**SSH Pod Katie:Stuart Episode.mp3**

**Voiceover** [00:00:01] In a podcast, two comedians face their toughest challenge yet. To create the superhero they would want to be. With thousands of superheroes to choose from, only one thing stands in their way. A host that is as arbitrary as he is disabled. So I suppose, he sits in their way. Is that OK? Can I say that? Anyway, this is the Silliest Superest Heroest Podcast.

**Aaron Simmonds** [00:00:31] Hello and welcome to the Silliest Superest Heroest Podcast. The show where we get two comedians to battle it out trying to pick their ultimate superhero by combining different parts of different superheroes. Today I've got two fantastic guests and I'm so excited I can't even bother with an introduction. I just want to get talking to them. So my first guest is Katie Pritchard. How are you doing, Katie?

**Katie Pritchard** [00:00:54] Yeah, hello!

**Aaron Simmonds** [00:00:58] You're your own hype man. I like that.

**Katie** [00:01:01] Let's go! Go, go, go, go.

**Aaron** [00:01:03] How are you feeling?

**Katie** [00:01:05] Yeah, really good. I'm feeling really strong. I'm ready to defeat the other guest that you have on. And that rhymed as well. That could be, that could be the theme tune.

**Aaron** [00:01:16] Yeah. I mean, I've already got, I mean I haven't got a theme tune, I've got an introduction, but it's a robot voice but..

**Katie** [00:01:24] Oh oh.

**Aaron** [00:01:24] But yeah, no, I'm happy to get a free Katie Pritchard theme tune, at any point. I often get questions from guests before the show about like, how do you play the game and all this kind of stuff. You know what kind of superheroes am I allowed to pick from? Your first question was what am I going to be wearing?

**Katie** [00:01:44] Well, more for a dress code. Yes. If there was dress code. If we were going to get extra points for dressing?

**Aaron** [00:01:50] OK. I mean, you know this is an audio medium, right?

**Katie** [00:01:55] But I feel like if I, if I come dressed, if there's a dress code and I've come dressed in it, then that's going to give me more of a chance of winning, and a more pleasurable experience for anyone listening as well cos they'll know that I am wearing the right clothes.

**Aaron** [00:02:09] Yeah.

**Katie** [00:02:09] So they'll feel comfortable.

**Aaron** [00:02:11] Great, no, no, and that is absolutely true. You've nailed it. So you, what do you have sort of superhero clothes going on?

**Katie** [00:02:22] Yes. Now just for anyone that's not watching this, which is everyone that is taking this in, I'm in space on my backdrop, so you can't actually see my feet because I've got green socks. But they do, say Kapow...

**Aaron** [00:02:35] Yeah, no fair enough...

**Katie** [00:02:38] I didn't think it through about the green screen and the green socks, but they do say Kapow. So that's good.

**Aaron** [00:02:44] I like how you were going to go show me them and then like, 'it's not going to work. Ok'.

**Aaron** [00:02:48] Right. Well that is so... Great. And that is a dangerous ability to have, to have invisible feet. Fantastic. Well I'm delighted to have you and your Kapow socks on the podcast. And someone else I'm delighted to have on the podcast, despite his lack of superhero socks, I don't know? Maybe he has superhero socks on? Is Stuart Goldsmith. Hi Stu.

**Stu Goldsmith** [00:03:12] Hello.

**Aaron** [00:03:14] How you doing?

**Stu** [00:03:15] I'm really well.

**Aaron** [00:03:16] Do you have any superhero socks on?

**Stu** [00:03:19] I don't, but if I'd known this was going to be a purely audio medium, I wouldn't have bothered dressing up as the Silver Surfer using all of this Bacofoil. I can't believe we're going to focus on my lack of socks, when I've gone to this much effort. I mean even the silver contact lenses, which I’m blind now permanently in one eye.

**Aaron** [00:03:37] I mean, the detail that you can create out of one tube of silver foil is just incredible.

**Stu** [00:03:44] Thank you. I used five tubes as practice, but only one when it came to the day.

**Aaron** [00:03:48] Good. That's important. That's important, and then you nail it.

**Katie** [00:03:52] Where'd you get your foil from Stu, because it sounds very quiet?

**Stu** [00:03:56] Thank you. It's, it's just Tesco, is just Tesco's foil. But that's the point. That's why you bother dressing yourself head to toe in tin foil five times as a warm up. So on the day, you know how to move. Look at this. I can actually do, if you watch closely, I can do the running man. You don't hear a thing.

