February 4th 12:20 no 10:22 AM with Dave McCarty. Dave McCarty do you consent to be recorded?

Dave McCarty

In the context of this interview, yes, OK.

Chris Barkley

Because that's all it is. Yep. Yep. OK, so is it since the announcement on the on the 25th? Is any have you? Have you changed any, I mean well.

Dave McCarty

I mean so. The the I think the the the thing you know the the the obviously you know the the the reaction from the crowd has been you know has been large and clearly me thinking that I'm just talking to a few people on my Facebook wall and acting like me normally not a good idea. And it was not a good look and it caused harm. And I got a censure for it and I, you know, I even in that meeting I said, I feel this censure is totally appropriate. You know that that was, that was poorly freaking handled by me. Absolutely, you know. The thing is, what the? What we you know the the the ballot announcement. You know, I I I expected. You know people would that that that there would be some reaction because it's a little different than ballot than ballot.

Speaker

OK.

Dave McCarty

Announcements have been that that statistics have been in the past. Rather you know the but The thing is, you know, as I said, you know and that's the the really difficult part. OK, I am I I am and and I don't mean this difficult in and like anybody's doing anything to me. OK everything I'm doing and everything I'm saying. Just because I am on a team that I believe in, OK, this is then. Nobody's telling me what to do. You know, we, you know, the the the statement that we came up with isn't words that somebody fed me. This is where these are words that I worked with my Chinese counterparts to make sure were were. Correct. As we could say to both to audiences in China and the West, which would mean the same to audiences in China and the West, which is actually. A lot. Than anybody thinks, because the cultural differences between China and the West are drastic, you know, and you know, and and and and not always in obvious ways, because when you're interacting with a fan from China. You are. You know, I I saw myself reflected in so many of them. And although their youth and enthusiasm are things that I remember, finally they're not so much me now. But. But, you know, we had to, we had to say things that are appropriate. That are correct and that are that that, that, that speak to both audiences the same and we can't say something and there are things that I would say here. That would cause really strong negative reactions there, and there's things that they would say there that we would not take well at all. OK, so. I'm constrained. We have to, we have to say this and and and that and we can't say more than that because saying more than that, that there there's things that that each each group is individually capable of understanding what we need to say but how we need to say it here and how we need to say it. There are different enough that we can't say. We can't say it fully correctly to either group, and that's really something that I never like. There's lots of where I'm at. There's lots of everything that we went through that I 100% understood when I volunteered. Because I understand the Hugos, I understand Hugo

administration. I understand Worldcom. I I I have. You know, there there are. There are people that have better bonafides than me on this stuff, but they're not many. So, you know, I understood what? That. What, what what? All of that was. But what I didn't understand. Because I hadn't had, you know, I hadn't become part of a a Chinese. You know, that hadn't been part of my world at all, was I didn't understand how. Difficult it is for us to speak to each other without causing panic and offense. Like I, I spent the first six months of weekly meetings on the Hugo Stuff. Trying to. Just talk about what we had to do correctly in a way that we all understood and didn't make anybody go. No, no, no, no. No. You know, because there there's because there's things that are important about how the Hugos are handled, that are entirely new for the Chinese team, you know, and and and we had to. We had to make sure that we were doing everything correctly. And we, but we also because we talk about this. When every time the world kind of goes to a new place, right, every time we go to a new place, though, the Worldcon in Con Zealand in New Zealand isn't going to be the world con in Chicago. It's got to be emerging of of New Zealand, and Worldcon culture in Japan. It's got to be a mix of Japan and world. Com culture. China's culture is the most different. Of any culture that I think that we've attempted to bridge to and clearly in this instance that that difference has caused, you know, has caught has. Of the group some some you know at now. Now at this point later some negative reactions and and and I understand that and there are people that are. When when we made the announcement, there are people that are, you know, confused, angry, want to say negative things and all those people have the right to say everything they want to. And you know, you'll notice that I'm not speaking up against anybody that's saying any negative thing about me. These people know me, you know, so the but. But the the The thing is. We can't hold the Chicago Worldcon in in China. We can't. It wouldn't happen. You know, the the Chinese culture is different than ours. Things that we do as a matter of course aren't cool there, not it's.

