

MBMBaM 468: Down the Soda Hole

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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, an advice show for the modern era. I'm your oldest brother, Justin McElroy!

Travis: I'm your middlest brother, Travis McElroy.

Griffin: [far from microphone] I'm your baby brother, Griffin!

Justin: Griffin, you sound so powerful.

Griffin: I have standing energy. I—

Travis: Yes!

Griffin: My desk has transformed into its most healthful manifestation, and now I have standing energy. [grunts]

Travis: I, too, am standing!

Justin: We all are standing for this one.

Travis: I've got full-blown Peter Pan arms.

Griffin: I'm doing JoJo poses with my patio door curtain open, so the street can see me, and also I've never watched JoJo's Bizarre Adventure.

Justin: My lungs are filling with oxygen!

Travis: My diaphragm feels in line? Is that something?

Griffin: Fuck, yeah, it's something, Travis. It's standing energy.

Travis: Woah.

Griffin: I feel like my entire life, I've just been whispering.

Travis: Yes!

Justin: [singsong, staccato] Do you hear this voice? This is my true voice.

Griffin: Woah!

Justin: [singsong] I've been speaking with a hidden voice...

Griffin: [gasps]

Travis: [gasps]

Justin: [singsong] ...until this moment. This is my true voice.

Griffin: It's Justin's standing voice!

Travis: Woah!

Justin: This is my true voice.

Travis: It's so musically delicious!

Justin: Soon you, boys, will get your true voices, too.

Travis: [deep voice] I'm looking forward to my— oh!

Griffin: [gasps]

Justin: Your true voice!

Travis: Oh, my. My true voice has come in.

Griffin: Yeah. So maybe someday I'll get— [high pitched, nasally] maybe I'll get lucky, and find my true voice!

Travis: Oh, no.

Justin: Finally, distinguishable voices.

Travis: Oh, no!

Justin: Your true calling was to set us apart!

Griffin: No, my bones feel so much straighter!

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: It's turning into an Adam Sandler thing!

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: This is Griffin's new character, Prospector Going Through a Washing Machine.

Travis: Who maybe is possessed by Adam Sandler.

Griffin: [normally] Ugh. Sorry, I had to sit down. That was um...

Justin: Oh, you wore yourself out, huh? Okay, well, Griffin is the first to fall.

Travis: Can I sit back down? 'Cause I hate this.

Griffin: Yeah. Actually, uh, eagle-eared listeners will know [laughs] that I'm still fucking standing up.

Travis: Woah!

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: I cannot hide this power. I cannot hide this just, raw...

Justin: Can't— can't turn away.

Travis: I just wanna sit down more than anything right now. When I used to be a professional actor, my go-to "acting choice," quote unquote, was to have my character want to sit down all the time.

Griffin: Loving that. Loving that. But I used to love that; now I hate it. I'm a stander.

Justin: Excuse me! Breaking news! This monitor tilts up.

Griffin: Ooh!

Travis: I'm gonna try sitting down, and see if I can tell the difference between you guys and myself.

Griffin: All right, you do that! I'm gonna keep my legs stiff and straight, like two big, massive boners!

Travis: [low energy] Oh, I'm sitting down. This is nice.

Griffin: Oh, no!

Justin: Oh, no!

Travis: This is nice. [unintelligible mumbling].

Justin: You have nothing in the tank. I'm going to start the program now, and there's nothing you can do to stop me. You're all getting...

Travis: You're so confident.

Justin: ...My Brother, My Brother and Me in its true form. We're finally giving you at two-thirds power.

Travis: Okay. Should I stand back up?

Justin: Stand back up, Travis. Don't be afraid of your destiny.

Travis: Let me see if I can [high energy, yelling] stand back up!

Justin: There he is!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Here we go. Time for the program, the real program, to begin.

Griffin: My— my standing energy has also influenced my mind, to tell me that we've gotten everything we're gonna get out of this bit.

Justin: Uh, we... [laughs] I feel like we should call this one Episode 1.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: This is the true beginning of My Brother, My Brother and Me, the standing podcast. Speaking of which, I hope this is someone's first episode they've ever listened to.

Travis: Yes!

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "The standing show you tried to get me to listen to? I don't get it."

Travis: "It's— they just talked for 15 minutes about whether they were standing up or sitting down. And this is good?"

Justin: "Is that every episode? Do they talk about sitting that much, too?"

Travis: "They've done this for like 460-some episodes?"

Griffin: You know what's wild? It feels like we've been talking about standing for 15 minutes. It's been less than four! I think there's a sort of time dilation...

Travis: Mm.

Griffin: ...from standing, because you're further away from the planet or something?

Travis: That does track.

Justin: It's impossible. This show's gonna feel like it goes forever, but I'm not giving up. I want true facts. I wanna know when you boys sit down, and if you can hang for an entire episode with full standing power.

Travis: What if we did a laying-down show?

Griffin: We'll do that next time.

Justin: That's the Casper one. We did that already.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah.

Travis: The Casper one. Right, right, right. Okay.

Justin: "This past Christmas, I bought my parents a DVD of Joe Versus the Volcano."

Travis: Nice.

Griffin: Oh. Keeps on giving, that one.

Justin: Ooh, yeah, that's a re—

Travis: It's so good!

Justin: That's a repeat watcher, if I've ever heard of...

Travis: It is! Me and my friends watch it every Thanksgiving.

Justin: No, that's Paul Blart.

Griffin: That's Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2.

Travis: Well, that too.

Justin: And it's your brothers, not your friends.

Travis: That too, yes.

Justin: "It was the movie they saw on their first date." Aw, that's sweet. Oh, my God. There are people who listen to the show whose parents' first date was to Joe Versus the Volcano. That is impossible. That's impossible.

Griffin: There's peo— there's people on this podcast who went on a first date to Mortal Kombat: Annihilation, so I'm not gonna sit here and listen to your nitpicking.

Justin: I just mean the time. I'm not even saying, like, the content of the film.

Griffin: Oh, oh. I see, I see.

Justin: I'm just saying, like, wow.

Travis: Just because— listen, I— hand to God, I tell you that Joe Versus the Volcano came out in the '90s. I don't think that's true, but it doesn't feel not true.

[fumbling noises]

Travis: I feel like Justin just sat down.

Justin: No. With all the fussin' and fighting, the standing, my microphone was trying to fall off my desk. But it does not get a break. I don't get a break; the mic doesn't get a break. Let's go.

"I wound up buying them a few other things, and didn't give them the DVD, and decided to save it for their anniversary." Even more special. "I'm now realizing that I've never given them an anniversary gift as long as I've been alive, so now I'm not sure if this is an awkward idea. Especially since I don't know if this year is a big milestone for their marriage or not."

Griffin: Woof!

Travis: "And there's no way of finding out!" [laughs]

Justin: Yeah. [laughs] Um, "I'm considering just waiting until Christmas again to give it to them, especially since the DVD is already wrapped in Christmas wrapping paper from this past December. How do I give my parents this Tom Hanks DVD naturally?" And that's— [laughs] that's from Pensive About Parents' Present in Pennsylvania.

Griffin: Which—

Travis: Are you worried at all that when you give it to them, your parents are like, "Wait a minute. This is the wrapping paper from last Christmas!"