**Aaron** [00:04:13] Oh my God that is amazing. I mean, if only Zoom recorded both video and audio, we could actually put out the video podcast.

**Stu** [00:04:21] You want to sort your settings out, mate. I'm genuinely aggrieved that we're never going to see my credible Silver Surfer outfit.

**Aaron** [00:04:27] As you guys know, we're going to be combining both of your ideas, in terms of what we can have as the ultimate superhero, and we're going to come up with a superest hero today. Let's not muck about.

**Aaron** [00:04:40] Let's get on with round one: the head.

**Voiceover** [00:04:42] Round one, the head.

**Aaron** [00:04:44] So, here's the deal. You could pick any head from any superhero that you fancy.

**Stu** [00:04:52] Sorry, do we have to fancy them?

**Aaron** [00:04:54] No you don't. I mean, I do. Personally any choice I have is someone that I wanna bone, but, you know, are you recalibrating based on whether or not you need to fancy them?

**Stu** [00:05:04] No, no, no. I'm stalling for time because I'm looking at my little list that I did, and I forgot to do the head. The first one. So I was just playing for time!

**Aaron** [00:05:13] So I’ll do Katie first, and you think of a head of someone that you fancy, and want to have as your own head.

**Katie** [00:05:17] Don't copy me though, Stu.

**Stu** [00:05:20] Ahh, let's see what I'm definitely going to have then.

**Katie** [00:05:25] I think I'd have the head of Daredevil.

**Aaron** [00:05:28] OK, nice.

**Katie** [00:05:29] Because then he can obviously hear everything, and he can be completely inconspicuous, doesn't need lights, you know, like some people do. And I was thinking like, OK, if an enemy is coming at you, yeah, he'd be able to hear them, but they wouldn't necessarily be able to hear him. That's good.

**Katie** [00:05:52] Your miles can be anything. You've got no real requirements on the mask.

**Aaron** [00:05:57] Yeah.

**Katie** [00:05:58] You can turn off the lights or you can have them on, that's your call, doesn't make a difference. But you could do all your business in the dark. So perfect, yeah it saves electric. Perfect for a power cut, perfect for nighttime, perfect for an altercation in a basement or a tunnel. Which often happens. Also if your enemy was coming at you, you could scare them because they wouldn't know who you were, because you could have a huge mask on. They just wouldn't know who you were. They'd be like, 'Woah where's your head?' This mask, they wouldn't know. Also, tear gas. That wouldn't be an issue. So you could just walk on through that. That doesn't, doesn't bother you.

**Stu** [00:06:40] So why is tear gas not an issue? Do you not have super smell? Wouldn't you react incredibly badly to anything that kind of disorientates your senses?

**Katie** [00:06:51] I was just more thinking that you wouldn't have to have your eyes uncovered, would you?

**Stu** [00:06:55] Ahh I think this is full of holes, mate.

**Katie** [00:06:57] I don't know how tear gas works, I thought tear gas was just for your eyes.

**Stu** [00:07:01] I think you'd super smell the tear gas wouldn't you? You'd be, would you be confounded?

**Aaron** [00:07:06] But I mean, I suppose the actual....

**Katie** [00:07:09] I thought he was just looking at it.

**Stu** [00:07:10] Yeah, well, maybe, maybe tear gas wouldn't be a problem because you'd be blinded, it would matter, but pepper spray. Very different deal.

**Katie** [00:07:15] Well, I wasn't talking about pepper spray, mate. I was talking about, I was very clear on that, I was talking about tear gas...

**Katie** [00:07:21] But I think, you know, if you could do all those things, then your enemy would be very impressed. Or very scared. So, you know, either emotion would be good.

**Aaron** [00:07:30] Yeah, OK. I mean, your, your theory is to either kill them with, with actual fright, or kill them with kindness.

**Katie** [00:07:40] Yeah.

**Aaron** [00:07:41] Either way, you're killing them. So...

**Katie** [00:07:43] Well you wouldn't, but you wouldn't physically be killing them. They'd just be over, overawed by you.

