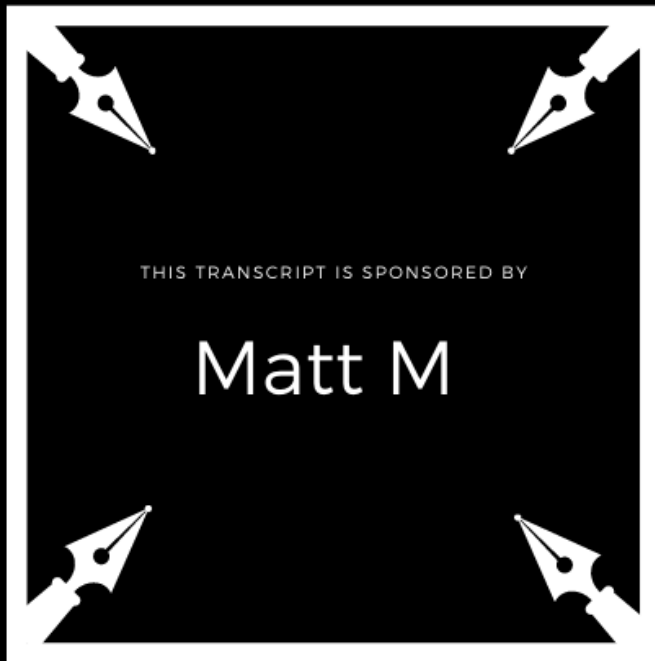


Episode 81 – “Jermathan Steelrod”

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SALLY: Everybody Hates Rand is a *Wheel of Time* podcast that will contain spoilers for all fourteen books, so if you're anti-spoiler pause this, read all fourteen books, and come back. We'll be here. Waiting.

EMILY: Our title is a joke and is meant to be taken as such. In the context of this podcast, “everybody” refers to us and our cat. You are free to feel however you want about Rand, who is a fictional character. Don't DM us.

[Theme song by Glynna Mackenzie plays]

EMILY: [laughing] Don't quote Kelly Clarkson at me.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Was she the first one who sang that song? I feel like she did a cover. Oh, no. There's another John Mayer song also –

SALLY: Listen, Sally Googles Things has returned

EMILY: – called “Beautiful Disaster”

SALLY: Oh, yeah. I used to be, like, *really* into that song.

EMILY: The John Mayer one? Or the Kelly Clarkson one?

SALLY: No. Pfft! Who do you think I am? I was trash for Kelly Clarkson.

EMILY: So-rry. Fuck me.

SALLY: Jamie Mc – oh, it’s a novel. Oh my god. Kelly –

EMILY: Imagine writing a novel and calling it “Beautiful Disaster.” It’s, like, what are you saying about yourself, you know?

SALLY: Yeah, that you’re that perfect.

EMILY: You’re claiming an awful lot [laughs].

SALLY: [distantly, a crowd screaming] Oh my god, is this live? What’s happening?

EMILY: You –

[distantly, Kelly Clarkson says, “This is ‘Beautiful Disaster’”]

EMILY: Oh. My god

[music starts]

EMILY: [gasps] Kelly Clarkson’s gonna sue us!

SALLY: [laughs] You can edit it out of the podcast.

EMILY: I don’t want to edit out things.

KELLY CLARKSON: [singing] He drowns in his dreams.

SALLY: Oh my god these lyrics are so drama.

KELLY CLARKSON: [continues singing]

EMILY, at the same time: I do – I do remember this sing – song.

KELLY CLARKSON: He’s as damned as he seems.

SALLY: That’s about Mat. She wrote that lyric about Mat. He’s as damned as he seems

KELLY CLARKSON: More heaven than a heart –

SALLY: Why isn't this on Mat's playlist?

EMILY: You're torturing me [laughs].

KELLY CLARKSON: And if I tried to save him –

SALLY: Okay, I just want to get to the chorus [music skipping]. Oh my god.

EMILY: Did you skip it?

SALLY: Dammit! Okay. We can be over this [laughing] part of the podcast.

EMILY: That was a really exciting part of the podcast.

SALLY: It's over.

EMILY: [sighs]

SALLY: After this –

EMILY: If I end up editing that out, um, that was Sally just playing a YouTube live version of [laughs] Kelly Clarkson singing her song "Beautiful Disaster." It was really educational. I can say that much.

SALLY: Mm-hmm. I really like those round glasses on you.

EMILY: Thank you!

SALLY: They were a really good investment.

EMILY: I need new contacts.

SALLY: Yeah, but you look really cute in your round glasses.

EMILY: [stutters] I look like Milo Thatch. From the –

SALLY: Oh, that's not a bad thing to look like.

EMILY: I'm just saying I look like him. I offered no opinion on the –

SALLY: Sorry I – usually when I'm like, "I look like a cartoon character," I mean [laughs] it derogatory about myself.

EMILY: No, Milo Thatch is a regulation hottie. Come on.

SALLY: He is a hottie. That's true.

EMILY: I mean, not my type of hottie. My type of hottie is Gaul as he is – particularly as he is described in this segment.

SALLY: Mm. Mmmm. He is really hot.

EMILY: He just looks really hot.

SALLY: Um, after this –

[computer noise]

EMILY: Oh my god. OneDrive.

SALLY: – do you want to go to Target with me to purchase makeup [laughs] for my bird costume on Friday?

EMILY: There was a lot happening in that sentence.

SALLY: And possibly get dinner.

EMILY: [sighs]

SALLY: [giggles]

EMILY: I love this segment of the podcast, that I usually edit out, but I feel like I'm not going to this time.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: I can just sort of feel the future.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [singing] Phil, Phil of the Future. Oh my god I'm –

SALLY: Keeping it together just as best as he can.

EMILY: I think we're both manic.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: I think we're both manic.

SALLY: Oh no!

EMILY: No!

SALLY: What's gonna happen! The podcast is going to implode!

EMILY: Anyway, you were like, "After this do you want to go —" pause, and my mind was like [panicked voice], "Do I wanna go where? What's happening? Bowling? Nickelcade!"

SALLY: Nickelcade.

EMILY: To Ruth's Chris steakhouse?

SALLY: I can't afford that. Sorry.

EMILY: I know, but I got really excited thinking about the steak. And then you were like, "to Target," and I was like, "Oooh, Target. I like Target. Target's a good place." And then you were like, "For bird makeup," and I was like [pause].

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: "I have no further response to this."

SALLY: And prooooobably hairspray.

EMILY: That's great. Are you gonna dress like a sexy bird? A little bit?

SALLY: I [pause]. My intention is not to dress as a sexy bird, because it is me, it will of course be sexy [laughs].

