

MBMBaM 439: Face 2 Face: Candlesnights 2018

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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!

Travis: We can go ahead and take out those house lights, now.

Griffin: Yes. There they go.

Justin: They're too attractive.

Travis: Everyone's too attractive.

Griffin: It's like they were never there. Still very much up, these house lights are.

Travis: Oh, no.

Justin: If anyone has a slingshot... if everybody has a slingshot, this—

Griffin: Who here has a slingshot?

Travis: Boop!

Justin: Just take 'em out.

Travis: Oh no, I can see everybody way too well!

Griffin: Alright, it's fine.

Justin: I can't believe we're firing Paul.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Happy Candlenights!

Justin: Dang, I'm gonna miss Paul... dang. Hey, happy Candlenights to y'all. Joyous Candlenights.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Y'know what? I want to get a couple thank-yous out right up at the top. How about that?

Travis: Whoaaa!

Griffin: Sure, like before we say the name of the podcast? There they go, bye!

Travis: Yeahhh!

Griffin: Before we say the name of the podcast and everything?

Justin: Fine! Welcome to My Brother, My Brother, and Me, an advice show for the modern era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: I'm your sweet baby brother and 30 Under 30 media luminary, Griffin McElroy.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: And I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy!

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Thank you. Thank you.

Justin: And I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy!

Travis: Aw!

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: I almost cursed!

Griffin: Yeah, you almost did.

Travis: I almost cursed.

Griffin: Y'all... this is our non-cuss show.

Justin: No cusses allowed!

Travis: I almost cussed.

Griffin: Backstage, it's been like, we are the keynote speakers at a cussing convention.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: I don't know why. I hope we're just getting it out of our systems.

Travis: I said eight cusses just before I walked out.

Griffin: Just back there.

Justin: Um, I want to say, very briefly, thank you, first off, to Ackenpucky, a design company here in Huntington, West Virginia that has designed all of this. You also know Ackenpucky as the creators of this...

Travis: Super Desk.

Justin: The Super Desk from My Brother, My Brother, and Me, the limited television event. [laughs]

Travis: I would call it miniseries. The My Brother, My Brother, and Me miniseries.

Audience: [cheering]

Justin: The miniseries, and also, they made the clown box. You can blame them for that.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Travis: And if you look over here, I would like to say thank you to Safety Town for donating...

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: So cool.

Travis: This actual Safety Town car.

Justin: Also, thank you to Emily Kardamis, who is here in the audience. She designed the posters for this evening. Emily...

Travis: Yes.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: We can't bring the house lights up again. I'm sure you understand. [laughs] But, uh, thank you so much for that. You can buy those in the lobby if you haven't already. Aaand...

Griffin: What... are you guys gonna miss the most about cussing over the next hour?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: I'm gonna miss, sometimes, when we do like a Yahoo question...

Griffin: Oh yeah.

Travis: The asker's a real dingdong.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And even that – how do we feel about 'dingdong,' folks?

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: I meant like—like a bell. Like a dumbbell.

Griffin: I meant the word, but also... radical.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: What if I need to describe a huge butt? [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And my normal words for size aren't getting it across. And I need to be super descriptive with the size of the... [pause] Butt.

Travis: I feel like if you say it a third time, we're bordering on dangerous territory.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: It feels...

Griffin: Hey, as long as we're teetering on that edge, um, I have a... toilet illness tonight. Um... which is not much of a surprise to... anybody.

Justin: You might worry—

Travis: As if there's any first time listeners here.

Justin: Yeah. You might worry that you're gonna get a subpar show, and I would argue, you're going to get the only show.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: That we make.

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: And moments before I walked on stage – this is not a lie – I did my... did my dirty thing... and... uhh, I don't want to get too blue, but somebody—

Travis: Too late!

Griffin: Somebody went on the seat, and I sat in a big, wet mess, and I wanna cuss about that now.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: I'm still coming off fresh from this horrible event. I know this is our holiday special. I shouldn't have gone that deep.

Travis: I only toilet once a day, and I did it at home.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: At home?

Travis: It takes 45 minutes.

Griffin: Justin?

Justin: At—uh, yes?

Griffin: I didn't hear you deny the wet mess.

Justin: I mean, there's a lot of perpetrators here. It could've been any one of us.

Travis: It could've been one of our children, Griffin.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, that would be wild. Hey, do you guys mind if we maybe... do you want to start with a Yahoo this time?

Justin: Alright.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: This is a Yahoo off the Yahoo Answers service. This one was sent in by Adrian Cowles, who I believe is also here tonight, after a...

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: After a half-day long trek to get to Huntington, West Virginia. Thank you for all of your wonderful, wonderful gifts.

Travis: Oh, I'm super curious. How many people here are from out of town?

Audience: [many cheers]

Griffin: So all of them.

Travis: Okay. Three people.

Griffin: Did any of our friends—did any of our hometown friends manage to get tickets?

Audience: [fewer cheers]

Griffin: Alright.

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: Well done. So thank you, Adrian. This is one is an anonymous Yahoo Answers user I'm gonna call... Billiam... asks, "Is it better to smoke a cigarette or vape during an open-air Christmas carol service?"

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Huh.

Griffin: "We shall—we shall stand at the back where most of the smokers gather." How big is this carol service? "Point number two—"

Travis: Also, how cool is it? [laughing]

Griffin: "Point number two – there will be *lots* of kids present."

Travis: Huh.

Justin: Huh.

Griffin: That last one is a sticky wicket, because you don't want to smoke a, y'know, that cigarette smog around the children, 'cause it's, y'know, according to doctors, not good for them. But, if they see you vaping, they're gonna wanna do that right now!

Travis: Y'know, here's what you do—

Justin: They're gonna try and steal your vape. "Hey, old man, let me get at that juul real quick."

Griffin: "I saw—I saw that—I saw that juul in a Fortnite dance."

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "Let me, uhh... let me Fortnite at that juul real quick, old man."

Travis: "I'm gonna Fortnite all over the place."

Justin: "Heyyy, heyyy, you care if I Fortnite real quick with that juul?"

Travis: "Step back, I'm gonna Fortnite here."

Justin: "Hey, careful, I got a Fortnite brewin' in my tummy."

Travis: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Here's what you do. You just pretend like, "Ohh, I can see my breath!" As you're ripping mad cotton.

Justin: Heck yeahhh.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: It's like... [harsh exhale] "Ohh, it's so cold in here!"

Justin: [harsh exhale] So chilly!

Griffin: And they'll be like, "Tyler, this is Fort Lauderdale. It's 63 degrees outside." Um... man, you gotta do one of them though, huh?

Justin: [laughs] That's what—it's called an addiction.

Griffin: Yeah. [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: I like that, in this question, there is not an option of not going to the open air Candelights, or caroling service, or whatever. Like, "Well, I have to go... but I also have to vape."

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: There's a smoker's section.

Griffin: That's what's wild to me.

Justin: It's tripping me out.

Griffin: If I get a group of carolers coming to my... what is it? Is this a state—am I coming to them? 'Cause if so, you're not carolers, you're just a choir doing a performance outdoors, but okay. Um, I feel like if I'm seeing a group of people singing Deck the Halls at me, and in the back, I see a bunch of, y'know, army grandpas...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Cheifin' their...

Travis: Their vapes. [laughs]

Griffin: Their vapes.

Justin: Uh, so what is the best vape flavor for a caroling service?

Travis: Cigarette. [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, I'm gonna say pine.

Justin: That's nice.

Travis: What about frankincense?

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Pine—pine is one of those rare vape flavors that is better for the people around you than it is for the people putting it in their mouth.

Justin: Hmm. Those are great choices.

Travis: What about snow?

Griffin: Ooh!

Justin: Ohh, fresh! Crisp!

Griffin: What about one just called—I'll make one called Santa Claus.

