

1  
00:00:00,250 --> 00:00:07,860  
From the Alex Trebek stage at Sony  
Picture Studios, this is Inside Jeopardy!

2  
00:00:08,310 --> 00:00:18,089  
There he is, the great Johnny Gilbert on  
the axe, ushering in yet another episode

3  
00:00:18,309 --> 00:00:22,269  
of Inside Jeopardy, your exclusive and  
official podcast destination for all

4  
00:00:22,270 --> 00:00:23,619  
things happening in the world of Jeopardy.

5  
00:00:23,619 --> 00:00:25,224  
I'm Michael Davies, joining  
me today for Inside Jeopardy!

6  
00:00:25,634 --> 00:00:30,755  
For our who knew 100th episode,  
she's been a part of all 100.

7  
00:00:30,835 --> 00:00:31,395  
I haven't.

8  
00:00:31,515 --> 00:00:32,775  
It's producer Sarah Foss.

9  
00:00:33,364 --> 00:00:34,825  
Well, you know what, Michael?

10  
00:00:34,835 --> 00:00:35,955  
We're part of the team though.

11  
00:00:35,995 --> 00:00:38,835  
And yes, 100 episodes of Inside Jeopardy!

12  
00:00:38,835 --> 00:00:40,284  
There are little podcasts that could.

13

00:00:40,484 --> 00:00:40,884  
Yeah.

14  
00:00:41,114 --> 00:00:42,434  
Amazing, amazing stuff.

15  
00:00:42,434 --> 00:00:43,594  
And you've done all of them.

16  
00:00:43,644 --> 00:00:44,055  
I have.

17  
00:00:44,075 --> 00:00:44,644  
Thank you.

18  
00:00:44,655 --> 00:00:44,835  
You're

19  
00:00:44,835 --> 00:00:45,205  
welcome.

20  
00:00:45,205 --> 00:00:45,584  
Sarah.

21  
00:00:45,605 --> 00:00:45,955  
You're welcome.

22  
00:00:46,015 --> 00:00:49,235  
I'm going to reveal, uh, I'm going  
to reveal to the, to the Jeopardy!

23  
00:00:49,245 --> 00:00:49,585  
public.

24  
00:00:49,585 --> 00:00:53,865  
This is, This is, this is not a paid  
gig inside Jeopardy, it's, uh, for

25  
00:00:53,875 --> 00:00:56,585  
either of us, this is, we must be crazy.

26

00:00:56,595 --> 00:00:56,935  
Uh huh.

27  
00:00:56,975 --> 00:00:58,364  
This is a labor of love.

28  
00:00:58,364 --> 00:00:58,945  
It really is.

29  
00:00:58,995 --> 00:01:03,594  
Um, and you've just done such an amazing  
job with this along with producer Alexa

30  
00:01:03,595 --> 00:01:06,555  
and producer Carlos and, you know, it  
gets better all the time and lots of,

31  
00:01:06,565 --> 00:01:10,574  
we've said before, lots of exciting new  
things next season on Inside Jeopardy

32  
00:01:10,575 --> 00:01:13,005  
and, uh, and on the show itself.

33  
00:01:13,325 --> 00:01:17,805  
And here's to the next 100, the  
next 1, 000, the next 10, 000

34  
00:01:17,805 --> 00:01:18,975  
episodes of Inside Jeopardy.

35  
00:01:19,055 --> 00:01:19,665  
I love it.

36  
00:01:19,695 --> 00:01:20,805  
I love this podcast.

37  
00:01:20,825 --> 00:01:21,715  
I love what we do.

38  
00:01:21,755 --> 00:01:25,645  
Looking back over 100 episodes,

you know, we announced the first

39

00:01:25,645 --> 00:01:27,284  
ever Second Chance competition.

40

00:01:27,284 --> 00:01:31,114  
We've spoke to so many people in the  
Jeopardy community, including co head

41

00:01:31,115 --> 00:01:32,765  
writers Billy Weiss and Michelle Lau.

42

00:01:32,785 --> 00:01:36,145  
We've had the chance to talk with Johnny  
Gilbert on the Axe a couple of times.

43

00:01:36,605 --> 00:01:41,425  
We had that TOC Exhibition Game Watch  
Along with Amy and Matt and Matea.

44

00:01:41,865 --> 00:01:43,024  
So many great champions.

45

00:01:43,035 --> 00:01:45,215  
So many people who've  
come here on the pod.

46

00:01:45,215 --> 00:01:49,625  
Of course, we had our first ever Inside  
Jeopardy Live, Michael, in New York

47

00:01:49,755 --> 00:01:53,864  
a little while back, so like you, I'm  
looking forward to what is ahead, but

48

00:01:53,865 --> 00:01:58,134  
I'm certainly celebrating what we've  
accomplished in our first couple of years.

49

00:01:58,164 --> 00:02:00,724  
And, uh, here's to many more ahead.

50

00:02:01,195 --> 00:02:04,215  
Joining us later on the pod  
to help us celebrate is none

51  
00:02:04,215 --> 00:02:07,895  
other than host Ken Jennings,  
because big celebrations for him.

52  
00:02:08,075 --> 00:02:09,505  
We just had his 50th birthday.

53  
00:02:09,735 --> 00:02:13,464  
He's just celebrated yesterday,  
the 20th anniversary of his

54  
00:02:13,465 --> 00:02:15,365  
first appearance on Jeopardy.

55  
00:02:15,875 --> 00:02:18,404  
And, you know, we're  
wrapping up season 40.

56  
00:02:18,404 --> 00:02:21,055  
So we just want to talk to him  
about all the great things that have

57  
00:02:21,055 --> 00:02:23,155  
happened for him in the past 20 years.

58  
00:02:23,155 --> 00:02:24,735  
And certainly as our host.

59  
00:02:25,485 --> 00:02:25,725  
Yeah.

60  
00:02:25,835 --> 00:02:28,335  
And of course, we'll also be  
highlighting last week's games.

61  
00:02:28,630 --> 00:02:32,769  
But first, a quick look back at a very  
special this week in Jeopardy history.

62  
00:02:37,750 --> 00:02:39,070  
Jerry Harvey, we start with you.

63  
00:02:39,070 --> 00:02:39,880  
What did you put down?

64  
00:02:39,880 --> 00:02:41,799  
Which athlete did you think of?

65  
00:02:41,799 --> 00:02:42,640  
Marian Jones.

66  
00:02:42,640 --> 00:02:46,079  
You are correct, and you add a dollar.

67  
00:02:46,320 --> 00:02:48,024  
You go to 7,401.

68  
00:02:48,475 --> 00:02:49,940  
Let's go to Julia Lazarus.

69  
00:02:49,940 --> 00:02:51,470  
Did she come up with Marian Jones?

70  
00:02:51,470 --> 00:02:52,400  
She's shaking her head.

71  
00:02:52,400 --> 00:02:52,579  
Why?

72  
00:02:53,125 --> 00:02:55,505  
She was going for somebody else,  
and I can't figure out who.

73  
00:02:55,505 --> 00:02:55,855  
Gail?

74  
00:02:55,865 --> 00:02:55,875  
I

75

00:02:56,065 --> 00:02:57,075  
can't figure out who either.

76  
00:02:58,105 --> 00:02:59,225  
But somebody named Gail.

77  
00:02:59,704 --> 00:03:03,494  
Every girl named Gail watching the  
program today is going to be very happy.

78  
00:03:03,795 --> 00:03:05,295  
You lost 37.

79  
00:03:05,295 --> 00:03:05,304  
99.

80  
00:03:05,304 --> 00:03:07,464  
That drops you down to 14, 801.

81  
00:03:07,474 --> 00:03:08,394  
Let's go to Ken Jennings.

82  
00:03:08,394 --> 00:03:10,204  
And even 20, 000 going into final.

83  
00:03:10,975 --> 00:03:15,185  
Who is Jones, and we will  
accept that in terms of female

84  
00:03:15,185 --> 00:03:16,405  
athletes, there aren't that many.

85  
00:03:16,945 --> 00:03:24,525  
And you've got 17, 201 more for a 37,  
201 total, and you become the Jeopardy!

86  
00:03:24,545 --> 00:03:24,915  
champion.

87  
00:03:25,780 --> 00:03:31,150  
It was June 2nd, 2004, when Ken Jennings  
took the stage for the very first

88  
00:03:31,160 --> 00:03:36,180  
time against challengers Julia Lazarus  
and two game champion Jerry Harvey.

89  
00:03:36,669 --> 00:03:42,139  
Ken entered final, only 1, 400 ahead  
of Julia, who was in second place.

90  
00:03:42,299 --> 00:03:45,149  
He responded correctly with Jones.

91  
00:03:45,490 --> 00:03:46,130  
The clue?

92  
00:03:46,300 --> 00:03:49,960  
She's the first female track and  
field athlete to win medals in five

93  
00:03:49,960 --> 00:03:52,160  
different events at a single Olympics.

94  
00:03:52,500 --> 00:03:56,159  
The category was, of course, the  
2000 Olympics, and as you just

95  
00:03:56,159 --> 00:03:58,190  
heard, he was ruled correct.

96  
00:03:58,449 --> 00:04:02,079  
We mentioned this clue on the pod a  
few weeks ago, and an audience member

97  
00:04:02,090 --> 00:04:04,189  
actually gifted Ken a cross stitch.

98  
00:04:04,260 --> 00:04:05,409  
Of that final Jeopardy!

99  
00:04:05,409 --> 00:04:07,149  
response, it's now hanging in the air.



100

00:04:07,265 --> 00:04:11,565

In his dressing room on stage, Ken  
of course went on to make Jeopardy

101

00:04:11,565 --> 00:04:16,105

history with his 74 wins, competing  
in several tournaments after that,

102

00:04:16,135 --> 00:04:20,675

including the greatest of all time,  
where he did retire as the GOAT

103

00:04:20,954 --> 00:04:22,824

and is now the host of Jeopardy.

104

00:04:23,244 --> 00:04:27,055

Something pretty incredible happened  
during our tapings just two weeks ago.

105

00:04:27,415 --> 00:04:32,735

Jerry Lazarus, the reigning champion in  
Ken's first game, was actually in our

106

00:04:32,735 --> 00:04:36,345

audience, and Ken had the chance to catch  
up with him during the commercial break.

107

00:04:36,770 --> 00:04:37,560

Let's take a listen.

108

00:04:38,490 --> 00:04:39,660

Jerry Harvey!

109

00:04:40,150 --> 00:04:41,020

Holy cow!

110

00:04:41,210 --> 00:04:42,410

This is a Jeopardy!

111

00:04:42,420 --> 00:04:42,910

champion.

112

00:04:42,910 --> 00:04:44,840  
Jerry Harvey, you're a three  
game champ, is that right?

113

00:04:45,280 --> 00:04:45,610  
Two games.

114

00:04:45,630 --> 00:04:46,490  
Oh, this is my fault.

115

00:04:46,499 --> 00:04:47,239  
Two game champ.

116

00:04:47,780 --> 00:04:50,490  
Jerry was the returning  
champion when I first played.

117

00:04:50,500 --> 00:04:54,614  
Jerry was the Jeopardy in  
February of 2004, right?

118

00:04:54,715 --> 00:04:55,635  
How are you doing, sir?

