

# Capturing Disney Parks presents **DISNEY ICON SPOTLIGHT**

## **Episode 35 | Bobby Sussman and Nadia from The Galaxy's Edge Explorers | November 28, 2019**

In this series of Q&A's, Capturing Disney Parks introduces you to some of the biggest and most iconic Disney Parks fans sharing the magic on their social media, video platform, blog, vlog, podcast, or website. Questions by Niels van Eijkelenburg.

### **Q 01 | THE ICON**

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**Please introduce yourself to our readers.**

We are Bobby Sussman and Nadia Kovacs, but together we are known as The Galaxy's Edge Explorers. Originally, the Explorers met while working at the same fruit-based technology company in the early 2000s and have been close since.

Bobby is a multimedia artist, working in video to graphic design. As a lifelong fan of Star Wars, he has been collecting the 3 3/4" figures all his life and has actively created Dioramas with them recreating the Star Wars films on his own IG account. Bobby's stop motion action figure submission to [starwarsuncut.com](http://starwarsuncut.com)'s version of Empire Uncut made it into the official Director's Cut. Bobby lives in Los Angeles with his cat Starbuck and is surrounded by toys.

Nadia has lived in Southern California her entire life, having been going to Disneyland since a youngling. Professionally she works in Marketing for Cyber Security. Personally, Nadia is the proud owner of a troupe of Droids which she has been customizing their paint jobs on since first building them at Galaxy's Edge's Droid Depot. Her favorite Disney Princess is Rapunzel and her favorite Star Wars character is Leia.)



*Pictures provided by Bobby and Nadia*

### **Q 02 | THE PARKS**

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**Which Disney Parks have you experienced, and which one do you consider your 'home' Park?**

The Disneyland Resort in Anaheim is home for the Explorers: The Original Disneyland and Disney California Adventure. Having grown up in Florida, Bobby spent time at the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World and had the opportunity to visit Epcot and the then-named Disney/MGM Studios each during their first few months of being opened.

## Q 03 | THE PLATFORM(S)

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**Where can we find your Disney fan platforms?**

90% of our posts can be found on our Instagram feed at <http://www.instagram.com/galaxysedgeexplorers>. We also post videos to YouTube and you can find us there by searching for 'galaxy's edge explorers'. We can also be found at <http://www.facebook.com/galaxysedgeexplorers>, <https://www.twitter.com/geexplorers> and at <http://www.galaxysedgeexplorers.com>.

## Q 04 | THE FORMAT

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**Tell us something about the format of your online platform(s), how it all started, which Disney Parks you cover, and why you love to put such a lot of effort in those activities.**

The Galaxy's Edge Explorers mission is to inform the Star Wars and Disney Communities on the happenings at the park's newest land.

As information was coming out about Galaxy's Edge, we would immediately share it out. We enjoyed covering the park details as much as the in-universe tales being created for the experience. Letting the public know what was in stock was just as important as the backstory behind the fictional characters running the shops of the Black Spire Outpost.

Our coverage of the opening of Galaxy's Edge on its first day was live streamed on IG and we had people tuning in from all over the world. Since then, we have streamed many times from the fictional planet of Batuu for those who have not had the chance to experience it themselves. Recently, we live streamed the fan gathering for the Wookiee Holiday of Life Day from Disneyland. This event was completely fan organized and we were happy to contribute our time towards publicizing it.

## Q 05 | THE LOVE

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**How and when did your love for Disney Parks start?**

Bobby: I grew up in Florida so driving out to Orlando to visit Walt Disney World was a yearly occurrence. Later, Epcot and the formally known as Disney/MGM Studios parks would become yearly adventures. Once moving to Los Angeles in the mid 90s, I didn't visit Disneyland for a decade. Even before Disney bought Star Wars, I got myself an Annual Pass and found myself going frequently with friends. I think I gave a few of them the Disney bug because they all ended up getting Annual Passes as well!

Nadia: It's always been there since I was a kid. I live in Southern California and I would always visit. I got my first annual pass as a teen. I rekindled my annual pass love as an adult in the past few years.



