


From the man behind Vibert's Voice the number 1 wrestling podcast in the world...



Welcome to Vibert's VLOG



[The camera turns on revealing an upwards angle of Phil's face with him peering down at this phone.]

Phil: Ok I think that's about right! You might have to bare with me until I get the hang of this...

[He slots the phone into a selfie stick and positions himself in shot. He appears to be outside of a large office building.]

Welcome! This might be first time a lot of you have seen me on camera for a while. I've mostly been focussing on Vibert's Voice but there could be some exciting developments coming and I thought you might be interesting in seeing how it all goes down. So it's currently the 25th November.. And I am outside the offices of Total Championship Wrestling.

I got a call from Kyle Rhodes, we didn't go into too much detail but there's a lot of interest on their side to strike a deal for the rights to DAVE. So I'm here to see what they want to do with it, and how much they value it.

Phil is now back in his hotel room. He has his phone on speaker as it dials.

‘Phil? How are ya? It’s been a while!’

‘Yeah too long Mitch...’

The two exchange pleasantries. It’s clear the two are close but to say the conversation comes easy is definitely a stretch. One man on the west coast, other on the east, although the distance between them feels stronger than sheer geography.

‘I’m going to cut to the chase... the DAVE rights.’

‘You finally convinced some poor sucker to pay for your retirement?’

‘Well... sort of the opposite actually.’

‘Ok now I’m intrigued...’

‘So I got an offer from Kyle Rhodes and TCW. They need new content, something about moving Total Wrestling to a new bigger station, but they’re still tied into this POP Network contract for 18 months.

‘POP? That the one with that show about the strippers? And the cartoon with the foul mouthed animals?’

That’s the one. ‘Edgy content’ is how they worded it to me. Something to stand out from USPW whilst Total Wrestling goes in the other direction, more sports based.’

‘I mean it sounds interesting but what... TCW presents DAVE? Is that how you envisioned the revolution ending?’

That comment took Phil back a moment. It seemed to cut through a facade that for a moment Phil forgot existed. He always relied on Mitch's brutal honesty back in the day. He wasn't sure what he thought about it now.

'Mitch come on, think, it would be DAVE on a international station, going out to more homes than we ever did at our peak. Job security, high production budgets...

Mitch interrupts...

'And at what cost? You know all those years when you sold me the dream of DAVE, when you sold it to everyone, I don't think it was the promise of high production budgets. Freedom, the ability to do whatever the fuck we wanted, to give the world a true alternative and stick it to everyone else. You really going to do that working for Kyle Rhodes?'

'Look nothing will ever be exactly what DAVE was again...

'Oh is that a dig? You brining PSW into this?'

Phil sighed, he forgot to tread carefully when it came to this subject with Mitch. Admittedly being constantly compared to something you were apart of long ago can't be easy, but what is easy is touching this nerve of his.'

It honestly wasn't. What I'm saying is of course it won't be the same. But he promised me personally full creative control. But I don't want to do this alone, I need the team back together...

'The team? I mean that's a bit rich, half of us have been together all this years, and god knows you've had plenty of chances to jump on board with us.'

'I just mean you really Mitch. Look the old guys were all amazing, they gave everything for us, but I'm being brought in to create a new generation. The only person I need for that is you.'



For a moment there is silence. Phil knows that comment could work, but it wasn't a lie.

'Phil... times have changed. I think I know why you called and it wasn't just to offer me a job. You want me to validate your decision? To tell you go ahead and reanimate the corpse? Force DAVE back for a big paycheck even if means shitting over the legacy? Hey man you go right ahead, I understand. I'm not even being sarcastic here. It sounds like a good deal, and I honestly wish you the best with it. Go have one hell of a journey, it just won't be with me next to you this time.'

Another silence. Phil immediately felt the urge to keep pushing, but decided against it.

'You know I respect you Mitch, more than anyone. So the offer will always be on the table. Goodnight.'

Phil put the phone down, a little abruptly but in the back of his head he could imagine Mitch telling him to stick his offer, and that wasn't something he wanted to hear.

Truth be told Mitch was spot on. Phil's head had yelled at him to take Kyle's offer the second he heard it, but a part of him felt uneasy. Perhaps that niggling fear of making the wrong choice would always be there.

Again Phil pauses. He puts his phone down on the bed and looks towards the camera. For a moment you can almost see Phil's thoughts, it's clear he's persuaded himself.

You know what?

I don't think he's right.

It was easy to throw punches upwards, it always is. To claim your the best when realistically you're never gonna have the chance to back it up. Like a dog barking on it's lead. It was easy for us in DAVE to say if only we had the resources, the platform, to put our product out then people will see it for what is; the best. What's real impressive is having the resources and telling... no... proving to the world now none of you fuckers can keep up with us.

I know I'd be putting a bullseye on my legacy, but that's the point. Not to rest on what I built in the past.

I'm going to do it.

I'm going to bring back DAVE.