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### **WELCOME**

Graham: Hey everyone and welcome to the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder Podcast. I'm Graham.

Derek: And I'm Derek.

G: And we're finally back home in our original home studio. We're in the same room together, doing our podcast.

D: First time in a while. Graham's back from L.A. and we're back from Comic Con.

G: It was an amazing time. I mean, I knew it was going to be fun, but not that much fun.

D: Yeah, we did have a lot of fun. I was surprised. The buildup, I was so anxious for, but the payoff was good, though. I had a lot of fun.

G: Oh yeah. We went for the whole week at Comic Con. The *Heroes* panel was amazing. Our panel's turnout was unbelievable. We were so psyched about that and are going to talk a lot more about Comic Con in today's episode. This is kind of like a brief, Comic Con wrap up 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder podcast. I guess that's what we're calling it: the wrap up. We also do have a few *Heroes* Headlines to talk about and a few spoilers of course. Because as most of you are aware, *Heroes* did show the Season Three premiere during Comic Con and we were there, so we have seen the first episode of Season Three already.

D: I got up and went to the bathroom missed the whole thing. And my seat was gone.

G: [joking] Oh no! So, we have a Spoilers section that's going to contain some major, major spoilers, so if you want to be surprised on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, then I suggest you just kind of skip over our Spoilers section this week. But, for those of you that want to know, all of the answers to the questions that were at the end of "Generations," we've got them at the end of our podcast. So, let's move on. Let's talk briefly about our panel. We did Livestream it.

D: Yeah, we did.

G: And I was completely surprised that it was a successful thing. It was a last-minute decision to hook up a laptop to our camera and try to Livestream our panel out to our website and I can't believe it worked.

D: And when Graham says last minute, we were sitting outside the room waiting to be let in and Graham goes "I think we can put it up on the whole internet to see." And it worked perfectly. We were getting text messages the whole time that people were watching us.

G: You may have to use headphones to hear everything. But, rest assured, we will have a higher quality version of our panel up on our feeds very soon. Our guy, Jason, that recorded the panel for us, used a high definition camera and we were wearing wireless mics at the time, so I'm confident that we'll have a really good quality version of our panel up very soon.

D: And we cannot thank everybody and Jason enough for all the work he did to get the panel out there.

G: I know.

D: Because he worked hard and asked questions.

G: He followed us around a little bit before our panel and after our panel.

D: Did he?

G: You didn't see him?

D: No.

G: We have some neat behind the scenes stuff.

D: I was oblivious to everything that day. We got up so early to go to the *Heroes* line. [laughs]

G: That was a long day.

D: Yeah.

G: But it was so much fun. I wouldn't trade that for anything and we'll talk a lot more about that a little bit later. But first, let's get to our brief *Heroes* Headlines section this week.

### **HEROES HEADLINES**

Derek: Our first headline, of course, is that the Season Two DVD and Blu-ray come out August 26<sup>th</sup>. That is a mere almost 20 days away from this point right here.

Graham: Awesome!

D: And Season One will also be releasing in Blu-ray that day, so if you didn't get it the first time around in standard definition or the failed HD you can now pick it up on Blu-ray. Graham, you got it on HD, didn't you?

G: Mmmhmm.

D: Yeah, I thought so. Amazon is actually running a pretty good deal. We were discussing this at lunch. It's four disks, for the standard?

G: It should be about four disks and I think one of those disks in all bonus footage, so it's really three disks like with four episodes on each disk, something like that, and then the extra disk will be bonus content. There's a rumor that two episodes that they did not air are going to be on this DVD.

D: We know of at least one, but possibly two. But Amazon is running the standard for \$25 and the Blu-ray for \$40, which is a pretty good deal for both of those. If you go to the [www.heroespodcast.com](http://www.heroespodcast.com) or click down in your AAC right now, you can preorder your copies. They lock them in at that price, so even if the price goes up,

G: It will not change

D: It will not change and you're supporting the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder in the process. When we were at the panel, they showed some cool stuff leading up to everybody coming out on stage. What I like to call stall time because everybody was trapped in an elevator on the way down to the panel. Everything they shot was in HD. Everything they showed on the Jumbotrons was in HD and they showed a Blu-ray DVD trailer for the Season One and Season Two Blu-rays. Really good footage. Like, one of the better TV on DVD trailers I've ever seen.

G: I'm getting ready for this Blu-ray phenomenon. That's because I've never had Blu-ray. I've had HD-DVD and I've had an HD television but not HD cable and all of that is kind of changing in these past couple months. I've got a lot of HD channels now, but still no NBC. That is really bugging me, so we don't have NBC in HD just yet, but I cannot wait for all this *Heroes* Blu-ray stuff. I've got to buy the first season, again, and I'm going to buy Season Two in Blu-ray. And I think we're just going to have a huge marathon over a couple of days here. So, I'm getting ready for it. I know by August 26<sup>th</sup>, I might have a new TV, I might get a Playstation 3, to play my Blu-ray stuff.

D: I'll bring my PS3 over if you don't have it yet.

G: That's the better deal. I always say that if you're going to go Blu-ray, get a PS3. That's more bang for your buck.

D: Well, it works out because you're going to pay that much for a Blu-ray player anyways, but you can also play games on it too, if you so choose. So, pick those up. Go over to [www.heroespodcast.com](http://www.heroespodcast.com) preorder your sets right now, just in case those prices go up. You can get it locked in.

G: I remember last year when the Season One DVD was coming out, the prices that they had locked in, pretty much stayed, but they did fluctuate a little bit, but never less than what they're giving you. So you don't have to wait \$25 and \$40 for these DVDs is

the cheapest I think they're going to get before they actually go on sale. Now, a couple of months afterwards, they'll go down a little bit in price because that happened to the *Heroes* DVD, the Season One DVD and Amazon is great about getting DVD to you on the day they come out. It will ship the day before and will be on your doorstep the day the DVD comes out, so it's a good deal.

D: I'm just loving that \$40 for Blu-ray because when you buy a Blu-ray movie now, you're buying a two-hour movie at \$29-\$34. You're getting 11 episodes—an entire season of a show—and you're getting it for \$40 bucks from Amazon? Pretty good deal.

G: Our next headline is a New York Times article that recently hit the internet and I guess their print version of the New York Times. It's called "[Heroes is Ready for its Rebound](#)". And this was sent into us by Thomas, we appreciate it Thomas. But this a great article. They interviewed Kring and Kring gave a few little hints of what's going to happen and also he kind of gives us his reasoning behind a lot of the things they did over the summer and leading up to this next season. So, I've gone through the article and kind of highlighted a few things that we're going to mention. But rest assured, guys, if you want to read this article, we've linked it in the AAC. Kring mentions to the reporter that a little absence can really be a benefit to a show. That the fact that *Heroes* has been off the air for so long, is really helping it right now, even though, to us, it's been the longest nine months ever, because it's just ridiculous to be doing a podcast about a show when there's been no episodes. How many episodes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder have we done with no new episodes? Ten?

D: Twelve. Yeah.

G: Really, it's been tough for us, but it's also kind of fun because we really have to search far and wide for things to talk about and we've got all the theories, and all the unanswered questions that they left for us to talk about. And Kring believes that the fact the show has been off the show for so long, while dangerous because people can forget about the show and not care anymore, he feels that *Heroes* being away for so long has actually helped the show in that they can kind of start new.

D: Well, you know one good thing to come out of the writers' strike, Graham, is that even though we did lose *Heroes* back in December and Season Two did get cut off early, you know, *Heroes* did get an early jump on things when the strike was over. The day the strike ended, they were ready to go back to work. So, now they've been raring to go. They're breaking episode 9, it's what they said the other day, by now.

G: Right, they're filming on episodes eight and nine. They're literally almost done with the first block of episodes and the show hasn't even come on the air yet.

D: Most shows that are coming back in September or just breaking episode four. And by "breaking" we mean in the writers' room, hashing out all the details and everything. So, to be ahead of the curve as much as they are, they really have the upper hand on

things as far as online promotion goes, gearing up for, like you said earlier on, some kind of promotion with the Olympics, things like that.

G: And believe me, guys, since we've seen the first episode, we're not going to ruin it for you in the beginning of our podcast here, but a lot of people are worried: "Well, if they've had this long and they're already shooting episode 10, how do they know what they're doing is good. And when they put it out, what will the fans reactions be?" Let us just tell you that this first episode, it blew us completely away and we're not just saying that because we're a *Heroes* podcast and we love the show so much. I think that a lot of people are going to become fans of *Heroes* because of this episode.

D: Is it bad to say that I could probably go all of Season Three and this probably could be my favorite episode of the season? Season One is "Landslide" for me. Season Two is "Cautionary Tales," but when I see this one—we can't say the name right now—but when I see this episode, I was just blown away.

