

Episode 65 - Deathly Hallows Ch. 12 (plus Q&A!)

w/ Bayana Davis and Robyn Jordan

PM = Past Mike
EM = Editing Mike
BD = Bayana Davis
RJ = Robyn Jordan

If there is a mistake or mis-translation in this transcript please feel free to reach out to Mike for clarification! (potterlesspodcast@gmail.com)

<3:05>

PM 3:05

So then we get into chapter 12, which does have a super ominous title, Magic is Might, which at first sounds kind of nice until you learn what that's from, but we'll get into that in a little bit.

Robyn Jordan 3:15

There are actually people who have that tattooed on their body.

PM 3:19

No!

Robyn Jordan 3:19

And it's like, why?

EM: 3:20

Why? That some Nazi stuff, don't do that!

Robyn Jordan 3:22

And they have, like, there people that have the Death Mark, or the like-

Bayana Davis 3:25

Dark Mark.

Robyn Jordan 3:26

Yep, and I don't understand it.

PM 3:28

They're like I'm a super Slytherin. Be like, "No, no, no, no."

Robyn 3:30

You have to like, have read the book to know that phrase, and to know the Death Mark, like you have to, or is it the Death Mark?

PM 3:37
The Dark Mark.

Bayana
The Dark Mark

Robyn Jordan 3:38
The Dark Mark.

PM 3:38
Yeah, same thing.

Robyn Jordan 3:39
You have to have like, read the books.

PM 3:40
Yeah.

Robyn Jordan 3:41
So then you know what that is.

PM
Uh-huh

Robyn
And then you're like, "Yeah that sounds awful."

PM 3:45
I mean it's basically the equivalent of having a swastika on you and being like, "Oh no, no, no, no, I'm not racist. I promise you. ahhhhhh-ahh-ahhh."

Robyn Jordan 3:51
I just really like the artwork.

PM 3:53
Yeah, uhhhhh. I just like snakes. Like, eh hh...

Bayana Davis 3:56
No, not quite.

PM 3:56
Like, there's a difference between having that tattooed on you versus like the Decepticons logo, because sure the Decepticons were the bad guys, but they were bad robots that turned into vehicles from this pretend planet, like the Death Eaters are racists you can't have that on your be like, "Oh, I just liked at bad guys from Harry Potter." You can't like them.

Bayana Davis 4:16

Yeah, it's too close of a like, parallel.

PM 4:19

Yeah.

Bayana Davis 4:19

It's not just like I want to take over the world it's like no I want to like, murder lots of people and commit genocide.

PM 4:25

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan

Right, you know, you could make the argument that and I found this out, that Pinky and the Brain, like, the Brain was a bad guy, was a villain.

PM 4:34

I mean...

Robyn Jordan 4:35

Someone told me that I don't, I reject that hypothesis, I think that The Brain just knew that the world needed to be taken over because it's run by idiots.

PM 4:42

Yeah, but The Brain's not racist.

Robyn Jordan 4:44

Right. Just a misunderstood rat.

PM

Yeah.

Robyn

He's got the right idea if we want become-, same with Carmen San Diego who apparently was the bad guy.

PM 4:47

I thought we're just trying to figure out where she was.

Robyn Jordan 4:55

Right.

Bayana Davis 4:55

Right.

PM 4:55

I thought we're just concerned of her location--

Robyn Jordan 4:57

She's an art connoisseur.

PM 4:58

It's like, Waldo. Isn't it just Waldo?

Robyn Jordan 5:00

Right. Like, Carmen San Diego is collecting art, giving it back to its native people, what she really is doing is like she's the 99% and we should applaud her.

Bayana Davis 5:11

She's like Killmonger before Killmonger started like trying to overthrow--

PM 5:16

Ohhh...

Robyn Jordan

Oh god.

Bayana Davis 5:16

Like You know?

PM 5:17

Killmonger was so close. He was so close to having it right.

Bayana Davis 5:19

So far. And yet, and yet.

Robyn Jordan 5:20

And yet.

PM 5:22

I remember watching the movie and then some points I was like, "Oh, okay." And then he gets a little bit farther and you're like, "Oh, don't do, don't do that Killmonger"

Robyn Jordan 5:32

Not quite.

Bayana Davis 5:33

Just all the weapons though. You got to send all the weapons.

Robyn Jordan

All of them.

Bayana Davis
All of them?

Robyn Jordan
All of them.

Bayana Davis
Really?

PM

Like, reel it in a bit. I get it, take it a step back, like I want to support you Michael B Jordan because you've really cool hair you wear very nice outfits in this movie but like maybe reel it in a little.

Bayana
Just. Man.

Robyn Jordan 5:42

We have this saying on Wizard Team too because we talk about like, Barty Crouch Jr. and like-

PM 5:48

Oh, don't even get me started. ugh!

Robyn Jordan 5:51

But he has such potential!

PM 5:52

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan 5:52

And yet he's a Nazi. Like, if only-- the planning, the logistics.

PM 5:57

True, making everybody think he's dead.

Robyn Jordan 6:00

Right, like if he would have used those powers for good?

PM: 6:03

The parallel that I have is that it's kind of like Regulus Black. Because clearly Regulus was super knowledgeable and had everything together, if he got a Horcrux out from Voldemort and figured out all this stuff like, shout out to Regulus. That's what Barty Crouch should have been. Because you're right, if you just look at it on the objective facts of like what Barty

Crouch did, he convinced everybody that he was Moody. He was a very good method actor and took a whole lot of things into precaution.

Bayana Davis 6:28

And also like, taught the children.

PM 6:30

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan 6:30

One of the best teachers they had.

PM 6:31

Yeah, he's like the best Defense Against the Dark Arts teacher.

Robyn Jordan 6:38

He's like, "I'm still going to do my job." like-

Robyn Jordan

Right. He's like "I am playing the long game, like, Moody would have done the job well. So, if I need to be a believable Moody, they need to pass their O.W.L.s". Like, I just get it. Think about how many N.E.W.T. students came up in that year.

PM 6:50

Right?

Robyn Jordan 6:50

When Crouch was there.

PM: 6:53

Oh man. Anyway chapter 12 Magic is Might. So, the chapter opens in a strange manner. It gives us this brief perspective on what the Muggle interaction with Grimmauld place is. Basically the whole point of it is to show that more and more wizards, assuming these are all Death Eaters, are creeping outside of the lot that is, Grimmauld Place. And I think at one point they even allude to Snape and Pettigrew. Because they talked about like one tall wizard and one like short one almost going in is that who they're making the allusion to, I wasn't sure.

Bayana Davis

I don't think I read it as Snape, but now--

Robyn Jordan 7:23

I always did.

PM 7:24

Yeah, I'm trying to find the exact quote of it. Because it says it was something where I was like this seems like it might be, but they didn't really say it out right.

Robyn

She loves a mystery. Have you read her mystery books?

PM: 7:34

I've read the first one, and it was very good.

Robyn Jordan 7:36

Okay, so JK Rowling is a mystery writer not a fantasy writer-

PM

Yeah, totally.

Robyn Jordan

-And like, everything makes much more sense.

Bayana Davis 7:42

She also was really good at horror and gore.

Robyn Jordan

Gore!

PM: 7:45

I mean, the first two books are just episodes of Scooby Doo.