EMILY: That's true. That's so true.

SALLY: With my, like, dangerous cleavage sweater today that I wasn't anticipating.

EMILY: It's a very good sweater, and I can, like — I don't want to tell the listeners too much.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] But she's got a really good bra on, and it's, like, WHOO.

SALLY: I know, and it keeps popping out and it's, like, thankfully I wore a cute bra today instead of, like, a nasty one.

EMILY: Yeah, never done that before.

SALLY: This Friday, which will be last Friday when you guys here this, there's an event at my work.

EMILY: We have a buck wild week, y'all, and we had a buck wild week last week.

SALLY: I know. Today –

EMILY: We are really scrounging recording times [laughs] together.

SALLY: Yeah. Today one of my coworkers, who hosts a game night, is like, “Are you coming to game night?” and I was like, “*No*. I did too much socializing last week.” And she was like, “Okay?”

EMILY: Sally did four social activities last week – five if you count the one on Sunday.

SALLY: Yeah, if you count my family which –

EMILY: You kind of do. It's social – that's a social group. I did three, but they were with the exact same group of people every time.

SALLY: But three is a lot. Considering on average you – I do zero and you do one. Like.

EMILY: Yeah, that's true.

SALLY: That's pretty exponential.

EMILY: Yeah, and this week, Sally has the big bird – sexy bird event on Friday.

SALLY: It's a burlesque show.

EMILY: I have my usual Thursday obligation. I went to the *dentist* today.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: I'm babysitting my nephew tomorrow. Saturday's gonna be *intense*.

SALLY: Emily might see Tom Holland on Saturday.

EMILY: I might, but that's not the purpose for this.

SALLY: I'm not saying you might go to his panel, but you might see him. Like one time I saw Chris Evans on the back of a golf cart.

EMILY: Oh. Yeah, I might just, like, see him in the wild.

SALLY: And then you can be like [softly], “We have a podcast about you.”

EMILY: Oh my god! Don't!

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Don't curse that! If Tom Holland knew about our podcast where we do Tom Holland interludes, I would literally burst into flames.

SALLY: What if he's one of our Patreons?

EMILY: You think he's like –

SALLY: He has an alias.

EMILY: – he's under a fake name?

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: He just wants to hear us rag on the *bullshit* fucking movies he's done?

SALLY: We always talk about how cute he is, though.

EMILY: We're always like, "Tom Holland, you were great. Everyone else, what the fuck? Why were there no women in this? What was with the blood sucking cousin incest?"

SALLY: And Tom Holland's, like, taking notes. Yeah, oh my god.

EMILY: And Tom Holland's like, "Oh, I guess I need to be in more mainstream movies." And we were like, "NO! Shocking! We don't like you in mainstream movies either. We just want you to be in very niche movies."

SALLY: We just want you to be in *Billy Elliot*.

EMILY: *Billy Elliot* explicitly.

SALLY: And movies with Chris Hemsworth as your father figure.

EMILY: That one was good too.

SALLY: I actually really liked that one.

EMILY: I also felt like *Pilgrimage* worked pretty well.

SALLY: Oh, yeah. With what's his face? Jon Bernthal?

EMILY: Yeah, the Punisher.

SALLY: Who was also like, "This is my son?"

EMILY: Yeah. They're all just like, "This is my son." How can you not be?

SALLY: He's got big...son energy.

EMILY: [sighs] The point is Devin's dragging me to Comic Con. And I think he does want to go to the Tom Holland panel. He, like, sent me – oh my god. This was so cute. Devin sends me – he's like, "Here is the panel schedule for Saturday. On the day that we are going. What looks good to you?" And I looked at it and I was like, "I can't emphasize enough to you how much this all means nothing to me." Like, I can't – I have a really hard time picking out panels at cons, because, like, you just don't know.

SALLY: Yeah, it's really a total crapshoot.

EMILY: Yeah, unless you are familiar with all the people on the panel and the moderator, you just have no idea what the experience will be. And I didn't recognize any names except for the, like, big panels that were, like, Tom Holland and Ming-Na Wen. [pause] I know. She's going to be there. Devin wants to go to her, too, because he loves her and would die for her. Anyway, I was like, "These panels – here are some topics that sound interesting to me." And they mostly intersected with – there was one that was "How to Get a Superhero Body" or something like that and I was like [laughing], "I would die to go to this," and Devin was like, "That's good, because I would also go to this."

SALLY: [laughs] Oh my god, you should just – please live tweet the con from our podcast twitter.

EMILY: I probably should. Hello everyone, I am at FanX [laughing] –

SALLY: Hello everyone, I am at Salt Lake Comic Con with my friend Devin. Here's a picture of Devin.

EMILY: [laughs] Here's how you should imagine Devin.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: I asked Devin if he was dressing up and he was like, "If by dressing up you mean wearing sensible shoes, then yes."

SALLY: Oh my god. Devin is such a dad.

EMILY: He really is.

SALLY: He's under 30 years of age and he's got Chris Juchau energy on lock.

EMILY: [sighs] Okay, anyway. We can't keep talking about this.

SALLY: Anyway, weird week –

EMILY: This is going to be an editing mess! Yes, it's a weird fucking week.

SALLY: Sexy bird. Tom Holland. [pause] Death?

EMILY: The dentist?

SALLY: I have to go to a day celebrating vultures on Saturday.

EMILY: Uh wasn't anticipating that. Is *that* what that stands for?

SALLY: International Vulture Awareness Day is on September 7th and it is important to recognize the vital role that vultures play in our ecosystem.

EMILY: I – okay, yeah, I can agree with that. What I'm trying to tell you is that I went to the fridge this morning and pulled out a drink and looked at the calendar and it said EE-VAHD on Saturday.

SALLY: [laughs] And you were like, "I guess Sally has a date with a Russian vampire."

EMILY: And I was like, "Okay, I don't know what this could possible – this inscrutable – I had to code break our fridge, and I came no closer to doing it."

SALLY: I woke up this morning and looked at the fridge and it said, "Sexy Birds," and I was like, "Okay, Emily took my thunder."

EMILY: Sorry.

SALLY: It's okay.

EMILY: I just really wanted to write Sexy Birds on there.

SALLY: For the record, it isn't the *birds* that are being presented in a sexual light [laughs].

EMILY: Although birds are, as we all know, inherently sexy.

SALLY: They've got the aesthetic power. Especially like predator birds?

EMILY: Mm.

SALLY: Mmm. But it is, uh, humans doing bird-themed bird – bird-themed burlesque and drag and other performance arts.

