

## S8E2 – Survival and Bushcraft with Angry Owl Outdoors

LIVE on THE Overland Podcast 1.14.25

Joey - Hey, everyone, you are listening or watching the Overland podcast. Welcome to the show this week. This is the second show of 2025. I've got my co-host Tony from northwest Arkansas on here and we have a very special guest. Yes, all the way from Idaho, Edgar from Angry Owl Outdoors. Edgar, thank you for joining us.

Edgar - You bet.

Joey - Man, it's been a great week here in Arkansas so far. A lot of our listeners are from here because we have a lot of friends here, and we have endured the first snowpocalypse of the year, as we were talking about off-air just a minute ago. Pretty much snow all the way around the state, and Tony got to... see a little bit more than of it than

Tony - I did

Joey - I saw it from my home but you saw it from the seat of your vehicle...

Tony - I was all up in it

Joey - yeah all up in it. Well, it was it was nice to see you get out there and you know, a lot of times I'm really not scared of myself and getting out in it. It's the other people that I don't really care about seeing because I don't trust them on the road. The last time we got this, I went out into the Ouachitas to see things and there was a Jeep out there with street tires. And after the third time I pulled him out of the ditch, I said, I'm going home. I just can't do this. It was just not very fun. So anyway, it's been a great, it's been a pretty fun week seeing a white state instead of a green state or a brown state. And I really enjoyed that.

Tony - Yeah. It's not often you see the snowfall we had this, this last week.

Joey - It was, it was neat seeing the pictures of y'all up there around the, around the propane fires. And I think I could hear the diesel heaters all the way down here from a hundred miles away. They were cranking.

Tony - Caleb had a pop-up, you know, kind of an oversized pop-up tent set up, with the propane heater. We went in there and warmed up, but there were some, some fires going outside. And then of course the diesel heaters.

Joey - Yeah, diesel heaters. I like listening to them. They kind of lull me to sleep a little bit. Edgar, have you experienced a diesel heater much up there with you, or you just stick to the wood-burning stove you have in your tent?

Edgar - Pretty much wood-burning. I've seen some of those rigs and setups with old diesel heaters, and I thought, because I have that Ford Excursion that every so often, I'll car camp out of, and I got the whole rear end ripped out, and that was supposed to be me and my wife's kind of travel a camper. And I thought, you know, I saw some of the setups on those. I was like, that's pretty slick. I was like to have that. And especially she would really like that. Cause these are times when I'm like, ah, it's fine. And it drops down to like 35 degrees in the, in the cab. She's not too keen to go with me.

Tony - I don't blame her.

Edgar - I think those little setups would be, be pretty slick.

Joey - Oh, they're nice. It got down probably in the twenties and Tony told me that he was hot this weekend.

Tony - Friday night it was fourteen.

Joey - Okay, I knew it was a little colder up there where you were. You said that you had windows open and all that.

Tony - Well, yeah, Friday night I didn't have the windows open, but Saturday night I did. It was only about thirty, you know, so it wasn't quite as cold Saturday night, but it was nice. I slept in my underwear both nights. I mean, I was, it's hard to be comfortable.

Joey - Yeah. Hard to beat that. Especially when the only, the only problem is you eventually have to go outside and it's tough.

Tony - I don't, I don't go out there well in the mornings, but if I got to go to the bathroom. I've learned your trick. I don't do that no more.

Joey - Well, it took you several years to buy into my portable urinal trick.

Edgar - Is that the Nalgene model?

Joey - It's not. We actually graduated. I was telling the nurse at my school about the issue and having to get a Gatorade wide mouth Gatorade bottle because I don't have to climb. We've got rooftop tents. You know, I don't have to climb down a ladder and climb back up and climb down. And she said, have you ever heard of a portable urinal? And I said, no. And she said, just go on Amazon, look up portable urinal. There'll be a thousand of them on there. And they said, it'll change your life. And it did. It really did. So flat bottom, flat bottom, it sits. You don't have to worry about it turning over or spilling or anything like that. It is a life changer. So as long as you have a tent that you can get up on your knees in, in your case, stand up and you're good. You're good. So, yeah, it is.

Edgar - Just don't forget, like I've done before, using the Nalgene trick and dump it in the morning, seal it back up and then just get home from camp and everything's drying out. Forget about it. And then say about a month later, see that bottle and pop it open about to make you pass out.

Joey - True. Been there, done that. That's a tough one. You have to run it through the dishwasher a few times if that happens, or bleach is your friend, so you can get that done. Jasper Jeep Jam is on here. We got them coming up in March.

Tony - March, yeah. That's the third week of March. Jasper Arkansas ... I saw where they got out this weekend and met a tree so congratulations do you get a new front right mud guard or what oh it's a fender

Tony - I think he's in a lot worse shape than I was I didn't have any damage but I think he's got two fenders and I don't know

Joey - Yeah, that's something. Boy, I tell you what, when you start sliding, you're just at the mercy of wherever you are. So, it's kind of like being on skis. Yep. Well, hey, I'm excited about our guest this evening as we do this live recording of the show. I've been following Angry Owl Outdoors for a while now, and when we talked to... Blackbeard Fire Starters I think Edgar you came on there and commented and they said this guy is the real deal so I said we got to have him all got to have him on so Edgar, I appreciate you being on here, coming to us from the beautiful country of Idaho. My wife and I will be going there this summer and we'll be coming across there. I've never been to Idaho. It's one of my places that I've never stepped foot in before. And I do believe that it is probably, in my opinion, the most underrated states in the United States. It is absolutely outrageous, beautiful. So, I appreciate you coming on. Would you take just a minute and tell us a little bit about yourself, introduce yourself, and let us get to know you a little better.

Edgar - You bet. Yeah, Edgar Ray. I run a channel, actually, what you just mentioned, Angry Owl Outdoors, and that's been fairly recent, but grew up here in Boise, Idaho, and my folks are from here and my wife's family. So, we're all kind of centralized here. Haven't moved too much through my youth, uh, much stayed here and just played in the mountains and that's where I got addicted. Before the show we were just talking about the state we've got north of Boise you've got thick mountains lakes rivers I mean you name it to the south we've got high deserts so you've got just about anything you want to do from you know you got plenty of overlanding areas hiking biking. I mean it really is just kind of the catch-all state. When I was doing our Ranger work, we bounced around Colorado and a few other areas and some training in Washington and we thought you know where do we want to end up what part do we want to end up at and it was always back home to Idaho because everywhere we went there was just a little piece of, I felt like every state you could take a little piece out. We got that over here we got this up here you got the wet region up north you got the dryness house so I feel pretty blessed in that sense to have those opportunities around me and just a lot of beauty. But yeah, other than like I mentioned for work I haven't moved around too much in the past few years. And I did a little stint there for a while as a Park Ranger and got into survival and bushcraft and camping along the way and just kind of grew up with some of those skills, a little bit of boy Scouts, just kind of the thing everybody would do here. So, dip my toes in that. And, pretty much all my family's here. So not really much reason to leave.

I get tempted to check out your guys' neck of the woods and this foreign territory to the West, I mean, to the East, pretty much East of, Colorado is just it's a mystery. I hear of these things you guys have hardwoods you don't have dirty pine you have to burn and all this seriousness. So, love the outdoors love uh challenges that's kind of how a lot of what started with the channel is I just I like to challenge myself with stuff. I'm a follower of God, believe in Jesus Christ is my Savior. And so, I try to represent that in my life and my work and through the channel. And, you know, I hear back and forth, it starts good conversations with people. So, it's, it's a good outlet. Just, to be who I am.

Joey - Right. I love people who have an appreciation for their home state. You know, as much as my wife and I travel, when we come back to Arkansas and go around in the different parts of the state, we just sit back, you know, and we think we've got it really good and a great appreciation for where we live. And I know not all states are that way. You know, if you're from Kansas, I don't know what in the world you would brag about. But, you know, when you're from a beautiful state, you appreciate it. I take that back. I love Kansas. Especially driving back from Colorado, you get really good gas mileage because you're going downhill and you have a four-mile wind at your back.

Edgar - There's always a plus somewhere.

Joey - So, Idaho. I love getting... Suggestions from home state people, from locals. And like I said earlier, my wife and I will be going through there next summer. What are some of your favorite places there that you like to visit? Give us a heads up.

