

Women at Warp Episode 259: It's Been a Long Road

John: Hi, this is John and Bjo Trimble.

BarBara: My name is BarBara Luna.

Celeste: This is Celeste Yarnall.

Melinda: This is Melinda Snodgrass.

Denise: This is Denise Crosby.

Gates: Hi, I'm Gates McFadden.

Marina: This is Marina Sirtis.

René: This is René Auberjonois.

Terry: This is Terry Farrell.

Melissa: This is Melissa Navia. And you are listening--

Terry: You're listening--

René: You, you lucky people.

Celeste: You're listening to Women at Warp.

Terry: Women at Warp.

Gates: Women at Warp.

[Women at Warp theme]

Jarrah: Hi, and welcome to Women at Warp, a *Star Trek* podcast. Join us at the culmination of our ten-year mission to explore intersectional diversity in infinite combinations. My name is Jarrah and thanks for tuning in. With me today is the entire crew. I'll start with Sue.

Sue: Hello.

Jarrah: Grace.

Grace: It's been a long road, everybody. It's been a long road.

Jarrah: Aliza.

Aliza: It's been a long road.

Grace: Okay, Aliza did it better. Yeah.

Jarrah: Andi.

Andi: Hello.

Jarrah: And Kennedy.

Kennedy: [singing] Getting from there to here.

Sue: [singing] Been a long road, but my time is finally near. I will see my dream [laughter] come alive again.

In Unison: [singing] I will touch the sky. [laughter]

Jarrah: Let's not get a copyright claim on our last episode.

Kennedy: Well, I mean, we don't know the words apparently, so I think we're good. [laughter]

Jarrah: All right, so before we get into our episode content, we have a little bit of housekeeping. First up, if you are a supporter on Patreon, thank you so much for all your support. Even though our show is winding down, you have an option to keep your support going between now and December. While you won't gain any new rewards, you will gain access to our back catalog of patron-exclusive content and bonus episodes. And you'll also help to support two important things. First up is clearing our transcription backlog so all our episodes are accessible in a text format. And two is supporting our ongoing hosting costs to ensure the podcast can remain up as long as possible. So, whether you are a current Patreon who is considering extending, then thank you. And if you would like to join to support those things and gain access to our bonus content, visit patreon.com/womenatwarp. And Sue, do you want to give the TeePublic update?

Sue: Yeah. So, TeePublic will also be live into probably early December of this year, but for a limited time, use discount code, WAW2025, for 25% off of your purchase.

Aliza: Huzzah.

Sue: Yeah. TeePublic regularly runs like big sales, so it cannot be combined with a sale. But when there's not a sale, you can use that code, WAW2025.

Jarrah: Nice. Okay. Well, it has, as noted, been quite the long road, but such a great one. And so, we are going to start off with a short mailbag. We had a question that came through, which is from Stephanie on Facebook, who says, "I'll go ahead and ask the obvious one. What's next for each of you? PS: You ladies will be missed."

Grace: Aww

Andi: I will probably continue to guest on other podcasts hopefully, but I think I might actually go back to trying to First Time Trek.

Jarrah: Nice.

Andi: I think what happened is basically I didn't need to First Time Trek because I was doing all of the podcasting and talking about *Star Trek* with you all. So, like I kind of became too much track to do both at the same time. So, I kind of stopped doing First Time Trek once we started the podcast, not entirely, but like as much as I had. So, I think eventually, once I've had a nice long rest, might decide to go back and do that again.

Kennedy: Hmm. Follow-up question, Andi, if you should so choose to return to First Time Trek, are you going to continue to give *Discovery* a try?

Andi: Yeah, I mean I've always planned on trying to watch everything. *Discovery* wasn't my favorite, but I know that some of the later seasons might be more my cup of tea, so would like to take a look at those. Because it's so arced, I've always wanted to rewatch it from the beginning because I feel like I don't really remember what happens. There was like a few very memorable things and the rest of it, it's been years since I've seen it. So, I would probably want to start from the beginning and work my way through again. But yeah, yeah. And I also want to finally sit down and watch things like *Picard* and *Strange New Worlds* because I never got a chance to take a look at those.

Jarrah: Andi, I had the exact same thing with my blog, *Trekkie Feminist*, where I was basically writing kind of episode-by-episode analysis. And then when we started the podcast, I would have to watch episodes to research for the podcast and I didn't feel like I had enough time and energy to write and get screencaps and everything for a post as well as to have notes for the podcast and also felt like it was duplicating the things I was saying on here. But I may do a bit more stuff there, even if it's just curating a better kind of *Star Trek* reference library. I was collecting kind of cool behind the scenes quotes and things like that there.

So, I may do some of that, but I have some ideas too when we made the decision to kind of wind down, my first thought was like, "Oh no, what am I going to do without a project?" But I've tried to kind of walk myself back from that and just be okay with not having a plan for a little bit and just kind of see if something presents itself like the way that *Women at Warp* did when you came up with the idea, Andi.

Sue: Similarly, I have nothing immediately lined up, which I am kind of grateful for. Big long rest sounds like a great time. Because, I mean, it's been ten years, y'all.

Grace: Mm-hmm.

Sue: [laughs] Every two weeks for ten years, sometimes more frequently than that. Never missing a release date, thank you very much. My neurodivergent brain is very impressed with us. [laughs] On time for ten years, because I'm not on time for anything else. [laughs] But every now and then, even while doing the podcast, I have occasionally covered some stuff for *TrekCore*, while there have been events in New York and I plan to continue to do that. I will continue to be at *Dragon Con* doing panels in moderation. Yeah, and we'll see what else crops up, but the idea of going to a convention and just attending the convention sounds kind of great right now.

Grace: Gosh, yeah, doing stuff as a fan sounds so nice when it's not with a checklist.
[laughter]

Andi: Yeah. Because I believe-- I don't want it to seem like I didn't love doing the podcast because I did, but there is an aspect to it where it becomes almost like a job.

