20 Sided Stories CATACOMBS Micah Martinez / Spencer Croix

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[Catacombs Intro music plays.]

Sage G.C.: Thank you and welcome to the *CATACOMBS*.

[Music fades out.]

Micah Martinez / Spencer Croix

[Marvel Intro music.]

Sage: Hello! My name is Sage G.C. I am the director of *20 Sided Stories* joined, of course,

as always by my wonderful co hosts.

Travis: Travis.

Jessica: Jessica.

Emily: Oh. Emily [chuckles]. Sorry.

[Sage and Travis stifle laughter.]

I was watching the cat.

[Chuckling.]

Sage: And we're joined by Micah. Micah Martinez.

Micah: Hi!

Sage: Thank you so much for being here, Micah.

Micah: How's it goin'?

Sage: Great! How you doin'?

Micah: Uh, good. You know, we're good. Here we are.

[Laughter.]

Sage: We're here. Yeah. Thank you so much for staying through that last episode.

Emily: [prompts] Better 'cause you're here?

Micah: Yes. Yes.

Emily: Yeah.

[Chuckling.]

Sage: So tell us about yourself. Uh, what do the people wanna know?

Micah: Uh...what *do* they want to know? This is new for me.

Travis: That seems like a question you would—

Emily: I- I know—

Micah: I was like... [laughs]

Travis: They would ask you, then you would ask them the questions that the people would

want to know.

Jessica: Well, right now it's—

Sage: What do you think- what do you want the people to know about you?

Chad: What do you do on the internet?

Emily: I know nothing about you, so enlighten me.

Travis: Also, Chad's in this episode.

[Sage chuckles.]

Micah: Oh, yes. Chad's here. Um, I'm an adult entertainer. Um, I...do porn. So that's pretty

much what I'm known for at this point. It's like [laughs].

Sage: Yeah, we know. So.

[Jessica laughs.]

We're all in good company here.

Micah: Yeah.

Sage: So—

Travis: We've all seen porn, right?

[Laughter.]

Porn? Eh?

Jessica: We've been talking about doing the orgy episode [stifles laughter]

Micah: Has anyone here been... [stifles laughter]

Emily: Yeah, we're familiar.

[Chuckling.]

Travis: Yeah. Eh.

Sage: There's gonna be an *Eyes Wide Shut* Patreon [chuckles].

Emily: Wait, is this our NC-17 episode?

[Chuckling.]

Micah: Yes.

Sage: Like I said.

[Travis and Jessica laugh.]

Micha: It's why I'm here [chuckles].

Emily: 'Cause my character *just* turned seventeen.

Micah: Oh, girl—

Sage: So you're allowed to be part of the—

Chad: You're allowed to be part of it, but not a part of it.

Micah: Go sit in the other room.

[Laughter.]

Emily: I can *watch*, but I can not participate.

Travis: Lily's in time out for the entire episode.

[**Emily** giggles.]

Chad: A quick character piece on Micah was when he walked in, he was just geeking out

over all of the geek stuff you guys have in the apartment.

[Chuckling.]

And then he sees the Bulbasaur cactus holder that you have, and immediately goes—while looking at me and points at it excitedly—and pokes his finger with the

Bulbasaur cactus.

[Sage chuckles.]

Jessica: [gasps] Oh no, do you need a Band-Aid?

Micah: No, it's fine.

Chad: [mimics] It's fine.

[Chuckling.]

Micah: Like, it's okay. But, like—

Chad: But it's like, your phone background is a Bulbasaur right now.

Micah: Yeah, it literally is a Bulbasaur, like, smiling hatched out of the egg.

Sage: I can- I can get you one of tho- our friend made those.

Jessica: Our- yeah, we can get you one.

Micah: Oh my god.

[Chuckling.]

Jessica: Like, yeah.

Micah: I posted it on Facebook already. Like, I'm very excited about this Pokémon [laughs].

[Chuckling.]

Jessica: No, we'll get you one.

Sage: Uh, the artist who did our- all of our art for our Pokémon series, she made those.

Micah: What? Okay.

Sage: Yeah.

Jessica: And she makes, like, a Charmander candle holder, so the tail is like- it holds a tealight

candle.

Sage: And—

Travis: Bulba-Bulbasaur!

Micah: Yes. But next to Voltorb.

Sage: No, no, no. No, she makes a Bulbasaur cactus pot, and then also a Charmandle can-

Charmander candle hord- holder. Ah! God! [stifles laughter]

David: What's the Squirtle?