Edgar - Well, if you want to hit all the regions, which I think you should, you got to hit the wet region to the north. Lake Pend Oreille is by far one of my wife's favorite areas to go to. It's one of the, I think, top three deepest lakes in North America. They used to test naval subs out of there. I believe my great uncle, actually, he was a frog man, or before they called him Seals, did some testing up there, and they still got the history there. You can see it go through a museum. It's a very, very cool area, and the park is called Farragut State Park. It sits right there on Lake Bonduray, and you can get rentals and stuff overlooking the lake, but cliff jumping there's everything you can think of there. Just thick lush forest so that'd be my number one for the north. For mid I'm very fond of McCall that's just about two hours north of Boise and that's actually where I finished out my park ranger career at the park there, Ponderosa State Park you got to check that out but pay at lake beautiful area and I mean you can get as rugged as you want from there. You can break off trails galore and get into some thick stuff. Lots of cool hot springs. Then south, pretty much anything south of Bruno, you get into the Canyonlands, and that's some legit overlanding. You can get kind of lost and twisted around. You've got the Owyhee River, and that's one of the rivers too. I think you do seven-day floats down that. Once you're in, you're pretty much in because you're not getting out, unless you have some serious equipment to get a rig back there. So that kind of gives you all three aspects. But, I mean, you can just keep going. There are so many roads and so many old logging roads and just routes to get around and explore and find ghost towns and homesteads and old mines. And like I said, hot springs galore. So, so keep those three in mind. Those will be my top three. And, and obviously you got to swing by here and, and I don't know if you drink coffee. I'm actually drinking tea right now, which is very surprising.

Joey - Oh my goodness. We drink coffee.

Tony - I mean, it's Joey's fault I started drinking coffee at night. I'm not actually drinking it tonight. I'm just drinking water.

Joey - Well, that's your own fault. That's your own fault. I brewed me a cup right before we started.

Edgar - See, that warms my heart because whenever I tell people around here that I drink coffee at night, that's always my come down is I just have a nice brew before bed. What are you doing drinking coffee before bed? I said, I thought that's what people do. We'll be watching a show and if I see somebody...we were watching Home Improvement, an old rerun the other night. She was like, hey, you want a cup of coffee? And I was like, oh, man, I need to go get me a cup of coffee.

Joey - Well, I've got it good because my wife can't handle caffeine, and so we've got a real big stock of regular coffee for me and decaf for her. So, if I want one late at night, I'll just make some of her coffee or decaf, and it don't affect me either way. But anyway, it makes me feel better knowing that I'm not caffeinating myself right before bed, even though I am right now. It's fine. I can deal with it either way because I think my body's immune to it by now anyway, as much as I've had.

You mentioned in your about section of your YouTube channel that you previously served as park ranger, like you said, with national park and state parks. And, during that, you said you were EMT,

search and rescue, forest management. You get some great training with those things and working on your skills. Did those skills that you obtained with that, were you able to transfer that to your personal hobbies of what you're doing now with your outdoor channel?

Edgar - Oh, yeah, definitely. So, leading up to it, and what's funny is kind of what even led to me we kind of alluded to it before the show, but what made me even think of being a park ranger is being at Yellowstone. And we were on the west side of the park, just stayed at a little, you know, driving campground. And, we woke up in the morning. Well, hopefully she's okay with me sharing this. She got up in the middle of the night, had to run to the bathroom and she comes back and we were sleeping. We had a, I think it was a ninety-six Toyota, like a T-100 style. And we just sleep out the back of that. And, pop open the little hatch. She went to the bathroom, came back. She goes, I just saw a gigantic eye like over by this. I don't know what I saw. I saw a gigantic eye looking at me, some kind of creature. And she crawls around like, ah, you're half asleep. But we get up in the morning and we just hear all around the truck. And we were just surrounded with Buffalo all around the park range. Everybody's staying in their tents, staying in their cars. And I mean, back at that Toyota, you know, you're seeing them go by and they're, they're above the top, you know, they're just, they're mammoths. And she looked at me and she was like, see, yeah, it was a gigantic eyeball. And I'm like, yeah, you were right on that. But I saw that guy and I was like, that's a job. You can do that as a job. I'm going to go herd Buffalo or, or do whatever. And, that's when I started looking into it and, looked up some academies cause you had to go through law enforcement training and it's, you get federally certified, all that fun stuff. So, I found an academy in Washington at Mount Vernon. So, it got all geared up, but part of my preparation for that, as I said, get as many services you can. So, half of that was self-funded that I just, I wanted to learn as much as I could. So put myself through the EMT basic training, and then did other certs like swift water rescue, some incident command, like advanced incident command systems, ICS. I know you're familiar with that and then even man tracking. I don't believe he's around anymore named Joel Hardine. And he was one of the top man trackers in the west. Awesome training, like legitimate. He would go out and you go out in the early morning and track, track a person, you know, through the desert just by the footprints. And so, all of that kind of geared me up for the actual academy. And then in the academy, we got older, obviously law enforcement training and people in rough situations when you're in the mountains.

Cause it's, it's one thing in the town, but you get into rural and you get to these areas where parks, people just show up and they just want to have fun. Their brains go out the door. We just got to get there. We got to get on vacation and kind of one of the universal things was seeing folks pull up and a campground on opening day or on a Friday is the unhappiest place in the world because you have all these people showing up, trying to back in huge rigs. And they're just fighting, you got spouses fighting and it's like, guys, relax, look around you. You're in the, this is beautiful. And then the next day they're as happy as can be and offering you coffee and everybody's copacetic. But, it's just a different world. So, we did a lot of forest management and I had taken some fire ecology and that kind of stuff beforehand. So, all of that really set me up because having those opportunities to do medical calls and search and rescue and, and just dealing with people who are confused or unprepared really geared my mind to have this preparedness mindset and kind of a survival aspect because you'd see these situations go south like that. People are having the time of their life and then somebody either perishes or gets severely injured or you're doing a rescue to where people are shocked when you a couple of the stories I have, if, if you don't show up with a helicopter, they think where's the helicopter, and you're down in

the middle of a two-thousand-foot canyon. We're either carrying you out or we're going to work through this. And I think especially now in our society where you can get anything you need just like that. And if you can't, it's somebody else's fault. It's never my fault. It's somebody else's fault for not providing it for me is kind of the mentality. So, yeah, that definitely carries over parks because they're like, well, you're a national park or state park. You're a ranger, you're supposed to take care of me essentially.

And, people go on reservoirs when they don't know how to swim and drowned and all, you know, you name it from there. And so that really did carry over because when I started doing the channel, well, even before doing the channel, when I started doing these trips, I called them misery trips and I can get in a later if you want, just to kind of challenge myself. And I kind of go nuts with preparation because of, of seeing what can go wrong and how quickly it can go wrong. So, I'm the guy that has my truck. If me and my wife go north to visit friends, I got it loaded up. So ridiculous. I'm like, we're just going up for a day or two days, but I know the storms here. I know what can change. I've seen things go south. There's a guy named Morris Kachansky and in the bushcraft community. He's kind of known as like the father of bushcraft. He was a Canadian guy. He wrote a book called *Bushcraft*. And one of his sayings was, the more you know, the less you carry. And that's kind of a big saying in the Bushcraft community. And I almost feel like in some cases, the more you know, the more you carry. Just because you see what can go wrong in that sense.

So anyways, that's a long-drawn-out answer with a lot of pinpoints all over the place. All of that really set me up to... I don't know if it was it's to be, to do well, but it's just to know what I need to have on hand. I'm always learning. I'm always realizing that was dumb. I shouldn't have done that, or I need to carry this next time. So, I have a good experience of knowing what can go wrong and what you need with you.

Tony - Do you ever, uh, think about the, what's the, the rule that Joe goes by? Is it a two is one, one is one, one is none?

Edgar - Yeah. Never, never subscribed to anything like that.

Joey - Yeah, that is, that is definitely the case. And that's a problem.

Edgar - People are like, oh, how heavy is your backpack? And I'm like, sixty, seventy pounds. And then plus the sled. I had a buddy show up on a trip once and he was, why do you have so many gloves for just this single night? I'm like, because they either get saturated or I burn them next to the fire. And I'm just because I'm an idiot and I try to warm stuff up. So. A lot of it is self-induced stupidity. But, yeah, always having to and having a backup is necessary.