Travis: Baby Jesus.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: And there it was. That was our exit ramp while we wait for Justin to unlock his iPod.

Justin: I have questions, uh, from you, our beloved audience members. I'm gonna read them right now.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: "I did a bunch of gift shopping at Half Price Books, as I do every year. I got my seven-year-old nephew two books of Lego construction ideas and instructions. When I got home, I discovered one of the books has an inscription stating it was a gift for Clay, from his loving grandpam in 2011."

Griffin: His loving what now?

Justin: Grandpam. "In 2011."

Travis: "It is I... Grand Pam!"

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, "It is written in large letters on the front page. Do I wrap the book as is, knowing my nephew will understand the nature of used books, and that is the reason he is getting two books instead of just one, or do I try and hide the inscription somehow? Do I add a note, saying something like, 'I guess Clay didn't like this book too much, but I bet you will,' in an attempt to appeal to my nephew's sense of humor?" That's from Festive Faux Pas in Fort Worth.

Griffin: Are you here?

Travis: Are you here?

[pause]

Griffin: Oh, too bad. Um...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Fort Worth is pretty far from here. Anything could've happened.

Travis: First of all, can I say – they make books that don't come with Legos that are just some ideas for things you can build with Legos?

Griffin: [laughs] That is wild to me.

Travis: Like, I don't know, a building? Maybe a car?

Justin: Castle? Castle?

Travis: I don't know.

Justin: You kids like dinosaurs? You got a lot of green ones? [laughs]

Griffin: Could you write... after the word 'Clay'... the word 'Aiken.' And now...

Justin: That's a collector's piece.

Griffin: Now it's—yes. You can sell that back to the bookstore for \$25.

Justin: Can you write over 'Clay'... after 'Clay,' write, "Face. Please change your ways. Love Batman. Enjoy the book." [laughs]

Travis: Grandpam.

Justin: "Don't get any Legos stuck inside of you in your gelatinous body."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "P.S. Commissioner Gordon."

Griffin: Man, Clayface is... you don't really think about Clayface that often, do ya?

Travis: All the time.

Griffin: I'm gonna make ya. 'Cause I bet he gets dirty after a day of just like, existing.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Clayface blorps around the city, trying to cause crime, but then he gets home... how does he wash up? He's mud.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: But he's covered in like, cigarette butts and...

Justin: Clayface's favorite joke is, after he hangs out with a bunch of criminals, at the end of the night, he's like, "Well, I guess I'm gonna go to sleep. In a bed."

Griffin: [laughs] That's a great joke, Clayface! The audience loved it, fake Clayface!

Justin: "Yeah, I'm just kidding. I have to lay on the ground, 'cause I'm Clayface."

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: Like, what are his other options? Does he maintain a solid form as he rests? I don't think so.

Griffin: Can you tear the page out? It's the—is it the cover?

Justin: Front page. It's the front on the—

Griffin: Thank you for the correction, wow.

Travis: Someone in the audience just said no. Thank you.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: I mean, that first page is gonna have a lot of important details.

Travis: The publisher information, the ISBN number? Is that it?

Griffin: It's close enough.

Travis: The ISBN number?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: I'm sorry, Griffin.

Griffin: Don't use Duplo blocks on this, but it's—[jingle bell sound]ing r—oh no!!

Justin: No!!

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: Put a quarter in the jar!

Travis: We made it 13 minutes.

Justin: That goes... yeah, what do you got, Griff? Let's go on recovery point tonight. What do they got? So that's just your credit card... okay...

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: And now I'm going to read the numbers out one by one...

Griffin: Whatever they feel is fair.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: There's no numbers. Okay.

Travis: What is this?!

Justin: Alright.

Griffin: It's a Blockbuster gift card.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: That's my one. I cussed 'cause I was angry at Travis for... *dumping*... on my joke. How about another Yahoo? Ugh, now I'm on point, 'cause I'm only 13 minutes in, and I used mine.

Charlotte sent this one in. Thank you, Charlotte. It's Yahoo Answers user D-Girl, who asks, "How does Santa get away with having his elves put together and give away toys that are trademarked or patented by other entities?"

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: "Additional details – is he above the law?"

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Geographically speaking, yes.

Travis: I have seen a lot of movies where they arrest Santa.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: It happens a lot.

Justin: A lot. Yeah.

Travis: Yeah. It's like a—like, to the point now, if in real life, I was a police officer and I arrested somebody, and they were like, "I'm Santa," I'd be like, "Ooh. Statistically, it's probably true. Go on."

Justin: Yeah. Um... so, I mean, like, walk it through, though, right? Is he above the law? Santa shows up at a police officer's house, and he's got a bunch of licensed toys, and the officer's like, "I gotta arrest you, Santa." And Santa's like, "Alright, let's go. Just kidding – I can be everywhere at once, and I'm immortal, and okay, let's go. Like, are you gonna Catch Me if You Can Santa? I don't think so."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Is Santa invincible? No, sorry. I've seen the Santa Clause.

Justin: He's not invincible.

Griffin: If, if, if, if... you arrest Santa, and you put him in the back of the police car, can he, using Santa magic, escape the car through the exhaust pipe?

Travis: Yes.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: If he chooses. Sometimes—

Griffin: The exhaust pipe is the chimney of the car.

Travis: Sometimes the police officer has a lesson to learn about, I don't know, love or Christmas magic or joy or whatever.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: So Santa could escape at any moment, but he's choosing not to, and instead, he maybe does like a rock musical number in the jail cell.

Griffin: That's good.

Justin: I meaaan... Santa's got a guy, right? A wholesale guy? Y'know what I mean.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Santa's real magic is, he's got a toy guy.

Travis: A box of stuff that falls off the truck.

Justin: Eyy, a few things fell off the truck, bada-bing, bada-boom. Santa.

Travis: Or maybe the wholesale people, maybe like, Wal-Mart has a contract with Santa.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: And it's like, okay, Christmas, it's all yours to distribute. The other 11 months of the year, though, please do send that to us to sell. We'll kick some back to you.

Justin: Santa could probably be like... "I mean, I give it away, so it's technically fair use." And they'd say, "That's not fair use, Santa."

Griffin: That's now how any of this works, Santa.

Justin: "Goodbye! I'm like 30 houses away! Bye!"

Griffin: Is it poossible that Santa did make the Nintendo...

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: ...and the Monster Cards, and Battle Boy, and all the hot toys for this Candlenights season?

Travis: Oh man, I got a Battle Boy!! Alright!! Now I can—

Justin: [laughs] [sings] He's the boy that will leap into the fray, he's the boy that's gonna save the day! Everybody get out of the way, it's Battle Boy!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Fun Sticks. All the hot toys from 2018. Good Wheels. Y'know.

Travis: [laughs] That does explain why none of the toys are spelled right that you get from Santa.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, I got a Bintendo?

Griffin: It's my Jimtendo 63! [laughing]

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Ohoho, we gotta go.

Travis: [laughing] With a copy of Golden Guy!

Justin: [laughing] Um... I'm currently... [laughs]

Griffin: Nope! Hey, no slob job when we're playing Golden Guy!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: That's not fair!

Travis: Clappers only!

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Hey... [laughing] 'Slob job' probably isn't good to say at Candenights.

Audience: [laughing]

Travis: [laughing] We're definitely pushing a boundary or two with that one. Oh nooo!

Griffin: I'm coming off as a real Howard Stern type up here.

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: "I'm currently sitting in a well-known sandwich establishment. I have replaced your brother Justin with a droid." [laughs] No, it's just a question.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, "... waiting for a call that my car inspection is finished, when a man started to do a Christmas rock set at noon."

Griffin: Stop. What... sandwich chain... do they do live music at?

Justin: Right. I mean, it's well known.

Travis: A Subway with a stage in the corner?

