

The Hamilcast: An American Podcast  
Episode #18: Chernow Chapter 13: Publius

Hosts: Gillian Pensavalle and Bianca Soto

Description: We're back talking Chernow with The Federalist Papers. These men truly did write like they were running out of time, it's crazy. We also read listener emails, Bianca tells us about Hamilton yoga, and we discuss how to deal with people who don't match your enthusiasm for Hamilton.

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The Hamilcast's Transcribing Army

Ok, so we are doing this . . .

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GILLIAN PENNSAVALLE: Hello.

BIANCA SOTO: Hi!

G. PEN: I'm Gillian

B. SO: I'm Bianca

G. PEN: You guys, this is our third episode of the day that we're recording

B. SO: Yeah. We're about to polish off this bottle of Federalist cab sav

G. PEN: Should I put the cork sound? You guys want to hear it being poured?

B. SO: Well, the last time we tried a cork sound on air, it didn't go over quite so smoothly [laughs]

G. PEN: Maybe we can make up for it! Okay hold on, let me see

[Glorious audio of wine being poured into a glass]

B. SO: [Laughs]

G. PEN: I hope that doesn't sound like I think it might sound like

B. SO: [Laughing] Hi, everyone, welcome back!

G. PEN: Hello! We just went through, I mean, I know this is going to come out weeks after the first episode that we recorded, but we had quite a day, we spoke to Nicole

B. SO: From the Alexander Hamilton Awareness Society

G. PEN AND B. SO: AHA!

B. SO: If you will

G. PEN: And then we spoke to Kate who is just absolutely

B. SO: Who blew our collective minds

G. PEN: Yeah! People blew our minds in completely different ways

B. SO: Yeah, and we just figured, okay, so we're just going to scrap our Chernow plans for last week's episode, we were going to go into it, but then we just got so caught up in talking to her because she's super interesting and everything she does is amazing and we just wanted her to keep talking to her, so we did

G. PEN: Yeah, it didn't feel right to say

B. SO: "We're going to talk about this book now"

G. PEN: "We're going to shift gears", I say the same shit all the time

B. SO: [Laughs]

G. PEN: I start with, "Hello, everybody," or "Hi, everybody" or whatever, but it just didn't feel right

B. SO: No, yeah, it was better to let it go as it did, and so we just figured, well, we'll just record a third episode in a row

G. PEN: Yeah, because we were prepared, I feel like we've bumped Chernow...

B. SO: A few times

G. PEN: A handful of times at this point, but it's nothing personal. I want to eventually talk to him one day, so I don't want him to be like, "Well, remember episode whatever where you bumped me for the Hamiltome? What was that all about?" I'd say, "Ron, I think you understand."

B. SO: I think Ron understands.

G. PEN: I think you get it. It's also nice because I don't know what, you guys, technical difficulties, it's just me and Bianca, again, still sitting on my bedroom

floor, but no potential—you know what, I'm not even going to say it, because last time I said something...

B. SO: The last time you talked about how we resolved our technical issues, they came back with a vengeance, so, let's just ignore that

G. PEN: Are you saying it's more my fault than Mercury's fault?

B. SO: I'm not saying that...

G. PEN: You're implying it, pretty heavily

B. SO: Maybe the fact that this episode will air May thirtieth, after Mercury goes out of retrograde, will work in our favor.

G. PEN: Okay!

B. SO: Okay?

G. PEN: I'll take that, as a fire sign, I'll let you slide. Also, Mike is on the other side of our French doors, he's writing, right now, he's writing a script, but I invited him to come on, and he said that he, you know, he's busy working, which I completely understand, but he said the nicest thing, which I have to say, he was like, "I just wouldn't be the best guest right now, and I just like your podcast so much that I wouldn't want to bring it down."

B. SO: That is the best way to reject someone, with compliments

G. PEN: It is! And I said one, flattery will get you everywhere, but we're already married, and also, that's like, now I'm going to use that whenever I want to get out of going to a party. Do you think that would work?

B. SO: "I like you too much to ruin your party."

G. PEN: Do you think anyone will buy that?

B. SO: Probably not

G. PEN: I'll try it though. "I just want to not be at your party." I'm sorry.

B. SO: "I respect your birthday far too much to be a stain on it." Anywho, so I agree though, that Mike wants to be prepared, we kind of just sprung it on him because we weren't expecting to record a third episode today, so it makes sense. I understand it, he wants to be prepared, he hasn't really read up on the Federalist Papers of late, I would imagine

G. PEN: Yeah, well, I don't blame him.

B. SO: Don't want to just shove a mic in his hand and be like, "Go!"

G. PEN: Go! Get on the mic, Mike, little Beastie Boys shout out. And I also feel bad because we share this apartment and then whenever we record, we just sort of take over the whole

B. SO: We just sequester ourselves to a portion of the apartment.

G. PEN: We do. These last three episodes, we've been on the floor in my room because we're super professional

B. SO: Well, it's really the children and the construction to blame

G. PEN: I know. You guys, it's one of those things where if you don't experience it, you think I'm exaggerating. They are so loud

B. SO: They're so loud

G. PEN: And the language! The things they say to each other! It's crazy!

B. SO: They kiss their mother with that mouth?

G. PEN: Probably not! It's nuts! Or just the screaming, I don't know. We've talked about

B. SO: There is quite a lot of screaming. So we had to go into a further room and hide behind doors and closed windows

G. PEN: So Mike is writing in the other room. But we still have our Federalist wine, we've been nursing this wine for about

B. SO: Couple hours

G. PEN: For hours now

B. SO: So, want to get to some listener shout outs?

G. PEN: Yeah!

B. SO: Yeah?

G. PEN: I would love that

B. SO: Okay, great!

G. PEN: Isn't it so fun to be on Twitter now?

B. SO: It's so much fun, I actually was never much of a Twitter person until we started the podcast because, I don't know, I just never really understood it, it feels very overwhelming, I'm having more fun with it now.

