

## Still Buffering 172: How To Roommates (Part 2)

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**Raleigh:** Hello and welcome to Still Buffering, a sister's guide to teens through the ages! I am Raleigh Smirl.

**Sydnee:** I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Taylor Smirl.

**Sydnee:** Sisters, I have a question.

**Raleigh:** What?

**Sydnee:** Do you happen to know why children like to get naked and run around your house naked in the summer? Do you know an answer to that, why they have such an affinity for nudity?

[pauses]

**Raleigh:** Uhh...

**Taylor:** Uhh... Is that all children, or is that just your kiddos?

**Sydnee:** Well, there's another—[laughing] there's a follow up question that I don't have an answer to. Uh, I—this morning, I had them sitting there eating breakfast with me. We were all settled eating breakfast. They were in matching nightgowns, which makes me look like I'm so on top of things. It's so rare that things like that happen.

And I watch as, uh, Cooper proceeds to strip off her nightgown and then get halfway out of it and stuck, and then start yelling "Tuck! Tuck!"

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** 'Cause she's now stuck in her nightgown.

**Raleigh:** I love that so much. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** So I have to get her out of her nightgown, and then of course Charlie looks over and goes, "Hey! Why does she get to be naked and I'm not?" And strips off her nightgown. And I was like, "Why? Why are we—why is breakfast more enjoyable now that we're nude?"

**Raleigh:** Well, now, Sydnee—

**Taylor:** I haven't tried it personally.

**Raleigh:** Are you saying that you wouldn't enjoy life a little bit more if you could just take your clothes off whenever you wanted?

**Sydnee:** No! I don't—I, personally, like pants. [laughs]

**Raleigh:** We have talked about this before, and I feel like before you've been very anti-pants!

**Sydnee:** No! I love—I love pants!

**Raleigh:** I hate pants.

**Sydnee:** No, you're—what you're referring to is the fact that I don't like to sleep in underwear.

**Raleigh:** Oh, that's true.

**Sydnee:** Yes. But I still—I still sleep in pants. [laughs]

**Raleigh:** During the summer, I—

**Sydnee:** Not like, business pants. [laughs]

**Raleigh:** I create a schedule for myself to where I cannot require pants after 10 PM, and before noon.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly] Tey, have you ever managed to swing a schedule like that?

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** I sleep in pants. Sometimes shoes. I—I don't ever want to be... naked, in any way.

**Rileigh:** There is a freedom that comes with the feeling of walking through the house just wearing like, a big t-shirt or a big sweatshirt and your underwear.

**Taylor:** No, there isn't. Well, maybe for you.

**Rileigh:** Just like, chillin', watchin' a movie, gettin' some pizza.

[pauses]

**Sydnee:** No...

**Taylor:** No...

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** No...

**Rileigh:** No pants! I'm anti-pants, I get it. Not that I wanna be completely nakey, but anti-pants.

**Taylor:** I don't even like, like—I have to get the kind of underwear that's basically like little pants. Like—

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** I don't want a bikini or anything. I want the pants that have full-on, like, leggings to them, because then it's just like, I've got my outside pants and my inside pants, I feel safe.

**Sydnee:** I always hate they way that they're so commonly referred to as boy shorts. It's like, why we gotta get gender up all in this?

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Rileigh:** Why can't they just be small pant pants?

**Taylor:** Small pant—give me my small pant underpants.

**Rileigh:** Small pant underpants.

**Taylor:** I don't know. Just shorts, bed shorts, inner shorts, whatever they are. I like them the most, and—

**Sydnee:** [laughs] Inner shorts.

**Taylor:** [laughing] Give me my inner shorts!

**Sydnee:** My inner short layer, please.

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** No, I mean, they did eventually insist on full nudity. I was building a little tent in our dining room, and I was gonna have a little pretend camp out with them, because it was gonna be rainy today, and I had like, a little campfire and fake s'mores, and I had this whole...

I was momming so hard, and they insisted on playing naked, and so like, now I'm stuck in this tent with my two naked children having a camp out. I'm like, "Wh—why—"

**Rileigh:** Am I the only person over the age of 6 that uses the work nakey instead of naked?

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** I—I say nakey a lot, now.

**Rileigh:** Okay. 'Cause I say nakey a—almost every time I could use the work "naked."

**Taylor:** It—for some reason—I don't—I don't know. I get it in the context of you have kids so you use it, but outside of that, nakey just is kinda creepy? It's kinda like a—it's like a cute lil pet name for bein' naked, and that's...

**Raleigh:** Yeah!

**Taylor:** —like, a little like—it's like a baby name for nudity, and I don't like that!  
[laughs]

**Raleigh:** My roommates have all made fun of me, because there have been times where they've like, knocked on like, the bathroom door, knocked on the bedroom door, seeing if I'm in there, and I'm like, "No, wait, I'm nakey, hold on!"

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** [quietly] Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Uh, speaking of roommates...

**Taylor:** A-ha.

**Raleigh:** Hmm!

**Sydnee:** Hey. Yeah, I think that, um... one of our—one of our listeners actually inspired this topic, right?

**Raleigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** That we have talked about roommates before, but that was prior to Raleigh really fully experiencing...

**Raleigh:** Yeah. I think I had lived with roommates for maybe like, a month?

**Sydnee:** Maybe.

**Raleigh:** Or something? Two months?

**Sydnee:** And, uh—and now you've had the full roommate experience.

**Raleigh:** Yes. A whole year.

**Sydnee:** Which, by the way, that probably greatly limits your ability to wander around naked if you do have roommates.

**Raleigh:** Oh, yeah. Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** But like, we're—

**Sydnee:** Which it probably should. [laughs]

**Taylor:** It should!

**Raleigh:** But we're chill on, like—

**Taylor:** Uh, it should!

**Sydnee:** It should. Without—without appropriate verbal agreement, it should.

**Raleigh:** But I think—I think we're pretty chill on like, underwear walkin' to and from the bathroom. You know what I mean?

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** Like I'm in my room and it's late, but like, I need to go pee, so like, I get out of bed and I was wearing like, a sweatshirt and underwear. No one's gonna get offended.

**Sydnee:** That's a weird conversation. As long as—since we started talking about nudity, we'll just—this will be our first discussion.

**Raleigh:** Dive right in.

**Sydnee:** Dive right in with roommates and nudity. That's—that's a tough conversation for me, because I was never one, with my roommates, that I felt comfortable wandering around in underwear, just me personally.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** But I didn't—if they wanted to, like, I wasn't offen—I don't care. Like, whatever you wanna do, it doesn't bother me. I'm not offended by it, but like, how do you say that?

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Like, "You can get naked as much as you won't. I won't..."

