# Off the Rails at Action Park with Seth Porges

Nerdin' About Podcast Transcript, Season 1 Episode 12

### Michael

Hey everyone, welcome to Nerdin About! I'm Space Michael, and with me as always is Dr. Kaylee Byers who finished up her PhD, and now the summer is finished up. Kaylee how's your Summer been? How is fall looking for you?

# Kaylee

You know my summer really was consumed by finishing the PhD, but I did get out of town for a little bit. I went salmon fishing. I feel like I have become a more skilled person in other life endeavors. So, I learned how to fillet a fish, and that was quite exciting. What about you? You're looking forward for fall?

# Michael

Yeah, fall is going to be busy as we get into the school year. Speaking of fishing, I actually randomly went up to a lake to just swim around. I'm not much of a camper, but I did go up to a lake and swam around, and I found a fishing pole in the lake. It was very bizarre. I was like walking out I just reached down, and it was a full completely working fishing rod. So, kind of like Excalibur with the lady in the middle of the lake.

# Kaylee

Do you think the fish were fishing for you? Because it sounded like that worked very successfully for them. [laughter] Yeah, well, and I'll tell you what we've caught today we've caught a guest for our podcast. Today we are joined by Seth Porges. Seth is a journalist and filmmaker who's recently released documentary 'Class Action Park' that follows the stories of attendees at one of America's most dangerous amusement parks. Seth is also an expert on the history of pinball, and is pretty darn good at detecting art forgeries. Hey, Seth, how you doing?

# Seth

I'm great. It's just great to be here.

# Kaylee

We are so stoked for you to be here, right out of the gate, or maybe the admissions gate. Can you tell us a little bit about 'Class Action Park'? What inspired you to make this documentary?

# Seth

So, the documentary, which is now on HBO Max, is about Action Park, which was the most infamously chaotic, insane, pick your superlative, dangerous amusement park that probably ever existed. It was mostly through the 1980s in New Jersey, and it became this sort of place that all these urban legends developed out of, all these impossible to believe stories passed around for decades. I had become somewhat obsessed with this park, because you read these things online, and none of it sounds real, there's no way those stories are true. I had these





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don't go in Hot Wheels track loops, and people shouldn't be getting into fights in the middle of waterslides, and teenagers who are 14 years old and drunk shouldn't be the thin line separating you from life and death, but that's what Action Park was. So, as an adult, I became interested in basically fact checking my memories, which is what this movie became.

#### Kaylee

Yeah, it's actually quite interesting. I had first heard about Action Park on this podcast called 'The Dollop', and I had a similar experience to hearing it and be like, there's no way that this place could have existed. Then watching the documentary, you realize, oh, no, it did, and it goes even far beyond what I could have imagined.

#### Seth

There's no reason to make up stories about Action Park, because they're all true. It's not like you had to work there for a bunch of years to develop crazy stories about Action Park, most people who went there a couple times saw things that stuck with them to this day, because it felt like a glitch in the matrix, like they just don't square with your idea of how reality is supposed to work.

### Michael

Watching this documentary brought back memories of summer camp for me, because it does sort of feel like this extreme summer camp, because it's run by teenagers, and it's mostly visited by teenagers. For me, I went to Bible camps. I went to Disneyland, and my experiences were so opposite to everything that's in this documentary. For you, was this your experience? Did you have something to compare Action Park to?

#### Seth

Yeah, we spent a lot of time going to amusement parks, and theme parks when I was a kid. You know, we went to Disney World, every year we went to Universal Studios, we went to Busch Gardens, went to Kings Dominion, all these places, but a couple times I went to Action Park. It's very clear from the moment you walk up to the gate of Action Park that this place was very different. The first thing you see when you walk up to Disneyland is a big castle, right? The first thing you see when you walk up to the gate of Action Park is a giant loop-de-loop waterslide. It's staring at you. It's like the icon, the emblem of this park. It's taunting you, it's telling you that what you're about to enter is a world where normal rules don't apply, where common sense doesn't apply. That message is in the water, and in the air there. You're walking around the park, and the sense of unbridled chaos is really I think the thing that sticks with you the most, not just these crazy rides that don't make sense, it's the air, it's the energy. It's all of these teenagers, and not just regular teenagers - it's New Jersey teenagers in the 1980s - who are pushing themselves to their limits. It becomes just a never-ending series of escalating dares.

