

This is a play for the ringing between your ears.
You'll need two phones, a phone charger, and another person.

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This play is a part of Starters by JETco.
Bear in mind that it doesn't tell you what to do or when or how to do it.
You'll have to decide that for yourself.

To find more Starters, visit jet-co.org/starters.

A
This is a play for the ringing between your ears.

B
Ring, ring. Ring, ring.

A
Yeah, like that.

B
You should answer it.

A
Answer what?

B
Your phone.

A
Okay. Hello?

B
Hello, can I please speak with Amanda?

A
Is that supposed to be me?

B
Just go with it.

A
Okay.

B
Okay, so...

A
Start over.

B
Hello, can I please speak with Amanda?

A
Who's calling?

B
What?

A
Who's calling?

B
Um, this is Stevia. I'm calling with the North Carolina Democrats. Am I speaking with Amanda?

A
Did you say Stevia?

B
Steve. I'm calling with the North Carolina Democrats. Am I speaking with Amanda?

A
This is she.

B
Great. Like I said, I'm calling with the North Carolina Democrats. We're working to elect Democrats up and down the ballot this November. I've got just a few questions for you today regarding the upcoming election, but before I get to those, I wanted to just check in and see how you're doing today?

A
That's great. You know, you actually caught me in the middle of a bit of a work session. You know, I'm a songwriter and sometimes when the moment hits I just need to go with the inspiration. So you called and it was almost like the ringing of the phone made something click in my brain. So I'm just wondering if maybe – this sounds weird. You know what? No. Let's do it. Would you want to listen to the song that I've been working on and you can give me some notes or some feedback? And you can be really harsh about it – I really want to know what you think. So I'll play you this song that I'm working on and you tell me exactly what you think and then I'll answer whatever questions you've got. How does that sound?

B
Sure.

A
Great. So this is a piece for voice and phone charger, vocals by me and accompaniment by me with this phone charger.

B
Great.

A
Meet me at the water with your
13-day-old corn dog
Teach me how to swim and then
Give me indigestion
Hang out by the docks while my
Stomach acid rises
Take me to the bathroom like my
Knight in shining armor

B
Awesome, thank you.

A
So what did you think?

B
I think you did a good job.

A
Come on, be specific. Be critical. I can take it.

B
I really think you did a good job.

A
What did you think of the phone charger accompaniment?

B
I think that was really innovative. I didn't realize all the ways that you could use a phone charger as a musical instrument. I'll have to try it myself.

A
Don't condescend me. How about the vocals? Do you think I could make the semifinals on America's Got Talent?

B
Yes.

A
That's it?

B
I think with the right coaching and some well-chosen material, you definitely have a shot of making the semifinals for America's Got Talent.

A
Well that's a little rude.

B
No, I think that's true of anyone. Really.

A
Alright. What did you want to talk about?

B
Oh, yes. So like I said, I'm working with the North Carolina Dems to elect Democratic candidates up and down the ballot this November. And so, my first question for you is: do you plan to support Joe Biden in the upcoming presidential election?

A
You know what? I'm realizing that I'm kind of in a really good inspirational groove right now for this song, and I don't really want to lose that. Can I just take your number down and I can call you later, we can have this conversation at a different time?

B
No, that's fine. I'll just have someone else call you back at a later time.

A
Wait, I can just go get a paper and pen right now and you can tell me your number.

B
No, that's fine. Have a good day.

A
Okay, bye.

B
You co-opted my imaginary scenario.

A
I did.

B
Why?

A
Well, now you've had the weirdest possible phonebanking experience, so literally everything from here will be better.

B
Are we phonebanking? Have you phonebanked before?

A
We should and no.

B
How did you come up with that whole sequence of events just now?

A
Based on a true story from a friend.

B
So should we do this?

A
I think we should. Well, should we?

B
I think we should.

A
Is there a place we go? Or a website? What do we do if we want to do it?

B
I think we just Google it.