**Raleigh:** "I won't, but you can."

**Sydnee:** "But you can." There's no way to say that without sounding weird.

**Raleigh:** It's... it's weird for me, because growing up doing theater, I feel you will probably understand, like, changing in front of other people has never felt weird to me. Like, not necessarily getting like, naked, changing in front of other people, but like, changing clothes and having on like, a bra and underwear, just changing my shirt or my pants in front of other people, has never been something that has crossed my mind as like, "Oh, this is weird."

Like, there are definitely times where like, people—they were just like, my other roommates were in my room with me and I was about to change to do something so I just like, strip off my pants and put on another pair of pants while they're in there, and didn't even think twice about doing it. And I didn't ask them, like... I should prob—like, it crossed my mind after, I probably should've asked if this made you uncomfortable, but it just—it like—

**Sydnee:** I think this is probably a spectrum of opinions, would be my guess.

**Raleigh:** Really?

**Sydnee:** Is that you're on that end of the spectrum. I am somewhere in the middle in that like, yes, I have been in show choir, I've been in theater. I believe there are times where like, this is a costume change. This is just the business, this is the task at hand, let's just get changed. Teylor, I would guess you're on the other end of the spectrum.

**Teylor:** Yeah... I mean, you know, I think it's—it's a good thing to establish. Like, what are your expectations, as far as how much clothing you think is appropriate to wear in front of me—

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** —and I'll tell you mine! Spoiler alert: it's all of it. Please wear all the clothes around me, but... you know, like, I get that like—I also understand that maybe a little—a little bit more weird about those things than some people, so like, when I have roommates that like, you know, like, wander around in like, their underwear, I'm like, uh, that's... okay. Like, I can't wheel it back now, 'cause maybe it's me that's weird that I'm not comfortable with this.

Uh, I did have a roommate that just would always... I guess she just was always naked in her room, 'cause unless she was like, dressed and ready to go out, she was in a towel. Naked other than a towel.

**Raleigh:** What?

**Taylor:** Like a good 10 hours out of every day, and I thought, "Man, she showers a lot!" And then I realized like, no, that's just what she uses to walk around the house when she's not... in clothes. She just puts a towel on and just... she cooks in a towel, she—

**Sydnee:** She needed one of those towel bras. Have you seen those? They're like a sling you wear around your neck—

**Taylor:** What?!

**Sydnee:** —and it holds—it's like, to—

**Raleigh:** [gasps] Yes.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** Yes, I have seen this.

**Sydnee:** Yeah. It's like a towel sling bra thing. That'd be very, I mean, you know, useful for her. [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Sure!

**Taylor:** Like, I've—if you could have been more covered by towels, I guess that's fine?

**Raleigh:** [laughs]



**Taylor:** What is the difference between towels and clothing? It's arguable, but it was just not—not a lot of towel.

**Sydnee:** [laughing] But here's the benefit there, is like, now you know the perfect birthday, Christmas, Hanukkah, Easter, I don't know, Halloween, Memorial Day—

**Raleigh:** Valentine's Day.

**Sydnee:** [laughs] Arbor Day present, whatever holiday is next. You just give her a really big towel.

**Raleigh:** Yeah, or a robe.

**Sydnee:** [loudly] Or a robe!

**Taylor:** A robe! A robe is fine! You know, like a nice robe, that's fine. That's—that's basically like a dress, but the towel... it's not just the lack of fabric, it's also the lack of dependable support, because when you're wearing a towel, the only thing that's keeping you... the—the thin line between you and bein' naked is your own support of that towel.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** I just like—you know, she'd have regular conversations with me and I'd just sit there like, [laughing] "Please hold on to your towel. Please keep your towel up!"

**Sydnee:** That's true. You exhale too vigorously, shrink the diameter of your rib cage, and there it goes.

**Taylor:** [high pitched] It's a—no, yeah! It's like, a—a—I can't—I don't, like—that's not a conversation you should have, I guess? "Hey, could you not wander around the house, clothed with nothing but a thin piece of cloth?" [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Like, I have walked before, from the bathroom to my room wearing a towel. Like, I just got out of the shower, put on a towel, walked back to my bedroom to change, but that's like, the extent of it. Like, I feel like that's acceptable towel time, right? Like, the length it takes—

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Well—

**Raleigh:** —it takes you to get from the bathroom to your bedroom.

**Sydnee:** I don't think there has to be, like, anything that is a universal, acceptable limit. I think it's really just what everybody agrees on.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** 'Cause, I mean, I'll be honest. Like I said, even though I personally... I just prefer wearing clothes. It's my—it's my own hangups. It has nothing to do with anyone else, but I don't like to walk around naked, for the most part. It's just my thing. It doesn't bother me when other people do.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Especially like, after being a doctor and going to med school and like... the human body is the human body—

**Raleigh:** You've seen all kinds of butts.

**Sydnee:** I—yeah, butts don't bother me. My kids running around naked doesn't bother me, it's just like, why do you always—I don't understand the desire to constantly be nude.

**Raleigh:** Yeah, to wanna be nakey.

**Sydnee:** But like, it doesn't bo—so like, if I had a roommate who said, "I love to just wear a towel all day," or "I like to walk around topless all day," regardless of gender, I—okay. I mean, like, I would not be bothered by that, personally. I would not necessarily join them, but it would not bother me. So I think that the key is like, there is no acceptable, except what everyone agrees is acceptable.

**Raleigh:** I think there's some conversations... and we kinda talked about this a little bit, that you don't know you have to have until the situation arises and you're like, "Oh, I guess this is something we need to discuss."

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Rleigh:** Like the first time you see your roommate walking around in just a towel for more than like, acceptable bathroom to bedroom towel time, it's like, "Okay, I guess this is a conversation we need to have. Like, I am uncomfortable with this." And if any of my roommates ever came to me and said, "I am uncomfortable with you, like, I don't know, bein' in your underwear or like, changing in front of us." I'd be like, "Oh, okay, cool. I will never do it again."

**Taylor:** Right.

**Rleigh:** But I guess it's just something I never thought to ask, because it's like... I don't know. You know what you're comfortable with, so you... if you don't live with other people... I didn't grow up living with other people, and usually, I mean, if you grow up living with other people, it's usually your family.

**Sydnee:** Right.

**Rleigh:** And you're usually more comfortable around family than you are around people you don't know, so.

**Taylor:** Well, and I—yeah, like, that's—it's equally fine that she wanted to walk around in a towel as it is equally fine that it kind of made me a little uncomfortable.

**Rleigh:** Right.

**Taylor:** It's just maybe in that end—maybe we're not the most compatible, uh, apartment mates, you know? Maybe that's... when you just get thrown into situations like college, you kind of have to have those conversations and meet in the middle. When you're older and you kind of choose who you live with, then it's a bit more important to know up front, because you have the ability to choose.

