EP160: THE DARK SIDE OF DATA W/ STYBS

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1) UPKEEP

2) MAIN TOPIC

3) TO THE LISTENERS

4) THE END STEP

5) CLEAN-UP

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1) UPKEEP

 *Intro Jimmy & Josh* ***(@jfwong - @JoshLeeKwai - @commandcast****)*

Tease main topic: *We have a very special guest: Adam Styborski. “Stybs”, as he’s commonly called, has been playing, writing and commentating about MtG (and Commander) for years. Today we’re excited to discuss some of his recent articles which touch on the hot-button issues surrounding our format. Specifically, the internet and sites like EDHREC are providing Commander players with a ton of data to build (and break) their decks.*

*But is so much data a good thing?*

BUT FIRST:

 *\*\*CARD KINGDOM CALLOUT #1\*\**

 *\*\*ULTRA PRO CALLOUT #1\*\**

 *\*\*PATREON – JEREMY GRIFFIN\*\**

*Intro Stybs:*

 **Adam Styborski** (**@the\_stybs**)

-Writer for “The Mothership” since 2009.

*(everything from Pro Tour and Grand Prix coverage to Commander related articles)*

-Content Manager on multiple MtG websites, currently TCGPlayer.com

-Teammate of Jimmy’s on the 2015 Community Cup (which they won)

-Favorite Magic Card: Rampant Growth

*NEW COMMANDER LEAKS – Dragon Tribal, EMINENCE keyword, as of 05/25*

New Legendaries: O-Kagachi, Vengeful Kami; Wasitora, Nekoru Queen; The-Ur Dragon; Ramos, Dragon Engine; Taigam, Ojutai Master

2) **MAIN TOPIC: THE DARK SIDE OF DATA W/ STYBS**

*Stybs is one of the longtime voices in the game of Magic and specifically the format of Commander. We thought it would be fun to bring him in and talk about one of his more recent articles and the topic he brings up:*

Commander Data: Most Played Colors and Cards:

http://magic.tcgplayer.com/db/article.asp?ID=13844&writer=Adam+Styborski&articledate=3-9-2017

What was the perspective of the article?

*\*general discussion on the article / net decking / etc\**

HOT BUTTON ISSUE: Is EDHREC good or bad for the format?

*This is a discussion that has been bandied about for a while now. Is too much data bad? Does it dampen creativity and lead to a homogenous format?*

HOT BUTTON ISSUE: Is there a way (or is it even desirable) to use data like this for Bans/Unbans? What should the criteria for Bans be?

 *More topics Stybs suggested that we can just jump from one to the next, etc:*

TOPIC SUGGESTION: Should Wizards share *Magic Online* Commander data with the community?

*This is similar to some of the discussions they shared around Standard bannings. Can their Commander data help illustrate which cards to ban? (Remember: They can see cards in winning decks, counts of all cards played, etc. like when they share Limited data.)*

TOPIC SUGGESTION: Should Sol Ring be printed in every Commander preconstructed deck? (Corollary: Are there cards that *should* be printed in every deck?)

TOPIC SUGGESTION: Is there too much Commander this year with both new tribal Commander decks and Commander Anthology?

TOPIC SUGGESTION: What data can we pull from our own decks to be better Commander players?

*This is a queue for introspection. How do we identify our own habits, and therefore weaknesses, in deck building and gameplay? How can I keep my play group from predicting me too easily?*

\*\*CARD KINGDOM CALLOUT #2\*\*

\*\*ULTRA PRO CALLOUT #2\*\*

3) **TO THE LISTENERS**

*How do you feel about EDHREC and more data being available on Commander in general? Is it ruining the format? How do you think bans should be determined?*

4) **THE END STEP**

*Where we talk about something cool outside the world of Magic. \*\*STYBS THIS IS ALL YOU\*\* Could be a book or a movie or a tv show you’re enjoying. Could be a new food you’ve tried or a video game. Anything you think is cool that’s not Magic related. – World of Warcraft: Legion*

STYBS! Where can we find you?

5) CLEAN-UP

Sister podcast The Masters of Modern (@theMMcast)

Our editor is Terry Robertson and special thanks to Geoffrey Palmer (**@LivingCardsMTG**)