Joey - Well, you stated earlier that you grew up there in Idaho going, experiencing and exploring the mountains. What's your earliest memory of being out in the wilderness?

Edgar - Oh, man. So, there's a little town called Featherville and Pine north of Idaho, north of Boise in the kind of central part of Idaho. And there was a reservoir up there and a, just a little town back up in there and old mining community. And I don't know if you guys have dredge ponds or old dredge area. And it's where around here, the way they used to mine was basically they need to use water cannons or they'd use dredges and the dredges would go through under these huge buckets. They're basically a barge that would go through and scoop in ponds and they would dig their way through they just keep

scooping and all that rock would carry up through those buckets go into a tumbler and then they'd spit out and get their rough gold and whatever they could harvest out of that. So, we've got these huge swaths of land where you go now and there's just boulders river rock essentially piled up. I mean just mountains of it and you can see where they just mound here around here and they just traverse down these valleys and every so often you can find an old dredge those are really cool. So, this area had that had a bunch of those, what we call dredge ponds. So as kids, we'd go up there, my dad and mom would take us up there and they had a camping spot. My dad was friends with the owner of the town kind of owner. He was the bar, ran the bar and the community store and all of that. And, we had a spot we could put our camper. So, I think I was five, probably around five or six. And so, we would just tool around in the mountains there and they'd set us free. And I'd go out with my brother and, he'd shoot whistle pigs. And I guess a whistle pig is a local term for kind of a prairie dog, but it's not quite a prairie dog. And it's just, just an animal that eats up everything and creates holes. And it's really bad for livestock because they'll break legs. And so, he would shoot those and we could take it down to the bar, go in the bar and put it in the freezer. And he would get twenty-five cents or fifty cents from the bar owner because he raised bobcats. So, he had this big pen outside of his house with all these bobcats. So, we'd go shoot the, the whistle pigs and squirrels and take them to them for Bobcat food. And, uh, so we just raised Bobcat around shooting, fishing, climbing, exploring. There were old bomb shelters to go explore and kind of, you know, we, we just kind of have free reign.

I think that's kind of what just instilled in me a love for the outdoors. Cause it was just this freedom, this absolute freedom and the smells, the sights, and just that you can get into an adventure immediately. You know, you step out, you're just like, I'm going to go to the top of that mountain. I'm going to go explore that river. I'm going to lift up this rock. And as a kid, I mean, still, that's what I do. It drives my wife crazy because if we go out, I can just stare at trees and just like, oh, look at that. We took a trip to the Redwoods one time and I was just like look at this one she's like yeah, it's like the other one it's really big and I'm like no I mean this one that's huge. I'm just fascinated by creation and just like the intricacies that are there.

So yeah, as a little kid we did that a lot and my dad was always out cutting wood and logging he did a lot of logging so that kind of tied in or learned how to make fires and cut wood and play with an axe from a very early age, you know, down to six or seven and be split wood and getting it ready for the fire. And that was one of your chores, go split wood. And you learn how to make fire, you know, it just kind of goes hand in hand, but those, and just kind of day drives. That's what we do as a family was just go explore and take day drives.

Tony - Recently I learned how to do the, I don't know if I've got the term right here, but it's an upside-down fire. I noticed on your channel, you had a video or at least a thumbnail video I haven't had a chance to watch it yet. But yeah, just in the last year or so I learned about those and it's kind of fun to build your fire upside down and you start it and you walk away and you turn right around and it's just going like it's crazy!

Edgar - That's like the number one, if I recommend people to learn a fire, like, especially in snow and wet conditions. And the first time, same thing. I built one. I was like, it's kind of funky. It's not going to work. And I mean, it manages itself. It's easy.

Tony - I learned about it on TikTok. That's where you learn everything. How is this possible? No way this works. Yeah, it did.

Joey - I know the government keeps trying to ban TikTok. That's where I learn all my cooking stuff. I learn everything on TikTok. I'm going to have to quit that. Anyway, back to it. You know, in the outdoors, in our world, people have what we call their thing, what they love. Some people love to camp. Some people love to wheel their vehicles. Some people like to pack craft or backpack, or some people are fishermen. You do a lot of things. But when you get into the outdoors, you kind of developed, you develop your thing, what you love to do the most. In your world, what you do, what would you say is your thing? What do you love to do the most?

Edgar - Man, I mean, I do enjoy making fire. I just have always, and I'm not very good at it in a sense. It's funny because you got the camping community, bushcraft and the survival, and they're all kind of distinct in their own ways. And I'm just kind of a hybrid of all of them. I just like to toy around in each of them, but there's guys that can do crazy fire starting, you know, I'm like primitive skills and all that. I just, I just like making fires, you know, because it's for, especially when I go out in winter, it is, vital that I make a fire and I usually have to keep it going all night and there's just something about it that that's they a lot of times they shut down uh being able to make fires in the summer because we have all the wildland fires around us yeah in the summer so I don't go out very much in the summer because I feel like if I can't have a fire I just I don't know I feel like I'm not in the woods I'm not in the wild. So, for me it's just making a nice good fire sitting in front of it and that's really what's relaxing to me because you can just stare into the flames and there's something therapeutic about it. It just sits there and it just, it's mesmerizing. It's probably like for people who live on the beach, looking at the ocean and just hearing that, that rhythm. So really just that.

And then I'm finding a steep mountain to climb up. I love bushwhacking. I don't like going on trails very much. I just like seeing a mountain. I'm like, I just want to go to the top of that. So that's kind of, in a weird way, what I enjoy doing. I just, I like the challenge of, doing hard things and going up something steep and kind of this hope of maybe nobody's ever stepped foot here and I'm going to find an old flip lock or something like that.

Joey - Was there anybody that inspired you along the way? Any books you read, movies you saw, who inspired you to get into this?

Edgar - Man, I mean, seeing my dad while growing up, when he would go out and cut wood, that was pretty inspirational in the sense of like, keep, just a beast of him and he's still around. I'm saying it like past tense, but, um, just would do some phenomenal tasks and knowing too, he had a lot of pretty massive injuries and body injuries, but to him getting out and cutting wood, carrying two chainsaws up a mountain and a bunch of wedges and just being like, I'm going to take down that tree was kind of his challenge. And so, I think it's funny because as you get older, you realize how much like your parents you are and become more interested in what they did. And I'm realizing as time goes on that a lot of what he did was instilled in me just by watching him, you know, it was kind of as a son does their father a lot of times. but just being around...

Reading a lot, you know...Jack London was really big in my life as I was a kid and I loved reading. So, I loved reading adventure stories. Oddly enough, even books like, from CS Lewis, the Narnia series, we grew up with those and while they're fantasy, there was just something about going into this world, this magical world where it's all just either snow or woodlands and just kind of the way CS Lewis writes with this descriptive kind of like Lord of the Rings, the same thing, like it puts you in this other environment. And that's kind of what I experienced when I go in the woods, it's just this magical untouched place



where I can see God's beauty and I can just, it's quiet, you know, we're so inundated with everything that you don't get a chance to just breathe and de-stress. And, I got really into, adventure books like endurance which is about Shackleton's voyage um the Franklin voyages a lot of northwest passage books so kind of in that era. Oh, I can't remember what century probably the late seventeenth or eighteenth century where he had a lot of ship voyages coming out of Britain and trying to find the northwest passage and that kind of gave me a lot for the cold. You'd see these men go on these expeditions and A lot of good books out there. *Resolute*, that's another really inspiring book. That's about the search for Benjamin Franklin and the lost party. It actually ties into the presidential desk, the Resolute desk, and how that came about from one of the ships. So, all of that just kind of geared in me this mind of adventure and just like, I need to get outside and I need to be testing myself and doing these things, kind of romanticized view like, I wish I lived in this time or in this time. And in reality, you would have hated it. But I have this idea of explore pioneer mindset. Another good book, Stephen Ambrose, *Undaunted Courage* about Lewis and Clark that especially for this area, because, you know, they came right through. So that pretty well stuck with me. But as I got older, probably what struck a chord for all the survival stuff was, was the man Les Stroud. So, Survivor Man. Les Stroud.

