



Episode 97 – “Loial’s Lethal Eyebrows”

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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 Glynn Mackenzie plays]

SALLY: Going into his bag.

EMILY: [groan]

SALLY: Excuse us for a minute. The audio will be atrocious.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: [laughs] Um, anyway. This is the first episode of 2020. Do you guys know how I know Emily loves me? Today she told me I didn’t have to read the chapters, [laughing] because there were three.

EMILY: Oh no! He spilled so much water there.

SALLY: Oh noooo! Anyway, that’s how I know Emily loves me, but we have to deal with Tybalt. Just a second.

EMILY: Anyway, yes. I do love Sally in that I did not make her read the Perrin chapters, because there were three of them. It's pretty alarming to realize how much of *The Shadow Rising* involves Perrin writhing in pain from some –

SALLY: Yeah!

EMILY: Wound or another. Half of these chapters he was just, like, had an arrow in him. Like.

SALLY: An arrow?

EMILY: I mean, I know that happened in the last couple of chapters, but there was a whole chapter where he was, like, waiting around for Alanna, who was recently cast in The *Wheel of Time* show.

SALLY: I know. And it's like, "RIP, girl. You look really pretty and talented, but your character *sucks*. So."

EMILY: I wish they had not had her character in the show, but I think they'll make her, like, extra important. Does that make sense?

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Like, I bet the show, um, has realized that they can't have 400 Aes Sedai characters, so they're gonna have, like, eight that they kind of stick with.

SALLY: Yeah. [laughs]. Like, I know they can't, but could you imagine the commitment if it was just like, "Here's an Aes Sedai that's on screen for three minutes. Here's an Aes Sedai that's on screen for three minutes."

EMILY: That's what happens in the damn books!

SALLY: Yeah, like, the commitment would be extraordinary.

EMILY: Robert Jordan, my nemesis. Oh, this is Everybody Hates Rand, your friendly neighborhood *Wheel of Time* podcast. I'm Emily Juchau. Sally's sipping her tea.

SALLY: Yes. This is me. I'm drinking tea out of my lovely cat mug, that Laura sent us.

EMILY: Yeah, I'm excited to drink tea out of mine.

SALLY: I love this cat mug, and I really love this tea that I'm drinking.

EMILY: [yawning] Oh, do you? I thought you had conflicted feelings about it.

SALLY: I did, but I think I finally got it to the right brewing time. Like, I think I finally – you know, like, you have to drink a certain type of tea for a while before your instincts for that specific tea will be like, “This is how long it’s been brewing for my tastes.”

EMILY: I have no concept of that. I’ve only ever had one type of tea in my life. It’s peppermint herbal tea, and I can only drink it with approximately one cup of sugar in it.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Because I’m a nutcase.

SALLY: It’s okay. There’s also probably, like, a whole cup of honey in this, which I’m sure is also helping.

EMILY: Yeah, I love honey.

SALLY: But honey in tea is so *good*.

EMILY: But I really only drink it when I’m sick. Yeah, I don’t know.

SALLY: But I just have, like, an internal clock for English breakfast tea, where I’m like, “This is it.”

EMILY: We’ve talked about this before, but I, like, can’t do hot drinks unless I’m sick.

SALLY: Yeah. I know.

EMILY: It really weirds me out. *Occasionally*, hot chocolate.

SALLY: Occasionally.

EMILY: But I have to be in a very specific mood and/or a very specific setting, such as the zoo.

SALLY: Mmm.

EMILY: Or, like, Disneyland or something, where there are lots of children roaming free.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: I don’t know. They served hot chocolate at my sister’s wedding reception.

SALLY: I did not grab any of that.

EMILY: I don’t think anyone did, because it was hot in that...dungeon.

SALLY: It was a little warm in the reception hall, yes. And the water was very lemon-y.

EMILY: I know. My mom needs to, like, cut back on how much lemon she puts in water.

SALLY: [laughing] It was really aggressive.

EMILY: She's like, "I'll just slice up all the lemons and put them in the water, because it looks nice." But I'm like, "Girl, it tastes like bad lemonade."

SALLY: Yeah, it was intense, but that would be my only complaint in that building. It was lovely. Emily did a great job with the foliage [laughs].

EMILY: I didn't do anything with the foliage. I just did – Sarah was like, "Arrange his foliage." And I was like, "Okay," and ten minutes later I was like, "Is this good?" And she was like, "No," and rearranged it.

SALLY: [laughs] Classic.

EMILY: So that was me, running around doing errands. On the day of the wedding, I literally drove about, uh, an hour to various places, including to Sonic for pebble ice. Because my mother, very specific in her desires for pebble ice. It's, like, the type of crunchy ice, you know?

SALLY: Yeah, yeah.

EMILY: And I'm like, "I feel like we should be able to get this at places other than Sonic, but Sonic, I guess, sells them by the bag." So I was like, had to go up to the Sonic, had to go into the Sonic.

SALLY: Gross.

EMILY: Where I expected there to be a counter of some sort.

SALLY: Oh no.

EMILY: But, no, there's just these little – it's exactly what happens on the outside, you know, where you pull up and you order through an intercom. But there's just, like, a wall with menus and you push a button when you're ready to order. And you talk to someone. It's so buck wild.

SALLY: And you were like, "I need some fucking ice!"

EMILY: I was like, "Uh, my mom *Becky* called yesterday? She wants some *ice*?"

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: "Now, I'm *here*." And they're like, "How much?" And I'm like, "*Six bags*." And they're like, "Cool, we'll have it out for you in twenty minutes." And I'm like, "Great. I'll just be here."

SALLY: In this Sonic.

EMILY: In the SONIC.

SALLY: I don't think I've ever been inside a Sonic in my entire life.

EMILY: It was my first time. I would not recommend it.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: It was pretty buck wild.

SALLY: I do try to like – like no shade to Sonic, it's just not my personal cup of tea –

EMILY: [yawning] Oh, full shade to Sonic. They're terrible, and the food's bad.

SALLY: Well, I know – Yeah, but.

EMILY: I did almost get a corndog, but that's because I was super hungry. Okay, enough about my [laughing] sister's wedding. Just putting off the inevitable. Talking about Perrin's...wedding. He didn't actually get married in these chapters. Whoops!

SALLY: Almost.

