



Spoilercast Episode 2: Tricks, Trolls and Treats

April 7, 2013

(Intro music)

Shannon: Hi everyone and welcome to our second episode of the special segment of the Three Patch Podcast called Spoilercast. This is Shannon, and I'm here with...

Emma: This is Emma.

Rachael: Rachael, and I'm pretty much a Spoilercast virgin at this point.

Shannon: Are you entirely a virgin? You've caught up on no spoilers?

Rachael: A little bit. I've dabbled.

Shannon: So, handjobs.

Rachael: I've had a few handjobs. That's it.

Emma: We're going to be spoiling Rachael live. This is going to be fun.

Shannon: And we're also joined by a special guest, who may join us regularly if she enjoys the process, and it's Geny, also known as dudeufugly.

Geny: Hi!

Rachael: Yeah! I hope we don't scare her away.

Geny: No. That would take a lot.

Shannon: Alright. So let's get going with our first set of spoilers.

Emma: Okay, so I think that we all have to start with what happened on April 1st. There was quite a bit of shenanigans going on on April 1st. But the biggest one was the supposed leaked video, which was actually a big fandom prank that was put together by a group of people. Just to fill you in, if you missed it, there was a group of people that basically tumbled that day that they had seen ten minutes of leaked footage from the first episode of series three. Um, and there were varying reports on what it was. And every time they would post links to things, but the links were like dead YouTube links, and so the idea was that the video was posted but the footage kept getting put down, pulled down and so.

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Shannon: Yes, but it had been planned since February. I think it was called Operation Sigerson. We'll link to the original planning post in the notes. And it was terrific trolling although it was a little bit overwhelmed by the Mishapocalypse on Tumblr.

Geny: Oh god.

Rachael: Misha tends to overwhelm anything.

Shannon: But that was some excellent trolling. And props to everyone for that. I totally enjoyed it. They even brought in their own fake fandom police, who took on roles to shame people who were posting links to the spoiled video footage. They were all in on it too. It was really nicely done.

Geny: I didn't see any of that. I had a few messages in my inbox. But I was like, no, no, the set is updating and I can't look at it. And then I looked at it. And people were like, can you confirm this? And I'm like, when did I become the authority on this. And (laughter), I was like, no come talk to me again when it's still around tomorrow because then it won't be April 1st. So that was my reaction to it.

Rachael: At one point, I actually did, so one of those links that was to this, like, alleged footage, I did click it, and it was live. And it was, like, a really shitty fan video.

(Laughter)

Rachael: Like, really awful. So, I don't know if other people had that experience.

Geny: I didn't see any video links either.

Emma: Yeah, I didn't. I clicked on a few links just to see. I was pretty sure that it was fake. I mean, it just seemed ridiculous, but I clicked to see what people were linking to. And at one point, one video was a Rick roll, so that was kind of funny.

(Laughter)

Shannon: Yes!

Emma: But that was all. Everything else I went to was like a dead link. But a lot of people took that very seriously. And there were a lot of people who were quite upset about it. We should acknowledge that a lot of people got upset.

Shannon: I don't know how many of them were in on it, though. Because some of the most vocal protests that, the shaming that was going on was coming from members of the, you know, Operation Sigerson as it turned out. So it's hard to tell who was really policing .

Rachael: Wait, wait, wait. What is Operation Sigerson?

Shannon: Okay, well the role here has to do with the idea that they wanted to do an April Fool's prank in the Sherlock fandom. They started planning to do this. So if you search Tumblr tags,

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Operation Sigerson, you can find all the posts that were dealing with the planning. And it has to do with, Sigerson was the name that Sherlock used um, when he was in hiding and coming as a, I think it was his, like...

Rachael: In ACD canon.

Shannon: Yes. In the canon. His Norwegian identity. So the whole idea here is, I guess, it's kind of a secret project. But it wasn't too secret because I guess enough people were in on it. I just think it was really well planned and they're doing something else. I think there's going to be some more trolling, um, Reichenrack, I think is going to be happening towards the end of April and will be similar to the Mishapocalypse. So, stay tuned Tumblr.

Geny: Oh god. Can't wait.

Emma: And so another thing that popped up on April 1st was the fake tweet from Mark Gatiss that was supposedly a bit of dialog of, we assumed, John saying to Sherlock: "Don't leave me again. I can't live without you." And that was pretty clearly a fake. I think a lot of people jumped on that pretty quickly. And Geny, you were one of the people who pretty quickly jumped on that one and said no, I'm calling it fake.

Geny: Yeah. Yeah. I always feel bad about doing it because I always go back to the poster to see if in the tags it says like, LOL, joke, kidding. Um, but it didn't, so the first thing I saw immediately was that the verification thingy was missing. And I didn't have his message on my phone, and I always get everything sent to my phone that comes from Mark. Then I went to his Twitter and it wasn't there, so I called it right there. And then I went to the Tumblr of the poster and a few minutes, hours, I don't remember later she had posted, "Do you guys believe anything without checking?" So it was pretty clear then.

Shannon: These are great fandom practices, though. I mean, in order not to be duped. I'm kind of taking notes here.

Rachael: Best practices.

Emma: And it's actually quite good. I think the, there were actually, I think, maybe on one of the many, like, prank posts that Geny responded to, I think you put a little graphic, a little GIF that had Sherlock saying, do your research.

Geny: Yeah.

Emma: And actually it's really great. So maybe it's a good lesson for the fandom. The really, before you hit reblog, before you go "Oh my god, I can't believe this" to stop and think, how logical is this? Let me do some googling. Let's look for a source.

Geny: I know the excitement the second you see it cause there are a few tweets that come up, and I'm like (gasp) heart attack! And I immediately DM to my other spoiler friend. And I'm like, let's look at this together. What is this about quickly. Like, within ten seconds we just google it and find out if it's real or not. And then we decide if I should post it or not. And it's just, you can take those five seconds. Nothing bad is going to happen in those five or ten seconds if you take your time to

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think about it. And rather this than later being embarrassed about it or jumping on a band-wagon that is obviously fake.

