

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,040  
From the Alex Trebek Stage  
at Sony Pictures Studios, this

2  
00:00:05,130 --> 00:00:07,830  
is Inside Jeopardy!.

3  
00:00:08,910 --> 00:00:09,900  
Oh, there he is.

4  
00:00:10,600 --> 00:00:12,660  
A great Johnny Gilbert.

5  
00:00:12,660 --> 00:00:18,720  
Have I ever needed to hear, uh, the Dult  
sounds, his amazing guitar technique.

6  
00:00:19,170 --> 00:00:20,850  
Uh, Sarah just delighted to hear that.

7  
00:00:20,910 --> 00:00:21,750  
It always puts me.

8  
00:00:22,215 --> 00:00:23,685  
In a better mood.

9  
00:00:23,865 --> 00:00:26,745  
Welcome back to Inside Jeopardy!,  
your exclusive and official

10  
00:00:26,745 --> 00:00:29,715  
podcast destination for all things  
happening in the world of Jeopardy!.

11  
00:00:29,715 --> 00:00:30,375  
I'm Michael Davies.

12  
00:00:30,375 --> 00:00:32,745  
I'm joined today by producer Sarah Foss.

13  
00:00:33,075 --> 00:00:33,315

Ah,

14

00:00:33,375 --> 00:00:34,425  
thank you Michael.

15

00:00:34,425 --> 00:00:37,305  
So happy to be back here  
with you on the pod.

16

00:00:37,755 --> 00:00:41,385  
Our little pod that just celebrated  
its one year anniversary.

17

00:00:41,595 --> 00:00:42,435  
Hard to believe.

18

00:00:42,795 --> 00:00:44,385  
One year of Inside Jeopardy!.

19

00:00:44,685 --> 00:00:46,305  
We've got a great episode ahead.

20

00:00:46,305 --> 00:00:46,845  
Little later.

21

00:00:46,845 --> 00:00:50,655  
Buzzy will join us as we catch up  
with Jeopardy! Masters finalist,

22

00:00:50,655 --> 00:00:53,055  
and fan favorite Mattea Roach.

23

00:00:53,445 --> 00:00:56,475  
But right now, Michael, it's  
time to talk about season 40.

24

00:00:56,894 --> 00:00:57,585  
Absolutely.

25

00:00:57,915 --> 00:01:00,705  
And I, uh, have a few things.

26

00:01:01,260 --> 00:01:07,050

I want to say, you know, as always,  
I really appreciate in what has been

27

00:01:07,230 --> 00:01:12,539

frankly, a very challenging time  
in my almost two years at Jeopardy.

28

00:01:13,080 --> 00:01:16,770

I really do appreciate the  
feedback and I read everything.

29

00:01:16,890 --> 00:01:17,700

I read all of it.

30

00:01:17,789 --> 00:01:21,390

You know this, I've said it before,  
uh, across all of our social media,

31

00:01:21,390 --> 00:01:25,410

and I just really appreciate just how  
passionate and enthused everybody is

32

00:01:25,410 --> 00:01:29,160

on all of our issues, whether they be  
creative on the show or the practical

33

00:01:29,160 --> 00:01:30,630

of what's going on behind the scenes.

34

00:01:30,630 --> 00:01:30,690

I.

35

00:01:31,380 --> 00:01:35,250

There is something I have to say  
right at the outset, and that is how

36

00:01:35,250 --> 00:01:37,949

much I admire and miss our writers.

37

00:01:39,179 --> 00:01:46,289

They are beloved and valued members of

the Jeopardy team, just as they value

38

00:01:46,470 --> 00:01:50,340  
every other member of our team, the  
research team who report to the writers

39

00:01:50,340 --> 00:01:55,080  
clearance, the contestant department,  
our producers, our control room crew,

40

00:01:55,320 --> 00:02:00,600  
our post department, our editors, our  
camera team, security, craft service,

41

00:02:00,990 --> 00:02:06,750  
hair makeup standards, our game board  
team, our graphics, our social media,

42

00:02:06,750 --> 00:02:08,400  
our stage management, our stage crew.

43

00:02:08,910 --> 00:02:12,630  
Our lighting and engineering and  
technical and production management,

44

00:02:12,630 --> 00:02:14,670  
everybody involved in this thing.

45

00:02:14,670 --> 00:02:19,529  
This really is a family who make  
this show who've been through a lot

46

00:02:19,589 --> 00:02:22,440  
together over the last few years.

47

00:02:22,500 --> 00:02:25,739  
And just the respect that everybody  
holds for each other is something

48

00:02:25,739 --> 00:02:26,731  
remarkable about this program.

49

00:02:27,179 --> 00:02:29,040  
And I think it, it comes across on air.

50  
00:02:29,519 --> 00:02:33,750  
Well, Michael, as someone who's  
worked here for 22 years, it means

51  
00:02:33,750 --> 00:02:37,140  
so much to have someone in your  
position who genuinely cares about

52  
00:02:37,140 --> 00:02:41,820  
the show, about the product that  
we're putting out there and about the

53  
00:02:41,820 --> 00:02:44,280  
community who counts on this product.

54  
00:02:44,280 --> 00:02:47,490  
And I know you're doing the  
best you possibly can to provide

55  
00:02:47,490 --> 00:02:52,500  
the most optimal solution in a  
situation that we all wish was

56  
00:02:52,500 --> 00:02:53,070  
different right now.

57  
00:02:53,455 --> 00:02:54,475  
Well thank you for that.

58  
00:02:54,535 --> 00:02:57,325  
Uh, I get up every morning  
and I just do my best.

59  
00:02:57,625 --> 00:03:04,555  
Um, okay, so let's now turn our attention  
to season 40 and I think before we get

60  
00:03:04,555 --> 00:03:10,975  
into what has been by the necessity of the  
industrial action a Change season 40, I

61  
00:03:10,975 --> 00:03:14,905  
think first of all, we should talk about  
what the original plan was for season 40.

62  
00:03:14,905 --> 00:03:16,315  
'cause I don't think we ever really.

63  
00:03:16,355 --> 00:03:19,415  
Got to a point to say, here's  
our plan for season 40.

64  
00:03:19,715 --> 00:03:20,734  
Um, we alluded to it.

65  
00:03:20,795 --> 00:03:21,035  
Yeah.

66  
00:03:21,040 --> 00:03:23,524  
Yeah, we alluded to it, but I think  
we should say what was the original

67  
00:03:23,524 --> 00:03:28,114  
plan in full before we talk about  
how that has been compromised in

68  
00:03:28,120 --> 00:03:30,484  
many ways and that we have to adjust.

69  
00:03:30,755 --> 00:03:35,015  
So the original plan for season 14 was  
we were gonna extend the post-season,

70  
00:03:35,135 --> 00:03:39,185  
and in fact, we were gonna kick off  
the entire season with post-season

71  
00:03:39,190 --> 00:03:41,524  
episodes about 10 and a half weeks.

72  
00:03:41,584 --> 00:03:44,915  
We would go into a second

chance for season 39.

73

00:03:45,225 --> 00:03:49,335  
We would go into a Champion's Wild  
Card tournament for season 39,

74

00:03:49,335 --> 00:03:50,505  
which we've already discussed.

75

00:03:50,655 --> 00:03:51,615  
The first ever.

76

00:03:51,915 --> 00:03:52,875  
Yes, the first ever.

77

00:03:52,875 --> 00:03:54,675  
And then into a T O C.

78

00:03:54,915 --> 00:03:59,985  
And at the end of that post-season, we  
were gonna go back into regular jeopardy

79

00:03:59,985 --> 00:04:04,275  
to the extent that any episode of Jeopardy  
as regular and uh, we were going to

80

00:04:04,280 --> 00:04:08,085  
regular Jeopardy with the only exceptions  
of the Jeopardy Invitational Tournament.

81

00:04:08,430 --> 00:04:12,390  
That we were gonna run probably  
in February, the jit, the jit,

82

00:04:12,840 --> 00:04:16,440  
uh, and in May we were gonna make  
high school or college jeopardy.

83

00:04:16,680 --> 00:04:22,620  
And so what that would've led to is  
about 15 to 16 weeks of postseason

84

00:04:22,620 --> 00:04:28,590  
and special tournaments, and about  
30 to 31 weeks of regular jeopardy.

85  
00:04:29,190 --> 00:04:31,710  
And in my mind, that balance.

86  
00:04:32,640 --> 00:04:33,510  
Is sort of right.

87  
00:04:33,510 --> 00:04:36,960  
When I look at other, and I know I,  
uh, know a lot of people by referring

88  
00:04:36,960 --> 00:04:41,729  
to Japanese a sport, but when I look  
at the, um, the sort of the ratios of

89  
00:04:41,729 --> 00:04:48,870  
regular season to postseason, I felt  
that, you know, 150 to 155 episodes of

90  
00:04:48,870 --> 00:04:54,510  
regular Jeopardy offering hundreds of  
contestants, a first chance to appear.

91  
00:04:54,870 --> 00:04:58,620  
Uh, on the Alex Trebek stage and compete  
was a pretty good balance against the

92  
00:04:58,620 --> 00:05:01,440  
postseason and against the Jeopardy  
Invitational Tournament, which would

93  
00:05:01,440 --> 00:05:05,460  
feed into Masters and then the high  
school and college episodes, which

94  
00:05:05,460 --> 00:05:08,820  
to me are very important because this  
involves player development amongst

95  
00:05:08,820 --> 00:05:12,390



our younger audience, which is really important for the future of Jeopardy

96

00:05:12,390 --> 00:05:15,450  
for us to continue to be able to promote Jeopardy within those audiences.

97

00:05:15,775 --> 00:05:19,435  
And also we'll be backed up and we'll get to these announcements more later

98

00:05:19,435 --> 00:05:23,425  
in the season with us building genuine program within high schools and colleges

99

00:05:23,425 --> 00:05:27,055  
around jeopardy, which is something that I think is, is really important.

100

00:05:27,505 --> 00:05:31,615  
So those were our main plans for season 40 plus.

101

00:05:32,400 --> 00:05:37,260  
Something which will continue when we go back to the regular, I'm doing air quotes,

102

00:05:37,260 --> 00:05:42,030  
episodes of Jeopardy, a major announcement which we can make today, which is that

103

00:05:42,034 --> 00:05:46,050  
we are increasing the second and third place prize amounts by a thousand each.

104

00:05:46,050 --> 00:05:49,080  
So the third place prize will move up to \$2,000.

105

00:05:49,469 --> 00:05:52,500  
The second place prize will move up to \$3,000.

106

00:05:52,680 --> 00:05:53,250  
This is something.

107  
00:05:53,880 --> 00:05:57,930  
That we've been working on ever since  
I really took the reins of the show.

108  
00:05:58,020 --> 00:06:02,460  
It's something that obviously is discussed  
widely within our social communities and

109  
00:06:02,460 --> 00:06:04,200  
with the community of our contestants.

110  
00:06:04,530 --> 00:06:08,700  
We understand that post covid,  
uh, travel costs have increased.

111  
00:06:08,789 --> 00:06:13,500  
We understand how complicated  
sort of funding a trip to Jeopardy

112  
00:06:13,590 --> 00:06:18,060  
is for, you know, many, uh,  
contestants within our community.

113  
00:06:18,525 --> 00:06:22,875  
And we think this is way about  
time that we did this, and

114  
00:06:22,875 --> 00:06:23,985  
we're happy to announce that.

115  
00:06:24,045 --> 00:06:27,555  
The other plan in season 40 is  
celebrity Jeopardy we always

116  
00:06:27,555 --> 00:06:29,325  
knew was gonna be returning.

117  
00:06:29,325 --> 00:06:31,664  
We actually didn't know whether  
it was gonna return earlier in the

118

00:06:31,664 --> 00:06:35,715  
year or later in the year, but that  
will be returning this September.

119

00:06:36,575 --> 00:06:39,450  
And Jeopardy Masters, frankly, a, B, C.

