



## Episode 46 – “As the Raven Crows”

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Emily: Should we start this episode by you reading ...

Sally: Oh, my God. I forgot about this. (laugh)

Emily: Hopefully this will cheer you up.

Sally: Yeah, today sucked ass, guys.

Emily: Aww. Sorry.

Sally: Just a big old ass.

Emily: Awww.

Sally: Unless that's its prerogative, then that's fine.

Emily: Yeah, unless that's what it wants. You know.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: It's personal desire ... but, um. I don't -- I don't know -- (trails off, laughing)

Sally: OK, guys, it's that time. Every EHR season, Emily writes alternate titles.

Emily: I don't know how we can say every season because this is the second season, and I needed to be reminded to do it.

Sally: Yeah, once is an incident, twice is a hobby.

Emily: OK. Well, um, this was partly done while I was on pain medication, so I have yet to recall how lucid it is. Given, I wasn't on pain medication for very long. Uh, my wisdom teeth surgery went very well, in case you were wondering. And also I have an extremely high threshold for pain, so.

Sally: It's true. And you do really good on, like, pain medicine and stuff.

Emily: Yeah, the funniest thing I did was demand that my mom listen to Carly Rae Jepsen on the way home. Like, non-stop Cut to the Feeling. (laugh)

Sally: It's -- because it's the best song. I listened to it on the way home from work today, and it's the best song that has ever been made.

Emily: It is the best song.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I always listen to it in a drive-thru, just --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: So that when I pull up, the drive-thru people get a little bit of Carly Rae --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: In their lives, to --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like, cheer them up.

Sally: You're doing God's work.

Emily: I try. Anyway, here are the alternate --

Sally: I'm so worried.

Emily: Titles. As a preface, I included -- I did not include Lan because he's barely in this book --

Sally: Good for you.

Emily: But I did include Loial and Elayne. So, you can read these in any order.

Sally: OK. (laugh) Kay. (laugh) See, I'm always so bad at this, I don't know how you guys even understand me. OK. Rand: How to Obtain Servants and Influence People with the Positive Power of Fashion. (laugh) Perrin: Wolves Read Minds? The Squeakquel. (laugh)

Emily: I have a distinct memory of trying to spell that word while on pain meds. I was like, "What the fuck? What the fuck? There's too many Qs."

Sally: (laugh) OK. Mat: This Might As Well Happen. (laugh) This is gonna be a particularly terrible episode for my laugh. Um. Egwene: Fifty Shades of Grey: The Unsexy Treatise on Trauma Within Captivity: An Oprah's Book Club Book.

Emily: (wheeze)

Sally: (laugh) That one doesn't even make sense, Emily. (laugh)

Emily: I know. What the fuck? (laugh)

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: I think it's 'cause she wears grey?

Sally: Um. (laugh) Nynaeve's is really good. Nynaeve: Get Thee Out of the Allegorical Nunnery. (laugh) Um. Moiraine: The Babysitter's Club, Volume Two: Goodbye, You Little Shits. (laugh)

Emily: I should've saved that one for volume five.

Sally: (laugh) Goodbye, You Little Shits, For *Real*.

Emily: Yeah. For real.

Sally: This time's not a fuckin' joke.

Emily: But thirteen: Hello, You Little Shits.

Sally: Yeah. (laugh) Surprise, bitch.

Emily: Surprise, bitch. It's me.

Sally: Bet you thought you'd seen the last of me. Loial: Writing Books For Dummies: There's Such a Thing As Too Much Research. (laugh) Kay, this one's also really good. Elayne: Riches to Rags: My Struggle™. (laugh) Riches to rags. I don't know how -- ugh, you put Perrin too early. Wolves Read Minds: The Squeakquel is just too perfect.

Emily: (laugh) I was -- I don't know how I'm ever gonna -- it might just be, y'know, Wolves Read Minds: Volume Three --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Until -- I guess in this next one, I'll have Faile to talk about.

Sally: Wolves Read Minds, and I Fuck.

Emily: And I -- well, does he fuck? Not until book four. I think.

Sally: Oh, that's right, they don't have sex before marriage.

Emily: Yeah, they're very -- they're very virginal. Um.

Sally: Well, Perrin's very virginal.

Emily: We don't know about Faile, I guess.

Sally: Good for her, I say.

Emily: Yeah. Well, that will function as our introduction, I suppose?

Sally: That was a delight. Thank you, as always, for being America's sweetheart.

Emily: You're welcome.

Sally: That was so good.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: "Goodbye, you little shits."

Emily: Um, welcome to Everybody Hates Rand --

Sally: Your friendly neighborhood Wheel of Time podcast.

Emily: Hello. I'm Emily Juchau.

Sally: And I'm Sally Goodger.

Emily: Uh, we apologize, we're still in theme song limbo. Updates to follow on that. We have, uh, commissioned someone to make us a theme song. Our very own original theme song that will definitely not get us sued.

Sally: Hell yeah.

Emily: Hell yeah.

Sally: I'd love to not get sued in 2019. (laugh)

Emily: That's -- yeah. (laugh) That's a big -- big resolution.

Sally: My main goal in 2019 is to not get sued.

Emily: "Do not get sued." Check.

Sally: Yeah, when is this episode coming out? December 17th?

Emily: Uh, yeah. Next Monday.

Sally: OK, so we'll have a couple more in 2018.

Emily: Yeah, we'll have -- this was our second-to -- this is our penultimate episode before Christmas.

Sally: Christmas!

Emily: Our next one will drop on Christmas Eve.

Sally: Aw, that's tender.

Emily: That'll be fun.

Sally: That should be nice. We should exchange gifts on-air.

Emily: Oh, that would be terrible.

Sally: OK, we won't exchange gifts on-air.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: We'll pretend to. (gasp)

Emily: Sally's very good at giving gifts. And I'm really terrible at giving gifts.

Sally: That's not true! Last year, you took me to Washington, D.C., and that was so nice.

Emily: I know, but like four months later, so --

Sally: That's OK, then it functioned as a Christmas and a birthday present.

Emily: I know.

Sally: You really thought that one through. Plus, it got me out of work, which was the best part of Washington, D.C.

Emily: Thanks, I try. It was a good weekend.

Sally: It was a really good weekend. And we had so much Nando's.