**Aaron** [00:07:48] Yeah. Yeah. So you still got your moral compass.

**Katie** [00:07:51] Exactly. Yeah. You've not done any killing. Yes. You're the hero.

**Aaron** [00:07:56] OK. Daredevil. Interesting. So you've gone, all of the heads in the world, and you've gone, I want a blind guy. Because he's better at hearing. Cool.

**Katie** [00:08:04] Yeah.

**Aaron** [00:08:05] Good thinking. Stu. What, have you come up with a head yet?

**Stu** [00:08:11] Well, I've been scrolling 'fifty best superheroes' because the problem is the way my memory works, as soon as we finish this, I'll go 'oh god, I should have had that one'. Like I quite like Captain Haddock from Tintin. Because he's got a beard and I've never been able to grow a convincing beard. But I don't know if it really counts as a power? So I would say, maybe, I'm quite partial to the Hulk's head, but like none of the rest of him. Just, just a head. Just a normal body with the Hulk's head. Because to begin with, you've got the element of surprise, because your head is going to be some five or six times bigger, like the neoproportional head. It's going to be like, that is going to really knock people off their confidence. They're gonna be like, 'That dude's head's enormous'. They probably won't know whether to bring it up or whether you know?

**Stu** [00:09:01] So that would, that would make things quite socially awkward. But to your advantage. Plus, you've got the relative powers of the Hulk, which in terms of the strength of the Hulk, you'd have a very strong jaw. If anyone were to attack you with tear gas, because as everyone knows, the Hulk has nictitating membrane that will cover up his eyes in the event of attack. But basically, he's just so completely invulnerable. Like, whatever went wrong, you would survive. I'm just planning ahead.

**Aaron** [00:09:29] Yes.

**Stu** [00:09:30] I didn't mean that as a pun. Very much not intended. Don't be ringshotting an accidental pun.

**Aaron** [00:09:35] Fair enough. Ok, cool. That's an interesting shout. So when you say you want the Hulk, you want the actual fully roid rage out of control Hulk? You don't want-

**Stu** [00:09:50] Yeah. And i'll have a green one as well, because I'm not trying to show off by having a different coloured hulk.

**Aaron** [00:09:54] Yeah.

**Stu** [00:09:54] Also the red ones and the grey ones look rubbish. Yeah. The green one, but specifically is it Jack Kirby who kind of initially drew the Hulk with, like, so his head is sort of hamburger shaped?

**Aaron** [00:10:04] OK.

**Stu** [00:10:05] I mean it's kind of like, it's like he's got a really big prominent jaw.

**Aaron** [00:10:09] Cool. So we've got a difficult decision here. So we've got the choice between the most competent blind person in the world and a full blown Hulk who's out of control, who's, but like...

**Stu** [00:10:23] It's just a raging head on a tiny skinny body.

**Aaron** [00:10:27] Yeah, so like that's what I'm thinking. Like, depending on the upper body, is like going to be like Hulk Smash! And then just like knocking on the door, be like, can I come in please?

**Stu** [00:10:36] I mean it'd be questionable whether the upper body I'm building can hold the weight of the Hulk's head.

**Aaron** [00:10:41] I mean, I really want to see what happens with that.

**Stu** [00:10:43] If I go Howard the duck for the torso we're in real trouble.

**Aaron** [00:10:48] Yeah, I, I think for the readiness to deal with any tear gas attack, I'm going to have to go with the Hulk. I'm sorry, Katie, if you hadn't of brought it up, I wouldn't have even thought about tear gas. But you're right, he is susceptible to it and the Hulk is not.

**Stu** [00:11:09] If our two heads were to meet in a combat situation Katie, I would simply shout and your ears would burst.

**Aaron** [00:11:17] OK, great. It's 1-0 to Stu. Moving on to Round 2: the upper body.

**Voiceover** [00:11:22] Round two, upper body.

**Aaron** [00:11:26] So we have got the Hulk's head to try and support. Stu, what is your upper body that you are picking to go with this head?

**Stu** [00:11:34] John Constantine please. For two reasons. Two reasons. One, it'll look funny under my- no. Two reasons. One is that obviously the hands of John Constantine are magical. So you can do a bit of magic. And although you might argue that the magic is sort of done in the head, the hands definitely play a part in it. And he can do a bit of, you know, kind of drawing, scribbling things. O the magic I like John Constantine doing is all like 'back of a fag packet' magic, you know, rather than, you know, drawings. It's not the sort of Doctor Strange kind of creating special effects in midair stuff, so much as convincing someone to betray someone else, you know. But I think that's a handy element in there.