G: If the rest of the episodes in Season Three carry the same momentum and the same excitement as the one we saw at Comic Con did, you guys do not have to worry about that they already shooting episode ten and getting ready to start in September. Moving on with the article. Kring kind of talks about the fan base. He says that the fan base is what has completely made *Heroes* a phenomenon and he says that:

The double-edge sword of our fan base is that they have a passion for the show. And that passion cuts both ways. It cuts towards, 'You're the greatest thing ever' and towards 'You've disappointed me.'

Kring and all of the people around *Heroes* always hear from fans whether or not they did an awesome job or a bad job. I thought that was an interesting tidbit in the article. Moving on, they mentioned in this article that Volume 3: Villains will run thirteen episodes. I don't know if we've ever heard that number.

D: I don't recall that, so that would lead me to believe that by the time Christmas gets here, Volume 3 will be over and when we get back in January or February, Volume 4 will begin.

G: Right. And we have no details on Volume 4. I imagine something that happens in Villains will lead into 4. We're finally getting official number of how long Volume 3 will be, which kind of goes with what they were trying to do in Season 2. They were going to cut off Volume 2 after Christmas and start Volume 3 in January. And Kring says that Villains will rely almost totally on its core main characters and will return to the show, exploring what he called "the primal questions from Season One: Who am I and what is my purpose?"

D: It felt like a Season One episode.

G: It really did. We'll talk about it more in our Spoilers, but as soon as the episode was over, I turned to Derek and said "That felt like the "Pilot." That felt like the show is starting again." That's what they were going for. They want people to be excited about

the show in that same way that when you saw the Pilot for *Heroes*, you were absolutely excited about the possibilities of the show and fully behind what they were going to do and this episode does that. The new season will begin with two episodes back-to-back from 9 PM to 11 PM on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, following an hour-long special that is some kind of red carpet, pseudo-premier party. It won't actually be a party on the night of, but it will be with the cast members doing interviews about their characters and Kring said that he was so confident that the new volume would restart the series successfully, that he didn't even feel the need to elaborately recap the last two seasons.

D: That's what Jesse Alexander was telling us, man. He was like, "We don't need a clip show. It speaks for itself." They wanted to have fun for an hour leading up to it because they were back. And I agree with that wholeheartedly.

G: "We are not dragging a lot of story behind us, this time," he said. "If you started cold, you could pick up the thread. That is the goal from here on out." And as far as the promotion for Season 3, the article mentions that NBC is doing its part to try to revive the phenomenon status of the show that it achieved in it's first year. It is promising a big promotion campaign using the Olympics next month to stir awareness for Villains. We had a discussion about that. I said I knew they were going to use the Olympics to do some kind of *Heroes* promotion. So, I think we're going to see a lot of really cool *Heroes* commercials during the Olympics, since NBC has been doing the Olympics for years now. We're going to see commercials, we may even see surprise appearances from some of the cast members at certain things.

D: I would venture a guess this weekend we'll start seeing those. Everything starts—

G: On the 8<sup>th</sup> of August is when the Olympics starts.

D: Yeah, so I imagine pretty soon you'll start seeing these kinds of promotions.

G: I can't wait to get some emails with people linking us to those videos. That's going to be exciting. And they even mention something that I think is really cool. That, during the Superbowl—*Heroes* will even have some promotions during the Superbowl.

D: I think those will be fun. That will be really neat to see.

G: I don't think we've ever had a *Heroes*-Superbowl commercial so that will be exciting if that ever comes about.

D: You know, you said a second ago about starting cold. I just remember being on the panel and one guy got up and said, "I've never seen an episode of *Heroes* before, but now I'm hooked." After seeing 301.

G: Right! Somebody did say that! And the whole room was kind of like, "Shame on you for coming to the panel and never watching *Heroes*," but he was telling the truth. He is pumped about *Heroes* because he saw that episode. That really turned the room

around. People were like, “Oh yeah. Sweet!” So we have a new fan because of that episode.

D: Our next headline is that *Heroes* Season 1 and 2 episodes are now available on Xbox Live and I say it’s about dang time. [Heroes on X-box Live](#)

G: I know. Ever since *Heroes* started making an effort to put episodes on the internet, I was like, “When is it going to be on Xbox Live because the Xbox 360 Live marketplace is a really great way to download episodes. I’ve downloaded, like, every *South Park* that comes out. I get it on my Xbox and watch it in a higher quality than they way it airs on TV. So, I say this is great and I believe that you’ll be able to get episodes in standard definition and high definition.

D: Probably so. I downloaded a lot from Comic Con onto my Xbox when I got home and even on there, you had the option of standard or hi-def.

G: And those are free, too.

D: Yeah, they are. And you know better—I don’t have a lot of gamer credits—you know about how much this is going to cost. It roughly equals a \$1.99 in what I like to call Microsoft money, right?

G: It’s called Microsoft Points and you apparently go out and buy points which is their sneaky way of making you think that you’re not spending a whole lot of money, but you actually are, I think. Most of the time for standard definition, an hour-long show, would be about 160 Microsoft Points, which is roughly \$1.99. If you want the high definition version, you’ll pay a little bit more. I think it’s 299 Microsoft Points. I’m not sure, I don’t have that information in front of me. It is a little bit more expensive to get the high definition version of the shows.

D: It depends on the strength of the “M,” I believe.

G: Depending on the exchange rate, of the American dollar, versus the Canadian looneys and tuneys... So, we can’t wait to try that out, I’m excited—maybe they’ll put Season Three episodes up after they air. A lot of shows, when they do that, when they’re airing their shows, they’ll put the most recent episode up in a different pane for Xbox Live users.

D: Well, that would be nice, considering we still don’t have it on iTunes, presently.

G: The downside to downloading it on Xbox is that if you’re going to download the high definition version, the files are really big. They’re about a gig or a little bit more of a gig to download and a lot of Xboxes only have the small, 20 gigabyte hard drive on them. So, you can only download like, seven episodes before you’ve filled up your hard drive. So, you either have to upgrade your hard drive to the 120 gig Xbox hard drive which I think still costs a ridiculous amount of money, or if you buy the elite version of the Xbox,

you won't have to worry about that, because it comes with the larger hard drive. But, I'm still really excited about having the option. If I, for some reason, miss a *Heroes* episode or want to check it out on my Xbox, you can download them, finally. That is all we have for our Heroes Headlines, next up, we're going to talk a lot more about our Comic Con experience. That's coming up after the music.

### **COMIC CON RECAP**

Derek: So, kind of the main point of today's episode is a little mini recap of our event from last week, which we really call an adventure in San Diego. We went to Comic Con 2008 and we had a lot of fun. There was a lot of stuff to do, there was a lot of stuff we did. There were a lot of people in general.

Graham: I'm not sure of the total number of attendees this year, but it just felt like we were always surrounded by at least 10,000 people. It is a very crowded event. It was so much fun. That's like, the word we use whenever someone asks us about it. It was fun, it was amazing. We got to meet so many people. I just can't believe how great it was.

D: I felt like a kid. I guess that's why everybody enjoys it so much, because it's a place where—

G: You're a kid again!

D: You don't have to worry about anything. You can have fun and not have to worry about your everyday life.

And walking the exhibit hall floor, you're just surrounded by people that love the same things that you do. They're there for the same reason. They like comics and movies and television. It's an amazing experience if you have never been to Comic Con, I suggest get your tickets now for next year because it really is a unique experience. There are conventions all across America, and all across the world, really that are similar to Comic Con, but this is IT. Comic Con was amazing and I hear it just keeps getting crazier and crazier every year. So, this year, we finally experienced it for ourselves and it just couldn't have been more awesome.

D: And we're staying closer next year, too. That's the number one rule.

G: Well, the number one rule is to book your hotel *now*.

D: We'll do that tonight, then. Because we needed to.

G: We booked a hotel in January and couldn't get within 5 miles of the convention center. So, every day we were taking taxis which was an experience in and of itself. You get to see a lot of San Diego when you're in a different taxi cab two or three times a day. But first, when we got there on Wednesday, it was preview night. They had the

exhibit hall open for all the people that were there on Wednesday and that was our first glimpse at how great Comic Con was going to be. Wednesday was interesting. The line for getting your badge was a ridiculously long line. And that was just kind of a preview also of how long the lines would be at Comic Con.

D: But, you know, it moved. We weren't ever really standing still the whole time.

G: Yes it did.

D: Why did we get split up? I don't even remember now. What happened? I parked the car and y'all went ahead and got in line and I never could find you guys.

G: And that was the last time we attempted to park a car at Comic Con.

D: Never! It wasn't too bad finding a space, it was just bad getting out later that night.

G: From then on, it was taxis from the hotel because parking was ridiculous. We even tried it on Thursday and were like "Well, let's go back to the hotel and get a cab." So, we got our badges on our first night and that was our first kind of glimpse. I did get to go to the *Heroes* booth that day and kind of got a glimpse of it. It was not as big as people wanted it to be, I think. Last year's *Heroes* booth was really big because they were pumping up Season Two, the return of *Heroes*. But this time, it was just kind of a small little area and they combined *The Office* and *Heroes* and *Chuck* and all that stuff into one booth.

