.

Grace

A mandarin orange.

Sarah

A mandarin orange...

Grace

Or a blood orange

Sarah

Are you more of a morning person or night owl?

George

Oh definitely morning. Morning. No, no doubt about that. I can't get up much beyond nine o'clock.

Grace

Yeah, I'm usually up four or five o'clock in the morning. And I appreciate being up when everybody's quiet.

Sarah

And I can tell y'all I'm definitely a night owl 100%.

George

Well, your texts come in at three o'clock in the morning...

Sarah

I don't text at 3 in the morning. I email. I email because hopefully my hope is that people turn off their email notifications when they sleep.

<cut / transition>

Sarah

What is something that people of faith should care more about?

George

The poor? People...people who don't really have anything? Yeah, I guess that's my answer.

Sarah

That's a great answer, George. And there are no wrong answers. Grace?

Grace

Um, community in general is my first thought—you know, making sure that we're taking care of everyone in our community, regardless of who those people are.

Sarah

Yes, wisdom from our elders! Grace thinks this is hilarious because she's not used to being called an elder. But on Tik Tok. I am super old.

Oh, I'm so glad Mr. J that you love this content, even though you're against organized religion. And Brian says widows and orphans is another thing we could care more about. What's something that people of faith should probably care less about?

George

Hierarchy.

Sarah

Great answer, Grace?

Grace

What other people are doing in their bedroom,

George

Oh that's good.

Grace

As long as it's consensual.

Sarah

Exercise—worth it?

George

Eh...Probably not. You can look at me and see. <laughter>

Sarah

Do you exercise?

George

I do some walking, not a lot. Not a lot.

Sarah

Somebody says we should also care less about money. I like that answer too. And politics. All right. Grace, what do you think?

Grace

It's an important part of maintaining our bodies so that the older we get we can get on and off the toilet. <laughter> Speaking as a physical therapist assistant.

Sarah

Nice. Speaking of which, what did people do while sitting on the toilet before we had the internet on our phone? <laughter>

George

They had 18 year old magazines, a basket full of them. <laughter>

Sarah

Oh—Timothy? Oh, people just shout Timothy at me which is a not so subtle dog whistle. It's just a whistle saying you're a woman be quiet, and I don't need it. Okay. Also - I have no "authority" in this church, to be clear—the Council does <Grace indicates by pointing to herself and George>, so it doesn't apply anyway. We're Congregational.

Grace

We've got the power.

Sarah

They do have the power.

George

We noticed that we are sitting behind you, and we could smack you upside the head if we feel like it. <laughter>

Sarah

Oh my gosh! Oh my gosh... All right. We're trying to preach the real good word of Christ here. We're doing our best...

<cut / transition>

Sarah

Favorite smell?

George

Bread coming out of the oven.

Sarah
Oh, that's a good one.

Unknown Speaker 9:46
Clover when I'm on my motorcycle.

Sarah
That is so specific. clover when you're on your motorcycle? They have clover around here?

Grace
Yes. On the way to Los Lunas.

Sarah
Okay...

Grace
That's it. It smells different when you're close versus driving by at high speeds. I think you know, there's something about when you're on your motorcycle, you know, you're yeah... you know.

Sarah
I mean, I don't...

Grace
Well, you know, you're not enclosed, so you've just got that lovely smell going by and, yeah, it kind of gets stuck in your helmet. And yeah, it's just lovely.

<cut / transition>

Sarah
So hard one, describe the rest of your life in five words.
Yeah...I know you have to count

Grace
Our life outside of this or our life from here on out?

George
Probably shorter than I would hope.

Sarah
Probably shorter than I would hope?

George
I think that's five.

Sarah.

Close, close enough.

Grace
Focusing on releasing the past.

Sarah
Focusing on releasing the past. What wisdom we have from these elders who have joined us today! Adele says that to the Gen X, Grace, that they love your hair.

Grace
Oh, thank you.

Sarah
Oh, Brian wants to know if y'all are afraid of death?

