

Pulled Up Short with Stanton Wortham

# How can education be about acquiring nothing?

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

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Stanton Wortham " , " \*

I Wba\_ Wfa Bg^W Gb EZadZf Z[e [e SbaVUSef fZSfie WfafW fa SbSf [Lg^Sd] [ V aX SUR[hfk i ZVdW  
i WdWfa V ea\_ W W bVbVU[hVea` fZ [ YefZSf USgeVgefa efabt fa TWbg^W gb eZadfi S V fZ [ ] S  
ffMT [f STagf ea\_ VZ [ Y fZSf i WTWVW Tgf i Z [LZ fgd eagf ` af fa TWfgWadSf VSe fZSf i W  
` Ww fa dVb` e[VdTSaW a` ea\_ W W [ Xad\_ Sfa` fZSf i VhWVW Y[hWž

FZ[e [e S [ badS f fZ [ Y fa Važ; f dVg[dV fZSf i WdWb` [i WWWWk ZW bVgbbae[fja` d fZSf i W  
WfVRS [ fZWbae [T [fk fZSf agdfkb [US`i Ske aXg` WdVRS V [ Y SdM` Ua\_ b VVadV [efad [ YžI W Ww  
fa TWabW fa cgVefja` eS V S^fVd Sf[hWad\_g Sfa` eaXTSe [U [eegVefZSf i WfVW fa fS] WadYdS fWž  
I WZShWfa TW [^ Y fa Ua` e[VdS^fVd Sf[hW Ske aX fZ [ ] [ YžF Z[e dVg[dV S Ua\_ \_ [f\_ Wf fa  
[ SY [ Sfa` t fa eW Y fZW adV [ ` W i Skel S Ua\_ \_ [f\_ Wf fa ekefW Sf [US`k [ cg[d` Y TSeW a`  
V [WVUWS V dVSea` t i ZVWVd [f VSe d S Ua\_ \_ [f\_ Wf fa TW Y abW t fa \_ ah [ Y TVka` V VaY\_ Sf [e\_ t  
S V Ua` e[Vd Y S^fVd Sf[hWVWVe S V bcdU [Ud adUa\_ \_ [f\_ Wf fa Ua` hVesfja` fa [efW [ Y Ww k  
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Ea [ VSLZ Vb [eaWVi WdWfa [ Y fa ZVScXa\_ ea\_ W` W Za ZSeS [ eYZf adea\_ VZ [ Yi Wwa` if  
fkb [US`k fZ [ ] STagf fZSf dVg[dV gefa TWbg^W gb eZadfi fa dVZ [ ] ea\_ VZ [ Y fZSf i WfVW fa fS] W  
XadYdS fWž 3` Vi WZabWfZSf kagi^W`akž

Samantha Ha #,%&

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ES\_ t S V faVSk; \_ WfYZfW fa eVhVSe SYgVef Zaef XadfZ [e Vb [eaWV [fZ fi a bVab`W Za; YdVSk  
SV\_ [dVSe bVab`W\_ Wfad S V VSV [ Y eLZa` Sc [ fZWVW aX bZ [ ^eabZk aX WgUSfja` ž FaVSk i W  
ZShW [fZ ge DW; 3dU`S i Za [e S BcaXVead aXBZ [ ^eabZk aX 7VgUSfja` Sf @W Kad] G` [hVefkž  
I VSDVSea` gU] k fa ZShW5Zde: [YY] d i Za [e S ea S BcaXVead S V BZ [ ^eabZVdaX 7VgUSfja` t ZVdW  
Sf 4aefa` 5a^WVi Za i [^a [ geSe SV [e]gees f

cgVefja` aX WgUSfja` ž I ZSf isWgUSfja` t W/SURk1 ; [fS`k [ ] Wb [ Yi [fZ fZWbaVUSef eVdV  
fZW W; V [ Wfa WdU TWZai fZ [e cgVefja` US` bg^ge gb eZadfi e [ b`k TWVgeWf eWV eea  
g` eV [agež ; feag` Ve [ WfZW] [ V aXi dVUZ a` W [YZf fZdai [ fa S Ua` hVesfja` fa WV S V ST [faX

