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Subject: Re: The Ballad of Buster Scruggs  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 23 Jan 2019 16:27:18 GMT  
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Quick digression -

You're really lucky to have good internet. Because as you've said, "Never has there been such a choice a viewer can make for so little investment, if they have fast enough internet." You do need fast and reliable internet for video streaming.

I initially resisted all real-time streaming technologies, e.g. VoIP (voice) and video over IP. Because the whole IP protocol is designed to be fault tolerant in a way that precludes real-time signals. The packets can (and will) arrive out of order. They may not ever be lost, but if they're sufficiently delayed, then they are "lost" in the real-time stream because the feed has passed the point in time that the delayed packet was needed.

That's why buffering is so important for a video feed. It delays everything long enough to (hopefully) wait for long-lost packets. Since the video feed isn't really real-time, it can be delayed and treated as though it were a download.

That plus fast internet is a requirement for video streaming.

Live audio and video feeds are still plagued with the lost packets problem. But streaming content is a hybrid approach that isn't really live, more like a download. Still, streaming services need good internet to prevent choppy playback, broken with those annoying "buffering" messages.

- Sorry to digress. Now back to Buster Scruggs and other neat things to watch on Netflix.

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