

EP08:

A Cosmic Love Story

With Colin Bedell

Colette:

Hi there and welcome to INSIDE THE WOONIVERSE. I'm your host Colette Baron-Reid. And with me today is the most awesome Colin Bedell, a queer Gemini twin from Long Island, New York. He is a passionate student of secular personal growth systems and the universal spiritual themes explored in A Course In Miracles. Colin is the weekly horoscope writer for cosmopolitan.com and has three best selling books. One is A Little Bit of Astrology. Two, my absolute favorite is called Queer Cosmos: The Astrology of Queer Identities and Relationships, and Gemini. Well+Good magazine listed Colin as one of the most influential people in the wellness industry and as a 2020 innovator. Welcome Colin. Colin's joining us from Italy today.

Colin:

Yes. Thank you Colette, it is such an honor to be here. I know, something like that. I'm learning, Thank you. It's an honor to be here.

Colette:

Oh, how's Italy treating you?

Colin:

It's amazing. Honestly, it's been one miracle-

Colette:

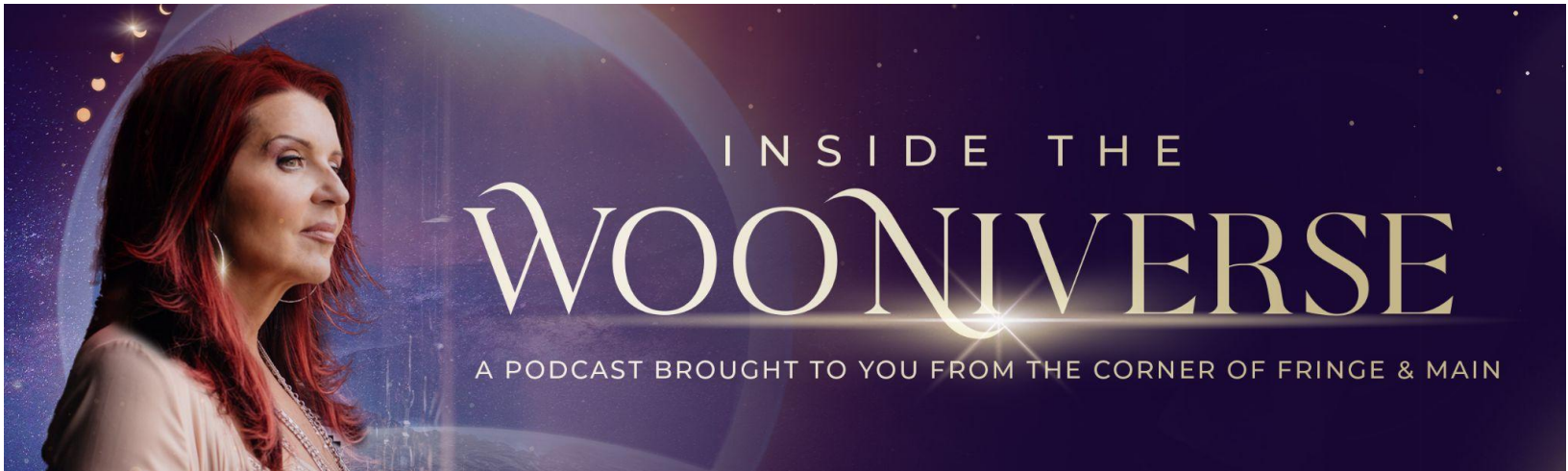
Love it.

Colin:

.... After the other, Colette. It's like this country has just completely taken me into its arms. I'm still like about the whole thing. It's amazing.

Colette:

Yeah, it's so verkleempt. I know.



Colin:

I'm very verklempt over here.

Colette:

I heard Colin on another podcast with my good friend, Deborah Silverman, and I literally barraged him with emails. I knew I had to engage the Queer Cosmos, INSIDE THE WOONIVERSE with us.

Colin:

It's such an honor.

Colette:

So listen your book, and we will talk about more about your book later, and I told you this already, the introduction to your book made me cry. It was so profoundly intimate and so beautiful. I've never heard anyone describe the queer experience and the difficulties and the potential liberation and love and joy in one spot in a few pages. I literally sobbed when I read it. And because, I think I told you this, my best friend, [Doug 00:02:10] had died a couple years ago and he was very queer and he would've loved you.

Colin:

I'm sure I would've loved him.

Colette:

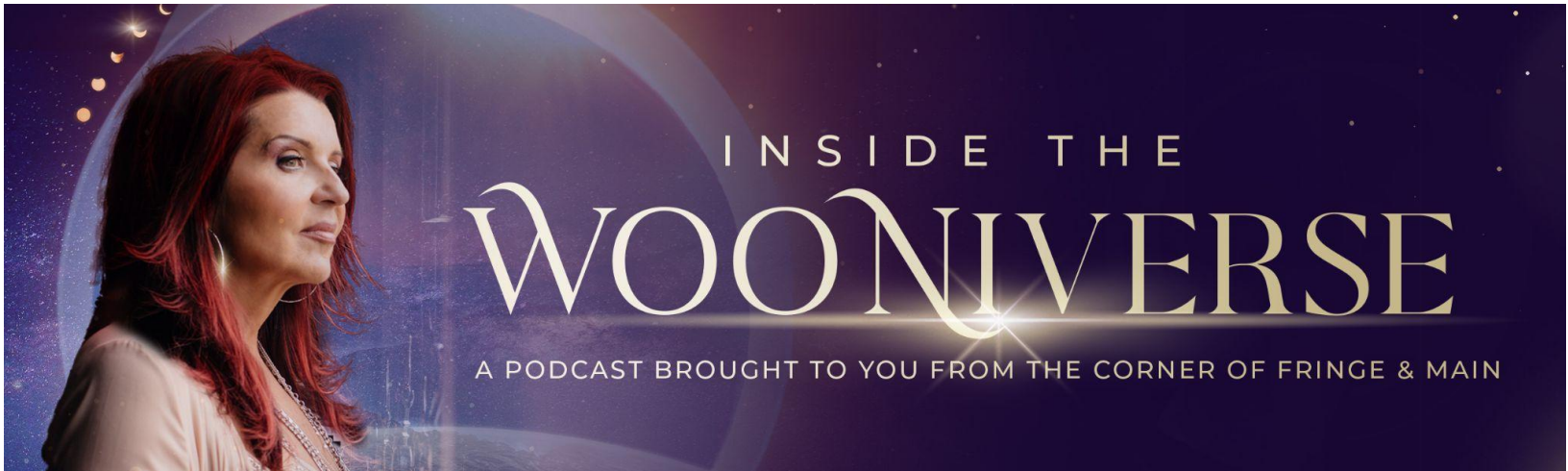
Oh, it was like you opened up a door back to him for me and remembering just all these complexities and, so beautiful. Okay.

Colin:

Thank you for that.

Colette:

Don't make me cry. All right let's go back to the beginning.



Colin:

No, I know we both have Cancer in our chart. We'll cry the whole time. It's okay, go ahead.

Colette:

What was your childhood like? You say you are a Gemini Twin.

Colin:

Oh god, speaking of crying. Yes, a Gemini Twin, as I have this sweater here right now. Gemini twin, born two minutes younger than my twin sister, [Courtney 00:02:46]. And I have a Cancer mother, a Leo father, and certainly didn't get out of childhood unscathed. I don't know who did. There was certainly some financial and emotional traumas going there, but I really believe that my parents did what they could with the limited resources that they had. And when I look back on my childhood, I'm deeply grateful and I feel a deep sense of responsibility for a lot of the things that my parents were able to do for me.

Colette:

Oh, that's beautiful. When did you come out to yourself? When did you really know that you were queer? Was it when you were little, growing up? When was that?

Colin:

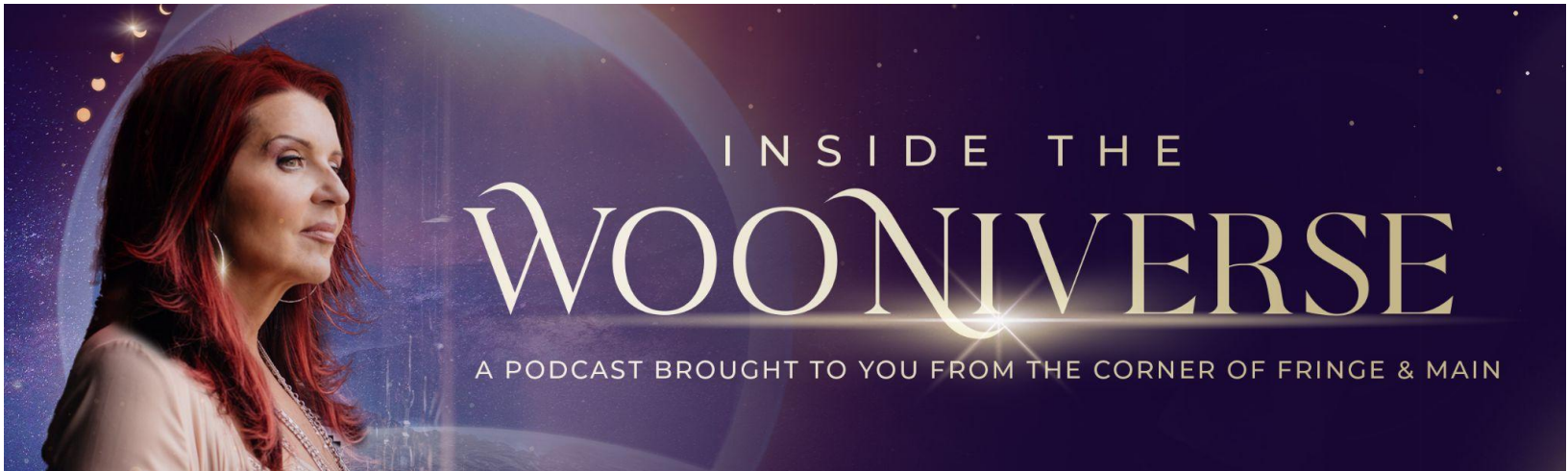
Yeah, definitely when I was little and I think that what happens for most people, I can't speak for all, but I think what happens is we realize there's something different and then the self-deception begins. And we all know the spiritual toxicity of so much self-deception. And so it wasn't until I was 16 where I felt a little bit more comfortable owning the fact that I was different and sharing it with my family. And interestingly enough, that was the same year that my parents decided to move from Long Island, New York to the Bible Belt in North Carolina.

Colette:

No.

Colin:

Yes. I know, there wasn't a gay or a Jew in sight.



Colette:

Oh boy.

Colin:

No, I'm just kidding. There were a few gays and there were a few Jews up the street, and I mean 20 miles up the street. So it was a total culture shock.

Colette:

Oh my god, it's so funny.

Colin:

And so I came out there and it was definitely a challenge. This was 2005. So this was the Bush Administration. This was the peak of the war of Iraq. It was [inaudible 00:04:19] but what was really power powerful is that my family just said, "Okay, we wish you told us earlier, because we probably wouldn't have moved here if you did. But we're here now, so we'll do the best we can." And they just completely mobilized around me, and honestly I have been truly loved and supported by them, almost unconditionally ever since. Yeah.

Colette:

Can I just say something about what you just said?

Colin:

Sure, please.

Colette:

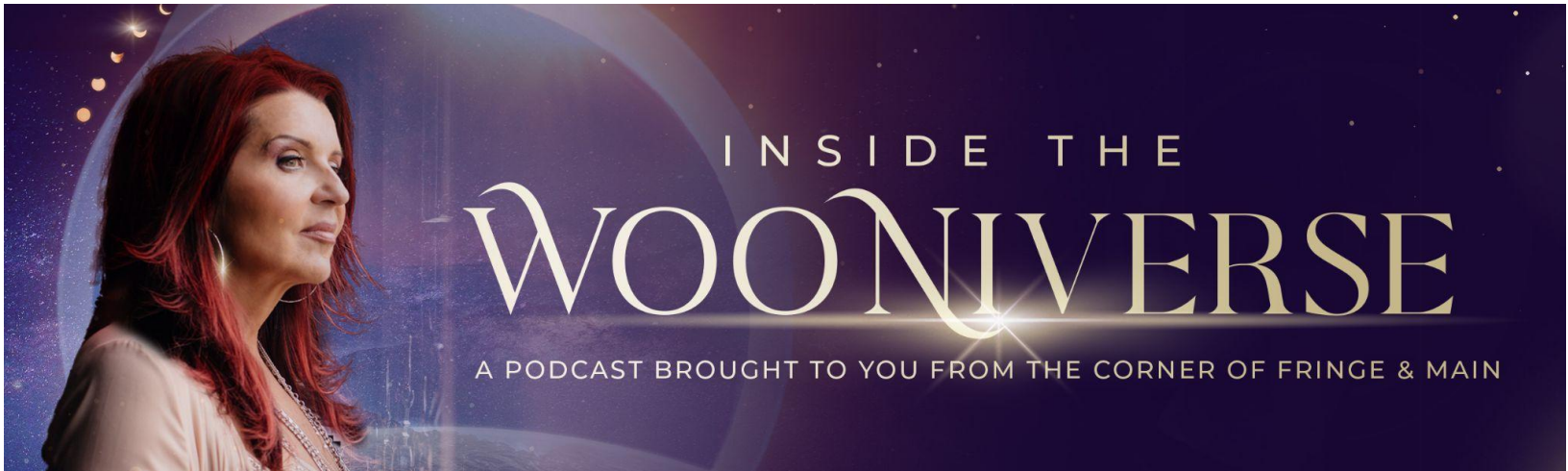
That they said, "I wish you had come out sooner. We probably wouldn't have moved here."

Colin:

Yeah, right.

Colette:

That shows me just how much they loved you.



Colin:

Oh, truly.

Colette:

And recognized that the environment might be challenging there for you. That's beautiful.

Colin:

Yes, because I have a Cancer mother, Colette. She was like, "Honey, you told me this now? Oh my god, mama mia. Boy." But she was just like, "Well, we're here, so we'll do the best we can." And it was very funny. So after I came out to her, I told her, "Mom, I'll tell the family." She's such a Cancer. I was like, "I will tell the family. I'll do it." She was like, "Okay honey." The next day she comes in, she practically kicked the door down off the hinges. Very carnal. She's like, "Honey, I know you told me not to tell anybody, but I called your uncles, your aunts, your godparents, your grandfather, your grandmother. I even told the people on the street because I said, "Listen to me right now. If you have a problem with my gay son, you better tell me because you're out." I was like, "Well, okay." "But I had to tell them first because if they said something I didn't like, it would've been the last thing they said to me." And I was like, "All right ma, I love you. Thank you."

Colette:

I'm in love with your mother, and I would've done the exact same thing. I told everybody and I said, "If you have a problem with my gay son [crosstalk 00:05:59] go through me."

Colin:

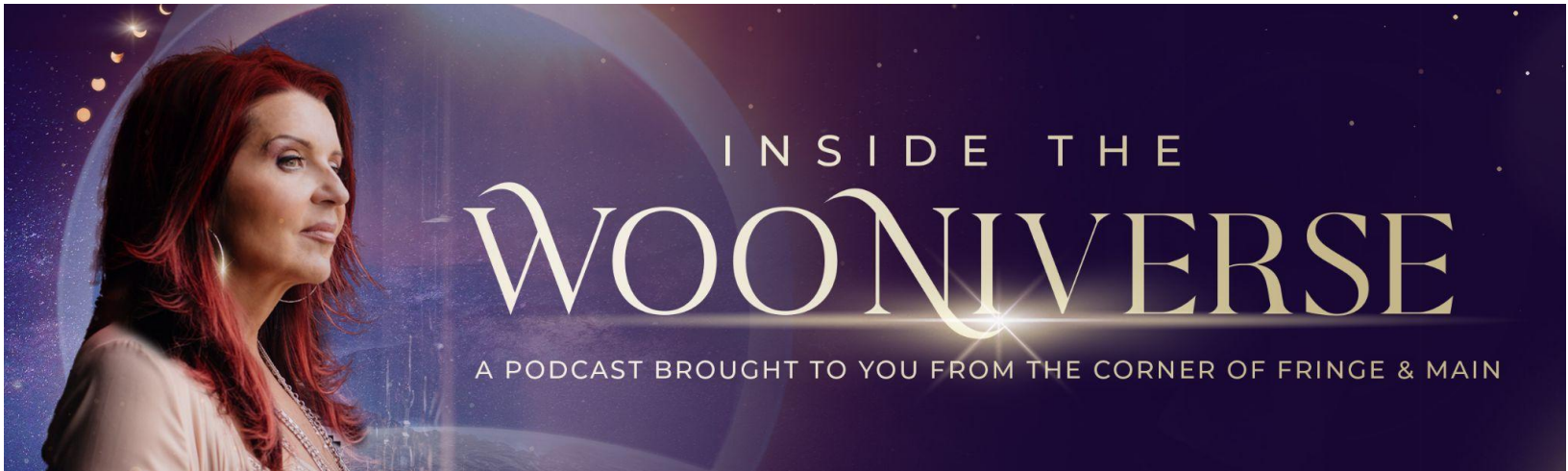
You have a problem with me.

Colette:

Exactly. So did you discover astrology there, when you were there?

Colin:

No. I actually discovered it a few years before. I would say maybe 11 or 12, so it was about four years prior. And speaking of my Cancer mother, I discovered it through her because she read Linda Goodman's, Sun Signs in the late 70s, early 80s, although it was published in 1968 I think. And she would just use it all around the house. She would just say things like, "Well, you



know your Virgo grandmother, we got to call her early. Otherwise, she's not going to be happy if we don't have a plan." And, "Your Leo father is driving me nuts." And I had no idea what she meant by this. So I just Googled it. I distinctly remember the first day I ever went into aol.com, Googled G-E-M-I-N-I and this rush of information found me. So I was 11 or 12.

Colette:
Wow.

Colin:
Yeah. And then back to the south and the funny cultural idiosyncrasies there, I would ask people, oh, what's your sign? And they would say, "I'm a Christian. So we don't believe in that. I'm a Christian."

Colette:
I'm a Christian.

Colin:
That's my sign.

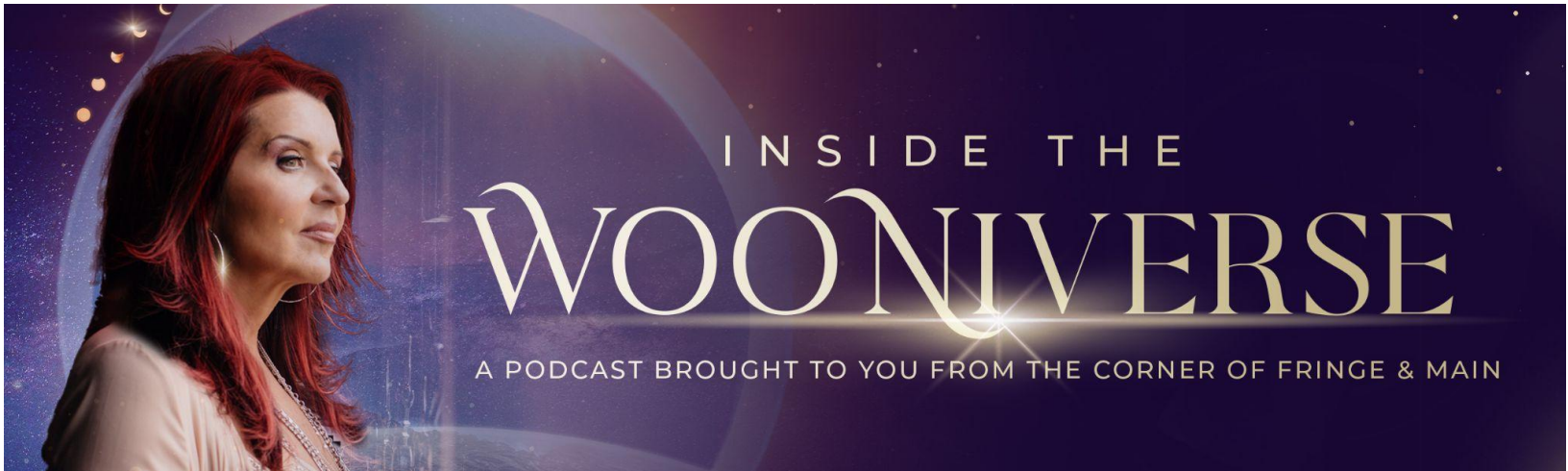
Colette:
That's my sign.

Colin:
I would say, "Okay, God bless." I know.

Colette:
Oh, don't make me laugh.

Colin:
I'm sorry.

Colette:
Okay. All right. So how did the discovery of astrology change you if any?



Colin:

Well, it really became the central theory that animated my book, *Queer Cosmos* is that it changed me as it gave a story and a template for who I can be aside from what shame thought I should be. And so we all deal with shame in some way, psychologists call it, the universal emotion. So we all feel a sense of unworthiness sometimes. Some have greater resilience around it. Others struggle and astrology changed my life by giving me this really beautiful, distinct, technical, a proposal of who I can be apart from what a straight white male is supposed to be. And when it said, oh, you're a Gemini sun so you can be a writer, storyteller, teacher, traveler wanderer. I was like, I can? It gave me this grounded Capricorn moon. So it said, and you can also give people tough love if you need to. And I'm like, may I? So it just gave me this beautiful permission slip to be who I wanted to be and always just needed that gentle encouragement. And then when I started to feel more self-accepted in myself and my relationships, oh my God, the depth and the connection just went to beautiful places because I wasn't pretending, performing, people-pleasing, hustling, striving, negotiating. I was just exactly who the fuck I am.