**Stu** [00:12:19] But also, I re-watched the movie of Constantine recently, which I've probably seen now three or four times. The scene, which is obviously derived from the comic books, where he - spoiler alert - overcomes terminal lung cancer by having the devil pull the fronds of cancer out of his lungs as a punishment so that he has to stay alive longer. It's just great. I just think to be the only person, like, I'm definitely wanting the torso of John Constantine after that has happened, so i'm basically cancer proof and I can keep smoking. So I've got a giant Hulks head, with three or four cigarettes on the go at once-

**Aaron** [00:12:55] Yeah.

**Stu** [00:12:56] I'm completely cancer proof because of my magic lungs.

**Aaron** [00:12:58] OK, well that that is a, that is a good shout. How in proportion to the Hulk is he going to be, Constantine, as the size of the Hulk? Or are you going to have-

**Stu** [00:13:14] I'll take the actual body of John Constantine please.

**Aaron** [00:13:16] The actual body with the giant head.

**Stu** [00:13:18] Yeah. Otherwise it wouldn't be funny that my head was so big.

**Aaron** [00:13:21] Great, nope you're absolutely right. Of course. Why would I even-

**Stu** [00:13:24] At some point the Hulk's neck is going to turn into Constantine's neck.

**Aaron** [00:13:29] It's gonna blend. OK. Cool. John Constantine versus, Katie, what is your choice for the upper body?

**Katie** [00:13:39] Ok, my choice for the upper body is a good one. I think the upper body should be a transformer.

**Stu** [00:13:46] Oh, damn, that is good.

**Katie** [00:13:49] Right, because obviously now we've got to cope with the Hulk's head that someone's popped on there, and I feel like steelwork would hold up the Hulk's head and also you could transform into all these different things. So you could, like, if an enemy was coming at you, you could transform into some kind of truck, just your torso? And then just wheel them over? Or you could maybe have like something that shoots on your arm? Could shoot them? Could have a shield? On one, like one of the car doors could be a shield? You could do a very good robot dance and then your enemies like, whoa, that's really cool. And then you join in together, share a few dance moves and then you have a dance off so it doesn't end like it's not violent. Unless they need it to be violent, in which case you got a gun, you can drive them over, or you can push them with the shield?

**Aaron** [00:14:44] Sure.

**Katie** [00:14:45] I think there's a lot of options.

**Aaron** [00:14:46] Yeah. I mean watching Katie try and, like, mime a transformer, just with her arms, to indicate it was the only the upper body part of her that was going to be the transforming, was a thing of beauty.

**Stu** [00:15:01] Katie, would you be an Autobot or a Decepticon?

**Katie** [00:15:05] Erm, pass.

**Stu** [00:15:06] The Autobots are the goodies who were led by Optimus Prime.

**Katie** [00:15:11] Yep, Optimus Prime's gang please.

**Stu** [00:15:14] Yes.

**Katie** [00:15:15] I think, I think I was pitching Bumblebee to you.

**Aaron** [00:15:19] OK.

**Katie** [00:15:21] I feel like, yeah, Bumblebee's got some skills.

**Stu** [00:15:24] My, I think the bumblebee thing is a good shout because the yellow of bumblebee will look really funny against a Hulk's head. Very vivid dayglo.

**Katie** [00:15:33] It would be like those bugs that scare off enemies because they look like they're poisonous.

**Aaron** [00:15:39] Yes, it's..

**Stu** [00:15:40] Yes... And also the fact about Bumblebee transforms into a car, like a yellow beetle as we know, but if the head was enormous and green, then you're going to transform into a big green head that's got wheels. Which I think is.... And a little tiny, little tiny yellow bonnet. I think that's going to be absolutely charming. That's going to look like Mario Kart.

**Aaron** [00:16:04] So I've got a choice between Bumblebee, are you settled on Bumblebee? As your transformer of choice?

**Katie** [00:16:11] Well, let's go with Bumblebee.

**Aaron** [00:16:13] So with Bumblebee, of course you can have wheels, as a, as a legend, pretty much every episode of this podcast, I have wheels, i'm in a wheelchair. I'm choosing Bumblebee for the wheels. It's 1-1.

