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Actors Tara Platt and Yuri Lowenthal know how to make things happen fast. Last spring, Platt had an idea for a story about action figures living on a shelf in the bedroom of a 10-year-old boy. By summer, they were working on the first season of *Shelf Life*. Season two of the web series, produced by their firm [Monkey Kingdom](http://www.MonkeyKingdom.com).

This couple, well known for their voice acting work (both were in *Naruto*, Lowenthal is also the voice of Ben Tennyson in *Ben 10: Alien Force* and *Ultimate Alien*), knows that when you have a good idea, you have to run with it. And *Shelf Life* is a good idea. This isn't a loving tale about children's toys. It's about cynical figures subjected to the destructive hands of their young owner. "As a kid, you do terrible things to your toys," says Platt. "You pull their heads off and you put them in compromising positions." "Set them on fire," Lowenthal adds. Platt continues, "You do all these things to action figures because they are just your toys and, as kids, we're learning who we are through our toys."



**When the Kid leaves the room, the action figures let the sex cracks, political jokes and f-bombs fly. They're bawdy, sometimes a little bitter, and very human. *Shelf Life's* episodes are short, usually about two and a half minutes apiece. The length of an episode, though, really depends on the time needed to flesh out the joke.**

**About Shelf Life**

*Shelf Life* has been directed by **Paul Jenkins** (*Lara Croft and the Guardian of Light*, *The Incredible Hulk: Ultimate Destruction*) as well as **Steven Calcote** (*Ultraviolet*, *Minyan in Kaifeng*), written by **Yuri Lowenthal**, and stars **Travis Willingham** as *Hero Man*, a studly boneheaded superhero, **Tara Platt** as *Hero Lass*, HM's sharp-witted half-sister, **Yuri Lowenthal** as *Bug Boy*, the snarky guy, and **Bryan Enk** with **Bradley Baker** providing the voice for *Samurai Snake*, kindly referred to as "our Chewbacca."

Follow the show on Twitter: [@ShelfLifeSeries](https://twitter.com/ShelfLifeSeries) "Like" *Shelf Life* on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/ShelfLifeSeries](http://www.facebook.com/ShelfLifeSeries).

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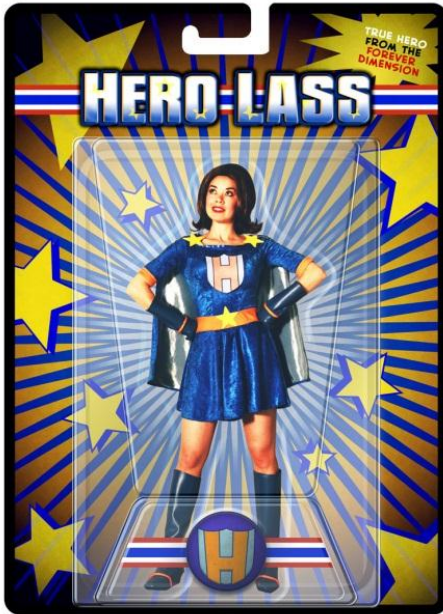
 [www.youtube.com/ShelfLifetheSeries](http://www.youtube.com/ShelfLifetheSeries)

 [www.imdb.com/title/tt2140395/](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2140395/)

 [www.facebook.com/ShelfLifeSeries](http://www.facebook.com/ShelfLifeSeries)

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(from *LA Weekly: Cult Arts: Shelf Life: Yuri Lowenthal and Tara Platt Bring Action Figures to Life in Web Series*)



**TARA PLATT** (Hero Lass) born in Fairfax, Virginia, grew up all over the country—from Arizona, Oklahoma, Michigan to New York City—but finally ended up in Los Angeles, where she writes, produces and acts. In 2004, Tara launched [Monkey Kingdom Productions](#), an independent film company, with her business partner and husband, Yuri Lowenthal. MKP's first **feature film**, **TUMBLING AFTER**, is available on iTunes. She and Lowenthal currently have five feature scripts and have **co-authored a book** on voice-over: **Voice-Over Voice Actor**. They also produce and act in the web-series [www.ShelfLifeSeries.com](http://www.ShelfLifeSeries.com).

