

Women at Warp Episode 83: Book Club: Starfleet Academy

[Intro music]

Jarrah | 00:14

Hi, and welcome to Women at Warp: A Roddenberry *Star Trek* Podcast. Join us as our crew of four women *Star Trek* fans boldly go on our biweekly mission to explore our favorite franchise. My name's Jarrah, and thanks for tuning in. Today with us we have crew member Sue-

Sue | 00:28

Hi, everybody.

Jarrah | 00:29

... and Grace.

Grace | 00:30

Excelsior!

Jarrah | 00:32

And, uh, today we're having a book club discussion about *Starfleet Academy*, the 2015 comic book miniseries published by IDW. But before we get into it, we have a little bit of housekeeping to do first.

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Grace | 01:19

They're all tears of joy, but we're hoping to progress to tears for fears.

Sue | 01:23

Not to mention some exclusive content. Like just recently-

Grace | 01:27

Oh, yeah.

Sue | 01:27

... we released the audio from the, uh, *Star Trek: Discovery* panel at Awesome Con this year.

Jarrah | 01:31

Ooh.

Grace | 01:32

Was it awesome?

Sue | 01:33

It was awesome.

Jarrah | 01:35

You can also support us by leaving a rating or review on Apple Podcasts or wherever you get your podcasts to help people find the show.

And, uh, Sue and Grace, I think you have another piece of housekeeping about conventions coming up.

Grace | 01:49

We do.

Sue | 01:50

At the time that this episode is released, the following weekend, uh, Grace and I both plan to be at Universal Fan Con in Baltimore. So that is April 27th to 29th, 2018. We are just attending, but we will be around. Uh, we will be on Twitter, and we will probably be hanging out together for at least part of that time. So, if you're there, uh, hit us up and we'd love to meet you.

Grace | 02:17

We're so excited to be seeing this con happen, though. Can't wait.

Sue | 02:21

Yeah, this is a brand-new con-

Jarrah | 02:23

Woo!

Sue | 02:23

... that is built with the express purpose of inclusion and diversity, so it's, it's really exciting to see it come to fruition.

Grace | 02:32

It has been a long time coming.

Jarrah | 02:34

Cool. Well, uh, shall we get started on our book club then?

Sue | 02:38

Let's.

Grace | 02:39

Let's get clubbing in this book.

Jarrah | 02:41

We have our tea and cucumber sandwiches. That's what I imagine people eat at real book clubs.

Grace | 02:47

Mine just in- involved a bunch of Moose Crunch.

Jarrah | 02:51

So, as I said, this, uh, session, this time around, we are reading the Starfleet Academy IDW comic miniseries. This was a five-issue miniseries released in a trade paperback that was in 2015, written by Mike Johnson and Ryan Parrott, uh, with charming art by Derek Charm.

Grace | 03:10

Hmm.

Jarrah | 03:10

I should write his promotional materials. Anyone want to maybe g- start us off with like, a really high-level sort of look at the premise for this?

Sue | 03:23

So first of all, this takes place in the Kelvin timeline, and we're dealing mainly with two different time periods. The one, um, when Uhura and Kirk are at the Academy and Spock is an instructor/grad student. And then a couple years later, where we meet our new cast, which, uh, include a Vulcan woman, a couple of human women, and some different aliens. And they're both trying-

Grace | 03:49

Alien dudes.

Sue | 03:49

Yeah, they're both trying to solve the same mystery, which is that of a NX class ship, the NX-05 USS Slayton, that went missing in a nearby, close to Earth section of space that is full of anomalies.

Jarrah | 04:06

Hmm.

Grace | 04:07

I was initially kind of skeptical with the concept for this because on one hand, I really liked the idea of getting to see, um... The story is primarily based around Uhura going out there and trying to solve this mystery, which is in itself really cool. You know? << Mystery solving Uhura time. She's going on adventures against Starfleet Command >>

Jarrah | 04:29

Yes. I want this show now, which I'm, uh, guessing, uh, we're talking like a '90s sitcom?

Grace | 04:36

<< Sometimes Chekov is there but mostly it's Kirk >> Anyway, um... Uh, with the familiar characters coming back, that's definitely a good starting off point for the story. And honestly, I was a little skeptical about how it's like, well, you're bringing in these characters that we already know and are familiar with. How are you gonna really follow that up with new characters? Especially when I realized it was gonna be jumping around timeline-wise, I was really, uh, skeptical about whether that would actually work story-wise or whether it would just get a little convoluted and weird.

Because, um, with a franchise story like *Star Trek*, you always run the risk whenever someone is trying their hand at adding to the mythos and adding to the story. This is a complaint I have with so many, uh, superhero comics. There's always someone trying to reinvent the wheel and trying to just completely redo the whole thing their way. Um, you get a lot of one-off characters, you get a lot of really f- forgettable revamps that way. So that's what I was a little concerned about when I saw that the comic was a couple people we know and a whole bunch of people we don't know. And we're supposed to care about both groups equally. I was skeptical.

Jarrah | 05:54

I, uh, when I first learned about it was, um, I think at the *Star Trek* Las Vegas Convention that year, where, um, I talked to Sarah Gaydos about it, who was, is the outgoing, uh, editor for IDW Com, uh, *Star Trek* Comics.

Grace | 06:08

Shout-out.

Jarrah | 06:09

Um, it's worth mentioning that this is a YA title. So, the-

Grace | 06:13

Absolutely.

Jarrah | 06:14

... goal with introducing these new younger characters was, give them their own generation of characters to care about that are a bit closer to the audience in age. Um, I mean, *Starfleet Academy* is not a new idea. Like, it's been done in comics, it's been done in amazingly bad, uh, like, teen novels. Um, as well as, uh, TV.

Sue | 06:39

Those are the best books. Stop making fun of them.

Jarrah | 06:43

I read those over and over and over. I just don't think they were very good.

Sue | 06:48

They're amazing.

Jarrah | 06:49

Yes.

Grace | 06:51

Which is a pretty smart idea, especially considering how much, uh, the new movies in the J.J.-verse are bringing a whole new generation of fans in-

Jarrah | 06:58

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 06:59

... who hadn't really thought of *Star Trek* as something accessible or interesting until this movie came out, and then the sequels came out, and now it's a good getting into point for a lot of people.

Jarrah | 07:10

Yeah, and, but what I think is, is equally or more important in, in introducing these characters, because, you know, you could argue, okay, yeah, but, like, maybe Chris Pine is still cool. I don't know, I'm, I'm not that young. Maybe Zachary Quinto's still cool.