**Aaron** [00:16:27] And we go into round three: the lower body.

**Voiceover** [00:16:30] Round three, lower body.

**Aaron** [00:16:34] You pick any lower body you want. Katie, who are you choosing for your lower body?

**Katie** [00:16:41] Ok so before I knew we were going to have the Hulk's head, I was going to offer up the Hulk's lower body.

**Aaron** [00:16:49] That's fair. You can still do that.

**Stu** [00:16:52] I really hope we end up with a hero that's just the Hulk, except the torso is Bumblebee.

**Aaron** [00:17:00] What were your reasons for the Hulk's lower body?

**Katie** [00:17:04] Mostly the glutes. I feel like, he's gonna have a strong pair of glutes on him, and that's good for endurance.

**Aaron** [00:17:12] Yeah.

**Katie** [00:17:13] You know, he can take long steps. He can travel fast, and far. He's quite tall. So that is quite, that's intimidating. So maybe, but maybe I'd give the Hulk a bit of ballet training so he's a bit more, you know, light on his feet-

**Aaron** [00:17:34] OK.

**Katie** [00:17:35] Than he normally is. And he might need a bit of, like, balance training, you know, bit of ballet work would work if he's got Bumblebee and as his torso.

**Aaron** [00:17:45] Yeah.

**Katie** [00:17:46] So he doesn't topple over. I feel like because he's got the glutes, the base is very strong, right. So he'll be able to cope with that and he'd be really good at kicking.

**Aaron** [00:17:56] Yeah.

**Katie** [00:17:57] So yeah. So he kicks and stuff. I think he'd look good doing an M.C. Hammer dance as well, which would go into the whole concept of having a dance off instead of an actual fight.

**Aaron** [00:18:08] Yeah. OK, yeah no I'm fairly on board with that. The only query I have about that, is you've got the Hulks head, so do you think he's going to have the temperament to be able to take ballet lessons?

**Katie** [00:18:22] Well, I feel like if he knew, after he's done one, I feel like it would definitely centre him.

**Aaron** [00:18:30] Sure.

**Katie** [00:18:31] Give him a bit of mindfulness.

**Aaron** [00:18:33] Yeah.

**Stu** [00:18:34] It's all about getting him to do that first ballet lesson, isn't it.

**Katie** [00:18:37] Once you break the seal and have that first lesson then he'll realise the benefits of ballet.

**Aaron** [00:18:43] Ok, so the first thing we've got to do with this guy is we've got to show him the film Billy Elliot, make him fall in love with the idea of him doing ballet. That tough guys can do ballet.

**Katie** [00:18:54] Yeah, that would be perfect because Billy Elliot sometimes is angry, but then he lets it out through his ballet and he looks beautiful doing it. And also he's good at kicking already right, but if he does ballet, he could kick even higher.

**Aaron** [00:19:07] That's true.

**Stu** [00:19:09] God is there anything more frightening than the Hulk flexibility.

**Katie** [00:19:14] Exactly.

**Aaron** [00:19:16] Ok, cool, so we got, yeah, we've got the Hulk legs, whilst doing some ballet training, on the side.

**Katie** [00:19:25] He's got the strength, will give him a bit of flexibility, it's going to be lovely.

**Aaron** [00:19:28] Yeah. OK, great. Cool. Stu, you're up against the Hulk's lower body, what is your choice?

**Stu** [00:19:37] I'm, my choice is the the lower body of Cannonball from the either New Mutants or X Force or whatever he's up to these days. Sam Guthrie. He has a regular torso like a regular young guy, sort of little Arian blonde guy you'd expect to find in an X Factor, an X force wing. But his lower body, his power, is that it kind of becomes- I don't really know how it works but I just remember thinking it was cool as fuck in the comic books I used to read as a teen, that his lower body would kind of...generate this sort of energy that would, that would just...I mean it's like flight. Basically the power is flight, except that his version of it chucks out loads of, kind of, smoke and energy and stuff behind him. So he tear-arses around the sky.

**Aaron** [00:20:25] So it's like he's being shot from a cannon?

**Stu** [00:20:29] Well, yes, I suppose, but he doesn't need to... He doesn't need the administrative hurdle of how to take a cannon everywhere with him...