**Sydnee:** It is—it is hard, though, because you're right. I think anything can be on the table, as long as you discuss it. As long as you have a conversation and everybody agrees as to what they think is fine, what isn't fine, what's like... "Okay, I'll be out of town this weekend, so you can do the weird thing that I don't particularly care for that you wanna do."

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Like, I mean like, whatever it is, as long as you all agree to it at the front end it's fine, but you're right. How... and especially when you first meet somebody. One, you can't predict what you're gonna confront, and two, you don't want the very first time you're meeting a new roommate trying to like, "Let's get along, let's make a good impression, let's be buds."

You don't want the next word out of your mouth to be, "Okay. I'm uncomfortable with the following: and here's a giant list of things I don't want you to do," because then that gives a negative impression, and you don't want 'em to dislike you, so it's hard!

It's hard to like, proactively... I think I mentioned on the previous episode. I got very frustrated with one of my roommates for like... 'cause it was just the two of us in a dorm. "I want to have my boyfriend over literally every weekend, and so I expect you to go stay at your parents' house, because I don't want you here."

And it never crossed my mind on the front end to say, "Hey, by the way, even though I do live in town—even though my parents do live in town, I don't want to stay home every weekend."

**Raleigh:** Right.

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** It was like a given, like, "Well, I want my boyfriend to stay here, so you need to leave." And I—it never would've occurred to me, and I probably would've shied away from saying it initially, 'cause I wanted her to like me. Um, so then we ended up in conflict, because I wasn't comfortable, but I had never said it.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. I think that's also a weird, like, skill set that you have to develop when you start living with other people is learning how to like, nicely and easily tell someone something they're doing is making you uncomfortable.

Like, that's a really weird thing to have to do, to go up to someone and be like, "Hey, you thought this thing you were doing was totally cool, and it might be totally cool with you, but we live together and we have a shared space, and it makes me uncomfortable."

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Rileigh:** That's like, a hard thing to have to tell someone. And usually, in my experience, they're gonna be like, "Cool, totally understand. Won't do it again." And then it's not a problem, but no one likes conflict. I hate confrontation and conflict, and I would never want to say anything that upsets anyone, or make anyone not like me. I want everyone to like me!

**Taylor:** Well, and it's hard when it starts to blur the line between... it's one thing to have different expectations and different comfort levels, and another thing to be like, "Maybe I shouldn't have to tell you not to do this."

**Rileigh:** Yeah, sure.

**Taylor:** Like, it's disrespect from the beginning. Like, I had a roommate that was perfectly fine with me having a cat, let us move in together knowing I had a cat, and then will kind of use the cat as like, "Well, I have a slight cat allergy, so I don't have to clean any surface ever that the cat touches. So you can keep the cat in your little box bedroom, completely isolated, or agree to clean the whole house forever."

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Taylor:** [laughing] And I said, "Okay, I guess I'm cleaning the whole house forever!" And I did, for four years.

**Sydnee:** See, and that's the kind of area where like, if you establish the rules of engagement... I mean, if you had known on the front end, "I have a cat allergy," well, maybe we're not the best roommates, then, because I love my cat. I'm not getting rid of my cat.

**Taylor:** It was a conveniently withheld cat allergy. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Um... yeah, that's the kind of thing you have to confront. The hard part about it is that, especially when you're younger, Rileigh, like when you're in college and when everybody's still in various stages of maturation. But it—I don't know that even as an adult it's easy for all of us all the time, to have a

conversation in which you look at somebody and say, "This thing you're doing? I'm not saying it's a bad thing. I'm not saying there's something wrong with you. This is not passing judgment on you as a human, or the act. It's just not something I'm comfortable with personally, and so I would rather it not occur in my living space."

Having that level of adult conversation is extremely difficult, because both the person asking for, you know, this understanding, and the person who is receiving this kind of... I don't wanna say "critique," but maybe information they don't want to hear... both have to be mature enough to see it as, "I'm not saying you're bad, and I'm good. I'm just saying this is not compatible with me living a happy life, and so I'm asking you politely, please don't do it."

That—that's such a higher level of maturity. That's a really hard conversation. If you're emotional, if you're young, if you're just fed up, if you're whatever, you know. I mean, that's tough!

**Raleigh:** Yeah. Um, I actually did have to have a hard roommate conversation. Once, this whole year.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** Which I think is pretty good, you know, a whole year of living with six other people, seven people in one shared space.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** One conversation. Um, it was one of those conversations where like, again, it's a—it's a thing you don't think about having to say before you start living with someone, because it's a very specific situation. Um, but we all share a shower, and I had a roommate who wanted to use the shower with her boyfriend at the same time. Which, as a—as a thing, I don't have a problem with, you know. Like, if people want to do that, cool. Even if you wanna do it in shower that I also am using. Whatever, I don't really care.

But, it happened a lot when I and my other roommates were in the shared common area... a few steps away.

**Taylor:** Right.

**Rileigh:** At like, a reasonable time. Not like, super late in the night, either. Just like, we're all sitting out there eating dinner together at 7 o' clock in the evening—

**Sydnee:** And the bathroom isn't exactly soundproof.

**Rileigh:** And the bathroom is not exactly soundproof. Um, and it's just like a situation that makes everyone kind of... uncomfortable, involved.

**Sydnee:** Right. Which, you know, that's a tough thing to discuss, because like... it's not—you're not passing judgment on the act, or any of that. It's just simply, "I would prefer not to listen when you have sex."

**Rileigh:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** Like, "This is just my personal preference, is I do not enjoy hearing other people do it."

**Rileigh:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** You may—now, there may be groups of roommates who are like—

**Rileigh:** "Yeah, girl!"

**Sydnee:** "Go for it." [laughs] "Get it on." And that's—that's fine.

**Rileigh:** I, personally, am not like that.

**Sydnee:** That just isn't the group of roommates in this particular situation.

**Rileigh:** Yes. So I went to my other roommates before I said anything else and I was like, "Hey, does this make you uncomfortable? Because if all of you are fine with it and I'm the only one that's kind of uncomfortable, I won't say anything, because like, there a lot of other people that live here. I can deal with it. It's only happened a few times, like, it's whatever."

But we all agreed, it made all of us kind of uncomfortable. So I was like, "Okay. You know what? I'll just—I'll do the thing that no one wants to do." [laughing] "Cause I was the one that brought it up, because no one else would've brought it up if I wouldn't have brought it up."

And I had say like, "Hey. This thing you're doing? Totally fine if like, we're not sitting right out there." Like, a lot of us go home for the weekends, because most of the people at my school live close by anyways, so we just go home a lot on the weekends. I go home a lot on the weekends. Like, if I'm not there, I'm not gonna tell someone what they can do in a space I'm not in currently. Unless they're like, you know, messing with my stuff.

**Taylor:** Sure.

**Raleigh:** Don't mess with my stuff.

**Sydnee:** [laughs quietly]

**Raleigh:** But... I don't know. I said like, "This is a thing as a principle I'm fine with, but not when I'm this close."