Grace | 07:25

They're both very cool on the eyes.

Jarrah | 07:28

But, eh, as we've talked about in our J.J.-verse mov, or, episode, pre-*Beyond*, the crew is not super diverse. And IDW Comics in 2015 seemed like they were really only producing Kelvin timeline titles. So-

Grace | 07:43

That was the money-maker at the time, I guess.

Jarrah | 07:46

Well, yeah, or I'm not sure what the relationship was with CBS or, you know, why exactly that was, but if you're gonna stay in the Kelvin ta- Kelvin timeline and you wanna make it more diverse, then you have to bring in new characters, 'cause they just aren't there.

Grace | 07:59

That said, it's really cool that with the original cast of characters that this is centered around, Uhura is the main focus. It's really cool that they brought her in there and put her in the spotlight.

Jarrah | 08:09

Yeah. I think it could've been done better, but agreed on that point. I'm sure we'll get to that.

Sue | 08:16

Well, why not just start right there, then? Because the first thing we see, and a thread that continues throughout, is she's breaking up with Spock. Or he's breaking up with her, rather.

Grace | 08:30

Can we really just throw in a *Friends* reference here and just straight up say, "They were on break."

Sue | 08:36

Yeah. They, they decided to take a break.

Jarrah | 08:38

Well, I got from this that this was after *Star Trek (2009)*, but pre-*Discovery*. Or sorry, pre-, um, *Into Darkness*-

Sue | 08:47

Agreed.

Jarrah | 08:47

... from their timeline.

Sue | 08:48

Agreed.

Grace | 08:48

What I got from it was that it was, um, between the first part of Uhura and Kirk joining Starfleet in the first movie and then the events of the movie actually happening.

Sue | 09:01

Well, it references the bar fight, specifically.

Grace | 09:04

Yeah. Um, I feel like if it was, uh, between the whole two movies, she'd have a lot more things to be offended at Kirk over.

Jarrah | 09:10

Yeah, also I didn't get the impression they all went back to the Academy right after and they would've known each other better, so that-

Grace | 09:16

Yeah.

Jarrah | 09:17

... that seems valid.

Grace | 09:18

Uh-huh.

Jarrah | 09:18

Um, but Spock's basically like, "I'm an instructor. We can't be together." And she's-

Grace | 09:23

She's like, "Bullshit."

Jarrah | 09:25

"You only taught me once, you don't teach me anymore," and-

Sue | 09:27

"And you were a grad student."

Grace | 09:29

"And I am an-

Jarrah | 09:30

Yeah.

Grace | 09:30

... adult capable of making my own decisions... Spock."

Jarrah | 09:35

Yeah. Um, I will say, in this scene, I really like, um, there's a panel where this alien woman is breaking up with, or like-

Grace | 09:45

She's walking out on a date with Kirk.

Jarrah | 09:46

... yeah, I guess, like, leaving Kirk, and she's, she goes like, "Celia, you were right. He's just a lying, misogynistic narcissist with dreamy blue eyes." "From now on, I'm done with humans." And also, if you look clo-

Grace | 09:59

We get Morn in the background!

Jarrah | 10:00

Yeah, exactly.

Sue | 10:02

Yes.

Grace | 10:02

Which I feel like needs to be on contract for every IDW *Star Trek* comic. If there is a scene in a bar, Morn has to be there in some capacity.

Jarrah | 10:11

Agreed.

Grace | 10:11

Maybe there's a painting of him hanging over the bar? I don't know, just make it so.

Sue | 10:15

That happens throughout the miniseries, though. There are aliens that we've seen in all of the series in the background of panels constantly.

Grace | 10:24

Mm-hmm. That's part of what I love about seeing *Star Trek* get to be, uh, used in the comic medium. You can do a lot more visually than you can do with a TV budget, or than a lot of times they've been willing to do on a TV show.

Sue | 10:37

It costs just as much to draw an alien as a human.

Grace | 10:40

Exactly. We get to see the whole alien-ness of it fleshed out more. You can just, you can just say, "Oh, this guy's an alien." They're an alien, and you don't have to spend eight hours working on prosthetics or trying to make another lamé catsuit not look terrible.

Jarrah | 10:55

So, how did you feel about this whole instructor-student breaking up situation?

Grace | 11:02

Uh, I felt kind of, uh, I'm gonna be honest here, from the get-go, anytime there's immediately romantic tension in a YA story, I'm just kinda like, "Oh, here we go."

Sue | 11:13

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 11:14

Um, I'm a little over it at this point is what I'm saying. But, um, I think that, uh, at the risk of starting any drama here, I think that Spock had a point, but at the same time it felt like it was kind of unnecessary to the story, and just kinda being, like, dramatic for the sake of dramatic from the get-go.

I mean, we've got this cool mystery to get into. Don't, don't try and sideline me with this teen romance. I don't want it. Not here. But that's me.

Jarrah | 11:46

Yeah, I mean, I think this, it was my least favorite part of the comic. I, I like the other storyline a lot better. But because of what we've talked about before in the J.J. movies about how unfortunately Uhura is often, has, like, her-... what could be really awesome moments kind of superseded by being Spock's girlfriend.

Grace | 12:06

Yeah.

Jarrah | 12:06

And I thought that that unfortunately kind of, like, it starts and ends her storyline in this series, miniseries, where sh- it starts out by breaking up and then it's kind of implied, there's even a part where she asks herself, like, "Am I e- just doing this because I'm upset about breaking up with Spock?" And, uh, then at the end, he bails her out from discipline from, uh, Admiral Marcus, and I just thought it was, like, a bit disappointing 'cause she was being super awesome and badass, but it- it kind of undermined it by making it all- still all about Spock.

Grace | 12:40

Yeah.

Sue | 12:40

He took these actions to protect her instead of having this character... 'Cause she- she did break rules.

Jarrah | 12:48

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 12:48

And it's awesome. We get to see her be proactive and figure- be, like, working towards figuring out this mystery and, you know, she gets to recruit people onto it and when-

Jarrah | 12:58

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 12:58

... they want out, she's like, "Okay, you're out. I respect that."

Sue | 13:01

But instead of seeing one of our characters take responsibility for her actions or defend herself or, you know, f- fight back against the punishment, however you wanna play that story, we have Spock figuring out what she was up to and creating a situation where she won't get in trouble, protecting her. And-

Grace | 13:19

It's a bit of a cop out, yeah.

Sue | 13:20

Yeah, she doesn't need that. She shouldn't need that.

