

Snapecast Episode 09

This Is Snapecast - (0:00)

Voice: Chris

Music: Lara St John, Bach Violin Concertos: 01-BWV 1041 : I. Allegro

Soundbyte: Alan Rickman, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

[CLIP – *HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE*]

ALAN RICKMAN

I can teach you how to bewitch the mind and ensnare the senses. I can tell you how to bottle fame, brew glory, and even put a stopper in death.

[END CLIP]

CHRIS [AS SNAPE]

This is Snapecast episode nine, for Friday, December the 1st, 2006. Now copy that down, or your detention will be spent giving every Hogwarts house-elf a thorough sponge bath.

Introduction - (00:57)

Hosts: Rachael, Chris, Shannon

RACHAEL

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Snapey Kwanzaa to everyone, this is Snapecast episode nine. Umm, we have a very good show today for you packed with some holiday Snapey goodness. We have a special 'Snape and...' segment on 'Snape and Family' in which we will speculate how Snape celebrates the holidays with his family. We have a new segment called the 'Snape Theory Round Table' which will feature a Snapecast fan and one of their Snape theories, an interview with Lookfar, another episode of 'Owlpost', and there will be some Snapey holiday goodness sprinkled in. I am Rachael and I have here with me...

CHRIS

Hi, I'm Chris!

SHANNON

And Shannon!

RACHAEL

So, I think the first thing that we probably want to mention is a big shout-out to all our listeners because something monumental happened this past month.

SHANNON

Oh, yes, absolutely!

CHRIS

Oh, my God!

RACHAEL

For just one shining moment...

SHANNON

Yes!

RACHAEL

...Severus Snape was more popular than 'Onions'

SHANNON

Yes! This is true. And I think that one shining moment lasted about eight hours on November first when our last episode came out. [laughs]

RACHAEL

For those that don't know what we're referring to, Podcast Alley - the podcast directory site - for some odd reason, Snapecast was in the top 10 this whole month and for just a few shiny moments Severus Snape's podcast was actually more popular than the podcast about onions.

SHANNON

I couldn't believe it myself when I saw, not just the Onions, but that we were in the top 10, and that - you know - people were voting for us and leaving all these great comments and that just blew me away! I mean, we're a little podcast, this is incredible!

CHRIS

You guys rock!

RACHAEL

So, yes, a big thank you to everyone that voted for us. I'm sure that Snape isn't very happy that his podcast is so popular but we are because we love to talk about Snape and it gives us more excuses to do so.

CHRIS

He'll get his thong in a twist!

SHANNON

Yeah! A lot of people apparently like to hear someone talking about Snape but we don't... Do you think it was the international listeners? Do you think, uh, 'cause the international episode seemed to have been really popular and it was kind of exciting! Wasn't it really cool hearing all those people, umm, reading the potions speech in all those different languages?

CHRIS

That was really cool! I really liked that!

RACHAEL

I couldn't understand a word of it but I liked it.

CHRIS

I could... You could sort of hear how people sort of interpret Snape in their own countries as well - by the way they said their lines.

SHANNON

Yeah, yeah the rhythms are a bit different, it was really interesting and really cool if you ... I understood a little bit of a few of the languages that were being played and it was kind of fun to try and pick them out (chuckle)

RACHAEL

As Shannon being the cunning linguist that she is.

SHANNON

Yep. But be careful with that Rachael, that sounds a bit naughty.

[BOTH CHUCKLE]

RACHAEL

We're 'Explicit'.

SHANNON

Indeed. So, a big thank you to everyone, thank you for listening and thank you for voting.

RACHAEL

And so, this is our Christmas episode – well, excuse me, not Christmas – this is our holiday episode.

SHANNON

That's right.

RACHAEL

We at Snapecast celebrate all winter holidays so this is Solstice, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Christmas. So obviously we were going to talk a little bit about how Snape celebrates Christmas.

CHRIS

Yep! Now obviously, in England, everybody has their own way of celebrating Christmas. But there are certain traditions that would have possibly been in the Snape household.

SHANNON

Like what?

RACHAEL

Yeah, being our resident Brit, Chris, you have to tell us what the protocol is for celebrating Christmas in the UK.

CHRIS

Well, there's often lots of food, which I like to pay particular attention too, there is, uh, often a large turkey that's, umm, stuffed with stuffing – which I think, I think you have in America or something very, very similar – which is sort of thyme and rosemary and sometimes sausage meat and stuff, and you have some bread sauce, and – umm – pigs-in-blankets...

SHANNON

What? What's that?

CHRIS

...umm, Pigs-in-blankets...

RACHAEL

You don't know what pigs-in-a-blanket are?

SHANNON

Oh, so it's like a hotdog in a bun?

CHRIS

If the bun was bacon, then yes.

SHANNON

(laughs) So, no.

RACHAEL

I didn't know what they were then.

SHANNON

See Rachael, you're pretending to be all smart here. Ok, so pigs-in-a-blanket...

RACHAEL

I'm pretending to be cultured.

CHRIS

(laughing) Pigs-in-blankets are little tiny sausages – or big sausages if you're a heifer like me – umm, and they're wrapped in, umm, bacon and baked, and they're really good, they're one of my most favorite things. And you have those, and you have bread sauce, and – umm – Brussels sprouts...

SHANNON

Ewww.

CHRIS

Ah, no, they're good!

RACHAEL

Yeah, those do not fit...

SHANNON

No...

RACHAEL

In the categories of food...

SHANNON

(Laughs)

CHRIS

[laughs] Well, ah, if you like cabbage and things, have it with vinegar – it's good.

RACHAEL

What!

SHANNON

Eww

RACHAEL

That is so something Snape would eat.

SHANNON

Yes it is!

RACHAEL

That's... that... I can see Snape eating cabbages and vinegar!

CHRIS

Snape would definitely have cabbages and vinegar, it's actually really good. And low-fat. Umm, but also (girls snigger) the most fun thing is, apart from the food, and it's often a big family feast event, and you would have Christmas crackers, which you would share with your family.

RACHAEL

Speaking of crackers, those are actually in the Harry Potter books and Snape does have an experience in *Prisoner of Azkaban* with a cracker. Before I read that little bit, maybe, Chris, you want to fill us Americans in on what the whole cracker phenomenon is.

CHRIS

OK, a cracker is sort of a cardboard version... it looks like a giant wrapped-up sweet. So, a cardboard tube with two shorter tubes on the end and it looks sort of like – yeah – like a sweet. And you would – you hold one end and you pass it to the person next to you, and you would often cross your arms so you would hold it, say, in your left hand and pass it across to your right – the person who sat on your right – and everyone around the table would make a circle like that and they all pull the crackers, and the crackers have a little sort of cardboard piece of string in it really, that's... that has sort of a miniature, I don't know, firework or something that goes 'BANG' and sparks. And inside the cracker you will find a riddle, or a joke, or some sort of fact on a piece of paper, and if you buy really cheap crackers, like I have done in the past, every single cracker had the same joke in it. [GIRLS LAUGH] And you also get a little toy, which could be a little soldier, or a puzzle, or a game, or a magic trick, or a little picture frame, or something. And then you also get a paper hat, which, uh, really, really, really fashionable to wear on Christmas day.

SHANNON

What? Really?

CHRIS

They're really fashionable; they're the height of fashion on Christmas day, are these paper hats.

RACHAEL

Ohhh...

CHRIS

They're like crowns made of brightly colored Day-Glo tissue paper. [laughs] That never fit.

SHANNON

That doesn't sound...

RACHAEL

British people are so funny!

SHANNON

I know! This doesn't sound very reserved and dignified, it sounds kind of silly!

CHRIS

No, no, no! Only the best, most upper-crust of British people wear these paper hats! And when you force them on to your head, when you force them on to your head they – they rip [laughs] and they look wonderful!

SHANNON

Can you just imagine... like seriously, does the Queen of England, on Christmas day, like you know, hang up the crown jewels and run around with some silly paper hat on? Is that what you're saying?

CHRIS

No, no, she'd have... she'd have a cracker with a golden crown in it.

SHANNON

Ohh, OK.

RACHAEL

Hmm. So, the bit of the book that mentions crackers is *Prisoner of Azkaban* Chapter eleven, The Firebolt, and they're all sitting around Christmas dinner and Dumbledore, of course is very enthusiastic about crackers:

“Crackers!” said Dumbledore enthusiastically, offering the end of a large silver noisemaker to Snape, who took it reluctantly and tugged. With a bang like a gunshot, the cracker flew apart to reveal a large, pointed witch’s hat topped with a stuffed vulture.

“Harry, remembering the boggart, caught Ron’s eye and they both grinned; Snape’s mouth thinned and he pushed the hat toward Dumbledore, who swapped it for his wizard’s hat at once.”

SHANNON

Awww.

RACHAEL

So, we get Dumbledore who is very into the Christmas spirit and Snape is... is not.

CHRIS

You see, there is also an unspoken game with the crackers. If you pull the cracker and you get the big bit with the prizes in, you've sort of won. So, if, – you know – when you're a kiddie and uncle Brian or

something comes to...comes to dinner, he ends up with everybody's winning prizes because he snaps off the big bits of all the kid's crackers.

RACHAEL
Awwww.

SHANNON
Do you think that happened to Snape? Do you think, uh, when he was a kid he got some nice crackers or did he always lose and get the little end?

CHRIS
I think, maybe, they had second-hand re-used crackers and he always lost.

SHANNON
Aww.

RACHAEL
Poor Snape!

SHANNON
They're already opened.

RACHAEL
Oh, yeah!

CHRIS
Or maybe his parents already made the crackers with presents for themselves and sort of made sure he never got one.

RACHAEL
Well, that will be discussed in the 'Snape and Family' roundtable.

SHANNON
Yes.

RACHAEL
So, speaking of gifts, getting things for Christmas, shall we get on with the show?

SHANNON
[chuckles] Yes, let's get started!

CHRIS
[laughs] Absolutely!

RACHAEL
OK!

