



Episode 43 – “Deus Ex Ingtar”

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Emily: Here we go. (singing) Here we go, a-wassailing among the fields so green.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: I don't know the rest of the --

Sally: It's Christmas time.

Emily: Is it?

Sally: Mm-hmm. Officially after Thanksgiving, it's Christmas.

Emily: I don't like that. I think it has to be the first of December.

Sally: OK. (laugh)

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: I mean, everybody's got their different holiday opinions. That's OK.

Emily: Yeah, you right. You right.

Sally: It's just -- we always put up our Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving.

Emily: Really?

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: That's so sweet. Did you guys do it already?

Sally: Yeah, we did it on Thanksgiving. My mom now has a fake tree.

Emily: Oh, gotcha.

Sally: Which I hate and she hates. But.

Emily: Yeah, not worth it to go --

Sally: Yeah, it's sad. She just feels like nobody's ever around to help her go and get the tree, so.

Emily: That's sad.

Sally: Yeah, it's a major bummer.

Emily: Poor Mama Sally. Um. The last few years, we've gotten the tree, like, the week before Thanksgiving.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And the selection is really poor, so it's, like, dead before we even -- (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) I'm sorry, our cat's wearing his vest again, and he looks really funny when he walks.

Emily: His corduroy vest with his little -- he's just staring at the oven now.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: He's so stupid.

Sally: He -- I've been, um, apartment-bound for basically the last two and a half days 'cause I'm pretty sick, um, and Emily got trapped at her job due to a snowstorm, so it's just been me and the cat in the apartment for a long time. Um, and this -- I promise this is a short story -- but he's been so curious and annoying that I've just started taking him on field trips. Like, I was --

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: Making tea this morning, and I just, like, picked him up and brought him with me, and he's, like, checking it out, and last night, I was, like, putting away the dishes, and I was holding him just so that he felt included --

Emily: Ohhh.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: That's probably what he wants --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Really.

Sally: 'Cause he was driving me insane. (laugh) I'm sorry.

Emily: Um.

Sally: What're you reading?

Emily: God, what AM I reading? I'm not reading anything these days. Like, honestly.

Sally: That's sad, I'm sorry.

Emily: Sorry.

Sally: No, I'm not -- I'm just sorry for you. You are watching a lot of Supernatural.

Emily: I am watching a lot of Supernatural, and it's just, like, why? I don't know. Just wanted those ghost vibes.

Sally: Supernatural is fun. Supernatural is bad, and it gets worse --

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: It gets to the point where it is unbearable, but the first couple seasons are super fun.

Emily: No, the first couple seasons, I'm just like, "Ooh, this is fun." I could, like -- some of them have been a couple memes. Like, season one is just them going, (British accent) "Have you seen my dad?"

Sally: (British accent) "Have you seen my dad?"

Emily: And season two is, like, just Sam chanting, like Janet from the Good Place, "Kill me. Kill me. Kill me."

Sally: I know.

Emily: And Dean going, "No. I'd rather not." So that's fun.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Yeah, up until about, like, season five, I can handle it.

Sally: I think season five is where it ends.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Stops being good.

Emily: Yeah. Anyway, what are you reading?

Sally: I'm still reading A Crown of Swords.

Emily: But that's good. You're flying through it.

Sally: Not really. I've been reading it for, like, three weeks.

Emily: No, really? It feels like you've only been reading it for, like, two -- I guess you did start the prologue and then, like, have a break because --

Sally: Yeah. This always happens -- it always happens. Because I hate prologues, just as a general construct, and Robert Jordan's prologues are like 600 pages long. (laugh)

Emily: They're all the devil.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And it's like, there's nothing interesting --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: That happens in them.

Sally: And he always puts, like, the worst points of view in them. Like, this -- Crown of Swords prologue had, like, a 20-page Elaida point of view, and I was like, "I don't care."

Emily: Oh, GOD. I'm always like, "Kill me."

Sally: Yeah. So I've been reading a lot the past couple days, 'cause I've been sick and inside, but.

Emily: Yeah, I probably feel like you've been reading a ton --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: 'Cause you've been snapchatting me a lot about --

Sally: I'm sorry. (laugh)

Emily: No, it's really funny.

Sally: And our Twitter is mostly me just talking about a Crown of Swords. (inaudible)

Emily: No, I think it's a very successful live-tweet.

Sally: (laugh) Thanks.

Emily: How everyone seems to enjoy it.

Sally: The book is just insane.

Emily: (whisper) Right?

Sally: Like, Wheel of Time is crazy, but Crown of Swords is, like, next-level.

Emily: Crown of Swords is, like, the epitome of just, like, the chaotic --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And it's like, 'cause it's the mid-point --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: It's right at the mid-point, and it's just, like, everything is going batshit --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: The entire book.

Sally: Absolutely batty. And there's, like -- so far I've had, like, three Rand point of views because they're just kind of sprinkled in there, but, like, the --

Emily: Yeah, which is --

Sally: Craziest shit.

Emily: So nice, by the way.

Sally: I know. God bless. I wish that --

Emily: I love Crown of Swords because all the Rand and Perrin point of views are, like, few and far between --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Whereas you get, like, a lot of Mat point of views, and a lot of Egwene point of views.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And, like, Elayne and Nynaeve are funny, at least.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Even when they're annoying. So.

Sally: Yeah, they are driving me a little crazy in this book. But.

Emily: Oh, 'cause they're insane.

Sally: Because they're the worst.

Emily: They're the worst.

Sally: They are absolutely awful.

Emily: Elayne just, like, slut-shames Mat to his face --

Sally: I know. I hate Elayne.

Emily: And it's like, "Great. Love this."

Sally: I hate Elayne so much.

Emily: Have you got to the good part yet?

Sally: What good part?

Emily: Well, it just -- like, the climax of their time in Ebou Dar. They, like, go monster hunting or whatever.

Sally: Um. No.

Emily: To get the bowl.

Sally: They just let the Circle ladies know that they --

Emily: Oh.

Sally: Like, all the Aes Sedai showed up, and they're like -- and then Mat rolls in, like, "I found the Bowl." And Elayne's like, "I already did it, bitch."

Emily: (wheeze)

Sally: And Aviendha's like, "No."

Emily: "No, you didn't."

