



Episode 219: Gawyn Trakand: Mall Cop

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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: How fortuitous, it's – we're finishing *Crossroads of Twilight* and it's twilight.

SALLY: Ahhhh woowoow.

EMILY: Like in the book [laughs].

SALLY: The whole book takes place at twilight.

EMILY: I was thinking of *Twilight*.

SALLY: Oh!

EMILY: By renowned authoress Stephenie Meyer.

SALLY: [laughing] Renowned authoress.

EMILY: [laughing] I feel like she'd want to be known as an authoress.

[a car racing past in the background]

SALLY: Okay! I swear!

EMILY: That's not the motorcycle. That's a different thing, but there have been upsetting noises from outside all day.

SALLY: I know. I went on, like, literally like a five-minute walk.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Today, because I have, once again, injured my knee. Pretty badly this time, so I'm doing, like, very gentle, you know, stuff to try and keep it as conditioned as possible while we recover. And, like, every single piece of gardening equipment that our property owners have were running. I saw, like, four riding lawnmowers, a bunch of weedwhackers, like six dudes on golf carts. I was like, "Hello?"

EMILY: They're just like, "We have to get all of the landscaping done now. Before the winter comes." And I'm like, "Guys, it's seventy-five degrees outside."

SALLY: Yeah! Also, you have to do all of it on a Wednesday morning at 9:30am?

EMILY: [scoffs] Always in the morning.

SALLY: I know. Let me rest. I'm not really a person until 1pm anyway.

EMILY: Yeah, that's true. Devin told me the other day that if I respond to him before 10am then he really [laughing] gets worried that something's wrong with me.

SALLY: Oh [laughs]. Oh.

[unscrewing a soda]

EMILY: It's also hard to read this book, but we're done now.

SALLY: We're done. We can throw it in the trash can.

EMILY: And I might, you know?

SALLY: We have, like, nineteen copies. We can very easily throw one in the trash can.

EMILY: I know. We really have so many copies of – we have two sitting on the table right now.

SALLY: And I can put my eyes on a third one immediately on the bookshelf.

EMILY: Yeah. "What luxury," [laughing] you guys must be thinking.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: But I assure you, this is albatross weighing us down.

SALLY: Yeah. This is exactly what Samuel Taylor Coleridge was talking about.

EMILY: Yeah, the albatross that will drive you mad.

SALLY: The albatross was a metaphor –

EMILY: And raise a bunch of zombies from the depths of the sea or something.

SALLY: Yeah, it was a prophetic metaphor about [laughing] *Wheel of Time*.

EMILY: [laughing] About *Wheel of Time* and our podcast

SALLY: He did it just for us.

EMILY: Samuel Taylor Coleridge did do a lot of drugs. Um.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: So I would believe that he had some, like, dreams about podcasting, an audio format of storytelling. Or, really of just complaining. That's what we do.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Um.

SALLY: Was he the “Kubla Khan” one?

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Okay. I'm getting all my Romantics mixed up.

EMILY: Yeah, me too. I was like – he's not “Ozymandias” is he?

SALLY: No, that is...Percy Shelley, I think.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: That's like the only good thing Percy Shelley ever did.

EMILY: I feel like they all did, like, a lot of opium.

SALLY: Yeah [laughs].

EMILY: And had sex with Lord Byron. And those two things combined would fuck anyone up.

SALLY: Yeah, it would really cause a lot of, perhaps, psychosocial damage.

EMILY: Yeah, all those English Romantic poets were all their own personal psych ward caused by Lord Byron's sexual [laughing] –

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] Proclivities and their ready access to opium.

SALLY: Yeah, or just by Lord Byron himself.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: [laughing] Just, like, his presence. Even if they didn't interact with him. He's just sort of –

EMILY: Mary Shelley wrote *Frankenstein* to get away from –

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Byron.

SALLY: Byron.

EMILY: And I don't blame her.

SALLY: It's a really powerful part of the *Frankenstein* mythos.

EMILY: Yeah. When you're like, "Boy, a woman wrote this so she wouldn't have to deal with an insufferable man?" [laughs] You're like,

SALLY: Relatable.

EMILY: "That really is when genius is sparked."

SALLY: Yeah, when you're like, "I'm so angry about the way a man is behaving.

EMILY: Like, I have some of my most brilliant ideas when a man's speaking to me and I have to pretend like I'm listening, you know?

SALLY: Yeah, Uh-huh.

EMILY: I'll just be like, "God damn."

SALLY: Oh wow.

EMILY: Oh wow. I really need to workshop that one in my – in the shower later [laughs].

SALLY: In the shower later, when I'm muttering to myself furiously.

EMILY: Yeah, when I do my best thinking. Um, this is Everybody Hates Rand [laughs].

SALLY: [laughs] Yeah, sorry.

EMILY: [laughing] It's your friendly neighborhood *Wheel of Time* podcast. I'm Emily Juchau.

SALLY: And I'm Lord Byron [laughs].

EMILY: [laughing] Shut the fuck up.

SALLY: [laughing] And I'm Sally Goodger.

EMILY: Welcome to the finale of Book 10, Season 9.

SALLY: Lord Byron would be such a funny Halloween costume.

EMILY: How would you do it?

SALLY: [laughs] That's what I'm thinking though. You could just dress up like any sort of miserable dandy and act like an asshole [laughing].

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: Okay, anyway.

EMILY: I don't even know how to dress like a dandy, really.

SALLY: I guess dandy is more...Oscar Wilde era. I don't know if that would quite fit Lord Byron, but.

EMILY: Like a waistcoat or something.

SALLY: [sighs] Yeah, like a little waistcoat or something.

EMILY: Did they wear mustaches back then?

SALLY: I don't know.

EMILY: Have a little twirly mustache.

SALLY: Yeah, Byron would have a twirly mustache. Okay, we're moving on from George Gordon, Lord Byron to –

EMILY: Our nemesis.

SALLY: To –

EMILY: Our other nemesis, or nemeses. Um, [laughs] the Aes Sedai? I don't know.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Not a man in sight in these – this chapter.