Jarrah | 13:22

Mm-hmm. I do like her recruiting Chekov to help her and sort of reluctantly asking Kirk to help her. I thought that those scenes were kind of fun and true to those characters.

Grace | 13:33

I love that we get this one-page spread of her, like, accepting that Chekov doesn't wanna be in on these shenanigans anymore, so she's, like, giving him this goodbye hug and then you cut to Chekov's face and he's just like, "Oh my god, oh my god, oh my god. A hot girl is hugging me."

And you cut to her face and she's- ... just kinda like, "Yeah, we're doing this." I appreciated that page a lot.

Jarrah | 13:56

It was cute.

Grace | 13:56

Yes.

Jarrah | 13:56

I- I- I, like, I bought it as consistent with the- the J.J.-verse.

Grace | 14:00

Yeah. You got to appreciate that the characterizations are consistent with the J.J.-verse and I- I thought they did that pretty well. I thought they, uh, did that pretty well with Kirk, with establishing off the bat that he's kind of a jag, but also a good guy jag, even though we've established that making Kirk, uh, pshh, making Kirk a jag in the J.J.-verse wasn't really necessary because he's not a jag, he just comes off as one. But that's an argument for a whole 'nother time.

Sue | 14:31

It served definitely as a reminder that Kelvin Kirk and Prime Kirk are very different characters.

Grace | 14:38

Yeah. But we do get this great one-liner from Kirk, and I'm trying to look it up right now 'cause I thought it encapsulates even beyond the Kelvin timeline, the Kirk character so well, and it's something along the lines of, uh, "I'm dumb enough to think I'm smart enough to get out of pretty much anything." It's just a great one-liner from him. And it-

Jarrah | 14:56

Yeah, that was funny.

Grace | 14:57

I love that characterization and it's fabulous.

Jarrah | 14:59

Yeah.

Grace | 15:00

So, like I said, I feel like the writer had these characters pegged.

Jarrah | 15:03

Yeah, I, um... The other consistent character is Admiral Marcus who is a jerk face.

Grace | 15:10

And scary lookin'.

Jarrah | 15:11

Yes, scary and, uh, with very questionable ethics in both, uh, the movie and *Into Darkness* and this comic where he basically is like, "Yeah, we covered up this ship that went missing because it was a mutiny."

Grace | 15:25

And we didn't wanna make this powerful guy's son look bad.

Jarrah | 15:28

Yeah, that, like, the guy who mutinied was the son of the man who founded Starfleet Academy.

Grace | 15:33

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 15:34

And, uh, I get that everyone kind of, you know, that Uhura almost got in serious trouble for it, but I still, I was, like, kinda disappointed that they still just agreed to leave it after that.

Grace | 15:46

Also, just kinda bringing in Marcus in the third act and being like, "Oh, Marcus, something's gonna happen! Shit's gonna go down!" And, no, nope, Spock's cleaning this up, nope, no trouble here. It was a bit of a letdown, but it was still cool, the surprise of having him show up.

Jarrah | 16:00

Mm-hmm. Oh, and we also got to see, uh, Gaila being her very live dancey roommate, that was fun. Fun little one-shot there.

Grace | 16:07

'Cause of course she was.

Jarrah | 16:09

Yeah. Cool. Anything more on the sort of Uhura/Spock side of the plot?

Grace | 16:14

Again, I was really skeptical with, these are characters I know and like, how are these other characters gonna compare to that?

Jarrah | 16:20

Well, how did they, Grace?

Grace | 16:23

Well, I'm glad you asked. Does either one of you wanna sum up what the- what our, um, second plot for the arc is?

Sue | 16:30

Yeah, so of- we have a set of five cadets. Uh, T'Laan, the Vulcan woman, uh, Lucia Gonzales who is a human woman. Or Lu- I don't- i- whether it's Lucia [loo-sh-ee-uh] or Lucia [loo-see-ah]. There is no- there is no accent mark in the comic, so-

Grace | 16:50

But I gotta be a snob.

Sue | 16:52

Okay. So, we'll go with Lucia [loo-see-ah].

Jarrah | 16:54

Sure.

Sue | 16:55

Um, Shev who is an Andorian male, Grace Chen who is a human and has some kind of, like, exoskeleton she built herself?

Grace | 17:05

Badass-

Sue | 17:06

So, I kinda wanna know more about that, but we don't get to find out.

And then, um, Vel who is an alien that reminds me of Arex from *The Animated Series*.

Jarrah | 17:18

Yeah, he's called a m- Monchezkin?

Sue | 17:21

Thank you.

Jarrah | 17:22

And, uh, the promotional art for the series, uh, says that his favorite food is pistachio mooncake. He likes maracas, hol- and holographic microscopes and dislikes lying and low ceilings 'cause he's very tall.

Grace | 17:37

And his yearbook quote is, "This is a quote I am giving."

Jarrah | 17:40

Yeah.

Sue | 17:41

He's- he's Perd Hapley.

Jarrah | 17:43

He's definitely, like, the funny, um, sorta other type character where he has, uh, this trait because his people communicate through, like, chemicals in their skin or something. And so, they don't need to verbalize thoughts and so he's very into verbalizing even the most obvious thoughts and it's kind of entertaining.

Grace | 18:03

I kinda like that we get to have him as the Greek chorus, though, kind of being like, "Now we are walking. Now I am afraid. This is happening."

Jarrah | 18:12

Yes. I also thought he had maybe some of the nicest scenes in his challenge section, 'cause he's, uh, like, medical, uh-

Sue | 18:22

Yeah.

Jarrah | 18:22

... in medical stream, and he has, uh, takes like, a really unconventional approach to this challenge that is definitely not what the test was about but would've-

Grace | 18:31

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 18:31

... actually stood a really good chance of saving the patient's life and-

Grace | 18:35

Hmm.

Jarrah | 18:35

... has a really nice moment where they're like, "Well, this wasn't about saving the patient's life," and he's like, "It's always about saving the patient's life."

Sue | 18:41

Yeah, we haven't explained the whole Triwizard Tournament.

Jarrah | 18:45

Oh, yeah, sorry. Let's, let's explain that.

Grace | 18:47

Uh, so we've got our Vulcan woman, T'Laan, who's currently at a point where she's considering dropping out of Starfleet and going to New Vulcan to be with other Vulcans because her family died when Vulcan imploded and she just wants to be among her own people. And when she brings this up to her, let's just call him her Dumbledore for the time being, his advice is that she gets in on a team activity and that maybe actually trying to involve herself with other people and get to know them at Starfleet will change her mind.