SffWf[a` -[ fZW\_ V\$ f[ W/a` W

eW [ Y [ V [ X W U W f a f Z W ad V S d g ` V g e ž 6 [ V f Z W S [ W f Z W S W W U k a g f f Z W  
E a U S ^ [ g e f U W W g e a t S V [ W U W 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 eLb[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\$ fVd Sf[hWfa fZ[eXS\_ [fSdLh` U`bfaXWgUSf[a` ž3` 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`fVd Sf[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; \_ Y`SV fa fdk TVUSgeW[fedaafW [ i ZSf S↑ Ske \_ S] Vd\_ We\_ [MSTagf Zai \_ k e`ack La` f] gWz; ffgd e agf fZSf; W`WV gb LZaae[ Y 5Z[LSYa S`VdS^Xba\_ S\_ a` Y fZVdLZaa`e fZSf SUWb`fW\_ W`S V fZSf <S] ea` V[V TVLa\_ W\_ k \_ Wfad` A` UW` a[ W fZ[e] fW`VfG`S^La\_\_ g` [fk; V`Sd W`Xba\_ S`af aX afZVd fVdZVd S V efgWVfd faat Se; e[^^Va faVSkz 4gf; i ag`V` f TWdbVd [ Y fa kag S`dYZf` ai [X [f i VdV f`XadZW VjS\_ b^VzWdV`Xad\_ Vd : Wf`daSUZW fZWbSfZ fZSf` W` fa agd\_ Wf` Yz

KVd ea\_ VIZ[ Y [ \_ WX[bbW TVd W` fZW\_ a\_ Wf; X`W Z[e aX[UWS`fVd fZSf X`d`h[e]f S V fZW \_ a\_ Wf; Y[ Y`Vd k dVgd W` S`Vd SUWb`f Y 5Z[LSYa eaX`Vd aX SV\_ [ee[a` ž <S] ea` ecgVd[a` [ Y aX fZW hVd k La` U`bfaX WgUSf[a` ZSV ZS`fW\_ W` \_ kfdS] eS V Z[e] e[e`fWf bgd`g[f aX fZ[e cgVd[a` [ Yf [Y ad` Y S`^fZVeaU[S`bdaT`W\_e fZSf Ld[W agf`Xad WgUSf[a` S`See[e`S UW`d`b`W`Vz KVd; US\_ WTSU] ž I Zk1 I ZSf [e [f STagf Z[e cgVd[a` fZSf g`f` S`V`k SbbV`W` fa \_ W`

3`fZagYZ fZ[e SbbV`S`ebgdW\_ k fS] [ Y S UZS UWa` 5Z[LSYa S V <S] ea` t S V fZW YdW [ fa S W`Vgd[ Y US`↑ Y [ \_ k ↑ W`[fe` SfgdWef`^WgVd`S V ZSg` fe\_ Vd` A` UW` SUWb`fW` VdW` fZWbaee[T[↑fk fZSf; V[V` f]` ai fZWf`gW\_ Vd [ Y aX WgUSf[a` t fZSf WgUSf[a` Uag`V TWSTagf\_ adVfZS` fZW Subg[e]f[a` aX]` ai` W`VWS V fZWea`h[ Y aX eaU[S`bdaT`W` d fZ[e [Y` ad`S UW` [ e`fV`SV aX d`V`W`d Y\_ W` g` ST`Mfa WgUSf`WadT`W`VgUSf`W` ab`W`W\_ Wfa ea\_ VIZ[ Y fZSf X`W`e` ↑ WS`d`S`↑ a` Ya[ Y WgUSf[a` ž 3`X`Vd W`USV`e` aX bS`f[U]bSf[ Y [ [f ZVd`V`S`d`W`ea\_ W\_ a`W`e`f [ La` U`ge[hW`bdh[e]a` S`^fZagYZ fe STagf i Zk; La` f] g`Wfa S`X`d\_ 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 VjbdVdV ea\_ VZ[ YTVSgfXg^S V\_ keVdAge1 I ZSf [X [f fdS e\_ [fe  
i a` WdSf fZaeWZ[ YefZSf [ fVdVf ge[ fZW adV [ VVW i a` WdSf fZW adV [feW VdS [ Y ge  
VWbVd [ fa [f1 ;` efVdV aXbdVdUgbk[ Y agdVhVei [fZ fZWfXW W\_ [YZf aeAS V fZSf afZVde  
bdVg\_ ST`k Va` f ZShWegbbaeW WdVf agf fa Sdf [Ug`SfWfaVfZVd [ `cgVd[a` efZSf SdWdVd\_ adW  
WfS[W S V WUa\_ bSee[ Yi i ZSf i W\_ [YZf thWadl

