



TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWS

Transcript: Sarah & Joshua's Story - Q&A

TRANSCRIPT:
Q&A ANIMATION
Sarah & Joshua Littman



Joshua Littman: On a scale of one to 10, what do you think your life would be different without animals?

Sarah Littman: I think it would be about an eight without animals, because they add so much pleasure to life.

JL: How else do you think your life would be different without them?

SL: Well, I could do without things like cockroaches and snakes.

JL: Well, I'm OK with snakes as long as they're not venomous and can constrict you or anything.

SL: Yeah, I'm not a big snake person.

JL: But the cockroach is just the insect we love to hate.

SL: Yeah. It really is.

JL: Have you ever felt like life is hopeless?

SL: When I was a teenager, I was very depressed, and I think that can be quite common in teenagers who think a lot. And that are perceptive.

JL: Am I like that?

SL: You're very much like that.

JL: Do you have any mortal enemies?



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SL: I would say my worst enemy is sometimes myself. But I don't think I have any mortal enemies.

JL: You don't have like a [inaudible].

SL: No, I don't. But I'm sure when I was probably in middle school there were people there that made me feel the way you feel about him. But to be honest, I don't really remember that.

JL: Have you ever lied to me?

SL: I probably have, but I try not to lie to you even if sometimes the questions you ask me make me uncomfortable.

JL: Like when we go on our walks? And some of the questions I might ask?

SL: Yeah. But you know what? I feel it's really special that you and I can have those kind of talks, even if I feel myself blushing a little bit.

JL: Have you ever felt like you couldn't cope with having a child?

SL: [Laughs] I remember when you were a baby, you had really bad colic and you used to just cry and cry—

JL: What's colic?

SL: It's like when you get this stomachache and all you can do is scream for hours and hours—

JL: Even louder than Amy does?

SL: You were pretty loud, but Amy's was more high-pitched.

JL: I think it feels like everyone seems, like, to like Amy more. Like, it seems like she's, like, the perfect little angel.

SL: Well, I can understand why you think that people like Amy more, and I'm not saying it's because of your Asperger's syndrome, but being friendly comes easily to Amy, whereas I think for you it's probably more difficult. But the people who take the time to get to know you love you so much.



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JL: Like Ben or Eric or Carlos?

SL: Yeah.

JL: It's like I, like I have better-quality friends but less quantity?

SL: I wouldn't judge the quality, but I think really the quantity of friends isn't what matters, it's the quality of friends.

JL: Like Amy, like two years ago, like, it seemed like, first it was like Amy loved Claudia, then she hated Claudia. She loved Claudia, then she hated Claudia.

SL: Yeah. You know what, part of that's a girl thing, honey. The important thing for you is that you have a few very good friends, and really that's what you need in life.

JL: Did I turn out to be the son you wanted when I was born? Like, did I meet your expectations and—

SL: You've exceeded my expectations, sweetie. Because, you know, sure, you have these fantasies of, you know, what your child's gonna be like, but you have, you have made me grow so much as a parent because you think—

JL: Well, I was the one who made you a parent.

SL: You were the one who made me a parent. That's a good point. But, but also because you think differently from, you know, what they tell you in the parenting books.

JL: Yeah.

SL: I really had to learn to think out of the box with you. And it's made me much more creative as a parent and as a person, and I'll always thank you for that.

JL: And that helped when Amy was born?

SL: And that helped when Amy was born, but you are just so incredibly special to me, and I'm so lucky to have you as my son.