D: Well, you know our friend Kim went last year and took pictures of it and came on the show and told us about it. It was set up like—I can remember from the images she sent us—it was set up like Warner Brothers' booth was. It was outside and you could walk to every area and you actually went inside a little canopy-type room. I don't know how to explain it. They made it kind of look like Level 5, it looked like a prison when you walked in.

G: And like all museums, it ended up in a gift shop. At the end of the line, you're in front of a cash register with a bunch of posters and shirts. I got a couple of shirts from there: there's one with *Sylar* on it and one that's an actual *Heroes: Villains* shirt.

D: And they don't let you out until you buy something.

G: Yeah.

D: You bought the best shirt I saw the whole time we were there, though.

G: Which one?

D: The Mario Brothers *Heroes* shirt.

G: Yes! We were walking by one of the booths on preview night. I don't know why I call it preview night. Preview night was something else, but we were on the exhibit hall floor, looking at all that stuff and it was a Mario Brothers t-shirt, but they had mixed Mario Brothers with *Heroes* and it said "Save the Princess, Save World 8-4." We had a good laugh at that. I put it up on our Flickr stream and people had a good laugh with us. So, the *Heroes* booth is cool. They did have it set up like Level 5. They had plasma screens showing these people sitting in cells and they were just kind of walking around, bored. WE don't know who these people are.

D: Oh yeah, I had forgotten about that. When you walk up, they were lining the outside of the booth and it was like walking up to the glass in Level 5, looking at somebody inside a cell.

G: As you walked into the booth, you saw like last year, they the exact same props: the glasses, Mr. Bennet's glasses, the Activating Evolution book, all on these little glass shelves.

D: They had the vial.

G: They had the vial from "Poweless," then the drawings from Molly, her Nightmare Man drawings. All of that stuff was there. We had the picture of Nathan and Peter and—

D: The picture of the twelve. That was neat.

G: The picture of the twelve was there. That was really cool to see that prop in person. It was much more obvious in person that it was Photoshopped.

D: Oh yeah, clearly.

G: You could really tell, I think if I can find my SLR picture of it. You can tell there's a little green blue hue around some of the people where they kind of dropped them into the photo of the twelve. That doesn't translate on television because they color time things and it looked really cool on the show, but in person it was interesting to see that. So, the *Heroes* booth was interesting. It was tiny, but they made up for that in giveaways.

D: There were girls dressed as cheerleaders, just like last year, instead of the red for Odessa, they were wearing the blue.

G: I think they were wearing the blue last year, too.

D: Oh, were they? They were wearing the blue cheerleader outfits as Claire, but they had the cut on the forehead.

G: They were giving away the Comic Con graphic novel sampler.

D: That's right.

G: They did that last year. We got one of those from last year and this year, it was just a couple of graphic novels that were out during the summer, or right before the summer.

D: Mmmhmm.

G: So, it was just two or three graphic novels and then they gave away this button, which was the most interesting giveaway.

D: Yes.

G: Even the people giving it out, they give it to you and say "Here, this is a clue for Season 3." And so we were like, "What?!" [laughs] And we look at it. Do you have one?

D: Not on me.

G: Oh, we need a picture.

D: But I have it. Several people have it as their avatar right now on the SHOE forums—I know Sylarina does. But it's the RNA symbol, it's two RNA symbols curved, one of them's red, though.

G: Right, it's two RNA symbols that are linked together to form one DNA strand and one of them is red. There are a lot of symbols that could mean. To me, I think it was kind of a play on a yin-yang, like on a yin and a yang/evil and good, special RNA, evil RNA.

D: It could be that whole other level of mutation, but there's also some hints in episode 301 as to what they're referring to and we'll talk about that in Spoilers today.

G: That was the coolest giveaway. Unfortunately, I never made it out with one.

D: Aww.

G: So, I've got the comic book, I've got the bag they handed out. That's another interesting thing about Comic Con is that people get these crazy bags.

D: They love their bags, man.

G: Like every morning at Comic Con there would be people waiting at the doors of the exhibit hall and there would just be a flood into the certain booths to get a certain bag. These are huge bags you can fill with tons of stuff you pick up with all the free things that are being given away. But *Heroes* had a really cool looking one. It was the promo art that we've seen. I think it's the actual DVD box art.

D: It's the Season Two DVD cover.

G: So, was that all the giveaways?

D: Well, here's the thing, when we left the panel, they were giving out a ton of stuff as we were walking out of Hall H, but we missed it all.

G: That's the thing about getting there early. We were in line early and we left early because we didn't want to stay for Lost

D: And we had to get to our panel.

G: Yeah, we had to get to our panel. It was very soon after the Heroes panel and they were giving away special Comic Con edition boxes to put over your Season Two box set DVDs.

D: They did that last year and we have a few. It kind of sucks that we didn't get ours this year.

G: We're gonna check eBay or some nice person that was there and are listening right now might mail it to us.

D: Hello.

G: But that was the first day we were there. The next day, Thursday was just kind of going through the motions of Comic Con. We went to the exhibit hall some more. What other panels were on Thursday?

D: We went to the Dexter panel and um, let's see... There was the True Blood, which is a new HBO show, we sat through that, too. So, that was cool. There wasn't a lot— Thursday was still about taking everything in.

G: Mmmhmm.

D: If Wednesday was any indication to us of how many people were going to be there, who didn't even have 4-day passes, Thursday was the onslaught of people.

G: Very crowded day and Thursday wasn't even the most contested day. Saturday had to be the most crowded day. But Thursday we didn't really do a whole lot other than check out the exhibit hall some more and go around. Friday was another similar day to that. There were a lot more panels on Friday, I remember that. I went to the *Watchmen* panel. I was the last person to get in. The guy I was with didn't get in. They closed the doors after I got into the *Watchmen* panel on Friday, which was interesting. I have to thank our friend, Tripp Braker, for saving me a seat for that, because that was a really cool panel to see some extra *Watchmen* footage. That is going to be an insane movie coming out next year.

D: The *Dr. Horrible* panel. That was fun if you're a fan of Joss Whedon.

G: That's right. We haven't had time to talk about *Dr. Horrible* mainly because it's off-topic, but Joss put all of that together during the writers' strike and produced it once the strike was over and it's just like a little 45 minute musical with Nathan Fillion and Neil Patrick Harris.

D: I'm very proud of my "What Would Neil Patrick Harris Do?" bracelet I got at Comic Con. I'm wearing it proudly.

G: So, *Dr. Horrible's Sing Along Blog*. If you haven't heard of that, head over to [drhorrible.com](http://drhorrible.com), I think and check that out. If you're a fan of anything Joss Whedon does, it won't disappoint you and you probably already know about it. We've been quoting *Dr. Horrible* for weeks now because of how great that little project is. And Friday for me, was kind of like a fanboy day for me because I'm a huge fan of the *Totally Rad Show* and they did a live taping that night.

D: I wanted to go to that, but I was so exhausted after three days, Chris and I just went back to the hotel and ordered a terrible pizza and I kind of wish we went to the *Totally Rad Show* instead.

G: Yeah, I've been watching the *Totally Rad Show* for a while and got there early enough for really good seats and they released the episode already and I'm all over that. You can spot the guy in the blue 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder shirt, that's me.

D: He gets up and asks a question.

G: But I don't think they released the Q&A yet. I think they're going to release that next week, but I'm the first person to ask a question on the *Totally Rad Show's* Q&A, which I'm incredibly embarrassed about—cause it's me being a fanboy.

D: But you got the t-shirt.

G: I did. That was why I got up. They were like, "If you ask a question, you get a t-shirt" and I was the first person to the microphone, so got a cool t-shirt out of the deal.

D: Knocked little old ladies down to get to the microphone, Graham!

G: I was sitting right next to the microphone. That helped! So, that was a fun night, but Saturday, of course, was the big day. Zero hour. Everything that we had came there to do was happening on Saturday. The *Heroes* panel was the first thing in the morning. Which, I have to say, as far as Comic Con's planning and execution, they're amazing at it, but having *Lost* and *Heroes* back to back in the same room was crazy! The line for *Heroes* was—the room could only hold 6500 people. The line was longer than that.

The line was 10,000 or more people long and so, after 6500 people, the rest of the people in line didn't get in.

D: It was just S.O.L.

G: It was absolutely crazy.

D: And I gotta say something about this convention center. It was insane! And, my dad runs one back home and his boss was actually on my flight from Dallas back home.

G: That's funny.

D: But he was at a convention in L.A. and the guy who's the director of the San Diego convention center was at this thing. He wasn't even at Comic Con. That is a testament to how this thing runs like a machine if he doesn't even have to be there.