Colette:

You know what I liked about what you just said you declared a technical, a permission slip. It made you more of what you could be.

Colin:

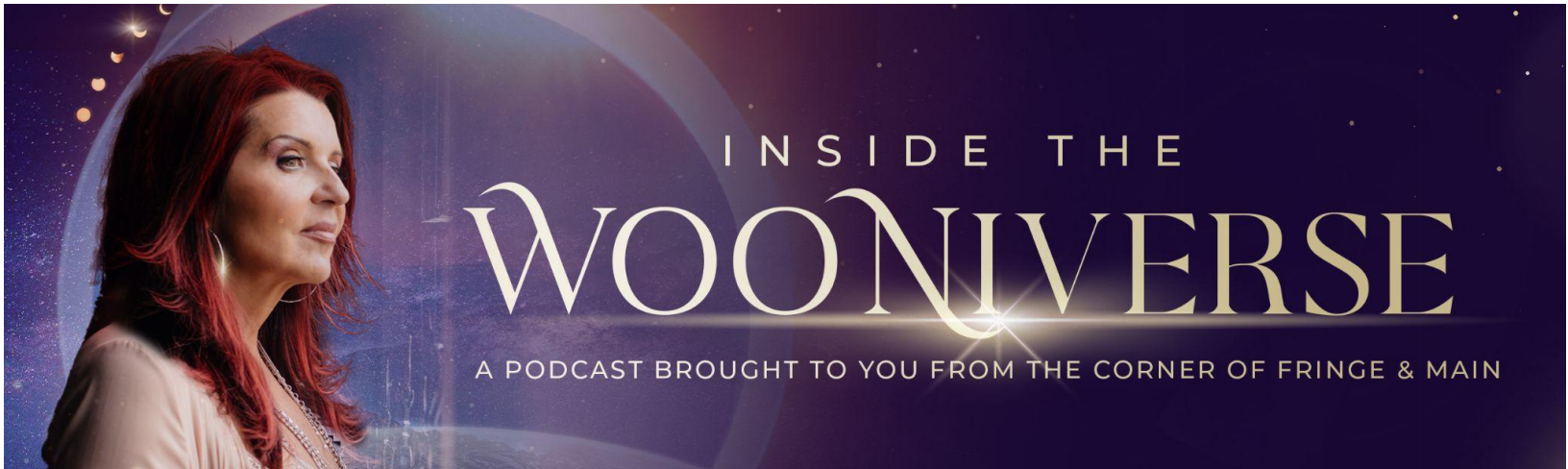
Yeah.

Colette:

And you were no longer trying to define yourself as other than, and all of a sudden astrology says, yeah okay, that's fine. You're going to work that out. But guess what you could be, and you can be queer and all these things.

Colin:

Exactly.



Colette:

You don't have to be a cisgendered male to be these things, you can be you. And it does give you permission to be you. And I think you just opened a whole magical door with this.

Colin:

Thank you.

Colette:

Okay. So how did you come to create the term Queer Cosmos and what is it? What is it?

Colin:

What is it? What are you talking about up there Gemini?

Colette:

What is that? What is the Queer Cosmos?

Colin:

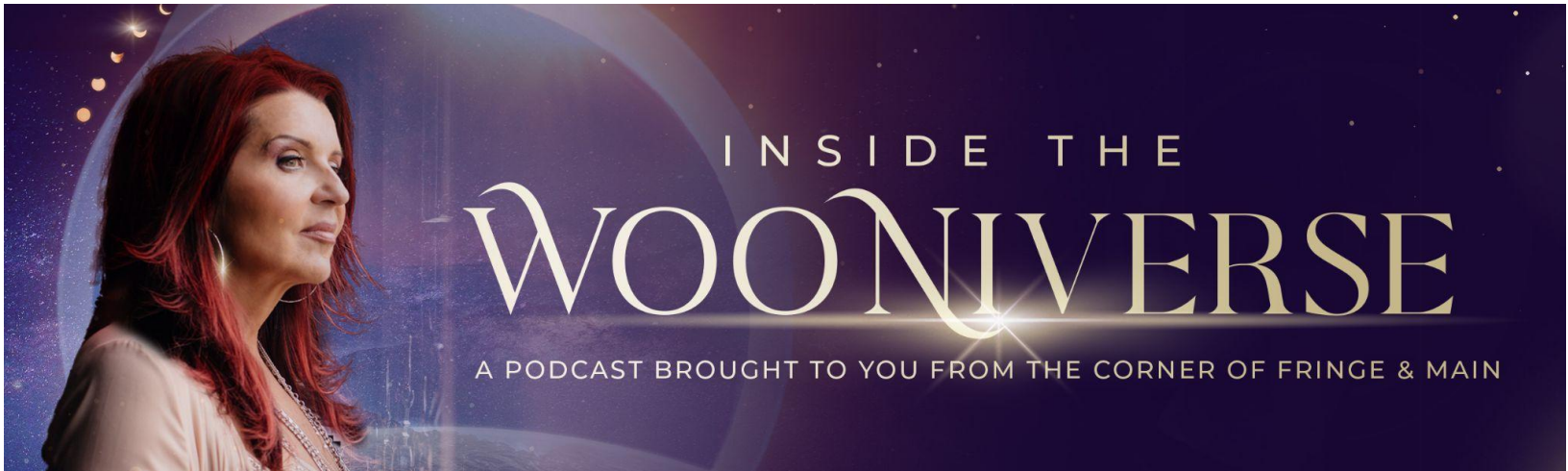
I came about it with my best friend who helped me start the website. Her name is [Christina Shenimui 00:09:24]. And she's a first generation Chinese-American lesbian from Brooklyn. Okay. So I was like, you know what we should do. We were like in our mid-20s and I said, "We should really just start a website where we gather all the things that have helped us make sense of personality, relationships, finances, intimacy, the whole thing. And she was like, "I love it. We should think about maybe calling it queer something." And I was like, "Okay, Queer Cosmos. And to queer is to question, to evaluate, to edit, to audit certain things. And so that's really what's been baked into the cake of my work, is how do I question and queer up every theory that I read? And just say, "Well okay, certain astrologers say this, but what do clinicians say? What do marriage and family therapist have to put forward?"

Colette:

Right.

Colin:

That's always been my inquiry and access into these things is, how do we make sure that this is true?



Colette:

I love that, the inquiry piece. I love that you inquire.

Colin:

Yeah.

Colette:

You have such a brilliant mind and you open it to everything and say, "Well, I'm not going to just take what you say, what else is said?" And then can we come together somewhere in the middle and find the thread that fits right. Fits for me.

Colin:

Exactly.

Colette:

Or fits for you because it's not all one size fits all.

Colin:

No, it is not. You couldn't have said it any better. And I think sometimes not just astrologers, but a lot of seekers on personal development need to remember that. A function of critical intelligence is information from multiple sources.

Colette:

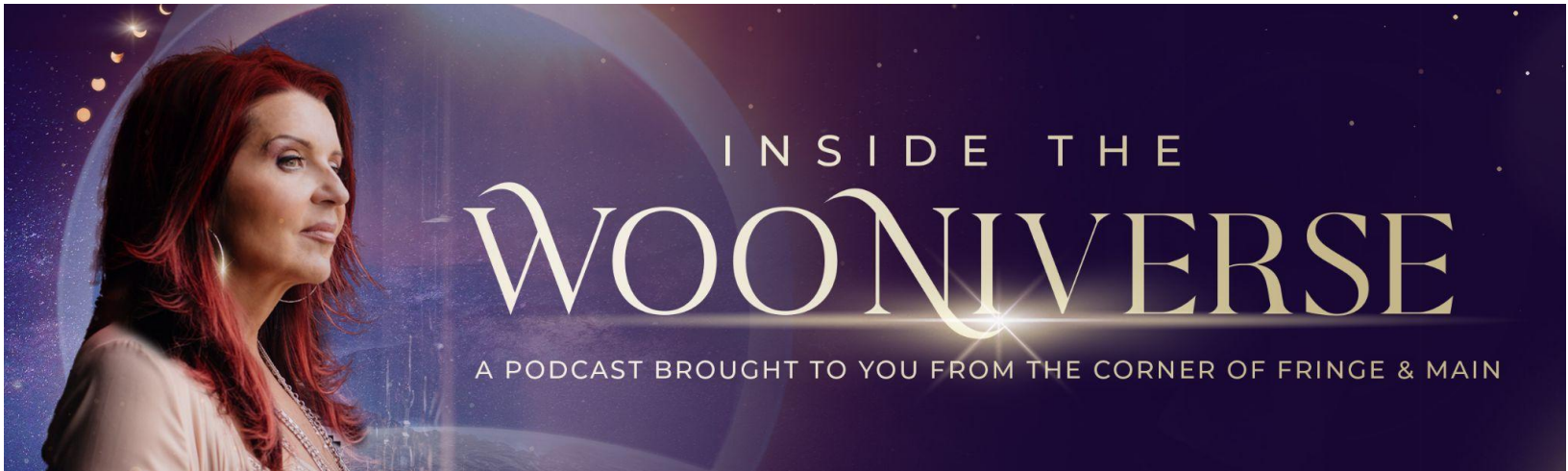
Yes. I'm like you too. I question everything, it should drive my parents crazy. Why?

Colin:

Everything, you do.

Colette:

My dad would go, "Because I said so." Because after a while the why-ing was like, why is it this way? Why couldn't it be that way? Why? Why? Why?



Colin:

Libra rising, I love it.

Colette:

So let's talk a little bit more about Queer Cosmos.

Colin:

Sure.

Colette:

I mean, this obviously just grew and grew and grew so quickly, and it became something. So if you were to tell us how would we be able to approach astrology in a more inclusive way, which is the foundation of Queer Cosmos.

Colin:

Correct. Yeah.

Colette:

How would we do that?

Colin:

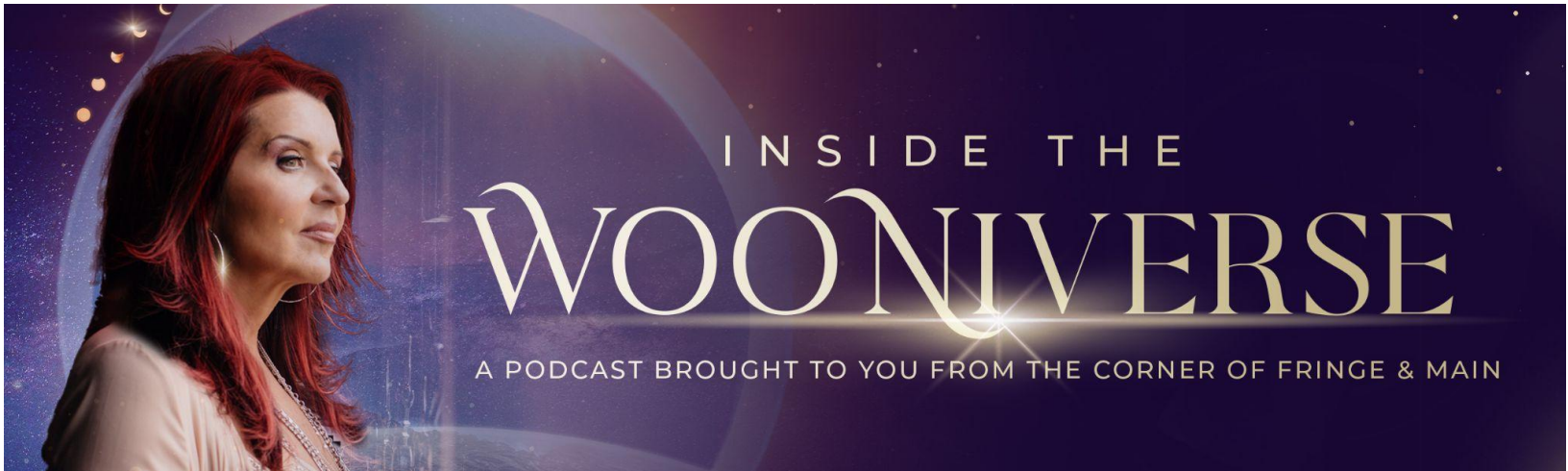
That's a great question. I think that we would actually start, this is relatively new. I didn't know this at the time, but I think that we would start by having a broad understanding of what social workers have to say related to strength-based assessments.

Colette:

Wow.

Colin:

As opposed to deficit-based analysis and a lot of astrologers can dance in that territory. Oh, your chart's missing this. You know what your chart doesn't have? And it's like, I don't fucking care. Can you tell me what I do have, come on. That doesn't help.



Colette:

Right. What do I have?

Colin:

Hello, what strengths am I working with? Girl, help me. I'm talking to you not to figure out what I don't have. Thank you so much. And so strength-based assessments, also power dynamics. What does it mean to have a healthy sense of generative power? And then I think that astrologers could benefit beautifully from just a quick crash course on relational psychodynamics to make it more inclusive. Because they are approached on a wide range of life-defining decisions and behaviors. And I want to ask them, when they speak with an astonishing level of expertise and certainty, where did you get this information from and can I see your work-cited page? Because if you're talking about the top of your head just because of what astrology says, I'm going to need you to expand your lexicon. Okay.

Colette:

Ooh.

Colin:

And that's... You're like, oh drama. I love it.

Colette:

No, I love you. I love you, because I really believe that the lexicon is too narrow for so many things. I think that our vocabulary is limited. I think language is limited. I think we need more words in the English language.

Colin:

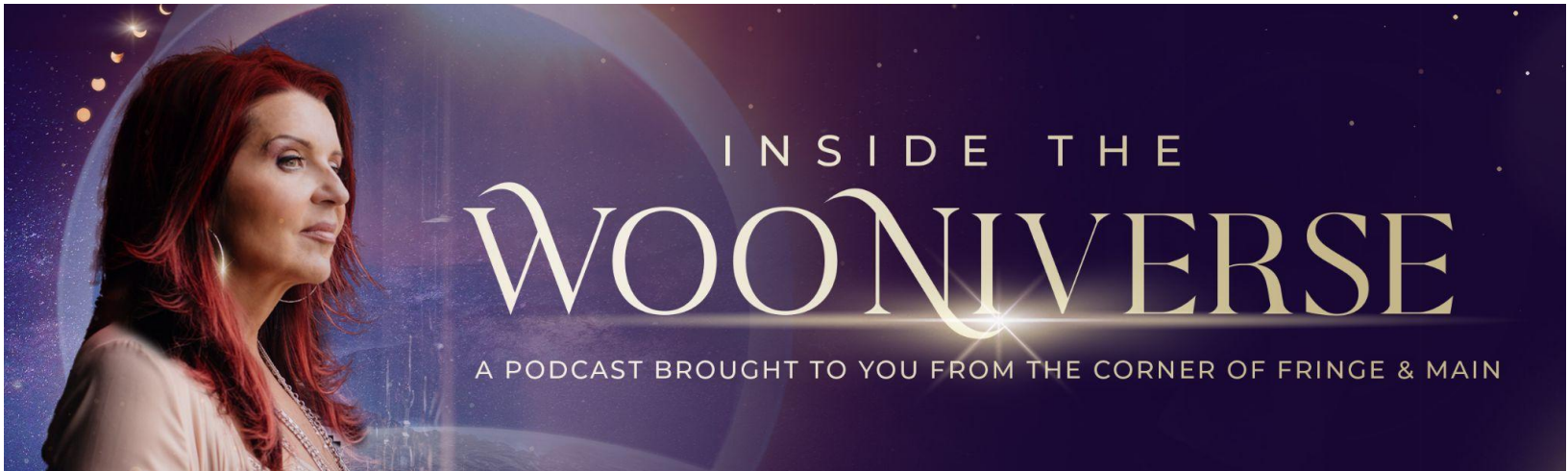
Hello. Hello.

Colette:

No, it's so true. And we have a limitation on the lexicon.

Colin:

We do.



Colette:

And we must, if we are going to move into this new world, we have to expand it.

Colin:

Thank you.

Colette:

We just need to add things. We don't need to shove things into anything or make it different. We just need more.

Colin:

We need more, yeah. And I think it was an Austrian philosopher, Ludwig Wittgenstein who said the limits of our language define the limits of our world.

Colette:

Right, the limits of our language define the limits of our world, I know. What I really got was the fact and it was the big epiphany for me is like, we need a broader language. We need to expand our language. Our entire society is dependent on that. And that is the biggest issue here. And again, you really underlined that in your body of work.

Colin:

Thank you.

Colette:

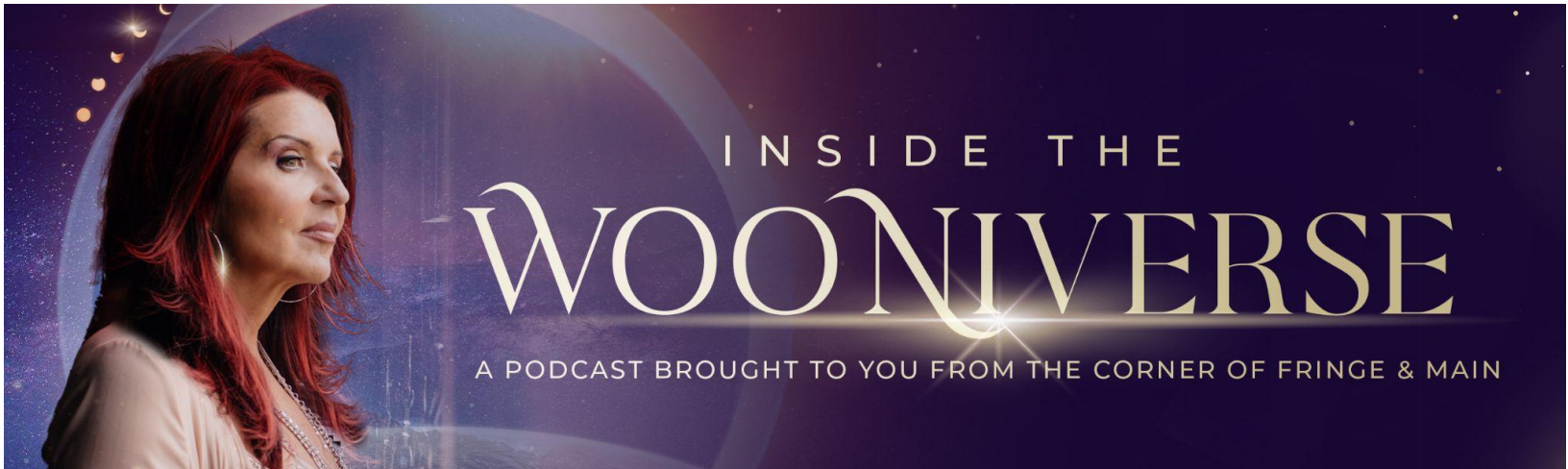
You're so welcome. How important is the application of psychology when it comes to astrological interpretations? I'm a [inaudible 00:14:02]-

Colin:

Oh, beautiful.

Colette:

I'm like all about that. Okay. Oh yeah. And I love how you go with this, but I'd like you to expand a little bit more on that.



Colin:

Sure. Well full disclosure, not a clinician, never studied psychology academically or anything like that. I studied fashion and journalism at Parsons School for Design. So I don't know where I get off thinking I can just talk about psychology sometimes. But what's the purpose of that is because I believe that we are all looking for accurate personal insight. And if some people find that true through spiritual, secular, metaphysical sources like astrology [foreign language 00:14:37], or if they're finding that through a therapist, a clinician, a social worker, a counselor, that's beautiful too. But I think what's beautiful about psychology and astrology is theoretically, they should be putting forward the same thing, which is the healing of the mind and accurate self-awareness. So ultimately it doesn't matter what language, what school of thought we're using. As long as we get to a space of inner peace and insight, more power to you. Go ahead. Yeah.

Colette:

I love that. Well, I think they intersect. I think that's what I was...

Colin:

Oh, 100%.

Colette:

There's an intersection between the two. I think there is a psychology to astrology.

Colin:

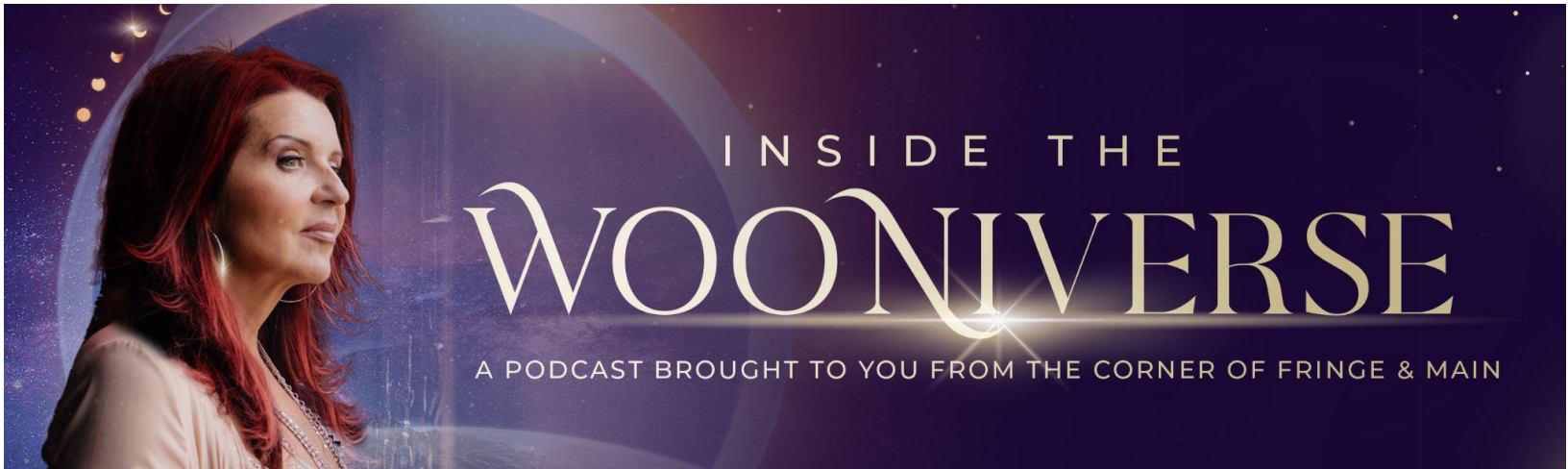
Yes.