EMILY: Yeah, I really enjoyed it last year. We saw some really incredible performers. There was this one pole dancer who haunts my dreams.

SALLY: She's coming back.

EMILY: [gasps loudly]

SALLY: And that's why you should come.

EMILY: I really want to go but I have no one to go with.

SALLY: Okay, but if you *go* there's a potential you'll see Gethin in flamingo drag [laughs].

EMILY: Oh my god why would you tempt me like that?

SALLY: We're all really trying to – I say *bully*, because I do probably bully Gethin a little more than I should.

EMILY: I think some amount of bullying is [laughing] healthy.

SALLY: But I was, like, today I, like, went downstairs because we have the mailbox downstairs, and like, "*Gethin* are you doing flamingo drag?" And he was like, "Uh, there's a customer." [laughs]

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: So, there's a *possibility*.

EMILY: Okay. Well, I'm all on board with bullying Gethin. Today I remembered how when I was younger, me and my siblings used to, whenever one of us left the house, we would all scramble to lock them out.

SALLY: Your family is so weird [laughs]. Like, what?

EMILY: [laughs] It's because we were sitting at dinner on Monday for our barbeque and my cousin Sam came in through the backyard, because he just parks out by the gate and walked in. And my mom saw him coming and was like, "[gasps] Oh my gosh. Honey, lock the door." Because my dad sits right by the back door. She was like, "Lock the door, and we'll all pretend not to see him." Thinking this would be a hilarious joke. And my dad, like, with a hot dog half hovering to his mouth, just, like, stared at her.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughs] He could not comprehend how this would be funny.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: He just was, like – then as Sam came up, he just, like, slowly opened the door for him. And my mom was so mad.

SALLY: I bet. Your parents always – fascinate me because –

EMILY: I’ve never really – [laughs]

SALLY: Their sense of humor to – appears to just be like leaps and bounds and fathoms opposite. Yet, sometimes, it just coincides.

EMILY: Sometimes it just converges into the funniest stand-up comedy routine in America.

SALLY: Yeah, it’s just, like, who – why was God like, “Yes [claps]. This power couple.”

EMILY: “This power couple. Crecky. We’re gonna do it.” Okay, we do have to talk about *The Wheel of Time* eventually. This is –

SALLY: [British accent] Wot?

EMILY: [laughs] Wot? We can’t do this again! We did that last week. We have to think of a new joke. Fuck me, right?

SALLY: [sighs] I’ve never had a joke in my life.

EMILY: I’ve never come up with a single joke in my entire life. That’s a direct quote from Randall Thor. This is Everybody Hates Rand, a – your friendly neighborhood Wheel of Time podcast. I’m Emily Juchau

SALLY: And I am the other one.

EMILY: And that – that was so close to being the first time we got through the intro in, like, literally months.

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: Without fucking it right up.

SALLY: [continues laughing]

EMILY: Sally was like, “I’m just gonna fuck this right now.”

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Just real hard.

SALLY: Mm.

EMILY: Just. Yeah.

SALLY: Mmm.

EMILY: Fast and rough [laughing] the way my dental hygienist cleaned my teeth.

SALLY: [laughs loudly]

EMILY: Fuck. She really is fast and rough, though. I was like, “Damn that was over quick. But, fuck, my mouth hurts.”

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Which, damn – okay, we’re entering into –

SALLY: That’s what she said!!

EMILY: Ha! Heh.

SALLY: [soft voice] This is EHR: After Dark. It’s not after dark. Emily! We’re creating a fantasy here!

EMILY: [laughing]

SALLY: In this audio medium. We do not have to tell the listeners if it is –

EMILY: We can’t do this yet. We have to wait ‘til sexy igloo – ig – sex –

SALLY: Oh! You’re right. I have to get my bad sex scene to, uh, launch the sexy igloo.

EMILY: Oh, you’re going to write one? I forgot.

SALLY: I might.

EMILY: Okay. That would be really cool. Are you going to use characters from *The Wheel of Time*?

SALLY: Oh my god I should.

EMILY: Or are you going to invent, like, just, like, you know, porn characters. Like Pamela and...Jerm..athon.

SALLY: [laughs] Jermathon? Jermathon Steelrod [laughs]. I’m writing it down.

EMILY: [laughing] I’m so mad that we’re both manic right now.

SALLY: Jermathon! [laughing] You guys, get ready.

EMILY: [laughing] Jerm for short, obviously.

SALLY: Jermathon. Look, I'm writing it.

EMILY: I just want everyone to know that joke wasn't intentional. I tried to say Jeremy and Jonathan [laughing] at the same time.

SALLY: Jermathan. Porn name.

EMILY: Oh. God.

SALLY: Got it. [laughs] God, I can't wait.

EMILY: We have to had a Jonathan to the, uh, you know – to the Larry the Trolloc coterie. And then he and Jeremy the Whitecloak can have a steamy love affair, and their celebrity couple name can be [laughs] Jermathan.

SALLY: Jermathan.

EMILY: [coughs]

SALLY: Yeah. Who would Jeremy fuck? Let's really dive into his psyche.

EMILY: We can't! We can't keep doing this, Daniel.

SALLY: Please, Daniel, we can't – Jermathan.

EMILY: We have to talk about the really bad gender dynamics in these two chapters.

SALLY: Oh my god. That's what I'm avoiding.

EMILY: It's really hard.

SALLY: It's, like, remember a while back – I think it was the beginning of season two –

EMILY: When we were like, "It's so fucking stupid that there are these differences?" Yeah, I do remember.

SALLY: And we had a whole episode where we just said the word 'deflowered' like four hundred twenty thousand times.

EMILY: Yeah, and I haven't thought about that world until just now.

SALLY: [gagging noises]

EMILY: So, thank you for scarring me, again.

SALLY: I'm sorry. It's just such a bad word.

EMILY: [sighs]

SALLY: But this chapter just brings all those bad gender politics right back up to the surface, and then shoots them out in a magma...of shit.

EMILY: It's meant to be comedic...is the unfortunate part. Like, it would almost be better if it was written in earnest, because then I could just mock it mercilessly.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: But this is, like, supposed to be a little bit tongue in cheek. But I'm, like, the central idea that you are playing off of is that – is this heteronormative, gender dynamics bullshit.

SALLY: Today I learned the new slang word “hetrify,” which is when the heterosexuals petrify you.

EMILY: Oh man. She hetrified me.

SALLY: I'm hashtag hetrified. That's how I feel about this chapter.

EMILY: That happens to me a lot with some of my friends.

SALLY: Well, they're doing their best. We think.