Justin: "Victoria and I have talked about it, and we've settled on a... natural Tom Hanks DVD gift giving."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "We don't want to give the Tom Hanks DVD at a hospital. How impersonal is that? This is a Tom Hanks DVD."

Travis: No.

Justin: "It should be a celebration, an at-home celebration in a jacuzzi."

Griffin: "Just goosh it out onto this splash-pad."

Travis: "With just our closest friends and family around, perhaps a Tom Hanks doula."

Griffin: [laughs] Uh...

Travis: "Perhaps Tom Hanks himself, as the doula."

Griffin: "We will accept Colin in his absence."

Travis: "Uh, yes, of course."

Griffin: Which— which anniversary year— right, there's like, I think I just did paper...

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Uh, which anniversary year is polycarbonate plastic?

Travis: That—

Griffin: Is it 60?

Travis: Well, I think, if I'm uh— let me look it up real quick. Click, click, click. Click, click, click. Keyboard sounds. Yeah, okay. It says right here, 32 years is the DVD year, but it does specify uh, only the DVD of Volunteers.

Justin: What year— Travis, as long as you're on your computer...

Travis: Yes.

Justin: ...what year did Joe Versus the Volcano come out?

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Let me... click, click, click, click.

Justin: Well, no. I want to run a little bit of math here.

Griffin: Okay, okay.

Travis: Click, click, click. Uh, Google says "The '90s, probably." [laughs]

Griffin: All right, Google. Boy, they sure are shittin' the bed on that search engine, huh?

Travis: Oh, it's their fault for sure, for sure. It's hard to type when you're standing up not at a standing desk.

Justin: It's ha— the hard thing is that I'm not s— I feel like, as someone who insists on standing, I'm also someone who should be bad at Google.

Um, this movie came out in 1990, okay?

Travis: Oh, boom!

Griffin: [deadpan] Yeah, impressive.

Travis: Boom goes the dynamite.

Justin: Boom nothing. Boom nothing. 1990, Joe Versus the Volcano came out. So these parents have been married for— I mean, it could be they just passed 25, maybe?

Griffin: Assuming— assuming they walked out of the theater and immediately got married on the fucking street, right there.

Travis: Yep.

Griffin: God and everyone.

Travis: Listen, Joe Versus the Volcano is a very romantic movie.

Griffin: Yes. I'm doing the math now, and realizing that you are giving them four years of dating. Is that how long you think people should be together, Justin, before they pop it?

Justin: It's a wild choice, I know, but it's also the 30th anniversary is so far away. If they did get married during the release window, in the initial box office. Let's go to the box office game for Joe Versus the Volcano.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: The week— no, I'm just kidding. So um...

Travis: I would say comfortably, like— let's say somewhere between 28 and 23 years.

Justin: Something like that. It doesn't matter. It's every—

Travis: It doesn't matter, Justin? It doesn't matter? Our question-asker's parents' marriage doesn't matter?

Justin: No. It's all important, because this union is the reason you're on the fucking planet. Without— without Joe Versus the Volcano, you are carbon, okay?

Travis: You are right. Yes.

Justin: Without— you are unassigned carbon without the hilarious work of Tom Hanks...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: ...and— and co.

Travis: And John Patrick Shanley and Meg Ryan.

Justin: The whole family. Now Travis is on Google. Now he's googling things.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: You are— without this film, you're fucking carbon. You should be handing it to everyone you meet. You should wear a t-shirt of the film every single day. Every Joe Versus the Volcano is a reason for celebration. You've waited, this one, too long. Give 'em the DVD, then go get the Blu-ray, 'cause without this, you'd be fucking dust!

Travis: You should give them the Blu-ray every day for a year.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: Just to say, like, "Hey, let—" Maybe they'll make a Joe Versus the Volcano 2, and your parents will get, I don't know, second-married. That's what they need to rededicate their vows.

Griffin: Now, hold on, Travis. If you're suggesting the more Joe Versus the Volcano you give them...

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: ...the more in love they will become, I think there's a point where you can reach a dangerous amount of Joe Versus the Volcano.

Travis: Absolutely. An eruption point, if you will.

Griffin: An eruption point, and I'm worried that it's, like, three. So don't test this.

Travis: Mm...

Griffin: It is not worth it.

Travis: Hey, uh, just a pitch, Hollywood, if you're listening. Joe Versus the Volcano Versus Predator.

Griffin: That's extremely powerful! Yeah!

Travis: Thank you.

Griffin: No matter what happens, we lose. Who wins? We lose, except Joe. If he wins, we're probably okay.

Travis: [laughs] We're probably fine if Joe wins. Well...

Griffin: Well...

Travis: I mean, maybe at that point, hubris will overtake Joe.

Griffin: Yeah. If there's a human man who can kill the predator and a volcano, I'm not sure I wanna be walking the same orb as— as them.

Travis: Yeah, that's terrible. That's too much. No one man should have all that power.

Griffin: This is true. Can I read a Yahoo?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Here's a Yahoo sent in by Graham Roebuck. Thanks, Graham. It's Yahoo Answers user Giuseppe, who asks, "If you had a kangaroo pouch..."

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: "...what would you mainly put in it?"

Travis: A tiny kangaroo. Next.

Griffin: You don't have that. You don't have that.

Travis: I don't have a tiny kangaroo?

Griffin: You're tellin' jokes. I want real shit, Travis. I'm a stander now. I won't stand for lies.

Justin: Dang. Guys, can we back up for a second?

Griffin: Do you need—

Travis: Do you need to talk about Joe Versus the Volcano more?

Griffin: Is there more?

Justin: Yeah, just for a second. Can we just talk about John Patrick Shanley's Twitter account?

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: 'Cause it's so fucking fresh, this guy's bringing it every single day, and I don't want to make mention of him, and not recognize the fact that he's fucking bringing the heat every single tweet. Bringing the heat with every tweet, John Patrick Shanley, director of Joe Versus the Volcano. Are you ready for this?

Travis: Sure.

Justin: "Every one of us is a hideout for so many strange characters. Some never speak, some appear once, a sudden flash in the eye, and withdraw again, like a sea monster returning to the depths."

Travis: Huh.

Justin: "The face we show to the world is often merely a convenient pose hiding a multitude."

Travis: Pshhh!

Justin: Meanwhile, Justin McElroy's like, "New Mario looks good! [blows raspberry]"

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Nothing. John Patrick Shanley, bringing it. "Have you ever been blamed for the rain? You have, my friend. Sooner or later, each of us is blamed for something beyond our control, but remember this: it's a beautiful thing, to be blamed for the rain. And who knows? Maybe somehow, it's true." What?

Travis: Hey, what?

Griffin: Hey. Hey, John.

Travis: John!

Griffin: Hey, John. It's wicked not, though.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Hey, John...

Travis: Hey, John.

Justin: You're bringing the fucking heat, John.

Griffin: The heat— the heat is hot, John, but I'm not gonna let you just barf out some pseudoscience garbage. I did not make it rain. The only time I make it rain is when I do a funny with a bunch of uh, money.

Travis: That is true.

