

## **Transcription: Grand Canyon Historical Society**

**Interviewee:** Josh (JC) and Amy Case (AC), Rachael Fanton (RF)  
**Interviewer:** Tom Martin (TM)  
**Subject:** Building a dory and what the Grand Canyon means to them  
**Date of Interview:** 10/18/2014  
**Method of Interview:** In-Person while floating in Josh's homemade dory on the Colorado River below Diamond Creek  
**Transcriber:** Sue Priest  
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**Transcription Reviewers:** Tom Martin  
**Keys:** Family, Dory

TM: Today is Saturday, it's October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This is 9:20 in the morning, we have just left Surprise camp. Josh and Amy Case and Tom Martin are on a dory that Josh built. We just left camp, in the morning here, after a wonderful breakfast. Josh and Amy, if you would mind to tell me your names and tell me how to spell them.

AC: Amy Case. A-M-Y C-A-S-E.

JC: Josh Case. J-O-S-H C-A-S-E.

TM: So Josh, tell me about your interest in Grand Canyon. Amy feel free to jump in, both of you together can build a better story than any one of you apart. I'm just interested, let's talk to Josh this first one. Amy, I'll be asking you the same questions.

JC: The first time, the why, the how. I've been here as a kid. My grandfather that I named this boat after, they lived in Munds Park. They had a summer place there. We used to just... Every summer we found a couple days and it would be a road trip to something or other. Grand Canyon, Wupatki, all the different stuff around northern Arizona since we got to spend so much time out of Phoenix during the summer, which was a blessing. I never really gave a lot of thought to hiking it, backpacking it, to spending a lot of time. It was kind of like Clark Griswold – OK saw it, let's go. I had a friend I met my freshman year in college at NAU. Sophomore year, we're still good friends and he said, "Hey, let's do this spring break backpacking trip." Eight days. Scrounge together a backpack and whatever. So we did it. Hermit Rapid, Granite Rapid, across the Tonto to Indian Gardens, up to Cottonwood, back to Phantom and out over 8 days. Good trip, got hooked and just started backpacking.

TM: How did you guys meet?

JC: We met online, on Match.com.

TM: That's cool.

AC: I stalked him.

TM: Amy, what was your first experience in Grand Canyon?

AC: I went on our honeymoon. We came down and hiked Hermit. It was just a day trip. We didn't go all the way to the bottom. We did that later, like the next year.

JC: We went down to... what's that spring, right there on the Supai on the Hermit proper?

AC: Since then I've gone down to Hermit Rapid, I've gone across to Clear Creek. Next month we're taking our two oldest girls down for 4 days.

TM: How old are they, what are their names?

AC: Marlie and Lexie. Charlie wants to go, too but she's too small. Marlie's seven and Lexie's five. This will be both their first backpacking trips. We're going to hike down, spend two nights in Bright Angel and then spend two nights coming out. Stop at Indian Garden. Just give them a good little overview of how it goes.

TM: What are your thoughts about this as a mother, these are your kids? You're married to this nice guy, he's sort of a Grand Canyon nut. You made these children. What are you thinking about this?

AC: Especially the baby, it's kind of sad that she doesn't get to go. She's so much like her dad. She wants to go, that's all she's talking about. She's trying to convince us she's old enough. She's so into it. "I'm big enough." She talks about how she wants to go on this boat, she wants to do all of these things now. Honestly, in a couple years she's going to be the one who's going with her dad all the time.

JC: She was sitting in the garage last week, just doing some finishing touches and I had a ladder leaning up because it was on the trailer. She climbed up and said, "Daddy this will be so cool when we go to the Grand Canyon. I'll get a little paddle and we'll just paddle back and forth across the river. I can't wait to go. We're going next week, right?" I'm like, "Honey, you can't. You're not big enough to go on this trip. You're going to stay with your grandmother."

TM: How old is she?

JC/AM: Three.

AC: She wants to go. Perhaps next year. Depending on how she does, we'll give her a small backpack.

JC: She's very small.

AC: She's just small. Lexie's five and she's big.

JC: Charlie would really get tired.

AC: I still worry about her. I worry about how she's going to handle backpacking her stuff down. We don't worry about Marlie, she's fine.

TM: So, you're getting more comfortable. Amy, it seems like Josh was down into the canyon early on. Had you not seen...

AC: I like backpacking but I don't necessarily... It doesn't necessarily have to be here. I did Machu Picchu in December. I want to go to Yellowstone. I want to do the AT. I want to do a bunch of other stuff. I just like to go.

TM: Josh, tell me a little bit about your grandfather and the name of the craft that he flew in World War II.

JC: In World War II he was based in out of Hethel, England. 329<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group, I want to say. U.S. Army Air Corps. He was a pilot on a B-24 Liberator. They flew based out of England. He flew 35 or 36 recorded missions over Germany bombing the factories. If you know anything about those daylight bombing runs, they were brutal. They were nearly suicidal. There was an attrition rate of 45 or 55% or something. The planes that went up, not many came back. He flew a couple missions of fuel to General Patton. Then to North Africa during that campaign. I don't know how long he was over there, I think it was a good 2 ½ or three years. He was a couple credits short on getting the 'sent home' deal. So anyhow, he flew a B-24 over there. I struggled with a name on this. I thought of one and then it was taken.

TM: Tell me a little bit more about your grandfather. What did he mean to you as a kid? I'm assuming he's passed?

JC: Yes.

TM: What did he inspire you with? How do you remember him?

JC: He was a lot of fun to be around. He always told really good stories. He used to be the CFO for Greyhound. He had his shit together for sure. He always was fun to hang out with. Just a great human being, a great personality, great storyteller, inspiring, he loved the outdoors. Always made sure they took vacations, they went to parks, then they went to Scotland. My grandmother made sure that their kids got culture. His wife, my grandmother, she died in March. So a little bit after that I said, "I'm going to name the boat after that World War II bomber he flew."

AC: Did you ever tell her that?

JC: Yes, she knew that before she died. That's still a little bit raw.

TM: Remind me of that name again.

AC: The *Sweet and Low Down*.

JC: The name of the boat? Yeah.

TM: That was the name of their plane?

JC: Yep, that was the name their plane. In this little hatch there's a picture of it.

TM: Josh is opening up a hatch and there's a photograph. It's glassed in the bottom of the hatch. It's a bunch of flymen and they're around the plane. It says 'Sweet and Low Down' in big letters on the side of the plane. Josh is pointing to a guy on the far left standing in the back on this photo. That's awesome.

