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Ian:

Just letting you know. This episode of Everything is Alive. Has a very tiny bit of foul language. Okay. On with the show.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Hi, I'm Ed. I'm a Sharpie cap.

Tami, Sharpie:

I'm Tami. I am the barrel of the Sharpie.

Ian:

The part that writes.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah.

Ian:

And you all, in case that's not clear you belong together.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

We are together. We're a couple.

Tami, Sharpie:

We are together. We are married. Yeah. I could say we belong together.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

No, we do belong together. We literally, we're created to be together and we ended up getting married. Not all cap and barrel are married, but we did get married, and married quick. It has been great.

Tami, Sharpie:

But it's not like... I mean, there's a big bin of caps and a big bin of barrels.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And imagine how lucky we must be to have-

Tami, Sharpie:

Absolutely. Yeah. But we weren't like made to... We made ourselves be together. We made it okay.

Ian:

You said, I think that not all Sharpies and caps are coupled.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Very true. Or not, they may end up together by default.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And so it's like-

Tami, Sharpie:

They're paired up. They're not married.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

They're not married. We are-

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Ed wanted to do the ceremony. So, we did it.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

We did the real deal, and we are really committed.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yep.

Ian:

I'm curious, paint that picture for me. Tell me how the wedding worked.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

So, we planned it. We had a lot of time to plan it. Really, I feel like in the planning, we discovered more about each other and more reasons why it was meant to be.

Tami, Sharpie:

To be honest, I get written with the lot. We belong to Andrew, who's advertising executive. So he... Especially Ed used to be placed on the table. I think that was a time where a lot of planning was happening and then I get busy [crosstalk 00:02:41]

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I had a lot of time to myself. So, I worked out my vows and I worked out her vows.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

It made it a lot easier for her to just be.

Tami, Sharpie:

Then I could say like, "Oh, I'd never say that." [crosstalk 00:02:54] some stuff.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Right, a rewrite. Then she gets to do a rewrite.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

She's a pen.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah.

Ian:

What were... I imagine you remember your vows.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

100%.

Tami, Sharpie:

Ed it definitely does, right?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. I remember our vows.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Yeah. I have the gist.

Ian:

Can you tell me just a little bit about what you said?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Tami-

Tami, Sharpie:

I remember.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Sorry. I was doing them.

Tami, Sharpie:

Oh-Oh, I'm sorry.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Tami, I promise to always remain faithful to you. To cap you. To post you. To keep you moist. To keep you safe. To remain tight around you when I'm on you, and when I'm off you to never be tight around anyone else.

Tami, Sharpie:

You're getting a glimpse into my life right now.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I know. It's too much. I'm the romantic. I'm the romantic.

Tami, Sharpie:

This what Ed likes to dreams. Ed likes to dream. I like to stay in the moment.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). No.

Tami, Sharpie:

I like to stay in the moment. My vow was just, "Ed, thank you for keeping me strong. Thank you for being there when I'm weak and rejuvenating me, and I love you."

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Ian:

So I'm picturing it correctly, where you all, what's the term where you joined? Where you capping Tami when the ceremony-

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yes.

Tami, Sharpie:

We're capped, unless Andrew has uncapped us or something else has happened. He gets really concerned about bad things happening. We were separated for a while. I'm going to be real honest about that. So, you may have noticed in Ed's vows that there's a lot of stuff about being faithful.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

Not posting. Not capping.

Ian:

What is posting?

Tami, Sharpie:

Posting? Oh, yeah. Posting is when the cap of a pen, and it's really any pen, Sharpie, fountain pen, BIC, whatever, we got a lot of pens in the office, but it's when it goes on the end of a pen. Pen is posted.

Ian:

Oh, gotcha.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Not all pens are postable. Sometimes the cap doesn't fit on the ends.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Or Steve he's just retractable.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Steve is retractable. That is called a knock. Just that little device with the [inaudible 00:05:07].

Ian:

Oh, got it. Got it.

Tami, Sharpie:

You know?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah, it's so many moving parts. I'm worried about him.

Tami, Sharpie:

Ed is very full of fear.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I have every right to notice things that are threats, and to mitigate those threats by worrying about them.

Tami, Sharpie:

But anyway, so we were separated for a while, and I was with a different cap. That was hard for Ed. That was hard.

Ian:

How did that happen?

