

Speaker 1 ([00:00:12](#)):

You are listening to the Journey on podcast with Warwick Schiller. Warwick is a horseman trainer, international clinician and author who helps empower horse people from all over the world with the skills, knowledge, and mindsets needed to create trusting partnerships with their horses. Warwick offers a free seven day trial to his comprehensive online video library that includes hundreds of full length training videos and several home study courses@videos.warwickschiller.com.

Warwick Schiller ([00:00:44](#)):

Good day everyone. Welcome back to The Journey on podcast. I'm your host, Warwick Schiller, and if you're a regular podcast listener, you've probably possibly heard the story about how the podcast came about. And it was during Covid, and I'm not sure Robin or I aren't sure whose idea it was to do the podcast. She thinks it was my idea and I think it was her idea. So I really, I no idea who it was, but when we first talked about doing the podcast, Robin had suggested I'd do it like a call in talk show. You have people call in and say, Hey, I got this problem with my horse and this problem with my horse, and you say, well try this and try that and have that conversation and record that. But the first episode that I did, I did it just me talking and I talked about the changes that I'd made in probably the way I view the world.

([00:01:34](#)):

And those changes, of course changed the way I interacted with horses. And then I guess the next few episodes are a little more along that vein. And then we had some guests, and the guests were very, the type of people that after you listen to 'em speak, you're like, whoa, I cannot look at the world the same again. And so that's how the podcast went. But recently Robin had a really good idea because we get a lot of emails. So my business is an online horse training video library, and in my horse training video library, there's a lot of life advice too. I use a lot of analogies to talk about horse training and things in life. And for some reason people seem to get it. So when they subscribe to the online video library, a lot of times they get some other benefits out of doing the work with horses.

([00:02:21](#)):

And we get emails, I'm like, I'm so much better with my boss, or This happened at work and I did this, or I'm better with my husband, or whatever it is. And so we get emails telling us about that, and Robin said, what you should do is maybe get some of those people that email us some of those amazing stories, just get 'em on the podcast and tell you their story. And so that is what we are going to do with this episode. It's going to be the first one of what I hope to be, a number of episodes that we're going to call subscriber stories. And it's just going to be like I outlined there, people who subscribed to the videos and then amazing things that have happened either during because of or after or whatever. But yeah, we want to hear those stories.

([00:03:06](#)):

So today, to start it off, we've got a really, really good one to start it off with. So this week's subscriber stories is a pair of sisters from Croatia named Maida and Sanker Husbandman, and they're twins. They're now in their early thirties, I think, but they grew up in Croatia, watching western movies on the tv and just loved the scenery and loved the horses and the whole thing, even though they didn't have horses and that love eventually in life led them to where they came to America and got a job on a dude ranch and just fell in love with the whole thing and ended up going back to the Croatia and had the chance to start some horses and wanted to know how do we start horses under saddle? So they got onto my YouTube videos and then to my online video library, my subscription and things went from there. But this is not so much about them subscribing to the videos, but just the places that being interested in horses took them and probably the life lessons they learned along the way. But they ended

up in Namibia training horses. One of 'em went to Mexico for a while, one of 'em ended up in Mozambique. These girls are full on adventurous types who just, they just such a great example of how to live your best life and how to follow your passion.

(00:04:37):

Majda and Senka, welcome to the Journey on podcast.

Majda (00:04:42):

Thanks for having us.

Warwick Schiller (00:04:44):

I'm excited to have you guys on here and hear about your whole story. You two are a pair of adventurous people. You did your share travels. Where are you guys right now? Are you in Croatia?

Majda (00:04:53):

Yes, we are. Yeah, we live in the capital, which is re

Warwick Schiller (00:04:58):

Okay, perfect. Let's go back to the beginning of this whole thing. So you guys were born, grew up in Croatia, yeah.

Majda (00:05:07):

Yes. Born and raised.

Warwick Schiller (00:05:10):

Born and raised. You guys would've been alive during the Bosnian conflict, wouldn't you?

Majda (00:05:20):

We were really small when it started. We were around five or six years old, and then when it ended officially, I think it was 96, so we were 10 11. So we were just small enough not to realize what is really going on, which looking back maybe that is actually a good thing, I don't know, because I would imagine our parents were stressing quite a lot, having two little kids and with everything with the war going on, I would imagine that was quite horrible for them.

Warwick Schiller (00:05:51):

Was the conflict near where you guys were or was more on the border?

Majda (00:05:57):

It definitely went inland, but not where we were living. We grew up on the Slovenia border, which is like 25 kilometers away from Zagreb in a small town. So they were never gotten that far, but in some parts it was pretty bad.

Warwick Schiller (00:06:15):

So the Slovenia borders, so Croatia borders, Slovenia, Hungary, Serbia, and Bosnia. Is that correct?

Majda ([00:06:23](#)):

That's correct.

Warwick Schiller ([00:06:25](#)):

And I sound very educated here, but I had to look it up on a map. And what I didn't realize is, so Croatia is across the Adriatic Sea from Italy, so it basically has the same kind of beautiful coastline that you see in Italy except it's just, it's on the other side of that Adriatic sea. And I looked up some pictures. It looks like it's absolutely beautiful.

Senka ([00:06:50](#)):

It's just this pretty, as in the pictures really. It's stunning and there's so many islands and each island is basically different and it's just amazing. I haven't heard anyone complain about the coast ever.

Warwick Schiller ([00:07:05](#)):

Yeah, the islands look amazing. Let's go back to your growing up. Sorry. So you guys weren't affected, I imagine you would've been affected by the conflict, not just being on the front line. You're not on the front lines, but how do you think that that conflict affected maybe your parents' state of mind while you're growing up? And is there even to this day, is there still any knock on effect? Is there still things that you are facing because of that conflict?

Majda ([00:07:51](#)):

Well, in a way, I would say that economical consequences, you can definitely still feel today, and maybe even the biggest thing is that people moved out from some parts of the country and they never came back. So some parts of the country are basically dead. There are just a couple of people living there and that's it. The whole villages are just dead. There is no one there. So maybe today that would be the biggest impact the war had. But it also, after the war, it took a long time for the country to start rebuilding the economy and everything. The unemployment rate was through the roof. And as I said about our parents, I mean the uncertainty they were going through is just will they be able to feed the family mini us having two small kids, I guess it was a pretty stressful time to be alive and especially have kids. I mean, if you don't have kids, then I guess everything is easier. But with kids, it's just like, yeah, you never know what's going to happen. And I can imagine it was not easy for them and for a lot of other people.

Warwick Schiller ([00:09:09](#)):

We were talking earlier and you said that your parents basically had suitcases packed and kept by the door ready to leave

Majda ([00:09:19](#)):

Any time for years. Yeah, because we had sirens going off daily and we were small. So yeah, part of it, we were in kindergarten, and then you hear the siren going off, then know the drill, you need to line up at the door and then we all go somewhere. Then you hear another siren, then the danger is over, so you can come out from the shelter or whatever it's called. So yeah, we were living like that. It was normal.

Warwick Schiller ([00:09:47](#)):

Wow. I imagine that would have quite an impact. I know people here in parts of the US and friends in Australia who live in a fire zone, like in a bushfire zone or whatever, and maybe there's a fire that's quite a ways away from you, but depending on where the wind goes, you might have to be prepared to evacuate at any time. But that sort of, and that's got to be very stressful. But that might go on for a week or whatever. That fire is burning, but then it goes away. I just can't imagine how it would be spending several years with the prospect of having to just getting in the car, grab your suitcases, get in the car, and go all the time for years at a time. That's got to be a very stressful sort of situation.

Senka ([00:10:46](#)):

I remember our mom didn't have a lot of things packed, but what she had packed in the bags were some photo albums and she says, those are, if you lose those things, you can never get those back. So she had a few photo albums packed as well. She said, if we did have to leave, we would find it very valuable in a few years. So that's kind of a little thing

Warwick Schiller ([00:11:08](#)):

You said that there's still an economic impact. And from what I have read here in the us, there was the US Civil War way back when, and of course the South lost the war, and the poorest states in the United States are in the south. And from what I've read, it's got a lot to do with they never actually recovered fully financially and economically from the Civil War. So that was several hundred years ago. So I imagine things like that have a huge effect. So let's get to you girls in your adventurous life. So you kind have had a bit of an adventurous life through horses. I think the horses have been the things that led the adventures. You guys didn't grow up with horses.

Senka ([00:12:01](#)):

We were 12 years old when we started riding, even though the love started way earlier. And I remember when we were little and we were preschool really, so we couldn't really read or anything, and we would just watch western movies, American western movies, and just stare at the screen. We had no clue what the movie was about because we couldn't read and hear. All foreign movies are subtitled, so we have to be able to read to understand what the movie's about, and we couldn't. So we would just look at the horses and over and over, we would watch one movie repeatedly. So just to be able to look at horses, because back then in the nineties, not many people actually had horses that we could physically go and see. So this was our best bet just to watch movies.

Warwick Schiller ([00:12:58](#)):

So the movie is in English, and it's got Croatian subtitles on it that you are too young to be able to read Croatian, even though you're Croatian. So you guys are just sitting there watching the horses?

Senka ([00:13:09](#)):

Yes. Yeah, that was it.

Warwick Schiller ([00:13:12](#)):

Oh, that's awesome.

Senka ([00:13:16](#)):

So our dad, he recorded a few movies for us on the videotape. So we would have just maybe three movies to watch. And I still remember two of them. I remember one was actually a New Zealand movie, I think it was called Rogue Stallion or something. And another one was something about the trumpet, and it was a very old western movie, American Western News. So those were our two favorite movies growing up.

Warwick Schiller ([00:13:43](#)):

And you actually got to ride a horse first when you were 12, is that right?

Senka ([00:13:50](#)):

We wrote some ponies. We went to Slovenia since it's so close, I think our parents took us, there's a castle over the border and they had little ponies, and then we got on these Shetland ponies and our parents let us around the park. And I remember my little pony was rearing and stuff, and it was very naughty and was biting my dad's hand. So I think that was the first experience. But when we actually started riding, learned to ride in riding school was when we were 12, that's when we actually started riding. And it was someone had a few horses nearby. They opened club, and it was close enough for us to cycle there. So that was important. And that's how it started.