People who are like, "I bet you can't do that you're a chicken", then they do things they probably shouldn't do, because who wants to be a chicken,

#### Michael

Seth, we don't want to like to spoil the documentary, but when you're talking about these extremes, and for people that haven't seen the documentary, maybe go through sort of like some of the highlights of just the insanity of Action Park.

#### Seth

So the important thing to know about it is it was one of the very first modern water parks in the world. You know, I think it was probably the third modern waterpark. You had like, Wet and Wild, you have Schlitterbahn, somebody might count Disney's River Country, but then you had Action Park, which opened in 1978, it was one of the very first. A template hadn't yet been devised. Nobody knew what a water park was. It wasn't like you'd go to an industry show, and buy a bunch of off-the-shelf water rides, fill it up, and suddenly you had a waterpark. They had to invent it, they had to make it up as they went along. So, all of these ideas are by definition experimental, they're trying out things that seem like they would be fun, and they're not really paying as much consideration to modeling, or physics, or engineering, or safety as perhaps they should. So, a lot of these things end up kind of feeling like the deranged doodles of a six-yearold, you know, like, you're bored in class, and you're creating some ludicrous ride idea, that's what it felt like. So, when you go there as a kid, you feel like your imagination had come alive, it's really the only way you can describe it, you feel that you go there, and you go, "I had a dream that somebody could do this, and that ride was possible, and here it is in front of me oh my goodness". It's a very strange experience, because again, like your fantasies, like your dreams, they're in front of you, and the dividing line between what's real and what's not, what's possible, and what's not, just becomes very, very blurry, if that makes any sense. So, every ride, there was strange – maybe a version of a ride that later would later become commonplace - but it's sort of like an evolutionary dead end for obvious good reasons when you start seeing what these rides were. So, you have these ideas, many of them were inspired by natural settings and environments that the owner kind of grew up playing in, and wanted to bring these to kids. A lot of these were the kind of experiences that latchkey kids would have running around playing in quarries, and in the woods, only they were within the confines of an amusement park, so you kind of feel like you're safe when you actually aren't. So, a ride would be "here's the keys to a speed boat, drive around a lake". So instead of like a bumper boat, it's like a Miami Vice grade speed boat, and people are just crashing into each other. The lake was famously infested with snakes. So, all day long people are crashing into each other falling into this lake, the lake was just so murky with spilled gas and oil, filled with dead fish, and slithering snakes. Kids all day just knocking into each other, getting pulled from this murky, oily gassy water with snakes around it. We spoke to one lifeguard who worked on this ride in our movie who was there when one person kind of pulled to a stop at the dock at the end of the ride, and the boat behind them was not stopping. It rammed right into him, and the boat drove on top of him, and she thought she was witnessing somebody getting decapitated in front of her eyes from the propeller. Fortunately, the person did survive,





#### Kaylee

So, you talk about the park as an experiment, there were all these new ideas that they were trying out. Is Action Park why we have regulations now? Do you think it inspired all the regulations that then have followed?

#### Seth

I think there's shockingly little correlation between Action Park, and the rise of these regulations. I mean this is, and always has been a state issue, and it's not like these regulations weren't in place in the state of New Jersey, they just weren't enforced. A lot of that had to do with the owner's political connections, other parks had regulators that shut things down, fined them, issue citations. Action Park suffered virtually no citations, virtually no fines through its entire existence. So, when it shut down, it wasn't because it was dangerous. It never shut down because somebody said "This is not a good idea. You guys can't be open anymore." Eventually it shut down for financial reasons, and bankruptcy.

