

SEVENWELL.ORG ~ "In the Process of Making" Episode 14: Disappearance

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Episode FOURTEEN: In the Process of Mak⁷ing – SEVENWELL.ORG:
Disappearance

AI SAM VOICE MODEL: "In the Process of Making" — Episode 14:
"Disappearance"

G'day. Dave Brown here. And I want to tell you ... I've just finished recording Episode #13 ... and there's this feeling I get when I finish recording an episode. It's hard to describe. It's a kind of ... quiet satisfaction. Not triumph ... nothing as dramatic as that. More like ... you've laid another brick. You've added another piece to something that's been slowly taking shape over a very long time.

And when I say a long time ... I mean ... seven years. It's been seven years since Jon and I sat down with two words: "explore seven." That's all we had. Two words and a willingness to follow our noses.

[SONG SNIPPET – 336. TAME THE BEAST] © dave brown

I'LL FOLLOW MY NOSE
WHERE EVER IT GOES
THROUGH HIGHS
AND THROUGH LOWS
WHERE EVER IT GOES
I'LL TRUST WHERE IT LEADS
EA-SY

RETURN

You know, I was thinking the other day about what's actually happened across those seven years. And I realised ... if I step back and squint at it ... I can see all seven of our creative principles at work in this thing we've built. Not because we necessarily planned it that way— but because those principles are just fundamental to the way we go about making stuff; they the foundations upon which our bricks are laid.

It started with Principle #1 - the animating idea — “explore seven.” Then we made a whole lot of content whimsically ... song snippets, caricatures, skits, sketches ... piles of the stuff ... just following our instincts and having fun – that's principle #2 – the tension of whimsy and logic

Two and a half years in, we decided to limit the palette and make a podcast about our process of making a podcast. Limitation is liberation. Principle # 3

And then — slowly, logically — our accumulated content - snippets that had combined to make segments ... segments into scenes ... scenes into narrative threads ... we coalesced those narrative threads into the story engine you heard about in Episode 13. That's Principle #4 Snippets, Segments, Scenes and Scenarios.

All of it slow-brewed. Across months and years. Principle #5 slow brewing ... Supported by reflection and analysis, using our creative tools and mapping frameworks. Navigating the journey from chaos to coherence. That's principle #6

And as each episode eventually got made, we had a small network of people listen, critique and feed-back — helping us refine the work as it got done.

Along the way ... a parallel project – the Seven Little Wonders – and a variety companion projects. Collaboration, co-creation, participation and partnership – all in play. Which is how creative endeavours bloom and evolve — not in isolation, but in conversation with others. And that's principle #7.

So there you have it – The PaperBoats' seven creative principles laying the foundations throughout this oddball odyssey of ours.

67. SONG SNIPPET: SEVENWELL_DOT_ORG © jon bode & dave brown

SEVENWELL DOT ORG
PODCAST ...
AN ODDBALL ODYSSEY

OF THE SEVENTH KIND
SEVENWELL DOT ORG.

[RETURN](#)

AI SAM Voice Model Header: A Moment in Time

So here I am. March 2026. Seventy-five years old. Recording the final episodes of this series, having already released nine into the wild. And I find myself looking back over the whole thing ... not with any grand sense of achievement, ... more with a kind of ... wonder, I suppose ... at what it is we've actually made.

Because you don't really know what you're making while you're making it. You only see the true shape of it retrospectively.

And that feeling. The satisfaction of the making. And what it means to ... package a substantial piece of your life (7 years) into something that exists in the world.

Later on in this episode there's a story involving a cassette tape which was the way we shared audio in the 1980's so for those of you who weren't around back then — a cassette tape was a rectangular plastic thing a bit smaller than an iPhone. It had spools of magnetic tape inside it, onto which you recorded sound. And each cassette had a little fold-out protective case ... so you carried around your package of sound inside its little plastic home. And it was precious. It was precious because it held a voice. A moment. A memory. A song.

I've still got cassette tapes of important events from that era. Wedding speeches. Funeral eulogies. Memories packaged in a relic of times past. You hold one in your hand and you're holding a piece of time, captured.

[SOUND OF LOADING A CASSETTE TAPE]

[SONG 61. WAYS TO BE HAPPY] © dave brown

1,2,3,4
TAKE 4

PUT THEM TOGETHER
AND MAKE A NOISE ABOUT
PUT THEM TOGETHER
AND MAKE A NOISE ABOUT

WAYS TO BE HAPPY
WAYS TO BE HAPPY

SEVEN, SEVEN,
THINK SEVEN,
SEVEN

JUMP IN A PUDDLE
DANCE IN THE RAIN
SING IN THE SHOWER
FLY IN A PLANE
LAUGH OUT LOUD
BASK IN THE SUN
SMILE AT A STRANGER
AND HUG SOMEONE ...

