

Sourcecast Episode 9: Attack of the Procrastins

Transcribed by Skulblaka_Shur'tugal

[opening music]

Aniu: Hey there, loyal fans. Welcome to Sourcecast Episode 9. I'm Aniu.

Swords: I'm Swords of the Wolves.

Skul: And I am Skul.

Aniu: And unfortunately, tonight we are not joined by Rusty. We have been having some scheduling issues, which is also why there haven't been a lot of episodes coming out.

Skul: *Some* scheduling issues? That's an understatement.

Aniu: Yeah, but we still have a lot of goodies for you tonight on this episode. And we're hoping to have some more goodies for you lately.

Skul: We've got plenty scheduled, we've got, what, six months' worth of stuff to catch up on?

Aniu: [chuckles] Yeah. [laughs]

Skul: Several, to be sure.

Aniu: Yeah, a good deal. But...

Skul: So, just expect a huge show. I bet you're all getting tired of me just interviewing people, so let's get back to our regular episode.

Aniu: All right. So, first on our agenda, under our site and forum news, we have the opening of...four Sources? Yes.

Skul: One, two, three, four...Four Sources. That's one with two extra squiggles on it, I guess.

Aniu: Oh. Well then. So yes, we have—Brother Bear Source is the first of the new ones. Then Oliver & Company Source, Anastasia Source, and the newest of the new, which just came out earlier this week, Bambi Source.

Skul: Yay. All these are terrific Sources. I love the Sources and I love the movies from which they are based. I knew that—I think I knew that all of them were in the works, and I think that Anastasia Source has been active on the French side for quite some time now. Now that they're all open, yay, four new Sources to Animation Source.

Aniu: That sounded a little sarcastic. [laughs]

Skul: Oh, I'm sorry. I guess I didn't give it enough 'umph', did I? [shouting] Awesome! Oh my gosh, a bunch of brand new Sources! I'm so excited, I can't wait! [pause] Okay, I'm done.

Aniu: I think we all feel that way...slash sarcasm. Anyway [chuckles] so I've been carousing the different shout boxes, and some of the content, and they seem all right. I'm not *too* thrilled about Bambi Source, but that's mostly because I don't see—like, with Brother Bear, Anastasia, and probably Oliver & Company, I don't see it having a very large fan base on the Internet. So—

Skul: Well, we'll just have to see, I guess. I think Brother Bear Source opened up right after we had recorded the last episode, so it's actually been around for a while. And the staff try to keep it active, and they've been doing a pretty good job so far—whereas the other Sources are, for the most part, not so much.

Aniu: Well, isn't that a shame. [chuckles]

Skul: So, the staff members of the sites—I'm not going to go into specifics, but, I guess the site admins will help out a little bit. The site admin for Brother Bear Sources is Mohammad891, the site admin for Oliver & Company Source is Rebelness, and—

Aniu: Aw, Rebel.

Skul: The admin for Anastasia Source is Question, and the admin for Bambi Source is going to be me.

Aniu: Okay.

Skul: Yay, Sourcecaster as admin. All hail!

Aniu: All hail? Are we turning into, like, some crazy dictatorship? Oh, wait, that's a stupid question.

[laughter]

Skul: I was thinking, when I said "All hail" that we would all be turning into little pellets of frozen rain. But okay.

Aniu: Oh. Well, that sounds painful.

Skul: Yeah, you don't wanna know.

Aniu: Anyway.

[music transition]

Aniu: And now we're going to go ahead and get into some of our reviews. And I believe Swords saw both Rango and...Tangled?

Swords: Yes, I did.

Aniu: Awesome.

Swords: I saw Rango in theaters, and let me say from the very beginning, that this is not a movie that you'll want to take your younger siblings to.

[laughter]

Swords: Not—okay, not in the fact that it's inappropriate, but it's like—There are a lot of obscure references to old-school Westerns that you will not understand unless you've studied Westerns, or if you grew up during the time when Westerns were all over the place. Because, I happen to actually be taking a class in the Western Film genre, and I recognized there were references to *Stagecoach*, *The Searchers*, and *High Noon*—movies like that, and these old-school Westerns that it's paying tribute to. But kids aren't going to get that; a lot of kids really aren't going to find this movie terribly interesting. I mean, it's one of those—it's one of those movies. It's a good movie though. I gotta admit, it came out of *nowhere* with this Blind Wing Studios that created it. There isn't even a Wikipedia page for it.

Aniu: Wow.

Swords: They go from some no-name company to the company that makes this great film in like—almost instantly. It's crazy. And it was distributed by Nickelodeon Films, and—it's good, it's really good.

Aniu: Sounds like I definitely will have to drop some cash and go see that.

Swords: Yeah, it's totally worth it, but you're going to have to brush up—okay, I recommend you watch—go on Netflix and watch *Stagecoach*, the 1930's version.

Aniu: Okay.

Swords: And *High Noon*.

Aniu: Okay.

Swords: And you'll get some of the references.

Aniu: Okay.

Swords: And you'll get some of the references. I don't know if you'll get all of them—oh, and watch *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* too.

Aniu: I've seen portions of that one. My dad is a big Western movie buff, so he likes to turn them on whenever they're on AMC.

Swords: If you can, have your dad watch it with you, so he can explain all the references afterwards.

Aniu: Okay.

Swords: Because he'll definitely get those.

Aniu: Got it. He *loves* those movies. [chuckles] He loved them when he was one year old, so...

Swords: Yeah, Westerns were very popular from like, you know, the '20s up through the '70s. And after the '70s for some reason, they just disappeared, for the most part. But yeah, Rango is a big tribute to all those old Westerns, and I mean you won't get any—It's a good movie though. It's a decent Western, it has a lot of Western stuff, although it's been replaced with—it's been replaced slightly different like...let's see. They've got the outlaws, but they're all represented by different species of animals. And it's pretty interesting how they go about that.

Aniu: That *does* sound fun.

Swords: Yeah, it's pretty cool. And yeah, it's worth watching, but I recommend you watch it with your parents or someone who knows about Western films, so you can understand more of it. But Johnny Depp did a really good job in his role, and I swear to God, if I did not know Johnny Depp was in this movie, I wouldn't have recognized it.

Aniu: That's interesting.

Swords: Yeah, it's quite good.

Aniu: Okay, I'm definitely going to have to go and see that. I wanted to, anyway, and my boyfriend even wanted to, so that was automatically a good sign, because when does he actually agree on a movie with me?

[laughter]

Swords: Yeah, definitely go and see Rango if you can.

Aniu: Okay.

Swords: And then I saw Tangled, I saw that actually on Blu-ray at a friend's house. And it's good. I mean, it's a lot—It really does make me feel that Disney's going a little bit back to their roots, you know with the Princess movies and stuff. Although I've got to say, this one's a little more humorous than—it's humorous in a different way than the old-school Disney movies were, because—well you know, times have changed, people's sense of humor has changed, but it still has the old charm that the old Disney movies have, like how Snow White and Cinderella and the like...So it's worth the watch. The animation is great, the story is good, it's kinda predictable, but it's still good. It's just also funny, too. A lot of the Princess movies—well, I didn't see a lot of them, being a guy, but sometimes the Princess movies kind of get dull, but not always. But this one definitely keeps you interested the whole time.

Aniu: Seventy feet of hair. [chuckles]

Swords: Seventy feet of glowing hair. It's crazy.

Aniu: And a frying pan.

Swords: It's interesting how—yeah. [laughs] And a frying pan, used as a weapon. And a horse that is totally insane. But I do like how they played up on the story of Rapunzel in this, because it's more—Rapunzel is more than just a girl who never cut her hair. She—her hair was never cut for a reason. I don't know, should I tell them why?

Aniu: Um...you might want to leave that, I think. That's probably a good incentive for them to go and watch: Find out why Rapunzel never cut her hair.

Swords: And, also why she's stuck in the tower.

Aniu: Yees.

Swords: It gets pretty bizarre in parts, but it's bizarre in a good way, because it's really funny to watch. It's like random bizarre. I'd love to explain why, but it's one of those scenes where it's like, I don't want to spoil it. But it's funny. You know the scene at the bar, remember that one?

Aniu: Oh, those scenes are always funny.

