Harry Potter and the Sacred Text - Book 1, Chapter 10: Halloween - Friendship

‘Chapter 10, Halloween: Malfoy couldn't believe his eyes when he saw that Harry and Ron were still at Hogwarts the next day looking tired but perfectly cheerful. Indeed, by next morning Harry and Ron thought that meeting the three-headed dog had been an excellent adventure and they were quite keen to have another one.’

(Quote continues, fades into intro music)

Casper: I'm Casper ter Kuile

Vanessa: And I'm Vanessa Zoltan

Casper: And this is Harry Potter and the Sacred Text.

Casper: When I was ten years old, I changed schools. It was my own choice, but it was a big change. I left behind a very community-oriented, nature-y Waldorf School and entered a very posh, English prep school where we had pink blazers and shorts and had to call the professors 'sir' and had Chapel every morning and so it was a big shift for me. Also socially I was leaving behind the friends that I had and entering this strange new world and I'm someone who's very social so remembering what I did is kind of a weird thing to look back on, but to try and help myself figure out who were my friends and how I could settle in, I had a little black book where I wrote down the initials of all the people in my class and at the end of every day, I would rate them out of 10 to, kind of, at the end of that week be able to average out their scores and figure out who my best friend was. Clearly a very strong social skill at an early age but I think looking back it feels like I really didn't quite understand what friendship was about, and reading this chapter where Ron, Hermione, and Harry are so clearly figuring out what friendship is about and what it takes to be real friends - you know, that memory really stuck out to me, where we really had to learn the art of friendship, you know, and this was an early, if misplaced, effort on my part at 11, 10 years old.

Vanessa: Casper I love that story, I just have one question. I just did the math and I think that you and I have been friends for about a hundred and thirty weeks. I'm wondering what my score is.

Casper: You know it really depends whoever wins that 30 second challenge this week. I think you can sort of, maybe, get to like a 6.

Vanessa: Do I get more points when I beat you or fewer?

Casper: Whoa!

Vanessa: I get fewer when I beat you?
Casper: Yes!

Vanessa: Oh, so our friendship is like in the negative because I keep winning.

(Casper laughs)

Vanessa: Awkward. Worth it. Hashtag totally worth it. In all seriousness, I love the way that you're thinking about that and I think that we all struggle with that all the time so I'm excited, and I'm excited to beat you in the 30 second recap and sacrifice our friendship in the name of competition. Are you ready? It's your turn to go first.

Casper: Count me in.

Vanessa: Here's the thing, Casper. If you love me, for the sake of our friendship, you'll finally do well.

Casper: Okay.


(ticking sound)

Casper: So it's breakfast time the next day after the big adventure with Fluffy and they feel really excited about the whole thing and suddenly there's a package and a letter and it's a new Nimbus 2000 and Harry and Ron are not allowed to open at the table but they're very excited. They end up showing it off to Malfoy and, like, rubbing it in his face that he's allowed to play Quidditch. Then they have Charms and Wingardium Leviosa happens and then they're very mean to Hermione, but it's Halloween feast and there's a troll and they run and they solve it and they save Hermione.

(Angry buzzing sound- 107 words in thirty seconds!)

Casper: Haha, that's so bad.

Vanessa: I'm speechless. You really don't respect our friendship.

Casper: I wish I was better at it, Vanessa. I wish I could live up to your standards.

Vanessa: You know we all have our skills and you're pretty so it's fine.

Casper: Haha. Well if I'm pretty let's see how good you are at the 30 second. 3 2 1. Go.
Vanessa: Harry gets a mysterious package that turns out it's from McGonagall and it's a broom even though first years are not allowed a broom, so Oliver Wood teaches him all the rules to Quidditch and Malfoy gets really mad. Also a troll comes in during the Halloween feast and it turns out that because Ron and Harry have really hurt Hermione's feelings, she's down in danger crying and so they go down to save Hermione from the troll. The three of them fight a troll together and then Hermione lies to authorities in order to get them out of trouble and they kill the troll and they win.

Casper: The troll's not actually dead; I feel like you should get minus points for that.

Vanessa: Fine. People can vote. Vote at HarryPotterSacredText.com as to who did a better job.