**Aaron** [00:20:36] Sure, sure, that is, that is useful to know.

**Stu** [00:20:40] I mean more to be fair, he should really have been called Firework, because it's a lot more like a firework, but again without the administrative hurdle of having a long wooden stick coming out of your arse, that then needs to be put into a tube and angled away from the house and children.

**Aaron** [00:20:53] Yeah, that gives you a nice safe, it gives you five seconds to prepare and leg it away from it. Do you think that a superhero called The Firework would be intimidating or, like, do you think he would be sort of-

**Stu** [00:21:09] Well, you might beat him once, but you could never return to him.... Did I sound really pleased with myself then? I was really pleased with myself.

**Aaron** [00:21:19] I mean, to be honest, we were all trying to think of a way to get that joke through.

**Stu** [00:21:23] He has the ability to propel himself into the air and is invulnerable whilst doing so.

**Aaron** [00:21:29] Well, there we go. So. Ok. So those are the options. We've got-

**Stu** [00:21:35] And I should say, if we, now that we've gone for the Bumblebee torso...

**Aaron** [00:21:39] Yeah.

**Stu** [00:21:39] When we're in the mode of slightly Mario Kart idea of a gigantic green head, with little yellow kind of wheels and detailing, then it would really propel him forwards as if he'd hit a power.

**Katie** [00:21:52] And I'm going to prof it up, if Hulk's head is invulnerable, therefore his legs must also be invulnerable.

**Aaron** [00:22:01] Yeah, I would, I would agree with that.

**Katie** [00:22:03] He's also got invulnerable legs.

**Aaron** [00:22:05] Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Stu** [00:22:07] But the Bumblebee bit is simply metal.

**Aaron** [00:22:10] Yeah. The only weakness this guy's got is rust. Yeah. No, i'd absolute go with Cannonball. That's a great shout. It would definitely propel the car forward further. Katie's giving me a clap on Zoom...

**Katie** [00:22:25] Yeah, I agree. It was just, I was just cheering you on for your choice there. Now, now I've heard the reasoning behind it, yeah, yeah, I'm on board.

**Aaron** [00:22:37] Cool, it is 2-1 to Stuart Goldsmith.

**Aaron** [00:22:40] Going into round four: the weapon.

**Voiceover** [00:22:43] Round four, weapon.

**Aaron** [00:22:47] So we're going to pick a weapon. Stu, any weapon you want, what is it?

**Stu** [00:22:52] I'm going to go for, and I don't know how to pronounce it, I believe it's the, the na'at. It's spelt na'at, and it's from the Sandman Slim series of novels by American author Richard Kadry. The character Stark has a device which he brought back with him from hell called the na'at. And it is a, it's a malleable object, which can be a sort of a spear or a javelin or a whip. If you imagine a whip that if you crack the whip in a particular way, it becomes hard and turns into a spear or a poking kind of weapon. And if you kind of, I think it has something in the handle which sort of revolves in numerous different ways. So it's like a two-handed handle, and you can either use it as a dagger or a whip or a spear. And it's incredibly flexible. And you can use it as a kind of to grab things like you would with a whip, possibly sort of grappling hook to climb up stuff. It's just this incredibly, it's like an awesome little sort of hellish hellion handle, which you can do all sorts of different things with.

**Aaron** [00:23:54] It's a whip, swordy, stabby thing..

**Stu** [00:23:56] It's it's a sword-whip. It's a swordy-whip. A whippy sword, if you will. I'll be honest, now that I know what the rest of the superhero looks like, he doesn't need a weapon. He could use this as a sort of toothpick. It's a little utensil basically.

**Aaron** [00:24:09] Yeah, it's, it's got lots of real-world applications because as you say, he doesn't need it to be a weapon. He's like the Hulk Transformer Cannonball. So, you know...

**Stu** [00:24:22] You could use it, if he had a dog he could use it as one of those things that picks up a tennis ball and you wang it further that you'd be able...

**Aaron** [00:24:28] And, and as the lead for the dog. All-In-One. It's great. OK. Katie, what is your weapon? I'm hoping it's more conventional.

**Katie** [00:24:39] My weapon is really cool, and also I feel like it's, it's got a mind of its own, so it's more like a pet. Which is nice. I was thinking of the, like, Trident thing that Stargirl slash Starman has, you know.

