



## Episode 112: Well-Turned Leggies

Release Date: April 27 2020

Running Time: 45 minutes



Generously Transcribed by Lauren Livesey

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]

S: And then we had to read these chapters. It's, like, Earth Day, and look, it's Valan Luca who keeps animals in cages.

E: Yeah, that is pretty upsetting. Valan Luca is such a capital-letter Character. Tybalt – what a strange time to decide that you do want to engage with that toy after all. Right now –

S: [laughing] After months.

E: - on the podcast. After ignoring it for pretty much the entire time it's been there.

S: Yeah. Anyway, Valan Luca is a capital "C" Character.

E: Yeah, he's just like ... hot, apparently.

S: Apparently.

E: Everyone reacts to him like he's hot. They're always talking about his shoulders, and his calves.

S: [speaking over] His well-turned leg.

E: I don't understand what that means.

S: Who do we think – who’s a man who has nice legs? Welcome to our ding-dong podcast. I’m gonna find a man who I think has nice legs

E: This is *Everybody Hates Rand*, our ding-dong podcast. I’m Emily, that’s Sally. We’re here – it’s summer, Sally’s looking for a man with nice legs, both existentially and on her phone, currently.

S: [laughing] I’m just, like, how do I even start?

E: Man, nice legs, Google search. Can’t wait to see what *that* turns up. [both laughing] What kind of porn would that –

S: It’s just a bunch of dudes in their underoos.

E: Aw. Hmm. Their underoos.

S: And one lady in a very short dress.

E: Good for her. It’s April the – 4/20 was this week, we forgot to commemorate it in our episode that actually came out on 4/20, and I regret that, but not much else, I guess.

S: It’s just hard to keep the *EHR* timeline.

E: Yeah, we record usually on Wednesdays, so, like, the entire world has usually shifted between Wednesday and following Friday, you know? Gotta do it, gotta get it out of the way, so I can enjoy my weekend.

S: [reading aloud] “Twenty-seven famous man legs to celebrate shorts season.”

E: Do you have to, like, look at the leg and guess who it belongs to?

S: No, it’s just an article from March 8 2016, by Elle Magazine –

E: Huh, it was a different world in 2016.

S: - so, the first person is Pharrell [laughing]. Will Smith – he’s got a nice leg.

E: Yeah, he does, I guess. Pharrell is only because he’s always wearing shorts on the red carpet.

S: Yeah, exactly.

E: I don’t think we can – just because we’ve seen his legs doesn’t mean we should put him at the top of our “Nice Legs” list.

S: Yeah. Tom Daly has nice legs, but he’s an athlete, so ...

E: Tom Daly – which one’s he? Is he the stupid one? No, that’s Ryan Lochte.

S: Yeah, Tom Daly is the cute, gay, British diver –

E: Aw!

S: - who has a cute husband, and they adopted a cute baby.

E: Oh my God, that's adorable. I don't know enough about Olympic athletes. It's not one of my, you know, realms of trivia knowledge.

S: It is one of mine. I love the Olympics. Uh, David Beckham, which, *EHR* has trauma related to watching him sleep so we can't say [inaudible].

E: But, it's sort of canceled out by the fact that he appears in *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword*, in a minor role. I, like – those two thoughts always clash, an unstoppable force meeting an immovable object in my head, when I think of David Beckham.

S: I mean, soccer players do have really nice legs, because they've got the, like –

E: That's true. How old is David Beckham?

S: I don't know.

E: Like, fifty-something?

S: [laughing] I don't think he – I think he's in his forties.

E: Forties. Now I have to Google "How old is David Beckham?"

S: I don't – I wish people would stop showing me pictures of Matthew McConaughey –

E: Oh, no!

S: - just, like, in general.

E: I heard you say, so distinctly, Matthew McConaughey's name from your room today, while you were on a call with someone, and I was just like ... [Sally laughing]

S: I was in a call with my friend Brianna. We had to do a spreadsheet together, because she's the accountant at work and I'm the development person, so we were doing, like, a grants spreadsheet together. And then we just started talking about stuff. At one point during our all-staff meeting a while ago, like a week ago or so, our CEO was like, *Did you guys see that thing where Matthew McConaughey and Colbert made masks together?* And it was just, like, a really weird cultural touchstone to try and throw in.

E: I want a T-shirt that says "I don't wanna know what celebrities do in quarantine."

S: Yeah, I really don't.

E: It's the last thing I want. If I'm on Twitter, maybe, because those are the celebrities I have curated.

S: Yeah, and there's also, like, a difference between celebrity with a capital C and the famous people I follow on Twitter.

E: Yeah, the McElroy brothers.

S: Yeah, it's the difference between Matthew McConaughey and Travis McElroy.

E: Yeah, perfecting his sous vide game, or whatever the hell he's doing.

S: I don't find any of these men to have particularly nice legs.

E: I don't understand why, in fantasy world – just a second, I hear him.

S: Yeah, he's making some sort of horrid noise.

E: [in the background] Tybalt!

S: OK, I think the problem is –

E: Hold on, in a twist of fate we did lock Tybalt out of prison, so [Sally laughing] that was pretty funny.

