



Episode 210: Keep ‘Em Guessing
Release Date: August 8, 2022
Running Time: 31 minutes

Sally: Everybody Hates Rand is a Wheel of Time podcast that will contain spoilers for all 14 books. So if you’re anti-spoiler, stop this, read all 14 books, and come back. We’ll be here. Waiting.

Emily: Our title is a joke and is meant to be taken as such. “Everybody,” in this context, refers to us and our cats. You are free to feel however you want about Rand. He’s a fictional character. Please don’t DM us.

(theme song by Glynna MacKenzie plays)

Emily: I think pugs are so neat. I feel so bad for them, but they’re so hilarious. I think we should get a pug one day when we can have dogs.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Or a dachshund. Or –

Sally: Both.

Emily: Both. Or a ferret. (laugh)

Sally: Ferrets are very stinky.

Emily: I know, I don’t really want a ferret. I just like to look at them when we go to the PetSmart.

Sally: No, they’re really funny. The Russells had a ferret for a very long time –

Emily: Of fucking course they had a ferret.

Sally: You can ask them about him tomorrow. His name was Buddy.

Emily: Buddy the ferret!

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: God, I love the Russells and their weird little –

Sally: I know, they – they are – speaking of my chaotic friends. (laugh)

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Cole is also a very chaotic person. Um, yeah, we should get a pug and a dachshund and a pitbull.

Emily: Just a menagerie of pets.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Three dogs, two cats, one heart. (laugh)

Sally: Maybe a ferret. One heart. Yeah, I also feel bad for pugs because I know they have a lot of, like, health problems because we've –

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: Bred them to a point where their, like –

Emily: Their faces are messed up.

Sally: Face doesn't work. But they're so cute. My friend Brianna, um, lives in the, like, basement of her landlord's house –

Emily: Oh, yeah.

Sally: And the – her landlord lives upstairs, and they have a black pug named Beans. (laugh)

Emily: Ohhh my God.

Sally: And every time I go over there, she's like, "Hey, just watch out, like, Beans might be in the backyard," and Beans has yet to be in the backyard.

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: You, like, go into the backyard and enter through the back door to get to Brianna.

Emily: It's like, is that a promise? I want to see Beans.

Sally: I know, I was like, "Where the fuck is Beans?"

Emily: God. He's like a cryptid.

Sally: Does he even exist? Prove it to me. I want to see Beans the pug.

Emily: Beans! Show yourself.

Sally: Beans is an extremely hilarious name for a dog.

Emily: I know. Show yourself, Beans.

Sally: Beans.

Emily: Beans. Isn't Beans the name of the neighbor boy –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: In Even Stevens? (laugh)

Sally: That's true. That's correct. I was just thinking of the exact same thing. Same brain.

Emily: Beans.

Sally: Oh, Beans.

Emily: Rufus the naked mole rat. Beans was sort of the, like, pet of Even Stevens.

Sally: Yeah, I think that's fair to say.

Emily: They didn't have a dog or cat, really. So it was just Beans.

Sally: (to Tybalt) Hey, do not do that. Don't be naughty, or I'll rename you Beans.

Emily: Yeah, Tybalt, that would be so embarrassing for you. To go from your pretentious literary name to Beans.

Sally: Beans. (laugh) Stop! Come here. Hello. Just sit with me and record the podcast.

Emily: Anyway, hi, guys. This is Everybody Hates Rand, your friendly neighborhood Wheel of Time podcast. I don't know why that got so sing-song.

Sally: It was good.

Emily: I'm Emily Juchau.

Sally: And I'm Beans. (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) Shut the fuck up.

Sally: And I'm Sally Goodger.

Emily: Um, we're still pretty emotionally drained from last week's episode, and also physically and mentally drained from our very hectic work weeks, so –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: We will give you the bare minimum, which is a plot synopsis and any thoughts or feelings that strike us in the telling of the plot synopsis, and then I don't know. We might just chat for a little while about whatever floats our boat, but this could be short. However, historically, when I've said, "This could be short," it ends up being 48 minutes, so. No promises. You guys have the benefit of being able to look at the runtime on your podcast player.

