



Episode 27 – “Wagonpool to Satan”

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Running Time: 47 Minutes

EMILY: Ummm

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: This is super weird

SALLY: Welcome. To my brother’s basement

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: [laughing] That’s where we’re recording at the moment because we don’t have –

EMILY: Because we’re HOMELESS

SALLY: – a home of our own! So, my brother and sister-in-law kindly offered their basement to us

EMILY: Because we can’t use my basement, because my grandparents are there and also it’s infested with spiders

SALLY: What?

EMILY: Have I not told you this?

SALLY: I can’t go to your house anymore

EMILY: I – I can't either!

SALLY: You can't live there anymore

EMILY: My mom had some people come and spray, you know? Like a normal person, but then Anne, the next day, was down there on the treadmill and was like, "I saw a spider on the ceiling and it fell in between the couch cushions, and I couldn't find it to kill it." And I was like, "kay, so I guess we have to burn our house down."

SALLY: Yeah, we have to light the entire couch on fire

EMILY: So, I haven't been down there since. I made the family bring the DVD player upstairs, so that we have to watch movies upstairs [laughs]

SALLY: Good. I have a horrifying story about spiders from Redfish, but I won't tell you

EMILY: Yeah, thanks

SALLY: [laughs] I just need you – I just need the listeners to know that it was horrible

EMILY: Whenever my family is sitting around making fun of how I'm afraid of spiders, someone feels the need to tell a gross spider story, because for some reason that's how people respond to other people having fears

SALLY: Right?

EMILY: My dad's like, "Outside my office today there were a bunch of gross spiders crawling on my window." And I'm like [claps], "Let me stop you there, Chris. I don't want to hear it."

SALLY: Done-zel

EMILY: I want to live in a world – I want a spider deprivation world. Like a sensory deprivation chamber. I just want to forget that spiders exist

SALLY: Because they're gross

EMILY: Because they're *disgusting*. And also, I just want to personally thank Robert Jordan for never having spiders in his otherwise totally cliché fantasy books

SALLY: Yeah. It's true

EMILY: Thanks, Robert.

SALLY: Thank you, Robert.

EMILY: You're a real one.

SALLY: For doing one thing for us. Me. And Emily, I guess.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: More for Emily than me. I can deal with spiders

EMILY: Anyway, we're in Sally's brother's basement. And it's made further weird by the fact that we're on a couch

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: And we're also sitting in – on – usually when we sit on a couch, Sally's on the left and I'm on the right, but right now I'm on the left and Sally's on the right, because I'm deaf in one ear, because my parents' pool gave me an ear infection!

SALLY: Guys, we're thriving

EMILY: [laughing]

SALLY: Yesterday I stapled my finger [laughs]

EMILY: Oh yeah, how is it?

SALLY: You can see my little puncture wound

EMILY: Oh, babe

SALLY: Yeah I have to get a tetanus shot on Monday

EMILY: That's so sad

SALLY: Also, my fingernails are nasty, because I petted Duke and he's gross. He needs a bath. So, yeah, I stapled myself yesterday and it was gushing blood all over my friend's seventh grade classroom. [laughing] She teaches seventh grade, she's not in seventh grade [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] Me and my friend the thirteen-year-old

SALLY: My and my best friend the thirteen-year-old

EMILY: God, could you imagine how creepy that would be?

SALLY: It would be really weird

EMILY: Like, not just creepy, but also, like, no offense but I have seventh graders

SALLY: No, they're the worst. Veronica's like, "I'm really excited," and I'm like, "That's very nice, and I'm glad someone who likes that age is teaching that age, but I hate them."

EMILY: Yeah. There's nothing worse than a seventh grader. Well, an eighth grader

SALLY: Yeah, Veronica's teaching seventh and eighth, and she's like, "I'm way more worried about the eighth graders, because seventh graders don't know how to be an asshole yet."

EMILY: Yeah, what happens between the summer of seventh and eighth grade where you, like, level up to being even more of an asshole than you were in the seventh grade

SALLY: It's like you go from 12/13 you're okay. 13/14 you're awful

EMILY: You just internalize that self – that lack of self-esteem. Your crippling anxiety about how other people see you, and it just toxifies under your skin and just becomes acne and assholery

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: And that's eighth grade

SALLY: That's eighth grade

EMILY: Anyway, it's been a month since we recorded

SALLY: Anyway, yeah, so we just need to get into the vibe a little bit

EMILY: Yeah

SALLY: Um, but welcome to season two

EMILY: [singing] Season two. Seasons of love. How's that song go?

SALLY: [singing] Season – five hundred twenty-five thousand

EMILY: [laughing] Gonna sing the whole song?

SALLY: [laughing] six hundred minutes! [Singing poorly] Seasons of looo-oove. I know that part

EMILY: Okay, well

SALLY: I don't actually know much about

EMILY: There's a reason we're not musical theater kids, and we're book kids

SALLY: Yeah. Okay, um, should we give season two updates or should we start with book news?

EMILY: Do you have book news?

SALLY: I was just gonna tell them to read *The Prince and the Dressmaker*, because it's a perfect book

EMILY: Maybe that's what we should do this season. This season we'll talk about a book we've both read

SALLY: Yeah! That'd be good

EMILY: Okay, well a book we've both just read was *The Prince and the Dressmaker* by Jen Wang

SALLY: Mm-hmm

EMILY: Was that it?

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: Okay, we saw it in Barnes & Noble a month and a half ago, and immediately our hearts were filled with desire because it was pink and a graphic novel and about a boy prince, obviously, who wants to wear dresses

SALLY: Mm-hmm

EMILY: And dress up as a high fashion lady in Paris. And we were smitten. But, unfortunately, we were both broke, so we had to leave it there in the Barnes & Noble in Brooklyn

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: Like a child we were abandoning in the gutter

SALLY: True

EMILY: Um, [laughing] a Dickensian orphan that we just left to grow up to become a chimney sweep, and die of black lung at the age of eight

SALLY: If you were gonna die of the black lung in any Barnes & Noble, it probably would have been that one [laughs]

EMILY: That was a gross Barnes & Noble, I'll admit. Anyway, but luckily Sally's mom was merciful and bought it for us

SALLY: Mm-hmm

EMILY: I say us because we are in the process of consolidating our libraries [laughs]

SALLY: Yeah!

EMILY: Because I guess that's how modern romance is alive

SALLY: It's true. Marriage who? I want a combined library

EMILY: Yeah. Anyway, what do you have to say?