Speaker 3

So it's it's more like.

Dave McCarty

It's their culture is different. There are there there. There are baked in cultural reactions that we all. We have OK that we that we understand like Americans. OK, you know what? The the the American spirit like literally you give you give us a rule and 75 to 80% of us are are **** you make me right that's our national spirit OK. That is not the the the Chinese spirit. OK, it's much more constrained. It's much more. It's much more.

Chris Barkley

It's more constrained.

Dave McCarty

As a whole. The Chinese are much more unified than anybody I've ever seen. You know, they they are that they're, they're that they're they have strong need to be with the group. On on everything way more than we, you know, we're, we're rugged individualists, rugged individualists in China. Aren't aren't a thing, you know?

Chris Barkley

In in other words, we're more chauvinistic about free speech and the First Amendment, and and we we flaunt it.

Speaker 3

Well, there, there, there are.

Dave McCarty

So I mean our our experience of China and. I'm on a team. I'm going to I'm going to repeat this. I'm on a team. With folks from China, OK, which means I'm on a China team. All right, China is China allows people to to speak, you know, they're. They have free speech zones even you know where where? It's like, you know, whatever you say here is cool. And that was not something that I expected given my given the upbringing of what I thought I was learning about China, so much, stuff that I when I when I was growing up here that I thought that I understood about China just doesn't match the reality of. The China that I experienced I. Expected like the way that I grew up, I expected to see the Chinese Government everywhere and telling people what to do. And here's the list, right? That's what I expected, right? I I expected that I had to get clearance on things, right. And that's not the reality at all. OK, the Chinese, the, The, the Chinese government. There as a thing, and I met Chinese government officials like the local mayor. But you know, like the Mayor of Chicago is part of the American government, right. But they're not. But. But the Mayor of Chicago is not, you know, unless, of course, you're not paying your property taxes. And then the Mayor of Chicago is the government, you know, so, you know, when, when, when, when. When we, you know, when we, when we sort of lather about the government, we're usually talking at the at the national level and and I think when people talk about China, they're really talking about like the party and the national level and and those people. We never really saw, they really weren't involved.

Chris Barkley

In other words, they weren't directly involved in anything involving the the running of the World Cup.

Dave McCarty

They think I mean, it's they, they, they they weren't even indirectly involved, except insofar as the government says what the laws are in the country. Right. That's that's the extent that they were involved is that they say, is that is that the party it the the party the government because it's not the party it's the government government of the country. Says what's cool in that country. The government in the United States says what's cool in the states, the government of Germany says what's cool in Germany. You know. The the You know the so. So the government of China says what's cool in China and the people just operate inside of the bounds of what's cool, which is exactly the same way that you and I work here. You know, none of us, if we're running a convention like none of us are going to, none of us are going to go. You know, hey, let's you know, let's just, you know, we need we we're we're running short on budget Chris. Let's knock over a liquor store, right. Is that going to enter our mind? No because it's not cool. Right. So when when, when you're when you're operating in a place with different assumptions from very basic levels, the places that you'll come to are very different and we had to bridge that.

Chris Barkley

Then the basic question that everybody wants to know is. The people who were. Ruled ineligible. Did that come from the committee itself, or did it come from some sort? Of outside source.

