

## The BookMarks Show Notes & Transcript

**A Note From The Team:** Thank you for checking out the premiere of The BookMarks. This is an improv comedy which means that the actors were given loose episode and character outlines, but the words and progression are all them!

### **Cast (In Order Of Appearance):**

Virginia Lee (she/her): Marquelle Bookerson

Cody Smith (he/him): Mark Bookerson

Rebecca Sternberg (she/her): Jess Bookerson

### **Crew:**

Jade Madison Scott (she/her): Director, Outliner, Sound Designer

Alex Morgan (she/her): Asst. Director

Julia Patrick (she/her) Logo Artist

**Jade Madison Scott**

Hi, I'm Jade Madison Scott the creator of The BookMarks and this is a fun little note from me to you so you know what the heck is going on. The show you're about to listen to, The BookMarks, is an improv comedy. Short outlines were written so the actors would have a plot skeleton to work with but the words, the character choices, that's all them just making it up as they go. And because this is a book podcast that parodies book podcasts I want to make it clear that the authors and books the characters talk about are absolute fiction. Totally made up by the actors on the spot so there's no reason to Google is "blah-de-blah" a real book because it's not. The actors are just so good they'll make you think it is. Alright, that's all I wanted to say so let's get to why you're really here. Please enjoy the show.

*[Underscoring: String Quintet in E major, Op. 11, No. 5 (G 275) by Luigi Boccherini]*

**Scene One**

**Mark's Living Room- Afternoon**

Marquelle

Welcome everyone back to the, the, the, The BookMarks!

MARK  
(singing)

The BookMarks!

MARQUELLE

Yes. Nice, Nice.

MARK

I am your co-host, Mark Bookerson.

MARQUELLE

And I'm your other co-host, Marquelle Bookerson. No relation.

MARK

No relation.

MARQUELLE

And this week we're going to be reviewing the brand-spanking new, indie, graphic novel, *The Ghosts In White* by Keisha Weber.

MARK

But today we also do have a special guest.

MARQUELLE

That's right, we do. That would be  
(Marquelle whispers)

Jess. Go, go, go, go, go.

JESS

Mhmm? Oh, now?

MARQUELLE

Yes. Yes, now. Yes.

JESS

Okay. Um, hi everyone in, uh, in, uh, podcast land. Uh, I'm, I'm Jess. Uh, I'm Marquelle's, uh, little sister.

MARK

Yeah. We decided that because we brought Ken on the podcast and he was so...atrociously awful that it was only right that we bring on Jess, who is Marquelle's significantly cooler sister than that.

MARQUELLE

She is really cool.

MARK

So-

MARQUELLE

We balanced it out.

MARK

Balanced it out.

MARQUELLE

Yeah. Yeah, we did. Uh, but first we're gonna get to a word from our sponsor. We'll be right back.

*[Underscoring: Music Fades.]*

**Scene Two**  
**Soujourner's Trails Trailer**

**[SFX: Tape Recorder Click]**

STOWAWAY

All right. Think everything is set. Who's there?

CAPTAIN

Easy there, lad. It's just your captain checking on his favorite stowaway.

STOWAWAY

I thought I was the only stowaway on this ship.

CAPTAIN

(laughing)

The only one we know of at least. What are you doing?

STOWAWAY

Just uh, just recording the ship's log.

CAPTAIN

The ship's log. Right. I'll leave you to it then.

**[SFX: The Door Shuts As The Captain Leaves. The Crackle of A Radio Being Tuned]**

STOWAWAY

Where was I? I just don't know what it's all for. The places you are leading us, the things we encounter. I'm just saying it's a lot. Whenever the crew follows what you tell me, something happens. Last month we faced ghost ships. Nora, it's still repairing the Sojourner after those half-goat/half-fish, things that attacked us last week. What's next? What are we supposed to fend off next? The damn Kraken? The crew treats me like I'm more of a conspiracy theorist than prophet. The captain's clearly tired of covering for me, and I'm sure she's losing trust in me. And are you testing me in my faith? Have I not proven myself enough to you? I wish, I wish you would just tell me what to do. How can I understand what you want?

MYSTERIOUS

Now...repeat after me.