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** And they were just like, "Okay, I understand." And it didn't happen again, and that was it.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, which is an impressively mature conversation to be able to have.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Especially about something as sensitive as, you know, sexual intimacy and that kind of thing, in college, you know.

**Taylor:** Yeah. That's—that's impressive. As me in my 30s, I've had roommates that aren't respectful or get so defensive about anything along those lines, as like, you know.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** When you share a small space, I—it's the compromise thing. Like, yes, I understand you are sexually active, no judgment, you're gonna have sex, that's fine. And when it's like, I don't know, [laughing] at normal sex hours? Okay, but when it's like, it's 2 PM and like, my friends are coming over to like, have lunch,



and it's—there's—we all know how loud the apartment is. It was like, "Oh, no."  
[laughs] Like...

**Raleigh:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** [laughing] When it sho—when I'm worried about it showing up in the background of the podcast that we record it's like, "Oh no!"

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Yeah. And like, I obviously am very appreciative of my roommate for being so cool and not being like, "No, I'm gonna do what I want!" And I think that was just good for everyone involved. You know?

**Sydnee:** Well, it's—because there's a way to have a sex positive conversation about like, what are my... what am I comfortable with? What are you comfortable with? What are our boundaries? And where would I consider it crossing a line?

Like, there's a way to have that conversation and not be shaming a person or judging a person. Because sometimes what you get to at the end of the conversation is, "Maybe we're just not a good match."

**Raleigh:** Right.

**Sydnee:** "Because this is really stuff that you're comfortable with and you are gonna wanna do on a regular basis, loudly, in your life, and this is really stuff that I'm not."

And you have to have a place. Your home, wherever you live, has to be a place where you can go to and feel safe and comfortable and relaxed and centered, and if your home is not that place... I mean, that's not good for your mental health.

So sometimes you get to a point where you go, "You know what? I still care about you, or I still like you," or maybe you don't. Maybe you're like, "I still respect you as a human, [laughs] but we are not a good match."

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Just like a relationship.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** No, it's true. And it—

**Raleigh:** It's a roommate breakup.

**Taylor:** It's a compromise, and there has to be respect. And when those things aren't there, it's just—it's your home and it's like, there's not a safe place to go home to. I mean, still along the lines of sex, like, I had roommate that let one of their, uh, hookups wander out of her room... I wake up in bed and there's just a naked man in my room.

**Raleigh:** Oh!

**Taylor:** A stranger. Yeah! And he was drunk, and he was lost, and he was trying to find the bathroom, and like, it was—it was horrifying! I eventually—like, she—she didn't get out of bed to do anything about it. I had to eventually herd this man back to her room, after I realized, "Oh, it's just a drunk guy. It's maybe not someone trying to attack me in the night."

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** And when I asked very nicely the next day like, "Hey, that's really upsetting. That can't happen again," it's like, it was treated like, "Oh, why aren't you cool?" [laughs] I don't think anyone would be "cool" with that!

**Sydnee:** No...

**Raleigh:** No!

**Sydnee:** I think—I think—and that—there is a difference between like, "This is fine with me, it's just something that you don't prefer," and "That's—that's a—"

**Raleigh:** That's just a bad thing to...

**Sydnee:** Right. That's disrespect—I can't—I don't know anybody who would wake up with a naked stranger in their room and be like, "This is fine." [laughs]

**Taylor:** "Oh, were you lookin' for the bathroom, bro? Let me lead you." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** No. That's a—that would be a very scary situation for anybody, and, um...

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** You don't—you don't still sleep with that knife under your pillow, do you? [laughs] 'Cause that could've gone really bad.

**Taylor:** You know, in that situation, that would've—I don't know it would've—maybe it would've ended that, I don't know!

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** I don't know.

**Taylor:** I immediately went—I immediately went and asked her, like, as the gentleman was using the bathroom I said, "This—what the—what the heck? Who is that?" And she just looked at me and said, "He's a firefighter?" And went back to sleep. [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Oh, yeah. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Well, I mean... we celebrate our nation's heroes, our firefighters.

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** But they—they still can't wander into our rooms naked when we're sleeping. There's—a line must be drawn.

**Taylor:** One of those moments where I was like, "Uhh, I gotta get outta here." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. A line must be drawn somewhere.

**Taylor:** [laughs] Naked firefighters! That's my line.

**Sydnee:** Uh, I wanna—I wanna talk about this some more, but before we do that...

**Raleigh:** Let's check the group message.

**Sydnee:** Sisters, I am wearing a bra right now that I love.

**Raleigh:** Oh?

**Sydnee:** Yes. This is the truth. I am wearing my Harper Wilde bra. It has become my go to, everyday, comfortable, taking care of the kids and working, on tour, at home, everywhere I need to go. It is my favorite comfy bra. It is the first bra that I have not just been itching to remove, uh, by the end of a long day.

**Raleigh:** Wow!

**Sydnee:** It—it is! It's really incredibly comfortable. Um, once I got one, I tried it and it instantly became my go to bra. They are bras that are designed with you in mind, with smooth, supportive coverage. It looks good under any outfit. This is true, I wore it to a wedding, yesterday.

**Raleigh:** Oh!

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm, very comfortable, and I'm in my pajamas, with a bra on.

**Raleigh:** Still with it on.

**Sydnee:** St—no—well, I mean, I took it off for a while.

**Raleigh:** Still with it on.

**Sydnee:** I took it off. It's been a busy day. Uh, all you have to do is click "What's my size?" on the Harper Wilde website to take their fit quiz and you can find your current bra size, which might surprise you! It might not be what you think it is, so take the quiz, make sure you know.

And Harper Wilde has partnered with Girls Inc to lift up women around the world. A portion of each sale supports mentorship and educational programming for girls.

So, uh, I would really recommend it. They do a free home try-on, so you can make sure that it's exactly your fit and that you like it. Um, which you will. I can attest. You really will enjoy it, and if our listeners want to get a free home try-on or check out the Harper Wilde bra, what should they do, Tey?

**Taylor:** All right. Well, if you go to [Harperwilde.com/stillbuffering](https://Harperwilde.com/stillbuffering) and use promo code "stillbuffering," you can get 15% off your first purchase. That's [Harperwilde.com/stillbuffering](https://Harperwilde.com/stillbuffering), promo code "stillbuffering" to get 15% of your first purchase. It's time to start lifting up your ladies.

