

Lost in the Stacks

Episode 272: "Open Sourcing America's Operating System"

<http://lostinthestacks.libsyn.com/episode-272-open-sourcing-americas-operating-system>

Announcer: [0:00] Hi, podcast listeners. "Lost in the Stacks" broadcasts on WREK Atlanta from the campus of Georgia tech, every Friday at noon.

[0:08] Thanks for joining us through the Internet and if you have a moment, let us know, how you found us, how you're listening and what you like. We're always trying to improve and expand. Enjoy the show.

Carl Malamud: [0:18] There's a fundamental principle of our democracy, the rule of law, that states that if we are to be an empire of laws and not of men. We must publish the edicts of government for all to know.

[0:31] Ignorance of the law is no excuse and an informed citizenry must educate itself on its rights and obligations. That the law has no copyright, because it is owned by the people.

[0:42] [music: "Friction" by Television]

Charlie Bennett: [1:06] You are listening to WREK Atlanta, and this is Lost in the Stacks, the one and only research library rock and roll radio show. I am Charlie. My absent co-host is Ameet.

[1:17] [music]

Charlie: [1:22] We both work at the Georgia Tech library. Anthony is on the board.

[1:26] [music]

Charlie: [1:31] That's about as close to morning radio as we get. I got to admit, I really like it, but we're going to stop doing the sound tracks now.

[1:37] Wendy and Lizzie are in the studio with me, and for the next hour, we've got music and library talk for you. Whichever you're here for, we hope you dig it.

Wendy Hagenmaier: [1:46] Our show today is Open Sourcing America's Operating System.

Charlie: [1:50] I'm sorry.

Wendy: [1:51] Open Sourcing America's Operating System. It's a phrase borrowed from the Twitter bio of Carl Malamud, president and founder of Public.Resource.Org. We're digging into a current case near and dear to our hearts as residents of the state of Georgia and as librarians, archivists and information professionals.

Charlie: [2:09] I sense a troublemaking archivists show coming up.

Wendy: [2:13] Charlie, usually I hear a little bit of delight in your comments about troublemaking archivists, and no doubt Cory Doctorow also felt that delight when he labeled Carl Malamud a "rogue archivist" on Boing Boing back in July.

[2:29] But the state of Georgia has different views about these archivist troublemakers. In fact, the state was so unhappy with Carl Malamud that they sued him, and accused him of engaging in, and I quote, "A form of terrorism," when he posted "Official Code of Georgia Annotated" online.

Lizzy Rolando: [2:47] Which is totally crazy-town banana-pants.

Charlie: [2:50] Did you just say crazy-town banana-pants?

Lizzy: [2:52] I'm bound by FCC regulations, and I suppose general decency, so I can't use the obscene language that would accurately describe my feelings on this issue.

Charlie: [3:01] That seems legit.

Lizzy: [3:02] Actually, the root of the terrorist label is even more interesting than it seems. To quote Michael Hiltzik's July 27th article in the LA Times, "One can glean how threadbare the state's case is from its use of the term 'terrorist' to describe Malamud, who is anything but.

[3:17] This is an exploitation of a line from a book he published 20 years ago, describing in jocular terms, his efforts to make international code standards public. 'That was a quip,' he says. 'I've been a public servant for 30 years. I put the law online, and to make that into terrorism is distasteful.'"

Charlie: [3:33] Our songs today are all about forces that keep us from the things that belong to us, about bringing things out into the open, and the ridiculous notion of information terrorism. It's only right that we should get free and open access to the laws that govern us, but sometimes the government does us wrong.

[3:50] Maybe the folks down in the Capitol building in downtown Atlanta need a little reminder. This is "Do Right" by Kelly Hogan, right here on Lost in the Stacks.

[4:00] [music: "Do Right" by Kelly Hogan]

Wendy: [6:53] This is Lost in the Stacks, and joining us by phone is Carl Malamud, president and founder of public.resource.org. Carl has authored eight books and founded

the Internet Multicasting Service, a non-profit that started the first radio station on the Internet.

[7:09] He's the recipient of the Berkman Award from Harvard, the Pioneer Award from the EFF, and the Bill Farr Award from the First Amendment Coalition. Welcome to the show, Carl.

Carl: [7:20] Thanks very much for having me.

Wendy: [7:23] Can you start by telling us a little bit about the mission of Public.Resource.Org and your role in the organization?

Carl: [7:30] Public Resource is a non-profit that I started in 2007. Our mission is pretty simple: it's making government information more widely available for people.