Sue: Oh, yeah.

Andi: I mean, that sometimes bred resentment. I was like, "What, I have to edit today? I don't want to edit today. I want to play video games." And so, occasionally, that would sometimes suck some of the fun out of it, where it was like something I had to do, rather something I wanted to do in that moment. So, that has always been kind of a challenge of making all of the deadlines, but overall, it was a really great creative experience. So, the other thing I'm thinking about is what is going to be my new creative outlet. And I'm still thinking through what I want to do with that.

Kennedy: Well, let me tell you, [laughs] as somebody who came from a ten-year show straight into this one, take the break. [laughter] Okay? I'll say that, take the ding dang break.

I cannot emphasize enough how much I am looking forward to the break. I say take the break because I am not even taking my own advice and taking a break because this is the final season of your away team, so I'll be able to take a break soon. Stay tuned for that. That'll be fun. And I, beyond that, am looking forward to not having checklists or deadlines or copyright infringements to worry about, violating--

Jarrah: Partners to not piss off. [laughter]

Kennedy: I'm looking forward to meeting no more of my heroes, [laughter] because let me tell you, auntie's got tea, okay? And I am looking forward to taking the break. So, for those of you, you founding fabulous four, take the break. Don't do what I did, I am doing, have done. Relish in your stillness. Allow things to come to you organically, naturally, fluidly, mycelially, [laughter] however that needs to come to you, let it happen, because the burnout is real. And I don't want anyone here or listening to turn into me, who is bitter and jaded and seasoned, albeit a little crunchy around the edges. So please, please, please take the break. I'm looking forward to getting into cosplaying now that I got a sewing machine. This over for you, hoes.

Grace: Oh, my gosh. Having a sewing machine, it's so great.

Kennedy: I aspire to get to Vegas at some point purely for the pageantry of it. I just need to do a starship showgirl.

Grace: Oh, my God. I want to see that real bad.

Kennedy: And when I say starship showgirl, I mean an actual ship inspired by like--

Jarrah: Oh, my God.

Kennedy: You know what I'm saying? Instead of the back piece that's like instead of being beads and shit, it would be like nacelles. And I know--

Jarrah: Nice. Oh, my God.

Kennedy: Maybe they light up. If it's a Voyager ship, they move. I don't know. The world is my cosplay oyster

Grace: Kennedy, they don't need to light up because you're luminous enough as it is.

Aliza: It's true.

Kennedy: Please. Stop it with this mushy shit. I'm trying to keep it together.

Grace: No, if I have to cry tonight, everyone has to.

Kennedy: Goddamn it.

Sue: There's no crying in *Star Trek*.

Jarrah: There's a lot of crying in *Star Trek*.

Kennedy: There's a lot of crying. There should be more crying in *Star Trek*, honestly. But yeah, after I wrap with your away team to put a long ribbon on this, I'm looking forward to the break as well.

Jarrah: Grace?

Grace: Oh, God. I want to start by saying I look back on the stuff I recorded ten years ago, and I go “God, I’m such a dipshit. Oh, my God,” which growth. Growth. I am not the person I was ten years ago and I can be very proud and happy about that. I’ve come a long way and I think part of by virtue of doing this show, I’ve gained a lot of confidence that I don’t know how I would have gotten otherwise. Ten years is a long time, both chronologically and in terms of personal growth. And a lot has happened. And, oh, gosh, I’m just so grateful that I have these five amazing people in my life, like full bullsh*t term now. I feel like that’s such an incredible gift and blessing that I’ve gotten from doing this show. This show feels like one of the most first major things I got to do where it felt like both my opinion and my creative input was valued and I’m never going to be able to put a price on that. No shade to All Things Trek, you guys got me started. Lots of love for all the boys, but I got to stretch my legs here. Let’s be real. I love you all so much. I appreciate all that you’ve taught me that I can do. And--

Sue: This was the “what’s next” question.

Grace: I know, and I’m trying to-- I’m segueing, man. I’m segueing because you can’t look at the future without contemplating the past. I want to be able to-

Kennedy: Oh, nice logical. Logical. [laughs]

Grace: I feel like I’m more the person who can do something creatively that isn’t built off of just talking about something previously than I have ever been before, so that’s what I would like to focus on. I would like to be able to do more creative work. I’m not sure where that’s going to take me. I still love writing. I still love getting to make my terrible jokes. I would like to get to go further with that in the future. I don’t know where that’s going to take me, but that’s what I would like to do. And again, I’m just grateful for all this has given me in terms of believing that I could do something like that in the future.

Andi: Very cool, Grace. I would like to say though that although I agree that ten years is a long time to grow personally, I think we all have because I think it’s hard to not. I don’t think you were a dipshit and I think you were very funny and had a very unique and wonderful voice that I always really enjoyed hearing and really enjoyed working with you. And truly, I feel like people don’t understand that the funniest thing that has ever been said on our podcast was when you said, “Take me down to the Paradise City where the grass is green and the girls got three titties,” because that’s the funniest thing that’s ever been said on our podcast and maybe in the world. And I think that was our first year, so you don’t get to throw Past Grace under the bus.

Grace: Andi, it doesn’t have power unless you sing it, is the thing.

Andi: I’m not a good singer like the rest of you, so--

Jarrah: For a grace reprise, encore, encore.

Grace:[singing] Take me down to the Paradise City where the grass is green and the girls got three titties. [laughter]

Aliza: Take me home.

Andi: Yeah, when I first heard that, I don’t think I’ve ever laughed that hard in my life. It was like physically painful to laugh that much. [laughs]

Grace: Yeah, I get “physically painful” a lot as a response to my jokes.

Jarrah: Awesome. Aliza, what's next?