Casper: Because this is chapter 10 and we've had 10 goes at doing a 30 Second recap, next week we will tally up the votes so make sure you get your votes in at HarryPotterSacredText.com. And thanks to Ivy Moon who wrote in with a suggestion of how we can award a winner. The loser of the 30 second challenge over 10 weeks has to bake a Hagrid style cake: a chocolate cake with green writing which is then shared. So everyone wins because there's always cake, but the burden of the baking does fall on one of us. So thank you Ivy for that suggestion and please get your votes in and, you know, it looks like I'll be baking but we'll start with a clean sheet next week.

Vanessa: So Casper this week's theme is friendship and I'd like to start in the most obvious place which is what you hinted at in your great story, which is Ron, Hermione and Harry. And, you know, the last line of the chapter is this great line about friendship and it's, 'From that moment on, Hermione Granger became their friend. There are some things you can't share without ending up liking each other and knocking out a 12-foot mountain troll is one of them.' Which also proves that you're right, they didn't kill the troll, they just knocked it out. But, Ron, Hermione, and Harry end this chapter as friends. But what's interesting to me about that is the reason that Hermione is in the bathroom where she's in danger of the troll is because Ron has said something that has really hurt her feelings and so she's in the bathroom crying.

Casper: It's so mean that she is skipping class - like multiple classes - that's how upset she is. And Hermione doesn't skip class.

Vanessa: No, we know that Hermione does not skip an opportunity to learn, slash, show off. So right, she's so hurt she's crying in the girls bathroom and Ron and Harry realize that she's in danger for the troll and so they go down and they save her. Then when they get caught by the teachers, Hermione tells this lie.
Casper: ‘Please Professor McGonagall, they were looking for me. I went looking for the troll because I... I thought I can deal with it on my own. You know, because I read all about them.’ Which is a very Hermione excuse. That’s some quick thinking.

Vanessa: It is some quick thinking. But what has always irked me about this is that the lie is unnecessary. Hermione can just be honest, and be like, “I was down in the bathroom. I didn’t know there was a troll.” Right?

Casper: I was being bullied. Totally.

Vanessa: Or, even without selling them out, she could just say, like, ‘I was in the bathroom, upset and crying, and the boys knew that I was and so they came down and saved me.’ There’s no reason for this lie expect to gesture to Harry and Ron, ‘look, I’m willing to lie to authority and I’m willing to fall on a sword so that you guys look extra good just for friendship. I know that you guys think that me being a suck up is the most important thing..’

Casper: ‘But actually, I value our potential friendship more than the way that these teachers look at me.’

Vanessa: Exactly. And you could argue that this is just a way for her to show them that she’s grateful, but I think she’s more than that. I think that she’s being vulnerable. She’s revealing more of herself and I think if you’re just being grateful to someone, you do a gesture of..

Casper: You send some chocolates the next day.

Vanessa: Right. You say, ‘Hey, thanks guys, I really appreciate it.’ But by revealing these.. She’s sort of showing them her cards and is like look, ‘I’m willing to break the rules too and I’m not just what you think I am.’ And I think that revelation, that vulnerability, that humility is a gesture of friendship, that’s how people bond.

Casper: I completely agree with you. This is about her forming a friendship. You know, and she’s not being fake. I think that’s very important, I think we’re seeing a three dimensional Hermione here and the boys are so far have just been judging her as this 2D know-it-all, goody-two-shoes. Actually, this is all true, Hermione, we just reaching to the delicious depths of her character.

Vanessa: She’s revealing more about herself. Casper, where else did you see friendship?

Casper: I think we really learn about how friendship is formed and the, kind of, ingredients of friendship in a way. The chapters opens with them remembering the adventure with Fluffy, the
three-headed dog and they're already re-writing the memory. You know, they were absolutely terrified, but now they're re-writing it as a sort of fun adventure, and they want to have another one, and so there's this element of shared memory and shared story that forms a foundation of friendship that you can always, kind of, remember together.

Vanessa: I think - that's so funny - whenever I get together with friends - you know, friends who you don't get to see very often - I wonder, when we create new memories - because I feel like so much of our time together is just laughing about memories?