Sally: No, Birgitte is like, "Please don't be an asshole, Elayne. You are literally the world's biggest douchebag, and I hate you." (laugh)

Emily: The entirety of Crown of Swords can be, like --

Sally: Sorry.

Emily: No, you're fine. The entirety of Crown of Swords can be summed up with, like, Mat saying something, Elayne and Nynaeve responding in a shitty way, and, like, Aviendha and Birgitte in the background going, like, "What the hell?"

Sally: "We just talked about this."

Emily: "We just talked about how you guys are so shitty to him. What's the deal?"

Sally: I know. It's so obnoxious. (sigh) But it is a fun book, despite all of its bad.

("Tubthumping" by Chumbawamba plays)

Emily: Um, OK. Hello. Welcome to Everybody Hates Rand. You say it this time.

Sally: Your friendly neighborhood Wheel of Time podcast!

Emily: Nice! (sing-song) Taking turns.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Sharing is caring.

Sally: It's true.

Emily: I don't know why I've just started singing a lot --

Sally: I do that.

Emily: In this show, it just -- it's 'cause I'm comfortable with you guys.

Sally: Aww.

Emily: I'm a bad singer, so I'm just like, "Hey. I'm just gonna --"

Sally: "I don't care, it's just these people."

Emily: "Sing the things I say."

Sally: "It's just Sally."

Emily: It's just Sally and all the people we listed last time as our patrons.

Sally: Yeah, and I think some other people too. (laugh)

Emily: Yeah, and some other people who, like -- you're my friends! I talk to you some -- well, Sally talks to you, and I eavesdrop.

Sally: Oh! On social media.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Um.

Sally: I love you guys, by the way.

Emily: Yeah. Ummmm. What the fuck.

Sally: (laugh) I need to stop looking at our cat. It's so funny, though.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: OK, um. Spoiler alert.

Emily: Yeah, dur dur dur.

Sally: We do that.

Emily: We do that.

Sally: Does my voice sound bad 'cause I'm sick, or does it sound OK?

Emily: No, you sound normal to me.

Sally: OK, good. I sounded pretty rough yesterday. So.

Emily: Aw, I'm sorry.

Sally: It's OK. My mom brought me food, which was really nice. She brought me a plate of Thanksgiving leftovers, which was really tender. I know, she's so good.

Emily: Aw! That's so sweet. Your mom's so cute.

Sally: It's -- (laugh) in the middle of watching John -- John Mulaney, 'cause we were talking about John Mulaney --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: So I turned on one of his things, and I was, like, laughing, and she knocked and she was like, "Are you dying?" And I'm like, "Rude."

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) So, anyway. Wheel of Time.

Emily: Um, yeah, we're back in Cairhien with the boys.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: This is, like, a weird -- it -- what happens in these two chapters that we read, 30 and 31, is, um, finally kind of -- the Horn of Valere and Mat's dagger get re-stolen from -- uh, by the Darkfriends, and the inn gets burned down that they were in, um, kind of right as Ingvar rolls up. Yeah?

Sally: Does an inn get burned down in every Wheel of Time book?

Emily: Um. (pause) First, I'm still processing the fact that you raised your hand. (laugh)

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Sorry. But now I'm thinking.

Sally: You were talking. I don't want to be rude.

Emily: OK. Oh, God. There does seem to be a lot of destruction that happens at inns, but I don't know if one gets burned down, necessarily, in every book.

Sally: Just one and two?

Emily: Yeah, one and two. Now I have to think. Do a spreadsheet.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Along with your spreadsheet about, uh, Mat's -- getting mentioned alongside badgers.

Sally: It happens a lot.

Emily: Because it does happen a lot, yeah.

Sally: And I need to figure out

Emily: Once you pointed it out, I was like, "Oh, God."

Sally: I need to get to the bottom of this.

Emily: He's just a very -- like, it's ironic, because Perrin, y'know, is the wolf boy, but Mat is, like, woodland creature central metaphors.

Sally: I know. It's like, fox, raven. Stork, badger.

Emily: Yeah, everyone's just like, "Look. Mat's like a --" It might be because, um, it -- if it's intentional, I would guess it's because, uh, there are so many, like, little fables about woodland creatures, and they're often, like, trickster fables.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And Mat is at the center of those.

Sally: Um, I'm gonna start a blog called "Goodger About Badgers," and it's gonna be --

Emily: Aww.

Sally: Analyzing (laugh) Mat's relationship to badgers. I think you're right, though. I don't think I need a whole blog series.

Emily: No, I think that's perfect. 'Cause I do want it.

Sally: Because I think you solved it? But I just think the title would be good, so.

Emily: I just want you to ramble about badgers. Do, like -- watch some -- watch some Nat Geo about badgers ...

Sally: Oh my God, you know I love Nat Geo.

Emily: Yeah, duh. Who doesn't? Um.

Sally: Yeah. OK.

Emily: Yeah, God.

Sally: (laugh) Inns. Burning down. Uh. And then Rand is, like, sitting on the curb crying, and Mat's like, "Rand?"

Emily: (laugh) He's, like, laughing hysterically 'cause he's in shock --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And Verin's like, "Oh, boy." And Mat's like, "Rand?!" And Perrin's like, "Oh, God."

Sally: (British accent) "Have you seen my dad?"

Emily: (British accent) "Have you seen my dad?"

Sally: Thom. And yes, Rand has seen him.

Emily: Yep. Spotted: one dad.

Sally: Spotted: Thom Merrilin.

Emily: Ummm. And then they're just kind of, like, reunited and --

Sally: And it feels so good. And then they get ready to do their, um, Ocean's Eleven party break-in.

Emily: Yeah, their heist.

Sally: Yeah. Featuring Mat as footman.

Emily: (wheeze)

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: God, I love Mat.

Sally: OK. So that's basically what happens. The first chapter is really weird. Thirty -- because, like, nothing really happens, it's like, Rand and Loial go on a walk --

Emily: Yeah, it's sort of a --

Sally: And come back and then the inn is on fire.

Emily: I mean, in the end, something happens, is the inn on fire. But it's sort of, like, setting up everything that happens in the next chapter.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: They go to talk to their, uh, contact at the guards' house, who, y'know, takes down names as people enter, and they're like, "Hey, have you seen my dad?" And they're like, "No, we haven't." And Rand's like, "You're lying."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And they're like, "Mmmm."

