

Molly: Hey, everyone. Before we begin today, we want to thank our newest patron, Child of the Library. Welcome to the team. Now, this episode is going to be a little different from what you're used to. Instead of covering *Emma*, today, we are giving you a sneak peek of what we have to offer on our Patreon. So, what you're going to hear are some goofy outtakes, along with a bonus episode where we discuss content that is not Jane Austen. That being said, minor spoilers ahead for the *Last of Us*. And with that, we hope you enjoyed this week's episode.

Becca: So, yeah, I have this weird allergic reaction/possibly remnants of a sinus infection where my cheekbones right by my eyes keep swelling up.

Molly: Oh, no.

Becca: You can see it. It looks like I have pink eye under my eye.

Molly: I thought you had a nice flush going.

Becca: So sorry for the ASMR there. No, that is straight up just a bright red, swollen, dry awfulness.

Molly: Oh, that [00:01:00] sucks. Wow, we're falling apart.

Becca: It's fine. It's a beer record, not a hot chocolate record.

Molly: Yes.

Becca: Cheers. [giggles]

Molly: Cheers. I have to say, so, Mel and I, this is the gayest thing ever. For Valentine's Day, we just went to this bar near my house that serves burgers and veggie burgers and stuff. We went there for bingo night. We knew it was going to be bingo night at 08:30. We still went to dinner at 06:00. So, we got our burgers and we were eating our burgers and we were like, "You know what? It is--" We have way too much time to kill. So, we ended up coming back home.

Then went back for bingo night, and there was probably like 8 to 10 people there in total. This is a large bar. There was like 10 of us playing bingo and there was eight rounds of bingo. Mel won around and I won around, and so we got two prizes.

Becca: What did you win?

Molly: Well, I'll tell you. We won a four pack [00:02:00] of Sixpoint Brewery Coquito Cowboy-

Becca: Ooh.

Molly: -which is a 15.4% alcohol imperial stout aged in rum barrel, a coconut-- [crosstalk]

Becca: That is liquor.

Molly: Yeah. No, it is-- [crosstalk]

Becca: That is more alcoholic than wine, right?

Molly: Yes, and I just spilled it on myself. So, I'm going to sip that really slowly. And we also won a bottle of wine.

Becca: Well, I did have a drink at a work event. So, I am having A Little Sumpin ale-

Molly: Nice.

Becca: -from Lagunitas, less alcoholic.

Molly: Yeah, that's probably an average beer.

Becca: I do have to be honest though. We did see your Instagram post.

Molly: Which one?

Becca: Of you at bingo.

Molly: Oh, yeah. Right, because Mel's on-- I forgot. Yep, this is already going to my head.

Becca: It's all good, but Mike looked at the photo and he just went, [00:03:00] "Wow. They are just the stereotype of retired old gay women."

Molly: Yes. And you know what? I like that there's a stereotype for retired old gay women.

Becca: It's perfect. You haven't watched *The Last of Us*, Season 3?

Molly: There's a Season 3 of *The Last of Us*?

Becca: Episode 3.

Molly: Oh, Episode 3. I was like, "Wait. I'm more behind than I thought." No, we haven't yet.

Becca: No. Okay, I don't want to give anything away.

Molly: Oh, no.

Becca: It makes me think of a line and I'm not going to say it.

Molly: Okay. Oh, no, is there a retired old gay woman who's going to die? Don't tell me.

Becca: No.

Molly: Okay. Phew.

Becca: I'm not going to say anything except that is an inaccurate statement.

Molly: All right. Okay. All right. I cannot wait to keep watching *The Last of Us*. I wonder if Mel know-- [crosstalk]

Becca: You guys can watch without me, if you want, but I might ask Mike's permission because he's gone this weekend, for you and Mel to come over. [00:04:00] Oh, but you are away.

Molly: We are going to be gone. Yeah.

Becca: You guys should watch it without us if you want to, but if you want to come over and watch it with us, you should. But regardless of whatever you do, you should certainly record it for our patrons.

