

# RACE ME IN A LOBSTER SUIT

ABSURD  
INTERNET ADS  
AND THE REAL  
CONVERSATIONS  
THAT FOLLOWED

Kelly Mahon



Our  
favorite ads  
**NOT** included  
in the book!

gigs > domestic gigs

## Dyson help

Little background. I told my son if he wants to continue to live with his father and I for FREE he needs to start pulling his weight around the house. He's 30, living at home with no job. Today I left him a list of chores I wanted done by the time I got home from work. Just received a phone call that he got a particular appendage stuck in our Dyson. I'm headed home now, but if anyone knows a bit about how to take apart a DC50 and can come save me a trip to the ER, please email me right away. You will be compensated.

RESPONSE FROM JIM

Hi my name is Jim. I've fixed a lot of vacuums. I looked up the model and I think I can help. If you still need someone, email me back a number I can reach you on.

ME > Thank you for reaching out. I just got off the phone with him. Is there a way to disassemble the suction part of the vacuum? His scrotum is apparently caught in the wheel.

I GUESS IT SPUN VERY QUICKLY AND HE GOT JAMMED UP INSIDE OF IT. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IT IS HE WAS TRYING TO DO.

JIM > there should be screws to take it apart

ME > He sounds like he's in pain... His voice has gone up several octaves, I'm trying to tell him how to take it apart

over the phone. If he breaks it I will kill him, it's a very expensive vacuum. I cannot believe he did this.

**JIM** > he definitely is in pain

**ME** > Which way should he turn the screws? I think he needs help and I cannot leave work right now. I'm with clients.

**ME** > Can you go to him???

**JIM** > Where is he located?

**ME** > Upper West Side. I have never heard him like this. He keeps calling me and I cannot stay on the line.

**JIM** > I'm all the way in Queens. Maybe he should call 911...



ME > I'm not paying for that. He has no health insurance because he hasn't been employed in two years. He got them out and he broke a \$300 vacuum acting like a jackass.

HE MIGHT NEED STITCHES. DO YOU HAVE ANY MEDICAL EXPERIENCE?

JIM > No. I cannot stitch up your son's balls.

x x x

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## Food taster wanted

Looking for a fellow food lover to come join me on my daily culinary adventures. From dining out to satisfying midnight cravings, I'll need you with me at all times to taste all foods before they go anywhere near my mouth, as my nemesis has been plotting to poison me for some time. I can assure you I eat very well, so you're in for some delicious first (and/or last) bites. Email if interested.

RESPONSE FROM MAYA

To whom it may concern,

If you're still looking for someone to go on dining adventures with you, I'm your woman. Though I'm not sure how serious you are about being poisoned...

In any case, hope to hear from you soon.

Thanks in advance.

ME > Hi, thank you for reaching out. I was quite serious indeed. Now, do you have any food allergies I should know about?

MAYA > No food allergies but why would anyone want to poison you?

ME > Sorry Maya, but that's a bit personal. I'd be happy

to share more with you once I know you can be trusted.  
You are not very old or terminally ill, correct?

MAYA > That's okay. I'm in my twenties and am not terminally ill.

ME > Ok that's very good. We wouldn't want confuse an allergic reaction or any unrelated illness with an actual poisoning scenario. Another thing, you're not one of those gluten-free vegan types, are you? Because I need someone who's going to dive right in for a bite of whatever's on the menu. I'm a bit adventurous myself.

MAYA > I love all types of food. No dietary restrictions.

ME > Ok that's very good to know. I'd hate to be restricted any more than I already am, what with my nemesis at large and considering the incident involving my assistant last month. So perhaps we should discuss a start date.

MAYA > Sure what's a good time for an interview/trial. And when can we discuss compensation?

ME > I think you could just get started ASAP. Here's what would be expected of you: You will accompany me to nice dinners around the city and take one single bite of every item that I order and a sip of each of my drinks, wait a few moments until we are in the clear, at which point I will know that it is safe for me to enjoy my dish. You will do this for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, as well as dessert if I so choose.



ON SOME DAYS, I REQUIRE A MIDDAY  
SNACK, WHICH I WOULD ALSO  
REQUIRE YOU TO TAKE A TINY TASTE  
OF TO ENSURE ITS SAFETY. DEPENDING  
ON THE SIZE OF THE SNACK, ONLY A  
LICK MIGHT BE REQUIRED OF YOU.

How does that sound?

MAYA > Sure. How much are you paying me?

ME > If I'm being completely honest, this is going to be some of the most delicious food you've likely ever tasted and you might find that that's reward enough... We are talking Michelin stars here, Maya.

MAYA > What places were you thinking? And you posted in the gigs section and implied there would be compensation.

ME > Ok yes, let's discuss it. Question for you... I was thinking of going to a raw bar this weekend but can't figure out how to have you taste each oyster. It's a bit of a weird thing to share, an oyster. What do you think would be the best way to go about this? Let's see if you can be creative.

MAYA > If you paid me I'd be able to come up with an innovative way. However, such questions are above my pay grade...

**ME** > You're a crafty one. Fine, let me think about it. In the meantime, why don't we start with this new Greenlandic restaurant instead. I've been dying for some delicious kiviak.