Robyn Jordan

Yes!

Bayana Davis

They totally are.

PM

It's the first person you meet, there's a big red herring the whole time.

Robyn Jordan 7:51

I mean, the three books, let's be honest

Bayana Davis 7:52

Yeah, the end of the third book is like literally--

PM

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan 7:55

The end of the third book is literally, "I would have got away with it if it wasn't for these dumb kids and their meddling dog."

PM

Your meddling kids and your stupid dog too.

Bayana Davis

Meddling kids and your dumb dog. Yeah.

PM: 8:03

Here it is, "The man with the twisted face pointed and his closest companion, a podgy, pallid man, started forwards, but a moment later they relax into their previous state of inactivity, looking frustrated and disappointed."

Bayana Davis 8:13

The twisted face is Dolohov.

PM

Ohhhhhh, okay.

Bayana Davis

No. I also just like happened to have a steel trap of the mind and Order the Phoenix is my favorite book.

PM

Okay, yes.

Bayana Davis

So I've read it the most. Yeah, so there's that moment where in the Department of Mysteries where like his mask is taken off--

PM

Oh.

Bayana Davis

--and I think there's a couple moments when his face is described in that one.

PM

Yeah, yeah.

Bayana Davis: 8:29

Yeah, but I don't know about the other one.

PM

I just googled podgy and pallid. Podgy means chubby like, pudgy and pallid means pale. So that doesn't necessarily have, I don't know if that's really anyone that we know.

Robyn Jordan 8:41

I always read that that was ummm--

PM

It still could be Pettigrew

Robyn Jordan

--Wormtail. because Wormtail is literally like the errand boy.

PM

Sure

Robyn Jordan

They'll send him along to help someone who, like, actually can do things.

Bayana Davis

Yes.

PM

Yes. Totally.

Robyn Jordan

Which is why he's like, being Snape's butler now.

PM: 8:56

He's like a step above a house elf.

Robyn Jordan

Which, let's be honest--

PM:

Is a step below, because house elves can do all sorts of stuff.

Robyn Jordan 9:04

But also homeboy turned on his best friends and then spent 14 years as a rat to be treated like this.

PM

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan

So this is a life lesson for everyone who thinks like, "I'm gonna bet on the bad guy." Don't.

PM

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan
Don't do it.

PM: 9:18

Don't do it. The narrator then gets to Harry and Harry has bad news to bring to the squad. And what is this bad news? It's that Snape is the new headmaster of Hogwarts. Which is not okay, because I wanted to have a year of Headmaster McGonagall and that has been taken away from us. What happened?

Bayana Davis
Voldemort.

PM

I guess it's the whole Voldemort minister thing. But if you have if you have someone that is the deputy Headmistress and then becomes the headmistress, what kind of justification do you have to put Snape in front, they never really get into it but it may be so upset. I wanted headmistress--

Robyn Jordan
Racism!

PM

Uhhh, I wanted Headmistress McGonagall!

Robyn Jordan
Mike, what goes hand in hand with racism?

PM

Uhhhh... stuff that doesn't make sense.

Robyn Jordan
Sexism!

PM

Oh okay, yeah, that too.

Bayana Davis
Oh. Also, and stuff that doesn't make sense.

PM

Also yeah yeah yeah, also.

Bayana Davis
All of it together

PM
Which--

Robyn
All of it, yes.

PM
--sexism falls under.

Bayana Davis 10:02
And then, when you talk about the wizarding world they never do anything that makes sense.

Robyn Jordan
Nothing that makes sense.

Bayana Davis
Even when they're not being racists or sexists.

Bayana Davis
So then it's like--

Robyn Jordan
Yeah.

PM
Yeah.

Bayana Davis
On top of that.

Robyn Jordan 10:09
it's a code, it's a wizarding world code which is, "Does this decision make sense? Then let's do the other one." Occam's razor.

PM: 10:17
So, there's a Prophet article that relays this and it also notes that Amycus, brother of Alecko Carrow, who resigned from the Muggle Studies job is taking over her post. Isn't Amycus a Death Eater?

Bayana Davis
Yeah.

PM

Like I confirmed one and he's just teaching at the school now, and he's teaching Muggle Relations.

Bayana Davis
Yeah.

PM
It seems, it seems a little bit weird if you have, I don't know David Duke teaching you African Studies like, I don't think--

Bayana Davis
Not if you're Voldemort.

PM
Ughhh! Ughhh!

Bayana Davis 10:42
It makes perfect sense.

PM
Oh my goodness.

Bayana Davis
Well, because again right like they're making Hogwarts mandatory for all these kids so it's like the prime place to like, brainwash them into also being--

PM
Yep

Bayana Davis
--mini Death Eater.

PM
Ughhhh, man. Yeah, I want to see what his Muggle Studies syllabus is. Like, what's he going to be teaching?

Bayana Davis 11:00
I mean it's some Thomas Jefferson ass shit. Like, "Based on my observations that I did not, you know, get peer reviewed or anything. Muggles are like this." That's what it is.

PM
Ugh, gross... So, Hermione is absolutely flabbergasted. She is very upset. She even says, "Merlin's pants!" At one point, and I'm only used, "Merlin's beard." But thankfully Ron points this out he goes, "Merlin's pants? She must be upset." So, Harry thinks that the only reason that the other teachers have to be staying is to avoid getting sentenced to a term in Azkaban or to try and protect the remaining students at the school. So, I'm glad that they've

still got some good eggs there, and hopefully they can stand up to the Death Eaters, much like they stood up to stuff that Umbridge did etc. Hermione then really quickly runs upstairs comes back down and Ron asks, "What is the name of Merlin's most baggy y-fronts runs, was that about?" Which, fun fact, you can call pants y-fronts.

Bayana Davis 11:56

I never knew that until like I reading this book but it's like one of my favorite Ron-isms.

PM: 12:01

Ron is killing in the seventh book.

Robyn Jordan

Yeah.

PM

It's funny that I think the fifth book is like the true comeuppance of Fred, specifically but Fred and George, the sixth book is the true comeuppance of Ginny Weasley and Ron has been killing in the seventh book. So, each book is just a new Weasley gets better. So Ron has been hitting some good ones in this one. So, she comes back down with a painting that she throws into her magic bag that can fit stuff that's bigger than it actually is. And she says it was Phineas Nigellus. And that is so smart, I never would have thought of this but that's absolutely brilliant is like, "Yo! Snape could totally spy on us, if you don't get rid of this painting. The one hope that I really have because I love Phineas Nigellus, he's the best like stay off my lawn.

Bayana Davis

Oh yeah.

PM

But in a good way like cranky old grandpa.

Robyn Jordan

No, no, no, no, no, no, no. Phineas Nigellus is a judge on Ru Paul's Drag Race wizarding edition.

PM

Ohhhhhh!

Robyn Jordan

He's a shade Queen.

PM

Oh yes! I love it

Robyn Jordan

The library is open. Phineas will re-do the house down.