Colette:

And so I laughed when you said, "Well, who am I to say that, I studied fashion and design?" But astrology has an innate spirituality and an innate psychology in terms of the way they describe the archetypes, the archetypal energies.

Colin:

What makes me so happy is when I will have a marriage and family therapist or a doctor of clinical psychology on my Instagram, The Gottman Institute just started following me on Instagram. I was like, you have got to be kidding me. So, I'm honored by that because-



Colette:

That's great.

Colin:

I know because I love the integrative approaches where we can say, "Hey marriage and family therapists and clinical psychologists, what do you have?" And they can say, "Hey Colette and Colin, what about you witches? What are you offering here?" So we could just provide what we share. And I love the cross collaboration. It's beautiful when it's done really well. Yeah.

Colette:

Yeah. That's what I really get from your work too. That it's... And you are very humble because you write like an academic.

Colin:

Wow.

Colette:

And you cite everything. So I think-

Colin:

Absolutely.

Colette:

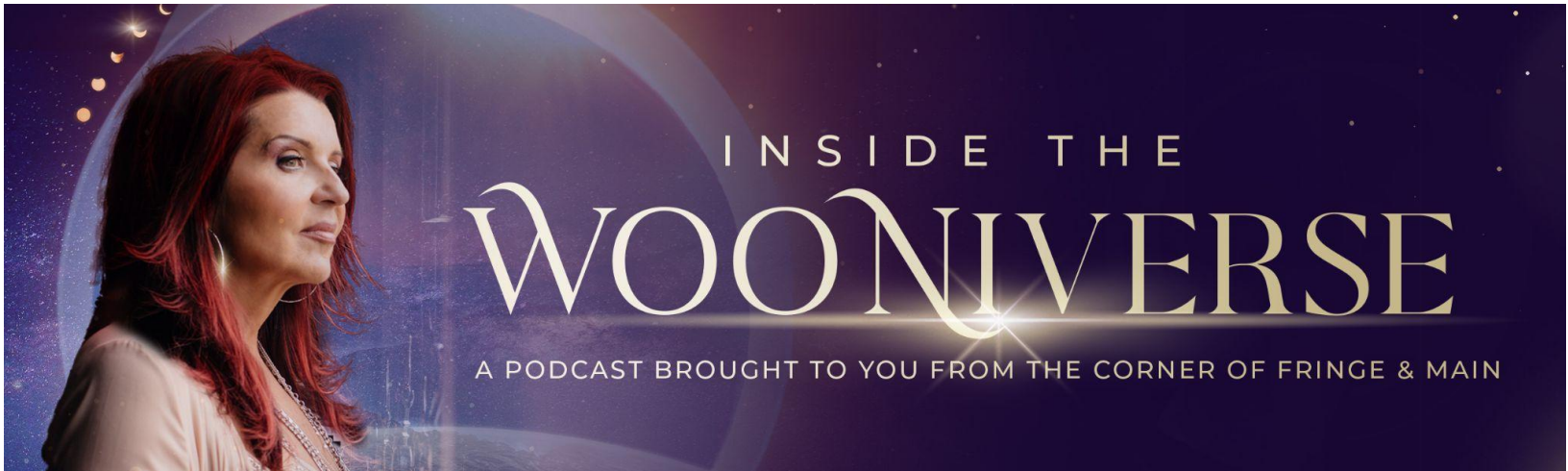
Yeah. This is well-researched. It's well-researched. So, you might say you're not a psychologist, but I saw all the citations, hello. So I read them all. And so yeah, let's just call that what it is. All right. Let's talk about Course In Miracles, which you and I share together.

Colin:

Yes.

Colette:

How have those teachings...



Colin:

Oh my gosh.

Colette:

How have they impacted the work you do?

Colin:

It's in every corner, Colette. And now I have questions for you. It is in every corner because finding A Course In Miracles happened parallel with advancing my study into astrology, my early 20s. And fortunately, speaking of other Jewish Cancers who I love, Marianne Williamson was on Oprah. And I was like, who is this woman talking about forgiveness and this and that. And Marianne is probably one of, if not the most successful teacher of the principals of the course. And I read her book, A Return to Love and then her other books. And then I went to her lectures. I was just like, okay, it's time for me to do the study. And when I completed the workbook of A Course in Miracles, my life was completely different. I was working as an astrologer. I was living primarily with faith and vision.

Colette:

Yeah.

Colin:

And I went through my own, almost baptism by fire, in a sense to hold space for other people in this way. And it was A Course In Miracles that really helped me unlearn the dominant thought system based on fear, and actually apply a thought system based on love of mercy, compassion and forgiveness. And it just works every day for me. Yeah. How about you? How did you find it?

Colette:

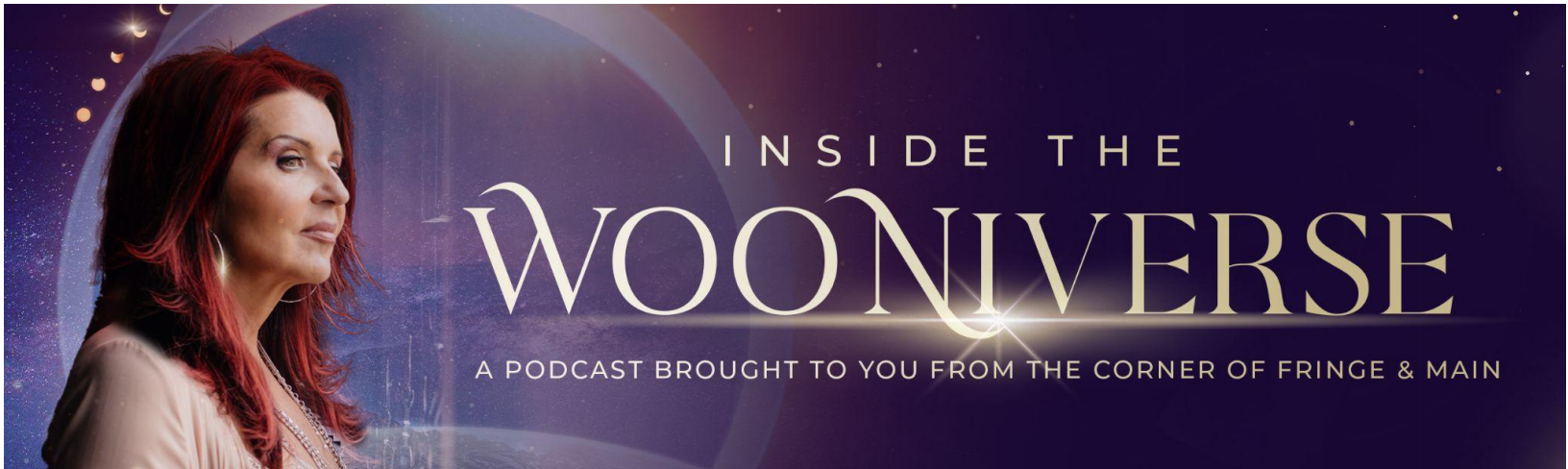
Almost identical to you.

Colin:

Oh really?

Colette:

But many years prior.



Colin:
Okay.

Colette:
I think you were... I don't even know if you were born yet. Anyway, but I got clean and sober 36 years ago and the course was something that all of us got into in this small group of people I hung out with. So we all took A Course In Miracles at the same time as getting sober, at the same time as going to the Tibetan temple to learn it. The meditation and then to get swatted by the Zen temple people, which I didn't go back to. But A Course In Miracles was always adjacent. Then I also saw Marianne Williamson's book when it first came out, because it came out, I think in the late 80s. And I read, A Return to Love, but she wasn't on Oprah at the time. And there was no internet either, but I read the book and I was like, oh my God, I want to be like this person.

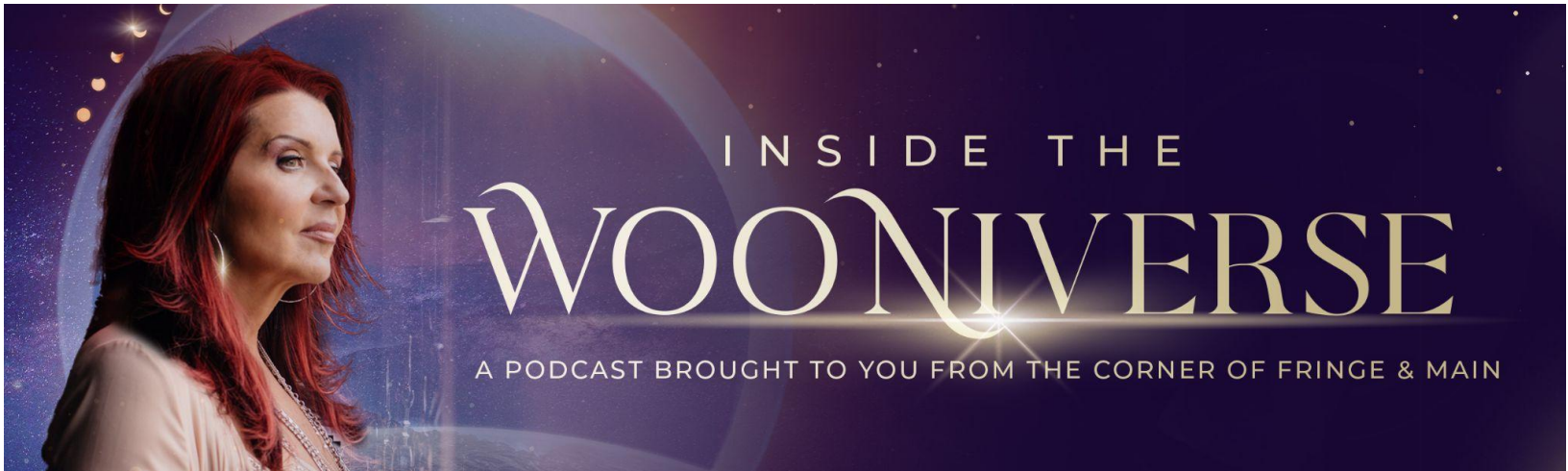
Colin:
Yeah.

Colette:
Marianne Williamson was a huge impact on me too, just like you.

Colin:
Oh wow. Yes.

Colette:
And I think it helped me love myself because I had so much shame. So getting clean and sober, I had a lot of shame and I brought in a lot of baggage. And I think A Course In Miracles, that my oracle cards, they all shoved together with the 12 steps and that's how I'm sitting here today, seriously.

Colin:
I believe it. And that's what it would call, each and every one of us have a highly individualized spiritual curriculum. Would you say, not to use the G word, but maybe how has it helped you experience God?



Colette:

It's okay to use the G word.

Colin:

Okay.

Colette:

Yeah, you're interviewing me now. Okay, good.

Colin:

Yeah, right. Come on it's the WOONIVERSE. Come on. Yeah, I know and not to be that Gemini, but-

Colette:

It's the WOONIVERSE exactly. So I have no problem with the word God, I have a different vision of the word God. I was raised by the white guy in the sky who was angry and jealous and mean and nasty. And the one that I thought, and also very loving, thank you very much. And giving me every reason to be alive, etc. But I also felt that God was following me around with the fly swatter going, you're bad. Slap. So I had to redefine my understanding of God. So I no longer see it as an old white man in the sky. I see it as a consciousness and it's beloved, it's loving. And I had no problem with the Christian language in that, because I also went to Unity Church, which I loved.

Colin:

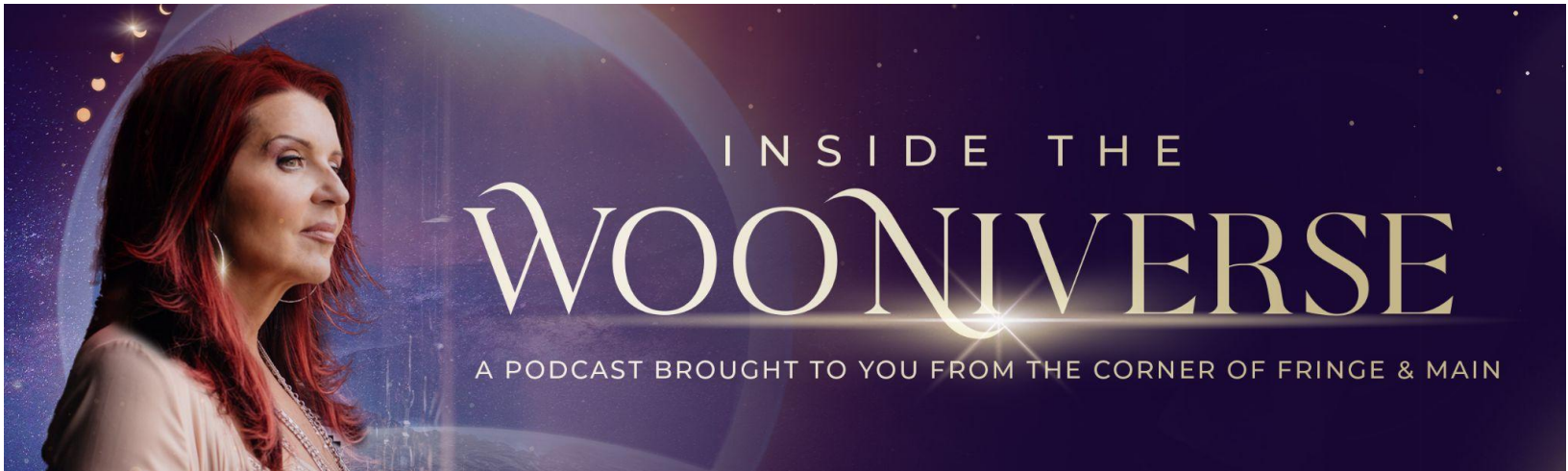
Cool, yeah.

Colette:

The concept of God became higher power then became conscious universe. So it's just interchangeable for me, but it's no longer the religious or the monotheistic religious vision of that. It's different.

Colin:

Yeah. Now that's beautiful.



Colette:

I had to give God a new..

Colin:

A makeover.

Colette:

Yeah. A makeover. I gave God a makeover. Oh my God, that's very funny.

Colin:

It's truly, a liberalizing one because God is joy in levity between friends. It's just here.

Colette:

Yeah.

Colin:

It's in these spaces.

Colette:

Yeah.

Colin:

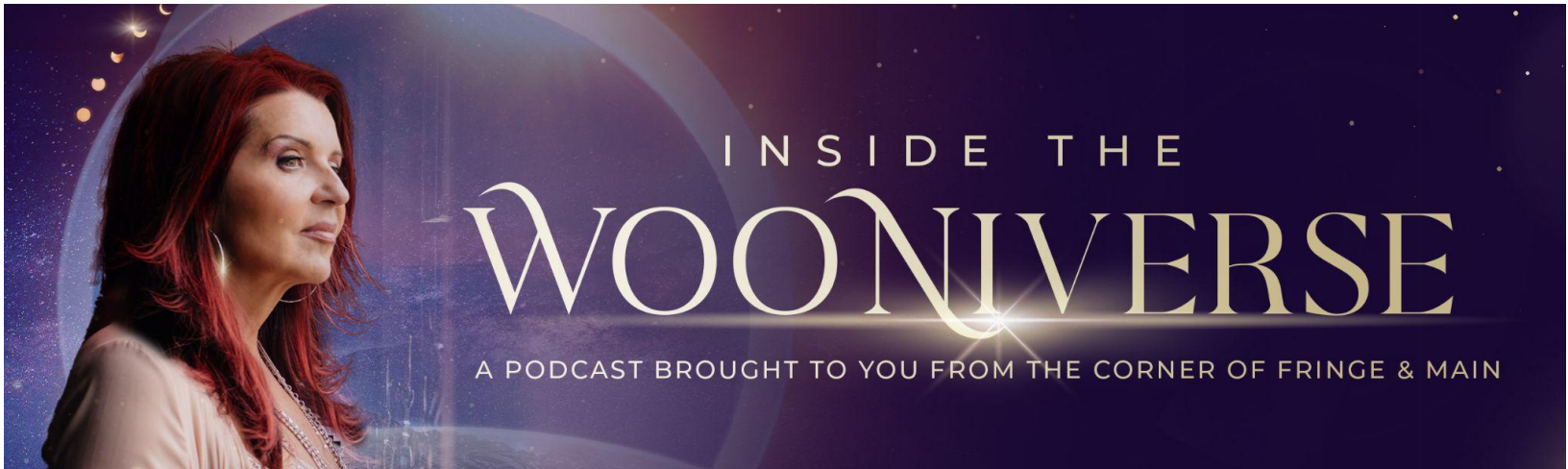
So that's beautiful. I'm so glad that you had that experience with it.

Colette:

And what about you? Tell me about your experience.

Colin:

Well, it really just interestingly enough, because she's been on my heart today. I lost a friend in a very freak accident back in 2017. So when you were telling me about your friend who you were just thinking of, I'm like, oh, isn't that interesting? And so she died just about two and a half months before my workbook was over for the first time. And she was from England and she had this bright, beautiful purple hair. And whenever she was in New York and people would see her,



they would say, "Oh my God, we love your hair." So she was always known as purple energy. So then her family, because her funeral was technically in New York. So her British friends and family weren't able to have a funeral for her. They brought everybody to England and they had a funeral for her on her birthday. And then at the end of the birthday party, Colette, her father, unbeknownst to everybody hired like a pyrotechnic firework service who then let off purple fireworks into the sky on her birthday.

Colette:
I'm going to cry.

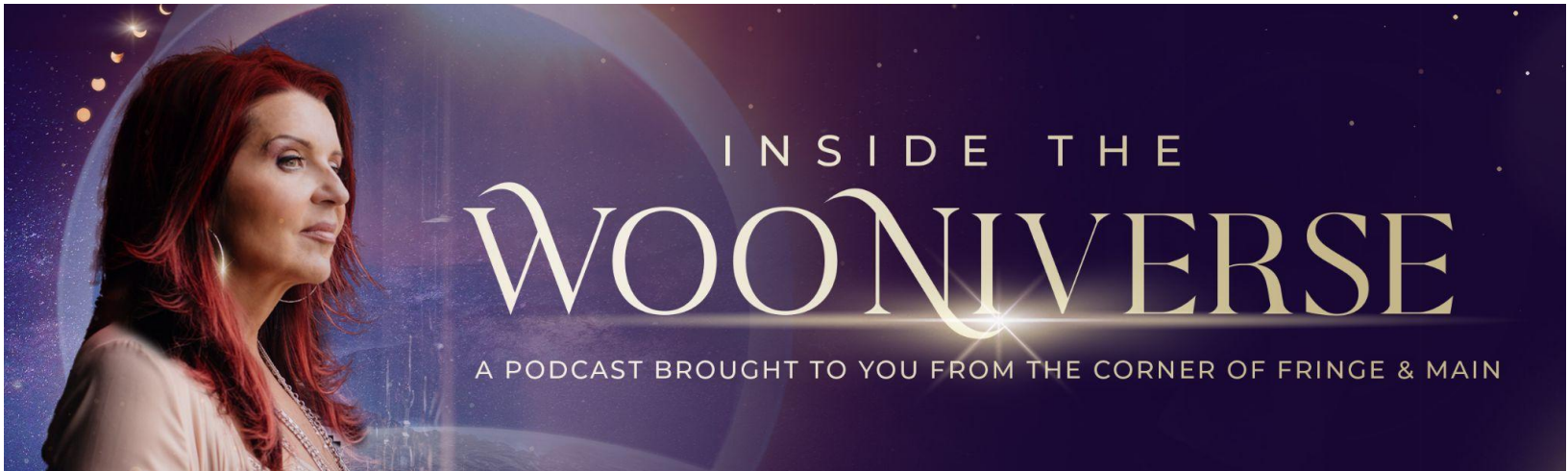
Colin:
And it was in that moment. And I had just started to finish the workbook lesson when I was seeing the purple fireworks and I was listening to everybody sing my friend, happy birthday. And I felt the presence of God. And I was just like, I can't pretend I haven't felt this way. I can't act like I haven't experienced this state of grace. And I don't know if I would've had the consciousness to really just inhabit that fully if it wasn't for the workbook. And now that it's in my heart and now that my friend is helping me and doing all of these things, I just live from deep faith, I think deep faith in God and what my life has become.

Colette:
Deep faith.

Colin:
Yeah.