Aliza: Oh, goodness gracious. Well, I've had very transformative past two-ish years, two and half years, which was the back half of my time on this show. So, I feel like y'all have seen me through a lot of life shit. [laughter] So, thank you for being my friends and collaborators. But yeah, I mean that's my segue to say that I have been-- This year, I've been just doing a lot of personal work in terms of therapy and mental health and physical health. But this has been-- This past-- not calendar year, past 12ish months have been big for my mental health and self-discovery. And so, I have stepped back from a lot of things and I'm already kind of like shifting into what my next things will be. Sorry, that's so vague. Okay, I can be more concrete though.

So, I have started very slowly dipping my toe back into streaming. I hadn't been streaming. I basically took a year off, not intending to. I took a year off from game mastering and dungeon mastering without intending for it to be a year. I'm not even auditioning right now. I took time off from that. And you know shit was serious, if I told my agents that I'm booked out for three months. Yeah, shit's been serious.

And so, yeah, dipping my toe back into having a public creative presence because I got really, really, really burnt out on everything and my brain could not and would not do things. And so now, coming out of that, I finally feel like I'm like coming out of that slowly. And I have amazing therapists and psychiatrists and am healing. Nature is healing. My nervous system is healing. And I'm writing a book about my experience for the past two years of everything that led to me getting my AuDHD diagnosis, and then this past year, since then, and what I've learned about myself and what it took to get here, writing a book about it. And then I'm going to make that into an interactive visual novel.

Jarrah: Very cool.

Sue: That's incredible.

Aliza: Thanks. That's my next big project that I'm trying to complete and do. And then from there, I do want to get back into gaming and acting and all of that stuff, but now that I'm unmasking myself as an autistic person, as the most closeted queer person who was ensconced in queer culture, like, 96% of my friends are queer, it's like, "Girl, why did it take you this long to realize you are bi and aromantic?"

Andi: It's a journey.

Aliza: It really, truly is. And honestly, this year couldn't have happened without me learning that I'm autistic, because that finally made me plant my flag in the ground and realize, "Yeah, I'm queer." Because I had known for like four years I was questioning, and finally, this year was the year that I was able to unmask everything about myself. So, yeah, ooh, ooh, it's a word. It's a lot. And that's what I want to get done next honestly. Beyond that, I don't have anything specific that I want to do except just get back to being creative and doing fun stuff. And similar to a lot of folks here watching *Star Trek* and not taking notes, [laughter] not thinking about cool ways to spin it into an episode, although I love the work we did on this podcast, like that-- Huh, It's been so amazing to have this experience with you all, but unprecedented, like, yeah, like, this is-- We are the Trader Joe's of *Star Trek* podcasts. [laughter] Oh, my God.

Grace: We give out samples.

Aliza: Yes. Yes. And we are seasonal. Just kidding. [laughter] Variety.

Grace: Pumpkin Spice at Warp.

Aliza: Yes, we are the pumpkin spice of *Star Trek* podcast. [laughs]

Kennedy: Wait a minute. Hold on.

Aliza: I hope not, I'm rewinding. I'm rewinding this. What I do mean to say is that I do think that this podcast rebranded what a *Star Trek* and what a fan podcast could be because I feel like we had this breadth of not only experience and knowledge and interest in *Star Trek*, but the way we came together from both academic angles and just silly fan things and our own deep personal journeys that we relate back to the *Star Trek* we watch, I don't know, I've never seen a fan podcast or any type of fan content do what we did here, so I think that's dope. That's like Trader Joe's just making all these seasonal products like no other grocery store ever did before.

Grace: You guys can have peanut butter cups that are dark chocolate. Okay.

Aliza: I mean, and really itty-bitty tiny ones?

Grace: The little itty bitty bite-sized ones.

Aliza: Oh, my God.

Sue: But you can only have the butternut squash mac and cheese for one month a year.

Jarrah: Well, I feel like this is a good segue and maybe we'll come back to the last listener message towards the end. So next, just kind of an open opportunity to talk about other memories, things we're proud of, things we wish we would have done better. We'll kind of throw it open there. But when I saw the prompt, "think about memories," the first thing that came to mind was when the original four of us went to Vegas for the first time. And there were a couple really cool things that happened.

But when we met Bjo and John Trimble and interviewed them, and then when some of us were walking in the hall wearing matching T-shirts that said "Women's Place is on the Bridge," and Terry Farrell stopped us and asked to take our picture and then made it her banner header for Twitter. And I just felt like the coolest person in the world. [laughter] And it's like, that's one of the things of when you go to many, many, many more conventions and you are looking at it more from the lens of like, "What episodes am I going to put out?" that I think it's still cool and I'm still so, so grateful, but I'm hoping to be able to get some of that just excitement back. It was just so great.

Grace: I'm still never going to forget that time were both at Star Trek Las Vegas and we ended up at a dinner for the *DS9* documentary, Jarrah and I, and we got to corner Ira Steven Behr. And I think it was Jarrah who led in with, "Hey, we've just got some questions about Keiko O'Brien." And he immediately hands up, and he's like, "We screwed up. We screwed up. I will immediately admit we screwed up with Keiko O'Brien." And that was just such a-- Yes. Yes, you did, Ira.

Jarrah: Grace went to the washroom with Terry Farrell as one of those like women don't go to the washroom by themselves moments. And I was like, "I love this for you."

Grace: She was so bubbly. She kept chatting the whole time. It was terrific.

Kennedy: So, I've had a Terry Farrell bathroom moment. Grace has had a Terry Farrell bathroom moment. Has anyone else?

Grace: Terry Farrell is the patron saint of good girly bathroom times, I guess?

Kennedy: Yes. If you are in the bathroom and you have been blessed by St. Terry Farrell, Our Lady of-- Our Patron Lady of the Stall, then is it really a good time at your convention at this--

Aliza: Oh, my gosh.

Grace: Truly, truly.

Jarrah: Terry Farrell, she knows that this is like not meant to be insulting in the slightest. This is, like--

Grace: No, that is the firmest compliment I can give.

Kennedy: It is a blessing. It is like seeing a rainbow. You don't understand.

Aliza: I hope that someday we all can reconvene and be like, "I had my Terry Farrell bathroom moment. I had mine seven years ago." We all just have one by that point.