SALLY: There is one Shienaran soldier.

EMILY: Oh, yeah. Ragan! He comes back.

SALLY: Who comes in and is like, "Hello."

EMILY: And there's a couple of, like, Warders glimpsed through the tent.

SALLY: Yeah, the tent.

EMILY: But mostly we're in Egg's tent to, um, to give you the setting for that. Um, this is the last chapter of the book. It's followed by a very brief epilogue from Rand's point of view, but this one is Egg's point of view. And it's a cliff hanger. Woo hoo hoo! That is – do we even get an Egg point of view in *Knife of Dreams*?

SALLY: Yes. Because we get a little bit of her in the White Tower.

EMILY: Oh, okay.

SALLY: Causing...chaos.

EMILY: Okay, okay. I was just like – sometimes – because there is no Egg in, um, basically the last book. Didn't we talk about that?

SALLY: Booooooooo.

EMILY: Briefly. So, so, uh – not the last last book. I meant, uh, Winter's Fart.

SALLY: Oh, yeah. That's right.

EMILY: So, sometimes we just have very little Egg.

SALLY: Very little Egg in your diet is bad.

EMILY: Is it?

SALLY: No, I hate eggs.

EMILY: [laughs] I was gonna say.

SALLY: I think they are despicable.

EMILY: I eat an egg every now and then, but never, like, on it's own.

SALLY: Yeah, no offense to chickens, but.

EMILY: Full offense to chickens.

SALLY: [laughing] No, I think chickens are majestic

EMILY: Terrible. Um??

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: You're just saying that because of the little chicken stuffed animal.

SALLY: Oh, that's my therapy chicken.

EMILY: Awww.

SALLY: I hold it during therapy because I get so stressed out.

EMILY: Yeah, that makes –

SALLY: I forgot to put him back where he belongs.

EMILY: Does he have like a nest? Or something?

SALLY: Uh, he just sits on my bookshelf.

EMILY: Oh, okay. Well he's nice.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: The best chicken I know. I would [laughs] –

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: I would say.

SALLY: My boss has chickens and frequently she'll be like, "I spent my morning –"

EMILY: Real chickens not stuffed chickens.

SALLY: Yeah, real chickens not stuffed chickens. She'll be like, "I spent my morning chasing around an injured chicken." And I'll be like, "Okay, that sounds horrible."

EMILY: Yeah. We, like, chatted a couple of weeks ago about our eventual commune that we plan to have in the end times.

SALLY: Yeah, in the wasteland.

EMILY: And we were talking about having chickens and, uh, that night I was like, "I can't own chickens, actually." Like, I mean, we could for essential purposes, but I couldn't interact with them, because I was so scarred by the movie *Chicken Run*.

SALLY: Oh yeah. *Chicken Run*'s a fucked up movie.

EMILY: Like I'd just be thinking, "Damn, all these chickens want to unionize [laughs] like the chickens in that movie." God.

SALLY: Well I would allow –

EMILY: And they're facing the guillotine every day.

SALLY: Yeah, that movie really was so grim.

EMILY: I know!

SALLY: And fucked.

EMILY: *Fucked up!* My fe – my fear of beheading comes from that movie.

SALLY: Yeah, that sounds about right.

EMILY: I mean, there's a lot of reasons to be afraid of beheading, but *Chicken Wun* –

BOTH: *Chicken Run* –

SALLY: Is the foremost.

EMILY: Is the primal one, yeah.

SALLY: Well, I will tend to the chickens, and I will allow them to unionize if that's what they feel is right.

EMILY: Okay, thanks. I've got the sheep I guess. I like sheep.

SALLY: [baa-ing like a sheep]

EMILY: [baa-ing] Okay [sighs].

SALLY: We're really thriving.

EMILY: We're doing so –

SALLY: Thirty, flirty, and thriving.

EMILY: So – almost!

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Um, I can focus.

SALLY: We wake up in Egg's tent. She's eating porridge. I think.

EMILY: She's eating porridge with weevils in it.

SALLY: With weevils.

EMILY: And she's alert – the first thing that happens is that Nisao comes in and is like, "Another bitch got *murdered!*"

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Not that enthusiastic about it, though. She's more like [in a trembling voice], "Another bitch got murdered."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And Egg's like, "Okay, Poirot. Figure it out." And it's, like, this lady has no Poirot qualifications. She doesn't even have majestic mustachios, to bring the podcast back to mustaches. But this is conveniently, or perhaps inconveniently, uh, a lady named Kairen Stang. *Stang*, you know?

SALLY: [laughing] What a stupid name.

EMILY: [laughing] I know. Like, Robert Jordan. Um, who is one of the ones who's really good – not really good. No one's as good as Egg, of course – but she, like Leanne, is one of the foremost people who's good at making things into *cuendillar*. Which, Egwene sort of alludes to and which we uncover as we get closer to the actual event, is a big problem because of their whole plan with the harbor chains. Which is apparently going to go down tonight.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: So, the obvious question is whether Halima, who killed Kairen, knew about this somehow.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Which I wouldn't preclude, considering she's rummaging around in Egg's brain on a regular basis, though I don't know if she has since that last time. Um, but I think I – I think probably more to the point is that Kairen is economically important to the Aes Sedai since they're selling all their *cuendillar*, so that's sort of, like, a way to reduce the income of the rebel camp neatly.

SALLY: Right.

EMILY: Still no clue why Anaiya, the OG murder victim, though, got murdered. Perhaps she stumbled upon Halima and saw something she shouldn't.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: I don't know. But Anaiya's death, as it turns out, is also unfortunate for Egg because Anaiya's the only person who really believed that Egg has prophetic dreams.

SALLY: [softly] Right.

EMILY: Um, and who has enough of, like, a solid reputation that people might have believed her.

SALLY: Right.

EMILY: As it is, after Egg had her, like, creepy dream about the Seanchan attacking the White Tower, she was like, "Okay, everyone. I had this dream." And everyone's like, "Okay." They're like – it's like when my mom every morning would be like, "Well I had this dream about explosions and dinosaurs."