Announcer: Jonathan

JON

Hello and welcome to The Snape Report, the most trusted name in Snape News brought to you by Snapecast and Snapenews LiveJournal.

The most shocking and controversial news of the month was that for several minutes Snape was more popular than onions. That's right, thanks to all you Snape loving fools who went to Podcast Alley and voted for us, Snapecast made it to the Top 10 on the podcast directory site for the month of November and even managed to secure more votes than its most fierce competitor, which has become known as "the onion podcast." This news has inspired Rachael to start listening to the onion podcast to determine if it is in fact actually about onions.

Snape fans are particularly indebted to HBO this Thanksgiving for airing a 4 minute sneak peek of the Order of the Phoenix on November 21. Although the clips gave fans a glimpse of the Ministry set, Grawp, thestrals, and flashy new Hannibal Lecter-esque Death Eater masks, the most exciting moment for Snape fans was undoubtedly Occlumency lessons.

A 10-second preview for the trailer made its way to the Internet on November 18. The bootleg clip wasn't high quality, but it was heavy on the Snape content...certainly sufficient to inspire numerous icons featuring variations of the "I'm not weak"/"Then prove it" theme.

If you're still looking for that perfect gift for that special someone who is enamored with Snape, lysel on LiveJournal is selling her Snape plushies just in time for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Winter Solstice. She has an order form on her LiveJournal and the Potions Master is available in both an 11 cm and a 35 cm version.

Would you like to help make Snape's life even more miserable by encouraging more incessant squealing and fangirling? If so, the Harry Potter wiki page on Snape needs editing. Take a look at http://harrypotterwiki.org/wiki/index.php/Severus_Snape and email us at severus@snapecast.com if you're interested with the subject line: Snape Wiki Volunteer.

The San Francisco Chronicle demonstrated its poor taste in sex appeal on November 26 when they listed Lucius Malfoy on their list of "The 12 Sexiest Men Who Were Never Alive," but neglected to mention Severus Snape among the list which also included Spock, Darth Maul, and Mr. Darcy. The author responsible for this oversight is no doubt receiving plenty of emails with photo manipulations involving snakeskin thongs.

Finally, Snapecast would like to announce that we are officially members of the Harry Potter Podcasters Coalition, a central location on the web for all Harry Potter podcasts. Come check it out at <http://hppc.bravehost.com/index.htm>.

That's it the Snape Report, the most trusted name in Snape news. Please remember to send any Snape-related news to the Snapenews Livejournal group at snapenews@gmail.com. Have a very snarky Christmas and a Snapey New Year.

Snape Theory - (13:24)

Hosts: Rachael, Rose

Guest: Stephanie (PAM2002 on [Leaky Lounge](#))

RACHAEL

Welcome to a brand-new segment on Snapecast, the Snape Theory Roundtable. I'm Rachael, and I have Rose here with me.

ROSE

Hi.

RACHAEL

And we also have a very special guest. The Snapeologists on staff at Snapecasts decided to add this feature to our repertoire of Snape content because we get so many e-mails and voicemails from listeners explaining theories we haven't had the chance to discuss on the show. Because we want to include a diverse range of opinions and views on our beloved Potions master. We thought it would be a good idea to invite a listener to showcase their theories on a regular basis.

So our inaugural Snape Theory Roundtable features a listener who is very near and dear to my heart.

Stephanie, who is PAM2002 on Leaky Lounge, which is where I met her – she and I worked on the TrustSnape.com website together, which if you go to it now, you'll see that it is Coming Soon, it *will* be up one of these days. [laughs]

So the theory Stephanie is going to discuss fits really nicely with our holiday theme because it has to do with Snape's family, more specifically Snape's mother. So Stephanie, why don't you introduce yourself and give a brief overview of your Snape theory?

STEPHANIE

Okay. Yeah, so I'm Stephanie, and my theory is about Madame Pince: that she is Snape's mother, and that she is hiding there in the library. So obviously, to summarize it very very quickly, if you read anything *of* her you can pretty much see that the two of them channel each other at times, but when you compare now with *Half-Blood Prince*, like Dumbledore's offer to Draco to hide both him and his mother, for example...

RACHAEL

Mm-hm.

STEPHANIE

And he even says to him, “We can hide you more completely than you can possibly imagine.” And I think Draco's the only person that we've seen that Dumbledore would approach – we'll call it a conversion, but bringing somebody over to the side of the light. So I use Draco for my example of how Dumbledore might have treated Snape when he offered to be on Dumbledore's side again, or however that worked out.

RACHAEL

So what do you think, then, is the best evidence to support the theory that Irma Pince is Eileen Prince?

STEPHANIE

Well, obviously everybody loves the whole anagram thing, and honestly I don't even think that's the most important part of it.

RACHAEL

And that being, you can—

STEPHANIE

All you do is take the 'r' out of Irma and put it into Pince, and it's "I'm a Prince." So it's obvious, and people a lot of times ask, "Why isn't it just a red herring, then?" But actually, any good Snape fan will recognize the comparison when Harry talks about when he's hating himself, and he's repulsed by what he was doing, and then in the following chapter, he sees in Snape's face the revulsion and hatred. So like, JKR does a lot of kind of wordplay like that, where it's the same words to describe something.

Well, *every* instance, *every single* instance – besides *Half-Blood Prince* – Madame Pince *follows* Snape.

RACHAEL

Mm-hm.

STEPHANIE

Sorcerer's Stone, it's chapters eleven and twelve. *Chamber of Secrets*, it's nine and ten. *Goblet of Fire* it's twenty-five and twenty-six, *Order of the Phoenix* it's twenty-eight and twenty-nine. Something happens with Snape, and in the *following* chapter – she's usually in the books like once a book – she *always* follows him. And *Order of the Phoenix* is actually probably the best one; it follows right after the Penseive scene where Snape's raging, he throws the jar of cockroaches at Harry, he shouts at him to "Get out!", Harry runs away...and in the following chapter, Madam Pince does the same thing. She yells at him and Ginny to get out of the library, she has their books beating them about the head as they leave, he's running out of the library, and she's *raging* and she swoops down on him (which of course is a very Snapeish thing to do)—[ALL LAUGH]—*swooping* on somebody, and it's just...When you read the two of them back-to-back, it's like—you could almost, like, flip who's doing what, and they're doing the same thing.

RACHAEL

Yeah, she's frequently described as "vulture-like" or "swooping" or—

STEPHANIE

Exactly. But you think, "Okay, well, Snape's always been bat-like." Well, really, what does that mean? It's kind of him and his *wings*. So really...that's almost the same as being vulture-like as well, y'know, because it's kind of that he *looms*, he's always kind of *waiting* for something to happen, which is, y'know...And what, she's thin and irritable, that goes without saying; I mean, he's also like that. Now, *Half-Blood Prince* – the actual physical description of her finally matches his – that is to say, up to now, she's been vulture-like and he's thin and sallow and greasy-haired and whatnot. But in *Half-Blood Prince*, she actually has skin like parchment and a long hooked nose, which—to me what it is, it's finally we're being told "They really *do* look a lot alike." I mean, it's *more* now than just being similar. Because once she said "long hooked nose," I mean, that's like—bells go off, y'know, because who else has a long hooked nose?

RACHAEL

Well, so, I had a question about that, because in *Order of the Phoenix* when we see that glimpse of Snape's—the memory where he's crying and there's a hook-nosed man yelling—

STEPHANIE

Right right right.

RACHAEL

—a cowering woman; a lot of people assume that that is Snape's mother and father. And there seems to be this tendency in the book that sons look like their fathers.

STEPHANIE

Right, right. I agree.

RACHAEL

So, did Snape not get his nose from his father, he got it from his mother?

STEPHANIE

Okay, there's two ways to explain this away. One is, well, usually people say, "Well, why doesn't Madam Pince look like Eileen?", okay? To which I would say, "Well, she's hiding." I mean, y'know, she's not *supposed* to look like Eileen. So therefore, no, I think that Snape does inherit his father's looks. So okay, then the next question then is, "Does Madam Pince look at all like Snape?" And obviously she must not really look enough like him, because y'know, otherwise Hermione would've the first day gone "What the heck is this?", y'know—[laughs]—she would've known *immediately*—which I also believe, for example. We've *never* seen Madam Pince, well first of all, ever, *ever* anywhere outside the library until the very end of *Half-Blood Prince*, but I think if you *did* stand the two of them next to each other, *then* suddenly you would maybe have like a, "Oh!", y'know? But I also think part of that is that the clues have to be available to the reader, and if she didn't resemble him at all, she would just appear to be like a cranky old lady. And so it *has* to be like, you have to be able to *find* that they're similar in some way, and so again up to this point, she's never had a hooked nose. And actually *The Order of the Phoenix*, it mentions Snape having a beak-like nose when Tonks is changing her nose.

RACHAEL

Yeah.

STEPHANIE

But up to then he'd never had a beak-like nose, which again, if you go back to the vulture idea...y'know, she's kind of kept them separate in the books, in other words: his is hooked, and she looks like a vulture. Whereas now, you're getting closer and closer to bringing the two of them together. And y'know, he's always been pale, she's always been pale, but yet he's sallow, and now she's got skin like parchment, which again, that's more or less a sallow, y'know, kind of that yellowish pale color. So I— it's kind of like, finally we're allowed to know that these two look like each other. [laughs]

RACHAEL

So my big question is—I see all the parallels, but my big question is, what does it do for Snape's character?

STEPHANIE

What's the point? [laughs]

RACHAEL

Yeah, or what's the backstory? Like, if we find out in Book 7 that Irma Pince is Eileen Prince, what does that do? What does it change?

STEPHANIE

Okay. The backstory ideas—see, I have like, too many thoughts about that, so kinda to more keep it, “What would be the point?”...I think a lot of people who like Snape, but I mean clearly the guy has some issues—to know that he actually cares about *something* other than, like, his potions, or revenge against Voldemort, for example—to know that he actually *does*, y'know, have a heart in there somewhere, y'know? Maybe he keeps it hidden, but like...to know that he does care enough about something, for example, that he would want her taken care of while he's doing what he has to do. I think Draco is a good example, but he's more pampered, and he *has* more than Snape ever had, whereas I think for whatever reason Snape wanted his mother hidden, I don't think he had *any* other choice whatsoever. So whether it was...Voldemort said, “Okay, here's the little job for you, you know what's gonna happen if it doesn't go well, don't you?”