Wendy: [7:42] Great. What is Public Resource up to here in Georgia?

Carl: [7:48] When I say public information, that's a wide range of things. We put 6,000 government videos on the Internet, for example, that we worked with the archivist of the United States to go into the vaults and copy these things that were sitting in Washington, and we put them up on YouTube.

[8:06] We've put IRS non-profit returns, about eight million of them, up on the Internet. Our primary mission is making the law available to citizens, and in a democracy, that's very important.

[8:18] In the United States, it's particularly important because in the United States, the law is owned by the people, not by the government. Right? The people are sovereign. One of the things we have done is we've posted on the Internet all the historical opinions of the court, US Court of Appeals, for example.

[8:37] We also posted the official state codes of a number of states – Oregon, Mississippi, Georgia, Idaho – and made those available to people. The state of Georgia decided they didn't like that.

Wendy: [8:53] The state of Georgia is suing. Is that correct?

Carl: [8:56] Yes, they are, which is totally unnecessary, of course. We had a similar situation in Oregon. We posted the Oregon Revised Statutes on the Internet. This is 2008. The state got upset and said, "Oh no, no, no, no, no. We have copyright over this information."

[9:14] They threatened to sue, and we said, "OK, fine, well we'll sue you, too" because we think we're right. Then they called us up and said, "You know what? We're going to hold hearings. Would you mind coming up to Oregon?" We went up to Oregon and testified before a joint session of the Senate and the Assembly.

[9:32] They heard from me, they heard from their legislative counsel, their lawyer. They heard from the citizens of Oregon. They listened about testimony about the Internet. Then they decided at the end of the day that copyright just didn't make sense in an Internet era, and they unanimously voted to waive copyright.

[9:50] In Georgia, that hasn't happened, so we started posting The Official Code of Georgia Annotated, which is the only official law of the state in 2013.

[10:04] We posted in on the Internet, but then I immediately send a letter of the Legislative Counsel and the Speaker of the Assembly, saying, "Hey, good news. We've made the law more broadly available." We got a takedown notice.

[10:16] We sent them a letter back and explained why this is important to do and why the law in the United States has been very, very clear that, what are called the edicts of government – court opinions, regulations, statues, anything that is the official law – has no copyright in the United States, and so we respectively refused to take it down.

[10:37] We got another letter back, and in 2014, we received our last letter, and we thought maybe that was the last of it. They had given up. A year later, we were a little surprised to be served with papers.

[10:50] This is despite repeatedly asking for permission to come address the Code Commission or talk to the Senate or talk to anybody about this, about why we were doing this, but nobody seemed to want to talk.

[11:03] It seems that they want to sue! So they did. They served papers, and we are now in Federal District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Wendy: [11:12] You have countersuit. Is that correct?

Carl: [11:14] We in fact have countersuit. Their position is that the law is not copyright but the annotations are, that the annotations were done by a vendor. Annotations are things like summaries of court cases that are relevant to a statute.

[11:32] That's what they talk about in the complaint, and they say that's copyright by their vendor. But there's lot of annotations in the official code. There's summaries of Attorney General opinions. There's legislative history. There's Code Commission guidance.

[11:48] Those are all part of the official code of Georgia Annotated. Every single bill that is introduced in the Georgia Assembly or the Georgia Senate begins with a preamble that says, "This is an act to amend the Official Code of Georgia Annotated."

[12:06] The State's position is that there's a free version of just the law without the annotations available at the vendor site, a company called LexisNexis, but in order to access that site...

[12:19] Which is pretty bad, by the way, technically. It's really hard to use. If you're visually impaired, it's almost impossible to use it. If you want to mail a bookmark to somebody and say, "Hey, go read this portion of the law," you can't really do that.

[12:34] But in order to even access this site, you have to agree to the terms of use. The terms of use say you basically aren't going to do anything useful with this. You're not going to copy the documents and make them available to other people.

[12:46] You won't use it for any public or non-profit purpose. Most importantly, if you're a Georgia citizen accessing your official Georgia code site, you have to agree to jurisdiction in the state of New York. So, too us, that didn't seem like that ...

[13:00] And not only that, it's not the official code. If you go to the marketing literature, the literature says that the only official code are the books. In the front of the book, it isn't copyright LexisNexis. It's copyright the State of Georgia.

[13:14] These are the emanations of the law-making body of the State. So we bought the books and we scanned them and we posted them. That's why they're suing us.