SALLY: Um, anyway, it's the most delightful book I've ever read. I cried hysterically because the ending is so good and so pure

EMILY: Yeah, it's just a really quick read. I read it in, like, 40 minutes

SALLY: Yeah, Emily reads very fast. I read it in, like, 3 hours

EMILY: Oh, okay

SALLY: But I was, like, starting and stopping, because my two-year-old niece was screaming at me, periodically

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: So, that happens [laughs]. But it just – it's really, like, the drawings are really wonderful, so if you're like – if that's what you're into, it's a really well-done graphic novel, it's really beautiful, and all the dress designs are really fabulous. So, if you're really into fashion you can get that, and the story is just really well done, and it's just, like, so good. I'm trying to think of anything to say other than that it's perfect? To actually recommend it

EMILY: If you need just a cute, wholesome, queer story

SALLY: Queer, fashion story

EMILY: About love and family and dresses

SALLY: And dresses. Yeah. It's really good, um, so

EMILY: So that's book news

SALLY: That's book news. Read it. It's really cute. And I don't think it's very expensive. Well, I mean it's paperback. It's really cute. Would recommend

[THEME SONG – “Tubthumping” by Chumbawamba plays]

EMILY: Well, this is season two of Everybody Hates Rand, a *Wheel of Time* podcast, hosted by us, your friendly neighborhood losers

SALLY: Mm-hmm

EMILY: [laughs] This is Emily Juchau speaking

SALLY: [laughs] And this is Sally Goodger

EMILY: I have an ear infection, Sally recently stapled her own finger, so we're doing great

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: Over here at EHR headquarters, which has recently shifted across the country to Utah, the worst state in existence. The air is poison, there are so many children, it is like a Baby Gap

SALLY: It is like a Baby Gap. I've also realized recently that nobody in Utah has any fashion sense. Did I already tell you this?

EMILY: Yeah, you were telling me that the other day

SALLY: So, now I have to become the best dressed person in Utah

EMILY: She already is, frankly. Okay

SALLY: Okay, anyway

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: Some season two updates. One, we are switching our podcast hosting service. And I tell you – it should go over smoothly – I tell you this only because if there are technical difficulties, you may need to re-subscribe to our feed, if you listen to us on iTunes. And our podcast should no longer be available on Podomatic. We'll see. Um, it is – again, there may be some technical difficulties, because I'm having a really hard time with it. But, hopefully, it all should be fine. But just, if that happened to you, you may need to re-subscribe

EMILY: But now we're on Libsyn

SALLY: Now we're on Libsyn, Lord willing. Jesus Christ

EMILY: God will, that goes smoothly

SALLY: God willing that goes smoothly. It hasn't, yet

EMILY: [laughs] Okay

SALLY: I'm still fighting with it. Um, also we have, Emily I should say, I did nothing with this, Emily has created a tentative reading schedule, of what we're striving for this season to look like, what chapters we'll be discussing during which episodes. And I'm going to post that up on our website, so by the time this episode is posted, it will be posted on our website. So if you want to read along, that will be up there, and I will update, probably on Twitter and Tumblr, every week to tell you what we've *actually* talked about once we record. And then if you want to read and see what we read that week, you can be on the same schedule as us, or you can just continue to listen, because I'm assuming if you're here, you've already *Wheel of Time*

EMILY: I mean, we'll adjust the schedule accordingly, because we never know how long we'll be talking about any given thing. But the general rule is, like, *The Great Hunt* has 50 chapters, and I've split it into 25?

SALLY: Yeah, so roughly two chapters

EMILY: So, roughly two chapters a week, but some weeks if we get on a roll with Rand's point of view then it will be three. Every once in a while, it will be one chapter. If it's a long chapter with multiple points of view

SALLY: Yeah. So, again, very tentative, and as you guys know because you've listened to a whole season of this, we don't stay on topic

EMILY: Yeah, we just talked about the Matterhorn for five minutes

SALLY: So!

EMILY: [chuckles]

SALLY: But that's there, and, hopefully season one transcripts – yep. Season one transcripts will all be updated soon, and hopefully during season two I will stay more up to date on those. So, those are your official season two updates. Basically, bear with us if we technical difficulties. Okay, I love you

EMILY: So, *The Great Hunt*, huh?

SALLY: [signing] Here I go again on my own, going down the only road I've ever known

EMILY: I think we should start out by saying that this has one of the worst covers of all time

SALLY: It's terrible! Look at Loial

EMILY: Look at Loial

SALLY: Is this his backpack? Or is his head just really far – ?



EMILY: Is he just a humpback? [laughs]

SALLY: Look at Lanfear

EMILY: Lanfear looks [laughing]

SALLY: Oh boy

EMILY: Lanfear looks like a housewife from a 1950s ad about vacuum cleaners

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: Including her house dress, which has lace in some unfortunate places. Her boobs are just outlined. It's very strange

SALLY: You don't just have, like, outlines under your breasts? To let people know

EMILY: No, because I have human breasts

SALLY: that they're there

EMILY: I hardly have breasts or a butt, but, like, what I do have follows the laws of physics

SALLY: No, hers are weird. Also, you know who I love most on this cover? The Trolloc, 50 yards away from them [laughing]

EMILY: Right? Who's just, like, peering around. He's like, "What are they doing?"

SALLY: "What's he got?"

EMILY: "Hey, whatcha got there bud?"

SALLY: "Hey, guys!" I love him

EMILY: Rand is wearing a red shirt with a heron on it, just like on it. Like a graphic tee shirt

SALLY: You know Rand would wear graphic tee shirts

EMILY: Rand would wear graphic tee shirts

SALLY: Ones with, like, wolves on them

EMILY: Okay, what would Rand wear if he was in our time? Because I want to say Adidas sandals with socks

SALLY: You right. And knee length shorts – he would dress like he was from Utah

EMILY: Yeah! Exactly

SALLY: Knee-length shorts. No, he's a farmer though. So maybe jeans

EMILY: [clears throat] Like really starched jeans

SALLY: Yeah, like way too starched

EMILY: And unfortunate boots. Not, like, good-looking boots

SALLY: Not good-looking boots, like, yeah. Bad boots and/or New Balance dad sneakers

EMILY: Yeah

SALLY: With a graphic tee shirt. Or one that's buttoned up all the way to the top button, but it's unfortunate. Because I can get into a top button

EMILY: I'm currently top buttoned

SALLY: Yeah, love a top button, but his is –

EMILY: But that's my lesbian chic [laughs]

SALLY: Yeah, exactly! Women top button – all into that. Men top button – have to do that really well

EMILY: Who would wear Adidas sandals with socks? Probably Mat. I think we need to be honest

SALLY: Of Gawyn

EMILY: Or Gawyn. Blegh

SALLY: I was gonna say Mat, too. I think Mat probably would dress like a piece of shit

EMILY: Mat's just such a bro

SALLY: Yeah. If I saw Mat on the street, I'd be like nuh-uh

EMILY: I'd be like "Gross." But then you get to know him and he's a feminist

SALLY: And then you're like, "Okay"

EMILY: "Oh, okay

SALLY: But Gawyn would wear...

