[Gender Reveal theme music starts]

**Molly:** Welcome to Gender Reveal, a podcast where we ask intrusive personal questions and hopefully get a little bit closer to understanding what the hell gender is. I'm your host and resident Gender Detective, Molly Woodstock.

[theme music ends]

**Molly**: Hey everyone, I hope you’re all hanging in there. I just wanted to let you know that I was lucky enough to guest on two podcasts last week. My dear, dear friends at “Feminist Killjoy PhD” invited me to speak about asexuality as part of their sex and love series, they are so smart and we had a really great time, I’m really proud how that episode turned out. And then the two folks at “Two Broads Talking Politics” had me on to talk about the wonderful world of gender as part of their gender identity episode. They actually started the show by misgendering me, and I know I should be mad, but it was like so fucking funny to me I cannot get over it. Anyway, they’re trying their best, we’re trying our best, everyone’s gonna learn. It’s fine!

Speaking of which! If you are looking for someone to do educational work on gender identity, asexuality, queer shit, even like veganism or diet culture I am officially available for podcasts, freelance journalism work, in person presentations, all that good stuff. You can reach me at woodstockmolly@gmail.com.

And of course, if you appreciate the educational and work and labor that Liza and I are doing on this show, please consider becoming a Patreon member at Patreon.com/gender. We really can’t do it without you.

Speaking of supporting the show, let me take a moment to thank Open Hand Health. Open Hand Health is a gender affirming, body-positive, queer-owned business in Southeast Portland, Oregon. They offer massage therapy and naturopathic medicine. They’re currently accepting new patients with and without insurance, so find them at openhandhealth.com for more and info and online booking. Again, that’s openhandhealth.com.

And of course, thank you so much as always to Glad Rags. Hey, here’s a suggestion for all you menstruaters out there. Take all your boxes of tampons, donate them to a local shelter, and then buy yourself a menstrual cup and a bunch of cloth pads. It will end up saving you so much money, it’ll be better for the environment and I swear it will change your life. Go to gladrags.com to sign up for the Glad Rags newsletter and when you do you’ll get 10% off your purchase and you’ll be directly supporting Gender Reveal if you tell them that we sent you.

And with that it’s time for a segment called ‘This Week In Gender.’

[This Week in Gender theme music plays]

**Molly:** Hey, remember back in July when Trump started tweeting about banning all transgender folks from serving in the military? And then a lot of cis folks who had never cared about trans justice before suddenly cared a lot about whether trans folks were allowed to participate in the military industrial complex?

Anyway, after those tweets Trump wrote an executive order ordering the military to ban trans folks from military service. Specifically he ordered the military to return to the policy that had been in effect prior to June 2016. Back then the Pentagon considered gender dysphoria to be a disqualifying mental illness. The executive order is schedule to go into effect on March 23rd. But there’s a provision in the order that says U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis could submit his advice and recommendations to Trump by February 21st which was last week.

So he did that and they didn’t make the recommendations public, but a lot of people think that Mattis recommended that transgender folks should actually be able to continue serving in the military because he’s expressed that opinion in the past. So, that’s good news? But also Trump isn’t bound to follow that advice, he just asked for it. But he didn’t say he would follow it, necessarily. So we don’t actually know what’s gonna happen until March 23rd. Or maybe sooner! Maybe Trump will tweet something out right now, maybe he’s already tweeted it! I don’t know!

I also want to point out that Jim Mattis’ spokesperson said that Mattis, while making this decision, quote: “Sees all his decisions through the lens of lethality.” end quote. Which is a wild and terrifying thing to say. So even if he does support transgender troops in the military, he’s maybe not like the best person.

 Look--transgender folks should definitely be able to serve in the military. Transgender folks should be allowed to do anything they want to do. All that I’m saying is that statistically, marginalized folks and folks in poverty end up joining the military at disproportionate rates. In large part because other pathways to education, healthcare and employment are not available to them. So while we fight for trans folks to be able to access the military, let’s also fight for them to access education and employment and healthcare.