Justin: Dang. John's tweeting out a bunch of great pictures all the time, he's got some fucking fresh shirts...

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Get... f— get onto this Twitter account!

"Demons—" I'm reading this sight unseen, 'cause I just know it's gonna be fresh. You ready? "Demons. They tell you things, and suggest that you keep them secret. Never do. A secret kept with a demon is a dark marriage..."

Travis: What?

Justin: "...and will end badly."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "If a demon asks for your discretion, break faith as quickly as you can. To trust a demon is to distrust humanity." Thank you, John!

Travis: Is JPS being literal?

Griffin: Are you still like, really, really into this guidance, my bud?

Justin: This is so fucking fresh.

Griffin: Okay...

Travis: A Secret Kept with a Demon is a marriage based off of Joe Versus the Volcano.

Griffin: Yes. Okay. Okay. Okay. Fuck—

Justin: "I think of radio. It finds music in the apparently empty air. Some people are like that too, picking up what is invisible. Do you listen for what is not quite said, or do you pretend..."

Travis: What?

Justin: "...that the surface of life is its substance? Speak to me of what you wordlessly discern."

Travis: Super loud bong noise.

Griffin: Thank you. Thank you.

Justin: [laughs] Huge— and then it says here, "huge bong rip..."

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: ...in— in all caps. Okay. I'm gonna stop, but like...

Griffin: Thank— thank you, John.

Justin: Get onto this account!

Griffin: Yeah, sure. Uh, so...

Justin: Get a follow going real quick.

Griffin: If you had a kangaroo pouch, what would you mainly put in it? Justin, Travis told a joke. Can you fucking believe it? On stan— on standing day?

Justin: Okay. The number-one thing I would put in it is uh, tokens and tickets...

Travis: Ooh!

Justin: ...at Billy Bob's Wonderland.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Because you walk around, you have a huge ha— mountain of tokens, 'cause it only makes sense to buy 'em in bulk; you don't nickel-and-dime yourself five dollars here, ten dollars here.

Travis: No. You gotta buy 'em...

Justin: You spend 20...

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: ...and then you get a lot more bonus tokens, right? You get that, and then you fill that in one pocket, and then you start getting these wads of tickets! If you're like me, and you're putting the money and the time and the heart and the hours...

Travis: And the skill.

Justin: ...the skill, thank you, Travis, because it's not gambling; it's a talent. And you start getting these piles of tickets, and where do you put 'em on? Also, Bob, wait, your kid wants you to hold their slurpee? What do I have, three hands? Come on.

Travis: No, but you got a pou— you got a belly pouch.

Justin: I've got a pouch. I do have a belly—

Griffin: I've got a pouch right there.

Justin: Put that in Papa's pouch. Put those tickets in Papa's pouch.

Travis: I— I— you know, those times made me jealous when they used to— I don't think they do this anymore, but casinos used to give out, like, big, plastic cups that you could put all your, like, quarters and stuff in.

Justin: Oh, yeah.

Travis: They should have those at Billy Bob's and similar arcades, for me to collect all my fat wads of tickets. Or, alternately, slice a big slice of my skin in my belly region...

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: ...that I can peel away from...

Griffin: Oh!

Travis: Leave the— I wanna leave the muscle there.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: 'Cause there's tons of it, am I right? But just peel the skin away, and tuck the tokens into my belly.

Griffin: Hey, Trav, your kangaroo pouch is... leaking?

Travis: Well.

Griffin: And also, it stinks.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: So how long has it— have you done— did you go see a professional about this, or...

Travis: No. Did this myself at home.

Griffin: Okay. Well, it is wet.

Travis: Yep.

Griffin: It's always wet, and it is— it's—

Travis: I've ruined these tickets.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: It's abso— they are irredeemable.

Griffin: There's other ruined things that are more, like, tendons and stuff, and...

Travis: Yeah, there's sepsis. Yeah, Griffin, there's sepsis.

Griffin: The smell is— the smell's miserable, too, man. This is— I'm trying to eat a pizza pie.

Travis: I'm not proud of— listen, I'm not proud of what I've done, but it's too late to go back. Evolution is hard, Griffin, and man becoming kangaroo, listen, they said it couldn't be done, and in fact it shouldn't be done. So...

Griffin: Mm. God— God makes kangaroo, kangaroo makes man...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ...man turns self into kangaroo...

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: ...kangaroo kills kangaroo...

Travis: Uh-huh.

Griffin: ...God kills kangaroo...

Travis: Yes.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ...kangaroo...

Travis: Logical progression.

Griffin: ...kangaroo inherit the Earth.

Travis: Yep. There it is.

Justin: There it is.

Travis: That's exactly what happened.

Griffin: I think I'd do jelly beans!

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: I— I like—

Justin: How many— how many— hey, Griffin.

Griffin: Hi.

Justin: Don't make— don't make up a bunch of garbage. How many jelly beans would you have in there?

Griffin: Ooh. How many jelly beans?

Justin: How many jelly beans can fit in your pouch? This is the new hit single from Lizzo.

Griffin: [laughs] Oh, you know what, guys? Technically, I have a— I have a pouch for jelly beans already. It just does one of the dang things.

Justin: Are you talking about your urethra?

Griffin: No, my belly button! But—

Travis: You mean your belly button, but I want to get back to Justin's thing.

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: What I like to do is put a bunch of jelly beans up there, but hold in my pee a long time, and shoot 'em all out!

Justin: [laughs, coughs]

Griffin: Well, listen, I gotta do something with the butter popcorn ones, 'cause I'm not fuckin' eating 'em.

Justin: [laughs] "Honey, I gotta get home I'm about to blast this dang jelly bean clean through the windshield with my— with my ropey flow of urine."

Griffin: "I'm gonna fuckin' knock that can of Coke off that fence, for old Ronald Reagan!"

Travis: [laughs] "Ding!"

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "Got it."

Justin: I'm gonna go by your ex-boyfriend's house, and show him I got a toasted marshmallow in there, 'cause I'm fucking loco.

Griffin: [laughs] All right.

Travis: [laughs] Wait, that's just weird.

Justin: I don't care to waste the best Jelly Belly that there is with plugging up my urethra. I don't care. That's how I do it.

Travis: Oh, I wanna sit down so bad.

Justin: Nope.

Griffin: I know. I know.

Justin: The show's going so good, though! Starting last—

Travis: It's hard to tell.

Justin: It's not hard to tell. I feel the power of this show, okay? Don't be like that.

Travis: Okay. It's just it's only been, like, 20 minutes.

Justin: I know. That is one thing now. We'll say there's definitely some time dilation occurring.

Griffin: I'm saying yes. Yeah. I don't know if it's like that for the listener.

Travis: I would've told you it'd been 40.

Justin: No, they're loving— they're, like, loving it, because the power of our standing energy is being siphoned into the show and enhancing their sitting.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: Listener, if you in solidarity have tried to stand for the entirety of this program so far, please don't be a hero.

Griffin: It sucks, yeah.

Justin: Twenty-one, 22 minutes, it's all too much for— 15, however much Griffin has cut out.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: It's all too much for any one person to be standing.

