EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

Be Loud and Proud

Scarlet Stallone talks with Paul Salfen about playing Spencer on Tulsa King, as Season 4 airs on Paramount+ and Season 5 is already filming, and about the advice from her father that taught her never to swallow her voice.

Interview by Paul Salfen · AMFM Magazine



Scarlet Stallone as Spencer in Tulsa King. Official still provided with the Paramount+ Season 4 interview materials.

Scarlet Rose Stallone is already back at work. Season 4 of *Tulsa King*, the Paramount+ crime drama created by Taylor Sheridan, premiered Friday, October 16, 2026, and new episodes continue on Fridays through a planned December 18 finale. She has played Spencer since the first season, and she is filming Season 5 in New York, where Paramount+ has moved production to explore Dwight Manfredi's mafia roots. In October, Deadline reported that Stallone would return as a series regular. Talking with Paul Salfen on November 18, she would not unpack the next season's plot. What she would say was already a lot. The show, she said, keeps getting more crazy, and Spencer is taking on a whole new side of herself.

She also arrived with a piece of advice she has been carrying since she was a kid. Her father, Sylvester Stallone, who stars as Dwight and executive produces the series, used to put on Ray Charles and have her sing every song. The lesson that stuck was simpler than a set of acting notes. Trust yourself. Be loud and proud. Never swallow your voice.

THIS CAST AND CREW HAS BECOME FAMILY

Salfen opened with a compliment the audience has been making since the show's first season: *Tulsa King* keeps getting better, which is rare, and the stakes keep leveling up. Stallone did not disagree. She also did not pretend the company always knows where the story is heading.

"Honestly, we don't even know," she said. "Sometimes we never know."

The uncertainty has not dimmed the job. Salfen asked whether there had been a day on set when she looked around and thought, I get paid to do this. Her answer was not a single day. It was the work itself.

“This is such a dream of mine, and every day I just, I’m the most happy when I’m on set,” she said. “Literally this cast and crew has become family. So going to set just feels like, doesn’t feel like work. It feels amazing because I love these people so much.”

The banter, she said, is loudest with Jay Will, who plays Tyson. On camera, Spencer is the shyer of the two. Off camera, the pairing is something else.

“I think I have the most banter with Jay. He’s so funny. I mean, you can definitely see it in our characters, but Spencer is more shy. But in real life, Jay and I just are best friends,” she said. “And also me and McKenna, we don’t get any scenes together and we get so upset about that. I have such a good dynamic with those two for sure.”

McKenna is McKenna Quigley Harrington, who plays Grace. The complaint is a telling one. Stallone is not talking like a guest passing through. She is talking like someone who has been in the room long enough to want more of it.

NEVER SWALLOW YOUR VOICE

Salfen asked what advice she would give people who look up to the work and want to be in a show like this one. She did not start with a branding tip or a master class. She started with a childhood habit.

“When I was younger and I just wanted to, I wanted to be in this so badly, I just watched movies constantly. Like, that’s all I would do,” she said. “And also, my dad and I used to, when I was a kid, we would just, for hours every day, he would just put on Ray Charles and just make me sing every single song from him, just performing and getting out there. And so I was kind of really hooked onto it at such a young age.”

The story sits at the center of the conversation, and it is not only a charming origin tale. It is the first draft of a method. Performing, for her, started as something she was asked to do out loud, in a room, for hours, with a catalog of songs that left no place to hide.

Salfen then asked about wisdom from her father, a man he called full of it, and a legend she did not bother to downplay.

“Oh, yeah. I mean, the man is, you know, he’s a legend. So, yeah, he’s given me a lot of advice,” she said. “I think that a lot of it’s just like, trust yourself and, you know, instincts. Like, you know, you’ve been doing this since you were like a kid. So, you know, just trust yourself.”

Then she landed on the line that explains more than a resume. It is about the instrument she used to hide.

“And I think it’s also with your voice as well. He’s always like, be loud and proud, you know. He never goes, swallow your voice. Always use it. Because I used to be super insecure about my voice, and because I’ve always had such a low, vigorous, deep voice, and he’s just like, show it off.”

> *“He never goes, swallow your voice. Always use it.”*

She took the note. She also added, almost as a family postscript, that her mother, Jennifer Flavin, has a pretty deep voice as well, if not as deep as her father’s.

The advice is easy to print and harder to live inside a business that rewards polish. Stallone’s version of it is specific. Do not sand the sound down. Show it off.

A GLIMMER OF HOPE

Salfen asked about a Hail Mary moment in her life or career, the kind of leap a person has to take when the window is brief. Stallone did not point to a single coup. She pointed to the age she is in, and to the weather of the industry.

“I think that just, you know, I’m in my 20s,” she said. “This is an industry which is like such a whirlwind, you know. So when you can get anything that is like even a glimpse of hope or anything, just like, run for it and take it. And, you know, there’s a lot of fails. But you really, you always have to be, there always has to be like a glimmer of hope in you, regardless of how down and how hard you are on yourself.”

The mindset she keeps on that path is not a slogan from a set trailer. It is a younger version of herself.

