

## **MBMBAM 435: The Pasta Poem**

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**Intro (Bob Ball):** The McElroy brothers are not experts, and their advice should never be followed. Travis insists he's a sexpert, but if there's a degree on his wall, I haven't seen it. Also this show isn't for kids, which I mention only so the babies out there will know how cool they are for listening. What's up, you cool baby?

[theme music plays]

**Justin:** Hello everybody and welcome, to My Brother, My Brother and Me, and advice show for the modern era. Cyber Monday is here, and I'm Justin "Cyber" McElroy.

**Travis:** And I'm uh, Travis "Mr. Roboto" McElroy.

**Griffin:** ASL! It's Griffin McElroy, your youngest baby brother. I put on my wizard hat.

**Travis:** [laughter]

**Griffin:** And prepare my body. For you.

**Justin:** This is the value day, folks. If you head over to, uh... The number one shopping site in the world, Bezosplace.com-

**Griffin:** [Mm-hmm affirmative]

**Justin:** If you go to Bezo's Place, you can get a bunch of great deals on all of the latest and greatest in tech, toys, gadgets and gizmos aplenty, uh... Finally fucking put Toys R Us out of business this year, so we're all kind of on a high from that. And who will be next in 2019?

**Griffin:** Yeah let's see— Who you wanna see 'Beezbos' eats next?

**Justin:** Hmmm...

**Travis:** Hmmm...

**Justin:** Hmmm...

**Griffin:** I'd say Brookstone's had it fucking coming for a while, huh?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** You got your expensive like, you know, \$240 Wi-Fi-enabled nutcracker. Beezbos comes around [vicious eating noises]. Now Brookstone's in me. I am Brookstone.

**Justin:** [laughter]

**Travis:** I don't know that Skymall still exists—

**Justin:** It doesn't.

**Travis:** Beezbo might've already eaten that one. Did he?

**Griffin:** He got that one.

**Travis:** He got that one already?

**Griffin:** Well he travels a lot! He's on planes a lot. He sees it, he gets hungry. Beezbos gonna eat the air mall.

**Travis:** You know what I would like to see?

**Griffin:** Hmm?

**Travis:** I think that he has conquered it, to the point where I think Beezbo needs to walk away from Amazon, leave all his money behind and start again and see how long it takes him to catch back up to Amazon.

**Justin:** Yeah, if you think you're such hot shit— [laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Justin:** So what? You did it once.

**Travis:** Right.

**Justin:** Anyone can make a multi-billion dollar company once. Do it again, if you're such hot shit.

**Travis:** Yeah. And now you'd know what you're doing enough that I feel like you could catch back up in like five years.

**Griffin:** Yeah, why don't you just sort of send everyone, you know, 2.4 million dollars which as far as I know you can do? And then let's see. Let's see what else you innovate there, you... You lucky dipshit!

[laughter]

**Travis:** Got him!

**Griffin:** Hey—

**Justin:** I could do another one, I could do one right now.

**Griffin:** Okay-

**Justin:** The sequel to Amazon. Here's—Do you want to hear it?

**Griffin:** Pleebs!

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** This is the new one... Okay?

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** You know how they have, if you get Prime with them you get free two-day shipping?

**Griffin:** [Mm-hmm affirmative]

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Justin:** I... Uh. I'm gonna go for free one day shipping.

**Travis:** Okay!

**Justin:** There! How about that? Like... How about that? Now I'm bigger than Amazon. Like it wasn't hard!

**Griffin:** Yeah, Justin did it.

**Travis:** Can I pitch one? Can I pitch one? Can I pitch one?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** With every \$30 purchase or more, win a free backrub.

**Griffin:** From?

**Justin:** From...

**Griffin:** Beezbos?

**Travis:** No, here's the thing—

**Griffin:** Oh.

**Travis:** From whoever you want! [laughs]

**Griffin:** oh wow!

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** And this is now a legal law of the land?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Can I do this to um, you know Tony Romo? Can I just say “Tony Romo! Come rub these shoulders—”

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Now you will have to schedule, I mean like... If you’re like “Oscar Issac, I need that backrub!” Like you’re gonna have to schedule it, you know what I mean?

**Griffin:** [Hmms in disapproval]

**Travis:** Like he’s probably pretty booked up at this point.

**Justin:** You know, it’s a good thing that I don’t run Amazon. This is why I can’t be a big rich hot shot like Jeff Beezbos—

**Travis:** This is why, okay—

**Justin:** Is because I would wait till Cyber Monday and then I would just put an animated video of myself, with flash, on the front page website and just say “It’s all books again! Now it’s just books again!”

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Uh-huh!

**Justin:** [laughs] “Buy it or don’t! I don’t care! I’m incredibly wealthy. But this one? Is just books. Now.”

**Travis:** “I’m doing this for books!”

**Justin:** “We should have never gotten away from books. It’s all books again.”

**Griffin:** I love petulant cyber Beezbos saying “Oh, we’ll pay our workers a fair living wage. In exchange, it’s all books again! Not gonna get your Black-

Friday Cyber-Monday deals on those house slippers, unless you're gonna shove your paws into two big books."

**Travis:** Oooh!

**Justin:** "I hope you enjoy your dash button for kitty litter! Press it all fucking day. The only thing I'm going to bring you, is a book about cat ownership."

**Travis:** Maybe that's why it's time for Beezbo to walk away from it. Fill a sack with books, and then walk across the country hand-delivering books to people—

**Griffin:** Love it!

**Travis:** While he thinks about his next big deal. Either that, or maybe—cause up at this point, let's be honest Amazon. You've gotta have like a whole giant warehouse, just full of the books you forgot that you were supposed to sell.

**Griffin:** Absolutely. Yeah.

**Travis:** Maybe start like hollowing those out and shipping people the things they ordered, in books.

**Griffin:** Well what do you think HQ two is going to be made out of, Trav?

**Travis:** [gasps] Made out of books?!

**Griffin:** No! The bones of employees.

**Travis:** Oh no!

**Griffin:** That they, Jeff just kind of uses, as um... You know. Dude sucks.

Hey, can I tell you guys something horrible though?

**Travis:** What's that?

**Griffin:** Did you see the Al Roker thing? [laughs] From Thanksgiving?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** No?

**Justin:** Yeah I saw a headline and I skipped it.

**Griffin:** Oh you shouldn't've! You shoulda really patronized that click bud, because, um...

This was a good, meal-time prep for me, because Travis posted our mom's old sweet potato casserole recipe, that I had not seen in a while. It was like my favorite dish that she made for Thanksgiving. I was so psyched. I made it, it was so ballin.

And so I sympathize with Mr. Roker, who on the Today show presented his mom's sweet potato based Thanksgiving food recipe. It was kind of a casserole, but with chunks of pineapple and like a heaping handful of baking soda in it? Which I'm... I'm still trying to wrap my mind around, almost as far—and again I do not... I'm not dunking on Mr. Roker, or his mom, or anything like that. I would never do that. I respect the game.

The recipe he did say on television, a few times, was "Sweet Potato Poon"...

[laughter]

**Justin:** Nooo, Albert!

**Griffin:** And Albert said it with his mouth on the television, and my ears, and I'm assuming lots of other people's ears, heard the waves that he created and then were sort of digitally synthesized, sent over the airwaves, and then into "Sweet Potato Pooooon". And you know he really hit it "Poooooon" and he hit it hard, um... Loud plosives, loud everything.

So that was the highlight of my... year?