Sally: Yeah, and decide, "Do I want to listen to these two chucklefucks for 48 minutes or –?"

Emily: Yeah, talk about whatever the fuck they are gonna talk about? But here's the plot portion so that, you know, if that's all you're here for, you can just peace out.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Um, we're in Elayne's point of view.

Sally: Mm.

Emily: Tragically.

Sally: Mm.

Emily: Um, we start out in a weird mansion, not in Caemlyn –

Sally: Oh, yeah.

Emily: In Andor somewhere. This is part of Elayne's strategy to, uh, go out and recruit people to defend Caemlyn. Unfortunately, a great deal of people had already left to defend Caemlyn and/or join in the, uh, succession, um, conflict.

Sally: Right.

Emily: But that was right when the Bowl of the Winds was used, so they have since been caught in various snowy passes or something.

Sally: Right.

Emily: Um, which sort of feels like a weird mechanism for Robert Jordan to put Elayne in a, uh, underdog situation, when by all rights she should be – you know, she's the crown princess.

Sally: Yeah, I feel like Robert Jordan does a lot of plot gymnastics to make this plot go on as long as humanly possible.

Emily: Yeah, it would have been awfully convenient and awfully realistic if, after Caemlyn, um, was put under siege at the end of the last book, Elayne was just like, "Great, I will go recruit a whole ton of soldiers from the outlying villages and manors and lords and ladies and whatnot, and, bam, I have an army." Um, but he had to do some plot gymnastics, like you said, to make that not happen. Anyway, they're recruiting, but all they can get are, like, young men and old people or whatever. Elayne's traveling with Aviendha, um, and we have the sort of usual beef with their dynamic, especially now that Elayne is pregnant. We talked at length about that last season, about how everyone treats Elayne now she's pregnant and how annoying it is. Um, the only events that happen is that a maid sees a ghost. (laugh)

Sally: Nice.

Emily: So, you know, more of the dead is – the dead are rising.

Sally: Haunted mansion.

Emily: Yeah – ooh. The haunted mansion. Um, and as they are leaving to Travel away, um, they, like everyone else thus far, feel the big burst of energy that is the cleansing of saidin. Due to their bond with Rand, Elayne and Aviendha have sort of the same benefit as Perrin and Mat of knowing that Rand is involved in this –

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Because although they can't see him, they can more or less point in his direction.

Sally: Right.

Emily: And, you know, they can also point in the direction of this big energy burst, so they're like, "Oh, must be similar."

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: They have an argument about whether they should go to him; Elayne is in favor; Aviendha is against for the strategic reason that they have no idea what's happening, and they could just get blasted as soon as they walked through the door.

Sally: Right.

Emily: And also, Aviendha cites the fact that in her Rhuidean experience, where she got to, like, see the future and then forget it, um, which is so convenient for Robert Jordan 'cause he can just, like, pull things from that and be like, "Oh, but she forgot it –"

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Such as now. Aviendha can be like, "Well, I only have bits and pieces, but I do know that we shouldn't go do that," and Robert Jordan's like, "See? I can use the future and prophecy to make characters dance to my whims. I'm the puppet master. Heh heh." Um, but they don't go. They just Travel back to Caemlyn, where they find, of course, everyone freaking out; the Aes Sedai are running around like chickens with their head cut off – heads cut off, and no one's channeling 'cause they're so panicked and paranoid about what's going on.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Everyone's like, "Should we just flee? Flee for our lives?" and Elayne and Aviendha are like, "No."

Sally: No. No. You shouldn't do that.

Emily: No. It's just Rand. We can all just calm down because, you know, death is – could happen at any time. We might as well not panic about it. We also get a brief interaction with, uh, what's – with Hatchet-face –

Sally: Ugh. Blegh.

Emily: He's like, "Look at how good I did. I rescued a bunch of people who were outside the walls," and Birgitte's like, "Yeah, and he left the gates open the entire fucking time, so anyone could have got in if they'd defeated him," and Elayne is like, "Fuck you, Hatchet-face," and everyone's like, "Isn't that your baby daddy?" and Elayne's like, "Maybe."

Sally: "Who – I'll never tell."

Emily: "I'll never tell."