Colette:
I love that. And it's so true. Deep faith, it is. It's so true. And God doesn't know the boundaries that humanity has placed on each other. God doesn't other anybody.

Colin:
No.



Colette:

That's the one thing too that we are all children. Yes, we are all the same. There is no othering ever, never ever. And that's what I also felt. It was very important for me to know that early on.

Colin:

Beautiful.

Colette:

Yeah. And you do add such a spiritual component to astrology and a beautiful metaphorical lens. Were you always such a great storyteller? I bet.

Colin:

I don't know, maybe. I think I noticed when I was learning about astrology, Colette, that something happened where when my Gemini mouth would run, who knew people would listen. I'm like, oh God [crosstalk 00:23:04].

Colette:

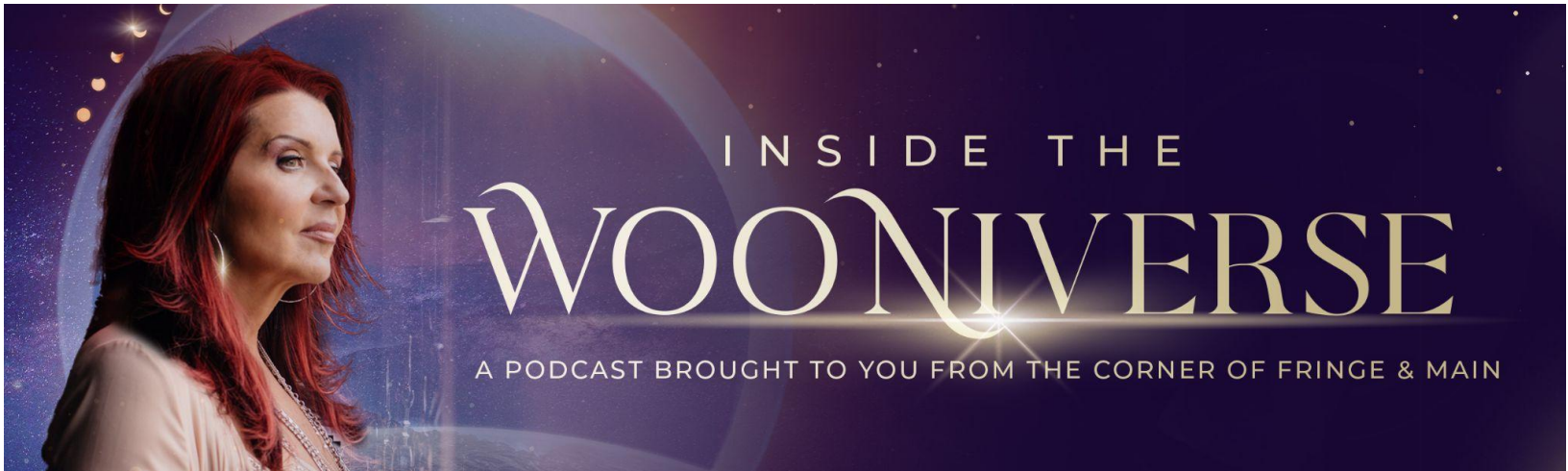
Who knew?

Colin:

So maybe, but I think that over time I've started to really just study the craft and practice it because I could tell that I have this Gemini telling for a reason. I might as well use it, but I never really knew that growing up or anything like that. It almost took me by surprise when my career started and now I'm just like, okay, I guess I got something to say here we go. And then that's it.

Colette:

What I love about that. There was no human ambition that was directing this. And this is why I believe you were chosen for this. Because you were just now saying this story, I didn't know. Well, they must have listened. I guess I have... And I find myself here and here I am. And because you didn't go out looking for it. You were just basically saying, "Let me be who I'm supposed to be." And the next thing you know, boom, there you are on Cosmopolitan no less.



Colin:

And you know what's crazy, Colette. This is why I'm glad I'm talking to you because if I shared this with any business coach or strategist, they'd be like, so you're telling me you just thought to speak and talk and all of this happened. And I'm like, yeah, you're absolutely right. I had no professional ambition. I just said, "Okay, well I was fired from this job. I've never been able to work for a successful space again, or before rather, let me just start this astrology thing and see what happens. And then what was wild Colette is back to my friend. The day I was flying to England for her birthday was the day that Cosmo contacted me.

Colette:

Wow.

Colin:

And my website was only published and live for two months. How they-

Colette:

Two months and they called, oh wow.

Colin:

Two months. Come on now. Yeah. And I was just like...

Colette:

Sounds like she orchestrated that.

Colin:

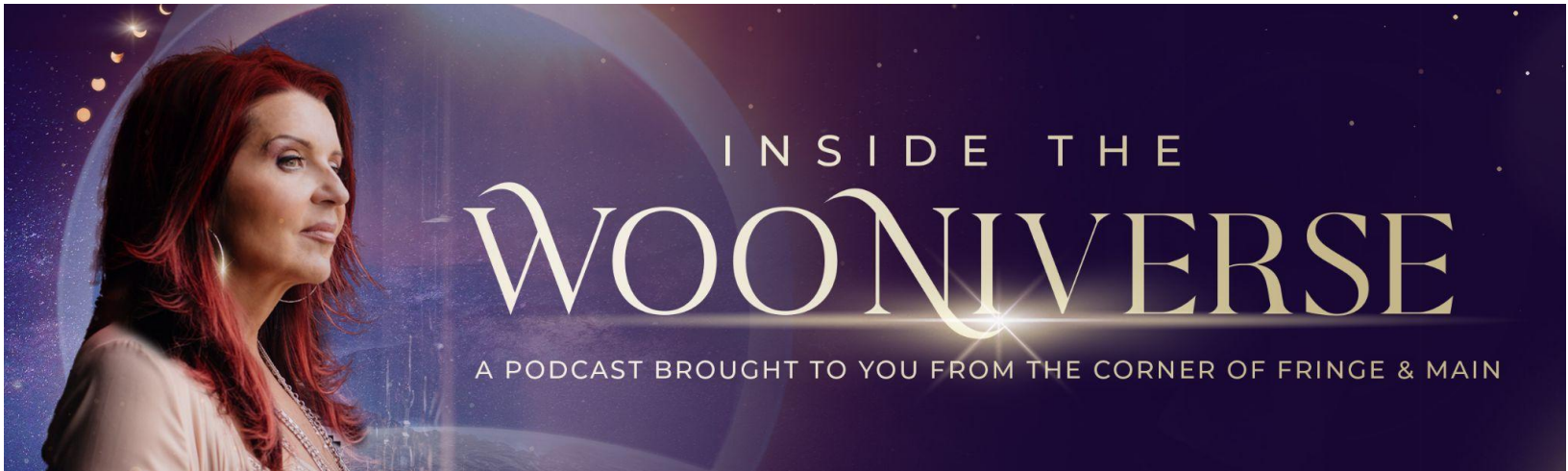
You know it. And she's a Virgo. They're always orchestrating, aren't they? Okay.

Colette:

They're orchestrating.

Colin:

Yeah, always behind the scenes, pulling some strings. And that has been my life from the books to everything that the world would consider successful. I never even thought to put anything out



there. I swear that's the God's honest truth. So I'm glad that was present. And you know I'm telling the truth.

Colette:

And I tell everybody that too, and I know it's so opposite to the strategy, which is, don't worry about the form. Don't worry, just feel the essence. Just say, "Use me as you will. Thy will be done through me." And it'll show up. Because I think we spend an inordinate amount of time chasing things, chasing the money, chasing what we look like, chasing the, outer stuff when the bottom line is that we don't have to go chasing anything. It'll come. It will come. We do have to get up and leave the... We can't be arm chair, astronauts. Okay. We can't just sit there and go, hello.

Colin:

I'm in space.

Colette:

Come and find me. I'm in space. Where's the stars?

Colin:

I love that impression. I love that expression.

Colette:

So what do you think everybody needs to know about astrology right now?

Colin:

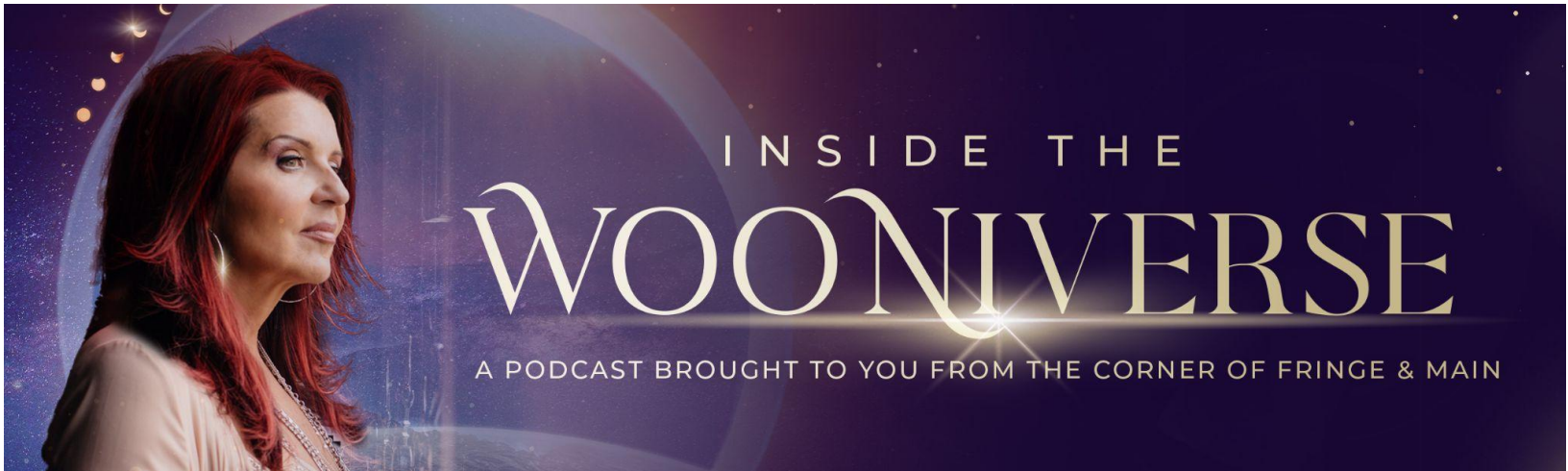
That's a great question.

Colette:

Because I think that the time has come that we should have it, kids should be taught this in school.

Colin:

Yeah, I know. Well, all of a sudden now my twin sisters open to it. I'm like, oh are you? Because she specializes in child psychology and child development. And now she's like, okay, I see what



you mean about my daughter. I'm like, I told you she was a Virgo, so anyway. And also to that point around the form, A Course In Miracles talks about that.

Colette:
Yeah.

Colin:
I'll answer the question about astrology, but I just wanted to say there was that relationship there that A Course In Miracles talks about the distinction between content and form really beautifully. And says that, a lot of us are so preoccupied with the form and not the content of our work. And it would be akin to me saying, "I think I'm going to buy the picture frame before I buy the picture." And we're obsessed with the picture frame.

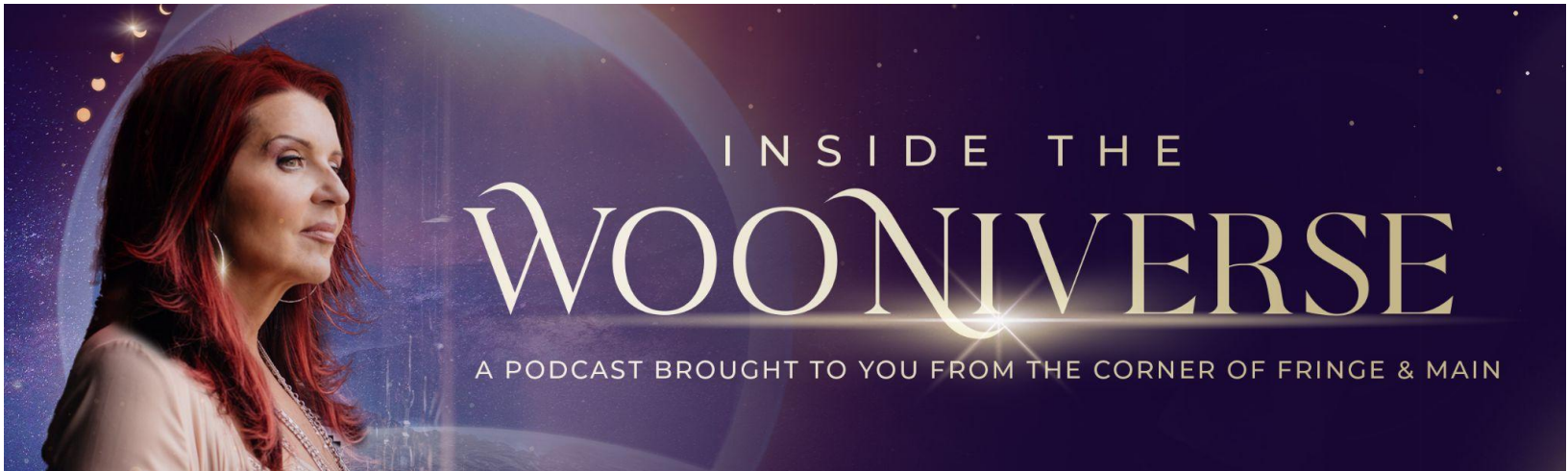
Colette:
Right.

Colin:
And like, okay, but what about the offerings? What about the loving intention by which you're excited about things. Don't worry about the picture frame and the content, the form, that'll come later. Inhabit the content. You said essence, same thing. So of course the course had something to say about that.

Colette:
Essence and content. Beautiful.

Colin:
Similar of words, for the same thing. Yeah, I know. And it made me think of the picture frame metaphor. And I think what I would want people to know about astrology is actually, this is provocative, but I don't think it's a belief system.

Colette:
Good.



Colin:

Yeah. Unpopular opinions, here we go.

Colette:

Go ahead, honey.

Colin:

I know. Come on-

Colette:

Be provocative.

Colin:

Come on. You can do it baby.

Colette:

Come on, we're in the WOONIVERSE, you go.

Colin:

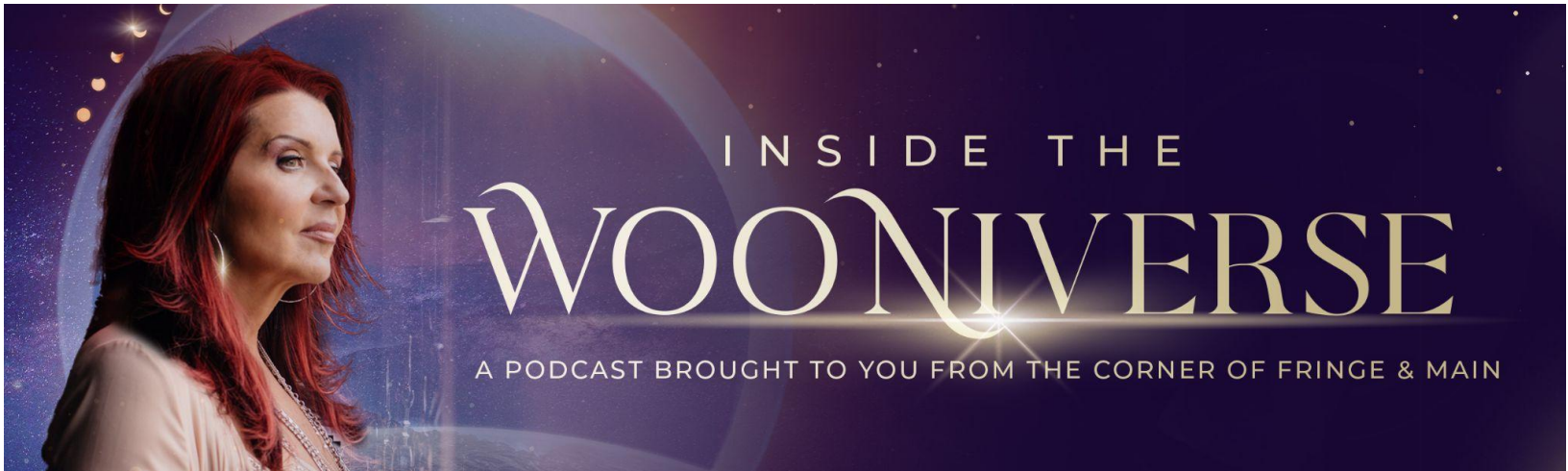
That's true and you provide that space. I don't believe astrology is a belief system. I think it's an experience. So if people were to ask me, "You believe in astrology? You believe in that crap?" I always say, "No, I don't actually. I don't believe in astrology. I experience astrology."

Colette:

Yeah.

Colin:

I can't give you my experience, Johnny Salami but what I can tell you is, if you think about it, apply it and try it, tell me that your life doesn't change in two to three weeks. And if you have those results and results of the ultimate guru. Now, whether or not we believe in things, come back and see me. Or I hope you find whatever it is that you find that gives you a great insight, self-actualization and relational health. But I'm pretty convinced and astrology works for me. And if you have something to say about that, I'm all ears but I doubt it. Come on.



Colette:

Oh, I love you. Oh my God. That's so good.

Colin:

I love you more.

Colette:

Well, and I think what you just said with it being experiential, because I agree and people say, "I don't believe in that." I said, "Look, it's not about believing in it, experience it. It's experience that will tell you if something is true or not. It is not me telling you what it is. You just experience it for yourself, integrate it. Does it feel right for you?" Etc.

Colin:

Exactly.

Colette:

And it's so individual, even though that there are, the whole zodiac as of 12, but there's so many different combinations that make up a person. So many millions of little tiny mathematical things you guys got to know about, which I can't handle.

Colin:

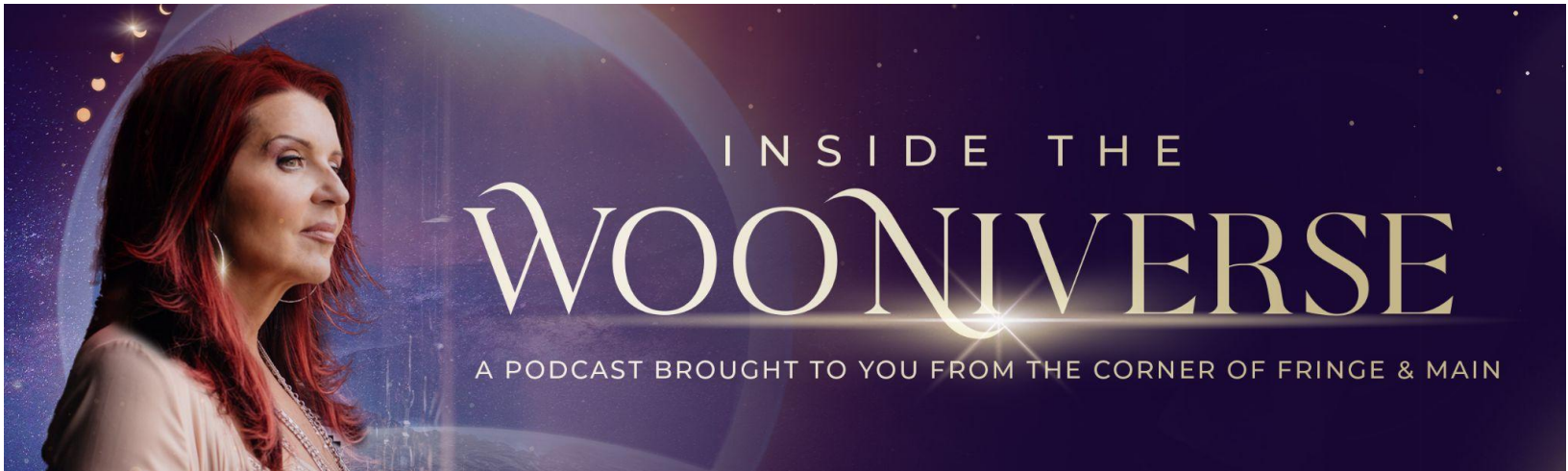
We all have our strengths.

Colette:

But it's the minutia. We all have our strengths, I know. Oh my gosh. Well my chart had to be rectified because I used to tell Deborah, our mutual friend that my Virgo was broken because I had a Virgo rising. It didn't make any sense at all in my chart. And of course it wasn't right because it was the wrong birth time. I was like, what is this Virgo stuff? That is so not me. Oh my God.

Colin:

But I love that you knew. You were like, something doesn't add up here.



Colette:

That's actually a really good example I just gave you of the experience of astrology because the experience that I had of what I was told was not right.

Colin:

Totally.

Colette:

But when my chart was rectified and I got the right birth time, everything, the experience of who I was, I have to tell you this, it was like I heard angels singing. It's finally me.

Colin:

Yes.

Colette:

It was only a couple years ago that I had the chart redone.

Colin:

Wow.

Colette:

I'm like, this is wrong. This is so wrong. This just isn't working. And then it was like, this is so right.

