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| 00:00:01 | Dan | Host | On this episode of <i>The Flop House</i> —a very special <i>Flop House</i> in theaters! We discuss... <i>Star Wars: Rise of Skywalker</i> . |
| 00:00:13 | Elliott | Host | Stuart gives it 2 thumbs... somewhere! |
| 00:00:17 | Stuart | Host | <i>[Laughs.]</i> Oh, man. <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> <i>[Through laughter]</i> You don't wanna know. |
| 00:00:20 | Music | Music | Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments. |
| 00:00:46 | Dan | Host | Hey, everyone, and welcome to <i>The Flop House</i> ! I'm Dan McCoy. |
| 00:00:49 | Stuart | Host | <i>[With vaguely twangy accent]</i> Oooh. Hey there, Dan! It's me, Stuart Wellington! <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 00:00:52 | Elliott | Host | That was a little bit of a cowboy— |
| 00:00:53 | Stuart | Host | <i>[With deliberately twangy accent]</i> Oh, hey there! |
| 00:00:55 | Elliott | Host | —angling. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 00:00:55 | Stuart | Host | Ohh, let's mosey on over to this cantina! <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> |
| 00:00:58 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Stuart: We're all— |
| 00:01:00 | Elliott | Host | Dan: Well— |
| 00:01:02 | Dan | Host | Well. As the sun goes down over <i>Flop House</i> town— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 00:01:04 | Dan | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> We— |
| 00:01:06 | Elliott | Host | That's really the first thing you can think of? <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 00:01:07 | Dan | Host | We amble on down to the Catfish Creek to— <i>[though laughter]</i> catch ourselves dinner. <i>[Laughs.]</i> <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 00:01:11 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: I don't—I dunno. |
| 00:01:12 | Elliott | Host | Elliott: I mean, we should— |
| 00:01:12 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | We should've caught dinner— Elliott: —before the sun went down. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| | | | Dan: We shoulda done it earlier. Yeah. <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> |
| 00:01:13 | Dan | Host | Well it depends on what— |
| 00:01:15 | Stuart | Host | It's gonna be more difficult— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> —doing night fishing, but you know what? Nothing tastes better than a 1AM meal! <i>[Laughs.]</i> <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> |
| 00:01:19 | Elliott | Host | I mean, the hard part's gonna be building the fire when it's dark out— |
| 00:01:22 | Dan | Host | Well, I mean, the question is what— |
| 00:01:24 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: —time—what time of year is it? <i>[Laughs.]</i> |

Stuart: We called the fourth meal over at, uh—

[Elliott laughs.]
 Over at Taco Bell.

00:01:25 Stuart Host
 00:01:27 Dan Host
 00:01:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Dan: —as it is right now— *[Laughs.]*

00:01:31 Elliott Host
Elliott: You're right, Dan. It's—
 —late in the year so it gets darker earlier. Who wants to eat dinner
 at 3PM out on the range?

[Stuart laughs.]

00:01:38 Stuart Host
 I'm Elliott Kalan, by the way.
 Though, uh... to quote my father at 3PM there's less of a crowd—

[Dan laughs.]

—so the restaurant's better, obviously! *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]
 00:01:45 Elliott Host
 You're right. The late— *[though laughter]* the river, it's easier to get
 a table by the river where the catfish are a-jumping.

00:01:50 Stuart Host
 Uh-huh.
 00:01:51 Elliott Host
 What'd ya call it? A "crick" earlier?
 00:01:53 Dan Host
[Through laughter] Yep. A crackling crick.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:01:56 Elliott Host
 Okay. Let's—
 Wait, the creek is crackling?

[All laugh.]
 00:01:58 Dan Host
 It's—it's crack-a-lacklin. Um—

[Elliott laughs.]

[Through laughter] Let's—
 00:02:01 Elliott Host
 That—and that would be the moment when the sheriff—
 00:02:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Elliott: — shoots you.

Stuart: I don't wanna—

[All laugh.]
 00:02:05 Stuart Host
 I don't wanna unpack-a-lack that joke, Dan! *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]
 00:02:09 Dan Host
 Um, so we're all together here. In my, uh, suddenly very hot
 apartment.

00:02:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk
Elliott: Yeah. We're *[singing to the tune of The Beatles' "All
 Together Now"]* all together now—all together now!

00:02:16 Elliott Host
Stuart: oh, yeah. It's steaming.
[Still singing] On this episode! Of *The Flop House*. And... it's kind of
 impromptu so we don't have it planned the way we normally doooo!

00:02:24 Dan Host Yeah, this is gonna be a slightly, uh, different episode of *The Flop House*. Number one—

00:02:28 Stuart Host Yeah, we're trying things out, y'know? Mixing it up!

00:02:30 Elliott Host Mm-hm.

00:02:31 Dan Host Uh, I guess. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

Or maybe it's just that we sort of, like, threw this together at the last minute 'cause Elliott was gonna be in town. But um...

00:02:37 Elliott Host I was in town for my cousin's wedding and we all happened—

00:02:40 Dan Host Well, you are in town currently.

00:02:41 Elliott Host Uh, not—

00:02:41 Dan Host I know you're speaking to the listener, but.

00:02:43 Elliott Host I mean, when this—

00:02:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —episode's released—

Stuart: Do you think—

00:02:44 Elliott Host —I may still be in town.

00:02:45 Stuart Host Do you think *My Cousin's Wedding* was the planned sequel for *My Cousin Vinny*?

[Elliott laughs.]

00:02:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I—wait—but Vinny—oh, were—yeah, where we finally see Vinny—

Dan: Do I think that? *[Laughs.]*

Stuart: Yeah, do you ever think that?

[Dan laughs.]

00:02:53 Elliott Host Where we finally—

00:02:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —see Vinny get married—

Dan: Probably.

00:02:55 Elliott Host —to Marisa Tomei. But here's the thing—this time—

00:02:57 Stuart Host Go on.

00:02:57 Elliott Host Vinny's in jail.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

And Marisa Tomei has to argue the case to get him out. Because only a fool would represent himself in court—

[Dan laughs.]

And Vinny is no fool, as seen in *My Cousin Vinny*, in which that fast-talking New York wiseguy—not actually a wiseguy, but you know what I mean—he manages to pull one over on those smooth Southern slicksters. *[Laughs.]*

00:03:18 Dan Host Yeah. Seems so nice—

00:03:20 Stuart Host Wait, wait. Wait, they're slick Southerners?

[Dan laughs.]

00:03:21 Elliott Host Well, the lawyer is!

00:03:22 Stuart Host Y'know? Okay.

00:03:24 Dan Host Vinny seems so nice in that movie. But then I saw *The Irishman* recently? And, like, he—I don't know what time happened to him, but he was really mean to people!

00:03:30 Stuart Host Well... I mean, I don't—I wouldn't describe him as not nice—

00:03:34 Dan Host *[Elliott and Dan laugh.]*
[Through laughter] Okay.

00:03:35 Elliott Host He's—he—he wants to make—he wants to be friends with the Irishman's daughter really badly, y'know? And obviously being spurned in the friendship of a kid, uh—

00:03:43 Dan Host He's relatively patient with, uh... with Al Pacino. *[Through laughter]* Considering.

00:03:47 Stuart Host And he's—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:03:50 Dan Host And he's very wrinkly at one point. *[Laughs.]*

00:03:51 Elliott Host That's true.
They're all very wrinkly. I—it's—*The Irishman* is the movie where I spent the first 40 minutes being like, how old is Robert De Niro supposed to be? Because it looks like he's in his 50s—

[Stuart laughs.]

—but they're all calling him “The Kid” and he just got back—

[Dan laughs.]

—from the war. *[Laughs.]*

00:04:03 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah. There's that bit where he, uh, where he beats up that shopkeeper and he like, curbstomps.

[All laugh.]

[Through laughter] And it's the—the fakest thing I've ever seen.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:04:10 Elliott Host It—it—he's worried that his corset's gonna pop—

[Dan laughs.]

—if he—if he lifts his leg too high.

[Stuart laughs.]

00:04:14 Dan Host Well, we've derailed ourselves almost immediately. But—

00:04:17 Elliott Host We're talking about *The Irishman*, right?

00:04:17 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* The point is—alright. Number one, we're doing—

00:04:20 Elliott Host Also, Robert De Niro? I think is Italian!

[Dan laughs.]

00:04:23 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Wait, what?

00:04:24 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Hold on!

00:04:25 Stuart Host Uh, I think you need to look at the chyron again, Elliott. *[Laughs.]*

00:04:28 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Good point.

00:04:29 Dan Host Uh, number one, this episode is gonna be slightly different 'cause we sorta threw it together 'cause Elliott's in town.

00:04:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Number two—we're—

00:04:34 Elliott Host **Elliott:** And we—we realized—
00:04:36 Dan Host —we had all seen the same movie.
Yes. We're talking about... uh... *Rise of, uh, Skywalker?*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:04:43 Elliott Host 'Cause we all have thoughts about it.
Everyone rises. Dark Knights. Planet of the Apes. Eventually,
Skywalker was going to.

00:04:48 Dan Host You know what? Normally we don't see movies in theaters, but
uh—well, we do, but not—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:04:54 Elliott Host —for the podcast. *[Laughs.]*
We frequently—well, you guys frequently see movies in theaters.
I—I do not normally see them because it's hard for me to get out at
night.

00:04:59 Stuart Host Yeah, I mean, there's a moment in life, uh—it's like, uh, like in a
video game where the—an NPC gave me an option. I have two
options. I could, uh, go see movies, or I could have children!
[Laughs.] And I chose option A. *[Laughs.]*

00:05:11 Dan Host Yeah.

00:05:12 Elliott Host There are times when I wonder if I made the wrong choice. Then I
see those sweet wittle boys' faces and I go—

00:05:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Awww.

Stuart: And I see sweet wittle boys on the silver screen! They're—
they're similar things. *[Inaudible.]*

Dan: Both are—both are very, very popular choices.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:05:22 Elliott Host I mean, you could go see *Jojo Rabbit* and see someone who looks
just like my son on the movie screen, so—

00:05:27 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —I coulda done that. *[Laughs.]*

00:05:30 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Uh-huh. You could also see a good movie. *[Laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Whoa! Hoo!

00:05:32 Stuart Host *[Laughs.]* I hope Taika Waititi is a—

00:05:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —listener. He's—he's very cool. *[Laughs.]*

00:05:36 Elliott Host **Elliott:** No. He's never gonna listen to this.
He's too busy and cool.

00:05:37 Dan Host Yeah. We all—we all like ya, Taika. But um—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:05:40 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* The other thing—
Dan: That sounded much more dismissive than I meant it. Yeah, I
know.

[Stuart laughs.]

00:05:44 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Dan, he's not listening. *[Laughs.]* Somehow that was much worse than Dan—
—being legitimately afraid that he would hear it. Or that Stuart, I'm sorry. *[Inaudible.]*

00:05:47 Dan Host Uh, the other thing is, like... I don't know. Maybe we'll do some of our other reg—regular segments? But maybe we won't! In this episode.

00:05:56 Stuart Host Oh, wow. Keep 'em guessing.
00:05:56 Dan Host So think of this as a *Flop House After Dark*, because it is after dark 'cause it's near the Solstice.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:06:02 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* The Winter Solstice. *[Laughs.]*
[Through laughter] Get—you're really hitting that Solstice hard! Really dating the episode, Dan! Especially since this is gonna be released—at the very least—a week after the Solstice. But uh—

00:06:11 Dan Host I mean, the Solstice already—uh, that was the—was it the 21st of December?

00:06:14 Stuart Host Why are you looking at me?
00:06:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** You're a pagan. *[Laughs.]*

Stuart: It's not a— *[Laughs.]* It's not listed in my— *[Laughs.]*

00:06:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* 'Cause you're Calendar Man, Stu!
Elliott: Oh, sorry, I shouldn't have revealed that! Batman, don't—
[Laughs.] No, no.

00:06:23 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Oh boy. Batman's been listening this whole time! *[Laughs.]*
00:06:26 Stuart Host I hope Batman's not listening. We love ya, Bats. It's okay. But uh—
00:06:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Who's Batman's, uh—who's Batman's—
Stuart: —tech person? Is it like, Radio? Or—

00:06:30 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah, it was—it was the 21st.
Elliott: Uh... it's not Microchip. 'Cause that's—

Stuart: Gizmoduck?

00:06:33 Elliott Host *[Dan laughs.]*
It's—is Oracle the tech person, or just like a—like a research assistant?

00:06:37 Stuart Host Dan, who's Batman's tech person?
00:06:39 Dan Host Uh—
00:06:39 Elliott Host The Geek Squad?
00:06:39 Dan Host The one—Morgan Freeman?
00:06:42 Stuart Host Morgan Freeman.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:06:44 Elliott Host I mean—
00:06:47 Stuart Host Oh, Lucius Fox. Okay. Lucius Fox. Yeah.
Okay. Uh, we got a lot of fun here, but we're not talking about DC Comics character The Batman—

[Elliott and Dan laugh.]

00:06:54 Elliott Host We're gonna talk about *The Irishman!*
[Through laughter] Nope. He's the superhero who has the power of the Irish!

00:06:57 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Which means he's lucky, which means he's Longshot!

00:06:59 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I will—before—
00:07:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk Before—before we move on, I'll say—
Elliott: And Domino.

00:07:02 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I'm—I'm impressed that—
Y'know, we've had a lot of laughs at the expense of *The Irishman's*—

[Elliott laughs.]

—wacky digital effects, but you know what? It may just still be really good— *[Laughs.]* Despite those things. Or possibly because those things.

00:07:11 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** We don't know.

00:07:11 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Well, *The Irishman*—
—is to me—and then we'll get into what the movie we're actually talking about—it's like, when you see a band live and you're like, I love this band. I love this song. And the band is like, y'know what? We've been playing this song for 30 years. We're gonna do, kind of, like, a loose jam version of this song. And you're like? You know what? If this had been the first version I ever heard? I don't think it would've been my favorite?

But I love seeing them playing around and having fun with this thing that they do so well. And like that, to me, is *The Irishman*? Is Martin Scorsese's like, I've done this story before. I'm gonna do the kind of thing where I, like, play around with it and I just take my time with it and just—I do things that normally I would cut out because I'm trying to make this movie—

00:07:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Mm-hm. Like a scene where two characters—

00:07:47 Stuart Host **Elliott:** —punchy.
00:07:50 Elliott Host —talk about, uh, cereal preferences.
Yeah. Well—so frankly, I—my favorite parts are the fact that Joe—that Joe Pesci cannot become friends with Robert de Niro's daughter, and Jimmy Hoffa so naturally becomes friends with de Niro's daughter—

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

—and I'm like, I wanna see a movie about that! About these two corrupt guys fighting over the friendship *[though laughter]* of this adolescent girl! And there's nothing creepy about it? It's literally just that, like, this girl is, like, they just want—the thing that childless old men have where they're like, oh I need the life that comes from being around a young person. Uh, you guys will know what it's like. Anyway, eventually.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:08:21 Stuart Host But— *[Laughs.]* But just the, uh—
Wait, does that make me Hoffa or Joe Pesci?

00:08:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan laughs.]*
Elliott: Look, everyone decides whether to be a Hoffa or Pesci.

00:08:28 Dan Host **Dan:** I think— I—*[Laughs.]* Look.
Between the two of us, I think we both know who a—a child *[though laughter]* would naturally find—

[Stuart laughs.]
—warm and approachable. *[Laughs.]*

00:08:36 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
I don't know, Dan. I would refer you to, again, when you would come over for dinner and you and Sammy would watch *The Muppets* together—

00:08:41 Dan Host That's true.

00:08:41 Elliott Host But uh, the—but uh—

00:08:43 Dan Host Well, your son is a very special child.

00:08:45 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Yeah. Hey, what's that supposed to mean?

00:08:47 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah! You're warm, whereas—
—I might be... cool?

[Elliott laughs.]

00:08:53 Elliott Host Put on Mr. Freeze costume, blast ice all over the place? *[Laughs.]*
So I guess it's— *[Laughs.]*

00:08:53 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Whoa!

[Stuart laughs.]
This is my apartment, Stuart!

00:08:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Elliott laughs.]*
Stuart: *[Through laughter]* Not anymore! *[Laughs.]*

Dan: *[Through laughter]* You gotta defrost this whole place!
[Laughs.]

00:09:00 Dan Host **Elliott:** It's okay. It'll melt. It'll melt, Dan. It'll melt.
Yeah, but then the *[though laughter]* water damage?

[Stuart laughs.]

00:09:01 Elliott Host Yeah. Well, that you'll have to deal with. Sure.

00:09:03 Stuart Host Yeah, that's one thing that Batman doesn't really talk about—

[Dan laughs.]
—is the water damage caused by Mr. Freeze's—

[Elliott laughs.]
—bullshit.

00:09:08 Elliott Host And that's the real crime. That uh—I—so I guess what I'm saying is I wish *The Irishman* was called *The Irishman's Daughter*—

[All laugh.]

[though laughter]—and it was just these two old gangsters fighting over the friendship of this kid. But okay. It's the jam band version. Okay. But we're here to talk about *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*. The possibly final chapter in the *Star Wars* saga. Of course we know it won't be. We'll—there's money to be made in—

00:09:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —them there hills.

00:09:29 Stuart Host **Stuart:** According to a word on the street—

00:09:32 Dan Host —it was a huge financial flop, right?

00:09:35 Elliott Host Uh... what—this one? [Laughs.]

00:09:35 Dan Host I—I—

00:09:38 Elliott Host Well, it did make the least of the three new movies. But he—but it's also like—one, I'm sure it was disappointing to them? But also, I remember when *Last Jedi* came out and they were like, didn't do the business that *Force Awakens* did! Looks like *Star Wars* is slipping! It was like, yeah, dude. *Force Awakens* was the first new *Star Wars* movie in, what, 15 years? Of course—releasing another movie a year or two later, of course it's not gonna be as exciting! And people aren't gonna rush out to see it.

00:09:58 Stuart Host Like, Han Solo's in that shit, dude!

[Elliott laughs.]

00:10:02 Dan Host People love him! [Laughs.]

00:10:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk People do love Han Solo. That's—

Elliott: Once Han Solo— [Laughs.] They—they—lo—and anyway.

Stuart: Except for Harrison Ford. [Laughs.]

00:10:07 Elliott Host **Dan:** Yeah, that's true.

00:10:09 Stuart Host They like Han Solo when it's Harrison Ford.

00:10:09 Elliott Host Yeah.

Because when it's someone else playing Han Solo, people are not quite so eager—

[All laugh.]

00:10:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —to see *The Adventures of Han Solo*.

00:10:16 Dan Host **Dan:** It's also one of those things where, like— [Laughs.]

[Through laughter] This guy kinda is Han Solo?

[All laugh.]

[Through laughter] You can't just slot another dude in. It's like when they've tried to make all those, like, *Pink Panther* movies without Peter Sellers. [Laughs.]

00:10:28 Elliott Host Like, the thing about the Peter Sell—about the *Pink Panther* is he's a mythic character.

[Dan laughs.]

00:10:35 Stuart Host Anyone can play him. He's like Odysseus. He's many masks. And it's like, no, it's pretty much just Peter Sellers.

00:10:35 Dan Host Mm-hm.

00:10:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk Mm-hm. Now I know that—I mean, people are gonna write in. Uh, Elliott knows that the character is, in fact, called Inspector Clouseau.

00:10:45 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Yes. I know the Pink—

00:10:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** And Pink Panther was the diamond. The diamond that was stolen by—what's David Niven's uh—

00:10:52 Dan Host **Elliott:** —thief character? Look—when I—

00:10:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I don't know. But uh—I—I've only watched that one once. 'Cause it's actually the—one of the less-funny ones—

00:10:54 Elliott Host **Elliott:** The first one?

00:10:54 Elliott Host **Dan:** The first one. The—I reached a certain age where I stopped caring whether Frankenstein was the doctor or the monster? I'm just gonna call Clouseau's character the Pink Panther since he essentially became that.

[Dan laughs.]

The same way I know Nick Charles is not *The Thin Man*; the thin man is the man he is looking for who's disappeared, but by the second movie it's like... look, we're just gonna start talking about him as if he's the thin man. Come on. So—Peter Sellers—there's no reason to call those movies the Pink Panther if it's not Peter Sellers, because the diamond is no longer a plot point.

00:11:20 Stuart Host David Niven is the bad guy—

[Dan laughs.]

—in *Time Bandits*, right?

[Elliott laughs.]

00:11:24 Elliott Host Um... no.

00:11:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** No, that's uh—

00:11:26 Elliott Host **Elliott:** That's Ralph— That's, uh, that's uh—that's—oh, why am I forgetting his name? Uh—

00:11:30 Dan Host For—for a second you said—

00:11:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Were you gonna say Ralph Richards, who plays God, yeah.

00:11:33 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Ralph Richard, who plays God. It's um... I don't know.

00:11:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Googling it right now.

Elliott: Look it up! And people are yelling—

Dan: David Warner? Or—

Elliott: Yes! It's David Warner!

00:11:40 Elliott Host **Stuart:** *[Inaudible]* God dammit.
00:11:41 Dan Host Who is much younger than David Niven.
00:11:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk Okay. Well...
Elliott: David Niven is from like the Golden Age of Hollywood.

00:11:45 Elliott Host **Dan:** That was a fun trip. *[Laughs.]* We took David Warner's from later on. Uh... anyway. So *The Rise of Skywalker!* So guys—
00:11:50 Dan Host Yeah.
00:11:50 Elliott Host We're gonna get into it. Uh—
00:11:51 Stuart Host Oh, it's like I'm avoiding talking about this movie! *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]
00:11:53 Elliott Host So basically, here's what you need to know about the—the plot of *The Rise of Skywalker*. The Emperor is back. Somehow. That's how it's explained in the movie. The Emperor came back, somehow. And he's like—
00:12:02 Dan Host Sometimes they come back! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]
00:12:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* Yes. That's true.