So, he offered her, is, uh, offers her an in to this big competition that's happening for the 100-year anniversary of Starfleet Academy where they're gonna be having students from different, uh, training academies throughout the Federation competing against each other in basically the Triwizard Tournament.

Jarrah | 19:36

Yeah.

Grace | 19:37

And she gets slapped with this band of misfits that we already described.

Jarrah | 19:42

Yes.

Sue | 19:44

So yeah, the, um, Vel has the medical covered. Shev is like the, I guess, the security/weapons guy.

Grace | 19:52

Yeah, he's totally that kid who just wants a gun.

Jarrah | 19:55

He had to basically compete in *Ender's Game*.

Sue | 19:58

Yeah.

Grace | 19:58

Yeah, pretty much, but that was pretty cool.

Sue | 20:01

Grace is the pilot and T'Laan is engineering, which, I, means transporters for reasons, and Lucia is, like, general knowledge?

Jarrah | 20:14

Yeah, like, it says her academic emphasis is diplomacy, but she basically is doing trivia.

Sue | 20:20

Yeah, but my favorite, favorite panel is one of the questions is, "What is the Klingon word for- ... anti-disestablishmentarianism?" And her answer is, "Ch'ok." It's so good.

Jarrah | 20:34

That was good.

Grace | 20:35

I would, I would love to get to do just space *Jeopardy!* and be able to put it on my transcripts. That would be amazing, right?

Jarrah | 20:42

So, do you guys have a favorite character or a favorite, like, part of the challenge?

Grace | 20:46

Yes. I instantly glommed, glommed onto Shev 'cause I have a very, very intense kim, kinship with other assholes who are freckly. And also, he has a cheese name.

Jarrah | 20:59

This reminded me of when we read *The Worlds of Deep Space Nine*, the-

Grace | 21:03

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 21:04

... Andorian from that who-

Grace | 21:05

Yeah.

Jarrah | 21:06

... is also, like, sort of shunned by his family.

Grace | 21:09

Yeah.

Jarrah | 21:10

Um, this guy isn't to that extent, but like his parents didn't want him to go to the academy and so he's got this big chip on his shoulder sort of like-

Grace | 21:17

Yeah.

Jarrah | 21:17

... the guy on *DS9*.

Grace | 21:19

I love bratty dudes with chips on their shoulders when they're actually not assholes. So...

Sue | 21:25

I love that you said he had a cheese name 'cause I thought the same thing.

Grace | 21:30

Yay! Cheese Brain, Cheese Brain, Cheese Brain.

Sue | 21:34

He's fresh cheese.

Grace | 21:37

He's fresh with everybody.

Sue | 21:38

Oh, man.

Jarrah | 21:40

He also is not a fan of T'Laan.

Sue | 21:42

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 21:43

He's like super, he's like, "We need to win this thing."

Grace | 21:45

Racist.

Jarrah | 21:45

That's his number one goal. Like, win this thing and make his parents proud, and he's worried that T'Laan won't do as good of a job.

Sue | 21:51

Yeah, so it's her research, uh, that this whole thing culminates in a scavenger hunt, sure, of nearby Earth systems, which is s- silly if one of the nearby Earth systems is quarantined, don't you think? But-

Grace | 22:07

Mm-hmm.

Sue | 22:08

... uh, T'Laan discovers, not really discovers but notices, um, this, this sector while she is trying to prepare for the scavenger hunt and learn as much as she can about the nearby systems and comes across, I think before the scavenger hunt, Uhura's message that says there's something weird going on here.

Jarrah | 22:29

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 22:30

Yeah.

Jarrah | 22:30

Yeah, she's, like, left a coded message.

Grace | 22:32

And again, we get that back and forth jumping, uh, through the different times and that's our first real connection we get from the two, other than some cryptic name-dropping of a missing ship. So that's when our plots converge.

Jarrah | 22:47

Mm-hmm. Sue, did you have a favorite member of the team or challenge aspect?

Grace | 22:52

I also just love Andorians.

Sue | 22:55

I m- I enjoyed the general trivia and I- ... really enjoyed that Lucia smoked everybody in it-

Grace | 23:03

Mm-hmm.

Sue | 23:03

... by like 10,000 points.

Jarrah | 23:07

Yeah. I'm down.

Grace | 23:08

She's the Ken Jennings of Starfleet.

Jarrah | 23:10

Lucia's also, like, the, the most friendly to T'Laan and just kind of generally, I think, supportive and, um, I, I liked her a lot as well.

Grace, we don't really, like, she's one I would like to know a lot more about. Um, we learned that, yeah, she's built this sort of exoplating like maybe she was born with a disability.

Grace | 23:33

I thought that was the implication, yeah, which is really badass, but we don't really learn anything about it.

Jarrah | 23:39

Mm-hmm, but it's like sort of wrapped around her legs.

Grace | 23:41

And she just kind of offhand is like, "Oh yeah, I made these. I've made cooler stuff though," and it's like, well, tell us. I'm curious now.

Jarrah | 23:48

She's also the youngest one. She's supposed to only be 19, um, and she is a super badass pilot.

Grace | 23:55

I think it's really cool that we've also got a pretty diverse crew here. Not only are the majority women but we've got a good amount of aliens also and, uh, of our humans, two out of three are POC, which is awesome. Well-

Jarrah | 24:11

Actually-

Grace | 24:11

... two for two POC.

Jarrah | 24:12

Yeah, two. T'Laan's a Vulcan, but yeah.

Grace | 24:15

I keep forgetting, sorry, which is pretty cool representation-wise, and we were talking about how, uh, representation-wise, we've kind of got some issues with our original cast, so I thought it was cool that they were kind of trying to bridge the gap there.

Jarrah | 24:29

Mm-hmm. So, in the challenge, uh, Sue mentioned, like, T'Laan has to do a transporter thing where she has to beam up this away team that's caught in the middle of some storms and she does not win the Vulcan guy that's sorta competing with her wins.

Grace | 24:45

The Vulcan who's given her grief for being in Starfleet.

Jarrah | 24:49

Yeah. There's this whole thing about like since Vulcan was destroyed, it's loyal to go back to Vulcan and help rebuild and it's selfish to stay on Earth, and so that's sort of the pressure she's dealing with, and she doesn't win the transporter thing because she hesitates at giving all these people like lethal radiation poisoning, so...

Grace | 25:08

Wouldn't it have been great if she'd beamed up... If they'd beamed up all those dummies and they'd had like the bad prosthetics of rocks sticking out of their face like in *Enterprise* when they have a transporter accident? I would've found that entertaining. But probably just me.