Sally: I love this scene, 'cause Rand's like -- somebody -- he's like -- somebody walks in and flips around, and he's like, "Can I speak to your superior?" And the guy's like, "Oh, he's not here."

Emily: (laugh) It's so --

Sally: And Rand's like, "I JUST saw him. He was just in the room."

Emily: It's like -- what a power move. Don't you wish you could do that?

Sally: Yes.

Emily: You're, like, working in retail, and someone's like, "I wanna talk to your manager," and then you're like, "They're not here."

Sally: You're like --

Emily: "They're right there. I see them."

Sally: "They're not here."

Emily: "They're -- they wear a different shirt than you."

Sally: Yeah. Imagine --

Emily: "No, they're not here. I don't know what you're talking about."

Sally: The French drama, though. Like, this would only happen in Cairhien.

Emily: I know. This is --

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) This chapter -- this chapter's mostly so weird because it has that, like, panopticon feel that you talked about --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Uh, a couple episodes ago, but it's like -- God, it's weird. There's just, like, the paranoia. There -- the first few pages are all about them receiving party invitations from King Galldrian and Lord Barthanes. Bar -- bar -- Barthanes?

Sally: Barthanes?

Emily: (trying different pronunciations) Barthanes? Barthanes?

Sally: I like Barthanes. That sounds very French.

Emily: Barthanes. Barthanes.

Sally: Mm. Barthanes.

Emily: Barthanes.

Sally: Like Chardonnay.

Emily: Yeah, ooh.

Sally: It's -- so what's the king's name? Galldrian?

Emily: Galldrian, Galldrian.

Sally: I always wanna call him Galadriel.

Emily: Oh, well.

Sally: When I read it on the page, I always read Galadriel.

Emily: I just, like, blank it out and put in Louis the Fourteenth. (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) The Sun King.

Emily: I'm like, "Who? Oh, Louis the Fourteenth. Dur dur dur."

Sally: That's right. Duh.

Emily: There's also a mention of the king beheading them later in this chapter, which is ironic, 'cause, like, the guillotine.

Sally: Sorry.

Emily: No, you're fine.

Sally: I just keep hitting the table. Yeah, just -- (laugh)

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: The -- yeah, this chapter is -- got the whole panopticon, paranoia of eyes everywhere. But it's also, like, hilarious? Like, the last two -- the last chapters were a little bit more anx-- like, anxiety-inducing --

Emily: Oh, really?

Sally: But in this chapter, Rand, Loial, and Hurin, like, have a conversation for, like, four pages about what to do with the letter -- like, obviously that still induces anxiety, but there's a little bit more of a comedic element to it.

Emily: I think we switched -- we switched.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I felt way more anxious in these chapters --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Cause it was, like -- it -- I -- I felt super trapped.

Sally: Mmm.

Emily: In the last chapters, there was this hope that, like, Ingtar would show up at any moment --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Or that, like, there'd be some way out of this situation, and they, like, didn't really know the Darkfriends were there, besieging them, yet? But now they, like, go over -- yeah, it's -- it really is this hilarious, like --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Long string of dialogue, where Rand's like, "OK, I'm just gonna burn these letters," and Hurin's like, "No, you can't do that, 'cause then they'll kill us." And Rand's like, "OK, I'll burn one of them," and Hurin's like, "No, you can't do that, 'cause they'll kill us."

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: And Rand's like, "Well, I'll accept both!"

Sally: "OK, I'll go to both parties." He's like, "You can't do that, 'cause then they'll kill us."

Emily: "They'll kill us. Literally, everywhere you go, there's just death." And Rand's like, "OK, well, what -- how do we get out of this city?"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And Loial's like, "We can't do anything, 'cause they'll KILL us." And I'm like, "Jesus."

Sally: Yeah. It is, like, when you remove the layer of comedy about the dialogue --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: It is very stressful.

Emily: It's like, if I didn't know Ingtar was gonna roll up in the next chapter --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I'd be like, "Oh, God. I hate this."

Sally: Yeah. It's really unfortunate. And just, like, frustrating because --

Emily: Yeah, well, it feels like the plot's stalling out, you know?

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: 'Cause it feels like Robert Jordan has deliberately cornered them.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And they're just like, "Oh, we're stuck here," unless deus ex machina happens, which is what happens.

Sally: Mm-hmm. Deus ex Darkfriend.

Emily: Deus ex Darkfriend, deus ex Ingtar.

Sally: (laugh) Yeah. Deus ex Ingtar.

Emily: (laugh) That's gonna be the title of this.

Sally: (laugh) Um.

Emily: Yeah, so it's just like -- yeah, and everyone's lying to them, and there's this whole scene where Rand is like, "OK, well, I'll do this dramatic thing where I go into the inn's common room, and I'll --"

Sally: To look at them.

Emily: "Look at the letters, show everyone that I'm looking at them --"

Sally: And their -- and that the seals aren't broken.

Emily: "And then, like, walk out without doing anything."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And everyone's like, "Ooh, that's some good, uh -- that's some good --"

Sally: Maneuvers.

Emily: Maneuvers. Political maneuvers. Rand. Now you're thinking like --

Sally: A Cairhienin.

Emily: That greasy guy in Game of Thrones. What's his name?

Sally: Littlefinger?

Emily: Yeah. (laugh) Littlefinger. I just forgot his name. It's like the most obvious name.

Sally: It's a ridiculous name.

Emily: I know. Petyr?

Sally: Petyr Baelish, yeah.

Emily: Petyr. (British accent) Peter.

Sally: My rolodex of Game of Thrones knowledge is too vast.

Emily: No, it's fine.

Sally: I have, like, a weird memory of everything that happened in Game of Thrones and no memory --

Emily: Well, 'cause you've actually read the books.

Sally: Of anything that happens in any other books I've read.

Emily: Well, it's like my weird memory of Wheel of Time. It's just one of those things.

Sally: Kay, you've read Wheel of Time like eight times, though.

Emily: I've read it ... three times?

Sally: That's a lot of books, Emily.

Emily: I know.

Sally: (wheeze)

Emily: But they're all very thick books, so --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: When you, like, consider my memory of them --

Sally: I know. I know, that's what I'm saying. You've read them three times, and there're a lot of books, and so it's just like, dang. You have a great memory.

Emily: (sigh) My memory's too good. It's a blessing and a curse.