**Justin:** That sounds very good.

**Griffin:** Where were you Justin, when you saw it on a website? You didn't even hear the word, did ya?

**Justin:** No, I saw dad... Al Roker popped up on tv and dad got really mad at him.

**Griffin:** Ah, yeah.

**Justin:** Cause he hates Al Roker now, cause he was mean to us that one time.

**Griffin:** Yeah. I don't know how I feel now. I was mad at him, and then the poon-thing happened and now I actually, I think he gained a few points. Cause how bold and brazen. Like, I get that you're trying to share your mom's sweet potato casserole recipe. It's a beautiful instinct, right? But maybe...

Have a talk with the producers. A frank talk with the producers. There was a fucking chyron that said "Sweet Potato Poon."

**Travis:** Somebody designed it!

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** Somebody sat down and said "You know what? I'm gonna put a lot of love into this 'Sweet Potato Poon' graphic."

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** And uh... Even the Today Show Twitter account tweeted the video with the caption "What do our guest judges think of Al Roker's Sweet Potato Poon? They love it!"

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Yeah, and I don't like it being—



**Travis:** We love Al Roker's Poon!

**Griffin:** Yeah I don't like it being possessive like that!

**Justin:** That's rough.

**Travis:** Your guest judges love Roker's Poon!

**Griffin:** And now here we are saying it, and it's a word we would literally never say in any other context because it's arguably one of the worst ways to refer to genitalia, but I guess it's okay because it's actually referring to a marshmallow-y, sweet potato treat.

**Justin:** I don't know what's more offensive: The use of "Poon" or the use of marshmallows on sweet potato, cause that—

**Griffin:** Yeah, we have feelings.

**Justin:** Listen, we have some opinions. It's no big deal. Some o-poon-ions?

**Travis:** Did you say some o-poon-ions?

**Justin:** We have some o-poon-ions.

[laughter]

**Justin:** Aw it's the worst.

So this is an advice show, okay? And what we do basically on this one is we just give you advice. You send us your questions and we turn them alchemy-like into wisdom.

The Christmas-Creep, I don't even think I even need to tell ya'll is officially on. The Candlesnights, for many of you have begun. We've been hearing about it. Starting to come in across the wires, so thank you for those updates.

Candlenights, because I feel like we haven't discussed it in a little bit, wholesale, Candlenights is a pan-religious, pan-sexual, personal-pan holiday, for everyone.

It is our holiday, it is a - oh! Probably the most important thing, in this special time of year to remember about Candlenights is that it is a registered trademark of Big Giant Head LLC.

**Travis:** Correct.

**Justin:** All rights reserved.

**Travis:** [Mm-hmm affirmative]

**Justin:** So uh, that is the most important thing about helping Candlenights grow, is that it is our trademark that only we can use.

**Griffin:** Let's get that first question going.

**Justin:** "I work overnights, at a facility with a washer. And a dryer."

Oooh, no need brag. [laughs]

"On certain nights, we have less to wash then others. Am I committing some sort of weird work crime if I were to throw my own laundry in on slow days?"

[laughs]

"It would save me money at the Laundromat, and I'd still use my own detergent."

That's from Worried Washer in Washington.

**Griffin:** So... Holy... Crap that's confusing. They work at a facility with a washer and dryer-

**Justin:** Correct.

**Griffin:** "On certain nights, we have less wash to do than others."

**Justin:** Yes.

**Travis:** So they work in a facility, like say like in a hotel where they're washing linens and sheets, and stuff.

**Griffin:** Okay okay okay, okay.

Um, no. No! No!

This is a benny! This is a benny of the job!

**Travis:** It's embezzlement, Griffin!

**Griffin:** No, shush. Shush. You can't embezzle that, you know time.

**Travis:** This is embezzling.

**Griffin:** Listen. Every job that you will ever have in your entire life, is... There is so much coyness that goes into the hiring process. They're gonna tell you, you know salary. You can go back and forth, blow by blow and try and raise that up. That's cool. They are gonna tell you their expectations, give you an idea like what the schedule's gonna be, what training's going to be like. And then they're going to tell you, you know if it's at a retail place, then what kind of benefit you can get vis a vis, discount.

But every job you'll ever have in your life is gonna have these secret benefits that they cannot put down on paper. This place cannot write down "And also, you can do your laundry here for free. Hush hush, don't tell nobody."

**Travis:** You'll ruin it. You'll ruin it for everybody.

**Justin:** Absolutely correct. Yeah.

**Griffin:** Like at the Gamestop that I worked at, the secret benefit there was that um, Nintendo DS games were just fair to... Steal.

**Griffin:** Because it was 2000 and—

**Justin:** [laughs] You would just steal those, eh?

**Griffin:** It was like 2008, the DS had started a decline, you know the 3DS was just around the corner, and so I gave a knowing look to my manager. He looked back at me and nodded in a nod that said “You go ahead and grab, you know, Zelda Phantom Hourglass there. Tuck it right into your shoe like a little bag of cocaine, and go on out of here.” It’s a benefit!

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** When I worked at Best Buy, the added secret benefit was you can just play Wii Bowling for hours and say you’re working and demonstrating the game for people.

**Griffin:** A great benefit.

**Travis:** But really, you are just really perfecting... I was really perfecting my form at Best Buy, and that’s why I am a professional Wii Bowler now.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Mmm.

**Travis:** So thank you, Best Buy.

**Griffin:** At the Blockbuster Justin worked at, it was you can steal one movie a month, just don’t touch Fight Club. And then he did, he took a big bite of that forbidden apple!

**Travis:** Yup, he just couldn’t resist.

**Griffin:** This is a benny. You’re good!

**Justin:** I'm not sure I agree with you guys. I hate to be the stickler, but... I am not opposed. I don't think it's a problem to use the washer and dryer stuff. What I do have a problem with is... How you maintain... Do the work of laundry.

Laundry doesn't do itself, like once you've thrown those clothes in, maybe that's not a big deal, but you are gonna need to fold those. If you throw them in your trunk, unfolded, all you're going to end up with is a big pile of wrinkly clothes, and nobody likes that.

So are you gonna take... Is it not bad enough to take the boss-man's detergent, and water, and now electricity, and now you're also going to-

**Travis:** They will use their own detergent, Justin.

**Justin:** Okay fine, but now you're using his time. That's company time... Dilbert! To fold your laundry. And I don't-

**Griffin:** You couldn't have picked another name.

**Justin:** Couldn't have picked another name. There was none other ones there, right in there, at that time.

**Griffin:** Yeah I get what you're saying. How have we not... We have shaved so many of the edges off the laundry doing process, right? Like you go back and you look at the origins of laundry, and you know, you watch—

**Justin:** It's my favorite Radiohead album, by the way.

**Griffin:** Yeah that's great. You wash your clothes in the river, or you get the wash, the 'warsh' tub with the, you know, the little thing that they play as a little cool instrument.

**Travis:** Warsh board.

**Griffin:** A warsh board.

**Justin:** Warsh board.

**Griffin:** And you know we got that fixed. We got now a machine that gets clothes wet, tumbles them around, gets them soapy and another that dries out the work of the first machine. It's like we got that far, and we left the one big very sharp, very deadly edge on it which is now you have to do origami, and sort and carry all of your heavy clothes.

How've we not been able to like, then... They are injected into a small, a small pellet, that you can then just like pull out of your drawer. It'll be labeled "Griffin's nice red shirt" and then you just spit on it, and the capsule disintegrates, and there's your shirt ready to go.

**Travis:** Soaked in spit.

**Griffin:** No!

**Justin:** Perfect.

**Griffin:** The capsule caught most of the spit. It will have some spit on it, but you didn't have to carry it. You just carry a box of pills.

**Travis:** And then we'll need a fourth machine to wring out the spit.

**Griffin:** Listen. It's all I'm saying. Get my capsule machine going.

Do you guys want a Yahoo?

**Justin:** Yeah, I'd love that.

**Griffin:** Here's one sent in by Nick G. Thanks. It's Yahoo answer's user 'Ashley' who asks: "Is it possible to create a poem in your dreams?"