Joey - Love Survivor Man. The first man to ever video himself without any outside help, you know, and he was the real deal. He was amazing. I hated it when he, when he quit doing his stuff because he was legit.

Edgar – Yeah that, that's really what got a bug under me to be like, I want to be like that. And I want to like, I didn't even have a clue with filming. I wasn't even into any of that kind of stuff, but you know, just, okay, what does he have? He has a Leatherman. I'm going to try to get that or do this, you know, and try to build a shelter. And I'd kind of toyed with some of that, but I just really soaked up, read everything he had, watched everything he had. And, I think for my adult-ish life, probably twenty, twenty-ish years ago, uh, really set me on a path of just like, okay, I'm going to learn this and be prepared. And, just kind of his mindset of preparation and emergencies and all that kind of stuff. So, all those factors kind of combined to I just kind of slowly feed me you know it wasn't like one major event it was just whatever I was interested in just kind of from all angles just kind of poking me and get me interested here and there.

Joey - When did you realize that you had, some skills and abilities that you could help others with and, maybe start a YouTube channel and share...what sparked that?

Edgar - Uh, I haven't. No. I'm still shocked that when anybody says anything is helpful, it really is a, it's a very humbling in many ways. For one, it's shocking if somebody says, hey, you know, I really appreciate this. And I was able to learn this, or, I get a lot of comments of people that I'm not able to go out anymore. Or I'm, you know, my spouse is fighting cancer or whatever, and this allows me to escape. And I'm like, it's pretty humbling, but it's also like, I don't know anything. Like I just go out and I'm just a guy from Idaho that goes and does things out in the woods. I mean, that's literally it. So, but to answer your question...so I started doing in between when I stopped being a park ranger and kind of moved back home, started a different job. I didn't have that outlet as much. I wasn't living in the woods. I wasn't constantly surrounded by this. So, my job was pretty stressful. I needed an outlet and I just needed quiet time. I tell my wife; I just need to go this weekend and be away from everybody. And she's always been a hundred percent supportive and just like, yeah, go. I want you to rely. I know you love the woods. You come back refreshed. But it was kind of weird because I wanted to do it as a challenge. So that's where

the misery trip came into play because I thought generally, you know, we, we idealize camping and going out, but a lot of times, a lot of the stories revolve around like I was pretty miserable out there. You know, it's either you're getting rained on or you're uncomfortable, but there's something about that. When you get back, you have that story and you have that memory and you're just like, I can't wait to do that again. But you get out there and you're griping about, whatever this or that doesn't work out. But so, the survival aspect, I thought I'm just going to go out there, take as little stuff as I can and just set up a challenge. And I know I'm going to be miserable. And so, I just kind of jokingly called them misery trips. So, I just do that like a couple of times a year, not filming, not doing anything, had no interest in social media or any of that. It was just, go out, set up a little shelter. Sometimes I'd come back in the middle of the night.

I remember coming back at midnight in the snow one time, cause ended up burning down the majority of the shelter. Everything went wrong from the middle of wearing the wrong kind of boots. I wore a pair of, they're called Muck boots. They're just basically, wellies, isolated wellies. I hiked up there with no snowshoes and I was post hole and I was up to my thighs, had to take one trip up with my pack out to post hole way up. And I just, same thing. I picked a steep section, just decided to go up it. Had my dog with me. I used to have a Malamute at that time. He's just kind of walking on top of the snow, come back down and get my pack. Anyways, I get everything set up and I thought, oh yeah, this is all bushcrafty and I'm, I'm going to do a survival thing. And so, I did the same thing. I'd watch YouTube guys and learn and see stuff and be like, I want to do that. Anyway, so I set up, made the fire way too big. Didn't bring extra pair of boots. Those wellies held all my sweat and just moisture in there. So, I had taken them off. I was drying off my socks on top of the posts. Those caught on fire. I was standing there literally in underwear because I sweat so much that I just stripped down and I was just standing on big Ponderosa pine bark in front of fire. And I was still just like, I am amazing. There go my socks. And then I look at my dog who's laying in the bed, just looking at me. And I thought, well, it's time to go home.

But a lot of those, learning times where you just, it is what it is. You do stupid stuff and you learn about it and you're miserable. And, uh, but all that kind of escalated, uh, to the channel. And that was kind of random because I didn't get a smartphone until I was forced to get a smartphone. I had a flip phone. Finally, the company said it was Verizon. They said, we're shutting down your phone. Like we no longer support that mobile phone. I didn't want anything to do with smartphones because I knew I'd be like; I'd see people like this. I just, I kind of have an addictive personality. Once I get into something, I thought as soon as I have that, I'm going to learn all these things that it can do. And sure enough in December I was forced to get a smartphone and then I was sitting there messing around with it and took a little joke video and send it over to my wife. And I was like, that was incredibly easy. You can just, you can film things. You know, I was just like a, like out of the stone age. I didn't know that you could even like FaceTime all this stuff I thought was sorcery. I didn't know what was going on. And then somebody was like, you should film your trips. And, I thought, nah. And then I just decided that my wife was like, yeah, you really should. So, I had an old Pentax camera that I took out and I took my old smartphone. And the only reason I got that smartphone was a buddy had it cracked and he goes, here, you can just have this. So, I just had an old cracked phone. And so that's when I made the first video and started a YouTube channel. And that was February of 2023. So, I'm just coming up on two years and then getting into all the Facebook and Instagram. People were shocked because they're like where did you come from? They even have friends who haven't seen me since high school. We couldn't find a footprint at all we couldn't even find how like how to contact you and I was like yeah that's how I wanted it. That's kind of

I mean oddly enough it was happening to get a smartphone is what sparked doing the YouTube channel and it's been a roller coaster ride since then.

Joey - I love looking through your Instagram and watching your videos and stuff. Your shelters are very interesting to me. You've got one that you use a lot, but you also go out and build shelters like some emergency shelters. What's your, what's your theory? What would you say your process for thinking about how to build a shelter? If I was needing to build an emergency shelter, what's your theory on those?

Edgar - It's weird because there's, there's kind of like playtime forts shelters. And that's what I have fun doing. You find up all the cushions and making a fort in the house in the living room. And that's kind of what bushcraft is to me. It's going out and just playing, and you're just, I want to make this kind of shelter, that kind of shelter. And so, you have those ones that are kind of the fun ones and then you have the efficient ones. And I mean, really like when I go out, sometimes I have a kind of an idea of what I'm going to do, but half the time, the terrain is totally different than what I expected. You start to look at something like there's no way that's going to work. So, if you just, you work with what's out there, you work with what trees and what rocks and go out with an idea of I'm going to build an eight frame, or I'm going to be a building to, or a Quincy hut or a debris shelter. You're all sudden going to be, you're going to get locked into your head to where I need this specific item or else, I can't do it. And I feel like that creates a block. Almost like with sports or really anything in life, if you'd be like, there's one way to do this. And as soon as something comes in, which derails you, you just, your mind shuts down and goes, I can't do this because I told myself I need X, Y, Z. So, whereas if you have a variety of options, kind of like visualizing beforehand, that's what I did with park ranger and scenes and even emergency stuff is I was always visualizing.

I could prepare my body whether it was something physically difficult or emotionally difficult with you know somebody dying or whatever it might be it's funny because I kind of do the same with shelter building is I think like this is what I want to accomplish I need to stay warm I need to be able to have a fire so I know I'm not answering that directly but really just something that's going to block the wind and keep you dry. That's all it comes down to. I mean, you could even, I just got back this weekend. I thought, why don't I just try just doing a tree? Well, everybody says avoids tree wells because you can get stuck in the snow. And it's a natural shelter. It's the same thing as like some of the videos you're talking about when I build a debris shelter or not a debris, but a primitive shelter, pine boughs. I mean, that's all it is, is you're going to a tree and you already have a perfectly good shelter and you can add to it as needed if you didn't have a tarp, et cetera and it worked fine. Like I built a fire up front and it was snowing and I had a little bit of, duff come in on me, but I stayed very warm. It was down in the twenties and I just slept on top of my sled, you know, with a sleeping bag. And, but really it, it just comes down to keeping yourself dry and out of the wind. Cause that's what will, that's what will kill you is that ambient moisture coming through. And so, if you have some kind of mat, whether it's a sleeping pad, or just doing like what I often do and like what you mentioned is building a pine bough or, laying down bark and then pine boughs on top of it. You just got to get that installation up off the ground.