PM: 12:58

Oh, it's so good! That is really good. But yeah, I hope that this means he joins them later on their journey. Like, Hermione forgets to take it out of the bag when they leave, and then at some point when they're trying to destroy the Horcrux, Phineas is like, "Ah! This will never work, you damn idiots!" Like, I really hope that we get some Phineas later, I don't know if we do but I'm hopeful. Harry then reveals that he spent the entire day outside the ministry looking for Umbridge but didn't see her and the narrator further reveals that the squad has been planning to sneak into the ministry, and Harry thinks that they should do it tomorrow, which surprises Ron and Hermione. They don't think that they're necessarily ready, but Harry thinks, "Look we got to act now before Umbridge chucks the locket because she realizes that she can't open it so it might be trash." And then Ron says, "Well maybe, she already found a way to open it and she's possessed." and Harry says, "Well, she's already so evil that it probably wouldn't make much of a difference." Which I love, so good. They know a bunch of things because for the past four weeks, they have been doing rotating shifts, staying outside the ministry, formulating this plan, they know that Apparition into the offices banned. There is a Floo network, but only for senior people, and they also know that Umbridge is on the first level of the ministry. So basically, they're devising this whole plan to sneak into the ministry, get with Umbridge, take the locket and eventually try to destroy it.

Bayana Davis 14:16

Yeah, so I want to also point out and this is like a thing that we talked about a lot in Order the Phoenix when we were at that book. Is how much more efficient Voldemort is with the security measures at the Ministry of Magic.

PM: 14:29

Right? That is one thing he's better at.

Bayana Davis 14:31

He like, he stopped them from being able to Apparate into the, into the ministry. They, I think that one point they mentioned, like not being able to Floo in from their house which is like, inconvenient but like safety wise is probably smart.

PM

Yeah.

Bayana Davis

They have to have tokens which means they have some kind of form of identification like all these things they just didn't have before and now they have it-

PM:

Right?

Bayana Davis

-They're like, this is the worst thing of having Voldemort run the ministry.

PM:
Yeah.

Bayana Davis
Is that we actually have a secure government building.

PM: 14:55
Oh, it's kind of like how the one good thing that Nazi's did is like German trains were like on track and really good. It's like there's the one tiny, little like, thing that they do good.

Robyn Jordan 15:05
The fascist are pretty good at, logistics,?

PM: 15:22
Uhh, i gue- yeah, I gue-

Bayana
Nooo.

Robyn Jordan
I mean, they wanna make their hate as efficient as possible. Oh god. Oh! Oh! Okay.

Bayana
That's awful, that's awful

PM
Ughh. Gross, gross, gross. Let's--

Robyn
Moving on.

Bayana Davis
You don't want to cross that bridge.

PM
The one thing that I do wanna point out is that like the only security measure that the Ministry had before, is that with T nine words you just wrote magic on that phone booth. Like, the password is magic like come on the password is magic. Really? Ugh...

Robyn Jordan
Well, I mean, if you're a Muggle you wouldn't guess that.

PM
Oh, I 1000% would but yeah. I guess to a Muggle that has no idea.

Robyn Jordan 15:38

But also, let's talk about the fact that you hit magic, and then you state your name and you get a thing so when they came and Order the Phoenix it said, "Harry Potter, rescue mission."

PM: 15:47

Yeah, but there was also like no one that checked him after he got the badge but the nobody checked anything.

Bayana Davis 15:53

I mean, the visitor entrance, but the visitor entrance should have been locked. Like, why was it not locked after hours

Robyn Jordan

It should have been.

Bayana Davis

They just let people.

PM

Yup--

Bayana

It's just-

--yup yup yup. So many problems.

Bayana Davis

And they wonder why there's so many breaking ins.

PM

Right? Ugh. So dumb

Bayana Davis

I don't get it.

PM: 16:04

But, so anyway, the squad is then arguing about who should and shouldn't go on this mission, Ron says, Hermione shouldn't go because she's on the list of Muggleborns who didn't interview. Hermione says Ron shouldn't go because he's supposed to be dying of Spattergroit and that Harry shouldn't go because he's got a 10,000 galleon piece on his head and Harry hits him with a great quote where he says, "Fine, I'll stay here. Let me know if you ever defeat Voldemort, won't you?" Which is great, so they all laugh and breaks the tension.

Robyn Jordan 16:25

Also like, if Hermione doesn't go, you all die.

PM: 16:28

Yes, right? Oh my goodness--

Bayana

So just first of all.

PM

--it should not even be a question.

Robyn Jordan

Why is that even on the table?

Bayana Davis 16:31

And honestly, if Harry stayed away and Hermione did it all herself, it'd probably get done faster.

PM: 16:37 'sight? Really, it probably would have been totally fine.

Robyn Jordan

Yeah.

Bayana Davis

I know.

PM

So, Harry's scar then hurts again, and he rushes to the bathroom, and we get the weird Voldemort flashback, flash present, whatever it is, thing that's going on. And he is asking a German woman for Gregorovitch and she says that he doesn't live here anymore and she doesn't know him, and then Voldemort for no good reason, kills her in front of her two children, which is very unnecessary. But I guess that's how Voldemort rolls.

Bayana Davis

That's how he rolls.

PM

Yeah, Hermione knocks on the door, snapping him out of it. And Harry tries to play it off and Hermione says, "Come on, you were yelling like crazy. We saw you feel for your scar, we know what's up." So, Harry then says what actually was going down, says the whole Gregorovitch thing blah blah blah.

Robyn Jordan 17:19

You know what I just realized is that at this moment with just the trio, Hermione could be teaching him Occlumency.

PM: 17:27

Probably

Robyn Jordan 17:28

I mean, Harry still wouldn't do the work.

PM

No, he wouldn't, he's so stubborn.

Bayana Davis

No. He's, He's pretty much given up at this point, like when she says like, "Hey you shouldn't be doing this." He's like, "Well, you know I suck at that anyway."

PM

Yup.

Bayana Davis

Which is like, but you could have been practicing.

PM: 17:39

A 100%.

Bayana Davis

You know?

PM

Yeah, totally, totally, but that's basically what he says is, is she tries to say, "You should be doing Occlumency." he says, "Oh, I'm bad at it, I'm just going to use this against Voldemort." And then, Hermione asks "Do you like this connection or something?"

Robyn Jordan

Which is how Sirius--It was nice talking to you. I'm going to go take a nap. It is called a sad nap. I can not go on, feelings.

PM: 18:01

Yeah, it's not good, this strategy's not worked before Harry. So then he says that nobody wants to use it against him, he doesn't like this connection, I just want to know why he's after Gregorovitch, and then he has to explain the whole Gregorovitch thing to them. Harry's hypothesis that Voldemort either thinks that Gregorovitch is better than Ollivander or that he knows more than Ollivander did about Harry's wand thing. Because Ollivander didn't know anything about it. Hermione still thinks that this wand thing was Harry. Harry still thinks that it was the wand and an out of body experience, so to speak. I have no idea what the hell this is. But, Ron says just drop it because they're both being very stubborn about it.

Bayana Davis 18:38

Well, this isn't a spoiler, it's Priori Incantatem from Goblet of Fire. So you know at the end when they're wands connected. It's something to do with that.

PM: 18:45

Yeah, yeah, yeah. That's the thing is we do know that it's something about the two wands. And then Voldemort tried to use the other wand, but then Harry still did some sort of like, weird spark thing that he didn't control. So now Voldemort is trying to figure out why that didn't work. So that's why he's going to Gregorovitch. We move on and Kreacher, this whole chapter and a little bit in the previous one, has just been killing the game. Like, the place is clean as hell. It's perfect he's making them amazing food he's making them stew and treacle tart which I now know is a British dessert and not a magic thing which I used to think it was.

