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**Pierre** [00:00:10] It's not only a story for me. I will say it will be history. Because as, my family's from southwestern France not far from Lascaux cave and the Vezere Valley and the Dordogne Valley. And when I was a kid I used to go there a lot and I'm very interested in all the history of, the pre-history of homosapiens and I think if, uh...

**Pierre** [00:00:43] And if a lot of us are involved in fishing it's because of all of this ancestry you know because now apparently a few months ago they discovered that homosapiens go now 300000 years. They discovered some skulls and old skeletons many of them in Morocco a few months ago now, it's just up everywhere. So now we jump from a hundred thousand years in Kenya, hundred fifty thousand years or more and now it came to Morocco. The same, No same as you and me 300000. But I would I would keep to the Dordogne Valley you know called manual which was 30000 years ago and whose people were after hunting of course but mainly I will say about fishing. Atlantic salmon is in the Dordogne, the Vezere. We have a lot of proof there you know the vertebrae, the harpoons, hooks even, and in fishing. And I like to say maybe because my my family's from Vezere and Perigord, we are in a small village 30 kilometers from Lascaux cave and I like to think that if I like so much fishing, that's in my in my genes you know. And in my hormones because of course in the last, you know as a biologist, you know I used to be a veterinarian, we know that's where we evolved. Let's say even from the last 40000 you know only we've evolved a lot but not to almost it's only 200 years it's we are living in cities and that would change our way of life really. But are hormones are still reacting like they were reacting 30 40000 years ago and predation, predation is in our genes even if at that time it was a necessity. You know that the man we're going hunting but fishing as well for feeding the tribe feeding the family. And I think when I go fishing is a for salmon or other fish, I think I have this predation instinct in me even if today of course it's not catch and kill... like most of the people today are, we, maybe not in the Latin country, in France people still kill a lot of fish but I release most of my fish. You know it's. And I think that's when I go fly fishing for Atlantic salmon instead of spearing them, it's it's a kind of sublimation of the predation act but the predation act is there and in, I think in a lot of people maybe as adults understands that they don't know it but that's why they like so much fishing and even hunting you know. But it's it's not only catch and release you know maybe because of these ancestors and I like to kill a few fish and still, you know, I was probably the first first man in France to release an Atlantic salmon in a French River. People don't understand this river is so beautiful in south south of France. So I release the fish there probably 30 years ago and and people don't. At the time salmons we were it was according to the law we were able to to to sell the fish you know. And a lot of people were professionally angling and selling the fish. But even now when I go to Iceland or to some other place I like to kill a few fish to eat them just to grab locks you know. In Iceland there are so many salmon but arctic char is so good to eat you know when I go to Florida I don't catch very often permit. But with a crab it's not so difficult and I like, they're the best fish to eat. And now most of the people are crazy when you say when you say you're going to eat a fish. It's like you know some Americans say we're not eating our, uh, golf balls. So why don't we. But there is nothing wrong to kill a few trout you know maybe I kill two three mainly sea trout. But I eat them. And if you if you have a good wine to go with them it's I think it's a kind of sublimation of the fishing act.

**Pierre** [00:05:11] Of course you know when you are in you know trout and salmon let's say it's fish.

**Pierre** [00:05:19] But most of it but many trout and sediments they live in pure is a need pure water. They need clean water and it's generally that I've never seen places where Atlantic salmon go up which is another place. And also of place are usually it's still not sure exactly is Atlantic sediments here or even brown trout. Native fish and that's probably another reason why I love fishing and why a lot of people love fishing because we are far from the city or so I like to fish in the middle just that point. You know when I have some time magazines were morning with. Now the river is clean it's actually it's too clean. The fishing was better 20 years ago when there were still some huge age going into the river. Now the river if you go across a bridge you can see three meters deep. You know you see and we have a lot of grass you know water grass everywhere under you can see the small roads that perch there is wall are your few bike eels. And I like to fish there you know and of course but even there some time in the winter I go and fish for perch. We have some perch up to two pound and I keep a few. Hours of peoples out code leads a strict fissure. That's a new that's a completely new sink. You know street fishing in Europe it's very famous and it's all young people said go with the latest tackle as it can get you know the best lines more laws and they go fishing and they all adds a phone or a GoPro camera on and they catch. It's a beautiful area as our you know and our catching this perch sometimes small medium you know and they take a picture of them on the GoPro. Take a picture and two kids efficient they release of fish. Let's demo was killed to perch because it's very good to eat. The river is really clean. And I was there were crazy about these young people upset about this. Nothing's wrong to kill to fish you know. I think those are integrity. There is more and more people with this catch and release. You know we are really in too. So why don't you Why do you go fishing if it's just to catch the fish and leave them alone. You know as an I would say or so I know that's a fish as veterinarians out there are not mammals they don't suffer pain. So zoos I'm sure you know as wise I will don't do it you know. But when you you sink a perch or whatever fish or capture hard shelled crayfish you know can you believe eating. So don't mind whoever who goes. Most of the fish have spines so they get into their mouth. So it's not a wound that makes them strong otherwise. In Europe if we can prove if they can prove that fish suffer pain there will be not no normal fishing. It's already like that in Switzerland in Germany. You can you still can fish but not with alive life bait. This is against the law. Maybe next time we'd be a worm it will be against the law to put a worm on a plastic you know us and things like that. And if you catch a fish you should not release it. You should kill it in Switzerland and in Germany. And so it can go a little bit too far as this integrity you know only catch and release you know sometimes I really like it. What I what we do a little bit nicely is scotch and cook and I have a good story on the Yarmouk River. I was there with Jack Hemingway a long time ago maybe 25 years ago and said decide at that time that there was a river to be native again. So they have been stocking fish from hatcheries and for years and they decide that now all a wild fish. They were not clipped. Should you should release also wild fish but you should get a clipped fish which was hatchery fish. You should you can keep it. So. It was a fishing it toughens you where they are with Chuck to us in September 20 25 years and some French friends as well. And we get why not. One fish a deal when one fish every other day. You know we don't get that much but it's it's public fishing it's one of the most beautiful rivers that I've ever seen. And when we get official you know these fish jump pick some people Daniel allows the hatchery fish that on. This is nonsense. Zoo sanctuary fish and I've been catching quite a logs out. I've been fishing there five six times. And at that time so it's actually fish. They've been to Japan to basi figures have been bags have been fighting the rapids and for me this was a fight. Some people said no no. You know when you get a white fish they fight much. This is nonsense. So it's natural to fish for me. Fight the same. But where do we get these fish. And while we were camping and renting some houses and fixing our food so we say you Zita you see to sushi or not to a sushi and you have to wait. And if there were clipped or not there. Okay. That's a sushi fish. So boom.