Griffin: I think I might have to do some s—

Travis: I'm doing some, like, freestyle yoga over here too, it's—

Justin: That's the weird— that's what'll fuck you up, though. Think about this, though. There will be moments in that time that we have been standing that Griffin will cut out, that will have done nothing for us.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Wasted.

Justin: Like, you know what I mean? We just stood for nothing.

Griffin: Yeah, I'm gonna have to do some real soul-searching about the putting jelly beans in your dingalong.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: If you cut that, you cut that, then what will our next book be titled?

Um, I have another question here. "Starting last year, I work a seasonal job in the fall." Wow, this is a lot of...

Travis: Time dilation.

Justin: Let me— let me sort this fucking...

Griffin: Yeah, we're— we're in the wormhole right now. We can't fucking do this math.

Justin: "Hi, it's me, Chris Nolan. And my dad in the future..."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "...went back."

"Starting last year, I work a seasonal job in the fall. I work in the kitchen area, where we serve plain, sugared, and glazed donuts. One day, while working, a fellow employee interrupted me while I was telling a customer that we did not serve powdered donuts, saying that it was 'like a secret menu item.'

"She went in the back, and came back with two powdered donuts. I had never seen an employee do that before. I never saw anyone do it again. Brothers, what do I do if a customer asks me for a powdered donut? Do I go into the back and attempt to make a powdered donut?" And that's for Do Not Donut.

Griffin: Hey, y'all. This is Griffin, former TCBY employee. If— if you go to a register, and ask for something at like, a specialty food store like this, and you say, "I want— [posh voice] I want a powdered donut, Daddy!"

And they say, "Haha, I'll get you a powdered donut." And then they walk into the back room, and produce something that's not on the menu. Do not eat that donut.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: 'Cause I'm not saying that they have befouled it, but I'm just saying, they didn't not befoul it.

Travis: The odds of befoulment are rather high.

Griffin: Why would they have a secret menu item at their three-donut restaurant? Unless they have many, many donut options, and you just kind of have to guess, and it's like a fun mystery every time you go inside. This is—

Travis: Because it means they have the powdered sugar.

Griffin: Right.

Travis: And they have plain donuts. Which means, at some point, the discussion was had of "Do you want to increase our stock options by, I don't know, either 33.3 percent or 25 percent, Travis isn't sure how that works out?"

"No, I'd rather just leave it for a select few..."

Griffin: Right.

Travis: "...with refined palates."

Griffin: Welcome to Dunkin' Donuts? That's the name of it. We just put a question mark at the end of *our* franchise.

Travis: [laughs] This is—

Justin: Powdered donuts are...

Travis: You've gotta come to our donut shop, and see if you can stump us with donuts. See if we can make— the answer is, probably no.

Justin: Here's the thing, y'all. Powdered donuts are the fuckin' pits.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Correct.

Justin: If you're a parent— my daughter is obsessed with these things, the baby one. Obsessed with these things, these fucking little powdered donuts. It's hell! They just start touching it to everything. Their— their clothes are ruined, the couch is ruined, their mouths are ruined. It's a hell dessert. And it's not— and it shouldn't be on sale to anybody.

And I'm sorry, I don't even think you should be eating that.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: What's that all over your hands? Are you a grown-up? You're not. Not with a powdered donut, you're not.

Travis: Not only that, but I— I believe that powdered donuts are the closest I've ever come to being poisoned, because when you take a bite of them, just like, particulate goes flying into your, like...

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: ...throat and no— like, it is— it's like a trick.

Justin: Nobody's like...

Travis: It's like a trick they play on you.

Justin: Nobody's like, "I'll be happy to sign the big merger. Let me finish this super sloppy powdered donut."

Griffin: [laughs] Right.

Justin: It's simply not done.

Griffin: Oh, boy, this fucking standing energy is giving me some sass. 'Cause I wanna just be...

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: I wanna just be like, "Ask your— ask your coworker how they did that. Just ask— I don't know why you're asking us. Go—"

Justin: If they have sugar and a food processor or a blender or something...

Griffin: Just chomp it right up. Yeah.

Justin: It just chomps it right up, right? They do it, like, a special thing. A treat. They're doing a special treat.

Travis: But why? But why?

Justin: Yeah.

Travis: It's not on the menu. What's the benefit of doing the extra work to make an off-menu item for some rando customer? Like...

Justin: 'Cause you're going the extra fucking mile.

Travis: For those donut tips?

Justin: Have you ever seen the movie Big Daddy?

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: There's this scene...

Griffin: You do ask him— you do ask him every episode, Justin, so...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs] I don't want to have this conversation again, Justin!

Justin: There's a scene where they go to McDonald's, right?

Griffin: Mm. Mm-hmm.

Justin: And they— they— they stopped selling breakfast, but his child really wants breakfast. Um...

Griffin: Not his child.

Justin: And—

Travis: A child.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: It's a—

Justin: As Griffin also points out every episode, he's not technically his Big Daddy through most of the film. And they—

Travis: No. No, Justin. No technically about it. He is not related, has no legal claim over this child.

Griffin: They ado— I think at the end, he adopts him, right?

Travis: I— no! No!

Griffin: I don't— it's been a while since I've seen the movie.

Travis: He does not. He's— he goes to Jon Stewart, and lives with Jon Stewart.

Justin: I haven't seen it, but in the trailer for the movie Big Daddy, he wants to go to McDonald's.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: And the people at the McDonald's say, "No, it's too late."

Travis: "No, you've kidnapped this child, I'm calling the police."

Justin: [laughs] They won't make it for him, and what I'm saying is, if they had said, "All right, no problem. Just this once, a McMuffin for the boy." If they had done that, this would be Adam Sandler's number one McDonald's spot.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: He would always—

Travis: So then they'd have to do more work.

Griffin: Oh, my God. [laughs]

Justin: You would have a customer for life, though. That's how you move up in the ladder!

Travis: Nah, nah, nah. This is what they don't tell you. Because if you make that McMuffin once for Adam Sandler, you'll always have to make that McMuffin for Adam Sandler.

Griffin: We've gotta just—

Justin: Are you talking about McMuffin Creep? 'Cause he comes in then...

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: He came in at 10:03 the first time...

Travis: Yes.

Justin: ...he rolls in at 10:17.

Griffin: Right.

Justin: But you've made the McMuffin for the boy before.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: W— why? What's changed?

Travis: And everybody's saying the whole company of McDonald's has to change their policy to offer breakfast all day, because Adam Sandler won't stop coming in at like 12:56...

Griffin: [sighs]

Justin: [sighs]

Travis: ...asking for a fucking Egg McMuffin.

Griffin: Just— I— boy, I love you boys. I really love you boys.

Justin: Cool.

Griffin: But are— do you both— are you both under the impression that every Adam Sandler movie is secretly filmed without him knowing it...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: ...and takes place in the real, real world...

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: ...unscripted, and so when he went to this McDonald's, if the scene, which is to say reality, had gone a different way, then this would be famous actor/comedian Adam Sandler's new favorite McDonald's.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: [laughs] I'm saying— I'm taking that as a microcosm for treating your customers right.

Travis: No, but I— I am saying that this is a weird kind of Punk'd hidden camera scenario, where they just keep filming movies around Adam Sandler.

