

Cassiopeia: Pop Culture Superstar

Intro

Jordan: Hi, I'm Jordan.

Kit: And I'm Kit.

Jordan: Welcome to Starry time where stars plus lines

Kit: equal stories.

Jordan: This is episode three of our monthly constellation Cassiopeia, the Queen of Aethiopia. Last week we reviewed and re-constellated the myths of this constellation.

Kit: So now it's time to get to our silliest episode, which is Pop Culture superstar. In this episode we share our favorite and least favorite occurrences of the month's constellation in pop culture.

Jordan: Then we take over the brand and we wish upon a star for what we wish existed.

Favorites

Kit: Alright, do you want to start us off with your favorite, Jordan?

Jordan: Yeah, I'd be happy to start off with my favorite this time I'll start off with a few lines of verse quote: "Feel the mattress tense beneath me like a muscle of non sleepy feathers flexing will defeat me and it vexes me completely." This is the first verse of Cassiopeia by Joanna Newsom from her 2004 album the Milk Eye Mender. I dont know if you heard that about vexing me completely, but this is quests and curses, right on brand. Did you get a chance listen to this song, Kit?

Kit: No, I dont even. I feel like there were a lot of songs um, called Cassiopeia. And, and I don't think I listened to any of them.

Jordan: Well, Joanna Newsom is uh, well known for having a very uh, unique voice that some might dislike right away, but she's still very accomplished, classically trained harpist. She's an incredible lyricist. She writes stories. Um, she's obviously very interested in the way words sound and has a real keen grasp of poetry. Um, but her music itself, yeah, it's not. She'll never be a pop culture superstar but she is certainly someone who is secure in her own artistic vision and for that I got to give her credit. And she's still around. This album came out almost 20 years ago. She's still making music to this day. And so yeah, shout out to Cassiopeia by Joanna Newsom and maybe we'll play a short clip of it on our socials and you can get a little bit of an idea of what kind of music she makes.

Kit: Yeah, I'll have to uh, link it because I don't think I've ever heard this song. So, um, yeah. I'll definitely be sure to check it out and to put it on uh, on our social so everyone can weigh in.

Jordan: How about you, Kit? What was your favorite here of Cassiopeia?

Kit: Well, like I said, there was a lot of um, music options and not a lot of other things I don't know if you notice that there's just not a lot of Cassiopeia out there. But what I ended up picking and you might have seen this was a 1996 Brazilian film called Cassiopeia. Its claim to fame is that it is a fully CGI animated feature film. Um, you know, so pre dating um, any other fully done uh, CGI film, uh, the wiki is clear to say that uh, Toy Story did use some clay models, whereas Cassiopeia, this film did not. What I liked about it was it had a plot about astronomers. So I liked that.

Jordan: Yeah. Can we talk about, can we talk about Liza Chip Chop Feel and That I know this was my second choice. For sure. So we can talk about a little bit if you'd like.

Kit: Um, um. You know I. Here's the thing. I liked the premise. I did find a uh, a ah version of it online. I'll be honest with you. It, it doesn't look good.

Jordan: It doesn't look so good?

Kit: It doesn't look great.

Jordan: It is hard to be the first of a new genre. But I think this is a shout out to the world of CGI animated films that have come into existence since 1996. And without this like groundbreaking cringey to look at work, we wouldn't have some of our favorite movies. Some of our favorite CGI animated films that have come out in the past 30 years.

Least Favorites

So how about your least favorite?

Kit: Yeah, so I kind of had two. Uh, and honestly neither

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Kit: of them are really my least favorite. Um, there's a board game called Cassiopeia. It actually, honestly the illustrations look really cool. The premise of this game reads "it's time to conquer the constellation of Cassiopeia. Several expeditions are heading there and each player leads one of them." And you know we just watched uh, the Way of Water and so you know, I just don't like the premise that we're gonna go conquer uh, another constellation. Maybe we'll just. May we just let the planets live in peace.

Jordan: Kit, you are right. This was a hard one. And I kept wanting to cut you off to tell you my answer is also a cop out.

Kit: Mm mhm. Great.

Jordan: I think my. Yeah, I think my least favorite this month is the actual myth itself.

Kit: Woah-well,

Jordan: I don't think anything

Kit: It's not allowed.

Jordan: I think this is allowed because I looked at everything else. Usually I pick out like an ocean liner ship or some sort of industrial negative force. But I don't think there's anything that exists in pop culture of Cassiopeia that is as bad and toxic as this myth is. And I think if anyone talks about Cassiopeia they talk about it in this context of Andromeda. And they talk about in this context of vanity. So I don't think that anything that we've come up with in the past 3000 years is worse than the original Cassiopeia. So, yes, it is a bit of a cop out. But the end of the day, I just kept thinking how much I hate this myth.

Kit: Did you see, though, um, the Pokemon Scarlet and Violet that there's a character called Cassiopeia? Um,

Jordan: I saw that they use Cassiopeia as, like, their secret code name.

Kit: Yes, it's like. Yeah, it's their, like, secret identity, I think.

Jordan: Yes, yes, yes.

Kit: But

Jordan: I did see that.

Kit: Yeah, Well, I was reading that and I was like, who are all these characters? Like, who's Penny? I was like, where's Ash?

Jordan: Who's Penny!

Kit: So I got a lot to catch up on. Uh, was my takeaway. It wasn't my favorite or least favorite, but I was like, wow, the Pokemon lore is deep.

Wish Upon A Star

Yeah. I think there's a lot of room to wish upon a star here.

Jordan: Perfect. Do you want to start or would like me to start?