And we can examine you know this is what I call catch and cook and we we cook Zalman usually what we deal on is the Okawa with barbecues all things. And we can observe the skin which is very greasy under and then you puts us as Kenyans a river and you can see those crayfish use California crayfish you know coming down already red you know you can see them. You know 40 50 yards up from down string and we were catching them too ism as well. And I think this is this relation sink. You know. Yes of course when you when you are trout or salmon fishing. Are saying if you are top and fishing in some markets this outside of Key West or even in some place in the Florida Keys you know your your as far as ours and you can be in Africa. You take a smaller boat you know and you go to the market as if it's a flat day you can cross a channel. And but even going out 10 minutes with a boat from Key West ends with giant cruise a boat you know you are there and you're on a flight and you can see a hammerhead shark topless and and you are birds and it's it's even better than being I've been a lot in Africa. Now Africa is finito it's pollution everywhere. So there is no more fishing or or the. Chinese Koreans or France or Europe anywhere going in there with big boats to catch their fish. We would give money it was our fisheries ministers corruption you know it's finito. You know Africa is really dead for the fishing. But you go out in Florida and it's not to revitalize the river but being on the flats you know and you don't know whether this guy goes down to the water line and you see a tail or you see some fins of sharks so this is complete natural and can be so close to where we live.

[00:13:08] You know but even then even our fishing in the middle of the city in Paris set very Gallo which is a small island said the point of the island unless he did not Madame is on the other side. But the point of cold a river Gallo you are saying good morning because in the afternoon and evening it's people are out picnicking drinking playing music you know smoking whatever but you goes out 5:00 in the morning in the summertime nobody's out of places to you and you can still see. So you know the river when it's getting very warm is a river still cooling you'll see a little bit of fog guns a river however few trees. And if you look down you have all this grass you know and and fishing and you get it's part of nature as well. Even in the middle of the city but of course you know when you go to Iceland or in France we still if we add 200 years ago maybe hundred 150 years ago where the best Atlantic salmon rivers you know Europe will see it are latitude you know and we had big fish. France. Besides the Danube we have a bigger river in Europe. ROSA So gardens of sand the Rhine River which was in France which was a fantastic River for planting Suleman until the mid 50s. But the LA islands is three vines southwest of France are governed Rome with a river are still there and we destroyed all the fishing most of it you know it has been politically and administration. It's crazy but it's a river so beautiful and if you go to Iceland of course back to Norway to to gas paying you know the most beautiful revived scenes in some matter pediatric gas get media all these rivers are. It looks like they where 30000 years ago if you're on some place off you don't see any any houses and you lodged nothing so revised still there and there are still a few fish like that well as it go. My grandfather was living in Perry Ga.

[00:15:33] Introduced me to fishing when I was probably 4 years old I don't know why I was fascinated you watch you as many.

[00:15:42] He was a blacksmith and he liked to shoot for Partridge and things like that. But in the summer times we we used to go first. For me no fishing you know in a small stream besides the house and sometimes catching. This is this minnows that will be a trout grabbing your minnow you know it was a small stream but flowing in to Zeus a visitor and so introduced me to fishing and then when I was eight years or nine probably we used to basic all too good to were to a famous big huge pond which was public and fishing for carp

in the summertime was a piece of potatoes or. Maize corn you know and things like that. So he really introduced wind to into fishing.