Emily: (sigh) I fucking love Nando's. I would die for Nando's. Anyway, as a disclaimer, we just want to remind you that our podcast title is a joke. We do hate Rand. Everybody in this room hates Rand. Everybody, meaning me, Sally, and our cat, Tybalt.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: But that does not necessarily expand to you. You can feel however you want to feel about Rand. We don't care. Um, also, we will cover spoilers.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Probably in this episode.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Yeah, probably. Um. Anyway. Welcome to the Great Hunt. Back from the boys to the girls.

Sally: Finally. Fuck boys.

Emily: Honestly.

Sally: Except for Mat.

Emily: Yeah, except for -- well -- hmm.

Sally: Well, he's kind of a dick, I guess --

Emily: Fuck Mat in a different way, y'know?

Sally: Yeah, exactly.

Emily: Mmm.

Sally: Mmmm.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: Mm-hmm. Come through, Daddy, yaasss!

Emily: Eww. Eww eww eww eww eww eww.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: I can't. Like -- OK. I have -- no kink-shaming here. If you like calling people Daddy, that is your prerogative. Totally fine.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: I personally am not into it. But ESPECIALLY Mat?

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Mat's like -- the opposite of Daddy AF.

Sally: OK, so who is Daddy AF?

Emily: Umm.

Sally: Yeah, here's the question.

Emily: Probably Perrin?

Sally: Ugh.

Emily: I know. We don't want to admit it, but --

Sally: Blegh.

Emily: He's got a beard.

Sally: Yeah, Perrin's probably the most, like, conventionally attractive male figure --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Terms of --

Emily: I see Perrin with, like, a dad bod, y'know?

Sally: Mm. Yeah.

Emily: Like -- like, Perrin doesn't need to be -- I always picture Rand as, like, conventionally shaped like a Dorito --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like, 'cause all the women are always going on about how good he looks shirtless. Whereas Mat, as we know, looks like a stork, or any other woodland creature.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: But Perrin's just sort of like --

Sally: Like the stork in Robin Hood. Do you know who -- in the animated one?

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: With the hat and the, like --

Emily: That is sort of how I imagine Mat.

Sally: And he just, like, can't walk. Yeah.

Emily: Yeah. Yeah. Love that stork.

Sally: Yeah. Robin Hood, the animated fox Robin Hood, is peak. AF.

Emily: It is a very good film.

Sally: OK. Anyway.

Emily: Anyway, Perrin I imagine with a little more padding, because that makes sense for a man of his, um, body type and --

Sally: Yeah, he's a big boy. Big shoulders.

Emily: And career. Yeah.

Sally: Blacksmith. He's a lot of --

Emily: Big blacksmith shoulders.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Anyway. Not to -- not to digress too much into men's body types.

Sally: Like a muscly fat.

Emily: Early in the episode.

Sally: Like Maui from Moana.

Emily: Like -- I picture him, like, actually muscly, which means, y'know, actual, like, padding --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: All over you. Not like --

Sally: Like he looks like a real person, not like Chris Evans.

Emily: Not like Chris Evans. Yeah, exactly. Aw, Chris Evans. God bless you.

Sally: (to Tybalt) I will kick your full feline ass.

Emily: Who else is disappointed that Captain America shaved that beard? This is what I'm gonna talk about while Sally disciplines the cat.

Sally: Come on.

Emily: The new Avengers trailer came out, and my major spoiler for it is that Captain America no longer has a beard. And my main issue with that is, like, who has the time between the world ending and, y'know -- solving the world ending. Or whatever they're gonna fucking do in Avengers 4. Was he just like, "I'm just gonna shave my beard"?

Sally: Maybe it was just his coping mechanism, you know? He was like, "I need to be distracted for a second, so I'm gonna shave." I have not seen the Avengers trailer, and I intend to go as long as humanly possible without seeing it.

Emily: Yeah, and I'm trying to help her, so don't spam either of us.

Sally: Yeah, don't fuckin' spam me the Avengers trailer --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: You Marvel weirdos. Just kidding, I love you all.

Emily: I don't actually know -- are they Marvel weirdos? We don't get many Marvel discussions.

Sally: No Yeah, we don't. I mean -- I don't mean to call you weirdos.

Emily: Surely there's some crossover.

Sally: I love Marvel just as much as the next person, but please don't send me the Avengers trailer.

Emily: What I love is Rocket Raccoon, and he is not in the trailer, and that was really upsetting to me. And Thor wasn't in the trailer enough.



Sally: Thor's not in anything enough.

Emily: Exactly. In -- me. (wheeze, laugh)

Sally: What?

Emily: I said he's not in me enough.

Sally: Oh. I didn't even hear that. (laugh) You're right, though. He's not.

Emily: Yeah. I'm right.

Sally: That's a good segue into these two --

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: Which might be the horniest chapters of all time. (laugh)

Emily: They are very horny chapters. Jesus Christ.

Sally: Elayne is basically like, "Why don't I have Rand's dick in my mouth right now?"

Emily: I know. And Egwene's like, "I don't like Galad," but meanwhile she's fantasizing about --

Sally: Meanwhile we're all fantasizing.

Emily: I know.

Sally: And Min's like, "Have you seen him without his shirt on? He's perfect." And Egwene's like, (whisper) "I have. It ruined me."

Emily: Min's like, "Even I like looking at him. Even I, who should be a lesbian."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: But the plot requires me to be straight.

Sally: Yeah. She's like, "He's perfect, and all everyone wants to fuck him."

Emily: I like to think of Galad as the Chris Hemsworth of the Wheel of Time universe, in that Chris Hemsworth, we can all agree, no matter our gender or sexual orientation, is extremely fuckable.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Galad is exactly the same.

Sally: Very fuckable.

Emily: Yeah. Very fuckable.

Sally: Or, like, Michael B. Jordan's also very fuckable.

Emily: Yeah. We can all agree: Michael B. Jordan's very fuckable.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Those are the two most beautiful men in the world.

Sally: It's true.

Emily: Possibly.

Sally: Possibly.

Emily: Maybe -- have to think -- I mean, y'know, depending on taste. But those are the two most -- universally --

Sally: Universally fuckable.

Emily: Accepted -- we are attracted to them.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Yeah. Galad literally -- no one meets Galad and isn't like --

Sally: It's a truth universally acknowledged. (laugh)

Emily: Acknowledged that Michael B. Jordan and Chris Hemsworth are very hot.

Sally: Yes. But everyone meets Galad, and they're like, "Damn."

Emily: Literally. No one meets Galad and is like, "Damn, I wouldn't fuck him."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Everyone's like, "Meh, I'd fuck him."