**Sydnee:** Uh, we have another sponsor we wanna tell you about this week, and that's Rockets of Awesome. So, shopping for kids—for kid's clothes, especially with the kids in tow, can be quite a challenge. You wanna find clothes that your kid's gonna love, but that also, you know, you're—as a parent, sometimes your kids like some things that are kinda wack, and you want 'em to look—

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughing] You—you want 'em to be dressed, maybe not naked, and maybe dressed appropriately when they go places, and Rockets of Awesome wants to make sure that you can fall in love with the shopping for clothes experience, not just for your kids, but for you, too. Uh, they consistently deliver value and quality by designing on-trend, stylish clothes at an affordable price. They have one-of-a-kind items with super soft fabrics, glow in the dark, reflective, they've got sequins.

Uh, Charlie was very excited. We went through the website together and picked out the items she liked. Um, she tends to skew to the more feminine look, and there was definitely a lot of stuff she could enjoy, plus some, uh, really comfortable clothes. They were stylish and comfortable that I felt like, "You know what? This is still feminine and fun, but also you can play in it." Um, and it's durable, and it's good quality stuff.

Uh, it's filled with stylish clothes for all genders, sizes 3 to 12, and both parents and kids are gonna love this easy shopping experience, delivered right to your home. And I can attest, my kid loves all the clothes we got there. So, Raleigh!

**Raleigh:** Yeah?

**Sydnee:** If—if you're listeners wanna checkout Rockets of Awesome, what should they do?

**Rileigh:** Well, right now, you can get 20% savings towards your first order, only at [Rocketsofawesome.com/maybe](https://Rocketsofawesome.com/maybe), and use the promo code "maybe." That's [Rocketsofawesome.com/maybe](https://Rocketsofawesome.com/maybe), promo code "maybe" for 20% savings towards your first order.

**Sydnee:** So we've established that it's important to set up boundaries with your roommates about... we've talked a lot about sex. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** Yeah. And nakey.

**Sydnee:** And—and nudity.

**Rileigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Um, and those are important things. You know, I—I know I talked—in our first roommates episode, I talked a lot about my college, like, my friends who were my roommates, and then people who I just randomly got assigned to be roommates with in the dorm.

Um, but these things extend into when you move in, like, with somebody in a romantic relationship, if you do. I know when Justin and I first started living together, it was, uh, wild to me that he, uh, insisted on like, "The bed has to be made every day." This was not a priority to me.

**Rileigh:** Yeah, I don't do that.

**Sydnee:** And like, it bothered him if we didn't, and since it mattered to him, it should matter to—in his mind, it should be a shared task.

**Rileigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** And this I could not fathom.

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** You're just gonna get in it again, why make it?

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Exactly!

**Sydnee:** Who cares? He always would say, "It sets the tone for the day." What does that even mean? [laughs]

**Raleigh:** It just takes up time I don't have in the morning.

**Sydnee:** I know! And I'm just gonna get back in it and mess it up again.

**Raleigh:** Exactly.

**Sydnee:** Why would I make my bed? So I—these were things like, I didn't value but he did, and my lack of value read as like, "You don't care about me, 'cause you don't care about what I care about," and then it was a whole thing. But like, there are all kinds of conversations like that on a grander scale with a roommate that like, uh, I don't care—I have a higher threshold for mess.

**Taylor:** Mm.

**Sydnee:** You know.

**Raleigh:** Was Justin the one that taught you you don't keep pizza in the oven?

**Sydnee:** Yes. That is a valuable lesson Justin taught me. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Does not keep it fresh.

**Raleigh:** Have we said this is a thing our—we've said this is a thing our family does, right?

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** We had to have.

**Sydnee:** They still do.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Like you—

**Sydnee:** Although—

**Raleigh:** Well, they've started putting it in the fridge.

**Sydnee:** More and more, I notice that Dad just takes a giant Ziploc bag and puts all the pizza in that.

**Taylor:** Yeah, I think he learned. [laughs] It—it was always a fun adventure when you're preheat the oven to cook something and you smelled pizza, suddenly. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Oh! Surprise appetizer!

**Sydnee:** Smelled pizza and cardboard burning. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yeah, and cardboard.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, that—but that's—I mean, that's the hard thing is like, what you're really getting in to, what you can really start conflicting are like, the things you value, and just because you value them doesn't mean somebody else values them, but sometimes that can read as... you know, as like, disrespect.

**Raleigh:** Mm-hmm.

**Sydnee:** Um, but it's just a difference.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Yeah, and especially with cleaning. I feel like either entering into the situation on the same page as far as your messiness, like, tolerableness, or— or meeting somewhere in the middle if you're very different is so important.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm.

**Raleigh:** I will say, something I discovered over the course of this year... so, we have a large common area, and then all of our individual bedrooms. The common



area and the hallway in between the bedrooms and everything is all carpet, and our bedrooms are tile.

Um, but about a few months into the semester, one of my roommates was like, "Hey, I'm gonna vacuum everything out there, this time. Next time, someone else can do it. We can trade off." And I was like... [softly] "You're gonna vacuum?"

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** "What?" Like it never—it never occurred to me, like, looking at the carpet I was like, "I mean, it doesn't look that... dirty..."

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** "But I guess we've been living on it for 5 months now. I guess I probably is..."

**Sydnee:** Oh no...

**Raleigh:** So like, we lifted up the couch for the first time. Oh boy. It was messy. So like, that's—you know.

**Taylor:** Uh-huh?

**Raleigh:** Or something like, um, taking the time to actually clean the entire bathroom. Like, clean out the sinks, like, the mirror, the shower, the toilet. Those kinds of things.

When I was the only one living at home with Mom and Dad it was just like, I stayed in my bedroom, so everything else that happened in the entire rest of the house was just like, mom and dad.

**Sydnee:** So was your bedroom just like, nasty, or...?

**Raleigh:** My bedroom was fine!

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** That's what I'm saying like, I didn't like, do these things, my bedroom was fine!

**Sydnee:** Okay.

**Raleigh:** My bathroom was fine!

**Sydnee:** Someone vacuumed your carpet.

**Taylor:** Yes.

**Raleigh:** Yeah. But like—

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughs loudly]

**Raleigh:** I knew it was a thing Dad did for the entire house, very, like, not frequently.

**Sydnee:** So like... yeah, but like, you understand that even if—

**Raleigh:** But he did it for the entire house. I'm here in a very small dorm, like—

**Sydnee:** But it wasn't like—it wasn't like magic fairies that follow you around and clean your stuff.

**Raleigh:** No!

**Sydnee:** Like, it's—Dad's not there with you, so somebody had to do it! [laughs]

**Raleigh:** Yeah, but like...

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** I don't know. My carpet was also never that dirty. Not just because Dad vacuumed it.

**Sydnee:** Okay. The human body sheds skin cells constantly. There is—there is dust settling from the air. There's the dirt you're tracking in. Don't even think about what you're tracking in on the bottom of your shoes. Don't even think about it.