G: It's run very well. The fact that they don't clear the room after panels means that lots of *Lost* fans were in the *Heroes* line, for the *Heroes* panel. Even if they don't watch *Heroes*, they were there for that panel. So that was the one thing that I had to comment about was the fact that *Lost* and *Heroes* are very similar and *Lost* fans are *Heroes* fans and *Heroes* fans watch *Lost* but there are some that don't. There are some *Heroes* fans that don't watch *Lost*, there are some *Lost* fans that don't watch *Heroes*, yet those guys were in line for either show.

D: Well, it's one thing, you know, that they don't clear the rooms. That helps a lot because that would just be mass hysteria. I had to sit through three *Stargate* panels just to get to Dr. Horrible.

G: See, that's the thing. You'll get people—those people at the *Stargate* panel are wondering why so many people are at their panel that don't know what they're talking about. It's because they're not there for their panel. So that was kind of an interesting way that they run things, but it works well. It works for them. They don't do that at Dragon Con. Dragon Con clears the room between each panel, no matter how big the panels are. So, everyone that's in line is guaranteed a seat. So, that was crazy. Let's talk about the *Heroes* panel, briefly.

D: We got up about 6 AM that morning and got in line.

G: Oh! And HUGE thanks to our friend Satellite Feed on Twitter.

D: Dennis

G: Dennis. He saved us spots in line so we didn't have to get up at 5 and be there in line. I know some people listening are like, "Those jerks cut in line!"

D: But wouldn't you rather us cut in line so you could be hearing about it?

G: Exactly! What would it look like if the *Heroes* podcast guys didn't even get into the *Heroes* panel at Comic Con? So, we are appreciative of that. We had a great time in line. We met a TON of people in line who knew who we were. We were wearing our little 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder stickers and SHoE stickers. Lots of people came up to us and it was great to have that going for us while we were waiting three hours in line.

D: Yeah, that was wild, walking down the line and you hear somebody yelling something from SHoE.

G: Yeah. Crazy.

D: Crazy.

G: Felt like a celebrity. So we waited in line for three hours, I think. Close to three hours.

D: Just about. They let us in about 9:15.

G: Once they started letting people in, the room filled up very quickly. We were in the middle of the room, kind of off to the left.

D: There were three sections, we were on the far left hand. We were sixth row, so we did pretty good. Hall H is slanted, so if you're on the right side, you're right up by the stage and the actual middle section is a little bit further and diagonally, we were towards the end, but we were still in the 6<sup>th</sup> row.

G: Right, we had good seats and we were staring right at one of these beautiful HD screens that they had set up in Hall H. Hall H was decked out in these huge, HD Jumbotrons. It was really, a clear picture for us, which was great, because once they started the panel, Jeph Loeb came out and had to stall a little bit because the cast and Tim Kring and some of the writers were stuck on an elevator. They came out, stalled a little bit and gave away from copies of the soundtrack and finally, they got off the elevator and we could start the panel. So the panel did start a little bit late because of that, which kind of hurt things in the end, but we'll talk about that in a second. But the big surprise was, and this was the was the big rumor leading up to Comic Con: would they show any footage from Season Three? We were sure they were going to show footage from Season Three, but would they show the whole first episode? And we were like, "No, maybe. Because the panel's, like, only an hour and how could they do that?" So, we kind of guessed they weren't going to do that.

D: Well, my thinking was, I thought, well, they'll show five minutes. They have the entire frickin' cast up there! They're going to show a full 42-minute episode in an hour-long panel and then only have 18 minutes to—and they were already pushed off in the end, but we were there and then Tim Kring walks up, introduced by moderator Jeph Loeb,

who's an executive producer on the show and here out walks Tim Kring with a briefcase handcuffed to his wrist.

G: He comes up, he puts the briefcase on the podium and he says, "I have a special surprise for you guys" and everyone in the audience knew what it was. He undoes the briefcase, unlocks it and pulls out a DVD-R, written in Sharpie is Season 3, Episode 1. And everyone goes wild. They dim the lights. He hands the DVD off, they dim the lights and the episode starts.

D: And the cast exited. I almost expected them to just stay up on stage and watch.

G: I think they exited so they could watch it backstage or something like that, because you really don't have a good view of those screens from the stage. That was a huge surprise, and we were liveblogging the whole thing, so once the episode started, we were like, "Should we keep writing? Should we keep telling?"

D: "Yeah, let's keep writing."

G: Because the episode starts out and immediately stuff starts happening. Like, you get your answers very quickly, and we were like, "Should we ruin this for everybody that's watching the liveblog, but we did put a spoiler warning and kept going. The episode was amazing!

D: Were you disappointed that they showed—I mean, disappointed is not a good word. Were you, did you feel cheated a little bit?

G: That we saw the episode already?

D: Yeah.

G: I feel like when September 22<sup>nd</sup> comes around, we won't be as excited, but I don't know yet. I think I will be excited to see it again.

D: I really just kind of wish they had just shown that teaser.

G: Maybe

D: And then the lights come back up and they say "Yeah, that's all you're getting." Because, that teaser is—that's probably one of the best teasers, ever of the show.

G: Mmmhmm. But to us, we've seen the whole first episode, at least we think they're not going to change anything for the actual premiere, but the whole first episode. To me, I don't think I'll mind because when September 22<sup>nd</sup> comes around, I'm gonna want to see that stuff again. I'll be just as excited to see it again as I was to see it.

D: The good thing is that even if you feel a little let down, because you already got to see it—I just, I kind of want that suspense to be there—but the good thing is that you'll still have 302 that night.

G: Yes!

D: So if anybody is feeling cheated a little bit.

G: So, premiere night is still going to be a huge night for us because a) we'll get to see that episode again and b) we've got a brand new episode coming up right after that. For those of you that want to hear the gritty details and all the answers that came with 301, we are going to kind of talk about it in our Spoilers. We're not going to go point for point because that would take way too long, but we are going to take each question that they answered and explain it and kind of how it happened on the episode. So, look for that in the Spoilers if you want to know about that. But that was the *Heroes* panel. When the episode was over, they brought the cast back on for a quick Q&A and by quick, we mean, three questions.

D: Some people ruined it for everybody, man.

G: I know, it was kind of lame. Some people were just kind of out there to plug themselves and some people asked kind of personal questions. One girl—I thought this was cool after—but one girl said that she had been blind or nearsighted

D: She was near-sighted and wanted to see Milo up close. I thought that was cool. I thought that was kinda neat.

G: It was a moment.

D: But, Sunday morning, I got to the *Smallville* panel and she did the same thing to Justin Hartley. Same girl.

G: Eh. So... But after that, the few people that did ask questions—some of them were good. Like, they went around and said that if you had one word for Season Three what would it be? And they asked that to the entire cast. And that was a cool question. But other than that, there were only 4 questions and then they had to close the panel because the *Lost* panel was going to start right after that. So, really, all we got in the *Heroes* panel was a funny, quick opening while they were stuck on the elevator, then we saw 301, and then a quick Q&A.

D: Well, it just made me mad because there were a lot of questions people could ask after 301, that they were willing to answer. Kring and Loeb were like, "Ask questions about 301. You've got questions after seeing that, don't you?" And there were guys who got up there and were like "Hey, I was first in line." And I was like, "You're ruining this for 6500 people sitting behind you."

G: Lots of things could have been answered even more so, had some of the people when they asked their questions, had it been about the episode instead of about other things or personal questions or plugging whatever they're affiliated with. But other than that, the panel was great. It was worth the price of admission to see 301 months before it actually airs. That way we'll be ready for when we do our podcast, we've seen the episode so long ago. And it's also just, awesome to see how excited people were after that. When the episode credits starting rolling—standing ovation. 6500 people. The entire room with a standing ovation was just a thrill. And the coolest thing about it was that our entire row that we were sitting on were people from the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder forums and the SHoE forums.

D: Yeah, that was pretty neat. There wasn't an empty seat. All ten of us were from—because we'd all gotten in line and everybody had gotten in together. So, it was a good little group following we had the whole time because we were with friends the whole time. We were among friends, so we had a good time.

G: It was really cool. So we went there, just me and Derek and Joe, our friend Joe who we brought along, who was very entertaining. Those of you that actually got to meet Joe, consider yourselves... I don't know what you should consider yourselves. [laughs]

D: I was going to say "blessed," but I don't know if that's a good word.

G: Or cursed. It was just absolutely great. The next thing was our panel. Right after that, actually, we were literally running from Hall H to Room 24A which is where our panel was. We had about an hour to kind of sit down and plan a little bit more about what we were going to do. Got in the room right on time. They didn't let us in early, which was kind of strain because we had a camera and mics to set up

D: Well, there was a line outside which was really cool, but we were *in line* to get in for our own panel.

G: There was a line outside the door for our panel because another panel was going on, and we had to stand in that line because they wouldn't let anyone in the room.

D: We just wondered "So, what are you guys here for?"