What did building this boat... You've successfully completed through a number of pretty big rapids. The water up through Killer Fang Falls, 231-mile, running in from Diamond Creek. First time to put the boat on the water. What did you learn doing this?

JC: Building the boat or putting it on the water? Building the boat I got to learn a lot about working with wood. It wasn't something I was very good at or had any experience with.

TM: Had you ever built a boat before?

JC: No.

AC: Had he ever build a table or anything before?

JC: The answer to those things is never. I hadn't built anything. So like all good, resourceful people, I found some friends that had a little bit more experience in doing that stuff and recruited them to help me build the frames. That was something I wasn't comfortable with, with all the bevels on the boat side of them. Putting all that together, working with table saws, miter saws. I didn't really have any experience doing that. My friend Gary helped me quite a bit. He helped me for the first couple months, probably until January. We started in November, around 8 November of 2013. He helped until the beginning of January then he and his wife moved across town.

AC: It wasn't convenient for them to come by anymore so Josh did most of the midwork, most of the glassing, most of the finish work on his own. Just figuring it out.

JC: A little trial and error. I only cut one piece of duck plywood that I couldn't use. And that's the one you're sitting on. I had to recut it. Luckily I had enough. It's not perfect, I know where the imperfections are but that's alright. It doesn't have to be perfect. It's just going to get beat up and then fixed and beat up and then fixed and then oiled and then repaired and then run. It's not a boat that's going to sit in the garage and look pretty. I plan on using it a lot, a lot. That's why I built it.

TM: What would you do differently? Now that you've built one, if you were to build another one what would you do differently?

JC: I may get a little bit more slope on these side hatches next to the boatman's footwell. Maybe a little bit more of that. But I've got to work on getting the hatch linings a little bit more watertight. They're not ever going to be watertight, but there was a ridiculous amount of water in this little hatch. Just run a rapid and I had that much in it. I'll have to do some playing, some filling. Right now, there's not a lot different I would do. I'd have to probably run it some more and figure out if there was anything that could have been better. I'll probably end up cutting in a place for the spare oars, into this back seat rest or something back here. I'll probably cut a slot in for the spare oars. I got a lot of inspiration for this off Brad Dimock's blog. He's a master builder. He goes to boat school during the summer just because it's fun. He started casting bronze, it's really cool to see. I did a lot of research and reading. I can't say what I'd would do different yet. I don't know yet, all make some modifications. It would be kind of fun to build a punt.

TM: Having rowed it through the rapids, how does it handle? We're on all flat water now until the takeout. Did the boat respond the way you thought it would?

JC: It did, until you got... As soon as you got the footwells full of water it's a little sluggish. It pivots, it moves. You can get some momentum going with it. The whole shape and the way it meets with the water is nice. I enjoy it so far a lot more than rowing a raft. The raft is a big, heavy pig that just goes over the top of everything. The dory has this ability to dance through and you feel the water. It's a little bit more connection with the river. It handled really well. It was really responsive. If I needed to kick it into

something, make sure I'm hitting it straight. You know that pull through 232, that would've been a tougher pull, breaking that top left lateral, would have been tougher in a raft. I would've had to work a lot harder to make that pull through.

TM: Amy, what are your thoughts on this? You meet this guy, he's a nice guy, he's kind of nuts with Grand Canyon, he wants to build a boat. What are your thoughts on this?

JC: This was your idea, Tom. [laughing]

AC: Initially I was really proud of him. I guess I still am. But, it's been a year and I would like my husband back.

TM: Let's continue talking about this, because I think this is important.

AC: That is the only thing going on, so everything else has fallen to the wayside. That's a little bit annoying. But it's over now. That's an entire year that someone's doing something else and not really engaging with what's happening with the kids and life. He's been kind of stressing.

JC: It took a lot of...

TM: My wife calls my boat 'the bloody boat'. What you're experiencing is an important thing, a real thing.

AC: I'm very proud of him. There are a lot of husbands that just sit on the couch and do nothing. He's doing something amazing.

JC: I never felt I was... Amy never made me feel like she was super annoyed all the time. "Oh, you're just going to go work on the boat." She knew we had to get the boat done because we had a deadline. Though I think she'd rather... It wasn't necessarily every Saturday and every Sunday afternoon for some points of time there to get all that done.

AC: We haven't done any of the things that... We haven't gone on dates, we haven't gone on hikes. We haven't done any of the things that *we* do because *he's* doing this.

TM: It's a balance.

AC: Every conversation is the boat or something about the boat. Or something about logistics of this or that. I have a finite amount of patience for that sort of conversation. I have exceeded it.

JC: This is true. We're going to get home and this thing's going to dry out for a couple weeks. Then we'll start thinking about making little modifications, adjusting things, and sealing things as we get closer to the trip in March. One of the people on this trip is Rachael. Her friend and a friend of ours, Steven, last year when it came time to put in before the non-commercial weighted lottery...

AC: We had Steven and Rachael and a couple of other friends put in. Steven and Rachael got the same launch date. So we had the whole river but we decided 32 people is too much. So we gave one of the launch dates back. We gave back Rachael's launch date but she's going on Steven's trip. So we're all going.

JC: So March 8<sup>th</sup> we have 21 days, 16 people. The dory will go on that along with five 18-footers.

TM: Josh, are you looking forward to that trip?

JC: Yes.

TM: Amy, are you?

AC: Oh yeah.

TM: How are you going to keep, with all this boat-centric focused canyon-centric focused stuff, how are you going to keep your relationships sparking? Taking dates and doing that kind of stuff?

JC: We still have a helicopter ride we need to take.

AC: There's a lot that needs to happen. We'll see how he does.

JC: I got her a helicopter ride for her birthday in September. But then the day we were going to do, it on her birthday, we had a huge storm come in. That was when that hurricane came through Vegas, they called and had to cancel it. And since then, Amy's absolutely right, every single weekend has been trying to get this damn thing ready to put on the water. It's been a lot of work. I took the month of June off and I paid for that a little bit on the end of the project. We have a trip to Greenville coming up in December that has nothing to do with the Canyon or boats. That's to go see Eric Church and Dwight Yoakum. I think Greenville's a great town in South Carolina. Amy lived there... How long did you live there?

AC: Three years.

JC: She's got a lot of good friends there.

AC: Some of my best friends are there. So we're going to go. Same weekend my family is there.

JC: We'll be able to take some Saturday nights and go out and do some things.

AC: That's a good idea.

TM: What does this type of activity mean to you as a couple, individually and as a family?