Dave McCarty

So remember when I. Said that, that, that, that, that, that I that, that, that the the the. The the administration decisions, OK, yes, the administration decisions all came from the whispers Constitution and all the rules we must follow and remember. And I I just talked about. I had to spend months learning how to bridge culture and what and what is and and and and learning what. Everything is right and so the there are there are you know for for me that nobody told. Me any any of these decisions? OK, these decisions are all decisions that I made as the administrator understanding the best I can of what the rules are of of, of, of what, of what the administration. You know the because because it is, it's because there is no there. There is no justice. This constitution on anything. Right the the cause for as mad as anybody is. And what whatever they think that I've done anything that they think that I've done. If you actually checked the with this Constitution, I haven't broken a single rule. Right I the the administrator, the administrator team is given discretion because we need discretion. We we have, we have to make judgment calls. And in this case, you know the the one, the, the, the ones that people have problems with. The judgment calls the the I have. I struggle calling them. Judgment calls the the, the, the, the they. They were clearly not eligible. They that was.

Chris Barkley

But people get frustrated when they they that you when you say this and they say there's a lack of transparency when you just say they're not ineligible but not explaining why they're not in, they're not eligible.

Speaker 3

Sorry the name.

Dave McCarty

Again, we come back to. How I can say things here? If there wasn't a Chinese audience? OK, and how we could say things in China if there wasn't a Western audience? There are different answers that we could give in both locales that would sufficiently work in both locales. However, those answers are anathema to the opposite. Alright so so I am constrained like like that's that the the the the the what we've said is the limit of what I can say because if I say anything more that would be more satisfying to folks here it would cause great offense in China.

Chris Barkley

OK.

Dave McCarty

And if I said.

Speaker 5

I'm sorry to interrupt, but I'm heading out to the art gallery and will probably be gone by the time I get back, so I'll need a hug.

Chris Barkley

Oh, OK, OK. There you go. All right.

Dave McCarty

It. Yeah, I don't know. OK, we'll, we'll see you around. Yep. Yep. Yep. And. And if I and if we gave.

Speaker 5

You're going to be up. Well, I'll probably see you later, OK?

Dave McCarty

A more satisfying answer in China, yeah, there would definitely be a negative reaction here. OK, so. We we are caught in this cultural crossfire of I I can't I I the offense that I've caused here, OK? Because I understand that I have is the least offense that any of us can can imagine.

Chris Barkley

People actually be endangered on some sort of social or physical level.

Dave McCarty

So I. That that's outside of my experience and I I can't comment on anything like that. So you know I I just you know The thing is for as much as anybody thinks that that.

Speaker 3

OK, OK.

Dave McCarty

Somebody does anything to us? Another thing that I didn't understand when I took this job was. The friends I would make and how much I love them and how much I would set myself on fire for them if I needed to, OK.

Chris Barkley

The other questions I want to ask why was there a separation between the end of the Convention and the release of the final ballot result in December? And then after that, why?

Dave McCarty

I I I also so. In in the judgment of the administration team. That that separation was in in the the best interest of everybody for the reason of. We we chose to, we chose to make full use of the time because we felt separation in time between the event and the release of the stats was the most that we could do to. Minimize the impact of the release, all right.

Chris Barkley

And that's there was some troubles translating.

Dave McCarty

No, there were no. So. So here. Here's. Here's the other thing. And this this is not an excuse. OK, this is nobody's fault but my own. OK. I am. And my current employer, a highly, highly valued technical resource. I'm one of our best technical people we've been in. Really critical work for about 6 months that has had me very overworked. Our team was small, so yeah, were there problems going back and forth? Yeah. If I'd have had. If there have been more of us helping it and we could have shared load, it would have been much easier. There are, you know, there there are two actual mistakes of substance in the in the in the stats that that are that are that are currently published. But as soon as the. All have happened. My considered opinion was me correcting them and saying why they why they needed to be corrected and and putting that out in public would not have reduced hysteria. Umm, you know, I I don't think. I don't think any statement from me would have been would have been. Leaved and I don't. And so changing them, I think people pointing at the couple of things that are actually wrong and stating that they're actually which they're right about. There's a couple things actually wrong. I've seen one of them referenced. I don't know that I've seen. I don't know that I've seen anybody reference the second thing that's wrong but but you know it's possible that it's out there I don't dig. I don't think too much into all the screaming and yelling cause you know I have an ego and I'd like to be. Able to sleep OK.