**Travis:** Huh.

**Griffin:** "About two months ago, I had a dream about a book of poetry. I opened it and read a poem and the theme was 'Where the green sky meets the blue earth'. I only actually read—"

**Travis:** Oh?

**Griffin:** "I only actually read the first stanza, and the poem was amazing."

**Travis:** [laughter]

**Griffin:** "I was so enveloped by the poem, that I was actually sucked into the book, and experienced the poem."

**Justin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Uh-huh, yup.

**Griffin:** "I've searched and searched, but I can't find a poem about a green sky and blue earth. I really didn't think it was possible to create literature in a dream, but now I'm not so sure. I really want to find that poem. Is it possible to write a poem in a dream? If anyone could help me or at least point me in the right direction, that would be great."

I dreamt a poem. It seemed... A little long and a little tough, and I had you know... Some nude parts of the dream I wanted to get to so I did only read the first stanza, but it was amazing. I was so enveloped by the first stanza, which was all I allowed myself to read because of how boring it was. I was sucked into the book and experienced this green sky and blue earth first hand, holy shit.

**Travis:** Why is the sky green in this?

**Griffin:** It's a fucking dream poem Trav- There are two answers to that Travis! One: it's a poem. Two: It's a dream!

**Justin:** [Laughs]

**Travis:** Yeah but even in a poem you're not like "Look at that..." I don't know, "purple tree!" And it's like aw you're nailing it with this poem thing!

**Justin:** You're like creating some very wild boundaries around what poems can have. Poems can do pretty much whatever, but if they get the color of the sky wrong, it's like "Next!"

**Travis:** Yeah!.

**Justin:** Next poem please!

**Travis:** That's a fact! That's not about creating art and your beautiful, I don't know, rhymes or not-rhymes. Come on, poems. Come on. Not rhyming? Anybody can not-rhyme things. But then you're also like making the sky green? What are you talking— And earth is brown!

**Griffin:** That's entirely possible. Remember when Travis was a copy editor for E.E. Cummings? How many of his works he just, nope? Sent back. Pressed it, nope.

**Travis:** No! Where's the punctuation?

**Griffin:** Nope. Nope. Listen, I think you're typewriter's got messed up keys in it or something because this is all, this is all fucked up, E.E.

**Travis:** I just wrote back "More commas." More commas.

**Griffin:** More commas. One line. This is a sentence E.E! You can do better than this!

Gosh I wish I knew other poets.

**Travis:** I know.

**Justin:** There's gotta be other ones, right? I've been wondering about this lately.

**Griffin:** I am married to a poet! And you would think at some point I would've learned, like through osmosis or just from you know like... Just kissing...



**Justin:** Something.

**Griffin:** Like I would've absorbed some sort of knowledge, but literally none.

**Travis:** I feel like there's one named Yates.

**Griffin:** There's one named Yeat, for sure. Dream poem-

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Hey, my favorite one is Lord Byron cause where does he get off-

**Griffin:** Yeah that's pretty good.

**Justin:** Right?

**Griffin:** Um, so did you dream, can you dream, hmm... Did all of the... George Lucas have a dream about Star Wars, woke up wrote it down? Not a poem, but you get what I'm saying.

**Travis:** No no no, but Griffin, here's... I'm sorry, but what you are saying... Of course. Of course you can dream an idea that inspires-

**Griffin:** This is words.

**Travis:** What this person is saying, is that they dreamed about a poem that does exist already, that they themselves have never read or seen. So they are trying to find the poem they dreamed about.

**Griffin:** Yeah, a very, very helpful user who deserves a medal of honor for going above and beyond on Yahoo fucking Answers, named Evelyn says "Best answer: 'A Rainbow' by Donna Brock. Curving up, then down meeting blue sky and green earth." Evelyn!

**Travis:** Okay. Okay though.

**Griffin:** It's clearly the opposite though! Green sky, blue earth! It's like—

**Travis:** But Evelyn is correct!

**Griffin:** I appreciate your help, but you did... Come on.

**Justin:** Come on.

**Travis:** Evelyn gets an A for accuracy.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** So...

**Justin:** And a P for poem.

**Travis:** And an R for rainbow.

**Justin:** And an L for letters. There are many.

**Travis:** She gets all of them!

**Griffin:** Uh... This would be-

**Travis:** Is this a poem? Is this episode a poem? I mean come on. What isn't a poem? Fuck!

**Griffin:** I mean lots of, most stuff isn't.

**Justin:** [laughs] Most stuff ain't poems.

**Griffin:** Most stuff ain't poems.

**Travis:** What do you know? Oh okay, point to something right now and conclusively prove to me that it's not a poem.

**Griffin:** I mean I guess anything can be... A poem, and if that's your philosophy, then a 99 and then like a funny number of .999's after it, like,

that'd go on for a long time and you'd be like wow, that sure is a very small number, of things that are good poems.

This episode... Yeah you could maybe write it down and then submit it to poetry class. You'll be expelled from the school, for this.

**Travis:** Or.

Or, lauded as the next Poet Laureate of the world.

**Griffin:** No! I do know this, I do know this. You have to be writing a poem, to make a poem, and it is hard to do it! And I think saying out loud that "Anything's a poem, so fuck y'all!" is maybe a bad tax to take on, Travvy.

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Travis:** We're looking down on Wayne's basement, only that's not Wayne's basement. Isn't that weird? And then Wayne says "Garth that was a haiku." So he was not intending to write a poem, but he did write a poem.

**Justin:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** With his phraseology.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Justin:** Well just like when Drew Barrymore in Donnie Darko was just like "Cellar door" and everyone was like oh god that's fucking beautiful.

**Griffin:** Yeah. So both those things you just mentioned were professional actors reading off a script that somebody had written. Somebody did write that haiku intentionally, Justin so I'm gonna come at you. And for Travis's example... Didn't do a poem. I'm pretty sure she read a poem written by a poet at some point.

Both of you guys are just, you fucking tanked so bad there, on both of the points you were trying to make. Poems are hard. You gotta try to make them, I don't think-

**Travis:** That's a poem! You just made a poem! Poems are hard; you gotta try to make them. That could be a poem cut, print, wrap. Rip.

**Griffin:** Is it now, was it a rap?

**Justin:** Yes, now do rapping, Griffin.

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** No.

**Justin:** Are poems raps?

**Griffin:** Some of them are, yeah.

**Travis:** Are raps poems?

**Griffin:** I don't know why I'm having to explain this to the two— It doesn't seem like the sort of taxonomy of these things is too difficult to understand.

**Justin:** I feel like as someone who is married to an appreciator of poetry you, Griffin, are wanting to put a lot of bounds on what is and ain't poems. And I think what Travis and I are saying is very empowering—

**Travis:** Yes—

**Justin:** Because what we're sort of saying is... Who knows?

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah, sure.

**Travis:** And I think, you know, I think this is a scenario, Griffin where when this episode goes up, poets will actually be coming at you. You're trying to limit their creativity, where I'm saying literally everything is a poem

and anything can be a poem and you're like "No! A poem's gotta be like this!" [Mocking arguing noises]

**Griffin:** [Sighs] I don't-

**Travis:** And you're like, old man poet who's trying to box them in and I'm opening the door and setting them free.

**Griffin:** I feel, I feel like maybe I'm not putting boundaries on them because a poem can take so many forms, but what you all are saying is, you're coming up and over me and saying that like fettuccine alfredo the dish of um...

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** Thick food can be a poem.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** And I hate that. I hate that.

**Justin:** It spells out— [laughs] It spells stuff out with the noodles.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Travis:** Or maybe you do it in such a way that somebody eats it and like you're a fucking noodle poet, Derek!

