

Podcast: What If World

[Episode: 218: What if you could watch What If World on TV? \(w/ Sloan\)](#)

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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. I know I say I'm excited a lot... I mean, I just... I love doing this show. And there are some people that I am just so happy to do this show with and my friend Sloan is one of them.

We've been friends for years. I've known her mother for a long time and wow, I just, I'm so excited. How are you doing, Sloan?

Sloan : I'm good, how are you?

Mr. Eric: I'm great, I'm great! What grade are you in, now?

Sloan : I'm homeschooled but I would technically be in fourth.

Mr. Eric: You know, you're getting extra credit for this. Can I say that? Am I allowed?

Sloan : Yeah.

Mr. Eric: Don't worry. I'll run it past your mom and she can run it by your other teacher, too.

So, Sloan, thank you, thank you, thank you so much for coming on my show today. I hear that you have a what if question for us.

Sloan : My question is: what if there was a channel on my TV, like in What Is World that you could watch what's happening in What If World and the channel was run by a dog named Tuna?

Mr. Eric: A dog named Tuna. Now, I remember when you wrote in this question, there was something special about the dog. Do you want to keep that as a surprise for later?

Sloan : Yeah.

Mr. Eric: We'll save it for a special surprise. I think it'll be fun.

Sloan : Okay.

Mr. Eric: Sloan, we are gonna find out what if there was a channel on your TV in What Is World where you could watch What If World, and it was a news station run by a dog named Tuna.

Sloan : Tuna.

[Rising harp scale.]

Mr. Eric: Sloan, what are you waiting for? Turn your TV on.

Sloan : Okay. Beep! Um, let me see. Is that J.F. Kat?

JF Kitty: That's right? It's me, J.F. Kat, coming at you from channel XYZ! Oh, sorry, they're telling me I have to get off the air because it's time for the Tuna clock news.

Mr. Eric: Suddenly, J.F. Kat is nudged off the screen by another screen pushing him away.

JF Kitty: Uh, this is really... this shouldn't be as uncomfortable as it is... it's just a screen!

Tuna the Dog: Hey, everybody! It's the Tuna Clock News with me, Tuna, the invisible dog. Yeah, I'm invisible. This is what everybody wanted, huh? I just want to let everybody know here that we're looking for a new newscaster, okay? Anybody out there want to help us tell the news to everybody in What Is World? Hello?

Sloan : [Laughing] [Record scratch.]

Tuna the Dog: Ah, come on, Sloan. I mean, come on, obviously, I'm talking to you. Can't you hear me?

Sloan : Yeah, I can hear you.

Tuna the Dog: All right, all right. Here. Grab my paw, here. Reach through the screen. Yeah, just like that.

Sloan : Okay.

Tuna the Dog: I always wondered what it'd feel like to reach through a screen.

Sloan : Feels weird.

Tuna the Dog: From my end, it feels like reaching through tuna but I guess that's just because I love tuna, you know, since it's my namesake and whatnot.

Sloan : Yeah.

Mr. Eric: And Sloan felt an invisible dog paw pull her into What If World.

Sloan : Oh, my!

Tuna the Dog: Okay, all right, all right, we got a lot of news to get through today, okay? The first is a news story. You're gonna love it. Okay, Mr. Eric gets hit by a giant ball of ice cream.

[Record scratch.]

Mr. Eric: I'm sorry, what? Is that actually gonna—ow! Come on! Tuna! Aaah!

Sloan : Are you okay? Are you okay, Mr. Eric?

Mr. Eric: It's a really, really, big ball of ice—

Sloan : Oh my gosh, are you okay?

Tuna the Dog: Oh, you know, the rest of this What If question says that J.F. Kat had to save him.

JF Kitty: Now you come crawling back to me? Well, forget about it.

Sloan : Oh, no.

JF Kitty: You didn't want me on your show earlier, why am I gonna save Mr. Eric, now?

Sloan : I guess because um, you need to and you're the only one can because everybody else is busy.