Sally: OK.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: Anyway, Rand, like -- can you just imagine this scene, though? Rand al'Thor, age nineteen, fancy red coat, stumbles down the stairs --

Emily: Height: six-six --

Sally: Six-foot-nine -- (laugh) pulling out two pieces of parchment and, like, Pink Panther-style, like, looks at them really closely, then leaves.

Emily: (laugh) OK, I promise I'm not gonna talk about Supernatural this entire time --

Sally: You absolutely should.

Emily: But, like -- (wheeze) I've been watching Supernatural, and I'm like, "Imagine you're one of the twenty-something hot women who they always help in the first three seasons, and, like, you're dealing with some traumatic event where someone got murdered in your house or some shit, and suddenly, these two very tall, extremely poorly dressed boys roll up to your door and are like, "Trust us, we're here to help." I'm like, that's the fucking --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Freakiest scenario of all time. They're just HUGE boys.

Sally: They're just big boys.

Emily: They're HUGE.

Sally: Big boys and bad flannel.

Emily: Yeah. Huge boys in these really shitty jeans.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And they're like, "I'm a detective --"

Sally: Oh, the jeans are so bad.

Emily: And I'm like, "Nooooo."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Anyway, that's kind of what I'm picturing with Rand --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Is that he's just this super tall boy, and then, you know, there's Mat, who's five-eleven, who then is six inches shorter than him --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Who just looks tiny.

Sally: Who just looks -- and Mat is, like, at this point, quite literally emaciated and dying, so.

Emily: Oh, God. Yeah.

Sally: Very worried about Mat. And then there's Perrin, who's just like --

Emily: A thick boy.

Sally: As wide as he is tall. (laugh)

Emily: I picture Perrin kind of built like the other -- the shorter Winchester, Dean.

Sally: Dean? Oh, I imagine him --

Emily: Yeah, like, obviously broader --

Sally: Yeah. Yeah.

Emily: But Dean, when he's dressed in his, like, 98 jackets, 'cause he wears layers upon layers upon layers to hide his insecurity or some bullshit --

Sally: Exactly, it's a metaphor. (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) It's a metaphor.

Sally: You put the killing thing between your teeth.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) But you don't let it kill you.

Emily: It's a metaphor for his middle child syndrome, which he shouldn't even have, considering he's the oldest. Oh my God. Anyway. He does look very thick, compared to Sam, who's just, like, lanky.

Sally: Maybe his middle child syndrome comes because their father treated them as brothers and not as children.

Emily: Yeah. I agree with you.

Sally: God, we're really getting deep into Supernatural. (laugh) We should just start a Supernatural podcast.

Emily: I'm just always watching Supernatural --

Sally: Metanatural.

Emily: And I'm like, why do I relate to Dean so much?

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: He's the oldest child. If anything, I should be, like, relating him to my older sister. And it's like, he does have very older sister vibes --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: But I'm like, he also has that deep insecurity of, like, I -- the family doesn't need me. But also, the family won't function without me, because I keep -- I'm the only one who notices the emotional intricacies of our family unit. That's such a middle child thing.

Sally: But you're right. Dean has a lot going on, and I'm worried about him.

Emily: And we're not talking about this.

Sally: And we're not talking about Supernatural, though -- maybe if we -- guys, we're -- in an attempt to reach 2,000 downloads in November, and if we do it, maybe we'll do a special Supernatural episode. (laugh) To talk about Supernatural.

Emily: I have a lot of thoughts. (laugh)

Sally: Yeah. Maybe we'll release -- uh, it'll be Y2K Supernatural. (laugh)

Emily: Oh my God. OK.

Sally: So tell your friends to download this podcast.

Emily: Tell your friends. Anyway --

Sally: OK. But yeah, Perrin is just, like, a big boy -- but Dean is really, like, solid, like a little bowling ball --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Like, I imagine he's really sturdy.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: And that's how I imagine Perrin. He's hard to knock over.

Emily: (laugh) Can't knock that boy over with a pail of water. I feel like I just quoted Monster Factory.

Sally: (laugh) You probably did. Um.

Emily: Um. Yeah, yeah. Just -- sturdy.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Whereas lanky boy that is Rand.

Sally: Mat, you could just blow on him, and Rand is --

Emily: Well, Mat, at this point, is literally just a feather floating in the wind.

Sally: I know. I'm so worried. Later in this chapter, Perrin's like, "It was uncomfortable watching Mat eat 'cause it was basically like watching a corpse eat a feast."

Emily: It's so -- yeah, and this is gonna keep going --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: For the rest of this book. People just being like, "Mat looks fucking freaky."

Sally: Yeah, and he eats so much.

Emily: Which is very worrisome.

Sally: We're very concerned. Perrin is very sweet in this -- the chapter that becomes Perrin's point of view.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Later, it's like one good Perrin point of view chapter.

Emily: (sigh) Yeah, Perrin is so good sometimes.

Sally: I know.

Emily: Book one.

Sally: Book one Perrin is a weird tender boy.

Emily: Yeah. Anyway.

Sally: Kay.

Emily: Um, so there's all this, like, lying and French scandal going on -- (laugh) and then, um, they get back to the inn, and duh duh duh, it's on fire. So there's this, like, sequence of Rand and Loial, like, army-crawling through the smoke --

Sally: I know.

Emily: Wouldn't it be hilarious if Rand died of smoke inhalation? (laugh)

Sally: That would be a really big fucking plot twist.

Emily: Yeah, he just, like, keels over dead.

Sally: And Perrin's like, "Shit."

Emily: It's like in This is Us. Oops. Spoiler alert.

Sally: Oh. What?

Emily: I haven't even watched that, but I know the dad dies of smoke inhalation.

Sally: What the hell? I don't know anything about This Is Us.

Emily: Um. Here's what I know about This Is Us.

Sally: OK. Lay it on me.

Emily: Mandy Moore --

Sally: Nice.

Emily: Um, is the mom.

Sally: What?

Emily: She's the mom.

Sally: Mandy Moore's not old enough to play somebody's mother.

Emily: Well, she's -- they're doing flashbacks and flashforwards and shit like that.

Sally: Oh, OK.

Emily: But she's the mom. And then the dad, who most of America agrees is hot, but I don't really see it, he dies of smoke inhalation --

Sally: Kay.