120

00:06:39,450 --> 00:06:42,240  
Let us announce on air, uh,  
that we were coming back.

121

00:06:42,240 --> 00:06:45,870  
I haven't seen the official paperwork,  
but I can't imagine it's not so Jeopardy.

122

00:06:45,870 --> 00:06:49,710  
Masters will return, I imagine,  
around the same time next year.

123

00:06:50,310 --> 00:06:53,310  
So the question is, what  
is our plan this season?

124

00:06:53,315 --> 00:06:57,030  
How have we adjusted based on  
everything that's happened and the

125

00:06:57,030 --> 00:06:59,490  
limitations based on our material?

126

00:06:59,790 --> 00:07:03,960  
I think to some extent I realized  
that Jeopardy, It was gonna have to

127

00:07:03,960 --> 00:07:05,820  
go into some sort of holding pattern.

128

00:07:06,210 --> 00:07:09,690  
Obviously, you know, the entire  
staff is committed to producing the

129

00:07:09,690 --> 00:07:14,640  
best episodes we possibly can, but I  
understand that the best episodes that

130  
00:07:14,640 --> 00:07:19,830  
are possible are episodes that feature  
our writers writing original material.

131  
00:07:20,070 --> 00:07:22,349  
And the very best contestants,  
as we've always put on the

132  
00:07:22,349 --> 00:07:23,849  
airplane, that original material.

133  
00:07:24,120 --> 00:07:26,909  
I knew immediately that we would have to.

134  
00:07:27,315 --> 00:07:31,844  
Postpone our postseason because  
the postseason, the way it feeds

135  
00:07:31,844 --> 00:07:35,294  
into everything else, into this  
sort of pyramid that goes into

136  
00:07:35,294 --> 00:07:37,034  
masters is so important to me.

137  
00:07:37,635 --> 00:07:42,164  
I knew immediately that I wanted to  
postpone that to a point when our

138  
00:07:42,164 --> 00:07:45,945  
writers will have returned and be  
able to write the original material

139  
00:07:46,005 --> 00:07:47,685  
that that tournament deserves.

140  
00:07:48,315 --> 00:07:49,905  
So how do we go into a holding pattern?

141  
00:07:49,905 --> 00:07:54,765  
I also believe, principally that it would  
not be fair to have new contestants.

142  
00:07:55,125 --> 00:08:01,575  
Making their first appearance on the Alex  
Trebek stage, doing it with non-original

143  
00:08:01,575 --> 00:08:05,955  
material or as we'll talk about a  
combination of non-original material and

144  
00:08:05,955 --> 00:08:07,875  
material that was written pre-strike.

145  
00:08:08,655 --> 00:08:13,425  
And so we decided that really we  
needed to invite back and give a second

146  
00:08:13,430 --> 00:08:17,565  
chance in general to players who.

147  
00:08:17,865 --> 00:08:20,805  
Probably thought that their chance  
to come back and and play on the

148  
00:08:20,805 --> 00:08:22,455  
Alex Trebek stage had gone forever.

149  
00:08:23,055 --> 00:08:27,645  
So we are gonna open the season with  
a second chance tournament for players

150  
00:08:27,645 --> 00:08:33,045  
from season 37 who lost their initial  
game, and winners from that will

151  
00:08:33,045 --> 00:08:36,645  
advance to a season 37 and season 38.

152  
00:08:37,110 --> 00:08:37,860  
Champion's Wild

153

00:08:37,860 --> 00:08:38,189

Card.

154

00:08:38,460 --> 00:08:42,000

I know people were really excited about Champion's Wild Card back when we

155

00:08:42,000 --> 00:08:46,380

first announced it, and we will still be featuring it for season 39 players.

156

00:08:46,620 --> 00:08:51,000

But this is our chance to open it up to a select number of players from

157

00:08:51,000 --> 00:08:55,560

Season 37 and season 38 who just never thought they were gonna get that call

158

00:08:55,590 --> 00:08:59,970

back on the Alex Rebeck stage players that won at least one game, but.

159

00:09:00,045 --> 00:09:04,785

Didn't qualify for the Tournament of Champions, and as Michael mentioned,

160

00:09:04,814 --> 00:09:08,324

we're gonna kick off the season with season 37, second chance.

161

00:09:08,594 --> 00:09:11,985

Now, if you're wondering about season 38, second Chance, that's

162

00:09:11,985 --> 00:09:15,344

essentially what we did last year when we debuted Second Chance.

163

00:09:15,349 --> 00:09:20,564

So really we're just trying to find these great contestants from recent years who.

164

00:09:20,625 --> 00:09:24,045  
Didn't think they would get another  
opportunity allowing them to come

165

00:09:24,045 --> 00:09:26,235  
back and providing some great games.

166

00:09:26,265 --> 00:09:30,405  
For those of you that are looking  
forward to the launch of the season, one

167

00:09:30,405 --> 00:09:34,845  
exciting thing about this plan is that  
the new pricing that Michael referred

168

00:09:34,850 --> 00:09:40,465  
to, the 3000 for second place and 2000  
for third place will go into effect.

169

00:09:40,580 --> 00:09:44,600  
At the start of season 40 because in  
second chance if you don't win your

170

00:09:44,605 --> 00:09:48,980  
initial game, you do receive that  
standard second and third place pricing.

171

00:09:49,070 --> 00:09:49,400  
Yeah.

172

00:09:49,400 --> 00:09:54,410  
And then once we get our riders back, uh,  
we'll head into our season 39 post-season,

173

00:09:54,620 --> 00:09:56,330  
which will culminate with the t o c.

174

00:09:56,540 --> 00:09:56,840  
And

175

00:09:56,840 --> 00:10:01,220

then we will feature the all new highly anticipated, I know you mentioned it

176

00:10:01,220 --> 00:10:05,060  
earlier in the episode, the Jeopardy Invitational Tournament, the jit.

177

00:10:05,510 --> 00:10:08,660  
This is our competition that's gonna really showcase some of the

178

00:10:08,660 --> 00:10:11,210  
Jeopardy greets from years past.

179

00:10:11,240 --> 00:10:16,400  
And they're going to be vying for a coveted spot in the next Jeopardy Masters.

180

00:10:16,610 --> 00:10:21,140  
And then we will get on with the business of the season 40 regular season.

181

00:10:21,615 --> 00:10:25,095  
Uh, inviting new players who've never played before on the stage to come

182

00:10:25,095 --> 00:10:27,195  
and make their way into a postseason.

183

00:10:27,285 --> 00:10:30,345  
You know, because I have no idea of the timing of when this ends,

184

00:10:30,345 --> 00:10:31,575  
when all of this can happen.

185

00:10:31,965 --> 00:10:34,575  
It's tough for me right now to forecast what's gonna happen

186

00:10:34,580 --> 00:10:36,135  
with the season 40 postseason.



187  
00:10:36,525 --> 00:10:38,745  
Uh, that will take place during season 41.

188  
00:10:39,015 --> 00:10:41,444  
You know, I have been adamant  
that I want to do this at the

189  
00:10:41,444 --> 00:10:43,395  
same time, uh, every year.

190  
00:10:43,515 --> 00:10:47,594  
I got one year of doing that, uh,  
that already got derailed, so we

191  
00:10:47,599 --> 00:10:49,245  
will attempt to get back on track.

192  
00:10:49,275 --> 00:10:50,145  
That is my plan.

193  
00:10:50,145 --> 00:10:51,194  
That is my promise.

194  
00:10:51,255 --> 00:10:51,765  
But for now, I.

195  
00:10:52,040 --> 00:10:53,689  
A lot of these plans have been derailed,

196  
00:10:53,900 --> 00:10:57,050  
and we also want to offer  
some encouraging news.

197  
00:10:57,110 --> 00:11:01,459  
For those of you who are listening  
who are in our contestant pool to be

198  
00:11:01,459 --> 00:11:04,459  
a contestant for the first time, we  
know that normally you're in that pool

199

00:11:04,459 --> 00:11:08,900  
for about 18 months, but we're gonna  
extend that eligibility for two years.

200  
00:11:08,905 --> 00:11:12,770  
We know that this is pushing back,  
you know, that timeline, and so we

201  
00:11:12,770 --> 00:11:16,760  
wanna make sure that this doesn't  
impact your chance to get on the

202  
00:11:16,760 --> 00:11:18,800  
Alex Beck stage for the first time.

203  
00:11:19,010 --> 00:11:21,530  
So episodes at the  
beginning of the season.

204  
00:11:22,035 --> 00:11:26,295  
For the season 37 and season 38  
contestants, the material that we're gonna

205  
00:11:26,295 --> 00:11:31,905  
be using is a combination of material  
that our W G A writers wrote before the

206  
00:11:31,905 --> 00:11:37,455  
strike, which is still in the database  
and material that is being redeployed from

207  
00:11:38,055 --> 00:11:41,265  
multiple, multiple seasons of the show.

208  
00:11:41,295 --> 00:11:45,255  
Now, when it comes to celebrity Jeopardy,  
uh, that's a very different situation

209  
00:11:45,345 --> 00:11:49,425  
because fortunately, celebrity Jeopardy  
was entirely written under the W G A

210  
00:11:49,425 --> 00:11:51,555

contract before the strike was called.

211

00:11:52,155 --> 00:11:58,185

So that material has been organized  
by our research team and applied to

212

00:11:58,185 --> 00:12:00,584

the shows, and that is all original.

213

00:12:01,125 --> 00:12:02,025

Fresh material.

214

00:12:02,204 --> 00:12:02,535

Yeah.

215

00:12:02,535 --> 00:12:02,714

And

216

00:12:02,714 --> 00:12:04,064

we're already hard at work.

217

00:12:04,064 --> 00:12:05,655

Booking, exciting talent.

218

00:12:05,954 --> 00:12:07,635

Looking forward to season two.

219

00:12:07,635 --> 00:12:11,385

We know it's gonna debut at the  
end of September and my favorite

220

00:12:11,385 --> 00:12:13,635

part, triple jeopardy, we'll be

221

00:12:13,635 --> 00:12:14,084

back.

222

00:12:14,385 --> 00:12:14,685

Yeah.

223

00:12:14,745 --> 00:12:17,594

We're working on a couple of other things I mentioned earlier about the,

224

00:12:17,594 --> 00:12:19,395  
the high school and college program with.

225

00:12:19,405 --> 00:12:21,775  
We're continuing to work on our bar network, continuing

226

00:12:21,775 --> 00:12:23,845  
to work on, uh, our book club.

227

00:12:23,964 --> 00:12:28,285  
And a couple of things we're, we're playing around with, I should say.

228

00:12:28,285 --> 00:12:31,015  
And this is sort of very much inspired by you all.

229

00:12:31,375 --> 00:12:35,665  
We've been playing around in post with giving the audience a chance

230

00:12:35,665 --> 00:12:38,155  
to understand a little bit more the geography of the game board.

231

00:12:38,185 --> 00:12:41,905  
You know, we, as I've said before, we have this great advantage in studio as

232

00:12:41,905 --> 00:12:45,055  
producers and the contestants and the studio audience have the same thing.

233

00:12:45,055 --> 00:12:48,625  
You've been lucky enough to be there that you get to sort of see the game board.

234

00:12:49,235 --> 00:12:53,045  
And see the geography of which

categories are left, what's left in

235

00:12:53,045 --> 00:12:56,345

there, and to understand exactly what category we're in the whole time.

236

00:12:56,765 --> 00:13:00,584

And so sometimes when I watch on air, Even though I was there in the

237

00:13:00,584 --> 00:13:04,125

studio, I get very lost as to where we are in the game, where we are on the

238

00:13:04,125 --> 00:13:08,084

game board, what category we're in, and you know, the pace of our play.

239

00:13:08,204 --> 00:13:11,714

And I think the increasing pace of our play has, has increased that problem.

240

00:13:11,714 --> 00:13:14,895

And we've read from a lot of you, um, deal with the same thing.

