

GRIFFIN RICKEL

CANDY SCRIPT

[INSERT DINNER SOUNDS]

HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE SIXTH EPISODE OF HOUNDBITE, A PODCAST ALL ABOUT FOOD ON W-H-J-E. I'M JOHN GRIFFIN AND I'M SHAE RICKEL AND LET'S DIG RIGHT IN. MOST PEOPLE LOVE THIS TREAT AND SOME WOULD LOVE TO STOP EATING IT. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT CANDY PERHAPS ONE OF THE MOST DIVERSE AND DELICIOUS SUGAR LADEN SWEETS ON THIS PLANET. IN THIS EPISODE WE'RE TAKING A LOOK AT ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST CANDY COMPANIES

SO JOHN OBVIOUSLY WE'VE FOCUSED ON SOME FOODS IN THE PAST THAT NOT EVERYBODY LIKES SUCH AS SUSHI OR COFFEE BUT HAVE YOU REALLY EVER MET SOMEONE THAT DOESN'T LIKE CANDY

YOU KNOW SHAE I HAVEN'T MET ANYBODY THAT DOESN'T LIKE CANDY AND I THINK WITH SOMETHING LIKE COFFEE GENERALLY OLDER PEOPLE ENJOY THAT MORE AND WITH SUSHI USUALLY MORE ADVENTUROUS PEOPLE EAT THAT, BUT WITH CANDY I'VE PROBABLY EATING CANDY SINCE I WAS TWO AND AT THE SAME TIME MY 80 YEAR OLD GRANDFATHER WAS HIDING CANDY AROUND HIS

APARTMENT, SO WE DEFINITELY SEE A LARGE RANGE OF PEOPLE THAT EAT CANDY.

SO OBVIOUSLY WE KNOW THAT CANDY PROBABLY ISN'T THE BEST HEALTH FOOD AT ALL AND IT'S KIND OF SCARY TO THINK OF HOW MUCH CANDY WE EAT, WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD CANDY

UMM.. [UNWRAPS RESEES CUP AND EATS IT] 0 SECONDS

SO IT'S OBVIOUS THAT WE DO HAVE A BIT OF A CANDY ADDICTION BUT WE'RE NOT ALONE IN FACT THE AVERAGE AMERICAN WILL CONSUME 24.7 POUNDS OF CANDY THIS YEAR

NOT ONLY THAT, BUT OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS THE CANDY INDUSTRY HAS CHANGED DRASTICALLY. EVEN THE CLASSICS THAT WE GREW UP WITH LIKE SNICKERS, M&M'S, SKITTLES, AND HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE ARE CONSTANTLY CHANGING AND COMING UP WITH NEW FLAVORS AND VERSIONS.

IF YOU LIVE IN THE MIDWEST OR ANYWHERE ELSE IN AMERICA YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD OF THE HERSHEY'S CANDY COMPANY. AS THE FIFTH LARGEST CANDY COMPANY IN THE WORLD, IT'S NO SURPRISE THEY GOT THEIR START OVER 100 YEARS AGO.

ONCE MILTON HERSHEY FOUND OUT THAT MILK CHOCOLATE WAS BEING MADE IN EUROPE, HE STARTED MAKING HIS OWN FORMULA HERE IN THE UNITED STATES.

AND IN 1907, HERSHEY DECIDED TO COME OUT WITH THEIR CLASSIC HERSHEY'S KISSES. AND THEY WERE A HUGE SUCCESS.

THEY WERE ORIGINALLY INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED, BUT SOON STARTED BEING SOLD BY THE BAG AND THE FAMOUS PLUME WAS ADDED A FEW YEARS LATER.

MY FAVORITE, REESE'S CUPS, WERE INTRODUCED NEXT IN 1923. THE NEW COMBINATION OF PEANUT BUTTER AND MILK CHOCOLATE WAS A TREMENDOUS HIT THAT PUT HERSHEY'S ON THE MAP.

LATER CAME MR. GOODBAR, HERSHEY'S SYRUP, KRACKLE BAR, AND HERSHEY'S MINI BARS.

AT THIS POINT, THE HERSHEY COMPANY WAS EXPANDING SO MUCH THAT IT STARTED TO BUY THE RIGHTS TO OTHER COMPANY'S CANDY.

THIS IS WHERE TWIZZLERS, REESE'S PIECES, JOLLY RANCHERS, AND THE YORK PEPPERMINT PATTY CAME INTO PLAY.

IT WASN'T ALWAYS SMOOTH SAILING FOR THE HERSHEY COMPANY. MILTON HERSHEY, THE ORIGINAL FOUNDER, ACTUALLY WENT BANKRUPT THE FIRST TWO TIMES HE TRIED TO GET INTO THE CANDY MAKING BUSINESS.

THAT'S RIGHT, THEN IN 1886 HE GOT HIS START MAKING CARAMEL CANDIES IN LANCASTER. AFTER YEARS OF HARD WORK, THAT COMPANY DEVELOPED INTO THE HERSHEY CANDY COMPANY THAT WE KNOW TODAY.

TODAY, THE HERSHEY COMPANY IS A MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR CORPORATION AND IS FOCUSING ON GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT.

THAT'S TRUE, IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS THEY'VE REDUCED THEIR WATER USAGE BY OVER 72 PERCENT. AND BROUGHT THEIR RECYCLING RATE UP TO 86.6 PERCENT.

THERE'S ALSO THE MILTON HERSHEY SCHOOL A COMPLETELY FREE SCHOOL. WHEN HERSHEY WORKED WITH EXPERTS TO MANAGE THE SCHOOL, HE MADE IT HIS PRIORITY THAT EACH STUDENT HAD A GOOD EDUCATION AND STRONG SENSE OF SECURITY.

I THINK THAT'S PRETTY COOL THAT THEY FOCUS ON MORE THAN JUST GROWING AND MONOPOLIZING AS A COMPANY.

I'LL DEFINITELY THINK ABOUT THAT NEXT TIME I BITE INTO A HERSHEY'S KISS.

[CANDY EATING SFX]

THAT CONCLUDES THIS EPISODE OF HOUNDBITE. FOR MORE EPISODE LIKE THESE, HEAD ON OVER TO WHJE.COM AND CLICK ON THE ENTERTAINMENT TAB.

THIS HAS BEEN JOHN GRIFFIN

ALONGSIDE SHAE RICKEL.