119

00:05:05,055 --> 00:05:11,024  
The crazy thing is Jerry was 23 when  
we first No, we had there was a really

120

00:05:11,024 --> 00:05:14,375  
good returning champ that morning and  
we were all very scared We were gonna

121

00:05:14,375 --> 00:05:17,935  
have to play her and then Jerry did us  
all a huge favor by upsetting her in

122

00:05:17,935 --> 00:05:21,925  
the first game And we were like, yay, we  
don't have to play the four game champ.

123

00:05:21,925 --> 00:05:23,275  
So you are my hero, sir.

124

00:05:23,395 --> 00:05:25,695  
Without this man, I am not  
here today, I'll tell you that.

125

00:05:29,725 --> 00:05:32,365  
If I remember right, Jerry  
used to run the stairs at the

126

00:05:32,404 --> 00:05:33,635  
Coliseum or something, right?

127

00:05:33,685 --> 00:05:35,435  
Oh, and not at UCLA, it was UCLA, right?

128

00:05:35,795 --> 00:05:40,444  
And so the whole UCLA track team was  
here, rooting him on very routinely.

129

00:05:40,485 --> 00:05:43,415  
It was very intimidating, like,  
you had a great cheering section.

130

00:05:43,625 --> 00:05:46,665  
So yeah, if you go back and find my  
first game on YouTube, you will see

131

00:05:47,020 --> 00:05:48,520  
Jerry Harvey, two game Jeopardy!

132

00:05:48,520 --> 00:05:48,830  
champion.

133

00:05:48,830 --> 00:05:50,050  
Thank you for coming to join us today.

134

00:05:55,140 --> 00:05:58,250  
And I learned another pretty  
interesting story about Jerry

135

00:05:58,260 --> 00:06:00,460  
that day in the audience.

136  
00:06:00,510 --> 00:06:05,970  
I found out that in that game against  
Ken, in the category Biography

137  
00:06:05,970 --> 00:06:10,919  
Subtitles, Jerry actually had The  
Daily Double, he wagered 1, 800.

138  
00:06:10,929 --> 00:06:15,059  
The clue was an entrepreneur,  
bargain billionaire.

139  
00:06:15,909 --> 00:06:18,359  
Jerry responded, who is Woolworth.

140  
00:06:18,549 --> 00:06:21,150  
The correct response  
was actually Sam Walton.

141  
00:06:21,499 --> 00:06:26,299  
And it turns out that Sam Walton  
was actually a babysitter of

142  
00:06:26,299 --> 00:06:27,750  
Jerry's when he was a kid.

143  
00:06:27,779 --> 00:06:32,250  
So, You know, sometimes you can't  
imagine how intertwined these clues are.

144  
00:06:32,440 --> 00:06:35,479  
What are the chances that Jerry gets  
a clue about someone he actually

145  
00:06:35,479 --> 00:06:39,739  
knows, that it's a Daily Double,  
and he ends up getting it incorrect.

146  
00:06:39,950 --> 00:06:43,549  
All in all, what a wonderful  
thing to have Jerry here that day.

147

00:06:43,559 --> 00:06:46,640

Really, really special, and I think Ken definitely appreciated it.

148

00:06:46,719 --> 00:06:48,270

Okay, let's get into the highlights.

149

00:06:48,614 --> 00:06:52,164

Well, Umar Kakirde returned on Monday going for his fourth win up

150

00:06:52,164 --> 00:06:54,575

against Tim Kiley and Ryan Alcorn.

151

00:06:54,614 --> 00:06:58,424

Tim and Ryan put up a fight, but after scoring on both Daily Doubles

152

00:06:58,424 --> 00:07:03,265

and Double Jeopardy, Umar was able to secure another runaway win.

153

00:07:03,970 --> 00:07:07,780

And once again, Allison Betts, you know, she's one of our TOC qualifiers

154

00:07:07,809 --> 00:07:12,429

early on this season, she gets right on Reddit to say, woohoo, Ummer, also

155

00:07:12,429 --> 00:07:17,780

known as the Runaway King, because of course he's now up to three runaways.

156

00:07:18,359 --> 00:07:21,709

Another clue that made a bit of news, Michael, was the name,

157

00:07:22,820 --> 00:07:23,979

name the celebrity for 400.

158

00:07:24,865 --> 00:07:30,745

A rapper has two kids with Rihanna,  
actor in Dope, and in 2018's Monster.

159

00:07:31,605 --> 00:07:34,385  
Ummer responded, who is Jay Z?

160

00:07:34,674 --> 00:07:37,324  
We were, of course, going for A\$ AP Rocky.

161

00:07:37,605 --> 00:07:40,965  
Ken joked, big news for  
Beyonce if this is true.

162

00:07:41,475 --> 00:07:46,015  
Got a big laugh, certainly in the studio  
audience, and also on, uh, social.

163

00:07:46,785 --> 00:07:51,145  
Yep, and lots of confused looks,  
uh, amongst, I'm sure, a large

164

00:07:51,145 --> 00:07:54,125  
portion of our audience, who perhaps  
this isn't their specialty area.

165

00:07:54,424 --> 00:07:58,484  
Uh, the, the, the romance in the  
world of, of hip hop and the culture.

166

00:07:58,685 --> 00:08:00,465  
Good thing we have Pop  
Culture Jeopardy coming.

167

00:08:00,924 --> 00:08:01,265  
Yeah.

168

00:08:01,304 --> 00:08:03,064  
PCJ is what the kids are calling it.

169

00:08:03,414 --> 00:08:03,835  
PCJ.

170

00:08:03,864 --> 00:08:07,874  
I should say tens of thousands of  
applications already for the show.

171  
00:08:07,874 --> 00:08:09,224  
It's unbelievable.

172  
00:08:09,474 --> 00:08:10,385  
Thank you all.

173  
00:08:10,424 --> 00:08:11,794  
And not too late.

174  
00:08:11,895 --> 00:08:12,234  
Yeah.

175  
00:08:12,234 --> 00:08:13,364  
Put together your teams.

176  
00:08:13,365 --> 00:08:13,499  
Yeah.

177  
00:08:13,800 --> 00:08:17,060  
Um, take the test and, uh,  
can't wait to see how you do.

178  
00:08:17,230 --> 00:08:18,500  
Yeah, that is exciting.

179  
00:08:18,520 --> 00:08:22,890  
Well, on Tuesday, Umar came into the  
game looking for his all important fifth

180  
00:08:22,910 --> 00:08:25,250  
win to secure that spot in the TOC.

181  
00:08:25,250 --> 00:08:28,910  
He was in control early with a big  
lead, but Steve cut stride and doubled

182  
00:08:28,920 --> 00:08:32,109  
Jeopardy, eventually taking a lead

over Umar, heading into final while

183

00:08:32,170 --> 00:08:34,490

Abby sat in third place with 8, 200.

184

00:08:34,860 --> 00:08:38,920

No one able to come up with the correct response, and Abby sneaks in from third

185

00:08:38,920 --> 00:08:42,500

place with a minimal wager to get the win.

186

00:08:42,955 --> 00:08:46,765

Michael, we have to talk about Amer's final Jeopardy wager.

187

00:08:47,035 --> 00:08:53,395

He was just \$1,200 behind Steve, so really only needed to wager 1,201 to cover, you

188

00:08:53,395 --> 00:08:55,315

know, a potential zero wager from Steve.

189

00:08:55,765 --> 00:08:58,465

He ends up wagering everything but a dollar.

190

00:08:58,915 --> 00:09:04,220

Had he wager differently, he would've secured the win and the spot in the TOC.

191

00:09:04,350 --> 00:09:05,575

Tough to see this one.

192

00:09:05,959 --> 00:09:07,579

Yeah, really, really tough.

193

00:09:07,619 --> 00:09:12,599

Not the first time, not the last time, um, that this will happen on

194

00:09:12,599 --> 00:09:14,300



the show, but it is part of the game.

195

00:09:14,589 --> 00:09:17,140

Well, Steve, a solid  
second chance candidate.

196

00:09:17,149 --> 00:09:20,419

Eighteen correct responses, two  
correct daily doubles, and, you

197

00:09:20,420 --> 00:09:22,549

know, leading, heading into finals.

198

00:09:22,549 --> 00:09:24,680

So certainly we'll have to  
see how that shakes up as the

199

00:09:24,680 --> 00:09:28,260

postseason begins next season.

200

00:09:28,560 --> 00:09:32,050

I was able to check in with Amr  
about his time on the Alex Trebek

201

00:09:32,060 --> 00:09:33,929

stage after his run came to an end.

202

00:09:33,930 --> 00:09:34,720

Let's take a listen.

203

00:09:36,260 --> 00:09:38,870

Kaki Day four, day Jeopardy champion.

204

00:09:38,870 --> 00:09:39,620

How does that feel?

205

00:09:39,770 --> 00:09:42,890

I mean, I, it, it felt super weird,  
weird while it was happening.

206

00:09:42,950 --> 00:09:46,670

Uh, didn't really feel a whole

lot while it was happening,

207

00:09:46,675 --> 00:09:47,870  
but it feels amazing now.

208

00:09:48,530 --> 00:09:52,240  
Well, you said this is not the  
most ideal time for you to come

209

00:09:52,240 --> 00:09:53,380  
and make your Jeopardy run.

210

00:09:53,380 --> 00:09:57,310  
You're finishing up with grad school,  
you're looking for a new job, and yet

211

00:09:57,380 --> 00:10:01,069  
here you are, this is your moment, and  
you seem to still make the most of it

212

00:10:01,070 --> 00:10:02,990  
despite it not being the best timing.

213

00:10:03,230 --> 00:10:04,439  
Yeah, I mean, absolutely.

214

00:10:04,790 --> 00:10:08,670  
I think part of it is, like, growing up  
we used to watch a lot of Jeopardy, so

215

00:10:08,670 --> 00:10:11,960  
there's definitely been a lot of practice  
along the way, maybe not recently.

216

00:10:12,310 --> 00:10:13,969  
But, there's definitely been practice.

217

00:10:14,119 --> 00:10:15,430  
I guess the muscle memory kicked in.

218

00:10:15,589 --> 00:10:19,359  
Well, this season we

introduced Champions Wildcard.

219

00:10:19,369 --> 00:10:22,739

So, as a four game champion, we know we're going to see you again.

220

00:10:22,770 --> 00:10:26,069

It's just a matter of, are we going to see you in Champions Wildcard?

221

00:10:26,069 --> 00:10:27,349

Or are we going to see you in the TOC?

222

00:10:27,350 --> 00:10:30,050

You know, with four wins, there's a good chance you could

223

00:10:30,050 --> 00:10:31,219

be back for that tournament.

224

00:10:31,479 --> 00:10:35,449

What would it mean to you to compete with those elite Jeopardy players?

225

00:10:35,500 --> 00:10:37,400

I think it'd be so cool, so exciting.

226

00:10:37,410 --> 00:10:39,499

Because, I mean, to be with, like, the best.

227

00:10:39,499 --> 00:10:39,550

Yeah.

228

00:10:39,839 --> 00:10:40,520

It would be an honor.

229

00:10:40,520 --> 00:10:41,310

It'd be so cool.

230

00:10:41,459 --> 00:10:43,790

What's been the best part

of this experience for you?

231

00:10:43,819 --> 00:10:46,489

I think the people, um,  
everybody has been so nice.

232

00:10:46,499 --> 00:10:50,409

So like thoughtful, um, everybody's  
made the process so easy from

233

00:10:50,410 --> 00:10:53,779

the makeup to like the miking to  
obviously the contestant team.