[00:16:41] The world is in. I would say there is two different worlds around Anglin is a you are in in the Anglo-Saxon world like Canada the U.S. New Zealand and Australia. Many if it's saltwater fishing zone. But those countries are really understands it but functional economy called value of angling. And so you protect your rivers even if they are public rivers. In the US most of the fishing is public but it's very well organized and fishing is I think is improving. Maybe not in. Some places because of pollution as well but most of the place you know is your raised the dam on the West Coast. From California to Washington state and so are more and more river up and to Atlantic sub to Pacific salmon and Dillard's and so zoos country. I think I've not been fishing zinc wines the last I would say 15 years no easy but I heard it's still very good and maybe better than when. When I was there I used to fish the dean in British Columbia a little bit and I was a Dean now is much better because it designed some new nets full for the professional catching a Pacific salmon so so steelhead can go over the Nets and said sardine is much better than it was 20 years ago and many rivers in the US Yellowstone I've not been fishing there in 40 years but I like to present it to my kids and I heard it's bad doesn't it. It always been. It's so many places like that and Canada is saying you know British Columbia so but besides that if you go to Europe also we are trying to improve a little bit in in France but even in Scotland where fishing is prey private or in no way is they really try to take care of theirs as our fishing and fishing is at least for migratory fish for Atlantic salmon sea trout fishing is just a. Shadow of what it was 30 years ago and we don't know something is happening in the sea in Scotland as a river completely clean now. So is normal dams they say they get a good genetics you know from each river to two to release Smoltz.

[00:19:19] So there has never been as many smaller going down to the sea on a spray on a D on the Tweed and to disappear in the sea. Something's wrong there. So my opinions are starving in a sea you know. Yeah at IGF fair now we are really trying to to fight against a.

[00:19:45] System which you call it.

[00:19:47] We've got Hitler patiently not yet you know catching small fish for each fish to make powder to feed the to feed Atlantic salmon in the farm of course but mainly to feed poultry pigs cow we need protein. So instead of soft soya we still catch most of the fishing in the sea. What's a name for these fish catching a smaller fish to make biodiverse mean fishermen. Well yes I think as a name. Yeah. Fish meal. Yeah. Yeah. So I think why zoos zoos Smoltz go down go out into the sea. But there's our starving it at IGF and we're very well concerned about this fishmeal industry. You know now a lot of you are Russian. Everybody's so are in Europe's worst after Danes. The Danes are catching as much tonnage in Europe. So Danes are catching maybe two or three times more modern age of fish than Spain England and France together. But France England Spain we fish for big fish for tuna are for sea bass. Well you know a Danish they only fish for forage fish for Sandy it's for small and micro for baby sprouts whatever is our shrimp. It's efficient turns them into fish meal two to two feeds Atlantic salmon farming but mainly poultry pigs cows everywhere in the world.

[00:21:27] So suppose someone's they go into the Atlantic. So there is nothing to eat. You know we take that food out so they are starving and they don't come back because they are dying in the sea. So it's it's that's a problem but for me this might be the main reason why it was a reverse up very good again. But no no migratory fish coming back.

[00:21:58] Yeah I GFA was created in 1939 by Michael Lao now was a very wealthy industrial. He was he was closing in in the US from New York an analyst Hemingway analyst Hemingway was the first vice president. So that created his was after Hemingway so it was already some told him and tuna are being my and Z decides that that should be a not a club but an organization instead of club you can come fix some laws about sport fishing and Hemingway was very aware of that and you didn't like the people catching bangs of Marlin was a Cuban professional and say I catch these big marlin and I'm a winner of the competition and things like that. So that decides that we'll have some rules and on the other side even if the people were not shooting the tackle was improving already so much. At the end of the 30s said decided to have some rules so the fish has a chance and is a fisherman wants to be proud of of his capture. You must use tack on in a certain way and no added from as a boat. No. No you must face efficient. So this was the beginning of it and for I would say until some mids and of the 60s IGF I was mainly about keeping records and observing that. So fishing was was done in in in a fair manner. For us it was a fish. And after that it grows and and we discovered I was a member since I was very young. And we discovered that there was. We should take care of conservation as well.

[00:23:57] Because if we keep we still want to fish for record on not just for fun you know but people like to compete so like to have a name. So A.J. that book you know is a record book published every year is maybe two bound with a lot of free codes different lines and people like to have a name means a book and things like that. But we discovered that we we should take care of conservation as well.

[00:24:25] So I would say Now that's a GFA is very involved in conservation all of us a world we organization became more and more international and it had always been international law Game Fish Association. But until the end of the 60s it was mainly American Tasmanian American club of very wealthy people fishing for tuna marlin swordfish and things like that. And now sayings to the last presidency and director of a ship you know it has become more and more international as they asked me already in eight years ago now to become a trustee you know and some other friends from Belgium from Italy now from Spain. So there is about 20 trustees aboard a little bit more and we are getting more and more international and we say European for example last week I was in Budapest because with every year we had a meeting of the representative and trustee of Europe and some American. Board members are coming as well.