G: "Are you guys here for us?" Great. So we got in there really quickly, set up our camera. Got the laptop hooked up so we could try to LiveStream it and then started as soon as we could. And, it was *awesome!* Oh my gosh, just all of the people in that room were so nice and friendly and it felt like... What would you describe it as?

D: I don't know. We had, I mean, a pretty good sized group even when we let Joe moderate, I don't know why, but we let Joe introduce us and got up on stage. We had a pretty good group and as the thing went on, more and more people came in, I guess because *Dollhouse* and *Battlestar Galactica* filled up. [laughs]

G: All the other panels that you could have gone to.

D: As we walked in, we said, “Yep, *Dollhouse* is full.” [laughs] It was neat. Everyone asked some great questions. There were some people there who weren’t familiar with us, but wanted to know about setting up a podcast and setting up fan communities and we were more than happy to answer those questions. I feel sorry for them because they didn’t get some of the inside jokes and references.

G: Yeah. In retrospect, hindsight, you know how that is. If we had stayed away from the more technical questions and it would have been more of a discussion about *Smallville* and *Heroes*, it would have been a lot more involving. But it was really cool to have the technical questions and we did kind of word our program that way and the description of our program, you know: come talk about podcasts and creating fan communities and stuff.

D: Everyone really wanted to know more about us, about the way we did the show about the chemistry and everything like that—how we started up and what we do. So, it was an honor to be asked those questions. People were really intent on listening to us, so that was cool.

G: Right, I was hoping that some people would ask us our theories on the first episode of *Heroes*—those that actually got to see it, but it really did stay in the realm of questions of how to start a podcast and how to put together things and I think that was really cool because I guess the room full of people had already heard us talk about *Heroes* and *Smallville*. They hear us do that every week and they were really the questions that revolved around “How do you do this?” And I think that was pretty cool, to actually get to answer some of those questions that we don’t come out with on the podcasts themselves.

D: Thanks to everybody that came to it, because that was neat—everybody that took pictures. Our buddy Hammer on the forums, his cell phone went off. That was cool. Halfway through. No, we had a lot of fun and I hope to do it again next year. I can’t wait to do it at Dragon Con, too.

G: Do we have an actual panel at Dragon Con?

D: I don’t know, Dragon Con is up in the air. [laughs]

G: We’re going to be on panels, but not an actual 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder.

D: Well, we’re on the *Heroes* panel and Steve and I are on the

G: *Smallville*.

D: *Terminator* and *Smallville* ones.

G: So, we're going to be there. We're going to be involved in Dragon Con, so that's the next place you can see us at. We can't wait for that. That's at the end of this month. But, really, guys, our panel and Comic Con, thank you so much to all of you guys that came. It was great getting to meet you guys. The whole time it just felt like—somebody pinch us!

D: It was neat and I think a lot is thanks to Twitter, because we wouldn't have found half the people we met up with.

G: Yes, we talked about Twitter on and on and on during our episodes leading up to Comic Con and it really was--

D: It paid off.

G: It paid off. We met a lot of folks that way. We got into a lot of lines that way.

D: Yeah, there are so many people we need to be appreciative of and are. There are so many people to name that we can't, but there are a lot of people who stuck their neck out for us while we were there.

G: It was so great. Twitter really pays off when you're in a public place with a lot of people who are on the service and I learned that back at MacWorld when I was there. The last thing we want to talk about is really just the icing on the cake for us—the meet-up that we planned. We knew that some people would prefer to go to the *Dollhouse* panel or the *Terminator: Sarah Connor Chronicles* panel which were going on around the same time as ours, so we planned to meet up and at the last couple of hours before the meet-up, we finally nailed a location down and posted it on our Twitter and website and about 30-35 people showed up at the meeting spot. So we all walked over to a great pizza and wings place, kind of over there by PetCo Park which is across the street from the street from the convention center and this restaurant was able to seat 35 people.

D: Walked up to the door and they sat us.

G: As one party and we had the greatest time. It was a great couple of hours hanging out with folks, talking to them about Comic Con, about *Heroes*. We had a great time. We've got pictures up everywhere on our website, we've got them in the AAC, of course. And that was really the crowning moment of the weekend, just getting to hang out with everybody and meet a whole lot of new friends.

D: And thanks to our buddy, Chris for recommending the place to us because we were racking our brain on where to go. Because we had some younger people with us, so we didn't want to go to a bar, which could have definitely have got us all in, but we wouldn't have been able to sit down and have a good time with everybody.

G: Right, but this place was very accommodating. I think it was called “Wings, Pizza and Things.” <http://sandiego.wingspizzanthings.com/>. So if you’re in San Diego and close to the convention center, go check that place out. They have just such a huge variety of food and if you have a party of 30 people following you, they should be able to seat you fairly handily.

D: Tell ‘em the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder sent you.

G: Exactly. They knew who we are after that.

D: Tell ‘em Joe Johnson sent you. They remember him,

G: So once again, we had an amazing time. I know we sound like a broken record, but I just can’t express to you guys in enough words just how we feel about how great our weekend was there. We can’t wait to go back. That’s a done deal. We’re going back to Comic Con. We hope that stars align in such a way that we will go back next year and have another panel, and get to meet even more people and some of the same familiar faces that went with us last year.

D: And we got to hang out with Jay and Jack from the *Lost* podcast.

G: Yes, we saw them in line.

D: We saw them in line for the *Heroes/Lost*, but then they came into our panel.

G: Oh, that was cool.

D: And we went in theirs, too.

G: Jay and Jack are very nice guys. They do a *Lost* podcast that’s very similar to the way that we do the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder and lots of folks that listen to us, listen to them and it was great to finally meet them in person and say “Hi, thanks.” And then while we were doing our panel, we saw Jay and Jack slip in the back and we were like, “Hey!”

D: They asked a question.

G: [laughs] Jay asked a question: Out of the reviews you’ve gotten on iTunes what was the most interesting one-star review you’ve ever had? Off the top of my head I couldn’t think of one for us.

D: I saved you.

G: But you did save me on that. Once again, our panel is still available on our website as our live stream went through. We’re going to have a higher quality version up very soon with better audio of course. We were wearing microphones, they just didn’t go

through on the LiveStream. That will be online very soon. We want to thank you again and that is all we have describing Comic Con. Next up are our emails.

### **EMAILS**

Graham: All right, welcome to our emails. We got a lot of emails since our last podcast because it has been actually quite a while since our last podcast. These are all emails that we got kind of surrounding the week or so around Comic Con so these are all really great emails. This one is from Kim, she says:

Sorry I couldn't make it to your panel on Saturday. I really wanted to go originally, but I found out that Milo was signing autographs and I just had to get in line.

Well, if you had the opportunity to get Milo's autograph or meet Derek and I, I guess I could see...

Derek: But I was giving autographs. I don't understand.

G: Yeah, we were giving autographs, too. I didn't sign *anything*. You did. You signed your magazine.

D: Boy, just sound bitter when you say that, why don't you?

G: I don't have a magazine, Derek does have a magazine and he gets to sign it. What was great was that when I was waiting my turn, I noticed a man signing the same poster and passing it on to Milo to sign. 'Lo and behold it was Tim Sale.

Tim Sale was there. He was on the panel. He was with the cast members. He did get to answer a couple of questions. Somebody asked a question of the whole cast and he answered it as well. She goes on to say:

I took a picture with both Milo and Tim Sale.

Which is awesome. I guess, if you had to skip our panel, you do have a picture of Milo and Tim Sale. Could you send us that picture as proof, though?

D: I wanted my picture with her. I don't understand. This sucks!

G: But, she says:

Getting to the point, I really wanted to make your panel. I really hope you guys come next year. I will definitely go then, that is, of course, if Milo is not signing, but I hope you guys had an awesome time at Comic Con. I love your podcast and I'm waiting to hear more.

Thank you, Kim, for that.

D: I have one here from Rob. Rob says that he got to go see *The Dark Knight* last week. Who didn't, I hope?

G: Yes, we have a story behind our *Dark Knight* experience, which we'll explain in just a second.

D: [sighs heavily] We have *several* stories behind us seeing *Dark Knight*. Uh, he said, it was awesome by the way—of course it was—but before the movie there was a trailer for the new *Heroes* season for the Villains trailer. And we got to see it before *Stepbrothers* the other night.

G: Cool!

D: You don't remember, do you?

G: I didn't see that.

D: You walked in late.

G: I did walk in late. Okay, so I missed the theatrical trailer, but I think it's awesome that they're doing that. Because...

D: That's how it started.

G: As you've heard, Tucker mentioned a long time ago that that was one of the things that got him into *Heroes* is he was watching *X-Men 3*.

D: We went and saw *X3* and *Clerks 2* and before both of those they showed a trailer.

G: And that's kind of what piqued Tucker's interest and they're doing it again. They're relying on movie trailers and movie previews to pump up Villains. Very exciting. I guess we should explain our *Dark Knight* story.

D: Go for it.