Robyn

They also make treacle tarts on-

PM

Because I do not watch enough british bake off.--

Robyn

-thank you.

PM

--I do not watch enough.

Robyn

I was gonna say they make it on bake off.

PM

I did watch a couple episodes with my sister when I was in Dallas for Leaky Con and I felt very on brand, they made some very impressive dishes.

Robyn Jordan

Paul Hollywood, let you know.

PM

So they then go to bed after reciting the plan a bunch and the next morning they get ready with all their supplies and they say goodbye to Kreacher who promises to have steak and kidney pie ready for them waiting when they get home.

Bayana Davis 19:38

I mean, Kreacher just needed to feel appreciated.

PM

Right? Yeah.

Bayana Davis

And like, he was a valuable member of the House.

PM

That's all he needs

Bayana Davis

Not like he's just being oppressed and-

Robyn Jordan 19:49

And also, just like let him keep his stuff.

Bayana Davis 19:51

Yeah, you do your thing over here, we gonna do it over here and that's how we just gonna coexist.

Robyn Jordan: 19:54

Right.

PM

Just let me have my stuff, let me do me.

Bayana Davis

Exactly

Robyn Jordan 19:59

Kreacher, as long as you dust, then you can keep whatever you want to keep it just has to be neat.

PM

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan

It's what my mom used to scream at me all the time. "You can have every single babysitters club book, they just can't be all over the floor."

PM: 20:11

So good. So Ron then says, "Bless him and to think, I used to fantasize about cutting off his head and sticking it to the wall." which--

Bayana

Yikes.

PM

--so good, so good.

Bayana Davis

But also Kreacher used to fantasize about that as well, so I can't-

PM: 20:20

Of course, it's a mutual desire--

Bayana

Yeah.

PM

--that they now no longer have for each other

Robyn Jordan 20:26

Hopefully, Kreacher no longer has that.

Bayana Davis 20:27

Right because here, Kreacher had it for himself though like,-

PM

Oh

Bayana

-for him personally

Pm

Right, he did have it for himself.

Bayana Davis

I don't know about his thing about Ron.

Robyn Jordan 20:33

Kreacher still is in the mentality of having his head--

PM

Yup, to be with the rest.

Robyn Jordan

--stuck to the wall is his highest achievement.

PM: 20:36

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Well anyway, Hermione disapparates them one by one, to the ministry they get into position, and they stun a witch who they learn to be named Mafalda Hopkirk. I'm writing down all these names for my future career as someone that dominates Harry Potter wizard trivia because these are the kind of questions that they will ask. I know it.

Bayana Davis 21:00

Well also, so, if you want to go even further, Mafalda Hopkirk, because she's in the Improper Use of Magic Office or whatever, when Dobby does the magic in the Chamber of Secrets and then when Harry gets expelled.

PM

Oh, is it her?

Bayana Davis

It's her.

PM

Oh

Bayana Davis

She's the one who wrote the letter.

PM: 21:12

Nice! Okay. When I get this question right in the Harry Potter thing I will send both of you, personalized Twitter messages saying, "Thank you so much. You helped me win free beer."

Robyn Jordan 21:26

Harry Potter Trivia, you have to be very careful with which ones you go to, because Sirius Black gave Harry his first wand!

Bayana Davis

No, not wand.

Robyn Jordan

I mean broom, broom

PM

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan

I will die on that hill, I will fight that quizmaster.

PM

Oh, some people think it's McGonagall?

Bayana Davis

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan 21:36

He was like, "Well, it could not like, when it happened--" and I was like, "It don't matter!"

PM

That's not how it works.

Robyn Jordan

Either way, because McGonagall didn't give him--"

PM

No.

Robyn Jordan

--the broom--

PM

Sirius did.

Robyn Jordan

McGonagall just facilitated that.

PM

Yeah. That would be like saying you got something from the mailman and then being like, "Oh the mailman gave me this great gift." I'd be like, "No he didn't."

Robyn Jordan

Right?

PM

The mailman passed you a package that you ordered.

Bayana Davis 21:55

Right

Robyn Jordan

Sirius bought him his toddler broom.

PM

Uh-huh

Robyn Jordan

And then Sirius bought him his other broom. SIRIUS BLACK! Put respect on his name.

PM: 22:04

Wait yeah that's even the thing, if the question was just, first broom, you gotta go to the toddler broom, which we learned about two chapters ago. Which I've already discussed at length at how scary and terrifying that is. But, we don't nee-- that's a whole another rant for another time.

Bayana Davis 22:14

To have a child, just running around a broom, yo!

Robyn Jordan: 22:19

Y'all give children the tricycles and all this other, children get children--

PM

But this was before he could walk. Anyway, we're gonna be talking for hours, if we do this.

Bayana Davis

Yeah.

PM

So they uhh...

Robyn Jordan

I'm just saying, I'm just saying side eye your quiz masters.

PM

I will, I will keep them in check. So, they stun this witch and Hermione takes her hair adds to Polyjuice Potion and then takes her glasses assumes her identity. So Ron goes thru her purse, so that they can find out what her name is and they get her token, and after transforming, they get in position for the next guy who shows up and when he does, Hermione gives him a Puking Pastelle and yank some hair out of his head and tries to convince him that he shouldn't go to work, but he should go to St Mungo's instead. And he is very adamant about going to work, we find out why later. But finally, he agrees because he's just vomiting, everywhere. So he Disapparates, leaving only behind the bag that Ron snagged from him while he was under the Invisibility Cloak. Ron then Polyjuices to become this guy whose name is Reg Cattermole, which wheew! Quite the name.

Robyn Jordan

I think it's Reg or at least that's how they say it later.

PM

Oh, Reg. Yeah, that makes more sense.

Robyn Jordan

Yeah

PM

Like short for Reggie, yeah, that'd make a lot more sense than Reg. So, Ron and Hermione leave Harry behind for about 10 minutes and then they come back with the hairs of someone else and they basically say, "We don't know who this is, but we got you some hair." And they used nose bleeding nougat to get him gone. So Harry polyjuices to this. They're now all under disguise. Harry's dude is super tall so they have to use some other robes that they brought so that makes this whole thing a bit more interesting is that the way to describe it, Harry is basically like Abe Lincoln, like he's got a big beard and he's really tall. So that's what I was picturing in my mind.

Robyn Jordan 23:49

Yeah, I think too, it's really funny because this is a very 17 year old prank, and that's why it works. We talked about like, the ministry has put in a lot better like protections and security. But like, they're not thinking like, "Oh, you know what, what, what's gonna work? Puking Pastilles and Polyjuice potion, people are definitely gonna try that. Like it's such Fred and George, it's so stupid that it's genius.

Bayana Davis
Yeah.

PM: 24:15

Yeah, it's kind of like how Voldemort didn't think that a house elf would be able to do stuff.

Robyn Jordan
Yeah.

PM
Or a teenager, so it's something that-- yeah, the plan is so dumb, that it's brilliant.

Robyn Jordan
Right.

Bayana Davis
Right.

PM
It comes back around to like, "No one will be this stupid." It's like, "No, we are this stupid. Watch."

Robyn Jordan
We got you.