**Rileigh:** We take our shoes off.

**Taylor:** Oh!

**Sydnee:** Do all of your roommates, at all the time, take off all their shoes as soon as they walk in?

**Rileigh:** Well, I don't know if they do all the time.

**Sydnee:** Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. The carpet is not clean if you're not vacuuming.  
[laughs]

**Rileigh:** Well, now we vacuum.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** I didn't realize that this was kind of a distinctly American thing that we don't take our shoes off sometimes, ever. Like, we put them on the couch, we walk around our houses in them. Like, that apparently grosses out like, two thirds of the rest of the world. [laughs]

**Rileigh:** I've rediscovered since living at home again that mom and I do the same thing, kind of just like take our shoes off where we first sit down whenever we come home for something, and then if you walk out in our kitchen and living area after about a week of no one cleaning, it's just like, shoes, shoes, shoes, shoes. Shoes everywhere.

**Sydnee:** I—you know what's funny? I actually have become—that's something that, I don't know why it started to bother me, but now if, especially... you know what I think did it, actually? I can pinpoint what did it. It was when we had children, because all of a sudden here is this little person that I am so, like, intent on like, I have to protect and keep healthy. And then the first time they start like, crawling and creeping, you're putting them face down—[laughs]

**Rileigh:** On the floor.

**Sydnee:** [laughing] –on this filthy carpet! And it occurred to me, like, oh, they pick up everything and put it in their mouth, their little hands and faces are pressed right up against this carpet. And that was when, one, we started cleaning

a lot more, and two, if I see somebody with their shoes on, like, standing in—especially in the girls' rooms, it's hard for me to not be rude and be like, [distressed voice] "Please leave immediately and take your shoes off! Please get your shoes outta here!"

**Rileigh:** I'm wearing my shoes currently in your house, Sydnee.

**Taylor:** Wow.

**Sydnee:** It's the—the girls' rooms are really like—if anybody—'cause the kids are all over the floor in there, and if I see somebody walking to Charlie's room with their shoes it's always everything I can do not to be like, [distressed voice] "Just take 'em—take 'em off! I'll carry 'em away, I'll take 'em back to the front hall, just take 'em off!" [laughs]

**Taylor:** I'm always...

**Sydnee:** So I get it.

**Taylor:** I always am very impressed with households that manage a no shoe policy. Like, I don't know. I don't ever see myself being there, but I respect it. I get it. It does make sense. I live in New York. I walk around the streets of New York and then I come home and I lay in my bed with my shoes on. [laughing] Like...

**Rileigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Oh, Taylor, no, no, no...

**Taylor:** 'Cause every night I'm cutting years off my life when I do it.

**Sydnee:** No, take your shoes off.

**Rileigh:** Get them shoes off.

**Sydnee:** It's good for your feet, too.

**Taylor:** Oh, you know.

**Sydnee:** Your feet need a break. Get your shoes off.

**Taylor:** Well like, it's a cat that like, you know, buries his own poop and then like, chills on my head. Like, it's just—I don't know. I think I have a very strong immune system. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** No, I always think it is funny, though, if you do have a—like, if you do walk into a house and you're trying to assess like, "Should I take my shoes off or not?" And you ask, as a homeowner, like, you're put in a position where someone has just asked, "Do I need to take my shoes off?"

If the answer is yes, like, I guess they've asked, so it's acceptable to be like, "Yeah, I'm sorry, if you don't mi—" you know, that kind of like, apologetic, "Yeah—you know, I don't wanna be an inconvenience but if you don't mind—" But if you say like, "Nah, wear 'em in," what message is that sending? [laughs] I worry about that a lot more, now, like, "Nah, wear those shoes right in here! We love filth. [laughs] Please."

**Raleigh:** "We love—shoe-friendly household."

**Taylor:** I think anybody that asks you could probably just say yes.

**Raleigh:** "Shoes encouraged."

**Sydnee:** "My baby'll eat the dirt off the floor later."

**Taylor:** Yeah... well, she does try to do that, actually.

**Sydnee:** Yeah, just... just... yeah. I have gotten in the habit of.. [pauses] It's hard, though, if you do—I know this is not the topic, but this is a challenging thing, 'cause what if you go into a house, you assume they're shoe free, you walk in, you're at a party in your socks, everyone else is wearing their shoes, then you're that person. Or worse, you didn't have socks on. Now you're barefoot, everyone is in their shoes...

**Taylor:** [sighs] Yeah.

**Sydnee:** Nightmare.

**Raleigh:** Mess.

**Sydnee:** Nightmare.

**Taylor:** You gotta carry backup socks. All the time, everywhere you go.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** What, I'm the only one that does—[laughs]

**Sydnee:** Like you're gonna go bowling.

**Taylor:** Just in case.

**Raleigh:** I have actually—I have actually done that before where I've been like, "I know I'm going to someone's house where everyone's gonna be taking their shoes off, we're gonna be relaxing, I'm not wearing socks with these particular shoes, better just put a pair in there so I can just slide those on..."

**Sydnee:** Do—so you and your roommates don't have a policy?

**Raleigh:** Well, okay. We got a shoe rack at the beginning of the year to put by our door, with the intention of like, "Keep the shoes that you wear really frequently here, take your shoes off when you come in, or like—"

Like, I had like, two pairs of shoes I pretty much wore above anything else. Like, I would've kept those there. That worked for a little bit. By the end of the year we threw the shoe rack away. It just was not... no one was using it.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** It was—okay.

**Sydnee:** Did you—wait, did you throw it away 'cause nobody used it? Or was it like, "I hate having this much organization in our shoes!"

**Raleigh:** One, it was a really crappy shoe rack. It was kind of broken.

**Sydnee:** Uh-huh.

**Raleigh:** Two, no one was using it.

**Sydnee:** Ah.

**Rileigh:** And n—it was like, one of those things that like, none of us are using it in this space. None of us are going to take it home for the summer and use it at home for the summer, so it's gonna end up being thrown away somewhere, 'cause we're not gonna bring it back next year.

**Taylor:** Mm-hmm.

**Rileigh:** So, might as well just do it now. So we threw it away. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Uh, on the subject of things you throw away, I'm mystified by the amount of roommates I've had that think that taking out the trash is a two—like, a two part act. Like, you take the trash out of trash can, and then you just leave it in the house for the while?

**Rileigh:** [gasps] No!

**Sydnee:** Oh, no!

**Rileigh:** No!

**Taylor:** They used to let it sit there and then like—I mean, I get it if you're like, "Oh, I took it out of the trash can, I'm gonna throw some more trash in it from like, other smaller trash cans." Maybe it's there for like, an afternoon, while you're cleaning. But when you wake up the next day and the trash is still there...

**Rileigh:** Oh, no...

**Taylor:** It's like, "Well, I took it out, you can take it down!"

**Rileigh:** No.

**Taylor:** Or, "I'll put it next to the door—"

**Rileigh:** That's awful.

**Taylor:** "So the next person that leaves can take it." It's like, [laughing] "No! It's just the trash! It's a bag of trash, just sitting there!"