JF Kitty: Fine. But I'm not gonna be fast about it.

Mr. Eric: [Drowning in ice cream.]

Sloan : Well, at least save him, he's like drowning in ice cream.

Mr. Eric: And I'm lactose intolerant, ugh!

Sloan : Oh no, that's terrible.

JF Kitty: Okay, I'll lick as fast as I can.

Tuna the Dog: We'll check in with them later. But meanwhile, we got some more news happening all over What If World. Ooh, sheesh louise. All right, Sloan. We're gonna need you to report on this. It seems that sea shells are growing legs on the beach and they're walking around scaring people, yeah.

Sloan : Oh, no.

Tuna the Dog: So, Sloan, what's going on down at the beach.

Sloan : So... sea shells have legs now. And they're running around and trying to eat people.

Leggy Shells: Rarr! Rarr! [Incomprehensible yelling in the background.]

Tuna the Dog: Sloan, do you think, in your professional, journalistic opinion, that these seashells are gonna take over the world or just eat all the people in it?

Sloan : Probably eat the people and then take it over and then kind of like keep some people as, like, their servants.

Leggy Shells: [More incomprehensible mumbling.]

Sloan : I can't understand you, little seashell.

Tuna the Dog: Hey, while you're on the beach, another what if question is coming in. It seems like eels are suddenly also growing tiny legs and now they're walking around the beach, too.

Sloan : Um, yes, I do see them, and they're trying to electrocute people so I better run. Run! Eeeee. Okay, I'm safe now. I'm behind a tree.

Tuna the Dog: From here, in the comfort of this very comfortable news studio where I'm an invisible dog and have nothing to fear from creatures such as that, I can see that there are a small army of electric eels and seashells quickly clamoring towards you on the beach.

Sloan : Uh, oh no. I better run again.

Tuna the Dog: In your professional, journalistic opinion, are these eels pure evil or only kind of evil?

Sloan : I think they're a little less evil because they're only trying to protect themselves because they think humans are evil and they think the humans are trying to pollute their waters, which we are, but we're not trying to. That's just our machines and stuff.

Eels: [Buzzing]

Tuna the Dog: Okay, they are buzzing as if they are agreeing with you, but hang on, hang on. Sloan, sidebar with me over here.

Sloan : Okay.

Tuna the Dog: Listen, I mean, this is a news show so we gotta give them the juicy news and when you're trying to get, you know, make these people sound empathetic and relatable, no, people don't want to hear that. You gotta make everybody sound as bad as possible. That's what makes really good news that's gonna help our ratings. You understand, Sloan?

Sloan : Okay...

Tuna the Dog: Let's get you out of here because we gotta check back in with Mr. Eric.

Mr. Eric: [Still drowning in ice cream.]

Sloan : Oh my gosh! J.F. Kat, lick faster!

JF Kitty: I'm licking faster as fast as I—wait, did you mean lick the ice cream or my fur?

Sloan : The ice cream, J.F. Kat!

JF Kitty: Ooh! The problem is some of the ice cream's in my fur so after I get that out, I'm gonna get right back to the pile.

Sloan : No. No! You're gonna lick the ice cream, then you can get it out of your fur. You have to save Mr. Eric.

Mr. Eric: [Drowning] Thank you, Sloan!

Sloan : Of course.

JF Kitty: Okay, fine.

Tuna the Dog: Sloan! Breaking news! We gotta teleport you back out to the field right now because it appears that flower petals have turned into dog tongues.

Sloan : Oh no.

Tuna the Dog: Yeah, flower petals have turned into dog tongues. People taking gentle walks in the park are now having their ankles licked.

Sloan : Ew.

Tuna the Dog: We've teleported you. You are in the once beautiful field of flowers which is now, uh... you know...

Sloan : Dog tongues!

Tuna the Dog: You said it. Give us all the juicy details. You know what I mean, wink wink! I'm invisible, so I have to say "wink" so that you can know that I'm winking.