PM
So, in order to get into the ministry, they have to go into a pretend bathroom, and they have to step into a toilet, and then flush. It's very, very intricate and I gotta say like, props like, this is some good security measures.

Bayana Davis 24:44
I mean this is Voldemort, again.

PM
Right?

Bayana Davis
These are the things.

PM

He's good at his job.

Bayana Davis

He said y'all belong in the toilet anyways. So might as well use it to get to work.

PM: 24:55

So when they're inside the bathroom. Someone makes a joke to Reg, they're like, "Oh Reg, I hate that they're making us do this whole bathroom thing, who did they think it's gonna try to sneak in Harry Potter?" And then they have to be like, "haha yes, who would do that? Ohohohoho." So they step into the toilet, and it doesn't make them wet so they know that this is right, they flush it they go through and they get into the lobby of the ministry and Oh boy, the new statue, not great. First off, it's made of black stone which, very different than the golden statue of before. And it's just a witch and a wizard sitting on thrones, with the words Magic is Might written underneath, and this is just some awful racist stuff.

Bayana Davis 25:34

It's super racist but I also have a question about this. Because, and I mean I guess like they Reparo's the thing, but they like demolished the last one that like, Fountain of Magical Brethren, I want to say it's called.

PM

Yeah.

Bayana Davis

Like, I don't know whether magic can put that back together.

PM: 25:46

Yeah, they brought the statue to life and then they got destroyed.

Bayana Davis 25:51

Right, so now I'm like, so how long has this like, new thing been in construction?

PM

Oh

Bayana Davis

Was there like something else and they took it out. Or--

Robyn Jordan 25:56

Well, I feel like magical sculpture is a quicker process.

PM: 26:01

Yeah, but I think the question is, what did they have in between that statue getting destroyed--

Bayana Davis
Exactly

PM
--and Voldemort being in charge?

Robyn Jordan 26:08
But also if you go to the studio tour.

PM
Mmmhm.

Bayana Davis
Oh yeah

Robyn Jordan
It is impressive.

Bayana Davis
It's scary.

Robyn Jordan 26:13
It's scary! But also it's like, I mean they got me kind of believing that magic is might. Very, it's very like, awe inspiring, not, it's not right.

PM: 26:25
I don't wanna-

Robyn Jordan
I don't know.

PM
I don't want to say, the only word I can think of is humbling, but it's not. It's like--

Bayana
Right.

Robyn
Yeah.

PM
It's breathtaking but not necessarily in a good way.

Robyn Jordan
Yes! Yes. Yes, yes, yes.

PM

Like it's impressive but not--

Bayana Davis

Yeah.

PM

Yeah

Robyn Jordan

It's impressive and breathtaking and you're like, "Wow."

PM

It's powerful but the bad kind.

Robyn Jordan

The bad kind of. Yup, yup, yup.

PM

Yeah. So, this is already bad and I thought it was horrible. But then, Harry gets bumped into, the person apologizes to him and says "Runcorn." so we know that Harry at least knows his identity his last name is Runcorn, but he gets closer to the statue, and he realizes that the thrones, that the witch and the wizard are sitting upon are made up of hundred tiny naked muggles with distorted looking faces, which I was already on Team the statue is garbage, and now it's like, oh oh it got way worse.

Robyn Jordan 27:10

It's the Iron Throne of the magical world.

PM: 27:12

Oh, terrible terrible terrible. It made me so uncomfortable.

Bayana Davis 27:16

But worse though because it's like people and not swords.

PM

Yeah.

Robyn

Yes.

PM

And it's like to put the Muggles in their place.

Bayana Davis

Like, it's fine if it was swords, cool.

Robyn Jordan 27:23

No, because all of every single one of those swords represents a person that got got.

Bayana Davis 27:26

That is true, but it's not like actual humans.

Robyn Jordan

True

Bayana

It's not made of bone.

PM

Yeah.

Bayana Davis

Like it couldn't be worse.

PM: 27:32

It could be worse. They could have taken the femur from everybody that they killed.

Bayana Davis

Right. It would have been like, ooooh-

PM

Ohh look at this.

Bayana Davis 27:36

-The marrow throne or some shit. Like, just gross.

PM: 27:47

Gross. The bone throne.

Bayana Davis

That's awful

Robyn Jordan

Not bone throne.

PM

So, Yaxley then comes in and he yells, "Cattermole!" Which is Ron. He's very upset he says that it is raining in his office and that he needs someone to fix it, someone from the magical maintenance department which Cattermole is from, Yaxley then tells Ron that he's on his way to interrogate his wife and wonders why he isn't already there holding her hand. So this explains why that dude was so adamant about trying to get to work, and this is terrifying.

Bayana Davis 28:11

Also I want to shout out magical maintenance like not Reg. Maybe he's a part of this I don't know, but there's a part in Order the Phoenix where when Harry first goes to the Ministry of Magic and Arthur says that they get to decide what the weather is and so like when they want to raise--

PM

Yeah.

Bayana Davis

--Then they- it's like storming outside so it's like maybe this is their like, mini rebellion where they like, make it storm in all the like, Death Eaters' offices.

PM

Oh yeah.

Bayana Davis

Yeah.

PM: 28:31

I like it. This is my head cannon that the magical maintenance department is like the resistance.

Bayana Davis 28:37

Yeah.

PM

They started it.

Bayana

They're like "There's not much we can do, I so need this job but like you know, let's make sure all, Yaxley can't get any work done because his office is raining."

PM: 28:44

I like it. This is a good theory. So Yaxley then basically threatens him, blackmailing him.

Robyn Jordan 28:50

Yaxley is the fucking worse, I can, oh, I can do that, right?

PM: 28:52

Right oh yeah oh, I've been cursing a lot already. We've got the red E for explicit.

Robyn Jordan

You have, but you haven't gone... I don't think you've dropped an F bomb, like that?

PM

Oh, I have.

Robyn Jordan

Okay.

PM

It's good, we're all good. But to any child who's listening, don't curse, it's bad, it's a bad habit. I grew up in an Italian part of New Jersey where we curse a lot and I don't support it. I'm trying to be a better role model.

Robyn Jordan 29:13

But don't be a Yaxley either, children.

Bayana Davis

Yeah. That's way worse.

PM

Yeah, that's the big key.

Robyn Jordan

That's the real lesson.

PM

That's way worse, cursing is a lot better than being racist. So, definitely if you have to choose one. Choose drop an F bombs.

Bayana Davis

Yeah.

PM

So, Yaxley basically blackmails him, saying that if Cattermole doesn't fix this rain thing he'll botch the interrogation. So, the squad gets into an elevator, and another wizard starts talking to Harry and says, "Albert." So we know that Harry's identity's name is Albert Runcorn which, what a name. So, the elevator starts going and the squad decides that Ron should go to Yaxley's Office and try to figure out that situation because otherwise it would blow their cover. So Ron gets out on the second floor. Harry and Hermione get down to the first floor, and when the elevator door opens, there are four people there, two of them are in deep conversation, one is wearing fancy robes and the last one is Umbridge! And that's the end of this chapter and that's also the end of this episode of Potterless. But like, BAHHHH! Cliffhanger, like, ohhhh my goood! WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN!?!?!?