G: Okay, this is not a very interesting story, matter of fact, it makes me mad every time I have to tell it. But, we stood in line for 2, maybe 1 ½ or 2 hours to see *Dark Knight* in IMAX on Saturday, which was the weekend it came out. We were at the Universal Citywalk in Los Angeles. So, that was our plan for the night, to go see *The Dark Knight* on IMAX on the opening weekend. And so we get in there, they start the movie, we watch about 90 minutes of the movie the fire alarm goes off. The screen shuts off, the lights come up, and we're just stuck. People start to get up and leave and they're like, "It's okay. It's a false alarm." So everyone gets back in their seats. So, for the next hour or so, or two hours, we're sitting there, finding out whether or not they're going to start the movie again, or if we're going to get a refund or get a free pass to see it again some other time.

D: We sat there for two hours before anybody walked in to explain to us the situation and *then* canceled the film.

G: Yeah, they canceled the film and said that they were not going to be showing any more IMAX screenings that night because the projector was locked down for security measures because if there's a fire, the projector locks itself down and they couldn't sync up the audio or start it where it stopped. So, essentially, they were saying "bye, get your refund out the door" and so we were doing that—I was standing in the refund line. And they were loading up the theater for the next showing of *Dark Knight* in IMAX!

D: They were going to show the 2:30 IMAX screening, but we couldn't get back in because they *told* us they were canceling that one, too.

G: Yeah.

D: So while Graham was waiting in the refund line, Joe and I were just kind of hanging back and we noticed down in the back hallway, there was a regular 35 millimeter showing going off at 2:45, so we just snuck in there and watched the whole thing over again.

G: And AMC theaters, our home address is...

D: You can write them at...

G: You can send us a bill.

D: Then, I saw it again in San Diego, after we saw *Stepbrothers* in IMAX. Finally got to see it the whole way through in IMAX and...I feel asleep.

G: The joke was that I was going to come back at 2:30 and pull the fire alarm during your second IMAX viewing.

D: Graham!

G: By the end of that first night, we had left the theater by around 5:30 in the morning and had seen *Dark Knight* one and a half times. Interesting weekend. So, thank you, Rob, for that. The next email is from our friend, Joe. He says:

Hey guys, I love the podcast! How do we go about purchasing some 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder stickers? FYI, the stickers link on the main page is dead.

I wasn't aware of that, but I think I took it down because we have new stickers. We gave away a lot of these stickers at Comic Con and you might have seen them in some of our pictures or on the forums. But we have brand new 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder stickers that look absolutely great courtesy of Mark Harper, our friend at Harper Design and we're going to start selling those very shortly, so the link on the main page for Stickers will be back very soon. They're bigger this time. They're a little bit bigger than our old stickers, so it really is a better deal and they're so cheap to make, we made a ton of them in when we ship them out to you guys. A great way to promote our show and also, just to decorate whatever you're putting stickers on. Put them on your car because it has our URL on it.

D: A lot of people did that.

G: Send us pictures of the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder sticker on your car.

D: Tripp did it!

G: He did, he put it on his license plate.

D: He cut it in half.

G: But thanks, Joe, for that. That's all for our emails this week. Once again we're at the close of the podcast.

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Graham: We want to mention more about Audible.com, our sponsor. Audible.com is the leading provider of internet audio content. They have over 40,000 titles and these are audio books, they're CD's and standup comedy CD's. It's an amazing resource for those of you who are into audio books or want to listen to audio books in your car. You can listen to these audio books that you download on Audible the same way that you're listening to us by downloading them with Audible and putting them in your iPod or media player. They work the same way as podcasts. Just sync them with your media devices. If you head over to [www.audiblepodcast.com/wonder](http://www.audiblepodcast.com/wonder) you can get a free audio book download when you sign up for the free trial. So, Audible was great in giving us that little code so that when you join up on Audible you'll get a free credit to download an audio book. We've had lots of comments from our listeners about how great Audible is working for them. We're trying it ourselves and it's a great service. So, head over to [www.audiblepodcast.com/wonder](http://www.audiblepodcast.com/wonder) for a free audio book download.

### **CLOSING**

Graham: That is all once again for this week, guys. We want to mention our email: [heroespodcast@gmail.com](mailto:heroespodcast@gmail.com). Getting lots of email now that the hype for *Heroes* has really be jumpstarted by the Comic Con panel. So send us an email if you have any theories if you have any questions or comments about *Heroes* or our podcast. We love to hear them over at [heroespodcast@gmail.com](mailto:heroespodcast@gmail.com). Also, our website: [www.heroespodcast.com](http://www.heroespodcast.com). Starting to really gear up and get lots of *Heroes* news posted up on our news feed there. Also our forums are on our website: <http://forums.heroespodcast.com/> We are doing lots of, I guess cleanup.

Derek: Overhaul.

G: Overhauling of our forums to get ready for the next season of *Heroes* and I assure you—it looks like a massive community with lots of people and it looks like you would never get your voice heard, but really it is a core group of really awesome people. I mean, it's such a great community right now and I can't wait to get started with *Heroes* and start discussing episodes with these guys.

D: A majority of the people we hung out with when we were at Comic Con

G: I know, it was just amazing to meet a lot of the folks that are on our forums and now we have, you know, faces to the names and stuff like that.

D: Well, that's good in some areas.

G: Ah, don't, don't go there.

D: [laughs] I was talking about me!

G: Ok. Next up, our voice mail: (206) 350-7159. A great way to connect with us and we always like to put voicemails at the end of our show. We've been known to start off topics with voice mails once *Heroes* gets started. So be sure to do that, put it in your phone. Once again, that number is (206) 350-7159.

D: It's going to be weird in a month and a half we're actually going to have things to talk about again.

G: It's been, what, like nine months since we've actually talked about a *Heroes* episode. I guess what's coming up next in our Spoilers is an old-fashioned recap from the 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder episode. But other than that, it's been since December since we actually had something new to talk about, which is crazy. Once again, a reminder that the DVD comes out on standard definition and Blu-ray on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The countdown has begun for that, as well as the countdown for the return of *Heroes* on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. So, roughly 50 days?

D: Yeah, about 50 days.

G: Once again, guys, thank you so much for listening to us over the summer break, especially since we've had very little to talk about.

D: Winter and summer break.

G: So stay tuned for our Spoilers. We have a ton of spoilers to go over because of us having seen the first episode now. I'm Graham.

D: I'm Derek.

G: We'll see you next time.

### **SPOILERS**

Derek: And welcome to our Spoilers section. It seems like all our spoilers section over the past nine months have lacked a little bit in content, but we've got a heck of a one to make up for it today.

Graham: We're making up for it.

D: Definitely.

G: All those times when we had a five minute Spoilers section with stuff that you probably already heard. This is what's making up for that.

D: This is what we call "Breaking News."

G: We have a couple of spoilers at the top, here, that we want to go over and then we're gonna kind of outline the premiere episode for you. We're going to leave out a lot of stuff of what's going on in the premiere episode but we're going to hit the main things. The things that made us want to leap out of our seats and start clapping and yelling. We're going to hit those and talk about kind of the questions that were answered in the premiere episode. So, if you don't want to be spoiled, if you only want to hear these few spoilers at the top, here, you can listen to those, but then we're going to jump into a description of the first episode of Season Three.

D: The first really that we got is a couple of days before Comic Con hit the Season Three press release, which comes out before an upcoming season of a show. NBC released that and we've got the copy right here. It's full of stuff, but a lot of it is already going to be detailed in what we go over in 301 rundown here in just a second. So, just skimming over here, it does say:

Previously in Volume One: Genesis and Volume 2: Generations, when a total eclipse casts its shadow across the globe a multitude of everyday men and women with special powers seemingly were called forth. To prevent grim predictions for the future, a handful of these individuals banded together to save the cheerleader, New York City and the world. Now, as ominous new signs signal catastrophe ahead, new and familiar adversaries begin to gather. Their ultimate destiny is nothing less than saving the world.

G: As we were talking about a while back in Season One, we were just saving New York. In Season Two, we were just saving the human race. In Season Three, we're going to save the entire world this time.

D: About time.

G: About time we've gotten there.

D: What do you step up to in Season 4, there, Kring?

G: The universe.

D: The universe.

G: Or the solar system and then the universe in Season Five.

D: But that was really cool to read because it did give us—if you read it before you saw 301, if you were there and you know, a couple of punks linked it online, too. Did you see that? 301 is on the internet? [WHERE?!?]

G: I heard that fifteen minutes or so have leaked before whoever was recording it got—

D: Pile-driven?

G: --beat on the head. You guys would not believe the security in that room while they were showing.

D: Just Comic Con in general.

G: Just whenever the studios would show a clip that was exclusive to Comic Con and only for those folks' eyes, a team of like, people in suits with ear pieces and cufflinks—you know, like cufflink communicators—would just be spread across the room and if they just saw anybody holding up anything they would pull them out of the room and who knows what happened to them after that.

D: You remember Tripp, don't you?