STOWAWAY

Sojourner's Trails is a horror fantasy audio drama by Balladeer Productions. The Pilot, Fools of the Night, is out now on the pot catcher of your choice. With more episodes coming soon.

**[SFX: Tape Recorder Click]**

**Scene Three**

**Mark's Apartment- No Time Has Passed**

MARQUELLE

And we are back. Jess, why don't you give our listeners a little introduction? The big artist?

MARK

Yeah. Give 'em the breakdown.

JESS

All right. Yeah. Like she said, I, uh, I'm, I'm Jess, Uh, I'm an artist. Uh-

MARQUELLE

Not just artist.

JESS

It's not what I do for a living yet-

MARQUELLE

Not just a, you, you do though. I mean, you just sold a commission.

MARK

Oh, really?

MARQUELLE

That makes you a professional artist, Jess.

JESS

Yeah but-

MARQUELLE

Just accept it in your heart.

JESS

It, it was just like online. It's, it's-

MARQUELLE

It doesn't matter.

JESS

It's still a-

MARK

That's pretty cool. That's like, really? I didn't, You sold a commission. That's really good for you. I'm very happy for you.

JESS

Yeah. Yeah. I guess, I'm being like, I guess technically it's professional, but I got a ways to go.

MARQUELLE

I think , I think that you are downplaying yourself too much. This, this girl has been drawing since she could hold a crayon in her hand. Guys, she's just, she, comics are your dream.

JESS

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

You know, and, and, and she's been doing it forever now. Like, you, you are going to be the next big thing. I know it. I know it. It's just a matter of time.

JESS

(bashful)

Oh.

MARK

Honestly, you know, Marquelle showed me a couple of your test pages. They look really, really good.

JESS

(excited)

Oh!

MARQUELLE

Right?

MARK

Like I think you could probably go professional pretty soon if you keep working at it.

JESS

Oh, Tha, Thanks, Mark.

MARK

Yeah. All-

JESS

That's, uh, yeah. All, all the Bookserson's I know, barring my own family, will be famous authors and that's really cool.

JESS

That means a lot coming from you.

MARK

Yeah.

JESS

Um, uh, let's talk about the book. That's what we're here for, right guys? Let's talk about the book.

MARK

Yeah, for sure.

MARQUELLE

Let's talk about the book.

MARK

Totally. Great job though. Very good job.

JESS

Thank you.

*[Transistion Music: String Quintet in E major, Op. 11, No. 5 (G 275) by Luigi Boccherini]*

**Scene Four**  
**Mark's Apartment-Later**

MARQUELLE

And we're back with this week's discussion about *The Ghosts In White* by Keisha Weber.

MARK

What a book. What a book!

MARQUELLE

This was a scary book. Oh.

MARK

Fun's maybe the first word I would think of, Marquelle.

JES

Yeah, it was super fun. Oh, that's right. You're a scaredy cat.

MARQUELLE

No, I'm okay. I'm not a scaredy cat.

**(SFX: Jess Laughs)**

Okay. No, no. Just sidebar all y'all. I love every genre. Horror is not my favorite. I appreciate it from an artistic standpoint, but I have nightmares. So, let's get into this book. Um, we had our, uh, let's start with the protagonist. Yeah? So we've got, we got,

JESS

Yeah. Yeah.

MARQUELLE

Uh, a Theo,

JESS

Theo, my boy.

MARQUELLE

Uh, Theo who grows up in, uh-

JESS

(reverent whisper)

My boy.

MARQUELLE

Up in , uh, Perseverance, which is in Arizona?

MARK

I think it was a small town. I think it was in Georgia.

MARQUELLE

It might have been-

JESS

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

No, you're right, Georgia.

MARK

He moved, He moved, He moved, He moved away from, From Arizona?

MARQUELLE

Yes, Sorry. To Georgia.

MARK & JESS

To Georgia.

MARK

To go stay with his aunt and his uncle.

MARQUELLE

Perseverance is in Georgia. Mhmm. And so it's this tiny little town. I think it's based off of a a, a real place.

MARK

Yeah. I think it is too.