241

00:13:14,900 --> 00:13:18,405

So we've been looking in post about how to do that, whether it's a, the answer

242

00:13:18,405 --> 00:13:24,569

is putting, The, uh, category in the clue, which I don't think it is, uh, or

243

00:13:24,569 --> 00:13:28,560

whether or not there's a different shot sequence that we can put together without

244

00:13:28,560 --> 00:13:31,410

changing in any way the game, without changing in any way the audio of the

245

00:13:31,410 --> 00:13:34,979

game, but a different shot sequence to  
give the audience more of the experience

246

00:13:34,979 --> 00:13:38,040  
that contestants and that the audience  
and that producers have in studio.

247

00:13:38,045 --> 00:13:40,229  
So we're playing around with  
that, and that's something which

248

00:13:40,229 --> 00:13:42,810  
we'll talk about perhaps a little  
bit more on an upcoming episode.

249

00:13:43,260 --> 00:13:47,250  
Yeah, I'm really excited for people to,  
to get a sneak peek at that, Michael,

250

00:13:47,250 --> 00:13:50,430  
whenever we decide to unveil it,  
because I do think it's gonna change

251

00:13:50,430 --> 00:13:53,219  
the viewer experience, and I think  
you're going to get that, that sense

252

00:13:53,219 --> 00:13:54,479  
that you're right there in the studio.

253

00:13:54,750 --> 00:13:56,459  
You're playing along,  
you know where we are.

254

00:13:56,459 --> 00:13:58,979  
You know how many clues are left,  
you know where the contestants

255

00:13:59,310 --> 00:14:00,630  
calling from on the board.

256

00:14:00,660 --> 00:14:02,339  
I love the way your mind works, Michael.

257

00:14:02,339 --> 00:14:03,630  
Sometimes I give you that look.

258

00:14:03,630 --> 00:14:08,160  
I know you call it the death stare,  
but really it leads to great things.

259

00:14:08,490 --> 00:14:09,900  
Well, yeah, it is.

260

00:14:10,020 --> 00:14:11,640  
We've always got to try  
and push it forward.

261

00:14:11,640 --> 00:14:15,030  
You know, I always find it remarkable  
and it's something, you know, I find

262

00:14:15,030 --> 00:14:19,350  
myself in moments when we're not taping  
and I reflect more on this remarkable

263

00:14:19,350 --> 00:14:21,060  
program in this remarkable format.

264

00:14:21,810 --> 00:14:28,290  
You know what Merv and Jolan Griffin  
created 60 years ago that went on air

265

00:14:28,290 --> 00:14:32,760  
on N B C in 1964, March 30th, 1964.

266

00:14:32,970 --> 00:14:34,440  
Just how.

267

00:14:35,250 --> 00:14:36,150  
Adventurous.

268

00:14:36,150 --> 00:14:38,580  
The original format was  
just how different it was.

269

00:14:38,580 --> 00:14:42,780  
Just how much they nailed it, you  
know, even the wagering aspect.

270

00:14:42,780 --> 00:14:45,990  
The, the sort of what for  
Merv made it jeopardy.

271

00:14:46,020 --> 00:14:50,250  
The woo, the, the sort of the, the  
drama of the lighting changes and the

272

00:14:50,250 --> 00:14:54,900  
drama of, of the wager in, in, uh,  
the daily double or the, the increase

273

00:14:54,900 --> 00:14:58,530  
in prize values in double jeopardy,  
the gameplay and final jeopardy.

274

00:14:59,130 --> 00:15:02,940  
It's really only now in the modern era.

275

00:15:03,165 --> 00:15:08,025  
In the post Sarian era that we're  
seeing a lot of those format

276

00:15:08,025 --> 00:15:10,035  
elements really come alive.

277

00:15:10,035 --> 00:15:12,045  
We're seeing the way that really works.

278

00:15:12,045 --> 00:15:16,185  
We're seeing those like truly  
informed, and it is such a

279

00:15:16,185 --> 00:15:18,135  
remarkable format created by them.

280

00:15:18,795 --> 00:15:25,005



It has been improved and improved along the way and across the years, and I.

281

00:15:26,055 --> 00:15:30,045  
You know, I think as part of my obligation to the program, you know, during my

282

00:15:30,045 --> 00:15:35,084  
contract here, during my time here, is to try to listen to the audience

283

00:15:35,084 --> 00:15:41,355  
and push it forward and make it better within the scope of my ability to do so.

284

00:15:41,775 --> 00:15:45,435  
Uh, and that's ability, both in terms of how good I am at my job or whether I'm

285

00:15:45,435 --> 00:15:48,975  
good at my job and also what I'm allowed to do and what I'm not allowed to do.

286

00:15:48,975 --> 00:15:52,425  
And some of what I'm not allowed to do is probably very good, Sarah, which is why

287

00:15:52,425 --> 00:15:53,715  
I got the death there every now and then.

288

00:15:54,315 --> 00:15:55,965  
Well, you mentioned Mervin Joule Griffin.

289

00:15:55,965 --> 00:16:00,615  
Obviously they were two of our Hall of Fame inductees at Jeopardy Honors.

290

00:16:00,645 --> 00:16:04,125  
And we do wanna say that we plan to bring Jeopardy Honors back.

291

00:16:04,125 --> 00:16:05,955  
We really wanna make that an annual event.

292  
00:16:05,955 --> 00:16:07,515  
It's something that we will time around.

293  
00:16:08,370 --> 00:16:12,090  
The taping of the Tournament of  
Champions, Jean Trebek is planning

294  
00:16:12,090 --> 00:16:16,290  
to be there once again to present the  
Alex Trebek Person of the Year award.

295  
00:16:16,350 --> 00:16:18,150  
And we wanna have more categories.

296  
00:16:18,150 --> 00:16:21,300  
So we also wanna hear from you,  
you know, what types of things do

297  
00:16:21,305 --> 00:16:24,870  
you wanna be recognized at Jeopardy  
Honors those contestants who really

298  
00:16:25,080 --> 00:16:28,290  
stood out to you over the year for  
various things that they did or

299  
00:16:28,290 --> 00:16:30,360  
didn't do up on the Alex Rebeck stage.

300  
00:16:30,665 --> 00:16:32,855  
Okay, Sarah, you've got plenty  
more show to get through.

301  
00:16:32,855 --> 00:16:34,505  
Why don't you introduce our next segment?

302  
00:16:34,835 --> 00:16:36,515  
Well, thank you so much, Michael.

303  
00:16:36,515 --> 00:16:39,814  
We know you have to run, but

let's bring in Buzzy Cohen and

304

00:16:39,814 --> 00:16:43,235  
Mateo Roach to the Pod Mateo.

305

00:16:43,324 --> 00:16:45,335  
So good to have you with us.

306

00:16:45,335 --> 00:16:49,295  
You know, it's been two and a half  
months now since we last saw you on

307

00:16:49,295 --> 00:16:51,545  
the Alex Trebeck stage and Masters.

308

00:16:51,694 --> 00:16:52,925  
No one can forget it.

309

00:16:53,015 --> 00:16:54,215  
The finals of

310

00:16:54,215 --> 00:16:54,965  
Masters.

311

00:16:54,965 --> 00:16:55,145  
Oh my God.

312

00:16:55,265 --> 00:16:57,064  
Burning a hole through  
my handy dandy notebook.

313

00:16:57,064 --> 00:16:59,035  
How are you doing in the aftermath?

314

00:16:59,850 --> 00:17:00,390  
Uh,

315

00:17:00,390 --> 00:17:01,290  
I'm okay.

316

00:17:01,290 --> 00:17:03,360

I, I'm in vacation mode basically.

317

00:17:03,360 --> 00:17:06,390

As soon as masters was over, I was like, I don't, I don't have to work.

318

00:17:06,390 --> 00:17:10,200

Like, you know, the, the process of shooting it took a lot

319

00:17:10,200 --> 00:17:11,700

longer than any of us expected.

320

00:17:11,700 --> 00:17:15,720

And so even though I was super excited with how things turned out, I think,

321

00:17:15,750 --> 00:17:18,810

uh, I definitely was ready to have a, a break from the world of Jeopardy.

322

00:17:18,810 --> 00:17:21,089

I finally went on my vacation to Portugal.

323

00:17:21,630 --> 00:17:24,690

Um, at the time that this episode is released, I will have gone back to

324

00:17:24,720 --> 00:17:28,410

Halifax to hang out with my family, hang out with my parents', dog.

325

00:17:28,740 --> 00:17:29,370

It's gonna be great.

326

00:17:29,820 --> 00:17:34,500

So you've talked already a lot about how life has changed as

327

00:17:34,505 --> 00:17:40,470

being a hugely important Canadian and a person in all of our lives.

328  
00:17:40,830 --> 00:17:43,980  
We've talked a lot about like how the  
good and the bad, but is there something

329  
00:17:43,980 --> 00:17:45,880  
maybe that you miss from the before times?

330  
00:17:46,595 --> 00:17:47,755  
Pre your two year

331  
00:17:47,755 --> 00:17:50,015  
pre Mateo World super champion?

332  
00:17:50,015 --> 00:17:50,075  
Yeah.

333  
00:17:50,975 --> 00:17:55,715  
I'll say I, I'm not the hugest  
fan of being recognized in public.

334  
00:17:55,715 --> 00:17:59,735  
Like it's, it's nice in the sense  
of, I'm always really moved by how

335  
00:17:59,740 --> 00:18:01,235  
excited some people are to see me.

336  
00:18:01,919 --> 00:18:06,000  
On the other hand, there was a period  
of time, I think specifically it ebbs

337  
00:18:06,000 --> 00:18:07,320  
and flows with when there's airing.

338  
00:18:07,325 --> 00:18:07,440  
Right?

339  
00:18:07,445 --> 00:18:07,620  
Right.

340  
00:18:07,625 --> 00:18:11,370

So when Masters was on, and especially during my original run, it was like

341

00:18:11,375 --> 00:18:14,370

I couldn't go to the grocery store without somebody trying to talk to me.

342

00:18:14,790 --> 00:18:19,919

So I do sometimes miss knowing that I can definitely go out and like the only

343

00:18:19,925 --> 00:18:22,889

people that are gonna try and speak to me are like people I personally know.

344

00:18:23,250 --> 00:18:26,250

But that, that's a pretty minor, like for the most part, things have been,

345

00:18:26,250 --> 00:18:28,260

uh, you know, the money's been nice.

346

00:18:28,260 --> 00:18:30,090

Your career opportunities have been nice.

347

00:18:30,090 --> 00:18:31,710

I really can't complain very much.

348

00:18:31,800 --> 00:18:32,100

Yeah.

349

00:18:32,280 --> 00:18:32,910

Well, and you have

350

00:18:32,910 --> 00:18:39,210

done, you know, several different things career-wise, podcasting, other shows.

351

00:18:39,270 --> 00:18:41,580

What's resonating most with you at this point?

352

00:18:41,580 --> 00:18:44,700  
What would you say is kind of what  
you're leaning towards doing, you know,

353  
00:18:44,700 --> 00:18:47,910  
for your other career professional game  
show, contestant being one of them.

354  
00:18:47,910 --> 00:18:48,140  
Of course.

355  
00:18:48,480 --> 00:18:50,129  
I'm really enjoying podcasting.

356  
00:18:50,190 --> 00:18:53,850  
Um, podcasting's, a format that I've  
enjoyed for a long time as a listener.

357  
00:18:53,850 --> 00:18:54,930  
I think it's very intimate.

358  
00:18:54,930 --> 00:18:58,110  
It allows for sort of longer  
form conversations and.

359  
00:18:58,665 --> 00:19:02,025  
I've been really enjoying, you  
know, learning the process of

360  
00:19:02,025 --> 00:19:04,695  
how things get made, developing  
my skills as an interviewer.

361  
00:19:04,695 --> 00:19:06,645  
So that's something that  
I hope to continue doing.

362  
00:19:07,125 --> 00:19:10,005  
You know, it's, it's really hard to  
say what my career is going to be.