RACHAEL

And so where's Tobias in the picture then?

STEPHANIE

Okay, now, *my* opinion? Honestly, I think he left them or something. I don't know whether he's dead or not. Now, I have thought to myself, “Okay, maybe Voldemort killed *him*,” because we have seen a lot of getting rid of the Muggle relations. I mean, y'know, Voldemort killed *his* own father and grandparents, although Barty Crouch, he killed his own father, too, so I mean, maybe I wonder sometimes well if *that* was, y'know, we'll help Severus think more clearly by taking care of this Muggle in his house. I mean, I dunno. I *definitely* believe he left; I have kind of—well, I dunno if it's archetype, but some historical concepts for why I think he just left, but that's neither here nor there.

RACHAEL

And so, why does Eileen Prince/Irma Pince need protection then?

STEPHANIE

Well, I actually wondered to myself whether it was Eileen who wanted to save Snape first.

RACHAEL

Mm-hm.

ROSE

Mm.

STEPHANIE

And I have to admit that someone else brought it up; it wasn't even my idea, darn it. I just don't know, in other words, how far back to take my similarity between them; I mean, I kind of prefer to keep it as a rougher example, rather than an identical, because it gets boring if it's the same story twice. And then there's also the part of *Half-Blood Prince* that of course we're not allowed to talk about, the fake death part, so I've wondered about that too, like whether there was a fake death involved with it, but since that's been stricken from the record, um...the lawyer in you should know that we can't talk about it anymore. But, um...

RACHAEL

Well, fake death in terms of Dumbledore.

STEPHANIE

Well, yeah, just that part of the lecture that he gave to Draco.

RACHAEL

That doesn't mean that there couldn't be someone else.

STEPHANIE

I think *that's* actually why she took it out, was because she thought people would think it was Dumbledore, rather than anybody else, but since he's discussing it with Draco talking about his mother and himself—that kind of made it seem like a tip-off to me. But...So yeah, I just kinda think that probably Snape got a job that his mother was gonna be the beneficiary of his failure, so—*or*, alternatively, just that he said he would—obviously something made him turn around and decide to spy for Dumbledore; maybe he thought, “You know what, if I'm gonna spy, something might happen to me, but I don't want anything to happen to her.”

RACHAEL

Yeah.

ROSE

Mm-hm.

RACHAEL

So then, one of the major underlying themes of the book is clearly a mother's love.

STEPHANIE

Right, right.

RACHAEL

And there's this dynamic between while Harry is the way he is because his mother loved him, and Voldemort has this unique relationship with his mother – if Eileen Prince is Irma Pince, how does that fit into the mother's love theme?

STEPHANIE

Well, obviously I would say she was probably not the best mother there ever was; she was not Molly Weasley, y'know. She probably wasn't the best mother he could have ever had. Other than the fact that we all seem to be in love with him—I mean, really, the guy *is* the sort of person only a mother could love, y'know? [laughs] I mean, he really seems like when he was born, only *she* could see the beauty in that face, y'know? So I definitely think that yeah, between Draco and Narcissa and Molly and Petunia and Dudley... I mean, as soon as I kind of read he *had* a mother, y'know what I mean, like as soon as I said—

RACHAEL

Did you assume he didn't? [laughs]

STEPHANIE

[laughing] Yeah, yeah, I know, but it was like—that was one of those, like, moments where I was like, “Oh, and he was so obviously attached to her, because of the book,” y'know, it was that he was calling himself after *her* rather than his father, for example, I just thought to myself—this is where the key to him is, y'know, is her.

RACHAEL

So Rose, did you have any other questions before I ask my final one?

ROSE

Maybe about the Muggle thing? Irma Pince has some really strong ideas about not letting Muggles get ahold of wizarding kind of material and books...

STEPHANIE

Yeah, yes, yeah.

ROSE

So she also, if she was Eileen Prince—

STEPHANIE

Right, why would she be that way.

ROSE

—had a marriage to a Muggle. Do you think that something happened in that marriage to maybe change her attitude towards Muggles mixing with wizarding society?

STEPHANIE

Right, right. Well, I pictured her as kind of turning her back on the wizarding world at some point and ends up, exactly, married to a Muggle, that sort of thing. And so I have a feeling, I wonder if she turned back again when, let's say, he left her or whatever happened. And I also think that would make perfect sense for Snape's feelings of, y'know, wearing your heart on your sleeve is a bad thing, because he's seen how when you're in love, you act like an idiot, y'know?

RACHAEL

Mm-hm.

ROSE

Yeah.

STEPHANIE

And you give up things that you shouldn't, y'know; it causes you to do foolish things. And I could easily see that she decided turning off being a witch wasn't the right answer.

ROSE

Right.

STEPHANIE

And so she's kind of come back to being more comfortable.

ROSE

They ain't doing much for Snape's position as Slytherin Sex God if he's still livin' at school in his late thirties—

STEPHANIE

With his momma!

ROSE
With his mom! [laughs]

STEPHANIE
Yeah, yeah! No, absolutely! No, you're absolutely right. I mean—

RACHAEL
Bit of an Oedipus...

STEPHANIE
I think he's like, totally like a momma's boy, that's what I think! [laughs] Rather than the Slytherin Sex God, but you know, hey, we can all dream.

RACHAEL
[laughs] Anyhow, my last question is, how attached are you to this theory? If we find out in Book 7 that this isn't the case, what are you gonna do?

STEPHANIE
Yeah, no. I honestly think I would be upset only because I can see that it goes back all the way to the first book, that is to say, I mean, she's tied to him from the very first book. So if it's some sort of, like, red herring, she's planned it for the whole series; it's not that it just shows up in *Half-Blood Prince*, okay? But. This is not, y'know, on the same level of, is Snape good or evil, okay?

RACHAEL
Mm-hm.

STEPHANIE
Y'know, *that* would kick my butt, if I was wrong about that.

[ALL LAUGH]

STEPHANIE
If I was wrong about that, I would be seriously upset. This, it's like for fun, kind of, in my mind. I really like it, I've put a heck of a lot of time, y'know, I waste my time at the computer thinkin' about it. [laughs] But, y'know, it won't kill me. I won't be like, sobbing in the night over it, y'know what I mean? Whereas if it turned out Snape was evil, I think I would. [laughs] I would be sobbing in the night. So, y'know.

RACHAEL
Okay, well thank you so much for joining us, and for doing the very first edition of the Snape Theory Roundtable; I think we got the segment off to a good start. For the rest of the listeners – if you have a special Snape theory that you would like to discuss on the show, and you're over eighteen, you have high-speed Internet connection, a microphone, and the ability to use Skype or another voice-over-IP program, please send us a one-minute voicemail giving us a summary of your theory. These could be things like Snape is a vampire, Snape is married to some random person that we're gonna find out in Book 7, some kind of theory that revolves around Snape. Snarky will sort through the theories that we receive, and hopefully we'll be able to explore some new Snape frontiers via your feedback. So thanks again to Stephanie, and happy Snapeing, everyone! Bye!

STEPHANIE

Bye!

ROSE

Bye!

PSA: Holiday Shopping with Snapecast - (29:22)

Announcer: Meagan

MEAGAN

Hey, Snapecast listeners! Are you having trouble choosing the perfect holiday gift for that special Potions master in *your* life? Want to add an extra dash of snark to this year's festivities, but not sure how? Well, wonder no longer! Coming soon: the official Snapecast CafePress store, featuring Snapecast mugs, mousepads, T-shirts, and more! Watch our sites for links, and keep the season bright...er, I mean, ambiguously gray...with Snapecast!

Fan Interview - (30:03)

Interviewer: Gina

Guest: lookfar

- [Lookfar's fic](#)

GINA

Greetings Snapecast listeners! This is Gina R. Snape, and you have just tuned in to the Interview Segment. I'm here with Lookfar.

LOOKFAR

Hello!

GINA

And we are going to be discussing her insights into Snape and her fiction. She has written three stories: *Jehane Desrosiers* which is a Snape/OFC story; *The Black Swan*, which is a Severus Snape/Dumbledore story; and *You*, a Snupin story in the second person. So, to begin with, I thought we would talk a little bit about you and your professional life, and about *Jehane Desrosiers*. So, why don't you tell our listeners very quickly what you do for a living?

LOOKFAR

I'm a psychotherapist, so I spend a lot of time listening to people, and thinking about them, and being interested in what their lives are like, so writing fiction is not too different from that. I mean, being a psychotherapist is being interested in stories, and I'm also of course a big reader, I think everyone who writes fan fiction is a big reader, and this is the first time I've made up stories of my own.

GINA

Ah, exciting. And you've told me before that you're an avid reader, I think it was Jayne Erie influenced the writing of *Jehane Desrosiers*?

LOOKFAR

Yeah, when I first started to write it I was thinking about Jayne Erie as a heroine and how-- what a

wonderful heroine she was because she made it so clear that she herself didn't think she was anything special. And also, I'm not sure but I think Jayne Erie might be the very first romance novel, and of course that's what I was writing, so...

GINA

Right. So, why don't we talk a little bit about that story. We have your original female character--

LOOKFAR

Uh-huh.

GINA

She's French--

LOOKFAR

Uh-huh.

GINA

And she comes to Hogwarts and woos Severus Snape. But there's a lot more to it than that.

LOOKFAR

Yeah, it's actually, again, you know, I wrote this – it took me three years, and I wrote it over-- without really having a complete plot in mind, so it's a bit strange, and I wanted it to have a Victorian, or even earlier kind of feel to it. So, there's a long, long setup. You don't meet Severus till I think the sixth or seventh chapter, and she has a whole life before that. As, first a child growing up on a French vineyard, and then as a young wife, and a hippogriff trainer – hippogriff rehabilitator, and then as a widow. And then she comes to Hogwarts, and meets Snape.