Warwick Schiller ([00:14:35](#)):

You, Europeans are so blase about your castles. Oh, you went across the board. There was a castle there, and they had these ponies. I remember the first time I went to Europe, I had some clinics organized in, I think in Germany and maybe England, but there was this family in Austria who were pretty interested in what I did, and they wanted me to come to Austria, but there wasn't enough people interested there to organize a clinic. But we said, well, I'll tell you what, I'll come and I'll fly to you and help you for half a day. If you put me up in a hotel somewhere or whatever, I'll help you for half a day with your horses. And then you show me around for half a day, and we'll do that for a few days in a row.

([00:15:21](#)):

So in the morning we'd do stuff for the horses in the afternoon, they'd take us places, and the first morning we were there where their horses are, and I'm helping with their horses. And I said, so what are we doing this afternoon? And helmet says, oh, we're going to go to a 11th century castle, 11th century castle. That's cool. And he said, yeah, if you look up on that hill up there, see that big way in the distance on this hill? I could see this big building sort of a thing. And I said, yeah, I can see it. He goes, yeah, that's the castle. And I said, wow, what's it like? He goes, oh, I wouldn't know. I've never been there. The kids have been there. It's with school, but I've never been. It's like there is an 11th century castle within eyesight of where we're live. I've never been there. We have castles all the time. So that was the first day we went.

Majda ([00:16:14](#)):

Not exciting enough.

Warwick Schiller ([00:16:15](#)):

The second day they took us into Vienna and we went to the Spanish writing school, which

Majda ([00:16:19](#)):

Was Oh goodness.

Warwick Schiller ([00:16:21](#)):

Absolutely amazing. Anyway, yeah. So you Europeans and your castles, you kind of take for granted whatever you grew up with. In Australia it's kangaroos and in America it's beautiful scenery or whatever. So you started going to a writing school, and then I was going to ask, are you two twins?

Majda ([00:16:48](#)):

Oh, we are. Yeah, we are twins.

Warwick Schiller ([00:16:50](#)):

So you same age,

Majda ([00:16:52](#)):

Same age? I'm 10 minutes older.

Warwick Schiller ([00:16:54](#)):

You're 10 minutes older. Okay. I am. You get to play that. I'm 10 minute older card.

Majda ([00:16:59](#)):

Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([00:17:03](#)):

Okay. So you start writing in a writing school. Now what I've got in my little notes here is that eventually in 2011, you guys went to a dude ranch in Wyoming for four months. How'd you get from Croatia to, I mean, I know you flew on a plane, but if you think about you guys are in Croatia and it's not a wealthy country, so saving up enough money to go to America for four months and have plane tickets and all that. How did you guys go about that?

Majda ([00:17:36](#)):

Well, the idea came from our neighbor. He's like eight years older than us, and there is a program that's called C C U S A work and travel. And if you're a student, you can apply for a J. It's a J one visa. I still remember that. It's a student working visa, and you can go to the states, you can work for four months and you can actually stay for six. So he gave us the idea that that's possible. So he went over years before us, but I knew I cannot graduate from the university without doing this because that's my only chance to actually be a real cowgirl. So I decided it was in the wintertime, it was 2010 to 2011, and I was like, okay, this is my year. I think I was at my fifth year and the university, I was like, okay, this is my year.

([00:18:26](#)):

It's like now or never. And I started researching because I didn't know that there is three types of ranges. There is working cattle range, there's a dude range, there is guest range. They'll differ in a way. Okay, dude, and guess maybe not that much, but I mean working cattle. So pretty soon I realized, okay, they'll never hire me as a proper hand at a working cattle ranch. So I was like, okay, maybe I should just focus on guessing dude ranches. And eventually it was also a bit of a problem because in the states, they're all asking for references, which I didn't really have. So eventually there was a range. There was like, yeah, we are going to hire you as a housekeeper. I was like, okay, I guess I'm not going to be a Wrangler this year, but I really want to go over. So yes, housekeeping is fine. I'm going to be housekeeper. So I also

have to add here, when it comes to cost, our parents are actually quite okay. So they also helped and yeah. Oh, that's good. Yeah. So yeah, I applied to the program. I got the job, I bought a plane ticket and I went to Wyoming.

Warwick Schiller ([00:19:39](#)):

Oh, so you went on your own the first time?

Majda ([00:19:41](#)):

Yeah, 2011. It was just me and I had the time of my life the following year. Yeah, 2012, we went back to the same place together because as soon as I arrived I was like, no, I need to share this with Sanka because this is us. We need to do this together because it's just the scenery was, I mean, you can imagine how Wyoming looked. I mean, you've probably been more than once. I mean, Wyoming is just the place to be if you want to experience the west.

Warwick Schiller ([00:20:09](#)):

What's funny is I haven't been to Wyoming, and I only just got to Montana for the first time this year, and it was absolutely beautiful.

Majda ([00:20:17](#)):

I mean, the scenery is it. So I was housekeeping for a couple of months and then at the end of the season, but I was riding horses. And then at the end of the season, I guess school starts earlier in the States than it does here. So the college kids all left at the end of August. I think I'm getting this right. And they were out of wranglers. So the manager came up to me and he was like, oh, okay, we are out of, so do you maybe want to take a ride out? I was like, are you kidding me? I'm dying. Yes, please. So I actually started taking rides out the first year, and then in 2012 we applied to the program again, and I actually came back as a head wrangler because they wanted to hire me as the head of wranglers, which was quite a funny experience because there is little girl from Europe bossing cowboys around. It's like I was not really bossing them, but some of them were not taking it well. And then I graduated and I couldn't go anymore. And then in 2013, Sanka went by herself again, but to a different range in Wyoming also.

Warwick Schiller ([00:21:37](#)):

And how was that?

Senka ([00:21:41](#)):

That was probably the best summer I've ever had. I would say we got to do a bit of a different things. This ranch actually had cattle and we would get up every morning and we had to wrangle 200 horses back into the corral. And that was the most fun you can have on horses, chase other horses, honestly. And these horses just, you know how, I mean, those are old range horses, or maybe not even old range horses super broke to ride. You're just there for the ride, you're having the best experience. Super surefooted that we're running over the rocks. And remember the first morning we went and I saw the terrain and I was like, oh my God, he's going to trip. I'm going to fall. Nobody would ever find me again. I'm going to bust my head open. This is going to be in. But it never happened, not once. And it was so fun. It was so fun. And the scenery, I guess was maybe it was different than the first year, but there were

so many rides you could do, and it was just incredibly fun. I had no clue you could do all these things on a horse because here it's all like, you have to be careful. It has to be this humidity,

Majda ([00:22:52](#)):

22

Senka ([00:22:53](#)):

Degrees

Majda ([00:22:54](#)):

And

Senka ([00:22:56](#)):

Always flattering, always. And in America, they use horses instead of vehicles, basically. They go with horses where vehicles can go, and it's a whole different experience. It was awesome, awesome year. I also met people that year that I kept in contact with, and this year one of the girls invited me to America to be her maid of honor at the wedding. So I was in America this year for three months. Oh really? Yeah. So it was lifelong friendships really. It was amazing. I loved it. Oh

Warwick Schiller ([00:23:30](#)):

Wow. Where was the wedding held?

Senka ([00:23:31](#)):

In Nashville.

Warwick Schiller ([00:23:33](#)):

In Nashville. So you get to get to Nashville too?

Senka ([00:23:37](#)):

Yeah, this year I went to Michigan, to Florida, to Alabama. Oh wow. It was a crazy year.

Warwick Schiller ([00:23:45](#)):

You've been all over. Okay, so the story I've got here is, so you guys went back to Croatia, and then somehow you met a man with 60 horses in his pasture who needed to be started.

Senka ([00:24:02](#)):

But through a friend, we actually met a guy who owns a dairy farm in the middle of the country where it's very remote. And just because he loves horses, he's got 60 of them and they're just sitting in the pasture, they're having pretty good lives, so they're just in a herd living their life really. And he's really into western riding and quarter horses. So he bought a few quarter horses for himself, and he needed some people. He needed someone to start the whole thing. He also had a vision of starting a tourist rides, but first he needed the horses to put the tourists on. And since we were in America, he thought that was a great idea and we were like, oh, this is going to be fun. And then we saw these horses, then we were like, we have no clue how to start a horse. I mean, growing up, we started horses, but it was



just, we knew that was not how it's supposed to be done, and if you want to do it properly, that's not how you do it. And so since we figured we really have no clue what we're doing, we got on the internet and we started Googling, and that's how we found a Warwick Schiller from Australia. So I think you had 12 videos on YouTube then. Oh, really?

(00:25:22):

More 15 more than,

Warwick Schiller (00:25:23):

This is going to be 2011 or 12,

Majda (00:25:25):

Isn't it? 12? It was winter. This

Senka (00:25:27):

Was 2000, yeah, yeah.

Majda (00:25:29):

Winter 2012.

Senka (00:25:32):

Yeah,

Warwick Schiller (00:25:33):

I think you said when you emailed me that you had, we were watching the starting a warm blood stay and under

Majda (00:25:39):

That's the first video that, yeah, because we googled how to start a horse, and then that video came up.

Warwick Schiller (00:25:46):

You know what? That horse was interesting. He was kind of half wild when I first started messing with him, but ended up being really, really good. But what was interesting with him was I got him really, really good at the groundwork, really good. And then I worked on all the saddling process. It took me a month of working with him every day to get him to where he could do the groundwork as good with the saddle on as it did with the saddle off. And then the first rides and the first rides outside and everything looked like he was a broke horse sort of thing. And people tend to think that like, oh, you must be good if you can get a horse to do that. But it's not that the good that the talent is actually just being particular about the details and the details.

(00:26:38):

The big details in that was I had him being a certain way in the groundwork. His groundwork was at a certain level, but after I went through all the process of introducing the saddle, his groundwork was not the same after I introduced the saddle, which means the saddle is causing him some concern. And so if you don't get that bit sorted out before you start riding them, now the saddle's causing them concern.

And now the human on my back is causing me even more concern. And then you end up with a horse that's tough, full of hard or likes to buck or bolt or any of those things, you know what I mean? And it's not like it normally takes a month to get him as good with the saddle as it does without the saddle. But he was really, really weird about that. And the writing videos probably looked like they were easy, but the reason they were easy is because I didn't go to the next step until the previous step was really good.