Swords: Yeah, that one. That one's funny. And all the scenes with the horse are funny too, because the horse is just totally crazy. Tangled is well worth the watch, at least rent it. I suggest you see it, because it's well worth it.

Aniu: I certainly will. Do you know if it's on Netflix yet? Instant play and all.

Swords: Yeah, it's on Netflix.

Aniu: Is it DVD only?

Swords: Mhm.

Aniu: Ugh. Okay.

Swords: Actually, looking at this, there's another movie called Tangled, but it's a mystery—it's like a rated R mystery movie that was made in 2002. Wow, there were a *bunch* of movies called Tangled. And there was also a 1997 drama.

Aniu: The more you know. [laughs]

Swords: And...oh wow. It's also a really old 1930s horror movie. Crazy. Okay, the more you know. That was random, I'm sorry.

Aniu: No, don't worry about it.

Swords: Let's see. Oh, and I thought I might mention, I have rented Robin Hood on DVD from Netflix, but I have yet to watch it.

Aniu: He's cute.

Swords: I'm hoping so. I have heard good stuff about it.

Aniu: Yees.

[music transition]

Swords: All right, and now we're going to be talking about the Academy Awards, which happened last month.

Aniu: Yeah, we're sorry again.

Swords: Yeah, sorry we're a bit late on that. You've probably all heard that Toy Story 3 got a lot of nominations in the Academy Awards. Let's see...it lost Best Picture to The King's Speech, but it did win Best Animated Picture, and it also won Best Song, which was "We Belong Together", played by Randy Newman.

Aniu: Aw, that was a good song.

Swords: But yeah. Best Animated Feature Toy Story 3 won, it beat out The Illusionist and How to Train Your Dragon. Well, honestly I'm not sure. The—I don't know. Toy Story 3 was a great movie, but you know, I don't know how easy they decide these things.

Aniu: I couldn't.

Swords: Sometimes—The Academy Awards are...I don't know. If you think about it, there's always a certain kind of movie that end up winning an Academy Award. I personally thought Black Swan was going to win [Best Picture], because it was that kind of movie.

Aniu: Yeah.

Swords: I guess [Toy Story 3] deserved it, although it must have been a very close call between that and How to Train Your Dragon.

Aniu: Yeah, definitely. I can't really find fault in either Toy Story 3 or How to Train Your Dragon. They both were so good. I can't disagree with Toy Story 3 winning at all, but at the same time I kind of wish it had been How to Train Your Dragon.

Swords: Yeah, same here.

Aniu: I understand.

Swords: They're both equally good movies, but...I don't know, I don't think I could have ever chose between the two.

Aniu: Yeah.

Swords: They may have just ended up rolling the dice—rolling a die, or something like that.

Aniu: [chuckles] Yeah, it's like anything above 10...Toy Story. Anything below 10, How to Train Your Dragon.

Swords: Yeah, or even number's Toy Story, odd number's How to Train Your Dragon.

Aniu: Yup.

Swords: For Best Animated Short Film, honestly I don't know any of these. But if you know any of these, Best Animated Short Film, the winner of that one was The Lost Thing, which was made by Andrew Ruhemann and Shao Tan.

Aniu: I haven't heard of that one.

Swords: I don't know, it's some kind of picture book released in 2000.

Aniu: Huh.

Swords: And adapted into a 15-minute animated short film. I don't know. Although, it looks like Toy Story 3 is also an adapted screenplay. It was nominated for Best Writing – Adapted Screenplay.

Aniu: Oh?

Swords: I guess they considered that an adaptation based on Toy Story and Toy Story 2.

Aniu: I guess so.

Swords: That's what it says. "Toy Story 3, based on characters from Toy Story and Toy Story 2". I don't know how they choose these things. "We Belong Together"—that was a good song. I remember "I See the Light" was a good song too. But...I don't know, I haven't heard the other ones.

Aniu: I haven't really either.

Swords: Oh well.

Aniu: Oh well.

Swords: Yeah, that's about all I have to say. There wasn't a whole lot we could say about the animated industry and the Oscars, because they're not usually represented too highly.

Aniu: Oh well.

Swords: But still, it's—an animated film was nominated for Best Picture, so that's a good sign that they're getting on the right track.

Aniu: Uh-huh.

Swords: Because the first time an animated picture was nominated for Best Picture was 1990 with Beauty and the Beast. And last year with Up, and now with Toy Story 3.

Aniu: We're getting closer.

Swords: Was it last year with Up?

Aniu: Yeah, we're getting closer.

[music transition]

Aniu: All righty. And so let's start talking about some of our Animation Source projects. I believe Skul wanted to mention something about a TaleSpin Project?

Skul: Yeah. Actually this has been heavily promoted on TaleSpin Source. It's the TaleSpin Virtual Season. It's been—

Aniu: Oh, okay.

Skul: Yeah, it's a project on TaleSpin Source that's been active pretty much since the site began. It's actually headed by Steet himself, who is of course the creator and head webmaster on Animation Source. TaleSpin Virtual Season is basically a—I don't know, a spin-off of the TaleSpin television series. It's supposed to be a continuation. So far, it hasn't really gotten that far, but... Basically, a whole lot of people are involved in it. Let's see... A list that Steet has created. Aku, ArChip, Mad Dog, Philogomy, JerRocks2Day, and Steet are the ones who are heading the project. They've got a whole lot of stuff so far. They've got conception art, they've even got a little bit of animation, voices, background music—they've got everything—

[Aniu sneezes]

Skul: Gazuntight.

Aniu: Sorry.

Skul: [chuckles] And they got everything TaleSpin-related. It looks terrific. They're looking for a whole lot more help—people to draw, specifically. They're just looking for any kind of help they can get. So if you want to help with that, you can contact any of those people I just mentioned. The easiest way would be to just post a message on the TaleSpin shout box saying "I want to join the TaleSpin Virtual Season project, how can I do it?" And more than likely, somebody's going to see that and respond, tell you how you can get involved. I don't know if I'll get involved, but I'll definitely be on top of everything news-wise. So, it looks like a great project; I can't wait to see how it's going to turn out.

[music transition]

Aniu: And moving right along, there are quite a few things coming up this year, but we've chosen to talk about one thing way in the future, and a couple more things that are at least a little closer. And I'm sure that you've heard at least most of them.

Skul: By "them", we mean movies.

Aniu: Yes, movies, and...yeah. So, first on the agenda is something that is not coming to the screen until the summer of 2012. It is the animated series TRON: Uprising. And it should be airing on Disney XD. If anybody has actually gotten a glance at the TRON movie, which is not animated but for the sake of chronicle-izing I have to mention it. But there was a preview for the series, on the TRON: Legacy DVD. TRON: Uprising will feature a fairly new cast of characters, and it's supposed to be set between the original

TRON film and TRON: Legacy. Though, with the synopsis I'm looking at here, it's almost a little weird. Elijah Wood is set to play Beck, the main protagonist. He's supposed to be a program that will eventually take TRON's place, and thereby be the new TRON.

Skul: Wow, that sounds like fun.

Aniu: Yeah, and again, this is supposed to be between TRON and TRON: Legacy. Again, kind of strange. And apparently they start talking about Clu, who was in both the first and the second movie, and Clu 2, which—I guess they're referring to Clu 2 as the newest Clu in the second movie, which again is weird because they didn't do that in the second movie.

Skul: So we've got Clu and Clu 2. Whatever happened to Blue's Clues?

[chuckling]

Aniu: Anyway.

Skul: Sorry, couldn't resist.

Aniu: So yeah. And then we've got—Kevin Flynn will be making an appearance, like he does in the movie, and then Tron of course will be in the animated series. So far the cast consists of Elijah Wood as Beck, Emmanuelle...I have no idea how to pronounce his name, as Page. Mandy Moore as Mara, Paul Reubens as Pavel, Nate Corddry as Zed, Lance Henriksen as Tesler, Reginald VelJohnson as Able, Bruce...oh, you can say that one, Swords. I don't know how to say his last name.

Skul: Bruce Boxlei...

Swords: Oh, Bruce Boxleitner.

Aniu: Oh, right! Him as Tron, who also played Tron in the original movie and the voice of Tron in the newest movie. And Fred Tata...Fred, as Clu 2.

