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Hey everybody, welcome to the Max Frequency Podcast. Episode 2, joining me this time, Cameron Hawkins. Cam Hawkins, you prefer Cam, right? Honestly, like people just started doing those "Can I call you Cam?" and then that's just kind of like how people know me. I don't really care. You're the first person that introduced me as Cameron Hawkins, so I'm just like, part of me is like "Oh, I appreciate that," but also part of me is just like "Eh, whatever." I've never been a huge fan of my name in general, so I love my last name. I think my last name is really cool. - It is. - My first name, I've always asked my parents, like, why'd you call me Cameron? It's not like I hate it, it's just like, you could've picked better names, you know? Like, no offense to the Camrons out there, but I'm just like, I don't know. - I've always, my name is just Max. It's not short for Maxwell or Maximus or anything. And so everyone everyone asked me, was your name, you know, one of those and it's not. And so I always try to look at someone's name and introduce them with their actual name unless they have a preference. Yeah. Which is why I asked. No, no, I appreciate it. I don't care. I don't care. I my favorite name you've used is something like hot. Is it hot take Hawkins? You've done something like that. Yeah. Yeah. For, for those that are listening, Like me and this is like probably the first like real convert like in-depth conversation I mean max have ever had even though we've known each other for like well over a year at this point Almost two years I'd say But we we have very dissenting video game opinions most of the time So like he praises Naughty Dog to the to the Sun and back and I think they're one of the most overrated Developers out there. So, you know But we get along that's how people do it Yeah, we um, I actually we I feel like we actually have a lot of our personality in similar similar ways We both can have really hot takes as it is and then um Just really passionate about the way we feel and I feel like Sometimes we're aligned and sometimes We're not but That's part of why I wanted to have you on the show was so we could actually Talk together because we both worked over dual shockers, but I don't think our time never overlapped it did right it did Yeah, you were there We were there together. I left PAX East 2019 I was after then you then Yeah, you were gone. But like you were still in the discord you came back and reviewed games from time to time like You were still I feel like you were still present for like I would say about like till the end of 2019 I would say. Yeah, before they kicked me out. Yeah. They did that on and off. They'd bring me back in, they'd kick me out. It's all fine. Um, but Dual Shockers, as we knew it, no more. And don't really want to get into that. Um, been there, had it. I think it's still your pinned tweet, correct? At least last time I checked. So if anyone really cares, you can go check that out @Kampffinalmix on Twitter. But what I want to really talk about up front is what you're doing now, which primarily streaming on Twitch and IGN's podcast Unlocked. How'd you get that gig, dude? Dude, I don't f\*\*\*ing know. Like, I get people, I get people, whether it be from DualShock, like Even when we're like dual shockers of the thing, I had numerous people hit me up and be like, "Yo, I need advice. Tell me how did you get this far? How did you do this and that?" I'm telling you, I know that a lot of people try and say that it's not as much of a level of luck that I'd say it is, but I'm telling it I'm at least 50%. At least 50% of it. It's just luck. completely luck. You know, so back, you know, and part of it is, part of it was like, last year was a lot to do with George Floyd, you know, they wanted to highlight black, black people in the industry. And like, you know, that's a whole nother subject. But you know, I'm so grateful that like, I got those opportunities, like I'd gotten inside gaming,

somehow a lot of peers already knew who I was before then. I'm like, how, how do you know who I am? Like, I didn't I've done nothing of significance to that level where you I should be on your radar in any way Like what what is this? At least that's what I like. I think I thought at the time and then which was great and then I got on to Beyond because I'd started like interacting with Jonathan Gordon Bush on on on Twitter and he was just like yeah Let's get you on because he knew I was a big Kingdom Hearts guy. I was like sweet. Let's do it And then I also then got on Ryan McCaffrey's radar and then he asked me to be on a few episodes of Unlocked like back in 2020. It happened the same day where I had like this flare-up because I'm asthmatic and I had to go to the ER to like get oxygen. I was low on oxygen. It happens every few years or so. And Ryan messaged me personally like in my DMs because he's asthmatic as well and he was just like, "Hey, you should look into this prescription. This has helped me a lot to the point where it doesn't even feel like I have asthma anymore," this type of stuff. But then he also asked me, "Hey, I also wanted to reach out to you 'cause I want you to be a permanent, temporary host while Destin Lageri is on paternity leave." And I was just like, "Uh, yeah." (laughs) - Like, "What?" - But, "Yeah, sure." And so I've been on the show, I want to say, for like at least two months now. And I think I have at least two more weeks left, like two more episodes left, but I'm grateful that I've gotten as far as I did, or like, you know, that I got this opportunity. So yeah, it's been crazy. - So I used to listen to "Unlocked" regularly and then I fall out of it and I come back in and all that kind of stuff. And actually I listened to last week's episode to refresh myself, but whenever I used to listen to Beyond, that was the thing that I listened to all the time. And just the idea of being on a show with the people that you hear all the time and you listen and you look up to on some level, and then to have them be, "Hey, you wanna do this for two, three months? How do you check that? 'Cause that seems really cool." Dude, it's wild. Literally last night, I was just like, it was just one of those come to realization moments where I'm just like, I'm (beep) friends with Ryan McCaffrey. Like what the, like he had a Twitter Spaces and I hopped in there and I requested to talk, 'cause I actually wanted to like, he was just kind of taking Xbox questions and stuff like that with a bunch of unlocked listeners. And then he was just like, after he spoke with the first person that I heard when I walked into the room, he was just like, well, I gotta say hi. And I was just like, this is wild, this is wild. This sort of recognition that people have for me, like that people have is just like, for me, it's just so insane. And I, 'cause I'm just like, I just, it's one of those things like I can tell you like beat for beat, like how I got here, but then I'm also just like, how did I get here? How did I get to this? - That 50% luck. - Exactly, it is, it really is. And it's just like, 'cause you know, again, that Inside Gaming gig was 100% Autumn Farrell. For those that don't know, it was Bruce Green's fiancée. And she was the manager at Inside Gaming at the time. She does, I think she does stuff for 100 Thieves now. And she was just like, "Hey, who are some black creators "or black people in the industry "that we should get on our shows?" and just everyone, like, I, granted, I put in my two cent too, but then like, like a bunch of people are just like, you should get Cameron on the show, blah, blah, blah. And then next thing I know, I get a message from Autumn and I'm just like, me? Like out of all these other people? Like, like, I like, you know, I'm like, there's so many people I'm sure that went for this, like me? And it, I don't know, it's just wild. You know, and then I, I was supposed to be selected for TGA's feature class, but I missed the email, because (beep) me. 'Cause it wasn't, okay, 'cause the thing is, is that the recipient wasn't like the Game Awards, or Jeff Keighley, or like, it was like some random name, and I was just like, and I, so I just kinda like overlooked it, I guess, and 'cause I was just like, oh, okay, like, 'cause I was looking for Game Awards, I was like, I was waiting for it, you know? So I just must have overlooked it, and then by the time, 'cause I was looking at the emails of my email after it was announced and I realized that I was selected and I was like, man, oh, which is still like super humbling and crazy that that was almost a thing. So, but you know, this year, this year, we had a, you know-- - I was gonna say, you going for it this year? - Yeah, gotta go for it again, you know? But it would've been cool to be a part of the inaugural class, you know, so. But I know many people that were a part of that class and you know, great for them. But yeah, you know, it's just crazy to like, um, yeah. But exactly what you said, like, there's just so many people that I just like, you know, looked up to like, I'm, you know, I remember listening to

Unlocked when it was like Ryan, Marty, Mitch, like, you know, Old school. Yeah. Super old school. And like, now I am kind of a part of that and it's, you know, granted it's temporary and you know, granted I want to work for IGN one day, I hope to be like a permanent chair on Unlocked one day. Honestly, any of the podcasts would be great, but you know, Xbox I think is just, that's where I like to play my games, it just makes the most sense to me. I would still love to be on here and there, which I was on one episode, and I still need to be on MVC, that's like, I need the hat trick, you know what I mean? I need the- Yeah, you get all three. all three so Casey the Fritas if you're listening to this you know hit me up your experience actually reminds me a lot of my wiki experience because I've I did freelance work with IGN wikis for four five years Wow um that's awesome and I I remember waiting for that email from Sam Claiborne getting the gig and then And then it just snowballs into here's John Ryan, Miranda Sanchez, Brendan Graber, Casey DeFriedes joined the team later. It is, you know, you just kind of have that rush and you learn and you meet all these people. I've worked with Destin. We were doing promotional material for Hitman at the time, I believe. It is so fun and cool and you just realize these are the people that make me want to do this type of job and I think was it 2018 I feel like 2018 I made a trip out to San Francisco my dad was working on a project there and so I had an excuse to go out and I went to the IGN offices and hung out with the wiki people okay okay I did I did swing by the end of the tour but I hung out with just the wiki people that was actually back when and Philip Musen was still there. - Oh gosh. - And I remember I specifically asked him in the Q and A at the end, 'cause at the time he was the MVC host. - Yeah. - I was like, how do you fill those shoes of the guys, Rich George, Jose Otero. - Otero, yeah, Jose Otero. - I wanna, yeah. How do you fill those shoes? And I honestly forget his answer. Now we know the aftermath. - Yeah. - You fill those shoes with plagiarism apparently. But Casey does a great job. I remember working with her all the time. She's actually from Florida, which is where I live. But that stuff has always been so exciting, to work with those people. I even met Ryan on the tour, talked to him about Tesla. I told him, I said, "The first new car I'll buy was Tesla." That did not pan out. But that's okay. Yeah. What is that, like you just hop on and you guys talk on Discord, like what's the prep and cycle that you do to go into Unlocked every week? - Normally, like a few days beforehand, Ryan sends a Google doc giving us a good idea of what the show's going to be. There's new news that comes out during, before then, he'll add that. - It feels like there's new news for Xbox a lot. - Yeah, yeah, recently, yeah. and we'll edit that accordingly. And then we'll hop in Discord. We have a producer that does a clean feed and we've been recording through vMix recently. - What's vMix? - It's actually how a lot of people do higher production streaming/recording nowadays. Spawn on me uses vMix as well. It's basically, I really don't, I can't explain it to you per se, but like, it's a way to do video recording. That's the best way to explain it. - I'm waking it up right now. - It's a way to do video recording. And yeah, and then we just chatted up. Just to say on record, in case any unlocked listeners are listening, the Google Docs do have the question for like-- Trivia the trivia But like the answer is not there the answer is not there and we do not look up the answers beforehand Like I do not look up. I do not look at the question. I don't look at the question in general until We record the podcast because I just I just want that genuine, you know that genuine newty genuine this I don't know what the word I'm looking for. But uh yeah, so There is no like we don't cheat on that show. So You you trying to pull ahead here before Your next hiatus here. I mean, what is it? One one two want to yeah, it's one one two right now. Well, okay. It's like everyone has one No one I I think everyone has one except for Miranda who has three She has three. She has three now. Yeah, she got ahead of me last week and then she got it right again this week I'm like damn it. Damn it because she knew the answer. She knew the answer this time around. I'm like So but granted the one I got right, you know, she did not get right. So You gotta just you gotta study up here before Before you I'm so mad because when I went into this week's like when I saw this week's question, my gut was telling me Like what the answer ended up being right like that answer but then but then I was like Well, cuz like cuz cuz that's me like brought up like the whole family thing I was just like man that actually doesn't make a lot of sense and he's persuaded me and I'm so sad So I go with your gut. Yeah, I should have went with my gut. Oh my god. Yeah, it's Always do your gut and trivia don't overthink it. That's what I've learned - I