**Griffin:** Yeah, the cream spills on the olive garden table and the sunlight shining through it makes a prism on the floor and you point down at that and say 'Look everyone, a poem! Look before it goes away.'

**Travis:** That's a poem, yes! It's a pasta poem!

**Griffin:** Alright. Alright.

**Justin:** I'm just saying that maybe... As always, I'm right and you're wrong. I think what Travis and I are saying is, um... Maybe poems are a collection of letters, and spaces and punctuation.

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** Maybe they're a collection of glutens, and dairy products—

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** [Laughs]

**Justin:** And peppercorns. You know what I mean? I mean it could be... Whatever—

**Travis:** You're talking about discovered poems, I'm talking about undiscovered poems. Like, I'm looking at the periodic table of poems and you're looking at the first two lines and I'm saying maybe there's even more squares and lines of poems that we haven't even discovered yet.

**Justin:** Griffin is... Okay Griffin didn't know about undiscovered poems [laughs].

**Travis:** Yes of course, I—

**Justin:** I've dealt with a lot of poems. Let me clear this up for Griffin, Travis, if I may be so bold.

**Griffin:** Please do, yeah. I'm obviously having some trouble here.

**Justin:** [Laughs] The problem with a lot of poems is that people haven't realized that they're poems yet.

**Travis:** Correct.

**Justin:** So the hard work... A lot of people write poems and it's almost like wasteful?

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** Because there's [laughs] lots of poems out there already that we just haven't sort of unearthed yet, you know what I mean? That are just waiting to be discovered.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** That's true, and I guess [sighs]. You know it's not like anybody's ever kicked in the door to PlowShares and said "Hey! Here's a fettuccine alfredo, print this you fucking cowards!"

**Justin:** [Laughs] Yes!

**Griffin:** So... Yeah. Yeah that's fair.

**Justin:** [Laugh-crying]

Now what a lot of people are wondering is "What's PlowShares?"

[Hysterical laughter]

**Griffin:** Yeah, it's a... Shh!

**Travis:** And you know what? I don't think that's as important as the fact that fettuccine alfredo can be a poem

**Justin:** You're just saying Fettuccine alfredo!

**Griffin:** Yeah, how... How would Plowshares, a literary journal, how would they go about—

**Travis:** Ah thank you. Thank you.

**Griffin:** Printing "Fettuccine Alfredo"?

**Travis:** Is it like Playboy?

**Justin:** You squeeze it between the pages of the book, Griffin.

**Griffin:** Each one, okay. I thought maybe—

**Travis:** It's like pressing a flower.

**Griffin:** I thought maybe you upend it on the Xerox, whatever shape it takes is the poem. We print that one and put it in.

**Travis:** Oh my god. I do like that technique. It sounds more like a McSweeney's sort of thing.

**Justin:** Hey Griffin you're kind of getting the hang of it now.

**Travis:** Yeeeeeah. I'm proud of you. You're a poet now, boy!

**Justin:** When did you start PlowShares? I didn't know about it.

**Griffin:** Yeah, it was... I was doing a weed in the 70's—

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** And eating the most delicious bowl of not fettuccine alfredo, but in that family. Sort of a carbonara situation.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** And I let out a hearty burp. My friend Tim said "That's a poem!" And so the rest is history, baby.

**Travis:** Burp into this book! Quick!

**Griffin:** Yeah. I burped into the book. I burped all of my secrets into it. Tim said "That's a poem. Quick! Slam the book shut before the burp poem gets away."

And um, so... That was how that worked. And there are people who are never going to listen to our show again because of this bit.



**Travis:** Because they're too afraid of how... Truthful it is? Like maybe this episode's a poem?

**Justin:** I've been doing this long enough now that I can sense these things. I feel like there are some people that have gone beyond mad and found emotions—

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [Laughs] That are somehow beyond mad.

Which hopefully will be useful to them and their poetry.

**Griffin:** I've never thought of our podcast as us being the cenobites from the Hellraiser movies, just like trying to make you experience new, sort of...

By subjecting you to new sort of torturous body horrors by desecrating the things that you're passionate about. You can find, you can transcend the base emotions into something more beautiful that you can then turn into poetry, yes.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** I'm only passionate about one thing, do y'all know what it is?

**Travis:** Money?

**Griffin:** Money zone?

**Justin:** Money. Yeah it's money, it's money. It's the one thing, it's money.

[Money Zone Theme Plays]

**Travis:** This is the year you can finally tackle your holiday shopping early! Guess what? You can just get everybody underpants and stuff.

**Griffin:** Okay...

**Travis:** Yeah. Well no there's a reason. Cause we're sponsored this week by MeUndies. And MeUndies uses the coveted MicroModal fabric, which is three time softer than cotton, and let me tell y'all: If you like their underpants, you're gonna love their lounge pants!

**Griffin:** Yeah. I was wearing the lounge pants yesterday. My little baby boy grabbed like the cuff, the pant leg down at the bottom near my foot, and just started playing with the MicroModal fabric. Just kind of stretching it and playing with it, and having a great time. Great for kids.

**Justin:** Folks, let me tell ya. These aren't pants to wear all the time. If you have things to do, don't put these pants on.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** This is not workin' wear, folks. You're gonna put these on, be like "I'm just gonna stretch out here on the couch until— Tuesday! What? I got fired from my job!"

**Travis:** Oh no!

[laughter]

**Justin:** Cause you're so darn comfortable!

**Travis:** And here's the thing, you can choose from four different cuts of underpants, all of which are available from classic colors to adventurous prints. And the lounge pants, they come in—the ones I have are this very fun black and red, like kind of a very seasonal print that I really enjoy. Like a plaid?

**Griffin:** Mine are green and black.

**Travis:** Ooh, really?

**Griffin:** That's fun. They're different!

**Justin:** Oooh.

**Travis:** And speaking of prints, they'll be releasing a new print every Tuesday.

**Justin:** Speaking of Prince, Raspberry Beret. Killer track.

**Griffin:** So sick.

**Travis:** Okay. And along with lounge pants, they got onesies, they got hoodies, they got t-shirts. I have a MeUndies t-shirt that is like, one of my favorite to boot, because it feels like a hug.

**Griffin:** I've been wearing their hoodie, since the weather changed here in Austin. It's been nice. Nice friend.

**Travis:** They have a great offer for our listeners. For any first time purchasers, when you purchase any MeUndies you get 15% off and free shipping. It's a no brainer. You get 15% off a pair of the most comfortable undies, or whatever, you will ever put on. To get your 15% off of your first pair, free shipping, and a 100% satisfaction guarantee, go to [MeUndies.com/mybrother](http://MeUndies.com/mybrother). That's [MeUndies.com/mybrother](http://MeUndies.com/mybrother).

**Justin:** I want to tell you about Squarespace. If you've always wanted to make a website but you thought it was for other people, poindexters with tape on their glasses and pocket protectors and what have you, I have great news.

Web design is for jocks now, thanks to Squarespace. Bringing the world of web design to the planet's lacrosse coaches and uh... Local toughs—

**Griffin:** You hear that Winklevoss twins? It's time for fucking revenge, dudes!

**Justin:** Yeah dudes! Now even bros like yourself can make a website.

[laughs]

And uh, if you're a bro—

**Griffin:** We've made the butt-book. We are the Winklevoss twins. Didn't know how, but then Squarespace came up and high fived us.

**Justin:** Squarespace will let you turn your cool idea into a new website, blog or published content, sell products and services of all kinds and so much more and they do it all with free and secure hosting, 24/7 award winning customer support, analytics and built in search engine optimization to help you grow in real time, and so. Much. More.

So please go to [squarespace.com/my brother](https://squarespace.com/mybrother), for a free trial. And when you're ready to launch, use the offer code 'mybrother' to save 10% off your first purchase of a website or domain.