[laughter]

Aniu: But yeah, that's pretty much all that I have as far as TRON: Uprising goes. It looks interesting, but I'm not quite sure about it yet. So, we'll see. [chuckles] And then, there are two new Pokémon movies coming out. Would you like to tell us about those, Skul?

Skul: Yeah, it's actually two versions of the same movie. You know how there are two Pokémon versions, the most recent ones are Black and White, before they were Diamond and Pearl, Ruby and Sapphire, stuff like that. Well, this is going to be two different versions of the same film. The first one is called Victini and the White Hero: Reshiram, and the second is called Victini and the Black Hero: Zekrom. I don't know how they're going to be released in America, but in Japan what's going to happen is the northern half of Japan is going to get the White Hero: Reshiram film, and the southern half is going to get the Black Hero: Zekrom film. Because they represent the Yin and Yang, and white is on the top of the YinYang and black is on the bottom, so that's what that's all about. The

movie follows Ash Ketchum, who is arguably the most famous Pokémon Trainer ever. And his new friends Iris and Cilan—

Aniu: And yet people still don't know him in the series.

[laughter]

Aniu: Gotta love that continuity. Sorry.

Swords: It's like, he's like James Bond: everyone knows who he is, and yet nobody knows who he is.

Skul: Ash Ketchum as James Bond.

Aniu: That's a very scary thought. Anyway, continue on.

Skul: So, yeah. So—and he's still ten years old, too. What's with that? He's still ten after fourteen years! Anyway—

Aniu: Not even going to talk about that.

Skul: Anyway, the Victini movies follow Ash Ketchum, along with Pikachu, arguably the most-known Pokémon ever, while we're on that subject—and his new friends Iris and Cilan, as they arrive in Eindoak, a village in Unova, that is the ancestral home of the People of the Earth. Long ago, Eindoak was the seat of power of the People of the Earth. It has since fallen into decline, but the castle called the Earth's Sword remains. During a battle tournament being held for the village's harvest festival, Ash befriends Victini, a rare Pokémon that inhabits Eindoak. Though cowardly, Victini is able to share its strange power with those it likes. Not everything is peaceful, however. Dread Grangil, a descendant of the People of the Earth, intends to resurrect the glory of his people's fallen kingdom. To do so, he plans to use Victini to reactivate the Earth's Sword. And from there on, the movies—that's where the movies begin to differ. In the White Hero movie, Dread Grangil tries to awaken Reshiram, who is a Dragon Pokémon that's been sleeping for hundreds of years. He tries to wake up Reshiram to activate the Earth's Sword, and uses Reshiram as a slave, whereas in the Black Hero film it's the same situation, only with Zekrom—who hasn't been sleeping for a hundred years, but has simply been missing for a hundred years. The movies differ between Pokémon, too. In the White Hero, Dread Grangil owns a Gothitelle, which is an interesting Pokémon, and in the Black Hero he owns a Reuniclus. I won't go into these new Pokémon's details, but let's just say—the movies differ than just starring two different Pokémon. There are a ton of different changes; Dread Grangil even has different outfits in each version. If you want to see a preview of the movie, just go to pokemon-movie.jp, and it will automatically start playing so you don't need to know any Japanese. Yeah, it looks like a terrific film. I've been following the Black and White Series, which is the new Pokémon series, for a while, and I'm really looking forward to seeing these films. Again, I don't know how they'll premiere in America. I heard they're going to try to premiere both movies at the same time, the exact same time slot, just on different channels, so people are forced to watch one or the other. But I don't know how that's going to work, but I'm looking

forward to seeing both of them. I'm hoping I'll be able to see them in the original Japanese before they get to America; just have to see.

Aniu: I really don't see the point in making two versions of the same movie.

Skul: It's probably to make it a change of pace, but more than likely, it's just a marketing scheme.

Aniu: It probably is a marketing scheme. I'm almost thinking it's trying to justify the two different versions of the same thing rather than money-making. But whatever.

Skul: Well, sixty percent of the films are the exact same, but people are going to have to pay a hundred percent, twice, to see a hundred-and-forty-percent changes.

Aniu: Yep.

Skul: But like I said, I'm a huge fan of Pokémon, so I don't care having to see the same movie twice. I love it.

Aniu: Yeah. I'll let you watch it first, then I'll decide if I want to see it.

Skul: All righty.

Aniu: Sounds good. Anyway.

Skul: So that is the two Victini movies: Victini and the Black Hero: Zekrom, and Victini and the White Hero: Reshiram.

Aniu: All righty. So, moving right along into stuff that you guys are more familiar with, Rio is coming out in three days on April 15. In case you've been living under a rock, Rio is a movie about two really rare birds. They almost look like Hyson Macaws, but I know they're not supposed to be.

Swords: They're supposed to be something a lot rarer than that.

Aniu: Yeah, it was something way rarer, like they're the only two left in the world. And they need something to do, so they fly around, do stuff for a little while in the wild. It looks really charming, I mean other than having a similar plot to the beginning of a lot of movies, it looked charming. I will admit it, I really want to go and see it.

Skul: Definitely.

Aniu: It had some good jokes in the preview that I saw, and—you know what, you guys should quit being judgmental. Go watch previews. You'll see. You'll see what I mean. Mark my words.

Swords: Okay.

Skul: You will see!

Aniu: You will see.

Skul: Trust Aniu, even if she's not on Code Red right now.

Aniu: Do what I say.

Skul: Or suffer the wrath of My Little Pony—what?

Aniu: That's right.

Swords: Oh, by the way, has anyone seen Hop yet?

Aniu: Not yet.

Skul: Hop, Hop, Hop...I want to! Sort of. After seeing the reviews on Rotten Tomatoes, I'm beginning to wonder.

Aniu: I don't know.

Swords: Well, the critics hate it, but people who generally see it usually liked it, unless they are really, really, really party-poopers.

Skul: So, kind of similar to the Chronicles of Narnia, I guess?

Swords: Yeah, I guess.

Skul: According to Rotten Tomatoes, literally it got a fifty-percent rating, but according to the fans, it was a ninety-two percent I think.

Swords: With Hop, it's got a twenty-three percent on Rotten Tomatoes, but it says fifty-eight percent of the people liked it.

Skul: Have you seen it?

Swords: No. I thought about it. I was just like, no, man.

Skul: Yeah, I...uh, I think I'll see it sometime. Maybe I'll rent it.

Aniu: Okay.

Skul: I'd rather spend a dollar at Redbox than eight bucks at the theater, just to be on the safe side.

Swords: Yeah.

Skul: Maybe I'll see it. Rio's actually in theaters right now, isn't it?

Aniu: No, it's in theaters in three days.

Swords: Yeah, on Friday.

Aniu: Anyway, so yes. Moving on from Hop [chuckles] Hoodwinked 2: Hood Versus Evil. April 29.

Swords: Did not even know they were even making a Hoodwinked 2.

Aniu: I don't really have any comments on this. I didn't see the first one, didn't want to, don't really want to see this one.

Swords: The first one looks—

Aniu: The first one looks like they were doing things that they shouldn't have been doing.

[laughter]

Swords: They were under the influence of illegal substances.

Aniu: Yeah. I mean, I'm sorry if we have offended anybody who is a super-big fan of Hoodwinked, but...I could not take that seriously.

Swords: The trailer—

Aniu: I couldn't if I tried.

Skul: I saw the first one, I enjoyed it, saw a trailer for the second one—I don't think I'd like it at all. Mainly because two of the biggest stars of the original film—Anne Hathaway and Jim Belushi—aren't reprising their roles. They're being replaced by Hayden Panettiere, and Patrick Warburton.

Aniu: Oh, Hayden Panettiere.

Skul: She played the alpha in Alpha and Omega.

Aniu: Yeah, I know who she is.

Skul: That's about all I know. The second film—I don't think I like it, to be honest.

Aniu: Like I said, I'm sorry if I offended anybody by saying that I just did not like the first one, or did not think I was going to like it. I did not like the preview I saw of it, so I did not go see it. But that's just the way it is. It did not look interesting. This one—if I didn't think I would like the first one, I probably won't go see this one either. So have fun if you go and see it, but...yeah.