GINA

Right. And she really-- I mean, you really do an amazing job of developing this character as a real person, in her own right, and so we get to know her, and it makes it more plausible for us to see how she figures out how to engage Severus Snape, and how to, I guess, *get* engaged to him. [laughs]

LOOKFAR

Yeah, yeah. And he's-- it also gave me, because she has another marriage, it gave me a counterpoint for him.

GINA

Right.

LOOKFAR

The first husband is very different, from Snape. And there's room in your heart for all kinds of experiences with people, and they all bring their own kind of growth and healing to you and I guess that was part of what I was trying to explore.

GINA

Yeah, and you really explore Severus's character. I think he stays true to cannon in many ways in terms of how he's difficult to penetrate and, you know, his personality never gets nice, he never becomes drippy, but you're able to use that to figure out what kind of man he is and what it would take to really get inside him. Can you talk about that a little bit?

LOOKFAR

Yeah, and that had something to do with her being a hippogriff trainer. I don't think I'm the first person to have thought about that. She herself is quite a wounded person, and she's intrigued by, how do you reach someone, because of the way she was raised, with a kind of unreachable parent, and, I guess that is a little bit the kind of thing I would be thinking about as a therapist. She finds him very attractive, in part, because he's not easy to get. She, and a million other fan fiction readers...

GINA

Yeah, the rest of us.

LOOKFAR

But she also has a more... professionalized? kind of interest in him, again, because she's a hippogriff trainer, and she has specialized in injured hippogriffs that would be put down otherwise because they're dangerous, or untrainable. And you see how, in the story, that comes out of her childhood experience.

GINA

Right.

LOOKFAR

You know, everything you do as an adult is aimed at repairing the injuries of childhood, I suppose, more or less successfully. There's no way you can come out of childhood not injured, so you end up hoping that the things that you pursue as an adult will help you heal from those injuries, and so that's why Snape is a real opportunity for her to heal more of the things that affected her growing up.

GINA

Right.

LOOKFAR

And why she's attracted to him! You're attracted to the people that offer that opportunity. And, what you hope is that the opportunity is real, and not just another defeat for you.

GINA

Right...

LOOKFAR

[laughs] That's what we all hope.

GINA

Yeah, let's not try and get defeated again!

LOOKFAR

Right.

GINA

And you really go beyond the, 'Oh, and it was happily ever after,' to them, you know, having a full, married life. Can you talk about that a little bit?

LOOKFAR

Um, yeah, I'll tell you a little bit about the experience of that, because again I started out writing more or less blindly, I didn't-- I'd never written anything long, I didn't know it was a long thing when I started writing it. I was gonna write this short little, romance kind of snippet, based on some other things I'd read, and then, pretty quickly, as soon as I started thinking about *Jayne Erie*, I was following that arc, that a classic romance novel follows, you know: they're attracted, something keeps them apart, there are misunderstandings, they may get together and be separated again, and then there's a, you know, blazing...flame of... of authorial and reader satisfaction, they come together in the end. And then, the curtain falls.

GINA

And, and indeed they do, I have to give you credit for that.

LOOKFAR

Why thank you!

GINA

Readers can look forward to that. So anyway, go on.

LOOKFAR

But then, when I got to that point, partly I think because I'm a married lady myself, and I was sort of, unsatisfied... I felt like, oh, yes well, but to end it there, is like saying, yes, and then when people finally get together, that's it! You know, after that there's nothing but the mortgage and the nappies. And that's not it at all. I think--

GINA

No, there's a whole other adventure that can occur.

LOOKFAR

Yes! And at that point, some people had read it, so I had a little bit of feedback, and I wanted to say more. At that point I felt more in a conversation with people who were reading it, and I wanted to say "Guess what? Marriage is romantic." And it's not romantic in the same way. All that stuff that you ever hear about marriage, you know, how to keep the spark alive by doing all the same tired shit you did when you were just dating... [BOTH LAUGH] It doesn't work! You know?

GINA

[laughing] It doesn't?!

LOOKFAR

Give someone a dozen roses for the fiftieth time, and they're like, "Boo, feh, you know, get the vase, I'm watching TV..." [GINA LAUGHS] But marriage is romantic in many other ways if you understand that.

GINA

The rhythm of it.

LOOKFAR

Yes. That there's a great romance in the commitment that you make, in realizing that you have an unparalleled opportunity to walk inside another person's world – if you know how to take it. It's a great, great spiritual and emotional challenge. If you want to grow, you know, there are two primary means of

non-professional therapy in the world, and they are marriage, and parenthood. If you see them that way, and if you have some help in managing them, so you can get what you want to get out of them.

GINA

What a beautiful analogy.

LOOKFAR

Well thank you.

GINA

I like that. And I think, for the readers – well first of all, this is a perfect example of when you feed the writers, when you give them feedback, you will get more, and you will get a richer story, so feed the writers.

LOOKFAR

Yeah, yes yes. So I followed them into their marriage – actually, what happens is they become parents, and then they get married – and into a number of, sort of challenges that happened, and part of the challenge was to sort of to imagine Severus Snape as a parent--

GINA

Right...

LOOKFAR

And as a husband, and how... How would you live with him, and how would he be, and...?

GINA

Right, because, you know even when he has his own child, he doesn't become a different person--

LOOKFAR

Yes yes, so--

GINA

He's still abrasive...

LOOKFAR

So I definitely had to take out some mushy parent-child scenes...

GINA

Heh-heh-heh.

LOOKFAR

I think there may have been one where he's giving his daughter a bath, and I just... Yuch... you know?
[BOTH LAUGH] You know, it just had to go out, it was too... there was no way to do it without getting all Hallmark about it.

GINA

Right, I mean, in cannon Snape has moments where he's concerned about the students, but it's never fluffy. It's always, you know, he says one thing, but means another. So... so how did that present a challenge for you in having him be a parent?

LOOKFAR

I think what I tuned into was that he would be a very engaged parent. And that that-- he is not a warm-and-fuzzy kind of parent, fairy kisses and “I love you” every night, but he is engaged, he pays attention. He's a very bright man, and very astute, I mean you cannot be a spy without knowing how to pay attention, and of course we all know he is a spy...

GINA

[laughs] That's for sure.

LOOKFAR

And so with his daughter, he attends to her development, and her learning, and you know, that's what children like, is your attention, you know?

GINA

Sure.

LOOKFAR

You don't have to be as fuzzy as you are aware of them and their inner lives. And then you don't have to really-- it doesn't really matter what you say in the “I love you” department.

GINA

Right. And so it's clear in the story that he loves his daughter very much, and he's concerned about her well-being, but he doesn't lose character, and I think that is a very difficult thing for writers to do.

LOOKFAR

And as a husband, I think I really pictured him as fiercely protective and possessive – not in a jealous, “I saw you talking to Lupin” kind of way, which would be gross, but... In that sense that, he knows that they belong together. And he will not let anything interfere with that. And I also went out of my way to say that he did not then join a happy circle of the 'marriage encounter' couples that meet every Thursday and talk about things...

GINA

No no, he still stays to himself...

LOOKFAR

He's still very solitary, he just has, basically, he has my heroine, and his daughter, and a kind of a friendship with Minerva that is based on their concern for the school, and that's kind of it.

GINA

Right.

LOOKFAR

But he also, he's romantic in his own way toward his wife. Which is to say, he gives her compliments... He probably would not say, “My darling, I could not live without you.” Because that would just be too sentimental. But he's always telling her that she's damn good looking, which we kind of know from her that she's not, but he thinks she is. And when he says it to her, he's really saying, “You are appealing to me.”

GINA

Right, he means it.

LOOKFAR

He means it.

GINA

He means that he appreciates everything about her. Yeah. Let's switch gears a little bit, because you've written two other stories, and both of them were slash. And this is very different kinds of stories from *Jehane Desrosiers*.

Uh, yeah, kind of surprising to me. Actually, when I started writing *Jehane Desrosiers*, I hadn't-- I hadn't read any slash, I didn't know it existed! [laughing] And so once I found it...

GINA

[laughing] Ooh, that's funny!

LOOKFAR

I was like, woo!

GINA

[laughing] Wooo!

LOOKFAR

This is amazing! And for some reason, if I was going to write a long romance novel about Snape, he had to be a person who was capable of transformation, because Snape as he is written in the book, you know, couldn't possibly have a relationship with anyone.

GINA

Right.

LOOKFAR

You know, outside maybe a Master and slave kind of thing, or a...

GINA

S&M thing...

LOOKFAR

Yeah. But when I wrote the slash stuff, I think I-- actually, I think my slash Snape is really more cannon, in terms of his very, very limited emotional repertoire. And, the Snapledore story – which, I know people think of Snapledore and they go “Eeeeehhhh....” and they shiver all over, with horror...Is probably the closest thing I have to what I really imagine a person like Snape would be capable of, emotionally, which is a rather, constrained relationship that is very limited by his feelings of... his fear of vulnerability, his horror of humiliation, but in the case of that story, it partly goes because Dumbledore is such a loving person and is so understanding, and you know, for Snape, even that is sort of a torment, to be understood, because he has such self-hate.

GINA

Right, he wants it, but he's afraid of it, and Dumbledore finds himself willing to go there with him, and

so their relationship is definitely guarded, but intimate. And very very different from standard “plot-without-plot” -- because there's not really a plot, in that story? But there's a lot that happens between them.

LOOKFAR

Yes. And it's a post-HPB, so, Dumbledore's death is hanging over them, you know, that's part of what is explained in the story.

GINA

That's true, I forgot about that. And then you have a Snupin story...