G: We were at the Watchmen panel and Tripp, the guy who saved my seat, I guess was looking at a photo on his phone, he wasn't taking a photo of the screen.

D: He just had an iPhone which does not take video.

G: It does not take video. I don't think they freaked out over pictures. They were worried about video getting on YouTube. But he was just looking at a photo and one of the guys came up, didn't say a word, made the motion "come here" and I didn't see him again until 3 or 4 hours and he won't talk about what happened.

D: [laughs] He doesn't remember what happened! It's just a loss of memory!

G: So, rest assured, I'm really surprised any footage got online at all.

D: I'm surprised you were able to see Volume 3: Villains before somebody just came out of nowhere and brought you to the ground!

G: Right, so look in right places and you'll probably find that, but we're not going to officially link to it.

D: No, because it's so much more fun to wait.

G: Oh yes.

D: That's kind of why I wish we had gotten to. But, if you had read this before Comic Con and you did get to see 301, the hints that it gave for different characters in the press release kind of give you foreshadowing of what happened in the episode. And there's a lot of stuff that happens, as we'll talk about here in a second. The other bit of news is that we have cast somebody on the show now that we've been wanting to see for a long time.

G: This is a character that I think since the break in Season One, we've been like, "When are they going to cast this character?" Finally, the news is out.

D: Robert Forster is joining *Heroes*. He will be playing Arthur Petrelli.

G: Yes!

D: I mean, it's really cool. How they're going to do it? All the details aren't known yet. At the time they were talking about an entire episode of *Heroes* was going to take place in the 70s.

G: They were talking about that. We don't know which episode it's going to be. They're probably already started working on it if it's going to be in this Villains arc. But it might not be in this Villains arc. It might be in the next volume. So we don't know when we're actually going to see Robert Forster or when we're going to see Arthur Petrelli. But, rest assured, we're just excited that he's been cast.

D: But just because an episode's going to take place in the past doesn't mean we can't see him in present day with the interaction between Peter and what we know now about Angela Petrelli.

G: And no one is actually ever dead in *Heroes*. It just doesn't work that way anymore. There's no concrete: you're alive or you're dead. Simply because of all of the abilities that can bring back people. We'll talk more about that in just a second when we go over the episode.

D: Definitely, definitely. And rounding out the top of the news there is a lot of press release images from episode 301, and I guess we can say the name of it now, is called "The Second Coming." It was originally called "The Butterfly Effect" when they were breaking the episodes, but they since changed that and I'm glad they've changed it because I think "The Second Coming" was very poignant.

G: It was poignant because one, it was the return of the show, the second coming of the show, cause a lot of people just want the show to reboot, just start again and become the phenomenon in Season One and later on in Season Two, and the title means more than just "this is the name of the episode." It's what Tim Kring wanted to get across—that this is the second coming of our show. This is *Heroes'* second coming.

D: If you want to check out these images, go over to our good friend, Craig's website <http://www.herosite.net/> where he's got those posted.

G: Right, it's a great website for spoilers and pictures. So definitely head over there. Now we're at the point in our Spoilers section where we're going to start talking about this premiere episode. If you do not want to hear some of the biggest spoilers that are probably going to ruin your night on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, which we discussed before—I don't think it's going to ruin anybody's night, if you actually listen to these spoilers.

D: So, episode 301 is a musical.

G: It's a musical. It starts in the past.

D: It starts in the past and then jumps 12 years later.

G: Okay, we're just kidding, but go ahead and turn off the podcast if you don't want to hear these spoilers. If not, stay tuned and here we go.

[Seriously, don't read any further unless you want to be spoiled for the season 3 premiere]

G: The episode 301 begins in the future that Nathan would have created had he told the world about the Specials. There's a standoff, quickly, there's a standoff between future Peter and future Claire when Claire's holding Peter at gunpoint which we saw these pictures a long time ago of them doing this scene. And he says, he's kind of begging Claire to let him go and he says "I want to go back to the day they all found out," which we took to mean the day that Nathan told reporters about Specials. They have this conversation, which I'm not completely sure of the details. It was just kind of a back and forth "Let me go" "No you're not." "Yes I am."

D: "You have to die," blah blah blah. And as she pulls the trigger she says "I always loved you, Peter." And of course, we're sitting there going, "What? Can't he just, like, walk out of the shot?"

G: We're like "How's he going to get shot?" There's no way he can, I mean, because he has so many abilities that would be effective against a bullet. But he uses them. He slows time and simply steps out of the way of the bullet. He lets the bullet go by him and he grabs the gun from Claire and then he teleports to present day. He's in the back of the room from the end of "Powerless." He walks up to a coat rack, puts on a black trench coat, walks into the press room where Nathan is about to give out the secret.

D: [sing-song] Called it!

G: And shoots Nathan squarely and for the first three minutes of the episode—that's not even three minutes in—we were already just hooked.

D: Yeah, and that's not even all that happens, because there's still another ninety seconds and then the Heroes logo is shown. So, that's why I said if they had just shown the teaser to get people pumped—oh my God! But Nathan does survive of course, after a while he's presumed dead and left for dead and Peter actually walks in over him and he just wakes up.

G: He just springs up—it's a scary moment in the episode.

D: It is pretty startling, it was very loud, too. But Nathan seems very different about his resurrection. He claims to have seen God in his final moments and he knows now what his purpose is on Earth—what all the heroes purpose is—is to be angels. And he has this breakdown as he's—

G: He's in this church.

D: Yeah, he goes to this chapel across from the— It was a really funny scene.

G: Oh yeah. [laughs]

D: Because the newscasters are outside and they're talking about—

G: How well he's recovering

D: How well he's recovering and everything and all of a sudden you see him walk out behind the newscaster and he goes—

G: A lot of really funny moments.

D: There was a lot of humor in this episode and I thought there was a balance of the action and the drama and comedy. But he's talking to this mom with two small children in the chapel and he's telling them that he saw God. And he begins to give the press release again, just in a different way. Instead of announcing about the heroes, he's telling them about his mission—his own personal mission. And we find out later who is responsible for his miraculous resurrection. It's Linderman!

G: That was the biggest reveal in the episode, I think.

D: Because a lot of people weren't expecting that. Even though we've known—

G: That he's been shooting episodes?

D: There still wasn't a lot of information about him being the episode.

G: Yeah, we were like, "Maybe they're filming flashbacks. Maybe that's why he's doing it." But he is actually back. And the scene where he comes back is one of the biggest reveals of the show. I hope that we're not completely ruining it, but we are kind of describing it in general terms.

D: Too late.

G: He's back. Linderman is the reason why Nathan is alive. And Linderman says "We're meant to do great things."

D: Definitely "The Second Coming" title played a lot into Nathan's storyline in this episode, but past the service there's a whole lot of other things that you could read into.

G: And so we go on and we see what Hiro has been up to in this time. Hiro has inherited his father's office at Yamagato and it's a huge office with a very big desk and he just looks very bored. He finds out a little bit later in the episode that his father has left him a video message on a DVD. Ando and Hiro watch this DVD which is another funny scene that we won't give away. Basically, what his dad tells him is that there's an ancient family secret that he must protect. How he goes about protecting it is a really funny aspect of this scene.

D: Yeah.

G: But eventually, curiosity gets the best of him and he opens this safe that has this—

D: Not even eventually. [laughs] I mean, the minute the DVD is over, he's finding the button to open the safe.

G: He gets this document and it's a chemical chart. It's, like, a layout of a chemical strand. And as soon as he gets a chance to look at it, you hear this rush of wind and it's gone. And of course, we knew right off the bat that it's Daphne, our Speedster. And he stops time and what you see in this great scene is all of the places that she ran, there's like a soundwave trail, and so he follows the trail back where she is.

D: But he plays with it, it makes like a harp noise.

G: Yeah, he plays with it

D: It's so cool!

G: Really cool effect.

D: I think she's going to be my favorite new character.

G: She may be. She's—it's a great character. They have a quick scene together where they talk about why she wants the thing and she's just being really coy with him and eventually, like, flicks him or something like that.

D: She just knocks him off his feet.

G: Hiro goes flying back and she speeds off.

D: But everything resumes when that happens because all the papers fly up in the air, all the coffee goes spilling, so. Because she's still standing still, faking him out while he's looking at her and then she finally resumes and is like, "Okay, what are you doing?"

G: Yeah, the fact that we know that Hiro is really only slowing time, really, to a very, very slow pace and it doesn't really affect her because she moves so fast.

D: We show up at the Bennet house. Claire is watching what happened with Nathan and she's called Peter and says she needs to be there. Of course, they're in Odessa.

G: For her blood.

D: Yeah, of course, she's in California, they're in Odessa, but she's really wanting to be by his bedside and as she hangs up with Peter, Sylar appears.

G: At the Bennet house. We were like, “How did he get there?” but that didn’t matter. We didn’t care. There’s a great—two or three scenes—before anything really happens. It’s kind of a game of cat and mouse of Sylar and Claire in her own house.