Emily: In a house fire. Um, Sterling K. Brown, who is also in Supernatural, who is also --

Sally: Oh, yeah!

Emily: Yeah. The mean hunter.

Sally: Yeah, I forgot that was Sterling K. Brown.

Emily: Yeah. I'm like, how -- what the fuck? I -- what -- what are you doing here? He hunts vampires in Supernatural. He's also in, um, the Black Panther as, uh, Kilmonger's dad, and he made me cry with his performance, so there's that.

Sally: He did really good in that movie.

Emily: He did really good.

Sally: Black Panther's such a good movie.

Emily: I know. Anyway, so he's, uh, having a good career. But he's in This Is Us. And I'm like, Sterling. Get out. Get out of this emotionally manipulative drama soap opera.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: So that's what I know about This Is Us. And I just wish Rand died of smoke inhalation.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: In conclusion.

Sally: In conclusion ... yeah, it's really sad, 'cause Loial's like, "I want -- I don't want my books to burn," and they get upstairs, and Rand is too much of a loser to carry Hurin downstairs, so Loial has to let --

Emily: Well, I mean, that's reasonable.

Sally: His books burn. Come on, you're the Dragon Reborn. Pick up your manservant.

Emily: Well, then, Rand -- it would've been sweet if Rand then picked up Loial's books --

Sally: Yeah, exactly.

Emily: Instead of being like, "I gotta get the dragon banner that I don't even want." Bleh.

Sally: We're all like, "Do you?"

Emily: Yeah. Do you? Must you?

Sally: You could make another one. It's not like thread doesn't exist.

Emily: (wheeze)

Sally: (laugh) I'm just saying.

Emily: I wanna know the Betsy Ross of --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Wheel of Time story. Three -- no, two tall boys and one corpse boy roll into her office --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And are like, "We need this." And she's like, "Ugh."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "This sounds terrible and like I'm gonna get roped into some drama." They're like, "Please, we'll pay you much money," and she's like, "OK, fine."

Sally: Kay, but imagine that -- I know Mat and Tuon have a great storyline, that's not what I'm saying -- but the seam--the flag seamstress turns out to be Mat's wife.

Emily: (sigh) She's the --

Sally: She works at a seamstress shop called the Nine Moons. (laugh)

Emily: The Daughter of the Nine Moons.

Sally: Mat thinks it's an empress, and she's just a flag lady. (laugh)

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: Could you -- anyway. Or better yet, a flag boy.

Emily: Auuuggghhh! Why -- Wheel of Time --

Sally: Ross Betsy, in fact. (laugh)

Emily: I'm gonna kill myself.

Sally: OK, um, so Rand gets his flag. And Loial gets Hurin.

Emily: Yeah, and gets out onto the street and immediately goes into shock. Yeah.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Cause Hurin's kinda dying, so.

Sally: Which is very scary.

Emily: Yeah, but then Verin rolls up and -- first heals Rand of his shock?

Sally: I know, I'm like, "Verin."

Emily: Which is, like, meant to be like, "Oh, look, he's not going crazy 'cause he can be Healed of it," you know?

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like, this shock -- moment of shock. But also, like, it is --

Sally: (whisper) Hurin's dying.

Emily: Yeah, Hurin's dying, and, like, please focus on the boy with a broken head.

Sally: Yeah. He got attacked.

Emily: But also, like, Rand is going a little crazy in this moment, like, of shock, of extreme emotional trauma, does, like --

Sally: Oh, yeah.

Emily: Kind of tie that up neatly with a bow.

Sally: Yeah. This -- the -- the Great Hunt, as we've talked about, is a really, like, strange and violent book, especially for Rand's psyche, and it's just, like, all these episodes are just, like, one domino on the domino train of him sort of snapping.

Emily: Yeah. Especially when you think about the Dragon Reborn and how that's, like, a study in PTSD.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And how this is the traumatic stress --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: That is going to give Rand PTSD.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like, it sort of reframes the Great Hunt in a really weird way when you're like, "Oh."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "This isn't just, like, book one, this is the book that really fucks up Rand."

Sally: Yeah. 'Cause everything that happens is just, like, trauma after trauma.

Emily: Stress after stress.

Sally: These, like, big ones, small ones. A stress for every size and every day of the week. It's really very scary.

Emily: Yeah. Um, anyway, they ride off -- sorry, what?

Sally: Sorry, just one more thing. I also think it's really, like, masterfully done in that? Because a lot of -- and, like, this is often the case -- that there'll be, like, one huge traumatic stressor --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: That is what -- that gives people PTSD -- but it also can just be, like, a lot of, like, being in, like, a high-stress scenario for a really long time, like a combat zone, like not necessarily --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Anything, like, big and cinematic has to happen in order for it to be a traumatic incident that causes you to deal with PTSD. But it can be like this. And Rand does have a big traumatic cinematic battle at the end of this, but it is, like -- I don't think that's necessarily what gives him PTSD.

Emily: Well, yeah, that battle is so short --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And it also functions as sort of, like, the build-up of everything that's been happening in this book that --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Yeah, it doesn't feel like -- it's not just this one thing.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: It's, like, the end of all these things.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: So, yeah, it really is just, like -- God, a really traumatic book.

Sally: It's -- it's -- yeah, it's hard to read.

Emily: It's a really traumatic book for all three boys. Like, Mat -- it's so weird getting into Dragon Reborn and, like, I'll talk about this always, probably, and I've talked about it before, but, like, the fact that Mat doesn't get point of views until the Dragon Reborn is sort of, I think, an indicator that he's a different person.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And it's very freaky.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Um, and then Perrin just sort of -- I dunno. Perrin -- Perrin -- Perrin's stuff is a lot more subtle, I think.

Sally: Yeah. Perrin's stuff is a lot more subtle. But -- yeah.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Like, he's getting changed in a lot -- and, like, again, Perrin's arc is mostly towards leadership.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: Like, I think that is, like, the one word that, like, defines Perrin's whole arc. And of course that's true for all three of the boys, but Perrin, it's like: marriage, leadership. And that's it. And his arc in this book is a lot of times being asked to, like, step into situations that he doesn't want to.

Emily: Yeah. Same with Rand, who, like, as they're riding away from this inn, sort of automatically takes charge and is like, "Here's what I think we should do," and then is like, "Oh."

Sally: "Wait."

