

ABC's *Jimmy Kimmel Live*

04/08/21

11:35:47 p.m.

1 minute and 33 seconds

JIMMY KIMMEL: And the secret service is in the building too. Because, well, you know how Donald Trump was always asking where Hunter is? Well, he's here-in our building. He's been here the whole time, it turns out. Son of Joe, Hunter Biden is with us. Hunter is here to promote his new memoir in which he chronicles, among other things, his crack addiction. This book is wild. He bought crack right here on our block. Can you imagine that? [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] Crack in this beautiful neighborhood? Of all places? [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] That has to be fake news. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] Anyway I have many questions for Hunter. And since he's here, I will ask them. And hey, you know who else is writing a book? Mike Pence. The former vice poodle is putting Pence to paper. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] He signed a two-book deal with Simon & Schuster. I wonder if he knows they're a gay couple, Simon and Schuster? [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] A release date has not yet been announced but the title has. It's going to be called *Ass-Kisser*. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] And I like it. It's simple and to the point. Pence's publisher calls this: "The definitive book on one of the most consequential presidencies in American history." Oh, it was consequential all right! [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] It was — I agree with that. The book will cover not just Pence's time in the White House but all of his life, including traumatic family events like the time he saw mother without her bonnet. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] And he even opens up about the time in college he experimented with almond milk. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] So, I can't wait. This will be the only time pages have gotten whiter after words have been printed on them. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER]

(...)

11:44:30 p.m.

39 seconds

"MIKE LINDELL": And the truth is Joe Biden's dogs are covert operatives, here to steal state secrets and sell them to Chinese Burisma holdings to buy these! Q-tips! You know Q?

KIMMEL: Yes.

"MIKE LINDELL": Yeah, these are his tips!

KIMMEL: Oh.

"MIKE LINDELL": These are his tips!

KIMMEL: Okay, what was that you were saying about Chinese Burisma.

"MIKE LINDELL": They got holdings!

KIMMEL: Oh.

“MIKE LINDELL”: Why don't you ask your buddy, Hunter Biden about Burisma holdings? What is Burisma holding? And why won't anybody hold me? MyPillows are guaranteed!

(...)

04/09/20

12:14:01 a.m.

11 minutes and 54 seconds

KIMMEL: Our next guest is the most famous board member of a Ukrainian energy company of all time. His new memoir is called *Beautiful Things*. In case you were wondering where he is, welcome Hunter Biden. [AUDIENCE CHEERS AND APPLAUSE] Thanks for coming.

HUNTER BIDEN: Thank you for having me.

KIMMEL: I have to tell you, I — after reading this book, I'm impressed that you're alive. I really am. It is amazing that you are alive after all the crazy things that you've been through.

BIDEN: It was a — it was — it was a journey. But thank God I made it through.

KIMMEL: Yeah, no kidding and a lot of the things that you detail happened here in this neighborhood. Like, right around here.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: There's like, you were doing crack at the places that I eat.

BIDEN: Yeah. Well, not — not intentionally. I was not stalking you. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER]

KIMMEL: No, no. I didn't think you were, but you know, I feel like you I learned a lot about crack and I know he that sounds weird. But you hear about it and you see it on TV shows and you know, the news every once in a while. But I learned how to get — I really think I could get it now thanks to your book. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER]

BIDEN: Well, I hope that was not the message that you got from the book.

KIMMEL: This is not a how-to manual?

BIDEN: No, it's a not a how-to.

KIMMEL: Oh. Well, I missed — I misread the whole thing then.

BIDEN: It's a please — a please don't manual.

KIMMEL: A please don't, yes.

BIDEN: Please don't, yeah.

KIMMEL: No absolutely, listen, if somebody reads this book and then goes, I should try crack afterwards, well, then they —

BIDEN: No. They didn't finish the book. They didn't finish the book.

KIMMEL: — no they didn't start —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — or they didn't finish the book.

BIDEN: Exactly.

KIMMEL: You, in fact, like, where we are situated right now, the Roosevelt Hotel is right across the street from us. This is where —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — you had — would you call it a bender? Is that a —

BIDEN: I was in every hotel in Los Angeles, basically.

KIMMEL: You'd hole up there until you'd [INAUDIBLE] out.