Tara has performed onstage internationally, including at the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival**. She continues to be seen on stage and screen globally and can be heard in voice-over animation (**Temari** on *Naruto* and video games - **Wonder Woman** in "**Mortal Kombat vs. DC Universe**" 2008). Currently, she is providing the voice for **Ellie Martinez** for ***Resistance: Burning Skies*** (released end of May 2012). She is quickly becoming known for "donning costumes or disguises to go into alternate realities" as evidenced by her work in science fiction, period pieces, and comic book worlds or other realms. Her body of work ranges from Shakespearean classics to world premieres, in addition to working in film, television, animation, web-series, pod-casts and making guest appearances at conventions around the globe.

For more information, please visit [www.TaraPlatt.com](http://www.TaraPlatt.com) or to learn more about their production company [www.MonkeyKingdomProductions.com](http://www.MonkeyKingdomProductions.com) or their book [www.VoiceOverVoiceActor.com](http://www.VoiceOverVoiceActor.com) – or keep up with her on twitter [@taraplatt](https://twitter.com/taraplatt).



**YURI LOWENTHAL** (Bug Boy) lives in Los Angeles where he writes, produces and acts. In 2004, Yuri launched [Monkey Kingdom Productions](#), an independent film company, with his business partner and wife, Tara Platt. MKP's first **feature film**, written by Lowenthal, **TUMBLING AFTER**, is out on iTunes. He and Platt currently have five feature scripts and have **co-authored a book** on voice-over: **Voice-Over Voice Actor**. His second book, **Tough City**, co-written with Keith Ikeda-Barry will be out later this year, and he is currently writer & story editor on the hit webseries *Shelf Life*.

Lowenthal speaks **French, Japanese and German**, having been blessed with an exotic past. Yuri grew up throughout Africa and Europe in addition to the US. His body of work ranges from Shakespearean classics to world premieres, in addition to working in film, television, animation, web-series and making guest appearances at conventions around the globe. In the video gaming world, he is well-known as the voice of the **Prince of Persia** in several of Ubi Soft's games, including: ***The Sands of Time***, ***The Forgotten Sands***, and ***The Two Thrones***. He has also provided the voice of Cecil Harvey in the Nintendo DS remake of ***Final Fantasy IV***, and again in ***Dissidia: Final Fantasy*** on the PSP. He is the current voice of **Ben Tennyson** from ***Ben 10: Alien Force*** and ***Ben 10: Ultimate Alien*** for **Cartoon Network**, as **Lagoon Boy** on ***Young Justice*** for WB, and as **Sammy** in ***Sammy's Adventure*** with Melanie Griffith,

Tim Curry, Kathy Griffin & Anthony Anderson.

For more information, please visit [www.YuriLowenthal.com](http://www.YuriLowenthal.com), [www.VoiceOverVoiceActor.com](http://www.VoiceOverVoiceActor.com). For fun, follow him on twitter [@YuriLowenthal](https://twitter.com/YuriLowenthal).



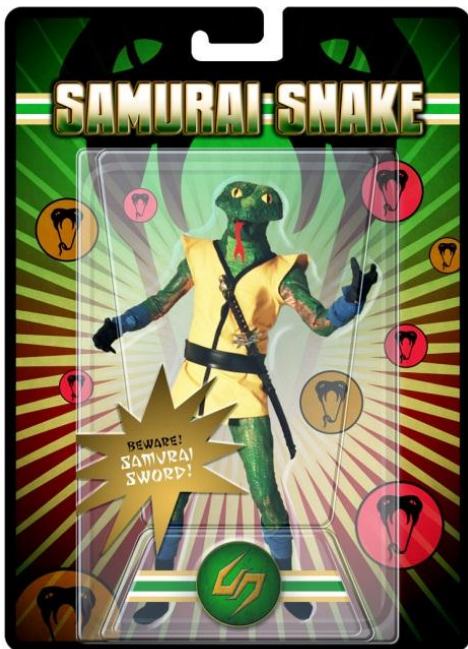
**TRAVIS WILLINGHAM** (Hero Man) is well-known for many of his popular roles in anime, video games, and various original animation projects. You can hear Travis in Marvel's hit original series' **The Super Hero Squad Show** as The Hulk and The Human Torch, Thor in **Ultimate Spider-Man**, and as King Roland II in Disney's new series, **Sofia the First** .

In the world of anime, he is most widely known as Roy Mustang in the **Fullmetal Alchemist** series', as well as roles in **Naruto**, **Bleach**, **Mushishi**, **Ouran Host Club**, and **One Piece** to name a few.