EMILY: Who knows? What really – I was impressed by this chapter, and I don't mean impressed in a positive way.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Was how much the dialogue in these two chapters – which, by the way, we read chapters seven and eight – um, reminded me of *The Bachelor* franchise.

SALLY: [laughing] Oh my god!

EMILY: It literally felt like Egwene would say something and then it would cut to her confession on the camera being like, “Of course I didn't believe him that he wasn't hurt by me breaking up with him. Men are too fucking stupid to not feel...” It was just so bad.

SALLY: Yeah. Yeah. It's just... [sighs] We should just have a mourning ceremony this episode for how shitty [laughs] these two chapters are.

EMILY: Here's some highlights.

SALLY: Oh my god.

EMILY: Gala – oh. I almost just called Gaul Galad.

SALLY: It's okay. When I was reading it my brain was like, "Galad," and I was like, "What?"

EMILY: Yeah. No, Gaul, who is described as being *so tall*, beautiful eyes with these thick, dark lashes that make it look like he's wearing eyeliner and it's, like, maybe he is wearing eyeliner. Who fucking knows? He's in his late twenties. That's a really sexy age.

SALLY: That is a sexy age.

EMILY: For me, where I'm at in my life.

SALLY: Yeah, I would agree.

EMILY: And I was just like, "Whoa."

SALLY: Yeah. I was like, "What if..."

EMILY: I read – I was like, "Damn, this is really sexy." And Sally was like, "Yeah." And then we both made motion like we were opening our legs.

SALLY: [laughing] Yeah, it was very iconic. Because he's just *so hot*. Listen [sighs].

EMILY: It's just so funny. There's also – this I will find comedic. That Egwene and Elayne, prior to going to Rand's chambers to perform the –

SALLY: [snorts]

EMILY: – exchange [laughs] TM, carefully planned their wardrobes ahead of time.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And Elayne was like, "I'm going to look as slutty and expensive as possible."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And Egwene was like, "I am going to look as frumpy as possible. So I'm going to be wearing this scarf and sweating the entire time."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And Elayne is just like, "I am in this low cut." So, mostly, what I find hilarious about that is them walking up to the Aiel and the Aiel being like, "So what's happening here?"

SALLY: [laughs] Gaul being like –

EMILY: Gaul being like, “Now I don’t know much about fashion, but I do see some discrepancy here. It is, in fact, 9am. Homegirl here has her titties bare to the world. Sapphires in her hair. She’s drenched in perfume. And homegirl over here is just, like, doing her best Mat Cauthon [laughs] impersonation.”

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: [laughs] So, it’s just really legendary.

SALLY: Yeah. Yeah, I especially love the idea that Egg and potentially Nynaeve were like, “No, you have to go sluttier. Nope slut – nope, sluttier.”

EMILY: “Nope. More tits!”

BOTH: “More tits!”

SALLY: Nynaeve is in the corner [crosstalk] right above the nipple.

EMILY: Yeah. Right – “You have to be constantly on the verge of a nip slip or he will not pay attention to you.”

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: “Men are too stupid.”

SALLY: “They don’t have any feelings besides nipple.”

EMILY: “Yeah, they don’t know you’re looking at them [laughing] unless your nipples are making eye contact.”

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] Oh my god.

SALLY: It’s [sighs] a lot. But anyway, I bet Elayne looks [snaps] snatched.

EMILY: Yeah, I’m sure Elayne looks, like, a major hottie. There’s also a hilarious scene where, after Egwene leaves, and Elayne’s – does her whole, “Okay, Rand well now I’m into you, so get in this pussy.” And Rand’s like, “Okay, great.” And then Gaul comes to the door and is, like, totally expecting that they’re gonna be fucking.

SALLY: Yeah!

EMILY: He's, like, has to come in but is, like, keeping his head down. And then he's like, "Oh, they're just standing, like, a foot apart. You could put a Bible between them." He's like, "Aw, that wasn't what I was anticipating."

SALLY: He's like, "BOOOOO!"

EMILY: He's like, "Why'd you get your tits out then?"

SALLY: "Listen girl. I only get my tits out when I'm ready to fuck."

EMILY: Yeah. He was like, "[scoffing] Excuse me?"

SALLY: "Excuse me. Your tits deserved better."

EMILY: Girl. Yeah.

SALLY: "You put them through all this work."

EMILY: Yeah, look at the savage –

SALLY: And they didn't even get fondled.

EMILY: [whispers] Oh my god.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: I just went through, like, every stage of emotion right there.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: There was, like, the strong feminist like, "Yeah! Yeah!" But then I was like, "Ah! Rand! Uh, fuck."

SALLY: Yeah. Gross.

EMILY: Gross.

SALLY: It's gross to think about Rand having sex with anyone, which is why the sex igloo scene is particularly traumatic.

EMILY: It's real bad. You haven't even gotten to the Elayne and Rand sex scene. That one –

SALLY: I don't want to.

EMILY: That one might be worse.

SALLY: The Min and Rand sex scene was also really terrible.

EMILY: Oh yeah. That one was horrible but like on a *whole* other level of bad sex politics.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Like, Aviendha and Egwene at least he's not like, "And I raped them I thought."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: It's just so bad. Okay. [sad laughing noises]

SALLY: [buzzes lips] What if Rand didn't have any relationships with women!

EMILY: I think we've put that forward before. Asexual Dragon Reborn? How powerful would he be?

SALLY: Incredibly.

EMILY: Incredibly powerful.

SALLY: What if all the characters were ace? And then there was lez – [laughs] Lez. Egg.

EMILY: And then there was LezEgg [laughs].

SALLY: [laughs, snorts] And then Mat, a bisexual legend.

EMILY: He really is, though.

SALLY: Of a disaster boy.

EMILY: Of a bedazzled, bisexual legend.

SALLY: Listen, if Mat had a bedazzled coat.

EMILY: He pretty much does, I feel like, at all times.

SALLY: Oh my god. We've put Mat in a denim jacket before. But what if we bedazzled that denim jacket?

EMILY: Bedazzled it. [laughing] What does it say on the back in bedazzled?

SALLY: Mm. It –

EMILY: Can't go with 'juicy' that's too obvious.

SALLY: What about... 'business slut?' [laughs]. Like Jenna before him.

EMILY: [laughing] Oh my god. I was gonna say something like 'Bush did 9/11' or something like that.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: That one's better.

SALLY: [laughs] Because he's such a rich boy! And a slut.

EMILY: He really is though.

SALLY: Business slut.

EMILY: Oh my god.

SALLY: [laughs] Okay. Anyway, Egg is like, "I don't love you!" And Rand is like [laughs], "Oh my god, I don't love you, either."