(00:27:36):

And I think the skill there is not a skill, it's just having patience and being particular about things. Sorry to interrupt you there, but if anybody's ever watched any of those videos of me riding that, especially the first ride outside on him, when I first rode him out in the big arena, I walked trot and candid in a row pole or on loose rein, and he cadence when he can't, it's but dump, but dump, but dump, but dump. But he's not rushing around here and there. And it looked like, oh, he's either a really easy horse or you are really talented, and it's neither of those. It's just taking your time and making sure that the previous thing is good before you go to the next thing. Sorry to interrupt. You can continue now.

Majda (00:28:23):

Sorry. But there is a video also here with that horse, and I think the title of the video is How to Put a Saddle on a Horse or something like that. And then he's just standing there with his head to the ground and you throw the saddle pad on him, you throw the saddle and you said, this is how you settle a horse. And then you actually go into telling this story that you just told about how difficult it was and actually how long it took that horse to be this good with basically settling.

Senka (00:28:54):

But what I was going to say, what got us all thrilled was not the writing videos even. It was the groundwork. I know you have him in the round pen and he's running around and you just look at him like this and he stops. And we were like, wait, what?

Majda (00:29:09):

I want to do that.

Senka (00:29:12):

It looked like magic. It was crazy. And then I think then we decided, okay, we need to subscribe. We need to take this seriously. And we did. And then I remember we went through literally every single ground with video you have, and we took notes. This is where you put your hand, you swing with, I don't know, whatever, hand the rope. It's this far from the horse. I have notes. I still have them today. There's a pile of papers pretty big. And then we studied it bookworms before we actually went and did it.

Warwick Schiller (00:29:44):

So my question is, did it work out for you?

Senka (00:29:47):

I mean, that summer we started like five horses and every single horse was exactly the same, and we thought we were magicians. Really. We

Warwick Schiller (00:29:57):

Worked so well. When I said, did that work out for you? That's not, I want you to tell me how good my videos are. What I was going to say was, so I did a clinic in Ohio years ago, and there was a girl there from Croatia, she's a show jumper from Croatia, and we're chatting, and at lunchtime she comes up and she says, I've told this story before, so I'm going to tell it the same way I normally tell it, so don't pick on my Croatian accent. But she says, how you make any money off your subscription, your video only 29 95 a month? And I said, yeah. She goes, well, I paid the 29 95 and in one month I watch all the videos.

[\(00:30:43\)](#):

I was kidding. And I said, well, you mustn't have slept much. And this was probably five years ago. So right now there's probably six, probably about 400 hours, four or 500 hours of real-time footage on there. There was probably 250 hours of footage on there at the time. And so I'm joking, and I said, oh, he mustn't have slept much. And her husband looks at me and goes, no, this month she does not sleep much. And I said, you mean to tell me you watched every video on there in a month? And she said, yes. And I said, because she was saying, how do you make any money only charging 29 9 5 for the month? And I said, I know people have been subscribing for a year and haven't seen half the videos. You know what I mean? And I said, how? She says, we get talking and she says, I'm a showjumper from Croatia. She says, I have spent the hundreds of thousands of dollars on the lessons, and I get more from your 29 95, and I have from the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

[\(00:31:50\)](#):

I'm kind of flabbergasted because no one gets that much. Well, not no one, but most people don't get that much information out of it because they can't take that much information in. And we get talking. And it turns out she has a PhD in astrophysics and maybe she had two PhDs. One was in astrophysics and one was in molecular, no, no, quantum. I think she was quantum physics. She had a degree, a PhD in quantum physics and maybe another PhD in molecular biology or something like that. And her husband has a PhD in astrophysics and a master's in something else. But this is someone who can take in vast amounts of information. She could sit there and watch every video for a month, take it in. You know what I mean? But when she said, oh, I watched for a month and I've got all this stuff, and I'm like, no, you didn't.

[\(00:32:47\)](#):

But obviously she did. And it sounds like you guys really devoted yourselves to not watch at once and then go and ride your horse for a month, but watch the video, take notes, go try it, come back, watch the video. And like you said, paying particular attention to where is his hand, where is his feet, where is the, I've had people tell me, oh, I tried that exercise but my horse just moved way away from me. I said, well, a particular exercise. I tried that exercise, but when I did it, my horse ended up down the pasture somewhere. And I go, well, but what happened when he hit the end of the lead rope? Oh, I did it without a halter. That particular exercise needs to be done with a Holter on. There are ones that are done loose or just things that tell me they didn't even see the video. Yeah, but anyway, sorry, carry on. Let's hear about this.

Senka [\(00:33:45\)](#):

But you're a very good teacher. You're very analytical. You explain what you do structural. There's structural, there's a head and a tail to your videos. There's not just some ranting for 10 minutes that you don't even know what the person was talking about. There's lots of information. That's why we liked your videos so much. The content was very good for us. And I'm sure a lot of people would agree, but you're a very good teacher. You're very good at conveying knowledge. You're very good at that, I think. And I had a lot of professors and teachers, and I think I'm qualified to say something like that.

Warwick Schiller ([00:34:27](#)):

Thank you. The thing, when I was getting taught things, a lot of times I didn't understand why or what to do if it was slightly different. And I always kind of told myself, if I get to the point where I am teaching others, I want to teach them in a way that I wish I was taught in the first place. So I don't want to be just told information. I want to be told the why's, the where's the how's, so that if it's not exactly the same next time I got an idea of what to do with it. And I think that's probably one of my only skills. So if you think about a skill someone has, it's kind of innate talent. I wasn't innately talented with horses at all, but the conveying of ideas in a way other people can understand, I think that's a skill I have.

([00:35:19](#)):

It's not like I sit awake at night thinking, oh, how could I figure out how to explain something like I'm in front of a person and a horse and a crowd of people or whatever and stuff just comes out of me. So yeah, if I was going to say I have a skill, that would be it. And the other other unquote skill with horses is just being patient enough and just being particular about taking care of the little things. So you guys, we don't have to talk about the videos too much. So you guys got quite a bit of information out of the videos. You started five horses and they all turned out pretty easy.

Majda ([00:35:56](#)):

Easy.

Senka ([00:35:57](#)):

So what I was going to say, what was great that there was two of us, so like you said, this guy had a horse just doing stuff without the lead rope or whatever. We could correct each other. We were like, no, no, no, this is not, you were too close to the horse or whatever. There was no mirrors, but we were watching each other doing things, so that was great. We could correct each other.

Warwick Schiller ([00:36:20](#)):

That's the thing with when you watch enough videos, you know what it should look like. But from a first person perspective, you might think you were doing a thing a certain way or you're a certain distance from the horse or your lead ropes a certain length or your feet are doing a certain thing, but they're not. And I always tell people, I think I've actually got a video on the subscription now, how to get the most out of the videos. And it says, watch the video, go out and try the thing. And then when you try the thing, I guarantee you something's going to happen that wasn't in the video, and you're going to go, oh God, I dunno what to do with this thing. But if you go back and watch the video again, I did actually say, if this happens, but you didn't take it in because it hasn't happened to you. And I tell people, watch the video, do some work, watch the video, do the work, watch the video, do the work. And when you think you can't get any more out of the video, then set your phone up and video yourself doing it and then watch it. Because by this point in time, you've seen the videos enough to where you what should look like. But then you watch yourself do it, you're like, oh, I didn't realize I was doing that. So it was great having the two of you to bouncy ideas off each other.

Senka ([00:37:30](#)):

The downside of the whole thing was that we thought we got really good because the horse were so easy. We rode them in robe halter after, from the first ride, we thought we got this. And the big idea we had was to just start a tourist horse operation. That's what we wanted to do. We wanted to start the horses, have the people come, take them out, whatever. And it didn't work out with this guy in Croatia.

And so we started thinking what to do because staying in Croatia wasn't really an option. And then plus we

Majda ([00:38:04](#)):

Also wanted to Googling. We wanted to be cowgirl. We wanted to experience that lifestyle. After spending some time on the ranch in the States, we really wanted to live on the ranch and just ride horses or whatever, work with horses every day, all day. And we were just trying to figure out how exactly do we go about this predicament?

Warwick Schiller ([00:38:26](#)):

The thing about this podcast is I have people on here who have lived amazing lives, and I like to get 'em to share their story and maybe inspire other people. And Sanka, you just said staying in Croatia wasn't an option. It wasn't option. If you wanted to not follow your passion, it wasn't like you're getting kicked out of Croatia. I just wanted to point that out that some people might've let that, not miss that, but when Ska said staying in Croatia wasn't an option, the bit she didn't say was, if I'm going to follow my dreams and my passion, if I'm not just going to just get up in the morning, go to work, trudge home, eat. So I just wanted to point that out and that's why I've got you guys on here because the story you're about to tell me is going to be amazing this next part. So yeah, so staying in Croatia wasn't an option and you couldn't do the thing in Croatia. So what happened next? The

Majda ([00:39:40](#)):

Thing is, I found a job at the meantime, in the meantime and just an office job, and I was going to work every day to the office and all of that, but I was dreaming of this ranch life. And then Sanka didn't have a job, so we were like, okay, you don't have a job, so maybe we can just send you around the world to see if you can find us a place where we can move. So Ska actually went to Mexico and she stayed there for five months. She also lived on the ranch with Mexican Vaqueros. And I think there is a bit that there is also super interesting. I think ska should also share that

Warwick Schiller ([00:40:17](#)):

I think Sanka should really share her experience in Mexico, living on the ranch with the buck adults.

Senka ([00:40:24](#)):

But it was half a guest range. So we had tourists sometimes, but most of the time there was no tourists and it was just us and the Mexican cowboys that only spoke Spanish and not even Spanish, they only spoke their dialect of Spanish.

Warwick Schiller ([00:40:39](#)):

Where in Mexico was it?

Senka ([00:40:41](#)):

It was right under Arizona. It's Sonora and it's Sonora Desert as well. The scenery is breathtaking. I could not get enough of the scenery. Oh my God, it's crazy. It

Warwick Schiller ([00:40:56](#)):

Looks like a Western movie. It

Senka ([00:40:58](#)):

It looks like better than a Western movie. It was insane. Okay. Anyway, but the Cowboys, yeah, my gosh, the culture is a bit different than what I'm used to. And so I wouldn't say they looked down on me, but maybe they did a little bit because I'm a blonde girl from Europe, but even though I begged them to take me chase the cows around and whatnot, but sometimes they just wouldn't. The thing was there was a mare there that backed off the main cowboy, and these guys are super legit. They don't just fall off. I saw them roping. They would never miss, ever. They're legit. This is what they do. So when they get backed off, it's a big deal. And so he never wanted to touch the mare again. And it was this super cute little mare. And since I thought I got it all figured out just by starting five horses, I was like, I'll fix your horse.