would not do very well at Xbox trivia. Haven't been around that that wheelhouse for a long time How has the response been? to you on the show because at least like I remember when Max and Brian joined beyond and there was not At least there was a very vocal minority of people that weren't a fan of that and usually people don't like change Yeah, and even if Destin's gone because him and his wife had a kid, you know How's that like how has that response been for you? So part of me like Part of me wants to know what people think and then the but the majority is like I don't care. I'm here You know what? I mean? Mmm like you made it. Yeah, I'm like, yeah, you know, I I'm here like y'all hating like don't doesn't affect me because I'm here already, you know what I mean and Mmm, but but you know there I definitely have gotten or seen like comments and like people like tweeting at me That because it's something that I'm working on, but I'm not the best orator Sometimes it's hard for me to find the right words Which is why I write a lot because writing is easier for me when that regards it Hey, you can take your time to come up with what you want to exactly so sometimes say right now and Because like I remember where There was one time where I did get crit like I was getting criticized for taking too long to get to the point and I was just like it and I was just like I'm explaining my point like I'm explaining all the reasons as to why I think this I'm not trying to get to a point I'm explaining my point. I made my point. Let me explain it now So that didn't really make a whole it was regarding the whole price increase for for Xbox Live Gold Where they like doubled the prices and that was my first episode on the on the show once I got like as the temporary host gig and I was explaining I was just like I think that they're doing this because they don't want to write raise the price of game pass like there's been this conversation that like Game pass is so good for its value that eventually they're gonna have to raise the price and I feel like them raising the price of gold was there them as a Like the compromise it was a compromise so that they didn't have to up the price of game pass somewhere down the line or at least like as quickly as they probably were planning on and I still think that like I I would probably say by the end of next year, we're gonna get a price increase in Game Pass. I don't know how much that's going to be, but I definitely think it's gonna happen. I couldn't be wrong. - Wouldn't surprise me. - But yeah, I was explaining all the reasons. This is like, okay, what were their options here? They could have removed gold completely, which they don't wanna do 'cause they wanna give people options. Granted, they want people on Game Pass, that's their goal, but they've been marketing themselves as like, hey, we wanna give you guys options. So if they did that, that would just be hypocritical of them. So like, and it was one of those things for me, like I personally would rather them just at like, you know, pull off, pull off the bandage and just make the price increase instead of it, like generally going up over time, because every time there's a price increase, people complain. So why not just do it one time? Yes, it's major, but just do it one time and then you don't have to worry about for like another 10 years instead of like, you know what I mean? - Yeah, and then the backlash was so severe this time. - Yeah, exactly. - They can walk it back anyway. Which is good on them. - Yeah, no, it's good that they reversed it, but I do think that like, like I know that Microsoft is a trillion dollar company, but I still think at some point they're gonna have to up the price of Game Pass. - They just spent 7.5 billion, they gotta make their money back. - Yeah, so I mean, that's still nothing for them, but still. (laughs) - It's so much money. - It is so much money, but it's not for Microsoft. - It's crazy. - But yeah, it was just like, that was one thing that I was just like, I'm explaining my point. I'm going into the, like, sure, I'm getting into the nitty gritty, but like, I'm just like, I'm just trying to explain my mindset here. And like, do you just want me to say, like price increase bad or price increase good? Like, no, that's not what you, like, that's not a good discussion. So, 'cause that's like one thing that I have noticed is that I think I go a little more in depth on my thinking viewpoints than the rest of the panel. And sometimes I get that vibe that Ryan is kind of caught off guard that I'm like, "Oh, he's still going. He's still talking." And I'm just like, "I'm sorry, but I'm trying to get my point. I'm trying to explain everything in detail because it's just... I don't know. That's just how I like to explain things." I do that a lot when I tell stories or do anything. I provide backstory in context for everything and Abby my wife she if she's had a long day at work she's a teacher and with middle school so they're already draining and then I come in and I'm telling this long story or backstory or whatever and she's

like just get to the point I'm like but it's all important so I get that and also the like being a good speaker and orator that's why I started this show because I was recording a different project and I could tell I was off my game I used to do a weekly podcast with Logan Moore for two three years and like you you know when you have that rhythm and that cadence especially with a permanent other host you get in a flow you're good and then I took year and a half to off off and I could tell I was resting. I needed something consistent, at least on a monthly basis, to keep my voice and being able to talk and all that stuff fresh. It's super important. Practice makes perfect. Exactly. Exactly. And the more you do it, the better you get. And I'm sure you could go to your first episode of Unlocked, go to your most recent, and you'll see improvement. Yeah. That's just the way it works. You also get a flow for those hosts. You've got Ryan, Miranda, Destin came back this week. You know, you learn how these people talk and how to bounce back and forth. You throw it in the lion's den, it's a little, it's harder. And I don't think people get that. - Yeah, and I think that, again, I think in general, I'm just not a super great orator, but I do think that this does help. Like, that's why I do wanna go, I mean, I wanna go on a podcast just so I can chat with people, but also it helps my speaking, my communication skills. And hopefully, you know, even last week, someone tweeted at me like, "Hey, stop saying like so much." And I'm aware that that's an issue. And I have to find ways. But then there's like last week's episode, where like going into last week's episode, I was just like, okay, I gotta focus on not saying like, that that is my goal for this episode. And then like partway through the episode, I just realized, 'cause you know, I don't know if, I don't know, I don't have an official diagnosis on this, but I'm on trials for ADHD. And if I do have ADHD, that makes a lot of sense for a long time. So like halfway through the episode, I was just like, holy shit, I completely forgot to like focus on not saying like. But thinking about it, I don't think I really have said it much so I guess I'm just gonna keep going now so I think there's just certain days you know like certain days you know again it depends on what you're talking about it depends on what you're trying to what point you're trying to get across but I realize it's an issue and I am trying to not say it as much and I don't think I've even said it that much like during this podcast so which is which is good so it really just depends on the conversation I'm doing same thing right now but with the word or sound um because i do full edit of the show i listen back to the whole thing while i'm editing it so for me personally i realize where i slip up where i'm stuttering and pausing because it's all um and like are filler words while your brain is catching up to your mouth yeah and so i i'm right now i'm trying not to say um and we'll we'll see how i did But I understand that completely. We use them as a crutch the way we speak, and it's hard to be intentional about not using those words. Yeah, and some people saw that interaction on Twitter that followed me from Unlocked and said, "Oh, don't worry." Legitimately, "Don't worry about it. You're great on the show." Things like that. But no, that's a valid thing that I've been trying to work on for a while. So, you know, I don't wanna-- like, I appreciate the compliments, but that doesn't mean that I can't improve, you know? Hm. Do you-- when you get the negative stuff, do you just auto-block or mute? I'm a mute person myself, but like-- or do you just shrug it off and move on? So I actually haven't-- like, I haven't really gotten any DMs on Twitter saying like, "You suck you any oh sorry f you or anything like that but um but I do but it's more the YouTube comments that like I try and refrain from just don't read yeah just don't read them and again I don't really get to that was the only time I gotten here's the thing it was a constructive criticism I don't take any constructive criticism as a negative so that one interaction would be like the closest thing to a negative tweet that I've gotten directed towards me since I've been on the show. Most of it has been super positive, which is great. But you know, there are those people on the internet that are just like, you know, they're in their own little corner and they're just like, I hate you, I'm jealous that you're in this position, so I'm gonna just hate you forever.

>> JONATHAN I think it brings it back to that people don't like change, and then the anonymity of the internet, you know, they have some profile picture that's not a real person, and they can just say whatever they want, there's no consequence. I think that's a lot of it but it's it's interesting to hear that Twitter's actually been fairly nice because Twitter is usually not. I don't go on Facebook very much anymore unless I'm interacting with my family because they don't have Twitter which I'm kind of glad because I'm very I'm a lot more like uncensored on Twitter

than I am on Facebook but I am in the podcast unlock group and I you know I told them like they knew who I was because I was guested on the show before but I told them like, "Hey, I'm gonna be a temporary host for like a few months while Destin's gone." And all like, all positive comments like, you know, people are like, "Oh, I loved you when you were on the show before. Great to see you back." All those things. So I really do think that it's, if there is like a big vocal minority there, then, you know, if there is those negative people, it's a very loud minority. Again, but I don't, I just, you You know, part of me wants to see the comments, but at the end of the day, I know it's not for my own good and it doesn't matter at the end of the day. I know what issues I need to work on as a co-host with my communication skills, and I don't need other people's validation or negativity to justify those things. That's good. I think a lot of people, at least in the early days of the internet, you hear that people really embraced all of that and kind of took all of the licks. And now I think it's more common for people to just ignore that. And I think it's really good that you've adopted that, of just staying away from it, because I think that's unhealthy to be deeply engaged with all that stuff. It's not good. Yeah, you just gotta keep that mentality. if you don't like if you don't like listening to You know if you don't like listening to this specific person like granted like we're we're a group so that's different but like if you're like You know if someone doesn't like your content or like this podcast or something like that then like just don't listen to this podcast Like move on to find a different like don't just harass someone You know if you want to if you want to make a change for this show or whatever Be constructive. Don't don't be a little about it. Like you just be like, hey, you know liked you on the show but try and do this like next time or like work on this like you could you know there could be some improvement there like that isn't you can say it in a way that isn't negative you can say in a way that it's just like that's constructive and like and still in a way positive like hey I liked what you said about this but try and be more concise on the way you say it like things like that the other thing specifically well there are three things because we have a list. But anyway, honestly the thing I'm most excited to talk to you about, and I don't know how long this particular conversation will be, is the analog pocket. - Oh baby, let's talk about the analog pocket. - You're the only other person I personally know who actually got a pre-order. - I know a few people that got a pre-order, but my buddy Brendan, who I've been like hanging out with and chatting with a lot the past like year or so, he's the one who like basically got me gave me the opportunity to be on my first PAX panel. We were on a panel for like 10 top 10 games we would like to see become movies basically. And that was at PAX East right before everything got into lockdown and hopefully god hopefully we can there can be a con this year. I really like I god I want to go to a con so bad. I miss PAX East was 2019 was my first one and I would desperately want to go back. Yeah, I would say that I enjoyed my time at PAX West and when I went in 2019 more than PAX East in the sense of like just like the games that were there and things like that but like when it came to just like the actual people and the interactions definitely I enjoyed PAX East more just because I 'cause I got to meet so many people for the first time. But my buddy Brendan, he, (laughs) so for those that don't know what the Analog Pocket is that are listening, it's basically like, Analog is a company that makes their own hardware to play older software that already exists. So the Analog Pocket is basically their Game Boy Advance. Like it's modeled like a Game Boy Color or a Game Boy, but it can play up to like Game Boy, the Game Boy Advance games, and then like what like game gear. - Game gear, Atari Lynx, whatever the pocket Turbo graphics console is and Neo Geo. So a ton of consoles. - Thankfully the main adapter, like there's no adapter for it, but the main base of it is like Game Boy. You don't have to buy it. You didn't have to buy like an adapter for that stuff. - They had to do that because it's the most, - They know it's the most popular. - It's the biggest library and the most popular, the one people want to play on it the most. - Yeah, so when the pre-orders went up, the pre-orders like sold out in like 10, 15 minutes. My buddy, Brendan, this is the reason he missed out on the pre-order. I don't know if I want white or black. - Oh, she's gotta make that decision before pre-orders. - I was like, you gotta make a decision before this, dude. Go in, I was like, I know I'm getting white. I know I'm getting white. I'm getting the doc. I'm like, we're good, you know what I'm, oh my God, I can't. I knew exactly what I wanted. - Yeah, I still think about it every once in a while. I'm like, Brendan, why? Why