Emma: That brings us to our next big prank spoiler which didn't happen on, I don't think it happened on April 1st. I think it actually happened maybe yesterday or the day before. Where there was supposedly an article in the, I'm going to mangle the name of this town, but it's Llewellyn Sunday Mail, so it's supposedly in a local newspaper. And this newspaper apparently doesn't exist, like, there's no, there's no source. But, so I'll just read a little excerpt of it. Um. The excerpt that was quoted was going around Tumblr:

In a shocking interview, Sherlock creator Steven Moffat cryptically tells us, "Let's just say, Sherlock and John both get a new love interest this series. And they've been under one another's noses the whole time."

It goes on to imply that there will be a kiss. That the BBC, like, wasn't really sure about and it kind of goes on like that. And then apparently there like a little quote about Mark Gatiss says "Just you wait Internet!" I mean, so it's completely out of character for these people. But it went around and people were like freaking out about it. But again, it's kind of a situation where if you did a little bit of research you would see it was totally fake.

Shannon: Yeah. Those are ticky, I guess. Because you want to believe something that says it's a news source. But anyone who's been around *The Onion* long enough knows not to trust anything that claims to be any sort of newspaper anywhere in the world.

Geny: Yeah, and then if you went to the site that had posted it, in the tags it didn't say anything like this is legit or this is fake. But then she got a few asks about it and she said, "I got it from a friend and I'll contact her. And she has the link", da-da-da... And I was like, I'm calling it right now. In twenty minutes, it's going to be like, "Yeah my friend can't find the link" or "I can't find my friend." One of those things. I don't know if it was intentional or if she at least got pranked as well. I don't know if she got pranked as well.

Shannon: I just don't think they'd reveal it that way.

Emma: No.

Geny: That's way too much information.

Rachael: Noooo. No.

Geny: The only think I worry about with those Tweets and "Gatiss said", "Moffat said", da-da-da, is the BBC calling Gatiss or Moffat at three o'clock in the morning and being like, "What did you say? Why did you say that" and them having to explain themselves over and over like, "We didn't do this." I think the BBC has researchers of their own who do the work. But it must be annoying. And I know Moffat was very annoyed last year when he still had Twitter about people faking his Tweets and faking Gatiss's Tweets. Even as a prank, it doesn't seem right.

Emma: Yeah. Absolutely.

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Shannon: So Rachael, I don't know if you know this spoiler. This is not a new one, but you do know that Amanda Abbington has been cast, right?

Rachael: I don't.

Shannon: Okay.

Rachael: I missed that.

Shannon: Well you've been spoiled.

Emma: Yeah.

Rachael: I'm so like...

Shannon: Do you know who Amanda Abbington is?

Rachael: No.

Shannon: Okay, she's Martin Freeman's partner.

Rachael: Okay.

Shannon: They have two children together. And she's also been involved sort of in the Sherlock fandom to some degree because she's been interviewed by the Baker Street Babes, and I understand that she has some...

Rachael: Yes, yes. And she has a Twitter account, and.

Shannon: Yes. And she has some fannish t-shirts that I think apparently she wears but not around Martin. So you know.

Geny: Yes. Yes.

Shannon: But there was speculation as to who she'd been cast as. And the discussion has been whether she's playing Mary or some other character, so there's...

Rachael: (Gasp) See, this is a live spoiler.

(Laughter)

Shannon: This is a spoiled person's reaction.

Emma: As we talked about in the first episode, there were set reports where she was being called Mary, like, when they were filming scenes. You know the scene where she's talking to Sherlock outside the store and John marches off and he says "Mary!" And she runs after him. So there's, you know, tons of evidence that she's playing Mary. But then there were some fans saying, "well what if we were being trolled?" What if?

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Geny: Yeah.

Emma: What if they're going to change that dialog and, you know, in post production. And what if they're just doing that to throw us off the tracks. There was lots of discussion. And then some other possibilities were raised. And I guess Geny you may be the best to talk about this actually because there was a Wikipedia cast list that went around and then got deleted or something.

Geny: Yeah. I got a message about what I think about Amanda not playing Mary but playing Sonia Townsend. And all of a sudden, I got all those messages. I think they were organized or something. And I was like, who is that? Did I miss something in the books? What is happening? And I googled it, and I only came up with the Wikipedia link which already came with a raised eyebrow from me because it's Wikipedia. And I read about it, and apparently she is someone who was supposedly this sister of Victoria Townsend, who I don't know who that is either. Yeah, and it said there, Amanda Abbington cast as Serena Townsend, who is the sister of Victoria Townsend and no further information.

Okay, it can of course be because nothing has been confirmed and it was like, it's on Wikipedia. And I was like, yes but because it's on Wikipedia. And for fun, I went to Wikipedia, I went to edit and wrote after it to see how easy it is to actually edit information in Wikipedia. Behind this, that she's playing Serena Townsend I wrote, 'It hasn't been confirmed by the BBC or Mark Gatiss. Another possible role is Mary Morstan or Harry, the sister of John or even that she is Moran.' So because nothing has been confirmed. And then a couple of other people went in and deleted that again and edited other articles. And I think it popped up on the radar of Wikipedia, and they just took it all down. Everything is gone regarding Serena Townsend. That is not in there anymore.

Shannon: Because it hasn't been verified elsewhere. I know they're very picky, even when you post information about the death of a famous person, they don't want it updated unless it's been confirmed by three or four sources.

Geny: Yeah.

Shannon: And they have their list of what they consider reliable, but it's easy, until they lock a page, it's easy to just update it, you know. And put whatever nonsense you want, which you see happening constantly. Yeah, I would be skeptical too.

Emma: Alright, so you say that you got email, or you got messages from a bunch of people. Since your Tumblr is one of the spoiler central places right now, right?

Geny: For some reason.

Emma: And you're one of the people who've kind of become spoiler central on Tumblr, and it's a good thing that you're as skeptical and as careful about your research as you are. But does stuff like this make you even more skeptical. I mean, do you think that there might be people out there who are sending you wrong things on purpose in the hope that you'll reblog it.

