

Podcast: What If World

[Episode: 124: What if all of What If World had identical twins?](#)

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Transcription by Keffy

[Rising harp scales followed by the What If World theme song.]

Lyrics: What if kittens played the glockenspiel? And what if unicorns were real? What if you could fly or travel back in time, we welcome you to What If World. What If World. This is What If World.

[Gentle bell music.]

Mr. Eric: Hey there folks, and welcome back to What If World, the show where your questions and ideas inspire off-the-cuff stories. I'm Mr. Eric, your host, and today we're gonna start with a question from a patron named Jack.

Jack: Hi, my name is Jack. I like firemen and my what if question is what if Alabaster Zero and all of What If World had identical twins?

Alice: I like [unclear].

Parent: Thanks.

Mr. Eric: Thank you, Jack. And I should add that Jack's little sister Alice said she likes "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" and to play outside. So, thank you Jack and Alice.

And today we're gonna answer one more question from a review written by Owen. Owen asks, what if Fred the Dog was sick and JF Kat came.

Fred the Dog: And it's just in time for me to give a good shout out to siblings Jordan and Jackson.

Mr. Eric: Hey, Fred. And yes, thank you Jordan and Jackson.

Purrcy: Well I've got a purrfect shout out to give to Abigail.

Mr. Eric: Oh, Purrcy, please don't use that purr. It really... it's too calming, it puts me to sleep.

Purrcy: Purrrrrfect. Then maybe I'll tell the story [yawns].

Mr. Eric: Okay, Purrky, you're putting yourself to sleep, too. Let's just thank Abigail and our final friend, named, Asa, who really likes police officers and well, Detective Alabaster Zero's gonna end up in this story.

Purrky: Okay. Thank you Asa, Abigail, Jackson, and Jordan.

Mr. Eric: Oh, quit it with that soothing voice, Purrky. I've got to tell a story [yawns].

Fred the Dog: Well, I'll wake up Mr. Eric and he can tell us what if Alabaster Zero and all of What If World had identical twins?

Mr. Eric: And what if Fred the Dog was sick and JF Kat came?

Fred the Dog: Oh, phooey.

[Rising harp scale.]

Mr. Eric: Fred the Dog does not start this story sick. In fact, he is feeling like a million bucks.

Fred the Dog: Oh, that's good. I'm glad I feel like a million bucks because the sky mouth is closed and we solved a lot of What If problems lately.

Mr. Eric: He was feeling so wonderful, in fact, that he went to visit his old friend JF Kat at Fur Force Headquarters.

Fred the Dog: JF Kat, JF Kat, What If World is finally getting back to normal.

JF Kitty: I'm purrtty sure there's no such thing as normal, here.

Fair Elise: But we are happy that things are getting better.

Mr. Eric: Said Fair Elise. She and Alabaster shared the same headquarters as the Fur Force.

Alabaster Zero: Yeah, I think we should take a play break outside.

Fred the Dog: Oh, that's a great idea.

JF Kitty: Meow, shouldn't you do some of your presidential duties before—

Fred the Dog: JF Kat, I do those duties outside, like a good dog!

JF Kitty: No, not... oh, I mean like paperwork and stuff!

Mr. Eric: But Fair Elise, Alabaster Zero, and Fred the Dog were already running out of Fur Force HQ to play under the bright and sparkly sky.

Fred the Dog: Don't worry, Jojo! Mr. Mouser is faxing over all of my work for later.

JF Kitty: But maybe you should handle one little responsibility before playing–

Mr. Eric: [Horrible fax machine noise and modem squeal] JF Kat had never heard a fax machine before. It sounded like the interwhat was trying to cough up a rusty harmonica.

JF Kitty: Oh, get me outta here!

Mr. Eric: And JF Kat rushed outside, too, as Fred's responsibilities just kept piling up.

Alabaster Zero: Look at this!

Mr. Eric: Cried Alabaster Zero, lifting up his shirt to show that he had four belly buttons.

JF Kitty: What in the world?

Fair Elise: More like What Ifs in the World.

Mr. Eric: Said Fair Elise, gesturing above them.

Fair Elise: It's perfect weather for what ifs today.

Fred the Dog: Yeah, Alice in the sky with ideamonds came and she's raining what ifs all over the place.