234

00:10:53,829 --> 00:10:54,499

It's been wonderful.

235

00:10:54,844 --> 00:10:57,425

Well, we're so happy to hear that,  
and we look forward to welcoming

236

00:10:57,425 --> 00:10:59,375

you back at a future date.

237

00:10:59,454 --> 00:11:01,714

Congratulations on a  
great four day run, Umar.

238

00:11:01,755 --> 00:11:02,574

Thanks so much.

239

00:11:02,925 --> 00:11:04,224

Uh, moving on to Wednesday.

240

00:11:04,224 --> 00:11:06,254

This was a great game by  
all three players, Sarah.

241

00:11:06,295 --> 00:11:10,444

After a dead, even jeopardy  
round, Adriana Harmaya jumped

242

00:11:10,444 --> 00:11:11,814  
into the lead with a 4, 000.

243  
00:11:11,814 --> 00:11:13,814  
Difficult word, difficult  
name for me to say.

244  
00:11:13,814 --> 00:11:15,425  
It's Adriana, Adriana.

245  
00:11:15,474 --> 00:11:17,155  
I have to do an American  
accent to say that name.

246  
00:11:17,155 --> 00:11:18,074  
That is not what we

247  
00:11:18,074 --> 00:11:18,984  
sound like, Michael.

248  
00:11:19,324 --> 00:11:20,885  
Adriana, I have to hold my nose.

249  
00:11:20,915 --> 00:11:21,699  
Adriana Harmaya.

250  
00:11:21,709 --> 00:11:25,400  
Harmeier jumped into the lead with  
a 4, 000 daily double, which she

251  
00:11:25,400 --> 00:11:27,030  
maintained heading into final.

252  
00:11:27,030 --> 00:11:28,619  
But Abby was right on her heels.

253  
00:11:28,680 --> 00:11:29,900  
Both players were correct.

254  
00:11:30,339 --> 00:11:33,009  
And Adriana became our new champion.

255

00:11:33,319 --> 00:11:34,550  
Adriana, Adriana.

256

00:11:34,569 --> 00:11:35,099  
You got it.

257

00:11:35,140 --> 00:11:36,520  
Well, this was a good game, Michael.

258

00:11:36,520 --> 00:11:39,099  
Very comparable stats  
from all three players.

259

00:11:39,449 --> 00:11:40,859  
Abby with 17, correct.

260

00:11:40,890 --> 00:11:42,609  
Adriana with 18.

261

00:11:43,080 --> 00:11:49,270  
Brian with 14 after the game, Adriana  
told Ken that she knew the final Jeopardy

262

00:11:49,270 --> 00:11:53,909  
response, which was Canterbury, because  
she had just watched the film Beckett two

263

00:11:53,910 --> 00:11:59,250  
days prior, because she had a feeling that  
historical movies would come in handy.

264

00:11:59,250 --> 00:12:02,984  
I love when these Slumdog millionaire  
type moments happen on the show.

265

00:12:02,995 --> 00:12:03,175  
This

266

00:12:03,194 --> 00:12:04,495  
is all a simulation.

267

00:12:04,505 --> 00:12:05,515  
This is all a simulation.

268  
00:12:06,685 --> 00:12:10,964  
Well, Adriana Harmeier returned  
on Thursday and put on a show.

269  
00:12:11,314 --> 00:12:15,604  
She scored 28 correct responses  
and a big daily double on her way

270  
00:12:15,604 --> 00:12:20,404  
to a no doubt runaway win her 18  
correct responses alone in the show.

271  
00:12:20,545 --> 00:12:21,785  
in the Jeopardy round.

272  
00:12:22,025 --> 00:12:25,834  
That's the most we've seen in a single  
round of Jeopardy all season, tied

273  
00:12:25,834 --> 00:12:27,735  
with WakeyEye earlier this year.

274  
00:12:28,084 --> 00:12:31,275  
Uh, she told Ken after the game that her  
goal coming in was just to respond to

275  
00:12:31,275 --> 00:12:36,404  
a single clue, and that one win would  
have been nice, but this is fantastic.

276  
00:12:36,735 --> 00:12:40,034  
Ken asked her if the pressure is gone  
now that she's responded to one clue, and

277  
00:12:40,034 --> 00:12:44,435  
of course got that first win, to which  
Adriana said, a little bit, but every

278  
00:12:44,435 --> 00:12:46,285  
clue has the same pressure behind it.

279

00:12:46,655 --> 00:12:49,744

Ken joked, a never  
ending series of stress.

280

00:12:49,949 --> 00:12:51,880

That should be the new name for our show.

281

00:12:52,960 --> 00:12:54,689

Yeah, it's a good, it's a  
good name for a game show.

282

00:12:54,930 --> 00:12:57,580

Uh, we closed out the week  
with an epic battle between

283

00:12:57,600 --> 00:13:00,310

Adriana, Amy Yao, and Josh Moss.

284

00:13:00,310 --> 00:13:03,539

All three players came out swinging with  
Amy taking a small lead into double.

285

00:13:03,580 --> 00:13:06,859

Adriana took back the lead after  
a strong start to the round, but

286

00:13:06,870 --> 00:13:10,449

Josh caught fire towards the end  
to get within 2, 000 of Adriana.

287

00:13:10,840 --> 00:13:11,800

entering final.

288

00:13:11,850 --> 00:13:15,350

Adriana was the only one correct,  
and she earned her second win.

289

00:13:15,900 --> 00:13:19,489

Yeah, this was a tough one because  
Adriana actually wrote Cook as

290



00:13:19,490 --> 00:13:24,240  
her response, but then quickly  
crossed it out and wrote Magellan.

291  
00:13:24,250 --> 00:13:25,410  
So that was great.

292  
00:13:25,420 --> 00:13:26,890  
Josh, of course, wrote Cook.

293  
00:13:26,944 --> 00:13:28,295  
and was incorrect.

294  
00:13:28,545 --> 00:13:33,855  
Big moment in this game for Adriana was  
the did you study the J archive category?

295  
00:13:34,105 --> 00:13:36,595  
You know, this was various  
historical people and things

296  
00:13:36,595 --> 00:13:38,115  
that begin with the letter J.

297  
00:13:38,115 --> 00:13:39,655  
We were playing up on J archive.

298  
00:13:40,064 --> 00:13:41,735  
Adriana ran the category.

299  
00:13:41,855 --> 00:13:43,675  
She is, of course, an archivist.

300  
00:13:44,264 --> 00:13:48,755  
Another good second chance candidate  
in Josh Moss, perhaps Michael 19

301  
00:13:48,775 --> 00:13:50,665  
correct responses, same as Adriana.

302  
00:13:50,744 --> 00:13:56,745  
41 attempts, one more than Adriana,

and a 14, 600 Coriat, which was

303

00:13:56,745 --> 00:13:59,464  
just under Adriana's at 16, 400.

304

00:13:59,474 --> 00:14:01,104  
So, we'll have to see.

305

00:14:01,165 --> 00:14:03,604  
Alright, let's see how Adriana  
was feeling as she headed into the

306

00:14:03,604 --> 00:14:05,435  
weekend as a Jeopardy Champion.

307

00:14:05,944 --> 00:14:09,384  
Well, that game swung in just a second  
because you had written down Cook.

308

00:14:09,435 --> 00:14:09,625  
Yeah.

309

00:14:10,224 --> 00:14:12,204  
And you were, you seemed  
pretty happy with it.

310

00:14:12,534 --> 00:14:13,084  
I did.

311

00:14:13,124 --> 00:14:15,555  
And then I thought about the  
date and realized it was off.

312

00:14:15,624 --> 00:14:17,285  
But you pivoted very  
quickly to the right answer.

313

00:14:17,285 --> 00:14:17,714  
How'd you do it?

314

00:14:18,635 --> 00:14:19,835  
I don't know the date.

315  
00:14:20,215 --> 00:14:22,825  
There were only so many  
people sailing at that time.

316  
00:14:22,915 --> 00:14:25,055  
So you did not know,  
for example, that Cebu

317  
00:14:25,245 --> 00:14:26,315  
was in the Philippines.

318  
00:14:26,375 --> 00:14:28,405  
Did any of you, I did know that.

319  
00:14:28,515 --> 00:14:28,855  
Yeah.

320  
00:14:29,034 --> 00:14:29,244  
Okay.

321  
00:14:29,425 --> 00:14:31,435  
So you were, you were working  
from the right part of the world.

322  
00:14:31,444 --> 00:14:31,844  
Yeah.

323  
00:14:32,335 --> 00:14:33,115  
Well, that was remarkable.

324  
00:14:33,375 --> 00:14:37,474  
Uh, you needed to get that right to  
win the game because Josh had made

325  
00:14:37,474 --> 00:14:39,065  
the smaller wager, which is smart.

326  
00:14:39,415 --> 00:14:41,325  
Very exciting double jeopardy to watch.

327

00:14:41,325 --> 00:14:45,085  
I was trying to figure out if there was  
enough cash left for the lead to change.

328  
00:14:45,085 --> 00:14:46,975  
Were you two aware of the dynamic there?

329  
00:14:47,465 --> 00:14:51,945  
It's really hard not to just  
stare at the numbers up there.

330  
00:14:51,945 --> 00:14:53,975  
So yeah, very, very keenly aware.

331  
00:14:54,095 --> 00:14:54,775  
As home viewers.

332  
00:14:54,775 --> 00:14:57,175  
Did you know there was a  
separate score readout up there?

333  
00:14:57,195 --> 00:14:57,495  
No,

334  
00:14:57,525 --> 00:14:57,795  
nope.

335  
00:14:57,855 --> 00:14:58,084  
Yeah.

336  
00:14:58,084 --> 00:15:02,185  
So to the left of the game board, our  
players can see what their scores are.

337  
00:15:02,185 --> 00:15:06,324  
And some people just kind of tune it out  
and ignore it either on purpose or just

338  
00:15:06,595 --> 00:15:09,585  
because the game is moving so fast, but  
there were some tough gets in that game.

339

00:15:09,585 --> 00:15:11,525  
You're from the East coast,  
Josh, but you knew that.

340  
00:15:11,990 --> 00:15:14,790  
Nob Hill, San Francisco  
was once California Hill.

341  
00:15:14,850 --> 00:15:15,960  
Ha, see, that's a trick.

342  
00:15:15,960 --> 00:15:17,640  
See, I'm actually from San Francisco.

343  
00:15:18,000 --> 00:15:19,770  
But I live in Boston now.

344  
00:15:19,770 --> 00:15:21,369  
I've lived in Boston for almost ten years.

345  
00:15:21,470 --> 00:15:22,089  
I see.

346  
00:15:22,419 --> 00:15:24,299  
And there was one from Adrienne.

347  
00:15:24,329 --> 00:15:25,480  
Oh, Tony Danza.

348  
00:15:25,480 --> 00:15:26,800  
It's kind of been a while.

349  
00:15:27,530 --> 00:15:29,300  
You don't look like you  
could have ever watched Taxi.

350  
00:15:29,330 --> 00:15:31,429  
It has not been that long  
since I watched Taxi.

351  
00:15:32,849 --> 00:15:34,069  
You watch a taxi in reruns?

352  
00:15:34,725 --> 00:15:35,615  
Uh, streaming.

353  
00:15:35,735 --> 00:15:36,045  
Streaming.