EMILY: Almost. I mean, I'll say this for these chapters: I didn't hate Perrin and Faile's relationship in them. There was some, like, obnoxious stuff like there usually is, but mostly they were pretty cute.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: There was like, like – okay, so the plot [laughs].

SALLY: He what's that? No one knows.

EMILY: So, they arrive in Emmond's Field. Perrin fully has an arrow in him.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: And he's like [laughing], "I would like to lay down please."

SALLY: [laughs] "Help."

EMILY: And Verin's like, "Sure. I'll take you to the inn, but I cannot heal you because that is not my skill set. We have to wait for Alanna to come in her own good time." And it's like cool.

SALLY: Gross.

EMILY: Tybalt. Sometimes I hear the bag and it's just, like, DUN DUN.

SALLY: Yeah it's like what the fuck?

EMILY: Have I told you the other night I went to bed, and Tybalt was all mad that I'd gone in and shut the door on him. And a second later I heard, like, aggressive –

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: - attempts at my doorknob. Like, he was fulling standing on his hind legs messing with it. It was exactly like the scene in Jurassic Park [laughing], where the raptors learn how to open doors. I was so scared for a minute.

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: I was like, “Oh no! I'll never be able to lock him out again.”

SALLY: No, it's okay.

EMILY: [laughing] “I'll have to get a child lock.”

SALLY: [laughing] Like one of those weird doorknobs.

EMILY: Yeah!

SALLY: [laughs] Could you imagine?

EMILY: Ah!

SALLY: This is permanent toddler, Tybalt, Prince of Cats.

EMILY: So anyway, they go to the inn. Perrin sits down, still has an arrow in him. Just keep that, keep that on the back burner as we discuss the goings on.

SALLY: Everything else that happens.

EMILY: Yeah, and then there's like a whole convo between Perrin and the three lads who helped bring him in. And it's meant to, like, contrast between how much Perrin has aged in the last...what? Year and a half?

SALLY: I guess. I don't know. The timeline of these books is so confusing.

EMILY: I'd say it's been about a year.

SALLY: That seems right.

EMILY: It's been about a year, maybe a little bit more. And Perrin's like, "Everyone seems so fucking naïve and young," and it's like, "Well, yeah, homeboy, it's because they have had no experiences." He was like, "I was never like that." Flashback to Book One. Perrin *was* like that. Just an absolute idiot.

SALLY: Perrin was the worst. Perrin's still the worst, but, like, Book One Perrin is just like, "Oh, I guess I'll just murder Egg in the forest."

EMILY: [laughing]

SALLY: What the shit was that about?

EMILY: [laughing] Have you shared that screenshot on social media?

SALLY: [laughing] Oh no, I haven't. I need to ask Nathan if it's okay.

EMILY: Because it's legitimately the funniest thing of all time.

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: One of Sally's friends got drunk and was, like, ranting about.

SALLY: About that scene in particular.

EMILY: [laughing] He's never read the books. Just knew that was fucked up.

SALLY: No, he's reading –

EMILY: Oh, he is? That's great!

SALLY: He's reading *The Eye of the World* right now. Hi, Nathan, if you're listening, whenever you ar. Yeah, he's reading it. He's, like, having a hard time with it, because *The Eye of the World* is a shitty book.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: But he, like, read that part and I was like, while he was drunk texting it to me, I was like, "Are you reading it right now?" And he was like, "No. I've just been pissed about it all day" [laughs]. It was real –

EMILY: It's, like, impossible to recommend *The Wheel of Time* to people, because you have to be like, "Now, listen. You just have to get through books one and two. It gets good in book three. But!"

SALLY: I know. And that's what I told him. And he was like, "I'm gonna read it anyway." Um, because he's a good boy.

EMILY: I know. I've been trying to get my coworker – she's like, "I need to read *Wheel of Time* at some point, because it's, like, you know, my genre. And they're making the tv show out of it and I'm gonna like it." And I'm like, "Bear with me. Do a social experiment with me. Start with book three."

SALLY: [laughs] Ashley!

EMILY: I'm trying so hard to get Ashley to start with –

SALLY: The people need you!

EMILY: I'm like, "I just want to know your experience based upon that. Specifically, I want you to start in Book Three [laughing] when Mat is waking up."

SALLY: Oh my god.

EMILY: I know. Hopefully she'll agree to the experiment. She does have me sitting right next to her, ready and willing to explain any worldbuilding of *Wheel of Time* that is needed. Okay, anyway, Perrin's talking to these lads. He's like, "That one's like Mat, only chubbier I guess."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] Why must we make these judgements about people?

SALLY: [laughing] Literally that's how he describes him?

EMILY: I think he says "stockier."

SALLY: Oh, which mean – yeah.

EMILY: Which is different than "chubbier," but we all know what it means, based upon – it's just that Mat is built like –

SALLY: A string bean?

EMILY: Built like a string bean. Built like a coat hanger on legs, and Perrin's like, "This man is a normal size."

SALLY: This is a normal boy. Mat is just a ladder.

EMILY: Yep.

SALLY: Looking lad.

EMILY: Anyway, there are like, “What’s it like meeting kings and queens and going to cities and what not?” And it was at this point reading it that I realized why I find these Perrin chapters so insufferable, and it’s because it reminds me distinctly of me going to my parents neighborhood and having to put up with all our quote unquote family friends and neighbors asking me personal questions. So.

SALLY: At the wedding a lot of people –

EMILY: Which I got a lot of. Yeah.

SALLY: Would come up and just, like, touch and/or hug Emily, just, like, first thing. And every time it would happen, like, the Kill Bill sirens would go off in my head.

EMILY: I told my dad that made you upset, and he did not understand.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: He was like, “It’s just people being affectionate for you.” And I’m like, “Yeah, but Sally hasn’t grown up with that being inflicted upon her. All she knows is that I don’t like being touched, so of course [laughing] it makes her upset. I’m her priority.” And he’s like, “I just don’t get it. They’re just being nice.” And I’m like, “Chris. You’re part of the problem.”

SALLY: Yeah! Just, like, invading personal space over and over again for two hours, and I was like, “One of these white ladies is gonna get punched.”

EMILY: Men. Women. There’s no discrimination.

SALLY: Yeah. Also, Emily’s brother and father [laughing] asked me the exact same question separately, like, twenty minutes apart.

EMILY: Did my dad talk to you?

