

Queerology 76 – Marco Spaumer is a Soap Opera Star

Episode Transcript

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- Matthias: [00:00](#) If you enjoy listening to Queerology, then I need your help. Here's why. I create Queerology by myself on a shoestring budget, recording and editing every episode in my tiny closet. How's that for irony? That's where you come in. Will you help keep Queerology on the air by supporting it financially? By tipping as little as one dollar a month, you can help me improve and keep making Queerology every week. All you have to do is jump over to matthiasroberts.com/support to make a pledge and listen away.
- Matthias: [00:29](#) Hey friends. This is Matthias Roberts and you're listening to Queerology, a podcast on belief and being. This is episode 76.
- Marco: [00:39](#) You show up with parts of yourself that don't look like them and grace goes out to door and justice suddenly needs to step in. That's the start of the spiritual views.
- Matthias: [00:49](#) Marco Spaumer is a South African actor best known for his work on the South African soap opera Suidooster. He's studied musical theater and has been on South African screens since late 2012. Marco is a part of Life Choices, which is a Cape Town based youth organization aiming to invest in the local youth to tackle inequality and he's been actively serving on their board as secretary. He's also a part of Simunye, an initiative to feed and serve those living on the streets in Cape Town. Marco's passionate about social justice and using his profile and platform to create awareness for those who are marginalized.
- Matthias: [01:27](#) I am really excited to have Marco on the podcast today. I've been following him on social media for years and it's so cool to watch him live as an out queer person of faith in South Africa, which we get into this conversation. That's not as common in South Africa as it is here in the States. So it's so cool to see him living that out.
- Matthias: [01:50](#) Before we dive into our conversation, a couple things. First, a few weeks ago my friend Sam Lamott came up to Seattle and we sat down and recorded a really neat conversation for his podcast How To Human. That episode just dropped today. So if

you're not already listening to Sam's podcast, it has had so many incredible people on it like Brené Brown, his mom Ann Lamott, Mari Andrew, so many just cool people and is such an honor to be on that podcast. So if you want to go listen to that conversation, head over to How To Human wherever you get your podcast, support them on Patreon. Sam is doing such wonderful work in this world.

- Matthias: [02:39](#) Second, near the end of this podcast, Marco lists out a bunch of books that has been really helpful for him and all along his journey. One of the people that he mentions is Rachel Held Evans and Rachel has been a huge friend of me, of this podcast, she's been on the podcast. This last weekend, Rachel went into the hospital and is now currently in, at least as of recording this, in a medically induced coma because of some brain seizures that she was having. She's in very serious condition and if you are the praying type, I'd ask for you to join me and join so many other people in praying for Rachel. She is one of the shining examples of what it means to be an ally, supporting my work so much and so I'm gonna include a link to a GoFundMe for support for Rachel and her family. She has two kids, her husband. So if you remember to just include Rachel in your prayers or in your thoughts and intentions, she needs them right now.
- Matthias: [03:47](#) Okay, let's just go ahead and dive in. Marco, hi, welcome.
- Marco: [03:51](#) Hey, Matthias.
- Matthias: [03:52](#) Thank you so much for staying up late and joining me.
- Marco: [03:55](#) Oh my gosh, thank you for having me.
- Matthias: [03:58](#) Yeah. It's wild to me that we can be on literal opposite sides of the world.
- Marco: [04:03](#) Wow. How incredible. I'm sitting in South Africa, it's 10PM at night and you're on that side and it's one in the afternoon. How crazy.
- Matthias: [04:12](#) Yeah, what a world.
- Matthias: [04:14](#) So to start, the question I ask everyone, how do you identify and then how would you say your faith has helped form that identity?

