

# Worlds Beyond Number

## Fireside Chat - WWW Episode 15 "Hold On Tight"

### Final Version

[Crickets chirp, and a campfire crackles. A bright and sweet song is plucked on an acoustic guitar.]

Erika Ishii

Hello, everybody, and welcome to the Fireside Chat for Episode 15: Hold on Tight. Welcome back to Chapter Two of The Wizard, The Witch, and The Wild One. I'm your host, Erika Ishii. And I'm here with Aabria Iyengar!

Aabria Iyengar

Ahoohoo and crackle, crackle, we're back, baby!

Erika Ishii

It's been so good to be back. And I'm also joined by our special guest...?

Lou Wilson

Lou Wilson. It's the first episode. I'm always here for first.

[Aabria laughs]

Lou Wilson

Why are people surprised when I show up for the thing that I helped create? I care enough. I care enough to be here once every - every once in a while.

Aabria Iyengar

Hey, it's not surprise! It's delight!

Erika Ishii

And we appreciate it. We take what we can get and we'll like it.

Lou Wilson

Yes.

Aabria Iyengar

Wait. Okay, quick question then. Did you happen to see Brennan when you were on your way back?

Lou Wilson

And I texted him and I said, I'm actually here, but he didn't text me back yet. He's not in the Zoom chat, but is he...?

Aabria Iyengar

He's not.

Lou Wilson

Oh!

Erika Ishii

No...

Aabria Iyengar

We sort of lost track of him.

Erika Ishii

Oh, I thought he said something about going to do a Romancing the Stone for Lou.

Aabria Iyengar

Hmm.

Lou Wilson

Okay.

Aabria Iyengar

And I didn't get that because I hadn't seen the third Lord of the Rings.

Lou Wilson

Yes, I also - that makes sense. He texted me. He said, I'm coming to get you. I'm doing a Romance in the Stone. And I didn't know what that -

Erika Ishii

I mean, have you seen that movie?

Lou Wilson

No. But I'm assuming Rod Stewart does something?

Aabria Iyengar

Is it Rod Stewart?

Erika Ishii

No... wait, is it? I don't remember who all is in it, but it's like your prototypical, um, you know, adventuring - actually, I don't remember all of it. I just remember it's, like, you know, white people go to South America and have to rescue this woman's sister. Anyway, but -

Lou Wilson

Yeah, it's like some kind of dowdy romantic adventure writer is hurled into a real life adventure in the Colombian jungle in order to save her sister, who will -

Erika Ishii

Yes, that was it.

Lou Wilson

If a treasure map is not delivered to her captors, helped out by a brash mercenary, and together they search for the priceless gem located on the map. I think it's something like that. I think it's Michael Douglas, not Rod Stewart.

Erika Ishii

Michael Douglas. Yes!

Aabria Iyengar

Praise your memory. Okay.

Erika Ishii

Right. Thank you. So he's gonna do that and try and retrieve you. But if he's gone missing, then...

Aabria Iyengar

No, don't worry about it. I put an Apple Tag in his bag of almonds, so it should be inside of him by now.

Lou Wilson

Oh, okay, great.

Erika Ishii

Okay. Yeah. Unless he's passed it.

Aabria Iyengar

Oh... It doesn't just stay? Like gum. I thought it would be like gum where it just kind of stays in your body for seven years.

Erika Ishii

That's a rumor.

Lou Wilson

It's like a Rugrats situation where, like, it's floating on an island in the middle of your stomach and never goes anywhere.

Erika Ishii

So in Episode 15...

Lou Wilson

Oh, that's right. Do we talk about -

Erika Ishii

The thing is, look, I'm as concerned about Brennan as the two of you are, but that being said, we got to move on. We got to move on.

Aabria Iyengar

Wow. It's what he would want.

Lou Wilson

It's what he would want. It's what he would want.

Erika Ishii

Well, all the best to Brennan, and if any of you in South - we don't even know if he's in South America, he might have, like, taken another flight by mistake.

Lou Wilson

You know what? Then it only feels right that after this episode I'm going to leave. This time not on my own - kind of on my own free will. But I'm going to go find Brennan. And my friends will still be here, of course, to talk about the pod. But I'm going to go get him. I'm going to go get him back.

Erika Ishii

Okay. We'll find a sub for you.

Lou Wilson

Yeah, exactly.

Erika Ishii

Thank you.

Aabria Iyengar

I love the plot inside of the fireside.

Lou Wilson

Yeah. Some guy named Craig will be here next week.

Erika Ishii

Okay. All right, cool. Thank you. Thank you to Craig. Yeah. In Episode number 15, we return and it's mostly Brennan and me talking, making feelings [Aabria laughs] and it was terrifying because he warned me up ahead of the episode, he said, I'm going to throw you a couple of curveballs and I think we're going to start with Ame in the coma in flashbacks. And then he asked me things so that we could have plot points like, oh, what is your saddest and angriest memory? And there were just things it felt - oh, my God, it was incredible. It was incredible to do and it felt really good. And Aabria was going ballistic the whole time.

Aabria Iyengar

Whole time, whole time.

Erika Ishii

Which felt really good. Yeah, I saw somebody asked, Lou and Aabria were in the room. They're just being very respectful, active listeners.

Aabria Iyengar

I think I squeaked a couple of times and shout out to Taylor to editing it out. I was like, nope, too many feelings. Gonna yell real quick.

Lou Wilson

It definitely was like - I feel like these are the interesting moments kind of in how our table works sometimes. I feel like we had an internal discussion of, like - I think the answer is always obvious the minute we say it, but we make the space to be like Aabria, Lou, are you okay sitting there for 45 minutes?

[Aabria laughs]

Lou Wilson

Like, there's a world in which we're going to do a weird inner cut thing where we're having all these beautiful scenes, and then it's the two of us just like, having sex and eating good in the Citadel.

[Aabria and Erika laugh]

Lou Wilson

I think we actually - maybe we just live in the like - as soon as we say it out loud, we're like, yeah, no, we're okay to sit there quietly.

Aabria Iyengar

100%.

Lou Wilson

And very much, I think the thing this podcast continues to allow me to do, which is have space where I just get to enjoy other people improvising and telling narrative stories where you're like, wow, I know I'm in the podcast, but this is good. I'm just sitting there.

Aabria Iyengar

Real talk, one of my favorite things. It's so great.

Lou Wilson

That scene where you push that girl down was too real.

[Aabria gasps]

Lou Wilson

It feels very, like, Erika's going full 14-year-old right now.

Aabria Iyengar

Truly!

Erika Ishii

I did in fact get in fights when I was that age.

Aabria Iyengar

[gasps] Were you a scrapper?

Erika Ishii

Yeah, because people would pick on me, and it's like, when you're a small femme, it usually takes the form of psychological warfare. But then I'd just haul back and you know - you know, you take care of it. I'd rather have it all out. And it was not by choice a lot of times, a lot of times I got attacked first. But, boy, it's funny because I really, truly didn't know. I was just reacting to everything as it happened. And it's like, it's so sad. It's so sad. Ame's so little and sad. And God, yeah, it was so fun to get to explore that because we really - just finding out that there wasn't that mysterious old mentor, like, a wizard keeps his secret sort of a thing. And she was like, no, this is exactly what you need to know. I'm going to prepare you as best I can, but just so you know, the entirety of humanity and the spirit world is resting upon your tiny shoulders.