This has been, this week in gender.

[This Week in Gender theme music plays]

[transition music]

**Molly**: This week I am *thrilled* to air my interview with Mads Ambrose. Mads is the owner of Babe Wax, an all gender waxing salon that specializes in body positive services. Less than a year after opening Babe Wax in 2015, Mads began Wax Fund, a pay it forward program that funds waxes for low-income trans women and trans feminine folks in the Portland area. They are determined to disrupt the beauty industry by creating accessibility in all forms. I love Mads so much, and I’m so excited for you to learn all about their work.

[transition music ends]

**Molly**: Thank you so much for coming on Gender Reveal, I’m so excited to talk to you!

**Mads**: Yeah! Thanks for inviting me.

**Molly**: Can we start the way that we always start? Which is asking, gender wise, how do you identify?

**Mads**: I like to use the word ‘genderqueer.’ I’ll say nonbinary a lot because it’s like cool and people understand what that is, where I feel like genderqueer is still confusing. I don’t know, do you agree with that? [Laughs]

**Molly**: I, yes, 100% agree with every single thing you just said. Why do you like genderqueer?

**Mads**: Because I first started identifying as genderqueer. It was the first gender identity I had besides being a woman which is like something that I didn’t identify with for a long time, and then all of a sudden just wasn’t really working anymore. And I read some Kate Bornstein book and was like, ‘oh my god!’ [Laughs] This is why I’ve identified with some people in my life that identified differently than me, and so, and femme and genderqueer wasn’t a thing that you saw. This was not even that long ago, like I don’t know if people forget about this. But, I know I do because it’s so rampant now that there’s like nonbinary femmes and genderqueer femmes--is it cool that I’m still rambling?

**Molly**: Yeah I love it.

**Mads**: Okay, cool--

**Molly**: Please do this.

**Mads**: Cool, um, so I was femme identified for sure. And was like the only femme living in small town Oklahoma going to school and I just remember being like, ‘You know what, you can be femme and genderqueer! It makes no sense that those things can’t coexist.’ And I kind of got a little angry and defiant. I even posted, I was like a part of femme groups online and I’d post about like, ‘does anyone feel this way that I feel about gender?’ Because it was mostly cis femmes and people were like, ‘No, I’ve never felt that way, maybe you shouldn’t identify as femme anymore, that’s weird.’ It made me feel like I couldn’t be femme anymore, and I was like, ‘Fine.’ [Laughs]

**Molly**: What was that feeling that you were describing that you said they never felt that way?

**Mads**: I think I said something like, ‘I’m having trouble as a person who is starting to identify as genderqueer still identifying as femme,’ Because, one, I didn’t have that representation of genderqueer femmes, so I was trying to find that representation and others that felt that way so we could at least hash it out together. And also those spaces, like I said, were very cis. So I didn’t have other trans people, you know, any kind in that group. You know? And I was feeling like, I’m not one or the other, so how can I be--is ‘femme’ a binary term then? That was the question I was posing.

**Molly**: I think it’s really important that you pointed out it hasn’t been that long ago since we didn’t have that representation. Because these days I feel like the main complaint is that all nonbinary people are white, people who are assigned female at birth and who are just femme-ish people who use the term ‘nonbinary,’ so it’s funny how quickly that’s changed.