Justin: Probably a Subway with a stage in the corner. "Currently, he is facing me, and I am the on—" Maybe Potbelly?

Griffin: I was thinking Potbelly. That's pretty slick.

Justin: "... when a man has started to do a Christmas rock set. Currently, he is facing me, and I am the only patron in the establishment."

Audience: [groans]

Travis: How do I blow it up from the inside and survive?

Justin: "Brothers, what is the protocol for being the only audience member? Should I clap solo between songs? I've taken one ear bud out and done some—"

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: That was your first mistake.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "I've done some intermittent foot taps."

Griffin: [gagging sound]

Justin: "But what should I do?" Punny Names Are Hard in Baltimore.

Griffin: Are you here? God bless you, wherever you are.

Travis: Probably still trapped in that sandwich shop.

Griffin: Probably still in that Potbelly.

Justin: I'm gonna... I'm gonna... I don't have a lot of rules for living. Here's my number one – if you see someone carrying an amp, finish your sandwich.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Especially if you look around, and there's no one else in the room.

Justin: Hold on, I think they might've been writing it down. I'll repeat. If you see someone carrying an amp... finish your sandwich.

Griffin: Unless...

Justin: How did you—

Griffin: No. No.

Travis: Unless...

Justin: Unless...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It's not, but fine.

Griffin: What if it's 2006, and the person with the guitar and amp is a young Jason Mraz?

Justin: Okay, no.

Griffin: Now, you've...

Justin: You let yourself—you knew you were the only one in there!

Griffin: Yep.

Justin: You saw them carrying the amp, and some part of you is like, "Mmm."

Griffin: [laughs] "Let's see."

Justin: "Hm. Nice." [laughs]

Travis: "I can't imagine where this is going!"

Justin: "A little, uh, mid-lunch uh, music."

Travis: I love that you pulled out a headphone—an ear bud, and be like, "Huh?" Like, nooo!

Justin: Not both, you monster!

Griffin: Yeah. This—

Travis: Oh, that's what you do. If they play a really good song, you reach up, and you take the other one out like, "Okay!"

Justin: "Okay!"

Travis: "Now you've got me, reel me in! Do you have a CD I can buy for two dollars?"

Griffin: If they play a bad song, which this Potbelly live music act almost certainly will, you pop the other one back in.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: You gotta earn it.

Justin: You reppin' bad.

Travis: [laughs] Maybe—this is where you—hopefully, you have this in your bag, but you pull out like a clipboard and a pen. They finish the song, and you go, "Hm." And like, take notes and write them down. "Hm, okay." And then say, "I think I've got everything I need." And walk out. [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: That's good.

Travis: "I think I've seen enough!"

Griffin: Can you pull your phone out... and I don't know what I'm gonna say here, so I'm really just kind of generating it as I fly, which is always fun. But like, do a Face Time with someone, so you have a buddy there for the performance, so you're not alone. Maybe it's your grand—

Justin: "Hey, remember that new sound you've been looking for?"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: "This isn't it."

Travis: [simultaneously] "This isn't it." [laughs]

Justin: "Listen to this!" And then you set the phone down on the table and walk away. Now, bad news – you lost a phone.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Worse news, you might've lost a friend. But you get to go home. Could you say uh... could you kind of cover your mouth and you're like, "Uhh, hello, whoever had the uhh, the Honda Pilot, your car's done, so you better come get it, or we're gonna throw it away, so you better hurry up and get here." And then you can just run away.

Griffin: Or you write that down on a note and hand it to the guitarist to read out loud to the crowd. Then it's more authentic.

Travis: And then you go, "Wait, that's me!!"

Griffin: "Oh no, that's my Honda Pilot!"

Travis: What if you just yell, "I'm allergic to sandwich! I forgot!" And then you run out. "I have to get to the hospital, quick!"

Justin: That's probably the worst suggestion, Travis. That doesn't even make sense.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: How could you be allergic to a construction of food? What are we doing here? It's the holidays.

Travis: You're right, Justin.

Griffin: Uh, y'all want a Yahoo?

Justin: Oh, yeahhh.

Griffin: Cool. This one was sent in by Graham Roebuck. Thank you, Graham. It's an anony—no, wait. They're not anonymous. The website has been on the naughty list.

Travis: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Yeah, it just ain't gon' work, so I'm gonna call them... Dravens... asks...

Justin: I like the plural.

Griffin: "What does—" It's more than one person sent that in.

Travis: The Dravens.

Griffin: "What does Santa Claus and the Christmas people do on Easter?"

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: 'Kay.

Griffin: These chairs sure are a'movin' and a'wigglin', huh?

Travis: I like it. I'm getting an ab workout.

Griffin: Yeah, same.

Travis: I imagine this is what sitting on a yoga ball is like at a desk.

Justin: Y'all, we filmed, uh, a special limited television event in these chairs, and the rolling was a constant issue that we had to be—

Travis: That's why we keep our hands on the desk, to plant.

Justin: Sorted it out, 24 hours a day.

Travis: The thing about it that a lot of people don't know is that Santa and the elves are Jewish.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: That's why they work on Christmas.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Fun.

Travis: So they don't do anything on Easter, except probably work.

Griffin: Probably not. Yeah. Probably not.

Justin: I don't know... I don't know...

Griffin: Asked— asked and answered.

Justin: I don't know, Trav...

Travis: Doesn't track for you?

Griffin: If you think about it, conceptually...

Travis: Uh-huh?

Griffin: When you think about the reason for the season...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: Easter is pretty much the opposite of Christmas, huh? In a lot of ways?

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: If you think about it? Why we... do the both of them? It's kind of opposite ends of... a life.

Travis: [laughs] Oh, okay. Oh, alright.

Griffin: So they probably resent it as much as the Easter people resent Christmas.

Travis: Oh, I see.

Justin: I... I... mmm.

Travis: Maybe on Easter, Santa and the Christmas people celebrate Christmas, 'cause that's their time to do it. That's when they observe it.

Justin: That doesn't make any sense either, Travis. You're posting up a lot of dookie tonight.

Travis: [laughs] Ooh, how do we feel about 'dookie'? Is that...

Justin: I want to dig into the fact that Santa Claus is Jewish.

Travis: Okay.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: In the scenario you have supposed...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: Santa Claus...

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Is an immortal Jewish man...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: Who, when Jesus was born, was like, "I don't think this kid is anything special... and I'm gonna throw him the greatest birthday party."

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Every year. [laughing]

Justin: "Every year, for the rest of my life." [laughing]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: Well, Jesus was Jewish.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: And so Santa was like, "Alright, let's do this."

Griffin: This all tracks.

Justin: "Let's go."

Travis: And then at a certain point, it veered away, and Santa was like, "Oh no, what about the reason for the season?"

Justin: "My cool party!"

Travis: "My cool party I'm throwing!"

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Uhh...

Griffin: When Santa celebrates Christmas on Easter, Travis, the other foolish thing that you said...

Travis: Uh-huh? I'll turn to my left now.

Griffin: Is he waiting for *him* to come down the chimney?

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: So you're supposing that at night, Santa goes to sleep thinking, "Boy, I hope I bring me some cool stuff."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: He puts cookies out for himself and says, "Boy, I hope I like these!"

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Justin.

Justin: "My mother loves Santa Claus."

Griffin: [jingle bell sound] yeah! Heck yeah!

Justin: That's two! That's two! That's two!

Griffin: No, no, no. They can—they can say that one on Friends. It's okay.

Justin: "My mother loves Santa Claus, much to the point where she has him decorated in her house all year round. Not Christmas decorations all year – just Santa."

Griffin: Sure!

Travis: That is an interesting distinction to make. Not Christmas decorations – just Santa.

Justin: "I never thought it was weird, but a friend of mine recently pointed out how weird it was."