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: "Perhaps it's a lover's spat. I'm just going to be as mysterious and chaotic about this as possible. Keep 'em guessing." So –

Sally: From a different character than Elayne, it would be extremely hilarious.

Emily: I know. But with Elayne, it's just like, what –

Sally: What are you doing?

Emily: What are you doing? Is there intent behind this, or is this just your pregnant mood swings?

Sally: Well, Robert Jordan would have us believe that it's the mood swings, and that's why Elayne can't do anything.

Emily: I know. I just feel like I'm reading, like, a bad tabloid magazine whenever I'm in Elayne's point of view.

Sally: Right.

Emily: It's this "will she/won't she" with the murderer who she's pretending is her baby daddy. Like, okay, Brangelina. What's happening?

Sally: (laugh) Brangelina is such a deep cut.

Emily: That was the first celebrity couple I was cognizant of.

Sally: Yeah, I think that was the first – I mean, not the first; but I think that was, like, one of the bigger, uh, seminal events for the obsession with the celebrity couple –

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Was everyone was like, "Brangelina."

Emily: And that was the first one I remember, like, it was a mashup of their names.

Sally: Right.

Emily: You know?

Sally: Yeah. It was a big deal or – yeah. But yes. But Elayne is like, "Hatchet-face, you did a bad job," and he's really mad because he doesn't like to be told what to do, especially by women, so.

Emily: Yeah, because, surprise, he's a misogynist and also a serial killer, so.

Sally: And serial rapist, so.

Emily: Yeah, so he's a stand-up guy.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: Swipe right.

Emily: Swipe right, ladies.

Sally: Is it right or left? Which is –

Emily: I think it's swipe right on good ones?

Sally: Sure. Who's to say?

Emily: On the ones you like? I don't know.

Sally: Swipe one way or the other.

Emily: Can you tell that we're both on dating apps?

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: Um, and that's literally all that happens. It's pretty status quo stuff –

Sally: Right.

Emily: Up until that. We're about to get even deeper into the succession plot, involving, like, the random introduction of other heads of Houses, which is totally unnecessary at this point considering we've already met about eight of them –

Sally: Right.

Emily: And we do not need any more. There are nineteen in total major Houses, and then about 400 minor Houses, according to Wikipedia. Um –

Sally: Like, are there – is there anyone in Andor who isn't nobility? (laugh)

Emily: I know.

Sally: Like, that's so many.

Emily: So stupid. Um, and it's just like, we don't – nobody wants to, like, have the details on where the nineteen Houses are, you know?

Sally: Yeah. I was just talking about this, 'cause I finally got to the point in Knife of Dreams – in the fourth-to-last chapter in Knife of Dreams, Elayne finally wins the succession plotline, and it's like, oh my God –

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: This has been happening for so long.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: And in the chapter where she wins the crown, we are being – we, like, know them by name, but we're, like, being introduced to new people for the first time –

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: And she has to go through, like – at least, I think it's the first time we've met them. I can't remember because it's been going on for so long. But, like, you recognize the names when she's

like, “This is who they are, this is who they’re related to, this is what their standard looks like,” and it’s like, I know how politics works. You don’t have to, like, explain to me that there are major players and minor players, and deals are made, and sacrifices are made, and you need leverage over other people in order to get what you want. Like, I’m not clueless. You don’t need to, like, explain all the players and their personalities and their strengths and weaknesses.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: I’m a little over it. I know I have a bias because I don’t really like that type of political fantasy, but it’s a lot.

Emily: Political fantasy can be interesting. Look at the Goblin Emperor.

Sally: That’s true.

Emily: It’s just Elayne does it badly.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like everything. Anyway, like, that’s it in terms of what happens with Elayne.

Sally: Right.

Emily: And we’re just gonna be here in Caemlyn for a little while.

Sally: Did we just do the one chapter this week?

Emily: No, those were – that was two chapters.

Sally: That was two chapters?

Emily: That was two chapters. What – neither of us read the two chapters, um, due to the aforementioned hectic work week.

Sally: Right.