Molly: Well, we probably won't watch it in Syracuse, because my mom even if we were to get her to watch it, which I don't think we will. We'd have to start Episode 1. So, we'll come over and watch it. If we have to watch it beforehand, I'll be sure to record myself.

Becca: It's okay. When do you get back from Syracuse?

Molly: Oh, when do I get back? On Monday.

Becca: What time, because we could do vegan Chinese and *Last of Us* on Monday night?

Molly: So, our rental car is getting picked up. Have you ever heard of Kyte? Maybe I should get them to sponsor us. It's a new app. They drop off your rental car for you and pick it up at the end. It's really nice. It's actually pretty cheap, [00:05:00] and you can add up to four

drivers. Anyway, they're going to come pick it up at 07:00. So, we might be exhausted from driving all day, but I think that that sounds nice. Yeah.

Becca: If I can entice you over with jade mushrooms, then that's the dream.

Molly: Well, so, Mel has a very early morning the next day at 08:15. She has to be somewhere. So, she has to leave the house at like 07:00, seven early for me. So, we might, if we do that, have to ask you to come to us.

Becca: We will be fine with that.

Molly: Okay.

Becca: Okay.

Molly: I will propose that to her.

Becca: I should sync us, by the way.

Molly: Yes, let's do it.

Becca: Five, four-

Molly and Becca: Three, two, one.

Becca: Okay, first of all, yes. But second of all, have you listened to the creators talk about that moment?

Molly: No. I'm interested though.

Becca: Okay. [00:06:00] So, they talk about the infected and the pandemic that happens in that world and the zombies that result.

Molly: Mm-hmm.

Becca: And they talk about that moment as this moment where there's something hauntingly beautiful about the infected.

Molly: Because there's this inkling of a human--

Becca: Humanity.

Molly: Humanity trying to peek through.

Becca: That's what's so scary about the world of *The Last of Us*, because what they don't specify for you is whether or not people can feel what is happening to them.

Molly: Yeah.

Becca: Oh.

Molly: Side note, the bar is pumping right now.

Becca: *Boots and cats and boots and cats and*-- I can't hear it if that makes you feel better.

Molly: I'll be able to hear it in the editing, but Graham will fix it.

Becca: Okay, perfect. So, put this in the outtakes, but sorry for all the slurping you're getting while you're talking.

Molly: [laughs]

Becca: I'm so hungry.

Molly: It's fun. I [00:07:00] have the sound turned down, so that you don't come through my headphones. So, I'm not really hearing your slurping, but I'm just feeling my entire house vibrate.

Becca: When I slurp?

Molly: No, with the bar below me. It's like, basically, we're taking a mess of both ends.

Becca: Oh, yeah, jeez. [laughs] I was like, "I'm not slurping that loud."

[laughter]

Becca: For our listeners who might not know, I'm eating spaghetti right now.

Molly: Yum. Oh.

Becca: Yeah.

Molly: Wow. And he knows just how to butter her up. He says, "They can do nothing satisfactorily--" Why can't I say that word? Satisfact-- [crosstalk]

Becca: Satisfactorily.

Molly: Satisfactorily. "They can do nothing satisfactorily without you." And she's like, "Okay. Yeah, I guess, I'll come." And so, they go to the Crown Inn and they find Mrs. Weston stressed and Mr. Weston just loving everything about it.

Becca: Would it be satisfactory?

Molly: That they're doing it satisfactorily. Like, [00:08:00] they're doing it-- [crosstalk]

Becca: Go on, go on.

Molly: Hang on.

Becca: [laughs]

Molly: I'm going to make sure that's what it says in the book.

Becca: Yeah.

Molly: Mm-hmm. Satisfactorily. Anyway.

Becca: Perfect.

Molly: Now, I'm sorry, but I cannot help but think that Frank had this as his intention all along because he says-- Oh, right. I did not immediately recollect saying like, "Oh, I forgot that she was even there." That's a bold-faced lie.

Becca: 100%, because he just joked about it with Emma.