S: He was causing crimes inside of his own prison cell, so ... [banging noise] Aw, fuck. The problem –

E: Do you think Valan Luca's legs are better or worse than the leggings in *Onward*?

S: I mean, they have to be better than the leggings in *Onward*.

E: Just legs. Khakis.

S: The problem is that when I think of the parts of the male human body –

E: That you are attracted to.

S: - that I am attracted to, legs do not make the list.

E: I don't even process legs.

S: Like, on ladies?

E: Sure.

S: Legs. I don't know why this is – why my bisexual brain is like: yes lady legs, no male legs.

E: It's just one of those things, it's like, I can only really see men as attractive if I'm looking at them from the waist up. [Sally laughing]

S: No, I mean, it's true. The things I typically respond to physically in me, is – for me, with my hand fetish – nice hands, nice arms, nice shoulders.

E: Yeah, so when someone's like, *He has a nice set of shoulders*, I'm like – I get that. A man can have a nice set of shoulders.

S: I guess you could be like, *He's got a nice butt*.

E: If they were just like, *That man has a fine ass* [Sally laughing], I'd be like, cool?

S: Yeah, I get it, they're like, *Valan Luca has that good, good Chris Evans butt*, you know? Like, in *Captain America* –

E: That made my mom almost pass out in her seat [Sally laughing]. She literally gasped.

S: I mean – it's a nice butt!

E: Yeah. She – I mean, yeah.

S: I always think, whenever I need to reference a man butt, it's always Chris Evans, not because I think he has, like, the epitome of a good butt, but because I remember that his butt almost killed Emily's mom. And I think that's very funny. [laughing]

E: Because my mom's horniness for Captain America specifically has nothing to do with Chris Evans. She's seen other Chris Evans movies.

S: And she's like, *No*.

E: And she's just like, *Whatever*. But Captain America, she is like –

S: *That's my man*.

E: - real horny for that man.

S: Anyway! I just don't get the leg thing, because I just cannot fathom a man that I know of, or conceive of, where I'm like, ugh, that pair of legs makes me big horny.

E: My brain just censors legs.

S: It's after watching *Onward*, we can't look at legs any more.

E: I can never look at legs again! [Sally laughing] After the movie with just the dad leggies. That movie should've been called *Dad Leggies*.

S: Yeah, the title was not well-workshopped.

E: Yeah, *Onward*? What's that supposed to mean? Onward and upward, excelsior?

S: Probably. Did you see – I don't know if you saw it, but I tweeted today about how bad the movie is but how funny the concept is, that your dad is just legs.

E: Oh, yeah, and Perry said Liz just said that, *He's a butt* every time she sees it. [Sally laughing] She's so true!

S: It's so funny!

E: Literally my first thought when they were like, *Here's the dad's legs*, I went, so, there's a dick in there, right? It's not just legs? It's also dick, and butt.

S: It's a butt! So, Liz knows. She's a comedic genius.

E: She truly is.

S: I miss her. She's so funny. I also feel like the problem is [laughing], is that the cut of men's shorts is really bad, usually.

E: Yeah, it's hard to find a man in good shorts.

S: Yeah, in shorts that are properly fitted to show the body and aren't just, like, baggy basketball shorts.

E: I think that my anti-men-leg thing is because I've seen my dad, Chris Juchau, in shorts way too many times. Specifically, the, like, khaki cargo shorts –

S: Oh, no.

E: - that go to your knees, like, you wear them at Disneyland like a dad. He's got Werther's mints – not Werther's mints – Wert3her's –

S: Caramels.

E: - caramels in all his pockets, and he has the most chicken legs that ever existed.

S: Chris's –

E: I would – The thing is that I – if my dad died tomorrow and I could necromantically bring him back, but just his legs? I would know they were my dad's legs. They're *very* distinct.

S: He does have those very distinct, long, spindly chicken legs, God bless him.

E: I know.

S: The House of the Baba Yaga.

E: [sputters] The House of the Baba Yaga with my dad's legs. [both laughing]

S: Instead of the chicken feet.

E: Oh, no!

S: But you can also see the tops of the khaki cargo shorts.

E: The weather's warming up, and so my mom was like, *We're opening the pool*, and I was like, it's April, and it's probably gonna get cold again in the next few weeks, you know, before we really get into summer. She was like, *I know, but Dad was complaining why do we even have a pool if it's not open*. And I was like, Dad has never gotten into that water. Dad's afraid of the water. He will get a

giant pool floatie and lay on the floatie, and when he tries to get up, all his Werthers' will spill out of the pocket of his swim trunks!

S: Oh, Christopher ...

E: It's the worst.

S: Oh, Chris, that's not a good look.

E: But water? Absolutely not.

S: Yep. These chapters happened.

E: These chapters happened, it's Nynaeve and Elayne back again. At least it's not Siuan and Gareth. I count my blessings every day. They are traveling, still, and now they're in their modified get-up, disguise. Instead of merchants they are now a lady and her maid. When the chapter begins, Nynaeve's being really buck-wild and throwing a tantrum about having to act like a maid, and it's like, from Elayne's perspective, she's being totally unreasonable. We, of course, have no idea how it happened from Nynaeve's perspective, but, either way, not great behavior from a twenty-something-year-old.