G. PEN: I like looking through the Hamilton GIFs

B. SO: I love looking through the Hamilton GIFs.

G. PEN: Do you want to get into, because we mentioned it, why we're "House GIF/Team GIF" [pronouncing "GIF" with a hard "G" sound] and not GIF [pronounced with a soft "G" sound]? Should we get into that?

B. SO: Sure!

G. PEN: Do you think people care? Probably not at all

B. SO: Sure, I mean, I've said my boyfriend will disown me for saying "GIF" [with a hard "G"] but that's fine. [Laughing] Not that he owns me...

G. PEN: I was going to say, is it bad that I just thought of the First Wives Club?

G. PEN AND B. SO: [Singing] You don't own me...

B. SO: Boyfriend Dan is a programmer and apparently the programming community, they agree on GIF [soft "G"]

G. PEN: Yeah, but it's a stupid reason. Because it was a joke

B. SO: Choosy programmers choose GIF [soft "G"] or something like that, probably butchering it. Anywho.

G. PEN: But the first word in "GIF" is "graphic", and as someone who's Gillian, a soft "G"

B. SO: I know you feel very strongly about this subject

G. PEN: I do! I feel very strongly about it, but when it's a [hard "G" noise], it's a [hard "G" noise] and it's GIF [hard "G"], I'm sorry you guys, I'm not, I will not budge on this. I'm going to write a hundred thousand words about my feelings on GIF

B. SO: Are you going to deliver a six thousand word pamphlet to Dan's doorstep?

G. PEN: I am. I am, and I need a couple people to recruit and I'll write the other fifty-one and it'll be a thing. And that's the thing I'm going to choose to really, really

B. SO: This is going to fuel your existence.

G. PEN: Oh, god, there are much more important things in the world. Yeah, so you guys, you make everything so much fun, so thank you, so we have a couple shout outs to shout out.

B. SO: We want to say hi to Molly

G. PEN: Molly and Melissa

B. SO: Molly and Melissa

G. PEN: So Bianca and I text a lot, and there's a lot of group texting happening, and I've been posting some screenshots and Molly emailed us a bunch of screenshots between her and her friend Melissa

B. SO: That look a lot like ours

G. PEN: Suspiciously like ours

B. SO: Suspiciously like ours

G. PEN: Too much like ours

B. SO: Well that just goes to show you that everyone has the same need, like, they just want to get into this dialogue, and you can't resist it! Trigger words! You just can't get away from it.

G. PEN: You can't get away from it. And I also love too if people don't have friends to email or text about, then email us and tweet us about it

B. SO: We're here for you. Please!

G. PEN: Which brings me to Anika. We got this really amazing email from someone named Anika, "even better..." I looked at Bianca like

B. SO: [Laughing] Do you have something planned?

G. PEN: Nope. I'll just put in Lin saying it. We have an email from Anika!

["Say No To This" begins playing]

ALEXANDER HAMILTON: Even better, it said:

["Say No To This" ends playing]

G. PEN: "Hello! I can't begin to tell you how your podcast has helped me personally with just the awe of Hamilton. I listen to the podcast in the car with my mom everywhere we go."

B. SO: That already is enough for me.

G. PEN: I love that. Oh my god. Uh, "we are currently on episode eight and I love it." This was a couple weeks ago, this email. "My friends have never heard Hamilton and only know the little things I just have to talk about. Because of that, I feel I have a group of people to listen to, to help calm down the excitement in me. Thank you for all you do, congrats on the podcast!" And then she also asked, "I'm wondering how to spread the word about Hamilton? My friends will jam out to songs along with me, but don't prefer it. What do I do?" Which I think is a very valid

B. SO: It is! Because when you have this desire to share it with someone because you have such a love for something and you want to share it with other people and they're maybe not quite getting it, it's kind of frustrating! It's like, UGH why don't you get it?! You know?

G. PEN: Yeah, and I responded to Anika because I also felt like, I know it sounds crazy, but we relate to that.

B. SO: Totally!

G. PEN: It may sound like, when you're listening to this podcast that it's sort of our lives, and it is, but we interact with people all the time that don't really care about it, and for some time, that was Mike. Before Mike listened to it, he was like, I just want to see it when we see it, and it was kind of, it wasn't like he was holding me back from it in any way, but you have to sort of just not, like, it's okay if people aren't going to be on the level that you're on. So, what I said to Anika was that basically, you don't want to try to force it on people and then resent them if they're not as into it as you are if they don't meet those expectations, because the last thing you want is a negative connotation with either Hamilton or your friends.

B. SO: Right, exactly.

G. PEN: That would suck.

B. SO: Totally. So if they're not feeling it as much as you'd like to, okay, you know, you can keep trying, I guess, a little bit here and there

G. PEN: Yeah, if they're willing to jam out here and there

B. SO: If they're willing to jam out, I mean, I don't know how anyone could NOT become mesmerized, but that's just me

G. PEN: And me

B. SO: And you and Anika and everyone else. But you know, if it's something they're just not so into, then so be it. Their loss.

G. PEN: Yeah, and maybe not yet, maybe they will be, maybe they have to see it, maybe they want to listen to it in their own way, like when Mike decided to finally listen to it

B. SO: He walked around the city, he said, right?

G. PEN: Yeah!

B. SO: He just walked

G. PEN: And listened to it kind of on his own, because my initial thing was, "Let's listen to it together!" and he was like, no.

B. SO: That wouldn't have been good.

G. PEN: That would've been a terrible idea. It would've been awful, so maybe sometimes people just need to get introduced in their own way or stumble on it or find things a little later or when they're ready for it. It's going to change your life. So you might need to be ready to accept it. And in the meantime, guess what you guys?

B. SO: You have us!

G. PEN: We gotcha.

B. SO: Thank you so much, Anika, I love this email so much and I love that you listen in the car with your mom, it reminds me of when I was in high school, my mom would be driving me to school and we would be listening to

G. PEN: Rent?

B. SO: Rent.

G. PEN: With me and Ashley, my mom, my parents

B. SO: And Chicago, various Broadway soundtrack recordings, because I didn't really have anyone in school to talk about this with, so it was pretty much me and my mom, so I really resonate with that.