Swords: The first one never—The first one looks like—I don't even know.

[laughter]

Aniu: Swords, you should probably stop. Anyways, so, so, so-so, sososo...Kung Fu Panda 2 comes out May 27, and I personally have to say, I'm excited! Because I really loved the first one. I don't really know why, but I did. It was amazing. Jack Black was in it. Stfu, everyone!

Swords: And plus, I liked how they went all philosophical at the very end, with the scroll.

Aniu: Yees.

Swords: By the way, spoiler alert, if anyone hasn't seen the first one already. Skip ahead like a minute or two. With the whole, he looks at the scroll, and it's just reflective material on it, he sees himself. Like, man, that's pretty deep.

Aniu: It was, it really was.

Swords: I didn't expect them to go there, but it did and they did it really well.

Aniu: DreamWorks for the win. That's all I'm going to say.

Swords: Yeah. [chuckles]

Aniu: Crazy turtle. Anyhow.

Skul: Yay, Kung Fu Panda 2!

Aniu: Also, okay this is kind of backwards, but I guess we're going to go to some of the stuff that's going on right now, which...we talked about Hop already. So yeah, Hop is in theaters. Woo-hoo. My thing is coming up...So, if you don't like My Little Pony, or if you don't like—You know what, if you're going to hate, you should—

Skul: Then get over it!

Aniu: You should skip ahead about five minutes, because I'm going to talk about My Little Pony.

Skul: I was going to say, if you hate, get over it! My Little Pony rocks.

Aniu: Yes. So, and just to clarify, I...yes, this is not exactly the same as the My Little Pony from the '80s, so don't freak out. Everybody knows—or I'm sure most people know—that Hasbro has a toy line out called My Little Pony, they are these little multi-colored ponies that have a brush. Anyway, I'm a gigantic five-year-old. Stfu. So, Hasbro, back in the day, made a show about the toy line My Little Pony, and it started out with a movie and another series, and then another series after that, and then the really bad G3 series that nobody talks about. And then just recently, they renewed the toy line again, and they started a new animated series because of it, to promote it. What they didn't expect—I don't know if they expected it or not—they hired Lauren Faust to do this series, who is the wife of Craig McCracken. If you don't have any idea what I'm talking about with those two names, let me go ahead and say that Craig McCracken is a pretty notable name in the animation world. He is an animator; he's the creator of, most recently, the Powerpuff Girls, and Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends. And also Chowder. Not a huge fan of Chowder, but I love Foster's and I love Powerpuff Girls. He also was the director of Dexter's Laboratory, the cartoon portions of Dumb and Dumber, the What a Cartoon thing from back in the early '90s, and the art director of Two Stupid Dogs. So hopefully some of that rung a bell with some of the older animation buffs.

Swords: Dexter's Lab was *my* show.

Aniu: I know, Dexter's Lab was awesome.

Skul: Yeah, *those* were the days.

Aniu: Yeah, well his wife Lauren Faust, is also big in animation and everything, and she worked on a lot of those same projects. Oldest to newest, she was actually the animator for Sawyer for Cats Don't Dance. She was an animator on Quest for Camelot, The Iron Giant, and she was a writer for The Powerpuff Girls movie. And then she also did a lot of the walk cycles for Codename: Kids Next Door, she also did one of the episodes. She was the writer/director, along with some other stuff, along with her husband on The Powerpuff Girls and Foster's. Needless to say, she's done some pretty big stuff that has gotten recognized.

Skul: Sounds like it.

Aniu: Yeah. But on October 10 of last year, Hasbro allowed it to start airing—sorry, allowed the My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic series to start airing on The Hub. It's a TV network that a lot of people don't get. Actually, I didn't start getting it until after spring break, which was kind of weird because I'm not supposed to have it. But go figure.

Skul: We won't tell anyone.

Aniu: Lovely college cable.

[laughter]

Aniu: So some people have it. If you don't have it, don't feel bad, a lot of people don't have it. Needless to say, with somebody as wonderful as Lauren Faust writing it and working on it and everything, it is so much better than the '80s series. Like, if you ever watched the '80s series and didn't like it, and you were kind of bummed, maybe you don't remember it, you should definitely give My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic a try. And I'm totally serious here; I know a lot of people know about My Little Pony, even people at 4chan like it. For a series, they don't just do it to troll, they really do like it. I promise. But yeah, they really do like it, and there is a reason for it. And then I'm kind of going on for a little bit. [chuckles]

Swords: Something that I noticed is that the furry fandom is picking up on it recently, too. I've been seeing a lot of fanart, I've been seeing a lot of fan characters from the show. I'm like, was there suddenly a wave of nostalgia from My Little Pony?

Aniu: Oh, no.

Swords: And then I realized, they came out with a new My Little Pony. And I went, oh *that* must be why. Spontaneous nostalgia, then I was like wait, no it's a *new* show.

Aniu: But yeah, it's—so...

Skul: I've just got to say this, I've been doing some quick research. It's not uncommon for My Little Pony costumes to go for as much as \$170 on eBay. That just tells you.

Aniu: 4chan is all over My Little Pony. Like, it actually got banned for a while; the moderators got tired of seeing Pony posts. It was funny.

[laughter]

Aniu: Mean Base has picked it up; Ponies have become a part of Mean Base. It's all over, and it's getting bigger by the day.

Skul: Sounds like it.

Swords: I didn't know you go to 4chan.

Aniu: I don't, that's the thing. But I know about it, because I know people.

Swords: You just know other people who do?

Aniu: I know other people who do. I know, on one of the biggest fansites, Equestria@aoa, there are people who are on BNCO who go there and everything and...yeah.

Swords: I'm on Fur Affinity a lot, and there's tons of My Little Pony fanart out there, and it just suddenly exploded one day, and now I know why.

Skul: What, they all exploded?

Swords: Just an explosion of ponies. Insane, but yeah. It's like these people really love this stuff, I guess, and I guess there must be something good that everyone thought was good. I thought they were talking about the early show.

Aniu: Yeah, it's pretty girly, but it's, like I said, it's way different from the '80s version. There are a lot of boys who openly like it. A lot of *straight* boys who openly like it.

[laughter]

Skul: Glad you added that after.

Aniu: It's wonderful, I promise. If you doubt me, please, please, please, please, please, please go and watch it, and see for yourself.

Swords: I will see if it's on Hulu or something.

Aniu: I don't know about Hulu. It is—the most important thing I was going to say, because a lot people do not get The Hub, Hasbro is one hundred percent okay with it being on YouTube.

Swords: Oh, sweet.

Aniu: My account did get banned for it, but that was due to a troll actually. Because Hasbro is, like I said, okay with it, Lauren Faust is okay with it, she has said on her DeviantART page, repeatedly, that she is okay with it being on YouTube, and she actually linked it to her journal, to I think—I don't know if it's her account, but I think

it's her account. It's definitely an account she knows about that has all the episodes on it and everything, so that people can watch it. So—

Skul: Well, that's nice of them.

Aniu: Go to YouTube, it's pensivepony, search for that channel, they're all right there. Just start at the bottom and work your way up.

Swords: Okay.

Aniu: The first season is going to be coming to a close here in a couple of weeks, and Hasbro has okayed a second season—like they've already set it up and they're ready to go. So there *is* going to be a second season, and I'm super-excited, because I'm spazzy like that. I'm done.

Skul: Okay.

[laughter]

Swords: My Little Pony. I'll definitely watch one of these episodes, because it's like okay, might as well see what the big fuss is about, so I'll see what it's like.

Skul: You will probably get what you ask for.

Aniu: I'm going to set you up, Skul. You're going to like those ponies, too. I'll make sure of it.

Swords: So long as it doesn't kill you.

Skul: Actually, it *would* kill me. Because on a scale of one to ten, I am allergic to horses. I'm a fifteen with horses.

Aniu: But these are ponies, not horses.

Skul: I know, but...yeah, I know. Anyway.

Aniu: Your argument is invalid. I win. Go watch.

Skul: Okay. Everyone go and watch My Little Pony right now.

Aniu: Or die.

Skul: Or finish watching Sourcecast, your choice.

Aniu: So yeah, now that I'm done. The Animation Source awards...did you want to say anything more about the Academy Awards?