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: And we'd all be like, "Okay, mom."

SALLY: 10-4, Becky.

EMILY: [laughs] Just a – your little active anxiety imagination running away. Um, so no one really believes her, but Egg has given it a shot. She's also tried to pass this warning along to the White Tower via the negotiations that are going on.

SALLY: Right.

EMILY: But, um, her own people give so little credence to this that they have not passed this along.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Good news, Egg! You will soon be able to deliver the news in person. Dun dun.

SALLY: And they will definitely believe you.

EMILY: And they'll definitely be like, "Thank you. For that warning."

SALLY: "Thank you for telling us. We will now magically reunite the White Tower and everything will be fine."

EMILY: Yeah. And we will update our security system. I don't know what that would look like. Increasing the...the rent-a-cop hours. I don't know.

SALLY: Oh god. Paul Blart. White Tower cop.

EMILY: I was *just* thinking [laughing] about mall cops.

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: I would kill to see the White Tower Paul Blart. Who would it be? We don't have any buffoon characters, really. [laughs] And we don't have really –

SALLY: It would be Gawyn [laughing].

EMILY: [laughing] It would, though! Gawyn takes himself exactly as seriously as Paul Blart, Mall Cop, does. And he's exactly as stupid.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: You're right man. God, you're a genius.

SALLY: [laughing] Well, thank you. I don't know if we can call that genius.

EMILY: Gawyn Trakran – Trakand: Mall Cop. He's like, "I am a real, a *real* important guy."

SALLY: I'm super important.

EMILY: They're like, "You're a mall cop."

SALLY: I have a Segway and everything.

EMILY: God, he would have a Segway.

SALLY: Gawyn would absolutely have a Segway. And a taser, and whatever else Paul Blart has. My hair has been such a mess this week. Um.

EMILY: Um, so, these are problems, but no one – it’s just murders. Only, this one got out – well, I mean I guess Anaiya’s death “got out.” It couldn’t be kept hidden, but the news of this one is spreading very fast and everyone in the camp is reacting by, like, being extra vigilant and paranoid and, like, holding the Power at all times.

SALLY: Yeah, because before Nisao could get there, like, multiple other sisters had tested for resonances.

EMILY: Resonances.

SALLY: Of *saidin*. So, like, everybody knows that –

EMILY: A man who can Channel done did it.

SALLY: Is killing people in the camp. Dun dun dun!

EMILY: Dun dun! Anyway, Egg leaves her, like, sleeping tent where she had breakfast and goes to her study. Um, she is...she walks in and I think Theodrin is there. Egwene alludes to the fact that Theodrin is spying on Romanda for her.

SALLY: Mm-hmm.

EMILY: And that Faolain was similarly supposed to spy on Lelaine, but Faolain has *disappeared*. She, like, says something about that. And I’m like, “Do you mean, like, an actual missing person? Because that’s a big problem.”

SALLY: Isn’t Faolain in Andor?

EMILY: Is she?

SALLY: Isn’t she...one of the Black Ajah captives that Hatchedface tortures?

EMILY: No – oh! Falion.

SALLY: Falion!

EMILY: That’s the Black – all these stupid names. Faolain is, like, the mean Accepted that everyone hates.

SALLY: Are their names really that similar?

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: What is this man – he’s drunk on his own power.

EMILY: I know.

SALLY: [laughing] I, like, can’t even picture how they’d be spelled different.

EMILY: And they’re both unpleasant women. Faolain is spelled F-A-O-L-A-I-N, I think.

SALLY: Oh, you’re right. And Falion us just F –

BOTH: A-L-I-O-N.

SALLY: The man is *drunk* on his own *power*.

EMILY: I know. He’s crazy.

SALLY: Okay, no. So, Faolain is fully just a missing person, then.

EMILY: Well, we don’t know, because Egwene says it so briefly and I just looked up the Wikipedia and it didn’t say anything about it.

SALLY: [softly] Super.

EMILY: I don’t know if she, like, got sent on an errand or, like, if she just has been avoiding Egg and that’s what Egg means. No clue! She just – I – I miss her. She’s funny. She would walk in and be like, “Egwene, I fucking hate your guts.” And I’d be like, “Cool, someone said it.”

SALLY: I know. She was also so – the only person who would, like, bully Nynaeve, which I thought was really powerful of her.

EMILY: Yeah. So, who knows? Maybe she’ll come back. Maybe she won’t. Probably by the time she does or does not, [laughing] we’ll have forgot she was missing in the first place. So, this is just a little audio clip that you can throw back in our faces when that time comes.

SALLY: Be like, “Hey, dummies.”

EMILY: Anyway, Theodrin is like, “Hey, Romanda wants to see you.” And Egg’s like, “Okay, great. Tell her she can come whenever.” And Theodrin also leaves a secret note. Um...as, like, another gal is coming in and being, like, “Oh, Lelaine wants to see you.” And Egg’s like, “Great. Tell her see can also come whenever.” Um, but Egg looks at this note from Theodrin and it’s like, “Hey, there’s been some, like, weird rumors from Cairhien that the whole Yellow Ajah is up in arms about. And Romanda sent some people to check it out, but I have no idea what the rumor is. They’ve mentioned Nynaeve. No clue. Bye. Love. Theodrin.”

SALLY: [snorts] XOXO.

EMILY: And Egg's like, "You signed your *name* [laughing] to your spying document?"

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Um, which is pretty legendary of Theodrin I think.

SALLY: Yeah, just like –

EMILY: Egg's like, "Is she trying to get caught? Maybe?"

SALLY: Maybe she is.

EMILY: Theodrin's like, "I'm a mystery. Cannot – can't be tamed." Um, the Wikipedia also had no idea what this was alluding to.

SALLY: I thought it was about Damer Flinn curing – like, doing his special healing, right? Didn't he figure out how to heal stilling?

EMILY: He did, yeah. Um, it could be. I don't know.

SALLY: That's what I always thought. I was like, "Why else would it be Cairhien?"