Griffin: Sweet Justin, the alternative is that there would be a scene in Big Daddy where he's like, "Aw, it's 10:03. Can I please get a McMuffin?"

"No."

"Please? It's for the kid."

"Yeah, okay."

And they eat the breakfast, and Adam Sandler walks out the door, like, "This is my new favorite McDonald's!"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] Yeah. That's a very good point. But if Travis is right, then explain Don't Mess With the Zohan. You know what I mean?

Travis: Listen, that was a dark time for Adam Sandler.

Justin: That wasn't Adam Sandler. That was Zohan.

Travis: No, that was Adam Sandler.

Justin: Okay, but like...

Griffin: [laughs] Why would he be Zohan?

Justin: If he didn't know he was in a movie...

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: It was Halloween!

Justin: If he didn't know he was in a movie, why was he Zohan? For Halloween?

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Oh, shit, there's multiple Adam Sandler's, like in *The Prestige*.

Travis: That's it. Have you ever seen Jet Lee's *The One*? 'Cause I did a long time ago, and it's like that.

Justin: *The Prestige*.

Griffin: That bit felt like it was 40 [laughs] minutes long!

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: It feels like I should be like, "That's the end of the podcast. Thank you for..."

Griffin: Oh, my God.

Justin: "...enjoying it." But no, it is time for us to uh, briefly head into the Money Zone, so let's head over there and see what's uh, cookin'.

[Money Zone theme plays]

Travis: Oh, look at what's cooking!

Justin: I'm gonna go get a soda. Be right back.

Griffin: Oh, this is so appropriate. It's a— what a good transition, talking about what's cooking, because our first sponsor is Stitch Fix!

Justin: [laughs] I gotta go get a soda. Stop talking.

Travis: Well, Justin, there's no time to stop talking, 'cause we need to talk about Stitch Fix!

Griffin: If you're cooking up some [laughs] clothes... for dinner...

Travis: Are you stirring up a big pot of clothes?

Griffin: [laughs] Are you panfrying some— some jorts, and you...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: ...so now you need more clothes, because you've cooked—

Travis: Sautéing some socks, perhaps? That's a mistake!

Griffin: Don't— well, I'm not here to kink shame you, but I am gonna tell you that if you've eaten and cooked and eaten all of your clothes, then Stitch Fix is gonna help you get that— get that um— uh, that closet, that wardrobe back on point in an easy, stylish, no-hassles way.

We all use Stitch Fix. When I see that box sitting on my doorstep after a long day at the mines, and I come home and I see that box on my doorstep, I get so excited to see the clothes inside.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: Because I know that I have worked with a personal stylist, told 'em what I liked, and then they have chosen some stuff for me. And it's good stuff, and I only pay for what I keep, and the \$20 styling fee finding those clothes is automatically applied towards anything I keep from the box! It is a real good, real good service.

Uh, if you wanna get started, you're gonna go to [StitchFix.com/MyBrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/MyBrother), you're gonna answer some questions about your preferred style, and then your personal shopper will ship you a box of clothes, shoes and accessories.

Get started today at [StitchFix.com/MyBrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/MyBrother), get an extra 25% off when you keep everything in your box. That's [StitchFix.com/MyBrother](https://www.stitchfix.com/MyBrother).

Travis: Griffin, can I ask you a question?

Griffin: Sure.

Travis: You ever bought anything online?

Griffin: Mm!

Travis: That's— that's just part one of the question. There's a second part to the question.

Griffin: Yeah, and—

Travis: Part one. Have you ever bought anything online?

Griffin: Yeah, man. Baseball trophy.

Travis: Okay. Now...

Griffin: Couldn't get one the usual way.

Travis: Yes. When you bought that baseball trophy, did you perhaps find out later that somewhere else was selling it on a discount, and you paid full price for it, like a dummy?

Griffin: I paid \$4,500 for my baseball trophy, so like, I now know with hindsight that I was snookered.

Travis: Mm. You know, if you had used Honey, which is a free browser addon that finds you the best deals online and applies the best deals at checkout, you could've saved money! You could've saved money, you dummy! 'Cause they find discounts and coupons across 37,000 sites, including Amazon, Best Buy and more.

So if you're looking to buy baseball trophies, or really any kind of trophies, bowling trophies, billiards trophies, uh, maybe darts championships, world's best dad, uh, dog show trophies, powerlifting trophies...

Griffin: That's all of 'em!

Travis: Uh, that's it! Then look, there's really no reason not to use Honey. It's free to use, and easy to install on your computer in just two clicks! So shop with confidence, get Honey for free at JoinHoney.com/Brother, that's JoinHoney.com/Brother. Honey, the smart shopping assistant that saves you time and money when you're shopping online.

Griffin: I feel like I'm sweating so much.

[music plays]

Dave: Hi, I'm Dave.

Graham: Hi, I'm Graham.

Dave: And we're two house DJs who have been trapped inside our drum machine.

Graham: We love it here, and we'd love if you stopped by and visited us, every week...

Both: ...on Stop Podcasting Yourself.

Dave: Here on MaximumFun.org.

Graham: We're just a couple of doofuses from Canada.

Dave: And listen to our show or perish.

Graham: [laughs]

Dave: Stop Podcasting Yourself.

Graham: On MaximumFun.org.

[music stops]

Justin: Okay. Here's one. Um, "I work for a large retailer in Cincinnati, and back in November, I was promoted to assistant store manager. I went through training, and started in a new store. I've been working the new store for the past five months. Today, I received an email that said they reviewed my application and decided to pursue other candidates. Did I just get passive/aggressively get fired?" And that's from Should I Go to Work Tomorrow?

Um, you know who I am gonna ask about this? Uh...

Travis: Who?

Justin: Laura Dale. Let me see if I have...

Griffin: Well, that's gonna set a pretty wild precedent, right? I guess we could address it with Laura once she's on the call.

Laura: Oh, I'm here!

Travis: Oh!

Laura: I'm on the call. What's— what's happened?

Justin: Oh. Yeah, sorry, I beeped in on another call, so you didn't hear it ring.

Griffin: [laughs] Yeah, Laura was waiting by the phone and then presciently knew that her campaign had paid off.

Laura: Yeah, I— I just, you know, I had a real sense that, like, now's the time. Advice is needed. Go.

Travis: [singing] This is the moment. [spoken] Uh, what's it like, Laura, to be the only person to get to cash in that chip? [laughs] To— to start— to hoist us on our own petard, to get to be on our show?

Laura: Yeah, to be the one person that did the goof of "Hey, if the boys can just confidently say they're gonna be on a thing, and get on the thing, I can do that to get on their thing"?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Here's the thing. It would have worked with literally anyone, Laura. I'm glad it was someone we like and treasure.

Laura: [laughs]

Justin: 'Cause it would've worked with anybody, 'cause it's only gonna work once.

Griffin: Yeah, it's done now.

Laura: Oh, yeah, I— when I did my LauraKBuzz Will Be On My Brother, My Brother and Me, I had a bunch of people tweet and go, "Wouldn't it be funny if I did that to get on your podcast?"

I was like, "Do it, then."

Griffin: Oh, shit.

Laura: "Do it."

Travis: That is how it works.

Laura: No one— no one does.