Colton: [distant] Keep trying.

Chad: The Squirtle's a squirt bottle [stifles laughter].

Sage: In addition.

Micah: Like, it's a cat squirt bottle.

[Chuckling.]

Sage: No, but then she also has a Squirtle bath bomb.

Chad: Oh, perfect.

Travis: Oooh!

Jessica: She's amazing.

Sage: Yeah, she's got- she's got all three.

Travis: Wow.

Micah: Whoa.

Sage: She's going- she's been going to, like, booths and stuff.

Travis: Yeah?

Sage: Setting up booths, going- shut up. Just...

[Chuckling.]

Travis: Anywhere or...?

David: I go to booths too. Every art and wine festival.

[Chuckling.]

Jessica: Anyway I was correct in saying that she has a Charmander tealight candle holder.

[Micah laughs.]

Sage: This is what I was tryin' to tell Travis. This is a separate thing.

Travis: Right. Fine. Anyway, she's not here. Micah is!

David: Travis, Travis, I just think it's really important that you grasp the fact that there's this

Charmander candle holder.

Sage: You haven't—

[Jessica chuckles. Micah laughs.]

'Kay.

David: Got it?

Travis: Got it.

David: Alright.

Jessica: Okay, anyway... [chuckles]

Sage: Anyway. Yeah, so I've been asking a lot of guests this question.

Micah: Hmm?

Sage: Uh, obviously as a great transition, you're into some geeky stuff.

Micah: Oh, yeah.

Travis: If you don't mind me buttin' in here for a sec, what is sort of like your, like geek

interests? Like palate? What are the things you're most passionate about that would

be considered in the geekdom?

Sage: Yeah.

Micah: Oh, dude, like, it goes from comics to anime to literally anything pop culture geeky

related.

Travis: Damn.

Micah: Like, I have the Iron Giant *Adventure Time* character tattooed on my arm. Like—

Jessica: Oh my god!

Travis: Holy shit.

[Emily gasps.]

Micah: Yeah, it's the Iron Giant holding Phin and Jake. Like, it's- I'm a huge—

Jessica: [gasps] Oh my god, I see it!

[Sage chuckles.]

Micah: Regardless of what realm, I'm like, I'm about it. It's like, I really [laughs] I really enjoy.

Travis: That's cool!

Micah: I've been to every single Marvel premier opening night, even when I was a tiny tot.

ľve...

Sage: Amazing.

Micah: Huge, huge nerd. And then I'd—

Travis: That's cool.

Micah: Yeah.

Emily: We're awed to be in your presence.

Micah: Hey.

[Micah laughs.]

Jessica: Truly.

Micah: Me!

Jessica: Oh my gosh.

Emily: We're not worthy!

[Laughter.]

Chad: Yeah, Emily just got a tattoo today.

Micah: Yes? What is it?

Chad: You guys need to show off some ink.

Emily: Oh, yeah. My- my coverup.

[Jessica stifles laughter.]

Travis: Fortunately, it's not a Vin Diesel character.

[Chuckling.]

Really hoping for a Dominic Toretto sleeve.

[Laughter.]

Emily: Next- you know what? You're paying, I would do it.

[Micah chuckles.]

Travis: Oh, don't fuckin' tempt me with that.

Emily: If we get 10,000 Patreon [stifles laughter].

[Chuckling.]

Jessica: Patreons.

Chad: Patreons.

Jessica: If we had 10,000 Patreon accounts.

Travis: Single units of Patreon.

Sage: I don't wanna go through the process of setting all of this up.

[Chuckling.]

So you've been to every Marvel premier, you said.

Micah: Yes.

Sage: That's a lot more than I have. D'you wanna GM? Um... [chuckles]

[Chuckling.]

Do you got a favorite? Like, what is pulling you in?

Micah: I just, I always like the whole hero's tale. Even, to continue getting more geeky, my

favorite horror series is Silent Hill just because it's the hero's tale character arc. It's like, I like seeing people— Like, they have a trial, they have to face it, and then they

come out on the other side completely different.

Sage: Mm-hmm.

Emily: Justin Campbell's so proud right now.

[Chuckling.]

Sage: Rolling over in his grave from the other side going, oh!

Micah: Oh, yay! He's like...

[Chuckling.]

So seeing it done with bright, flashy powers and spandex, I'm like, oh this is great! I

love this.

Sage: Yeah.

Micah: So it's kind of just what keeps me going back. And really I just, so far, specifically with

the MCU, I just love just about every character that they've made so far. So I just...