EMILY: The Yellow Ajah.

SALLY: Nynaeve mentioned and the Yellow Ajah. But the fact that the [laughing] Wikipedia does not say anything is very silly.

EMILY: Yeah. I'm just like... "Buddy." Yeah, you're right. That makes sense. But also, like, they already know that stilling can be healed by Nynaeve.

SALLY: Yeah, just not, like, as good.

EMILY: As fully. Yeah.

SALLY: So maybe – I agree. I think it's silly, but that was my best guess. I was re-reading my blog and that's what I said. My first read through. It was my best guess.

EMILY: Well, who the fuck knows. Anyway, um, then Siuan comes in and is like, "Hi." And Egg is like, "Is everything ready for tonight? Like, have you swapped out Kairen, deceased, for – now Bode Caution has to do her work." And Siuan's like, "I'm not gonna tell her until later so she doesn't have to, like, stress about it all day." Which is probably kinda nice. If I had to go on a secret mission, I would just wanna be told, "Right now. Go right now." I'd be like [fake crying], "Okay. Alright, mom." But then Myrelle and a lady – uh, some people. Myrelle – like four M names all walk in.

SALLY: Yeah Myrelle. Morvin.

BOTH: Maigan.

EMILY: Yeah, fucking Megan.

SALLY: Which I very much confused with Maighdin.

EMILY: She's replacing Anaiya or something.

SALLY: Yeah, I don't know.

EMILY: I know. Me too.

SALLY: Such a mess.

EMILY: And they're all just their usual complaining stuff while Egg is reading. Then Romanda comes in and, um, basically is like, "What are we going to do about the Kin?" Because apparently Egg has been sort of, like, beginning to spread the word that the Kin is out there.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: That they're all super old.

SALLY: The Kin is out there [laughs].

EMILY: The *Kin* is out there. And, um, yeah. Fucked up, huh? Anyway, Romanda's like, "That's mad fucked up. How do we even know that it's real?" And Egg's like, "It's very obviously real. I mean, we didn't know about how many Sea Folk wilders there are so it's – and they don't look like Aes Sedai, so it's very much could just be this huge group of people that we wouldn't notice. And Romanda's like, "Blah, blah, blah, blah. We need to get them into the White Tower somehow." And Egg's like, "Yeah, they're – I want them to be a retirement plan and then ladies can go and – from the White Tower to there and undo the bonds on the Oath Rod." Romanda freaks out about and is like, "Well *my* dreams of becoming an Aes Sedai were that I would *die* [laughing] in the White Tower." And, like, okay. Go die in the White Tower then.

SALLY: Yeah, nobody's stopping you.

EMILY: Yeah, nobody's stopping you. In fact, I'd welcome it at this point. And, like, it's not your if – it's not your business. Maybe other people don't want to die three hundred years earlier than they have to. Anyway, I don't know why everyone makes such a big fucking deal out of this. Except that Robert Jordan wants it to be a big deal.

SALLY: Yeah, it's just very bizarre.

EMILY: Um, but after that encounter, which Egwene feels like she “won,” quote unquote, um Lelaine comes in and is basically like, “I’ve been thinking about the Black Tower situation and I think that we should – the only way to keep the men under control would be, like, to bond them as Warders, but, like, modify the Warder bond.” And Egg’s like, “You mean compulsion?” And Lelaine’s like, “Yes.”

SALLY: [laughing,] “Nooooo.”

EMILY: “No, but we would call it something different, though.”

SALLY: We would – it would one hundred percent be compulsion. We would not call it that.

EMILY: We would rebrand it, though.

SALLY: We would rebrand it in, like, a nice font with a gradient.

EMILY: We’d have a marketing package for it.

SALLY: Yeah, we’ve hired a 22-year-old out of college to do our marketing plan.

EMILY: Yeah. And Egg’s like, “If you bring this up again I will, like, have you publicly put in the stocks or something. Obviously, we’re not going to use compulsion on people.” And Verin somewhere shivers and is like, “Oh my god. I didn’t get that memo.”

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: “Fuck.” Um, but this also brings up the fact that everyone sort of knows that compulsion was used on people.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: On Aes Sedai, so they’re all like, “Duh, duh, duh, duh.” Anyway, so that’s just sort of a pressing concern. And Egg feels like she lost that encounter, I guess. Everything’s about winning and losing.

SALLY: Yeah, duh.

EMILY: At some point in this, the Shienaran soldier Ragan came in to pass on a message from Gareth Bryne that was something like, “Careful. Soldiers have crossed the river,” but which is, like, clearly some sort of code from Bryne being like, “Everything’s good to go.” We’re gonna start out.

SALLY: Right.

EMILY: Um, and after Romanda and Lelaine leave, I think Egg just sits there and is like – oh, fuck. Yeah. Sheriam also came in at some point.

SALLY: Oh yeah.

EMILY: This is just like a parade of visitors.

SALLY: I know. It's very silly.

EMILY: God, Sheriam came in to bring a note from the Mistress of Novices, Tiana, like the Disney Princess, that Nicola ran away. And Egg's like, "This says she ran away, like, four days ago. How's Tiana just, like, now reporting it?" And they're like, "Well, Nicola's little group of Novice buddies," – and by buddies, I mean like her family, her roommates – "covered for her, mostly because they did not want her to come back."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Which is so fucking legendary [laughs].

SALLY: Yeah. They were like, "If we tell them she ran away, they'll definitely catch her."

EMILY: They'll, like, catch her. [laughing] But maybe if we disguise the fact –

SALLY: Don't tell her, she'll get away with it [laughs]. She's such an insufferable asshole.

EMILY: I know. Everyone's just like, "No." Everyone fucking hates Nicola.

SALLY: Nicola's last name is also apparently Treehill, which I did not know.

EMILY: Yeah. Nicola Treehill.

SALLY: It's like a Hobbit.

