

Pulled Up Short with Stanton Wortham

How can education be about acquiring nothing?

Featuring René Arcilla with Samantha Ha (guest host) and Chris Higgins (commentator)

A dY[S^3[d6 SfW? Sk % \$" \$#

Stanton Wortham " , " *

I Wba_ Wfa Bg^W Gb EZadFZ[e[eSbaVUSef fZSfie WfafW fa SbSf[Lg^Sd] [V aX SUR[h]fk i ZWdW
i WdWfa V ea_ W W bVebVU[h]vea` fZ[YefZSf USgeVgefa efabl fa TWbg^W gb eZadfi S V fZ[] S
ffMT[f STagf ea_ WZ[Y fZSf i WTW[M]W Tgf i Z[LZ fgd eagf` af fa TWfdgWadSf VSeF fZSf i W
`WW fa dWba` e[Wd]TSeW a` ea_ W W [Xad_ Sfa` fZSf i W hWTWW Y[h]Wz

FZ[e[eS [badfS f fZ[Y fa Važ; f dVg[d]e fZSf i WdWbaY [i WWWWk ZW bdVgbbaeffja` d fZSf i W
WfVfS[fZWbaeeT[[fk fZSf agdfkb[US^i Ske aXg` WdVfS V[Y SdM[La_ b WdVadV[efad[YžI W WW
fa TWabW fa cgVefja` eS V SfVd Sf[h]Wad_g`Sfa` eaXTSe[U[egVefZSf i WfWV fa fS] WadYdS fWz
I WZShWfa TW [^ Y fa La` e[Wd]SfVd Sf[h]W Ske aXfZ[] [YžF Z[e dVg[d]e SLa__ [f_ Wf fa
[SY[Sfa` t fa eWY Y fZW adV [` W i Skel SLa__ [f_ Wf fa ekefW Sf[US^k [cg[d] Y TSeW a`
W[W]WUNS V dVSea` i ZWdWd[f VSeV SLa__ [f_ Wf fa TWY Y abWt fa _ ah[Y TVka` V VaY_ Sf[e_ t
S V La` e[Wd] Y SfVd Sf[h]WTWVVeS V bcdSUR[U]d adLa__ [f_ Wf fa La` hVdSfa` fa fefW[Y WWWWk
fa afZVdS V [cg[d] Y a[fKz

Ea [VdUZ Vb[eaWVi WdWYa[Y fa ZVdXba_ ea_ Wd` W Za ZSeS [eYZf adea_ WZ[Yi Wwa` if
fkb[US^k fZ[] STagf fZSf dVg[d]e gefa TWbg^W gb eZadfi fa dVZ[] ea_ WZ[Y fZSf i WfWV fa fS] W
XadYdS fWz3` Vi WZabWfZSf kagi^W`akz

Samantha Ha #,%+

: [WVdka` WfZS] eXadfg [Y [žI Wba_ Wfa S afZVdVb[eaWbaX Bg^W Gb EZadF? k` S_ W[e
ES_ t S V faVSk; _ WfYZfW fa eWdWSeSYgVef Zaef XadfZ[e Vb[eaWV [fZ fi a bVab`W Za; YdVfK
SV_ [dVSe bVab`W_ Wfadfi S V VSV[Y eLZa`Se [fZWVW aX bZ[`aeabZk aX WgUSfa` žFaVSk i W
ZShW [fZ ge DW; 3dU^S i Za [eS BcaXVead aXBZ[`aeabZk aX 7VgUSfa` Sf @W Kad] G` [hVd]fkž
I VsdVSea` gU] k fa ZShW5Zde: [YY] d i Za [eS ea S BcaXVead S V BZ[`aeabZVd aX 7VgUSfa` t ZWdW
Sf 4aefa` 5a^Wwi Za i [^a[geSeSV[e]gees f [fZWVfVd bSf aX fZWVb[eaWVfZS] efa kag
TafZ XadTWY Y ZWdWfaVSk`

DWW; i S f fa fgd fa kagl TWVgeW, ` ai fZSf kag hWTdagYZf S bcahaUSf[h]Wfab[U Xadge fa
Vj/b`adWfaVSkž5agV kag YWf ge efSdW1