EMILY: Anyway, he also has a green jewel belt, and a green cape. Why Christmas colors? Also, this never happens. He never just lifts the Horn of Valere into the spotlight

SALLY: Does the Horn of Valere look like that? I thought – is it twisty? I thought it was more just, like, a trumpet

EMILY: Oh, I don't know. Does it ever describe it in detail?

SALLY: It looks like he's holding a tuba. I don't know if it does

EMILY: Yeah, mini tuba

SALLY: Rand's playing the tuba. My, uh, older half-sister played the tuba in her marching band

EMILY: That would've sucked. Imagine playing a big ass metal instrument in the marching band, where you have to practice outside

SALLY: In Atlanta

EMILY: Yeah, you'd just die. Who does that to themselves? Then again, when I had to join the orchestra I played the cello, and it was bigger than me, so. I was in the seventh grade

SALLY: I bet now you'd be taller than a cello

EMILY: I mean I hope so [Sally laughs]. I'm pretty tall

SALLY: Are you taller than a cello? [laughing] Find out this fall on NBC

EMILY: Our new reality show [Sally laughing]. Hosted by that bald guy who's afraid of germs

SALLY: Howie Mandel

EMILY: Howie Mandel

SALLY: Is it Howie Mandel?

EMILY: Howie Mandel's like, "Are you taller than a cello?!" And people just walk out and compare themselves

SALLY: [laughing] And if you're taller than a cello you get fifty thousand dollars, but if you're not!

EMILY: You get dumped into a pool of Jell-O

SALLY: Yeah [gasps]. Cello or Jell-O

[both laugh]

EMILY: You get dropped down a ravine into all the broken cellos that people – like, you have to take the cello with you and just fall on it. Like falling on your sword

SALLY: [laughing] That’s horrible!

EMILY: Anyway, you’ll die! [laughs]

SALLY: [laughing] This fall on NBC, we kill everyone not taller than a cello. It’s just natural selection

EMILY: [cackles] History books three hundred years from now are like, “Around the year 2018, suddenly there was a genetic phenomenon we can’t explain.”

SALLY: “Where they killed everyone not taller than a cello.”

[both laugh]

EMILY: Okay we have to talk about this stupid book

SALLY: Okay, *The Great Hunt*. We are now in Book 2. Book 2 is always tentative ground in a series, I feel

EMILY: Yeah, book 2 in a trilogy is always going to be roughest, because it’s just middle ground. I don’t know

SALLY: Darkest before the dawn type bullshit

EMILY: Yeah, and the plot is, like, in that weird spot where it’s leading up to the end of the actual plot, but we don’t have the first book stuff

SALLY: It doesn’t have the first book’s, like, gift which is that it gets to set up the world and characters. And it doesn’t have the third book’s gift where that’s the end. So, the second book has to both continue to build characters and have a plot of its own that’s leading toward the main plot, but isn’t the main plot

EMILY: Anyway, even though this is a 14 book series, like, this does kind of feel like the second book in a trilogy, because he originally intended it to be a trilogy. And because the first three books function so much as a trilogy. You can kind of separate all of *Wheel of Time* into books of three, and then they function as

SALLY: Little groups

EMILY: Little trilogies within. I mean, at least until you get to the end of the series, when it all gets fucked

SALLY: And when shit gets shit

EMILY: When shit goes to shit. But, yeah, so this is the second book and it's just sort of in the goddamn middle

SALLY: Yeah, I've never – I don't know. There are some second books that are really good. *The Two Towers* is always

EMILY: Yeah *Two Towers* is great

SALLY: Second *Finnikin* book is really good

EMILY: Yeah, excellent

SALLY: Second of *The Raven Cycle* – that's a four-book series, though. That's different

EMILY: Should have been a three-book series

SALLY: Should have been a three – we don't need to talk about that

EMILY: Yeah, so it's not a given thing that the second book is always going to be the shittiest in the trilogy. But in this particular trilogy

SALLY: It is, I think

EMILY: Yeah, I'd say it is. It's even worse than *Eye of the World* in a weird way

SALLY: Yeah, in a weird way I both like it better than *The Eye of the World* and think it's worse than *Eye of the World*

EMILY: I think the ending better than *Eye of the World*. It does way more interesting stuff with the world, and it's actually comprehensible

SALLY: [chuckles]

EMILY: Which

SALLY: What's that like?

EMILY: [laughs] Yeah, shocking. Which is cool, and it also gives the girls their own separate climax, independent of the boys, which is great. So, they're actually doing stuff. But the actual meat of the book is rough

SALLY: Especially when Rand goes on his fucking Lanfear sidebar

EMILY: Yeah, god!

SALLY: [gagging noises]

EMILY: Rand ends up on his own for a while, and it's, like, I hate this. Because he's with some of the most boring characters of all time. Lanfear – the most boring villain. Hurin, who disappears after this book. He does have a cool power, but he disappears after this book. And Loial, who is a lovely character, but doesn't lend himself to being in a group in an interesting way

SALLY: Yeah, Loial is

EMILY: He doesn't create conflict. He doesn't – he's just a lovely boy

SALLY: Yeah, Loial is lovely, but he's not, like, super interesting

EMILY: Yeah, just kind of like, oh great. He's sort of like our narrator character. Like, he doesn't function as a character, almost

SALLY: Yeah. Loial's almost a little invisible

EMILY: [sighs] And the beginning of this book is weird as hell

SALLY: Um, yeah we start off – is the prologue of this book – so the prologue of this book, we're at a Darkfriends' meeting. Is this the first time that we've had a point of view from a baddie in the series?

EMILY: First I have to read the

SALLY: Oh, that's right. First, Emily has to read the dedication

EMILY: Can I read the dedication. And, you guys, I'm sure this is well meaning, but what the heck? Robert Jordan said, "This book is dedicated to," – and he lists, like, 19 names and then he's like, "They came to my aid when God walked across the water and the true Eye of the World passed over my house." What does that mean?

SALLY: Yeah. What type of drama was happening in your life, Robert?