Sally: Even heterosexual --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Archetype Rand Al'Thor was like, "Well, he's --"

Emily: "He's beautiful, I'll admit."

Sally: "He's also my brother, but that's weird." Ugh.

Emily: Yeah, eww. Gross.

Sally: I always forget that, and then I say shit like that --

Emily: I know, and then I'm like --

Sally: And I'm like, "Why did I do this? I'm literally the worst."

Emily: Because it's not a plot point at all. It's, like, a throwaway thing that Rand is maybe related to the royal house of Andor. And then it's like, "And by the way, never mind."

Sally: And it's like, "OK, what the fuck?"

Emily: And it's like, "OK, well, who cares?"

Sally: Yeah. Anyway. These are very horny chapters, where everybody's just horny, and Nynaeve is angry.

Emily: God, everyone is so horny ... yeah, it starts with, um -- (laugh)

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: It starts with, uh, us in Egwene's little -- little dormitory room --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: She's juggling, which is, uh, fun -- or she's, like, playing with balls --

Sally: Just, like, balls of *saidar*.

Emily: The Power, yeah. Whatever. She's, like, practi -- she's learning control, and she's learning how to channel, and it's fun, and she's like, "Damn, it's so cool and addictive now; I can't get enough of it. And it's kind of freaky." And everyone's like --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "Yep. We agree. It is freaky." Um, and then we never talk about that again after this book.

Sally: I know.

Emily: It is a little disturbing.

Sally: Like, give me more interesting addiction discourse, you cowards.

Emily: Well, it, like -- the -- the -- with Rand, who's our main male channeler point of view, it's just like so tied up in every other, like, thing that's going on with him --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: That it's hard to think about, and the girls, I feel like, get rushed into it too quickly.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And with Egwene, we're given, like, a reasonable explanation for that. And then Nynaeve, kind of similarly, her channeling is all tied up with whether or not she's able to channel at any given moment.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And then we just don't really get Elayne point of views until book five or so. So.

Sally: Thank God.

Emily: I know.

Sally: Five miraculous books.

Emily: (sigh)

Sally: Better times. Except book four is mostly shit.

Emily: (sigh)

Sally: Except for Rhuidean.

Emily: Except for Rhuidean.

Sally: Whenever I read Rhuidean, I always read it as Rooydeen first -- (laugh) before I'm like -- recognize that's not what it is.

Emily: (mimicking her pronunciation) Rhuidean.

Sally: It's like, "Ooh, Rhuidean."

Emily: Rhuidean.

Sally: And everytime I read Asmodean, I read it as Asmodeen. (laugh)

Emily: Asmodeen.

Sally: (laugh) Yes.

Emily: Got Dean on the mind.

Sally: I always have Dean Winchester on my mind.

Emily: Oh. Yeah, I was thinking of James Dean, but Deam Winchester -- Deam Wimchester? (laugh)

Sally: Deam Winsvester. (laugh)

Emily: Dean Winchester is very much more relevant because we're going to talk about him for our special Christmas episode. That might be our next episode.

Sally: Yeah, we need to -- I need to -- I had the special guest at my house yesterday and did not --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Speak to her about it. We did watch Supernatural, though.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: And she is as hilarious as I remember her being --

Emily: Yes.

Sally: Watching Supernatural.

Emily: It was incredible.

Sally: Yeah, so I hope you guys enjoy. She's maybe my favorite person on the planet.

Emily: Um. OK, so, Egwene, juggling or doing whatever the fuck she's doing. Min, just sitting there.

Sally: Yeah, not -- like a --

Emily: Like a weirdo.

Sally: Cow-milking stool. Very strange.

Emily: I dunno. Fuck. And then Nynaeve's just like, pacing around this tiny room.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Um, and they're basically all just doing their separate shit, and Min teases Egwene a little bit about Galad, she's like, "Did you hear?"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "Some girl was hitting on Galad. And he was like, 'No thank you. But do you know if Egwene is available?'"

Sally: Yeah. (laugh) He's like -- like, shunts her out of the way.

Emily: And Egwene's like, "Well."

Sally: That's a big mood, though, honestly.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Egwene is the most perfect creature who's ever lived.

Emily: I know, speaking of -- (to Tybalt) OK, you demon.

Sally: Our cat sucks. In case you guys were wondering. This is the Tybalt update: he's a douchebag.

Emily: (wheeze)

Sally: (laugh) Um.

Emily: Speaking of universally attractive, that's Egwene on the --

Sally: I know, Egwene's probably --

Emily: On the high femme end of the spectrum.

Sally: I feel like we don't talk about enough that Egwene is so hot.

Emily: Egwene's super hot.

Sally: Yeah. And super powerful.

Emily: Galad falls in love with her.

Sally: Yeah. The most beautiful man in the world.

Emily: So does -- I mean, so does Gawyn, but bleh.

Sally: Gawyn is mediocrity.

Emily: And if Egwene spent more time with men, which she barely does --

Sally: I know.

Emily: Because she has her White Tower arc and she's basically in a nunnery, blah blah blah -- then everyone else would be in love with her. And all the women are definitely in love with her.

Sally: Oh, everyone.

Emily: We're all just too cowardly to admit it.

Sally: Yeah. Les-beans.

Emily: Yeah, les-beans! That's the White Tower.

Sally: Yeah, true. But I do wish that Egwene spent more time with men, 'cause then she'd realize she didn't have to date Gawyn. She could date anyone else.

Emily: Yeah, literally. There are so many men in the world.

Sally: So many. You don't need to settle for mediocrity.

Emily: So -- so many. Yeah, you don't need to do the one who you made out with once.

Sally: Yeah, that's fine.

Emily: Or, like, several times. Or whatever. It was like a recurring thing.

Sally: Yeah, they, like, made out -- like that weird part, what is it, in, like book five or six?

Emily: Yeah, or something.

Sally: Where they just, like, go and make out in the same inn every day?

Emily: Yeah. And they're like --

Sally: It's really weird. (laugh)

Emily: "We can't talk about anything in our real lives --"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "Because we'd both be betraying people."

Sally: "So we just make out."

Emily: "So we just make out." And I'm like, "Ooh, that's a healthy relationship."

Sally: Really good foundation, yeah.

Emily: Good for you, teens.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Ugh. Anyway. Um.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Then Elayne barges in and is like, "The king is dead in Cairhien. So that means there's gonna be a war." And that's, like, our one throwaway hint --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: That Thom went and killed a king.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And it's like, cool. Cool cool cool cool cool.