([00:42:02](#)):

And I was like, I'll ride her in two weeks. And they laughed at my face, they laughed at me, these cowboys, and I was like, whatever. And so they started bringing her in for me to work with her. And I remember the first time I worked with the mayor, they were not interested at all. I was in this round pen, so they weren't interested, but they set maybe 60 meters away from the round pit and they lined up their chairs so they could watch. So they actually were interested. And the thing was still, I had no clue what, I mean, I thought I knew what I was doing, but looking back now, I was just overconfident. But I wrote the mayor in six days, so they were like half the time I told them. And since that moment, they never said, oh, good job. They never said anything like that. But the change in attitude was I somehow deserved their, what do you call it?

Warwick Schiller ([00:43:01](#)):

Respect.

Senka ([00:43:03](#)):

Yes, that's the word. And then since that day, there was never a question whether I was coming with them to help with the cows. They were just like, you're coming and you will settle the marere. And I felt accomplished. It was a crazy feeling. So that was very interesting.

Warwick Schiller ([00:43:22](#)):

But I'm sitting here just beaming just thinking about that. That's so cool.

Senka ([00:43:31](#)):

So that was super cool. And I have super cool pictures from Mexico as well. But anyway, so yeah, going back to the previous thing, and so Mya was working in the office and I started Googling just horse jobs for the summer or something, and there was an ad on a German website in English saying training of wild horses in Namibia. And I was like, oh my gosh, this sounds so romantic. This is for us, this is, I'm doing this. So actually that was 2015. I went to Namibia for two months because the guy was a German of German descent, but he was actually African,

Warwick Schiller ([00:44:16](#)):

Lots of born

Senka ([00:44:16](#)):

And raised in

Warwick Schiller ([00:44:17](#)):

Africa, Africanas on that, especially in Namibia, I think it was lot of German.

Senka ([00:44:23](#)):

And I had no clue where Namibia was. I had no clue that there was even any white people there owning farms.

Warwick Schiller ([00:44:32](#)):

So if you guys are listening at home, and Namibia is on the southwest coast of Africa

Majda ([00:44:41](#)):

Above South Africa.

Warwick Schiller ([00:44:42](#)):

Yeah, it's above South Africa.

Senka ([00:44:45](#)):

And so I got there and they took me to the farm, which was like 600 kilometers from the city. So you were talking remote, this is next level remote.

Majda ([00:44:57](#)):

I just wanted to say that the farm, the owners were looking for someone to come to the farm and help them train the horses. So we thought, okay, this is great. This is the opportunity we've been waiting for. And they really liked the fact that there is two of us and that we are sisters because life on the farm in the middle of nowhere gets really, I dunno, all sorts of things. So they thought it's great that we would have each other and that we are sisters. And then also we were thinking, okay, this is a big move so we're not just going to pack our bags and leave. So that's why we'd send Sanka for two months to Namibia to check out the farm and see how will this actually be what we were looking for because I didn't want to just quit my job and go to Africa. So that's why Sanko went in 2015 for two months to see if this is the place. I just wanted to give it a little bit of an introduction.

Warwick Schiller ([00:45:56](#)):

So when you first got there, what was your first impression of being out in the middle of nowhere in Namibia

Senka ([00:46:08](#)):

At that time? They had Mark and Miranda Lion helping them with the horses. Oh really? Okay. Yeah. So I was with them for a month at the farm and good thing that they were there because I would be completely lost with the horses. So they actually, the owner of the farm, that was the third year that they were coming to the farm to teach the son how to train these horses. And

Warwick Schiller ([00:46:34](#)):

Can I just interrupt you for a second there? So Mark Lyon is a horse trainer who kind of travels all over the world, very, very handy. And Mark actually has only one eye. He lost his eye, he was attacked by a zebra. He lost his eye to a zebra in Africa a number of years ago. So I dunno if you met him before or after that, but I just wonder kind of, so who Mark was and Miranda, his wife, so they're not together anymore, but Miranda, when I first met her, she's got that mysterious spiritual, I'm not, I dunno, she kind is all the complected. I'm not sure if she's Native American or not, but she reminds, I dunno, she's very witchy and I mean that in a nice way, but she just has this mysterious mystique about her. She's a lovely lady.

Senka ([00:47:35](#)):

Well actually Mark lost the eye on that farm on the first year when they got to Namibia. I think he got kicked on the third day or something and she was left and he went back to America and she stayed on the farm by herself doing clinics and everything. It was not easy for her. I mean it wasn't easy for him either. So I heard the story from Mark, actually.

Warwick Schiller ([00:47:56](#)):

He was kicked by a zebra. He

Senka ([00:47:58](#)):

Got kicked, right? He wanted to give it treats or something. It was a pet zebra and they're the worst pet ones. He was kind of like naughty and whatever, and he was going to give it treats I think. And the thing just turned around and kicked him right in the eye.

Warwick Schiller ([00:48:14](#)):

So this wasn't a wild zebra that Mark's trying to train or something. This is the pet zebra.

Senka ([00:48:20](#)):

Yeah, very naughty pet zebra. And yeah, I forgot the name of the zebra. Zebra wasn't there when we got there or I got there. But how the owner of the farm got the contact of Mark and Miranda was through Martin Black, actually. So Martin Black used to come to Namibia. He came a few times and taught all these people that were into horses. He gave clinics in Namibia, which is super cool. And then that's how they got Mark's contact because Martin Black told the owner of the farm that Mark Klein trains Mustangs anyways in America. So why wouldn't he come and help them with their wild horses?

([00:49:05](#)):

So that's the connection. So the farm was absolutely stunning. And that farm was actually the prettiest place I've seen in three years in Namibia, that farm. So it was just stunning the way they have their little, the buildings fitting into the environment. They were very architecturally savvy, I would say. They were very good with designing, just building things. The farm has or had 250 horses and it's a big farm. It's like 18,000 acres or hectares or whatever, big number. So the horses live outside and first time they basically see people is when they're three or four and they need to come in for training. Very exciting.

([00:49:59](#)):

Crazy thing is they're scared of you. You have to desensitize this horse to you. He's like, you have his full focus like this and it's snorting at you and you cannot come close. Great. But when I was there for the first two months, mark and Miranda were starting them and that was, they were really fast. The horses



were bucking, mark just doesn't fall off. I was like, what the hell? What I mean? And then one of these horses, I was just looking from the fence, I was fence sitting. And then Mark told me coming here and this little horse was in there and he was like, catch it. I don't know. And I couldn't even get close. And Miranda, the day before was saddling this horse and I was like, what is this? What is this?

(00:50:53):

But still, I was thinking maybe we could do it. Really? And I dunno what I was thinking. The cool thing was they were really into cowboy things like this whole family was, they had proper settles all imported from America. They had the right gear. These horses, they were wild horses, but they were purposefully bred. They had paint horse stallions or porte stallions from South Africa. So the stallions were actually not wild, which is pretty funny. The mares were wild and the mares were just mixed breed whatever they had. So they actually looked pretty nice, these horses. So everything was about horses and about cowboy.

Warwick Schiller (00:51:36):

I got to interrupt here. I've talked on the podcast before about manifesting things about if you think about something enough, it will appear. So not only do you in its German magazine, not only do you read that they want some people to start horses in Namibia, you go to Namibia and you find that these are the, it's the exact tack that you would want to start a horse in. It's exactly how you want to ride a horse. And it's like how do you manifest that from Croatia? And it's just a matter of putting it out there and wanting enough. And that's a great manifesting story. Sorry to interrupt there. So you're just telling me about the tack and stuff?

Senka (00:52:27):

Yeah, but no, but I totally agree that that's exactly what it was.

Warwick Schiller (00:52:31):

You could have gotten mib and they want you to train jumping horses, endurance in English saddles or whatever. You know what I mean? That would be, I mean there's probably not many western saddles in the whole of Africa, let alone Namibia. There's probably no western saddles in Namibia. And you go to the property, the one place in Namibia that this guy's into the western stuff

Majda (00:52:52):

And he brings in Mark and Miranda every year. Like what the

Warwick Schiller (00:52:56):

Hell? And Martin Black. Yeah, yeah,

Majda (00:52:58):

Exactly.

Warwick Schiller (00:52:59):

And you don't know any of this before you go there?

Senka (00:53:02):

No, no, no. I didn't know any of this. Any of this. Oh, that's amazing. And their son learned how to rope from Martin Black. And I don't rope obviously, but I like to swing the rope. And so he could actually show us how to do that as well. He was really good at roping, actually. The sun was, the facilities were great. They had the coolest round pen. Everything was really set up. Awesome. And then we decided to just apply for the work permit. And I think the owner, there's a rumor going on that the owner of the farm had to give someone in the government a bowl for the favor for the work permits. That's how

Warwick Schiller ([00:53:44](#)):

The little bit I know about how Africa works. That does not surprise me.

Senka ([00:53:48](#)):

Yeah, yeah. So I thought it was very funny. And then the following year we actually got the work permits and the following year, 2016 in March, packed the bags and off we went.

Warwick Schiller ([00:54:00](#)):

And I heard a rumor somewhere that you guys, there's only two of you, but you bought three plane tickets.

Senka ([00:54:08](#)):

We took our border col dog with us to

Warwick Schiller ([00:54:14](#)):

That's awesome.

Senka ([00:54:16](#)):

Yeah.

Majda ([00:54:19](#)):

I just wanted to add to the bit where we got the work permits. Maybe this ties in nicely with what we were saying before about the war and uncertainty and whatever, because it took me a year to get this office job that I had, and I had it for three years. And now we got the permits and I got scared because now what I'm going to resign. And it took me a year. I was sitting at home, there was no work. They don't want to hire you as a waitress because you have a university degree, but you cannot do anything else because you don't have experience. And our parents were fine with the state three times and Mexico and this and that. But when we came to them with Africa, they got properly mad.