[00:25:42] And we we tried to see what some see as a problem trying to solve now so some big thing is pollution in the Mediterranean for example but fishmeal industry is a big seeing and so I think IGF is doing a real or almost not. People still think it's big game fishing for very rich people. It's it's a long time ago it's much more than that.

[00:26:18] Yeah. Trouble. Climate. Climate changing I think should be a concern for Atlantic salmon and brown trout in some of the arbiters but this might be in the next 20 years or so we should really see it but it's probably already changing maybe it's already a little bit of impact on migrating habits such as the Atlantic salmon for example because if the polar shield is apparently now in the summertime you don't need to have this big icebreaker. You can still go on sir on this Navy road from Norway to Canada you know.

[00:27:12] And so for sure is the ice is melting. But because of the warming. But then all this ice melting makes the sea cooler. So is Atlantic salmon a sink when the water is too cold in Greenland and is a place where they were feeding ground zero. They have to go

south to to to find water a little bit more warm you know ends in the sea and unfortunate things displace the trees maybe more for range fish before. So Danny oceans are Chinese and Russian and everybody discovers a reason for each fish there.

[00:27:50] But there is more predatory sharks and things like that.

[00:27:54] So for now the warming is bad because of the cooling of the North Atlantic and. But of course it's Arizona a global warming I just earned about two weeks ago. I have a friend who wanted to go fishing in Scotland and I told him of a beautiful good place. So not so must not some west of Scotland. There's a is Cape Russ and sex whereas the invincible armada. Followed by. Sir what was his now of course.

[00:28:34] Drake Sir Francis Drake. You know after to try to get in Toulouse attains in London Zen he fully examines his invincible armor days to go. Order order around Scotland and most of their boats wrecks in Cape Russ Which is terrible a place you know with storms and waves and whatever. And so it's a beautiful place and this is northwest of Scotland.

[00:29:00] And I used to fish there I was still at veterinary school so it's 45 years ago maybe 50 years 45 minimum. And we were camping there and there is a beautiful rivers our call is aD.A. which is private and fishing for for salmon. But yes Harare was public and we was my brother. We used to fish out for sea trout was a was a tide coming in. You have a sea trout in July. And. At that time there was crazy fishing about sea bass in France and Andrew's Place and also north of Scotland was so fantastic. And I said it's too bad there is no sea bass out. Water is apparently too cold you know and there's a sea bass in Europe as is stopped in the. Middle of Ireland and middle of Scotland and many south of Scotland above. So it was no sea bass and I just found that this estuary now people are fishing for sea Trump are catching more and more as European sea bass which is very close relatively to stray bass except there is not no stripe you know but that's the same fish and they don't grow as big as this place. And I know that w no bass because there was no bass in Scotland. Now if bass means you also fjord in this we know now in the last 15 years I was busking jostle of shorts with a. So the water in these places is warming you know. And now I just doubt that two weeks ago that there is sea bass in the deal and our driver. So of course the climate is changing and the water temperature is maybe more important for the fish. The challenge then for four mammals or is it a temperature you know most of the fish that are spawning that feeding the SAP being comfortable depends on the water temperature because they can't regulate you know they have cold blood. So it's very important these water temperatures. So but zoom zoom most dramatic seeing is pollution and the dams maybe the dams are a little bit behind us but not in France because because of the ecological sinks now they decide that we should not made electricity with burning coal burning oil or even nuclear.

[00:31:36] And we should go back to what's it called clean electricity which is what a power. Okay that's clean but you kills a river you kills a fish. But in France nobody mind you know and they say to each other try to promote Tobi turbines and things in small rivers not huge things like we did in the 1950s and maybe a little bit before these big dams.

[00:32:07] Not as big as in a Colombian place like that in theU.S. but we have big dams case as ours and now we're not going in as a US they raised them raised them.

[00:32:22] But now it's in small truck drivers that just want to put a turbine just to put a little bit electricity. So it's it's getting crazy. On one side we tried to protect and pollution I think were mainly over it except at least in Europe and in France.

[00:32:46] It was a reverse of saying which was so badly polluted lives at times you know in the world for the river in Paris was in the mid 60s river west you know all the sewage from or the capital and there was still some industry a little bit outside Paris. So everything we go into a river and in 65 when I was 16 years old as a river was that I was on knees or eels on the bottom and as a carp because a cup in the summertime is it can breezes out from the atmospheres all the other fish. And when there was a big episode or like. Rain you know and things like that everything will go and ends and next there's a river w white with fish belly up and.

[00:33:44] And then it's the end. So fish were dead soldier Reeva was just. So they decide for the first time in 69 to have the first ministry of environment to cleanse a river because Paris is a very touristic town. And so Reeva was thinking you know nobody will go walking ourselves to decide and they did a very good job. It took 20 years from sixty nine to eight to zen of the 80s to cleanse a river. And now the revised cleaners are never and we have a lot of biodiversity. I think that was at least 25 different species of fishing in the same.