- Marco: [04:22](#) So identify as a queer cisgender man and I definitely identify as Christian as well. So I am Christian and how has my faith informed or shaped my sexuality and my orientation, I think it has played a massive role in my life and it's been part of the journey since day one. I didn't necessarily grow up in the church, but growing up Afrikaans, so our language and our culture's Afrikaans. Growing up Afrikaans and in a white culture, it's Christianity is a big thing and religion plays a big role in our lives and so you go to public schools and public schools are Christian from the get go. That's where they start. That's the basic foundation of the schools, and so I was always involved in Christian circles and my friends were Christian. We went to church every now and again, and my mom, she didn't commit to one specific denomination or one specific church. She kind of went as the spirit lead her. So we were in and out of churches, but we weren't committed to a specific denomination or whatever growing up.
- Marco: [05:52](#) So by the age of 16, 17 I found my way into a charismatic church and I think my experience and my experimenting or whatever with my sexuality started obviously in those circles as well because I needed to know who I was and who I wanted to be or whatever, but at the same time, getting to know God and getting to know my faith. That was hard. That was hard because it wasn't a safe space. So I would say my faith went through stages with my sexuality. So for instance, when I was closeted, my faith took on this very sheltered, slightly shallow approach or look. I think it was noble. I think I tried really hard. It was earnest but at the same time being in charismatic churches, everything is emotion based and feeling based 'cause the worship song stirs you, and then you're being called forward and everything is high in emotions and I think that's where I started, but it wasn't very truthful.
- Marco: [07:07](#) I don't know if this is a big thing in the States, but do you remember the Wild at Heart book?
- Matthias: [07:15](#) Oh, yeah.
- Marco: [07:16](#) Yeah.
- Matthias: [07:16](#) Yeah.
- Marco: [07:18](#) Most boys read that book and so for me, I read that book in varsity and so the church I was involved in at the time said, listen, they're bringing the Wild at Heart camp to South Africa, John Eldredge will be there with his Ransomed Heart Ministry and leadership and whatever. So they're doing the camp, you

guys are welcome to come. Please join us, whatever, on the weekend away. So I went to this camp, I went to the Wild at Heart camp and at the camp, it's a weekend of healing, masculinity, or father wounds, and reclaiming manhood kind of thing and at the time, as a young boy, you're so swept up into this idea thinking this is what masculinity looks like. This is what Christian men look like, need to look like. So I was in that space. I was caught up in that space and I spoke to a bunch of guys there and had them praying for me and praying for my sexuality and praying for my sexual identity and stuff like that. So really desiring to be what they were selling, and desiring to be a Wild at Heart man.

Marco: [08:38](#) But then years later, I moved to Cape Town and I got involved in the charismatic church in Cape Town, but at the same time, I fell in love with this boy who I adored and he was also part of the church. So I had a lunch thing with the pastor and his wife and they just sold me. They were like, listen, we don't think you can become a member unless you walk away this relationship and that was really hard for me. I stayed for at least another month and I started listening to podcasts on spiritual abuse and I realize I was caught in that and I was caught in the spiritual abuse of they want you to be there, they want you to be a part of the church, but not all of you.

Marco: [09:29](#) So I left. I left that environment, but also knew at that time that I didn't want to walk away from God, so I walked away from that church, but I stayed wrestling with the Lord and it was this unbecoming phase. It was the deconstructing, the reconstructing phase of my faith. It just dropped down to the bare basics of God, this is me. This is the most vulnerable me and I desperately want to be with you and I desperately want to follow you, but I cannot walk away from this part of myself. I knew that both parts needed to come with God and my sexuality needed to come with to the next phase of this journey. So I'd say the last three years of my life have been wrestling, praying, unpacking, unbecoming, reconstructing, all of those really good and holy things.

Marco: [10:30](#) Just as a side note for you as well, Matthias, the work you do on Queerology, that has definitely shaped my spirituality right now, my faith right now. A lot of the podcasts I'd listen to, they definitely influenced my journey now. So it's been incredible to be a part of the show's journey, Queerology's journey, and allowing that to shape who I am today and in the books that I read. I read a bunch of books that I just went, I need to wrestle this through and wrestle this up with God 'cause I love reading. So I needed to be in that space. That was a long intro.