[RETURN](#)

[CASSETTE RECORDING SOUND – OFF, EXTRACTED, PACKAGED]

So when I sit here in my studio and press “record” ... and I talk to you, dear listener, through your earbuds ... I’m offering you my cassette tape, in a way. A little package of sound. A piece of my consciousness, my 7 years of being, offered up in the most intimate way, about things I really care about. Theatre filled rooms ... are one thing ? This is entirely another. This ... fills the space between your ears. Just you, here, in this Sevenwell storyworld.

And I think that’s rather beautiful, actually.

152. GOSSAMER SONG SNIPPET © dave brown

THE GOSSAMER
STORIES TELL
WILL LEAD US ALL
TO SEVENWELL

[RETURN](#)

AI SAM Voice Model Header: The Story of Pauly and Violet Continues...

[385. SONG SNIPPET MUSIC – FOREVER FRIENDS] © dave brown

THERE’S A STORY FOR ME TO TELL
AND A STORY FOR YOU AS WELL

COS THERE'S NO-WHERE WE'D RATHER BE
THAN BEING HERE JUST YOU AND ME
TOGETHER WE ARE FOREVER FRIENDS ...

[386. Backing Track - Underscore]

Dave: Pauly and Violet were sitting in a small café near RADA, the same one they'd been coming to, for the 18 months they'd been in London.

Pauly and the band had just returned from a tour in Berlin.

This was their first Sunday “coffee catch-up” in a while.

Violet seemed excited.

“There’s somethin’ special I wanted to tell ya”, she said to Paul.

“Aunt May, says there’s a full moon on Mum’s birthday this year ... it’s very rare”.

Paul nodded absently.

“Are ya listening Pauly?”

“Yeah, yeah! Ya mum’s birthday.”

“I’ve got something special planned”, Violet said to Paul. “Like we used to when we were kids, sharing stories under the moon. But this one ... this full moon one – I want us to do something special - just for her.”

Pauly tilted his head to the left as he did when he too wasn’t sure of things.

“We’ve got this big tour coming up Vee - all over ya know – for 4 months. “

“Her birthdays on the 7th “

Pauly checked his diary.

“We’re in luck. It’s the week before we leave. Just rehearsals and stuff.”

Violet's face lit up ..."We'll do it in the loft – at Aunt May's place. You can see the moon through the big window there."

Pauly loved to see her smile like that.

"We could write a new song maybe?" Pauly said,

They spent the whole day together planning stories they'd tell and the songs they'd sing...

It would be a performance just for her – for RED – on her birthday in the light of the full moon.

They laughed a lot that day ... remembering the stories they'd shared as kids – wondering if the Tinsel-Man was still up there on the moon – and how RED and He might be spending their days together.

She felt lighter today than she had for a long, long time.

"See you on the 7th !" she said to Paul as they set off back into to their busy lives.

"Hatfield!" said Pauly ..." I'll probably catch the train down."

He knew how important it was to Violet and he would never think of letting her down.

They were like brother and sister.

No. No, No ... they were closer than that.

They were soul mates.

Simply and truly – soul mates.

Childhood friends forever.

[343. SONG: NEVER FORGET TO REMEMBER] © dave brown

A BOY IN A BAND
A GIRL WITH A PLAN
TWO SOULS; TWO HEARTS
TOGETHER IN JUNE
WE'LL SPEAK TO THE MOON

RETURN

Dave: The 3 weeks leading up to RED 's birthday turned out to be somewhat tumultuous for both Violet and Paul.

Violet decided that the acting course at RADA wasn't right for her ... Writing, she now knew, was her calling.

And Pauly found himself in - a kind of chaos, in the lead up to the tour, he could NEVER have imagined

It became almost impossible for Violet to contact him. After five attempts, she finally got through.

"I've left RADA", she told him "Upset a few people I can tell you".

"I've come down to Aunt Mays house"

Paul offered no response.

It was like he was having another conversation at the same time and not paying attention.

"You're still coming to Hatfield Pauly? she prompted

"What's that V?" he called over the hubbub on the other end of the line.

"On the 7th You're still coming for Mum's birthday!!"

"Yeah, Yeah ... O' course I will!" he responded "Just... things are mental here V. But I'm comin' O' course I am!"

Violet was left hanging – needing someone to talk to after her decision to leave RADA to concentrate on writing. Well, it seems that would have to wait until the 7th July, she thought.

But as the 7th July approached, things got even more insane for Paul. The band got signed to do a feature film. Another layer of complexity that required the band's attention before heading off on-tour.

Pauly found himself trapped between the childhood friendship that had shaped him and this crazy-mad chaos that seemed to be reshaping everything.

Over the years since her mum's death, Aunt May was always there for her.