Aabria Iyengar

But if you don't want to do it, that's fine, too.

Erika Ishii

I'll still love you if you don't - oh, God.

Aabria Iyengar

That was such a beautiful moment. But every part of the snarky heart of me was like, yeah, Wren, your terrifyingly wise baby that you've adopted is definitely going to put that burden down.

Lou Wilson

[laughs] Yeah.

Aabria Iyengar

It's the first time I thought like, okay, Wren, fuck off.

[Erika and Lou laugh]

Aabria Iyengar

Like, you know. You know! That's crazy.

Lou Wilson

You know exactly what you're doing. Wren, stop. You fed this person for years, and now you're like, but, hey, if that was all just charity, that's cool, too.

Erika Ishii

I can't imagine a world in which that would have been the case. Ame would have been like, okay!

Lou Wilson

Yeah. Ame is just - deuces, dog. It's a moment that you flash back to. So it's like, well, we obviously know what the answer is, but it's, like, if we do that first and Erika's just sitting there going, damn, that's a lot. That's a lot to carry. I might hit one of these other covens. I might hit one of these more chill - let's go with the Coven of the Green right now.

[Aabria and Erika laughing throughout]

Erika Ishii

That sounds great. Or like the Wild Hunt. You could just run around, like, rending flesh. That'd be pretty sick.

Aabria Iyengar

Like you do!

Lou Wilson

Speaking of witch covens, something I was interested in in the moment: did you learn about the other covens and the specifics of the other covens with us, the audience and the players at the table who aren't you, or did you already know or have any sense about Mirara, and kind of the other different domains of witchdom that are presented in the episode?

Erika Ishii

I knew NOTHING!

[Aabria and Lou react in awe]

Erika Ishii

I knew nothing. I went in completely, just blind. And I think I knew - because I had sort of gotten to look at and play test some other parts of the Witch Class, which, by the way, if you all haven't checked that out yet, it's so good. I'm biased, I'm biased.

Aabria Iyengar

It's so incredible.

Erika Ishii

It's so good. I knew there were some, like, there's Coven of the Green, and a bunch of different other covens that you choose at second level, which, Ame is, you know, Covenant of the Heart now.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah!

Erika Ishii

But I don't even know if the witches in this are part of that or not. Like, Mirara was so creepy and cool.

Aabria Iyengar

RIP to your mug.

Erika Ishii

Oh, my God. It's so funny because I listen back to these and I make notes of things and I'm like, bitch still has my mug.

Aabria Iyengar

This is all I want for the final arc.

Erika Ishii

Yeah. Ame gets her mug back. But, yeah, I didn't know. And I was, like, trying to be in the moment while also furiously scribbling things down. I remember Brennan on the way to a recording session one time. He was saying, oh, yeah, I wrote some poetry for you guys. And I was like, oh, that's so sweet.

Aabria Iyengar

That's right...

Erika Ishii

Then finding out that all the different witches of the different covens have their own rhyme. [Erika groans out of emotion]

Aabria Iyengar

So dope.

Lou Wilson

Yeah.

Erika Ishii

Real fairy tale shit. Also, yeah. I think all of us kind of assumed that all witches were kind of like twee, cottage core - become old ladies. But of course not, because we discussed - Brennan and I discussed the inspiration for so many

other witches, like evil witches and the Snow Queen and just like, some of my favorite fairy tales. And there's all kinds of witches, of course.

Aabria Iyengar

Well, I'm glad the scariest nightmare lady rocked up to your house and tried to take your hand.

Erika Ishii

Oh, yeah. Rude. Also, Grandma Wren was an absolute, uhh - she was such a badass. Grandma Wren was such a badass in that scene.

Aabria Iyengar

Right?!

Lou Wilson

Absolute unit. Just refused. Just will not back down.

Aabria Iyengar

That little snark of the, like, I've never seen you pick a fight you couldn't win. Me, I refuse fights that I can win all the time. And I was just like, okay. I don't know if you guys remember, but there was a little look on Brennan's face, and I was like, oh, that's Brennan's like, I'll fight you in a fucking alley face. Even though he's doing an old lady voice. I was like, yeah, let's go!

Erika Ishii

Because occasionally the man will pop off with something. Not pop off. Brennan never pops off.

Aabria Iyengar

He has pop potential.

Erika Ishii

But, yeah, he has such pop potential. Poptential. So much poptential.

Lou Wilson

Such raw pop - poptential.

Erika Ishii

We should all thank our lucky stars that each and every day Brennan Lee Mulligan wakes up and does not choose violence.

Aabria Iyengar

Except maybe while he's romancing stones. In South America.

Lou Wilson

God only knows what's going on in that Colombian jungle right now. Or Panamanian jungle.

Aabria Iyengar

There's no way to know. Panamanian. Oh, my gosh. Was there a moment for you Erika, like, what's the one of your memories that you felt like once you heard them and got them and kind of came back to yourself coming out of the coma? Were any of those the like, oh, this is a core personality thing that has been restored to Ame?



Erika Ishii

I think all of it. It was such a good cross section of really impactful moments from the past. Like, oh, this isn't really - it's so crazy. I love when stories do this where it's like, oh, yeah. It's like, plot beats, but also so much character building of like, oh, Ame meeting the witch. And she's been prepared for the covens and to take on this responsibility. Oh, she's very alone. Early on in character creation, we have a list. There's, like, a list on a whiteboard of what I wanted for the witch, the class, and the witch, the character. And some of it is like - and we caught this incredible cross section. Like, Brennan just yanked us through an incredible cross section of that. Of, what are the duties of a witch and what are witches like in this world? And then also, Ame specifically growing up being just an absolute misfit and outcast, but still having this responsibility to be good and kind and help others, and man... Really truly sobbing through that whole section of saying - I think, yeah, a huge core memory was that I could make them think I'm normal. And then the music backing that up was so chilling. And then Grandma Wren's reaction to that. And I think Brennan has talked about how, yeah, he was spinning up to be like, oh, you're being glib about using magic and then realizing what it was. That man is such a good dad. Like, grandma.

[Aabria laughs]

Aabria Iyengar

That man was born to be a grandma.

Erika Ishii

He was born to be a grandma. He's like so understanding and being like, oh, I know why you're upset and you need a hug. It was like, oh, my God. Listening back to it, I cried hearing Taylor's sweeping love letter to the moment of first flight.

Aabria Iyengar

My goodness. Fucking stunning.

Erika Ishii

I've never heard something like that. Just the exhilaration and, oh, my God, it was like John Williams and Joe Hisaishi could never. Like, WOW. Wow, wow, wow.

