

4 Quick Qs: Book Talk With Enfys Transcript **David Salisbury: Recorded February 24, 2023**

David Salisbury: Look out especially for greater opportunities to engage in physical activism work, especially that relates to pagan community.

Enfys J. Book: Hey friends, this is Enfys J Book. Before we dive into this interview with David Salisbury, I wanted to let you know this episode is going to sound a little different because it was recorded at convocation with a new audio video setup. I've done the best I can to make it as clean as possible, but I'm still learning, so apologies for any imperfections. With that said, the good news is that you can see this episode in video form on YouTube. And now back to the show.

OPENING JINGLE: Take a playful look with Enfys Book as they roll for crit hits with pagan wordsmiths.

ENFYS J BOOK: Hi there. Welcome to 4 Quick Cues Book Talk with Enfys. This is the show where I, Enfys J. Book, ask pagan authors four quick questions determined by a roll of the dice. With me today is David Salisbury, who I'm super excited to talk to. He is the author of *Witchcraft Activism, a Toolkit for Magical Resistance*, which is extremely timely and useful. I'm just going to read your bio from the back here, so people get an idea of who you are.

"David Salisbury teaches Wicca and witchcraft-based topics throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. He currently lives in Washington, D.C., where he works to co-facilitate Firefly, a national Wiccan tradition, and head up the Firefly House, the largest pagan organization in the Mid-Atlantic region, with nearly 600 members."

That's incredible. David, welcome.

David Salisbury: Thank you.

ENFYS J. BOOK: I'm so excited to have you on. This may not air in order, but this is the first time I'm using a whole new format and this type of video for the show. So, thank you for being willing to be my guinea pig.

David Salisbury: Yes, always willing to be experimented on.

ENFYS J. BOOK: Excellent. So, what we're going to do is we are going to ask questions of this roll of the dice. Now, unlike previously on the show, we have four different sets of questions. So, there's no way we can get the same question twice, which is nice. And they all deal with individual topics.

So, the first category is spirituality. The second is writing. The third is extracurriculars, like other things you do related to your work. And then we have a random encounter, which should be very exciting. That can be anything like, "what's your favorite band?" to, you know, "what's your favorite ice cream?" Or something like that.

David Salisbury: Nice.

Enfys J. Book: So, have you ever been interviewed by a dice before?

David Salisbury: No.

Enfys J. Book: Okay. I'm excited. Would you like to name our dice for the purposes of this interview?

David Salisbury: How about Betty after the late, great Betty White?

Enfys J. Book: Hell yeah. Betty, Betty White. Be good to us today. Let's go ahead and roll the very first question on spirituality.

David Salisbury: Don't fail me, Betty.

Enfys J. Book: We've got a nine. How would you describe your current spiritual path in a sentence?

David Salisbury: Ooh. "I am resetting and recalibrating by moving into a student space."

Enfys J. Book: Awesome. Has that been working out well so far?

David Salisbury: Yes. The pandemic created some pathways to rest with teaching certain things and refusing different organizations that I work with in a way that has allowed me to step back to become a student again in some other ways.

Enfys J. Book: I love that.

David Salisbury: I love constant learning.

Enfys J. Book: Yes.

David Salisbury: This makes life- It's been very nice.

Enfys J. Book: It is really nice, especially if you've been in that leadership teaching position for so long and it's refreshing to step back, I'm sure.

David Salisbury: I want someone to take care of me.

Enfys J. Book: Yes. I'm glad. All right. So, the next question is about writing. Do you want to roll Betty for this one and see what we get?

Ooh, seven.

Lucky number seven.

Enfys J. Book: Where do you like to write?

David Salisbury: Now, I have a cute little home office that I've never had before. I've always lived in little apartments and now I'm in a house and it's sunlight, which is weird for me.

Enfys J. Book: What? Sunlight, what is that?

David Salisbury: And the cat has her little perch, but almost all my books have been written on subways through the city on the way to work in a little tablet. So- Amazing. That's a way for me to work and write.

Enfys J. Book: Hopefully you haven't encountered any of those train derailments we were having for a while with the DC Metro system.