Colin:

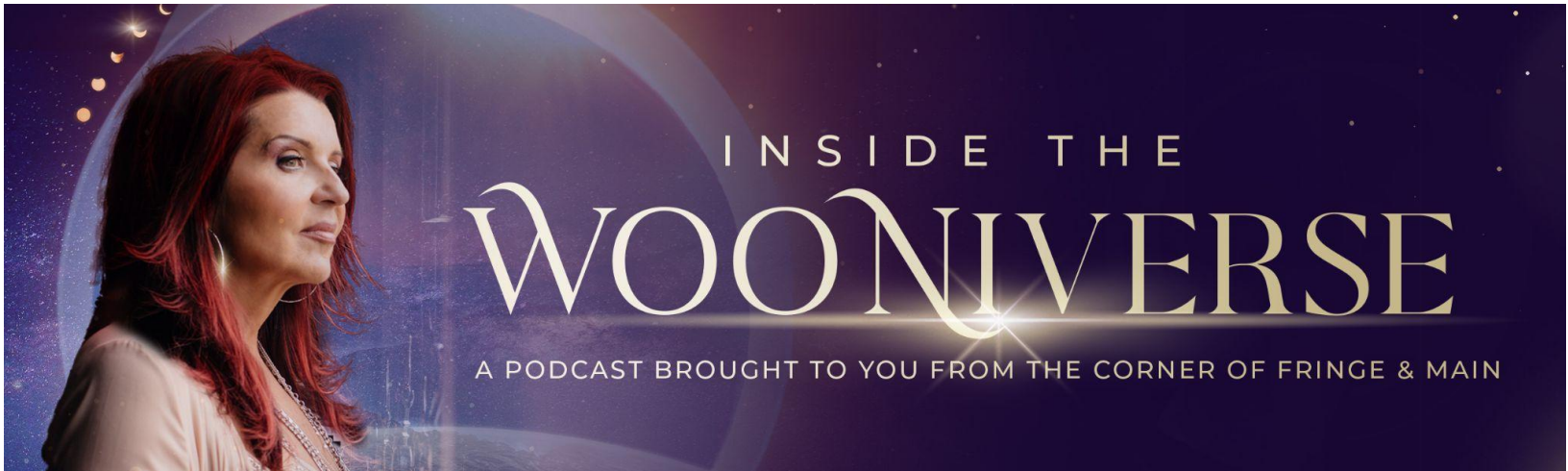
I'm so glad Libra found you. I'm so glad.

Colette:

So would you like to pull a card with me and say, "What does the universe want me and Colin to explore when we're..." Oh the thinker in protection. Overthinking.

Colin:

Okay. Yeah. A high.



Colette:

So when do we over-intellectualize? When do we over-intellectualize and how does it cut us off from our spiritual connection?

Colin:

Well, let me spitball with you on this. Okay. So I think that really another way of saying overthinking is actually conspiracy theory writing. And what do I mean by that? So when we are confronted with an absence of information, and we're emotionally flammable or emotionally activated about a thing, we will latch on to about two to three data points and then write this extraordinary narrative rich with projection, fear and assumption. And that's in social terminology called the definition of a conspiracy theory. And a lot of us because we're overthinking or actually just telling ourselves conspiracy theories. And we tell ourselves stories, live from these stories, show our ass from these stories, when what we can do instead of overthinking is simply tell people, "Hey, can I just have a minute with you? The story I'm telling myself about why you said what you did or why you did what you did is because you're mad at me because of A, B and C and one, two, three. Can you just fact check that for accuracy with me please?" Just talk, bring-

Colette:

And that is so true is just talk. Yeah. I have a girlfriend. She and I do the same thing, we don't talk for a while. We're both super busy.

Colin:

Of course.

Colette:

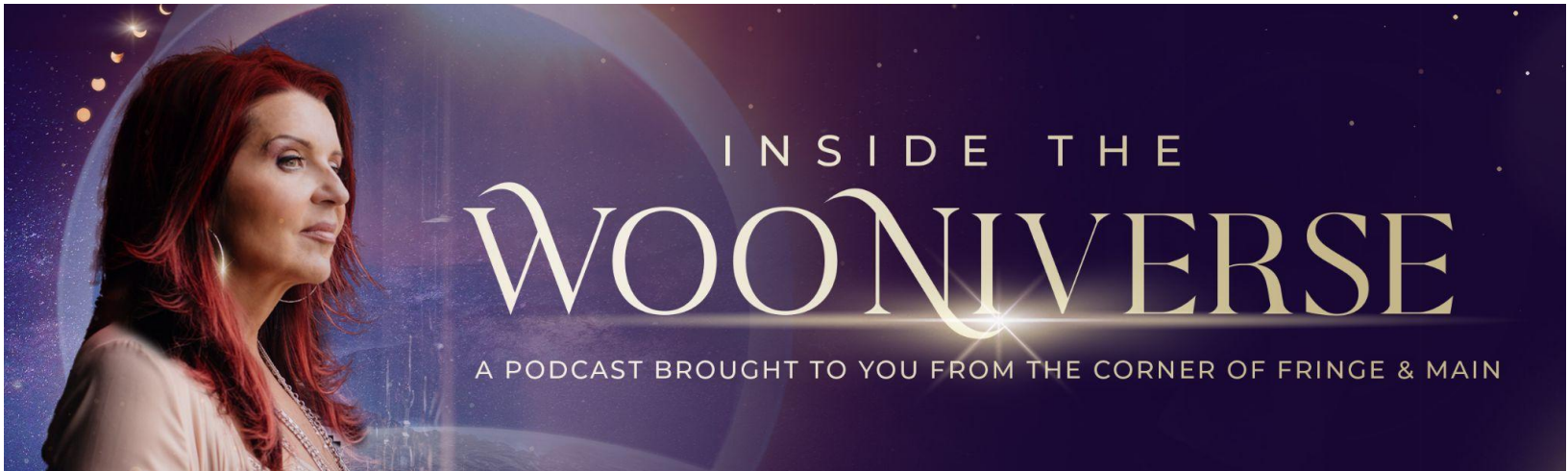
Are you mad at me? And by the time we talk, we've both created a conspiracy theories-

Colin:

Of course.

Colette:

Just like the way you said it in our heads.



Colin:
In our heads, right.

Colette:
That had nothing, in fact whatsoever. I'm like, oh my God, I can't believe you said that. And then we're both like, [inaudible 00:31:54], we're both Cancers. So it's just very funny. But I want to further on that one.

Colin:
Yeah, do it.

Colette:
Because I really want to further on this conversation.

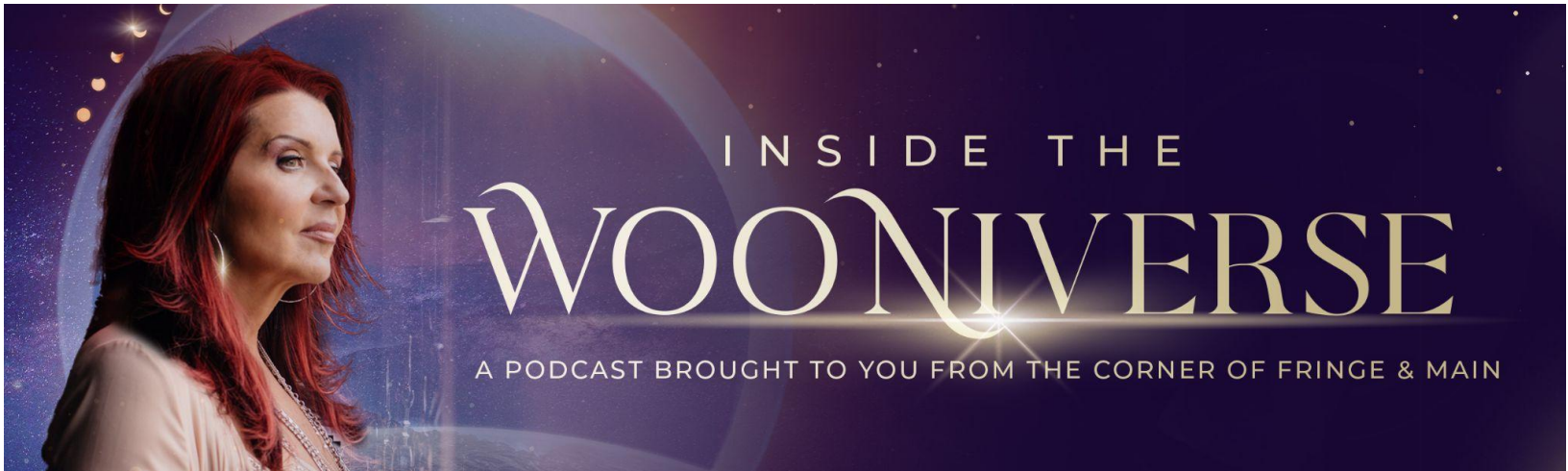
Colin:
Sure.

Colette:
Because what you said, bringing up the concept of conspiracy theory.

Colin:
Oh Jesus.

Colette:
It's more than the conspiracy theories that are in the news. That's what we do to ourselves that if we are behind enemy lines and we haven't connected to spirit because the whole question was, the question is how do we stay in alignment with spirit? And what else do we need to talk about? And this is what we have to watch out for. Is that, if we haven't begun our day plugged into our higher power, if we don't make our higher power our primary reality, we are more likely to get into conspiracy theories because that's when we go back into shame, blame, projection. What were the three things that you said? You said [crosstalk 00:32:40]. I don't remember.

Colin:
Yeah, no, you nailed it. Fear, projection, assumption. Yeah. Shame.



Colette:

And all of us are being invited into those dark clouds without them even having any reality to us. It's like here, I want you to think this way and feel bad about yourself. No, I don't think so. I think I want to come back because I have a higher power and I believe that there is hope and I want to be the hope in the world. Therefore, this stuff, this way of thinking and it does take discipline, I think that's the thing. We do have to have some discipline.

Colin:

We do have to have some discipline. Oh, I couldn't agree more. And then when you and I met for the first time virtually with Deborah, we talked about our morning routines and how they help us and why we try to plug in to do this work because it would be really difficult for us to keep our thoughts sober and our spirit high without a discipline practice.

Colette:

So tell me about yours.

Colin:

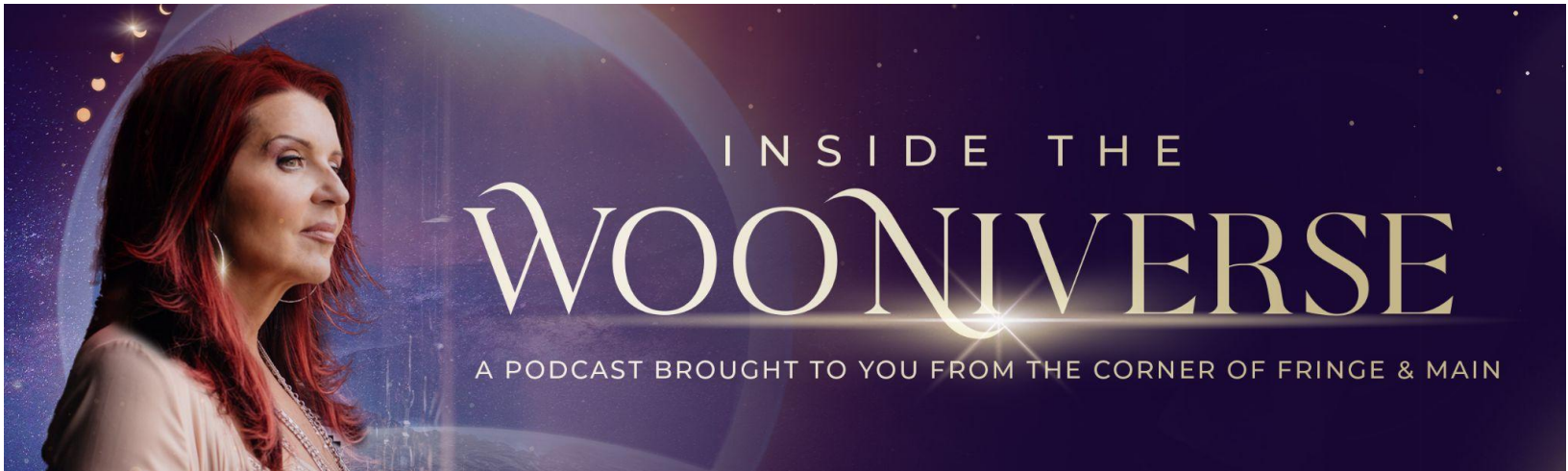
Oh yeah, I just want to say for attribution, the suggestion I just had was Brené Brown. So that's her rising strong process, which is the story I'm telling myself. So people are interested in that. Please go to her literature. And my morning routine is wake up, watch Marianne Williamson's interpretation of A Course In Miracles. She reads it out loud and then she talks about it. Meditate for about five to 10 minutes, three pages of morning pages around that. And then my day begins and I don't type, text, talk or anything to anybody in that space. I have my coffee on my right.

Colette:

Yeah.

Colin:

I listen to music, I get into the zone and then my day begins when I'm finished on the third page. How about you?



Colette:

Almost the same.

Colin:

Oh, get out.

Colette:

I have to feed the dogs.

Colin:

Okay, feed your dogs...

Colette:

Yeah, I have three dogs. So they have to be fed first.

Colin:

Yes.

Colette:

Yeah. But I do a pretty much the same thing. I actually also watch Marianne Williamson. That's very funny.

Colin:

Wow.

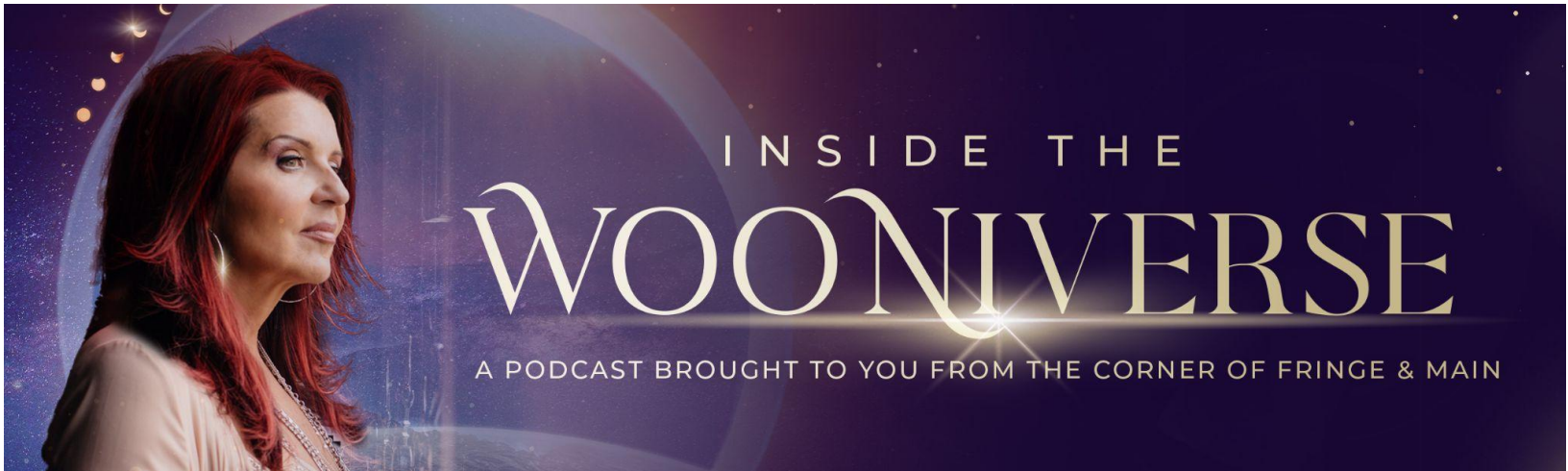
Colette:

I've signed up to her recent thing and I find it, I take what I like, leave the rest. I'm not very political, but I love the Course In Miracles, etc. I pray. So I do a prayer. I pull a card.

Colin:

Nice.

Colette:



I pull a card for the day and I ask, "What do I need to reflect on today to stay in alignment with the highest good?" And I always say the same prayer, God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, wisdom to know the difference. Relieve me of the bondage of self so that I may better do Thy will. Let there be light. Thy will be done through me. It's a contemplative prayer. So I said it pretty quick, but I make sure that I ground in it. And then actually usually Marc and I meditate together. My husband and I.

Colin:

Aww.

Colette:

And for much longer, I meditate for half an hour.

Colin:

Good for you.

Colette:

But when we're shooting this podcast, I can't put the headphones on my head because it hurts too much. So I sit in my own office with the music blaring and I do it in there, because I love to meditate to music.

Colin:

Oh, okay.

Colette:

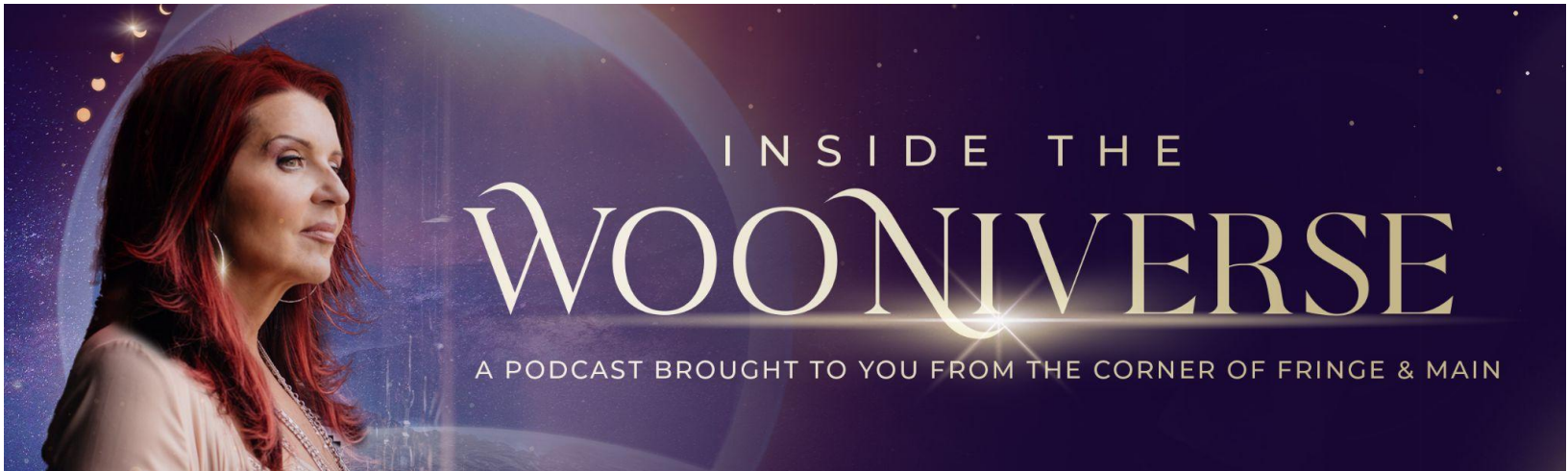
And then I'm good. Then I can text, then I can talk.

Colin:

Yes.

Colette:

I don't do it either. I don't talk to anybody until I'm done. And then I also paint. So that's also part of my morning process, I paint. You do your morning pages, I paint.



Colin:

Yes. There we go. And whatever feels right for you and works. Yeah.

Colette:

Exactly. And I do think that what you talked about, you have a very distinct discipline and you are grounded because of that discipline. And I think that this card reminds all of us. We do need to have a spiritual practice in order for us not to be taken hostage by our own heads. Like I always say, "Well, I'm behind enemy lines if I'm thinking and I haven't meditated."

Colin:

Right.

Colette:

If I'm making up a story.

Colin:

Oh God. Yes. Go ahead.

Colette:

I'm making a story. And also to have self compassion. You have a lot of self-compassion. I think what I've learned about your book, *Queer Cosmos* is an invitation to compassion, I think.

Colin:

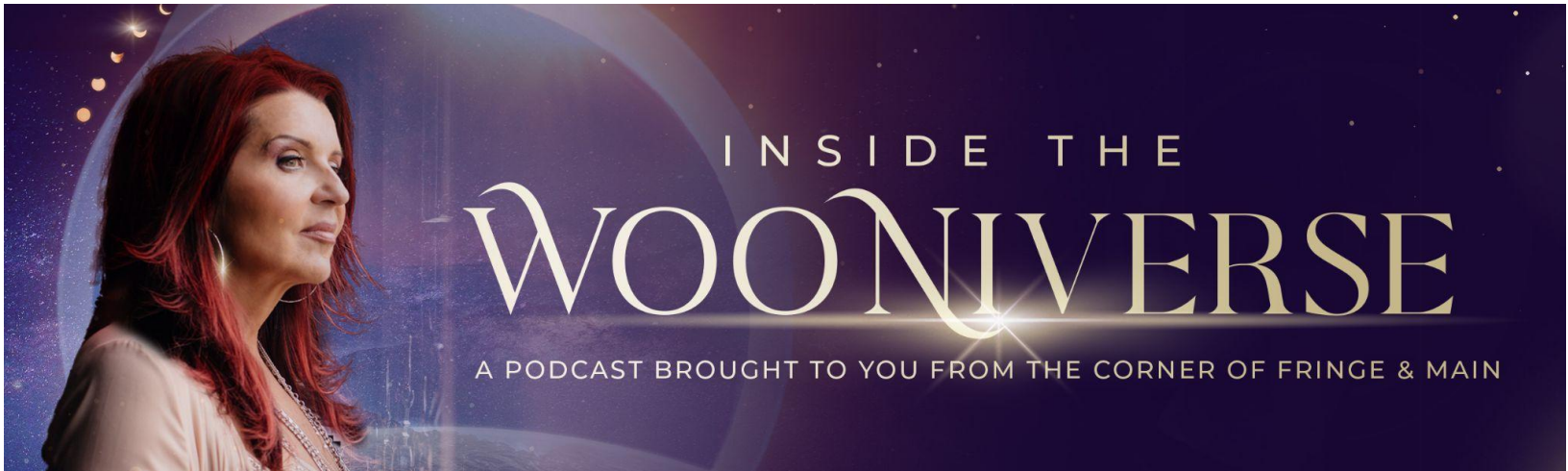
That would make me very happy, to know that's what the reader feels at the end of it. A compassion for self and others. Yes. Wow, thank you.