Some of his most well-known video game titles include **Modern Warfare 3**, **Battlefield 3**, **Call of Duty: Black Ops**, **Star Wars: The Old Republic**, **Transformers: Dark of the Moon/War for Cybertron**, **Catherine**, **Sonic the Hedgehog**, and **Street Fighter 4**.

His film work includes **Secondhand Lions**, **Ray**, **Friday Night Lights**, **Prison A- Go-Go**, **The Guardian**, and **A Perfect Getaway**. He has also worked on CBS' **Cold Case**, FX's **Nip/Tuck**, Fox's **Prison Break**, and ABC's **Private Practice**.

For more information, please visit [www.traviswillingham.com](http://www.traviswillingham.com) . For fun, follow him on twitter [@WillingBlam](https://twitter.com/WillingBlam).



**BRYAN ENK** (Samurai Snake), when he's not in snakeskin, provides the "enk" part of gotta/enk films, an independent film production company he owns and operates with his creative partner, Jessi Gotta, and for which he recently directed and co-produced the horror feature, **THE BIG BAD**.

Bryan was the creator and curator of **THE SINISTER SIX**, an annual horror anthology series that screened in New York City through four installments, and was the co-creator of **PENNY DREADFUL**, a 12-part supernatural stage serial that performed at The Brick Theater in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Bryan dedicates his portrayal of Samurai Snake to his dear friend, Aaron Baker, who, like Snake, was a man with a mysterious past, a strong moral center, an unwavering sense of loyalty, a droll wit and of infinite wisdom.

For more information, please visit, [www.gottaenkfims.com](http://www.gottaenkfims.com) . For fun, follow him on twitter [@gottaenk](https://twitter.com/gottaenk)



**BEAR MCCREARY** (composer) At the age of 24, McCreary was launched into pop culture with his groundbreaking score to SyFy’s hit series *Battlestar Galactica*, for which he composed “the most innovative music on TV today” (Variety). It “fits the action so perfectly, it’s almost devastating: a sci-fi score like no other” (NPR). [Io9.com](http://io9.com) declared Bear McCreary one of the **Ten Best Science Fiction Composers of All Time**, listing him alongside legends John Williams, Jerry Goldsmith and Bernard Herrmann. McCreary’s many other credits include AMC’s smash hit *The Walking Dead*, where he collaborated with writer / director Frank Darabont (*The Shawshank Redemption*) and producer Gale Anne Hurd (*The Terminator*). He has also composed critically-acclaimed scores for series such as *Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*, *Eureka*, *Caprica*, *Trauma* and *The Cape*. His swashbuckling score for *Human Target* featured the largest orchestra ever assembled in the history of series television and earned him his first Emmy nomination. His feature film work includes Disney’s worldwide hit *Step Up 3D*, and his videogame credits include Sony’s successful *SOCOM 4: U.S. NAVY SEALS*. Attending the prestigious Thornton School of Music at

the University of Southern California, McCreary completed degrees in composition and recording arts. However, his professional training came from film music legend Elmer Bernstein (*The Magnificent Seven*, *The Ten Commandments*). McCreary was one of Bernstein’s select protégés, and learned the tools of the trade working with and orchestrating for the maestro. McCreary has performed *Battlestar Galactica* concerts before thousands of fans from around the world. He has conducted orchestral performances of his music in North America and Europe, and has been invited to conduct at film music festivals such as Fimucité in Tenerife, and the International Film Music Festival in Úbeda, Spain. McCreary spent his childhood immersed in film and television music; he is delighted now to contribute to the genres that inspired him.



**STEPHANIE THORPE** is an actor, producer and content creator. Born and raised in Vancouver, she studied at Oxford and received a Master’s Degree from the University of Toronto. She’s been a driving force as a producer and actor in numerous web projects including the critically acclaimed *After Judgment* (6 Streamy nominations), *Asylum* (NYTVF official selection, LA Web Fest winner, and just picked up by BET), *Babelgum’s Hurling Through Space*, Tyler Mane’s *The Mane Show & Shelf Life*. Most notably, Stephanie just wrapped the fan fiction trailer *ElfQuest* (based on the 34yr old comic series) which was featured in the *New York Times*, CBS & *Attack of the Show* among other publications ([www.elfquestfantrailer.com](http://www.elfquestfantrailer.com)). This crowd-sourced production launched at WonderCon and was followed by a gala in LA hosted by SAG. Over 27, 000 viewers watched the livestream and the site has had over 200,000 hits since April 5th 2011. She was honored to speak on a panel at San Diego Comic Con 2011 about her production to a packed room. Stephanie was thrilled to host the second Celebrate the Web event during ComicCon 2010 (an interactive forum for genre web creators & fans), and hosted two global web festivals for that non-profit organization earlier in 2011. She also coordinated The New Media Meetup sponsored by SAG, and Blip.TV at Comic Con 2011. She has spoken on panels at WonderCon, VidCon, GeekGirlCon, Comikaze, SAG,