[Aabria laughs]

Lou Wilson

I do - I got to tip my hat to you, though, in a big way, this episode. I feel like a lot of whiplash. You didn't get to have one continuous emotion. You were like joy, terror, deep, profound sadness and being ostracized! And to execute just kind of consistently and full throatedly on each one. Full throatedly isn't right there, but you -

Aabria Iyengar

No, it was right!

Lou Wilson

Ahh, thanks guys.

Aabria Iyengar

You're great!

Lou Wilson

I think the continuous - to do it all in a one ep - it's exactly what the story needs, but it's a moment where that's, I feel like, the kind of magic trick we do with improv sometimes is that kind of like, we did all three of those back to back in one continuous session, though they are three massively different emotional beats, and you did them flawlessly. It was a joy to behold.

[Erika squeals]

Erika Ishii

That means so much from you. Like, honestly, oh, it's so crazy. All of us, I think, really, truly, so much of this show is us trying to impress each other and just delighting each other and that -

Aabria Iyengar

100%.

Erika Ishii

Thank you. That means so much to me. And it was truly like, it's really an actor's dream to be, like, having this big emotional beat at different ages. That was so good.

Aabria Iyengar

I will say you did such a - yeah, plus one-ing everything Lou said and just saying that, like, you put on such a beautiful clinic on being available for big, disparate emotions that when Brennan was like, so we cut next to you, I was like, what the fuck am I going to follow?

[Erika and Lou laugh]

Aabria Iyengar

Oh, postcoitus?? Thank God. Yes! I get to be the - easy. That's easy. Great. Great. Thank you. Thank you.

Lou Wilson

It did feel crazy -

Erika Ishii

Wait, no, Lou first. Lou first.

Lou Wilson

No, I mean, I was just going to say it was just like, for you to just go be doing, like, backflips through flaming hoops emotionally, and then to just be like, and what the fuck are you two doing right now? [Aabria laughs] And I'm like, I'm drunk. Lying down. But no, let's start with -

Aabria Iyengar

Post-bone!

Lou Wilson

Let's start with post-bone and the boner. Or bonee, however, uh -

Erika Ishii

Yeah. Who's this Silver fellow?

Aabria Iyengar

Excuse me? Silver appears in the first episode when Suvi sees the soldiers coming back, and she's like, that one, that little hottie in the corner. And then she runs away and comes back, and her hair is messy. Taylor, release the slut cut.

Erika Ishii

Slut cut. Slut cut. Slut cut!

Lou Wilson

The people demand the slut cut!

Aabria Iyengar

So yeah, we're just - it's really nice to follow up on a little throwaway joke from when we first set off. What is it? Booty call? It's been a month. Suvi couldn't maintain 'I'm scared for my friend' for a whole month. At some point, horny kind of just worked its way back into there. So sorry.

Lou Wilson

It's so real.

Erika Ishii

People process grief in their own unique ways.

Aabria Iyengar

You're not dead, you're taking a nap!

Erika Ishii

Who amongst us has not dealt with tragedy by chasing the serotonin that a good bone down brings?

Aabria Iyengar

Bless you, Erika.

Lou Wilson

Sometimes you just need a good bone down, which I've never heard before as a way to describe it, but it's the only way I'll be describing - a grief sex call is officially known as a bone down.

Erika Ishii

Who amongst us has not dealt with tragedy by chasing the serotonin that a good bone down brings?

Erika Ishii

A bone down.

Aabria Iyengar

A bone down. It feels like there should be a fiddle playing in the background.

Lou Wilson

[laughing] Exactly.

Aabria Iyengar

And a xylophone. Those two instruments, specifically.

[Erika laughing]

Lou Wilson

Yeah, exactly.

Aabria Iyengar

Because of bones. Because xylophones. Bones.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, I was about to say that's clearly, like, the skeleton instrument.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah. Spooky, sexy skeletons.

Lou Wilson

Playing their music as you're sad as hell. But getting it on.

Aabria Iyengar

But getting it on!

Erika Ishii

Yeah. A bone done. So we get to see also Suvi's surroundings and how she outwardly has, like -it's all opulent and casual and flowy. But then in the inside, she is a conspiracy board academia girl. Right?

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah. I mean, yes. It's very much like - oh, yeah. I love that idea of the affectation you have for when people are over and then who you are inside your own brain. And if you can externalize what you think the inside of your own brain looks like. It's messy and ridiculous. It's so good. Wait, hold on. I don't want to talk about me anymore. By the time this drops, our official art for Arc Two will be out, right?

Erika Ishii

Oh, my God, yes.

Lou Wilson

Hachi-machi.

Aabria Iyengar

Can we talk about Eursulon's glamour?

Erika Ishii

What the *fuck*?

Aabria Iyengar

So sorry, Lou. I'm so sorry you have to be here for this. I'm sorry Craig couldn't tank this, but, like, why is Eursulon so hot? What's up?

Lou Wilson

Well, that was always - you have to be scary hot. Right?

Aabria Iyengar

I didn't say scary!

Lou Wilson

I'm - scary hot. Well, I feel like he has to be so hot because he's a fairy. Or, like, a spirit.

Erika Ishii

Yeah. That's very fair.

Lou Wilson

It was really important to me that the character read as the person in a crowd who maybe you don't go talk to, right? It's not the inherent, like, I want to go get your business. But it was like, he has to be a distinct and just, like, straight up attractive enough person that you would be like, if that person walked through a crowd, heads would turn, but then turn back.

Erika Ishii

There's something about him, yeah..

Aabria Iyengar

Truly.

Lou Wilson

Exactly. It's exactly that. There's something about him. That's what the vibe is supposed to be. And then I think Aabria and I had talked before about - I mean, we're really carrying over that moment from the Children's Adventure where Eursulon chooses to look somewhat like, or chooses to look like Suvi's brother as his kind of physical manifestation. So it's meant to be the aged up version of that with the Sir Curran red hair, the same eye color as his

-

Erika Ishii

Sir Curran as Brennan, yes.

Lou Wilson

Exactly, the same eye color as his spirit form and the fucking chiseled jaw -

Aabria Iyengar

My God.

Lou Wilson

Of someone who could be a model but is working in taverns and fighting for his life in the woods.

Aabria Iyengar

Rosalyn, we get it, girl.

Lou Wilson

Rosalyn, exactly.

Erika Ishii

I would also absolutely risk it all for Eursulon, yeah.

Aabria Iyengar

True. It was one of those things where like, when we were getting the art back and - shout out to Lorena. What is Lorena's last name?

Erika Ishii

Lammer.

Aabria Iyengar

Yes. She's incredible. When we got the first round of art back, I think that was the moment where I was, like, in my head, I had the, like, yes, Eursulon is hot, and they kind of look like siblings. And that's interesting. It was seeing the art that was. Oh, oh! I almost sent Lou a text just to be like, bud, good luck. It's going to get real horny real fast, and I will lead the girlies on Tumblr in it. I'm not better than this. I'm not better than this energy.

Erika Ishii

No, that is our energy.

Lou Wilson

We're ready for it. We had to lead the charge. We got one masc character in the group, and he needs to come through dripping.