Griffin: That's a bold friend.

Justin: "When I asked my mother why she had so many, she just said she likes him."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "Is this weird, or is my friend just being a jerk?" That's from Coal for Christmas in Columbus.

Travis: Are you here?

Audience Member: [cheers]

Travis: The—because she likes him, the only other option of a response is like, "Huh, you're right. I do have a lot of Santa stuff. Whoa."

Justin: "That is so weird." Hey... he's a cool guy.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Why can't we just celebrate this cool guy all year 'round?

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: No. No.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: 'Cause I'm thinkin' about it... and that's unacceptable.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Tell me why. Tell me more.

Griffin: How are you gonna miss Santa Claus if he's always there?

Travis: Yeah. It's just like how we only put up the American flag during the fourth of July season.

Justin: When we think about being in America.

Griffin: And that's an equivalent thing.

Travis: Yes. And we only have pie at Thanksgiving.

Griffin: Flaggio, the American flag who comes to bring us pies on the fourth of July!

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Listen—

Griffin: I love Flaggio. He does great work. When he swoops in through the half-open window with a pie taped to him...

Travis: And some baseballs...

Griffin: Mmm, and some baseballs that he gives to all the good patriotic children.

Justin: Will Ferrell...

Griffin: But no baseballs for the liberals out there, who—

Justin: Thank you. Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly have never brought me any gifts. But, I keep my Talladega Nights, Step Brothers, and Holmes and Watson posters up 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Why? 'Cause I'm a fan!

Griffin: I do like that you specified 24 hours a day, as if there wasn't, like—

Travis: Ohh, five o'clock!

Griffin: Time to tape.

Justin: Take 'em down.

Travis: Whoop. See you tomorrow! [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Off the clock. Go rest up, John C. Reilly and Will Ferrell, for tomorrow.

Griffin: For real, though, whoever that friend is... I know that's the last option that you gave that they're a bad friend. That's the best friend you got.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: That's the best friend you got. A real good friend will tell you hard truths about yourself. A *real, true, good* friend will tell you hard truths about your mom. That's...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: That's tough stuff. 99 times out of 100, it goes very bad.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: That's a brave friend. Brave friend.

Travis: So this person—question asker must've grown up in the house with Santa decorations, right?

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: I have—I have, uh, a Santa cookie jar that I realized, this July, was still there. And I don't know if y'all are like me, but I looked at it and was like, "Well, you're there 'til Christmas, mon frère. 'Cause you have missed your train. You get one trip out to the garage when you get put away. You have missed it. You get comfortable, little man. You're gonna check out a little holiday I like to call... Halloween."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs] This is actually why I really like—

Justin: Imagine—okay, I have a good movie for you. You kidnap Santa Claus, and you bring him to Halloween, and just watch him lose his mind!

Travis: It's called *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, Justin!

Justin: No, no, no, no, no! Listen, hear me out, okay? So there's this skeleton man...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh...

Travis: [laughing] Uh-huh?

Griffin: I've got a Yahoo here I'm just dying to read.

Justin: [in a deep voice] Hit me.

Griffin: Was that you? I wasn't looking. That didn't sound like you.

Justin: That was, uh—I put on *The Mask* for a second when you weren't looking.

Griffin: [laughs] Uh, this Yahoo was sent in by Britney. Thank you, Britney. It's from... do I say that name weird? Brit—Britney. Is it two syllables?

Travis: Are you on pot?

Griffin: Alright.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: That's the right phrasing, right? "Are you on pot?"

Justin: Are you on Fortnite right now?

Travis: Are you—Griffin. Griffin.

Travis and Justin: Are you taking Fortnite?

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: I rubbed some Fortnite on my gums before I—this one is asked by Yahoo Answers user Be Not Nobody, who asks, "What are some good Christmas gifts to put in a red and black mafia/dragon living room?"

Justin: Good.

Griffin: Good.

Justin: Good.

Griffin: "Hi."

Travis: Hi. Hello.

Justin: Welcome to our podcast.

Griffin: It's "Hi..." "Hi," period. Hi.

Justin: Hi.

Griffin: "I'm trying to do some Christmas shopping for my boyfriend, who is 26 years old. He loves Scarface and the Good Fellas." You pretty much said that in the subject of the question. "He also loves dragons and weapons. I'm looking for some ideas to make Christmas gifts for him to put in the living room. Maybe you have some ideas. He loves fancy things. Also, if you know of any online shops where I can find fancy gifts for a guy, that would be awesome." So you really don't know where to get anything.

Justin: [laughing] If you just go to Google and type 'bad person', like, the first hundred results are gonna be gifts.

Travis: Here's what you do.

Griffin: Yep.

Travis: You Photoshop this boyfriend a like, Scarface poster. Except instead of Tony Montana, it's a dragon.

Griffin: Oh, I thought you were going to say the boyfriend, but that's even better.

Travis: No. You gotta combine—listen. Anyone can get mafia *or* dragon presents.

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: I want dragon mafia presents.

Griffin: Take Tony Montanya out of it. Just put in one, big, long sword, and now it's Swordface... the world is swords, is the subtitle.

Travis: And maybe there's just a dragon leaning in in the background, waving.

Griffin: Yeah. Can we—we can Photoshop Mushu from Mulan in there, also.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Maybe just get him a bunch of Pete's Dragon merch. [laughs]

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Is that the kind of dragons he's into?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "Eyy, it's me, a dragon! Doot doot doot doot doo..." You know how he is. You know how Pete's Dragon does. Elliott? Is that his name?

Audience Member: Yes.

Travis: Yeah. Thank you.

Justin: His name is Pete.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs] No, Pete is the monster.

Justin: Pete is the monster. [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Okay, here's the deal. I already bought this guy nunchucks while you were reading the question. They should be arriving soon.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Sorry.

Griffin: Are the nunchucks made out of cocaine?

Justin: Yes, and they're painted like candy canes, so it's festive.

Griffin: Perfect. [pause] End of joke.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughing]

Travis: And that's it.

Justin: And that's all the joke we have for this evening.

[theme music plays]

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: That's always how we come back from the live show breaks. You can't even like, generate a unique idea. Like, I know it's a holiday—

Justin: Okay, I'll go. I get it. I got it. I got a new one.

Griffin: Like, can you not even do a unique idea?

Justin: I got a new one. Hold on.

Griffin: Alright, make some art.

Justin: Okay. [horrible gurgling noise] [in a villainous, robotic voice] Your broadcast has been intercepted by Moneytron!

Griffin: Oh, yeah!

Justin: [robot voice] I am a cybernetic... co-organic cybernetic organism.

Griffin: Mm, yes.

Justin: Cryborg 13.

Griffin: Yeah. Sci-fi. People love it. People love this stuff.

Justin: [laughs] [robot voice] The planet of Moneytron is now in possession of this broadcast, to bring you... sponsored content!

Griffin: [robot voice] My name is Dollarborg, and I... podcast... haves. To put ads inside the rest of them. Zeep. Zap.

Justin: [robot voice] Yes. While you flesh organisms were distracted by celebrating your savior, we have taken possession of your beloved podcast, to tell you about Boll & Branch. Your flesh shells require weakness and rest.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [robot voice] Where our metal, silicon bodies require none. When you are indulging in your weakness, we work. We toil. We plot your overthrow.

Griffin: [robot voice] Dollarborg skin is melted down pennies forged into a copper carapace. It does not require rest.

Justin: [robot voice] Make the last of your earth moments before we conquer your planet count, with Boll & Branch. They have taken your cotton. Your precious natural resources, which you shred through so carelessly.
[laughing]

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: [robot voice] While we watch in delight. They have taken 100% of your cotton. It says here, 100% of your organic cotton has been taken by Boll & Branch to create the finest sleeping experience possible.