EMILY: Yeah. She really does. And Egwene assumes that Areina must have left with her as well, but Egwene orders all the Novices punished, because she's like, "Whatever their motivations, you can't just cover that up, because it's dangerous for everyone." And Sheriam's like, "Even though one of the people from the Two Rivers is in that group?" And Egg's like, "Yeah. Why is it so hard for everyone to understand? No special privileges for –"

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: The dummies from the Two Rivers.

SALLY: Imagine giving special privileges to the people you went to high school with.

EMILY: I know. I don't like any of the people I went to high school with. I went to high school with – I'd be like, "Yeah, they go in the stocks, too, or whatever."

SALLY: Put them in the stocks *more*, in fact.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] Depends on the person from high school, I guess.

SALLY: Yeah. That's true. I went to high school with some real rancid folks.

EMILY: Yeah, I think – I sure did, too. Most of them were on the – in the student government.

SALLY: Oh, that's true!

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Ugh! Oh.

EMILY: I know.

SALLY: [groaning noises]

EMILY: Being in student government in high school is, like, a precursor to just being a really unfun person at parties [laughing].

SALLY: [high-pitched, laughing] Perry was in the student government [laughs].

EMILY: I'm not – I'm not taking it back, Perry.

SALLY: [laughing, claps]

EMILY: If you're listening.

SALLY: No, it's – it's pretty funny.

EMILY: [laughs] Perry – Perry's now a principal. At school.

SALLY: No, I know. It's –

EMILY: So, like, clearly, he peaked.

SALLY: The SBO to principal pipeline.

EMILY: Heh! SBO I – I forgot about that.

SALLY: Student body officer, baby!

EMILY: [laughs] Stupid. They're dumb sweaters.

SALLY: Yeah, Perry's – my high school colors were blue and orange

EMILY: Ew.

SALLY: So, all of Perry's were, like, this *horrific* orange that went *super* great with his red hair.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: He looked *stellar*.

EMILY: I bet.

SALLY: Yeah. Nobody looked as cool as him. Oh Perry.

EMILY: Oh Perry. Anyway.

SALLY: Huh!

EMILY: So, that's – having said that, we cut back to Egwene after receiving her parade of visitors, just sort of, like, meditating.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And sort of thinking, "I don't know if I feel great about sending Bode Cauthon to go do this very dangerous task."

SALLY: Yes.

EMILY: She, noticeably, brings up – she's like, "Bodewhin isn't older – is older, in fact, than me when I got sent to hunt the Black Ajah." And it's interesting, because she's not like, "I should not have been sent to hunt the Black Ajah." She uses that as justification for why it's okay to send Bode, but the fact that she then goes and takes Bode's place sort of seems to indicate that maybe she doesn't feel as good about it after all.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: But mostly she's like, "I'm the Amyrlin Seat. I'm responsible for these people."

SALLY: Mm.

EMILY: So, really I should go and – I should go. So she has Siuan fetch Bela the horse and she gallops all the way to where the boats are, where Bela – where Bode is. Um, and Bode's like,

“Um? Hewwo?” And Egg’s like, “Yeah, just don’t worry about it. Just wait here. I’ll go do it real quick.”

SALLY: I know. Egg is not intentionally an asshole to Bode.

EMILY: No.

SALLY: But she’s like, “I’m just better at this than you are.”

EMILY: [laughing] I know.

SALLY: And Bode is like –

EMILY: “Thanks.”

SALLY: “Okay.”

EMILY: “Oh, okay.”

SALLY: And Egg is like, “You just need to practice more.” Trying to make it better. Just –

EMILY: Egg’s like, “I mean, I just mean I’m the Amyrlin Seat.” And I’m like, “Egg. Just – you can’t say everything perfect.”

SALLY: Yeah. Just shh.

EMILY: You can just be like, “Listen, kid.”

SALLY: Listen, kid. I’m eighteen, you’re seventeen.

EMILY: [laughs] Listen, kid.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Exactly like an eighteen-year-old speaking to a seventeen-year-old.

SALLY: Listen.

EMILY: [making an inhaling sound]

SALLY: Baby.

EMILY: [in a gruff voice] Listen, kid.

SALLY: Hitting the vape [laughs].

EMILY: [laughs] Cotton candy vape.

SALLY: Yeah, Egg rolling around Tar Valon with her cotton candy vape.

EMILY: Anyway, Egg gets in her little boat and is rowed over to the harbor chains, presumably Leanne is at the other one.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Um, and she turns the harbor chains to *cuendillar*, like, super fast.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: So, it's, um, you know. Of course Robert Jordan is going to justify this narrative decision, but obviously if it had been Bode, she wouldn't have been able to get as much or any of the harbor chain changed, so, it's ultimately better in the service of the siege that Egg was there.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: *Except* that – what?

SALLY: Does – so does Leanne only get, like, half of it?

EMILY: Yeah I think so.

SALLY: Because I remember – okay, I didn't know if both Egg and Leanne only got half of their chains, or apparently Egg got all of it. I just missed that.

EMILY: I think Egg got all her chain and Leanne only did half.

SALLY: No, that makes sense.

EMILY: And so there's still, like, access to Tar Valon, but now it's, like, a funnel point.

SALLY: Okay. Okay. I just –

EMILY: I believe.

SALLY: I'm just trying to remember. That's not a relevant plot point. This would be super nice to the siege, except Egg gets snatch-ed.

EMILY: Yeah, Egg, like, hears a noise and Channeling and gets thumped. DUN DUN. And, as always happens when someone loses consciousness, there are no ill effects whatsoever.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: She just wakes up several minutes later with, like, voices being like, “Ah, look what we caught [witchy laugh].”

SALLY: I know. It’s so haunting and creepy.

EMILY: [laughs] I know. And they’re like – they make her drink some forkroot and then she loses consciousness again. And she’s like, her last thoughts are like, “I’ve been betrayed, but by whom?” And it’s like, Nicola, obviously. Who ran away? Who did you – narratively who’s the Chekhov’s Gun here?

SALLY: I think it’s Beonin. Isn’t that right?

EMILY: I don’t know. It could also be Beonin.

SALLY: Beonin is – I know she’s a spy for Elaida.