[00:34:26] So and this is of course Paris is a more iconic river. But I've seen that is a garden on the Rhine River or is it so while of course all of those big rivers you know no more industry polluting and things like that. But the trouble is now that pollution is in the small rivers because for agriculture it's not industry which is polluting. But in Europe I think France is a champion for pesticide. We where we put pesticide for every culture even on of course on the vine until the grapes on the fruits on corn. You know it's pesticide Monsanto and pesticide everywhere. And this you can see pollution you know all pollution no met metallic and things like that but it's a pesticide you don't see it and it kills everything. So it is no more watches no more meat flies into smaller rivers. So it's a big reverse which we're really badly polluted city 30 years ago now. OK. But the small rivers say it looks OK it looks clean but Zana Auntie.

[00:35:53] MARK COLVIN I've been fighting since I was 16 years old I was in zoos clubs you know and trying to to help preserve cleanings the rivers one when I was young with some other people and we have to take care of it ourselves. And what I've been doing in Brittany. And normally we've been doing quite good restoration project you know.

[00:36:19] And then I get more and more involved in in zoos restoration means protecting trout and salmon because Simon is Israelis. It's a it's probation you know this fish is such an incredible fish that we so now we still have a river in. So for really 50 years I made my veteran veterinarian tests on Atlantic salmon in 1973 and I've been working on some forms of state for three years to Adam Zam on Xian yay. And in this river in southwestern France where to try what can we do to elbow those rivers and things like that. But that's what that was in the 74 75 a long time before Europe really decide to do something. But now we just two years ago we have we have a new organization and a new association called Sally Moore. Here are some more. A salvage and salvage yard. And we tried to it's locally because we we have been trying to help on the international side and on. But even national law is too big. So I think now each river we should ever an association locally based to try to do something with the local politician the makers of the city and now where I'm really involved in this association. Forty three votes southwest of France gathered on a hill which is one of the most beautiful Atlantic salmon in the world. And I can says that because I've seen Seattle Times in most of rewinds curl up in Ansel I've seen them. So

Reeves owns a gas Bay and so our beautiful rivers but this river in southwestern of France Zimbalist knew it because in the turn of the century the English tried to base a river. So really some very wealthy English people where they found drugs that were golfing in your jackets which is very it seems a border with Spain. But on the on the French side and this river flows of mountains and go in Bayonne and as the English discovered that river was Atlantic salmon as big as in Norway you know up to 20 25 kilos some fish a lot of 20 pounds plus you know a lot. And such a beautiful river flowing free from the mountains four hundred maybe 200 kilometers maximum. And we still have a few fish there but believe it or not. Sarah this is France. So there are still some professional fishermen for wild efficiencies River and this river flows. Yes this is probably is by your Nara is probably 75 percent of the corn business in France as a pesticide. You have no idea. It's all genetically modified pesticide and everything goes into the river. But we still have. So we are really trying to help that river now locally instead of going internationally fighting.

[00:40:03] It's difficult to say. I think there has been so much economic problem for European Union said the river Zaza. The last sinks for the big rivers. Yes definitely. Sara has been program of restoration for. Sturgeon you know from. Atlantic sturgeon in some river in France. One river in Spain. But it's just kind of. You know.

[00:40:32] Big Rivers fossil. The small rivers that there some there is a low according. I think it was two years ago in 2015. They must the law must have been acted in 2000 and they said that all European countries Mirza must have clean surface water no nitrate no nothing like that by 2015. They gave us 15 years. It was a low but in France we are 10 years late. Maybe they say by 2025. So surface water will be free of nitrate and things like that to Brittany for example Zetia. It's still a disaster worse. I did a movie out twelve 15 years ago about geology algae because all these pigs industry 0 8 million speaks in Brittany which is a very small place and we still have 30 rivers for trout sunset and all of these big industry all the nitrate going into rivers. That doesn't kills a fish but then.

[00:41:52] It goes into the sea and then you get these algae bloom. Owners of beaches and apparently right now say it's a bigger problems than ever. And they tried but it's a farming industry knows pig. That's that's crazy. The English are eating much more pigs and we do and say bye to the Danish in France.

[00:42:16] Maybe as a general de Gaulle wanted France to be independent voice food. So they decide Britannia when I was 16 years old I was fishing there. It was so beautiful. It was some big rivers. Many small but beautiful surroundings you know and they decide to to make a big farming is out because the harbors was there you can brings a fish meal by boat.

[00:42:43] And so so Jaan said decides to kill this this area we should have say OK. We keep it for tourists we keep it or Europe will go we'll go fishing for the seas beautiful to see some sea bass all around Brittany in the sea shells.

[00:43:03] Lobsters. Everything was sounds a river way full on leave 45 sick 50 years ago full of trout and salmon. And would you say no one going to put a poultry and many big industries if we destroyed it. I'd say it says it was a lot of very bad decision you know political and. So it's but France is very sad about it. We are seeing well some of the worst in Europe.