Molly: Yeah, like, just now.

Becca: Mm-hmm.

Molly: Is it bald faced or bold faced? As I said, I was like, "Is it bald or bold?"

Becca: Hey, Siri, is it bald-faced lie or bold-faced lie?

Siri: Bold-faced lie.

Molly: Bold-faced? Can I say it again?

Becca: [00:09:00] Yes. In like Regency Era garb.

Molly: Yeah, like, he has the beak on but he's-- [crosstalk]

Becca: Perry the Apothecary?

Molly: Perry the Apothecary. Wait, because they literally used beaks for masks.

Becca: Not in this time period.

Molly: Listen-- [crosstalk]

Becca: That's a plague mask. [laughs]

Molly: When was the plague?

Becca: Wait, no, Molly, no.

Molly: Wait, when was it? It was before that?

Becca: The plague was in like the era leading up to the Renaissance. And then, there was a slight resurgence during the Renaissance.

Molly: Oh, like the 1300s and then--

Becca: Like the 1400s. 1300s, 1400s and like Shakespeare.

Molly: The bubonic plague pandemic occurring in Western Eurasia, North Africa from 1346 to 1353.

Becca: It did exist in the 1400s though, because famously, Shakespeare had to go into quarantine over a plague outbreak.

Molly: [00:10:00] But wasn't Shakespeare alive in the 1700s?

Becca: Molly, no, take it back.

Molly: We're going to cut all of these.

Becca: Yeah, [unintelligible [00:10:07] era for our guy, Shakespeare.

Molly: All right, well, 1564 to 1616. So, I wasn't so far off.

Becca: 1700s.

Molly: Leave me alone.

Becca: It's okay. This is all that outtake [unintelligible [00:10:21]

Molly: This is all getting cut.

Becca: [laughs]

Molly: I can't sound that though.

[laughter]

Molly: Well, I knew it was not the 1300s at least.

Becca: Well, listen, if it makes you feel better, bubonic plague still exists. It can be cut out by penicillin at this point in our lives.

Molly: Right. Okay, so they only used these in the-- Okay, so the plague doctor-- Yeah. Why did they put in beaks? Oh, they would put herbs and flowers in the beak of their masks for [00:11:00] any air that had unpleasant odor was suspect. Wouldn't you think that then the

odor, if you're putting flowers in your mask that you wouldn't be able to smell the odor and you wouldn't know if you were going to die from it?

Becca: Well, I think their thought in their centuries ago medical wisdom was that the odor being killed would kill the germs.

Molly: Oh, because they didn't know.

Becca: Yeah. A lot of people died during the bubonic plague. They were not great at preventing it.

Molly: Whoa. The *nationalgeographic.com* posted an article on March 12th, 2020, mere days before the city shut down, "Why plague doctors wore those strange beaked masks?" We're getting so off topic.

Becca: Yeah, we don't need to relive any #trauma on this one.

Molly: Yeah. Okay, so going back to what we were talking about before I started not knowing history.

Becca: [laughs]

Molly: Well, no, the same thing that happened with Elton, I guess. That would [00:12:00] suck for Emma if that just kept happening. People were hanging out with her, just because they thought that her friend was hot.

Becca: No, it's the opposite.

Molly: Okay. It's the opposite. It's what she wanted to happen with Elton.

Becca: Yes, but Elton was hanging out with Harriet to get to Emma.

Molly: Right. Oh, my God, yes, so it is a reverse Elton. Yes, like a reverse Elton. I forgot that's what happened. It's a lot of stuff.

Becca: There's a lot of things happening in this book, and it's one of Jane Austen's longer novels.

Molly: Yeah, it is.

Becca: Season 3 is going to be a lot longer than Seasons 1 and 2 of this podcast.

Molly: Yes. Let's count, like, there's something like 90 episodes.

Becca: Also at the same time, I should say that-- Oh, on a side note, I thought we should probably do something special for the 100th episode.

Molly: Good idea.

Becca: We'll catch-- [crosstalk]

Molly: I think we're only in the 80s right now.

