

Podcast: What If World

[Episode: 161: What if Alabaster Zero got interviewed by Mr. Eric and JFKat?](#)

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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 now let's answer our first question from a patron named Zoey. She asked, "What if Alabaster Zero got interviewed by Mr. Eric and J.F. Kat, and she wrote a whole list of questions. Thank you, Zoey.

Now, since she wants J.F. Kat in the episode, I found a related Jojo Fluffy Kat question from Leo.

Liam: Hi, my name is Leo. I am nine years old and my what if question is what if Mr. Eric did an interview with J.F. Kat? Thank you!

Mr. Eric: Excellent question, Leo. And thanks to Marshall and Teagan S., who also wrote in with that question.

JF Kitty: I'm glad I'm gonna get to be interviewed because I needed to give a lot of meow outs today.

Mr. Eric: Oh, hey, J.F. Kat.

JF Kitty: First, a big meow meow for siblings Cameron and Dylan. Then a meow out for our patient patrons, Sam and Anabel. Sam's 12 and loves graphic novels and drawing. Anabel is six, loves cats and playing soccer.

Mr. Eric: Wow, that was a lot of shout outs.

JF Kitty: I've got one more meow meow for Molly, who's eight years old, loves her kitten, Lucy, unicorns, griffins, her violin, and ballet.

Mr. Eric: Wowee!

Fred the Dog: I've also got a shout out for Molly's little brother, Gabriel, who's six and loves reptiles and snakes and dinosaurs and phoenixes.

Mr. Eric: Cool.

Fred the Dog: And also for Brigid, who's five years old and just became a big fan of the show.

Mr. Eric: Cool, thanks Fred, for those shout outs.

Alabaster Zero: Ooh, hey, am I late for the interview.

Mr. Eric: No, Alabaster, you're right on time.

Alabaster Zero: Right on time to shout out East and Amber.

Mr. Eric: Yes, indeed. So, thanks to East and Amber, Gabriel and Molly, Brigid, Sam and Anabel, and Cameron and Dylan. Now, let's find out, what if Alabaster Zero got interviewed by Mr. Eric and J.F. Kat?

JF Kitty: And if I got interviewed, too.

Mr. Eric: Exactly.

[Rising harp scale.]

Alabaster Zero: Oh, I thought the harp sound was gonna bring us into What If World.

Mr. Eric: Yeah, sorry, force of habit.

JF Kitty: Alabaster, why aren't you wearing your dungaree jacket?

Alabaster Zero: Oh, it was in the laundry.

Mr. Eric: Really? I've never seen you without that jacket.

Alabaster Zero: Well, you know, it's an interview, I figured I'd get dressed up in my nice suit.

JF Kitty: It's purr, uh, covered in cat fur.

Alabaster Zero: Yeah, Tabby Tallulah's been sleeping on it. I thought I got most of it off.

Mr. Eric: No... you really didn't.

Alabaster Zero: Yeah, I couldn't really tie this tie, either.

JF Kitty: You can't tie a tie? Haha!

Mr. Eric: Jojo, that's rude. Tying a tie is hard. Here, Alabaster, let me help you.

Alabaster Zero: I just wanted to look professional.

Mr. Eric: You look great, really, and look. A perfect, full windsor.

JF Kitty: Maybe a three-quarter windsor.

Mr. Eric: Jojo, can I talk to you for a minute?

JF Kitty: That's why I'm here.

Mr. Eric: Alabaster, earmuffs, please.

Alabaster Zero: So embarrassing. [Hums "The Girl from Ipanema" off-key]

Mr. Eric: You can't hum "The Girl from Ipanema," Alabaster.

Alabaster Zero: [Hums "Happy Birthday"]

Mr. Eric: That one's fine.

Jojo, I think Alabaster is taking this interview really seriously.

JF Kitty: I know, it's hilarious.

Mr. Eric: That means we're taking it seriously, too.

JF Kitty: That sounds boring.

Mr. Eric: Are you kidding? With the three of us in a room. How could that possibly be boring?

Okay, Alabaster, we're ready for—who's? Wait? Petrina?

Petrina: Yes! Surprise. I'm your surprise guest.

Mr. Eric: I kind of thought J.F. Kat was my surprise guest.

Petrina: No one's surprised to see him here, but people forgot about little old Petrina, I bet.

Mr. Eric: Oh, Petrina, I never forget about you.

JF Kitty: Yeah, because you always show up uninvited.

Alabaster Zero: Oh, sorry, I imagined her here. I was feeling nervous and she's my friend.

Mr. Eric: Okay, Alabaster. Let's just get started with the first question. How is it, being a detective?

Alabaster Zero: Oh, it's great. I mean, there's tons of paperwork and long days with plenty of travel. And sometimes it's really scary and dangerous.

JF Kitty: Those are all the reasons I stopped being president.

Petrina: Well, Alabaster likes it because he likes helping people.

Alabaster Zero: Thanks, Petrina.