Travis: You have to keep paying it backward.

Laura: Yeah.

Griffin: Has anybody done the Joe Rogan one yet? We can— can just—

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Don't you think? Get on there, plug our show, steal some of his audience. Now, we're the Rogans.

Justin: Laura, did you— um, did you see the— did you hear the question that I read before you answered?

Laura: I— the question just came into my— into my mind, like some wonderful premonition, and I have advice for you. I'm glad that you realized I was the person for this.

Um, so this person thinks that, you know, they've been passive-aggressively fired. I disagree. I think they're unfireable now.

Griffin: Hmm.

Travis: Ooh!

Laura: Like, I don't think you can fire someone who you've never hired.

Travis: Huh.

Justin: Woah!

Laura: They're in some, like, weird— they're a glitch in the Matrix now. They are just— "You can't fire me; you never hired me! Who am I? I don't know."

Travis: [laughs] "I'm a ghost in the machine! I'm not here."

Laura: Yeah. You don't have to show up for work, you don't have to do your responsibilities, 'cause if they try and fire you, say, "Fire who?"

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Now, Laura...

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Laura, there is one issue there, and that is if the paychecks do not come. [laughs]

Griffin: And that was my question. If you're not hired, are you— have you been getting paychecks for the last five months? 'Cause if the answer to that is "No," my follow-up question is more of a statement. And it's boy, you sure like Best Buy, huh?

Laura: [laughs]

Griffin: You sure like the work there, huh?

Laura: Well, I'm assuming— let's say that you have been being paid for the last few months, but you haven't been hired. Can you go talk to your bosses, and go, "Hey, you know Tom, who we didn't hire, you know, five months ago, when we really, you know— we thought about it hard, and we didn't hire Tom? I think that's a huge mistake. I think we should hire Tom," so that you can get paid for doing the job twice. Get yourself double hired.

Griffin: Ooh.

Justin: Are you saying that you should use your sway as an employee of the company to get yourself hired?

Laura: Yeah. I think you should use your— your position...

Justin: [laughs]

Laura: ...as assistant manager to get yourself hired.

Justin: You can use yourself as a reference!

Laura: Exactly!

Justin: "I actually have a close, dear friend that works there already. It's me."

Laura: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah, and then you can be two assistant store managers, which you add 'em up, that outranks the manager.

Laura: Yeah!

Travis: And that— you are also, then, unstoppable, because if you answer only to yourself, like, "I am my own assistant manager, and my assistant manager is myself," then I'm pretty sure you can just, like, restructure the whole company at that point.

And when someone's like, "Who said you could do this?"

Be like, "My manager."

And they're like, "Who's your manager?"

And be like, "Me. I'm my own assistant manager."

Griffin: "The old manager forged a recursive power loop that I exploited, and now have become uns— I am Galactus now, so..."

Justin: I used to work at a telemarketing place that would have a bonus that you would get paid if you brought a friend in, and they got hired there. That should have been a tipoff that that was a bad job, huh?

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Now that I'm thinking about it, in retrospect, that should've been a pretty big red flag.

Travis: You know, that happens a lot— I, because I have worked so many retail jobs in my life, I still have that retail stink that when I am just walking

around any retail store, no matter how I am dressed, at least once, I will be asked, "Do you work here?" No matter what I'm doing.

Griffin: Hmm.

Travis: But there's just something about me that gives off the vibe of, like, "This is someone who should work here." It might be that. There are lots of people who worked at Best Buy with me whose names I did not, and will not know.

Laura: So are you suggesting that maybe, like, the on-paper resume was terrible, but in person, Jimothy showed up, and was just like, "Well, you seem like you would work here. Here's your paycheck."

Griffin: Travis is suggesting that both he and Jimothy possess a retail-esque frame.

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: A body, a carriage that just seems to— and maybe it's Travis's broad shoulders, or thick hands.

Travis: It might also be my gait.

Griffin: It's his gait.

Travis: I might have a retail gait.

Griffin: If I saw your— if you were a stranger to me, and I was at the Staples, and I saw your thick hands...

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: ...reaching for a big thing of paper, I would just assume, like, "Those hands have been thickened by paper-lifting..."

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: "...and you are an employee here."

Travis: "That is a— that's an employee who knows his way around a crate."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: "Look at those hands. Those are crate hands." And they would be right!

Justin: Hey, uh, Laura, is it true that— are the rumors true that you have a book coming out this week?

Laura: I do have a book coming out this week, and I'm mildly terrified. You've all done books before. I don't know how you do it. I'm— it's a lot. Books.

Justin: Laura, when I— here's a— here's one of the prime ones that I've learned. When somebody says you have a book coming out, that is a good time to say the name of the book...

Griffin: [laughs]

Laura: Hey. Hey.

Justin: ...so people can buy it.

Laura: Uncomfortable Labels. It's a book about being trans and on the autism spectrum, and how that's really common, but no one talks about it. And it's coming out on July 18th, and it's in book places, and you should all check it out.

Justin: We've got a book coming out this week too. Buy them both.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Get a twofer.

Griffin: Get a combo.

Travis: I have heard that they are good companion books.

Laura: Yeah, exactly. If you don't buy both of them, then you're missing out on some of the secret special lore of The Adventure Zone.

Justin: [laughs]

Laura: You know, if you haven't--

Travis: We've got and ARG that kind of weaves between both of 'em, so that you can solve it.

Justin: [laughs]

Laura: Yeah, if you, like, check— the same page numbers in both books, you can crack the code and find out who uh, who Angus McDonald really is.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Uh-oh.

Travis: That is true. The books do share a lot of similar words.

Griffin: I wish— I wish people could say stuff like that on one of our podcast, and me not have an actual panic attack.

Laura: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, Laura, this book is available this week on July 18th. Please go buy it. Uh, Laura, congratulations on your extensive campaign to get on our show, and its success.

Laura: I'm glad I didn't—

Travis: Please close the door behind you on your way out.

Griffin: [laughs] Yes.

Laura: I'm glad I didn't have to pull the "shout at Sydnee until she lets me be on" card. 'Cause, you know, that was ready to go.

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: Yeah. It was lined up. Yeah, please lock the door on your way out, and then burn it, and then put bricks over the door. This door never existed.

Laura: [laughs]

Griffin: This has been great, but never— no one else.

Justin: Never again.

Griffin: Never again.

Justin: [laughs] You can come back through the door.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: But others can't follow your lead.

Travis: Only you know where the door is. It's like the wardrobe in Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. It might not work the same again, you know? Maybe you'll end up on Joe Rogan's show. Joe Rogan's Mr. Tumnus in this scenario.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: He's a very Tumnus-esque figure, as he's been described numerous times.

Justin: Laura Kate Dale, thank you for your time...

Laura: Thank you.

Justin: ...and your treasured insight.

Laura: Thank you so much.

Griffin: Hey, I've got another Yahoo. Is Justin back from soda town?

Justin: Oh, yeah!

Travis: Woah!

Griffin: Grip it, grip it, and drip it, baby! Right down— right down your soda hole.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Here's a— here's a Yahoo that was sent in by Merit Palmer. Thanks—

Travis: "Aw, man, do I got a dry soda hole!"