René Arcilla \$,\$(

EgdV: [WVdka` WS V fZS] eXadfg [Y [žI ZSf; V [W] Wfa W/S_ [W [fZ kag S^faVSk [e fZW
cgVefja` aX WgUSfa` žI ZSf isWgUSfa` t W/SURk1 ; [fS^k [] Wb[Yi [fZ fZWbaVUSef eWdV
fZW W; V [W] Wfa WdU]TWZai fZ[ecgVefja` US` bg^ge gb eZadfi e[_ b`k TWVgeWf eWV eea
g` eWfagež ; feag` Ve [W] WfZW [V aXi dVUZ a` W_ [YZf fZdai [fa SLa` hVdSfa` fa WV_ S V ST[f aX

SffWf[a` -[fZW_ V\$ f[W/a` W

eW [Y [V [X [W [U [f [Z [W [ad [V [S [ag [V [ge [ž [6 [V [f [Z [W [S [] [W [Z [W [e [S [W [U [W [U [k [ag [f [Z [W [U [E [a [U [S [^ [] [ge [f [U [W [W [ge [a [] [S [V [] [W [U [W [U [k [i

Samantha H a ##,%

; fZ[] ea _gLZ STagf WgUSf[a` t S V _SkTWi ZW ; eSk WgUSf[a` ZVdW; _VS t dLZaa↑ Y dSFZVd [f
dMa hVd Schg` V fZ[e [W\$ aX Subg[d` Y ea_ VIZ[Yz; fZ[] STagf fZW[VSe aX aTWUf[hVd YaS`d YdSWW
e] [^zF ZaeWsdAS^fZ[Ye fZSf kag US` Subg[dMS V baeeVd ↑ Wkag eS[V fZ[Ye fZSf; US` f`a` S
f`S eL[bf ad_ k dVg_ W`XadVjS_ b^Vz3` V eat [f eWV_ efa _ W] WkagidWbdabae[Y ea_ VIZ[Y
V[XVdVf fZS` fZSf ea_ W\$^Vd S[hWfa fZ[eXS_ [fSdLh` U`bfaXWgUSf[a` z3` V eat; L_ Ya` `S Va fZW
VSk fZ[Yf Se kag eSk S V Se] kag fa ZS V _ WfZWS d` VdZ Eat i ZSf [e fZ[eS^Vd S[hWLa` U`bfa` aX
WgUSf[a` 1: ai t Zai US` i WfZ[] STagf [f afZVd [eW

René Arcilla #\$,#*

KVSZi i Wt; VagTf; US` Va _ adVfZS _ VdWk [fdaVgUW[fz 4gf; _ YSV fa fdk TVUSgeW[fedaafW [f
i ZSf S↑ Ske _ S] Vd_ We_ [MSTagf Zai _ k efaek La` f] gWz; ffgd e agf fZSf; WVV gb LZaaef Y
5Z[USYa S^VdS^Xba_ S_ a` Y fZVdLZaa`e fZSf SUWbWV_ W\$ V fZSf <S] ea` V[V TWLa_ W_ k
_ Wfad` A` UW` la[W fZ[e] fWVUfgS^La__ g` [fk; Vsd W Xba_ S`af aXafZVd fVdZVd S V
efgWVfd faat Se; ef^Va faVSkz 4gf; i agV` f TWdbVd [Y fa kag S^dYZf` ai [X [f i VdV f XadZW
VjS_ b^VzWdV`Xad_ Vd : WfdaSUZW fZWbSfZ fZSf W` fa agd_ Wf] Yz

KVd ea_ VIZ[Y [_ WX[bbW TVd W fZW_ a_ Wf; XW Z[e aX[UWS^Vd fZSf X`df h[e]f S V fZW
_ a_ Wf; Y[YVd k dVgd W S^Vd SUWbWf Y 5Z[USYa eaXVd aXSV_ [ee[a` z <S] ea` ecgVd[a` [Y aX
fZW hVd k La` U`bfaX WgUSf[a` ZSV ZS^WV_ W] _ kfdS] eS V Z[e] e[eWf bgdgg[f aX fZ[e
cgVd[a` [Yf [Y ad` Y S^fZWeaU[S^bdaTW_e fZSf LdW agf XadWgUSf[a` S^See[erS UW dVdWVz KVd;
US_ WTSU] z I Zk1 I ZSf [e [f STagf Z[ecgVd[a` fZSf g`f_ S^Wk SbbVdW fa _ W