[00:43:30] We don't understand that a country like Ireland does have not one trout trout streaming Ireland in Belgium's have very few in the dance. But Denmark does have a few



trout stream Denmark and Germany have some trout. But you know all these people millions and millions would love to go fishing in Brittany for tourists and going with the family because a family can go and on the sea and and. No economy called impact of the of the wrangling in at least in France in Italy in Spain will never understand it.

[00:44:15] Yes. I was doing a lot of shows. That's how I get involved a lot and when I was 16 years old I'd get in to a club near Paris in the casting business. You know accuracy and distance. And I did that for since sixty five to 76. So for eleven years I was really involved in that because I stopped 76 was it still world casting competition was in St. Louis in Missouri and I stopped it was a last competition. But since 67 I was as I was first Junior your champion for a casting and and then after and then a stares out for ten years. So I was known as a competition you know every year I was a federations and we. Will pay our trip. So it was a competition in South Africa going 75 in St. Louis 76. But before that was in Scarborough or in Switzerland. And so and I I discovered a lot of friends and that's why I was. But most of the people in the cast I met I'm Wolf in a competition in Paris with a French international competition and you unlawfully come and but most of those people are not your own of course but most of the competitors were only competition. So we're not fishermen very strangely. But as I was already a fisherman I was involved in both and I've been and I get some European record and I get three worlds medal and never gold but I get to silver medal in Suleman fly distance. This was in. In South Africa.

[00:46:17] And I get to us in accuracy and so it was a western event called the fisherman. And you you had 10 minutes you have the same Rod and there were some big.

[00:46:33] Which targets and in 10 minutes you have two made three rounds on set targets and then you need to have three cast in distance with the same road. So I get medals as well.

[00:46:49] Which was very interesting because you have to be good in both you know distance and accuracy. That's a good question because you hope fishing is not on any catching fish you know.

[00:47:08] And I'm getting older and older.

[00:47:12] I like to share. So the beauty of the river so catching a fish you know I'm when I get a good friend you know my mean if is a big you know that if I can help him to catch a good fish and I think I'm more harpies and catching it myself. But a good friend should be to it to add some culture about fishing you know you have to know about some little bit of fishing literature because it can be so rich and interesting and a guy I've not I've not been fishing with him in maybe 10 years but Jim's present when he was young he was going all over Europe to catch a native trout. So. So we became friends I introduced him to some river in the center of France and places like that. You went to Iceland with me as well. And is it. It is interesting everything is interest in the beauties interest in literature. He's a writer himself and it's very sad to have people just competing for fishing you know. And that's what's now when I really choose carefully to France I go fishing with you know and because it's we are part of. We love it the same way. And. This is very important. You know that's you can was a place of fishing and even cooking of the fish and and you know this is socialization I guess. And drinking some good wine with it was a was a good fish. Some some of the best memory I have was on so caught up in insula. And Jack was with us and we caught my I don't remember. I think I called it fish but we have released many fish already. And by midday while we're well on this beautiful Ambar River on what he calls a crevasse place and we were getting hungry and the guide said all keep this fish I'm

going to. OK. So. And I was there was a very old friend who was a very good friend of Jack as well. He was the last port shelves a river sent us a professional fisherman. He died the last year. Unfortunately he was 90 almost. And these guys banned since he was twelve years old he was fishing in the river for carp for walleye whatever. And then I introduced him to show me out to two Shore cast net which I'm very proud of doing and introduced him into fly fishing. And I brought I brought Jack in and his wife at that time she was ex Miss Texas. We went to his place hundred kilometres from Paris and he was living in an old farm you know was all his is Ned's you know fishing that is a reversal of saying was full of fish and but most of the good fishing he was going was for eels at night you know because there is a lot of money with eel fishing and so they became friends and things that. So we went to Iceland together we went to Russia and this time and we a whole she's really crazy about good food. So we see this fish was probably a ten pound sort of guide. First. Cats on Piney Woods branches you know ones.

[00:50:54] Is a knife and made it a small mountains. I say it's crazy we'll put files at it. And before putting the fires these Westerns are Riverside genomes of pebbles and cut up tons of fish. Put some sticks and opens a salmon on the very open completely and keep it like a cod once it dries up Gordon's a wind you know and he opens his sinks and. Makes some more sticks put it there and put it.

[00:51:26] I would say almost two yards from them and then you put the fire and fight was crazy fire and so fish was minimum a yard and a half from afar and you can see that the flesh of the fish changing colors in two minutes and then it was all now to be perfect and then and we had a good bottle of wine.

[00:51:52] I remember we brought some muscle and we put it in the river before and we had the most wonderful meal. Jack his friend and Sasha Tolstoy was our you know is a great great great great great grandson of Leo Tolstoy. He was a good friend of Jackie's. And we had some most I remember everybody said you'd never have that. I taught at Shaw so much so please note we are sounds the middle of nowhere. Oh the rivers that were silent a few salmon showing when we were eating this fish and drinking it. This was such a wonderful community of friends you know and of course after that jacket some dry martini with the real glasses you know you had a small sinks with him you know. And before that we had a dry martini. There's a way I guess his father was liking them. That's wonderful memories.