Sally: Yeah. And everyone else is like, "We don't care," and Elayne's like, "But politics," and they're like, "Shut the fuck up."

Emily: Yeah, shh. We're talking about boys.

Sally: Yeah. Please be quiet.

Emily: Um, and then I forget what happens --

Sally: Then they just kind of, like --

Emily: What kind of conversation do they have?

Sally: Chat about -- Egwene talks about feeling afraid of, like, drawing too much, and Elayne talks about --

Emily: Oh, yeah.

Sally: Being afraid, and then they talk more about boys, and it's just, like, teen girls talking about nuclear power and boys.

Emily: Yeah. It goes on.

Sally: Basically. And then ... oh, shit! Liandrin shows up.

Emily: Yeah, it's, like, random. The door just, like -- oh, 'cause there's a part where, like, Min teases Nynaeve, and Nynaeve, like, knocks her over --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: With the One Power, which Min deserved.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: But anyway, they have the true female reaction to that, which is to immediately apologize and hug. Yeah.

Sally: Apologize to each other. It's very good.

Emily: God, girls are so good.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Um. And then Liandrin walks in and does the most -- I, like, can't even -- I -- our girls, and by "our girls," I mean Egwene and Nynaeve at the very least, are not without brains.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And yet.

Sally: And yet.

Emily: And yet here we are. Going on a road trip with Liandrin, the most apparently evil person on the planet.

Sally: Right?

Emily: Um.

Sally: (laugh) But it's like, Liandrin rolls in with, like, a curlicue mustache and --

Emily: Honestly.

Sally: Like, a weird hat, and is like --

Emily: Yeah, she's like, "Lay down on the railroad; I'm gonna tie you to the tracks." Like --

Sally: Yeah. And they're like, "OK!"

Emily: Like, "Great!" It's like in Harry Potter, for the first, like, four books or whatever, everyone always suspects Snape of being up to no good because he's a dick.

Sally: Yeah.



Emily: And it's like, that does get old eventually, because you're like, "OK, I'm just, like, over it," you know?

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: But in this instance, you're like, teens are usually more paranoid about, like, authority figures that they hate. So. I don't know.

Sally: I know. Like, if my least-favorite high school teacher rolled in and was like, "Oh, one of your friends is in danger, let's go save them," I would be like, "Ummmm? What?"

Emily: "I think you're a kidnapper."

Sally: Yeah, I'm --

Emily: And I'm calling the police.

Sally: I think you're trying to do the kidnap.

Emily: Yeah. Like -- especially, like, don't tell anyone.

Sally: Yeah, in there, she's like, "Don't tell anyone. Bah dah dah dah."

Emily: 'Cause the Black Ajah --

Sally: Or the Black Ajah will get you. Like, what the fuck?

Emily: I don't know. It's just, like, stereotypical, like, manipulate children 101.

Sally: Yeah. But it seriously is, like, so annoying, because you're like, this is the most --

Emily: Like, she's not even doing a good job of -- (inaudible)

Sally: Yeah, she's so transparent, and the plot is so transparent, it's like Robert Jordan just gave up. He was like, "Sure."

Emily: Yeah, it's like -- like, we know already that Liandrin's Black Ajah, because it was, like, revealed to us earlier in the book --

Sally: Is he licking you?

Emily: He's sticking his nose in my ear.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Weirdo. Um.

Sally: Some people pay for that, you know.

Emily: (pause) Ew.

Sally: (wheeze)

Emily: Why is this our kinky sex episode? Why do we have to do this?

Sally: All of the episodes are our kinky sex episodes.

Emily: Mm. Depending on who you are, I guess. Where you are in your life.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And your sexual journey. Um, speaking of sexual journeys, I wish Elayne would shut up about hers. Oh, my God.

Sally: This --

Emily: Sorry, that was totally a sidetrack, but it annoyed me so much.

Sally: No, this entire -- this entire chapter is, like, Elayne being like, "I'm gonna put Rand's dick in my mouth." And Min being like, "No, I'M gonna put Rand's dick in my mouth." And Egwene is like, "I don't really wanna put Rand's dick in my mouth, but I feel like I'm supposed to want that." And --

Emily: "And I'm still getting over that, and you guys aren't being very sensitive to the fact that --"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "I am having a lot of complicated emotions about this."

Sally: Yeah. And Nynaeve is like, "Shut the fuck up, you chuckleheads." (laugh)

Emily: I know. (laugh) Nynaeve's like, "You fucking chucklefucks. Please."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "Can you quit it?"

Sally: Ugh. Anyway, but yeah. Egwene's like, "I'm more worried about his emotional and mental health than having sex with him," and Elayne is like, "Mm. Can't relate." (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) Elayne's literally like, "I just wanna get there and hop immediately on that dick." And it's like --

Sally: And it's like, what the fuck?

Emily: I know. You met him once.

Sally: Part of me really respects that she's just like, "Yeah, I wanna have sex with Rand," but I'm also like, "You're ..." (sigh) It's just, like --

Emily: Well, there's -- there's a difference between having a female character who is, um, sexually free --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And having that be an aspect of her personality and making it her whole personality, to the point that you're creating a trope.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Another, different, problematic female trope.

Sally: And Min is that way too. Where she's like --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: I dunno.

Emily: She could be interesting; she could be like, "Oh, I'm sexually experienced, and I have sex with whoever I want, because I'm a consenting adult --"

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Dur dur dur dur dur, but instead she's like, "Oh, that was who I am, but now I've discovered my true love and the real man of my dreams, and so I'm gonna be monogamous and only have sex with him."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "And only the type of sex that he wants."

Sally: Does Rand eat pussy? No.

Emily: Doubtful.

Sally: I really don't think so.

Emily: Does Mat eat pussy? One --

Sally: Yes.

Emily: Hundred percent yes.

Sally: Perrin probably does too.

Emily: Yeah. I would believe it.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I like Perrin. Yeah.

Sally: Yeah. Perrin's actually probably a very attentive lover.

Emily: I feel -- I -- yeah.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I feel like, of the three -- (laugh) wait, why is this this episode?

Sally: (laugh) It's where we are. The ep -- the chapters are horny, and this is where we end up.

Emily: I feel like, of the three of them, sex with Rand would be the worst.

Sally: Horrible.

Emily: Obviously. Sex with Perrin would be, like, really, like, bangin' good.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And, like, sex with Mat would be, like --

Sally: I feel like sex with Mat would just be fun.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: It'd probably be good.