Griffin: [robot voice] Some of my favorite money rags, which is what... Dollarborg calls business magazines, love this stuff. 'For-bis', 'The Way-all Street Journal', and 'Fay-ast Company'. I am new to your earth tongue.

Justin: [robot voice] While they should have been covering your inevitable decline, and our incredible triumphant rise, they wrote about sheets.

Griffin: [voice getting more robotic each time he speaks] Yeah, so anyway, shipping is free, and you can try them for 30 nights. And if you don't love them, you can send them back for a refund and receive back the sweet nutrients of cash.

Justin: [robot voice] You do not want to send them back. For one, they are excellent. For two, that would be a terrible squandering of your precious last few moments before Moneytron conquers your pitiful planet.

Griffin: [robot voice] To get started right now, our listeners can get breakfast off your first set of sheets, by which I mean \$50 off your first set of sheets.

Justin: [robot voice] \$50 is breakfast on Moneytron.

Griffin: [robot voice] Go to BollandBranch.com promo code 'MyBrother', all one word, to get \$50 – again, breakfast – off your first set of sheets. It's BollandBranch.com, promo code 'MyBrother.' One last time, please.

Justin: [robot voice] On Moneytron, we know how to spell everything. Nothing must be spelled for us, which is why you shall fall. But please, allow

me to indulge you. B... O... L... L... and... do you need that one? Allow me. A-N-D. Branch. I tire! Dot com. Promo code, 'MyBrother.'

Griffin: [robot voice] Happy Honda days. [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

[music plays]

Speaker 1: If you're looking for a new comedy podcast, why not try the Beef and Dairy Network? It won best comedy at the British Podcast Awards in 2017 and 2018. Also, I'm—

Speaker 2: There were no horses in this country until the mid to late '60s.

Speaker 1: Specialist bovine ass vet.

Speaker 3: Both of his eyes are squid's eyes.

Speaker 4: Yogurt buffet.

Speaker 5: She was married to a bacon farmer who saved her life.

Speaker 6: Farm-raised snow leopard.

Speaker 1: Download it today. That's the Beef and Dairy Network podcast from MaximumFun.org. Also, maybe start at episode one, or weirdly, episode 36, which for some reason requires no knowledge of the rest of the show.

Justin: Griffin, do you have any more Yahoos you want to get to?

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Heyyy, Griffin.

Griffin: Yeah?

Justin: Yahoo me, baby.

Griffin: I don't want to bring the show down, but I've got a really deathly serious Yahoo here to read, and it's a special one for how sad and important it is.

Justin: Oh, okay. If it's serious.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I'm all ears.

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: It was sent in by...

Justin: The Crow?

Griffin: The Crow.

Justin: [laughing]

Travis: [laughs]

Audience: [laughing]

Griffin: Thank you. Thanks to The Crow.

Justin: [losing his shit] Alright, so it was sent in by The Crow.

Griffin: Thank you to the real The Crow.

Justin: [wheezing] He's here with us tonight, as he always is, looking out for us!

Griffin: And it's asked by...

Justin: [still laughing]

Griffin: Sick...

Justin: [cracks up with every word]

Griffin: Man...

Travis: Who asks...

Justin: Yeah, what does he ask?

Griffin: He says... "Gosh..."

Justin: [cracks up again]

Griffin: "Being— being sick all the time..."

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: [still cracking up]

Travis: [laughing]

Griffin: "... is sure bad. Also, because this is Yahoo Answers, can dogs see Wi-Fi?"

Justin: [laughs] [makes beeping sounds]

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: I gotta bring everybody's spirits up after that sad one.

Travis: We don't usually do bummers like that, but I see why that needed to be addressed.

Justin: That was such a bummer. This is a Haunted Doll Watch. This one just came in.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: This one's festive, so I thought y'all would appreciate it. It's an 18 inch, porcelain haunted doll, Christmas stocking, paranormal vessel, voices, and kinetic.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: And it's from AwesomestFinds. And you can place a bid right now... yeah.

Griffin: Usually, the way these live shows go, it'll be gone by the time Justin's finished... there's already somebody frantically Googling.

Justin: You can place a bid right now. I'll give everyone in the audience a look. I don't know how much you can see. Probably only a few rows back, but it's pretty...

Griffin: Let me peep that.

Travis: Show Griffin. It's screaming.

Griffin: Well, that's just a big stocking with a porcelain head on it.

Travis: It's screaming.

Justin: That's what it looks like. It's old timey. It's pretty creepy. Uh, so, here is the description. "It's pre-owned." Hmm.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: [laughing] It's a new, fresh-out-of-the-oven spirit vessel.

Justin: From 2018 that we made. "Pre-owned, but in excellent condition. If you want a unique Christmas stocking..." Oh, thank you. "Well, here it is."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Y'know what? These are usually full of false advertising. I'll give you that one.

Justin: Yep. Here it is. "But be warned, and read further... materials: porcelain and polyester." Good for any allergies out there. Want to get those cleared up right away. "18-inch porcelain doll. Christmas stocking. Spirit vessel." There's an asterisk here and it says, "This doll is a head and two arms only!"

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: "The bottom half of the body is a Christmas stocking! See all photos carefully. This Christmas stocking is not only unique for the upper half being a porcelain doll..."

Travis: [laughs] Yeah!

Justin: Oh, you need more than that to set this fine stocking apart? That half of it is a doll? "There is something beyond our physical world that..." Okay, of course. "That has become attached to it. It was in one of the boxes that I inherited from my grandmother. It was with her collection of spirit vessels, along with other items."

Travis: Wait, what?

Griffin: Was your grandmother the bad kid from Toy Story?

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, "It has been six months since I discovered it. Until this very night, I was convinced that it was just a mere inanimate object."

Travis: But then what happened?!

Justin: Well, I'll tell you, Travis. "I segregate all of my new or suspected spirit vessels."

Travis: Okay. Huh.

Justin: Huh.

Travis: Well, you don't want to get crossed spirits, I guess.

Justin: Sure. "I do not keep them in one area, in case I need to pinpoint the source of any paranormal activity. In groups, they can be quite troublesome."

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Hm.

Justin: "Especially when they consist of evils."

Griffin: Uh...

Justin: "I had this Christmas stocking hanging on the wall near my Christmas tree," which seems inadvisable. That's me. Uh, "Only three hours ago, I heard something in my living room. I live alone."

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Oh! Whoa! What?! Huh?!

Justin: [laughing] Griffin, don't be mean. "Upon investigating, I noticed that my tree had been knocked over, and that most of my glass ornaments had been destroyed." So anyway, folks, that person lives alone. Have a great night imagining the rest of that anecdote. [laughing]

Griffin: Well, maybe the doll stocking is haunted by Marmaduke.

Travis: To be fair, she knew it was the doll when she looked over and the doll was going, "Huhhh?"

Justin: It says, um... "As I was cleaning up the mess, alone, by myself..."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "While I sung I'll Be Home for Christmas to myself between sobs..." Wow, this is really intense. "I kept hearing something brushing against the wall near my head. It was the stocking." Yeah. That's what I assumed. "It was swinging back and forth on the..." [cracks up]

Griffin: Uh oh.

Justin: "It was swinging back and forth on the crude nail I had used to hang it."

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: What?! What?!

Travis: Y'know what? That's on me.

Justin: I had fashioned a nail. I had fashioned a nail from some loose metal. The crude nail I had used to hang it.

Griffin: The nail is also haunted!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I pried it out of a Dracula coffin!

Justin: "When I reached to grab the stocking, I heard a whisper in my ear, just over my left shoulder. It said, 'Don't do that again.' In a threatening, yet calm child's voice."

Griffin: Okay, that's—that's four different intonations that I don't think you can do at the same time.

Justin: I tried to give it justice. "Either something was dormant in this vessel and just would not awaken for the last six months, or it could be the spirit from the vessel that I had accidentally dropped on its head the other night."