Geny: Oh yeah.

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Emma: Their personal joke? I mean, how careful do you have to be about things like that?

Geny: I'm so careful about this. I check everything by now. In real life, I check everything. And on Tumblr I've started to cross-check, cross-reference everything, ask people, message them on Twitter, something. If there's something in my ask box like the Serena Townsend one, I wrote to a friend immediately who had, like, read the books a lot. I wrote to her, who is this person because I don't remember reading about her. And I wrote to two other people, and they were like, yeah, we don't know her and it's only coming up as Wikipedia. And there I had the confirmation that it's not me having a dumb day, but that it actually must be some kind of trolling.

And the Serena thing got so many messages, I don't know if it was the same person the entire time because you can't tell that from anonymous. But I think they support the Serena thing because they don't want John and Mary, but they also don't want John and Sherlock, which isn't going to happen. Not in the series at least.

Emma: Right. Right. That's what fanfiction's for. Yeah, it's all good.

Geny: Right. Exactly. Exactly.

(Dog barks.)

Geny: Oh?

Rachael: Sorry. Berlin had a strong opinion about that.

Emma: Berlin's like, right on!

Shannon: Yeah.

Rachael: He's like, "Right on! That's what fanfiction's for!"

Geny: Amen. And then I get like other posts from, "oh my God! Benedict's invited me to his trailer today!" And I'm like....

Rachael: (laughing) His trailer.

Geny: First of all, there was no trailer. He arrived in a car, might have been a trailer further away, but not on set where he could stand where people could talk to. And then you saw how he was rushing from the car into The Daffodil. There was no way he had time to like, "Hey, lady."

Emma: To what, proposition a fan on the side of the road?

Geny: Yes! So I was like, no, I'm not going to, I'm not even going to reply to that because it was anonymous and I couldn't reply to it without publishing it, and there are a lot of those things that are claims that I would want to write back. Like, where did you get that from? How did you get to this information? Can you send me a link please? But it's on anonymous, and I have no other choice but to publish to get the questions out, and then I would just not do it. Because there are so many people on my Tumblr. At some points scary but also great. But if they read that and some of them

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are one of those, let's say, trigger happy, reblog happy people, they would immediately screen cap and be like, "Oh my god. This was posted on dudeufugly."

Emma: Right.

Geny: And so I've got to be so careful about this.

Emma: Right.

Geny: But it's still fun.

Emma: Well thank you for taking it so seriously. So, we all know now that Geny is a very trusted source, so if she says it on her Tumblr, it's most likely true.

Geny: Oh boy. Yeah, I would never intentionally post anything that was fake. I said that before April Fools because I had a feeling that something was coming and I was like, I'm not going to post anything under Read More and be like, oh my god big update. And then you like have, like, Mycroft with the umbrella dancing in the rain, the gif. I wouldn't do that. And so I promised that. But then again, on April Fools, I came up with this, like, little small fanfic that I wrote about what happened on set. And wrote under it, I wrote under it: "Happy Fools Day, love Geny". I tagged it April Fools. And some people still didn't get it. Some people reblogged it and were like, "Oh my god, this happened on set?"

Yeah. I couldn't stop myself and they couldn't stop themselves from believing, which is really the problem. You really want to believe so hard, and you take anything you can get without like pausing and being like, think about this.

Emma: Right. Exactly. There's just so many, so much information floating around out there and people are trying to make sense of it and a lot of times, I think people are like competing to see who gets it posted first.

Geny: Right.

Emma: Or, there's a lot of factors here. So be careful everybody. Spoil wisely.

Geny: Another thing that came up this week were two tweets by Sid of the interior of 221B Baker Street. One showing a kind of view of the room from Sherlock's chair, showing John's chair and a part of the kitchen. And the other one being a shot in the hallway, the entrance door with a red mark on the floor. And everybody was wondering who might be standing there. Those tweets have now been deleted, but I do have the pictures on my laptop and have looked at them closer. But it's interesting again that they were deleted again, just like the bathtub.

Emma: But they live forever on Tumblr.

Geny: Of course they do.

Emma: So I think what I found really intriguing about that was, you know there's been, we think about what the fandom has done, who, like with 221B like. Maybe does John still live there? Does

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Sherlock still live there? Are they going to wind up living there together again? So now the fact that it's going to appear in the series, the flat, it's like it's its own character, right? It's going to appear in the series. Who's going to be living there? Will John and Mary be living there? You know, is Sherlock going to move into the upstairs bedroom? Or is Sherlock still living there? If Sherlock is living there, then that means that Mrs. Hudson knows something. So there's just lots of questions that I think this brings up.

Shannon: I'm just looking at the first picture, which is like Geny said, the perspective from Sherlock's chair. So you see John's chair, and what you notice is that it has three pillows on it. So, the Union Jack pillow is covered a little bit by another striped one and then something else. And I'm trying to read his...

Geny: There are two pillows, two pillows and a blanket.

Shannon: Two pillows and a blanket. And then his coffee mug. It seems to say, West Pow-something. I can't read it. And then behind on the kitchen table, you see boxes. And that was making me think, is that boxing up Sherlock's experiment stuff from the kitchen?

All: Ooooh.

Shannon: Is this supposed to be at the end?

Geny: I can tell you what's in the boxes.

Emma: You can?

Shannon: You can?

Geny: Yes, I can. Um, there was another picture from the other side of the room, from inside the kitchen photographed into the sitting room. I'm going to find the picture for you guys again. In the boxes, you could see on the lefthand side, the microscope of Sherlock's sticking out. So it was a lot of chem lab experimental stuff that was in the boxes. And the microscope.

Rachael: Ooooooh.

Shannon: Well, so, it could either be packing up to take away.

Geny: Or unpacking.

Shannon: Or to bring back.

Rachael: I feel like it has to be packing up. I don't know.

Emma: And that's the thing that we don't know from the end of the series. We don't know where John went after. All he told Mrs. Hudson at the end of Reichenbach was he couldn't go back to the flat right now. And we know Mrs. Hudson packed up all the stuff, right. So there's no telling what this is.