G. PEN: It's really not easy to find people that are into stuff like this, and it sounds incredible to say because it's breaking all the records, it's making all the history, it's sixteen Tony nominations and everyone is trying to get tickets and you can't get tickets because everyone's trying to see it, but that doesn't mean that no matter where you are, in whatever city, town, state, that maybe in that little vicinity there's no one else there. That's reasonable, that's not a weird thing.

B. SO: Of course.

G. PEN: I was a weirdo. I get it. I still am, are you kidding me?

B. SO: Hashtag, still a weirdo.

G. PEN: Weirdos unite, you guys. So, don't worry about it and, again, email us, tweet us, send us screenshots, we'll post more of our screenshots because people seem to enjoy it and we're not lacking in screenshots

B. SO: No. We're not.

G. PEN: And also, it's another thing too, this sort of feeling like everything's okay and there's no pressure—I've been feeling these last two chapters of Chernow a lot of pressure because there's a lot happening.

B. SO: It's very dense, there's just a lot happening in them, a lot of details.

G. PEN: I feel like now we have a responsibility, I don't want to disappoint anyone that's listening to us. So yesterday I was texting Ashley, like, "Ash, you gotta help me, can you be my tutor and help me? I have this," and I gave her access to our little Google doc with all the notes and outlines that we make, and I realized a couple things. It's our podcast, we can do whatever we want

B. SO: That is a fact.

G. PEN: We can always bring it back to Hamilton, we are always open to talking about other things that we missed

B. SO: True.

G. PEN: Lin left out SO many things, and he's getting—where's our Pulitzer? He left out things, come on! No? Is that insensitive? Oh god. But yeah, I just, I don't know, I think I just have to relax about the Chernow.

B. SO: It's all good dude, it's fine!

G. PEN: But I get it, because people are tweeting us, saying that they were nervous to read it, it's super dense and overwhelming!

B. SO: It's actually been really cool to see your tweets and your emails, like, I've been wanting to read it and I've been struggling, it just seems so daunting, and the fact that you can read along with us as a bit of a supplement has been helpful to you is incredible and super flattering

G. PEN: I guess I just don't want to disappoint anybody.

B. SO: You know what helps me relax?

G. PEN: Some Federalist wine?

B. SO: That. Also, yoga!

G. PEN: [Gasps] What an amazing segue!

B. SO: Do you remember a while back I was saying my friend was going to teach a Hamilton yoga class?

G. PEN: I do

B. SO: So, I took the class and I was like, how is this going to work? Because when I listen to Hamilton, I just want to jam. I don't want to be centered at all.

G. PEN: Take over the world. And then the songs that aren't like that, they're very emotional

B. SO: They're so sad! Yeah! So anyway, I'm happy to report back, shout out to my friend Mariel, who actually Gillian met a few weeks ago. She taught this Hamilton themed yoga class that was AMAZING, and it was so much fun because at the beginning, she was like, "I don't know, maybe this will just turn into a dance party," and I was like, great, if we're open to that, this is going to be great

G. PEN: Perfect.

B. SO: So we started with everyone just breathing and snapping

G. PEN: [Laughs]

B. SO: So I have the playlist here, I'm going to read it off quickly. So it differs very much from my SoulCycle class, you know, Hamilton fitness 2016

G. PEN: I know, I love that you're really sticking with it

B. SO: So I liked how different they were, so we started with "Alexander Hamilton", hence the breathing and snapping, then we went into "My Shot", "Wait For It", "Helpless", "Satisfied", "The Ten Duel Commandments", "History Has Its Eyes On You", "Dear Theodosia", "One Last Time", "That Would Be Enough", "Best of Wives, Best of Women", "Hurricane", "Burn", and "Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story", and it was GREAT, because even the songs that did have more of a beat, you just flowed to the beat, and it didn't distract from the yoga practice and it didn't take away from the music either but it was sort of the slower tempo songs overall, and it was really great and it was so much fun and people just started singing randomly and it was a really great time! And I can't wait for the next class, Mariel, so let's go!

G. PEN: Yeah, let's go! That's kind of amazing, there are overlapping tunes, as they say, from the spin cycle class, so it's kind of amazing that

B. SO: It's just the mindset you get in, like when you get on the bike you're sort of ferocious and like, cardio, cardio, cardio, pedal, pedal, pedal, and then when you're in yoga you're just trying to be aware and breathe and move and just be aware of your body and how it's moving and you can do that to anything

G. PEN: So you're using the beat in different ways, depending on the context of it all

B. SO: Yeah. It was great. It was so much fun.

G. PEN: That sounds awesome!

B. SO: Yeah, thanks, Mariel. Love you!

G. PEN: I gotta go next time. What was I doing?

B. SO: You DO have to come next time!

G. PEN: Where was I? I don't know where I was.

B. SO: I don't know, I asked you to come! Then something happened. You'll come next time, I'll be there.

G. PEN: I don't know. I think I was visiting my parents or something. There are dogs there, Bianca, so...

B. SO: True.

G. PEN: It's weird, they're not really impressed when I rap to them. They love me, we have this unconditional love, but it's weird when I look at Pete and I put his name into—

B. SO: I get in my dogs' faces, and then they just look at me, blankly

G. PEN: I'm like holding his face, and I feel like the licking is, he gets it, with the licks, but

B. SO: It's like, that's nice

G. PEN: I feel like you're not getting the fact that I just NAILED the "Satisfied" rap, dude, I don't think you...

B. SO: They don't get it.

G. PEN: Isn't that great when you kind of, I'm getting to the point where it's been a long time since I've been listening to this on an actual loop, and it's getting to the point where I don't even realize that I'm mouthing along with it, and I'm like, oh, shit, I just nailed it. That's a fun feeling.