S: It's also the, like, classic Robert Jordan structure where he's like, *I'm gonna show you how this dynamic between characters is playing out, and then give you a completely useless two-page flashback*, instead of just letting us see this scene. It's just odd.

E: It's also just the classic way for Robert Jordan to start a Nynaeve and Elayne chapter. It's like he cannot ease into their points of view unless he has rehashed the ways in which they have engaged in conflict in the last week.

S: Yeah.

E: Yeah. If I hated a woman as much as Elayne seems to hate Nynaeve, and Nynaeve seems to hate Elayne, I would not be traveling with her.

S: Yeah, I'd be like, I don't care.

E: I've also – can't recall, probably because I don't hang out with people that I don't like, I can't recall a woman I have disliked that much. I'm sure they're out there, I just haven't ever put myself ...

S: No one I've had to spend, like, an extended period of time with. Who was, like, my equal. Like, I've hated some of my female bosses, but –

E: Oh, yeah, of course.

S: - it's not, like, a friendly person of mine, whomst I engage in extended travel with.

E: Part of being a woman, specifically – although maybe this is just me and I don't know, but I think it's a feminine trait – is the ability to be a social chameleon, and just, like, adapt to whatever is called for. So even if you're hanging out with – Like, when we went to London? Initially I was hanging out with people who I pretty much had nothing in common with, then I met Sally, and it was all good after that. But prior to that, I was just, like, chilling with some people. We were all just getting along, even though we didn't really have anything to talk about, you know?

S: Yeah, that's kinda how, with the people I first ... I was hanging out with my roommates, who I knew from some classes, and it's just, like, yeah – it's fine. I didn't dislike them, but it was just, like, we weren't companions and lads, like Emily and I were.

E: Anyway, finally, Elayne is like, *I wish you would stop being a crybaby about this*, only she says it nicer. She's like, *You're being ridiculous*. And Nynaeve's like, *Fine*, realizes she's being ridiculous, they make up. Whatever. Then they come to the circus, which is described in detail, as all Robert Jordan scenes are, but at least it's justified by the fact that this will be a recurring setting. A lion, in a cage, in the back of a wagon, which is not enough space for a big cat –

S: Absolutely not.

E: - at all. They describe a couple of animals that I don't think have a real-world equivalent. There's something like a boar, but with long toes, or something? And I was like, I don't even wanna know what that is, it sounds gross. And, of course, there's also some big elephants – oliphaunts – that are called – what are they called?

S: Boar-horses?

E: Boar-horses. And Elayne and Nynaeve know from Falme that these are Seanchan beasts of burden, I guess, is the way to put it. And they're like, *Where did you get those?* And Valan Luca is like, *Shara, of all places!* [Sally laughing] And Nynaeve's like, *No one goes to Shara*, which is such a bizarre ... Like, it is such a bizarre background thing –

S: I know.

E: - that there's a whole other country connected to them by the Aiel Waste, you know, so it's on the same landmass, and it is, like, *You can't get in. No one comes out, if you go in.*

S: It's like, *Why?*

E: Does that not freak everyone out?

S: It'd freak *me* out!

E: Like, imagine if Canada built a wall –

S: And they were just like, *No*.

E: - and they were just like, *Stop*.

S: I mean, they would be justified.

E: If they just shut down – it's basically, it's like North Korea. News doesn't come out. Hardly any, or if it is, it's government propaganda, and you know nothing is getting in to the people. But anyway, I'm constantly thinking about North Korea, being like, *I wonder what they're getting up to? Are they – are the people OK? I don't care about the government –*

S: Yeah, fuck the government.



E: - *but I hope the people are OK. Because they're just people.* So, yeah, I don't know why everyone isn't a little weirder about Shara.

S: Yeah, it's weird.

E: There's also an island of madmen, or something? If you see the full-scale map. It's like, *Here's the Island of Madmen.*

S: Who lives on the Island of Madmen?

E: Mad men, presumably.

S: Jon Hamm.

E: Jon Hamm.

S: Exclusively, it's just Jon Hamm's island.

E: It's like *Castaway*.

S: I just tried to Google "full map of Wheely Time", as if Google would know [laughing] what the *fuck* that means!

E: Full map Wheely Time. I don't know, it's some island in the southern hemisphere, I assume it's, like, Australia-equivalent.

S: Yeah, it does – this does vaguely look like –

E: Australia.

S: You've vaguely got the Russian/European landmass, this kind of looks like England –

E: [speaking over] Minus all the important peninsulas, yeah.

S: - and then just, *Here's Australia. The Island of Men.* But that just feels a little racist towards Australia.

E: I know, right? What are you saying, Robert Jordan? [with Australian accent] G'day, mate. I think I'm on a streak of using "G'day, mate" –

S: G'day, mate.

E: - in all of our episodes.

S: What's going on on the Isle of Madmen, though? I need to know. The Sea Folk Isles ...