Emily: Um, and yeah, that was it. How could that be two chapters, you ask, but that’s a great question. It’s probably because Elayne and Aviendha are just getting lost in each other’s eyes for the rest of the time, mooning over each other.

Sally: I swear, doesn’t she talk – whatever. I’m so confused. No, no, no. No, no, no, you’re right. It was two chapters. I was getting lost in – it felt like just one long chapter, so I thought we’d met the Sea Folk, but no, that happens –

Emily: Nope.

Sally: In an additional chapter.

Emily: Yup.

Sally: Sorry to doubt you.

Emily: How dare you doubt my ability to type page – chapter numbers into Wikipedia.

Sally: Well, I didn't even look at our reading schedule this week. I was just like, I think we're reading chapters 10 and 11 – (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) You were right.

Sally: I assume.

Emily: So, guys, did you know that there's not one, not two, but three Psych movies?

Sally: There's three?

Emily: There's three.

Sally: That's interesting.

Emily: Isn't that bizarre?

Sally: Those people must really like making those movies.

Emily: I know, they must really like each other.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Either that or they must have made a significant amount of money on the first one and two –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: To keep making them.

Emily: How bizarre.

Sally: Well, as we've been rewatching Psych, they keep getting, like, really big-name guest stars that we're always, like –

Emily: I know.

Sally: Really surprised by? And it –

Emily: Yeah. We're like, Judd Nelson? What the fuck?

Sally: (laugh) What are you doing here? John Cena?

Emily: John Cena? I guess this was before –

Sally: John Cena.

Emily: John Cena was big.

Sally: Um, but it just is, like, really hitting me that Psych is – was a more popular show while it was running than I guess I thought it was.

Emily: Yeah –

Sally: Or they just had, like, a ton of money to spend on it. Just, like, an insane budget to hire Judd Nelson.

Emily: I mean, maybe both, but I do think Psych was pretty popular. It just didn't strike me as popular because it was popular in Utah County –

Sally: Right.

Emily: And I sort of always assume that if things were popular in Utah County, then they must be lame everywhere else.

Sally: Right.

Emily: But, you know what, Utah County loved Twilight, and Twilight was big, so.

Sally: Yeah, Twilight took off. I think Utah was one of the driving factors in the success of the Twilight franchise –

Emily: Oh, for sure it was.

Sally: And for that, I am sincerely apologetic.

Emily: And my mom specifically contributed.

Sally: Yeah. (laugh) We talked about that in We Don't Watch Outlander –

Emily: Oh, yeah, we did.

Sally: Becky's, um –

Emily: Becky's greatest regret: how she fueled the Twilight sensation.

Sally: But, um, I still remember the first person who talked to me about Twilight. I can't remember her name; I think it might've been Alexa. She was in my seventh grade Algebra I class –

Emily: Oh, God.

Sally: Um, taught by one of the creepier teachers at my middle school, who would always dress-code girls 'cause their shirts were too low, but, like, stare at them for an uncomfortably long amount of time before giving them the dress code slip.

Emily: Everyone had a few of those teachers –

Sally: Yeah. (laugh)

Emily: Which says so much about our education system.

Sally: He was a total creep. Um, but she was carrying the book, and me, thirteen years old, desperate to make friends, was like, “Hey, what are you reading?” And then she started explaining it to me, and my first inclination was to be like, “That does not sound good.”

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: So kudos to thirteen-year-old Sally for having some taste.

Emily: Yeah, you had taste.

Sally: And I definitely resisted for a really long time, and part of that was my natural inclination, to this day, still, to kind of resist things that other people think are cool.

Emily: Yeah. Contrarian.

Sally: It’s unfortunate. But I think I’m better about it now. Now it’s more just, like, I don’t know what’s popular, so.

Emily: Oh, well, you’re on Tik Tok more than I am, so.

Sally: That’s true. Um, but I resisted for a long time, but I finally caved because my brother’s – my older brother’s girlfriend was, like, really big into it, and I was like, I guess I will do the bonding thing, and I read all of them and –

Emily: Oh, you’re so nice.

Sally: And so it goes.

Emily: Wow, you read all of them?

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: I still haven’t read number four.

Sally: Well, number four is atrocious, so.