Mr. Eric: And indeed, JF Kat could see a distant glimmering lady sprinkling down ideas atop them. Your ideas, in fact. A gentle storm of magical changes swept across them, transforming the four playmates into anything you can imagine. They took turns ruling What If World and trading places with each other and getting big and small and old and young and flying and teleporting. The hours whiled away but every once in a while, Fred and JF Kat could still hear that distant fax machine piling up responsibilities.

JF Kitty: Okay.

Mr. Eric: Said JF Kat, having just turned back from a giraffe.

JF Kitty: I think we've been out in the magic for long enough. We don't want to catch a glowd.

Alabaster Zero: Don't you mean a cold?

Fair Elise: No, he means a glowd. It's when you've been out in the magic for too long and you get sick.

Fred the Dog: Oh, how could something this fun ever be bad for you?

Mr. Eric: Said Fred the Dog, turning gigantic and eating Alabaster Zero.

Alabaster Zero: Hehehe! Hey! Spit me out, Fred!

Fred the Dog: [Muffled] okay.

Alabaster Zero: Thank goodness you were given flower breath by this magic.

JF Kitty: All right, well, I'm gonna head inside. I don't want to get sick.

Fair Elise: Suit yourself.

Fred the Dog: Bye bye, Jojo!

Alabaster Zero: Wow, my four belly buttons are actually spinnerets that shoot out webs! Just call me spider-belly-boy.

JF Kitty: Okay, fine.

Mr. Eric: And when JF Kat stepped inside Fur Force HQ, there were piles of faxes all over the floor and the phone immediately started ringing.

JF Kitty: Uh-oh. I think we may have been playing for longer than we realized.

Mr. Eric: JF Kat picked up the phone in fear.

Fred the Dog: Jojo, it's me, Fred. I'm outside. I'm sick.

Fair Elise: JF Kat, can you come get us, we're sick.

Alabaster Zero: I think we caught a glowd.

JF Kitty: Oh for meowing out loud!

Mr. Eric: JF Kat turned back around and went outside to see that Alice had finally floated away, leaving Fred, Fair Elise, Alabaster, and Fred shivering in the—wait.

[Record scratch.]

Fred the Dog: Yeah, there's two of us, now.

Fred the Dog: Oh, this Fred's so good at counting all of a sudden.

JF Kitty: All right, which one of you's the real Fred?

Fred the Dog: Oh, I don't really--[sneeze]

Mr. Eric: Fred sneezed on Alabaster and Fair Elise and then--[pop pop!]

Alabaster Zero: Cool, I've got a twin brother.

Alabaster Zero: You've got a twin. Big whoop.

Fair Elise: Well, the two of you have very rude twins, I must say.

Fair Elise: But my twin's better than your twin because I'm a fairy and other things that do it better.

JF Kitty: Fred, I think your sneezes make everyone have identical twins.

Fred the Dog: Oh, this kitty cat is so smart.

JF Kitty: Sarcastic identical twins.

Alabaster Zero: Don't you mean identevil twins?

Alabaster Zero: Wow, identevil, how long did it take you to come up with that?

Fred the Dog: Oh, JF Kat, I think I'm gonna have to call in sick to being president. Could you do it for a few weeks or something.

JF Kitty: You can't call in sick to being president. Let's just handle one problem at a time. I'm gonna get the three, or, uh, six of you some soup. Come on inside.

Fred the Dog: Oh yeah, and deal with all that work in there? As if.

Fair Elise: Our responsibilities don't go away just beca--

Fair Elise: Because I'm a fairy and I've got to make everyone do the right thing all the time.

JF Kitty: Fine, I'll bring the soup out here!

Mr. Eric: And as JF Kat cooked up a big pot of soup, he could hear Fred continuing to sneeze outside sending more identevil twins out into What If World!

JF Kitty: All right!

Mr. Eric: Said JF Kat, standing on his hind legs to carefully carry a big pot of soup out to his sick friends.

JF Kitty: There should be enough soup out here for everyone.

JF Kitty: And now that I'm not president, I'm smarter and wiser than ever.

Fred the Dog: Oh, sorry, I sneezed out a double of you while you were gone.

Mr. Eric: Said Fred the Dog, and there were twins running around all over the place. Crazy, wacky stuff was happening everywhere.

Fred the Dog: Oh, sorry, I also sneezed out a double of you, Mr. Eric.

Mr. Eric: Hey, okay. I don't just make crazy, wacky stuff happen for no reason.

Mr. Eric: And suddenly the soup turned into a caterpillar clown and everyone was chasing it all over the place.

Mr. Eric: No, that's not... that is not what happened. They ate the soup and JF Kat took care of them and they all got better.