MARQUELLE

In, in Georgia. And it's, uh, nestled in the mountains and uh, so we've got Theo and his aunt and his uncle. And when he moves there, uh, all these people in the town are a little bit, there's something off. Right? Um, it's one of those classic stories where you've got this young person, causez Theo's like 13, 14, and uh, he's, he's going through this, this world that doesn't make a whole lot of sense. And things keep happening and people don't believe him. They think that he's just seeing things. He just has an overactive imagination. He starts having-

MARK

Well, yeah-

MARQUELLE

These nightmares and then the nightmares start to become real-

MARK

And, and, just like, clarification, you know, the stuff Theo is seeing is, is some pretty ominous things.

JESS

Yeah.

MARK

You know, there are times when he sees almost specters-

MARQUELLE

Yes.

MARK

Hanging above different people in the town. There are times when he sees different sort of appendages, kind of just growing out of buildings as though the buildings themselves are made of living flesh.

MARQUELLE

Ugghhhh. Yep. Yep.

MARK

Uh, there are really just all sorts of things where he, he feels like this town is alive in a way that is much more sinister than simply having lively people who live there. Uh, and so-

MARQUELLE

Yes. Yes. And, and you know, it starts to get really bad when he starts seeing these extra appendages coming out of his, uh, his aunt and his uncle.

MARK

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

And that was right around when you start learning about the eldritch being that lives in the soil-

JESS

Yeesss.

MARQUELLE

Under the town of Perseverance that people have been sacrificed to in order to create this hive mind.

JESS

Blood for the eldritch god.

MARK

Yeah, it basically, Basically, you know, you find out that the small town of Perseverance was sort of made by some, you know, pioneers a very, very long time ago. And they stumbled upon essentially, uh, a terrifying eldritch monster in their, you know, want to, you know, learn more about the world or whatever. You know, that classic explorer trope and in finding this eldritch monster, they were forced to sort of enter a pact that implicates them and all of their descendants, essentially, to bring people into this town and sort of sacrifice them to the hive mind. So-

JESS

Mm-hmm.

MARK

The only people who are really not a part of the hive mine in this town are the descendants of the original people here, but people who, you know, married into families-

MARQUELLE

And Theo.

MARK

And Theo, cause he's been brought here.

MARQUELLE

Yep.

MARK

But people who, who married into families and people who simply came to visit all have this odd sense about them because they've been sacrificed to this eldritch hive mind that is quite literally the town itself. The, the buildings.

MARQUELLE

Mm-hmm.

MARK

The trees, the soil itself-

MARQUELLE

The mountains-

MARK

The mountain is all this being of incomprehensible scope and size and our small-

MARQUELLE

And age.

MARK

And age. It's, it's incomprehensibly. As old as time itself is the closest description they give us.

MARQUELLE

Mm-hmm.

MARK

And, you know, as Theo sort of finds out more and tries to escape this town, because quite frankly he's terrified, you know, the, they start putting more and more pressure on him because we find out that he is their next sacrifice, and his aunt and his uncle are already gone. They're already a part of-

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

MARK

This being.

MARQUELLE

Oh, God, I hated that.

JESS

It's just like the realization on his face. It's like, Oh, I thought these were like my safe people. It's like, nope. No, they're not.

MARQUELLE

Oh God. My heart saken into my stomach with that scene.

MARK

The scene where the hand came out of the palm of the hand and just started stretching forward in this like incomprehensibly non-Euclidan-like scape of hands coming forward. And, like, the teeth just like the mouth opened and there were significantly more teeth than there ever should be, and a mouth and the tongue turned into this terrifying fork appendage that was like grabbing at him and his aunt turned in this almost reptilian or, or, or snake like terrifying hand monster was honestly one of the most shocking images I've ever seen in my entire life. It took a while for my eyeballs to really like-

JESS  
(laughing)

Yeah?

MARK

Get past that.

MARQUELLE

Oh God. And that, that climax too, when he's being held down by the, the not affected townspeople of Perseverance because they're about to sacrifice him to the, to this eldritch being, and it's like he has to find this power within himself in order to fight it off.

JESS

It was so good.

MARQUELLE

Oh my God, guys, I was, I was, I was not prepared for this. Keisha Webber's an incredible graphic artist, but this was her first foray into horror-

MARK

And, And out the park.

JESS

Yeah.

