Twitter Thread by Shaan Puri



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Reading this article, the story sounds pretty wild. But I spent a weird amount of time with Martin Shkreli, and I'm not surprised the journalist fell in love w him

A few years back my team built an app called Blab. It was like clubhouse before clubhouse.

> Christie Smythe covered white-collar crime for Bloomberg News and lived "the perfect little Brooklyn life" with her husband. Then she threw it all away for one of her sources: infamous pharma bro Martin Shkreli. https://t.co/Xk0zXmYkgF
>
> — ELLE Magazine (US) (@ELLEmagazine) December 20, 2020

When he first joined the app I had no idea who he was. I just saw that his live streams instantly had 3-4K viewers. More than anyone on our tiny platform.

I googled him and it came up: "Martin Shkreli, most hated man in America"

I assumed he was bad news

And he was... but also he wasn't.

He was a douchebag, but he was in on the joke. He was a dick, but he was also very entertaining.

In the mornings he would live stream himself analyzing stocks or walking through drug discovery pathways.

In the afternoon he'd let people call in and debate him live on air. A CNN reporter tried to get him to go on TV, he refused, and said debate me here on Blab, no edits, no tv time limits.

At night he'd host late night convos - and eventually fall asleep on cam

The guy was a pain in the ass but man he drove traffic.

We had big celebs like Tony Robbins, the Jonas brothers etc... he outperformed them all.

At one point he was bringing in 100k users per month directly to his channel. And Bc he was so entertaining, they stuck.

He also attracted a group of hackers who decided to DDOS us like crazy for 2 months because we allowed him on the platform.

He did some wild shit on blab.

One day he had to testify in front of congress.

His fans held a watch party of 4-5k attendees. In congress he just pleaded the 5th, but as soon as he left the courthouse, he called into the blab and started making fun of congressmen

You look at the guy and wonder - why would this journalist who was married fall in love with the pharma bro in prison?

But I saw it everyday. The guy has a weird charm. He was streaming live video on our app 10 hours a day, and people were hooked. So I'm not surprised!

Rip @blab !



@IanIsSoAwesome: @bsantini_ how badass do you feel saying "yeah I work in a nuclear lab"

@Michael35431157: @SciencePeter I'd love to hear a discussion on issues with only paying attention to the P-Value of studies, vs of their metrics that could greatly change how well a study was conducted

@LongPastLost: that's half the reason to work in a nuclear lab

@larry_lawal: @TheRabidbuni howdy

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