Colette:

Yeah.

Colin:

That would be my joy to know.



Colette:

Yeah, that's what I felt because you give also such a multiplicity. It's like seeing a diamond, but you gave us 100 facets when normally we only got 10. And it makes us understand each other better.

Colin:

That would make me so happy.

Colette:

Well you did it, I didn't do it.

Colin:

You did it. I'm just saying-

Colette:

Be happy, you wrote it. It would make you happy, well, you are the one that wrote it.

Colin:

I know. That's really such an honor to read. Thank you.

Colette:

So I'm going to ask you a couple last questions.

Colin:

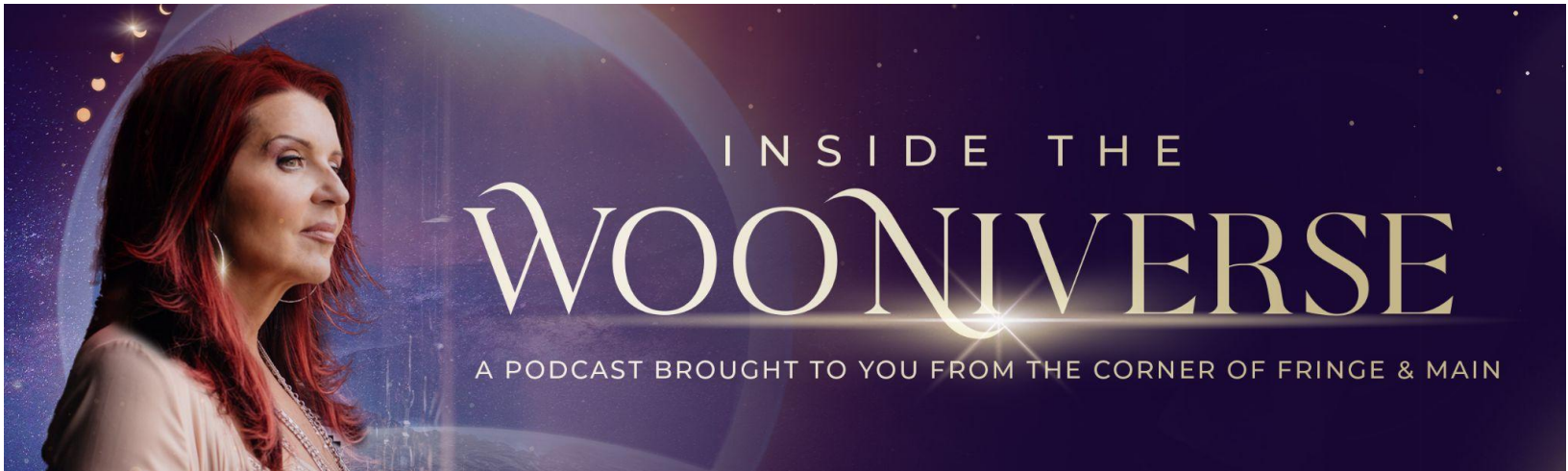
Sure.

Colette:

As we move into an uncertain future, what are some solutions that you might, that you think about as we move forward to some of the challenges?

Colin:

Great question. And I love that you were like, what solutions? Well, I believe that one of the most effective ways to have security and a solution-oriented approach is to actively clarify your two values and situate what behavior supports the living into those values. I don't know a better



path towards security than determining what are my two values. How do I operationalize this into observable behaviors, and how I keep it moving? I haven't found it yet, than that.

Colette:

What are yours?

Colin:

Autonomy and connection. And so you'll appreciate this because you're a new Libra rising. Okay. So Barry Johnson, he is the founder of the Polarity Institute. And he argues that if your values are not in polarity with each other, you're not holding the full paradox, which Carly Young has said is the only symbol that allows us to really understand truth. So a lot of our values could be security and safety. No. We need something like autonomy and connection, or safety, reliability, discovery, and adventure, privacy, vulnerability, innovation, stability. And when you ground and down on those values...

Colette:

I hope you're writing a book on this.

Colin:

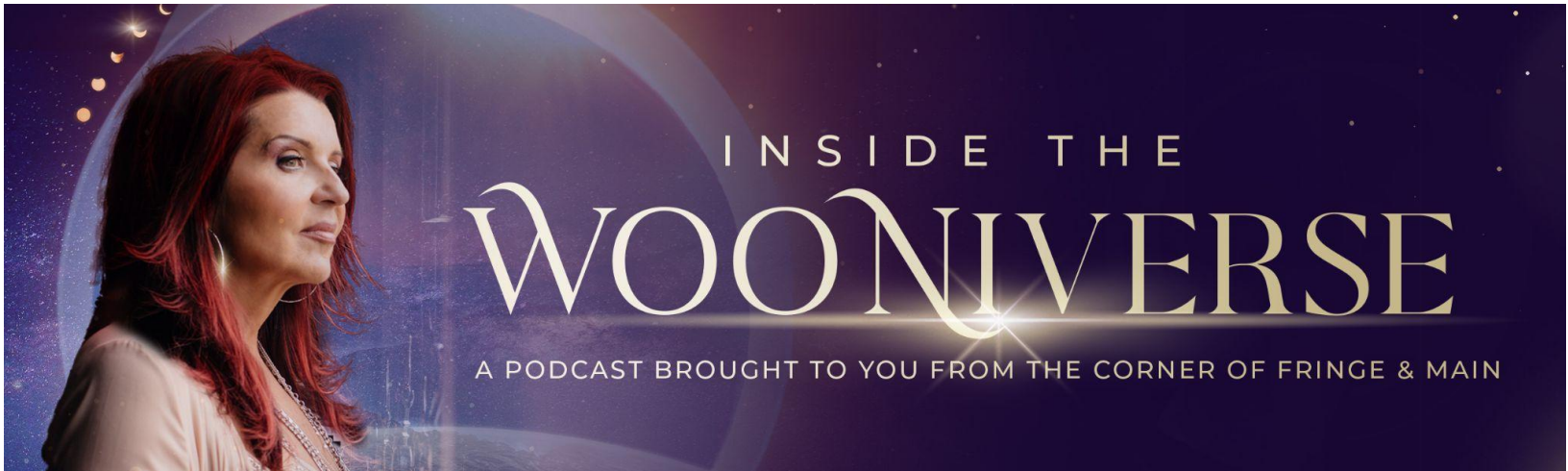
Oh, I haven't thought about this, but maybe I should because Taurus rules my career sector. And I do feel a deep Taurian connection here, but it all comes down to the values. And like Italy as I'm coming at you live from here, this is a behavior in support of my value. I have always wanted to come here and stay here long. And yes, I love my family. So connection is a value, but I need to be here. And I maintain my connection value by having basically daily check-ins with my twin sister and my mom just before they go to work and I FaceTime them so they can feel like they're in Italy with me and there's autonomy and connection.

Colette:

That's amazing. That is amazing.

Colin:

Yeah.



Colette:

Yeah. Is it only limited to two because I identified with four, I also identify with autonomy and connection, but then I also identify with the adventure.

Colin:

I know.

Colette:

And the safety, that's the cancer. And then also, there was six of them that I went for. I was like, wait, which are mine? Which are the two big ones?

Colin:

I like them all.

Colette:

I'm going to have to think about this.

Colin:

Well the literature says, choose only two because that's the whole function of the assignment.

Colette:

Choose only two.

Colin:

If we choose more than two, the research says, we don't even have priorities.

Colette:

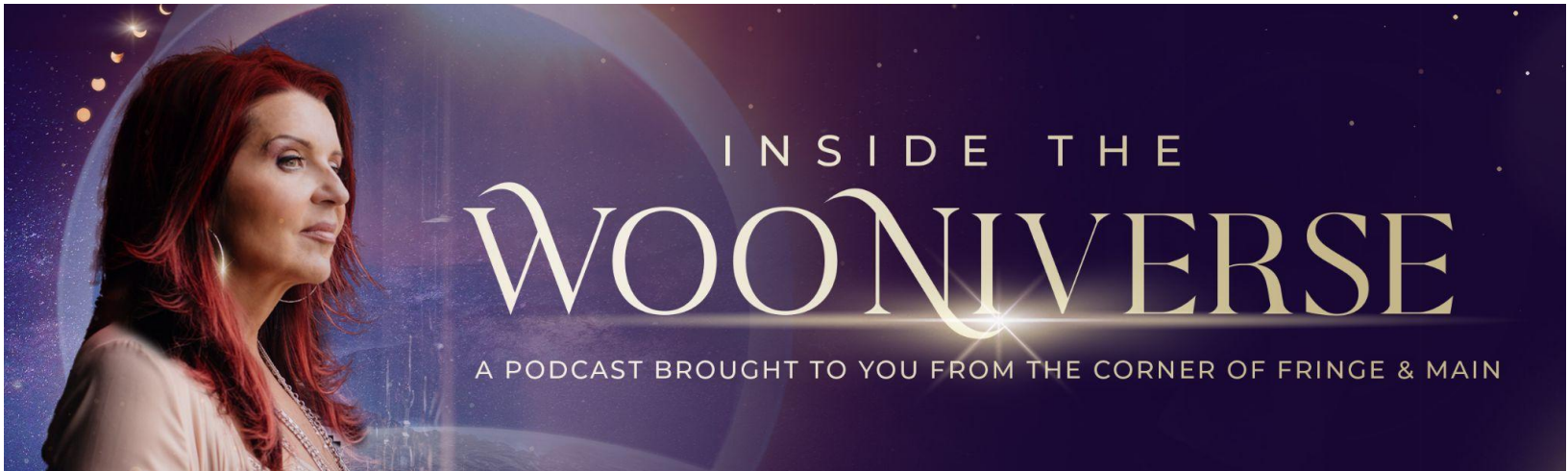
Oh I get it.

Colin:

Yeah right.

Colette:

Oh my God, I have to pick two now. Okay, well I'll be thinking about this.



Colin:
Please let know.

Colette:
I'll write you about my two afterwards. Oh my gosh.

Colin:
Yes, you better.

Colette:
So in your words and in your heart, what makes life worth living?

Colin:
Love.

Colette:
Yeah.

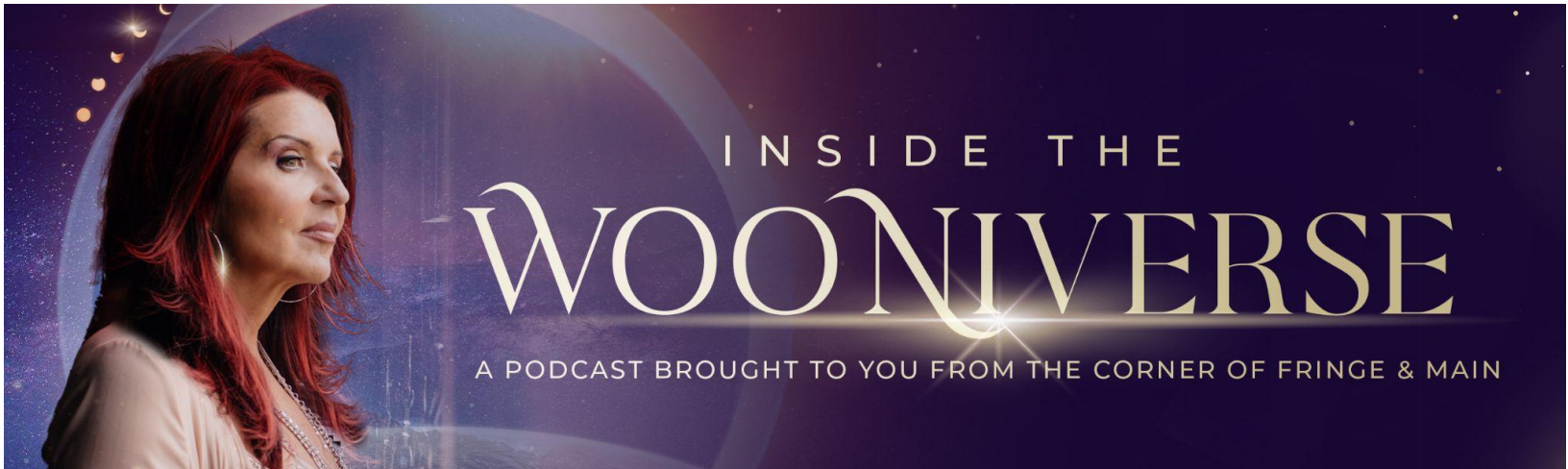
Colin:
Just Love; just love in our hearts. Love for the people who we're in friendship and family connections with. It's the alpha and the omega, isn't it? It really is.

Colette:
Yep. Love makes the world go round, doesn't it?

Colin:
Yes, it does.

Colette:
Yeah.

Colin:
Oh yeah love.



Colette:

Okay. We're going to take a little break now and when we come back, we are going to switch gears and enter another dimension of the WOONIVERSE. We're going to go to the Tea Time After Party. So please stay with us, we'll be right back. Okay. So now we're going to switch gears with a segment that we are calling the Tea Time After Party and it is brought to you by Magic Hour Teas. Magic Hour Teas are delicious, I drink them daily and I even have a 10% off code for you. So for more information and for that code, you're going to want to go to ITWPodcast.com/tea.

Colette:

All right. So we are obviously still here with our fabulous Colin Badell, and he's joining us for the after party with my executive producer, Connie Gillette. Hey Connie.

Connie:

Hey. Hello.

Colette:

Hello. Okay Colin, are you ready?

Colin:

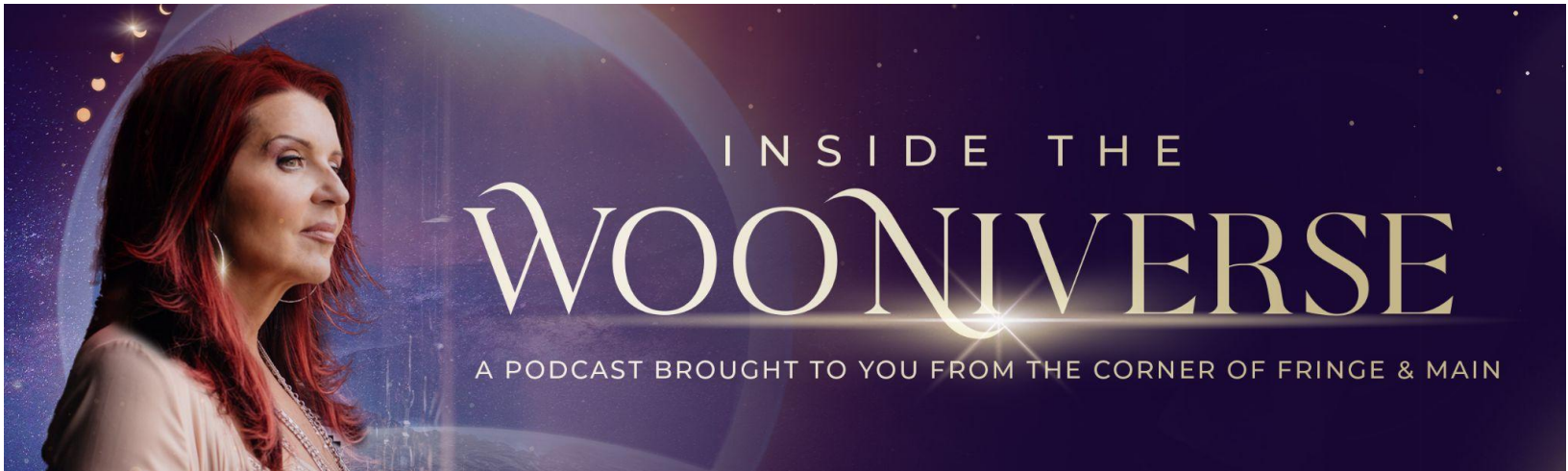
I'm ready.

Colette:

Okay. If you could have a magic power, what would it be? And what would you use it for?

Colin:

Wow, probably telekinesis. Oh my God, I would love to move things with my mind. Yeah, that would be so cool. And just because I'm a Gemini, I'm going to throw in an honorary mention. I would also love to not control, but have regulation over the elements so that when I was mad it could thunder and rain. And when I really wanted to make a statement, the wind could blow, that'd be so cool. And Storm who is in X-Men, she was able to do that. And she's a gay icon. The gays love storm. And that's I guess, where it comes from. Is that I wish I could just throw lightning at people if I'm mad. Yes.



Colette:
Like Storm.

Colin:
Yes.

Colette:
Storm rocked, I love the hair. I look so fabulous with white hair.

Colin:
Oh yes. Okay. You're got to be Storm next year for... Come on. Libra rising, serve that outfit baby.

Colette:
I want to be Storm. Yes.

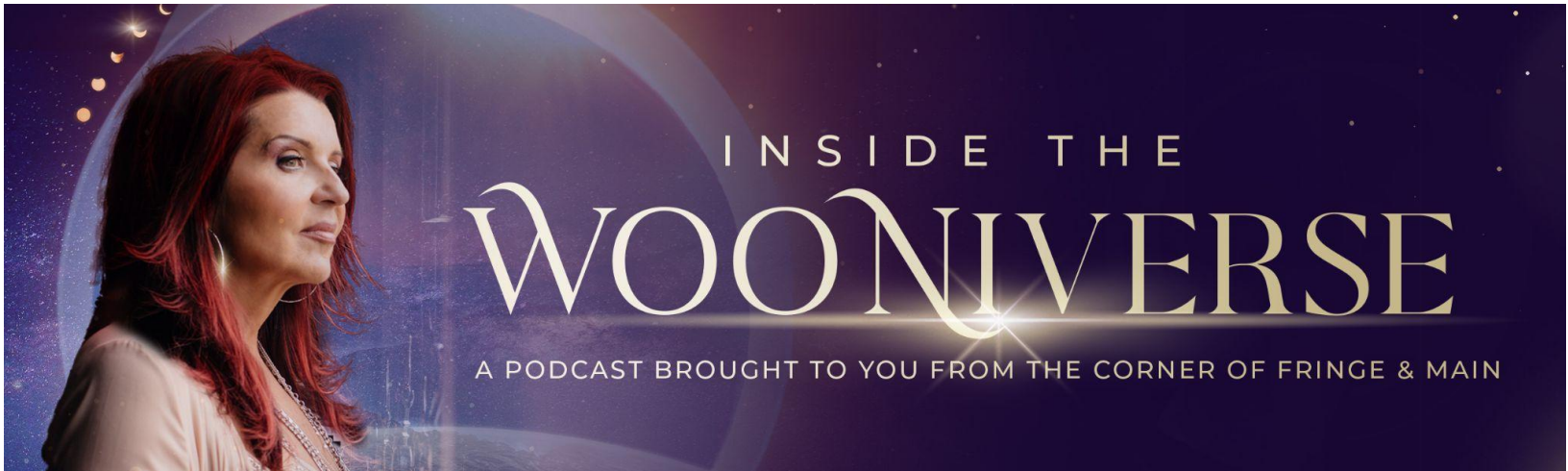
Connie:
So if you could give a magic potion to society, what would it be and what would you use it for?

Colin:
Irrefutably I would give everybody the magic potion that makes them feel fundamentally worthy of love, joy, belonging. End of discussion.

Connie:
Yes.

Colin:
And what that could do to transform us socially, politically, economically, culturally, professionally, everything. Just to make people feel like they're already worthy. That's what I would do.

Colette:
Mic drop.



Colin:

Yeah. What a question.

Colette:

That's powerful. And I think it's because it changes everything. If every single person feels worthy, then there's no competition. Then there's no comparison. There's no need to create or pretend. And there's a willingness to share and the whole thing, it'd be amazing. So let's all pray that Colin will indeed figure that out. That magic portion.

Colin:

It's got to be in Italy here somewhere.

Colette:

Yeah, we all need it, especially now.

Colin:

Yes. I'm looking, I'll keep an eye out in the [crosstalk 00:43:08]

Colette:

Okay. I have a fun question. You meet an extra terrestrial. [inaudible 00:43:17] they are just starting to move here. Okay. They've come to you and you are going to be their travel companion.