Emily: It would be, like, a fun time. It would be a good time.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: But with Perrin, you'd be like, "Aw, I might be in love with this man now."

Sally: Yeah, because he's just, like, so -- Perrin would be, like, really passionate. (laugh)

Emily: Oh my God. (laugh)

Sally: And, like, focused. Whereas Mat's just, like, "I dunno."

Emily: Mat's an ADHD poster child.

Sally: Yeah, exactly.

Emily: Like, "What do you want?"

Sally: But anyway, that's where that is. In terms of the girls, I feel like sex with Elayne would be pretty --

Emily: The worst.

Sally: Insufferable.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Um. I feel like sex with Egwene would be amazing. Just because I --

Emily: Yeah. I feel like she would also be an attentive lover.

Sally: Yeah. She's just like, mm.

Emily: Just -- she just focuses on her -- the task at hand. Always.

Sally: Yeah, exactly.

Emily: She's very good at that.

Sally: Yeah. And Nynaeve ...

Emily: Nynaeve would also be just -- I think -- fun.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Because it would be really, like, passionate and whirlwind.

Sally: Yeah. And just, like, a little wild.

Emily: Yeah, a little wild. 'Cause you know Nynaeve --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Cuts a little loose in the bedroom.

Sally: Yeah, exactly.

Emily: But, uh, with Egwene, it would be transcendent.

Sally: Just, like, again, "I think I'm in love --"

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: I mean, I am in love with Egwene, let's be honest.

Emily: OK, we all are. Beautiful.

Sally: She's a lesbian icon.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: She is. The fact that she and Aviendha don't end up together is a crime.

Emily: OK, discussion point: Galad's terrible in bed because he's never had to try.

Sally: Exactly.

Emily: Gawyn's actually shockingly good in bed because he's been compensating for having Galad as an older brother his whole life.

Sally: Yeah. Agreed.

Emily: OK, and that's the only reason -- (laugh) Egwene is into him.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: She's like, "Damn. He's actually really good at this."

Sally: Yeah, exactly.

Emily: OK.

Sally: But, again, I feel like if Galad just met Mat Cauthon, he'd learn to be --

Emily: He'd change.

Sally: Very good in the bedroom.

Emily: Yeah. OK.

Sally: Mat is a hard-won lover.

Emily: Yeah -- no, no, no he's not. (laugh)

Sally: I feel like if Mat -- I mean, I know. But. If -- if Gawyn -- ugh, God, I'm gonna do this forever, there's too many "G" names --

Emily: There's too many "Gah."

Sally: Gah. Galad, Gawyn, Gaul.

Emily: Blah blah blah blah blah.

Sally: Shayol -- Shayol Ghul.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Anyway, now that we've gotten that very important discussion point out of the way --

Emily: Yeah, that's a whole twenty minutes of this episode.

Sally: Listen.

Emily: There wasn't much to talk about anyway.

Sally: The girls get kidnapped because they're dumb. (laugh) Not saying that being kidnapped is anybody's fault, but it's just like, wow.

Emily: It's particularly annoying because the plot is so transparent here.

Sally: Yeah, it's like --

Emily: It's just like, there are so many ways out of this --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And you just didn't want to, like, try.

Sally: He just gave up.

Emily: Because what happens here is so rushed, and it's really annoying.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I always get mixed up because I think that the time skip -- what happens with, uh, the boys, y'know, getting into the Portal Stone -- is kind of on-level with the girls getting kidnapped?

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And so therefore Egwene spends, like, several months in captivity? Whereas as we can tell, kind of, uh, in this chapter, because Egwene mentions how her dreams have been off about Rand, kind of like he's in limbo --

Sally: Mm.

Emily: Which he is --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Uh, this is actually happening, uh, sometime into when they're in the Portal Stone --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Or even kind of when they're coming out. It's like this weird thing. So Egwene's only in captivity for a few weeks. Which is not to say that --

Sally: Yeah, which is not to diminish it.

Emily: Any measure of time, like --

Sally: It just is, like -- it's almost kind of like we -- it's just like a weird structural thing whereas these two things could've been running parallel to each other --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Like, really succinctly.

Emily: And it just seems like they should be.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Because it makes sense when we pick up with the girls again in, um, Falme -- it just, like, feels like they've -- like the lives they're living are very lived in.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: If that makes sense.

Sally: Yeah. It's --

Emily: It feels like they should've had more time there.

Sally: Yeah. So the timeline is a little weird in this --

Emily: A little wack, yeah.

Sally: Section. The timeline's really weird in this book, though.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Great Hunt is just like, "Timeline?"

Emily: "Months pass? Blah blah blah blah blah?"

Sally: "Who the fuck's that?"

Emily: "Who's she?"

Sally: "Don't know her." Why am I sitting at such a weird angle to the microphone?

Emily: I dunno. But also, like, that's another thing, is then, because they're not spending time, uh, at Falme, this means that they're actually spending time in the White Tower --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And again, this is something that, on a different level, is kind of traumatic for them? Like, Egwene and Elayne talk about crying themselves to sleep every night, which --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Means that on some level, they're being a little bit traumatized, even if it's just, like, homesickness but also really strict education and being really freaked out about their own power. That's like a --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Kind of a traumatic experience. And so, um, I dunno, it's just this weird thing where -- what -- this one trauma is paid a lot of attention to, as it deserves to be, and then this other thing that's happening that's also relevant to our characters' development is kind of being swept under the rug.

Sally: Yeah. And, like, it's really similar to what we talked about with Rand, a couple of chapters ago, where, like --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: All of these incredibly small traumas, as it were -- not to -- like, I don't feel totally comfortable with that statement -- but, like, littler in terms of time or in terms of, like, duration or what we would think of as traumatic experiences -- are really building up?

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: Um. But it's the, like, big, dramatic, quote unquote sexy trauma porn sequences --



Emily: Yeah.

Sally: That we pay attention to, and that's exactly what happens to Egwene. Like, a couple of, um, weeks ago ... I'm gonna -- I'm gonna look this up really quickly 'cause I feel like I'm about to get in on the Wheel of Time, like, uh, adaptation scene, and I know you all are really excited about that, but ... Um, so a couple of months ago, in October, there was an interview with, um -- what is it? -- Rafe Judkins or whoever he is? Who's doing the, um ...

Emily: TV adaptation?