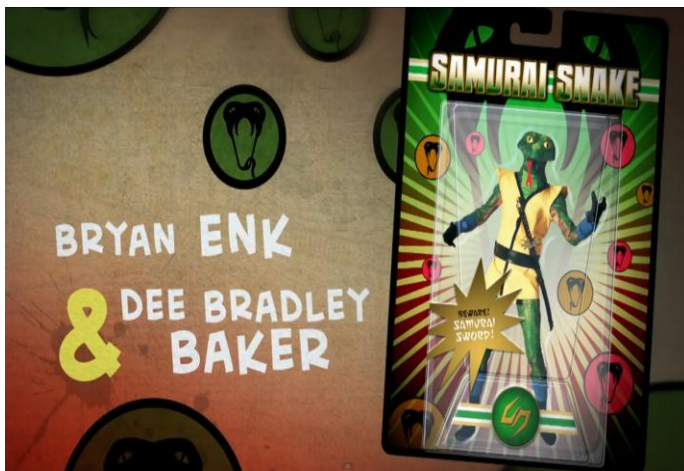
AFI, HollyShort Fest, [Dot.com](http://Dot.com) & Digital LA. Stephanie is one of the founding members of The League of Extraordinary Ladies—a 600+ member group focused on fostering geek connections IRL. Stephanie continues to work in TV/film and garnered Best Actress in a Drama at the NYFilmFest. Her acting credits include guest appearances in the long-running *Elevator*, *The Temp Life*, and *Pairings*. She most recently starred in the Parsec Award-winning GOLD spin-off *Night of the Zombie King* (5 IAWTV nominations, official selection NYTVFest), for which she was nominated as Best Supporting Actress by Indie Intertube in 2011 and 2012. Next up for her is the series *The Ladies* and a geek girl talk show. You can follow her on Twitter [@thestepthorpe](https://twitter.com/thestepthorpe)



## Yuri Lowenthal

(actor/writer/producer) is known for his acting in cartoons and video games, most notably *Ben 10*, *Prince of Persia* and *Naruto*.

**Tara Platt** (actor/producer) is also known for her work in animation & video games (*Legion of Superheroes*, *DC vs Mortal Kombat*) and on TV (*Castle*, *Revenge*)



**Bryan Enk** (actor) has directed many films (*The Big Bad*, *Midnight Days*) but is also an accomplished New York theatre actor with scores of plays under his belt.

**Dee Bradley Baker** (actor) is a well-known voice actor famous for such shows as *The Clone Wars*, *Avatar: The Last Airbender* and *American Dad!*

**Travis Willingham** (actor) is a veteran of animation & video games as well, but also boasts credits on *Nip/Tuck*, *The Guardian* and the upcoming *To Have and to Hold*.





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**Steven Calcote** (director/producer/editor) is a founder of the production company *Butcher Birds* and produced the hit webseries *The Real Girls Guide to Everything Else*.