354  
00:15:36,045 --> 00:15:37,015  
A few years ago.

355  
00:15:37,065 --> 00:15:38,975  
Got through a lot of  
television a few years ago.

356  
00:15:39,275 --> 00:15:42,075  
Did something happen that made people  
Something gave me time to watch

357  
00:15:42,075 --> 00:15:43,885  
television and that made the list, yeah.

358  
00:15:43,885 --> 00:15:44,694  
A lot of old sitcoms.

359  
00:15:44,715 --> 00:15:45,125  
Mm hmm.

360  
00:15:45,710 --> 00:15:46,439  
Taxi's great.

361  
00:15:46,439 --> 00:15:47,090  
It holds up, right?

362  
00:15:47,090 --> 00:15:47,420  
It does.

363  
00:15:47,439 --> 00:15:47,620  
It

364  
00:15:47,620 --> 00:15:47,870  
is.

365  
00:15:47,870 --> 00:15:48,170  
Yeah.

366  
00:15:48,199 --> 00:15:52,080  
So all your COVID taxi viewing paid off  
because now you know about the uvra of Mr.

367  
00:15:52,080 --> 00:15:52,490  
Tony Danza.

368  
00:15:52,550 --> 00:15:53,260  
Absolutely.

369  
00:15:53,350 --> 00:15:53,819  
Who knew?

370  
00:15:54,640 --> 00:15:56,490  
It probably gave you the  
lead going into final.

371  
00:15:56,529 --> 00:15:57,470  
Maybe Tony will reach out.

372  
00:15:57,520 --> 00:15:58,220  
Yeah, thanks.

373  
00:15:58,300 --> 00:15:59,069  
Thanks, Tony Danza.

374  
00:16:00,410 --> 00:16:03,019  
We like at the end of every show  
to say thank you, Tony Danza.

375  
00:16:04,050 --> 00:16:05,160  
Adriana, congratulations.

376  
00:16:05,189 --> 00:16:06,319  
We'll see you back here on Monday.

377  
00:16:06,319 --> 00:16:06,800

Don't be late.

378

00:16:07,410 --> 00:16:07,810  
Thank you.

379

00:16:08,810 --> 00:16:09,320  
All right.

380

00:16:09,320 --> 00:16:13,330  
Well, in lieu of our host chat  
this week, Michael, let's just

381

00:16:13,330 --> 00:16:18,200  
welcome to the pod in person, the  
host of Jeopardy, Ken Jennings.

382

00:16:18,200 --> 00:16:19,080  
Welcome, Ken.

383

00:16:19,120 --> 00:16:19,729  
What a pleasure.

384

00:16:19,729 --> 00:16:20,040  
Thanks for

385

00:16:20,040 --> 00:16:20,380  
having me.

386

00:16:20,470 --> 00:16:20,720  
Yeah.

387

00:16:20,720 --> 00:16:22,320  
This is the way to do host chat.

388

00:16:22,390 --> 00:16:24,200  
You just pop the host into chat.

389

00:16:24,339 --> 00:16:25,479  
This seems much easier.

390

00:16:25,919 --> 00:16:28,850



And it's the perfect time to  
do it because we're giving you

391

00:16:28,850 --> 00:16:30,880  
this pod on Monday, June 3rd.

392

00:16:30,890 --> 00:16:33,560  
Of course, June 2nd, 2004.

393

00:16:34,005 --> 00:16:36,935  
You first became known to the  
world of Jeopardy, your very

394

00:16:36,935 --> 00:16:38,175  
first show, 20 years ago, Ken.

395

00:16:38,175 --> 00:16:38,464  
20

396

00:16:38,464 --> 00:16:39,564  
years ago yesterday.

397

00:16:39,775 --> 00:16:40,485  
Isn't that crazy?

398

00:16:40,584 --> 00:16:41,735  
It's so crazy.

399

00:16:41,834 --> 00:16:43,845  
The memories are really  
burned into my head.

400

00:16:45,074 --> 00:16:47,025  
Okay, let me see how  
well they're burned in.

401

00:16:47,214 --> 00:16:49,935  
Do you remember the first  
correct response you ever gave?

402

00:16:50,114 --> 00:16:52,665  
The category was words

that start with EPI, right?

403  
00:16:53,115 --> 00:16:54,425  
Yep, episodes.

404  
00:16:54,464 --> 00:16:54,845  
Uh huh.

405  
00:16:55,035 --> 00:17:01,274  
And so it was like, what is,  
I'm gonna guess, Epigram?

406  
00:17:01,275 --> 00:17:01,985  
Epilogue?

407  
00:17:02,725 --> 00:17:03,065  
Epilogue, yes.

408  
00:17:03,435 --> 00:17:03,895  
Yeah.

409  
00:17:04,075 --> 00:17:06,165  
That's weird because that's, you  
know, the epilogue comes last.

410  
00:17:06,175 --> 00:17:06,545  
Uh huh.

411  
00:17:06,575 --> 00:17:07,425  
But for me it came first.

412  
00:17:07,464 --> 00:17:07,644  
It

413  
00:17:07,644 --> 00:17:08,414  
came first, yeah.

414  
00:17:08,415 --> 00:17:08,575  
And I

415  
00:17:08,575 --> 00:17:10,474

will remember every other  
clue in order, so let's go.

416

00:17:10,694 --> 00:17:13,815  
Okay, um, how about, how  
about your first daily double?

417

00:17:13,865 --> 00:17:14,775  
No idea.

418

00:17:14,805 --> 00:17:16,354  
All right, you wagered

419

00:17:16,355 --> 00:17:16,484  
2, 000.

420

00:17:16,485 --> 00:17:17,485  
Very conservative.

421

00:17:17,659 --> 00:17:19,560  
Well, there wasn't James  
Holzhauer back then.

422

00:17:19,560 --> 00:17:21,300  
Back then people were like, huge thousand.

423

00:17:21,300 --> 00:17:23,329  
Wow, yeah.

424

00:17:23,329 --> 00:17:27,250  
Prefab metal sheets used to print  
newspapers gave us this term for

425

00:17:27,260 --> 00:17:29,909  
standard wording as in contracts.

426

00:17:30,010 --> 00:17:31,500  
Ah, yeah, I do remember.

427

00:17:31,500 --> 00:17:32,320  
Feeling of relief.

428  
00:17:32,679 --> 00:17:36,449  
My dad's an intellectual property  
lawyer, so this was not boilerplate?

429  
00:17:36,560 --> 00:17:37,169  
Yes.

430  
00:17:37,409 --> 00:17:39,020  
And how about your first interview?

431  
00:17:39,159 --> 00:17:39,699  
Remember that one?

432  
00:17:39,740 --> 00:17:40,500  
I do.

433  
00:17:41,100 --> 00:17:43,480  
Because I had the worst  
time coming up with stories.

434  
00:17:44,210 --> 00:17:45,419  
But, uh, yeah.

435  
00:17:45,705 --> 00:17:48,834  
I thought it would be a funny to like  
thank the truck driver who once picked

436  
00:17:48,834 --> 00:17:51,854  
up me and my friends when we ran out of  
gas in the middle of the Nevada desert.

437  
00:17:52,364 --> 00:17:55,504  
So we thanked Fuzzy the truck, and  
Alex kind of made a little, I said,

438  
00:17:55,504 --> 00:17:58,284  
I don't know if Fuzzy's watching, and  
Alex got all huffy like, you don't

439  
00:17:58,314 --> 00:17:59,725  
think truck drivers watch Jeopardy?

440  
00:18:00,034 --> 00:18:02,245  
So yes, he kind of made a meal of it.

441  
00:18:02,745 --> 00:18:05,624  
And so many stories would  
need to come after that.

442  
00:18:05,624 --> 00:18:08,874  
So if that's what you started out  
with as your first anecdote, wow, we

443  
00:18:08,874 --> 00:18:09,955  
were going to get, Are you not saying,

444  
00:18:10,014 --> 00:18:11,254  
are you saying that's not a classic?

445  
00:18:12,460 --> 00:18:13,439  
You know, it's funny.

446  
00:18:13,439 --> 00:18:16,450  
I remember years ago, I went back  
to listen to what your first story

447  
00:18:16,450 --> 00:18:19,310  
was, and I just, I hadn't recalled  
that that's the one you picked.

448  
00:18:19,629 --> 00:18:21,839  
You were just bowled  
over by the star power.

449  
00:18:21,840 --> 00:18:22,101  
I wasn't

450  
00:18:22,101 --> 00:18:23,108  
bowled over by Fuzzy.

451  
00:18:23,108 --> 00:18:23,359  
I

452

00:18:23,360 --> 00:18:25,810  
feel like, I don't know if I picked  
the story, you know, because the

453

00:18:25,810 --> 00:18:28,250  
contestant, we had just caught a  
mouse in our kitchen and I thought

454

00:18:28,250 --> 00:18:29,630  
maybe it could be a mouse story.

455

00:18:30,150 --> 00:18:31,200  
Did that one ever get used?

456

00:18:31,240 --> 00:18:31,970  
I think so.

457

00:18:31,990 --> 00:18:32,450  
Okay.

458

00:18:32,830 --> 00:18:34,160  
You never had a scary ham

459

00:18:34,380 --> 00:18:34,810  
to talk

460

00:18:34,810 --> 00:18:35,038  
about?

461

00:18:35,038 --> 00:18:36,800  
I mean, that's just an amazing story.

462

00:18:36,810 --> 00:18:38,630  
If you have a scary ham,  
you should go on Jeopardy!

463

00:18:38,630 --> 00:18:41,129  
just for that alone and not,  
not respond to a single clue.

464

00:18:41,150 --> 00:18:41,290  
I

465  
00:18:41,290 --> 00:18:44,760  
think we're going to be inundated with  
contestants with scary ham stories.

466  
00:18:44,950 --> 00:18:47,100  
I've got my, oh, you thought  
that was a scary ham story.

467  
00:18:47,100 --> 00:18:49,110  
I've got a scary ham story.

468  
00:18:49,119 --> 00:18:49,229  
But

469  
00:18:49,229 --> 00:18:49,950  
it'll be all fake.

470  
00:18:49,950 --> 00:18:50,990  
It'll be astroturfing.

471  
00:18:51,040 --> 00:18:54,040  
People will be getting their own  
scary hams to try to get on the show.

472  
00:18:54,730 --> 00:18:56,490  
You've got to be an organic scary ham.

473  
00:18:56,725 --> 00:19:01,505  
I guess I feel like I had the wrong idea  
about contestant stories back then, like

474  
00:19:01,505 --> 00:19:06,674  
I thought it had to be like a really  
good Oscar Wilde kind of an anecdote.

475  
00:19:07,645 --> 00:19:09,545  
And I've come to think that  
Jeopardy's just not the right place.

476  
00:19:10,415 --> 00:19:11,245  
venue for that.

477  
00:19:11,345 --> 00:19:15,175  
Yeah, what have you come to learn about  
the contestant interview as the host now?

478  
00:19:15,195 --> 00:19:16,355  
There's a tendency.

479  
00:19:16,385 --> 00:19:19,185  
Well, I mean, it's one thing I really  
care about as host because I'm trying

480  
00:19:19,185 --> 00:19:22,364  
to impress the viewer like me, who  
as a young person, always, we didn't

481  
00:19:22,364 --> 00:19:25,695  
have the word cringe, but I was always  
like, uh, let's get back to the game.