Emily: I mean, it came out and everyone was like, “There’s a sex scene,” so then I wasn’t allowed to read it.

Sally: Well, the sex scene was pretty, um –

Emily: Yeah, I’m sure if I read it now, I’d laugh at it.

Sally: Be like, that was a sex scene? (laugh)

Emily: That was a sex scene? Blink and you miss it, you know?

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And/or, what’s happening?

Sally: Um, speaking of Tik Tok, um –

Emily: (sing-song) Tik tok on the clock –

Sally: (sings along) On the clock, don't stop –

Emily: Don't sue us, Kesha.

Sally: Please don't sue us, Kesha. Um, sometimes when you scroll, it'll be, like, cover – like, a block, like on Instagram, it'll be like, "Sensitive content, do you want to see it?"

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: And I was like, "Yeah, I couldn't imagine what this would be," you know, kind of risking it. It was an edit of Gojo from Jujutsu Kaisen –

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: Fight – just, like, fighting somebody. And I was like, I get how Gojo could maybe be, like, put a trigger warning on that, you know? (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) Was the trigger warning for, like, blood?

Sally: I guess it – I guess. It's that scene from the Volume 0 movie where he's fighting on the rooftop with the guy who he then sends Yuuta with –

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Which is, like, a sick fight and not particularly – like, particularly violent as far as Jujutsu Kaisen goes. Like, there's a lot grosser stuff that I've seen.

Emily: Oh my God, yeah. And, like, Gojo's not a very, like, hands-on, blood-soaked fighter. In fact, the opposite. He just, like, blinks and makes a black hole and people disappear in an explosion, you know? It's not like –

Sally: Right, and it's – go ahead.

Emily: I don't know. (laugh)

Sally: No, it's not like, um –

Emily: Nobara, who's, like –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Literally hammering nails into things.

Sally: Exactly. And I was like, this is just, like, a fist fight. Why was this triggered as sensitive content?

Emily: Oh, Tik Tok.

Sally: So anyway. I was like, 'kay, that was bizarro.

Emily: Guys, I gave, um, Devin Wakefield a – oh, yeah, I told you guys this – about this already. Or maybe I put it in the blooper reel. But I gave Devin a fingie – a model fingie from Jujutsu Kaisen for his birthday. (laugh)

Sally: It was so big.

Emily: It was so fucking big, but I think it was life-size.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I mean, not life-size; like, to scale in terms of the show.

Sally: Yeah. Um, if you guys don't know the premise behind Jujutsu Kaisen –

Emily: Oh, should we just talk through Jujutsu Kaisen?

Sally: Um, like, speedrun the plot of Jujutsu Kaisen: this beautiful pink-haired idiot finds a demon finger –

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: At his school. And to save this boy he met 45 minutes ago –

Emily: And because his grandpa just died –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And he's sad about it.

Sally: He's sad about it, and he's got, like, anime protagonist syndrome of, like –

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: "I'm going to do the right thing, even if there's a high cost to me." He eats the finger.

Emily: Yeah, 'cause when you eat the fingie, then you can –

Sally: You get –

Emily: You get cursed energy, and then you can –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Fight curses, which is what he needs to do.

Sally: Yeah. But then he's also sharing his body with, like, the super-demon.

Emily: Yeah, eating the fingie allows him to be possessed by the super-demon, but he has such anime protagonist syndrome that he can suppress the demon inside of him.

Sally: Yeah. Yeah. But the plot is basically just, like, how many fingers can we feed to Yuuji before we have to kill him?

Emily: And you might be wondering, well, there's only ten fingies.

Sally: No.

Emily: You'd be wrong.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: In fact, there are twenty fingies. This motherfucker has four arms.

Sally: Four arms.

Emily: Twenty –

Sally: And they're just, like – the fingers are –

Emily: They're so grotesque.

Sally: Like two of my fingers, and it's got this, like, nasty joint – yeah.

Emily: They're, like, thick and gnarled, and they have uber-long clawed fingernails. They're disgusting. Anyway, I told Devin and Janet, like, the plot synopsis of Jujutsu Kaisen, and they've been obsessed with it ever since –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: In terms of, like, they don't actually want to watch it, but they do want to know what's happening –

Sally: Everything that happens, yeah.