Sally: Thank you. Oh my God. Um, and it's -- like, he was asked what the five scenes from the first two books that he's most excited to adapt, and, like, all of these are -- like, we've got Tam and Rand in the Westwood, Winternight, Tarwin's Gap, Toman Head, and then Egwene being leashed.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: And, like, the only one that mentions any of the girls is, like, the most traumatic thing that happens to Egwene. Which, like, disgusts me. Because it's like the boys are -- like, especially it's all about Rand, which is annoying, because it's like -- um, you know, but Rand's allowed to have these, like, battles, and of course Toman Head and carrying his father through the woods is stressful, but, like, there's nothing about Egwene learning how to use the Power or anything. It's all -- it's like, "This is the scene that we focus on with her character." And I feel like that's just, like, pretty common. Like this is something that people -- they don't think about, just, like, the trauma of receiving an education, like, higher education is hard.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: Especially when you're dealing with, like, nuclear bomb-level power. And so it's just, like, upset -- and not saying that we shouldn't focus on it, but I feel like trauma gets, um, fetishized in a strange way.

Emily: Well, and there's a particular danger with, uh, what happens to Egwene, that it's, um, subtly sexual.

Sally: Oh, yeah.

Emily: Or not-so-subtly sexual. It's just very -- there are, like, dominatrix vibes --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And the idea of, like, this, uh, more powerful, older -- usually -- woman --

Sally: Yes.

Emily: Who is dominating you, changing your name --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Which I'm probably going to get into in my blog, uh, next week -- or this week, as we release this episode -- but, um, it's all just very ... it -- it leaves a lot of room for, uh, male creators in particular to veer into fetishizing territory, so that's a -- like, very real danger.

Sally: Yeah, it's a one hundred percent real danger. And it just, like -- even, like, the physical item of a leash and collar --

Emily: Oh, yeah.

Sally: Is something that's used, uh, to my understanding, in, like, BDSM and stuff, but then becomes -- but it's also an object of slavery and --

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: Like, these -- obviously. And so, like -- and that blurring of lines is not very comfortable, and I feel like, with the male gaze, it's going to become very upsetting.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: So. I'm very worried about that. I'm very worried about all the women being put -- I mean, Robert Jordan is already a male gaze, and that comes across in a lot of ways, but there's, like, the way that, um, commercial television these days is made, like the male gaze is really, really disgusting.

Emily: Oh, yeah.

Sally: So I'm -- I'm worried about the adaptation in a lot of ways, you guys. I know you're all really excited about it, but I'm not.

Emily: Mm-hmm. I'm with you. Um. Anyway, Liandrin, like, talks to Nynaeve and Egwene alone, and is like, "You have to come help me save your high school sweetheart" or whatever bullshit --

Sally: And also the other two.

Emily: "And also the other two, I guess. What are their names?" Looks at her hand.

Sally: Peter and Mark?

Emily: Peter and -- Mark? (laugh) Matthew?

Sally: Matthew? Peter? John?

Emily: Wait, that's too close.

Sally: Peter and ...

Emily: Anyway, that's where we're at. Um. And then she leaves and is like, "Meet me in the stables as the clock strikes --"

Sally: "At dawn, look to the east on the fourth day --"

Emily: "As the raven crows ..."

Sally: (laugh) As the raven crows.

Emily: And then, um, Elayne and Min barge in and are like, "Well, we're coming too," and Egwene's like, "No? That's a dumb idea. Why?" And Elayne gives two reasons. One is that she would really like to go on an adventure. Which, I feel like, there's not enough pushback there from Egwene and Nynaeve, who are just recently returned from --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Their latest adventure. And, although there's some, like, uh, internal monologue stuff about this, like, is -- adventures aren't fun?

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And they're usually terrible? And everyone's dirty and hasn't showered and isn't eating well and - - perpetually terrified. And it's just like, not a good scene.

Sally: Especially for Elayne, who's a douchebag.

Emily: Yeah. And it's like, Elayne is the type of character -- and again, this is, like, an aspect of the trope that she's filling out, of, like, spoiled princess who just really wants to become sexually liberated --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Of, like, the idea that she fantasizes or fetishizes, like, life outside.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Even though she's, like, experiencing life outside of her normal situation? It's just --

Sally: Never enough.

Emily: Never enough -- it's just bad.

Sally: Like that One Direction song.

Emily: Yeah. Anyway, then the other reason she gives is literally that she wants to see Rand.

Sally: Yeah. She's like, "I just really need to fuck him. You guys don't understand."

Emily: And that's like the most insufferable thing of all time.

Sally: Yeah. And it's just, like -- (laugh) Part of me -- it's hilarious that Liandrin, like, coerces these teens to come with her, and then she's stuck with four -- three teenage girls, and Nynaeve -- who don't fucking stop talking about boys.

Emily: I know.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Literally.

Sally: And it, like, really bothers me 'cause I really hate -- like, this bothers me in, like, two ways -- I really hate the trope that all that teenage girls do is talk about boys, because first of all, a lot of teenage girls are not interested in dating boys, so shut the fuck up.

Emily: Oh, boy.

Sally: Second of all -- just, like, in general, they're not interested, and queer teenage girls exist.

Emily: No, I -- I'm having a flashback to my high school years when several of my friends were really into, like, being with boys --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And hanging out with boys, and that was, like, really big aspects of their lives, and, like, since I've grown up, I've been like, that was totally fine, and, like --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: They were coming into their identities in their own ways, and everything like that. But as a teenager, I was like, "Oh, God. If you talk to me about this boy who I know is a piece of trash one more time, I'm gonna lose it."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like, how many more ways can I say, "I'm supportive of you and your sexual freedom, but he's a huge dick." Like --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "Leave him."

Sally: Because, yeah --

Emily: "Ditch him."

Sally: That's exactly it. It's, like, young women coming into their sexuality is something that I don't think we're allowed to talk about enough in a way that's, like, productive and fine, because usually --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: It becomes something like this, where it becomes like a caricature, where their sexuality exists only to be the butt of a joke.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: And that joke is that teenage girls can't stop talking about boys.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: It's like --

Emily: And it's very annoying.

Sally: It's just, like, why can't it just be, like, a thing about them?

Emily: Because, like, between my high school friends having conversations about boys, they were also having intellectual conversations about, like, politics --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And policy and, like, literature and important things.

Sally: And just, like, whatever.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Ugh.

Emily: I just, like -- let teenage girls be teenage girls.

Sally: Yeah. And it's just like --

Emily: Or be humans.