3 fZagYZ fZ[e SbbVd^ebgdW _ k fS] [Y S UZS UWa` 5Z[USYa S V <S] ea` t S V fZW YdW [fa S
WVgd[Y US^f Y [_ k ↑WV[fe` SfgdWef^WgVd S V ZSg` fe_ Vd A` UW` SUWbWV WdW fZWbaee[T[fk
fZSf; V[V f]` ai fZWfdgW_ Vd [Y aX WgUSf[a` t fZSf WgUSf[a` UagV TWSTagf_ adVfZS` fZW
Subg[e]f[a` aX]` ai WYMS V fZWba`h[Y aX eaU[S^bdaTW` d fZ[e [Y adS` UW [e[VdV aX dVWVd Y_ W
g` ST` Wfa WgUSfWd TWVWgUSfWf abWVW_ Wfa ea_ VIZ[Y fZSf XWVd ↑ WS dVd a` Ya[Y WgUSf[a` z
3 X^Vd WUSVd aX bSf[U]bSf[Y [[f ZVdVdWdWd_ W_ aWd [La` Uge[hWbdh[e]a` S^fZagYZ fe STagf
i Zk; La` f] gWfa SXd_ fZ[e bSd

i a` Wd[XfZVk SdASeSdg`W af UWfWdW a` eagdUe aX]` ai `WYW

dWVf[a` i i VdM] eb[dW Tk S V Vj/bdVdVt ea_ VZ[YTVSgf]Xg^S V_ keVd]age1 I ZSf [X [f fdS e_ [fe
i a` WdSf fZaeWZ[YefZSf [fVdVf ge[fZWi adVt [VVW i a` WdSf fZW adV [feWk VdSi [Yge
VWbVd[fa [f1 ;` efVdV aXbdVdUgbk[YagdeWVhVei [fZ fZWfXW W_ [YZf `aeNS V fZSf afZVde
bdVag_ ST`k Va` fZShWegbbaeW WdVf agf fa Sdf [Ug`SfWfaVfZVd [`cgVd]a` efZSf SdWVhVd_ adW
WfS[W S V WUa_ bSee[Yi i ZSf i W_ [YZf thWad]

Samantha Ha \$#,"%

; Wk [fVk fZ[] fZSf fZ[ehVd]a` aXWglSf[a` kagidAbcbabae[Y [ehVd]k V[XVd]Wf fZS Zai eLZaa`e
SdWgegS`k La` WthWz3` V; fZ[] [f bg`e_ Wgb eZad fXadfZSf h

i [eZl fZagYZl fZSfi Wl VdWVfVdWbdWbdWfa g` WdS` V S V SbbdWfSfWZW_ V\$ [Y aXi ZSfi Se
VdS [Y gež l W_ [YZfi a` WdSTagf Zai afZVde Sd [Ug` S W X SfgdW aX fZV [dV] bWUWaXTV] Y W
agf S V Zai fZV_ [YZf eZai gei ZSfi [agdV] bWUW_ [YZf Yg [Wgež 3e_ S k ZShWSX [d_ Wf
fZ[e] [V aX fWZS VZeZai [eSf fZWUWfWd aX Zg_ S [fVZT SaW [T VdS^ Vd [Yž Egbbad [Y egUZ
Vd [Y fZSf Wd [UZVd agdWgUSf [a` [fZWeWd V

hVok_gLZf dYZf1 KagidWS_gLZ _adWfZagYZfXg^bVda` f fZW fZW kagidWadVWdž3` V;]` ai f
fZSfie` afi ZVdW_L Ya[Yž

I ZSf;l_ eSk[Y [efZ[ekag` Y DWW/S Vt kag]` ai f; ` VVd_ VVfZ[ekag` Yf fZ[ehVok kag` Y DWW
S V [fie[fVdVf[Y fa ZVsdkag fS} STagf ea_ WfaVk i Za XWf fZSf i WsdW[fZW_ [WVdX S
W_ VdWUkžF ZVdW VdVeaU[S^` ygef[UWd Se kag eSk WdGeja` d; ^ahWZSf i ad/ hVok)` ež3` V fZSf
fZVdW Se VV[UWUk S V kag i S fW fa _ S] WSV[VdWUWZKag ZSV TWa_ W[Xad_ Wf La` UWd Wf
S V La` UWd W fa La` fd[TgfWfa ea h[Y fZW adViebdT^V_ ežF ZVdW^eag` V dV^k YaaV S V hVok
V[VdWf fZS kagfZ aX DaeWdSeZf ZVdVfcb` Yf VS YVdage[Y adS UWdYZf1