*Pictures provided by Bobby and Nadia*

## Q 06 | THE TRIPS

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**How many times/days a year do you visit Disney Parks (estimate)? And how many days are most of your trips?**

Our regular routine was to visit the parks twice a month, but since the opening of Galaxy's Edge we gone at least once a week. Our Annual Passes give us the freedom to go on a whim, so after work we will drive to the Disneyland and enjoy an evening in Batuu.

## Q 07 | THE FAVORITS

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**Please name your favorite Disney attractions, parades, or shows.**

Nadia: "Smuggler's Run" has quickly become my favorite, and left pilot is my preferred position in the flight crew. I also enjoy screaming my head off in the rollercoasters, so "Big Thunder Mountain", "Space Mountain", and the "Incredicoaster" are also very much enjoyed. As for a live show, I love watching the "Tangled Storytelling" at Royal Theatre.

Bobby: "Smuggler's Run" is a childhood adventure come true for me, so I might also have to say it's my favorite. "Space Mountain", "Star Tours", and "Guardians of the Galaxy Mission: Breakout" are must do's for me. I love the "Electrical Light Parade" and there is nothing like watching fireworks in Batuu over the Millennium Falcon is quite the site indeed.

## Q 08 | THE MEMORY

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**What's your most memorable Disney Parks moment? Tell us all about it please!**

Nadia: Probably the time I was dressed in a Starfleet Uniform from Star Trek in Batuu and the Stormtroopers escorted me to Kylo Ren for "questioning".

Bobby: Oh, that is a good one, Nadia! The other guests were laughing as we were brought before the Supreme Leader. I can only hope the stormtroopers were grinning under their masks as much as we were!



*Pictures provided by Bobby and Nadia*

## Q 09 | THE TIP

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**Do you have a tip or advise - about anything Disney Parks related - to share with our readers?**

Fastpass, Fastpass, Fastpass! It's the only way to enjoy the rides. It's great to be able to make those ride choices when all the way across the park. We manage to hit all our favorite attractions in our trips because of it. Oh, and the free downloads from the PhotoPass doesn't hurt to sweeten the deal.

## Q 10 | THE CHOICES

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Make your choice! You have to choose one...

Bobby chooses:

- |  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mickey               | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Donald                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Characters                      | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attractions  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Star Wars            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Marvel                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parades              | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Nighttime spectaculars  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-site hotel        | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Off-site hotel          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Pass          | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Ticket                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animation            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-action             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pins                 | or | <input type="checkbox"/> TsumTsums               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Early morning visits | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Evening visits          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PhotoPass            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> FastPass                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jack Sparrow                    | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Captain Hook |

Nadia chooses:

- |  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mickey               | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Donald                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Characters                      | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attractions            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Star Wars            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Marvel                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parades                         | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nighttime spectaculars |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-site hotel        | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Off-site hotel                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Pass          | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Ticket                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animation            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> Live-action                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pins                            | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TsumTsums              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Early morning visits | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evening visits         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PhotoPass            | or | <input type="checkbox"/> FastPass                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jack Sparrow                    | or | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Captain Hook           |

## Q 11 | THE QUESTION

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### Do you have a question for me?

What do you think is the most exciting features of the Galaxy's Edge expansions at the parks? What has been the biggest surprise for you about this new land?

Niels: *That's a difficult one, since I wasn't able to visit yet ;-)* However, I went through lots of pictures, videos, and reviews on social media and websites. I bet that "Rise of the Resistance" will become THE highlight for me but for now I especially like atmosphere of "Oga's Cantina". The cantina's looks, the many details, the colorful drinks, the music and DJ R3X. The Creature Stall with the Loth Cat looks very interesting to me too. And I would love to make my own droid at the Droid Depot.  
Biggest surprise? Not opening the whole land at once ;-)

## THE END

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I would like to thank Bobby and Nadia for participating in this Q&A series. Hope you've enjoyed this episode. Until next time and have a magical day!



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owner of Capturing Disney Parks

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