#### Michael

Yeah, and that's a really good point, Seth, you know, there's an underlying theme in this documentary about conservatism. In the 1980s, of course, we had Reagan, and this era of no regulation, and no rules that started to really become part of the mainstream in culture. You know, cocaine is part of this film. People kind of like pushing the limits of what they're allowed to do, even if it is breaking the rules because people are trying to reach that edge. So, when you think about the world we're in today, in 2020, and the themes of Action Park, where does that sit with you? As you were making this film, I'm sure it occurred to you that it's there underlying, this conservatism, and now we see this rise of even ultra-conservatism in the United States. How do you feel about those themes?

#### Seth

Michael are you telling me that Action Park is a metaphor for America? Is that what you're telling me?

#### Michael

I mean, maybe! [laughter]

#### Seth

Are you telling me that this dangerous place that was allowed to develop, and do whatever it wanted, without any regulation, and inevitably lead to the injuries of many people, and the deaths of some, is America? I don't even know how to respond to that. [laughter] Yeah, of course! I mean, Action Park is a metaphor for everything. I think about Action Park all the time, whenever I see systems breakdown/ Anytime you see the levers of structure, and regulation, and the very thin veneer of society that keeps us all from total anarchy, all I can think of is Action Park. It's this kind of constant reminder about how thin those threads are.

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#### Kaylee

That's really funny. I think from now on, whenever I see something that totally goes off the rails, I'm going to also be like, oh, an Action Park moment.

# Seth

Exactly. Yeah, like what did you think was going to happen when you gave kids the keys to a speedboat right next to a beer tent? What did you think was going to happen?

# Kaylee

So, through making the film, you already had heard a number of stories. Was there anything that really surprised you, when you actually went to do more research, and create this documentary?

# Seth

Yeah, I mean, at some point, you're both surprised by everything you hear, and are no longer surprised by anything you hear about Action Park. It's a place where everybody has a story, and every story is truly insane. I kind of believe like that there's no reason to make up these stories. It's such a weird, wild place. I'll tell you one that really got me that's in the movie is when we talked about the Cannonball Loop, which is the looping waterslide. It was kind of well-known in the lore of Action Park, that the owner would basically wave \$100 bills in the air in order to lure his teenage employees into serving as human guinea pigs for this ride. What I hadn't heard, which is truly nuts, is that after a couple of these kids came through the slide, they were missing teeth and had bloody mouth. Then they sent a couple more kids out, and the teeth from the previous group have gotten embedded in the slides padding, and started eating into, tearing into the flesh of the next kid.

# Kaylee

[groans]

# Seth

When I heard that, when I was in the room, when our interview subject told us that, I struggled to not make that noise you just made.

# Kaylee

Just the idea that you go through a slide, and that you get shredded up by teeth!

# Seth

It's Lovecraftian! It's a monster. It's a horror movie. I think when you look at that slide, it's so disconcerting, because you're like "how does this work? What goes on? What are the mysteries this black box holds?" Especially when you see videos of people going through, and they go down facing one way, and they come out facing a completely different way. You're like, how did that happen? Is this the Prestige? Like, what's going on here? Then you add in the teeth, and

then suddenly feels it like a Leviathan, some snake monster digesting you. It's pure horror movie stuff. It's frightening.

#### Kaylee

You know, in the documentary you talk about the slide was drawn on a napkin, and then they made it, and you see the slide, and you're like, "Yeah, that makes sense."