Ea kag La_ Wfa BZ[†S V kag ZShWfZ[e [Wd fZSf kag i S f fa La` fd[TgfWfa Zg_ S Xagd[eZ[Y adfa
ygef[UWfZdagYZ WgUSf[a` f i Z[LZ kag g` WdVfS V Se Slcg[e]f[a` ž3` V fZW ZWZVdek

Tge[We fZSfie _ badS fi S V [f VaVe [fi Wz; fie gef` af fZW Za^fZ[Yzi Z[UZ [e [f1 5ZaaeWkagd
ba[ea` ZVW/DWVz

René Arcilla %,')

8[cf aX S^; fZ[] kag S ei VdW fZWcgVf[a` tTW SgeW _ VS t; i S f fa eSk S^fZdWVdYZf1 ; _ VS t
S^fZdWsdVSTea`gfVk dYZfz;]` ai kagidW af Ya[Y fa ^W_ WVVSI Sk i [fZ fZSfz4gf kVd; Va` if
fZ[] dZaa^ Y [efZW Za^fZ[Yz; fZ[] i ZSfie_ [ee[Y [dZaa^e[es S^fWf[a` fa fZ[e SdVd
eVeWaxWgUSf[a` ti Z[UZ kag]` ai ti WeLZaa^eUagV Va STV^Vd^aT aX fck[Y fa SVdVezEa
bVZSbea` Wax fZWfZ[Ye fZSf dZaa^eUagV Va i [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVidW afi fZW Za^fZ[Y [eSk
a] Sk _ SkTW W Ww fa efdWYfZW _ adWfZVbSof aXeLZaa^ Y fZSf SVdVezEa fZ[e SdVd eVeWax
WgUSf[a` t bSf[Ug^Sd k [bchYd_ eaX [T^Vd^Vsd [Yz3` V fZW kag]` ai t Sa` Yi [fZ fZ[eLa_ V S
dVSea` XadXgdZVd[Y fZWUbf[cgWax S^fZWefgXX[dZaa^e fZSf VaVe if eWV_ fa TWdV S^k La` ` WVV
fa V[fZVd Vsd [Y adWgUSf[a` [fZ[e SdVd eVeWax kag]` ai t; fZ[] fZSf kVsz

Chris Higgins %*,#\$

3 ^[YZfi ; i^W kag ZShWkagdUS] WS V Vsf [f faat S V S^ea eWVWf fa ea_ W^aVz; ^W kag ZShWS^
fZdWS ei Vd [X kag fW^_ W_ adVSTagf fZ[e [V S aX kag d fZSf [adVd fa _ S] WeLZaa^ Y efd` YVd
S V [bSf[Ug^Sd fa _ S] Wf ZWb geLa` ` Wf i [fZ fZ[eafZVd] [V aX WgUSf[a` t dVg[dVd
efdWYfZW[Y [T^Vd^Vsd [Yz3` V; US [SY[Wea_ Vd` WeSk[Y fZWeLZaa^UgddUg^g_ [eS
dVWVf[a` aX fZWa^ V [T^Vd^Vsd _ aWVZF ZSfie ZkVdVd^kTaVk ZSefa fS] Wea_ W_ SfZ[ea_ WZ[efack
ea_ WS YgSYW^ea_ WeUWUWz; fieVW i Zk kag]` ai ti ZSf V[V fZVd esk [>Sf[t **nessarainopore**
sm SZVsfzk _ [V S V SZVsfzk TaVk1; fieVW i Zk i WZShWebadfe S V VdS_ SzEa Va` if i W
SdV S^k dZaa^i [fZ ea_ VZ[Y [WfZW[T^Vd^Vsd _ [V1Ea i ZSf` WVe fa TW_ bchW1 3` V Zai
i agV fZSf ZWb ge YV^TSU] fa kagdVd[bZS k STagf WgUSf[a` [eTW Y W agf1

René Arcilla %*,#

I W^; fZ[] kag S V ; t; SydWfZSf S `af aX fZV S UfgS^bdSUFUWax [T^Vd^Vsd eWgUSf[a` faVSk ZSe
TWa_ W [V aX efg^XW S V eUWaf[Lz kag]` ai t; _ VS t [fie fdgWfZSf i WLa` f[gWfal kag]` ai t
[WVf]k Sb[WVWax Vsd [Yi [fZ fZ[e [V S aX fZW[T^Vd^Vsd S V fZVdV e fZ[e dVdVgS^La` ` Wf[a` i [fZ
fZWfcdV[f[a` z4gf; fZ[] fZSf kag]` ai t a` WUagV _ S] WS UseWfZSf i W^WsdrgST^k Xad^affW i ZSf
fZWba[f aX fZ[d S SdVbSof aX fZWba[f aX fZ[eVsd [Y [eSTagfZ kag]` ai ti ZW i WeSk fZSf fZW
[T^Vd^Vsd eWSTagf XdW^a_ 1I ZSf Vj/SUf^k Va i W_ VS Tk XdW^a_ ZVdV