- Matthias: [11:21](#) Yeah. My goodness. What a journey. It gives me chills to think about just the process of how similar it sounds to my journey, to so many other's journeys, and yet also every single one of us. It's so different.
- Matthias: [11:38](#) You mentioned the spiritual abuse and that's something I actually don't think we've ever named on the podcast before, but it's a thread through almost every single person's story. I'd be curious, as you began to kind of wake up to this reality of wait a second, something isn't right here, what did that do to kind of your visions to the divine, and how have you maybe come to understand God in different ways as you've worked through the reality of spiritual abuse happening?
- Marco: [12:13](#) Yeah. I think I allowed myself to be seen by fellow believers hoping that they'd kind of welcome me and accept me the way that I've found in God, and it's interesting 'cause in those spaces, I find it so interesting, charismatic church and charismatic movement, they try their hardest to be super relevant and with the times and they want to do good work and they're all about grace, right? So the charismatic churches that I was in, it was always about grace. Preaching about grace. But then you show up with parts of yourself that don't look like them and grace goes out the door and justice suddenly needs to step in and they bring things in like yes, God is graceful and God is merciful, but He's also a God of justice. That's the start of the spiritual abuse because you want to stay there for the grace and the mercy, but you don't want to walk away for the justice stuff or because of the justice stuff. You don't want to run away because they're bringing justice. So you stay and you hang around hoping that the books that you read and the conversations that you have outside of church and you bring them in, that that could influence or change their minds or at least bring some form of honesty.
- Marco: [13:47](#) So I think for me, the spiritual abuse, I'd only realized it after that month when I walked away. I realized, gosh, I was so desperate and I think so what happened for me just to give an exact moment to what I mean when I say spiritual abuse, so, I had been part of the church and in your preparation to become one of the members or plugged in members or whatever, you do this two or three week initiation program where every Wednesday night you meet the elders and you meet the congregation and you hang out and there's dinner and it's casual and it's friendly.
- Marco: [14:34](#) Then after the two or three weeks, on a Sunday evening at a service, they'll introduce you to the rest of the congregation and

introduce you as a new member of the church. And so after that lunch I had with the pastor and his wife, so I have the lunch with them on Saturday, the Sunday evening, they called everyone to the stage who was at the two week initiation program except for me and I was left sitting in the pews. I was left sitting in the church while all of them stood up there, the rest of them stood up there being initiated or being welcomed into the church as now members. But I couldn't stand there unless I walk away from my relationship.

Marco: [15:30](#) So three Sundays after that, I realize that was the moment that was the abuse because that was the moment that said you're not welcome. Very clearly. And it hurt. The amount of shame and rejection that washes over you as you sit in the pew and all of them on stage know that you've been part of the initiation program and so why aren't you on stage? Because I only had the conversation with the pastor. So they could stand there and wonder why is Marco not on stage? That leaves a mark. So for me, there was that.

Marco: [16:10](#) And I think the second part of your question was how did I find the divine or how do I see the divine now? How do I see God now after all of that spiritual abuse? I'm definitely careful to go ahead and find God in church and so I try and find the divine in every day and all around me and in so many ideas and places outside of church. So I'm super passionate. I'm super passionate about finding God in different expressions of faith at the moment. I'm super passionate about finding God in different forms, different people, different colors, in the diversity, right? Because I know that that one building or the one place where God was for me, suddenly God wasn't there, or couldn't only be there. It had to be somewhere else as well.

Matthias: [17:14](#) We were talking earlier and you were kind of talking about how in South Africa there's not really a group of queer people of faith. At least organized. And the same way we kind of have here in the States. I'd be curious what it's been to kind of navigate those intersections particularly within South Africa?