Erika Ishii

Correct. Yes, that's true

Lou Wilson

Exactly.

Aabria Iyengar

You are carrying hard for your gender, and I appreciate that.

Lou Wilson

For campaign two, I'll be like a little gremlin.

Aabria Iyengar

A little guy.

Erika Ishii

Just a little guy.

Lou Wilson

Campaign one is - I feel like that's also a thing I do in general, where it's like, campaign one - campaign two will get like, I'll play like an old man or someone who's kind of been through it or whatever, or has some signs of some life scars on them. Campaign one, character is always just sexy as hell. Can do a backflip, that kind of shit.

[Erika and Aabria agreeing and laughing throughout]

Erika Ishii

Yeah. We always start with, like, this is the idealized version of us.

Aabria Iyengar

100%!

Lou Wilson

Exactly!

Erika Ishii

And by campaign two, you're just like, I'm a little toadstool.

Lou Wilson

Yeah. Campaign two, I embrace my flaws. Campaign one, I run from them.

[Erika and Aabria laughing]

Aabria Iyengar

Speaking of embracing your flaws, I'm noticing a little bit of a pat - like, I feel like maybe this is going to be an intervention arc for Eursulon. Those bottles, bud. What's going on?

Lou Wilson

Those bottles, bud.

Aabria Iyengar

You're in that sort of zone.

Lou Wilson

My man likes to drink, okay? What, my character can't party?

[Erika and Aabria laughing]

Aabria Iyengar

That is actually a very funny thing, that the moment you mention Eursulon drinking, it's like, oh, no, a character flaw. But if you think about it for, like, 12 seconds, you're like, all of these people, like, our whole group is college aged. If this was based in the real world, no one would say fucking anything.

Lou Wilson

Everyone would be like, wow, Eursulon's kind of fun.

Aabria Iyengar

[laughing] YEAH!

Erika Ishii

That's another thing, too, is that I think there was that he was turning to alcohol for really unhealthy reasons in the first arc, and we showed that there were consequences to that. But, like -

Aabria Iyengar

What consequences?? It went well!

Erika Ishii

That large hangover, and with the - Will Gallows, that did work out well for that. But -

Aabria Iyengar

That worked out super well!

Erika Ishii

Yeah, but like -

Aabria Iyengar

Bro got a friendship bracelet from a bad guy.

Lou Wilson

I mean, I did get a friendship bracelet from a bad guy.

[Aabria laughs]

Erika Ishii

That Will Gallows, man. Um - I've definitely read some Will Gallows, uh -

Aabria Iyengar

[gasps] DOG!

Erika Ishii

Did you - ? Are you - ?

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah, I also read it. Did you enjoy your chapter?

Erika Ishii

I did. I did...

Lou Wilson

Is it out there? How many chapters are there?

Aabria Iyengar

One for each of us. Lou, do you want yours?

Lou Wilson

I have one???

Erika Ishii

Yes. It's good. It's very good. Shout out to the author. I'm so sorry. We should - I have a rule generally of not mentioning that I do - because I don't want people to - you know. But again, we're from there. We're from there, you know? So it's like, even if we weren't making this thing, we would be on there reading it and writing it. So... you know... thanks. Anyway -

Lou Wilson

Wow.



Aabria Iyengar

I'll send you a cursed link in a second.

Lou Wilson

Don't you dare. Don't tempt me. Don't tempt me.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, it's chapter one for sure. Problem drinking. Chapter two, fun celebration drinking, right?

Lou Wilson

Well, it is like -

Erika Ishii

We're at Wizard College!

Lou Wilson

I do think you're right. There's a big setting element to it of, like, drinking in a calm did feel like trying to push something down, but drinking in the Citadel feels like we made it. Let's have a drink to celebrate! Now, is it going to catch up with us? Maybe. But, yeah, I think Eursulon and consumption, I think, is definitely something - it's like a string that, in a way, that is the beauty of improvised storytelling, is like, we're plucking and we're tuning, and it's like, what is it? What is it? And I know it's there, and I know that there are moments of it, but when will we find the chord that is the song? We shall see. But I think it's definitely something I want. It's a string I'm pulling at and trying to find the right sound for. Because I think even personally, it's one of the easiest things to grab onto when you don't feel good is, eat a little something, drink a little something. Fall asleep, wake up.

Aabria Iyengar

A little ginger ale.

Lou Wilson

Exactly. Little ginger ale. I'm personally addicted to ginger ale,

Aabria Iyengar

[gasps] Same.

Lou Wilson

But everyone's got their own demons.

Aabria Iyengar

Well, I just want to say that every time it's popped up, knowing that contextual connection between Eursulon and consumption and the legacy of the Great Bear. You say it is easy, but it is so brilliant. And every time I see it, I do, definitely do the, like, oh, yeah, shit, that's so good, like, this was a big episode for me, getting to sit and look at my friends and be like, oh, fuck, fuck. They're really good at this. Okay.

Lou Wilson

There it is.

Aabria Iyengar

Okay. Get better immediately before they call on you again.

[Lou and Aabria laugh]

Erika Ishii

I know that feeling, though. Oh, man, it was great seeing everybody come back and... God, the Fox. Little interactions with the Fox.

Aabria Iyengar

Oh, my God.

Lou Wilson

That sweet, tired boy.

Aabria Iyengar

That sweet, tired boy. I love that he only slept when Eursulon was around. Like, protector, go off.

Erika Ishii

But then he bit Suvi twice.

Aabria Iyengar

But then he bit Twice. Suvi earned it. Let's be very cclear. It wasn't because the Fox is mean. It's because Suvi said some stupid shit. And the Fox was like, you know what? No filter. Go fuck yourself. And she was like, all right, I'm going to go.

[Erika laughing]

Aabria Iyengar

That's on me. I'm going to tell the story my way when Ame's up.

Erika Ishii

Oh, my God. That's very good.

Aabria Iyengar

Okay, we do have some questions.

Erika Ishii

Oh, yes, questions!

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah. First one, just a little warm up one for the group.

Lou Wilson

Warm up?

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah, warm up. We're only, like, half an hour into this. Everyone's got to get loose. From Nairi, this is a question for everyone. Diva off: Mirara versus Orima. Who's winning? And why?

Erika Ishii

Oh, shit.

Aabria Iyengar  
Yeah.

Lou Wilson  
I feel like I have my answer.

Aabria Iyengar  
Get in there.

Lou Wilson  
But I - it's interesting. I won't explain. I'll just say I think it's Mirara. I think Orima is quite powerful, but I think Mirara - you know, Mirara is out here on some, you know - hey, we've been told not to fuck with spirits or witches.

[Aabria laughs]

Erika Ishii  
Yeah.

Lou Wilson  
And honestly, as a spirit, I feel like I'm way more afraid of witches at this point.

[Aabria laughs]

Lou Wilson  
Personally, personally.

Aabria Iyengar  
That's fair. That's honestly fair.