BIDEN: Yeah, in every motel and hotel until they — until they would not have a room for me the next day. It wouldn't last very long.

KIMMEL: One of the stories was that, you went down the block from us, at Sunset La Brea —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — and you looked for guys who might be able to —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — get you something

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — and then you wound up getting it —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — and using crack with them? Were they dressed as Spiderman by any chance?  
[AUDIENCE LAUGHTER]

BIDEN: No. We, maybe, I don't know. Some things I don't recall exactly. But you know, I wrote about it, in vivid detail because, you know, I think the question that most addicts have a hard time answering and what everyone that's a non-addict wants the answer to is why.

KIMMEL: Yeah.

BIDEN: And, you know, the answer is it works at first, until it doesn't. And for me, it was important to be completely honest about the entire experience, but it certainly was not a how-to manual.

KIMMEL: No, but it is a very vivid and detailed description of what it feels like to use crack.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: And I mean, I have not used crack, but I do feel like I understand it now. And I did think it was especially interesting when you spoke about — when you wrote about the fact that, what happens the first time you use it is something you chase for the rest of the time you use it. It never

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — is, it's never what it was that first time.

BIDEN: Ever, never. And that is like every drug. You know, I mean, to tell you the truth. The most insidious drug for me and I think for many people that deal with addiction is alcohol. But, crack brought me to a place that I had never had been to before. Both in terms of the high, to be completely honest. But absolutely as it relates to the low. It was absolutely awful experience at the end and it was an awful experience throughout, after that first time, you live in a lot of guilt and shame.

KIMMEL: And also, it's very difficult, listen, we know you, you have had a hard life. There's no question about it. Right from, you know, from when you were very young —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — tragedy struck your family. And of course, you know, it's easy to draw lines from this to that or whatever. But there are definitely a chemical element, to addiction and —

BIDEN: Yeah, what I wanted to write the book for was, to humanize people suffering from addiction. But also, I wrote the book in more than anything, it's a love letter to the people that are loving someone that is struggling with addiction because it's so hard for them to understand why it is that their love just can't get through. Why it is that if they just love them more, that somehow they would be able to cure them and the one thing that I found to be more powerful than the most powerful love I knew which was my family, was my addiction. And I hope that this is, provides some people with some real hope that if they are just persistent and they continue, that when that person's ready to reach for that love, maybe they'll be able to find their way out of that deep dark hole that was —

KIMMEL: And boy, was your dad persistent.

BIDEN: Oh, yeah. That's right.

KIMMEL: I mean, very, very persistent. And I cannot imagine the nightmare that he must have been going through.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: And then reading about your story about when you were a little boy and how you were around all these politicians that we now know and, you know, they'd call you in the office and you get to go, see these things and these are friends of your — you dads and then, when you talk about, like, Lindsey Graham being television and attacking you. And that he's a — somebody that you considered to be a family friend. He was a friend of your father's and how strange it is to see that happen — to see a person do that.

BIDEN: It's really, more than anything, it's sad. The Senate that — my brother and I, you know, grew up in Wilmington. My dad commuted every day, so — but we knew the Senate. He would take us down and we had a rule. We could go with him at any time, anywhere that we wanted to, which sometimes we took a little too much advantage of. But we — but we — we saw my dad and got to become friends — well not as kids — but they were like uncles. And you know, whether Republican or Democrat, politics has become so toxic. It has. And I think that the thing that I hope my dad is able to bring back is his genuine desire to take some of that toxicity out again. So, I had a deep respect for Senator Graham and it's just sad to see the way in which he has decided to, not just attack me, but to approach politics.

KIMMEL: Yeah. But also to the way he attacked you. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] You wrote in the book. I do want to talk about this, you know, the Ukraine and — or Ukraine and how it became some issue. It became something —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — it gave Donald Trump something to grab onto.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: He almost got — well, he did get impeached —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — as a result of it.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: But you wrote, “did I make a mistake by taking a seat on the board of the Ukrainian gas company? No. Did I display a lack of judgment? No? Would I do it again? No.”