Emily: "This is awkward 'cause the person who's actually in charge is now here," and he's like, "Uh, sorry, Ingтар, I'm just, like, used to it," and Ingтар's like, "I don't give a shit 'cause I'm a Darkfriend and I just want the Horn of Valere."

Sally: Ingтар's like, "Who are you? What are we saying?"

Emily: Ingтар's like, "I don't -- ugh -- give a fuck, Jesus."

Sally: It's like, "Just give me that Horn." Later he goes, like, full Gollum about the Horn. He's like, "I must have it." Whereas, like --

Emily: Oh my gosh. "I must -- at least you've touched it!"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And I'm like, "Ohhh my God, Ingтар."

Sally: OK. OK, Gollum.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Um. Yeah. But then Verin's like -- (laugh) Rand is basically -- like, shouts "Darkfriend" in the middle of a bunch of Cairhienin spying people, and they're all like, "What -- oh, shit," and then Verin's like, "Let's go somewhere more private."

Emily: "Let's go somewhere more -- more private." And then Rand takes a bath because there's always a bath scene to recover from trauma --

Sally: Yeah. Mm-hmm.

Emily: Um --

Sally: Period of rest.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: And cleanliness. He's, like, ashy and sooty --

Emily: He's like, "Oh my God, I look like I've rolled around in charcoal." And I'm like, "You literally did."

Sally: I mean, interesting, as he prepares to become the Dragon Reborn, he walks into --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: A belly of fire.

Emily: Yeah. That is interesting.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Mm. Like breathing fire --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Cause a lot of his weapons are gonna be fire-related.

Sally: (laugh) Which is, like --

Emily: I know, stupid. But, like -- (laugh)

Sally: Cool. It's --

Emily: Fire sword!

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Blur blur blur! Y'know?

Sally: It's like -- fine, he's the Dragon, I get it, it makes sense, but, like --

Emily: And he did also have that sequence in the Illuminator chapter house, too --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: That involves fires and explosions, so.

Sally: Yeah, so he's just, like, walking into the fire. Like Daenerys at the end --

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: Of season one of Game of Thrones.

Emily: Can you imagine if Rand was just, like, naked? (laugh)

Sally: Just covered in little dragons. (laugh)

Emily: And it's, like, weirdly sexy --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Because we're Game of Thrones and we're written by men --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: So of course it has to be weirdly sexy.

Sally: But yeah, like, Rand rolls out and there's, like, a dragon, like he's holding it right in front of his dick.

Emily: Discreetly in front of his dick.

Sally: Yeah. (laugh)

Emily: But his nipples are out. Don't worry.

Sally: Obv. Obviously.

Emily: Yeah. (laugh)

Sally: Full nipple. It's Game of Thrones. We're really into nipples.

Emily: He's turned and just, like -- (laugh) a coy way.

Sally: (laugh) Like a sexy pose. And we, like, see his butt as he -- just his butt as he walks out of the fire. (laugh) And he's just, like, sooty and sweaty.

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: Anyway, and he's like, "I am the Dragon Reborn." (laugh)

Emily: And then his entire narrative is, like, defined by his paternal nature --

Sally: Towards the dragons.

Emily: Yeah. God. Anyway, they did Daenerys so dirty.

Sally: Daenerys is such a weird character.

Emily: I know.

Sally: I really hate her.

Emily: Yeah, she's the worst.

Sally: She's the devil.

Emily: Um.

Sally: Anyway. Again, we're not talking about Game of Thrones. Rand has a bath, 'cause he's --

Emily: Rand has a bath.

Sally: A dirty, sweaty boy.

Emily: Yeah, and he's like, "Damn, I'm stressed!" And then it switches to Perrin's point of view.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Uh, down in --

Sally: Perrin's like, "Damn, I'M stressed." (laugh)

Emily: Perrin's like, "Damn, I'm REAL stressed, 'cause, like, look at Mat, he looks like a corpse."

Sally: But he's --

Emily: He's also juggling.

Sally: Boiled eggs. (laugh)

Emily: Why is he like that?

Sally: (laugh) I was crying this morning. Because the next page, he, like, drops one.

Emily: Someone should do, like, a study of whether Mat has ADHD because he --

Sally: Oh my God!

Emily: Really does.

Sally: No, I snapchat -- I put that on our Instagram story, and I was like, "Why is he like this?" And Ferg, like, responded, and she's like, "He's like all the ADHD students I ever had," and then, like, listed things that Mat did that her ADHD students did, and I was like --

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: Damn, Ferg, you so right. So anyway, Ferg, you're the real MVP of this episode.

Emily: Yeah, but he really does do, like -- he's fidgeting all the time.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Just very, like -- energetic boy.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Can't read.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Not to say that ADHD people can't read, but, like, it's a little harder because it requires --

Sally: Yeah, he just ever sits down to focus.

Emily: A lot more focus. Yeah.

Sally: Anyway, he's juggling eggs. And Rand -- and Perrin's like, "Jesus."

Emily: Perrin's like, "Oh my God." Perrin's just, like, looking at his hands and being like, "These aren't --"

Sally: "These aren't meant for an axe but for a --"

Emily: (growly voice) "These aren't meant for an axe but for a hammer."

Sally: Yeah. And we're all like --

Emily: "These are honest hands. Pianist hands."

Sally: (laugh) He's just -- his delicate -- I'm sorry my laugh is so loud. His delicate pianist hands.

Emily: Yeah, sorry, that's a recall to our City of Bones episode, which I had to delete because it was unusable, because I'm still figuring out these goddamn things.

Sally: It's OK, we'll -- it wasn't -- like, of all the things to lose, I'm not too worried about losing that one.

Emily: Yeah, it wasn't a great episode.

Sally: So we'll do take two, and it'll be better. Um. But yeah, and then, like, Rand rolls in in a different fancy coat --

Emily: In a black coat. Cause he's --

Sally: Yeah, he's like, "I'm in a foul mood --"

Emily: Emo as hell.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "To match my mood." It's black.

Sally: Which is also a call forward, foreshadowing --

Emily: Yeah, to Asha'man.

Sally: Not call forward. Yeah.

Emily: (wheeze)

Sally: (laugh) Don't worry about it. Um, and yeah, and then Rand's like, "Wagh. Also, like, Ingtar, I'm sorry," and Ingtar's like, "Again, I don't --"

Emily: "Again, I don't care." Yeah, they're, like, just waiting for Hurin to show up, and he's like, "Hey, guys, good news: I found the trail. It goes right to Lord Barthan's house --"

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And they're like, "Hmm. Mysterious. Good thing we happen to have these party invitations."