Becca: Yes. So, we have a couple of weeks. A couple of months, I mean. Yeah, we also have not only is *Emma* the longest book, I think it has the most prevalent adaptations, like, not the most prevalent adaptation, because *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility* have more [00:13:00] famous adaptations, but *Emma* has more known adaptations quantitatively.

Molly: The fact that *Clueless* is based on *Emma* and people don't know that, but people know *Clueless* is big.

Becca: Yeah. Also, there's at least two movies made in the 1990s in the vein of *Sense and Sensibility*. And there's a lot of *Emma* to get through. I'll just say.

Molly: Did you see that someone else drew us a Regency Era plaid?

Becca: I did. Folks, that's my favorite thing that we have put out into the ether is that everyone's drawing us *Emma* Regency Era plaid *Clueless* relate. Listeners, this is my favorite thing that you guys have done for us is that we put it out into the ether that someone needed to make a Cher Horowitz Regency Era yellow plaid gown. And every time I see one of those pictures, it sparks so much joy in my day.

Molly: So good.

Becca: I finally got it out.

Molly: You did. Good job. It's been a morning.

Becca: Yeah. [00:14:00] Five, four-

Molly and Becca: Three, two, one.

Becca: Okay, we're synced. So, now I can tell you the saga that is our Wi-Fi story.

Molly: Do tell.

Becca: So, on Thursday, Mike was working from home and he texted me and he was like, "Hey, the Wi-Fi is down." And I was like, "Okay, that's weird." And he calls Verizon and they say something along the lines of, "Oh, there's a huge outage in your neighborhood. It's going to be fixed overnight." So, we should have internet back on Friday and we're like, "Okay, that sucks, but it's one day, we'll live." And then, Friday rolls around, Friday morning, and I check and it's still not done, but the Verizon trucks have left our block and I'm like, "What is happening?" I don't know. I guess they're going to come back later and work on it more. So, I was like, "I guess we still have no internet." And Mike was like, "That sucks." But we both went to work, so it was fine.

Then this morning, we woke up and we were like, "How the fuck is there's [00:15:00] still no internet? It's been two days."

Molly: Yeah.

Becca: So, Mike was like, "Well, this is a problem for you. You're recording with Molly." And I was like, "No, Molly comes over. So, we don't really need the Wi-Fi to record." And then, you texted me and I was like, "Well, fuck, now we really do need the Wi-Fi."

Molly: [laughs]

Becca: So, we called Verizon and they did a whole diagnostic on our whole situation. They're looking at it. We're on a video camera with the Verizon helpline guy, and eventually, he's like, "I just need someone on site for you, so we're going to just schedule you guys an appointment. The earliest we can do is Tuesday, 08:00 AM." And so, we were like, "Great, we'll live. It'll be fine." And so, it was great. We actually were like, "All right, listen, we'll figure the thing out with Molly and then we'll have a really productive day. We'll clean everything. We will watch an ATV." Mike fiddles one more time and he realizes that [00:16:00] while he was fiddling with it during the outage, he just didn't plug back in one of the cables.

Molly: Oh.

Becca: So, he plugged it back in, and now we have Wi-Fi.

Molly: Wow. That's amazing. [giggles]

Becca: I know. Great story. Great story, but I'm scarred because I don't know if you remember this, but during COVID, I had a two- to three-week internet dropout.

Molly: Oh, yeah.

Becca: This was with Optimum. It was while I was studying for the bar, and they kept being like, "Sorry, there was a big storm. So, we just have outages in your neighborhood. It'll be ready when it's ready." It was, like, two or three weeks later, I couldn't get anybody on the phone to talk me through it. And finally, I bullied someone to come out and there was a chopped wire in the backyard. They needed to replace one of the wires.

Molly: I remember that. Yeah. Wow, the internet. It's [crosstalk]

Becca: Yeah, that's fun.

Molly: Well, [00:17:00] I'm glad it's fixed now. Mel does tech for her job, and she said, half the time people call her for stuff, she just has to plug it back in.