Casper: Well, and I think that's the crucial piece is that if it just stays there, it's not enough, right. The friendship doesn't deepen. And I think the second ingredient is about deepening that which is shared work, like having a shared mission. And it starts out being, let's think about that Gringotts mystery, but then it really becomes about knocking out the troll. Right, that's real work. Physical, intellectual, moral work and that, you know, that's how those new memories are formed. So I think there's something about shared work, but not all types of work immediately lead to friendship. I think you see Harry and Oliver Wood - you can see a colleague kind of relationship, right? There's a friendliness, but it's not a friendship, and I think that might have to do with the age barrier, but also the level of seniority, you know, what is the captain.

Vanessa: Power

Casper: Right, there's something about power. Actually, it's difficult to form friendships across those lines of difference. But then the final, kind of, ingredient for friendship I think is also about having people who are not your friends, and it starts with Hermione being on the outside and teasing Hermione and excluding her, but of course, once Hermione's on the inside, there's enough outsiders in Malfoy and Crabbe and Goyle. So there's a, kind of a dark side of friendship a little bit there as well.

Vanessa: But I wanna push back on that being a dark side. So I'm a humanist chaplain. I obviously believe that we should all love and respect one another, but I do think that there's something beneficial to disliking other people.

Casper: Okay! That's a.. That's a bold claim. Tell me more.

Vanessa: Well, I..
Casper: Do you mean a difference between not liking people, or do you mean a difference between having people that you're committed to...

Vanessa: Yes, I think there's a benefit to having an inside group and an outside group.

Casper: I understand that.

Vanessa: And I think that, you know, if you care about too many people it becomes shallow. We only have a certain number of hours in the day. And Intimacy is a prerequisite for true friendship, and so saying, I'm gonna stop here - you know, I'm gonna stop with friend 12, in terms of putting time in for true intimacy, I think that that's an important thing. I think that we have limited resources and I don't think that you need to have enemies. I don't think you need to be like, 'Crabbe and Goyle are the worst.' I think you can be like, I don't like them as much. And instead, I prioritize you. I don't think that there's anything wrong about that. Right? Am I being hateful?

Casper: Not at all, I think that's being very fair and I think, you know, it's being realistic and actually it helps strengthen the friendships which you do invest in when you're clear that they are your friends. I remember in my undergrad days, I went to a birthday party of a girl who had a ton of friends and there were like 40 people in this bar, but she was in the toilets crying because there were another 40 people who hadn't shown up. And I felt so disrespected and not worthy, you know, amongst all of these great people, and she wasn't there appreciating us. So I think there's something really important about demonstrating to the people who we do commit to that they are our priority, that they are really our true friends.

Vanessa: The other thing is, is that if you don't have a close - and I'm going to switch now to war language - if you don't have a close band of brothers, then enough trust isn't going to be built up to go on the real adventures together. Right, so a troll is obviously scary and it's a lot for three eleven-year-olds to handle, but these three kids are going to fight bigger and bigger battles, and if there were a hundred of them, and there wasn't that total trust of like, when I fall, you'll catch me that was built up, they wouldn't be able to do the amazing things that they do.

Casper: Just think of that Margaret Mead quote, you know, 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world, indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.' And I think, you know, that's what we see forming, right in this chapter. So I have another weird, like Casper-sees-weird-things-in-the-story moment.
Vanessa: I love it.

Casper: I think there's also something that we learn about friendship from our introduction to Quidditch. Namely, that there's three types of balls and three types of friends. So there's the 'quaffle friend' - and the quaffle, you'll remember, is, kind of, there's three of them. They are the balls that get bounced around from player to player and have to go through the hoops and you get 10 points for a quaffle goal, so to speak. And it reminded me of an acquaintance friend like, someone you see now and then, who, like, they're 10 points. Big deal. It's nice, but it's friendly. It's cool. It's a friendly ball, but like, big deal. Then you have the 'bludger friend' and the bludger is the ball that tries to knock you off your broom, tries to, you know, stop you from scoring. It's kind of like a frenemy, you know, like a rival friend or, you know, it's like a.. I don't know, like a bludger friend. And then finally, you have the 'golden snitch friend'. They're one in a million. They're difficult to find. They're worth 150 points and, I don't know, I just thought we all of us have quaffles, bludgers, and golden snitches in our lives and, you know, all the different players on the teams are providing vital friend roles, right? Harry is seeking that golden snitch friend, the Weasley twins are knocking away those frenemies. Maybe it falls down.

Vanessa: I actually think it just keeps working because, even if you find the snitch, sometimes in order to win, you need those quaffle points.