EMILY: And she's like, "No, you fool. You're too stupid to make these choices."

SALLY: And she's like, "Yes you DO! You love me, but I'm transferring that love for you – for me to Elayne!"

EMILY: She whips a spray bottle out and is like [spraying noises], "Yes you do!"

SALLY: "Shut up!"

EMILY: "Shut up! You can't make decisions for yourself."

SALLY: It's so dumb.

EMILY: You're too stupid. Okay.

SALLY: Also, there's some, like, power stuff.

EMILY: Yeah, in the beginning, like, Egwene and Elayne come in and are like, "Hello, we're here to help you with things." And he immediately is like, "Here are four things you could help me with. Like, I would like to know someone who could speak the Old Tongue, I would like to know the answers to these questions, I would like duh duh duh duh duh." And they're just like, "Well, no. We're not going to help you with those things and we're not going to think about them or make any effort to actually be of assistance to you. We're going to stick with the track that we have concocted for this meeting." Uh, which involves them kind of exploring the One Power together. Which is super fun and sexy I guess.

SALLY: Yeah, I guess it also, like, again in a very Freudian way, with then what happens with Rand and Elayne, it's very like, "Look, they're having sex with the Power before they stick their tongues down each other's throats."

EMILY: Oh, you mean it's like a little bit of foreplay?

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: I mean there is, like, some groping that happens.

SALLY: [whispers] Which is gross.

EMILY: Yeah, which is real gross. Don't...pinch...butts.

SALLY: [laughs] I've never understood it –

EMILY: Unless you and your partner have consented to that ahead of time.

SALLY: Yeah, unless you've put it on your yes/no/maybe list.

EMILY: Yes. Exactly.

SALLY: But if it's in the no category, then –

EMILY: Don't.

SALLY: Don't do it. If it's in the maybe category you revisit it before you get a little pinching in there.

EMILY: And that, folks, is Sex Ed with Sally.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: I'm very invested in the concept of yes/no/maybe lists.

EMILY: That's a really good – I've never heard about that before.

SALLY: I read about it on Salty, which is the fun newsletter that I love, and also Autostraddle, which is, like, the queer women online hub. Yeah, they both wrote articles about them and I was reading about them and I really – you literally just sit down with a bunch of sex acts and you say yes, no, maybe.

EMILY: Cool.

SALLY: With your partner, and then you have a working language for how you want to engage with each other in a sexual way.

EMILY: It sounds really, like, efficient and sexy. The way sex should be. Well, not necessarily efficient. Take as much time as you want.

SALLY: [laughs] I don't know what's happening with us this episode

EMILY: We're in a really weird place this episode.

SALLY: It's the sexy birds. Hovering on the horizon.

EMILY: Yeah, that's definitely what it is. The ominous [laughs].

SALLY: The ominous *threat* of a sexy toucan.

EMILY: [laughing] The looming silhouette of a [laughing].

SALLY: [making music noises]

EMILY: UGH.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Stop! Sally's just waving her arms around.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: It's really upsetting me.

SALLY: What is happening?! Okay.

EMILY: Oh my god. Anyway.

SALLY: Rand and Elayne make out or something.

EMILY: Rand can – [coughs].

SALLY: [laughing, singing] Rand can, can you do the Rand can, can you do the Rand can?

EMILY: Fuck you. Fuck. We're keeping it together! It turns out Rand can sense when women are holding the Power.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Which is dumb, because then women don't have the same, like evolutionary instinct for when men are holding the power.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: So that's a little bit whacky.

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: And yeah there's all this discourse about the girls being like, "Well, we embrace the Power."

SALLY: 'Surrender' is the word they use.

EMILY: "We surrender to it." Yeah, excuse me. "We are always the submissive partner in the relationship" And Rand's like, "Well, I'm always the dominant partner in the relationship," as though he and Aviendha in a BDSM relationship would be –

SALLY: Oh, come on.

EMILY: Come on.

SALLY: Aviendha tops. We know that.

EMILY: Aviendha's a major dom, come on.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Like good fucking for her but quit it Rand.

SALLY: She's just got that big dom energy and I'm ready.

EMILY: She definitely does. Um, so sexy. Oh yeah. The scarf and the sapphires came from Aviendha, which is just hilarious.

SALLY: Yes! I forgot about that!

EMILY: I'm like why do they – they're like, "Why does she have this stuff?" and Aviendha's like, "Looting!" Shrug emoji.

SALLY: I did a looting!

EMILY: [laughs] And when they come up and are chatting with the Aiel and Gaul's like, "Yeah, he's in a real bad mood. He *literally* through a guy across the floor earlier today. He almost made it all the way there, but he didn't quite, so I had to give a tapestry to this guy."

SALLY: [laughs] Yeah.

EMILY: This guy, who in the background is just like –

SALLY: Yeeeee.

EMILY: “Yeah. It was awesome.”

SALLY: “Yeah, I got a tapestry.”

EMILY: And Egwene and Elayne are like, “We have no idea how to respond to this.” Because they’re boring.

SALLY: Listen, I have no idea how anybody could not just love the Aiel body, mind, and soul.

EMILY: Five seconds with the Aiel and I would be dying laughing. They’re all so hilarious.

SALLY: They’re so funny.

EMILY: They’re so fucking good.

SALLY: Yeah like if Gaul was like, “Rand through a guy and I lost a bet,” I’d be like, “Hello, would you like to have sex right now?”

EMILY: I’d be like, “Are you KIDDING?! Tell me everything!”

SALLY: Yeah. And then he’d braid my hair.

EMILY: Yeah, or something.

SALLY: Fuck. Anyway.

EMILY: Yeah anyway. Then Egwene’s like, “Uhh I’m breaking up with you. Here’s Elayne.” And leaves.

SALLY: [snorts]

EMILY: Except Rand forgets that Elayne is there because I don’t know. Rand by the way the entire time is, like, blushing excessively and getting really flustered. And they’re all like, “What is this about?” and it’s because he actively had a sex dream about Elayne the night before, which is just a really uncomfy knowledge for me, the reader.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Like I get it. You have a sex dream about a person and then you see them the next day and it’s like, “Uh, this is a little awkward.”

SALLY: Yeah, but it's also...

EMILY: A dream.

SALLY: A dream.

EMILY: It's not real, my guy. No matter how weird your dreams are. Which, you know, they are super weird.

SALLY: Yeah, but again, Rand just has a weird shame relationship to sex that he, like, can't manage it in a healthy way. I.e. after sex igloo let's get married. I.e. after Min he's like, "Oh my god I raped her."