B. SO: That is a fun feeling. But you know, all it takes is one slip of the tongue, and then you're completely off track for the rest of the verse. It's terrifying.

G. PEN: Mmm-hmm. Yeah. They do it, eight days a week.

B. SO: To think of doing that live

G. PEN: Eight days a week. And then, I have to say, the swings, like our friend James was a swing for Mary Poppins, and it's like the craziest job in the world and

B. SO: I don't know how you keep all that straight

G. PEN: And two people that we met when we were at Hamilton, Andrew Chappelle and Carla Garcia, they're swings, and they have to learn SO many

B. SO: Multiple tracks!

G. PEN: Andrew Chappelle does Laurens, who is, you know, Laurens and Phillip, Mulligan, Burr, he is all over the place, so the fact, and also, I'm not taking anything away from Carla, because I am not at all a dancer, so that is, I mean, I am, I can, like if there's a party, I'm a dancer, but I'm not going to an EPA or anything, but I also saw that somebody tweeted at Lin saying Lin messed up during some song, and his reply was, "I mess up every night, it's a different spot, but every night there's some kind of blub"

B. SO: Someone messes up somewhere every night. It's all about how you recover.

G. PEN: Which I loved, I love that ownership of, yup, this is—

B. SO: You want to talk some papes? Speaking of the theater? I just became a newsie

G. PEN: Shout out to Ashley! We were big Newsies people. We were Newsies people before we met, and then it was one of those things where it was like, "You obsessively watch Newsies?"

B. SO: "\*I\* obsessively watch Newsies!"

G. PEN: "Awesome."

B. SO: "We're going to get along."

G. PEN: I also obsessively watched Gypsy. Not only the original, but the Bet Middler Gypsy that I rented from Blockbuster and Dick Tracy was a big

B. SO: I loved Dick Tracy.

G. PEN: Sooner or later? Come on. It was on the other day, and if it's on, I'm watching it. So it was just on, and then I was like, oh I have things to do? Sure. I'm saying every line, it's a rabbit hole, you guys, of craziness.

B. SO: We've all been there, we all have our things. I had Dick Tracy paraphernalia as a child.

G. PEN: I had the video game. I was a big gamer when I was a kid, which people don't, may not get, but it's true.

B. SO: I was a very big Nintendo, original Nintendo person, I had upwards of a hundred games or some craziness like that. They had their own case, like their own armoire type of storage system

G. PEN: Yeah, and now it's proof that we were actually the same person because I had all of that. Did you have all the legos too? I had a lego suitcase

B. SO: I wasn't a lego person!

G. PEN: Were you a Crayola person?

B. SO: I was a Crayola person.

G. PEN: I had the, because I was an only child, so you have to make

B. SO: Same, I was an only child.

G. PEN: Yeah, I was making cards for everybody, which I still do.

B. SO: Not to mention, we also had to grapple, not only with being only children but with being lefties

G. PEN: Yeah, that's true!

B. SO: Can we talk about that for a second? Nothing worse than being singled out in art class in second grade because you can't use the same scissors as everyone else. Am I right?

G. PEN: Did they try to make you a righty? I had one teacher try to make me a righty, and I'm like, what year is this? Like, even back then

B. SO: [Laughs heartily] Salem?

G. PEN: They still do this? What are you talking about? No, but I am oddly ambidextrous.

B. SO: I can't write with my right hand, can you?

G. PEN: No, but when I go bowling, I bowl with my right.

B. SO: I sport with my right hand

G. PEN: Yeah, yeah! That counts as ambidextrous.

B. SO: Okay

G. PEN: I've never heard that, "I sport with my right"?

B. SO: [Laughing] Neither have I, I just said it!

G. PEN: Oh. That's another thing we have exactly in common. Maybe we are...

B. SO: It's weird.

G. PEN: Supernatural. Speaking of supernatural, you guys, people wrote like they were running out of time. Does that work? No? Is that a good segue into Chernow? I don't know. [Sigh] Publius. Chapter thirteen.

B. SO: Publius. Everyone's favorite pen name

G. PEN: And it was everyone's pen name in the Federalist Papers, I only thought it was Alexander's

B. SO: It's really confusing.

G. PEN: I thought it was just his, but then when he says, an anonymous...

B. SO: Literally everyone's favorite pen name.

G. PEN: Right.

B. SO: I'm going to start writing under that.

G. PEN: Well people are going to think

B. SO: I'm Alexander Hamilton?

G. PEN: No, they're going to think you're a biter.

B. SO: Crap. Okay, fine.

G. PEN: Publius 2.0

B. SO: Great.

G. PEN: [Laughing] But now we just said who it is, so you can't be anonymous anymore!

B. SO: Dammit! This is so hard!

G. PEN: Rough times, right you guys? Nope, it was rough times way back after the goddamn Revolution. Things

B. SO: Yeah, so things are a hot mess after the Revolution, and we've united the thirteen states and then we had the whole Constitutional Convention, which we talked about

G. PEN: The Con Con

B. SO: The Con Con, which is perfect

G. PEN: It's the cool way to say it

B. SO: So we have people divided basically into two groups, right? We have the Federalists, who are down with the new way things are going and a dominant central government, and we have the Anti-Federalists, which would be the opposite. Not so much feeling the whole Federalist movement. But both sides, of course, as is with politics today and we see all the time, both sides are just going to say the other side is just the WORST and that they're the right point of view.

G. PEN: Yeah. Everything was terrible

G. PEN AND B. SO: No matter what.

B. SO: Sounds familiar. Just saying.

G. PEN: Oh god. Also, the Constitution wasn't even ratified yet. So people were still arguing

B. SO: Right, still arguing over that, which is a big deal

G. PEN: So, this new, scary way of life was kind of on the way but not there yet. That sucks. The anxiety that we feel about stupid nonsense today, not saying that all anxiety is, because believe me, I know

B. SO: I know a thing or two about anxiety

G. PEN: Oh god, the little voice in the head, right you guys, it sucks. But you know, to think about, it was an oddly unifying thing, even though everybody was fighting. Everyone was still up in arms about the same uncertainty.