EMILY: Yeah, Robert!

SALLY: Also, I find it very uncomfortable [clears throat] language from their own books to describe bad things that happened in their lives

EMILY: Right?

SALLY: I think it's weird

EMILY: It's like they're trying to give – like, enter their books into the zeitgeist in a way that has to happen naturally. You can't just do that

SALLY: You can't just be like, "The Eye of the World passed over my house." Like, what?

EMILY: Robert, we didn't even know what that was in the context of your book

SALLY: I still don't know what that means, Robert

EMILY: Fucking hell

SALLY: I have no idea what's going on

EMILY: [sighs] Anyway, yeah. Back to the prologue, which, like, Robert Jordan clearly changed this quickly, but pages are Roman numerals. Like, we don't get to page one until chapter one. And then it's like, "Hey, 14 books from now you're going to have your 900-page prologue." Imagine if he did that – not really, but close!

SALLY: My heart just stopped

EMILY: The prologue in *A Memory of Light* is freakishly long

SALLY: I won't read it. What if I just skip it? Will I miss a lot of important stuff? [laughs]

EMILY: Yeah! It has a lot of *important plot stuff*, dude

SALLY: [laughing] I don't like prologues!

EMILY: It's, like, Tarmon Gai'don is starting. And it has Talmanes' point of view

SALLY: Oh my gosh!

EMILY: Like a lot of Talmanes' point of view

SALLY: Is that his first point of view?

EMILY: I don't know. Probably

SALLY: I love Talmanes

EMILY: He has to, like, do stuff

SALLY: What a weird, angry 30-year-old

EMILY: I know. I love Talmanes. My weird French

SALLY: French tiny boy

EMILY: Okay, anyway. Is this the first villain point of view?

SALLY: I'm trying to remember. Because I think this is one of the first times – because in *The Eye of the World* we have such a main staple of points of view. Rand, Perrin. Moiraine. Moiraine has a few, I think

EMILY: No, just Nynaeve

SALLY: No, Moiraine has a brief one at the end, I think

EMILY: Oh. Yeah, at the very end

SALLY: But Nynaeve. Um, but it's mostly Rand, Perrin, and Nynaeve

EMILY: The prologue is Lews Therin

SALLY: The prologue is Lews Therin, so

EMILY: So, yeah. No baddie points of view

SALLY: Do we even get anyone else? We don't get Egwene do we?

EMILY: Mm-mm. It's just the three

SALLY: It's just those three

EMILY: [clears throat]

SALLY: So yeah, I think this is the first time we kind of, like, have branched off of our staples, and we get the infamous point of view from a character six countries over doing something completely unrelated

EMILY: The physical location of this Darkfriend meeting is so strange

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: It's, like, where is it? What's happening? How did these people get here?

SALLY: Right? They're at some place by Shayol Ghul, or some shit



EMILY: Yeah, at some point some myrddraal is like, “You’re in the shadow of Shayl Ghul,” and they’re like, “Huh! Scary!” Like, clearly they didn’t come here. Like, did they all just get picked up individually from their house? Was there a carpool?

SALLY: Yeah, was there a carpool to the satanic meeting?

EMILY: Wagonpool? Yeah, what

SALLY: Wagonpool to Satan

EMILY: We’re all in our creepy Ku Klux Klan masks

SALLY: True, they are all masked. Which I hate

EMILY: I know, honestly. That’s such an ominous thing

SALLY: A KKK thing to do

EMILY: If you’re at an organization, and everyone is masked?

SALLY: Leave

EMILY: They’re evil. You should leave

SALLY: Yeah, they’re bad

EMILY: Anyway, this is from the point of view of the man who called himself Bors

SALLY: Because he Bors me [giggles]

EMILY: Ah fuck

SALLY: [laughing] I made that joke before the podcast, so Emily’s annoyed that I made it again

EMILY: No. I knew you would. You were just screen testing it on me [laughs]

SALLY: I was

EMILY: [laughing] To see if I laughed

SALLY: I was running it through [laughs]. I was running it through beta [laughs]

EMILY: Anyway, the most fucking annoying that about this chapter is we’re never just like, “And Bors did this.” It’s always the man who called himself Bors. We’re like, “We get it. Bors is an alias.”

SALLY: Like I got that immediately

EMILY: He's in a mask. I'm not stupid

SALLY: Who goes to a meeting and is like, "Gonna tell them my real name."

EMILY: He's like, "Hiii! I'm Carridin. I'm a Whitecloak!"

SALLY: And everyone's like, "Okay. Idiot. I'm not."

EMILY: "Okay, have fun."

SALLY: Stupid.

EMILY: Anyway, he's like, "Look at me. I'm in a mask in this creepy chamber. Here are some of the people around me. Blah blah blah blah." There are creepy servants, who are just mindless bodies serving drinks. It's pretty gross, and also a characteristic of many of the Darkfriend – well, not Darkfriend meetings, but whenever you get the Forsaken in a group

SALLY: There's always people mindlessly

EMILY: Yeah, Graendal especially has her acrobat circus of slaves

SALLY: Yeah, weird

EMILY: Gross

SALLY: I do find this – I don't find the content of it very interesting because it's just like, "Blah, blah, blah here are the three *ta'veren*. One of them is Jesus. Please find him. Whatever."

EMILY: "One of them is Jesus. The other two are irrelevant. Kill all of them on site." This is the only time there's a kill order, by the way. For these three

SALLY: I thought there wasn't a kill order?

EMILY: Is there?

SALLY: I don't remember. Did I just misunderstand?

EMILY: No, go. You keep talking

SALLY: So, I don't find the content particularly interesting. I think this, more than anything, is a way to re-iterate what kind of the main plot is. Which is oftentimes what prologues are used for

EMILY: You're right. There's not a kill order. They just have to look for them. "It will be up to you to see that they are placed as I command." Okay, so whatever

SALLY: [laughing] Mat, into the sea

EMILY: Mat [laughs] yeah

SALLY: You can kill Mat. I don't care

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: [laughs] Just kidding. Nobody knows what Mat looks like. Um, so again, I don't find the content very interesting, it's more just this underpinning of what the main idea is. Which is that we have the Dragon Reborn, and we're going to Armageddon. Tarmon Gai'don, excuse me

EMILY: It's just out of context

SALLY: But I do find it very interesting that Robert Jordan, here for the first time, I believe – again, if I'm remembering correctly – continues to give points of view to his villains, which is not something that is typical. That doesn't typically happen