Wendy: [13:24] Why should this issue...We're almost out of time, but, just before we end, why should this issue be important to librarians and archivists? Within that, do you consider yourself to be an archivist?

Carl: [13:39] I'm not formally trained as an archivist, but I've been doing a lot of archiving. I work with colleagues around the country like Brewster Kahle at the Internet Archive. The reason it's important is because in a democracy it only works if the citizens are informed.

[13:54] You've heard that ignorance of the law is no excuse, and the law is directly relevant. It's not just for lawyers. If you're a real estate agent or an educator or an insurance agent or a local government official, you need to be able to consult the official law of your state.

[14:09] That's why it matters. If you're a librarian, you're no different than anybody else. You need to be able to consult these documents. It's the law. It's how we govern ourselves as a people.

Wendy: [14:20] Great. We've been speaking with Carl Malamud, President and Founder of Public.Resource.Org. Carl, thank you so much for joining us.

Carl: [14:29] Thank you.

Wendy: [14:30] We'll be back with more about open sourcing America's operating system after a music set.

[14:36] [music]

Announcer: [14:39] File this set under TK5105.875.I57M36.

[14:48] [“Terrorist Attack” by The Spits, “Unabomber” by Ultrabreakfast]

Wendy: [21:17] That was "Unabomber" by Ultrabreakfast, and, before that, "Terrorist Attack" by the Spits, songs about misidentifying terrorist threats.

[21:27] [music]

Fred Rascoe: [21:35] Today's Lost in the Stacks is open sourcing America's operating system. In this segment, we're talking to Mariann Burreight, head of Science Collections and Scholarly Communication Librarian at the University of Georgia. Mariann, welcome to the show.

Mariann Burreight: [21:49] Thanks, Fred.

Fred: [21:51] In our last segment, we've heard from Carl Malamud about public.resource.org and its mission of making sure that citizens can access public law. As you know, the state of Georgia is taking legal action against Malamud because he made digital copies of the Georgia Annotated Code available online.

[22:12] Those legal actions are based on claims that this annotated code is copyrighted. What I want to start with you is why is Georgia claiming that the Georgia Annotated Code is copyrighted?

Mariann: [22:28] That's a great question, and I think that we need to just step back a few steps and talk about certain basic things and some distinctions that might clarify that question, Fred.

[22:41] The first thing, let's talk about federal government works versus state works. Federal works are not copyright protected which means they're in the public domain and anybody can use them without asking permission. We have that on one hand.

[23:01] The other hand is state works. Some states, there's a number of them, that may enforce copyright to their works. Georgia's being one of them. Let's talk about exactly what those works are.

[23:18] There's a distinction between the annotations to the code and the statutes, which is the law, basically, the code itself, the raw code itself without the annotations. The statutes alone are public domain, so anybody can go online and look at them through a website such as Justia, for example.

[23:41] The annotations is where the trouble arises, and there are two perspectives to this. One is that the state of Georgia works with a company, LexisNexis. I'm sure you know it. Many of us in the library world know it.

[24:02] LexisNexis is a work for hire that works with Georgia to basically pull out key elements from the statutes, from the law, and annotate them to make it usable in a friendly manner to practicing lawyers who need to look at the law and be able to extract key points from it.

[24:25] That is really what's at issue in this lawsuit. It's the annotations. That is because there's a claim of copyright protection to the annotations, that they're not just simply facts or the basic text of the law, but there is some sort of minimally creative authorship that is involved in creating these annotations. That is where the problem starts.

Fred: [24:54] So LexisNexis is doing some sort of legal research on the laws of Georgia, and, by annotating it with their research, that's the original work.

[25:05] It's also true I believe that the copyright then does not belong to LexisNexis. There's an agreement to give that copyright back to the state of Georgia. Can you talk a little bit about how that works?

Mariann: [25:20] The way that works is that the state of Georgia must enforce its own copyright ownership in the work in order to let a company or a third party such as LexisNexis to use it as a work for hire to create annotations around the text.

[25:39] That is part of the problem is that LexisNexis is a third party that is involved and making revenue from this work. So Georgia has to enforce copyright in order for a third party to use that work to create the annotations themselves.

Fred: [26:00] What's the benefit then of having an arrangement where access is charged? Is it really to allow this company that does this legal research and make these annotation, LexisNexis in this case, just a cost recoup? Is that the reason that there is a charge for these annotated copies online?