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Rachael: I just think it's much more powerful of an image seeing that stuff packed up than being unpacked. So that's my, it's just like, that's what I feel like the dramatic role of that will be.

Emma: Yeah. You're probably right about that.

Rachael: Like, why, how, it's so boring to unpack. Like, you know.

Emma: This is true.

Rachael: But it's dramatic to pack up.

Shannon: This is kind of a fun one. And so apparently there's been a photo of Molly, we get to see Loo Brealey in her Molly attire, ponytail and it looks like a plaid shirt, with Sherlock and Lestrade. And there's some speculation about whether that's at a crime scene. Well, not speculation, we see crime scene tape on the door. It does look like Lestrade from the back.

Geny: It is definitely Lestrade.

Emma: It was like a clip too from the filming, right, where, and someone was trying to isolate the dialog. And I think it sounded like he was saying something like, "They pulled all of this back."

Geny: Oh, I haven't seen that post.

Emma: Yeah. I'll have to find that. I'm going to look for a source, but I'll find it. Somebody was trying to isolate that audio, but there's like a clip that's been going around too of the same scene. The cute thing there is I think, Molly is kind of in the position that John often is in. So it sort of raises the question, has Molly become Sherlock's new best bud on the crime scene?

Shannon: Right.

Geny: My dash is so split on that.

Emma: There'd be a thousand fanfics you could write on that. Oh my god.

Shannon: But you know, Sherlock's always insistent on he needed an assistant. And Molly does have medical knowledge, and so maybe, you know, she's willing to come along because John is like, giving Sherlock the cold shoulder right now.

Rachael: Maybe I'm just behind in the spoilerage, but when Sherlock is separated from John, isn't he more focused on kind of taking down Moriarty's ring of people as opposed to solving crimes?

Emma: We don't know. That's the fanon, certainly.

Rachael: Well, isn't it also based on the ACD canon, right?

Geny: We don't know how long he has been gone.

Shannon: Right.

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Rachael: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

Shannon: Like, if this is while he's gone or after he's come back.

Geny: Yes. Yes.

Rachael: Well, I guess as a Johnlock shipper, I have to believe that unless there's some logistical thing keeping them apart, they're going to get back together as quickly as possible. So like, that's why I guess I believe in the fanon view of, like, Sherlock's occupied with taking down some of Moriarty's people in order to get to John and. I just don't see Sherlock leisurely solving crimes without John. You know?

Emma: Well, I'm sure it's not, I don't know if leisurely is probably, it's hard to know. But I think that there's some interesting things just in this picture. That, you've got Lestrade there so, you know, there have been some fanfics where Lestrade, like, lost his job and his wife left him and he became homeless. Oh my god, I think I wrote one like that. But no, anyway, um, not really but, yeah but that's become like a fandom thing, right. Well, okay, clearly he's here. It's like a crime scene. Lestrade is there. So Lestrade has accepted that Sherlock is alive. Molly, I cannot wait to find out more about what Molly's role was and sort of what the fallout from that is.

Rachael: Uh-huh.

Emma: Because I just cannot help but think that John is going to be pissed the fuck off that Molly was in on this.

Rachael: At Molly?

Emma: Yeah.

Shannon: Oh yeah.

Emma: As pissed off as he is, and we already know that he's, the big headbutt fight with Sherlock, right. So we already know his response to seeing Sherlock.

Shannon: Rachael may not know about that.

Emma: Oh, Rachael doesn't know about that one. *gasp*

Rachael: I don't know.

Emma: You don't?

Rachael: I don't know.

Emma: Okay. We'll get that one.

Rachael: Tell me. Tell me.

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Emma: Well, okay. So I think we'll come back to that one in a minute because there's some more information. But I think one of the nice things about this particular picture and that bit of a scene is that we see Sherlock is working. He's got Molly. Molly and Lestrade are, we can assume they are his friends. They're on his side. And John is so clearly not in that picture that it really raises some lovely tension about when John and Sherlock are going to make up.

Shannon: Uh-huh. There've been a lot, I mean, I guess most of the spoilers this week have been on the level of photos, right? So we haven't, there is a little bit of footage, but there hasn't been as much outside action, so it's been a little bit more requiring speculation and sleuthing on our parts. Because there's been another photo that's come out which suggests that a Diogenes Club scene was filmed this week, right? That's one that we've seen.

Geny: Yes. That was the footage that BBC Wales showed.

Emma: And Geny, you were one of the first people that I saw who put it together, who said, here, look at this picture.

Geny: Yeah.

Emma: Because it was just like, maybe it was Steven and Mark and another person standing there and then.

Shannon: And Sue.

Emma: Oh, and Sue.

Geny: Yeah, Sue.

Emma: So there were like several production people standing there and then you were the person, I think, Geny, who put two shots together and said I think that's the Diogenes Club.

Geny: It could be something else. They could be recycling sets, but I pretty much think it's going to be that. It's just always difficult to tell because Mark is there as the writer and never as Mycroft. And everybody has been freaking out on my dash because Lestrade and Mycroft are finally going to have a scene because...

Emma: Yeah!

Geny: Um the picture that they took of Sue, Steven, Mark and the politician was on the same day as the politician tweeted the picture of Sherlock and Lestrade sitting at Hansel Castle. So are they solving a crime at the club because it's filmed there? And are Mycroft and Lestrade finally going to meet? Those are the questions that I've formed.

Rachael: Yeah! So we can have Mystrade fan videos. Yeah!

Emma: That's going to be really exciting.

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Shannon: Yeah, finally, right?

Emma: Finally.

Geny: So, as we know, from the one scene with Sherlock and his bloody nose was filmed at a kebab shop and Mary, well, Amanda Abbington - we don't know who she is going to play - was standing next to him dressed up very fancy with her hair all done and a black fur kind of coat. And the picture that came out from the Daily News the day after they shot at the Daffodil was Amanda with the same hairstyle and the same coat in her hand. And Martin was covering his face with a scarf, we all think in order to hide the mustache.

Emma: Which everybody has seen, but yeah.