Chad: Which one were the most crushed by in the Snap? Well, 'cause we- we saw that toge-

yeah, we were.

Micah: Oh, bitch [laughs].

[Travis laughs.]

Sage: You guys saw that together.

Chad: You said- okay, so what have we seen together? We saw *Black Panther*.

Micah: Mm-hmm.

Chad: Captain Marvel.

Micah: Mm-hmm.

Chad: Infinity War.

Micah: Mm-hmm.

Chad: I don't know if we saw *End Game*.

Micah: End Game we did not because I was working an event 100 miles away, but I still

bought a ticket after buying the original ticket, and bought another one to make sure I

still saw it opening night.

Chad: After working nonstop.

Micah: Yeah. Yeah.

Chad: Yeah. I remem- yeah.

[Micah chuckles.]

Jessica: Wow.

Kaitlyn: Wow.

Chad: We got fucked up over that Snap. So who are you most fucked up about?

Sage: That's a great question.

[Micah blows out a breath.]

Chad: I saw you sharing all the posters the next day [chuckles].

Sage: Oh, right!

Micah: Probably Shuri, 'cause they didn't show her, but they eluded to it, and it actually made

me cry months later at work.

[Jessica and Emily coo in sympathy.]

Sage: Wow.

Micah: I was at my day job, I was just scrolling through, and it was when they were releasing

Avenge the Fallen, and then the other poster that I can't remember right now, and it showed hers, eluding to the fact that she died during the Snap. And I was like, NO!

[chuckles] I just lost it at work. Like full on crying. My boss—

David: Relive the whole thing.

Micah: Right! Like... [chuckles]

Emily: Well, that's fair because you didn't know. We didn't see it in the movie and then they

released that and I remember too being like, NO!

Micah: Right! And I was like, okay so Okoye's just by her damn self.

Chad: Mm-hmm.

Micah: [chuckles] In Wakanda, 'cause everyone else died seemingly. Like, it was—

Chad: Well, 'cause we walked out of *Black Panther* being like, Princess Shuri is my Disney

Princess now.

[Micah chuckles.]

Best character. You were dressed up.

Micah: Yeah, I was.

Chad: Do you have any— Yeah, you gotta show these guys pictures.

Micah: They're somewhere on the phone.

Chad: You had a mohawk.

[Micah laughs.]

Jessica: Whoa!

Chad: You had fur. You had blue paint.

Micah: Yeah [chuckles].

Jessica: That is legit.

Micah: Yeah, when—

Emily: Yes to all of that.

Travis: Also need to point out that you came in so far of anyone that's either guest at the

table or is at the table long-term. The most looking like a superhero. One, you're

jacked as shit.

Jessica: Yes.

[Chuckling.]

Travis: Two, came in with this pseudo, like, Deadpool-ish X-Men, like, kinda the half teen and

everything.

[Chuckling.]

Sage: That's true.

Travis: Like, the color contrast, it's—

Sage: If you did a quick change I would completely buy it. Like, yup.

[Micah chuckles.]

Micah: It's like, yeah he's— Well, I actually, uh, I have a club appearance right after this, and

that's like, I'm like alright. And then I immediately hop in an Uber go back to West

Hollywood and...

Travis: Sick.

Sage: Do you have hard out? Like, a time you have to...

Micah: Uh, like— No, it's fine.

Sage: Okay.

[Chuckling.]

We're gonna—

Travis: It can wait!

Sage: Cool! So you had a character idea that you sent me through Facebook, and I was

like, whoa! This is- all this detail, so good. Why don't you go ahead and tell everybody

else?

Chad: Yeah, and I buried the lead with Wes. It's like, well, we got- it's the MCU, but we got

this, we got that.

[Micah laughs.]

And then I said the X-gene in there and then three other things, knowing that X-gene

was all Wes would see.

Micah: Yeah, I may or may not have this sick infatuation with the X-Men. Especially 'cause it

deals so much with gay rights, and the civil rights movement in general.

Sage: Right.

Micah: And it's like...so growing up I didn't even realize that as a kid.

Jessica: Right.

Micah: And then I was just like, [mocks] I don't know why I identify with all of these

characters so much.

[Chuckling.]

And I get to high school and I was like, [mocks] Oh my god!

[Laughter.]

So yeah. I love the X-Men and everything about the X-Men and the whole idea that they can look just like us, but there's this one thing that makes them somewhat different, but you wouldn't know unless they told you.

Sage: Right.