Mariann: [26:28] Right. It is largely a problem of cost because let's say if Georgia decided to not use LexisNexis or third party to do these annotations. What would happen is that the state will have to begin using tax dollars for that effort.

Fred: [26:49] Is there a case to be made then that these copyright claims by the state, that they have copyright given back to them from LexisNexis as it is a work for hire, it's possible that these copyright claims might not be valid because this is a matter of public law? Is there a case to be made for that?

Mariann: [27:11] In some ways, yes and in some ways, no. This a very debatable issue. On one side of the debate is that the annotations have some sort of copyright attached to them.

[27:27] That basically it's what's called a compilation copyright that includes the selection and arrangement of the material to go into the annotations, and that selection and arrangement enjoys an original work of authorship that is copyrightable. That is definitely one side of the argument.

[27:50] The other side of the argument could be that it is a very thin copyright. It's a minimal copyright, that this sort of selection and arrangement process is basically formulaic. It's standard.

[28:07] There is nothing original about it and therefore should not have copyright protection. I think that there are arguments to be made on either side of the issue.

Fred: [28:16] We've just got a few seconds left for this segment. I want to wind up with if you could venture a prediction on how this is going to go, what do you see happening?

Mariann: [28:32] That's a tough thing to say. I think the arguments are equally good on either side. I don't really know. The cynical side of me would say that the plaintiff will win and that there might be an appeal afterwards.

Fred: [28:55] As with so many things in copyright, it seems like the answer is always, "It depends," until a judge comes down with a ruling. We'll just wait and see I suppose.

[29:14] Mariann Burrigh is a scholarly communication librarian at UGA, and she's been speaking to us about the copyright status of the Georgia Annotated Code. Thanks so much for joining us, Mariann.

Mariann: [29:27] Thanks, Fred. I enjoyed being here.

Fred: [29:28] You are listening to Lost in the Stacks, and we'll talk more about public access to the full text of the laws that govern us on the left side of the hour.

[29:37] [background music]

Robert Goldstein: [29:48] This is Robert Goldstein, librarian at NPR. You're listening to Lost in the Stacks on WREK in Atlanta.

[29:55] [music]

Fred: [30:10] Your show today, our show today is all about public records, private entanglements, and the people endeavoring to keep access open. As Carl Malamud said in his 2009 address to the Government 2.0 Summit...Is that a real thing?

[30:25] "The promise of the Internet wave is the promise of an opportunity for more efficient government, for more economic activity, and for a better democracy."

[30:34] "Artificial and unjust limits on access to information based on money and power can be abolished from our society's operating system, giving us at long last a government that truly is of the people, by the people, and for the people."

[30:51] "In other words, if we can put a man on the moon, surely we can launch the Library of Congress into cyberspace." Put us on that rocket, Bernard Barton. File this set under JF1501.B69.

[31:05] ["Paper Trails" by Latch Drom, "Government" by US Mods, "Whole of the Law" by The Only Ones]

Fred: [38:10] That was the "Whole of the Law" by The Only Ones which I guess is a "Do what thou wilt." Before that, "Government" by the US Mods and we started with

"Paper Trails" Latcho Drom. Those were songs about being held by large powerful forces.

[38:27] [music]

Lizzy: [38:31] Today's Lost in the Stacks is Open Sourcing America's Operating System. We are talking to Adam Kriesberg, postdoctoral scholar at the University of Maryland College of Information Studies, about open access to government records. Adam, Thank you so much for joining us.

Adam Kriesberg: [38:45] Thanks. It's really great to be here.

Lizzy: [38:47] Adam, you've done a lot of work looking at the relationship of public entities like the government with private companies like LexisNexis. Could you talk a little bit about why Georgia would have come into this partnership with LexisNexis to create and maintain these annotations for our legal code?

Adam: [39:08] Sure. I'll start by start saying that Georgia is not alone in this. There are a number of states. Seeing the work I've done has focused on other companies like Accenture.com, Full Quest.

[39:22] Although, it's difficult to say exactly how many states are engaged with the private sector. It's certainly more than half on some type of information services project [inaudible 39:32] division project.

[39:36] Really, the main reason that states are doing this is because they don't have the resources, whether those be financial or new resources could do this type of work on their own and to essentially build usable information services or portals that citizens actually want to use and can use to find the information that they need.

Lizzy: [39:57] LexisNexis is providing a service to the state and to the citizens in that there's like the annotations, but they're also the primary providers for where any public citizen could go and say, "I want to read the code," and they'd actually be using LexisNexis as service.