Casper: That's true, don't ignore the acquaintance friends.

Vanessa: Yeah, you know, and the bludgers in your world, sort of, push you around. And they push you to be better. I'm completely sold, except that I'm now waiting for you to tell me that I'm a snitch in your life. Do it. Tell me.

Casper: You're like..

Vanessa: Shut up. Tell me.

Casper: I feel like you're like the golf ball that I've had to practice on.

Vanessa: No tell me. Cut. Scene. Try again.
Casper: Also can we say..

Vanessa: Call me a snitch!

Casper: Oliver Wood, what a babe!

Vanessa: Okay, no but like, seriously, say I'm your snitch.

Casper: You're like a silver snitch.

Vanessa: Oh my god, I hate you.

Casper: Before we transition into our sacred practice, I've had a number of people ask us, ‘So, do you prepare beforehand? Do you know what's coming?’ Just to clarify, I'm sitting here waiting for Vanessa to read a passage. I have no idea what's coming. So, just like you, we're about to enter a sacred imaginative world of mystery.

Vanessa: This week again, we're going to use St. Ignacio's practice that we have renamed, Sacred Imagination. So I would like to invite all of you to close your eyes if you are not driving or walking and really open your senses to imagine yourself into this world. I'm going to be skipping just one section in the middle for expediency's sake. What I would like you to do is imagine yourself as Hermione in this as I read this section. Wonder at what smells, what feelings, what thoughts, what physical, tactile touches you are feeling as I read. ‘It was a horrible sight. Twelve feet tall. It's skin was a dull, granite grey. It's great lumpy body like a boulder with it's small bald head perched on top like a coconut. It had short legs, thick as tree trunks with flat, horny feet. The smell coming from it was incredible. It was holding a huge, wooden club which dragged along the floor because its arms were so long. Hermione Granger was shrinking against the wall opposite, looking as if she was about to faint. The troll was advancing on her, knocking the sinks off the walls as it went.’ So Casper, what was it like to be Hermione?

Casper: I actually saw the troll in a way that I don't think I did when I was reading it myself. And I suddenly saw the greyness of it's skin and I guess, in the movie, the troll is wearing something, but why would the troll be wearing something? So I'm seeing this, kind of, enormous, kind of, grey, naked, scary thing coming towards me and the fact that it's smashing each of those sinks, like the noise, there's probably water everywhere now. I mean, I'm totally terrified.
Vanessa: Right. So what do you think? What is it like to be Hermione? What's going through your mind?

Casper: I guess I'm just trying to hide. I don't see any escape. I don't know if she knows the door is locked, but she's not trying anything. Right, she's not trying any magic. She's not trying to hide really, she's just shrinking against the wall, trying to be as small as she can. But she knows the end is coming.

Vanessa: Yeah, I mean, I'm curious if she's praying, or if she's made some sort of peace. If she's contemplating mortality, of like, this is how I die, and I die this way because I was crying over these boys. And I wonder if it's what impacts the way she decides to handle the lie, of like, I'd better make friends because I am totally alone.

Casper: I've had those moments where I'm like, oh, this is the end. I fell off a pier in 2009 and broke both of my legs, and fractured my back, and had a helicopter rescue, it was the whole deal. And I really thought as I was falling, I was like, this is it. Like, we're done. And in a way, I was actually quite calm about it in the moment. Obviously falling is different than a twelve foot troll coming at you with a wooden club, but I do think that she comes face to face with her own death at age eleven and that change that we see, that willingness to abandon listening to teachers and always doing what's right... You know, right on the side of the law, and instead choosing what she feels as right in terms of having a friendship of meaning. I think that's got to do with the closeness she comes to being beaten to death by a troll.

Vanessa: And, I mean, we see signs that she wants to be friends with Ron and Harry before, but, I mean, maybe the reason she really picks them is these are two good guys to have on your side, when, like, stuff goes down. And that matters because stuff goes down.

Casper: And she, in the fight, it's Ron and Harry- Hermione doesn't really get involved in the fight. She is clearly still in so much shock. All she can do is just stay against that wall. So I guess this passage, thanks to your choosing it and reading it for us, really illustrates the terror actually, and the lasting, scarring experience that this has for Hermione, as a, sort of, foundational.. Yeah, coming face to face with death.