Geny: I've been discussing with people in which relation the kebab shop scene and the Daffodil scene stand. Which happened first and could it be the final meeting of them? And could it be the first meeting of John and Sherlock because Sherlock is clearly leaving the scene with a bloody nose.

Shannon: Rachael, you haven't heard about the bloody nose, right?

Rachael: No. No.

Shannon: Okay.

Rachael: But if it's boring for people, you don't have to rehash it.

Shannon: The bloody nose is from last week. There were shots of Benedict as Sherlock with a bloody nose, so you know, he had bleeding nose makeup on and he was dabbing it. So there's a suggestion that somebody hit him in the nose.

Emma: Somebody doesn't love him anymore.

Shannon: Because they didn't avoid his nose and teeth.

Emma: I know. And then there were other, there have been several set reports that confirmed that it was a head-butt, so that John kind of grabbed Sherlock by the coat and just wham, head-butt right into him.

Shannon: So Rachael, the slug or hug has been answered.

Rachael: It is a slug.

Shannon: No, it's a head-butt.

Rachael: *laughter* It's a head-butt!

Emma: It's neither! Of course it would be neither, you know.

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Rachael: No, but really? For real? That's so weird. I'm sorry. Who head-butts people other than like? I'm sorry. Okay, I won't. Who head-butts people? I guess John Watson.

Emma: John Watson!

Rachael: Because he's badass. BAMF! John, head-butting people.

Shannon: But this is an important spoiler because it brings us back to the issue of the mustache, which you have heard about, Rachael. Right, you have heard that?

Rachael: *cough* No.

Shannon: Okay.

Rachael: I told you, I'm a fucking virgin!

Shannon: Anyway, there have been photos of Martin Freeman as John Watson has been seen with a mustache.

Rachael: *gasp* Really?

Shannon: So, yes.

Rachael: Okay, well that makes me incredibly...okay that's good. That makes me happy.

Shannon: Okay. The speculation is, you know, again, like Geny is saying, when do these different scenes we see being filmed, like what order did they go in? And some people, and I'm including myself, have been using the mustache kind of as a hint of timeline because supposedly, I'm expecting the mustache is clearly after Sherlock returns and after some time has passed because it takes a while to grow. But if we ever see Freeman walking around without his upper lip covered, then that happens afterwards. You know, because he's shaved it off. And we've been speculating when, whether Sherlock helped or not, but that's maybe for fanfic.

So that Freeman has been covering the lower half of his face is very interesting because, in a sense, is he hiding his mustache or is he hiding his lack of mustache?

Rachael: Hmmm.

Geny: Oh, the lack of it.

Shannon: To me, this is important. What do you guys think? Do you think he's trying to fool us? Like, there might be nothing there but he doesn't want us to know to help us not figure out the timeline.

Geny: I always think they're trying to fool us. Always.

Emma: Yeah.

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Geny: Always assume the worst.

Emma: Exactly. And part of me still wants the mustache itself to be trolling. Like, for there to be no mustache. When the series comes out, we watch three episodes, and there's no fucking mustache. We'll all be going, what the hell!

(Laughter)

Emma: Like it was just like to...

Shannon: Or Sherlock has a mustache.

Rachael: No! No!

Geny: I'm very much counting on it.

Rachael: I actually have to admit. So when I saw the notes for this episode, and I'm like mustache. And I'm like, god, I hope Sherlock doesn't have a mustache. But I think that's kind of exciting because, I don't know other people, but when I think about John Watson having a mustache, I associate that with kind of more the traditional ACD's style Watson. And I also for some reason associate it with John and Mary. Makes me think, like, when he has the mustache, he's with Mary. When he doesn't, perhaps he's in his right mind with who he should be with.

(Laughter)

Geny: I've got to say though, timewise, I went back after I saw the mustache and went back to the tweets from Bristol night. And there was not one person saying that Martin Freeman was stashed up. So he didn't have a mustache that night.

Emma: Oh!

Rachael: Hmmm.

Geny: When he got pulled out of the fire.

Emma: Interesting. So do you think that scene, the bonfire scene is at the end of the first episode, or? Where do we think it is? Do we have any more information about when Sherlock pulls John out of the bonfire, is that at the end? And is that sort of the point at which John lets go of all of his whatever?

Geny: It is difficult, it is difficult to tell if it's at the end. I mean, it would be a nice climax. From everything I've seen, the bonfire thing could be actually the high point of the episode and be the end of it because it's difficult to tell from Sherlock's and Amanda's characters the relationship, at which point they are. We have the kebab scene where they talk to each other and you hear Amanda say "I'll talk to him for you." And Sherlock says, "You would do that? Really?" And at the bonfire, you see them arriving on the motorcycle together. You see them running towards the fire together, so it's difficult to see...

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Rachael: They're on a motorcycle?

Geny: Yeah!

Emma: Yeah:

Rachael: Together?

Emma: Yeah.

Rachael: Who's in the front?

Emma: Sherlock.

Geny: Sherlock and Amanda's character arrive on a motorcycle and actually Benedict has been...

Rachael: Oh, I thought you meant Sherlock and John. Sorry.

(Laughter)

Shannon: Adjust the slash goggles to a looser setting.

Rachael: I'm the best person to be a spoiler virgin because I'm also really, really gullible. You guys could totally lie to me and I'd be like, awesome!

Shannon: No. No trolling here.

Rachael: I want to see John and Sherlock on a motorcycle.

Emma: Oh, I'm sure there's fanart somewhere of that. Oh, okay there was something...

Shannon: The casting?

Emma: Yeah. Geny, I hadn't seen that until you'd actually, the leaked casting list which maybe gives a little more information about what's going on in that episode.

Geny: Yeah. The leaked casting list popped up about two weeks ago, I think. Or maybe three weeks ago. And it had a list of people. Their age, what kind of character they would be playing, what would be required of them and how many lines they would be speaking. And it is a list of seven, eight, nine people.