Dan: Emperors. *[Laughs.]*

Stuart: So, like going into it—
00:12:05 Stuart Host So going into this one, we—we're all, like, Star Wars freaks, right?
00:12:09 Elliott Host I mean, Star—it's—it's weird what kind—knowing that Star Wars is a wholly corporate-owned entity.
00:12:15 Stuart Host Uh-huh.
00:12:15 Elliott Host And it exists at this point to make money and not because it is expressing the vision of an artist.
00:12:21 Stuart Host Yeah.
00:12:21 Elliott Host It's—I have—still have such a strong emotional connection with it, and I'm still—I watched the first—I—I was very excited to watch the first movies with my son finally? And watching them, I'm like—these still cast a spell over me. And it's still amazing to me that so much of this just come out—came out of George Lucas's mind combining different—disparate elements into a story that is... y'know, phenomenally entertaining and like, moving in a way that is not—it's not necessarily meant to be? And that is... beautiful in some ways and gave all these other people the opportunity to ex—exercise their craft in really fantastic ways?
00:12:55 Stuart Host And it's also—they're also movies that, like—I feel like... for the—like, you can look at most of them and find, like, cast a critical eye on them and try and pick apart details, but at this part I have no control over my emotional attachment. Like, I—I have seen—every single Star Wars movie and I have left the movie theater not disappointed.
00:13:16 Elliott Host Mm-hm.
00:13:16 Stuart Host That includes the prequels! I can't control it. Like—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:13:24 Elliott Host I can be, like, this was dumb and silly, but I wasn't mad. *[Laughs.]*
00:13:26 Stuart Host Yeah. But when you left this one, how did you feel?
I felt very unhappy. *[Laughs.]*

00:13:28 Elliott Host So I think—Dan and—and I and you, we form a spectrum where you were very unhappy about it.

00:13:33 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:13:33 Elliott Host Dan was like, eh, Star Wars! Whatcha gonna do? And I'm kind of in the middle, where I'm like... I think I'm—not—I'm—if I was younger, I would be mad, but instead I'm just kind of like, y'know what? I'm not angry. I'm just disappointed.

00:13:44 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I'm disappointed in—

Stuart: Oh, wow. *[Laughs.]* So mature of you!

00:13:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah. *[Laughs.]*
Elliott: Because—

Dan: Well, that's— Yeah. Go on, sorry.

00:13:50 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I—I—raged and tore at my hair—
—and garments. Which was a cool Darth Maul allover print t-shirt.
[Laughs.]

[Elliott laughs.]

00:13:59 Elliott Host I don't know why I had to say “cool.” I think *[though laughter]* you guys assumed that. *[Laughs.]*
And when you said—it's redundant to say “Cool Darth Maul allover print t-shirt.” The uh—that—that it's like—oh, you were handed the reins—all the people involved—and it's easy to put this at the feet of one person, but a—a lot of people were involved. You were handed the reins of, like—this really—this—it is a franchise, but it's a special thing that holds a special place in people's hearts. And you were like, uhhhh.... I guess we'll just do it again? But we'll make it into, like, a scavenger hunt for magic objects?

00:14:25 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Which Star Wars has *never* been.

Dan: Yeah. That—we'll get into that.

00:14:28 Dan Host **Stuart:** Well—
I just, like— *[Laughs.]* There's—

00:14:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —this very MacGuffin-based Star Wars movie.

00:14:32 Elliott Host **Elliott:** The fact that they have to find—
—a magic dagger so they can read an inscription on the dagger to find the Wayfinder so that they can use the Wayfinder to find the evil planet? Where the Emperor has his huge fleet of ships that he built somehow?

00:14:41 Dan Host It's a point-and-click adventure, Elliott! *[Laughs.]*

00:14:43 Elliott Host Yeah. It does feel like a point-and-click.

00:14:44 Stuart Host The—find the fleet of Star Destroyers that all grew giant planet-destroying dicks? *[Laughs.]*

00:14:48 Elliott Host Well, it's literally— *[Elliott laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

It's—that—that are easily destroyed by just shooting 'em with B-Wings? And A-Wings? It's like if—it's like if in the first movie, Luke—and we'll get into the plot briefly. But it's like—

[Stuart laughs.]

00:15:00 Stuart Host —if the first movie, Luke and Han went to the Death Star—
[Through laughter] I love that you're mad at how easily they blew up. You're like—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:15:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk Their armor rating is much higher than the—
Stuart: —attack *[inaudible.]*

00:15:07 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Well, no, because they were built up—
—as this enormous threat, and then it's just like, oh, a couple shots just takes it out when it's time for them to be taken out. But uh—the—that uh... the—if Luke and Han went to the Death Star and they went to the cell block and they opened the door and there was a fucking mushroom man and he said, "The Princess is in another Death Star! Here is—here's a clue that'll help you find that!" The fact, in this movie, they were like—we have to find the clue to the Wayfinder! Without any sense of how ridiculous that is.

00:15:29 Dan Host I mean, like, not to jump way ahead in the movie? But, like, the—the most egregious, uh, example of that? Is when they go and like to the ruins of, like, the old Death Star off in the ocean of some planet? And they pull out the dagger? And it—the side of it—the grooves matched up with the destroyed Death Star? And I'm like, okay. Well who did this at what point, and why? *[Laughs.]*

00:15:52 Elliott Host Did it match up with the Death Star or was it like a mountain or something like that?

00:15:54 Stuart Host No, it matched up with the Death Star!

00:15:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

Elliott: Okay. Then I don't know. Some dude—

00:15:59 Elliott Host **Stuart:** It was like the—the circle part of the Death Star ruin. Well, the—I mean, it was a dagger that was held by this super tough bounty hunter everyone was afraid of, who also had the goofiest, *[though laughter]* doofiest robot sidekick!

[Dan laughs.]

That—that—was just the fact that they're, like, we're introducing a new robot. By the way, he looks like he's made out of shit. And he has no personality and he bumps into things. It's like, what the fuck is this?

00:16:15 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Let's not badmouth the best thing in the movie, Elliott.

00:16:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh, Babu Frik?

Elliott: The best—uh, the best thing—

Dan: *[Through laughter]* Okay.

00:16:20 Elliott Host —in the movie is the chimp blacksmith who welds Kylo Ren's mask back together and I was like, more of this, please!

[All laugh.]

00:16:28 Stuart Host Like, the craziest thing is that he's just a normal chimp!

00:16:31 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
[Through laughter] Yes! This is like—just a regular chimp that they've trained to do this! Because they—because—here's the thing about chimps.

00:16:37 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** *[Laughs.]* Please. *[Through laughter]* After 300 episodes, we're finally getting to the thing about chimps!

Stuart: Okay. *[Laughs.]* Wow.

00:16:43 Elliott Host **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* It's—
And this is something that I just learned this year—chimps—you can—you can teach 'em how to smoke cigarettes. But then—you don't have to—

00:16:52 Dan Host *[Dan and Stuart laugh.]*
But try and get 'em to stop! *[Laughs.]*

00:16:53 Elliott Host But the—and then you can—

[All laugh.]

[Through laughter] And then you can get them to do anything. 'Cause the trick is, they don't have the right thumbs to light a lighter. So they need you to light that cigarette. So it's not that they're trained to smoke cigarettes; it's that you can train them to do anything else you want—

[Dan laughs.]

00:17:11 Dan Host —as long as you keep supplying them with smokes.
[Through laughter] Sorry for laughing 'cause that's one of the worst things I've ever heard.

00:17:14 Elliott Host Oh, it's terrible.

[Dan laughs.]

00:17:22 Crosstalk Crosstalk But—almost as terrible as learning that all the First Order Stormtroopers who are massacred, en masse, are—were kidnapped as children and abused—
Elliott: —and forced to become Stormtroopers!

00:17:24 Stuart Host **Dan:** Child conscripts.
Yeah, I mean, the most, like—it's so crazy that he—that JJ Abrams, who wrote the—who put together the first movie and is doing the final movie, that he introduced a char—he introduced Finn, who is a, like, a Stormtrooper who we find out is like enslaved and forced to become a Stormtrooper, like a child soldier. And he... breaks himself free and his arc was not to liberate them in, like, a revolution. It's for him to go and blow 'em all up. *[Laughs.]*

00:17:50 Elliott Host Yeah. Well, that's the, uh, I mean, this—the story for this was also partly based on the Colin Trevorrow movie that didn't get made, it seems? And as we know from *The Book of Henry*, he has some interesting ideas about *[though laughter]* childhood—

[Stuart laughs.]

—and like, how children as supposed to be—done anything with? But—the—als—just that—that—like—it puts such a weird cast on the movie. And again, jumping ahead—that the main character is struggling with whether or not to kill the evilest man in the universe, who can shoot spaceship-destroying lightning out of his hands, but—

00:18:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Elliott: But people who were forced—

00:18:21 Elliott Host

Stuart: He—that's crazy! What was going on there? *[Laughs.]* But people who were forced to become soldiers, it's like—kill 'em all. Just kill 'em all. Wipe 'em out. Exterminate 'em. Like, it made me really... like, feel gross about Star Wars in general. But okay. But like—like—

00:18:31 Stuart Host

How was he shooting so much lighting? Was it 'cause he was hooked up—

00:18:32 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Stuart: —to that *Hellraiser 2* thing?

Dan: Because he drained—no, he drained the power of the Dyad of—of—

00:18:38 Elliott Host

Elliott: Because he drained—because Kylo Ren—
—and Rey have a special friendship.

00:18:39 Stuart Host

Oh, yeah.

00:18:41 Elliott Host

The way—when you're—when you have a—

00:18:42 Dan Host

They have a special relationship like we do with Great Britain.

[All laugh.]

00:18:45 Stuart Host

[Through laughter] Oh, okay.

00:18:46 Elliott Host

[Through laughter] Yeah, and he drained that! So anyway. Here's the—here's the plot, very quickly. The Emperor's back. How'd he do it? He's got magic powers. He just did it. He's got a planet of Sith that just sit around in cloaks in a stadium, waiting for him—

[Stuart laughs. Dan joins in.]

00:19:02 Dan Host

—to become all-powerful. And he's attached to, like, a big metal gantry like Cameron Hodge in Genosha—
But the thing is, like—it's—like—the wait means it's gonna be so good— *[though laughter]* when something happens.

00:19:07 Elliott Host

[Elliott laughs.]

[Through laughter] And—it's tantric warships, I guess? And uh—the—and he tells Kylo Ren, hey, I want you to bring Rey to me. Hahaha! There's—there's a secret, blah, blah, blah! And instantly, you're like—oh, is he, like, her dad or her grandpa or something? 'Cause that would be dumb, but I guess that's exactly what it is.

00:19:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Uh—to find this secret Sith planet, you need a Wayfinder. Which is a magic Triforce type of triangle. So the heroes of the movie have to find this Wayfinder, which means finding a magic dagger, which means finding—so they can find the—which has inscribed on it the information where the Wayfinder is. And then they find—

Elliott: —the Wayfinder.

Stuart: Did you gloss over—

00:19:40 Stuart Host —the part where, uh, Rey uses her magic powers to heal the angry snake?

00:19:44 Elliott Host Nope, well, because to get the dagger they've gotta go to a desert planet that is not Tatooine or Jakku. It's a different desert planet where there is some kind of Burning Man alien worship ceremony? Which was one of the few things in the movie where it was like, okay, this is great. This is something I've never seen in Star Wars before. And they leave it very quickly, uh, after a little girl gives Rey a lei and asks her her family name and she says, oh, I don't have one.

00:20:07 Stuart Host I was really hoping that little girl was gonna ask for money.

00:20:10 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
And Rey then heals a sand worm that is, uh, wounded—

00:20:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —and I was like, okay!

00:20:15 Dan Host **Dan:** Wait, we're there already?
I spaced out *[though laughter]* all of a sudden and—

00:20:16 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —we're in the middle of the movie!

00:20:18 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Well, we—we skipped a lot.
But I—but the reason I liked the sand worm was like, oh, they did manage to get some *Dune* in this Star Wars! *[Laughs.]* She's—she should be riding—

00:20:23 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —the sand worm!

00:20:24 Dan Host **Dan:** Well, there's also—
Poe used to be a spice trader, apparently! *[Laughs.]*

00:20:26 Elliott Host Well, but they're all spice traders. Like, Han was a spice—that was the whole thing that got him in trouble with Jabba! Was he dumped a shipment of spice. Right?

00:20:33 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

00:20:33 Dan Host Was it specifically spice? I thought they just talked about, like, y'know, Jabba doesn't have time for someone who dumps his cargo at the first sign of—

00:20:41 Elliott Host Maybe it was in an extended—an alter—it was in an expanded universe that they called it spice.

00:20:44 Dan Host Could be.

00:20:44 Elliott Host Maybe it was subscriptions to the Spice Network. I don't know.

00:20:47 Dan Host Oh boy.

00:20:48 Elliott Host Anyway. So uh—

00:20:49 Dan Host That is important to the universe.

00:20:50 Elliott Host The thing is, I didn't take notes while watching this movie 'cause I just watched it for funzos?

00:20:54 Dan Host Yeah, sure!

00:20:54 Elliott Host So it's gonna be—this—oh, also, uh—

00:20:56 Dan Host This is a classic *Flop House* uh, screw-around. *[Laughs.]* So.

00:20:59 Elliott Host Yeah. General—General Princess Leia has—also tells Rey—

[Dan laughs.]

00:21:13 Dan Host —with some very generic lines of dialogue that were clearly recorded before Carrie Fisher died—and were then inserted into the movie, that she needs to go off and do her thing. Like, it's all—I was easier on the movie than I think either of you? But this was, like, the first huge warning sign to me. *[Laughs.]* That just like—

having Carrie Fisher stand around, like, obviously superimposed, saying, like, whatever loose lines they had and I'm like, okay, let's write around these!

00:21:29 Elliott Host It really shows you how much Star Wars dialogue out of context is just like... generic random gibberish. That like—that you could take Yoda saying, y'know, do or do not, there is no try, and insert it into any scene—and it—like—you're like, oh, yeah, a lot of the Force philosophy stuff is just kinda like...

00:21:45 Dan Host Listeners, go ahead and do that. *[Laughs.]* Take that dialogue and insert it into any scene.

00:21:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** But in any scene from any movie.

00:21:52 Elliott Host **Dan:** I would love— *[though laughter]* I would love to see that. So—oh—so also—I'll try to go—so General Leia is, like, you gotta find—there's—we also have a spy.

00:21:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** You gotta friend *[though laughter]* in me, she says.

00:21:58 Elliott Host **Elliott:** We have a— There's a spy— *[Laughs.]* Then she sings a Randy Newman medley, which is—I mean, fine, I guess.

00:22:04 Dan Host I mean, most of it's pretty good. I think "Short People" didn't age well—

[Elliott laughs.]

—even if it was a joke at the time.

00:22:08 Elliott Host Yeah. I mean, even I love LA 'cause LA has changed quite so much over the—over the period.

00:22:11 Stuart Host So yeah, you don't know if they—if he still loves LA or if that relationship's cooled a little bit.

00:22:16 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah, exactly! Uh, and so, uh, but there's a spy in the First Order who's telling them all this stuff.

00:22:20 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** The Emperor's back.

00:22:22 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I wonder who it could be!

00:22:23 Elliott Host Is it the Emperor? Is it Kylo Ren? Who knows! *[Through laughter]* Is it—

[Dan laughs.]

It has to be one of the three speaking characters, so it's either the Emperor, Kylo Ren, Hux, or—

00:22:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Or Richard E. Grant as "new bad guy who's always been there." *[Laughs.]*

Dan: Well they can—yeah. *[Inaudible.]*

[Stuart laughs.]

00:22:33 Elliott Host And the Emperor's like, oh, I've always been around. Snoke was just my puppet! And I'm like, well, Snoke was less a puppet than a crappy CGI effect, so.

00:22:41 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I did think it, like—again—we keep leaping back and forth, but I do—

Elliott: Not crappy, I should say, but.

Stuart: Andy Serkis is listening right now. He's super mad at you.

00:22:49 Elliott Host **Elliott:** And the performance is not the problem with Snoke! The problem is that there was no reason for that to be a CGI character in the first place!

00:22:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** That's arguably true.

00:22:53 Dan Host **Dan:** Well, but I—
00:22:53 Stuart Host I also—
Except his face was really gross. Right?

00:22:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Elliott and Dan laugh.]*
Dan: That's the thing—

00:22:58 Elliott Host **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* You're right.
00:22:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk 'Cause there's never been a gross—
Elliott: —character with practical effects.

Stuart: You could see the inside part, even though you're looking at the outside like he's Jonah Hex.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:23:05 Dan Host **Dan:** Here's—here's the thing.
00:23:07 Elliott Host Here's the thing. Like...
00:23:08 Dan Host Okay! Defend Snoke!
No, I'm not—I'm not gonna—I'm just gonna say, like, the—so—
obviously we're in Star Wars.

00:23:14 Stuart Host Uh-huh. Yep. Obviously.
00:23:14 Dan Host World full—world full of—
00:23:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —a myriad—a galaxy.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:23:19 Dan Host **Stuart:** I'd say a galaxy. *[Laughs.]*
00:23:24 Elliott Host Galaxy full of great crazy aliens, interesting stuff to see—
Craliens, we call 'em.

[Dan laughs.]

00:23:27 Dan Host Crazy aliens. Crayola craliens!
00:23:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Through laughter]* Craisins? Raising that are—
Dan: —crazy somehow.

00:23:32 Dan Host **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* They have raisins, craisins, Raisinettes—
But—but the thing is, like, you got these great aliens, right, and—
but like—Palpatine is not one of 'em.

00:23:36 Elliott Host Yeah. Greliens, we call 'em. Great aliens.
00:23:38 Dan Host Pal—Palpatine looks like an earthling, even though he comes from
whatever planet.

00:23:42 Elliott Host Palpatine looks like—
00:23:44 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —the Elephant Man got a little bit of work done.

Stuart: He's—mm-hm.

Dan: But he's—

00:23:45 Dan Host Well, no, but he's like—

[*Dan and Stuart laugh.*]

00:23:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** He's like a normal—

00:23:49 Dan Host **Elliott:** [*Through laughter*] Not all the work done! [*Laughs.*]
He's a normal man who, like, Dorian Grey-style, has gotten super, like, gross 'cause he's evil. Right?

00:23:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Yeah.

00:23:54 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Uh—
I'm pretty sure because Mace Windu reflected his force lightning into his face—

[*Dan laughs.*]

00:24:00 Elliott Host —and that's when his face got all wacky.
That was one of the funnier parts of the prequels to me, where they were like, wait, you feel like you have to explain how he got old?

[*Dan laughs.*]

00:24:04 Stuart Host [*Through laughter*] Yeah! I loved that!

[*Elliott laughs.*]

00:24:06 Elliott Host That it wasn't the ravages of time?

00:24:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Aw, man. That movie—that's—that's a good one. [*Laughs.*]

Dan: But I just think it's funny—

[*Elliott laughs.*]

00:24:10 Dan Host When they like—when they reveal that Snoke is a puppet, like, it's—like—and then later on, on the planet there's like these tubes full of, like—

00:24:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —clone Snokes—

00:24:19 Dan Host **Elliott:** Snoke clones! [*Laughs.*]
—like we're at the end of *Alien: Resurrection*, and I'm like, okay, that's fun 'cause it reminds me of how weird *Alien: Resurrection* was, but like—why is Palpatine, like, cloning this made-up Snoke character—

[*Elliott laughs.*]

—as, like, a non—like, this other alien who's not—doesn't look like him—I dunno. It was very confusing to me.

00:24:37 Elliott Host Yeah. It doesn't—

00:24:38 Stuart Host Yeah. It's 'cause it's dumb. Bringing Palpatine back's dumb.

[*Dan laughs.*]

00:24:41 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** It's a dumb idea.

00:24:42 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Since Palpatine could essentially just—
Snoke could've just been Palpatine with his cloak off—

00:24:45 Dan Host [*Through laughter*] Yes.

00:24:45 Elliott Host And like—

00:24:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** [*Through laughter*] —why [*inaudible*] missed it!

00:24:48 Dan Host **Stuart:** Or a normal looking Palpatine!
00:24:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk No one would be—like—if he was, like, normal—
Stuart: —pre—like, weird Palpatine. *[Laughs.]*

00:24:52 Elliott Host **Elliott:** How many people saw the Emperor?
00:24:53 Stuart Host Was he appearing in ads?
They didn't even say his name was Palpatine in the original three movies! *[Laughs.]*
00:24:57 Elliott Host Yeah. Because he was, y'know, 'cause it's a dumb name! *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

00:25:00 Stuart Host So anyway. Uh—
They certainly don't call him "Sheev" at any point.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:25:05 Elliott Host Which is his first name.
00:25:07 Dan Host Well—they also—the revelation later on—
00:25:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk Only friends.
Dan: Call him that, but.

00:25:09 Elliott Host **Elliott:** The revelation that—
—Palpatine had a family, which is also kinda crazy. *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

But uh, so—uh—so—this spy is telling them that Palpatine's back, somehow. As Poe says to the Rebels, Palpatine's back somehow.

[Dan laughs.]

00:25:21 Dan Host And the uh—
Palpatine's back, alright? He says. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:25:26 Elliott Host Everybody, You gotta rock your body. Palpatine's back.

[All laugh.]