Bayana Davis 30:13

It's funny because when I was reading it, I was like this in my head for some reason this chapter and then I guess chapter 13 like in my head, they were one chapter.

Robyn Jordan
They run together.

PM
Yes.

Bayana Davis
So I was like, "Oh, that's it?"

PM: 30:23
I think that's the case for a lot of people.

Bayana Davis
Yeah.

Robyn Jordan 30:26
Yeah, but what's really funny too because the way that we do it, we do our podcast similar, it's like it just the chapter ends and you're like, "WHAT?"

PM
Yeah.

Robyn Jordan
When you're reading it the first time, like you don't breathe, you're just on to the next.am
PM
Oh, you just go.

Robyn Jordan
Yeah, you're just going. So like, every time that happens I'm like, "Oh, she's mean." But then I realized I just flip the page and keep going.

PM: 30:49
And, and I wanted to. When I finished that, I got to that page, I turned it, I was like, "Oh no, that's it?" And I'd already had scheduled the chapter with you, but the next chapter's 42 pages long.

Robyn Jordan
Yeah

Bayana Davis
Yeah.

PM
So we couldn't, "Oh yeah, we'll also do chapter 13." But like no, we'd be here for five hours, not okay. So it's unfortunate that we're ending on this cliffhanger but it is where we're at and

I'm very excited because I don't read ahead and so I've not read the next chapter so once we hang up this Skype call I'm reading.

Bayana Davis

Yeah. Got to.

PM

Because I gotta know what happens. So, thank you two so much for joining this episode of Potterless. I think you were both wonderful, do you want to talk about wizard team, a little bit just to kind of let the listeners know the stuff that you do?

Bayana Davis

Yes.

Robyn Jordan 31:28

Yeah. so Bayana and I are two cousins who came together over our love of Harry Potter. We are actually like, kind of polar not polar op- We're the same person, but different. I grew up in Southern California, she grew up in Northern California. And then, I'm eight years older than her. But one day, we were talking, and I was like, "Oh, you like Potter?" And she's like, "Oh, you like Potter?" And then I was like, "Oh, we like Potter?" And we've been having the same conversations ever since for like decades, a decade?

Bayana Davis

A decade, yeah.

Robyn Jordan

She's not that old. I was like, she's not old enough for decades. So with our team is us basically having the same conversations that we've been having where we read chapter by chapter spoiler heavy with all of the knowledge that we know about the world. So we'd talk about extended cannon, we talk about fandom theories, we talk about it all and also through our lens, as black girls in America in 2018. Yeah, that's what we do.

Bayana Davis 32:22

Wizardteam is kind of, it's housed under our website Black Girls Create which we have a blog, we have other podcasts, we do features of black women creators. So we're kind of like a space for black nerds and creators.

Robyn Jordan 32:33

We have a fandom project called Hogwarts BSU where we ask black Potterheads to write themselves into the world explicitly.

PM

Oh, I love it.

Bayana Davis 32:40

Yes, so we do a lot of things but a lot of it is just about our love of fandom and our love of like, creating things for black women but like people of color in general to like see themselves in media pop culture, and all that kind of stuff.

Robyn Jordan 32:52

And we subscribe to critical fandom which means that we really really really love these things and we will talk about them until we are blue in the face, but that doesn't mean that we cannot see the faults in the holes and that doesn't mean that we don't want these things to get better.

PM: 33:05

A 100%, that's exactly what I do with Potterless.

Robyn Jordan

Right

PM

It is, it's a critical thing it's because you love it so much as while you're critical. If I didn't think that things were good and have potential and all this other stuff, I wouldn't bother talking about that, I'd just be like, "Oh, screw that." But no, it's because you love it so much, you want to be able to be critical about.

Robyn Jordan 33:20

Exactly, and so we do everything under Black Girls Create with that kind of critical fandom lens of these things are awesome but let's make them better.

PM

Yeah.

Robyn Jordan

Or how could they have been better.

Bayana Davis

Yeah.

PM: 33:29

That's great and you also have an amazing Twitter handle which is [@weblackandnerds](https://twitter.com/weblackandnerds). Which is phenomenal.

Bayana Davis

Yup.

PM

Great branding there. Shout out.

Robyn Jordan

That was all Bayana.

Bayana Davis 33:40

It was. It's based off of a song, you know like, I'm black and I'm proud. So I was thinking of that like black and we're nerds?

PM: 33:46

I like it. It's good. It's very good

Robyn Jordan 33:48

Young, nerdy and black. Well we're not that young.

PM: 33:51

Yeah, you should check out Wizard Team. Because it's basically the opposite of Potterless. Where it's got, all spoilers and it's hosted by two black women, as opposed to one white guy and no spoilers. So, our powers combined, we're the yin and the yang of the Harry Potter podcasting world. So, thank you both so much Robyn and Bayana for joining Listeners, thank you for listening and until next time, as they say in the Wizarding World of Harry Potter before they eat their steak and kidney pie from Kreacher, WIZARD ON!

EM

Hey, how's it going it's Editing Mike, so the episodes not gonna end right here. I would feel awful doing that, that is far too short of an episode I do have something very special planned for the second half of this episode but first we've got to take a little break because it's time for one WINGARDIUM AD-READ-OSA!

<34:40>

WINGARDIUM AD-READ-OSA!!!

<37:15>

PM

Ugh, Wingardium Ad-read-osa, what a segment. Gosh, anyone who doesn't listen to those is really missing out and must hate me. There's some room to add something fun to the end of this episode of Potterless and I thought a worthwhile use of this time was to get some listener engagement so I went to Patreon, I asked my patrons what questions would you like me to answer on Monday's episode of Potterless, and they delivered with some bangers. So, I will be answering those for the remainder of this episode. Before I get into any of those questions I will first answer the number one question that I get asked everywhere

<37:49>

PM

And that is, "What are you going to do after you finished the books?"

Let me lay it all out here, so that everyone can be aware of what's going down. I'm going to finish the books, and then do all of the movies, after I do all the movies I'm going to do the JK Rowling official spin-off things, the ones that she wrote. Anything that she actually had a say in. So the Hogwarts library books, the Fantastic Beast things, the Cursed Child, anything that JK Rowling officially contributed to, I will cover. Then I will cover anything big, that is fan made but very popular so, A Very Potter Musical, Harry Potter Puppet Pals, Puffs, all those sorts of things. Once that is done, I will do anything that's got a Harry Potter logo slapped on it in an official nature. So we're talking, the Harry Potter video games, the Harry Potter Lego video games, the various Harry Potter board games that exist, anything that is officially licensed as a Harry Potter product that I can talk about with someone will be an episode of Potterless. I also have promised and will deliver on this promise to get listeners involved in Potterless. So, once a month, I am going to do an episode where I discuss fan theories and funny little tidbits that listeners have noticed, and the way that I'm going to do that is through a voicemail service. I'm gonna set up a voicemail for Potterless where you, the lovely Potterless listeners can call in and say anything that you would like me to touch on. It can be a question, it can be something that I missed in the books, whether it's a plot hole, such as Hermione saying that she was uncomfortable doing a Memory Charm to the Death Eaters. But then she did one to her parents like a couple chapters ago, things that I didn't point out right away. Or fan theories like, I know there is a fan theory about Ron, being a seer without knowing it, or there's also one I'm pretty sure it's like Ron is a time traveling Dumbledore or Dumbledore is Fawkes, all those sorts of fan theories, I would love for you all to call in and talk about those and then I will have some sort of guests to bounce these back and forth with. I'll do those on a monthly basis so that is the plan for the future of Potterless and then we'll just see where this route takes me. So that's the question I know that's most on everyone's mind, let's get into the Patreon questions that the patrons sent in.