Now, I was very skeptical when I first saw it because the person posting it said that she works in television and she's sharing this with us because, because. And she tagged it #those things were never supposed to leave those four walls. So she's kind of keeping a low profile online, so nobody knows who she is. But she's been providing those lists. And at first I was like, I'm not believing any of that. This sounds too good to be true because there's something that could relate to the Daffodil where there's a waiter, male, 29-35 years old, waiter in a nice restaurant serving John and his lady friend, who bears an uncanny resemblance to his odd cohort, Sherlock. So we need an actor who

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must be tall and thin and there's also a manager, male 40-55, in a nice restaurant who has to stop a fight between John and another guest. So there's that fight again where you're asking yourself is that like the initial meeting and later after at the kebab shop when Sherlock comes after John, he finally head-butts him?

I didn't believe it at first, but then we had the bonfire night and in that list there is a role for a dad, male 35-50, a father who has taken his little girl to a public bonfire display, has very little patience with his daughter who's insisting that the Guy Fawkes on the burning pyre is talking to her and wants her to get him out of the fire. That is the John scene. That is the scene we saw. That is the scene that has been told to us.

Emma: Right.

Geny: That John is in the fire, that it is a bonfire, so I pay more attention to this list now.

Emma: Yeah. Yeah.

Shannon: My favorite one though is Laura, the female character 18-22, who's described as a Goth Sherlock obsessive.

Geny: Yeah.

Shannon: So it's like they're making fun of fans now. (Laughter) They put them in the show.

Geny: I can't wait to see if this one is true. It's going to be really good.

Shannon: Yeah.

Emma: Yeah. That sounds pretty funny, and yeah. And the other thing I really like in here is the role of the waiter, that they're trying to cast a waiter who looks enough like Sherlock that it pisses John off or something. So, I'm wonder is that sort of after John finds out that Sherlock's alive and just the mention of that makes him arrrgh, or is it this guy reminds him so much of Sherlock, that makes him really upset. And somehow and then he gets into a fight with somebody at the restaurant. I'm just wondering where that falls in the timescale.

Shannon: Well, you know what I was thinking, the whole idea about Sherlock, Gatiss alluded to this that they aren't using disguises for Sherlock, the idea that he hide in plain sight. So it would be interesting if there's, like, a montage. I can totally picture this, a montage of scenes where there are people who look like Sherlock and then there's Cumberbatch who is in disguise in plain sight and John, like, every now and again thinks he sees his friend but realizes it's just his memories. Not that he's actually there. And then he's actually confronted with the real Sherlock. And I'm wondering if that's what they're doing. They're trying to cast people who can help lead to kind of an ambiguous scene like that.

Geny: This sounds very good.

Emma: This sounds just like *The Quiet Man*, right?

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Geny: I like that.

Shannon: Yeah. Yes.

Emma: Speaking of fanfiction, yeah. The other one that's really funny is Howard, this character Howard who loves the Underground.

Geny: Yeah. I'm just reading.

Emma: He like, he eats, sleeps and breathes the London Underground. And I just, I can't even, I'm just fascinated by that. Like what could that be?

Geny: Is that maybe where Sherlock is hiding?

Emma: It's a good question.

Geny: What he uses to get around in London to use the tunnels instead of using public transport where he could be spotted because his face had been plastered all over newspapers.

Emma: Right. And so maybe instead of, like, going away, you know, and hiding in Norway or Romania or whatever. For three years he's just been hiding out in London, right under John's nose.

Shannon: Oh my gosh.

Geny: Another post that I hadn't included, another post that I hadn't sent to you guys yet was that she wrote that they seemed to be doing some very interesting psychological stuff with John regarding his female friends. So apparently there are different females cast to interact with him and it's apparently playing with his mind a lot. But she didn't post anything else regarding it.

Emma: Oh, that's interesting.

Shannon: I want a sex scene.

(Laughter)

Emma: Any kind of sex scene?

Rachael: With John and a woman?

Shannon: Yeah. I'd, yeah.

Rachael: I just don't think the BBC does sex scenes, sorry.

Emma: Oh, you never watched *Queer as Folk*, did you?

Rachael: No, I did. But it's just not this kind of show. I mean, like, there's never going to be a sex scene in *Sherlock* BBC. I will bet lots of money.

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Emma: You're probably right because what would be the point? I mean there's no...

Rachael: It's just not that kind of show. Queer as Folk is.

Emma: Definitely.

Rachael: It's not. This isn't.

Geny: That's true.

Emma: That's absolutely true.

Shannon: That sounds like a challenge. That sounds like a challenge for series 4.

Emma: Oh yeah.

Rachael: I do, if me making this comment gets them to put one in, I am so glad I made this comment.

(Laughter)

Emma: Oh wasn't there like some interview somewhere where Steven and Mark were being interviewed and someone asked them some questions relating to, you know, love interests and John and Sherlock or something. And Mark made this sort of off-hand joke of, "Oh, we're saving that for series 4", or something. I can't remember when that was.

Shannon: Oooh.

Emma: But it was obviously a joke the way they said it.

Shannon: It's a joke now.

(Laughter)

Emma: Yeah. Exactly. Until it gets reblogged everywhere. Going back to the idea, the one that Geny just mentioned with all the different women, so is the implication that these women are, like, spies for Sherlock and not really interested in him? Or do you have any more information about that?

Rachael: That would be so hot, by the way. Sorry.

Emma: Well it sounds like, there was a fanfic along those lines and I'm trying to think of what it was.

Rachael: Please send me a link because I really, really, really want to read that. I love that idea.

Emma: Well, there've been several fics like this where there are women that John dated that turned out to be evil or spying for Sherlock or. I've read that a lot.

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Shannon: Right.

Rachael: Hmmm.

Shannon: Well, Mary turning out to be Moran is a common plot point in a number of them that I've seen.

Emma: That's true.

Geny: I love that.

Emma: I love that too.

Shannon: Yeah. That's awesome.

Geny: I read that and I'm so glad that I live alone and there are no cameras anywhere because I read that and I immediately grabbed my laptop. I was like, "Hold me!" and like writing to a friend immediately, being like, okay let's think about this. Now we really love this.