Sally: Yeah. Well, Verin's so funny, she's like, "I bet I could get an invitation," and Rand --

Emily: And Rand's like, "I already have one."

Sally: Just, like, whips it out.

Emily: And they're like, "What the fuck?"

Sally: And Verin's like, "Excuse me?"

Emily: "What the fuck have you been doing?"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And he's like, "I dunno. I just ... (trails off) The Wheel weaves, my dudes."

Sally: Yeah. Yeah. And so then they start planning their heist.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: But, um ... Perrin and Ingtar play some games of chess.

Emily: Oh my God, yeah. Fantasy chess. Stones.

Sally: Which is always -- like, I don't know why people do that.

Emily: (sigh) It's a very, um -- there's a progression of the boys as their leadership abilities and strategic abilities increase that they all get much better at these games.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Like, it gets to the point where Rand -- uh, not Rand, excuse me -- when Mat's, uh -- when Mat's courting his wife, they play a lot of chess, and it's like, "Oh, look. We're intellectual equals. Dur dur dur dur dur." But, just stuff like that.

Sally: Yeah. Well, and I -- I just really appreciate this scene, 'cause Perrin's like, "I --" He usually plays really carefully --

Emily: Conservatively, yeah.

Sally: Which is how I play chess, 'cause I'm bad at it (laugh). Um, and Ingtar's over here, like, burning paths --

Emily: Yeah, and Perrin's like, "I'll just match him with my, like --"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "Recklessness, 'cause I don't really give a shit right now. It's just a game." And it's like, I dunno, sort of --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Meant to symbolize Perrin's, uh, battle rage or some shit like that.

Sally: Mm-hmm. Perrin's whole berserker thing.

Emily: His whole thing.

Sally: But, like, Rand is reading, Perrin's playing chess, and what's Mat doing? Is he still juggling? I think -- yeah, I think he resumes juggling.

Emily: He resumes juggling. He's just doing some shit.

Sally: And everyone's like, "OK."

Emily: They're eating. Perrin's like, "Ah, this meat is too well-cooked." And then he's like, "Oh my God, what's wrong with me?"

Sally: Yeah. Well --

Emily: "I'm such a weirdo."

Sally: He keeps thinking about Rand as Shadow-killer in his head, and one time he says it out loud.

Emily: And Rand's like, "What are you -- what the fuck --"

Sally: Could you imagine? Rand's just talking and then your friend's like, (whisper) "Shadow-killer."

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Rand's like, "Well, I guess we stole the Horn of Valere back." (whisper) "*Shadow-killer.*"

Sally: And Rand's like, "OK?"

Emily: "Shadow-killer." Rand's like, "Uhh, OK."

Sally: Sounds like a Mortal Kombat character.

Emily: Jesus, yeah.

Sally: Shadow-killer. Ready. Fight. Or whatever the Mortal Kombat thing is. I haven't played Mortal Kombat in years. Oh no, our cat's slipping out of his vest.

Emily: Oh my God, he got both his arms out. (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) OK, um -- what else is there to say? Oh, yeah, and then they just get ready for their heist. And, like --

Emily: Yeah, it's like -- oh, there -- there's a part where, um, they talk about the sa'angreal that Rand passed --

Sally: Mm. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Emily: Yeah. And Perrin's like, "It's like Verin and Rand are the only people in the room right now," as they're chatting about it 'cause there's so many, like, hidden meanings in this conversation, where Verin's like, "Oh, it's big enough to destroy the world," and Rand's like, "Holy fuck."

Sally: Yeah, and Rand's like --

Emily: And she's like, "No, don't worry, you have to use it with the, uh, with its counterpart, the female counterpart, to produce that much power, and there are hardly any women alive who can do that." And then she, like, lists the women who are powerful enough --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Which is pretty interesting.

Sally: Yeah. 'Cause it's Sivan, Moiraine, Elaida, and then our --

Emily: She says, "A few others."

Sally: She's like, "Three still in training," which I think is supposed to mean --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Nynaeve, Egwene, and Elayne.

Emily: Yeah, and it's just interesting because Siuan is going to be, um, stilled --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And then she'll be sort of, um -- when she does get her power back, it's lesser?

Sally: Yeah, which I hate.

Emily: Yeah, which is weird and dumb. Moiraine, the same thing happens. She goes through the doorway, um, into the land of the Aelfinn and the Eelfinn, and when Mat rescues her from the Tower of Ghenjei, she's still able -- able to channel, but she has, like, lesser power 'cause they, like, feed off of it.

Sally: Jesus.

Emily: Yeah, it's creepy. It's a really creepy sequence. Whereas Elaida's just sort of, like --

Sally: (singing) The worst. (laugh)

Emily: (singing like Jean-Ralphio in Parks and Rec) The wo-o-o-orst.

Sally: (laugh) Yeah. Ugh. I hate her.

Emily: Um, yeah, and then just the three girls. And, of course, Nynaeve is the one who actually ends up using it.

Sally: Yeah, I just got to the part in book seven where Nynaeve, like, overcomes her block because she almost dies --

Emily: Hell, yeah.

Sally: And then she, like, rolls out, and Lan is there, and I'm like --

Emily: And then they get married and fuck.

Sally: Yeah. Good for them.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Well, also -- so legendary -- Lan is telling her about the bond that this other lady has, and he's like, "But if, like, she knows everything that happens, and, like, if we were to have sex," and Nynaeve's like, "As long as I can make sure she knows that it's ME." (laugh) I'm obsessed with her.

Emily: Nynaeve's like, "Can she know that it's me? 'Cause I'm gonna fuck the shit out of you."

Sally: (laugh) Yeah, Lan's like, "OK."

Emily: I can't wait till you get to the next sequence, where there's a whole thing -- it's, like, from Mat's point of view, but he overhears Nynaeve and Elayne talking about (laugh) this.

Sally: God.

Emily: And Lan, like, comes up behind him and is, like, just glaring, and Nynaeve's like, "Uhhh. Sorry, I wasn't talking about our sexual experience with my friends." And Lan's like, "I know you were."

Sally: God bless. Robert Jordan has given me so many gifts.