Colin:

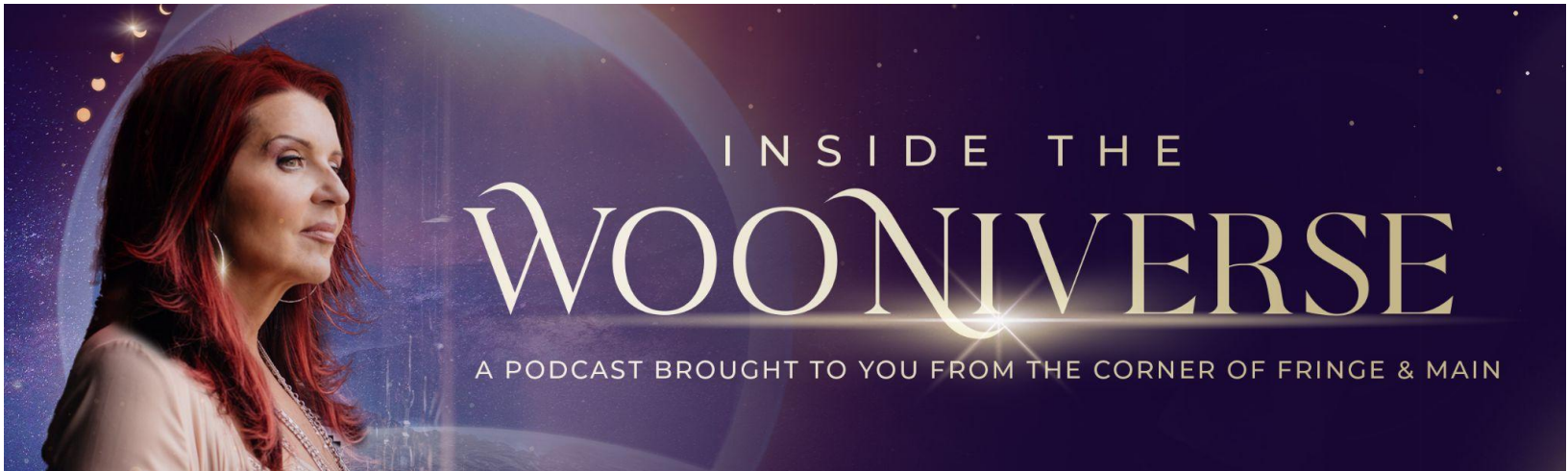
Okay.

Colette:

What would you tell them about living on earth?

Colin:

Oh God, I'm going to sound like a social worker here, but believe it or not ETs, people are doing the best they can with the tools that they have with where they're at. So look upon them, not with judgment and blame because my God it'd be so easy, but just compassion and



understanding. And maybe you can help skill-build them to raise their behaviors and resource level.

Connie:
Whoa.

Colette:
Yeah.

Colin:
The Gemini, I'm going to be there. Oh my God, hi. Hello? What's the scoop?

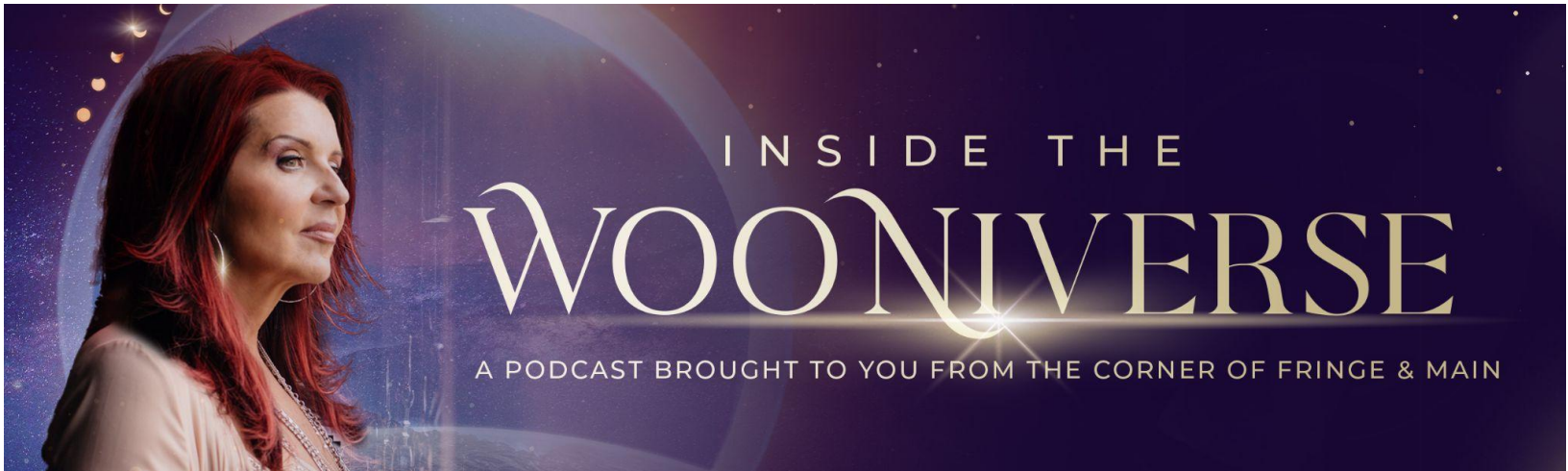
Colette:
You need to be there Colin.

Colin:
Where are you coming from? Oh my God, you look so great. What time were you born?

Colette:
Oh my God.

Connie:
Okay. So what is your favorite subject to go down the rabbit hole in?

Colin:
Okay. So recently I'll be honest with you, I think because the South Node is in Scorpio. So I'm learning about some Scorpio rule themes, like suspicion, mistrust, abuses of power. I have been hooked like the rest of the world with other people's cons and how they get away with it. And oh my God, I just watched one yesterday about an Australian influencer who faked that she had a brain tumor for five years. I never heard of this woman. And oh my God. Yeah. So there's just... And I feel compassion for them, I really do believe it or not. But I've just been really curious about why people lie, how they self-deceive, how we believe them. I'm not proud of that, but I am just curious. And then I'm just learning a great deal about the human condition and actually how most do lead with trust. They don't lead with suspicion. It's blowing me away.



Colette:

Look at a Tinder Swindler.

Colin:

Hello, another example.

Colette:

Did you ever see that on Netflix?

Connie:

Oh my God, yeah.

Colin:

That's where it all started. And then Anna Delve, Inventing Anna.

Colette:

Yeah.

Connie:

Fire festival. Did you get there?

Colin:

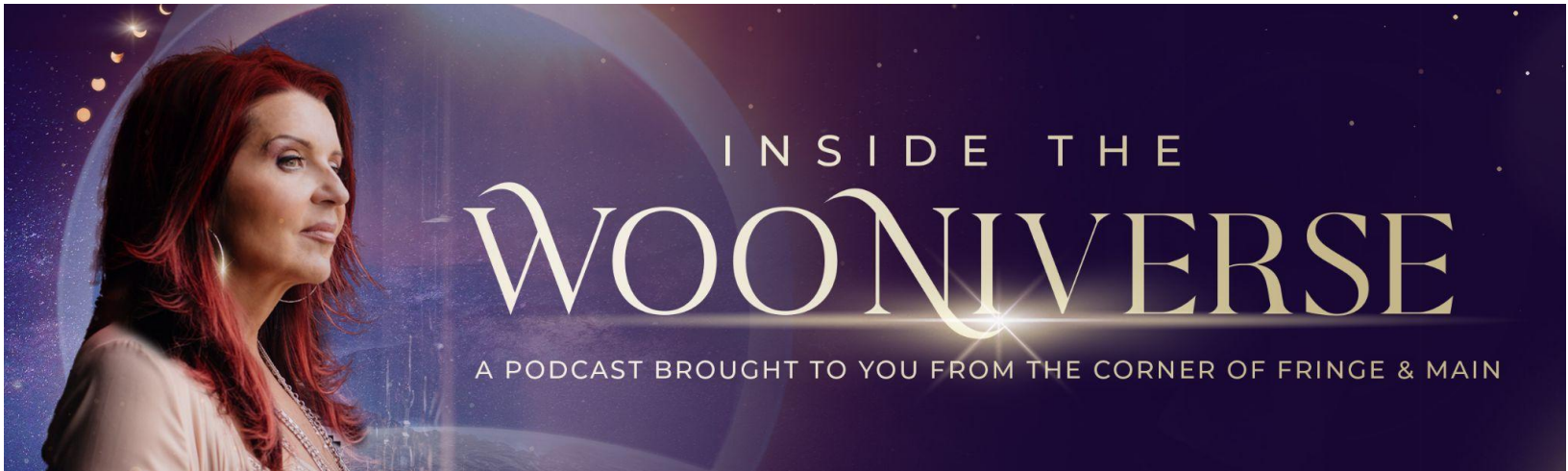
Oh gosh, of course. There's a real trend now and I'm fascinated by this.

Connie:

Yeah.

Colin:

And then I'm fascinated by how people who are online like us have to be really careful about what we say, who connect with, how we fact checked, how we do our due diligence. So that's what it's bringing out for me is, let me refresh on journalism ethics, but it's true. Because leave it to the journalists who figured these all out.



Colette:

We are all seeing it right now for a reason. I think, it's interesting that it's in the zeitgeist. It is that we're looking at how we manipulate other people. How other people can be manipulated or how I can be... I'm ridiculously trusting. I'm like, you have to literally prove me. Yeah, because I will even stick up for you until I realize, oh my God, you've been lying. Because I'm like-

Colin:

I would too.

Colette:

I'm no longer dupable as I was but I always believe, go with your best feelings first. Give everybody the benefit of a doubt, but people are complicated. There's a very strange complexity out there of bending reality because words are powerful. Words cast spells is what our friend Abiola Abrams said in one of the interviews that we did. It's like, we're all spell casters. So when we start to weave these webs of deceit, it's really damaging. It's really damaging.

Colin:

It is. That was a beautiful through line, Colette, by the way. That was really beautifully summarized and articulated, way to go,

Colette:

Oh gosh, love hanging out with you.

Colin:

That's our girl.

Connie:

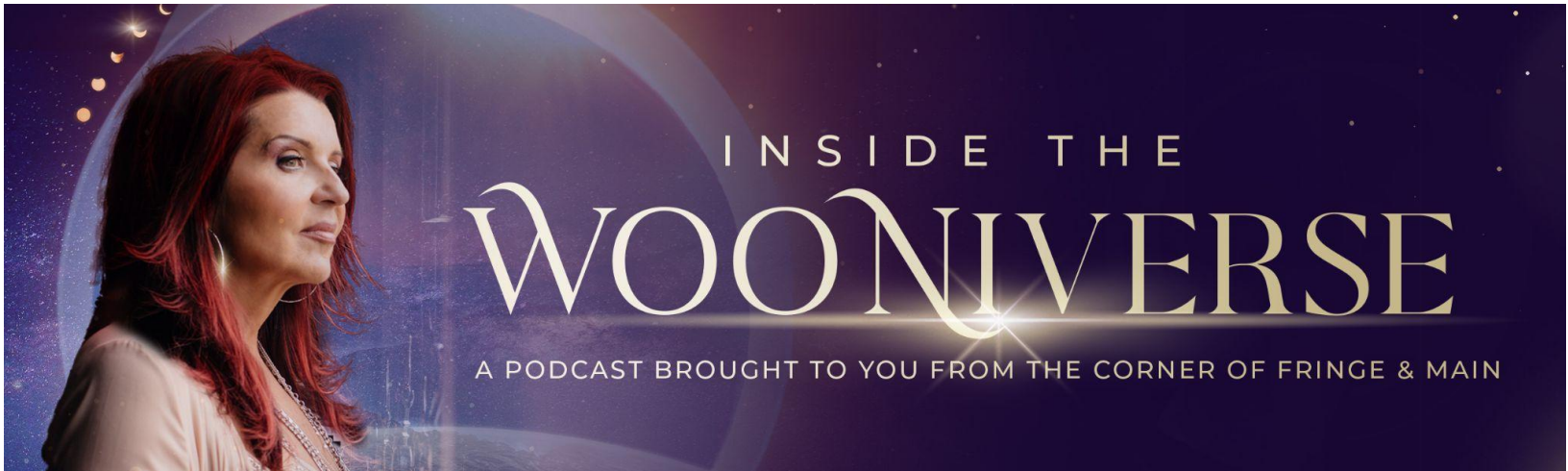
That's our girl.

Colin:

Colin, Colette and Connie. I love the three C show.

Connie:

That's our girl, she's amazing.



Colette:

Okay. I have a good one. You have to spend \$10,000 in an hour.

Connie:

Oh yeah.

Colette:

Okay. In one hour, what would you spend it on?

Colin:

Oh God. Okay. So the Leo rising is going to come out here. But I would skip right across the street. Go straight to Versace. Not Versace, because they get very mad about that. I would get all the [inaudible 00:47:23] Italian fashion I could. Just go to town just [inaudible 00:47:28] Versace.

Colette:

[crosstalk 00:47:30] in an hour. I love it.

Connie:

In an hour, you could do that probably 10 minutes.

Colin:

I know. On God, I really would though.

Colette:

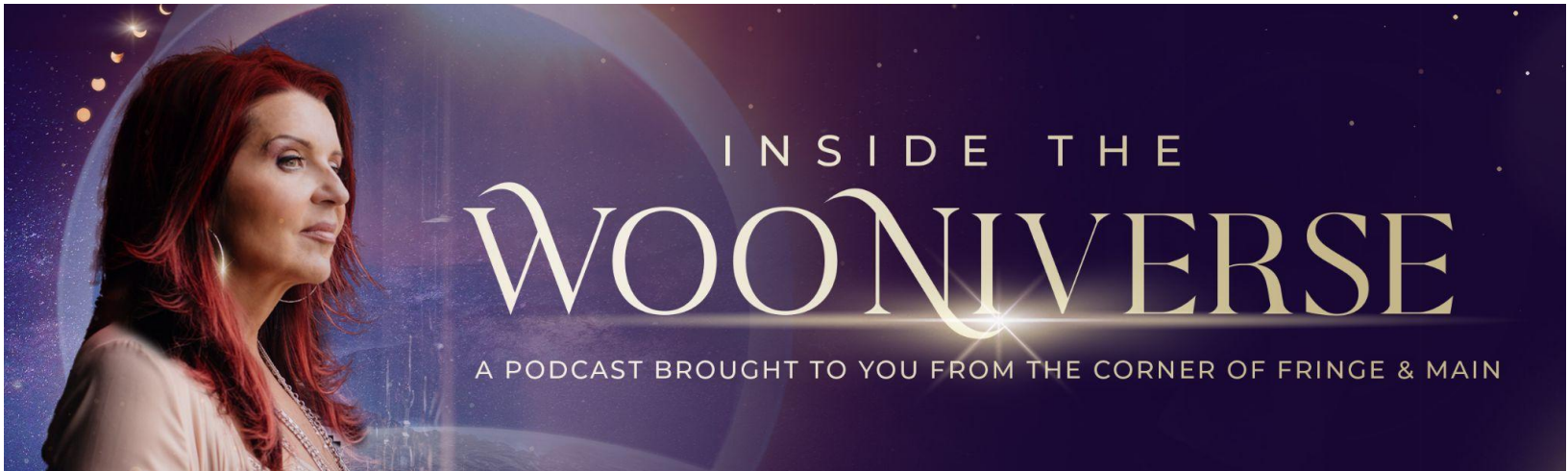
I have another question.

Colin:

Sure.

Colette:

Okay. Wearing these clothes, if you could live in any sitcom, which one would it be and why?



Colin:

Sitcom. Irrefutably this totally just came out of left field, but probably Everybody Loves Raymond. Do you guys remember that?

Colette:

Yeah.

Connie:

Raymond Barone.

Colin:

Oh my God, that Long Island family with a grandmother, Marie Barone.

Connie:

Marie Barone, yes.

Colin:

That was my life you guys, I swear to God. Just families fighting over nothing all day long. And I would want to be the gay astrologer that just needed everybody's time of birth. But I would totally fit into the, Everybody Loves Raymond energy. I think that'd be really fun. Or King Of Queens, but probably Everybody Loves Raymond.

Colette:

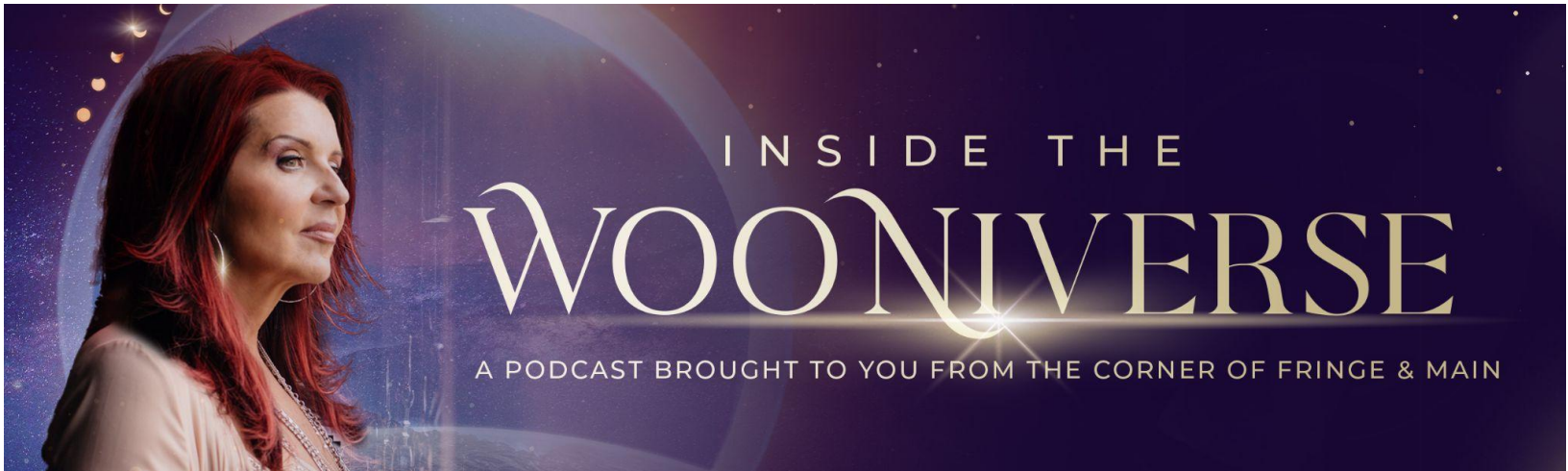
Do you sleep with or without socks? I don't know why we have this question here, but I'm going to ask you that.

Colin:

No, because... Speaking of Barone, tell me why an Italian boy with the last name Barone has been in my bed the last month and I don't care what the world knows yet. Colette, it happened just like you said it would. And he got very upset because I didn't sleep with socks. I swear to God. And I said, because-

Colette:

Really?



Colin:

Swear to God. Yes, he didn't understand. He thought it was weird. I was like, mind your business.

Connie:

Wow.

Colin:

And let me go to bed. So I'm a no sock boy. I'm a no sock boy.

Connie:

You're kidding me.

Colin:

I swear to God, we just got into an argument about this.

Colette:

When Connie and I were creating the questions, we were like, why are we doing it? Because Connie's one of the most intuitive people I've ever met by the way also.

Colin:

Connie, come on.

Colette:

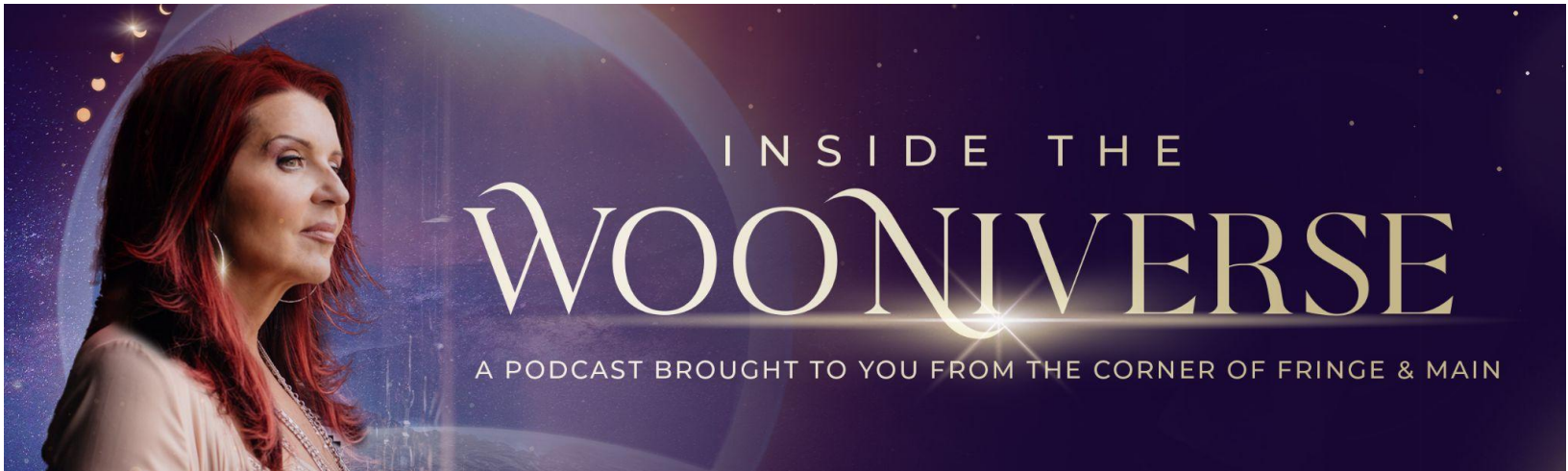
She does incredible readings, even though she's an executive producer, she's a woman of many talents.

Connie:

Yes.

Colette:

But yeah, it was like, why are we asking him that question? And now we know why.



Connie:

Yeah.

Colin:

It's because he looked dumbfounded.

Connie:

Your higher self gave me questions.

Colin:

Yes. So I could tell him, this is not a political party. It's just out of, its style. And I just want to sleep with my socks off, go to bed Camillo. Okay.

Connie:

Okay. I have a question, Colin. What is the story of your first crush?

Colin:

Okay.

Connie:

Very first crush.