Erika Ishii  
There's something about mortals, right? Because witches at the end are mortal. Or at least they're more mortal than they are anything else. There's just like a cunning and a guile - because spirits are just sort of inexorable forces, right? They're not -

Aabria Iyengar  
Okay, spirits can be killed.

Erika Ishii  
They can be killed, but it's just they're inexorable forces. They're not like going to scheme, and they don't have ambition in that way.

Aabria Iyengar  
That's fair.

Erika Ishii  
You know, there's just sort of a rawness to that, and it's like raw power and fury is something that makes Orima terrifying. But I think Mirara, and like scheming and duplicitousness and wordplay, there is something to be said about that. I think that scares me more.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah, that's fair. Well, shit. I was originally pulling very loudly for Orima, because I think if you have a whole thing where you're like, when I am a little hangry because my husband's not around, I invent plants that are like masochists that love growing too fast and want to choke people to death. And for me, that's diva behavior. But you know what? Mirara's turning a corner.

Lou Wilson

Oh, was it a diva-off?

Aabria Iyengar

Yes!

Lou Wilson

I thought they were going to fight to the death. Then it's definitely Orima.

Erika Ishii

Oh, yeah.

Aabria Iyengar

Thank you!

Lou Wilson

Though, I do think there's a pettiness to Mirara. Like, there is something to that Grandmother Wren line that's like, oh, bitch, I know you only take fights you can win.

[Aabria laughs]

Aabria Iyengar

That's my problem! Like - Mirara got her ass handed to her by Grandma Wren.

Lou Wilson

Yeah...

Aabria Iyengar

I'm struggling.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, I see that.

Aabria Iyengar

She didn't make it out of the first bracket, baby. That's all I'm saying.

Lou Wilson

It is funny that Grandmother Wren has held both of them down. Both of them have been put in their place by Grandmother Wren.

Erika Ishii

I think that's an important distinction, too. Yeah.

Aabria Iyengar

Okay! Next bracket, then. Grandmother Wren versus The Stranger. Because Grandma Wren was giving us a little bit of tea about The Stranger, and seems to have had some concerns. And I do feel like maybe this is just in my heart, going back and remembering how The Stranger sounded when we first met him back in the first arc. I do feel like he could duck walk. And I just want to say, he probably serves. Like, he curdles milk.

[Erika laughs]

Aabria Iyengar

I think he's bringing a lot more to the table than we're expecting.

Lou Wilson

And his dead drop literally brings the night with him. Right?

[Aabria laughs]

Erika Ishii

Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Lou Wilson

He comes down, and it's just all the lights go out. It's like, shit.

Erika Ishii

I feel like, yeah, ballroom culture. Like, he's part of a big into ballroom culture, for sure.

Aabria Iyengar

Why is The Stranger played by Honey Balenciaga? And I can't stop thinking about that.

[Erika and Lou laugh]

Aabria Iyengar

Thank you. Thank you for indulging me.

Erika Ishii

Yes, good. Good, good, good, good.

Lou Wilson

This is good. It's good to plant these seeds - we plant these seeds in the world.

Erika Ishii

Yeah. Is this good for everybody? We're good. That's a very good question. Thank you. Thank you for that.

Aabria Iyengar

Nice. Okay, I've got another one that's a little more focused. And this one's from Emma Bee. And she writes - thank you, Emma. How does it feel when you get to play your younger selves in flashbacks, especially after finishing Arc One? Has anything changed in how you play yourselves?

Erika Ishii

Oh, man, it's so funny.

Aabria Iyengar  
Yeah.

Erika Ishii

I feel like it's easier to play young Ame. I don't know why that is. I can definitely tell - I don't know if it's because I'm so deep inside her head that things that are easy for Ame are easier for me to play, and things that are harder are harder for me to play. Being very diplomatic and the conversation with Orima and all of that is difficult and feels very fraught, but then, like, being a kid and being excited about stuff and being like, I can just give- I'm making tea and here's a mug, and don't poke your eyes out with the cat ears,

[Aabria laughs]

Erika Ishii

Is so fun and easy to do, that like - yeah. I think going back to the kids, it's always like, oh, yeah, this is fun and easy. And, like, I don't know how. There's a playfulness about it. Yeah. How about you guys?

Aabria Iyengar

I mean, we haven't really encountered as much of this yet, post Arc One.

Erika Ishii

Lou got to be baby!

Aabria Iyengar

That is true! You got to be baby!

Lou Wilson

I got to play baby. Which, thank God, because I do think it was nice to be like, this is Eursulon, just pre-verbal Eursulon. Because I definitely feel like playing child Eursulon was a very interesting experience. Now, playing Teen Eursulon would almost be a little intimidating at this point. It would feel like- because that's, like, as we've established, because I guess supposedly it wasn't funny, my first scene, you know. I guess we'd have to play the darkest version. Like, Eursulon was already close to rock bottom when we met him, and so it would be like, okay, so Eursulon's absolute rock bottom is somewhere between leaving Grandmother Wren's house and when you meet him at the circus. So it would be like, to play that, I think it's like, oh, God. All right, we have to go back to that? Oh, please no. Please, no. I already - I already think it's funny, and you all -

[Aabria and Erika laughing and agreeing throughout]

Aabria Iyengar

I didn't think about that, like, oh, no.

Lou Wilson

It's more opportunities for me to go - it's kind of funny that Eursulon's picking at these chicken bones and then realizes they're rotten. Right? That's hilarious.

Aabria Iyengar

Erika and I just weeping over our pencils.

Erika Ishii

Oh, my God, that's so funny. I just have this memory of Lou going, it's *funny*!

Lou Wilson

Everyone thought the bird thing was so funny. I was part of the bird thing until my parents started screaming at me from the audience. How are we rehashing this? This is going to be the thing we fight about until the end of this podcast. I will go to the mat for that moment 20 out of 20 times. This never ends, everyone, just so you know.

[Erika and Aabria laughing throughout]

Aabria Iyengar

I think there's also some part of that was even better because we were sitting farther away because we were in a different recording setup, and there was just enough physical distance between Lou and then me and Erika were like, who are both on the other side, that we kind of gave each other a little look, like it felt spatially a little close to what I was imagining.

Erika Ishii

It did, yeah. Especially because also Lou would not look at us for a long time.

Lou Wilson

Please don't. Please. Brennan. Brennan, I know you're in a Panamanian jungle right now looking for me. What Brennan's experiencing right now is probably what Eursulon's time is like, being in a thick forest, being like, I think I know the way out of here. And then having to fight off - I mean, well, I guess we did kind of - see, there is a moment, it is with Rosalyn, that is like a little kind of shot of the in between. So it's just a lot more of -

Erika Ishii

God, that's great.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah. Well, now I'm terrified at the prospect of seeing Eursulon's like, adolescent decay.

Lou Wilson

Of course not, of course not.

Erika Ishii

Yeah. God.

Aabria Iyengar

Poor girl. I get it now.

Erika Ishii

Shout out to Rosalyn.

Aabria Iyengar

*Justice!*

Lou Wilson

I would like Erika to answer this question from Steve. Thanks, Steve. Good Stevening. [Erika and Aabria laugh] If the Fox was a human and Ame the familiar, what animal would Ame be?