Skul: Me?

Aniu: Yes, you.

Skul: Um...only that I am very satisfied with all the winners. I wish Toy Story 3 had won Best Picture, but The King's Speech is a terrific film, it definitely deserved it.

Aniu: Okay.

Skul: That's about it.

Aniu: And then we can just add that part into where Swords and I talked about the Academy Awards.

Skul: Weiß. [German for white]

Aniu: *Yees*. Okay, so the Animation Source awards...we're a little late on this. Again. Sorry. The nominees were posted and...do you want to read those off, or no?

Skul: Uh...

Aniu: Or do you want to be lazy and not?

Skul: It's not that old, it shouldn't be that far back.

Aniu: Okay, so we're going to read off the nominees, even though you guys can't vote for them anymore, because the votes are already in.

Skul: Actually, Conay told me to edit that news post. You can still vote, yay.

Aniu: Oh, so he extended the time. He extended the time! You can vote! I'm wrong. Do we have a date on when it's supposed to be done?

Skul: Yes! No.

Aniu: Oh, okay.

[laughter]

Swords: Yes, no, maybe so.

Skul: The winners will be announced when enough votes have gone to the judges. That's all Conay told me.

Aniu: Okay, so everybody, please send in the votes.

Skul: Just to stop hearing us talk about this, just send in your vote.

Aniu: [chuckles] Yeah, so I'm the fan image vote, so if you have somebody whose fan images you really like, send them my way.

Skul: And the nominees are...drumroll.

[drumroll]

Skul: Okay, for the General Awards: Din77 for the Newbie Award, an auto-win. Saske-Italian-Wolf for—

Aniu: Well...

Skul: Huh?

Aniu: Oh, never mind. Saske-Italian-Wolf for the Activity Award.

Skul: Nava the Wise for the Interesting Award. The Drifter for the LOL Award. UK Bancat, Rabbit, and death-hound for the Helper Award, and Draco for the Mod award. All of these are auto-wins except for the Helper Award. For the General Awards, the judge is ZukotheCat. So if you have a favorite, send in your vote to Zuko.

Aniu: Yees.

Skul: The Fanart Award nominees: For Balto Source: Angel Dreamer, Skotta, ZukotheCat, Nyx's Nightmare, Alpineshark, Jett, WolfiaWoska97, and Skip. What kind of name is that?

Aniu: I don't know. For Other Source number 1...don't know what that's about. But anyway, KanuTGL, Egg.cm Hazel Kat, Saske Italian Wolf, Yu—not you, but Y-u. Baltofan202—vote for them!—Anileu, and Bamabell.

Swords: Sorry if we're butchering your names, guys.

Skul: For Other Source number 2, Ibanez-Angel, Din77, SpiritStallion4Ever...so I'm guessing this is Spirit Source...Equinus, tweedbug, Beauty Husky, Emi, and Hecate.

Aniu: For the Fanfic Awards, on Balto Source, we have The Drifter, Skul!

[laughter]

Aniu: Aiyu the white wolf, Moki Hunter, and that's it.

Skul: Yeah, and that's kind of...on behalf of everyone, I'd like to say thanks for getting nominated. Now just vote.

Aniu: What he means is—

Skul: Did I say that?

Aniu: [clears throat] Anyway, for Spirit Source: Sierra and spirit#1fan.

Skul: For the other Sources: Ansem and gemmawolf. And a special recognition to JerseyCaptain.

Aniu: Yees. And for the Image Awards—which I am a judge of...what did you do as far as this layout? So, like nobody really specified any Sources, so I'm going to read them all at once. Hecate, Akira, Moki Hunter, Ibanez-Angel, Roi Doberwolf, Tweedbug, Destiny_Wolf(Larua), and Jordan.

Skul: For the Video Awards: Ice Husky and Sakujo. Music Awards have been cancelled, so nothing on that. Because only one person was nominated. Gamebook Awards: Da

Seal, Gentle Wolf, and Gemmawolf. And for the Characters Awards: on Balto Source: Skotta's Blossom and Minifashion. And on Other Sources: Dee, GoddessOfTheWolves, and amazingly Rusty the Fox.

Aniu: Yay, Rusty!

Swords: Yay, Rusty!

Aniu: All right, so vote because we said so.

Swords: Please.

Skul: The judges for each category: for the General Awards, it's Zuko the Cat, for Fanart Awards, it's Emily123, for the Fanfic Awards it's Dragon Tamer, for the Images Awards it's Aniu Caelestis.

Aniu: Wee.

Skul: Videos Awards is Cobaltie, Gamebook Awards is Silwer-Paw, and the Character Awards is Sardonyx.

Aniu: Yes. But once again, go vote.

Skul: Yes, go vote.

[music transition]

Skul: And now Dragon Tamer will give his Plugged-in Review of The Secret of NIMH.

[Plugged-in Music Intro]

(Audio clip from movie.

Mrs. Brisby: Why...did he never tell me about any of you? Why?

Nicodemus: To answer that, I must tell you about NIMH.)

Dragon Tamer: In The Secret of NIMH, a mouse mom named Mrs. Brisby find herself in a race against time and the farmer's plow to save her home and the life of her bedridden son Timmy from certain destruction. As the dangers of a larger-than-life world seem to line up for their turn at taking her down, she is forced to tap the unlikeliest resources and find allies in the strangest of places—none stranger than the farm's rats who somehow knew her late husband Jonathan. This Don Bluth original places a great deal of emphasis on courage, integrity, and family bonds, with an additional unstated moral about not judging appearances. It's magical with a great deal of mysticism and has all the hallmarks Don Bluth's movies were famous for. Unfortunately, one of those hallmarks is a level of violence and peril which may upset some of the younger viewers or their parents. So I'm going to have to knock this fun but dark movie down to only three magic stones out of five for family friendliness. To find out more about classic animated movies, stay tuned to us here on Sourcecast. And for reviews of new releases in theaters, visit pluggedinonline.org. Plugging you into the movies, I'm Dragon Tamer.

Skul: And announcing: Sourcecast Episode 4 now has over 200 downloads!

[cheering]

Skul: That's so awesome.

Aniu: It is. Thank you. We love you. We're glad you love us...even though we're lame and corny.

Skul: [chuckles] Just to let everyone know, who has bad memory, Episode 4 was entitled "Losing a Son, Gaining a Daughter! Wait..."

[laughter]

Aniu: Wait, what? Yeah.

Skul: Yeah, it's really special to me, because that's the episode where I first joined Sourcecast. Episode 4 has 200 downloads. Most of the other episodes have over 100, some over 150, so Sourcecast is right now one of the most popular podcasts hosted by animated fan sites, so we're real excited about that. Swords, what are your opinions about this?

Swords: Well...200 downloads, we've come a long way. From way back when we started, and...I'm glad we're all a part of this. It's fun, you know? I enjoy it, and I enjoy doing this. It's a nice way to get together with people, it's, you know—we're broadcasting to other people. That's cool. I mean, we get to talk about all the stuff we want to talk about, movies and stuff like that. It's fun.

Skul: Yup, and I'm especially glad that Sourcecast has branched on to other things besides just the talk. For example, interviewing different Animation Sourcers. All I can say to that is, tell all your friends about us.

Swords: Yeah, that's a good idea.

Skul: And feed the mailbag.

Swords: Yes, that's always useful.

Skul: [perfect Rusty parody] Feel the mailbag, Blarga Blarg! That's Rusty right now.

Aniu: Feed it.

Skul: Feed.

Aniu: It's hungry. It will eat you otherwise.

[music transition]

Aniu: So, now we're going to do a quick review of "Dakota's Gift" by redwolf03. This was supposed to have been done in the winter months specifically, since it's Christmas-oriented, but we're doing it now. So suck it.

Skul: Deal with it.

Aniu: So, Skul, why don't you start and lead the discussion?

Skul: Okay. So, Dakota's Gift follows... [quietly] Give me a quick second. I completely forgot.

Aniu: You just read it!

Skul: I know, but...I've slept since then.

Aniu: I'll start it then. It follows one of Balto and Jenna's fan children named Dakota. And she evidently is quite an amazing singer, but since basically Aleu left—really, since Aleu was there and ended up interrupting between she and Balto. She hasn't really felt like singing anymore.