**Aaron** [00:24:58] Yeah.

**Katie** [00:24:58] And it's like, for anyone that doesn't know, it's like this metal stick made millions of years ago, no one knows which metal it's made from. It seems indestructible, but it kind of does its own thing. Actually, it teaches Stargirl how to use her powers. So it can do a zappy thing. It can help her fly. It can knock people over. It does loads of cool things. And it does it kind of on its own. So I feel like if, because our superhero's quite self-sufficient, and so they wouldn't be so reliant on each other, which I think is quite healthy, but also after a fight, you know, you'd have your pet Trident and you could be like, 'Hey, good job, man. That was really fun,' and that would be nice to check, check in with someone.

**Aaron** [00:25:43] Yeah.

**Katie** [00:25:45] You know, because it's good, it's good to talk, isn't it.

**Aaron** [00:25:48] Yeah. It'd be good for their mental health. And obviously, it being this sort of crazy superhero that's a mix of amalgamation, no one else is going to understand what they're going through. And to have someone who's been there and like knows what's just happened so you don't have to explain all the details, you don't wanna be like, 'oh, I was just chasing a guy. And then I had to turn into a car, and then, and, you know, I use my force field to catch him', or whatever. You don't need to explain that. You just can explain how you feel. And I think that is very useful.

**Katie** [00:26:18] Yeah, it lights up as well. So if it gets dark and the Hulk needs, and we, no we're not the Hulk, our superhero needs some light, it could be like, seeee.

**Aaron** [00:26:28] Which is lucky, I mean, considering your original choice was a head with the daredevil, that'd be counterproductive to your original head, but now, now it's very productive.

**Aaron** [00:26:41] OK, interesting. So here's the thing, I, I like the idea of the multi-tool whip/sword/dagger/javelin whatever, na'at thing that Stu has gone for.

**Stu** [00:27:03] I thought, I honestly thought that was you slamming it. 'I like that one - Not!'.

**Aaron** [00:27:10] Unfortunately it's no longer the 90's so that would not be acceptable, but I like the idea of a Trident. Like even if you don't need it as a weapon, just as, just as-.

**Katie** [00:27:21] Just as a pet.

**Aaron** [00:27:21] Yes, as a pet-

**Stu** [00:27:23] A sort of, so what it is, it's sort of like a Google home hub.

**Aaron** [00:27:26] Yes.

**Stu** [00:27:28] On a stick.

**Aaron** [00:27:28] Yeah. That you can throw at people.

**Katie** [00:27:30] But it, it sees what's going on and it gets up to mischief for you. If you're knocked out, it might be like, 'hey, I'll help you up' or 'I'll get this person off your back'.

**Aaron** [00:27:42] Or do some CPR.

**Katie** [00:27:43] Yeah.

**Stu** [00:27:44] So it's sort of a sidekick?

**Katie** [00:27:46] Exactly. Exactly that.

**Aaron** [00:27:48] A sidekick as a weapon. Yeah. I'm going with that. It's 2-2. 2-2, Katie's won the weapon.

**Aaron** [00:27:54] We're moving into the final round. Round Five is: the power.

**Voiceover** [00:28:00] Round five, power.

**Aaron** [00:28:04] So there's no limit, there doesn't have to be a pre-existing superhero with this power. The only limitation is your imagination. And if you have unlimited imagination as your power, then you've got no limits at all. So, Katie, you can have any power to add to the superhero, what power are you choosing?

**Katie** [00:28:24] Empathy.

**Aaron** [00:28:28] (laughing).

**Katie** [00:28:28] Because we've all seen The Boys, and we've all seen what happens when there's a lack of empathy. And I think, if we make sure our superhero has empathy, it's not going to be egomaniac and they're actually gonna be a hero about the place. I think that's the most important power of all.

**Aaron** [00:28:45] OK, yeah. I mean, great. I mean, usually I have follow up questions about what that power would lead to? But I know what empathy leads to, it leads to a good human being.

**Stu** [00:28:55] Is it that you have an incredible amount of empathy, like a super heroic level of empathy, or is it just basic empathy?

**Aaron** [00:29:02] Basic human empathy?

**Katie** [00:29:04] I think the parallel would be that you're, you've got enough empathy that if someone, you can turn someone, you know, they might be a bad person, but then you're like, 'Hey, have you tried thinking about it from this other person's point of view'? And they go, 'Oh, I didn't think of that'. And then all of a sudden they're a good person.