Sally: It's very frustrating because I feel like even people who were teenage girls don't know how to write teenage girls.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: It's like, give them more credit than they're due. I know some really interesting teenage girls. I like to think I was a moderately interesting teenage girl. I was also a douchebag. That's just the nature of being a teenager. It doesn't have anything to do with being a teenage *girl*.

Emily: Yeah, no, all teenagers are the worst.

Sally: It's -- that's fact. That's scientific fact. (laugh)

Emily: Yeah, just generally speaking. (laugh) But, like, teenage girls aren't given the same, uh, respect that teenage boys are given --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And that seems really obvious because it is.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Just, teenage girls aren't allowed the same freedoms that teenage boys are.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And that extends to literature.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Whereas -- while our teenage boys -- and it's, like, important to recall that Rand, Mat, and Perrin are teenagers --

Sally: Yeah, they're, what? Eighteen? Nineteen, maybe?

Emily: Yeah. I mean, even if they're, like, in their early twenties, it's like they're basically teenagers.

Sally: That's basically -- that's teenager extended edition, your early twenties.

Emily: Yeah. For the most part, they're living at home. They haven't started careers or families.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: They're in teenage-hood.

Sally: They're living through the millennial lifestyle.

Emily: Yeah, exactly.

Sally: Can't move out of their parents' house. The farm's not sustainable.

Emily: Yep. Yep.

Sally: Too depressed to date.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) No education options. It's too expensive. The economy sucks. The only thing you have to your name is a sheep. And the same dirty coat you've worn to every festival since you were fifteen.

Emily: Boy, that got real. (laugh)

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Anyway, the teenage boys are allowed larger concerns --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Is what I'm saying. Whereas, uh, Egwene, who's our -- pretty much our point of view character throughout this sequence, uh, where the girls are very much teenage girls --

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Rather than just women -- um, it's like she's not allowed to veer into different topics for very long --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Before we have to merge back into teenage boys, whether that's her concern about Rand or fetishizing Galad or having to talk to Elayne and Min, who are the horniest women imaginable.

Sally: Yeah. And it's just, like --

Emily: Which, again, all respect to horniness. But also, shhhh.

Sally: But also, be horny in a way that's less annoying. (laugh)

Emily: Yeah. (laugh) It's possible.

Sally: It is possible.

Emily: It is possible.

Sally: People have done it for centuries.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: But it is -- it just frustrates me so much, because there is something just, like, delightful about a group of teenage girls who are friends just, like, hanging out and talking about the things that are important in their lives.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: Be that their schooling or the boys that they're interested in, but it just becomes so insufferable, where I'm like ... yeah, and the boys are allowed so much more depth and such richer internal lives.

Emily: Yeah, well, like, contrast what's going on in these conversations with the conversation we just had with Rand, Mat, and Perrin when they're in the stedding.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And Loial kind of as a hanger-on. You know --

Sally: (laugh) It's kinda like Min. Loial and Min.

Emily: Yeah. Yeah, Loial and Min are the sort of apexes of this weird diamond.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Um, anyway, Rand, Mat, and Perrin, of course, do, like, mention girls and talk about girls a little bit, but there's also, like, tons of subtext to their conversation about the worries that they have and the traumas that are going on in their lives, whereas the girls just are not allowed that.

Sally: They're just like, you have to be talking about boys.

Emily: Yeah, and that has to be, like, your primary concern. There's a scene where Elayne's like, "Well, maybe he won't -- like, I know you'll have him, Egwene," and Egwene's like, "Maybe I won't" and has this whole, like, internal monologue about -- where she's thinking, "How can I be most sensitive to

Elayne, who I know has a crush on him, while also being honest with myself and not, like, making too big of a deal out of it?"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And it's a very teenage girl train of thought.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like, credit to Robert Jordan, but, um -- and it's very sweet, but it's also, like, that's sort of the emotional center --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Of this?

Sally: Oh, one hundred percent.

Emily: Whereas Rand's emotional center is "I might be going insane."

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: So there's just, like, different levels here.

Sally: Yeah, and it also really bothers me -- I was thinking about this just as I was reading, 'cause they talk about -- they joke with Egwene that she'll choose the Green Ajah and have Rand as her Warder, and it, like, bothers me that only Nynaeve chooses a different Ajah.

Emily: Oh, yeah.

Sally: Like, both Elayne and Egwene choose the Green so that they can have relationships with men. But it's like, Nynaeve gets married, and it's, like, not a big deal, but that's, like, not the main focus of her political career, and so it's like, there are -- why did you have to do that to your main characters? Like, give them some more -- like, I wish that they had at least, like, more of a thought about it. But both of them are like, "I have to choose the Green because I have romantic feelings towards a man."

Emily: Well, it's interesting because -- or maybe not interesting -- because with Egwene, there's the opportunity to do, um, something different, and there's sort of a half-hearted attempt to, where she's made the Amyrlin before she chooses an Ajah --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And, uh, the way she goes about it is she chooses a Keeper who is, like, from the Blue, and typically Keeper matches the Amyrlin --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Or something like that. And then, later, uh, much later in the books, around book thirteen or so, she has to choose a different Keeper, and she chooses someone from the Red.



Sally: Mm. Oh, interesting.

Emily: Yeah. Who's just, like, this fun lady, I actually really like her.

Sally: (laugh) Awesome.

Emily: I know. She's cool.

Sally: I want Egwene to be surrounded by the coolest of all ladies.

Emily: Yeah, so there's, like, this implication that Egwene doesn't really have an Ajah and she's like the true Amyrlin --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Because she never -- she never really had one. But there's also, like, in Egwene's mind, she's always, like -- identifies with the Green.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And there's never any questioning of that, really.

Sally: And I know the Green also have their whole, like, "We're the Battle Ajah" thing, like, "We're preparing for the Final Battle," which is very thematic for Egwene --

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Who's, like, the Amyrlin facing the Final Battle. But, like, if I'm recalling correctly, her thought process and Elayne's thought process has to do with men.

Emily: Men, yeah.

Sally: Because the Green are the only ones who are like, "Yeah, we love fucking." (laugh) I'm like, "Good for you. That's awesome."

Emily: Get. It.

Sally: Like, I'm so happy for you, but also, two out of your three main female characters choose this for the exact same reason. That's just lazy.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: And it's not giving your female characters the -- what they deserve.

Emily: I know. I just wish we got, like -- it's -- it's a pretty good sample size in this cast of characters that three of our main characters are women who are becoming Aes Sedai --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: But yeah, it would be more interesting if we had women whose character types were, like, "And I'm gonna become the Brown Ajah."