Micah: Unless they're blue and can teleport. But really it's still, they're humans, but they're

not treated as humans and I really like that. So-

Sage: So you're prob'ly amped that sooner or later the X-Men finally gonna be comin' to the

MCU somehow.

Micah: [mumbles] And they better do it fucking justice. [cheerful] Yeah, I'm really excited for

that.

[Laughter.]

Emily: You heard him Marvel! Don't you fuck up!

[Laughter.]

Jessica: We know you're listening to this, Marvel!

Sage: [chuckles] Fuck.

Travis: And also—

Emily: Lawyers!

Sage: Also, if you are, turn it off!

[Chuckling.]

Micah: If I see one more really bad Dark Phoenix character—

Chad Oh my god.

Micah: —I gonna be fuckin' pissed.

[Jessica groans.]

[innocently] I'm just saying, it's hard. Um, but yeah. [normal] So that was the idea. And I like to purposefully do things outside of the realm of powers that I have seen

done over and over again. Or the ones that are really uncontrollable, that's where reality manipulation comes from.

Sage: Right.

Micah: Me, I really wish I had telekinesis. I know some people wish they had super strength, I

know some people wish they could teleport, everything like that. But I'm also lowkey

lazy.

[Jessica stifles laughter.]

So it's like, if I could just get out the shower and be like, I don't wanna wear this outfit, and it just happens. I can just manipulate the world around me and warp it to be what

I want—

[Jessica chuckles.]

—that'd be fuckin' lit. [laughs] So that's where the idea for reality manipulation comes

from.

Sage: No argument there.

Micah: I'm just like, yeah! I want spaghetti carbonara, and it just appears and I'm like, boom!

[Sage stifles laughter.]

That would be really cool for me, so that's—

Jessica: Honestly, that makes me think of when I play *The Sims*.

Micah: Right!

[Chuckling.]

Jessica: I'm always just like, if I wanna get a new couch, I just bloop, bloop.

Micah: [amused] Right.

Jessica: That's it.

Micah: And then you walk into the room and then clap and Simlish and then walk away.

[Jessica stifles laughter.]

And it's really- it's a nonissue, and you just move on with your life.

[Laughter.]

A weird Paramore cover plays on the stereo.

Sage: Yes. Throwback to Sims 2.

Kaitlyn: [chuckles] Oh my god, yeah. Brought me back for a second.

[Chuckling.]

Sage: So you wanted to play a mutant? You're playing a mutant.

Micah: Yes. Yes.

Sage: So what's really fun about that, Travis is also technically playing a mutant. Siggy,

who's one of the job guys at the Fort is also playing a mutant. Because the MCU

hasn't introduced mutants yet, and we're trying to set this in the MCU, you know, kind of an exaggerated version of it.

Micah: Mm-hmm.

Sage: Mutants aren't officially a thing. And that's becoming a really big threat. I think it's very

obvious most of the people that end up hanging out at the Fort are of that type.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Sage: And hopefully it doesn't totally break the canon however they decide to introduce

mutants of the MCU, but if it does-

Travis: We'll be long gone by then.

[Chuckling.]

Sage: Yeah, if it does, whatever. So yeah. I mean, I don't know if your character hangs out

at the Fort, but why don't you tell them... So it's just reality manipulation, but...

Micah: Reality manipulation but the kind of crux for it is going to be that anytime it's used, he

loses a little bit of his own sanity.

Colton: Ooo.

Micah: Just because it's like, while he's bending the world around him, he's also bending his

own mind. So it's not something that it's like, I can use constantly for superficial stuff. It's only if like, oh the world's ending. It's like, okay well, make the bomb go away. It

has to be big things.

Jessica: Yeah.

Micah: And he also doesn't know how to use it, 'cause Charles Xavier's school does not

exist. So it's just kinda like...

Kaitlyn: Oooh.

Sage: Yeah.

Micah: He'll sometimes use it when he doesn't mean to or sometimes when he needs to he

can't use it.

Emily: Cool.

Micah: And every time he does he gets a little bit more weird.

Chad Yeah, you get that with Legion and Scarlet Witch and they just have this thing where

it's like, what do you trust when your brain can just make this happen?

Micah: Yes.

Travis: Oooo.

Micah: So...very, very much in that tangent, except it's not like, oh yeah, you're super

powerful and I'll show you the way. It's just like, here you go, kid! Have fun! Like Snap happened and now you can just do random things, and most of the mutants around they have strength increase, endurance, a little bit of a speed increase, it's not like

he's super in any of those.

Sage: Right.

Micah: It's just like, he can now do 100 pushups type deal.