Kennedy: Oh, my God. I'm hoping Sue will have hers in May, Trek Long Island.

Sue: No, I think I did see her in the bathroom at STLV, but I don't-- But there was not a conversation. I would have remembered a conversation.

Kennedy: Okay, so I'm putting that the ethers.

Jarrah: You're not drinking enough water, Sue.

Sue: I'm definitely not drinking enough water. That is a given. [laughter]

Jarrah: Any other memories folks want to throw out there?

Sue: I remember the first time I met Andi. It was before that time the four of us were in Vegas together. Andi came to Dragon Con the year before, and I had-- She was staying in the hotel room I had, and I left her the room key with the concierge to pick up because I had to be at something. And when I came back to the room, I knew she was supposed to be there by then. And as I opened the door, I just heard screaming start. And for a good two minutes, we were just screaming and hugging each other.

Andi: And jumping. Don't forget the jumping. The jumping was a very key part of it.

Sue: I don't think there were words spoken.

Andi: And that's also when we met the Snod. Yeah, the Snod. Melinda Snodgrass was-- I think, my first time meeting a *Star Trek* "celebrity" and I was a complete loser about it.

Sue: No, it was adorable and everything-- You were soaking up everything she said, and then you went and read all of her books that weekend and watched every television show she recommended.

Andi: I still-- *Person of Interest* is still one of the best shows I've ever seen. She was so right.

Grace: No joke, back on my *Person of Interest* ship, but right now as we speak.

Andi: So good. But yeah-- And I think it was actually the fact that it wasn't an actor, it was a writer that I just really thought she was the coolest. And that was a really good first experience with the Con, I guess, mentality of like here are the people that have made your favorite things, talk to them. And, yeah, it was a good time. And also, Sue is, like the queen of Dragon Con, and she knows everybody. And she was like, "You want to do some panels?" And I was like, "Sure." And then, she was like, "Here's seven panels for you." [laughter] I was like, "Oh, okay."

Sue: I did not put you on the panels. I gave you the contact information of the directors.

Andi: Yeah, okay. Anyway, I did seven panels. [laughter] Yeah, it was a good time. And I was very excited to meet Sue.

Grace: Weren't we all honestly?

Kennedy: My first time meeting Sue was at the Women's Podcast Festival hosted by Black Tribbles here in Philly. It was Sue and Annika. And you two-- It was after we had done our episode, right? It was after the Klingon Ladies.

Sue: Mm-hmm.

Grace: All the Klinge ladies, yes.

Kennedy: Whoa-o-oh. That's the only time you'll hear me say anything remotely from that person. Anyway, I just remember being on that couch and having a fantastic conversation with you and Annika and being like, "Whoa, shut up, bitch. This is not your show." [laughter]

Andi: It wasn't yet.

Kennedy: Yeah, listen, I was like, "Calm down. Relax," because I was doing a lot that weekend. And as folks who have done multiple panels, you get that panel high where you feel like you're unstoppable because you've just had a phenomenal conversation about a thing that you know everything about. And some neckbeard in the real-life comments, the audience tried to challenge you on something unnecessary, you had to air him out in front of everybody and God. That feeling, you can't-- We need to bottle that. [laughter]

Aliza: I think this podcast is that bottled.

Speaker 1: Yeah, I think so too. Like, that is a tremendous feeling to have, and I was experiencing that weekend, and I was just like, "Oh, man. This is rad. I have to act like I don't know this person, because I don't know this person, even though I feel like I've known them for a million years." Like, am I the only one who felt that way about us and each other?

In Unison: No.

Grace: Absolutely.

Kennedy: Like Instant friend, but hold on, let me relax. I don't want her to think of Joe. [laughter]

Andi: No. I think when I reached out to Jarrah and Sue and Grace, I had “met” Grace once, maybe twice, and Sue once. And I had literally never talked to Jarrah. I had just been like, “Hey, she does a blog about Trekkie feminism. That feels relevant.” And I emailed her, and she was like, “Yeah, let's do it.” And then we just started podcasting it together. And it was kind of insane how quickly we clicked, because I don't think people realize that we had not podcasted together, the four of us, until that first episode that we put out. Like, that was the first time we had ever recorded together.

Jarrah: Yeah. I mean, we were learning a lot of stuff together. And I remember that first kind of call that we all had, and we were all kind of like, “So no one's a TERF, right?”

Sue: Y'all, you guys are all cool, right?

Andi: Yeah. And I thought it was so funny that pretty immediately we started getting the complaint that we all agreed too much. And I just was like, I don't know how to tell people that we just have the same values, because it's not that we don't disagree about stuff. That's just not factually accurate. It's more that we look at the world through the same moral lens. But the fact that happened without us trying to make that happen is what's unique, I think. Yeah, I don't know, that was just kind of some alchemy shit, because I feel like a lot of podcasts do not have that.

Kennedy: No, there's a great deal of coaching that needs to happen. And to your point, Andi, people have a hard time understanding as well that people can come to the same conclusion for different reasons.

Andi: Mm-hmm.

Grace: Yeah, right.

Kennedy: All of us have different lived experiences. No one knows what the others' life is like outside of a talking about it. So, if we come to terms about a thing, it's because of the sum experiences of our individual lives, not because we agree just to agree, because we're conflict avoidant.

Andi: Also, that disagreeing and arguing are not the same thing.

Grace: It's true. Yeah.

Andi: Mm-hmm. Because there has been more than one time when we have “disagreed” but we're like, “But I see where you're coming from and that's a valid point, but yeah, this is how I feel.” And I think people just aren't used to that because it's not just Trek fandom, all fandom in general. People do not know how to disagree with each other respectfully anymore pretty much any arena of life.

Kennedy: Yeah. These are male-dominated spaces as well if you want to look at it through fandom. As much as things have changed over the past 10, 20 years, it's still for all intents and purposes a male-dominated field. So, when you are used to looking at panels with a bunch of dudes who all look the same somehow, and they have poor debate skills and it turns into an argument because they don't have show sense, then of course, when you look at a panel like ours that just knows how to have a conversation, whether we agree on something or not, it's meltdown for them and does not compute, end of line.