EMILY: I.e. in this scene, oh my god. This scene, we just need to say it, does not read like a sexual relationship, it reads like a mother and a son talking to each other.

SALLY: Mm-hm. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

EMILY: It is incredibly troubling.

SALLY: Which is especially gross because isn't Rand's mom – his biological mom the one who comes from Andor?

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Gross.

EMILY: Rand's biological mother is in fact the former Daughter-Heir of Andor. So the parallels there are just, like, way too much to ignore.

SALLY: Yeah, especially because I think you've talked about it on a previous episode, how Rand's three love interests, like, represent aspects of himself that are just mirrored back to him. Like Andor, the Aiel, and, like, being a farmer.

EMILY: Yeah. Rand's three aspects of himself are also, like, incredibly incestuous. I think it's the most obvious with Elayne, but with Aviendha and Min, too, it gets real gross real fast.

SALLY: Yeah, but Elayne is very, like, belittling. She's very much got a holier than thou attitude. She, like, scolds him.

EMILY: She constantly calls him by his name. Like, "Rand, Rand. Can you say my – Now call me Elayne. Can you say my name?" And he's like, "Elayne." And she's like, "Good!"

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And it's, like, this is seriously the grossest shit I've ever read. Like, oh my god.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: There's also the whole, she's like, "Maybe you don't even know how to kiss." And then he kisses her. And she's like, "Oh, I guess you do know how to kiss."

SALLY: It does kind of read like a weird porno.

EMILY: It's – reads like – yeah. Like he's delivering a pizza or changing an appliance or something. And she's, like, the milf in a silk robe.

SALLY: Yeah, or she's his literal – or he's her literal son in some gross incest porno.

EMILY: Yeah, ew, gross. Bleck.

SALLY: Bleh.

EMILY: Bleh.

SALLY: Bleh.

EMILY: Yeah, and then there's this whole, like, once they've made out Rand's like, "Oh my god, I'm so sorry. I don't wanna –" They're both, like, dancing around the subject of sex. Both of them saying, "I do not want to have sex at this time, but I'm also a teen so I have a lot of hormonal physical urges towards sex." And it's just, like, a lot for me right now. And Elayne is like, "No, no, no. I don't want sex. I just wanted to tell you how I feel, so that you could –"

SALLY: With my tits out.

EMILY: "With my tits out. So that you could know exactly how much ownership I am claiming over you, before I leave."

SALLY: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

EMILY: Because she keeps bringing up the fact that she's leaving. It's just, like, [sighs].

SALLY: It's very unhealthy.

EMILY: Yeah. It's, like, I don't want to go over it line by line, because it's just so, like, gross.

SALLY: Yeah, and it...is one of the penulm – mm – one of the like sterling examples of this book's, like, hidden misogyny. Just, like, the way that women are portrayed, especially in their relationships to men, as extremely manipulative and, like, calculating every move. And that they're offering their body and sex in trade and as a weapon.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: You know?

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Like in trade of things, and things that they want, and using their sexuality as a weapon and all these things that women have been accused of for centuries. It's being put in, like, gross display in this book that allegedly treats women with so much respect.

EMILY: Yeah. That's such a – that's such a good way to put it. The, like, secret misogyny of this book is having – this entire series – is having every woman be portrayed as manipulative.

SALLY: Mm-hm.

EMILY: Because there's such a stark difference between having a woman who's portrayed as clever.

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: You can read all about it in *Spinning Silver* by Naomi Novik.

SALLY: [gasps]

EMILY: Which we talk about in the most recent release of *We Don't Watch Outlander*. Very briefly, but the protagonist in that book is a very calculating, clever person.

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: And that's totally different than being a manipulative, condescending person.

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: I also think of, like, the next book when, and a little bit in this book, when the Wise Ones in – the Aiel Wise Ones – keep throwing Aviendha at Rand in really gross ways, and it's never outright stated "We want you to fuck him," or "We want you to use your body in such and such way."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: But that is the implication.

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: And it's just like [sighs]. Yeah. It's just – you're just so right. That's so good.

SALLY: Yeah, the sexual politics of this book are rock, paper, fucked sky high.

EMILY: Yeah. Yeah. It's real bad.

SALLY: [sighs]. So anyway, remember how hot Gaul is?

EMILY: Yeah, it's hard to forget.

SALLY: Remember how he's 6'9"?

EMILY: God, I can't –

SALLY: God I just want to climb him.

EMILY: I know. Like a goddamn little tree.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: We don't even have enough content to fill this [laughs] dumb episode.

SALLY: Well, we have another chapter. Well, because after that Rand has some boring conversation with the Tairen lords about taxes and politics where he's, like, thinking about Elayne the entire time.

EMILY: Yeah, the entire time he's like, "Elayne and Egwene." But then these guys are like, "We don't want to lower taxes. We don't want to – we don't want to send the grain that we have way too much of to Illian to sell, because we're racist and we hate them."

SALLY: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

EMILY: "And we also don't want to have a treaty with Mayene. Mayene. However you fucking say that."

SALLY: Maine.

EMILY: "Yeah, because we fucking hate Berelain, [laughing] because we are huge misogynists."

SALLY: "Yeah, we hate Berelain because we're huge misogynists and we want to fuck her, but she won't fuck us, so we hate her!"

EMILY: "Yeah, so what the fuck?" And Rand at the end is like, "I tried talking to them about this, but they're not listening, so now I'll just be like, 'this is what you're doing.'" And it's, like, fine, that's an efficient way to run a country, I guess. It literally falls apart, though, the second that Rand leaves. So. I don't know. I want to care about Rand's political career, you know?

SALLY: [laughing softly]

EMILY: And the ways in which he finally kind of learns how to handle running a country? I.e. just delegating it to Berelain.

SALLY: He's like, "I don't know what I'm doing. Berelain, you do it." And she's, like, super competent.

EMILY: Fucking finally. Yeah, like, Rhuarc is like, "Great, here I'll just do it."

SALLY: Yeah. Thank god.

EMILY: Yeah seriously.

SALLY: Rhuarc's like, "I've been running countries since I was four."

EMILY: Yeah. Honestly. But it's just like, ugh, I don't care about Rand. Ugh! There's also a super gross thing where Elayne leaves and Rand is talking to the Tairen lords and she, like, looks back and is like, "He's got such a commanding presence. And, like, I know men who are natural leaders and he doesn't know it yet, but he is one."

[a phone dings in the background]

EMILY: And it just made me think about how male leadership abilities are so often tied to the physicality of their capacity to draw attention and command a room, whereas if a woman draws attention in a room it is because she's sexy or something.