LOOKFAR

Yes, which, actually, is not-- Snupin is the narrator-- I mean, Lupin is the narrator, and Snape is merely the object in that story, and again, I think a couple of things I was doing in that story, I was really interested to see if you could write a story in the second person, and the reason I chose the second person was that it's really a description of obsessive love, and what I wanted to see if I could do was to get at the numinous quality of obsessive love. Stendhal wrote something about, he called it 'crystallization', that when you're in love, everything you see about the beloved object is proof of his perfection, so that even-- Lupin in this story really sees Snape for the furious, angry, spitting, rageful, hateful person he is, and loves him sort of helplessly.

GINA

He's compelled nonetheless.

LOOKFAR

Yes, and even knows why he's compelled! He understands that it's about his upbringing, and his feeling of being an outsider, and the other thing that I was working on was the whole kind of, it's a BDSM story, and I was really interested in where the power lies in relationships, and how people-- what story people tell themselves about the power, because in this story, Lupin is the unwilling sadist--

GINA

He definitely tells himself stories to keep it going, Lupin...

LOOKFAR

Yeah, and it's Snape who wishes to be in the masochistic position, and yet he holds all the power.

GINA

Yes.

LOOKFAR

And I've certainly heard people talk about... I'm kind of interested generally, in the more fringe ends of sexuality, because I think they describe, just in a clearer form, things that go on in all sexuality.

GINA

Hmm. Now, lastly, I wanted to ask you, how would you imagine Snape's childhood was? Based on your professional experience, and seeing how he is in cannon as an adult, how do you think he got that way?

LOOKFAR

Aaah... Oh, one could go on forever about that. [GINA LAUGHS] Well you know, you have those little bits in cannon, you know, the shouting man and the crying woman. In *Jehane Desrosiers*, I imagined him as a somewhat neglected little rich boy – we know now that was not what was going on as far as the wealth, but um--

GINA
Right, with Spinners End, right...

LOOKFAR
Yeah, I had pictured him as-- sitting on a stool reading a book in the kitchen, because the cook was in there, and even though she didn't like him, at least he wasn't alone.

GINA
Awww....

LOOKFAR
Yeah. I especially have thought about the role of shame; it's clear that Snape is extremely sensitive and averse to the feeling of being shamed, and you know, in the final battle there, in the last book, when he turns around and yells "I am not a coward!" You know, he's-- that's what made him stop, I mean, really, if people are firing at you, do you stop and turn around and talk? Only if someone's really yanked your chain.

GINA
Right.

LOOKFAR
I really see him as an abused and neglected child. And when I say neglected, you know abuse and neglect, you can have both.

GINA
Right.

LOOKFAR
I think he's a kid who's needs were not met, he was obviously very, very bright, and when a child's needs aren't met, he becomes ashamed of having those needs. To want so much and be given so little? It means that you're not worthy. And children only know from the starting point of themselves, that they always assume that whatever they're getting is what they deserve, even if it makes them really angry. There's a therapist named Terry Real who writes about men and their depression, and how grandiosity is the piece that people don't look at. That depressed men are very sensitive to humiliation, and in the moment of humiliation they become grandiose, which is why their partners always get in trouble. And I really see Snape as someone who's needs were not met, who was probably abused and shamed by that shouting father, and unnurtured by that weeping mother, and grew up very alone. You see in that Snape's Worst Memory chapter, he was the kind of kid who's vulnerabilities are visible to other children who then abuse him, which is why children can be so lovely and so horrible at the same time. Yeah, I see him as a deeply lonely person who is really not accessible to anyone, and if anything was going to work with him, it would be a combination of affection, and empathy, and a firm hand--

GINA
And patience.

LOOKFAR

Yeah, but you know, I think women often make this mistake with men who are like this, that if they just love them enough, the guy will come out of his own accord and make that contact, and he won't.

GINA

No...

LOOKFAR

He won't. You know, that's why there are so many books written for women about how to get away from this guy. [laughs]

GINA

Right. [laughs] Point well taken. Well, thank you so much for your incredible insights.

LOOKFAR

Well thank you, this has been just fun.

GINA

And your incredible fiction. Our listeners will want to know where to find your work, why don't you tell them...

LOOKFAR

Actually, I think the only place that it still is... is... at Occlumency...

GINA

Sycophant Hex?

LOOKFAR

Well, Sycophant Hex, right. Because the Jehane Desrosiers is at at Occlumency, and the other things are in Lumos, so... just go look under my name, Lookfar, and there they are. And there's also another story I wrote about Mad-Eye Moody and Luna Lovegood, so there they are too.

[BOTH LAUGH]

GINA

Great!

LOOKFAR

Well thank you Gina! What fun!

GINA

Well thank you very much. And so also our listeners know, the link will be posted on the website, on the Snapecast website, and LiveJournal, when this episode airs. So, well thank you very much for coming to this interview today.

LOOKFAR

It was my pleasure.

GINA

And it was my pleasure as well. And to our listeners, take care!

Contest Winners Announcement - (49:01)

Announcer: Rose

- [Lost](#) by sigune
- [Winter Solstice](#) by Dawn Secondcost
- [Severus and the Three Spirits of Christmas](#) by Rebecca Gomez

ROSE

We received some fabulous entries for this month's fanfic and fan art contest. It's the holiday season, and we're in an especially generous mood: congratulations to sigune, Dawn Secondcost, and Rebecca Gomez. We will be in touch soon with how to claim your prizes. Links to the entries can be found on our website at www.snapecast.com.

We'd also like to let our wonderful listeners know that we'll be having a brand-new way for you all to be a part of Snapecast. For the moment, we'll be putting the fanfic and fanart contest on hold. We'll be asking you to contribute in a new and fun way that everyone – not only the writers and artists – can join in on. Stay tuned for further details!

Snape & - (50:04)

Panel: Becca, Rachael, Gina, Wendy, Shannon

Topic: Snape & Family: Part I

Music: Shira Kammen, Wild Wood: 13-Rapaz Mane

BECCA

Hi! And welcome to the Snape & Roundtable. This is Becca and I have with me:

RACHAEL
Rachael!

GINA
Gina R. Snape!

WENDY
Wendy!

SHANNON
Shannon!

RACHAEL
We have the whole Snapecast family, almost!

BECCA
Yeah, which is appropriate because this Snape & theme is Snape and Family.

GINA
Woo hoo!

BECCA
And, uh, so this may be a multi-part roundtable, we're going to have to see how long we go because there's a lot to say on this topic, don't you think?

SHANNON
Yes!

GINA
You know how it gets when the family all gets together and starts talking!

BECCA
Oh, yes, definitely!

RACHAEL
(Laughing) And there are a lot of us, so...

BECCA
Oh, Yeah! So, my first question to start us off would be: the glimpses that we've seen of Snape's family, one of the foremost examples is – of course – the glimpse that Harry gets during one of his Occlumency lessons. He sees the man who's shouting at a cowering woman. Do you guys think that those people are Tobias and Eileen? And what do you think was going on in that scene?

WENDY
I think they are Snape's parents and it occurred to me that that was just one of many scenes where his mother was being abused by his father.

SHANNON
It sure seems that way, and I know that was my absolute first impression and then I started to wonder. There was a time when I thought it could be that the man may be, uh, Eileen's father and not necessarily Tobias, because we don't hear much more of a description about their ages, but some other things have led me to think that that's not quite the case. So, I do think it is Tobias and Eileen.

GINA
Yeah, I have always thought it was Tobias. The part about him being a hook-nosed man, immediately you know that this man is related to Severus Snape.

RACHAEL
Mm, Hmm. I have a really strong opinion on this, and I believe that no matter who those people were, that they had to be Snape's primary caregivers. And we'll probably get in later to why I have that opinion. I think it's Snape's father but even if it was Eileen Prince's father, I think that that was a scene that Snape was hiding because those were his primary caregivers, and it was traumatic.

SHANNON
Snape wasn't hiding that scene though, that was in his memory. That's what's interesting is Snape did not put that in the Pensieve, Harry found that in Snape's mind when...

RACHAEL
Oh, that's true – yeah!

SHANNON
Yeah, so Snape wasn't actually hiding that from anyone.

RACHAEL
He was very upset when Harry saw it.

BECCA
I think the idea that it was actually Eileen's father is an intriguing one and it might be something that Jo could do, but I also think that it makes sense for it to be Tobias just because we probably won't get a detailed explanation of that scene and we might not revisit it at all and I think the simplest explanation is that it's Snape's mother and father. And, uh...you know...

GINA
The simplest explanation usually works.

BECCA
Occam's Razor?

GINA
Yeah!

BECCA
Yeah! So, from that scene it looks like... or we certainly get the impression... that Snape had an abusive childhood. The hook-nosed man is certainly being domineering and maybe verbally abusive at the least. Do you think that Snape had an abusive childhood and if so, who was the abuser? Was it just Tobias or, um, was it a combination or what was it usually like?

GINA
Well, going back to this scene, the fact that this is occurring in front of Snape while he's crying in a corner, tells me that he was... you know, people will yell in front of their children on a regular basis and not think about it. If it's not an ordinary occurrence then the adults might take it into another room so that the children aren't witnessing it. But the fact that they don't seem to be caring that this child is crying and witnessing this horrible event, tells me that it's something that probably occurred on a regular basis.

BECCA
Hmm, that's a good point!

SHANNON
Mm, hmm. So that there is a pattern...

WENDY
Yeah I agree with that!

SHANNON
...of abuse in the home?

GINA
Exactly!

BECCA
Yeah, I can see that but I also might think... were the memories that Harry got traumatic in some fashion, traumatic enough that they stuck out in Snape's mind and that's –umm – why they were the memories to suddenly pop into Harry's head? Or, you know, was it just coincidence?

RACHAEL
I think...

BECCA
Because I can see it either way!

RACHAEL
I think that the reason why Harry saw those memories is because those are sort of the memories that Snape uses to define himself. They were at the forefront of his brain; they were the easiest thing for Harry to see. And I have a really strong opinion that, like, Snape did go through an abusive or traumatic childhood, for those who've heard my Slytherin life segment, that's why I identify with Snape – in a way. Because I really strongly believe that there is this connection between Snape's ability to perform Occlumency and the skills that he's learned going through an abusive childhood. And I think a part of the reason why we see this scene in a memory is because part of the reason Snape is the way he is - so closed off, so cold, just so Snape – is because he's good at locking these memories away. And he's very – even though he didn't directly hide these memories from Harry, he didn't put them in the Pensieve – maybe he couldn't because they are so much a part of him. He was very angry when Harry saw these.