AC: It's nice to have a *thing* we're working towards as a couple. Like a trip to plan or being away for three weeks off the grid. That will be nice. As a family, at least right now, it kind of hurts the family because that's weeks and they are so young. So probably after this year, at least I am not going to go on big river trips until the kids are old enough. It causes, especially Charlie... She takes that very personally. When we came back last year, she didn't talk to me for days.

JC: Big, long river trip like March's is going to have to...

AC: When they get bigger we can take them Diamond down, and that's fine. They can be part of the boat experience. But I need them to be at least 14/16 before it could even consider taking them on the whole river. I wouldn't feel comfortable with that.

JC: We want them to be big and independent and good swimmers.

AC: I want to not be worried about them. I want them to be very secure.

JC: We would like them to have the ability to self-rescue if they go in the water.

AC: Especially Lexie, she's very clumsy. She falls just out of bed.

JC: This trip in March is probably going to have to be my last full three-weeker for a couple years just because of work. I'm with a newer company, well, it's an old company but it's new to me and a couple of the partners. We're just going to have to take some time to make sure we get a lot of work done over the next few years. I like spending time out here with Amy. It usually takes me a day or two to wind down and relax. I was a little stressing on ramp trying to get going. Day three, now it's in the zone. I could do a week more of this as long as there's current.

TM: So we touched on this last night. We shit in a box, we eat out of canned food, it's not too bad. We're sleeping on the dirt/ground. What is it about these journeys that attracts you?

JC: I just like being out in nature. It's pretty here. It's not big and scary. People think it's big and scary. "Oh there's snakes, there's scorpions, there's bugs."

AC: I actually like this better than some of the hikes because I have a very serious fear of falling. Especially if there's a lot of exposure, it's not fun for me. That's why I don't do as many hikes as everyone else. It's not enjoyable. I need a nice trail where I'm not going to die. I feel much more comfortable down here.

JC: Her depth perception isn't the best. That descent into Clear Creek across the Supergroup is not her favorite. I think that's a Hakatai slope.

AC: It's slippery.

JC: A little ballbearingish.

AC: It's exposed and I was not happy. There might have been tears.

JC: This March, we're going to get you to the Patio in Deer Creek. You gotta see that. It's really not that exposed, it's not that bad.

AC: We'll see.

JC: You gotta see it once. It's a pretty place. Too bad the Narrows aren't open. I guess that's a whole nother discussion.

AC: I don't really like rappels, I don't really like slot canyons, all the things that these kids live for. I don't need to do that. I'd much rather do a different hike in a different place. I've always wanted to do the AT. I just did Machu Picchu trail.

JC: We should do the JMT. We talked about picking up sections of the Hayduke.

TM: What's the JMT?

JC: The John Muir Trail.

AC: That would be enjoyable. I would like to do that.

JC: It's a good summertime routine.

AC: Rachael did that last year with Steven, the guy that's going to be on. She didn't do all of it. They did like four days of it. Just complete little pieces.

JC: I think I'd like to do some sections of the Hayduke Trail. That comes down Bryce, through Zion and then down Kanab Creek area into Grand Canyon. Don't necessarily have to tackle all those sections. Then there's the section up around the Paria and up around Lake Powell. Buckskin Gulch is one that Jeremy hiked that looked fantastic. He did it when it was super clear and not a single obstacle or anything. Not even a log he had to crawl over. It was just a walk-through. That was really pretty.

AC: That sounds nice.

JC: Long narrows, too. Like miles of corridors and narrows.

TM: It's very pretty, I encourage you guys to do it. What else should I be asking you about?

JC: I don't know.

AC: Isn't this a boat-centered conversation?

TM: It doesn't have to be. Here we are in the Canyon, this is our lives. We're alive today and we're sitting in this little boat. What else about Grand Canyon and the river? What else are you thinking?

AC: Josh says that this is his church. This is where he feels centered and close to God. I kind of get that.

JC: It can be quiet and peaceful or you can party a little bit or have a nice relaxing day where you don't feel like doing anything but taking a nap.

TM: What inspires you, Amy?

AC: In life?

TM: Yeah. Where do you get your inspiration from?

AC: A lot of things. I'm very pedantic, I always see ten steps down the road. So I'm always quietly planning. I don't need a *thing* to be happy or centered or whatever. I'm always planning the next thing and really very level all the time.

TM: Is that where you get your inspiration? From that looking ahead planning?

AC: Yes, I need that. What upsets me is when it seems like there is no direction or when there's no purpose. If I don't have a thing to look forward to or a thing to plan that's when I... I don't necessarily need a hike to clear my head, though it does help. As long as I have a 'something' that I'm working towards. I'm always ten steps ahead in my head. It's nice to be around someone like him because he's



very anal/OCD/organized/making things happen. So it helps me. I'm usually so far ahead that the day-to-day, the planning, the little, minute things aren't as important to me.

JC: I like to plan stuff. The multi-day trips are fun to plan.

AC: I'm always seeing big picture, how people are going to react, how this is all going to play out, who's going to get along. I'm always there.

JC: Everybody loves you and hanging out with you 'cause you're fun, bubbly and sparkly personality. You tell good stories. Very good stories.

TM: What inspires you about this place?

JC: It's different every time. The same places are different. Completely. Rolling into Killer Fang yesterday was totally different than it was on March the 13 when we rolled in there. Everything was different. The sky was different, the shadows were different, it was sprinkling a little bit. The water was different, the rapid looked different. Nothing's ever really the same. It was different in June that it was in March the year before, when we went and backpacked down to Hermit Creek and went to Hermit Rapid. That was different. It always changes. People say, "Why do you keep going back? Why would you keep wanting to go back?" Because it's always different. It's relaxing. Even on a backpacking trip it's still fun to find a way to be relaxing.

AC: I actually like a backpacking trip. You have hours to zone out. You get to think your thoughts. It's like a car trip but with cardio and beautiful scenery. You're not really doing anything but walking. You can be in your own head and experience all the things that you want to experience. Think your thoughts.

JC: It's a special place that deserves protection. I frankly think it deserves wilderness status. Some people don't necessarily agree with that position. They are entitled to their opinions and I know that's a fight that's been going on for a long, long time. When I'm here and I'm looking at this and I'm thinking about it, this is wilderness. Sure, the dam caused those silt banks and the reason the water is colder is because of another dam upstream. But, it's wild. This place is predominantly dominated by wild things, wildness. There's animals. We're not in control here. The river's in control, nature's in control. Especially upstream. I concede a little bit when it comes to the Diamond down stretch that maybe it's not quite as many wilderness property's as the rest of the river. Specially the Hualapai's and their boats and then the commercial's and their boats. I have a feeling I'm going to have that same opinion as we get closer to Quartermaster and apocalypse now. But, it's OK. Kind of a shame it got to that point, but it shouldn't necessarily get any worse.