Sage: You'll have some 3s in that Powerful row.

Micah: Oh, lit. I don't know what that means, but alright.

[Laughter.]

Sage: We'll get into that. We'll get to that. I guess right now, pretty much, 'cause we gotta

wrap and jump into the improv, but—

Travis: Oh, what's their name?

Sage: Yeah.

Jessica: Oh, yeah.

Micah: Spencer Croix.

Travis: Spencer Croix? Alright. You said... Nah, you said that.

Sage: Spencer Coix?

Micah: Yeah.

Sage: Nice.

[Micah laughs.]

Emily: And there's no...no hero alias?

Micah: Because he doesn't know what's going on really.

Emily: Okay.

Jessica: Amazing.

Emily: Interesting.

Travis: Alright.

Sage: So do you think that he would then- I think that would make sense then, if your

character's the kind of person that would hear about the Fort maybe and then go

hang out.

Micah: Yeah.

Sage: Try to take some solidarity in some other mutants, maybe?

Micah: Yeah. No, for sure.

Sage: Cool. Now—

Micah: Especially just being pretty confused at this point from having—what is it—four years

to have used their powers.

Sage: Yeah. So we're four years in.

Micah: Yeah. So it's just kind of like, alright well, maybe I should go here type thing. So yeah.

Sage: Totally. Okay great. I know what to do with that.

[Stat test chime.]

Fun! Fun, fun. Let's build your character sheet and wrap.

Micah: Alright.

[Stat build music.]

Sage: And we'll jump to the fun stuff. So you have a Personal row and you have a Powerful

row.

Travis: I've got one question. I'm sorry.

Sage: Oh yeah. Go for it.

Travis: How does Spencer feel about superheroes in general? Neither here nor there, fan,

uncomfortable, feels a kinship?

Emily: Does he know that much about them? I mean, I can see basically...

Micah: He doesn't know that much about them, he just knows that they've saved the world a

couple times, and he thinks that that's cool of them to have done [chuckles]. It's kind of like a...[chuckles] Like me when you see politicians up doing really cool stuff. It's like, I don't know much about you, but you did that really awesome thing, so thank

you. So...

Travis: I'll share this post.

Micah: Mm-hmm.

[Chuckling.]

Chad: Brief tweet.

Sage: Sure.

Micah: Thank you.

Travis: Retweet "Avengers Save World".

[Chuckling.]

Sage: Yeah.

Micah: Good for them.

[Chuckling.]

Travis: Sick.

Sage: And if Spencer has a stake on one side or the other, like, a lot of the discourse right

now in the Snap would be like, a lot of people think they failed and they screwed up. And because there's so much misinformation it'd be like the idea that...was this their fault? I don't even really know what caused the Snap. What even that means. So a lot of people would think, oh it's 'cause they keep doing their superhero cosmic stuff and, yeah if Spencer's on the other side of the coin where it's like, well, I mean they prob'ly

tried. You can't blame it all on them. Like, that'd be pretty cool, actually.

Micah: That's- yeah. That's where I'm at.

Sage: Great. Killer.

Micah: Cool. Alright, so Power 3, Soul 4, Mind 2, Time 3, Reality 2, Space 4, and then

offensive. Strength 2, Energy 5, tactical Intellect 3, Speed 2, defensive Durability 2,

Combat 2.

Sage: Nice.

Jessica: Wow. Ours are almost identical.

Micah: Hey.

Jessica: Heey!

Micah: What's up?

[Chuckling.]

Jessica: Almost. Not exact. But, great.

Micah: [chuckles] Close enough.

David: [sings] Twins.

Micah: [singsongs] Twinsies.

Sage: Awesome. Is there anything important that you think Spencer would have in his

inventory?

[Soda can cracks open.]

Micah: I wanna say no, because I think at this point he'd be forgetting it all the time.

[Travis snickers.]

Like after... [chuckles]

Sage: Okay.

Micah: Like, that's kind of his thing, is he's...

Sage: No worries. It's up to you. Yeah, our guests last week, I didn't realize they put in their

inventory? Weed.

[Travis stifles laughter. Micah chuckles.]

Jessica: Mm-hmm.

Travis: That was also the kind of crux of their character.

Sage: Yeah.

Micah: Just show it up. Heey! And like [chuckles.]

[Kaitlyn chuckles.]

[Episode End music builds.]

Sage: Cool! Well, let's dive into it.

Micah: Alright.

Sage: Thanks so much, Micah.

[Episode End music crescendos and fades.]