Uh, so—they—they're gonna go on a quest. Who's gonna go on this mission? Oh! All our favorite heroes! Poe, Rey, Finn, C-3P0, Chewbacca? Not so fast, R2-D2!

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

00:25:45 Dan Host Yes, you're arguably the most lovable character in the entire series, but it's time for BB-8 to get in!
00:25:50 Elliott Host I did feel kind of like this was like—okay. This is another Grover/Elmo situation.
Exactly my thought!

[Dan laughs.]

00:25:58 Stuart Host I was—when I—when you’re—when you’re old enough and you’re like, what the fuck’s with all this Elmo stuff? *[Laughs.]* Grover’s the star! Who’s—or—like—
And they’re like, well—and somebody needs to take care of R2-D2. Rose! You stay back. *[Laughs.]*

00:26:02 Elliott Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Rose! Oh you—arguably the second-most—interesting character from the new movies, you stay over here!

00:26:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Stuart laughs.]*
First-most interesting character, of course, being that chimp blacksmith that we see in the beginning fixing Kylo Ren’s helmet. But the—like, that uh—or in *The Muppets*. Where at the end—what’s his name? Walter?
Dan: *[Through laughter]* Yes. Walter gets the freeze-frame. And you’re like, wait—

00:26:19 Dan Host **Elliott:** Gets the freeze-frame. And it’s like—Kermit’s been here the whole fucking time!

00:26:23 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
The glue that holds the Muppets together!
Which also means that later—
00:26:24 Stuart Host I—y’know, if I was ever responsible for this sort of thing, I don’t think I would ever leave Dan alone in a room with Walter. *[Laughs.]*

00:26:31 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
[Through laughter] No. You just hear a bang and you run in and Dan is shoving a gun into Walter’s hand and going, I dunno, he said something about not being worthy! And he just shot himself in the head!

[All laugh riotously.]
Dan, why are there powder burns on your hand? Oh, well, I was wrestling with him with the gun to try to get him to stop!

00:26:54 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Why is there a knife in his back also with your fingerprints on it? Uh—
Why is the handle of the gun have a monogrammed “The Real McCoy written on it?”

00:26:58 Dan Host *[All laugh.]*
It’s okay! We can—we can re-stuff him! No, I threw the stuffing down *[though laughter]* the toilet.

00:27:03 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
It was what he wanted! In his last moments he told me that it was his last wish!

[All laugh.]

00:27:07 Elliott Host 'Cause that's the magic element that brings the Muppets to life? Is the stuffing?

00:27:11 Dan Host Mm-hm.

00:27:12 Elliott Host Uh, so they—they're gonna go on this—but it w—I was—that was the—when—it was—when the Emperor—Emperor turned back I was like, came back I was like—alright, well I'm not crazy about that. But when I really turned on the movie was when they said R2-D2, uh—

00:27:25 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* Not so fast, buddy!

00:27:26 Elliott Host Not for you, buddy! And it was like, did—did Kenny Baker ask for too much money? Like, I don't understand.

[Dan laughs.]

00:27:35 Crosstalk Crosstalk So they are gonna go on this mission and the fact that Chewbacca's with them means that later on—
Dan: Wait, wait. Hold on.

00:27:36 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I feel like—I feel like most likely—
—What happened is that one commenter on Reddit was like, mmm, I don't like R2-D2 anymore.

[Dan and Elliott laugh.]

00:27:44 Dan Host And JJ's like—okay. Okay. Anything.
Maybe as the most-beloved character, R2 is the designated survivor. *[Laughs.]*

00:27:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* Okay. That's fair. That's fair. All—they're like—

Stuart: Ohhhh! Yeah, yeah.

00:27:53 Elliott Host **Dan:** Everybody else blows up, R2 is in a safe location.
No, R2. You need to stay here for future Star Wars adventures.
[Laughs.]

00:27:56 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Should we not come back.

00:27:58 Stuart Host **Stuart:** That's also—
That's also why, when they finally reveal his voice, it's Kiefer Sutherland, right?

[All laugh.]

00:28:02 Dan Host Who is the most lovable Lost Boy—*[breaks off, laughing.]*

[Stuart laughs.]

00:28:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* Certainly the most lovable Sutherland—

00:28:07 Elliott Host **Dan:** *[Through laughter]* So he's the designated survivor. *[Laughs.]*
Donald, I respect you more. But you're hard to love. *[Laughs.]*
You're a little cold. Uh—so—they go to, uh, Pasaana. That's the—that's the planet where there's a big, like, Burning Man party. And they—they are—uh-oh! Some Stormtroopers find them, but one of the Stormtroopers gets shot with a crossbow bolt. Who could it be?
A masked stranger who turns out to be—it's our old buddy Lando!
Uh-huh.

00:28:28 Stuart Host

00:28:28 Elliott Host And... I'm just gonna say this. It was exciting to see Billy Dee Williams, again, but he is an old man. And so there's something about having all these older characters coming back—and there's a part at the end where I think Wedge shows up again? In a—in a fighter jet? And I was like, these guys are a little—a little old to be in a—in a real world, they would not be on the frontlines of this galactic battle.

00:28:49 Dan Host Now a little peek behind the scenes—

00:28:50 Stuart Host Uh-huh. Yep.

00:28:51 Dan Host This was the point at the movie—

00:28:52 Elliott Host Now you were on the scene—you were on the set when they shot this—

[Dan laughs.]

00:28:55 Dan Host Right?

00:28:58 Elliott Host And Billy Dee Williams was a perfect gentleman to me. I mean, he seems to be a delight. A treasure. I love his work. Like, he's great. And when he's in the movie, it's like—I love having him around in the movie, but I kept thinking—oh, this isn't Lando. This is Billy Dee Williams. Like—

00:29:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** The same way as when I—

00:29:11 Elliott Host **Dan:** Okay. So—but—but—
Spoiler alert: Han Solo is—appears in a scene. And I was like, this is Harrison Ford. This is not Han Solo.

00:29:16 Dan Host That's true.

00:29:16 Elliott Host Like, they didn't feel like the characters to me.

00:29:18 Dan Host Uh, no. I just wanted to say, like, behind the scenes of me watching this—

00:29:21 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Oh, okay.

00:29:22 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* This was the—this—

00:29:22 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** So not really behind the scenes so much as in front of the screen.

00:29:25 Dan Host **Dan:** This was the— *[Laughs.]*
This was the moment that I had picked to run to the restroom? And when I came back, uh—

00:29:31 Elliott Host 'Cause you'd been eating a chalupa during the first part of movie.

00:29:33 Dan Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah, yeah, yeah. Sure. Uh, when I came back, my girlfriend—who—who has said, like, I—just a moment, I like—

00:29:39 Stuart Host Stop mentioning me on the podcast?

00:29:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Is that what she said?

[Elliott laughs.]

00:29:41 Dan Host **Dan:** No, she said—

00:29:42 Elliott Host No, she said, uh—
She was like, Harvey Dent showed up for some reason? *[Laughs.]*

[Stuart laughs.]

00:29:45 Dan Host No, no. I—like, this is—this is a side thing. I'm gonna just call her by her name, which is Audrey from now on, 'cause she's like, you could use my name on the podcast. Originally she was like, maybe some private—privacy.

00:29:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Now she's like—

00:29:54 Elliott Host **Elliott:** She—
She said to you, call me by your name. And you were like, Dan? They're not gonna know if I'm talking about me or you!

00:29:59 Dan Host Well, we both realized that me—like, referring—
00:30:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —to my girlfriend—

00:30:04 Elliott Host **Stuart:** That's a pretty topical joke, Elliott. That's pretty good.
[Laughs.] He's only had one movie since then, right?

[Stuart laughs.]

00:30:08 Stuart Host I mean, the authors only wrote a sequel since then.
00:30:08 Dan Host Yeah.
It was more that—at age 41, me referring to my girlfriend made it sound like I was a high-schooler pretending I had a girlfriend?
[Laughs.]

[Elliott laughs.]

00:30:14 Stuart Host It made—it was a lot like when Uncle Owen in *Star Wars: Episode II: Attack of the Clones*, like—hey, this is my girlfriend, Beru, and you're like—
[Elliott laughs.]

00:30:22 Elliott Host What the fuck?
00:30:24 Dan Host So girlfriend is the—*[though laughter]* is the way you describe it? The point is—so I come back from, uh, the—the—the bathroom and I see that, uh... that Lando is onscreen and I'm like—and she—she's like, you missed it! And I'm like—oh, you'll explain later. And then—*[Laughs.]* Then I ask, oh, after the movie, I'm like, oh, what happened? When, uh, Lando showed up? And she's like, eh. You didn't miss anything. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

00:30:44 Elliott Host Not really. Uh, so you saw in the theaters?
00:30:46 Dan Host I did see it in the theater.
00:30:47 Elliott Host 'Cause I watched the—I did—did not get to see it in the theaters, uh, due to various holiday scheduling, uh, difficulties. But luckily as a Writers Guild Awards voter, I received a digital screener that was watermarked just for me. Which meant my name, Elliott Kalan, was burned into the screen the entirety of the movie?

00:31:03 Stuart Host Oh, cool!
00:31:03 Dan Host Sort of like you were in *Star Wars*.
00:31:05 Elliott Host Finally! I was living my dream of being in *Star Wars*! But it had to be this *Star War*?! Anyway—
[Through laughter] That's a *Monkey's Paw* situation.

00:31:10 Dan Host So uh—again, if it was the *Monkey's Paw*—by which I mean the chimp that was—
00:31:12 Elliott Host **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* Weld—welding that helmet together—

00:31:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah, the monkey that re-forged that piece of merch.

Dan: The Great Ape's Paw. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:31:21 Elliott Host So—uh, Lando saves them and is like, hey, the Wayfinder’s probably over there. Oh, not the Wayf—the Wayfinder’s probably at this place. You need to find this, uh, this knife that belonged to an assassin named Ochi. Right? Uh, and—here’s his ship and his droid. And what was the droid’s name? The droid is like—it’s like a traffic cone on a pole on top of a ball. Or like a wheel.

00:31:41 Dan Host Let’s just call it Luxo Jr. *[Laughs.]*

00:31:42 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Like, yeah. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

It did feel like it wandered out of a Pixar short. And the whole time I was like, this droid is weird. Like, I don’t understand the purpose—and I kept waiting for the moment when this droid would, like, have a plot purpose? Like, it would reveal a piece of information or it would save someone at the last minute or it would kill someone—

00:31:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —at the last minute?

00:32:01 Elliott Host **Dan:** It did. It had a plot purpose, eventually.

00:32:03 Dan Host What? I don’t remember!

Like—like, it had like the knowledge of a thing. Right? Like, it was like, oh. *[Sighs.]* It—it knew where the thing was. I forget. Like, the—

00:32:11 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —plot is so many MacGuffins, like we said earlier—

00:32:14 Dan Host **Stuart:** Hmm. Let’s see.

It’s like, we leap to the one thing—oh wait. We need another thing. Now we need a third thing. But like, there was a point where, like, oh, we don’t know where... whoever is, and the—

00:32:23 Elliott Host Oh, that’s right.

00:32:23 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** And the droid was like—

00:32:25 Dan Host **Dan:** And he’s like—

We gotta talk to this droid. Uh, I think he’s got something important to say.

00:32:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** But it’s like—

00:32:29 Stuart Host **Stuart:** So this is right around where, like—

They—they sink in the quicksand and—and Finn’s like, hey Rey, I gotta tell you something! Oop! And then, uh, we never find out what that is. And then—

00:32:37 Dan Host No!

00:32:37 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** And then—she battles some—

00:32:39 Stuart Host **Elliott:** I don’t know if it—I—

00:32:40 Elliott Host —First Order dudes, and then.

Oh, and she saves that sandworm. She heals—there’s a wounded sandworm that looks like it’s gonna attack her—attack them, but she uses the Force—and this is important—we learn the Force can heal people.

00:32:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh-huh. I mean, I’d—

00:32:50 Stuart Host **Dan:** Hold on. Hold on.

—learned that the day before I watched it, when I was watching *The Mandalorian*—

[Elliott laughs.]

00:32:54 Crosstalk Crosstalk —and Baby Yoda used the same power. *[Laughs.]*
Dan: That’s—

00:32:56 Stuart Host **Elliott:** Well, I haven’t seen *The Mandalorian* yet.
But that’s why they released that episode early, so fans wouldn’t be like, this is bullshit!

00:33:00 Dan Host So the healing stuff is important to the plot, but I do also wanna get into, like, a little bit of the background of the, uh—

00:33:05 Elliott Host Of the sandworm?

00:33:06 Dan Host No, of the, like—

00:33:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** “I need to tell you—”

00:33:09 Dan Host **Elliott:** They make spice!
The “I need to tell you something” thing.

00:33:10 Elliott Host Okay. Is this a real background of the movie or is this—

00:33:12 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** This is real background.

00:33:14 Dan Host **Elliott:** —when you were watching the movie.
Because like... okay. On the internet, if you look into this thing—

00:33:17 Stuart Host Uh, like on Wookieepedia? Twitter?

00:33:19 Dan Host On Wookieepedia. Well, Twitter, act—uh—they—

00:33:22 Elliott Host What about Cookiepedia?

00:33:22 Dan Host Cookiepedia is—

00:33:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Stuart and Elliott laugh.]*
Dan: —about how cookies are now a sometimes food.

Stuart: I’m gonna get another *[inaudible]*.

00:33:27 Dan Host **Elliott:** *[Laughs.]* Oh man.
Did you just—just bring the bottle over here, Stuart.

[Stuart inaudible in background.]

And maybe like a—a—a bowl of ice. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:33:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk That’s what we need—
Dan: —to get through this.

00:33:35 Dan Host **Elliott:** To put your hand in? *[Laughs.]*
Yeah, just to—

[Stuart, inaudible in background.]

00:33:40 Elliott Host No, um, what were we talking about? Oh.
So we’re talking about—Finn is like—Rey, I gotta tell you something!

00:33:42 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** And then gets swallowed up by quicksand.

00:33:44 Dan Host **Dan:** Rey, I gotta tell you something.
So like, there’s a lot of discussion about what this is on the internet, and people are like... oh, y’know, he was gonna say he loves her,

which is the most obvious, like... interpretation of what's going on, and maybe a thing that you would say when you were dying. But according to the internet, some fan— *[Laughs.]* Talked to JJ Abrams at a thing and JJ was like, no, no. I—he was gonna say that he's Force-sensitive.

[Stuart laughs.]

Which to me would be the weirdest fucking thing to say while you were dying in quicksand. *[Laughs.]* Rey! Rey! Before we die, I just need you to know—

00:34:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Elliott: Just so you know.

00:34:18 Elliott Host

Dan: *[Through laughter]* I also have the Force!

00:34:20 Dan Host

Until—and then they get—and then they get pulled into quicksand?

00:34:21 Elliott Host

Yeah. So that's—

00:34:22 Dan Host

I think—

00:34:22 Elliott Host

—crazy.

I think—I mean, that actually was my guess, that that's what he was gonna say. That like, I can do—

00:34:26 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Elliott: I can do that, too.

Dan: Why would you say that?

00:34:28 Stuart Host

Stuart: Oh, I—

00:34:27 Dan Host

I corked it again. *[Laughs.]*

Thank you.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:34:28 Elliott Host

Uh, I don't know. But—

00:34:30 Stuart Host

So—we realize that he's not nearly as special as she is, 'cause in a second, she gets in a—what, a tug-o'-war with a, uh... transport ship?

00:34:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Stuart and Elliott: With Kylo Ren.

00:34:39 Elliott Host

So Kylo Ren has arrived there with his—his bad—his special select group of baddies who we never really see them do much of anything.

00:34:46 Stuart Host

The Knights of Ren. Which, they—like—especially after *The Last Jedi* where we had those throne room dudes?

00:34:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Elliott: Oh, which was amazing!

Stuart: Who were fucking cool?

00:34:53 Elliott Host

That was great!

00:34:53 Stuart Host

Uh, these guys are just, like, some jokers with, like, shovels and axes and stuff. *[Laughs.]*

00:34:58 Elliott Host

They just kind of loom around and they keep showing up in the background to be a threat. But we never—and they show up and they're chasing after her, and Rey and Kylo Ren have the first of several fights during the movie. And in this one, there's a transport ship that has Chewbacca with this magic dagger that has the information of where the Wayfinder is—

00:35:17 Stuart Host

Uh-huh. Yep.

00:35:17 Elliott Host

And that—and—it's written in Sith. And C-3P0 understands Sith, but he has been programmed never to translate it because it's an evil language. So they need the dagger and they need Chewba—they need the dagger 'cause of the information—

00:35:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —and they need Chewbacca ‘cause he’s great.

00:35:29 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I think they need the—
And then they need to get the galaxy’s greatest hacker to hack the information out of C-3P0’s noggin.

00:35:34 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Wait, wait! We haven’t got there yet! We haven’t got there yet!

Dan: He has to hack the planet?

[Elliott laughs.]

00:35:36 Stuart Host I mean, kinda! *[Laughs.]*

00:35:37 Elliott Host I mean, in that every droid’s soul is its own planet.

00:35:40 Dan Host Okay.

00:35:40 Elliott Host Uh, when you—when you kill a droid you kill a world. But uh—
they’re fighting over this transport ship using the Force—

00:35:45 Dan Host So happy to see DJ Qualls show up later on!

[All laugh.]

00:35:48 Elliott Host Anyways.
And Rey, uh—and Rey... the Dark Side of her gets out of control and shoots out light—uh—Emperor-style lightning bolt at this transport ship and blows it up! And everyone’s like, noooo! Chewbacca! You killed him! Next scene: Chewbacca’s fine. He was on a different ship. What?! Like—

[All laugh.]

00:36:05 Stuart Host There was a brief moment where I was like—I was not expecting this to happen! And then they— *[Laughs.]*

00:36:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Those hopes were dashed. *[Laughs.]*

00:36:11 Elliott Host **Elliott:** If she—and it’s like—
It would’ve been a genuinely shocking death for Chewbacca. It would be a genuinely traumatic moment for her, that because the Dark Side of her came out, she lost control, she killed a friend! Someone who is—who has been a—the heart—one of the hearts of the Rebellion for years! But instead they’re like... tricked ya! And then later on, she’s like, Chewbacca’s okay! And they’re like, how do you know? She goes, she—he must’ve been in a different transport ship! And it’s like, then why did you think he was in that transport ship?

[Dan laughs.]

Like, what was the point of all that? But also, she doesn’t really give a shit about the real—the other people she killed on that transport ship.

[Dan laughs.]

00:36:40 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Also it was kinda like... like the Stormtroopers were like, okay, Rey is looking the other direction for a second. Let’s hustle Chewbacca—

[Stuart and Elliott laugh.]

00:36:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk —over to this other ship!
Dan: *[Through laughter]* Let's play a trick on her!

00:36:49 Elliott Host **Elliott:** They're like—they're like—
[Through laughter] Kylo Ren's, like, it's time for a little bit of the old
 misdirection!
[Dan laughs.]
 And then suddenly he has a card in his hand. He puts his hand
 down and he has a rabbit in the other hand. Uh— *[Laughs.]*

00:36:56 Stuart Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
 You guys are on decoy duty! Like, uh, wait a minute. I don't wanna
 be on decoy duty!

00:37:02 Elliott Host *[Dan laughs.]*
 They have—what they saw was Don King in a huge fur coat—
[Dan laughs.]
 —being hustled into that transport ship!
[Stuart laughs.]
 They thought it was Chewbacca! Anyway. Uh... they—they have to
 go and rescue, uh, Chewbacca and, uh, event—oh no! First they go
 to Kijimi, which is a planet we've never—

00:37:18 Dan Host Kathy Najimy. *[Laughs.]*
 00:37:19 Elliott Host They go to the planet *[though laughter]* Kathy Najimy, and—and
 they're like—you're so great. You are so great in *King of the Hill*;
 you're so great in the *Sister Act* movies, like—you're just an—a—
 you're just a treasure! And she's like, oh, thank you, well I'm just a
 modest person, y'know, I—I don't—I don't deal with praise well. And
 they're like, but Kathy Najimy—no.
[Dan laughs.]
 You are really great. And she's like, *[angrily]* I told you I don't deal
 with praise well!
[Dan laughs.]

00:37:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk And she just starts—
Elliott: And she just starts— *[Laughs.]*

00:37:39 Elliott Host **Dan:** Bang! Bang! *[Laughs.]*
[Through laughter] I was just saying—gonna say swinging fists, but
 I guess. Yeah. I mean—everyone in this movie—someone on
 Twitter pointed out to me that, uh, the Stormtroopers frequently give
 the heroes a chance to surrender? And the heroes kill at first sight.
[Stuart laughs.]

00:37:51 Dan Host When they see Stormtroopers.
 Yeah.

00:37:52 Elliott Host That like—everyone’s first instinct in this movie, if you’re a hero, is to shoot immediately. And just murder your way through the galaxy. But uh, they go to Kijimi which is—

00:37:59 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —because there’s someone.

00:38:00 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Even—even when they find—
—that wounded sandworm, I think Finn’s like, *[though laughter]* kill that fucking thing, Rey!

00:38:05 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
They are bloodthirsty. Uh, Poe is like, we gotta go find the best hacker in the universe. He’s on Kijimi. But uh-oh! I have some bad blood for me on Kijimi. And of course they run into the one person that he has a bad experience with, and that’s played by—

00:38:22 Dan Host Uh, Keri Russell?

00:38:23 Elliott Host Keri Russell! In a almost-entirely-masked performance, which I means—I think it’s just her voice.

00:38:27 Dan Host Yeah. It is her voi—well, she pulls her visor up at a sec—like, I was like—I know that voice. Who is it? Who is it? And then she put her visor up and I saw her impeccable eye makeup and I’m like, that’s Ms. Keri Russell.