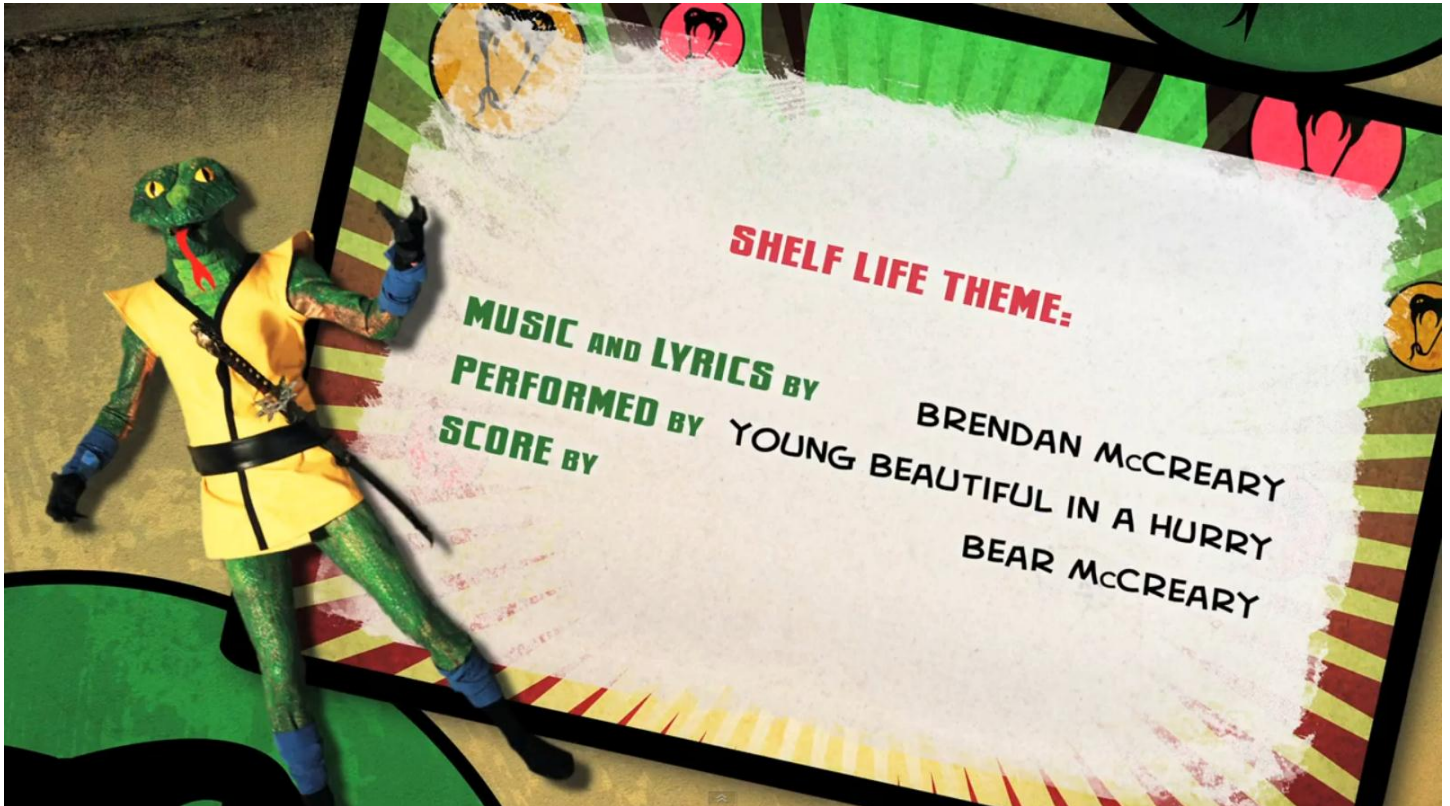
**Travis Stevens** (director/producer) is also a founder of *Butcher Birds* and in addition to his work at Nickelodeon directed the films *Linked* and *Silver Moon*.

**Paul Jenkins** (writer/director) is an Eisner Award-winning author (*The Sentry*, *Wolverine: Origin*) and created and directed the hit video game *The Darkness*.

**Stephanie Thorpe** (producer/actor) is a web juggernaut, having produced and acted in the award-winning shows *Elfquest: A Fan Imagining* and *After Judgment*.

**Bear McCreary** (composer) has composed the scores for many films and TV series, most notably *Battlestar Galactica*, *The Walking Dead*, *Eureka* and *The Cape*.

**Brendan McCreary** (composer) fronts his band *Young Beautiful and in a Hurry* and most recently starred in and recorded music for the horror-comedy *Chillerama*.









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## PRESS AND PR

You can visit our [IMDB page](#) to check out who brought you your favorite episodes!

Concierge Questionnaire asks Tara & Yuri  
[10 Questions about Downtown Los Angeles](#)

Read a great [interview with LAWeekly](#) on ShelfLife NOW!

Listen to our fun [interview with IndieIntertube](#) NOW.

Watch our detailed [interview with Fanboy Comics](#) NOW!

Read the [Forces of Geek Exclusive Interview](#) NOW!

Read a fun French Review on [L'olive et la samovar](#) NOW! (it is in French :!)

AND for our full cast interview with [SEQUENTIAL TART](#) [click here](#).