Grace: It really is a matter of arguing is not the end-all be-all of conversation.

Kennedy: Yeah. I mean if guys weren't so ding-dang emotional, [laughter] you can have a conversation, you can learn something.

Sue: I do remember a very early conversation and I think it was Jarrah who was like, "Let's make sure we're all on the same page. So, transpeople? Okay, good. Sex work? Okay, good." [laughter]

Andi: No TERFs, no SWERFs.

Jarrah: Yeah. But one of the things that I'm proud of that we did and I think that, Andi, this was like your idea initially was we had some folks on as guests over the run of the show that we identified because they reached out to us and said like, "Hey, I didn't see myself reflected in this discussion." And often, it was folks from a different background or a different identity than our core group. And we kind of said like, "I just didn't think, hadn't thought about it that way." And to me, that approach of being curious about difference is like, that's what-- I mean, Gene Roddenberry said, and like that's the whole idea of IDIC is that we should be curious and like excited about discovering different perspectives, and so to me that was just kind of a no brainer. And I was really grateful for all of the folks that were able to have on the show from backgrounds who were, "I'm a fan from this background and because of this background, this character or this storyline resonated with me in this way," and just really like opened our eyes, as well as just some of the other really cool folks we got. Some of the neat academics and folks behind the scenes and on screen and all that.

Grace: We have gotten some incredible people on just to talk about *Star Trek*. And that alone feels like such an incredible boon to have gotten from this whole experience.

Andi: Yeah. I mean, there was more than once where we would get a criticism that we would then be like, "Yeah, that's valid. You want to come on the show?" And then, they did.

Kennedy: Basically, it's Gene's vision. [laughs]

Grace: Gene's vision, but without quite so many times of us being like, "And then, we're going to talk about the sex life of all of the guests just because we really need to articulate that so the audience knows."

Kennedy: Right, right. A less hornier version.

Jarrah: Gene's vision, but with max two boobs a person. [laughter]

Sue: But it's about-- I mean, I don't want to sound cheesy, but expanding your perspectives on things and being challenged, and it didn't just take our guests to do that. I feel like over the years, we've done that for each other. I mean, the most obvious memory that comes to my mind was when we talked about *The Inner Light*, because like me, the 1980s *TNG* kid, I was like, "This is one of the greatest episodes." And Andi came in and she was like, "This is gaslighting." And I was like, "Holy crap." [laughter] And it totally shifted my entire perspective on this episode that I had loved for like 25 years.

Andi: To be clear, I do recognize that *The Inner Light* is a well-made episode. So, I think that's actually a really good example of like, Sue didn't go, "Well, how dare you. How dare you not love the episode exactly the same way I loved it." She was like, "Oh, word, that makes sense. I understand where you're coming from."

Grace: Oh, please tell me more.

Sue: Yeah. And that happened, I think, all the time for us. And I think that is pretty fantastic.

Andi: Yeah. I can't think of exact moments right now, but there has definitely been more than once where I've said something extremely confidently and somebody would be like, "Actually, mm." And I'm like, "Oh, no, you know what? You are right. That's something I hadn't thought of and that's really valuable." It actually kind of goes to one of my favorite review of our show was by somebody who didn't like our show. [laughter]

Grace: Oh, I think I know which one you mean. Yeah.

Andi: So, he basically was like, "I don't really like this show and I especially didn't like it at the beginning. But as I kept listening to it, I realized that they were basically talking about their lives through the lens of *Star Trek*, and that's why they were talking about feminism and stuff like that." And he was like, "And so, you used *Star Trek* as a shared language to talk about these other issues that I had never thought of." And I was like, "Yeah, man. Yeah, man, that's exactly what we were doing." And I thought it was really impressive, though, that he was like, "It made me uncomfortable and I didn't like it, but I understand the value in what you were doing."

Aliza: I would be remiss if I didn't just say, yeah, we're humans who watch media and content, and that's what humans do.

Andi: I don't know how to tell you, my dude, that media does not exist in a vacuum.

Aliza: Yeah, media does not spontaneously exist. You cannot pluck it out of the sky.

Andi: It did not get summoned forth from the ether, my lord.

Kennedy: There is no podcast genie that one can summon.

Aliza: And also, men, women relate to things too, in our lives. Like, yeah. No, I'm sorry, I don't mean to poo-poo on this person.

Andi: No, I genuinely thought, like, these are-- Because the reason I liked it so much is because this is not the type of person that would normally listen to our show.

Aliza: Yeah, for sure.

Andi: And he gave it a shot and he kept going. And even though he didn't really connect with it even by the end, he still grew a little and kept going. You know what I mean? That's why I like it. And I will also say that one thing that is another theme of our world today is the media literacy is like rock bottom.

Grace: Yep.

Andi: The kind of analysis that I do on media that is second nature to me, it took me a long time to figure out that not everyone does that.

Aliza: Right, right.

Andi: For some reason.

Kennedy: No. Here we are having a high-level academic, sociopolitical, economic conversations about this fictional thing, and we share the same planet with some people who don't understand that Homelander is the bad guy. [laughter]

Andi: That's actually exactly what I was thinking of. [laughter] That is literally what I was thinking of. But it's more than just Homelander. It's pretty much everything. If you're not thinking through what things are actually saying, like what the story is saying, you're just thinking about art in a shallow way, and I can't help you with that, man. So, that's what I'm proud of about our show, is that we tried to do that. And I'm not going to say we always did that as successfully as I would like, because there are certainly times when I finished an episode and was like, "I don't feel like I articulated that as well as I wanted to," but we were always trying to do that in a respectful way. And that's, I think, valuable.

Jarrah: I was thinking maybe, Sue, we could go to your trivia questions?