00:38:37 Stuart Host And then—and then Dan looked at both his hands and he’s like, this movie has two Keri’s in it?

00:38:44 Dan Host *[All laugh.]*
I mean, also, y’know, it’s a JJ Abrams movie, so him having Keri Russell makes perfect sense. I’m not saying she’s not wonderful. I love Keri Russell.

00:38:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah, she’s great.

00:38:51 Elliott Host **Dan:** I was happy to see her.

00:38:52 Stuart Host But I thought that—
You wouldn’t be like, uh, she’s a great, wonderful actress. Let’s stick a helmet on her the whole time.

00:38:56 Dan Host *[All laugh.]*

00:38:58 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Yeah.
This character is, of course, named Zorii Bliss.

[Dan laughs.]

Because why not. And they—this—this character—

[Stuart laughs.]

—does not need to exist. There is no reason—

00:39:07 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —for this character.

Dan: I thought—I thought they were *[inaudible]*. *[Laughs.]*

00:39:09 Dan Host **Stuart:** Just can’t—
[Through laughter] Saw—saw *Cats* yesterday? So I think that I’m particularly in the right mood to find funny names. *[Laughs.]*

[All laugh.]

00:39:19 Stuart Host Even funnier. *[Laughs.]*
 Uh—yeah. I mean... like... I—this could just be based on speculation I’ve read on the internet, but it seems like this character was induced—introduced mainly to give a hint of a heterosexual love interest for Poe? Uh, to—to take the fan, uh, assumption that Foe—uh, Poe and Finn—or “Foe,” as I just called them—

00:39:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Elliott laughs.]*
Elliott: After their favorite form of beef soup.

00:39:43 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Uh, as being—as— *[Laughs.]*
 Uh—as being the ideal, uh, romantic relationship in these movies.

00:39:46 Elliott Host Now, all they could’ve had is just them not kiss. Poe and Finn.

00:39:51 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

00:39:51 Elliott Host And that would’ve been fine.

00:39:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Uh-huh.

00:39:54 Dan Host **Dan:** Mm-hm.
 And allow the people who would like to maybe see the representation of a gay relationship have that head canon if they’d like to!

00:40:01 Elliott Host Yeah sure! I mean, they could still have it. Poe could easily be bi or—

00:40:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —y’know, who knows what—

00:40:07 Dan Host **Dan:** Or, y’know, Keri Russell could be his beard.
 That’s—there’s always that chance.

00:40:09 Elliott Host That’s true. I mean, she—in a way, she—

00:40:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —was a beard.

00:40:11 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I mean, she wears a helmet.
 She—I mean, I guess we don’t know if she has a beard.

00:40:13 Elliott Host Look. She was on *The Americans*, home of lots of wigs and beards!

[All laugh.]

00:40:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk So I have to assume she’s—
Elliott: —familiar with beards and wigs!

00:40:24 Elliott Host **Dan:** *[Through laughter]* That was the slogan! *The American:* Homes of Wigs and Beards! *[Laughs.]*
 People are like, what’s that show about? And I’m like, you should see it. It’s about the craziest wigs *[though laughter]* and the craziest beards!

[All laugh.]

00:40:37 Stuart Host Uh—they—so they’re gonna go and do this thing. Meanwhile, Kylo Ren and Rey, we’ve established they can talk to each other through the Force throughout the universe—
 We—we didn’t mention—there is a character that I like in this movie a lot. He’s introduced in this scene. His name’s Babu Frik.

[Elliott laughs.]

He’s a tiny little hacker. *[Laughs.]*

00:40:43 Elliott Host He's a tiny hacker who sometimes speaks in a crazy alien language and sometimes just speaks with a heavy accent?

[Dan laughs.]

00:40:49 Stuart Host Yeah. Uh... yeah. He's pretty fun.
00:40:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** And he's got giant hands.

Elliott: No, no, Babu Frick's—
00:40:52 Elliott Host —my second-favorite new character after blacksmith chimp.
00:40:55 Stuart Host Uh-huh. Because he—he also, like, exists in a, uh, like there's no subtext to Babu Frik? Like, he's just—he's all in. That's what's great about him.

00:41:02 Elliott Host But also—and later on, Zorii shows up as part of this giant fleet of, uh, volunteer fighters. And Babu just pops up in a cockpit and is like, hey, hey!

[All laugh.]

I was like, so are you not strapped in?

[All laugh.]

So when she does turn some barrel rolls are you just flying around the cockpit? Slamming into instruments?
00:41:18 Dan Host He's like a little ghoulie, though. [Laughs.]
00:41:20 Stuart Host Like, he is a lot—
00:41:21 Elliott Host What, he's gonna pop up out of a toilet?

[Dan laughs.]

00:41:22 Dan Host [Through laughter] Yep.
00:41:22 Stuart Host Yeah. I'm sure when the—the creature design team got together they're like—

[Dan laughs.]

Give me 90% more ghoulie.

[All laugh.]

00:41:29 Elliott Host So—and Stuart, what it is about Babu Frik that—that you particularly like?
00:41:33 Stuart Host Well, I like the—
00:41:33 Elliott Host Paint us a word poem.
00:41:34 Stuart Host I mean, it's—I mean, making a character small and weird? Is always best. And he wears like a little hat.

[Dan laughs. Elliott joins in.]

Uh—
00:41:42 Elliott Host But he doesn't have a shirt, though, right?
00:41:44 Stuart Host He doesn't have a shirt and he's, uh—everybody is really impressed with him, but they're also annoyed by him.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:41:49 Dan Host He seems like an old pro, too? Like, y'know, he'll get the job done but you might get a little irritated. But—but—
00:41:54 Stuart Host Yeah! There's a lot of mud on those tires. Y'know what I mean?

00:41:57 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* He's got a little bit of—he's a little bit like Yoda that way. Where it's like he's the best, which means he's allowed to be eccentric, but there's also a little bit of battle toad in his visual!

[Stuart laughs.]

00:42:06 Dan Host And I was like, that's who! *[Laughs.]*

00:42:11 Elliott Host He's also kind of like a little bit like the IT guy who's a little annoyed at you that you don't understand the technology as well as he does.

00:42:13 Stuart Host That's fair. That's fair.

Yeah. I mean, there was a brief moment when I was watching a Star War—

[Elliott laughs.]

—and I saw a character that wasn't Baby Yoda and I was like, I like that character!

[Elliott laughs.]

00:42:20 Dan Host I want—I wanted to say here, though, but this connection between—uh—Rey and, uh, Kylo Ren—this—like—there's a lot of *The Last Jedi* erasure in this movie that's much more egregious than this? But I did watch that part where they're like, connected and like talking to each other?

And I'm like, okay. Wait. Hold on. I thought in *The Last Jedi*, the fact they had a connection was just something Snoke was doing to make, like, to fool them into thinking like to like bring her... to him that like... he might be redeemed or whatever. And this movie's like, no, no, no, no. They really have, like—

00:42:55 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —this soul connection.

00:42:56 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Not only do they really have that—
—they can also transport objects through this Force connection. Which I thought was pretty—it was like—as long as I don't try to think about the science of it? I thought was a really cool thing.
Like—

00:43:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —and they use it in—they—

00:43:07 Dan Host **Dan:** Yeah, I thought it was kinda fun where—
—they're like having fights and they were like, yeah. *[Inaudible.]*

00:43:09 Elliott Host And they use it in neat ways. Like, he knows she's in his office because... that Darth Vader helmet shows up. Or like, the first time that happens, he snatches the flower necklace from around her neck and she's like, huh? Wha? Like—

00:43:20 Stuart Host That's why that girl gave it to her!

00:43:22 Elliott Host Yeah, that's the only reason. Is to establish that—that physical connection. But like—so I thought that was kind of a neat thing? But it also means that, like, apparently anyone with the Force can talk to anybody? 'Cause later on, Princess Leia's like, hold on, let me send a telegram to my son Kylo. Beep, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep!

[Stuart laughs.]

00:43:36 Dan Host Speaking of that, like—uh—later on when like Luke does like a major thing with the Force that affects, like, the real, like, living

human world? Like... granted, the seeds for that was—were planted by Yoda in *The Last Jedi*, a movie I liked a lot more than this one. But I am kind of like... okay, so... ghost Jedis can do anything normal Jedis can do? And they're just kinda hanging out in the ghost dimension, being like, you guys take care *[though laughter]* of it yourself!

00:44:02 Elliott Host
00:44:03 Crosstalk Crosstalk

You're wondering why—
Elliott: —ghost Luke didn't just show up—

Stuart: Mm-hm. Dr. Strange in the ghost dimension.

[Dan laughs.]

00:44:06 Elliott Host

That ghost Luke didn't just show up at Emperor Palpatine's house and like smother him with a pillow?

[All laugh.]

00:44:10 Dan Host

[Through laughter] Exactly!

00:44:11 Stuart Host

Just like unplug his little machine? *[Laughs.]*

00:44:14 Elliott Host

Yeah! I mean—

00:44:14 Stuart Host

The—y'know—and the—and the thing that ghost Luke does is he just raises his old X-Wing out of the water and you're like... finally, dude! I've been waiting for you to be able to do that *[though laughter]* forever!

[All laugh.]

00:44:27 Dan Host

[Through laughter] Ever since Dagobah, man!

00:44:28 Elliott Host

He was like, I couldn't do this 'til I was dead. Then I really figured out how to lift X-Wings with the Force.

00:44:32 Dan Host

I mean, I—like, the funny thing is, like, yeah, sure. Like, that's a—like—kind of like I guess a fun payoff for *Empire*? But I—all I could think of was like, that fucking thing's been down there for 30 years, dude. Like... it's not gonna fly *[though laughter]* anywhere!

[Elliott laughs.]

00:44:45 Stuart Host

Mm-hm.

00:44:45 Elliott Host

Uh, well, this is—if that's the thing you're picking apart in the movie—

[Dan laughs.]

00:44:50 Stuart Host

—then maybe Star Wars is not for you.

00:44:51 Music Music

Yeah.

00:44:56 Clip Promo

Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments.

Music: Upbeat rock plays in the background.

Announcer: *Dead Pilots Society* brings you exclusive readings of comedy pilots that were never made, featuring actors like Patton Oswalt—

Patton Oswalt: So the vampire from the future sleeps in the dude's studio during the day, and they hunt monsters at night. It's Blade meets *The Odd Couple*!

[Audience laughs]

Announcer: —Adam Scott and Jane Levy—

Jane Levy: Come on, Cory. She's too serious, too business-y. She doesn't know the hokey-pokey.

Adam Scott: Well, she'll learn what it's all about.

[Audience laughs.]

Announcer: —Busy Philipps and Dave Koechner.

Dave Koechner: Maybe this is family.

Busy Philipps: My Uncle Tal, who showed his weiner to Cinderella at Disneyland, is family. Do you want him staying with us?

[Light audience laughter.]

Dave: He did stay with us, for three months.

Busy: And he was a delight!

[Audience laughs harder.]

Announcer: A new pilot every month, only on *Dead Pilots Society* from Maximum Fun.

Music: Guitar strums as singer counts out "One, two, one two three four." Up-tempo guitar and harmonica music plays in the background.

00:45:47 Clip

Promo

Justin McElroy: Hi, everybody! My name is Justin McElroy.

Sydnee McElroy: I'm Sydnee McElroy!

Justin: We're both doctors, and—

Sydnee: Nope. Just me.

Justin: Okay, well Sydnee's a doctor and I'm a medical enthusiast.

Sydnee: Okay.

Justin: And we created *Sawbones*, a marital tour of misguided medicine!

Sydnee: Every week I dig through the annals of medical history to bring you the wildest, grossest—sometimes dumbest—tales of ways we've tried to treat people throughout history!

Justin: Eh, lately we do a lot of modern fake medicine. 'Cause everything's a disaster. But it's slightly less of a disaster every Friday, right here on MaximumFun.org, as we bring you *Sawbones: A Marital Tour of Misguided Medicine*. And remember:

Sydnee: Don't drill a hole in your head.

00:46:29 Dan Host *[Music ends.]*
00:46:29 Elliott Host I mean—
This is a movie where they tried to hide a man from the most evil, most powerful man in the universe, and didn't bother to change the baby's last name.

00:46:37 Dan Host *[Dan laughs.]*
00:46:36 Elliott Host Let's just—
And they took him to his—they took him to—so let's—so—you're an evil—you're an evil man. And they wanna hide your baby from you. They take you to your family's house on your home planet and they don't change the last name. They are fools *[though laughter]* in the Star Wars universe!

00:46:51 Dan Host Let's just call this the X-Wing that broke the camel's back. *[Laughs.]*
00:46:54 Elliott Host Alright. Fair. I mean, if you—to be fair, if you put an X-Wing on a camel's back, that camel's back is breaking!

00:46:58 Dan Host I was rolling with—
00:47:00 Elliott Host They may be the ships of the desert, but they cannot hold a spaceship!

00:47:02 Dan Host I was rolling with so much in this movie, and then *[though laughter]* he like raised the X-Wing out of the water and I went *[makes spit-take noise]*.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:47:13 Elliott Host And like—and put my hands up and Audrey's like, what? *[Laughs.]*
I'm like, you know what.
Well, you put your hands up 'cause they were playing your song and the butterflies flew away.

00:47:17 Stuart Host Mm-hm.
00:47:17 Elliott Host But, uh—so— *[Laughs.]* 'Cause it was a party in the USA! On that weird—what's the planet where Luke was just living tended by those nuns? And he would just drink—

00:47:25 Stuart Host Oh, and he was drinking titty milk? *[Laughs.]*
00:47:26 Elliott Host Drinking Dr. Seuss milk. *[Laughs.]*
00:47:27 Dan Host That wasn't a whole planet. It was like on a specific island where—
00:47:30 Elliott Host Uh, the island was on a planet, dude.
00:47:32 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* I know.
00:47:33 Elliott Host Like, Dan, I—the island was not floating in space like the Little Prince was living there with his one chair.

00:47:38 Dan Host No, I get it. This islander—
00:47:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Or like, uh—or like—

Dan: —with everything. That's fine.

00:47:40 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
00:47:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk Or like Thanos's weird, uh, like, meteorite in the, uh—
Stuart: *Infinity Gauntlet.*

00:47:45 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Where he just has his floating throne, yeah.
So okay. They have to get the information from C3P0's mind. To do it, they have to wipe his memory. And that was a genuinely affecting moment where he's like, oh, he's giving this up. This is the first time C-3P0 has been, like, I'm gonna make the choice to really sacrifice myself for the—for the Rebellion. Again, this would've been a really

fitting and kinda surprising death for a main character. Don't worry. R2 just—brings him back later and it's totally cool.

00:48:08 Stuart Host But didn't, uh—didn't—
00:48:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —didn't he get his—

Dan: Yeah. C3P0's in the cloud.

00:48:11 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Didn't he get his memory wiped, uh, at the end of *Revenge of the Sith* as well? So he— *[Laughs.]* He doesn't remember the details of Anakin's wedding?

00:48:19 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
Well that's—'cause the wedding was such a debacle. *[Laughs.]*
They like—

00:48:21 Dan Host Okay. Guys—guys this is—this is a total like side thing but I have to tell you—uh—we watched this, uh, Christmas Netflix movie?

00:48:28 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Yeah, Emmet Otter.

00:48:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Or what—
Dan: I was on like Hulu or something, actually.

Stuart: *The Irishman.*

00:48:31 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
It was like—it was called *Correcting Christmas* or something? It was like a *Sliding Door* scenario where, like, she goes back in time to like—

00:48:37 Elliott Host To save Jesus?
00:48:39 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* She goes back in time—

[Elliott laughs.]

—to the previous Christmas. Where she like had broken up with her old, like, uh... like fiancé? Or—or—

00:48:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** She broke up with her old boyfriend.

00:48:50 Dan Host **Stuart:** How—how—how old was he?
Okay. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

00:48:52 Elliott Host She broke up with—
[Through laughter] It was the Anna Nicole Smith story. So he was very old. *[Laughs.]*

00:48:54 Dan Host She broke up with her previous boyfriend—sorry—because she thought he was gonna propose on Christmas and he didn't, and then she regretted it so she went back. But she learned—obviously—she was supposed to be with her best friend the whole time.

00:49:07 Elliott Host Ohhhh.
00:49:08 Dan Host But the hilarious thing is—
00:49:10 Elliott Host A lie that has ruined the friendships of many young men and girls.
00:49:15 Dan Host Yeah. No. That's—
00:49:15 Elliott Host Because the men assume that the girl will eventually become their lover!

00:49:18 Dan Host But the whole point of *[though laughter]* all this is, the movie does one of those, like, flash-forward things where like, okay, the mystical stuff is done. We're in the present day again. And now, like... the two of them are like, married. And this is revealed by the guy being, like, oh, you left your ring by the sink! I want you to put it on 'cause I don't like all those guys hitting on you! And Audrey's like—they took her back and they didn't get to see the proposal!?

[Elliott laughs.]

Like, the fucking, like— *[Laughs.]* Fairy Godmother character like skipped over that part? She doesn't get to have her proposal? *[Laughs.]* What the fuck?

00:49:54 Stuart Host Yeah.

00:49:54 Dan Host And this is like a romance movie! That's the only *[though laughter]* reason these movies exist is for, like, the climactic, like—they come—they're like finally together!

00:50:02 Elliott Host It's—it's as true as it is relevant to our discussion of *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*. *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

00:50:06 Stuart Host It's similar to how—it's similar to how my wife recently read a, uh... a thriller and part of the mystery or thriller hinged on the idea of one woman letting another woman borrow her mascara?

[Dan and Elliott laugh.]

And she was like—that would never happen.

[All laugh.]

Adults don't do that. It goes in your eyeball.

[Dan laughs.]

00:50:24 Elliott Host So, uh, make a long story short—uh, Kylo tells Rey the truth: you're a Palpatine. You're the granddaughter of the Emperor. And she's like, ew! So the Emperor had sex with somebody? And had a baby?! And we're like, yeah. We don't wanna think about it either.

00:50:37 Stuart Host I mean, like, how long ago was that, though?

00:50:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** So she's like—

Elliott: I mean, it would've been when he was a senator probably. She was like... she's what, like, 25?

00:50:40 Stuart Host I have no idea.

00:50:43 Elliott Host And her parents were like...

00:50:45 Stuart Host **Elliott:** I mean, Luke is supposed to—Luke is—

00:50:46 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Let's say 25? So that was like 50 years ago.

00:50:49 Elliott Host Yeah.

00:50:50 Stuart Host So that's about when Yoda and Yaddle were presumably having sex to create *[though laughter]* Baby Yoda.

[All laugh.]

00:50:56 Elliott Host You're right. Possi—I mean, I don't wanna think about that either.

00:50:58 Stuart Host Once again, I haven't read—read Wookieepedia. Have you, Dan? Do you know?

00:51:02 Elliott Host So—so—when Yoda has—
00:51:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —sex, is—is—is Yoda’s—is Yoda’s sex talk in that same backwards syntax, or no?

Dan: Like, front to back? Or— *[Laughs.]*

00:51:08 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Yeah! *[Laughs.]* It’s always—
00:51:10 Elliott Host Uh... what?
Like, is he like, “Coming, I am!”

[All laugh.]
00:51:14 Dan Host Oh, God.
00:51:14 Stuart Host Cool. Yeah, yeah, yeah. That’s how, uh... yeah.

[Elliott laughs.]

00:51:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk No. Weirdly enough when he does—
Elliott: *[Through laughter]* He’s like—he’s just like—

00:51:19 Stuart Host **Stuart:** When he does dirty talk—
—that shit goes by the wayside and he is all business.

[All laugh.]
00:51:24 Elliott Host That’s not like, “Right there, touch me!” None of that?
00:51:26 Stuart Host He’s like—I’m not fucking around.

[All laugh.]
00:51:29 Elliott Host It’s time for bad Yoda to come out!
00:51:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yep.

00:51:31 Elliott Host **Dan:** Yeah.
00:51:32 Dan Host Okay. So—
00:51:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk Is this how Baby Yoda happened?
Dan: Or—I haven’t watched the rest of—

Stuart: He’s super into Force-choking. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]
00:51:36 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* No, I don’t like that!
00:51:36 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I haven’t watched—

Elliott: Stuart, I don’t like that at all. I don’t like it as a joke.

Stuart: Well, you don’t do it to the windpipe!
You do it to the sides of the neck!
00:51:40 Elliott Host No, I don’t like this. *[Laughs.]* It’s not okay!
00:51:42 Dan Host It’s all consensual!
00:51:43 Elliott Host No, no.
00:51:43 Dan Host I don’t understand why you’re—
00:51:44 Elliott Host I mean, this brings back something that I think I mentioned a lot—
years ago on this podcast, which is the idea of having a—a—having a significant other who’s a Jedi and they give you a Force job. Even in public. Even if you’re across the room, then you—they can pleasure you ‘cause no one knows! They’re just moving their hands!

[Stuart laughs.]

00:51:58 Stuart Host So anyway.
It's like if Garth Ennis wrote a fucking *[though laughter]* Star Wars comic.

00:52:03 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
So—okay. Uh... they—the whole—they—the Emperor wants Rey for some reason. We don't know. It turns out that General Hux is the mole in the First Order and he helps save Poe and Finn and Chewbacca, and he's like, I'm the spy! And they shoot him in the knee and he gets caught almost instantly and is executed for treason.

00:52:20 Stuart Host Uh-huh. Which—while, yeah, I guess that was kinda funny how he got blasted across the room and it was a surprise—once again, this is another character that I felt like was given short shrift. Like, Hux was one of the more fun parts of the last movie, and—

00:52:33 Elliott Host And in—in the—in *The Force Awakens*, he's being built up as the bad guy!