Samantha Ha \$#,"%

; Wk [fVk fZ[ ] fZSf fZ[ehVd[a` aXWglSf[a` kagidAbcbabae[ Y [ehVd[V[XVdWf 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 SbbdWfSWfZW\_ 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 Slbg[e]fa` 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 fZWcgVfja` tTW SgeW \_ VS t; i S f fa eSk S^fZdWVdYZf1 ; \_ VS t  
S^fZdWsdVSTea`gfVkdYZfz; ]` 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^fWfja` fa fZ[e SdVd  
eVeWaxWgUSfja` ti Z[UZ kag ]` ai ti WeLZaa^eUagVva 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  
WgUSfja` t bSf[Lg^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 adWgUSfja` [ 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 eWVf 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[Lg^Sd fa \_ S] Wf ZWb geLa` ` Wf i [fZ fZ[e afZVd] [ V aX WgUSfja` t dVg[dVd  
efdWYfZW[ Y [T^Vd^Vsd [ Yz3` V; US [ SY[ Wea\_ Vd` WeSk[ Y fZWeLZaa^UgddLg^g\_ [eS  
dVWVfja` aX fZWa^V [T^Vd^Vsd e\_aWVZF ZSfie ZkVdVd^kTaVk ZSefa fS] Wea\_ W\_ SfZ[ ea\_ WZ[efack  
ea\_ WS YgSYWea\_ 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 e\_ [ V1Ea i ZSf` WVe fa TW\_ bchW1 3` V Zai  
i agV fZSf ZWb ge YVTSU] fa kagdVd[bZS k STagf WgUSfja` [eTW Y W agf1

René Arcilla %\*,#

I W^; fZ[ ] kag S V ; t; SydWfZSf S `af aX fZV SufgS^bdSuf[UWax [T^Vd^Vsd eWgUSfja` 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[WVax Vsd [ Yi [fZ fZ[e [V S aX fZW[T^Vd^Vsd e S V fZVdV e fZ[e dVdVgS^La` ` Wfja` i [fZ  
fZWfcdV[fja` 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 [e STagfZ kag ]` ai ti ZW i WeSk fZSf fZW  
[T^Vd^Vsd e SdVSTagf XdWVa\_ 1I ZSf Vj/Suf^k Va i W\_ VS Tk XdWVa\_ 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 eWgUSfja` ti [fZ fZW[V S fZSf fZVdV e ea\_ W [ V aX Xg` VS\_ WfS^WgUSfja`  
Ya[ Ya` i [fZ fZSfie dafW [ ^WfVW i ZSf [f\_ VS e fa [^V S [^W i ZSf [f\_ VS e fa ZShWfZ[e fZ[ Y  
aX ge fZSfie TWV Y bg^W agf [ ea\_ W Sk adVdS ` agfz3` V ea fZWabV[e fa dVdVfS^ Wf S V  
dVZ[ ] Xch\_ fZWdag` V gb

Ygef kag ]` ai t g` [hVb]fk eW [ Sclaa\_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] [ VaXS\_` Vd[SS V fZ[ ] fZSf  
fZVdWadWa` k fZSf [ eff]fgf[a` WgUSfV`4USgeW[fi e fZWa` WfZSf fQVd fa Va [f ea e] Y`W\_ [ W`k ea  
i Wwa` ifi S f fa ZShWfZSf ] [ VaX\_ kab[Sz DWWkVSI fZS ] eZFZS ] kag ea \_gLZz; fi SeYaaV fa  
fS] fa kag STagf fZVdWVSez

René Arcilla &,\$,%

FZ[e[eSYdVf La` hVd]f[a` ž; i [eZ [f Lag`V Ya a` S Va` S Va` ž3` VaX LagdW]fi [^ 5Zd[e d]YZfz

Chris Higgins &,\$,+

KVd STea`gfVž

Samantha Ha &,\$,%#

A X LagdW]fi [^La` f] gWZabWg`k faa i [fZ afZVdYa]ei Za SdW]efW[ Yž: abWg`k fZVW ZShW  
\_gLZ XaaV Xad fZagYZfZfZS ] kag] DWWYadeZSd[ Y kagdfZagYZfei [fZ ge faVSž3` V fZS ] kag] 5Zd[e d  
Xad SeSf Skd Se] [ Y fZWfagYZ cgVd]a` ež

René Arcilla &,\$,&(

KagdW`hVd]k i WLa\_ Vž

Chris Higgins &,\$,&)

FZS ]eXadZSh[ Y\_ Vž

Samantha Ha &,\$,&+

Ea fZSfie fZWWV aX agdVd[eaWVadfaVSk STagf fZVdW`gdMS V\_ keVd]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 Vd [ Y `ae XaddLZaa^UZ[VdWž3eSf Skd [X  
kag [ ] WgdbaVUSei i WZabWkag egTeddTWa kag Va` if\_ [eeS Vd[eaWV]EWkag` V]f i W]ž