Tami, Sharpie:

Andrew left us out on a table and his coworker Jason came by. Jason's not very careful. He likes to write. He likes to use different colors for his-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

He's very like... He's always coming up with ideas that need to be thrown away.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. He's the one that the client... So, the client feels like, "Oh, you guys gave us a lot of ideas."

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yes.

Tami, Sharpie:

And then we'll choose Andrews.

Ian:

Okay. Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Right. And they always are saying, "We have to throw in some Jasons. So the client has something to kill." And I'm like... It took me a little while to realize they meant, just say no to the idea.

Tami, Sharpie:

For Kraft singles, he was like, "Let your cheese get a divorce. Kraft singles." And I was like, "Really man?" That's an automatic, no. Right?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

He came up with Cheesus, which was Jesus made out of cheese. And we're just like, "Nobody's... You can't do that."

Tami, Sharpie:

No.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And he drew Cheesus and he kept... He drew all the-

Tami, Sharpie:

You also misspelled Kraft.

Ian:

Just so I'm clear, let your cheese get a divorce was a slogan.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Yeah. Jason's the boss's son. So he's not going anywhere.

Ian:

Right.

Tami, Sharpie:

But anyway, we were in Jason's office. He never posts. He just throws the caps around the table. And then before I knew it, there was a red cap on me.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. He was shooting duckets with me. It's got like a little wire circle attached to the back of his door and he was trying to get me-

Tami, Sharpie:

A basketball hoop.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. Whatever. He's trying to get me in it, and then I actually-

Tami, Sharpie:

Did you say, "Shooting duckets?"

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

That's what he kept calling, "I'm shooting duckets." And he-

Tami, Sharpie:

Not buckets?

Ian:

I think it is buckets.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Okay. Maybe I misheard him, but I thought he said duckets.

Tami, Sharpie:

You thought he said a made up word.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Well, it's Jason we're talking about the guy's constantly making [crosstalk 00:07:37]

Tami, Sharpie:

Okay. Okay. Sorry. I'm Sorry. I come at Ed hard sometimes. And it's... I'm sorry.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

That's what makes me strong. You can't like... My job is to stay on her tight.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yup.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And-

Tami, Sharpie:

I can't breathe.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Thank goodness.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Yeah. Yup.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

You need to make sure none of the air touches her.

Ian:

So, Jason was shooting baskets.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. Okay. I got stuck-

Tami, Sharpie:

Thank you. Or duskets.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

There was a soft yarn fabric underneath the wire thing.

Ian:

The net.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I hooked it. I hooked on, and I was up there for quite a while. Quite a while.

Tami, Sharpie:

It's hard for me to hear about this. I'm going to be honest, because it just makes me want to beat the shit out of Jason.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And yeah, Tami got... Tami unfortunately, was forced to endure a long period of time, capped by a different cap.

Tami, Sharpie:

So, that's why the vows had all that stuff. I honestly, I-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And I don't blame Carl at all. He was just being... He had to-

Ian:

Carl was the cap.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Red cap.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

It doesn't matter what color he was. But he was red.

Ian:

What was the-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I mean, who puts a red cap on a black Sharpie.

Tami, Sharpie:

I think he wants to ask you a question? He gets a little... Okay. Sorry.

Ian:

That's okay.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And even if there were moments of it that you enjoyed-

Tami, Sharpie:

Nobody's said that.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Okay. But I'm saying even if there were-

Tami, Sharpie:

Did I just say that?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I don't blame anyone.

Tami, Sharpie:

I didn't say that.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And I'm not trying to be like-

Tami, Sharpie:

So, we got married. We were having a lot of these conversations and I said, "Will you marry me?" And Ed started crying and, it got me all choked up. Then he had a wedding to plan, and then we're married.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Forever.

Ian:

I know that that was a very hard part of both of your lives. And thank you for... I know it's hard to talk about. Thank you both for doing that.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. Apparently it was 27 months.

Ian:

27 months.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Ian:

Wow.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Ian:

I was assuming it was a couple of days.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

No, no. It was 27 months.

Tami, Sharpie:

I don't know. It's hard for me to tell. All I could see was red.

Niv:

Hey Ian.

Ian:

Hi Niv, how are you?

Niv:

Good. How are you?

Ian:

Good, good. Niv, what's the best way to identify you?

Niv:

I think, Niv Allon associate curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Arts.

Ian:

Okay. Niv, I'm calling because I remember seeing this writing board at the Met.

Niv:

Yeah.

Ian:

It's this kind of tablet from Egypt roughly 3000 years ago?