Adam: [40:17] Exactly. Go ahead.

Lizzy: [40:20] I was just going to say it sounds what you're saying is a lot of states are running into the case where they're like, "We can't do this ourselves, so we're just going to contract with this other company."

Adam: [40:30] A lot of states find themselves in a very difficult spot, whether or not only the case is unclear as well, but they feel like their options are don't provide meaningful access to this information or contract with a third party to provide meaningful access even if it's not exactly the way they would like it to be.

Lizzy: [40:55] I'm curious if you know of examples that fall maybe into what I would say a third category is which is the states actually do this themselves. Do you know of any groups who are maybe doing that?

Adam: [41:09] For legal code that it doesn't quite ring a bell, although, in preparing for this interview, I was looking at the Georgia legislative website. They do provide access to task legislative sessions.

[41:25] Again, it's about meaningful access. This is where some of the gray area of this case really comes to light. The search capability, the user design, the functionality and the ability to do full-text searching of all of the legal code.

[41:41] Some of that is available on the state government's website. Really, it's a lot easier if you use these third parties because they're profit-motivated, they make users happy, they're building enterprise level systems, they've been doing it for 20 years.

[41:58] That's the [inaudible 41:59] they give to governments when they say, "Look, we know that you can't do this with the refers that you have. Look what we can do. Shouldn't we try to figure out a way to make this work?"

Lizzy: [42:12] In experience, has it been a case where it's a partnership or is it often the case where the state just hands over whatever resources is necessary to the vendor? What is that relationship like in these cases?

Adam: [42:27] This definitely varies. I would say, overall, the trend in my experience is that states are getting more savvy in negotiating these relationships and these partnerships over time to get more of what they want.

[42:42] For example, some of the contracts signed with states 10 or 15 years ago may have given more way. For example, wall group circuits exclusivity.

[42:53] One of the things is these companies, they claim that they invest resources and time and financial investment in creating these products and they need to recruit that investment before they're willing to push it back to the state to provide access to it by themselves.

[43:17] Over time, we're seeing states pushed for that series of exclusivity to go down to basically say, "We understand that we can't do this, but basically you have to let us take full control of it sooner than you'd want to."

[43:31] The states are definitely learning how to be more savvy in these negotiations because essentially they're the only sources of this information. The legal code comes from the government. You can't just go to a different government.

[43:45] For a library, for example. If you can't negotiate with one library, [inaudible 43:50] a rare 100 percent unique book, you can try to go to a different library. The Georgia legislative code only exists in the State of Georgia.

Lizzy: [44:01] This is a limited resource.

Adam: [44:05] Governments are understanding that and not being overwhelmed by the legal teams of these private companies that may far outpace the legal council available to certain aspects of state government.

Lizzy: [44:23] We're already coming up, we only got a minute and a half left. In the remaining time, could you talk a little bit about maybe what are some of the drawbacks to this approach?

[44:33] If there's a government who's realizing they want to provide meaningful access to their records, what are some of the things they should weary as you've already touched on about entering into this type of relationship?

Adam: [44:45] Definitely. The bigger question I'd say here is really a question of what is the role of government in providing access to information. How would these questions be different if we weren't talking about digital information, though you're talking about books?

[45:08] Part of the issue is that sometimes these conversations get caught up on technology and cost, and the fact that many aspects or many parts of governments haven't yet been able to really build usable online information platforms. It's still a lot easier for them to keep books or paper and microphone.

[45:32] Just getting back to that original question of what is our obligation here to the citizens. Why is this information collecting is public money and the public name? How can we best maintain it in the public trust? Those are the core questions.

[45:50] Separate from the technology. Separate from the copyright stuff. Thinking about the mission of government to provide information services is really the key part of this that sometimes gets lost in everything else.

Lizzy: [46:07] Great. Adam, thank you so much for talking with us today. We really appreciate your time.

Adam: [46:13] Great. Thanks a lot. I enjoyed it.

Lizzy: [46:15] You are listening to Lost in the Stacks and we've been speaking with Adam Kriesberg, postdoctoral scholar at the University of Maryland College of Information Studies, about open access, copyright and government records.

[46:26] [music]

Announcer: [46:32] File this set under KFG30.