E: You'd think it'd have something to do with, like, you know, guys who go crazy from channeling.

S: Oh.

E: You'd just think – if a country was going to come up in the Last Battle, between Shara and the Isle of Madmen, you'd put your bet on the Isle of Madmen, wouldn't you? But no, it's never even mentioned.

S: Yeah, it's so weird.

E: We only know about it because it's in the big map, so it's like, Robert? Why'd you even bother with it?

S: The Aiel Waste is so big!

E: I know!

S: Why is there just this huge fucking desert next to a completely otherwise wet land?

E: I know, I'm, like, I don't think that's quite how rain shadows work.

S: And is Shara also just a big desert?

E: I don't know, I don't know anything about Shara.

S: [speaking over] I have a lot of geographical questions. And what is The Blight, exactly?

E: Except that they're coded in a very racist way, of course.

S: That's not surprising.

E: Yeah, hardly surprising, considering.

S: OK, so the Seanchan continent is called Seantan – [sighs] Seanchan?

E: I can't remember if it's called "Seanchan" or "Seandar."

S: Well, it looks like the capital is Seandar. If I am reading this map –

E: And the continent is called Seanchan. I guess that's like America / Americans. You'd think it would be the "Seanchanans".

S: Like the Cairhienin.

E: The Cairhienin. Oh, yeah, Elayne's masquerading as a Cairhienin noblewoman because her hair's been dyed dark.

S: It's like, you stupid ... Is she doing a fake French accent the whole time? [Emily gasps]

E: That would make the scene infinitely better.

S: [exaggerated French accent] Bonjour!

E: [exaggerated French accent] Bonjour, Master Luca!

S: Valan Luca would be like, *Never mind*.

E: Valan Luca would be like, *Go along, on your way*.

S: You're ridiculous.

E: And they're like, *What's up, Mister Luca?* He's like, *This is my traveling menagerie and circus. And it would be great if you could stay for a show.* And Elayne's like, *No, we've gotta be going on.* And he's like, *It would be really great if you stayed for a show, because it might increase the general goodwill of the population and also, we are broke because one of the elephants did break a house* [both laughing].

S: Oops!

E: *Did do a bad in the nearest village, and so we're out of money, because insurance doesn't exist in ...*

S: Yeah, we had to pay for this.

E: *And if it did, you'd doubt that an inn would take out insurance against –*

S: Against elephants!

E: - *against elephant attacks.*

S: Listen, the elephant probably just got stressed because elephants are not meant to be in towns.

E: In crowds of people, yeah.

S: And Valan Luca, to his credit, is like, *It wasn't the elephant's fault. He just got spooked.* Were his words exactly.

E: Yeah, he got spooked, that's it. You know how yesterday we were recapping – Yesterday we recorded our latest episode of *We Don't Watch Outlander*, which was obviously about *Onward*.

S: Yeah, we didn't just watch *Onward*! [laughing]

E: Yeah, we would never do that of our own free will. You know how we were recapping random crime procedurals? I can't think of elephants, because this was a very traumatizing thing that happened to me – there's an episode of *Monk* where someone commits murder via elephant. It's very upsetting. Especially for the elephant, I imagine.

S: Of course.

E: But, anyway, I think about that all the time when I think about circuses and elephants.

S: Yeah, I'm worried about elephants. Just, like, a lot.

E: Just in general, you know.

S: Yeah, because people are killing them, in the wild. And they're really hard to keep in zoos because they're so big –

E: So big.

S: - there's, like, no zoo that is capable of giving them the correct amount of space.

E: Anyway, Elayne's like, *Well, we really do have to leave, but I'll give you some money. Nynaeve, why don't you give him some money?* Elayne has this whole rant about how she can't see people in need without –

S: And you're like [gags].

E: And you're like, spoken like a true, your trope, runaway princess.

S: Yeah, and it's like, that's so noble of you.

E: Wow. Yeah, it's sometimes like Elayne's internal monologue is a performance she's putting on for the peasants.

S: Yeah, that's very – Because there's nothing inherently wrong with being like, *There's someone in need, I should help them*. But it just becomes ... that phrase, "there's someone in need, *I should help them*" has just become so much part of the, like, rich person narrative –

E: Lexicon.

S: - where it's like, you could help by not being rich and redistributing your wealth.

E: It's also like, after a conversation with Valan Luca, I would not walk away being, like, this is a man in need. I would be like, this man is a con artist, and he'll be back on his feet in no time. Like – come on.

S: Yeah, it's like Elayne lack of real world – she talks so much about how, *Nynaeve thinks I'm arrogant!* Well, *you are*, but you're also extremely naïve. You have no concept of people.

E: Elayne's like, *Give him some money, Nynaeve*, and Nynaeve gives him a silver penny, which, because this is Wheel-world and it's never explained to us, we have *no idea* what the current –

S: I think it's, like, a quarter. [laughing]

E: It's literally a quarter. It's, like, a two-dollar bill.

S: Yeah. That's what I like to think. And you gave him a dollar.

E: Yeah, we don't know fucking inflation rates, what the deal is here.