Marco: [17:37](#) Yeah. I was speaking to a friend today and it's so interesting that South Africa is one of the first countries in the world who protected the LGBT community against discrimination on sexual orientation and that kind of thing. So in 1996, South Africa was one of the first countries who put in legal policies that said no discrimination against sexual orientation or sexual expression and that kind of thing, then also the fifth country to legalize same sex marriage. So I feel like the LGBT community is super protected in South Africa when it comes to policies and when it

comes to the paperwork, but what we spoke about today was that's not necessarily the case within the lived experience of the LGBT community. The policies are all in place and everything looks good in the books and on the book, but when you speak to people, especially, I think people in the faith communities, there's a lot of rejection and a lot of homophobia happening within the more faith circles.

- Marco: [18:58](#) But I live in Cape Town and Cape Town is a very liberal city, and I'm very lucky, I'm very fortunate because they're a lot more open minded, this side. It's a big tourist attraction, big tourist city, so there's a lot of foreigners who live in Cape Town and it's slightly more European than it is South African and what you would get when you go more up in South Africa to Johannesburg or something. So I'm fortunate enough, but when it comes to finding a safe haven within a queer faith community, that's the challenge and I think that's the challenge that we're facing right now and I mentioned it to you earlier. I would love to be a part of something like that. To start a project or a community where people of faith can come together but can also express their sexual identities, their sexual orientation, gender identities, their queerness. They can live that out within a very safe environment. Yeah.
- Marco: [20:16](#) So for now, there isn't anything like that. But I am very fortunate to live in Cape Town because it is very welcoming and we do feel safe. It's quite interesting.
- Matthias: [20:30](#) Yeah, and you're a TV star.
- Marco: [20:35](#) A local TV star.
- Matthias: [20:41](#) Yeah. You have this platform and you act. You play a straight man, right?
- Marco: [20:49](#) I do. I do.
- Matthias: [20:50](#) Yeah, what's that like to be kind of visible as a queer person of faith? You don't hype the fact that you're queer or that you're a person of faith on your, I followed you on Instagram for a few years now. Yeah, what's that been like?
- Marco: [21:09](#) I think I could be more vocal. I do think I champion a lot of thoughts and ideas, but when it comes to my own sexual identity and my expression, I think I could be more vocal. I've been in a relationship for the last year and a bit, but I don't post about it a lot, as I think I should because I think people need to

see the celebrity or this TV star who's also a person of faith, but who's also in a relationship with another guy, I think people need to see that more. But the thing is, I'm on this daily soap opera, which is an Afrikaans soap opera and the Afrikaans community, like I mentioned earlier, they're super conservative and they hold really strong to their ideas and their thoughts and to Christianity, traditional Christianity, and so I sometimes need to be careful because I'm protecting, well, not protecting, but I need to keep the channel in mind as well and even though I know that the majority of people involved with the channel are queer people themselves, but the community that we serve or the community that we entertain are not as open minded.

Marco: [22:36](#) So there's this tension whereas you're very out and proud within your private circles and with family and friends and whatever, but when it comes to the general public, and fans of the show, you're careful. And my hope and my dream is to not be as careful. And I'll get there, but for now it's been great to open the conversations on my platforms. I think it's been such an honor and a privilege to as an Afrikaans Christian boy to say you know what, this is the reality. These are the realities. And these are the conversations I am desperate to have with my fans, with the fans of the show. So yeah, I think going forward I'd love to be more vocal and be more out there, I guess. Because I've got a great platform to use it and to share the good news of the gospel. So why not use that?

Marco: [23:50](#) But I've been fortunate enough to be on this show for the last three or four years and not hiding. Do you know what I mean? So I didn't have to be on this show for three or four years and hide who I was. I just haven't spoke enough about it, but I definitely don't feel that I need to hide or I need to be sheltered or whatever. It's been a blessing. It's been good.

Matthias: [24:19](#) It sounds like there's some complexity there with the sense of you're not hiding and there is a real cost for then being more vocal. That's a bind regardless of what we want to do. There is a cost to then being vocal. Some things we have to wrestle with.