Mr. Eric: Great answer, Alabaster. Now tell us what was it like being a frog?

Alabaster Zero: Compared to being a frog... being a detective's a walk in the park.

Mr. Eric: Wait, really? Being a frog was harder?

Petrina: Oh, you poor thing.

Alabaster Zero: Yeah... [sniffs] I had to eat bugs all day long. My little froggy tummy would rumble. And if I took a nap on a hot rock, I'd get cooked.

JF Kitty: My goodness. You couldn't nap?

Alabaster Zero: Maybe for a few minutes. But I had to constantly be on the lookout for snakes and owls and people with big boots!

Mr. Eric: Wow, I never thought about life as a frog.

Alabaster Zero: I'll tell you what, Mr. Eric. And this is something few people have realized or ever thought out loud.

Mr. Eric: Yeah?

Alabaster Zero: It's not easy being green.

[Record scratch.]

Mr. Eric: Actually, I have heard that, before, somewhere.

JF Kitty: Kermit the Frog said that before you were even born!

Alabaster Zero: Oh, I didn't realize.

JF Kitty: It was very popular song!

Petrina: Oh, Jojo, what's got you in such a tizzy?

JF Kitty: I'm just wondering when I'm gonna get interviewed.

Mr. Eric: Okay, J.F. Kat, why don't you tell us what it was like when you got turned into a wizard?

JF Kitty: Meow that was something. I was really tall and I had a big stick that I could knock things off of even higher places with!

Alabaster Zero: That sounds nice.

JF Kitty: But then I accidentally levitated myself into a tree and I couldn't get down.

Petrina: Aye, magic is hard to get a hang of.

JF Kitty: You're telling me. I had to cast a fireball at the tree, but then it turns out trees are flammable!

Alabaster Zero: Hang on a second. Are you the one that burned my tree down?

JF Kitty: Purr...obably.

Alabaster Zero: That was Tabby Tallulah's favorite tree to get stuck in.

JF Kitty: Well, meow she won't get stuck in it anymore, so you should be thanking me.

Alabaster Zero: I'll thank you when you stop derailing my interview.

JF Kitty: Purr, I think it's my interview that you're derailing!

Mr. Eric: Hey hey hey hey, you two. Hey, listen. We've got enough time to ask both of you some questions.

Petrina: And me, too.

Mr. Eric: Well, Petrina, I could actually use your help keeping these two in line, if you know what I mean.

Petrina: Oh. You need a little discipline from old Petrina, do you?

JF Kitty: Meow she's got a weird glint in her eye.

Alabaster Zero: Oh ho ho, J.F. Kat, you're gonna be in such big trouble.

Petrina: Alabaster Zero! I don't want you running your mouth for one more second.

Alabaster Zero: Sorry, Mrs. the Pirate.

JF Kitty: Hahaha, looks like you were the one in trouble, oh...

Petrina: J.F. Kat, next time you interrupt, I'll turn you back into a wizard.

JF Kitty: Can you really do that?

Mr. Eric: I wouldn't try her, J.F. Kat, she looks really serious.

Petrina: Mr. Eric, you may proceed with your questions.

Mr. Eric: Okay, thank you. So, Alabaster, our listeners want to know why are you so funny?

Alabaster Zero: Funny?

Mr. Eric: Yeah.

Alabaster Zero: You think I'm funny?

Mr. Eric: Well, I didn't say that. The listeners did.

Alabaster Zero: Oh, so you don't think I'm funny.

Mr. Eric: I don't know... maybe.

Alabaster Zero: I don't know maybe funny doesn't sound very funny to me.

Mr. Eric: I guess not.

Alabaster Zero: Good, because I'm here to be taken seriously today.

Mr. Eric: Oh, phew, okay. It's just sometimes you're funny.

Alabaster Zero: Say something funny that I said.

Mr. Eric: I don't know... it sounds funnier when you say it.

Alabaster Zero: [Words running together] Is there something funny about the sound of my voice?

Mr. Eric: What?

Alabaster Zero: I said, [words running together again] is there something funny about the sound of my voice?

Mr. Eric: Really, I did not get that.

JF Kitty: I think he asked–

Petrina: [Shushing noises] This is Alabaster’s interview.

JF Kitty: Okay...

Mr. Eric: Alabaster, it’s just sometimes you talk like you’re trying to sound extra serious.

Alabaster Zero: Is that so...

Mr. Eric: Yeah, it almost sounds like you’re someone who actually speaks in a higher register, but you’re pitching your voice really low and making it super raspy.

Alabaster Zero: I don’t know what you’re talking abouuuut. [Last word is excessively pitched low and raspy].

Mr. Eric: Really, I do because I feel like you actually leaned into it when you said about just now.

Alabaster Zero: Well maybe this is how I need to be in order to be taken seriously as a detective.

Mr. Eric: Really? That’s why you’re so confrontational?

Alabaster Zero: Huh?

Mr. Eric: Sometimes you get really defensive about things.

Alabaster Zero: I do not get defensive–okay, yep, I hear it.