**Griffin:** That's 'mybrother' all one word. Hey I got a jumbotron here. This one is for... Zoey, Amy, Danny, Jude, Manny, Sky, Dania, Noel, and Jess and it's from Nico, who says:

"Salutations. I'm sure you're wondering why I've gathered you all here today. It is important that I tell you that I am Nico, and you are all my friends. The important ones clearly, because you listen to this show. Zoey, one day I will get you to stop committing food crimes. The rest of you: It's 420 somewhere, so please 420 blaze it for me! Jumbotron adjourned."

**Justin:** Love that.

**Griffin:** I love that. A lot of times we get letters in, and people say "I don't know when to stop listening to the jumbotron." And this one had a little like, you know "over and out" on it, which was—

**Travis:** I think that jumbotron was a poem.

**Griffin:** ... How bout this next one, then we'll see about that.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** I'll read it I guess because nobody else is doing it. This is from—

**Justin:** You intro'd it!

**Griffin:** It's for Perry Beauto? Sorry if I fucked that up, it's from Mckayla Johnson-Blanchard, who says:

"Hey specialty pizza! I purchased this message to commemorate how far we've come since our days listening to MBMBAM and knitting on your bed." We don't like that show anymore, obviously, We've come way past it. It's really—

**Justin:** We've grown!

**Griffin:** We've grown and evolved, and we've put away our childish things, nah.

"You're almost done with your master's and I'm finishing up my first quarter of grad school, plus getting married. I'm thrilled that you continue to be an important person in my life and I hope hearing some love from these boys brightens your day. Looking forward to our next adventure!"

It's a sweet message. Sometimes we get stuff like this and I worry that we aren't rubbing enough love into it? We're just sort of reading, so like I guess Perry... We love you?

**Justin:** We love you.

[Heartfelt piano music plays]

**Janet:** Hi! I'm the JV Club Podcast's, Janet Varney, and I used to suffer from indecision. I couldn't choose between Star Wars and Star Trek, whether to call or text, or the best way to cook my eggs. But now thanks to my weekly dose of We Got This on Maximum Fun, my decisions are made for me! Thanks, Mark and Hal!

**Mark:** Warning. 'We Got This' may cause shouting, phone throwing, the illusion that the hosts can hear you, laughter on public transit, and death.

**Hal:** We Got This With Mark and Hal. We know what's best.

[Heartfelt piano music stops]

**Griffin:** How about a next question?

**Justin:** Before we do that, I have a special segment I'd like to introduce to you now. It's a new segment.

**Travis:** Ooooh.

**Justin:** It's a new, festive segment. I'll, uh... There's a jingle I wrote for it, if I could just say the jingle real quick.

**Griffin:** Kay.

**Travis:** Of course.

**Justin:** „Kay.

**Justin:** [singing] Come and sit with me now in the candlelight. Yeah there's Christmas, we're gonna do it right. Hang some lights on the tree. Yeah that's a Christmas to me! Put your arm around the fire—

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** [Still singing] Yeah I don't want any more nog. Yeah you're calling me a liar, but I'm going to go out for a jog.

**Griffin:** Alright.

**Justin:** [Still singing, with feeling ] That's a Christmas to me! You, and me, and her, and a tree. Learn about birds and the beeeeeeeees! That's a Christmas to me.

So this is my new segment, 'That's A Christmas To Me'.

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** And it's a segment, where I'm gonna read you three descriptions from hallmark Christmas films—

**Griffin:** [laughs harder]

**Justin:** Two of them are going to be real films.

**Griffin:** Oh no...

**Travis:** Oooh!

**Justin:** And one of them is going to be a film that I've engineered. These are challenging questions that I don't want anybody to leap to snap decisions to. I want you to really chew these over, okay?

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** We have three films today. The first film is called 'Let It Snow'.

**Travis:** Hmm...

**Justin:** When Falcon Resorts acquires family-owned Snow Valley Lodge from retiring owners Carla and Paul, driven executive Stephanie Beck must spend the week before Christmas in Maine preparing a proposal on the property's renovations. Determined to impress Falcon's president, her detached father Ted, Stephanie reluctantly departs her warm Arizona home to immerse herself in the lodge's property and decide how to change it, to fit the hip, young Falcon brand.

While preparing to rebuild the Snow Valley Lodge from the ground up, Stephanie butts heads with her property guy, Brady Lewis, Carla and Paul's son who has decided to leave his family's business over creative differences with his dad.

A self-defined Grinch, Stephanie begins her stay at Snow Valley Lodge, immune to Christmas sentiment, but as the lodge's festive traditions provide the Christmas Stephanie never had growing up with her distant father, Stephanie finds herself enjoying every minute.

To complicate her professional duties even further, the combative feelings she felt towards Brady turned into romantic ones. With Stephanie's newfound Christmas spirit and unexpected holiday romance, she begins to question Falcon's overhaul. As her Christmas Eve deadline approaches, she's faced with a decision: Should she transform the lodge into a new winter hotspot? Or embrace tradition and let it snow?

**Griffin:** The latter one, cause it's the name of the movie. Yeah, yeah yeah yeah yeah.

**Justin:** That's our first film, it's called 'Let It Snow'.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** I want to get through our other two films. Their descriptions are slightly shorter. Mercifully. These descriptions by the way are direct from the Hallmark Company's website—

**Griffin:** Yeah bud I didn't think you wrote these—

**Justin:** For the Shows. Kay, thank you.

This one's called 'Castaway for Christmas'. When San Francisco—

**Justin:** They sit down to watch the Tom Hanks movie 'Castaway',

**Travis:** [laughs] I didn't know they did a Christmas special!

**Griffin:** If you didn't watch the whole thing, it's awesome!

**Justin:** 'Castaway for Christmas'. When San Francisco oil executive Nick Spurling comes to the remote Canadian hamlet of Cederwood Island, he's only looking for one thing: the rumored oil deposit under Cederwood's only



tree farm/bed and breakfast. In the hopes of endearing himself to it's owner, single mom Lisa Craig, Nick pretends to be a bed and breakfast—

[laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Justin:** A bed and breakfast critic looking for Canada's most charming holiday escape. When a snow storm shuts down ferry service of the island, Nick finds himself stranded on what the natives jokingly call 'Christmas Island', in honor of how the town goes all out for the holiday. Before long, Nick starts to doubt his plans to raze the farm in search of oil, and starts to wonder if he could make a life with Lisa. But after she learns the truth, will she ever want to see him again?

**Travis:** Is the truth that he's a ghost?

**Justin:** No, the truth is that he's an oil executive. He pretended to be anyway.

**Travis:** Oh, right right, right.

**Griffin:** Spoiler.

**Justin:** Alright, last film. 'Christmas In Love.'

**Travis:** Good.

**Griffin:** I can't believe one of these isn't real. I haven't even heard what this is.

**Justin:** Ellie Heartman is an aspiring crafter working in her small town's bakery, making famous 'Christmas Kringles'. When her new—

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

**Justin:** When the new big city CEO, Nick Carlingson visits the bakery—

**Griffin:** Jesus Christ...

**Justin:** He arrives filled with modernization ideas, destined to lay off many employees. During his visit, Ellie is to teach Nick how to make a 'Kringle' and determined to show him that it's the people who make the business a success, not machines. Nick meets more of the employees and townspeople, visits the food bank, and begins to see all the kindness that is shared and he begins to soften. They're not convinced automation isn't better.

Struggling with chasing her own entrepreneurial dreams, Ellie begins to fall for Nick, but not before feeling betrayed when she inadvertently sees Nick's laptop filled with automation plans. When Nick finally tells the employees his future ideas for the company, Ellie must decide if she should trust him, but more importantly whether to take a leap of faith in making her own dreams come true. And that's 'Christmas In Love'.