Chris Barkley

You want to be specific about. What the? Mistakes were or.

Dave McCarty

So there is, yeah, any more?

Chris Barkley

Because I can't imagine it's going to get anymore.

Dave McCarty

Yeah. There, there, there, there. There was so much of this stuff comes from just straight up, you know, straight up SQL queries from the data, right?

Chris Barkley

Than it is right now.

Dave McCarty

The SQL query from from the data for the ballot counts in each category actually has a ******* flaw and it's and it's mistaken. It reported low across the board. So the places where they're where the places where people are are rightfully yelling, hey, there's more points in round nine than there are ballots cast in the in the thing they're right, there are more points in round nine because that's not a number that I ever had time to check in the process because at the end of the day. How many ballots are in each category? Isn't material to did we count things correctly? So I never double check? You know, because I didn't have enough assistance and you know, Joe and I are doing stuff and Joe's learning on the job while we were doing stuff.

Chris Barkley

You should identify Joe Joe Yao.

Dave McCarty

Yeah, Joe. Yeah, Joe. Yeah, my, my, my Chinese counterpart who, you. Know who who? Who and? And you know less than anybody want to slag Joe for anything I'll say unequivocally in my life. I've never seen anybody work as hard as on anything as Joe worked on this Worldcon because Joe was effectively for those of us that understand it. The six division heads at the same time, you know that his his life was scheduled to A to a level that I couldn't deal with. But you know, he was, but huge administration was he that was he he he was he was my other half and so all of these decisions we made together however because I had more experience it was never Joe telling me hey we have to do this Joe and I were looking at everything looking at eligibility getting. Getting getting get, you know, doing the research and then talking things through and Joe and Joe and I would go and and then, but the decisions were ultimately mine, you know.

Chris Barkley

So were you expecting the backlash when the nomination longlist was announced on the 20th? Well.

Speaker 5

Right.

Dave McCarty

Because I know that. I mean I I understand that putting out something that says, you know, not eligible and not saying more than that that's going. To cause a reaction. I'm not. You know, I've done this before. I understand. You know the so. So, yes, we were expecting a reaction, you know and.

Chris Barkley

And that's why there was a separation between the announcement of the finalists. Yeah, tally and the nomination long.

Dave McCarty

Because because we wanted, we wanted to allow as much separation as possible to just do, do whatever it could to minimize the the thing. Because if we do it, if we do it on the. Night, as is our usual practice, then all the people who've won and all the people who are there in the room have the experience. Oil for them. Right. And protecting my they're protecting the experience for the the people that are on the ballot and the people who have won and lost in the room and the people who are doing it. That's a part of the job of the. 18 So it was, it was as I as I viewed it, my responsibility to not do that stuff in that moment. And so that's a that's another judgment call that I made, you know, because I'm allowed 90 days. I thought that 90. I I thought that, you know, and historically we don't take 90 days. We usually just do it. At night, now that we mostly have everything you know, computerized and so you know now. I had envisioned that, but that people might point to things that I said at the time that like, well, you said this at the time. Everything I said at the time was true I every time. I've done this job. I show up at the world con a day or two early and I spend that day or two before working on the final back and forth of getting the stats. Ready to go out? And just because I'm the Hugo Admin and even though I know I'm not going to probably use it until later, I showed up to do that and I landed to. Being busier and more scheduled than I've ever been at A at a Worldcon ever, and had no time to finish, and the translations were much