TM: Before we talk about wilderness, I want to go back for a second about backpacking and boating. What are the big differences? You mentioned, Amy, you don't like exposure so boating is safer.

AC: Boating is ideal in the Canyon, but in life I love backpacking. It's very liberating for me. It's very organized for me. You have to figure out a way to put everything on your back so that you're comfortable. There's a certain order to the way your day goes. You don't really talk to anyone except for the couple people you are with. And even then, it's only related to 'we're going to stop here and going to do that'. You're alone but not alone. That's cool.

TM: What do your friends say when you tell them you've come back and try to talk to them about what you've done?

AC: Our friends are very impressed with us.

JC: That's very true.

AC: We are the adventurous ones in our clan of friends except for our friends that we take with us on the river. Everyone has started calling Josh Noah because he built a boat.

JC: "Is the flood coming soon, Noah?"

AC: There's a group that...

JC: We end up finding people like Ryan.

AC: What a great example. Ryan, when I met him, he's loud and he drinks a lot. But as I got to know him, he's such a sweet, kindhearted kid. I'm so proud of the way he's handled the last couple days. Just getting on the ducky and going through and powering through the waves. I have a newfound respect. He's done such a great job. He can go with us on any trip now.

JC: That's a lot of the fun of going on these trips is meeting those like-minded people.

RF: It changed my perspective.

AC: I always liked him as people, but I wondered how's he going to do?

TM: Now I need to introduce Rachael. Can you spell your name for me please?

RF: R-A-C-H-A-E-L F-A-N-T-O-N.

[Rearranging the boats]

TM: Rachael, we're doing an interview. It's October 18<sup>th</sup>, we're drifting along below Surprise Canyon. I asked Josh and Amy what their friends thought of them doing this. Amy mentioned you and Ryan and how she's seen some interesting things happen to him. So Amy, tell me a little bit about interacting with your friends and the social scene when you come back and tell them I've been hiking the Grand Canyon or I've going to the Grand Canyon.

AC: Everyone knows what we're doing right now because it's been a year of planning. We've built a boat. There'll be nothing but conversations when we get back with everyone we know because people are fascinated.

JC: People we work with. People we know socially. Our bosses.

AC: This is a real thing. It's not your usual Vegas lifestyle. We're different because we're unique. We're not telling stories about going to the club or what everybody else is doing. We're telling stories about having this adventure or that adventure. We have a 'something' planned usually every... People will come in and ask me, "What do you have going on next?" I'll tell them because there's always a 'something'. There's something that we have in the foreseeable future. After this, were taking the girls backpacking. After that we're going to South Carolina. In March we're doing the big river trip. There are things that are happening.

TM: Rachael, how did you meet Josh and Amy?

RF: I went into Winchell's with Steven.

AC: The guy that she used to date was one of my clients and we just kind of adopted her.

RF: Pretty much, they take care of me.

TM: Did you go backpacking with these guys first in the Canyon?

RF: Yep, in March.

TM: Had you seen Grand Canyon before then?

RF: I had seen it but only from the top. Actually, that's not true. I had hiked down to Havasu Falls before, which was really cool, but it was a different part of the Canyon than this. When we did our trip in March we hiked down the South Kaibab to Phantom and then over to Clear Creek and back up Bright Angel.

TM: What were your thoughts on that journey?

RF: I loved it, I had a lot of fun. It was also trying. I had boot problems so that was something I had to get over mentally.

AC: I really appreciated the way she handled it because she was in pain but she wasn't complaining. She was still powering through and still being in a positive mood. She had every right to be so awful.

JC: From 3-mile rest house up, you guys both hiked in your socks.

AC: We got so tired of our shoes we just took them off. We went halfway up Bright Angel in our bare feet, in socks.

RF: It was not worth it anymore to be sitting there in pain.

AC: She took them off and I took mine off about a mile later.

JC: You were pretty close to 1½ mile rest house.

AC: We were like, it's been four days, 47 miles, we're done.

RF: That was the first time I had ever camped without a tent. I liked that a lot, it was a cool experience. It was nice sleeping under the stars.

AC: We took her on our annual North Rim camping trip this year, too, which has become this great tradition. More and more people come every year. Now it's just this thing that we do. My dad comes down every year for it. My brother comes down every year for it now. My sister went this year for the first time. Rachael went for the first time. We have friends that go with us that have kids, too, that are our kids' age. We had some people that went on our river trip last year that went with us. We just get bigger and bigger and bigger. It's fun being out in the woods. We bring dogs. We have a nice time enjoying each other's company.

RF: It's cool to see the kids not so reliant on parents needing them to teach them things and stuff like that.

AC: The first year we did it, Marlie, our oldest, she's very fastidious, fussy. So we told her to go do her own thing. We don't have to guide you through life, you are empowered to explore. It takes something like that. Just getting them out and letting them have a couple days where they are empowered to do their own thing is so good for them.

RF: They're going to learn so many different skills that other kids don't get to experience. Not everybody gets to take their children out on these really cool trips and show them things.

AC: I have this plan for the future when the girls are in their teenage years, a little bit later. We take them all on their first river trip. They'll have the neatest experience. Dave Nally, he's the one who went on our boat trip last year, he's going this year. Last year he brought two of his daughters. This year he's bringing all three. They're the same age difference as our daughters pretty much. We've met two of them and they're so cool. They were like, "Our dad took us everywhere. We've done this, we've done that. We've hiked. We've always been outdoorsy." So they have this cool, laid back girl vibe. They're not fussy, they're not anything like that.

JC: Stephanie is a river guide now up on the Salmon and her boyfriend does that. Brook is a yoga instructor and she loves to climb. She's still living in St. George.

AC: Just neat kids. That's because they always had these opportunities to do cool things and that's what I want for my girls.

TM: So in today's world, this would almost be classified as child abuse.

[Laughing]

AC: I keep thinking of all the things that if I were a public figure, all the things that probably would not be OK with the way I'm handling my children.

RF: But it works.

AC: If they're hungry I'm like, "Go feed yourself. You're three, you know how to do this. You can cook."

TM: One of the things you're telling me that's important for your children is their ability to figure it out for themselves and self-entertain.

JC: Self-sufficiency, too.

RF: Not relying on other people.