482  
00:19:25,704 --> 00:19:28,045  
Like these anecdotes are not  
my favorite part of the show.

483  
00:19:28,405 --> 00:19:31,294  
So I'm always thinking about young  
Ken and trying to win him over.

484  
00:19:31,810 --> 00:19:33,890  
by making that part of the  
show a little more charming.

485  
00:19:34,430 --> 00:19:37,690  
And luckily, I'm a person who is always,  
in real life, trying to get out of

486  
00:19:37,690 --> 00:19:39,280  
every conversation in about 20 seconds.

487  
00:19:41,030 --> 00:19:43,620  
So it's been a lifetime  
of preparation for this.



488

00:19:44,050 --> 00:19:46,749  
And I think the tendency is to  
be like, what's a great story

489

00:19:46,749 --> 00:19:48,089  
that's got like a twist or a turn?

490

00:19:48,090 --> 00:19:50,500  
And you don't have time  
for that on Jeopardy.

491

00:19:50,940 --> 00:19:53,470  
And also a lot of people are like,  
I was employee of the month three

492

00:19:53,470 --> 00:19:55,070  
times running, like it's a resume.

493

00:19:55,590 --> 00:19:56,980  
And that's not a good story either.

494

00:19:56,990 --> 00:19:59,300  
Like, I really think it should  
just be like, a funny sentence

495

00:19:59,300 --> 00:20:00,420  
that's funny on its own.

496

00:20:00,925 --> 00:20:05,035  
It's almost like a Mad Libs thing where  
it's like as long as the verb is funny

497

00:20:05,035 --> 00:20:08,715  
and the noun is funny It doesn't even  
matter like it says here you have two

498

00:20:08,715 --> 00:20:14,024  
skateboards and they're both from Slovenia  
I mean, that's like in the real world.

499

00:20:14,024 --> 00:20:15,835  
That's a non story in Jeopardy.

500

00:20:15,955 --> 00:20:18,275

What a fun 20 seconds

That would be you know

501

00:20:18,325 --> 00:20:22,230

future contestants if you're listening

Come up with your skateboard in

502

00:20:22,230 --> 00:20:23,920

Slovenia stories and you're set.

503

00:20:23,970 --> 00:20:25,980

Which Balkan country do

your skateboards come from?

504

00:20:25,980 --> 00:20:26,480

Go check.

505

00:20:26,620 --> 00:20:28,250

How about your first Final Jeopardy?

506

00:20:28,250 --> 00:20:32,679

That one I know is, you know, etched

forever in your mind because it was that

507

00:20:32,679 --> 00:20:36,860

ruling that had the judges wanted a bit  
more specific, a first and a last name.

508

00:20:37,450 --> 00:20:38,330

We're not here today.

509

00:20:38,439 --> 00:20:41,600

I do remember a bit of a pause, and

I'm sure it's longer in my mind.

510

00:20:41,840 --> 00:20:43,760

Like if I go and look at the,  
have you looked at it lately?

511

00:20:43,760 --> 00:20:45,120

Is there a discernible pause?

512

00:20:45,129 --> 00:20:45,389

No.

513

00:20:45,980 --> 00:20:50,280

Cause in, in my memory of it, the category is the 2000 Olympics, I

514

00:20:50,280 --> 00:20:52,290

think, Oh boy, I love the Olympics.

515

00:20:52,290 --> 00:20:54,850

Like let's hear it for Bob Costas and NBC and all the rest.

516

00:20:55,259 --> 00:20:59,389

And then suddenly I had the sinking realization that the last Olympics I

517

00:20:59,389 --> 00:21:03,969

watched was 96 in Atlanta because the exact two weeks of the Sydney games, my

518

00:21:03,970 --> 00:21:05,290

wife and I had been on our honeymoon.

519

00:21:05,750 --> 00:21:07,000

So we were in like London.

520

00:21:07,000 --> 00:21:08,820

I don't think I had seen a single event.

521

00:21:09,409 --> 00:21:10,639

And I thought, well, this is it.

522

00:21:10,649 --> 00:21:11,379

This is ballgame.

523

00:21:11,379 --> 00:21:11,889

Like I.

524

00:21:12,219 --> 00:21:12,899  
I gave it a shot.

525

00:21:12,899 --> 00:21:16,610  
I like, uh, I defended myself  
well on my favorite quiz show, you

526

00:21:16,610 --> 00:21:17,790  
know, it's not going to be so bad.

527

00:21:18,009 --> 00:21:20,509  
And then when the clue popped up,  
I realized all I had to do was name

528

00:21:20,509 --> 00:21:21,969  
the best American track performance.

529

00:21:21,969 --> 00:21:24,799  
And I was like, well, that's got  
to be Marion Jones, even though I

530

00:21:24,799 --> 00:21:26,320  
don't, I didn't see a single race.

531

00:21:26,919 --> 00:21:28,389  
So I write down, who is Jones?

532

00:21:28,885 --> 00:21:30,385  
It's like quiz bowl training.

533

00:21:30,385 --> 00:21:32,355  
Don't put down a first name  
that you might get wrong.

534

00:21:33,095 --> 00:21:36,645  
And when Alex comes to, and I'm feeling  
pretty good once it turns out that Julia

535

00:21:36,655 --> 00:21:40,464  
Lazarus next to me, who's very good,  
wrote down Gail Devers or something.

536

00:21:40,464 --> 00:21:42,664  
And so I realized, oh, this is it.

537

00:21:42,784 --> 00:21:46,094  
And it's starting to sink in and  
Alex reveals my response, who is

538

00:21:46,094 --> 00:21:51,030  
Jones, and he looks over at the  
judges table and I realize Who is

539

00:21:51,030 --> 00:21:52,840  
Jones just sounds like a guess to me.

540

00:21:52,860 --> 00:21:53,340  
There's a lot of

541

00:21:53,340 --> 00:21:54,040  
Joneses.

542

00:21:54,139 --> 00:21:56,730  
And in my memory there's like a real  
pause while Alex gets the high sign.

543

00:21:56,730 --> 00:21:59,369  
But it sounds like it must  
have been a very quick nod.

544

00:21:59,459 --> 00:22:02,710  
I mean I think it was a quicker nod  
than what it seems like it was to you.

545

00:22:02,710 --> 00:22:03,409  
Well there's a lot of

546

00:22:03,409 --> 00:22:04,760  
suspense for me in that moment.

547

00:22:04,760 --> 00:22:05,659  
Yes, that's correct.

548

00:22:05,659 --> 00:22:10,510  
Let's uh, and then I just kind  
of felt this great sigh of relief

549  
00:22:10,510 --> 00:22:13,100  
because you're a Jeopardy champion.

550  
00:22:13,260 --> 00:22:16,510  
You know, like it's almost, it's almost  
like one game is as good as any number of

551  
00:22:16,520 --> 00:22:18,395  
games because You're either a Jeopardy!

552  
00:22:18,395 --> 00:22:21,185  
champion or you're not, and I  
felt like now I was, and I was

553  
00:22:21,185 --> 00:22:23,145  
very happy to go home a Jeopardy!

554  
00:22:23,145 --> 00:22:23,524  
champion.

555  
00:22:23,524 --> 00:22:25,024  
I didn't even care what  
happened in the next game.

556  
00:22:25,365 --> 00:22:30,299  
With 27 correct responses  
and a choreat of 19, 600.

557  
00:22:30,299 --> 00:22:31,304  
Choreats didn't exist back then.

558  
00:22:31,354 --> 00:22:33,175  
I know, but now we can  
go back and do them.

559  
00:22:33,475 --> 00:22:36,135  
This is like baseball  
analysis of the dead ball.

560

00:22:36,145 --> 00:22:36,564  
You know, we're

561

00:22:36,564 --> 00:22:37,584  
all about the Jeopardy!

562

00:22:37,595 --> 00:22:39,895  
data now, so we got to  
give you some stats.

563

00:22:40,064 --> 00:22:41,024  
Is that a good choreat?

564

00:22:41,024 --> 00:22:41,814  
It's not bad, right?

565

00:22:41,815 --> 00:22:42,245  
It's

566

00:22:42,245 --> 00:22:43,104  
pretty good.

567

00:22:43,445 --> 00:22:43,955  
I think it's solid.

568

00:22:43,985 --> 00:22:46,305  
27 correct responses, also pretty solid.

569

00:22:46,415 --> 00:22:49,265  
I'm just researching the 2000  
Olympics, trying to figure out if I

570

00:22:49,265 --> 00:22:51,964  
would have dinged you for not being  
your first name, but I think you

571

00:22:51,965 --> 00:22:53,375  
could have, I think that was fine.

572

00:22:53,385 --> 00:22:57,805  
I don't think there was another Jones who

excelled at the 2000 Olympics who there

573

00:22:57,805 --> 00:22:59,644

would have been any, uh, confusion over.

574

00:22:59,755 --> 00:23:02,815

Retroactively, you know, Marion Jones was stripped of her medals, and I was

575

00:23:02,815 --> 00:23:06,785

hoping the Jeopardy would not strip me of my title as a result, but it

576

00:23:06,785 --> 00:23:08,115

sounds like Michael is still trying.

577

00:23:08,235 --> 00:23:10,085

Yeah, no, I'm just trying to figure out what would have

578

00:23:10,085 --> 00:23:12,504

happened had I been there in 2000.

579

00:23:12,850 --> 00:23:15,500

And four, I'm not sure where I was when that happened.

580

00:23:16,070 --> 00:23:19,660

I think at the time the practice was, you know, because of course in final you

581

00:23:19,660 --> 00:23:22,680

can't tell a player, Hey, be more specific like you can in the rest of the game.

582

00:23:22,829 --> 00:23:25,929

Now I think we just try to avoid those kind of clues altogether in final.

583

00:23:25,960 --> 00:23:29,540

But at the time I think the practice was, uh, and make sure you're specific.



584

00:23:29,559 --> 00:23:32,480  
You know, if it's a case where we  
think a player might just write

585

00:23:32,480 --> 00:23:34,139  
down who is Roosevelt or something.

586

00:23:34,649 --> 00:23:37,590  
Nobody came to me and said, be  
very specific about which Jones.

587

00:23:37,600 --> 00:23:40,000  
So I probably shouldn't  
have been so worried.

588

00:23:40,439 --> 00:23:46,350  
So, 75 games you played initially, when  
you look back, is there, obviously the

589

00:23:46,350 --> 00:23:50,679  
first win, there's nothing like that,  
but is there another one that stands

590

00:23:50,679 --> 00:23:55,439  
out or a particular moment or memory  
or just something along the way that

591

00:23:55,449 --> 00:23:59,070  
was one of those kind of core memories  
for you of that initial Jeopardy run?

592

00:23:59,379 --> 00:24:02,449  
I was having so much fun, you know,  
like I was just getting to play

593

00:24:02,449 --> 00:24:06,610  
Jeopardy and I knew most people had  
only been able to play, you know,

594

00:24:06,629 --> 00:24:08,270  
zero to five times and suddenly.

595

00:24:08,950 --> 00:24:10,580  
I got to just go back and do it a bunch.

596  
00:24:10,580 --> 00:24:12,020  
And I was like, this is so much fun.

597  
00:24:12,020 --> 00:24:12,900  
I love this game.

598  
00:24:12,900 --> 00:24:14,900  
I can't really believe  
this is happening to me.