Erika Ishii

I had originally thought fox. Right? Because she's like, all chuffy. That's why I chose fox. That's the whole thing about a familiar is it's like supposed to be this sort of externalized animal version of yourself. But I don't know. Now that we've kind of decided that the fox is - that witch's familiars are the things that they need to put away or the things - well, we said the things they need to work on. Like, what would Ame be if she was like, herself now? Mean, I still - I still think it would be a fox.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah! I just love the idea that you're like, if we're just seeing this as, like a magical girl transformation, you're like, oh, the fox becoming human. What could that look like? Oh, Ame becoming animal. What could it be? Oh, it's the same thing, but opposite.

Lou Wilson

Oh, it's just they reversed. Oh, weird.

Aabria Iyengar

Okay.

Lou Wilson

Would you be the same fox, or would you be some kind of different fox?

Erika Ishii

Probably a different fox. Probably. I think Ame would be some sort of, like, they're all those kinds of weird foxes, like that are -

Aabria Iyengar

Oh, the ones that look like a medieval - that look like a medieval drawing of a fox because their eyes are too human.

Erika Ishii

Yeah.

Aabria Iyengar

Fuck those ones.

Erika Ishii

But I think if the fox were human, the fox would be this sort of, like, dirtbag guy, you know?

Lou Wilson

Like a truly awful dude.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, like really shitty. Not even fuckboy, because fuckboy, denotes like, sort of, like a disingenuousness, but just like, a person who has no filter and does what he wants and is living a trash bag life. But very attractive and charming, though.

Aabria Iyengar

Is it just Jeff Bridges as the Dude?



Erika Ishii  
A little bit, but, like...

Lou Wilson  
Yeah, it feels like a younger Dude. He's got a little bit more energy.

Erika Ishii  
Younger? Yeah...

Lou Wilson  
But it's that same kind of philosophical, kind of constantly being like, well, why, man?

Aabria Iyengar  
YEAH!

Lou Wilson  
And you're like, um, I don't know. I've never asked these questions, Fox relax. Also, have you guys ever looked at a picture of a fox yawning?

Erika Ishii  
Yeah!

Aabria Iyengar  
No???

Lou Wilson  
It's pretty intense. Fox mouths, there's a lot going on in there.

Erika Ishii  
Yeah, like geese. Geese mouths and geese -

Aabria Iyengar  
Geese are - ugh, those are bad.

Erika Ishii  
Those are a lot. Those are a lot.

Aabria Iyengar  
Oh, that's really cute. It's like a 90 degree hinge.

Lou Wilson  
It feels like a snake. I Googled human eyed fox because you guys said that thing about medieval foxes like it was normal, and I've never heard that in my entire life. I was trying to find a picture, and I found two very disturbing things. A fox yawning, which does look like a snake unhinging its jaw, and an article titled, 'I Got the Viral Fox Eye Lift, and I Wanted to Die From the Pain'. And it's a woman just with blood dripping down her face.

Erika Ishii  
Oh, my God. NO!

Aabria Iyengar  
Oh, my God!

Erika Ishii  
That's the thing, the fox eyes - that's, I think, the way of saying Asian monolids. Right? Isn't that what the trend was? Right?

Aabria Iyengar  
I know fox eye in anime is, like, when you draw them with their eyes essentially shut with the implication that they can still see.

Erika Ishii  
Yeah...

Lou Wilson  
It does feel - wow, this is crazy, Erika, it does feel a little bit - I'm looking at one photo that feels very much like that, and it's like, oh!

Erika Ishii  
Isn't that what it is?

Lou Wilson  
This one is.

Erika Ishii  
It was like a makeup trend for a while, and then there's like, what is it called? Asian-fishing. Asian catfishing. I don't know.

Lou Wilson  
People be wild.

Aabria Iyengar  
We're all thinking about Arigato Grande right now. We know it. We got it.

Erika Ishii  
Oh, my God. Oh, God. Is that what -

Aabria Iyengar  
Oh, yeah. When she hit her K-pop era because she was done being vaguely Black. We love it.

Erika Ishii  
Oh, no... when she got, like, the hibachi grill. That's, like the absolute -

Aabria Iyengar  
Yeah! Tattooed on her body.

Lou Wilson  
She got hibachi grill tattooed on her???

Erika Ishii

Yeah, she said it was supposed to be something Japanese. Everybody's like, no, that's not what it means. And she's like, look, shut up.

Lou Wilson

Damn. Is this podcast just going to be you guys catching me up to speed on what's going on in the world?

Aabria Iyengar

Yes.

Lou Wilson

Ariana Grande has a hibachi tattoo. Foxes have eyes that look like people.

Aabria Iyengar

They're called Tibetan Foxes. If you look up Tibetan Fox. Yeah, they're the ones that - it looks like a kid that's drawing a fox but doesn't understand predator eye placement.

Lou Wilson

Oh, yes. This is -

Aabria Iyengar

Like, it just looks wrong. You didn't draw that good.

Erika Ishii

I think they were the ones that we were talking about when we were saying surviving in the jungle versus surviving on the tundra.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah... that's right.

Erika Ishii

We were talking about them. This is a conversation, an ongoing discussion.

Lou Wilson

Yeah, this is an ongoing discussion.

[Lou and Aabria laugh]

Erika Ishii

Is it more impressive? Do you give more props to - you got to hand it to a creature that lives in the jungle and is surviving an apex predator and surviving amongst quite a lot of competition. Or the scrappy survivors from, like, a tundra environment where there's, like, they're the only megafauna around, I think was the question, right?

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah, basically. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Erika Ishii

I think we all landed on -

Aabria Iyengar

Sorry, I'm lost looking at fox eye surgery, so I have to close this tab.

Lou Wilson

Yeah, we got to get back to the episode.

Aabria Iyengar

Okay, Eursulon! What would your familiar be?

Erika Ishii

That's what I was gonna ask!!

Aabria Iyengar

Oh, I'm sorry, Erika. You ask.

Erika Ishii

Eursulon? What would your familiar be?

Lou Wilson

What would my familiar be? I think we all know, right? We all know.

Erika Ishii

... A bear?

Lou Wilson

[sarcastically] Yeah, a big bear. NO! NO, you idiot.

[Erika laughing]

Aabria Iyengar

Uhh, a bottle of wine? What's happening?

Lou Wilson

Okay, WOW. Wow, okay. Yeah. It's an anthropomorphic bottle of wine. It's a Sausage Party-esque bottle of wine with just, like, mickey-manned hands and gloves and little feet that runs around and it's, like, really very bottom heavy and just swings back and forth wildly.

Erika Ishii

The fact that you mentioned Sausage Party. That is the movie that I am the maddest that I was forced to go see with somebody. Because if somebody had a birthday, I had to see it. And I wish I had those 2 hours of my life back.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah, you did make me think of that for the first time in a really long time.

Erika Ishii

Yeah. And now I'm very angry. You made me think of that again. Normally I don't speak negatively about films and things about media, but just. I can't. Unconscionable.