EMILY: Traditional

SALLY: Yeah, it's not a traditional thing to do. And so, it's really interesting. Like, no matter what, this is an evil person, if you are experiencing a scene through that person's point of view that will be the character that you identify with. And so, we're asked in these moments to sit with the villains and see what they're doing. And so, it's interesting in that way, but it's also interesting at all that Robert Jordan feels the need to show us in intimate detail what any of his villains are doing at any given moment. Because, most stories operate with the tension that you don't have an inside view to the villains, neither the reader nor the characters. So, that has always really interested me about *Wheel of Time*

EMILY: It makes me wonder – this series would be so different if we didn't have the villains' points of view

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: Because he uses them a lot to set up tension, and I don't necessarily think that's a good thing. But he'll have all the Forsaken plotting, and they'll be like, "We're going to do this thing and this thing," and that thing doesn't turn out the way they are intending it to turn out, but it sets up the tension throughout the book that, "Oh, I know the villains are doing this in the background, so when Rand does this stupid thing I'm like, 'oh he's stumbling into this trap that I know is there.'" And it's, like, it would be a totally different series if I didn't know the trap was there. Just following Rand, doing his thing, and occasionally he would be just very suddenly attacked, and I would have no idea

SALLY: Concept

EMILY: Of what was going on

SALLY: Yeah, and so this book then – a lot of the tension throughout the series operates on dramatic irony. Which is when the reader knows something the character doesn't, which I always thought that was the most interesting phrase for that. Dramatic irony, like, what the hell?

EMILY: Yeah, it's dramatic irony that, uh, going back to this earlier theme, later in the series Rand meets – not Rand – Mat meets Semirhage when she's in disguise as Tuon's, I don't know, right hand lady. And she probably knows who Mat is, and we know who she is, but he does not know who – that he's parading around in front of one of the most dangerous Forsaken in the world

SALLY: Also, this is late, but spoiler alert [laughs]

EMILY: Oh, yeah. Fuck

SALLY: We talk about all books up until Book 14, but you know that, because it's season 2. And if you're starting on season 2, maybe...maybe don't

EMILY: But also good for you

SALLY: But also

EMILY: Ballsy move

SALLY: Good for you. Bold move. Love you

EMILY: Welcome to the family

SALLY: Welcome to the family. It's always – actually, it's not always this messy

EMILY: Uhhh??

SALLY: But anyway. So yeah, a lot of our tension, because Robert Jordan offers points of view to these minor characters and to our villains, we get a lot of tension coming from, as the reader, knowing a lot more than the characters do. Um, even more than the heroes and more than the villains, because we get this total picture. Which also interests me, because I, like, I don't know where we're supposed to land on how much of this is being told through our narrator. As in, if it is Loial, or whatever, who is inevitably telling this story at the end. Like, it's just interesting

EMILY: Well it's interesting especially that he chooses a few Darkfriend points of view that he follows pretty much throughout the series. So Bors, who we don't know – it's a little confusing because all we're given to know about Bors is that he's a Whitecloak and the orders he's given are that he's going to continue doing something on the Almoth Plain, which is where the end of this book is going to take place. And there's going to be Whitecloaks around, so der der der. But it's confusing, because we're given a few Whitecloak characters to follow. Bornhald, who we

met in the last book, the sort of grandfatherly old asshole. He's actually a point of view later in this book. And he, uh, sort of gives us the Whitecloak point of view, but also he has Byer, that gross sadistic guy. And we're like, "He's sort of the token Darkfriend seeming guy." And it turns out Bors is one of these Inquisitors. Is that what they are?

SALLY: Uhhh, Questioners

EMILY: Questioners

SALLY: They're based off the Spanish Inquisition, basically

EMILY: Right. That always confuses me. He's one of the top Questioners. His name is Carridin. And we'll follow him later. I don't even know, like, it's confusing. Robert Jordan doesn't do a great job of being like, "And here's Carridin's first point of view. And by the way, I was that guy."

SALLY: "By the way, these are my orders." So

EMILY: But we have Bors a.k.a. Carridin We also have Liandrin, who's introduced in this book and she sort of comes up throughout the rest of the series. Both of them do until they both meet, I think, grisly ends

SALLY: Yeah, Robert Jordan is a fan of grisly ends

EMILY: Yeah, especially for his villains

SALLY: Yeah [clears throat, sniffs]. God, I wish we were talking about *The Dragon Reborn*

EMILY: Right?

SALLY: I know we'll get there, and this book has lots of interesting things to talk about, but I love the third book. It's so good

EMILY: If we were on *The Dragon Reborn*, we'd have Mat point of views to look forward to

SALLY: And just the fact that our three ladies are sent off on a kill mission by Sivan Sanche [laughs]

EMILY: Right? She's like, "Go murder these twelve people"

SALLY: [laughs] God, so cool

EMILY: Ugh

SALLY: But anyway, we do get Sivan Sanche in this book, which is awesome

EMILY: Yeah, that's some of the tension early on. Anyway, all that happens in this prologue is we get some sort of, like – Bors informs us of a few of the other people who are around. But, again, we don't know their identities. We can only guess. There are –

SALLY: Is –

EMILY: Go ahead

SALLY: No

EMILY: It's just there are a few that are important. He notices a woman who's wearing a great serpent ring, so she's an Aes Sedai. So, it's like, "Oh, Aes Sedai are Darkfriends, too. That's a real thing." And we're gonna meet Liandrin here in a minute and it's gonna be like, "Shit. There's more dramatic irony," because we know Liandrin is a Darkfriend. When she lures the girls into a trap that's going to be hard for us to read

SALLY: Scary for us, yeah. We're gonna be super afraid for our ladies

EMILY: As we should be

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: Anyway

SALLY: The Black Ajah are...

EMILY: We also find out Ba'alzamon's still kicking. Here he is, giving people orders

SALLY: Little fucko

EMILY: He's like, "Here are the three boys you should look for. There's a country lad with a light of mischief in his brown eyes."

SALLY: That's seriously what he says?

EMILY: Yes

SALLY: Oh my god

EMILY: Then there's "a curly haired youth as heavily muscled as a blacksmith." Gee, I wonder if he's a blacksmith? [laughs]

SALLY: Gee, I wonder, Ba'azamon

EMILY: "And he's got a battleaxe. And then there's a tall fellow with eyes now gray, now almost blue as the light took them, and dark reddish hair." Bors is such a romantic

SALLY: Yeah, Bors is really into Rand. “His eyes!”