And then even if you have a raincoat and you have to hunker down in the fetal position, you're going to be fine. Like other than, I mean, if you're in a freezing temp, you need to get some fire skills and learn how to build that. And like you had had black beard fire on here and I use that stuff all the time. I tested it in wet, cold, freezing, freezing cold, you know, heat, like every way possible and it doesn't fail. And

that's what I want to see because it's so easy. Why would you not have this, this tool with you that can save your life? And I mean, a lot of times I make long fires, and I just use a couple of fire starters get the whole thing going.

Tony - So yeah, that's I wanted to ask you on that on Blackbeard, what's your favorite of their styles, the rope or the little plugs?

Edgar - The plugs. Yeah, I do more with the floor. I ended up using the rope disco ram just because I hadn't used it in so long. I thought I better use it, but those fire plugs are just, I mean, I've had some videos I've dipped it in the water, got it soaking wet. It's been freezing out and they're so small. And that bag, I mean, it sounds like a sales pitch, but I love gear that works because I, we've all been there when you get something off Amazon or you'd see some stupid YouTube video and which I fall in prey to of like, someone's like, this is going to work in either. I'm going to say that sucks. This is a piece of crap. And then you get mad.

Joey - And their stuff works. It's so small and you keep it with you, but, and it doesn't weigh anything. It's so light. It's so light. That's amazing. I love it.

Edgar - Very impressive what they've done. And those, and those guys are awesome as a company. I mean, they're just, they're good guys and they want to do what's right. They stand behind it. So, definitely appreciate those guys but yeah, I have both but I always sort of default to the plug you know every time it's just so easy you know. Your fire reverse fire built you just do that every time you set it down and you walk away almost...it's good stuff. I love it.

Joey - It makes sense to me. With you explaining that, one of our favorite TV shows is The Alone Show on the History Channel. Take all these people who are uh bushcraft outdoors experts are what they call them you know I say they're experts they go up there and some of them last a day and then they come home. But a lot of them last a long time. It's really interesting to watch because they drop them in all these you know in in the last season, they actually showed how they put them in the different places they actually draw a number and that's the place that they go to. Then the places that they go to are different. But it's always been odd to us when we watch it about all of their shelters are completely different. You know, some of them build teepees and some of them build very elaborate shelters and some of them are very, very minimal. You can't even hardly sit up in a much less stand up in them. And I've always wondered, why are they all different if all these are? are outdoor experts how are why are they all different and your explanation is you got to take what you got to take what it gives you and you can't be a single mindset it has to be done this way so that makes total sense to me the way you explained it so I really appreciate that that makes total sense...

Edgar - I think those I think those people that are successful like even season one I can't remember the guy's name but you know he just used a rock ledge and just kind of cleaned some stuff up against it was just for him to squeeze into and then you got guys like Timber Cleghorn, who, you know, like even in his book, he talks about like that battle. He was like, gosh, I just don't have the resources. I just don't have. And then finally he's like, I'm going to use what nature provides. So, yeah, you're right, though. I haven't thought too deeply about what causes that distinction. And I think it is that. whatever class you come out of, if you're a hardcore bushcraft guy, hardcore survival guy, and you have like these pillars of, I am this, you know, I got to be that guy. I got to make this elaborate, whatever. And versus just having fun with it. Of course, you can't really have fun. You'll die. But yeah.

Joey - Well, we actually got the distinct privilege of interviewing Timber on the podcast and he's such a amazing, amazing guy, such a cool guy, neat guy. And yeah, I have such admiration for him. But he actually built one of the most elaborate shelters I've ever seen that's on there and had his big moose horns right on the front of it. You know, it was a freaking hotel compared to what some of them had. And he took a while to move into it. He used it as a smoker for his meat before he even moved into it and lived in it. And it's just amazing, you know, how they've done some stuff like that.

On your Instagram, you talk about you're into outdoor adventures, gear, survival, and Falcor. So tell us about Falcor and how your man's best friend came into your life and taking your pup out on your trips.

Edgar - Oh, man. Yeah, Falcor's been a huge blast. So, I had my old dog, Kodiak, was in Malamute, and We had him eleven years. He traveled around with us to the parks, all that kind of stuff. And he passed. And that was way harder than I thought. It was it was hard. It was hard on me because it's just me and my wife. And we thought, again, we're never going through that again. I'm not getting a dog, anything. And then started doing the channel and started, you know, I'm used to being alone. I've spent a lot of time just even, you know, from youth. I just enjoy it. Like, I don't mind being alone. Like some people are like, I can't handle it. But there was also that sense of, I usually have my dog with me. I had some kind of companion with me. And I don't know, I think we made the mistake of looking at puppies and then researching dogs. And we were thinking, well, we don't want the same size dog. Cause I mean, our Malamute was huge and it was a football and just all over. And so, we're like, well, we don't want a little dog. We don't want a gigantic dog. I mean, I still like gigantic dogs, but even on trips it was just like he would take up the entire back end of the vehicle yeah and we thought okay let's get more compact so we started looking at Aussies and not fully realizing how high energy they were and how much they shed uh but we yeah made the mistake looked at a breeder and it was over probably a couple hours outside of Boise and thought well we'll just go look you know to look and sure enough you know we see him and we're like oh yeah we'll take him and took our hearts. So, we've had him, he is just coming up, I think on a year and a half. And, he's just a little cuddled bug fur ball. I mean, so much personality and, just brings us a lot of joy.

And like you mentioned a lot of on Instagram and YouTube and Facebook, people are like, let's see more Falcor and let's see your stupid face. So definitely gets the, uh, gets the limelight. But he has so much fun out there especially in snow. He just goes non-stop and he's kind of a pesto because look at the zoomies and go run around and knock over cameras. I have one outing where I had a hot tent set up and I had my guy line set out for the chimney he's wiggling out and just racing around racing around and I'm yelling at him you know just getting him amped up and he goes along and clips that guy line in the chimney. You can hear me on the video. I just go well that's one stone you know he was having fun so I had to make sure he wasn't hurt. Same thing when I'm cutting wood, I always like bringing out my big double bit axe and just popping wood it's just part of the experience and he'll sit there every time, you know, and I have to keep them back to keep them safe and I'll be chopping. He'll come in and try to get a piece. So, while I'm cutting wood, I have to take one, throw it. So, the video, a lot of it's edited out, but it's me chopping, throwing, chopping, throwing. And I'm trying to, and you look out and there's just sticks laying everywhere. So, then I have to clean that up. But yeah, he is, he is definitely a good time and awesome snow dog. He doesn't get cold. Doesn't, Of course, I have to make sure and watch him and take care of him. And I get a lot of comments where people are like, oh, you're abusing your dog. And I'm like, yeah, he looks pretty abused. I mean, he's got his own bed. He's got a brand-new toilet on every

trip, his food. And he's sitting in a tent that's sixty, seventy degrees. Yeah, he looks like he's struggling in the videos that I saw for sure.

Joey - Well, we've talked about this. We've actually done shows about, you know, overlanding with pets or traveling with pets. And with the way that you do your bushcrafting out in the middle and pulling the sleds and stuff, that was one of my questions was now that you've got your dog, does that make your experience easier or challenging?

Edgar - Yeah. uh you know it's both that's an easy answer. It's easier in the sense of the added joy of seeing him out there. He just makes me laugh you know you get up in the morning and of course he doesn't want to be on his bed and he jumps up on my bed and lolling around and doing funny things like that makes anything worth it. But it is a little bit of a challenge because I have to keep an eye on him. I have to make sure and he does good he just kind of wanders around. He's still a puppy so if it's hunting season, I have to really be careful. I got him this big, bright orange best now or pack because people can be dumb, you know, and just shoot at anything. So, it's just, it is kind of difficult.