**Mads**: Really, that’s what people say??

**Molly**: That’s what I’ve heard, I know someone who was trying to do, like, a qualitative survey of people who are nonbinary and they were like, ‘Literally all I can find is white people, assigned female at birth and young, and if you know anybody who is not like that, send them to me.’ And I sent a bunch of people because I actually know a lot of people of color who are nonbinary, a lot of people who were assigned male at birth. But apparently that’s the new misperception--I mean it is arguably safer in some instances for those folks to identify that way--

**Mads**: Absolutely yeah--

**Molly**: Before we get too far in I want to ask what pronouns you use.

**Mads**: Oh, they/them.

**Molly**: Perfect. So you grew up in Oklahoma--

**Mads**: I did.

**Molly**: And you came out as genderqueer when you were in Oklahoma?

**Mads**: Yeah, I was going to college. I was living away from my hometown and moved there being like, “Okay! I’m out as queer now!” Or probably actually bisexual to be honest was my first, first I was not straight, bisexual, then as soon as I learned what queer was I was like, “That’s me!” Because I was dating a lot of genderqueer or whatever word we used, different people, so that fits me better. I came out as genderqueer probably three years after I moved there in like 2010 or something, seven years ago.

**Molly**: And there was a population of genderqueer people in Oklahoma at the time, in your space?

**Mads**: No, not at all. One of my partners there did, and later came out as a trans man, and I knew other trans people. But I think I met like one other genderqueer person who lived in the city 30 minutes away. So the actual people I was with, it was not, there weren’t very many genderqueer representations face-to-face. A lot of my queer media came from online. Or I had a friend in San Francisco, and I’d hang out with the queers in San Francisco and I’d have the time of my life and learn what the queer culture was in the Bay and stuff.

**Molly**: Did you come to Portland for the queer culture?

**Mads**: Absolutely! I came out as queer. I lived in Oklahoma for like three years, and was like ‘I can’t do this anymore as the only femme in town.’ I was the only, yeah, the genderqueer femme that I was and I’d already dated like the two butches that would date me in town [laughs]. And so I was sleeping with a lot of straight women, which is fine. But it was different. It’s different than dating queer people and I like dating queer people. And so I was really excited and I did kind of a travel thing of visiting friends in different cities. I went to the Bay. I went to Seattle. I went to Portland, and then the people in Portland kind of welcomed me more so this is where I ended up. I wanted to get laid and like be queer and not feel afraid and like be comfortable. And as a white queer I totally get that in Portland. So, yeah.

**Molly**: So you founded a waxing salon called Babe Wax.

**Mads**: Yeah!

**Molly**: Tell us what makes Babe Wax different from other salons.

**Mads**: Totally! I market it as an all gender waxing salon because I have one menu. I couldn’t find at the time when I opened, but I think there’s at least one other salon that does that--but I mean a lot of beauty industry services are split to male and female. So I wanted an all gender menu. I wanted there to be no uncomfortable outing for anyone whatsoever. I wanted to be an easy breezy experience because it’s already extremely anxiety ridden experience getting your private parts waxed or whatever [laughs].

**Molly**: Yeah! So before I met you and heard about Babe Wax in my head waxing salons were for like, rich, thin, white ladies. And specifically white, straight cis ladies. And, what I learned from you was that, of course, waxing is actually really important to the presentation and safety of lots of trans women and trans feminine folks--could you talk about why that is, why that’s important?

**Mads**: Yeah, I mean, and also I want to point that I didn’t really realize that. I didn’t get into waxing to wax trans people, I got into waxing because I could make money. I learned through working at a salon that did target straight, white, skinny, cis women with money and I was queer-identified and genderqueer identified and was wanting to reach out to queer folks. I knew getting any kind of service from other queer folks is a nice exchange and you feel safe and you don’t have to the awkward gender situation that like, ‘Who’s your boyfriend’ or whatever.