Becca: Yeah, usually that's the case. I didn't think it was here because we did unplug everything and plug it back in. It's just like there was one cable that was off, and it wasn't the electricity cable. It was a different cable.

Molly: Right.

Becca: So, I blame Mike. [giggles]

Molly: But he fixed it too. [giggles]

Becca: Yeah. For me, it made no difference. It was really the matter of this morning having internet, because last night-- Oh, this is another thing I wanted to say. The *D&D* movie was excellent and you guys should see it.

Molly: Okay, good. I want to see it. Mel has no interest, but I feel like if I were able to drag her out, she would enjoy it.

Becca: Would she be more interested if I told her the vibes were more like *Ella Enchanted*, *The Princess Bride*, *Stardust*-

Molly: Yes.

Becca: -than anything else? Because it's not high fantasy. It's a [00:18:00] funny little fantasy rom with heart.

Molly: Oh, my God. Oh, I love it.

Becca: It's great.

Molly: Okay.

Becca: It's so fine.

Molly: And Hugh Grant's in it, right?

Becca: Oh, yeah, and he's great.

Molly: Our baby boy.

Becca: And so is Chris Pine. Regé-Jean Page from *Bridgerton* is in it too, and he is very handsome.

Molly: Uh, yeah. [giggles]

Becca: Michelle Rodriguez is in it. She's also awesome. Yeah, it's just filled with hot people and they're all really talented and funny.

Molly: Wow.

Becca: Yeah, it has that sort of tongue-in-cheek, fun little fantasy one-off vibe that you rarely get nowadays. Highly recommend. Had so much fun. Would maybe see it again at Nighthawk, if you guys wanted to join. But if you want to see it on Sunday, Mike and I did already see it.

Molly: Well, we ended up actually getting tickets to a show tomorrow. We're seeing *The Seagull/Woodstock, NY*.

Becca: Oh, cool.

Molly: Yes, I got comped through work. So, now we're doing that as our outing of the day.

Becca: Well, I assure you we're going to have to go to Nighthawk. It's so much fun.

Molly: Yes.

Becca: We'll find a time to go see [00:19:00] a movie there. If it's *D&D*. If it's not, it'll be something else.

[Pod and Prejudice theme]

Becca: Hi, patrons. This is Becca.

Molly: This is Molly.

Becca: We're going to talk about content that's not Jane Austen.

Molly: Yeah, we are not here to talk about Jane Austen. Maybe that should be our intro for this, like, this is Becca. This is Molly. We're not here to talk about Jane Austen.

Becca: Certainly, not here to talk about Jane Austen. We're going to discuss other pop culture content that the two of us are consuming this month, I guess I should say. So, if you are enjoying this segment, let us know. Let us know if you are particularly wanting us to talk about specific pop culture that you're into. We'll also probably get on that train, especially if we have already seen it, but definitely check it out if we get it recommended to us.

Molly: Yeah.

Becca: Yeah, all things, music, books, TV, film are on the table.

Molly: Yeah, so do you want to talk about what you've consumed thus far in the month of February?

Becca: Sure. I have [00:20:00] two that are sticking out to me.

Molly: All right.

Becca: One is music based and this is so embarrassing. So, I'm just going to say it. I have been bad at keeping up with music in the last few years. I listened to a lot of oldies, listened to a lot of Fleetwood Mac, Joni Mitchell, Joan Baez, but I recently decided to just start up on Brandi Carlile, and I binged her whole catalog. And no one told me. I guess, everyone did tell me.

Molly: I told you. I [crosstalk] telling you.

Becca: You told me? Yeah, all of my queer female friends have been telling me for years and I just haven't gotten on it. And usually, when I go through an album, I'm like, "Okay,

yeah, that was good." I listened to it a few times to try to savor it like a wine or something. But with Brandi, I just binged it and I've just been walking around New York fragile while I listen to her music. So, yeah, that's what I've been on for the last [00:21:00] few months. [giggles]

Molly: Thank God. We are a Brandi Carlile household. And so much so, have you heard about Brandi's *Girl's Just Wanna Weekend*?