harder back and forth than I was allowing for, which is a stupid mistake because I'd already gone through that with the things on the ballot, you know, so the so, so, the, the, the thing that I said at the time. True, I landed, thinking that I was gonna be able to get all of this stuff ready, and I just couldn't, you know, and that became an easy thing to say, to take the pressure off. So that so that people weren't, you know, clamoring at the gates, you know, because because that's another thing I kind of expected people like where the stats were, the stats. And so, you know, the. You know we we we need to take the 90 days. I you know I basically after a couple of rounds of talking about it on my on my Facebook. You know I basically said you know like we'll be out I'm like well 90 days is January 19th, right. So it'll be out by January 19 you know but. You know, but even though. But just to hop back, even though I knew the release of the stats would. Cause a reaction. I promise you the decisions that got made by the administration team. I'm positive or correct Joe. My counterpart is positive. They're correct when Raceland and Ben, who are on the Hugo Subcommittee but weren't involved when we brought them in, which was which was much closer to the release of the stats than when any of the. Decisions got made. You know, they they're confident. We're correct. You know the, the, the, I I am. Sympathetic towards the people who are affected, not having a more, a more satisfying answer. But I'm constrained in what I can say because as I said, if I say this here, there's there's nothing I can say to one of the finalists and like or even you. That isn't going to be public.

Chris Barkley

OK.

Dave McCarty

Right, so I can't. I can't give a private answer that might be more satisfying because that's. To be public and that will cause a reaction and and or or I could give them the Chinese answer, which would make them angrier. You know that there there, there really are cultural differences between us and them.

Chris Barkley

Did you know that Paul Weimer was here? This.

Dave McCarty

Weekend. I did know that Paul Weimer was here this weekend and I have been looking for him because I owe him sitting down and having him say everything that he feels he needs to say to me and giving him his best an answer as I can. And that's true of everybody that was affected by an administration decision. OK, I don't I. I certainly am not trying to avoid him. I've been actively looking for him. I just don't. Know where he is, OK?

Chris Barkley

I have a personal question. Sure. What was your personal reaction when you? Tabulate. Best fan writer and, it turned out I had won by. One vote. Because I know I'm speaking personally here, if you.

Speaker 3

It was.

Chris Barkley

Had told me if. That that evening that I had won, that won by one vote over river flow, I would have freaked out.

Dave McCarty

It it so for me? Every year, when I look at those stats, you know winning by winning by small numbers and one happens with some frequency and every time I see it, it just it's. The IT I I think it's best described by thinking about the story of the Grinch that his heart grew 3 sizes every time I see that it feels me with love of fandom, you know, tight races like that of of we love these things together, right? And that was China and the West. You know, I thought that was outstanding.

Chris Barkley

Yeah, but you can understand my dilemma.

Dave McCarty

You know.

Chris Barkley

After the long list we came out and I and suddenly I'm thinking about that one vote. That if. Arthur Lou had not moved up and Paul after Paul was excluded.

Dave McCarty

So, so, but but but but with but with ranked choice voting. I don't think having a second Chinese person on the ballot affected things because Arthur.

Chris Barkley

What? What, what?

Dave McCarty

Are eliminated and all the votes for Arthur that would have gone to vote did so. So, so. So don't feel bad, OK? Do not. That's what ranked choice voting does. OK, Rank choice voting means that if you end up at the top, we've done our best to make sure that you deserve to be at the top. And I don't want you to feel bad about that at all. OK, you know I I think you know I I think the fact that I think the fact that we had you know that we had actual winners from China you know there winning winning awards in the Hugos in China was was outstanding. You know. Well, that's what I was hoping. Yeah. And and I don't. And I I was hoping that nobody noticed. Like there there was some things that we did that that I don't that that in the ceremony that that we thought that that, you know, I'm sitting there thinking it's super freaking obvious, like telegraphing something because normally speaking, you know, we have we have two author guests of honor right with with she's in lieu. And Robert, Robert. Jay Sawyer. And so normally the the normal order of events if you're having them as presenters, which we did. Is is you? Have an author is usually going to give novel, right, right. And we had two. So we were going to do novella and novel. But of course we have a little bit earlier in the short fiction. We have an actual Chinese winner for short fiction. And when we were looking at that and we mapped it out, you know, this was actually Joe suggested. Goes like you know what? I think we should move. You know, she's in lieu up to actually, so that the Chinese winner of the Hugo Award is giving a Hugo to another Chinese winner. And and I felt. So

I I felt like an idiot for having missed that, you know. And I'm like Oh my God. Yes, we have to do that. And so we changed the order and, you know.