Jarrah | 25:21

Yeah.

Grace | 25:22

Dummies are full of rocks, oh no!

Sue | 25:25

Here's the thing that gets me about this competition. They, in the two challenges that really deal with, hypothetically, other peoples' lives, they explicitly state in both of them that you just have to be fastest, you don't actually have to save them. Like in the medical one-

Grace | 25:44

Mm-hmm.

Sue | 25:44

... the point is not to save your patient, and then in this one, it doesn't matter that the, the Vulcan harmed, like covered his, his hypothetical crew in 98% burns and, uh, filled them with radiation poisoning because he got them up first. And that-

Grace | 26:06

Yeah, I really... I question the scoring methods to this, if that's really their priority.

Sue | 26:11

Yeah, both of those things seem very un-Starfleet to me.

Grace | 26:14

Maybe, maybe it was the rules that they had to agree on with all the other training academies. Who knows?

Jarrah | 26:22

Yeah, I mean, uh, so at the end of the day, they're on the scavenger hunt and lo and behold, they run into the quarantined system.

Grace | 26:31

What are the odds?

Sue | 26:32

And they're running behind. They're losing, oh no.

Grace | 26:35

Yeah.

Jarrah | 26:36

So, they're trying to use the anomaly to get to, like catch up speed, but instead, dun-dun-dun! They get drawn in.

Grace | 26:45

What?

Sue | 26:45

And come face to face with the NX-05 USS Slayton.

Grace | 26:49

The one that's been-

Jarrah | 26:50

Woah!

Grace | 26:50

... missing for over a hundred years?

Sue | 26:52

Yeah, I wanna talk about that for a second too. It- Sorry. Andi makes fun of me-

Grace | 26:56

Okay.

Sue | 26:56

... 'cause I notice these little stupid things, but they keep saying that this is, this, this whole Triwizard Tournament- ... is because of the 100th anniversary of the founding of Starfleet Academy, and then-

Grace | 27:12

Which was a direct result of this ship getting lost and this guy's dad thinking that they needed a more intensive training, uh-

Jarrah | 27:21

Right.

Grace | 27:21

... for, for future Starfleet officers.

Sue | 27:24

But our one early scene that we have on the Slayton says, "100 years before the *founding* of Starfleet Academy."

Grace | 27:35

Oh.

Sue | 27:36

So that puts 200 years between the events on the Slayton and the events that happen in, in our, our normal timeline, in the one that, that we're spending most of our time in.

Jarrah | 27:48

Oh yeah.

Sue | 27:48

But Uhura says, when she's talking to Marcus, "Well, the Slayton went missing a hundred years ago," so somebody can't do math.

Jarrah | 27:56

And then when they're on the Slayton, uh, the captain is like, "So are we a hundred years in the future or are you a hundred years behind?" And they say like, "No. Y- you've been stuck in this thing for more than a hundred years."

Sue | 28:07

Yeah.

Jarrah | 28:07

So yeah, I guess that there was a mistake, just... It was probably meant to be a typo because I can't imagine that it would take a hundred years to establish the Academy. I also can't imagine it would only be like one year.

Sue | 28:21

Right.

Grace | 28:22

Also, can we just appreciate for a second that they name drop a character on the ship as Julia Bashir?

Sue | 28:28

Yes.

Jarrah | 28:28

Yes. And then she gets shot. I didn't like that as much.

Grace | 28:33

She only gets stunned!

Jarrah | 28:34

Yeah. I... Yeah.

Grace | 28:36

Yeah.

Jarrah | 28:36

Would've liked more, but maybe she c- she should've been the captain. That would've, would've been cool.

Grace | 28:41

Yeah.

Jarrah | 28:41

Yeah.

Grace | 28:42

I like to think she was medical branch.

Jarrah | 28:44

Yeah, it seemed like maybe she was the first officer because they, the, uh, mutineer was the chief engineer-

Grace | 28:50

Yeah.

Jarrah | 28:50

... and that she's the one who kinda comes on the ship to tell the captain like, "Everything's bad!"

Grace | 28:55

But we digress, because our plucky band of misfits is able to team up with these old f- hundred year, possibly 200-year fogies and figured out how to get them home.

Jarrah | 29:09

Yep.

Grace | 29:09

They lose the Triwizard Tournament, though.

Jarrah | 29:13

But they get better special medals from who... Um, who do you think the woman was? 'Cause this was another, um, cool background diversity moment. I thought maybe she was supposed to be like the Chancellor of the Academy, or something?

Sue | 29:24

I thought that was the Tellarite was in charge of-

Jarrah | 29:27

I thought that he was just her supervisor?

Grace | 29:31

Yeah, he was her-

Jarrah | 29:32

Hmm.

Grace | 29:32

... her assigned buddy professor.

Jarrah | 29:34

Well, anyway, the woman who's in charge of the tournament and also gives them the medals at the end.

Grace | 29:39

Can we backtrack to the Tellarite for just a second here, because-

Jarrah | 29:42

Yep.

Grace | 29:43

... he, uh, his first response to this woman saying, "I, I really need to be with my people in this time of hardship," is, "You should join a sports team!" And I really-

Jarrah | 29:52

Ugh.

Grace | 29:52

... wanna believe that that's how he addresses every problem that comes to him.

Sue | 29:56

She does... She does refer to him as Pro- Professor Trumbull.

Grace | 30:00

That's adorable.

Sue | 30:01

But I don't think the woman who gives them the medals is ever given a name.

Jarrah | 30:05

No. I don't... I agree.

Grace | 25:22

Trumbull's got the fix for your troubles and it's sportsmanship.

Sue | 30:12

She is presenting the medals on behalf of Starfleet, not on, of the Academy.

Grace | 30:17

And she does have-

Sue | 30:18

So-

Grace | 30:18

... some sick blue lipstick.

Sue | 30:20

Yeah. I'm guessing some kind of admiral or, or maybe higher rank?

Jarrah | 30:25

Yeah. It looks like she's wearing an admiral... Oh, I'm seeing- I don't know, I'm not as familiar with the-

Sue | 30:33

There are five-

Jarrah | 30:33

... rank system in the J.J. universes so unfortunately, I cannot-

Sue | 30:37

There are five bands on her cuffs, so I would think Admiral.

Jarrah | 30:41

Okay, well that's cool. Anyway, I assumed she was, she was in- in some sort of leadership role and the fact that she was, like, emceeding this competition and giving out awards. And has awesome blue lipstick.