Marco: [24:40](#) Exactly. The thing is I wouldn't necessarily lose my job. I wouldn't because the channel itself, they're very supportive and they wouldn't even mind it. I think the problem is is that people are so incredibly, incredibly mean online that I just haven't posted about it or I just haven't been vocal enough because of the meanness. So sometimes I'll post something and I'll take the comments down or I'll change the settings so people can't make the comments because I don't want hate to perpetuate hate or to play fire with fire. I wouldn't lose my job, I just think I've just

been too careful. I'm also the Enneagram. I'm an Enneagram nine. So I want everything to be as peaceful as possible. I do not want to rock the boat and so I'm always super careful as to the kind of things I post or say or whatever, but every now and then I slide into that eight wing and I post something crazy.

Matthias: [25:50](#)

Yeah.

Marco: [25:52](#)

I make some noise, and I think I need to. Sometimes I need to challenge myself and say, you know what, no, today, I need to vocalize this today. I think especially when it comes to injustice or when people are being mean or unfair, whatever. Then I'll take a stand. I usually do that 'cause I also work on a show that has the first Afrikaans Muslim family on the show, on the soap opera, and it's been so amazing as a Christian to be on a show with a Muslim family and to see those two worlds, those two faiths come together in one show, entertaining South Africa, and people are asking questions and engaging on those topics. So whenever something happens, so for instance, the New Zealand shooting, then I'm very quick to say something or to stand in solidarity with my Muslim brothers and sisters because I've spent the last three years on the show with them.

Marco: [26:52](#)

So yeah, it's been a blessing to be able to have this platform. Especially when injustice happens, because then I'm vocal. But when it comes to my own private life, I'm careful. I'm careful because it can become very intrusive and I don't want my partner to be attacked by cyber bullies kind of thing, do you know what I mean?

Matthias: [27:19](#)

Absolutely.

Marco: [27:19](#)

Yeah.

Matthias: [27:21](#)

Yeah. That makes so much sense and I think that highlights that kind of intention that so many of us have to navigate just in order to live our lives.

Marco: [27:32](#)

Exactly.

Matthias: [27:33](#)

Not even being able to live your life kind of in the same way that maybe one of your straight counterparts might be able to.

Marco: [27:41](#)

No, absolutely.

Matthias: [27:43](#)

Because it's some sort of political thing, which is hard. It's hard.

- Marco: [27:50](#) Yeah. It is hard, but I also have such a beautiful support structure. So family and friends and people around me have just been so supportive on this journey and they've been so present and we have a beautiful group of friends who, so many of them walk this journey with us also changed ideas and thoughts and minds and were also challenged and were also moved away from a one school of thought to another and though oh, okay, we never knew and thank you for educating us or thank you for taking us on this journey and allowing us into this world.
- Marco: [28:31](#) So I think that's the thing and for me, where I'm at right now, and always try and tell people when it comes to these really hard questions around faith whether it's Muslim, Jews, Christians trying to come together, that kind of thing, or when it comes to LGBTQ questions and things, I think my biggest thing is spend time with people and wash feet because that changes the narrative is when you actually spend some time with people, when you share and lived experiences.
- Marco: [29:15](#) So for me right now, that's why I'm also careful with not posting too much is because I'd rather have you take me for coffee and then listen to my story rather than just seeing pictures or just hearing a noise. I'd rather just sit with you and have coffee and have you wash my feet and I yours. Yeah, I think that's what it's been like for me in the last couple of years as well is just to try and invite people into the feet washing and just sitting down and just listening really well to conversations, I guess.
- Matthias: [29:53](#) There's something that's so powerful about people sitting together and actually listening to each other. 'Cause I think it can go the other way, too. We can get coffee but there could be kind of that wall there from the other person, but when people come together and actually really, you're using washing each other's feet, things change.
- Marco: [30:19](#) Absolutely. I've been in this relationship with a Catholic boy and that's been difficult. That's been hard because there's a lot of feet washing happening and a lot of being present, too, happening. But I can definitely vouch and say that has been the healing part is the sitting down and listening and having these tough conversations. I've seen so many of his people coming to the table and really listening and really being challenged by gentle, honest conversations and our stories. That gives me hope. That inspires me to continue doing this or to continue sharing the narrative or whatever, that's because I know that the little moments of honesty in an intimate conversation, that changes the game. That changes the story completely. So those moments are important.