Eat kag]` ai t _ k bSf aXi ZSf; l_ [fVdVW [[d[e fck[Y fa La` ` Wf i ZSf dW S] eaX agd
La_ _ [f_ Wf fa [T^Vd^Vsd eWgUSf[a` ti [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVdV e ea_ W [V aX Xg^ VS_ WfS^WgUSf[a`
Ya[Ya` i [fZ fZSfie dafW [^Wf^V i ZSf [f_ VS e fa [^V S [^W i ZSf [f_ VS e fa ZShWfZ[e fZ[Y
aX ge fZSfie TW^ Y bg^W agf [ea_ W Sk adVdS ` agfz3` V ea fZWZabV[e fa dVd[fS^] Wf S V
dVZ[] Xch_ fZWdag` V gb

Ygef kag]` ai t g` [hVb]fk eW [Sdca_ eS V ead faX foSV[f]a` S`Yad_eTk eSk[Yt a] Sk i ZSf [efZW
Xg` VS_ WfS`La` Wb]f[a` aX WgUSf[a` fZSf fZSfie Sf eS] WZVdW

Chris Higgins &#,&(

;f dW [Ve_ WbX ea_ WZ[Y 6 W Wk eSkd <aZ` 6 W W i ZVdWZWeSke fZSf Xad fZageS Ve aX kVScd
bVab`W ag`V ZShWfZagYZf [f dV`k i VdV fZSf i W ag`V fck fa [hWf S [eff]fgf[a` fZSf a` k
WgUSfV`TWUSgeWS`Sf S`[eff]fgf[a` eWgUSfWS V eZSbWZg_ S TW` YeS V Zg_ S [X]` ea_ W Skz
3` V fZW ZWeS[V] W i adWefZW [Xi WdWYa[Yfa XS`[fa fZ[e] [V aX S_` Vd[SS V fZ[] fZSf
fZVdWadW a` k fZSf [eff]fgf[a` WgUSfV`4USgeW[fi e fZWa` WfZSf fQVd fa Va [f ea e] Y`W_ [W`k ea
i W a` if i S f fa ZShWfZSf] [V aX_ kab[Sz DWWkV`SZ fZS] eZ FZS] kag ea _gUZ; fi Se YaaV fa
fS] fa kag STagf fZVdW[V]eZ

René Arcilla &,\$,%

FZ[e[eSYdVf La` hVb]f[a` ž; i [eZ [f Lag`V Ya a` S Va` S Va` ž3` V aX LagdW]fi [^ 5Zd[e]dYZfz

Chris Higgins &,\$,\$+

KVd STea`gfV`ž

Samantha Ha &,\$,%#

A X LagdW]fi [^La` f] gWZabW`k faa i [fZ afZVdYa`]ei Za SdW]efW[Yž: abW`k fZV`k ZShW
_gUZ XaaV Xad fZagYZfz FZS] kag DWW`XadeZSd[Y kagdfZagYZfei [fZ ge faVSž3` V fZS] kag
5Zd[e]d Xad SeSf` Skd Se] [Y fZWfagYZ cgVd]a` ež

René Arcilla &,\$,&(

KagdW`hV`k i WLa_ V`

Chris Higgins &,\$,&)

FZS]eXadZSh[Y_ V`

Samantha Ha &,\$,&+

Ea fZSfie fZWV aX agdVd[eaW`WadfaVSk STagf fZV`S`gd`S V_ keV`k aX WgUSf[a` ž<a[ge` V]f
i W] i ZW i W WLa_ W4VUS>ai WZSgbfi Za [eYa[Y fa ZWb ge cgVd]a` fZWa_ [S f
` SdSf]hWfZSf eWd fZ[e bS W] [UkV`Sda` k SeSkV`SdaX`Vsd [Y` aee XaddZaa`UZ[VdWž3eSf` Skd [X
kag [] W`gdbaVUSef i WZabW`kag egT`eU[TW`ea kag Va` if_ [eeS Vd[eaW`V`EW`kag` V]f i W]ž