And so it wasn’t until I got some of my first trans regular clients and understood not only is it like important but the feelings behind it and the emotions behind it, and was really, I didn’t know even how important it was as I was waxing, and I’ll never know how important it is to get my chest waxed or something, but to be present and see those emotions and like the excitement and hearing people. When they get waxed they want to talk about themselves--I’m never not like, ‘So what’s your deal?’ or poke or what people’s identities are or their life experience. It’s like, ‘Do you want to talk about your shitty morning?’ or ‘How did you come out as trans?’ [Chuckles] It’s whatever people want to talk about, and through people offering their stories and offering their, like, experiences, I got to understand it as a secondhand person and was like, “Oh wow, there’s something really meaningful and deep into this that I didn’t even really know was happening,” until multiple people. And then even the people that I follow on Facebook or whatever, or the clients that I have teach me more and more and parents call me and be like, ‘Thank you so much for taking care of my daughter.’ And I’m like, of course!! No problem! [Laughs] But we live in a world where that’s not available, not even in Portland, Oregon. Trans people can’t go and be comfortable in so many places, so it’s just a constant reminder that I don’t even realize what’s going on or whatever. People teach me that. I can only understand that as far as I can.

**Molly**: Yeah, I have a friend who just opened a queer-centric gym.

**Mads**: Mhm

**Molly**: And when they opened that, something that they heard from a lot of folks was that, ‘I think every gym is open to queer people! My gym is open to queer people! Why do queer people need their own special gym?’ And I can imagine people thinking that about Babe Wax. So what stories have you heard from trans and nonbinary folks who have tried to go to more traditional salons.

**Mads**: Oh god, I’ve heard such terrible stories. And experienced them working in a salon as well. At best case, people are misgendered, at worst case they are discriminated against in a really harsh way, or not respected. You know, a lot of times, especially with people being like, I went in to test this salon and got my brows done and they wouldn’t wax brows to a quote unquote feminine shape or do what I wanted, or a lot of places will refuse, like, if you have a penis we’re not gonna wax you. So that’s confusing, right? You book a brazil and you identify as a woman, so you go in and those kinds of things too.

I get really upset when I hear those stories, because I’m like ‘Why are these people in this work?’ You’re dealing with genitals which is extremely triggering for many people, but especially queer and genderqueer and trans people, and, you know, it’s like I said an anxiety-ridden experience, so I get angry when I hear those stories a lot. But I hear them all the time. And with fat people too, ‘I can’t wax you, you’re too fat.’ Like straight out...yeah!

[Both laugh incredulously]

Like, that’s not what you say to people! So there’s this---sickness that’s kind of how i describe in the beauty industry that’s a product of colonialist, white beauty standards and like, you know, people have the--even when I was in school--people have the gall to tell me how to fix myself, the way I looked, and I was just like. You suck. [Laughs]

**Molly**: Yeah, I have heard stories from cis friends that have gone in for waxing where they might not go in, not at Babe Wax, other places and go in and say they want to get their brows waxed and the person will say, “Do you want to get your upper lip waxed? Because you could really use it.” And shaming them into doing more, prescribing how you should present. Could you talk about what it means to be a more body positive wax salon?

**Mads**: Yeah! I’d never do that. Sometimes I ask if you want to get tummy hairs taken because it comes with bikini, just so you know, and anytime I ask that it’s not because I think you need a wax, I’m trying to get your bang for your buck. But other than that I would never, and the reason being is that facial hair is an important part to someone’s presentation, and I know, like, the whole upselling part of the beauty industry is toxic and plays on people’s insecurities and it’s funny because a lot of people will ask me, ‘Do I have some hair here? You have a better view than me. Should I get it waxed?’ And I’m always like, ‘It’s up to you! I don’t know how to tell you this.’ I can’t tell you what shape to get your pubes waxed. I’ll say there’s hair there, but we are mammals and there is hair all over our bodies. And so, if you’re cool with it, if I feel like you’re feeling weird about it we can try it and if you hate it, it’ll grow back, you know? I try to actually present that people have an actual choice over what they can and cannot wax. I don’t wax my underarms, I haven’t shaved my underarms since I was 18. I like underarm hair, I like wearing tank tops and showing it off, I think it’s sexy as hell on other people. That’s something I like to prove. I was scared to death that they would make me wax my armpits when I got into this industry, and maybe it doesn’t stick out enough, maybe people don’t know, but I’m really glad I got to keep my underarm hair and still be a waxer. [Laughs]

**Molly**: So you mentioned that obviously often involves genitals and there can be a lot of dysphoria. Is there anything you do at Babe Wax that sort of avoids or alleviates dysphoria?