And as far as who is the abuser, in those two, I mean now granted I'm not a psychiatrist or a – umm - psychotherapist or anything, but I think that usually a dysfunctional family is a system; it's not just one person. So, Tobias might have been verbally abusive or physically abusive, but Eileen let it happen. Everybody in a dysfunctional family plays a role and, like, I think part of the reason why Snape is the way he is, is because of the role he played in that family.

BECCA
Was Snape so angry though? I don't recall Snape being angry that Harry saw those memories. I remember him being angry, of course, at Harry going into the Pensieve but...

RACHAEL
I think he's sweating and it's clear...

GINA
Well, no, actually Snape wasn't angry, he was shaken. In fact it says here: Snape was shaking slightly, and was very white in the face. I think he was very shaken, shocked and surprised that Harry had gotten in, but I don't think he was angry that Harry had seen those particular scenes. I think it was more, kind of a moment of "Whoa, what just happened? This kid just saw the stuff that went on in my life."

RACHAEL
Yeah. Perhaps angry is the wrong word.

BECCA

I can definitely see him embarrassed.

RACHAEL

I guess what I meant to say was he feels...he feels exposed, I think.

BECCA

Yeah, definitely.

RACHAEL

And that's because I think those memories are like what makes Snape, Snape.

WENDY

Vulnerable, too.

BECCA

Yeah.

RACHAEL

Yeah.

GINA

I think that they are common enough in his life that I think they were a normal part of his childhood. And, you know, it gives us a snapshot of Snape's childhood very quickly. I just think that it was common enough that he experienced those kinds of humiliations and degrading experiences and unpleasant experiences on a regular basis.

SHANNON

I wanted to point out to something else to support what everyone has said about Snape's father possibly being the abuser, is that not only this Pensieve scene, but something Snape said later on to Harry, makes me believe – and Snape's own behavior – makes me believe he received abuse at the hands of someone who was probably a caregiver. And this is taken from Chapter 24, *Occlumency* in *Order of the Phoenix* and it's where he says to Harry:

“Fools who wear their hearts proudly on their sleeves, who cannot control their emotions, who wallow in sad memories and allow themselves to be provoked this easily – weak people, in other words – they stand no chance against his powers.” And I was thinking that this sounds like the sorta thing you sometimes hear fathers or parents yelling at their children, you know, “Don't cry!” or you know, “Stop snivelling, you child!” We also see, you know, Snape has this barrier he puts up around himself but he's also abusive himself and sometimes that's a sign that you were, yourself, abused – you pass on these... the way people – adults - treated you.

WENDY

Mm, hmm

SHANNON

And we see how Snape is pretty cruel to his students. So I think, not just the Pensieve scene, but Snape's own behavior and some of the things he says I think are signs he has been abused. And he's internalised this and now he, himself, is an abuser.

BECCA
Yeah!

RACHAEL

Exactly! And it's the difference between him and Harry is that Harry has gone through just as horrific of a childhood as Snape has, if not more, and Harry doesn't have that streak that Snape does. And I really think, I mean my own... the way I work it out in my mind... I don't think J.K. Rowling will explain this, but what I like to think is that it relates to Snape's ability to disassociate and take himself out of the moment. And I just ... I know I'm dominating the discussion... but I wanted to read this little quote from Jo, 'cause it fits with what you just read, Shannon. She's answering the question from her editor about Draco's ability to do Occlumency and she says:

“Emma said to me, ‘So, Malfoy can do Occlumency which obviously Harry never mastered and now has pretty much given up on doing or attempting.’ And she was querying this and wondering if he should be as good at it, but I think Draco would be very gifted in Occlumency, unlike Harry. Harry's problem with it was always that his emotions were too near the surface and that he is, in some ways, too damaged. But he is also very in touch with his feelings and what has happened to him. He's not repressed, he's quite honest about facing them and he couldn't suppress them. He couldn't suppress these memories. But I thought of Draco as someone who is very capable of compartmentalizing his life, and his emotions, and has always done this. So he shut down his pity enabling him to bully effectively. He shut down compassion, how else would you become a Death Eater. So, he suppresses virtually all the good side of himself.” And I think is very much the same as with Snape.

GINA
Yeah.

SHANNON
Yeah, I agree.

WENDY

I wonder if he... he saw his... Well we presume it's his father abusing his mother, who was a witch and, you know, if she hasn't retaliated magically some way towards his Muggle father, maybe he harbors some kind of – not resent – but, you know, can't get his head around why she wouldn't retaliate against his father when she had so many, you know, tricks – so to speak - up her sleeve. So he's taught himself some of the Dark Arts so no one can do to him what his father did to his mother.

BECCA

That is actually one of my questions was: Why did Eileen marry Tobias, who we are told is a Muggle? Was she the one who taught Snape the Dark Arts? And if so, why did she do that?

WENDY
So he could defend himself, perhaps.

GINA

Well, we saw in the *Half-Blood Prince* that she's not a very pretty woman and if we are meant to make a parallel between her and Merope, in terms of not-very-pretty witches coming from perhaps not-very-nice homes and looking for a way out and they're marrying a Muggle; maybe I... I think she probably was looking for some sort of escape and went from the frying pan into the fire.

SHANNON

I wonder if she was a rebel? You know, like, she's described as being cross and sullen – what if she's one of these, you know, she's from a family and she's rebelling against them by taking up with a Muggle and then she gets knocked up and there you go!

RACHAEL

[sniggers]

GINA

Yeah, maybe! Yeah but she's in the Gobstones club, they're not exactly a rebellious sort, are they?

WENDY

[laughs]

SHANNON

I don't know!

BECCA

Well, OK, so Snape is the Half-Blood Prince. What is the significance of being a Half-Blood Prince? Does that automatically mean that the Princes are a pure-blood family?

GINA

I just had a thought! What if the Princes were a pure-blood family, and they scooped up Severus after his mother failed them by marrying a Muggle, and they made sure that he learned the Dark Arts?

BECCA

That's actually one of my fanfics!

GINA

Woohoo!

RACHAEL

That's a lot of fanfics!

GINA

That's funny!

BECCA

Yeah, it's a common fanfic theme!

GINA

Oh, man!

SHANNON

[laughs]

BECCA

Gina thought she just had a breakthrough.

[ALL LAUGH]

SHANNON

Hey, that was new for me!

WENDY

Me, too, actually.

BECCA

It's always nice to think of something and realize someone else identifies with it, too.

WENDY

Yeah.

SHANNON

I was looking on the Harry Potter Lexicon, just 'cause it's a nice resource, and there are no other Princes, but I really would love to be able to get a look at the Black Family tapestry and see if there are any Princes on there, because that would be (general agreement) confirmation that they were pure bloods. I just kind of have a feeling they are or otherwise why would Snape say 'Half-Blood Prince' 'cause if his mum was a half-blood, she would be a Half-Blood Prince too, that doesn't make him very special.

BECCA

Right.

RACHAEL

He might be saying that, because you have to remember he was in Slytherin House and like, even if the Prince family wasn't a prestigious pure-blood family, like, it might have just been his deep-down dark little secret that his blood wasn't as pure as his fellow Slytherins.

BECCA

Yeah, I could see it both ways. I could see it... him being like, "Well, I'm half a Prince and if it's a prestigious pure-blood family, it's better than nothing!" You know? But I could also see it the other way, like maybe if he was raised – like, let's go with that theory –if he was raised by his maternal family who were Princes and perhaps didn't treat him the best, maybe it was like a jab at them, maybe he adopted his Half-Blood Prince nickname because he was like "Well, I'm only half of you!"

SHANNON

He wrote it in irony, maybe or something...

BECCA

Yeah, maybe. I could see it both ways... I mean everything about Snape I can see two sides of it!

[ALL LAUGH]

RACHAEL

Except one thing I will definitely say I like, mark my word, I will not like Snape anymore if he had a rosy childhood. Like, that is the one thing I take a hard stance on with Snape because it'll ruin the

character, to me!

SHANNON
Really!

RACHAEL
If he had a pleasant childhood where he was one hundred percent loved by his family and supported, it will ruin the character because then he is like a truly awful person!

BECCA
He's like Draco then!

SHANNON
Well, what about his environment, too? I mean, the environment is not just his family, it could be his peers, it could be the context in which he was raised. It could be a deep sense of self-loathing because he just, I don't know, has mental problems or something like that. Which is probably not a good way of putting it, but there (sniggering) are so many things that could make someone complex.

RACHAEL
Again, I really think though that – and granted it's not my area of expertise – but if you have a strong family unit and you always have that to come back to and you feel loved in your own home, you're not going to become Snape just by being teased at school.

SHANNON
Yeah, I disagree with that, completely.

BECCA
I think it's a pretty safe bet that Snape did not have a rosy childhood. I think there was some kind... I don't know exactly the details of it, but I think it's been set up for us to get the impression that Snape did not have a wonderful childhood.

GINA
Yeah, whether it was at home or at Hogwarts, he definitely – you know – suffered.

BECCA
Well, what were you going to say, SHANNON? You were going to offer a rebuttal.

SHANNON
I was just going to say that you can sometimes see the same children in the same family and so in the same circumstances, the same upbringing in a sense, and they'll turn out differently. You'll have a family which may be dysfunctional, and you may have someone who may become a serial murderer and their brother or sister does not. You know, so I think there is a combination of... this is getting to the nature versus nurture... but I think these things are... they work together.

BECCA
Yeah, Shannon, I just would like to point out that we have examples – two canon examples – we have Draco and we have Dudley and they are two boys who are arguably had very loving homes and families and you know, in *Half-Blood Prince* Draco wasn't able to murder Dumbledore but he's still not a very pleasant young man. And Dudley, the same is said for him! So...