S: What's happening with the economy.

E: Uh-huh. But apparently, that's a small sum of money, at least according to Elayne who, again, is an unreliable narrator.

S: Yeah, regarding money.

E: Yeah, probably it's a fifty-dollar bill, or whatever.

S: Nynaeve would not give Valan Luca a fifty-dollar bill!

E: Exactly. You're right, it probably is a quarter.

S: She's like, *Take this and perish*.

E: Nynaeve's like, *He'll be fine*. Then they go on to the town, which is Sienda. They get a room in an inn. Nynaeve – not Nynaeve – Elayne's all high-and-mighty about it, as always. Thom and Juilin have to carry their three trunks –

S: I know, RIP Thom and Juilin.

E: - up the stairs, and they're grumbling about doing it, and Elayne's like, *Ugh, how dare they, this is all they're here for, is to carry our luggage*.

S: It's like, have you every carried anything heavy upstairs?

E: Yeah, it's terrible.

S: It's awful!

E: Apparently, they're narrow servants' stairs?

S: Yeah – no, thank you!

E: Also, why do you need three boxes? Pack a little more, you know –

S: Frugally.

E: - frugally.

S: Put all the important stuff in one trunk and take that inside. Ya dingbats.

E: Obviously.

S: Don't make Thom and Juilin take three trips out to the freaking stagecoach. And they also have to sleep in the stables, or something.

E: And this town is also *full* of Whitecloaks.

S: Yeah, just fucking everywhere.

E: Just, like, swarming. So many Whitecloaks, including Questioners, which makes both the gals uncomfy, but, you know, such is life. But they're all at the ... they're, like, rushing to a meeting, sort of, and eventually we find out – Is this the first – it can't be the first time one of them goes to visit Egg. That must have happened in the last book.

S: Yeah, because they're referencing previous meetings. I remember at least one meeting in ... it's all running together.

E: I think Elayne and Egg had a meeting in the last – I know, because it happens so often, this is a recurring thing, the three chosen women meeting in *Tel'aran'rhiod* in this particular locale. Which makes it even further frustrating that the boys just don't talk, after, like, book three.

S: When they girls are like, *We will literally conduct illicit magic to hang out with each other*. Which is –

E: Big mood. Girls be like that.

S: [speaking over] I would do that to hang out with my friends. And Perrin's just like, *I don't think about Mat and Rand. They're dead to me*.

E: I mean, I get it. Mat's like, *I don't wanna hang out with Rand, I just spent two books with Rand, and it was terrible*.

S: I wouldn't wanna hang out with Rand either. Mat is correct to be, like, *Rand and Perrin are shitty friends*.

E: *They're shitty. Can I come to the girls' meeting?*

S: Oh, my God! [laughing] I would love to watch Mat and Egg hang out in the dream world.

E: A fun little club. Drink dream lemonade or whatever. Anyway, Nynaeve goes to *Tel'aran'rhiod*, and I'm always so boggled by how quickly they're able to fall asleep. This happens in books and movies all the time, people just close their eyes and then they fall asleep. Which I think is some people's experience with sleep, but my relationship with sleep is not that. I have to lay in bed for at least an hour before I fall asleep. When I was little, I was very distressed by this, like, I cannot fall asleep, and my mom was like, *It's because you've got so many things in your brain!* And that still feels true. But sometimes it's like there's nothing in my brain and I *still* can't sleep.

S: One time when I was a kid, I read somewhere that it takes the average person seven minutes to fall asleep –

E: WHAT?

S: - yeah, and I was like, *Mom! I'm gonna die!*

E: That's so unfair!

S: She was like, *You're fine, it sometimes just takes people longer*, but my mom is one of those people where when she lays down, she is just out for the count.

E: What the fuck ...

S: You can tell because she starts snoring. [laughing]

E: Oh, man.

S: She's just, like, gone. My mom can fall asleep in literally thirty seconds. So can my dad, I don't know what it is. And then they got me, this little ball of anxiety.

E: [speaking over] Damn. You got the genetic short end of the stick. Yeah, "is it an anxiety thing, that you just can't fall asleep? Is it the medicine that I take for the anxiety?" No, I've done this my whole life. Six-year-old Emily. I used to read *The Wheel of Time* books illicitly when I was little. It wasn't exactly illicit. I just thought it was illicit because I had such weird shame complexes when I was a kid, you know, and, like, breasts are mentioned in *Wheel of Time*, so that was not OK.

S: Especially in this scene, where Nynaeve is like, *Look at my titties!*

E: Yeah, Nynaeve is immediately like, *What's the sexiest dress I can get into?*

S: Which is pretty rad.

E: I know, if I had a dream place where I could just put on whatever clothes I wanted, you can bet I'd be trying out clothes I would never put on normally. It'd be like, what's *this* look like?

S: Yeah, Elayne has a comment earlier in the chapter, where she's like – Basically, she's like, *Nynaeve is a huge slut who likes wearing tight clothes*. Said in Elayne's delicate, condescending way. She's like, *It was a struggle to get her into clothes that were properly fitted*. It's like – let her be slutty, if she wants to be slutty.