Matthias: [31:29](#) You mentioned a little bit ago that you like to read.

Marco: [31:31](#) Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Matthias: [31:33](#) I feel like you're constantly posting about books that you're reading on your Instagram stories. I'm always looking at your lists like oh my gosh, I want to read that.

Marco: [31:42](#) Vice versa.

Matthias: [31:43](#) I'm curious, what are some of the books that have been most impactful as you've kind of been on this journey? Who are the people you're turning to for reading, for wisdom? This is a selfish question.

Marco: [31:57](#) No, no, no. It's good. So for me, I think with the wrestling of faith and sexuality and the intersection of those two worlds the last few years, a few books, I think there are definitely three books that stood out for me and the one was Boy Erased. I don't know if you read that.

Matthias: [32:17](#) Yeah, I did. I wept all through that book.

Marco: [32:17](#) Oh, how beautiful. Oh gosh. It broke my heart. I haven't seen the film. Have you seen it?

Matthias: [32:22](#) No. I meant to but I've never quite worked up the courage to go yet.

Marco: [32:28](#) Yeah. I need to see it alone in my room, basically. That's how I need to watch the film.

Matthias: [32:33](#) Same.

Marco: [32:34](#) So I read the book, I loved it, and then also Colby Martin's Unclobber.

Matthias: [32:41](#) Yeah.

Marco: [32:42](#) Oh, I love that. That was really good for me. I also read, is it Mark Achtemeier, The Bible's Yes to Same-Sex Marriage. I don't know if you've read that one.

Matthias: [32:51](#) Oh, yeah. Yeah, I have it on my Kindle. I don't think I've read it yet.

Marco: [32:54](#) Yeah. So I read that one. They're not Pulitzer prize winning books. They were just books that showed me a different way and I think Oprah said that she said she always knew there was a life outside of the life she had because she had read about it in the books. 'Cause she grew up reading a lot and for me that was the same. I knew from reading that there was a life outside of the one that I had lived and I could take part in that life and I could have a life outside of this, and so for me reading Unclobber or The Bible's Yes to Same-Sex Marriage was, it wasn't award winning material, but it was life changing words and books that allowed me to see a different way out.

Marco: [33:44](#) I think two books that changed me or that were really important for me in the last two years was Becoming Wise by Krista Tippett.

Matthias: [33:53](#) Yes.

Marco: [33:54](#) Oh gosh.

Matthias: [33:54](#) No, but I love her so much.

Marco: [33:56](#) Oh my word, that book. I want to read and re-read it every year because it feels too important not to pick it up again. I loved it so much. So I loved Becoming Wise, and then surprisingly I absolutely, absolutely adored and it did something to me personally, again, I think it might not be the best book in the world, but it's so personal for me, but Love Warrior by Glenn Melton, right?

Matthias: [34:24](#) Yeah.

Marco: [34:25](#) That book, man, again that's a book I would definitely pick up again. I just think because of the raw emotional vulnerabilities, I think she was just so completely vulnerable in that book and things with what's her partner's name? Is it Abby?

Matthias: [34:43](#) Yeah.

Marco: [34:44](#) So things with Abby obviously only happened after the book, but even in the book itself, it was so honest and I love the way she lost a lot and the way she found her way back to God in that book and the way God looked at the end of it. It was so different from what most of us grew up with. So I absolutely loved, loved that book.