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Oh my gosh.

SALLY: You were talking to somebody else, and he asked me about Zoe and stuff.

EMILY: Oh, yeah.

SALLY: And he was like, “So, what are you up to?” And then Adam was like, “So, what are you up to?”

EMILY: And my – yeah, Adam was like, “What do your parents do?” It was like –

SALLY: Yeah [laughing], it was really funny!

EMILY: I was like, “Adam, turn it off.”

SALLY: I was like, “Adam, I don’t know you very well. And in my mind you’re like sixteen, [laughing] so this is a very funny conversation.” It was really funny.

EMILY: Ugh.

SALLY: Anyway, Emily’s sister’s wedding was very fun and stressful, because people kept touching her.

EMILY: Emily’s sister’s wedding was *lovely* for the bride and groom, but for the rest of us it was hell on earth. No one in my family likes small talk with people for hours on end. None of us likes setting up foliage. None of us like doing any of that.

SALLY: It looked really lovely, though. You guys did an amazing job.

EMILY: Yeah, luckily I have a veritable *army* of cousins.

SALLY: [whispers] It’s insane.

EMILY: Who are just like, “We’ll drop down.” You’ll just, like, look over the crowd and see a bunch of busboy looking motherfuckers. They’re all my cousins.

SALLY: I know! Every time I looked out there was a different *boy*.

[both laugh]

EMILY: With glasses.

SALLY: Yeah! Like, gathering plates and stuff.

EMILY: Yep.

SALLY: And I was like [whispers], “Whose boy is this?”

EMILY: He was probably one of the ten boys.

SALLY: He was just a boy. And I was like [whispers], “Where are they coming from?”

EMILY: They’re all coming from that back kitchen where they’re hiding.

SALLY: [laughs] They were also cute in their, like, white shirts and their slacks and their little ties. They were very cute.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: My family doesn't have any of that. So when weddings happen it's like I am responsible for 18 people's jobs, and so I *fucking* hate weddings. Both of my siblings are married, though, so.

EMILY: Yeah, so let's check that off the list. You won't have to deal with it for another twenty years I hope. When one of your –

SALLY: If Liz gets married at twenty-three, I'll murder her.

EMILY: I meant twenty, like, approximately twenty.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Twenty to thirty.

SALLY: I'll be like, "Listen, sis."

EMILY: However old you want to be, Liz, if you want to be married at all. We will support you.

SALLY: Well, I'm trying to convince Liz that girls don't have to marry boys, so.

EMILY: Oh, [laughs] tough one. Tough convo to get past.

SALLY: We were playing Candyland – I'm sorry this is, like, totally off topic.

EMILY: I know. Well, like, what's the fucking point, you know? we've already done a whole episode about *Cats*.

SALLY: [laughing] I know. I'm sorry. But, like, the little Candyland people, we were on the same square.

EMILY: Uh-huh.

SALLY: So, like, Liz turned them to face it. And she was like, "Do you want to get married?" Because, you know, she's three.

EMILY: Sure, yeah.

SALLY: So, she's, like, figuring out what that means. And I was like, "Yeah, sure, our Candyland people can get married." And she's like, "But wait, you're a girl." And I was like, "Well, girls can marry girls." And she was, like, not having it.

EMILY: She was like, "Wot?"

SALLY: Yeah. She was like, “No.”

EMILY: Was that when you texted me and were like, “We should get married just so I can – ”

SALLY: [laughs] Tell Liz.

EMILY: MY WIFE!

SALLY: [laughs] And I was like, “Liz, girls can marry girls or boys. Or no one at all.” And she was like, “My mom and dad are married.” And I was like, “Yes.”

EMILY: That’s true!

SALLY: That is a specific instance of [laughing] a man marrying a woman.

EMILY: The sample size is not very large, Liz.

SALLY: [laughing] Yeah.

EMILY: God.

SALLY: Anyway, I love toddlers so much. Today I FaceTimed my nephew and he was trying to put a thing of bubbles just fully in his mouth.

EMILY: Oh.

SALLY: And my mom was like [laughing], “I have to call you back.” [laughing]

EMILY: [laughs] It’s toxic!

SALLY: I just love toddlers. They’re so funny.

EMILY: One time Adam –

SALLY: [laughing] Remember when Jack tried to make a donkey noise?

EMILY: Oh – EH [coughs].

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: My sister sent me a very good video of my nephew trying to make a Donkey noise, but he was also eating, so he just coughed in the middle of it.

SALLY: It was so funny [laughs].

EMILY: I was gonna tell you. One time Sarah was babysitting, and Adam, like, legit drank some cleaner under the sink [laughing] and Sarah had to call poison control.

SALLY: Jesus Christ!

EMILY: And they had to be like, “Just monitor him, I guess?” Poor Sarah was, like, fourteen [sighs].

SALLY: Sarah is a saint on this earth.

EMILY: Sarah is a saint if only because of how much she had to care for Adam specifically, who was a tiny nudist when he was – up to, like, six.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Just take off down the street.

SALLY: Buck naked?

EMILY: Buck naked. And Sarah would have to chase him.

SALLY: Oh, Sarah.

EMILY: I know.

SALLY: Sarah!

EMILY: Sarah!

SALLY: Okay, Perrin’s, like, bleeding out or something. They’re waiting for the magical rapist to appear.

EMILY: BLEH. Yeah, they’re just, like, chatting. It’s very odd, the whole chapter where they’re chatting. Oh, then Loial does come in, and is like, “Hey, I didn’t know you had an *arrow in you*, or I would have come sooner?”

SALLY: What the fuck?

EMILY: And Perrin’s like, “Hey, what’s up? I’ve found out that Trollocs are coming through the Waygates still, but I thought you locked it?” And Loial’s like, “Oh no, it’s this complicated thing where the only way to really lock a Waygate is to destroy it by, like, taking away both leaves, because then they’ll die. And they need, like, a squad of Ogier singing to bring it back to life. And Perrin’s like, “Well, that sounds ideal in this scenario. Like, I don’t want Trollocs just invading the fucking Two Rivers anymore.” He’s like, “Whatever. Once this arrow is no longer in me. I will go and take care of it.” And Loial’s like, “I should take care of it. I’ll go right now.” And Perrin’s like, “I absolutely refuse to delegate responsibility. Fuck you, I’ll go.”