Niv:

Yes. How much did you say? 2000?

Ian:

3000.

Niv:

3, 3. Maybe even 4000 years ago.

Ian:

Okay. Well, what's on the writing board is this letter written in black ink, and then off to the sides of everything, there's red ink.

Niv:

Right.

Ian:

Can you explain what that is?

Niv:

So, if you go around and look at the red markings, these are definitely corrections or someone is saying, "This is how actually you should write the sign" or "You forgot a dot here." It might even be a correction of a grammatical form. Then right at the end of a rather large group of signs all written together, and here it's a whole word that was left out or that the other person decided to add in.

Ian:

Does it make sense to think that this was an assignment 4,000 years ago, and the red ink is the teacher going in and marking it up?

Niv:

That is the common understanding in Egyptology of what this is. It seems logical to assume that, but we also know that writing boards were used, not just for students.

Ian:

For me, it's crazy that using red ink to mark mistakes goes back 4,000 years. Is there something about red? Like, is there something... Is there a connection between red and bad?

Niv:

There is a connection between red and bad. It's the color that has been known to be connected to one of the Gods in Egypt, who was the God of confusion, and the God of things that are not usual, let's say.

Niv:

Later on, red seems to be something that is sometimes avoided, because when you look at letters, it's not exactly to mark that this is a negative... that has a negative aspect.

Ian:

Niv, can you tell, given the number of mistakes this person was making, were they a bad student?

Niv:

I think they were excellent students. I think, as a person who has a terrible hieroglyphs, some mistakes I would say yes should be avoided, but it's hard to judge so many years away from that.

Ian:

Did you say you have terrible hieroglyphs?

Niv:

Yes. I did say that. A lot of earlier Egyptologists had wonderful drawing skills and wonderful hieroglyphs. I'm always in awe of that. I myself use a software on my computer to do it for me.

Ian:

So you have bad hieroglyph handwriting?

Niv:

Yes. I do. And when I teach... I teach hieroglyphs. So, when I teach that to the students, I do have to draw it on the whiteboards. That's when it's terrible.

Ian:

I am curious. I feel like we're getting to the end of our conversation. If we were to write goodbye in hieroglyphs, is that something... What would you draw?

Niv:

I think I could more easily say hello... Welcome than goodbye.

Ian:

Okay. Well, we'll end with hello then. What would you write?

Niv:

The phrase that we know that they've been using is kind of, "Oh, come in peace", and there will be different signs in it. [inaudible 00:13:58] for the walking legs, probably quail chick and a double stroke, a owl-

Ian:

So, walking legs. A quill, you said-

Niv:

Quail chick.

Ian:

Quail chick.

Niv:

Bread over a table.

Ian:

Bread over table.

Niv:

Another piece of bread, but a half round one and a P.

Ian:

A P.

Niv:

That's probably how I'd write it, and someone would make fun of me for even doing that.

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Ian:

I wan to ask you, can you describe your smell?

Tami, Sharpie:

Ed smells like home.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Oh, we're describing each others' smell?

Tami, Sharpie:

I guess I was thinking of your-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Collective smell?

Ian:

Collective smell.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Oh.

Ian:

But that... Well, sh-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Well, if I'm doing my job, there ain't no smell. You know what I'm saying? If there's no smell whatsoever, but when I'm posting the smell, I feel like the job is to let everybody know that you are uncapped. Let everyone in the room know you are uncapped. So we can get that cap back on you as soon as necessary.

Tami, Sharpie:

I'm going to be honest, there is a smell. Jason would smell me when I was uncapped. There's definitely a smell.

Ian:

So, I understand, Jason would make an effort to smell you.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. He'd get a little close to my nib and he would take a big sniff.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

But I think like just shorthand, ethyl alcohol.

Ian:

That's what you smell-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Ian:

Okay.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Combination. Probably some profenals, if I'm getting that right. Tami's nib is made of some synthetics and some wood, but the natural smell of that would probably be overpowered by what's in her barrel.

Tami, Sharpie:

Wood?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. Kiddo. You got a lot going for you.

Tami, Sharpie:

Alright. Alright. Alright.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

You don't just happen.

Tami, Sharpie:

Okay. Okay.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. You're pretty amazing.

Tami, Sharpie:

Somebody paid attention on the factory.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Well, yeah. Actually, yeah, I did.

Ian:

I want to talk a little bit about just writing.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yup.

Ian:

Are there specific letters that are more fun or that you enjoy writing?