<39:56>

Shawn Stewart asks, what is one aspect of your life you would want to make easier with magic?

If anyone listening knows me as a human being in real life in person. You know that I am criminally late to everything, everything that I do I'm running late to. I am not great at time management, with any aspect of my life. So, I would love to be able to Apparate and Disapparate so that I could save on all of the commute time, so I can take a lot of time picking out my outfit, or trying to cook something when I don't have enough time to cook something, apparition would be crucial for me.

<40:34>

Samantha Rose asks, if wizard Mike can have one signature item like a pink umbrella or a lime green bowler, what would it be?

I would like to have a really cool jacket that could metamorphmagus, like Tonks' does to perfectly match my outfit. I feel like that's the problem with getting a really nice jacket is that

you're really committing to whatever color it is, which I think lends people to get more safe colors of jackets and me included, I have a black pea coat and a navy blue sweater that I like to wear. I would love to have some sort of jacket, even if it kept the same shape, but just changed its color and slash or material to match the rest of my outfit. That would be cool, so maybe to make it a signature item as you keep the same shape but the colors and patterns just perfectly match whatever else I'm wearing.

<41:22>

Ella asks, what are my predictions for the rest of Deathly Hallows? What is the last Horcrux? Where is it? Who do you think dies? How do you think it ends? etc.

So, at the time of recording, I am ahead of where this episode came out, I just finished reading chapter 29 which is when Harry, Ron and Hermione go through the tunnel, they see Neville and all the kids at Hogwarts and they set out to try to find the remaining Horcrux that they know is somewhere in Hogwarts. So, I can't really predict where the Horcrux is, you'll have to see if I got this prediction right by listening to Potterless. So I feel like the Horcruxes are kind of all set out. I do you think that it's going to be Raveclaw's Diadem. As far as the other predictions, I would say in terms of deaths, I know that Ginny lives. I know the Ron and Hermione lives. And I don't know about anyone else. I still think that a twin is going to die. I really thought one of the twins was going to die in the fallen warrior, and I said this in the episode I want to clarify, I don't think that twins are expendable. I just think that Fred and George are so similar. And you can't like tell me one thing that separates Fred and George, aside from the fact that George doesn't have an ear anymore and Fred tells better jokes like what makes the two of them different? Like, I don't think that there's that many different things said about them. So I think killing a twin is a nice way for JK Rowling to raise the stakes, so to speak, but not that much because then one is still left. And since George already doesn't have an ear, I think Fred's gonna die and I'm not going to be okay with it. Because I like Fred a lot. He's a lot better than George, purely just by the jokes, but still that makes me like Fred more so I'm afraid Fred is going to die. I could see some other Order members dying too. I could see Lupin dying, but I don't want him to. I also, uh, It's really hard. I could see a professor or two dying. It's really hard because I just don't know what the war is going to be like, I don't know if it's going to be a free for all like it wasn't a ministry. I don't know if they're, like, duel-- Like, I don't know exactly what is going to happen. But yeah, I feel like some prof- like maybe a Sprout or a Hooch dies. I don't want McGonagall to die, I don't even want to say it. As far as other predictions though. I think Malfoy is going to have some sort of slight redemption arc maybe just because they've been hinting at it throughout the seventh book where he was uncomfortable with all of the stuff in the end of the sixth book, obviously, and he seems very disinterested, and not necessarily anti-Death Eater, but at least just neutral on the Death Eaters he's not pro Death Eater anymore, given what we've seen in some of the chapters that I've read so I could see him doing something also Peter Pettigrew didn't really have a redemption arc or he had a redemption moment. So I feel like there needs to be someone that has some sort of redemption and I could see that being Malfoy. As far as the duel, I think that it's going to come down to some sort of situation like it is in the Goblet of Fire where Harry and Voldemort are going to square off, and Voldemort is basically going to be like, "Leave him for me." And the two of them are just going to fight and

Harry is going to be able to take him down. I know that Harry lives, so sorry I'm pretty sure he's gonna kill Voldemort. I also don't think these books would end in Voldemort winning. I don't know it's it's really hard to predict what's going to happen. I don't even know how they're going to destroy the other Horcruxes, I would predict that they do so, but I do not know how they're going to do so. I think that Harry is somehow going to find out whatever that gold spark out of his wand is, and maybe that is how you can destroy the other Horcruxes. Because the one thing that hasn't been touched upon is how Dumbledore destroyed the ring. And we know he had the burnt hand, which makes me think that it's some sort of fire, some sort of powerful magical spell that can just incinerate the ring. So I could see that spell being the same or similar to whatever happened with Harry's golden flames in the early part of Deathly Hallows. So maybe he finds a way to master this, and then can do that on the cup and what I'm assuming will be the diadem. But then he also has to kill Nagini. Fuck, I'm on chapter 30 right, there's six chapters left he has a lot of Horcruxes to kill. How is he going to do this? It's going to be tough. I like that it's hard for me to predict I just don't know the other thing with seven is, I feel like so few things happened in the beginning and now everything's happening in these last 100 pages that it's hard to predict, so I didn't do a whole lot. That is my predictions I feel like the only thing I'm really digging my feet in the sand in here is that Fred's gonna die and I'm not, I'm not okay with it. I'm really not, I'm not, I'm also not convinced that Moody is dead yet. I think that dude could still be out there, then making a big deal about not finding the body makes me think that that guy might still be alive. So that would be my like home run situation is like Moody's gonna come back. I don't know what he's gonna do, but I'm not convinced he's dead.

<46:21>

Samantha Rose also asks, What is your favorite aspect of attending conventions?
Meeting fans, sitting on panels, meeting other podcasters? etc.

There are so many incredible aspects of conventions and meeting my peers in the podcasting world is great, and being on the panels and being able to share my knowledge and my experiences and try to help fellow podcasters is also great. But it definitely comes down to meeting the fans and the people who listen to Potterless. I also feel weird, calling it fans. I always try to say this on social media but you, you're all my friends, I made a thing and you listened to my thing. You're my friend, true friends do that. So, I feel strange saying fans. But meeting the people who listen to Potterless is just so strange in the best way. It is so incredibly humbling and makes me so thankful just because when it comes to making anything in general, there's just the intrinsic joy you get out of making something and being proud of it, no matter what it is, and the next step above that is just people enjoying whatever you've made. And then the next step above that is just people enjoying it so much that they go out of their way to do things that are not just consuming. So it's one thing if everyone just listened to Potterless, it's another thing when people reach out on social media or support on Patreon, or buy merchandise, or show up to live shows, like, people will drive multiple hours and pay money for a ticket to see a Potterless Live Show that is going to be recorded and put out on the internet for everyone to listen to. It's something that you don't have to do by any stretch of the means and you're not going to be missing out on anything. Aside from the experience of being there and being in person, because it's being recorded and will be

distributed, but people still do it and that just blows my mind it is something I never could have predicted or imagined. It's something that even hoping that Potterless took off and got successful that I just couldn't have predicted, all of this, and the joy that I get out of all of it. So, just being able to meet people who listen to the show and talk about Harry Potter and talk about whatever it is, is just really great and fantastic and oh gosh, it's just so good, getting to meet all of you is the best and I hope I can continue to do it and I want to do as many live shows, conventions, whatever it may be, so I can meet as many of you as possible. Because it's really cool, it is really cool and I appreciate all of you so very much. So that's the best part

<49:00>

Myron Speed asks, if you were making a basketball team of Harry Potter characters to let's say give the NBA players their power back and help LeBron James not be enslaved as an amusement park attraction on moron mountain, who would be your starting five and why?