“I always look back to me when I was, I look at like my young self, and I was like, what would she do?” she said. “She used to be the person that was like the craziest, loudest, did not care about anything. And I always just looked back at her, and I’m always like, okay, I need to take some of that. I need to take that inner child of me wherever I go, because she is kind of someone that I look up to.”

Salfen asked her to think about what her future self would do. She did not dress the answer up.

“Exactly. And my future self screws up and then learns from it and keeps going from that.”

The line is of a piece with the Ray Charles rooms and the voice she was told not to swallow. The kid who would sing every song is the same person she is trying to bring on set now. The adult job is to keep going after the fail.

A WHOLE NEW SIDE OF HER



(L-R): Scarlet Stallone as Spencer and Garrett Hedlund as Mitch in Tulsa King, episode 3, season 4. Image Credit: Steve Swisher/Paramount+

If Season 4 is the season audiences are watching now, Season 5 is the one Stallone is living in. Salfen asked what she supposed it was about the show that keeps getting better. Her answer started with the tone on set, and then moved, carefully, into the season already in production.

“It keeps getting more crazy,” she said. “I talk about this with the cast and crew, and we’re like, where are we going with this? Like, what is, who’s really screwing up? And I think that the season that we’re filming right now, Season 5, Spencer is really like taking on a whole new side of her. So it’s awesome. Even some of the cast members are like, wow, look at what, what are you up to right now?”

She did not offer a plot point beyond that. She offered a theory of the series, and it is a good one.

“This show is just, it’s chaotic because everyone is doing a different job. So it’s either someone’s winning or someone’s screwing up, so no one’s ever happy in the group.”

Salfen suggested that the unrest fits the show’s theme. She did not hesitate.

“That’s exactly what the theme is.”

The official Season 4 logline, from Paramount, puts Dwight in a similar squeeze: he is fighting to legitimize his empire and protect his crew as corrupt politicians, dangerous new enemies, and a crushing personal loss hit from every direction. Stallone’s version from inside the company is plainer. Somebody is always up. Somebody is always down. Nobody in the group is ever simply happy. That is the engine, and it is why she can say the show keeps getting more crazy without spoiling a Friday episode.



(L-R): Garrett Hedlund as Mitch, Annabella Sciorra as Joanne, Chris Caldovino as Goodie, McKenna Quigley Harrington as Grace, Jay Will as Tyson, Scarlet Stallone as Spencer, and Martin Starr as Bodhi in Tulsa King, episode 2, season 4. Image Credit: Steve Swisher/Paramount+

The attention around that company, she said, is not theoretical.

“It’s a lot. It’s 100 percent a lot,” she said. “I try to stay off, I actually do stay off my phone a lot. And I don’t really, I try to not really get too heavy about things because, you know, in this business, things come, things go. And, you know, all I care about is, I want to do a good job. And I also don’t want to disappoint people. I want to make people happy when they watch a show. I want to make people proud when they watch it.”

> *“I want to make people happy when they watch a show. I want to make people proud when they watch it.”*

That is the other half of “show it off.” The voice is not only for her. It is for the people watching.

FEARS TO FATHOM

Before Salfen let her go, he asked what else was coming, besides *Tulsa King*. She lit up about a project she is developing with a close collaborator, a film adaptation of one of her favorite games.

“I’m working on a film with my best friend,” she said, “and we’re working on this video game adaptation. It’s one of my favorite games that I played, and we’re partnering up and we’re making a film for it. And just so excited for that.”

The game is *Fears to Fathom*. In October 2026, Deadline reported that Stallone’s SRYN Productions had optioned the horror anthology franchise, created by Mukul Negi, known as Rayll, for film and television development. It is early days. No release date has been announced. What Stallone wanted on the record was the enthusiasm, and the partnership.

Salfen closed by telling viewers to check out the season, and by promising not to press her for next-season spoilers, because, as he put it, she probably could not talk about them. She thanked him for knowing that. She had already said the one thing she could say. Spencer is taking on a whole new side. The rest, like the Ray Charles records, is still in the room, waiting to be sung out loud.

FIND TULSA KING

Stream: Exclusively on Paramount+. New Season 4 episodes arrive on Fridays. The season premiered October 16, 2026, and is scheduled to conclude with the finale, “Exit Interview,” on Friday, December 18, 2026. Seasons 1 through 3 are also available on the service.

Watch: paramountplus.com/shows/tulsa-king

Official Season 4 trailer: Tulsa King | Season 4 Official Trailer | Paramount+

The series: Created by Taylor Sheridan. Terence Winter is head writer and an executive producer. Sylvester Stallone stars as Dwight “The General” Manfredi and is an executive producer. Produced by Paramount Television Studios and 101 Studios. Scarlet Stallone plays Spencer, a role she has held since Season 1. She is filming Season 5, in which she has been promoted to series regular, in New York.

Interview conducted by Paul Salfen for AMFM Magazine on November 18, 2026.

Paul Salfen is Managing Editor of AMFM Magazine and a veteran interviewer of film, television, music, and sports figures. He is the author of Going For It!, a collection of Hail Mary moments from the artists and athletes he has spent two decades putting on the record.