Petrina: Oh, Alabaster. I know what it is to want to be taken seriously.

Alabaster Zero: Really? But you’re so smart and cool.

Petrina: Oh, I know being a wonderful weaver is cool to you, but some people just see a little old lady when they look at me.

JF Kitty: And some people think I’m nothing more than an adorable puddy tat!

Mr. Eric: See, Alabaster? We all want to be taken seriously sometimes. But that shouldn’t mean we have to be have seriously all the time.

Alabaster Zero: So I can be silly sometimes even though I’m a detective?

Mr. Eric: Of course you can, Alabaster. Just like I can be serious sometimes even though I tell silly stories.

Alabaster Zero: Mr. Eric, this interview isn't really about you.

Mr. Eric: Oh, sorry.

Alabaster Zero: [Laughs] Got ya.

Mr. Eric: You did, yeah. Well, we are actually running low on time. So, Jojo and Alabaster, you can each answer these last questions.

So, what is your favorite episode and why?

Alabaster Zero: Oh, I don't like to think of my life as something that's sorted into episodes...

Mr. Eric: Uh-huh...

Alabaster Zero: But I really love when Petrina the Pirate wove a tapestry around the sun.

Petrina: Oh, thank you, Alabaster.

JF Kitty: Meow is it that we both have the same favorite story?

Mr. Eric: Wait, really? You weren't even in that one.

JF Kitty: Exactly. I was just catching a really long nap since the sun was out.

Mr. Eric: Yeah, that sounds about right.

Petrina, since you've been such a big helper, do you want to ask the last question?

Petrina: Oh, it'd be my pleasure, Mr. Eric. Okay. Who is your favorite friend in What If World?

JF Kitty: Oh, that's easy. It's Mr. Mouser.

Alabaster Zero: Wow, I figured you'd say Fred.

JF Kitty: He's too busy being president but Mr. Mouser has stood by me even after all the times I tried to eat him. [Bleh] Like right now.

Mr. Mouser: Thank you for not eating me, Jojo. I'm only very slightly chewed.

Alabaster Zero: Jojo, I think maybe you need to be a better friend to Mr. Mouser.



Petrina: No, Alabaster. You haven't answered old Petrina. Who's your favorite friend?

Alabaster Zero: Oh, that's easy, too. It's Fair-

Petrina: Hmm?

Alabaster Zero: I mean, it's Fair Elly simple for me to say that it's you, obviously, Petrina.

Mr. Eric: Oh boy.

Petrina: You were going to say Fair Elise, weren't you?

Alabaster Zero: Only because she's my detective partner and you're like my best friend when I'm not working. And Tabby Tallulah's my best friend when I'm just hanging out at home.

Petrina: See, that wasn't so hard. Few of us really have just one favorite thing. We can love many things in many different ways as they fit in the many moments of our life.

JF Kitty: Meow that's a lesson.

Alabaster Zero: Oh wow, you just knocked that out of the park, Petrina.

Mr. Eric: Okay, I already sort of like did a lesson about being serious and silly and...

Mr. Mouser: I think Petrina is saying that it's okay not to have a favorite lesson.

Petrina: That's right, Mr. Mouser. Oh, you're such a clever mouse.

JF Kitty: Purrfect lesson, Mr. Mouser.

Mr. Eric: What? He's just repeating what Petrina said!

Alabaster Zero: Oh, Mr. Eric, don't get jealous, it's just not a good color on you.

Mr. Eric: Yeah, it's not easy being green.

Alabaster Zero: I don't think you can say that. See because Kermit the Frog said that.

Mr. Eric: I know who said it! [Sighs]

Mr. Mouser: Jojo Fluffy Kat, would you mind putting me back in your mouth so I don't have to walk all the way home?

JF Kitty: No problem, Mr. Mouser.

Alabaster Zero: You two have a really strange relationship.

JF Kitty: Meow you're getting it.

Petrina: And Mr. Eric, you did a very, very nice interview. Two interviews, no less.

Mr. Eric: Thanks, Petrina. I feel like it sort of got away from me at the end, there.

Alabaster Zero: But remember, Mr. Eric. We don't always have to be taken seriously. Wasn't that your lesson?

Mr. Eric: No, it was that sometimes we all want to be taken seriously.

Alabaster Zero: Oh. Yeah, you should have made that more clear. I gotta go.

Mr. Eric: [Stammers]

Alabaster Zero: Say "hi" to baby Cailem for me.

Mr. Eric: It's Callum. His name's Callum... Oh, Petrina, what am I gonna do?

Petrina: You do what you're best at, Mr. Eric, and you end on a joke.

Mr. Eric: Oh, yes, yes, yes. Okay. Good idea. 'K.

Petrina: Um... or maybe just play the music and try again next week.

Mr. Eric: Oh, oh yeah! That's a great lesson. It's okay to fail because you can always try again next—

[What If World theme plays.]

Mr. Eric: Week...

Petrina: It was for your own good, believe me.