[Music Moment - "Aunt May Knows"]

"She was such a thoughtful lass", Aunt May would say, "always thinking through things with such care. I think she knew Pauly wouldn't come. That's why she made the tape recording. It was like an affirmation of what she planned to do. "

[343. SONG: NEVER FORGET TO REMEMBER] © dave brown

FOREVER WE'LL NEVER
FORGET TO REMEMBER
SHE IS THE MOON
WE SPEAK IN HER LIGHT

THE STORIES WE SHARE
WILL HOLD US TOGETHER
COME HELL OR HIGH WATER
WE'LL SPEAK TO THE MOON

MOTHER OF MINE
WE'RE ONE OF A KIND ...

[RETURN](#)

On the cassette recording Violet's voice was quiet but assured.

(Sound of cassette recorder clicking on)

Happy Birthday Mum. Full moon and all. You've been gone 7 years now.

And today Mum ... in the garden, a lady bug landed on my hand ...

I'm here in Aunt May's loft ... and I can see the moon through the window – can you see me mum – with my seven candles and my little black velvet dog. Is she up there with you mum? Missy? Along with the Tinsel Man. Remember how Pauly sent the Tinsel Man up there to the moon, looking for me – after we left for Glastonbury?

(pause)

Pauly should be here now, Mom. We promised you a performance. Songs and stories under the full moon, like when we were kids.

But it's different now – it's all about the band and... and he's disappearing, Mum. Just like Dad did.

(longer pause, voice becoming steadier)

I've been thinking about when we went to Glastonbury. How you chose to become a different story when there wasn't room for us anymore with Dad.

Aunt May says, "sometimes the bravest thing you can do is write yourself out of a story that's going in the wrong direction."

Pauly's been swallowed up, Mum, leaving just... the idea of him for fans to scream at. I want to be a writer. I want to make worlds of my own. That's what I'm going to do now mum. I'm going to make worlds My worlds.

(whispers) I love you Red..

(Cassette recorder clicks off) [RETURN](#)

Dave: As the moon reached its peak and the candles burned low, Violet sat by the window in the loft. Aunt May found her there at dawn, staring at something far beyond what could be seen.

Violet played her the tape recording.

What happened next... well, that depends on who you ask.

Aunt May later spoke to Paul of a shimmering light, of Violet simply... dissolving into moonbeams. But perhaps that's how a storyteller chooses to explain things.

What we do know is this: when Pauly finally called three days later, frantic with apologies and explanations, Violet was gone.

Not just from the house - gone in a way that suggested she'd been planning it for some time. Planning to be the author of her own story in worlds of her own making.

Aunt May gave Pauly the note that she left ... but the cassette recording; there was no mention of that.

[RETURN](#)

[398a. SONG: AUNT MAY KNOWS] © dave brown

[Glyn Lehmann's Beatle-eque orchestral chaos is included in this song arrangement - from his compositions for the musical "Kookookachoo" written with Dave for Patch Theatre in 1997]

PAULY SAID THAT HE'D COME UP FROM LONDON
TO AUNT MAY'S HOUSE AT HATFIELD ONLINE
TOGETHER THEY'D PERFORM ON THIS OCCASION
FOREVER FRIENDS TOGETHER ONE MORE TIME

AUNT MAY KNOWS
SAYS NOT TO WORRY
IT'S ALL A BIT CRAZY
THAT'S HOW IT GOES
AUNT MAY KNOWS

PAUL DIDN'T MAKE IT
TO AUNT MAY'S HOUSE
THE BAND GOT CALLED
THE BEATLE'S GOT SIGNED
THE MANIA BEGAN
AND EVERYTHING CHANGED (Yeah, Yeah, Yeah ..)

GIRL IN THE LOFT
CANDLE LIT ROOM

A STAR ON THE FLOOR
A RITUAL BEGAN
A SHIMMERING LIGHT
AND VIOLET WAS GONE

AUNT MAY KNOWS
SAYS NOT TO WORRY
IT'S ALL A BIT CRAZY
THAT'S HOW IT GOES
AUNT MAY KNOWS

PAULY CALLS HER
ON THE PHONE
AUNT MAY SAYS
THAT VIOLET'S GONE
PAULY'S CONFUSED
WHAT'S GOING ON

THE NOTE SHE LEFT
SAID I'M OKAY
JUST LET IT BE
I'VE GONE AWAY
REMEMBER
THE SEVENTH OF JULY

AUNT MAY KNOWS
SAYS NOT TO WORRY
IT'S ALL A BIT CRAZY
THAT'S HOW IT GOES
AUNT MAY KNOWS

[OUTRO]

VIOLET + AUNT MAY'S VOICES:

WRITTEN IN INDIAN INK
NUMBERS DELICATELY SCRIBED
TWO PLUS ZERO PLUS TWO PLUS FIVE
DAY SEVEN THE MONTH OF JULY [2025]

AUNT MAY KNOWS
AUNT MAY KNOWS

AUNT MAY KNOWS
AUNT MAY KNOWS

[DEAR VIOLET; WHERE DID YOU GO?]