EMILY: Beonin gives Elaida Traveling. I remember that.

SALLY: Yeah, that’s right. Maybe that’s what I’m thinking of. Beonin was also a snitch.

EMILY: Beo – yeah. Beonin sucks.

SALLY: Um.

EMILY: So does Nicola. Basically everyone sucks. I don’t know what to tell you guys. That’s been this whole book.

SALLY: Yeah, and I feel like it is a really powerful moment when Egg is like. “I can’t ask Bode to do something that is dangerous.”

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Because that is, um – and is – it also could be this really interesting moment of her being like – maybe not – getting sort of halfway to the point of realizing that Suan treated her, Nynaeve, and Elayne very badly, you know?

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: And sort of recognizing the way that the Tower asks so much from young women in particular, and you’re just, like, yes you are learning that the system of which you are a part of is corrupt in a lot of ways. And it does, like, have that significance, but it also feels a little cheapened to me, because it’s also very obviously a plot point to get Egg in the boat instead of just having Bode be in the boat, you know?

EMILY: Yeah. Yeah. I don’t know. I don’t know how they could have changed it. How Robert Jordan could have fixed that except by having Egg have an epiphany.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Or I guess maybe just being like, “There’s no alternatives after Kairen gets murdered.”

SALLY: Yeah, like, Egg is the only one who could do it fast enough.

EMILY: Yeah, who knows, but yeah. I agree. It just sort of becomes this thing that’s more about affirming Egg’s identity as the Amyrlin Seat.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Which has just been done so much already and is going to be done so much in her White Tower arc. Like, that’s the whole thing is her just being like, “No matter what you do to me, I’m the Amyrlin Seat.”

SALLY: Right.

EMILY: And it’s like, yeah. Fine. Okay. I don’t really, um, give that much credence to positions of authority, blah, blah, blah. But, like, I don’t need it to be thrown in my face *that* much for me to get it.

SALLY: Yeah. And, like, I’ve already gotten it.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: I’ve already – like, I’ve spent so much time with Egg as she, like, navigated getting war powers and stuff. It’s like, yeah. I know you’re in charge.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Other people don’t, but I do.

EMILY: You don’t have to keep telling me.

SALLY: And I also don’t mean to sound, like, so cynical. Like, I understand how books work. You do have to occasionally have plot devices to move things from one point to another.

EMILY: [laughs] Yeah.

SALLY: But it just feels like this moment could have a little bit more significance if it wasn’t – if perhaps we got all the way to Egg being like, “I’ve been treated very badly.” You know? “But I’m still going to do this, because I still believe in x,y, and z. I don’t know.

EMILY: Yeah, I agree. This could have been a more emotional climax rather than just a narrative one.

SALLY: Yeah! Of her just being like, “Gotta be me in the boat.”

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: At least they didn’t snatch Bode. We can’t have so many Cauthons –

EMILY: Fucking Cauthons getting kidnapped in Tar Valon.

SALLY: All the time.

EMILY: Maybe then Bode could have had –

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Riotous escape attempt from Tar Valon.

SALLY: Yeah. Bode also just eats her way through the White Tower.

EMILY: Yeah [laughs].

SALLY: And they’re like, “What is up with this family?” [laughs]

EMILY: What happened? To them?

SALLY: What’s going on? Bode also discovers luck powers.

EMILY: Yeah. Egg rings up Mat and is like, “Your sister’s being held captive in Tar Valon.” And Mat’s like [laughing], “Tell her here’s my record for escape.”

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing], “If she can beat it, I’ll owe her a hundred dollars or something.”

SALLY: Oh, that would be so good, actually.

EMILY: That’s real sibling energy.

SALLY: Bode being like, “I’ll do anything.” Even if it was twenty bucks. If your older brother was like –

EMILY: I know. I would do anything to get one over on my siblings.

SALLY: [laughing] I know! I know!

EMILY: So funny.

SALLY: Be like, “I have to beat him.”

EMILY: You should see us when my mom is like, “I’ll pay two dollars to whoever wins this game of Trouble.”

SALLY: Ooh.

EMILY: It’s a game purely based on luck, but [laughing] we all act like it’s –

SALLY: Like it’s skill.

EMILY: [laughing] based on skill.

SALLY: And strategy.

EMILY: The trash talking that goes on. Um, so that’s the end of Egg’s arc. The sort of lingering question mark is, I think, less about how Egg will fare in the White Tower, because it’s fairly obvious that she’ll be fine.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Than how the rebel Aes Sedai will fare without Egg, you know?

SALLY: Because it’s pretty obvious that they are already in shambles.

EMILY: Yeah, they’re just, like, fucked generally.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: It’s all just the Ro – the Romanda and Lelaine show and both of those women suck, so.

SALLY: [softly] Yeah. Well, I mean in charge you’ve got Romanda, Lelaine, Sheriam, and Siaun Sanche?

EMILY: Sheriam, who’s in shambles slash the Black Ajah and Siuan Sanche who – like, no offense girl, but you didn’t do so hot the first time around, so.

SALLY: Yeah, and that point you weren’t dealing with compulsory heterosexuality, so.

EMILY: Yeah, jeez. Jeez! Anyway, we then get a very brief epilogue, which is just Bashere showing up to Rand and being like, “Okay, well Seanchan accepted. We can meet with them.” And Rand’s like, “Great. With this bitch Suroth?” And Bashere’s like, “No, apparently some of the royal family’s in town, so we’re gonna be with some girl called Daughter of the Nine Moons.” And [laughs] thunder rumbles in the distance or whatever, because we know Daughter of the Nine Moons ain’t there.

SALLY: Daughter of the Nine Moons is in a wagon in a circus.

EMILY: Yeah, so who's – who's Suroth, you know, saying is the Daughter of the Nine Moons. It's obviously going to be a trap, but it's like, even if it was really Tuon, I wouldn't really have a lot of hope for the outcome of this negotiation [laughs].

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: So, I don't know what you expect me to be feeling about that.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: It does go badly!

SALLY: It goes super badly.