And he is really a big pest on the cameras. Like he just likes to clip them and hit them. And every time I'm setting up, you'll see like whenever I'm doing my bedding, along with the wood, I'll be setting up something. And he, as soon as you go to his level, it's just, he has to be right in your face and he's crawling all over and in and out. And it's funny, but just making sure, I am his protector, so I have to make sure he's okay. And then if there's critters around and predators, it's kind of an added, mostly if it was coyotes or wolves, they would be a little more interested in him. You know, I don't think, he would deter to a degree, definitely the coyotes. If he barks, they, they get scared off, but that smell gets curious to coyotes and wolves and they want, I can kind of draw them in, you know, versus the other. So, I just have to have things with me that I can, deter them with. I totally get that.

Joey - I remember it was probably five or six years ago. I was sitting right beside my FJ having coffee in the morning and my little English bulldog was sitting right beside me and I just happened to look up and about thirty yards away was a wolf looking right at us. That was one of those times that made my hair stand up on the back of my neck. It makes you think. It leads me to my next question.

Have you had any survival situations out on any of your trips that you can remember? Things that may have turned your stomach or made you think, what have I got myself into?

Edgar - Yeah. Well, sometimes it's with the cold. Like I said, I sometimes have to turn around, and I always have that break point of, I will go to this point kind of like mountaineers do if they don't hit a certain elevation by a certain time, that's the record they've drawn back. And I have to do that in a time because a lot of times I'm doing this after work, I'm racing up the mountains, trying to get everything in here. It gets, especially for winter, it gets dark at five to five thirty. And so, I have a limited amount of time that I know I need to get to shelter. I need to cut wood, make fire. That's essentially all there really is. And then the rest is just kind of screwing around, eating dinner and all that. but I, like I said, mentioned before, I am, I'm a sweaty Yeti is what I say. Like, it doesn't matter if it's, if it's summer or winter, as soon as I do activity, I just, it's my Scotch blood, I guess. And being hairy, I just sweat. I mean, it doesn't take much. Like a buddy has a picture of me somewhere. We're in the snow and I have my backpack on and a shirt off and we're hiking in to do a camp. We were actually doing kind of a survival camp. And, it wasn't to be macho or any of that kind of stuff. It's too literally kept my clothes dry. So I run into that every so often where I've, I hit that break point where I'm so saturated with sweat from

cutting wood that if I don't get this fire started and the temperatures are getting, in the single digits or getting down to zero, um, like it's been a while since I've been in sub zeros, but usually around that zero to five degree mark, I'll go out a lot in and that's, that's dangerous, you know, cause if my vehicle doesn't start, my heater doesn't work. I did have one where I got negative twelve and I started out my heater had gone out my truck and I thought even if I get say I slip through and go into the creek because there's a lot of spots where I go where it's just kind of hidden. I don't have to quickly warm up and I've got myself wet very cold in the winter and gone in rivers. You just I know what it's like to lose that finger mobility um and you can't do it you can't even unzip it I've gotten we did a camp out with some buddies that got down to negative twenty-four negative twenty-seven Fahrenheit and we were by a hot Springs, so it wasn't too big of a deal.

I remember us just trying to change into our clothes and get the fire started and from taking stuff off to put on our dry stuff. I mean, literally just trying to get the bag open. It was like having sausages just for fingers. So, there's definitely that aspect. And then, a recent one, I went into a kind of desert Canyon this summer, kind of fall area. And that was one with Falcors. The first time I went with him where I had an open shelter, I had a little canvas, kind of a wheeling style is the name of the tent that I set up. And usually I have him in clothes, you know, he's in a full tent, so he's not going to go anywhere at night. Well, cause people ask about cougars and this was kind of a survival-ish situation where we're bedding down and, shut our eyes. I shut my eyes trying to go to sleep and wake up to the most horrendous scream you could hear, and I'm, there's no one around, like I'm in this Canyon. I've always heard, my mom used to hang out with these Cougar hunters. I know here is one of the tops, whatever, like Cougar hunters, but she would go out in the summers with him and she would talk about hearing those screams. She said, it sounds like a woman screaming. It just cuts your bone and other predators don't, don't really concern bears. They'll leave you alone in winter. They're not around anyways. Wolves around here are pretty skittish because as soon as they see you, they'll just take off. But cougars, I mean, they're the real deal around here. So, I heard that and you don't know. Like there could have been one just perched up on the rocks where I was. And where I was sitting, I had a rock, kind of a big rock in front of me and a big rock behind me. And that was just thick trees and bush. And my light wouldn't penetrate that far. And a couple owls came flying out at that same time. And then I just heard this kind of like, it was almost like a chirping noise. And I thought, I don't know what that is. Is that a bird? What is that? And I, when I got home anyways, I looked up, you know, an audio of a cougar popped up in my feed randomly. And oh my gosh, it was the exact same thing. I heard that little chirping, like almost like a meow bark, like cats do this kind of thing, except a lot more intense. So, the rest of that night, Falco was growling, barking. I have to stay awake, just holding on to him. Cause I was like, I'm not like, you know, he might want to run off after him. And, that was one of those situations where I had, you know... I have to be prepared for whatever comes, but that, that is the most on edge I've been. And at the same time, you're exhausted. And so, you're just kind of dozing, but hold on the dog and then he growl and bark. But that was one of those ones where it was like, this, this could go south. Like people do get attacked and it's, it's not going to try to pack out in the middle of the night. It's just, Okay, I got this rock behind me. I've got a corridor here, a view, and here, so my only attack points are these two points. That's probably the most recent one where I was like, this could go south quick.

Joey - Do you take anything for protection?

Edgar - I do, yeah. I carry a firearm almost all the time. I have a pistol on me, and I just don't show it. people, I mean, even on this, maybe they'll freak out or have a bunch of questions, but, people freak out

about everything and send me hate mail and all this kind of stuff. I try not to show, I'm sure you guys know, but I tried to keep that out of the camera, but I always have something for me and him. And that's also based on previous experiences and knowing what can happen. And, you know, you have something and, and like even pepper spray, I'm, I'm not going to, use pepper spray. The wind will shift and it'll come back on me.

Joey - Exactly. That is the worst stuff ever created. I don't know why anybody uses that. I've been sprayed with it twice in my life and it's the most awful stuff ever. I will have to be on my deathbed about to take my last breath before I use it. I will be out of bullets. I'll be out of taser. I'll be out of everything before I use that stuff. It's awful.

Edgar - People would ask me the same thing as I was like, tasing is horrible, but it's only five seconds. But, man, for those listening, I haven't been arrested. It was for previous law enforcement. So, before you think, geez, what did I do? But that's what it is. I see people will take pepper spray out, and they haven't ever used it. They don't know what they're doing. They're like, that's okay. If a bear comes, I got pepper spray. I'm like, have you ever been downwind of pepper spray? No. or if it just, or say the bear brushes by you or anything, like then you are in a survival situation where you can't see, you might have respiratory issues. So, preparation, people just don't, don't prepare.

Joey - If you don't hit it in the face, you're just going to make it mad.

Tony - But a lot of times, isn't it, wouldn't it be true to say that if, if you see a bear and it's close enough for pepper spray, isn't he going to tend to be upwind from you? I mean, because if he's downwind from you, he's probably going to avoid your scent.

Edgar - Yeah. Most would be, right?

Tony - So, you're spraying into the wind?

Joey - I don't know. Most of it sprays about twenty feet, but that's without the wind. So, you've got to factor that in before you push that trigger. So just think about it. Just think about it.

What is the one tool that you never leave home without? One piece of gear you never leave home without.

Edgar - That's funny. mean it's one of those like multipliers so it's hard. I always have fire starter and a blade you know whether it's whether it's an axe a saw or you know a belt knife or even a folder knife because I always have a folding knife on me during the day. I always have it it's probably it probably is some kind of fire making ability just because I think you can get by fine. You can work your way out of a situation. You can hike. You can survive. You can make it without water. You can make it without food. But if you get cold, and I've been very, very cold before, and I know what happens to your body, to me, that's the most important thing. Say you get lost out in the woods and you don't have a knife, you don't have anything. You don't need all that stuff to make a fire.