AC: There's nothing more annoying to me than children who, "I want my mommy, blah, blah, blah." Or kids who can't do for themselves. They have to be constantly coddled. They have someone hovering over them. Honestly, I think those are people who turn into ugly adults.

RF: Who you don't want to be around.

AC: You don't enjoy their company. That never had to do and always have this victim mentality when the world turns out to be cruel or just realistic. They never had to actually experience it as kids and they don't understand why the world is so hard and no one's taking care of them. I have no patience for that.

JC: But the thing about making them self-sufficient and able to think for themselves is... They do like going outdoors and they do like nature and they do hiking and they do like camping.

AC: They all have an affinity for being outside and hiking. Charlie's been climbing since she was like 10 months old.

RF: She's a monkey.

AC: I don't worry about her. If she wants to climb that, sure have a good time.

JC: It's going to make them better the older they get because they're going to have those skills. They're be able to look at a situation and figure it out. As their outdoor wilderness skills improve they'll be able to go do those hikes, those river trips, those camping trips. If something goes wrong they're not going to lose their shit, they're going to understand. Okay here, let's assess the situation. Let's make a plan, what are our options? That translates to life.

RF: What I like about the way that you raise your kids is that because you don't hover over them, if they find themselves in a situation, they're going to figure it out. You don't sit there and figure it out for them. It's a different way of thinking and I like that. Thinking for themselves.

AC: I'm not going to put them in dangerous situations at this time. But I do expect them to handle the basics of life.

RF: They learn.

AC: I'm not going to hover over you. If you fall down, that sucks, you probably shouldn't have done that. Are you bleeding? Probably don't do that anymore.

JC: Is there a bone sticking out? No, okay you learned something, don't do that again.

AC: I'm not going to hover over you because you did something stupid.

TM: It sounds like your parents didn't necessarily get you out into the out-of-doors as much as Josh's parents.

AC: My parents didn't do all of this. My parents were very... We grew up in the middle of nowhere. So it was get up in the morning, leave the house, I'll see you at dinner.

TM: Where did you grow up again?

AC: Mount Pleasant, Texas. It was nowhere.

TM: Population?

AC: When I was growing up it was probably like 60,000 or something. That's for the town and...

TM: So about the size of Flagstaff?

AC: No, think more like that's the town and the county. It was very spread out. Where I was, it's a mile to the next house. We'd go through the woods behind somebody's house or ride my bike down to wherever. It was a journey, it's not like there was somebody right next to you.

TM: So very much outdoors then.

AC: Oh yeah. We'd build forts in the woods. I took my kids in June to my dad's house for a week. [Told the kids] "Enjoy, you can walk down the road, you can walk to a neighbor's house, you can walk through the woods, choose your own adventure, have a good time." The baby, it took zero time. Lexie it took zero time. Marlie it took several days for her to be comfortable enough to get dirty. The baby and Lexie were jumping in the mud puddles and having a blast and doing this and doing that. Like I said Marlie is pretty fussy, so she was like, "Uh, uh what do I do?" There's no TV there, there was nothing. It was very 'enjoy yourself'. You know what, they're still talking about it.

TM: So she got it, she got into it?

AC: It took a minute for her to realize that this is what we're doing now. There's no TV, there's no this, there's no... You're going to have to find your own thing to make you happy today. I'm not going to take you anywhere. Actually I did take them places. It took them to all the places where I grew up. They climbed an oil well, they went to the houses we grew up in and the families. Took them to all the little places. Mostly we just hung out.

TM: Josh, if I was to ask you why is this important for your children to have these skills, would you say the same as Amy or do you have anything else to add with that?

JC: No, very similar but I didn't grow up doing any of that stuff.

AC: Josh grew up on a golf course.

JC: I grew up in Phoenix and we lived on a golf course. We lived on Moon Valley Country Club. My dad would go on this once a year, alcohol binged, camping trip with all his buddies. They called it the elk scouting trip. They did it every summer. It pretty much was an excuse for all of them to get together and play washers, eat good food. One of my dad's friends is an excellent Dutch oven chef. Just party it up. I finally got to start going when I was 16. It was probably the first time I'd ever camped. Well now, we went on a little canoe trip when I was in fifth grade, maybe, up to one of those lakes on the rim up above Payson, Knoll Lake. We went up there and canoed. We canoe camped so loaded stuff up in a canoe with a trolling motor and went across the lake to a little island. Caught crawdads. That was probably the first time I camped. After that, it had been years after that.

AC: I've been camping since I was a little kid.

TM: So Amy, what was your first camping trip? How old were you? What do you remember about those first trips?

AC: I can't remember, because I think I've done it my whole life. In the summer we would go to a lake or we would go to Arkansas, or we would go to Missouri, some beautiful mountainy place and we would camp. At least we would go to the lake and camp for the weekend. You would always do a 'something'.

TM: What did your mother and father do?

AC: My dad built houses and such, he still does that.

TM: Your mother, was she doing the traditional raise children?

AC: Yes, initially. She did that for most of my childhood.

TM: Do you think that was an important component as you were growing up?

AC: No, she hated it. She was crazy, that was not for her. But when we were kids we didn't know. They had a break when I was probably middle school, where she just couldn't do that anymore and he couldn't pretend that he liked her anymore. Then, my high school years were completely different because my mom was finding herself after all those years. She had me when she was 18. She was trying really hard to be the mother figure. I realized that I had my first kid by the time that she was done raising us. Isn't that odd? I feel like I'm bringing a level of maturity to my kids that I did not get. I felt like I was the grownup in my life, all the time. We did fun things but as far as being a responsible adult. That all fell to me. Paying the bills, making sure groceries were bought, things like that. That was me because they were too busy having their little things going on.

TM: Do you get a sense that this type of recreation, either boating or backpacking, helps your kids get a sense of that 'I can figure this out, I can organize and make this work'?

AC: Yes, absolutely. I'm actually very curious to see how Lexie handles this.

JC: I was thinking more Marlie, too. She's never done a multi-day backpacking trip.

AC: It's not going to be so much the physicality of it, just the mindset of 'this is what we're doing and there is no stopping, nobody's going to carry you, and this is what we're doing'. It's going to be a challenge for them mentally.

JC: We've got to help them set small goals. Small obtainable goals throughout the day. We're going to go down to that point now on the trail and stop and get some water and have a snack. Now we're going to go down to the next part. So they keep having these little victories the whole way. I think it's the right...

AC: I'm actually very curious to see how they're going to pull it off. They're going to pull it off.

JC: They have to. They're walking in and they're walking out.