00:52:38 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Him and Kylo Ren are the two dude—bad dudes.

00:52:40 Dan Host **Dan:** And also like—
I mean, what a—

00:52:41 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** What a fucking good actor, too.

00:52:43 Dan Host **Stuart:** Yeah. Two bad dudes!
That guy, like... every different movie I'm like, *[with exaggerated surprise]* it's the same man?

00:52:48 Stuart Host *[All laugh.]*
[Through laughter] Yeah. Yeah.

00:52:56 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Yeah. And he's standing right next to Adam Driver, who I guess is the best actor of his generation. Right?

00:53:01 Stuart Host I mean, to be honest, this—this movie has—it has them, it has Richard E. Grant? Like, there's a lot of really great actors in this. Ian McDiarmid?

00:53:02 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
I mean, I—

00:53:03 Elliott Host *[Through laughter]* Sure.

00:53:04 Dan Host Look, Daisy Ridley, like—this might not be our best Star Wars movie, but she's amazing. Like—

00:53:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Like all the actors are great in this movie!

00:53:11 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Mm-hm.
Elliott: She does something that—she does something that makes sense—
—but I thought was really funny, which—she has a lot of, like, athlete motions? So like, there's a part where she's gotta run into the ocean or something and she's like—
[Stuart laughs.]

—and she goes like, *[exhales sharply]* Hoo! Hoo! Like, breathes out and shakes her head the way that like an athlete does before they runs? And then later on, she like, is lightsabering and she—her wrist hurts a little bit? And she has this, like, ahhh! Look on her face that tennis players get sometimes? And I was like—it is a totally valid choice as a performer—and I also think it's kinda funny—that she's playing Rey as like a Jedi athlete?

But I think, like, that's not something I had not seen before with these characters! Like, that was a neat way to do it. Long story short, they go to the planet where the Death Star crashed. There's a whole tribe of ex-Stormtroopers there who ride around on alien horses. They have no personalities whatsoever. Uh, Finn instantly becomes best friends with one who I'm learning the name of is named Jannah—I did not know her name during the movie.

00:54:02 Stuart Host

And it feels like they—the movie wrote off Rose so they could give—at least to me, felt like they could give Finn a new, sexier love interest.

00:54:12 Elliott Host

Maybe.

00:54:12 Stuart Host

Like, one that is dressed at least more—

00:54:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Stuart: —scantily clad.

00:54:17 Dan Host

Dan: Well, and I don't wanna, like— *[Sighs.]*

Look. This is—these are—uh... murky waters and I don't wanna like call anyone out unnecessarily. I don't wanna say anything weird, but it did, like—I did feel weird watching it? Where they're just like—no, no, no, Finn. Like, let's give you a black love interest.

00:54:33 Elliott Host

No, no. I mean, that—that did strike me, too, that it—that it was event—that it was like... yeah, yeah, yeah. Well we have to pair him up with a black character.

00:54:39 Dan Host

Yeah.

00:54:39 Elliott Host

'Cause it's—and—

00:54:40 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Dan: It was weird.

00:54:40 Elliott Host

Elliott: But they're—what—

At the same time, though, there was something genuinely exciting to me at the end where Lando—spoiler alert—we won't spoil anything—Lando in the—is flying the Millennium Falcon and he saves the two of them and they're all together. Somehow they're gripping the top of the Millennium Falcon as it swoops and dives through the space. Where I was like—this ship has only black characters on it. And it is really exciting to me that this scene is all black characters. So there's a thin line between it feeling like tokenism, where you have to line up black people with black people? And being exciting that it's like, okay, there's more people of color in Star Wars now.

00:55:11 Dan Host

No, that's all fair.

00:55:11 Elliott Host

It's not just Lando, and it's not just Oola. Those are not the only two people—and Max Rebo. Those are not the only characters—

[All laugh.]

00:55:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk

—of color!

Dan: Okay. I didn't realize, but.

00:55:19 Elliott Host **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* In the Star Wars universe now! Y'know, blue, green, and so forth. But—uh—so—it's—so—but it felt weird at that—at the moment. Until that moment, it felt weird to me that it was like—

00:55:26 Dan Host Yeah.

00:55:26 Elliott Host Uh, that—that they were doing that. But anyway. Long story short, they go to the Death Star. Guess what? Ky—uh, Rey sees herself as a Sith and has a fight with herself.

00:55:35 Stuart Host And Sith version has, like, cool scary teeth, right?

00:55:39 Elliott Host Cool, scary, sharp teeth. And a double-headed lightsaber that she can also separate out, which was explained to me today by a seven-year-old as maybe it had magnets in the base and that's how it'd connect? And I was like—that's a good way to explain that!

00:55:49 Dan Host Was that seven-year-old part of the Insane Clown Posse, or?

00:55:53 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
[Through laughter] Yeah, he was like, I don't know how they work! But. No, no. He—this seven-year-old is, uh, not an Insane Clown. Uh, anyway. So—

00:56:00 Dan Host A rational clown. *[Laughs.]*

00:56:01 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
He's a— *[through laughter]* very rational clown. Yeah. His name is Professor Pickles.

00:56:09 Dan Host *[All laugh.]*
He is a clown with a PhD.
His—he did his study in fitting as many clowns into a car as possible.

00:56:12 Elliott Host Well, he figured out the—the mathematic equation that explains the physics of how you can fit so many clowns into a car. They call it "Pickles' Theorem."

00:56:46 Stuart Host *[All laugh.]*
And so—the, uh—they—so Kylo Ren has another lightsaber fight with Rey, and—Prin—General Princess Leia—this is also—they've been told, oh, the Emperor is gonna attack the whole universe with his fleet of Star Destroyers in 16 hours. We'd better get a move on! Then they have an adventure that must take three days, but anyway. Uh—General Princess Leia's like, this is a good time for me to reach out to my son. We never talk anymore. And she sends a Force message across the universe to him—
So she's a lot like me, whenever I need to actually call someone on the phone, I like— *[through laughter]* have to get my whole environment set up—

00:56:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Elliott laughs.]*
Like, everybody leave the room, I'm gonna need the room.
[Laughs.]
Elliott: And she distracts—
Dan: Let me light some incense.

00:57:01 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]* She distracts Kylo just enough for Rey to mortally wound him. But then—just like he was a regular old sandworm—

00:57:07 Stuart Host Uh-huh. Once again, this is a moment where I’m like—oh, wow! I wasn’t expecting this to happen!

00:57:12 Elliott Host No. And then she—she heals him using her sandworm healing powers. Uh—and then... Rey goes to a—oh—

00:57:18 Stuart Host Yeah, ‘cause he’s a— *[Laughs.]* He’s a lot like a sandworm, right? *[Laughs.]*

00:57:21 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* Yeah! I mean, I dunno. They—the, uh—Rey goes to where Luke’s—

00:57:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —ghost still lives—

Stuart: I guess when the lights were out. Y’know. In the dark.

Dan: Yeah.

00:57:27 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]* When the lights are out, everyone’s a sandworm! *[Laughs.]*

00:57:29 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]* Uh, Lei—Lei—Rey goes to Luke’s old house—

00:57:31 Stuart Host *[Through laughter]* If you’re doing it right!

00:57:34 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]* Anyway, ghost Luke is like—hey, you should take Leia’s old lightsaber. You’re doing good. Go up to the Emperor and kick him in the nuts.

[Dan laughs.]

[Through laughter] Here’s—here’s my own—here’s my old X-Wing. I lifted it out of the water for you. And Kylo Ren has a conversation with—not the ghost of—but his memory of Han Solo. Where Han Solo’s like, hey, you could be a good guy. And Kylo Ren throws his lightsaber away. And starts calling himself Ben again. Right?

00:57:55 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

00:57:55 Dan Host Yeah.

00:57:55 Elliott Host ‘Cause—‘cause his name is Ben Solo.

00:57:57 Stuart Host I gotta say, like, there’s—like—

00:57:58 Elliott Host And Palpatine is like, mm, it’s been a while since I’ve been in the movie! Blow up Kijimi with a superlaser! *[Laughs.]*

00:58:04 Dan Host Maybe it was just ‘cause I liked seeing Harrison Ford again ‘cause I have so much—

[Stuart laughs.]

00:58:09 Stuart Host —so much affection for that dude. ‘Cause you—you like seeing him and being, like, I bet he hates this. *[Laughs.]*

00:58:12 Dan Host *[All laugh.]* Yeah. But like—I just—like—I—

00:58:15 Elliott Host I—I—imagine it’s one of those things where they were like, we’ll pay you any amount of money. And he’s like, don’t bother about the money. I’m gonna make some weird requests.

[Stuart laughs.]

And I'm gonna see if it's worth it to you to make me have it. So—you heard of aye-ayes? Yeah, they're these little weird primates? I want you to go get me one. *[Laughs.]* They're very hard to find, and they're endangered. It's illegal to move them out of the rainforest. And also, again, they're very hard to find. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Well, I've always wanted a pet aye-aye, so you better get me one in two days. No, you know what? 36 hours. And then I'll be in your Star War. And so JJ Abrams is hacking through the jungle—at night, mind you, it's a nocturnal animal—until he can find and trap an aye-aye and hand-deliver it to Harrison Ford. And when Har—

00:58:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Elliott: —when he brings it to—and when he—

00:58:53 Stuart Host

Stuart: I'm gonna—I'm gonna google this afterwards. Are they—
—hackers? *[Laughs.]*

00:58:54 Elliott Host

[Elliott laughs.]

Yup! When he brings it—no— *[Laughs.]* Yeah, they're hackers! And when he brings it to Harrison Ford, Harrison Ford's like, cool, I changed my mind. I don't want it anymore.

[All laugh.]

00:59:07 Dan Host
00:59:09 Crosstalk Crosstalk

So—so here's—now you gotta go to numbers ten— two through ten on my checklist. *[Laughs.]*

Okay. What I wanted to say though *[though laughter]* before—

Elliott: Sure. About Harrison Ford. Yeah. Star of *Random Hearts*. Yeah.

[Stuart laughs.]

00:59:13 Elliott Host
00:59:15 Crosstalk Crosstalk

Dan: —before that thing. No, no. *[Laughs.]* And *Six Days, Seven Nights*.

[Through laughter] *Six Days, Seven Nights*. And the *Frisco Kid*.

Elliott: All your favorite movies! *[Laughs.]* Star of *Firewall*, yeah! *[Laughs.]*

00:59:20 Elliott Host

Dan: And *Regarding Henry*. *[Laughs.]* But, no—no— *[Laughs.]*
No wonder he has such a deep place in your heart! He was in, uh, what was that movie that we watched with, uh, the lesser Hemsworth where he was like a hacker or something?

00:59:28 Dan Host
00:59:30 Stuart Host

Oh, uh... shit. What was that called?

Probably... *Codebreakers*?

[Elliott and Stuart laugh.]

00:59:32 Dan Host

No, but the thing I wanted to say about this was, like, so—like—look. I was talking to Audrey about, like, George Lucas and this—this whole fucking shebang of Star Wars.

00:59:44 Elliott Host
00:59:45 Dan Host

Yeah. This thing we call Star Wars.

And I want to make it clear, like, she's not, like, a Star Wars fan. She saw like these movies, like—like the original trilogy for the first time this year. So like this is not like me Dan-splaining to her. She was curious about this.

00:59:57 Elliott Host

I mean, I might still be you Dan-splaining.

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| 00:59:59 | Dan | Host | It might still be my Dan-splaining. But she seemed genuinely interested. <i>[Laughs.]</i> Perhaps she was just being nice. Uh, but like—George Lucas—I was saying that like y’know he had this idea of... okay, I’m gonna make these, like—like, uh, rhyming trilogies. |
| | | | Like, I—I want the movies to rhyme in these different ways, which—in <u>effect</u> in these new movies has led to... uh, like, even though he’s not been, uh... involved in them, that spirit lives on. And it’s just like, let’s, like, re—like, reread certain plot points or certain things. Um. Uh, in these new movies. And—at its worst, y’know, you get like movies like... <i>The Force Awakens</i> , or this one. Which, like— |
| 01:00:43 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: I liked <i>The</i> — |
| | | | Dan: <i>The Force Awakens</i> , I liked. |
| 01:00:45 | Elliott | Host | The first half of <i>Force Awakens</i> , I really liked a lot! Yeah. |
| 01:00:47 | Dan | Host | But they like borrow <u>so</u> much from the old movies that it seems like less like rhyming and more like... just a reread. |
| 01:00:54 | Elliott | Host | Just rereading, yeah. |
| 01:00:55 | Dan | Host | But there are ways of doing parallel scenes that work well, and I—and for <u>me</u> —just for me, like—I kind of enjoyed this parallel scene with Harrison Ford where it’s like, okay, Kylo Ren is re-playing the moment where he killed his father. He’s at a different place in his life. He’s confused and this time he makes the <u>moral</u> choice instead and throws his lightsaber away. |
| 01:01:17 | Elliott | Host | Oh, no. I thought this was one of the scenes that worked best for me in the movie. For that reason. |
| 01:01:21 | Stuart | Host | And it helps that—like—Adam Driver is a genuinely good actor. |
| 01:01:24 | Elliott | Host | Adam Driver’s a great actor. Harrison Ford’s a great actor. Like, they have—and this moment has a lot of emotion freighted to it that is <u>real</u> human emotion. He is a man who killed his father and betrayed his mother’s dreams for him. And like that’s a <u>real</u> human thing. As opposed to... your grandfather is an evil wizard and wants to steal your body to make you the ultimate avatar of evil. That is not a human emotion and it’s not something I can connect to, really. |
| 01:01:49 | Stuart | Host | And your mother is Villanelle from <i>Killing Eve</i> . |
| 01:01:52 | Dan | Host | Mm-hm. |
| | | | <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| | | | That’s gotta be hard. |
| 01:01:54 | Elliott | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> Yes, difficult. |
| 01:01:55 | Dan | Host | She’s always trying to kill Eve! I don’t know. I—watched the first season and I forget what happens. |
| 01:01:59 | Elliott | Host | But you’re right that like—at a certain point, rhyming becomes repeating? |
| 01:02:03 | Dan | Host | Yeah. |
| 01:02:03 | Elliott | Host | And that—and this—but this was one of the scenes where it was like—and it would’ve done better for me if it didn’t feel at times like the movie was like... hey! We’re bringing back all your old pals! Come on! They’re all here! You liked these characters, right? Like, c’mon! Bring ‘em in! Like, I was half waiting for, like, Jabba the Hutt to show up and tell somebody that he was their dad. And like... like, uh... like, uh... |
| 01:02:24 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Stuart: It’s like—it’s like this— |
| | | | Elliott: Lobot to show up and— |

01:02:26 Elliott Host —and tell a new cyborg, like, hey, you gotta do it for the Rebellion. Y’know.

01:02:29 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** It’s like they’re—

Dan: Gonk droid just like—

[Elliott laughs.]

01:02:31 Dan Host —ducks his head in your frame and goes “gonk” and then...

01:02:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —ducks back out.

Stuart: It’s like—it’s like—

Elliott: I would’ve liked that.

01:02:34 Stuart Host It’s like that scene near the end of *Labyrinth*, wherein those weird packrat, uh, monsters keep being like, oh, you like this thing! Keep—oh, you want this! Take that.

01:02:42 Elliott Host Yeah. Exactly.

01:02:43 Stuart Host What—what an interesting commentary on nostalgia. Thank you, *Labyrinth!*

[Elliott laughs.]

01:02:47 Elliott Host Uh—

01:02:48 Dan Host Thank you for that and the sexual awakening of millions.

[All laugh.]

01:02:51 Elliott Host Yeah. So they—so they destroy that planet. Uh, C3P0, he gets his memory back from R2D2, and they all go to—they follow Rey on her trip to—‘cause Rey now has a Wayfinder that helps her get to Exegol, the evil Sith planet that nobody ever knew about before.

[Stuart laughs.]

It’s not even the first mystery planet in Star Wars, ‘cause Geonosis—right? Oh, no, what was—no. Uh, Ferrari Carrera? What was the planet where they were making the clones?

01:03:12 Stuart Host Kamino?

01:03:13 Elliott Host Kamino Borealis? Kamino Real? Yeah.

01:03:14 Stuart Host Yeah, ‘cause it was a— *[Laughs.]* It was, uh, deleted from the Jedi dictionary by— *[Laughs.]* Sifo-Dyas.

[All laugh.]

01:03:21 Dan Host Well I also—

01:03:21 Elliott Host You’re right. Star Wars has always been dumb. *[Laughs.]*

01:03:23 Dan Host I also—I used to find it funny that, like, um... y’know, like all of the Star Wars planets had one type of ecosystem? But it’s—

01:03:32 Elliott Host Yeah. Snow. Forest. Desert. Or city/factory!

01:03:35 Dan Host But that’s not, like, entirely crazy. Like, obviously the—there are planets out there that are, like, the same thing all through the planet. But this—

01:03:42 Elliott Host I mean, those are planets that have—as far as we know—no inhabited life, yeah.

01:03:46 Dan Host But that’s also, like, this—this planet I feel like bumps it up to the next level? Where it’s like—not only is this planet like this type, but like only this type of people live there.

01:03:53 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** It’s the evil planet! *[Laughs.]*

01:03:55 Dan Host **Dan:** It's like the Sorting Hat—
—has put, like, all the Slytherin on this planet.

01:03:58 Elliott Host *[Stuart laughs.]*
They're like, this planet is naturally an evil habitat.

01:04:02 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan laughs.]*
Elliott: So all the animals are always—

01:04:03 Stuart Host **Stuart:** And they're like—we're—
We're equal kids! We get to go to the same classes!

01:04:06 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
But now you—now you have me thinking that there's, like, an ecosystem of like, where bunny rabbits are like—*[in sinister voice]*
heh, heh, heh!

01:04:18 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Like—or like—rubbing their hands together and hopping away into the—into the trees. Y'know. So uh—they—they all go there—
Yeah. They have a— *[Laughs.]* They have a lightning-based economy.

01:04:21 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
There's this fleet of Star Destroyers that's already there, which...
most of them were there already, but then—

01:04:27 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —the bad guys from the rest of the movie are there, too.

01:04:29 Stuart Host **Stuart:** And didn't they, like—didn't they, like—
Didn't they, like, squirt out of the fucking ground? Like little plants?

01:04:32 Elliott Host Yeah.

01:04:32 Stuart Host Like—that... I mean... a Star Destroyer wouldn't survive being in—
like—they're not in—uh—like—the gravity well type ships, right?

01:04:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Well, but here's the—well, but here's the thing.

01:04:45 Elliott Host **Stuart:** They can't be in atmosphere! They're way too heavy!
They're way too heavy. They would get—but they would destroy all sorts of stuff. But also, they've just been floating in the air, idling, for days it seems. And that's, one, against the law. You can't idle for more than 15 minutes, I think, in New York City. But also, like...

01:04:59 Dan Host Also there's a film shoot going on there. They're shooting *The Rise of Skywalker*—

01:05:04 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
[Through laughter] They can't—they can't park there!
[Through laughter] Yeah! *[Laughs.]* Wonder if they see orange cones in the sky? But it's like—they're just kinda hanging around waiting. And there's something about it where I was like, I can't tell if this is a really cool image, or if it's really dumb.

And it was like, if this was like a Yoda Ravski Mobius comic, I'd be like this is really cool. This endless sky of just hugely—huge—this dreadnaught juggernaut ships. But here it was like... so are they

01:05:34 Stuart Host gonna do anything? Or is the Emperor just gonna look at 'em and masturbate at all these ships that he's got? Like—

01:05:34 Elliott Host I mean, he kinda does. Right?

01:05:37 Crosstalk Crosstalk I mean, he does kinda—in—the Emperor is just kinda like—
Elliott: —hanging— *[Laughs.]*

01:05:40 Elliott Host **Stuart:** And he starts squirting lightning up there.
So that's what it is? He's ejaculating lightning? The Emperor also is like—just hanging around? Doing nothing? And it's one of these things where it's like—so what is the Emperor doing to pass the hours while he's just hanging around on this—in this machine arm? He's doing, like, warm-up comic shit for that—

01:05:51 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs.]*

01:05:55 Elliott Host —assembled crowd. *[Laughs.]*
Who here is from Exegal? Oh, you? Well, the thing about Jedis is... that'd be so funny.

01:06:00 Stuart Host Ooohh! I can't wait to hear this!

01:06:03 Elliott Host I'd love to see him doing crowd work. That'd be so amazing. Um—so Rey shows up and he's like, you wanna kill me? Good! That's what I want, too! When you kill me—let me explain, it's a little crazy—

[Dan laughs.]

01:06:31 Stuart Host When you kill me, my spirit will go into you and with me comes all the Siths, so you'll be the most powerful Sith and you'll be the Empress of the Universe, but it'll be really me inside of you. And I know it's kinda creepy that I'm a grandpa and I wanna get inside my granddaughter—that's—it's weird, yes, it's—but it's me—just my spirit.
It's like, have you ever—there's this cool story by Lovecraft.

[Elliott laughs.]

01:06:41 Elliott Host It's one of the less, uh, not-so-cool ones, if you know what I mean.
[Dan laughs.]
But uh—the—it's a weird plan and it also doesn't feel very Star Wars-y? It feels very magical and like—like—to put it—not to put it—this kind of point on it—

01:06:49 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —but *Lord of the Rings*-y? Or something?

01:06:51 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Elliott just pointed at me like he's—
—about to shoot me with force lightning.

01:06:53 Dan Host I mean, it feels Star Wars-y in that it is a complete exact retread of the end of *Return of the Jedi*, where he's like, *[mimicking Emperor Palpatine's voice]* yes, yes! Your anger! Strike me down!