Kit: Um, I have. I have three.

Jordan: Yeah. How about we just trade off? I have a couple, so you tell me one, I'll tell you one, and.

Kit: Great.

Jordan: And you'll have an extra one at the end because you're more committed than I am.

Kit: Uh, two of them are kind of similar. Um, so I'll start with the one that I think, uh, I'll start with the best one and, uh, we'll go. Go from there.

Jordan: Oh, I don't have a best one. So that's nice that you have best one. Mine are equally bad.

Kit: It's really not great. Um, I went with the Cassiopeia bedroom vanity set, so, like,

Jordan: Not dissimilar from one of my choices. Yeah.

Kit: Great.

Jordan: Keep going.

Kit: Uh, you know, it's just like a, uh, mirror attached to a, uh, dresser. And, uh, I think that would be a good name for it. Uh, what's yours?

Jordan: Well, yes, that relates directly to what I thought existed. I wanted a Cassiopeia recliner and mechanical grooming station. Like, I guess in my head I was thinking some sort of like in the Jetsons intro theme where they just, like, lie back in the robot, like, gets them all ready for their day and already for work. I was thinking, yeah, you just wake up, get into your Cassiopeia recliner, chill out. It does all your hair and makeup for the day, and then you're ready to roll. But yeah, pretty similar to yours, just a little bit, you know, maybe a couple hundred years in the future. What was your second choice for what you wish existed with the Cassiopeia brand?

Kit: So, um, the second one and my second and third one are kind of similar. They're like variations on a theme. But this one is called the Cassiopeia Vanity Reducer. And it takes your social media information and you know, any other, you know, like you link your bank account, link everything to it, um, online, your online presence, and then it lists your worst qualities.

Jordan: Oh, wow. Yeah, I like this. Using AI for self improvement.

Kit: O. Yeah. Or just so, you know, make sure that you're staying grounded, you know,

um, and it.

Jordan: Or self indictment.

Kit: Well, it's funny, I just like, you know, in our, in our retcons, I was like, you should, you know, love yourself and you know, be proud of yourself. And then I'm like, let's create something that will heckle you.

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Kit: Well, what was your second one?

Jordan: My second one again, feels like kind of a cop out, but also, it also feels like better than anything I could have come up with. Um, and my second one that I wish existed was to bring back the defunct Casio Cassiopeia. Did you read about this? It's also on the disambiguation page. It's this little like type text, little pocket size computer with, with a keyboard. It's very like mid-1990s, late 2000s. I mean early 2000s.

Kit: Yeah,

Jordan: yeah. So that was my choice for what I wish existed. And you know I'm flexible I would love a little, uh, pda. Personal. What is it? Personal Device Assistant.

Kit: Personal. I don't know what it even stands for. Personal. It is a personal digital assistant.

Jordan: Ah, that makes sense. Yes. Well, if there's a new AI that Casio wants to make,

you know, kind of like uh, Siri or something like that that they want to call Casio Cassiopeia. Something like that. Just don't let it go. It's got. It's fun to say.

Kit: Yeah.

Jordan: Um, it makes me think of Karma Karma Karma Chameleon. Casio Casio Casio Casio Casio Cassiopeia Um, so yeah, I don't think I could come up with anything better than associating Cassiopeia with the brand Casio that already exists.

Kit: Great point.

Jordan: How about you? Yeah. I mean, when it's that good, all I can say is your marketing team is dropping the ball.

Kit: Get back on it.

Jordan: Get it on the shelves.

Kit: Yeah.

Jordan: You should something on the shelves called the Casio Cassiopeia. And whatever it is, you know, at all point times, as far as I'm concerned. How about you? What do you wish existed as your third and second choice? Or I guess you said your third choice is related to your second choice.

Kit: Yeah. So it's basically a variation on the theme. Um, this one is. So the last one was the uh, vanity reducer. Reducer. This is the Cassiopeia Boast Barometer. [laughter] You,

um, you want to guess what it does?

Jordan: I was gonna say. I was just gonna say you resisted the urge to call it the Boastrometer? Good on you.

Kit: Boastrometer is very good. I wish I had thought of it. Uh, all right, uh, edit. The Cassiopeia Boastrometer

Jordan: This is the best segment.

Kit: Boast--r I can't even say it.

Jordan: Rometer.

Kit: Uh, the Boastrometer

Jordan: Yeah, the Boastrometer

Kit: Yeah, yeah, the Boastrometer The Cassiopeia Boastrometer And you, um, you know, input a boast about yourself and then, you know, Cassiopeia uses data about your life or pictures to evaluate whether or not it's true. Um, so then you'll know like, oh, I, uh, think I'm more beautiful than the Nereids. And it would be like the Nereids aren't real. Boast False.

Jordan: Yeah that'd be good for with for influencers

Kit: So that's what I came up with.

Jordan: Yeah. Check yourself before you wreck yourself.

Kit: Mhm.

Jordan: Anyways, Kit.

Kit: Mmm.

Jordan: It's only a matter of time before one of our wishes comes true.

Outro

Kit: Please feel free, also, um, if you have other favorites or least favorites or things you wish for, let us know over on our socials. We're at starrytimepod on Mastodon and we're on the Universeodon server, so if you're using Mastodon, we're there. We have the same handle on Twitter. Um, we're occasionally on Tumblr, so. Yeah, let us know if you have other Cassiopeia wished fors. Um, we'd love to hear them. This has been Kit

Jordan: and Jordan.

Kit: Sisters. lovers of stars and stories.

Jordan: And we'll see you next week on

Kit: Starry time

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