Grace | 30:51

So basically, we get, um, our scrappy new crew comes home. They save this ship that's been lost in space. Different franchise but similar concept. Um- They come back. They're like, "Yeah, we solved this mystery. We saved all these people." And then we get to have a cool bonding moment of Uhura reaching out and going, "Hey, good job, kid."

Sue | 31:14

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 31:15

Nice work. And then we get the proverbial towel toss of approval from her to our new kids, and thusly the torch is passed, and these new characters are approved of, and we know there will be more cadets to pass on the tradition and do neater shit than the first time around people couldn't do.

Jarrah | 31:36

Yup. So, these... The dress uniforms that the cadets are wearing, like that are white with sort of red panels down the sides.

Grace | 31:46

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 31:46

I feel like those are new, like we had not seen those before.

Grace | 31:49

Yeah, they could be.

Sue | 31:52

The other thing I thought was new is one of the dresses that Uhura's wearing at certain points that have this, like center panel-

Jarrah | 31:58

Hmm.

Sue | 31:59

... with the delta in it?

Jarrah | 32:00

Interesting. I didn't notice that.

Grace | 32:02

Maybe there's different types of cadet uniform that you can swap out, or maybe she was just trying a new look that week. Who knows?

But yeah, when we get that tie around the end of sort of the ha- the baton passing of being like, "Yeah, you guys are- you guys are doing good stuff. You're moving Starfleet forward." That's when-

Jarrah | 32:21

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 32:21

... the whole thing kind of comes around and that was the point when I got the, "Oh, now I see it," thing of how the two universes, um, or the... Not universes, the two sort of time frames that we've got going on with the two separate stories and groups of people, how it really marries together. That's when it all kind of comes together and when we got to that point I was like, "Yeah, it works."

It took, uh, it took a while for me to totally, uh, get that marriage of ideas but when- when it got there, it was pretty good, and I appreciated it.

Jarrah | 32:53

That's cool. Did you feel... So, this was something, um, that I saw in one of my friends' reviews on Good Reads was, like was the Uhura/Spock thing even necessary?

Grace | 33:05

No, it was not.

Sue | 33:06

No.

Jarrah | 33:07

Yeah, I feel like they could've given the mystery to T'Laan and developed her a little bit further, and I don't think it would've been a drawback.

Grace | 33:15

Again, I'm pretty sure any time there's some kind of YA story going on though there has to be at least a partial romantic subplot wedged in there somewhere, so.

Sue | 33:26

I think they could've given the mystery to- to T'Laan, but I also think they could've done it with Uhura without the Spock thing.

Grace | 33:34

Mm, yeah.

Sue | 33:35

And I feel like it was in there not only because people think YA has to have romance in it, but because, um, they wanted to play the joke of Kirk not knowing who Uhura was dating.

Jarrah | 33:48

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 33:49

But let's be real. The joke is always on Kirk in the Kelvin timeline.

Sue | 33:52

Well, yeah.

Jarrah | 33:54

I, they also could've possibly not jumped around timelines and just had Uhura coming at it from, like, on the ship she's discovered this mystery. Meanwhile-

Sue | 34:06

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 34:06

... at Starfleet Academy, T'Laan's coming at the mystery from a different angle.

Sue | 34:09

Yeah, I- I feel like though if she were on the ship that they had them as officers she wouldn't have needed Chekov's help-

Jarrah | 34:17

Yeah.

Sue | 34:17

... to- to zero in on that signal and that's a way to get a- another one of our characters in.

Jarrah | 34:22

Yeah, that's true.

Sue | 34:23

It kind of bugs me that she still needed help anyway because this is her specialty, but you know, I'm not gonna say no to Chekov.

Jarrah | 34:30

Yeah, and Sue, you mentioned that there's like some other sort of cameos from familiar aliens and characters. Did you have any that particularly stood out to you?

Sue | 34:39

Oh my gosh, there were so many in background scenes and I just really appreciated it.

Grace | 34:43

The melty face people!

Jarrah | 34:44

Yeah, I know, well and I mean we had the, you know, the same species that's later the president of the Federation as a doctor. Um-

Sue | 34:52

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 34:52

... the guy with like the long white mustache.

Grace | 34:55

Uh, we get in our first scene when w- uh, we see Spock and Uhura at dinner we get some of the half black, half white, half white, half black dudes.

Jarrah | 35:03

Uh-huh.

Grace | 35:03

And I like to think they were on a date together.

Sue | 35:05

There's a Kzinti. There's um, like the bird alien. There's the, uh, like cactus alien.

Grace | 35:12

Some of Phlox's species are there being creepy looking so it's good to know that's universal for them.

Sue | 35:17

I really appreciate the cactus alien randomly from-

Jarrah | 35:20

Yeah.

Sue | 35:20

... from-

Jarrah | 35:21

Yeah.

Sue | 35:21

... *The Animated Series*.

Grace | 35:23

Well why the hell not?

Sue | 35:25

Morn was great.

Jarrah | 35:26

I really enjoyed the art.

Sue | 35:28

Um, a no- Denobulan was back there.

Jarrah | 35:30

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 35:30

Yeah, Charm's artwork is really good. It's such a fine line to walk when you're doing something, um, that is not quite a media tie-in but enough that there's a likeness issue there where you have to make your characters look like specific actors and work from reference. It can come off really uncomfortably uncanny and wooden, but I feel like Charm got the likenesses down and was able to have fun with it and really make it work.

Sue | 35:55

And in comic books you don't always have a lot of room to draw these background characters and yet they're all recognizable.

Grace | 36:02

Yeah, absolutely. I really appreciated that especially in the scene where we get to see Vel break dancing.

Jarrah | 36:08

That was really fun.

Grace | 36:10

Of course! It's always good when you have an alien break dancing. There's no way you can't win with it.

Jarrah | 36:15

Yeah.

Grace | 36:16

Also, we saw our main character just getting to say to a guy who's hitting on her, "I don't want to mate with you."

Jarrah | 36:22

Yeah, that was fun. Yes, we do get to see a party that she is very not into.

Sue | 36:26

And in that party scene the DJ who is like scratching records is- ... um, the same species as Arex from *The Animated Series*.

Grace | 36:39

Those extra arms probably come in really handy when you're scratching the vinyl.

Sue | 36:42

The third arm coming out of the middle of his chest as he's... That's on a record. It's great.

Grace | 36:48

Basically, world building, world building-wise and visually, there's a lot to appreciate, uh, about this comic.