B. SO: Right.

G. PEN: Right?

B. SO: Yes. I would say so. So what'd they do about it? I'd like, I'm reading directly from Gillian's notes here, that she wrote, "They pamphlet-fought each other"

G. PEN: Like dance-fighting but wordier?

B. SO: Exactly.

G. PEN: We were thinking about posting these notes, these outlines for you guys in case we missed things

B. SO: Yeah, because sometimes we don't get to everything and then sometimes it's just like funny jokes, and maybe they're just funny to us, I don't know.

G. PEN: But I write these notes like I'm talking to somebody, I don't know, so there's a lot of capitalization and a lot of, "You guys, seriously?"

B. SO: "Whaaaaaatt"

G. PEN: There's a lot of "Up in hurrr" and a lot of references to Ham, so

B. SO: Or we'll talk, I forget which chapter I was writing, I forget which one it was, but...oh it was about—I don't remember. Whatever. But I'll just react, I think we both do, we'll write

G. PEN: You said, like, "All the celebration emojis"

B. SO: "Cue the streamers"

G. PEN: Yeah! "Cue the streamers"!

B. SO: We'll just comment on it as if someone's reading it other than us. But, anyway.

G. PEN: That's just how we live, we live in this fun, conversational world, which is the opposite of this wordy world

B. SO: Yeah, because on top of Publius, they would use other pen names and pseudonyms to not give away who was writing them but they were like the most high school names

G. PEN: They were like a bunch of bitchy high school girls because they were fighting, like before the Federalist Papers came out, like George Clinton was in on it and they just, they were signing everything anonymously, which is crazy because Ham was so outspoken about what he thought, but they were like, Cato, Inspector, Tom Shitt?

B. SO: I don't even understand that one

G. PEN: Mrs. Columbia?

B. SO: [Singing] Here she is...It's in October of 1787, Ham says he has this big, ambitious idea.

G. PEN: Oh, another one?

B. SO: Yeah, shocking, right?

G. PEN: Cue eye rolls from everyone, over him already

B. SO: Cue all the eye roll emojis

["Nonstop" begins playing]

A. HAM: A series of essays, anonymously published defending the document of the public

["Nonstop" ends playing]

B. SO: Legend has it that Hamilton wrote the first one in a cabin on the Hudson river as he and Eliza came back to New York from Albany on a train, I guess. What's a sloop?

G. PEN: No, they were on a boat. Like Sloop John B, like the Beach Boys

B. SO: Oohhh...

G. PEN: But there's this adorable disagreement

B. SO: But they were on their way back, and that's when he wrote the first one

G. PEN: Yeah. But the disagreement is that whether they were traveling up or downriver

B. SO: Right

G. PEN: You know, I'm sharing these notes so I'll just read them to you. I said, "Stop it you guys, they're amazing and complicated just like a revolutionary Eric and Tamie Taylor" for all you Friday Night Lights people. Think of what Eliza was feeling, she was a mother of

B. SO: Several

G. PEN: Give or take a zillion at that point. So not only was she, I'm sure, struggling with what not only was going to happen, but her husband was at the helm of it. That must have been really hard for her

B. SO: I don't even know how one really handles that

G. PEN: Yeah, I'm assuming, I don't know if she stood with him, I don't know how she felt about any of it really

B. SO: I don't know

G. PEN: But I liked that little anecdote that Chernow dropped in there.

B. SO: So on top of Ham, we also had John Jay, he was in on the action. And he was super smart, he had tons of experience, he helped draft the treaty that would end the war, and so Ham thought he's perfect for this. I like that he was also described as "pale, melancholy face and gray eyes." Just saying that the Madison goth musical now has its co-star. I'm just saying.

G. PEN: Imagine the duets. Your goth Madison, it's got to happen.

B. SO: It's really taking shape.

G. PEN: I loved that Photoshop that you did though

B. SO: [Laughing] Thanks!

G. PEN: That was awesome!

B. SO: This is what I spend my time doing

G. PEN: That was a long time ago that you posted that, that was awesome. So John Jay had rheumatism, which is basically arthritis

B. SO: Excruciating joint pain

G. PEN: But it's when your body—it's not arthritis, arthritis is like, oh, just the bones and the joints hurt, but rheumatism is when your body is fighting against your joints and your bones, so as someone who's a writer or someone in that time at all, because that's really the only way you could communicate unless you're right in front of somebody, it's arguably the worst thing that could have happened to him in that moment.

B. SO: Yeah, it kind of sucks

G. PEN: It kind of silenced him

B. SO: He had to bow out of the writing endeavor

G. PEN: Chernow said too, speaking of another timeline jump, later on in the chapter, that John Jay appeared again, he contributed one more in Federalist Paper number, like, sixty something, he just showed up again, and it's like, what? Pegleg Morris, he was invited but he was too busy.

B. SO: Oh, really? With what?

G. PEN: I don't know, raising a bunch of kids and sewing everything? Oh, I'm sorry, that was Eliza.

B. SO: Oh. Whoops.

G. PEN: Sorry, sorry.

B. SO: Ugh, it's so hard.

G. PEN: So busy.

B. SO: Then we have William Duer, who, this poor guy. He gets invited to come to the party, but he couldn't finish two papers, so they just weren't included. Sorry.

G. PEN: So it ended up

B. SO: Everyone else picked up the slack there

G. PEN: Well, I mean, one in particular.

B. SO: One in particular. But, in the end, they did write eighty-five essays, total

["Nonstop" begins playing]

AARON BURR: In the end, they wrote eighty-five essays in the span of six months. John Jay got sick after writing five. James Madison wrote twenty-nine. Hamilton wrote...THE OTHER FIFTY-ONE.