D: Right

G: And it’s really cool.

D: And it’s so cool because okay, the minute he got up out of the alleyway—

G: He went straight to California from new York.

D: He’s going to California!

G: What ends up happening, I guess I’ll let you go on.

D: It really is a cool scene, because you see him in the mirrors, you see him moving around, but she never sees him. She’s got a knife—it was like a slasher movie almost. She locks herself in a closet, trying to get away from him. What ends up happening is that he does throw her against the wall and slices her head open and when we resume, he’s messing around with her brain.

G: They’re having a conversation while, like, his hands are in her brain. She’s still able to talk, somehow. And she’s not dead, because this doesn’t kill her.

D: As he finds what’s different about her, what makes her the way she is, and as he begins to leave, he picks her scalp up off the floor with her hair attached to it, and throws it back at her and places it in place and leaves. She says “Are you not going to kill me?”

G: Well, the surprising thing is that she died, we thought she was dead when he put her scalp back on, she came *back* to life. Even after he has gotten her ability.

D: Yeah, and she says “Are you not going to kill me?” and he says “Even if I wanted to, I can’t. You can’t die and apparently, now, neither can I.”

G: And that’s when that scene ended. That was an incredible sequence. That was one of the scariest, I think, as far as the potential impact to the rest of the show, the fact that Sylar now has that ability. Because that was the whole reason for Season One ending the way it did.

D: Well what’s really interesting is what Hiro’s dad is talking about is one hero among all others that is different, that is special, that can be the tipping point.

G: And that might tie in with Claire, you think?

D: And the way Sylar described as he left, he said “You’re different than anybody else.”

G: Mmhmm.

D: He says “I’ve seen you, I’ve seen others. Everything about you is different. There’s something special about you, Claire.

G: So, that’s a big moment in the premiere episode. The next thing we see is a couple of scenes with Mohinder. And he discovers, with Maya’s help, that all of the specials’ abilities are tied to adrenaline in some way and he uses Maya’s blood to create a compound that when injected into normal people, will grant them special abilities. Which, when this came about in the episode, we heard a lot of groans around us in the crowd, just the fact that—are you really going to create something that can give anybody abilities? As a theory, we’re going to put a caveat on this. We don’t think that the injection, once they’re injected, we don’t think they’re permanent.

D: No, NBC will have some kind of anti-drug because, I mean, Mohinder’s going to keep wanting it, he’s going to keep wanting...

G: Well, before you explain it, the rest of the scenes goes on and Mohinder and Maya are at odds whether or not he should keep making it. Maya wants the vial to be destroyed and Mohinder doesn’t. He’s a normal guy and he’s had to sit here and watch all of this stuff happen and work with all these specials when he himself doesn’t have abilities. He wants abilities, so he eventually injects himself with his own vial, just to see if he’s going to get abilities.

D: I think it’s definitely going to a thing where Mohinder’s going to keep wanting this power and if it ever does go away, he’s going to keep—

G: And that’s greed.

D: —injecting himself over and over again. Yes.

G: And so that’s another way of, that’s another path to becoming a villain, is greed. He’s going to keep wanting powers if they’re temporary. That’s the caveat we’re putting on it, we think that this injection is only going to grant Mohinder powers for a temporary amount of time and we’ll talk about what his power is in just a second.

D: Futurelli, I’m going to start doing that [laughs] Futurelli teleports Matt into the middle of a desert once Matt figures out that he was the one that shot Nathan. At first, he thinks it’s actually Peter and he’s trying to figure out—

G: Because their fingerprints are the same.

D: Right, because after he stashes the gun in a back warehouse and then transforms himself to look like present day Peter.

G: Yeah, that's the thing in this episode. You're never really sure when you see Peter whether or not it's present Peter or future Peter.

D: Right.

G: But after a point, you're like, "Okay, it's always future Peter, but he's looking like present Peter fool you."

D: And it was very cool to see him do it because it was Milo and then it was Milo. The scar was there, the hair was slicked back and then it was gone. After Matt figures this out, though, Futurelli—I kind of like this—Matt to this desert.

G: And we don't know what time he's transported him to. We just know it's a desert. What if he transported him back to when there were dinosaurs or before there were people? You know, he could be in any time period. It's insane. So, Matt is stranded in the desert due to the events of this episode. And the next crazy scene in this episode—one scene out of many—is Hiro teleports to the future to find out why his family's secret is so important and why Daphne wants it so bad. What he sees is not very pretty. Tokyo is in disarray and he sees an argument between his future self and future Ando. And, after the argument kind of gets heated, Ando turns to future Hiro and blasts a bolt of red energy into him and it sends future Hiro flying. So, Ando has a power in the future, in this future.

D: And I would venture a guess to say Hiro is dead when that happens.

G: Maybe.

D: Yeah, Ando looks totally BA. Jesse had a name for what it was when we met with him the other night and I don't know what he called it—

G: It's a a shame we don't remember that.

D: Yeah, it's a very good name. I jumped out of my seat when that happened.

G: Derek was sitting next to me and he jumped when this happened.

D: I've been rooting for Ando to have a power for a while now! [laughs]

G: After that happens, Hiro, who is just observing these events, turns a corner and sees a huge hole open up in the middle of downtown Tokyo and things start to cave into it.

D: Yeah, the sky is twirling like a tornado and everything is just kind of sucking into it.

G: It's like the earth is just falling in on itself and Hiro stops time, looks at it for a second and that's when that scene ends, so that is a huge apocalyptic vision.

D: Right before a car hits him, which was very cool. Ah, Mohinder has gone down to the docks to throw away the vial because all really great *Heroes* scenes happen at the docks, I guess. He's thinking about his conversation with Maya, but instead, he just injects himself.

G: Which we mention that he did that already.

D: He faints right when it happens and he wakes up to three guys trying to rob him. They're getting his watch, they're wanting his wallet and everything and they've got a gun. And he just bends the gun barrel backwards and then just—they start running and he gets up like he's going to run after them. He does that whole he springs from his back right onto his feet. He didn't pick himself up, he just jumps up. So, obviously he's got amazing strength now. And he starts to kind of run after the guys, but he lets them go and we see—the camera pans around and we see that mural that Graham and I talked about on the last 10<sup>th</sup> Wonder episode of the Earth dividing in half by what looks like the RNA symbol painted on the side of a wall, which, Matt also sees in the desert, crudely painted on a rock.

G: So, that symbol, which we knew was going to be a recurring symbol this season—the first episode we've already seen it twice in two different places and times. Near the end of the episode we see a scene with Angela, Nathan and future Peter. Nathan is in the hospital bed because he kind of expended himself when he had that episode in the church. Angela knows that she's talking with future Peter and not present Peter. They have an argument and eventually, she comes out with it! She says what her power is.

D: He says "How do you know?" and she makes the comment "Where do you think you got your first ability from? I saw you in my dreams."

G: So, the dreams ability that Peter had near the beginning of Season One, that's it! That's Angela's power [Transcriber in a sing song voice: Called it!] People called that.

D: I think there's more to it than that. I think that was just our first taste of it, but I definitely think she's a lot more powerful than she's letting on.

G: As the scene goes on, future Peter says that he's put Peter, regular Peter, in a safe place. And then the camera pans to Level 5, which is apparently, this prison. I don't know if it's exactly the Company's prison, I think it is, somehow related to the Company.

D: I don't think it's the one underneath Primotech, though.

G: I don't think so.

D: I think this is somewhere else. But, we do see this kind of bald guy, that we've never seen before, banging on the glass going, "You don't understand, I'm Peter Petrelli!"

G: And then they pan to another window and it's someone else going "I'm Peter Petrelli!" It's several people that say they're Peter Petrelli, so we really... If I had to guess what he did—

D: I think some other guys were just acting crazy, I think that bald guy is supposed to be Peter.

G: Maybe. It was really confusing at first, but I think that they wanted it to be.

D: There was a guy who had Ando's ability, only blue, and he was firing it off at the glass—that was cool to see and then you pan down past a couple of other cells and we see people are asleep and we see Noah!

G: He's inside the cell.

D: He's playing with a ball, knocking up against the glass and everything kind of fades out and you hear one voice in the distance saying "I'm Peter Petrelli" and Noah hears it.

G: So that's an incredible and the episode ends in a certain way. We haven't gone in order, guys, We're kind of just jumping around and talking about what happened. So, we still hope that even if you did listen to our recap here, that this episode is still going to be very exciting.

D: Oh, a lot more happens than what we said. I think the ending is one of the coolest endings of the series, ever.

G: So, we'll leave that for September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

D: Oh yeah.

G: So, thanks a lot guys, that was our incredible Spoilers section with the most spoilers ever. We'll never top this again, so I hope you enjoyed it. Thanks again, guys, thanks for listening to us. We'll see you next time. I'm Graham.

D: And I'm Derek.

G: See ya!

D: Bye!