#### Seth

So, the way these rides were designed I think is particularly interesting. A number of them came from in-house employees, it's not like these were guys who were hired for designing rides. It's like, "Oh, you work here? Draw a ride." Like, they weren't engineers. They weren't people who should have been doing this. We spoke to some of them in the movie. Then a number of other rides were from these interesting very colorful figures, who were just kind of like entrepreneur ride designers who would literally track the owner Gene Mulvihill down at industry conventions. because they knew he would take whatever wild idea they had, right? So, these people would just come to Gene with crazy ideas, and he would say "I love it. Let's build it." No modeling, no testing, no anything. We talked about one of those rides, which came from an outside designer in the movie, which was known as the man in bowling ball, or sometimes also known as the Bailey Ball. This was literally just a giant fiberglass sphere, you would step inside of, and would roll down a hill. What could go wrong? Of course, everything went wrong. When the day they tested it, the PVC pipe track broke, because it was like 105 degrees and PVC doesn't handle extreme heat very well. So, it broke, and the ball just rolled down the hill, over the highway that runs through the middle of the park, and ended up in the swamp on the other side of the highway. The ball sat in that swamp for years until some employees fished it out, and turned it into basically an obstacle on the terrain park at the ski resort. So, you could snowboard on it.

#### Michael

Oh my god. So, Seth, before Nerdin' About became a podcast Kaylee and I ran a lecture series called Nerd Nite. One of my favorite talks was a "physics of waterslides" talk. So, this subject matter was one that we were excited about, and then we found out that the idea for Action Park is a documentary started as a Nerd Nite talk. So maybe talk a little bit about how that journey went?

#### Seth

Yeah, it's been a long journey. You know, I've been interested in Action Park ever since I went there as a kid. I started writing about Action Park for Popular Mechanics magazine, probably in 2008. I started writing a couple articles about it, mostly, there wasn't really much original research then it was mostly me just regurgitating things I've read in places the book Weird New Jersey, and my own memories, and whatever else. I did a Nerd Nite New York talk, I spoke about it a couple places. Eventually approached after a video of the Nerd Nite talk went online by some folks, Anthony and Matt, who asked me to make a short film with them about Action Park, which I did, which went online about seven years ago in 2013. It went quite viral, and actually caused the park to reopen under its old name of Action Park for the year or two, to sort

of cash in on the nostalgia. That was really when I discovered how crazy this story was, and I started speaking with people that had worked at the park, and realized that all these myths were in fact true, and oftentimes they were crazier



realized that all these myths were in fact true, and oftentimes they were crazier than what I had read. After we put that short film out, my inbox became inundated with people reaching out to me saying, "That brought back a lot of memories. Let me tell you my crazy stories", or "you barely touched the surface, let me tell you what really went down there". It's amazing, because everybody from the area has a story. Everybody from the area used to speak about it in hushed terms where it's like, "Don't tell anybody I told you this bah, bah, blah". Now I think things have changed where everybody's really proud of it. Now they're all talking about how it's this amazing rite of passage, the "you had to be there" kind of thing. We put the short out, and got all these letters and mail, and we realized there's something much bigger here. So, fast forward several more years, I teamed up with my collaborator on this project, Chris Charles Scott, and we turned it into this feature film.

#### Kaylee

I will say though, I grew up in Edmonton, and I used to go to West Edmonton Mall, every year for my birthday, and there's a waterpark there. There were a couple of rides in Action Park where I was like "Oh, West Ed totally had one of those". I mean, maybe it was safer, but I look at it like they look the same?

#### Seth

Well, it's not the ride concept that was often the problem, although sometimes they were, it was the execution, and the management, and the way the employees were operating them, and then the attitude of the people who are riding them. So, when you go to Disney World, if you wanted to get hurt on Pirates of the Caribbean, you could find a way to get hurt on Pirates of the Caribbean, but you don't, you follow the directions, and you keep your arms and legs inside the vehicle. At Action Park, the patrons weren't doing that, because nobody was telling them not to. It was Lord of the Flies, like people were just running around, going down waterslides five at a time, getting into fights, trying to do everything they could to push the boundaries of whatever meager safety mechanisms were in place for any given ride.