did you do this to yourself? - Oh, that sucks. - I know that Tim Getty's got one. - Oh, he did? - Yeah, I think Alex Van Aken got one, if you know who Alex Van Aken is. - Isn't he over at Game Informer now? - Yep, I'm pretty sure those two got one. I don't know about anyone else. I don't know anyone else off the top of my head, but I just vividly remember both of them tweeting out that they were trying to get it. - Yeah, that morning was rough. - Yeah, I was like scared 'cause like, why won't it let me check out? And everyone was having this issue, I was like, why won't it let me check out? - I remember specifically, I was tweeting about the same issue and your order had already gone through and you responded and you're like, just wait, it'll go. And I can't remember if it was my, I think it was my phone that finally went through and I got it in black because I guess you and I are just forever opposite. But I got black, the dock. - Nice. - I got the Game Gear Adapter, a link cable, and the case. So I managed to get all that. - I just got the game and the actual system and the dock. - Smart. - Yeah, I should have probably gotten the case, but I still have my old Game Boy bag, you know, and stuff like that. So I'm just like, "Oh, I can just put it in there," or something like that. Like, I'm not too worried about it. Yeah, I just, I like the look of it. I was like, I'm gonna get that. Thankfully they've said they're gonna try and keep demand up through 2020, but the initial wave of pre-orders here should be coming out sometime in May. - May, yeah, May. Finally, God. - Just like one to two months away, depending on how you look at it. - Oh yeah, I'm so excited, dog. Like, I don't know if you saw my tweet like a week ago or something like that, but I just got my crystal battery replaced. because my battery was dead and it wouldn't save games and I was just like, I need to get this replace, like proper, 'cause I'm not doing that electrical tape bull (beep) I need to get this properly replaced. - Get it soldered. - Yeah, exactly. Get it properly replaced right before, like you know, before the analog pocket comes out 'cause when I get my analog pocket, I'm streaming Pokemon Crystal. I'm super excited. It's the first time I played that game in a very long time. - My, you'll appreciate this. My friend texts me this morning asking if he could borrow one of my game boys because he managed to find based off the photo a pretty clean copy of pokemon yellow four dollars garage sale wow wow i don't yeah he's so lucky so yeah so we i have a retro store in reno um but yeah their inventory is always like not good i don't i don't know what it is like they they just the best thing that I found at, um, because they have two stores, but at either of those stores is the Steel Book for Persona 5 that came in the collector's edition or whatever, because I didn't get the collector's edition for that game, but I want to in hindsight. Um, but I saw the Steel Book and honestly, I think Persona 5 Steel Book is like, because I have all the Persona 5 Steel Books, like I have the Royal one, I got the Strikers one, but I think that one's like, Persona 5 is the best. It's so, it's gorgeous. It is. It's It's so clean. Yeah, it looks yeah, so I saw that there and I was just like well I'm definitely picking this up but like outside of that nothing really worth worth mentioning But like so I go over to Carson City Which is like a 30-minute drive from Reno and they go to their retro store and they always have good They always have at least one thing that I want to buy So like in the past I've gone there a few times the past few weeks for one the battery but also my barber is in Carson because he He used to be out here like he used to be like a five-minute drive from my house actually, which was really really nice Apartment not house. I live in a very small apartment And But then he moved to Carson because he lives in Carson and he opened up his own shop And so I was just like well, I'm definitely gonna still like have you cut my hair because I like you as a person and all that stuff and so whenever I go over to get my haircut, I also go over to the retro store and Since going there I found I found some gems dude. Like I found First off I got a fire red, which is great. I almost picked they had fire red anole clean there I almost I was going to pick up both of them, but then they said how much they cost and I was like, okay We'll just get one. What were they selling them for? I think was like I won't say there was like 70 each I've always wanted leaf green. I've never got it. I always have my eyes peeled. Okay. Well, okay We'll talk we'll talk more about that after afterwards because I can keep I can keep an eye out for you. But uh But yeah leaf green Pokemon blue I picked a pokemon blue That's the one I have. Yeah, I picked up a manual for Pokemon Blue, like the Trainer Guide, because there's someone on Etsy that re-makes the boxes, and so I'm gonna have them remake the blue box for me, and then I'll have a complete package to a certain degree. The only thing that kinda

sucks is that the front page of the Trainer Guide's a little ripped, but gotta do what you gotta do for now. Hopefully I can find another one later. I found Pokemon Ranger complete for, 'cause that's like a big collection goal for me right now. And then I know we're gonna get more in depth about collections later. I kind of missed, outside of HeartGold and SoulSilver, which I was all on because you know, Johto best gen, I missed a lot of, like basically all of the Pokemon side games, like spinoff games on the DS. So I never played like any of the Mystery Dungeon games. I haven't played any of the Ranger games. I didn't play Pokemon Conquest. So that's like a goal for me right now, is to try and get copies of those games for my collection to play eventually. 'Cause so yeah, so I picked up Ranger 1. I picked up Shadows of Almia, which I think is the second game. And, but that was just the cartridge. So then I bought the, I bought like just a box and manual that someone was selling on eBay. So I have it incomplete now. I bought Explorers of Time, which is the second Mystery Dungeon game. And then I also bought Red Rescue Team for Game Boy Advance in case I wanted to stream it. - I think actually you can, if you have Blue Rescue Team in red, I think if you use one DS, you can like communicate between the two games somehow. - That's really cool. - Which I always thought was cool as a kid. - That's really, really cool, yeah. So basically I'm picking up a lot of Pokemon games, like older Pokemon games. I still need to get "Guardian Signs", I still need to get "Conquest", and then I need to pick up, I wanna get "Pokemon Platinum", but I wanna get that, I want a complete version of that, and that game is very expensive. - I've just found this out semi-recently, 'Cause I used to own Diamond and Platinum, and I sold those to GameStop at some point, 'cause Pokemon games keeps their value. And now Platinum's like a \$90 game. I still have the manual, and-- - And the box? - If I have the box, I don't know where it is. - Why would you, yeah, I was gonna say, why do you have the manual but not the box? That's, (laughs) - So for all my DS games, I actually would take the manuals out of the box, and I put them in an old CD binder case thing, 'cause they're the size of a CD, and so they keep them nice and flat and in good shape. I've since now moved them all back to their boxes, 'cause I'm an adult and can take care of my manuals. But yeah, I never realized that Platinum had shot up in price. I looked at Emerald the other day because I just bought my first Gen 3 Pokemon game. - Oh really? - The, yeah, I actually shared this story on the last episode. I'll give you the semi quick version. I love telling it. My history with Pokemon is weird because when I was a kid, I had blue cards, toys, you know, the whole thing. And I guess I was too into it. My parents thought I was being obsessive. And so their response was to make me get rid of it all. Games, toys, and cards. But the kicker, Cam, is the cards, they made me shred them. Yes. (both laughing) - What? - Oh yeah. They understand now that they had no idea what they were doing. was a terrible mistake. The hatchet's buried. We laugh about it now. But I send them articles whenever I see them that say Charizard, \$300,000. This is what you did to me. This is what you did. Exactly. So I didn't return to Pokemon until the DS when I was 13. So Diamond was my reintroduction to the series. I bought Ranger because it was the only way to get a manaphy, i still have ranger. and then blue rescue team. so the games that you were looking for, those were the ones that i really came back to. i have a blue kart, because that's the one i had as a kid. and then i have these spinoffs now. and the last pokemon game i played was x. but i actually just bought sapphire, 55 bucks. nice. at a store. i actually had store credit there. I have a fun, I have a fun, very short story about Ruby and Sapphire because Ruby and Sapphire, I'm pretty sure came out really close to my birthday. And I vividly remember going to Target as a kid. I was like eight years old, picking up a one, like very excited to pick up Pokemon, Pokemon Sapphire. They are out of Pokemon Sapphire. They only had Pokemon Ruby. So I was just like, but I was like, you know, at that point in my life, Pokemon Crystal was my favorite game of all time. It's the reason why I play video games to this day. I was just like, I can't just not get Pokemon. So I got Pokemon Ruby and just dealt with it. But to this day when I play Ruby, I'm just like, I wish I had Kyogre. I don't want Groudon. Groudon's ugly. We agree. Because I'm one of those people that like, and a lot of people don't have this mentality a lot of people are just like okay how like how good are they in battle like like what are their stats like things like that i'm like yo does the pokemon look cool because that's the pokemon i catch you know so when i so when i came to uh you know like entei my favorite pokemon ever is because i think he's the coolest looking pokemon



literally it's just that it's just that like that is why it takes my favorite Pokemon so so for me I was like oh I can't wait to get Kyogre like Sapphire so cool and I was like I begrudgingly bought Ruby I still have my Ruby to this day I have the box I have the box for Ruby as well I know I only I only show off my wait you can't see other side I know I only show off my my crystal and my oh it was on the right side my crystal and my heart goal or my soul silver boxes but I do have my ruby box - that's good very nice I've realized that I should have just bought all the Pokemon games even if I couldn't play them because apparently they're worth hundreds and hundreds of dollars it's ridiculous emerald is like \$200 now yeah emerald is the one Pokemon game that I never played it's it's rough out there. Or, okay, that's not true. I technically haven't played Ultra Sun or Ultra Moon either, but every other Pokemon game I've played. Except for Emerald. Emerald was just one that just... one that got away, I guess. Yeah. I... 'Cause I've been buying Game Boy games that I've always wanted because of the pocket. Yeah, yeah. That's like... So, Pokemon, we've got Mario and Luigi Superstar Saga. - Yes, one of my favorite games ever. One of my favorite games ever. - What else have I got recently? I've actually, I went on a bend, and I've actually used my Game Boy Player on my GameCube. I've actually ripped all of my save data and my, the ROMs off of my cartridges, and now I have 'em on my computer, on my mister, I'll be able to put 'em on my pocket when that jailbreak comes out. Like I just, I have these save datas that are finally protected and save, you know, against the cruelty of batteries and time. And I'm excited to finally play some of these games that I've never played. - Yeah, I don't mess with any of that (beep) I'm just like one of those people like, I just don't wanna risk that stuff. And like, 'cause I know there's times where I don't think you were in the Discord by the time Scott White came into the Dual Shockers. Do you know who that is at all? - Mm-hmm. - Okay, okay. - Yeah, I know Scott. - So almost every time I'm trying to like, I really wanna play this game, but it's on the system, it's like, emulate it. I'm like, emulate it. That's his answer every time, just emulate it. And I'm like, I don't wanna emulate it. I don't wanna mess with emulation. That's just not my thing. I would rather just like, hey, I have this game. It's mine now. I don't have to worry about anything else. You know, that type of thing. - I have the same mentality. I prefer to play the game, like the actual cartridge or disc, which is why I like the analog systems because they do that FPGA based emulation, but with the actual thing. - 'Cause, so last year I emulated two games and I don't wanna emulate any more games because of my experience with the second game. So last year I decided when "Origami King", Paper Mario the Origami King got announced, I was just like, I am going to stream through all the Paper Mario games. I have never, Every time a new Paper Mario game comes out, I'm just like, man, that looks really, really cool. I want to play it. You know, let's play. So I was just like, no more excuses. I'm going to play through all the Paper Mario games leading up to Origami King. I know that they're not connected in any way, but I just like, this is a good reason for me to play. That's like kind of like my mentality since I've started streaming. It's just like, oh, this new game from a series that I've always wanted to get into is coming out at whatever point this year. I'm gonna play through all of the other ones leading up to it. So like, once I'm currently streaming Nier Automata, but once I'm done with Nier Automata, I'm gonna start streaming through all the mainline Ratchet and Clank games, because I've never played Ratchet and Clank. And- - What? - Yeah, it just, not a part of my history. Hey, I've hardly played any Zelda games. You know what I mean? - You, well, you and me are more similar there than you might think. - That's more criminal to me than Ratchet and Clank. - Yeah, I just, it's more just surprise, 'cause there's so many of them. There's, I mean, if you can include all the spinoffs and stuff, there are a lot of ratchet games. - Yeah, that's why I'm not, no, I'm doing the mainline one. So that, for, so, for those that don't know, that's the PS2 trilogy. There's, it's the future trilogy, which is on the PS3, into the, into the Nexus, and then the remake, the 2016 remake. So that's three games. - So you're gonna play both the PS2 version of the first game and the remake. Yeah, it starts beginning to last. It's not like I'm going to play them back to back. Yeah. So there's all those games leading up to Rift Apart in June. That's like my goal. Granted, like I'm going to try and play some games in between that because I don't want to get burnt out. But that is my goal. And even with that, like we were talking about, like how I don't want to mess with emulation and things like that. With with the PS2 trilogy, I'm going to be