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Oh my, what a twist!

Justin: So you're saying the ghost is like... thump. "I'm out. Y'know what? Never mind. This sucks."

Griffin: "This sucks. I'm gonna go chill in that holiday footwear with a head and arms."

Travis: Uhh... when it said 'don't do that again'... do what?

Griffin: Drop the thing on its head, Travis. Keep up.

Justin: Yeah. "I'm hoping I didn't anger the spirit. It was an accident. It was a harlequin that I had a lot of evil activity from. I accidentally dropped her right on her head, and the head shattered like an egg."

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Or, I would argue, like the head of a porcelain doll.

Griffin: Yeah, that also works.

Justin: "For a split second, it appeared that, as soon as the head popped on the floor, I saw a white flash of light shoot into the other room, my living room, where the stocking was hanging. Either way, I don't appreciate, negotiate, reconcile, or mediate with negative entities." Hey, everybody? This next year, I hope we can all take a page out of this playbook. We are no longer going to appreciate, negotiate, reconcile, or mediate with negative entities.

Griffin: If we could figure out a way to make that rhyme with 2019, I think we've got our...

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: "This porcelain doll should only go to the proper caretakers, one who dabbles in demonology, in case this thing is not a normal spirit and decides to smash more than a Christmas tree the next time it wants to speak, or at least someone who contacts spirits to reconcile their problems."

Travis: Now this... remind me. This ad started with, "If you would like an interesting stocking, let me know." Right?

Justin: "Here's a fun stocking for kids." Anyway, so that's, uh... that is this week's Haunted Doll Watch.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: No, let's do some audience questions.

Griffin: We can do audience questions. Can we warn Santa about this evil stocking first?

Justin: Yeah, we should give Santa a note or something.

Griffin: I don't know how you'd do that. Um, so the way we do questions now – please don't stand up or raise your hands or anything like that. If we can go ahead and get house lights up, we asked you all to send in your

questions. Or rather, a brief description of the question you'd like to ask ahead of time, and I have some names and seat numbers here that I'm gonna call down.

Justin: Can you lower us just a skosh?

Griffin: Just a skosh. We have, uh, a microphone there, and... is there one in that aisle, also?

Justin: That's romantic.

Griffin: Yes. Okay, so there's one there, one there. Let's get Annabelle, uh, C82 to come down. And Rowan... Resi...

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Rowan Resi, row 17, seat one. Uh, Rowan, also come down. Hello. Can everybody see us okay now that they dropped the lights? Is this weird for you all? Maybe bring the lights up just a little bit more on us? I don't want to... okay.

Travis: Now pan left...

Griffin: Now pan left the lights... hi!

Annabelle: Hi, my name's Annabelle!

Griffin: Hi, Annabelle!

Justin: Hi, Annabelle!

Annabelle: So, my friend Jackie and I, we met at work, we're staying at an AirBnB this weekend, and I cooked sausage and—sausage, gravy and biscuits this morning.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: Cool.

Annabelle: For breakfast. And I started—

Griffin: Was it good?

Annabelle: It was [jingle bell sound] phenomenal.

Justin: Come on!

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Annabelle! Sorry, children.

Justin: That's the worst one there is!

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: You're covered. You're covered. Paul donated your \$20. Thank you, Paul.

Griffin: Thank you, Paul.

Annabelle: Thanks, Paul.

Travis: So it was good.

Justin: Annabelle, go on. It was very good.

Annabelle: It was really good. And I started a small grease fire in the kitchen.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Okay.

Annabelle: Of the AirBnB that we're staying at.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Alright.

Annabelle: Do I have to tell the host that I started a grease fire? It didn't... daaamage anything. But...

Travis: Now, that makes me think that it did.

Griffin: It did damage something.

Justin: It did damage something.

Travis: The way that you said that makes me think that it *did* damage something.

Griffin: Annabelle, can you tell us, without, uh, barfing your nasty profanity all over the place...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Just opening up that potty mouth and letting a bunch of dookie words spill out... [laughs] Can you tell us if it did destroy anything? And there's children present, so... and the Lord.

Audience: [laughs]

Annabelle: We haven't gotten the stains off the glass-top stove yet, but...

Griffin: There it is.

Annabelle: We're trying.

Griffin: Sure. The most—the easiest to replace thing. No, you can get the stains off.

Justin: Yeah. Try baking soda on top of it with a little bit of vinegar. And then if you get a scraper...

Travis: You got a good grit there, yeah.

Justin: Get a good grit there and let it set in a little bit.

Annabelle: Yeah. An abrasive.

Justin: Yeah, an abrasive, exactly. But not—go with something like a flat, 'cause you don't want to scratch the surface. If you have a flat edge, it's gonna do much better for ya.

Griffin: I can't imagine... I've stayed in quite a few AirBnBs in my time. I can't imagine actually cooking a meal in one of them, because...

Justin: That's terrifying to me.

Griffin: None of the stuff is where I would want it to be. And also, there's a small chance I might create a grease fire that would destroy the entire building.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: A chance that is increased, having heard this exact question.

Annabelle: There are always sauce pans, and there are never frying pans.

Griffin: How cool is the... and you can tell with AirBnB based on like, what the like, precautions are that they list on the website. Like, "If I see one toddler footprint..." How cool is the landlord, do you think?

Annabelle: She stopped by, and she was...

Griffin: So not cool at all, then.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: That's the worst thing an AirBnB owner can do to you, 100%.

Griffin: She stopped by and...

Annabelle: And she was... fairly cool. But she—

Travis: The way you said that makes me think she wasn't.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: I don't care if she tried to sell you weed. If she stopped by to just poke her snoot in to see if there were any grease—active grease fires in her house that she lives in... [laughs]

Travis: "Hey, just wanted to see if you were gonna be cooking with any grease later! It's fine if you do, I'm totally cool!"

Griffin: Uh... if it didn't destroy anything, I think you're good. It's not like she's gonna know, psychically, "There was fire here!"

Travis: When the grease fire started, how long did you stand there going, "Well... here we are, it's not my house"? 'Cause that's what I would've done.

Griffin: Travis, the cool arson.

Justin: And Travis is staying at my house this week, so that's cool to hear, too.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, what do you think you're gonna do after you do or do not take our advice on this?

Annabelle: A real... a real good scrubbin' on that boy. With an abrasive.

Griffin: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: So you're gonna lie? You're not gonna tell them?

Justin: You're gonna lie, though.

Griffin: Gooood choice. Well done.

Justin: Excellent. Does that help, Annabelle?

Annabelle: Thank you so much.

Justin: Oh, it's my pleasure.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Let's get, um... uh, Connor, row 11, seat one. Connor. Go ahead and come on down to this microphone here, and Rowan?

Rowan: Yes.

Griffin: Hi, Rowan.

Rowan: Alright, so about two years ago for Christmas, I got myself figure skating lessons.

Griffin: Cool, cool.

Travis: Nice.

Rowan: And in that time, I have improved, y'know, significantly.

Griffin: How long ago did you get these lessons?

Rowan: About two years ago.

Griffin: Was there a certain piece of media...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: That had come out around that time...

Audience: [cheering]

Rowan: Listen... yes.

Griffin: You're my hero. That's awesome.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Travis: I'm also glad to hear that you took lessons and improved. That's the way that's supposed to go.

Griffin: That's very good. Okay, sorry to interrupt. I was just deeply curious.

Rowan: Anyway, the point is that while I have gotten better, I am not what you would call good. Um, and during almost the entire two years since I've started skating, there is this other skater at the rink that kind of makes fun of me and bullies me about my skills.

Audience: [aww's]

Travis: Mmm. Like a bigger kid, yeah.

Griffin: There's a twist.

Rowan: Yeah. The problem is that he is about eight years old.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: How good is the eight-year-old?