George
I would say no. At this point. I think I'm sufficiently at peace with things that Yeah, I'm okay.

Grace
I used to be very terrified of death. But a few years ago, I got to a place where I felt like I was satisfied with some of the things I've done with my life and felt like, you know, if death came, it would be okay.

Sarah
Hmm. That's pretty cool to hear from y'all. So work buddies would like to know, how would you help people who are afraid of death? And what's next? What would you say to them?

Grace
I would want to know first what exactly their fear is. And I think it would depend on that. You know, like, for me, it was more about not so much what's gonna happen when I die. But for me, it was more about feeling like, there were too many unresolved things in my life, too many things I wanted to do that I hadn't. And so it was that, you know, that aspect for me.

George
I would kind of echo most of what Grace has to say. It would have to depend on knowing whatever the underlying reason is, I mean, is it "I'm afraid I'm going to hell" or is it something else? I mean, you know, it's very hard to express.

Sarah
Yeah, so what I'm hearing is that they want to sit down and listen to you. That's what I'm hearing, which is pretty awesome—that they're not just gonna give you advice and be like, "This is the answer," which I love. Yeah. Oh, Brian was supposed to take a shower an hour ago. Go shower, Brian, take care of yourself.

What is a stereotype about Baby boomers, George, and what's a stereotype about Gen Xers, Grace, that you think is spot on?

George
They're far too opinionated.

Sarah
Oh, interesting.

Speaker 2 13:20
And I think maybe...open up the mind a little bit and consider what it is you're saying and believing really.

Sarah
Oh, interesting. So just some open mindedness.

George
Yeah, there's a lot of closed mindedness, a lot of closed mindedness.

Sarah
And somebody says boomers never quit. And so maybe that's a positive thing about Boomers that's spot on, for better or worse. They say Gen X is trying to fix everything and people, would you agree with that?

Grace
That's spot on.

Sarah
Alright, so a lot of people talk about how much it sucks to age. But I'm curious, what have you enjoyed about getting older?

George
I find that I'm taking more time just to sit there and look at the dogs or scratch their ears or, you know, do calming things—not worrying about getting everything done all at once. And I don't know if that's a sign of aging or just a sign of what I am at this point, but maybe something like that.

Sarah
That sounds wonderful.

Grace
Menopause. The cessation of menstruation.

Sarah
Menopause is something we can look forward to?

Grace

Yes. Or being on the other side—perimenopause, not so much.

Sarah

Wow. That is good news I can get behind.

The chat says you'll love the experiences you gain as you age and you get more confidence, slowing down making time to pause.

Alright, well, we're going to end soon. Any final words from our lovely hosts?

George is ready to go respond to his Tiktok comments already. I'm kidding. Any final thoughts? Oh, people love the silver and gray hair. No more hair dye.

George

Well, that's good. I used to dye my hair bright red.

Sarah

Did you really?

George

Yeah.

Sarah

What? When?

George

Oh, I mean, that was a long time ago. Maybe 20 years ago.

Sarah

And did you go more strawberry blonde or like...

George

Dark red

Sarah

Like red red?

George

Yeah.

Sarah

Did you get called a communist?

George

Oh, no. I called a lot of things, but never a Communist.

Sarah

That's so cool. George. Yeah. Well, were you in a rock band?

George

I should have been.

Sarah

I think you should. Well, if you've done more guitar...

George

Jukebox hero...I could have been a jukebox hero.

Grace

I wanted to be a heavy metal star.

Sarah

That's amazing.

<George gets up> George? George is out. Goodbye, George!

All right. All right. Grace? Any last thoughts? You got nothing, Okay.

Ya'll. This has been absolutely extraordinary. Thank you for joining for our innogular... That's not a real word. Inaugural nuclear? Nuke-lear? nuke-ular? I'm from Texas...I make up words. The inaugural Spilling Tea with Boomers. Y'all have been amazing! Thank you so much to our guests, George, Grace. I'll see you later. Bye, everybody!