Colin:

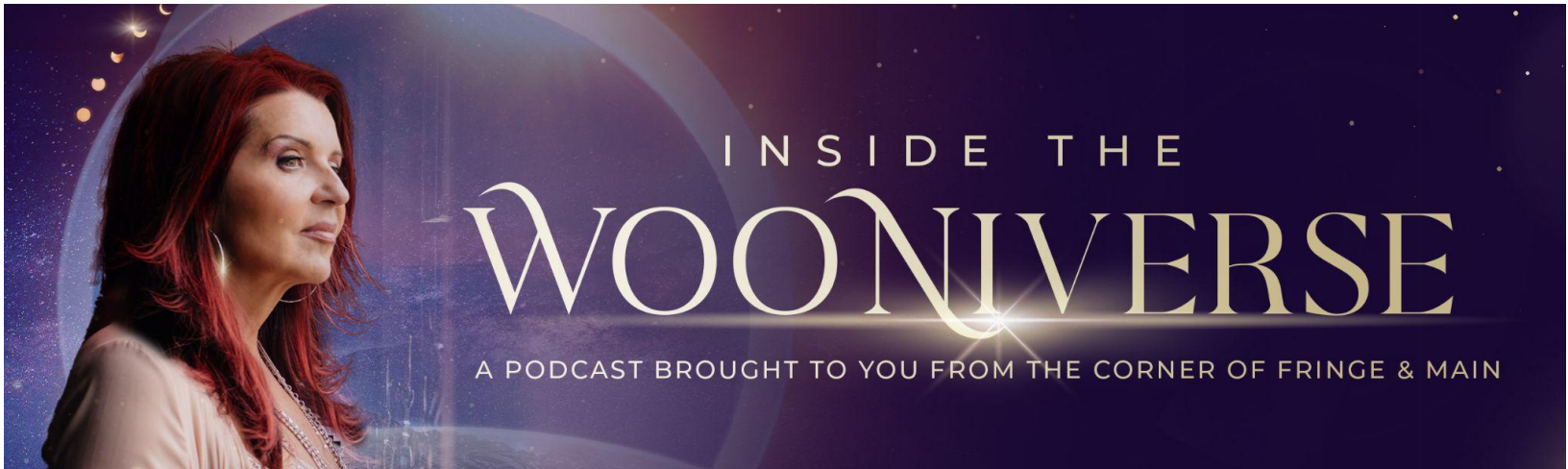
I'll go with the male crush because at the time I didn't know that... I did have girl crushes because I just wanted those girls to be my friends. I wanted to be them kind of thing. And my gay ass didn't know that it was really just because I wanted to be them.

Connie:

Yeah.

Colin:

But I actually really loved a Taurus boy named Allan Davidson. And I had a crush on him because actually I got into a verbal fight with him first, because it was a whole thing. I know. So Gemini. I heard him talking about me and I heard him say my name. So naturally I assumed



he's talking shit. So I went right up to him I said, "I don't want to hear my name coming out of your mouth," acting like a tough guy. And he was like, "What? I was just complimenting you. I said you were cute." And I was like, "Okay, well I got to go." And then we actually built a nice high school dynamic off of that. And he was my first big crush. He wasn't my first love. I fell in love with an Italian-Ecuadorian named Julio Giovanni Alvarez a year later. But Allan was my first crush and it all started because I almost punched him in the throat.

Colette:

I'm going to switch it up a little bit. Connie, what else do you got for him?

Connie:

I have a question that's, so when you are just getting started and researching astrology and you discovered you go to Gemini. You're a Gemini, you're starting to look at all the aspects and you start seeing all the amazing aspects. Like they always say, look at all these wonderful things that you are. And then they're like, oh this is your shadow sign and then you're like, no. Which one of those things were you the most repelled by when you first saw it, but then you came to really embrace it afterwards. Actually yeah, I am. And it's okay.

Colin:

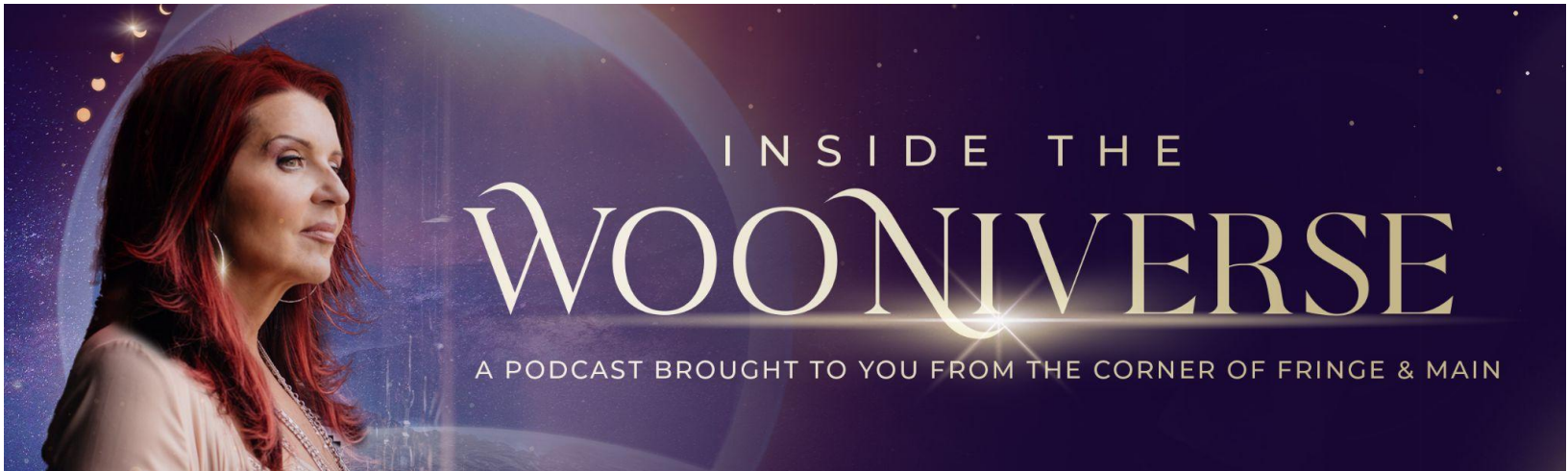
That's great question, wow. Yeah. And implicit in your question too, Connie, is the fact that like a lot of astrologers are confronted with the fact of do we highlight what is strong? Do we highlight possible challenges in blind spots? I do take the stance. And so do strengths-based social workers that we're supposed to highlight what is strong over what is wrong. Because it empowers them in a way that really no other context can. So what I initially felt a little like, oh God, is that an issue was just around like the ability to change my mind and be fickle. But then when I saw that Ralph Waldo Emerson, another Gemini say that foolish consistency is the [inaudible 00:52:09] of little minds. I was like, all right Ralph, isn't that good? Ralphie.

Colette:

I'm picking up what you're putting down Ralph. Okay.

Connie:

I love that.



Colin:

So I'm just running with, I don't want to be the person who believes in foolish consistency. And God forbid I change my mind. So that's definitely something that now I look at as a strength, but of course, let's regulate it. If I did agree to something, then I really want to commit and follow through, but I love that Gemini quality of well, so what? I said it yesterday, I was a different person yesterday. You're not? That's weird.

Connie:

Okay. I have Venus and Gemini. So I relate.

Colette:

I want to know who inspires you and why.

Colin:

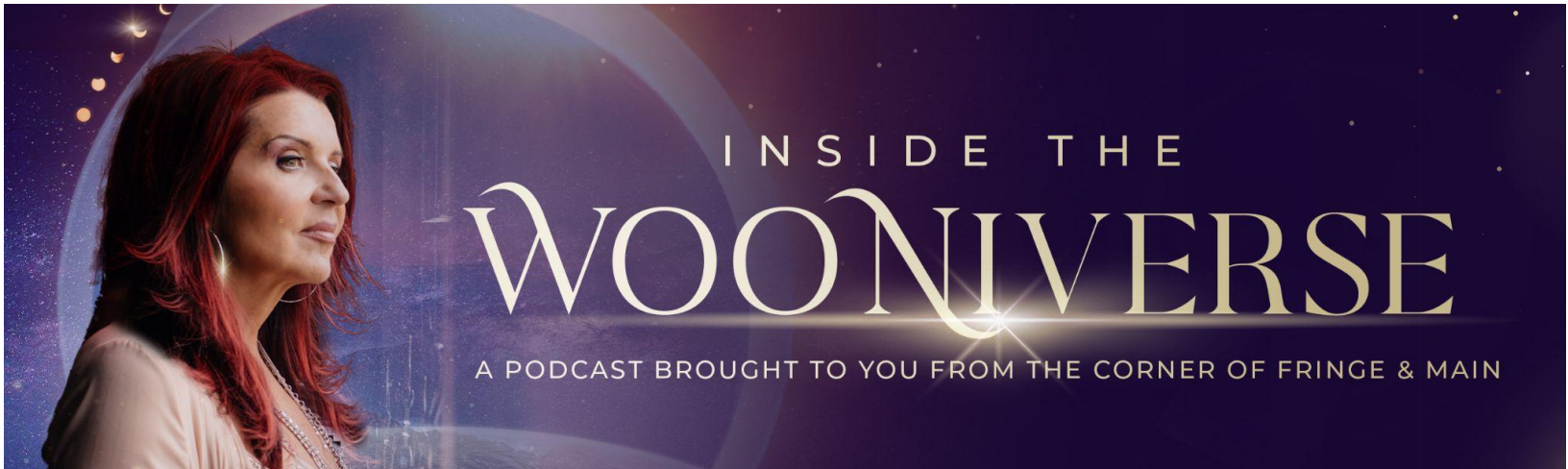
That's a great question. I have been really moved by an author named Nedra Tawwab. And so she's phenomenal. She's a Charlotte-based therapist and she's wrote wonderful books on boundaries. And she has these things that she shares based on relationships and mental health on her Instagram called Nedra Nuggets. Oh my gosh. And she has such an amazing ability to make really complicated, psychological things, very accessible, very entertaining in a way. And just so applied. And I just love that she almost challenges my work to go simpler, if that makes sense. Don't put mustard and sprinkles on it, stick with one point.

Colette:

I find that's very hard, what you just said. Yeah. To keep it simple. Yeah. Oh my gosh, because I like to explode into complexities because it's interesting. It's more interesting. Like squirrel boom, boom, boom. Yeah, but I get it. I know I have a phenomenal person that we work with at my school, at Oracle School. Anna Saether runs the school with me and she's the head mistress of magic and transformation, yes. And she's been so phenomenal keeping me one point at a time. One point go up then we can talk about this point.

Colin:

Yes.



Colette:

Yeah. So everybody needs an Anna.

Colin:

Oh we do. And everybody needs a Nedra apparently. Yeah. Just Yeah. I think we forget that people's access to this information is at the entry level. And so the first point is already a lot for them. And then when we add on and I think there's beauty to that because it also reminds us that so much of the content that we put out actually should be incomplete. We're meant to have a continued conversation with people. We don't need to put in every point.

Colette:

No, but it's great though to encourage people to learn and to follow the crumbs, but you're right. You can't have all the whole conversation in a 10-minute Instagram post for sure.

Colin:

I like to make like maybe two points in Gemini fashion, like this plus this equals. But I think that especially with where we're at in our work, we have to be really careful Colette to remind people that nothing is new under the sun, that it should be celebrated to point people back to original sources.

Colette:

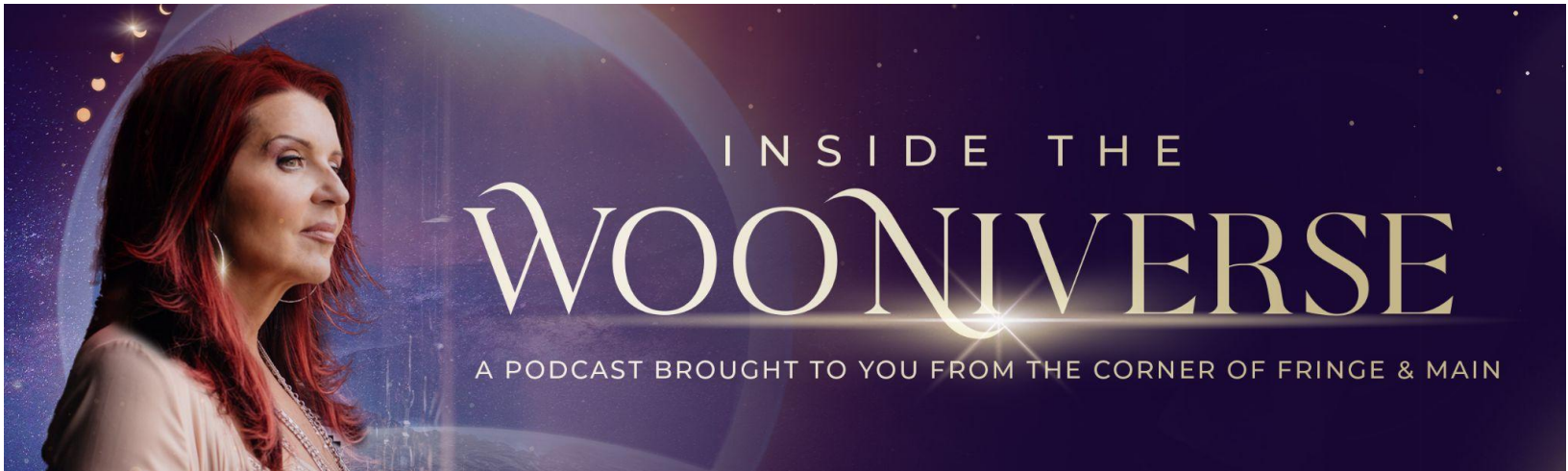
I think so too. I like that too. There is no new age either. This is all old, all this is old, just repackaged.

Colin:

Yeah, that's a good point. Yes. What would we call new age then? Like 1969 to 1974? What is the new age? What was it?

Colette:

I think people suggest new age is the concept of new thought and all these, the resurgence of these different spiritual paths, etc, that lump all in. Even with pseudoscience and things like that, where everything is lumped into this blob that I think really started in the 80s. But I think the initiation of it was really at the turn of the century when you think about it with [inaudible 00:56:02]. And then going into the 20s.



Colin:

Oh, that's a good point.

Colette:

So it's really been through since the industrial revolution that we've actually had this new Renaissance of spiritual thoughts, spiritual thinking and in a way that now brings in materialism. And now we are going back the other way. We are not going to have this whole conversation right now, but-

Colin:

Yeah, next time.

Colette:

When you think about it, all the different threads, everything is connected. Ideas are innovated. We have to apply whatever it is that we've learned to the society that we have now. So that's why I always like to innovate the original divination systems. It's like, well, this doesn't really apply to our society right now, but what could? How could we shape it? And how could we be the shapers and not just the shaped, which is what happens. And you do that too with your astrology, that you teach people how to be the shapers, not just the shape. We're shaped by the stars in many respects, but then what do we do with that information?

Colin:

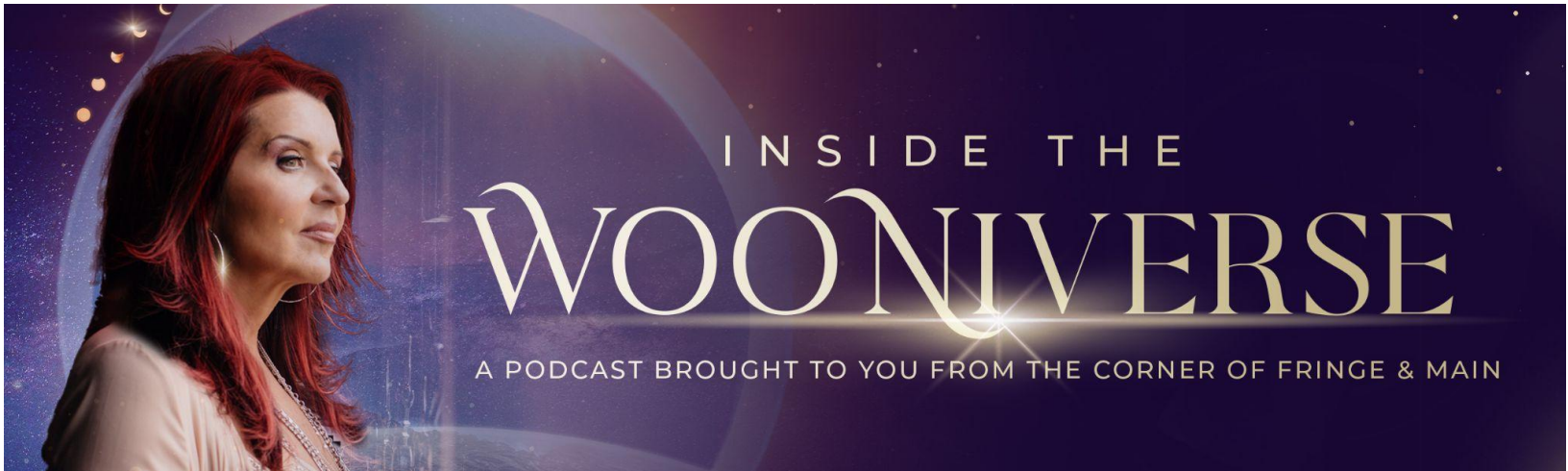
Oh, wow. That felt really beautiful to hear that validated. Thank you so much, Colette, because I didn't even think of it in that way. But I think that's, what I do try to do is, give people a strong foundation but maintain flexible interpretation.

Colette:

Yeah. And with some humor too, which makes it very palatable. I think you're one of the best ones out there that talks about this stuff.

Colin:

Oh, I'm so honored by this.



Colette:

Wow. Thank you so much for being with us today. This was awesome. You can all read Colin's weekly horoscope on cosmopolitan.com and you can find Colin on Instagram, under the handle, Queercosmos, all one word. And his book Queer Cosmos is fantastic. Thank you so much, Colin.

Colin:

Thank you.

Colette:

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

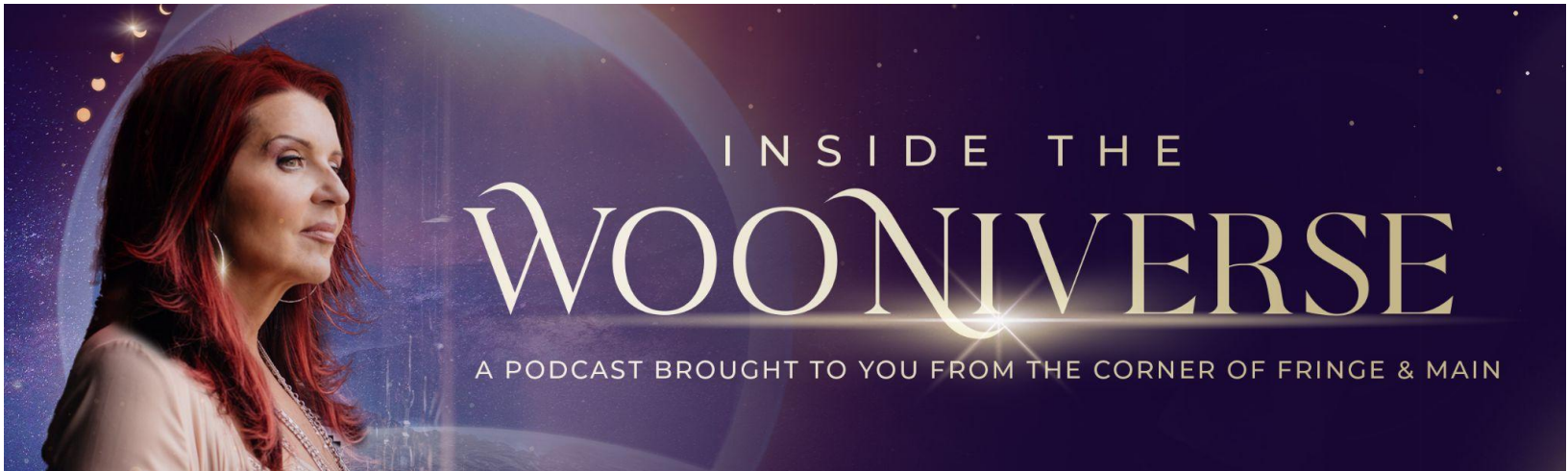
Colin:

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. It was joy to be here always. Always so much fun. Thank you for the thoughtful questions and the space holding. This was such a joy. I'm so happy. Thank you.

Colette:

When I ask this question, which I do every podcast, what did we learn? I learned so much. I don't even know what to say. So I decided that I would pull another card this time from the Shaman's Dream. And I pulled the galactic mushroom, which is all about the divine matrix. The matrix of consciousness called source or God, spirit. Many other names is intricately woven into life. There's so much complexities that the human mind cannot comprehend all the moving parts of the cosmos. It's impossible to see beyond what you already know. Just as the head of a mushroom is clearly visible above the soil, but not the living biome below, the thread like [inaudible 00:58:47] of fungi form vast intricate networks underground connecting different life forms with one another. In a kind of internet of the plant kingdom.

So imagine they divine matrix serving the same way, connecting the individual consciousness with that of the divine, which is really what Colin was talking about, about astrology and everything that we're all going through and how we're connected. So this is a call right now for faith and trust, whatever intention you hold consistently with hope and faith, first manifests in the unseen realms in the cosmos, whether or not you can see working on your behalf. Eventually



you see the evidence play out in the serendipitous events that work in your favor, seemingly outside of the law of cause and effect. Your most beautiful results are being birthed right now, even if you can't see them. And not just for you, but for the highest good of all. I'm Colette Baron-Reid, until next time, be well.