The three films again are 'Let It Snow', and that's about the woman who goes to a resort to... Find out—

**Griffin:** Change it—

**Justin:** How to do Christmas. Change it. And knock it down. 'Castaway for Christmas' is about an oil executive that goes to Christmas Island to probably knock down the tree farm, in order to build his oil-thing.

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Justin:** And 'Christmas In Love' is about a guy who's gonna [laughs] go destroy the bakery to replace it with robots.

**Griffin:** That one has a 'Blade Runner' vibe that I'm super into, by the way.

**Travis:** Now I do wanna ask too, because I am not as familiar with the Hallmark, Netflix original, Amazon original—

**Justin:** Channel 312 Trav, on Direct TV. Get there!

**Travis:** Thank you. But... Is it just... Did you just specifically pick these three movies for the theme or is it just a super common theme of like, "Person comes to town to destroy a small business? Oh no, love saved the business."?

**Griffin:** Yeah. This is Netflix's 'Christmas Inheritance' too, it's just—It feels like some—What was the first? What was the IR movie for these that was just sort of then passed down through a game of telephone and became... And you know what? I'm talking about this Justin, completely ignoring the fact that one of these is fake.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** One of these you wrote.

**Justin:** That's a huge compliment to me, thank you.

**Griffin:** And I have to say kudos. Kudos. Yes, it's a very realistic...

**Justin:** I have to give half the credit to Sydnee, who helped me—By the way... We cooked up our film in ten minutes, while she folded laundry and kept the baby from killing herself. So it's like...

**Griffin:** Not the hardest.

**Justin:** It's not the hardest. Uh—

**Griffin:** Anything can be a "Urban person goes rural, romantic Christmas movie".

**Justin:** Hey, be careful with—

**Travis:** Learns that people are, maybe worth the shit.

**Justin:** Yeah. Um. Yeah. I think that that's definitely, Travis you stumbled on one of the common themes in Hallmark Christmas movies. The three big ones, I would say are:

Big city person who, fucking doesn't, has never heard of Christmas. Never had it. Somehow missed it, and then goes to one small town where they're like "Uh, yeah we got Christmas coming out of our ass. Here, have a little bit of extra Christmas."

The second theme is 'White'.

The third theme is, like automation and preservation of business in favor of like... Like uh, profits vs. keeping jobs and tradition.

**Travis:** So literally saying like "This is more important than the money we would need to pay people who work here."

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** "The people are what matters."

**Griffin:** I just—

**Justin:** I'm so worried about giving away anything—

**Griffin:** I know I know I know. I really hope 'Christmas In Love' is not the fake one because I feel like Jeff Bezos could really... Love to watch that one.

**Travis:** I'd have to say it's 'Christmas In Love', too.

**Griffin:** You do? Well wait no I'm not saying that one's fake—

**Travis:** Oh.

**Griffin:** No, I'm saying I don't want that to be fake. I think 'Castaway for Christmas' is for sure the fake one.

**Travis:** I think it's 'Christmas In Love'.

**Griffin:** Justin?

**Justin:** So... What are our votes? Sorry, one more time.

**Griffin:** I'm 'Castaway for Christmas', Travis is 'Christmas In Love'.

**Travis:** I'm 'Christmas In Love'. 'Christmas In Love' is the one with the Kringles, right?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Okay. Then that's what I'm going with.

**Justin:** As the fake one?

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** Alright the winner of this round of 'That's a Christmas To Me' is... Griffin McElroy.

**Griffin:** [gasps in surprise]

**Justin:** 'Castaway For Christmas' is a fake film that my wife and I came up with at 2:45 today before we started recording this episode.

**Travis:** Holy shit! Really?

**Justin:** Thank you, very much. Yeah.

**Griffin:** It was good. It was- I'm not saying it was fake because you gave yourself away, it just seemed like—

**Justin:** You had to pick one.

**Griffin:** See, I had to pick one, and it seemed like the oil was maybe—

**Travis:** The one with 'Kringles' was real?!

**Justin:** Here's the wildest thing, if I may divert about 'Christmas In Love', real quick. So the CEO of the bakery company comes, and he's the son of the current CEO and he's gonna be the new CEO, right? He comes to the bakery company, to the business where they bake all the things and he's from the home base in San Francisco. He is the son of the owner, okay? He shows up in this town of like, where everybody loves Christmas and this woman bakes Christmas Kringles, shows up in the town and pretends he's not. Just pretends he's not that.

Because in all these films, the one thing that's very important deceit. There's always deceit in these films, It's extremely important. This woman doesn't know what the son of the owner of her company looks like! She allows herself to be lied to, for the entirety of the film about his identity. It is— It is absolute madness.

**Travis:** I am not... As much of a business expert as I am a poetry expert. Is it common for, a-a headquarters of what sounds to me like a single bakery—

**Justin:** Yes! Yes! Yes!

**Travis:** To be not in the same place as where the bakery is? I'm going to set up my office thousands of miles from the only building that matters to my company?

**Justin:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Yes. Um, listen. We need to give thanks for Netflix for making bold films like 'A Christmas Prince' that break the fucking mold. Like fucking uh, 'Christmas Chronicles', which was about a Santa who does fuck, for sure.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Exciting!

**Griffin:** Excited. Thank you Netflix. Excited to crack that one out

**Travis:** I haven't watched 'Christmas Chronicles' yet—

**Griffin:** Yeah?

**Travis:** But it is on my 40 Christmas movie to-do list.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Bump it up.

**Travis:** Still looking for ten more suggestions, by the way.

**Griffin:** Bump it up to number one. Uh. Can we do a Yahoo?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Uh, we've only answered one regular question this episode?

**Griffin:** Maybe we should do that first.

**Justin:** You got it.

"I recently discovered that my landlord has a secret toilet hidden in my basement. I live in a house with an unfinished basement and there's a door down there that the landlord keeps locked, and has told us is off limits. One day when I was in the basement, I noticed the door was unlocked, so of course I took a peek. Inside was a toilet, and a half-used roll of toilet paper. I'm really not sure how to proceed from here."

**Griffin:** Call the cops!

**Travis:** Call— [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs] "Does he come to my house just to poop in my basement?"

**Griffin:** Yissss.

**Justin:** What do I — [laughs] "What happens when I'm doing laundry and suddenly I hear it flush, and he comes out of his secret bathroom? Should I

be afraid? Should I tell him I've discovered his dirty little secret? Please help!" That's from Bathroom-Shy Michigan.

**Travis:** You can't tell him. He'll silence you.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Yeah.

**Travis:** If I had a toilet somewhere in the world that only I knew about, I would protect that with my life. [laughs]

**Griffin:** Oh god...

**Justin:** Yeah, he will put you in the ground. No question.

**Griffin:** Holy shit! Have you guys ever thought about this? There is—

**Justin:** ... Just now as I was reading it.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** No listen.

**Travis:** I put it in the questions earlier.

**Griffin:** Stop, stop please. Please stop and listen. Please stop and listen. There's not a toilet on earth... That only you have used. There is not a toilet on the planet, that exists, that only knows... Your brand.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Every toilet you have ever used, you may have been the first one to use it... And maybe in that moment you were the only—but that was not, it's not permanent. There are very few people, aside from the mega rich, I assume, who just don't have their own toilet. And I think your landlord has that and knows that he is special because of it. And has to keep it somewhere... Huh.

You gotta call the police.



**Justin:** [laughing harder]

**Griffin:** They exist for this exact reason.

[Justin and Travis laughing]

**Travis:** "911, what's your emergency?"

"Listen, this is gonna sound weird, but I found a toilet in my-"

"We'll be right there!"