363  
00:19:10,005 --> 00:19:12,825  
I think like, you know, this isn't

just true of people who have these

364

00:19:12,825 --> 00:19:16,035  
kind of weird life changing events,  
um, that cause them to maybe

365

00:19:16,035 --> 00:19:17,235  
rethink what their options are.

366

00:19:17,425 --> 00:19:20,565  
But I know a lot of my friends that I went  
to university with who've had sort of more

367

00:19:20,565 --> 00:19:25,425  
conventional trajectories are finding,  
okay, well I'm maybe not gonna get a job

368

00:19:25,425 --> 00:19:27,105  
doing the thing that I went to school for.

369

00:19:27,405 --> 00:19:28,995  
Maybe I'm gonna pivot to something else.

370

00:19:28,995 --> 00:19:32,085  
Or, you know, people will stay in one  
career for a couple of years and then

371

00:19:32,085 --> 00:19:34,935  
realize they wanna go back to school  
and there's, there's a lot of changes.

372

00:19:35,475 --> 00:19:39,405  
So at the time that I was on the show  
originally, like one thing that I had been

373

00:19:39,405 --> 00:19:40,875  
thinking of doing was going to law school.

374

00:19:40,875 --> 00:19:43,725  
I think I probably  
still will just not yet.

375



00:19:44,025 --> 00:19:44,295  
Right.

376  
00:19:44,625 --> 00:19:47,475  
Well you mentioned like your peers  
and your friends and stuff like that.

377  
00:19:47,475 --> 00:19:48,405  
It is very interesting.

378  
00:19:48,405 --> 00:19:51,315  
You are the first Gen Z.

379  
00:19:51,795 --> 00:19:54,015  
Super champ, super champion on God.

380  
00:19:54,015 --> 00:19:55,005  
For real, for real.

381  
00:19:55,425 --> 00:20:00,495  
Uh, do you feel like, you know,  
obviously you are just by being so

382  
00:20:00,495 --> 00:20:03,645  
public, a representation of a lot  
of different things, but how does it

383  
00:20:03,645 --> 00:20:09,615  
feel to kind of be bringing Gen Z up  
to the front on the Alex Beck stage?

384  
00:20:09,990 --> 00:20:12,000  
Is that not something that's  
really crossed your mind?

385  
00:20:12,840 --> 00:20:16,060  
Well, it's crossed because people  
keep talking about it mind.

386  
00:20:17,790 --> 00:20:21,270  
Um, I think especially the, the fact  
that I was 23 when I was on the show

387  
00:20:21,270 --> 00:20:25,500  
and then won 23 games was just like  
too good of a, a statistic to pass up.

388  
00:20:25,505 --> 00:20:25,710  
Really.

389  
00:20:25,710 --> 00:20:25,800  
I know.

390  
00:20:26,190 --> 00:20:26,700  
Milking.

391  
00:20:26,760 --> 00:20:27,300  
Yes.

392  
00:20:27,360 --> 00:20:28,260  
Um, it's, we agree.

393  
00:20:28,260 --> 00:20:29,100  
It's pretty perfect.

394  
00:20:29,445 --> 00:20:30,225  
It's pretty perfect.

395  
00:20:30,705 --> 00:20:33,345  
Um, I think I'm a bad  
representative of Gen Z though.

396  
00:20:33,345 --> 00:20:37,004  
Like there was a moment, uh, during  
Masters where I got a clue that was

397  
00:20:37,004 --> 00:20:40,275  
like about a TikTok star and Ken  
made some joke of like, of course

398  
00:20:40,275 --> 00:20:41,145  
you're gonna get the TikTok loo.

399  
00:20:41,145 --> 00:20:43,345

And I was like, Ken, like I  
don't go on, I don't have TikTok.

400  
00:20:43,495 --> 00:20:45,195  
Like I love that about you.

401  
00:20:45,285 --> 00:20:46,215  
I tell my children.

402  
00:20:46,215 --> 00:20:46,485  
Yeah.

403  
00:20:46,695 --> 00:20:47,385  
T's not on TikTok.

404  
00:20:47,965 --> 00:20:48,885  
I'm not on TikTok.

405  
00:20:48,885 --> 00:20:49,095  
No.

406  
00:20:49,095 --> 00:20:51,465  
And it's funny, my, my brothers  
are all younger than me and I don't

407  
00:20:51,465 --> 00:20:52,875  
think any of them are on it either.

408  
00:20:53,020 --> 00:20:55,689  
But it, it is nice I think  
to, to bring a youthful energy

409  
00:20:55,689 --> 00:20:57,219  
to the show I think as well.

410  
00:20:57,219 --> 00:21:00,639  
'cause I see sometimes on like red,  
you know, people posting on Reddit

411  
00:21:00,639 --> 00:21:02,290  
about Jeopardy who are younger.

412  
00:21:02,800 --> 00:21:05,350  
You know, there's the whole conversation  
of like, do I waste my eligibility

413  
00:21:05,350 --> 00:21:07,810  
when I'm young or should I wait  
until I'm older and know more stuff?

414  
00:21:07,810 --> 00:21:10,659  
And it's like, well actually you probably  
know a lot of stuff if you're the sort of

415  
00:21:10,665 --> 00:21:14,320  
person that's like into jeopardy enough  
that you're plotting out when you're

416  
00:21:14,320 --> 00:21:19,030  
gonna maximize your potential return,  
like during your window of eligibility.

417  
00:21:19,665 --> 00:21:21,975  
You probably know a lot more stuff  
than you're giving yourself credit for.

418  
00:21:21,975 --> 00:21:25,965  
So I think it's, I guess, nice to  
show, um, that young people don't

419  
00:21:26,115 --> 00:21:29,235  
just go on their phones and well,  
sometimes we go on our phones and like

420  
00:21:29,235 --> 00:21:30,735  
read Wikipedia for hours, I guess.

421  
00:21:30,735 --> 00:21:34,065  
And you can win a lot of money off  
a game show with your Wikipedia

422  
00:21:34,070 --> 00:21:34,575  
knowledge.

423

00:21:34,875 --> 00:21:39,225  
Well, Michael Davies has spoken about  
the fact that because you are so young

424  
00:21:39,225 --> 00:21:44,175  
and you've already reached such a  
high level on this show, Watch out.

425  
00:21:44,385 --> 00:21:44,505  
I

426  
00:21:44,505 --> 00:21:47,565  
actually need to set the record  
straight because I incorrectly

427  
00:21:47,565 --> 00:21:49,665  
quoted you as using an expletive.

428  
00:21:49,695 --> 00:21:49,785  
Yes.

429  
00:21:50,145 --> 00:21:50,445  
Yeah.

430  
00:21:50,655 --> 00:21:54,555  
But you, what you actually said is,  
once I start actually making trivia,

431  
00:21:54,555 --> 00:21:57,285  
flashcards, it's so over for everyone.

432  
00:21:57,615 --> 00:22:00,465  
I felt the energy of that and  
the way I would've expressed

433  
00:22:00,465 --> 00:22:01,665  
it would've included expletive.

434  
00:22:01,665 --> 00:22:02,855  
I am sorry, Matea.

435  
00:22:03,435 --> 00:22:03,585

It's

436

00:22:03,585 --> 00:22:04,065  
allowed.

437

00:22:04,065 --> 00:22:05,235  
I'm, people can know.

438

00:22:05,235 --> 00:22:05,715  
I swear.

439

00:22:05,895 --> 00:22:06,195  
I was

440

00:22:06,195 --> 00:22:06,795  
like, buzzy.

441

00:22:06,915 --> 00:22:10,210  
Pull out that text from Matea and he  
just read it and I was like, Wait,

442

00:22:10,210 --> 00:22:11,680  
they never said blah, blah, blah.

443

00:22:11,680 --> 00:22:13,660  
And he is like, well, I may have uh, added

444

00:22:13,660 --> 00:22:13,870  
that.

445

00:22:14,230 --> 00:22:14,980  
Yeah, yeah.

446

00:22:14,980 --> 00:22:16,450  
A little, a little ad-libbing.

447

00:22:16,510 --> 00:22:21,130  
Um, yeah, I mean it's kind of  
interesting to be in a position where

448

00:22:21,130 --> 00:22:23,200

people are saying, oh, and you're not even at your full potential.

449

00:22:23,230 --> 00:22:25,870  
'cause it does put on a little bit of pressure of like, okay, so

450

00:22:25,870 --> 00:22:28,810  
when I come back to next year's masters, like do I have to.

451

00:22:29,610 --> 00:22:30,419  
Do better?

452

00:22:30,659 --> 00:22:31,470  
Ah, God.

453

00:22:31,470 --> 00:22:33,689  
Like, like can I possibly beat James Sauer?

454

00:22:33,689 --> 00:22:35,220  
Is it like, can anyone do it?

455

00:22:35,250 --> 00:22:38,070  
Who, who's to say, I guess this is why we have to run it every year.

456

00:22:39,240 --> 00:22:43,919  
You know, I, I think I have a long runway before I start getting into the territory

457

00:22:43,919 --> 00:22:45,840  
of like my recall not being as fast.

458

00:22:46,260 --> 00:22:48,720  
And there is so much that I still know I can learn.

459

00:22:48,720 --> 00:22:53,220  
Like the amount of information that's come across my desk, I would say

460  
00:22:53,220 --> 00:22:56,189  
since I was on the show originally and  
since I started doing things like play

461  
00:22:56,189 --> 00:23:00,675  
Learned league or just even like, Make  
an active effort to remember things

462  
00:23:00,675 --> 00:23:04,575  
like if I'm at a museum and I give, you  
know, looking at the little placards

463  
00:23:04,575 --> 00:23:07,695  
next to paintings, like trying to  
actually internalize that information.

464  
00:23:08,115 --> 00:23:11,415  
I've noticed like a huge growth in  
what I'm able to recall and what

465  
00:23:11,415 --> 00:23:12,765  
sorts of answers I'm able to pull.

466  
00:23:13,185 --> 00:23:16,754  
So, you know, if I'm lucky enough to  
have the opportunity to continue playing,

467  
00:23:16,760 --> 00:23:19,995  
I, I like to think that I'm just gonna  
get better, at least for a while.

468  
00:23:20,655 --> 00:23:24,405  
You know, it used to be that our  
greats were invited back maybe

469  
00:23:24,405 --> 00:23:29,175  
every five to 10 years for some  
big ultimate tournament of sorts.

470  
00:23:29,175 --> 00:23:32,504  
And now Michael Davies has really  
changed that up as you just mentioned.



471

00:23:32,504 --> 00:23:34,845

Like, you know, you are  
coming back two masters.

472

00:23:35,225 --> 00:23:36,185

Next year.

473

00:23:36,665 --> 00:23:40,715

What's it like to just kind of know,  
based on pretty good performance, you've

474

00:23:40,715 --> 00:23:45,065

got an, an open invitation, if you will,  
to every year be back on this stage?

475

00:23:45,245 --> 00:23:47,015

It's a huge honor for one.

476

00:23:47,075 --> 00:23:50,345

Um, it's not just the fact that the  
folks working in production wanna

477

00:23:50,345 --> 00:23:53,225

invite me back and wanna continue  
to have a working relationship, but

478

00:23:53,585 --> 00:23:57,275

the fact that people are, hopefully,  
you know, viewers are willing to

479

00:23:57,365 --> 00:23:59,015

continue watching me means a lot.

480

00:23:59,550 --> 00:24:02,760

You know, I've been again, like  
really surprised and honored by the

481

00:24:02,760 --> 00:24:05,640

positive reaction I've gotten from most  
folks who've watched me on the show.

482

00:24:05,730 --> 00:24:09,900

It is also nice, I suppose the stakes of a competition like masters are quite high in

483

00:24:09,905 --> 00:24:11,700  
terms of like what the prize payouts are.