TM: This type of place, Grand Canyon is a National Park, does this place offer your children that type of potential?

AC: Yeah, absolutely. I think it's more important because this is so important to their dad to have a bonding experience with them. To see why he does all the things that he does. Why he spent so much time on this. Especially the little older girl's. He and the baby are good. The older girls, sometimes they don't communicate as well because they're on two different levels. It helps to bring them closer together. They're girly. They're girlier than me.

JC: Yeah, they're a little girly.

RF: They're fun kids.

JC: Charlie not so much.

TM: That's interesting. I was wondering how much of that is our societal norms as children vs. when you get them here.

AC: When they go camping it's the same thing. They shuck off their whatever's and they're free to play, runaround, go a little hikes, and do their own thing. It took a couple years of them testing their boundaries before they were really comfortable. Now they are. We'll just keep going until...

JC: They're looking forward to it.

AC: They really are.

JC: Marlie got her first pack.

AC: Lexie has to get a pack. I have to get her a lightweight sleeping bag. She can't carry that big one down the hill.

JC: Yeah, she can't carry that big REI bag.

TM: Rachael, you met these guys and then you heard that Josh was going to build a boat. Noah. What were your thoughts about that?

RF: I was super excited. That is frigging cool. You don't really hear of a lot of people who are like, "Oh, I think I'm going to build a boat." Not very many people just build boats. I think that was cool.

JC: And you have your little part in this boat.

AC: Everybody like Ryan, Rachael, everybody has had a chance to help in the building process.

RF: Rachael helped lay the glass on the chines because we have three layers of 8oz. glass on the chines. Ryan and I put the gunnels on a couple weekends ago. Amy and I laid the bottom of this thing up on a Sunday. We used about 3 gallons of epoxy on the bottom of the boat.

AC: Rachael did a bunch of the glassing.

RF: It's cool to be a part of it and learn something new. Like, "Oh yeah, I've done that before."

JC: All the kids did some painting. They did their handprints in this hatch.

RF: I was all for it. And then putting it in the water, that was a really exciting moment. Putting the boat in the water for the very first time.

TM: When did you do that?

AC: At Diamond down.

JC: A couple days ago.



TM: Run this past me again. I thought you put the boat in a lake or something in Vegas.

AC: No.

JC: There it wasn't time.

AC: We put the boat in at Diamond and ran a rapid to see if it was going to work.

RF: That's why it was such an exciting experience. It was monumental.

JC: Why do you think I was a little bit nervous? I was a little bit high strung on Thursday at the ramp. This sucker had been dry its whole life.

RF: That's why he wasn't fun for that first day. He was stressing.

TM: I completely missed that.

JC: That was it, that was the maiden getting-it-wet.

[beverage break]

AC: Its Rachael's birthday today.

TM: So Rachael, it's your birthday today. Why would you want to come out here in the middle of nowhere for your birthday?

RF: I wanted to relax and not have to deal with the chaos that is everyday life. Not have to worry about other people for a while.

JC: You didn't want to go to the club, you didn't want to go get cronked and turned up?

RF: I didn't even want to do that for my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

AC: Rachael is a wonderful young adult. I'll tell you why. Because she's very mature, she's very old-soul. She's not dumb like all those other twenty-somethings. Usually people mature but it's nice when they come fully formed. I appreciate that.

JC: That's a good way to look at it, actually.

AC: I know people in their late thirties who are way less mature than she is. That are still blaming everyone for what's happening in their lives, no responsibility, and no sense of purpose or action. It's annoying. I enjoy a fully formed, adult person.

RF: Appreciate it.

TM: Rachael, what attracts you would to Josh and Amy?

RF: They're really fun people, fun to be around. They're low stress. Except for Thursday. That was probably the most stressed out I've ever seen him. They're very laid back, they love hanging out with people who have good stories.

AC: We surround ourselves with pretty good people and we a lot of barbecues and things at the house. We really do it up for all the kids' birthdays.

RF: They have people over all the time.

AC: We're not those 'go out' people, we're the 'come to us' people. We will feed you. That's how you get stories. Make some sangria or something.

RF: Peach sangria with the peaches that I've have grown. That was good, that was really good.

TM: Rachael, what do your friends say when you come back from these adventures with these guys?

RF: I tell them about everything. And there like, "Oh, that's so cool!" A lot of them are like, "Oh, I couldn't do that. I couldn't not wash myself for 4 days."

AC: A lot of her friends are cool, I like talking to them, but I could never take any of them on these trips.

RF: They're two high maintenance. That's the best way to put it.

JC: Like the story, actually I saw it in June. There was a woman who was on another river trip that launched the same day as us. They had all those white Avon's, Moenkopi outfitted them. We pull into Olo to do the climb up into the mouth. She's recovering because it's the day after birthday, she's sitting there on the boat and it's got to be 105°, it's June, and she's doing her makeup. Doing her hair, doing her makeup. Like full on doing her makeup. Powder and the whole thing. I couldn't believe it. I'm like, "Wow, super high maintenance."

AC: I brought some tinted moisturizer, I don't even think I've applied it. I know I haven't.

JC: I haven't even used my comb yet.

AC: I did brush my hair the first day.

RF: I didn't brush my hair. It was nice having a break from that.

AC: I brought a brush.

JC: You can really see who people are out here in the wilderness. You can see how they react to stressful situations.

AC: I was so proud of Ryan. He had no idea. He said things to me like, "Is an ice boat going to come by? How are we going to keep our cocktails?" I'm like, "No, you might not see another person except for the people we came with." "How am I going to shower?" "You're not." What has he done with it? He got on the water, runs the rapids, he's been nothing but cool.

RF: He just dove in. I love it. I have so much respect for him.

JC: Typically the kind of people who come out... You get all kinds that will go down the corridor trails and such now. But the ones that I've met on the river, so far, are very likeminded. You don't get a lot of people out here who are... a little bit of stereotype, but you don't get a lot of uneducated people that come out here and do this stuff.

AC: I was telling that to Ryan. We were sitting and listening to your conversation. I read somewhere that the education level of backpackers and river runners and stuff is usually higher than other groups. If you just listen to these conversations...

RF: Everybody's got so much to say about everything.

AC: It's an intelligent conversation. People are well read, they're educated. Even if they're not college educated, they're educated in their thought process. They're not just speaking out of turn and they're not just speaking to speak.

RF: It's cool to see people who have jobs, they're guides or whatever. So they have to know the history of this stuff. It's interesting to sit there and be like, "I read that, that is so cool, we are in a spot that I read about and you're telling me the exact same story that I read." I think that's awesome. It's cool to make that connection. Like about John Wesley Powell.