**Griffin:** "Every cop in the world is on the way, so you listen. We're gonna take good care of you."

**Travis:** "Don't panic! But get out of the house."

**Griffin:** "Do you have a cupboard you can crawl into and get small?"

**Justin:** [wheezes] Um, do you know... Let me get through this thought. Do you know how ragged... [laughs] Your... Your action has to be, that the first time that you move in with your new bride and you use the bathroom, she grabs you by the lapels as you're coming out and says "You look at me, Ralph Spurling. I'm not gonna leave because I made a promise, in front of God, and our family and everyone." [laughs]

"But if you ever, ever do that in our home again, I... God. I need you to buy another house to put those in." [laughing]

[all laughing]

**Justin:** "Those are not going in my house, with my dad's ashes, and all my different paintings and my wedgewood and everything. You're not doing that in my home! We're gonna have children here some day! You can't do that here! You're gonna buy another house!" [laughing]

**Travis:** "This is an antique couch! This isn't happening here!"

**Justin:** "Who's gonna live there?"

"I don't give a shit who lives there, Ralph! Hopefully nobody, for their sakes, but that is where you will put these crimes!"

**Travis:** You lock that shame in the basement! They can't even know you do that there.

**Griffin:** Oh my god.

**Justin:** Listen. That's locked up, and then every year, uh I just come and brick over it, Cask of Amontillado style. So, no big deal. It's completely fine.

[laughing]

**Justin:** Once the toilet starts to melt, from my leavings, I should just brick over the room. Buy another house.

**Travis:** You know that's, that's probably what this is. It's just like you know, there is, for fact, bunkers. There was one planned, or uh, built in West Virginia. The Green Briar for like- this is in case of nuclear attack. This is where we take people from the government. But once you know that location, like well we got to build another one. I think that this is that, like he—

**Griffin:** He dead drops, sort of all over the city.

**Travis:** Yeah he has a secret 'terlet' that if you let him know, like your house is gonna probably be gone tomorrow.

**Griffin:** Yeah. Or it dissolves from the stuff you do in it, and then you gotta sell that house and buy a new house. Could we get an HGTV show out of this?

[Everyone hmms in interest]

**Griffin:** And maybe you only get one episode a year.

**Travis:** 'Toilet Hunters'!

**Griffin:** I'm thinking... 'Flip or Plop'?

**Justin:** Okay, very good.

**Travis:** Oooh, I like that.

**Griffin:** I'm thinking... 'Plop-perty Brothers'?

**Justin:** Why don't you do is 'Flip or Plop: Las Vegas' to make people think that there's other ones, that were very successful so they should probably watch?

**Griffin:** Mmmm... Mm-hmm... Wow this is a rough one.

**Justin:** I mean, just let your landlord have this. I mean, what my advice to you would be: If they'll cut you in on the action.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** 'Okay, I'm gonna let you have this secret. I don't know who you're keeping it from? I don't care. I'm not paid to ask questions. But you are gonna give me a key. It's gonna be our little secret now.'

**Griffin:** Yeah, that could work.

**Travis:** I'm saying that there is another possibility here. That we have looked at this as like a secret bathroom for your landlord, but what if when you tell your landlord, like "What's the deal?", he's like 'You didn't use it, did you?! The last ten people to use that toilet died—

**Justin:** Cursed toilet.

**Travis:** "In a horrific accident, within 24 hours!"

**Griffin:** It's a 'The Ring'. You gotta get somebody else to sit on it.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** Can you leave a note in there that says 'I know?'

**Griffin:** I mean... Yeah. If you wanted to put everybody on blast, I think you can get... You'll need a 3-D printer and a bunch of marbles... But you 3-D print something out that looks like toilet paper, and then you reach over to get this, this scrape that they need, and then they realize it's not real. It's 3-D printed and it looks really real, so they can't yell for help and so they do that shameful walk that they do, out into the basement. Well what's that? The marbles are there. And now you record. And that's just for you.

**Justin:** Hmm...

**Travis:** And then you never pay rent again.

**Griffin:** Never again do you pay rent. Jesus, that's right. This is a good opportunity, actually. You play this right... This is about as controlled as rent could get!

**Justin:** Play this wrong... And that's the ballgame.

**Griffin:** Yeah, you'll be killed!

**Justin:** That's the ball game.

[all laugh]

**Travis:** Or they will! It's really important to play it right. There's a lot of ways that this could go bad.

**Griffin:** Oh hey I got a Yahoo here I'd love to read. It's from ah, Ava Willard? Sorry again, if I've mispronounced that.

It's from an anonymous Yahoo Answers user, I'm gonna call... Spurling, who asks "Is there a place where I can make my own sandwich?"

**Travis:** Hmm...

**Griffin:** Not the house. Because if you say the house, then you're as funny as every Yahoo Answers user on this page. Travis, go ahead and say what you were gonna say?

**Travis:** Uh-uh.

**Griffin:** No, go ahead and say what you were gonna say please?

**Travis:** No, I was going to say I assume you mean like a restaurant.

**Griffin:** Yes, a restaurant where you can go and grab what you want. Nobody else has to touch it. I have eaten at Subway maybe twice since the day that I saw somebody cut their hand open while making me a sandwich.

[laughter]

**Griffin:** I saw that and I said "Ah, I don't think I can come here as often as I do." This person wants a place where they're in control. They want a Doug-way. For Dougs to get together and make their own damn sandwiches.

**Travis:** Where they can be the sandwich artist.

**Griffin:** Exactly. Let me make the sandwiches are like a paint by numbers place, like a wine and, wine and paint place. Just let me grab the meat with my own hand.

**Justin:** My initial instinct to this was to say "No, there are no places, there are no restaurants where you can make your own sandwich." And then it occurred to me, I'm never asked...

You know I think if I'm like "Hey, just leave the pilings there, on the bar, and let me take a spin on this one. I'm something of a budding, I'm an outsider sandwich artist, and I feel like I got a new style I could bring to it."

**Travis:** I'm the E.E. Cummings of sandwich artistry!

**Griffin:** Sure. When I was in high school, I was shown in a science class the film 'The Andromeda Strain.' The Michael Chrichton adaptation of 'The Andromeda Strain'. And there's a lot from that movie that's very like, it's a good, good flick. A lot of stuff that still stands out in my mind from that one time I watched it, you know, 13 years ago.

And the thing that sticks out the most is when they're going into the compound, where they're going to study this virus that's ravaging the world, they have to pass through this chamber. And they walk through this like fluid that covers their legs, and then there are these bright lights that flash them with this super bright, hot burst of heat that hits them very, very fast and hot, and it burns off the top layer of their skin just like instantly and painlessly so that they're fully, fully clean.

And I'm gonna need one of those in every entrance to Dougway, if we're gonna be handling big piles of lunchmeats, together. I'm gonna need everybody to lose a layer, and then go on- They'll have to be nude, and they lose a layer of the skin and then you get your clothes back. And this is what the sandwich artist will be doing, is they will be facilitating this process so we don't lose any jobs.

**Travis:** Hmm. I like that part. As a concerned citizen, I love that we're not losing any American jobs.

**Griffin:** My favorite part is when we burn all the skin off, so that I don't have to touch anybody else's sin. Somebody just came from their secret basement bathroom, I don't want to be the next one to make a roast beef. You know what I mean?

**Travis:** Uhh—

**Griffin:** Can we get a vending machine? Some sort of—or individually wrapped sort of slices? Maybe there's other solutions, other than burning all the skin.

**Travis:** Here's the thing, I was gonna give this a hard time of like... Just... Just make it at home. But I know, I realized I know, Griffin I know. But then

I also realized that there are Restaurants that you go to where you buy an uncooked pizza, to take it home and make it yourself.

**Justin:** That's right, we discovered this, this territory.

**Travis:** So this has to exist, of like here's the bread, here is the, I don't know, different forms of greens? Here is some meat options, and we'll look the other way.