**Sydnee:** No, that—that's totally unacceptable.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** It is a fluid motion.

**Raleigh:** I think... I think that is the one thing... and like, I think I got really lucky with who I ended up with as roommates in terms of like, compatibility with people and these roommates and living together and stuff. But the one thing that we never had a problem with, that we always agreed on, that never was a thing we had to discuss, was like, we all had our little trash cans in our rooms that we all pretty much took care of.

Like, my roommate that I actually like, share a room with, we would just alternate whoever took it out, or like, if I knew most of it was mine, I would just take it out. Um, and then we had one that we shared in the common area, along with the recycling bin that we all share in the common area. But when you take the recycling, you have to go like, separate it into the different bins and then go take the trash down the hall to the trash room.

That is the one thing I never had a problem with. There was never a moment where the trash was just like, overflowing, and no one would take it out. Like, all of us got to a point where it was like, "Oh, this trash is just a disaster, someone has to take it out." The recycling got a little bad, 'cause it's like, you have to do the whole thing of like, taking the bin out and then separating it all once you get there, but the trash you just like, walk it down the hall and put it in another big trash can.

**Taylor:** Mm, yeah.

**Raleigh:** Like... that is one thing that I got very lucky with, is we have very good trash policies.

**Taylor:** Yeah. I had a—I had a roommate that insisted that she didn't produce a lot of trash, so... 'cause it was like, always just me taking down the trash. I'm like, "Hey, you can take out the trash once in a while." She was like, "No-no-no. I take my own trash out of my room every day and out to the street. I don't ever use the trash can, really."

**Raleigh:** What?!



**Taylor:** I was like, "Well, that seems—that seems highly unlikely." So—

**Raleigh:** Yeah. [laughs]

**Taylor:** So then... this is when you know it's bad, when you get into the passive aggressive stuff that you do to just be like, "Well, reason has gone out the window. So if I'm gonna go out of town, I'll empty the trash, and I won't put a trash bag in there, and I'll hide the trash bags, so that—you said you don't use this trash can! [laughs] So now you can't!"

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** How did it work? Did it work?

**Taylor:** Yeah, I came back and there was just raw trash in the empty—in the trash can that was unlined! [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Ugh! Ugh!

**Raleigh:** Nooo!

**Taylor:** You know when you start doing the things that's like, "Well, I bought toilet paper four times in a row. Time to hide the toilet paper!" [laughs] And then they start using all the paper towels and like, well, that didn't go as I thought it would... [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [laughs] Not the outcome I intended.

**Taylor:** No, now I'm out—now I'm hiding my toilet paper and I'm out of paper towels! [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** [laughs] No, that's when you learn that like, when you have to live with somebody, passive aggression will get you... not very far.

**Taylor:** [laughing] No...

**Sydnee:** Like it's just—it's almost never worth it. You—you'll win so few battles that way. You just actually have the have the confrontation like, "Listen."

**Taylor:** Well, see, I—I guess I'm one of those people that I am way too hyper aware of people's opinions of me, so if—if I thought for a minute any of that stuff had happened, I would be so mortified that I feel like I would try to correct that behavior. But it's a bad situation when you have someone like me that can't confront and is just like, "I'm just gonna do all these little tiny passive aggressive things," and someone else who's like, "Awesome. Doesn't—I don't have to deal with it, then!" [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** So it's not like I said—

**Sydnee:** How did the—

**Taylor:** Huh?

**Sydnee:** Oh, I was just saying, how about—how about food sharing? We haven't really tackled that.

**Raleigh:** Ooh...

**Taylor:** Hmm.

**Raleigh:** Um, well, I'm in college. I've found that our—we have three mini fridges in our room, and like, we know who bought each of them and brought each of them, but I mean, we've all kind of agreed, if you have something you wanna keep, just like, put it where there's space. Like, we don't really care. But we've never really had a problem with food sharing, because none of us ever have food. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** So you're not—there's no, like, food theft issue.

**Raleigh:** No, because we order food a lot, so like, we'll order food together and we'll all have like, our leftovers, and we'll share like, fridge space. Or we'll go to a dining hall or like, go out to eat. I—there's never just food. I had one problem

where mom gave me a gigantic box of little snacks at some point near the beginning of the year.

Like, gigantic, huge tub with just like, little bags of chips and like, mini Rice Krispie Treats and stuff. And enough food that probably could've lasted me through an entire semester, and it was there for a week, and half of that week, like, half of my roommates were gone out of town, and I didn't eat any of it, and it was gone at the end of that week, and that means I know who must've eaten it, but they say they didn't eat it, so a whole box of food went missing once, and I've never had a problem with food going missing again, because now I'm too scared to bring food, because it just goes missing.

**Taylor:** Oh no!

**Raleigh:** But like, I mean, I—that's the only time I've ever had food in the dorm to like—to steal. I just never have food.

**Taylor:** Yeah. I—

**Raleigh:** That's how you solve that problem.

**Taylor:** I've always been strictly like, "My food is mine, your food is yours," just because... and I've had those roommates that wanna like, "Let's shop together and cook together!" And I'm like, "That sounds nice, in a perfect world. That won't work out." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Yeah. Well, I mean, you're right. Like, I have—I have done the "Shop together, cook together" thing, and that's when you get—I mean, that's when you realize like, man. You can grow up close to each other, like, be from a very similar cultural, geographical background, and then you start discussing like, "Well, what I would typically eat is..." and it's like, "Who... are you."

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** "Like, where—[laughs] why?"

**Raleigh:** What?

**Sydnee:** It's just a world of difference, and you start trying to like, compromise, like, "Okay, I guess we can have spaghetti that night, but like, I don't really eat

spaghetti. I mean, I don't hate spaghetti, but I don't really eat spaghetti as like, a meal, but... okay."

And then somebody else is like, "I'll make meatloaf." And you're like, "What? No, why! Why!"

**Taylor:** "Why would you do that to me?"

**Sydnee:** And it's just... and then I'm like, "I'll make canned chicken with steak seasoning—"

**Raleigh:** Yeah, really.

**Sydnee:** And they're like, "Who are you?!" And so—I mean, like, it all falls apart! I tried valiantly to be like, "We'll all cook together!" And we just could never compromise. The only thing we ever all liked were quesadillas, so the only thing we would all make were cheese quesadillas [laughs] 'cause it's cheese and a tortilla, who doesn't?

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** But like, that was the only thing we could all eat! Every other night it was like, "No, I'm—that's gross. No, thank you. Thank you though, but no."