playing it via Vita or PSTV. I'm gonna stream it via PS TV, which I'm very happy on PS TV. Let me just say like I'm very happy I just got one a few months ago. It's like so I hardly use it, but I'm so happy I have it like you know what I mean. It's just one of those things where Man, like I got I got a very good deal on mine because I had a friend who have like three of them for some reason And he had like it was you know, they were refurbished Like at this point because I'm one of those people that likes to get anything like hardware software related, new if possible, like new if it's not too expensive, you know what I mean? But like for the PSTV, knowing how little I was going to use it, but still wanted it because of certain, you know, very specific factors, I was just like, I don't care. I just want it, just give it to me. And I think he gave it to me for like \$90 and I'm like, let's do it. - Yeah, I take it right now. - Yeah, exactly. It was a very good deal. But yeah, but even with that, you have to strip the HDCP or whatever. And I'm just like, even that, I'm just like, oh, I don't really wanna deal with that. But I bought the thingy that like strips it. So I just have to like learn how to set it up. Really, at this point? - Actually send me the link to that. 'Cause I've been looking for something to strip that. - Yeah, yeah, I will. - We'll do that after the show. - Yeah, I will. So I can stream through the trilogy, right? But then not even the trilogy, because, so I've been doing, like I did the research, and this is so bizarre to me, so bizarre. So I'm playing the trilogy on PSTV. Then three of the four Ratchet and Clank games are on PS Now, which I've used PS Now to stream games before. That's how I played Metal Gear Solid 2. Tools of Destruction, which is the first PS3 game, and the first of the future trilogy is not on PS Now. And I'm like, why? Why is this not on PS? You have all the other PS3 Ratchet and Clank games on PS Now, except for the first one? Like why? So I have, thankfully my buddy has a PS3 and I currently am borrowing it 'cause I had a bar, I was borrowing it to get into the PS Vita. So I don't know if you know about this, But a lot of the PS Vita games that you can buy, like, that are on Vita, like the PS1 classics, you can't get via the Vita anymore. You have to copy from the PS3. Yeah, you have to get them via the PS3 store only. And, well, here's the thing, you don't have to copy them from the PS3. Once you have them purchased on the PS3, you just go to your download list on your Vita and it's there. Ah, interesting. Because at first I thought you had to copy them, but then it wasn't working. I was like, why is this not working? I'm following this video. And then, and then. - Do you have two factor authentication on? - I turned it off, I turned it off. And it still, it still wasn't working. I was just like, what the (beep) And then I looked at my download list and they were all there. I'm like, oh, thank God. But you can't buy them. Like you can download them, but you can't buy them off the Vita? What the (beep) So yeah, I bought like. - The Vita store days are numbered. - Oh yeah. So I basically bought every, like, yeah, For those listening, my dad passed away unexpectedly last year. So we had to sell his house, which was my childhood home, because my mom didn't live there anymore. And once I was like, once I get the money from the, for the house, like I'm going to buy literally every single Vita game that I want on this store. Like I'm going to buy, I'm going to buy everything. Like I'm just like, just screw this. Um, so I bought like 15 to 20 like games. Granted, all these were like six to \$10. You know what I mean? Each like, Yeah, oh, that's the rough price. Yeah, like it was all the PS1 classics that I bought. Like Chrono Trigger, or not Chrono Trigger, like Chrono Cross. Well, I did buy Chrono Trigger 2, but just really to have it, I'm gonna play it on a different version. Like Chrono Cross, Vagrant Story, Legend of Dragon, like all these PS1 games, JRPGs that are classics that I have never gotten the chance to play because I just kind of, I never had my own PS1. So I played Final Fantasy VII 'cause I had a friend that had a PS1 and I played at his place. That's how I got to play Final Fantasy VII, but like-- - That's how I played all PlayStation games as a kid. - You know what I mean? Yeah, exactly. So I basically was just like, okay, I have everything that I want on my Vita now. It's downloaded, they're not being deleted. Speaking of which-- - How big of a card do you have? - Huh? - How big of a memory card do you have? - I think I have like a one, I think I either have a 64 or a 128. - You got the big boys, okay. - Yeah, which-- Let's like that's a whole nother conversation about like how much I had to pay for a memory card Cuz I had to because I basically had a Vita sold it so I could get my Xbox one X I didn't want to sell it but I I was just like I was in college. I was poor I was like Gotta do I gotta do but then but then late like last year I like I saved up and got the prop like another Vita and I got the best one. I got the persona

for dancing one It's a very nice video. Oh, yeah So, but anyway Ratchet and Clank, so uh, so yeah so I have to use the ps3 and get a some pre-owned copy of tools of destruction and Shouldn't be that expensive. Yeah, it's just like ten dollars. I think I've seen somewhere like it's not bad But it's still just like why why why is it like this? So That was a whole bunch of that we just talked about. Like, it was like, "Oh, let's talk about this, and this, and this." - Well, actually that kind of ties into the third thing. We've really been dancing around it, but just you and I both collect a ton of stuff. Games, statues, music, all of it. - Yeah, I kind of want to know like what you have, 'cause like this is, because I didn't know that you were, like I think I felt like I knew that you were a big collector, but you don't really show them off much as like I do per se. No, well mostly because we never had the space for all of it. We used to live in a one bedroom apartment and a lot of my collector stuff was actually in totes at my in-laws house. But then we moved into this new two bedroom and I have an office now and I actually have space for things. To my right is all my old consoles and my CRTs, PS1, N64, PS2, Super Nt, Wii, Gamecube. Behind me on the bookshelf is where I've got my Last of Us and Uncharted statues, my Zelda shelf, a Japanese/Nintendo shelf, you know, that kind of stuff. Then all the But all my games are actually in the closet. I'll send you a picture later, but I've got them all on shelves and stuff And yeah, I didn't know you had so much of the older hardware. Like I'm not I'm not like that personally the the two things the two console I've like thought about getting is One a ps3 because there are some games on the pit that are like still stuck on the ps3 that I'm like Please port these games and then there's also I also thought about getting a Wii U again specifically for the virtual console Which is something that as long as that's still on Yeah, we're just that because that's how I played Superstar saga and I was just like so when I found out they in my pocket About I was like, okay. I'm definitely gonna buy a copy of Superstar saga I'm definitely another thing that I really wanted to do is like I've never gotten to the Metroid series So I'm gonna get zero mission and fusion as well and then Super Metroid's on, you know, everywhere everywhere And then I just bought Samus Returns on 3ds So I basically am set to like eventually play through all the Metroid games the only one I want to stream them I love Metroid. I want to stream them, but I can't stream Samus Returns So I'm just like should I stream them because I kind of like when I when I stream through a series I like to be able to stream all of them streaming at all. Yeah, but granted like I Started streaming through the Metal Gear Solid series, but I didn't stream Metal Gear Solid 1 which man what a game like like because because because because I played um death straining was my first Kojima game and Interesting. Yeah, because I Didn't grow up with the ps1. I didn't really like, you know, so I I just never never really got into Kojima, but I love this training like like first great game first first hot take of the night like like out of I Wouldn't call I wouldn't call it's not a first party developed game But I would say like after persona 5 royal it is my favorite ps4 game. It's yeah, it's a second a second party Yes, so it's kind of like this is on PC now. Yeah, exactly It's my favorite like Sony like like ps4 game like Bar none like for sure and I haven't even finished it like I'm like 30 hours in and I'm like on chapter 3 still but like it's one of those things where like I want to Do literally everything that game has to offer like it's it's such a that game is such a like masochistic experience for me because you just have those It's like oh go to the like there's always that one place on a map where you don't want to go to deliver And then they're like, hey, you know that place you just went you just came from gotta go back and I'm like no But when you deliver that package It just gives you that level of like ecstasy that I'm just like I love this game. I love this game. I'm so sorry I totally gave up on the swearing thing It's alright You know so and at this point like I really want to play it like honestly like I want to Almost drop outside of one game I want to drop like everything that I'm playing right now and just play through Death Stranding, but I'm just I'm just praying for a ps5 upgrade like I want but I think the rumor mill has been Turning that for a bit. I know I know and it's just like please just announce it because I like I'm not crazy about the dual Sense, I think it's definitely like a major improvement on on Sony's controllers because I think I've always thought like dual shock. It's not great but The but this is the game where like give me that dual sense haptic feedback Give me that when it comes to like the walking and the year especially when you're yes. Yeah balancing my triggers You could really do some interesting stuff 100% Please give that to me

So I want to stream it all but it's just like but I miss that one game So I don't know if I want to but I kind of do because it's like my first time playing those games and I just I Don't know. I just like I like I like streaming games that I'm playing for for the first time that aren't like incredibly long games because like right now I'm playing through especially the Metroid games You can be in a few you could beat him in a night. Yeah, really especially fusion zero mission Even Super Metroid. Those are one night games. Yeah. Yeah, they're not very long and Because right now I'm playing through the legend of hero series, which is a super slept on at this point like now I've played it like Super slept on JRPG series like oh my god, but I so they're tech they're technically Sorry, I just wanna make sure I do the math right. There's technically 14 games in the series that have come that are like That are stateside. I would say specifically But you don't have to start from the beginning You can start with legend of hero technically legend of hero 6 which is trails of coal trails in the sky trails in the sky and it's a trilogy and I'm currently on the second game of the trails in the sky trilogy and then there's a Duology that never came out west but it does have a unofficial localization that has been highly complemented from the Western audiences the Western community and then there's which most people probably have heard of trails of cold steel And that series that's a that's a Quadrilogy that just ended with trails in the sky for that came out last year and you know Scott and someone else at dual shockers. His name is Chris They both were saying, "Play this game series. It's so good." And man, they were so right. I think that by the time I'm done with this series, it might be my favorite JRPG series after Kingdom Hearts. I'm only two games in. That's how good it is. If you care about world building and characters and things like that, it is definitely the JRPG series for you. It is so good. It's so well-written. Like all the side quests feel like they matter 'cause they build upon the world. So yeah, the trilogy specifically, you can play it on Steam. It's really the only way you can play the full trilogy. The duology, you have to get schwifty and do some like Japanese online shopping to get those downloads. And then the Cold Steel series is on PS4. And three and four on Switch, but play 'em on PS4. - Play 'em on PS4. - Yeah, so, but yeah, so that series I'm really looking, I'm very happy about. But anyway, another tangent aside, collections, yeah. - I get like a weird, I don't think it's weird actually. I get immense satisfaction finding and completing things. - Yep. Especially, you were talking earlier, having things in the box complete. I did that with the Zelda games on GameCube. I bought, a buddy of mine gave me the Ocarina of Time game but just the disc. And so I had to buy the box and the manual separately and then you piecemeal. The GameCube one? Or the? Yeah, with Master Quest. Yeah, oh that's dope. Yeah. One time I got lucky on Goodwill's auction site and found a busted 360. For whatever reason it had Twilight Princess with it. - Okay. - And I snatched that for seven bucks on the GameCube. Twilight Princess on the GameCube. But the disc was scratched and wouldn't load past naming your horse. I actually just got that disc resurfaced. But then, but before that my in-laws bought me the game lose, so you know, I'm used to piecemealing things. - Yeah. - And it's, I don't know, I just feel really good about it. And you've got a ton of stuff, I've got a ton of stuff. I just, I feel like we're very alike in that way. And there's a thrill of the hunt. You know, you're out, you're on eBay. - 100%, ooh, I could win this, I can win this. - It's dangerous though too. - And then you're like, oh, I didn't want to spend that much. - It's dangerous too though, 'cause you spend a lot of money. Like, you spend a lot of money. - You have to be willing to say no and like know when to-- - When to wait. - Like to max your bid. - See, here's the thing, I'm very much not, I very rarely bid on things when I do my collecting. I very much am like, buy it now, is the price good? Best offer? All right, let's try and get the best offer in. - I try to do that too. I remember I got the Famicom Game Boy Micro and I had bid, I think, \$110. I was like, "Ah, surely someone will outbid me and then I won't feel bad about spending \$110." And then I got the email that said I won and I was like, "Crap." But I love it and it's a great... I love having a Game Boy Micro so it all panned out. I do have a question for you because I... I don't know. I feel like you would have probably jumped on this if... Did you like do the all the Shantae stuff when it hit limited run? No, because I've never played Shantae. See I haven't either but I did do it I was like I was one of them because I've just heard really good things about Shantae I listened to the music and I was like man the music in this in this series banging really good and so I just heard that they're