([00:55:08](#)):

And I get that. I mean, they were so worried. Now what, I'm going to just quit my job and off we go to Africa to have volunteer to this farm. They were really not happy with any of this. And then we decided that if we do get the permits, then we have to go, this is the sign we have to go. And then we got the permits and I was like, oh goodness, now I need to resign. And I remember myself, we don't hand in notices or anything. You go in and you talk face-to-face to your supervisor. So I remember myself sitting there on the couch, my hands were shaking and sweating and I was like, oh my goodness, what the hell am I doing? Have I lost my mind completely? But yeah, there was no other way for me anyways, but it was quite a tough situation for me. But yeah, anyways, I resigned and yeah, we bought three plane

tickets for one for the dog because as far as we were concerned, we were leaving forever. So we couldn't leave the dog behind. And yeah, we went to Namibia and we stayed on the farm for almost a year training the horses.

Warwick Schiller ([00:56:31](#)):

So in my notes here, I've got you in Namibia from 2016 to 2019, which is longer than a year. So did you end up staying in Namibia after that? Did you?

Majda ([00:56:43](#)):

Yeah, we did because yeah, some stuff on the farm were not really all that great. And after a year we decided the

Senka ([00:56:51](#)):

Drought also, there

Majda ([00:56:53](#)):

Was, yeah, also they had a severe drought. The horses were skinny, they started dying, like starving. And yeah, we just sat down one night and we decided, okay, maybe it's time to leave the farm. But we also didn't really wanted to go home. We wanted to stay, but we didn't really know how. But in those two months, the Sanko was there in 2015. And throughout this year we actually made friends. Even though that sounds quite crazy if you consider how we were living in the middle of nowhere on a farm. But Namibian people are very inclusive and especially horse community is small. So we made friends and this one lady, and everyone knows everyone. It's quite insane. One lady, her husband was a good friend with a lodge owner, and this lodge is one of the most famous lodges in Namibia. And

Warwick Schiller ([00:57:54](#)):

What's it called?

Majda ([00:57:56](#)):

Vean. It's called Vean.

Warwick Schiller ([00:58:00](#)):

How do you spell that? Because I'm going to look it up.

Majda ([00:58:02](#)):

W O L W E D A N S.

Warwick Schiller ([00:58:12](#)):

Okay, I got that. Yeah, I'll look that up.

Majda ([00:58:15](#)):

And she said, no, no, no, you guys cannot leave the country. I'll search you out. Give me a week. And she made some calls and it turned out that at once they have horses and they're looking for someone to take people out on rides.

Warwick Schiller ([00:58:31](#)):

So this is a safari lodge,

Senka ([00:58:38](#)):

It's a nature reserve, but it's more about the nature than the animals. There's ORs and the gelles and stuff, and a few cheetahs, but there's no big game or anything like that. I mean, by being, I mean the elephants and stuff.

Majda ([00:58:52](#)):

So wildness was more about the scenery and the dunes. There's lots of dunes where the lodge is. So yeah, we said, huh, yes.

Senka ([00:59:05](#)):

I want to go back to the wild horses, how we actually,

Majda ([00:59:09](#)):

Oh,

Senka ([00:59:10](#)):

You know what I mean?

Majda ([00:59:11](#)):

How we didn't die.

Warwick Schiller ([00:59:13](#)):

Oh, we're going to go back to the first year in the mibi at the farm here in a minute. I'm just wanting to know where we all go to.

Senka ([00:59:20](#)):

Okay. Okay. Okay.

Majda ([00:59:22](#)):

So yeah, we went to the lodge and for the first five or six months, they had horses that were rented from this guy in Namibia. It doesn't really matter. But the owner actually wanted to get his own horses. So after these horses went home in October, that was now 2017, I think we helped them buy 10 new horses. Five of them were broke, sort of five of them were green. And we were like, yeah, we are going to start your trailer riding operation. No problem. So we ordered the saddles from South Africa, tech from somewhere else, all these things. And yeah, we started five horses and restarted the other five. And we took beginners out riding and oh, summer even. Actually went to Japan for three months to learn a bit more about body control and raining goodness, I forgot about that. Anyway,

Warwick Schiller ([01:00:20](#)):

Just happened to forget that you went to Japan for three months,

Majda ([01:00:23](#)):

Just

Warwick Schiller ([01:00:23](#)):

Because were talking. That's what happens when you live an adventurous lifestyle. You forget about things like that. So let's go back to when you two and your dog, what's your dog's name?

Majda ([01:00:37](#)):

Vilma.

Warwick Schiller ([01:00:38](#)):

Vilma. So you two and Vilma shows up in, you show up at this place in Namibia. Mea, what was your first impression of this farm? In the middle of nowhere in Namibia?

Majda ([01:00:58](#)):

It was so big and

([01:01:07](#)):

Yeah. Okay. No, so the first, lemme just think about it. We can take this out. Let me just, just think about it. So yeah, as we arrived, SCA was actually there already for a month and a half because I had my notice period that I needed to work off or whatever. So SKO went month and a half before me and then I arrived with the dog and I also needed to take care of the papers and all of that. So as I arrived, Saint already had everything figured out. So she was like, okay, tomorrow we are going riding. And there was this guy from the states, I'm not really sure why he was there. I guess the owner brought him over to help them with something. No.

Senka ([01:01:52](#)):

So Mark was there to help bring Americans do the horse safaris in Namibia. Thats what he

Majda ([01:01:58](#)):

Was there in

Senka ([01:01:59](#)):

Hunting, but hunting and stuff. Yeah. So hunting on the horses, whatever, because he was doing pack trip or he still is and does pack trips in America.

Warwick Schiller ([01:02:08](#)):

Okay. Yep.

Senka ([01:02:09](#)):

So they got in touch with him, brought him to Namibia to see how the whole thing works and maybe they can now bring Americans to Namibia to hunt or something. Anyway, he was there.

Majda ([01:02:17](#)):

Yeah, it's a different mark. His was also Mark, but I remember, so okay, this following day we are going riding and Mark had three horses in the Petock, each horse in one petock. And Cinco was like, okay, you can take that one. No, no. Cinco was like, could you please catch the gray one? It was like, yeah, sure. I can catch a horse. And I go into the petock and this horse starts running away from me. I cannot get close snorting ears up like that, snorting at me. I was like, who's going to ride this thing? Is this like the horse we're going to take riding? What is this? And I was like, Cinca, I cannot catch this horse. And she was like, oh, just do what we usually do Warwick stuff. And I was like, okay, okay, I can do that. I can do that. So in three minutes I had a halter on this horse, but I was still thinking, what the hell is going on? Who's going to ride this horse? Think I was riding that one. And we had them all settled up and then Mark wanted to get on his horse and this horse just went off bucking and Mark falls off. I was like, are we really going riding? This is too much. Yeah. So Mark eventually got back home. We had a nice ride in the end. I mean the scenery was insane, but the horses were just so crazy. Next level crazy. And those were riding horses

Senka ([01:03:40](#)):

That set up the scene and

Majda ([01:03:44](#)):

For the year,

Warwick Schiller ([01:03:48](#)):

But what weren't crazy, they were just poorly prepared for what was being asked of them.

Majda ([01:03:53](#)):

Of course. No, yes, definitely, definitely. And rushed into the riding. No, definitely, definitely. There was me standing there. I've never seen anything like it. Now people are saying, oh, we're going to ride these guys. How do you mean ride them? Cannot even catch one. The thing is these

Senka ([01:04:14](#)):

Horses have completely different issues than a stable horse has because the one that's used to people ignores you and whatever runs you over these guys, you can't get close to them. They're ssn at you. They're just so focused on you. If you move your little finger like this, they go like whoop all the radars on. So that was a whole different ball game, a whole different ball game. And I guess eventually we just realized we cannot rush them into anything because AI will get seriously hurt in the middle of nowhere. That's not how we can do things. And we just went back to the beginning, started doing

([01:05:01](#)):

With each horse, no matter if they were ridden before or not, they all had serious issues. It was just crazy. And we felt sorry for them. You couldn't leave them tied up. If you walk in front of them, they go berserk. They start pulling back because they're scared of, they're so scared. They were so scared of people. And we just started from the beginning doing the groundwork that we learned from watching your videos. And sometimes it would take six months with the horse on the ground, which is a long time. And the problem is at some point you just kind of want to get on this horse because you've been doing these things for so long. You're just like, I just want to ride you once. Please. So that's where I learned to be patient. Like you said, you had to be so patient. So patient. No expectations, which is so hard. It's hard, especially for me. I'm a bit high energy and I'm like fast. That was my big lesson.

[\(01:06:04\)](#):

Plus we had to get so creative, we had to desensitize them to people, which was great because there was two of us. So like I said, we could bounce off ideas of each other, which is, it's great. It's great. You have two brains thinking the same direction. Some stuff with it, you would laugh probably. I think everybody would just laugh. You feel silly doing these things. For example, you have the horse on a lead rope and doing some groundwork. God forbid you trip or something. God forbid this horse is going to. So everything, that kind of stuff. And I remember there was this one horse, I did groundwork with him for six months and I was like, I can't do this anymore. I'm going to ride you. And he was fine on the ground. I was like, okay, okay. So I get on and what happens? And he's walking around the round pen, mighta has this on the video actually. So he's walking around and I'm like, let's trot now. He was totally fine. And he goes,

[\(01:07:06\)](#):

And I was like, and then I was like, and I fall off of course. So he was scared of my voice above him. He was fine with my voice on his level, but me above him, not me, just my voice. Me saying stuff. So what I did was I would get on him, I would bend him and I would sing and I would do all sorts of stuff. Basically desensitizing him to any sorts of noise coming from me, that kind of deal. And then eventually this horse actually, not to brag a little, why not? He ended up doing a two day cattle drive. And I was so proud of this one. Very proud. This whole thing took eight months. I mean,

Warwick Schiller [\(01:07:53\)](#):

Yeah, you know what? Horses like that, that's a little bit like that black stone. And I was talking about in the beginning, much longer, much longer process. But the thing is, if you can take your time, eventually you get to where they're as good as a horse that take as much time. And I think most horses can get to that point. You just got to go at their speed and keep things at the level that they're comfortable with. You've got to stretch their comfort zone. But ones like that, had this one been started before

Majda [\(01:08:38\)](#):

He

Warwick Schiller [\(01:08:38\)](#):

Was, yeah. So you're not just like with that black stallion, he was just kind of weird about things, but he didn't have, I wasn't unraveling traumatic experiences from before. Whereas your so whether it's with a human or with a horse, it takes a lot longer if you've got previous bad experiences to unravel.