EMILY: But, like, more badly than if he just met with the Seanchan? Sort of an ethical dilemma. Sort of a trolley problem. Either you lose your hand, or you lose your entire moral standing, so that's [laughing] *Crossroads of Twilight*.

SALLY: Oh, Semirhage.

EMILY: I guess.

SALLY: That's *Crossroads of Twilight*.

EMILY: Ends not with a bang, but a whimper.

SALLY: Do not go gently into that good night.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Is that the same poem?

EMILY: No.

SALLY: Dammit.

EMILY: What's "not with a bang, but with a whimper" from? God.

SALLY: I don't know the name of the poem.

EMILY: [sighing] I'm gonna look it up.

SALLY: I remember what the page in my textbook looked like when it was that page.

EMILY: Oh, it's "The Hollow Men" by T.S. Eliot.

SALLY: Oh. Mr. Eliot.

EMILY: So, Eliot versus, um, Dylan?

SALLY: Yeah, I think it's Dylan. Thomas Dylan?

EMILY: Dylan Thomas.

SALLY: Dylan Thomas.

EMILY: I know. Two first names, two last names.

SALLY: There's a literary cage match for you.

EMILY: Yeah, we've been citing a lot of literary people here.

SALLY: I don't even know that much about Dylas Thomas – Dyl – whatever the fuck his name is [laughs].

EMILY: Dylan Thomas.

SALLY: Dylan Thomas. To say whether he'd beat T.S. Eliot in a fight.

EMILY: I think he was Welsh and perhaps an alcoholic.

SALLY: Well.

EMILY: But I could be thinking of someone else.

SALLY: That's – yeah, could describe several big poets.

EMILY: Yeah. A lot of them were pretty substance dependent. Um, Dylan Thomas. No, not history. Search website. Dy-lan Tho-mas. He was a – oh – Welsh poet.

SALLY: Good job, Emily.

EMILY: Point one for me. Oh! He died at thirty-nine.

SALLY: Oh, that's sad.

EMILY: That is sad. Look at him.

SALLY: Yeah. Look at those eyes.

EMILY: Look at his nose. He's got one of those – those cute noses that's all round at the end. Um, it says he died at thirty-nine in New York City. "By then he had acquired a reputation, which he encouraged, as a roistering, drunken, and doomed poet." So I think I was right about him being an alcoholic, too. God damn.

SALLY: Well, maybe he would beat T.S. Eliot, then.

EMILY: I don't feel like it would be hard to beat T.S. Eliot.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughing] Might be a controversial statement, but.

SALLY: No, T.S. Eliot seems a little bit like a wimp.

EMILY: I feel like he, yeah, is kind of wimpy. He did write tons of, like, cat poems, you know?

SALLY: Yeah. T.S. Eliot is who we have to thank for *Cats*, the musical.

EMILY: Yeah, so not only do I think, um, T.S. Eliot would be easily beat, but I think [laughing] he should be.

SALLY: [laughs] I think he should be beaten up.

EMILY: Um.

SALLY: Should we do our favorite, least favorite characters for the whole book?

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Okay. Presuming I can remember anything that happened.

EMILY: [laughing] Yeah, I don't remember any nice characters in this book. Um, let's see. Well, least favorite is probably easier. Um, [sighs] I guess my least favorite was Perrin.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: He really was just – every moment I spent with him I wished I wasn't.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And that's really hard.

SALLY: That is really hard, Perrin was one of my contenders, too.

EMILY: Mm.

SALLY: He's just, like, so painful in this book in particular.

EMILY: Who's another contender?

SALLY: Tuon, obviously.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Um...

EMILY: Elayne! I forgot she was in this book.

SALLY: Yeah. Elayne is a rough one in this one, too.

EMILY: God dammit.

SALLY: Um, the sections we get with Rand are also really painful, because he's just, like, refusing to address any of his problems.

EMILY: Yeah, it's bad when, like, four out of six of your main characters –

SALLY: [laughing]

EMILY: Are really tough.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Right now.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: [clears throat]

SALLY: My contenders for favorite character are, naturally, side characters.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Noal.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Grady and Neald, sort of a package deal [laughs].

EMILY: [laughs] Yeah, they're great.

SALLY: Grady and Neald, all one word. Um. Bashere, obviously.

EMILY: Mm. Classic.

SALLY: Um, Mat is s – on thin ice, but he still has some funny moments, like the dancing with the ghosts.

EMILY: Oh, yeah. Dobraine.

SALLY: Ah, Dobraine!

EMILY: Who's only screen time was that he was bleeding to death.

SALLY: Yeah, he was almost murdered.

EMILY: But, like, I liked how upset everyone was when he almost died, because I too was upset.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: Um, I think mine would be Bashere.

SALLY: [softly] Ugh, Bashere. I love that man.

EMILY: I know.

SALLY: He's just so small and...cute.

EMILY: And sexy.

SALLY: And sexy.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: He is very sexy.

EMILY: Did we have Ituralde at the beginning of this book?

SALLY: [gasps] If we did have Ituralde that will be my favorite character.

EMILY: Switching to him.

SALLY: He's also very sexy.

EMILY: If he – yeah. Fuck yeah he is! He's at the beginning.

SALLY: Oh my god. I can't believe that was at the beginning of this book.

EMILY: I know. Ituralde for *sure*. And that was, like, six hundred pages ago, so no wonder we're sick of this shit.

SALLY: Yeah. Well, Ituralde is extremely sexy when he rolls up with his beauty mark and his big ruby earring and he's like, "I'm five feet flat" [laughs].

EMILY: I know and like –

SALLY: "And I'm gonna knock the Seanchan on their ass."

EMILY: Well, fuck me.

SALLY: So, we'll have two of the great generals as our favorite characters.

EMILY: Oh god.

SALLY: My close second is Noal, who's just sort of popping out of the shadows and threatening to murder people [laughs].

EMILY: Literally. Or, like, fishing.

SALLY: Yeah [laughs].

EMILY: And you're like, "Okay?"

SALLY: What a weird old man.

EMILY: Chaotic little gremlin.

