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But this could be even cooler: Maureen Ryan, revered television critic for the AOL TVSquad (and @moryan on Twitter), snagged three choice interviews at the recent TVAâ€™s: one with David Benioff and D.B. Weiss, Game of thrones dvd one with George R.R. Martin, and one with Emilia Clarke.

Winter and I met Mo in Pasadena on Thursday, and it came as no surprise that she was literally the coolest television critic ever. And tall. Sheâ€™s very tall. The Super-Geek persona is not an act; the woman is nerdier than me, and thatâ€™s saying something. It helps that sheâ€™s addicted to ASoIaF, of course. She got to watch that 15 minute preview of GoT-y goodness along with Winter and I, and came away as geeked as anyone. Her favorite part: seeing the Wall for the first time! Mo knows â€˜Thrones!

â€œBut you never quite know, youâ€™re always a little nervous, so Iâ€™m putting my children in that sen the hands of David & Dan and also the directors and the actors who were cast for the role, all of whom will bring their own input to them. And yeah, it is a little bit of empty nest syndrome that occurs there.â€•

Martin was then asked which character he thought was most changed from the books. He answered, â€œTheyâ€™ve done a marvelous job, most of the characters are not different from the books. They are doing an excellent job of capturing the books.â€•

Natalia TenaHe did bring up Osha though, as maybe the biggest surprise or change from what he had envisioned. â€œWhen I was looking at the auditions for Osha and this actress [Natalia Tena] came up I said, â€˜This is all wrong. Sheâ€™s 10 years too young, sheâ€™s too pretty.â€™ Osha is this hard-bi woman. And then I watched her audition and her audition just blew me away, she was sensational. And I said, â€˜Itâ€™s gotta be her.â€™â€•

â€œSo my task now is when I bring Osha back [in the books], Iâ€™m gonna have to make her more interesting, so I can match the wonderful actress portraying her.â€•

My compatriot, Fire and Blood, then asked George about the infamous torture scene that we got a glimpse of in the recent behind-the-scenes video. Do you know if that is any sort of flashback or is it a dream sequence in which Ned is putting himself in his brotherâ€™s shoes?

â€œYou would really have to ask David & Dan about that particular image but my impression is that it is a flashback scene. That thatâ€™s not Sean Bean. That that is someone who has been cast to play his brother. But I donâ€™t know, ask David & Dan when you do your session with them. I think that is a flashback. I know they cast the Mad King, they cast Aerys, and of course he doesnâ€™t actually appear in the books.â€•

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