01:07:03 Elliott Host No, no. But there—but there the assumption was—I—you're gonna turn evil, and that's gonna be good for me. Whereas here it's like—you're gonna turn evil, but then I'm gonna enter your body and you're gonna have—you're gonna be possessed by the souls of the Sith. But also, it was one of those things where it was like—so... so like... she can—so you can never—it's—it's a real convenient thing

for the bad guy to say. To be like—if you kill me, I’m gonna win! So I guess you can’t stop me. And it’s like—I wish he had just—

01:07:29 Stuart Host Mm-hm. Diplomatic immunity! *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

01:07:31 Elliott Host I wish he—I had—there were two ways I wanted her to end this, which are not it. One was for her to be like, bullshit, and then kill him and he’ll be like, oh I was lying! *[Elliott laughs.]*

01:07:39 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* And he’s just dead. You called my bluff! You’re—

01:07:43 Elliott Host **Stuart:** Oh! Called my bluff! Grandma’s little girl! You’re the first Jedi ever to think of that! But the other one was, he keeps saying—if you kill me out of hate—and then he’s pointing at her friends in the sky who have—who have appeared and are fighting these ships and are all dying. And he’s destroying them with lightning bolts and he’s like, you can’t save—if you wanna save your friends, you gotta kill me, but then I’m gonna win!

Look at this! Isn’t it a real Catch-22? Yes, we have that novel in this universe! But—and I wanted her—this is—if I had been writing this movie, which I was not—I would’ve wanted her to say—him to be like—you can’t—you—you can’t kill me out of anger! And for her to say, like... something about her friends and be like, I’m not killing you out of anger. I’m killing you out of love. And then just chop his head off.

01:08:17 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Well that was like—I would—

01:08:18 Elliott Host **Elliott:** And I was like, waiting—
—for that moment. And instead—Kylo shows up and he’s like, mmm! Now I’m gonna feast on your friendship! *[Laughs.]* And it was like—wait—what? How many rules are you making up as you go along?

01:08:27 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** I don’t know—

01:08:29 Dan Host **Dan:** Yeah, well—but also, like—
Like, I don’t wanna leap ahead, but I’m going to.

01:08:31 Stuart Host You can, yeah.

01:08:31 Elliott Host There’s not that much of the movie left.

01:08:32 Dan Host Like—like—

01:08:34 Elliott Host **Elliott:** This scene goes on for a long time.

01:08:35 Dan Host **Dan:** Kylo comes—
Kylo comes back and like... whatever. Like, uh... well, let’s—I—

01:08:40 Stuart Host You said—you said Kylo, not Kyle. ‘Cause if Kyle Katarn showed up—

01:08:43 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I would’ve been like—yes.

01:08:45 Elliott Host **Stuart:** I’d have been like—what? *[Laughs.]*
Instantly great.

01:08:47 Dan Host Yeah. Like, all this shit happens—

01:08:48 Stuart Host Yeah, if Dash Rendar showed up and helped out at the end—

01:08:51 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —it’d have been crazy!

Elliott: They’re like—

01:08:52 Elliott Host **Dan:** Well—wel—
They're like—they're like—yes. All the LucasArts games are officially canon now!

01:08:55 Dan Host We'll—we'll—we'll loop—
01:08:57 Elliott Host What, *Full Throttle*? And then Full Throttle and Grim Fandango show up. Here's Sam and Max! They hit the road to Star Wars?

[Dan laughs.]

01:09:07 Dan Host Maniac Mansion is here?
[Through laughter] Indiana Jones! You found Atlantis?

[Elliott laughs.]

01:09:12 Elliott Host No, um—we're gonna—I'm gonna—
Oh, that reminds me of this—that—that great Star Wars comic where the Millennium Falcon lands—uh, crash-lands on earth thousands of years ago? And then—and Chewbacca becomes, uh, becomes the abominable—becomes, uh, Bigfoot and Indiana Jones stumbles on this—this old spaceship with a skeleton in it? And he's like—hm. This is weird. *[Laughs.]* I was like, oh, what a great story! Harrison Ford finds his own dead body.

01:09:33 Dan Host Um... I wanna—I wanna loop—I—we can loop back and get the stuff that I—

01:09:37 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** I'm skipping over?

01:09:40 Dan Host **Elliott:** We'll loop back and—and kill our loopers, yeah.
What I'm—uh, you can get the stuff I'm skipping over. But eventually, like, Rey—spoiler alert—kills Palpatine by, like—like basically like reflecting his, like, zaps back at him? And I'm just like—

01:09:52 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** The old—the old zap-back attack.

01:09:54 Dan Host **Dan:** Okay. That's the old—
That's the loophole in this. Like, you can't strike me down in anger, but if I'm angrily zapping you and you reflect it at me—

[Elliott laughs.]

01:10:02 Elliott Host Then everything's cool. *[Laughs.]*
And—and—and like—the thing—and the thing that got me was she was like, yeah. I can't kill someone in anger! Even if he's the evilest man in the world! I guess I'll just cold-bloodedly kill all these child soldiers that are in armor! They have masks, so I can't see their faces so they're not people to me. Anyway. Poe Dameron, he's like—we gotta get—there's a bunch of crap about how—

01:10:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —they have to blow up a—

01:10:20 Elliott Host **Stuart:** He's a general at this point. Right?
01:10:21 Stuart Host He's a general. They—
Might wanna call him General Dameron, then.

[All laugh.]

01:10:23 Elliott Host Sorry. General Dameron.
01:10:24 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** *[Through laughter]* Show him the respect of his rank.

01:10:26 Elliott Host **Elliott:** *[Through laughter]* Gotta respect the rank. Even though I don't respect the man who holds it.

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

The uh—they—like—they're—they've got this—they gotta destroy a transmitter because the Star Destroyers can't not crash into each other without this transmitter, and they—he's like—we'll send out a message for all the volunteers. We're gonna *Dunkirk* this. We're gonna have a fleet of civilian ships come in. But nobody's showing up—

01:10:42 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —and then at the last minute—

01:10:43 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I also love that—
I love that they also, like, made a point of being, like, in the last movie we tried to get people to show up but they wouldn't! 'Cause the movie wasn't as good! *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

01:10:53 Elliott Host And uh—they—
01:10:54 Dan Host I mean, the charitable—look. There is a charitable, like, interpretation, which is—
01:10:58 Stuart Host Uh-huh. Yeah. Go on.
01:10:59 Dan Host They have to try and get everyone to show up in the last movie and them not come for it to pay off—

01:11:04 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —in this movie that they do come.

01:11:05 Elliott Host **Elliott:** No, no! I thought—I did—
I didn't take that as necessarily comment on the last one. But it did—what bothered me was, they all show up. And he's like, they did it! We did it! I am the greatest! Take that, dead Laura Dern! I'm the greatest! But then they show up, and—and, uh, Richard E. Grant—who, again—I love.

01:11:20 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** He's great in everything. He says—wait, wait, wait.

01:11:22 Elliott Host **Dan:** I—just one—
He says—what are these ships? They don't have a fleet! And his second-in-command goes, it's not a fleet! It's just... people! And I was like, movie—Richard E. Grant is a person. The Emperor is a person when it comes down to it. All the stormtroopers are people. The bad guys are also people. So like—you have now set up a dichotomy where the Rebels are good because I guess they don't have uniforms? Whereas the bad guys are inhuman—

01:11:45 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** —and can just be—

01:11:47 Elliott Host **Dan:** He means civilians, Elliott.
Then—then say they don't—they—or then here's what they should've said. They should've said—uh—they don't have a fleet! And the second-in-command should've said, I suppose they do now. And then you don't bring up this question in my mind of like, so I guess the bad guys can be killed with impunity 'cause they're not human beings?

01:12:02 Dan Host Okay.
01:12:01 Elliott Host They—they're just—they're just monsters?
01:12:04 Dan Host Well, you're ruining the thing I was gonna say, which is, like, I know—

01:12:06 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** —that this—

01:12:07 Elliott Host **Elliott:** How much you loved—
01:12:08 Dan Host —that moment?
Well, no, this is a—

[Elliott laughs.]

I know—I know this is a—I know this is a rip-off. I mean, it's not a rip-off—

01:12:13 Elliott Host It's a rip-off of *Dunkirk*, the real thing that happened.
01:12:15 Dan Host You've—you've seen it in plenty of movies. You've seen it in life, in *Dunkirk*. But like—but—

01:12:19 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I mean, I wasn't there. *[Laughs.]*

Stuart: *[Through laughter]* I didn't see it!

[Dan laughs.]

01:12:21 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I didn't—I wasn't on the beaches there, Dan. *[Laughs.]*

Dan: No, no. You're Highlander, right?

Stuart: There was that time where my friends Bill and Ted took me back to look at some ship for class. *[Laughs.]*

01:12:28 Dan Host What I'm going to say is, like... this—this movie comes, like, so—like, this movie comes so soon on, um, the heels of—*Avengers: Endgame*? Where like the same thing happens.

01:12:42 Elliott Host Oh! And it was—and it was—I was—I was—it was so much more powerful for me in *Avengers: Endgame*.

01:12:46 Dan Host Yes.
01:12:47 Elliott Host And I think partly because... other than Lando, and—
01:12:50 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** *[Inaudible.]*

Stuart: You get to see Ant—uh, giant man punch a flying space worm?

01:12:53 Elliott Host I mean, that's always my favorite thing in any of the Avengers movies, is seeing him as giant man. When—when in *Civil War*, when he grows giant man and ripped the wing off a plane? I was like, this is why I went to see this movie.

[Stuart laughs.]

I didn't know it was happening? But I have always wanted to see this.

01:13:05 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Except—

01:13:06 Dan Host **Dan:** Except Elliott, he has—
—the strength of a man when he's small; why does he have the strength of a super-man when he's big?

01:13:11 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** It doesn't make any sense!

Elliott: 'Cause his muscles are huge!
Also, Dan—if that's—

01:13:13 Elliott Host **Dan:** But his molecules are further apart! *[Laughs.]*
01:13:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk

[Stuart laughs.]

01:13:16 Elliott Host Elliott: — the thing—no.
 Dan. This—these movies are also asking you to believe that the Norse mythology is the one true religion.

[Dan laughs.]

01:13:31 Stuart Host Because we've seen those gods and we know that that is the underworld that exists. So if you're willing to buy that, then maybe you can buy that this guy gets *[though laughter]* super strong when he's giant. *[Laughs.]*

01:13:40 Elliott Host And it also makes—it's also posits the idea that Benedict Cumberbatch's character is actually speaking with a normal New York accent?

01:13:40 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*

01:13:40 Elliott Host Which—that's a "cwazy" accent, guys!
 It is "cwazy."

01:13:40 Dan Host I did—I did wanna say, though. Like, even though it was scooped by Avengers, and even though this is like, a cheat moment designed to make me emotional, I did get a little emotional when everyone showed up.

01:13:52 Elliott Host I think I would've gotten more emotional if there were more characters that I was seeing that were not... new to this movie?

01:13:59 Stuart Host Mm-hm.

01:13:59 Elliott Host I don't really care of Keri Russell shows up at the end. That is not a character that has not been built up for me. Lando we saw already, earlier in the movie, so it's not a big surprise. We get to see Wedge—

01:14:08 Dan Host Wedge is coming, baby!

01:14:09 Elliott Host Great. Wedge. Fantastic. And—but like—there was a—when—a—I was trying to think why is it so affecting to me in *Endgame*—and even in *Endgame* there was a part where—at a certain point it was just like, don't forget me, boss! And what about me, boss?

[Dan laughs.]

And over here, boss! But I think it was because... one movie ago, we had seen a lot of those characters die. But also, that—those movies... like, were spaced out just in a different way and I felt like—it was weird because it's like—oh, I—I feel with the Ave—with the Marvel movies it was like, we're seeing all these characters that have been built up over years all in one scene for the first time.

But with Star Wars I was like, I should be feeling that too. These are characters I've seen for—my entire life! Except that... for some of—I think they ruined some of the impact by having, like, having Lando show up. Having Han show up. Having Leia play such a big part up 'til then. Having Luke already have shown up. It was like—the idea of all these characters coming back was not as exciting. We've already seen them come back in that movie. Y'know. So I don't know. I could be wrong. But for some reason it just didn't have the same punch.

01:15:05 Dan Host Maybe. I just don't know how you square that circle because you want to see those characters come back earlier in the story than, like, at the very last moment.

01:15:12 Elliott Host I think you—I think you... I mean, part of it is just... dig deeper and get some more characters. Why isn't—Moma Nadon there? Where's Dengar? Come on! I will—bring—bring 'em all back! Where's Salacious Crumb piloting something?

[Dan and Stuart laugh.]

01:15:28 Stuart Host Just—laughing his fool head off! Come on! Anyway, while they're—now that there's a lot of ships, it's the law of—
I was just mad there wasn't a scene where BB-8 got to beat the shit out of BB-9E?

01:15:34 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
I mean—I was mad that R2 barely came back. Like, if there's ever a character I wanted to see play a big part, it's R2! Instead, BB-8 has one moment. R2, like, has a moment where he gets zapped and Poe's using him in his ship and I was like, Poe. Since when are you and R2, like, best buds?

01:15:48 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Like—c'mon. You're BB-8's dude!

01:15:49 Stuart Host **Stuart:** I mean—the—
One of the—I'd—I'd already mentioned this, that they pushed, uh, the release of an episode of *The Mandalorian* up so that they could show off a Force power, so fans wouldn't see it for the first time in the movie and get mad. Uh... but... I was kinda bummed that, like... man. Carl Weathers shoulda shown up, or Gina Carano, or... Babe—well, Baby Yoda, of course. *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

01:16:13 Elliott Host If Baby Yoda showed up flying a plane at the end that would've been amazing!
I mean, they's—I think—yeah.

01:16:15 Stuart Host I woulda thrown somebody else's popcorn in the air. I wasn't eating popcorn—

01:16:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** —at that point. Can't take the calories at four in the morning. *[Laughs.]*

Elliott: And I mean, and like you're saying—Kyle Katarn should've been there— *[Laughs.]*

01:16:23 Elliott Host *[Dan laughs.]*
Dash Rendar should've been there.

01:16:24 Stuart Host Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

01:16:25 Elliott Host All the—

01:16:25 Stuart Host And if they were—if they were rendered exactly as they were in the original—

[Elliott laughs.]

—Uh, video game! *[Laughs.]*

01:16:29 Elliott Host Yeah. Mara Jade is there just as text, y'know? But uh—they—I think the... I dunno. For some reason it just didn't—and—it—because of the law—

01:16:36 Stuart Host General Grievous was there.

01:16:39 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
I mean, he's dead, but sure! They're all coming back. Yeah, why not! Uh... they—I think the law of movie plot means that when it's time for the good guys to win, all the bad guy's super-machines are suddenly incredibly vulnerable. So a couple shots just takes out their big plan to destroying spaceship dicks. Meanwhile—

01:17:03 Stuart Host *[Dan laughs.]*
—Rey is effectively killed by the Emperor, right? And who shows up? Kylo Ren. He's a good guy now. He fights all of his Knights of Ren, which—we don't get to see that much of.

01:17:04 Elliott Host Yeah. They're—they're boring.
And—he—he shows up and—oh, no. That's when it's like, ohh! Your friendship is so powerful! You are this fabled Jedi friendship that only appears—

01:17:31 Crosstalk Crosstalk *[Dan laughs.]*
—once every thousand years! And it's like—it's called love, Palpatine. It happens all the time! Like, I dunno. Maybe it's weird to you. And he sucks their friendship out. That's when he gets super powerful, and... what happens? Like—Kylo Ren, like, uh, Rey does the thing where she has two lightsabers and she reflects the lightning bolts back at him and he dissolves and his skin's—
Elliott: —staring up—

01:17:32 Dan Host **Dan:** Well, no. But—but before that happens—
—she calls basically—she calls on the power of all the Jedis that came before her.

01:17:36 Elliott Host Oh, right.

01:17:36 Stuart Host Uh-huh.

01:17:37 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** So she is—

01:17:38 Elliott Host **Elliott:** Oh, then they're all like—
I'm with you! Here with you, I am, too! Like, that kind of stuff. Yeah.

01:17:42 Stuart Host It's me! Ki-Adi-Mundi!

01:17:44 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
[All laugh.]
I mean, and you hear Mace Windu for a moment, right?

01:17:46 Stuart Host Yeah, I think so.

01:17:46 Elliott Host Yeah. And you probably hear, like, uh—

01:17:48 Stuart Host And he's like— *[Laughs.]* The fucking king of reflecting shit on Sidious, right? *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs. Dan joins in.]

Sidious hears that voice and he's like, fuuuck I'm gonna need a new faaace!

01:17:58 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
01:17:59 Elliott Host Kit Fisto's there. Everyone's there.
01:18:07 Stuart Host Yeah. And I have to assume Kyle Katarn, because he became a
01:18:09 Elliott Host Jedi in this—in this—in the second game! Uh, and so they're all
there. And—that's right. I forgot—
01:18:07 Stuart Host Al Kanane? Wait, no, sorry. Go on.
01:18:09 Elliott Host Yeah, yeah, yeah. Exactly.

[Stuart laughs.]

01:18:11 Stuart Host She—she calls on all the—
What— *[Laughs.]* Whatever the character I named, uh, in *Knights of
the Old Republic*. *[Laughs.]*

01:18:14 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
And—and—Ulic Qel-Droma is there? Yeah, sure. And uh—and
uh—Rey uses that to deflect it with the lightsabers, and she did a
great job of... getting across something that no actor is—is trained
to do, which is—they're like, okay, now you have to pretend you're
pushing against something really hard and it's made out of force
bolts or whatever.

01:18:32 Dan Host No actor? Mimes, Elliott. *[Laughs.]*
01:18:35 Elliott Host Oh, I for—yeah.
01:18:36 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* They've been training their whole life for that.

01:18:38 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Now I wish she had been taking mime training earlier in the movie
and it came into effect here. Uh, and—the lightning dissolves, uh,
Palpatine and all—and the planet starts—it releases a huge thing of
energy which kills all of his followers and it's like—uh... like, again.
That was like 1,000 people and I guess maybe they're—we'll—we'll
chalk that up to Palpatine's casualties? I dunno.

01:18:58 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** I kinda feel like that was Rey's fault.

Stuart: Yeah. I mean—as—

01:19:00 Stuart Host **Dan:** Yeah.
As they're dying, they're all like, it was worth the waaaaait!

01:19:04 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
This is the show?

[All laugh.]

01:19:18 Stuart Host And uh—and—Rey is like—ugh, I'm dead now! And Kyle—Kylo
01:19:20 Elliott Host Ren is like, mm, I learned a thing or about Force healing! And he—
brings her back to life and they kiss and then Kylo dies.
[Through laughter] Then he—he dies.
And you know he's dead for real 'cause he disappears and his
clothes fall to the ground. Uh, 'cause that's how a real Jedi dies,
Dan.

01:19:25 Stuart Host Uh-huh. I learned that watching *The Dark Crystal*. *[Laughs.]*

01:19:30 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
And, uh—

01:19:31 Stuart Host Now—

01:19:31 Elliott Host They blow up the bad guy's spaceships and—

01:19:33 Stuart Host Now that the Emperor's dead, uh, I'm not a huge fan of the Emperor showing back up in this movie. I think it's really dumb that he shows up. Uh, they wait to reveal him until the very last movie and he's, I dunno. It's just stupid. But the—I don't know if I would've preferred... I don't know if I think it's cool that, like—he's a physical body? I wish if he was a physical body they played up more the idea that he was a clone and specifically that, like... because he's a Sith he can't live on? After death? Like, he's obsessed with—like—unlike a Jedi, he can't—

01:20:05 Elliott Host He can't come back as a ghost so he's gotta keep transferring his consciousness to bodies.

01:20:09 Stuart Host Or if... or if—I think he shoulda just been a weird spirit that they couldn't fight but is more this, like, feeling of darkness. But I don't know.

01:20:17 Elliott Host I think those are both super great, valid ways to do it? I've—I've been on the record. I think—before I was saying—I don't—I've never liked the Emperor as a character? I feel like he tips it too far from... iconic legendary status into... child's fairy tale status? Where—and I just don't buy that this huge, intergalactic empire is run by a creepy old wizard man who uses a—like, a twisted black cane?

01:20:39 Stuart Host Yeah. What about that part at the end of, uh, *The Phantom Menace* where he's like... oh, Mister Skywalker! I'll be watching you with extreme interest!

[Elliott laughs.]

Or whatever the fuck he says.

[All laugh.]

And you're like, Sheev, you fucking dirty dog! I know what you're up to! *[Laughs.]*

01:20:53 Elliott Host The uh—I think—the—but I think it's—it feels like such a... yeah, it's just a disappointment when you see him show up in the beginning? 'Cause it's like—

01:21:01 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Dan, are you texting all your friends about Emperor Palpatine right now?

Dan: Yep. I am totally. That—way to blow up my spot.

01:21:06 Elliott Host **Elliott:** It's like—it's like—
It feels like they should've—what—that you're tech—you're—you're really paying close attention to texting during the—during the recording? That it's, uh—that it—they should—they should—the opening crawl shoulda been like:

01:21:18 Crosstalk Crosstalk Episode IX. It is a time of lack of imagination in the universe. Uh, the Emperor's back. We couldn't think—
Elliott: —of a better bad guy.

01:21:20 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Doesn't it open with, like—

01:21:22 Elliott Host Uh, Episode IX: The Dead Speak?
Something like that, yeah.