["Nonstop" ends playing]

G. PEN: I also love in the Hamiltome, real quick, where Lin says they go into just straight conversation in that moment because what they did was so important, he's not going to jazz it up in anyway, let's just let Leslie tell the story. So, the Federalist Papers total one hundred and seventy-five thousand words.

B. SO: Good god.

G. PEN: Six hundred pages. The printers couldn't

B. SO: The printers couldn't even handle that type of workload

G. PEN: They're like, I don't...what is this

B. SO: [Laughing] What is this?

G. PEN: [Quoting Hamilton in "We Know"] "What is this?" [Imitating opening notes from "We Know"] Dun-nun-nun-nun-nun. And it was basically two dudes.

Madison and Hamilton. And also in my notes, I say to quote Mark Ruffalo's Dave Toschi from "Zodiac"

[Audio from "Zodiac" begins playing]

DAVE TOSCHI: Jesus Christ.

[Audio from "Zodiac" ends playing]

G. PEN: That's a great movie, it's my favorite movie, if anyone is wondering, we can get into that another time. But the way that they wrote it, it's, this is kind of the beginning of the Hamilton-Madison rift, I think.

B. SO: Yeah, because they started seeing varying points of view at this time.

G. PEN: And only when the papers were published, they had to literally write like they were running out of time, the deadlines were out of control, they were writing things so fast and they had to get them out so fast that they couldn't talk to each other about it

B. SO: They did two essays a week at three day intervals, which is madness

G. PEN: Madness!

B. SO: And they would appear in four or five newspapers, so if this is the deadline you've put on yourself, it's like, pressure to the max

G. PEN: People are waiting!

B. SO: People are waiting for it, what else are they going to do?

G. PEN: Nothing

B. SO: Can't turn on the TV

G. PEN: No

B. SO: Nope!

G. PEN: I don't think they wanted to do anything else, honestly, I think they were just like...

B. SO: Everyone's just waiting with bated breath for the next Federalist Paper

G. PEN: ...furiously writing. Teddy Roosevelt also said that when it came to political practices, it is on the whole the greatest book, "The Federalist", which is all the papers are known as "The Federalist".

B. SO: That's a really bold statement

G. PEN: I think it is! It was really intense.

B. SO: Yeah, especially because they didn't know what the other person was writing, they never saw it until it was published, which seems like, it seems kind of insane as something that's a collaborative effort, to not see what's happening until it's already done

G. PEN: To learn what your counterpart—it's like if we recorded this podcast on separate mics

B. SO: Two different rooms and then we're like, "Let's see how it turned out!"

G. PEN: And then we both released them at the same time

B. SO: That's terrible, it's an awful idea!

G. PEN: It's awful. But I guess it's what they had to do

B. SO: I guess so. Sure.

G. PEN: If we have to keep score, Chernow does another little scorecard of how fast Ham wrote

B. SO: Ham was writing

G. PEN: At one point, he wrote twenty-one essays in two months. At two separate times, he wrote five essays in a week.

B. SO: Twice!

G. PEN: Yeah.

B. SO: That's crazy.

G. PEN: And once he did six in a week, when he was talking about taxes.

B. SO: No. Just no.

G. PEN: Remember when we complained about rereading a chapter of Chernow and making an outline?

B. SO: I don't know what you're talking about.

[Laughter]

G. PEN: But he was like Mozart, he was like a mad scientist of writing, like, quills and pieces of paper, he was so...

B. SO: It's not even easy to write! You can't just type-typety-type it out

G. PEN: Yeah! Talk to John Jay about it!

B. SO: Sure. He can't even move his hands. I'm sorry.

G. PEN: It was bad form.

B. SO: I feel bad for him!

G. PEN: I know, it was terrible! That's the thing, now you can't communicate at all!

B. SO: I know!

G. PEN: It sucks! And he was such a smart dude! He was emo, but hey, we're not going to hold that against him.

B. SO: I would never hold that against somebody.

G. PEN: You want to make a musical, you want to add him to your emo Madison

B. SO: Oh, he's already in. He's in. He is in.

G. PEN: And so it made me think how similar Hamilton and Lin really are in the sense that they're doing so many things but they don't really suffer

B. SO: All at once, too

G. PEN: The many things don't suffer, like, Lin is now, he composed for JJ Abrams, he's doing the Disney movie, he's doing the Hamilton documentary

B. SO: He's going to be in Mary Poppins

G. PEN: He's going to be in Mary Poppins, he is also on Broadway, let's not forget

B. SO: Right, let's not forget how grueling and exhausting just being on Broadway is. Eight shows a week, it is exhausting, and then this show in particular is also exhausting

G. PEN: And he has a wife and child

B. SO: And he has a wife, and he has a child, and he manages to

G. PEN: Tweet?

B. SO: ...be an amazing, kind person, and tweet, and read his tweets, and talk to other people, and do all these things! It's pretty amazing.

G. PEN: The visual I just got is they're like octopus where they have all these arms and they're in everything

B. SO: All the tentacles

G. PEN: And they give a hundred percent to every single thing

B. SO: Yeah, nothing is half-assed

G. PEN: No

B. SO: Everything is...yeah. A lot of care and thought is put into all of it, and it shows, and that's why everyone loves him.

G. PEN: Yeah. Even though a lot of people weren't very into Ham, Hamilton, I'm saying. He got into fights with people!

B. SO: Well, you know, what are you going to do?

G. PEN: Write.

B. SO: Exactly. Exactly! He'd just write, write, write, write, writewritewritewritewrite.

G. PEN: He's going to write a lot of stuff.

B. SO: But I know we've talked about this before, but could you imagine—I mean, well no because Lin sometimes does seven part tweets—to have them in this day and age where you're limited to a hundred and forty characters?

G. PEN: Oh my god. No.

G. PEN AND B. SO: No.

B. SO: Just, no. Tweet seventy-four of six hundred and fifty-nine. That is just a rant.

G. PEN: My friend Jake has tweeted things like, his name is Jake Fogelnest, but he's, I worked with him forever ago, but he'll tweet things like, "Imagine explaining Twitter to Andy Warhol."