SALLY: Wow, what a book.

EMILY: What a book indeed.

SALLY: That we had to go to the prologue to find a favorite character.

EMILY: [laughing] I know. And I don't think the next one will be much better.

SALLY: No.

EMILY: *Knife of Dreams* is next on the docket. We're gonna be off next week.

SALLY: Yee.

EMILY: Like usual.

SALLY: Yee.

EMILY: Then we'll be back with the beginning of *Knife of Dreams*. At some point between this episode's release and the next episode's release, our reading schedule will go up online if you like to follow along, but almost guaranteed we will be reading the prologue.

SALLY: I know.

EMILY: And probably – if...we even get through the whole prologue. I don't know how long it is in *Knife of Dreams*.

SALLY: I think it's also pretty s – I think it's pretty lengthy.

EMILY: Okay.

SALLY: The only thing I remember is that Galad kills a rapist.

EMILY: Oh ho ho. Maybe Galad will be our favorite character next book.

SALLY: Good job, Damodred.

EMILY: Yeah. Really bringing it.

SALLY: Really bringing it.

EMILY: Um, but *Knife of Dreams* is the last of the Jordan books.

SALLY: I know.

EMILY: Which will be – or, I should say the fully Jordan books, which will be interesting, I guess.

SALLY: Yeah, we have only –

EMILY: Four books to go.

SALLY: Four books to go, which is crazy to think about in general, but we have only one book to go until the brawn – the brawn. The *dawn* of Branderson.

EMILY: The dawn of Branderson. And if you guys test me, boy, [laughing] I'll skip *Knife of Dreams*, too.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: [laughs] No, I won't. Too many things happen.

SALLY: Ah, that would be so funny.

EMILY: Maybe I'd skip *Gathering Storm*.

SALLY: Unfortunately, a lot of plot relevant things happen in *Knife of Dreams*.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: But!

EMILY: Tragically.

SALLY: Then, we will enter the era of Brando himself. We're in our Brando period.

EMILY: Yeah.

SALLY: Like Picasso's blue period.

EMILY: [laughs] Okay. Thanks, guys, for listening.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: To this *stupid* episode in this stupid season. God dammit.

SALLY: Of this stupid podcast.

EMILY: This stupid podcast [laughs].

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Um, I was about to say, "I've been Emily Jucahu" [laughs].

SALLY: Oh, that would be good.

EMILY: Like the fucking artist formerly known as.

SALLY: I've been Emily Juchau.

EMILY: And Sally's been Lord Byron

SALLY: Lord Byron [laughs].

EMILY: Thanks to Glynna MacKenzie for our theme song and thanks to our patrons on Patreon and our followers on social media.

SALLY: You guys are the best. You are the bees knees.

EMILY: Do you have a sign off?

SALLY: Bees?

EMILY: *Bees?* [laughs]

SALLY: [laughs] Oh, let's see. What's happened this week?

EMILY: I always do my dad not knowing what Tolstoy book I was reading.

SALLY: [laughs] That's a good one. You should do that one.

EMILY: Okay.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: I have one. I'm reading *War and Peace*, which is a book that *sucks*.

SALLY: She's very literary and brave.

EMILY: Yeah, I'm trying to be like, "Look, I've read the fucking longest book in existence." I don't know why. I think I hate myself. But, you know, I respect Russian literature and all I've really read is Dostoevsky, so wanted to try out Tolstoy. Anyway, I tell my dad that I'm reading *War and Peace*. And he's like, "Ah! My favorite – I have a favorite character in that book. Do you wanna know who it is?" And I'm like, "Yeah, Dad. I'd love to know who it is so I have something to look forward too in this ceaseless slog about the Napoleonic Wars."

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: And he's like, "Great. His name is Levin. You'll love him." And I'm like, "Okay." I'm, like, thirty-five percent of the way through the book, but it's, like, a two-thousand-page book, so this guy Levin could show up any time.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: A couple days later I'm reading *War and Peace*, more like forty-five percent of the way through now. And I'm like, "Still no sign of this guy named Levin. What's – what's up with that?" Maybe he's like a late addition, but I'm beginning to suspect. So I go on Sparknotes dot com and I look at the character list.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Scroll through it. No sign of anyone named Levin. And I'm like [laughs], "What could this mean?" I Google "Leo Tolstoy Levin." First hit: *Anna Karenina*.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: I text Chris like, “Dude. Levin’s not in this book. I feel so betrayed [laughs]. Now I have nothing to look forward to.” And he’s like, “Oh...well, I love Levin.”

SALLY: [laughs] I will say, I’m impressed that he – that at least it was another Tolstoy book. Like, at least it wasn’t, like, a Dickens character.

EMILY: [laughs]

SALLY: Or something.

EMILY: A Dostoevsky character.

SALLY: Yeah, that he assumed was in *War and Peace*. Like, he got Tolstoy right. The Tolstoy Cinematic Universe.

EMILY: I was mostly impressed at his, like, shamelessness. Because if someone had – if I’d made that mistake. I’d been like, “Boy, I’m gonna be thinking about this for the next four years.”

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: My literary credentials are out the window.

SALLY: Yeah.

EMILY: But I guess my dad’s never really had any shame when it comes to that. He once argued with me and my sister, both of us English majors, in a Buca di Beppo for thirty minutes about whether James Joyce deserved to be in the literary canon.

SALLY: Oh boy.

EMILY: Before telling us that he had not, in fact, ever read James Joyce. Classic.

SALLY: [singing] Who can say –

EMILY: [laughing, singing] Where the road goes. Well, so, guys.

SALLY: Okay!

EMILY: Go read *Anna Karenina*.

SALLY: Go read *Anna Karenina*.

EMILY: I guess. And report back to me about whether Levin is a decent character, because I'll never know. Fucking Tolstoy.

SALLY: This is now Everybody Loves Levin.

EMILY: Everybody Loves Levin.

SALLY: An *Anna Karenina* podcast.

EMILY: Shut up.

SALLY: [laughs]

EMILY: Goodbye