484

00:24:11,790 --> 00:24:15,360  
It is sort of a nice thing to know, okay, this could be something

485

00:24:15,360 --> 00:24:18,690  
that's gonna supplement my income from other projects that I want do.

486

00:24:19,170 --> 00:24:21,270  
It alleviates some of the pressure of like, okay, I need

487

00:24:21,275 --> 00:24:24,660  
to go and get a job that's like stable, secure, really serious.

488

00:24:25,155 --> 00:24:28,425  
It is cool to know, okay, well if the prize values of Masters are what they

489

00:24:28,425 --> 00:24:32,835  
were this year, I can expect, you know, at least \$50,000 coming my way.

490

00:24:33,075 --> 00:24:34,605  
Like that's ridiculous to me.

491

00:24:34,785 --> 00:24:37,514  
I would've never thought a year and a half ago when I got the call

492

00:24:37,514 --> 00:24:39,855  
to be on the show for the first time that I'd be in a position I.

493

00:24:40,379 --> 00:24:42,330  
To have a, a little annuity of getting

494

00:24:42,330 --> 00:24:42,929  
to come back.

495

00:24:43,110 --> 00:24:43,169  
Yeah.

496

00:24:43,500 --> 00:24:47,399  
Well you know, you talked about  
your regular season run, you know,

497

00:24:47,399 --> 00:24:49,950  
your fifth on the all time games.

498

00:24:49,955 --> 00:24:52,919  
One, uh, sixth for  
regular season winnings.

499

00:24:52,919 --> 00:24:54,990  
10th for all time winnings.

500

00:24:55,020 --> 00:24:59,700  
I've been asking our masters, is  
there a stat that you are most proud

501

00:24:59,700 --> 00:25:00,090  
of?

502

00:25:00,870 --> 00:25:01,710  
Oh,

503

00:25:02,070 --> 00:25:06,690  
I think for me, being the sort of  
most successful Canadian across all

504

00:25:06,690 --> 00:25:09,915  
metrics, Because it's the one thing  
where I can say unambiguously I'm

505

00:25:09,915 --> 00:25:11,145  
number one, which is always nice.

506

00:25:11,804 --> 00:25:11,925

Yeah.

507

00:25:11,925 --> 00:25:14,415

You know, Alex is number one in our hearts, but he didn't compete.

508

00:25:14,475 --> 00:25:14,625

Yeah.

509

00:25:14,625 --> 00:25:18,254

He certainly made much more money from being on the Alex stage than I ever will.

510

00:25:18,675 --> 00:25:21,165

But in terms of contestants, you know, that one means a lot.

511

00:25:21,584 --> 00:25:24,645

I think particularly because people will comment of like, oh, well the, the

512

00:25:24,645 --> 00:25:28,034

content of the show focuses of course a lot on American pop culture, American

513

00:25:28,034 --> 00:25:29,504

history 'cause it's an American program.

514

00:25:30,225 --> 00:25:34,455

And to not have taken the same history courses as the other contestants and

515

00:25:34,455 --> 00:25:36,495

to not have been just like immersed in.

516

00:25:37,094 --> 00:25:39,645

The, the soup of American culture for my whole life.

517

00:25:40,245 --> 00:25:41,084

That's pretty cool.

518

00:25:41,324 --> 00:25:41,864

Amazing.

519

00:25:42,135 --> 00:25:45,614

Now, when you talk about, I could never, you know, think that this could have

520

00:25:45,614 --> 00:25:48,435

been a second career, that I could actually, you know, make a living

521

00:25:48,435 --> 00:25:49,875

or at least a second living in this.

522

00:25:50,205 --> 00:25:53,235

You're now playing with people who have done just that and

523

00:25:53,235 --> 00:25:55,304

you're nearly defeating them.

524

00:25:55,365 --> 00:26:00,764

James Holt Sauer, to hear the types of things that he said about you and how,

525

00:26:00,825 --> 00:26:05,595

you know, in his 50 plus games, he had never once felt absolutely frazzled,

526

00:26:05,595 --> 00:26:10,784

completely unable to ring in, merely spectating as an opponent, takes over

527

00:26:10,784 --> 00:26:13,815

the game until Mateo Roach did that.

528

00:26:14,054 --> 00:26:17,504

What is that like coming from, you know, the so-called game show villain?

529

00:26:17,889 --> 00:26:19,360

It is wild to me.

530

00:26:19,480 --> 00:26:20,889

You know, I've talked about  
this a lot with my mom.

531

00:26:20,889 --> 00:26:23,679

'cause of course my mom has come down  
to set and she's met, you know, James

532

00:26:23,679 --> 00:26:28,000

and his wife and she's met I guess  
all of the masters and you know, we

533

00:26:28,000 --> 00:26:31,840

were talking after Masters taping  
finished about watching his run.

534

00:26:31,899 --> 00:26:34,330

You know, it was like constantly in  
the news just because of how many

535

00:26:34,330 --> 00:26:38,860

records he was breaking and we kind  
of couldn't believe, you know, like

536

00:26:38,860 --> 00:26:42,520

four years after he was first on the  
show that I was playing against him.

537

00:26:42,810 --> 00:26:45,030

And actually was  
competitive in those games.

538

00:26:45,300 --> 00:26:46,770

Like it just seems ridiculous.

539

00:26:47,040 --> 00:26:49,170

It seems like something that's  
happening to another person.

540

00:26:49,680 --> 00:26:52,830

I think James was probably too kind

in his assessment of my gameplay.

541

00:26:52,830 --> 00:26:55,440

If you look at the stats from those games and masters, he's

542

00:26:55,440 --> 00:26:56,940

ringing in much, much more.

543

00:26:56,940 --> 00:27:00,000

I don't know what kind of buzzer mojo I was able to find in that

544

00:27:00,000 --> 00:27:03,240

last week of shows, but I, you know, it was like next level.

545

00:27:03,240 --> 00:27:06,389

'cause just my success rate for each time that I rang in was,

546

00:27:06,420 --> 00:27:07,770

was like ridiculously high.

547

00:27:07,830 --> 00:27:09,360

But you know, James', no slouch on the buzzer.

548

00:27:09,899 --> 00:27:10,470

Either.

549

00:27:10,470 --> 00:27:13,860

So it's amazing to hear those kinds of comments from somebody who's really

550

00:27:13,860 --> 00:27:16,770

perfected gameplay, and I think has forced all of us to really raise the

551

00:27:16,770 --> 00:27:20,520

bar in terms of how we strategize, you know, the, the depth of knowledge

552

00:27:20,520 --> 00:27:22,020  
that we are expected to have.

553

00:27:22,050 --> 00:27:25,379  
Like I said before, I, I hope I can put  
the pressure on again in the future.

554

00:27:25,379 --> 00:27:25,889  
We'll see.

555

00:27:26,460 --> 00:27:26,700  
Well, I

556

00:27:26,700 --> 00:27:31,140  
know a lot of people were skeptical when  
they first heard about Masters, obviously.

557

00:27:31,140 --> 00:27:36,750  
Oh, this is a T O c rematch plus throw  
in James, and obviously the response

558

00:27:36,810 --> 00:27:39,270  
after Masters such a different reaction.

559

00:27:39,540 --> 00:27:42,720  
What was it like to kind of  
hear that criticism going in?

560

00:27:42,860 --> 00:27:47,240  
And then be able to feel the love  
after of Wow, that really did work.

561

00:27:47,240 --> 00:27:49,520  
And those six were  
phenomenal on that stage.

562

00:27:49,970 --> 00:27:53,510  
I understood where the criticism was  
coming from, especially because I know

563

00:27:53,510 --> 00:27:57,320  
for some folks that are big fans of



the show, they wanna see players from,

564

00:27:57,320 --> 00:28:00,710

you know, five, 10 years ago that they remember being really talented, come

565

00:28:00,710 --> 00:28:04,610

back and like you said, in the past, um, you know, it'd only be for things

566

00:28:04,610 --> 00:28:07,550

like Ultimate Tournament of Champions or Battle of the Decades or All Stars.

567

00:28:07,550 --> 00:28:10,850

It'd be every, you know, maybe five years that you'd see these people come back.

568

00:28:11,050 --> 00:28:15,399

What I kind of thought though was the t o c was almost a nice test case for masters

569

00:28:15,399 --> 00:28:19,570

in the sense that not only did we have the exhibition match between me, Matt,

570

00:28:19,570 --> 00:28:22,689

and Amy, that produced like a completely different result and different lineup of

571

00:28:22,689 --> 00:28:24,580

players than anything we saw later on.

572

00:28:25,149 --> 00:28:29,110

But we saw across the course of the, you know, best first to three final,

573

00:28:29,709 --> 00:28:33,429

um, totally different results, you know, different wagering strategy

574

00:28:33,429 --> 00:28:37,510

that emerges when you have the same

group of players going up against

575

00:28:37,514 --> 00:28:38,919  
each other a bunch of times in a row.

576

00:28:39,284 --> 00:28:42,555  
And you get to see as well, like a  
kind of camaraderie and dynamic between

577

00:28:42,555 --> 00:28:45,495  
those players that you don't get  
in a single elimination tournament.

578

00:28:45,615 --> 00:28:49,245  
Um, of course there was a risk that  
with masters it was gonna become like

579

00:28:49,245 --> 00:28:53,294  
super stratified and you know, I think  
there was concerns like James was so

580

00:28:53,294 --> 00:28:55,034  
dominant during the quarter finals.

581

00:28:55,040 --> 00:28:59,385  
Like, isn't the rest of the tournament  
just gonna be a romp or like, Well,

582

00:28:59,385 --> 00:29:02,565  
you know, Matea and Matt didn't do so  
well in the T O C, so like why are we

583

00:29:02,565 --> 00:29:06,465  
bothering to see, we already know they  
don't match up to Andrew and Amy, like,

584

00:29:06,735 --> 00:29:11,085  
and Sam, and I think that everything  
that happened in the tournament sort

585

00:29:11,085 --> 00:29:14,415  
of like disproved this notion of like,  
well, this is already a settled issue.

586

00:29:14,415 --> 00:29:14,715

Right.

587

00:29:15,375 --> 00:29:18,075

You know, to use the sort of sports analogy that Michael Davies likes,

588

00:29:18,075 --> 00:29:22,005

it's like you don't have an N B A finals one year and then say, well,

589

00:29:22,005 --> 00:29:23,295

we've discovered who the best team is.

590

00:29:24,135 --> 00:29:28,065

And so now, next year let's have all new teams, right, and find out of this

591

00:29:28,070 --> 00:29:30,915

completely different group of basketball players who the best ones are, right?

592

00:29:31,275 --> 00:29:34,215

You know, you wanna see how things evolve over time.

593

00:29:34,215 --> 00:29:38,115

How strategies change, how people improve, or sort of, you know, as

594

00:29:38,115 --> 00:29:40,905

they get closer to the end of their careers in sports, maybe are not

595

00:29:40,905 --> 00:29:42,045

able to match up quite as well.

596

00:29:42,105 --> 00:29:43,845

Like that's a big part of why people tune in.

597

00:29:44,055 --> 00:29:45,645  
I think Masters really demonstrated.

598  
00:29:45,930 --> 00:29:48,960  
How those notions also apply to  
Jeopardy, if that makes sense.

599  
00:29:49,290 --> 00:29:49,650  
Yeah.

600  
00:29:49,710 --> 00:29:54,150  
And then aside from the competition  
side, here came this comradery.

601  
00:29:54,180 --> 00:29:58,860  
I mean, I've never had so much fun  
watching different groups of three compete

602  
00:29:58,860 --> 00:30:04,240  
on the stage because you knew the stakes  
were high, but boy, What you brought to

603  
00:30:04,240 --> 00:30:08,590  
the table and the fun that we were able to  
have alongside you was just unbelievable.

604  
00:30:08,710 --> 00:30:09,160  
Yeah.

605  
00:30:09,160 --> 00:30:12,160  
And I, I think it, it takes  
time to develop that comfort.