Chris Barkley

Not what.

Dave McCarty

I was hoping that we hadn't telegraphed. The result to people, and it didn't seem like we did, cause they didn't really understand why, you know, but, but that was because that was just, you know, that was a moment that I thought was wonderful and spoke volumes about fandom. You know, the the thing.

Chris Barkley

Surprise me.

Dave McCarty

For as much as people who didn't go might, you know, worry about, you know, government interference, I didn't see anything like that. What I saw was I saw Chinese young, vibrant Chinese science fiction fans who were, for the most part. Almost desperate for validation, they wanted to be seen as us and part of the community and feeling connected like that was so important to them. They they they they was squeeze of joy to see us and you know we we I I think you probably got mobbed for for autographs the same way that I did you know it was you know the the like they they they just. They want to be connected and that. You know, people, some people, I think have have tried to find nefarious goals in the T and win project when all the T and WIN project is trying to do is to try is, is to try to leverage how things work in China, which is a corporate sponsorship model to make to, to to basically create an award and and make a process. For for stuff in China to be presented at Worldcon and get Chinese fans to come to Worldcon to better connect the community over time to get Chinese fans. To Glasgow to get them to Seattle to get them to. If we happen to go to LA, you know, to each year to get hopefully get get, get a few and and and increase that connection. You know that's a wonderful thing. When when I chaired shikan 7 my greatest regret is that we had a group of fans. We had a group. Sorry, we had a group of fans from from from science fiction world. The big publisher in China who were trying to come and they had visa problems that we could not overcome and they didn't actually make it. Like that's my number one regret of everything. We did. You know, what was that? Was that there were Chinese fans that wanted to come to the world. Com couldn't make it. And so the Titan one project is all about just getting Chinese fans to work on. And I think that there are there are very few things in the world in the world that are cooler than.

Chris Barkley

That OK, one of the. All out of all this is people clamoring for change and whispers rules. One of the things I proposed was actually separating out the administration. With Hugo warts. From the world and just have them. Contracted could be given out at world costs something.

Dave McCarty

So so I think I I think that that. So in this respect, I'm only just. One fan, right? I can't. You know, I'm not. I I I can't speak for the Hugo Awards. I administered one thing. Yeah. So. So my opinion on that is that it's

very wrong headed. I think that I I think that one of the places that we've actually caused ourselves problems in recent years is that we have.

Chris Barkley

No, no, no, no. I'm just asking for your opinion.

Dave McCarty

Sold ourselves some stories about the solar cells, some stories about the Hugo Awards that I don't think are true in any helpful way. The Hugo Awards are prestigious. They are OK, but they're prestigious. Because of the history of what we've. Right. They're not. They're not prestigious because they're elegant or they're or they're. Whatever they're they are the awards of our community and our community is irreverent, goofy, playful. These things are not procedures. OK. When we when when we say we have to be elegant. See, you know we we dress up and that's fun. But you know, the and and people are in tuxedos, and I'm in a tuxedo. But the but the Hugo Awards are also Chris Garcia up on the stage in a Fred Flintstone T-shirt that is also us. And you can't look at that and say prestigious. You look at that and you see fandom. We we keep forgetting, we, we, we neglect that, that, that the Hugos are the Hugo Awards are fandom to our detriment. OK, we've had controversies in recent years of, of people who think we aren't treating treating it or them in the case of some finalist in. Appropriately, inappropriately respectful manner and and that's not not and not meaning that we should ever disrespect anybody. That's not my point. But but. But my point is, you know, we we we allow people to. Forget that there's playfulness, that, that, that it's fandom, that it's the communities awards as the Communities Awards. The Hugos were created to be, to be, to be given out by the Worldcom. OK, the the thing. The thing is, you know, it's one of the duties. It's it's, it's specifically a duty of the world kind of. Give out the Hugo Awards. You can't. You can't separate the Hugos from or. I don't think that you should separate the Hugos from the Worldcom, because the the the like like I made, I made decisions as an administrator, right? But I'm the administrator for, for, for work, for the Chengdu Worldcon. In China, I all my my my decisions. You also have to be responsible to that group, the the you know the folks who are doing it this year for glass. They're they. They're making huge administration decisions, but not in a total vacuum. They're also making decisions responsible for Glasgow and it has to be. That way, and if you try to separate it out and you have the Hugo Awards, making decisions entirely separate that aren't responsible to the Worldcom, where they're going to be presented, you are setting up the problem. After problem after problem the the the, the the rewards are not separable from the. Convention. They're the they're the communities awards. The the Convention is the communities convention. They're not, it's not a separate thing, but there's people who really think that the that, that, that the Worldcom is there to serve the Hugo Awards and the opposite is what in fact is true. The Hugo Awards are there to serve the world com, you know, they were. They were created by they. They were created. You know, after and as part of and for they were not. It was not. We have this. We have this Convention that we created because we have this award. That's not the case. So I think trying to separate them is entirely wrong headed so.