I'll go through and I'll show my different saws. I did a survival thing where I just had a tack bag, chest rig, and I had a little tiny saw and some fire starters. I did have a big knife, but it was kind of just more for show to see what I could do. But even on that I used the it was literally just a pocket saw so just a chainsaw blade with straps on it cut my logs. I mean you can just go find you can break off sticks off of the lower parts of trees you can find duff and sticks anywhere. Most areas you can find a fire resource



and you can get that fire going and it does two things. Well actually does three things. It obviously warns you and can save you but signaling is also the big priority so if you're in a survival situation you do what you got to if you need to catch a tree on fire. I know people are like, oh, you're going to start a forest fire, obviously. I don't know if that's thinking out long-term, but if it's probably not going to happen that way, you know, you're probably not going to start a forest fire and you're not going to catch a tree on fire because it's incredibly hard, but some way to say whether it's night or day, because even on search and rescue stuff, when you're going, or when we would have our missions looking for somebody. You don't have very much information in any little bit, even if it's tying ribbon on a tree to mark the direction you went to, all that kind of stuff. So, if somebody has a fire, you can smell it. You may not see it. And it just allows everybody to use all their senses to help somebody out. And if you're alone for a while, like we mentioned before, there's something calming about a fire. I really think it distracts and brings you down. But as you think about the situation and where you're at and just, okay, I accomplished this. I made fire kind of, kind of like on a, oh, what was the movie with Tom Hanks?

Tony – Castaway...

Edgar - Yeah. I think you're like, I did this I can make it now so when people learn those tools. I mean those abilities it just steps them up here because it gives you that confidence so yeah I'd say some fire making ability to answer that in about three thousand words.

Joey - oh I love it! Do you like the older traditional uh bushcrafting tools or you like the modern stuff better?

Edgar - you know I kind of goes back to my hybrid kind of liking camping, liking new tech gear, all that kind of stuff. But I do have a love for the old. I mean, I'm finding more and more of that. Almost everything I wear when I go out is wool. That's also because of now I've, I've got enough testing, like extreme testing to go. Synthetic is going to not kill me, but synthetic is going to make things miserable.

Joey - Wool is legit.

Edgar - I just, like I said, this weekend I went out, I mean, I was, it was only, it was only two degrees Fahrenheit. completely soaked wearing this wool top with kind of this mesh liner in it, but all wool. And I remember looking before I hadn't changed before bed, I was warm in front of the fire and not dry because of the fire, but it just hit me. It kept me warm, you know, it kept me warm and it works. So, but the traditional stuff, I do just have a love for, like kind of the, the bushcrafting fathers, like I mentioned, Morris Kachansky and there's, there's all, there's an author Nesmuk and he was around, I think, 1820's, 1890's. He went by the name, that was his pen name, but he wrote a book called, I believe it was called Bushcraft as well. But they were kind of these romantic writers during that time in the late eighteenth century, or excuse me, late 1800's, early 1900's. Horst Kephart, that's another author, Daniel Beard. They all kind of took the traditional, it was kind of a time when people were just getting into camping because vehicles started coming around as time went on and they had you know, this ability to get out a little bit more free time in the Americas. And that's when people have these huge bins of camping gear and they'd be bringing pots and they'd get porters and, you know, hire people to take them out into the woods, kind of like big city folks coming out. Anyways, they would write about those experiences and then just how you need to, it's funny. Cause back then they were talking about how you need to get back to your roots and you know, the whole, the less you carry, the more, you know, and even what color, you know, wool to wear and, you know, carry a knife and all this kind of stuff. But definitely that

traditional style is just kind of fits back to that romantic period I was talking about. I just kind of have an enjoyment of things were simple. You have this, you make it work. And if you don't know how, like you bring a stitch kit and I think that qualifies in real bushcraft where you're using minimal tools to make what you need.

Pretty much like on Alone. Like those guys, all those guys are legit. You can take ten things. That's it. They know their stuff. Yeah. Ten things.

Joey - That's it. I love seeing how people get to where they're going. And I love seeing the pack outs. What when you pack your stuff out, what does it normally look like? What do you normally take?

Edgar - So primary is first aid. I always have a first aid kit that's kind of loaded out. Part of that's like I was saying, I end up having a lot of stuff. but I just, I don't feel comfortable with going minimal. There are times, like I said, where I had that chest pack. I had my med kit in the car. I wasn't too far away, so I knew I could get to it. But so yeah, I have something with a tourniquet. I have some heavy cloth bandages and stuff that I'm familiar with how to use, not only for myself, but if I come across somebody or if I'm with my wife, same thing for in the car when we take trips, got to have a first aid kit. And so, if folks listening or whatever, I know it's not sexy. It's not exciting. It's not like the new tech, but, like my medic, that's where I buy my stuff. They have pre-made kits. If I can stress anything from working on people from working on people who went out for day drives or went to a park and then they have a family member die or something, you know, extreme things happen. So, I'm not trying to be the dark cloud, but you bringing that up, I just think it's a, it's vital. Like if you have a family, if not, it's just yourself, but if you have a family, you're responsible for them. So. Don't expect somebody to come along while somebody dies because of something that can be prevented because of blood loss. So, it's very real. It happens, know your terrain. So sorry, I get kind of preachy on that, but I have a first aid kit.

I've got a fire kit. I usually have a small, very small pack of extra clothes that I can change into because I know I'm going to sweat. So, I always have, specifically right now for the season for winter, I keep a set of long John's socks and underwear and a beanie and gloves, and I can kind of keep it about compressed down to that size. So, it doesn't pick up any room and it's probably, I don't know, two pounds, something like that. So, keep that. I try to have something to insulate me from the ground and or emergency cover, whether it's a poncho or even just one of those Walmart cheapo ponchos with me. I usually have a compass, a blade, usually some kind of saw. And a lot of my stuff is camera gear. I mean, batteries and all this stuff that I used to not have to carry, but it's become a vital part of what I've got. But those are the main things. Yeah, some kind of blade, fire starter, first aid, extra clothes, and usually a kind of a signaling device. If I needed it, would that be a mirror or on my compass using the mirror? And then little things like ribbon, like I was saying, if I need to mark something out, I'll try to keep that kind of stuff handy. But it's pretty, it's small, but big. Like you said, I have a bunch of extras of all that stuff to back up. And that's kind of the problem is I end up with this pack that's very heavy because other items, food, I know this is going to offend you because of, I can't remember which podcast I was listening to. I think it was with the Gossamer Gear owner where you're talking about being a foodie. And I don't know if, don't know if you are Tony, but I'm just not a food guy. Like I, I just, I can go without eating. I don't really have a desire to, I used to cheese was my main, like if I could have cheese and then my body switched around and said, you can't have cheese anymore. So, then I'm like, well, like mother eating. Uh, so, but generally I'll, I'll bring a steak. you know, I just, I like to cook single steak over the fire on a

stick and, uh, and water, but yeah, pretty basic, basic stuff. But I just try to cover those priorities. Like I can take care of myself and others. I can make fire and I can cut stuff.

Joey - How big is your pack? What liter is your pack?

Edgar - My one I've been using, uh, from van quest gear, I was testing out this last year. It is a. Thirty-five. yeah, a thirty-five and it's kind of geared up so you can carry camera equipment around on that. And then my other one is a military medium Alice. And I don't know what that is. It's probably. You can price stuff that to fifty, you know, because you can add on packs like the military. All the wedding packs on the side. So, I'd like to have something bigger, like a sixty year. I'm just I think that's where we get into the old versus new gear. I started out just getting a lot of military equipment when I did all this because I'm cheap and I couldn't justify spending the money on surplus stores, man. I'm hard on equipment. Like I'm dragging wood, I'm doing stuff. And so, I would get finally saved up and got this, it was a Mountain Hardwear coat. I thought it was kind of a puffy style. I'm going to give a nice new coat. And I got that. And I was out of the shooting range with my dad and I barely snagged the sleeve on a little piece of, metal where you keep the targets and just immediately went. And I remember thinking like, that's it, I'm just sticking with military surplus or wool and stuff that doesn't tear. But a packs, I would like to get something a little bit bigger where I can compartmentalize and really load out if I need to, you know, just be able to put like three days' worth on because there's nothing worse than digging through like the military pack. You just, I don't know, side pouches, one big pocket digging in the middle of night and you get frustrated and yeah.

Joey - Well, my wife says I have an infatuation for backpacks and I do. And so, I was just wondering about that because I carry when we go backpacking, mine is a mine's a forty liter. But when I pack it out with food and water and everything, it weighs about eighteen pounds. And that's what, you know, I was I was wondering about the size of your pack. The weight of everything is so much more in the bushcrafting world because you're taking a wood stove, you're taking a whole bunch of stuff that I don't take. And so that's what interests me when you talk about your pack out. So that's pretty cool to me.