like Jen generally like Good games like you know what I mean? And so I was like, okay All of them are coming to switch granted like one of them which I did have to pay like more money than I wanted to Already did get a limited run release which was like a pirate's curse. I believe For switch I'm like, okay like but like all like the thing is like all of these games are on switch All of these games are getting steelbooks for it and I'm a big steelbook guy Me too. I was just I was just like and there it was the first game They were doing the the game the game boy color like Yep stuff and I was just like I definitely I definitely need to that's that's the one I almost did get was the Game Boy Color one that game is super expensive. Yeah, that's the one But yeah, they're selling it at Best Buy as well Oh, they are cuz limited run games sometime go to Best Buy, huh? And that apparently is one of them So I'm I think I'm just gonna snack the regular version of that at the Best Buy whenever that comes out So I had to buy the collector's editions for a good thing like that's cool about limited runs that a lot of their stuff isn't that Expensive, you know what? I mean? Like the new processors editions are like fairly priced so I had to buy the collector's edition for shantae on switch about the normal like just standard edition of the Gameboy version then I bought the collector's edition for switch and then as well as risky's revenge and Then I had to buy or half genie hero was published by someone else So they got that got a reprint which was awesome because that was another game that I was like looking at Beforehand on eBay to try and get a copy of before they announced the reprint and I was just like man This is another game. I just do not want to spend that much money on But when they did the reprint I'm like awesome, this is \$35 now so I ordered the reprint and I had to Go on eBay and buy the collector's edition for seven sirens or whatever as well Which is like the most recent shantae game and that wasn't bad actually if someone was selling it for basically almost the same price that It originally was unlimited around so that wasn't that wasn't too bad either But yeah, so like once everything comes in I'll have like all of the shantae games on switch Because the thing is it's just like I'm investing heavily on this on switch as a console like I believe that moving forward Like whatever the next main console for Nintendo is going to be I 100% think it's gonna be backwards compatible for switch I think it would be insane if it isn't like absolutely insane And if it isn't I'm gonna be very upset Most most Nintendo consoles home consoles are not backward compatible But the switch is so weird because it's a hybrid so well I mean we you we GameCube well it was Then that's it 164 yeah, I mean like announced like here's thing with like switching Wii U. It's like That you know it was just a bit That can't happen And they ported most of the games that actually matter on the Wii U onto switch already So I think it is going to be backwards compatible, so I'm cool with that That's what as you can see like I've got a big red stack of games. Those are all switch games that are you a big Physical person or do you or Nintendo? Yes? I am for like Nintendo consoles knowing their history, yes I am. They yeah because they they under print their games you know and they and the value always stays up and it's just like you gotta go physical and it's I don't know for me it's easier I know some people are just like oh I just rather download the games that are there I would rather just take the two seconds to switch out the cart and I'm good you know what I mean. So I'm the same way. Yeah and there's something just cool about having the carts like it's just like it's just like one of those like maybe it's just growing up as a game boy kid you're just like man i love carts i love them i still have a sealed copy of cooking mama oh that that one game that one game that like got yes decided to buy that from the publisher or developer whichever one was how much is it going for now i think it stayed the same it hasn't changed but maybe in time maybe in time do you so the value of the games so like i have um up on my shelf i have a mostly sealed copy of ocarina of time on the n64 just the end with the flap right and so that's fairly valuable but i don't really ever plan on selling that do you sell your stuff or do you get the same thrill i do it's like ah this is valuable Yeah, I keep my shit, like why would you, why, no. Like, okay, there's a time where, okay, there'll be probably a time where I'm like, there's definitely been times in my life where I'm like, I need money. You know what I mean? Like, I need money. I gotta, I gotta like, sell some things. And that just, that's just life, you know what I mean? Like, I can, I can always buy, I can buy those things back later. Like, they're obviously things that I will never sell, and I'm just, because I just like, know that if I sell them, like, I might not be able to find it didn't get like for example like so what this is is it's for

those that are you know listening because you can't see it so during so Square Enix has their play kite arts line or they still have it but Kingdom Hearts does bring arts now which are like smaller figures which I have all of them and there's a lot of them they're all like mm-hmm over over here like you see like there are these boxes that are on top of like, those are all Braggart's figures. Anyway, so they, for Kingdom Hearts, for Kingdom Hearts play arts they did obviously like a bunch of Kingdom Hearts 2 characters including like just Sora. But along with Sora, just a general like black outfit Sora, they did a limit form version and a a final form version and the final form version is not easy to find and it - or it's not - it's - I would say that it's not easy to find but it is expensive. Like I do not want to say on this podcast how much I spent for this. That's how expensive it was. Stan; I believe it. But yeah, it would let's just say this like it this was on my eBay watch list Before like by the like by the time I was in like going to college in 2013 and then I bought it last year Like that's how long I've been waiting to get this and so I I spent But like I went on eBay CR let's see how much this is And there was only one Listing for it and it was they said it was pre-owned but they said that it's only been out of box literally to take pictures and I'm like You just got it. You just gotta take what you can get, you know, and here's the thing It doesn't they say that it was it was opened. It doesn't even look opened It looks brand new like there's like there's sticker here It hasn't been cut or anything and it doesn't look like that. It was like replaced either healed. Yeah. No, yeah, it's brand new So I do have the normal and the limit form version as well but those again like aren't that expensive like they're basically like How much you would pay for a normal play kyarts because most play kyart figures for those I don't know probably go sit between 160 to 200 dollars Yeah, so this this was not that This isn't like my favorite piece of my collection I would say but it is definitely one that I cherish cherish the most I would say hmm I'm familiar with that that feeling it there's some things you're just like yeah, I'm glad I still have this like I have the Metroid Prime trilogy on Steel case still. Oh my I just remember buying at a GameStop What I still have the sleeve and the manual and what a win. I've just never gotten rid of it What a win so I don't remember who speaking of which just Completely unrelated the collections but regarding Metroid Prime trilogy So apparent so from what I've heard on through the grape grapevine is that Nintendo? Has been sitting on that for a while Nintendo believe it Nintendo's been sitting on their switch prime trilogy for a while. It's done They just haven't released it because Metroid prime 4 got delayed Indefinitely accents. So just expect I'm saying is it's it's Metro. It's 35th - - Exactly. - You could throw us a bone. - Yeah, exactly. Like, that's what people want. Like, it's one of the most wanted things on Switch is the "Metroid Prime" trilogy. Granted, for me, I (beep) want "Path of Radiance" and "Radiant Dawn" because, come on, have you looked at like, even a general price? - Saw a complete in-box copy of-- - Of "Path of Radiance"? - The GameCube one? - Yeah. - Yeah, 280 bucks. - Yeah, yeah! Reprint it, like, I don't even care it's a s\*\*\* emulation like you did for f\*\*\*ing 3D All-Stars. Just put it on Switch. Put it on Switch. Like, ah, I don't know. Okay, here's something that I'm actually curious about just because we kind of like, I don't know, we're kind of like one of those people that think about value a lot. What did you, what did, like, were you upset that like 3D All-Stars was \$60? No. A lot of people were. A lot of people are upset whenever a game gets remade and his full price. To me it's \$60 to \$60 and it's \$20 per game. - Yeah, that's what I was saying. Thank you, thank you. That's what I was saying. - \$20 per game, you get them on Switch, in HD. That's enough for me. - Exactly. Oh, thank you, thank you, Max. Oh my god. I'm glad we're on the same page there. - And I like having it on the shelf, you know? I like having that game next to Odyssey and 3d world and all that stuff. I'm still here's the thing like again like we were talking about like not Buying things just to sell later. I might buy a second copy of 3d all-stars Was tempted as well I might do it because no one knows what they're gonna do Is this a Disney vault situation and they're gonna just bring it back out or they're gonna split them up And I think they'll let them up \$10 I think they'll split them up and they're gonna sell them digitally, but I don't think we're gonna need a separate physical release I don't I definitely imagine there's no way they put them out physically separately Yeah, they wouldn't they wouldn't do that Mm-hmm, so but it'd be fun It you know your is it play arts or Kai? Play play Kai arts play Kai arts. There we go your statue of Sora kind of brings me and it ties into collecting as well because arguably Kingdom Hearts for

me was one of the things that really got me into collecting and You and I- You had Kingdom Hearts collection stuff to show off? Not a ton of stuff. I did the typical things just- You were one of those people that once you play Kingdom Hearts 3 and your heart was torn you destroyed everything You're like "I hate it!" Like it was like a bad breakup and you're like "I hate Kingdom Hearts!" The closest is I've thought about selling it and then I realized I would hate myself if I did that So I haven't sold anything. I still have Okay, like I don't want to get deep into this conversation because this was the conversation I was dreading to have during this podcast Like I think it's gonna be good. Like I don't I don't know How much you hated Kingdom Hearts 3 and I'm not gonna say I'm not gonna like pretend that like I was Like that Kingdom Hearts 3 expectations for me. It didn't even like it It didn't meet expectations for anyone like you know what I mean? Like it was impossible not even that was impossible, but I was just like if you think like if you actually like look at the behind-the-scenes development of that game like Nomura was kind of like in a situation like granted like Not even with the Disney stuff or not even with like the the the the original story stuff That that's something that is Nemora's fault but like the Disney stuff like he was basically like He did not have the flexibility that he got with Kingdom Hearts 1 & 2 like he just didn't because he had a different there's believe That you know what? I mean? Like oh like have you not heard any of this stuff? No, so like with Frozen right he wanted like Elsa to be a boss fight at some point Yeah, they would never and they're like no I can't do that Yeah, but all she can do is seem to let it go and like they Like they said like oh you can you can do Toy Story But then you have to do this like they didn't give him the freedoms of the Disney worlds like that you know that in the past is that they previously had that's probably that's why like most of like the Worlds were just kind of like the movie Here you go. Like it was very like bland in that sentence So It's one of those things like part of it is I I do think like a lot Not all but a lot of the issues of Kingdom Hearts 3 were Disney's fault and not squares and Nomura's Yeah, but I do that but I do believe like, you know again There are some things that Nomura decided like shows on that which I'm sure it's the stuff that you are more you were more heartbroken about that I agree like again like Yeah, so really I I don't hate it I don't hate the game I don't hate the series I ham it up online it just you look at I Just thought the wrap-up wasn't It didn't it was a soft reboot they did this they did a soft reboot at the end of a 15 year saga like you know what I mean and Yeah, I just felt like Xehanort got off far too easy. Oh, 100%. He's like, "Ho-ho-ho-hum, let's go walk into the light." Yeah, no, no. "And I don't agree with this." Yeah, the ending was very anime trope-y, 100%. And I agree that, like, Xehanort, here's the thing with Xehanort, like, I understood, like, here's the thing with Xehanort that, like, I personally might, maybe it's an unpopular opinion, but like, I know that Xehanort is villain or like he's a bad guy but like I understood where he was coming from like his his point of view his mentality That like I didn't really see him as like this Super evil force that needed to like die like, you know what I mean? Like that needed to be like destroyed right more like he's just hey you need to like Recognize what you're doing is wrong. Like does that make sense? Mm-hmm. And I think yeah, I agree with that. It's I'm I was even on board, 'cause really, Xehanort himself really comes into focus in Birth by Sleep. - Yeah, 100%. - 'Cause that's where you see him and all that stuff. And even in Dream Drop, when the whole time travel thing, I was on board, I was like, "Yeah, time travel. "All this is awesome." - No, see for me, I was just like, "Oh, uh-oh." I was just like, "Uh-oh, this is potentially "proble magic." - I like time travel. - I do, but it's very hard to get right. It's very hard to get right. - And I don't think they got it right. - Nope, nope, they did not. - And it's unfortunate. Really though, the moment that like-- - Here's one thing I actually wanna ask you really quick. Did you play the Remind DLC? - The new stuff? - Yes. - No. - Okay. - Because I was so upset. - Here's the thing, and a lot of people agree that I've talked to feel this way as well. 'Cause I went onto a podcast for Rational Passions where we basically ranked all the Kingdom Hearts games. And we got to Kingdom Hearts 3. And once we got to Kingdom Hearts 3, which I don't agree to the same degree, but like Alex O'Neill, I don't know if you know who he is, but he basically said that when the Remind DLC came out, Like Kingdom Hearts 3 is like on the same level as Kingdom Hearts 2 for him, which I disagree with. But what I would say is that Kingdom Hearts or the Remind DLC, one, very much shows that Kingdom Hearts 3 should have came out later. Like the