E: Yeah, just let her do her thing.

S: Yeah, some girls just wanna have their tits out. Some guys – some *people* just wanna have their tits out. It's not gender-exclusive.

E: Nynaeve is like, *Birgitte? Where are you?* And Birgitte's like, *Here I am*. It's like saying "Bloody Mary" in the mirror three times.

S: Birgitte! Birgitte! Birgitte!

E: Birgitte! Birgitte! Birgitte! And Birgitte's like, *Yes, madame? How may I assist?* [laughs] I don't know why Birgitte puts up with Elayne and Nynaeve. Why are *these* the two idiots that she chooses to hang out with?

S: Why doesn't she talk to Egg?

E: If Mat was there, I would understand that, if she was like, *I wanna hang out with this boy*. But, no. She hangs out with the two most insufferable people on the planet. Anyway, Nynaeve's like, *How's it going? How are the Forsaken? Where's Gaidal?* And Birgitte's like, *Gaidal's been born, probably, so somewhere out there there's a baby boy*. And Robert Jordan's like, *That's a plot point we'll never revisit again*. And she's like, *And the Forsaken are being the Forsaken, which is to say they are plotting, scheming, sneaking about*.

S: And being very stupid.

E: *And being such idiots, Nynaeve, I cannot emphasize enough*.

S: They're so dumb!

E: The brain cells, there's three of them total, and Demandred usually has all of them. [Sally laughing] Demandred in the fourteenth book totally loses it, it's so buck-wild.

S: Like, his mind?

E: Yeah, he's presented as such an intelligent character up until that point, and then suddenly that characterization just goes out the window. Because, you know, this is the fourteenth book of *Wheel of Time*, and what do character arcs matter?

S: Yeah, at that point I'd be like – Who's Demandred?

E: Plot is king, character bleurgh. Anyway. Yes, he's just riding out, being like, *Bring out the Dragon Reborn! I wanna fight him!* And it is like: Home. Boy. He has a prior engagement.

S: OK, but in a way I can kinda respect that. That he's just like, *I would like to fight Rand al'Thor.* [laughing]

E: *I'm Demandred, I'm the leader of the bad guys! Here I am, and I do wanna fight your leader, and Mat's like, Shoot him!*

S: *Go ahead!*

E: *Someone shoot him. He's right there!*

S: Amazing.

E: *He's not being subtle ...*

S: "I want to fight your leader ..." Oh, Demandred.

E: Yeah, Nynaeve's like, *What about Moghedien?* And Birgitte's like, *Haven't seen her, which is troubling, because it means either she sees me and I don't see her or she's just not been in Tel'aran'rhiod*, and Nynaeve's like, *Both horrible, because if she's not in Tel'aran'rhiod, she's in the real world, where there are more people –*

S: To hurt.

E: - *to hurt*. Yeah, she's icky. This is the first time that we find out "Moghedien" is a type of spider. [Mumbles] Spdr.

S: Type of spur.

E: Spur.

S: Poisonous spur.

E: Which, oh, you would think only existed the Age of Legends if – You know, insects aren't really brought up much in –

S: That's true.



E: - Wheel-world.

S: Are there spiders in Wheel-world?

E: There's never any seen. Moghedien's the only one.

S: Nynaeve's like, *What's a spider?*

E: *What's a Moghedien?* And Birgitte's like, *Oh, it's a type of spider*, and Nynaeve's like, *A wha?*

S: A type of wha?

E: And Birgitte's like, *What?*

S: [whispers] What happened to the fucking spiders?

E: What happened to the spiders?

S: I'm trying to think .... There are flies and stuff mentioned.

E: There's something call "bitemes" mentioned.

S: "Bities". That sounds cute.

E: Bitemes.

S: Oh, "bite mes."

E: Or "by-teems"? "By-tem-es"? It's literally spelled like "bite mes"

S: "By-tim-mes."

E: "By-tim-mes." "Bi-tem-ez!"

S: [laughing] Bite. Mes. That's very kinky, Robert Jordan.

E: I always figured those were, like, gnats.

S: Yeah, that's what I figured too.

E: So, I don't know. Yeah, where are – There are flies, because whenever there's a dead body, Robert Jordan is like, *There be flies!*

S: And there's honey, so there has to be bees.

E: Yeah. But no spurs.

S: And there's silk, so there has to be silkworms. Unless Robert Jordan has decided that silk and honey come from Shara.

E: Yeah, Shara. That's where the spiders are. [both laughing]

S: That's why they've closed their walls to public service!

E: Spider infestation! Ugh, my nightmare, but honestly ... Can you imagine, though, Last Battle and they're like, *Oh no, the Sharans are just a swarm of small spiders.*

S: They're like, *We know how to get the Dark One!* And it's like that scene in *FMA* when they get all the bugs on [inaudible, through laughter]

E: [laughing] I love that scene.

S: The Dark One's just, *No, this is too much.*

E: The Dark One's just, [gags] *Ick, spiders, they are my weakness.*

S: *You can keep the world.*

E: Those little creatures.