RACHAEL

Well, there's also a quote, isn't there, about how Dudley is like even in a way more abused than Harry.

Like I really strongly disagree with people who look at people's childhood from a glimpse – like we have with Snape's – and say their childhood is happy. Dudley got everything he wanted and his parents loved him so therefore his childhood was happy. I guess my only point is that Snape, looking at who he is and how complex he is, I don't want to believe he's mentally ill. That's just... that's not interesting to me. So, otherwise I have to believe he has some complex psychological structure and I think we've been given lots of hints that he's been exposed to repeated trauma when he was young. I think that

Occlumency – and I think he is arguably the most accomplished Occlumens – it's the process of blocking out your feelings and pretending to be someone else; hiding yourself. That's exactly the strategy that abused children go through on a daily basis and practice so that they can survive. And if nothing else, Snape is a survivor and I think part of the reason he survived this war is because of the coping mechanisms he learned in childhood.

SHANNON

I agree

GINA

Yeah, I think it makes him a more interesting character because we are left to ponder both what strategies he's taken and what moral choices he's taken. Whereas, if we look at him through a lens of mental illness then we're... it takes away, I think, in a literary way some of that complexity.

RACHAEL

I mean, Voldemort is mentally ill, in a way, I will buy that...

GINA

Well, he's a sociopath.

RACHAEL

I can't relate...

SHANNON

Oh, definitely!

RACHAEL

...to him on any way...

SHANNON

He's a sociopath...

RACHAEL

...and Harry is like the exact opposite that his feelings are at the surface, he confronts his emotions, and he is able to love! And that's the magic, that's the power of the whole series anyway. So the big question is, is Snape able to do this? And I think that is why we want him to be good, 'cause we want somebody who has been through something terrible to be able to love. And to me, if that's not there, I'll just be disappointed by it. I'll just read fanfic! (general laughter)

BECCA

That's what it is there for! (more laughter)

GINA

I just wanted to point out at the end of the *Half-Blood Prince*, Hermione does mention the announcement of his birth and Harry says he'd play up the pure-blood side so he could get in with Lucius Malfoy and the rest of them. So, I don't know if we can take that as word that Eileen Prince was pure-blood but I'm sure that Rowling is suggesting it very hard.

BECCA

And she... where Snape is concerned, doesn't it make you think whenever Harry says something like that regarding Snape, it makes you think the opposite (general laughter) must be true?

GINA

Yes, except in the *Half-Blood Prince* every time people think he's wrong, he turns out to be right. So we have to rethink that in that book alone! (giggles)

SHANNON

Yeah!

BECCA

(laughing) Well, thank you guys and this will definitely have to be a multi-parter, but I think... I think it was pretty good! So, thank you and bye!

RACHAEL

Bye!

GINA

Bye!

SHANNON

Bye!

WENDY

Bye!

Owlpost - (1:10:22)

Panel: Shannon, Rachael, Chris

Voice: Chris

Music: Shira Kammen, Music of Waters: 03-Unconformity

SHANNON

Well, we've finally reached my favorite part of the show – and that's the Owlpost. This is Shannon and I have with me:

RACHAEL

Rachael, and I'm sitting here with Snarky who's wearing a little Christmas hat. It's very cute!

CHRIS

And Chris, and I'm sat here with nothing on at all!

SHANNON

What! Chris! (general laughter) This is not true, actually...

CHRIS

Apart from a Santa suit.

SHANNON

OK... [laughs]

RACHAEL

A part. The regular Santa suit!

SHANNON

So, I'm really excited with this batch of Owlposts, in particular because my dream has come true and I just want to read this. So, this was actually from a comment posted on MySpace by Scoffen who is from Reykjavik in Iceland and she writes: "Thank you guys for keeping me entertained and thus making my work bearable. I'd have loved to have sent you a clip for the international reading thingy, I'm Icelandic, but I guess I found out about it too late. Keep up the good work, anyways." Is that so cool! We got one! We finally heard from Iceland! Yeah!

RACHAEL

Yeah! Yeah!

CHRIS

That's awesome!

SHANNON

Yeah! I think I'm...

CHRIS

Yeah!

SHANNON

I think I'm going to go there for my next vacation. That just made my year!

RACHAEL

So, what's your next goal now that we've gotten a response from Iceland, Shannon?

SHANNON

Well, now – believe it or not – we actually have listeners in other interesting parts of the world but I want to look a little bit further south; and I'm hoping someone will send us an owlpost, or a comment, who's in South Africa. So, that's what I'm looking for – South African listeners. So, anyway, but you know what would be really cool? I still think it would be really great if Scoffen would leave us a voice-message so we can actually hear her too. So, that's still on the table. But anyway, on to the rest of the mail.

RACHAEL

You're so demanding!

SHANNON

Yes! We love hearing from everybody. So, uh, Chris, I think you had a letter to read.

CHRIS

I do! I have a letter from Nicole. And she says: "I wanted to give my two Knuts about the Quidditch World Cup, and if Snape were there. I totally think he was there, because of the *Levicorpus* spell and the DE using it on the Muggles that own the land there. That was his spell in the advanced potions book from book six so it makes sense that he were there, even if Harry didn't see him at the match. Even though I don't personally think Snape is a bad guy, I think he's self-serving and also that he was following Dumbledore's orders when he murdered him because Albus knew about Snape's Unbreakable Vow and how important Snape is to the downfall of Voldemort. I just wanted to finish by saying I trust Severus Snape and I love this podcast."

SHANNON

Ahhhh. So, what do you think about that? That's an interesting point, I've never heard someone rationalize Snape's presence at the World Cup based on the *Levicorpus* spell, have you?

RACHAEL

I've heard that before, I didn't necessarily think that that means he was there. It certainly could be evidence that when Snape was a Death Eater maybe he shared spells that he invented with his fellow Death Eaters.

CHRIS

I sort of thought that he... well, he made this spell up when he was at school, I think – wasn't he?

SHANNON

Yeah...

CHRIS

So, I kinda saw it as a spell that he and his friends, or – you know – acquaintances that he met before... just before he became a Death Eater, it was something he shared with them and it was adopted by the Death Eaters. And there is no reason they wouldn't use it again.

SHANNON

Right, but you remember we see in the – uh – the Pensieve scene, right? Doesn't James Potter use it against Snape when he turns him upside down and we see his greying underpants? So, it wasn't just the Death Eaters or Snape's circle of friends and I think Lupin makes reference to it being pretty popular at a certain time. So my assumption would be that the spell is being used by either colleagues of Snape, or people who are his same age – you know – people he went to school with; not necessarily that they learned it directly from him, but it might have been - kind of as Chris was saying – being used at school and that's where they picked it up from.

CHRIS

Like a magical school fad!

SHANNON

Yeah.

RACHAEL

(laughing) I know, I love the idea that spells are fads. It's like yeah, back in the seventies when *Levicorpus* was big.

SHANNON (CHRIS laughing in background)

Yeah, but they do seem to function that way. I can – I can see that happening, you know, like maybe the Jelly Legs curse was kind of popular in nineteen ninety-two or something, and maybe *Levicorpus* has come... is making a resurgence. You know, what's old is new again.

CHRIS

Expelli-Panties!

(general laughter)

RACHAEL

Expelli-Panties is the ...

SHANNON

Yes!

RACHAEL

...hot spell right now, I would say.

SHANNON

That was big in the sixties.

CHRIS

[laughs]

SHANNON

So... we also had another interesting letter. This doesn't pertain exactly to Snape, but it does respond to something that we raised in the last episode. Rachael?

RACHAEL

Sure, this Owlpost is from Kaida, and it really warms my heart. This is what it says: "Dear Snapecast staff, First I want to say that I love your podcast and that you've inspired me to do my own Harry Potter podcast. Mine, however, will be about Luna Lovegood. But there is a problem – I've never done a podcast. If you could help me by perhaps giving me some tips on how it's done, I would be very appreciative. I was also wondering if you knew any voice actors who would be willing to help me with some of the one-shots and radio dramas I'd hope to read on the show."

SHANNON

Yeah, Lunacast! I think this is great!

RACHAEL

That's one of the things that I just think is so cool about podcasting as a medium is that anybody can do it. They can just set it up, you need microphones and free software; it's awesome that you can reach this many people and we actually may be having some tips on the website and also at some upcoming

conventions about how to do podcasting. There's certainly lots of resources out there.

SHANNON

There are!

RACHAEL

And I think it's just awesome that we have so many Harry Potter podcasts.

CHRIS

I also think Lunacast could be a really, really fun one to do. I think that's a great character to do a podcast on.

RACHAEL

Oh, yeah! As far as tips go, I mean, I think probably the best place to direct her at the moment, would be MuggleCast which has a really good – uh – FAQ on the different software that's used like Audacity and Skype, so that's a good starting place (general sounds of agreement). But, I think the overall message is that anybody can do it and that's awesome! I want to hear Lunacast!

SHANNON

I have one more tip I'd like to add and this is something that maybe doesn't seem apparent from the outset, but when you're putting together a podcast you do want to assemble a team of people and you do want to plan; you need to strategize before you go on the air because I think your first episode really does set the tone for how people are going to respond to you and their expectations, and you will, of course, improve over time – I mean, we've learned to kind of maybe manage our time better and not have really crazy long episodes, but it did take a lot of time in the planning stage and I think that makes for a stronger show. Wouldn't you agree?

RACHAEL

Yes!

CHRIS

Yep, I think planning is the key. Knowing how you want to be interpreted and how you want to be heard and viewed by your listeners and if you don't take that seriously I think you can get yourself lost into what people really want to hear.

RACHAEL

Mhmm, mm-hmm. Although we already took the most popular topic!

[SHANNON AND CHRIS LAUGH]

SHANNON

Yes, indeed. And – umm - but Kaida had another request that we might, might be able to help her with, too. She said she was looking for voice actors, and ironically we just got a voicemail from someone who has a very, very lovely accent and also purports to be a little bit into voice recording. So, let's take a listen.