#### Kaylee

I think that's a great point is that it's more than just the park itself. It's the culture of the park that makes it what it is right? It made it unsafe, but it also made it a place that a lot of people loved going to.

# Seth

People say like, "what's this movie about?" It's simple. This movie is about how we look back at things often with a sense of nostalgia, that were, objectively speaking, terrifying and horrible. You know, it's about how we as grownups can both be simultaneously grateful for the experiences we had, and that we did those crazy stupid things, but at the same time, realize we would never allow our kids to do them. That push and pull I think is really what Action Park more than anything is about to me. It's something that even people who didn't go to Action Park I think

8

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really latch on to. People sending me these emails like "we didn't go to Action Park, but we broke into quarries, and factories and got into fights, and we would just do these stupid things for fun, and oh my god, it's a miracle we survived them."

#### Michael

Yeah, and we haven't even touched on that there were deaths at Action Park. That really kind of underlies a lot of the problems there, because anywhere else the park gets shut down as soon as somebody dies, right?

#### Seth

Well not necessarily, people have died at almost any amusement park. You know, just freak accidents occur all the time. Action Park had more deaths than usual, at least five or six. It's kind of hard to track which ones are a direct result of ride problems. They had more deaths than usual, but more than anything, they have more injuries. It's honestly just like when you look back at those times when you're drag racing, or breaking into quarries as a kid, and you're like it's a miracle I survived. It's a miracle all these kids survived Action Park, and there weren't more deaths. There were a lot of injuries on any given weekend, the Alpine slide alone would probably give you several hundred injuries a day.

#### Kaylee

Well, didn't they have to buy an ambulance for the town?

#### Seth

Two. Two ambulances for the town. They were overwhelming the emergency services, it's a small town that doesn't have a massive emergency infrastructure, a place like Action Park is going to keep them busy all day, and then some. So, they had to buy their own ambulances, and the hospitals weren't even in town. So, they had to offload them onto other towns. The nearest hospital is in Warwick, which is across state lines in New York, so one more element there. Somebody else's problem, right?

#### Michael

Oh, amazing. Should we get to some Nerd Herd questions?

#### Kaylee

Oh yeah bring on the Nerd Herd questions.

#### Michael

If you want to get in on the Nerd Herd questions, don't forget to check us on our socials @NerdNiteYVR on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. We will be posting for future episodes there, and of course, you can always email us as well: vancouver@nerdnite.com. First question comes from Kyle who wants to know Seth if you've heard of the band Shellac, and their debut



album At Action Park. Which we could get into talking about the soundtrack for this documentary, as it has a very punk rock feel just like the park does.

#### Seth

Of course, I've heard of Shellac. I'm a big Steve Albini fan, a big Big Black fan, big Shellac fan. My understanding is the album 'At Action Pack' from Shellac has nothing to do with the actual park, but it's a great album.

#### Michael

So maybe talk about the soundtrack choices for 'Class Action Park'.

#### Seth

Yeah, I love the music in our movie. Most of it was original compositions by the Holladay Brothers. They're all friends of mine from high school, actually. They're just incredible composers who have done a lot of really novel, and innovative stuff, mixing music and technology. So, they got a fair amount of attention a number of years back when they created these albums, that would be basically location specific app albums where you'd walk around Central Park, or the National Mall in Washington, DC, and depending on where you're standing, the music would change with the environment. They do a lot of really, really cool stuff like that. I wanted a soundtrack that would take you back to the 1980s, because this movie is a period piece. You know, we wanted to give people flashbacks to that time, and we wanted the music to do that. Also helping us with the music was Kent Odessa, who's awesome. The thing I'm most pleased with, is that we managed to score a David Bowie song to close off the movie.

# Kaylee

Yeah, that was great.