Becca: No.

Molly: So, every year, Brandi rents out an entire private resort in Mexico, and she brings all of these powerful women artists to come and just do four days of all day concerts, going deep into the night with workshops. Everyone runs workshops and everything. It's all inclusive and it's just a big gay and women party. And men are allowed too, but you have to understand, if you're a man attending that, it's not for you. So, you have to be there as an ally to women and queer people. So, it's a banger and it's very expensive, but we have been talking about attending next year.

Becca: Oh, my God.

Molly: Let me know if you want to join.

[laughter]

Becca: That's the [00:22:00] splurge of the season.

Molly: Yeah, once you do that, you don't do anything else for the rest of the year, and it's in January.

Becca: All right, well, that's worth noting. That is not pop culture I've yet to consume, but I can tell you that suggestion came right on time.

Molly: Ha, ha, ha. I see what you did there. Oh, my God, what a good album too. I really was gunning for her for album of the year for that album, because-- [crosstalk]

Becca: Was she nominated?

Molly: Yes, she was nominated.

Becca: I don't follow the Grammys, but I'm glad she was nominated.

Molly: I don't follow them either, but when I knew she was nominated, I was very excited. It was that album, *You and Me on the Rock*, is just such a sweet song. Okay. I'm so glad that you're listening to Brandi. Ah, cheers to that.

Becca: Cheers to that with our coffee.

Molly: Thanks.

Becca: So, that's my number one. Do you want to alternate back and forth?

Molly: Sure. So, my most recent consumption, I read a book and it is called *One of Us Is Lying*. [00:23:00] It was a New York Times bestseller. I don't know what year it came out. I think, like, 2018 or something, and it's a murder mystery about four-- So, five kids walk into detention. Four of them walk out and one of them dies in detention from an allergic reaction. The entire story is told, like, it alternates between these four kids POVs. So, it's all first person. So, you know what they know, but you don't know what happened. You don't know who's lying and you don't know what they're lying about.

Becca: So, one of them is an unreliable narrator or more of them.

Molly: They're all unreliable narrators, but also rely, like, we know what they know. It's just very well done and there's a sequel that I'm itching to read, but it's a new story because this one is wrapped up and done at the end of the book. But I will [00:24:00] say I had a feeling part of the murder. I had an idea of who the murderer was or what happened, but I didn't understand how all the dots connected. So, I felt like one, I was a little bit smart. I felt smart about it. But then two, when it all started coming together in the last 90 pages, I was on the train and I was like, [shocked]. It was that kind of booklet and you're like, "Oh, my God." And that thing and then, "Oh, my God, wait, I remember that from the beginning." Yeah.

Becca: One of the best parts about reading murder mystery is what that point in the book where it gets crazy until the end.

Molly: Yeah.

Becca: Oh, yeah.

Molly: Yeah.

Becca: Great stuff.

Molly: Yeah. So, that is my pick. If you're looking for a murder mystery about high schoolers that is also devastating, but really good and funny. Yeah.

Becca: Into it. So, my last thing is a TV show. So, I think this is great because we got our music, we got a book, and now we have a TV show. I know you started watching this TV show, [00:25:00] but as I'm sure all of you are doing as well, I have been watching *The Last of Us*, and I'm broken inside over it.

Molly: [laughs]

Becca: I don't want to give anything away, but I did watch an episode last night that had me choke sobbing over my television.

Molly: I was choke-sobbing over just the first episode last night.

Becca: The first episode does make you cry and it's so fucking good.

Molly: It's really well done.

Becca: So, I started watching the show with my boyfriend, Mike, my best friend and her boyfriend. My best friend and Mike are both gamers, and her boyfriend and I are not. So, we didn't know the story. So, they know what happens and they're also evaluating it as an adaptation, whereas my friend's boyfriend and I don't know what happened. So, we are watching it like fresh story for the first time and all four of us are just obsessed with it. We text about it. And so, for [00:26:00] those of you who live under a rock, *The Last of Us* is a post-apocalyptic story, a bunch of mushrooms make us zombies. Mike also insists on us eating mushrooms every time we watch an episode.