B. SO: Yeah, I've seen those!

G. PEN: Things like that, just imagine, especially these people

B. SO: I haven't seen Jake in a million years

G. PEN: I saw him in LA!

B. SO: Aw!

G. PEN: He's fantastic!

B. SO: Nice!

G. PEN: But these men especially, would be like, I don't understand. A hundred and forty pages? No no no, characters. No, a hundred and forty characters.

B. SO: Hundred and forty volumes...?

G. PEN: They would be like, what is this sorcery?

B. SO: I have a hard time with that sometimes. You know what's the worst? When you're trying to

G. PEN: I know what you're going to say

B. SO: Compose a tweet and it's like one letter or character over, and you're like, what could I possibly cut from this, because I hate being too grammatically incorrect in things

G. PEN: Me too

B. SO: I don't want to put a "ur" or whatever

G. PEN: No, I'm saying "your"

B. SO: God, it drives me nuts though, it's like, NO! IT'S JUST ONE OVER!

G. PEN: My go-to is if there's an "and" it becomes an ampersand

B. SO: Ampersand, I'm always team ampersand

G. PEN: And if I have to, I'll have the two words before and after it, I'll take the spaces away, if I have to. And it's very annoying too that Twitter has

B. SO: But they take away your characters for a photo

G. PEN: When you put in a picture!

B. SO: What is that jazz?!

G. PEN: And they're just like, "Would you like to add a picture?" I would, but you're not letting me

B. SO: I would, but you're not letting me right now. I know. I dealt with this today, actually.

G. PEN: I know, and we can get into the non-Instagram/Twitter thing that now we have to post a picture on Instagram, but it won't show up as a picture, it only shows up as a link

B. SO: Right, and I don't like that

G. PEN: Because those two billion dollar companies are fighting and don't agree on anything

B. SO: Right, I don't like that. I like to see pictures, don't make me go to a freaking link

G. PEN: I know. And so for everyone to see our pics, [over exaggerated whining] eh, we have to post a couple more things! We're jerks. [Laughter] Oh my god. It's really obnoxious to complain about things like this when we're talking about the goddamn Federalist Papers.

B. SO: The Federalist Papers!

G. PEN: So when I was texting Ashley, I was like, Ashley, help, how am I going to condense this? So in my notes I have the Ashley translation, so I'm going to read that. Because this is basically what the gist of it was. These are verbatim Ashley texts, so this is a little secret, little inside scoop you guys are getting.

B. SO: Inside baseball.

G. PEN: "The papers argued for a strong central government. The federal system, basically, which is power to the federal government that can allow them to supersede the state governments. It's the guidebook for checks and balances. States can check the fed, and the fed can check the state if either is in violation of the Constitution. So Hamilton argued for no Bill of Rights because he believed the Constitution protected them and that would be redundant. So Madison believed the Bill of Rights was another necessary check on the government, but Ham thought it had already been covered, so..." That's kind of like...

B. SO: "Why are we doing this?"

G. PEN: In "Washington On Your Side", "Look at the Bill of Rights"

B. SO: [Over audio from "Washington On Your Side"] "Which I wrote!"

G. PEN: And that's sort of the basis of the rift, and also them not being able to talk about what they were writing, they were just sort of like, "And another thing!" and they just sort of, in their feverish writing, they kind of veered

B. SO: In separate directions

G. PEN: In other directions, and it's sad, it's another broken relationship in Hamilton's life that started out as something that really wasn't that terrible and

B. SO: And then you could say that they became diametrically opposed foes

G. PEN: And they were bros! [Sigh]

B. SO: They were. Previously bros.

["The Room Where It Happens" begins playing]

A. BURR: Two Virginians and an immigrant walk into a room,

A. BURR AND ENSEMBLE: Diametrically opposed foes

A. BURR: They emerge with a compromise, having opened doors that were

A. BURR AND ENSEMBLE: Previously closed, bros

["The Room Where It Happens" ends playing]

G. PEN: It's a bummer. But yeah, there's a lot of it that's actually really sad, just, what they had to do and I guess

B. SO: Revolution is messy, y'all

G. PEN: [Quoting "Cabinet Battle 2"] "But now is the time to stand", it's just, you know, they believed in it so hard.

B. SO: Yeah, and I think when you do feel so strongly about something, it's hard to see someone else's point of view in the midst of that.

G. PEN: And when you think that person's point of view is not just wrong, but detrimental to what you're trying to build, and when what you're trying to build is a country and a unified place, it's like...where's the conversation there? It's too big, it was bigger than any of them, really. I don't know if, honestly, they could...I don't know if there's a situation where any of them could have been, I don't know if there was any situation where when all was said and done, they could go back to whatever they were. Too much had happened, it was bigger than them

B. SO: Probably not, yeah, I think they're...you can't really go back after that.

G. PEN: No, I don't think so. And it was years, it was decades of them doing that. I can't imagine what that would be like

B. SO: No, me neither.

G. PEN: Just to maybe...I don't know. And I think, we haven't heard about Lafayette in a while, and we know about Laurens and we haven't really talked about Hercules either but it feels different because those people, they were with Hamilton, they were on a different side and it was a different time, it was, I don't know if this is the right term, less political in a way because they were fighting...

B. SO: Well they were all very much on the same side, especially Ham, Laurens, and Lafayette, they were basically a triumvirate of very similar thought and had the same end goal.

G. PEN: Yeah. I bet he missed them when he was dealing with all these people at the Constitutional Convention, the two other delegates from New York were against him, and he came from not having a family to having this amazing chosen family and now dealing with all this bullshit? It sucks.

B. SO: Kind of a bummer.

G. PEN: It is a bummer. Well we have to change the subject before we wrap it up, though, because we can't end it on a bummer.