Griffin: Yeah. Thanks, Merit.

Travis: "If only there was some way I could moisten my soda hole!"

Griffin: Yeah. That's— that was a funny thing that I said.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: This has been our My Brother, My Brother and Me fancast.

Griffin: Shit. Merit Palmer sent this in. Thank you, Merit. It's an anonymous Yahoo Answers user I'm gonna call uh, Ronny, asks, "Was this woman at the vet's, rude?" There's a comma in there.

Travis: Hmm.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: "Was this woman at the vet's, rude? Took my cat for his usual injections, and when I get there, this woman was sat in the waiting room with her two dogs."

Travis: Mm-hmm.

Griffin: "She looked at my cat in its carrier, and said to her dogs, 'There you go, boys. Some nice lunch for you.'"

Travis: [gasps]

Justin: [laughs] Okay.

Griffin: That's the end of the question.

Travis: Is that rude?

Justin: What?

Griffin: Was this woman at the vet's, rude?

Travis: Hmm.

Justin: Because she gave the boys a nice lunch?

Griffin: The—

Travis: Well, Justin, I think the implication there is that she was encouraging her dogs to eat the question-asker's cat, ALF-style.

Justin: Mm.

Griffin: How— is that tr— cartoons have taught me that the dog hates the cat.

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: Does the dog wanna eat the cat? 'Cause I don't know that I've ever seen or heard that necessarily happen.

Justin: Yeah, there's never that scene, right?

Griffin: So what's— what's the issue?

Travis: Will the cat eat the mouse? For sure.

Griffin: Yes. We know this. Yes.

Justin: Yes. Seen this. Yes, happens.

Travis: And I believe in the circle of life, something has to eat the cat. And it might not be the dog, but I think the dog's just the next size up, and it would be weird if— if it would be weird if, in like cartoon shorthand, everyone understood, like, "Well, yes, cats eat mice, and horses eat cats," like, that would be weird. There has to be some steps between there. Little Old Lady-style, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah, that's what I'm wondering. And I'm looking at it now, and boy, this feels weird, because I think we've probably talked about this before, but she does swallow the dog to get the cat.

Travis: Yes. Yes.

Griffin: Is she expecting the dog to chase the cat out of her? 'Cause I don't think this dog's gonna eat the— I think you could've found a better animal.

Travis: Does she— she swallows the spider to catch the fly. I don't know why she swallowed that fly.

Justin: Right.

Travis: But she swallowed the cat to catch the rat to catch the spider to catch... and then she swallowed the dog to get the job, right?

Griffin: What?

Travis: What?

Justin: What? [laughs] Sorry?

Griffin: She swallowed the dog for the Vine...

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: She swallowed a goat to get the dog. She swallowed a cow for the Vine. Vine 2.

Travis: For the— that was also for the Vine.

Griffin: For TikTok. Then she swallowed a horse on a whim.

Travis: She swallowed the horse to impress Terry Crews on America's Got Talent.

Griffin: This— this old lady loses the fucking plot. "I got a fly..."

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: "...in me. Let's get the spider to get that. I got a spider in me. Let's get a bird." So far, so good. "I got a cat— I got a bird in me. Cat, get in there. You know what's up. Dog, now it's your turn to go get the cat. [hisses] Oh. Uh, alright. Goat, go get this dog."

Goat's like, "Are you su— woah!"

Travis: "I will say, uh, dog's not kind of my natural foo— woah!"

Griffin: "Hey, cow, you're bigger than a goat! Get in there, and eat it!"

"Uh, that's not real— woah!"

"Horse, you're smaller than a cow, but I've completely just sort of..."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: "...lost the roadmap here!"

Travis: Do you think at that point the goat, and the cow, and the horse got in there, and looked at the dog, and the dog was like, "What are you all gonna do?"

And they're like, "We don't even know."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: She should've swallowed, like, a shark or a T-Rex or something.

Griffin: Ugh. So anyway, is that rude? I don't— I have— uh, I am— I no longer have a pet, but I have— I have had this situation— not this exact situation, but like, in the waiting room of the vet is— there's some weird etiquette that I don't necessarily know.

Justin: Okay. Go on.

Griffin: Well, the number one thing is that I don't give a shit about most people's pets. And that's just the truth, and I know that's gonna—

Travis: Yeah, especially mine. I have noticed that, yeah.

Griffin: Yeah. And so that's just the truth, and that's the truth of the matter. But like, if you sit down next to me, and you got a little pupper dog, and the pupper dog wants to interface with one of your pets, I don't know

how to deal with that. 'Cause I don't want— I don't necessarily want that, I think.

Travis: The only time— the only time that I ever get a little befuddled at any kind of vet or any kind of animal daycare thing...

[soda can opens]

Travis: ...is when I see somebody with their animal, and their animal is just going bonkers.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Just like, losing it. And the person is sitting there completely calm and stoic, and like, not reacting to their animal's just like, "Get me out of here!"

Like, and I wanna be like, "Hey. I don't think they're cool right now."

Like, even my dog will sit there with me, and go, like, "Are they okay? What is wrong? I wanna—"

Griffin: And then—

Travis: "I wanna set 'em free."

Griffin: And then I'll see somebody bring in, like, a bird, and I'll just look at 'em, like, [nasal] "Really?"

Travis: You look at the bird?

Griffin: I'll look at the person, and be like, "Really? You need to fix him up?" There's lots of—

Justin: [laughs] "Why so serious?"

Griffin: [laughs] "Let's put a smile on that face. I'm just— I'm just saying, there's lots of birds out in nature, and they don't need doctors to live."

Justin: [laughs] "I'm just a dog chasing a car."

Travis: "Literally."

Griffin: "I'm just a dog chasing a cat to eat it, I guess."

Travis: [laughs] "And then the cat is chasing a bird, I guess, and the bird is going after a spider?"

Griffin: "I'm just—"

Travis: "I'm just—"

Griffin: "I'm just a dog running away from a goat."

Travis: [laughs] "In an old lady's intestines."

Justin: "You wouldn't know how I got these scars? I was eating— [laughs] I was eating a large German Shepherd."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: "Just— To catch..." [laughs]

Travis: "Let me start over. Let me start at the beginning. So there was this old lady, right?"

Justin: "All, right, so I have an old lady. Also— and my nephew keeps egging me on with these Vine pranks!"

Travis: [laughs] "You wanna see a magic trick? My nephew Bryce does them on TikTok."

Justin: "Wanna see a magic trick? I— wanna see a magic trick? I have a Shetland pony inside [laughs] my throat."

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: "Why so serious?"

'Cause I've been standing for 40 minutes, Mr. Joker.

Griffin: It's so long.

Justin: I've been standing for so long, and I'm— I wanna be an agent of chaos like you, but I had to stand the whole time!

Travis: This sucks.

Justin: They don't— this sucks. [laughs] Shit. Okay. Um...

Travis: You think if you're a veterinarian, and someone walks in with a parrot, you're like, "Ooh, tell him we're closed"? Like, I—

Griffin: [laughs] Why?

Travis: 'Cause here's the thing.

Justin: [laughs] "No, thank you."