Remind DLC was- I wonder if they'll ever do a final mix. I don't think they will. I don't think they will. Now that DLC is a thing, you know what I mean? Yeah, that's fair. The things, the moments that happen in the Remind DLC, 'cause the thing that sucks about the Remind DLC is like, The first half of it is basically a retrend of like the first half of the the Keyblade graveyard stuff Yeah, that was my understanding was it was it took place in that time The second half is like that super great earned fan service that we that like that we wanted at the end of Kingdom Hearts 3 That's what the remind DLC is in the second half. Like there were moments that like I Had I was I was literally popping off like while while I was playing the game I had chills. I was like, this is why Like there was one mission where There's one moment where like I was like on the verge of tears. Like I was like, oh my god, this is Absolutely amazing and they really it really does justice for Kyrie as well Because I know I was like one of the big things like oh, she's a insulin distress again And like they, they, they fix that. I think in a way that makes sense in the way that Kingdom Hearts does. Cause you know, Kingdom Hearts is a lot of, a lot of visual, like a lot of the battles are like visual, like metaphor, fours, you know what I mean? Like when, when like Sora fights Roxas, you know, in his, in his heart in Kingdom Hearts 2. And like, there's basically a battle. Yeah, I know, so good. There's like a battle with, without going into story spoilers, there's a battle with like Kyrie and Sora, sorry, Sora, Kyrie and Sora against Xehanort. And then it, and the way that they do it, for it to double back to the ending of Kingdom Hearts 3 proper with Trinity, is very well done in Kingdom Hearts fashion. So honestly, like I would, I highly recommend you go into the Remind DLC and just, you know, just expect, just basically expect the first half to be a retrend of the organization fights that, you know, but you can play as different characters now. You can play as Riku, which is great for me because I love Riku, and that was one of my big issues with Kingdom Hearts III is that they do not give Riku the respect that he deserved. Especially after Dream Drop, like, come on now. They didn't give a lot of characters I feel like you should have been able to play as is the respect that deserved that's that's fair and then like you can play as Roxas when rock when you know during that fight yeah all hail Roxas yeah yeah I highly recommend it highly recommend it oh yeah I bet I'm totally open to it and eventually I feel like I'll play you know you get that itch to go and play the games again and I'm sure that'll happen eventually. Just really the moment that broke me was when Sora died and you just see all the usernames from Chi. I was like no I don't want Bond Ripper 420 to save the day. What? No that was awesome that was an awesome moment! The usernames is what just like, no, I get the idea of chi and where it sits narratively and actually what those characters represent. Like, that's fine. But just bringing the mob-- It's like-- I get what you're saying in like bringing in the mobile-- like a mobile game to the end of, you know, for Kingdom Hearts 3. I get that. Just upfront. And you-- I also think in context of people who aren't like us and have played those games. I made a Japanese iTunes account to play it when it launched in Japan. Like, I'm a bit- I've done my time. I get it. I understand where the narrative is, but there are people who played Kingdom Hearts 2 and then just played 3. They didn't- they didn't do all the remakes or even the 2.8. - That's their fault though. That's their fault. - It is. - Like, you know, for those- yeah, no, for those- [laughs] Like, I can't tell you, like, for, like, at least the year leading up to its release, just people saying, like, "Um, do I need to play?" Like, yes, you need to f\*\*\*ing play! Come on! You're talking to-- this game gets trashed all the time about its convoluted story, when it's just, like, literally-- Literally, Everyone who says that at this point. It was just someone I don't even know like I have played Games with way more confusing stories than Kingdom Hearts like way more Like I recently played 13 sentinels like last year and I enjoyed that game But I could not give you the lowdown on what that like on like beat for beat story points because I'm just like I Don't I didn't fully understand it like I under I got the gist But I didn't fully understand it, but I feel like that if you play all the Kingdom Hearts games outside of mobile game Because you don't really need to Maybe maybe in the future you might have to based off what they're doing But like I can see you not needing to play recode. Yeah, sure. Sure. Sure. Sure. Sure Definitely need to play everything else five eight over two and dream drop. Yeah a chain. Yeah, you do sleep yeah, and those are mostly like their side games most like Like here's the thing like the only bad Kingdom Hearts game I think that exists is coded like I think all the other ones are I would say are at



least good like For me, you know what I mean? And I love the deck building and chain of memories Thank you. It's seriously. It's one of the most fun many people Oh, I'm like here. I don't want to be one of those guys But like I honestly think that if you don't like chain of memories Or you play channel memories and you didn't like it. It's because you didn't understand the deck building. I I honestly believe that I grew up on like the gameboy playing Battle Network Mega Man battle network. Yeah, three. Yeah, and that's chip deck building with chips It's the same mentality. You just you have to build your decking Customize really hope that series gets ported to switch because I've never played those games and I want to there Well, I've only played the third entry. I was gonna say three, but I haven't played three of them. And then a buddy growing up had like four and six and I dabbled. They're really good. I actually, because I ported all those saves over, I looked at my Battle Network 3 white save. 90 hours. When did I have this much time as a child? But I digress. It's very good. I do hope they make the comeback. Because they're great. Yeah. I love the deck building. And personally my favorite is Birth by Sleep. I'm a sucker for prequels, so anytime you're setting up the backstory, I'm all in. And I love Aquaven and Terra, and their different fighting styles and structures and magic. And I conveniently, I didn't look this up beforehand when I played it on PSP, but I I conveniently saved Aqua for last. I did Vantara Aqua, which I think, you know, and then you go into the final chapter and it's just. - Yeah, so good. - And it answers the thing, the teaser at the end of Kingdom Hearts 2 Final Mix. - Yes, yes! - Like it puts you there! - It's so good. - So good! - Again, I tweeted about this like the other day. During that time during that time with King hearts 2 with that secret movie. Nothing was more hype Nothing in gaming was more hype than that Trailer you're just like what is going on? Why are there so many key blades? Who are these? Why does he look like Roxas? Good it was so good. Oh my god. What a time to be alive. What a time to be alive really it So like I love Kingdom Hearts. I just I think I was more disappointed with three than I thought I would be and That really just kind of bummed me out. Oh, no, I haven't I haven't played since yeah, no very much again Like I think I think in March 3 is still a plenty good game Like I think people like plays great. It looks fantastic Yeah, like I I think the you know Some of my issues in general, like, game's a little too easy. I don't think the... I think that they should have... I know that it's a new Kingdom Hearts game, so they traditionally do new mechanics, but I think Kingdom Hearts 2 with the different forms, the way they did the different forms was perfect. And I think that the way that they did it with the key play transformations, it just made the game a little bit too easy. I feel like they're... I don't know. I also just feel like that the enemies and like just the combat wasn't as intuitive as Kingdom Hearts 2. I don't know, but But I still think it was still like a plenty good game Despite its missteps a lot of people like to Kingdom Hearts is just like the f\*cking Poop stain that people like to make it up in the gaming industry like the gaming and It's easy to point at and make fun of especially if you don't know all you've played is one and two really easy Yeah, like there are some people I know that jokingly pretend that Kingdom Hearts 3 doesn't exist because of how they felt about Kingdom Hearts 3 And I'm just like that's that's just stupid like no it exists. It's a thing Yeah, so it's also easy to make fun of it all of it for the naming conventions. Yeah That's fair, but no like Kingdom Hearts 1.5 Kingdom Hearts has one like I still think like as it goes along Kingdom Hearts has like one of the best like Stories in video games. All right, it has really great moments Really does um, just it just didn't stick the landing. Yeah, it didn't stick the landing But so where did where do they go? Because there's the secret Three. Did you play melody memory? No, oh, so there is a cutscene at the end of melody memory that basically sets up the next game. I'm interested Yeah, it's here's the thing like It's very Kingdom Hearts II to say the least. Um, it's basically you find out like the name of the city That Sora and Riku are in Which I think is called a quadratum. I think that's the name of the city you know very odd very very Kingdom Hearts II and basically like How Riku it shows like Riku traveling there basically and then like how cut one thing really cool Kyrie's training under aqua now like basically like master said was like hey like Come on Well cuz you train with yet and said and he had the time thingy it was just like I don't know But yeah, it was just one of those things where He was like, oh you want to continue your training and then he's she's like actually I want to train under master Aqua master aqua and she's he said like that's a great idea. You should do

that So that's what she's I guess doing while Riku was trying to Trying to find and save Sora because here's the thing with this I can with this next Kingdom Hearts game because this is my issue with dream drop distance and me and my other me and my friend Talked about like this at length Dream Drop Distance should have been a Riku game. Riku only game like Sora's stuff could have been there without actually playing as Sora and Cuz cuz at the end of the day that story is about Riku that story is about Riku Yes, absolutely But they but they had to put Sora in there because it's Sora and I'm like, I hate that like give Riku his own game He's a he's a he's a he's he's he's a relevant enough character Here's my favorite video game character period you know what I mean so like it's just like for me It's like give him its own game. He deserves it he like and and so I a lot of people are theorizing that this next Kingdom Hearts game is going to be Basically dream drop distance to where you not particularly where it's the same mechanics, but you switch between Sora and Riku hmm, I Mean I'd be down So I'd be fine with that but Rika really I Rika does deserve a game especially because he got The end of chain of memories. Yeah, which is so good like then dream drop I yeah, no like I I really want um, but I don't think I've any told anyone I don't think I know that you don't know about but I don't I haven't told many people this but well like obviously Obviously, I've said on Twitter all the time, I want to see Unimora to sign my arm because I want to get tattooed. But on my other arm, I want Way to the Dawn tattooed on my arm. But like, which is, you know, Riku's Kingdom Hearts 2 keyblade. Because the reason why Riku's my favorite character is because I see him through me. Growing up, I had a lot of anger and things like that. To this day, I actually do. It's just like, I've just kind of like learned to rebuild myself and just suppress it. And that's basically like what Riku goes through. And that's why I really connect with his character. So, and literally his Keyblade is, like it evolved into a Keyblade, you know, like his weapon evolved into a Keyblade. So it's like a representation of his character and his character development, which is why I really want that tattooed myself as well. Yeah collections you know after a 30 minute Kingdom Hearts 3 conversation. Well I just I have basically I just have all the games complete in box. The one the one I missed was the Dream Drop Distance collector's set. Oh Mark of Mastery Edition. Yeah thank you. Wait do you have 1.5, 2.5 like the limited edition? Yep. Dude that's the one thing I need. That's the one one thing I need and I'm just like, wait hold on, is your Kingdom Hearts 2, uh, like, your OG Kingdom Hearts 1, is it sealed with black label? No, no, none of it's sealed. Oh, you don't have it sealed, okay. That's what, so those are the two things that I really am missing. I'm missing Kingdom Hearts black label, um, and I, sealed, I would like it sealed. And then I need the 1.5, 2.5, limited edition, because I want that pin. I remember buying that I was in a parking lot so limited It was so limited and I'm just like I have like I have I have 2.8. I have the 2.5 steel book like I Know it's nice by the way so much money Is it really? Yes, I haven't looked it up. It's like \$300 It's absurd and I'm like It's cuz of the pin though. It's cuz the pin its official Disney pin this darn pin collectors Do you want to hear something that'll make you really? Sad or mad or maybe happy what we we live in Florida? We had Disney passes back when we had these pin, you know pin collars and we trade and stuff I did not trade them. I would never do that but when we left for our honeymoon Her family moved all of our all of her stuff to our new apartment And we can't find our pins so much that those two Kingdom Art pins. I still have the 2.8 one I don't know where they are. I Don't know dang the loss to the wind that really but Well, cuz I know that still the steel case which is what I care about So the 2.5 pin you can actually get as a like reward on the Square Enix store So I have like so that's how I got the 2.5 pin But I need the 1.5. I need the 1.5 2.5 pin My Kingdom Hearts 3 pins are still in my deluxe edition because I'm basically like I like to collect pins But I don't have like a place to put them like I don't have like a wall or anything like that So I'm kind of waiting until we move into an apartment and stuff like to to get that I recently got the Mario 35th anniversary the the I got the second set. I didn't get the first set unfortunately So I'll probably buy those on eBay eventually, but um, they look good. I I got them up on my shelf over there Nice, you got both sets Nice. Yeah, so show me show me what's your most prized possession? Show me your most prized possession in your collection. I Probably that Zelda game I was talking about. Okay, because it's sealed and all nice and in great shape What are the cool cool things do you have? Got my Wind Waker Wii U still and on the box and all that