Rowan: Much better than me.

Griffin: Ahh, shoot.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: That's the problem with kids, is that they can learn skills so much better than we can.

Justin: Yeah, they're good at learning. That's the one thing they have on their side.

Griffin: So what is your... what're you looking for here?

Justin: You want Jeff Gillooly's phone number?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Take him out.

Rowan: Obviously, I can't fight a child.

Justin: Can't fight a child. That's right. That was a test! And you've passed. I don't know Jeff Gillooly. Nice try.

Travis: Sure, *you* can't fight a child. Well, what if we find another child to fight that child?

Justin: Let's say you find three adult brothers that love fighting kids.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Say it makes them feel like big men.

Justin: Like big, tough dudes, and they have a podcast. And it's the Sklar Brothers. [laughs]

Travis: [laughs] The three Sklar brothers?

Justin: The three Sklar brothers. Okay, sorry.

Griffin: Um, you—

Justin: What do you want to do to this kid?

Griffin: You want to punish the child?

Justin: You gotta punish the child.

Travis: No, you should reward this child, Rowan, and let me tell you why. What this child has done is given you something to chase.

Griffin: Mmm.

Justin: Mmm.

Travis: Right now, if you don't have that rival, you have nothing to shoot for. But now you're like, "I have to get good enough to beat this eight-year-old in some kind of ice-skating meet." I don't know what it's called in the lingo. An ice-skating match, perhaps. And you need to skate rings around this kid, literally, 'cause that's a thing you do in ice skating.

Griffin: It's not gonna... they have so much more time and brain energy to spend getting good at it. It's a—if the eight-year-old trains at the same rate as you, they'll just always kind of be better, 'cause that's what kids do.

Travis: Then you need to get that kid like a Nintendo DS or something that's gonna distract...

Griffin: There it is!

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Say like, "Hey, thank you for evening." Heh heh heh.

Griffin: You don't need Jeff Gillooly, you need Yu-Gi-Oh!

Travis: [laughs]

Rowan: So I should use my adult money to buy this child a Nintendo Switch and then surpass him?

Griffin: Yes!

Justin: Yes! See, you're thinking!

Travis: And then take his Switch back!

Griffin: Your... your... bigger body than them. Can it do tricks on the ice? And I think they're called tricks that uh...

Justin: Stunts or tricks?

Travis: Moves? Maneuvers?

Griffin: That they can't possibly do, because of their smaller frame?

Travis: Like reach high things on shelves as you skate.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: Maybe build a whole routine around shelves.

Griffin: When you do the—

Travis: Or driving.

Griffin: When you do the hurdles during your ice dressage...

Justin: Do you have a move where you rent a car?

Travis: [laughs] Where you pay your taxes?

Justin: Where you think about how you're gonna die? I don't know if that's a move. [laughing]

Rowan: Every time.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I've picked the... [laughs]

Griffin: Justin... just going around the rink with his arms straight down, looking into the middle distance for two minutes while Mad World plays.

Justin: [laughing] Does that help? Good.

Rowan: Yes, that helps.

Griffin: It didn't. I know it. Don't lie to us.

Travis: Thank you, Rowan.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Uh, yeah, let's get one more in the, uh... in the wings. Liam, section B, row 16, seat five. Go ahead and come down to that microphone. Uh, hey, Connor, I presume.

Connor: Hey. Yeah, that's correct.

Griffin: Can you get right up on that microphone, Connor? Don't be scared.

Justin: You can tilt it up towards you, if you want.

Connor: Sick.

Griffin: Cool.

Justin: Nice.

Travis: Nice.

Griffin: What's uh—what is your question?

Connor: So I actually sent in two. I didn't know which one.

Griffin: Uh, it's the one that I might be particularly interested in, because of the...

Connor: Okay. Okay, cool.

Griffin: Yes.

Connor: Okay, yeah. So uh, every year during Christmas Eve, it's the only time we go to church.

Justin: Okay.

Connor: And...

Travis: So you're 90% of people?

Connor: [laughs] Yeah.

Travis: Okay.

Connor: So like, y'know, I love the big man upstairs and everything, but...

Travis: But not enough to go the other weeks! Huh! Okay.

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: Lot of this stuff.

Connor: But it's like the same thing every year, and I've gotten really into like—

Griffin: They're not really adding new stuff to Christmas, huh?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: [laughing] This year, we found a new chapter! You'll never believe this! I've written a little fan fiction I'd like to read.

Audience: [laughs]

Connor: So like, I want to play Pokémon while I'm there.

Justin: Of course.

Griffin: Yeah. Can you say that again? Because people were laughing, and it's really the crux of the question, Connor.

Connor: I want to play Pokémon while I'm there at church.

Griffin: Yes.

Connor: I can't stop. Y'know, to go to church. So I was wondering, like, if there are any like, cool ways I could sneak it without like... y'know, God... or my pastor seeing. [laughs]

Griffin: [muffled] You've come to the right place.

Audience: [laughs]

Connor: [laughing]

Griffin: This is not a joke. This is not a joke. It was during the Easter pageant at our church. HBC. You can swing by if you want. They shut down and sold all the pews. That I caught Kangaskhan, thus completing the 150 original Pokémon in Pokémon Red and Blue at church!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Also not a joke. Said a short thank you prayer for the good fortune. It's a hard Pokémon to catch.

Travis: [laughing]

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: It's in the Safari Zone. You basically have to throw a ball and hope for the best.

Travis: Did you catch it... were you... wait. Were you in the show, or were you watching the show?

Griffin: I was in the show.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Who were you playing?

Travis: How old were you?

Griffin: Uh, I was, uhh... 13 or so, and I don't know, a shepherd or something. I wasn't Jesus in this one.

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: Um, here's what you do. You get a Bible. And then you get an Xacto knife. And then you're gonna cut out all the boring parts...

Griffin: [laughing]

Justin: Wink. And then you're gonna put the DS inside the Bible.

Griffin: Wait, wait. What iteration of Pokémon are we talking about? The new Switch?

Connor: The—no, no, no. It's a 3DS.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Okay. And what version of the Bible do you have?

Travis: You're gonna need a big one.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: You're gonna need a KJAV. NIV's not gonna cut it.

Travis: You can't do it with the ones they hand out on street corners.

Justin: Not gonna cut it. No, no, no.

Travis: You're gonna—

Connor: It's the teen version.

Justin: Yes.

Travis: That might already come with it, actually.

Justin: That's what it is. [laughing]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Y'know, here's what you do. When you try to hide it, and people see you doing it, they're like, "Ooh, he's sneaking it." Here's what you do. You like, hold it up. And then when people see you, they're like, "Well, then, it must be okay... He's not try—maybe... hm... does Connor know something I don't?" And pretty soon, everyone's catching 'em all.

Justin: Connor. Hide the screen from everyone. Play it to your heart's content. When someone gives you a dirty look, say, "Yeah. I got the Bible on here." [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: That's right. These things... you may want to look into them, Mable, 'cause they got the Bible on 'em.

Travis: And then you hold it up, and you've written across the back, "The Bible." And you're like, "See?" And they're like, "Oh, okay."

Griffin: A custom skin for your 3DS. I mean... The only people who are gonna catch you while they're prayin' are other people breakin' the rules. You just gotta make sure you got that volume turned down. 'Cause it can't be like, "Happy birthday, Jesus. Thank you for—" And then... [sings Pokémon music]

Justin: Does that help?

Connor: Yeah, definitely.

Justin: Excellent.

Griffin: Thank you. Thank you.

Justin: Thank you.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Did Liam... Liam?

Liam: Hello.

Griffin: Hi, hi, hi.

Liam: Hi. Okay, so... I work as a personal nanny out of someone's house.

Griffin: Okay.