606  
00:30:12,160 --> 00:30:15,280  
First of all, on stage, I was  
someone who was relatively

607  
00:30:15,280 --> 00:30:16,600  
comfortable from fairly early on.

608  
00:30:16,600 --> 00:30:19,840  
But when you're playing in your original,  
you know, first game, first time on the

609  
00:30:19,840 --> 00:30:21,310  
stage, you've never done it before, right?

610  
00:30:21,310 --> 00:30:23,200  
It's like there's so much going on.

611  
00:30:23,200 --> 00:30:26,470  
There's lights, there's sounds,  
there's so much to keep track of.

612  
00:30:27,190 --> 00:30:30,040  
And you're probably pretty  
nervous 'cause you, again, you,

613  
00:30:30,100 --> 00:30:31,000  
you've never done it before.

614  
00:30:31,590 --> 00:30:35,370  
So there's that element of, we've all  
played, I think the, the fewest games

615  
00:30:35,370 --> 00:30:38,700  
that any of the masters had played  
was, I think Sam had played like 13,

616  
00:30:39,270 --> 00:30:41,850  
which is more than most people ever do.

617  
00:30:42,270 --> 00:30:45,030  
You know, we're much more comfortable  
in that environment and we know each

618  
00:30:45,035 --> 00:30:48,870  
other, so we can actually make jokes  
sometimes at each other's expense

619  
00:30:49,500 --> 00:30:53,100  
in a way that you're not gonna do  
that as a regular seasoned player.

620  
00:30:53,100 --> 00:30:56,250

You don't know your competition that well, you've just met them that day.

621

00:30:56,460 --> 00:30:59,010

So it was a ton of fun to play these games and.

622

00:31:00,000 --> 00:31:03,810

The stakes were high, but in a sense they were also lower than regular

623

00:31:03,810 --> 00:31:08,969

season because you knew, at least at the beginning of the competition, regardless

624

00:31:08,975 --> 00:31:12,030

of you might come third, you might not even get to play final, but you still

625

00:31:12,030 --> 00:31:13,530

get to come back for another game.

626

00:31:13,590 --> 00:31:13,709

Mm-hmm.

627

00:31:14,040 --> 00:31:18,179

That's super different than a format where every game you might

628

00:31:18,179 --> 00:31:19,469

get eliminated at the end of it.

629

00:31:20,160 --> 00:31:25,710

So obviously you mentioned James being on stage, certainly leading

630

00:31:25,710 --> 00:31:27,450

the charge on some of the zingers.

631

00:31:27,630 --> 00:31:30,450

I wanna know who the class clown was in the green room.

632

00:31:30,450 --> 00:31:33,140

Was it also James or was  
somebody else kind of the uh,

633

00:31:34,080 --> 00:31:34,620

the ringer.

634

00:31:34,620 --> 00:31:35,730

Oh, it's gotta be Sam Butchery.

635

00:31:36,000 --> 00:31:36,001

Okay.

636

00:31:36,006 --> 00:31:36,140

It's,

637

00:31:37,330 --> 00:31:38,550

it's gotta be Sam.

638

00:31:38,820 --> 00:31:42,960

Um, specifically one thing Sam had  
a lot of fun doing was, uh, making

639

00:31:43,080 --> 00:31:46,300

jokes about how Matt, Matt would  
show up to the green room with like

640

00:31:46,330 --> 00:31:48,930

Yale merch, like so much Yale merch.

641

00:31:49,399 --> 00:31:52,760

I remember one day he was wearing like  
a Yale computer science T-shirt and

642

00:31:52,760 --> 00:31:57,169

also had a Yale thermos, and so Sam,  
of course, having gone to Princeton,

643

00:31:57,439 --> 00:31:58,909

Princeton and Yale have a rivalry.

644

00:31:58,909 --> 00:32:01,149  
There was a lot of that kind  
of joking around going on.

645  
00:32:01,995 --> 00:32:04,995  
I would say Sam's probably the  
class clown, but you know, everyone

646  
00:32:04,995 --> 00:32:06,615  
made, made a joke here and there.

647  
00:32:06,615 --> 00:32:06,675  
Yeah.

648  
00:32:06,675 --> 00:32:09,945  
I think there was nobody who was like  
totally silent and stoic in the green

649  
00:32:09,945 --> 00:32:10,185  
room.

650  
00:32:10,395 --> 00:32:13,785  
We've talked about, obviously,  
over the course of masters, so many

651  
00:32:13,785 --> 00:32:16,185  
things that the six of you shared.

652  
00:32:16,635 --> 00:32:20,565  
Talk about the relationship and  
how you all were able to support

653  
00:32:20,565 --> 00:32:24,225  
each other through the various  
challenges and difficulties that came.

654  
00:32:24,225 --> 00:32:24,315  
Mm-hmm.

655  
00:32:24,585 --> 00:32:27,675  
Whether it was the birth of a baby  
or the loss of a family member,



656  
00:32:27,675 --> 00:32:28,815  
you guys went through a lot.

657  
00:32:28,815 --> 00:32:28,905  
Mm-hmm.

658  
00:32:28,990 --> 00:32:29,199  
We

659  
00:32:29,199 --> 00:32:29,500  
did.

660  
00:32:29,500 --> 00:32:31,419  
Yeah, they, we joked about that a lot.

661  
00:32:31,419 --> 00:32:35,860  
I, I was listening to like turn, turn,  
turn by the birds at one point, uh,

662  
00:32:35,860 --> 00:32:38,860  
shortly after, and you know, that's the  
whole, it's the book of Ecclesiastes,

663  
00:32:38,860 --> 00:32:40,389  
like a time to be born and a time to die.

664  
00:32:40,990 --> 00:32:43,959  
And I texted like a, a couple of the  
other masters, I was like, wow, I

665  
00:32:43,959 --> 00:32:46,570  
can't believe they wrote this song  
about the taping of Jeopardy masters.

666  
00:32:47,649 --> 00:32:51,639  
Anyway, I think because we spent so much  
time together and we were sharing an

667  
00:32:51,639 --> 00:32:56,774  
experience that is so specific in that,  
you know, a lot of other people, I can't

668

00:32:56,774 --> 00:33:01,395

quite relate to you become close like in those kind of confined situations where

669

00:33:01,395 --> 00:33:04,574

you're just like, okay, it's the first time we're doing this sort of tournament.

670

00:33:04,574 --> 00:33:06,465

We're spending days and days shooting it.

671

00:33:06,524 --> 00:33:06,855

You know?

672

00:33:06,855 --> 00:33:10,334

I think it's very moving the way that, for instance, when Andrew got the

673

00:33:10,334 --> 00:33:14,084

call that his partner was in labor and that he probably should go home.

674

00:33:14,084 --> 00:33:17,896

Like there was no question from anybody of like, no, you know,

675

00:33:17,900 --> 00:33:19,125

we need to finish shooting today.

676

00:33:19,125 --> 00:33:20,985

Like we all just thought, you know, okay.

677

00:33:20,985 --> 00:33:22,695

Family's the most important thing you go.

678

00:33:23,280 --> 00:33:24,390

We'll figure this out later.

679

00:33:24,390 --> 00:33:27,300

And that was like universal among, um, the contestants and then

680  
00:33:27,300 --> 00:33:28,740  
everybody working on the show too.

681  
00:33:29,190 --> 00:33:31,350  
Same thing with my dad passing my mom.

682  
00:33:31,380 --> 00:33:34,590  
You know, at first I think she felt  
really bad that I was down there by

683  
00:33:34,590 --> 00:33:38,790  
myself and that she wasn't with me or I  
wasn't with my siblings or, or whatever.

684  
00:33:39,300 --> 00:33:42,510  
But then the second time I called her  
back to let her know what my plan was

685  
00:33:42,510 --> 00:33:45,510  
for coming home and things she said,  
you know, I realized you're not with

686  
00:33:45,510 --> 00:33:47,550  
your family, but you are with a family.

687  
00:33:47,550 --> 00:33:49,620  
Like it is a family operation at Jeopardy.

688  
00:33:49,620 --> 00:33:50,070  
Really.

689  
00:33:50,580 --> 00:33:52,950  
Both in the sense that, you know,  
people are bringing their family

690  
00:33:52,950 --> 00:33:54,240  
members to the set constantly.

691  
00:33:54,240 --> 00:33:56,970  
So you're meeting people's  
spouses, sometimes people's kids,

692

00:33:57,240 --> 00:33:58,530  
parents, that sort of thing.

693

00:33:58,710 --> 00:34:02,070  
But you know, also in the sense that,  
especially because so many people

694

00:34:02,070 --> 00:34:04,230  
at the show have been working there  
for such a long time, there's like

695

00:34:04,230 --> 00:34:07,350  
a real sense of care and camaraderie  
among the production side of things.

696

00:34:07,440 --> 00:34:10,830  
You know, I have this photo on my phone  
that I really love that's like a selfie

697

00:34:10,835 --> 00:34:14,340  
of, I think James had gone home already,  
but it's a selfie of the other five of us

698

00:34:14,340 --> 00:34:16,139  
from actually the day that my dad passed.

699

00:34:16,139 --> 00:34:19,920  
'cause I was like, well, We're  
here, what am I gonna do?

700

00:34:19,920 --> 00:34:22,230  
Sit around, like, let's  
hang out and be together.

701

00:34:22,230 --> 00:34:22,231  
Mm-hmm.

702

00:34:22,740 --> 00:34:24,540  
And it was like such a terrible day.

703

00:34:24,540 --> 00:34:27,870  
But at the same time, I remember

saying like, at least I get to be

704

00:34:27,870 --> 00:34:31,740  
here with this group of people on  
such a bad, like, it could be worse.

705

00:34:31,740 --> 00:34:32,850  
It really could be worse.

706

00:34:33,180 --> 00:34:35,850  
So it, you know, it's  
unfortunate in some senses.

707

00:34:35,850 --> 00:34:37,410  
And I guess interesting too.

708

00:34:37,440 --> 00:34:40,650  
'cause this is a show that's experienced  
like the loss of Alex and the loss of

709

00:34:40,650 --> 00:34:41,790  
other folks that have worked on it.

710

00:34:41,790 --> 00:34:45,630  
People are experienced in having to come  
together in those difficult moments.

711

00:34:45,690 --> 00:34:46,710  
It's unfortunate.

712

00:34:46,995 --> 00:34:50,535  
At any loss is, is unfortunate,  
but it's like beautiful when

713

00:34:50,535 --> 00:34:52,426  
people are able to come together  
and support each other through it.

714

00:34:52,431 --> 00:34:53,455  
So I'm, I'm grateful for that.

715

00:34:53,985 --> 00:34:55,784

Well, and you talk about your mom, Patty.

716

00:34:56,114 --> 00:34:58,335

I know my mom spent time with your mom.

717

00:34:58,335 --> 00:35:00,345

I think Patty met  
everybody in the audience.

718

00:35:00,345 --> 00:35:01,695

And what a wonderful woman.

719

00:35:01,695 --> 00:35:02,625

I love Patty.

720

00:35:02,775 --> 00:35:03,705

My mom's the best.

721

00:35:03,705 --> 00:35:04,445

Yeah, she is.

722

00:35:04,565 --> 00:35:07,725

I think my mom was like the most popular  
person at set when she came down.

723

00:35:07,785 --> 00:35:09,585

'cause everybody wanted to say hi to her.

724

00:35:09,615 --> 00:35:13,154

My mom is fantastic and I'm so grateful  
that she, and, and also my dad,

725

00:35:13,154 --> 00:35:14,485

'cause my dad had come to T O C T.

726

00:35:14,505 --> 00:35:14,595

Mm-hmm.

727

00:35:14,835 --> 00:35:17,715

And he came to one of the  
master's tape dates, um, in March.

728  
00:35:18,225 --> 00:35:21,945  
So grateful that they've gotten to meet  
so many folks who work on the show.

729  
00:35:21,975 --> 00:35:25,515  
And so, yeah, again, like it's a,  
it's a family affair, especially for

730  
00:35:25,515 --> 00:35:28,815  
those of us that are lucky enough  
to be on the show multiple times.