SALLY: [laughs] Yeah.

EMILY: But he's a little bit undermined a second later when he's, like, developing a fever and they're like, "Oh, dang. We do got to get this arrow out of him." And Alanna comes in and is like, "Strap him to the table, boys, so I can dig the arrow out of his flesh."

SALLY: Gross.

EMILY: Blegh. You know, Loial, like, bridal style carries him to the kitchen table.

SALLY: Wouldn't that be so soothing? If Loial just, like, picked you up?

EMILY: I know. I feel like at the end of this segment, not these chapters, but at the end of the end of the book, Gaul gets wounded when he and Loial and go on their mission. And Loial's just, like, carrying Gaul back. And I'm like, "Honestly? That would be nice. [laughing] I would be picked up and cradled."

SALLY: By Loial.

EMILY: By Loial.

SALLY: With his big, gentle arms.

EMILY: And his giant, droopy eyebrows. Whoop. Whoop. Like little tassels.

SALLY: Put little beads on the end of them. Swing them around.

EMILY: Oh my god. That would be lit as hell.

SALLY: [laughing] Just, like, dramatically twirl your eyebrows around.

EMILY: [laughing] Wouldn't you hit yourself in the eye with it?

SALLY: [laughs] But you could also hit other people with it.

EMILY: *How?!*

SALLY: If they get to close –

EMILY: You'd have to have long fucking eyebrows.

SALLY: I guess Loial's too tall.

EMILY: You'd have to be, like –

SALLY: [laughing] Could you imagine though? That's his secret combat move. Combo breaker [laughs].

EMILY: My *lethal eyebrows*.

SALLY: [laughing] Could put little knives on them.

EMILY: Eyebrow game on point. Literally! He has little points on them. To stab.

SALLY: Little tiny knives.

EMILY: Tiny eyebrow knives.

SALLY: Fachink! Put a little gun in there.

EMILY: You'll shoot your eye out!!

SALLY: [laughs] Okay.

EMILY: [laughing] So then Perrin passes out.

SALLY: Finally, right? A reprieve.

EMILY: Yeah, and he wakes up and is like, "Oh, I'm, uh, in bed and feel significantly less like I have an arrow in me. [laughs] Good job." And he's like, "I've gotta go, uh." He's like, "Okay. I gotta get up." And Faile's like, "Mm. Bad news, chief. [laughing] Loial and Gaul have already taken off, because they saw their golden opportunity to escape you."

SALLY: What a – buddy cop comedy I've always wanted.

EMILY: Buddy cop comedy. Loial and Gaul.

SALLY: Why don't we get those chapters?

EMILY: She's like, "Someone heard them talking about trees as they left." And I'm just like, "That's delightful."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Loial and Gaul were just chatting.

SALLY: Gaul's like, "Tell me about trees." And Loial's like, "I've been waiting."

EMILY: "I would love to tell you all about trees, Gaul." Gaul would be such a good listener.

SALLY: It's like that line in "Dear Evan Hansen." Like, I'll be sending pictures – [laughing]

EMILY: [singing] of the most amazing trees!

SALLY: No!

EMILY: [laughing, singing] You'll be obsessed with all my –

BOTH: Forest expertise.

EMILY: No.

SALLY: [singing] Dude I'm proud of you.

EMILY: [singing] Dude I'm proud of you!

SALLY: Yeah. Gaul would be such a good listener.

EMILY: He would. Gaul if you're listening [laughs].

SALLY: Gaul if you're listening, which I'm sure you are, because you're a good listener.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Anyway, then Perrin and Faile fight [laughing] and he falls down the stairs.

EMILY: Perrin's like, "I have to go after them." And Faile's like, "You're recuperating from having AN ARROW IN YOU!" [laughs] Perrin's like, "I refuse, I'm too manly to let that stop me." But then he *does* fall down the stairs with Faile on top of him. And then they just stay there chatting until Egg's mom is like, "Hello? What is happening here?"

SALLY: "Excuse me."

EMILY: "This looks a little awkward."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Faile's like, "Pardon-moi."

SALLY: "Pardon."

EMILY: "I would never get down in your living room, Egg's mom."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: "I'm so embarrassed."

SALLY: [laughing] Egg's mom. Eggy mom.

EMILY: Egg mom. Um.

SALLY: Eggmum.

EMILY: Then there's a funny, well, it's supposed to be funny, little aside where Faile and Mistress al'Vere, I guess, is like, "That's not the right way to handle him, Faile. Like, you have to just, like, use honey and whatever." And then for the rest of the chapter Faile is mockingly being like, "Dear, dear Perrin."

SALLY: "Dearest."

EMILY: "Please, don't you think it would be best."

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: [laughs] And he's like, "I can't resist you when you bat your eyes like that," [laughs]. So, I just think that's cute when they're both in on the joke.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And not joking at each other. When they're both just like –

SALLY: Joking with each other.

EMILY: Yeah! It's almost amazing. It's like [laughs] real relationships don't involve excluding the other person.

SALLY: It's almost like the involve another person.

EMILY: Ahh! Shocking!

SALLY: [laughing] What the fuck?

EMILY: Yeah. Then, they're chatting when there's a big alarm going off that, uh, Trollocs are attacking or something. So, they go out to the borders of Emmond's Field. And Perrin's like, "Ah, everyone's all set up to fight. It's, like, very efficient. Our village folk are just, like, ready to throw down with some Trollocs."

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: Including we've built catapults or something.

SALLY: Yeah, which is, like, no shade on the Two Rivers, but why does this farming town know how to build catapults?

EMILY: I know it's like –

SALLY: Did Lord Luc teach them?

EMILY: [scoffs] I just read a book that was all about a city being under siege, and it was, like, a whole thing with the catapults. They were like, “No one knows how to build catapults,” [laughs].

SALLY: Who knows how to build a catapult?!

EMILY: They just have to guess?

SALLY: Like, what the shit?

EMILY: So, there's some amazing artisan in Emmond's Field, who isn't getting enough credit.

SALLY: It's fat Mat [laughs].

EMILY: It's fat Mat [laughs].

SALLY: [laughing] Yeah. Everyone's mean to him, but damn does that boy know how to build a catapult.

EMILY: Um, but –

SALLY: [laughing] I hate Perrin chapters so much. They're so stupid.