David Salisbury: I've seen my fair share of fires and floods and whatnot, but it's what you get for city living.

Enfys J. Book: Indeed. That's excellent. All right, well, let's try the third question, which is, I have on my notes here, not necessarily writing specific professional questions. It's a short way to describe them, but we'll take a look and see what we've got. Ooh, lucky number 13 for this one.

David Salisbury: Witchy.

Enfys J. Book: Witchy number. Ooh, how do you handle naysayers or bad reviews?

David Salisbury: Naysayers or bad reviews. I would like to say that I always ignore them.

Enfys J. Book: Heh.

David Salisbury: But I dish with friends, typically other writers, because we all know that it doesn't help to spit back or critique the critique. I think most people who write and put things out in the world appreciate good critiques, or they have a reason, like disagreement about something. But we also get the ones that are like, I didn't read this book, but I know it's not good.

Enfys J. Book: It always baffles me.

David Salisbury: For those ones, I'm like, okay, that's not a good critique. That's not useful. But yeah, I dish with author friends, usually over a couple of drinks. You know, like, oh, what's the most ridiculous review you've had this year?

Enfys J. Book: Oh my goodness. That sounds like a blast and also vaguely terrifying.

David Salisbury: It's cathartic, yeah.

Enfys J. Book: All right, so Betty White, we have come to the final of the four questions. This is our random encounter question, where I'm

gonna have you pick a number between one and four, and then we'll roll the dice, and it's one of 80 possibilities of questions. And I had a lot of fun writing these. So you've been warned. Pick a number between one and four.

David Salisbury: Three.

Enfys J. Book: Three. My favorite number. All right, three and five. Let's look at our random encounter table and see what we get.

All right, ooh. What do you want more of in your life? Wow, gosh, I thought it was gonna be what's my favorite ice cream. I had a reason. Oh my God. What do I want more of in life? Time with people. Yeah, less time on projects, more time with people and with connections.

Now that we're coming back from kind of the most restrictive parts of the pandemic and getting to spend time with people again, it's made me realize, like, gosh, I was so thirsty for this, what we're doing here, but then also those, like, you know, outings with friends at restaurants or like going on dates, stuff like that. Interpersonal time.

Enfys J. Book: Yeah, well, we are filming here at Convocation in Detroit, Michigan, which so far has been absolutely incredible.

And I'm excited to experience more of the conference and see more people myself.

David Salisbury: It's just beginning for me.

Enfys J. Book: Yeah. So, gosh, thank you so much for chatting with me today, David. This has been great.

David Salisbury: Thank you. I had so much fun.

Enfys J. Book: What would you like to tell folks about something you're most excited about right now? You can certainly talk about the book. If you have any classes or anything coming up, you want to dish, basically pitch away.

David Salisbury: Well, I am in the very early stages of multiple projects that probably aren't quite ready to be spoken of yet, but I will say for folks who are on the Eastern Seaboard, look out, especially for greater opportunities to engage in physical activism work, especially that relates to Pagan community.

There's a lot of us who do that work in the area, in the DC region, and we're starting to come together to do those physical actions, protests, marches.

As most people probably know, we're in a really critical time right now, probably more so than we ever have before, especially with LGBTQ rights being so under attack and access to healthcare and choice.

And so we are forming coalitions to tackle all of that.

Enfys J. Book: Amazing. Such important and needed work.

David Salisbury: Absolutely.

Enfys J. Book: Well, thank you so much. If you, the watcher, the listener, have enjoyed this episode of 4 Quick Cues, Book Talk with Enfys, be sure to like, subscribe, leave a review on your favorite podcast or YouTube, however you like to do that, and check out more content at majorarequeerna.com, which is M-A-J-O-R-A-R-Q-U-E-E-R-N-A dot com.

Whatever time it is where you live, have a fantastic day, and may the dice of fate roll well with you. Bye!

Outro jingle: Thanks for listening to 4 Quick Q's!

Enfys J. Book: This is Enfys J Book again. Tune in next time when you'll hear author Thorne Mooney say:

Thorn Mooney: Somebody please send help.

...And that's all. No context.