731  
00:35:28,820 --> 00:35:30,315  
It becomes a huge part of our lives.

732  
00:35:30,315 --> 00:35:33,855  
Our families are often, you know,  
people that we've watched Jeopardy

733  
00:35:33,860 --> 00:35:36,285  
with, people that are our biggest  
supporters and cheerleaders.

734  
00:35:36,290 --> 00:35:38,595  
And so for her to have met so  
many folks that work on the

735  
00:35:38,595 --> 00:35:39,615  
show was, was really nice.

736  
00:35:39,930 --> 00:35:42,870  
My mom and I went to like Griffith  
Observatory the day before

737  
00:35:42,870 --> 00:35:44,550  
we shot the semis and finals.

738  
00:35:44,550 --> 00:35:46,110  
And it was just like a beautiful day.

739  
00:35:46,110 --> 00:35:48,750  
And then, you know, we had a group

dinner with the four of us that were

740

00:35:48,750 --> 00:35:52,620  
still competing and a couple of you  
know, friends and you know, James's

741

00:35:52,620 --> 00:35:53,850  
wife was there and that sort of thing.

742

00:35:53,855 --> 00:35:58,560  
So yeah, it was like so many things  
over the past couple months, like

743

00:35:58,740 --> 00:36:00,450  
sad and happy at the same time.

744

00:36:00,480 --> 00:36:00,570  
Mm-hmm.

745

00:36:00,810 --> 00:36:02,160  
Weird in mostly a good way.

746

00:36:02,595 --> 00:36:03,045  
Hmm.

747

00:36:03,165 --> 00:36:05,115  
Well, speaking of weird  
and mostly a good way, yes.

748

00:36:05,115 --> 00:36:06,885  
This is really one of  
Buzz's top questions.

749

00:36:06,890 --> 00:36:07,725  
It's one of my top questions.

750

00:36:07,725 --> 00:36:08,505  
I, I love to hear.

751

00:36:08,510 --> 00:36:09,215  
I'm response.



752  
00:36:09,215 --> 00:36:09,455  
I'm sorry

753  
00:36:09,455 --> 00:36:10,035  
to do a hard pivot.

754  
00:36:10,095 --> 00:36:10,635  
Hard pivot.

755  
00:36:10,815 --> 00:36:15,815  
What is your lunch order when  
you are here on the Sony lot?

756  
00:36:16,335 --> 00:36:17,865  
So that, that's a good question.

757  
00:36:17,985 --> 00:36:24,885  
Um, so I get like really bad nervous  
stomach when I was first taping the show.

758  
00:36:24,885 --> 00:36:26,685  
Like I could barely eat anything at lunch.

759  
00:36:26,745 --> 00:36:30,375  
So what I would do is I would just try and  
get kind of the blandest of the options

760  
00:36:30,375 --> 00:36:33,465  
and I would just be eating the rice or the  
potatoes or whatever, and maybe a little

761  
00:36:33,465 --> 00:36:38,625  
bit of like chicken shawarma or like  
orange chicken or falafel or something.

762  
00:36:39,165 --> 00:36:40,875  
Now that I am a bit more.

763  
00:36:41,505 --> 00:36:45,884  
Comfortable going to jeopardy and  
it doesn't, it's still incredibly

764

00:36:45,975 --> 00:36:49,185  
tense, but I am able to like  
eat a full meal now at lunch.

765

00:36:49,695 --> 00:36:53,535  
I tend to gravitate towards like  
there was like a fried chicken

766

00:36:53,540 --> 00:36:55,145  
salad one time that was quite good.

767

00:36:55,145 --> 00:36:55,465  
Mm-hmm.

768

00:36:55,545 --> 00:36:57,345  
Like I gravitate towards, I  
know that one towards things

769

00:36:57,350 --> 00:36:58,935  
with chicken and some greens.

770

00:36:58,935 --> 00:37:03,405  
Like you wanna have something that's  
balanced and not too heavy, I would say.

771

00:37:03,975 --> 00:37:08,475  
And then I'll usually get something  
caffeinated and also sparkling water, like

772

00:37:08,475 --> 00:37:10,274  
I'm a two drink at lunch kind of person.

773

00:37:10,274 --> 00:37:10,365  
Mm-hmm.

774

00:37:10,395 --> 00:37:12,915  
Because you need the hydration,  
but you also need the energy.

775

00:37:12,919 --> 00:37:13,055  
Mm.

776

00:37:13,575 --> 00:37:16,725  
Um, James was, oh my god,  
James hated that I was drinking

777

00:37:16,725 --> 00:37:17,805  
Diet Pepsi in the green room.

778

00:37:17,805 --> 00:37:19,455  
He was like, how did they  
let you on this show?

779

00:37:19,459 --> 00:37:20,895  
You prefer Diet Pepsi to Diet Coke?

780

00:37:20,895 --> 00:37:21,435  
What are you doing?

781

00:37:21,714 --> 00:37:23,984  
That's a controversial, he has  
a strong opinion about that.

782

00:37:23,984 --> 00:37:27,645  
There were several things I  
think that I said about food that

783

00:37:27,645 --> 00:37:29,685  
just caused him to be so upset.

784

00:37:29,685 --> 00:37:31,125  
I was talking about Dimm Sum because.

785

00:37:31,135 --> 00:37:36,115  
Andrew had visited Toronto, uh, back  
in January we'd gone out, not to a dim

786

00:37:36,115 --> 00:37:37,795  
some place, but kind of a similar vibe.

787

00:37:37,855 --> 00:37:41,455  
And I've said something about my  
favorite dimm sum item is squid tentacle.

788

00:37:41,785 --> 00:37:42,835  
It's my absolute favorite thing.

789

00:37:42,835 --> 00:37:43,585  
I think it's so good.

790

00:37:44,005 --> 00:37:45,565  
And I can see the looks on your faces.

791

00:37:45,570 --> 00:37:46,535  
You're like, no Matea.

792

00:37:46,675 --> 00:37:47,486  
No, I'm into it.

793

00:37:48,325 --> 00:37:48,895  
You would love it.

794

00:37:48,985 --> 00:37:49,615  
Buzzy into it.

795

00:37:49,615 --> 00:37:49,825  
Yeah.

796

00:37:49,825 --> 00:37:50,365  
See, yeah.

797

00:37:50,365 --> 00:37:52,165  
James was a hard no on squid tackle.

798

00:37:52,165 --> 00:37:53,365  
He was like, that sounds terrible.

799

00:37:53,785 --> 00:37:57,475  
Um, so there were a couple things like  
that also, um, you know, one thing that

800

00:37:57,475 --> 00:38:02,895  
got brought up several times during games  
was, James's general lack of interest

801  
00:38:02,895 --> 00:38:04,845  
in movies that aren't Fast and Furious

802  
00:38:05,145 --> 00:38:05,714  
franchise.

803  
00:38:06,254 --> 00:38:06,495  
Yes.

804  
00:38:06,495 --> 00:38:06,496  
Yes.

805  
00:38:07,275 --> 00:38:11,025  
Um, and then meanwhile I'm like,  
oh, I saw, you know, Jean Deman

806  
00:38:11,265 --> 00:38:14,355  
when they did it at Tiff in, in  
January, which is like a three hour

807  
00:38:14,355 --> 00:38:15,825  
long movie where nothing happens.

808  
00:38:15,830 --> 00:38:18,585  
And I'm like, I would hate to see  
what would happen if you tried

809  
00:38:18,585 --> 00:38:20,115  
to make James watch John Deman.

810  
00:38:20,115 --> 00:38:21,645  
It's not for everyone and it's for sure.

811  
00:38:21,645 --> 00:38:22,634  
I think not for him.

812  
00:38:23,010 --> 00:38:26,290  
I think he'd need a lot of  
pizza and, and diet mug.

813  
00:38:26,290 --> 00:38:28,830

Group beer, diet mug, group beer  
to make it through that one.

814  
00:38:28,980 --> 00:38:29,700  
Yeah, for sure.

815  
00:38:29,880 --> 00:38:32,190  
Now your three brothers,  
we've never met them.

816  
00:38:32,195 --> 00:38:32,250  
Mm-hmm.

817  
00:38:32,330 --> 00:38:34,140  
Are they gonna come to LA next time?

818  
00:38:34,140 --> 00:38:36,030  
I feel like we need to meet the rest of

819  
00:38:36,030 --> 00:38:36,510  
the roses.

820  
00:38:36,510 --> 00:38:36,810  
What of has come?

821  
00:38:36,830 --> 00:38:37,130  
Oh really?

822  
00:38:37,150 --> 00:38:40,440  
One of them has come, he  
came in March with my dad.

823  
00:38:40,650 --> 00:38:41,250  
Okay.

824  
00:38:41,250 --> 00:38:44,820  
Um, he is very quiet, so he  
wouldn't have been running around

825  
00:38:44,820 --> 00:38:46,470  
introducing himself to this onset.

826

00:38:47,010 --> 00:38:48,930

But yeah, so that was my  
youngest brother Lachlan.

827

00:38:48,960 --> 00:38:50,190

Um, he is a big.

828

00:38:50,225 --> 00:38:51,365

Skateboarding guy.

829

00:38:51,365 --> 00:38:54,095

And so LA is like skateboarding Mecca.

830

00:38:54,125 --> 00:38:57,365

So he came down in March and  
then he and my dad stayed for a

831

00:38:57,365 --> 00:38:58,865

couple of days after the taping.

832

00:38:58,865 --> 00:39:01,595

And you know, my brother was going  
around to different skate parks and

833

00:39:01,955 --> 00:39:03,605

he's like a big into street wear.

834

00:39:03,605 --> 00:39:06,095

So he was like wanting to go  
shopping and, and that sort of thing.

835

00:39:06,485 --> 00:39:10,205

My twin brothers, which I always,  
I always have to, I don't know why

836

00:39:10,205 --> 00:39:13,325

people get confused about this 'cause  
they're like, oh, you're a tripllett.

837

00:39:13,325 --> 00:39:14,735

I'm like I said, twin.

838

00:39:15,480 --> 00:39:16,590  
I did not say triplet.

839

00:39:17,700 --> 00:39:19,590  
I would say my fellow triplets,  
if that's what I meant.

840

00:39:19,590 --> 00:39:19,680  
Yes.

841

00:39:19,680 --> 00:39:23,970  
Anyway, twin brothers who are 20, they  
have not been able to come down because

842

00:39:23,970 --> 00:39:28,230  
taping has interfered typically with  
like university school scheduling.

843

00:39:28,560 --> 00:39:33,210  
Hopefully, you know, they might be able  
to make the trip down maybe next masters.

844

00:39:33,300 --> 00:39:37,260  
So will there be flashcards  
between now and the next masters?

845

00:39:37,260 --> 00:39:38,250  
That's what I wanna know.

846

00:39:39,120 --> 00:39:43,590  
I think probably there should be, you  
know, I was, um, I was at my office

847

00:39:43,595 --> 00:39:46,650  
earlier and one of my coworkers was  
asking, you know, what's gonna bother

848

00:39:46,650 --> 00:39:50,220  
you more in terms of like a final  
jeopardy that I missed, uh, Hartsfield

849

00:39:50,220 --> 00:39:53,340



Jackson Airport from my original  
run, or Thomas Mallory from Masters.

850

00:39:53,430 --> 00:39:55,740  
And I was like, Thomas Mallory  
seems like something that if I were

851

00:39:55,740 --> 00:39:59,400  
to make flashcards on, like who  
are big English literature names?

852

00:40:00,000 --> 00:40:02,670  
That seems like something that should be.

853

00:40:03,450 --> 00:40:04,140  
Getable.

854

00:40:04,140 --> 00:40:07,830  
If you're somebody who has like a  
good repository of like, I'm studying

855

00:40:07,919 --> 00:40:12,209  
people that get talked about in  
like first year university English

856

00:40:12,209 --> 00:40:13,500  
syllabi or something like that.