EMILY: I know, but then the Aiel come out and are like – or Bain and Chiad, I guess – and are like, “Yeah, there's –” Like one Trolloc attacks Emmond's Field and everyone's like, “Well, that was anticlimactic.”

SALLY: Yeah [laughing] whee!

EMILY: “I feel like we could handle this if they come – insist in coming –”

SALLY: [laughing] One at a time.

EMILY: “In small groups.”

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: [laughing] “We could probably handle that.” But Bain and Chiad come out and are like, “There's, like, five hundred more on their way.” And everyone's like, “Okay. Great.” So they set up. Um, there's a battle, which is not much of a battle, because they shoot all the Trollocs before they get there, because, hey, their longbows have very good range. Um, so they shoot all the Trollocs and everyone's like, “Okay. Job well done. We did it.” Then some Tinkers show up and

are like, “Hello, we would – we would like sanctuary, please.” And everyone’s like, “TROLLOCS!” And Perrin’s like, “You’re dumb.”

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: “Those are people. [laughing] You’re so buck fucking wild.” So then the Tinkers, sadly enough, were apparently attacked, but luckily all of the non-redshirts are still alive [laughs]. Aram and his grandparents.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: It’s funny that we never got introduced to Aram’s actually parents.

SALLY: I know.

EMILY: Especially given that Aram reveals, “Oh, my mom got killed in that.” And I’m like, “Who’s your mom?”

SALLY: Yeah, I don’t who this girl is.

EMILY: No one I know. Anyway, so they come in. Perrin’s like, “Yeah, of course we’re gonna welcome the Tinkers. Everyone just muscle past all your dumb prejudices.” And everyone’s like, “Yeah, of course we will, Perrin. Anything for you.” And then there’s a long sequence of people asking Perrin for supervision of various tasks, and him being very confused by that, which happens a lot in *Wheel of Time*. Like, this is the recurring theme in Perrin’s world, that people are like, “Hello, we need leadership.” And Perrin’s like, “I don’t understand.” And it happens so relentlessly, like, it should be this.

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: That’s it. Because then he and Faile have a very, well, not a very, but a more or less, like, I don’t know, topic ending conversation about it. Where he’s like, “I don’t like that.” And she’s like, “Well, you’re kind of in a leadership position over these people who have never been asked to answer to anyone in a leadership position before, and they’re just getting used to it. You just have to give them time.” And Perrin being like, “Okay, well.” But then they’re interrupted by Aram being like, “I would like to hold a sword!” [laughs] And Perrin being like, “Gay!”

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: As we all know, swords are gay, that’s why Perrin doesn’t use one.

SALLY: Oh shit. Does that mean Rand is the most gay because he makes his sword?

EMILY: God, fucking if only [laughs].

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: That's why Galad's so gay, because he's so good at swords.

SALLY: Right.

EMILY: You know?

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: But then that does leave the Mat question.

SALLY: Yeah, but Mat is bisexual.

EMILY: Mat has a spear that is described as having blade on it? So, yeah, I think that's a good metaphor for bisexuality. Axes are straight.

SALLY: [laughs] Axes are straight.

EMILY: [laughs] Spears are bi. Swords are gay.

SALLY: Yeah. We figured it out!

EMILY: Yay!

SALLY: Yaaay!

EMILY: Swords are gay.

SALLY: Swords are gay.

EMILY: 2020.

SALLY: Ah, dangit. I wish there was a way to make a –

EMILY: What are bows, though?

SALLY: Lesbians, maybe?

EMILY: You right. There's lots of lesbian coded archer girls out there. Merida from *Brave*.

SALLY: [laughing] Legolas from *Lord of the Rings*.

EMILY: Legolas has huge lesbian energy! And I will go to my grave defending that.

SALLY: [laughs] But, like, Birgitte. I know she has a canonical straight, het romance, but she does have like –

EMILY: Yeah, but we've always known that was forced upon her by the narrative.

SALLY: Yeah, she's got big, legitimately big lesbian energy.

EMILY: I know. Birgitte's hugely lesbian. Birgitte and Mat are the lesbian – the wlw/mlm solidarity.

SALLY: [laughing] Himbo solidarity.

EMILY: Himbo solidarity! Mat and Birgitte. You're so right.

SALLY: Birgitte's a pretty big himbo and I love her.

EMILY: I know, she really is, though.

SALLY: Birgitte is such a good character! I can't wait for her to join the narrative! Even though she has to do so at the detriment of being Elayne's Warder.

EMILY: I know. I feel, like, Robert Jordan knew Elayne was a terrible character, so he was like, "I'll give her Birgitte, the best character, and then at least there will be something for readers to stick around to." That's why Aviendha is around so much, too. God if only Aviendha and Birgitte fell in love.

SALLY: [whispers] That would be amazing.

EMILY: That would be a pretty good lesbian combo. Um, uh what was I saying? Oh, yeah. Aram's like, "Hello, I would like to dismiss my own ideology and take up another ideology." And his grandparents are like, "We're going to react to this in the most – the least supportive way possible." Which, studies have shown, is the best way to get teens to do what you want [laughs].

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Um.

SALLY: Is the Tinker holding a sword like the Mandalorian? Like, if you pick one up you can never go back?

EMILY: Wot?

SALLY: You know how in the Mandalorian he's like, "If I take my helmet off I can never go back. It's, like, the end of my creed."

EMILY: Oh, does he?

SALLY: If a Tinker puts – picks up a sword, is that the end of them being a Tinker forever?

EMILY: I mean, it sure seems to be. It's very unprecedented in the, um, text. We don't have any other examples, because, as we know, there are no real main Tinker characters, which is a shame. Like, I know we all hate Aram but.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughs] Imagine if Aram was a decent character and just got hooked into the fellowship really early on.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And he could just, like, be our Tinker representative. Which, of course, is bad because you never want to have one single representative of an entire race, but then at least we would have someone.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And then Aram could give us, I don't know, various, like, lore from the Tinkers. Like, they do say, "Oh he's Lost," capital L.

SALLY: Hmm.

EMILY: Which seems to indicate that this is something that has happened in the past. That Tinkers, you know, go out and leave. And are no longer Tinkers. But I would just really like to see Aram engage with that in a healthy way.

SALLY: Yeah. It would – yeah. It would be interesting too, to have a Tinker as a main character, because so many of our main characters are so militarized, that it would be interesting to have a pacifist, non-violent perspective on the events of the apocalypse other than the infantilizing one we get via Perrin's point of view.