Emily: I know. Anyway.

Sally: But yeah. That scene is hilarious. I'm like, "Good for you, Nynaeve."

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: "Claim your property."

Emily: (wheeze)

Sally: "I know that's terrible rhetoric."

Emily: Stamp on Lan's forehead --

Sally: Mine. Property of Nynaeve. Yeah, anyway. That scene's hilarious. But, OK. Big tall magic statue.

Emily: Yeah, that's pretty much it. They just talk about it, and it's like, some -- some foreshadowing.

Sally: And Perrin's like, "Dur dur dur dur dur."

Emily: Yeah, dur dur dur dur dur. And they get ready to infiltrate the castle.

Sally: Party.

Emily: Yeah, infiltrate the party. But yeah, it's really kind of a, like, weird set of chapters --

Sally: Kinda weird, yeah --

Emily: Like, sort of plot-heavy in a weird way.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And a lot of symbolic undertones.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Going on.

Sally: Umm, yeah. Weird two chapters, very strange.

Emily: Yeah, that's all I have to say. We might be just a little short for once.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Which is fine.

Sally: Um, I do want to talk about something really quick, if that's OK with you --

Emily: Yeah, go for it.

Sally: I just wanted to talk about Giving Tuesday, which --

Emily: Yeah, sure.

Sally: Is on Tuesday. So, um, this comes out tomorrow. We're recording late in this week, so R.I.P. to Emily, who has to edit this.

Emily: Meh.

Sally: But this comes out tomorrow, on November 26th, which mean -- OK, let's rephrase this in a way that makes sense: Today, when this episode comes out, is November 26th, which means that tomorrow, November 27th, is Giving Tuesday, which is an international day of giving, where a lot of nonprofits will run a campaign to try and raise a certain amount of money for a specific project or something that they're doing. My nonprofit is participating in it, which is why I know all about this. Um, but it's just a really good opportunity for you guys to, like, make, y'know, a small amount of money go farther, 'cause a lot of nonprofits, um, get people to match gifts on Giving Tuesday. For instance, um, Facebook and Paypal are matching, like, seven million donations or something like that. So I would really just encourage you guys, if you have a nonprofit that you think is really important, to just give them, like, five dollars. Like, it really is a really good way for nonprofits to make a lot more money. And I know five dollars doesn't seem like a lot, but it really can go really far on Giving Tuesday. So. Just encouraging that. And if you want to, I'm gonna post, um, the fundraiser that my nonprofit is doing. It's all about, um, bird conservation for three pretty critically endangered species. It'd be great if you wanted to donate to that. I know it sounds like I'm just hyping up my own work, but I really do think it's a really valuable fundraiser, and these are three species that I think could really use it. And I'm, like, really invested in these birds, so it would just be, like, really nice if you wanted to donate or -- but just to really find some place that is important to you and is doing important work. And if you let me know that you donated, I'll, like, give you a shout-out on Twitter and, like, a fun fact or something. So.

Emily: And unlike Black Friday, that's like a genuinely good way to get into the holiday spirit.

Sally: Yeah. Exactly. And it's -- comes on the edge of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, when people are spending money, but this is, like, a good way to give money, um, to other people. And if -- I'm mostly familiar with nonprofits in America, but if you guys are interested in finding something that matches one of your interests, y'know, hit me up on Twitter or Instagram or Tumblr or email, and maybe I can try and find a place that, um, you think is valuable. So.

Emily: Cool.

Sally: Give! Hashtag Giving Tuesday.

Emily: Any housekeeping?

Sally: Um. (laugh) On the other side of giving, we just launched our Ko-Fi, which means that if you want to support Everybody Hates Rand, but, like, a monthly pledge on Patreon doesn't seem right for you, you can buy us a hypothetical coffee, neither of us actually drink coffee --

Emily: Buy us a hypothetical Diet Coke.

Sally: Yeah. Buy us a hypothetical Diet Coke. Um. Which will mostly go toward supporting the podcast, though maybe every now and then we will --

Emily: Actually buy a Diet Coke.

Sally: Actually buy a Diet Coke, but you can -- I'll tweet the link out to that. And one last thing is that our podcast is gonna be up on YouTube this week, hopefully by the time this episode comes out. Um, it's uploading weird, and in non-chronological order, so I think I have to take it down and do it again.

Emily: Damn.

Sally: Hopefully I get to doing that today. But, um. So that's just one more place you can find the podcast, if you're interested. So. That's all the housekeeping.

Emily: Great.

Sally: That was a lot of it. Sorry.

Emily: No, that's good. I didn't even know about our Ko-Fi.

Sally: Our coffee? I know, it's --

Emily: Ko-Fi? Ko-Fi? Coffee?

Sally: I think it's Ko-Fi? It might just be pronounced coffee, it always looks like Ko-Fi to me.

Emily: I know, 'cause it's got, like, a "k" and an "o" --

Sally: Hyphen. It might just be coffee.

Emily: Who knows? I'm just gonna pronounce it coffee, 'cause, like, stick it to the man. I dunno.

Sally: Yeah. Brand infringement over here.

Emily: (laugh) OK --

Sally: Um.

Emily: Um, sign us off.

Sally: OK, so this week -- last week, as you guys know, was Thanksgiving, and so a lot of people have Thursday and Friday off that week, but I didn't. I only had Thursday off. And so I, like, rolled into work -- and I knew one of my coworkers was gonna be gone, 'cause she was out of town, and one of my coworkers works really long hours, 'cause she's our events person, so she just, like, takes days off periodically, and ... but, like, a lot of people were there, including me, and one other person on my team, so I'm, like, working, doing my stuff. I wasn't gonna stay very long. You know. Just putting in a few hours. And my boss rolls in, and, like, looks around. And, like, I'm in the middle of writing her an email, and she's like, "Well, since nobody's working, I'm just gonna go home." And just, like, leaves.

Emily: Oh.

Sally: And I was like, "Nobody's working?! I'm working!" (laugh) What just happened?

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: So then I left too.

Emily: Good!

Sally: I was so (inaudible) --

Emily: She just, like, needed an excuse?

Sally: (laugh) Yeah.

Emily: And just made up one on the spot?

Sally: It was really kind of hilarious, but also, I was like -- anyway, have a good week. (laugh)

Emily: Have a good week.

Sally: (laugh)