**Mads**: Yeah, it’s hard to describe everything I do, so I’ll start with, first of all tangibly I write on my intake form, ‘Do you have anything I should know about?’ Are you ticklish somewhere, are you dysphoric about something? Are you uncomfortable? I think it’s a good tool to know and people can say, ‘This is my first wax, I’m terrified,’ or ‘Yeah, I’m gonna need a lot of communication around this wax.’ And then tell me what they need. Because obviously if I’m waxing genitals I have to look at it, I have to touch it, and I’m happy to like communicate about that. I have a few people I do that with.

I wanted it to be a super consensual experience. I also feel like I mostly just try not to treat it as a big deal. I feel like psychologically just being like you have hair, I’m looking at your hair, I’m not looking at your body even. What can I do to make this more comfortable for you? Is this working? I usually say that I like to get this over with quickly and do it really fast, but you let me know if you need a break or whatever. So it’s also me trusting they’ll communicate with me. Mostly it’s just communication about what people need and acting like it’s no big deal. Because I wax buttholes all day, that’s what I do. [Laughs] It’s what I do, it’s okay! People are so terrified of the buttcrack, and it’s no big deal. [Laughs]

**Molly**: You said one time that for certain populations, body hair removal can literally be life-saving, and I was wondering if you could talk about that.

**Mads**: Yeah, I’ve had reminders from trans folks that let me know how, like, when they’re able to go throughout the world without the signifiers of trans or different or queer, that they can not have to deal with potential harm or whatever, and so I think like very literally, it can be. But also, you know, a lot of trans people have to wait for results with, if they’re physically transitioning. And with waxing it’s such an instant gratification that it can be life-saving in that people feel better about themselves and feel good and can, you know, I’m sure your know how high of a suicide rate queer people and trans people have, so it goes both of those ways. It took other trans people pointing that out to me, I didn’t even realize that.

**Molly**: In addition to having a really high suicide rate, there’s also a really high poverty rate among trans folks and nonbinary folks, and I was wondering if you could talk about Wax Fund.

**Mads**: Yeah! So, when I first started Babe Wax I was getting a couple of messages from folks if I did sliding scale or trade, and I’m happy to do trade if it’s a trade I want to do, but I didn’t have the resources to give free waxing or even sliding scale at the time, and so I was in the first few months of starting Babe Wax. I was lamenting about it with a friend client, and she was like, ‘Why don’t you just get other people to pay for other people’s waxes?’ And I was like, ‘That’s a brilliant idea! Yeah!’ I worked with Score, which is this really great free mentorship program for small business owners if you’re a small business owner or you’re thinking about starting a business, they’re awesome. It’s made of retirees who used to be small business owners--anyway, I worked with them to create this, like, pay-it-forward wax fund system. It’s basically people paying for other people’s waxes. People can pay for others’ services on top of a regular price service or pay for Wax Fund menu services that are slightly higher in cost because the difference goes into that fund, so it’s all funded through the community and through clients, and also people can donate online at Babewax.net/waxfund. And I’ll do a couple of fundraisers throughout the year, we had one in May was the last one. I’m trying to think of one to do soon. We did a drag show of drag and burlesque at Crush, and I’m hoping to do that again next year. We raised like $700 so that was awesome. I’m hoping to do some sort of online campaign, it’s not a non-profit, it’s a sector of the business, but all of the money that goes to it is going directly to funding services and aftercare kits.

**Molly**: About how many people have you been able to help?

**Mads**: I have 40 applicants, and they’ve all at least come through at least once, many of them have come through three or four times though--

**Molly**: That’s so amazing!

**Mads**: Yeah, and every month there’s always one or two new applicants, so, uhm, you can apply online too if you want to be an applicant at babewax.net/waxfund if you scroll to the bottom and click ‘Apply for Wax Fund.’