JC: Did you just write a report on him?

RF: I did a report on the Colorado River, water level depletion. The effects on different species of fish and everything it is affecting. It was in interesting coming out here and seeing things that I read about.

JC: This is good for you to get out here, too, and say, "This is what a river trip's all about". Because you're going to get three weeks of it.

TM: Is of this your first river trip?

RF: Yes.

TM: Tell me a little bit about the stress level of your friends. Josh and Amy, on Thursday, something you hadn't exhibited before, why do you think that happened?

RF: I was talking to my friends about how excited I was to go on this trip and I was like, "We didn't get a chance to put the boat in the water." They were was like, "Well hopefully it floats." I said, "I've got faith in Josh."

JC: Sound design.

RF: I didn't see it going badly. I don't know why, I trusted them.

JC: Turns out it was not misplaced, either.

RF: Josh was extremely nervous about going through Fang. I was sitting there looking at it and feeling really good about this. I'm not nervous at all. I had a really good feeling. Amy's sitting there, "I'm so nervous, I'm so nervous." I said, "No, it's going to be OK, it's going to go the way it's supposed to go." And it did, it was awesome. I was very proud.

JC: It's not like the first time we ran Crystal where I got from the scout and Amy's like, "How's it look?" "Hmhm" "Doesn't look real good does it?" I'm like, "It's a big hole." That was the boring run.

AC: You can tell when he gets back from scouting, because I don't scout. When he comes back from scouting, if it's going to be a scary run or if it's going to be... Because if he comes back and he's really cool or if he doesn't speak...

RF: You know he's nervous about it.

AC: When he doesn't speak, that is scary.

JC: I wanna just go get it over with.

TM: Why don't you scout?

AC: Same reason I don't watch videos of people flipping in rapids that I have to go through. If it's going to happen, sure, but do I need lots of mental images of that happening? No thank you. Josh lives off that, here's 10 ways you can flip in Hermit or here's one way you can go straight. That's the one I want to see.

RF: It's like manifestation. You don't wanna see those other bad things because you're like no, this is how it's going to go. It's only going to go well.

TM: My next question for you Amy is, would you like to boat through this canyon? And if not why not?

AC: No, I don't have good depth perception. That's another reason I don't like exposure. My eyes work independently, they don't work as a collective. So something that's happening razor fast is not good because I'm going from eye to eye. So, when people's lives are in danger, no thank you.

TM: Would you take your own boat? Here's a boat, here's a rubber boat so you don't have to worry about banging into stuff, drive it yourself, no other people.

AC: I don't think so. We'll see, but probably not.

JC: I think you would if someone got injured or there was no one else to row.

AC: If it came down to I had to, sure. But I don't desire to.

JC: It's not on your bucket list.

AC: No. I'm here for moral support. When they're doing all the interesting rap's and slot canyons, I'll be the one on the beach making cocktails, hanging out. I'll get a nice bath in. I won't be stinky.

JC: Dave was talking about going up Silver Grotto, have people go up it this year. Just up the grotto proper instead of doing the hike up Fence Fault and back around to the top. That burns half a day and the last two years we didn't get to stop and explore South Canyon.

AC: I thought the reason we didn't do that was because it's so slick and there's no...

JC: Someone bolted the mouth unfortunately. But a good climber can make it up and set up a top belay. Then it's really easy. It's kind of like how they called my fat ass up into Olo last year. There were four of them and they tugged me up, tugged Nick up, and then did the climbs and rapped back out. Rachael wants to learn how to canyoneer.

AC: Yeah, Rachael want to learn to do all that stuff.

JC: It's a different way to fly.

RF: It's a different view. You get to see different things.

AC: You're going to have a great time. You get all the stuff that we get and you then get all the stuff that they do.

JC: Blacktail is amazing. It's one of my favorites.

AC: David and all them are huge into canyoneering. I believe he's written a book.

JC: He wrote *Death in Zion*.

AC: I thought he did a canyoneering book, too.

JC: No, that's Todd Martin. Todd's desert hiking guide. He and Rich did so many exploratory trips to put that book together. Dave Nally was on a lot of those. Dave was on *Last of the Great Unknown*, that movie. Some of that stuff looked pretty sketchy. That was down here somewhere wasn't it? One of these canyons. There's a lot of canyons down here you can do. It's just getting out. Pakrafts and hikes. Blacktail's a nice one. That's my favorite. We saw 12 or 15 bighorn just watching us.

AC: I had a great time at Blacktail. Just sat and watched people. They had to jump into a giant freezing hole. I just laughed at them.

JC: That was totally dry this year. There wasn't a drop of water in that last pothole.

AC: It was a giant freezing pothole and none of them had any gear because they thought it was going to be dry. You have to jump through it and swim through it to get out.

JC: Yeah, thermal protection is important in March.

TM: So, to wrap this up, is there anything else you want to say that you're thinking about as we're floating along here? About the canyon, about the place, about what this place might mean to us as a society. A small ending, closure question.

AC: It's disturbing that this potentially could not be here. I guess the hole will be here but as far as the water levels. Everyone says the Colorado is going down. Doesn't seem like it right now.

JC: This is all slack water, it's all draining into the lake. And it's all coming out of a reservoir that's all being fed by snowmelt. The Colorado is by no means wild anymore, which is sad. Places like this need to be preserved. There's so much pressure around them that's squeezing them and squeezing them. Things on the outside can change things on the inside.

RF: I feel privileged to be here. You look up right here and it's something you would see in a magazine, a National Geographic or something like that. I'm sitting right in front of it.

JC: This all used to be on a lake, you'd be 20 feet underwater here 20 years ago. You can see the silt lines. The disappointing thing is, I can float this section from below the last rapid. You can see the side

canyons, you can image where the rapids would've been. You can image how cool some of the camps... It still would've been stressful going down this section. It would've been a lot like the Middle Granite Gorge, I would think. When you're coming into that stretch.

AC: That's a little scary stretch right there.

JC: Middle Granite Gorge? No, Granite Gorge is only like 15 miles long or something.

TM: Bedrock, Spector, Deubendorff.

AC: I stand by my statement.

JC: The thing is, by the time you hit those on a trip...

AC: Bedrock, really? That's a scary, scary... To me tell you how bad bedrock is. A giant rock in the middle of the rapid, you cannot go left or you'll flip your boat.

JC: No, you can stay upright. But your odds are...