# Seth

I was driving out to Vernon where Action Park was to meet with some people to basically try and convince them to be in the movie. The song came on my playlist "All the Madmen" by Bowie, and I was listening to his lyrics, "I can jump, I can fly, I can break my arm, I can do me harm." And I'm like: "Man this guy's singing about Action Park right now, and I just have to have that song."

# Kaylee

So, Action Park is still there, but it is under a different name. Is that right? It exists but not the same as it did before?

# Seth

Not the same. It's called Mountain Creek, and it's still there, and when you walk through it, you can still feel the ghosts, and feel the history. It's a much simpler water park. Now it's much smaller, but it's still a really cool water park. If you're in the New York/New Jersey area, and you want to go to a water park, it's awesome. I highly suggest it as far as water parks go. What



makes it different from most other water parks is that it's built into this beautiful wooded mountainside. You know, you go to some water parks, you're like in a parking lot with towers, and you climb a staircase and you go down a waterslide.

Mountain Creek is much more of a natural environment, and some but not all of the original rides are still there. You can still jump off a cliff. You can still go on the Colorado River ride, although now when you go on the Colorado River ride, you have to wear a catcher style face mask, because so many people smashing their faces.

#### Kaylee

Yeah. It seems like one of the big things that was missing from this park was helmets.

#### Seth

Yes, there are numerous rides that helmets should have been used for. The last year the Alpine slide was in operation, was only in operation for one year after Action Park sold to Intrawest, which was the company that kind of took over the park after they closed the 96. They had the Alpine slide open for one year and they made people I believe sign waivers, and wear helmets before they tore up the ride.

#### Kaylee

So, we also had a comment from the Roller King who mentioned that it would be great if there could be an Action Park day once a year at Mountain Creek. What do you think that would look like? So first of all, "Everybody take your helmets off if you're wearing them", but what other things might happen?

# Seth

You've seen 'The Purge', right?

# Kaylee

I said that earlier, that it was going to be 'The Purge'!

#### Seth

It'd be fun. They've rebranded Mountain Creek as Action Park for one year, as I mentioned in 2014. I think they were hoping that it would really kind of tap into nostalgia, and the old fans would come flooding back, and I don't think it really worked out as much as they had hoped. Maybe with the documentary now that would be different. Maybe if it's one day a year instead of a season long rebranding, that might be fun. I would go there.

#### Kaylee

Me too. With a helmet.

# Michael

Should we nerd out?



#### Kaylee

Oh, yeah, let's nerd out.

#### Michael

So once again, you can get in on our nerd outs. Tell us what you've been nerding out about @NerdNiteYVR, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Kyle gets in with his first nerd out. During this pandemic, he's been learning how to fix cars. Kaylee, how's your car fixing abilities going these days?

#### Kaylee

Oh, that's funny that you should ask because I sent my old car to that great scrap heap in the sky, and got myself a newer car so I don't have to deal with those issues. So, not great?

#### Michael

I remember we had a bit of an adventurous ride up to Squamish that one day, Seth, what do you been nerding about?

#### Seth

I guess I've been nerding about pinball, and missing it. You know, the pandemic is not the best time to go into a pinball bar, and touch machines in close confines with lots of other people, but pinball machines? Man I miss them more than anything.

#### Michael

What's your favorite game? If you had one game that you could have in your place right now, what table would you have?

#### Seth

Well, I do have a couple games. So, I'm not as despondently lost from pinball as I might pretend to be. I think it depends what era you're looking at. What's interesting about pinball, to me, I think a lot of it is sort of the evolution of the game. You look at games from like the 70s versus the 90s, versus the 2010s, just how different they are, and how the designs of these things evolve, and how design meets technology, as technology changes over that period. So, in terms of modern games, like the past couple years, I think Jurassic Park is a really great game. I think like AC DC is really great game. I think if you look back at even older games, you know, like the 90's is just full of classics. I mean it was the real golden era of pinball, when the dot matrix display was first introduced, and all the opportunities that opened up because prior to that, you know, a game can only do so many different things like one shot can only mean so many different things, depending on the lights in the playfield. Once you have a dot matrix display, you can tell story, you can have modes, you can make the same playfield take on different forms, and different meanings, depending on where you are in the game. That opened it up in a huge, huge way.

