

Conversations With Kate

Lesson Guide Based On Podcast Episode [100] My Conversation With Lindsay Williams, Part 4

“Celebrate Language Stories!”



Web link

<https://soundcloud.com/user-404896233/100-celebrate-language-stories-my-conversation-with-lindsay-williams-part-4>

10:33 minutes

Vocabulary and expressions

- **absolutely** - totally, completely
- **fascinating** - very or extremely interesting
- **got in touch** - contacted (via phone or email)
- **angle** - viewpoint or perspective
- **welcomed us with open arms** - showed great hospitality
- **pitch black** - completely dark (pitch is tar)
- **settling back in** - getting back to a routine
- **Brexit** - the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union
- **indigenous** - native, local, original people
- **immigrant** - someone who moves to a foreign country
- **fabric of society** - basic structure as in customs and beliefs
- **scratch the surface** - to look deeper at something
- **dialect** - local or regional version of a language
- **to get it** - to understand
- **subscriber count** - number of people on an email list
- **return on investment** - something gained (or lost)
- **promotion** - marketing, publicity
- **from the outset** - from the beginning

Conversation questions:

When have you been curious and interested in someone from another culture? What happened?

*Which episode of *Language Stories* did you find fascinating? What did you learn?*

*If you were to create an episode for *Language Stories*, where would you go? Who would you meet?*

Transcript:

This is episode number 100. Recorded in February, it's going public in April of 2020 in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic. I'm sending out my best wishes for the health and safety of everyone around the world. My hope is that we will all come through this with increased understanding and cooperation on every level from local to global. That individuals will take this time to connect with nature and to see how everyone and everything is interconnected. That we will realize that our actions have consequences. And that we will become more mindful and motivated to cherish the life that we share on this planet.

Join Lindsay and I as we complete our conversation about *Language Stories* from around the world and the magic that happens when we are curious, open, and interested in one another.

And then the last one that I have on my list is *Kristang*. I can't remember how you said it.

Yeah. *Kristang*. Yeah. That's the last episode of *Season Two*. Ahh. . . .Okay, this episode is **absolutely fascinating**.

When I first started to mention to people that we were going to be going to Asia for *Season Two*. . . did they know anyone that we should speak with? About 4 or 5 people **got in touch** and said you need to speak with Kevin Martens Wong. He's in Singapore. He's running this thing called *Kodrah Kristang*. He's bringing this language back to life. And I said, okay. Cool. That's quite a fair few recommendations. Let's find this guy.

We did. We arranged to speak with him. However, *Kristang* doesn't originate in Singapore. It originates in Malacca, in Malaysia. And I thought, it feels wrong to just speak to someone about this from a Singaporean **angle**. We need to find someone to speak with in Malacca.

And after a lot of searching, I found a chef who cooks *Kristang* cuisine in Malacca. And I thought brilliant! We can talk with her. Maybe we can pay for a cooking class.

And that didn't work out but she did put me in touch with Sara Maria, who you'll see in the episode, who teaches *Kristang* pretty much every evening in her home, in her living room, to local children. For free.

And again so kind. After we spoke for the interview, she drove us around the corner to a brother and sister who. . . . He'd written this book along with a team at the university as well. . . written this

book teaching the language. And we showed up at their house at 8 o'clock at night and they just **welcomed us with open arms.**

The reason that we put the episode last is that it feels like it just sums up what Language Stories taught us as a whole. And that is that when you show curiosity about people and about what makes those people those people, they want to talk about it. And they're actually willing to be open.

And you know, just to show up at someone's house so late at night. . . it's **pitch black** outside. And have them invite you in and give you a drink and just talk with you for hours about this language was just so wonderful.

And, you know, we're so grateful to everyone who shared their time with us for the series so far.

But, yeah, now we're moving on to Season Three!

And so tell us, just briefly, about Season Three.

So, Season Three is about the U.K. because we've been home for awhile now. Initially, I thought it was going to happen last year. It didn't happen last year. . . kind of **settling back in** to regular home life again. . . you know, all of the things that need to be done with that.

So, it's happening this year. And I thought, it feels wrong to just come back, go off somewhere again, film some other place, when actually here at home, there are so many languages that are happening.

Brexit, at the time we're recording has just happened finally after years of like, Is it? Will it? Will they? Won't they?