MARK

Out the park.

MARQUELLE

Out of the park? I mean, I was, I was not expecting this because I've read her other books and they are typically more of the, the cute, romantic, sweet slice of life. This was a complete 180 and...it's incredible, but it's also incredibly hard to read if you're not a huge fan of horror, which I am not.

JESS

Kiesha Webber? Do more of this please. Thank you.

MARK

Yeah, and-

MARQUELLE

Oh, God.

MARK

And I just wanna briefly mention that ending because it really leaves a lot to the viewer of whether or not Theo has truly escaped this town, or if this was like the dying thoughts of a boy who has, is being consumed by an eldritch being, and that was maybe more than any image, the most haunting thing that stuck with me.

MARQUELLE

Yes. Yeah, I, I mean I, I don't know about you guys, but I had to like, I had to, to open up some other Keisha Webber books, um, the, the one of, My Most Romantic Sunshine, you know that sweet one about the, the girl who falls in love-

MARK

Yeah, it's great.

JESS

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

The boy in the high school, cause I just, I needed something light and easy to read, to decompress after that. I think I had to sleep with the lights on that night.

MARK

Really?

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

MARK

You had...Marquelle.

MARQUELLE

What? And you didn't?

MARQUELLE

You're an adult. What do you mean you had to sleep with the lights on?

MARQUELLE

I'm not, I like, Okay, so it's, I'm not a huge fan of horror. Okay. I have an overactive imagination every time I would close my eyes. I mean, if I close my eyes right now, I can, Oh my God! No!

MARK

That's what's fun about it.

MARQUELLE

I don't, how is horror fun? What is so fun about being scared? I don't understand that.

JESS

Marquelle just think about the sunshiny rainbow stuff. It'll be okay. The, the scary book is not coming to get you.

MARQUELLE

Oh my God.

**(SFX: Jess Laughs)**

Thanks Jess. Thanks a lot.

MARK

I just don't get that, how you don't, horror is just like so amazing. How are you not just, like, enthralled at all points in time by it.

JESS

It can be like weirdly comforting to me.

MARK

Exactly. Like you see it and it-

JESS

Yeah, like, like there's so much shit going on in the world that seeing it, like, stretch to its limit of, to like an absurd degree is like-

MARK

It provides some catharsis.

JESS

Like you don't have to deal with the real stuff for a little bit. You could just kind of put your anxiety into that. I don't know.

MARK

I didn't know you were a horror fan, Jess. You were in horror stuff?

JESS

Yeah, I really like horror stuff. I've, uh, drawn, I've drawn some, uh, horror comics myself, actually.

MARK

Really?

JESS

Yeah. I don't

MARK

What are your favorite, like, horror things?

JESS

A big fan of Junji Ito.

MARK

Okay. Sick. I, I love him.

JESS

Yeah. Yeah. Uh, and just like indie horror stuff. Like, like, uh, games late, like analog horror type thing, you know?

MARK

Yeah. Yeah. I mean, I love that. There. I mean, this is crazy, a, a friend of mine kind of dropped last minute, but I'm going to see, uh, Calcifer's Creek at Mind Game-

JESS

No way.

MARK

A week or so. Like, do you want to come?

JESS

Um-

MARQUELLE

I think, I think we're getting a bit off-topic here. Um, uh oh. Jess, I think I just heard Jean Pierre saying he needed some help with the hor d'ourves.

MARK

What? Jean Pierre, Jean Pierre is literally like a-

MARQUELLE

Yeah, no, no. I definitely heard him say-

(In a French accent)

Oh, oui help me with the hor d'ourves please.

(In an American accent)

Please could you just like go and lend him a hand while we-

MARK

What are you-

MARQUELLE

While we tangle, untangle these cords right here?

JESS

Okay.

**(SFX: Jess Scoots Back From The Table)**

Okay. Uh. Alright, Marquelle-

MARK

I can go check on Jean Pierre if you-

MARQUELLE

No, no, no, no, no. I need to, I need to discuss, um, some, some podcast-related stuff with you, Mark.

JESS

Okay?

MARK

Uh, cool. Sorry about that Jess.

JESS

No.

MARK

Uh, yeah, Jean Pierre, uh, in the kitchen. Um, if he needs any help-

JESS

Yeah, I'll leave you too alone.