Sloan : Yes. Let's see. They're like, licking my ankles really—oh! That tickles! Oh, my goodness! Okay, stop it, flowers. But if we pick them and then after a little while it'll just die if you don't, like, plant it or something.

Tuna the Dog: So you're telling the folks at home that the only way to protect themselves from these evil, vicious, licking flowers is to pick them all right away?

Sloan : In a little bit they might turn back into flowers? Because one just stopped licking me.

Flower: [Incomprehensible] Nom nom nom.

Sloan : I don't know what it's saying.

Flower: Oh, I'm sorry. I just had my mouth full of your ankle. I think your original point about picking us was very good. You know we're flowers. We like to be enjoyed in a vase. But don't just pick us willy nilly so that we're not there anymore. That's not very nice.

Tuna the Dog: Ugh, listen to this one...

Sloan : Tuna.

Tuna the Dog: Sorry, sorry, I'm invisible.

Sloan : So they do not want to be picked, they're just there. They like licking ankles but if you do not want them to, you can just tell them, please don't lick my ankles, and then they... if they are nice, they will stop. I mean, if they don't, then they're not very nice.

Tuna the Dog: I am so sorry to interrupt. We have a developing story, here. It appears Mr. Eric has been hit by a wave of whipped cream and hot fudge topping and also, a cherry on top.

Mr. Eric: [Drowning in ice cream sundae]

Sloan : Okay, somebody dig him out! Like, Fred the Dog or something. He has a giant tongue, that would work.

Fred the Dog: Fred the Dog, here! I just helicoptered in! I heard that there was something that needed licking and that these flowers were kind of stealing my thunder licking everything all the time.

Sloan : So yes, Fred. Please lick Mr. Eric out. Since you have such a big tongue, it's perfect.

Fred the Dog: Oh yeah, you know I love licking Mr. Daddy. I mean, Eric.

JF Kitty: Sorry to interrupt, but I have gotten myself very messy. So, Fred, if you wouldn't mind just licking me and then the... sorry, Sloan's giving me a very dirty...

Sloan : Fred the Dog's gonna lick Mr. Eric because he's like, drowning, and then he will clean, you, okay?

JF Kitty: Oh, fine.

Sloan : Thank you.

Fred the Dog: I mean, all dogs can't have ice cream on What Is World, but here in What If World, I can eat as much as I want.

Sloan : Yes.

JF Kitty: I'm not sure. You might still get a stomach... oh, forget about it.

Tuna the Dog: Sloan! You gotta get back out of Mr. Eric's studio. What if questions have been coming in from left and right and upside down and center and we've got a new question: what if trees could only eat cookies. For some reason, I set up this news station in the middle of a forest so I need you to get out there and do something about these trees.

Sloan : All the trees that came out of the ground, all their roots are legs and they're running around trying to find cookies, and they go, "Cookie cookie cookie! Cookie cookie cookie!"

Trees: Cookie cookie cookie! Hey! Are you a cookie!

Sloan : No.

Tree: Okay.

Sloan : Here, this is a cookie. This is what it looks like, okay?

Tree: Oh, good. We knew that we wanted cookies, but we did not know what a cookie looked like. Also, any resemblance in our voices to a certain monster that also likes cookie is strictly coincidental.

Sloan : Okay. Here you go. Here, have the cookie.

Tree: Numnumnumnum. That is very good. Ooh, now that we ate the cookie, we forgot what cookies look like. Are you a cookie?

Sloan : No, I'm not. So, follow me.

Tree: Is that building a cookie?

Sloan : No.

Tree: I don't know why we know what a building is, but—

Sloan : All right, you guys follow me to the grocery store and I'll show you the cookie aisle.

Tuna the Dog: Sloan, now that you've got these trees following you, what's the inside angle on these trees? Are they gonna think that everything in the world is cookies and then they're gonna eat it all and then there's not going to be a world anymore?