stuff I've got the master edition of Breath of the Wild. Wait, it's wait It's with the Wind Waker is is a themed GameCube like it's the GameCube is themed Wii U. Oh Wii U. Okay. Yeah, that's cool That's cool Yeah, I actually that was the Wii U I bought When they were new and then I sold it to get a switch College needed money and then I finally re-bought it for 80 bucks at a GameStop Wow, that's awesome - Awesome. - So, yeah, now it's hard to get. - One thing I'm super happy with is I have all of the Fire Emblem collector's editions. I have Fates, I have Shadows of Valentia, I have Three Houses, I got the 30th anniversary one, and then I got Warriors as well. I have them all, and that was at launch. Like I didn't have to pay anything extra. 'Cause I know that the Fates one specifically was super limited. Like it was only like because when I pre-ordered a GameStop, I think they said that they have like Two per store like something like what's the one on switch three houses? Yeah, I have that one Yeah, I've got here's the thing They always like the Fire Emblem collector's editions are always so good Like they always come with an art like a big art book, which is just awesome Except for Fates, Fates doesn't but that's different but like Shadows of Valencia, art book Three houses, art book, 30th anniversary, art book like so so cool And then I bought the art book for Fire Emblem Awakening, which is one of my favorite games ever Like I think it's my fifth favorite game of all time Super super great game. Have you played Awakening? Yeah, that was my first Fire Emblem game. What a masterpiece like I Legitimately think that like I think that game has one of the best endings to a video game like so good Anyway, Awaken is the best 3DS game. It's the best game that originally launched on 3DS. If you ask me. My buddy, Brendan, again, he's a big Zelda guy. So he thinks it's a link between worlds, but personally I think it's a great game. Oh, I've heard it's great, but I think it's, I think it's awakening. I haven't played it, but like as a, you know, until I do play it, it's awakening. - Awakening. I can see it. I've got like a, the spice orange, Japanese game, keep complete with the whole, - Oh really? the Game Boy Player and the controller and the Game Boy Advance. - That's sexy. I have the box. I don't have the system, but I have the box for the Pokemon XD Gala Darkness GameCube 'cause I had it as a kid, but I sold it at some point, but I still have the box. It was in my garage when I was clearing out my childhood home and I was just like, "You're coming back up with me." And I have a box for my OG PS2. - Nice. - I don't have the system, but I have the box. It's still cool. You know, you can always go buy a PS2, they're cheap. Yeah, I'm trying to think about what else is cool that I got. Oh, I mean like my Pokémon Crystal Box is like complete, is like definitely one of my pride and joys. Absolutely. I got both Xenoblade games, collector's editions. I got the UK one for Definitive Edition because 'cause it came with the vinyl, with the Monado. Yeah, so I hit up my friend in the UK and I was just like, yo, can I pre-order this and send it to your house and you can send it to me? And she was willing to do it. Unfortunately, the art book came and was like, for some reason in really bad shape when I unboxed it. It like kind of slipped out of its place. So a lot of the pages corners were like crunched. So I kind of have to find a replacement for that because the art book for definitive edition is like designed the exact same way as Xenoblade Chronicles 2 So I'm so that kind of sucks Also part of me wants to buy just the case for Xenoblade Chronicles 2 because The collector's edition didn't come with the normal case. It was just the steel book So it's weird. So when I have my collection, I have all the Xenoblade Chronicle games except for two like in the normal cases because I because I bought the physical version of Xenoblade Chronicles Torna country, which is like the prequel to two that counted as DLC for two But it's it's its own game. It's basically us like a third game Xenoblade series is Wild it's good. It's good. You should definitely play it I really hope Xenoblade Chronicles X comes to switch because I've heard very good things about that game That's one of the last Wii U ones right? That's like yeah, that's the one that is like probably I think that's like the last major One that hasn't been ported yet. I'm sure it's coming though. I'm sure it's coming It should yeah, and then oh I recently when I oh, yeah when I went to my retro game shop I bought a wave bird. They had a they had a wave bird and it was like yeah, it was like in pristine condition So wave bird is my favorite controller of all time. I Love my honestly depending on the day. I'm with you the pet like it's it's definitely but for me It's definitely between the Xbox series the Xbox series elite - The elite series - or the gamecube controller for sure 100% But yeah, and then other things I mean I got the new Mario switch very happy

about that I'm just hoping they don't put out a Zelda one right before they announce whatever the switch Pro is That's so that's why my friend my friend didn't get the Mario one because he's hoping that they're gonna do a Zelda one and I'm like I I hope you're right And then I don't know if you saw this recently on my like I'm on your timeline on Twitter But I got the official pokeballs. I did see those they're so good. They're so good like I Feel I I feel like this much cooler for owning them, you know, it's one of those things It's like ah, yeah, I have the E3 2017 I think it's no would have been 2016 2016 was when they did breath of the wild and I think it was 16. Anyway, that was the big breath of the wild year and Brendan Graber IGN the wiki's guy he grabbed me one of the Zelda coins and mailed it to me and It's different than the coin that came with the master edition. Oh, that's cool both Yeah, so I have both breath of wild coins never been to e3, but I have very little e3 merge. That's cool. It's nice Yeah, and then like well like my last things to nerd out about Kingdom Hearts 3 ps4 Pro So you did get that I did get it. Yes. My I did mine did not get cancelled. Thank thank God Oh, yeah, Kingdom Hearts 3 ps4 Pro it will forever be There chillin and then I recently got the hearty Daytona. Yeah, I think you might have saw that for Final Fantasy 7 remake. Oh Yes. Yeah, the bike thing that went by. Yeah that went back in stock the day before my birthday. So I was just like I Was just like rip my my credit card the stemmies come in I'm gonna buy this so cuz yeah, cuz the thing is like I did have it pre-ordered. I had the first class edition pre-ordered but It got close to eat packs East and I needed the money. So I had to cancel my pre-order, right? so this mad the similar situation with me in the Whatever edition of Kingdom Hearts 3 the the one with all the statues But but yeah, and then oh, yeah one one e3 they did love the Funko booth have like a treasure chest like the treasure chest from Kingdom Hearts and it came with a shirt and So I have a Somewhat official Kingdom Hearts chest which is really really cool. I have like all the official I don't have all And that's a long story, but I have all but one of the official Kingdom Hearts plushies like that are from Square Enix The only one I don't have is the nobody plush because it came out like eight years ago And I'm not joking on eBay \$1,500 What? \$1,500 So no, so I found someone on Etsy Who did a like who tried to do a reproduction of that that specific plush? and I just said This is the best I'm gonna get so so I just bought I bought that it hasn't come in yet I found that out like a few weeks ago actually, so I was just like I Begrudgingly bought it and I was like, okay but yeah, some of them I had to Buy from Japan though, like there's it's hard to see but the unversed plush at the very end right there I had to buy that from Japan I had to buy the cheer of the oh my well My fiance bought the cheer of the one for me for Valentine's Day that came from Japan So there are some that I had to buy 'cause the unversed one specifically never came to the States. It only released in Japan. So that one I had to like, you know, but the charity one was in the US, but I just bought it too late before it like left the store. So I had to pay a little bit more than I normally, like than its actual price was, but I still have it, so I'm happy. - That's the struggle of being a hardcore collector and a Kingdom Hearts fan. - Oh yeah, 100%. There's like so much Kingdom Hearts stuff that's, well, again, this might be one of my favorite, this might, I'm still not entirely sure, but this might be my favorite thing out of my entire collection of everything, which I'll show you in a second. So these-- - I remember seeing you tweet about these. - Yeah, yeah, yeah. So these are the Winnie the Pooh Kingdom Hearts books. There's one for each game. They look so nice. It's so good. So they're technically just cases that you just open. So like, well, I'm trying not to, so, you know. But they still look and display very, very nicely. These were only released in Japan. My fiance got them for me as a gift. And 'cause Winnie the Pooh is like my, like Toy Story is like my favorite movie, But Winnie the Pooh is my favorite Disney property. Like I love Winnie the Pooh. I grew up with Winnie the Pooh, like before I grew up with Toy Story. So Winnie the Pooh just holds a very special place in my heart. And so I was like, when I saw these, I like told her about them and then she got them for me. And I was just like, I'm very, very happy to have these. Yeah, these might be my favorite thing in my collection. just because of just like the sentimental, you know. - What they represent. - Well, yeah, what they represent. - And how you feel about them. - Yeah, exactly. So that's, you know, that's what collections are for. Yeah, I don't know if there's anything else you wanted to chat about. - I think that's it. We really kind of hit everything I wanted to talk about with you, 'cause like you said at the top of the show, we've never actually