Majda [\(01:09:04\)](#):

But I wanted to say that what was very interesting for me with those wild horses is that all of them eventually started to trust us. It was insane. They trusted us. And then you think, oh, look at him. He's so good. I can ride him outside just with a neck rope. Oh, look at Migo, this horse is fine. And then literally a stranger comes in and this horse, this stranger cannot touch this horse. So realized they trusted us. They were not good with everything. They just trusted us so we could do stuff with them, to them, whatever. But no, they were not good overall. Not that they need it to be. I'm just saying that that was a completely new experience to me because sort of say normal horses, whatever that is, you don't have to, not every single person needs to gain their trust in order to touch them. You don't need to go through the whole process just so you can touch their muzzle. It doesn't work like that. And these horses

were just so trusty with us, I don't know. And then someone else comes in and just from the beginning, they need to take this horse from the beginning to earn their trust

Warwick Schiller ([01:10:23](#)):

San think about that eight months. You're not just training the horse for eight months. You're interacting with that horse. You are communicating your awareness of their thresholds. And I really think that is one of the big trust building things is letting them know that you know where their no spot is and staying below it all the time. Yeah, I just think that's a huge part of that. So tell me, I love Africa. I love the wildlife in Africa on this farm. Was there a lot of wildlife around there?

Majda ([01:11:07](#)):

Just antelopes, not much else. Oh, they had leopards in the mountains actually. Not that we ever saw. Any

Senka ([01:11:16](#)):

Baboons.

Majda ([01:11:17](#)):

Baboons. Oh yeah, they had stopped. Wait a second, come to think of it. And also the problem with the horses was that since they were living outside in the mountains by themselves, some of them would get attacked by these wild predators. And there was a horse that had a huge hole in his neck. Half of the neck was missing because he got attacked by lip when he was small. Fortunately they found him somewhere in the field and brought him in and doctor him. But yeah, otherwise they actually know how many horses they had because leopards would get them and stuff like that.

Warwick Schiller ([01:11:56](#)):

Did you train that horse?

Majda ([01:11:59](#)):

We did. Even though that one was a full quarter horse. So you can totally tell the difference in the personality. He was much calmer and way easier than the half breads they had. That one ended up being sold actually.

Warwick Schiller ([01:12:13](#)):

Really, you just think about the instinct of a horse that hasn't had anything happen to them of something on their back. When they buck and run stuff, that's an instinct because that's where predators attack us from. And then you have a horse that actually has been attacked by a predator. They'll pull 'em down by the, just in front of the withers there. They do it with wildebeest and all sorts of things. Imagine trying to serve the spinal cord, but having that sort of trauma on top of built in instinct and then having to teach that horse to be ridden under saddle. I bet that was a bit of undoing right there.

Senka ([01:13:05](#)):

And they were so, so protective of their legs because these animals come for their legs and their belly. They were so protective of the legs and the belly. So that's something that you never basically fix that



and you shouldn't maybe because that's how they survive out there. Yeah, we fell off a lot for no reason. When you say they just started bucking, but literally they would just start bucking, right?

Majda ([01:13:38](#)):

No, it was a huge learning curve for us because ASCA mentioned we thought we have it all figured out and we really didn't. So yeah, you take one horse, then you learn with this one, then you fall off, then you take another one, then you learn with this one, then you don't fall off. It's like, oh my goodness. Yeah, we were very gullible and very, I don't know. Yeah,

Senka ([01:14:04](#)):

That's okay.

Majda ([01:14:05](#)):

Yeah, it's okay. We are here to tell the story.

Warwick Schiller ([01:14:09](#)):

Do you guys have any crazy stories from out there?

Majda ([01:14:16](#)):

We had an oryx coming to a room, huh?

Senka ([01:14:20](#)):

No, but once we took the horses, we put them in the truck or lorry as they call it, and we took them to another farm. And on this farm they had rhinos and all sorts of stuff. It was before my dad got to Namibia and we rode, we chased the giraffes around and stuff. And it was really fun. When it stopped being fun was when we got to the rhinos and a rhino apparently is faster than a horse and they can't see. They're very aggressive. And the photo shoot was pretty amazing, but I was literally afraid for my life. My palms were sweating. I could feel my horse's heart, boom, boom, the horse would shake. But my heart was beating us hard and these things were facing us. And there was a baby that was super nosy. So he started coming up to us and then we're like, what if the mom decides that we were a threat then? And then a friend from Germany, we made friends in the meantime. So her horse kind of jumped sideways and she fell on his neck and we were like, and we all stopped breeding because we didn't know if she was going to fall off now or not. What if she falls off, came over.

Warwick Schiller ([01:15:33](#)):

So after spending a year at that first place where you're training the horses and then you ended up at this other place, Walden, is that how you say it?

Majda ([01:15:43](#)):

Volvo dance?

Warwick Schiller ([01:15:45](#)):

Yeah, I just looked it up. It's beautiful there.

Majda ([01:15:48](#)):

Yeah,

Warwick Schiller ([01:15:50](#)):

It is. And you spent a couple of years at that place?

Majda ([01:15:55](#)):

Almost two years,

Warwick Schiller ([01:15:56](#)):

Yeah. And how was your experience there? Do you enjoy that?

Majda ([01:16:03](#)):

Well, if you compare it to the farm, it was a completely different, I mean, in my mind we had two Namibia. One was on the farm and the other one was at the lodge because the experience was totally different. First of all, on the farm we were by ourselves a lot. And at the lodge there was another a hundred people working.

Warwick Schiller ([01:16:22](#)):

Oh

Majda ([01:16:22](#)):

Wow. Yeah. So our social life got really busy, I guess.

Warwick Schiller ([01:16:29](#)):

So which one did you prefer? Did you prefer the solitude on the farm or did you prefer the other one?

Majda ([01:16:36](#)):

As far as the social aspect goes, then I prefer the lodge. But horsepower, I preferred, I preferred the farm. The problem with the lodge was that horses were just one of the activities that they were offering and it was very difficult for us to explain to the management that horses are alive, they have certain needs and all of these things. So it was a constant struggle to sort of push for what we want the horses instead of what they think, how we should do it. So that part was better on the farm because the farm was all about the horses. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:17:25](#)):

So you sent me some pictures or video maybe of riding out in the middle of nowhere in Namibia. Was that on the farm or was that at the lodge?

Senka ([01:17:35](#)):

That was the lodge.

Warwick Schiller ([01:17:37](#)):

Oh,

Senka ([01:17:37](#)):

Okay. That was at the lodge.

Warwick Schiller ([01:17:39](#)):

Yeah.

Senka ([01:17:41](#)):

Okay. Actually, I dunno, I think No, no, it was at the lodge, the one without anything. Right. Bridal lesson, is that the one?

Warwick Schiller ([01:17:48](#)):

Yeah, you sent me, you were riding a horse bridal list with maybe a neck rope and you're out in the middle of nowhere.

Majda ([01:17:55](#)):

That was the lodge then

Senka ([01:17:57](#)):

I guess it was the lodge. I dunno, we rode them like that at the farm as well, so I don't know which. Yeah, yeah. But what I was going to say about the lodge, the good thing was, so we kind of figured the whole training thing a bit more out now we had more experience and that was, I guess we took it to the next level I would say. And that was great. That was great for us to just start teaching them some more advanced things and whatnot. So yeah, that was basically the lodge, what I think we got from the lodge the most in regards to horses.

Warwick Schiller ([01:18:47](#)):

And so you said the lodge also did not have much in the way of wildlife. And the reason I ask is just orx. The reason I ask is because when I was in probably South Africa, I think I had people tell me that if you really want to go and see the big five go to Namibia. Namibia has the big five, there's a lot less tour, it's cheaper, there's a lot less tourists there. So did you guys get to go and have a look around and see some of the wildlife while you were there?

Senka ([01:19:22](#)):

Well not in Namibia. I think they might be talking about up north. We were more in the middle of the country towards the south, but Mya went on a safari with then boyfriend and his family to Botswana and that's when she saw a bunch of things like lions and that's

Majda ([01:19:39](#)):

Elephants and stuff.

Warwick Schiller ([01:19:43](#)):

So how'd you like the sattari in Botswana?

Majda ([01:19:47](#)):

It was insane because I thought Namibia is remote, but boom, Botswana is just next level remote and rural Botswana is so rural. I mean you have a map and then they said it's like state highway number, whatever, and it's actually a one track sand road and that's a state highway. I was like, oh my goodness. And then you actually need to move to the side if there is traffic, incoming traffic,

([01:20:18](#)):

Like okay, this is, I dunno, there's something wrong with this picture. But no, I loved it. It was awesome. But just the ruralness, I was pretty amazed by that because you don't get that. I guess Nabi is big and remote and some towns are very far removed, but Botswana is just, we were at the gas station, there was a herd of cows coming through the gas station and that's like normal. I was like, you don't see that in Namibia. It was quite cool. And the camping, and they call it dry camping where you actually basically just get a patch of dirt where you can pitch your tent. So you need to come prepared. And luckily these people are African so they knew how to do it. They came all prepared and kited out. But I don't know how Europeans do it. I mean honestly, I don't know. You just come from Europe and you're going to do some camping in Africa. Oh you won't. No, you just going to, I don't know. I dunno. Struggle is what you're going to do.

Warwick Schiller ([01:21:25](#)):

For me the coolest thing. You've got to be prepared for that stuff. Yeah,

Senka ([01:21:28](#)):

I don't know if that was your experience in Africa, but you're so in touch with nature there. Everything's about nature and I loved it. I loved it. And also the local people, they take time for things to admire the sky and the stars. They take time every day or maybe not every day, but a lot of times in the week just to go and watch the sunset. They take the drinks, they sit on the dune or even in Wintuk, which was the capital of Namibia, they go on the roof and sit and watch the sunset and everything is so much slower and so much more cut out for just normal people. It's how it should be slower and we should be able to take time to enjoy these kinds of things. And in Africa it's all about that. And I loved it. I loved it and I really miss that. I miss it.