Emily: In Jujutsu Kaisen. And they just, like, are particularly hung up on the fingie-eating for obvious reasons.

Sally: Yeah, it's pretty – in terms of, like, anime concepts or manga concepts, that one's pretty out of left field. Um.

Emily: Yeah, that one really hits ya and is like, "What?" Sally was like, "He's gonna eat the fingie," and I was – had my eyes closed for, like, ten minutes in that episode 'cause I was like, "I cannot watch this motherfucker eat a finger."

Sally: Well, it's super – I mean, it's not realistic, but he basically just, like, swallows them whole –

Emily: He just deep-throats it –

Sally: (laugh) Yeah.

Emily: Immediately.

Sally: He's just like, "Ate a fingie," and you're like, "My boy?"

Emily: How?

Sally: How? So there's your anime update. Jujutsu Kaisen is really fun. I really like it.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Except for Gojo. But.

Emily: Oh, Gojo.

Sally: We all must suffer.

Emily: Yeah, he's such a bastard.

Sally: He is a bastard man. But, um, there's your anime update. I don't have any more anime updates 'cause we're not watching an anime currently, which is really kinda pathetic for us.

Emily: Yeah, we're in an anime dry spot.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I was at a – a bar on Saturday – Saturday? Yeah.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: I was at a birthday party, and someone on the other side of the table said something about Demon Slayer, and I was like, "Demon Slayer?!" and, like, fished out my keychain, which is Sally's keychain, and was like, "Look at this!" (laugh) 'Cause Sally has a little chibi Inosuke –

Sally: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Who is Pig Boy, as we like to call him.

Sally: Pig Boy. Well, "Ino" means pig, so.

Emily: They were like, "Is that the boar kid?" and I was like, "Fucking is."

Sally: Hell yeah it is.

Emily: I love this –

Sally: My friend Brianna made that keychain.

Emily: Love this boy.

Sally: I love that dumb – dumb-dumb.

Emily: Yeah, he's just such a dumb-dumb.

Sally: He can apparently move his organs around. (laugh)

Emily: Oh my God.

Sally: 'Cause he's so flexible.

Emily: He gets fucking stabbed in the chest in the most recent arc, and you're like, "Oh, no, he's dead –" I mean, no one is like, "He's dead," because it would be a bigger deal –

Sally: You can't kill him, yeah.

Emily: If he was dead. But you're like, "Oh, he's surely incapacitated at the very least." And he pops up like five minutes later and is like, "Joke's on you, motherfucker. You may have thought you stabbed me in the heart, but actually, I'm so flexible I can shift my internal organs around at will," and we were watching this like, that might as well happen.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Whatever.

Sally: Sure. I mean, he is a – a confusing sort of eldritch feral thing.

Emily: Yeah, we were like, "Okay, that might as well be a superpower you have." This other boy can just become lightning, basically –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: So sure. Why not?

Sally: Our protagonist's superpower is that he has a very hard skull.

Emily: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

Sally: And a good nose.

Emily: And a good nose. He's got the –

Sally: The Burton Guster super sniffer.

Emily: The Burton Guster super sniffer. (laugh) So funny.

Sally: I know, Psych really is such a funny show.

Emily: Yeah, if you guys are wondering, hmm, does Psych hold up? Pretty much does.

Sally: Yeah, there are definitely some things that are dated –

Emily: Yeah, for sure, but, like –

Sally: Obviously. But for the most part –

Emily: It's not like if you try and watch the first seasons of, like, Law and Order. Not that I recommend any season of Law and Order. But it's like, if you turn on 2005 Law and Order, you'll just hear, like, slurs for trans and gay people every five minutes.

Sally: Right. Or, like, if you watch Friends these days, the joke – the butt of the joke in every episode is like, "Oh, no, these men can't be gay; that would be horrific."

Emily: Yeah. "Oh, no."

Sally: Oh, no, men and women are so fundamentally different."

Emily: Oh –

Sally: The jokes in Psych are, like –

Emily: Men are from Mars, women are from Venus.

Sally: (laugh)

Emily: That was a radio announcer voice.