#### Kaylee

So, what about you, Michael? Have you also been missing pinball? What have you been nerding about?

#### Michael

Well I have been missing pinball. I've also been missing in-person activities, which I'm actually going to be involved in one. So, I've been nerding out about an art museum heist, from 1990 in Boston, the Gardner Museum heist. Have you heard about this Seth?

#### Seth

Yeah, I listened to the podcast about that.

#### Michael

Yeah, the Last Seen podcast, I just got into it. Listened to all the episodes in like two days. Really fascinating, you know, there's a Rembrandt, there's a Vermeer, there's a bunch of different things. They're still out there, and this was back in 1990. Nobody knows where they are. The reason I got into this is because I'm going to be in a Fringe play this year, that's going to be based on the podcast, and the actual characters from this museum heist. It's going to be outside. It's going to be on Granville Island, I'm going to be the museum security director. So as an audience member, you're going to be able to walk up to me, I'm going to give you some information that will lead you to another suspect. So, it's kind of like a murder mystery outside for the Fringe Festival.

#### Seth

I'm a sucker for that stuff. Any immersive theater thing I will go to. I'm in, that sounds amazing.

#### Michael

Well there's a possibility that the creators are going to take this around to other cities, so it may come to New Jersey? Who knows? Kaylee, what have you been nerding about?

#### Kaylee

Well, now for something a little bit different. I've been thinking a lot lately about how much there is to discover. So, in a previous episode, we talked with Dr. Michelle Kunimoto, about discovering new planets, and holy smokes, there's a lot out there to discover. There's also so much more that we can learn about our own planet. So recently, I've been finalizing a project I did my Masters, which was, you know, forever and a day ago, and I was studying feather mites, which are these tiny little eight legged critters that live on feathers. The group I studied, in particular belonged to this genus called *Trouessartia*. So, there's many different species of *Trouessartia* all within this genus, but we've only discovered 10% of these species, or we've only identified 10% of them. So many of them have yet to be described, so there is a lot of mites out there left for some budding scientist to go out there and describe. One really interesting thing about these mites is that they differ from any other species of animals, in that the females have external genitalia, but not all of them. So, the length of the external genitalia ranges, so for



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some of these species, it's internal, and for others, it's external, and for some, it's like really, really external, like really, really long. We're not really sure why, it's possible for these mites that the females actually put their genitalia inside of the

male's genitalia, which is pretty different from what we see in other animals. We think that if that does happen, it might give these females a little more choice over who they are having little mighty babies with, but we don't know. So, if we actually wanted to know that we'd actually have to catch them, and look at them on the feathers on the birds, and actually catch them in the act. So yeah, there's a lot more out there discover, and mite sex is just one of those things.

#### Seth

Is that the name of your old band Michael? Mite Sex? Isn't that what you guys called yourself? But with a question mark, "Mite Sex?" [laughter]

# Kaylee

Definitely no sex for that band.

# Michael

Seth, thank you so much for joining us, and nerding out with us today on Nerdin' About. 'Class Action Park' is out there on HBO Max. Up here in Canada I believe it's on Crave. How can people learn more about 'Class Action Park', and maybe some of your other projects?

# Seth

We're easy to find on social media @ClassActionPark for everything. I myself am @SethPorges at everything. Say hi. If you got any cool Action Park stories you know, shoot them my way.

# Kaylee

Well, I hope that you get a lot of them. We will be monitoring that conversation very closely. Thank you everybody for listening. If you want to see more of what we're up to, you can follow us on our socials @NerdNiteYVR, and we'll be back in a couple of weeks, and until next time, maybe steer clear of the loop-de-loop slide.

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