Marco: [35:10](#) I think two books that were important for me on my faith journey were, or my church journey, was Out of Sorts and Searching for Sunday. So Rachel's Searching for Sunday and then Sarah Bessey's Out of Sorts. Oh, gosh, those two, incredible.

Matthias: [35:28](#) Oh, so good. I'm literally writing notes right now. I need to pick these books up.

Marco: [35:34](#) You have to. They're so good.

Matthias: [35:36](#) Yeah. I love that. That's so great.

Matthias: [35:41](#) So I know there are people who listen to this podcast who live in South Africa. I'd be curious what you would say to other people who are in South Africa who are looking for this community or looking to you as a role model as someone who isn't from the US because so much of this is localized here when really you're a role model in South Africa.

Marco: [36:07](#) Yeah. So how do they hold onto hope when the resources are so few, I think, in South Africa? I think there's intolerance everywhere and there's injustices everywhere, but I do think the kind of work that Queerology's doing and the kind of work that Evolve Faith and the Reformation Project, all of those projects, are doing, so vital and it's so important and I think you guys are incredibly privileged to have those spaces.

Marco: [36:41](#) For people in South Africa listening to the show or who know me, but I'd say they need to reach out to others and to me and find it within themselves to start making the spaces safe. To find spaces that are safe and make their immediate spaces for others to come and sit there and these conversations. I think, like I said to you, I'd love to be part of something like that, so even if that is my focus for the next two or three years or whatever, with other friends and people that I've spoken to about this, then I'd love to do that. Then that will be my focus.

Marco: [37:32](#) Because I do, I get messages daily. I get messages every time I write an article or post something or whatever, I get messages and I see these people. I see them not necessarily engaging in faith circles, but they'll engage on these topics and say things like I wish I could go back to church, or I wish I could find a church that's like this. We definitely have these churches. We have churches in South Africa and we have churches in Cape Town who are affirming and welcoming and they're very safe spaces and so myself, my brother were definitely a part of a

denomination or church in South Africa or one in Cape Town that's like that and I'd invite people to join us and reach out to me to find these safe spaces and I'll do my best obviously to find safe spaces for them wherever they are. That's so important.

- Matthias: [38:35](#) And how can people find you?
- Marco: [38:38](#) So I am on social media. I'm on the Gram and on Twitter and Facebook and all three platforms. I am just my name and surname. So I'm Marco Spaumer. Can you say that? Can you say my surname?
- Matthias: [38:53](#) Spaumer, right?
- Marco: [38:54](#) Yeah. How cool. You did well. That's great. So yeah, just my name and surname. Just Marco Spaumer on all the platforms and I'm right there. I'm always available and always open, yeah.
- Matthias: [39:07](#) Well thank you so much for joining me.
- Marco: [39:10](#) Thank you.
- Matthias: [39:12](#) This has been a treat. I've so enjoyed just following your work over the last few years. So it's really exciting to finally be able to talk.
- Marco: [39:21](#) Yeah. I'm glad we did. Thank you so much for the opportunity and thanks for reaching out. Like I said, I do find that the work you guys do, it's so important and it's vital and it's definitely given me my faith back and it's given me a home again, a safe place, which is really good. So I'm super grateful for this opportunity. It was good chatting to you.
- Matthias: [39:46](#) Likewise.
- Matthias: [39:47](#) You can find Marco across social media @MarcoSpaumer. He's always posting really thoughtful things, is super well curated. It's a delight. So add it to your feeds. Queerology is on Twitter and Instagram @QueerologyPod or you can Tweet me directly @MatthiasRoberts. Queerology is listener supported. Join over 230 Pateron supporters and help keep Queerology on the air. Head over to matthiasroberts.com/support and it'll take you right there. A real easy way to support Queerology is by leaving a rating and a review. Do that right in your podcast app, or go to matthiasroberts.com/review.

Matthias:

[40:30](#)

As always, I'd love to hear from you. If you have ideas of what you want to hear in the podcast or just want to say hi, reach out. I'll get back to you eventually. Until next week y'all, bye.