857

00:40:14,040 --> 00:40:18,480  
The one thing that's challenging though  
is that with master's level material,

858

00:40:18,899 --> 00:40:23,399  
when you get down to even like the  
\$1,200 clues, sometimes you're looking

859

00:40:23,399 --> 00:40:26,640  
at stuff that's specific and obscure  
enough that you would have to have like

860

00:40:26,640 --> 00:40:31,169  
such a big repository of study materials  
and have such a large arsenal of.

861  
00:40:31,665 --> 00:40:34,515  
You know, whether it's your flashcards,  
whether it's you're reading your,

862  
00:40:34,665 --> 00:40:38,535  
you know, four dummies, guides  
from the library or whatever, uh,

863  
00:40:38,535 --> 00:40:41,325  
you'd have to have just like such  
a big repository of study materials

864  
00:40:41,330 --> 00:40:42,495  
before you ever get to any of it.

865  
00:40:43,484 --> 00:40:46,455  
So I think flash carding and, and  
that sort of studying can be really

866  
00:40:46,455 --> 00:40:49,035  
helpful, but then there's like limits  
to how much you're realistically

867  
00:40:49,035 --> 00:40:50,535  
going to accomplish with it as well.

868  
00:40:50,535 --> 00:40:50,685  
Yeah.

869  
00:40:50,984 --> 00:40:53,805  
But the combination, Mateo,  
the combination for you, I

870  
00:40:53,810 --> 00:40:54,555  
think would be, we can talk

871  
00:40:54,560 --> 00:40:55,845  
Mateo, we'll talk offline.

872  
00:40:55,845 --> 00:40:55,884  
Oh, okay.

873  
00:40:55,884 --> 00:40:56,685  
Let's talk offline.

874  
00:40:56,685 --> 00:40:59,654  
I'm a be, you know, I, I, uh,  
I became a flashcard convert.

875  
00:40:59,654 --> 00:41:02,714  
I've got, uh, 30,000  
flashcards on my phone.

876  
00:41:03,855 --> 00:41:04,395  
All stars.

877  
00:41:04,395 --> 00:41:06,705  
His training was legit, you  
know, didn't get me very

878  
00:41:06,705 --> 00:41:07,245  
far.

879  
00:41:07,245 --> 00:41:07,246  
Yeah.

880  
00:41:07,246 --> 00:41:10,685  
Hey, you know, as he liked to  
point out, but got a \$10,000

881  
00:41:10,685 --> 00:41:11,885  
daily double thanks to it,

882  
00:41:12,075 --> 00:41:12,555  
you know?

883  
00:41:12,765 --> 00:41:16,185  
Well, we know that there are many years  
ahead for you on the Alex Rebeck stage,

884  
00:41:16,185 --> 00:41:19,815  
but looking back on the past couple,  
what would you say is the highlight?

885  
00:41:19,905 --> 00:41:23,865  
I think if I have to only pick one, I  
think that the first time that you've

886  
00:41:23,865 --> 00:41:27,660  
become a Jeopardy champion, You need  
to have that moment in order to have

887  
00:41:27,660 --> 00:41:28,980  
all the other moments after, right?

888  
00:41:29,129 --> 00:41:29,310  
Mm-hmm.

889  
00:41:29,580 --> 00:41:32,910  
When you're announced as, as the winner  
of that first game, like that's the

890  
00:41:32,910 --> 00:41:36,810  
moment where, you know, regardless  
of what else happens after you for

891  
00:41:36,810 --> 00:41:39,420  
the rest of your life, can say,  
well, I'm, I am a Jeopardy champion.

892  
00:41:39,779 --> 00:41:42,629  
And I, I've said this many times,  
like when I was traveling down

893  
00:41:42,629 --> 00:41:47,160  
for my original game, Amy's games  
were airing on television as I was

894  
00:41:47,160 --> 00:41:49,890  
preparing to be on the show myself.

895  
00:41:50,310 --> 00:41:53,940  
And so I had expected either that she  
was going to be like breaking Ken's

896

00:41:53,940 --> 00:41:57,540  
record and still taping, or that  
there would be some other person.

897  
00:41:57,540 --> 00:41:58,920  
I was like, well, there  
was Matt, there was Amy.

898  
00:41:58,920 --> 00:42:00,540  
There's gonna be,  
there's gonna be another.

899  
00:42:00,720 --> 00:42:05,160  
So the fact that, you know, there was  
not this other mythical super champion,

900  
00:42:05,160 --> 00:42:06,600  
it turned out I was the next one.

901  
00:42:07,200 --> 00:42:08,580  
Um, it's

902  
00:42:08,580 --> 00:42:08,819  
me.

903  
00:42:08,825 --> 00:42:09,150  
Hi.

904  
00:42:09,150 --> 00:42:09,480  
I'm the problem.

905  
00:42:09,609 --> 00:42:10,491  
You know, also it was you.

906  
00:42:10,920 --> 00:42:11,210  
Yeah,

907  
00:42:11,214 --> 00:42:12,660  
yeah, exactly.

908  
00:42:13,200 --> 00:42:15,720  
You know, and that I, I won

this game and I really like

909

00:42:15,720 --> 00:42:17,310  
surpassed my wildest expectations.

910

00:42:17,310 --> 00:42:17,400  
I.

911

00:42:18,015 --> 00:42:21,795  
There's been so many other great moments,  
but it, that is, I think the one that's

912

00:42:21,795 --> 00:42:23,565  
always gonna be the, like the most special

913

00:42:24,045 --> 00:42:28,485  
for anyone listening that could  
be the next Matea Roach and maybe

914

00:42:28,485 --> 00:42:32,145  
thinks, you know, I could never  
go on a streak like they did.

915

00:42:32,145 --> 00:42:33,765  
I could never do what they did.

916

00:42:34,065 --> 00:42:35,175  
What do you wanna tell them?

917

00:42:35,175 --> 00:42:37,905  
What do you wanna say to those  
people that just haven't quite.

918

00:42:38,490 --> 00:42:40,839  
Take in that short Anytime  
test that you took mm-hmm.

919

00:42:40,920 --> 00:42:41,200  
Just a few

920

00:42:41,200 --> 00:42:41,520  
years ago.

921

00:42:41,830 --> 00:42:45,899

Well, I also thought that I could not do it, and not even like in a,

922

00:42:45,960 --> 00:42:48,930

I lack self-confidence way, but just it didn't occur to me that it was

923

00:42:48,930 --> 00:42:51,359

something that was possible for me.

924

00:42:51,359 --> 00:42:51,450

Mm-hmm.

925

00:42:52,140 --> 00:42:53,069

This is another thing too.

926

00:42:53,129 --> 00:42:57,270

I think obviously being very successful on jeopardy is amazing.

927

00:42:57,390 --> 00:43:00,690

Being on jeopardy at all is also amazing and something worth shooting for.

928

00:43:00,690 --> 00:43:01,020

Right.

929

00:43:01,020 --> 00:43:04,694

So, There's so many elements of the experience that are kind of

930

00:43:04,694 --> 00:43:07,694

outside your control in terms of what happens, but you never get to

931

00:43:07,694 --> 00:43:09,045

the stage unless you take the test.

932

00:43:09,105 --> 00:43:09,315

Right.

933

00:43:09,315 --> 00:43:11,595

That is fundamentally the first thing that you need to do.

934

00:43:11,714 --> 00:43:14,415

If, if you don't test yourself in that manner, if you don't put yourself

935

00:43:14,415 --> 00:43:17,355

out there, then you can't read any of the rewards of the experience.

936

00:43:17,359 --> 00:43:20,565

Whether that is, you know, playing one game and meeting, you know,

937

00:43:20,595 --> 00:43:23,145

your contestant cohort on that one day and may, maybe making

938

00:43:23,145 --> 00:43:24,254

lifelong friendships from that.

939

00:43:24,254 --> 00:43:26,775

Like there are people that have like met their spouses because they were

940

00:43:26,775 --> 00:43:28,125

contestants on Jeopardy together.

941

00:43:28,515 --> 00:43:28,634

Yep.

942

00:43:28,634 --> 00:43:29,475

You know, or whether that's.

943

00:43:30,194 --> 00:43:32,174

You win a life changing amount of money.

944

00:43:32,174 --> 00:43:37,485

Like any experience from being on



once to being on, you know, however

945

00:43:37,485 --> 00:43:39,015  
many times I end up getting to play.

946

00:43:39,525 --> 00:43:40,275  
Is all worth it.

947

00:43:40,275 --> 00:43:41,055  
I would say so.

948

00:43:41,055 --> 00:43:41,295  
Yeah.

949

00:43:41,295 --> 00:43:42,165  
Just take the test.

950

00:43:42,285 --> 00:43:42,645  
Well, I

951

00:43:42,645 --> 00:43:46,665  
know we are so thankful that  
you took the test on that day.

952

00:43:46,665 --> 00:43:47,555  
So who would I be the

953

00:43:47,555 --> 00:43:48,115  
biggest fan of?

954

00:43:48,355 --> 00:43:51,435  
I know if Matea had not taken  
the test, that's the thing we're

955

00:43:51,435 --> 00:43:52,665  
I have to be still be a fan of

956

00:43:52,670 --> 00:43:53,265  
myself.

957

00:43:53,325 --> 00:43:57,315

Well, that still exists too, but we're  
so lucky Matea to have you in our

958

00:43:57,320 --> 00:44:02,205  
Jeopardy family to have you as one of our  
ambassadors, and we can't thank you enough

959

00:44:02,210 --> 00:44:03,555  
for hanging out with us for a little bit.

960

00:44:03,555 --> 00:44:05,715  
We can't wait to see you back  
on the Alex Rebeck stage.

961

00:44:05,745 --> 00:44:06,105  
Thank you.

962

00:44:06,105 --> 00:44:08,970  
I can't wait to come back and  
then, You know, who knows?

963

00:44:08,970 --> 00:44:11,460  
Maybe I'll be one of those people  
that comes to watch t o c and

964

00:44:11,460 --> 00:44:14,560  
like stare down me off of my own  
handy dandy notebook watching the,

965

00:44:15,940 --> 00:44:16,759  
we can sit next to

966

00:44:16,759 --> 00:44:17,040  
each other.

967

00:44:17,460 --> 00:44:20,070  
We could be the like a Blues Clues crew.

968

00:44:21,390 --> 00:44:22,830  
Yeah, you can do it.

969

00:44:22,890 --> 00:44:24,450

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

970

00:44:24,450 --> 00:44:27,122

Matea, please say hi to your family for us and we talk to you soon.

971

00:44:27,122 --> 00:44:27,720

Cant wait to see you back down

972

00:44:27,720 --> 00:44:27,990

here.

973

00:44:28,290 --> 00:44:29,490

Alright, sounds good.

974

00:44:30,630 --> 00:44:34,380

Always fun getting to catch up with Matea Roach.

975

00:44:34,620 --> 00:44:38,460

They are a force and I'm so excited to have them back later in the

976

00:44:38,460 --> 00:44:41,009

season for Masters season two.

977

00:44:41,880 --> 00:44:44,460

Alright, well that brings us to the end of today's show.

978

00:44:44,460 --> 00:44:47,670

We'll be back next week with our special interview with season 30

979

00:44:47,670 --> 00:44:51,180

nines nine Game champion Ben Chan.

980

00:44:51,180 --> 00:44:52,440

You will not wanna miss it.

981

00:44:52,870 --> 00:44:54,569

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982

00:44:54,569 --> 00:44:57,779

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983

00:44:58,125 --> 00:45:02,535

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YouTube, and on TikTok, and send us your

984

00:45:02,535 --> 00:45:04,634

questions to Inside Jeopardy Podcast.

985

00:45:04,995 --> 00:45:06,405

At gmail.com.

986

00:45:06,885 --> 00:45:07,335

We'll see y'all

987

00:45:07,335 --> 00:45:07,845

next week.