599  
00:24:15,210 --> 00:24:19,020  
It didn't really seem, even at the time  
it struck me as unfair, you know, like

600  
00:24:19,770 --> 00:24:24,169  
I'm slightly better maybe than some  
of these other players, but I've, you

601  
00:24:24,170 --> 00:24:27,009  
know, I keep getting these bites at the  
apple and I've got a little bit of home

602  
00:24:27,009 --> 00:24:29,160  
court advantage now and some momentum.

603  
00:24:30,660 --> 00:24:34,130  
I think my favorite game  
might've been, I think it was

604  
00:24:34,130 --> 00:24:35,440  
right before the season hiatus.

605  
00:24:35,440 --> 00:24:37,700  
Maybe this is game 38 something.

606  
00:24:37,700 --> 00:24:37,900  
Yeah.

607  
00:24:38,250 --> 00:24:41,030

I had never broken the one day record.

608

00:24:41,120 --> 00:24:45,060

Like I kept betting to tie it  
because it seemed disrespectful

609

00:24:45,060 --> 00:24:46,149

to break it just to break it.

610

00:24:46,150 --> 00:24:49,940

Like when you don't need to because of  
any kind of in game strategic reason.

611

00:24:49,950 --> 00:24:51,190

Like I'm not betting for the win.

612

00:24:51,665 --> 00:24:54,065

I'm just, like, running up stats.

613

00:24:54,535 --> 00:24:57,175

Didn't seem super sporting, so  
I never bet to beat the record.

614

00:24:57,475 --> 00:25:01,304

And finally, I was in this one game  
where I already had a big lead and the

615

00:25:01,305 --> 00:25:04,394

category was Shakespeare, and I was  
like, you know, all else being equal,

616

00:25:04,394 --> 00:25:06,454

I probably would make a big wager here.

617

00:25:06,804 --> 00:25:11,435

So I bet for an even 75k, and it  
was something about, you know, name

618

00:25:11,485 --> 00:25:13,725

two of the four Shakespeare plays  
that have ghosts or something.

619

00:25:13,975 --> 00:25:15,335  
It was pretty gettable.

620  
00:25:15,825 --> 00:25:20,110  
So the last game of the season, I broke  
75k in a single game, which Before

621  
00:25:20,110 --> 00:25:21,640  
James Holzhauer, that was the record.

622  
00:25:21,870 --> 00:25:24,380  
We had a big watch party at my  
office because they wanted to,

623  
00:25:24,380 --> 00:25:25,700  
like, have a big celebration.

624  
00:25:25,730 --> 00:25:28,010  
So, like, everybody is down  
in the lobby of the building.

625  
00:25:28,439 --> 00:25:29,419  
We get pizza.

626  
00:25:29,470 --> 00:25:33,929  
And, of course, like, I know, like, it's  
gonna be, like, a really big finish.

627  
00:25:33,929 --> 00:25:35,719  
And it was, it was exciting.

628  
00:25:36,310 --> 00:25:38,969  
The games weren't close, and I'm  
sure many of those other contestants

629  
00:25:38,969 --> 00:25:40,300  
are not huge fans of mine.

630  
00:25:41,070 --> 00:25:42,340  
Because of their Jeopardy dreams.

631  
00:25:42,340 --> 00:25:43,399

But

632

00:25:43,399 --> 00:25:46,370  
I know, but I think it's good,  
you know, to Two people are going

633

00:25:46,370 --> 00:25:47,970  
to lose every day on Jeopardy!

634

00:25:47,980 --> 00:25:51,820  
And for anyone who gets to say I lost to  
Ken Jennings, that's, that's pretty cool.

635

00:25:52,230 --> 00:25:54,890  
Many of them are like friends  
now or acquaintances, at

636

00:25:54,890 --> 00:25:56,360  
least, you know, trade emails.

637

00:25:56,400 --> 00:25:57,760  
Like it is kind of a fond memory.

638

00:25:57,760 --> 00:26:01,329  
And for a while, I think they  
had a Facebook group of like Ken

639

00:26:01,329 --> 00:26:04,830  
Jennings veterans kind of unified  
in their, their dislike of me,

640

00:26:04,830 --> 00:26:06,430  
which I, which I really supported.

641

00:26:06,770 --> 00:26:07,530  
I love that idea.

642

00:26:08,390 --> 00:26:12,470  
Ken, I wonder, you just mentioned that  
this was all in the pre Holstein era.

643

00:26:12,470 --> 00:26:18,105

I wonder if one of the things that  
will make Anyone ever beating your

644

00:26:18,115 --> 00:26:25,495  
streak will make that challenging is  
that in the post Altsarian era, the

645

00:26:25,544 --> 00:26:30,425  
aggressive Daily Double wagering may  
make it harder to go on a very long run.

646

00:26:31,074 --> 00:26:32,934  
It can cut both ways for sure.

647

00:26:32,975 --> 00:26:36,534  
You know, we see that in Masters  
and in the TOC now when players

648

00:26:36,534 --> 00:26:38,129  
go on these all in Daily Doubles.

649

00:26:38,820 --> 00:26:42,690  
You know, you miss one of those and, and  
you're done, and it's true that I, it's

650

00:26:42,690 --> 00:26:46,310  
not that I just, you know, considered  
that style of play and disregarded it.

651

00:26:46,310 --> 00:26:49,480  
It's literally that it really  
hadn't been seriously considered.

652

00:26:49,550 --> 00:26:51,999  
I was just playing the way people  
play it on my TV every night.

653

00:26:51,999 --> 00:26:54,799  
You know, you take the clues in order,  
you try to bet a sensible amount on

654

00:26:54,799 --> 00:26:57,349  
a daily double when you find one,

because who in the world would ever

655

00:26:57,350 --> 00:27:01,710  
put down 23, 000 sight unseen on  
a, on a trivia question, you know?

656

00:27:01,710 --> 00:27:04,500  
It's, it's just the kind of  
silly thing you have to do in

657

00:27:04,500 --> 00:27:06,129  
the high stakes Holzhauer era.

658

00:27:06,445 --> 00:27:08,845  
But I do think it helped,  
because I was very comfortable.

659

00:27:08,945 --> 00:27:11,235  
I could, uh, I could just  
kind of play my game.

660

00:27:11,245 --> 00:27:12,625  
It was kind of low impact.

661

00:27:13,115 --> 00:27:16,305  
As long as a bunch of different things  
didn't line up against me, I could

662

00:27:16,305 --> 00:27:19,294  
survive a lot of kinds of, of mistakes.

663

00:27:19,635 --> 00:27:24,935  
So, on Tuesday, November 30th, and you  
lose that game, do you think in that

664

00:27:24,935 --> 00:27:26,965  
moment, someone else will do this?

665

00:27:27,155 --> 00:27:30,574  
Did you ever think this would be a  
record that would hold now for 20

666

00:27:30,584 --> 00:27:32,024  
years, that no one would come close?

667  
00:27:32,034 --> 00:27:34,365  
To this day, I think  
someone else can do it.

668  
00:27:34,645 --> 00:27:37,719  
And maybe the reason is  
because I was there firsthand.

669  
00:27:37,719 --> 00:27:38,830  
I saw that it can be done.

670  
00:27:38,830 --> 00:27:42,500  
I know what it feels like, and I  
don't feel like such a crazy outlier.

671  
00:27:42,510 --> 00:27:45,649  
Like, I'm just a, I'm just a Jeopardy  
fan who loves the show and loves the

672  
00:27:45,649 --> 00:27:47,320  
kind of stuff that comes up on the show.

673  
00:27:47,640 --> 00:27:49,450  
I mean, there are some  
things that cut against it.

674  
00:27:49,450 --> 00:27:52,759  
Like, as you say, Michael points out,  
the style of play is more intense now.

675  
00:27:53,290 --> 00:27:57,230  
Midway through my run, a few changes  
were made during the, of the daily

676  
00:27:57,230 --> 00:28:00,290  
taping procedure, just to kind of level  
the playing field a bit against the

677  
00:28:00,290 --> 00:28:04,005  
returning champion, which I was, Very



much in favor of I think rehearsal

678

00:28:04,005 --> 00:28:05,495  
is now a little more lifelike.

679

00:28:05,764 --> 00:28:09,575  
Um, it's more extended It's more like  
the regular game and at that point it

680

00:28:09,575 --> 00:28:12,324  
worked like you could immediately see  
scores tightening up when we came back

681

00:28:12,324 --> 00:28:16,964  
from hiatus in 2004 and suddenly the  
challengers were a lot better prepared

682

00:28:16,964 --> 00:28:20,144  
and on their game So that's the one thing  
that cuts against it, but I think it can

683

00:28:20,145 --> 00:28:21,705  
be done I think it's going to happen.

684

00:28:21,715 --> 00:28:24,545  
You're going to see a 75 game winner,  
and I would love to be hosting for it.

685

00:28:25,835 --> 00:28:30,565  
Well, you played in 75 shows  
originally, you played subsequently

686

00:28:30,565 --> 00:28:35,945  
in GOAT, but you have now dwarfed  
your contestant appearances with your

687

00:28:35,945 --> 00:28:37,625  
appearances behind the host lectern.

688

00:28:38,455 --> 00:28:40,124  
The funny thing is, it  
doesn't feel like it.

689

00:28:40,995 --> 00:28:43,085

Because when you're a  
contestant, it's all so intense.

690

00:28:43,095 --> 00:28:46,665

Like, those really feel like Those  
feel like ordeals, you know, like

691

00:28:46,685 --> 00:28:49,915

each one is a gladiatorial struggle  
where when you're hosting Are you

692

00:28:50,034 --> 00:28:51,774

saying you're phoning it in, Ken?

693

00:28:51,774 --> 00:28:52,665

That's exactly

694

00:28:53,044 --> 00:28:55,745

552 appearances, are  
you phoning it in, Ken?

695

00:28:55,745 --> 00:28:59,114

552, 553, who's counting?

696

00:28:59,664 --> 00:29:02,654

No, I mean, I really want every game  
to be good, but just the fact that they

697

00:29:02,655 --> 00:29:06,995

do kind of keep coming, and really all  
you can do is just try to pronounce

698

00:29:06,995 --> 00:29:10,345

all the words right, hope all the  
interactions go well, technically you

699

00:29:10,345 --> 00:29:15,090

hope everything's okay, you don't make  
any bad calls, um, You know, it's, it's

700

00:29:15,090 --> 00:29:19,240

a demanding job, but I don't feel like  
I'm going to be fired after every game,

701

00:29:19,240 --> 00:29:21,230  
which is exactly how a contestant feels.

702

00:29:22,050 --> 00:29:23,469  
Yeah, much better job security.

703

00:29:23,740 --> 00:29:26,010  
You guys have pointed this out,  
but it's, you know, Jeopardy!

704

00:29:26,020 --> 00:29:28,860  
chews through two of the smartest  
people in America every night.

705

00:29:28,860 --> 00:29:33,359  
Like, we are just a monster for,  
for smarty pantses because there's

706

00:29:33,359 --> 00:29:34,489  
only one winner every game.

707

00:29:35,460 --> 00:29:38,470  
Well, your stats for host,  
let's just break those down.

708

00:29:38,480 --> 00:29:43,820  
Michael mentioned 552 that you have  
hosted so far, 30 as a guest host.