Sally: Yeah, the jokes from Psych are, like, very deep '80s music references that sometimes I get and sometimes I don't. Or very funny physical humor, like when Lassiter just grabbed Shawn by the throat. (laugh)

Emily: (laugh) That was a relatable moment. My sister does that to us all the time.

Sally: So that's what's new in EHR world; we're watching Psych. Um –

Emily: And we're not really doing anything. (laugh)

Sally: We're not really doing anything with life.

Emily: (sigh)

Sally: Trying to do creative things. Suffering in this Utah heat.

Emily: Oh my God, I'm so sweaty. Guys, we also might have to finish this just because we turned the AC off to record and I'm –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Too hot.

Sally: (sing-song) Hot to not to not. Life is short, so give it all you got.

Emily: Okay.

Sally: (normal voice) Did you ever listen to that song in elementary school? It might've been a course on – it was about saying no to drugs, I think. (sing-song) Life is short, so give it all you got. And when you ... (trails off)

Emily: That sounds vaguely familiar.

Sally: (sing-song) Hot to not to not.

Emily: Like, was there a CD?

Sally: Yeah. (laugh) I think so.

Emily: That sounds so familiar. Like, there was a CD of anti-drug songs.

Sally: I'm gonna Google it.

Emily: And a few of them are, like, bangers.

Sally: I know; that song was fun. Life is short ...

Emily: It was very, like, Kidz Bop energy –

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: Like, don't get me wrong. But –

Sally: So give it all you got, and when you make decisions ...

Emily: I can't believe you have – know this many lyrics.

Sally: Listen, it's a nightmare up in this brain.

Emily: (laugh)

Sally: When you make decisions ...

Emily: Oh, man, there's just some inspirational –

Sally: (laugh) Yeah.

Emily: Like, Pinterest –

Sally: Maybe I did too many lyrics. (laugh)

Emily: Yeah, some of them could be wrong.

Sally: That's true.

Emily: Like when I thought the Banarama song was, um, "I'm captivated by your money," but really it's, "I'm captivated by you, honey."

Sally: Well, "captivated by your money" makes a little bit more sense.

Emily: Yeah, that's what my entire family thought it said. And I know that because my dad used to accuse my mom of loving that song because she's a gold-digger. Yes, my parents have a normal relationship.

Sally: They sure do. The only – only thing coming up is inspirational quotes. This is – I'm gonna try the other half of my lyrics, and then I will give up on this endeavor. "How anxiety interferes with decision-making." Okay, obviously we're just –

Emily: I don't need a Google article about that.

Sally: We're just not –

Emily: That's my life.

Sally: We're just not gonna get at what I want. It will just be a little nugget that lives in my brain.

Emily: Yeah, we'll just both sort of have this shared hallucination of a – an anti-drug song.

Sally: Of an anti-drug song.

Emily: Or, like, anti-peer pressure?

Sally: It might – I think it might've been more anti-peer pressure. I just feel like peer – peer pressure is always like, "Someone will peer pressure you to do drugs."

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: No one ever peer pressured me to do drugs. It was always like, "You suck. Be cooler." And I'm like, okay.

Emily: Well, the thing about people who use drugs is they're either extremely chill –

Sally: Yeah, that's true.

Emily: Or they're like, "These are my drugs."

Sally: (laugh) "I'm not gonna give you my fucking drugs."

Emily: "I don't want you to have them."

Sally: Yeah, it was always like, you're gonna be approached by some mysterious person. And, like, apparently everyone who does drugs is a drug dealer –

Emily: Mm-hmm.

Sally: According to the D.A.R.E. program, so, like, everyone is gonna try and give you drugs.

Emily: I don't think drug dealers are really, like –

Sally: Or make you buy drugs.

Emily: Marketing their services, you know?

Sally: Yeah, I mean, from all I know about drug dealers, it kind of markets itself. Like, people ask, you know –

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Who gets the hook-up?

Emily: How you get it, yeah. And then people – the clients just show – this is absolutely captivating content. Let's just end this. Let's just stop it.

Sally: Yeah, sorry, guys, we're not really bringing our best this week.