Jarrah | 36:53

Oh, no! There's a Benzite who's a cadet, so clearly, it's the Kelvinverse, 'cause we know in the Primeverse- ... that there's no Benzite cadets before Mordock. Mm-hmm.

Grace | 37:03

Also, for some reason, they'll only accept like four cadets at a time in that one? I was never quite sure what was going on in that episode. It was weird.

Jarrah | 37:11

Also, none of us will ever, ever be that smart.

Grace | 37:15

Eh, I'll live.

Jarrah | 37:16

Yeah, I thought like the art was really, um, fun and accessible but, you know, there was some creative use of angles and there were lots of nice sort of shots, I guess, or panels with T'Laan and some of the other characters that just took really nice advantage of geometry-

Grace | 37:36

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 37:37

... and, and shadow, and so it was like simple but really effective.

Grace | 37:41

Which is really good when you're working with aliens 'cause there's a lot of potential to play around there, and we did get some really beautiful cover artwork from Charm, and, uh, we had one from Jen Bartel and, as always, just some beautiful work from George... I've not, I'm

probably not saying his name right, Castilla- Castellanos? Um, my apologies for not saying that right, but his cover work is always just, oh, jaw dropping.

Jarrah | 38:06

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 38:06

And it's so cool to get to see him get incorporated into more and more stuff. We also got some very cute, uh, Paulina Gonichow art whose work I love!

Jarrah | 38:16

Nice.

Grace | 38:17

I get excited about comics.

Jarrah | 38:20

There's also like this whole metaphor with this Vulcan tree that was planted on Earth and, to memorialize the victims of the Vulcan implosion, explosion? Implosion?

Grace | 38:32

The big planet go boom.

Jarrah | 38:34

In *Star Trek (2009)*, yeah, and uh, it turned a different color 'cause it was on Earth and it's like a metaphor for T'Laan.

Grace | 38:41

I liked that. I thought it was sweet.

Sue | 38:43

Honest question. Has that appeared in *Star Trek* before, the concept of on this planet it's this color?

Jarrah | 38:48

No, but that doesn't s- like seem out of the realm of possibility if you look at like plants like, um, hydrangeas.

Grace | 38:56

Mm.

Jarrah | 38:56

Just the acidity of the soil turns it blue or purple.

Sue | 38:58

I remember...

Grace | 39:00

Caltsoudas! That is the artist's name, sorry.

Sue | 39:02

I remember reading that in a fan fiction, like, 25 years ago.

Grace | 39:08

Hmm.

Sue | 39:08

Somebody makes a comment of, on this planet, the, the, uh, the soil and the atmosphere make this plant blue instead of pink, and it's a Vulcan plant that was moved to Earth.

Jarrah | 39:20

Huh.

Sue | 39:21

And it just, it struck such a chord with me. I'm like, "I wonder if they read this 25-year-old fan fiction." And it planted a seed in their brain.

Grace | 39:30

Well, it's not out of the ordinary for plants to respond differently in different environments, and that's a beautiful metaphor to work from there alone.

Sue | 39:37

Oh, absolutely. It was just, it was so like strikingly similar that I'm like, "I wonder if somebody read that and that seed was planted and like came back years later in a comic book."

Jarrah | 39:48

Hm. Fascinating.

Sue | 39:49

But another part of that tree is that like I guess the gravity of Earth, instead of making the branches hang down, make it spiral, so it's something new and beautiful because of its environment.

Grace | 39:59

I'm not sure how to follow that up. I feel like I should say something beautiful and articulate, but all I've got is, environments, man. They're weird.

Sue | 40:08

I mean, I-

Grace | 40:09

Botany.

Sue | 40:09

It's YA. It was a bit heavy-handed, but it's kinda cute.

Grace | 40:13

It's a beautiful memorial that we'll probably never see again.

Jarrah | 40:18

Well, I mean, okay, so there's another interesting point. So, when I interviewed Sarah Gaydos about this in 2015, uh, she said that the goal was if, you know, and if this series was popular enough, they would, uh, try to spin it into a regular title.

Grace | 40:32

That would've been nice.

Jarrah | 40:33

Yeah, well my question was would that have worked and what would you have liked to see as their next adventure? What do you think could've been the next storyline?

Grace | 40:40

Well, we had just a fun group dynamic going, so I feel like as far as that goes, *Star Trek* has always been an ensemble series in just about every iteration. So, there's fun to be had there with just these characters, how their different dynamics work, and how they would face problems together.

Jarrah | 40:57

Mm-hmm.

Sue | 40:58

Yeah, I wonder based on their difference in age whether they would have eventually done a story about some of them graduating, but not all of them.

Grace | 41:09

Mm-hmm.

Sue | 41:10

Yeah, that could be interesting. We don't usually see our crews or our teams or our casts breaking apart before the end of a story.

Grace | 41:18

And, of course, with any YA series, we would've gotten a forced romantic subplot.

Sue | 41:23

Sure.

Jarrah | 41:23

So, who, so who would you ship? Other than the half black, half white, half white, bl- half black guys.

Grace | 41:30

T'Laan and Lucia, definitely.

Jarrah | 41:32

Hmm.

Grace | 41:33

She really wanted her to stay on that team and be friends with her. I was seeing it. I was seeing it.

Jarrah | 41:39

Yep. Or Shev and Vel and two other people.

Grace | 41:45

With various partners involved. Who knows? And Orions, man.

Sue | 41:50

Maybe T'Laan would end up dating that formerly mean Vulcan.

Grace | 41:56

I don't know. No.

Jarrah | 41:57

No. He, no.

Sue | 41:58

No beefos?

Jarrah | 41:58

He doesn't... No. He, he seemed like a jerk, and even though he acknowledged he was a jerk in the end, he only acknowledged it in private.

Grace | 42:07

Yeah, true.

Jarrah | 42:08

And yeah, yeah, no.

Grace | 42:10

Someone who's only willing to admit they're wrong when they know that no one else will hear it, meh, not that great.

Jarrah | 42:16

Yeah.

Grace | 42:17

But again, I think we should also ask if this had gotten extended into a series, what tired YA cliches would we have loved to see shoehorned in at some point?

Jarrah | 42:27

Hmm.

Sue | 42:28

Love triangle, yay.

Grace | 42:30

The big dance is coming up, but the Klingons are attacking.

Jarrah | 42:34

Team Shev or Team Vel?

Sue | 42:39

We have to overthrow a corrupt government.

Jarrah | 42:41

Uh, someone could, uh, come down after falling in love, come down with a tragic, tragic illness, and they have to enjoy their last summer together.