Okay, so we're now kind of this new nation like that's kind of split slightly from this union but what's going on here then? What do we have going on here? And I wanted to look at it from a linguistic **angle** because there's a lot.

English is spoken across the world, right? It's such a global language but that isn't the story of languages on the British Isles. And that's what we want to dig into in Season Three.

I think it's going to be fascinating. I did a little bit of research, you know. And it says there are 14 **indigenous** languages used across the British Isles - 5 Celtic, 3 Germanic, 3 Romance, 3 Sign Languages, so I guess you're going to pick up on that.

And then there are what. . . 18 **immigrant** languages?

There will be more than 18 immigrant languages, for sure. In terms of high numbers, potentially yeah like 18. Yeah, we do want to cover immigrant languages because it's an important part of the **fabric of society** that we live in in this country. You know, in every country, really.

We want to look at the indigenous side. We want to look at sign language. We want to look at

immigrant languages. We want to kind of explore everything like in addition to English.

When English is so hotly associated with U.K.

British English.

Let's scratch the surface. Yeah. British English. Let's **scratch the surface** a bit and let's see what else is going on because there is so much to explore.

I can't wait.

An interesting thing is that we've actually covered a language from the U.K. already. We did a bonus episode that you mentioned earlier in between Season One and Season Two with a wonderful, wonderful man who has basically brought back to life a **dialect** of Scottish Gaelic. So that episode is very, very inspiring and definitely worth checking out.

Absolutely. Okay. Thank you for that.

The reason I mentioned him is because when I recorded the interview with him and I sat down and I was trying to explain our project, and it was still quite early on at that point. And he's like, "I know. I get it. We just do it because it's just good. We do it because it's good. That's why we do it."

And I was like, "Yeah. That's it."

He **gets it**.

Sometimes we've reached out and they've like said, "Okay. How many people listen to this? What's your **subscriber count**? What's your **return on investment**? What's your. . . ? And I'm like, "That's not what this is. That's not what this about. It's cool. You can use this for **promotion** but this is about like something a bit bigger than that. It's about something more important than that. And if people don't have that **from the outset**, then it's not the right thing.

I love that you said, "Be curious." Be curious and you'll be amazed at what you discover and the connections that you can make.

So, Lindsay, thank you so much for being with me for this podcast episode. It has been so much fun to talk with you and to learn some more about each little episode. I hope it's really sparked the interest of my listeners and that they will be going quickly to your podcast and to your YouTube channel.

I'll put all of those links in the notes but I think the easiest way for people to reach you online is at your website. . . [.lindsaydoeslanguages.com](http://lindsaydoeslanguages.com) and at the top of the page you'll see Learn. Teach. And then Language Stories as a separate little button. So you'll be able to learn more about the whole series so far over there.

Right. And from there, they can connect to Instagram and to all the other social media places.

Yeah. That's fantastic. So, anything else that you want to add?

That's it. Just thank you very much. It's so nice to kind of revisit every episode one-by-one. I've really enjoyed this. Thank you.

Thank you so much and I know our listeners are going to enjoy it.

Well, since you didn't say it, I'm going to quote you and I'm going to say, "Keep learning languages and keep sharing stories!"

Yay!

Thank you, Lindsay.

Thank you so much.

You've been listening to the final part of my conversation with Lindsay Williams. You can find a link to Language Stories at Lindsay's website, www.lindsaydoeslanguages.com.

So, we made it to episode 100! Now I will be taking a break from the podcast but you'll still be able to find all 100 episodes on Soundcloud, my website, and wherever you access podcasts.

The transcripts and lesson guides to these and all of the episodes are available at <https://www.patreon.com/conversationswithkate>.

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I'd like to give a big shout out to my sister, Kirstin, who helped me get this podcast started and was a regular guest early on. I'd like to thank every one of my guests. It wouldn't have ever happened without you. And I'd also like to thank all of my supporters on Patreon who allowed me to cover my costs without having to bring advertisements into the podcast.

And thank you, dear listeners! I'd be so happy to hear from you. Leave your comments on Soundcloud or contact me via Facebook, Instagram or my website.

Thanks to Aaron Burdett for our music.

This is Kate. Remember that every day truly is a gift. I'm honored that you spent some of your precious time with me. Thank you for listening. Until next time.