EMILY: Yes, that's so true, because yeah. Everyone is so militarized, and everyone is also already coming from a perspective where they are rejecting certain aspects of their background. In fact, a lot of aspects of their background in order to, like, become what they feel like they need to be. So it would be really interesting to see Aram being like, "Hello, I'm a Tinker, but I'm not part of the group, but I am also still very much what I am."

SALLY: Yeah, like it would be interesting to, yeah, explore liminality with Aram, where he's still connected to his background, but isn't with a group of Tinkers. He's with Egg, or whatever.

EMILY: I also would have liked to see the Tinkers develop superpowers of some sort.

SALLY: That would have been amazing.

EMILY: I'm just gonna say it. They spend the whole time being like, "We want to find the Song." And we know, because of earlier chapters in this book, that the Song, more or less, is symbolic of, like, peace, you know? The ideology in which all of these people were allowed to be pacifists and were respected for it, rather than degraded by the rest of society. And when they say they're looking for the Song, they mean they are looking for home. A place to stay. But would it be way cooler [laughs] if they were like, "We want to find the song." And then Aram did find the song and he could sing people into submission, or whatever.

SALLY: That would be so cool. He was just, like, the best bard of all time.

EMILY: AHHH.

SALLY: Aram has big bard energy.

EMILY: I want – petition to have Aram played by the guy who plays the bard in the Witcher.

SALLY: [laughs] Oh my god.

EMILY: Who's also very cute.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: So it would go with Aram being like, "Hello."

SALLY: "I'm adorable."

EMILY: "I'm adorable and hot." And you could have Dandelion, or whatever his name is. His name is Yaskier? Jaskier? No one knows how to pronounce it, because I wasn't paying attention.

SALLY: *No one* knows how to pronounce it, meaning Emily wasn't paying attention [laughs].

EMILY: [laughing] No one I've talked to know how to pronounce it!

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: I'll be like, "What's that motherfuckers' name?" And everyone's like, "No one knows."

SALLY: Okay.

EMILY: Because Geralt – Henry Cavil – says it, like, twice. And he mumbles everything, so.

SALLY: Is it Geralt or Jeralt? Soft G, hard G?

EMILY: In the show they pronounce it Geralt.

SALLY: Geralt. Okay, I was.

EMILY: Geralt of Rivia.

SALLY: I was just wondering.

BOTH: Yennefer.

EMILY: [laughs] Vengerberg.

SALLY: Yennefer of Vengerberg [laughs]. Anyway, um, Aram played by a cute bard. I've always imagined Aram to be a person of color.

EMILY: Oh, that's great. I like that.

SALLY: Thanks [laughs].

EMILY: [laughs] I haven't, I guess, because he's described so blandly.

SALLY: Yeah, I think one time early on I saw, like, a drawing of him that depicted him as a person of color.

EMILY: They haven't cast any of the Tinkers yet, so I would be interested to see how they do that.

SALLY: God, yeah. I would...trying to think of someone.

EMILY: Who you would like to play?

SALLY: [laughs] Yeah.

EMILY: Aram.

SALLY: Zayn Malik.

EMILY: [shrieks]

SALLY: [laughing] Then he could sing.

EMILY: Someone get Harry Styles up in *The Wheel of Time* series. He should play Galad.

SALLY: [laughing] That's just what I was gonna say! But I think – have we already had this conversation?

EMILY: I feel like we have.

SALLY: [laughing] About casting One Direction.

EMILY: Every few months we're like, "Yeah, Harry Styles should play Galad."

SALLY: [laughs] Uh, it's just too funny.

EMILY: Every time we get so excited about it, like it's this new revelation.

SALLY: I just think it would be so funny [laughs].

EMILY: It would be so good. Anyway, so here we have an example –

SALLY: Because then they could have Galad, just with no context, having a butterfly tattoo on his sternum. That just isn't addressed [laughs] at all.

EMILY: [laughs] Harry Styles has so many tattoos.

SALLY: I know.

EMILY: I would love if Galad had them.

SALLY: Just had all these tattoos. And everyone was just like, "Yeah, it's Galad and his tattoos."

EMILY: That's one of the sad things about the *Wheel of Time* universe. Not enough is done with tattoos in my opinion.

SALLY: That's true.

EMILY: There's some interesting piercing rhetoric around the Sea Folk, but not enough tattoos. All we have is Rand's dumb shiny tattoos.

SALLY: Yeah [laughs].

EMILY: Pfft. Lame!

SALLY: Everything Rand does is so lame.

EMILY: [whispers] I know.

SALLY: Rand is such a loser.

EMILY: Anyway, here in Perrin's chapter we have a perfect example of what not to do if you want to introduce a character departing from their ideology.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Um, with Aram deciding, “Oh, my mom’s dead.” Again, maybe don’t have that decision spurred on by a woman dying. “Oh, my mom’s dead. I better take up the sword.” And Perrin being like, “Okay, I support you.” And everyone being like [whispers], “That maybe wasn’t the right call, Perrin.” And he’s like, “Listen, I respect everyone’s right to choose.” And everyone’s like [whispers], “Okay, but he is legitimately traumatized” [laughs].

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Like, maybe we should have given it some time. You shouldn’t have jumped on that quite as quickly as you did.

SALLY: I know. He’s immediately like, “Great. Go find Tam, he’ll teach you how to fight.” And everyone’s like [whispers], “Perrin.”

EMILY: Everyone’s like, “Perrin, maybe let’s get him into therapy first. See how he responds to that.”

SALLY: Talk to Egg’s mom.

EMILY: Egg’s mom. Well, maybe not her. She has some dumb gender ideas.

SALLY: Okay, talk to –

EMILY: Who would be the best therapist in the Two Rivers?

SALLY: What about the blacksmith’s wife?

EMILY: She’s pretty cool.

SALLY: She’s maybe, like, tough love, though.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Whoever [sighs]. Tam, I guess [laughs].

EMILY: Maybe Egg’s dad?

SALLY: Ooh, Egg’s dad.

EMILY: The mayor?

SALLY: Mat’s very gentle dad.

EMILY: Mat’s lovely dad.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: [laughing] Who just does horses.

SALLY: Yeah, get horse therapy, where you just go and hang out with the horses.