**Stu** [00:29:24] Yes, so spare empathy.

**Katie** [00:29:26] Yeah.

**Stu** [00:29:28] Like radiating empathy. I've got to say, listen, my, my power was the power to make people reconsider. So I think they're basically, they're basically peas in a pod. I don't know if you've seen the Lego Movie, again, spoiler alert for the end of the Lego Movie, but at the end of The Lego Movie, Emmett played by Chris Pratt, who is entitled to his religious beliefs, and Will Ferrell, who is not, they have this kind of altercation where at the end, rather than beating him or kind of destroying or vanquishing the baddie, Emmett just goes, 'Hey, buddy, why not not be a baddie? You can join in, you can be one of us and we can all be good guys' and Lord Business, Will Ferrell's character, sort of goes, 'Yeah, fair enough'. That's one of the most wonderful conclusions. It's so narratively satisfied when you see what they do with it, that I just thought the power to make people reconsider, but that effectively what that boils down to is empathy. So I'm, seconding that one.

**Aaron** [00:30:30] OK, so yeah. So basically radiating empathy versus the ability to make people reconsider.

**Stu** [00:30:39] I just, I love the idea that, I mean, I'm kind of humbly retiring mine and saying it should be empathy. I think that's a much neater way of doing it. But I love the idea of a giant green indestructible head powering along inside the, sort of, carcus of a yellow transforming metal body. And its power is to make people just have a bit of a think about what they really want to do.

**Aaron** [00:31:02] Do you really want to do this? Wouldn't, wouldn't it be better not to litter? Come on guys, we can, we can all do, let's all band together. We can make this work. Fantastic. Yeah, ok. But then if you're conceding defeat, it's, it's basic empathy. That's what our superior power is.

**Stu** [00:31:19] And that's why I double win.

**Aaron** [00:31:21] Katie, you have won! Three points to two. How exciting! You get to add, as your, as your prize for winning you get to add an aesthetic-based part to the superhero. So anything you want, purely decorative, no functionality whatsoever. What would you like to add to this superhero?

**Katie** [00:31:47] I think it would be great if this superhero either identifies as female or non binary.

**Aaron** [00:31:55] OK, great.

**Katie** [00:31:56] I feel like we need more superheroes that aren't just male identifying.

**Aaron** [00:32:02] One hundred percent. OK.

**Katie** [00:32:03] That's what I'd add in.

**Aaron** [00:32:05] Yeah, no, absolutely they can be non-binary or female. How about we let them choose their own pronouns and-

**Katie** [00:32:11] Yes that would be great.

**Aaron** [00:32:13] And let them decide how they want to be talked to. Great we can absolutely do that for this superhero. So our final superhero is the massive Hulk's head, fully raging, you've then got Bumblebee's upper body, you've got Cannonball's lower body with Stargirl's Trident, with basic empathy, and they consider themselves non-binary. We've got one final thing to do with our superhero in order to finish off this episode, and that is to name them. What name it should we give this superhero?

**Stu** [00:32:46] Smash car. My rule for naming heroes is you have to come up with the very first thing you thought of. Even though that is not the best name. That's my suggested, Smash Car.

**Aaron** [00:32:57] Smash Car. Katie, have you got a suggestion for us?

**Katie** [00:33:01] Yeah, The Vibe.

**Stu** [00:33:02] Oh, that's so good!

**Aaron** [00:33:03] Yeah, I'm absolutely going with The Vibe. There we go. That's the vibe. That's the vibe of this show. Thank you very much to my wonderful guys, Katie Pritchard and Stuart Goldsmith. This has been the Silliest Superest Heroest Podcast. I'll see you next week. Bye bye!

**Voiceover** [00:33:19] Thank you for listening to the Silliest Superest Heroest Podcast. Created by Aaron Simmonds and produced by Gag Reflex. If you want to get in touch with the show about any inaccuracies in this episode, don't.

**Katie** [00:33:38] (Singing) They got a massive head, but they got a car for a torso, it's The Vibe! They're going to fly through the air, and they got a Triden as a pet. It's The Vibe! The Vibe, The Vibe, The Vibe, look out here comes The Vibe! They got so much empathy. It's The Vibe.