BIDEN: Yeah, I meant what I said and what I wrote — is that, you know — go to the beginning — is that, you know, I went to Yale Law School. I served on at least a dozen boards before Burisma, I was a vice chairman of the board in Amtrak. I was the chairman of the board at the World Food Program U.S., largest — supporting the largest humanitarian organization in the world. I had an expertise in corporate governance. I was asked to serve on the board for corporate governance and I was a lawyer at Boies Schiller Flexner, which was how I was first approached. However, what I didn't take into account was the way in which they would use the perception against my dad and for that, I have, I wouldn't do it again for that reason.

KIMMEL: Yeah.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: Does it make you crazy when you hear had somebody like Donald Trump, Jr., saying the only reason he is — is because he is a Biden and cause of his last name —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — and how just, wildly comical that is? I mean does it?

BIDEN: I mean, it is wildly comical. That is putting it lightly. I think. But — but you know, I really, what I have learned is this — is that I don't spend too much time thinking about it.

KIMMEL: I do, I think about it all the time. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER] I will think about it for you.

BIDEN: Well, maybe that's why. I have other people to think about it for me. I have other people to think about it for me.

KIMMEL: Do you know Donald Trump, Jr.?

BIDEN: No.

KIMMEL: You've never met him?

BIDEN: Not that I know of. Not that I know of.

KIMMEL: You say not that I know of.

BIDEN: I have been in some pretty rough places.

KIMMEL: I've seen you on — I've seen you on some interviews, you know, talking about the laptop —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — this — that became this big thing, the laptop, and when they ask if that was your laptop, you say, you don't know —

BIDEN: Yes.

KIMMEL: — which is hard to believe unless you read the book —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — and then I'm kinda like, I'm surprised you have shoes on. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER]

BIDEN: Yeah, I made it. I made it today. Pants were the problem. Pants were the problem. Yeah. [AUDIENCE LAUGHS]

KIMMEL: Pants are always the problem.

BIDEN: Yeah. No, you know, look, I really don't know. And the fact of the matter is, it's a red herring. It is absolutely a red herring. But I absolutely — I think within my rights to question anything that comes from the — from the desk of Rudy Giuliani and so, I don't know is the answer.

KIMMEL: Do you ever wish you had Apple Care?

BIDEN: Yeah, that would have been a good thing. Yeah. [AUDIENCE LAUGHTER]

KIMMEL: There's one other thing that I want to ask about, it's the end of the book.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: And you are married now. You've found love. But the way you found love —

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: — you have to understand that on paper this doesn't sound good. Okay. And correct me if I have any of the details wrong.

BIDEN: Okay. Okay.

KIMMEL: You meet some strangers.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: They say, oh, we have a girl you should meet.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: They give you her phone number.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: You text her like late at night.

BIDEN: Yeah, what kind of friends are that? Exactly.

KIMMEL: She's sleeping.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: She is like, leave me alone, I'm asleep. She texts you the next morning and you have lunch together or something.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: In an hour, you tell you love her.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: And she tells you she loves you.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: And then she finds out that you are a crack addict.

BIDEN: Well, I tell her.

KIMMEL: Yeah.

BIDEN: I tell her. Within the hour, before I told her I loved her, so she had an out, I told her. I

said, look, I have a real problem. But, it's amazing.

KIMMEL: And then you marry her a week later.

BIDEN: Yeah. [AUDIENCE APPLAUSE]

KIMMEL: This is — now if I'm your dad and you tell me, I say, no, oh, no, oh, no, no, no, no. What did your dad say when you called to tell him this?

BIDEN: Well, you know? I called him to tell him. And he got on the phone with Melissa. And he said, I'll tell you the same thing that my mom — my grandmother — said to my now mother When we got remarried. We say we got remarried after my mommy's death. And he said, I thank you for giving my son the courage to love again.

KIMMEL: Mmmm. [AUDIENCE APPLAUSE] Wow. He always said the right thing. Doesn't he?

BIDEN: He does. Yeah.

KIMMEL: Well, this is, I mean, this is some book. This is not one of those books you go, all right, this is a hell of a book. It's called *Beautiful Things*.

BIDEN: Yeah.

KIMMEL: Hunter Biden, thank you for being with us.

BIDEN: Honored to be here.

KIMMEL: We appreciate it.

BIDEN: Thank you. Thank you.