Sue: Yeah. So, because I like to make a spreadsheet out of anything I possibly can, I [laughter] was pulling some stats just because I was curious, and then I realized I could ask questions based on those things. So, does anybody know what our longest episode was?

Andi: Is it the Picard one?

Sue: It is not.

Jarrah: Okay, so is it Finding Icetopia?

Sue: It is not.

Aliza: That's a good guess. Yeah. Wow.

Jarrah: Because at first, I thought it was Picard season 1, because I remember being super sorry to Andi that we had to--

Andi: Yeah, I hated that. That's, oh, my God.

Sue: It is one that I edited.

Jarrah: Okay, can we, can you tell us like a hint whether, like what year it was published?

Sue: Yes.

Jarrah: Is it recent? Is it like since we expanded the crew or original--?

Sue: Yes.

Jarrah: Okay. Is it cheating if I look at--? [laughter]

Aliza: Yes. Yes, it is.

Grace: It's not cheating. It's informed guessing. Yes.

Kennedy: Research.

Aliza: Open book test.

Sue: I will tell you, and then you can guess how long it was.

Kennedy: Oh.

Sue: It was episode 188, Channeling Discovery, the season 4 review.

Kennedy: Oh, my God. That was my fault. [laughs]

Sue: That was. Yeah, it fucking was. [laughs]

Grace: Fault or credit.

Sue: How long was it?

Jarrah: I'm going to guess it was an hour and 47 minutes.

Grace: Two and a half hours.

Andi: Oh, God, no. [laughter]

Aliza: Okay 155.

Sue: Everybody's over so far.

In Unison: Oh, okay. Okay.

Kennedy: It's a 90-minute episode?

Sue: Yeah, close. It's one hour and 39 minutes.

Kennedy: Hmm. I'm so sorry.

Aliza: Okay. [laughter]

Andi: I will say that you guys could have had way longer episodes, but I cut you down.
[laughter]

Aliza: You held us back.

Grace: Kept us in rein.

Aliza: Yes.

Kennedy: I take back my apology because Michael Motherfucking Burnham deserves every single second of air time she gets.

Aliza: Kennedy, I just want to tell you're-- The way you go so hard for Michael Burnham gives me life.

Grace: It's a thing of beauty.

Kennedy: I didn't want to see my good sis at first. You know what I'm saying? I didn't want to perceive her. And then once I did, once I was beholden, I was like, "Oh, I got some catching up to do. Move aside. Step aside."

Aliza: And the fact that you brought Sonequa flowers, like--

Grace: Oh, my gosh, I loved getting to see that.

Aliza: I mean, just heavenly.

Grace: That was definitely a favorite memory also of the podcast.

Aliza: Okay, okay, more trivia.

Sue: Does anyone remember who our first guest was?

Andi: Kayla Iacovino?

Sue: Oh, yes.

Unison: Oh.

Andi: Yes. It was the Kirk love interest.

Sue: Damn, Andi.

Andi: Yeah.

Aliza: Oh, nice.

Sue: Can I borrow your memory?

Aliza: [laughter] Right.

Sue: How about our first interview?

Andi: Oh. With Diane Duane?

Sue: Nope.

Jarrah: Oh, was it the Snod?

Sue: Nope.

Jarrah: Oh, was it Nana Visitor?

Sue: It was Nana and Chase.

Andi: Yeah, right, because that was like that convention that I went to by myself that I had just already been planning to go to when we started the podcast.

Sue: Mm-hmm.

Andi: Yeah.

Sue: So, Kennedy already brought up her first appearance.

Andi: All the Klingon Ladies.

Sue: All the Klingon Ladies. I know Andi knows this one, so give everybody else a chance. What about Aliza's first appearance?

Grace: I want to say it was the Guinan episode.

Sue: That was episode 22. That was early.

Grace: Oh, yeah.

Andi: I didn't realize we wanted to talk about Guinan from the get-go.

Aliza: Yes.

Grace: Guinan from the get-go is a nice alliteration.

Aliza: And that's how I knew y'all were real ones. I was like, "Yep, we can be down because they love Guinan, so we're good."

Sue: Klingon ladies was episode 61.

Aliza: Also very early, wow.

Kennedy: I remember being blown away by the fact that I don't remember who, but somebody knew Azetbur and her name, because I couldn't remember her name for the life of me. And they were like, somebody-- I can remember and was like, "Oh, yeah, it's Azetbur." And I was like, "Oh, [unintelligible 00:43:11]"

Grace: Yeah. The daughter of the Klingon ambassador in *Star Trek* 9, right?

Kennedy: Yeah. Yeah. I was impressed. Let me tell you.

Grace: She's a neat lady.

Sue: Okay. So, according to my spreadsheets there, we have had 149 different guests on the show.

Andi: Damn.

Grace: Machi.

Sue: And 32 of them came back at least one time or more.

Grace: Okay, that's a good turnover.

Aliza: Two of them became cohost.

Sue: Which *Star Trek* actor has appeared on the show the most?

Andi: Mary Chieffo.

Sue: How many times?

Jarrah: Oh, four, five.

Grace: Hi, Mary.

Aliza: Hi, Mary.

Sue: Hi, Mary. Five times.

Andi: Very cool.

Aliza: Mm-hmm.

Sue: Which guest has appeared the most often on the show?

Andi: I want to say it's either Claire or Anika.

Jarrah: Mm-hmm.

Aliza: I'm going to pitch for Erin Macdonald.

Grace: Oh, yeah, that's a good guess too.

Sue: One of Andi's is right.

Kennedy: I think it's Anika.

Grace: Is it Claire?

Sue: It's not Claire.

Andi: It's Annika.

Aliza: Nice.

Sue: Annika has appeared eight times not including panels.

Andi: Nice. Friend of the show, Anika Dane.

Grace: Yeah. Who genuinely when her Tumblr posts were going around of Voyager episodes, me. And I think I was at the time crashing on Oren Ashkenazi, one of the hosts of All Things Trek, which got me started in podcasting. I was crashing on his couch for a while, and he was like, "You, guys. You got to see this." And everyone in the room just kind of gathering around his desk to be like, "Oh, sensible chuckles. These Voyager jokes are giving me the guffaws."