Skul: Yeah, she really hates Balto because she feels like Balto was picking favorites.

Swords: Yeah.

Aniu: Yeah, so she ends up basically hiding this wonderful gift from the world, until she is discovered when she accidentally starts singing while Jenna, Saba, Dixie and Sylvie are practicing Christmas carols for the big Christmas celebration.

Skul: Is there a voice range above soprano? Because I think Dixie would fit that part perfectly.

Aniu: I don't know.

Swords: Let me check.

Aniu: I don't think so.

Swords: Wikipedia time.

Aniu: Let's just say, Dixie...meh.

Skul: Dakota is found out by Jenna, who tries to persuade her to not be ashamed of it.

Aniu: Jenna and Saba.

Skul: And Saba, yeah. They try to persuade her to sing in front of Balto; they know Balto would really appreciate it.

Aniu: Yes, but she really—just at first, she can't get over the fact that he picked Aleu over her. Then, like all stories, there's this turning point. She starts to realize that maybe she doesn't need to hide her gift like she thinks she does. Then Saba ends up pulling her up on stage, forcing her to try and sing. She sees it as her chance to prove she's as good as Aleu, and she sings and Balto goes and tells her that he loves her just as much as he loved Aleu, and that he just needed to give Aleu more attention, since she was needy. She's Aleu—we all know what I'm trying to get at there. Anyway, Aleu was needy. Then

right after, at the worst time, after Dakota has reconciled with Balto, Jenna drops the bombshell that she's pregnant again. And at first Dakota's a little wary about it naturally, and then Balto's like, you know, "I love all of my children equally, and just because I have more kids doesn't mean I'm not going to love you." So then everyone's all happy, and Merry Christmas.

Skul: Merry Christmas, in April.

Aniu: In April.

Swords: In April.

Skul: Well, it's Christmastime in the South Hemisphere. To all of our Australian listeners [Australian accent] Merry Christmas, in April.

Aniu: Yes. Well, I think it was pretty good.

Swords: Yeah, I thought it was all right.

Skul: I thought it was short and right to the point.

Aniu: Yeah, I really loved the description. It was good. I don't have a lot to say other than, it was good. Sorry.

Swords: Yeah, let me say something here. It was good, that's all I can really say. The summary described it remarkably well.

Aniu: Yep. Cool.

Skul: That's about all we have to say about Dakota's Gift from redwolf03. Be sure to go and read it—preferably in the winter months.

Aniu: Yeah. Anyway, on to the Mailbag.

Skul: Yay, we're wrapping it up.

Aniu: Yees. What do we has in ze mailbag?

Skul: Well, I am happy to announce, we have something!

Aniu: Oh my God!

Swords: Yay!

Skul: That's a first.

Swords: Yeah.

Aniu: Read it.

Skul: The following is a message from 4watitsworth. "Hi, Sourcecasters, my name is 4watitsworth. I love listening to your episodes. Love you, Skulblaka. Anyway, I was

thinking, for Sourcecast, you guys should talk about Japanese anime. It is animation after all, and there should be at least some talk about anime. Anyway, that's what I wanted to say. See ya! P.S. You need more episodes."

Aniu: Well, we would agree that we need more episodes.

Swords: Yeah, that's true.

Aniu: Anime's kind of a touchy subject on Animation Source. Go figure. [chuckles]

Skul: Of course we are talking about Pokémon and My Little Pony, but...

Aniu: We were talking about expanding to more episodic things, so we will definitely consider your suggestion.

Swords: Yeah, and actually I consider—I've watched a couple of anime recently. And I don't know, we could talk about it. I mean, we could, perhaps.

Aniu: Definitely maybe.

Swords: We will definitely be considering that.

Aniu: Yes.

Skul: And after all, we did a review of Zoroark: Master of Illusions, and My Little Pony in this episode. So I guess we're one step ahead of you as it is. And then there was Batman that we reviewed last episode, when it was just me and Swords. So that's all we have for the Mailbag.

Swords: Please, send us more stuff. We love getting stuff in the Mailbag.

Aniu: Yes.

Skul: Yup. Our old Mailbag question is...part of the lost episode. So I guess we're just going to say it all over again. Or does it matter?

Aniu: Yeah, it doesn't matter. Nobody got the old Mailbag question, so...

Skul: Yeah, the old Mailbag question was, "What should the new Mailbag question be?"

Aniu: Ha. Lawl. But let's see...The new Mailbag question is...what's the new Mailbag question, Swords?

Swords: Let's see...Oh, there's a Mailbag question. The first person who asked a question: Should we be reviewing anime?

Aniu: Yeah, do you think we should be talking about anime?

Swords: There you go.

Skul: And which anime?

Swords: Yeah, and which anime would you like to see us review?

Aniu: Yep.

[Swords talks gibberish]

Aniu: Yeah. Anyway.

Swords: Anime? Let us know. We're entirely open to the possibility, but we want to know what you would think, so you know if that's what you guys want to hear.

Aniu: Yep. So send us mail. Or else.

Skul: For sure. Feed the mailbag, Blarga Blarg!

Aniu: Feed the mailbag. Sourcecast@gmail.com, or that email form on our forum thingy-ma-bob. Or if you feel really lazy, just catch us randomly in the shout box, ask the question. Thanks for listening. You can find us on Mypodcast at sourcecast.mypodcast.com. You can search for us on iTunes, we are to my knowledge *still* the only clean one on there, not to mention you can see our logo. We're on YouTube—

Swords: We're the one under the "Family" genre.

Aniu: Yeah, yeah. Look for us on YouTube, our channel is TheSourcecast. Send an email to sourcecast@gmail.com, or if you're really desperate to find us, we're actually on Google now. Check it out. I think we're like the fourth one as far as the Mypodcast host.

Skul: I'll look it up right now.

Aniu: You can Google Sourcecast, I think we're the fourth link. It's sourcecast.mypodcast.com.

Skul: We are number five now.

Aniu: Number five? Yeah, something like that. Yeah, check it!

Swords: All right, please do. And...yeah.

Aniu: So...I'm Aniu.

Swords: I'm Swords.

Skul: And I am Skul.

Aniu: Peace.

Swords: Take care, you guys.

[ending music]

[intro music]

Skul: And now we are going to have a special review of Pokémon: Zoroark: Master of Illusions. Swords won't be joining us for this, it will just be me and Aniu. But thankfully we got Rusty here. So I guess you could say that all four of us got into this episode. Hey, Rusty.

Rusty: Hey, hey, party people. Sorry, that's a quote from a different podcast. But still!

Skul: So—

Aniu: Oh, I see. So you're turning on us now?

Rusty: No.

Aniu: Uh-huh. I see. You love us a lot.

Skul: I believe in you! But just a brief overview, Zoroark: Master of Illusions premiered in the United States on February 5, 2011, although it did premiere in Japan in June 2010. But anyway, I was the first to see it, but that's just because I don't have a life. So...

Rusty: True, that's very true. It is. Sorry.

Skul: Well, what were you going to say?

Rusty: Well, first I was going to say, when the heck are we actually going to get the DVD release in the United States? I mean, we still don't have the previous movie.

Skul: We do now.

Rusty: We do?

Aniu: I think this is funny, is instead of a DVD release, they put it on cable first. Which is weird, because usually first the DVD comes out and then wait a year, and it's on cable.

Skul: Yeah. So Arceus and the Jewel of Life came to DVD February 1. I have it myself.

Rusty: How long was that before...was it like a year?

Skul: Oh, man. That was a *huge* fail. That was fourteen months.

Rusty: Ouch.

Skul: Yeah.

Rusty: Hope it isn't that long for Zoroark to get out to DVD for us.

Skul: I hope not, because this is a good film.

Rusty: Absolutely. Actually, I would have to say, right off the bat, at the top of this review, that Pokémon: Zoroark: Master of Illusions is probably the best Pokémon movie since...I don't know when. A while. It's actually rather entertaining. I will just say that at the top, right now.

Aniu: Since, like, the first one?

Rusty: I don't know, I hardly remember the other movies.

Skul: It's definitely in my top five, probably my top three. I say, ladies first. Aniu, why don't you give us your review?