**Molly**: Awesome.

**Mads**: Yeah!

**Molly**: You mentioned a drag show, and you told me that you have been a drag king. Can you tell me about that?

**Mads**: So I’ve been performing for about four years in Portland as a Drag King, and my drag king is always very femme and gay, super gay. It was a really important artistic creative expression for me because even when I moved here six years ago I knew I identified as genderqueer, but it was always one of those, it’s hard to come out to queer people even. I didn’t think people would get it, I didn’t think people would believe me, and you know, just admitting that you're different, you’re not cis, is kind of a scary thing even in a queer community because they expect these certain gender roles and sexual roles on the way you look, which is ridiculous and what heteronormativity and oppression does to us in the first place, so I don’t know why other queers do that to us, but I guess it’s part of the trauma. Anyway! And so, yeah, it was a really great coming out tool for me, you know, at the time I really only came out to people I was having sex with and close friends or people who I was dating or what not. So I was able to express any kind of masculinity which ended up being so femme, like most of the time, and I loved playing with, oh, when am I feminine when am I masculine? Is it because of this earring I’m wearing? What if I took it off? Is it because I have a mustache, what if I shaved it up and made it feminine? It was such a great way for me to play with the public and myself. And I went by Mads Dudebabemodel was my full drag name because it was a part of me. I didn’t want to act like it was a different character. This is me, I just get to go all out and be super expression on the stage right now.

And I’ve kind of put away that for right now, and you know, I miss it already and it’s only been since May since I haven’t performed, but it served its purpose, I don’t need to be like, ‘Look how genderqueer I am! I’m wearing a sock in my pants!’ or like whatever, it’s come tom ore settling waters for me. If people want to get it, they’ll get it. Uhm, and just kind of having more free time. Because performing, I was at one point like I’m only performing once a month! And even that was lot. To be creative and to get the energy going to be on stage is hard work even after four years, so I’m really happy to have the free time and focus on Babe Wax.

**Molly**: Yeah, do you still identify as femme?

**Mads**: Yeah! Oh yeah.

**Molly**: What does femme mean to you?

**Mads**: It’s about embracing and loving femininity and feminine divine and this sort of rebellion against this world that devalues femininity. I love to talk about, like, makeup and the physical things about femme-ness, but that’s never what's been important to me. It’s never about how you look, it’s about how you feel. I guess that’s how it is for me, I can only speak for me. And I didn’t identify as femme for a long time because then people were like, ‘Well you just shouldn’t identify as femme.’ Or I saw femmes around me be really transphobic and exclusionary and gate-keepy and all this stuff about the word that I was like, ‘I don’t want anything to do with you all.’ And not identifying in a binary way is what I was experiencing at the time, and it was not useful to me, and then I saw more nonbinary and trans femmes speak up and speak out and be like, ‘No, I’mfucking femme. I’m here, I love femininity, this is who I am and who I embody.’ Then I came back to it and was like, ‘Actually femme can be super genderqueer and really awesome and, so, yeah.’ Probably only for the last year or so I came back to it.

**Molly**: Yeah, what you’re saying is really radical because I think that it might be the instinct of certain folks who aren’t in our position to say, ‘Well you were assigned female at birth and you feel feminine, so how can you also be genderqueer,’ right? Can you talk a bit about that?

**Mads**: Sure! I mean, like, what is feminine, you know? What is a woman? That’s what I mean about the drag was so great, because at what point am I masculine, at what point am I feminine? And the way I present one moment to the next, I guess I would consider myself pretty fluid, and so just because I look one way--I also like to talk about my masculinity. I don’t identify as a masculine of center person, but I do have masculinity in a part of who I am and what I express and what I love about myself and embrace those parts of me. So even if I’ve said I feel feminine, I feel masculine too. But that’s me, and the femme is kind of this queer femme where you can be really like, like I love femmes that are super masculine in a lot of ways. I love when people play that line.