It appears as if they're doing some interesting psychology with Watson and the types of people that he dates.

Emma: Oh.

Shannon: So it's romantic relationships with women.

Geny: Yes.

Shannon: And not, like, dealing with his sister or other people he might, like, work with. That's very interesting. I wonder. I wonder because that was kind of a joke in series two about how he couldn't keep up, well I guess through both series one and two, how he was such a good boyfriend for Sherlock but a rubbish boyfriend to the women he dated. He couldn't form a lasting relationship, a long term relationship. He was always sabotaging it for Sherlock. So now Sherlock's gone and he can work on that, so what issues does he have. And then maybe he's developed something with Mary and then Sherlock comes back, and oh man, I should write the script here! You know.

Emma: Yeah. Exactly. And I've always loved the fact that the last girlfriend, Janine I think was her name, looked just like Sherlock. The hair, the coat, she even flipped up her collar before she walked out.

Geny: Yes.

Emma: It was like, so perfect.

Shannon: So this sounds like a John-rich episode.

Emma: I know. It's going to be so awesome.

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Shannon: I love that. I love that.

Emma: Another item that popped up this week, that was a little bit of controversy around it, was a photo of the four actors playing Lestrade, Molly, Amanda, whoever she's playing, and Mrs. Hudson clearly sitting in, sitting on the sofa in 221B. And they're sitting on the sofa together. There's, Mary's got a nice white blouse on and everybody looks nice. On the wall behind them, there's all these clippings of, looks like crime scene clippings, sort of your classic Sherlock bulletin board wall. So they're all sitting in there. Loo is kind of grinning at the camera and Amanda is sort of looking over at Rupert with this sort of shocked look on her face. But it's a really cute photo. It got posted to Twitter. So shortly after this photo appeared on Tumblr, Loo tweeted, she asked is it possible for someone's phone to get hacked into and a photo to be taken? I'm asking for a friend.

And then, after that there was some speculation that that was the source, that this photo was not meant to be public. That it was sort of a private photo, and someone took it. So there hasn't been any resolution on that as far as we know. So we're going to talk about it, and we'll post a link to it.

But it's a really cute photo I think just because the idea that those four people were on that set at the same time, there's just a lot of things you can speculate about there. With neither John nor Sherlock in sight.

Shannon: Well, I think it's also interesting because it brings together some of the old crew, um, two of the people Sherlock died to protect, one of whom was probably instrumental in his faking his death and then this new character, who, and I think it's very interesting Emma, very telling, that when you described the picture initially, instead of saying Amanda, you said Mary. So she's become kind of...

Emma: Yeah. I said Mary.

Shannon: ...that assumption now, that she is indeed Mary. She's in 221B. She's inside it. So what does that mean, because it does look like she is dressed for filming. Her hair looks nicely done, and like you mentioned, she's got a nice blouse on, so it's not like. I don't know, maybe she had a party to go to and just dropped by, but it suggests that then there's some action involving all of those characters in 221B, so that's kind of exciting.

Rachael: So my take on this just from looking at it for ten seconds is that this has to be, like, one of the early scenes immediately after that sort of like, clean up or evidence gathering after the suicide or fake suicide because. I guess I'm more interested in the stuff on the wall, like.

Emma: Oh yeah, yeah. That's fascinating.

Rachael: I suppose, like the fact that there's stuff on the wall means that either it was the stuff that was there before or it is new stuff. And I think it's probably the stuff that was there before with these folks, and this is kind of like some, some scene where folks who were close to Sherlock were kind of processing what happened and trying to piece something together.

Emma: But why is Amanda there. That's the only thing that sort of stops me from that. I mean she would have no reason.

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Rachael: She's Mary.

Emma: She would have no reason to be on that set.

Shannon: Two things stop me from this. One is we saw the other scene with Sherlock, with Molly and Lestrade and Molly's dress that we saw in the crime scene picture that we referred to earlier in this episode is the same outfit. So Sherlock can't be dead and Lestrade around if this happened just after he died. I also don't recall the stuff on the wall being elemental or instrumental in Reichenbach so much as it was in other episodes. So I don't think of that being immediately post fall. I think this is again later on after Sherlock's returned.

Rachael: Well, maybe what it is is that John is still there and he's put all that stuff up on the wall and whoever Amanda is playing is incredibly worried about him and had gathered his friends together to, like, intervene.

Geny: Just looking at the pictures on the wall, and I'm going to check it out later. But above Molly's head or Loo's head, those two pictures that are above each other, if they could be the surveillance pictures of the assassins living on the street. Now, we get a pretty good look at them when Mycroft shows them to John.

Shannon: Right.

Geny: And also the envelope above Lestrade's head.

Emma: Like the one with the breadcrumbs.

Geny: Is that the one, the one breadcrumbs fell out?

Emma: Maybe. And that's something actually I was going to ask. Was if anybody had compared this to any of the scenes from Reichenbach to see if it was the same background.

Geny: I'll do it tonight.

Shannon: Okay.

Geny: I'll do it.

Emma: We're going to look into this more.

Rachael: Action item for me.

Emma: We'll update in the next podcast. It'll all be resolved by then, but yeah, we'll look into this a little bit more. Yeah, so the question is, why are these four people on this set together? Why, why, why? Oh, and was it just like a coincidence? Did they all just say let's go sit down on the couch and take a picture to fuck with everyone's minds?

Geny: The question was, was Amanda just there visiting?

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Emma: Yeah, so that could be too.

Shannon: And is she wearing rings on her fingers?

Emma: Oh, that's another thing. Has anyone looked? That was one of our things. Right.

Geny: Yeah, the ring on her right hand, the ring finger.

Shannon: Uh-huh, but not clear on the left.

Geny: Is it, is it the right or the left hand in Great Britain?

Rachael: I don't know about the UK, but when I lived in continental Europe for a while, a lot of people wore their wedding rings on their right finger.

Geny: In Germany they do. The right hand.

Shannon: So we'll have to, again, we're still doing finger watch, so if anyone notices when they're in character, in costume whether Amanda Abbington or John Watson have rings on their fingers, let's see if we notice a difference from anything that might suggest marriage. Hint at it.