Rusty: Oh, after all the jokes of Skul being a girl, too.

Aniu: Thanks for throwing me under the bus there.

[laughter]

Aniu: Anyway, yeah. So I thought it was pretty good for a Pokémon movie. I'm not particularly one to watch them. But I found myself bored one evening, and it was on, and it was after work during the summer. So I thought, eh why not? And I watched it—not the summer, the winter. I'm getting my months mixed up. Anyway. It was after work, it was late at night, I was bored. So I watched it. Actually, didn't hate it like I thought I was going to.

Rusty: You expected to hate it?

Skul: Where is your faith, child?

Rusty: To be honest, I can really see her point, as to kind of almost predicting to not enjoy it as much as you want to. Considering...I don't know how drawn-out Pokémon is, as far as its anime and movies go. But I think—

Aniu: I can answer that question with one word: yes.

Rusty: I feel like I'm stealing the baton—which I am.

Skul: Baton pass.

Rusty: Pokémon joke. But I think it's interesting with this movie, is kind of how the fifth Generation, which is Pokémon Black and White, is almost a restart or a redefining—

Skul: A reboot?

Rusty: A reboot of the series. I think even the—this movie plays into that, because I can't really remember how much any of the previous movies actually had such dark themes that the Zoroark movie had.

Aniu: Which is refreshing, because, again, there's only so much cooping out rainbows you can take, like if you're watching My Little Pony. You get tired of seeing that rainbow every five minutes.

Rusty: But, it's just—that's what I'm saying, though. It's like the actual games, the fifth Generation games, which seem the same thing. So...I don't know if they actually did that on purpose or not, but I like it. I like the whole idea.

Aniu: Yes.

Rusty: I don't know, it's just—it seems with every other Pokémon movie, it was kind of choppy as far as the story flow, and how the character interacted with each other in the current situation. I don't know, I can't put my finger quite on it with this movie, but it seemed like the story did flow from one situation to the other. Kind of kept things going...I feel like I'm getting redundant.

Skul: That makes sense.

Aniu: It does. Not being helpful, I'm sorry.

Rusty: [chuckles] Well, you have a good excuse.

Skul: And you had a late night last night, too.

Aniu: Mhm.

Skul: And an early morning; you were up before I was, and I was up at seven.

Aniu: I was up at 6:30, and I didn't like it.

[laughter]

Rusty: I guess...what's left? Skul, you still have to say a few words, I guess, huh?

Skul: Oh, I have plenty to say. I can go on for hours. But I guess I'd better shorten it for the sake of timing.

Rusty: Shorten it for my sanity.

Skul: [laughs] Just don't fire me, I'm your editor.

Rusty: No, we're not going to fire you.

Skul: Yay. Good news.

Aniu: Did I show you that video? I know it's off-topic, but I had to ask.

Skul: All right.

Aniu: Did I? Did I show you that video?

Skul: Which one?

Aniu: Cat. The talking cat.

Skul: Yeah, you showed me that.

Aniu: Rest. Steve. Store. You didn't watch all of it, never mind.

[laughter]

Aniu: Points to anybody in the audience who got that and laughed.

Rusty: Leave that in here.

Skul: Yeah. So, I'll keep that in. For those—

Aniu: Oh, and everyone just lost The Game.

Rusty: Yes.

Skul: Dangit! I was so close! [pause] If you haven't seen Zoroark: Master of Illusions, the movie follows Ash, Dawn, and Brock, along with their Pokémon friends, as they try to help a new Pokémon called Zorua reunite with its Meema. Its Meema, which is actually a Zoroark who has been captured by a businessman named Grings Kodai, is sent throughout Crown City to trick the people into fleeing the city by turning into the Legendary Beasts Raikou, Entei and Suicune. This is Kodai's attempt to try and empty the city so that he can personally look for a ripple of time, which gives him the ability to see into the future. And so as the movie progresses, Ash, Dawn and Brock have to rely on Zorua and their new friends. They need to find Kodai, and exploit his plot, and try and free Zoroark from his clutches.

Rusty: A.K.A. very Japanese story. Come on, it's Japanese anime. You'd kind of expect it.

Aniu: You fail.

Rusty: But that's a whole different topic.

Skul: Yeah. Anyway.

Aniu: Anyhow.

Skul: My personal review for this film. First of all, I've seen the movie in both the original Japanese and in English. The American English version cut out the first twenty minutes of the film for time constraints, and I'm extremely bugged about that. Even though it wasn't necessary to the plot, it still helped out a whole lot. For example, it showed Zorua escaping from Kodai, and flying into Crown City to begin with—which isn't shown in the American version, like I said.

Aniu: What I want to know is how did it do that?

Skul: It turned into a Skiploom, and just floated.

Aniu: That doesn't make—never mind.

Skul: Okay. I'll link you to—

Aniu: No, it just doesn't make sense.

Skul: Zorua has the ability to change into other Pokémon, so it just changed—

Aniu: Yeah, I know that, but it doesn't have the ability to copy their effects.

Skul: Well...

Aniu: It can just look like them.

Skul: Yeah...well, I am extremely bugged—

Aniu: They're breaking their own continuity.

Skul: I am extremely bugged for Cartoon Network—apologies to Pokémon International, they actually sued Cartoon Network over cutting out the first twenty minutes.

Rusty: Oh, that's interesting.

Skul: Yeah, so. First of all, yeah, I'm bugged at Cartoon Network for doing that, even though it wasn't necessary to the plot, it still helped out with the story a lot. And I think it would have helped out with the confusion a little bit. It also showed Ash, Dawn and Brock actually deciding to go to Crown City to the Pokémon Boccer tournament to begin with.

Aniu: That's another question: what the crap is Pokémon Boccer?

Skul: If they had aired the first twenty minutes, you would know. There's really no real way to explain it.

Aniu: That's stupid.

Skul: There are two teams, with three Pokémon each. And they're trying to—it's kind of like soccer, except the goal is floating up in the air and constantly changing positions. So, that's—

Aniu: That sounded kind of dirty.

Skul: Oh, shut up.

Aniu: Not going to lie.

Rusty: Oh, goodness. See, this is what happens when we record late at night.

Skul: Or early in the morning, whichever.

Rusty: Whichever one you want, but eventually it will be both, in some cases.

Aniu: Eventually I'm just going to say something stupid.

Skul: So that's just Pokémon Boccer. Past the first twenty minutes that were cut, it was a tremendous film. I think I like the Japanese voice for Zorua better, but the English one I've grown to like, mainly because the voice actor who did Zorua is also the voice actor who now plays Ash's newest girl traveling companion Iris. So...yeah, I found that pretty interesting myself.

Aniu: Who is Iris in Black and White again?

Rusty: Huh?

Aniu: Who's Iris supposed to be in Black and White, again?

Skul: In White Version, she's the eighth Gym Leader, in Black Version she's just a random girl.

Aniu: Oh.

Rusty: In Black Version, she's the Gym Leader, you just don't fight her.

Aniu: Okay, I know that part.

Skul: I'm at the eighth gym.

Aniu: Yeah, well.

Skul: The voice actor that they chose for Kodai, I like the English version *way* more because he actually sounds more professional, more like a businessman than just some random guy they pulled off the street and said "Here's a script, read this."

Rusty: Right, but speaking of Kodai—

Aniu: I just feel that he sounded like a piece of scum. But that's just me.

Rusty: See—but speaking—but I think him sounding like a piece of scum actually adds to the character. I mean, the way they designed Kodai and the way he acts makes him a really hate-able villain; you've just got to hate him. Hate his guts. I don't know, I just hate villain characters.

Aniu: I hate *good* villain characters. I don't know, I was almost indifferent about him.

Rusty: I wouldn't go and say he's one of the best villain characters, but they got him on the right track.

Aniu: Yeah, they did. He was actually evil and knifing and wanted to ruin people's lives, whereas Team Rocket is all "We're going to steal your Pokémon, oops we suck."

Skul: They do suck.

Aniu: Never mind them.

Skul: No question about it.

Aniu: At least, Jessie and James Team Rocket.

Skul: "We're going to steal your Pikachu!" "Sorry, not in the mood today. Hey, Pikachu, give them a Thunderbolt, will ya?"