709

00:29:44,540 --> 00:29:50,390  
110 in season 38, 171 in  
season 39, including that

710

00:29:50,410 --> 00:29:51,870  
exhibition game that we did,

711

00:29:52,010 --> 00:29:52,410  
190

712

00:29:53,900 --> 00:30:00,120  
in season 40, not to mention 38 Jeopardy  
masters and 13 celebrity Jeopardy.

713  
00:30:00,575 --> 00:30:03,755  
I do feel like I'm getting enough reps  
that I'm starting to figure it out,

714  
00:30:03,765 --> 00:30:08,015  
you know, like the last guy had over  
37 years and you can see how, I mean,

715  
00:30:08,015 --> 00:30:11,454  
he was polished from the start, but I,  
I do feel very lucky that I was given

716  
00:30:11,454 --> 00:30:16,305  
the chance to figure it out because I  
don't have a broadcasting background,

717  
00:30:16,324 --> 00:30:18,304  
you know, I'm, I was not ready for this.

718  
00:30:18,305 --> 00:30:21,315  
I just, just a fan of the  
show and I feel very lucky.

719  
00:30:21,725 --> 00:30:24,825  
Yeah, but there was that intense  
development period on Ken Jennings

720  
00:30:24,825 --> 00:30:26,225  
versus the rest of the world.

721  
00:30:26,795 --> 00:30:31,405  
Our Comedy Central, our Comedy Central  
presentation that we made with each other.

722  
00:30:31,905 --> 00:30:35,185  
In, when would that have  
been even, like 2008,

723  
00:30:35,235 --> 00:30:36,005

2009?

724

00:30:36,005 --> 00:30:38,425

I think it was earlier,  
I think it was like 2005.

725

00:30:38,685 --> 00:30:42,844

We can find out because we remember what  
happened is they wanted something to pair

726

00:30:42,844 --> 00:30:47,595

with the Daily Show and instead Stephen  
Colbert had a pilot and suddenly, even

727

00:30:47,784 --> 00:30:49,204

though they loved our little quiz show.

728

00:30:50,380 --> 00:30:52,790

So whatever that was, 2005 or six, maybe.

729

00:30:52,790 --> 00:30:55,360

And the world got the Colbert report.

730

00:30:55,360 --> 00:30:56,200

So it all worked out.

731

00:30:57,060 --> 00:30:58,090

And we got Ken Jennings.

732

00:30:58,130 --> 00:31:02,779

Have you gone back to watch some  
of your first hosting episodes?

733

00:31:02,779 --> 00:31:05,000

You mentioned that, like, you've  
gotten the hang of it a bit.

734

00:31:05,010 --> 00:31:06,650

Have you gotten back  
to seeing those at all?

735

00:31:06,769 --> 00:31:08,520

I don't really want to.

736

00:31:08,550 --> 00:31:11,660

I've seen some of my games as a player, not willingly, but if.

737

00:31:12,750 --> 00:31:15,760

Like I have a friend who I played against on the show who we're now very close and

738

00:31:15,760 --> 00:31:19,370

his kids were like, Dad, put on your tape because they wanted to see me and dad

739

00:31:19,620 --> 00:31:20,830

play, you know, play against each other.

740

00:31:20,830 --> 00:31:23,315

And so I watched that and I was like, It's fine.

741

00:31:23,325 --> 00:31:26,875

Like, I'm not very well dressed, you know, it's just kind of off the rack computer

742

00:31:26,875 --> 00:31:32,385

scientist, uh, shirts and ties from JC Petty's, but the, the games are fine.

743

00:31:32,385 --> 00:31:34,504

But I don't know if I want to see those early hosting shows, because I

744

00:31:34,505 --> 00:31:39,315

probably just look panic stricken and, and of course at the very beginning,

745

00:31:39,315 --> 00:31:40,665

like, you know, Alex had just passed.

746

00:31:40,665 --> 00:31:44,265

So we were all kind of grieving and the audience didn't want to see me there.

747

00:31:44,265 --> 00:31:45,535

I didn't want me to be there.

748

00:31:45,555 --> 00:31:46,965

You know, we all just wanted Alex back.

749

00:31:46,965 --> 00:31:49,435

So I don't know if I'm  
going to look at those.

750

00:31:49,655 --> 00:31:51,395

Are you suggesting it  
would be traumatic or not?

751

00:31:51,715 --> 00:31:55,655

No, I think you've come so far,  
but I think you started out, you

752

00:31:55,655 --> 00:31:57,105

know, in a pretty good position.

753

00:31:57,125 --> 00:32:02,155

I remember telling you on that day, Ken,  
you're the only person who genuinely

754

00:32:02,420 --> 00:32:05,490

would rather not be here than be here.

755

00:32:05,500 --> 00:32:08,250

You're the only one that would  
actually trade this opportunity

756

00:32:08,260 --> 00:32:09,670

for a chance to have Alex back.

757

00:32:09,690 --> 00:32:12,209

And I really believe that, and  
I think that's why you were able

758

00:32:12,210 --> 00:32:16,280

to do what you did in those days,

so, so soon after Alex passed.

759

00:32:16,570 --> 00:32:19,850

It did just really help that I had seen him host so much up close, you know,

760

00:32:19,850 --> 00:32:23,939

because then, when a Jeopardy game moves very fast, as you know, and when things

761

00:32:23,939 --> 00:32:27,580

seem to be spinning out of control, some part of my mind was always like,

762

00:32:27,580 --> 00:32:30,740

well, you I know what a player would do here, and I've seen what Alex would do

763

00:32:30,740 --> 00:32:32,370

here, and I could kind of get it back.

764

00:32:32,500 --> 00:32:34,810

Because if you haven't played the game, it's hard to just understand

765

00:32:34,820 --> 00:32:36,090

the speed everything goes at.

766

00:32:36,359 --> 00:32:39,829

Well, and I love when you add in the little, the little additional information.

767

00:32:39,830 --> 00:32:41,710

You know, that was one thing I loved about Alex.

768

00:32:41,720 --> 00:32:45,369

Oh, goodness, no, you were thinking, Oh, no, no, you have

769

00:32:45,369 --> 00:32:46,670

to go back to the Byzantine.



770

00:32:46,680 --> 00:32:49,420

You know, you just add those  
little nuggets that I love.

771

00:32:49,625 --> 00:32:52,245

People think, uh, people think  
that must be fake, but Alex was

772

00:32:52,245 --> 00:32:53,415

just doing that off the cuff.

773

00:32:53,415 --> 00:32:55,795

Like, Oh, you must've been  
thinking of Henry VIII.

774

00:32:55,815 --> 00:32:57,684

No, no, this was Henry V.

775

00:32:57,685 --> 00:32:59,824

You know, like, you know, he would,  
he would know all this stuff.

776

00:33:00,105 --> 00:33:00,845

He was very good.

777

00:33:00,885 --> 00:33:04,924

Sir Thomas Gainsborough's great  
rival, Sir Joshua Reynolds, as I

778

00:33:04,984 --> 00:33:06,605

remember you doing in one show.

779

00:33:06,705 --> 00:33:07,205

Beautiful.

780

00:33:07,385 --> 00:33:10,884

As, as every viewer knows, of course,  
you know, we're all, we're all

781

00:33:10,885 --> 00:33:13,765

thinking about maybe there should  
be a 10 episode Hulu mini series

782  
00:33:13,765 --> 00:33:15,335  
about Gainsborough versus Reynolds.

783  
00:33:15,795 --> 00:33:16,145  
Yeah.

784  
00:33:16,205 --> 00:33:17,725  
It was the, uh, the original beef.

785  
00:33:17,765 --> 00:33:18,995  
That was the original rat beef.

786  
00:33:19,650 --> 00:33:24,030  
I'm curious, do you guys  
think the 74 is beatable?

787  
00:33:24,150 --> 00:33:29,560  
I think that, um, you know, I've  
got a much shorter history on this

788  
00:33:29,599 --> 00:33:35,543  
than Sarah, but I saw a 38 episode  
run end on my first day on the job.

789  
00:33:35,543 --> 00:33:36,722  
Is that right?

790  
00:33:36,722 --> 00:33:37,115  
Yeah.

791  
00:33:37,115 --> 00:33:37,900  
Matt Amodio.

792  
00:33:37,900 --> 00:33:38,686  
Matt Amodio.

793  
00:33:38,686 --> 00:33:39,110  
That was

794  
00:33:39,650 --> 00:33:41,639

Michael's first day in the studio.

795

00:33:41,640 --> 00:33:43,020

Matt never forgave me for it.

796

00:33:43,190 --> 00:33:45,060

And then a 40 episode run.

797

00:33:45,545 --> 00:33:50,235

with Amy and then, you know, pretty significant runs from Matea and Ryan.

798

00:33:50,235 --> 00:33:54,845

And I do think that to some extent, the more aggressive playing style, not only

799

00:33:55,185 --> 00:34:00,884

because it gives a person, you know, a, a challenger, a chance to, um, to

800

00:34:00,885 --> 00:34:04,385

catch up, but it forces the champion into more aggressive play, which can

801

00:34:04,495 --> 00:34:06,735

also, you know, it's also cost them.

802

00:34:07,215 --> 00:34:11,005

Um, and just looking at the test scores and the playing

803

00:34:11,005 --> 00:34:13,655

ability of who gets on the show.

804

00:34:14,565 --> 00:34:19,715

And looking, I mean, I don't want to give away too much for the

805

00:34:19,715 --> 00:34:22,555

shows that, uh, have an edge yet.

806

00:34:23,705 --> 00:34:27,235

But, you know, you just see a level  
of competition that just makes it,

807

00:34:27,455 --> 00:34:29,755  
you just, I feel like it's hard.

808

00:34:30,065 --> 00:34:31,724  
I just feel like it's very, very hard.

809

00:34:32,135 --> 00:34:35,755  
That's something we haven't talked about  
is how the contestant pool on the whole is

810

00:34:35,755 --> 00:34:39,945  
much better prepared for the show I I was  
a little lucky that I was kind of playing

811

00:34:39,945 --> 00:34:43,785  
against well meaning amateurs kind of  
like, you know Olympic basketball before

812

00:34:43,785 --> 00:34:49,790  
the dream team and I was a well meaning  
amateur myself, but nowadays people study

813

00:34:49,790 --> 00:34:53,040  
up, they're prepared, they've, they've  
kind of, they've spent years hoping

814

00:34:53,040 --> 00:34:54,700  
for this moment, and often it shows.

815

00:34:55,260 --> 00:34:58,790  
I also think with your run, and not  
to take away from your run, but you

816

00:34:58,790 --> 00:35:03,259  
did have, you know, a long streak, and  
then you had that summer hiatus, and

817

00:35:03,260 --> 00:35:08,950  
you had a chance to kind of, you know,  
just take it in, regroup, Tape days are

818  
00:35:08,950 --> 00:35:12,760  
grueling and long and it's interesting  
to me that the people who've come the

819  
00:35:12,760 --> 00:35:17,400  
closest have come to around where you  
were before we took that summer hiatus.

820  
00:35:17,410 --> 00:35:21,180  
So I don't know, that's something  
also that can fall into timing.

821  
00:35:21,580 --> 00:35:24,160  
You know, we have tape days  
coming up that haven't aired

822  
00:35:24,160 --> 00:35:25,909  
that were six show tape days.