[Aabria laughing]

Erika Ishii

Okay, so what would it be?

Lou Wilson

A hawk. Or a falcon.

Erika Ishii

Oh, shit. Why didn't - well, of course it. God damn it.

Lou Wilson

You know I'm on my Sir Curran cosplay fucking tip.

Aabria Iyengar

*Let's go!*

Lou Wilson

It is pretty nice to just have a full, aspirational character that I meet in my second episode that I'm like, cool, this is kind of what I'm chasing the whole time. I'm doing my version of Sir Curran. Yeah, I definitely have something with wings.

Erika Ishii

Oh, you're so right.

Aabria Iyengar

Oh, yeah.

Lou Wilson

Something with wings and talons. I don't know. Who knows? Maybe we'll find a cool spirit bird that Brennan makes up. But we shall see.

[Erika and Aabria laugh]

Erika Ishii

What would Suvi's be?

Aabria Iyengar

So I think this is really fun because there's a difference between what Suvi would think is the coolest animal. And it would be, like, cool, some sort of, like, desert snake. But I think Suvi's actual, like, if it was some part of her that had to be put away or worked on, I think it would be something fundamentally gentle, and I think it would be something like a rabbit.

Erika Ishii

[gasps] Oh, my God.

Aabria Iyengar

Which is, again, a shout out. I had, like, a big bunny. When I was - that was, like, my first pet growing up.

Erika Ishii

This is truly illuminating.

Aabria Iyengar

Hold on. There's a very specific photo that I think has all of our - oh, no, it's an eagle, not a hawk.

Erika Ishii

What is this?

Aabria Iyengar

There's, like, a famous photo of an eagle and a fox and -

Erika Ishii

Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Oh, my God.

Lou Wilson

This could be us, guys. This could be us.

Aabria Iyengar

This could be us. I mean, I don't like that I'm kind of just the MacGuffin. But I'm okay with it because it's really funny. This fox does not let it go.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, the fox is like, that's mine, that's mine!

Lou Wilson

I also am now having a hard time letting go of the idea of Eursulon's familiar being a straight-up bald eagle.

[Aabria cackles]

Lou Wilson

Who just speaks in single word phrases. He's like, yes. No. Yes. No. And that's it. I'm like, can we be playful like Ame and the Fox? No. Okay. All right. Well, um -

[Erika and Aabria laughing throughout]

Aabria Iyengar

The yes no eagle is my favorite.

Lou Wilson

Yeah. Eursulon's familiar is a yes no bald eagle. Hey, can you figure out something crazy for us to do? No. All right, man. No.

[Erika and Aabria laughing throughout]

Aabria Iyengar

The dissertations that would be written about, like - okay, what are we trying to say about Eursulon?

Lou Wilson

Exactly. Familiars are a part of yourself that you have to squirrel away, and Eursulon is squirreling away his - I don't know. He's a pretty kind of stoic guy at times.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, like is he really -

Lou Wilson

[slowly and stoically] Yes. No.

Aabria Iyengar

[laughing] I think as funny as it is to get the answer, no, I think the worst one is yes, because he will not explain further.

Lou Wilson

Exactly. Yes.

Aabria Iyengar

[laughing] Can you think of something fun for us to do? Yes.

Lou Wilson

Wait, what did - shit, guys. I don't know what we did. I don't know what I asked him to do. Watch it out, everyone. Be careful. Keep your eyes to the skies.

[Erika and Aabria laughing]

Aabria Iyengar

The popotential on the yes no eagle.

Erika Ishii

Yes no is so fucking funny.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah, that's very good.

Erika Ishii

So fucking funny to me. Oh, my God, Suvi's being a rabbit is so sad.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah!

Lou Wilson

So sweet.

Aabria Iyengar

Just like, yeah, that's the - yeah. You put away being gentle. Yeah. I think it would be very weird to go back and flash back to sort of the black box of how Suvi grew up. I don't know what she would be in other than just the needle, like, moving towards the person we see at the beginning of episode one. I don't know if that's very interesting, but it is just weird to be, like, cool, you're going to watch how much of a child she isn't anymore, but she already called other kids children when we met her in the Children's Adventure, so she was already fucking weird. I don't know.

Lou Wilson

I'm about it. She's been calling people kids since she was a kid.

Erika Ishii

Yeah.

Aabria Iyengar

You know, children are wrong. You're like, you're six. Oh, God.

Erika Ishii

Oh, God. Tiny Suvi is so cute too.

Aabria Iyengar

All of them are so cute. God, do you remember when our biggest problem was, like, we got to go figure out the goat pen?

Erika Ishii

Yeah...

Aabria Iyengar

I do miss those days a little bit.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, I miss those days. I mean, I remember when I was a kid, and it's like, well, I got to do my homework, boo!

Aabria Iyengar

Boo.

Erika Ishii

Nothing will ever be worse than this.

Lou Wilson

It's like a fun moment also with kind of the end of the episode, which is - I feel like I can especially speak to Eursulon of, like, we've been in kind of, like, a moment of just pleasure as Erika, or as Ame comes back to - wakes up, and it is a little bit like, wait, that's right. There's stuff we have to do. Ah, that's right. And Steel can't hear it. We're playing that game again. Steel, stay out. We got to talk.

Erika Ishii

Oh, my God. It's like Flicker and the - Flicker of opening up the door, like, no!

Lou Wilson

Not yet, not yet.

Aabria Iyengar

Responsibility, please wait outside. Shout out to my favorite line in this, which was Ame realizing she woke up in the Citadel and going, oh, fuck.

Erika Ishii

Oh, yeah.



Aabria Iyengar

Gotcha, gotcha. You're in my house now. Fuck off.

Lou Wilson

What's up?

Erika Ishii

It took me a moment to be like, oh, yeah, that's right. Ame they didn't know she was going to the Citadel.

Aabria Iyengar

Oops! Whoops! Gotcha. Sometimes you get a sword waggled at you and then you wake up in the bad place.

Erika Ishii

But I'm so excited to explore the Citadel!

Lou Wilson

Without giving too much away, I mean, you all ain't ready.

Aabria Iyengar

It's so good.

Lou Wilson

I'm really excited for the next ep. I don't feel like - we've never said anything. I'm excited to talk. I'm excited to come back in a week. Circle back.

Erika Ishii

Oh, my God. Will you even be here?

Aabria Iyengar

It depends on how long it takes to find Brennan.

Lou Wilson

Oh, yeah. Okay, well, hopefully I find Brennan immediately, and we'll come back for the first time for a second episode and Craig, some guy named Craig can fucking stay home. And I'll be here. I hope. I hope.

Erika Ishii

Yeah. Okay, well, we'll see.

Aabria Iyengar

I have a dream.

Lou Wilson

We all have a dream. And it's that I'll be here next week to talk about the next episode, which I can't wait, but we shall see, because Brennan is somewhere in a Panamanian jungle looking for me, trying to romance the stone. And I'm going to go and, I guess, do a romance the stone squared to come back around and try and romance his stone while he's romancing my stone.