Aniu: Sorry, your argument is invalid.

Skul: “Pika...chu!” “We’re blasting off again.” Anyways, and the fact that Kodai—I dare say Kodai is the first true “evil” villain that has appeared in the movies, at least. All the other villains have had ulterior motives. For example, in Arceus and the Jewel of Life, the villain just wanted to keep his town flourished. In Giratina and the Sky Warrior, the villain actually wanted to save a different world, and in Jirachi: Wish Maker, the villain—

Aniu: So what you’re saying is that they’ve had justification?

Skul: They’ve had some sort of justification, and if you’re a seven-year-old kid watching this show, you can see where they’re coming from. Whereas in this film, Kodai really doesn’t have any justification; he just wants what he wants, and he’ll do anything to get it.

Aniu: Because he’s a jerk.

Skul: And that’s what makes him truly evil.

Rusty: Right, the jealousy and the wanting of this particular thing, and not caring about the countermeasures or the effects of his actions. Yeah, he’s evil.

Skul: No doubt about it. So that’s what I have to say about Kodai.

Rusty: Sure is a different take on the Pokémon villains, like which I said, kind of adds to the whole reboot of the series, or just the shuffling of ideas to the Pokémon series.

Aniu: I definitely applaud them for that.

Skul: Yeah. That’s what I have to say about Kodai.

Aniu: I don’t care about the characters.

Skul: And then there’s Zoroark. At first when I saw the film, I was like, Zoroark’s the best! But when I went back and saw it, I was like, “Okay, someone explain to me why Zoroark only appears literally one quarter of the time in this film?”

Aniu: Because there was no reason to have it in the rest of the film?

Skul: There was no reason, I agree, but the only times you see Zoroark—I’m just going to refer to Zoroark as a she or her—the only times you see her, she’s being manipulated by Kodai, she’s being pretty much attacked by Kodai, she’s being injured and the only time you finally see her not being hurt in some way either emotionally or physically is at the very end of the movie, in the end scene—which I probably shouldn’t have said.

Rusty: See, I think what they were trying to go for with the name and only showing Zoroark in those kind of situations is to try and get the audience excited for whenever Zoroark does come into the scene, and because Kodai’s the man behind all this. People know by the name, Zoroark is a good character. But you see such a good character—or the main title character—hurt and abused so much that you feel for the character and then

you hate Kodai even more. That way, when things finally come full circle, the climax of the movie is so much grander for fans of Zoroark.

Skul: Yeah, I guess I can see that. I think that her voice was a little...

Aniu: Stupid?

Skul: Anti-climactic.

Rusty: Yeah, but...

Aniu: What I never got was that Zorua could talk, but she couldn't. So?

Rusty: You can't really say too much of a Pokémon's voice, particularly with Zoroark. Now Zorua, the one who actually has an actor, has a different story.

Skul: Zorua—

Aniu: I hated how Zoroark's noise—all it was, was just [gag sound]

Skul: [perfect Zoroark impersonation]

Aniu: And that's all you hear all the time.

Rusty: It wasn't that bad.

Aniu: Seriously, it was just gagging. Slightly disturbing. However, considering they already had a Pokémon that sounded like it was trying not to choke a lot.

Rusty: Yeah, I actually do agree to a point, but I didn't really think about it too much because...I don't know why.

Aniu: It bothered me.

Rusty: It didn't bother me.

Skul: So, all in all, I would say Zoroark and Zorua are probably my favorite Generation 5 Pokémon, just because they're in this film.

Rusty: I think though, that what Zoroark and Zorua are, for Generation 5, is what Riolu and Lucario were for Generation 4: just really cool-looking Pokémon, and cool-looking Pokémon in general.

Skul: Yeah.

Rusty: They're designed to be cool and be attracted to 99% of people who play Pokémon. That's the point, I guess.

Aniu: Zoroark's getting an ED page.

Rusty: Yup.

Aniu: Points to anybody in the audience who got *that* one, too.

[laughter]

Rusty: I guess...is that—I guess we could end that there. What would you guys say as far as a star rating? What would you give this movie?

Aniu: Three out of five.

Rusty: Three out of five?

Skul: You going to elaborate?

Aniu: It's worth watching a couple of times. I don't know, I just pick stuff at random. I'd watch it a couple of times, it's not a horrible way to spend an evening or an afternoon if you don't have anything better to do. It is a Pokémon movie, but you know, some people really, really, really like that stuff, and some people, you know.

Rusty: I think I'm going to be a little more lenient than you and go with three and a half out of five...what is it, seven out of ten? Pretty much for the same fact. I mean, it's a Pokémon movie, yes, but if you can get past that and kind of dump your mind of how the rest of the movies before it turned out, I think it will allow you to see Pokémon in a semi-new light, which is interesting. And I really think they did a good job with the movie. Even so, I don't think it'll be—People outside of the fandom will be too attracted to it. Still.

Skul: Going on a four-star rating, I'd give it three out of four. Again, not my favorite Pokémon film, but definitely in my top three. The visuals were excellent, the voice acting sucked like any anime, and it was a terrific plot and I was just glad it didn't turn out to be a huge piece of crap like Destiny Deoxys.

Rusty: [chuckles] By the way, all the hate mail, you can send it to Skul at Sourcecast—

[laughter]

Rusty: at Gmail.com, and be sure to address it to Skul. By the way—

Aniu: Yeah, seriously. We don't want any of that, send it to Skul. I guess that wraps up our review.

Skul: Except for one little detail. I'm going to share with everyone my script—not every single word of it, just some of the key points like I was telling you earlier. This is real exciting, I have an original, first-draft English-dub script for Zoroark: Master of Illusions, which I got off eBay. Don't ask me how much I paid for it, because I don't think anyone should pay any sort of amount like I paid for *any* kind of piece of paper. Let's just say, I'm not going to be selling it anytime soon because I like it.

Rusty: Again, all the hate mail goes to Skul.

Skul: [chuckles] Yes. So, in my script, it has some dialogue that ended up being in the final film, but a whole lot of it had to be changed in order for the film to secure a G-rating instead of a PG.

Rusty: Ah, lovely American censorship.

Skul: [chuckles] They've gotten—

Aniu: At least it's not 4Kids.

Skul: They've gotten a little—yes, thank God it's not 4Kids.

[laughter]

Aniu: I can't say on here what I want to do to 4Kids, so I'm not going to.

Skul: So I guess it doesn't matter. Let's just say the original script for the English version calls for the film to be much darker. I mean, you can't change the animation or any sounds obviously, or even the music, but you can change what a person says. So the original script calls for a bunch more of dark dialogue in some parts of the film. For example, spoiler alert. If you don't want to hear any spoilers for the film, just stop the recording right now. After this, there's not going to be anything. During one part of the film, when Kodai says "Quick, Shuppet, use Shadow Ball!" And Shuppet uses Shadow Ball, aims it at Zorua, and Zoroark takes the blow. The original script called for Kodai to actually say, "Shuppet, quick. Kill Zorua!" And after Zoroark takes the blow and Kodai electrocutes her, in the final version he said, "How dare you trick me? For what you've done, you're going to pay!" But the original script called for him to say, "Using a trick on me? I swear, I will kill you for this!" Obviously, using the actual words "Death" and "Kill" and stuff like that, are going to make it much darker. And that would have made it rated PG, and apparently they don't like kids' films being rated PG.

Rusty: Again, the differences between Japanese censorship and American censorship. It sucks!

Aniu: It's still not 4Kids.

[laughter]

Skul: And one of the dialogue pieces that I think would have been terrific in the final film was, when Zoroark has actually died—and yes, she *did* die in the original Japanese, and everything that's in the original Japanese is considered for real. So...

Rusty: For realz, man, for realz.

Skul: Yes, for realz. That's considered the canon. She dies, and Ash in the dub says, "Hang in there, Zoroark. You can't leave, you just met up with Zorua again." But the original script called for him to say, "Where will Zorua be in this world without its Meema?" I wish that had stayed, but you know...censorships.

Rusty: Yeah.

Skul: That's just something really interesting I wanted to share. And I guess that was our review of Zoroark: Master of Illusions.

Aniu: Yup.

Rusty: Yep. And my debut online after...who knows how long?

[end music]