823  
00:35:25,940 --> 00:35:30,010  
There's so many other variables that  
feed into what is already a game that

824  
00:35:30,010 --> 00:35:33,770  
I would say sliding doors moments  
in and of itself, just based on the

825  
00:35:33,770 --> 00:35:35,150  
nature of the way the game is designed.

826  
00:35:35,180 --> 00:35:35,920  
Those are long days.

827  
00:35:35,920 --> 00:35:37,280  
Yeah, it's a, it's a marathon for sure.

828  
00:35:37,660 --> 00:35:40,030  
And you never think that, you know,  
even if some part of you is like,

829  
00:35:40,030 --> 00:35:41,380

boy, I'd love to win five today.

830

00:35:41,570 --> 00:35:44,550

You're not really thinking, so I should really kind of hold something back.

831

00:35:44,550 --> 00:35:45,739

What if I have to do this all day?

832

00:35:45,789 --> 00:35:49,129

Because you're really just going all out and, and it's hard to maintain

833

00:35:49,130 --> 00:35:50,370

that till five in the afternoon.

834

00:35:50,470 --> 00:35:51,590

Ken though, amazing.

835

00:35:51,620 --> 00:35:56,280

You've celebrated a major birthday recently and at the same time that the

836

00:35:57,170 --> 00:36:00,210

20th anniversary of your amazing run.

837

00:36:01,295 --> 00:36:04,715

Doing the math, that's 40 percent of your, uh, your life.

838

00:36:04,715 --> 00:36:08,165

You've been a, uh, you've been a Japanese champion.

839

00:36:08,665 --> 00:36:10,884

Have been, have been that part of your world.

840

00:36:11,255 --> 00:36:16,165

Two amazing landmarks to go through and so much more to achieve for us at Jeopardy.

841

00:36:16,895 --> 00:36:19,525  
It does feel like it's the meat of my  
life because that was also the time

842  
00:36:19,525 --> 00:36:20,864  
when I had my kids and everything.

843  
00:36:20,885 --> 00:36:23,904  
It kind of feels like all the  
important part of my life was

844  
00:36:23,914 --> 00:36:26,095  
the post Jeopardy part of it.

845  
00:36:26,105 --> 00:36:28,824  
So it's been, it's been such a blessing.

846  
00:36:28,825 --> 00:36:32,135  
I don't know how I lucked into this, but  
I'm very glad they accepted who is Jones.

847  
00:36:32,285 --> 00:36:32,655  
Right.

848  
00:36:33,525 --> 00:36:36,475  
And before we know it, I am confident  
that we will say you've been with

849  
00:36:36,475 --> 00:36:40,315  
Jeopardy over 50 percent of your  
life because only more years ahead.

850  
00:36:40,315 --> 00:36:40,329  
Jeopardy!

851  
00:36:40,710 --> 00:36:41,180  
It won't be.

852  
00:36:41,330 --> 00:36:42,580  
I guess another decade, right?

853  
00:36:42,580 --> 00:36:42,760

Yeah.

854  
00:36:43,040 --> 00:36:43,490  
Another decade.

855  
00:36:43,490 --> 00:36:44,150  
We can do it.

856  
00:36:44,330 --> 00:36:44,840  
I'd love to.

857  
00:36:44,990 --> 00:36:45,540  
I'm curious.

858  
00:36:45,540 --> 00:36:48,330  
You've now taken on the tradition  
of Alex, you know, answering

859  
00:36:48,330 --> 00:36:50,110  
questions from the audience.

860  
00:36:50,600 --> 00:36:53,640  
And I know there was one I would  
say was like the most common

861  
00:36:53,640 --> 00:36:55,190  
question that Alex got asked.

862  
00:36:55,210 --> 00:36:58,479  
At this point, what would you say is  
your, like, number one question that

863  
00:36:58,479 --> 00:37:00,120  
you've answered from the audience?

864  
00:37:00,370 --> 00:37:03,170  
Answering, might I add, as if it  
was the first time you ever heard

865  
00:37:03,170 --> 00:37:06,220  
it each time that it is asked  
by one of our audience members.



866

00:37:06,375 --> 00:37:08,275  
I think it's far and away, and  
you can tell me if you agree,

867

00:37:08,275 --> 00:37:10,915  
it's far and away, do you prefer  
being the host or the contestant?

868

00:37:10,955 --> 00:37:11,425  
Yes.

869

00:37:11,535 --> 00:37:15,275  
Because it is, that is kind of an unusual  
thing that nobody ever could ask Alex.

870

00:37:16,395 --> 00:37:19,594  
And it's kind of the, that's the  
core of my Jeopardy experiences.

871

00:37:19,595 --> 00:37:23,204  
I was a fan, and then I was a contestant,  
and somehow now I'm the host, and I

872

00:37:23,204 --> 00:37:25,034  
do have a weird viewpoint on that.

873

00:37:25,285 --> 00:37:26,695  
And really, to me, it's the same thing.

874

00:37:26,845 --> 00:37:29,845  
Like, when I am hosting,  
it's like I'm playing along.

875

00:37:29,875 --> 00:37:32,625  
I don't get to buzz and I don't  
have a score in front of me, which

876

00:37:32,625 --> 00:37:35,295  
is good because a lot of these  
players would, would eat my lunch.

877

00:37:35,295 --> 00:37:36,175  
I'm a lot older now.

878  
00:37:36,735 --> 00:37:39,425  
But I kind of feel like I'm playing  
at that speed along with them.

879  
00:37:39,425 --> 00:37:40,845  
And I'm like, Ooh, I know this one.

880  
00:37:40,845 --> 00:37:41,555  
Let's see if they get it.

881  
00:37:41,615 --> 00:37:42,464  
Oh, they did good.

882  
00:37:42,465 --> 00:37:43,384  
Now she gets to go again.

883  
00:37:43,385 --> 00:37:46,275  
You know, I'm, I kind of feel  
like I'm, I'm at buzzer four,

884  
00:37:46,295 --> 00:37:47,715  
you know, and I just don't get to

885  
00:37:47,715 --> 00:37:48,035  
play.

886  
00:37:48,085 --> 00:37:51,595  
It's like driving in a car in the  
back with an imaginary steering wheel.

887  
00:37:54,025 --> 00:37:54,275  
That's right.

888  
00:37:54,275 --> 00:37:55,835  
The Maggie Simpson steering wheel.

889  
00:37:56,035 --> 00:37:59,435  
Well, when you look ahead, do you  
have any host goals for yourself?

890  
00:37:59,665 --> 00:38:05,295  
You know, the goal is always Alex Trebek  
level hosting, and the goal is impossible

891  
00:38:05,295 --> 00:38:07,134  
because I don't know how he did it.

892  
00:38:07,144 --> 00:38:11,460  
You would just watch him and he would He  
could just always get out of any sentence.

893  
00:38:11,890 --> 00:38:15,550  
If he wanted to get something done in  
one take, he would do it in one take.

894  
00:38:15,560 --> 00:38:18,679  
He never lost his concentration  
or train of thought, or his

895  
00:38:18,679 --> 00:38:19,890  
tongue never got away from him.

896  
00:38:20,310 --> 00:38:23,429  
Just an amazingly disciplined performance.

897  
00:38:23,920 --> 00:38:26,310  
And I just, I don't think I  
have it in me, but the fact that

898  
00:38:26,310 --> 00:38:29,850  
I've seen it, like I know that  
that's possible, it just bugs me.

899  
00:38:29,860 --> 00:38:33,180  
Like, I really would love to be  
able to be that kind of a host.

900  
00:38:33,520 --> 00:38:37,405  
So that's always ahead of me, the  
illusory mirage of like, Trebeckian

901

00:38:37,445 --> 00:38:42,315  
perfection, even if I, some part of  
me knows there's, there's only one

902  
00:38:42,315 --> 00:38:43,755  
of those, you know, one of a kind.

903  
00:38:43,785 --> 00:38:46,830  
I know the feeling I'm going for  
freed money and, uh, perfection

904  
00:38:46,830 --> 00:38:49,025  
the whole time producing the show.

905  
00:38:49,025 --> 00:38:49,895  
It's, it's not easy.

906  
00:38:50,795 --> 00:38:51,425  
It's true.

907  
00:38:51,485 --> 00:38:52,694  
That was quite an era.

908  
00:38:52,940 --> 00:38:54,380  
And Sarah, you were there for it.

909  
00:38:54,580 --> 00:38:54,890  
I was

910  
00:38:54,890 --> 00:38:55,200  
there.

911  
00:38:55,210 --> 00:38:56,360  
You got to see all the highlights.

912  
00:38:56,400 --> 00:39:00,640  
I mean, I've been there for your whole  
time, some of, most of Harry's time, and

913  
00:39:00,640 --> 00:39:02,900  
now I get to be part of the Davies time.

914  
00:39:02,900 --> 00:39:04,640  
I'm a lucky lady, what can I say?

915  
00:39:04,839 --> 00:39:08,240  
And thanks for celebrating our  
100th podcast with us, Ken.

916  
00:39:08,260 --> 00:39:09,639  
Sarah, you were such a party planner.

917  
00:39:09,639 --> 00:39:13,330  
You gave me a 50th birthday cake and the  
whole place was decorated and I didn't

918  
00:39:13,330 --> 00:39:15,579  
do anything for your 100th podcast.

919  
00:39:15,580 --> 00:39:16,560  
I feel like such a heel.

920  
00:39:16,865 --> 00:39:17,425  
It's okay.

921  
00:39:17,475 --> 00:39:17,855  
You know what?

922  
00:39:17,855 --> 00:39:20,935  
When my 50th birthday comes up,  
I'll be expecting big things.

923  
00:39:21,195 --> 00:39:25,004  
I don't know what the traditional  
100th podcast gift is, but I am

924  
00:39:25,004 --> 00:39:25,545  
ready for your birthday party.

925  
00:39:25,545 --> 00:39:25,795  
We don't

926  
00:39:25,795 --> 00:39:26,085

either.

927

00:39:26,085 --> 00:39:28,665  
We'll have to go ask the Smart  
List folks or something like that.

928

00:39:28,695 --> 00:39:29,085  
Yeah.

929

00:39:29,874 --> 00:39:34,214  
Well, more shows to host tomorrow  
finishing up the season, so thanks

930

00:39:34,225 --> 00:39:35,574  
for always being one of the best.

931

00:39:35,594 --> 00:39:36,345  
We love having you.

932

00:39:36,455 --> 00:39:37,225  
It was such a pleasure.

933

00:39:37,225 --> 00:39:39,435  
I'd come on Inside Jeopardy anytime.

934

00:39:39,435 --> 00:39:40,295  
It's my favorite podcast.

935

00:39:40,640 --> 00:39:41,120  
You heard it.

936

00:39:41,740 --> 00:39:43,580  
All right, Michael, that  
is it for today's show.

937

00:39:43,860 --> 00:39:48,370  
We'll be back on Monday to cover  
another week of Jeopardy as Adriana

938

00:39:48,440 --> 00:39:50,920  
Harmeyer goes for her big fourth win.

939

00:39:51,170 --> 00:39:52,839

Adriana, Adriana, Adriana.

940

00:39:52,840 --> 00:39:54,230

Better practice it, practice it.

941

00:39:54,230 --> 00:39:55,090

Keep practicing.

942

00:39:55,090 --> 00:39:56,259

We don't know how long she'll be around.

943

00:39:56,639 --> 00:39:56,839

Bye

944

00:39:56,840 --> 00:39:59,269

bye.