Vanessa: Yeah, and, I mean, it's a real trauma and there's real levity brought to it by the fact that what ends it is Harry's wand accidentally going up the troll nose.

Casper: And Ron using Wingardium Leviosa which is just classic...

Vanessa: I mean, that's amazing though because to some extent..

Casper: She has saved herself by sharing the knowledge of that spell.

Vanessa: Exactly
Casper: Oh my goodness, I hadn't seen that. That's really cool.

Vanessa: So before what we said in.. I really believed it was that it isn't that Hermione changes in this scene, but now I'm seeing that.. I think maybe she does change. I think that, you know, in the previous chapter, she really cares about points and I think it's possible that having felt so alone up against this wall and having these two boys - who she's already felt some kinship with - walk in and save her. I think it's very possible that she has been profoundly changed by this traumatic moment. And so maybe there is something optimistic about this, that we can be changed. Even the traumas isn't the way we want to go about being changed, but even that we can be changed for the better by trauma.

Casper: Or just experience, you know - that we see things in new ways, and people in new ways. That we can all learn and grow. I think we see one other thing about Hermione that we'll see develop over the books, which is we know that in moments of real crisis, she's not always the fastest on her feet, or the quickest. She's brave, but she's not, kind of, recklessly brave, like the two boys are, taking on this troll. And so I see the beginning of the team, and the different strengths that they all have. You know, she's the one who plans and prepares and knows the detailed finece of magic and share that skill so that others like Ron, who, in moments of just total madness, do something reckless and very brave, end up being able to use that preparation, that then again saves Hermione. So there's something, kind of, symbiotic in that friendship that we see being built here.

Vanessa: I agree.

Casper: We need each other.

Vanessa: We do. And I'm your snitch. Just say it. One of your snitches.

Casper: So Vanessa, it's time for us to offer our blessings. Who would you like to bless this week?

Vanessa: I would like to bless Professor McGonagell for getting Harry, not just a broom but the best broom, which we find out more about later, but first-years are not allowed brooms. And I think that, you know, whenever you're in a position of power, whether or not you're doing it intentionally, you're not just doing a gesture, you're also signifying that this type of gesture is okay, that you condone it. So I think that what Mcgonagell is showing everybody who's watching is that there's a time for breaking the rules and I like that. I'm anti dogma for dogma's sake and so I understand that first-years aren't allowed brooms because it would be chaos and they don't really know how to fly and, like, let them learn first. There are probably really good reasons for it, but I also love that Mcgonagell is the head of the house, is like, ‘Yep, I got you this broom.’ So there's a time for following rules and there's just a time not to, and I think that that is a lesson that maybe Harry learns a little too well, but I do like it as a lesson. So, I'd like to bless strict
Professor Mcgonagell for teaching kids that it's okay to break rules. And you, Casper? Who would you like to bless this week?

Casper: I know I've talked a lot about Hermione, but she deserves a blessing.

Vanessa: She deserves everything.

Casper: After what she's been through. And particularly, I think that, you know, Hermione has come face to face with this terrifying experience and has felt at the lowest that she probably has.. this is probably the worst experience of her life. You know, she's alone in still a relatively strange place. She's coming face to face with danger, and yet what she comes out of it with is a clear sense of what matters and a clear commitment to building relationships of trust and meaning. And being willing to sacrifice the things that used to matter to her so much, like getting points for your house, you know, that status. And I think now and then, we all have those moments where we come face to face with what really matters most and it's difficult to let go of the things that we have been prizing and really refocus on what gives us meaning and ultimately what gives us relationships of love and trust. So for anyone who has to make that choice at the moment, I guess we have something to learn from Hermione, so my blessing is for her.

Vanessa: I would like to add one more blessing this week. Although we say her name at the end of every episode, a beautiful and invisible part of this podcast is our producer, Arianna Nedelman. And is a full one third partner in this podcast. The amazing amount of work is just invisible in a house-elf, magical way to all of you, and I am hyper aware that Arianna can edit out what I am saying, but we are a democracy in this little production team, and Casper and I outvoted her. So Casper and I just wanted to take a second, not just to honor Arianna, but we are going to use her as a symbol of all of the people in the world who make this world better and more beautiful and more brilliant, without our even noticing.