Grace | 42:51

Some... Oh, God. Too real. It's too real, YA-wise. Uh, someone's-

Jarrah | 42:57

Oh.

Grace | 42:57

... long lost estranged twin shows up, that is much better liked by their parents. I'm gonna guess Shev.

Jarrah | 43:05

Yeah, probably.

Grace | 43:06

That's my guess.

Jarrah | 43:06

Shev, yeah. I mean, I was thinking the person with the tragic illness and, like, they're enjoying their last summer together, and they're like at the end, and they're like ready to say goodbye, and then like they... Bones is just like out on Earth visiting people, and he's like-

Grace | 43:20

"I can take care of this."

Jarrah | 43:21

"Damn it, Jim! Doesn't anyone use pills anymore?" And he like pulls a pill out of his bag.

Sue | 43:27

What are these, the Dark Ages?

Grace | 43:31

Oh, oh, I got it, I got it. We get to see Vel discover Morrissey and go through a really douchey phase. And then it progresses into an emo phase.

Sue | 43:40

Somebody ha- lies, creates a bunch of lies to get popular- ... and then has to deal with the consequences.

Jarrah | 43:45

Yeah.

Grace | 43:47

And then the big chili cook-off comes up. And they're on separate teams.

Let's just see how many *Babysitters Club* plots we can transport into this uniform.

Jarrah | 43:59

Pretty much what I'm drawing from here.

Grace | 44:01

Yeah.

Sue | 44:02

Oh, my goodness.

Grace | 44:03

And then they start a Babysitters Club.

Jarrah | 44:05

I'm also thinking of just the other *Starfleet Academy* things I've read, but I'm having trouble remembering those old books. I mean, they're not that old. I guess they were '90s.

Sue | 44:14

I'm gonna have to find some now. Worf's was the first one. I can picture the cover.

Grace | 44:19

I just wanna see Teen Adventures of Worf now.

Jarrah | 44:22

Yep. Or maybe they all go to a shopping mall, and they get locked in, and it's haunted.

Grace | 44:29

They... Their van breaks down outside of town. They've gotta figure out what's going on in that old mineshaft.

Jarrah | 44:38

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 44:39

They need to get a dog first, but I feel like they can make it work.

Sue | 44:42

Someone finds a treasure map-

Grace | 44:44

There's always-

Sue | 44:44

... and leads them back to Wagner 19. Woo-hoo.

Grace | 44:47

Oh, again?

Sue | 44:49

But seriously, I really enjoyed this.

Grace | 44:51

Yeah.

Jarrah | 44:51

Yeah.

Sue | 44:51

I thought it was a lot of fun and super fast-paced. And, yeah, it was just a... I was smiling a lot-

Grace | 44:59

Yeah.

Sue | 44:59

... while reading it.

Jarrah | 45:00

Yeah.

Sue | 45:00

It was just enjoyable.

Grace | 45:01

It was really fun. It was a good time.

Jarrah | 45:03

And I mean, I'm, I'm not an art expert but, you know, mentioned I really liked the art and, like Grace said, like sometimes it can just get uncanny in *Star Trek* comics.

Sue | 45:11

Mm-hmm.

Jarrah | 45:11

Or, I think this just... It just felt like... It, it sort of almost reminded me of, like, the newer *Archie* comics in the style, that it's a little bit more grown-up feeling than old *Archie*, but still-

Grace | 45:26

Still stylized and fun.

Jarrah | 45:27

Yeah. And accessible.

Grace | 45:29

Yeah. That's part of what I really liked about this. It was an accessible series, and I appreciate that a lot, especially when... Unfortunately, with most comics and *Star Trek*, there's a level of gatekeeping there, so when you can make-

Sue | 45:42

Oh, yeah.

Grace | 45:43

... when you can be accessible on both fronts, that's always really good.

Jarrah | 45:46

Mm-hmm. I... It would've been nice to see more, um, but I think we, we did get a, a good run and a good little trade paperback out of it, so I'd, I'd recommend it.

Sue | 45:55

For sure.

Grace | 45:56

If not for the cameo searches, then just for that one single page of an alien breakdancing.

Jarrah | 46:02

Yeah, well, I mean, I read this when it first came out and I didn't notice, like, any of the cameos. So, then the second time around, I went like, "What?" So.

Grace | 46:10

I swear, IDW, between, between *Star Trek* and their *Ghostbusters* comics has the most square inchage cameo-

Sue | 46:20

Mm-hmm.

Grace | 46:20

... for any publishing house. I swear, man.

Sue | 46:24

Mm-hmm. I mean, it just shows us that the people making these know the properties and love the properties.

Grace | 46:30

Yeah. Absolutely.

Sue | 46:31

I mean, down to showing the Slayton crew wearing their NX-05 baseball caps.

Grace | 46:36

Yeah, that was pretty cute.

Sue | 46:37

Like, nice touch.

Jarrah | 46:38

Yeah. That was good.

Grace | 46:40

Yeah. I love comics.

Sue | 46:41

All right.

Grace | 46:42

Do we have a rating system for this?

Jarrah | 46:44

We can.

Grace | 46:45

I give it four out of five three-arm DJs spinning discs.

Jarrah | 46:52

Oh, okay. I'll give it four out of five background Morns.

Sue | 46:55

I will give this nine out of ten amazing trips to Midtown Comics.

Grace | 47:01

Yay.

Jarrah | 47:01

Yeah. Mm-hmm. Or wherever your local comic bookstore is.

Sue | 47:06

Yes, to your local comic bookstore, not the one on the internet.

Jarrah | 47:11

All right, well, um, thanks for joining us for our latest book club episode. If you would like to take part in the discussion for our next book club episode, you can head over to

goodreads.com. And if you just search Women at Warp in the groups, you will find our group and you can join it. And we will be announcing pretty soon what we're going to be reading next, and we love to hear your thoughts.

Wrapping up then, Sue, where can people find you on the internet?

Sue | 47:39

You can find me on Twitter @spaltor, that's S-P-A-L-T-O-R.

Jarrah | 47:42

And Grace?

Grace | 47:43

You can find me on Twitter @bonecrusherjank and smoking behind the bleachers.

Jarrah | 47:49

And, uh, I'm Jarrah, and you can find me on Twitter @jarrahpenguin. And you can also contact our show at crew@womenatwarp.com. You can find us on Facebook. You can find us on Twitter, Good Reads, um, our website, womenatwarp.com, and Instagram now also @womenatwarp. So, uh, check us out, get in touch. We love to hear from you. And thanks so much for listening.

Grace | 48:15

Bye.

[Outtro music]