Chris Barkley

One of my last question sure is. Do you expect to be appointed or would you volunteer to be a Hugo administrator again?

Dave McCarty

Even though I am certain that every administration decision I made was correct, I don't think that anybody would ever give me this job again. I don't think so. I would love to do it again, you know. I love this. I, you know, after chairing the Worldcom, this is the one piece of of of Worldcom stuff that I love the most, you know. And I did it here for, for the fans in China because I love it the most. And I knew it was going to be difficult to to, to bridge the gap and I wanted to do my. Just to help and I think that I did, and even even though I'm at where I'm at right now and you know, I can see lots of people saying lots of stuff, you know, I don't believe that anything that I did was was wrong in terms of, you know, putting forward that he goes for Chengdu. But you know, that doesn't mean that they don't understand there are. Lots of folks out there with very hard feelings and putting me in that position again, you know people. You know, you know people are going to believe what they want to believe, and even though I might think that where they're coming from is based on things that aren't true, you know, I can't. I I can't assert them out of their out of their feelings, you know? And so, you know, there's too many people that would be too angry. So me being in this job again, that's not going to happen. You know, but anybody, whoever wants to, everybody, anybody, whoever wants to do it, who wants like advice or assistance in some way 100%, you know.

Chris Barkley

Last question for you, I can't end this interview without asking about. The Pope of the Hugos?

Dave McCarty

I I here's what I here's what I want.

Chris Barkley

To ask it.

Dave McCarty

So so number so #1.

Chris Barkley

I've never no wait. OK, I I known you for a couple of decades. I've never heard anyone.

Speaker 1

Refer to you.

Chris Barkley

In such a manner, can you explain its origins?

Dave McCarty

Aye, aye. Or I I only have theory. OK.

Chris Barkley

OK, go ahead.

Speaker 3

All right, all right.

Dave McCarty

My only theory is I wish I could find whoever whoever fed the person in that line to.

Chris Barkley

Yeah, that was Adam Morgan of Esquire magazine.

Speaker 1

To thank them for the giggle.

Dave McCarty

No, no, no. I know, I know. Who wrote it? I know I.

Chris Barkley

Just explained for for her.

Speaker 3

No, I so so.

Speaker

Thank you.

Dave McCarty

So so because but but. But I'll I'll say I got the interview request from Adam and I and I declined. You know so because there there because there's nothing given given what I thought I saw in the interview request. I didn't feel that there was anything that was going to be gainfully. Taken from that you this for you. Do is slightly different, so I'm I'm doing this for you, but again I'm not. I don't think I'm seeing anything. Here that that I haven't already said publicly or wouldn't say publicly, so the the. But, but you know the the Pope of the Hugos? Nobody's ever said that you know that, but so, so, whoever. Whoever fed at in that line was basically trolling him, and he didn't catch it.

Chris Barkley

Well, and trying to troll you. And turn well, yeah.