really sat down and talked, especially one-on-one, we've never done a one-on-one chat. We always just tweet back and forth and maybe have been on a call other people together. This was fun. I had a really good time talking with you, Cam. Yeah, this was great. I love talking. I was really curious as to how this conversation would go, and I'm really happy. I didn't think it was going to go bad per se, or anyway, but I just didn't know where the-- Well, given our public past of disagreeing and Kingdom Hearts in particular, I could understand the nervousness, but in the end we both just really care about something. - Yeah. - And we had a really great conversation about it and that's what I'm trying to do on this show. So to wrap it all up, plug away my friend. - Yeah, you can follow me on Twitter @CamFinalMix and I stream on Twitch on twitch.tv/camfinalmix and I'm on Podcast Unlocked, IGN's Xbox podcast and the number one Xbox podcast in the world which you can listen to new episodes normally drop No later than Wednesday every week. I don't know how much longer I'm gonna be on the show But regardless, I appreciate you if you would to tune in and enjoy us talk all things Xbox Sweet you can find more of my writing over here at max frequency .net or check out more episodes of this podcast in the feed if you'd like you can also listen to The history of Naughty Dog that I wrote during the ps4 so that's it's called chasing the stick That's something I wanted to actually talk to you about that I just realized like I wanted to I wanted to hear your your like History with Naughty Dog and like why why you love Naughty Dog so much I know that we were kind of doing our plugs already, but like that's something I was like, wait a minute I kind of want to talk about this That's fine. Yeah Naughty Dog So growing up and didn't have PlayStation. I my first PlayStation was a PS3 I may have had a 2 by then but it was 2010s Probably but kids across the street they had PlayStation. That's where I met crash Sly Cooper Jack and Dexter all that stuff the Kingdom Hearts first saw Kingdom Hearts at a friend's house that opening Cinematic a Kingdom Hearts one and I was like, yep. I'm sold Let's go Kingdom Hearts 2 open. So like arguably the best opening to a video game one Mmm, it's good stuff. It's so good. So always aware of those series and then I Got a ps3 Christmas 2011. It was The Uncharted 3 bundle Okay, and the way my my family gave it to me was it was actually not wrapped at all They kept amping up my gift so they had me close my eyes and they put a book in my hand that was wrapped and I was like, how's the bull? How's a book the the big present? Like what is gonna make me so excited and I opened my eyes and on the table in front of me is the ps3 with uncharted the book was the Uncharted 3 guide, which I have on the shelf down there. Anyway, I went Christmas Day, borrowed Uncharted 1 from a friend's house, and we were busy that day, so I actually didn't play till the 26th. I played through Uncharted 1 on my CRT TV, not even in HD, in one day, one sitting all of Uncharted and then over the next few weeks Uncharted 2 and 3 and then that was also around the time that The Last of Us was initially revealed at the Game Awards that year which is that's a fun reveal they were teasing it and stuff and it looked good that was like the Spike TV Game Awards right yeah way back way back in the day yeah and then you know the And then The Last of Us came out and Last of Us, I think, is a really, really great game and just kind of kept building. They kept building and you got Uncharted 4. I remember PS4 not launch night, you know, they teased it and that was back the Amy Hennig version of 4. Mmm, 4, Lost Legacy 2, and so on. And I just really am attached, like I remember seeing demos for Uncharted 2 and Target back when Game Demo kiosks were in stores. And it's the part of Uncharted 2 in the city where you're running, the truck is chasing you, and just, I had never played a game that put me in the middle of the action like that, and that was their goal, this active cinematic experience, and putting as much of the gameplay in the story on the stick on the gamepad, which is why I called chasing the stick sort of a mix of put it on the stick, chasing the drag, and then you know that. And I just have always been drawn to games that put the narrative and the gameplay in my hands as much as possible instead of taking things away from me. That doesn't necessarily translate to an RPG where it's, or even a telltale game where it's choose A, B, or C, and move forward, but just make me feel like the character telling the story that you want to tell. And Naughty Dog does that particular thing. - Like you feel the results of what your actions are without, like with your simple actions, without it being like obvious, you know, like with it being like in your face about it. I get you, yeah. I definitely think The Last of Us Part II does that. That's kind of like its goal, right? Absolutely. That is the whole

goal of the game. It's really ambitious to do that, especially the switch halfway through. You don't get that a lot? Yeah, for sure. Arguably the last time a huge game did that was Metal Gear Solid 2? Of like completely switching the protagonist on you and shifting expectations? especially if you didn't have part two spoiled ahead of time, which I thankfully did not. Could tell pretty early though that that's kind of where they were gonna go. But I just, that's what I've always been drawn to and the people there and how they do it and their games are always technically impressive. - Oh, I agree with you there. - They always push whatever hardware to the max and I think they play really well. I in particular do really enjoy the stealth in The Last of Us and Uncharted 4 and Part 2 and Lost Legacy 2 Agree. They just, they're fun romps, Uncharted, and I think The Last of Us has the kind of stealth gameplay I like, the stories I'm drawn to, and all that stuff. So I just, I'm drawn to that and they have a lot of history and stories to tell and that's what I'm going for here to share that story with as many people as possible. That's awesome. You know, like again, not like for me, my favorite, like very unpopular opinion, my favorite, like Naughty Dog game, like from Uncharted to now is Uncharted 3. But it's a great game. Yeah, I think Uncharted 3 is the best Uncharted. And I so good. Like, Like I think in a very unpopular opinion, like I really do not like Uncharted 4. Like I aggressively dislike that game. I just think that the story feels very shoehorned based off of like everything that we've known up to that point with Nathan's character. Like, oh, he has a brother now? Okay, sure. Like things like that, that I was just like, it very much like if you take the game for what it is, then sure. But like for me, I'm just like, come on now. we would know these things at this point. Like that's kind of like my issue with it. I think the game goes on for way too long. Like I'm just like, I feel like six chapters of that game could have been cut. - I savor every moment. - No, I'm just, yeah. It's just, it's like, what am I doing in this game right now? I don't know. But again, like I thoroughly, you know, and I notoriously not the biggest fan of The Last of Us, but I do like The Last of Us Part II. I did like it. - I know you do. which is something I would never have expected to, I did not expect that game to be on my top 10 last year. - That's good. I think on some level that shows that they achieved what they were going for. If, you know. - Here's the thing, I like "The Last of Us Part II" for all the wrong reasons. Because for me, I'm one of those people that like thinks Joel is the villain. So, 'cause here's the thing, If you think about- - He's not a good guy. - Here's the thing, if you think about even, well, if you think about the context outside of the Last of Us story with Joel, like he has done some super (beep) before meeting Ellie, he's done, he did some really (beep) like throughout the game. And, but a lot of people like, I feel like a lot of people will just take what they got and like, oh, this is Joel. And I'm like, you gotta think bigger picture, man. Like, not for you specifically, but for like a lot of people. So like when like everything that happens to Joel in the second game, I'm like, he had a (beep) comment. Are you kidding me? And also just- - I think the point, I mean, everyone's done terrible things in that world. - No, no, no, like, okay. - No? - No, not to the same degree. Not to the same degree. - Mugging and murdering people and being-- - Yeah, but here's-- - Surviving? - Okay, but do you think everyone was a raider at some point during that apocalypse? - No, I'm not, I do not have the blanket statement of everyone was the Pittsburgh thugs. - But I think that people, I don't know, I'd never heard, feel like someone praised Joel without recognizing his actions, if that makes sense. Like, I don't know, I don't know, I don't know. - I think what draws me to Jugal is not his past sins, or even his current ones, 'cause he's not a, no one in that world is good or perfect. - No one's perfect. - But it's his own redemption in a way, like, similar-ish to Arthur Morgan. Arthur's a bad dude, right? Cowboys, rob, murder, beat people. He's nice, takes care of women, but he is a villain in that time, he's an outlaw. And that whole game is about his redemption towards society and this group and things like that. - But does Joel have redemption? 'Cause I don't think he does. - He does. - I don't think he does. 'Cause for me, it's just like, I'm one of those people that I'm like, I didn't think Joel was the villain until credits hit. When credits hit, I was just like, oh, I was playing as the bad guy this entire time. That's how I interpreted it. 'Cause I know a lot of people are just like, hey, but like, oh, Ellie didn't give consent. And I'm like, y'all, I don't even like this game that much. And I know that Ellie would have won 100, that's what Ellie would have wanted. And they confirm that in part two. And that's why I like part two. It confirms the things that I

thought were problematic in the first game, which granted, maybe some people also found problematic, but just kind of was like, "Whatever about it?" Or that didn't find it problematic. And I was just like, just that entire scene in part two where she's just railing on Joel, it was like eating popcorn. I was just like, "Yes, continue. Continue." He robs her of that choice and he says even at the end, you know, "If you could do it all again, you'd do it again." And is that selfish? Yes. But... If he had-- Was the world too far gone? Yes. I think. And if Ellie had died, then the people that she met and influenced later on wouldn't have, that would never have happened. She never would have had this relationship with Dina, the kid, which I can only think of as Potato. Like there's, you know, her life went on and is that the life she found meaning in her immunity? And where do you go from that? It's just messy and it's not so black and white. he's a villain or he's a good guy. He is a man. He's a father. Not just to Ellie, but I mean, he's a father. He's a protector. He's a criminal. He's a smug- like he's all these things and it's kind of how he comes together at the end. And I like that for him. - Oh god. I don't know. I just like- I can't vibe with like, "Oh, he's a flawed character because he's a flawed character and I'm just like well yeah so are a lot of characters I don't know I guess like I guess just just like the way it's executed for for like is what makes you find them so compelling but for me I'm just like I don't know I'm just like dog like I don't know I don't know I mean it's it's well because I really like Ellie I really like Ellie's character Ellie's great but I but I just never liked Joel never never did never did Like I get I think it's just because like and I get I get like how they structure with the narrative and it's just like and maybe that's just because like why i'm just like So negative about it. It's just I see what they're trying to do and You know from the get-go they want you to sympathize with this with this guy who's like not a good guy Uh because of something that happened in his past life and it's just like I get what you're trying to do, but that doesn't make up that doesn't That doesn't give him a pass. - I don't think it's a pass. I think it's finding his redemption, or redemption in some way. I mean, you could keep a tally of everyone he's killed and brutalized and broken rules and so on and so forth. Is everyone redeemable or not? And maybe he's done too many bad things and that's I think up to each individual person to figure that out, but I think he finds redemption in the end. And it's implied that his time in Jackson, he was a protector or provider to his community, a beloved member of it. People mourned his death. Not just Ellie, um... Yeah. Why am I blanking on his brother? Like, the final years of his life... Tommy. Tommy, the final years of his life, he was a good man. And that's in part because he saved her life. And I think that's why he would have done it all over again. Because he found redemption even in what it resulted in for him personally. And then Ellie's own revenge story is influenced by that, but separate. - Whole other can of worms. - And the same thing for Abby as well. - Yeah. No, it's... No, I definitely... Again, like, I definitely... I will give it that, like, that specifically because of part two, there's just, like, so much things to dissect about that game and the characters and the decisions and things like that. like give give it credit there and that's why I like the game it's like there's just so much to think about and digest with that game you know but yeah I mean again like for me like with The Last of Us it's just like I just feel like that I don't know and maybe maybe it's like wrong to compare the compare the games but like I just feel like a lot of comparisons to to Tales of the Walking Dead and I just and that's kind of like my last of us is that like I think that like I I just liked liked the you know granted like there had to be trust and things like that with Joel and Ellie that like you know it was a different relationship from the get-go compared to like Lee and Clementine but But I just think that the way that they played with, I think the reason why I vibe with The Walking Dead more is that like, I think that they play with the setting more than like in its like direct influence to the story than The Last of Us, where the setting feels more, For most of the story feels more like like a set piece if that makes sense I don't know. I don't know and that's just like that that might just be the way I I interpret the games cuz like I know a lot of people didn't play it but like the final season of The Walking Dead is Like still need to play that phenomenal Absolutely phenomenal. I I don't know if you remembered me in 2019 like in even part of 20 Just tweeting every time I could just like play this game play this game play this game It's I remember it's it's it's so good. It's like I honestly think it's better than the first season in in like in most regards I would say like I think that like Cuz the way because the you know, it's very different than the last of us in this sense,

but like the it very much is like a Companion piece of the first season where it's like hey Here's you know in the first games like here's this little girl who has no idea how to Function in surviving this world survive in this world, right and then in the final season it is like hey, here's this boy who was born into this world doesn't know anything different like anything outside of this and how you try and make them see the normal seas of what society used to be and They explore that in all the TV show as well. Yeah, and also just like how how they like but also how you need to react to survive as well like There's you know in the in the specific seat. Oh god It's so it's so hard to talk about without going into spoilers but like just the way that they play with those themes in the final season is Just wild like I I just I just can't Say like the different kinds of emotion I get you that I experienced throughout that season like it's it really is like Phenomenal and I I'm glad that that that that game got to be finished and see through But yeah, I like it but overall Naughty Dog just like I I really like I really like the jack series I like crash But like you know I and I think I do think that like from a technical standpoint what they do is really impressive I Just I don't know I just haven't vibed with a lot of their games recently like in the past like two generations And that's okay. Yeah, I think that'll do it. I think that'll wrap it up Just again, I had a really great time talking with you cam so this was a lot of fun if The people forgot you're on Twitter at camp final mix same thing on twitch podcast unlocked at IGN and You can follow me at max Roberts one for three and go to max frequency dot net for the rest of it Bye everyone. Bye. Bye