Sloan : So, anybody who can help me, please come and tell them the stuff that is cookies, that's cookies, because once they ate it, they forget.

Fair Elise: I have come... President Fair Elise, in order to help out.

Sloan : Thank you.

Fair Elise: Oh, my pleasure. And I like the fact that you are giving some slightly less opinionated reporting. You're doing a little less what they call editorializing, than Tuna.

Sloan : Yes.

Fair Elise: Now, trees?



Tree: Mmm, are you a cookie?

Fair Elise: I am not a cookie. Thank you for asking me first. What you might also need to know is that some cookies can talk and...

Sloan : You shouldn't eat the talking cookies because they're alive.

Tree: Ooh, very complicated.

Fair Elise: Don't worry, don't worry. I'm going to help. If we sprinkle my fairy dust over only the non-talking cookies, then you'll just be able to eat those cookies.

Sloan : And you will remember what they look like and to not eat people.

Tree: Very good.

Sloan : Did you eat somebody! Oh my gosh!

Abacus: Sloan, thank you for saving me from these terrifying tree creatures. I mean, I think it was one of my errant spells that brought them to life, but your influence has been most commendable.

Sloan : Of course, Abacus.

Mr. Eric: And so, Sloan and Fair– [Record scratch.] Hey! My head's out of the ice cream! I can narrate again!

Sloan : Yay!

Mr. Eric: Sloan and Fair Elise went around telling the trees which cookies they could eat and which things they should not eat.

Sloan : Yeah.

Mr. Eric: But in the meantime there were a lot of angry seashells stomping around and grumpy eels as well. And even a few of the flowers seemed to be swaying their tongues back and forth in an awfully disgruntled manner.

Sloan : Huh.

Tuna the Dog: Hey, Sloan.

Sloan : Yes?

Tuna the Dog: You know all those stories I was telling you to tell about how other people were bad and doing bad things even though they were just kind

of living their lives? Well, it seems like they're all trying to invade the studio. So, if you wouldn't mind coming back here and saving me?

Sloan : Yes, of course. I'm going to teleport now.

Fair Elise: Wow, she's really good at that.

Sloan : Okay, I am here. Um, goodness. There's a whole bunch of eels and seashells and flower tongues stretching all the way into the studio. Hey, hey. Guys. Guys. Calm down. Do you guys know how to write. Nod if you do. If you know how to write in my language, English, if you could write down what you guys want then I can maybe know how to help you.

Flower: I'm actually one of the talking flower tongues. We just want to be treated like normal people and be given the benefit of the doubt rather than everyone assuming that we're trying to eat them or lick them. We are learning about your cultures which are just somewhat different from ours.

Sloan : Okay. That makes lots of sense, thank you.

Tuna the Dog: Oh, come on! Is that even news?

Sloan : Tuna!

Tuna the Dog: Oh, sorry. Eee, invisible.

Sloan : Everyone, if you're thinking that they just... that they want to eat you or they want to be mean, they're just trying to learn about us so please try to be nice to them and treat them as if they are like your fellow humans even though they don't look like you, you still gotta treat them normally because they feel included. They don't feel like you like them or that you're trying to be nice.

Tuna the Dog: Wow. Nobody ever talked to me this way. Oh, look at this! Some people are actually still watching us, I mean, despite the fact that you're not telling them all these bad things.

Fred the Dog: This invisible dog has a lot to learn, Sloan, don't you think?

Sloan : Yes, I do.

Fred the Dog: Oh, sorry, I think I got a little bit of brain freeze from licking.

Sloan : Everybody close your eyes, cover your head. He's sneezing everywhere.

Mr. Eric: And Fred sneezed over everyone in What If World except for me, this time, thank goodness. Covering Tuna the Dog.

Sloan : Oh, no!

Mr. Eric: So that she wasn't so invisible anymore.

Tuna the Dog: Oh boy, are you flower tongues licking me, oh, okay. Electric eels, it was nothing personal I was just trying to get everyone to destroy you. Seashells, it's not like I recommended that people step on you, it's just! Ah! Ooh! I retire!