Dave McCarty

My, my, my, my, my native worldview is that the number of people whose opinion of me I care about is kind of small. So you know, so somebody trying to troll me that way, not very effective. However, it has given me a great cosplay idea for Glasgow. You know.

Chris Barkley

Lord and brought evolved brother Guy. From the Vatican, I.

Dave McCarty

Oh man, now it's getting even better. Thank you. You're welcome.

Chris Barkley

I think brother Guy from the Vatican probably helped.

Dave McCarty

You out? Yeah, so.

Chris Barkley

Other guys, the Vatican's astronomer. For anyone listening.

Dave McCarty

Yep, Yep. So you know the the the you know, for for an article on the Esquire thing for an article that says it's an insider thing, there's a whole lot of nobody quoted. That's an insider. You know, there are people that they're they're there are quotes that are given that are that aren't attributed and. Given the quality get given the information that I saw there, I'm not sure the attributions are really possible. I don't know who said that stuff, but it, you know, they it's clear clearly nobody wanted to go on the record. So and and you know I didn't want to go on the record because it's the the, the, the, the, the the take of the article that seemed for the interview request wasn't one that I thought was useful to participate in.

Chris Barkley

Yeah, but so you weren't surprised?

Dave McCarty

By no, I I I had no it was a.

Chris Barkley

By the tenor of the article.

Dave McCarty

God, what's the?

Speaker 1

What's what's the?

Dave McCarty

The the readings. This is eye of eye of Sargon or whatever. Whatever the book is that was written by all the different people at the same time. And this each chapter is more ridiculous than the next. Right? So so you know, I didn't directly read it, but I sat in the group as somebody read it and and, you know and and we were as as each as each quote.

Speaker 3

Right.

Dave McCarty

Came after the next. It got funnier and funnier. Now where where he covered sort of history of stuff. I think he did a decent job of that, you know? But but the but the whole, you know what happened and why and.

Chris Barkley

There was no there's a. This happened, but there's no why, yeah.

Dave McCarty

You know and and and again. The the, the, the The thing is. You know the the the answers that I've got for for the administration decisions, all I can say is again, you know be after reviewing this Constitution and all the other rules we must follow, you know, the the administration team ruled that these works were eligible, which absolutely, categorically is our right to do, you know, the the that that that's right there in this Constitution. So you know, so honestly, if if I. If I wanted to be dickish about it and I and you know, I think that's kind of people are going to find that kind of funny after my Facebook wall a few weeks ago, you know. But if I wanted to be dickish about it, you know, point to the rule that says it's, it's the rule that says the administrator has discretion because that's that's the rule. The administrator has discretion and and and, you know. The it's part of our discretionary power to say what isn't isn't, isn't eligible. But you know that's that that's not the only that's that's not the only reason I didn't do it just because I decided that they were going to be ineligible. But that's specifically the the thing inside the Constitution that grants the power to do it. You know. You know, but that wasn't, you know, the the but but a more satisfying answer than that I can't give.

Chris Barkley

Well, listen, thank you Dave McCarty for.

Dave McCarty

This interview. Yeah, no problem. And if you happen to see Paul Paul Weimer anywhere, if he's still around, point him. Because like I said. He he, you know, he's he's earned the right to to sit here and have me listen to everything he has to say and answer any question that he has as best as. I can. All right. And so does, and so does everybody that was. Affected, right and. And by affected here, I don't mean the entire community, I mean. The people who were who, who who? Who had eligibility? Eligibility decisions about their work that they have questions about those people were affected and and they they they've earned the right to, you know, and Neil Gaiman showed up on my wall, and I did my best to answer Neil, game and respectfully, and people took offense that I was respectful to Neil, who was affected by my decision when I wasn't being respectful to other people who were basically asking me the same question for the 6th and 7th. You know, but I I understand. I I believe there was a difference between the two cases. Neil asked me your thoughtful questions I gave him. I gave him what I what my best was for. Respectful answers, you know.