Travis: You deal with cats and dogs every day. You're good at those. You feel comfortable. You feel confident dealing with a cat. How often do you deal— like, especially if maybe you're like a small-town vet...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: ...and somebody brings in a big, fancy bird, and you're like, "I'm gonna fuck that up."

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: "I haven't done parrots in like 23 years, please don't ask me to—"

Justin: "I don't know anything about parrots."

Travis: "Oh, hi! Okay."

Griffin: "This is my pet octopus."

"Oh, boy. Okay. I think I can..."

Justin: "Ooh. Okay."

Griffin: "I feel like I have a little bit of a margin of error."

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: I think— I think it's f— I think— okay, let me make this argument as a vet, okay? I think, as a veterinarian, you shouldn't work on animals that you could feed to other animals you work on. That seems insane to me, right?

Travis: Well, but the little old lady scenario, Justin, that could be anything.

Griffin: That's anything. Yeah.

Justin: That's a good point, I guess.

Griffin: When pushed to their limits, any animal can eat any other animal.

Travis: I think— I'm just saying— listen, this is my hot take. I think doctors have it easy. Doctors only gotta work on one species.

Justin: Woah.

Griffin: True.

Travis: Veterinarians gotta work on, like, all the other ones.

Griffin: Yeah, doctors, fuckin' share the load with the veterinarians!

Travis: Yes, thank you!

Griffin: Veterinarians now do dogs, cats and that's it, and doctors, you're still gonna do people, but now you also have birds. Let's start—

Travis: You have birds, and maybe horses.

Griffin: No, no, no. 'Cause there's, like, farm vets that specialize in horses.

Travis: Oh, true, true, true. Farm doctors. [singing] Farm doctors!

Griffin: I'm just saying, first step, the first step towards a more equal sort of situation, veterinarians give birds to the doctors.

Travis: Yes.

Griffin: Every— every hospital is now also a bird hospital. That's it.

Travis: And you know what? I'll say this. Maybe there's some light stuff with humans. You can let vets take care of that.

Griffin: Now, I feel like you're losing the spirit of the arrangement we're trying to solve.

Travis: Well, but then if there's, like, a really big dog, that can go to doctors.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: We'll find a balance. We'll get there.

Griffin: So you think, case by case, Travis's new job is for every hospital in the country, deciding if the patient is gonna go to doctor hospital or veterinarian hospital.

Travis: I'm saying that this is my new hit series that I'm pitching NBC where it is a combination hospital and veterinarian hospital, and there's some drama, but definitely more on one side than the other.

Griffin: Okay. Okay.

Travis: I just wanna see the break room where veterinarians and doctors compare notes, and like, "Yeah, I also had a tough one today."

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: "A dog ate a Lego man."

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Should we end the show?

Justin: Yeah. That's the perfect place to end it.

Griffin: I feel like that's a tough— it's tough for us to answer that fairly, isn't it?

Travis: Yes.

Justin: It is.

Griffin: In this moment.

Travis: I just rolled my office chair over my toes...

Griffin: Oh!

Travis: ...so I'd really like to end the show.

Griffin: Beans!

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Think about how good the sitting will be, though, you know?

Travis: It's gonna be so good.

Justin: The sitting will be good. And will— and it'll be well-earned, I would say.

Griffin: I keep doing stuff, like lifting my shirt up to like, vent it, and you know, stratchin', and I realize that I have a big open, patio door behind me. And people can see my stuff, and I don't like that.

Justin: They love it.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Been waiting long enough.

Travis: I, at some point in recording, and I can't remember why, put on a second belt, but not through the belt loops, just wrapped it around my hip and latched it.

Griffin: All right. We're all doing some s...

Travis: It's been a long recording.

Griffin: ... some unconscious stuff. Yeah.

Justin: Uh, I wanna say a big thank you to uh, Laura Kate Dale for coming onto our podcast. Bullying her way on, I think is fair.

Travis: But in a healthy way. Healthy bullying.

Justin: In a healthy, productive way. Uh, Uncomfortable Labels is the name of Laura's book. Go buy it, now. Uh, also, if you could, this week, please buy our book, The Adventure Zone Volume 2: Murder on the Rockport Limited. Which maybe the Volume 2 is probably at the end, or it may not even have it. There's a 2 in there, probably, somewhere.

Griffin: Yeah, somewhere.

Justin: But it's— it's The Adventure Zone: Murder on the Rockport Limited. If you— it helps us the most if you buy it this first week, 'cause it's— I don't

know. Book sales are weird and archaic, but if you could buy it this week, that would be great. Um, and I think it's a really fun book. If you've read the first one, you know that it's good, and this one's on a train, so...

Travis: Even better.

Justin: Even better.

Griffin: If you uh— if you can, maybe go to your local bookstore, see if they're getting 'em in. Check with them.

Travis: Yeah. Buy up all those copies, tell them to get more.

Um, speaking of comic books, this week is also San Diego Comic-Con, which we are going to be at with various different events and stuff. If you want to see the events, I'm sure we'll have it up on McElroy.family at some point, but you can also go to my brand-new revamped TravisMcElroy.com, and right there at the top...

Justin: Here he goes.

Griffin: There he goes. All right.

Travis: ...click on the schedule.

Also, the Cincinnati Underground Society Show, which I don't talk often about on the podcast, but uh, it's a semi-regular show we do here in Cincinnati, we're now offering uh, lifetime memberships for it that come with a bunch of other really cool swag and benefits and stuff. Uh, you can buy those also on TravisMcElroy.com.

And I just realized we forgot to talk about, along with the book coming out, we're doing book tour.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Uh, we're coming to New York, Austin, LA...

Justin: Portland.

Travis: Portland's already sold out. But we will be in Portland; we'll see you there.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: LA, and I think San Diego sold out too. Go to McElroy.family, click on tours, there's tickets there for the book tour shows. Please come to the LA show. Please, please, please, please?

Griffin: Yeah, come on!

Travis: Please, please, please?

Griffin: Uh, thanks to John—

Justin: Come on, coward!

Travis: Come on!

Griffin: Thanks 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. Uh, great album, great song, great website, Trav! I'm on it right now. It looks professional.

Travis: Thank you! It was done by Eric Enlow, Courtney Enlow's brother, and he did an amazing job. I'm really, really pleased with it.

Griffin: So also thanks to Maximum Fun for having us on the network. You can go to MaximumFun.org, check out all the great shows there. Shows like The JV Club with Janet Varney, and uh Beef and Dairy Network and a bunch more, all at MaximumFun.org. Can I read the final Yahoo?

Travis: Oh, one more thing. McElroyMerch.com. Got a bunch new merch, including Monster Factory merch.

Griffin: Yeah!

Travis: Brand new...

Justin: Ooh, yeah!

Travis: ...and I think it's absolutely beautiful. Go check it out.
McElroyMerch.com.

Griffin: Madeline sent this one in. Thanks, Madeline. It's from Yahoo Answers user— well, shoot, Darth Beaver, who asks...

Travis: [laughs] Aw, beans.

Griffin: Yeah. "I went to my first ballet last night. What is with all the ladies toe dancing? Why don't they just hire taller women?"

Travis: [laughs]

Justin: [laughs] 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.

[theme music plays]

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