**MAYA** > Send a link.

**ME** > This place does not have a website that I am aware of, but are you familiar with the Inuit delicacy, kiviak?

**MAYA** > Nope.

**ME** > Oh ok! Wow, you are in for such a treat. It is one of my favorite dishes of all time. It's a delicacy in Greenland. What they do is disembowel and grease a large seal, then stuff it with hundreds of penguin-like birds called auks. The seal is then stitched closed and covered with more grease before it is buried in the ground and covered with stones.

After several months, the fermenting seal body is dug up and the auks, now extremely soft from the fermenting process, are removed and eaten, bones and all.

And you can suck the intestinal fluids right out of the bodies and it tastes like a sour juice... it also can be used as a sauce on other foods. It's so good.

**MAYA** > Right. Got it. Where is it?

ME >

HAVE YOU HEARD OF WILLIAMSBURG?

MAYA >

LOL YEAH, UNFORTUNATELY.

I'M A NATIVE NEW YORKER.

ME > Ha, yes I hear that's where the kids are hanging out. Ok, so I'll have to run a pretty thorough background check on you and if I don't find anything suspect I will be back in touch in a couple of weeks and we can go get that kiviak. I'm jonesing for a giant sip of that delicious auk fluid.



MAYA > So are you paying me or no?

ME > Sure. Now about that background check. I'll have my guy see what he can dig up on you. Better keep your fingers crossed.

x x x

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## Human Air Conditioner

Hey. This might sound like an odd request, but I am sick and tired of paying a much higher electric bill during the summer because of air conditioning, so I am looking for someone who will do the job of an AC, for a fraction of the price. I'm only home for about 2-3 hours a day and I'm looking for someone who'll blow cool air in my general direction for about that long (with bathroom breaks of course). Because I don't think anyone has the lung capacity to do this physically, and because I can't stop you from eating garlic for lunch, a small handheld battery operated fan will be provided. All you have to do is hold it up close enough to my face that I can feel and enjoy it.

RESPONSE FROM SHAYNE

Hello, my name is Shayne and I am interested in your ad. How much are you paying?

ME > Hey there Shayne great to hear from you... Are you a coupon-er by any chance? I have like a thousand coupons.

SHAYNE > What are the coupons for?

ME > Oh all sort of things. Just a few sitting on top of the pile here: Save \$1.00 on a 2-liter bottle of Canada Dry at Key Foods (basically a steal), Broccoli Crowns (the best part) 99 cents. \$1 off a rotisserie chicken, I could go all day dude.

SHAYNE > Nah, I'll take cash or PayPal. I don't really have any need for coupons.

ME > Ok, we'll work something out. I need to cool down somehow. These past few days have been brutal.

SHAYNE >

OTHER THAN JUST BLOWING AIR  
FROM MY MOUTH, I CAN USE  
A NEWSPAPER OR SOME PAPERS  
TO FAN YOU TOO.

ME > Ok, I was just going to have you hold a hand held fan up to my face, although I have to say the newspaper idea is very innovative. I'm on the fence about the blowing air through your mouth thing, but have to admit getting hit with a double breeze would be nice... What do you typically eat for lunch/dinner?

SHAYNE > I usually cook. Stir fry or chicken with lemon and garlic. I try to mix it up.

ME > Are you serious?

SHAYNE > Yeah, why?

ME > No offense Shayne, but I don't need you chowing down on garlic chicken and then coming over to blow your hot garlic breath in my face.

SHAYNE > I don't always use garlic...

ME > Ok, well on days when you're coming over to blow air on me please try to find a garlic substitute... and bring a pack of gum with you.



SHAYNE > Ok. What are the hours of this job?

ME > I'm usually home around 2-5 AM. This is when my apartment gets especially hot and I could really use some cooling down.

SHAYNE > Um, that's really late.

ME > Well that's when I'm home in my Staten Island apartment.

SHAYNE > Ok that's late and it's far. There has to be a good payment to make it worth it for me to do something like this.

ME > I told you, I have more coupons that you can imagine. Every morning I will let you select five new ones from the pile.



SHAYNE > And I told you I am not doing this for coupons.

ME > Look, these things are better than cash because they help you save cash.

ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU DON'T EAT  
FOOD? OR USE LAUNDRY DETERGENT?  
OR NEED A BIKINI WAX EVER?

SHAYNE > My rate is \$150.

ME > For the whole summer?

SHAYNE > For a day, bro.

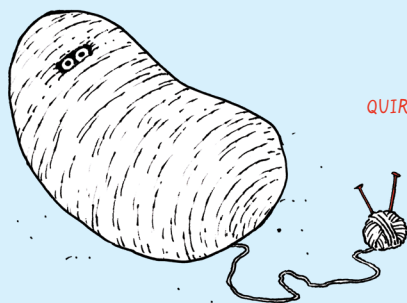
ME > Shayne, how much do you think my electric bill actually costs? The whole point of a human air conditioner is to save me money. Otherwise I would just use a regular air conditioner. This is why I'm suggesting coupons. I stay cool all summer long and you get amazing deals. Everybody wins.

SHAYNE > Dude, traveling to Staten Island at 2 in the morning and getting paid in coupons isn't winning.

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BY KELLY MAHON!

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