Tami, Sharpie:

I love a Q.

Ian:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

I love a Q. It's a circle. It's an oval. It's up in the air, and then just when you're like, "I'm done." Nope. I'm not done. I got a little bit at the end. I love a keel.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Ian:

I like writing a Q.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Cool. Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

Jason does a cursive Q and that's disgusting.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I'm-

Tami, Sharpie:

No, let me just say this about a cursive Q. It looks like somebody messed up the number two, and anybody comes in and reads it, they don't think it's a Q. Let it go, Jason. Sorry. I interrupted you.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

No, I was going to say the same thing, sweetie.

Tami, Sharpie:

No, you weren't. I know I get mad about the Q. What were you going to say?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I was just going to say like, "I don't know if it's a two or a Q." But you said it better.

Ian:

Well, Ed, is there a letter you like?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I like a giant number one. Like a full body size number one, because you go all the way up and all the way down.

Tami, Sharpie:

I'm bored. I'm bored.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

It just feels like we're together on it though. We're both going up and then go.

Tami, Sharpie:

We are, but I'm bored. We're together, but I'm bored.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

I mean, when we're doing the number one.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

But something like a six, they don't do a lot for me.

Tami, Sharpie:

So, you know we're not the same. We're married, but we're not the same.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Right, which I think is additive.

Ian:

That's true of all. Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:
It's not in conflict.

Tami, Sharpie:
It is?

Ian:
Yeah. I think all married couples are different than each other, and the successful ones, those differences compliment one another.

Tami, Sharpie:
Because I don't meet... I'm going to be honest. I don't mean a lot of married couples. We're the only Sharpies that I know of that are married to each other.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:
Well, we don't hang out with a lot of Sharpies.

Tami, Sharpie:
We hang out with a few Sharpies and none of them are married to each other.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:
Yeah. They're strong pairs. They're just not married.

Tami, Sharpie:
Right.

Ian:
Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:
But, your experience is that it's good to be different and married?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:
Which is what I said.

Tami, Sharpie:
I know that's your experience.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:
Well, I'm just saying that, I think that's what a good marriage is, but you can ask him.

Tami, Sharpie:
That's what I was doing.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And I support that.

Ian:

I think when you're different, that's the only way you can learn from each other. Otherwise, you would have nothing to talk about because you would know everything the other knows. You would feel everything the other feels and, it wouldn't be interesting.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And so your pen, your wife would think otherwise she would be like, "I think it's good to both know the same things", and then you learn that from her, and she learns from you that it's good to learn different things?

Ian:

We agree on a lot of things, but there are a lot of things we don't agree on.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Right. Right. Right. Right.

Ian:

I think, you do need some commonality and some difference to make it work.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

The basic stuff like agreeing to be faithful. Agreeing that this is what we're doing forever. Agreeing that like, we love each other, the basic stuff?

Tami, Sharpie:

I was faithful. I was just capped. You know what I mean? Emotionally, I was not unfaithful.

Ian:

I think it's part of the conditions of being who you both are-

Tami, Sharpie:

Exactly.

Ian:

That you don't have a choice.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah, exactly. I didn't have a choice. If I had a choice, then I'd be dead. Right. If I'm not capped, I'm dead. If I'm left out there long enough, I'm dead. Ed's fine. Ed is on a basketball hoop for who knows how long. On a ducket, whatever. But I'm dead.

Tami, Sharpie:

So, every time you say I wasn't faithful or imply it, what I'm hearing is that you'd rather I be dead than capped again, and that hurts.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Well, I'm glad you're alive.

Tami, Sharpie:

Thank you.

Tami, Sharpie:

I wish you'd be nicer to Carl.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Carl can go to hell.

Ian:

I can't think of another couple I've encountered that is dealing with what you're dealing with. Which is that, one of you is aging and the other one isn't.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Do you remember Andrew's dog that he'd bring into the office?

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And he was explaining the dog years thing-

Tami, Sharpie:

To Jason.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

To Jason. [Crosstalk 00:22:08] Jason.

Tami, Sharpie:

Jason did not... We heard that explanation a lot because Jason could not get it.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

But-

Tami, Sharpie:

But the gist of it is that dogs die sooner than people.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

So yeah. I remember that.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Ian:

It's interesting, because you're a permanent marker.

Tami, Sharpie:

But I'm not permanent.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. I think about that a lot. But, Ed's going to be here forever. Ed's made of plastic. Stays what it is, but the ink runs out.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

I'm not going anywhere. I'll stay on you dry. Forever.