**(SFX: Jess Walks To The Kitchen)**

MARQUELLE

Mark, what are you doing?

MARK

What do you mean? And, and why did you send Jess out to help Jean Pierre? When has Jean Pierre literally ever needed help with hor d'ourrvs before?

MARQUELLE

No, it's not John Pierre. John Pierre's perfectly fine. He's perfectly capable. I sent her away because I wanted to talk to you because I feel like you are trying to cozy up to Jess right now.

MARK

Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa.

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

MARK

Okay. That's outta left field. I sorta feel like.

MARQUELLE

I mean, not really. Not really. I mean, you were just trying to ask her out on a date.

MARK

I asked her if she wanted to go catch a movie as like friends-

MARQUELLE

It didn't feel-

MARK

And, you know, maybe I am a little bit interested in her.

MARQUELLE

There it is.

MARK

And maybe I think she's kind of cool, but I don't see what the problem with that is. You're able to go on dates with people.

MARQUELLE

It's, Mark, it's you specifically, and the fact that you got out of a very big relationship with Berlin, not even half a year ago. You were going to propose to her.

MARK

Woah. Woah.

MARQUELLE

And I don't think you are totally over it. And I don't want my sister to become a rebound. It's as simple as that.

MARK

I, it's not your decision whether or not I'm over my past relationship. That's not really your choice to make.

MARQUELLE

It's not, no.

MARK

Don't you think?

MARQUELLE

I'm, I'm just telling you that I don't wanna see my sister get hurt. Okay. You're both adult, I guess. I mean, Jess is-

MARK

And, and what is it about me that makes you think I'm gonna hurt your sister?

MARQUELLE

What I'm worried about is if you get into kind of a rebounding situation with her where you know, you get her all worked up and you get her into you, and then you decide, oh, oops. I'm actually not emotionally available right now because I'm still not over my ex. My first. Big relationship that I was about to get married to until she broke it off with me. And I don't want that to happen to my sister.

MARK

Wow.

MARQUELLE

I don't want you to hurt her, Mark.

MARK

Wow. Wow. So that's how you think about me. That's how you think about me, Marquelle. How, like, I just don't have the emotional maturity to know that. I don't wanna hurt people who I talk to that I don't wanna hurt my best friend's sister. You think I would just go willy-nilly for the fun of it?

MARQUELLE

Well, I don't think that you would do it on purpose.

MARK

You think I would do it though? You do still think I would do it, Marquelle?

MARQUELLE

I don't.

MARK

You still think I would hurt your sister just because you think that's the kind of person I am. That I just unintentionally harm people because I don't know any better?

MARQUELLE

Yeah, sometimes you do do that.

JESS

Hor d'ourves!

MARQUELLE

Hey!

MARK

What's up Jess?!

JESS

Hi! How's your, how's your conversation between the two of you going?

MARK

It's going wonderful.

MARQUELLE

Great.

MARK

How was Jean Pierre?

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

MARK

He's pretty great, isn't he?

JESS

Uh, Jean, Jean Pierre, uh, he told he's a really cool guy.

**(SFX: Jess Sits Down**

He told me, um, that he was in a muscle flexing contest with Muscle Man, Randy Savage.

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

MARK

He-

MARQUELLE

I totally believe that. He's got some guns man. He's, Jean Pierre's just.....

JESS

Yeah. I mean, surprising for like a, for for his line of work, but yeah, he's, he's-

MARK

Hey Jess, you know, Marquelle and I were just talking about, uh, you and I going to this movie-

MARQUELLE

Mark.

MARK

And she was telling me that you've never seen Calcifer's Creek. Is that true?

JESS

Yeah, it's on my list of stuff to see, but I haven't yet.

MARK

Oh my gosh. Well, I think this is honestly a perfect opportunity for both of us to go. I'd love to be there for your first time seeing it, and quite frankly, I think you're gonna really, really enjoy it if you're, if you're digging The Ghosts In White. So, honestly, I'm super excited and hey, why don't we go to dinner afterwards? A student of Jean Pierre actually has a restaurant that's not too far from here, and I'm sure I could guess the table-

JESS

Ooooooh.