EMILY: [laughing] He’s like a goddamn poet

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: And he’s like, “Oh, and damn he’s got a heron marked sword.” So Ba’alzamon’s like, “Here’s these three. Look out for them. And then I’m going to give you all individual orders. And the individual orders I’m giving to you, Bors, are return to Tarabon and continue your good works.” Don’t know what that means. Won’t know what that means until well into the series when we finally have the brain space to piece it together, but basically doing chaos stuff on the Almonth Plain and he wants him to keep do that

SALLY: [sniffs]

EMILY: “Secondly, watch for the three young men, and thirdly, regarding those that have landed at Toman Head and Domani, of this you will speak to no one.”

SALLY: Is that the Seanchan?

EMILY: The Seanchan. It’s our very first mention of the Seanchan

SALLY: Yeah, I’m –

EMILY: Conflicted

SALLY: Yeah, I don’t like this – the Seanchan in this book. I don’t think I will ever like them

EMILY: That’s fine

SALLY: I mean as a concept

EMILY: They’re villains

SALLY: But, anyway. We’ll talk about that when we get there

EMILY: We’ll talk about that when it becomes more relevant

SALLY: [laughs] But also, he’s like, “The continent’s being invaded, but hush hush.”

EMILY: “Hush, hush!” I know. “Keep it to yourself!”

SALLY: [cackles] “Keep it to yourself. LMAO.”

EMILY: Which is surprisingly easy to do

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: Remember how it's not until, like, Book 7, that everyone's like, "Oh, yeah. The Seanchan are totally real."

SALLY: The Seanchan are like, "We've been trying to attack you for, like, two years."

EMILY: "Your continent is just so goddamn big."

SALLY: "And stupid."

EMILY: "And idiotic!"

SALLY: [laughing] "That we can't"

EMILY: "None of you talk to each other, apparently."

SALLY: "We've been trying to invade for forever."

EMILY: "We just dropped a building on your most loveable lad's head. Mat Cauthon, here he is, with the broken legs to prove it."

SALLY: Baby

EMILY: I know, poor guy

SALLY: Breaks his legs

EMILY: He goes through a rough time in Book 7

SALLY: [laughing] But seriously. One of my favorite scenes, because it makes no sense to me, is the scene in Book 4 or 5 when Rand and Aviendha have their sex igloo scene

EMILY: Five

SALLY: But they just randomly run into a Seanchan contingent in the fucking tundra

EMILY: Right? Because she transports them to the Seanchan continent

SALLY: It's so – oh, is that what happens?

EMILY: [cackles] You didn't know?

SALLY: Oh my god. No, I didn't. I thought they just went to the tundra. I don't know. Snow



EMILY: Nah, she accidentally traveled to Seanchan. Or Seandar. I don't know what it's called

SALLY: That makes so much more sense now. Because I was like, "Why are they just these three Seanchan just chilling?"

EMILY: They're like, "Here we are, on a mission for the empress."

SALLY: No, seriously! And that made sense to me, because there's just Seanchan everywhere and the continent is not paying attention! I feel dumb now

EMILY: [laughing] Like, "these dumb lunatics"

SALLY: I feel very stupid

EMILY: [laughing] Don't feel stupid

SALLY: It's fine. Stapled my finger yesterday

EMILY: It's one of those classic Robert Jordan things where he's just like, "Here's this situation. It's totally bizarre, and I just need you to figure it out." And you can't because he's not giving you enough context

SALLY: I didn't know they went to the Seanchan continent

EMILY: Because she just invented Traveling. You've never done Traveling before

SALLY: I just thought she went up north to the Borderlands or something

EMILY: Do they have snow in the Borderlands?

SALLY: I assumed they did. North. Snow. It was an assumption

EMILY: I guess. Sure. Yeah

SALLY: Anyway! [laughs] The continent is being invaded but *shhhh*. [laughs] What a weirdo

EMILY: But keep it hush, hush. Oh, and then there's this other weird moment where, like, Ba'alzamon is like – he basically brainwashes the instructions into his head. And Bors, like, doesn't really – isn't able to be conscious of the fact that they're there, or what they are

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: It's, like, some sort of – later we'll be introduced to the idea of compulsion

SALLY: Mm-hmm

EMILY: As a channeling thing, so that's maybe what seems to be going on here. Is that he's just messing with his brain, but

SALLY: Why do villains always have to do compulsion things

EMILY: [sighs] I don't know. I think it's like

SALLY: I think it's much more interesting when people choose to be villainy

EMILY: Right?

SALLY: Choose to be villainy. That sentence

EMILY: I mean, obviously this guy did choose to be villainy, but. Anyway, but this scene continues to be weird, because Bors then gets showed to a room. So, they're in a physical location

SALLY: It don't make any goddamn sense

EMILY: Like, it's like, okay. I was like, "Okay, maybe this is in *tel'aran'rhiod*, you know?" Because this seems like Ishamael has the power to just yank people into the world of dreams on a whim

SALLY: Yeah, he did that with the boys

EMILY: Or something. Anyway, that's the prologue [laughs]

SALLY: It's like the villains get to operate in an entirely different set of logic than the rest of us

EMILY: Yeah, and it's, like, again Book 1 we just didn't have some of the rules that we have later in the series. And Book 2 that continues, although we start to get more of the rules and more of the groundwork

SALLY: Mm-hmm

EMILY: For how things are going to be organized and how things are going to work

SALLY: Yeah, it's weird. Book 2 is -I

EMILY: But we have to bear with it

SALLY: In a weird space. But then! We get to Chapter One

EMILY: Which is called "The Flame of Tar Valon"

SALLY: Dun dun dun dun!

EMILY: We're not going to bore you, really, with what happens in it, because basically nothing happens in it

SALLY: Um, so when I was looking at the Wiki for this, it talked about how Lan's sword breaking is one of the first bubbles of evil

EMILY: Oh! Hey

SALLY: Is that what you understood?

EMILY: First of all, I hadn't even read this, so didn't remember that Lan's sword broke

SALLY: I just feel like you've read *The Great Hunt* probably so many times

EMILY: Oh, yeah, what happens is the wind pushes him into Lan's sword. This – Lan and Rand are practicing with their practice swords, which are just sticks, basically, and the eponymous wind of time that always starts out these dumb books, gets Rand in the back. And it, like, traps him. It says it's as if, "the air suddenly gelled, holding him in a cocoon." So, he's driven into Lan's sword and just stays there, just being pushed forward. And since Lan is, like, I don't know, he man, doesn't give way like a person should. It's just the sword breaks

SALLY: Okay

EMILY: Yeah, it does kind of read like a bubble of evil. What, with the air gelling and stuff like that. Like, it's weird. Especially because Lan's like, "What the hell was that? Like, are you channeling?" And Rand's like, "No, it was the wind." And Lan's like, "Okay, Jan."