Warwick Schiller ([01:22:19](#)):

You miss the sundowners,

Majda ([01:22:21](#)):

The sundown,

Senka ([01:22:21](#)):

The sundowners and just you're nature all the time. It's so outdoorsy and they have a lot of sunshine there as well, so they can actually be outside. But still it's so much more natural to what humans should, I mean at least me, I would like to live like that,

Warwick Schiller ([01:22:44](#)):

Be outside. I'm listening to a very amazing book right now by gal Matee called The Myth of Normal. And he is basically talking about all the ways we are the myth of normal. So what we all consider normal is

pretty abnormal for us. The way we evolved up until the domestication of animals and after we left the hunter gatherer stage, we now raise children in a way that is actually at odds with how our nervous systems is, how our nervous system is supposed to develop. And it is just a fascinating book. I mean my neck I think is sore from just nodding while I'm listening to this book. It's like, yeah, it's pretty amazing. And it's like the culmination of everything I've read and thought about in quite a long time. It was like it's all in this one book. So yeah, pretty amazing. I might start asking you guys your questions and so as you listeners know, I send my guests a list of questions that I've borrowed from Tim Ferriss's *troub of Mentors* book and Sanka and Mata have both chosen three questions. So Sanka, I might start with you and the question you chose of what have you changed in the past five years that has helped shaped who you have become?

Senka ([01:24:17](#)):

I got more aware of how things actually work in that we actually create our own experiences and that has improved my life immensely. And for me there was a big gap between reading and understanding these things. So the theory, it's kind of easy to understand, but actually applying it for me took some years. So I guess that would be the biggest thing that I've changed. I started doing more meditations and actually reaching out to people for help when I couldn't deal with something by myself and I couldn't overcome something by myself and I can see the results in my everyday experience, if you will, and physical reality I suppose. And the result is that I think I'm more present in what's going on daily, just washing dishes, I'm trying to really be there and just wash the dishes kind of deal. So that has changed in the last five years of really starting doing these things on a daily basis.

Warwick Schiller ([01:25:42](#)):

Once you start doing that and you see the changes within yourself, and I think a lot of times the changes are just your perception of things and your awareness of things, then I know it tends to make you go, okay, if that much can change from doing that, how much can it change? Yeah, it's pretty exciting when you start doing that sort of stuff, especially because we spend so much of our life not being aware of those things. And once you start being aware of that and you feel the changes from it, it's like, yeah, like you said, you are the creative of your own reality. Your second question, oh, I love this one. What is your relationship like with fear?

Senka ([01:26:32](#)):

Well, I was absolutely terrified before any of my travels and before we went to Africa, I literally thought I was losing my mind, what are you doing? Why can't you just have a normal life like everybody else? But even before that, I realized that if I am scared of something, then I will definitely have to do it If I'm scared I'm doing it. So we eventually did go into Africa also with this one. I kind of wanted to touch on something and it's something I only fairly recently realized and it is how actually horses played a big part in my life in facing fear and how it actually helped me overcome it. And I don't know if you know, probably not, but two years ago, Croatia was hit by two strong earthquakes and I was at home for one of them, for the second one. For the first one I was not in Croatia.

Warwick Schiller ([01:27:35](#)):

And how strong were the earthquakes?

Senka ([01:27:38](#)):

The one that I've experienced was like 6.4 on the Victor scale. Holy cow. Yeah, yeah. So if you haven't experienced one before, it's a pretty crazy feeling. And I remember this one lasted for 20 seconds, which doesn't seem that long, but it felt like eternity. And I remember the house was swinging left and and I was basically just waiting for the ground to open and I fall into the eternal darkness and that's it. And I was scared and it was kind of a primal fear that I haven't experienced before. And I also had a bit of P T S D afterwards, but when I would start hearing the noises that resembled what the earthquake, the rattling of things in the house would sound like, I would just stop and be like, is it happening again? But the thing was I can say I recovered pretty quickly and I was actually surprised to learn that even weeks after, a lot of people were still scared to go back to their apartments. And some were even taking pills to help them deal with the experience. Some even permanently moved out of the city, they moved.

[\(01:28:54\)](#):

So I'm not saying this was the only reason why I was okay, but I realized being scared is not really an feeling for me. And actually I've been scared so many times riding horses or working with horses in the past 24 years that it was a familiar feeling. And here I'm not talking about a fear that what will people say or whatever. This is you being scared for your physical body. So it's a different kind of fear. So I think getting out of your comfort, me personally, getting out of my comfort zone so many times in the past years actually helped me deal with this trauma.

[\(01:29:49\)](#):

And I didn't get obviously involved with horses to get out of my comfort zone. It was actually quite the country, but it kind of ended up being the byproduct of it. And the thing is, I only recently became aware of it that it might have something to do with me overcoming this experience of the earthquake and people don't really get out of their comfort zones that much. I mean, I'm not judging anyone, I'm just stating what I observed. So once they actually do, and it was definitely something no one could control, they just didn't know how to get back to calm down because it just doesn't happen to them that many times that often. And I think just being around horses help me overcome this experience, which was quite interesting.

Warwick Schiller [\(01:30:39\)](#):

So you've exposed yourself to smaller, scary experiences a lot and then when you have a bigger scary experience, you can come back down from, it sounds very similar to my wife Robin's story about the panic attack on the plane sort of thing. And recently Robin also did a podcast about her experience with the ice baths. She's been taking ice baths for a while and it was one of those things she thought she could never do or want to do and once she started doing it, it's like a little victory every time she does it. And I think in the podcast she mentioned that she's had some experiences recently that should have scared her a lot and the experience was a whole lot easier because she's been exposing herself to things that scare her and coming out the other side and being successful. And I think that eight months you spent with that horse, getting that horse trusting enough to ride, there was a lot of that in there. You're always pushing their comfort zone without having them go completely outside their comfort zone. Can I just ask Maida, were you in Croatia for the earthquake?

Majda [\(01:31:55\)](#):

No, I was not.

Warwick Schiller [\(01:31:57\)](#):

No. Neither of those two earthquakes.

Majda ([01:31:58](#)):

No, neither.

Senka ([01:31:59](#)):

Yeah. Okay.

Warwick Schiller ([01:32:00](#)):

I was just going to ask you about your experience with that.

Senka ([01:32:01](#)):

No, no.

Warwick Schiller ([01:32:03](#)):

We live on top of the San Andreas fault here in California where we are. The town we live in is there used to be a pub downtown called Earthquake Brewery because the claim to fame used to be earthquake capital of the world where in this town that we live in, and we have earthquakes here every day, like little ones a lot. And every once in a while we'll get a little one, but I've not experienced a big one, knock on wood. But it is not unlike we used to live in, when Rob and I first got married, we lived in a trailer house and so it's not very big and the washing machine was gone one day and the place is kind of rocking a bit. Robin's like we have an earthquake. It feels very similar. Okay, so Senka, what is your favorite quote?

Senka ([01:32:55](#)):

I think it would be your personality is your destiny. And that one is quite self-explanatory and I guess it kind of goes hand in hand with if you think you can and if you think you can't, you are right. And yeah,

Warwick Schiller ([01:33:15](#)):

I was just going to look up a quote I wrote down. Here we go. So you just said your personality is your destiny. And this is a quote from the book, I've been listening to the Myth of Normal by Gal Mate, and listen to this, it says what we call the personality traits. In addition to reflecting genuine inborn temperaments and qualities also express the way people as children had to accommodate their emotional environment. They reflect much that is neither inherent or immutable, and immutable means unable to be changed about a person. So they reflect much that is neither inherent nor immutable about a person, no matter how closely identified he or she's to them, nor are they character faults. Although they may cause us difficulty now they begin as modes of survival. So part of our personality is the way people as children had to accommodate their emotional environment.

([01:34:18](#)):

I thought that was a really good definition of personality. So in addition to reflecting genuine inborn temperaments and qualities, so there's the thing we're born with or the, that's the nature part. There's the nature versus nurture, that's the nature part. But the nurture part is the way people as children had to accommodate their emotional environment. I thought that was a really good way of putting that. That's so part of our personality is the way we had to as children negotiate our emotional environment. And you said, what have you done in the last five years that's changed how you've become, and you said working on yourself and what you're actually doing is you're working through some of that, which

means at the end of that, your quote personality, parts of your personality are actually different, which means your personality is not you, it's the way you've been shaped by the experiences you've had and especially traumatic experiences.

(01:35:19):

If you don't work through them, they get stuck in you. And when you work through them at the other side, you're like, oh, I have a different personality than I had before, which means that personality was not me. That personality was the way I was showing up based on unresolved stuff that's happened to me. And yeah, I think that's the work, the working on yourself. You come out the other side and you're like, I'm not who I thought I was. I'm not who I thought I was, was who I thought I was, but who I thought it was was actually just cultural conditioning from society. It's funny you said when you decided to go to Africa, you said, I can't do what normal people do. And I had just talked about the title of that book, the Myth of Normal, what Those Normal, normal People do. Is that normal or is that the way society has conditioned us to think is normal and actually what you were doing and following your passion and your dreams and getting out there and living life, is that the real normal, you know what I mean?

Senka (01:36:33):

Yeah, I think the other one, if you think you can and you think you can't, you're right.

Warwick Schiller (01:36:40):

Yeah, I love that quote, which is

Senka (01:36:41):

Pretty cool.

Warwick Schiller (01:36:42):

Yeah, that's a very good one. It's pretty cool. Okay, Maida, let's get to your questions here. The one you chose was what book you recommend most, and that's not necessarily your favorite book, but a book that if people asked you what book they should read, it's the one you suggest.

Majda (01:37:01):

That book would be, I dunno, have you heard of it? It's called The Presence Process written by Michael Brown. This is not my favorite book by any means, but it is definitely one that I think people should read.

Warwick Schiller (01:37:18):

Where did you find out about the presence process?

Majda (01:37:22):

So we had this, I dunno, what would you call this lady? She's like our therapist. I dunno if that's what you call these people. So she's the one when we were leaving for Namibia Life Coach, I think it's Life coach has Life coach. So when we were leaving for Namibia, she told us about the book as something that we can take with and because we didn't have good internet, she works online, but we didn't have good internet and obviously we couldn't work with her in person. So she told us about the book as something that we can read and something to help us. So this is how we got the book



Warwick Schiller ([01:38:03](#)):

Because I have read that book because on the podcast, somewhere in the podcast I've talked about, oh actually I had, one of the podcast guests I had was Joshua Wener and Josh Ana was a guy I went to a three day, what was called a Men's emotional resilience retreat a number of years ago. And our homework from that retreat was to read that book and do the work in that book. So there's the 20 minute meditation every day where you sit and you breathe. I am in this here now. Is that how it goes? Is that

Majda ([01:38:38](#)):

What it says? Oh, I don't know. Yeah, there is 10 difference. Does this moment matters? I think that is the first one. No, no, no, it's for beats or something. Yeah, you're right, you're right. I am here. Oh, you mean the breathing? Sorry. Sorry, I got breathing. But

Warwick Schiller ([01:38:51](#)):

As you breathe in, you're thinking I am. And as you breathe out in this and as you breathe in here now and it's like a mantra and you do the meditation, you just keep saying that over and over. What I found when I first started doing that is my skin would crawl. I couldn't sit still. I just had, it's like I was itchy all over. Itchy. Yes. And I think it's just being in your own body. I think that's your body's reaction or your ego's reaction to, no, I don't want to be in my body. I want to think about something.