Sloan : Okay, I think that's enough.

Tree: That's true. She is not a cookie, so we should not eat her.

Sloan : Yes. So, Tuna, I think you're just trying to get them to stop. So did you actually not mean any of the stuff that you said?

Tuna the Dog: I learned so much and I promise that when you tune into the Tuna Clock News with Tuna the invisible dog that's covered in ice cream and thus not invisible, I will give you the straight talk. Strictly the facts and then maybe also talk about tuna, because I mean, come on, I just love tuna.

Sloan : Yes, that's why it's your name, of course.

JF Kitty: Sloan, thank you so much for your help and for all of this delicious ice cream.

Sloan : Of course.

JF Kitty: We have licked down to Eric's shoulders and now we are full so we're going to go home.

Sloan : Yeah.

Fred the Dog: I'll see you later, Sloan.

Sloan : Bye!

Mr. Eric: Bye? You're letting them... oh no.

Sloan : So, Mr. Eric, are you still covered in it from your shoulders down?

Mr. Eric: Yeah, shoulders down, um... I mean, it's melting a little, so that's a positive.

Sloan : I'm just gonna get, like, a shovel and I'm just gonna scoop it off of you, okay? Scoop scoop scoop scoop.

Mr. Eric: And so, as I narrated the end of the story, Sloan laboriously shoveled ice cream off of me. And even when my arms were free she didn't realize and she kept shoveling even though I could have easily shoveled myself out at that point. But, to be honest, it was nice to have someone taking care of me for a change.

Sloan : The end. Doo doo doodoodoo.

[Falling harp scale.]

Mr. Eric: Sloan, I had so much fun!

Sloan : Me, too!

Mr. Eric: And so much ice cream. I wish I had brought a Lactaid to this recording.

Sloan : Yeah.

Mr. Eric: Thank you so much for coming. You have such a wonderful imagination and a sense of fairness and right from wrong that I feel like I'm seeing in more and more kids these days because kids like you speak up. Are there any of your fellow homeschoolers or teachers that you want to give a shout out to?

Sloan : One of my friends whose name is Owen.

Mr. Eric: Well, thank you, Sloan. Hello to Owen, thanks as always, to your mom Ashley for setting this up.

Sloan : It was awesome talking to you! It was awesome being on the show, too!

Mr. Eric: It always is! All right, take care, Sloan.

Sloan : You, too! Bye!

Mr. Eric: Bye!

Abacus: Now, on to our shout outs. I would like to thank Brent, who loves science, Minecraft and podcasts. His little sister's name is Nora and Brent just turned eight years old on September 10th. Happy belated birthday.

Fred the Dog: Then, there's Billy, age nine and Michael, age six. Billy is going into fourth grade and was just stung by a jellyfish at the beach! Hey, watch out, jellyfish! Michael's going into first grade and has a birthday coming up on

October 10th. He's gonna try out for baseball for the first time, this fall. They both love lacrosse, MMA, and swim team.

Zizi: Zizi here to shout out Florence, who's nine years old, and also likes Minecraft. Plus, her brother, Ethan, who is 12 and likes ships.

Cthunkle: And I am here to give an uproarious shout out to Asher, age five, from Framingham, Massachusetts. I once used a ham to frame another and that is how your town got its name.

Mr. Eric: That is not true, Asher.

Pixicato: Finally, it is I, Pixicato, here to shout out Lyra from Toronto. She imagined a G&G character for me, Bellicato, and she just turned 10 on September 4th. Happy birthday, Lyra.

Mr. Eric: And I'd like to thank Karen O'Keeffe, my co-creator, Craig Martinson for our theme song, Dessiree McFarland for her sound design, our helper, Miss Lynn, and all you kids at home who practice critical thinking and looking for the facts.

Until we meet again, keep wondering.

[What If World theme song plays.]