[laughter]

Andi: I love trivia. Thank you, Sue.

Sue: Oh, there's one more.

Grace: There's one more?

Sue: Not much, but we had-- There were three other guests that have been back four or more times.

Grace: Oh, my God.

Andi: Okay, that-- Claire has been on four times.

Sue: Claire has been on five times.

Andi: Oh, wow. At least four times, I should say.

Grace: We get to start at the Women at Warp five timers club now.

Aliza: Yes.

Sue: There are two that have been on four times.

Kennedy: Is it? Is Ursa one of them?

Sue: No.

Kennedy: Okay.

Sue: Ursa is not one of them.

Grace: Heather. Heather feels like a good guess.

Sue: Not Heather.

Grace: I think we've only had Jesse on two or three times.

Sue: Are you sure about that? Oh, Jesse is one of them.

In Unison: Pew, pew, pew.

Aliza: Yes.

Grace: The biggest Trekkie you will ever meet in person. She will whip your ass at *Star Trek*, seeing it so hard, you won't even know what's happening.

[laughter]

Aliza: Amazing.

Grace: I thought I stood a chance. I didn't. I didn't. I was beaten to the ground.

Kennedy: This sounds like a challenge. [laughs]

Grace: Future challenge. Future challenge.

Kennedy: Yes, yes, yeah.

Sue: The last one is someone who came to us through Jarrah.

Jarrah: Was it Jamala?

Sue: Nope.

Grace: I love Jamala. If you're listening, hi, Jamala.

Jarrah: No, I'm totally blanking.

Sue: It's Jonathan.

Grace: Oh.

Andi: Yeah. They did do a lot of like supplementals too, I guess I did.

Jarrah: The first one was the one on action figures and collectibles called Where's My Tiny Plastic Bev?

Sue: Winn. Tiny Plastic Kai Winn.

Jarrah: Yeah. Oh, right, yes. Tiny Plastic Kai Winn?

Andi: The classical antiquity episode.

Grace: Yes. That was a fun one.

Sue: Cogenitor. And then, Trek toys, collectibles and memorabilia.

Aliza: He smokes [crosstalk]

Grace: How have we made so many friends through this show?

Sue: It's really true. It's incredible.

Jarrah: Mm-hmm.

Andi: That number of guests blows me away. I knew we had a lot of guests, and there's many reasons why we were really strongly in favor of bringing on guests. And there are a couple things, one is that one of the mission statements of our show was to bring on perspectives that were not necessarily being seen on other podcasts very often. So, the easiest way to do that was to just give a platform to as many people as we could. So, that's what we did.

And then two, there were often times when we would have a show or a topic that we wanted to make sure we were doing justice, and perhaps we didn't have direct experience, lived experience in some of the topics. So, we would want to bring on people that had more lived experience in those topics. For instance, the sex work episode, we brought in two different perspectives for that, stuff like that. So, the number of guests still surprises me. And I'm definitely one of the people that has always pushed for as many guests as could get.

Jarrah: Wait, what was the total number again, Sue?

Sue: 149.

Andi: That's crazy.

Grace: Holy.

Andi: Well, mission accomplished, I guess. [laughter]

Jarrah: Well, before we round out with final thoughts, we had one very nice email. Well, we had a few very nice emails, but one that we wanted to read from Michael that says, "To the intrepid crew of Women at Warp, thank you. Those two words don't feel like enough given the impact you've made over the last decade. You have provided valuable insights on *Star Trek*, science fiction fandom and the role of women in the world with your powerful and unique set of voices. You have continued their tradition in science fiction by both preserving this important facet of history and boldly blazing trails of your own. This mission may be

drawing to a close, but I have no doubt that you will continue influencing people's lives and inspiring new views on the genre we love for years to come, either through the show's extensive archives or in future projects. Whatever the road ahead holds for each of you, I know that you will face it boldly. In true naval tradition, Bravo Zulu. Well done."

Kennedy: Oh, man. Wow. Oh, that was beautiful.

Sue: I know I've said this plenty of times before, but, as far as we're aware, when we started the show, there was not another show out there like it.

Andi: Podcast.

Sue: There was not a podcast dedicated to *Star Trek* that was hosted and run entirely by women or even queer people, I think. And now, if we look out at the world of *Star Trek* podcasting, it is so much broader and so much more diverse and so much more inclusive, and there are so many incredible conversations happening. And I'm not saying we did that, but, I mean, hopefully we encouraged some of the people out there doing it now to do that. And as far as I recall, whenever anybody came to us and asked for advice or if we'd be upset if they started a podcast, I only ever tried to be encouraging and to get more voices out there. And when I get sentimental and think about-- like, we know that my weird niche fandom obsession is fan history and the women who are writing the scenes and running the conventions in the 1970s. And I feel like in our own small way, we've sort of translated their mission into the current times and been trailblazers of sorts in a different medium, and I'm really proud of that.

Grace: Well said.

Aliza: Well said.

Kennedy: Damn straight. Period. Period.

Jarrah: One thing I'd like to say is that I hope what we have conveyed our appreciation for our fans throughout the show, but it truly cannot be overstated how much the fans really kept us going. And also, the very thoughtful comments and even criticisms as we've spoken about have been really wonderful. We definitely have stories of people who were rude or said things that were nonsensically wrong. We all have those stories, but the vast [crosstalk]-

Grace: You probably get that with anyone who's ever had any kind of soapbox.

Andi: Yeah, exactly. The vast majority of our fans and the comments and the feedback we got has been uniformly pretty positive, and it was-

Grace: And incredibly kind.

Andi: Yeah, it was incredibly encouraging to us, and we would not have the show, and we certainly would not have done it for 10 years if it weren't for the fans that supported us.