**Raleigh:** I guess that's a perk of living in a place with no kitchen.

**Taylor:** Oh, that's true.

**Sydnee:** Yeah.

**Raleigh:** We don't cook, 'cause we can't.

**Sydnee:** That's true.

**Taylor:** Yeah, I like the, uh, the move where they cook for you. You didn't ask 'em to. You come home and they're like, "I made dinner! Surprise! You can clean up the mess." It's like, "Wait a second. [laughs] This isn't fair!"

**Sydnee:** Hold on, wait.

**Taylor:** "I didn't agree to any of this." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Especially if it was like, "I don't really... casseroles are not my... I'm not really gonna eat that casserole."

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** That was a thing I finally just had to say. "I'm not really a..." I am not gonna say I wasn't subjected to casseroles throughout my youth. I'm just gonna say, "Casseroles are not my thing, in my adult life." And now that I am of legal voting age—

**Taylor:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** I'm not going to eat casseroles.

**Taylor:** I vote no, on casseroles!

**Sydnee:** [laughs] I just—it's just—no offense if you like casseroles. You eat those casseroles! That is wonderful. More for you, 'cause I will not eat them.

**Taylor:** Yeah. Just have leftovers! Freeze 'em, you know? Sometimes I feel bad when I know I've cooked a lot of something and I'm like, "I'm gonna freeze this and have it for weeks!" and like, I have roommates, I'm like, "Do I have to offer it? What if I don't?" Like it's like, "Uh, do you want some of this? Hopin' you'll say no, it's weird vegan food." [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Uh, so all in all, we would say it was a good roommate experience for you, Raleigh.

**Raleigh:** Yeah! I mean, I signed up to live with all the same people again for another year, so.

**Sydnee:** That's a ringing endorsement.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Good for you!

**Raleigh:** Except, uh, we have a new surprise roommate joining our room next year, so.

**Sydnee:** It's me.

**Raleigh:** [snorts] It's Sydnee.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** She's goin' back to school! We didn't know what to do with the podcast because I'm about to not be a teenager anymore, so Sydnee said, "All right—"

**Sydnee:** I'm goin' back to college.

**Raleigh:** Sydnee's goin' back to college.

**Taylor:** We're gonna Never Been Kissed this situation.

**Raleigh:** And we're gonna—[laughs]

**Sydnee:** Uh-huh.

**Raleigh:** [laughing] Documenting Sydnee experiencing college in the—

**Sydnee:** Hey, fellow teens! [laughs]

**Raleigh:** —in the eyes of a—a teen of the teens.

**Taylor:** A teen of the teens?

**Sydnee:** I'm gonna be so believable.

**Raleigh:** So believable.

**Sydnee:** They're all gonna—this is gonna work, trust me.

**Raleigh:** Stay tuned.

**Sydnee:** I know all about electronic devices.

**Raleigh:** Oh, good.

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [laughing] Going great so far.

**Sydnee:** Hi everyone, do you want to borrow my Gameboy? [laughs]

**Taylor:** I have a Gameboy Color!

**Sydnee:** I have pizza based products! [laughs]

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Um, well, thank you, sisters. Uh, this has been—this has been fun, and hopefully your roommate experiences continue to be better than all the ones Taylor and I keep sharing.

**Raleigh:** [laughs]

**Taylor:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** But you know, the thing is, eventually something's gonna go wrong. It has to.

**Raleigh:** I know.

**Sydnee:** Sorry.

**Taylor:** I just... you know, yeah.

**Raleigh:** We'll see.

**Taylor:** Well, just—you know, make that one of those goals. Someday you wanna live by yourself, maybe. Or with a family. Or something.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Taylor:** Roommates forever? I don't know. I don't know if it's sustainable. [laughs]

**Sydnee:** Uh, I think—I think roommates forever's sustainable. At least, I know it is in my situation, if you are deeply in love with your roommate. [laughs]

**Taylor:** Okay, all right.

**Sydnee:** I have found that in that situation, despite the multitude of, uh, differences that Justin and I have, we, uh—we are compatible through our shared... deep, emotional connection. [laughs]

**Taylor:** I feel that way about my cat?

**Raleigh:** There's your roommate forever!

**Sydnee:** There you go.

**Taylor:** I wish he could pay rent. I need to make him famous or something.

**Raleigh:** [laughs] Make him an Instagram.

**Sydnee:** Uh, thank you listeners. Thank you for—one of our listeners came up with this topic.

**Raleigh:** Yeah!

**Sydnee:** Thank you. If you have any suggestions you can tweet at us @stillbuff. That's probably the most reliable route, as I saw that somebody let us know that our email was not working again.

**Raleigh:** Again. So, we'll work on that.

**Sydnee:** It is stillbuffering@maximumfun.org, and we'll be working on that. But you can also always tweet at us.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

**Sydnee:** And... you should check out Maximumfun.org! That was the other thing that I always say.

**Raleigh:** Yep.



**Sydnee:** Because it's great. There are podcasts there, and they're wonderful. They are—they're our podcast roommates on the website of Maximum Fun. We like 'em.

**Raleigh:** That's a fun way of putting it.

**Sydnee:** They don't steal our food, and they take off their shoes when they come in. uh, and thank you to The Novellas for our theme song, Baby Change Your Mind.

**Raleigh:** This has been Still Buffering, a sister's guide to teens through the ages. I am Raleigh Smirl.

**Sydnee:** I'm Sydnee McElroy.

**Taylor:** And I'm Teylor Smirl.

**Raleigh:** I am a teenager...

**Sydnee and Taylor:** And I was too.

**Raleigh:** [singing quietly] Sydnee's goin' back to school!

**Sydnee:** [laughs]

[theme music begins playing in the background]

**Raleigh:** [singing quietly] Gonna be a cool teen!

**Sydnee:** I was gonna do the—[singing quietly] I'm gonna go back! Back! Back to school again.

**Raleigh:** Oh, there you go.

**Sydnee:** It was Grease, too.

**Raleigh:** Yeah.

[theme music plays]

**Biz:** Hi. I'm Biz.

**Theresa:** And I'm Theresa.

**Biz:** And we host One Bad Mother, a comedy podcast about parenting.

**Theresa:** Whether you are a parent, or just know kids exist in the world, join us each week as we honestly share what it's like to be a parent.

I... don't know how to fix mornings for myself.

**Biz:** [laughs]

**Theresa:** I do not know how to make mornings okay for myself.

**Biz:** So the t-shirt "I don't do mornings—"

**Theresa:** Yes.

**Biz:** —isn't even a funny shirt.

**Theresa:** No.

**Biz:** I shouldn't get it for you.

**Theresa:** It's sad.

**Biz:** It's a sad shirt.

**Theresa:** Yeah. It's a sad shirt with tears flowing.

**Biz:** So join us each week, as we judge less, laugh more, and remind you that you are doing a great job.

**Theresa:** Find us on MaximumFun.org, on Apple podcasts, or wherever you get your podcasts!

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