SALLY: Yeah. Also, I feel like we...like [pause]. I feel like there are so many ways in which, like, human attraction is constructed. Like, if you read about the porn industry, it's very interesting the way that men are taught that women should behave certain ways in bed, but women are also taught that they should behave certain ways in bed, and etc. etc. And I feel like we've constructed this attraction for women to, like, men in power and a man who can take power. When literally whenever men are quote unquote "imposing" in a room, it only makes me feel...uneasy.

EMILY: Yeah, and it usually only ends poorly, actually, for the women involved.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: It's not necessarily an inherent – like, leadership abilities and, I don't know, capacity to command a room, are not necessarily inherently sexy abilities. Men just want them to be.

SALLY: Yeah! Yeah, they just want to be like, "I'm in charge and I fuck." Like.

EMILY: "I'm in charge, therefore I fuck."

SALLY: Yes that's –

EMILY: And it's like he, he –

SALLY: Good.

EMILY: No.

SALLY: No.

EMILY: That ain't how it works. Or it shouldn't be how it works.

SALLY: Yeah. Yeah, especially because when you take a look at the dark side of that you see, like, in the #MeToo movement, all these men have been exposed for taking that quite literally. Like, I'm in charge and therefore –

EMILY: I get what I want.

SALLY: I get what I want, including the bodies of women, usually, but also men around me. It's a very toxic mindset.

EMILY: [sighs]

SALLY: And, like, again on an individual basis if you, like, love it when a man is in charge in life or in the bedroom, whatever. But on a cultural basis –

EMILY: Yeah, it's fine when it's an individual thing, but when you try and, um, put that on an entire gender and an entire gender dynamic, then that really fucking sucks. Because you're right, I personally get just, like, tense when there are men in charge.

SALLY: Yeah! Yeah, or whenever a man is using the, like, stereotypical, like, he's raising his voice or he's stepping into the center of the room, or he interrupts you.

EMILY: Yep.

SALLY: Or all of these things. They just make me super uneasy and I, like, go into fight or flight mode.

EMILY: Yeah. So that's grody.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Uh, but then we have, yeah, Rand with the Lords. Then we have a [laughs] Egwene and Mat.

SALLY: Very tender little scene.

EMILY: A very tender little scene wherein Egwene is walking along and Mat just, like, pops up next to her, keeping pace, and she's like, "Oh my god he smells."

SALLY: She's like has – she's like, "His hair needs to be brushed, he's sleeping in his coat –"

EMILY: "What the fuck is going on?"

SALLY: "He's winking at all these old women." [laughs]

EMILY: [laughs] Literally! There are, like, four instances of Mat in this, like, five-page thing alone where women are like, "Hey." And Mat's like, "Oh, hey." And Egwene's like, "What is happening?"

SALLY: [laughs] She's like, "I don't see the appeal." And all of us are like, "We do, though."

EMILY: Yeah, like, I get it.

SALLY: That's sex appeal, baby.

EMILY: Baby! [laughs]

SALLY: Not an imposing man is this lanky boy.

EMILY: Unkempt.

SALLY: Unkempt lank boy.

EMILY: Oh my god. Rand does have a very endearing moment when they walk in and he's got his –

SALLY: Oh yeah!

EMILY: He's eating, and he has his legs sprawled over the edge of the couch. And I was like, "Oh my god that is big long-limbed person energy." I cannot sit in a chair normally. My legs are, like, everywhere. Okay, anyway, yeah Mat stork boy extraordinaire is, like, "Hello," and Egwene is like, "Hi."

SALLY: "What you go – what's happening?"

EMILY: "What brings this up?" And they have this little chat wherein, uh, she's like, "You've kind of been avoiding us." And Mat's like, "Well, that's because the last time I saw you you were going through my personal belongings to get to the letter that you gave me." And Egwene is like, "To be fair, that was definitely a loan. We weren't giving that to you and you wouldn't give it back to us when we asked." He's like [grumbling noises].

SALLY: But he also said that they, like, tied him up.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: With weaves so it's like –

EMILY: It's all just bad.

SALLY: Why do the girls – seriously, like, say it once, say it a hundred times. Stop touching Mat without his consent.

EMILY: Mis-use-of-power.

SALLY: Fuck.

EMILY: Oh my god. Um, then Mat's like, "Well, actually I wanted to talk to you." [laughs] And Egwene's like, "Okay. About what?" And he's like, "I was kind of hoping for advice." And she's like, "Oh. This is fun and exciting. I really like this. What do you need advice about?" He's like, [softly] "I don't know."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: She's like, "I'm going to push him off the wall."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: "I'm going to literally –" He's, like, sitting on a railing and she's like, "I'm literally just going to walk over there and shove him, and he'll die."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] "And it will be so pleasurable for me." They have the funniest.

SALLY: I know.

EMILY: Like, this is the most brother and sister relationship. It's very good.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: I, too, when I'm talking to my brother veer widely from [smacks lips] "little cutie" to "I'm literally going to murder him right now." [laughs]

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Literally I'm going to drown him in our swimming pool.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Goodbye, Adam.

SALLY: [laughs] Welcome back, and goodbye.

EMILY: [laughing] Welcome back and goodbye.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: So, there's that. But Mat is basically like, "Hello, here are some of my insecurities. No, I don't want to leave, but I want to know what to do about these various things. How do I fill the holes in my head? How do I – [sighs] What's my fucking destiny, you know? How am I supposed to deal with this?" And Egwene's like "Okay, well I really don't know. Maybe you should talk to Moiraine about it." And he's like [whispers], "I don't want to talk to Moiraine."

SALLY: He's like, "I don't know how many ways I have to say this. Babe."

EMILY: [whispers] "I'm terrified of Moiraine."

SALLY: [whispers] "Yeah I – she scares me."

EMILY: "She's Rosamund Pike! She's hor – she's terrifying!"

SALLY: "She's gonna punch me."

EMILY: "She's Gone Girl!"

SALLY: Yeah!

EMILY: "She's gonna frame me for murder and leave me!" Did I just spoil *Gone Girl* for people?

SALLY: Fucking *Gone Girl* sucks ass.

EMILY: [laughs] Ben Affleck's *dick*, or whatever. Anyway, then Egwene is, like, "Well, there is – if you get Moiraine's permission maybe you could, like, go through this doorway." And she tells him about the doorway that she just learned about.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And he's, like, "Oh my god. Like fucking Ali Baba and the Prince of –" or whatever the equivalent is. And she's like, "No, you fucking infant."

SALLY: "It's real!"

EMILY: “It’s real, doofus.”

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: “I read all about it, and there was some vague foreshadowing of Rand reading all about it in the last chapter.”