Molly: Oh, my God. So, we started it. And Mel, as everyone knows, does not like scary things. She's the one who pitched us watching it and I was like, "Really?" As it was starting in the first scene, they're talking about pandemics in the 1960s in the first scene, just for anyone who hasn't watched it, this isn't a spoiler because it's the first scene. But there's two epidemiologists, and one of them is saying that, "A pandemic is a big threat to humanity. Viral pandemic." And he's like, "It'll wipe us out. It'll get in airplanes. It'll come from one place to another place within hours" and stuff that we know happened.

The other guy is like, "That's not really a threat to humanity. That happens every couple hundred years or whatever. We bounce back. We win. We always win. The real threat is fungi." [00:27:00] The other guy's like, "Well, fungus can't live inside the human body

because it can't live above this temperature." And he's like, "Yeah, but say that there was a reason for the fungus to adapt. Like, the world gets a little bit warmer, the fungus could get inside of our body, take over our mind, and turn us into mushroom zombies."

Becca: Which, spoilers, it's the plot of the show. So, I'm not like a zombie person generally. We talked about this with Mike Schubert on the show. I like some zombie content, but I'm not someone who seeks out zombie content.

Molly: Sure.

Becca: It's fun in certain circumstances.

Molly: But this doesn't feel like zombie content.

Becca: The thing that sets this apart for me is it's the first zombie content I've ever watched. This is really more about the pain of surviving a zombie apocalypse than the actual surviving of a zombie apocalypse, like what it means to feel the pain of surviving a zombie apocalypse.

Molly: Totally. Also, to me, it doesn't even feel like a **[00:28:00]** zombie apocalypse. It feels so akin to something that we know could happen. The way they describe it in the beginning is so scientific and so realistic that when we started it, Mel was like, "Maybe this is going to be scarier for you than it is for me, because I'm a big hypochondriac and afraid of illness."

Becca: [laughs]

Molly: So, I was like, "Oh, no." But I like it when it's on TV and not in my real life.

Becca: Totally agree. And also, I was going to say, on this being a pandemic thing, I should say also this is "a zombie show," but they don't ever use the word "zombie." The idea is they're the "infected" and it's a pandemic, not a zombie apocalypse, which is scarier because we've all lived through a pandemic.

Becca: Exactly. They really picked the right time to make the show.

Becca: There are some moments in the first episode that I still think about with a chill down my spine without giving anything away, the moment where Sarah's at the DVD shelf.

Molly: **[00:29:00]** And you see behind-- [crosstalk]

Becca: Yeah.

Molly: No, Mel and I were like, "No, no, no, no, no."

Becca: So, we're probably, like, next month also probably going to talk about this as well.

Molly: Yeah, we'll give updates on our--

Becca: We'll catch up. But one thing I will ask you--

Molly: Me or our listeners?

Becca: You.

Molly: Me. Okay.

Becca: Because some of our listeners have probably watched the show. If you haven't watched the show, you should. I'm going to ask Molly a question in the vein of Pod and Prejudice.

Molly: Oh, fun. A study question.

Becca: Well, not exactly. Just like a prediction question, because this is one of those rare instances where you are starting something that I am a little farther into than you.

Molly: Right.

Becca: But how do you think the pandemic spread? Why do you think, all of a sudden, everyone got sick?

Molly: Oh, I hadn't thought about why it happened so fast. My guess based on just like the first episode is that it travels through blood and that when one person gets infected, then [00:30:00] they bite another person and that person becomes infected, because in the first scene he says that, "Once infected by a mushroom, it keeps you alive. It doesn't let you decompose." So, I figured that if you're bit, you're not going to die. You're going to turn into a mushroom person. That's my guess. But it does seem fast, because all of a sudden, it was everywhere all in one day. So, how do I think it's spread?