MARQUELLE

Okay, we're getting, we're getting off topic again, guys.

JESS

Yeah. Yeah, but-

MARK

I think we're right on topic. Marquelle.

JESS

But, but yeah. But yeah. Let's do it. Yeah. Yeah.

MARQUELLE

Okay!

MARK

Alright. Sounds great. We'll figure out, I'll text you to find out when you're free. Okay?

JESS

Yeah. Yeah.

MARQUELLE

And we are gonna go on another commercial break. Be right back.

MARK

I'm really looking forward to it.

**Scene Five**  
**The Hunting Season Trailer**

NARRATOR

Earth has become overpopulated. Natural resources are scarce. To solve this problem, the government has been chartering ships to transport families to uninhabited worlds.

COLONEL THOMAS

I am Colonel Thomas. I act on the authority of Earth's triumvirate.

DENZIEN

I know who you are, Colonel.

NARRATOR

Everything seems to be going good. The wrong planet is colonized.

DENZIEN

No longer will you destroy the lives of people on other planets.

COLONEL THOMAS

Fire!

**(SFX: Sustained Heavy Gunfire)**

NARRATOR

From the creator of *Outs Of The Ashes* comes a new sci-fi thriller that shows what happens to the human race when they're thrust into survival mode.

DENZIEN

Prepare yourselves for-

DISTORTED VOICE

The Hunting Season

**(SFX: A Horn Is Blown)**

NARRATOR

Coming this fall to your favorite podcatcher.

**Scene Six**  
**Mark's Apartment**

JESS

We're back, right?

MARQUELLE

Yeah, yeah. We're, yeah. Sorry. We're back.

MARK

We are definitely back.

JESS

Okay. Okay. Yeah. Um, so, uh, I was thinking a little bit more about, um, how, uh, the book this week, uh, the graphic novel style reminded me of when, uh, Marquelle and I used to make graphic novel comics of our own.

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

MARK

Wow. That, that is so cool, Jess.

JESS

Yeah.

MARK

You've been making graphic novels for how long now?

MARQUELLE

Since we were both in middle school. Right, Jess?

JESS

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

She used to draw and I used to write the plots and the dialogue and it was, it was a cooperative project and, and yeah, we-

MARK

What sort of stuff were you interested in drawing as a child, Jess?

JESS

Well, like, I would draw, like, you know, I, I would draw, a-

MARQUELLE

She would draw a lot of animals.

JESS

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

And like magical girls and you know, that sort of thing.

JESS

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

You went through a horse phase for a while there.

JESS

(laughing)

Resident horse, girl, what do you want from me?

MARQUELLE

And then you, Yeah. And then you went through the center phase and then you went through the mermaid phase-

MARK

Thanks so much for that, Marquelle, but I was sort of asking Jess, so I would just kind of like to know what the artist's own personal opinions are about their work.

JESS

Well-

MARK

I appreciate, you know, you giving a little more background, but I really am just interested in Jess's opinion here.

MARQUELLE

I'm just trying to help, Mark.

MARK

Oh, and the help is noted.

JESS

Is uh, you both good?

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

MARK

Great. Phenomenal.

MARQUELLE

We're fine. Wonderful. We're totally-

MARK

Spectacular.

MARQUELLE

Great.

JESS

Okay. Marquelle, Um-

MARQUELLE

Jess.

JESS

Uh, so we, uh, a lot of times, uh, what I drew would be, is she would write things. I would draw for them. So, I got a lot of practice drawing a lot of different things. Um, with, for the comics, I did a lot of like doodles on my own and that's where like the centaurs and the mermaids were and such, you know, trying-

MARQUELLE

Well we did that whole series all through middle-

MARK

So interesting.

MARQUELLE

Right? Remember there were like seven books of that and you did all the art for that. I mean, that was, that was a lot of work.

JESS

It was, but it was super fun.

MARK

Wow.

JESS

And it got my mind off school, so, and other things. Yeah. You know?

MARQUELLE

So it got some attention too, cause do you remember we were showing that around and all the other kids were like, Oh my God, who drew this? Cause they just, they couldn't believe that somebody in middle school would do such beautiful art. I mean, that's, that's you, you've been making gorgeous art since you were a kid-

MARK

I'm sure you do make gorgeous art, just even more gorgeous than the art I've seen, quite frankly.