MEDEA VIOLIA

Hi, this is Medea Viola aka Steph. Uh, I was asked to leave the first year's speech in Scots. Uhm, yeah, I'm actually an actress myself so, hopefully I'll be able to get this... if you need the transcript I

can give you it but ok, I'm going to go ahead - uhm - ok... "a kin learn youse hou tae bot'le fame, bree glory, eien prop daith - if youse are'ni as muckle a kip o' dun'erheeds as I usually hae tae teach." OK, if you need any Scottish voices, or female voices, feel... please feel free to contact me. Uhm, I'm going to stop twittering now and I hope my accent was everything it was built up to be! OK, bye!

SHANNON

So, I think it's really pretty cool to hear a Scottish accent and I don't know about you but I had a really hard time understanding the speech – uh – the first year potions speech part that she read in Scottish. That was pretty cool, though and I think she'd make a fabulous McGonagall. I 'd love to see if she was reading the exact same words or if she had changed them, because she said she could send in a transcript I think or something like that. But that was great and Kaida, if you want to find out more about how you can reach Steph in Scotland, just get back in touch with us and we'll see if we can hook you up, OK? And I think we have one more...

RACHAEL

Making Snapey networking connections across...

SHANNON

Yes!

RACHAEL

...the world. Snapecast!

SHANNON

Podcasting networking. So, we have one more letter.

RACHAEL

Yes, we do have one more and this letter... Snarky brought this to us, and it is a very special letter, especially for this time of the year. It's from someone who wanted to reach Severus, 'cause as we know Professor Snape is a fugitive right now running around somewhere waiting for book seven to come out, and this individual must have heard that Snape listens to our podcast and thought that this would be a good way to reach him. So, let's have a listen.

CHRIS [AS DUMBLEDORE FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE]

Dear Severus,

I hope you will forgive me for using this most public route to contact you, but in light of your current status as a refugee, I thought it might be the most certain way of reaching you. Christmas is almost upon us, and you know how sentimental this time of year makes me. I expect that in your current situation this will be the only Christmas greeting you will receive; and that, were it up to you, you would rather not receive even this one either! But I must beg you to humour an old man and to allow me to wish you the best and to share with you this brief message: Though I am no longer with you in person, know that you are not alone no matter what befalls you. Also, do try to go a little easy on Harry the next time you see him. And don't forget to keep a nice pair of warm socks handy; one should never be without a pair of toasty socks.

Happy Christmas, my dear boy. Yours, Albus.

CHRIS

What an exuberant and interesting sounding fellow! (general laughter) Who happens to sound not a bit like me! (more laughter)

RACHAEL

Yeah, It's Dumbledore, it's... it's really sad.

SHANNON

Yeah...

RACHAEL

Poor, poor Snape.

SHANNON

But that is so very Dumbledore and so very touching. And Chris, maybe...

CHRIS

He's a sweetie, isn't he?

SHANNON

Yes, maybe you're a bit related to someone in the wizarding world, who knows?

CHRIS

Well, you should see the things I can do with my wand!

SHANNON (laughing)

Ok, all right on that note, I think we're going to bring Owlpost to a close here. So if you have any questions or comments or feedback, or if you would like to share your voice with us, we'd love to hear from you and you can send us email to our email address at severus@snapecast.com. You can leave comments on our website, that's Snapecast.com; on our LiveJournal community – Snapecast; and on our MySpace, also Snapecast. We also have voicemail you can leave for us on Skype, username Snapecast, and we'd love to hear from you if you have comments you'd like to leave us, other suggestions in the Snapecast forums. So, that's it for Owlpost, bye for now!

RACHAEL

Bye!

CHRIS

Bye!

Closing - (1:23:24)

Hosts: Rachael, Chris, Shannon

RACHAEL

Well, it's that time again. We've reached the end of another episode of Snapecast. I'm Rachael, and I have here with me—

CHRIS

Chris.

SHANNON
Shannon.

RACHAEL
So...that was a really good episode. I really enjoyed that.

SHANNON
Yeah.

CHRIS
Yeah, that was a good, good show.

SHANNON
Right. And we'd like to remind you all out there listening to send in your contributions. We're still looking for some This Slytherin Life segments; we love hearing how you reflect on Snape. Detention Intervention – those are pretty funny, too – and we've also got fan theories, theories about Snape. So we'd like to hear more from you. And, as always, we like hearing your feedback and your comments, so keep 'em coming! So if you have any contributions, you can e-mail them to us at our e-mail address, severus@snapecast.com. Or, if you want to leave a voice recording, a voicemail, you can leave it on Skype, username snapecast. And we still wanna hear from you, and if you feel like voting, again, and thrilling us and seeing if we can take on the onions, letting us know how you feel about Snape – go ahead and vote for us on PodcastAlley.

RACHAEL
Yes, thank you for that. And it would please me – it would be the greatest holiday present ever if Severus were more popular than onions again, even if just for a minute.

SHANNON
Yeah.

RACHAEL
Just for a minute. [laughs] So next, our next episode will be episode ten on January the 1st, so it'll be a brand-new Snape year. We'll be reflecting on some of the Snapey goodness that we've had this year, and also celebrating Severus's birthday, which is January 9th.

SHANNON
That's right!

RACHAEL
1958, 1959, or 1960, depending on what you believe.

SHANNON
Yeah. He's gettin' old.

RACHAEL
Still hot, though. So thanks a lot, everyone; have a very safe holidays, merry Christmas, happy Kwanzaa, happy Hanukkah, have a Snapey solstice...

SHANNON

Whatever you celebrate, have a good one.

RACHAEL

Yup.

CHRIS

Happy birthday!

SHANNON

Yay! And happy New Year!

RACHAEL

Okay, happy Snapeing, everyone!

SHANNON

Bye! Happy holidays!

RACHAEL

Bye!

CHRIS

Bye! Happy happy holidays!

Holiday Medley - (1:25:50)

Announcer: Jonathan

Musical Talent: Jeff, Rachael, Spanky the House-Elf, Rose, Winky the House-Elf, Celestina Warbeck, Stubby Boardman, Gina

- Have Yourself a Snarky Little Christmas
- Sev'rus the Halfblood
- It's Beginning to Look Like Severus Bites It
- It Came Upon a Potions Class
- I Brewed a Little Potion
- All I Want for Christmas is Snape
- He's a Git!
- Potion Brewing

JONATHAN

Snapecast proudly presents the snarkiest collection of holiday classics ever made. With 15 festive hits, including: "Have Yourself A Snarky Little Christmas."

JEFF

[to the tune of "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas"]

"Have yourself a snarky little Christmas
Let your quips be quick

Next year, you'll pay Black back
for his dirty trick
Have yourself a snarky little Christmas
Make the students cry
Next year, you'll be DADA Master
if you try..."

JONATHAN

"Sev'rus the Halfblood."

RACHAEL

[to the tune of "Frosty the Snowman"]

"Sev'rus the Half-Blood
Was a very princely man
With his greasy hair
And a big hooked nose
And the opposite of tan

"Sev'rus the Half-Blood
Is a traitor so they say
Ever since that curse
The outlook's worse
To his many fans' dismay."

JON

"It's Beginning To Look Like Severus Bites It."

MEAGAN [AS SPANKY THE HOUSE-ELF]

[to the tune of "It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas"]

"It's beginning to look like Severus bites it
Every quote we hear
We shouldn't think him too nice
Just listen to Jo's advice
Bad-boy appeal is not ideal, my dear..."

JON

How could we ever forget "It Came Upon A Potions Class"?

ROSE

[to the tune of "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"]

“It came upon a Potions class
In dungeons dark and cold
Where cauldrons bubble and students quake
To hear their teacher scold...

Open your text and chop and stir
You dunderhead students
The Half-Blood Prince
Is drawing near
To snark and rage and rant
To snark and rage and rant.”

JON

The Snapecast holiday collection brings you the songs of merriment and celebration by today's most popular artists, like Winky the house-elf.

SHANNON [AS WINKY THE HOUSE-ELF]
[to the tune of “The Dreidel Song”]

“I brewed a little potion
It's green and shimmery hot
And when it's good and steamy
I'll brew another pot

“Potion, potion, potion
Green and shimmery hot
Potion, potion, potion
I'll brew another pot.”

JON

Celestina Warbeck—

BECCA [AS CELESTINA WARBECK]
[to the tune of “All I Want For Christmas Is You”]

“I don't want a lot for Christmas
There is just one thing I need
I don't need your butterbeer
Your elf-made wine, your mulled mead
I don't need to brew a potion
To put a smile on my face
Santa Claus is not the guy
I want inside my fireplace
I just want a snarky git
Greasy-haired and full of wit

Make my dreams take shape
All I want for Christmas is Snape!”

JON

And Stubby Boardman, with his essential holiday standard, “He's A Git.”

JEFF [AS STUBBY BOARDMAN]
[to the tune of “Let It Snow”]

“So many in the fandom hate him
While others want to date him
But it isn't hard to admit
He's a git
He's a git
He's a git!

“While his rabid fangirls are squeeing
His stench the rest are fleeing
But it doesn't change the fact one bit
That he's a git
He's a git
He's a git!”

JON

The Snapecast holiday collection is available for the low, low introductory price of only eight Galleons.
You can't beat that!

GINA

[to the tune of “Sleigh Ride”]

“Just hear those cauldrons bubbling
rub-dub-dubbling too
Come on, I've got a notion
To brew up a potion with you

“Outside the snow is falling
While Hagrid's hauling a tree
Come on, I make the motion
That you brew up a potion with me

“Stir it up, stir it up, stir it up,
Let's go
Let's look at it glow
I wanna learn what Potions Masters know

“Stir it up, stir it up, stir it up,
It's grand
When you understand
That getting your kicks with a mix
Takes a specially snarky hand...”

JON

Have your Gringotts InstaCards ready and visit SnapecastHoliday.com for ordering details, or owl your payment to Snapecast Holiday Collection, 1 Spinner's End, Great Hucklow, Derbyshire, England. Have a very Snapey holiday!