SALLY: "Sure, Jan."

EMILY: "Yeah, sure."

SALLY: "Broke my dumb practice sword."

EMILY: "Insane magic boy over here." You've gotta respect Lan for continuing to hang out with Rand

SALLY: I know

EMILY: He's just like, "Sure."

SALLY: "I guess."

EMILY: "This might as well happen."

SALLY: "This dumb magic boy."

EMILY: [laughs] “Anything could happen, but here I am at the top of the tower, shirtless with this other boy”

BOTH: “Shirtless”

EMILY: “Just whacking each other.”

SALLY, at the same time: “Teaching him how to sword fight”

EMILY: Anyway, so that’s weird and it wounds Rand a little bit

SALLY: Yeah, and then they talk about their swords

EMILY: Yeah, and then they just talk about some man stuff and sword stuff and Lan’s like, “So when are you gonna leave?” And Rand’s like, “Well, I can’t really leave ‘cause Mat and Perin are still here and I don’t want to leave them. [mumbles a bit] But Egwene and Nynaeve think I’m crazy duh dah duh dah duh.” And Lan’s like, “Okay, this is boring. It’s been boring for the last book.”

SALLY: Yeah, Lan’s like, “I am tired.”

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: “You should leave.”

EMILY: And Rand’s like, “And Moiraine’s not talking to me.”

SALLY: Yeah, Moiraine pulls the classic mentor move of just not talking

EMILY: [laughs] Of just total withdrawal

SALLY: Dumbledore does it. Gandalf dies so he literally can’t talk. Dies

EMILY: Yeah, like, in Gandalf’s defense it’s not intentional

SALLY: [laughing] It’s not on purpose

EMILY: Like, by the time he gets back Frodo’s in Mordor, so

SALLY: So, the classic Dumbledore move of just not speaking to your charge

EMILY: Yeah

SALLY: At, like, their time of greatest need. Or greatest confusion

EMILY: Yeah, but what Moiraine's done is tell Rand he can channel, and then basically stop talking to him, and apparently, she went off somewhere. Now she's just recently come back

SALLY: She's off doing a drama thing. Secret...secret things

EMILY: Yeah, and Lan's like, "Okay, well whatever. Let's just keep sword fighting." Anyway, and at the end of the chapter a bunch of Aes Sedai show up. Like, drums and trumpets start heralding the thing, and Lan's like, "Oh yeah, the Amyrlin Seat's here." And Rand's like [high pitched voice], "What the fuck, man? You could have?"

SALLY: "You could have told me! I would've been gone."

EMILY: "Given me some warning." And Lan's like, "Well, too late. Sucks to suck."

SALLY: "You should be a week gone," and Rand's like, "Bro, you couldn't have, like, dropped a text?"

EMILY: It's kind of hilarious

SALLY: "Amyrlin's coming to kill you

EMILY: Because Lan's like, "Hmm. Why haven't you left yet?" And Rand's like, "I'm just indecisive and a loser." And Lan's like, "Well, too bad the Amyrlin's here." And Rand's like, "Okay. Beg pardon? Lesson learned."

SALLY: Lesson learned, Hamlet.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: Make your decisions

EMILY: Thank you

SALLY: Lan's like –

EMILY: Anyway, that's what happens

SALLY: But honestly how iconic, and how on brand for Sivan Sanche, to just show up with a fucking parade

EMILY: Right?

SALLY: And she's like, "I'm the Amyrlin, motherfuckers."

EMILY: Let's keep in mind this the first and only time in the series that the Amyrlin, the legit Amyrlin, like, goes somewhere

SALLY: Yeah, it's kind of weird

EMILY: Yeah, it gives you this impression that Siuan's just going places all the time. The next time she

SALLY: She was like, "Get me out of here."

EMILY: Yeah, she was like, "Ugh."

SALLY: [laughing] "Please! I've been here for thirty years. I hate this fucking city!"

EMILY: The next time she leaves is when she's fucking escaping the White Tower after she's been stilled

SALLY: After she's been stilled

EMILY: Then Elaida never leaves

SALLY: Then perish

EMILY: Yeah, then perish. Then Egwene, of course

SALLY: Egwene is running around saving the world

EMILY: Egwene does her stuff, but

SALLY: Yeah, it gives the idea that Siuan Sanche...visits [laughs]

EMILY: Yeah, it's like, "What the hell?" Weird

SALLY: But she doesn't. She's just coming for Jesus

EMILY: Yeah [sighs], she's just coming because Moiraine was like, "I did it. I found Jesus." Siuan's like, "Finally. What we've been waiting for."

SALLY: She's like, "About time."

EMILY: I know. "Goddamn. We've been waiting for twenty-five years."

SALLY: "Come on, Cairhien. You can't catch a fish with only one net." I don't know what she would say, but something like that

EMILY: You can't... I think you can though [laughs]

SALLY: I couldn't remember! I was trying to think of one of her fishing things [laughs]

EMILY: Fish metaphor [mumbles]

SALLY: Fish metaphor [mumbles]

EMILY: Nets [mumbles] water [mumbles]

SALLY: Boats – there’s a hole in this boat

EMILY: My drunk uncle [mumbles]. That’s Siuan Sanche

SALLY: Siuan Sanche is – got the energy of a drunk uncle

EMILY: She’s predictable, if nothing else. Um, so that’s weird. The only characters we get are Rand and Lan, and they are

SALLY: Swording

EMILY: Yeah, kind of stereotypically

SALLY: And do they talk about duty and shit, yet? Or do they do that –

EMILY: They probably do it a little bit later. It’s just sort of, like, the energy here is Rand sort of panicking, and sort of freaked out, but also stuck in place

SALLY: Because now he has to try to es-cah-pay before the Amyrlin sets her little, tiny hands on him

EMILY: Yeah, her tiny, little fisher hands on him

SALLY: Tiny, little angry fisherman hands on him

EMILY: Salty

SALLY: Salty as hell. Siuan Sanche is salty as hell

EMILY: I know. It’s all the sea water she drank as a child

SALLY: That’s all she drank

EMILY: [laughs] Gross

SALLY: [laughing] Sea water to dehydrate herself. Dry yourself out like jerky

EMILY: Ew!

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: What the fuck?

SALLY: [laughing] I don't know. I don't know. There's a weird energy to this podcast. Welcome to season two

EMILY: Because there's a weird energy to this book!