Sally: Yeah, I would love it if Egwene was part of the Brown Ajah.

Emily: Dude, that'd be so cool.

Sally: If she was just like, I really need to think things through, and was more academic.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: I don't really know if that's true to Egwene's character, but, like, Elayne's the one who likes to, like, study all the ter'angreal or whatever the fuck they're called. Like --

Emily: Yeah! And Elayne's very political, and it's just, like, these are character aspects that, as, like, sort of when you have them choose their Ajah, it's like Robert Jordan saying, "And this is the most important aspect of their character --"

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Not the other things that are going on.

Sally: And it's like, you had, like -- that, like -- it would be really interesting, like, when characters have to make choices like that, like, Nynaeve is always like, "I'm going to choose the Yellow because healing is the most important part of my person."

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: And it's like, who she is, and it's so interesting that, like, that's what she's chosen to define her, and, like, we don't even get a thought process for Elayne and Egwene about that.

Emily: Yeah, well, it's like -- it's like choosing a major in college.

Sally: Exactly! That's exactly what it is.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: It's not supposed to define you for forever.

Emily: And it's like, I went to college and was like, like Nynaeve, I was like, "Basically the only thing I can do is English."

Sally: Yeah, same.

Emily: And I accept that about myself, but I also, like, was friends with people and familiar with people who were like, "I don't feel like I fit in with any of these," or --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: "I feel like I fit in with many of these."

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And so, it's really a complicated process for the majority of people.

Sally: Yeah. So it's -- I -- it just, like, drives me up the wall.

Emily: Ugh.

Sally: That our -- especially with the female characters, their love interests have to define them so much. And, like, this -- more or less, the same attention is given to our three boys, like, the fact that their love interests are so present, but I feel like it doesn't carry the same weight in a strange way. Especially early in the series. When the characters are being set up.

Emily: Quick fun theoretical thing: Which Ajahs do you think their -- the respective love interests would choose?

Sally: Oh.

Emily: I feel like Faile would choose, um, either Blue or Gray.

Sally: I think Blue. That's what I was gonna say.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: She's kind of in people's business.

Emily: Oh, yeah, she's super in people's business.

Sally: Which is --

Emily: Yeah, no, you're right. Blue is the good Ajah for being in people's business.

Sally: Yeah. (laugh)

Emily: Yeah, you right. Um. Aviendha would ... now I have to think about that. Somehow she would manage to choose Red. (laugh)

Sally: Yeah. I was thinking that too. Like, I was like, maybe Green 'cause she really would be like, "Oh, the Battle Ajah, that's where I go."

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: But also, like --

Emily: Then she'd be like, oh, but it's also all the slutty women, which -- good for them, but, like --

Sally: Also not me.

Emily: Yeah. Not who I am. Um, I don't care about Min. Tuon? God, Tuon could be such an interesting character, and in many ways she's also relegated to, like, two character traits.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: (sigh) I want Tuon to be in, like, White.

Sally: Yeah. That's --

Emily: I think she would be. She's a deeply logical character.

Sally: What I know about her, which is not a whole lot 'cause I haven't met yet, is White feels like the logical choice.

Emily: Yeah. Yeah.

Sally: And they feel like the most politicized in a strange way.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: And she's really into politics and stuff, so.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Anyway. But basically what happens is Liandrin leads them into the Ways, and they still talk about boys in the middle of this death labyrinth. (laugh)

Emily: Oh my fucking God.

Sally: Which is how ridiculous these two chapters are. (laugh)

Emily: And then they just get to Toman Head.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And that's where the chapter ends. I'm sorry we didn't talk about plot at all, but, like, the plot is so dumb.

Sally: Yeah. (laugh) It's so stupid.

Emily: There's, like, three conversations --

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And then they're in Toman Head.

Sally: Yeah. Not Another Teen Movie is basically what these two chapters are. (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) Fuck. Um.

Sally: How to Lose a Guy in Ten Days.

Emily: Jesus.

Sally: How to Lose a Guy in the Ways.

Emily: How -- ooh. (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) Yeah, now I have to do -- uh, um ...

Emily: Rom com remakes?

Sally: Rom com remakes with Wheel of Time.

Emily: I'll try and focus that on the Dragon Reborn, um, alternate titles. OK. So that's where we're at.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Next chapter will deal more extensively with, um, Egwene getting taken captive and sort of the repercussions of what Liandrin does. Um. And I think there's also a chapter where we catch up with Rand and the boys? But I dunno, we might skim over that one.

Sally: Rand and the Boys. Rand and the Funky Bunch.

Emily: As always, reading schedule will be updated according to what we read.

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: And you can find that on our new website, everybodyhatesrand.com.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Sally worked on it really hard, and it's beautiful.

Sally: Oh, thanks. That's really nice. It still needs to be tweaked a little bit. But thank you to all who have looked at it.

Emily: Uh-huh.

Sally: Go check it out if you haven't.

Emily: Um --

Sally: Lots of good resources. You can listen to the podcast on there. We've got the reading schedule. Et cetera, et cetera.

Emily: What else -- do we have any other housekeeping?

Sally: Mmmmm, nope. Supernatural episode's coming at you soon.

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: Special holiday episode.

Emily: That will be -- and I said next time we'll be doing Egwene, but that'll actually be in two weeks, 'cause Supernatural will be next week.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: So in lieu of our traditional, um, Wheel of Time content.

Sally: You will get some, uh, probably better content.

Emily: 'Cause please excuse us while we enjoy the holidays. We would like to have a break from Wheel of Time, which is now an aspect of our --

Sally: I know.

Emily: Uh, career? So.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Sort of become a, uh, job.

Sally: Yeah. It's true.

Emily: Still love it, but. Also a job. Um. I think that's it. Ready to sign us off? K. What've you got?

Sally: Um.

Emily: What've you got this time? (laugh)

Sally: (laugh) My boss' credit card got stolen.

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: Um, which is hilarious, 'cause the credit card thief then bought a fifteen hundred dollar TV that he shipped to us. (laugh) So he didn't even get his TV. We got a fifteen hundred dollar refund, and the company was like, "We're so sorry. You can keep the television." So we now have a 70-inch television that we get to auction off at our big gala in the spring.

Emily: (wheeze, laugh)

Sally: And fifteen hundred dollars back! So the world's dumbest credit card thief tried to con the Aviary and failed.

Emily: Congrats.

Sally: Yeah. (snort) Stupid idiot. Anyway, byeeeee!