B. SO: We're already crying in last week's episode, we don't want two tear-filled episodes in a row

G. PEN: And you know what? Happily.

B. SO: Of course!

G. PEN: That was so important, I was...[sigh] That was amazing. But you're right, we have to

B. SO: Lighten things up a bit? [Quoting "The Election of 1800"] "Can we get back to politics?"

["The Election of 1800" begins playing]

JAMES MADISON: Please?!

["The Election of 1800" ends playing]

G. PEN: Yo

B. SO: Yo

G. PEN: Yo.

B. SO: I think that's it with this chapter, right? I mean, I'm sure we missed everything

G. PEN: I mean, for what we're trying to do, I'm trying to convince myself it's okay, it's okay to not cover everything. Okay, we can end on the picture that we're going to post about this episode with the Federalist wines

B. SO: Yeah, if we were to take a side by side picture, it would now be an empty bottle.

G. PEN: It would be. Bianca, because we are sitting on the floor of my room, I have stuffed animals in my room

B. SO: So do I!

G. PEN: But I am a big Game of Thrones person, which is weird that in all this time we've yet to talk about it. We read the books, I know all the flaws, trust me, I hate the same things you guys hate about it, I hate, I'm not happy

B. SO: She's like, "Don't come at me"

G. PEN: No, and I hate...that's a whole other podcast, so what is it, thirty-eight?

B. SO: About. The other thirty-eight.

G. PEN: Great, thirty-eight podcasts, the other thirty-eight. But I am...Bianca and I are such dog people, so why I'm House Stark is those dire wolves. So my friend Damien, who we actually talked about last episode with Kate, gave me a replica of Nymeria, the dire wolf

B. SO: She's adorable as well

G. PEN: She's adorable! So Bianca just, I turn around and Bianca is posing Nymeria with the Federalist wine bottle

B. SO: Why wouldn't I?

G. PEN: Yeah! To some people it might not make any sense, but to me, I'm just like, yeah, no, of course. So there's that.

B. SO: We'll share those with you

G. PEN: But that's the explanation for why there's a stuffed wolf—her name is Nymeria, House Stark all the way, you can tweet at me, @GillianwithaG, we can talk all about Game of Thrones and all the things I hate about it and also love about it and I am very excited about John Snow because he's my favorite, so there's that. And it's been weeks, so

B. SO: It's been weeks, so really anything could have happened by now

G. PEN: Yeah, but everyone's like, no spoilers, it's just like, it's on you, if you're a fan of the show, and the show airs on Sunday and it's Wednesday and you're mad that people are tweeting about it?

B. SO: Yeah, what I get mad at is people who at whatever time it ends, like ten o'clock, right? It comes on at nine ends at ten?

G. PEN: Mmm-hmm

B. SO: The people who at freaking ten o'one are like, "BLEH BLEH BLEH BLEH!" I'm like, are you kidding me?

G. PEN: Yeah, no.

B. SO: Drives me insane, even with shows I don't even watch, like I don't watch the Walking Dead anymore because it lost me, I tried, really tried, and it should be right up my alley, but it's not happening. So anyway, I get really angry, I see people at ten o'one posting huge-ass spoilers, and I'm like, what the hell is wrong with you? What is wrong with you, really? Stop. Just stop. I get really angry.

G. PEN: I didn't watch that episode with, the second episode of the season, until it was halfway through, and I just know like, alright, I'm just not going to be on the internet, even though I knew what was happening. We all did.

B. SO: I wasn't able to watch the Breaking Bad finale until like two hours after, and I posted something that was like, shutting off the computer, shutting off my phone, see you on the other side, guys. That's it. Can't deal.

G. PEN: Yeah, but when it's Wednesday...

B. SO: Yeah, no, Wednesday's not acceptable.

G. PEN: ...and people are yelling, "No spoilers!" If you're such a fan of the show, I, ugh...I'm sure there are certain circumstances where you can't watch it and that's fine, but then you can't get mad at people for talking about it. Like, I don't watch Seth Meyers except for when Leslie Odom Jr. was on that time, but there's a really great GIF theme of him saying, no no no, YOU spoil it, like the people who are like, "You can't talk about it!" for a week, it's like no, you spoil it, because I watched it, and I should be able to talk about it, you yelling at me for talking about it, YOU are the spoiler.

B. SO: True.

G. PEN: And I think he's absolutely right. Wow, we veered, huh?

B. SO: We really went off topic, but that's okay.

G. PEN: Well we know how Hamilton's story ends. And now we're back to the bummer.

B. SO: Which is exactly what we were trying to avoid.

[Laughter]

G. PEN: Well, thank you, everybody, so much, this has been so much fun, please tweet us and email us, and, again, let us know if you want your emails read

B. SO: Yeah, when you send us an email, you can either say "You can read this" or if it's something very personal or you don't feel like having us read on the air, that's cool too. We appreciate all of it.

G. PEN: And if you don't tell us to read it on the air, we will err on the side of caution and not read it until you say otherwise. So if we haven't read your email and you want it to be read on the air, please let us know. We just want to be as respectful as possible.

B. SO: Agreed.

G. PEN: Because we love you guys.

B. SO: We do.

G. PEN: Yay!

B. SO: So check out thehamilcast.com for all your Hamilcast needs. We are the Hamilcast on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

G. PEN: I am @GillianWithAG. My show is The Residuals, theresiduals.tv, and if you want to see Mike, my husband, in Much Ado About Nothing, go to litheatrecollective.com. Theatre with an “—re”

B. SO: Correct

G. PEN: And find out all the information because he’s doing that June seventeenth and eighteenth and it’s going to be great, he’s very very good. So if you’re in the area, come see him, and I’ll be there, so come say hi.

B. SO: I like “Much Ado” quite a bit.

G. PEN: Shakespeare!

B. SO: You can follow me on Twitter and Instagram @\_BiancaJean\_ I think that’s it.

G. PEN: Thank you guys so much for listening, and we will see you next week. I am G. Pen

B. SO: B. So!

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We now include the Hamilcast Sign off from 2018 to let you know what host Gillian is currently up to.

[Music: Hamilton – The World turned upside down – Instrumentals play]

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