Becca: We're thinking about that question is answered by the time you're at where I am in the show.

Molly: Okay, cool, because my other guess would be-- So, there are signs up that say, "Report sign of cordyceps infection," and cordyceps is a kind of mushroom. It's a kind of mushroom that I'm pretty sure people eat because of another book that I've recommended on the pod, *Rosaline Palmer Takes the Cake*. There's a scene in [00:31:00] which Rosaline and her friends are eating soup and they're like, "We have to guess what ceps because we don't know." When he gets the soup, the guy who got the soup is like, "This is a mushroom. This is mushroom soup. So, ceps must be mushrooms." So, my guess is that people who had eaten them, all of a sudden, those mushrooms had reached the point at which they could live inside a human body and take over the brain. That's my guess.

Becca: All right. I neither confirm nor deny.

Molly: All right. So, I guess, I'll find out and we'll report back next episode. So, if you're planning on watching, watch between now and then.

Becca: I will also say, just as a treat, I'm going to go on a limb and say Molly should Finsta her reactions to the third episode.

Molly: Oh, fun. Okay.

Becca: That's my suggestion.

Molly: Do we think I'll be able to convince Mel to watch another episode tonight, post her show?

Becca: Maybe. I would say, of the five episodes I have watched so far, the second is either the-- [00:32:00] I would say it's the second scariest, and the fifth episode is probably the scariest.

Molly: Okay.

Becca: But it's really a scary episode.

Molly: Okay, because they're walking through the--

Becca: I don't want to tell.

Molly: All right. No, spoilers. [crosstalk]

Becca: It's really scary. But I would say, even if you cannot get Mel to watch the second episode, you got to get her to watch the third episode. That's the only thing I will say about it.

Molly: I don't think she'll watch if she doesn't watch it in order. Well, maybe she will. I'm a watcher in order kind of person.

Becca: Without giving too much away about the third episode, there is a way in which it is a slightly quartered off story.

Molly: Oh, okay.

Becca: So, she could theoretically watch that episode without having watched the second episode, if she really can't do it. I think she would enjoy the third episode in a way she might not the rest of the show. Mel, Molly's girlfriend, is a little bit of a scaredy cat when it comes to horror stuff, whereas Molly, Mike, and I all [00:33:00] adore horror content. Mike and I are fine to watch it.

Molly: But this was her idea. So, I have to just keep reminding her. She's the one who got me hooked.

Becca: Yes. But if she can't continue with it, I encourage, one, you to continue with it, and two, I would encourage Mel to still watch the third episode.

Molly: Okay. If she won't watch the second episode, I'll come over here, you'll rewatch it with me. [giggles]

Becca: I will watch this show again, because I feel like there's stuff I'm missing as I watch it. And now that I know what happens, I'm at least emotionally prepared. I'm getting emotional thinking of, "Oh, I don't want to give anything away. It's such an emotional show."

Molly: All right, I'm really excited.

Becca: Yeah.

Molly: Well, with that, we should probably start talking about Jane Austen.

Becca: So, that's our Patreon content, guys. If you're liking this segment, let us know. Also, please let us know if you're enjoying any of the content we've talked about. Also, please let us know if you want us to consume particular content, and since [00:34:00] we are now officially letting Molly binge *The Last of Us* on our Patreon content, you should definitely check out that show. You should also definitely listen to Brandi Carlile after watching.

Molly: Yeah.

Becca: You should certainly go read Molly's book.

Molly: Yeah. Not my book, but the book that I was reading. [giggles]

Becca: Yes. What was the name of it?

Molly: *One of Us Is Lying*.

Becca: *One of Us Is Lying*.

Molly: Yes.

Becca: So, we have Brandi Carlile, *The Last of Us*, and *One of Us Is Lying*. Consume all that content. Have some fun with it. But now we're going to go talk about Jane Austen.

Molly: And without further ado, stay proper-

Becca: -and survive uninfected pandemic zombie apocalypse.

Molly: Yeah.

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