**Molly**: Do you think there’s a difference between traditional femininity and hard femm and an aggressively queer feminine, but you--

**Mads**: Yeah, for a faggy femininity.

**Molly**: But I think you really have to be around it to see the difference. There’s probably a world of straight cis people who are probably like, ‘I have no idea what you’re talking about!’ [Laughs]

**Mads**: And that’s okay! You don’t even have to get it, you don’t have to understand because if you aren’t a genderqueer person or a femme person you will never understand. So it’s okay!

**Molly**: I would assume, based on my own personal experience living my life, most people who meet you out in the world who don’t know you read you as a cis woman, they just assume that that’s true. Where are spaces where you feel really seen, and where are spaces you feel like nobody is really understanding?

**Mads**: I feel most seen with other genderqueer people and mostly trans people too. I have binary-identified trans folks who are like, ‘I don’t get it’ just like you were talking about, ‘but I respect it.’ Mostly with people that get it I’m gonna feel the most comfortable. But you know, I don’t really worry about when I don’t feel seen. It’s not important to me, it’s never been important to me to be super visibile, and maybe it’s because the way I present the body I present, I’m seen as a cis person--maybe I have--I’ve questioned like, ‘Do I want to physically transition?’ I've spent months and months and months worried that I needed to transition medically, and that may happen again at one point in my life and I’m open to the possibility that that’s a better option for me, but mostly I’ve just come to a point in my life where if other people don’t get it, I don’t care. And if they ask me my pronouns, I’ll tell them. But if they say ‘she/her,’ I personally don’t correct them because being a woman is cool, women are great, and I also understand how I look, so I’m not gonna jump down someone’s throat who is a well meaning person and not using anything in a derogatory way or being a transphobic person. I mean, it’s always important to me that my best friends and the people that I’m dating understand. Everything else, I don’t really care about.

**Molly**: I have one last question for you. You are around trans and nonbinary folks and queer folks all the time, and I’m wondering what you think the future of gender looks like?

**Mads**: [Laughs] The future of gender. Ohhhh, I don’t know. More androgynous fashion lines? [Molly laughs] No, I’m just kidding. More colorful hair--I don’t know! I ahve no idea. Like, I feel like I’m in my thirties and I already feel like there’s gender stuff coming up that I don’t udnerstand, so I expect it to be something that I don’t understand. [Laughs]

**Molly**: What’s coming up that you don’t understand?

Mads: Maybe not really gender, but there’s been a couple of people identifying in sexualities that I didn’t even know existed, it started with an ‘o,’ it was like…

**Molly**: Omnisexual?

**Mads**: Yes, omni! And I’m understanding it a little bit more, and I’m supportive of it. But you know, I just feel like what’s next will be something I don’t understand and that’s beautiful, like I want people to fuck it up and not make sense to even me. You know, I want people to kind of like, I guess, it would be great to see a more taking down of the binary while respecting the people who identify as a woman or a man, that’s totally fine to identify as a man or a woman in any kind of way, it’s okay to identify any way, but I think it’s exciting when people test what even a man or a woman is. You know? Did that answer your question? [Laughs]

[Theme music starts]

**Molly**: That’s gonna do it for this weeks show. If you learned a thing or two, consider donating via Patreon or Paypal or recommending this show on social media or telling a friend or writing a review on iTunes, all of those things really, really genuinely help us so much. We’re going to be doing another round of question and answer in a couple weeks, so if you have questions you’d like us to address on the show or if you have other thoughts, feelings, reactions, feedback, you can reach us by email at gendereval@gmail.com, or on Twitter. And don’t forget to check out Feminist Killjoys PhD and Two Broads Talking Politics.

Today’s show was edited by me, Molly Woodstock and Liza Yeager.

Our logo is by the talented Michelle Leigh, and our theme song is by the legendary Breakmaster Cylinder.

We'll be back next week with more feelings about gender.

[theme music ends]