S: Little critters!

E: Little critters that I personally hate, but I understand that they serve a purpose.

S: Everything serves a purpose in the ecosystem. Except for humans.

E: [speaking over] Except white men.

[both laughing]

E: Right, so, Birgitte's like, *I have to leave now*, and Nynaeve's like, *Can I please tell some other people about your existence?* And Birgitte's like, *No, I totally broke the rules to talk to you.* And Nynaeve's like, *OK, well, what's one more rule?* And Birgitte's like, [mumbles]

S: Yeah, integrity, blah blah-blah.

E: Indiscernible honor system.

S: Honor!

E: It's like, *OK, whatever.* She leaves. Nynaeve is checking herself out in the mirror, some slutty clothes and thinking like, *Lan would pop the biggest boner* [Sally laughing] *if he saw this.* And then Egg is like, *What are you wearing?!*

S: It's a very good scene.

E: Imagine someone just walking around in full lingerie. Egg's like, *Oh, my God! You're like my mom! My mom-sister!*

S: *You're my mom-sister!*

E: *Our relationship is complex.*

S: *Put clothes on!*

E: *Please, stop, please.* And Nynaeve's like, *How's Lan?* And Egg's like, *You are so horny!*

S: She is very horny. I'm very proud of her for that.

E: Good for her. It's Egg and Melaine, the Wise One – the pretty Wise One – who Nynaeve for some reason is convinced that Melaine is going to bone Lan.

S: And it's like, Nynaeve: nobody except you wants to bone Lan.

E: He's not interesting.

S: He's not hot, desp – I mean, I know that's apparently a contrary, unpopular opinion in *The Wheel of Time* world, and the real-world *Wheel of Time* fans, but I just ... nothing about Lan does it for me.

E: So, then they're just, like, chatting. I can't remember. Nynaeve's like, *How's Lan?* Egg's like, *He's fine. How are things with you?* Nynaeve's like, *Here's the update.* Only when she tells the story about the forkroot she makes it seem like it didn't happen? Like they caught it in time. Which, I don't know why you would be like, *And we know it stops channeling, and it makes people paralyzed.*

S: *But I didn't ingest any!*

E: *She just told us that! We have no idea what constitutes a real threat.* And Egg's like, *OK, here's what's happening: war is about to descend on Cairhien, which is a little bit bigger than your dumb –*

S: *Tea problem.*

E: - *inter-personal issues with Elayne.* And Nynaeve's like, *Well, that's not good, is Rand crazy already?* And Egg's like, *No, but he's bossing Moiraine around and she's letting him. It's very bizarre.* And Nynaeve's like, *OK, well, you're just gonna have to keep him from getting too egotistical.* And Egg's like, *I'm trying, but it's really hard.*

S: Yeah, he's not listening.

E: *He is not listening.* And I'm like – well, your methods aren't great. I think we all need to accept that if you try to do something and it fails repeatedly, you can't just be like, *Well, the problem must be the other person.* I know that's how we all like to think, but sometimes, the problem is me.

S: [scoffs] No. I'm perfect. The problem has never been me. Ever. I can't even ...

E: Whatever. Melaine's like ... Oh, Nynaeve's like, *The Forsaken are doing some schemes, so watch out for that,* and Melaine's like, *How would you even know that? Are you wandering around Tel'aran'rhiod?* And Nynaeve's like, *Yeah, what if I am, bitch?* And Melaine's like, *Well, you shouldn't, because you'll die!* And Nynaeve's like, *Fuck you.*

S: They're very fight-y, for reasons unknown.

E: They're very fight-y, and Egg is like, *Maybe, shh.*

S: *Shut up.*

E: *Maybe be quiet. Maybe don't be mad at each other.*

S: *War is coming.*

E: *We're all on the same team, here. The same magic-lady squad -*

S: Yeah, girl gang.

E: - *the same girl gang, so let's just be chill.* But Nynaeve's like, [makes muttering noises] and when Melaine and Egg leave, she's like, *I will go and explore Tel'aran'rhiod on my own.* And that's where we end the chapter, and I think the next chapter involves her and Egg both doing some *Tel'aran'rhiod* exploration. I think she goes to the White Tower and –

S: Egg is like, *What the fuck? Are you doing?* And Nynaeve's like, *What the fuck are you doing?*

E: It's like that Spiderman meme. It's so funny that the two *Tel'aran'rhiod* settings that we get are Callandor and the White Tower. Like, the girls often go to the White Tower to investigate the Amyrlin's office, or whatever, and their set meeting point is the Stone of Tear?

S: Which is odd.

E: Yeah, even though they're constantly describing it as the creepiest place of all time. They're like, *Someone's watching me.* One hundo percent of the time. And it's been proven that people *are* watching them. Half the time the Forsaken always come out of the shadows and are like, *Huh, that was an interesting conversation that I eavesdropped on.* And it's like – ladies, maybe choose a different meeting spot.

S: Yeah, like, at any point in the series.

E: I don't know, I think it's just to remind us, the readers, of the importance of Callandor? Even though it's not that important. [Sally laughing] I'll be the one to say it – it's a dumb sword.