[46:36] ["Blue Sky" by He & She, "Flower in the Sun" by Big Brother and the Holding Company, "Tell Me in the Sunlight" by Margie Day]

Lizzy: [53:40] "Tell Me in the Sunlight", by Margie Day. Before that, "Flower in the Sun", by Big Brother and The Holding Company. To kick off the set, "Blue Sky", by He & She. Songs about keeping things out in the open sunshine.

[53:54] [music]

Wendy: [54:02] Charlie, what's going on at the library next week?

Charlie: [54:05] Librarians will teach classes about navigating the patent system. Architects will dream of rooftop reading rooms, ideations spaces, and science fiction dens.

[54:14] In some corner somewhere, a student will open a book from the stacks or from the Internet archive and feel just a little more free. We are the Georgia Tech Library, and we are at your service.

[54:29] [music]

Announcer: [54:44] Lost in the Stacks is a collaboration between WREK Atlanta and the Georgia Tech Library, produced by Ameet Doshi, Charlie Bennett, Wendy Hagenmaier, Fred Rascoe, and Lizzy Rolando.

Wendy: [54:53] Anthony Nguyen was our engineer today, and our show was brought to you by the Georgia State Legislature.

Charlie: [54:58] You're kidding.

Wendy: [54:59] Without their actions, this show would not have been possible.

Lizzy: [55:02] Legal counsel and edicts of archival awesomeness were provided by the Burrus Intellectual Property Law Group in Atlanta, Georgia.

Wendy: [55:09] Special thanks to Carl Malamud, Mariann Burright, and Adam Kriesberg for being on the show today. To the state of Georgia for getting me all pumped up about the picket signs I'll get to make if this case goes to trial. Thanks, as always, to each and every one of you for listening.

Charlie: [55:26] You can hear this show again or get in touch with us at wrek.org/lostinthestacks, and you can find our podcast on iTunes, Stitcher, or at lostinthestacks.libsyn.com.

Lizzy: [55:39] What is that?

Charlie: [55:40] L-I-B-S-Y-N.

Lizzy: [55:43] Next week on Lost in the Stacks, we'll talk with an archivist, who's working to raise awareness of how the preservation of history for future generations necessarily requires the preservation of a habitable planet.

Charlie: [55:54] Time for our last song today, and we close to a tribute to those activists that are out there doing the jobs that you'd think with a little bit of common sense would be taken care of in the normal course of a functioning society.

[56:07] That's a little complicated, so let's just say this is, "Fight For Your Right" by Busty Brown, right here on Lost in the Stacks.

[56:13] ["Fight for Your Right" by Busty Brown]

Charlie: [59:06] And now, a mailbag. Hey, do you all see that archivist in the corner?

[59:13] [music]

Wendy: [59:24] Dear Lost in the Stacks, I'm interested in becoming a troublemaking archivist, but I don't know where to start. Can you help? With respect [inaudible 59:33] , C.H., Atlanta, Georgia.

Charlie: [59:36] If you're interested, it would possible to take a cue from Carl Malamud's "10 Rules for Radicals." Rule 1 -- call everything an experiment. Rule 2 -- when the starting gun goes off, run really fast. As a small player, the elephant can step on you, but you can outrun the elephant. Now, that's a T-shirt.

[59:53] Rule 3 -- eyeballs rule. If a million people use your service, and on the Internet you can't do that, you've got a lot more credibility than if you're just issuing position papers and flaming The Man. Another shirt.

[60:06] Rule 4 -- when the time comes, be nice. Rule 5 -- keep asking until they say, "Yes." Gordon Bell, the inventor of VAX, once said that you should keep your vision but modify your plan.

[60:18] Rule 6 -- when you get the microphone, get to the point. Be clear about what you want. I can't do that right now.

[60:25] Rule 7 -- get standing. Have some skin in the game, some reason you're at the table. Rule 8 -- get them to threaten you. Rule 9 -- look for overreaching, things that are just blatantly, obviously wrong or silly.

[60:39] And finally, rule 10, which is don't be afraid to fail. It took Thomas Edison 10,000 tries before he got the light bulb right, and when he was asked about those failures, he said, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

[60:54] Fail, fail often, and don't forget, you can question authority.

Lizzy: [60:59] And we're out. Have a great CC0 public domain weekend, everybody.

[61:04] ["Peaches" by The Presidents of the United States of America]

Wendy: [62:04] Thanks for listening to Lost in the Stacks from WREK Atlanta and the Georgia Tech Library. Find us online at wrek.org/lostinthestacks to see playlists for old shows, connect with our social media, or get in touch with us.

Transcription by CastingWords