01:21:24 Stuart Host Yeah.
01:21:24 Elliott Host Well, I mean, and—well—
01:21:24 Stuart Host ‘Cause they’re referring to the fact that, of course, if you’d been playing the videogame *Fortnite* you would’ve heard messages from Emperor Palpatine. *[Laughs.]*

01:21:31 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Well that’s the thing! Like, if they had started the movie with these mysterious messages that say they’re from Palpatine, and it’s a mystery whether he’s actually back or not, I think that would’ve been really cool. There’s something really disappointing about him just showing up in the first scene and being like, hey, ‘sup, Kylo? It’s me, Palp. I’m back, my buddy!

01:21:47 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Come on!

01:21:47 Stuart Host **Stuart:** Well, that was a thing—
01:21:51 Dan Host —like, that opening scene I was like, uh-oh. *[Laughs.]*
01:21:52 Elliott Host I—
Like, the movie gets off on the wrong foot. And it’s... partly because it’s like... uh... there’s no—like, I don’t want a lot of mystery from a Star Wars movie? But I want, like, storytelling? Y’know? I dunno.

01:22:03 Dan Host I do feel like the trilogy—
01:22:04 Elliott Host That’s a rough thing for me to say. I shouldn’t say that.
01:22:05 Dan Host The trilogy writes itself into kind of a weird place? And I don’t know what to do about it? Because like... look. Like, for me, Kylo Ren is actually one of the—the best things about the new trilogy.

01:22:16 Elliott Host Yeah! I like him a lot.
01:22:17 Dan Host Like—Adam Driver’s great in the role and it’s an interesting conception of the role. Like, we’ve seen, like, the conflicted bad guy before—but only like kind of at the end of the dark—Darth Vader? Or—Dark Vader. The Darth Vader arc?

01:22:29 Elliott Host Dark—Dark Vapor is the—is the bootleg toy that you find? *[Laughs.]*
01:22:33 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Elliott:** Like in a—like, on a street fair next to a socks, uh—socks booth?

01:22:37 Dan Host **Dan:** No, but like—It’s interesting to see, like—
The whole arc of these movies, like, he is like, this... emo guy who’s trying really hard to be bad, even though something’s pulling him good. And that’s interesting. But you do write yourself into a corner and I wonder how this last movie would go if someone else did it. Where, like, you need someone to be the actual bad guy of the movie, but you don’t necessarily want that to be Kylo Ren because he’s such a complex... like... character at that point.

01:23:04 Stuart Host Yeah. I mean—I—I—I don’t think—I feel like you could’ve done this movie—obviously, this is stupid that I’m doing this like backseat. I’m trying to rewrite a fucking Star Wars movie right now.

01:23:14 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** But like—

01:23:14 Elliott Host **Elliott:** And also—
These movies are incredibly hard to make. There’s a lot of expectations on ‘em, and there’s a schedule to hit. Like, it’s hard. Y’know, it’s not easy.

01:23:19 Stuart Host And clear—that’s part of the—part of the thing that felt—I felt strongest about, was how rushed the whole thing felt. More than any of the other Star Wars.

01:23:27 Elliott Host Which is strange, 'cause *Force Awakens* I know they really had to rush. Like, the—the release date was announced and they—I dunno, what? A year and half to make that movie from start of scripting to... finish of production and then release? And that comes together—but that—I guess that's being carried along by the excitement of new things. And old things. And this—it's hard to have a culmination that—that really is, like... that pulls it—but anyway. You were saying—I interrupted you.

01:23:50 Stuart Host No, like, I mean—I feel like you... if—you—the focus of the movie was on Rey and Kylo's relationship, and... Kylo is now in charge of this whole fucking big army and then you had the idea of, like, a mysterious message from Palpatine—is it from Palpatine or not? And that pushes both of them, like—it—Kylo's obviously angry that somebody else is, like, claiming to be the supreme Dark Side dude, so he starts acting out. And it forces a confrontation between the two of them, and then over the course of that he realizes that, y'know, whatever. He's not—he—y'know. Whatever. He's a good—he's a good dude. *[Laughs.]* And that Hux is the real *[though laughter]* bad guy.

01:24:25 Elliott Host Here's the way I would've done it. Okay.

01:24:27 Dan Host Okay.

01:24:27 Elliott Host Just a—one—one of many ways. This is backseat—I was—I'm gonna be—uh—this is a little segment I'm gonna call "Backseat Adam Driver." Where I tell you how I would've done it. Is—start off—there's these—it's—Kylo Ren and Rey have this weird kind of, uh, relationship. They're also the leaders of enemy forces. And like you're saying, Kylo Ren is struggling with this Dark Side aspect of him. And because—or struggling with the Light Side aspect of him.

He wants to be a bad guy. It's—it's—because to be a bad guy is to be... emotionally invulnerable. And to be a good guy is to open yourself up to feelings like love and insecurity and relying on other people and he can't abide that. He can't abide the weakness inside himself that all people have. So he wants to be Darth Vader, who he believes had no weakness 'cause he doesn't know that Darth Vader went "Noooooo!" when he found out that his wife had passed.

[Stuart laughs.]

01:25:13 Stuart Host And uh—and that Darth Vader was the—

01:25:14 Elliott Host *[Deep voice]* "How's my girlfriend?" That the Dark Vade—that the Darth Vader was the weakest thing of all—a deadbeat dad.

01:25:18 Stuart Host Oh, wow.

01:25:18 Elliott Host But anyway. That—uh—so he—but there's these mysterious, uh, messages start appearing. I don't know. Over the radio or something? Or to Force-sensitive people all over the galaxy, 'cause we've established in the last movie—there are—people are Force-sensitive all over. Little boys can use the Force to put brooms in their hands. Y'know. And if a little boy can put a broom on his hands, then we can make a pencil out of leaves, Dan.

01:25:37 Dan Host Yeah. *[Laughs.]*

01:25:37 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* And so—

01:25:38 Dan Host *[Through laughter]* Elliott is like—

| | | | |
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| 01:25:40 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: —telling me—on the arm—you know, I love it! I mean, fucking— |
| | | | Stuart: Elliott knows how to pitch to his audience! |
| | | | Elliott: Dan, you—you like this, right? So here's what happens next. Here's what happens next. |
| 01:25:45 | Elliott | Host | Get a load of this. See if this grabs you. So—they—and they're—so they're battling and Kylo Ren is getting more and more distracted by trying to figure out who this Palpatine guy is. And Rey—and the—the heroes are like, well we—if Palpatine's back, obviously he's the real villain. We gotta go after him. And I would have it turn out at the end that Kylo Ren had—is a basically a split personality. And he's been making this happen. The Dark Side of him is—if anything—disgusted with the Light Side of him and is trying to pull away. |
| | | | And... if—either goad him into being worse? Or create some sort of Force-Emperor entity like you're talking about. And so the way that Kylo Ren can defeat this—and this makes it more of a Kylo Ren movie than a Rey movie? You'd have to come up with what Rey's plot is? Is that—he is figuring out that he is... not a slave, basically, to the Dark Side of his passions and things like that. But I would <u>so</u> much more like—like, that would play into the duality of it? Somewhat? But—and then you— |
| 01:26:39 | Stuart | Host | And focus on these characters instead of just, like... dumb bullshit. |
| 01:26:43 | Elliott | Host | And instead of sending Rey and her pals on a treasure hunt to find, like, one item after another. |
| 01:26:48 | Stuart | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> Mm-hm. |
| 01:26:48 | Elliott | Host | But that—I think —'cause that was part of what bugged me about the movie, was it didn't feel like it was about the characters in the movie? Like, Star Wars you could say has a MacGuffin in it! It's got the Death Star plans. But it's very clearly—this is a movie about, like, Luke's journey and then it becomes about Han's journey too, and it becomes a little bit about Leia's journey. And they both—they all have trauma to deal with. Leia loses her entire planet. Luke loses a friend that he had made a couple days ago. And— <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:27:10 | Dan | Host | Luke loses his—his surrogate <u>parents</u> , Elliott! |
| 01:27:14 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: That—he's—and also <i>[Laughs.]</i> We have—but he doesn't like them! That's—and his aunt and uncle. |
| | | | Dan: Yeah, that's true. |
| | | | Stuart: Yeah. |
| 01:27:18 | Dan | Host | Well, no, he doesn't like— |
| 01:27:19 | Stuart | Host | But that doesn't mean he— |
| 01:27:20 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: <i>[Inaudible]</i> |
| | | | Stuart: —wants to see, like—he doesn't wanna see, like, roasted skeletons! |
| | | | Dan: <i>[inaudible]</i> Hometown! I didn't like my hometown. <i>[Through laughter]</i> I don't wanna see my parents roasted by Sand People! |
| | | | <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 01:27:26 | Elliott | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> Okay, that's a—uh, Stormtroopers, Dan. |
| 01:27:28 | Dan | Host | That's true. Who pretend to be Sand People. |

01:27:30 Elliott Host They pretend to be Sand People.
01:27:30 Dan Host I'm sorry.
01:27:31 Elliott Host And they prefer to be called Tusken Raiders. Sand People is a—is a negative term. But let—the—it—this movie it kind of felt like—
01:27:36 Stuart Host But Stormtroopers never actually *[though laughter]* shoot people. Right?
01:27:40 Elliott Host *[Laughs.]* It's the one time storm—well—Stormtroopers can shoot civilians. That's what they're good at.
01:27:44 Dan Host They can—they can set a non-flammable hut on fire.

01:27:47 Elliott Host *[All laugh.]*
01:27:50 Stuart Host And so—so it's like—they were trying to make this—this story—Civilians' armor class is much *[though laughter]* lower so it's easier to hit them.
01:27:54 Elliott Host They were trying to make this story about Rey kind of finding herself? Who is she and who does she belong to and—and rejecting this—this legacy of evil? But it never quite felt like it was built around the character that we've come to know? I dunno. It felt like—at points where the char—it should've been about character—
01:28:08 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Dan:** Well, let's—

Stuart: I just love the—I just love the continuing message—

Elliott: —not jumping to a new planet.
01:28:10 Stuart Host —that you can only have, uh, Force powers if your parents *[though laughter]* had Force powers.

01:28:14 Dan Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
Yeah. Let's wrap—let's wrap this all up, though. Like—just like the very end of the actual movie. The—the synopsis.
01:28:20 Elliott Host Oh. At the end of the movie, everyone's celebrating. We did it! Yay! Uh, and Chew—this was the biggest piece of stupid fan service. Is that someone hands Chewbacca a medal, like, here ya go. You got one finally. And I was like—wow. They're really closing the loop on this thing that happened at the end *[though laughter]* of the first movie!

[All laugh.]

But I said—I had to pause the movie—'cause again I was watching a digital screener—and call my wife over and go, this was the dumbest moment. *[Laughs.]*

[Dan laughs.]

They're like, finally we rectified the historic crime of Chewbacca not getting a medal! *[Laughs.]*
01:28:45 Crosstalk Crosstalk **Stuart:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. And then—and then—

Dan: And then Danielle's like—
01:28:47 Dan Host Could I go to sleep now?

01:28:48 Stuart Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
No. Stay awake. Now—the next thing you're gonna see is somebody slap the cuffs on Ozymandias.

01:28:54 Elliott Host *[Elliott laughs.]*
The only—the only thing that woulda made that scene more ridiculous to me is if they gave him the Cowardly Lion’s medal from *[though laughter]* *The Wizard of Oz.*

[Dan laughs.]

01:29:04 Stuart Host That just said “COURAGE” in big letters on it. So—then, uh—and Rey goes to—
Yeah. *[Through laughter]* They—they translate Chewbacca’s yowl?

[Elliott laughs.]

It says—“This looks fake.” *[Laughs.]*

[Elliott laughs.]

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| 01:29:10 | Elliott | Host | He takes a bite and there’s chocolate inside. <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> Uh, so—Rey goes to Tatoonine to Luke’s old home. I’m sure it’s the real set, which is really there still in Tunisia being devoured by the desert slowly over time. And because Jedi have no bodies to bury and their ghosts just hang around to talk to anyways, so why bother? <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> She—she buries, uh, Luke and Leia’s lightsabers. Or is it Kylo Ren and—I don’t remember whose lightsabers they are. |
| 01:29:33 | Dan | Host | No, it’s—it’s—yeah. It’s Luke and Larry’s. Leia’s. |
| 01:29:35 | Elliott | Host | And uh—and—then— |
| 01:29:35 | Dan | Host | Lairs. |
| 01:29:36 | Elliott | Host | And uh, Luke and Leia’s ghosts are like, thanks, pal. And then someone’s like—then an old lady who’s just wandering by with her <u>amazing</u> beast of burden— |
| 01:29:44 | Stuart | Host | She’s awesome, yeah. |
| 01:29:45 | Elliott | Host | She’s like—oh, who are you? We don’t get many strangers ‘round these parts! |
| 01:29:48 | Dan | Host | Last names only, please! <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:29:50 | Elliott | Host | What’s your name? And she goes—Rey... Skywalker. And I wanted—I—and like, I get that she’s taking on that mantle, but I wanted Luke’s ghost to be like—whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa. <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> Hold on a second. |
| 01:30:01 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: You are <u>not</u> a Skywalker. Dan: Now—okay. |

| | | | |
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| | | | Stuart: Or—or the old woman to be— |
| 01:30:03 | Stuart | Host | —horrified? <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:30:04 | Dan | Host | Hold on. |
| 01:30:04 | Elliott | Host | You're like, wait a minute! Like Anakin Skywalker?! Darth Vader? Guards! Kill her! |
| 01:30:08 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: Kill her! Kill her! Stuart: Luke—Luke Skywalker who mar—who killed his aunt and uncle?! <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> |
| 01:30:12 | Elliott | Host | You know Luke Skywalker, who kissed his sister <i>[though laughter]</i> on the lips once? <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:30:17 | Dan | Host | I want us— |
| 01:30:17 | Elliott | Host | So you think the people in Tatooine think Luke killed his aunt and uncle and then skipped town? <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:30:20 | Stuart | Host | Mm-hm. |
| 01:30:21 | Elliott | Host | That's a totally valid reading of what happened! <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:30:23 | Dan | Host | I—I want to see— <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> |
| 01:30:24 | Elliott | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> I love the idea there's a wanted posters for Luke all over Mos Eisley spaceport! <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> "He committed the worst crime: aunt-and-uncle-cide!" |
| 01:30:31 | Stuart | Host | Well—when he was— <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> |
| 01:30:31 | Dan | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> "Last seen in the company of an old man who chopped off the arm of one of our upstanding citizens." |
| 01:30:39 | Stuart | Host | Yeah! |
| 01:30:38 | Elliott | Host | So this—this boy? |
| 01:30:39 | Dan | Host | Our most beloved— |
| 01:30:40 | Stuart | Host | Grow—growing up, he seemed like such a quiet boy. He kept shooting womprats, but that's normal, right? <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:30:45 | Elliott | Host | All we know—yeah. He killed animals as a youth. He <u>never</u> wanted to do his chores. Was always hanging out with those losers at Toshi Station. Next thing we know, his house is on fire. His aunt and uncle—who only loved him—are dead. He's run away wearing just a karate gi with a crazy old man who lived out in the desert. We heard they jumped ship with a pirate and a bear-dog. <i>[All laugh.]</i> After going to a—to a seedy space bar. Oh—that Luke Skywalker! He is bad news! <i>[All laugh.]</i> |

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| | | | That is a <u>totally</u> valid reading for the local <i>[though laughter]</i> Tatooine gossips. |
| 01:31:17 | Dan | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> Okay. That all being said— |
| 01:31:20 | Stuart | Host | The Tatooine Tattler—we—we know. <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 01:31:21 | Dan | Host | That all— |
| 01:31:23 | Elliott | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> It comes in the—it comes in the Mos Eisley PennySaver. <i>[Laughs.]</i> The Tattler. And it's this blind item: which lugubrious Hutt was seen eyeing a certain six-breasted— <i>[Dan loses it in the background.]</i> Hmm! Our lips are sealed! <i>[Laughs.]</i> And it's by Grindan. It's the Tatooine Tattler by Grindan! <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:31:41 | Dan | Host | That all being said. <i>[All laugh.]</i> For me—like, I know—I <u>know</u> that the— |
| 01:31:48 | Elliott | Host | Which Mandalorian bounty hunter was seen yukking it up with those twin ladies that hang out at the bar? |
| 01:31:55 | Dan | Host | For me— |
| 01:31:56 | Stuart | Host | They'll post the—they'll post the picture when Han steps on Jabba's tail and they're like, Jabba the <u>Nut</u> ? <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:32:03 | Elliott | Host | Sources tell me that Figran D'an and the Modal Nodes may be breaking up—or recording a new album? I <u>guess</u> time will tell! |
| 01:32:10 | Dan | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> I will say—for me, even though I know that that woman wandering by and asking Rey's name is the most <u>egregious</u> , like, setup for an emotional moment— |
| 01:32:21 | Stuart | Host | Yup. |
| 01:32:22 | Dan | Host | I did find the <u>very</u> end of this movie moving. Like, the idea that Rey—who, like, <u>so</u> ... <u>so</u> ... found it important to, like, think about who her parents were. Was like... sort of disappointed to find out, maybe, that like—like—well, like—felt like—spent so much time thinking that her parents were <u>bad</u> people— |
| 01:32:47 | Elliott | Host | And when she was first—when we're first introduced to her, she has <u>nobody</u> . |
| 01:32:49 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: Yeah. She has no one in her life. Elliott: No one in the world. She is totally alone. |
| 01:32:52 | Dan | Host | Yes. And then, like, thinks her parents are bad people. Then finds that they were, like—killed because they were protecting her from a bad person. And then had these, like, <u>real</u> people in her life that were, uh, surrogate parent figures to her. I did find it moving that she took on their name. |
| 01:33:10 | Elliott | Host | And we can leave aside the fact that her surrogate father and surrogate mother are siblings. |
| 01:33:15 | Dan | Host | Sure. Why not. |
| 01:33:16 | Elliott | Host | And the weirdness—although, I guess—you know what? |
| 01:33:18 | Stuart | Host | And they got blasted, <i>Harry Potter</i> style. |

| | | | |
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| 01:33:20 | Elliott | Host | That's <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> . And I can't find fault with that. Because Anne's surrogate parents eventually are basically Marilla and, um... what's uh... oh, why can't I remember that— |
| 01:33:29 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: The man's name? It's a— Dan: I dunno. I—I read the books so long ago. |
| 01:33:30 | Elliott | Host | Oh, it's—anyway. The brother and sister who—who take her in and then—uh, and—then they become kind of her—her family. |
| 01:33:36 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: You know what? So I'm—so scratch that. Stuart: So after burying those lightsabers— |
| 01:33:38 | Stuart | Host | So does she have a cool lightsaber anymore, Dan? |
| 01:33:40 | Dan | Host | She has another lightsaber that she apparently built herself. |
| 01:33:42 | Stuart | Host | Cool. What color is that lightsaber? |
| 01:33:44 | Dan | Host | It's like white, I guess? |
| 01:33:44 | Stuart | Host | Whaaat?! |
| 01:33:44 | Elliott | Host | And it's—and it's got kind of a dial on it? |
| 01:33:47 | Stuart | Host | A cool new lightsaber? |
| 01:33:49 | Elliott | Host | It's like a hipster retro rotary lightsaber. <i>[Laughs.]</i> <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> So I think—uh—yeah. Dan, I think you were moved more by this movie than I was. I think I found it more... to be honest, like... boring? And it's the first time—counting the pre—even including the prequels and including <i>Solo</i> , where I was watching a Star Wars movie and I was like—eh, like, I'm kinda done with this movie. |
| 01:34:09 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: Yeah. Well let's— Elliott: Like, by the third— |
| 01:34:11 | Elliott | Host | —time Kylo Ren and Rey were about to lightsaber, I was like—are we gonna watch them lightsaber fight <u>again</u> ? And I felt bad 'cause I was like—there's real fight choreography going into this. The actors look like they really worked hard at it. Everybody's doing their best! But I'm just kinda like— |
| 01:34:24 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: —over it. Stuart: Yeah. The inner grandma in you— |
| 01:34:26 | Stuart | Host | —kicked in and you're like— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> —oh, so many people worked hard! |
| 01:34:28 | Elliott | Host | I mean, I'm just so glad that so many people made a paycheck— |
| 01:34:30 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: —off this project. Dan: Guys, look. Look. |
| 01:34:31 | Dan | Host | This is a... this is a <i>Flop House After Dark</i> . As we've decided. |
| 01:34:36 | Elliott | Host | I've certainly been swearing up a storm. |
| 01:34:37 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: We're not— Stuart: Not— |
| 01:34:38 | Stuart | Host | I haven't been wearing pants at all. <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |

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| 01:34:40 | Dan | Host | Yeah. |
| 01:34:40 | Elliott | Host | Uh, so how is it different than a usual one? <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> |
| 01:34:42 | Dan | Host | That's <u>very</u> arousing. |
| 01:34:43 | Stuart | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoaaa! <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 01:34:45 | Dan | Host | We—um—I think I've decided we've gone, uh... as long as a normal episode just talking about the movie. |
| 01:34:51 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Stuart: Yeah. Dan: Like, we're not gonna bother with— Elliott: It's almost like the thing that we <u>should</u> do normally. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:34:54 | Dan | Host | We're not gonna bother with any of the extraneous stuff. We're just gonna kind of end it here. But like—I do think we should do a final judgments whether it's a good-bad movie, a bad-bad movie, a movie you kinda like—Elliott, you're kind of in it already. |
| 01:35:06 | Elliott | Host | Yeah. |
| 01:35:07 | Dan | Host | You're soaking in it. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:35:08 | Elliott | Host | Ugh! Gross! |
| 01:35:09 | Dan | Host | What do you have to say about it? |
| 01:35:11 | Elliott | Host | Uh, I mean—I don't—it's kinda not one of those things for me. It—which is that—I didn't like it but I didn't hate it. It was the first time I saw a Star Wars movie and I was indifferent to it? And maybe that's because... Star Wars is not as important to me as it once was? Because I have—other responsibilities in my life and also I've since—like—when I—I think I've talked about, on the Star Wars Minute, how like when I was younger, the Star Wars universe was a universe that I could... know about, become an authority on, really feel ownership owner. When the real world felt mysterious and alienating and isolating to me. And over time that has been replaced by the real world becoming more warm and welcoming to me, but also like—my love of actual history? And it's kind of—when I'm so mad about James Buchanan and Andrew Johnson, it's hard for me to get <u>as</u> mad about, like, Emperor Palpatine? But it's the first time I ever watched a Star Wars movie and I was like, eh. Like, I'm—I'm kinda not feeling anything. Y'know. It's like what happens when you run into an ex-boyfriend or -girlfriend or other, uh, relationship person. And you're like— |
| 01:36:10 | Dan | Host | Relationship person. |
| 01:36:11 | Elliott | Host | And it's like, you—I'm trying to cover all bases. |
| 01:36:12 | Dan | Host | Yeah, sure. |
| 01:36:13 | Elliott | Host | And uh, you run into them at a party or on the street or something, and you're like—hey! How's it going? And you're talking to them, and you're like—I feel no emotions for this person. I had this experience where I ran into an ex-girlfriend, and I was like, this is someone that I felt like I was in love with. She broke up with me and it <u>devastated</u> me? And now I'm meeting her and I'm like—oh! This is just a person. I have <u>no</u> entanglements |

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| | | | with this person whatsoever. And when I leave this moment I will have—it might as well have not have happened. |
| 01:36:36 | Stuart | Host | Yeah. You didn't immediately queue up, like, "Hugging, Touching, Squeezing" by, uh, Journey? <i>[Laughs.]</i> On your iPod? |
| 01:36:41 | Elliott | Host | I did not do that. And so that's what this Star Wars felt like to me. It was like, oh, maybe I don't have the relationship with—with this franchise that I felt like I did. Until Episode X: Salacious Crumb and Dengar's Wild Adventure. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:36:52 | Dan | Host | Yeah. Who's Salacious Crumb? <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> And it's him with, uh, the big, like, suction cups outside of a building? Let—uh—let's— |
| 01:37:02 | Stuart | Host | I mean, that—two things-style poster t-shirt has got to be made— |
| 01:37:06 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Stuart: —somewhere, right? Dan: I know, man. |
| 01:37:08 | Dan | Host | Yeah. Let's—okay. Uh—I'll let Stuart close us out with negativity? 'Cause I know that, uh, that's where it's gonna go. But no, let me— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> —go first. I'm saying I'll let— |
| 01:37:16 | Stuart | Host | <i>[Outburst noise]</i> Bleheehh! |
| 01:37:16 | Dan | Host | I'll let you close out with negativity. I'm gonna say, uh, that... it's weird for me to, like, try and, like, play the maturity card? Because Elliott has, uh, two children that he's raising and Stuart has a successful, uh, small business. Um... but I am the <u>oldest</u> so I will say that— |
| 01:37:38 | Elliott | Host | Sure. |
| 01:37:38 | Dan | Host | I feel like I do have this—I have reached a point in my life where I'm just like, okay, Star Wars is a thing. It was my young love. I will always—in some part of my heart—love it. And I'm excited for a new Star War! But uh, watching this, like... y'know, I know that watching this is not going to ruin, uh... what Star Wars means to me. So I can enjoy it— |
| 01:38:02 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: —just as like— Elliott: You're still gonna do your one-man show— |
| 01:38:03 | Elliott | Host | "What Star Wars means to me?" On Broadway now? |
| 01:38:05 | Dan | Host | I can just enjoy it as a thing that washes over me. That, like— |
| 01:38:07 | Stuart | Host | Ooh, a one-man show on Broadway! <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 01:38:09 | Dan | Host | They're—let me finish my thing. Like, there are things that I like about it. Things I didn't like about it. Like, this is definitely the weakest non-prequel movie for me? And, um... but I kind of just, like... y'know, I had fun. Like, I—my—my—look. My, uh... my expectations were reduced. I have brought up Audrey a lot in this podcast, but I think it's interesting because she only watched Star Wars this year? To like, talk about her reaction. <i>Last Jedi</i> was... her favorite. Of <u>all</u> of them. And I think that's because it brought, like, sort of shades of grey into the Star Wars universe. Uh— |

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| 01:38:50 | Stuart | Host | How many? <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 01:38:52 | Dan | Host | No, but like— |
| 01:38:54 | Elliott | Host | More than 49 or less than 51? <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:38:56 | Dan | Host | It suggested—it suggested that, like, there's maybe more to this—oh God. It suggested that there's— |
| 01:39:02 | Elliott | Host | No, no, yeah. Shades of grey wherever you go. The more you find out— |
| 01:39:04 | Elliott | Host | Elliott: —the less you know! <i>[Laughs.]</i> Dan: <i>[Yelling]</i> Oh, for fuck's sake! |
| 01:39:05 | Dan | Host | It suggested that there's maybe more to this universe than this one bloodline. |
| 01:39:10 | Elliott | Host | Yeah. |
| 01:39:11 | Dan | Host | And... like, I—understand that viewpoint and I understand that, like, as someone seeing it for the first time this year, that complexity might mean more to you. And I also understand that, like, I'm a white male 41-year-old and, like... she is a—a Filipino female, uh, 32-year-old and thus, like, maybe <i>The Last Jedi</i> , like... carries more meaning for her in the sense that, like, if she's seeing it all this year, like, to see so much of it undone by this movie is like—more of a slap in the face, necessarily, than to me. Who is just like, y'know what? I've seen Star Wars come and I've seen Star Wars go. <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> And this is one of them. And that's— |
| 01:39:58 | Elliott | Host | You're the old man at the train station. |
| 01:39:59 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: <i>[Imitating elderly voice]</i> "Well, there'll always be another Star War coming down the track." Dan: That's fine. |
| 01:40:02 | Dan | Host | Yeah! It's like, this is the <u>worst</u> of the new trilogy, but... I do look at it and I'm like, okay, well—this might be the worst. I think it's fucking enraging that Rose is sidelined the way it is. It's—it's annoying that, like... Rey is, like, uh, suddenly of a, like, significant bloodline rather than, like, the mess— |
| 01:40:26 | Stuart | Host | Just a piece of space trash. |
| 01:40:28 | Dan | Host | Well, no, no! <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> The message that just <u>anyone</u> can be a hero in this universe! Like it was— |
| 01:40:33 | Elliott | Host | Which was very much the message of the last movie. |
| 01:40:35 | Dan | Host | Yes! Like, that is a <u>much</u> better message than, like, you have to be, like, a special human being or whatever race they are in—in space. Like, to like, make a difference. Like, that is a <u>terrible</u> message! But I do also, like, look back on this new trilogy and be like, oh, y'know, like, they've given us great characters in Rey and Finn and Rose and BB-8 and Poe. Like, these are— |
| 01:41:01 | Stuart | Host | Babu Frik. |
| 01:41:02 | Dan | Host | Uh... <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |

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| | | | Kylo Ren. Like, no! But they're, like— |
| 01:41:05 | Stuart | Host | Kylo Ren's pretty cool. I like him. |
| 01:41:06 | Dan | Host | They're all these, like, great characters in the new trilogy, so I dunno. I was happy to see them one last time. <u>Definitely</u> the worst of the <i>[though laughter]</i> three movies. Marginally kinda liked. |
| 01:41:17 | Stuart | Host | Yeah. Sor—I mean, sorry for stepping on that, Dan. I mean, y'know, it's, uh, it's tough when we start talking about Star Wars and telling jokes. I get all worked up. <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> But uh—y'know? |
| 01:41:27 | Elliott | Host | He gets his Force up. It's—it rises him up. |
| 01:41:29 | Stuart | Host | Yeah. It's—I—I mean, I already mentioned this kind of earlier, but like, Star Wars is one of those things that I can't really control how I feel about it. It's been, like, y'know, a big part—uh—of my—my fantasy world, uh, since I was a little kid. Um, and... so it meant that, like, even going to the prequels, like, <u>even</u> knowing that they're not good, I still <u>liked</u> <i>[though laughter]</i> them. Uh—and... every single Star Wars movie I saw in the theater, I remember leaving and liking. And this was the first time I was bummed, man! Like—so much of it felt like it was an attempt to erase what had happened in the—in <i>The Last Jedi</i> , a movie that I—I liked quite a bit and was, uh, a—it shocked me by actually putting in surprising stuff! Um, and it—it felt so much like a response to, like, try to appease—appeal to critics? And like I remember when they first announced that they were going to be doing, uh, that Disney had gotten the rights and that a filmmaker other than George Lucas was going to get to make Star Wars movies. And... that was really exciting! And that—like—and that excitement kinda paid off? With at least the first half of <i>Force Awakens</i> ? Where it felt like—at least JJ Abrams understood kinda what, like... what was exciting about Star Wars? And then... seeing <i>The Last Jedi</i> , uh, it was really great to see— <i>[Laughs.]</i> Uh—a skilled filmmaker? <i>[Laughs.]</i> <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> Make a movie? |
| 01:42:52 | Elliott | Host | Oh, wow. |
| 01:42:52 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: Whoa! Elliott: Ooh. That is a— |
| 01:42:54 | Elliott | Host | —harsh thing to say! |
| 01:42:54 | Stuart | Host | Yeah. I'm sorry. Uh, you wanna write—write down all the great movies <i>[though laughter]</i> JJ Abrams has made? |
| 01:43:00 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: Wow! Wow! Dan: I <u>really</u> like— |
| 01:43:02 | Dan | Host | Uh, his <i>Mission: Impossible</i> movie. <i>Mission: Impossible 3</i> I like. I like his <i>Star Trek</i> reboot, the first one. Not so much the second one. I like the first couple seasons of <i>Alias</i> , like— |
| 01:43:14 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: Well, that's not a movie. |

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| | | | <p>Dan: JJ Abrams—</p> <p>Stuart: Great—great <u>movies</u>. <i>[Laughs.]</i></p> <p><i>[Elliott laughs.]</i></p> |
| 01:43:16 | Dan | Host | I'm saying—he's a talented pop filmmaker who gets a lot of shit from nerds on the internet, but he also does stuff like <i>Rise of Skywalker</i> sometimes. |
| 01:43:27 | Stuart | Host | So what I'm saying is that I'm not—I'm not even saying he's necessarily <u>bad</u> , but I'm not—like, he's not an exciting—I don't think he's an exciting—I—I'm just saying— |
| 01:43:36 | Elliott | Host | <p>Stuart: —I don't find him to be—</p> <p>Dan: He's not an auteur—</p> |
| 01:43:37 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | <p>Dan: —the way that Rian Johnson is.</p> <p>Elliott: Well, but even the way—</p> <p>Stuart: Is an exciting artist—</p> |
| 01:43:40 | Stuart | Host | —who will bring something kinda new to the table. That's all I'm just trying to say. But. |
| 01:43:44 | Elliott | Host | <p>The thing that—the thing that just threw me into—threw into relief for me with the prequels is—the prequels are goofy and they don't really work for me. But the prequels are <u>constantly</u>—even for all the things that rhyme with the—with the old movies, they're <u>constantly</u> throwing new things at you that you haven't seen.</p> <p>And the story <u>works</u> in a different way than the first three movies. And it's exciting to me—that—that was the disappointing thing to me about <u>this</u> one, was it was like... it's just not—it's just not new stuff. That's all I was saying. And the last one was new stuff.</p> |
| 01:44:11 | Stuart | Host | <p>And two final things. I wanna say that—I feel like for me, the—the final shot—as—uh, like—I don't—I don't—like, necessarily <u>dislike</u> the final shot of <i>The Rise of Skywalker</i>? Uh, but I just kinda been worn down at that point and I was pretty bummed. But I feel like the final shot of, uh... <i>The Last Jedi</i>—to me— <i>[though laughter]</i> is the final shot of this, like... trilogy. Like—of a young kid... swinging a little, uh, swinging a broom around like a lightsaber.</p> <p><i>[Elliott laughs.]</i></p> <p>That's—that's what's all about, folks. And you know what? I kinda predicted this. When they first showed the trailer for <i>Cats</i>, and they had talked about how... and—and—I realized that <i>Cats</i> was gonna be coming out right around the same time as the new Star Wars movie, and in my heart I'm like—why am I more excited to see <i>Cats</i> than I am to see Star Wars? And then—spoiler alert—to have that excitement pay off and be proved true—</p> <p><i>[Elliott laughs.]</i></p> <p>'Cause I just saw <i>Cats</i>. Oh, man. It's crazy. What a crazy world we live in. But we'll talk more about <i>Cats</i>, uh, next time we—we meet.</p> |
| 01:45:12 | Elliott | Host | Uh, well, I mean—I think—I think we can—we can tease that next time will be our first— <u>annual</u> , perhaps?—uh, <i>Cats-tacular</i> . |

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| | | | <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:45:21 | Stuart | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> Wow. Well, uh, you didn't mention the annual part, but— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> |
| 01:45:24 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: <i>[Through laughter]</i> Well, I—I mean I'm just—I just— Stuart: I—I feel kinda okay with it. |
| 01:45:26 | Elliott | Host | I'm just floating the idea out there. We're gonna have some special guests. We're gonna have some <u>real</u> , uh, Hollywood insider talk about the premier of <i>Cats</i> — |
| 01:45:34 | Dan | Host | I can almost guarantee this will be the <u>most</u> Jellicle episode— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> —we've ever done! |
| 01:45:39 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: So—so our first—so— Stuart: <i>[Laughs.]</i> Yeah! Dan: So Jellicle. |
| 01:45:41 | Stuart | Host | Oh man. Uh, it'll—it'll break my Jellicle app. <i>[Laughs.]</i> On my phone. |
| 01:45:45 | Elliott | Host | So I think, stay tuned for our first <u>annual</u> ? <i>Cats</i> -tacular. On <i>The Flop House</i> . But uh—yeah. I think—it is weird—but I think that's—I think that comes with... the newness I'm talking about. Like, <i>Cats</i> is something new—I assume you didn't see <i>Cats</i> in the theaters. I mean, <i>Cats</i> on—on Broadway. |
| 01:46:00 | Stuart | Host | No, I did, when I was a kid. |
| 01:46:02 | Elliott | Host | Oh, you did! Oh. |
| 01:46:02 | Stuart | Host | Yeah. |
| 01:46:03 | Elliott | Host | So maybe it wasn't as new. As it—'cause, I'll like— |
| 01:46:05 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: The—I never saw <i>Cats</i> the show. Dan: Oh, man. |
| 01:46:07 | Elliott | Host | So I'm excited to see the mov— |
| 01:46:07 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: I haven't seen the movie yet, so. Stuart: Oh. <i>[Through laughter]</i> Oh, Elliott. Oh— Dan: I went in a blank slate. |
| 01:46:10 | Stuart | Host | Oh, summer child. <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:46:13 | Elliott | Host | I'm so excited, 'cause I'll see it in the next couple days, I guess. I'm so excited to see it having <u>no</u> expectations other than it—that it is gonna be <u>crazy</u> . <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> |
| 01:46:21 | Stuart | Host | Your only expectation is the way that Dan and Stuart are staring at you right now. <i>[All laugh.]</i> |

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| | | | <i>[Through laughter]</i> And—and—whispering—whispering traits of Jellicle cats! |
| 01:46:28 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: I—I haven't— Dan: This twitter— |
| 01:46:30 | Dan | Host | —descent into madness— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> —I've done over the last day— |
| 01:46:32 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: —of seeing <i>Cats</i> . <i>[Laughs.]</i> Elliott: Yeah. Of just—of just cats' names. |
| 01:46:34 | Elliott | Host | I feel like I've not felt this from people since the time I almost took a Scientology stress test in a Subway station. And they were just like, mmm, come over here and we'll use some words you've never heard before and we're very passionate about them. <i>[All laugh.]</i> |
| 01:46:47 | Stuart | Host | Yeah. And that just left you in a, uh, in a prison cell, breaking a toilet— <i>[Elliott laughs.]</i> <i>[Through laughter]</i> —next to Philip Seymour Hoffman. |
| 01:46:55 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Dan: Alright. But that's— Elliott: I <u>wish</u> I was as strong as Crazy Man Joaquin in that movie. <i>[Stuart laughs.]</i> |
| 01:46:58 | Dan | Host | But that's next time. Let's, uh, let's—let's finally put a bow on this. |
| 01:47:03 | Stuart | Host | Okay. |
| 01:47:03 | Dan | Host | Tie it all up. |
| 01:47:05 | Elliott | Host | A big laser bow. |
| 01:47:05 | Dan | Host | Just like <i>[though laughter]</i> JJ Abrams did. Uh, this has been another episode of <i>The Flop House</i> . You know what? |
| 01:47:13 | Stuart | Host | A regular old episode— <i>[Dan laughs.]</i> —of <i>The Flop House</i> . <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:47:15 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: Just another run-of-the-mill episode. Dan: You know what? It's—it's a— |
| 01:47:16 | Dan | Host | —different episode than normal, so I'm just gonna say—like and subscribe, or whatever— <i>[though laughter]</i> whatever they say. |
| 01:47:22 | Stuart | Host | Lichens? Those are the enemies of the vampires in the— <i>[Elliott and Dan laugh.]</i> —what? |
| 01:47:26 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Stuart: <i>Nocturnal</i> movie? What's that called? <i>[Laughs.]</i> Dan: Or they're a type of fungus. Lichens. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:47:29 | Dan | Host | Anyway. |
| 01:47:30 | Elliott | Host | So anyway. Uh, please, if you liked this episode— |

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| | | | <p><i>[All laugh.]</i></p> <p>—please review us on iTunes.</p> |
| 01:47:35 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | <p>Elliott: Say some nice things. If you don't like this episode, the door is right over there, sir.</p> <p>Dan: <i>[Through laughter]</i> If you like this episode, please— <i>[Laughs.]</i></p> |
| 01:47:39 | Dan | Host | <p><i>[Through laughter]</i> Please throw your phone into the ocean.</p> <p><i>[All laugh.]</i></p> |
| 01:47:41 | Elliott | Host | And, uh— |
| 01:47:42 | Dan | Host | <i>[Through laughter]</i> Save yourself. |
| 01:47:43 | Elliott | Host | Uh, tell people about us. If you like us, share stuff about us. I dunno. Whatever. Uh—so check out other podcasts on the Maximum Fun network. There might be talking about <i>Rise of Skywalker</i> , too. I don't know. |
| 01:47:52 | Stuart | Host | I feel like it's on the tip of everybody's tongue. |
| 01:47:55 | Elliott | Host | Mm-hm. Everybody's long, uh, Bib Fortuna tongue. |
| 01:47:58 | Dan | Host | Uh, anyway, though. For <i>The Flop House</i> — |
| 01:48:00 | Elliott | Host | How long is Bib Fortuna's tongue? |
| 01:48:01 | Dan | Host | I've been Dan McCoy. |
| 01:48:03 | Stuart | Host | I've been Stuart Wellington. |
| 01:48:04 | Elliott | Host | <p><i>[In twangy voice]</i> Moseying on off into the sunset, bringing back that Western thing from the beginning of the episode—well, I'm Elliott Kalan. Hitting the trails and saying—I can't wait to talk about <i>Cats</i>.</p> <p><i>[Laughs.]</i></p> |
| 01:48:15 | Stuart | Host | <p><i>[With twangy accent]</i> Sure you wanna—sure you wanna hit the trails with that rumbling belly of yours?</p> <p><i>[Elliott laughs.]</i></p> <p>Maybe you wanna head over into Dan's little restaurant! Over by the crackling creek!</p> <p><i>[Elliott laughs.]</i></p> |
| 01:48:23 | Elliott | Host | <p><i>[Through laughter]</i> I heard Dan's Crackling Creek Café—</p> <p><i>[All laugh.]</i></p> <p>—does have the best night catfish.</p> |
| 01:48:27 | Dan | Host | Winter Solstice! |
| 01:48:29 | Elliott | Host | <p>Night-caught, Winter Solstice catfish. You know, it takes a brave man to go out at night and pull those catfish from that <u>freezing</u> crackling creek.</p> <p><i>[All laugh.]</i></p> <p>And fry 'em up for us hungry cowhands.</p> <p><i>[Stuart laughs.]</i></p> |
| 01:48:40 | Dan | Host | <p>See ya next time, everybody. Byeeeee!</p> <p><i>[All laugh.]</i></p> |
| 01:48:43 | Music | Music | Light, up-tempo, electric guitar with synth instruments. |

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| 01:48:54 | Dan | Host | You look for a moment like a baby who had had a thing taken from him. <i>[All laugh. Elliott makes baby crying noise.]</i> That they didn't, like, <u>need</u> , but they were just sad to see it go. |
| 01:49:00 | Crosstalk | Crosstalk | Elliott: Oh. The look on my son's face all the time? Stuart: Yeah, yeah. Dan: Yeah. <i>[Laughs.]</i> |
| 01:49:04 | Stuart | Host | Man, I know what <u>I'm</u> gonna talk about this whole episode. <i>[Music ends.]</i> |
| 01:49:09 | Speaker 1 | Guest | MaximumFun.org . |
| 01:49:13 | Speaker 2 | Guest | Comedy and culture. |
| 01:49:14 | Speaker 3 | Guest | Artist owned— |
| 01:49:16 | Speaker 4 | Guest | —Audience supported. |