S: Yeah, it's just very annoying that Rand goes on this huge Arthurian quest to get the sword out of the Stone, and then is like, *I'm scared, I'm going to put the sword back in the Stone.*

E: He's like, *Never mind. Callandor? Can't be bothered.*

S: And you're like, take your big phallic battery and go away.

E: I don't know why Robert Jordan's commitment to Arthurian legend manifested in these very strange ways. Like, either you have the sword in the stone or you don't, you know?

S: It's kind of the whole thing.

E: You might pull the sword out of the stone, and then break the sword in the stone, according to Thomas Malory. You break it and then you have to go to the lake, like – *Can I have a new sword, please?*

S: Lady ...

E: And the lady's like, *Ugh, fine, you bastard. Here. Here's Excalibur.* The first sword was Caliburn, which is different, apparently. I've been doing a lot of King Arthur research [laughing].

S: Join us on Patreon for our April *In an Hour or Less* series.

E: In an hour or less. Well, I hope it's in an hour or less.

S: That's a lot of King Arthur.

E: It's a lot of King Arthur to cover. It's a big boy. Well-turned calves, or whatever.

S: Sexy.

E: Leggies.

S: His well-turned leggies.

E: "Well-Turned Leggies" is probably gonna be the title of this episode. I know myself. I just love the phrase "leggies" too much.

S: The leggie! Have you seen that art of [inaudible] on the beach, and [inaudible] sticks something – Let me see if I can find it. Keep talking about something.

E: I don't have anything else to talk about. That's the end of the chapter. Next chapters will be Nynaeve and Egg, as I just said, and Elayne, I think? Her point of view as Galad enters the picture.

S: And we're like, *Oh shit, there's the boy.*

E: But yeah, I guess you see a bunch of Whitecloaks, but until this point, I don't think we *knew* Galad had joined the Whitecloaks properly? We knew he had been hanging out with them in taverns getting –

S: Drunk.

E: - inundated with – What's that word? For when you're getting into extremist views? Radicalization.

S: He's being radicalized.

E: Thanks, Google, I typed in "young men getting into extremist stuff, what's the word".

S: Google was like, *I know.*

E: Google had me, had my back. Yeah, Galad's getting radicalized. That'll be that. And until then, stay frosty!

S: Thanks to Glynn Mackenzie for the use of our theme song.

E: Thanks to all of you for listening.

S: Yeah, I'm sorry guys, I'm having A. Day. Thanks to everyone for listening, thanks to everyone who's been supporting the podcast in whatever way you can during these absolutely nonsensical times in which we are living. Whether that's just listening, which is the best you can do, ever, or tweeting about us, talking to us on social media, supporting us on Patreon, whatever. Watching our – I should say, Emily's – weekly *Wind Waker* streams on Friday.

E: Apparently, we've reached a low point in the video game, in which I just have to sail around the ocean, actually mapping the ocean. Which is a thing I've been not knowing how to do until this point, so could be pretty chill for the next couple of weeks. Just so you know. Hope you're all staying safe, staying sane, staying inside. In America, people don't wanna stay inside any more, and they're like, *Aw, hey, our rights though*. You should stay inside. So you don't die.

S: I hate America.

E: Yeah, it's a terrible place.

S: It's a terrible garbage country where everyone is just so frustrating. Yeah, the protests last weekend where everyone was like, *My right to get a haircut!* And I'm like – what are you talking about?

E: And now the news is like, *Huh, suddenly coronavirus has spiked amongst protesters*. Shocking.

S: And it's like – No shit, Sherlock!

E: We all saw this coming. Anyway. Do you have a sign-off?

S: I have a couple of listener-submitted sign-offs for the next couple of weeks.

E: That's exciting.

S: This first one comes from KitKat. I know you've told us your name before but I think it's funny, so it's going to be KitKat. OK, where do I start? *I have finally joined those in quarantine because I was considered an essential worker. Therapy was ordered out of the building in order to decrease chances of infection because we are all over the facility. So, now I'm stuck at home for the week. We find out if we can return at the end of the week, which I think was last week, but I hope you are being safe no matter what the choice was. However, last week, some friends and I decided to play some board games online and have a virtual Happy Hour. Very fun. I learned that 1) My tolerance – which is already very low – is even lower than I thought. 2) The beverage I was drinking didn't hit me until I had to move and I about face-planted on my bedroom floor. And 3) My ability to spell goes downhill when drunk. We learned that we could add statuses on our names on the online platform. Shortly after discovering this and almost face-planting, I meant to make my status to say "Definitely Drunk." I misspelled "definitely". My childhood best friend helpfully points out that it said "Defiantly Drunk" instead of "Definitely Drunk."*

E: Oh, hell yeah.

S: Good for you.

E: Defiantly drunk!

S: I have decided to be defiantly drunk –

E: Freedom!

S: - in the face of the pandemic.

E: That's all any of us can do, really.

S: That's true.

E: Alright.

S: [British accent] Alright! Stay safe!

E: Don't do war crimes. Goodbye.

S: Goodbye!

ENDS