RETURN

If Aunt May were to tell the story of Violet's disappearance; it would read like this.

UNDERSCORE:

The night she left London, she had taken a train that wasn't on any schedule, to a station that didn't appear on any map. The conductor, an elderly woman with Red hair, had simply handed her a ticket as though she knew where Violet was headed.

The faces of the people on the train were indistinct ... ghosts of possibility hoping to find their way.

The train itself was like a dream that knew it was a dream.

Violet instinctively got off at a station bearing a name that no-one knows.

It was a place as far away from anywhere as you could imagine. A place where the moon and the stars didn't need to compete with the lights of the city. A place where the sounds of frogs and crickets weren't consumed by the cacophony of traffic and sirens.

A place where stories begin again and make better sense in the process of their re-making.

[393. GOSSAMER STREET SONG SNIPPET] © dave brown

EVERYTHING'S SURPRISING HERE ON GOSSAMER STREET
THE ROAD IS LONG AND WINDING HERE IN GOSSAMER STREET
THERE'S MUSIC IN THE AIR
SURPRISES ARE THE NORM
NOTHING'S VERY CLEAR
I ONLY KNOW IT'S SO GOOD TO BE HERE
EVERYTHING'S SURPRISING HERE ON GOSSAMER STREET

RETURN

WIND-UP and OUTRO

Well ... there it is, dear listener.

Violet Greenslade. In a candlelit loft. Under a full moon. Recording a cassette tape to her deceased mum.

A piece of her consciousness, her being, preserved.

“I want to be a writer” she says to her mum. “I want to make worlds.”

And I think ... well ... I think that’s what all of us are doing. We’re making worlds. Our worlds. Small ones, mostly. Intimate ones. Shared with a few others. And those worlds ... they’re the trace of our “being” ... here.

We’ve reached the penultimate stretch of this series now. From our humble beginnings with the simple animating idea “explore seven,” through the accumulation of our circus of clowns, to the discovery that our audio-documentary has become a story engine — which has now revealed how Paul McCarty lost his childhood soul mate to another story of Violet’s own making.

And a note she left ... forecasting that something may occur on the rare event of a full moon on the 7th of July — the next one being in the year 2025... yes the very day in the sevenwell story-world, that Jon turned 49 and Dave turned 70 - where they find themselves in the Gossamer ... vying for narrative ascendancy as they struggle to find their way to a satisfying finale episode.

Next month, dear listener, prepare for the most unlikely convergence yet — where Weetbix meets heartbreak.

Until then, remember ... sometimes disappearing is just another way of becoming visible in your own story.

[54/407 . SONG SNIPPET – TIME WILL NEVER TAKE THE PLACE OF YOU]

© dave brown

TIME WILL NEVER TAKE THE PLACE OF YOU
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO
TIME WILL NEVER TAKE THE PLACE OF YOU ...
UNTIL THE TIME HAS COME TO BRING YOU HOME...

This is Dave Brown, floating somewhere between the moon and the Gossamer, where all lost things eventually find their way home. Where cassette tapes still play. And where a girl with a little black dog is waiting.

[409. UNDERSCORE – TIME WILL NEVER TAKE THE PLACE OF YOU]

[219./250. Voice Model Sam:] "In the Process of Making" is conceived by Dave Brown and Jon Bode and presented by The PaperBoats.

Please subscribe to our podcast and recommend it to your friends, lovers, and others. Visit our sevenwell.org website to find out more. Episodes are released on the 7th day of each month on all your favourite podcast platforms.

And be watching out for Sevenwell Snippets ... bits and pieces of seventological sunshine released randomly each month on socials and available also from the website.

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[132. Voice Model: AND DID YOU KNOW...

Ladybugs are symbols of good fortune, love and prosperity. They bring you luck if one happens to land on you ... This magical thinking came from agricultural folklore where it was known that ladybugs protected crops from pests ... so their presence signified good things happening — and of course if that ladybug has 7 spots on its back — then you've hit the good luck jackpot.

[117. SONG SNIPPET – LADY BUG] © dave brown

LADY BUG

MY LADY BUG

MY LOVELY LITTLE LADY BUG

THE 7 SPOTS THAT TOP YOUR WING

LEAD US ALL TO THE SONG WE SING

WE SING

LADY BUG

1, 2 IS JUST A FEW

3, 4 IS A LITTLE BIT MORE

5, 6 IS A PRETTY GOOD MIX

BUT 7 IS AMAZING