Liam: It's a very old house, and the grandparent of the sweet baby child named Henry is—

Griffin: Good name.

Liam: —currently... very good name. Is currently working to paint the outside of the house. Problem...

Griffin: Yes.

Liam: He is an old man with bad hearing, and he sometimes doesn't notice when I'm playing in the living room.

Travis: Uh-huh.

Liam: And he will use the bathroom... with the door wide open.

Justin: Eww, nooo.

Liam: And I don't know how to comfortably ask him...

Griffin: Sure.

Justin: Yeahhh.

Liam: To release all of himself... with the door closed.

Griffin: Okay, I was waiting for the end of that sentence. I thought you were going to say... [laughs] I could tell, because the door's open, he wasn't getting the job done. So I wanted him to feel comfortable.

Liam: Yeah.

Travis: Might I suggest that he comes tomorrow, or the next time you work, and what's that? Ooh, the house has already been painted by you in the night.

Griffin: By you, tonight. [laughs]

Travis: And that way, you didn't have to ever address any of this.

Griffin: Yeah, that's a good... that's gonna be an important sort of element in all of our answers, is you not having to directly address this, which I imagine is a relief to you and... ah, I'll be honest... the sentence you sent in was, "How do I get Henry's grandpa to stop peeing with the door open?" And I thought you were talking about my dad.

Audience: [laughs]

Liam: Is that a problem you also have?

Travis: We might've misread that one.

Griffin: So... I'm playing at a disadvantage now, because I'm hugely disappointed. Uh, yeah, I mean, you could get one of those like, um... like a sliding door at a grocery store, but steal it from them and put it on the bathroom, I guess. Uhh... not a lot of funny things to say...

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Maybe just a sign on the door that says, "Other people are here."

Justin: "Other people still exist."

Griffin: That's good. It's a... [laughs] It's an occupied vacant like, switch, but it's on the front door of the house.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Could be good.

Travis: Could you quit? [laughs]

Justin: Heyyy.

Liam: It's very possible.

Justin: Could you quit? I could use a nanny. You can work at my house.

Liam: Okay!

Travis: Justin's house is all doors.

Justin: Yeah. And no peeing.

Griffin: [laughs] Sure.

Liam: Sounds great.

Justin: I go to Subway.

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: [laughing] Like a man.

Liam: I'll bring my guitar.

Justin: That's how—

Travis: "Are you gonna buy a sandwich today, Mr. McElroy?"

"Still thinking about it. Give me a minute."

Justin: [laughing] Do you have that special bread? Have you guessed the kind of bread I like?

Griffin: You're like, peeing Rumpelstiltskin?

Justin: You have solved my bread riddle! [through wheezing laughter] I'll buy a sandwich! After he's done, can you just yell, "Nice!"

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: 'Cause I bet it'll take one or two of those before he gets the message.

Liam: Got it.

Griffin: Yeah, you gotta think that the grandpa, if he knew, would not—he would also not be stoked about this arrangement.

Justin: Right. Does he listen to the show? 'Cause maybe...

Travis: Hey, Henry's grandpa!

Justin: Henry's grandpa, it's me, Hoops.

Travis: Your favorite.

Justin: There's two stalls at Subway, my man.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: See you there. [laughs]

Justin: See you there. Come on down.

Travis: Does that answer your question?

Liam: That's perfect. Thank you.

Griffin: Thank you.

Travis: Nice.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: It's a little noncommittal. Um, okay. So that's our Candlenights spectacular for the year. Seriously, thank you so much for coming to Huntington. That is so sweet of you.

Griffin: Yeah. Hope you all had a good time in our fair city. We love this city very much. We were very proud to shoot our TV show here. Hopefully you saw some of the landmarks from the TV show.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Um, beloved West Virginia band, Ona, which is a very good band, is gonna be playing at the V Club at 10:30 after our show.

Travis: Like two blocks that way.

Justin: Two blocks that way, up on 8th Street. It should be fun. You should go check them out there.

Travis: We will not be able to hang out.

Justin: We will not be there, 'cause we're old.

Travis: 'Cause we have a thousand children, and we're very old.

Griffin: It's true. Uhh, what else?

Justin: Thank you to Paul Sabourin, American hero.

Griffin: Yes.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Uh, if you haven't listened to Paul and Storm, go to PaulandStorm.com.

Justin: You have, though. They were in the Candlenights mix we played at the top of the show.

Travis: Uh, we also want to say thank you to Still Buffering, to Sawbones, and to Shmanners. Shmanners was great, huh?

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah. Great show.

Griffin: Uh, thank you to our daddy for playing us on. Thank you to...

Travis: The Smirls.

Griffin: The Smirls, thank you. Thank you to everybody who contributed to the MBMBaM Angels Initiative. It is like... it is still like the most humbling, like, coolest thing every year that you all, um, most of whom don't live in the city, think to do something very nice for people who do live in this city. It means, like, the world to us. So thank you all if you contributed to that.

Travis: Thank you to Rileigh Smirl and the Smirls for spearheading the Candlenights Stars that you see here at the front of the stage.

Justin: Yes. By the way, the MBMBaM Angels, I just want to say that uh, they claimed a hundred stockings, and raised \$15 thousand dollars in donations. They're buying 15 beds, a bunch of appliances, clothes, winter gear, and toys for 30 more children who weren't even on the original list. So they are...

Travis: Wow. Thank you.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: That is—that's incredible.

Justin: And you, by coming, have helped us raise, uh, thousands upon thousands of dollars for Recovery Point, which is treating opiate addiction here in our area, so thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts.

Griffin: Yes.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Uhh, and thank you to John Roderick and The Long Winters for the use of our theme song, (It's a) Departure, off the album Putting the Days to Bed. Very good album. And...

Travis: Oh, I also want to say thank you to Amanda, who you may have seen down in the lobby, who does a lot of work with us, and she's quite amazing.

Griffin: And she's helped us out so much.

Justin: Buy a poster by Emily! She is great too! Emily, is it CorruptedGem on Twitter?

Travis: Yeah?

Justin: Yeah?

Griffin: Hi!

Justin: Hi, Emily! Hey!

Griffin: I think that's right. Okay. Here's a final Yahoo. It was sent in by Zed. Thank you, Zed. Uh, it's asked by Yahoo Answers user... I think I'm gonna get a name to load on this—nope.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Terry asks, "Is the Happy Honda Days promotion part of the war on Christmas?"

Justin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: My name is Justin McElroy!

Travis: I'm Travis McElroy!

Griffin: I'm Griffin McElroy!

Justin: This has been My Brother, My Brother, and Me! Kiss your dad square on the lips!

Audience: [cheers]

[theme music plays]

[Maximum Fun sting]

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[music plays]

Jesse: Hey, gang. This is Jesse, and I am joined by Bikram, the managing director at Maximum Fun.

Bikram: Hi, everyone.

Jesse: So, we have some really amazing news to close out 2018. After this spring's pledge drive, we gave members the chance to buy enamel pins with the full profits of those sales going to the National Immigration Law Center.

Bikram: This is a tough time to be an immigrant in the United States. As individuals, as a company, and as a community, we wanted to help provide resources for immigrants in the face of these attacks.

Jesse: We're proud to live in a nation of immigrants, and many of us here at Max Fun are immigrants or the children of immigrants ourselves.

Bikram: Together, we raised over a hundred thousand dollars.

Jesse: NILC will put that money to good use, providing legal representation to immigrants and their families who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it.

Bikram: We are so proud of our community for making such an immense difference in so many lives.

Jesse: And whether you bought pins or not, you can help the NILC advocate for immigrants right now. All you have to do is go to MaximumFun.org/NILC. That's MaximumFun.org/NILC.

Bikram: Our thanks go to all of you who made this possible.

Jesse: Great work, everybody. And happy holidays from all of us at Max Fun.