

## *Paranoia Agent* Week 2

Instead of online discussion threads this week, I have put you into five 3-person teams to grapple with episodes 9 through 13. Team members should meet before Thursday's class to discuss the episode together, collect thoughts, write up notes, and choose a representative to present your position. Each team will have max 10 minutes to present its take on its assigned episode. After all five individual presentations, we will then spend the rest of class time putting it all together with the entire series.

Use the following open-ended prompt as a starting point:

In the chapter on *Paranoia Agent* in our book, Andrew Osmond poses the question of whether we should take the series seriously (p. 90). I want each team to respond to that question with respect to its assigned episode: what, if anything, should we take seriously about the episode and why? In other words, is the episode—on its own and/or in conjunction with the entire series—trying to make a point or communicate something noteworthy to the audience? If so, what, why, how?

In the spirit of naming in the series, each team is named after an animal:

Team Parakeet:	Harith, Brandon, Jack (Episode 9: "ETC")
Team Hedgehog:	Niah, Malia, Andrew (Episode 10: "Mellow Maromi")
Team Armadillo:	Gloria, Justin, Cameron (Episode 11: "No Entry")
Team Grasshopper:	Josh, Mason, Alyson (Episode 12: "Radar Man")
Team Amoeba:	Kevin, Charles, Jean (Episode 13: "The Final Episode")

Good luck, have fun, and avoid Shonen Bat.