This is amazing on many levels. First, that it's an incredible question. Second, that it's a new homage to Space Jam. And third, that it's written in a way that I would say something on Wingardium Ad-read-osa, I love this. Thank you, Myron so much. I hope I'm pronouncing your name properly. If it's Myron, I apologize. So, the starting five of the Harry Potter characters basketball team. You got to have Fred and George on there, for sure they're going to be your two forwards. First off, because they're tall and athletic, but also they have a chemistry that is the perfect intangible. They are going to know exactly what each other is thinking and being the perfect position, and just play great offense and defense. Also, they're very funny, which means we're going to talk great trash, and that is a very important aspect of my team. Also going to have Harry Potter on the team, just because that dude is so fucking lucky and shit always goes right for him, that something's going to go right for our team. So Harry's on the team, despite me not liking Harry that much, he's on the team, we need him. I'd also like to get Hagrid on the team. He's very large and in charge, and I think that he would be a very solid addition, I feel like Grawp would be a bit too big and uncontrollable. Hagrid I think could be huge, and still have his stuff together and be alright. Limiting it to five is so hard, but I think you got to have Dumbledore on the team too, and I know it is hard to leave amazing people off like Ginny, or McGonagall, but the main factor for choosing Dumbledore brings me back to the end of book five when he fights Voldemort. That dude is so calm and cool and collected and completely unfazed that putting him in a stressful basketball situation, I know I'm going to have someone that has ice in their veins and his clutch and Dumbledore is going to be able to take the important shot and be totally chill with it. He's going to have that ice cold killer instinct to make the game winning shot when we need it because obviously that's going to happen, he's not going to get rattled, he's not going to get fazed, he's going to get the job done. So that's the starting five.

<51:05>

Polly Burridge asks, what was the moment you knew you like the books?

And there was a distinct moment for me, it was the Shrieking Shack chapter of Book Three. Book one was fine Book Two was fine. The beginning of Book Three was solid, but once you get to the Shrieking Shack, when you have all of these plot twists being revealed and more in depth details about how everyone knows each other and the past relationships of Sirius and Snape, and Lupin and James, and all these other things and Peter Pettigrew, all coming together at the same time. I just felt like there were so many reveals all at once and I love suspense, I love plot twists, all that kind of stuff so it kind of catered towards my interests as a consumer of entertainment. But just seeing how things can be deeper than just here's a kid that does magic and here's how he saves the day, and really getting into those personal relationships, all of that happening in a really stressful tense situation. That was the moment that I knew, Oh, JK Rowling is very talented and these are going to be a lot of fun. And then from that moment on, they were just incredible. So that was the key moment for me.

<52:10>

Harlan Haskins asks, what is your favorite part of podcasting and do you have podcasting aspirations outside of Potterless and Horse?

So the favorite part goes to my previous answer about just getting to meet people, but something that is just really nice about podcasting itself, versus the other forms of media that I used to be really into YouTube and Vine, the fact that there is no video component is really nice in terms of the flexibility of recording. For example, I'm recording this right now in my hotel room in Portland, as I'm here for the live show for Potterless and Horse, my microphone is on top of an upside down trash can and it is 1130 at night. These are the kinds of things you can do with audio and not video when I made YouTube videos I would have to have perfect lighting or record during the day, or have access to a window, or make sure I recorded quickly all in the same settings so that the lighting didn't drastically change over the course of the video. So I like the flexibility that podcasting allows me to do so that I can do things on the go and focus more on actually creating stuff, rather than making sure that all elements of my setup are hundred percent perfect. Also I've had a really good voice ever since I was like 10, and I've had a bunch of people's parents tell me oh you're the voice for radio it's like I don't want to be a radio DJ. So the fact that I can do that is really nice. I've also been told that I have a face for radio. So this just works out really well. Another quick thing is that podcast listeners are generally very nice people, whereas people that leave YouTube comments like have you ever seen YouTube comments? That is the cesspool of the biggest dumpster fire on Earth. It is much nicer to have people telling me, "I love your show." Rather than, "Your face looks dumb, kill yourself." Much just, just a nicer crowd around the podcasting world. As far as podcasting aspirations outside of Horse and Potterless, I do have some ideas I got some tricks up my sleeve, but I do want to show the hand just yet I will say that one involves me writing the script for something, which could be a really fun experience.

<54:02>

Mia asks, what wizarding career would you pursue?

I would either be a professional Quidditch player, a shopkeeper at diagonally or Hogsmeade or a teacher at Hogwarts, because that's the only way to not work for the Ministry of Magic and fuck that corrupt place so much.

<54:15>

Fride J Svendsen asks, what Quidditch position would you have?

I would probably be guy playing basketball instead.

<54:23>

Fride J Svendsen also asks, where do you think Ludo Bagman is now?

I think he's in the back Voldemort's head calling all the shots.

<54:29>

Kumail Doc asks if you were a wizard podcaster in the Harry Potter World, what would your podcast be about?

My podcasts would just be Horse, except geared more towards trying to convince wizards to watch, love, and play basketball in an effort to replace Quidditch with basketball as the official sport of Hogwarts.

<54:48>

Nada Atabani asks, what's the difference between what you thought this podcast would be when you started versus what it ended up being now?

The biggest difference is I thought I would keep the snarkier tone that I had through the episodes covering books one and two throughout the series. I did not expect to fall in love with the series as much as I did, but I'm very glad I did so because I think it makes the podcast far more enjoyable to listen to and it's a fun journey to see me transition from doubting that I would like this series into falling in love with it and I just think that's an extra fun bonus of Potterless. Also I had no idea that it would be going for this long when I first mapped it out, I thought that I was going to have maybe 35 episodes of Potterless total, I did not anticipate the final three books being so dense that I was not going to be able to cover more than two chapters at a time for the entirety of six and seven.

<55:34>

And finally, we're going to round it out with a great question from Kumail Doc who asks, what's your favorite type of food?

And man, it is so hard to choose. But I think I'm going to go with Japanese food so that I can claim sushi, ramen, and udon and everything else that you can get at a Japanese restaurant. Because I don't think anyone has ever said, "Hey Mike, do you want to get sushi." And I have not said, "Yes." it's always exactly what I'm looking for. Even when I'm not craving it when someone suggests it I instantly do crave it and then I want it, so it is very hard to select just one. But I think I'm going to go with that.

<56:08>

Well, thank you all so much for listening to this episode of Potterless. I hope you enjoyed this Q&A session, and until next time, as they say in the Wizarding World of Harry Potter before they put their trash can back the way it's supposed to be after recording a Q&A session in the hotel room by themselves, WIZARD ON!

<56:28>