Emma: Yeah. But Amanda definitely has a ring on the third finger of her right hand. So, if she's in costume, that's a possible clue.

Rachael: A quick amount of googling has confirmed that in the UK, it's the left hand.

Emma: What about like engagement versus wedding rings?

Rachael: Well you move it, at least in the Netherlands, it was you wear it on your left hand when you get engaged and then you move it to your right hand when you get married.

Geny: Same thing I know. Yes.

Emma: Is there similar practices in the UK?

Rachael: So, I think, I'm willing to bet that the left hand is what we should be focusing on.

Emma: Well if anyone would care to correct us. If we're wrong, let us know.

Rachael: Exactly!

Shannon: So, just to wrap up, this is not a photo spoiler, but one that deals with writing, um so the info we've heard is that Stephen Thompson is writing episode two, which suggests that Moffat will be writing episode three.

Emma: Which means that we'll all cry horrible tears after the third episode cause he's already promised he's going to make us cry again, hasn't he.

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Shannon: Yeah. He likes that.

Geny: He said the cliffhanger will be even worse than the one in the second series. It's just like, how are you going to up that?

Emma: How is that going to, I don't even know, I don't even know. What would be worse?

Geny: I've always said the entire time, ever since the Mary Moran thing happened, let's say she is Moran or the other guy, Tony, whoever it is Moran gets into the lives of John and Sherlock and makes them like her or him, work together with him or her and then in the end is going to kill, quotation marks, John in front of Sherlock so Sherlock sees that it has all been for nothing.

Rachael: I don't know what this says about me, but I never cried in series two. And what would make me cry though is, I would cry for Sherlock if he comes back and John has found something else, you know. That would make me cry. And it's that simple. We might, I think there's a very high probability we'll see that.

Shannon: What I imagine being worse would be prolonging the reconciliation and not really fully resolving it and then breaking it apart through, let's say, Mary dies in a manner that either Sherlock is directly or indirectly responsible for and she was the linchpin bringing them back together and that leads John to, like, tell, to say it's over Sherlock and to walk away so that they're living but that their friendship is stretched to the point that it's doubtful whether it will continue, you know. So like, more angst, but not death angst but actually the kind that maybe more of us actually deal with. We don't usually see our friends jump off of tall buildings in front of us, so that's a bit more dramatic. That would make me cry.

Geny: Don't give him ideas.

(Laughter)

Shannon: I hope, I hope he's finished writing.

Emma: They've probably got it worked out. Actually, I hope they're kind of not listening to this. Anyway.

Shannon: They won't. They're too busy doing their jobs.

Emma: They're too busy. They're too busy. Exactly.

Rachael: I don't know. I hope I cry in series three.

Shannon: I hope you do too, Rachael.

Rachael: Because I'm a cold hearted bitch that didn't cry in series two.

Geny: I will just cry from excitement. I know that already.

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Shannon: Alright, so I think that's all we've got here. So we'll just wrap up and say if you have any tips or comments or spoilers that you haven't seen elsewhere, and we've got like our verification team on hand, so you can send us an email at our email address, which is bored@three-patch.com . And we ask if you do so that you please put SPOILERS in the header so you don't inadvertently spoil some of the members of the podcast who are remaining spoilerfree, which used to include Rachael but now no longer does because we spoiled her here.

Rachael: I was never really trying to abstain. I just was too busy.

Shannon: And we will scouring the Internet and Twitter and Tumblr for further updates. So that's it for this episode.

(Closing Music)

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Episode 2: Tricks, Trolls and Treats

Consulting Fans: Shannon, Emma, Rachael, and Geny

In this episode: Special guest Geny (aka Dudeufugly on Tumblr) helps us discuss the past week's top ten spoilers for Sherlock series 3. Listen as we spoil Rachael LIVE!

1. We start with a discussion of all the April 1 shenanigans, including the “Sherleaked” video (aka Operation Sigerson) [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#), the fake tweet from Mark Gatiss [\[3\]](#), and the fake Llewellyn Sunday Mail quote [\[4\]](#), [\[5\]](#) [\[6\]](#)
2. There's been some discussion about whether or not Amanda is actually playing Mary. Some other possibilities (Serena Townsend [\[7\]](#), Moran [\[8\]](#), and Harry Watson [\[9\]](#)) have been raised and the speculation (more or less) continues.
3. Pictures of the 221B set were tweeted and deleted [\[10\]](#) [\[11\]](#). Will the flat appear in the first episode, and who do we think will be living there? And what's in all those boxes?
4. Set picture of Molly with Sherlock and Lestrade at a crime scene [\[12\]](#) along with a video [\[13\]](#) and speculation about what Lestrade said [\[14\]](#). What does it all mean?
5. Apparently a Diogenes Club scene was filmed this week [\[15\]](#). Will we get a glimpse of Mycroft and Greg together onscreen at last?
6. Some speculation about the order of scenes filmed so far, and what that might tell us about the plot of episode 1.
7. The “leaked” casting list for minor characters and what this might tell us about episode 1. [\[16\]](#) [\[17\]](#) [\[18\]](#)
8. Updates on previous spoilers: mustache update [\[19\]](#) and the headbutt confirmed [\[20\]](#) [\[21\]](#) [\[22\]](#)
9. Photo of Rupert, Loo, Amanda, and Una sitting on the sofa in 221B [\[23\]](#). We discuss what it might mean.
10. Stephen Thompson is writing episode 2, meaning Moffat will likely write episode 3 [\[24\]](#). We speculate about that series 3 cliffhanger from hell that he promised us [\[25\]](#).

Other links of interest:

Geny's daily spoiler roundup posts [\[26\]](#)

The #setlock tag on Tumblr [\[27\]](#)

Geny's April Fool's setlock ficlet: [\[28\]](#)

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Contact

Please remember when contacting us concerning spoilers to include SPOILERS in your email header.

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Music

Unless otherwise indicated, all music is available for purchase through online retailers such as amazon.com and iTunes.

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