AC: You cannot go left or you'll flip your boat. So here's how you have to do it. You have to go in, kind of bump and hope you go this way. Bump and then try to pull away so you're ending out on the right.

JC: It's all about ferry angle and breaking the top lateral.

AC: But it's pushing you left. Stephanie last year, she knew she was going to go left. She was pulling, pulling, pulling, bump, still goes left.

JC: They high-sided, they high-sided the crap out of that thing.

AC: They high-sided, they're hanging on the side of the boat. It's completely upright. They ride it through the rapid like this and push it down. Anybody else would have flipped. Once you get over there it's hard to get out, you're stuck. If you happen to get behind that rock, how are you going to get out without flipping?

JC: Point at the rock and pull away from it.

AC: It's a scary rapid, it makes me want to ride in Dave's boat.

JC: After running the gorge for a couple days, after running Hance and Grapevine and Sock and Horn and Granite and Hermit and Crystal and then all the way through the gems, by the time you get to the Middle Granite Gorge you're pretty in tune with the water. You've got your strength built up. So if you've really got to put your back into it to pull away from something I think you can do it.

TM: For just a little background, Josh how many times have you gone from Lees Ferry to Diamond Creek?

JC: Twice.

TM: And Amy, you?

AC: Once.

TM: And Rachael, this is your first time on the water.

RF: Yes, and March will be my big trip.

TM: Josh, you're just rattling off the names of quite a number of rapids and you've only see them twice?

JC: Yes.

RF: He studies that.

AC: It's all he does.

RF: Every time I go over to their house, he goes, "You gotta see this video, you gotta see this video." You showed it to me the last time I was here. He watches those videos of them going through the different rapids or other people going through rapids and he studies them. Picks them apart.

JC: I wanna figure out where the obstacles are and see what other people do wrong so you don't make the same mistakes. My goal is to get through upright. Especially with Amy on the boat.

RF: That's just the way you think, though. You look at something and you pick it apart. You say, "Ok, this is what I can do and this is what I can't do."

AC: If we had done Horn before Phantom instead of after Phantom, I probably would have hiked out. That's a true story.

JC: That Horn flip was not fun.

AC: That Horn flip was scary. If we weren't in the frigging Gorge and there wasn't any way I could get out, I would've turned around and said, "No, that's enough."

TM: Let's talk about that for a minute. Immediately, how do I get out? Did you, in a day or half a day, did you get back in the program and say, "I'm cool with this going forward?"

AC: It took a couple days. It took a couple days of me not liking being on the trip.

JC: Well, you were so cold that first night.

AC: I was so cold because I was in the water so long that I could not get my core temperature back. So for the whole first day I'm just shivering, shivering. Then I was just unhappy. Then it took me a day or two to... I had to cook that night.

JC: That's the way it worked out. If you flip you ended up having to cook. When Doug flipped, they had to cook.

AC: Whenever anyone flipped, it was their day to cook. It was hilarious. It just worked out that way.

JC: You were under the boat for a little bit up against the wall.

AC: That's the thing. We're up against the wall, so there's only one way out. You go *this way*, you're up against the wall so I had to push *this way* to get out from underneath the boat. Then I'm still on the boat pushed up against the wall. So that's what is super scary. You know what's super, super scary about being against the wall? I knew this guy, a big kayaker, they did those level 5 whatever. He used to come in the bar when I was in South Carolina all the time. He flipped, it pushed him up against the wall, and they could not get him out for like six months because of where he was. At some point there's just no way, and that's kind of where I felt we were. Up against that wall with all that water.

JC: Here's how it went down. We tubed a tube because Stephanie and Brooke were already in that little left wall eddy, where all that current's trying to flow into. So Stephanie and Brooke are in there and trying to get out. We hit them tube to tube. Rolled the boat over, tube-stood it, flipped it right over. Amy is up against the wall. That flushed us out pretty much a second or two later. They were able to grab the lifeline around my raft. I worked myself all the way around the perimeter, the entire raft, up to the front. Brooke helped me in. I got in and at that point I finally went and got Amy out of the water.

AC: So I was under the boat for a while and they were looking for me. When I finally get out, it takes a minute more for Josh to rescue me. I sat on the beach and just cried for a while. I could not believe I got that close to...

JC: We wanted to stop and camp at Granite but there was a party there so we had to run Granite, run Hermit, and then we stopped up at Schist. She didn't even get to enjoy Hermit and Hermit has the coolest wave train on the river.

AC: Hermit was just awful because I was so over it. I wanted a full day to just be over it.

TM: Has anybody ever told you that that's normal?

AC: Freaking out?

TM: Yes, after a flip.

AC: No, but I felt pretty vindicated in my freakout. I felt that it was justified. I didn't feel like I was overreacting. It's still scary, I don't watch the video. He had it all on GoPro, so there's a video of me flipping and then it goes all the way to us flipping the boat back over.

JC: The boat was only upside down, start to finish till we got it righted again, 14-15 minutes maybe. It was scary. I banged the crap out of my shin. My shin was bruised up for 10 days after that. I got all banged up hitting things on the way out of that boat. But, it threw me. It threw me far enough away that I didn't get stuck underneath anything. When I swam in House Rock it basically went up sideways and threw me to the back corner, I got right back in and it eddied out on its own.

TM: So to wrap it up, it sounds like when you get bucked off a horse you get back on again. Because here you are.

AC: Exactly. I'm not going to let that experience... If that were the case I would never have enjoyed the rest of the trip.

TM: Some people don't.



AC: That's unfortunate. I had a great trip after a day or two.

JC: Once we got to North Bass. We got to North Bass and we were laying over. We got main Bass camp. We hung out that afternoon and then we went up to Artifact camp as a little day hike and hung out up there in the creek. Then came back and had a lovely afternoon. That kind of set everything right again because the next day you're at Elvis Chasm. Then we camped at Blacktail. And you're at Stone Creek, the waterfall at Stone is great. Then Tapeats, then Deer Creek. Such nice places.

TM: Anything else you'd like to add before I turn the machine off?

JC: I don't think so.

AC: That was pretty thorough.

TM: Thank you so much.

JC: I'll let you know what I think after next March. See if it comes out upright.

TM: Then we'll interview you again.

AC: We can see how our boat does in the big water. I like how it handles. I don't like the way it floods.

RF: That's what the buckets for.

AC: The first water floods your whole thing so then you still have to go through the whole rapid.

JC: That can be good sometimes, having that extra weight. When it shifts that can be bad.

TM: You guys will be the high-siding team. Thank you. I'm going to turn this thing off.

JC, AC, RF: Thank you.