

MATT'S NOTES

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So, last season I became quite enamoured with writing my notes for this show by hand.

It allowed me to compose more easily. Throughout most days, I scratch to-do lists and other notes-to-self by hand in a cheap Hilroy notebook with a ballpoint pen. And then I trash most such notes and put them in the recycling. It's its own kind of pleasure.

Lately, I'm in Kamloops, BC wherein I lack ready access to the scanner that would be needed to render such notes.

Lately I've been handwriting vis-à-vis a poetry endeavor of rewriting things. And so, after some trial and error, I'm using an entry level fountain pen specifically to do that.



I've also been still, using mainly ChatGPT, rendering a lot of ink sketches, Victorian, "historical" seeming for a weird pulp kind of narrative. The tool is well-suited to what I'm asking it to do. Ideally, I would turn the AI images over to a practicing non-AI/human artist as sort of "demos" or rough versions of the images in question. That being said, the capabilities of ChatGPT to help "storyboard" with intentionally antiquated production values is somewhat ironic, in an Alanis Morissette kind of way, right?

I'm positive we get into some good tangents in this episode, and these notes are the last thing I can do prior to recording tomorrow! Well done, everyone, I'm sure.



is isn't it ironic really ironic

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✦ AI Overview

No, almost nothing in Alanis Morissette's song "[Irony](#)" is actually ironic, because the lyrics mostly describe simple bad luck and unfortunate coincidences.  English Language & Us... +1

What is Irony?

- **Irony** means a sharp contrast between what you expect to happen and what actually happens.
- **Coincidence** simply means a bad or surprising event that happens at a bad time, but it does not break a specific expectation in an ironic way.

The Examples in the Song

- **Rain on your wedding day:** This is bad weather, not irony. Nobody expects a wedding day to be guaranteed dry.
- **A traffic jam when you are already late:** This is an annoying inconvenience, not irony.

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- **A black fly in your Chardonnay:** This is just bad luck.
- **Free ride when you have already paid:** This is a waste of money or a mistake, not irony.

The Closest Exceptions

A couple of lines come close to true situational irony, but they still lean heavily toward tragic coincidence:  Facebook · VSAUCE +1

- **The death row pardon two minutes too late:** This has the sting of subverted expectation, though it lacks a deeper structural twist.
- **Mr. Play It Safe avoiding flights, then dying in a plane crash:** His attempt to prevent the exact fate that gets him creates a mild poetic irony.  Quora

The Ultimate Irony

The biggest irony of all is that a famous song titled "Irony" is entirely about a lack of real irony. Even Alanis Morissette has joked in later years that she did not use the word correctly.  Facebook · Stephanie R... +2