Emily: Yeah, we're phoning it in a little bit. But you know what? We've given you 210 episodes of perfect content. (laugh)

Sally: Of perfect content. We've never made a mistake in our lives; we've never said anything –

Emily: I've never said anything stupid or mean or wrong.

Sally: Yeah, I've never been wrong.

Emily: Never ever.

Sally: Never in my life. Um –

Emily: So with two hundred and nine episodes of perfection behind us, I think we get one, you know?

Sally: Yeah, we get one slide.

Emily: Yeah.

Sally: Um, and – further in my defense, I worked ten hours today; Emily had to drive really far today.

Emily: I didn't work ten hours today, but it was emotionally taxing. Because I had a meeting. (laugh)

Sally: I know. Meetings are horrible.

Emily: So, you guys –

Sally: So just –

Emily: We're not gonna give you any more excuses. You just have to accept it.

Sally: You're right, I'm sorry. Delete –

Emily: Take it or leave it.

Sally: Delete my excuses, you're right. We've made perfect content, and we have nothing to apologize for.

Emily: Yeah. If you're here, you're here. Okay, well –

Sally: Uh –

Emily: Anyway. Thanks to Glynna MacKenzie for our theme song. She's still – she still let us use it even when we don't have good –

Sally: Even after this episode. (laugh)

Emily: I mean, she might change her mind after this one, but that is her prerogative.

Sally: Glynna, please.

Emily: Thanks to our followers on social media and our patrons on Patreon. Hey, FYI: we'll just slap this at the end here, if you've made it this far. If you join our Patreon after September –

September 1, there will be a few new changes, including the price of a graffitied book will be a little bit higher, and that's pretty much it, in terms of substantive changes.

Sally: Yeah, there are some, like, minor changes in regards to, like, what the actual content is going to be, but none of that is major.

Emily: Yeah, we won't really have any Wheel of Time read-along blogs 'cause we've run out of books to blog about.

Sally: Yeah.

Emily: And also, you know, we're talking about those books on the podcast now, so.

Sally: Yeah, it would just be kind of silly because by the time we caught up – I'm only, like, one book ahead, so it feels –

Emily: Mm-hmm. It's a little repetitive.

Sally: Yeah. I feel like I'm just giving you guys the same type of stuff over and over again. So we'll be writing about other stuff –

Emily: New, fun things.

Sally: Potentially just like this episode.

Emily: Potentially just like this – if you liked this episode, know what you're gonna love?

Sally: (laugh) Emily and I writing about whatever we want.

Emily: Whatever the fuck we want. Just kidding, you can vote on what we –

Sally: Yeah, we will let you guys vote, but I might use some usurp cards to write about why Shawn Spencer should have been bixesual, so.

Emily: He should've been. You're right. Um –

Sally: So maybe you will be force-fed some content and maybe you'll just have to live with that.

Emily: Anyway, that's it. Do you have a sign-off?

Sally: Oh, man. Um, well, today, Ed mysteriously went missing inside of our relatively small townhome, and I still don't know where he was, so.

Emily: Oh yeah. He might have warping powers.

Sally: Yeah. (laugh) He might have been on, like, an interdimensional portal, which would explain a lot about Ed, if he could –

Emily: Yeah, if he was a little time traveler or something?

Sally: Yeah, if he was a little wizard.

Emily: It's sort of, like, flattering, you know, that he always comes back.

Sally: Yeah, he's always like, "This place is pretty chill."

Emily: I guess we're the ones who feed him, so.

Sally: Yeah. He might be a time-traveling alien, but –

Emily: Warlock.

Sally: Ooh, a time-traveling warlock. (laugh) Garfield, the deals warlock.

Emily: Garfield, the deals warlock. That might be Ed.

Sally: Ed is Garfield the deals warlock, but at heart, he is still a cat, and he will still return to where the food is and to where he will be scratched on the bum.

Emily: (laugh) He loves being scratched on the bum.

Sally: Okay, we love you guys –

Emily: Okay, guys, yeah. Love you.

Sally: Thanks for hanging in there. We're gonna go get some food and –

Emily: Byeee.

Sally: Recover.

Emily: Jeez.