SALLY: Yeah, Book 2 is very strange

EMILY: It's hard to articulate

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: It's, like, we're on the threshold of becoming a great series, but we just linger on that threshold for so long

SALLY: We linger on that threshold for –

EMILY: How many? 750 pages?

SALLY: 681

EMILY: Jesus

SALLY: Again, I will abide by our thesis statement of last season that the series really begins with Mat's first point of view

EMILY: Exactly

SALLY: But I can't wait to get to the part of the series where Mat and Perrin are pissed off at Rand

EMILY: Yeah, because he's dressing fancy

SALLY: Because he's putting on airs

EMILY: It's so funny [laughs]

SALLY: I know. They're like, "This motherfucking piece of shit."

EMILY: Well, and 'cause he's mean to them

SALLY: Yeah, and 'cause he's trying to get away, and so he says some...bitchy shit and they're like



EMILY: He's like, "I just need to drive my friends away." Why do protagonists always think they need to drive their friends away?

SALLY: I don't know. It's a weird, self-destructive behavior

EMILY: It's such a protagonist thing to do. Why can't you just be like, "I'm in hella danger. If you don't – like, I'm out."

SALLY: Yeah

EMILY: "I'll write you a postcard, but I don't want to get you involved. That's my decision."

SALLY: "That's my decision, and you should respect it."

EMILY: "And you should respect it. I mean, obviously I can't choose for you, whether you respect it. But I think you should."

SALLY: "I think you should."

EMILY: And then if they were good sidekicks, they'd show up. Perrin would, Mat wouldn't

SALLY: Mat would be like, "Perrin said he didn't want me there." Rolls dice [laughs]

EMILY: I know. Mat would be like, "Peace out, bitch."

SALLY: Perrin would be like, "I'm going to help my friend." Mat's like, "Dumb choice."

EMILY: [laughs] Mat's like, "A stupid choice, really."

SALLY: "A stupid choice, really, but I can't stop you."

EMILY: Yeah. "Have fun, I guess. Don't die."

SALLY: "Don't die."

EMILY: "Probably will. I'll miss ya."

SALLY: Well?

EMILY: Will he?

SALLY: No, he would

EMILY: Yeah

SALLY: I think. In abstract

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: Maybe not

EMILY: "Who was that?"

SALLY: "If I listen I can almost hear him."

EMILY: [laughs] "Quit telling people I'm dead!" Perrin

SALLY: [laughs] Umm, what else is there to say? Was there any set up we need to do for this book?

EMILY: No, I think we talked about it enough. It's a weird

SALLY: It's a weird'un. Really just look at the cover, and you'll know everything you need to know about this book

EMILY: Truly, though

SALLY: And also, what is the up-lighting going on? Why is it lit this way?

EMILY: The lantern?

SALLY: Oh, you're right. I didn't even notice that. But still

EMILY: And it's not nighttime I guess

SALLY: Yeah, so why you have a lantern anyway girl? [laughs]

EMILY: This is also supposed to be the scene where Rand steals the Horn back, so first of all, where the fuck is Hurin?

SALLY: True

EMILY: [laughs] He's just, like, not there

SALLY: That's Hurin [laughs]

EMILY: [screams] Stop!

SALLY: "Guys, whatcha doing?"

EMILY: And second of all, like, they don't find him. There are no Trollocs to see him, that's the point

SALLY: Do you like how abused this book is? This is my copy

EMILY: There's also the Trollocs on the back

SALLY: Legend, legend, legend

EMILY: Except they don't look like Trollocs. They just look like people.

SALLY: Maybe they are just people. Maybe the artist was like, "I don't know how to draw a Trolloc."

EMILY: Maybe they're supposed be Seanchan

SALLY: Oh, maybe

EMILY: I feel like they're supposed to be Trollocs

SALLY: Yeah, 'cause they've got, like, wolf stuff

EMILY: Anyway, so that's where we're at in this weird book. Um, next week we're gonna talk about the Amyrlin Seat arriving, and Rand panicking. As he runs around the palace of Fal Dara

SALLY: Just

EMILY: Just like a chicken with his head cut off. Just running in circles. "Help! Help!"

SALLY: "Help! Help! Help I've fallen and I can't get up."

EMILY: "Help I've fallen and I can't get up!" and Moiraine's like, "Okay." And picks him up and carries him to Sivan Sanche

SALLY: My little niece calls every bird chicken

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: And so

EMILY: "Look at all these chickens!"

SALLY: We were going – there was, like, a river behind the cabin at this place we went to in Idaho, and, like, I would carry her down there to distract her when people were doing things. "Let's go say hi to the river," I would say. And she would go, "Hi, river!" But a bird would show up and she'd be like, "CHICKEN!"

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: It was the funniest thing I'd ever seen. She, like, shouted it. She was like

BOTH: Chicken!

SALLY: And it was not a chicken [laughs]. It was really funny. The problem is she says funny shit like that and I just start laughing, and then she thinks she's made a funny joke, and she just keeps doing it

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: [laughing] CHICKEN! Anyway. Look at all these chickens!

EMILY: Look at all these chickens! I recently introduced my dad to Vine. I, like, showed him four iconic vines. He got a kick out of them

SALLY: One of my favorite vines

EMILY: He didn't understand, but he laughed

SALLY: You don't have to understand Vine, you just have to accept it

EMILY: He was like, "I don't understand. What is happening?" And I was like [whispers] "You don't need to understand"

SALLY: You know the chicken in the red dress and the pearls?

EMILY: Exaclty

SALLY: And the Lana Del Rey song is playing in the background? [laughing, singing] I've got my red dress on tonight, dancing in the dark

EMILY: My favorite one is where it's the Sting song, "every breath you take, I'll be watching you." And it zooms in on a goose watching the first goose [laughs]

SALLY: Why are birds just top-quality vine content?

EMILY: [laughing] I don't know. It's so funny, though

SALLY: [mimicking a New York accent] You ain't shit duck! You're just

BOTH: Like your fatha!

EMILY: Okay, well

SALLY: Chicken! [laughs]

EMILY: We've gone off track enough. I need to go to the bathroom

SALLY: Okay

EMILY: And then we have to go to my dad's company barbeque, or something

SALLY: Or something

EMILY: I don't know

SALLY: I would sign us off, but I feel like we've already talked about the fact that I stapled my finger yesterday, and I just don't know what else there is to say about it. I tried to catch a stapler and I stapled myself [long pause]. It bled so much, you guys [laughing]

EMILY: [laughing] I'm stopping