JESS

Oh, you guys Um, thank you?

MARK

Oh, of course. You know, it just, it really almost speaks to me on some level, right? Because I also know what it's like to really want to be an artist from a young age. I think we really connect in that way. Jess, You know, when I was just a, a small little baby boy, I just, I loved so dearly the, the written word and, you know, my, my siblings Jennifer, Kennifer, they didn't really get it, you know, it didn't appeal to them. But my mother, she just, she loved my writing so much-

JESS

Aww.

MARK

And she just loved to nurture the small voice that was inside of her small child, and you know, as she sort of grew older along with me, she became less interested in my writings and it became a little lonely.

JESS

Aww.

MARK

You know, being an artist can be so lonely and sometimes I just feel so alone and lonesome and, like, it's just something about seeing another artist who just gets it, you know? It really makes me feel almost, a sense of kinship, a bond, I would even say.

JESS  
(wary)

Yeah.

MARK

With a fellow artists such as yourself.

JESS

Um, Marquelle.

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

JESS

I'm, uh, I'm seeing that, that look on your face.

MARQUELLE

I what? Look, what are you talking about? I am not, I'm fine. I don't have a look.

JESS

I'm seeing you.

MARQUELLE

I'm, I am completely neutral. I don't know what you're talking about.

JESS

Are you sure?

MARQUELLE

Mm-hmm. ? Mm-hmm. ? Nope. I'm fine. Everything's fine. Everything's fine.

JESS

See you're smiling really tightly.

MARQUELLE

Yeah.

JESS

Like that.

MARQUELLE

We are just here to do our book podcast. Isn't that right, Mark? We're just here.

MARK

Oh my gosh. It's just so true.

MARQUELLE

We're just here to talk about a shared passion between friends. Good, good friends who go way back.

MARK

Great friends who go way back.

MARQUELLE

Yeah. Yeah.

MARK

And we're just so happy to have someone as, as talented and as multifaceted and as deep as you. Jess.

JESS

Now you're just, now you're, now you're just trying to butter me up or something.

MARK

Oh, I would never, ever, ever do that.

MARQUELLE

Never, Mark?

MARK

Never.

MARQUELLE

No, not once?

MARK

No, I would, I wouldn't do that. I-

JESS

Mark, you're, are you good to, cuz you're like, kind of talking a little weird, you know?

MARK

Um, yeah, I'm totally fine. I'm pretty okay.

JESS

Okay. Alright. I'm just, yeah, I, I'm, uh,...May, um, so, so the book, right?

MARQUELLE

Yeah. Yeah.

MARK

Yeah.

MARQUELLE

Um, so yeah, uh, the, uh, The Ghosts In White by Keisha Webber.

JESS

Yes.

MARQUELLE

It was, um, it was very, very excellent novel, well written, well illustrated, and, um, and yeah.

JESS

Make some of these.

MARK

I also...I also really enjoyed it. I thought it was a great, I thought it was a great book. Um, did you, um, yeah, I thought it was a, an awesome book and I'm, uh, I'm happy that we were able to discuss it with you, Jess. Uh-

JESS

And I'm happy to be here and I'm looking forward to that movie.

MARK

Yeah, I think it's gonna be great. I think it's gonna be a really, uh, awesome time. I think we're gonna really, really enjoy ourselves.

JESS

(laughing)

Yeah?

MARK

Um, this, this has been the, uh, The Bookmarks. Um, follow us on social media?

MARQUELLE

Yep. We're on all the socials. Every single one of them updated almost daily.

MARK

And we will see you in the next one.

MARQUELLE

With another...hot read.

**Closing**

CODY

Starring the vocal talents of Mark Bookerson as Cody Smith.

VIRGINIA

Marquelle Bookerson played by Virginia Lee.

REBECCA

Jess Bookerson played by Rebecca Sternberg.

VIRGNIA

Our podcast is supported by people like you. You can support us and other shows made by WGC, by subscribing to WGC Productions on Patreon. And you can follow us @WithGoodCo on Instagram and Twitter and at WGC Productions on Tumblr and Facebook..