Are there any misconceptions about bushcrafting that you've learned throughout what people think it is that it's really not?

Edgar - you know, it's, it's funny cause you get in these communities and groups like on Facebook or different stuff, people get, oh, they get mad. You start talking about bushcraft. And if you do one thing that is not technically bushcraft, you're banished, you know? Yeah. It's, it's funny cause it's a term that's just thrown on everything. You know, people are like, oh, bushcrafter, bushcrafter. And it's changed from what it originally was. They even, um, think in one of those books I was talking about they could call it woodcraft back in the day and it was just the ability to craft what you need when you're in the woods out of what's around and I think in its truest sense that's what it is it's just very minimal take what you need but like you said heavy tools whatever you might take an all you might take you know a big double bit axe but it's such a change term it's just evolved really to where like I said, you kind of have camping, bushcraft, survival, preparedness, and all of those, you get some people that intermingle. But at its truest form, I think bushcraft is making stuff in the woods and trying to survive with what you can, like, you know, build a shelter, build a little spatula or make a spoon, carve a spoon, and just build basically alone. Like you mentioned, like I think alone is probably a really good representation of what actual bushcrafting is. If you lose your fire making abilities, can you use different ability, flint and steel, et cetera. to do all that. And that's even something like I I've never even pursued, pursued too much.

Because I'm comfortable with how I make fire and I still need to learn, you know, more bush crafty stuff. But, yeah, it is, it is almost a fight and turn for a lot of people.

Joey - Well, we go through the same thing with overlanding. You know, people say you're not overlanding unless you have this or that. Or, you know, when I first started getting into the lifestyle seven, eight, nine years ago, they were like, you can't overland in a Subaru. You know, and now I have a Subaru. So, tell me I can't overland in a Subaru. It's just one of those things where people have their opinions about everything, and that's fine. We live in the most opinionated society that I've ever seen throughout my lifetime. I don't know how it could get any worse. So anyway, we just have to deal with it. But that's just the way life is. And we just move on.

We're getting kind of to the end of our when we want to kind of shut this down on our time limit. But I think I would be remiss if I didn't give you an opportunity to speak on something on your Instagram. You have a Bible verse, Hebrews 13:6. And I looked that up because I didn't know it by heart. And it's one version says so that we may boldly say the Lord is my helper and I will not fear what man shall do to me. What does this verse mean to you? Why did you decide on that one?

Edgar - So, gosh, that's stood out to me since probably high school. So grew up in a Christian family. And so, I was obviously I was raised under that, but it was more. you know, if you're, if you're raised in, at some point you have to make it your own. I mean, you get into high school, you start getting older and you go, is this just because my parents taught me this? Um, do I really believe in God? Do I believe in Jesus? Do I believe in salvation? And you know, you, you start becoming a man or a woman and you have to decide for yourself, like, do I actually have a relate? Do I care for one? Do I believe any of this? And I was fortunate to have, I went to a Christian school and so I had some really good influences and, know I spent my time just praying and thinking and being like okay god do you because you know as a little kid when I was told I told about Jesus I was like he sounds awesome yeah I like him he did this for me like why not like have somebody love me that's cool you know you're getting stuff into high school and or whatever age and I was just I was very convicted that yes this is this is the way this is truth and I had a bible teacher that said uh because especially being in a religious school or a Christian school, you get a lot of people that are just religious. I'm going to say how it is in society. You get all the people who say they're Christian or they're whatever. And they just, they have it as a religious thing they have to do. And I'm, people would call me religious. And, and you know, as I got older, they're like, hey, at jobs, like, Hey, you're religious. What do you think of this? I was like, and don't call me religious. Like I'm not like I'm a follower of Christ. But I mean, you can be religious about football. You can be religious about anything. You know, it's just you follow. But I would say this is how I live my life. And this is what I believe. And this is what I believe truth is. But back to what I was saying, a Bible teacher would say, you know, it doesn't matter how much you read your Bible. It doesn't matter how much you pray. It's about a relationship between you and Christ. And obviously those things do matter and important. But his point was you can do all that workspace stuff. And, but if you haven't had that one-on-one with Christ and been like, okay, you know, like, do I believe in you? Do I believe what you did? Do I believe that you died for my sins and rose the third day, you know, to allow me to have salvation, you know, and to, um, accommodate for my sins before God? Then I looked at that and I said, yeah, that is it. Like I can have that relationship and it just to have that. to know that there was somebody who cared about me, who, and my parents did, everybody, but it's just different when you have that, I guess there's not a better term for that, salvation moment, to know that he is my creator and my savior and that I can have an intimate relationship with him.

And that's what I do when I go out in the woods is it gives me a chance to think, to pray, to get all this garbage and crap out of my head to where I can be, okay, God, what am I what am I doing? What am I doing for you? And it's usually, I'm not doing much, you know, but back to the point of the verse is that just stood out to me since high school is that we live so much and I'm, and I'm still guilty of it. Like we're so led by people, you know, and those around us and we make our decisions and we're influenced. And from the time you're a child through high school, college, or whatever you decide to do in work, I don't care who you are. You can be as think you're as tough as you can be. And you care what people think. people think, you know, and your kind of watching what they do. And just to have that assurance of like, the Lord is my helper. I know that sounds kind of weird, but I mean, he's by my side, you know, all through the Old Testament, New Testament saying he's by his saints, you know, and he's there for me. Like, what do I have to fear? What can man do to me? And, you know, I pray I'm never in a situation where it's a murder situation or like Fox's Book of Martyrs where you had guys torn limb to limb, you know, and sawed in half and eaten by lions. And it's like very real stuff that we have no idea about, but society is becoming okay with violence to a degree I've never seen.

You know, me and my wife were talking today how stuff you can see just on Instagram or Facebook or whatever that pops up and you're like, I didn't want to see that. Like, what the heck? And it just... such a numb society that, you know, just to know that my savior's by my side, I guess that's the easiest way to say it, like that he is my captain, you know, and I picture him just as almost like as a warrior and I can be my king and I can come and be on his side and just be, if I can just be a faithful soldier, which I'm not very good at, I'm a pretty crappy soldier, but to know that he loves me regardless and I don't have to fear whatever's coming at me, whatever enemies I see coming at me and like in survival situations, In the woods, you know, when the ice go out, you hear a scream in the woods. Like, yeah, it's scary and unnerving. But still, I know God's with me. Like, I know he's there and his will be done. And if it's my time to go, it's my time to go. And I need to be okay with that. So that's just... Yeah, I don't know. That is what it is, I guess.

Joey - I appreciate that. Well, I want to thank you for coming on here and sharing a little bit about yourself, what you do. And we really appreciate you taking time. You know, we mainly camp out of our vehicles and we try to make things easier on ourself. But you go out and do the hard things. And I really appreciate that. And I think we can all learn from each other. And that's why I wanted to have you on here to, you know, tell us about who you are, what you do, because I find it interesting. And like I said, I think we can all learn a little bit from each other. So, I really appreciate you coming on here and sharing with us a little bit about who you are and what you do.

Edgar - I appreciate you guys for sure. And anytime either of you cruise through as I'm now tongue tied at the end. But yeah, when you come through Idaho or if you do definitely give me a holler. We'll meet up. I'll show you around, do what I can. So, yeah, I definitely appreciate you guys.

Joey - Love that. Same to you. If you ever venture east of where you live and come out here to this unknown Narnia, you know, the unknown world, we're glad to show you around here, too. We've got some beautiful spots. I want to thank everybody who came on tonight and commented and listened to us. I want everybody to know that this will be uploaded on all podcast platforms. And we are excited to share about what Edgar is doing out in Idaho. And make sure and follow him on Instagram. He's also on Facebook. And he has a very awesome YouTube channel, All That Angry Outdoors. Tony, hope you have a wonderful evening. It's good to see your face.

Tony - You too, buddy.

Joey - Enjoy the last of the snow before it melts. We're going to have some brutal cold weather before we have the next podcast, so it's going to be an interesting week to come. Until then, I hope everybody has a wonderful week. Get outside, learn something new, and whatever you do, look out for number one, and don't step in number two.

We're out.