[00:53:03] You know I was very good friend with William Humphrey U.S. really good friend at us. I was introduced to him by Nick Lyons. In 76 and oh no maybe before that he came to France and Nick you went to see Charles rates at the hotel and I was quite there as well because I was.

[00:53:25] Charles Fritz even when in the 70s it was getting very old but you were so you know about designing new rods carbon fiber was a new thing for Raymond and you was so involved in these things and I was you were saying we should cut it as you speak and I was casting for it like casting is your turn to have a huge corridor what you can cast 40 yards of linings or read something scope and introduced me to so Bill Humphrey one two to the Ritz and shouts that you should come. You know I'm not very far from the Ritz Hotel from me. It's maybe 20 minutes by foot maybe less. And so I I met William Manfred bill and we became real good friends and so. About in angling literature I'm free used to say there is to kind of angling authors. First there are fantastic anglers.

[00:54:34] Technically you know they really know two fish but they don't know right. And secondly zebra found fantastic writers you know. But most of them don't know how to fish.

[00:54:47] I think he was right. And of course there are people well in between and some are real good in both. I think Hemingway of course because of course he's one of the greatest writer and everybody knows it. But in INS of fishing technical he really improved you know as a marlin fishing he designed some new techniques he was so much technical and he can write so well about technical. So this is very difficult to write. It's easy for a good writer it's easy to write a beautiful story about fish like the old man and the sea which is technical about a professional fishing as well but about a sport fishing you know if you read many easier letters from Cuba Published by ask why it's fantastically about technical and and well-written and but are not very many like that you know well know. So one guy which is maybe a little bit less technical I really like his. John de Volker Rob a truck driver you know truck trout madness trout magic the one that's Nick introduced me to this guy you know because I spent almost a year at a zoo anymore medical center in New York City I was staying at Nick because some of his kids were going to university so I get some some rooms out. And Nick of course was the best in trajectory for me introduced me to Maggie when he said Oh because I've been fishing in the Keys already. I was there in New York in 78 and I've been fishing the keys in 76. So I see and I've been catching a few too. You must read 90 tons of sheet. But you know it was not translated and that now I think it's translate but it's it's it was a fishing part. I can understand but it was a lot of slang or sex rock drag rock n roll you know. And I missed most of it but that's how I discovered my Gwen. And then my Gwen is definitely some of his books the longest silence. I really enjoy and chat Chatham I really like about because he fishes maybe because efficiency and quiet I love that Trevor Wayne Harrison is not an angling author but when you know a good day to day about savings is as you thrive.

[00:57:19] And when you talk about tap and fishing it's mainly about sex drugs and rock and roll whatever. But Zen is on the flats to get away from all the booze and all the things. And you wrote perfectly about and as a fisherman you know. I never met him but I met this guy you know and he is a real tadpole and trout fisherman. So so so fantastic. Also in France we don't have many you know. Mobile so he's been writing a little bit about fishing literally. But we mainly have more research on what. Which is. My opinion one of the greatest ever. Yeah. You wrote a book called Love. What that Besh. I don't think it has ever been translated maybe it's one of the most wonderful literature you can ever read. You know it was after that you wrote many books.

[00:58:25] This was when you were so young you know fishing zone West from the LA Valley and you fishing from idle wives to bike to perch you know is such a wonderful book and then you want was a first world war I was wounded and you wrote fantastic book about the war as well which is a lot of people know some books about the war about is a guy who wrote a humble you the story of these boats shot in very dramatic story of poaching in Salinas. Rich people are rare. So but what that Pesh but that's the only two in France you know Zeid there's been writing a little bit about trout fishing was a grasshopper which is well done he was apparently a fisherman on the regime but that's about it.

[00:59:21] But really I think in the US you it's still today. You know our resolve is best that all of those guys where released they know what they were doing and they know how to write about it. They are not that many who can do it.

[00:59:45] Oh you know when I stopped casting in the mid 60s. This was the beginning of fiberglass but it a soft and so in the competitions are good rods where bamboo and I start

casting. Remember I was 16 or 17 years old and I had this for trout distance. So Rod was probably 300 grams but you need a big powerful roll rod to cast 40 45 sometimes 50 yards. So it was bamboo and of course in the accuracy it was only bamboo you know force and then fiberglass means early 70s became better. And then of course graphite will become. Everybody wants to have graphite. It was introduced in 76 I remember exactly.

[01:00:41] And but for example in maybe in the early in 76 75 we went to ever tournament with e country that was in Romania and zoos people that did not even have fiberglass or split bamboo Z plain bamboo but they were so good you know piece of wide bamboo dried and they were beating us. We had fiberglass since the beginning of carbon fiber and zoo's guy were better with a plain bamboo rod and because they've been training so hard you know and and these bamboo is a Zen I discovered this even plain bamboo is a fantastic very stiff and very nervous. And then of course I've been fishing a lot with carbon fiber mainly salmon fishing when we were using to land rods 15 fruits and things like that you know in some people I remember we're even using 20 footers you know in Scotland 18 foot rods. And then I said but I discovered I mentally Wolf and I said but this guy has been fishing the big rivers with six foot Rod for Atlantic salmon. Why are we using this 16 foot run we're reserve fund. I like to speak asked but then I like sexting but when you get a fish.