Aabria Iyengar

Aurora Boromance the stone.

Erika Ishii

That's a big portmanteau.

Lou Wilson

Aurora Boromance the stone.

[Aabria cackling]

Erika Ishii

I love that. I love a portmanteau.

Aabria Iyengar

Love to see it.

Erika Ishii

Oh, man. So is that - is that- I have no idea what time -

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah, it's been an hour.

Lou Wilson

Me neither. I have no idea how long we've been talking.

Erika Ishii

Yeah, this is good because also, your jet ski. Or, I'm sorry, Ski-Doo.

Lou Wilson

Oh, that's right. Do we want to...?

Erika Ishii

You gotta go...?

Lou Wilson

Yeah, I have to go - I drank a Celsius. If I seemed erratic this episode, it's because I had to drink a Celsius because I spent all morning reclaiming a Ski-Doo that I found for free. Excuse me, two Ski-Doos that I found for free on Craigslist. And I drove across - no, I didn't drive across county lines. I stayed within Los Angeles county to pick up a Ski-Doo that I have yet to figure out what I'm going to do with, but I have a Ski-Doo, and I spent all morning taking it. It was on the second floor of a storage facility.

Erika Ishii

Oh, my God. How did they get -

Aabria Iyengar

Oh, God.

Lou Wilson

It was crazy. The only way we could - and they're huge. Also, when I found them, I was like, I'll rent a UHaul and go get it. And very quickly did some Googling and was like, these things are massive. You can't carry them. I don't know how big - I feel like that Waverunner game for Nintendo 64 fucked me up. And I was like, these things are tiny, dude, but they're huge. Ski-Doos are huge.

Aabria Iyengar

I think it's the water of it all where you're like, oh, I'm missing half of it because it's under the water.

Lou Wilson

Yes, exactly. I'm kind of seeing that top. On land? Ski-Doos are a real beast.

Aabria Iyengar

Oh, my goodness.

Lou Wilson

So I'm actually, as soon as we wrap, I'm going to go take a nap because I'm tired from carting Ski-Doos all over LA. But who knows? Maybe in the future, you guys will see me on a Ski-Doo just kind of cruising around somewhere.

Aabria Iyengar

Are you going to take the Ski-Doos down to Panama? Like, you can take them through the canal!

Lou Wilson

That's - I got these Ski-Doos to save Brennan. So if everything goes according to plan, in one week's time, me and Brennan will be surfing along the Panamanian canal with a bunch of ragamuffins on our tail saying, close it! Close the canal, and we'll thread the needle right through it as they close it. And all of those Ragamuffins hit the wall.

[Aabria and Erika laughing]

Aabria Iyengar

That's so good.

Lou Wilson

So I don't know. Dreams. Dreams, money can buy.

Aabria Iyengar

It was free!

Lou Wilson

It was free. Two Ski-Doos for free is just too good a deal. I thought I was only going to take one, but I took both.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah. What would you do with just one? You're like, well, I can go to a water area...

Lou Wilson

I could do this alone.

Aabria Iyengar

[laughing] Just one person on a Ski-Doo by themselves. Is sad.

Lou Wilson

I did that with - it is sad. I did it with Clippers tickets. When I booked my first big movie job, I wanted to buy something, and so I bought half season tickets to the Clippers basketball team. But I was too scared to buy - it was too expensive to buy two, so I just bought one. And so for just one NBA season, I would go to Clippers games by myself and cheer. But that was good, because I ended up going through a breakup just at the right time.

[Aabria and Erika aww-ing]

Lou Wilson

So it became this, like, you're going to go do an activity. You're not going to be sad in your house. You're going to go do an activity, you're going to go cheer for your team. It became a nice thing to do by myself.

Aabria Iyengar

That's nice.

Lou Wilson

But that was the past. And now I have a Ski-Doo.

Aabria Iyengar

You have a C2!

Lou Wilson

I have a C2.

Erika Ishii.

Ohhhh!

Aabria Iyengar

Sorry. I'm sorry I said it.

Lou Wilson

If anybody knows ultimate rebuilds or rebuilders guys, two different -

Erika Ishii

So are you going to be doing it yourself, or?

Lou Wilson

Yeah, I'm gonna figure it out.

Erika Ishii

Okay.

Aabria Iyengar

That's so dope.

Lou Wilson

I'm going to figure it out. I'm going to turn it into my hobby for the next couple of years, or a year, hopefully, and try to get them back up to snuff. And I don't know. If I ride these Ski-Doos one time, it's the greatest thing I've done with my entire life.

[Aabria cackles]

Lou Wilson

If I take these Ski-Doos from being in the second floor of a storage facility and do one DJ Khaled-style Snapchat post on one in the Long Beach Harbor, I'm a master of the universe. I'm going to go trade stocks in New York because I've figured it all out, which is what you do when you figure out life. I don't know. Anyway.

Aabria Iyengar

You become limitless. That's your limitless trajectorial breaker.

Lou Wilson

I'm about to become the Black Bradley Cooper out here.

[Erika and Aabria laugh]

Aabria Iyengar

I want to make a hanging with Bradley Cooper joke very badly, but I don't even know who that Venn diagram catches.

Lou Wilson

Who's it for?

Aabria Iyengar

The worst thing you can do is tell me in the next calendar year that you've done it and you've restored them, because I will make it my mission to send Erika every Craigslist booking thingy of other Ski-Doos and show up at your house and be like, do more. Make a fleet. Keep going.

Erika Ishii

Let's go. Let's go! A fleet! Admiral of your own Ski-Doo fleet.

[Aabria laughing throughout]

Lou Wilson

CHARGE!!!

Aabria Iyengar

Just take off down the river. Sorry. Go.

Lou Wilson

Yes, close it.

Erika Ishii

Good luck with retrieving Brennan with the Ski-Doos. Cannot wait to see you both triumphantly riding back into the LA Harbor.

Lou Wilson

We're going to do it beautifully.

Erika Ishii

Okay. Thank you so much, everybody, for joining us for the fireside chat for Episode. It's very good to be back in Umora with you all. I'm here with Aabria Iyengar.

Aabria Iyengar

Ahoohoo, crackle, crackle. Welcome to my house.

Erika Ishii

And Lou Wilson.

Lou Wilson

Ahoohoo, crackle, crackle. Mi casa es tu casa.

[Aabria cackling]

Aabria Iyengar

We speak Spanish at the Citadel.

Lou Wilson

I truly thought you were saying, welcome to my house just as some fun bit. And then I realized it's part of the show. Sorry, guys. I have been up since 06:00 a.m. trying to get Ski-Doos.

Aabria Iyengar

Oh my God, go take a nap!

Lou Wilson

I'm going to go take a nap.

Aabria Iyengar

Yeah!

Erika Ishii

All right. Good night, Lou. Goodbye everybody!!!

[Lilting pipe flute flutters above drum beats and choral tones as the song of the Spirit Realm from the Children's Adventure starts]

Lou Wilson & Aabria Iyengar

Bye!!!

[The music fades]