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: “But yeah, it’s totally real and it could totally work. But don’t go through it because it’s really dangerous and I don’t want you to die and whatever.” And Mat’s like, “Okay, well why’d you even fucking tell me about if you didn’t expect me [laughs] to immediately walk through it? Look at me. I’m an idiot. I have no impulse control.”

SALLY: He’s got the animal brain. What do we always say? Lizard brain. He’s got lizard brain.

EMILY: Mat is that meme of, like, when my significant other is gone I cut all the sleeves off my shirts, [laughs] because I have no impulse control.

SALLY: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

EMILY: That’s Mat.

SALLY: Yeah. Lizard brain. Gotta touch it. Gotta walk through it.

EMILY: Gotta touch it.

SALLY: Got – [laughs]. Yesterday – the other day I was in Home Depot with my mom and there were these, like, huge container of, like, cleaning liquid, but they looked like grape juice.

EMILY: Oh my god.

SALLY: And I was really tired, so I just, like, walked over and stared at them. And my mom was like, “What are you doing?” And I couldn’t say like, “My lizard brain wants to drink this.” And I was like [laughing], “It just smelled nice over here.” And she was like, “Okay.” But it seriously looked like such good grape juice. And my lizard brain was like, “Gotta drink it.”

EMILY: Do you want to get some grape juice?

SALLY: I don’t even like grape juice. It’s too sour. I want my juice to be sweet. [hands smacking] If I’m gonna drink juice I want it to taste like liquid candy.

EMILY: Okay. [sighs]

SALLY: [whispers] Like apple juice. Apple juice.

EMILY: [whispers] I hate apple juice.

SALLY: I love me some appy juicy.

EMILY: I hate the texture.

SALLY: Of apple juice? [laughs] It's liquid.

EMILY: I don't like it.

SALLY: [laughs loudly] You don't like the liquid texture?

EMILY: There's texture to the different juices.

SALLY: Hmm. That's gonna haunt me.

EMILY: [laughs] There are! It feels like!

SALLY: I don't like apple sauce. Fair enough.

EMILY: Maybe it's one of those – those weird sense mix ups, you know? Where I tastes things –

SALLY: Synesthesia.

EMILY: Yeah. Anyway –

SALLY: Maybe they do have a texture. I'm an idiot, so.

EMILY: No you're not.

SALLY: Let's just put that on the table. I'm full dumbass, and I embrace it.

EMILY: No, the full dumbass here is definitely Mat.

BOTH: Who's like –

EMILY: "I won't do it. I promise."

SALLY: Wink.

EMILY: And Egwene's like, "Oh my god."

SALLY: He's like, "Only if my life depends on it," which...Mat feels that way one hundred percent of the time.

EMILY: Mat is constantly in a life or death situation. Haven't had anything to drink in the last ten minutes?

SALLY: Dying.

EMILY: Dying. Haven't gambled in a day? Dying.

SALLY: Dead.

EMILY: Haven't fucked in, like, a week?

SALLY: Dying.

EMILY: Oh man, like, in the grave.

SALLY: Here lies Mat Cauthon. Once he fucked.

EMILY: Once he fucked.

SALLY: Now he's dead.

EMILY: Now dead.

SALLY: Dead from a dry spell.

EMILY: Well, that's enough of that, I feel [uncertain noises].

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Do you have anything else to say about these chapters?

SALLY: No, they were stupid.

EMILY: I feel like we pretty much covered them.

SALLY: And I hated them.

EMILY: They were dumb.

SALLY: I only liked the part where Mat was involved.

EMILY: That was nice.

SALLY: But that's how I feel about *The Shadow Rising* as a whole. That could be my review of the whole book.

EMILY: Yeah, if Mat's there it's great.

SALLY: Or Gaul. Oh my god. I love Gaul. I want to kiss his perfect face.

EMILY: The next chapters, unfortunately, will involve Lanfear, so get ready for that.

SALLY: Get your tits out, kids.

EMILY: Yeah, get your titties out and just hold them while you're...I'm in a sports bra so it's a little hard.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: [sighs] Okay. Um, thank you to Glynna Mackenzie for the use of our fabulous theme song. Thank you to all of you for listening.

SALLY: Yeah, thank you to everyone who's been tweeting about the show and commenting on our Instagram and on our tumblr and stuff. I'm really sorry if I've been a little bit absent, it's been a busy kind of weird couple of weeks, where my emotional energy was needed elsewhere, but I'm hoping to get back to you really soon. And it's just always such a delight to hear what parts of the episode you thought were funny or smart or anything you learned you learned. Or interesting points, counter points, anything. We just love hearing from you. It really is, like, reading should be a conversation.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: So thank you so much for all of you who converse back to us. We really love you. And you can find us on the internet, if you want to chat, on Twitter @ehr_podcast, on Instagram at everybodyhatesrand, and on Tumblr at everybodyhatesrand.tumblr.com. We also have an email if that's more your speed: everybodyhatesrand@gmail.com, and...that's it?

EMILY: The various inboxes are open.

SALLY: Yeah. Wide open.

EMILY: Like our legs when Gaul walks on screen.

SALLY: You bet.

EMILY: Woof.

SALLY: Oh my god –

EMILY: Would you like to sign us – oh.

SALLY: Go ahead.

EMILY: I was going to ask if you would like to sign us off.

SALLY: I – yes. I don't want to dig through my phone to find one of the listener messages. I'm sorry, guys, I will get back to that, but I don't want to make Emily do that because we've already been recording for...god knows how long? So what, what bad things have happened? Um, this is a really petty administrative trial that I went through today. But today everyone at the aviary was, like, going a little bit crazy because we had this huge check that everyone was like, "We don't know what this check is for. We don't know what this is. It's so much money. We don't know what it's for." And they literally handed it to me, and in the memo line it said exactly what it was for [laughs]. And I, like, looked at it and two seconds later I was like, "Oh, this is for this." And they're like, "Oh my god, how do [laughing] know?" And I had to be like, "It's right here" in front of both my bosses and the accounting team.

EMILY: It's caaaaalled reading skills, baby.

SALLY: Yeah! And I was like, "What is happening?!"

EMILY: [singing] Reading rainbow!

SALLY: It was so tragic.

EMILY: [singing] What's the story, Wishbone?

SALLY: And then I went back to bully Gethin more about doing flamingo drag.

EMILY: And we can only hope, dear listeners. Updates to follow!

SALLY: Updates to follow!!

EMILY: Breaking story.

SALLY: [making sounds like a breaking news siren]

EMILY: Goodbye! [laughs]