[01:02:15] I would love to have the fish then take the rod apart and fight them on. This is not easy. So as an eye socket I stopped and as I was quite good in one and distance testing I decide or maybe 25 years ago minimum only to fish bamboo and one end for Atlantic salmon. Even in Russia you know and lose or rods they work. Even better. Because when when you fight a fish with carbon rods you know as soon as the fish shake his head it kind of electricity is a rod react in tenths of a second. So the fish does that and it makes them jump crazy shake their heads and a lot of them escape. Even fish with with grenades you know spliced Granato. And then when you have a 12 foot Professor Green out now I use it one and a one and a half. And when you have a salmon he doesn't know is it. Because it's a rod react so long after the fish move and he doesn't know he's fighting anything you know.

[01:03:23] But bamboo eats many as well. It's such a beautiful thing you know a bamboo rod. Now you got you going to England. You can buy some fantastic results you know for 300 squids quids you know surrendered maybe 400 euros and if you if you go in buy. Winston sages 800 euro in France I'm sure it's six seven hundred dollars in the states and it just goes from a Korean machine or this I don't know it's it just wraps some things you know when you know about a bamboos. So the education of the workers at this factory in France who had a puzzling shell which was doing was child streets. So the Hubble equipped fantastic range of frogs. And when you know that the story behind the rods and his bamboo says should keep in the is a dry for 20 years before he cuts them put them together varnish this. This is all a story when you fish was a bamboo rod and and and and now today when zoos or rods you know a good public 8 photograph is um drugged 15 gram OK you can never 80 gram with a carbon fiber but there is no difference. There is a difference with that when you want to use a 14 foot in bamboo. Then you know your back is bad you know back for 100 or even up to 20 foot bamboo. Twelve footer some beautiful spliced you know not the room it's way between two hundred seventy grams and it's so much fantastic when you get a fish was a.

[01:05:23] That's a hope. No. As a vet I like to all. Gee you know I get orders these girls you know. I know for examination you know what we mainly have to work on horses cows but all domestic anymore. And this is unable I put four times.

[01:05:43] Oh hippo I hope. Yeah yeah yeah yeah. It's was a horse from the river. Is that something you got in Africa.

[01:05:53] No you can't. Probably you can but you have to have a special tax. No I bought them at auctions. Usually I don't care you know or things like that. Like this is a mammoths tooth. There we go..

[01:06:13] Thats the tooth of a mammoth. Oh that's incredible stuff.

[01:06:24] So this was in 1999. Yeah. 1999. And for the centenary of the birth of his father Ernest Jack. And friends or maybe Jack himself. He rented a Ritz Hotel because his father in 44. David's a reed so tell was it. Come on that door was things out. So. Our next game was to G.I. as you know. But George was a German and already flew away. But he say I liberated the resort town so it's a famous story because you knew Charles Fritz he was staying there before wise when. When he was in Paris you know. So Sajjad decide to to ever reach for a fantastic evening you know. And he had some people he had a small jeep you know. From as a war you know always with two guys like guys with guns everything. So they were just outside the hotel. And this was for the centenary of the birth of his father and invited us and the old man from as a professional fisherman with with us you know from a Riva.

[01:07:58] And Sasha Tolstoy was hours away. And when we arrived maybe at 8:00 or 730 you know it was hundreds of people ordered the publishers orders critiques all the literary literature experts from Paris from England from some from the US you know all the big company was there for he sings about how many standing where literature and singing and Jack and we were staying in a bar anyway. And was Sasha Cohen and the year before he invited us to fish Thompson in British Columbia and we were talking about fishing and probably for one hour. We were staying. In the about sitting and just talk drinking and talking about fishing. Jack Sasha my old friend the she and me and you can see always critics always a journalist. Everybody wanted to know about literature about Hemingway about galley Ma. You know it was a big company publishing was it. And everybody said it. Who are those guys. They knew we were not into literature business. Well I'm not in the publishing business but it harms those. Said was a lot of fun and jokes. I don't mind to talk too much about literature. Let's let's talk about fishing.

[01:09:35] That's a great story. Sounds I've heard. I've met other people who know me he sounds like he was an amazing guy.

[01:09:42] No he was he was a great and so generous you know and he was really such a good friend. Who was this old man. Professional fishing you know.

[01:09:55] And oh and I actually I met his daughter. Maybe she's off the record. You know my mother go and one one there were 16 or 17 probably child. She was already famous as a as a mother Margot. And Charles Fritz phoned me and said You should come at once because Margot Hemingway staying at the hotel and. I we need to show her how to fly guest. So we went to sort of wet bologna. But Margot was much bigger than I was. She was only 19 or 20 at that time. And I show out to to cast a little bit. And we became friends you know and.