Majda ([01:39:26](#)):

Yeah, exactly.

Warwick Schiller ([01:39:29](#)):

And I can't remember if I actually talked about that book in, so I did a podcast called The Books that Have influenced Me. And I'm just thinking I may have missed that one. So I'm going to do a round two of that, read a lot of books since then. That was a couple of years ago that I did that podcast. But yeah, if that book wasn't in the first podcast, it'll definitely be in the second one.

Majda ([01:39:50](#)):

In the second. Yeah. So that's the book. Yeah, that's the book. Wow. Very, very. And it That's even better,

Warwick Schiller ([01:39:59](#)):

I thought. I think I know this book and I just looked it up and yes, the covers kind of purplely and that's the book I've got. So Meda, what accomplishment are you most proud of?

Majda ([01:40:13](#)):

It's actually Namibia, but not in a sense. Okay, I'm just going to explain in what sense I see that as an accomplishment. So we touched on the history of the country a bit at the beginning and we also, the history

Warwick Schiller ([01:40:29](#)):

Of Croatia or Namibia.

Majda ([01:40:30](#)):

Yeah, yeah, yeah, sorry, sorry, Croatia. Oh, okay. Yeah. And how our parents actually got mad when we said that we are going to leave for Africa. And also I was more into the system, if you would call it like that, than sca because I had a job and actually had it for three years and I could really feel that I'm getting in a rutt because I was not happy. I knew that this cannot be my life. I really wanted to be a cowgirl and I really needed to get that out of my system. But then on the other hand, just the atmosphere in the country is not the one you have in America. Oh, actually I'm going to divert here. I dunno if you heard of Thi Swan, she's like a guru or also life coach. I dunno how you call these people. So anyway, she came to, she's American and she came to Budapest a month ago and she did one of her workshops.

([01:41:33](#)):

And at one point she said that atmosphere in Budapest, meaning Hungary is one of chronic disappointment. And we looked at each other saying and now, and we were like, oh my goodness. The atmosphere you have in Croatia, it's not like of one chasing the American dream and everything's possible. Oh no, it's of chronic disappointment. That's the one. She nailed it. Living in a chronic disappointment environment since you were born. And this is being put into your head daily. You need to work hard, earn nothing. This is your life dreams. No one follows dreams. That's not how you live your life. So just being able to pull myself out of that life, I guess, and mindset is what I see that as my biggest accomplishment. And after that, everything was much easier traveling. Oh, I'm going to go to somewhere else and do something else. I'm going to go here now and do whatever. Everything got much easier for me after that, after just pulling myself out of the whole setup.

Warwick Schiller ([01:42:54](#)):

Yeah, earlier on when you were talking about making the decision to go to Africa, one of you two was saying it's kind of scary and whatever, but it's one of those things that it's the whole fear thing. You're afraid of doing it, but once you do it, you're like, oh my goodness. And as the saying says, everything you want in life lies just outside your comfort zone. You've got to

Majda ([01:43:23](#)):

Oh, definitely. That's the one. That's the one, yeah. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:43:28](#)):

What was interesting, so what was the term she said about Hungary?

Majda ([01:43:33](#)):

She's said chronic disappointment.

Warwick Schiller ([01:43:34](#)):

Chronic disappointment. And so you two will totally understand this, but a few years ago I was doing a clinic in Australia, and I've talked about this on the podcast before, but I was doing a clinic in Australia and there was a lady from South Africa in the clinic, and we went to dinner that night and I ended up sitting next to her. I said, oh, so how do you like Australia? And she said, the energy's different here. And I thought she meant it in a good way. Australia's got these beachy cool vibes sort of thing. And I said, what do you mean? She goes, well, there's just less of it. I'm like, what do you mean? She goes, when I go back to South Africa, when I get off the plane, there's an energy in the air. And I'm like, and what do

you put that down to? She goes, oh, that's easy. Every human and animal in South Africa knows today's the day I could die.

Majda ([01:44:24](#)):

Yeah. Insane. Geez.

Warwick Schiller ([01:44:29](#)):

It's insane. You know what I mean? You are almost not living life if you don't know today's the day I could die. You know what I mean? We live in such a, we can go to the grocery store for food and you're

Senka ([01:44:46](#)):

So comfortable. We are so

Warwick Schiller ([01:44:47](#)):

Comfortable.

Senka ([01:44:48](#)):

Everything

Warwick Schiller ([01:44:49](#)):

Is

Senka ([01:44:49](#)):

Comfortable.

Warwick Schiller ([01:44:50](#)):

And think about Sanka, when you said the earthquake and you had that sensation that, am I about to die right now? What was the feeling like on the other side of that? Did you feel more alive

Senka ([01:45:09](#)):

Was, I don't know. It was so intense in

Warwick Schiller ([01:45:11](#)):

This, it's pretty intense. It,

Senka ([01:45:13](#)):

It just shook me out of existence. I dunno. It took me a while to, I was like this on the edge for hours afterwards. I couldn't calm down and I just needed to talk about what happened. You have to get it out of you, so you just blah, blah, you talk.

Warwick Schiller ([01:45:33](#)):

Yeah, but that's that. So I've mentioned it on the podcast, I think with Jane Pike. I've had a couple of, oh, let's call 'em spiritual experiences recently to where I really got to contemplate my own mortality, look it

in the face instead of pretending it's all good and I'm never going to die. I kind of came, not that I had an experience where I was going to die, but I came face to face with a couple of times and it's like, holy shit, that's scary as hell. And yeah, it is an interesting thing to think of. I've actually had an email from someone the other day who listened to that podcast and she sent me some things to listen to by a, so this guy's got a YouTube channel and his name is a Ashanti, a d y a Ss h a n t. And he is an American Buddhist monk. But she gave me some stuff of his to listen to about death. So yeah, I might actually send you a link to that later on. But yeah, very interesting stuff. So Moda, I've got one more question for you. What quality do you admire in other people?

Majda ([01:47:09](#)):

Yeah, I thought a lot about that one. And it comes down to everything I would pick actually comes down to self-awareness and especially, so there's two type of people. So one type is that understands, but they don't really live by it. And then the second type is the type that actually lives by it. And why

([01:47:42](#)):

I admire that, because I know what it takes to look at yourself for what you really are. And that is that we are not perfect. And it also means not to be a victim, and it's not easy to look at your life and see that you created it and that whatever is happening to you, that you're sort of a vibrational match for it, good or bad. So I really admire people that think like that and that are really willing to take the steps and not just blame other people for their bad luck or whatever it is that it's happening to them. Yeah. Is it?

Warwick Schiller ([01:48:35](#)):

Yeah, definitely. So what are you guys up to these days? Obviously you're back in Croatia. What are you guys doing now?

Senka ([01:48:45](#)):

I work for an English guy and I write articles for his websites and I just occasionally ride a horse of this lady, but nothing with horses at the moment. I guess I'm looking for another idea like I had before starting a tourist operation. I'm looking for that and I know it's not going to be anything like that, but I guess I'm regrouping and just enjoying my friends at home, which are amazing people. I appreciate them so much. And so yeah, this is it. Plus this job gives me, it's a remote job. So like I said, I could go to America for three months like I did, or I could spend the whole summer at the coast I did this summer. It's pretty good. It's pretty good.

Warwick Schiller ([01:49:40](#)):

But you still got it out there that still want to do more stuff with horses?

Senka ([01:49:45](#)):

Absolutely, absolutely. I just need to find a good enough way for me. So living on a remote farm somewhere or training or working for other people, I don't want to do that anymore. I need to find a balance. And it would be ideally if I could have my own horse. So we'll see. I know it will come. I'm not worried. I miss it. I do miss it, but it will come when it needs to. I will get the inspiration or the idea. Yeah.

Warwick Schiller ([01:50:22](#)):

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Okay. Well if anybody listening to this has got an idea that for Senka, just email me and I'll hook you up with the email.

Senka ([01:50:32](#)):

Thank you.

Warwick Schiller ([01:50:35](#)):

So Mata, you two are back in Croatia. What are you doing these days?

Majda ([01:50:40](#)):

Yeah, I was thinking for quite a while what it is that I want to do and I realized I want to have an online job so I could just take my computer and go anywhere. So I sort of rerouted my career to digital marketing and that's what I do now.

Warwick Schiller ([01:50:59](#)):

Are you self-employed or you work for someone?

Majda ([01:51:01](#)):

I have a couple of clients of my own and then I also work for this guy in Belgium.

Warwick Schiller ([01:51:10](#)):

Okay,

Majda ([01:51:11](#)):

So

Warwick Schiller ([01:51:12](#)):

You both can do the remote thing, you could be anywhere and

Majda ([01:51:16](#)):

Yeah. Yeah, which was sort of the whole point. Same as Sanka not doing anything with horses at the moment, but it's not over. I know it's not. It's just in the regrouping phase.

Warwick Schiller ([01:51:28](#)):

Okay, well then we have another one. So if anybody who's listening gives an

Majda ([01:51:32](#)):

Idea

Warwick Schiller ([01:51:32](#)):

For Maita, you can email me and I'll give you her email

Majda ([01:51:37](#)):

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Too.

Warwick Schiller ([01:51:38](#)):

This has been great chatting with you two girls. Thank you so much for joining me on the podcast and sharing your story. And I just love the fact that everybody that's kind of adventurous, you guys, you have a very similar outlook on things and it's, yeah, it's very, very refreshing to see and it's fun to chat with you guys. So thanks so much for joining me.

Majda ([01:52:03](#)):

Well, thanks for having us. This was an absolute pleasure and thanks for making this for the Thank you. Better place.

Speaker 1 ([01:52:11](#)):

Thanks for being a part of the Journey on podcast with Warwick Schiller. Warwick has over 850 full length training videos on his online video library@videos.warwickschiller.com. Be sure to follow Warwick on YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram to see his latest training advice and insights.