**Griffin:** It's just the one you've made the most... Already of. Did that sentence get across? The point I wanted?

**Justin:** I'm not sure.

**Travis:** No.

**Griffin:** A sandwich is a... Of all the things you've made for yourself already of-

**Travis:** Uh-huh?

**Griffin:** Sandwich is number one for sure.

**Travis:** Oh, I see.

**Griffin:** If I go to like a Korean barbeque place, it's exciting for me. I'm preparing my own sort of meal experience, and it's exciting for me because I don't make Korean barbeque all the time. I'm still throwing down three, four sandwiches a week, and so I don't know that it's that exciting for me. To do this. And maybe it's a bad idea. I know we don't usually put those up. Usually we're just putting up solid gold basketball shots but this one seems like it may actually be quite bad.

**Travis:** I will say, I am afraid to Dagwood at home.

**Griffin:** Oh god, that's what it is.

**Travis:** But I could Dagwood somewhere where people might be like "I'm impressed!" Right? And like that's why I could see this being like can you make a sandwich we've never seen before? Get your name on the wall, like with a photograph, that kind of thing I'd be down with.

**Griffin:** There's some dissonance there. If I see...

The orange cat Garfield or Travis's friend Dagwood, make a tall sandwich and then eat it? Every time I see one of those on the printed page of my Sunday funnies, I think 'Damn that looks good!'

If I was confronted with a nine-inch tall, or bigger, a 14-inch tall ham sandwich that was just is piles of meat, I would see that and say "That seems quite unappetizing." That seems like a lot of ham to get through.

**Travis:** The thing that's always bothered me about those cartoon strip sandwiches by the way, there's always like a chicken leg or something on there and there's a bone in that!

**Griffin:** There is a bone in that, I can't chomp through that. Maybe Garfield can, with his powerful jaws.

**Travis:** What are you thinking? And there's always like a toothpick with an olive on top?

**Justin:** Yeah!

**Travis:** You can't eat that toothpick! That's gonna hurt your intestines!

**Justin:** Not for cats.

**Griffin:** Yeah for sure.

**Travis:** Not for cats.

**Griffin:** Yeah Justin, you like sandwich?



**Justin:** Yeah I love a good sandwich [laughs]. I love a good sandwich. I'm pretty much kind of just a meat and potatoes sort of guy.

**Griffin:** Alright, it just kind of felt—

**Travis:** You put meat and potatoes in your sandwich?!

**Griffin:** I just kind of felt like you were letting me and Trav handle most of the legwork on this one, and then I thought maybe you don't like a sandwich.

**Justin:** I wrote like a third of the show earlier, so I was kinda—

**Griffin:** I heard that bit, I liked that bit.

**Justin:** Coasting. Coasting. I was just coasting, a little bit.

**Griffin:** Okay maybe say like one... Like contribute-[laughs]

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Maybe like help like, build the bit like with one...

**Justin:** I got a bit, yeah I got a bit though—

**Griffin:** If you weren't paying attention, I suggested like we burn everyone's skin off who goes in, Travis was like we can make tall sandwiches, so if like you want to get a hand on the ball while it's in the air—

**Justin:** Yeah I got a bit that I've been working on. I think.

**Travis:** Okay. Do you need me to kind of lead up to it?

**Justin:** Yeah, but... Just say like, I'll be like "Gimme the rock!"

And Travis, you say like "Here's the rock." Okay?

**Travis:** Okay.

**Justin:** Gimme the rock!

**Travis:** Oh here's the rock!

**Justin:** Thanks for listening to our show this week. We hope you've enjoyed yourself.

**Travis:** Oh!

**Justin:** Uh, this is the end of the show that we have worked so hard on, for you.

There's a new episode of 'Till Death Do Us Blart', a podcast we create with Tim and Guy from 'The Worst Idea of All Time', which excitingly is heading into it's fourth season. You can hear about that on this new episode on 'Till Death Do Us Blart'.

But if you never listened, Blart's a uh, 'Death Blart', as we've come to call it, is an annual review of 'Paul Blart Mall Cop 2', hosted by us and Tim and Guy, and it is a show that will last forever because we have selected who will take our place if we are unable to fulfill our roles. And uh, this is our fourth year watching it, and folks? It isn't getting better.

**Griffin:** It is, it is for me.

**Justin:** The show is!

**Griffin:** The show's getting better. The movie's getting better for some of us.

**Travis:** The show's getting better—

**Justin:** The show's getting better, our enjoyment of it is not. So find that wherever podcasts are. Right now.

**Travis:** I will also say we are going to be in Austin and Denver next week!

**Griffin:** This week.

**Travis:** So if you will be at those shows—

**Griffin:** The current week you're hearing this.

**Travis:** Oh yeah, this week. If you are going to be at those shows, send your questions in ahead of time, for Austin or Denver. And just quick clarification because I know we now do this in the audience portion, this is just for that live first half where we read them, and you don't have to stand up and read it.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** So if you have one of those questions, email it to us with 'Austin' or 'Denver' in the subject line, depending on which show you're going to be at.

**Griffin:** Yahoo's too, please!

So, thanks to John Roderick and The Long Winters for the use of our theme song "(It's A) Departure", off of the album "Putting The Days To Bed". It's a very, very good album and good dude, and also thanks for Maximum Fun for having us on the network. You can go to [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org), check out all the great shows there. Shows like 'Story Break' and 'Switchblade Sisters', and 'Jordan, Jesse, Go!' and so many more, at [maximumfun.org](http://maximumfun.org).

**Justin:** I want to do a quick plug. We just put up a bunch of new holiday merchandise in our store, [mcelroymerch.com](http://mcelroymerch.com). We have ornaments for The Adventure Zone, My Brother My Brother and Me, and Sawbones. We have a 'What's up you cool baby?' decal, just went up.

We have a new entry in our line of podcast merchandise that's, it's a cross stitch that says 'In this house we don't say Happy Holidays, we say podcasts!'

We have a 'Joyous Candlesnights' pin, and of course all of the normal great stuff that's in there, so please go to [mcelroymerch.com](http://mcelroymerch.com) and buy those

things. That Candelights pin is only up for this month so don't sleep. You only got a few more days.

**Travis:** Um also just real quick, we've got a mailing list, a mailer that goes out. You can sign up for it at [bit.ly/mcelroymail](http://bit.ly/mcelroymail). It is not a pyramid scheme, I think maybe that got printed in the Times, I'm not sure where that's coming from but that is incorrect.

**Griffin:** I got a Yahoo here, this one was sent in by Sam Left. Thank you, Sam. It'll be our last Yahoo of the show, so savor it. It's from Yahoo Answers user- my mouse cursors gone. Where'd it go? Oh it's hiding on the other monitor. You sneaky thief!

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** It's there- something went wrong. Ah nah, fuck it. They asked: Do ants pee and poo, and how?

**Travis:** [laughing]

**Justin:** My name is Justin McElroy.

**Travis:** I'm Travis McElroy.

**Griffin:** And I'm Griffin McElroy, that's where honey comes from.

**Justin:** That was My Brother My Brother and Me. Kiss your dad square on the lips!

[theme music plays]

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[A snowy wind blows, as bells jingle and 'Jingle Bells' Plays]

**Speaker 1:** This holiday season, we're flooding the MaxFun store with our biggest ever new product launch. Seventeen brand-new items, from some of your favorite shows.

I bet you know someone who needs a new shirt or mug. Maybe a hoodie! Cozy up in a pair of MaxFun logo socks, or keep the sun out of your eyes with a Rocket dad hat. There is literally no better holiday gift for the MaxFun fan in your life, than some new gear.

And hey! Pick yourself up a little something, too! You deserve it.

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[Jingle Bells' Ends]