EMILY: If only Mat's mom had a personality, you know. It's sad that she doesn't.

SALLY: Also, isn't her name Natti?

EMILY: Natt.

SALLY: And she named her son Mat [laughs].

EMILY: There's also this bizarre thing where, um, the – both of Mat's flirty sisters are, like, feeding Aram.

SALLY: [whispers] I know it's so weird.

EMILY: Or something. And then Faile is, like, this is hilarious [laughing] I'm gonna feed Perrin.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: And Perrin's like, "I hate this." And she's like, "I know. Isn't it hilarious?" Um, but Perrin describes, and Robert Jordan loves this description, both Mat's sisters as "plumply pretty."

SALLY: Gross.

EMILY: Which is probably my least favorite description of beauty that exists, because A) it, like, separates plumpness from prettiness in a really bad way.

SALLY: Mm-hm.

EMILY: And also just, like, genetics are a thing. How does Mat and his dad, are both, like, coat hangers. I would just love his sisters to be, like, also coat hangers.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Get me [laughing] some lanky girl representation in *The Wheel of Time* series.

SALLY: Yeah, it's weird.

EMILY: Anyway, hate that. I don't know how this chapter ends.

SALLY: I just don't like how Robert Jordan describes bodies in general.

EMILY: Women's bodies especially.

SALLY: Yeah, women's bodies especially, but there's just always these weird qualifiers around attractiveness and fatness and gender. Like I hate, obviously, when he's like, a man describing another man, "women would have found him beautiful," of course –

EMILY: Yeah, it's terrible.

SALLY: But there's – ah! Yeah, it just does not, not good stuff.

EMILY: Mm.

SALLY: Personally. From my camp over here.

EMILY: Anyway, then there's another crisis where the Whitecloaks show up.

SALLY: Oh yeah.

EMILY: And are like, "Hello. We're so angry at you and we would like to arrest you immediately."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: And Perrin's like, "Consider this: no" [laughs].

SALLY: [laughs] How 'bout you don't?

EMILY: Perrin's like, "Listen, I'll make a deal with you. You hold off on arresting me until the Trollocs are taken care of. And you can chill here and help with the defense." And everyone's like, "We hate this idea, because we hate the Whitecloaks, because they are the KKK." And Perrin's like, "Too bad. As I've said before I do not listen to advice or delegate [laughs]."

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: "Despite my insistence that everyone knows what's best beside me."

SALLY: I am a tiny tyrant.

EMILY: Baaah! Oh, Luc also comes back.

SALLY: Oh yeah.

EMILY: And there's some weird discourse between him and Dain Bornhald, who is apparently now an alcoholic. Where he's like, "So, was the man Ordeith at the Taren Farry" – Taren Farry got, like, attacked and now there's no one left. RIP, but most people escaped over the river.

SALLY: RIP, Taren Farry.

EMILY: RIP Taren Farry, but no one knows anyone there so who cares.

SALLY: They're all redshirts.

EMILY: They're all redshirts. The town that could get attacked without anyone suffering any actual emotional damage, apparently. Um, he's like, "Was Ordeith there?" And Dain Bornhald's like, "I don't fucking know where Ordeith is [laughs]. He's doing his own dumb thing." So, there's like the one hint really that we get in this entire book that both Luc and Padan Fain are orchestrating things in the *Wheel of Time* on conflicting missions.

SALLY: Mm.

EMILY: Like, I don't really know what Luc's mission is, but he would, I assume, is sent by one Forsaken or another to wreak havoc, and to let the Trollocs in. But then Padan Fain is there with the Whitecloaks doing his own nonsense.

SALLY: I don't know, man.

EMILY: I don't know either, man. So anyway, those were the chapters. We did talk about all of them. I feel pretty good about ourselves [laughs].

SALLY: Yay!

EMILY: Okay, next week we will be back with Elayne and Nynaeve for the world's longest chapter, but oh wait, then there's the world's other longest chapter when we – the White Tower breaks.

SALLY: Oh! That at least is an interesting chapter.

EMILY: Yeah, that is an interesting chapter.

SALLY: We're getting surprisingly close to – this always happens when we're talking through the books. I feel like we're going, going, going and then it's, like, suddenly it's like endgame.

EMILY: I know, especially with *The Shadow Rising* because you have this huge chunk in the middle where literally nothing's happening.

SALLY: [laughs] [crosstalk]

EMILY: Best represented by the Perrin chapters, but.

SALLY: Yeah, but then it's like Nynaeve is fighting the Forsaken. The White Tower is crumbling. Rand is going to break the Aiel. In, like, the course of like five chapters.

EMILY: Perrin's getting married.

SALLY: Perrin's gonna have a wif.

EMILY: Wif-y.

SALLY: Wif-y. Wifey. I bet Faile would like to be called Wifey. I like I've said that before.

EMILY: She has lingerie that has – no, I think we've said Elayne is a total wifey before.

SALLY: Yeah, Elayne is a total wifey.

EMILY: [sighs] Thank you for listening. Uh, thank you to Glynna Mackenzie for our theme song. It is a new year. Our first 2020 podcast, so we do have some announcements. What are our announcements?

SALLY: [laughs] Okay. Our first announcement. If you remember, a couple weeks back we talked about how we were getting rid of \$5 – not getting rid of. We were changing our \$5 Patreon reward to – the graffitied books that used to come with \$5 are now gonna be at the \$10 a month level. Uh, just because they are, um, a much bigger commitment than we kind of originally.... foresaw.

EMILY: Thought they would be.

SALLY: Um, and we want to make sure that everyone is getting the quality that they deserve. So we're gonna leave, like, we mentioned the \$1 reward and the \$3 reward the same, we're just gonna kind of take away the \$5 reward option for the time being until we can, um, kind of conceive of a reward that matches that value. We've had a few ideas, but none of them we seem fully comfortable with after talking about them. On Patreon you can set your own pledge, so if \$5 a month is comfortable for you that's great. And thank you so much, you will just get the \$3 and \$1 rewards at this time, but something else should be coming in the next couple of weeks or months, hopefully.

EMILY: Yeah. Remember that if you had signed up for the \$5 reward previously with the intention of getting a book, and that's something you want, then we will still be sending you a book.

SALLY: Yes!

EMILY: Um, although, you know, you're now technically on a tier that doesn't exist.