Grace: Supported us. Let us know that they were listening. Told us what they wanted to do as fans, and just giving us that positive energy to feed off of in those directions.

Sue: And in some cases, become some of our best friends and favorite people.

Aliza: Yeah, pretty much.

Kennedy: That part, mm. Guys, I hate this. [laughs]

Jarrah: Let's do another 10 years.

Sue: Yeah, let's do it.

Grace: Sure. Why not?

Aliza: I was going say, closing this mission out, there are other missions that maybe need to be done.

Grace: God knows we're not boldly going anywhere.

Kennedy: Hey, I see what you did there. I just want to thank all of you for providing such a nurturing and uplifting and encouraging space. As someone who had another pioneering show, to kind of mirror what Sue was saying, not taking full credit for anything, but definitely being around long enough to see the shift. Like, I just-- How do I say this? What is the ability to be? My brain is turning to mush because I'm trying to be philosophical, and it's not the time for it. I just--

Grace: If you can't be philosophical, just be honest.

Kennedy: Just to be honest? What a dazzling display of humanity when I look at this crew. Just the five of you are like, "Oh, okay, like, we're not all going to hell in a handbasket." [laughter] Here we are from different walks of life, different parts of the world, and we all managed to get it. And not only do we manage to get it, we always, always send the elevator back down. And I'm so proud of all of you, and I hope that you all are proud of yourselves and each other, because we freaking deserve it. And I know women aren't supposed to be hype about their own morals, but we did that. We did that.

Aliza: Mm-mm. I'll also add, echoing what Kennedy said, and I feel like, so proud to have been able to be a part of this crew and thankful to all of you as cohosts, as friends, as buddies, as fellow Trekkies. I value the shit out of you. I've cursed twice now. I don't even know if we should do that.

Jarrah: Oh, yeah, we crossed that bridge a while back. Sue, that should have been in your trivia quiz. What was the first episode that made us just bite the bullet and decide to go with explicit rating?

Sue: I don't even think it was swearing. I think it was--

Jarrah: It was the one about the dick rock. It was--

Sue: Oh, my gosh.

Jarrah: -the one about Nurse Chapel and what are Little Girls Made of and were talking about the dick rock, and. I'm sorry to interrupt you, Aliza.

Aliza: No. It's okay. [laughs] Wow, that unlocked a whole bunch of other thoughts and memories about that.

Sue: Oh, man.

Aliza: But yeah, I'm just really proud of the work that we did together and also grateful for the founding members and y'all just building this and then bringing so many awesome people in for us to discuss with. Yeah, I just see this as a treasure trove for future Trekkies to

hopefully tap into someday. And maybe there will be more of our beautiful, eclectic mix of what we did here in the future in other Trekkie and fan spaces. I really hope that's the case because I love the work we did and I love you all. And may those future Trekkies learn from our many mistakes and pitfalls.

Jarrah: Yeah. [laughter] I mean, it's cool that we still sometimes hear from college professors that are putting our episodes on their curriculum and we get cited in academic books and things like that. And that to me is still surreal.

Kennedy: Jarrah, I was just going to say, may we always be cited in academia.

[laughter]

Aliza: That's dope.

Grace: I don't think they're going to bring up Paradise City.

Kennedy: I mean, they might. They might.

Jarrah: Yeah. I'm just like filled with gratitude and love for you folks and for the experience. And it was all very worth it.

Grace: Remember the first time we all got to meet together in person and we started singing the *Enterprise* theme and we all just fell onto the ground hugging?

[laughter]

Kennedy: That was a long weekend.

Grace: I'm never going to forget that.

Kennedy: I will never forget that either. The next day, Andi drove like a bat out to hell and got me to the airport in enough time because I would have missed my flight. [laughter] If Andi didn't cut across three lanes of traffic and I didn't expertly time my barrel roll.

Grace: You would still be there in Chicago.

Kennedy: Still be in Chicago.

Andi: She'd be on my couch.

Aliza: [laughs] I think I'll never forget being at Andi's during Mission Chicago and being obsessed with having my own giant gluten-free deep-dish pizza to myself.

[laughter]

Kennedy: Pizzas.

Andi: We drove all the way from the Loop to Lincoln Park to specifically to get Aliza a gluten-free pizza. And then she ate it in Rogers Park. So, she got the Chicago experience.

Aliza: It was amazing. And I literally really will never forget that. And your cats and so many wonderful memories. Oh, and sharing a room with Jarrah. That was awesome. I love you, Jarrah.

Jarrah: It was very fun. I love you too.

Grace: At the risk of being schmaltzy, I'm so glad I won't have to go through the struggle of picking up bridesmaids if I ever get married, I've got a set here.

Aliza: Oh, my God. And please, are you going to do a *Star Trek* theme? I feel weird even asking.

Grace: Jury is still out. Depends who I'm marrying. We'll see.

Aliza: Okay, fair. I like that answer and I appreciate that.

Kennedy: Speaking of getting married.

Grace: Oh, my God.

Kennedy: Speaking of bridesmaids and *Star Trek* theme, where are we at?

Kennedy: I know, right? Oh, my God.

Aliza: No pressure.

Kennedy: My boo thing proposed. So, that's going to happen soon.

Aliza: Wow.

Sue: Yeah. We have witnessed the entirety of that relationship on this podcast.

Andi: That's right. Yes.

Kennedy: Yeah. In fact, if Andi had not driven like a bat out of hell and got me to my flight, I'd still be in Chicago and I would have missed out, so.

Aliza: Oh, my gosh.

Grace: I reserve the right to go full yenta on this. Oh, my God.

Kennedy: Oh, my God.

Jarrah: Well, that is about all the time we have. And so, to learn more about our show or to contact us, you can still visit womenatwarp.com. You can email us at crew@womenatwarp.com, or you can find us on Facebook or Instagram [@womenatwarp](https://www.instagram.com/womenatwarp). And thank you so much for listening for the last ten years.

Sue: That's a warp.

Grace: Stay warped, folks.

Andi: Engage the core.

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