# JUNE 18 AT 8PM

Send your questions to:

[ShelfLifeTheSeries@gmail.com](mailto:ShelfLifeTheSeries@gmail.com)

or tweet to:

[@ShelfLifeSeries](https://twitter.com/ShelfLifeSeries)

Then Watch

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## Creators of 'Shelf Life' Talk Season 3 Guest Stars, ITVFest/PopConLA, San Diego Comic-Con, and Downtown LA Production

Los Angeles, CA (June 20, 2012) - **Shelf Life** ([www.ShelfLifeSeries.com](http://www.ShelfLifeSeries.com)) creators, and well-known voice-over actors, **Tara Platt** and **Yuri Lowenthal**, have announced the guest stars who will appear in Season 3 of Shelf Life, which premiered on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Joining their cast will be **Phil Morris** (from CW's *Smallville*, *Seinfeld*, and is currently the voice of Vandal Savage on *Justice League: Doom*) and **Aaron Douglas** (from *Battlestar Galactica*, *Hellcats*, and *The Bridge*).

Next Up for Platt & Lowenthal is **ITVFest 2012 / PopConLA 2012**, where *Shelf Life* has been chosen for Official Selection to be screened at the LA Convention Center in Downtown LA, July 5-8. "We are thrilled to be an Official Selection because it shows how web content is finally becoming a force to be reckoned with in today's marketplace," explains Yuri Lowenthal. "Having *Shelf Life* selected by ITVFest speaks to the talent and hard work of the whole team, but also to the festival for recognizing that web is the leader in new media and deserves recognition," elaborates Tara Platt.

After PopConLA--one of the biggest gatherings of all media including mainstream, gaming, sci-fi, and geeks alike--they will participate in a panel at this year's **San Diego Comic-Con (SDCC)** called "Moving to the Web: Be Your Own Producer" (7/13/12 at 7:30pm). Tara gushes, "We are really looking forward to the panel at SDCC this year. I think that people are looking for ways to empower themselves by creating and producing projects they are passionate about, and I can't wait to share our experiences and learned lessons with them." "I'm excited to be a part of the *Moving to the Web* panel at Comic-Con this year because SDCC is a flash point of nerdy creative energy and it's where this new programming will come from," excitedly exclaims Yuri Lowenthal.

**Monkey Kingdom Productions**, Tara Platt & Yuri Lowenthal's production company which is based in downtown Los Angeles, has produced the feature films, *Tumbling After* and *Con Artists* (due out later this year), as well as co-producing *Shelf Life* with Ultimatum Entertainment and Butcher Birds Studios. They also have an independent publishing company, called Bug Bot Press, which has published their book "Voice-Over Voice Actor - What it's Like Behind the Mic" and will be publishing the novella "Tough City" later this year. Recently, Platt & Lowenthal were interviewed about their love for Downtown Los Angeles and why they chose to base their company there. They were given ten questions to answer specifically about Downtown LA via the Concierge Questionnaire. One question asked, a la James Lipton's Inside the Actors Studio, was, "If Heaven were Downtown Los Angeles, what would God say to a visitor when they arrive at the Pearly Gates?" Their Answer, "I hope you're hungry." You can find more of their answers here: <https://www.conciergequestionnaire.com/q.php?id=435>

### **The Actors Behind the Shelf:**

-- Hero Man (**Travis Willingham**, a veteran of animation & video games, but also boasts credits on *Nip/Tuck*, *The Guardian*, and the upcoming *To Have and to Hold*)

-- Hero Lass (**Tara Platt**, an actor/producer known for her work in animation & video games like *Legion of Superheroes*, *DC vs Mortal Kombat*, Ellie Martinez in the newly released *Resistance: Burning Skies*, as well as acting on TV's *Castle* and *Revenge*),

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-- Bug Boy (**Yuri Lowenthal**, an actor/writer/producer, is known for acting in cartoons and video games, most notably *Ben10*, *Prince of Persia*, and *Naruto*. He is currently the voice for Lagoon Boy in WB's *Young Justice*, and Sammy in *Sammy's Adventure* with Melanie Griffith, Tim Curry, Kathy Griffin and Anthony Anderson).

-- Samurai Snake (**Bryan Enk with Dee Bradley Baker providing the creature's voice**. Bryan Enk is an actor who has also directed many films like *The Big Bad* and *Midnight Days* but is also an accomplished New York theatre actor with scores of plays under his belt. Dee Bradley Baker is a well-known voice actor who is famous for such shows as *The Clone Wars*, *Avatar: The Last Airbender*, and *American Dad!*).

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