SALLY: Yeah, so.

EMILY: That's totally fine, we'll be sending you a book, but from now on if you would like a book you need to sign up for the \$10 reward.

SALLY: The \$10 reward. Good point, Emily. So yeah, everybody who signed up before is grandfathered in. Those books are coming. In the works [laughs], though it may not seem like it. Um, again, we just work very hard to make sure they are actually personalized and you're getting your money's worth. So, um...the next thing is that you guys should look out for our stickers something in the next couple of weeks as soon as we can get everything squared away with how we're going to sell them. And then, of course, getting the merchandise itself. Um, so look for that sometime around the end of January, mid-February? Sometime in that timeline.

EMILY: Yeah, I hate to put a timeline on it really, because, as we've said before, we both have lives so we never know what's going to get in the way, but we will be working on that.

SALLY: Sometime within, reasonably, the next, like six to eight weeks.

EMILY: Yep!

SALLY: Especially when – because we obviously need to get the stickers printed and you never know what's going to happen when you are working with distributors! But they are on their way. We're very excited about them. If you haven't seen which ones were chosen, please hop over to any of our social media accounts – Twitter, tumblr, or Instagram – to see which ones were chosen. And thank you to our amazing artists and to everyone who submitted.

EMILY: Mm-hmm. Anything else?

SALLY: Uh – oh! EHR's second anniversary is coming up on January 23rd, I think.

EMILY: Oh god.

SALLY: So, last year some of you made us presents and I think you should do that again.

EMILY: Hold on. Is our second anniversary gonna correlate with our 100th episode?

SALLY: [gasp] Oh my god it might! Shit.

EMILY: So our second anniversary is going to be our 100th episode. We are going to try to do something special. We'll see how that pans out. We might get a variety of guest speakers –

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: To give us [laughing] their thoughts about *Wheel of Time*. Various friends of the podcast.

SALLY: [laughs] Yeah.

EMILY: I'm still cheering for Gethin, although now I think Nathan would be great.

SALLY: Yeah, I feel like if it was gonna be someone it should be Nathan, because [laughs] he's actually read a little bit of *The Wheel of Time*, and his – every time he talks to me about it it's literally, like, the funniest take I've ever heard in my entire life.

EMILY: Okay, I really want to talk to Nathan. I want to talk to Devin.

SALLY: Nathan is so good.

EMILY: And Janet should just be there.

SALLY: Oh god. Janet, and I'll just be weeping on her the whole time. Nathan is my favorite because he's somehow more Team Egwene than I am. Every time he's like, "Egwene's the only one I care about." And I'm like [laughing], "Nathan, I'm obsessed with you."

EMILY: Nathan, you're so good.

SALLY: Yeah, so we might do that. I think it would be extremely hilarious to have Devin tell me what he's learned about *The Wheel of Time* [laughing] by only listening to EHR.

EMILY: I need to ask him if he's okay with it.

SALLY: [laughing] Because he's a good friend that listens to the podcast, but has no idea what's going on.

EMILY: I know. He's just accumulated things through osmosis mostly at this point.

SALLY: I just want to see what the picture is that's forming in his brain.

EMILY: [laughing] How do you imagine *The Wheel of Time*?

SALLY: Devin, tell me [laughs].

EMILY: List three places in *The Wheel of Time*.

SALLY: Oh, yeah. We can give him a quiz. Or, I feel like that's a lot of people to have on the mic at once, so we could do –

EMILY: Maybe do separate things.

SALLY: Yeah. We could do two episode 100s. One with you [laughing] and one with me. We'll figure it out. It will be fun. Maybe I'll just bring – we'll just interview Tybalt. I don't know. It will be stupid.

EMILY: We'll do something fun and special. So that week probably count on, uh, not the chronological *Wheel of Time* content, but still *Wheel of Time* related content. Unlike our *CATS* review.

SALLY: Yeah. I'm sorry about that, but I'm also not.

EMILY: Yeah –

SALLY: I had to get it out of me, or I would have died.

EMILY: That was a pretty stressful week for me personally.

SALLY: [laughs] Yeah.

EMILY: So it really needed to happen. Okay, again thank you for listening. Thank you for bearing with us as we make changes to our Patreon and a variety of other things. Thanks for listening for perhaps almost 100 episodes.

SALLY: Isn't it crazy?

EMILY: That's nuts. Um, do you have a sign off?

SALLY: [laughs] I do. Um, the other day Emily and I – I think we were watching the final episode of *The Mandalorian*, is when this happened.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: And I got a phone call from work. I wasn't at work, um.

EMILY: [laughs] Oh yeah! Okay.

SALLY: [laughs] And one of my coworkers was like, "Is the honey on your desk real?" [laughs]

EMILY: Oh. My god.

SALLY: And I was like, "What are you talking about? Yes it's real. [laughing] It's from bees. I don't understand the question." And then he was just like, "Cool. Aviculture –" our bird care staff – "is gonna use it for, um, to help one of the eagles who's injured." Because apparently honey promotes, like, tissue regrowth.

EMILY: Okay.

SALLY: Or something. And our eagles come from wildlife rehabs. All of them are injured and can't be released back into the wild. Um, so I don't know if she had an injury flare up or something, but they were just like, "Aviculture is just gonna, like, take your honey if that's okay? Assuming it's real honey." And I'm like, "Yes, it is real honey. [laughing] I don't understand that question. I'm so confused!"

EMILY: Honey isn't, like, manufactured? Is there like –

SALLY: [laughing] I don't know!

EMILY: Honey-less honey alternative? What's happening?

SALLY: I have no idea.

EMILY: Is the eagle okay? Do you know?

SALLY: I mean I haven't been back to work since this happened, but I guess so. I guess I could call and ask or text him.

EMILY: Is it real honey?

SALLY: I was like, "I don't understand the question!"

EMILY: No, it's gluten-free honey. What are you talking – what is anyone talking about?!

SALLY: I don't know. It was very confusing. I was like, "Let me watch bb Yodito!"

EMILY: bb Yodito. Yeah. That's him. [singing] Dear baby Yoda, what to say to you?

SALLY: [laughing] you have my smile.

EMILY: Everyone watch *The Mandalorian*.

SALLY: [singing] You have your mother's eyes [laughs].

EMILY: Okay goodbye! Happy New Year!