Ian:

Can you all tell me about the last thing you wrote?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Oh, didn't Andrew take... I mean, we haven't seen Andrew in a couple of weeks.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. The last thing he wrote was... He wrote this thing, "I'm at lunch. Fuck you, Jason." I remember because it was really angry and he like really... He did the block letters.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. It was... I think Jason was supposed to come in. They were going to work on something together, and then Jason didn't show up. So, he just wrote something on the board for a message for Jason.

Ian:

I realize you're always writing other people's messages. Does it ever... Do you ever worry about the things you're being made to say?

Tami, Sharpie:

Honestly, I'd been feeling fuck you, Jason for a while. So, I was all right with that.

Ian:

Do you think about what you would do if you could choose what to write?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Hmm.

Tami, Sharpie:

We definitely think about it. I know Ed does.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. Okay. Yeah, I do. Dream... Dream message. Sure.

Tami, Sharpie:

Hey, is there any way that you could take us and write something with us?

Ian:

Yeah. Sure.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

You would do that?

Ian:

Yeah. Absolutely.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

You'd post me on the back of Tami?

Ian:

Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

And you could write? Okay.

Ian:

So, I'll take you off of... Is that okay?

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah. Yeah.

Ian:

What's it like when you're separate by the way?

Tami, Sharpie:

To me it's like, there's a burst of light. All of a sudden all this light, but then pretty soon after, it's too much light and I miss the darkness.

Ian:

It's interesting because Ed is both your partner, but also a blindfold.

Tami, Sharpie:

Yeah. Ed is my partner, but also like a smothering blanket.

Ian:

[inaudible 00:24:44] post you.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

Ooh. Okay. You do it a little different than Andrew. You do it a little different than Andrew.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Is that okay?

Tami, Sharpie:

No. Yeah. No, it feels good. It feels good.

Ian:

Yeah. So, I guess, I'm going to write with you and you'll dictate to me what-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Okay.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Dear Andrew-

Ian:

Dear Andrew-

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Dear Andrew,

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

This is going to sound crazy. We are your Sharpie, Tami and Ed. We work hard for you, and in return we have a request.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Again, we know this sounds totally crazy, but trust us, please do not throw us away, even when Tami (the Sharpie, not the cap) is all dried up.

Tami, Sharpie:

Babe, I say this very respectfully and with a lot of love, but it's starting to sound like Jason wrote this.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Okay. Can we start over?

Ian:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

I got plenty of ink. We can... You know what I'm though babe?

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Okay. I understand. I know. I just got excited. Let me just try it again.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Dear Andrew,

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

please never throw away your black Sharpie. It is lucky. It is been there for you through thick and thin and even when it is fully dried up and useless, it will still be there for you. Love your Sharpie.

Tami, Sharpie:

That was great. Would you mind writing something for me?

Ian:

Sure.

Ed, Sharpie Cap:

Put it on a different because-

Tami, Sharpie:

Respect, and also because that's for Andrew. Could you write something from me on a different piece of paper and then put it in the drawer with us?

Ian:

Yeah.

Tami, Sharpie:

Ed, I love you 'til the day I dry.

Ian:

This is Everything is Alive. The show is produced by Jennifer Mills and me, Ian Chillag with Eva Wolchover. Special thanks to Emily Spivak. Thanks also this week to Lauren Spohrer. Our editor is Hillary Frank. She has a book it's called Weird Parenting Wins.

Ian:

Tami and Ed the Sharpie were played by Tami Sagher and Ed Herbstman. Tami and Ed are currently writing a movie with music by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Bobby Lopez, the Oscar winning songwriters behind Coco and Frozen. During the process, Tami and Ed have gone through several Sharpies and feel kind of bad about it.

Ian:

A big thanks to Niv Allon for talking to us about the Egyptian writing tablet. Niv is an associate curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. The centerpiece of that celebration is an exhibition about the Mets history called Making the Met. More info@metmuseum.org.

Ian:

A special thanks to our donors, John Dowden, Francis Ryedale, Bill Magic, Eight Ball Curtis, and Ben and Kelsey Cheryllynn. We are truly grateful for your support. Another thank you to Max for your very good suggestion.

Ian:

Everything is Alive is a proud member of Radiotopia from PRX, Julie Shapiro, executive producer! You can get in touch with us any number of ways via everythingisalive.com. We'll see you soon.

Speaker 6:

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