

The Luddite Lounge – I Stream, You Stream

Episode 28 Notes, 01/10/16

www.ludditelounge.com/episode28

You're listening to The Luddite Lounge where we're serving up news, views and how-tos for the digital world we've all come to depend on—whether we like it or not!

Hey there glad you can join me today in The Luddite Lounge. I'm Elizabeth Kricfalusi, publisher of the Tech for Luddites blog and Chief Luddite.

This is Episode 28 of The Lounge and today's episode is an I Stream, You Stream segment, where I'll be talking about streaming media devices and content. You can find show notes with related links at ludditelounge.com/episode28.

Let's get started!

First off, since the last I Stream, You Stream episode, I've finally managed to create two new videos for setting up Amazon Fire TV and Roku streaming media players. You can find them at youtube.com/techforluddites.

Also, there's a new post on Tech for Luddites that discusses ways to stream videos to your TV using a mobile hotspot if you don't have access to high-speed cable or satellite Internet service. There's a link in the show notes or you can just go to T4L and search for hotspot.

Next, the new interface for the Amazon Fire TV is now available, but so far I've only got it for my second generation Fire TV Stick, not the second-generation box that I bought at the end of 2015. I haven't spent a lot of time with it yet so can't comment on whether I prefer it or not. But if you have a second-generation player and haven't gotten the software update yet, you can go to Settings > System and check to see if it's available for you.

Speaking of software updates, a new one has also been released for some of the latest generation of Roku players. I'm not sure what all the upgrades are, but the one I was most looking forward to is the return of screen mirroring... Huzzah! It's supposed to be available for the Premiere, Premiere+ and Ultra models but I think it's **just** rolling out right now, so you may not have it quite yet.

<https://support.roku.com/article/208754928-how-to-use-screen-mirroring-with-your-mobile-device>

On the content side, I've always thought of Hulu as the little brother of the Big Three video providers after Netflix and Amazon Video. But Hulu is really stepping up its game these days. It's just landed exclusive streaming rights to The Golden Girls and dozens of Disney films, it's getting ready to debut some new original programming, including The Handmaid's Tale starring Elisabeth Moss, and it's finally adding the ability to set up individual profiles. On top of all that, in a couple of months it will be

launching its own live streaming service, similar to Playstation Vue and Sling TV but including CBS, and early reviews seem to think it's going to be pretty good.

<http://www.adweek.com/news/television/hulu-lands-exclusive-streaming-rights-golden-girls-175419>

<https://www.streamingobserver.com/hulu-disney-movie-deal/>

<https://www.engadget.com/2016/12/08/hulu-streaming-profiles/>

<http://www.businessinsider.com/hulu-live-tv-streaming-service-preview-features-photos-2017-1>

On the streaming audio side, Nielsen just reported that streaming music overtook digital downloads in 2016 for the first time. Interestingly, sales of vinyl records hit a 25-year high last year as well, according to a company called BPI that I'm not actually familiar with. I've also added a link in the show notes to a Fast Company article that takes a look at what to expect from the streaming music industry in 2017.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-music-streaming-idUSKBN14P1YH>

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2017/jan/03/record-sales-vinyl-hits-25-year-high-and-outstrips-streaming>

<https://www.fastcompany.com/3066532/tech-forecast/7-ways-streaming-music-will-change-in-2017-after-another-crazy-year>

Speaking of future trends, at this year's Consumer Electronics Show, apparently the big winner was Amazon's voice-activated assistant, Alexa. I have a link to another Fast Company article in the notes that lists all the products at the show that incorporated the service, including appliances, cars and, of course, robots.

<https://www.fastcompany.com/3067039/robot-revolution/at-ces-new-alexa-powered-products-are-everywhere-heres-the-full-list>

Finally my streaming recommendation for this month is The Librarians, a TNT original series.

<http://www.tntdrama.com/shows/the-librarians.html>

The show is a spinoff of a series of TV movies starring Noah Wyle as the Librarian for a library that houses ancient magical artifacts. I've never seen the movies myself, but the series adds new librarians to the mix with Wyle as a recurring character. It's kind of a cross between Buffy and Eureka, closer to the former for storylines and to the latter for tone. The show also stars Rebecca Romijn as Eve, a former military officer who is now the librarians' guardian and John Larroquette as their mentor-slash-guide Jenkins who has his own interesting history. It's currently in its third season and I binge watched the first two on Hulu. It also has what I think is the single worst opening title animation I've ever seen, but the show itself is pretty good fun.

And that's it for this episode of The Luddite Lounge. Again, you can find the show notes at ludditelounge.com/episode28. If you've been enjoying The Lounge, please consider heading over to iTunes to rate and/or review the show or share ludditelounge.com with your friends on social media.

And don't forget, if you want more streaming media news and tips, you can always go to techforluddites.com/streaming for a comprehensive list of related posts and subscribe to the streaming-specific T4L newsletter at techforluddites.com/subscribe.

Thanks for listening! Until next time...