Casper: Thank you to a number of you who wrote in willing to help with social media. We're so grateful, we have two fabulous new coordinators: Emily Colgan and Jenn Stark who have already been tweeting up a storm, so a very, very big thanks to Emily and Jenn for all of your help, and in fact, Jenn sent us a little voice message, as you can to harrypotterssacredtext@gmail.com with a reflection on a previous episode. So let's hear from Jenn.

Jenn: Hi guys, first off, I want to thank you so much for making this podcast, I know I'm getting a lot out of it every week, and I think many other people are as well. I really enjoyed episode 7 and especially the commentary about Dumbledore's opening words at the feast. Nitwit, blubber, oddment, tweak. Whenever I've read through this part in the past, I've always come to sort of the same conclusion that Vanessa had: that Dumbledore's talking about the absurdity of life and that so much of what we experience is really nonsensical in a way, but I also really liked we're Casper was going with his thoughts: that each word could possibly relate to the different houses. We know the positive characteristics associated with each house, but I think, as with
most things in life, there is a weakness that comes along with whatever defines us. I was thinking about each word and how it could relate to what each house fears. So this is what I've come up with: Nitwit, I think relates to Ravenclaw. They're known for their intelligence and wisdom and excellence in education so they would really have a hard time being viewed as anything other than that. Blubber I read a little bit differently than Casper did- not really as a word for fat, but blubber as in crying openly and uncontrollably. This reminded me of the Gryffindors who are known for their bravery and daring. They don't tend to openly show their emotions, they sort of have that stiff upper lip going on, and we see Harry consistently trying not to break down or let anyone see him get upset, so I imagine Gryffindors would be most affected by being called out for seeming too emotional. Oddment is a word which sort of means the leftover piece of something from a larger set and this always makes me think of Hufflepuffs, who I think even still, amongst most of the readers, sort of seem to be the odd house out. And they're known for their intense loyalty. Their sort of all for one mentality. So I think that's something really hurtful to them, I imagine. A slur that they wouldn't really like having hurled at them. Tweak. The word itself means a change or an improvement to a system and I think this has Slytherin sort of written all over it. Salazaar Slytherin himself, you know, wanted to preserve the blood purity in the wizarding world and intended all of Hogwarts to be that way, but most especially his house. But now we know there's lots of muggle borns at Hogwarts and I think this sort of threatens the way of life that they've always known and the tweaking of blood status and the change of rules towards a more egalitarian wizarding society is something that seems to frighten the establishment of Slytherin and so it's not something they would want to be reminded of consistently. I think it's possible in his mad, silly sort of way, Dumbledore could be alluding to the flip side of each house and sort of calling them out for what they fear as a reminder that no one is perfect, but also in the same way that there is nothing to fear when you're amongst friends. So obviously there's lots of room for lots of different interpretations, but this is something that really edified me this week and I wanted to share it, so thank you.

Vanessa: Thank you, Jenn so much for this beautiful message. And also just for all of the work and being a part of this podcast. Our listenership had already grown since you have taken the helm of our Twitter so thank you and we're excited for your voice in all of its different forms.

Thank you so much for listening to this week's episode. Next week, we will be reading chapter 11: Quidditch, towards the theme of goals.

Casper: You've been listening to Harry Potter and the Sacred Text which is produced by me Casper ter Kuile, Arianna Nedelman, and Vanessa Zoltan. Please subscribe on the iTunes, Stitcher, SoundCloud, or Google Play and leave us a review. That really helps spread the word. A big thanks to Jenn Stark and Emily Colgan, our social media coordinators, to Annie Parsons, Rebecca Falcon, Lacie Tagen Fli Etheridge, Sydney van Dyke, and Tre Line. Ivy Moon for her cake suggestion, our kickstarter supporter of the week Stephanie Polsel. Our music is by Ivan Pizzo and Nick Bohl. Thanks also to Rebecca and Charlie Ledley, Lauren Taylor, Shane Bannon, and Rufus, the Harvard Communications team, the Humanist Hub, and, of course, our Harry Potter and the Sacred Text reading group. We'll see you next week. Thank you.
Vanessa: Thank you.

Vanessa: I only really liked you for the first time when I realized your British accent was fake.

(Casper laughs)

Vanessa: I really appreciated that you showed me that.

Casper: I'm from California.

Vanessa: See? Fake accent.

Casper: I'm from the Valley.

Vanessa: Hey, that's my accent.