Mr. Eric: Oh yeah, uh, the end.

[Record scratch.]

Mr. Eric: No nononono. No.

Alabaster Zero: We've still got identevil twins running amok.

JF Kitty: And I'm pretty worn out of taking care of all of you and putting up with your sarcastic tones.

Fred the Dog: Okay, you can all go back to work. I just still think I need like one more day, or week, or month, to just like, sit here and not have to worry about my responsibilities.

Fred the Dog: I guess I'm never gonna get better so you're just gonna have to take care of me forever and ever.

Alabaster Zero: Me and the Alabaster are gonna have to use our web-shooting belly buttons to catch all the identevil twins, even me.

Alabaster Zero: Are you serious? Because that sounds like a great idea.

Alabaster Zero: Of course I'm serious. I just talk this way so we're vocally distinct.

Alabaster Zero: You just still sound so sarcastic, it's really hard for me to--

Alabaster Zero: Let's just go...

Mr. Eric: And the two Alabasters shot out webs from their belly buttons.

Alabaster Zero: Uh, we prefer to be called spider-belly-boys.

Alabaster Zero: Yeah, I actually like spider-belly-boy.

Mr. Eric: I guess I'll take the other Fred and the other JF Kat and go tell a story about how they saved everybody somewhere else.

Mr. Eric: Thank you, Mr. Eric. This was getting kind of confusing.

Mr. Eric: Oh, you're welcome.

Mr. Eric: Oh, all right.

Fred the Dog: Oh, you two can go, but me and this Fred, we're going to stay and get taken care of.

Mr. Eric: Okay, so it's just me and sarcastic JF Kat going, like, save a different What If World or something.

JF Kitty: All right, Fred, everyone had their rest except for me, but now it's time for you to get back to being president.

Fred the Dog: There's just so many faxes in there and the machine is loud and scary.

JF Kitty: You're sounding just like you're identevil twin.

Mr. Eric: The Fair Elises and Alabasters and even the other JF Kat and Mr. Eric kept collecting more and more identevil twins while Fred continued to play sick and spend time with himself.

Alabaster Zero: Me and spider baby boy have been helping out all over the place.

Alabaster Zero: It's sooo fun. Please ignore my tone, I'm sincere.

JF Kitty: Listen, Fred. I'm not gonna make you go back to being president, but there's a lot of people out there who want you in their lives.

Fred the Dog: But I'm afraid I'm never going to play with my friend anymore.

Fred the Dog: I'm only ever going to work and work and work and work forever.

JF Kitty: Sometimes that's what responsibility feels like.

Fred the Dog: But it is kind of nice when I get to help people.

Fred the Dog: Oh, sure. And the more you help people, the more time those people have to play with you because you helped them and they also want to play with you more because you are so nice and thoughtful.

JF Kitty: That's exactly right.

Fred the Dog: Oh yeah.

Fred the Dog: Oh, yeah.

Mr. Eric: And the Freds stood up and stretched their legs for the first time in what felt like ages.

Fred the Dog: Ooooh, that's a good stretch.

Fred the Dog: Oh, that's such a good stretch. Ah.

Mr. Eric: He walked over to Fur Force HQ where faxes were actually spilling out of the window. And after reading the document.

Fred the Dog: Oh, this is like a good activity, actually.

Mr. Eric: He stretched out with his tongue and grabbed a little pen and gave it a quick signature and a bunch of the doubles crammed into Fur Force HQ disappeared. And as the Fur Force and friends worked together to straighten out their headquarters, all the rest of the doubles finally disappeared, becoming a part of the people and creatures they'd sprung from in the first place. Everyone in What If World had met that person inside themselves who knew all the little things they were afraid to talk about.

Mr. Eric: And everyone lived happily ever after and there were no more problems and—

Mr. Eric: And there's no such thing as a perfect story.

Fred the Dog: Oh, get out of there, identevil Eric! Sorry, I missed one.

Mr. Eric: The end.

[Falling harp scale.]

Mr. Eric: Well, Owen, Alice, and Jack. I hope you enjoyed your story.



I'd like to thank Karen O'Keeffe, my co-creator, Craig Martinson for our theme song. James and Julian, identical twin brothers and two of my best best, most imaginative friends, and all you kids at home who know that helping out your friends and family is not only rewarding, it leaves them more time and energy to play with you.

Until we meet again, keep wondering.

[What If World theme plays.]

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